

# Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living

## Summary of Community Readiness, Community Perceptions, and Secondary Data for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault in the Fairbanks North Star Borough

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## Executive Summary

This report summarizes secondary data collected and data gathered through a community readiness assessment and community perceptions surveys conducted during the spring of 2018. These data were analyzed by the Goldstream Group to supplement data already gathered through the Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living (IACNVL) Community Issues Assessment dated September 2017. Data collection and analysis were structured to inform strategic planning efforts by IACNVL for the prevention of domestic violence and sexual assault in the Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB).

- **Community Readiness Assessment:** An interview guide was developed by the Goldstream Group, and 11 interviews with knowledgeable stakeholders representing a variety of community sectors were conducted by IACNVL Prevention staff using the Community Readiness Model developed by the Tri-Ethnic Center for Prevention Research at Colorado State University.<sup>1</sup> Interview transcripts were scored by IACNVL Prevention staff, and a qualitative analysis of transcripts to identify themes was conducted by the Goldstream Group.
- **Community Perceptions Survey:** A community perceptions survey was developed by the Goldstream Group in collaboration with IACNVL Prevention staff, and the survey was administered online and on iPads at community events by IACNVL Prevention staff. Survey results were analyzed by the Goldstream Group. Respondents to the community perceptions survey represented a convenience sample – over 83% of respondents to the survey were female, and nearly 88% of respondents indicated that domestic violence or sexual assault had touched their life, either personally or through a friend or family member. This should be taken into account when interpreting survey results.
- **Secondary Data Collection:** Secondary data was collected from a variety of sources and analyzed by the Goldstream Group to supplement data already gathered through the IACNVL Community Issues Assessment dated September 2017.

Complete reports summarizing the community readiness assessment, community perceptions survey, and secondary data gathered, including methodology and survey instruments are included following the executive summary.

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<sup>1</sup> Community Readiness for Community Change: Tri-Ethnic Center Community Readiness Handbook. Tri-Ethnic Center for Prevention Research, Colorado State University. Retrieved from <http://www.triethniccenter.colostate.edu/community-readiness-2/>.

## Incidence of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault:

- In 2017, there were 15 cases of sexual assault and 18 charges of sexual assault filed in the Fairbanks Court.<sup>2</sup>
- In 2017, a total of 970 civil protective order cases were filed in the Fairbanks Court (average of 2.7 per day).<sup>2</sup>
- Of the 970 civil protective order cases filed in the Fairbanks Court in 2017, 808 (83%) were for domestic violence, 150 (15%) were for stalking, and 12 (1%) were for sexual assault.<sup>2</sup>
- In 2017 the Fairbanks Police Department received a total of 1,216 calls for assaults (an average of 3.3 calls per day). Of these calls, 1,007 (83%) were related to domestic violence.<sup>3</sup>
- In 2017 the North Pole Police Department received three calls for sexual assault and 30 calls for domestic violence.<sup>4</sup>
- In 2011 5.5% of adult women in the Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB) had experienced intimate partner violence, sexual violence or both in the past year, and 44.8% had in their lifetime.<sup>5</sup>
- In 2011 more than double the percentage of women in the City of Fairbanks than in FNSB had experienced intimate partner violence, sexual violence or both in the past year (11.5% compared to 5.5%). A higher percentage had also experienced intimate partner violence, sexual violence or both in their lifetime (57.0% compared to 44.8%).<sup>5</sup>
- In 2017, 6.8% of all high school students in Fairbanks North Star Borough School District (FNSBSD) who dated or went out with someone reported they had been physically hurt on purpose by someone they were dating or going out with during the past 12 months.<sup>6</sup>
- In 2017, 9.1% of all high school students in FNSBSD who dated or went out with someone reported they had been forced by someone they were dating or going out with to do sexual things they did not want to during the past 12 months.<sup>6</sup>
- In 2017, 8.7% of all high school students in FNSBSD reported they had ever been forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Data provided by Alaska Court System staff.

<sup>3</sup> Data provided by Fairbanks Police Department staff.

<sup>4</sup> Data provided by North Pole Police Department staff.

<sup>5</sup> University of Alaska Anchorage Justice Center Alaska Victimization Survey. Retrieved on June 5, 2018 from <https://www.uaa.alaska.edu/academics/college-of-health/departments/justice-center/research/alaska-victimization-survey/index.cshtml>

<sup>6</sup> Alaska Department of Health and Social Services. Retrieved on June 4, 2018 from <http://ibis.dhss.alaska.gov/query/Introduction.html>

- In FY 2017, the Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living (IACNVL) responded to 118 adult sexual assault and domestic violence calls at Fairbanks Memorial Hospital, provided legal advocacy to 278 individuals, and provided 20,640 shelter nights to 181 women and 141 children, or a total of 322 individuals (average of 64 nights per individual).<sup>7</sup>
- According to the State of Alaska Department of Public Safety, in 2016 in Alaska<sup>8</sup>:
  - The most common victim of sexual assault was a 14 year old female.
  - The most common suspect in sexual assault was a 19 year old male.
  - The most common relationship of the suspect to the victim was an acquaintance.
  - The most common location of the sexual assault was at a residence.

## Level of Concern

- In community perceptions surveys, a higher percentage of individuals felt that domestic violence and sexual assault are either a great concern or an extreme concern in the community (80% and 81% respectively), than did for teen dating violence (56%).
- In the Healthy Fairbanks 2020 Community Health Needs Assessment, domestic violence and sexual assault were rated as the third highest health concern for the community, with females rating it as a higher concern than males.
- In community readiness interviews, eight of 11 key informants (73%) felt that people have more knowledge or concern about domestic violence and sexual assault if it has affected them personally.

## Priority

- In community readiness interviews, 10 of 11 key informants (91%) felt the community is only passively supportive of efforts to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault, and nine of 11 key informants (82%) felt that leadership is only passively supportive.

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<sup>7</sup> Data provided by Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living staff.

<sup>8</sup> Alaska Department of Public Safety 2016 Crime in Alaska Supplemental Report: Felony Level Sex Offenses. Retrieved on June 6, 2018 from <https://dps.alaska.gov/getmedia/0637d6db-11f0-4d61-88a9-2d94a8e48547/2016-Felony-Level-Sex-Offenses->

- In community readiness interviews, all 11 key informants felt that teen dating violence is not a concern or priority in the community, and 10 of 11 (91%) indicated it is not a concern to the leadership.
- In the Healthy Fairbanks 2020 Community Health Needs Assessment, community apathy – including that of political leaders and of community members, was cited as a barrier to addressing domestic violence and sexual assault.
- In community perceptions surveys, only 4% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the statement that there are more pressing problems to address than domestic violence, 3% for sexual assault, 10% for teen dating violence.

## Knowledge about the Issue

- In community readiness interviews, seven of 11 key informants (64%) felt that men are less knowledgeable about domestic violence and sexual assault than women.
- In the Healthy Fairbanks 2020 Community health Needs Assessment increasing awareness of domestic violence and sexual assault was cited as a solution.
- In IACNVL's 2017 Community Issues Assessment, a need to increase community awareness on a variety of levels was cited as a theme in key informant interviews.
- In community readiness interviews, 10 of 11 key informants (91%) indicated that community members have incomplete or inconsistent definitions of domestic violence and/or sexual assault.
- In community readiness interviews, eight of 11 key informants (73%) felt that people have more knowledge or concern about domestic violence and sexual assault if it has affected them personally.
- In community readiness interviews, eight of 11 key informants (73%) felt that community members have incomplete knowledge of the consequences or impacts of domestic violence and sexual assault.
- In community readiness interviews, six of 11 key informants (55%) felt that community members have misperceptions about the causes of domestic violence and sexual assault.

## Perceptions of Incidence

- In community perceptions surveys, 19% of respondents thought fewer than 40% of women had experienced domestic violence, and 23% of respondents thought fewer than 40% of women had experienced sexual assault.

- In community readiness interviews, six of the 11 key informants (55%) indicated that while the community is aware that domestic violence and sexual assault occur, community members do not understand the prevalence.

## Perceptions of Who is at Risk

### Drugs and Alcohol

- When asked in the community perceptions survey to indicate from a list which groups are at higher risk for domestic violence, sexual assault, and teen dating violence, the highest number of respondents indicated that people who use drugs or alcohol are at higher risk for all three issues.
- In a separate question on the community perceptions survey, significantly fewer respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the statement that victims usually use drugs or alcohol. Only 11% agreed or strongly agreed for domestic violence, 10% did for sexual assault, and 16% did for teen dating violence.
- Drug and alcohol abuse was viewed as the leading health challenge in the community in the Healthy Fairbanks 2020 Community Health Needs Assessment.

### Victim is at Fault

- In community readiness interviews, eight of 11 key informants (73%) indicated there are misperceptions in the community that the victim is at fault.
- In community perceptions surveys, very few respondents agreed or strongly agreed that the victim is at fault or does something to provoke violence (2% for domestic violence, 6% for sexual assault, and 3% for teen dating violence).
- In community perceptions surveys, 17% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the statement that a victim can leave their abuser if they really want to.

### Happens to Other People or Certain Groups

- In community readiness interviews, six of 11 key informants (55%) felt the community has a lack of ownership of the issue or a belief that domestic violence and sexual assault only happens to other people.
- In community perceptions surveys, 12% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the statement that domestic violence happens less to people like themselves, while 9% agreed or strongly agreed for sexual assault.
- In community perceptions surveys, 22% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the statement that domestic violence tends to happen to certain people such as people of a specific background, race, sexual orientation etc. Similarly, 21% agreed or strongly agreed for sexual assault, and 18% did for teen dating violence.

## Perceptions of the Perpetrator

- In community perceptions surveys, 42% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the statement that domestic violence usually happens when a person gets angry or loses control. Substantially fewer respondents (9%) agreed or strongly agreed with the same statement for sexual assault.
- In community perceptions surveys, 11% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the statement that people who are abusive are usually under the influence of drugs or alcohol, while 12% agreed or strongly agreed that people who commit sexual assault are usually under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- In community perceptions surveys, more than half of respondents (58%) agreed or strongly agreed with the statement that people who are violent towards their family members are not likely to change. An equal percentage of respondents also agreed or strongly agreed that people who commit sexual assault are not likely to change.
- In community perceptions surveys, 3% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the statement that people who are abusive are usually easy to identify, and 1% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the same statement for sexual assault. Just 2% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the statement that most sexual assaults are committed by strangers.

## Perceptions about Causes

- In community readiness interviews, six of 11 key informants (55%) felt that community members have misperceptions about the causes of domestic violence and sexual assault.
- In community perceptions surveys, 42% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the statement that domestic violence usually happens when a person gets angry or loses control. Substantially fewer respondents (9%) agreed or strongly agreed with the same statement for sexual assault.
- In community perceptions surveys, 11% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the statement that people who are abusive are usually under the influence of drugs or alcohol, while 12% agreed or strongly agreed that people who commit sexual assault are usually under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

## Perceptions of Prevention

- In community perceptions surveys, very few respondents felt that domestic violence, sexual assault, or teen dating violence could not be prevented. Approximately one-



third of respondents felt that they could only prevented some of the time, while remaining respondents responded most of the time, almost always, or always.

- In community readiness interviews, six of 11 key informants (55%) indicated that there is a lack of awareness and understanding about prevention and the preventability of domestic violence and sexual assault.
- The clear majority of respondents in community perceptions surveys agreed or strongly agreed with the statement that people don't know how they can help or make a difference in preventing domestic violence (85%), sexual assault (71%) or teen dating violence (76%).
- In community readiness interviews six of 11 key informants (55%) spoke to the importance of starting prevention early in order to break the cycle.
- In the Healthy Fairbanks 2020 Community Health Needs Assessment, respondents noted that education opportunities focused on young adults and topics of resilience would help prevent the issue, as well as more opportunities or places for activity that are geared towards families and the community.

## Resources for Help

- In community perceptions surveys, when asked if they knew where to go for help if someone they knew was experiencing domestic violence, 69% of respondents indicated that they did. A slightly higher percentage (75%) indicated that they did for sexual assault, while 67% indicated that they did for teen dating violence.
- In community perceptions surveys, 79% of respondents indicated they would be likely or very likely to talk to a friend if they were experiencing domestic violence, and 78% did for sexual assault. A higher number of respondents indicated they would be likely or very likely to talk to the police if they were experiencing sexual assault (61%) than did for domestic violence (47%). Similarly, a higher number indicated they would be likely or very likely to talk to their doctor or medical provider if they were experiencing sexual assault (66%) than did for domestic violence (41%).

## Perceptions of Male Engagement in Prevention

- When asked in community perceptions surveys how easy or difficult they felt it was for males to participate in prevention efforts related to domestic violence and sexual assault, 47% of survey respondents felt it was difficult or very difficult for domestic violence, and 48% felt it was either difficult or very difficult for sexual assault.

- In community readiness interviews, six of 11 key informants (55%) felt that domestic violence and sexual assault are generally viewed as women’s issues and men don’t see a role for themselves or feel part of the discussion.

## Stigma

- In all 3 cases of domestic violence, sexual assault and teen dating violence, respondents to community perceptions surveys overwhelmingly agreed or strongly agreed with the statement that there is a stigma or fear related to asking for help (88% for domestic violence, 84% for sexual assault, and 79% for teen dating violence).
- In the Healthy Fairbanks 2020 Community Health Needs Assessment, in addition to stigma fear or shame was cited as a barrier to addressing domestic violence and sexual assault, including a fear of the social outcomes of seeking help, a fear of retaliation, and a fear of the legal system.

## Community Readiness to Prevent Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

Community readiness key informant interviews were scored by IACNVL Prevention staff using the rubric provided by Tri-Ethnic Center for Prevention Research at Colorado State University<sup>9</sup>, arriving at an overall community readiness score of 2.99 on a scale of 1-9. This score is representative of the Tri-Ethnic Model’s Stage 3 of community readiness “Vague Awareness.” During this stage of community readiness, community members have vague knowledge about the issue including some awareness that the issue can be a problem and why it may occur; a few community members have heard about local efforts but know little about them; the leadership and community members believe that the issue may be a concern in the community but show no immediate motivation to act; and there are limited resources identified that could be used for further efforts to address the issue.

Using the Tri-Ethnic Model, examples of actions for raising community readiness to support the prevention of domestic violence and sexual assault in FNSB may include presenting information at local community events and unrelated community groups; posting flyers and posters with information; initiating events to present information on the issue; and publishing articles and information in newspapers and other media with information about the issue and how relates on a local level.

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<sup>9</sup> Community Readiness for Community Change: Tri-Ethnic Center Community Readiness Handbook. Tri-Ethnic Center for Prevention Research, Colorado State University. Retrieved from <http://www.triethniccenter.colostate.edu/community-readiness-2/>.

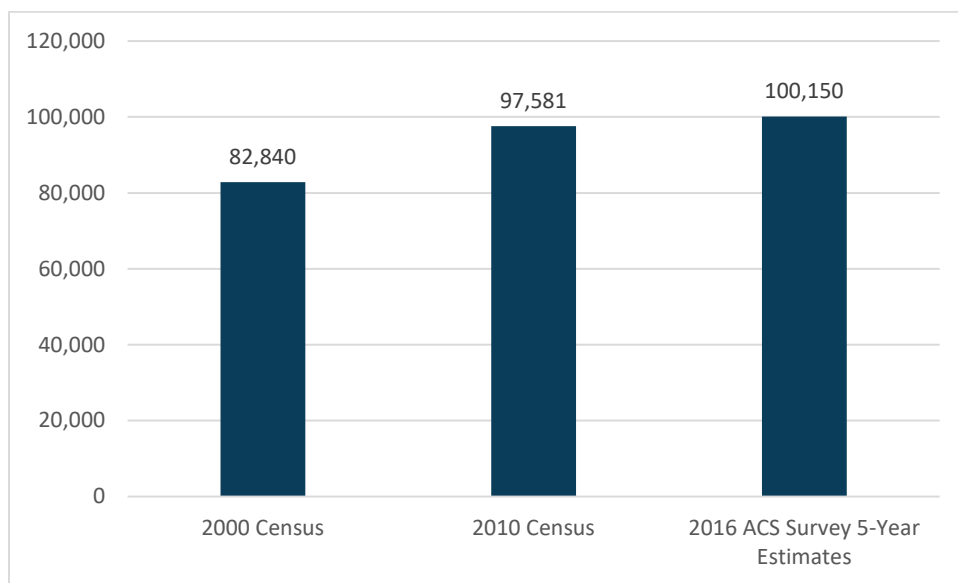
## Report of Secondary Data

To further inform strategic planning efforts related to the prevention of domestic violence, sexual assault and teen dating violence in the Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB), secondary data was collected by the Goldstream Group to supplement data presented in the Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living’s Community Issues Assessment dated September 2017. This secondary data is meant to provide additional information describing the prevalence of domestic violence, sexual assault and teen dating violence in FNSB.

### Fairbanks North Star Borough Demographics

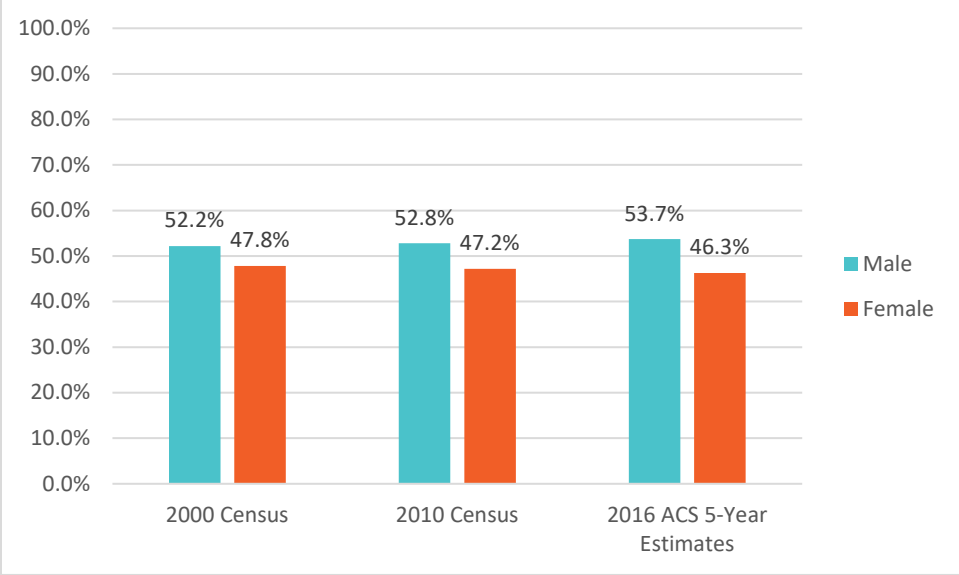
United States Census data show that the population of the Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB) is growing. The population was 82,840 at the time of the 2000 census, while 2016 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates place the current population of the borough at 100,150. In the same timeframe, the percentage of the population that is male has increased slightly, from 52.2% to 53.7%. In addition, the percentage of the population that is 65 and over has increased from 4.6% to 7.8%, while the population that is under 18 has decreased from 30.1% to 24.5%. The percentage of the population that is White, American Indian and Alaska Native, Asian, and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, either alone or in combination with another race, also increased slightly. This is shown in Figures 1-5.

**Figure 1: Total Population of the Fairbanks North Star Borough<sup>10</sup>**

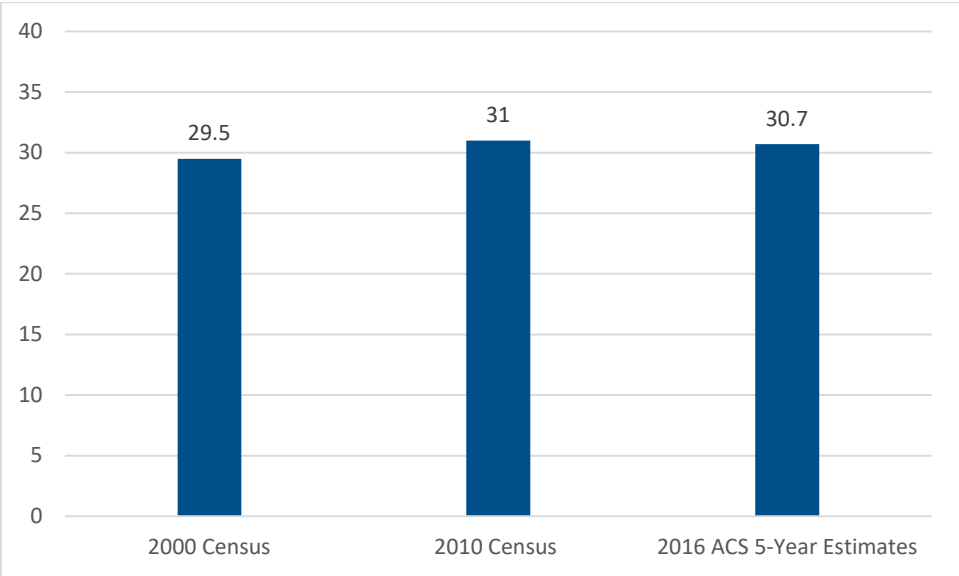


<sup>10</sup> United States Census Bureau. Retrieved on June 5, 2018 from [https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community\\_facts.xhtml](https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml)

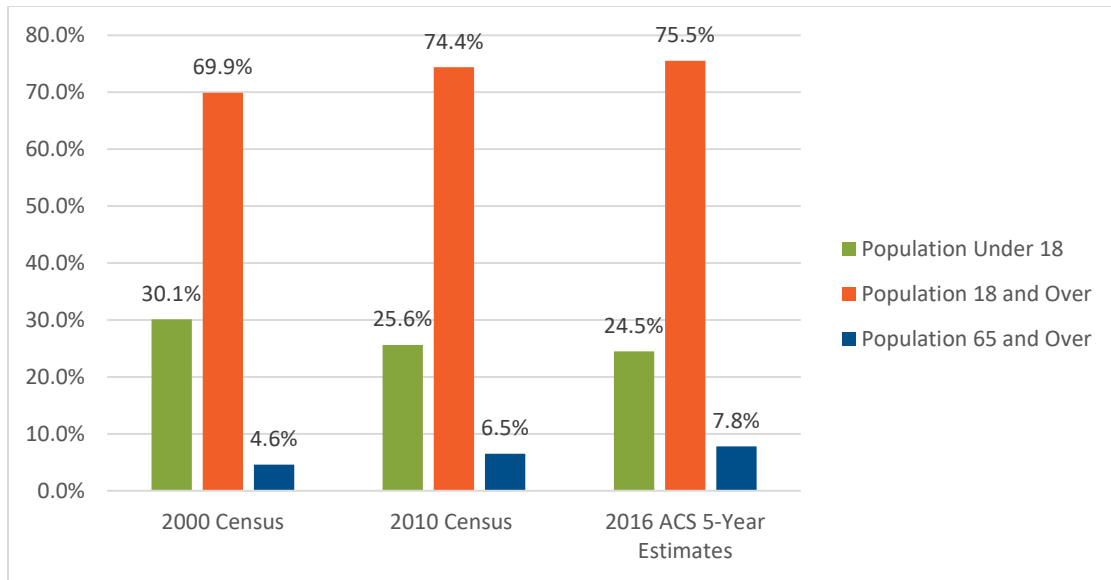
**Figure 2: Fairbanks North Star Borough Distribution of Population by Gender<sup>10</sup>**



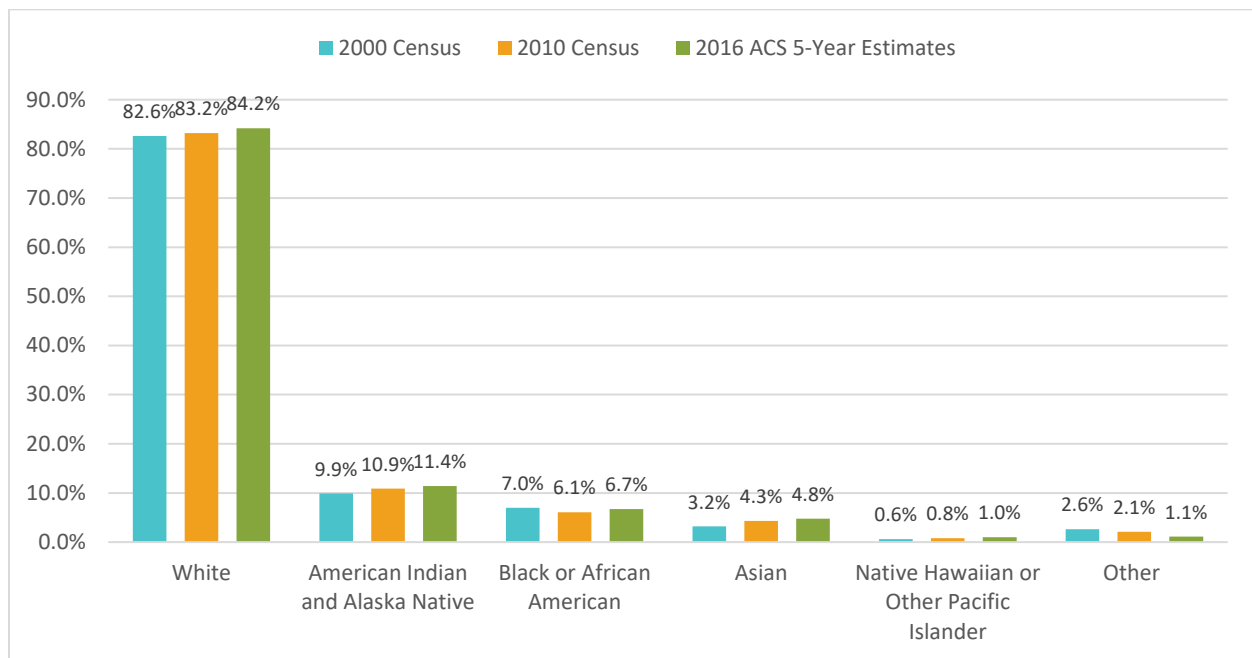
**Figure 3: Median Age of Fairbanks North Star Borough<sup>10</sup>**



**Figure 4: Fairbanks North Star Borough Distribution of Population by Age<sup>10</sup>**



**Figure 5: Fairbanks North Star Borough Distribution of Population by Race (Alone or in Combination with Other Race(s))<sup>10</sup>**



According to 2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, the median household income in FNSB is \$73,831. The median earnings for male full-time year-round workers (\$56,250) is higher than for female full-time year-round workers (\$44,631). A total of 4.8% of all families in FNSB have income in the past 12 months below the poverty level, while 7.9% of families with children under 18 have income in the past 12 months below the poverty level. Of the population age 16 and over, 7.9% are employed in the Armed Forces.<sup>10</sup>

## Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)

The Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) is administered to high school students throughout Alaska every other year by the State of Alaska Department of Health and Social Services Division of Public Health. The purpose of the YRBS is to help monitor the prevalence of behaviors that put Alaskan youth at risk for the most significant health and social problems that can occur during adolescence and adulthood, in order to assist in prevention and intervention planning and evaluation.<sup>11</sup>

YRBS data related to dating violence for all high school students in the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District (FNSBSD) was examined for the years 2013, 2015, and 2017. In summary for 2017:

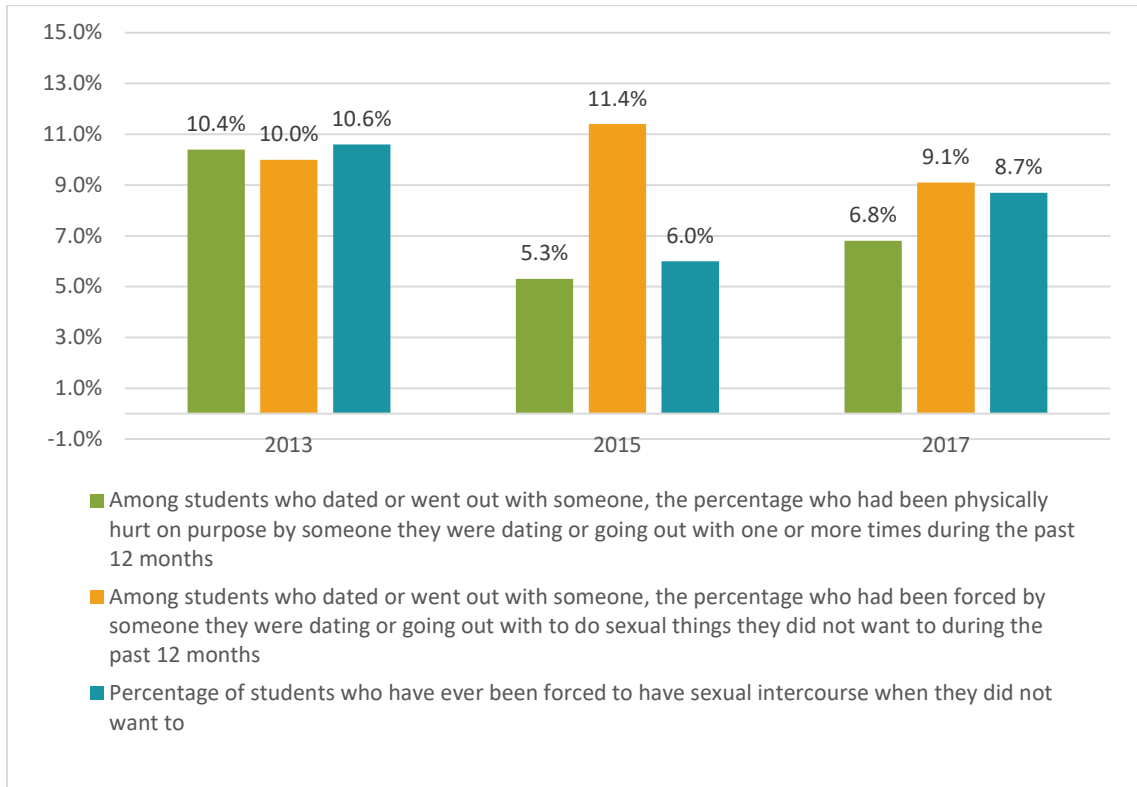
- In 2017, 6.8% of all high school students in FNSBSD who dated or went out with someone reported they had been physically hurt on purpose by someone they were dating or going out with during the past 12 months.
- In 2017, 9.1% of all high school students in FNSBSD who dated or went out with someone reported they had been forced by someone they were dating or going out with to do sexual things they did not want to during the past 12 months.
- In 2017, 8.7% of all high school students in FNSBSD reported they had ever been forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to.

Figure 6 shows a comparison of these data for all three years 2013, 2015, and 2017. There are no clear trends or patterns across years.

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<sup>11</sup> State of Alaska Department of Health and Social Services.  
<http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/Chronic/Pages/yrbs/yrbs.aspx>

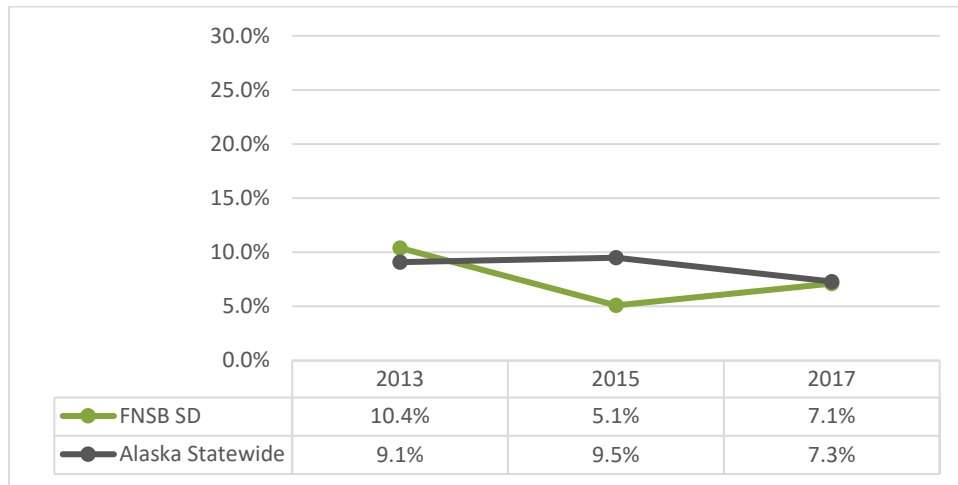
**Figure 6: YRBS Data Related to Teen Dating Violence for All High School Students in Fairbanks North Star Borough School District (2013 – 2017)<sup>12</sup>**



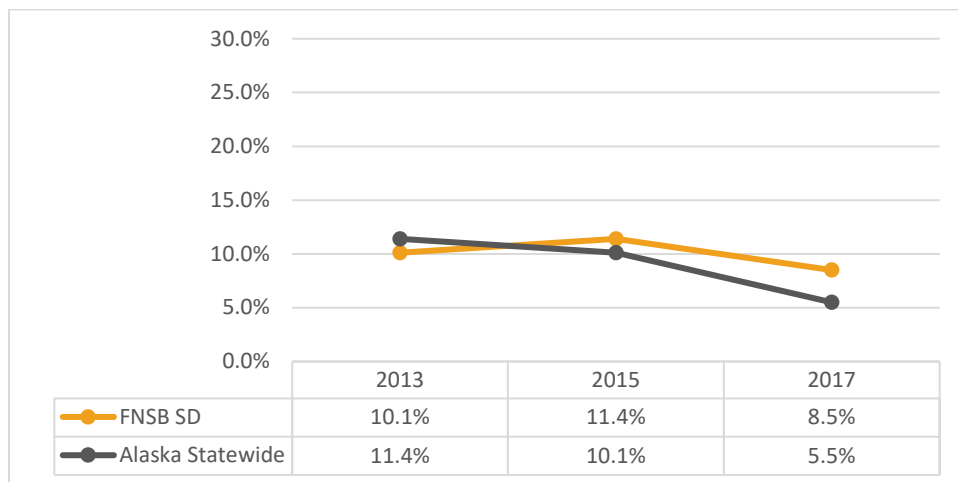
YRBS data for questions related to teen dating violence were then compared for traditional high school students from FNSBSD and traditional high school students statewide for the years 2013-2017. Data do not show any significant patterns or trends. This is shown in Figures 7-9.

<sup>12</sup> Alaska Department of Health and Social Services. Retrieved on June 4, 2018 from <http://ibis.dhss.alaska.gov/query/Introduction.html>

**Figure 7: Among traditional high school students who dated or went out with someone, the percentage who had been physically hurt on purpose by someone they were dating or going out with one or more times during the past 12 months<sup>12</sup>**

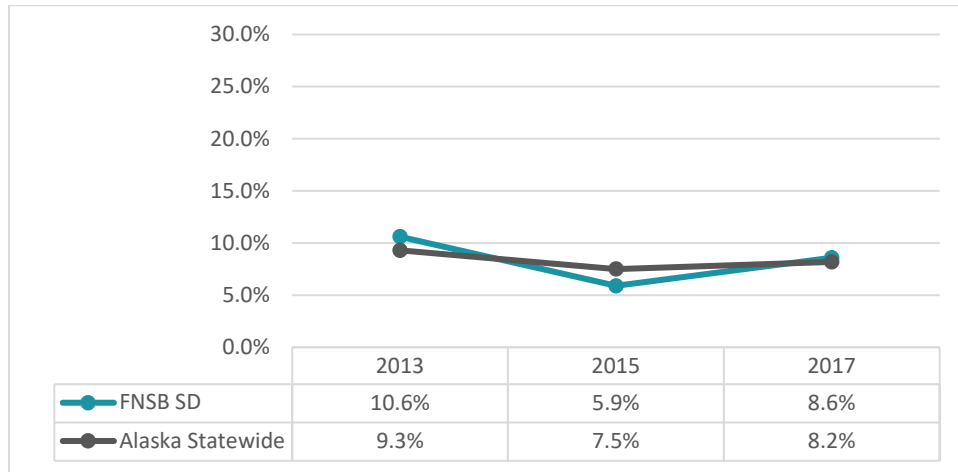


**Figure 8: Among traditional high school students who dated or went out with someone, the percentage who had been forced by someone they were dating or going out with to do sexual things they did not want to during the past 12 months<sup>12</sup>**





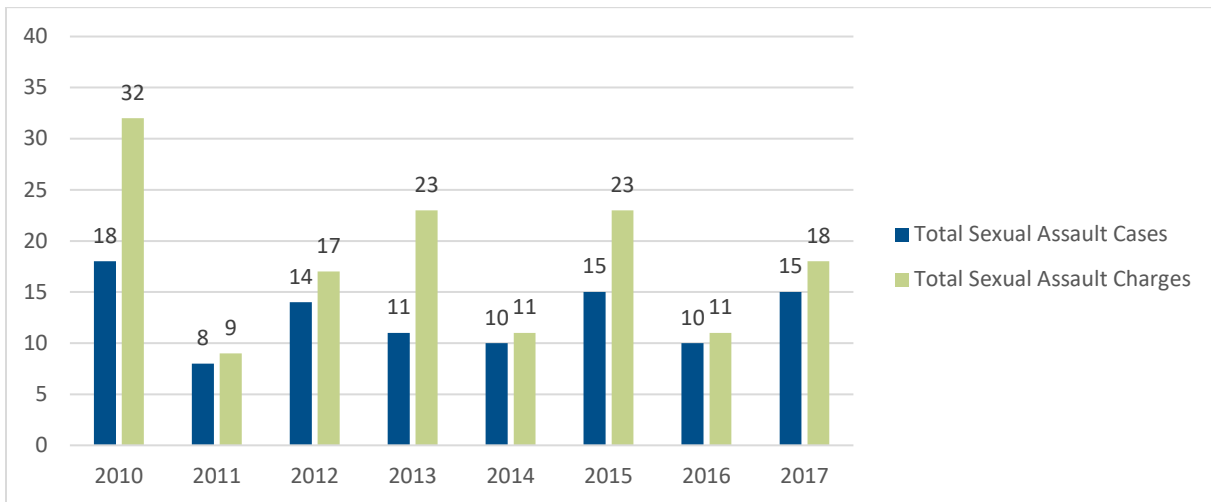
**Figure 9: Percentage of traditional high school students who have ever been forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to<sup>12</sup>**



## Alaska Court System

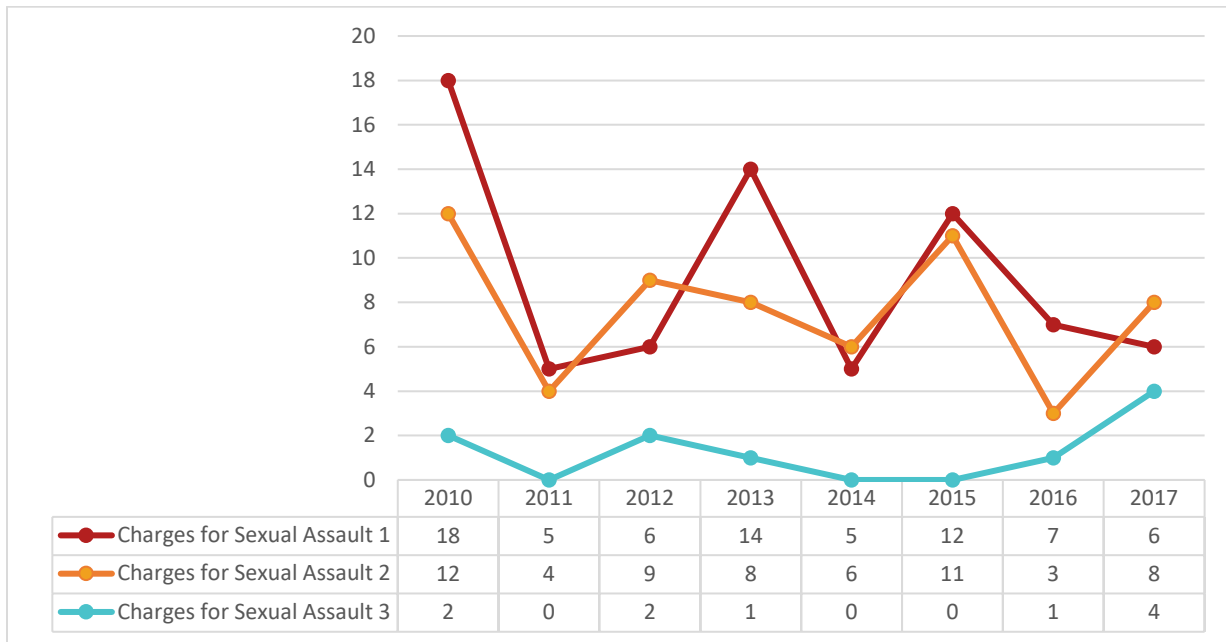
Data was provided by the Alaska Court System for Fairbanks District and Fairbanks Superior Courts showing the number of cases and charges at the time of filing related to sexual assault in FNSB for the years 2010-2017. The number of cases for sexual assault in FNSB ranged from a low of eight in 2011 to a high of 18 in 2010. The number of charges range from a low of nine in 2011 to a high of 32 in 2010. It should be noted that multiple charges can be filed in a single case. There are no clear trends between 2010 and 2017. This is shown in Figure 10.

**Figure 10: Cases and Charges for Sexual Assault in FNSB for 2010-2017 (multiple charges can be filed in a single case)**



Data was also provided summarizing charges for Sexual Assault 1, Sexual Assault 2, Sexual Assault 3, and Sexual Assault 4 as defined by AS11.41<sup>13</sup>. While no clear trends across years can be established, there were significantly fewer charges for Sexual Assault 3 than there were for Sexual Assault 1 or 2 in all years. There were no charges for Sexual Assault 4. This is shown in Figure 11.

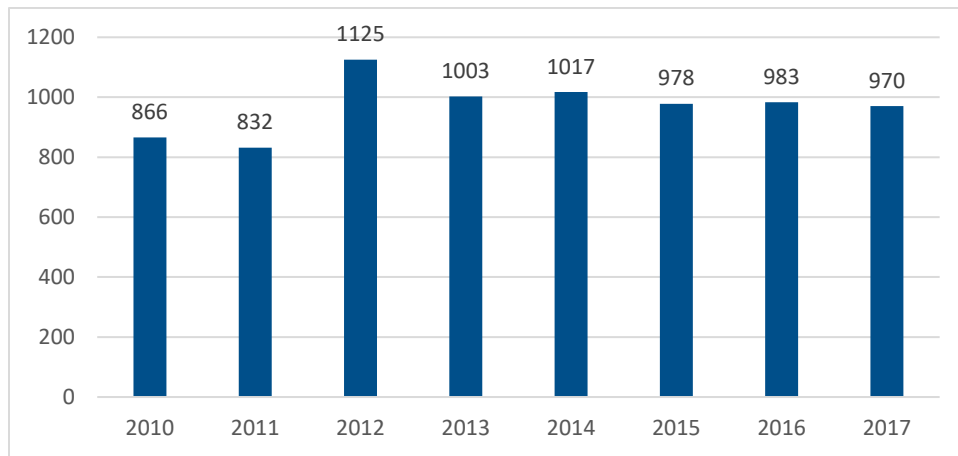
**Figure 11: Charges for Sexual Assault filed in FNSB for 2010-2017**



<sup>13</sup> The Alaska State Legislature. Retrieved on June 5, 2018 from <http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/statutes.asp>

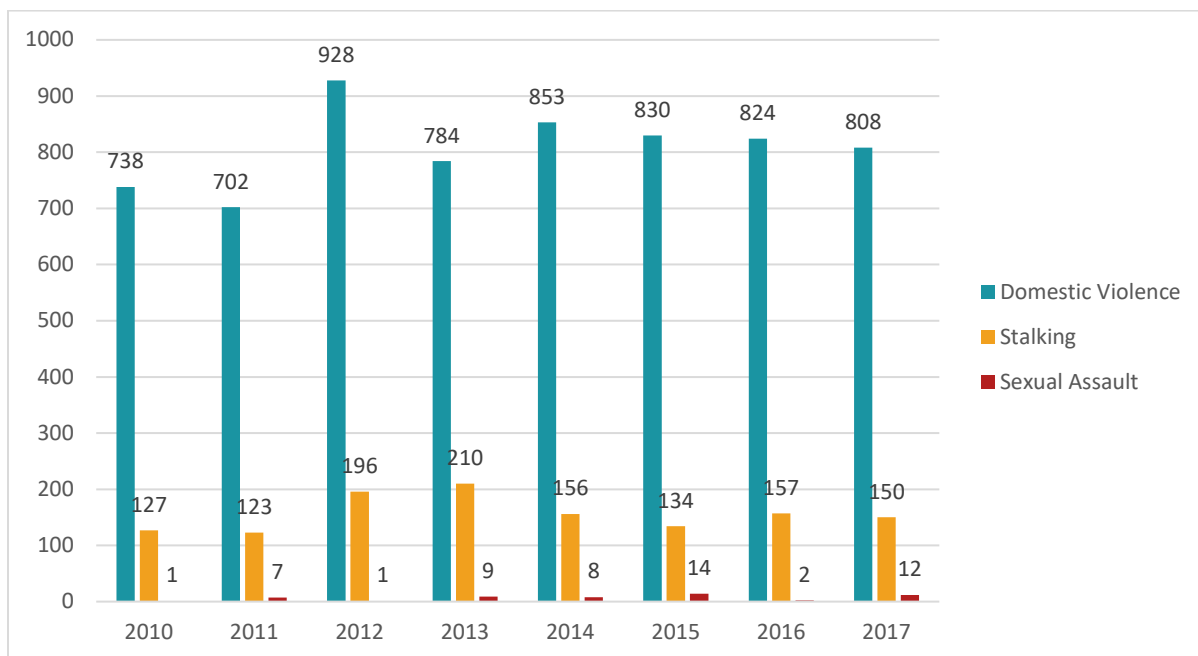
Data for 2010-2017 for civil protective order cases filed in the Fairbanks Court show the total number of cases filed to range from a low of 832 in 2011 to a high of 1125 in 2012. This represents an average number of civil protective order cases filed per day in FNSB of 2.3 to 3.1. It should be noted that some of these civil protective orders are filings for expired protective orders from previous years. This is shown in Figure 12.

**Figure 12: Annual Number of Civil Protective Order Cases Filed in Fairbanks Court (2010-2017)**



When examining civil protective order cases by type, significantly more were filed each year for domestic violence than were for stalking or sexual assault. This is shown in Figure 13.

**Figure 13: Annual Number of Civil Protective Order Cases Filed in FNSB by Type (2010-2017)**



## Alaska Victimization Survey

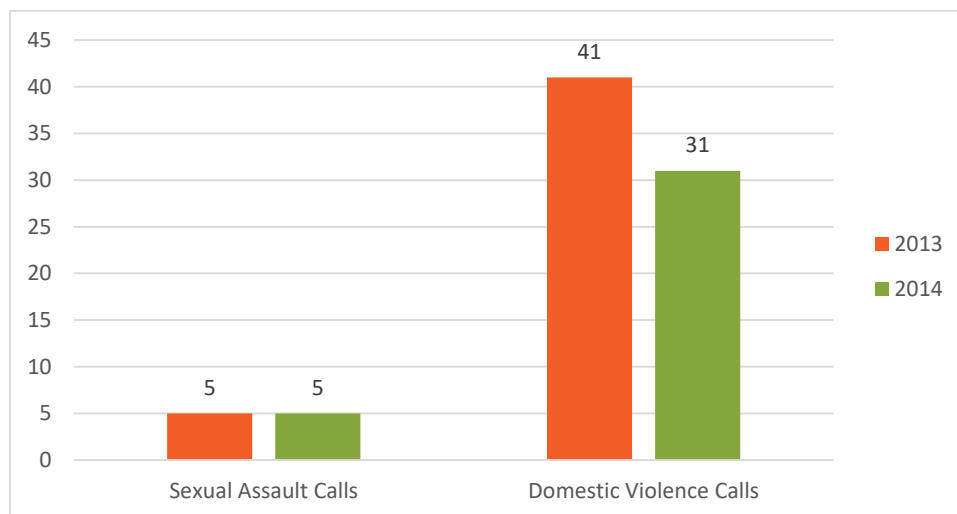
The Alaska Victimization Survey is conducted by the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) Justice Center for the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (CDVSA), and is intended to provide comprehensive statewide and regional data to guide planning and policy development and to evaluate the impact of prevention and intervention services.<sup>14</sup> While results for the 2015 statewide survey showed a 32% decrease in the number of women who experience intimate partner violence and a 33% decrease in the number of women who experience sexual violence from 2010, numbers for 2015 are noteworthy. In 2015:

- 8.1% of women in Alaska had experienced intimate partner violence, sexual violence, or both in the previous year.
- 50.3% of adult women in Alaska had experienced intimate partner violence, sexual violence, or both in their lifetime.

The most recent year that the Alaska Victimization Survey collected data specific to the Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB) is 2011. Numbers were slightly lower for FNSB in 2011 than they were for all of Alaska in 2015. In 2011:

- 5.5% of adult women in FNSB had experienced intimate partner violence, sexual violence or both in the past year.
- 44.8% of adult women in FNSB had experienced intimate partner violence, sexual violence in their lifetime.

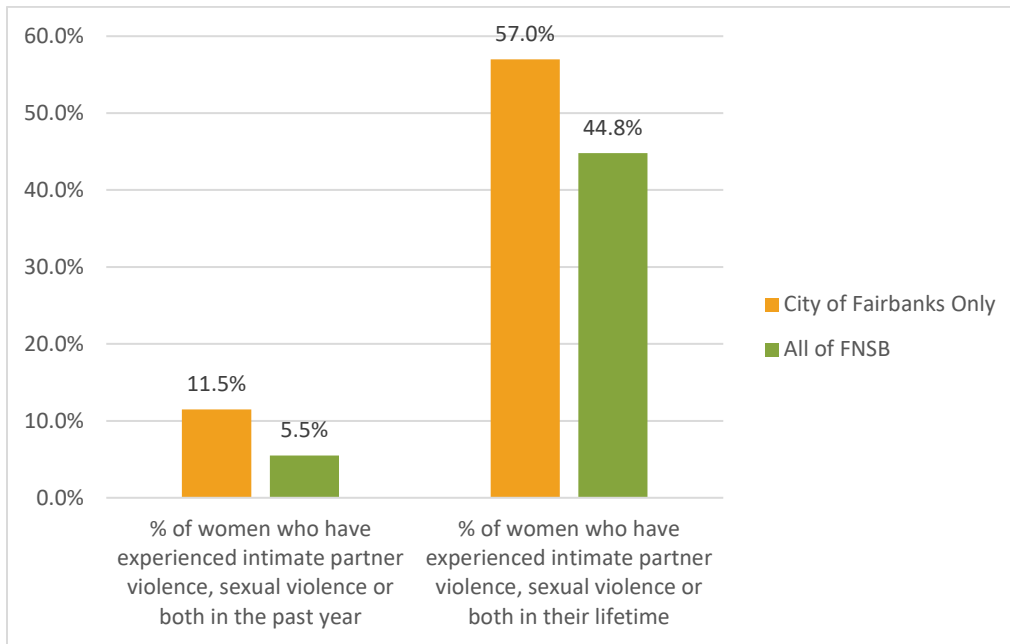
**Figure 14: Percent of Women in Alaska and in FNSB Who Experienced Violence<sup>14</sup>**



<sup>14</sup> University of Alaska Anchorage Justice Center Alaska Victimization Survey. Retrieved on June 5, 2018 from <https://www.uaa.alaska.edu/academics/college-of-health/departments/justice-center/research/alaska-victimization-survey/index.cshhtml>

When broken down further, data for FNSB in 2011 show that the incidence of violence is higher among women in the City of Fairbanks than it is for the borough in its entirety. This is shown in Figure 15.

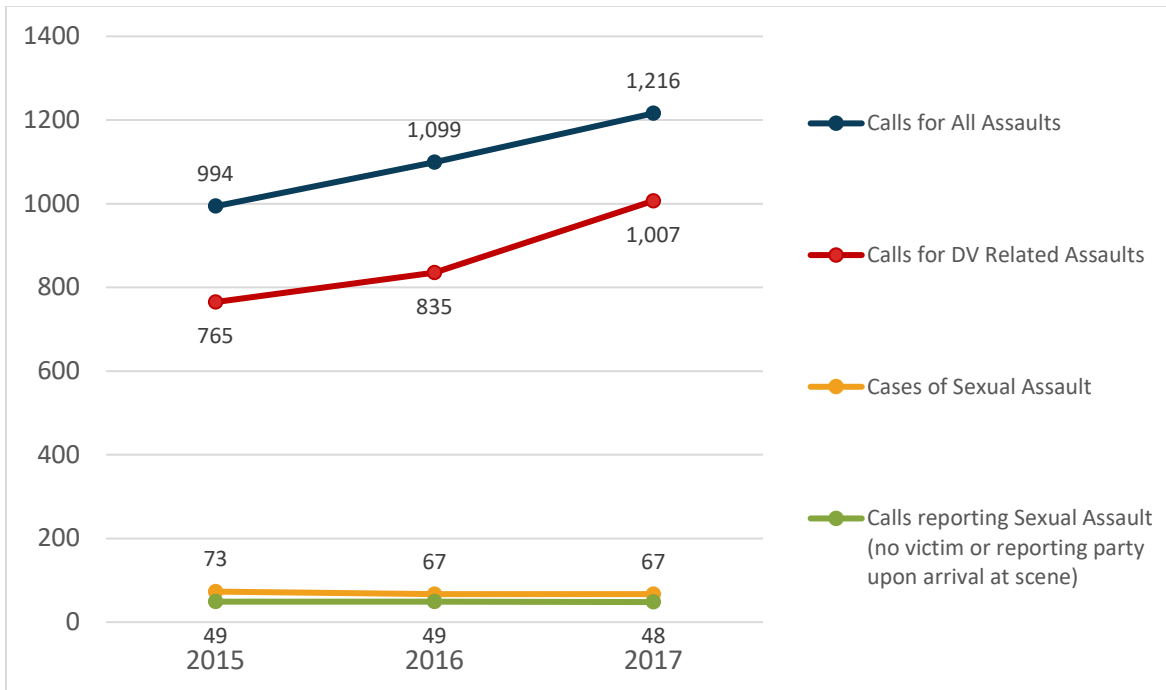
**Figure 15: Percent of Women in the City of Fairbanks and in All of FNSB Who Experienced Violence (2011)<sup>14</sup>**



### Fairbanks Police Department

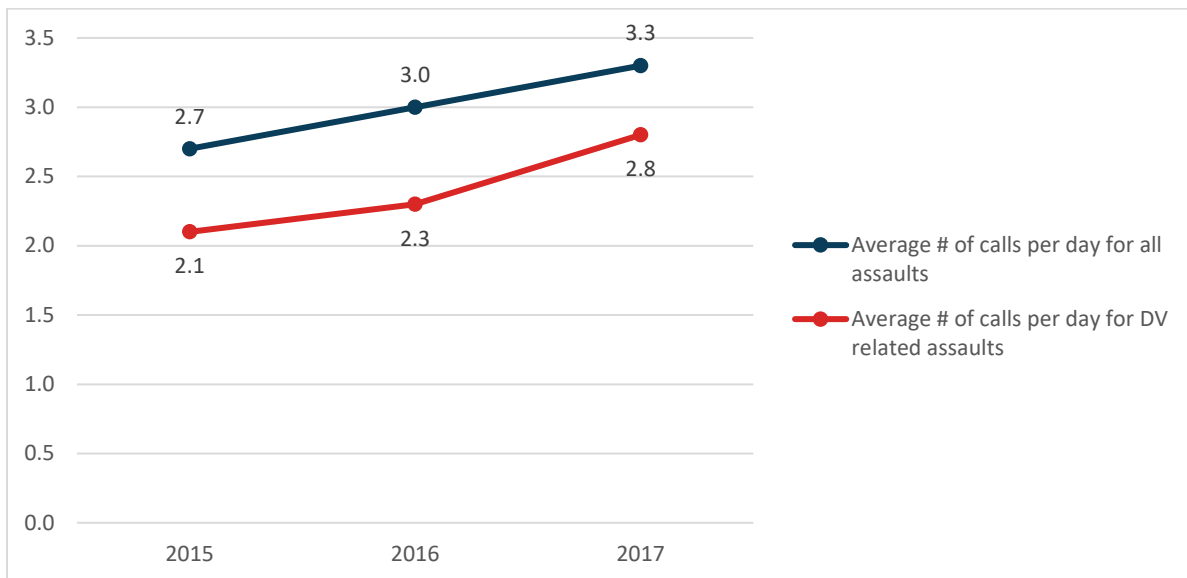
Data reflecting the number of calls for all assaults, domestic violence related assaults, and sexual assaults were provided by the Fairbanks Police Department for 2015-2017. While the number of calls for sexual assaults remained stable over the three-year period, the number of calls for all assaults and for domestic violence related assaults increased. This is shown in Figure 16.

**Figure 16: Calls to Fairbanks Police Department for Assaults (2015-2017)**



The number of calls to FPD for all assaults grew from an average of 2.7 per day in 2015 to an average of 3.3 per day in 2017. Similarly, the number of calls to FPD for domestic violence-related assaults grew from an average of 2.1 per day in 2015 to an average of 2.8 per day in 2017. This is shown in Figure 17.

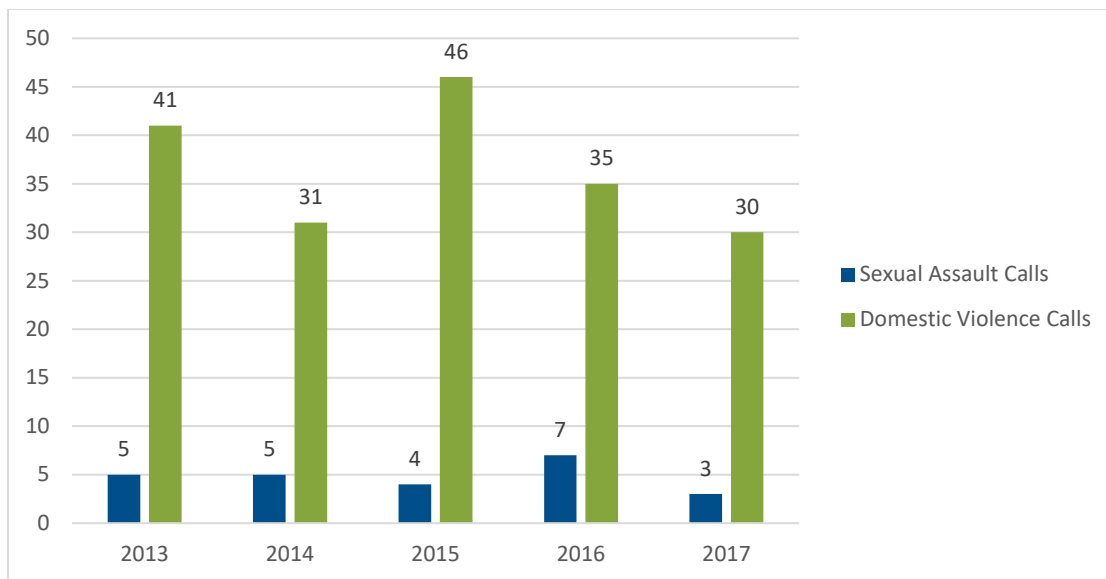
**Figure 17: Average Number of Calls per Day to Fairbanks Police Department for All Assaults and for Domestic Violence-Related Assaults (2015-2017)**



## North Pole Police Department

Data was provided by the North Pole Police Department showing the number of calls received annually for the years 2013-2017 for sexual assault and for domestic violence. The annual number of calls received for sexual assault ranged from a low of 3 in 2017 to a high of 7 in 2016, while the range of calls received for domestic violence ranged from a low of 30 in 2017 to a high of 46 in 2015. This is shown in Figure 18.

**Figure 18: Annual Number of Calls Received by North Pole Police Department for Sexual Assault and for Domestic Violence**



## Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living

Data was provided by the Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living (IACNVL) on the number of clients served in FY 2017 (July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017). In FY 2017:

- IACNVL provided a total of 20,640 shelter nights to 322 individuals (181 women and 141 children). This represents an average of 64 nights per individual.
- IACNVL responded to 118 adult sexual assault and domestic violence calls at Fairbanks Memorial Hospital.
- IACNVL provided legal advocacy to 278 individuals.

## Alaska Department of Public Safety 2016 Crime in Alaska Supplemental Report: Felony Level Sex Offenses<sup>15</sup>

According to the State of Alaska Department of Public Safety, in 2016 in Alaska:

- The most common victim of sexual assault was a 14-year-old female.
- The most common suspect in sexual assault was a 19-year-old male.
- The most common relationship of the suspect to the victim was an acquaintance.
- The most common location of the sexual assault was at a residence.

## University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) 2017 Annual Security and Fire Safety Report<sup>16</sup>

For the UAF Fairbanks campus, in 2016 there were 2 incidents of domestic violence in the residence halls on campus, 1 incident of dating violence in the residence halls on campus, and 5 incidents of stalking off-campus.

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<sup>15</sup> Retrieved on June 6, 2018 from <https://dps.alaska.gov/getmedia/0637d6db-11f0-4d61-88a9-2d94a8e48547/2016-Felony-Level-Sex-Offenses->

<sup>16</sup> Retrieved on June 6, 2018 from <https://www.uaf.edu/deanofstudents/Annual-Security-Report.pdf>



# Report of Community Perceptions Survey

## Methodology

A community perceptions survey was administered by the Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living (IACNVL) in April and May of 2018 to better understand community perceptions of Fairbanks North Star Borough residents related to domestic violence, sexual assault, teen dating violence, and male engagement in prevention efforts. The survey was written by the Goldstream Group in collaboration with prevention staff of the Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living (IACNVL). For ease of analysis, all questions were written using a closed-ended format. Guiding questions for survey development were:

1. What is the public’s perception of the incidence of (domestic violence, sexual assault, teen dating violence)?
2. What is the public’s perception of who is at risk for (domestic violence, sexual assault, teen dating violence)?
3. What is the public’s perception of behaviors that constitute (domestic violence, sexual assault, teen dating violence)?
4. What myths or misperceptions exist in the community about (domestic violence, sexual assault, teen dating violence)?
5. What is the public’s perception of the preventability of (domestic violence, sexual assault, teen dating violence)?

## Survey Administration

Surveys were administered by IACNVL prevention staff using Quick Tap, an offline survey application that allows for the collection of survey data without the need for an internet connection (<https://www.quicktapsurvey.com/>). Surveys were distributed at events using iPads, as well as through several online mechanisms.

**Figure 19: Summary of Community Perceptions Survey Distribution**

Events	Online Distribution
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fairbanks Native Association Sexual Assault Awareness Walk</li> <li>• Take Back the Night Event at University of Alaska Fairbanks</li> <li>• Alaska Health Fair</li> <li>• Alaska Careline Staff Meeting</li> <li>• Housing and Homeless Coalition Community Conversation</li> <li>• Community Technical College Foyer Table</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Email to all IACNVL staff</li> <li>• Email to Fairbanks Wellness Coalition distribution list</li> <li>• Email to Fairbanks Prevention Alliance</li> <li>• Link posted on IACNVL Facebook page</li> <li>• Post boosted through Green Dot Fairbanks Facebook page targeting individuals 18 and over in FNSB</li> </ul>

## Survey Analysis

Survey responses were downloaded by the Goldstream Group and analyzed using Excel. In addition to the analysis of individual questions, wherever possible responses to similar questions for domestic violence, sexual assault, and teen dating violence were compared.

## Survey Respondents

A total of 205 surveys were completed. Respondents represented a convenience sample; that is, not a randomized sample which allows for a survey sample most closely representing the demographic makeup of the community. The vast majority of survey respondents (83.4%) were female, and just 9.8% of survey respondents indicated they were male. More than half of respondents (53.7%) were age 26-45, while 21% were 18-25 and 19% were 46-65.

Survey respondents were asked to indicate their race by selecting all applicable races from a checklist. A total of 83.4% of respondents indicated they were White, either alone or in combination with another race, and 15.1% indicated they were American Indian or Alaska Native, either alone or in combination with another race. Just 3.9% of respondents indicated they were Hispanic or Latino, and 91.7% indicated they were Not Hispanic or Latino.

**Figure 20: Gender of Survey Respondents (n=205)**

Gender	Count	% of Respondents
Female	171	83.4%
Male	20	9.8%
Agender	2	1.0%
Transgender	1	0.5%
Transgender Male	1	0.5%
Non-Binary	1	0.5%
Fluid	1	0.5%
Other	1	0.5%
Did Not Indicate	7	3.4%

**Figure 21: Age of Survey Respondents (n=205)**

Age Group	Count	% of Respondents
18-25	43	21.0%
26-45	110	53.7%
46-65	39	19.0%
65+	6	2.9%
Did Not Indicate	7	3.4%

**Figure 22: Race of Survey Respondents (n=205)**

Race (Alone or In Combination)	Count	% of Respondents
White	171	83.4%
American Indian or Alaska Native	31	15.1%
Other	15	7.3%
Asian	7	3.4%
Black or African American	7	3.4%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	3	1.5%
Did Not Indicate	7	3.4%

**Figure 23: Ethnicity of Survey Respondents (n=205)**

Ethnicity	Count	% of Respondents
Hispanic or Latino	8	3.9%
Not Hispanic or Latino	188	91.7%
Did Not Indicate	9	4.4%

Survey respondents were asked at the end of the survey to indicate whether domestic violence or sexual assault has personally touched their life – their own, friends or family – in any way. Most respondents (87.8%) indicated it had, while just 9.8% indicated it had not.

**Figure 24: “Has domestic violence or sexual assault personally touched your life—your own, friends, or family—in any way?” (n=205)**

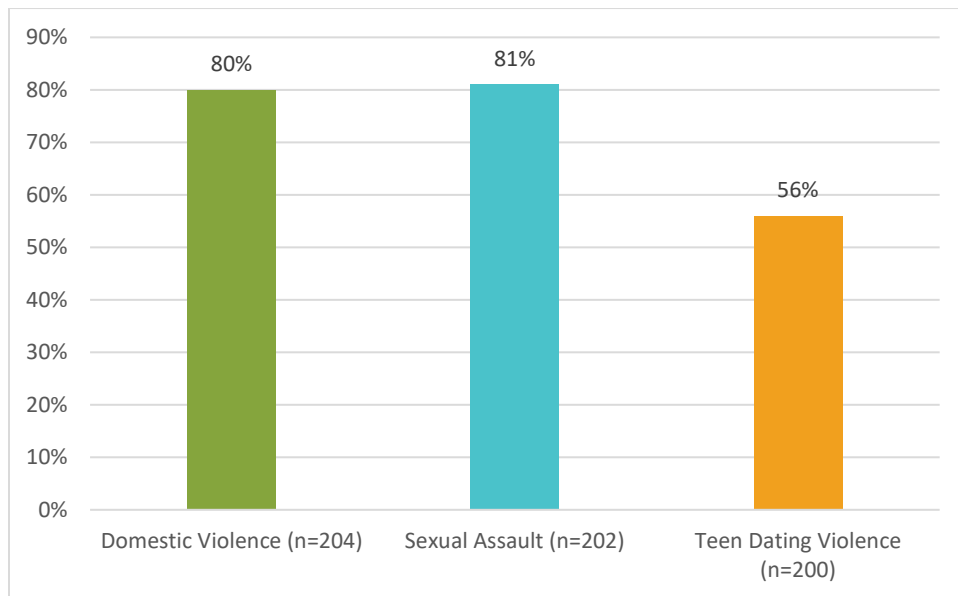
	<b>Count</b>	<b>% of Respondents</b>
Yes	180	87.8%
No	20	9.8%
Did Not Indicate	5	2.4%

# Community Perceptions

## Level of Concern

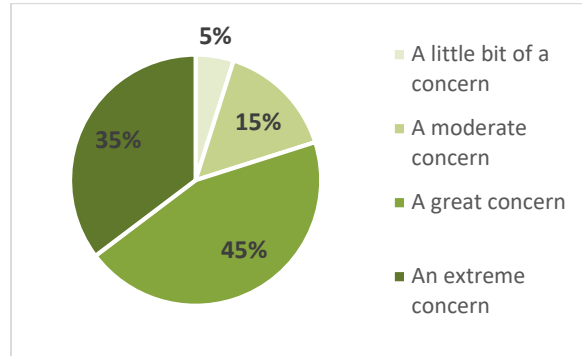
Survey participants were asked to indicate how much of a concern they felt that domestic violence, sexual assault, and teen dating violence are in the Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB). Response options were “not a concern,” “a little bit of a concern,” “a moderate concern,” “a great concern,” and “an extreme concern.” Respondents had similar levels of concern about domestic violence and sexual assault, with 80% of respondents indicating domestic violence is a great or extreme concern, and 81% indicating sexual assault is a great or extreme concern. Fewer respondents – 56% - indicated that teen dating violence is a great or extreme concern in FNSB. This is shown in Figure 25.

**Figure 25: Percent of Survey Respondents Indicating Issue Is a Great or Extreme Concern**

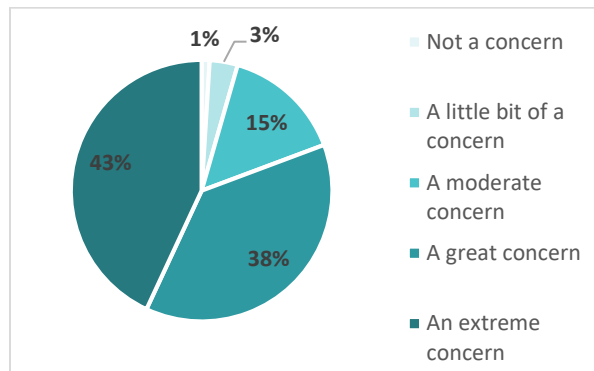


Very few respondents felt that any of the issues are not a concern or only a little bit of a concern, with only 5% indicating domestic violence is not a concern or a little bit of a concern, 4% indicating sexual assault is not a concern or a little bit of a concern, and 16% indicating teen dating violence is not a concern or a little bit of a concern. Figures 26-28 show the responses for each issue.

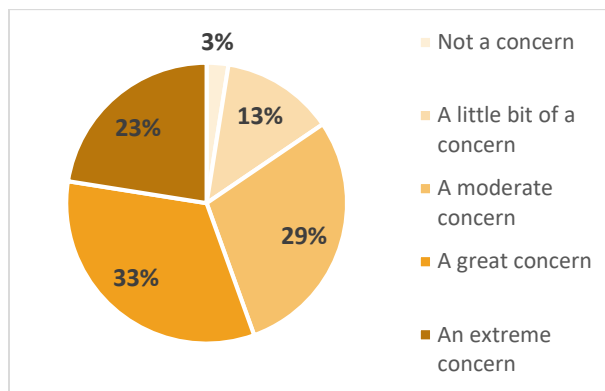
**Figure 26: How Much of a Concern is Domestic Violence in the Fairbanks North Star Borough? (n=204)**



**Figure 27: How Much of a Concern is Sexual Assault in the Fairbanks North Star Borough? (n=202)**



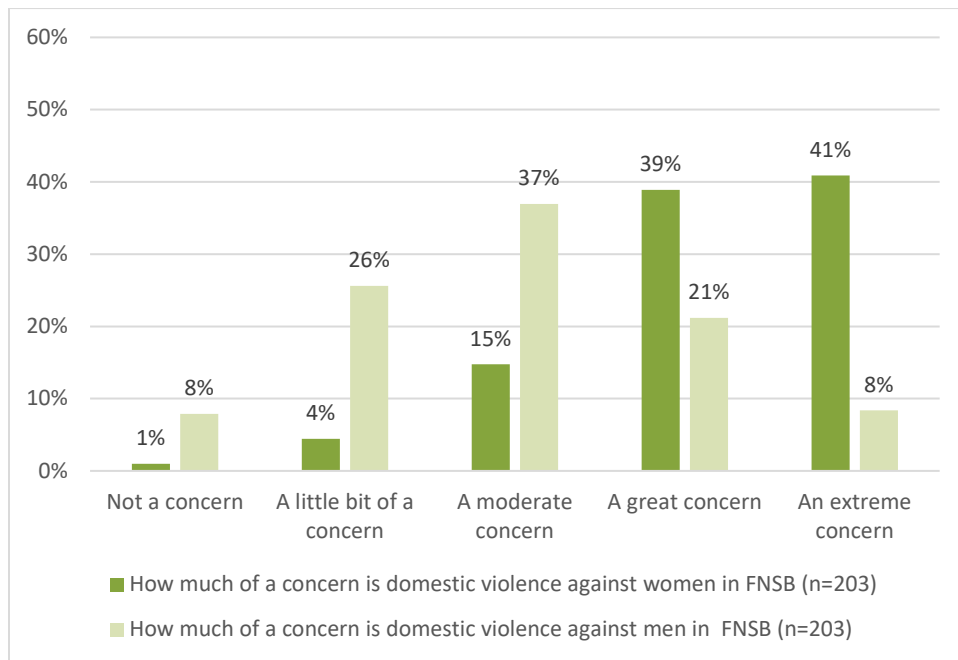
**Figure 28: How Much of a Concern is Teen Dating Violence in the Fairbanks North Star Borough? (n=200)**



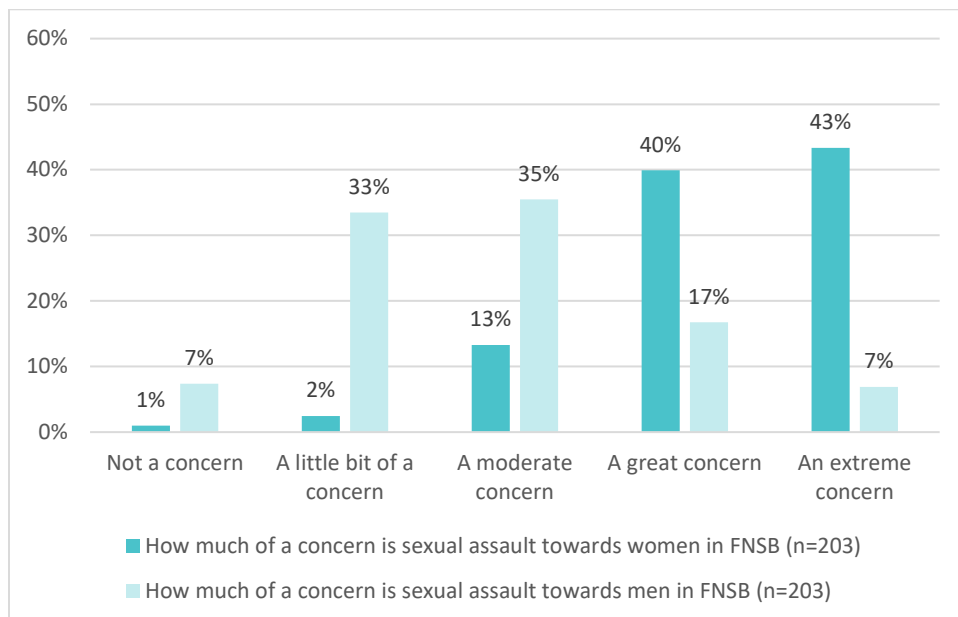
### Gender Differences in Concern

Respondents were also asked to indicate the level of concern about domestic violence and sexual assault in FNSB towards women and towards men. In both cases, concern about the issue is much higher in relationship to women than it is for men. This is shown in Figures 29-30.

**Figure 29: Level of Concern about Domestic Violence against Women and Men**



**Figure 30: Level of Concern about Sexual Assault towards Women and Men**

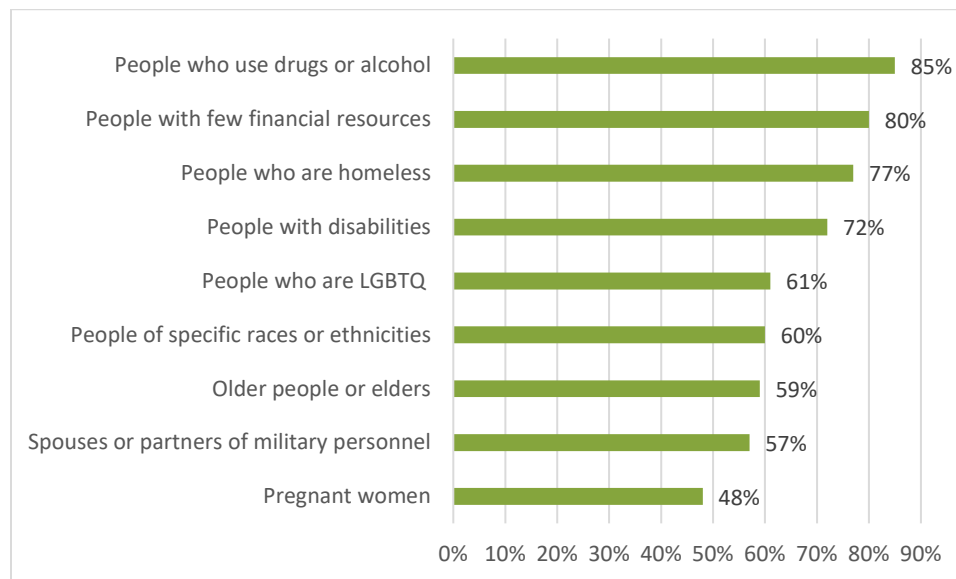


## Perceptions of Groups Who Are at Risk

For all three issues of domestic violence, sexual assault, and teen dating violence, respondents were presented with a list of groups of people who may be at risk and asked to indicate whether they felt any of the groups were at higher risk. Respondents could check as many options as they felt applied. In all three cases, respondents selected an average of six groups of people from the list.

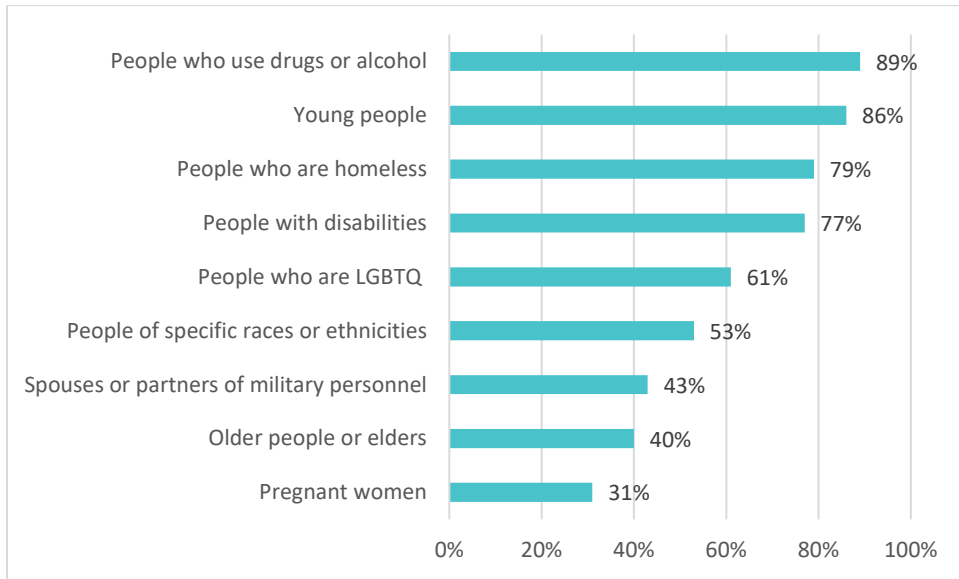
- More than three-quarters of respondents felt that people who use drugs or alcohol (85%), people with few financial resources (80%), and people who are homeless (77%) are at greater risk for domestic violence.
- More than three-quarters of respondents felt that people who use drugs or alcohol (89%), young people (86%), people who are homeless (79%), and people with disabilities (77%) are at greater risk for sexual assault.
- More than three-quarters of respondents felt that teens who use drugs or alcohol (86%), teen girls (85%), teens who are homeless (84%), and teens who are from families with few financial resources (76%) are at greater risk for teen dating violence.

**Figure 31: Percent of Respondents Indicating Groups are at Higher Risk for Domestic Violence (n=203)**

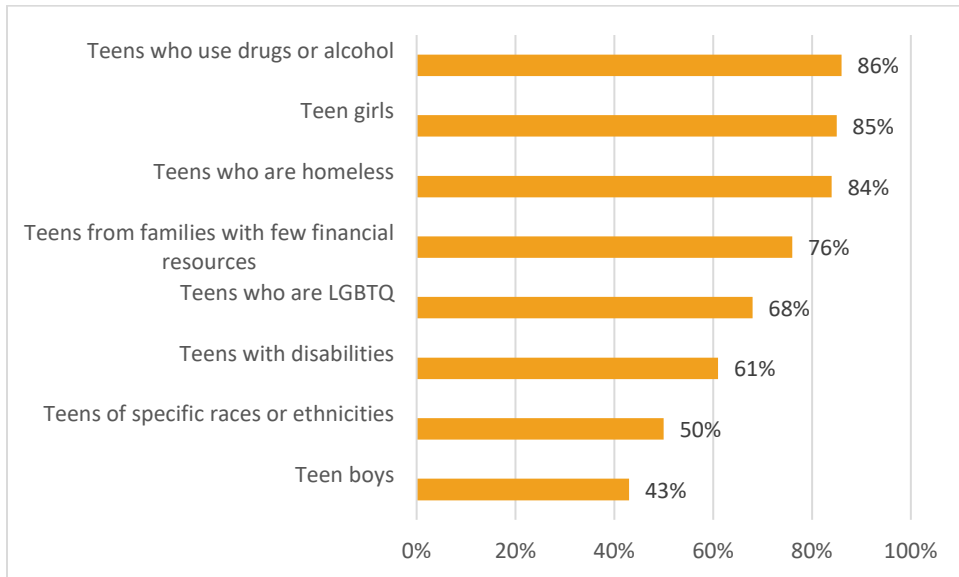




**Figure 32: Percent of Respondents Indicating Groups are at Higher Risk for Sexual Assault (n=196)**



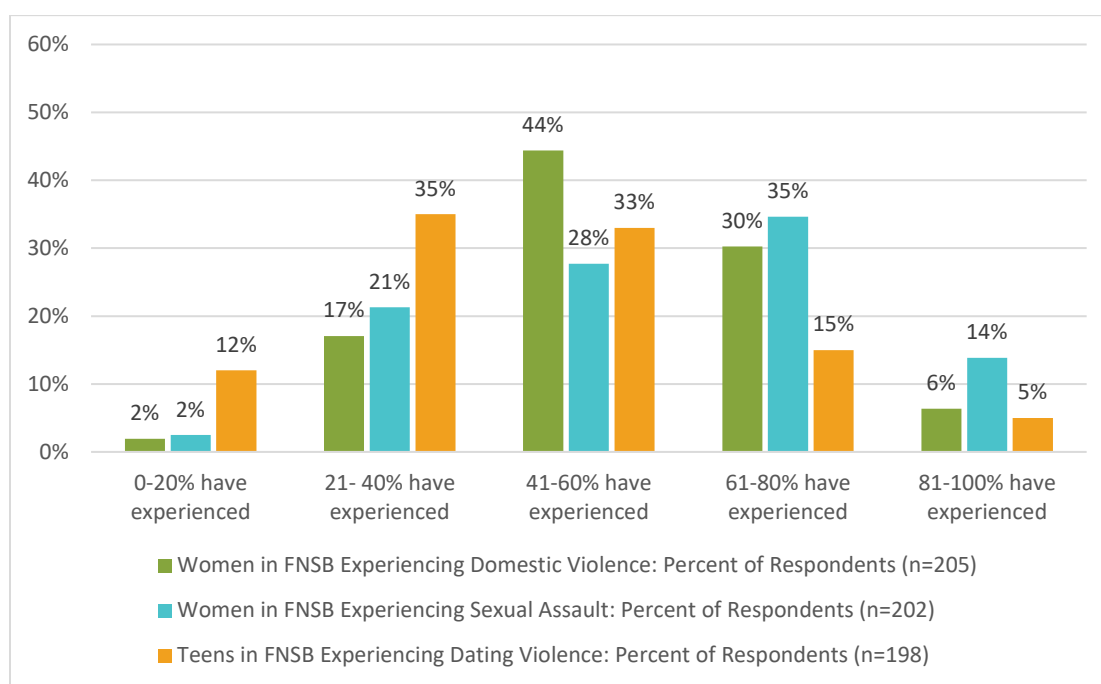
**Figure 33: Percent of Respondents Indicating Groups are at Higher Risk for Teen Dating Violence (n=193)**



## Perceptions about Incidence

Survey respondents were asked to indicate what percentage of adult women in FNSB they think have experienced some form of domestic violence, what percentage of adult women in FNSB they think have experienced some form of sexual assault, and what percentage of teens in FNSB they think have experienced some form of dating violence. Response options for all three questions were “0-20%,” “21-40%,” “41-60%,” “61-80%,” and “81-100%.” Overall, respondents felt that the highest number of individuals had experienced sexual assault, with the fewest number experiencing teen dating violence. This is shown below.

**Figure 34: Perceptions of Incidence of Domestic Violence among Women, Sexual Assault among Women, and Dating Violence among Teens in FNSB**



## Perceptions about Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Teen Dating Violence

Survey respondents were presented with separate questions listing statements related to domestic violence, sexual assault, and teen dating violence. These statements represented perceptions related to the prevention of each issue, perceptions about the victims, and perceptions about the perpetrators. Respondents were asked to indicate how much they agreed or disagreed with each statement. Response options were “strongly disagree,” “disagree,” “neither agree nor disagree,” “agree,” and “strongly agree”. In all three cases, respondents overwhelmingly agreed that there is a stigma or fear related to asking for help, and that people in the community don’t know how they can help or make a difference in preventing it from happening.

**Figure 35: Percent of Respondents that Agreed with Statements Related to Domestic Violence (n=205)**

Statement	Agree or Strongly Agree	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
If people in the community experience domestic violence, there is a stigma or fear related to asking for help.	88%	1%	3%	8%	52%	36%
People don't know how they can help or make a difference in preventing domestic violence.	85%	1%	3%	10%	62%	23%
People who are violent towards their family members are not likely to change.	58%	4%	16%	22%	47%	11%
Domestic violence usually happens when a person gets angry or loses control.	42%	9%	27%	22%	36%	6%
Domestic violence tends to happen to certain people (people of a specific background, race, sexual orientation, etc.)	22%	19%	34%	25%	19%	3%
A victim of domestic violence can leave their abuser if they really want to.	17%	20%	38%	26%	15%	2%
Domestic violence is less common among people like myself.	12%	30%	40%	19%	9%	2%
People who are abusive are usually under the influence of drugs or alcohol.	11%	17%	40%	33%	9%	2%
Victims of domestic violence usually use drugs or alcohol.	11%	15%	42%	32%	10%	0%
If someone is experiencing domestic violence, others should not get involved.	6%	77%	17%	0%	2%	4%
Domestic violence is a private family matter.	2%	71%	23%	4%	0%	1%
Domestic violence is a problem in our community, but there are other more pressing problems to address.	4%	32%	39%	25%	3%	0%
People who are abusive are usually easy to identify.	3%	39%	49%	9%	3%	0%
Violence often happens when the victim provokes their partner.	2%	47%	37%	14%	2%	0%

**Figure 36: Percent of Respondents that Agreed with Statements Related to Sexual Assault (n=202)**

Statement	Agree or Strongly Agree	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
If people in the community experience sexual assault, there is a stigma or fear related to asking for help.	84%	2%	5%	8%	47%	37%
People don't know how they can help or make a difference in preventing sexual assault.	71%	2%	12%	14%	57%	14%
People who commit sexual assault are not likely to change.	58%	2%	14%	26%	38%	20%
Sexual assault tends to happen to certain people (people of a specific background, race, sexual orientation, etc.)	21%	23%	27%	29%	18%	2%
If someone else experiences sexual assault, it is not my business to ask them about it.	12%	31%	34%	23%	11%	1%
People who commit sexual assault are usually under the influence of drugs or alcohol.	12%	21%	38%	29%	11%	1%
Victims of sexual assault usually use drugs or alcohol.	10%	29%	35%	26%	9%	1%
Sexual assault usually happens when a person gets angry or loses control.	9%	29%	38%	23%	7%	2%
Sexual assault is less common among people like me.	9%	39%	36%	16%	8%	1%
Sexual assault tends to happen to people who dress or act provocatively.	6%	47%	29%	17%	5%	1%
If someone experiences sexual assault, others should not get involved.	4%	52%	41%	4%	3%	2%
Sexual assault is a problem in our community, but there are other more pressing problems to address.	3%	40%	38%	19%	2%	1%
Most sexual assaults are committed by strangers.	2%	48%	40%	9%	2%	0%
People who commit sexual assault are usually easy to identify.	1%	59%	32%	8%	0%	0%

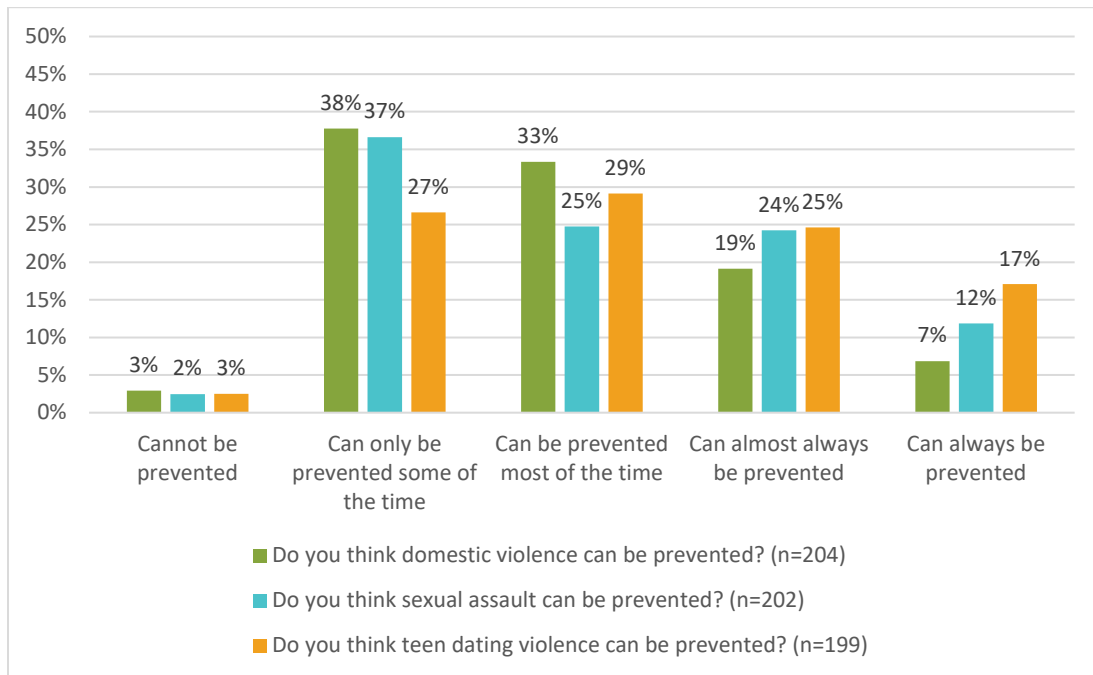
**Figure 37: Percent of Respondents that Agreed with Statements Related to Teen Dating Violence (n=199)**

Statement	Agree or Strongly Agree	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
If teens in the community experience dating violence, there is a stigma or fear related to asking for help.	79%	1%	6%	14%	51%	28%
People don't know how they can help or make a difference in preventing teen dating violence.	76%	1%	9%	14%	59%	17%
Teen dating violence tends to happen to certain individuals (teens who are of a specific background, race, sexual orientation, etc.)	18%	18%	35%	30%	16%	2%
Teen dating violence usually happens to individuals who are sexually active.	17%	19%	38%	26%	16%	1%
Teen dating violence usually happens to individuals who use drugs or alcohol.	16%	18%	37%	30%	14%	2%
Teen dating violence is a problem in our community, but there are other more pressing problems to address.	10%	19%	35%	36%	7%	3%
Individuals who experience teen dating violence are often asking for it by the way they act.	3%	73%	16%	9%	2%	1%
Teen dating violence is a normal part of growing up.	2%	70%	21%	7%	1%	1%

## Perceptions of Preventability

Survey respondents were asked to indicate whether they think that domestic violence, sexual assault, and teen dating violence can be prevented. Response options were “I don’t think it can be prevented,” “I think it can only be prevented some of the time,” “I think it can be prevented most of the time,” “I think it can almost always be prevented,” and “I think it can always be prevented.” While barely more than one-quarter of respondents (26%) felt that domestic violence can almost always or always be prevented, more than one third (36%) felt that sexual assault could almost always or always be prevented, and 42% of respondents felt that teen dating violence could almost always or always be prevented. Very few respondents felt that either issue could not be prevented; however, a noteworthy number (27% - 38%) felt that either issue could only be prevented some of the time. This is shown in Figure 38.

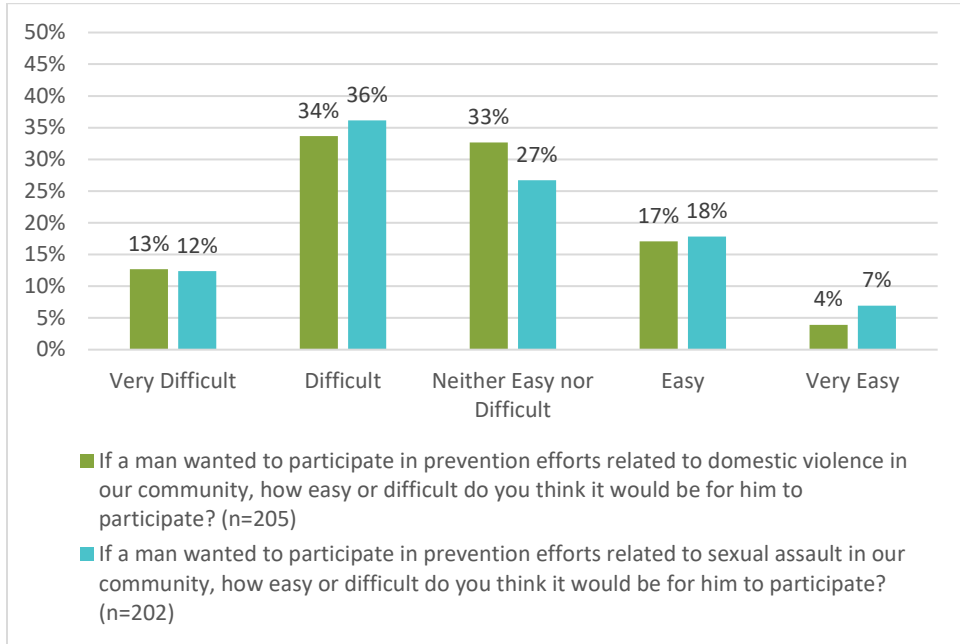
**Figure 38: Perceptions of Preventability for Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Teen Dating Violence**



### Perceptions Related to Male Engagement in the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

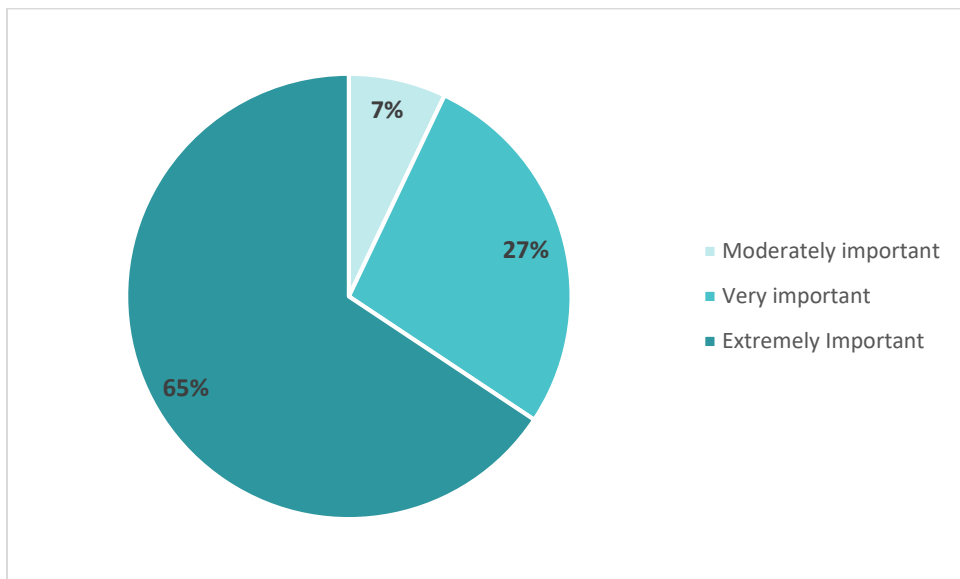
Survey respondents were asked to indicate how easy or difficult they feel it is for a man who wants to participate in prevention efforts for domestic violence and for sexual assault to participate. Response options were “very difficult,” “difficult,” “neither easy nor difficult,” “easy,” and “very easy.” In both cases, nearly half of respondents indicated that it is either difficult or very difficult for men to participate – 47% of respondents indicated it is difficult or very difficult for men to participate in prevention efforts related to domestic violence, and 48% indicated it is difficult or very difficult for men to participate in prevention efforts related to sexual assault. This is shown in Figure 39.

**Figure 39: Perception of Ease or Difficulty for Males to Participate in Prevention Efforts**



In a separate question, respondents were asked to indicate how important they feel it is for men to participate in prevention efforts related to sexual assault. Response options were “not important,” “a little bit important,” “moderately important,” “very important,” and “extremely important.” Nearly all respondents (92%) indicated it is either very important or extremely important.

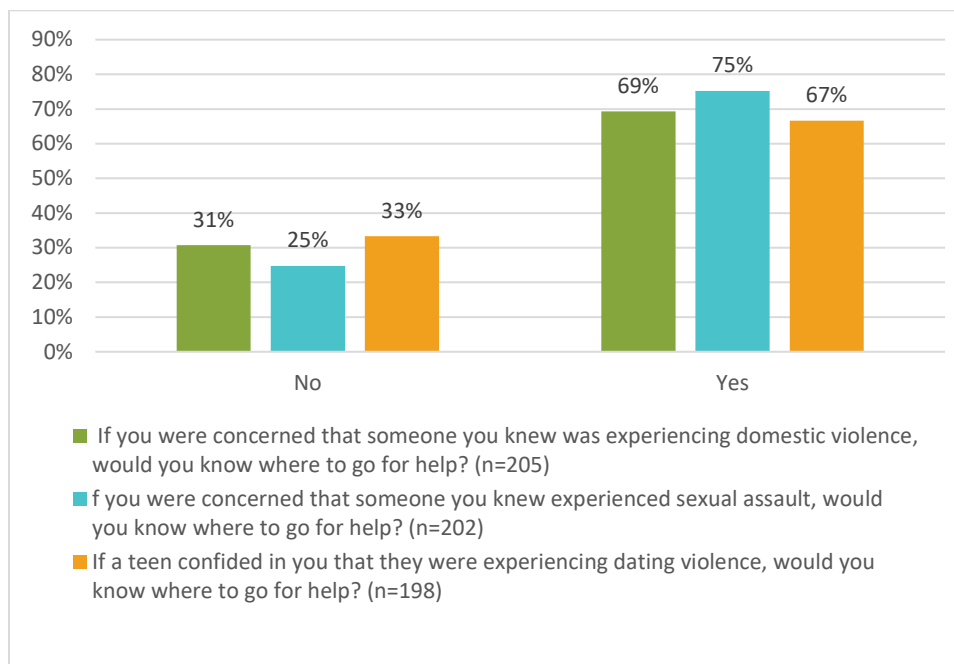
**Figure 40: Importance of Men Participating in Prevention Efforts Related to Sexual Assault (n=202)**



## Resources for Help

Survey respondents were asked to indicate whether they would know where to go for help if they were concerned about someone they knew experiencing domestic violence, sexual assault, and teen dating violence. Response options were “yes” and “no.” Responses were consistent across the three issues. Two-thirds to three-quarters of respondents indicated that yes, they would know where to go for help, and one-quarter to one-third indicated that no, they would not know where to go for help. This is shown in Figure 41.

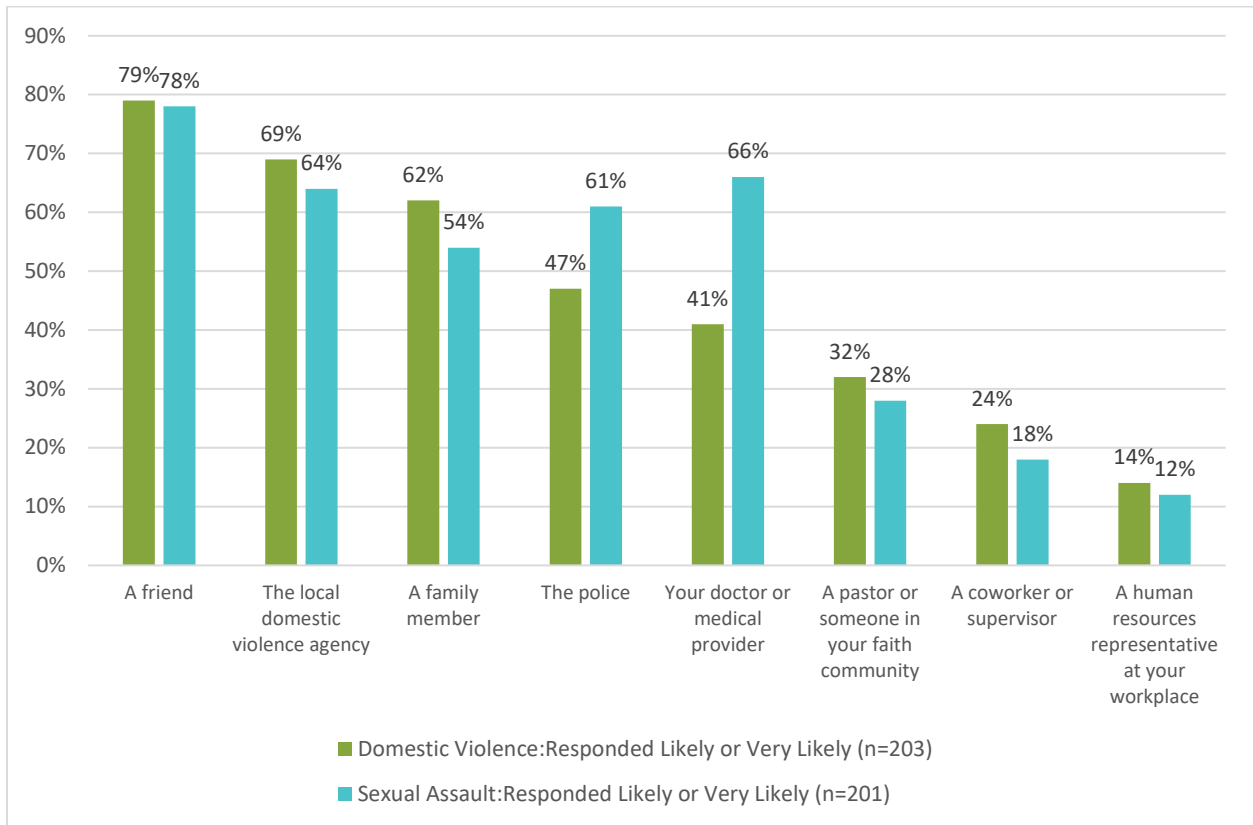
**Figure 41: Knowledge of Where to Go for Help**



Respondents were then provided with a list of various people and asked to indicate how likely they would be to talk to each if they had experienced domestic violence or sexual assault. Response options were “very unlikely,” “unlikely,” “neither likely or unlikely,” “likely,” or “very likely.” Response patterns were similar for domestic violence and sexual assault; however, significantly more respondents indicated they would be likely or very likely to go to their doctor or medical provider or the police for sexual assault than did for domestic violence. This is shown in Figure 42.



**Figure 42: Percent of Respondents Who Would be Likely or Very Likely to Talk to Various Individuals if They were Experiencing Domestic Violence or Sexual Assault**



**Figure 43: Likelihood of Talking to Various Individuals if Experiencing Domestic Violence (n=203)**

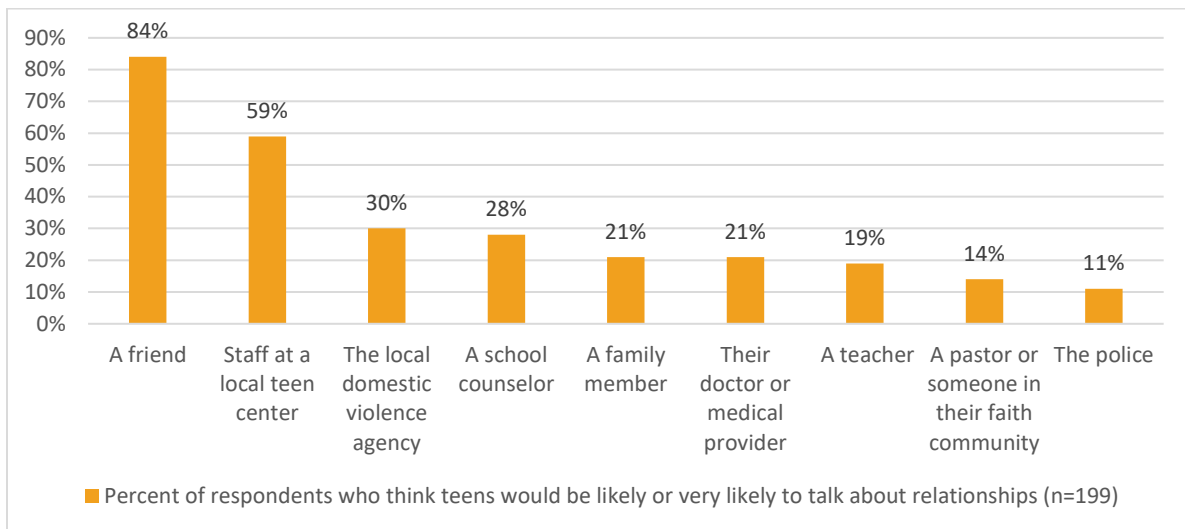
Category	Very Unlikely	Unlikely	Neither Likely nor Unlikely	Likely	Very Likely
A family member	12%	14%	11%	33%	29%
A friend	2%	10%	8%	42%	37%
A coworker or supervisor	26%	32%	18%	16%	8%
A pastor or someone in your faith community	32%	13%	23%	18%	14%
A human resources representative at your workplace	42%	30%	13%	11%	3%
Your doctor or medical provider	14%	24%	22%	30%	11%
The police	12%	24%	17%	34%	13%
The local domestic violence agency	6%	9%	15%	45%	24%

**Figure 44: Likelihood of Talking to Various Individuals if Experiencing Sexual Assault (n=201)**

Category	Very Unlikely	Unlikely	Neither Likely nor Unlikely	Likely	Very likely
A family member	14%	19%	12%	33%	21%
A friend	5%	8%	9%	44%	34%
A coworker or supervisor	37%	31%	14%	13%	5%
A pastor or someone in your faith community	38%	16%	19%	19%	10%
A human resources representative at your workplace	47%	24%	16%	8%	4%
Your doctor or medical provider	9%	11%	14%	44%	22%
The police	10%	15%	15%	32%	29%
The local domestic violence agency	6%	14%	17%	34%	30%

For teen dating violence, respondents were presented with a slightly different list and asked to indicate how likely or unlikely they think teens would be to talk with each of the individuals about their relationships. Response options were “very unlikely,” “unlikely,” “neither likely or unlikely,” “likely,” or “very likely.” Overwhelmingly, respondents felt that teens would be most likely to talk with a friend or staff at a teen center.

**Figure 45: Respondent Perception of Who Teens would be Likely or Very Likely to Talk to about their Relationships (n=199)**



**Figure 46: Respondent Perception of How Likely Teens would be to Talk to Various Individuals about their Relationships (n=199)**

Category	Very Unlikely	Unlikely	Neither Likely nor Unlikely	Likely	Very Likely
A friend	2%	5%	10%	40%	44%
Staff at a local teen center	7%	15%	20%	47%	12%
The local domestic violence agency	14%	34%	22%	24%	6%
A school counselor	15%	29%	27%	22%	6%
A family member	22%	41%	16%	14%	7%
Their doctor or medical provider	17%	35%	28%	16%	5%
A teacher	17%	32%	32%	14%	5%
A pastor or someone in their faith community	21%	38%	27%	12%	3%
The police	25%	48%	17%	8%	3%

# Report of Community Readiness Assessment

## Methodology

During the spring of 2018 prevention staff from the Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living (IACNVL) conducted a community readiness assessment to assess the level of readiness in the Fairbanks community to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault in the Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB). To conduct this assessment, IACNVL used the Community Readiness Model developed by the Tri-Ethnic Center for Prevention Research at Colorado State University.<sup>17</sup> Training in the model was provided to IACNVL Prevention Staff by the Goldstream Group. This model uses key informant interviews and a scoring rubric to measure attitudes, knowledge, efforts and activities, and resources of community members and the community's leadership in order to assess the community's readiness to engage in prevention. The model includes nine stages of community readiness, which are summarized in Figure 47 below.

**Figure 47: Stages of Community Readiness**

Stage	Level of Readiness
Stage 1	No Awareness
Stage 2	Denial/Resistance
Stage 3	Vague Awareness
Stage 4	Preplanning
Stage 5	Preparation
Stage 6	Initiation
Stage 7	Stabilization
Stage 8	Confirmation/Expansion
Stage 9	High Level of Community Ownership

Eleven key informants were interviewed by IACNVL staff representing the following Fairbanks community sectors: university, youth services, victim services, behavioral health providers, community members, children's services, court system, tribes, healthcare services, military, and city leadership. Key informants were asked a series of questions related to five dimensions of community readiness. These are: 1) community knowledge of the issue, 2) community knowledge of prevention efforts, 3) leadership, 4) community climate, and 5) resources. Interviews were recorded and transcribed, and then scored by IACNVL staff according to the model's rubric. For each interview, each of the five

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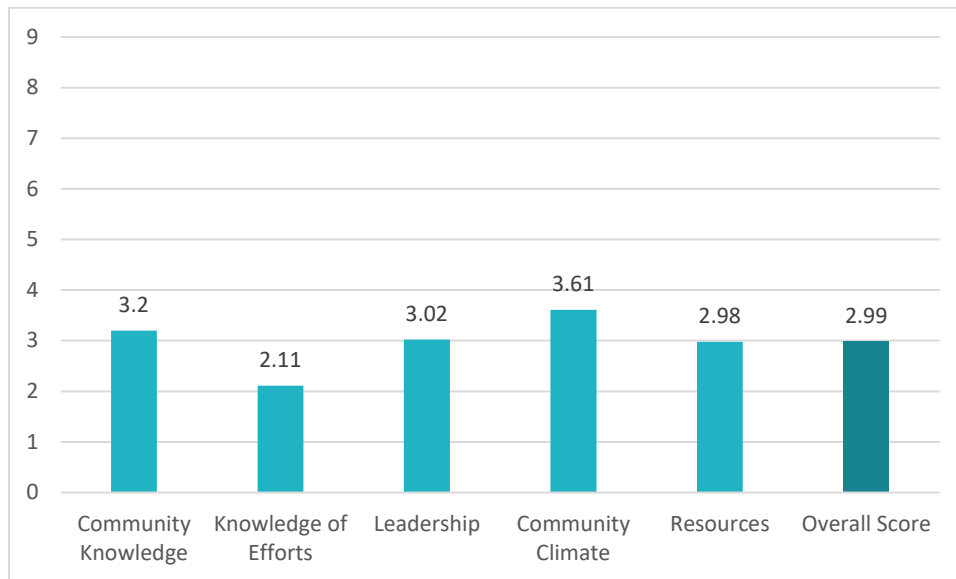
<sup>17</sup> Community Readiness for Community Change: Tri-Ethnic Center Community Readiness Handbook. Tri-Ethnic Center for Prevention Research, Colorado State University. Retrieved from <http://www.triethniccenter.colostate.edu/community-readiness-2/>.

dimensions of readiness was assigned a score on a scale of 0-9. Scores for each dimension of readiness were then averaged for the 11 interviews, and these were then averaged to arrive at an overall community readiness score of 2.99. A summary of average scores for each dimension of readiness and the overall community readiness score are shown in Figures 48 and 49 below.

**Figure 48: Summary of Community Readiness Scores**

Dimension of Readiness	Low Score	High Score	Average Score
Community Knowledge of the Issue	2.5	4	3.20
Community Knowledge of Efforts	1	4	2.11
Leadership	2	4	3.02
Community Climate	2.5	4.5	3.61
Resources	2	4	2.98
<b>Overall Score</b>			<b>2.99</b>

**Figure 49: Summary of Community Readiness Scores**



The average overall community readiness score of 2.99 is representative of the Tri-Ethnic Model’s Stage 3 of community readiness “Vague Awareness.” During this stage of community readiness, community members have vague knowledge about the issue including some awareness that the issue can be a problem and why it may occur; a few community members have heard about local efforts but know little about them; the leadership and community members believe that the issue may be a concern in the community but show no immediate motivation to act; and there are limited resources identified that could be used for further efforts to address the issue.

This stage of community readiness will be important for IACNVL to take into consideration in planning efforts to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault for the Fairbanks community. By targeting prevention efforts at the community’s current level of readiness, efforts will be more likely to succeed and have lasting impact.

## Qualitative Analysis of Key Informant Interviews

Transcripts of key informant interviews were analyzed by the Goldstream Group to identify themes that arose during interviews to further contextualize the overall community readiness score of 2.99. This qualitative analysis was also intended to provide additional direction to IACNVL in the prioritization of community factors related to domestic violence and sexual assault, and in the selection of prevention strategies during the strategic planning process. Themes that were identified are summarized in Figure 50 below.

**Figure 50: Summary of Themes Identified in Community Readiness Interviews**

Theme	Number of Interviews (n=11)	Percent
Incomplete or Inconsistent Definitions of Domestic Violence and/or Sexual Assault Among Community Members	10	91%
Community Members are Passively Supportive of Prevention Efforts	10	91%
Leadership is Passively Supportive of Prevention Efforts	9	82%
People Have More Knowledge or Concern about Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault if it has Touched them Personally	8	73%
People have Incomplete Knowledge of the Consequences or Impacts of Domestic Violence and/or Sexual Assault	8	73%
The Community Has Misperceptions that the Victim is Responsible	8	73%
Denial, Lack of Ownership, and/or Belief that Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Only Happens to Other People	6	55%
People are Aware that Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Occur, but Do Not Understand of the Prevalence	6	55%
Lack of Awareness and Understanding of Prevention and the Preventability of Domestic Violence and/or Sexual Assault	6	55%
The Community Has Misperceptions About the Causes of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault	6	55%
Importance of Starting Prevention Early to Break the Cycle	6	55%

## **Incomplete or Inconsistent Definitions of Domestic Violence and/or Sexual Assault Among Community Members**

Nearly all key informants (10 of 11) indicated that community members have inconsistent or incomplete definitions of domestic violence and sexual assault. Several key informants indicated that people are much more aware of the physical aspects of domestic violence than of other forms. Illustrative examples are below.

*“I think because again that they hear these statistics, and kind of have this big understanding of what that means, but then I think if you actually ask someone to define dating violence or domestic violence or sexual assault you would get a lot of different answers and I don't know that everyone has consensus on what that looks like really.”*

*(Interview 1)*

*“I think a lot of people don't realize that domestic violence is more than just physical. I think it's pretty easy for people to acknowledge it when it's, you know, there's a physical assault, but all the emotional, economic, that kind of abuse, I don't think people realize that that's even a part of it. And they just really look at the physical assault piece of it and that's pretty much it.”*

*(Interview 3)*

*“I think that people in this community still think of domestic violence as someone hitting someone. So I think that they narrow it down into one particular area and miss the other aspects of domestic violence such as the emotional or the economic, those controlling behaviors. So I think people know a little bit because they're aware of maybe the physical aspects, but they're not aware of the other types of methods by which people exert power and control.”*

*(Interview 6)*

*“And then the domestic violence or, you know, assault, things that they do see I think a lot of people discredit that as maybe as not domestic violence. Like most people wouldn't correlate economic abuse with domestic violence and verbal and emotional abuse with domestic violence.”*

*(Interview 10)*

## **Community Members are Passively Supportive of Prevention Efforts**

Nearly all key informants (10 of 11) indicated that community members are only passively supportive of prevention efforts. While key informants agreed that overall community members support efforts, they indicated that community members are not actively participating in or not ready to participate in prevention efforts, often due to competing priorities with day to day living or related barriers to follow-through. Illustrative examples are below.

*“I think they would say or believe that they're concerned about it, but I don't think their actions – I'm not sure they're ready to be active about it.”*

*(Interview 2)*

*“I think there are so many other things that are – the community prioritizes. It's hard for people to say, oh, I'm gonna prioritize preventing domestic violence and sexual assault. I just don't – I don't see a great portion of the community sort of siding up to say I want to be really involved in this or I want to prioritize this.”*

*(Interview 6)*

*“We all think it's a really good idea and so [passively] I think there's quite a few. The ones who are actually gonna get out there and walk a mile in her shoes that are gonna do some of these things I think is a lot narrower, but the passive ones would probably be 60 to 70 percent.”*

*(Interview 9)*

*“If it's gonna take more than a finger click then it might be in a little more trouble. But I'd say many agree that it is an issue in our world and they want to spread knowledge about that. I mean if you can give them something to share like on Facebook then I think they'd – they'd love to take on that. Or if we tell them like hey, today is denim day. Everybody wear jeans today. People are gonna love to participate in that. You know? They're gonna take that to work like hey, it's denim day. We should all, you know, support sexual assault awareness and wear denim at work on a Wednesday. [...] So I think a lot of people want to – they want to participate in – in little subtle things like that in their passive participation.”*

*(Interview 10)*

### **Leadership is Passively Supportive of Prevention Efforts**

Most key informants (9 of 11) also indicated that the leadership is only passively supportive of efforts, and/or that addressing domestic violence and sexual assault is not a priority for the leadership of the community. Illustrative examples are below.

*“I feel like I don't think that leaders are not concerned. I think leaders are concerned. I can't recall a time I've heard a community leader talk about domestic violence and sexual assault. I don't think that it's at the forefront of anybody's agenda as a community leader. I don't know. I think part of that might just be, again, not having the understanding or knowledge or resources of what can we do about it.”*

*(Interview 7)*

*“There are public service announcements that are done by the leaders. So I think that they support it within the guidelines of their rules and regulations if they can, but if*



*you're looking at leading a charge, I don't think they can. I think they – that that's what we have the nonprofit groups for.”*

*(Interview 11)*

*I still say the priority's still about a three. They want the community to – I don't know. This sounds terrible, but they want the community to think that they're really doing something about it, but at the same time, they still bury their heads in the sand when we try to tell them what the – how big the – how big of an impact it really is...”*

*(Interview 9)*

*“I think they support it if somebody else is doing it and if there's not a whole lot of money that needs to be thrown at it.”*

*(Interview 3)*

### **People Have More Knowledge or Concern about Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault if it has Touched them Personally**

Eight of the 11 key informants indicated that people who have been personally affected by domestic violence and/or sexual assault have a higher level of knowledge and concern about the issue. Illustrative comments are below.

*“Again, I just don't think it's something that really hits people's radars. Unless you're intimately involved with it, you don't realize, you know, that things are going on.”*

*(Interview 3)*

*“I think unless people experience it directly, they don't pay much attention to it. They think it's someone else's problem. And unless or until they have direct experience with it – even though the – the statistics are so high [...] it just seems like this community, is not very attentive to that problem.”*

*(Interview 4)*

*[...] because of I think that it's easier to understand the impact when it's somebody close to you who's been impacted.”*

*(Interview 5)*

### **People have Incomplete Knowledge of the Consequences or Impacts of Domestic Violence and/or Sexual Assault**

Eight of the 11 key informants indicated that people in the community have incomplete knowledge of the consequences or impacts of domestic violence and sexual assault, with many of these individuals indicating that people are only aware of the criminal and legal consequences. Illustrative comments are below.

*“They don’t look at intergenerational trauma. They don’t see – they tend to think that it’s just between the parents or the man and the woman or the man and man or whatever; intimate partner issues do not take into account how it affects the whole family or how it can affect someone in the work place...”*

*(Interview 8)*

*“I think that oftentimes people don't understand the impact that it has on the community as a whole. You know it impacts employment, it impacts the children, significant impacts on children if they're involved. It impacts the educational system, it impacts our criminal justice system and our housing and our social services or lack thereof. Certainly there can be a huge financial burden to the community when law enforcement's involved and when there's medical services needed and there's not funding for that. I think that it just has a huge impact and I don't know that – I think sometimes it's hard for people to see that that extends beyond the family.”*

*(Interview 5)*

*“I think that they're aware that there may be criminal consequences to engaging in violent behaviors and that people who have been abused may have some trauma or some ongoing emotional issues, but I don't think they understand the pervasive nature of what can happen to a human being in a violent relationship over time.”*

*(Interview 6)*

### **The Community Has Misperceptions that the Victim is Responsible**

When asked about any misperceptions in the community related to domestic violence and sexual assault, eight of the 11 key informants explicitly described that there is a misperception in the community that the victim is at fault or carries some responsibility in cases of domestic violence and sexual assault. One key informant indicated that even the victims may blame themselves. Illustrative comments are below.

*“Well, I think that the thing that I hear people say is, “Man, she must have done something really bad,” or [...] as if she deserved it, as if her behavior was in charge of provoking the assault.”*

*(Interview 2)*

*“I think it still goes back to there's a pretty wide community belief that victims are to blame for the situations that they're in. If they could just walk away, if they just wouldn't have done this, that kind of stuff. I think that's still a huge norm in our community.”*

*(Interview 3)*

*“I think there's a misperception that sexual assault, while awful, is – is still something that people put themselves in a position to be assaulted. So I still think there's a prevalence of blaming the victim, in both domestic violence and sexual assault. There's still a pretty heavy bias towards why doesn't she leave, why doesn't she stop it, why doesn't she do something about it, or why did she go there, why's she hanging out with that person, why'd she dress that way, why'd she drink too much, why was she, you know, high. So, I think the misperceptions are that somehow, you bring it upon yourself when you're a victim.”*

*(Interview 6)*

*“So it's not tolerated, but I think some people would say they were asking for it. I'm, that's not my belief. I'm just telling you, I think [...] you would have a good population percentage that would say they were asking for it.*

*(Interview 11)*

*“I think a lot of people downplay the incidents that most people would see and most people in this field would see as domestic violence or sexual assault. You know, they're like, oh, you know, that's just buyer's remorse in sex and, you know, maybe you didn't get sexually assaulted. Maybe you just drank too much and made a bad decision or – and I think a lot of – even the people that are being assaulted doubt what happened to them too. And [...] because of the culture in how much victim-blaming there is I think a lot of people will, you know second-guess what actually occurred to them.”*

*(Interview 10)*

### **Denial, Lack of Ownership, and/or Belief that Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Only Happens to Other People**

More than half of key informants (6 of 11) indicated that community members have a belief that domestic violence and sexual assault only happens to other people, or have a sense of denial about the problem in the Fairbanks community. Some key informants characterized this as a lack of ownership of the problem in the community or turning a blind eye to the problem, while others spoke directly to the misperception that domestic violence and sexual assault only happens to people who are not like them. Illustrative examples are below.

*“I think we do a lot of turning our heads to it. We don't necessarily – I mean, there's great awareness activities and stuff throughout the year, but the rest of the time people are able to just kind of turn a blind eye to it unless you're in the field.”*

*(Interview 8)*

*“Again, I think people want to ignore that it's happening. I don't think they want to acknowledge that it goes on in our town. I think that they just chalk it up to those*

*people aren't like me, that, you know, it doesn't – it just happens with either poor people or people on drugs or things like that.”*

*(Interview 3)*

*“I think unless people experience it directly – they don't pay much attention to it. They think it's someone else's problem. And unless or until they have direct experience with it – even though the statistics are so high [...] it just seems like this community is not very attentive to that problem [...] I think in general community members, many of them are in denial that it's a problem or that it exists.”*

*(Interview 4)*

*I think that most of our community is pretty familiar with the stats that [...] you know, we have [high] rates of domestic violence and sexual assault [...] But then when it tries to go from that point to actually creating this change, there's pushback against, well, but it's not really my problem, it's in the military families. It's in the Alaska Native communities. It's in the villages, it's not in Fairbanks [...] I think myths about who it happens to are pretty prevalent. Like, it's never them. That doesn't happen to me. That doesn't happen here. It's always someone else's problem, so I think that is a big misconception.”*

*(Interview 1)*

### **People are Aware that Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Occur, but Do Not Understand of the Prevalence**

In more than half of interviews (6 of 11), key informants indicated that while community members have an awareness that domestic violence and sexual assault occurs in Fairbanks, they don't have a clear understanding of the prevalence or the number of people impacted by it. Illustrative examples are below.

*“...it tends to be pretty out there that we're number one, but people don't often know what that actually means in terms of numbers of people.”*

*(Interview 8)*

*“I don't think even those that are involved on a daily basis with this know the true, uh, extent [...] It's a silent disease because you suffer in private many times.*

*(Interview 11)*

*“And I think it's that again, hearing these statistics and learning this information about the rates in our community but then not, like, accepting the ownership for that being our community, there's like maybe a general understanding of yeah, well, they say this happens a lot, but I don't really know that there's knowledge of exactly what that means and exactly how many people that truly impacts.”*

*(Interview 1)*

*“I think what they hear in the news [...] so they know it's happening. I don't think they have a clue the prevalence of it.”*

*(Interview 2)*

### **Lack of Awareness and Understanding of Prevention and the Preventability of Domestic Violence and/or Sexual Assault**

More than half of key informants (6 of 11) felt that there is a lack of awareness or understanding in the community about what prevention means, or how domestic violence and sexual assault can be prevented. Key informants also noted that is difficult to understand prevention without a full understanding of the issue. Illustrative examples are below.

*“I think that if you don't understand the causes of the issue then you can't really understand how to prevent the issue. So I think that oftentimes in people's minds [they] think of prevention of domestic violence as like oh, you know, getting sober or, getting treated for mental health issues. Not understanding that while somebody may be dealing with a substance abuse issue or a mental health issue they also have a belief system that also needs to change.”*

*(Interview 5)*

*“I'm not sure that community members think about them as resources prior to a violent act happening. I think they see them as a resource once something bad has happened to reach out to. So, for example, I don't know if many community members or people who own, like, businesses or companies say, hey, maybe we should get some information here about healthy relationships prior to them having an incident[...]*

*(Interview 6)*

*“Again, adults don't want to hear about it. We're in that expert mindset. We're – we already know about everything so what can you teach me? And so people aren't really receptive to learning more about how to prevent it, and like oh I know how to prevent it. And just to let you know if we're gonna walk alone I'm gonna stay in well-lit areas and they're thinking more of a risk reduction than prevention.”*

*(Interview 10)*

*“I would think they know nothing about prevention... because I think they just think that people are like that. And maybe they come to the conclusion that people either experience that maybe as children or [...] maybe it's just happening in their own relationship and there's nothing you can do to prevent it. [...] I guess maybe because really there's very little conversation about that. There's just the conversation about “Oh, my goodness, isn't that awful what happened. Oh, no.”*

*(Interview 2)*

## **The Community Has Misperceptions About the Causes of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault**

Over half of key informants (6 of 11) referenced misperceptions in the community related to the causes of domestic violence and sexual assault and why it happens. Many key informants specifically noted a lack of understanding about power and control. Illustrative examples are below.

*“I think that a general conception still is that it's about anger, and so I think they know a little bit about power and control because I think it's more talked about than it used to be, however, I do think there's a general misunderstanding about what causes it that it's still someone who's lost their temper or lost it instead of a deeper understanding that it's a pattern of behavior.”*

*(Interview 6)*

*“...I think oftentimes sexual assault and domestic violence are blamed on other things like PTSD or substance abuse or mental health issues, and not so much on this belief system that is founded in power and control. I often hear, you know, oh, when they get sober they won't do this anymore or; he only made this choice because he was drunk. Or, you know, or even attributing that blame onto the victim also.*

*(Interview 5)*

*“I think a lot of people that find themselves either engaging in domestic violence and sexual assault or being a survivor of domestic violence or sexual assault oftentimes, it's just thought of the reason that it happened is because, you know, that's what was where they came from [...] And so it's just that's what's has been their reality and that's what they've accepted as reality and that's just what's normal.*

*(Interview 7)*

*“And I think maybe also that understanding the cause, or just being able to understand that domestic and sexual violence go back to this power and control. Like when I think about people trying to verbalize what the cause is, it's like, “Well, that's just how that person is,” it's about sex or it's about something else. So just kind of that misconception about why it happens.”*

*(Interview 1)*

## **Importance of Starting Prevention Early to Break the Cycle**

Over half of key informants (6 of 11) highlighted the importance of starting prevention early and starting prevention with younger children in order to break the cycle of domestic violence and sexual assault. Some key informants also described the challenge in obtaining parental permission to do so. Illustrative examples are below.

*“I mean, prevention I think – it's [got to] start with youth so we can start changing the cycle that's going on in families. So I think if you have younger kids who are involved in this stuff, they typically have to have parents' permission to do things, and if your family is already in a dynamic of domestic violence, it's not likely that you're going to get parents to agree to allow kids to participate in things like that.”*

*(Interview 3)*

*“In my opinion most of it stems from childhood environments. And so if a child is raised in a violent home, that normalizes it for him and her and they're more likely to perpetuate that in their home when they become adults. And so unless that cycle is broken – unless there is some awareness developed by someone in that chain, that cycle just doesn't get broken.”*

*(Interview 4)*

*“Just having spoken with my community, people in my field [...] understanding that there is a need, especially for children [...] starting around the age of eight we need to start teaching these kids. Eight to 12 is when they're really vulnerable and before they actually really get into a dating situation [...] We can't just keep putting a band aid on it. We've gotta find a way to prevent it and starting with the younger kids – and the moms, too. We gotta teach the moms it's not okay to let a man treat you that way so that your daughter doesn't watch you and think it's okay to be treated that way.”*

*(Interview 9)*

# Teen Dating Violence and Male Engagement

To further inform IACNVL’s prevention efforts, six questions related to teen dating violence and six questions related to male engagement in prevention efforts were asked to all 11 key informants at the end of community readiness interviews. While responses to these questions did not figure into the overall community readiness score, responses were analyzed by the Goldstream Group to identify any themes pertaining to community readiness to address teen dating violence in Fairbanks, as well as to address the engagement of males in prevention efforts related to domestic violence and sexual assault.

## Themes Related to Teen Dating Violence

Several themes were identified in key informant interviews related to teen dating violence in the Fairbanks community. These are summarized in Figure 51 below.

**Figure 51: Themes Related to Teen Dating Violence**

Theme	Number of Interviews (n=11)	Percent
Lack of Awareness/Concern, Not a Priority to the Community	11	100%
Not a Priority to the Leadership	10	91%
Very Little or No Resources in the Community Specific to Teen Dating Violence	6	55%

### Lack of Awareness/Concern, Not a Priority to the Community

All 11 key informants felt that there was either a lack of awareness or concern in the community related to teen dating violence, or that teen dating violence is not a priority to the community. Within this context, several key informants cited misperceptions in the community about what constitutes a healthy teen relationship, as well as that there is more concern about the issue for those people with teenage children. Illustrative examples are below.

*“I don't think the parents and the community members have a clue of how prevalent it is. And I don't think they, [...] it's not happening to their child and it's happening – happens to someone else's child but not their child. And/or they don't have kids, or they don't care. I think with teen dating violence, they're only thinking of the extreme. They're not realizing the emotional abuse that can happen or the mental abuse that can happen through social media [...] You know, they're aware a little bit of bullying, but I don't think they have a clue about teen dating.”*

*(Interview 2)*



*“I don't believe that people believe that that occurs between teenagers. I think a lot of times people just think, oh, it's – it's jealousy, it's cute, it's this, it's that and not really realizing that it's actually a typical pattern that they're going to [...] later in life as well.”*

*(Interview 3)*

*“I don't think it's a priority to the community as a whole until we have a tragedy, and then it becomes a priority for a short period of time and then it's no longer a priority.”*

*(Interview 6)*

*“Teen dating violence I don't think is really on the radar. I think maybe school violence is right now, but teens and relationships and violence occurring in a teenage relationship, I don't think that dawns on anybody really until, maybe a father has a daughter come home some night with black and blue eye because her boyfriend punched her. Then it becomes a reality for somebody. But thinking of it outside of a personal experience and that it's some sort of epidemic floating through the teenagers in our society I don't think is something that's on people's radar.”*

*(Interview 7)*

*“The community as a whole I don't think they realize that this is where it starts and I don't think it's enough. I still think it's pretty low priority. Again, we're good at putting the band aid on it once it's happened, once they've been beaten by their boyfriend and once they've been choked or strangled, but while the stalking's going on, while the phone calls are going on and the controlling behaviors, the jealousy behaviors, I don't think that they're aware of it.”*

*(Interview 9)*

*“I think you have, and so let's take the baby boomers like me, who don't have a clue of this social media and how you're bullied on social media. And how prevalent it is. For me, you can't bully me on social media because I just won't look at it. And so, and I think you'll have that – that same mentality from people my age. You know, how can you be bullied on social media? Just don't get on it, but that's not what's happening with our teenagers, because they live – that's their – I mean that is their connection. So it's very hard for me to see, bullying taking place or stalking on social media, or to understand it...”*

*(Interview 11)*

### **Not a Priority to the Leadership**

Nearly all key informants (10 of 11) felt that teen dating violence is not a priority to the leadership in the community. Illustrative comments are included below.

*“No. Not a priority, not even probably a concern.”*

*(Interview 2)*

*“Again, I don't think we realize that it is an issue for teenagers. I think a lot more is being placed on, you know, other issues that are possibly going on in our schools, and our community.*

*(Interview 3)*

*“Well, again, I think unless, you know – unless you're a politician with a teenage daughter or a daughter who has experience in this – it's just not on your radar.”*

*(Interview 4)*

*“I don't think it's a priority. Again, I think teens are very overlooked population and we're – I think it only matters to you when it's your kid. And then, again, I don't – like I said before I don't think we're really tuned into teens as much as we should be because we're like oh, that's those awkward years.”*

*(Interview 10)*

*“I mean if you ask them I think they'll give you the correct answer, but once again there is no line item for that.”*

*(Interview 11)*

### **Very Little or No Resources in the Community Specific to Teen Dating Violence**

When asked about resources in the community allocated specifically to teen dating violence, more than half of key informants (6 of 11) explicitly stated that are very little to no resources in the community specific to teen dating violence.

*“No. I just really think that and I'm probably just going to sound like a broken record now, but that the information that is out there for our general community and is verbalized and published is just this domestic violence and sexual assault information.”*

*(Interview 1)*

## Themes Related to Male Engagement

Several themes were identified related to male engagement in prevention efforts. These themes are summarized in Figure 52.

**Figure 52: Themes Related to Male Engagement**

Theme	Number of Interviews (n=11)	Percent
Fewer Men than Women View Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault as a Priority	8	73%
Men are Less Knowledgeable than Women about Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault and/or Knowledge among Men is Very Low	7	64%
Male Engagement is Not a Priority to the Leadership of the Community	7	64%
Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault is Generally Viewed as a Women's Issue, Men Don't See a Role or Feel Part of the Discussion	6	55%

### **Fewer Men than Women View Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault as a Priority**

In eight of 11 interviews, key informants indicated that fewer men than women see domestic violence and sexual assault as a priority to be addressed. Several key informants also indicated that men are more likely to see it as a priority if it has affected someone close to them. Illustrative examples are below.

*"It's, it's less of a priority. They don't, they don't see it as a priority at all, I don't think."*

*(Interview 2)*

*I don't think it's a very big priority. I mean, they're not the ones that are leaving their homes. [...] They're not the ones who are gonna [need] economic support. It's typically the woman. [...] So I think most men see it as a women's problem and a kid's problem, but not my problem.*

*(Interview 9)*

*"I don't think it's that big of a priority. I don't think it's something that they think about until it affects them."*

*(Interview 10)*

## **Men are Less Knowledgeable than Women about Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault and/or Knowledge among Men is Very Low**

Seven of the 11 key informants interviewed indicated that men overall are less knowledgeable than women about domestic violence and sexual assault, or that males in general have little knowledge about the issue. Examples are below.

*“I think they would understand the physical piece. That's what they're thinking. But they might not think about the mental and emotional and, you know, some of the other aspects of abuse. They might not even see rape within a marriage as – “Well, how could it be rape if they're married?” They might not even understand that piece. So I think, I think they have some knowledge that they associate with DV and sexual assault, and then I think there's a lot that they don't understand.”*  
(Interview 2)

*“I also think that some men are less likely to identify certain acts of domestic violence as actual acts of domestic violence, or different acts of sexual assault as actual sexual assault.”*  
(Interview 7)

*“I see the firemen that come in and they've been in the middle of it like a domestic violence dispute. They've seen the worst side of it. I've seen the police who come in and they've seen the worst side of it. So they get it. That population gets it, but I don't think our everyday beer drinking guys, you know, just your common people around town, I don't think they get it.”*  
(Interview 9)

## **Male Engagement is Not a Priority to the Leadership of the Community**

When asked about attitudes of community leadership towards male engagement in prevention efforts, seven of the 11 key informants felt that male engagement is not a priority to the leadership of the community. While stating it hasn't been a priority to the leadership in the past, one key informant noted feeling that it is beginning to be seen as a greater priority.

*“I'm not sure they have a clue. I think they'd go along with it. I think they'd say that's a great idea. But it's just they've got so many things on their agenda, and I'm – you know, they're probably – I don't know. I'm not sure where they'd come in on making it a priority.”*  
(Interview 2)

*“I think we have a lot of male leaders, and I don't think that men really know their role in prevention or understand a role for themselves in prevention. They struggle.”*

*So if we – if men are struggling to find a way to be a part of prevention, if we have male leaders, then those male leaders are struggling too.”*

*(Interview 6)*

*“I don’t think that that’s seen as a priority just because I don’t think it’s really being addressed by leadership at all.”*

*(Interview 7)*

*“I think we’re starting to see it, but I don’t think it has in the past. I think that we realized we can’t change these patterns without our men involved, but that’s a new thing.”*

*(Interview 8)*

### **Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault is Generally Viewed as a Women’s Issue, Men Don’t See a Role or Feel Part of the Discussion**

More than half of key informants (6 of 11) discussed that domestic violence and sexual assault has traditionally been seen as a women’s issue, including noting the impacts this has had on male engagement. Key informants stated that men often don’t feel like they are part of the conversation or don’t see a role for themselves. Key informants also described the challenge of women leading prevention efforts and how these efforts could easily be misconstrued as women pointing fingers at men. Illustrative comments are below.

*“I recognize that it’s a concern but I’m a woman and kind of best practice doesn’t indicate that I should be the one leading those efforts. So I find myself stumped then on how to identify a male who isn’t already a leader but who might be willing to step into that. [...] Folks working in the area recognize that it’s of concern. But then, actually implementing something becomes this, well, do I just implement it and it’s just implemented by a woman because that’s who’s available or, how do I go about identifying a male to do that? [...] [If I lead] that focus group then is it gonna come across as an attack just because - that’s some feedback I’ve heard is that no matter if that’s not your intention, if you’re a woman coming into this male space, it’s gonna be perceived as pointing fingers, you’re the ones doing this, why aren’t you fixing this...”*

*(Interview 1)*

*“I mean that there’s, there’s been a big shift and I think the movement is just now starting to realize that men can play a huge role in prevention efforts. But I think up until, you know, recently men have been very much excluded from that... I think that men don’t necessarily feel welcomed at the table to address it and so what we see is a lot less male engagement. But I think that if men were given the opportunity I think we would see, I would think we would start seeing that men would be more engaged.”*

*(Interview 5)*

*“I just don't see men – I don't see men seeing a role in preventing domestic violence and sexual assault for themselves. I think it's hard for them to see a role.  
(Interview 6)*

## **Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living Community Perceptions Survey**

### **Introductory Question**

Do you live in the Fairbanks North Star Borough? (*yes, no*)

### **Domestic Violence**

Domestic violence is defined as a pattern of abusive behavior in a relationship that is used by one partner to gain power or control over the other partner. Domestic violence can include physical, sexual, emotional, economic, or psychological threats or actions.

1. In your opinion, how much of a concern is domestic violence in the Fairbanks North Star Borough? (*not a concern, a little bit of a concern, a moderate concern, a great concern*)
2. In your opinion how much of a concern is domestic violence against women in the Fairbanks North Star Borough? (*not a concern, a little bit of a concern, a moderate concern, a great concern*)
3. In your opinion how much of a concern is domestic violence against men in the Fairbanks North Star Borough? (*not a concern, a little bit of a concern, a moderate concern, a great concern*)
4. Do you think any of the following groups are at higher risk for domestic violence in our community? Check any that apply.
  - a. Pregnant women
  - b. People with few financial resources
  - c. Older people or elders
  - d. People with disabilities
  - e. People who are homeless
  - f. People of specific races or ethnicities
  - g. People who use drugs or alcohol
  - h. People who are LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning)
  - i. People who are spouses or partners of military personnel
5. What percentage of adult women in the Fairbanks North Star Borough do you think have experienced some form of domestic violence? Please provide your best estimate. (*0-20%, 21-40%, 41-60%, 61-80%, 81-100%*)

6. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? (*strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree*)
  - a. Domestic violence is a private family matter.
  - b. If someone is experiencing domestic violence, others should not get involved.
  - c. Domestic violence is a problem in our community, but there are other more pressing problems to address.
  - d. People don't know how they can help or make a difference in preventing domestic violence.
  - e. If people in the community experience domestic violence, there is a stigma or fear related to asking for help.
  
7. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? (*strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree*)
  - a. People who are abusive are usually easy to identify.
  - b. People who are abusive are usually under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
  - c. Domestic violence usually happens when a person gets angry or loses control.
  - d. People who are violent towards their family members are not likely to change.
  
8. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? (*strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree*)
  - a. Domestic violence tends to happen to certain people (people of a specific background, race, sexual orientation, etc.)
  - b. A victim of domestic violence can leave their abuser if they really want to.
  - c. Domestic violence is less common among people like myself.
  - d. Victims of domestic violence usually use drugs or alcohol.
  - e. Violence often happens when the victim provokes their partner.
  
9. Do you think domestic violence can be prevented? (*I don't think it can be prevented, I think it can only be prevented some of the time, I think it can be prevented most of the time, I think it can almost always be prevented*)
  
10. How important do you think it is for men to participate in prevention efforts related to domestic violence? (*not important, a little bit important, moderately important, very important*)
  
11. If a man wanted to participate in prevention efforts related to domestic violence in our community, how easy or difficult do you think it would be for him to participate? (*very difficult, difficult, easy, very easy*)
  
12. If you were concerned that someone you knew was experiencing domestic violence, would you know where to go for help? (*yes, no*)



13. How likely or unlikely would you be to talk to each of the following if you were experiencing domestic violence? (*not likely, a little bit likely, moderately likely, very likely*)
- a. A family member
  - b. A friend
  - c. A coworker or supervisor
  - d. A pastor or someone in your faith community
  - e. A human resources representative at your workplace
  - f. Your doctor or medical provider
  - g. The police
  - h. The local domestic violence agency
  - i. Other (please specify)

### **Sexual Assault**

Sexual assault is any type of sexual contact that occurs without the consent of the recipient.

14. In your opinion, how much of a concern is sexual assault in the Fairbanks North Star Borough? (*not a concern, a little bit of a concern, a moderate concern, a great concern*)
15. In your opinion, how much of a concern is sexual assault towards women in the Fairbanks North Star Borough? (*not a concern, a little bit of a concern, a moderate concern, a great concern*)
16. In your opinion, how much of a concern is sexual assault towards men in the Fairbanks North Star Borough? (*not a concern, a little bit of a concern, a moderate concern, a great concern*)
17. Do you think any of the following groups are at higher risk for sexual assault in our community? Check any that apply.
- a. Pregnant women
  - b. People with few financial resources
  - c. Young people
  - d. Older people or elders
  - e. People with disabilities
  - f. People who are homeless
  - g. People of specific races or ethnicities
  - h. People who use drugs or alcohol
  - i. People who are LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning)
  - j. People who are spouses or partners of military personnel
18. What percentage of adult women in the Fairbanks North Star Borough do you think have experienced some form of sexual assault? Please provide your best estimate. (*0-20%, 21- 40%, 41-60%, 61-80%, 81-100%*)

19. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? (*strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree*)
- If someone else experiences sexual assault, it is not my business to ask them about it.
  - If someone experiences sexual assault, others should not get involved.
  - Sexual assault is a problem in our community, but there are other more pressing problems to address.
  - People don't know how they can help or make a difference in preventing sexual assault.
  - If people in the community experience sexual assault, there is a stigma or fear related to asking for help.
20. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? (*strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree*)
- People who commit sexual assault are usually easy to identify.
  - People who commit sexual assault are usually under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
  - Most sexual assaults are committed by strangers.
  - People who commit sexual assault are not likely to change.
  - People who commit sexual assault usually don't understand what consent means.
  - Sexual assault usually happens when a person gets angry or loses control.
21. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? (*strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree*)
- Sexual assault tends to happen to certain people (people of a specific background, race, sexual orientation, etc.)
  - Sexual assault tends to happen to people who dress or act provocatively.
  - Sexual assault is less common among people like myself.
  - Victims of sexual assault usually use drugs or alcohol.
22. Do you think sexual assault can be prevented? (*I don't think it can be prevented, I think it can only be prevented some of the time, I think it can be prevented most of the time, I think it can almost always be prevented*)
23. How important do you think it is for men to participate in prevention efforts related to sexual assault? (*not important, a little bit important, moderately important, very important*)
24. If a man wanted to participate in prevention efforts related to sexual assault in our community, how easy or difficult do you think it would be for him to participate? (*very difficult, difficult, easy, very easy*)
25. If you were concerned that someone you knew experienced sexual assault, would you know where to go for help? (*yes, no*)

26. How likely or unlikely would you be to talk to each of the following if you experienced sexual assault? (*not likely, a little bit likely, moderately likely, very likely*)
- a. A family member
  - b. A friend
  - c. A coworker or supervisor
  - d. A pastor or someone in your faith community
  - e. A human resources representative at your workplace
  - f. Your doctor or medical provider
  - g. The police
  - h. The local domestic violence agency
  - i. Other (please specify)

### **Teen Dating Violence**

Teen dating violence includes physical, sexual, psychological, or emotional aggression within a dating relationship. It includes stalking. It can occur in person or electronically. It is generally defined as occurring in the 12-18 year old age group.

27. In your opinion, how much of a concern is teen dating violence in the Fairbanks North Star Borough? (*not a concern, a little bit of a concern, a moderate concern, a great concern*)
28. Do you think any of the following groups are at higher risk for teen dating violence in our community? Check any that apply.
- a. Teens who are from families with few financial resources
  - b. Teens with disabilities
  - c. Teens who are homeless
  - d. Teens who are of specific races or ethnicities
  - e. Teens who use drugs or alcohol
  - f. Teens who are LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning)
  - g. Teen girls
  - h. Teen boys
29. What percentage of teens in the Fairbanks North Star Borough do you think have experienced some form of dating violence? Please provide your best estimate. (*0-20%, 21- 40%, 41-60%, 61-80%, 81-100%*)

30. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? (*strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree*)
- a. Teen dating violence is a problem in our community, but there are other more pressing problems to address.
  - b. People don't know how they can help or make a difference in preventing teen dating violence.
  - c. If teens in the community experience dating violence, there is a stigma or fear related to asking for help.
  - d. Teen dating violence is a normal part of growing up.
  - e. Teen dating violence tends to happen to certain individuals (teens who are of a specific background, race, sexual orientation, etc.)
  - f. Teen dating violence usually happens to individuals who use drugs or alcohol.
  - g. Teen dating violence usually happens to individuals who are sexually active.
  - h. Individuals who experience teen dating violence are often asking for it by the way they act.
31. Do you think teen dating violence can be prevented? (*I don't think it can be prevented, I think it can only be prevented some of the time, I think it can be prevented most of the time, I think it can almost always be prevented*)
32. If a teen confided in you that they were experiencing dating violence, would you know where to go for help? (*yes, no*)
33. How likely or unlikely do you think teens would be to talk to each of the following about their relationships? (*not likely, a little bit likely, moderately likely, very likely*)
- a. A family member
  - b. A friend
  - c. A teacher
  - d. A school counselor
  - e. A pastor or someone in their faith community
  - f. Their doctor or medical provider
  - g. The police
  - h. The local domestic violence agency
  - i. Staff at a local teen center
  - j. Other (please specify)

34. Have you or someone you know ever experienced domestic violence or sexual assault?
35. What is your age?
- a. 18-24
  - b. 25-44
  - c. 45-64
  - d. 65 or older
36. How would you identify your gender?
37. How would you identify your race? (check all that apply)
- a. White
  - b. American Indian or Alaska Native
  - c. Black or African American
  - d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
  - e. Asian
  - f. Other
38. What is your ethnicity?
- a. Hispanic or Latino
  - b. Not Hispanic or Latino
39. Thank you for taking this important survey! If you would like to be entered into a drawing for an iPad or VISA gift card, please tell us your first name and phone number so we can let you know if you won.

## **Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living Community Readiness Assessment Interview Guide**

The purpose of this Community Readiness Assessment is to better understand the level of readiness in the community to prevent domestic violence, sexual assault and teen dating violence.

The Tri-Ethnic Center Model for Community Readiness Assessment uses key informant interviews with stakeholders representing a variety of community sectors who are knowledgeable about the issue, the community, and community resources. Questions are asked that are intended to evaluate 1) community knowledge about the issue, 2) existing prevention efforts in the community, 3) attitudes of community leadership, 4) attitudes of community members (community climate), and 5) prevention resources to address the issue. Interviews are then scored and averaged to arrive at a community readiness score of 0-9, as well as analyzed qualitatively to identify themes that further illustrate community readiness to address the issue.

This document will serve as an interview guide for key informant interviews conducted as part of the Community Readiness Assessment. Interviews will be conducted and scored by staff of IACNVL. While the bulk of the interview focuses on domestic violence and sexual assault in the adult population in general, at the end of the interview additional questions are asked specific to teen dating violence and male engagement in the prevention of domestic violence and sexual assault to provide further detail on the level of readiness in the community around these specific topics.

Interview # \_\_\_\_\_

Recording # \_\_\_\_\_

## INTRODUCTION

IACNVL recently received funding from the State of Alaska to prevent domestic violence, sexual assault and teen dating violence in the Fairbanks community. As part of our efforts, we are conducting interviews with a variety of people in the community who are knowledgeable about the subject to better understand the level of community readiness and resources to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault.

Before we begin - we like to record our interviews to help us with notetaking. This recording won't be shared with anyone else. Is that ok with you?

Do you have any questions before we begin?

I have a long list of questions here to ask you. Some of them may be more difficult for you to answer than others. Just answer as best you can, and if you aren't able to answer any questions that's ok too – just let me know.

First I want to talk about domestic violence and sexual assault in the adult population. By domestic violence we mean a pattern of behavior in any relationship that is used by one partner to gain or maintain power and control over another intimate partner. Domestic violence can be physical, sexual, emotional, economic, or psychological actions or threats that influence another person – including behaviors that intimidate, manipulate, humiliate, isolate, frighten, terrorize, coerce, threaten, blame, hurt, injure, or wound someone.

Sexual assault is any type of sexual contact or behavior that occurs without the explicit consent of the recipient, including forced sexual intercourse, incest, fondling, and attempted rape.

## INTRODUCTORY QUESTION

1. On a scale of 1-10, how much of a concern do you think domestic violence and sexual assault are to Fairbanks community members - with 1 being “not a concern at all” and 10 being “a very great concern”?

*Prompt: Can you tell me why you think it's at that level?*

*\*\*Note – many key informants will answer this question in their own opinion. Allowing them to start this way will warm them up, and it can also be informative. After they've finished answering for themselves, redirect them back to the community. Suggested prompt: “Great! Thank you. Now I want to ask you the same question thinking about the community as a whole. On a scale of 1-10, how much of a concern do you think domestic violence and sexual assault are to the community?”*

## KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE ISSUE

My next set of questions has to do with how much knowledge community members have about domestic violence and sexual assault.

2. On a scale of 1 to 10 where a 1 is no knowledge at all, and a 10 is detailed knowledge, how much would you say community members know in general about domestic violence and sexual assault?

*Prompt: Can you tell me why you gave it a \_\_\_\_?*

3. Now I want to ask you about some more specific types of knowledge related to domestic violence and sexual assault.

- Would you say that community members know nothing, a little bit, some, or a lot about the signs of domestic violence and sexual assault?

*Prompt: Why do you say that?*

- Would you say that community members know nothing, a little bit, some, or a lot about the causes of domestic violence and sexual assault?

*Prompt: Why do you say that?*

- Would you say that community members know nothing, a little bit, some, or a lot about the consequences or impacts of domestic violence and sexual assault?

*Prompt: Why do you say that?*

- Would you say that community members know nothing, a little bit, some, or a lot about how frequently domestic violence and sexual assault occur in our community, or the number of people that are affected by domestic violence and sexual assault?

*Prompt: Why do you say that?*

- Would you say that community members know nothing, a little bit, some, or a lot about what can be done to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault?

*Prompt: Why do you say that?*

- Would you say that community members know nothing, a little bit, some, or a lot about the effects of domestic violence and sexual assault on family and friends?

*Prompt: Why do you say that?*



4. Do you think there are any misperceptions among community members about domestic violence and sexual assault? (*why it occurs, how much it occurs locally, or what the impacts are?*)

*Prompt: Can you describe these misperceptions?*

5. What type of information do you know of that is available in the Fairbanks community about domestic violence and sexual assault? (*could be information in newspaper articles, brochures, posters, etc.*)
6. (If yes to 5) To what degree do you think that community members access and/or use this information?

#### **COMMUNITY KNOWLEDGE OF EFFORTS**

Next I want to ask you some questions about current efforts in the community to **prevent** domestic violence and sexual assault. Rather than focusing on providing treatment or services for people who have already experienced domestic violence and sexual assault, I want to talk about the prevention of domestic violence and sexual assault – so, efforts that work towards making sure that it **doesn't** happen in the Fairbanks community. Prevention goes beyond just raising awareness of domestic violence, and works towards promoting healthy behaviors that we want to see adopted in our community. These healthy behaviors then work to prevent any first-time victimization or perpetration. This could be in the form of programs, activities, or services in the community,

7. Are there efforts you can think of in Fairbanks that work towards **preventing** domestic violence and sexual assault?

*If Yes, continue to question 8; if No, skip to question 20.*

8. Can you briefly describe what these efforts are?
9. How long have each of these efforts been going on? (*Probe for each program/activity listed in question 8*).

10. Who do each of these efforts serve? (*i.e.*, a certain age group, men or women, etc.) (*Probe for each program/activity listed in question 8*).

11. Now I want to ask you how many community members understand various aspects of these efforts.

- How many community members would you say have heard about these efforts in a general sense? Would you say none, a few, some, many, or most?
- How many community members would you say could name these efforts? Would you say none, a few, some, many, or most?
- How many community members know the purpose of these efforts, or how they work to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault? Would you say none, a few, some, many, or most?

12. Thinking back to your answers, why do you think members of the community have the amount of knowledge (*or lack of knowledge*) about prevention efforts that you described?

13. Do you think there are any misperceptions or incorrect information among community members about the current prevention efforts?

*Prompt: Can you describe what these misperceptions are?*

14. How do you think community members get information or find out about the prevention efforts?

15. To the best of your knowledge, do you think that community members view the existing prevention efforts as successful or effective?

*Prompt: What do community members like about these programs?*

*Prompt: What don't they like?*

16. Are there any obstacles you can think of that exist to individuals participating in the prevention efforts you mentioned?

*Prompt: What are these obstacles – can you describe them?*

17. In your opinion, what are the greatest strengths of the prevention efforts you described?

18. In your opinion, what are the challenges or weaknesses of these efforts?
19. Do you know of any planning in the community for additional efforts to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault in Fairbanks?
20. *(Only ask if the respondent answered “No” to question 7 or was unsure).* Is anyone in Fairbanks that you know of trying to get something started to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault?
- Prompt: Can you tell me more about that?*

## **LEADERSHIP**

Now I'd like to ask you some questions related to how the leadership in Fairbanks perceives domestic violence and sexual assault. By leadership, I am referring to those people in the community who have influence over the issue, as well as those who lead the community in helping it achieve its goals. This could be city or borough leaders, organizational leaders, religious or spiritual leaders, or other people that community members may look to for leadership on a variety of issues that affect the community.

21. On a scale of 1-10, with 1 being “not a concern at all” and 10 being “a very great concern”, how much of a concern would you say that domestic violence and sexual assault is to the leadership of Fairbanks?
- Prompt: Can you tell me why you gave it a \_\_\_\_\_?*
22. Now I'm going to ask you the question in a slightly different way. On a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being not a priority at all, and 10 being the highest priority, how much of a **priority** would you say it is to the leadership to address domestic violence and sexual assault?
- Prompt: Can you explain why you say this?*

23. Now I'd like to talk about various ways that leadership might show its support or lack of support for efforts to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault.

- How many Fairbanks leaders would you say at least passively support efforts to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault? Would you say none, a few, some, many, or most leaders?
- How many Fairbanks leaders would you say actually **participate** in developing, improving or implementing prevention efforts, for example by being a member of a group that is working toward these efforts?? Would you say none, a few, some, many, or most leaders?
- How many Fairbanks leaders would you say support allocating resources to fund community prevention efforts? Would you say none, a few, some, many, or most leaders?
- How many Fairbanks leaders would you say play a key role as a leader or driving force in planning, developing or implementing efforts? Would you say none, a few, some, many, or most leaders?

*Prompt: Can you tell me more about ways they do that?*

24. Would say that the leadership in the community supports expanded efforts in the community to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault?

*Prompt if yes: How do they show this support? (For example, by passively supporting efforts, by being involved in developing the efforts, or by being a driving force or key player in achieving these expanded efforts)*

25. Can you name the leaders in the community that are especially supportive of preventing domestic violence and sexual assault?

26. Are there any leaders you can think of who might oppose addressing domestic violence and sexual assault?

*Prompt if yes: In what ways do they show their opposition?*

## COMMUNITY CLIMATE

The next set of questions has to do with attitudes of the community related to domestic violence and sexual assault. These questions are meant to help us understand what community members believe about the issue, so you'll want to answer these questions in terms of what you know about the community as a whole.

27. How much of a priority would you say that addressing domestic violence and sexual assault is to members of the Fairbanks community in general?

*Prompt: Can you explain your answer?*

28. Now I want to ask you about various ways that community members might show their support or their lack of support for community efforts to address domestic violence and sexual assault.

- How many community members would you say at least passively support efforts to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault? Would you say none, a few, some, many, or most community members?
- How many community members would you say actually participate in developing, improving or implementing prevention efforts, for example by attending group meetings that are working toward these efforts? Would you say none, a few, some, many, or most community members?
- How many community members would you say play a key role as a leader or driving force in planning, developing or implementing efforts to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault? Would you say none, a few, some, many, or most community members?

*Prompt: Can you give me examples of ways they do that?*

- How many community members do you think would be willing to pay more (for example, in taxes) to help fund community prevention efforts? Would you say none, a few, some, many, or most community members?

29. About how many community members would you say support expanding efforts in the community to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault? Would you say none, a few, some, many or most?

*Prompt (if more than none): Can you give me examples of how they might they show their support?*

30. Are there community members who oppose or might oppose addressing domestic violence and sexual assault?

*Prompt: In what ways do they show their opposition?*

31. Are there ever any circumstances you can think of in Fairbanks in which community members might think that domestic violence or sexual assault should be tolerated?

*Prompt: Can you tell me more about that?*

32. Are there any other community characteristics or community norms in Fairbanks that you think could either support or hinder efforts to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault?

### **RESOURCES FOR EFFORTS**

*If there are efforts to address the issue locally, begin with question 33. If there are no efforts, go to question 34.*

Now I'd like to ask you some questions related to resources in the community to support the prevention of domestic violence and sexual assault.

33. How are current efforts to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault in the Fairbanks community funded?

*Prompt: Do you think this funding is likely to continue into the future?*

34. I'm now going to ask you about the availability of different resources that could be used to address domestic violence and sexual assault in the community.

- How many volunteers do you think would be available or willing to help with prevention efforts in the community? Would you say none, a few, some, or a lot?
- How much in terms of financial donations from organizations and/or businesses would say is available to help with prevention efforts? Would you say none, a little bit, some, or a lot?
- How about grant funding? How much would you say is available? None, a little, some, or a lot?
- How about experts in the field – how many would you say are available in the community to help with prevention efforts? Would you say none, a few, some, or a lot?
- How about space such as meeting rooms, workspace, etc. How much space would you say is available in the community? Would you say none, a little, some or a lot?

35. Do you think that community members and the leadership in the community would support using the resources you described to address domestic violence and sexual assault?

*Prompt: Why do you say that?*

36. Now I want to ask you about how much effort community members and/or leadership are putting into increasing the resources to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault in Fairbanks.

- On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being no effort and 5 being a great effort, how much effort would say is being put into seeking volunteers for current or future efforts to address domestic violence and sexual assault?
- On a scale of 1 to 5, how much effort would say is being put into soliciting donations from businesses or other organizations to fund current or expanded community efforts?
- On a scale of 1 to 5, how much effort would say is being put into writing grant proposals to obtain funding to address domestic violence and sexual assault in the community?
- On a scale of 1 to 5, how much effort would say is being put into training community members to become experts in the prevention of domestic violence and sexual assault?

37. Are you aware of any proposals or action plans that have been submitted by agencies or groups in Fairbanks for funding to address domestic violence and sexual assault in the community?

*Prompt If Yes: Can you tell me more about that?*

## QUESTIONS RELATED TO TEEN DATING VIOLENCE

Now I want to ask you a few questions related specifically to teen dating violence. Teen dating violence is defined as physical, sexual, psychological, or emotional violence within a dating relationship between minors, including stalking. It can occur in person or electronically and might occur between a current or former dating partner.

38. On a scale of 1-10, how much of a concern do you think teen dating violence is to Fairbanks community members - with 1 being “not a concern at all” and 10 being “a very great concern”?

*Prompt: Can you tell me why you think it's at that level?*

39. How well do you think the community understands teen dating violence - how knowledgeable do you think they are about it? Would you say none, a little bit, some, or a lot?

*Prompt: Can you tell me more about why you said that?*

40. Do you know of any efforts in the community that are specifically targeted at preventing teen dating violence?

*Prompt: What else can you tell me about these efforts? Do you think community members know that they exist, understand what they are about? Do you think the efforts are successful?*

41. Do you think that teen dating violence is a priority or concern to the leadership of the community?

*Prompt: Why do you say that?*

42. How much of a concern or priority do you think addressing teen dating violence is to the Fairbanks community as a whole?

*Prompt: Can you tell me more about that?*

43. Do you know of resources in the community that are allocated specifically towards the prevention of teen dating violence?

*Prompt: Can you tell me more about these resources?*



## QUESTIONS RELATED TO MALE ENGAGEMENT

I have just a few more questions and then we will be finished with the interview.

I want to ask you some questions about the engagement of males in preventing domestic violence and sexual assault. The field of domestic violence and sexual assault has historically been predominantly female. Male engagement means actively involving men in prevention efforts, including encouraging men to be part of addressing violence against women and engaging them as partners in creating respectful and positive relationships.

These questions are meant to help us better understand how males as opposed to females view domestic violence and sexual assault in the Fairbanks community, as well as how men might be most effectively included in prevention efforts.

44. Thinking about men specifically, on a scale of 1-10, how much of a concern do you think domestic violence and sexual assault are to men living in Fairbanks - with 1 being “not a concern at all” and 10 being “a very great concern”?

*Prompt: Can you tell me why you think it's at that level?*

45. In thinking about males specifically, how well do you think men in Fairbanks understand the issue of domestic violence and sexual assault - how knowledgeable do you think they are about the issue? Would you say none, a little bit, some, or a lot?

*Prompt: Can you tell me more about why you said that?*

*Prompt: Would you say they are less knowledgeable about domestic violence and sexual assault than women, more knowledgeable, or about the same?*

46. Do you know of any efforts in the community to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault that are specifically inclusive of or led by the male population?

*Prompt: What else can you tell me about these efforts? Do you think community members know that they exist, understand what they are about? Do you think the efforts are successful?*

47. Do you think that efforts to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault which are inclusive of or led by men are seen as a priority or concern to the leadership of the community?

*Prompt: Why do you say that?*

48. Now think about the population of men in Fairbanks. How much of a concern or priority do you think addressing domestic violence and sexual assault is to the population of men in Fairbanks?

*Prompt: Can you tell me more about that?*

*Prompt: Would you say that addressing the issue is more of a priority for men than it is for women, less of a priority, or about the same?*

49. Do you know of resources in the community that are allocated specifically towards male-led prevention of domestic violence and sexual assault?

*Prompt: Can you tell me more about these resources?*

## **CLOSING QUESTIONS**

50. We've covered a lot of ground today. Is there anything else you'd like to say about the issue that we haven't already talked about?
51. When we report our findings, sometimes we like to use quotes from interviews to illustrate themes that come out of the interviews. We never attach names to quotes. Is it ok with you if we quote you anonymously in the report of our findings?