



Domestic Violence in ALASKA

WHAT IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE?

Domestic violence is the willful intimidation, physical assault, battery, sexual assault, and/or other abusive behavior as part of a systematic pattern of power and control perpetrated by one intimate partner against another. It includes physical violence, sexual violence, threats, and emotional abuse. The frequency and severity of domestic violence can vary dramatically.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN ALASKA

- 43.3% of Alaska women and 30.2% of Alaska men experience intimate partner physical violence, intimate partner sexual violence, and/or intimate partner stalking in their lifetimes.¹
- Alaska has the third-highest intimate partner violence against women lifetime prevalence in the United States.²
- Alaska has the highest homicide rate for female victims killed by a male perpetrator in the nation.³
- More than 84% of American Indian/Alaska Native women experience violence during their lifetimes.⁴ Alaska has the largest Native population as a percent total population in the United States.⁵
- As of December 31, 2019, Alaska had submitted two misdemeanor domestic violence records and 1,932 active protective order records to the NICS Index.⁶

DID YOU KNOW?

- 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men have experienced some form of physical violence by an intimate partner.⁷
- On a typical day, local domestic violence hotlines receive approximately 19,159 calls, approximately 13 calls every minute.⁸
- In 2018, domestic violence accounted for 20% of all violent crime.⁹
- Abusers' access to firearms increases the risk of intimate partner femicide at least five-fold. When firearms have been used in the most severe abuse incident, the risk increases 41-fold.¹⁰
- 65% of all murder-suicides involved an intimate partner; 96% of the victims of these crimes are female.¹¹

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FIREARMS LAWS IN ALASKA

- When issuing a final protective order, a court *may* prohibit a respondents from owning a firearm if they were in actual possession and/or used a firearm during a domestic violence incident, including dating partners.¹² The court *may* require the respondent to surrender their firearms after such an order is issued.¹³
- Although Alaska statute does not explicitly prohibit respondents to ex parte protective orders from owning firearms, judges are authorized to order whatever relief they deem necessary to protect the petitioner.¹⁴ This may include prohibiting firearm access to firearms and requiring surrender.
- Alaska can strengthen her laws by
 - Prohibiting domestic violence, dating violence and stalking misdemeanants from owning firearms;
 - Prohibiting all people subject to ex parte or final protective orders from owning firearms;
 - Requiring surrender of firearms when an abuser becomes prohibited;
 - If requested by the survivor, requiring law enforcement to recover all firearms when responding to domestic violence calls; and
 - Requiring background checks for all gun sales and transfers.

If you are in crisis, contact The National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE (7233) or www.TheHotline.org.

Please visit the **National Coalition Against Domestic Violence's website** at www.ncadv.org, for more fact sheets, membership information and valuable resources.



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For more information about domestic violence and firearms in Alaska, go to

<https://www.disarmdv.org/state/alaska/>.

¹ Smith, S.G., Chen, J., Basile, K.C., Gilbert, L.K., Merrick, M.T., Patel, N., Walling, M., & Jain, A. (2017). *The national intimate partner and sexual violence survey (NISVS): 2010-2012 state report*. Atlanta: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/NISVS-StateReportBook.pdf>.

² Ibid.

³ Violence Policy Center (2019). *When men murder women: An analysis of 2017 homicide data*. Retrieved from <http://www.vpc.org/studies/wmmw2019.pdf>.

⁴ Rosay, R. B. (2016). *Violence against American Indian and Alaska Native women and men: 2010 findings from the national intimate partner and sexual violence survey*. Retrieved from <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/249736.pdf>.

⁵ United State Census Bureau (2000). States Ranked by American Indian and Alaska Native Population, July 1, 1999. Retrieved from <https://www.census.gov/population/estimates/state/rank/aiea.txt>.

⁶ FBI Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division: National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) Section (2020). *Active records in the NICS index as of December 31, 2019*. Retrieved from <https://www.fbi.gov/file-repository/active-records-in-the-nics-indices-by-state.pdf/view>.

⁷ Black, M.C., Basile, K.C., Breiding, M.J., Smith, S.G., Walters, M.L., Merrick, M.T., Chen, J., & Stevens, M. (2011). *The national intimate partner and sexual violence survey: 2010 summary report*. Retrieved from https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/nisvs_report2010-a.pdf.

⁸ National Network to End Domestic Violence (2020). *14th annual domestic violence counts report*. Retrieved from https://nnedv.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Library_Census-2019_Report_web.pdf.

⁹ Morgan, R.E., & Oudekerk, B.A. (2019). *Criminal victimization, 2018*. Bureau of Justice Statistics. Retrieved from <https://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/cv18.pdf>.

¹⁰ Campbell, J.C., Webster, D., Koziol-McLain, J., Block, C., Campbell, D., Curry, M. A., Gary, F., Glass, N., McFarlane, J., Sachs, C., Sharps, P., Ulrich, Y., Wilt, S., Manganello, J., Xu, X., Schollenberger, J., Frye, V., & Lauphon, K. (2003). Risk factors for femicide in abusive relationships: Results from a multisite case control study. *American Journal of Public Health*, 93(7), 1089-1097.

¹¹ Violence Policy Center. (2018). *American roulette: murder-suicide in the United States*. Retrieved from: www.vpc.org/studies/amroul2018.pdf.

¹² Alaska Stat. § 18.66.100(c)(6).

¹³ Alaska Stat. § 18.66.100(c)(7).

¹⁴ Alaska Stat. § 18.66.100(c)(16); Alaska Stat. § 18.66.110(a).

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