# Alaska Victimization Survey: Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence in the Kenai Peninsula Borough



**Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault** *Lauree Morton* 



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- Designed to establish a baseline for estimates of intimate partner & sexual violence in the Kenai Peninsula Borough.
- Modeled after the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Surveillance System (CDC) & the 2010 Alaska Victimization Survey (UAA).
- Surveys were administered by RTI International.
- Surveys were conducted by phone in the Kenai Peninsula Borough (spring/summer 2013).



### CDVSA AK Victimization Survey in the Kenai Peninsula

#### Kenai Peninsula Borough



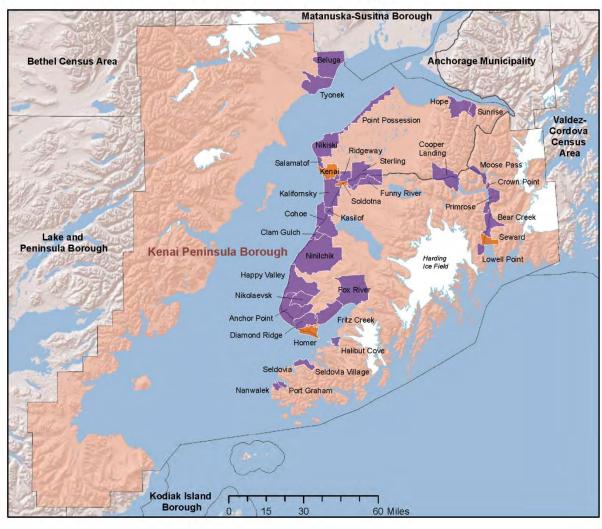




Prepared by: Alaska Department of Labor & Workforce Development

September 2011

Source: US Census 2010 TIGERline





- Survey was approved by multiple institutional review boards and was supported by the LeeShore Center.
- Survey procedures were designed to maximize the safety and confidentiality of all respondents.
- Respondents were randomly selected (only adult females were eligible to participate). Called both land lines and cell phones.
- Final sample includes 987 adult women surveyed from April to July 2013.

# CDVSA AK Victimization Survey Sexual Assault In the Kenai Peninsula

- The sample provides a good representation of the population. Nonetheless, all results are weighted to control for selection, non-response, and coverage.
- There are some very important limitations to this survey. In particular, respondents were limited to English-speaking adult women residing in a household with at least one land or cell phone line. Surveys were only conducted from April to July 2013.

# CDVSA AK Victimization Survey Sexual Assault In the Kenai Peninsula

- The questions in the survey are very graphic because they are "behaviorally specific."
- For example, we ask: "How many of your romantic or sexual partners have ever slapped you?"
  - Avoid legal definitions (e.g., 'assault')
  - Avoid defining victims, survivors
  - Attribute blame to the perpetrators



# Intimate Partner Violence Definitions



- Intimate partner violence includes two measures:
  - A Threats of physical violence.
  - B Physical violence.
  - Both include intimate partners only, defined as romantic or sexual partners.
  - Measures are then combined into a single 'intimate partner violence' composite.
- Threats of physical violence by intimate partners:
  - Have your romantic or sexual partners made threats to physically harm you?



# Intimate Partner Violence Definitions



#### Physical violence by intimate partners:

- Have your romantic or sexual partners...
  - Slapped you?
  - Pushed or shoved you?
  - Hit you with a fist or something hard?
  - Kicked you?
  - Hurt you by pulling your hair?
  - Slammed you against something?
  - Tried to hurt you by choking or suffocating you?
  - Beaten you?
  - Burned you on purpose?
  - Used a knife or gun on you?



# Intimate Partner Violence Estimates



Lifetime Estimates	Estimated %	Estimated N (out of 19,910)
Intimate Partner Violence <sup>1</sup>	43.0%	8,561
A. Threats	26.3%	5,236
B. Physical Violence	41.6%	8,283

- 1 Includes both threats of physical violence and physical violence by intimate partners.
  - 43.0% of adult women in the Kenai Peninsula Borough (or 8,561) experienced intimate partner violence in their lifetime,
    - 26.3% (or 5,236) experienced threats of physical violence,
    - 41.6% (or 8,283) experienced physical violence.



# Intimate Partner Violence Estimates



Past Year Estimates	Estimated %	Estimated N (out of 19,910)
Intimate Partner Violence <sup>1</sup>	4.0%	796
A. Threats	1.5%	299
B. Physical Violence	3.5%	697

- 1 Includes both threats of physical violence and physical violence by intimate partners.
  - 4.0% of adult women in the Kenai Peninsula Borough (or 796) experienced intimate partner violence in the past year,
    - 1.5% (or 299) experienced threats of physical violence,
    - 3.5% (or 697) experienced physical violence.



# Sexual Violence Definitions



#### Sexual violence includes two measures:

- A Alcohol or drug involved sexual assault.
- B Forcible sexual assault.
- Measures are not limited to intimate partners.
- Measures are then combined into a single 'sexual violence' composite.

#### Alcohol or drug involved sexual assault:

- When you were alcohol or drug intoxicated <u>and unable to</u> <u>consent</u>, has anyone...
  - Had vaginal sex with you?
  - Made you receive anal sex?
  - Made you perform oral sex?
  - Made you receive oral sex?



# **Sexual Violence Definitions**



#### Forcible sexual assault:

- Has anyone used physical force or threats to physically harm you to...
  - Make you have vaginal sex?
  - Make you receive anal sex?
  - Make you perform oral sex?
  - Make you receive oral sex?
  - Put their fingers or an object in your vagina or anus?
  - Try to have vaginal, oral, or anal sex with you?



### Sexual Violence Estimates



Lifetime Estimates	Estimated %	Estimated N (out of 19,910)
Sexual Violence <sup>1</sup>	30.1%	5,993
A. Alcohol or Drug Involved Sexual Assault	18.8%	3,743
B. Forcible Sexual Assault	22.8%	4,539

- 1 Includes both alcohol or drug involved sexual assault and forcible sexual assault.
  - 30.1% of adult women in the Kenai Peninsula Borough (or 5,993) experienced sexual violence in their lifetime,
    - 18.8% (or 3,743) experienced at least one alcohol or drug involved sexual assault,
    - 22.8% (or 4,539) experienced at least one forcible sexual assault.



### Sexual Violence Estimates



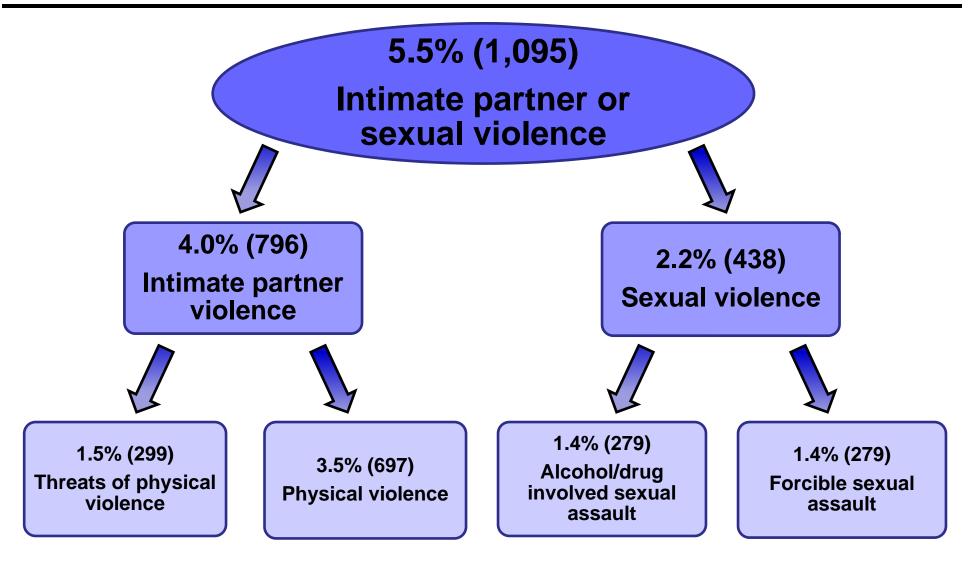
Past Year Estimates	Estimated %	Estimated N (out of 19,910)
Sexual Violence <sup>1</sup>	2.2%	438
A. Alcohol or Drug Involved Sexual Assault	1.4%	279
B. Forcible Sexual Assault	1.4%	279

- 1 Includes both alcohol or drug involved sexual assault and forcible sexual assault.
  - 2.2% of adult women in the Kenai Peninsula Borough (or 438) experienced sexual violence in the past year,
    - 1.4% (or 279) experienced at least one alcohol or drug involved sexual assault,
    - 1.4% (or 279) experienced at least one forcible sexual assault.



# **Summary of Past Year Estimates**



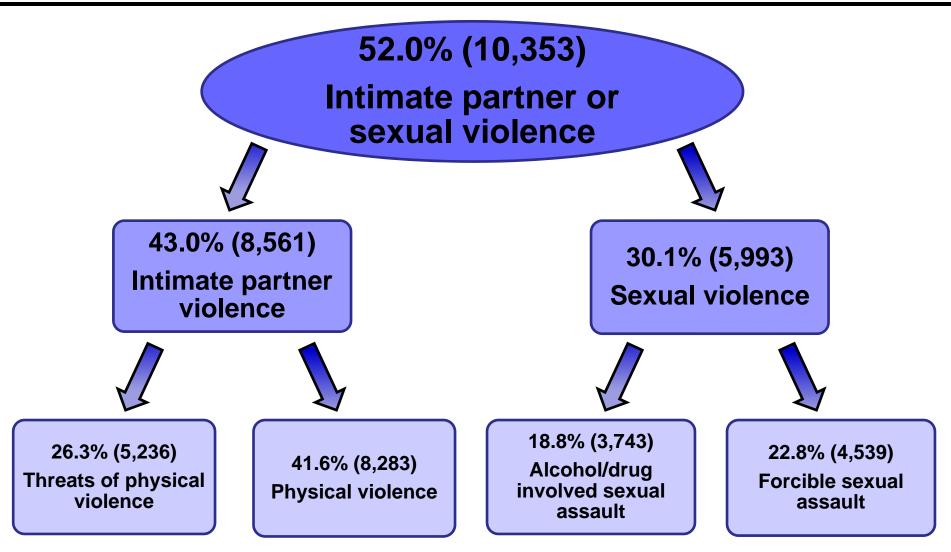


Note: percentages do not sum because some respondents experienced multiple victimizations.



# **Summary of Lifetime Estimates**





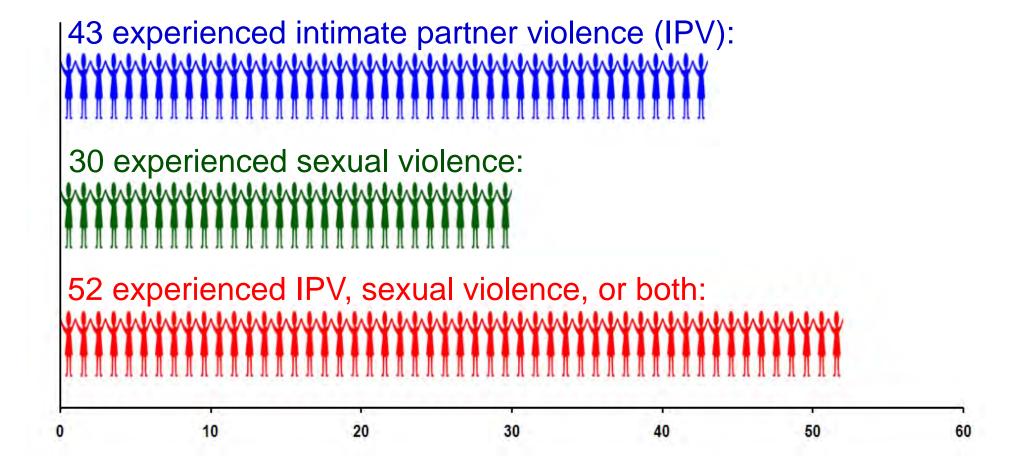
Note: percentages do not sum because some respondents experienced multiple victimizations.



#### **Lifetime Estimates**



### Out of every 100 adult women in the Kenai Peninsula Borough:





### VIOLENCE Important Limitations



- Survey only provides a regional average and masks important differences (for example, differences by age or race/ethnicity).
- Survey excluded non-English speaking women, women without phone access, and women not living in a residence (e.g., shelters, hospitals, homeless, prisons).
   Estimates may be significantly higher among women excluded from the survey.



### ESTIC VIOLENCE Important Limitations \* Accountability Important Limitations



- Measured number of victims, not number of victimizations. The number of victimizations is higher than the number of victims.
- Survey did not measure all forms of intimate partner violence or sexual violence.
   Estimates are therefore conservative.
- Estimates may also be conservative because of the continuing stigma of reporting intimate partner and sexual violence.



### A Special Thank You!



We sincerely thank the women in the Kenai Peninsula Borough who invested time and effort to participate in the Alaska Victimization Survey.

They re-lived horrendous experiences – experiences no one should be subjected to – to help the rest of us understand the extent of intimate partner and sexual violence in the Kenai Peninsula Borough. Thank you!



### A Special Thank You!



### We also thank The LeeShore Center



www.leeshoreak.org

The LeeShore Center promotes healthy families and a violence free community while providing a safe haven for women and children who are victims of domestic violence/sexual assault. Their 24 hour crisis line is 907-283-7257.



#### **Contacts**





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