MISSING AND MURDERED *INDIGENOUS* WOMEN & GIRLS

A snapshot of data from 71 urban cities in the United States

*This report contains strong language about violence against American Indian and Alaska Native women.

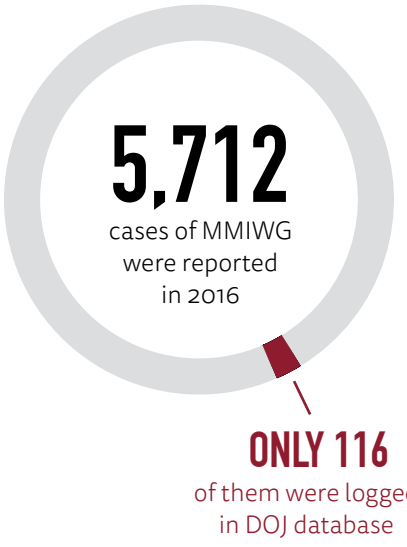
This report is the second of the Our Bodies, Our Stories series. Go to UIHI.org to read the first report regarding sexual violence against Native women in Seattle, Washington.

Urban Indian Health Institute is a division of the Seattle Indian Health Board. Donate to future projects that will strengthen the health of Native people by going to http://www.sihb.org/get-involved-donate.

DUE TO URBAN INDIAN HEALTH INSTITUTE'S LIMITED RESOURCES AND THE POOR DATA COLLECTION BY NUMEROUS CITIES,

THE 506 CASES IDENTIFIED IN THIS REPORT ARE LIKELY AN UNDERCOUNT OF MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN & GIRLS IN URBAN AREAS.

A NATIONWIDE DATA CRISIS: MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN & GIRLS



MURDER #3

The third-leading cause of death among American Indian/Alaska Native women.[iii]

Nationwide, the voices of Indigenous people have united to raise awareness of missing and murdered Indigenous woman and girls (MMIWG). Though awareness of the crisis is growing, data on the realities of this violence is scarce.

The National Crime Information Center reports that, in 2016, there were 5,712 reports of missing American Indian and Alaska Native women and girls, though the US Department of Justice's federal missing persons database, NamUs, only logged 116 cases.[i,ii] The Center for Disease Control and Prevention has reported that murder is the third-leading cause of death among American Indian and Alaska Native women and that rates of violence on reservations can be up to ten times higher than the national average.[iii, iv] However, no research has been done on rates of such violence among American Indian and Alaska Native women living in urban areas despite the fact that approximately 71% of American Indian and Alaska Natives live in urban areas.[v]

To fill this gap, in 2017, Urban Indian Health Institute (UIHI), a tribal epidemiology center, began a study aimed at assessing the number and dynamics of cases of missing and murdered American Indian and Alaska Native women and girls in cities across the United States. This study sought to assess why obtaining data on this violence is so difficult, how law enforcement agencies are tracking and responding to these cases, and how media is reporting on them. The study's intention is to provide a comprehensive snapshot of the MMIWG crisis in urban American Indian and Alaska Native communities and the institutional practices that allow them to disappear not once, but three times—in life, in the media, and in the data.

AN OVERVIEW OF MMIWG IN URBAN AMERICA

Despite this ongoing crisis, there is a lack of data and an inaccurate understanding of MMIWG, creating a false perception that the issue does not affect off-reservation/ village American Indian and Alaska Native communities.

However, according to an analysis of 2016 Census data, 50.2% of the urban Indian population identified as female.[vi] The data in this report also includes LGBTQ, non-binary, and Two Spirit individuals. The majority of American Indian and Alaska Native people now live in urban communities due to a variety of reasons for migration, from forced relocation due to 1950s federal relocation and termination policies, to current barriers to obtaining quality educational, employment, and housing opportunities on tribal lands. Because of this, urban American Indian and Alaska Native people experience MMIWG-related violence in two ways—through losses experienced by extended family and community ties on reservations, in villages, and in urban communities themselves. Though there are critical issues regarding jurisdiction of MMIWG cases on reservation and village lands, lack of prosecution, lack of proper data collection, prejudice, and institutional racism are factors that also occur in urban areas.

In this study, UIHI sought to demonstrate the ways in which these issues also impact urban MMIWG cases, highlighting the results of a deeply flawed institutional system rooted in colonial relationships that marginalize and disenfranchise people of color and remains complicit in violence targeting American Indian and Alaska Native women and girls.

71% **of American Indians/ Alaska Natives live in urban areas.[v]**

Urban Indians are tribal people currently living off federally-defined tribal lands in urban areas.

Institutional racism is the process of purposely discriminating against certain groups of people through the use of biased laws or practices. Often, institutional racism is subtle and manifests itself in seemingly innocuous ways, but its effects are anything but subtle.[vii, viii]

COLLECTING THE DATA

UIHI utilized a multi-pronged methodology to collect data on cases of MMIWG with the understanding that what is reported and recorded by law enforcement, covered by media, and remembered and honored by community members and family rarely matches.

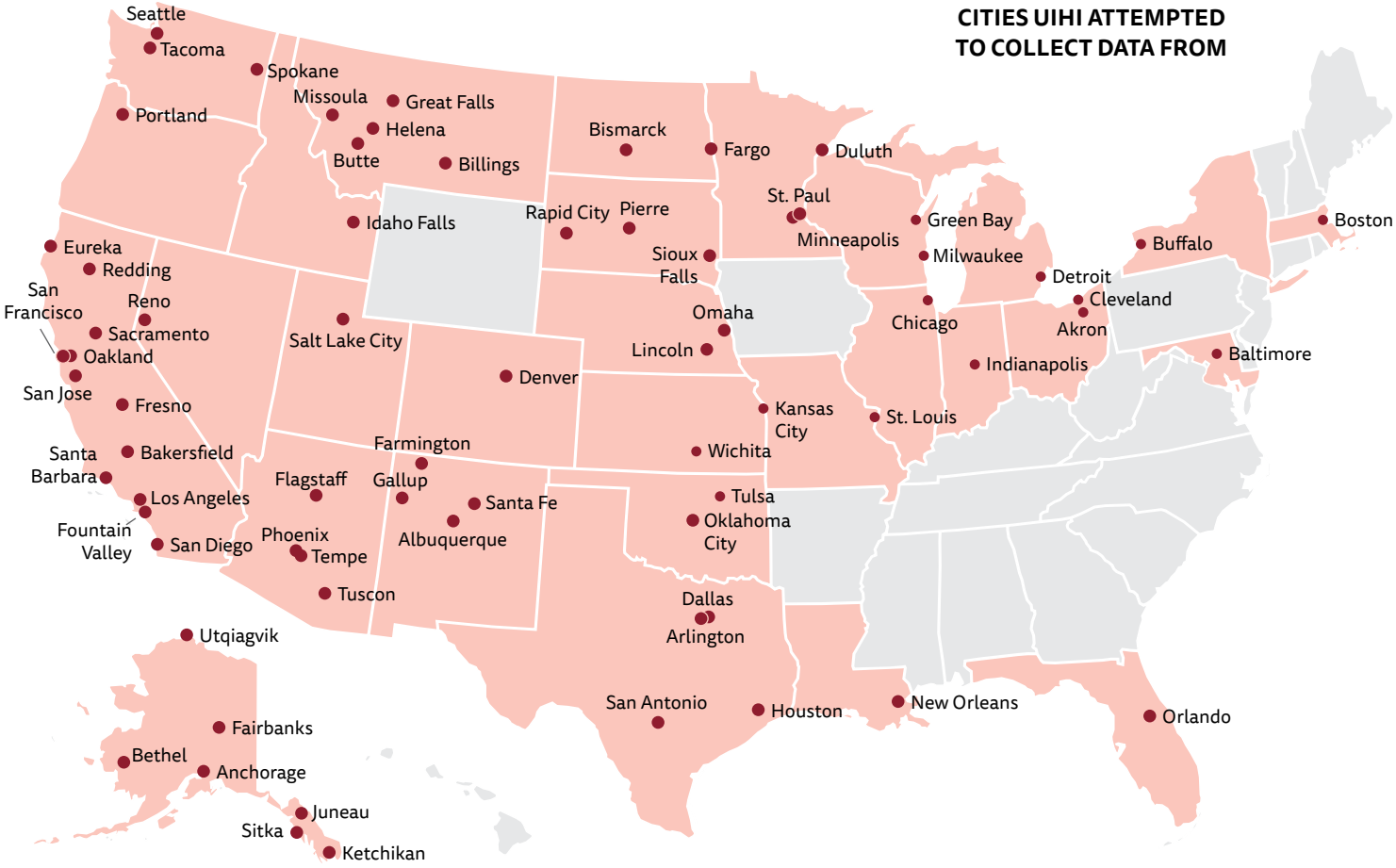
As demonstrated by the findings of this study, reasons for the lack of quality data include underreporting, racial misclassification, poor relationships between law enforcement and American Indian and Alaska Native communities, poor record-keeping protocols, institutional racism in the media, and a lack of substantive relationships between journalists and American Indian and Alaska Native communities.

In an effort to collect as much case data as possible and to be able to compare the five data sources used, UIHI collected data from Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests to law enforcement agencies, state and national missing persons databases, searches of local and regional news media online archives, public social media posts, and direct contact with family and community members who volunteered information on missing or murdered loved ones.

Racial misclassification is the incorrect coding of an individual's race or ethnicity, e.g. an American Indian and Alaska Native individual incorrectly coded as white. Misclassification generally favors the larger race, so while American Indians and Alaska Natives are often misclassified as white, the reverse of that is rare.[ix]

The **Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)** grants any person the right to request access to federal agency records or information.[x]

UIHI'S DATA SOURCES



UIHI attempted to collect data in 71 cities across 29 states.

Due to challenges in collecting data on historical cases, approximately 80% of the cases in this report have occurred since 2000.

In these FOIA requests, UIHI requested all case data from 1900 to the present. No agency was able to provide data dating to 1900 but providing such a large date range was useful in accessing as much data as the agency had readily available, which varied across jurisdictions. The oldest case UIHI identified happened in 1943, but approximately two-thirds of the cases in UIHI's data are from 2010 to 2018. This suggests the actual number of urban MMIWG cases are much higher than what UIHI was able to identify in this study.

These cities were selected because they either have an urban Indian health center that is affiliated with UIHI, a significant population of urban Indians, or were found to have a large number of MMIWG cases in a preliminary consultation with key community leaders.

FINDINGS

UIHI identified 506 unique cases of missing and murdered American Indian and Alaska Native women and girls across the 71 selected cities—128 (25%) were missing persons cases, 280 (56%) were murder cases, and 98 (19%) had an unknown status.

Approximately 75% of the cases UIHI identified had no tribal affiliation listed.

Sixty-six out of 506 MMIWG cases that UIHI identified were tied to domestic and sexual violence.

The youngest victim was a baby less than one year old.

The oldest victim was an elder who was 83 years old.

A case was flagged as "status unknown" in two circumstances: when law enforcement gave a number of total cases in response to a record request but did not clarify how many were missing and how many were murdered (16 cases total), and when a case was listed on a missing persons database but had been removed, UIHI could not verify whether the woman or girl was located safe or deceased.

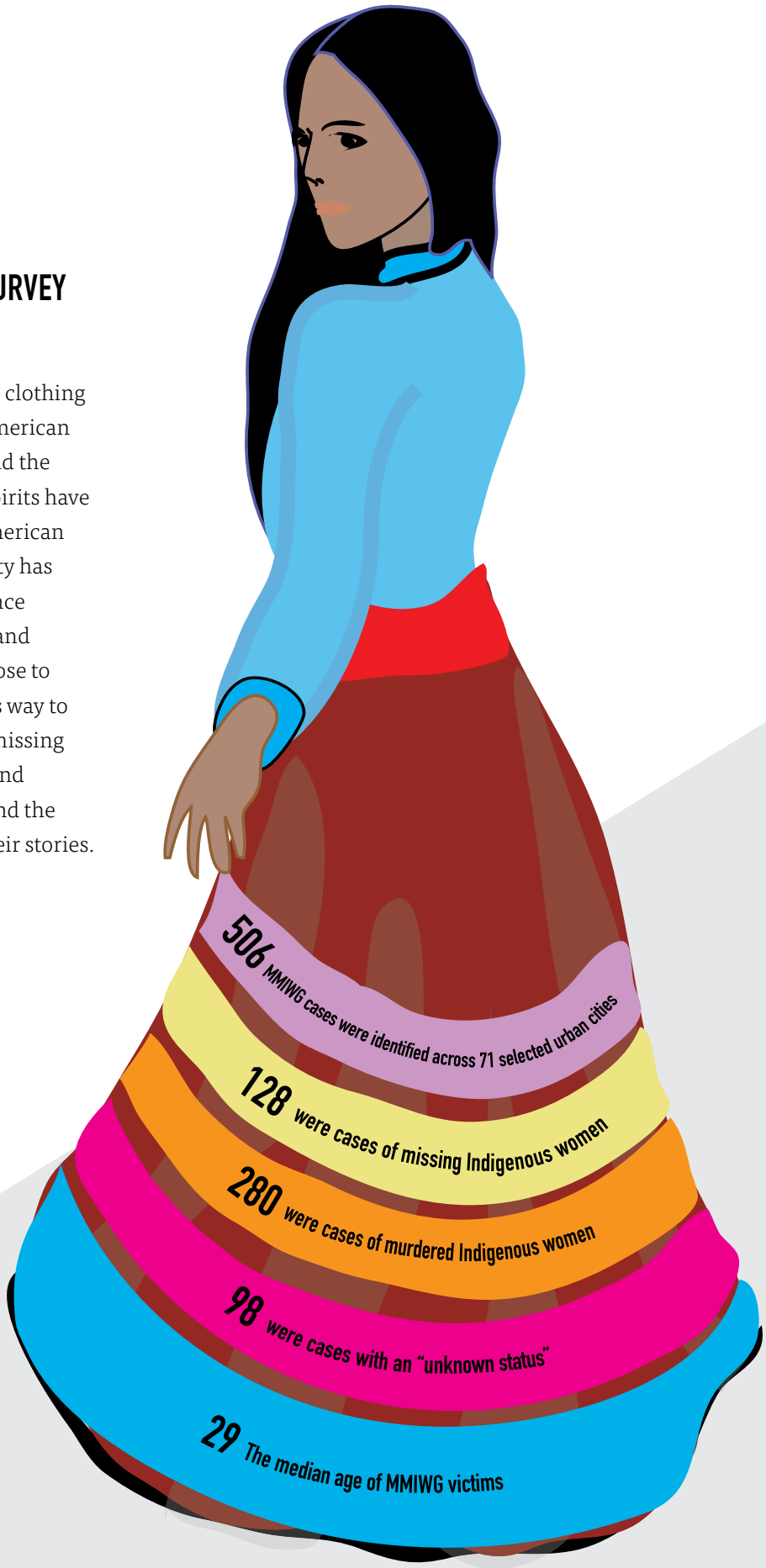
The identified cases were widely distributed by age and tribal affiliation. The youngest victim was under one year old and the oldest was 83 years old. One hundred and thirty-five cases (27%) were victims aged 18 or under, and mean victim age was approximately 29 years old (out of 387 cases for which victim age was able to be determined).

UIHI identified 96 cases that were tied to broader issues such as domestic violence, sexual assault, police brutality, and lack of safety for sex workers. In this report, domestic violence includes intimate partner violence and family violence. Forty-two (8% of all cases) cases were domestic violence related, and 14% of domestic violence fatalities were victims aged 18 and under. Three victims were pregnant at their time of death. At least 25 victims (6% of all cases) experienced sexual assault at the time of disappearance or death, 18 victims (4% of all cases) were identified as sex workers or victims of trafficking, and 39% of victims in the sex trade were sexually assaulted at the time of death. For this report, sexual assault is defined as penetrative and non-penetrative sexual violence and includes victims who were found murdered and left nude. Eight victims were identified as homeless, six were trans-women, and seven were victims of police brutality or death in custody.

UIHI was able to identify the victim's relationship to the perpetrator in 24 cases; of these, 13 victims were killed by a partner or the partner of an immediate family member, three were killed by an immediate family member, six were killed by a serial killer, and two were killed by a drug dealer. Of the perpetrators UIHI was able to identify, 83% were male and approximately half were non-Native. Thirty-eight of the perpetrators were convicted, while nine were never charged, four were acquitted, one had a mistrial, and one committed suicide. Altogether, 28% of these perpetrators were never found guilty or held accountable. An additional 30 alleged perpetrators have pending charges.

MMIWG STATISTICS FROM A SURVEY OF 71 CITIES ACROSS THE U.S.

The ribbon skirt is a form of cultural clothing that represents the sacredness of American Indian and Alaska Native women and the deep connection their bodies and spirits have to the land. Just like a skirt, each American Indian and Alaska Native community has its own beauty and stories of resilience despite multiple ribbons of trauma and violence stacked upon them. We chose to represent the study's findings in this way to honor the sacredness of our urban missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls, the prayers we hold them in, and the responsibility we have to care for their stories.



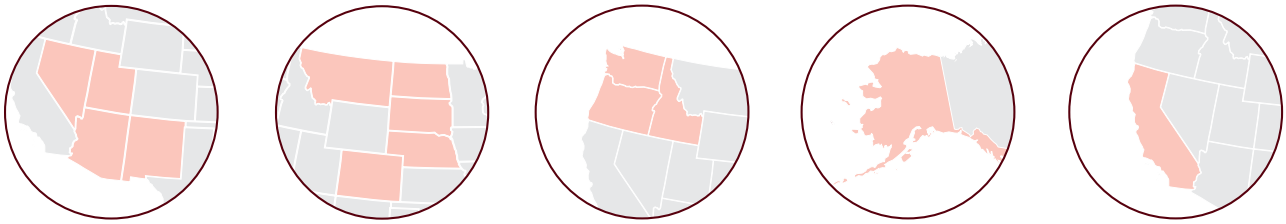
THE INVISIBLE 153

Number of cases identified by UIHI that currently **do not exist** in law enforcement records.

GEOGRAPHY

The 506 cases UIHI identified were dispersed over a wide geographic area. Regionally, the Southwest (157), Northern Plains (101), Pacific Northwest (84), Alaska (52), and California (40) were the areas with the highest number of cases. The cities that figure most prominently in the data are Seattle (45), Albuquerque (37), Anchorage (31), Tucson (31), and Billings (29).

AREAS WITH THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF CASES (BY REGION)

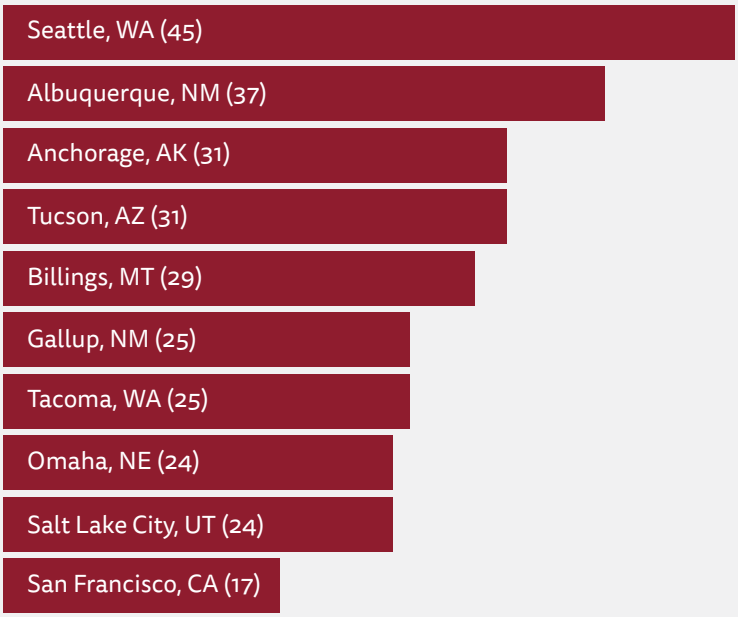


Southwest | Northern Plains | Pacific Northwest | Alaska | California

The states with the highest number of cases are as follows: New Mexico (78), Washington (71), Arizona (54), Alaska (52), Montana (41), California (40), Nebraska (33), Utah (24), Minnesota (20), and Oklahoma (18).

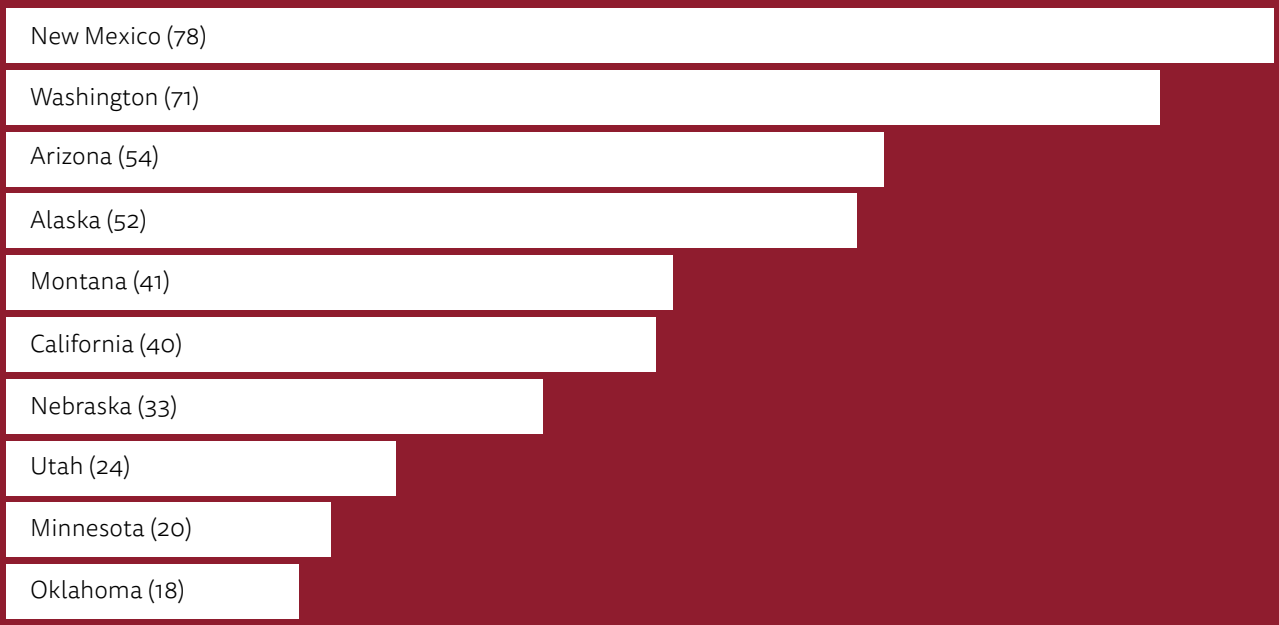
The areas with the largest number of urban cases with an unknown status were Albuquerque (18), San Francisco (16), Omaha (10), and Billings (8). Notably, both Albuquerque and Billings police departments acknowledged FOIA requests but did not provide any records or information or respond to any follow-up, while the records provided by San Francisco police did not specify the name or status of any victim. Omaha figured prominently in this list because, like many jurisdictions across the country, when a person listed on the Nebraska missing persons database is located, the notice is removed with no public information as to whether they were found safe or deceased. Together, these cities highlight the need for changes to public information systems on missing persons and improvement in cooperation from law enforcement agencies.

TOP 10 CITIES WITH HIGHEST NUMBER OF MMIWG CASES



See Appendix for data from all 71 cities surveyed.

TOP 10 STATES WITH HIGHEST NUMBER OF MMIWG CASES



CHALLENGES AND OBSTACLES IN OBTAINING MMIWG DATA

"Until there is cooperation and better tracking systems at all government levels, the data on missing and murdered Indigenous women will never be 100 percent accurate, which is what we need to strive for in order to protect our mothers, daughters, sisters, and aunties."

- Abigail Echo-Hawk (Pawnee), Director, Urban Indian Health Institute

ACCESSING LAW ENFORCEMENT DATA

UIHI filed FOIA requests with municipal police departments in all 71 cities included in the survey. In the case of Alaska, UIHI also filed a request with the Alaska Department of Public Safety (DPS) because a case that occurred in a major city was not considered city jurisdiction. To ensure other such cases would be included in the data, a request to DPS was necessary.

Initially, these requests were filed via the agency's online request system, when one existed, and, in cases where there was no such system, via email. Where no online system or email was available, no contact was made. After a significant portion of these initial requests never received a response, UIHI utilized MuckRock, a paid service that assists in FOIA requests, to re-file prior requests and file new requests with agencies that had no online system or email available.

In these requests, UIHI asked for all data on cases of missing persons (unsolved only), homicides, suspicious deaths, and deaths in custody (solved and unsolved) involving an American Indian or Alaska Native victim that was female or identified as a trans-woman/girl.

FOIA RESULTS

Seventy-one city police agencies and one state police agency were surveyed. Forty agencies (56%) provided some level of data. Thirty-three of the 40 (and 46% of all surveyed) actually searched their records, though not all provided comprehensive data. Ten out of the 40 agencies provided data but with a "caveat", meaning they only confirmed cases UIHI had already logged, provided what they could recall from memory, or gave partial data. Fourteen of the 72 agencies surveyed (20%) did not provide data, and 18 (25%) are still pending. Those combined with the 10 "caveat" cases comprised 59% of all the agencies surveyed. In sum, nearly two-thirds of all agencies surveyed either did not provide data or provided partial data with significant compromises.

Thirteen of the 72 agencies surveyed (18%) did not respond to our FOIA request within the time limit set by local statute, and an additional 12 agencies (17% of all agencies) failed to respond within their local time limit by ignoring the first attempt, but did respond in time when a second request was filed nine months later using MuckRock. Combined, these 25 agencies

"It is unacceptable that law enforcement feel recalling data from memory is an adequate response to a records request. In the one instance where this occurred and the officer searched their records after, several additional cases the officer could not recall were found. This highlights the need for improved records provision standards and shows that the institutional memory of law enforcement is not a reliable or accurate data source."

- Annita Lucchesi (Southern Cheyenne), PhD-c

71 CITY POLICE DEPARTMENTS AND 1 STATE AGENCY WERE SURVEYED.

OUT OF THOSE:

40 AGENCIES
PROVIDED SOME LEVEL OF DATA

14 AGENCIES
DID NOT PROVIDE DATA

18 AGENCIES
STILL HAVE PENDING FOIA REQUESTS

as of our cutoff date, October 15, 2018

represent over one-third (35%) of all agencies surveyed. Six agencies never responded to any FOIA requests: Albuquerque, Baltimore, Butte, Reno, San Jose, and Tempe. Sixty agencies (83%) required more than one communication regarding UIHI's request. Of those 60, 29 (40% of all agencies) needed more than two, and 16 (22% of all agencies) needed more than five.

Departments like Anchorage and Lincoln demonstrate that it is possible for urban police departments to respond to FOIA requests for such data and that the barriers other agencies have identified are not inherent to law enforcement as a whole.

"Your assertion that we have ignored a similar request from eight months ago is false. Unless you sent your request elsewhere, this is the first time we have seen it."

-Chief of Police in Billings, Montana, after receiving a second FOIA request. After receiving screen shots of first request, no further response was given.

The findings highlight that the FOIA process is, at best, laborious, requiring intensive follow up and resources from the requesting agency. For example, a representative from Juneau Police in Alaska explained that they received UIHI's initial request at the same time as an unaffiliated project at another institution filed a request for data on sexual assault on Alaska Native women. The agency assumed any request on violence against Alaska Native women must have come from the same source, so, when they filled the other institution's request, they closed out UIHI's. Similarly, in an October 2018 phone call, a representative from the Los Angeles Police claimed UIHI's two prior FOIA requests to their agency had been closed out by being lost in the system due to understaffing. They had a backlog of thousands of requests that three staff members were responsible for filling, and many were not answered (as UIHI's first request was) or were rerouted to the wrong agency (as UIHI's second request was). An entire year later, the agency expected UIHI to file a third request and "get back in line."

In another case, the Chief of Police in Billings, Montana, after having received a second FOIA request from UIHI, wrote, "Your assertion that we have ignored a similar request from eight months ago is false. Unless you sent your request elsewhere, this is the first time we have seen it." UIHI responded with screenshots of the initial request and of the automatic email received stating that the request was received and was processing, but UIHI never received any response to the email or to the record request to date.

However, some agencies were helpful and provided case data in a timely manner. For example, a representative from the Anchorage police department was one of the very first to provide comprehensive data on MMIWG cases in their jurisdiction. Not only did they search their records for

cases, they also searched the name of each case UIHI had logged to determine why they may not appear on the department's search results. Similarly, a representative from the Lincoln police department called for clarification of the request to ensure that they were pulling all of the pertinent records. They were very supportive of the project and dedicated hours of research at no cost to provide case data dating back to 1962.

FEES FOR ACCESSING DATA

Thirteen percent of all agencies surveyed charged a fee for accessing data: Fairbanks, Flagstaff, Juneau, Sitka, Kansas City, Ketchikan, Portland, Salt Lake City, Tucson, and Utqiagvik. If UIHI had paid every invoice received, it would have cost $4,464.48 (not including the cost of the paid service for the FOIA requests). Alaska agencies comprised 93% of the total costs of invoices. The invoices UIHI paid totaled $68, and, in turn, UIHI received data from three cities, resulting in an additional 51 cases logged. Portland police never provided any data despite their invoice being paid. As a small American Indian and Alaska Native organization with limited resources, UIHI was unable to pay a majority of the fees and thus was unable to access the data.

Of the agencies that did provide some kind of data, nine (23%) located data prior to 1990, 18 (45%) located data prior to 2000, and 29 (73%) located data prior to 2010. Accessing historical data was extremely difficult.

$4,464
Total Required Fees
(from 13% of the cities)

$68
UIHI's Budget
for FOIA Fees

FOIA REQUEST TO ALASKA

After UIHI's FOIA request was rejected by the Alaska State Troopers for being too burdensome, an appeal was denied by the Department of Public Safety because they estimated there were between 800 and 1,200 homicides of Alaska Native women since 1940 and it would require too many work hours to complete the request. Using one of the author's connections in Alaska, UIHI received assistance from a prominent Alaska Native tribal leader, after which the agency offered to provide data only from 2013 to 2018 because those records had been digitized and were searchable. However, UIHI has still not received the data to date.

"[Many] Native Americans adopted Hispanic names back during colonial times...Our crime systems are not flexible enough to pick out Native Americans from others in the system...it would be impossible to compile any statistically relevant information for you."

-Representative from Santa Fe Police Department

"[Regarding the difference] the Homicide unit found that 'N' was being used in the 60s up through the late 70s and early 80s – meant Negro not Native American."

-Representative from Seattle Police Department

"Sometimes the information [on a victim's race] would not be asked and our record system defaults to white."

-Representative from Fargo Police Department

LACKING RECORDS AND RACIAL MISCLASSIFICATION

Nine cities (13% of total) reported the inability to search for American Indian, Native American, or Alaska Native in their data reporting systems despite the common and expected practice of classifying victims by race in data systems. A representative from Santa Fe police wrote, "[Many] Native Americans adopted Hispanic names back during colonial times...Our crime systems are not flexible enough to pick out Native Americans from others in the system...it would be impossible to compile any statistically relevant information for you."

In Seattle, UIHI was initially provided one list then subsequently provided another. Considering they had significant overlap, UIHI asked for an explanation of the difference between the two and were told: "[Regarding the difference] the Homicide unit found that 'N' was being used in the 60s up through the late 70s and early 80s – meant Negro not Native American." However, all of the names that were on the original list—which presumably had both American Indian and Alaska Native and African American names on it—were also on the second list and did not provide any clarification.

Additionally, several police departments provided UIHI with data that included both American Indians and Indian-Americans with visibly Indian-American surnames (e.g. Singh). When asked about this misclassification, a representative from Sacramento police claimed the Indian-American names must be victims who were biracial.

Misclassification can also occur due to lack of recognition of tribal nations. UIHI found that if a woman or girl was killed during the time their tribe was terminated, her citizenship may have never been restored when her nation was re-recognized, and she may have been falsely classified as white—or not racially classified at all—in documentation regarding her case. These cases would not be included in search results constrained to searching for records of Native American females. This is an issue that still impacts contemporary cases involving victims from tribes that are not federally recognized, and lack of recognition is an issue that disproportionately affects urban

Indian communities. For example, Seattle, San Francisco, and Los Angeles each are located on homelands belonging to tribes that are not federally recognized (the Duwamish, Ohlone, and Tongva peoples, respectively). In this way, it is possible that American Indian and Alaska Native women and girls indigenous to the land the city is located on may not even be included in the city's data on American Indian and Alaska Native people, and their deaths and disappearances go uncounted on their own homeland.

UIHI found that it was not just racial categories that held misclassifications. Records obtained from Anchorage police showed that two-thirds of the cases UIHI identified that were not in the data the agency provided were, indeed, in their system, but three cases were misclassified as white, one was classified as a suicide (despite the case having been reopened as a homicide), one was classified as an overdose when her body had been moved and disposed of suspiciously, and one was not considered as having happened within the city because she had been kidnapped from a bar within the city but killed just outside of it.

Through research methods outside of FOIA requests (government missing persons databases, news reports, social media and advocacy sites, direct contact with families and community members who volunteered info), UIHI found 153 cases that were not in law enforcement records. Of all of the data gathered in the 40 cities where FOIA requests produced results, 42% of the cases were found by UIHI's diligent research and not present in law enforcement data. This 42% was made up of cases from 26 of the 40 cities (65%). The cities where UIHI located the highest number of cases not found in law enforcement records are listed in the table below.

TOP 10 CITIES WITH HIGHEST NUMBER OF MMIWG CASES THAT ARE NOT IN LAW ENFORCEMENT RECORDS

CITY	NUMBER OF CASES
Gallup, NM	20
Billings, MT	17
Omaha, NE	16
Seattle, WA	11
Anchorage, AK	9

CITY	NUMBER OF CASES
Farmington, NM	9
Denver, CO	7
Oklahoma City, OK	7
Rapid City, SD	6
Great Falls, MT	5

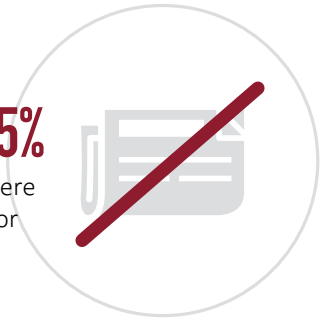
URBAN MMIWG IN THE MEDIA

METHODS

UIHI conducted a content analysis of media coverage on MMIWG in the areas covered by the study. The vast majority of coverage on MMIWG, both on individual cases and on the issue overall, was centered on reservation-based violence. Though coverage of reservation-based violence is critical, this bias does work to collectively minimize this issue in urban spaces. It also bolsters stereotypes of American Indian and Alaska Native people as solely living on reservations or in rural areas, perpetuates perceptions of tribal lands as violence-ridden environments, and, ultimately, is representative of an institutional bias of media coverage on this issue. Additionally, media sources have used language that could be perceived as violent and victim-blaming in their coverage of MMIWG cases. This type of coverage can also perpetuate negative stereotypes of American Indian and Alaska Native women and girls, so UIHI also conducted a qualitative analysis to identify this type of language.

UIHI conducted a comprehensive online search for media coverage on all 506 cases represented in the data. Each publicly-available article UIHI found was logged, assessed and coded for the type of language it used, and attributed to the outlet that originally published it.

MORE THAN 95%
of the cases in this study were never covered by national or international media.



FINDINGS

Media Coverage

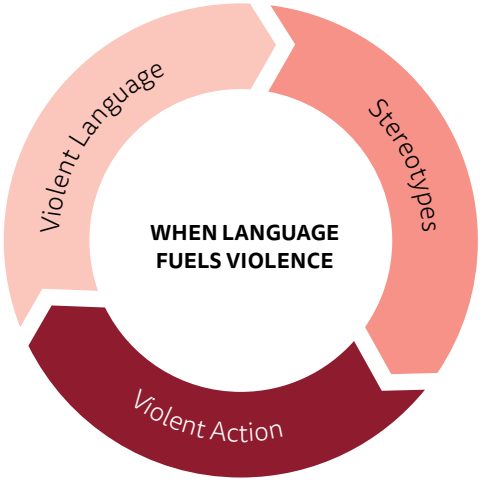
UIHI examined 934 articles, which collectively covered 129 cases out of the 506 represented in the study. One-quarter of the total number of cases were covered by local, regional, or national media. Less than one-fifth of the total number of cases were covered more than once (14%), less than one-tenth were covered more than three times (7%), and less than 5% of cases were covered more than five times. The top ten cases that received the most coverage comprised 62% of all coverage, and 47% of coverage was regarding just one case. Nearly all of the articles UIHI surveyed (91%) regarded a murder case, and 83% of the cases covered by media were murder cases. There were 27 articles printed in national or international media, covering 21 cases.

Violent Language

For the purposes of this analysis, UIHI defined violent language as language that engages in racism or misogyny or racial stereotyping, including references to drugs, alcohol, sex work, gang violence, victim criminal history, victim-blaming, making excuses for the perpetrator, misgendering transgender victims, racial misclassification, false information on cases, not naming the victim, and publishing images/video of the victim's death.

Of the articles analyzed, 46 media outlets had violent language in their coverage, representing nearly a third of all outlets surveyed (31%). Thirty-six media outlets (25%) used violent language in 50% or more of the cases they covered, and 22 (15%) used violent language in 100% of the cases they covered. UIHI identified prevalence of specific types of violent language in the table on the right.

If the case is covered in the media, the language that is used to describe the crime and the victim often causes additional harm. In addition, these findings demonstrate that media outlets are willing to publish a single story on this issue but not commit to sustained coverage on the cases that happen within the geographic areas they cover.



TYPES OF VIOLENT LANGUAGE USED IN ARTICLES

References to drugs or alcohol	38%
Coverage of trans-women victims that misgendered the victim	33%
References to victim's criminal history	31%
References to sex work	11%
Gave false information on the case or did not name the victim	8%
Made excuses for the perpetrator or used victim-blaming language	4%
Showed images or video of victim death	3%

DISCUSSION

This study illustrates the maze of injustice that impacts MMIWG cases and demonstrates how they are made to disappear in life, the media, and in data. UIHI discovered a striking level of inconsistency between community, law enforcement, and media understandings of the magnitude of this violence. If this report demonstrates one powerful conclusion, it is that if we rely solely on law enforcement or media for an awareness or understanding of the issue, we will have a deeply inaccurate picture of the realities, minimizing the extent to which our urban American Indian and Alaska Native sisters experience this violence. This inaccurate picture limits our ability to address this issue at policy, programing, and advocacy levels.

Moreover, many of the reasons commonly attributed to root causes of MMIWG in the media and popular narrative—sex work and domestic violence, for example—are forms of violence that were not prominent in the cases UIHI found, and the geography of this data does not match an assumed perception on where MMIWG cases are more likely to occur. These narratives stress areas like Montana and North Dakota, while minimizing the issue in places like California and Alaska. This study shows these neglected areas need to be at the forefront of the dialogue rather than almost entirely absent from it. Overall, there is a need for more sustained and in-depth research on how and why urban American Indian and Alaska Native women and girls go missing and are killed and enforceable data collection practices for local, state, and federal agencies.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

The challenges and barriers in accessing data on this issue from law enforcement severely impede the ability of communities, tribal nations, and policy makers to make informed decisions on how best to address this violence. This is especially problematic in the case of grassroots organizers, who often serve as informal first responders and service providers for American Indian and Alaska Native women and their families. The average community member does not have thousands of dollars and unlimited time to continue to follow up for this data, and yet they are the entities staffing women's shelters, volunteering in searches, organizing memorials, advocating for policy changes, caring for families, holding ceremonies, fundraising for funerals, and organizing awareness campaigns. This indicates that measures need to be put in place for community access to information on this issue as the FOIA process is far from its democratic intentions.

Additionally, it is alarming that UIHI located records of 153 cases that are not in law enforcement records and that some cities still do not have systems that are searchable by race or include American Indian, Native American, or Alaska Native as categories. Record-keeping protocols must be updated and implemented immediately—no agency can adequately respond to violence it does not track.

More largely, continued research on racial and gender bias in police forces regarding how MMIWG cases are handled needs to occur. It is unacceptable that nearly a third of perpetrators were never held accountable, and the resistance to tracking this data

that UIHI experienced from agency leadership is indicative of larger institutional structural inequity. Ultimately, American Indian and Alaska Native women will continue to go missing and be killed as long as law enforcement does not account for this violence in accurate, meaningful ways and does not bring these cases to justice more consistently.

MEDIA

Based on UIHI's findings, it is clear that media coverage of this issue is extremely uneven, and the vast majority of cases occurring in urban areas are never covered by media at all. Combined with the inaccessibility of law enforcement data, this lack of reporting leads the general public to have an inaccurate understanding of the issue, and over two-thirds of the cases that happen in urban areas are rendered invisible. This not only prevents critical awareness of the issue and is hurtful to victims' families and communities, it limits efforts to engage in cross-cultural community dialogue on how to enhance safety, not just for urban American Indian and Alaska Native women and girls, but for all who live in the cities in which they go missing and are killed.

Similarly, existing media coverage remains deeply biased, and standards and protocols need to be put in place for covering these cases to decrease the amount of violent language used. It is imperative that stories on the violence our urban American Indian and Alaska Native women and girls experience are treated with care and respect. The Native American Journalist Association has created resources to assist reporters in evaluating their stories to determine if they rely on stereotypes; use of resources such as this will assist in decreasing, and ultimately ending, the use of racist, victim-blaming, and criminalizing language.[xi]

Both the lack of reporting and the bias in existing coverage could be addressed through the presence of more Indigenous staff at media outlets, and efforts to build more substantive relationships with the communities they are reporting (or not reporting) on. In an urban context, these relationship-building opportunities are readily available through urban American Indian and Alaska Native community events, community organizations and programming, and outreach to American Indian and Alaska Native college students pursuing a career in journalism.

THE CHALLENGES AND BARRIERS IN ACCESSING DATA ON THIS ISSUE FROM LAW ENFORCEMENT SEVERELY IMPEDE THE ABILITY OF COMMUNITIES, TRIBAL NATIONS, AND POLICY MAKERS TO MAKE INFORMED DECISIONS ON HOW BEST TO ADDRESS THIS VIOLENCE.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The MMIWG epidemic deeply impacts urban American Indian and Alaska Native communities, and the dialogue must shift to include them. Any policy addressing MMIWG that does not account for the violence urban Native communities experience will not adequately address the issue. This includes the currently proposed Savanna's Act, a federal bill aimed at collecting data on new MMIWG cases. Though it is named after Savanna LaFontaine-Greywind, who was murdered in Fargo, North Dakota (one of the cities included in this survey), presently, it solely asks federal law enforcement to track and report data. Because cases occurring in urban areas are not federal jurisdiction, this means missing and murdered urban Native women and girls, including Savanna herself, would not be included in the data the bill aims to collect. Gaps such as these allow the violence urban Native women and girls experience to continue.

Tribal nations must have the ability to advocate for their citizens living in urban areas when they go missing or are killed. This is a courtesy extended to all other sovereign nations—when a citizen is killed while living or traveling outside the nation of which they are a citizen, the nation is notified of their death and able to advocate for their citizen's case and family. This basic respect must be afforded to tribal nations as well, so they are able to fully practice their inherent sovereignty by advocating for the health and safety of all their citizens, regardless of where they reside. Currently, this courtesy is not extended, and rarely is a tribal nation notified or given access to the data regarding their tribal citizens. The concept of Indigenous Data Sovereignty, which has been adopted by the National Congress of American Indians in 2018, is defined as the right of a nation to govern the collection, ownership, and application of its own data, including any data collected on its tribal citizens.[xii] The findings in this report show that racial misclassification and a lack of consistent data collection made for a significant undercount of urban MMIWG cases. Tribal nations should be part of meaningful consultations to ensure proper data collection and sustained access to the data.

Lastly, funding for research that will support effective policy on violence against American Indian and Alaska Native women and girls in urban areas is desperately needed—by mid-October 2018, 76 urban MMIWG cases had already occurred in the year. Despite calls to action from tribal leadership, federal agencies have not been able to conduct a comprehensive study on MMIWG, and a focused study on this violence as it occurs in urban areas has been deemed too difficult to include in a bill like Savanna's Act. However, UIHI completed this study in approximately one year. This demonstrates the deep commitment Indigenous research and epidemiology institutions have in honoring and better understanding the violence our sisters experience. This study shows the importance of creating funding opportunities to support a continuation of this work by the Indigenous institutions who are equipped to take it on in a good way.

*The data collected does not reflect any FOIA responses received after October 15, 2018 nor any community reported instances after that date. UIHI acknowledges that Chicago recently responded to the FOIA with 7 reported homicides, and 4 urban Indigenous women and girls have been murdered and are missing since this date.

The lack of good data and the resulting lack of understanding about the violence perpetrated against urban American Indian and Alaska Native women and girls is appalling and adds to the historical and ongoing trauma American Indian and Alaska Native people have experienced for generations. But the resilience of American Indian and Alaska Native women and girls has sustained our communities for generation after generation. As the life bearers of our communities, they have been integral to holding strong our culture and traditional practices. Bringing to light the stories of these women through data is an integral part of moving toward meaningful change that ends this epidemic of violence. UIHI is taking huge steps to decolonize data by reclaiming the Indigenous values of data collection, analysis, and research, for Indigenous people, by Indigenous people. Our lives depend on it.

END NOTES

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[xi] Native American Journalists Association (2018). NAJA AP Style Guide. Retrieved from https://www.naja.com/resources/naja-ap-style-guide/

[xii] National Congress of American Indians (2018). Support of US Indigenous Data Sovereignty and Inclusion of Tribes in Development of Tribal Data Governance Principles (Resolution #KAN-18-011). Retrieved from http://www.ncai.org/attachments/Resolution_gbuJbEHWpkOgcwCICRtgMJHMsUNofqYvuMSnzLFzOdxBlMlRjij_KAN-18-011%20Final.pdf

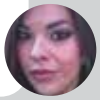
Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls in Pacific Northwest Cities

Spokane

UIHI has recorded 1 case in Spokane--Mary Bercier, who was announced as missing by a relative in 2018.

Seattle

UIHI has recorded 45 cases in Seattle, including Patricia YellowRobe, who was from the Rocky Boy Chippewa-Cree reservation and murdered by a serial killer in 1998, and Sandra Smiscon, Ashton Reyes, Nicole Westbrook, and Eveona Cortez. Representing the Yakama, Tlingit, Navajo, and Blackfeet nations, Sandra, Ashton, Nicole, & Eveona were all randomly killed in acts of gun violence, in 2003, 2012, and 2018.



Portland

UIHI has recorded 6 cases in Portland, including Dusti Grey, who was homeless when she was reported missing in 2017.

Tacoma

UIHI has recorded 25 cases in Tacoma, including Teekah Lewis, who went missing in 1999 at the age of 3, Teresa Davis, missing since 1973, and Jacqueline Salyers, who was a Puyallup tribal member who was pregnant when she was killed by law enforcement in 2016.

This map includes a Coastal-inspired orca design, honoring Tahlequah, a whale from Puget Sound, who the world joined in mourning for her spirit baby for 17 days in 2018. Like Tahlequah, Native mothers remain resilient leaders through the grief of losing their children to colonial violence. This map also includes cedar designs, to honor the prayers we say for these mothers and their babies.

Notes: data ranges from 1943 to 2018, but due to challenges in collecting data on historical cases, approximately 80% of the cases in this report have occurred since 2000. All MMIWG photos are sourced from public media.

Urban Indian Health Institute

Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls in California Cities

Eureka & Redding

UIHI has recorded 5 cases in Eureka, and 3 in Redding, including Jennika Suazo, a Tolowa high school student who was killed in 2016, and Heather Cameron, a Grand Ronde tribal member and mother of four who was last seen shortly before she made three 911 calls from her abusive ex-boyfriend's phone, saying she had been drugged and kidnapped.

Sacramento

UIHI has recorded 13 cases in Sacramento. None of these were ever reported on by media, so no photos or stories on these 13 stolen sisters are available. 3 remain missing, and 10 were murdered.

San Francisco

UIHI has recorded 17 cases in San Francisco, including Jezzeille Murdock, who went missing on her 34th birthday in 2017.

Bakersfield

UIHI has recorded 4 cases in Bakersfield, including Peggy Humber, a 44-year-old woman missing since 2000.

San Diego

UIHI has recorded one case in San Diego--Linda Hewitt, murdered in 1978. No photo of Linda or information on her story is available.

UIHI has recorded a total of 41 cases of missing and murdered indigenous women and girls in cities across California. This map includes a design inspired by California tribal basket designs, with abalone components to honor the Yurok story of Abalone Woman, who was killed by her love, Dentalium Man, and became the beautiful shell that indigenous peoples across the continent admire and pray with.

Notes: data ranges from 1943 to 2018, but due to challenges in collecting data on historical cases, approximately 80% of the cases in this report have occurred since 2000. All MMIWG photos are sourced from public media.

Urban Indian Health Institute

Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls in Alaskan Cities

Utqiagvik

UIHI has recorded 1 case in Utqiagvik--Nancy Brower, a 15-year-old high school student raped and murdered in 2002.

In 2018, UIHI filed a FOIA request to the Alaska State Troopers, for information on the number of MMIWG in the state. They estimated there are between 800 to 1,200 homicides of Alaska Native women in their records since 1940, but said the agency does not have the time to pull them. This map has over 1,200 feathers on it, to honor each of those files UIHI could not access. This map also honors the connection our stolen sisters have to our communities and the land, with Alaska-style forget-me-not beadwork designs.

Fairbanks

UIHI has recorded 6 cases in Fairbanks, including Sophie Sergie, a 20-year-old aspiring marine biologist, who was found raped and shot in a bathtub in a University of Alaska dorm in 1993.

Notes: data ranges from 1943 to 2018, but due to challenges in collecting data on historical cases, approximately 80% of the cases in this report have occurred since 2000. All MMIWG photos are sourced from public media.

Juneau & Ketchikan

UIHI has recorded 3 cases each in Juneau and Ketchikan, including LoriDee Wilson, a Yup'ik mother of three missing since 2016, and Angeline Dundas, a 34-year-old woman, whose body was pulled from the Tongass Narrows in 2015, within 24 hours of seeking help at a local women's shelter.

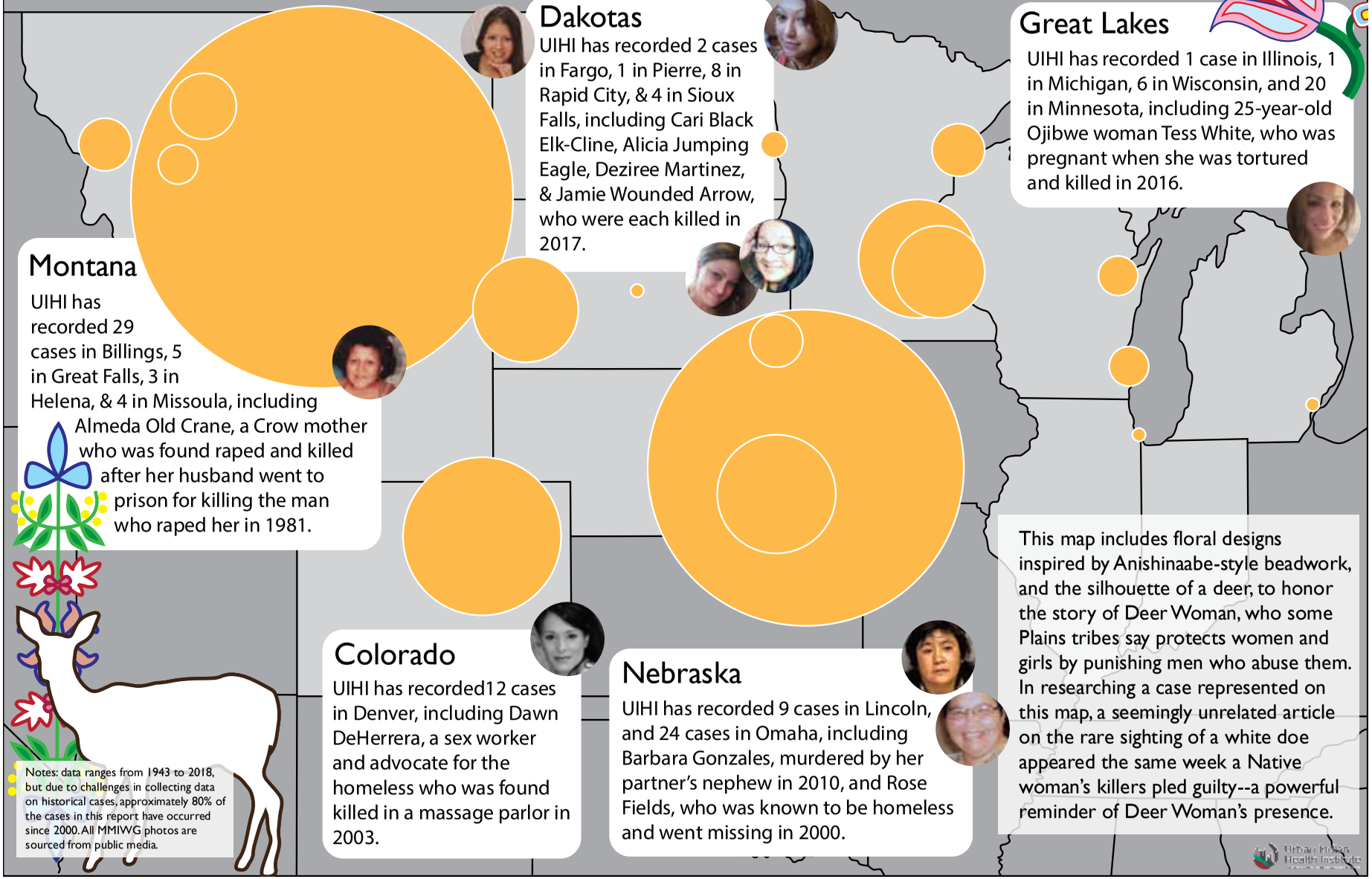
Bethel

UIHI has recorded 8 cases in Bethel, including Stella Evon, a 17-year-old Yup'ik girl missing since 1996, and Sandra Frye, a 26-year-old mother of four found murdered in 2017.

Anchorage

UIHI has recorded 31 cases in Anchorage, including Annie Mann, Vera Hapoff, Della Brown, and Genevieve Tetpon, 4 of at least 10 murders of Native women in the span of a few years. Many of these cases remain unsolved, including Annie and Vera's.

Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls in Northern Plains & Great Lakes Cities



Dakotas

UIHI has recorded 2 cases in Fargo, 1 in Pierre, 8 in Rapid City, & 4 in Sioux Falls, including Cari Black Elk-Cline, Alicia Jumping Eagle, Deziree Martinez, & Jamie Wounded Arrow, who were each killed in 2017.

Great Lakes

UIHI has recorded 1 case in Illinois, 1 in Michigan, 6 in Wisconsin, and 20 in Minnesota, including 25-year-old Ojibwe woman Tess White, who was pregnant when she was tortured and killed in 2016.

Montana

UIHI has recorded 29 cases in Billings, 5 in Great Falls, 3 in Helena, & 4 in Missoula, including Almeda Old Crane, a Crow mother who was found raped and killed after her husband went to prison for killing the man who raped her in 1981.

Colorado

UIHI has recorded12 cases in Denver, including Dawn DeHerrera, a sex worker and advocate for the homeless who was found killed in a massage parlor in 2003.

Nebraska

UIHI has recorded 9 cases in Lincoln, and 24 cases in Omaha, including Barbara Gonzales, murdered by her partner's nephew in 2010, and Rose Fields, who was known to be homeless and went missing in 2000.

This map includes floral designs inspired by Anishinaabe-style beadwork, and the silhouette of a deer, to honor the story of Deer Woman, who some Plains tribes say protects women and girls by punishing men who abuse them. In researching a case represented on this map, a seemingly unrelated article on the rare sighting of a white doe appeared the same week a Native woman's killers pled guilty--a powerful reminder of Deer Woman's presence.

Notes: data ranges from 1943 to 2018, but due to challenges in collecting data on historical cases, approximately 80% of the cases in this report have occurred since 2000. All MMIWG photos are sourced from public media.

Urban Indian Health Institute

Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls in Southwest Cities

Salt Lake City

UIHI has recorded 24 cases in Salt Lake City, including Deborah Haudley, who was living at a motel with her partner when he killed her in 2010.

Flagstaff

UIHI has recorded 6 cases in Flagstaff, including Nicole Joe, who was beaten by her partner and left outside in the cold, and died on Christmas Day in 2017.

Phoenix & Tempe

UIHI has recorded 14 cases in Phoenix, 3 in Tempe, and 4 in Tucson, including Jade Velasquez, who was killed by a serial killer in 2003, a 15-year-old Jane Doe found in 2002.

Tucson

UIHI has recorded 31 cases in Tucson, including Mia Henderson, a Navajo college student murdered in 2007.

Gallup

UIHI has recorded 25 cases in Gallup, including high school student Colleen Lincoln, who was beaten to death and burned two days before Christmas in 2010.

Farmington

UIHI has recorded 10 cases in Farmington, including Vanessa Tsosie, whose only photo circulated was the shoes she was wearing at time of death.

Santa Fe

UIHI has recorded 6 cases in Santa Fe, including Navajo woman Melissa Tsosie, who was killed in a homeless encampment in 2015.

Albuquerque

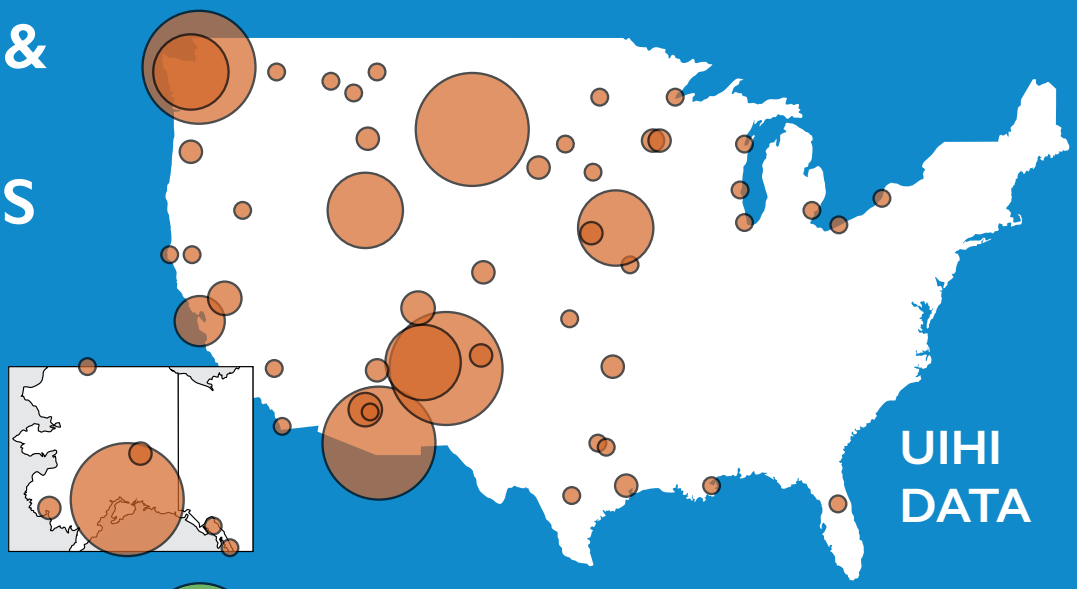
UIHI has recorded 37 cases in Albuquerque, including Terri Benally, Kelly Watson, & Ryan Hoskie, 3 Navajo trans-women killed from 2004-2009. No photos of them were published.

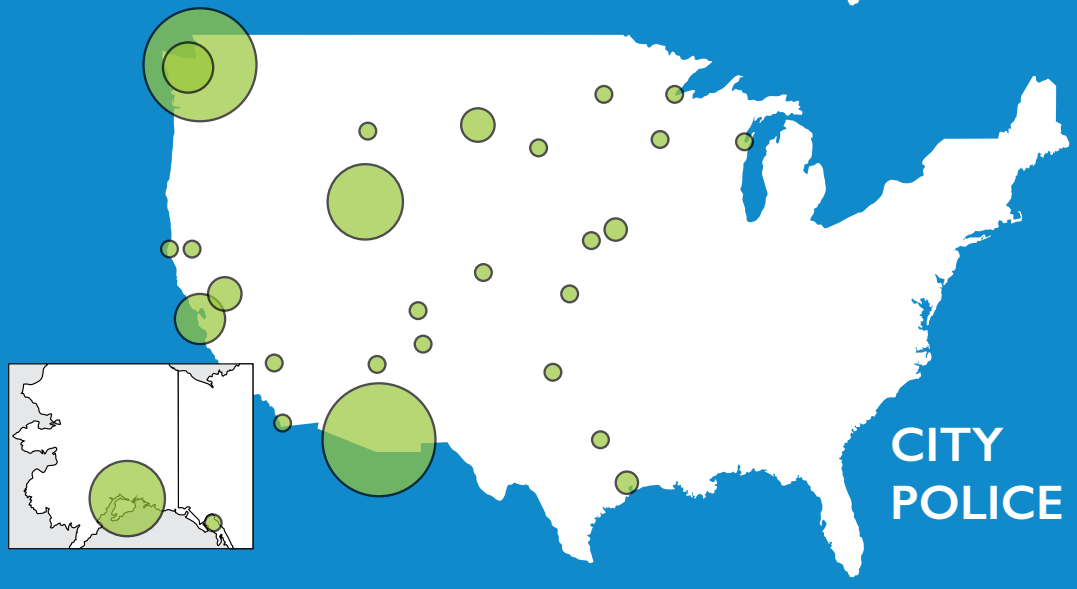
Notes: data ranges from 1943 to 2018, but due to challenges in collecting data on historical cases, approximately 80% of the cases in this report have occurred since 2000. All MMIWG photos are sourced from public media.

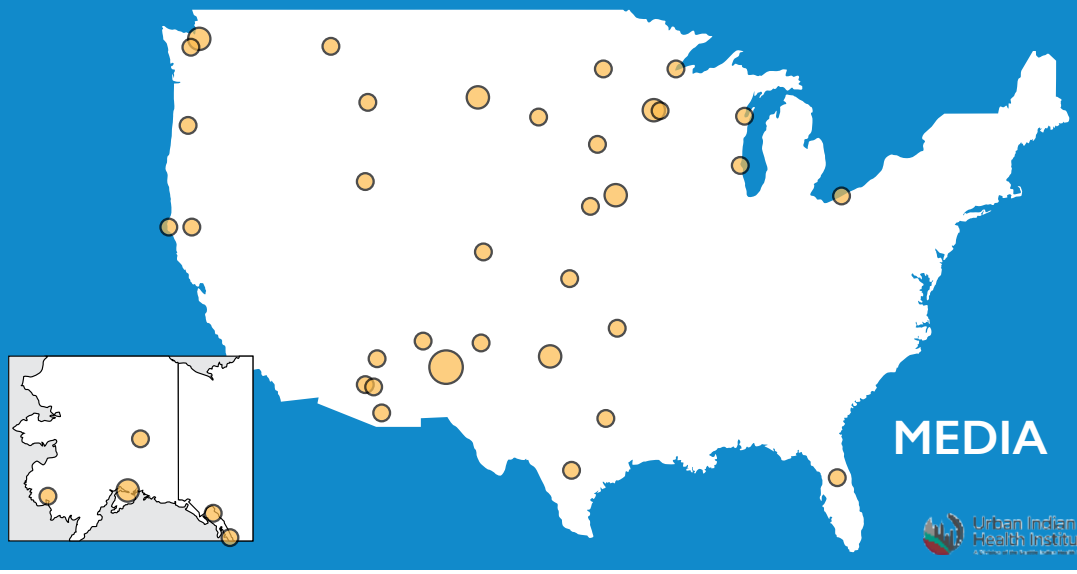
This map includes a design inspired by Southwestern weaving traditions, and images of corn, to honor the cultural and ceremonial uses of corn in the Southwest, and its ties to stories of the sacredness of women.

Urban Indian Health Institute

MISSING & MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN & GIRLS IN MAJOR US CITIES

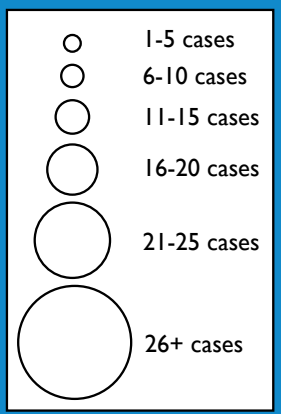






No agency has comprehensive data on the true number of missing and murdered indigenous women and girls, and that further research is needed. A challenge in researching this violence is the drastically different information each source has. On this map, we compare UIHI data to data obtained from FOIA requests to municipal police departments, and to data on which cases from those sources were covered by media. This comparison highlights the gaps and disconnects between community, law enforcement, and media awareness of urban MMIW cases.

Note: data ranges from 1943 to 2018, but due to challenges in collecting data on historical cases, approximately 80% of the cases shown here have occurred since 2000.



Urban Indian Health Institute

APPENDIX

CITY	MISSING	MURDERED	UNKNOWN	TOTAL
Akron, OH	0	0	0	0
Albuquerque, NM	3	16	18	37
Anchorage, AK	3	27	1	31
Arlington, TX	1	0	0	1
Bakersfield, CA	1	3	0	4
Baltimore, MD	0	1	0	1
Bethel, AK	1	3	4	8
Billings, MT	5	16	8	29
Bismarck, ND	0	0	0	0
Boston, MA	0	0	0	0
Buffalo, NY	1	0	1	2
Butte, MT	0	0	0	0
Chicago, IL	0	0	1	1
Cleveland, OH	1	1	0	2
Dallas, TX	1	1	0	2
Denver, CO	1	8	3	12
Detroit, MI	1	0	0	1
Duluth, MN	1	3	0	4
Eureka, CA	3	2	0	5
Fairbanks, AK	3	3	0	6
Fargo, ND	0	2	0	2
Farmington, NM	3	3	4	10
Flagstaff, AZ	0	7	0	7
Fountain Valley, CA	0	0	0	0
Fresno, CA	0	0	0	0
Gallup, NM	12	9	4	25
Great Falls, MT	2	0	3	5
Green Bay, WI	0	3	0	3
Helena, MT	0	0	3	3
Houston, TX	6	1	0	7
Idaho Falls, ID	2	2	3	7
Indianapolis, IN	0	0	0	0
Juneau, AK	2	1	0	3
Kansas City, MO	0	1	0	1
Ketchikan, AK	0	3	0	3
Lincoln, NE	2	5	2	9

CITY	MISSING	MURDERED	UNKNOWN	TOTAL
Los Angeles, CA	0	0	0	0
Milwaukee, WI	1	2	0	3
Minneapolis, MN	2	7	0	9
Missoula, MT	1	1	2	4
New Orleans, LA	1	0	0	1
Oakland, CA	0	0	0	0
Oklahoma City, OK	2	7	1	10
Omaha, NE	11	3	10	24
Orlando, FL	0	2	0	2
Phoenix, AZ	8	6	0	14
Pierre, SD	1	0	0	1
Portland, OR	4	0	2	6
Rapid City, SD	3	5	0	8
Redding, CA	2	1	0	3
Reno, NV	0	0	1	1
Sacramento, CA	3	10	0	13
Salt Lake City, UT	1	22	1	24
San Antonio, TX	1	0	0	1
San Diego, CA	0	1	0	1
San Francisco, CA	1	0	16	17
San Jose, CA	0	0	0	0
Santa Barbara, CA	0	0	0	0
Santa Fe, NM	2	1	3	6
Seattle, WA	7	38	0	45
Sioux Falls, SD	0	4	0	4
Sitka, AK	0	0	0	0
Spokane, WA	0	0	1	1
St. Louis, MO	0	0	0	0
St. Paul, MN	4	3	0	7
Tacoma, WA	13	10	2	25
Tempe, AZ	0	2	1	3
Tucson, AZ	1	30	0	31
Tulsa, OK	4	1	3	8
Utqiagvik, AK	0	1	0	1
Wichita, KS	0	2	0	2
TOTAL	**128**	**280**	**98**	**506**

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ALASKA

Missing Alaska Natives & American Indians

Quarterly Report | October 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023

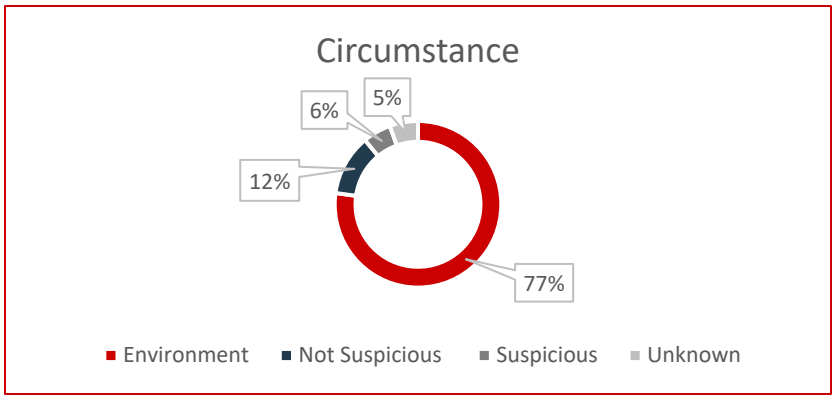
This report shows data and information related to persons who are Alaska Native, American Indian, or of an unknown race who were reported missing as of January 9, 2024. This report only includes cases investigated by the Alaska Department of Public Safety (DPS), the Anchorage Police Department (APD), and the Fairbanks Police Department (FPD). The data and information provided in this report are dynamic and subject to change.

DPS, APD, and FPD are committed to doing our parts to quickly respond to and thoroughly investigate missing person cases that occur in our areas of responsibility.

Call 911 if someone you know is missing; there is no waiting period to report a missing person.

October 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023[1]

	All Races	AN / AI / Unknown Races
Missing	**311**	166
Located	**256**	**137**



[1] Number of missing or located persons **reported** during Quarter 4. For example, a person may have gone missing in Quarter 3 but was located in Quarter 4.

Missing Alaska Natives / American Indians (AN/AI) and Unknown Races

Last Name	First Name	City	Borough	Birth Date	Sex	Race/Ethnicity	Agency	Date of Last Contact	Circumstance
Abarca	Clinton	Igiugig	Lake and Peninsula	9/9/1980	M	AN / AI	DPS	7/28/2007	Environment
Acovak	Michael	Dillingham	Dillingham	2/24/1964	M	AN / AI	DPS	5/24/1989	Environment
Adon	Shirley	Fairbanks	Fairbanks North Star	3/28/1961	F	Unknown	FPD	03/15/2023	Unknown
Agathluk	Albert	Emmonak	Kusilvak	7/28/1970	M	AN / AI	DPS	11/16/2006	Environment
Ahmaogak Jr	Lawrence	North Slope	North Slope	4/25/1962	M	AN / AI	DPS	12/7/1991	Environment
Ahwinona Sr	Harold	Anchorage	Anchorage	08/01/1957	M	AN / AI	APD	11/24/2022	Not Suspicious
Akitalinok	Augustine	Anchorage	Anchorage	01/23/1968	M	AN / AI	APD	3/17/1990	Unknown
Alexie	Wassilie	Bethel	Bethel	1/12/1946	M	AN / AI	DPS	10/9/1984	Environment
Alexie	Wassilie	Bethel	Bethel	9/13/1960	M	AN / AI	DPS	8/15/1998	Environment
Alexie	Crim	Tuluksak	Bethel	11/9/1990	M	AN / AI	DPS	8/28/2010	Suspicious
Alexie	Travis	Tuluksak	Bethel	1/30/1984	M	AN / AI	DPS	3/3/2014	Environment
Alexie	Mary	Anchorage	Anchorage	11/13/1979	F	AN / AI	APD	10/9/2012	Suspicious
Allen	Rodney	Dillingham	Dillingham	11/29/1971	M	AN / AI	DPS	2/18/1996	Environment
Alstrom	Frank	Bethel	Bethel	4/3/1984	M	AN / AI	DPS	10/6/1998	Environment

Last Name	First Name	City	Borough	Birth Date	Sex	Race/Ethnicity	Agency	Date of Last Contact	Circumstance
Ambrose	Arthur	Galena	Yukon–Koyukuk	10/15/1953	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/2/1985	Environment
Andrew	Glenda	St Mary's	Kusilvak	3/22/1979	F	AN / AI	DPS	2/10/2005	Environment
Andrews	Steven	Bethel	Bethel	12/13/1990	M	AN / AI	DPS	6/14/2004	Environment
Aparezuk	Seth	Anchorage	Anchorage	06/30/1982	M	AN / AI	APD	9/25/2023	Not Suspicious
Avalos	Zellia	Anchorage	Anchorage	04/10/2006	F	AN / AI	APD	9/27/2023	Not Suspicious
Ayagalria	Roy	Bethel	Bethel	7/16/1959	M	AN / AI	DPS	12/16/1978	Environment
Ayojiak	Michael	Togiak	Dillingham	10/14/1975	M	AN / AI	DPS	1/10/2002	Not suspicious
Baisley	Christopher	Wasilla	Matanuska-Susitna	3/1/1982	M	Unknown	DPS	12/7/2022	Unknown
Ballantyne	Mary	Fairbanks	Fairbanks North Star	5/25/1984	F	AN / AI	DPS	7/15/1986	Environment
Balluta	Philip	Kodiak	Kodiak Island	7/22/1969	M	AN / AI	DPS	4/19/1992	Environment
Barker	Beverly	Anchorage	Anchorage	07/22/1962	F	AN / AI	APD	7/15/2019	Not Suspicious
Barr	Ronald	Noorvik	Northwest Arctic	1/9/2000	M	AN / AI	DPS	5/12/2019	Environment
Battishill	Jeramy	Anchorage	Anchorage	12/04/1978	M	AN / AI	APD	12/29/2019	Not Suspicious
Bavilla	Theodore	Dillingham	Dillingham	3/8/1979	M	AN / AI	DPS	7/6/1995	Environment
Bealer	Eric	Pelican Bay	Hoonah-Angoon	6/6/1960	M	Unknown	DPS	9/12/2018	Not suspicious
Beatus Jr	Henry	Galena	Yukon–Koyukuk	8/9/1959	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/2/1985	Environment
Bernhardt	Antionette	Kivanlina	Northwest Arctic	6/13/1959	F	AN / AI	DPS	11/21/1977	Environment
Blanket Jr	Roderick	Bethel	Bethel	9/20/1969	M	AN / AI	DPS	12/7/1991	Environment

Last Name	First Name	City	Borough	Birth Date	Sex	Race/Ethnicity	Agency	Date of Last Contact	Circumstance
Boliver	Marvin	Bethel	Bethel	2/1/1963	M	AN / AI	DPS	10/13/1987	Environment
Borenin	Mark	Dillingham	Dillingham	11/5/1978	M	AN / AI	DPS	5/9/1992	Environment
Boskofsky	Cassandra	Anchorage	Anchorage	11/07/1980	F	AN / AI	APD	9/1/2019	Suspicious
Breseman	Anna	Yakutat	Yakutat	11/29/1926	F	AN / AI	DPS	9/13/1984	Environment
Brown	Russel	Anchorage	Anchorage	6/26/1935	M	Unknown	DPS	10/16/1972	Environment
Brown Sr	Raymond	Kotzebue	Northwest Arctic	4/16/1938	M	AN / AI	DPS	5/20/1999	Environment
Brush Jr	Clarence	Nulato	Yukon–Koyukuk	12/20/1964	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/19/1993	Environment
Bryan	Gabrielle	Anchorage	Anchorage	04/04/1988	F	Unknown	APD	12/29/2020	Suspicious
Bunyan	Milton	Bethel	Bethel	8/22/1984	M	AN / AI	DPS	3/7/2002	Environment
Burgess Jr	Victor	Prince of Wales	Prince of Wales-Outer Ketchikan	4/24/1955	M	AN / AI	DPS	5/6/1978	Environment
Burk	Patrick	Nenana	Yukon–Koyukuk	7/10/1957	M	AN / AI	DPS	1/3/1994	Environment
Burk	James	Nenana	Yukon–Koyukuk	2/21/1956	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/9/2023	Environment
Cantu Jr	Bonifacio	Dillingham	Dillingham	6/13/1946	M	AN / AI	DPS	5/20/1985	Environment
Captain	Wayne	Galena	Yukon–Koyukuk	9/2/1965	M	AN / AI	DPS	12/18/1987	Environment
Chadwick	Chad	Quinhagak	Bethel	11/1/1982	M	AN / AI	DPS	10/19/2020	Environment
Challiak	John	Kodiak	Kodiak Island	3/28/1936	M	AN / AI	DPS	11/12/1980	Environment
Charles	Francis	Hydaburg	Prince of Wales-Outer Ketchikan	9/29/1995	M	AN / AI	DPS	6/22/2017	Environment

Last Name	First Name	City	Borough	Birth Date	Sex	Race/Ethnicity	Agency	Date of Last Contact	Circumstance
Charliaga	Emanual	Kodiak	Kodiak Island	6/25/1958	M	AN / AI	DPS	4/19/1992	Environment
Charlie	Donald	Bethel	Bethel	10/30/1943	M	AN / AI	DPS	11/19/1984	Environment
Charlie	Wilfred	Cantwell	Denali	10/8/1947	M	AN / AI	DPS	6/28/1985	Environment
Chingliak	Angela	Bethel	Bethel	12/25/1980	F	AN / AI	DPS	9/7/2012	Environment
Chocknok Sr	Charlie	New Stuyahok	Dillingham	6/1/1916	M	AN / AI	DPS	7/21/2000	Not suspicious
Chulin	Ephin	Kenai	Kenai Peninsula	12/26/1911	M	AN / AI	DPS	11/13/1972	Unknown
Clark	Raymond	Galena	Yukon–Koyukuk	3/16/1956	M	AN / AI	DPS	5/9/1979	Environment
Coaltrain	Latoya	Anchorage	Anchorage	10/18/1982	F	AN / AI	APD	8/6/2022	Not Suspicious
Cobban	David	Kodiak	Kodiak Island	4/8/1989	M	Unknown	DPS	12/31/2019	Environment
Coville	Scott	Sitka	Sitka	4/12/1962	M	Unknown	DPS	4/12/1988	Suspicious
Coyle	Patrick	Kake	Prince of Wales-Hyder	3/22/1955	M	Unknown	DPS	1/29/2019	Environment
CULVER	AIDYN	Fairbanks	Fairbanks North Star	7/23/2005	M	AN / AI	FPD	03/22/2023	Not suspicious
Custer Jr	Stanley	Kotzebue	Northwest Arctic	1/6/1976	M	AN / AI	DPS	11/22/2007	Environment
Darien Sr	Eli	Cook Inlet	Kenai Peninsula	8/7/1937	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/10/1979	Environment
Davis	Jeremy	Iliamna	Lake and Peninsula	6/6/1995	M	AN / AI	DPS	7/17/2022	Environment
Davis Jr	Robert	Dutch Harbor	Aleutians West	8/17/1963	M	Unknown	DPS	3/22/1990	Environment
Deck	Edward	Aniak	Bethel	2/9/1963	M	AN / AI	DPS	10/1/1991	Environment
Demoski	Bertha	Nulato	Yukon–Koyukuk	3/24/1922	F	AN / AI	DPS	9/25/1960	Environment

Last Name	First Name	City	Borough	Birth Date	Sex	Race/Ethnicity	Agency	Date of Last Contact	Circumstance
Demoski	Claude	Nulato	Yukon–Koyukuk	7/19/1915	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/25/1960	Environment
Demoski	Leo	Nulato	Yukon–Koyukuk	2/12/1912	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/25/1960	Environment
Demoski	Victor	Dillingham	Dillingham	5/6/1961	M	AN / AI	DPS	7/22/1990	Environment
Derendoff	Willis	Fairbanks	Fairbanks North Star	11/1/1986	M	AN / AI	DPS	11/10/2020	Suspicious
Devlin	Joseph	Valdez	Valdez-Cordova	6/5/1963	M	Unknown	DPS	7/12/1981	Environment
Dieterich	John	Dutch Harbor	Aleutians West	8/18/1958	M	AN / AI	DPS	3/22/1990	Environment
Dull Jr	Arthur	Bethel	Bethel	1/1/1956	M	AN / AI	DPS	11/12/1989	Environment
Dundas	William	Ketchikan	Ketchikan Gateway	7/3/1967	M	AN / AI	DPS	6/20/1989	Environment
Dunne	Michael	Juneau	Juneau	10/17/1962	M	AN / AI	DPS	2/20/2008	Environment
Duny	Thomas	Bethel	Bethel	11/7/1963	M	AN / AI	DPS	10/13/1987	Environment
Edenshaw Jr	Verne	Prince of Wales	Prince of Wales-Hyder	4/2/1958	M	AN / AI	DPS	5/6/1978	Environment
Edwards	John	Bethel	Bethel	2/6/1971	M	AN / AI	DPS	5/19/2001	Environment
Edwards	Raymond	Mekoryuk	Bethel	3/15/1965	M	AN / AI	DPS	8/15/2001	Environment
Elia	David	Fairbanks	Fairbanks North Star	1/1/1912	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/13/1987	Environment
Eppling	Shakti	King Salmon	Bristol Bay	12/21/1955	F	AN / AI	DPS	9/17/1995	Environment
Esenituk	Tuck	Brevig Mission	Nome	1/1/1931	M	AN / AI	DPS	6/1/1961	Unknown
Evan	Nathan	Bethel	Bethel	8/6/1971	M	AN / AI	DPS	3/13/2001	Environment
Evan	Jaden	Bethel	Bethel	8/29/1998	M	AN / AI	DPS	10/21/2001	Environment

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Evan	Karen	Anchorage	Anchorage	01/09/1962	F	AN / AI	APD	5/11/1980	Suspicious
Evans	Frank	Quinhagak	Bethel	6/1/1966	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/16/1987	Environment
Evans	Anthony	Prince of Wales	Prince of Wales-Hyder	3/12/1966	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/25/1992	Environment
Fisk	Gary	Girdwood	Anchorage	7/19/1947	M	Unknown	DPS	9/21/2021	Environment
Flores-Mata	Valeriano	St. Paul	Aleutians West	12/9/1971	M	Unknown	DPS	7/24/2004	Environment
Florin	Dwight	Kodiak	Kodiak Island	11/29/1953	M	Unknown	DPS	11/12/1981	Environment
Flynn	Carl	Bethel	Bethel	10/26/1994	M	AN / AI	DPS	8/30/2022	Environment
Foster	Alan	Yakutat	Yakutat	12/10/1965	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/10/2013	Environment
Foster	Douglas	Anchorage	Anchorage	11/07/1981	M	AN / AI	APD	11/9/2002	Suspicious
Foxglove	Angela	Selawik	Northwest Arctic	10/6/1988	F	AN / AI	DPS	5/23/2007	Environment
Franklin	Michael	Anchorage	Anchorage	12/25/1939	M	AN / AI	DPS	11/23/1977	Unknown
Fredericks	Allen	Sleetmute	Bethel	3/9/1963	M	AN / AI	DPS	1/29/2001	Environment
Frye	Dennis	Kodiak	Kodiak Island	6/16/1962	M	AN / AI	DPS	3/3/1989	Environment
Gano	Seth	Kodiak	Kodiak Island	6/28/1988	M	Unknown	DPS	12/31/2019	Environment
Garcia	James	Anchorage	Anchorage	01/08/1959	M	Unknown	APD	8/27/1985	Unknown
Gardiner	Emil	Dillingham	Dillingham	1/9/1963	M	AN / AI	DPS	3/13/1989	Environment
Geary	Pauline	Anchorage	Anchorage	06/19/1985	F	AN / AI	APD	12/1/2019	Suspicious
Ginnis	Lorraine	Fort Yukon	Yukon–Koyukuk	5/22/1956	F	AN / AI	DPS	10/4/2018	Environment

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Goin	Aaron	Dutch Harbor	Aleutians West	10/1/1960	M	Unknown	DPS	11/22/1979	Environment
Gonangnan	Marion	Fairbanks	Fairbanks North Star	12/17/1970	F	AN / AI	FPD	03/21/2003	Suspicious
Goodlataw	Alvin	Glennallen	Valdez-Cordova	8/27/1938	M	AN / AI	DPS	2/6/1977	Environment
Gould	John	Sand Point	Aleutians West	4/17/1950	M	AN / AI	DPS	4/24/1971	Environment
Grable	Pamela	Anchorage	Anchorage	05/19/1988	F	AN / AI	APD	7/18/2023	Not Suspicious
Graham	Casey	McGrath	Yukon–Koyukuk	2/2/1991	M	AN / AI	DPS	12/9/2015	Environment
Gray	Lawrence	Hoonah	Hoonah-Angoon	1/10/1961	M	AN / AI	DPS	6/5/1998	Environment
Gregory	Ignatius	Aniak	Bethel	9/15/1926	M	AN / AI	DPS	5/7/1989	Environment
Gregory	Kristopher	Sleetmute	Bethel	3/1/1990	M	AN / AI	DPS	12/7/2017	Environment
Griechen Iv	Gust	Pilot Point	Lake and Peninsula	8/5/1991	M	AN / AI	DPS	4/27/2017	Not suspicious
Gross	Darrell	Dillingham	Dillingham	2/6/1955	M	AN / AI	DPS	2/10/1991	Environment
Gutowski	Samuel	Anchorage	Anchorage	08/31/1981	M	AN / AI	APD	9/1/2019	Unknown
Hall	Anthony	Akiak	Bethel	7/25/1962	M	AN / AI	DPS	2/18/1994	Environment
Hamik	Kai	St. George Island	Aleutians West	12/28/1987	M	Unknown	DPS	2/11/2017	Environment
Hamilton	Alfred	Shageluk	Yukon–Koyukuk	6/11/1998	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/7/2016	Environment
Hamilton Jr	William	Prince of Wales	Prince of Wales-Outer Ketchikan	8/31/1959	M	AN / AI	DPS	5/6/1978	Environment
Hanlin	Kim	Kodiak	Kodiak Island	7/17/1956	M	Unknown	DPS	4/2/1980	Environment
Hannon	Roger	Elim	Nome	5/18/1993	M	AN / AI	DPS	3/30/2016	Environment

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Hansen	Bessie	Dillingham	Dillingham	11/19/1961	F	AN / AI	DPS	7/22/2001	Environment
Hanson	Lawrence	Juneau	Juneau	11/1/1961	M	AN / AI	DPS	7/18/1982	Unknown
Harbin Jr	James	Lake Clark	Lake and Peninsula	8/20/1938	M	Unknown	DPS	9/13/1976	Environment
Hawk	Walter	Tuluksak	Bethel	6/1/1973	M	AN / AI	DPS	7/13/2016	Not suspicious
Hebert	Michael	Tanana	Yukon–Koyukuk	8/31/1962	M	AN / AI	DPS	6/14/1977	Environment
Henry	Johnathon	Fairbanks	Fairbanks North Star	1/12/1979	M	AN / AI	DPS	3/31/2010	Suspicious
Henry	Andrew	Ruby	Yukon–Koyukuk	1/2/1947	M	AN / AI	DPS	1/7/2016	Environment
Herman	Robert	Yakutat	Yakutat	12/16/1948	M	Unknown	DPS	9/2/1981	Environment
Herrmann	Jared	Anchorage	Anchorage	01/28/1996	M	AN / AI	APD	9/12/2023	Not Suspicious
Hoffman	Ronald	Dutch Harbor	Aleutians West	8/18/1942	M	Unknown	DPS	11/22/1979	Environment
Howarth	Rodney	Kotzebue	Northwest Arctic	10/30/1946	M	AN / AI	DPS	8/10/1986	Environment
Ignatin	Peter	Kodiak	Kodiak Island	8/11/1967	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/2/1980	Environment
Ignatin	Daniel	Kodiak	Kodiak Island	7/25/1965	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/2/1980	Environment
Inga	Alex	Kodiak	Kodiak Island	2/17/1956	M	AN / AI	DPS	12/10/1974	Environment
Inga Sr	Alex	Kodiak	Kodiak Island	2/23/1923	M	AN / AI	DPS	12/10/1974	Environment
Jackson	Andrew	Hoonah	Hoonah-Angoon	5/22/1955	M	AN / AI	DPS	6/5/1998	Environment
Jackson	Carl	Bethel	Bethel	6/30/1933	M	AN / AI	DPS	12/29/1983	Environment
Jackson Jr	Gerald	Prince of Wales	Prince of Wales-Outer Ketchikan	11/13/1957	M	AN / AI	DPS	10/15/1995	Environment

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Jacob	Kayla	Anchorage	Anchorage	10/10/1994	F	AN / AI	APD	8/9/2023	Not Suspicious
Jacomet	Ida	Fairbanks	Fairbanks North Star	10/23/1937	F	AN / AI	DPS	10/2/1975	Suspicious
James	Bill	Kodiak	Kodiak Island	4/2/1918	M	Unknown	DPS	7/16/1982	Environment
James	Anthony	Fairbanks	Fairbanks North Star	9/25/2005	M	AN / AI	FPD	05/16/2023	Not suspicious
Jefferies	David	Dutch Harbor	Aleutians West	7/9/1970	M	Unknown	DPS	3/22/1990	Environment
Jensen	Ernie	Anchorage	Anchorage	11/05/1971	M	AN / AI	APD	9/27/2021	Not Suspicious
Jessup	Noah	Fairbanks	Fairbanks North Star	5/14/1928	M	AN / AI	DPS	8/1/1979	Environment
Jimmy Jr	Allen	Napakiak	Bethel	8/30/1963	M	AN / AI	DPS	8/23/1985	Environment
Johansen III	Ingvar	Koliganek	Dillingham	3/18/1990	M	AN / AI	DPS	1/18/2019	Environment
John	Tom	Bethel	Bethel	6/20/1957	M	AN / AI	DPS	3/26/2017	Environment
Johnny	Theresa	Anchorage	Anchorage	07/28/1967	F	AN / AI	APD	11/1/1998	Suspicious
Johnson	Charlene	Dillingham	Dillingham	2/7/1968	F	AN / AI	DPS	9/22/2005	Environment
Johnston	Kenneth	Juneau	Juneau	4/7/1925	M	Unknown	DPS	9/6/1967	Environment
Joseph Jr	Percy	Fairbanks	Fairbanks North Star	10/18/1963	M	AN / AI	DPS	1/14/1993	Environment
Kaningok	Christopher	Savoonga	Nome	5/18/1987	M	AN / AI	DPS	10/2/2008	Environment
Kaningok	Jason	Gambell	Nome	5/18/1976	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/15/2022	Environment
Katelnikoff	Nekita	Dillingham	Dillingham	1/19/1959	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/17/1978	Environment
Kayouktuk	Mevlin	Nome	Nome	12/29/1952	M	AN / AI	DPS	8/27/1998	Environment

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Kayutak	Arnold	Wainwright	North Slope	2/5/1932	M	AN / AI	DPS	6/12/1989	Environment
Kilbuck	Gilbert	Goodnewsbay	Bethel	1/27/1974	M	AN / AI	DPS	7/4/2011	Environment
Koch	Stephen	Soldotna	Kenai Peninsula	1/10/1941	M	Unknown	DPS	8/13/1975	Environment
Kochergin Jr	Anton	Dutch Harbor	Aleutians West	1/10/1969	M	AN / AI	DPS	4/21/1987	Environment
Koesterman	Bryon	Dillingham	Dillingham	7/29/1976	M	Unknown	DPS	1/27/1996	Environment
Koezuna	John	Nome	Nome	8/21/1955	M	AN / AI	DPS	12/20/2010	Environment
Kopuk	Alexie	Bethel	Bethel	3/20/1943	M	AN / AI	DPS	12/1/1986	Environment
Korth	Colleen	Fort Yukon	Yukon–Koyukuk	5/29/1982	F	AN / AI	DPS	6/3/1984	Environment
Kosbruk Jr	Moses	Dillingham	Dillingham	10/13/1967	M	AN / AI	DPS	8/26/2011	Environment
Kozeroff	Steven	Juneau	Juneau	8/22/1953	M	AN / AI	DPS	1/31/1992	Environment
Kristovich	Richard	Dillingham	Dillingham	8/20/1951	M	AN / AI	DPS	1/29/1989	Environment
Kruger	Robert	Grayling	Yukon–Koyukuk	6/20/1970	M	AN / AI	DPS	12/23/1989	Environment
Kvamme	Albert	Akiak	Bethel	9/26/1950	M	AN / AI	DPS	4/10/2020	Environment
Kveum	Erik	Juneau	Juneau	7/19/1979	M	Unknown	DPS	9/6/2000	Environment
Lami	Michael	Yakutat	Yakutat	5/25/1957	M	Unknown	DPS	4/28/1991	Environment
Lamont	Ronald	St. Mary's	Kusilvak	7/6/1991	M	AN / AI	DPS	1/14/2009	Environment
Lamont Sr	William	Alakanuk	Kusilvak	10/19/1938	M	AN / AI	DPS	5/5/2016	Environment
Lane	Leonard	Fairbanks	Fairbanks North Star	4/24/1922	M	AN / AI	DPS	7/4/1995	Unknown

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Lane Jr	Robert	Palmer	Matanuska-Susitna	4/23/1969	M	AN / AI	DPS	8/27/2004	Environment
Lauth	Gerald	Metlakatla	Prince of Wales-Outer Ketchikan	8/15/1956	M	AN / AI	DPS	6/7/1985	Environment
Lee	Blaine	Kotzebue	Northwest Arctic	10/8/1970	M	AN / AI	DPS	10/1/1998	Environment
Leonard	William	Iliamna	Lake and Peninsula	9/30/1947	M	AN / AI	DPS	10/29/1986	Environment
Light	Harold	Juneau	Juneau	11/28/1959	M	AN / AI	DPS	7/23/1993	Environment
Lisbourne	William	Fairbanks	Fairbanks North Star	10/18/1966	M	AN / AI	FPD	09/16/1988	Environment
Lomack	John	Bethel	Bethel	7/18/1935	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/9/1984	Environment
Longerbeam	Kyle	Port Alsworth	Lake and Peninsula	6/22/1991	M	Unknown	DPS	12/7/2016	Environment
Lott	Levi	Tuluksak	Bethel	2/9/1947	M	AN / AI	DPS	5/26/1978	Unknown
Luke	Henry	Fairbanks	Fairbanks North Star	11/14/1958	M	AN / AI	FPD	06/01/1995	Unknown
Luna	Josias	Kodiak	Kodiak Island	11/17/1956	M	AN / AI	DPS	1/15/2005	Environment
Lundgren	Jack	Dillingham	Dillingham	10/4/1966	M	AN / AI	DPS	11/6/1996	Environment
Lupie	Nick	Bethel	Bethel	9/17/1977	M	AN / AI	DPS	7/25/2010	Environment
Lynch	Theodore	Haines	Haines	12/30/1950	M	AN / AI	DPS	10/23/2012	Environment
Macar	Andrew	Aniak	Bethel	5/2/1950	M	AN / AI	DPS	7/30/1986	Environment
Mack	Arvin	Canoe Bay	Aleutians East	1/5/1956	M	AN / AI	DPS	7/13/1984	Environment
Maillelle Jr	Alvin	Grayling	Yukon–Koyukuk	7/29/1977	M	AN / AI	DPS	12/1/2010	Environment
Maldonado	Marjorie	Fairbanks	Fairbanks North Star	8/12/1955	F	AN / AI	DPS	9/13/1993	Unknown

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Marinay	Christian	Anchorage	Anchorage	01/17/1999	M	AN / AI	APD	9/5/2023	Not Suspicious
Mark	Robert	Aniak	Bethel	9/7/1957	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/1/1993	Not suspicious
Marshall	Gary	Soldotna	Kenai Peninsula	1/24/1945	M	Unknown	DPS	4/7/1980	Environment
Martin	Joe	Council	Nome	4/6/1973	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/29/1992	Unknown
Matthews	William	Ketchikan	Ketchikan Gateway	9/6/1915	M	AN / AI	DPS	5/24/1997	Environment
Maud	Billy	Dillingham	Dillingham	2/2/1956	M	AN / AI	DPS	12/1/1980	Environment
Mayfield	John	Galena	Yukon–Koyukuk	2/11/1967	M	AN / AI	DPS	11/28/1999	Environment
McGlashan	Justina	Dutch Harbor	Aleutians West	9/30/1960	F	AN / AI	DPS	3/12/1983	Environment
McKindy	Ephrem	Aniak	Bethel	12/16/1940	M	AN / AI	DPS	10/1/1976	Environment
McKinley	Levi	Juneau	Juneau	6/10/1929	M	AN / AI	DPS	7/30/1993	Environment
McLuke	Boris	Kotzebue	Northwest Arctic	6/19/1960	M	AN / AI	DPS	11/12/1998	Environment
McMartin II	Clayton	Cape Yakataga	Yakutat	2/18/1964	M	Unknown	DPS	8/27/2023	Environment
Meganack	Patrick	Port Graham	Kenai Peninsula	11/16/1953	M	AN / AI	DPS	12/26/1976	Environment
Natkong	Eva	Anchorage	Anchorage	10/02/2009	F	AN / AI	APD	7/18/2023	Not Suspicious
Mike-Andrade	Jehvon	Anchorage	Anchorage	07/12/2007	M	AN / AI	APD	9/15/2023	Not Suspicious
Milligrock	Mary	Nome	Nome	2/6/1980	F	AN / AI	DPS	8/27/1998	Environment
Mills	Richard	Juneau	Juneau	4/6/1989	M	Unknown	DPS	12/30/2003	Environment
Minano	Walter	Nenana	Yukon–Koyukuk	5/3/1910	M	AN / AI	DPS	6/26/1986	Environment

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Minano Jr	Frank	Fairbanks	Fairbanks North Star	9/5/1950	M	AN / AI	DPS	8/17/2020	Unknown
Mohler	Sherry	Anchorage	Anchorage	01/03/1954	F	Unknown	APD	12/14/2020	Unknown
Moses	Samuel	Alakanuk	Kusilvak	9/25/1998	M	AN / AI	DPS	7/5/2018	Environment
Mourant	Rob	Juneau	Juneau	1/20/1958	M	Unknown	DPS	7/18/1981	Environment
Munson	Gerry	Dillingham	Dillingham	9/4/1957	M	AN / AI	DPS	6/1/1990	Environment
Murray	Brian	Dillingham	Dillingham	9/9/1964	M	AN / AI	DPS	8/27/2011	Environment
Myers	John	Anchorage	Anchorage	11/06/1964	M	U	APD	7/20/2020	Not Suspicious
Myers	Pauline	Anchorage	Anchorage	10/11/1984	F	AN / AI	APD	8/3/2023	Not Suspicious
Napoka	Jim	Bethel	Bethel	1/4/1967	M	AN / AI	DPS	10/22/2013	Environment
Nathan	David	Prince of Wales	Prince of Wales-Outer Ketchikan	10/29/1963	M	AN / AI	DPS	7/21/1994	Environment
Naumoff	Eugene	Kodiak	Kodiak Island	9/21/1953	M	AN / AI	DPS	1/12/1988	Environment
Neakok	Robert	North Slope	North Slope	11/4/1963	M	AN / AI	DPS	12/7/1991	Environment
Negovanna	Jacob	Anchorage	Anchorage	09/26/2001	M	AN / AI	APD	5/9/2023	Not Suspicious
Nelson	Leon	Juneau	Juneau	9/29/1963	M	AN / AI	DPS	10/18/1984	Environment
Nelson	Timothy	Anchorage	Anchorage	07/29/1964	M	AN / AI	APD	6/28/2023	Not Suspicious
Nicolai	Carl	Bethel	Bethel	10/12/1957	M	AN / AI	DPS	10/15/1986	Environment
Nictune	Debbie	Fairbanks	Fairbanks North Star	10/20/1960	F	AN / AI	FPD	08/20/2020	Not suspicious
Nollner	Emmett	Nulato	Yukon–Koyukuk	8/15/1932	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/25/1960	Environment

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Nose Jr	Alexie	Quinhagak	Bethel	1/23/1984	M	AN / AI	DPS	10/19/2020	Environment
Novak	Albert	Soldotna	Kenai Peninsula	7/28/1940	M	Unknown	DPS	6/25/2003	Environment
Nowpakahok	Jason	Nome	Nome	2/23/1967	M	AN / AI	DPS	4/27/2005	Environment
Nowpakahok	Leonard	Nome	Nome	7/31/1993	M	AN / AI	DPS	4/27/2005	Environment
Nowpakahok	Yolanda	Nome	Nome	3/8/1994	F	AN / AI	DPS	4/27/2005	Environment
Ogrady	Lawrence	St. George Island	Aleutians West	12/14/1961	M	Unknown	DPS	2/11/2017	Environment
Oktoyuk	Tony	St. Mary's	Kusilvak	8/11/1973	M	AN / AI	DPS	10/9/1996	Environment
Olanna	Archie	Brevig Mission	Nome	3/28/1929	M	AN / AI	DPS	10/19/1969	Environment
Olanna	Fanny	Brevig Mission	Nome	9/20/1934	F	AN / AI	DPS	10/19/1969	Environment
Olson	Robert	Anchorage	Anchorage	12/01/1959	M	AN / AI	APD	7/1/2012	Unknown
Omelak	Richard	Fairbanks	Fairbanks North Star	4/20/1963	M	AN / AI	FPD	10/01/1981	Unknown
Omiak	Kevin	Nome	Nome	4/23/1991	M	AN / AI	DPS	8/27/1998	Environment
Omiak	Emery	Nome	Nome	7/16/1960	M	AN / AI	DPS	8/27/1998	Environment
Oney	Daniel	Bethel	Bethel	7/6/1967	M	AN / AI	DPS	10/13/1987	Environment
Oney	Nathan	St. Mary's	Bethel	2/16/1989	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/3/2011	Environment
Osbakken	Kenneth	Sitka	Sitka	7/4/1962	M	AN / AI	DPS	6/25/1986	Environment
Ozenna	Gene	Nome	Nome	4/22/1957	M	AN / AI	DPS	8/27/1998	Environment
Ozenna	Jason	Nome	Nome	7/23/1976	M	AN / AI	DPS	8/27/1998	Environment

Last Name	First Name	City	Borough	Birth Date	Sex	Race/Ethnicity	Agency	Date of Last Contact	Circumstance
Ozenna	Sonja	Nome	Nome	7/1/1998	F	AN / AI	DPS	5/21/2005	Environment
Paul	Gary	Dillingham	Dillingham	2/11/1965	M	Unknown	DPS	9/28/1991	Environment
Peltola	Jared	Anchorage	Anchorage	02/17/1996	M	AN / AI	APD	9/27/2023	Not Suspicious
Phillips	Brandon	Akhiok	Kodiak Island	8/23/1993	M	AN / AI	DPS	10/26/2013	Environment
Pipkin	Jay	Soldotna	Kenai Peninsula	2/21/1962	M	Unknown	DPS	11/27/1979	Environment
Pitka	Harry	Nulato	Yukon–Koyukuk	1/13/1921	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/25/1960	Environment
Pitka	Wayne	Fairbanks	Fairbanks North Star	5/1/1962	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/8/1982	Environment
Pitt	Gary	Delta Junction	Southeast Fairbanks	12/12/1949	M	Unknown	DPS	9/2/2016	Environment
Pratt	Vern	Anchorage	Anchorage	8/2/1940	M	AN / AI	DPS	11/6/1961	Environment
Prince	Max	Dillingham	Dillingham	7/11/1956	M	AN / AI	DPS	7/31/1985	Environment
Pungowiyi	Dennis	St. Lawrence Island	Nome	12/10/1932	M	AN / AI	DPS	10/11/1965	Environment
Rawls	Chad	Igiugig	Lake and Peninsula	3/14/1984	M	AN / AI	DPS	7/28/2007	Environment
Riddell	Randall	Juneau	Juneau	1/25/1955	M	Unknown	DPS	7/18/1981	Environment
Rogerio	Jamie	Kodiak	Kodiak Island	10/16/1953	M	Unknown	DPS	11/5/1987	Environment
Roland	Moses	Bethel	Bethel	10/25/1934	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/10/1986	Environment
Rookok	Roseanna	Anchorage	Anchorage	10/13/1996	F	AN / AI	APD	7/8/2022	Not Suspicious
Ross	Kenneth	Fairbanks	Fairbanks North Star	5/23/1968	M	AN / AI	FPD	10/14/1988	Suspicious
Saccheus	Garrett	Nome	Nome	11/29/1985	M	AN / AI	DPS	12/27/2000	Environment

Last Name	First Name	City	Borough	Birth Date	Sex	Race/Ethnicity	Agency	Date of Last Contact	Circumstance
Saccheus	Thomas	Golovin	Nome	7/1/1949	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/23/2019	Environment
Sallaffie	Peter	Tuluksak	Bethel	9/29/1995	M	AN / AI	DPS	1/1/2021	Environment
Sanford	Doren	Fairbanks	Fairbanks North Star	9/25/1985	M	AN / AI	DPS	8/29/2020	Suspicious
Seelye	David	Prince of Wales	Prince of Wales-Outer Ketchikan	10/26/1947	M	Unknown	DPS	11/21/1992	Environment
Segevan	Fred	Anchorage	Anchorage	05/29/1979	M	AN / AI	APD	8/15/2023	Not Suspicious
Sharp	Michael	Quinhagak	Bethel	10/4/1987	M	AN / AI	DPS	10/19/2020	Environment
Sharp	Abraham	Bethel	Bethel	8/29/1962	M	AN / AI	DPS	11/23/1992	Environment
Sheldon	Harry	Kotzebue	Northwest Arctic	10/31/1975	M	AN / AI	DPS	8/28/1992	Environment
Sheldon Sr	Douglas	Kotzebue	Northwest Arctic	3/6/1930	M	AN / AI	DPS	5/20/1999	Environment
Shellikoff	Shanelle	False Pass	Aleutians East	3/21/1992	F	AN / AI	DPS	7/25/2007	Environment
Shelton	Stanton	Alakanuk	Kusilvak	7/6/1989	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/23/2013	Environment
Shetters	Ashley	Anchorage	Anchorage	10/08/1985	F	AN / AI	APD	1/26/2020	Not Suspicious
Sifsof	Valerie	Granite Creek Campground	Kenai Peninsula	11/23/1968	F	AN / AI	DPS	7/7/2012	Suspicious
Silver	Gerald	Fairbanks	Fairbanks North Star	6/12/1940	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/29/1995	Environment
Skeek	Linda	Anchorage	Anchorage	02/20/1983	F	AN / AI	APD	1/1/2016	Suspicious
Skeek Jr	Reginald	Kake	Prince of Wales-Outer Ketchikan	9/18/1963	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/19/2018	Environment

Last Name	First Name	City	Borough	Birth Date	Sex	Race/Ethnicity	Agency	Date of Last Contact	Circumstance
Slats	Dennis	Chevak	Kusilvak	3/4/1986	M	AN / AI	DPS	3/7/2021	Not suspicious
Slim	Gwen	Anchorage	Anchorage	08/18/1965	F	AN / AI	APD	5/18/2022	Not Suspicious
Slwooko	David	Koyuk	Nome	8/18/1971	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/24/2012	Environment
Smart	Fredrick	Bethel	Bethel	7/26/1958	M	AN / AI	DPS	10/13/1987	Environment
Smart	Troy	Ketchikan	Ketchikan Gateway	6/10/1971	M	AN / AI	DPS	2/12/2017	Environment
Smith	Belinda	Nome	Nome	5/21/1986	F	AN / AI	DPS	12/27/2000	Environment
Smith	Daniel	Bethel	Bethel	9/4/1949	M	AN / AI	DPS	6/28/1986	Environment
Smith	David	Anchorage	Anchorage	02/27/1991	M	Unknown	APD	3/1/2023	Not Suspicious
Smith	Milton	Anchorage	Anchorage	03/30/1998	M	AN / AI	APD	4/30/2023	Not Suspicious
Smith Sr	George	Togiak	Dillingham	1/10/1930	M	AN / AI	DPS	4/30/2009	Environment
Snyder	Thomas	Bethel	Bethel	8/5/1962	M	AN / AI	DPS	8/26/1994	Environment
Snyder	Timothy	Kotzebue	Northwest Arctic	2/19/1977	M	AN / AI	DPS	1/31/2003	Environment
Solis	Robert	Sitka	Sitka	6/17/1961	M	Unknown	DPS	5/28/2023	Environment
Squartsoff	Robin	Kodiak	Kodiak Island	6/25/1970	M	AN / AI	DPS	4/19/1992	Environment
Stalker Jr	Johnson	Kotzebue	Northwest Arctic	5/9/1961	M	AN / AI	DPS	12/16/1991	Environment
Standifer Jr	Daniel	Soldotna	Kenai Peninsula	1/10/1968	M	AN / AI	DPS	10/4/2002	Environment
Staples	Timothy	Ketchikan	Ketchikan Gateway	7/6/1978	M	AN / AI	DPS	2/12/2017	Environment
Stettinger	Julia	Kodiak	Kodiak Island	7/4/1944	F	AN / AI	DPS	8/7/1985	Environment

Last Name	First Name	City	Borough	Birth Date	Sex	Race/Ethnicity	Agency	Date of Last Contact	Circumstance
Stine	Thelma	Anchorage	Anchorage	03/29/1996	F	AN / AI	APD	4/1/2023	Not Suspicious
Stoddard	Zachary	Wasilla	Matanuska-Susitna	4/22/2006	M	AN / AI	DPS	11/10/2022	Not suspicious
SUMMERS	WESLEY	Fairbanks	Fairbanks North Star	10/26/2005	M	Unknown	FPD	10/29/2022	Not suspicious
Sylvestre	Mary	Palmer	Matanuska-Susitna	1/21/1940	F	AN / AI	DPS	9/11/1977	Environment
Tall	Daylon	Bethel	Bethel	5/21/1989	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/9/2005	Environment
Tcheripanoff Jr	Demetri	Akutan	Aleutians East	5/14/1983	M	AN / AI	DPS	7/2/2019	Not suspicious
Teuber Jr	Andrew	Barren Islands	Kodiak Island	1/15/1969	M	AN / AI	DPS	3/2/2021	Environment
Thomas	Walter	Kotzebue	Northwest Arctic	9/23/1964	M	AN / AI	DPS	10/1/1998	Environment
Tikiun	James	Chevak	Kusilvak	2/21/1999	M	AN / AI	DPS	3/7/2021	Not suspicious
Tomaganuk	Joseph	Bethel	Bethel	5/16/1990	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/9/2005	Environment
Tootkaylok	Robert	Nome	Nome	11/20/1954	M	AN / AI	DPS	5/21/1991	Environment
Torsen	Melvin	Kodiak	Kodiak Island	2/6/1949	M	Unknown	DPS	5/27/1972	Environment
Trigg	Jerome	Nome	Nome	8/6/1914	M	AN / AI	DPS	2/21/1988	Environment
Tucker	Jason	Denali Park	Matanuska-Susitna	3/16/1978	M	Unknown	DPS	8/9/2023	Environment
Tugatuk	Michelle	Anchorage	Anchorage	08/07/1988	F	AN / AI	APD	12/1/2019	Suspicious
Tuzroyluke Jr	Seymour	Kotzebue	Northwest Arctic	3/3/1956	M	AN / AI	DPS	12/4/1989	Environment
Uisok	Robert	Bethel	Bethel	6/28/1944	M	AN / AI	DPS	8/23/1980	Environment
Ulak	Dennis	Bethel	Bethel	4/10/1976	M	AN / AI	DPS	1/22/2004	Environment

Last Name	First Name	City	Borough	Birth Date	Sex	Race/Ethnicity	Agency	Date of Last Contact	Circumstance
Ungott	Gilbert	Gambell	Nome	3/2/1964	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/8/2007	Environment
Venes Jr	Donald	Bethel	Bethel	5/7/1979	M	AN / AI	DPS	8/26/2007	Environment
Vincler	Raymond	St. George Island	Aleutians West	5/3/1984	M	AN / AI	DPS	2/11/2017	Environment
Washington	Jondalar	St. Michael	Aleutians East	11/6/1980	M	AN / AI	DPS	5/19/1998	Not suspicious
Waska	Bernice	Quinhagak	Bethel	7/5/1976	F	AN / AI	DPS	10/19/2020	Environment
Wasky	Theordore	Bethel	Bethel	6/22/1963	M	AN / AI	DPS	9/21/1987	Environment
Wassillie	Elizabeth	Quinhagak	Bethel	7/12/1983	F	AN / AI	DPS	10/19/2020	Environment
Wassillie	Wilson	Quinhagak	Bethel	12/5/1985	M	AN / AI	DPS	10/19/2020	Environment
Waterman	John	Denali National Park	Denali	9/17/1952	M	Unknown	DPS	4/1/1981	Environment
Wentz	Maureen	Dillingham	Dillingham	4/16/1957	F	AN / AI	DPS	9/11/1987	Environment
Westlock	Dennis	Emmonak	Kusilvak	12/24/1994	M	AN / AI	DPS	6/13/2018	Environment
Wholecheese	Gregory	Galena	Yukon–Koyukuk	1/13/1956	M	AN / AI	DPS	5/31/1987	Environment
Williams	Michael	Kotlik	Kusilvak	1/5/1958	M	AN / AI	DPS	10/2/1988	Suspicious
Williams	Carrie	Noorvik	Northwest Arctic	7/31/1958	F	AN / AI	DPS	10/18/1991	Environment
Willie	Oscar	Bethel	Bethel	11/30/1964	M	AN / AI	DPS	6/25/1993	Environment
Wilson Jr	Timothy	Kake	Prince of Wales-Outer Ketchikan	5/30/1953	M	AN / AI	DPS	6/16/2023	Environment
Winer	Christopher	Fairbanks	Fairbanks North Star	4/5/1976	M	AN / AI	DPS	7/15/1986	Environment
Wise	Edward	Bethel	Bethel	3/4/1921	M	AN / AI	DPS	10/31/1998	Environment

Last Name	First Name	City	Borough	Birth Date	Sex	Race/Ethnicity	Agency	Date of Last Contact	Circumstance
Wright	Tony	Iliamna	Lake and Peninsula	3/4/1966	M	AN / AI	DPS	4/10/2013	Environment
Yatchmenoff	Dale	False Pass	Aleutians East	10/23/1963	M	AN / AI	DPS	6/16/2007	Environment
Yates	Louis	Klawock	Prince of Wales-Outer Ketchikan	9/3/1969	M	AN / AI	DPS	5/29/1989	Environment
Young	Tina	Grayling	Yukon–Koyukuk	4/8/1972	F	AN / AI	DPS	12/23/1989	Environment
Young	Matthew	Juneau	Juneau	3/18/1987	M	AN / AI	DPS	3/10/2006	Environment
Zabala	Carlos	Aleutian Islands	Aleutians East	12/9/1977	M	Unknown	DPS	10/22/2008	Environment
Zacharof	Isaac	Dutch Harbor	Aleutians West	8/11/1963	M	AN / AI	DPS	4/21/1987	Environment
Zaukar	Evan	Aniak	Bethel	11/28/1944	M	AN / AI	DPS	6/2/1990	Environment
Zaukar	Nick	Bethel	Bethel	9/8/1956	M	AN / AI	DPS	12/15/2000	Environment
Zimmerman	Anthony	Anchor Point	Kenai Peninsula	11/30/1984	M	Unknown	APD	11/1/2021	Not Suspicious

Circumstance Determinations per DPS, APD, and FPD:

Environment: Wilderness, waterways, ocean, aircraft crashes, other non-suspicious outdoor deaths where human remains were not located by search and rescue teams, or another related event

Suspicious: Suspected criminal activity surrounding the event

Not Suspicious: No indication of criminal activity or environmental factor

Unknown: Unable to determine circumstance

Data sources:

Alaska Public Safety Information Network (APSIN)

Alaska Missing Persons Clearinghouse: https://dps.alaska.gov/AST/ABI/MissingPerson

National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs): https://www.namus.gov/dashboard

Alaska Justice Information Center
University of Alaska Anchorage

HOMICIDE IN ALASKA 1976-2016

A DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION'S SUPPLEMENTAL HOMICIDE REPORTS

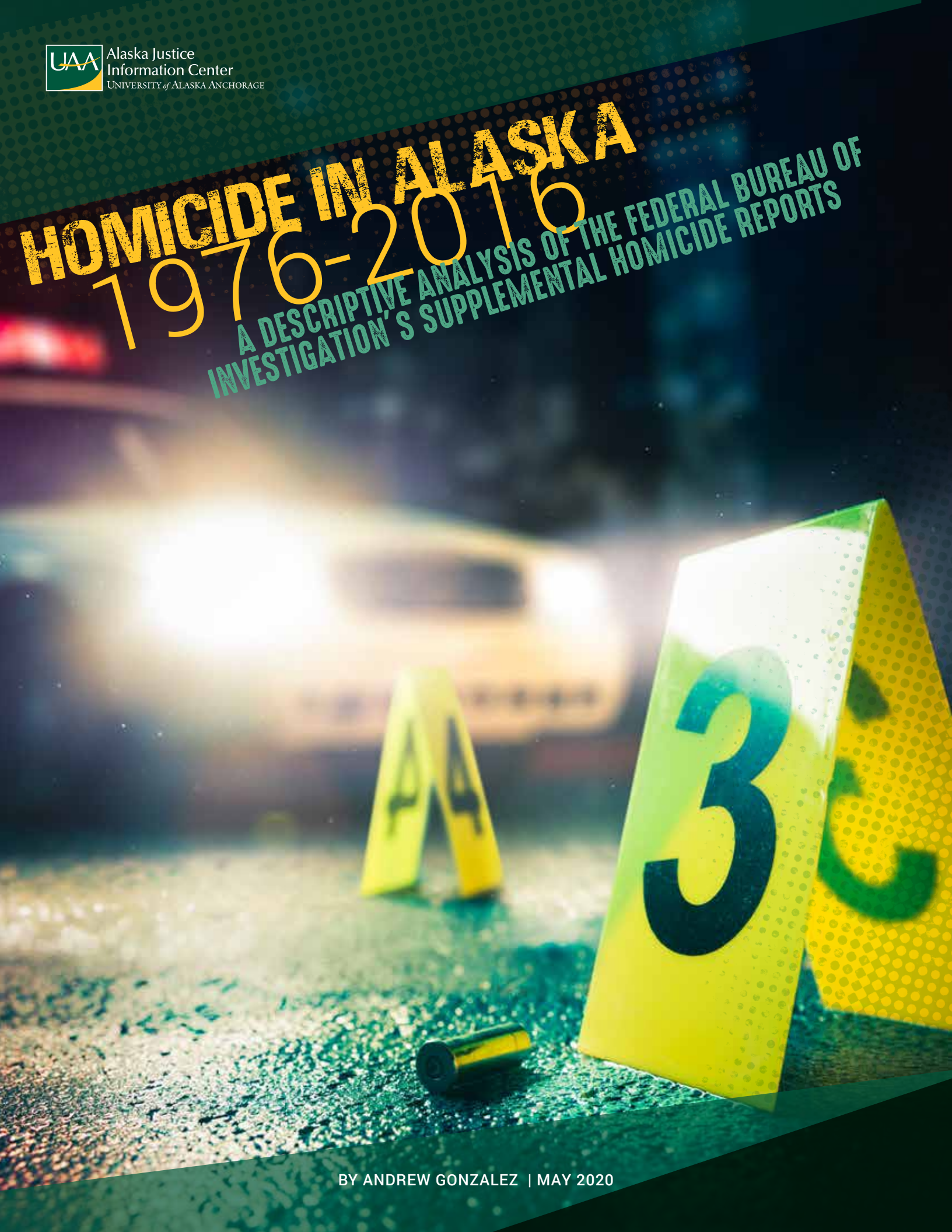

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF TABLES

Appendix

LIST OF TABLES

LIST OF FIGURES

Appendix

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This project examined the characteristics of homicide in Alaska as reported by law enforcement agencies to the Supplementary Homicide Reports (SHR). It was particularly interested in the qualities of homicide committed against American Indian or Alaska Native female victims among different victim groups. The SHR reported details of the homicide including relationship between victim and suspect, weapons used, and circumstance. The study utilized 41 years of data beginning in 1976 and ending in 2016. It included a total of 1,709 incidents of homicide, 1,943 suspects, and 1,856 victims. This descriptive analysis documented the characteristics of these incidents, suspects, and victims, then examined characteristics based on the race and sex of the victim involved. For additional context an examination of Alaska population was compared to the representation of victims in this study. Key results are summarized below.

Incident Characteristics

There were 1,709 homicide incidents reported by law enforcement agencies to the SHR between 1976 and 2016. On average there were 42 incidents reported per year. The last two years in the study — 2015 and 2016 — included the highest number of homicide incidents during the study period. Slightly more than 40 percent of homicide incidents were reported to the SHR by the Anchorage Police Department (n=712; 41.7%), and another forty percent were reported by the Alaska State Troopers (n=685; 40.1%). Firearms were used in six out of ten homicides (n=1,001; 58.6%). Handguns were used in one-third of homicides (n=567; 33.2%). One-third of homicide incidents were reported as the result of interpersonal conflict (n=309; 35.7%). More than 90 percent of homicide incidents involved only a single victim (n=1,600; 93.9%).

Suspect Characteristics

There were 1,943 suspects reported between 1976 and 2016. Nearly three-quarters of all suspects were male (n=1,405; 72.2%). Suspect sex was unknown in approximately 18 percent of the Alaska homicide incidents examined. The average age of homicide suspects was 30.2 years old. Most suspects were adults (n=1,439; 74.1%). Approximately 4 in 10 suspects were White (n=829; 42.7%), over 20 percent were American Indian or Alaska Native (n=430; 22.1%), and 1 in 10 suspects were Black or African American (n=211; 10.9%). Six out of 10 suspects knew their victim (n=1,189; 61.2%). One-third of suspects were a friend or acquaintance (n=715; 36.8%), 13 percent were an intimate partner (n=252), and a little over one-tenth of suspects were family members (n=222; 11.4%). Suspects were strangers to victims slightly less than one-fifth of the time (n=333; 17.1%).

Victim Characteristics

There were 1,856 victims reported between 1976 and 2016. Seven out of 10 victims were male (n=1,314; 70.8%). Twelve percent of victims were juveniles (n=227; 12.2%). The average age of homicide victims was 32.6 years old. The youngest victim was a newborn less than 6 days old, and the oldest was 85 years old. Half of the victims were White (n=974; 52.5%). Slightly less than a third of victims were American Indian or Alaska Native (546; 29.4%). Ten percent of victims were Black or African American (n=184; 9.9%).

Victim Proportionality to Population

American Indian or Alaska Native victims were over-represented in Alaska homicide (30.5%) compared to their population (16.3%). Black or African American victims were also over-represented in Alaska homicide, making up one in 10 homicide victims (10.3%) compared to only being four percent of the Alaska population (4.0%). White victims were under-represented (54.4%) compared to their presence in the population (71.9%). Males were over-represented in Alaska homicide incidents. Although female victims as a whole were under-represented in homicide compared to their population, combining race and sex revealed that American Indian or Alaska Native female victims and Black or African American female victims were over-represented in Alaska homicides. Across all race-sex groups Black or African American male victims were the most over-represented victim race-sex group.

Incident Characteristics based on Victim Race/Sex

American Indian or Alaska Native victims of both sexes were reported more often by law enforcement agencies other than APD and AST. Firearms killed more male victims of every race group compared to female victims. Black or African American male victims were killed the most often by firearms (78.0%), and American Indian or Alaska Native female victims were killed the least (36.3%). Among victim racial groups, knives were used most often in the killing of American Indian or Alaska Native male victims (23.4%), followed by American Indian or Alaska Native female victims (18.7%). Overall, more male victims were reported in homicides involving either interpersonal conflict or homicides in the commission of another crime, compared to female victims who were more often reported in homicides with "other" circumstances.

Suspect Characteristics based on Victim Race/Sex

For all homicide victims the homicide suspect was most likely of the same race. Six out of ten American Indian or Alaska Native female victims were killed by suspects who were also American Indian or Alaska Native (62.2%). When the suspect was not of the same race as the victim, the suspect was most likely to be White. American Indian or Alaska Native female victims were killed by a White suspect 18.4% of the time. All victim race-sex groups were more likely than not to know their suspect. Male victims were more often reported as being killed by a Friend or Acquaintance than female victims. Female victims were far more often killed by an intimate partner across all racial groups compared to male victims. Compared to other race groups, Native American or Alaska Native male (19.7%) and female victims (14.5%) were killed more often by a family member. Black or African American male victims were killed the least often by a family member (5.4%). Strangers killed male victims more often than female victims. Strangers were reported killing American Indian or Alaska Native female (2.6%) and male (8.7%) victims less often than other victim racial groups.

American Indian or Alaska Native Female Victimization

Analyses revealed that American Indian or Alaska Native females differed from other victim race-sex groups by the weapon used in their killing. Firearms killed American Indian or Alaska Native female homicide victims the least often among all victim race-sex groups in the study (36.3%). The proportion of American Indian or Alaska Native women killed with a knife or cutting instrument was the second largest across race-sex groups (18.7%) –highest were American Indian or Alaska Native male victims. Other traits impacting American Indian or Alaska Native females were not specific to their race-sex group, but to their race and their sex separately.

OVERVIEW OF REPORT

Background

Recent national media coverage has highlighted the problem of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls (MMIWG) in the United States. In its 2018 report, Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls: A Snapshot of Data from 71 Urban Cities in the United States, the Urban Indian Heath Institute (UIHI) declared "a nationwide data crisis" (pg. 2)[1]. The UIHI came to this conclusion after reviewing law enforcement records, state and national missing persons databases, searching media archives and publicly available social media, and contacting family and community members who shared information about missing or murdered indigenous women and girls. One of the primary conclusions of the UIHI's report is that the magnitude of the violence committed against American Indian and Alaska Native women and girls is woefully underestimated, dramatically under-reported, and consequently not well understood. Alaska and the Federal government have responded with the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons (MMIP) Initiative, a national program aiming to improve processes surrounding missing persons and data collection, especially concerning American Indian or Alaska Native women[2]. The goal is for the program to partner with rural Alaska communities to "provide justice for families mourning a murder victim or assistance to communities searching for a missing friend or neighbor."

Recent increases in rates of violent crime in Alaska – including increases in the overall homicide rate – have generated a great deal of concern, prompting further questions about the characteristics of homicide incidents, as well as the circumstances surrounding them, and the people involved. This report addresses both the overall nature of homicide in Alaska, and the enumeration of the prevalence of homicides involving American Indian or Alaska Native female (women and girls) victims. Using publicly available data, this report provides a detailed analysis of what is currently known about homicide in Alaska. It presents an overall picture of homicides in the state, within which the findings pertaining to American Indian and Alaska Native female homicides can be contextualized and understood. We hope this contextualization will contribute to improved understanding of the MMIWG crisis. The Alaska Justice Information Center (AJiC) acknowledges that the work presented here is only a small step forward in addressing the MMIWG data challenge. We nevertheless hope it is a meaningful one.

Supplementary Homicide Reports

The descriptive analyses presented in this report are derived from 41 years of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Supplementary Homicide Reports (SHR), one of the supplementary reporting systems of the FBI's Uniform Crime reporting (UCR) program[3]. The SHRs are the most detailed publicly available data source regarding homicide incidents in the United States. Law enforcement agencies voluntarily report the number of homicide incidents and their characteristics to the FBI using the SHR every month[4]. Monthly SHR reports are compiled and made available for analysis.

[1] See Urban Indian Health Institute's report "Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls" (Lucchesi & Echo-Hawk, 2018) https://www.uihi.org/resources/missing-and-murdered-indigenous-women-girls/.
[2] See https://www.justice.gov/usao-ak/pr/us-attorney-and-fbi-announce-missing-and-murdered-indigenous-persons-initiative.
[3] For more information about the UCR program, see: https://www.fbi.gov/services/cjis/ucr.
[4] Monthly SHR reports from police agencies are sent to the FBI and prepared for researchers by the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) and stored in the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data (NACJD).

The FBI's definition of criminal homicide includes both murder and manslaughter by negligence[5]. A homicide incident, as defined in the SHR, refers to an act of homicide involving any number of victims and suspects[6]. The SHR records the demographic characteristics of homicide victims and suspects, the weapon used, a description of circumstances surrounding the homicide[7], and the relationship of the suspect to the victim. Within each incident characteristics of victims and suspects can be connected. An important note on the data collection: the information provided by law enforcement in the SHR reflects what agencies knew during initial investigation; the data are not updated based on further investigation[8]. Therefore, the data used for the analyses presented in this report reflect the characteristics of homicide incidents and the people involved in them at the time the report was submitted. The SHR data used are publicly available from the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data (NACJD)[9].

A study of homicide using the SHR can be conducted in many ways, but this report focuses on how the qualities of homicide vary based on the race/ethnicity (hereafter "race") and sex/gender (hereafter "sex") of homicide victims. The report begins with a description of all incidents of homicide in Alaska. The analysis then shifts to an examination of homicide suspects and homicide victims. Finally, the analysis focuses on homicide characteristics by combined race and sex groupings and provides information on the characteristics of homicides involving American Indian or Alaska Native female victims in comparative context.

AJiC's aim for this study is to establish an empirical foundation for understanding the murder of American Indian or Alaska Native women and girls. This foundational understanding can then be used by practitioners, service providers, policymakers, and the public to develop homicide intervention and prevention strategies to decrease the frequency with which homicides occur in Alaska, improve the criminal justice systems response to homicide, and support families and communities.

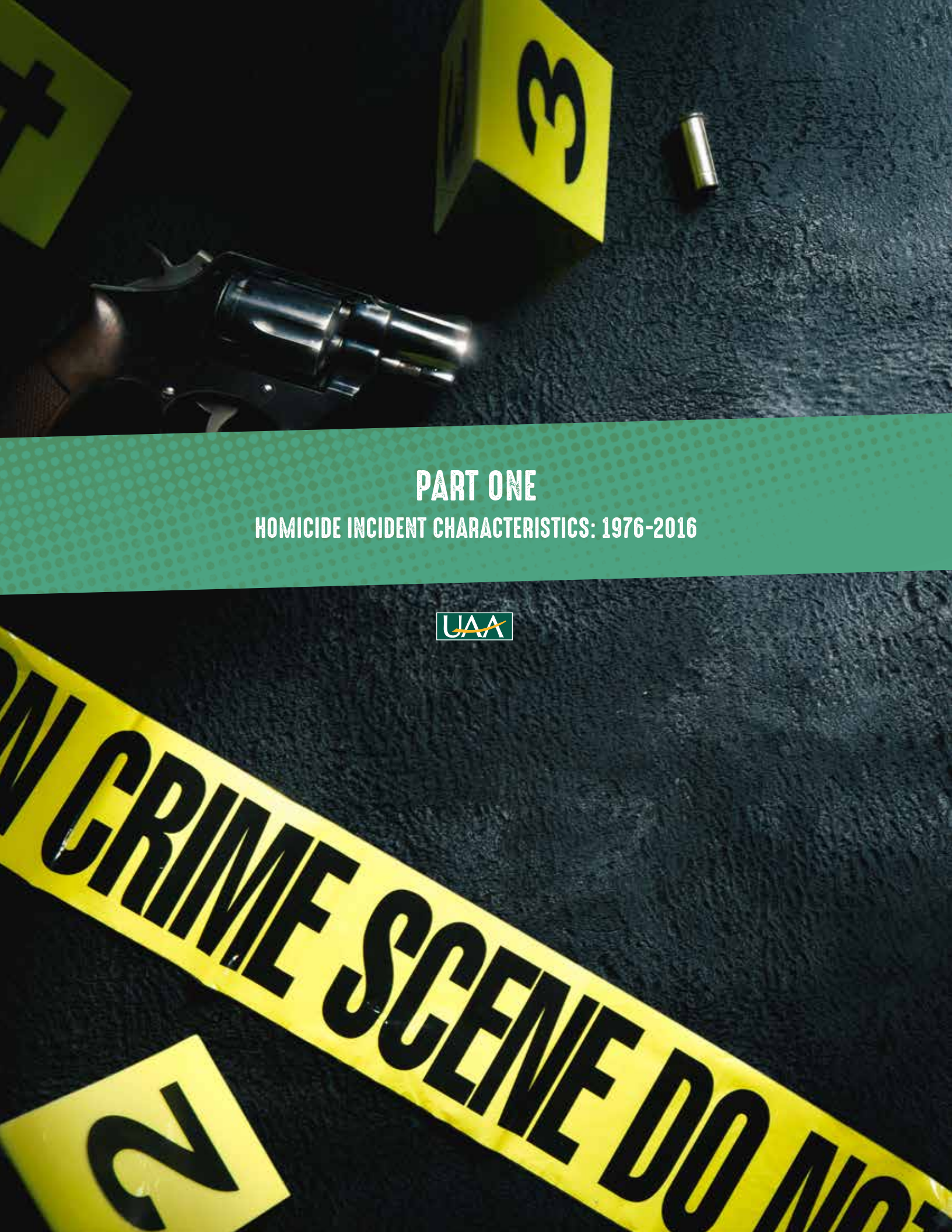
[5] FBI UCR definition of criminal homicide: a) murder and nonnegligent manslaughter: the willful (nonnegligent) killing of one human being by another. Deaths caused by negligence, attempts to kill, assaults to kill, suicides, and accidental deaths are excluded, and b) manslaughter by negligence: the killing of another person through gross negligence. Deaths of persons due to their own negligence, accidental deaths not resulting from gross negligence, and traffic fatalities are not included in the category manslaughter by negligence. Full User Manual available at https://www.fbi.gov/file-repository/ucr/ucr-srs-user-manual-v1.pdf/view, see pages 28-31.

[6] A homicide incident may include: a single victim and a single perpetrator, a single victim and multiple perpetrators, multiple victims and a single perpetrator, or multiple victims and multiple perpetrators.

[7] The SHR codes weapon and circumstance to every suspect, but this report will analyze them as incident level variables because nearly all homicides in this study had uniform weapon and circumstance across incident (99.7% of incidents).

[8] See "The Nation's two Measures of Homicide" (Regoeczi, 2014).

[9] See NACJD index at https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/content/NACJD/index.html. Forty-one annual SHR datasets were combined and manipulated by AJiC for this analysis.



PART ONE

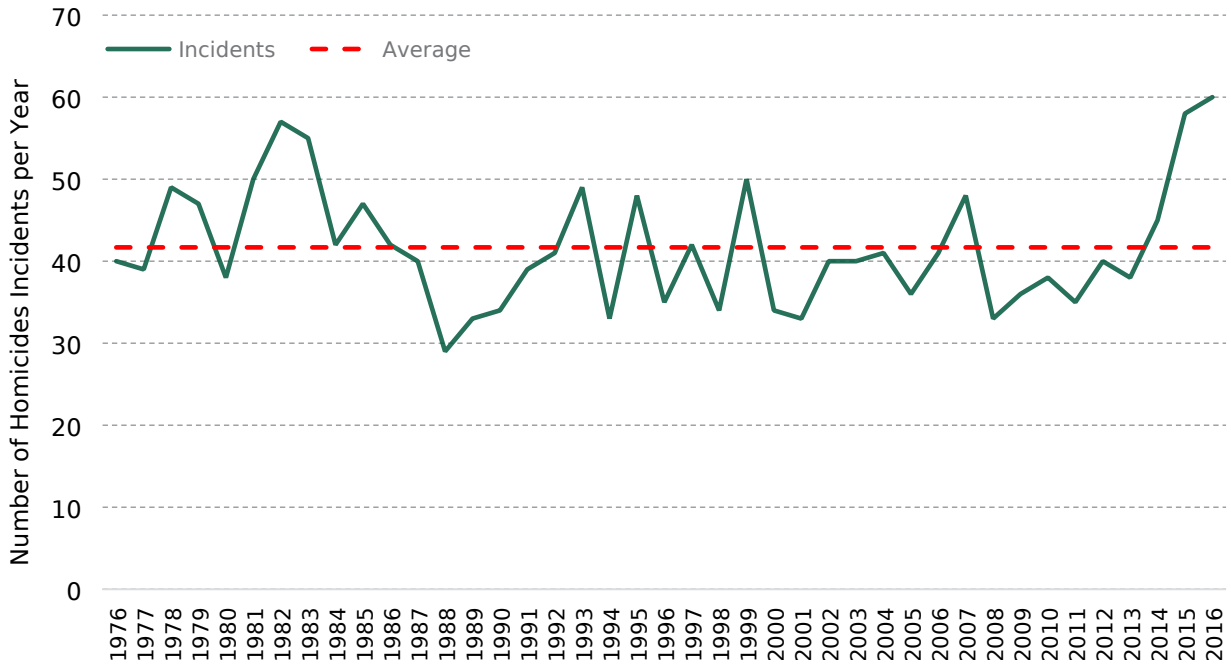
HOMICIDE INCIDENT CHARACTERISTICS: 1976-2016

PART ONE
HOMICIDE INCIDENT CHARACTERISTICS: 1976-2016

Annual Homicide Incidents

Between 1976 and 2016 a total of 1,709 homicide incidents were reported to the SHR by Alaska law enforcement agencies. The solid line in Figure 1 shows the total number of homicide incidents reported each year to the FBI by Alaska law enforcement agencies[10].

Figure 1. *The total number of homicide incidents[b] reported to the SHR by Alaska law enforcement agencies per year: 1976-2016 (n=1,709)*



NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016.

b. A homicide incident refers to the event of criminal homicide including both victims and suspects.

The average number of Alaska homicide incidents reported to the FBI each year from 1976 through 2016 was 42 per year (s.d.=7.5); the median number of homicide incidents was 40 per year. The data presented in Figure 1 reveal the three highest years for homicide incidents as 1982 (n=57), 2015 (n=58), and 2016 (n=60).

Monthly Incidents

Every month law enforcement agencies report the number of homicide incidents to the SHR. Table 1 presents the total number of homicide incidents reported to the SHR, by month, between 1976 and 2016.

[10] See Appendix Table A 1 for homicide counts each year used in Figure 1.

Table 1. *The number of homicide incidents[b] reported to the SHR by Alaska law enforcement agencies: 1976-2016, by month (n=1,709)*

MONTH	NUMBER	PERCENT
January	135	7.9
February	133	7.8
March	157	9.2
April	119	7.0
May	144	8.4
June	115	6.7
July	137	8.0
August	160	9.4
September	158	9.3
October	146	8.5
November	133	7.8
December	172	10.1

NOTES
a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016.
b. A homicide incident refers to the event of criminal homicide including both victims and suspects.
c. Total may not sum to 100.0% due to rounding error.

The month with the largest percentage of homicide incidents reported was December (n=172; 10.1%); the month with the lowest percentage of homicide incidents reported was June (n=115; 6.7%). While there was month-to-month variability in the number of homicides reported over the study period there was no evidence of seasonal patterns of homicide prevalence.

Law Enforcement Agency

Table 2 shows the total number of homicide incidents reported to the SHR by each Alaska law enforcement agency between 1976 and 2016[11]. Law enforcement agencies that did not report any homicide incidents to the SHR during the study period are not shown[12]. Alaska law enforcement agencies listed in Table 2 are presented in descending order, with agencies reporting the highest number of homicide incidents reported at the top of the table.

More than 80 percent (n=1,397; 81.8%) of the homicide incidents between 1976 and 2016 were reported by the Alaska State Troopers (AST) and the Anchorage Police Department (APD). Among all other Alaska agencies, the Fairbanks Police Department reported the most homicide incidents (n=112; 6.6%) during the study period. The remaining 27 agencies combined reported the remaining 12 percent of homicide incidents (n=200; 11.8%).

[11] The SHR records incidents by the law enforcement agency reporting the homicide to the FBI. The agency that is reporting the homicide does not necessarily indicate geographically where the actual homicide took place.
[12] There is a possibility that a law enforcement agency may report a homicide on UCR return form A, but not the in the SHR.

Table 2. *The number of homicide incidents[b] reported to the SHR by Alaska law enforcement agencies: 1976-2016, by agency (n=1,709)*

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Anchorage Police Department	712	41.7
Alaska State Troopers	685	40.1
All Other Alaska Agencies:		
Fairbanks Police Department	112	6.6
Bethel Police Department	28	1.6
Juneau Police Department	27	1.6
North Slope Borough Police Department	23	1.4
Ketchikan Police Department	17	1.0
Nome Police Department	15	0.9
Kotzebue Police Department	12	0.7
Dillingham Police Department	11	0.6
Kodiak Police Department	11	0.6
Wasilla Police Department	8	0.5
Kenai Police Department	7	0.4
Sitka Police Department	5	0.3
Seward Police Department	4	0.2
Soldotna Police Department	4	0.2
Wrangell Police Department	4	0.2
Bristol Bay Borough Police Department	3	0.2
Unalaska Police Department	3	0.2
Valdez Police Department	3	0.2
Homer Police Department	2	0.1
Palmer Police Department	2	0.1
Petersburg Police Department	2	0.1
St. Paul Police Department	2	0.1
Univ of AK-Fairbanks Police Department	2	0.1
Cordova Police Department	1	0.1
Craig Police Department	1	0.1
Haines Police Department	1	0.1
Nenana Police Department	1	0.1
Skagway Police Department	1	0.1

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. A homicide incident refers to the event of criminal homicide including both victims and suspects

c. Total may not sum to 100.0% due to rounding error.

Weapon

The SHR reported the weapon used/method of killing for every incident of criminal homicide. Table 3 shows the total number of homicide incidents reported to the SHR by Alaska police agencies for the period between 1976 and 2016 by the weapon used in each incident. Each weapon is listed by frequency of use in descending order by type of weapon. Weapons are presented in four groups: Firearms, Knife or Cutting Instrument, All Other Weapons, and Unknown.

Table 3. *The number of homicide incidents[b] reported to the SHR by Alaska law enforcement agencies: 1976-2016, by weapon (n=1,709)*

	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE[c]
Firearms		
Handgun – pistol, revolver, etc.	567	33.2
Rifle	178	10.4
Firearm, type not stated	167	9.8
Shotgun	85	5.0
Other gun	4	0.2
Knife or cutting instrument	268	15.7
All Other Weapons		
Personal weapons, includes beating	136	8.0
Blunt instrument/club	88	5.2
Strangulation – hanging	32	1.9
Asphyxiation – includes gas	23	1.4
Fire	21	1.2
Narcotics or drugs, sleeping pills	9	0.5
Drowning	6	0.4
Explosives	3	0.2
Pushed or thrown out window	2	0.1
Poison – does not include gas	2	0.1
Unknown		
Missing	63	3.7
Other or type unknown	55	3.2

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. A homicide incident refers to the event of criminal homicide including both victims and suspects

c. Columns may not add up to 100.0 due to rounding error

Firearms were identified as the primary method of killing in nearly 6 out of 10 Alaska homicide incidents (n=1,001; 58.6%) between 1976 and 2016. The most common type of firearm was handgun (n=567; 33.2%), followed by rifle (n=178; 10.4%), firearm, type not stated (n=167; 9.8%), and shotgun (n=85; 5.0%).

Among non-firearm homicide incidents, the most commonly recorded weapon was a knife or cutting instrument (n=268; 15.7%), followed by the use of personal weapons (n=136; 8.0%) and blunt instrument/club (n=88; 5.2%). In the aggregate, all other means by which homicides were committed totaled six percent of all homicide incidents (n=98). A determination of weapon use either could not be determined by investigating agencies or was not recorded by investigating agencies for approximately seven percent of homicide incidents (n=118; 6.9%).

Circumstance

Law enforcement agencies record the circumstances[13] surrounding homicide incidents in the SHR. Table 4 presents homicide incidents by circumstance, organized into 10 categories: conflict, instrumental felony, property felony, drugs, gangs, other felony, other, reverse felony, unknown, and negligence.

Interpersonal conflict was the most frequently coded circumstance (n=609; 35.7%). The majority of these conflicts were reported as other arguments (n=422; 24.7%), and approximately one in six conflicts were reported as being influenced by alcohol (n=108; 6.3% of total).

Nearly 10 percent of homicide incidents were associated with another felony crime (n=162; 9.5%). These homicides are separated into three categories: a felon committing violence against another person, instrumental felony (n=114; 6.7%), a felony related to theft with homicide being an unintended outcome, property felony (n=13; 0.8%), or an undefined other felony (n=35; 2.1%). The most common felony involved with a homicide over the study period was robbery (n=86; 5.0%).

Law enforcement agencies have a separate designation for homicides involving a crime related to drugs or gangs. In Alaska, drugs were involved in 4.2 percent of homicide incidents (n=71) and gangs less than one percent of incidents (n=11; 0.6%).

Over one-fifth of all homicide circumstances were reported as other (n=356; 20.8%). Other homicides contained circumstances where law enforcement agencies did not report further information, in addition to a few miscellaneous crimes (e.g., prostitution and gambling). Reverse felony included homicides where a felon was killed by either a police officer or private citizen (n=66; 3.9%). Negligence included some form of negligent manslaughter (n=78; 4.6). Finally, circumstances could not be determined by investigating agencies, or was not recorded by investigating agencies, for one-fifth of homicide incidents (n=356; 20.8%) at the time data was reported to the SHR.

[13] The analysis of circumstance in the SHR has known limitations, including: 1) the SHR is not updated as police investigations progress, 2) there are high rates of missing/unknown circumstances in the SHR, 3) when circumstance is reported there is often a discrepancy to police records (Loftin, 1986; Maxfield, 1989; Pizarro & Zeoli, 2013).

Table 4. *Number of homicide incidents[b] reported to the SHR by Alaska law enforcement agencies: 1976-2016, by circumstance code (n=1,709)*

	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE[c]
Interpersonal Conflict		
Other arguments	422	24.7
Brawl due to influence of alcohol	108	6.3
Lovers triangle	36	2.1
Argument over money or property	35	2.1
Children killed by babysitting	8	0.5
Instrumental Felony		
Robbery	86	5.0
Rape	22	1.3
Other sex offense	6	0.4
Property Felony		
Burglary	6	0.4
Larceny	4	0.2
Motor vehicle theft	3	0.2
Drugs		
Narcotic drug laws	60	3.5
Brawl due to influence of narcotics	11	0.6
Gangs		
Juvenile gang killings	8	0.5
Gangland killings	3	0.2
Other Felony		
All suspected felony type	25	1.5
Arson	7	0.4
Sniper attack	3	0.2
Other		
Other	315	18.4
Other – not specified	33	1.9
Prostitution and commercialized vice	4	0.2
Institutional killings	3	0.2
Gambling	2	0.1
Reverse Felony		
Felon killed by police	39	2.3
Felon killed by private citizen	27	1.6
Unknown		
Unknown	218	12.8
Circumstances undetermined	137	8.0
Negligence		
All of manslaughter by negligence	45	2.6
Other negligent handling of gun	20	1.2
Children playing with gun	8	0.5
Gun-cleaning death – other than self	4	0.2

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. A homicide incident refers to the event of criminal homicide including both victims and suspects

c. Total may not sum to 100.0% due to rounding error.

Situation

Law enforcement agencies assign every homicide incident a situation code categorizing the number of victims and the number of suspects involved in the incident. Each incident was categorized as single victim/single suspect, single victim/multiple suspects, single victim/unknown suspect(s), multiple victims/single suspect, multiple victims/multiple suspects, or multiple victims/unknown suspect(s). Table 5 presents all incidents of homicide reported to the SHR by Alaska law enforcement agencies between 1976 and 2016, by situation code.

Table 5. *Number of homicide incidents[b] reported to the SHR by Alaska law enforcement agencies: 1976-2016, by situation code (n=1,709)*

	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE[c]
Single Victim Incidents		
Single Victim / Single Suspect	1,166	68.2
Single Victim / Multiple Suspects	136	8.0
Single Victim / Unknown Suspect(s)	298	17.4
Multiple Victim Incidents		
Multiple Victims / Single Suspect	78	4.6
Multiple Victims / Multiple Suspects	8	0.5
Multiple Victims / Unknown Suspect(s)	23	1.4

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. A homicide incident refers to the event of criminal homicide including both victims and suspects

c. Columns may not sum to 100.0 due to rounding error

The vast majority of homicide incidents in Alaska involved a single victim (n=1,600; 93.6%). More than two-thirds of all homicide incidents involved a single victim and a single suspect (n=1,166; 68.2%), and an additional eight percent involved a single victim and multiple suspects (n=136; 8.0%). Homicide incidents involving multiple victims were relatively rare, representing just over five percent of homicides reported to the FBI by Alaska law enforcement agencies between 1976 and 2016 (n=109; 6.4%). Nearly three-fourths of multiple victim homicides involved only a single suspect (n=78; 71.6% of multiple victim homicides). Fewer than 10 incidents involved both multiple victims and multiple offenders (n=8; 0.5%). Situation codes also mark the number of incidents involving an unknown suspect. Nearly 20 percent of incidents involved a suspect(s) who was unknown to law enforcement at the time of reporting to the SHR (n=321; 18.8%).

Summary: Homicide Incidents

In this section of the report, data were presented describing all homicide incidents reported by Alaska law enforcement agencies to the SHR for the period 1976 through 2016. Information was presented on the number of homicide incidents per year, the reporting law enforcement agencies, the weapons

used, the circumstances, and numbers of suspects and victims involved in homicide incidents. This analysis lays the foundation for understanding characteristics of homicide based on the demographic characteristics of the victim. The key findings for Alaska homicide incidents are presented below:

- There are on average 42 homicide incidents per year reported by Alaska law enforcement agencies, and out of the 41 years included in this study, the total number of homicides was exceptionally high in three years: 1982, 2015, and 2016.
- Two Alaska law enforcement agencies – the Alaska State Troopers (AST) and the Anchorage Police Department (APD) – reported more than 80 percent of all Alaska homicide incidents.
- Firearms were identified by Alaska law enforcement agencies as the primary method of killing in nearly six out of ten Alaska homicide incidents (58.6%).
- Interpersonal conflict accounted for the largest percentage of homicide circumstances (35.7%).
- The vast majority of Alaska homicides – more than 90% – involved a single victim; two-thirds involved a single victim and a single suspect.

PART TWO

CHARACTERISTICS OF HOMICIDE SUSPECTS AND VICTIMS

PART TWO
CHARACTERISTICS OF HOMICIDE SUSPECTS AND VICTIMS

Demographic Characteristics of Homicide Suspects

Demographic characteristics of suspects are reported in the SHR. Table 6 presents the frequency distributions for suspect sex, suspect age, and suspect race. In all incidents of homicide reported to the FBI by Alaska law enforcement agencies between 1976 and 2016 there were at least 1,943 suspects[14].

Table 6. *Demographic characteristics of Alaska homicide suspects reported to the SHR by Alaska law enforcement agencies: 1976-2016 (n=1,943)*

	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE[b]
Sex/gender		
Female	196	10.1
Male	1,402	72.2
Unknown	345	17.8
Age group		
0 to 17 years	154	7.9
18 to 24 years	482	24.8
25 to 34 years	474	24.4
35 to 44 years	268	13.8
45 to 54 years	142	7.3
55 to 64 years	54	2.8
65 years and older	19	1.0
Unknown	350	18.0
Race/ethnicity		
White	829	42.7
American Indian or Alaska Native	430	22.1
Black or African American	211	10.9
Asian or Pacific Islander	79	4.1
Unknown	394	20.3

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. Total may not sum to 100.0% due to rounding error.

Table 6 shows that nearly three-quarters of all homicide suspects were male (n=1,402; 72.2%). One-tenth of suspects were female (n=196; 10.1%). The remaining suspects' genders were unknown to law enforcement at the time of reporting to the SHR (n=345; 17.8%).

[14] In incidents where the suspect(s) were unknown to law enforcement agencies, only a single suspect is recorded in the SHR.

Among homicide suspects for whom age was recorded, the average age was 30.2 years old (1,593 suspects). The youngest suspect was 5 years of age; the oldest suspect was 84 years old[15]. A large majority of suspects were adults (n=1,439; 74.1%). Nearly half of suspects were between 18 and 34 years old (n=956; 49.2%). A little less than one-fifth of suspects did not have an age recorded by law enforcement (n=350; 18.0%).

Approximately 4 out of 10 suspects reported to the FBI by Alaska law enforcement were White (n=829; 42.7%). The second largest group was American Indian or Alaska Native (n=430; 22.1%), followed by Black or African American (n=211; 10.9%). Less than five percent of suspects were Asian or Pacific Islander (n=79; 4.1%). Suspect race was unknown or unavailable to law enforcement at the time of reporting to the SHR for one-fifth of suspects (n=394; 20.3%).

Homicide Suspect–Homicide Victim Relationships

The relationship between homicide suspects and homicide victims is recorded in the SHR. Specifically, the SHR records the relationship of the first victim identified by law enforcement in the SHR to every suspect in a homicide incident[16]. In multiple victim homicide incidents, additional suspect–victim relationships beyond the first victim are not recorded[17]. Table 7 presents suspect–victim relationships between each identified suspect and the first identified victim in each homicide incident. This analysis organizes suspect–victim relationships into five categories: intimate partner, family member, friend or acquaintance, stranger, and relation not reported.

Six out of ten suspects knew their victim (n=1,189; 61.2%): 13.0 percent (n=252) were intimate partners, 11.4 percent (n=222) were family members, and 36.8 percent were friends or acquaintances (n=715). The suspect was a stranger to the victim less than one-fifth of the time (n=333; 17.1%). The relationship between homicide suspects and homicide victims was either undetermined or not recorded by law enforcement in one-fifth of all instances (n=421; 21.7%).

[15] See Appendix Figure A 1 for a visual representation of all suspects by age between 1976 and 2016.
[16] There are known limitations to this SHR's ability to analyze the relationship of suspects and victims. See (Fox, 2004; Loftin, 1986; Pampel & Williams, 2000; Shai, 2010).
[17] In the Alaska SHR homicide data, 109 out of 1,709 (6.4%) incidents involved multiple victims.

Table 7. *The number of Alaska homicide suspects by their relationship to the first identified victim[b] as reported to the SHR by Alaska law enforcement agencies: 1976-2016 (n=1,943)*

	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE[c]
Intimate Partner		
Wife	87	4.5
Girlfriend	72	3.7
Boyfriend	34	1.8
Husband	32	1.7
Common-law husband	8	0.4
Ex-husband	6	0.3
Ex-wife	6	0.3
Common-law wife	4	0.2
Homosexual relationship	3	0.2
Family Member		
Other family	43	2.2
Brother	40	2.1
Son	38	2.0
Daughter	33	1.7
Father	26	1.3
Mother	15	0.8
In-law	7	0.4
Sister	7	0.4
Stepfather	6	0.3
Stepmother	3	0.2
Stepson	2	0.1
Stepdaughter	2	0.1
Friend or Acquaintance		
Acquaintance	476	24.5
Friend	126	6.5
Other – known to victim	80	4.1
Neighbor	24	1.2
Employer	7	0.4
Employee	2	0.1
Stranger	333	17.1
Relation not reported	421	21.7

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. Relationships are coded for the first homicide victim identified by law enforcement agencies to every suspect.

c. Columns may not total to 100.0 percent due to rounding error

Demographic Characteristics of Homicide Victims

Table 8 presents the frequency distributions for victim sex, victim age, and victim race. In all incidents of homicide reported to the FBI by Alaska law enforcement agencies between 1976 and 2016 there were 1,856 victims.

Table 8. *Demographic characteristics of Alaska homicide victims reported to the SHR by Alaska law enforcement agencies: 1976-2016 (n=1,856)*

	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE[b]
Sex/gender		
Female	540	29.1
Male	1,314	70.8
Unknown	2	0.1
Age group		
0 to 17 years	227	12.2
18 to 24 years	359	19.3
25 to 34 years	474	25.5
35 to 44 years	384	20.7
45 to 54 years	231	12.5
55 to 64 years	86	4.6
65 years and older	65	3.5
Unknown	30	1.6
Race/ethnicity		
White	974	52.5
American Indian or Alaska Native	546	29.4
Black or African American	184	9.9
Asian or Pacific Islander	86	4.6
Unknown	66	3.6

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. Total may not sum to 100.0% due to rounding error.

A majority of Alaska homicide victims were male (n=1,314; 70.8%). The remaining victims were female (n=540; 29.1%) with very few victims without a recorded sex (n=2; 0.1%).

More than three quarters of Alaska homicide victims were adults (n=1,599; 86.2%), and just over ten percent were juveniles (n=227; 12.2%). Among homicide victims whose age was reported by law enforcement (1,826 victims), the average age was 32.6 years old[18]. The youngest homicide victim was

[18] See Appendix Figure A 2 for a visual representation of all victims by age between 1976 and 2016.

a newborn less than 6 days old[19]; the oldest homicide victim was 85 years old. Less than two percent of victims were recorded as an unknown age by Alaska law enforcement agencies at the time of reporting to the SHR (n=30; 1.6%).

More than half of the homicide victims in Alaska were White (n=974; 52.5%). Nearly a third of victims were American Indian or Alaska Native (n=546; 29.4%). Approximately 10 percent were Black or African American (n=184; 9.9%). Less than five percent were identified as Asian or Pacific Islander (n=86; 4.6%). Even fewer victims had their race either undetermined or not reported by law enforcement (n=66; 3.6%).

Summary: Homicide Suspects and Victims

In this section of the report, data were presented describing the demographic characteristics of homicide victims, as well as the documented relationships between homicide suspects and homicide victims. The key findings for Alaska homicide suspects and victims are presented below:

- Males made up a majority of Alaska homicide suspects (72.2%) and victims (70.8%).
- Six out of 10 Alaska homicide suspects knew their victims (61.2%).
- The average age of a suspect (30.2 years old) was slightly lower than the average age of a victim (32.6 years old).
- More suspects were reported with unknown demographics by law enforcement compared to victims.
- 42% of suspects were White, 22% American Indian or Alaska Native, 11% Black or African American, and 4% Asian or Pacific Islander.
- 52% of victims were White, 29% American Indian or Alaska Native, 10% Black or African American, and 4% were Asian or Pacific Islander.

[19] The SHR reports "NB" for newborns less than six days old and "BB" for infants 7 to 364 days old. There were 2 victims classified as NB (0.1%) and 35 victims as BB (1.9%). For analysis NB and BB were recoded to one year old.

PART THREE

HOMICIDE INCIDENT CHARACTERISTICS, BY VICTIM RACE AND SEX

PART THREE
HOMICIDE INCIDENT CHARACTERISTICS, BY VICTIM RACE AND SEX

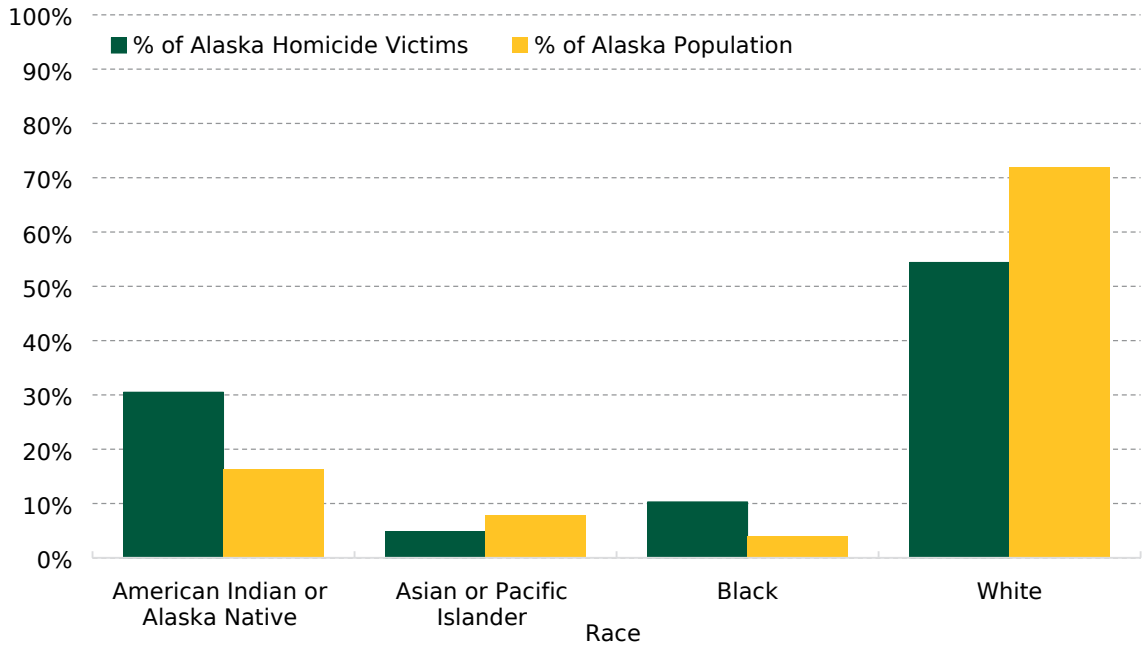
Race and Gender Differences in Homicide Victimization

In this section Alaska homicide data are presented alongside Alaska population data obtained from the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development Statistics publication Alaska Population Overview 2016 Estimates Report[20]. The objective in presenting both Alaska homicide and population data is to explore the extent to which certain groups suffer homicide disproportionately. Figure 2 compares the racial group composition of Alaska homicides with the racial group composition of the Alaska population. Figure 3 compares the sex composition of Alaska homicides with the sex composition of the Alaska population. Finally, Figure 4 combines the data shown in Figure 2 and Figure 3 to compare the race-sex composition of Alaska homicides with the race-sex composition of the Alaska population. (Note: it is important to note that while the Alaska homicide data span 1976-2016, the Alaska population data used in this report only spans 2012 to 2016. Annual estimations of Alaska's population by race, sex, and race-sex are calculated based on a five-year average of residents who selected only a single race category alone[21]. To the extent that Alaska's race, sex, and race-sex group compositions differed from those captured between 2012 and 2016, the disparities depicted in Figure 2 through Figure 4 may be under- or over-estimated.)

[20] To read full report see http://live.laborstats.alaska.gov/pop/estimates/pub/16popover.pdf. This report compiled the following tables: Table 1.17 (p28), Table 1.19 (p30), Table 1.21 (p32), Table 1.23 (p34), and Table 1.25 (p36).

[21] Approximately 7 percent of Alaska residents classified themselves as "Two or more races". These residents are excluded from percent calculations. Race groups are defined as a "race alone", not "race in combination with other races".

Figure 2. *Percentage of Alaska homicide victims reported to the SHR 1976-2016 by race (n=1,789), compared to the percentage of Alaska population by race according to the 2012-2016 Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development estimate (n=683,858)*



NOTES

a. Homicide Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

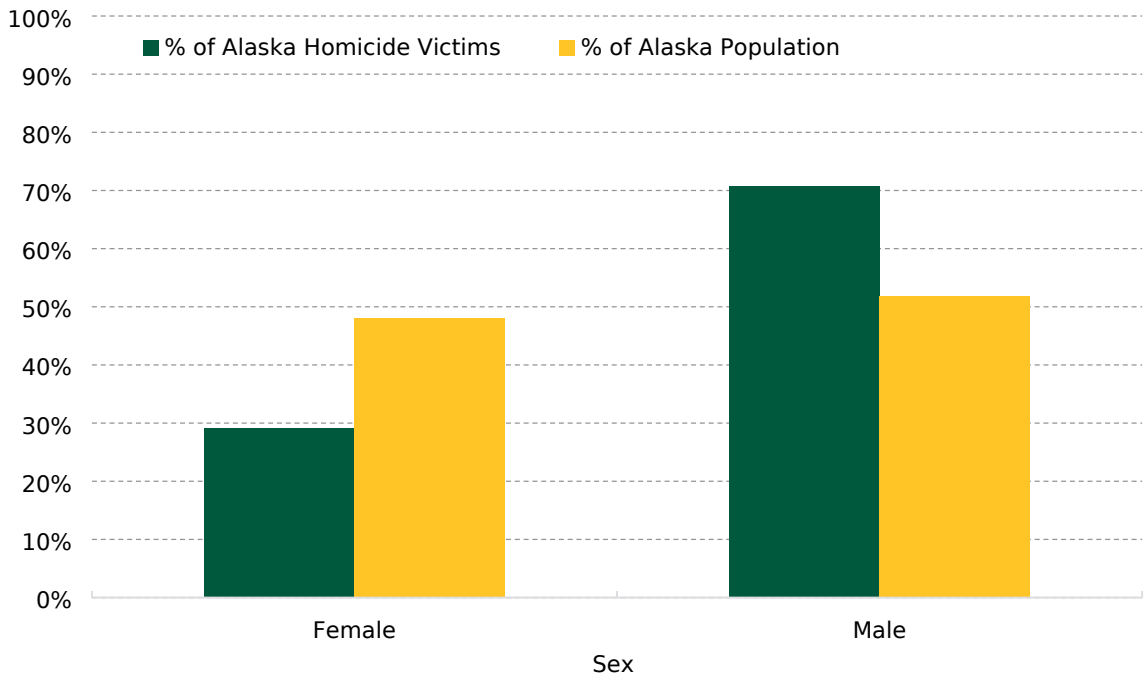
b. Population Data source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development Alaska Population Overview 2016 Estimates Report. Percentages are calculated by average population between 2012 and 2016 for Alaska residents selecting only a single race, divided by the total number Alaska residents who selected a single race.

Figure 2 presents the proportion of homicide victims by race in comparison to the proportion of Alaska population by race. Alaska populations by race are estimated based on a five year average between 2012 and 2016 from Alaska Population Overview 2016 Estimates Report, published by the Department of Labor and Workforce Development. The dark green bars denote the percent of total homicide victims from 1976 through 2016 by victim race, and the yellow bars represent the racial group composition of the Alaska population 2012-2016[22].

The data presented in Figure 2 show that homicide victimization in Alaska is disproportionately distributed according to race. American Indian or Alaska Native victims and Black or African American victims were over-represented among Alaska's homicide victims. Nearly one in seven (16.3%) of Alaska's population identified as American Indian or Alaska Native, yet American Indian or Alaska Native victims comprised 30 percent of all Alaska homicide victims (30.5%). Black or African Americans made up four percent of Alaska's total population yet were 10 percent of all Alaska homicide victims (10.3%). Conversely, White and Asian or Pacific Islander victims were under-represented among Alaska's homicide victims.

[22] See Appendix Table A 2 for population counts and homicide counts used in Figure 2.

Figure 3. *Percentage of Alaska homicide victims reported to the SHR 1976-2016 by sex (n=1,789), compared to the percentage of Alaska population by sex according to the 2012-2016 Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development estimate (n=683,858)*



NOTES

a. Homicide Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

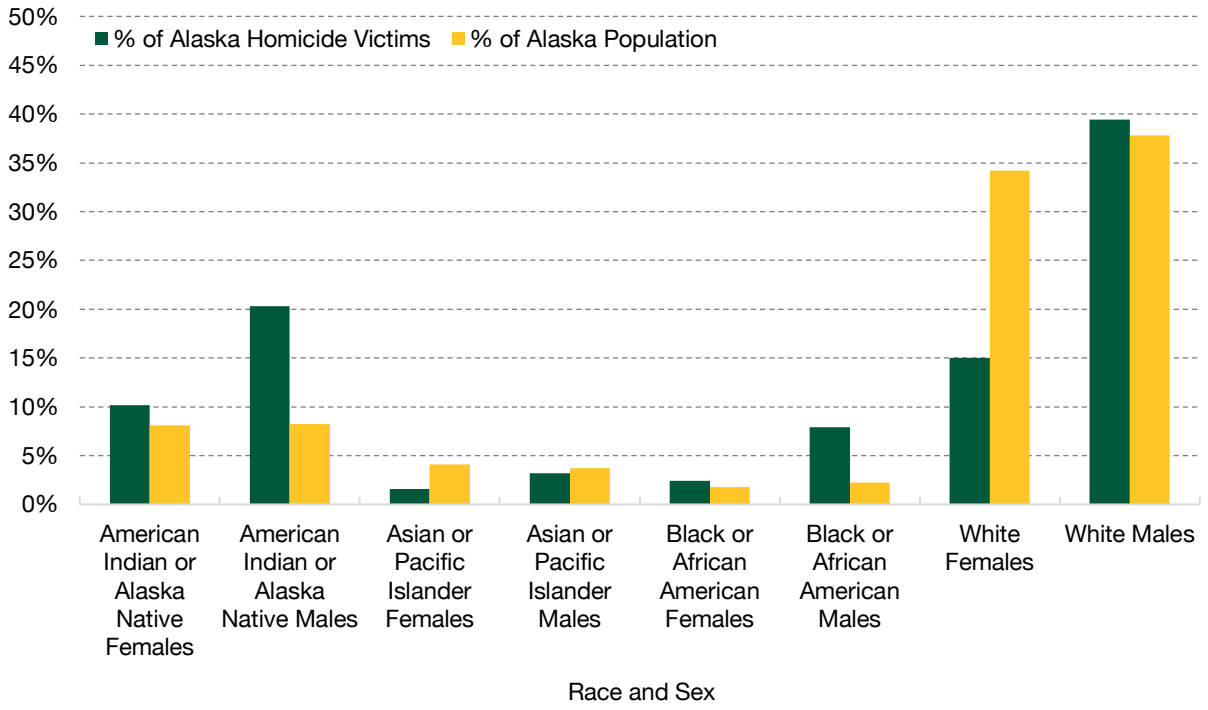
b. Population Data source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development Alaska Population Overview 2016 Estimates Report. Percentages are calculated by average population between 2012 and 2016 for Alaska residents selecting only a single race, divided by the total number Alaska residents who selected a single race.

Figure 3 presents the proportion of homicide victims by sex in comparison to the proportion of Alaska population by sex. Alaska populations by race are estimated based on a five-year average between 2012 and 2016 from Alaska Population Overview 2016 Estimates Report, published by the Department of Labor and Workforce Development. The dark green bars denote the percent of total homicide victims from 1976 through 2016 by victim sex, and the brighter yellow bars represent the percentage each sex makes up in the total Alaska population 2012-2016[23].

The data presented in Figure 3 show that homicide victimization in Alaska is disproportionately distributed according to sex. Male victims are over-represented among Alaska's homicide victims. Approximately 50 percent of Alaska's population is male (51.9%), yet male victims make up 70.8 percent of homicide victims. Conversely, female victims are under-represented compared to the population. While an estimated 48% of Alaska's population is female, less than one-third of homicide victims were female (29.2%).

[23] See appendix Table A 3 for population counts and homicide counts used in Figure 3.

Figure 4. *Percentage of Alaska homicide victims reported to the SHR 1976-2016 by race and sex (n=1,789), compared to the percentage of Alaska population by race and sex according to the 2012-2016 Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development estimate (n=683,858)*



NOTES

a. Homicide Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. Population Data source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development Alaska Population Overview 2016 Estimates Report. Percentages are calculated by average population between 2012 and 2016 for Alaska residents selecting only a single race, divided by the total number Alaska residents who selected a single race.

Figure 4[24] compares the race-sex composition of Alaska homicide victims to the race-sex composition of the Alaska population. Five of the eight race-sex groups examined experienced disproportionately high rates of homicide victimization: American Indian or Alaska Native females, American Indian or Alaska Native males, Black or African American males, Black or African American females, and White males. Among these five groups, Black or African males had the highest level of disproportionality (7.9% of victims, 2.2% of population), followed by American Indian or Alaska Native males (20.3% of victims, 8.2% of population), Black or African American females (2.4% of victims, 1.8% of population), American Indian or Alaska Native females (10.2% of victims, 8.1% of population), and finally White males (39.4% of victims, 37.8% of population).

Data shows that while homicide victimization is, in general, a male phenomenon, it especially impacts American Indian or Alaska Native and Black or African American males. White males are impacted by homicide very close to the proportion to which they are in the population. Two groups of female victims are over-represented in the homicide data compared to their composition in the Alaska population:

[24] See appendix Table A 4 for population counts and homicide counts used in Figure 4.

American Indian or Alaska Native women make up 10.2 percent of homicide victims and 8.1 percent of the population; Black or African American female victims make up 2.4 percent of homicides, and 1.8 percent of Alaska's population. White female and Asian or Pacific Islander females are under-represented in Alaska homicide.

Homicide Incident Characteristics, by Victim Race and Sex

In this final section of this report, characteristics of homicide incidents are presented according to the combined sex and race of homicide victims. Homicide incident characteristics (month[25], agency, weapon, circumstance, and situation), and suspect characteristics (demographics, relationship to victim) are documented based on the race-sex group of the victim.

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

Table 9 presents the percentage of homicide victims reported by each law enforcement agency for each victim race-sex combination[26]. Alaska law enforcement agencies were organized into three groups: The Alaska State Troopers (AST), the Anchorage Police Department (APD), and Other Agencies. Each column represents the total number of homicide victims within each race-sex group. Columns sum 100 percent. A comparison of the proportion of victims reported by each agency can be made by going across the table.

Results suggest an impact by the victim race but not victim sex, or victim race-sex. Homicides including American Indian or Alaska Native victims were most often reported to the FBI by the AST. In contrast, majorities of homicides involving Asian or Pacific Islander and Black or African American victims were to the FBI by APD. Homicides involving White victims were equally likely to be reported to the FBI by AST and APD. Importantly, within each racial group there were no substantial female-male differences with respect to the agency that investigated/reported homicides to the FBI.

WEAPON

Table 10 presents the percentage of homicide victims killed with firearms, knives or other cutting instruments, other weapons, and unknown weapon for each race-sex group[27]. These analyses reveal substantial variation across race, sex, and race-sex groups with respect to the weapon used in Alaska homicides. For example, while firearms were the most common homicide weapon overall, American Indian or Alaska Native female victims were less likely than any of the other race-sex groups to be killed with a firearm (36.3%). In fact, American Indian or Alaska Native female homicide victims were noticeably less likely than their American Indian or Alaska Native male counterparts to be killed with a firearm (36.3% vs. 49.5%, respectively). Furthermore, American Indian or Alaska Native homicide victims – both female and male – were less likely to be killed with a firearm than Asian or Pacific Islander, Black or African American, and White homicide victims. Finally, the data also show that within every racial group, males were more likely than females to be killed with a firearm.

[25] Analysis revealed that the race and sex of the victim did not have an impact on the pattern of monthly victims. Data for the monthly count of victims by race and sex can be found in Appendix Table A 5 and Table A 6.
[26] See appendix Table A 7 for the counts of homicide victims by law enforcement agency group.
[27] See Appendix Table A 8 for the counts of homicide victims by weapon.

Table 9. *The percent of Alaska homicide victims by the Alaska law enforcement agency which reported their killing: 1976-2016 (n=1,789[c]), by victim race and victim sex reported to the SHR*

REPORTING AGENCY	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER [c]							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=182)	MALE (N=364)	FEMALE (N=29)	MALE (N=57)	FEMALE (N=43)	MALE (N=141)	FEMALE (N=268)	MALE (N=705)
	PERCENTAGE	PERCENTAGE	PERCENTAGE	PERCENTAGE	PERCENTAGE	PERCENTAGE	PERCENTAGE	PERCENTAGE
Alaska State Troopers	46.2	51.4	24.1	10.5	7.0	14.9	43.7	42.6
Anchorage Police Department	25.8	24.2	65.5	70.2	79.1	72.3	42.2	42.0
Other Agencies[d]	28.0	24.5	10.3	19.3	14.0	12.8	14.2	15.5

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. Columns may not add up to 100.0 percent due to rounding error

c. 1,789 homicide victims had a known race and known sex in the SHR, 96.4% of the total 1,856 victims.

d. Other Agencies includes: Bethel PD, Bristol Bay Borough PD, Cordova PD, Craig PD, Dillingham PD, Fairbanks PD, Haines PD, Homer PD, Juneau PD, Kenai PD, Ketchikan PD, Kodiak PD, Kotzebue PD, Nenana PD, Nome PD, North Slope Borough PD, Palmer PD, Petersburg PD, Seward PD, Sitka PD, Skagway PD, Soldotna PD, St. Paul PD, Unalaska PD, University of Alaska Fairbanks PD, Valdez PD, Wasilla PD, and Wrangell PD.

Similarly complex patterns were observed for other homicide weapons. For example, American Indian or Alaska Native male and female victims were more likely than any other race-sex group to be killed with a knife or cutting instrument, with American Indian or Alaska Native males more likely to be killed with a knife or other cutting instrument than American Indian or Alaska Native females. In contrast, White males (12.6%) and White females (11.6%) were equally likely to be killed with a knife or other cutting instrument. Among Asian or Pacific Islander homicide victims, females (17.2%) were more likely to be killed with a knife or other cutting instrument than males (5.3%), while the opposite was true for Black or African American victims.

In general, female homicide victims were more likely than male homicide victims to be killed with a weapon other than a firearm or knife/cutting instrument, but this pattern did not hold for Asian or Pacific Islander victims. Among Black or African American homicide victims, females were more likely to be

killed by such means (25.6%). Overall, American Indian or Alaska Native female homicide victims were most likely to be killed by weapons other than firearms or cutting instruments (34.1%). American Indian or Alaska Native female victims were also most likely to be killed by unknown means/weapons (11.0%).

In sum, the data presented in Table 10 demonstrate both the independent effects of race and sex on homicide weapon use, as well as the interaction effects between these two variables. All three impacted homicide weapon use: (1) victim race, (2) victim sex, and (3) victim race and sex combined.

Table 10. *The percent of Alaska homicide victims by the weapon used in their killing: 1976-2016 (n=1,789[b]), by victim race and victim sex reported to the SHR*

WEAPON GROUPS[d]	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER[c]							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=182)	MALE (N=364)	FEMALE (N=29)	MALE (N=57)	FEMALE (N=43)	MALE (N=141)	FEMALE (N=268)	MALE (N=705)
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Firearms	36.3	49.5	62.1	66.7	62.8	78.0	54.9	70.4
Knife	18.7	23.4	17.2	5.3	7.0	10.6	11.6	12.6
All other weapons	34.1	21.7	13.8	24.6	25.6	8.5	24.3	11.2
Unknown	11.0	5.5	6.9	3.5	4.7	2.8	9.3	5.8

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. 1,789 homicide victims had a known race and known sex in the SHR, 96.4% of the total 1,856 victims.

c. Columns may not sum to 100.0 percent due to rounding error

d. Weapon Group definitions: Firearms contains Firearm, type not stated, Handgun – pistol, revolver, etc, Rifle, Shotgun and Other gun; Knife was categorized as Knife or cutting instrument; All other weapons contains Blunt Object – hammer, club, etc., Personal weapons, includes beating, Poison – does not include gas, Pushed or thrown out window, Explosives, Fire, Narcotics or drugs, sleeping pills, Drowning, Strangulation – hanging, Asphyxiation – includes death by gas.

CIRCUMSTANCE

Table 11 presents the percentage of homicide victims killed based on the circumstances surrounding their homicide for each victim race-sex combination[28]. Circumstances were organized into five groups: Interpersonal Conflict, Crime-related[29], Other, Negligence, and Unknown.

The data presented reveal primarily sex-based differences. In general, male homicide victims were more likely to be killed in circumstances involving Interpersonal Conflict and Crime than female homicide victims. Conversely, female homicide victims were more likely than males to be killed in Other circumstances. Two notable exceptions to these overall patterns did emerge, however, suggesting some specific race-sex interactions. American Indian or Alaska Native males were less likely to be killed in circumstances that included crime than all other male and nearly all female victim groups. Conversely, American Indian or Alaska Native males were not only more likely to be killed in circumstances involving interpersonal conflict than American Indian or Alaska Native females, they were more likely to be murdered in such circumstances than every other race-sex group – by a substantial margin.

While the findings discussed in the preceding paragraph are suggestive, the limitations of the SHR data presented in Table 11 are also apparent. Approximately 1 out of 5 homicide victims of every race-sex group were reported by law enforcement as having an unknown circumstance at the time of reporting to the SHR. Consequently, caution must be applied when drawing conclusions about the contexts in which Alaska homicides occur and the extent to which they vary according to race-sex group[30].

[28] See Appendix Table A 9 for the counts of homicide victims by circumstance.
[29] Crime-related circumstances include circumstances that were previously categorized as Instrumental Felonies, Property Felonies, Drugs, Gangs, Other Felonies, and Reverse Felonies.
[30] For reading on the interpretation of circumstance in the SHR, see Loftin 1986 and Maxfield 1989.

Table 11. *The percent of Alaska homicide victims by the circumstance surrounding their killing: 1976-2016 (n=1,789[b]), by victim race and victim sex when the race and sex of the victim was known and reported to the SHR*

CIRCUMSTANCE GROUP[d]	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER[c]							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=182)	MALE (N=364)	FEMALE (N=29)	MALE (N=57)	FEMALE (N=43)	MALE (N=141)	FEMALE (N=268)	MALE (N=705)
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Interpersonal conflict	33.0	45.3	31.0	21.1	25.6	39.0	25.4	33.5
Crime-related	10.4	9.6	13.8	28.1	7.0	21.3	14.2	22.6
Other	26.9	15.4	34.5	21.1	32.6	18.4	32.8	20.6
Negligence	5.5	5.5	6.9	8.8	4.7	4.3	2.2	4.4
Unknown	24.2	24.2	13.8	21.1	30.2	17.0	25.4	19.0

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. 1,789 homicide victims had a known race and known sex in the SHR, 96.4% of the total 1,856 victims.

c. Columns may not sum to 100.0 percent due to rounding error

d. Circumstance Group definitions: Interpersonal Conflict contains Other Arguments, Brawl due to influence of Alcohol, Lovers triangle, Argument over money or property, and Child killed by babysitter; Crime-related contains Brawl due to influence of narcotics, Juvenile gang killings, Gangland killings, Motor vehicle theft, Sniper attack, Robbery, Narcotic drug laws:, Felon killed by police, Felon killed by private citizen, Burglary, All suspected felony type, Rape, Arson, Larceny, and Other sex offense; Other contains Other, Other – not specified, Institutional killings, Prostitution and commercialized vice, and Gambling; Negligence contains All other manslaughter by negligence, Other negligent handling of gun, Children playing with gun, Victim shot in hunting accident, and Gun-cleaning death – other than self; Unknown contains Circumstances undetermined and Unknown.

SITUATION

Table 12 presents the percentage of homicide victims by situation code for each victim race-sex combination[31]. When it came to homicide situations – that is, the number of victims and the number of suspects involved in homicide incidents – single victim incidents were found to be associated with victim sex, but not victim race, and there were no readily apparent race-sex interactions. With few exceptions, male victims were more likely than female victims to be killed in single victim homicide homicides, while female victims were more likely than male victims to be killed in multiple victim homicides. This latter finding was especially pronounced for Asian or Pacific Islander and Black or African American females. It is important to emphasize, however, that majorities of both female and male homicide victims were killed in single victim homicides, and single victim/single suspect homicides in particular.

[31] See Appendix Table A 10 for the counts of homicide victims by situation code.

Table 12. *The percent of Alaska homicide victims by the homicide situation code reported to the SHR: 1976-2016 (n=1,789[b]), by victim race and victim sex*

	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER [c]							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=182)	MALE (N=364)	FEMALE (N=29)	MALE (N=57)	FEMALE (N=43)	MALE (N=141)	FEMALE (N=268)	MALE (N=705)
SITUATION CODE	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Single Victim Incidents								
Single Victim/ Single Suspect	68.1	69.5	62.1	56.1	53.5	62.4	56.7	61.4
Single Victim/ Multiple Suspects	2.2	7.1	6.9	8.8	4.7	10.6	3.7	10.1
Single Victim/ Unknown Suspect(s)	15.4	12.6	10.3	17.5	11.6	16.3	17.2	17.6
Multiple Victim Incidents								
Multiple Victims/ Single Suspect	12.1	8.2	20.7	12.3	25.6	7.8	15.3	6.8
Multiple Victims/ Multiple Suspects	0.0	0.3	0.0	3.5	0.0	0.7	1.9	1.1
Multiple Victims/ Unknown Suspect(s)	2.2	2.2	0.0	1.8	4.7	2.1	5.2	3.0

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. 1,789 homicide victims had a known race and known sex in the SHR, 96.4% of the total 1,856 victims.

c. Columns may not sum to 100.0 percent due to rounding error

Homicide Victims by Suspect Characteristics

A key benefit to using the SHR is the ability to connect suspect and victim information for each homicide incident. Table 13 through Table 15 cross-tabulate homicide suspects' and homicide victims' demographic characteristics. Table 13 presents the percentage of victims killed by suspect sex; Table 14 presents the percentage of victims killed by suspect age group; and, Table 15 presents the percentage of victims killed by suspect race. The percentages presented in each column reflect the percentage of homicide victims killed by suspects with each demographic characteristic. The data presented in Table 13 through Table 15 are limited to single-victim, singe-suspect homicide incidents in order to eliminate double counting of suspects[32]. (Note: readers should exercise caution when interpreting the results presented in Tables 13-15 due to the frequency with which homicide suspect demographic information was unknown when the data were submitted to the FBI by Alaska law enforcement agencies, and the limitation of single-victim single-suspect incidents.)

SUSPECT SEX BY VICTIM RACE AND SEX

Table 13 presents the percentage of victims[33] killed by female suspects, male suspects, and suspects of unknown sex[34]. The data show that a majority of Alaska homicide victims (between two-thirds and three-quarters) were killed by male suspects, with little variation according to victim race, victim sex, or victim race-sex combination. Overall, female homicide victims of all races were only slightly more likely than males to be killed by male suspects.

Table 13. *The percent of Alaska homicide victims by suspect sex/gender characteristics reported to the SHR: 1976-2016 (n=1,408[b]), by victim race and victim sex in single victim/single suspect homicides*

	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER [c]							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
SUSPECT SEX/GENDER	FEMALE (N=152)	MALE (N=299)	FEMALE (N=21)	MALE (N=42)	FEMALE (N=28)	MALE (N=111)	FEMALE (N=198)	MALE (N=557)
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Female	8.6	16.4	4.8	7.1	10.7	9.0	3.0	12.2
Male	73.0	68.2	81.0	69.1	71.4	70.3	73.7	65.5
Unknown	18.4	15.4	14.3	23.8	17.9	20.7	23.2	22.3

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. 1,408 homicide victims had a known race and known sex when in one victim and one suspect homicide incidents in the SHR, 75.9% of the total 1,856 victims.

c. Columns may not sum to 100.0 percent due to rounding error

[32] 1,408 out of the 1,789 victims with a known race and sex in this dataset are assessed in Table 13 through Table 15. Although not reported here, an identical analysis was conducted using all victims with a known race and sex (n=1,789) and results were nearly identical.

[33] Only includes victims involved in homicide incidents with a single victim and a single suspect.

[34] See Appendix Table A 11 for the counts of homicide victims by sex/gender of the suspect.

SUSPECT AGE BY VICTIM RACE AND SEX

Table 14 presents the percentage of victims[35] killed by suspects in each of eight age groups: Less than 18 years, 18 to 24 years, 25 to 34 years, 35 to 44 years, 45 to 54 years, 55 to 64 years, 65 years and older, and Unknown, for each victim race-sex combination[36]. Results show that juvenile homicide suspects were rarely observed in the data: homicide perpetration in Alaska is almost exclusively an adult phenomenon. Moreover, a majority of homicides are committed by adults between the ages of 18 and 44 for every victim race, sex, and race-sex grouping. Overall, African American victims (both sexes) tended to be killed by suspects between 18 and 44 years of age (approximately 70%) more frequently than homicide victims of other racial groups. The average age of suspects[37] was slightly higher when the victim was female compared to when the victim was male for all race groups. The average age of suspects was the highest when there was an Asian or Pacific Islander victim (average=39.4), followed by White female victim (average=34.5), Asian or Pacific Islander male victim (average=32.8), White male victim (average=32.1), American Indian or Alaska Native female victim (average=32.0), Black or African American female victim (average=29.7), American Indian or Alaska Native male victim (average=29.0), and the youngest suspects were identified in homicides with a Black or African American male victim (average=27.2). Combining victim race groups, suspects were generally older for Asian or Pacific Islander victims and White victims, and younger for Black or African American and American Indian or Alaska Native victims. The likelihood that homicide suspects were 45 years of age or older was much lower than the likelihood that homicide suspects were between 18 and 44 years of age, but more likely than being a juvenile.

[35] Only includes victims involved in homicide incidents with a single victim and a single suspect.
[36] See Appendix Table A 12 for the counts of homicide victims by the age group of the suspect.
[37] Only includes suspects involved in homicide incidents with a single victim and single suspect. Data not shown.

Table 14. *The percent of Alaska homicide victims by suspect age group reported to the SHR: 1976-2016 (n=1,408[b]), by victim race and victim sex in single victim/single suspect homicides*

SUSPECT AGE GROUP	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER [c]							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=152)	MALE (N=299)	FEMALE (N=21)	MALE (N=42)	FEMALE (N=28)	MALE (N=111)	FEMALE (N=198)	MALE (N=557)
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Less than 18 years	2.6	8.4	0.0	11.9	3.6	7.2	6.1	5.8
18 to 24 years	22.4	28.1	9.5	9.5	21.4	31.5	15.7	18.1
25 to 34 years	27.0	25.8	28.6	21.4	39.3	24.3	19.7	26.6
35 to 44 years	15.8	12.4	14.3	19.1	14.3	11.7	16.7	13.5
45 to 54 years	9.9	6.0	19.1	7.1	0.0	3.6	12.6	8.3
55 to 64 years	4.0	3.0	9.5	4.8	3.6	0.9	3.5	2.9
65 years and older	0.0	0.3	4.8	2.4	0.0	0.0	2.0	1.6
Unknown	18.4	16.1	14.3	23.8	17.9	20.7	23.7	23.3

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. 1,408 homicide victims had a known race and known sex when in one victim and one suspect homicide incidents in the SHR, 75.9% of the total 1,856 victims.

c. Columns may not sum to 100.0 percent due to rounding error

SUSPECT RACE BY VICTIM RACE AND SEX

Table 15 presents the percentage of victims[38] killed according to the race of the suspect[39]. For all victim race-sex groups the suspect was most likely to match the race of the victim. Approximately 60 percent of American Indian or Alaska Native female (62.2%) and male (58.6%) victims were involved in a homicide committed by an American or Alaska Native suspect. Nearly half of Asian or Pacific Islander female (52.4%) and male (47.6%) victims were killed by a suspect who was also Asian or Pacific Islander. Three-quarters of Black or African American female victims were killed by a Black or African American suspect (75.0%). Black or African American male victims were killed by a Black or African American suspect approximately half of the time (49.6%). And, approximately 60 percent of White female victims (66.2%) and male victims (57.8%) were killed by a suspect who was also White. The largest victim within-race sex difference was for Black or African American victims – African American females were much more likely than African American males to be killed by an African American suspect. The smallest within-race sex difference was for American Indian or Alaska Native victims, with American Indian or Alaska Native males slightly more likely than American Indian or Alaska Native females to be killed by an American Indian or Alaska Native suspect.

Approximately 4 out of 10 victims were not killed by a suspect of the same race. When a victim was killed by a suspect who was not the same race, the race of the suspect was most likely White. Finally, the race of the suspect was unknown to law enforcement for approximately 20 percent of homicide victims. The largest proportion of white female victims were reported as being killed by a suspect of an unknown race across race-sex groups (24.2%).

[38] Only includes victims involved in homicide incidents with a single victim and a single suspect.
[39] See Appendix Table A 13 for the counts of homicide victims by the race/ethnicity of the suspect.

Table 15. *The percent of Alaska homicide victims by suspect race/ethnicity characteristics reported to the SHR: 1976-2016 (n=1,408[b]), by victim race and victim sex in single victim/single suspect homicides*

SUSPECT RACE/ ETHNICITY	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER [c]							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=152)	MALE (N=299)	FEMALE (N=21)	MALE (N=42)	FEMALE (N=28)	MALE (N=111)	FEMALE (N=198)	MALE (N=557)
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
American Indian or Alaska Native	58.6	62.2	4.8	2.4	3.6	4.5	4.0	9.0
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.3	0.3	52.4	47.6	0.0	3.6	0.0	2.2
Black or African American	2.6	2.7	9.5	4.8	75.0	49.6	5.6	7.7
White	18.4	18.4	19.1	21.4	3.6	21.6	66.2	57.8
Unknown	19.1	16.4	14.3	23.8	17.9	20.7	24.2	23.3

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. 1,408 homicide victims had a known race and known sex when in one victim and one suspect homicide incidents in the SHR, 75.9% of the total 1,856 victims.

c. Columns may not sum to 100.0 percent due to rounding error

SUSPECT–VICTIM RELATIONSHIPS, BY VICTIM RACE AND SEX

Table 16 presents the percentage of victims[40] killed according to suspects' relationships to victims[41]. The data presented in Table 16 suggest that a majority of Alaska homicides were committed by suspects known to victims; homicides committed by strangers were rarely observed in the data. The data also reveal that the types of relationships between homicide suspects and victims varied according to victim race, victim sex, and victim race-sex.

Higher percentages of American Indian or Alaska Native and Asian or Pacific Islander victims were killed by intimate partners than Black or African American and White homicide victims. American Indian or Alaska Native homicide victims were much more likely than homicide victims of other races to be killed by a family member. American Indian or Alaska Native victims were in general less likely than members of other racial groups to be killed by a stranger.

The data presented in Table 16 also reveal important sex-based differences as well – differences that transcend race. For example, female homicide victims were much more likely than male homicide victims to be killed by a current or former intimate partner or spouse, irrespective of victim race. In fact, without exception, female homicide victims of every racial group were more likely to be killed by a current of former intimate partner or spouse than a family member, friend/acquaintance, or stranger. Conversely, and again without exception, male homicide victims of every racial group were most often killed by a friend or acquaintance.

Finally, the data show some differences according to both victim race and victim sex. For example, Asian or Pacific Islander female victims were more likely than homicide victims in every other race-sex group to be killed by an intimate partner, American Indian or Alaska Native males were more likely to be killed by a family member, and Black or African American females were least likely to be killed by a stranger.

[40] Only includes victims involved in homicide incidents with a single victim and a single suspect.
[41] See Appendix Table A 14 for the counts of homicide victims by the relationship the suspect had to the victim.

Table 16. *The percent of Alaska homicide victims by suspect relationship to the victim[b]: 1976-2016 (n=1,408[c]), by victim race and victim sex in single victim/single suspect homicides*

SUSPECT RELATIONSHIP[e]	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER [d]							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=152)	MALE (N=299)	FEMALE (N=21)	MALE (N=42)	FEMALE (N=28)	MALE (N=111)	FEMALE (N=198)	MALE (N=557)
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Intimate Partner	40.1	8.7	52.4	2.4	35.7	6.3	37.9	7.7
Family Member	14.5	19.7	4.8	11.9	14.3	5.4	9.6	8.6
Friend or Acquaintance	21.7	42.5	23.8	38.1	25.0	46.0	19.7	43.6
Stranger	2.6	8.7	4.8	21.4	0.0	14.4	8.6	13.5
Unknown	21.1	20.4	14.3	26.2	25.0	27.9	24.2	26.6

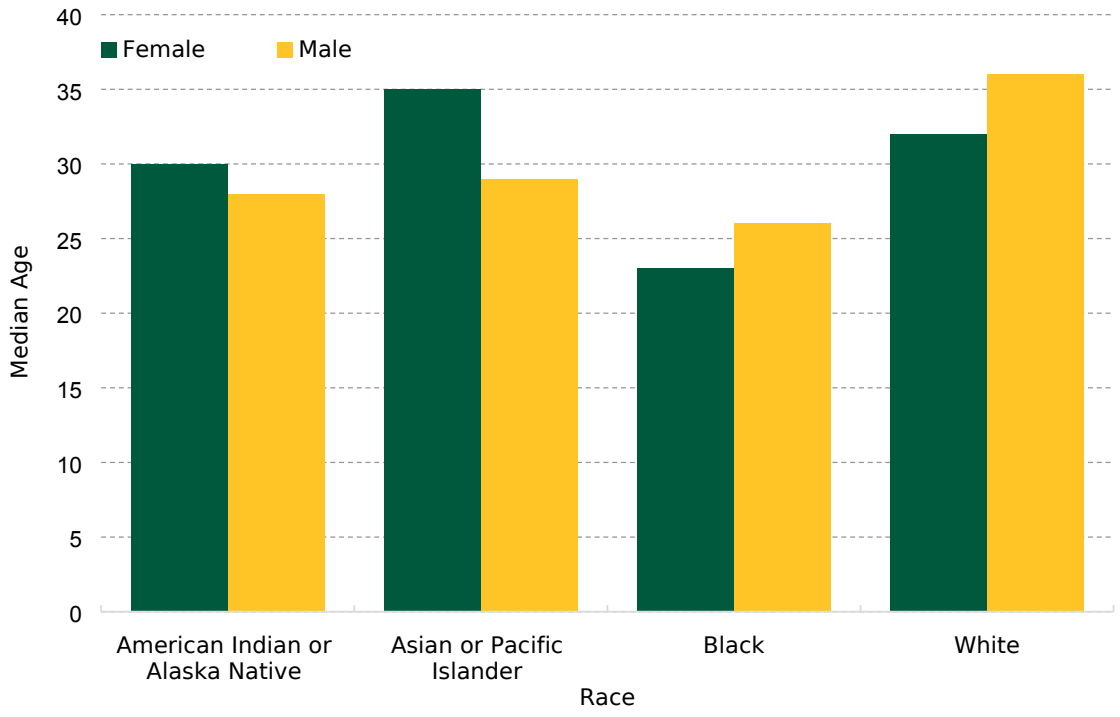
NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016
b. Relationship to the first victim
c. 1,408 homicide victims had a known race and known sex when in one victim / one suspect homicide incidents in the SHR, 75.9% of the total 1,856 victims.
d. Columns may not sum to 100.0 percent due to rounding error
e. Relationship Group Definitions: Intimate Partner included Wife, Girlfriend, Boyfriend, Husband, Common-law husband, Ex-husband, Common-law wife, and Homosexual relationship; Family Member included Other family, Brother, Son, Daughter, Father, Mother, In-law, Sister, Stepfather, Stepson, and Stepdaughter; Friend or Acquaintance included Acquaintance, Friend, Other- known to victim, Neighbor, Employee, and Employer; Stranger included Stranger; Relation not determined included Missing and Relationship not determined.

VICTIM AGE, BY VICTIM RACE AND SEX

Figure 5 presents the median victim age for each of the eight race-sex groups examined. For each racial group, green bars depict the median age for female victims and yellow bars depict the median age for male victims. Overall, the median age of Black or African American female victims (23 years) and Black or African American male victims (26 years) was lower than those for other racial groups. White males had the highest median age of any race-sex group (36 years).

Figure 5. *The median age of female and male Alaska homicide victims reported to the SHR: 1976-2016, by homicide victim race and sex (n=1,789) when the race and sex of the victim was known*



NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. 1,789 homicide victims had a known race and known sex in the SHR, 96.4% of the total 1,856 victims

The age gap between the race-sex group with the lowest median age (black females) and the race-sex group with the highest median age (white males) is substantial: 13 years. The widest within-race age gap between males and females (6 years) was for Asian or Pacific Islander homicide victims (males younger than females). The narrowest within-race age gap between males and females (2 years) was for American Indian or Alaska Native homicide victims (males younger than females).

Summary: Victims by Race & Sex

In this third section of the report, Alaska homicide data for the period 1976-2016 were presented according to two victim characteristics: victim race and victim sex. This approach provided a framework with which to compare patterns of homicide victimization across racial groups (e.g., American Indian or Alaska Native vs. White), between sexes within racial groups (e.g., White males vs. White females), and between each of eight race-sex groups (e.g., Black or African American females vs. American Indian or Alaska Native females). Within this framework, data were presented on: homicide incident characteristics, homicide suspect demographics, the relationships between homicide suspects and homicide victims, and finally the demographic characteristics of homicide victims. The key findings of these descriptive analyses are presented below:

- A comparison of the composition of Alaska homicide victims and the Alaska population revealed that Black male homicide victims were the most over-represented homicide victim race-sex group.
- Male homicide victims were over-represented in Alaska homicide compared to their population, and American Indian or Alaska Native female victims and Black or African American female victims were over-represented.
- American Indian or Alaska Native male and female homicide victims were more likely to be reported by law enforcement agencies other than the APD[42].
- Comparing weapon use across race-sex groups showed that male victims were killed more often by firearms than female victims, unless the victim was Asian or Pacific Islander.
- Firearms killed the smallest proportion of male and female American Indian or Alaska Native homicide victims; Black or African American male victims were killed the most often of all race-sex groups by a firearm.
- Comparing the circumstances by victim race and sex showed that male victims were reported more often as being killed during interpersonal conflict and crime-related homicides than female victims.
- The preponderance of homicide victims was killed by a suspect who was the same race for all victim racial groups with little variation by sex.
- The proportion of female victims killed by an intimate partner was approximately five times larger than the proportion of male victims across all victim racial groups.
- Conversely, the proportion of male homicide victims killed by a stranger was twice as large as the proportion of female victims across all victim racial groups.
- American Indian or Alaska Native male and female victims were killed more often by a family member than other victim racial groups.

[42] See Table 2 for full list of Alaska law enforcement agencies within Other Agencies group.

American Indian or Alaska Native Female Victims

At the beginning of this report we presented the problem of data on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and girls (MMIWG) and aimed to provide preliminary analyses of homicide incidents in which American Indian or Alaska Native women and girls were victims using data from the SHR. Presenting a foundation in homicide characteristics for all eight race–sex victim groups, we have compiled characteristics of homicides involving American Indian or Alaska Native female victims in Alaska between 1976 and 2016.

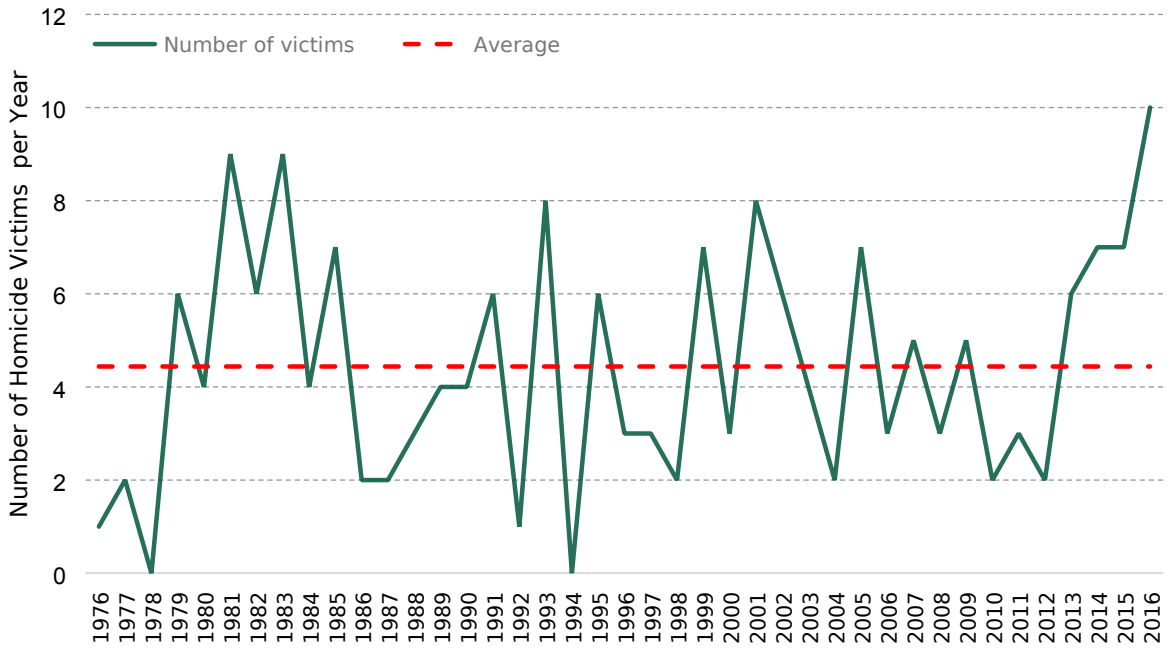
First, this report revealed that American Indian or Alaska Native females were over-represented among homicides compared to their population in the state. American Indian or Alaska Native females make up 10.2 percent of Alaska homicide victims, but only 8.1 percent of Alaska's total population – a 25 percent larger proportion of victims compared to population. In context, Black or African American females were the only other female victim group to be over-represented in Alaska homicide: they made up 2.4 percent of homicide victims, and 1.8 percent of the population – a 33 percent larger proportion of victims compared to population. Contrast this with White female victims, who made up 15.0 percent of victims and 34.2 percent of the population – a 56 percent smaller proportion of victims compared to the population.

Second, the analysis of homicide victim race and sex revealed a homicide characteristic found specifically for American Indian or Alaska Native female victims: the weapons used in their killing. American Indian or Alaska Native female victims were the least likely of all victim race-sex groups to be killed with a firearm (36.3%). American Indian or Alaska Native females were killed with a weapon classified as all other weapons more often than any other victim race-sex group (34.1%)[43]. American Indian or Alaska Native women were killed by a knife or cutting instrument (18.7%) more than almost any other victim race-sex group, only reporting a smaller proportion than American Indian or Alaska Native male victims. Finally, the largest proportion of American Indian or Alaska Native female victims were killed by a weapon unknown to law enforcement compared to other victim race-sex groups. (Note: a number of homicide characteristics apply to all American Indian or Alaska Native victims, and other characteristics apply to all female victims, but not specifically to American Indian or Alaska Native female victims. Those characteristics by victim race alone and victim sex alone are summarized in the previous section.)

Finally, Figure 6 presents the number of American Indian or Alaska Native female homicide victims reported in the SHR per year[44]. In 2016, the most recent year included in the study, more American Indian or Alaska Native women were reported as victims of homicide than any other year in the study.

[43] See Table 10 for a full list of weapons included in All other weapons
[44] See Appendix Table A 15 for counts.

Figure 6. *The number of American Indian or Alaska Native female homicide victims reported to the SHR by Alaska law enforcement agencies: 1976-2016 (n=182), by year*



NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The purpose of this report was to provide a foundation of knowledge on the characteristics of homicide in Alaska, especially as it pertained to the murder of indigenous women and girls. This was a response to the MMIWG crisis in the United States, along with the recent increases in violent crime in Alaska. Although this analysis of homicide using the SHR has its limitations, we hope the analytic ability to connect victims and suspects, and to have a record of the circumstances surrounding the homicide is valuable to the reader. Over the course of this analysis the murder of 1,856 Alaska residents over a period of 41 years has been presented. Many significant findings have emerged as to how victims, based on their race and sex, are murdered in Alaska.

Most homicides were committed with a firearm

Firearms were reported as the method of killing in a majority of Alaska homicides. Black or African American male victims were the most impacted by firearm homicide across all victims – 78% percent killed by a firearm. When men were killed it more was likely to be with a firearm in comparison to women, although specific male-female differences varied by racial group. Notably, victims who were American Indian or Alaska Native were killed with firearms at a lower rate than any other victim race-sex group. American Indian or Alaska Native female victims were the group least likely to be killed by a firearm (36.3%).

Women were at exceptionally high risk of being killed by intimate partners

An alarming finding over the 41 years of the study is that female victims were killed by intimate partners nearly 40 percent of the time. This is far more than the risk of that female victims will be killed by family members (~14%), friends (~20%), or strangers (~6%). Men were far less likely to be killed by an intimate partner (<10%), and they were more likely to be killed by a friend (~40%) or stranger (~13%). The difference between male and female victims was consistent across all racial groups. The study also found that American Indian or Alaska Native victims of both races were more often reported as being killed by a family member (~17%) compared to other victim groups.

American Indian or Alaska Native Female Victims

This report aimed to provide data to policymakers and the public on how American Indian or Alaska Native women were being killed in Alaska. How are the killings of American Indian or Alaska Native women different compared to other Alaska victims? An analysis of 41 years of data found that American Indian or Alaska Native female homicides demonstrate some distinct characteristics, some of which are specific to American Indian or Alaska Native females, some of which pertain to females more generally, and still others that pertain to American Indians and Alaska Natives more generally. To fully understand the murder of American Indian or Alaska Native females, one must understand all of these dimensions. Distinct to their race and sex combined, American Indian or Alaska Native women were killed far less often by a firearm than other victim race-sex groups. Distinct to their sex, they are more killed by intimate partners, and less often killed by strangers, in comparison to male victims. Distinct to their race, they are killed by a family member more often than other racial groups.

Homicide Victimization was Disproportionate

In addition to the details surrounding homicide, this report shows that certain Alaska residents are more impacted by homicide than other Alaskans. Specifically, residents who are American Indian or Alaska Native or Black or African American are killed far more often than would be expected given their overall representation in Alaska's population. Black or African American males were the most disproportionately impact race-sex group in the study. This report does not speculate why this pattern was observed, but the 41 years of homicide data presented here provides a firm empirical foundation for further research.

We hope that this knowledge of Alaska homicide will serve to inform the public, aid policy makers, and improve criminal justice practitioners in reducing future Alaskan homicides and supporting the communities surrounding homicide victims.

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APPENDIX

Table A1 *The number of homicide incidents[b] reported to the SHR by Alaska law enforcement agencies: 1976-2016 (n=1,709)*

YEAR	NUMBER	PERCENT[c]		YEAR	NUMBER	PERCENT[c]
1976	40	2.3		2001	33	1.9
1977	39	2.3		2002	40	2.3
1978	49	2.9		2003	40	2.3
1979	47	2.8		2004	41	2.4
1980	38	2.2		2005	36	2.1
1981	50	2.9		2006	41	2.4
1982	57	3.3		2007	48	2.8
1983	55	3.2		2008	33	1.9
1984	42	2.5		2009	36	2.1
1985	47	2.8		2010	38	2.2
1986	42	2.5		2011	35	2.1
1987	40	2.3		2012	40	2.3
1988	29	1.7		2013	38	2.2
1989	33	1.9		2014	45	2.6
1990	34	2.0		2015	58	3.4
1991	39	2.3		2016	60	3.5
1992	41	2.4				
1993	49	2.9				
1994	33	1.9				
1995	48	2.8				
1996	35	2.1				
1997	42	2.5				
1998	34	2.0				
1999	50	2.9				
2000	34	2.0				

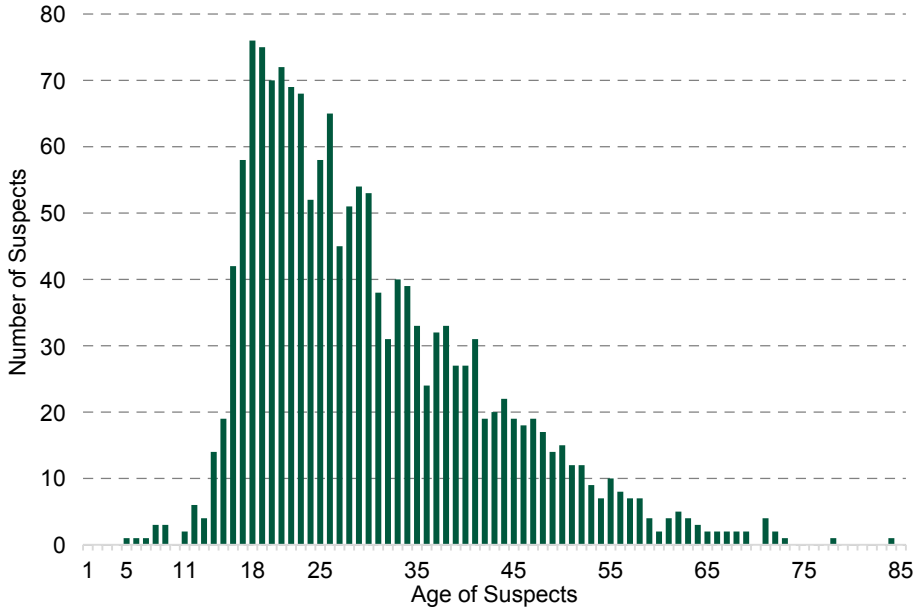
NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. A homicide incident refers to the event of criminal homicide including both victims and suspects

c. Percent may not add up to 100.0 due to rounding error

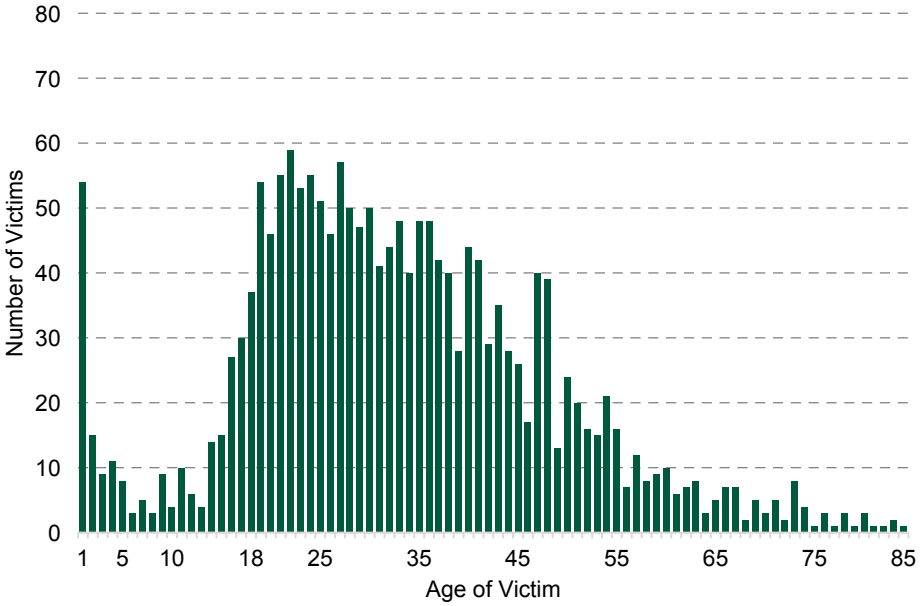
Figure A1. *Number of homicide suspects reported to the SHR by Alaska law enforcement agencies with recorded age,1976-2016, by age (n=1,593)*



NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

Figure A2. *Number of homicide victims reported to the SHR by Alaska law enforcement agencies with recorded age,1976-2016, by age (n=1,826)*



NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. Victims recorded as one year old includes all victims who are less than two years old.

Table A2 *Percentage of Alaska homicide victims reported to the SHR 1976-2016 by race (n=1,789), compared to the percentage of Alaska population by race according to the 2012-2016 Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development estimate (n=683,858)*

	VICTIMS BY RACE (N=1,789)		POPULATION BY RACE (N=683,858)	
RACE	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT[d]
American Indian or Alaska Native	546	30.5	111,282	16.3
Asian or Pacific Islander	86	4.8	53,660	7.9
Black or African American	184	10.3	27,029	4.0
White	973	54.4	491,887	71.9
Total	1,789	100.0	683,858[c]	100.1

NOTES

a. Homicide Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016
b. Population Data source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development Alaska Population Overview 2016 Estimates Report. Percentages are calculated by average population between 2012 and 2016 for Alaska residents selecting only a single race, divided by the total number Alaska residents who selected a single race.
c. Total population is the sum of the average race groups
d. Columns may not sum to 100.0 percent due to rounding error

Table A3 *Percentage of Alaska homicide victims reported to the SHR 1976-2016 by sex (n=1,789), compared to the percentage of Alaska population by sex according to the 2012-2016 Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development estimate (n=683,858)*

	VICTIMS BY SEX (N=1,789)		POPULATION BY SEX (N=683,858)	
SEX	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT[d]
Female	522	29.2	329,002	48.1
Male	1,267	70.8	354,856	51.9
Total	1,789	100.0	683,858	100.0

NOTES

a. Homicide Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016
b. Population Data source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development Alaska Population Overview 2016 Estimates Report. Percentages are calculated by average population between 2012 and 2016 for Alaska residents selecting only a single race, divided by the total number Alaska residents who selected a single race.
c. Total population is the sum of the average race groups
d. Columns may not sum to 100.0 percent due to rounding error

Table A4 *Percentage of Alaska homicide victims reported to the SHR 1976-2016 by race-sex group (n=1,789), compared to the percentage of Alaska population by race-sex group according to the 2012-2016 Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development estimate (n=683,858)*

	VICTIMS BY RACE AND SEX (N=1,789)		POPULATION BY RACE AND SEX (N=683,858)	
VICTIM RACE & SEX	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT[d]
American Indian or Alaska Native				
Female	182	10.2	55,154	8.1
Male	364	20.3	56,127	8.2
Asian or Pacific Islander				
Female	29	1.6	28,211	4.1
Male	57	3.2	25,449	3.7
Black or African American				
Female	43	2.4	12,048	1.8
Male	141	7.9	14,981	2.2
White				
Female	268	15.0	233,589	34.2
Male	705	39.4	258,298	37.8
Total	1,789	100.0	683,858[c]	100.1

NOTES

a. Homicide Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. Population Data source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development Alaska Population Overview 2016 Estimates Report. Percentages are calculated by average population between 2012 and 2016 for Alaska residents selecting only a single race, divided by the total number Alaska residents who selected a single race.

c. Total population is the sum of the average race-sex groups

d. Columns may not sum to 100.0 percent due to rounding error

Table A5 *The percent of Alaska homicide victims by month reported to the SHR: 1976-2016 (n=1,789[b]), by victim race and victim sex*

	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER [c]							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=182)	MALE (N=364)	FEMALE (N=29)	MALE (N=57)	FEMALE (N=43)	MALE (N=141)	FEMALE (N=268)	MALE (N=705)
MONTH	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
January	8.2	8.2	13.8	3.5	16.3	9.9	6.7	8.1
February	8.8	9.1	10.3	3.5	9.3	6.4	7.8	6.4
March	9.9	6.6	0.0	8.8	7.0	7.8	11.9	9.4
April	8.2	6.0	6.9	5.3	7.0	6.4	8.2	7.1
May	6.0	6.6	13.8	7.0	21.0	10.6	10.1	9.9
June	6.6	8.0	3.5	7.0	4.7	6.4	6.0	5.4
July	6.6	9.9	17.2	10.5	4.7	9.9	6.0	7.1
August	10.4	9.1	3.5	5.3	4.7	10.6	7.8	9.4
September	9.3	9.9	10.3	7.0	11.6	9.2	7.5	8.9
October	8.8	6.3	0.0	7.0	2.3	10.6	9.3	9.2
November	5.5	8.0	10.3	15.8	4.7	6.4	9.3	8.2
December	11.5	9.3	10.3	19.3	7.0	5.7	9.3	10.9

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. 1,789 homicide victims had a known race and known sex in the SHR, 96.4% of the total 1,856 victims.

c. Columns may not sum to 100.0 percent due to rounding error

Table A6 *The number of Alaska homicide victims by month reported to the SHR: 1976-2016 (n=1,789[b]), by victim race and victim sex*

	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=182)	MALE (N=364)	FEMALE (N=29)	MALE (N=57)	FEMALE (N=43)	MALE (N=141)	FEMALE (N=268)	MALE (N=705)
MONTH	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM
January	15	30	4	2	7	14	18	57
February	16	33	3	2	4	9	21	45
March	18	35	0	5	3	11	32	66
April	15	22	2	3	3	9	22	50
May	11	24	4	4	9	15	27	70
June	12	29	1	4	2	9	16	38
July	12	36	5	6	2	14	16	50
August	19	33	1	3	2	15	21	66
September	17	36	3	4	5	13	20	63
October	16	23	0	4	1	15	25	65
November	10	29	3	9	2	9	25	58
December	21	34	3	11	3	8	25	77

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. 1,789 homicide victims had a known race and known sex in the SHR, 96.4% of the total 1,856 victims.

Table A7 *The number of Alaska homicide victims by the Alaska law enforcement agency which reported their killing: 1976-2016 (n=1,789[b]), by victim race and victim sex reported to the SHR*

REPORTING AGENCY	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=182)	MALE (N=364)	FEMALE (N=29)	MALE (N=57)	FEMALE (N=43)	MALE (N=141)	FEMALE (N=268)	MALE (N=705)
	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM
Alaska State Troopers	84	187	7	6	3	21	117	300
Anchorage Police Department	47	88	19	40	34	102	113	296
Other Agencies[c]	51	89	3	11	6	18	38	109

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. 1,789 homicide victims had a known race and known sex in the SHR, 96.4% of the total 1,856 victims.

c. Other Agencies includes: Bethel PD, Bristol Bay Borough PD, Cordova PD, Craig PD, Dillingham PD, Fairbanks PD, Haines PD, Homer PD, Juneau PD, Kenai PD, Ketchikan PD, Kodiak PD, Kotzebue PD, Nenana PD, Nome PD, North Slope Borough PD, Palmer PD, Petersburg PD, Seward PD, Sitka PD, Skagway PD, Soldotna PD, St. Paul PD, Unalaska PD, University of Alaska Fairbanks PD, Valdez PD, Wasilla PD, and Wrangell PD.

Table A8 *The number of Alaska homicide victims by the weapon used in their killing reported to the SHR: 1976-2016 (n=1,789[b]), by victim race and victim sex*

WEAPON[c] GROUP	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=182)	MALE (N=364)	FEMALE (N=29)	MALE (N=57)	FEMALE (N=43)	MALE (N=141)	FEMALE (N=268)	MALE (N=705)
	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM
Firearms	66	180	18	38	27	110	147	496
Knife	34	85	5	3	3	15	31	89
All other weapons	62	79	4	14	11	12	65	79
Unknown	20	20	2	2	2	4	25	41

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. 1,789 homicide victims had a known race and known sex in the SHR, 96.4% of the total 1,856 victims.

c. Weapon Group definitions: Firearms contains Firearm, type not stated, Handgun – pistol, revolver, etc, Rifle, Shotgun and Other gun; Knife was categorized as Knife or cutting instrument; All other weapons contains Blunt Object – hammer, club, etc., Personal weapons, includes beating, Poison – does not include gas, Pushed or thrown out window, Explosives, Fire, Narcotics or drugs, sleeping pills, Drowning, Strangulation – hanging, Asphyxiation – includes death by gas.

Table A9 *The number of Alaska homicide victims by the circumstance surrounding their killing reported the SHR: 1976-2016 (n=1,789[b]), by victim race and victim sex when the race and sex of the victim was known*

CIRCUMSTANCE[c] GROUP	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=182)	MALE (N=364)	FEMALE (N=29)	MALE (N=57)	FEMALE (N=43)	MALE (N=141)	FEMALE (N=268)	MALE (N=705)
	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM
Interpersonal conflict	60	165	9	12	11	55	68	236
Crime-related	19	35	4	16	3	30	38	159
Other	49	56	10	12	14	26	88	145
Negligence	10	20	2	5	2	6	6	31
Unknown	44	88	4	12	13	24	68	134

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. 1,789 homicide victims had a known race and known sex in the SHR, 96.4% of the total 1,856 victims.

c. Circumstance Group definitions: Interpersonal Conflict contains Other Arguments, Brawl due to influence of Alcohol, Lovers triangle, Argument over money or property, and Child killed by babysitter; Crime-related contains Brawl due to influence of narcotics, Juvenile gang killings, Gangland killings, Motor vehicle theft, Sniper attack, Robbery, Narcotic drug laws:, Felon killed by police, Felon killed by private citizen, Burglary, All suspected felony type, Rape, Arson, Larceny, and Other sex offense; Other contains Other, Other – not specified, Institutional killings, Prostitution and commercialized vice, and Gambling; Negligence contains All other manslaughter by negligence, Other negligent handling of gun, Children playing with gun, Victim shot in hunting accident, and Gun-cleaning death – other than self; Unknown contains Circumstances undetermined and Unknown.

Table A10 *The number of Alaska homicide victims by the situation code reported to the SHR: 1976-2016 (n=1,789[b]), by victim race and victim sex*

	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=182)	MALE (N=364)	FEMALE (N=29)	MALE (N=57)	FEMALE (N=43)	MALE (N=141)	FEMALE (N=268)	MALE (N=705)
SITUATION	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM
Single Victim Incidents								
Single Victim/ Single Suspect	124	253	18	32	23	88	152	433
Single Victim/ Multiple Suspects	4	26	2	5	2	15	10	71
Single Victim/ Unknown Suspect(s)	28	46	3	10	5	23	46	124
Multiple Victim Incidents								
Multiple Victims/ Single Suspect	22	30	6	7	11	11	41	48
Multiple Victims/ Multiple Suspects	0	1	0	2	0	1	5	8
Multiple Victims/ Unknown Suspect(s)	4	8	0	1	2	3	14	21

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. 1,789 homicide victims had a known race and known sex in the SHR, 96.4% of the total 1,856 victims.

Table 11 *The number of Alaska homicide victims by suspect sex/gender characteristics reported to the SHR: 1976-2016 (n=1,408[b]), by victim race and victim sex in single victim/single suspect homicides*

SUSPECT SEX/GENDER	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=152)	MALE (N=299)	FEMALE (N=21)	MALE (N=42)	FEMALE (N=28)	MALE (N=111)	FEMALE (N=198)	MALE (N=557)
	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM
Female	13	49	1	3	3	10	6	68
Male	111	204	17	29	20	78	146	365
Unknown	28	46	3	10	5	23	46	124

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. 1,408 homicide victims has a known race and known sex when in one victim and one suspect homicide incidents in the SHR, 75.9% of the total 1,856 victims.

Table A12 *The number of Alaska homicide victims by suspect age group reported to the SHR: 1976-2016 (n=1,408[b]), by victim race and victim sex in single victim/single suspect homicides*

SUSPECT AGE GROUP	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=152)	MALE (N=299)	FEMALE (N=21)	MALE (N=42)	FEMALE (N=28)	MALE (N=111)	FEMALE (N=198)	MALE (N=557)
	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM
Less than 18 years	4	25	0	5	1	8	12	32
18 to 24 years	34	84	2	4	6	35	31	101
25 to 34 years	41	77	6	9	11	27	39	148
35 to 44 years	24	37	3	8	4	13	33	75
45 to 54 years	15	18	4	3	0	4	25	46
55 to 64 years	6	9	2	2	1	1	7	16
65 years and older	0	1	1	1	0	0	4	9
Unknown	28	48	3	10	5	23	47	130

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. 1,408 homicide victims has a known race and known sex when in one victim and one suspect homicide incidents in the SHR, 75.9% of the total 1,856 victims.

Table A13 *The number of Alaska homicide victims by suspect race/ethnicity characteristics reported to the SHR: 1976-2016 (n=1,408[b]), by victim race and victim sex in single victim/single suspect homicides*

SUSPECT RACE/ ETHNICITY	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=152)	MALE (N=299)	FEMALE (N=21)	MALE (N=42)	FEMALE (N=28)	MALE (N=111)	FEMALE (N=198)	MALE (N=557)
	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM
American Indian or Alaska Native	89	186	1	1	1	5	8	50
Asian or Pacific Islander	2	1	11	20	0	4	0	12
Black or African American	4	8	2	2	21	55	11	43
White	28	55	4	9	1	24	131	322
Unknown	29	49	3	10	5	23	48	130

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. 1,408 homicide victims has a known race and known sex when in one victim and one suspect homicide incidents in the SHR, 75.9% of the total 1,856 victims.

Table A14 *The number of Alaska homicide victims by suspect relationship to the victim[c]: 1976-2016 (n=1,408[b]), by victim race and victim sex in single victim/single suspect homicides reported to the SHR*

SUSPECT RELATIONSHIP[d]	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=152)	MALE (N=299)	FEMALE (N=21)	MALE (N=42)	FEMALE (N=28)	MALE (N=111)	FEMALE (N=198)	MALE (N=557)
	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM
Intimate Partner	61	26	11	1	10	7	75	43
Family Member	22	59	1	5	4	6	19	48
Friend or Acquaintance	33	127	5	16	7	51	39	243
Stranger	4	26	1	9	0	16	17	75
Unknown	32	61	3	11	7	31	48	148

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. 1,408 homicide victims has a known race and known sex when in one victim and one suspect homicide incidents in the SHR, 75.9% of the total 1,856 victims.

c. Relationship to the first victim

d. Relationship Group Definitions: Intimate Partner included Wife, Girlfriend, Boyfriend, Husband, Common-law husband, Ex-husband, Common-law wife, and Homosexual relationship; Family Member included Other family, Brother, Son, Daughter, Father, Mother, In-law, Sister, Stepfather, Stepson, and Stepdaughter; Friend or Acquaintance included Acquaintance, Friend, Other-known to victim, Neighbor, Employee, and Employer; Stranger included Stranger; Relation not determined included Missing and Relationship not determined.

Table A15 *The number of American Indian or Alaska Native female homicide victims reported to the SHR by Alaska law enforcement agencies: 1976-2016 (n=182)*

YEAR	NUMBER	PERCENT[b]		YEAR	NUMBER	PERCENT[b]
1976	1	0.6		2001	8	4.4
1977	2	1.1		2002	6	3.3
1978	0	0.0		2003	4	2.2
1979	6	3.3		2004	2	1.1
1980	4	2.2		2005	7	3.9
1981	9	5.0		2006	3	1.7
1982	6	3.3		2007	5	2.8
1983	9	5.0		2008	3	1.7
1984	4	2.2		2009	5	2.8
1985	7	3.9		2010	2	1.1
1986	2	1.1		2011	3	1.7
1987	2	1.1		2012	2	1.1
1988	3	1.7		2013	6	3.3
1989	4	2.2		2014	7	3.9
1990	4	2.2		2015	7	3.9
1991	6	3.3		2016	10	5.5
1992	1	0.6				
1993	8	4.4				
1994	0	0.0				
1995	6	3.3				
1996	3	1.7				
1997	3	1.7				
1998	2	1.1				
1999	7	3.9				
2000	3	1.7				

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. Percent may not add up to 100.0 due to rounding

Alaska Justice
Information Center
University of Alaska Anchorage

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION CONTACT
THE UAA ALASKA JUSTICE INFORMATION CENTER.


We Are
Calling To You
Alaska's Missing and Murdered
Indigenous Womxn and Girls

This baseline report created by Data for Indigenous Justice (DIJ), released February 2021.

Donations to support the safety of our womxn can be made on our website
www.DataforIndigenousJustice.com

This report is a reclamation of our stories that we have always had and maintained. This ancestral knowledge of data that we put forward is for our families and communities to self-determine our pathways to justice. While the use of data and reports can be used in innumerable ways; our intention here is first and foremost to ensure the safety of our people.

*Womxn (and Mxn) are terms used in intersectional feminism which are inclusive of transgender and gender expansive people. *MMIWG2S- Missing and Murdered Indigenous Womxn, Girls, and Two-Spirited. Though we want to uplift all expansive genders, this report to date will use MMIWG as that is the information we can accurately report at this time. We do not currently have Two-Spirit and/or Trans-persons data.

DATA FOR INDIGENOUS JUSTICE

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Table of Contents

Table of Contents

INDIGENOUS IS NOT A SURVIVAL STORY

Indigenous is not a survival story
it is a genealogy
an ancestral story of Matriarchs
with bright eyes
long hair
fiery strength
and gentle words
tripping over colonial tongues

the settlers language can't translate
the
words
it was never meant for their ears

- ABIGAIL ECHO-HAWK

A Message From Charlene *Aqpik* Apok
Executive Director
DIJ Co-Founder

We Are Calling To You echoes the unwavering efforts from MMIWG families; who we know never give up in finding their loved ones and seeking justice. This title also reflects a practice of throat singing from my Inuit cultural heritage. It is a practice often carried by women, who are paired and learn to call and response sing together through life. Due to impacts of colonization, this is less commonly practiced today. Due to impacts of colonization our womxn are missing and murdered at unthinkable rates. **We Are Calling To You** then, is also the met silence from our losses; the call from one womxn to another that goes unanswered because she has been stolen from us, her voice gone. But we will keep calling. This is our call to you- to anyone reading this, to join the response of addressing the crisis of MMIWG.

We put forward this report as one tool our Tribes and communities need on this pathway towards justice. We begin with our genealogy, the origins of this work, rooted in our values, guided by our ancestors. Next, we situate Alaska and three main system issues regarding data: Data Consistency, Data Collection, and Data Reporting.

The section **We Call to You, Our Loved Ones: Alaska's MMIWG Data** describes data sources and presents what is documented for MMIWG figures in Alaska. We emphasize that the 229 cases represent loved ones, lives, stories, and dreams always in our collective memory. The familiar number, 229, is also the number of federally recognized tribes here in Alaska. We can't help but recognize this chance co-occurrence signifies that indeed, all of us- each of our 229 tribal communities are impacted by MMIWG.

Finally, we outline starting point recommendations for a pathway forward. These recommendations include the urgency for interagency cooperation, data specific recommendations, policy and legislation, and family and community supports.

There is so much work to be done. We need everyone to be a part of the solution in responding to this call for justice. As an Indigenous led effort, we share our work so our communities can build, co-create, and rise together. We invite allies to support Indigenous people's efforts, in relational solidarity, against colonial systems contributing to this issue. Throughout the work we have ahead, we know the transformational healing that must take place if we are to realize the justice we seek. Let's move together from a place of love, be courageous about speaking our truths, and deliberate in actions for justice.

Charlene *Aqpik* Apok
Executive Director
DIJ Co-Founder

Genealogy

As Indigenous peoples we have genealogies of strength. We are rooted from our homelands and connected through water. Our vision for our people is:

To live our ancestral power to the fullest, in safety, while thriving.

We share this vision and connection because this work is grounded in being life-affirming -- we affirm that the lives of our Indigenous womxn are precious and worthy of being kept safe. Because we are related, we are all impacted by every missing person in our communities. We enact responsibility to each other by building and normalizing safety and protection through storytelling, community-building, and the creation and revitalization of tools of justice. Our intention in gathering this information and putting it back into the hands of our peoples is that we are equipped to self-determine and advocate for pathways to justice, thus realizing our vision of Indigenous womxn living safely wherever they choose.

The heart-work of homing our Alaska MMIWG database.

Origins and our story: the roots of our work are in community. Several years ago, in an Indigenous-led rally organized to call attention to the issue of MMIWG in Alaska, organizers wanted to read the names of loved ones who are missing and murdered, only to find that there was no list, no tracking, no available data of our people. Grassroots organizers took it upon themselves to start that list. **This began the heart-work of homing our Alaska MMIWG database.** We want to give special recognition to Native Movement who organized and facilitated this rally that brought the community together for action. The original list was a labor of love from Adrienne Aakaluk Titus & Misty TooOozhrii Nickoli. With their permission and guidance, Data for Indigenous Justice (DIJ) was founded to continue caring for our loved ones names and memories.

In order to reclaim these data, DIJ has worked in close partnership with two organizations: Native Movement and Native Peoples Action. It should be acknowledged that Native Movement has been a force within Alaska to uplift and mobilize Indigenous peoples -- defending the sacred of land, waters, and bodies. Native Peoples Action Community Fund and Native Peoples Action have tirelessly partnered to grow the network of advocates addressing MMIWG in Alaska to bridge policy gaps and stop the crisis. We also recognize the leadership and work of the Alaska Native Women's Resource Center. These organizations have done incredible work along the frontlines of addressing MMIWG in Alaska.

Further, we want to recognize the efforts done by the Urban Indian Health Institute, which released the first national report on MMIWG in 2018, Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls: A snapshot of data from 71 urban cities in the United States [1]. This trailblazing report provided beginning case numbers and analysis for Alaska. UIHI's second report in We Demand More 2019 [2] brought much needed visibility to systemic issues.

Indigenous Nations and Communities have been calling for Justice.

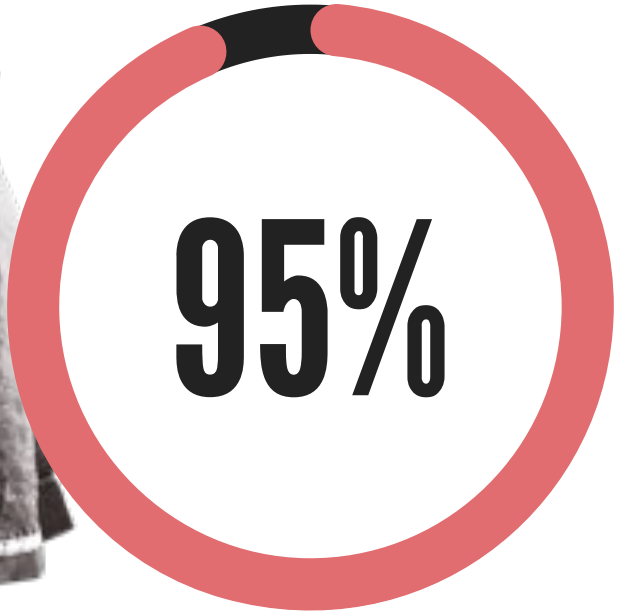
Indigenous nations and communities have been calling for justice for our Indigenous womxn over many years now --from Canada's national MMIWG inquiry initiated in 2015, to the Urban Indian Health Institute (UIHI) report "We Demand More" in 2019. Notably, the absence and poor quality of data collection in cases of missing and murdered Indigenous peoples has been a key contributing factor to injustice. In other words, the scope of the problem is invisibility.

Artwork by Dustin Newman

Invisible 153 = *153 loved ones unreported*

Through research methods outside of FOIA requests (government missing persons databases, news reports, social media and advocacy sites, direct contact with families and community members who volunteered info), UIHI found 153 cases that were not in law enforcement records.[1]

The 'Invisible 153' represent a sliver and a window into those who have gone missing from our communities and data for far too long. When these reports were published, it was the first accessible data communities had that began to highlight the barriers and injustice being faced by Indigenous womxn and their families. Revealed through those who are literally missing in person, missing in data, and missing in media; these initial reports provided the first written documentation of the problem in the nation: That "As of 2018, Alaska stood as the 4th highest state of MMIWG cases and the city of Anchorage having the 3rd highest cases in the nation''[1]. This information began to shed light on the rates of MMIWG through a sheer number of cases; that there are pervasive systemic issues contributing to making our Indigenous womxn unsafe in their communities. Yet, we know there are many stories not captured in this data, that these high rates are only what is known. UIHI's report pointed out that not only are our loved ones actually missing from our lives but they are missing in data and in media. Time and time again we have missing loved ones and there is no media coverage or concern outside of our Indigenous communities.



A content analysis regarding MMIWG revealed that more than 95% of the 934 articles reviewed were never covered by any national or international media. [1]

The lack of tracking, quality data, and reporting means there is a scarce amount of available data for Tribes and Indigenous communities to advocate for and have access to resources. We recognize that there are many compounding and interdependent issues outside of this specific data analysis that impact the rates of MMIWG: systemic racism, sexism and gender based violence stemming from patriarchy, colonial legal and judicial systems, inequity in healthcare, and resource extraction to name a few. This report is intended to address the data gap by calling forward the stories of MMWIG into the light and thereby creating a tool for Alaska Tribes, Alaska Native, and Indigenous communities to self-determine their pursuits of justice. To do so, we next describe issues with MMIWG data that relate to data consistency, data collection, and data resporting.

Acknowledging Persistent Issues with MMIWG Data

As Indigenous peoples we know ourselves by our relationships. When we lose someone it impacts all of us. We live the losses, the absence of our loved ones. The inability of western data collection to capture, report, and coordinate accurate information illustrates two things, namely: 1) that those systems were not designed to serve us, and 2) that healing and justice for MMIWG will be realized only through the self-determination of our peoples. Here, specifically, we aim to name colonial systems and the impacts they have on accurately documenting MMIWG data. This is important because oftentimes these systemic issues are considered 'working'- yet we respond with, 'for whom?' and 'for what purpose?' Therefore, articulation of persistent issues in data is necessary for generating systemic change. This section is offered as an overview and is not exhaustive.

There are issues of three different sorts, namely those related to Data Consistency, Data Collection, and Data Reporting. All three are systems issues, though one sort may be easier to address than others and could lead to improvements across the board. For instance, improving data collection could lead to the reporting and use of more consistent data. We offer the following chart to help communicate some of the differences across these issues:

Data Consistency	Data Collection	Data Reporting
Jurisdiction	Name	Name
Protocol Variation (Data Collection, Reporting, & Case Management)	Sex & Gender	Race & Ethnicity
Centralizing & Digitization of Data	Race & Ethnicity	Location of the incident
	Home status of victim (e.g., Homeless)	Home community and status of the victim
	History of Perceived or Documented Discrimination	Determination of cause of death
		Case status

Data Consistency

Jurisdiction

Jurisdiction in Alaska is a multi-dimensional web that, instead of creating multiple layers of secure networks for families and tribes, results in people falling through endless gaps.While this report cannot fully cover the jurisdictional barriers in Alaska regarding MMIWG, this section is meant to shed light on one part of a system full of gaps leading to injustice. To begin, there are various layers of law enforcement, including: Alaska Police Departments, Village Police safety officers (VPSOs) through the Alaska Department of Public Safety and Alaska Tribes, Alaska State Troopers, and -- when called in and determined to engage -- the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Criminal jurisdiction for Alaska as a Public Law 280, or P.L. 280, state created concurrent overlaps of authority for the federal and state governments but failed to provide overlapping resources and infrastructure necessary to exercise that authority. Much like the shortcomings of the Violence Against Women Act in Alaska due to language about 'Indian Country', criminal jurisdiction overlap does not lead tomean dual coverage, but instead results in an unwillingness by either system to assume responsibility for the safety of Indigenous people.

Regional tribal leaders have tried to explain time and again to the US Department of Justice that the pervasive lack of resources for law enforcement and Tribal courts have contributed directly to violence against Indigenous people across the State of Alaska.[3] The ACLU has documented and filed suit in the far north as a severe shortage of law enforcement compounded with systemic racism and bias has resulted in horrific rates of violence and injustice being faced by the largely Alaska Native residents of Nome, Alaska.[4] One sentiment that illustrates the issue is that law enforcement and criminal prosecution often mobilize to address hunting violations more quickly than they do for cases of homicide against Indigenous people. This is to say that while a lack of resources has been a continual issue across rural Alaska, the question of coordination, accountability, and follow through with current capacity must also be addressed.

Protocol Variation

Jurisdiction issues contribute to an already complex level of variation in data collection and management processes. Variety agency data is problematic on multiple levels. Particularly, law enforcement is a central barrier to MMIWG data. Across the state, no matter which law enforcement is present, the varying information on process, protocol, and services is unclear.

> *Law enforcement is a central barrier to MMIWG data*

For example, within one body of law enforcement, there may not be standard procedure for filing a missing persons report, let alone a procedure across all police departments in the state or all troopers. Further, without shared protocols, different agencies are likely collecting data that does not communicate across systems for information sharing. This leads to the burden being placed on the community to navigate through.

Overarching to this issue is the lack of transparency in policy for law enforcement which has led to a lack of accountability. If families and tribes are unaware of what to expect in the process of investigations, reporting, and case management they are unable to advocate or ensure follow through. If agencies do not have simple procedures in place, nonetheless shared ones, there is no consistency for law enforcement, the data they create in incidents, nor for families to understand.

One example found is that not all law enforcement agencies have a rule on whether families have to wait a certain number of hours to file a missing persons report. While one agency might say a missing persons report can be filed any time there is a concern, and specifically direct to not wait 24 or 48 hours, another agency will have no standard on this. For example, Anchorage Police Department has their policy on this publicly available, that there is no time needed to wait before filing. Meanwhile, there is no information on this for Alaska State Troopers, such as on the Missing Persons Clearinghouse website, or when searching other Alaska Police Departments policies on missing persons.

This lack of shared procedure is problematic in itself but also causes communication across systems to be an issue that leads to data barriers.

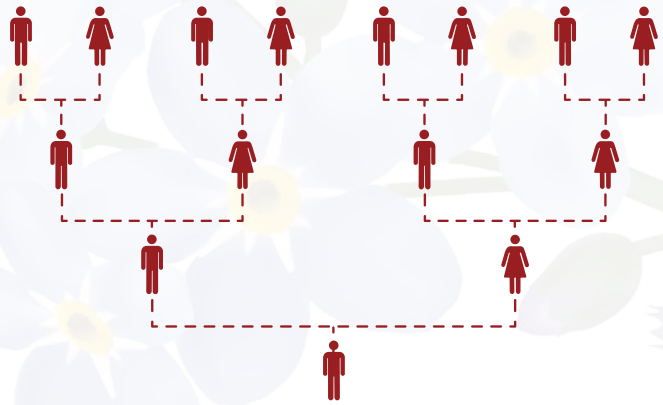
Centralization & Digitization of Data

At the system levels there are issues with data centralization and digitization that complicate the situation further. The lack of centralized systems leads to missing data but also means in many cases reports cannot even be generated at a community or agency level. The systems also do not connect or speak to each other. In many instances, the data collected is not even digitized to be used at the system level. Ultimately, the lack of centralized systems results in a lack of centralized resources and procedures for families and Tribes when a loved one goes missing or murdered.

Though there are issues with the data systems and protocols being centralized, digitized, and consistent, these issues can only help address inequality if the data itself is available and of sufficient quality. Due to the following challenges with data collection, MMIWG data is absent, not accessible, or inaccurate to understand how our people are targeted and harmed at disproportionate levels.

Data Collection

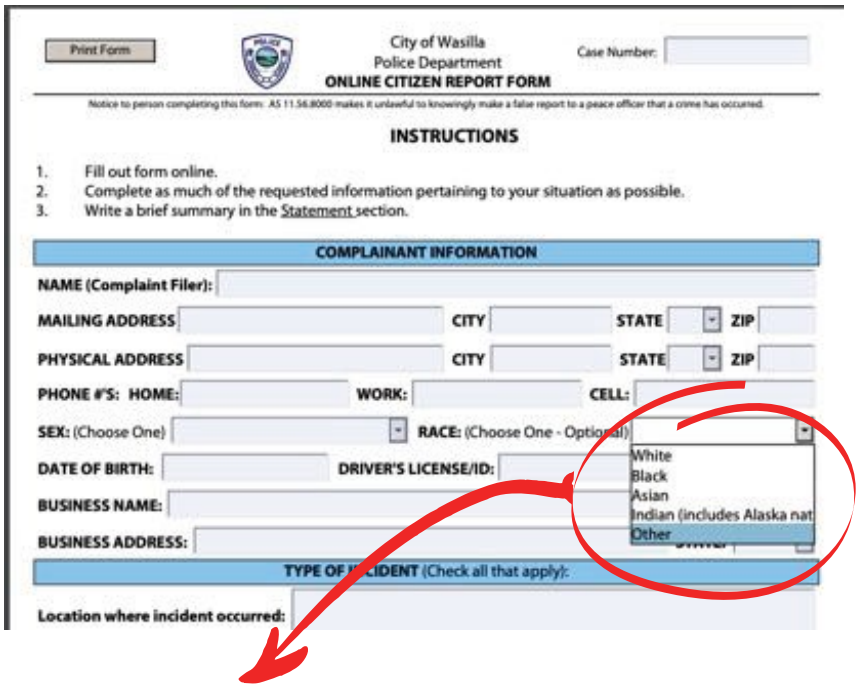
Data Points, Definitions, and Accuracy



Names: Names in Alaska Native cultures are an important kinship marker that often are not legalized. In the context of MMIWG, having these namesakes, traditional names, or 'nicknames' collected in incident reporting and communications could be valuable in getting case information more rapidly spread in communities. For example, if a person is missing and only their legal name is used by law enforcement for inquiry or postings, it may not be familiar to those who would have leads or information. However, having the namesake or 'nickname' often quickly identifies who they are referring to.

Sex & Gender: Sex and gender are often used interchangeably in demographic data systems. However, these terms are not interchangeable and have different meanings. Both current uses in data systems reflect restrictive binary options of male & female. This binary system is problematic in several ways. The first is that simple consistency as a data field- not having systems use the same term- 'sex' or 'gender' means incompatible sharing across systems. Secondly, sex assigning identifiers and misgendering do not represent the spectrum of 'womxn' being impacted, as an issue of gender-based violence occurring. Due to current systems in use, this report is limited to information available on 'female' and 'women' data fields. We emphasize our use of the term 'womxn', an effort to reflect a gender expansive and inclusive reality. See recommendations for options to better include trans and gender expansive people.

Race & Ethnicity: The lack of comprehensive data on missing and murdered Indigenous peoples is reflective of the arduous relationship between Indigenous peoples and Tribes with state and federal governments. To begin, the standard four-box race and ethnicity options of White, Black, Asian, Indian originating with the US Census have been a colonial tool that works to eliminate the existence of Indigenous peoples, instead of truly enumerating us. Through a top-down structure of applying the demographic categories to state and federal systems, race and ethnicity boxes have inhibited the data we have regarding Indigenous peoples. Law enforcement agencies in Alaska still rely on the four checkbox categories for race and ethnicity. An 'Other' box is another standard option. See online Wasilla Police Department form as an example.


Print Form

City of Wasilla
Police Department
ONLINE CITIZEN REPORT FORM

Case Number:

Notice to person completing this form: AS 11.56.8000 makes it unlawful to knowingly make a false report to a peace officer that a crime has occurred.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Fill out form online.
2. Complete as much of the requested information pertaining to your situation as possible.
3. Write a brief summary in the Statement section.

COMPLAINANT INFORMATION

NAME (Complaint Filer):
MAILING ADDRESS CITY STATE ZIP
PHYSICAL ADDRESS CITY STATE ZIP
PHONE #'S: HOME: WORK: CELL:
SEX: (Choose One) RACE: (Choose One - Optional)
DATE OF BIRTH: DRIVER'S LICENSE/ID:
BUSINESS NAME:
BUSINESS ADDRESS:

White
Black
Asian
Indian (includes Alaska nat
Other

TYPE OF INCIDENT (Check all that apply):

Location where incident occurred:

The 'Other' box is used in multiple scenarios. For example, if race and ethnicity are not asked at the incident, it may be listed as 'Other'. When authors spoke to law enforcement about when 'Other' is used in reporting, it was noted that in cases where officers believe they may be accused of racial profiling, they may not ask race and ethnicity, instead selecting 'Other'. Another scenario is when people report multiple race/ethnicities, those data are often collapsed into the 'Other' box.

Nearly half of American Indian and Alaska Native people identify with more than one race/ethnicity group. [5] **The collapsing of this data point is problematic in that Alaska Native/American Indian people become invisible in data sets.**

> ***Alaska Native/American Indian people become invisible in data sets***

In sum, the presence of the category 'Other' creates issues in classifying, reporting, and tracking violence against Alaska Native people.

Home Status of Victim: The unhoused or houseless population in the urban Alaska setting is a targeted group for violence and exploitation. In a post-presentation community dialogue, a chilling comment was made that Anchorage's homeless are the "pre-MMIWG". Sadly, this rings true, and the safety of unhoused loved ones continues to be a deep concern.[7] Without data on the home status of the victim, communities cannot adequately track the extent to which our unhoused relatives are becoming missing and murdered.

History of Perceived or Documented Discrimination: The mistrust many Alaska Native people have of law enforcement emerges from a long history of discrimination and unjust outcomes. Stereotyping and systemic bias are just two examples of how discrimination work, especially when data collection takes place after an incident. For law enforcement even with good intention, there are missed cultural queues, internalized stereotypes, or miscommunication on processes that inform the ways the public provide information. Victim blaming is all too familiar in recounts from families' interactions. For informants, if mistrust and fear are activated, the willingness to share information may be limited. All of these complexities can result in missing or inaccurate data. In some cases of MMIWG, it can result in no reporting to any state agency by families, or, when reported, no action or investigation by law enforcement.

Data Reporting

Name: As noted earlier, reporting of traditional names and nicknames could contribute to solving MMIWG cases.

Race & Ethnicity: Increased disaggregation of American Indian and Alaska Native data in reporting is also critical in understanding the incidence of MMIWG and developing effective strategies to find our relatives and bring them perpetrators to justice.

Location of the Incident: Location data can be inaccurate in a few aspects. Due to jurisdiction, the location for MMIWG cases are documented in paperwork by the filing/reporting law enforcement agency of record. For example, in smaller rural communities, if an incident occurs, the location information is reported through law enforcement at the nearby hub such as Nome, Fairbanks, or Juneau, for example. Though paperwork may be more specific to the smaller community or be noted somewhere, the filing that gets reported often only lists the hub location. Therefore, distribution of case reporting currently reflects regional hubs listed as locations of incidents of MMIWG. So, if a small community has multiple incidents, it may not stand out in data because it is obscured by the hub designation in reporting.

Despite this being an overview, the takeaway is that many families and communities are not represented in location data and therefore are unable to advocate for the losses they face. There needs to be multi-level system changes if this gap is to be addressed.

Home Community & Status of the Victim: Another influencing factor of location as a data point is that in-state transience may not be accounted for. For many reasons, families and individuals travel into the urban areas of Anchorage and Fairbanks; medical, visiting relatives, jobs, school, shopping etc. Some families have shared about their loved ones travelling to the urban setting and not coming home. Cases are unique and may have nuances we are not able to capture here. However, human trafficking is a huge issue in Alaska, particularly in Anchorage.[6] (The aspect of human trafficking to MMIWG cannot be covered here but the intervening issues are absolutely present.) The cases which occur in the urban areas of Anchorage and Fairbanks, for instance, and are reported there are accurate, but obscure the home community of victims. Further, as stated earlier, without data collected and reported on the home status of the victim, we cannot account for how houselessness is a factor in the prevalence of MMWIG for Tribes. Ultimately, these reporting issues contribute to data gaps in that communities do not have figures to account for their missing and murdered people.

Determination of Cause of Death: Though law enforcement are responsible for the investigations, collecting evidence, and reporting, Alaska State law requires the medical examiner's office to be involved if the death is “Sudden, when a person is in apparent good health, Not under the care of a physician, Suspicious, unusual or unexplained, and All deaths that are not due to a natural cause (accidents, homicides, suicides etc.)”.[8] And sadly, in communities without law enforcement, families are faced with preserving evidence until they arrive, which has taken several days [9] in too many circumstances. Determination of cause of death by the state medical examiner's office from MMIWG family perspectives has led to much scrutiny. Examples include deaths being listed as ‘suicide’, ‘accidental’, or ‘not suspicious’ when the family believes there is evidence to support it being classified and reported as suspicious or a homicide.

Clearly, the importance of thorough investigations cannot be understated in bringing justice to our relatives. But without accurate determinations of cause of death, there will continue to be a lack of investigations [10].

Case Status: For missing persons, poor case status reporting has led to over poor data quality, non-investigation, and non-closure of MMIWG cases. For example, when a missing person's case has been 'closed' due to not having any active leads to follow, it is often marked as 'closed' when in actuality the person has not yet been found. This same data field 'closed' is used also when a person indeed has been found. In contrast, if a missing persons report was filed, and the person was found by family or community members but did not notify law enforcement, the case may appear to be active when the person has been located. For missing persons case status, these inaccuracies within local law enforcement agency reporting are then what is provided in the federal data systems, if provided at all. In this report, we were able to work with only one law enforcement agency to manually cross reference this data field despite efforts to do so with others.

Case status reporting when the cause of death is a homicide is somewhat more straightforward in that either a homicide case is solved or not solved. Active cases indicate that there are leads still being followed up on. 'Cold cases' mean they have not been solved and do not have any active leads. Closed means they have been solved. However, in cases of homicide, the data field which we have heard concerns from families is the cause of death.

Summary of Persistent Issues

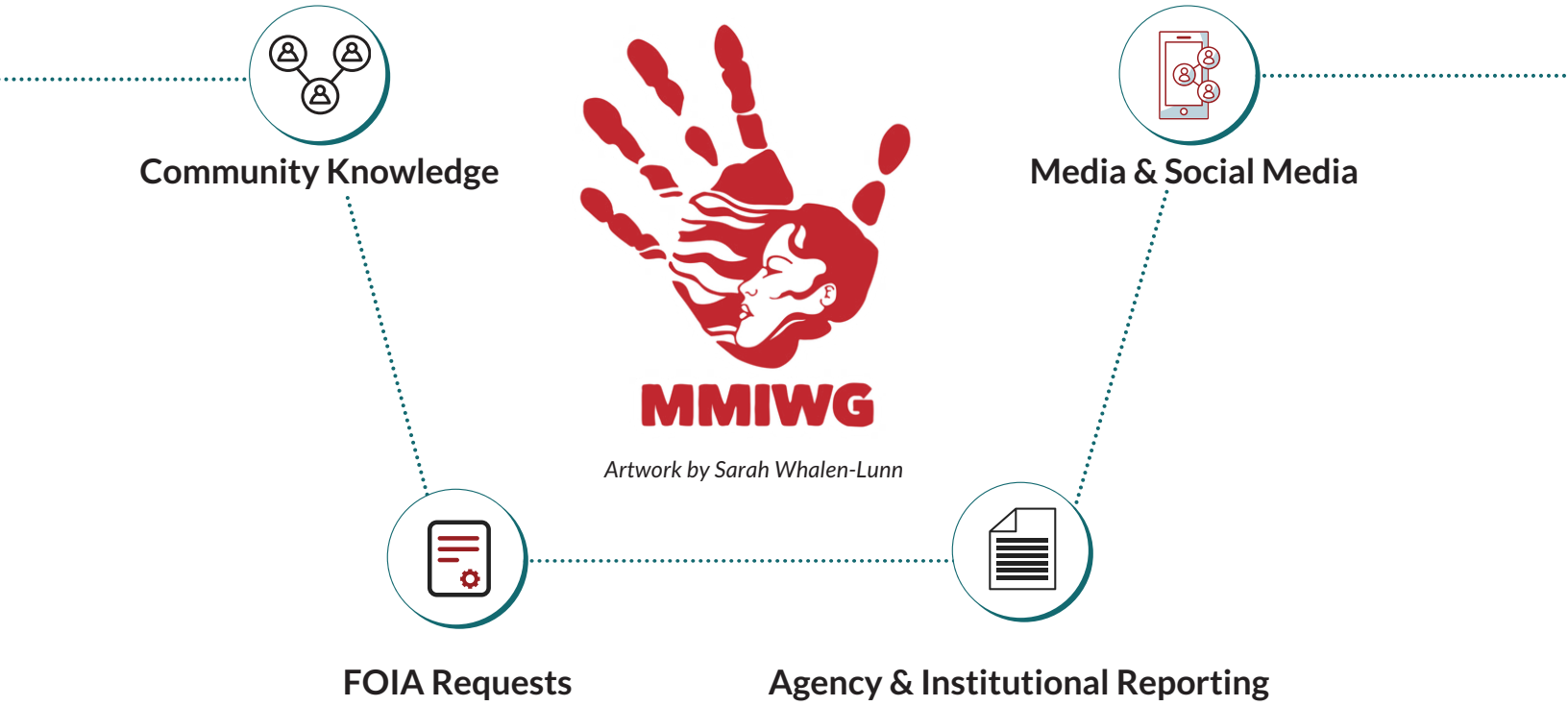
This report is meant to provide baseline information regarding MMIWG in Alaska, as well as a system-level overview of contributing factors in order to advance justice for our precious people, families, and communities. Through the previous discussion of the persistent systemic issues that contribute to poor data quality and availability, it is clear that the systems are not designed to serve our people. There is not only a lack of technical capacity, but an apparent lack of systemic will to achieve justice in the cases of MMIWG. All of these areas can and should be addressed more deeply at all levels. Our intention here is to share what we have learned and untangled in an effort to gather and reclaim our MMIWG data. The next section will present what is currently documented from Alaska MMIWG data with recommendations and possible pathways forward detailed at the end of the report.

We Call to You, Our Loved Ones

Alaska's MMIWG Data

Always, we must acknowledge how we use the term ‘data’ is not limited to western concepts. Instead, we understand data to be the stories of precious lives -- our past, present, and future is wrapped within figures. The following data are people, loved ones, gifts from ancestors, who are each deeply missed. While we do not provide names in this report, we know these names in our collective memory. We join the collective in calling for them and in acknowledging that we will never give up seeking justice for every single one. Described in the following section as Data Sources, we provide an overview of how we have gathered these names. Next, a baseline of what is known about MMIWG in Alaska will be presented alongside previously documented cases.

Data Sources



Artwork by Sarah Whalen-Lunn

Community Knowledge

The grassroots origin of the database was shared at the beginning of this report. As such, we acknowledge that the primary source of these data are our community members who have come together to share this information with us, trusting us to care for it. In other words, our data was and continues to be gathered by our people, for our people. Families that do not trust law enforcement and have not filed cases have chosen to share their stories with us. We honor the truths of families in this data set by correcting misclassifications of deaths, victim race and ethnicity, and other key domains in order to generate a more accurate and decolonized dataset than what is currently available in state reporting. The community sharing of data is the heart of our work and compels us to take care of and take action towards seeking justice for our relatives. We also utilize a variety of other data sources which we continually cross reference in this journey to use the very best tools to achieve our collective goals.

FOIA Requests

With these community data, we began to search for information about our relatives' cases. It came to community members' attention that the Alaska State Troopers (AST) Cold Case website had very little information available regarding cases in Alaska. This lack of information was concerning because without more public information, community members are not able to give tips, share information, or have updates on cases. After individuals had separately tried to request information via Freedom of Information Act Requests (FOIA requests) and had been denied, a small group decided to work together to request public information on'101 cold cases'. Our group reviewed the previous denials and crafted a simple, straightforward ask that would achieve the goal of securing the information requested. The group submitted over 40 identical FOIA requests to the AST from individuals, tribes, and organizations. From this coordinated effort, our community reclaimed data and information that was later released through an updated AST Cold Case website. With this collective approach, FOIA requests have continued to be a mechanism of gathering information specifically from AST. It should be noted, however, that this process is non-intuitive, has no clear parameters for requestees, is not timely, and we continue to get denied information on a regular basis. Thus, this is not a sustainable method to secure MMIWG data with a goal of achieving justice for our peoples. As such, we decided to develop the baseline of data and this report to advance justice from a different systemic basis.

Agency & Institutional

While the requirements and accuracy of interagency reporting is still ambiguous, there are some reports that get cross-referenced into our work. Police and university reports, while de-identified, sometimes have demographic identifiers and quantitative data, which when cross-referenced can help cases emerge. This cross-referencing confirmed nine missing cases early in our data set. Ideally, these reports are from integrated data sources and this step should not be necessary. Nonetheless, manual cross referencing of reports can still be a useful method, mostly due to the systems communication issue described earlier.

Media & Social Media

While we would invite media organizations to do more to help advance justice regarding the crisis of MMIWG, media sources have provided some key information over time. For example, with respect to older cases, occasionally there may be a newspaper article or bulletin of a case that predates electronic databases. So, where public information or agency data may not be digitized, older newspapers sometimes can provide key information. Additionally, where gaps such as race and ethnicity of victims occur in data systems, media articles give information from families who identify loved ones and themselves as Alaska Native.

Social media also is a huge repository of information that serves as a tool in gathering data. These days, social media such as Facebook and Instagram are go-to communication outlets for family members trying to connect. It also is the first stream of communication to spread word when there is a concern for safety. If a report is made, details are often shared first and widely on social media before any other information is provided to community members. In addition to being a personal sharing platform, social media often hosts organized groups and pages dedicated to missing persons and cold cases in Alaska. Notably, S.A.M: Seeking Alaska's Missing page has over 26k followers. Social media has posts both from families who have filed reports and from those who have not. These posts also may provide information that, again, fills gaps which current data systems have.

What Is Documented

Despite all the uncertainty and ambiguity, we know this: the numbers below represent a mere brushstroke on the surface of a much bigger picture of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Womxn and Girls in Alaska. These figures are an offering from us to our community leaders in an effort to place information into the hands of our people to achieve justice for MMIWG. In the 2018 UIHI inaugural report, Alaska had 52 cases total, being the 4th highest state in the nation, with Anchorage having the 3rd most cases (31) of any city in the U.S.

We have now gathered and reclaimed a total of 229 cases of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Womxn and Girls in Alaska.

149 as missing status.

80 as murdered.

This number 229 is important to us as Alaska Native tribal people for many reasons including the fact that it is the number of federally-recognized Tribes in the state, and here it appears again. We call to these 229 Alaska Native womxn and girls. We call for justice for these 229 missing loved ones, missing laughter, missing joy, missing gifts, missing talent, and missing potential. We call for justice for these 229 breaks in generations of families. We call to these 229 dreams from our ancestors. We tell these stories today, insisting they are not forgotten. We do not have to list the names to know these are our relatives. Their lives are forever a part of our collective memory of mourning, and of healing. All of this, we know.

Limitations

Due to persistent issues described earlier in the report, there are limitations to these reported data. Specifically, this report, while honoring a gender spectrum, does not include data for our Two-Spirit relatives and transgender family. We know that Two-Spirit relatives and transgender family members face incredible rates of violence. We believe in recognition of all genders to be deserving of safety and that this work should benefit all.

Similarly, intersecting systemic violence means Indigenous men/mxn face high rates of violence resulting in being missing and murdered. It is our intention to name gender-based violences and create system solutions that are preventative and beneficial to the safety of all genders. We encourage articulation and strength-based solutions that serve Indigenous men/mxn as well.

Finally, this is a baseline report. Meaning, it is an initial assessment of this crisis and serves as an indicator of what MMIWG in Alaska are facing. It is one tool -- a starting point for advocacy and change. We will continue to reclaim and care for MMIWG data in Alaska until we see justice realized.

Everyone is part of the solution to address MMIWG.

Everyone is a part of the solution to address MMIWG. Efforts to exercise sovereignty, transform justice systems, decolonize, and create healing spaces are all essential parts of this work. This report has provided an overview with touch points to address this complex crisis. On this overarching level, the need for partnership and coordination is urgent. Partnership and coordination must include all levels, such as: Tribal, local, state, federal, NGOs, advocates, service providers, and of course families of MMIWG. Multiple layers of jurisdiction across the largest state poses incredible hurdles that cannot be traversed unless coordination occurs. Specifically, justice system considerations as a P.L. 280 state need to be clarified and communicated so that communities are served, rather than overlooked. Tribal sovereignty, government to government relations, must be recognized and tribes need to be sought and included in decision making. Further, specific resources to establish preventative measures driven by community insights and to address MMIWG must be allocated to Tribes and communities.

1 Establish a Data Codebook Across Agencies to Ensure Consistency in Data Collection and Reporting.

The collection of data should be made more consistent across agencies and locations, especially in the case of missing persons and murder victims. Reporting requirements should be made consistent across agencies with communicable data systems with like fields in place. A data codebook of fields and definitions should be made and streamlined across agencies. Reporting requirements to who, what and when should be accessible information. FOIA requests need defined parameters on any associated fees. Some best practices we highlight include:

A) Collect and Report on the Race, Ethnicity, and Tribal Affiliation of MMIWG

In order to improve data collection and reporting to achieve justice for MMIWG, there are a number of recommendations for the justice system we offer below, including:

1) Update reporting forms at local and state level to include field 'Alaska Native/American Indian (AN/AI)'.

2) Report AN/AI in combination with another race or ethnicity if an individual is AN/AI and another race/ethnicity. If multiple selections cannot be made on the form, AN/AI alone should be used. It is also noted that agencies have purchasing power to work with vendors to create these; if not, a new vendor should be sought who is willing to meet these needs. It is also imperative to attempt to correct misclassified data and disaggregate from the 'Other' and/or 'Multiracial' category to date.

3) Collect data on Tribal affiliation. Options could include a write-in option, as well as a drop down list of Tribes from the Federal Register list. Definition of Tribal affiliation should avoid language of Tribal enrollment or Tribal citizenship. Any and all data specific to Tribes belongs to and should be shared with Tribes and not released publicly unless permission from that Tribe is granted.

An example of this recommendation would be to add an option of AN/AI to all forms. If selected, the user would be presented with the option to select Alaska Native Tribal affiliation from a list and/or a write in box.

B) Update Location Fields to Reflect Incident, Filing, and Home Locations as Distinct Categories

An incident location option can be defined separately than filing department location, which would help track incidents trends more directly. If a drop-down or multiple-choice selection options cannot be added to forms, a write-in option that is reportable should be created.Agencies should find vendors who meet these required needs to improve data fields. Reporting forms should also be updated regionally to add incident selections for all communities served in the region. In addition, if persons are migratory in urban areas and they are known to be from another community, their home community should be noted and made reportable.

C) Update Sex & Gender Fields to Be Inclusive

At minimum, the Gender field on forms should include selections for Female, Male, or Custom: ___ (write in). Further options could include a 'Sex Assigned at Birth' category, which includes 'intersex'; an 'Identified Pronouns' section; and a 'Gender Identity' section . Pronouns and Gender sections should be inclusive with write in options. For example, pronouns used should include at minimum: She, He, and They. Gender should include at minimum, Female/Woman, Male/Man, TransFemale/TransWoman, TransMale/TransMan, and write-in. In short, non-binary options need to be provided in data collection and reporting in order to understand more about how different groups are targeted and experience violence toward the goal of increasing safety.

Artwork by Yaari Walker

2 Mandate NamUs Entry

In 2019, the National Institute of Justice reported that, "[s]ince inception, NamUs [the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System] has been used to resolve 358 [I]ndigenous missing person cases, and is currently supporting another 385 active, unsolved cases of missing [I]ndigenous persons." The NamUS system has added specific Tribal data fields. At least eight states (e.g., Oklahoma, New Mexico, Tennessee, New York, Michigan, Illinois, Arkansas, and West Virginia) have passed legislation mandating case entry into NamUS, and we recommend that the State of Alaska work to mandate NamUS Entry for missing Indigenous people. [11]

3 Improve Oversight of Investigations

Investigative resources and systems must be improved. To begin, there must be an increased expectation to investigate in the case of MMIWG given the prevalence of cases, and a failure to investigate must have serious repercussions for agencies. Secondly, audits of forensic data should be required to inform best practices and correct errors that have left families and communities unable to seek recourse for their loved ones. As part of these audits, closed cases must be reviewed for thorough, quality work. Review and oversight mechanisms should include options to re-open cases for further investigation. Lastly, mandatory oversight and review committees of all MMIWG cases should be created and should include tribal and constituent citizens.

4 Establish Tribal Review Boards

There are countless Tribal leaders, members, and organizations who want to assist in improving the ability of the justice system to find our missing and prevent our people from being murdered. Constituent citizen review boards can provide additional insight, support, and accountability for law enforcement, justice systems, and medical examiners offices, amongst others involved. In other words, partnerships to increase reporting and investigations must be made. The current systems are designed for compartmentalization and isolation. Systems must create pathways to connect if this issue is to be addressed. All partnerships and committees should include community member expertise, inviting MMIWG families to provide feedback if desired.

5 Mandate Cultural Training for Law Enforcement

Improved and required renewal of cultural training is imperative, including that of: tribal sovereignty, systemic racism, power and privilege, and expansive genders should be done from law enforcement leadership to new recruits to equip them with the tools to serve our communities. Training on data collection and reporting from Indigenous-led organizations needs to be provided with expanded data sharing capabilities.

6 Articulate Clear System Responsibilities in Alaska for Addressing MMIWG

As a P.L. 280 state, Alaska needs to define which system actor is responsible for what in relation to MMIWG to mitigate the lack of explicit accountability in a system with overlapping jurisdiction. In addition, a major part of articulating clear system responsibilities is investing in system alignment.

A) Identify MMIWG Priorities within Existing Divisions

Rather than relying on time-limited task forces that focus solely on MMIWG, it is important to articulate how various divisions and departments have responsibilities in relation to MMIWG in order to advance justice in this area. For example, investigations could be improved if all communities in Alaska had access to a 911 emergency service system. This is not only an issue in relation to MMIWG, but it would contribute greatly to addressing the issue.

B) Align Data Protocols across Agenices

Policies and protocols across agencies should be synchronized for missing persons reporting and alerts. For example, agreed upon protocols for lines of contact, inquiry, and search coordination should be outlined clearly for communities. There should be required response time frames from prosecution on cases so that actionable steps forward are being made and communicated to families. Homicide cases should provide case updates and reporting directly to family members. Before cases are closed, immediate family members should be informed and consulted on all leads taken and have their questions met to their satisfaction.

Family members should have access to copies of case information with points of available contact for questions. Case outcomes, including sentencing, should be available information for MMIWG. Lastly, FOIA processes must be made to serve the public citizens. This includes the usability of the requests and removing barriers and fiscal burdens from those requesting.

C) State and Department Budgets Should Reflect Priorities

State and department budgets need to reflect a serious dedication to addressing MMIWG. Long term maintenance and investment of quality data collection needs to be accounted for. This is not a recommendation of increased funding necessarily. Instead, it is a recommendation to re-prioritize and match budgets to stated system priorities. Similarly, before departments are expanded, there should be a review of how existing positions are held responsible for addressing MMIWG in ways that are already in their purview.

7 Provide Case Support for Families and Communities

Direct services to families of MMIWG should be provided. This could include case advocacy; having a person be a point of contact for communication between family and agencies, legal advocates, and investigation coordination. Behavioral health services should be accessible, coordinated, and provided without cost. Communities should also have resources for case management, points of contact, coordinators and resource advocates at the community level. Other forms of community support can include vigils, memorials, talking circles, search parties, awareness raising, healing events and gatherings, arts, and marches. All of these should be done with respect and consideration of MMIWG families. Specific names and cases should only be brought forward by request and/or permission of MMIWG families. Cultural protocols and ceremonies should be determined and guided by local community leaders. Finally, strength-based approaches to creating solutions and raising awareness should be utilized. Indigenous ways of knowing and healing are central to sustainable pathways forward.

Conclusions

We take a deep breath, close our eyes, and exhale. One breath at a time, we put life ways into existence. We honor and remember always the lives and legacies of love from each missing and murdered Indigenous womxn and girl. As we conclude this report, we remind ourselves of the genealogies of strength -- that we enter this place because we carry responsibility to our relationships, to our ancestors past and future. This report is one tool we have created so our peoples are equipped to walk towards and demand justice for every stolen loved one. Some of this work is dismantling systems of oppression that perpetuate violence. In balance to that work is the healing and creating that we put forward for future generations. We plant seeds of resistance through lives of health and wellness. Certainly, the complexities and challenges are ever present; but looking forward we remember the vision of living our power to the fullest, in safety, while thriving. **We are calling for this vision of justice to come forward in the same way we call to our relatives in an effort to ensure they can rest in peace and with memory eternal.**

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