



ARKANSAS
STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant
Program
2017-2020 Implementation Plan

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

OFFICE OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL SERVICES

PO BOX 8031

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201

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I. Introduction

The following pages include Arkansas's Implementation Plan for STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant federal funding. This document is intended to show the processes taken by Arkansas through to the development cycle for the plan.

The following processes were completed and results analyzed by Arkansas to complete the plan:

- establishing planning goals
- documenting the planning process
- obtaining statistical information
- evaluating statistical information
- determining State needs
- writing the implementation plan

PLAN APPROVAL

Arkansas's STOP Implementation Plan final approval was given on March 27, 2018. The Grant Advisory Board and the staff of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission granted approval after multiple interactions with the Department of Finance and Administration – Office of Intergovernmental Services (DFA-IGS) staff.

PLAN TIME PERIOD

This implementation plan identifies the needs and goals regarding domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking in Arkansas as determined by Arkansas stakeholders for the federal funding period of 2017-2020. The remaining portions of this document will provide greater details regarding the planning processes, needs and contexts, and plan priorities and approaches.

PLAN ABSTRACT

STOP Grant Mission

The State's mission is to ensure that all people affected by crime are treated with fairness, dignity and respect, to help victims exercise their rights and access services, and to create and support programs that protect people from crime by providing programmatic and financial oversight to programs serving crime victims with a focus on outcomes and accountability.

STOP Grant Goals of the Implementation Plan

A key component of a successful plan is to understand the goals of the planning process. To accomplish the planning process, DFA-IGS has identified the following goals:

- 1) Describe how Arkansas plans to increase the number of STOP funded services in areas where there is a need for services (based on crime statistics, demographics, input from interested parties and needs assessments) and where no services currently exist.

- 2) Explain results of survey data and priorities determined by the planning group.
- 3) Explain how Arkansas will expand culturally specific services and target underserved populations. These include African American, Hispanic, Marshallese, LBGT, persons with disabilities, geographically isolated populations and victims of severe forms of trauma such as human trafficking.
- 4) Describe efforts to create local consortiums to identify the needs and services in the local communities.
- 5) Forge constructive partnerships with stakeholders to maximize the use of federal funds.

Structure

The Department of Finance and Administration (DFA) serves as the State Administrative Agency on behalf of the Governor to receive and administer funds under the STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). DFA-IGS is responsible for the establishment and enforcement of procedures consistent with federal rules and regulations governing the administration and disbursement of funds under the federal grant programs. DFA-IGS works closely with the Grant Advisory Board and staff of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission as defined in Arkansas Code Annotated § 25-1-111 and § 25-1-107. The Board and the staff of Commission serve as part of the planning committee for all victim justice programs. The Board and the staff of Commission are an integral part of the review process for applications related to federal awards; STOP, Victims of Crime Act (VOCA), Family Violence Prevention and Service Act (FVPSA) and Rape Prevention and Education (RPE); providing victim justice programs. The memberships of the Board and the staff of Commission aid the State by ensuring representation of the required participants are included.

Board required membership:

- Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission (Other)
- Two (2) representatives selected by the Arkansas Coalition Against Sexual Assault (State Sexual Assault Coalition);
- Two (2) representatives selected by the Arkansas Coalition Against Domestic Violence (State Domestic Violence Coalition);
- Two (2) representatives selected by the Arkansas Court Appointed Special Advocate Association (Administrative Office of the Courts – Appendix S);
- Two (2) representatives selected by the Prosecution Coordination Commission (State Prosecution Organization);
- One (1) representative selected by the Criminal Justice Institute Advisory Board for Law Enforcement Management Training and Education (State Law Enforcement Organization); and
- One (1) representative each from any other Advisory Board determined to be necessary by the state administrative agency, including without limitation, the elderly, non-English-

speaking residents, persons with disabilities, members of racial or ethnic minorities, and residents of rural or remote areas (Underserved and Culturally Specific).

Representatives are selected from the membership/employment of the associated entity. The selected representatives are given the authority to act on behalf of the entity as a voting member of the Grant Advisory Board.

The Grant Advisory Board membership list is included as Appendix A.

The Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission membership list is included as Appendix A1.

Arkansas is committed to reducing violence in our communities and, in support of this effort, several pieces of legislation have been passed defining and backing our pledge. Listed in Appendix L are the current Arkansas laws focused on the various aspects of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking. Through efforts of Arkansas's coalition and grassroots partners, three additional laws were created or amended during Arkansas's 91st General Assembly Regular Session of 2017.

Newly enacted or amended laws are as follows:

• **Ark. Code Ann. § 25-1-111 – Designation -- Grant Advisory Board**

(a) The Governor shall have the authority to designate the state agency responsible for the administration and disbursement of funds received by the State of Arkansas under the Victims of Crime Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 10601 -- 10605, the STOP Violence Against Women Act, 42 U.S.C. § 13701, and the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act, 42 U.S.C. § 10401 et seq., in the manner authorized by federal law.

(b) The state agency designated by the Governor under this section shall not disburse Victims of Crime Act, STOP Violence Against Women Act, or Family Violence Prevention and Services Act funds without providing an opportunity for subgrantee qualification selection assistance and programmatic support by the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission and the Grant Advisory Board.

(c) (1) The Grant Advisory Board is established under this section to assist potential beneficiaries of Victims of Crime Act, STOP Violence Against Women Act, or Family Violence Prevention and Services Act funds by:

- (A) (i) Providing review and advice concerning grant processes and grant funding.*
- (ii) If a member of the Grant Advisory Board has a financial interest in an organization seeking grant funding under subdivision (c)(1)(A)(i) of this section, the member may participate in discussion regarding the award of the grant, but the member shall not vote on the matter;*
- (B) Hearing grievances from the beneficiaries of those funds; and*

- (C) After Grant Advisory Board and review, requiring the state agency to provide timely notification to the Grant Advisory Board of any revisions to existing rules and any proposed rules to be promulgated, within federal guidelines, by the state agency designated by the Governor under this section, concerning Victims of Crime Act, STOP Violence Against Women Act, or Family Violence Prevention and Services Act funds, and any applicable policies and procedures.*
- (2) The Grant Advisory Board shall consist of:*
- (A) Two (2) representatives selected by the Arkansas Coalition Against Sexual Assault;*
 - (B) Two (2) representatives selected by the Arkansas Coalition Against Domestic Violence;*
 - (C) Two (2) representatives selected by the Arkansas Court Appointed Special Advocate Association;*
 - (D) Two (2) representatives selected by the Prosecution Coordination Commission;*
 - (E) One (1) representative selected by the Criminal Justice Institute Advisory Board;*
and
 - (F) One (1) representative each from any other the Grant Advisory Board determined to be necessary by the state administrative agency, including without limitation, the elderly, non-English-speaking residents, disabled persons, members of racial or ethnic minorities, and residents of rural or remote areas.*
- (d) The state agency designated by the Governor under this section shall not disburse Victims of Crime Act funds without providing an opportunity for review of and advice concerning grant processes and grant funding by the Grant Advisory Board.*
- (e) (1) The state agency designated by the Governor under this section shall not disburse funds under the law enforcement, prosecution, and judiciary percentages of the STOP Violence Against Women Act, without providing an opportunity for review of and advice concerning grant processes and grant funding by the Grant Advisory Board.*
- (2) The state agency designated by the Governor under this section shall not disburse funds under the victims' services and discretionary percentages of the STOP Violence Against Women Act without providing an opportunity for review of and advice concerning grant processes and grant funding by the Grant Advisory Board.*
- (f) The state agency designated by the Governor under this section shall not disburse Family Violence Prevention and Services Act funds without providing an opportunity for review of and advice concerning grant processes and grant funding by the Grant Advisory Board.*
- (g) The state agency designated by the Governor under this section shall, after the review and recommendations of the Grant Advisory Board, promulgate rules consistent with federal law setting forth the policies and procedures for the administration and disbursement of Victims of Crime Act, STOP Violence Against Women Act, and Family Violence Prevention and Services Act funds, including policies and procedures for the participation and assistance of advisory bodies established to assist potential beneficiaries of those funds.*

(h) (1) As used in this section, "review" means an analysis, evaluation, assessment, appraisal, inquiry, inspection, or a study.

(2) "Review" does not mean the authority utilized by the General Assembly in its analysis of proposed rules or appropriations.

• Ark. Code Ann. § 19-6-838 -- Domestic Violence Shelter Fund

(a) There is created on the books of the Treasurer of State, the Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State a special revenue fund to be known as the Domestic Violence Shelter Fund.

(b) The fund shall be used to provide funding for statewide grants awarded to a statewide domestic violence entity under the Arkansas Domestic Violence Shelter Act, 9-6-101 et seq.

(c) The fund shall consist of:

(1) The special revenues collected under § 9-15-202(d) and § 16-10-305(h);

(2) Moneys obtained from private grants or other sources that are designated to be credited to the fund; and

(3) Any other revenues authorized by law.

• Ark. Code Ann. § 9-6-103 -- Domestic Violence Shelter Grant Program

(a) The Department of Finance and Administration shall establish the Arkansas Domestic Violence Shelter Grant Program to assist in the funding of domestic violence shelters in Arkansas.

(b) The purpose and criteria of the program is to:

(1) Annually evaluate each shelter receiving funds under this chapter for compliance with the program, fiscal, and training requirements under this chapter;

(2) Promulgate rules for the evaluation of each shelter receiving funds under this chapter;

(3) Adopt a uniform system of recordkeeping to ensure the proper handling of funds by a shelter receiving funds under this chapter;

(4) Provide training and technical assistance to shelters receiving funds under this chapter to ensure minimum standards of service delivery;

(5) Serve as a clearinghouse for information relating to domestic abuse; and

(6) Provide educational programs on domestic abuse for the benefit of the general public, victims, specific groups of persons, and other persons as needed.

(c) The department shall establish rules to implement this chapter.

Plan Organization

- DFA-IGS, the Grant Advisory Board and the staff of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission meetings have occurred throughout the entire planning process (documentation of meetings will be provided in Planning Process section)
- Plan of action was to develop a needs assessment for Victim Justice Programs for Arkansas (documentation of meetings will be provided in Planning Process section)
- Sub-committee of DFA-IGS, the Grant Advisory Board and the staff of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission formed a Survey Committee to develop Needs Assessment Tool
- Sub-committee working meetings (documentation of meetings will be provided in Planning Process section)
- Tool developed and submitted to DFA-IGS, Grant Advisory Board, and the staff of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission for approval
- Needs assessment tool sent to stakeholders for completion
- Results received and formulated into a report (Appendix C and C1)
- Report sent to Arkansas stakeholders
- Subsequent summary document of report was sent to the Grant Advisory Board and the staff of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission with questionnaire to be completed to identify top plan priorities (Appendix K and results discussed in Plan Priorities and Approaches)
- DFA-IGS worked to accumulate documents of collaboration required by new regulations for plan submission (Appendix B, B1, and B2)
- Information received and draft implementation plan developed by DFA-IGS
- Implementation plan draft submitted to the Grant Advisory Board and the staff of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission for approval
- Approval received from the Grant Advisory Board and the staff of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission (Appendix P)
- Approved Implementation Plan submitted to Federal Staff for review and approval

Funds Allocation

Arkansas achieves the required funding allocation via a subgranting process. Applications are reviewed ensuring there are services for underserved populations and culturally specific populations. The method will be discussed in detail in the Plan Priorities and Approaches section.

Arkansas will adhere to the federal allocation percentages as follows:

- Grant Administration 10% of each category
- Law Enforcement 25%
- Prosecuting Attorney 25%
- Victim Services 20%
- Victim Services – Culturally Specific 10%

- Courts 5%
- Awareness 5%

Not later than two (2) years after the date of enactment of VAWA 2013, no less than twenty percent (20%) of the total award amount to the State will be allocated for programs or projects that address sexual assault. This amount will be reallocated within the law enforcement, prosecution, courts, or victim services.

II. Description of Planning Process

Brief Description

The 2017–2020 STOP Implementation Plan has expanded documentation requirements related to the planning process. Arkansas took several steps to ensure participation by providers, stakeholders, and victims at all steps of the process.

Over 2015 and 2016, DFA-IGS and the Victims Justice Advisory Board had various meetings to discuss the future goals of the STOP grant. During the calendar year 2015, focus was placed on the need to develop a comprehensive Needs Assessment survey to gain a better understanding of the overall service needs and funding allocations required throughout Arkansas to meet the demands of the State’s victim justice programs. To accelerate the development of this survey, DFA-IGS, the Grant Advisory Board, and the staff of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission formed a subcommittee to dedicate time to this effort. A total of two Needs Assessment Surveys were created to evaluate the needs of providers and the needs of victims. Upon completion of the surveys, the team submitted to DFA-IGS, the Grant Advisory Board, and the staff of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission the final products for approval. With approval, the Needs Assessments were sent to Arkansas stakeholders via an electronic survey tool. Survey 1 was developed to gain an insight on the current provider resources in Arkansas for victim justice programs. Survey 2 was developed to gain an overall need of the services in the areas of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking. Both surveys were emailed to the Grant Advisory Board, the staff of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission, and stakeholders for completion, as well as some other information for planning. Recipients were encouraged to forward these surveys to as many individuals as possible to allow for the best assessment as possible. All needs assessments were to be completed and returned to DFA-IGS by January 2016. Stakeholder responses were from victims, family members of victims, and non-funded and funded service providers.

Responses to the survey were accumulated by DFA-IGS staff and formatted into reports (Appendix C and Appendix C1.) The reports were submitted to the Grant Advisory Board, the staff of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission, and stakeholders.

DFA-IGS Management also performed a review of the reports and developed a summary of the top five (5) answers within each category (Appendix K.) This summary, along with a questionnaire, was submitted to the Grant Advisory Board and the staff of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission to gain a consensus of the goals/objectives of the needs of victims in the State of Arkansas and to develop a strategic plan for spending in Arkansas including the development of a STOP Implementation Plan.

Upon receipt of feedback from the Grant Advisory Board and the staff of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission, DFA-IGS staff compiled and updated the Implementation Plan’s funding goals/objectives. A final draft of the Implementation Plan was

submitted to the Grant Advisory Board and the staff of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission for approval. Approval by the Board was granted on March 27, 2018 (Appendix P.)

Documentation of Participation

See Appendixes B, B1, and B2 for signed documents of collaboration.

The Grant Advisory Board served as the STOP planning committee. This Board is comprised of members from each of the defined categories by OVW.

The Grant Advisory Board Meetings

AR Approximate Planning Meeting Dates	Topics of Discussion	Attendees	Documentation	Delivery Method
May 2013- March 2014	Met and discussed 2013 VAWA reauthorization. Also approved initial 2014-2018 plan.	Advisory Body plus AARP, Court Interpreter, Catholic Charities, Partners for Inclusive Communities	Collaboration Forms	
6/30/2016	RFP discussed	The Grant Advisory Board and the staff of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission	Agenda/Notes	Email/Outlook
11/7/2017	STOP Implementation Plan	The Grant Advisory Board and the staff of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission	Agenda, Collaboration Forms	Email/Outlook
2/13/2018	Reviewed needs assessment and top results of the assessments for goals for AR	The Grant Advisory Board and the staff of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission	Agenda	Email/Outlook

3/14/2018- 3/15/2018	Reviewed and Discussed the draft Implementation Plan	The Grant Advisory Board and the staff of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission	Plan document	In-person and Conference call
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Survey Sub-Committee Meetings

AR Approximate Planning Meeting Dates	Topics of Discussion	Attendees	Documentation	Delivery Method
May 2015- October 2015	Survey committee met to develop Needs assessment questions	Joyce Raynor, Monie Johnson, Mira Frosolono, Roberta Sick Ken Wade		
October 2015-January 2016	Surveys distributed to interested parties, including victims, providers and Advisory Body to distribute	Advisory Body, IGS Staff, IGS-funded providers	Emails	Email
3/23/2016	Survey Committee met to review and analyze needs assessments	Joyce Raynor, Monie Johnson, Mira Frosolono, Roberta Sick Ken Wade	Agenda	Email/Outlook

Summary of Major Concerns Raised During Planning Process

- Limited demographical information related to the survey participants which prevents documentation of full participation of the underserved population
 - Addressed

- Arkansas has requested additional information/documentation from stakeholders
 - Future surveys will include demographical questions to meet this need
 - Classification (reporting) of incidents are based upon the law enforcement officer interpretation
 - Addressed
 - Provide training regarding the classification of incidents and the impact on reporting to improve data collection statewide
 - Encourage all law enforcement agencies to report
 - Geographical location of Board and the staff of the Commission members, Victims and Victim Advocates does not allow multiple in-person meetings or workgroups which can delay immediate responses to prepared documentation
 - Addressed
 - Begin planning process earlier to ensure adequate time for responses
 - Communicate with Board and the staff of the Commission the requirements for documentation in advance of the date needed
 - Obtain documentation of meeting as they occur
 - Change of Board composition and new members filling vacant positions
 - Addressed
 - Invest time to recruit new stakeholders within the underserved population

Documentation Non-Planning Partners

Survey 1 Participants Appendix C	
<i>Type of Service Provider</i>	<i>Number of Responses</i>
Child Abuse	31
Domestic Violence	50
Homicide Victims	14
Sexual Assault	36
Other (Included Crisis and Suicide intervention, DWI, robbery victims, stalking, terroristic threatening, homeless shelter, civil legal services, housing and economic justice)	9
	140

Note: There were a total of 65 service providers who responded which provided one or more of the above services.

<i>Populations Served</i>	<i>Number of Responses</i>
Children (12 and younger)	31
Adolescents (13-18)	35

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Clients with developmental disabilities	13
Clients with other disabilities	15
Domestic violence survivors	50
Drug/alcohol dependent clients	6
Elderly (65+)	18
Limited English proficient clients	14
Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders (Marshallese, Hmong)	12
Hispanic/Latino	18
Immigrants not mentioned previously	7
Human trafficking survivors	14
LGBTQ individuals	16
Sexual violence survivors	38
Victims of other crimes (DWI, families of murder victims, etc.)	19
	306

Note: There were a total of 64 respondents which provided services to the population above.

Survey 2 Participants Appendix C1	
Category of Participants	Number
Board Member	4
Direct Service Provider	34
Health Care Provider	5
Intern Assigned to Serve Victims	0
Law Enforcement	20
Legal/Court	10
Management Level	11
Mental Health Provider	4
Personal Experience of Violence (victim, survivor, family)	21
State Agency	11
Volunteer	6
Other (combined categories on survey)	5
Unanswered	40
Total	171

Tribal Involvement

Currently, Arkansas does not have any federally recognized tribes. This is according to the NCLS (National Conference of State Legislators) in coordination with the US Department of Interior Indian Affairs list. While we are aware that there are no official nationally or state recognized tribes for Arkansas, we know that there are Native Americans living and working in our state. In the upcoming years we are beginning to reach out to service providers for Native peoples to build relationships that may lead to increased services to this population. We are aware that Native Americans are significantly more likely to experience violence, and it is our desire to begin the important work through our State Coalitions and of establishing relationships that lead to us allowing them to have a place at our table and a voice in the work we do.

Coordination of Federal Programs

DFA-IGS administers the STOP, FVPSA, Sexual Assault Service Formula Grant Program (SASP) and VOCA grants for Arkansas. Funds from all programs are administered collaboratively to

achieve desirable outcomes for the State. To accomplish the maximum benefit of funding, Arkansas issues requests for proposal (RFP) from potential providers to apply for all victim justice assistance programs. DFA-IGS staff, the Grant Advisory Board, the staff of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission members, and other external sources evaluate all applications to determine the most effective combination of programs to fund and which funding source should be used to fund the program.

Arkansas currently funds the services listed below per Grant:

Services Provided	VOCA	FVPSA	STOP	RPE	SASP
Adult Victim Advocacy	X	X	X		X
Child Care	X				
Child Victim Advocacy	X	X			
Civil Legal Advocacy/Court Accompaniment			X		
Civil Legal Assistance			X		
Civil Legal Services			X		
Community Awareness Activities		X		X	
Community Education to Adults		X		X	
Community Education to Youth		X		X	
Counseling/Therapy Adult	X	X	X		X
Counseling/Therapy Child	X	X	X		X
Crisis Hotline	X	X	X		X
Crisis Intervention	X	X	X		X
Education Services	X	X	X	X	
Emergency Shelter	X				
Forensic Interviews	X				
Hospital Advocacy	X		X		X
Law Enforcement			X		
Law Enforcement Facility Accompaniment					X
Legal Advocacy/Court Accompaniment	X		X		X
Legal Assistance	X		X		
Legal Services	X		X		
Linguistic Services (e.g. bilingual advocate, ASL)					X
Outreach Activities for Underserved Communities					X
Prevention Education				X	
Prosecution			X		
Rape Prevention Education			X	X	
Rape Prevention Education for Persons with Disabilities				X	
Reinstitution Services	X				
Safety Planning	X	X	X		X
Service Provider/Advocate Training			X		X
Shelter Services	X	X	X		

Support Groups	X	X			X
Transitional Housing	X				
Transportation	X		X		X
VINE - Victim Information & Notification Everyday Services	X				
Volunteer Advocate Recruitment	X				X

The ability to leverage the combination of these federal grant funds for service delivery throughout the State is imperative to Arkansas’s victims. During the subgrant awarding process, services are evaluated based upon allowable cost per federal award to ensure the maximum amount of services are delivered. This maximizes the funding benefit for the provider and the services for victims in Arkansas.

The coordination and leveraging of funds across these federal funding streams allows Arkansas to fill identified gaps in victim services, address the needs of specific underserved populations, ensure that services are not duplicated, and contribute to a funding strategy that is based on population, location of significant underserved populations, community resources, as well as federal funding award amounts and respective statutory purpose areas. Appendix D1 contains a listing of providers and services.

DFA-IGS allocates SASP grant funding to the State’s Sexual Assault Coalition. This funding is subgranted to providers offering advocacy, crisis hotlines, support groups, counseling, medical facility accompaniment, law enforcement facility accompaniment, court accompaniment, outreach activities and linguistic services.

The Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission administers the RPE grant for Arkansas. This funding is subgranted to five (5) organizations to provide rape prevention education and specialized training including rape prevention for individuals with disabilities.

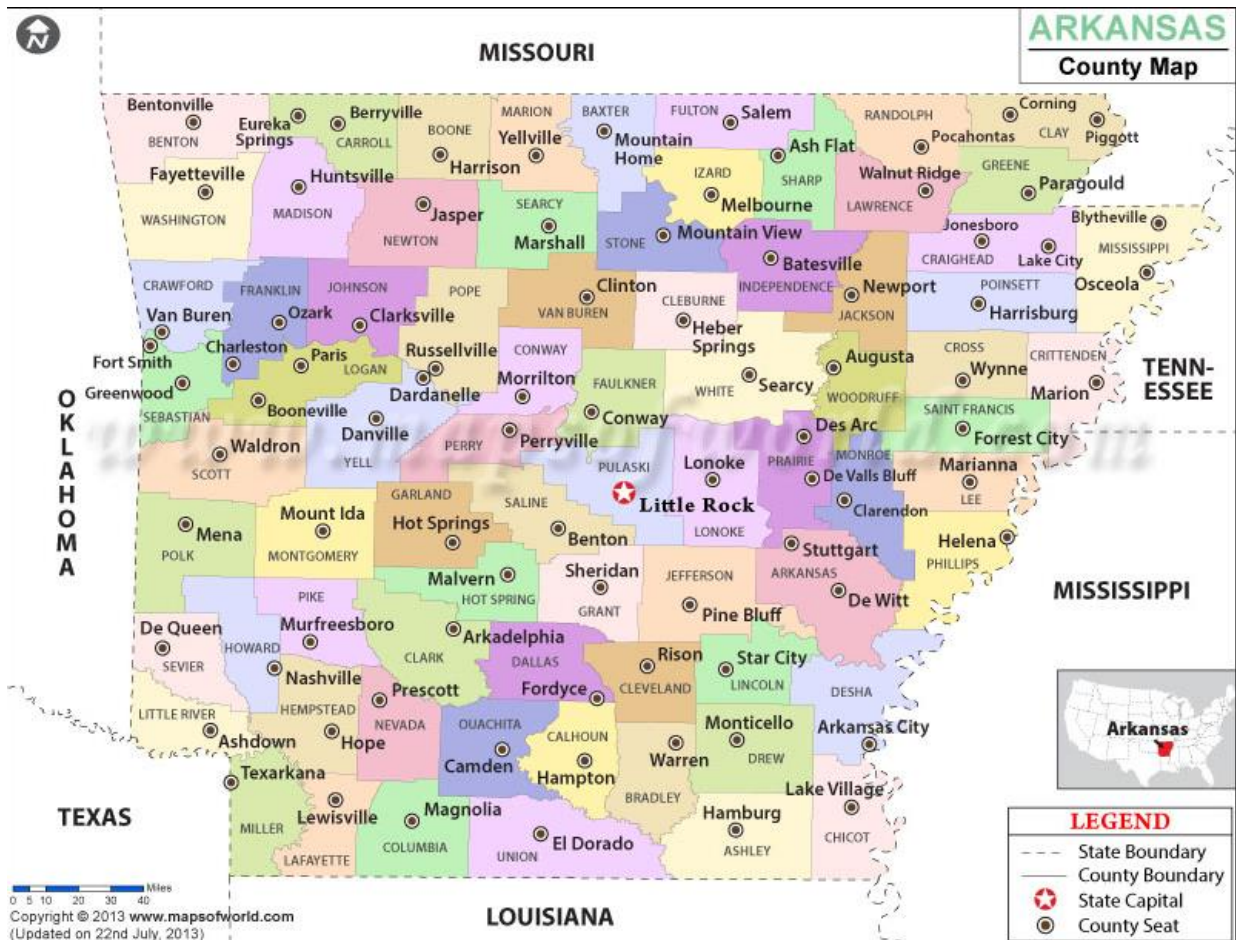
Due to the coordination of planning for the victim justice programs, the Arkansas Coalition Against Domestic Violence, a member of the Grant Advisory Board, addressed the need for additional funding for domestic violence shelters with the Legislature. In 2017, the Arkansas Legislature passed a new law, Arkansas Domestic Violence Shelter Act 582 of 2017, which established a special revenue fund specifically for domestic violence shelters. The fund will be supported by court fees assessed in domestic abuse cases and any other additional revenues as authorized by law.

Appendix D provides a listing of current STOP offered services broken down within the five (5) categories: victim services, prosecutorial, law enforcement, training, and court services.

III. Needs and Context

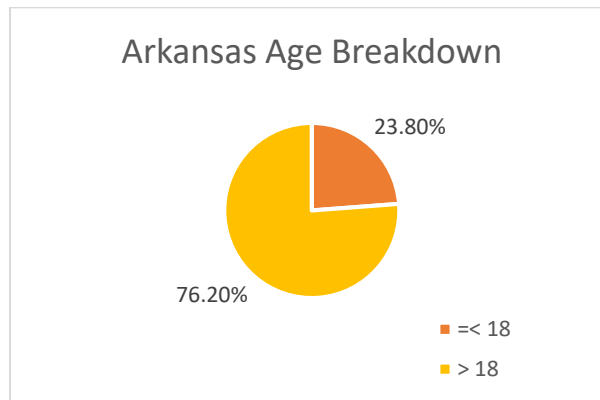
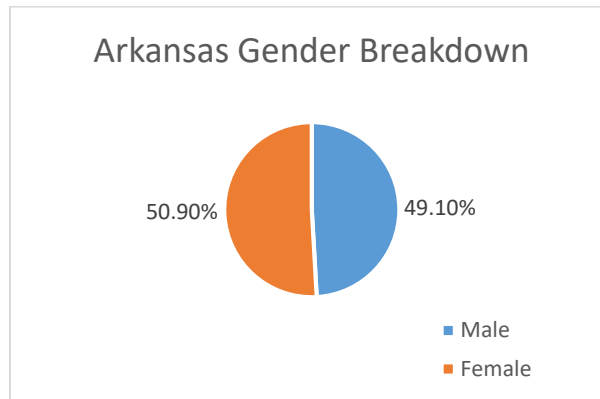
Demographic

The State of Arkansas is in the southeastern region of the United States. The State has 53,182 square miles of very diverse geography. The northern part of the state is known as the mountainous region which has both the Ozark and Ouachita Mountains. The southern part of the state is known as the Arkansas Timberlands which is comprised of densely forested land. The eastern part of the state is known as the lowlands which runs along the Mississippi and the Arkansas Delta.



Population

The United States Census Bureau estimated Arkansas’s population for 2016 to be approximately 2.9 million. In Arkansas, slightly more than 50% of the total population is female. Arkansas has a 76.20% adult population, equal to or over 18 years of age. Within the female population of 50.93%, approximately 39.28% is 18 years of age and older.

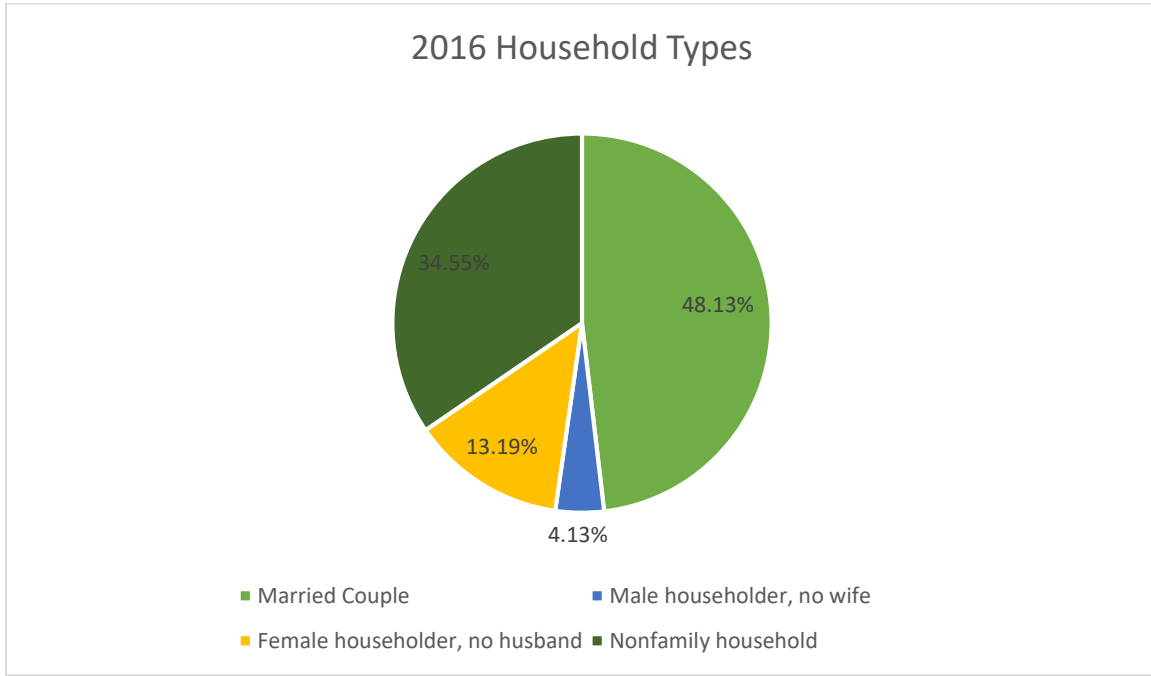


Arkansas Gender and Age Breakdown

Category	Males	% of Males	Females	% of Females	Total
Total Population	1,456,694	49.07%	1,511,778	50.93%	2,968,472
Equal to and over 18	1,095,163	36.89%	1,166,075	39.28%	2,261,239
Under 18	361,531	12.18%	345,703	11.64%	707,233

Households

2016 statistics indicates Arkansas has 1,142,718 recognized households.



Type of Household	Number	Percentage
Married Couple	549,997	48.13%
Male householder, no wife	47,221	4.13%
Female householder, no husband	150,699	13.19%
Nonfamily household	394,801	34.55%

Approximately 13% of the population is a female household with no husband present. It is estimated that of these 150,699 homes, 82,378 (54%) have a child under the age of 18.

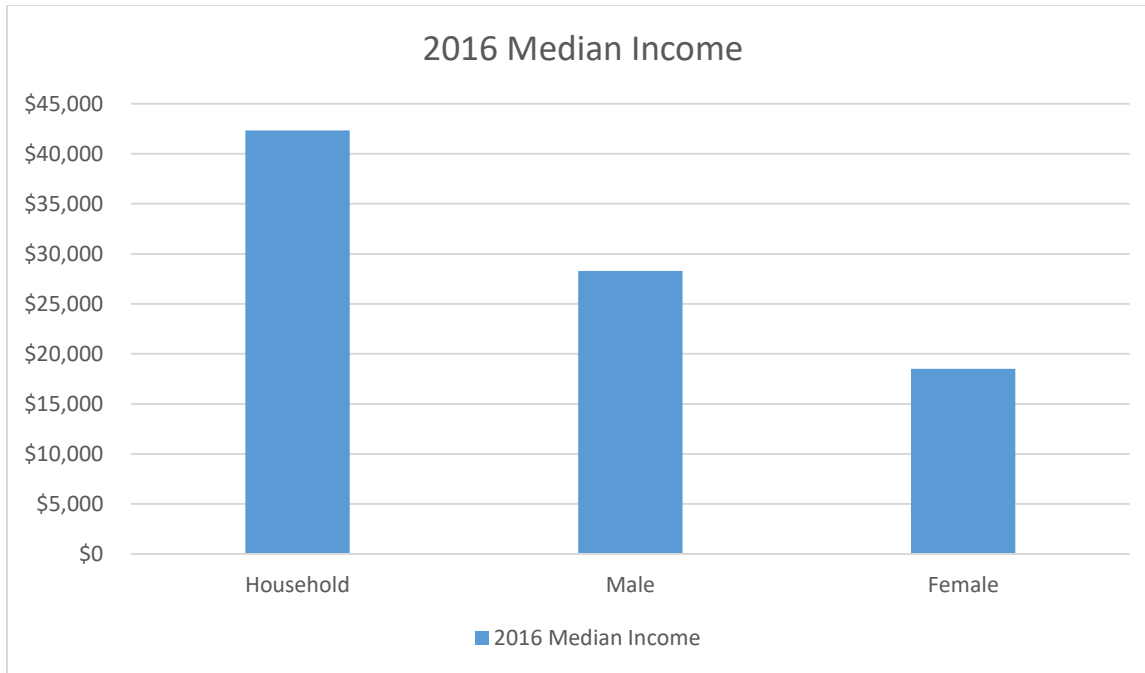
According to A.C.A. § 9-6-102, Arkansas defines a family or household as:

(4) "Family or household member" means a:

- (A) Spouse;
- (B) Former spouse;
- (C) Parent;
- (D) Child;
- (E) Person related to another family or household member by blood;
- (F) Person who cohabits with another family or household member or who cohabited in the past with another family or household member; and
- (G) Person who shares one (1) or more children in common with another person;

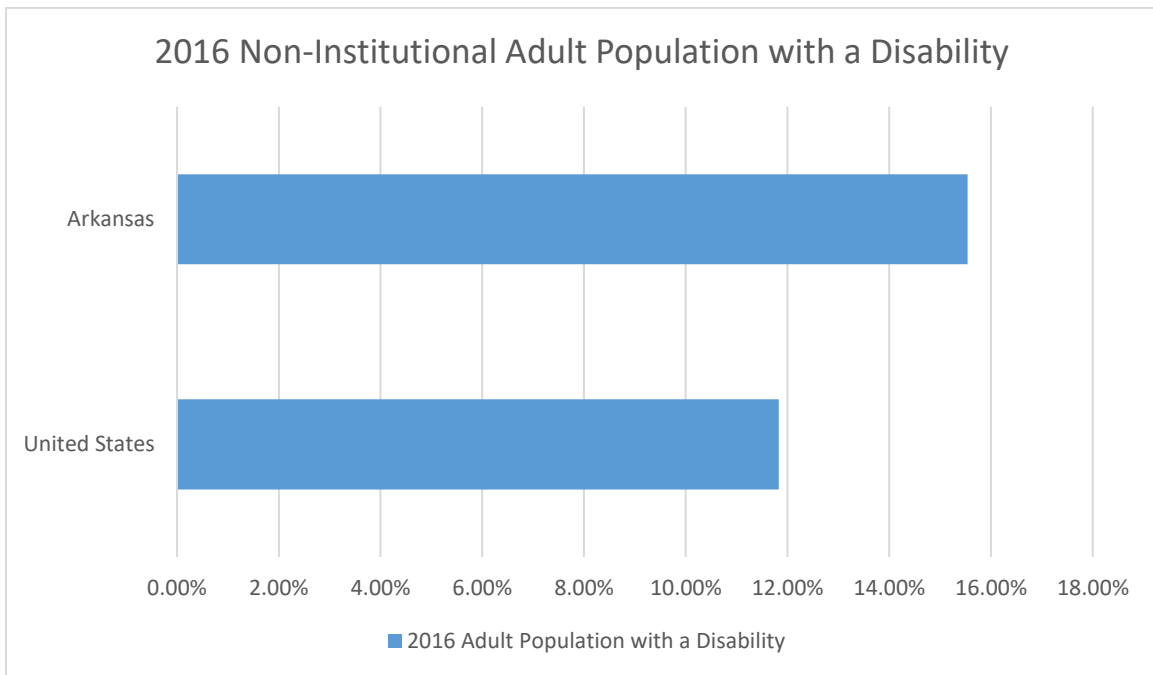
Income

The median household income for an Arkansan in 2016 was \$42,336. The national median income for a household in 2016 was \$57,617. In Arkansas, the median for a male was \$28,289 and \$18,516 for a female. Economically, Arkansas is a poor state with more than seventy percent (70%) of households having an annual income of less than \$50,000.



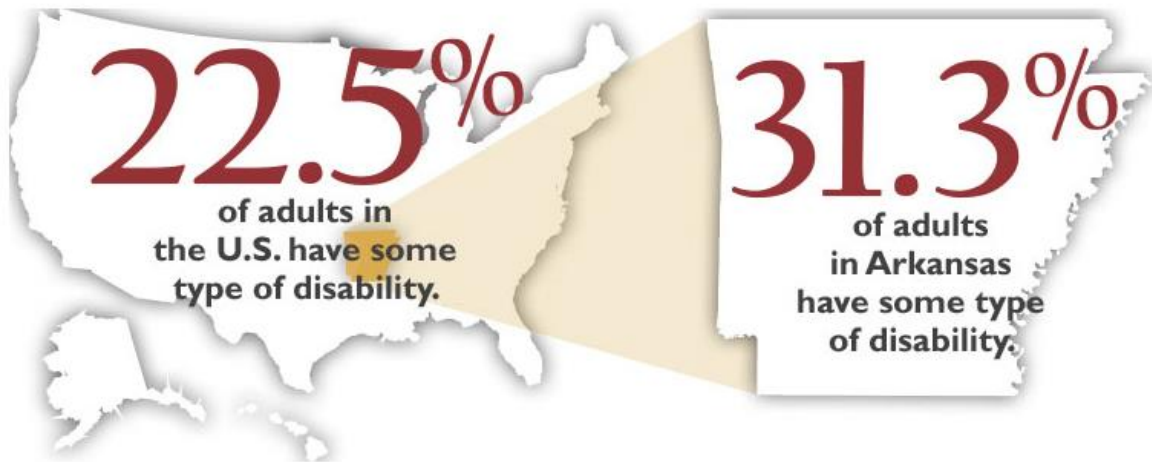
Disability

Arkansas has a higher population of non-institutionalized adults with disabilities at 15.54% than the national average of 11.83%. Within Arkansas, 17.00% of the male and 16.80% of the female populations have disabilities.



Non-Institutional Disability Calculation		
	Arkansas	United States
Total Population	2,915,402	318,175,867
18 to 34	52,327	4,647,346
35 to 64	212,218	16,133,746
65 to 74	86,955	7,184,055
75 years and over	101,473	9,670,551
Total Adult Population with Disability	452,973	37,635,698
Percentage	15.54%	11.83%

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention's Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS) in a publication done by the CDC, Arkansas has a total adult population of 31.3% of individuals with disabilities.



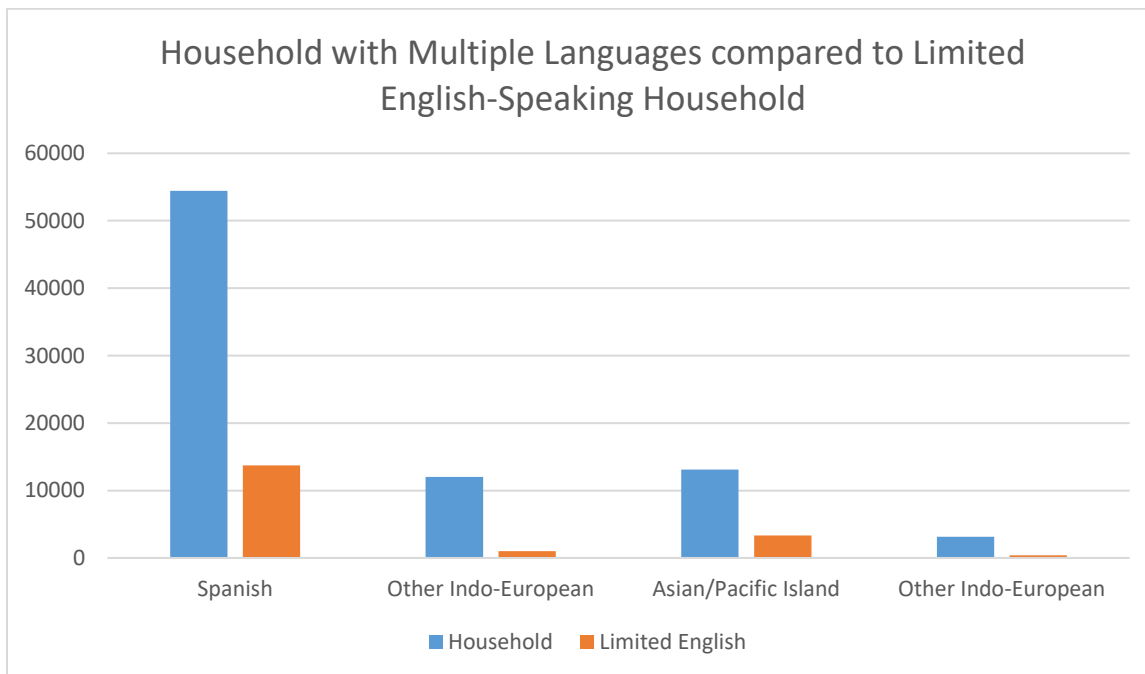
Language

Arkansas has a total of 1,142,718 households reported on the 2016 census data. Of those households, 7% reported speaking multiple languages with 1.6% reporting limited English-speaking in the household.

The national average of limited English-speaking is at 4.5%.

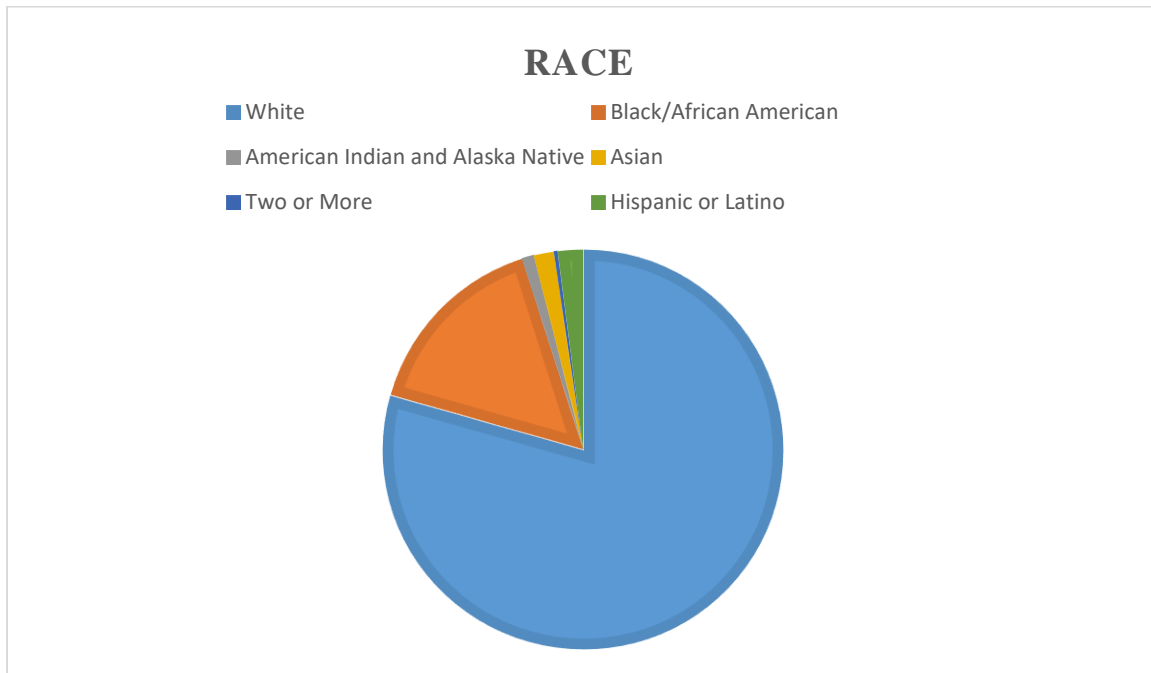
The languages spoken and percentage of the limited English-speaking households compared to all Arkansas households are:

- Spanish 1.200%
- Other Indo-European .089%
- Asian and Pacific Island .290%
- Other .032%



Race

In terms of race, the State of Arkansas is predominately white, accounting for 79.4% of the population. Blacks or African Americans comprise 15.70% of the population and the Hispanic/Latino population is at approximately 2%. The remaining 2.9% is comprised of American Indian, Asian, and Native Hawaiian.

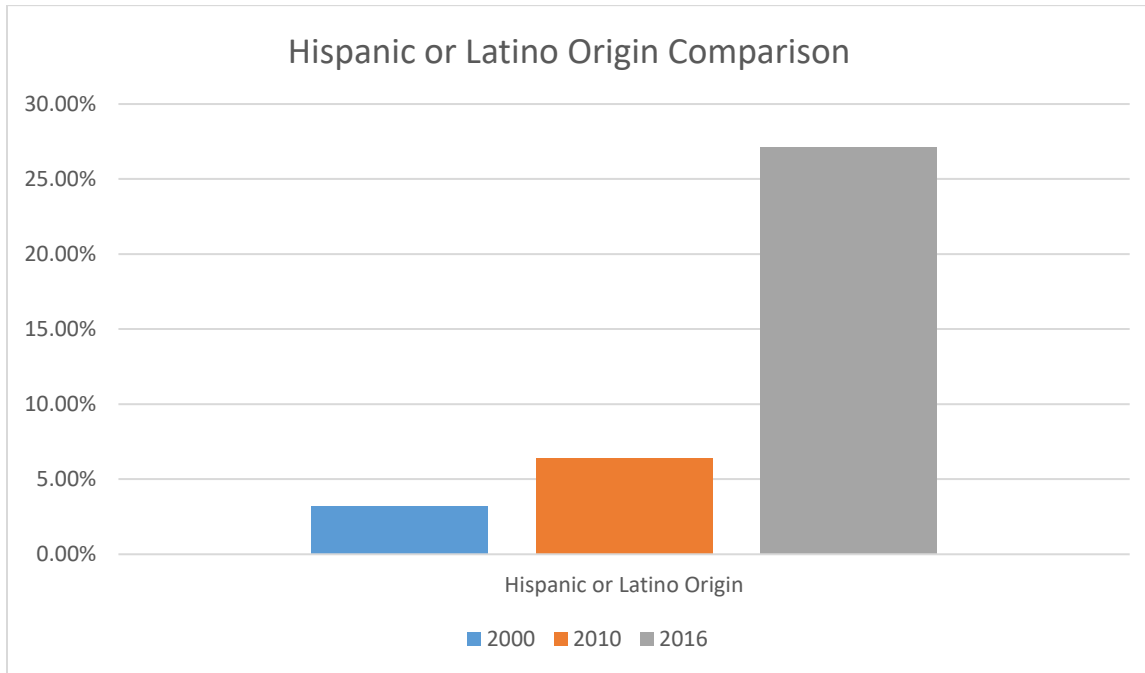


Arkansas has seventy-five (75) counties. Appendix N contains a complete listing of the racial breakdown per county.

White	79.40%
Black/African American	15.70%
American Indian and Alaska Native	1.00%
Asian	1.60%
Two or More	0.30%
Hispanic or Latino	2.00%

Ethnicity

The United States Census Bureau determines ethnicity as either a person with or without Hispanic or Latino origin. The Hispanic population has grown in Arkansas over the last sixteen (16) years.

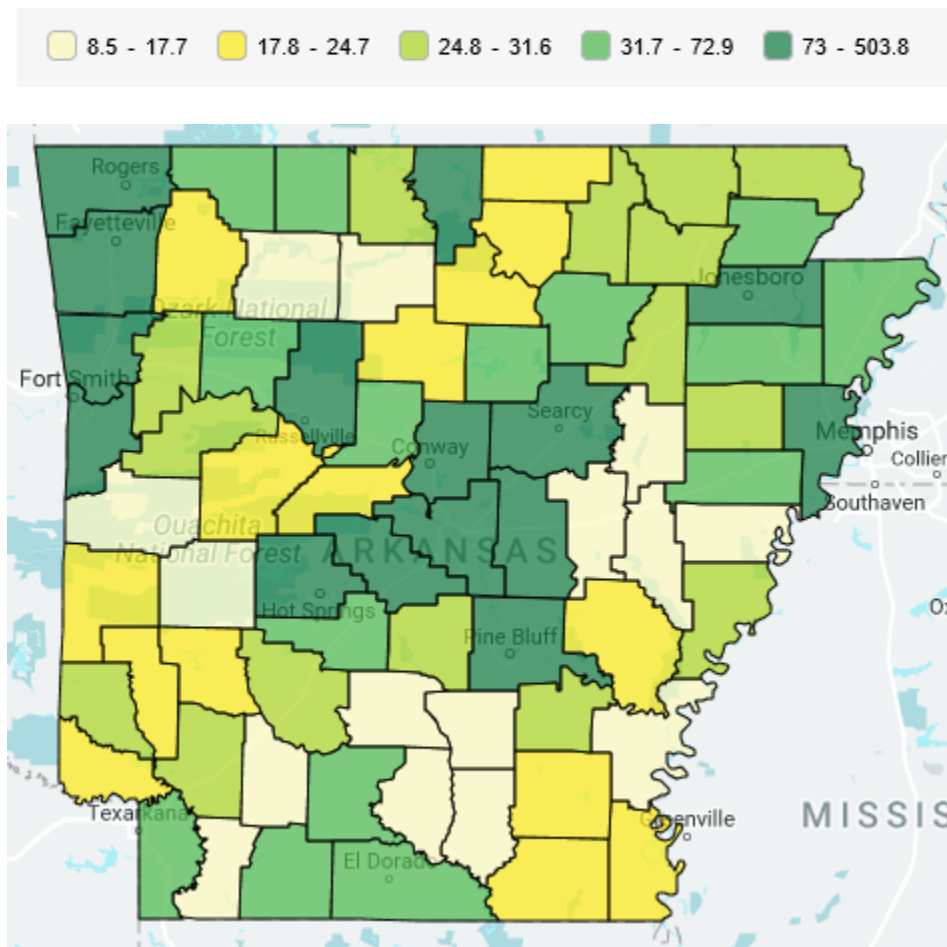


Arkansas also recognizes the Marshallese as a second ethnicity population. Northwest Arkansas is home to the second-largest US continental population. The concentration of this population is in Washington and Benton Counties. A population of approximately 6,000 out of 525,032 citizens is estimated to live in Northwest Arkansas. This represents approximately 1.2% of the total population within this area.

Geographical

The average number of persons per square mile in Arkansas is fifty-six (56). The map below provides a breakdown of persons per square mile per county, which indicates Arkansas has forty-five (45) counties out of seventy-five (75) with the average number of persons per square mile under 31.6. Over 80% of Arkansas counties have a limited population per square mile compared to the national average of 87.4 persons.

Average Person Per Square Mile Per County



Race and Ethnicity Geography

To determine the culturally specific population within the state according to race and ethnicity, county statistics were obtained from the United States Census Bureau. Each category found was sorted by percentage to identify the top five (5) counties. All county data is in Appendix N. The raw data for the top five (5) counties per race and ethnicity is:

Top Five Race/Ethnicity Per County Data

County	Black or African American
Phillips County	63.1
Lee County	55.3
Jefferson County	55.1
Chicot County	54.1
St. Francis County	51.9

County	American Indian and Alaska Native
Sevier County	2.3
Crawford County	2.2
Sebastian County	1.9
Scott County	1.9
Polk County	1.8

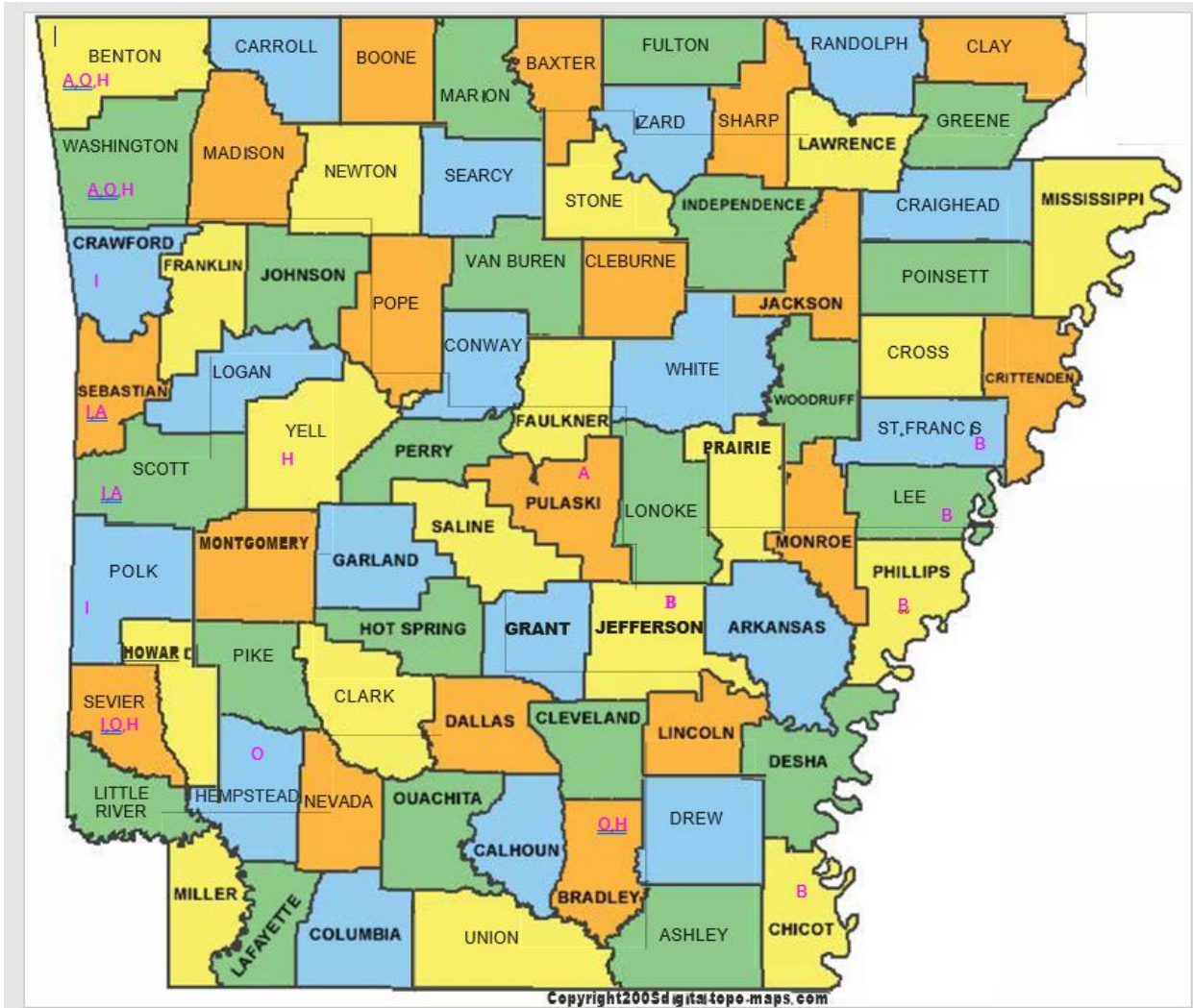
County	Asian
Sebastian County	4.1
Scott County	3.4
Benton County	2.9
Washington County	2.2
Pulaski County	2

County	Other Race
Sevier County	19.9
Bradley County	10.1
Washington County	8.9
Benton County	8.6
Hempstead County	8.5

County	Hispanic or Latino
Sevier County	30.6
Yell County	19.1
Washington County	15.5
Benton County	15.5
Bradley County	13.2

The map below indicates counties with the highest minority races and ethnicity recognized in Arkansas.

A = Asian	B = Black or African American	O = Other
H = Hispanic or Latino	I = American Indian & Alaska Native	



Summary by Catchment Area

Catchment Area	Asian	Black or African American	Other	Hispanic or Latino	American Indian & Alaska Native
1		X			
4	X		X	X	
6	X				
8N			X		
9W			X	X	X
10		X	X	X	
11W		X			
12	X				X
15	X			X	X
18W					X
19W	X		X	X	
21					X

The above map indicates Arkansas has two culturally specific populations within the State based upon geographical location and a third culturally specific population that has a statewide need.

- Asian populations are in the North to Northwestern part of the State.
- Black or African American populations are in the Eastern part of the State known as the Delta.
- Hispanic or Latino populations have several dense populations throughout the State.

Services by Location

Currently, Arkansas has issued subgrants for each of the seventy-five (75) counties for VOCA funding. These subgrants provide services to victims of crimes.

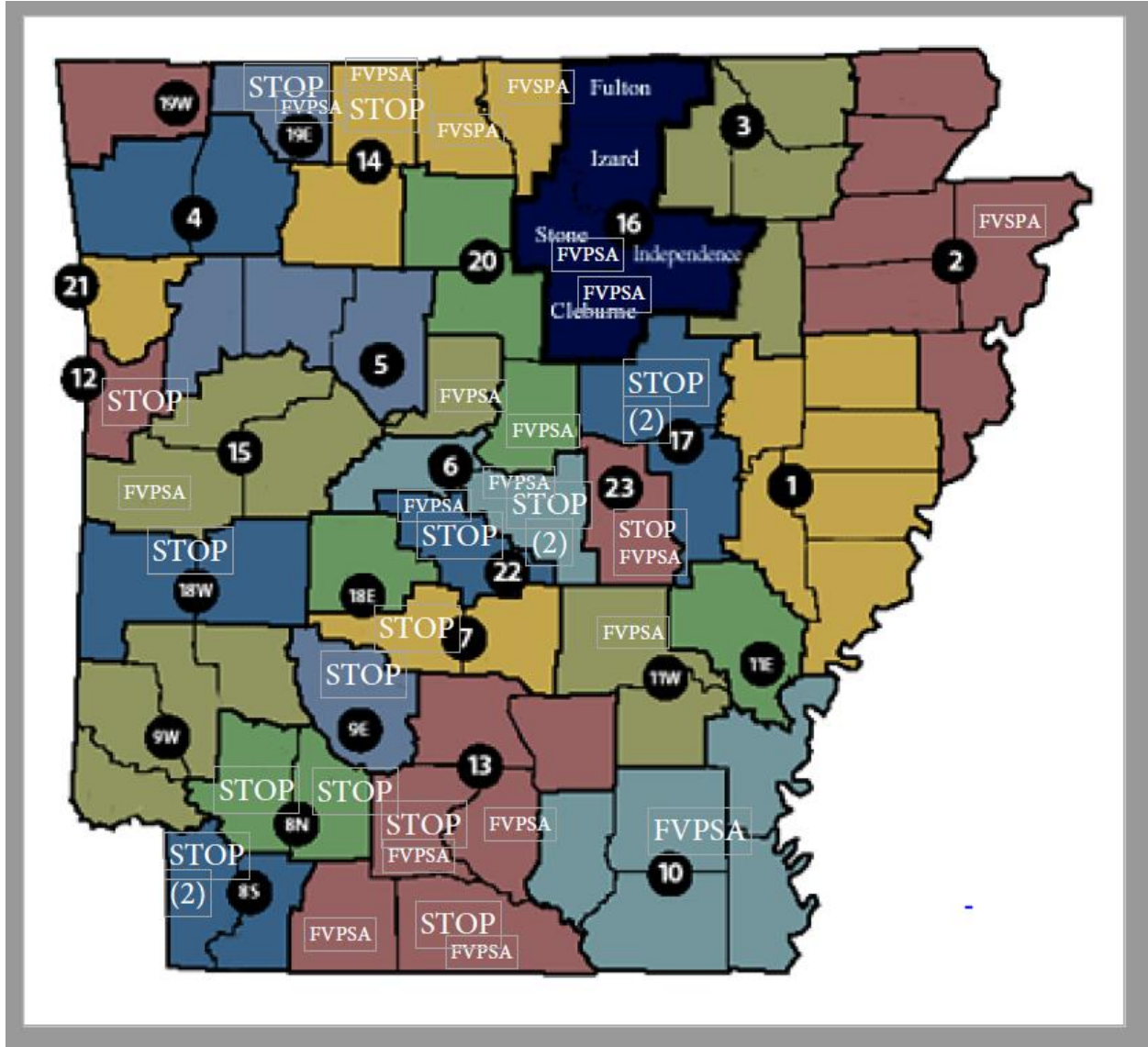
In addition, there are twenty-one (21) STOP subgrantees (Appendix E) offering services. Three (3) of these providers offer statewide services related to Service Provider/Advocate Training targeting law enforcement officers, prosecutors, judges, and advocates in all areas of victim justice assistance.

A total of nine (9) FVPSA subgrants are awarded. All subgrants provide shelter services at various locations throughout the State.

A total of six (6) VOCA subgrants provide statewide services in the areas of:

- Technology
- Grief support meetings
- 24/7 telephone contact for victim referral
- Quarterly news letter
- Family support for a family with a missing child

Currently funded STOP and FVPSA subgrantees indicating areas served include:



Victim Information Data

Arkansas Crime Information Center (ACIC) publishes reports utilizing Arkansas Uniform Crime Reporting Program (UCR), which is an incident based reporting system. Information is entered into this system by law enforcement personnel because of a response to an incident or call. This system tracks information related to the offense, victim, and perpetrator. For the State's STOP Implementation Plan, a report was generated to provide information related to offenses associated with victim justice programs. Please note, ACIC utilizes the term Homosexual to represent Same-Sex relationships.

The 2016 data report, Appendix G, allocated the information based upon the relationship of the victim and perpetrator.

The following information is used by Law Enforcement Agents (LEA) to enter data into the UCR system. There are some situations where the data entry explanations differ with the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) definition. This difference has been identified as a challenge for data collection in Arkansas. (Appendix G1)

Relationship of Victim to Offender

Relationship of Victim to Offender is used, along with Data Element 34 (Offender Number to be Related), to report the relationship of the victim to the offender(s) who perpetrated a Crime Against Person or a Robbery against the victim.

When the LEA identifies more than ten (10) offenders, they should enter the ten (10) that are most closely related to the victim.

This data element is mandatory when one or more of the offenses reported in Data Element 24 (Victim Connected to UCR Offense Code) is a Crime Against Person or a Robbery and Data Element 36 (Offender Sequence Number) is other than 00 = Unknown.

LEAs should enter up to ten (10) per victim:

Within Family

- SE = Victim Was Spouse
- CS = Victim Was Common-Law Spouse
- PA = Victim Was Parent
- SB = Victim Was Sibling (brother or sister)
- CH = Victim Was Child
- GP = Victim Was Grandparent
- GC = Victim Was Grandchild
- IL = Victim Was In-law
- SP = Victim Was Stepparent
- SC = Victim Was Stepchild

- SS = Victim Was Stepsibling (stepbrother or stepsister)
- OF = Victim Was Other Family Member

Outside Family But Known to Victim

- AQ = Victim Was Acquaintance
- FR = Victim Was Friend
- NE = Victim Was Neighbor
- BE = Victim Was Babysitter (the baby/child)
- BG = Victim Was Boyfriend/Girlfriend
- CF = Victim Was Child of Boyfriend or Girlfriend
- HR = Homosexual (Same-Sex) Relationship
- XS = Victim Was Ex-Spouse
- EE = Victim Was Employee
- ER = Victim Was Employer
- OK = Victim Was Otherwise Known

Not Known By Victim

- RU = Relationship Unknown
- ST = Victim Was Stranger

Other

- VO = Victim Was Offender

- **Race of Victim**

Race of Victim indicates the race of an individual (person) victim in an incident.

Valid Data Values:

- White
- Black or African American
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- Unknown

White—A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa

Black or African American—A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa
American Indian or Alaska Native—A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America) and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment

Asian—A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the

Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander—A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands, e.g., individuals who are Carolinian, Fijian, Kosraean, Melanesian, Micronesian, Northern Mariana Islander, Palauan, Papua New Guinean, Ponapean (Pohnpelan), Polynesian, Solomon Islander, Tahitian, Tarawa Islander, Tokelauan, Tongan, Trukese (Chuukese), and Yapese.

Note: The term “Native Hawaiian” does not include individuals who are native to the state of Hawaii simply by virtue of being born there.

Assaults and Robbery

- Aggravated Assault

An unlawful attack by one person upon another wherein the offender uses a weapon or displays it in a threatening manner, or the victim suffers obvious severe or aggravated bodily injury involving apparent broken bones, loss of teeth, possible internal injury, severe laceration, or loss of consciousness

In the definition above, a weapon is a commonly known weapon (a gun, knife, club, etc.) or any other item becoming one, although not usually thought of as a weapon, when used in a manner which could cause the types of severe bodily injury described. The NIBRS considers mace and pepper spray to be weapons. A severe laceration is one that should receive medical attention. A loss of consciousness must be the direct result of force inflicted on the victim by the offender.

Aggravated Assault includes assault with disease (as in cases when the offender is aware he/she is infected with a deadly disease and deliberately attempts to inflict the disease by biting, spitting, etc.), assaults or attempts to kill or murder, poisoning, assault with a dangerous or deadly weapon, maiming, mayhem, and assault with explosives. In addition, this offense usually includes offenses such as Pointing and Presenting a Firearm, Brandishing a Firearm, etc. Though an agency may, on occasion, charge assailants with assault and battery or simple assault when an offender uses a knife, gun, or other weapon in the incident, the agency should classify this type of assault as aggravated for UCR purposes. It is not necessary for injury to result from an aggravated assault when an offender uses a gun, knife, or other weapon with the potential to cause serious personal injury.

- Simple Assault

An unlawful physical attack by one person upon another where neither the offender displays a weapon, nor the victim suffers obvious severe or aggravated bodily injury involving apparent broken bones, loss of teeth, possible internal injury, severe laceration, or loss of consciousness

Simple Assault includes offenses such as minor assault, hazing, assault and battery, and injury caused by culpable negligence.

- Intimidation

To unlawfully place another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words and/or other conduct but without displaying a weapon or subjecting the victim to actual physical attack

This offense includes stalking. In addition, the offender can make the threats associated with intimidation in person, over the telephone, or in writing.

- Robbery

The taking or attempting to take anything of value under confrontational circumstances from the control, custody, or care of another person by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear of immediate harm

Robbery involves the offender taking or attempting to take something of value from a victim, usually the property owner or custodian, by the use of force or threat of force. The victim must be present. If there is no direct confrontation and the victim is not in fear of immediate harm, law enforcement should report Extortion. Though direct confrontation occurs in pocket-pickings or purse-snatchings, force or threat of force is absent. However, if during a purse-snatching or other such crime, the offender uses force or threat of force to overcome the active resistance of the victim, law enforcement should classify the offense as Robbery.

Forcible Rape

- Rape (except Statutory Rape)

The carnal knowledge of a person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity

Agencies should classify the crime as rape, regardless of the age of the victim, if the victim did not consent or if the victim was incapable of giving consent. If the victim consented, the offender did not force or threaten the victim, and the victim was under the statutory age of consent, agencies should classify the crime as statutory rape.

This offense includes the rape of both males and females as long as at least one of the offenders is the opposite sex of the victim. Black's Law Dictionary, 6th ed., defines carnal knowledge as "the act of a man having sexual bodily connections with a woman; sexual intercourse." There is carnal knowledge if there is the slightest penetration of the sexual organ of the female (vagina) by the sexual organ of the male (penis).

In cases where several offenders rape one person, the responding agency should count one Rape (for one victim) and report separate offender information for each offender.

Sexual Offense

- Sodomy

Oral or anal sexual intercourse with another person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity

If the offender both raped and sodomized the victim in one incident, then LEAs should report both offenses.

- Sexual Assault with an Object

To use an object or instrument to unlawfully penetrate, however slightly, the genital or anal opening of the body of another person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity

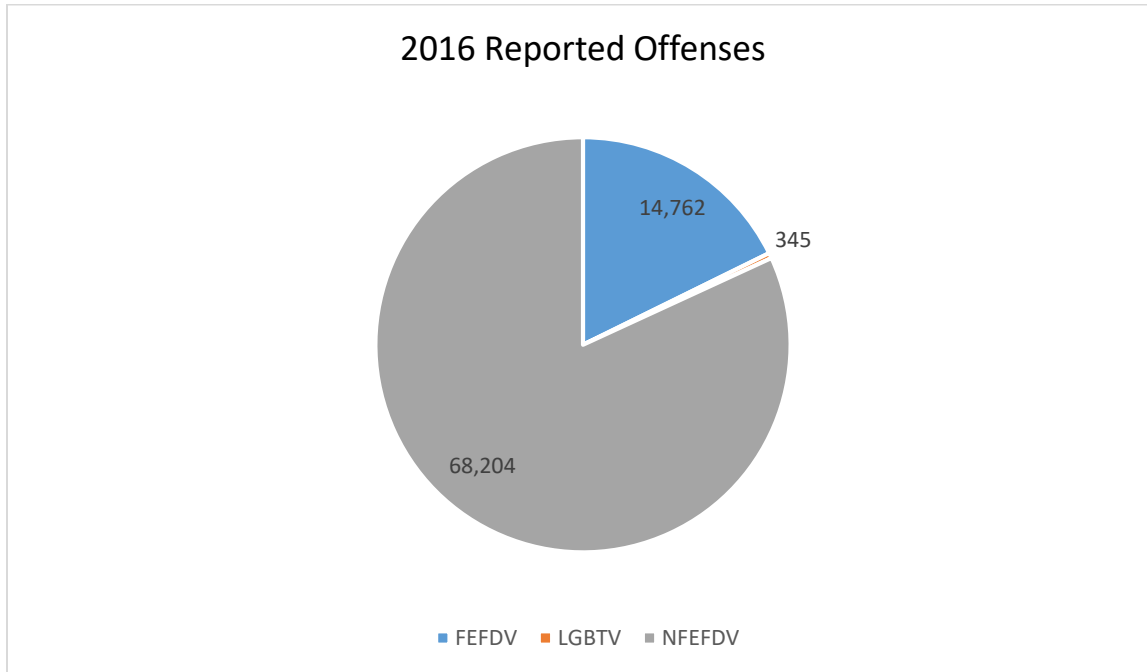
An “object” or “instrument” is anything used by the offender other than the offender’s genitalia, e.g., a finger, bottle, handgun, stick.

- Fondling

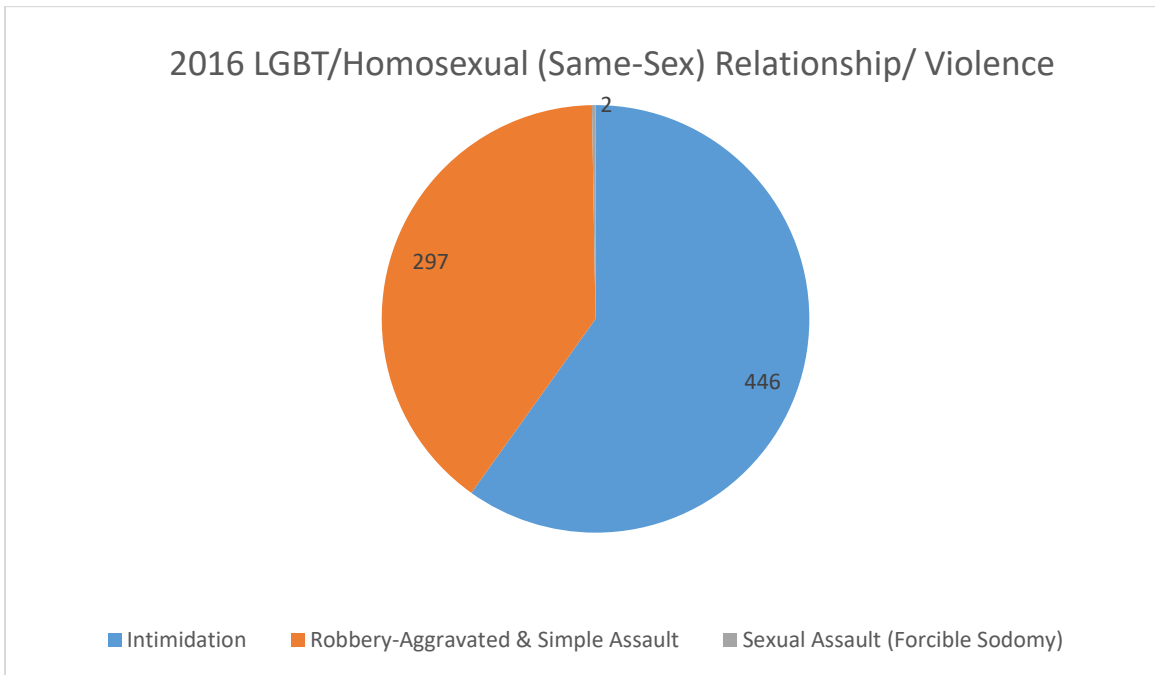
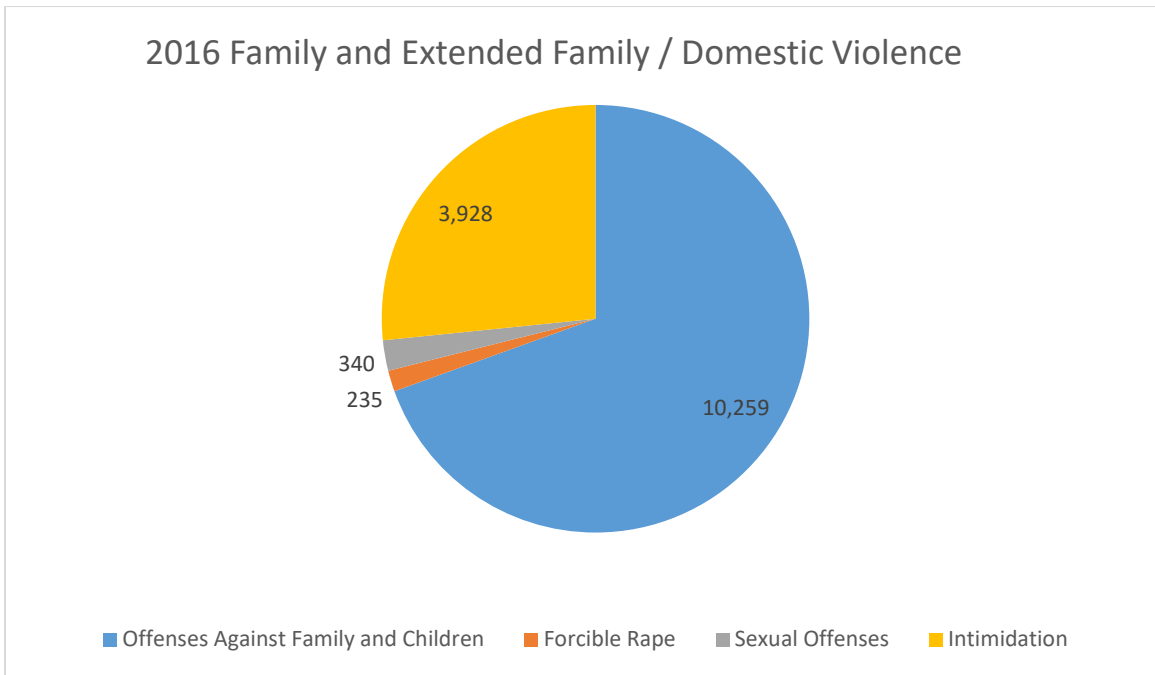
The touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

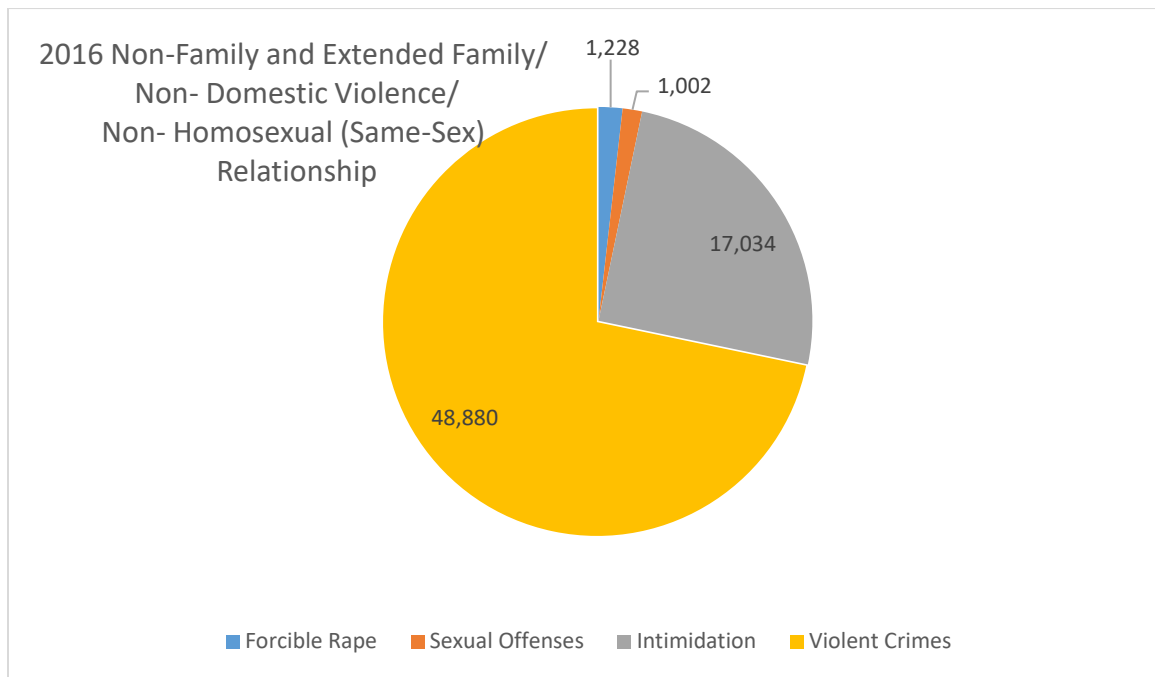
The categories used for reports below identify the relationships:

- Family and Extended Family/Domestic Violence (FEFDV)
- LGBT/Homosexual (Same-Sex) Relationship/Violence (LGBTV)
- Non-Family and Extended Family/Non-Domestic Violence/Non-Homosexual (Same-Sex) Relationship (NFEFDV)



Full reports are in Appendix G.





2016 FAMILY AND EXTENDED FAMILY / DOMESTIC VIOLENCE - Female Victims

Offense	<18	>18	Age Unknown	F	American Indian/Alaskan Native	Asian	Black	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	White	Race Unknown	Hispanic Ethnicity	Unknown Ethnicity
Offenses Against Family and Children	943	5,577	27	6,547	13	25	2,197	2	4,234	76	261	577
Forcible Rape	165	63	2	230	2	-	40	-	186	2	24	23
Sexual Offenses	211	30	-	241	1	-	41	-	192	7	19	32
Intimidation	248	2,421	11	2,680	6	13	756	-	1,886	19	109	182

Arkansas 2017-2020 STOP Implementation Plan
 Department of Finance and Administration, Office of Intergovernmental Services

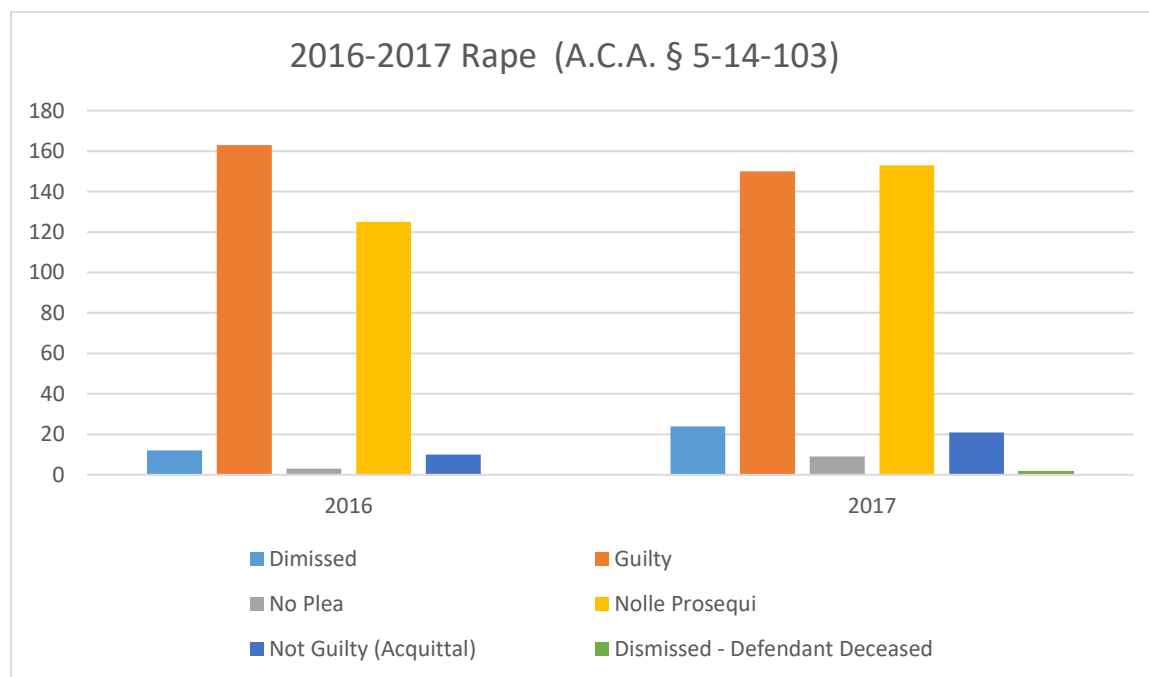
2016 LGBT/HOMOSEXUAL (Same-Sex) RELATIONSHIP/ VIOLENCE													
Offense	Total	<18	>18	M	F	American Indian/Alaskan Native	Asian	Black	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	White	Race Unknown	Hispanic Ethnicity	Unknown Ethnicity
Robbery-Aggravated & Simple Assault	297	3	294	95	202	3	0	156	0	135	3	4	25
Sexual Assault (Forcible Sodomy)	2	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1
Intimidation	46	0	46	18	28	0	0	28	0	16	2	0	3

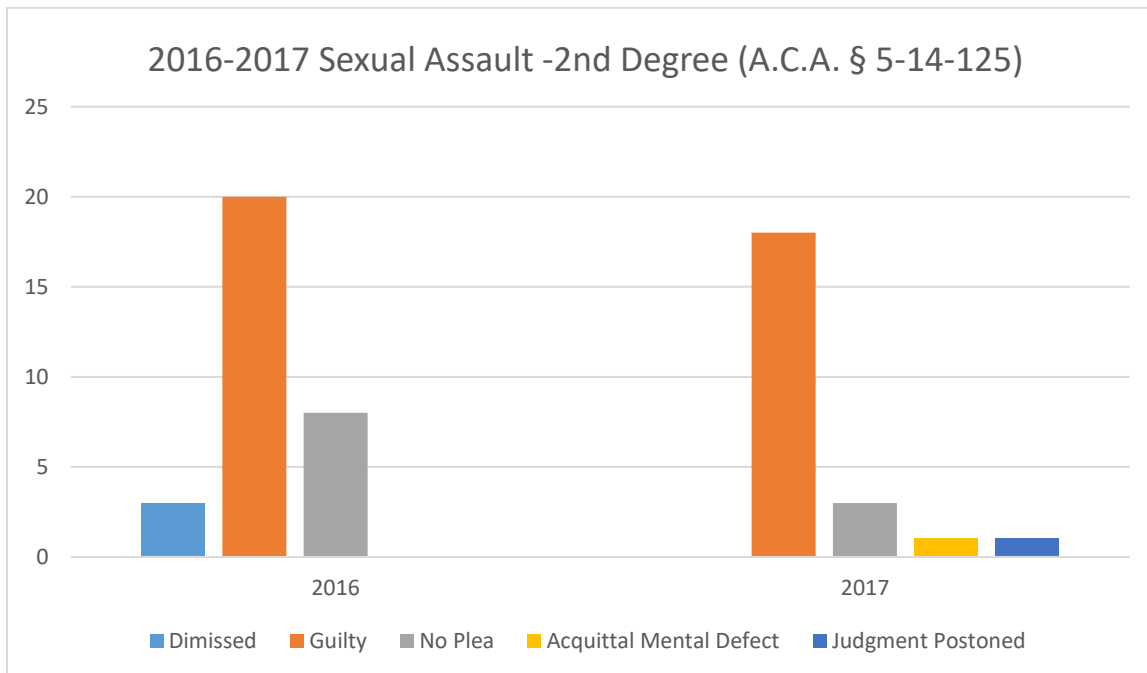
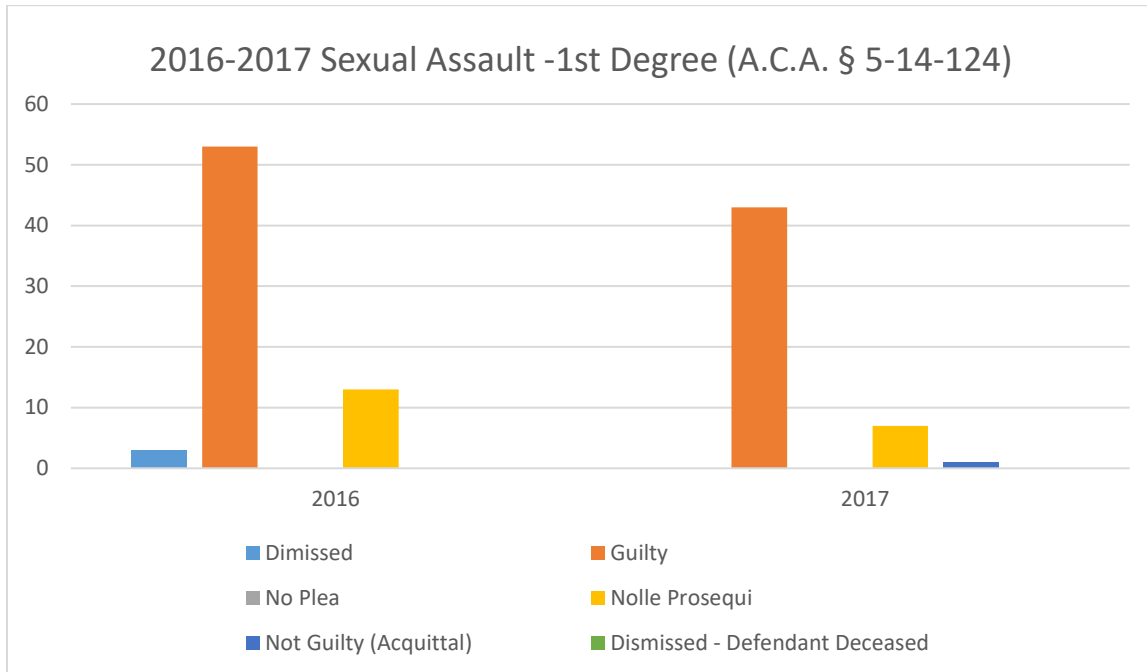
2016 NON - FAMILY AND EXTENDED FAMILY / NON - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE /NON – HOMOSEXUAL (Same-Sex) RELATIONSHIP- Female Victims													
Offense	<18	>18	Age Unknown	F	American Indian/Alaskans Native	Asian	Black	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	White	Race Unknown	Hispanic Ethnicity	Unknown Ethnicity	
Violent Crimes	3401	20285	230	23916	58	45	11004	7	12596	206	47	61	
Forcible Rape	533	710	17	1260	2	3	265	1	968	21	58	145	
Sexual Offenses	503	202	10	715	1	0	138	0	570	6	26	123	
Intimidation	1077	8517	138	9732	23	17	3609	2	5950	131	259	988	

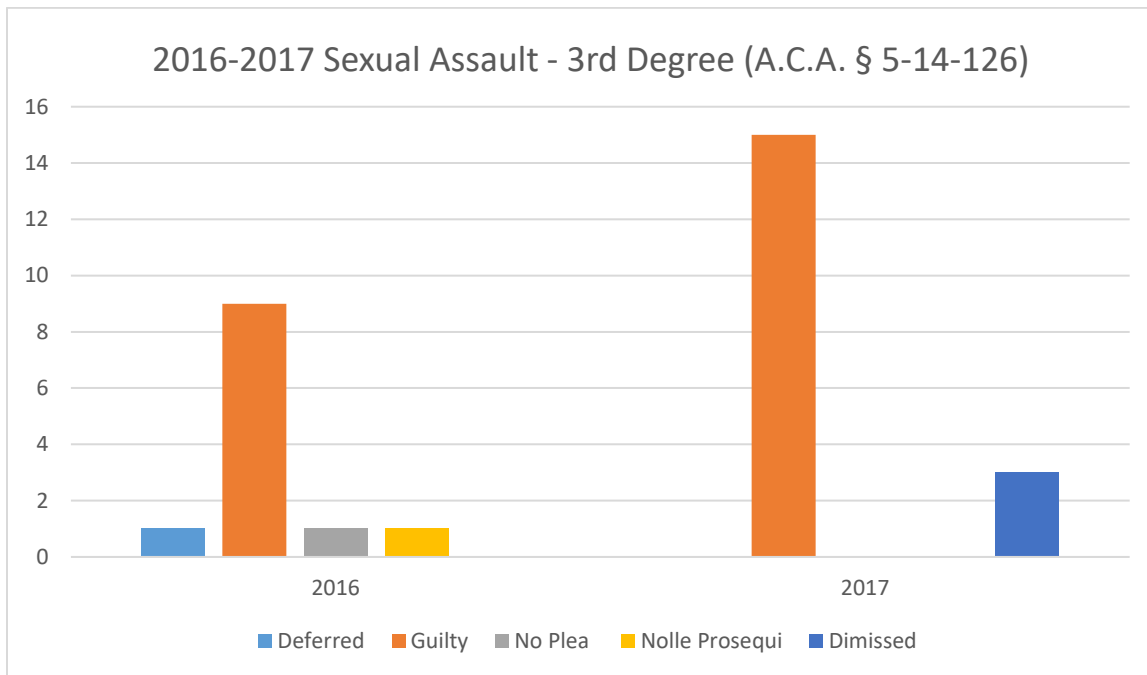
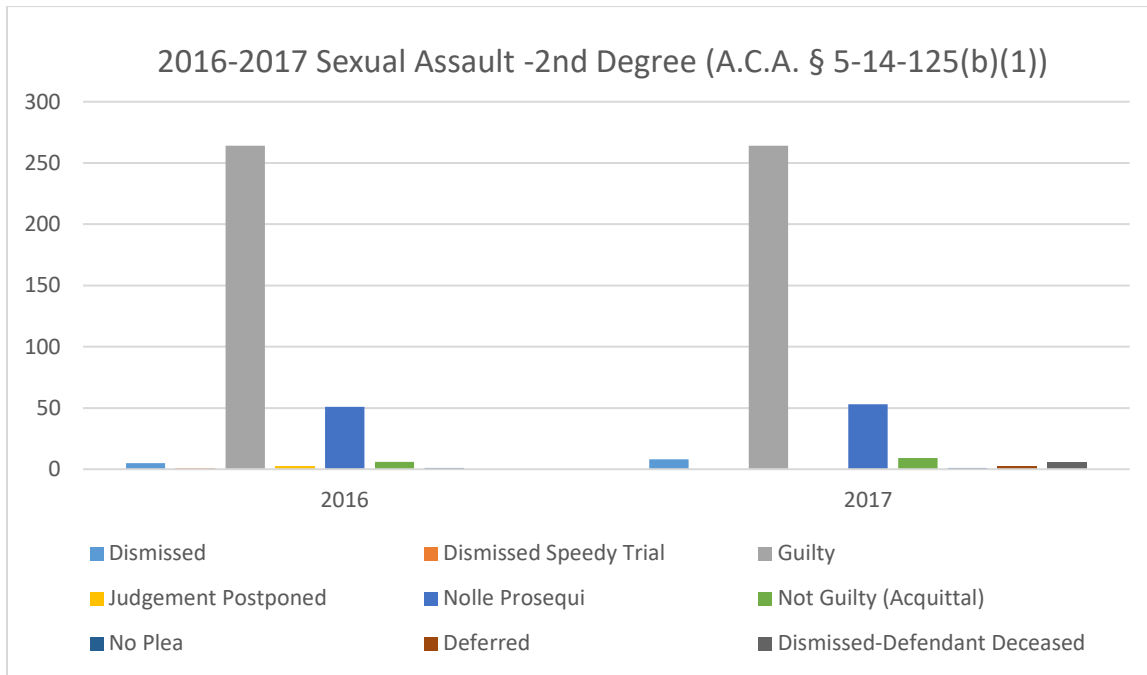
The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) provided a report (Appendix G3, G3, G4) which compared 2016-2017 charges and disposition statewide for the areas of:

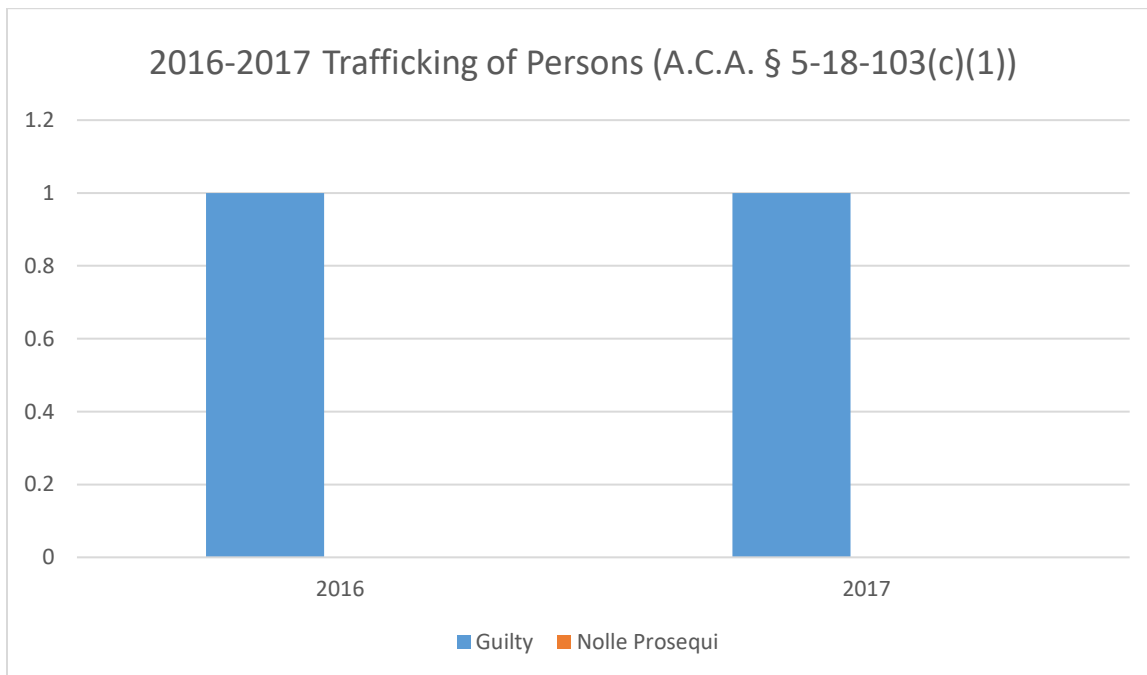
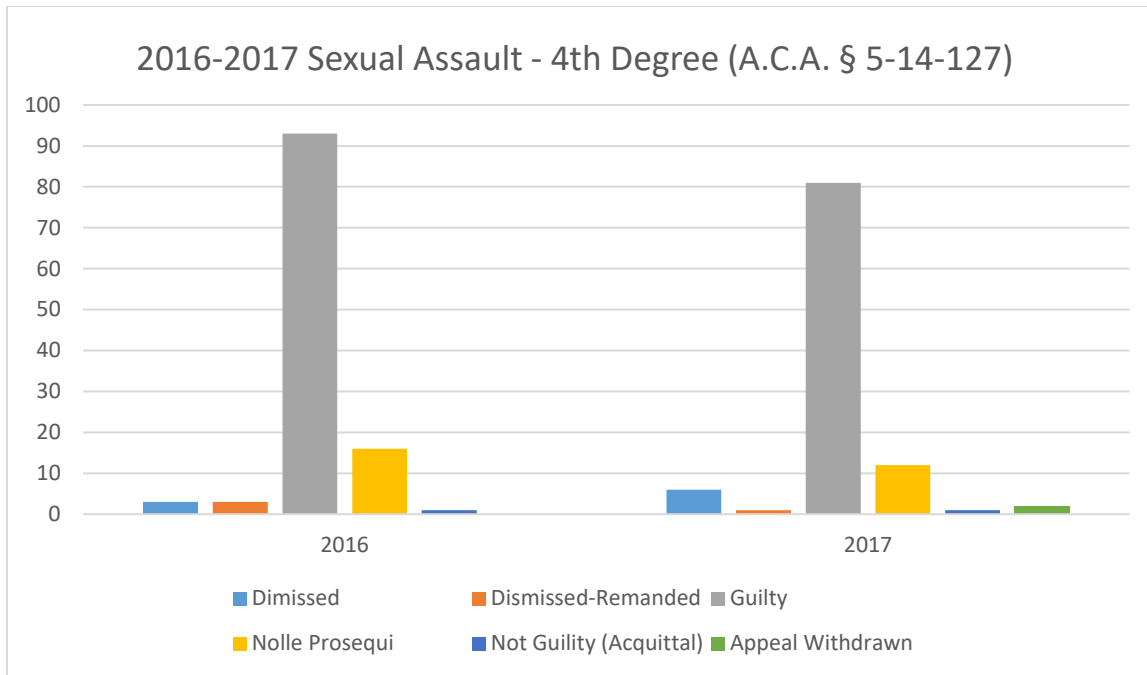
- Rape (A.C.A. § 5-14-103) **
- Sexual assault – 1st degree (A.C.A. § 5-14-124) **
- Sexual assault – 2nd degree (A.C.A. § 5-14-125) **
- Sexual assault – 2nd degree (A.C.A. § 5-14-125(b)(1)) **
- Sexual assault – 3rd degree (A.C.A. § 5-14-126) **
- Sexual assault – 4th degree (A.C.A. § 5-14-127) **
- Trafficking of Persons (A.C.A. § 5-18-103(c)(1))
- Domestic Battering – 1st degree (A.C.A. § 5-26-303)
- Domestic Battery – 1st degree (A.C.A. § 5-26-303(b)(1))
- Domestic Battery – 1st degree (A.C.A. § 5-26-303(b)(2))
- Domestic Battery – 2nd degree (A.C.A. § 5-26-304)
- Domestic Battering – 3rd degree (A.C.A. § 5-26-305(b)(1))
- Domestic Battering – 3rd degree - Felony (A.C.A. § 5-26-305(b)(2))
- Aggravated Assault – Family or Household (A.C.A. § 5-26-306)
- Assault – 1st degree – Family or Household (A.C.A. § 5-26-307)
- Assault – 2nd degree – Family or Household (A.C.A. § 5-26-308)
- Assault – 3rd degree – Family or Household (A.C.A. § 5-26-309)
- Stalking – 2nd degree (A.C.A. § 5-71-229)

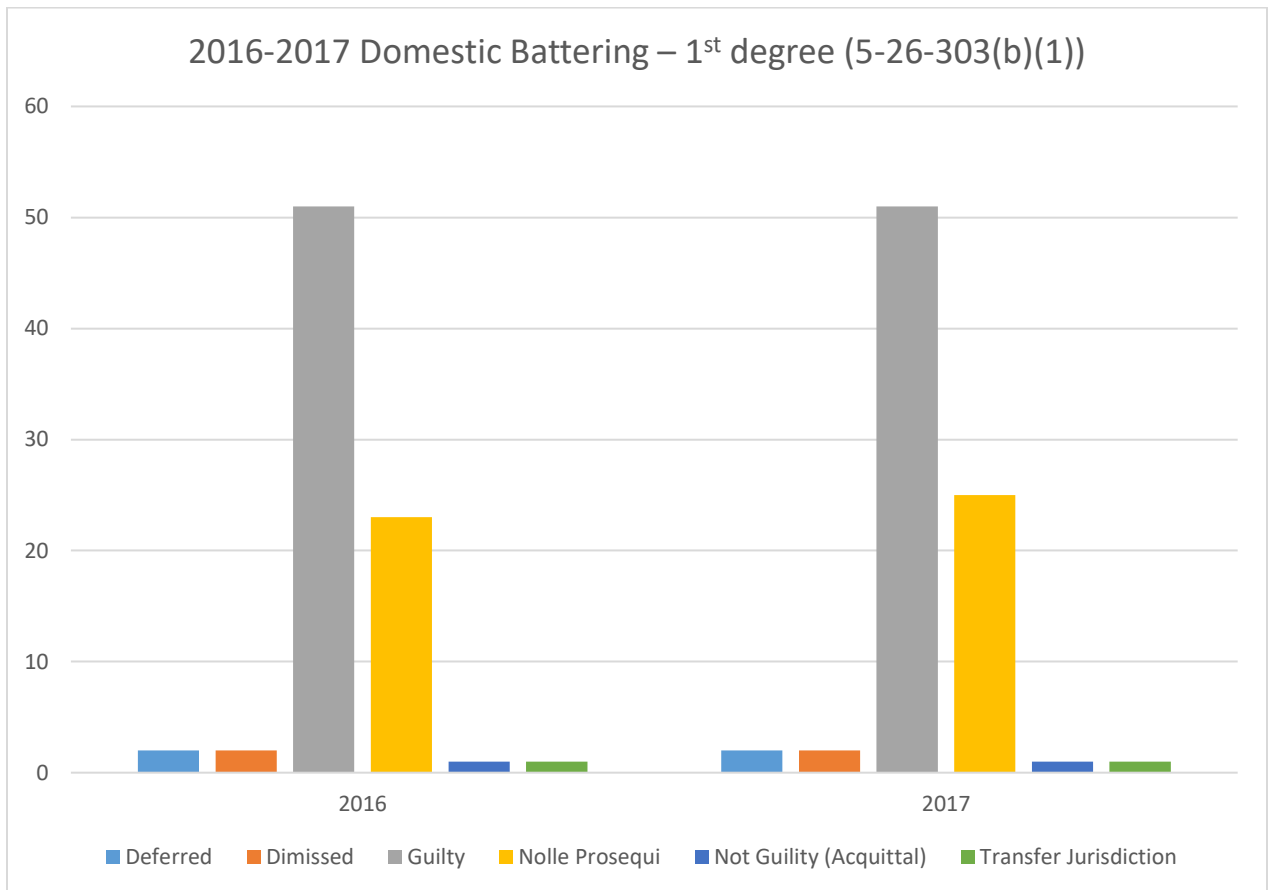
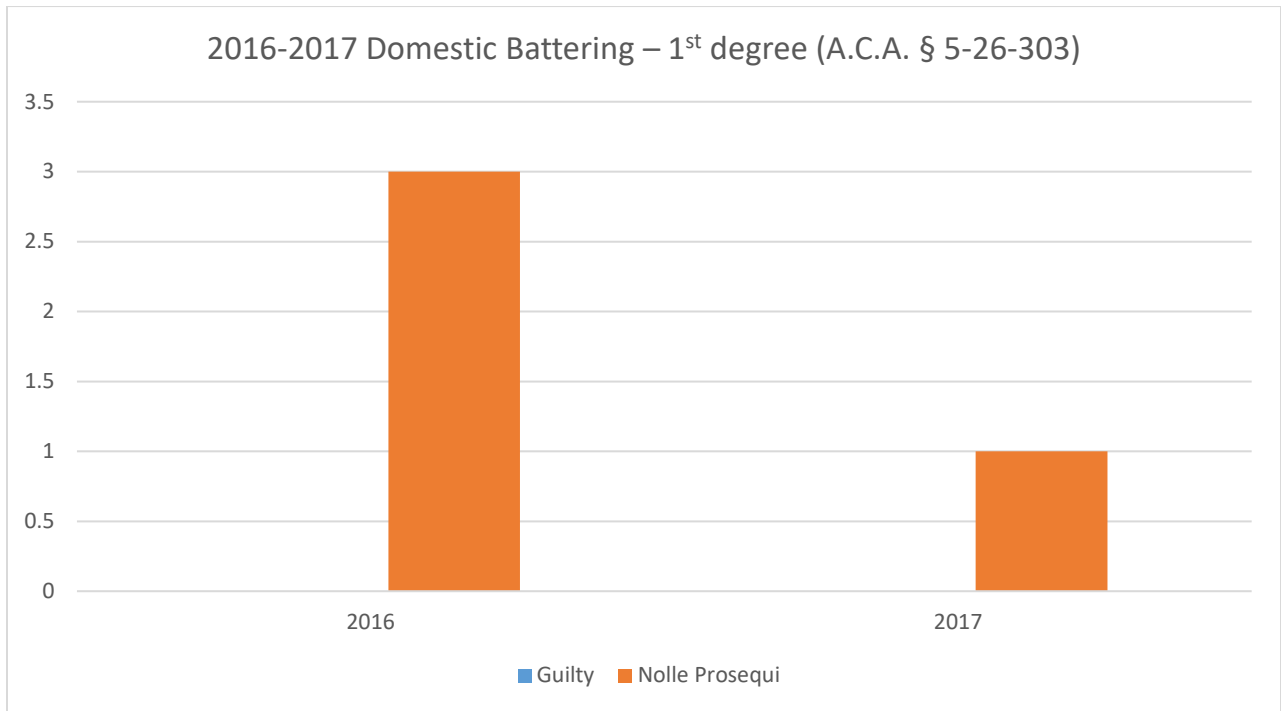
** Data is as of 2/22/2018. Final numbers for 2017 are still being collected.

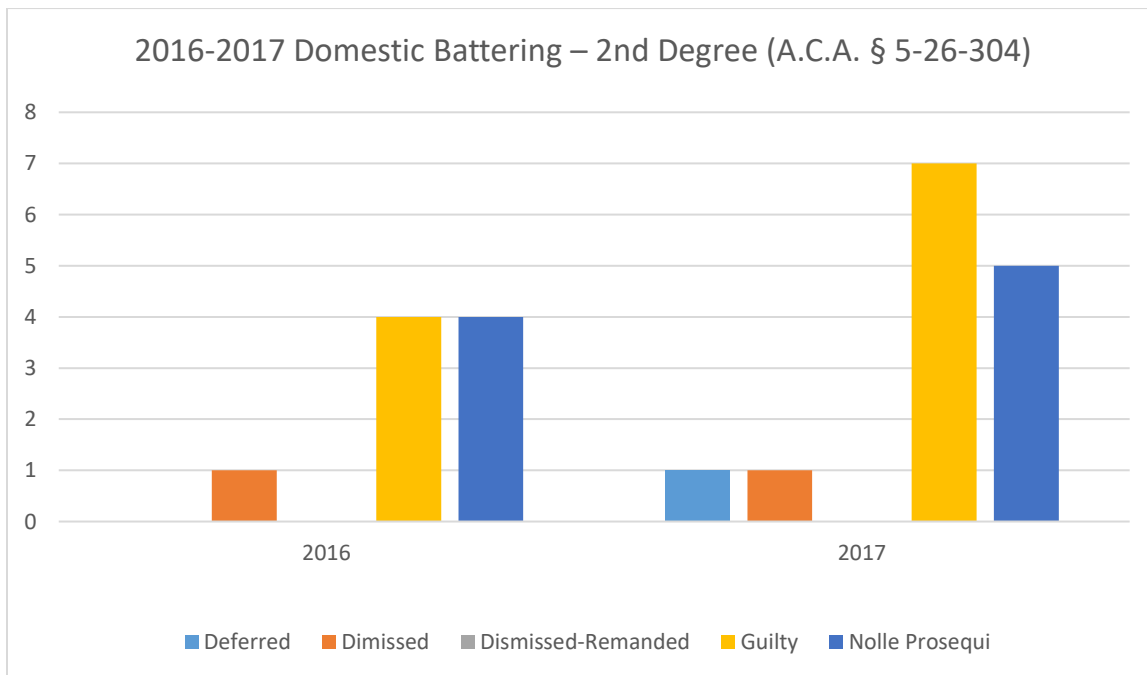
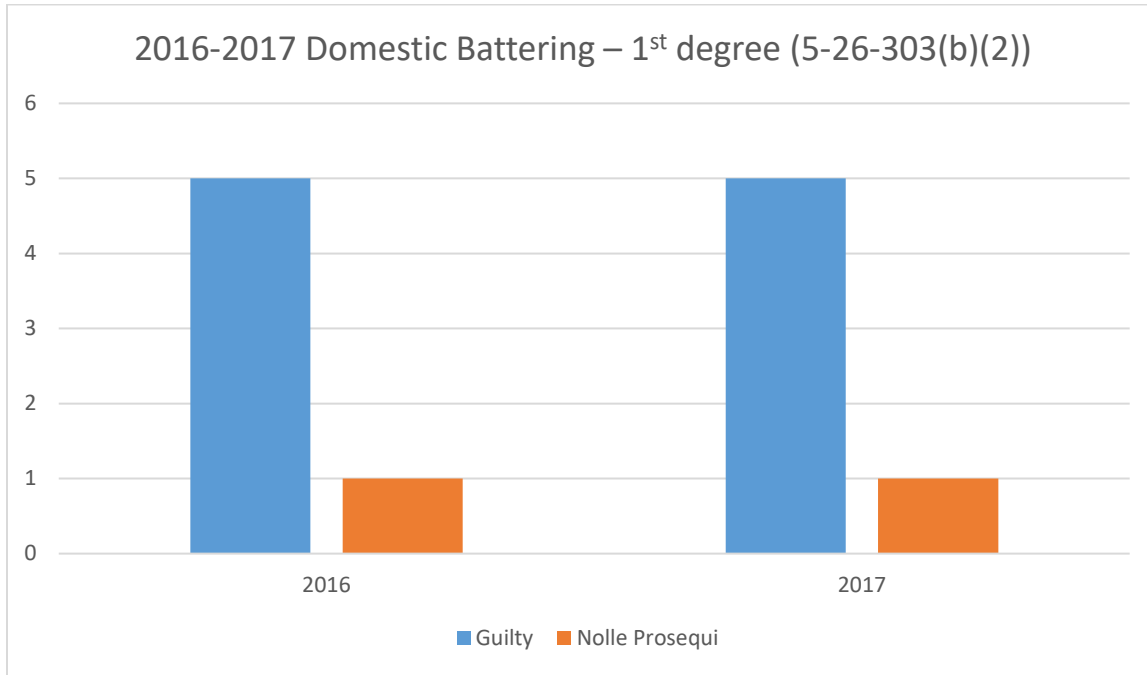


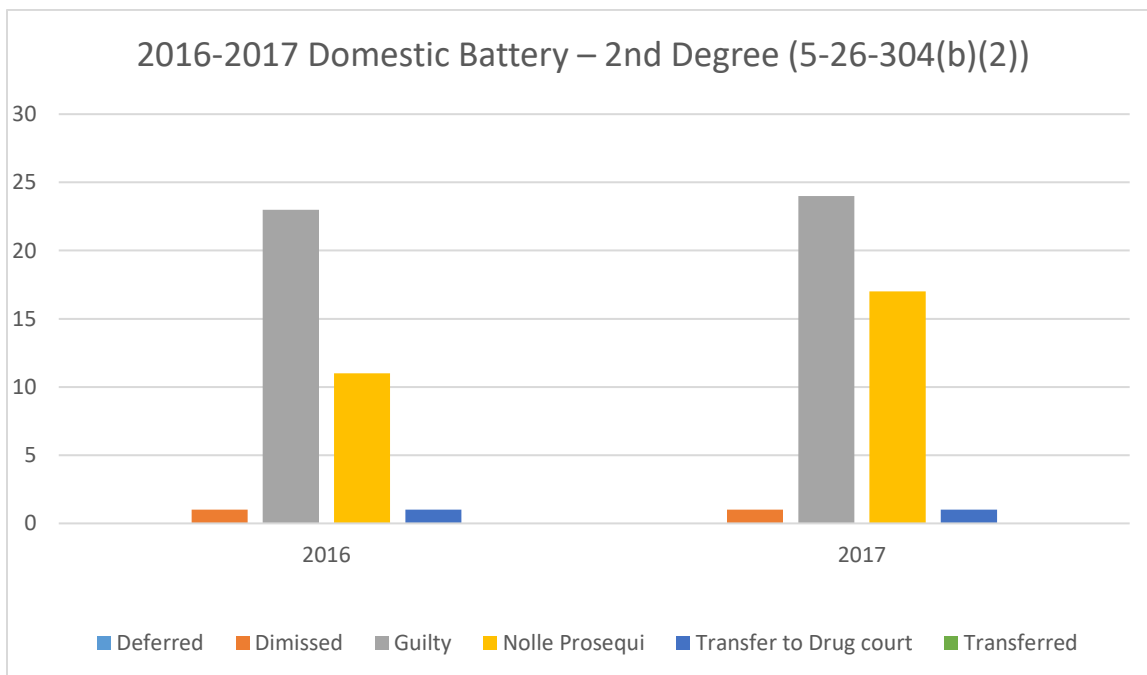
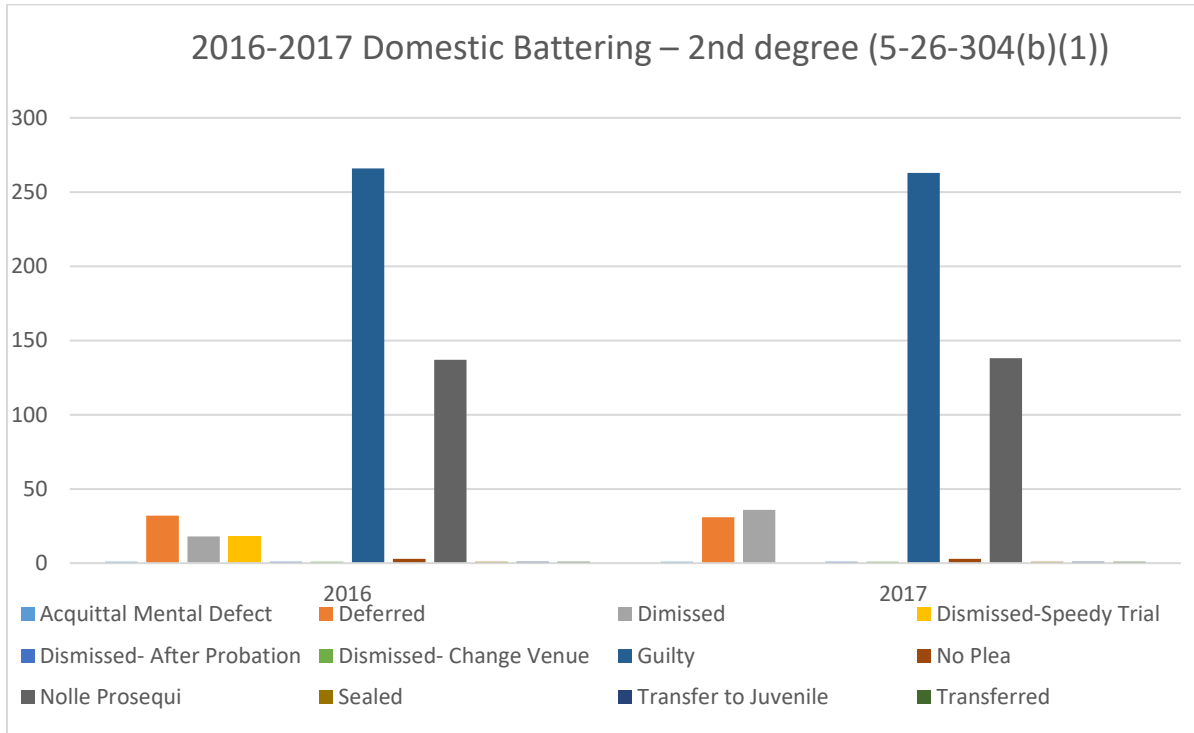


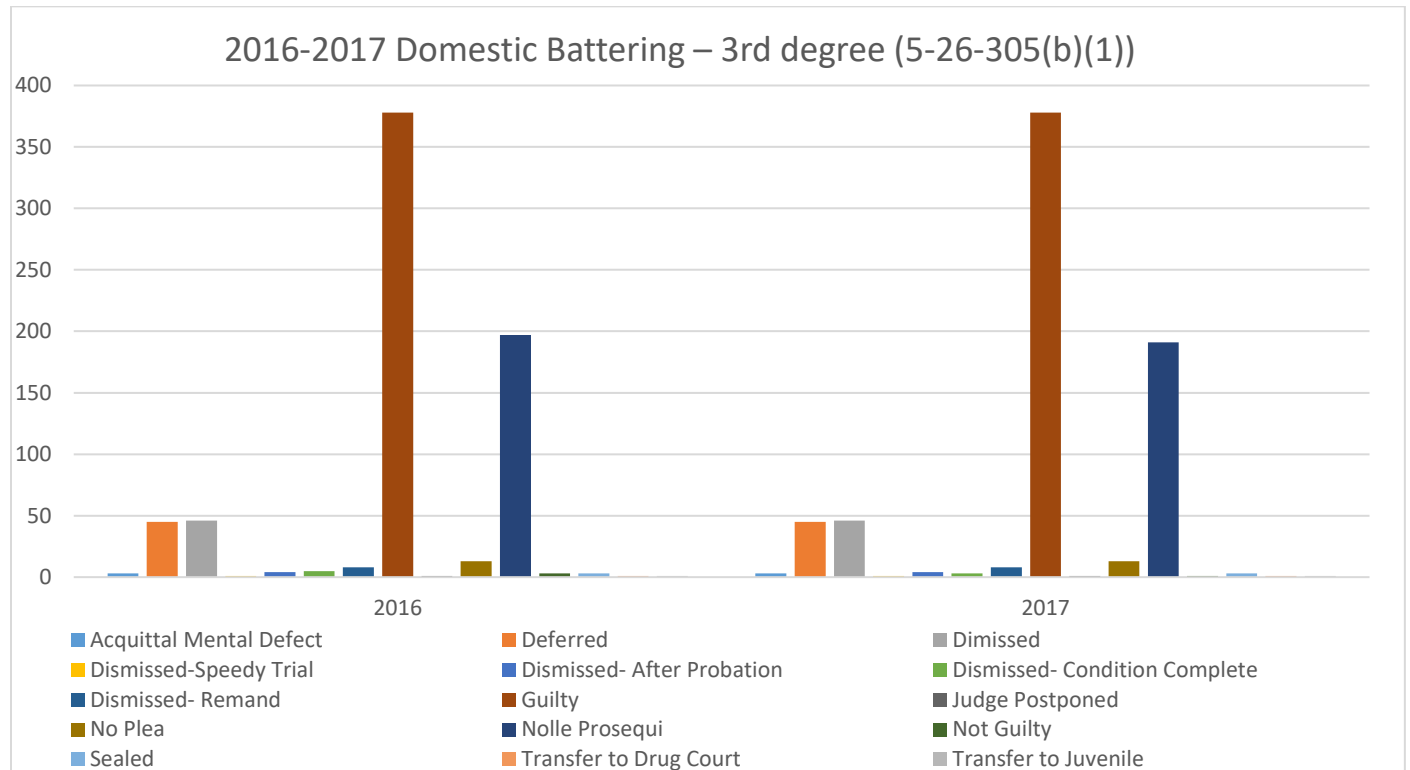


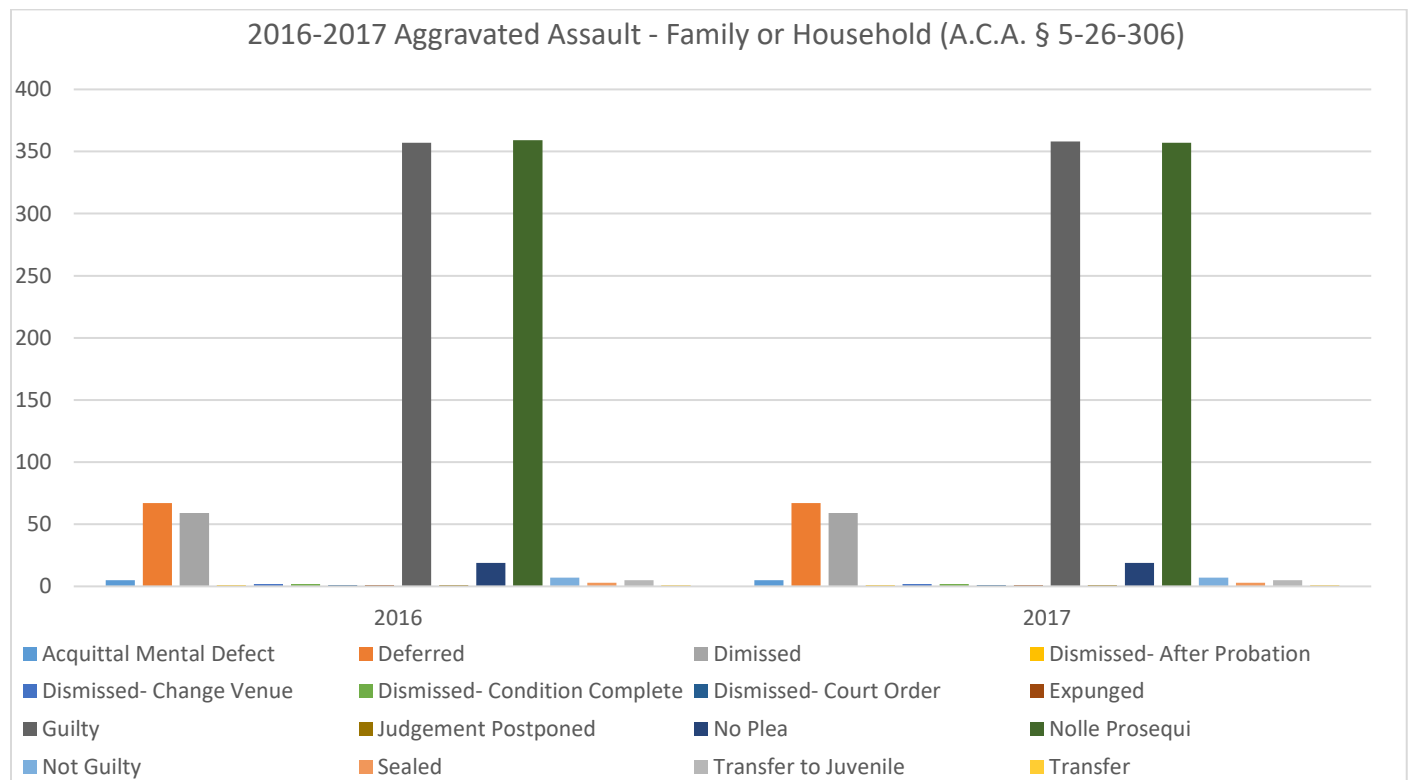
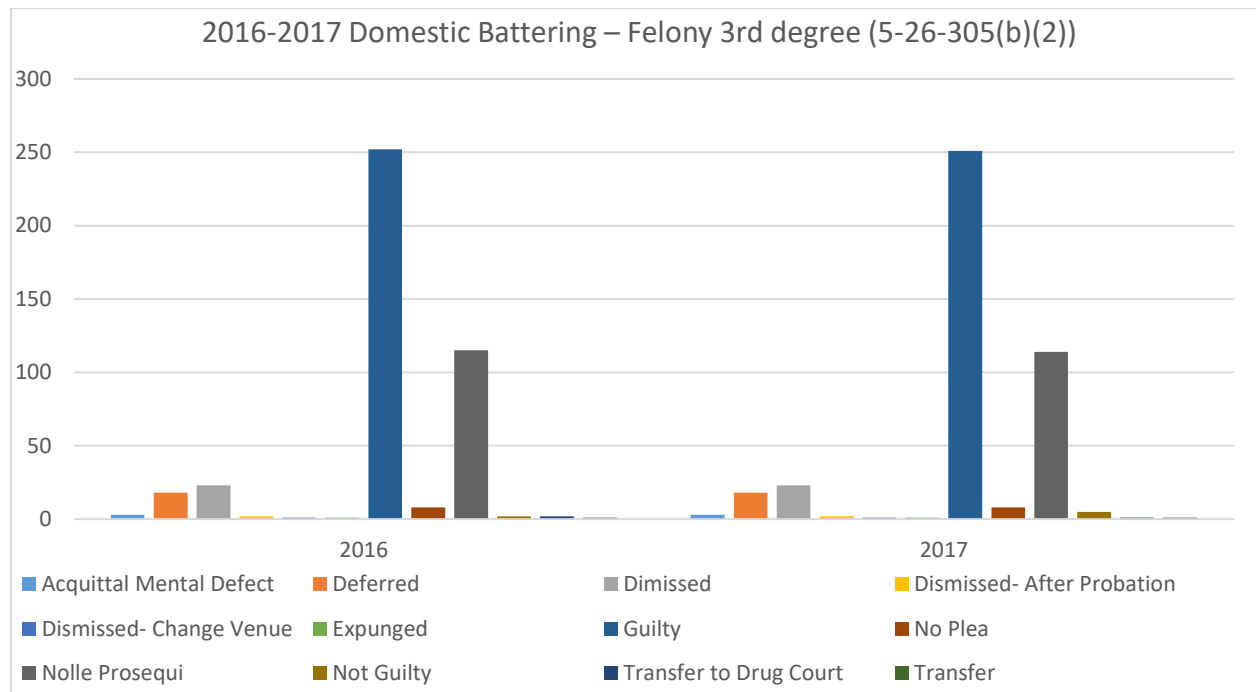


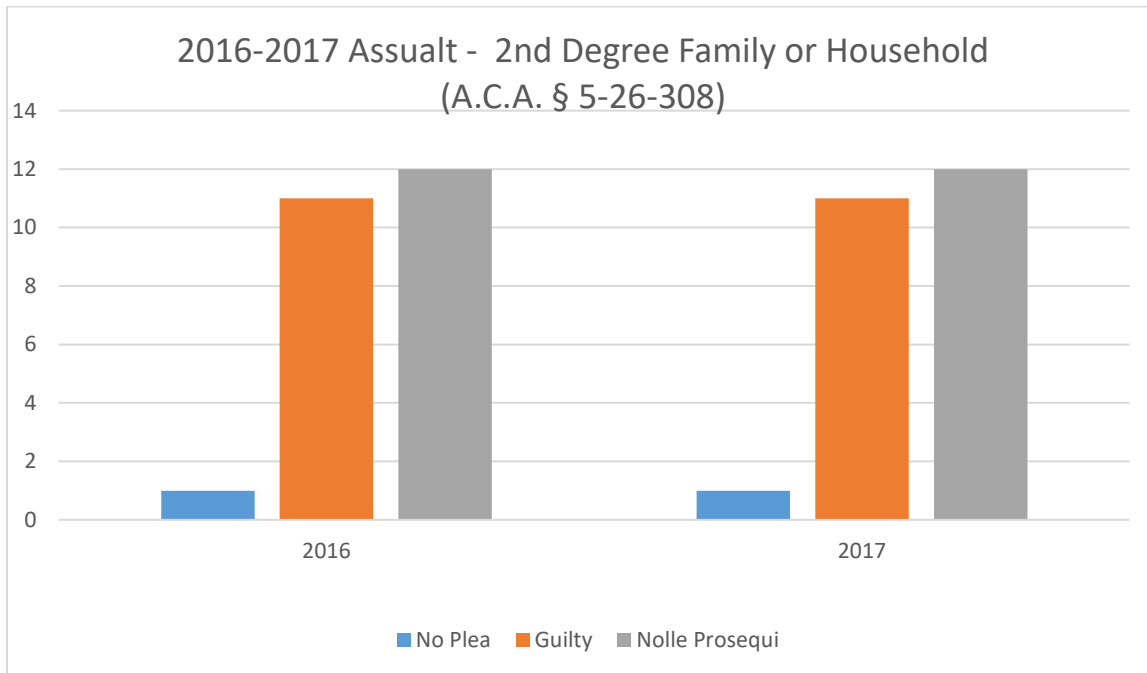
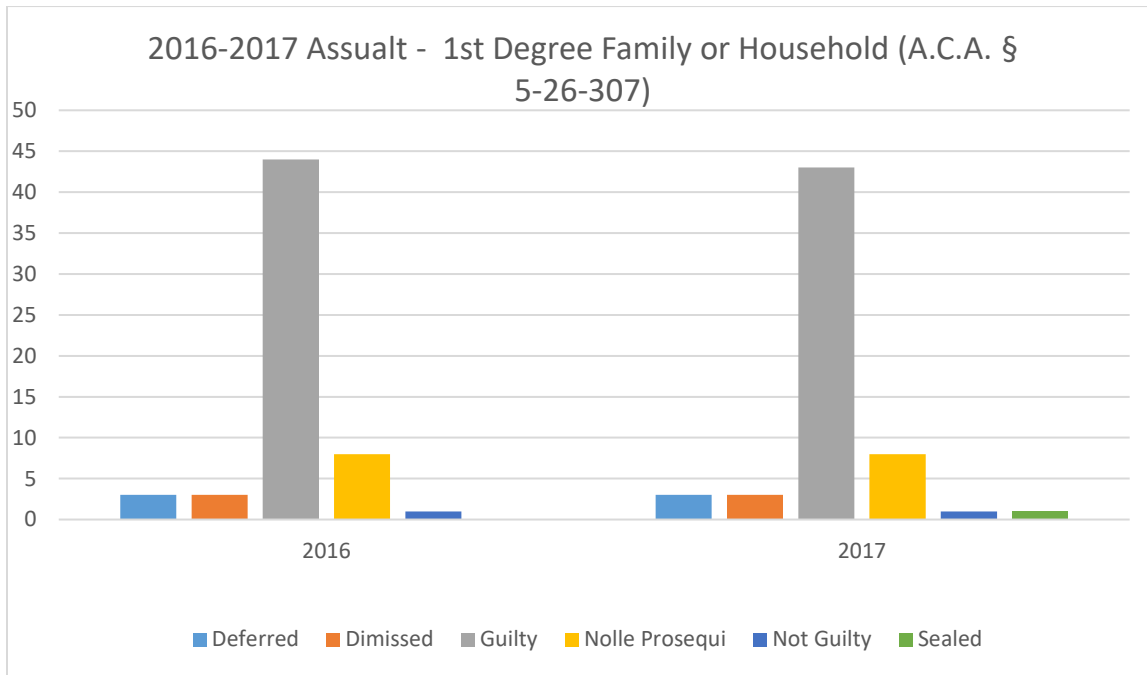


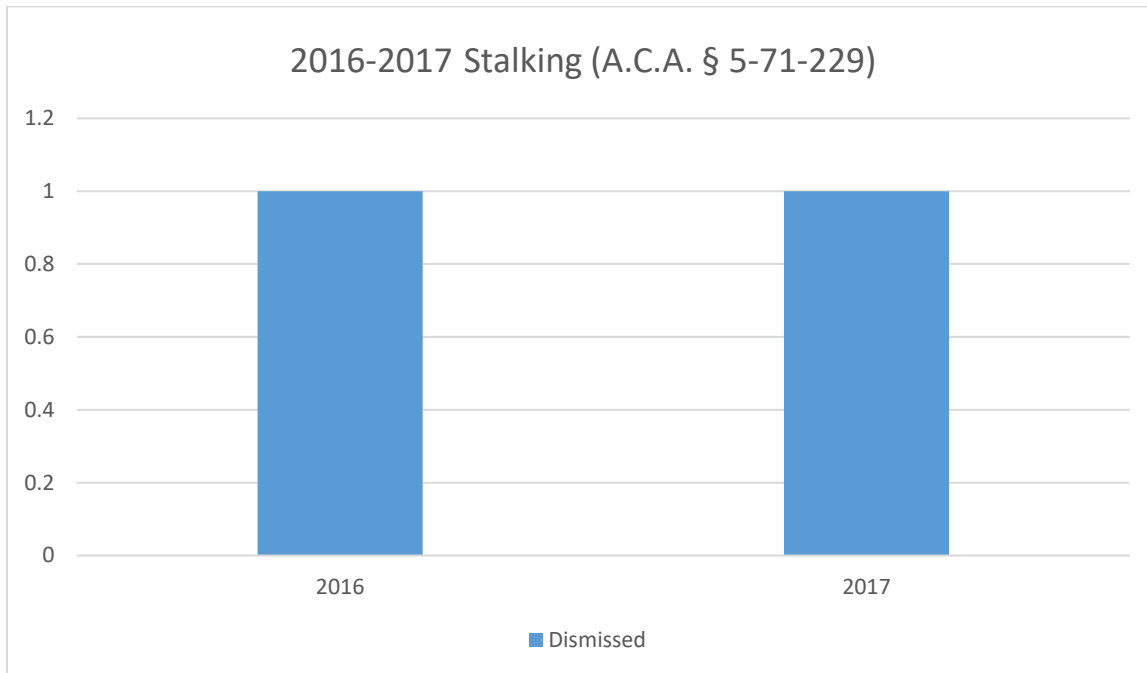
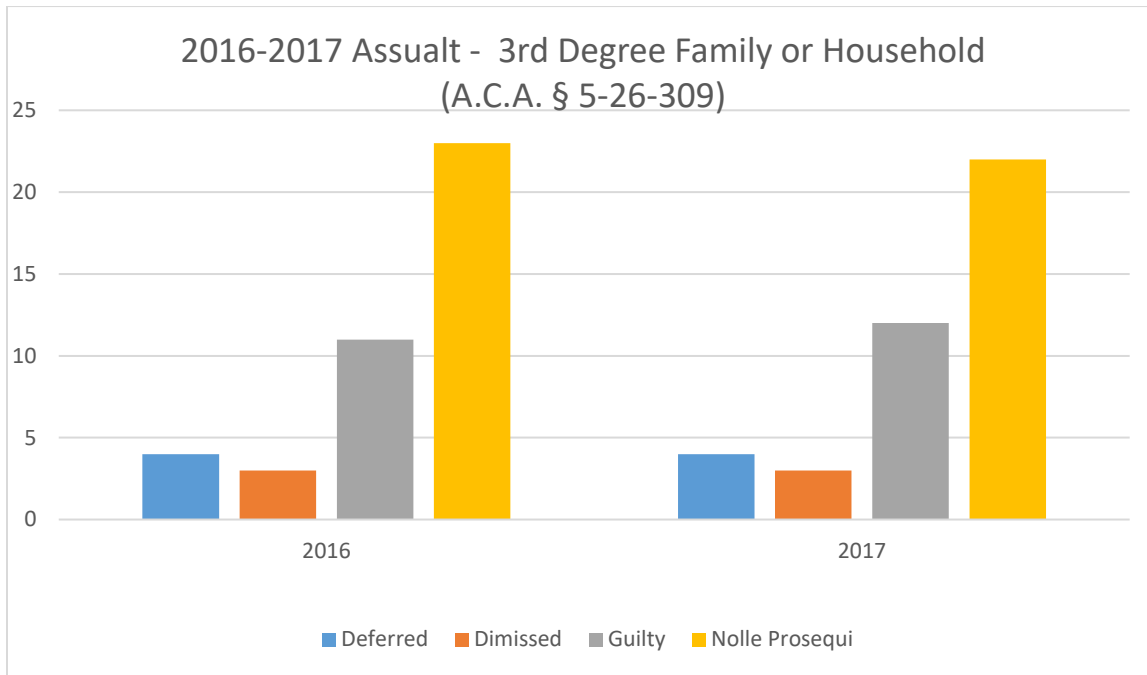












IV. Plan Priorities and Approaches

Plan priorities were established based upon the results accumulated from the two (2) Needs Assessment surveys which were developed and written by a workgroup comprised of DFA-IGS staff, and several Board and the staff of the Commission members. In addition, DFA-IGS staff and the full Board and the staff of the Commission met for two workdays to conduct an in-depth review of the implementation plan. During the two days of meetings, there were lengthy discussions over the needs for services, attitude changes of Arkansans, and appropriate plans of action to facilitate increased services to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking. (Appendix R)

Responses to the surveys were from victims and various community advocates. Questions were included to obtain an understanding of how these individuals view the Victim Justice Services in Arkansas. Based upon these responses, the Board, the staff of the Commission and DFA-IGS staff could identify victims' needs when preparing the plan. Each priority is supported with statistical evidence attached within this plan.

DFA-IGS sent five (5) questions along with the survey results to the Grant Advisory Board and the staff of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission to obtain a consensus of Arkansas's needs for victim justice programs. Appendix M contains a listing of all feedback responses. Below are the questions and the top responses.

- What/where are services needed in Arkansas?
 - Rural Areas
 - Education and Awareness
- What are Arkansas's goals to reduce Domestic Violence Homicide?
 - Prevention Programs
 - Safety Zones/Shelter Services
- What are the STOP goals for Arkansas?
 - Legal Services/Advocacy
 - Shelter Services or Long-Term Housing
- Who do you consider to be Arkansas's underserved population?
 - People in Rural Areas
 - People with Disabilities
- What can be done to aid Arkansas's culturally specific population?
 - Award Culturally Specific Community Based Organizations subgrants

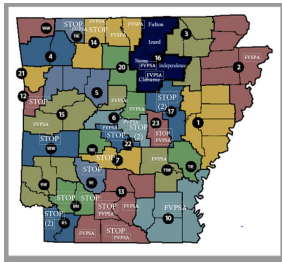
Through this planning process, Arkansas can allocate the various victim justice program funds to ensure the maximum number of needs are met.

A. Identified Goals

1. Current State Goals and Objectives

Goal 1.1: Increase the capacity and expand services in rural areas by encouraging a consortium in catchment areas identified on page 28.

Based upon a review of the Services by Location Chart on page 33, it is evident that the State of Arkansas has gaps in services. This map indicated STOP and FVPSA funding runs diagonally across the state. Rural areas are in the northeastern, east, and southeastern parts of the state.



Objectives:

- DFA-IGS, in coordination with the Board and the staff of the Commission, will facilitate by October 2018, at least five (5) meetings with currently established providers within the Arkansas Victim Justice communities to obtain commitments to serve as mentors for new program providers in rural areas. The purpose is to bring current providers together to ensure they are aware of services in their area and the roles of those services. We will then allow them to identify the area of service needs and other providers in their immediate community.
- DFA-IGS, in coordination with the Board and the staff of the Commission, will facilitate, by December 2018, at least three (3) rural catchment area meetings with community members and identified mentors to explain the State’s goals to expand services for victims, expand education and awareness, and expand the number of advocates within the community.
- Issue target specific solicitations to issue subgrants for rural areas based upon data driven decisions.

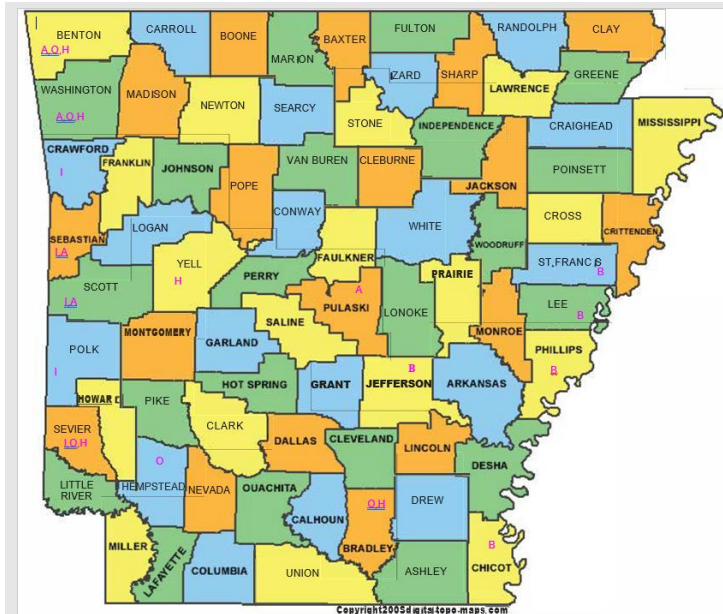
Challenges:

- Administrative funding to pay for travel is limited for DFA-IGS as well as other providers. Emphasis will be placed on technological solutions to minimize cost for administrative activities related to travel.

Goal 1.2: Expand services for targeted populations: culturally specific and underserved populations. These include African American, Hispanic, Marshallese, LGBTQI, persons with disabilities, the elderly, and geographically isolated populations.

Based upon a review of the Race and Ethnicity Geography Chart on page 30, it is evident that the

State of Arkansas has areas of identifiable culturally specific and underserved populations based upon race or ethnicity. Page 29 contains charts of percentages which indicates Black or African American and Hispanic or Latino have the largest presence in Arkansas. Arkansas currently subgrants to Women’s Council on African American Affairs (Healing Hearts and Spirits) to support culturally specific services in central Arkansas.



A = Asian	B = Black or African American	O = Other
H = Hispanic or Latino	I = American Indian & Alaska Native	

Victim statistics, located on pages 41-42, indicate Blacks or African Americans are involved in most offenses. Services aimed at education and prevention for this underserved population is critical to reducing violence in Arkansas.

The Hispanic or Latino population in Arkansas during 2010 was 6.40%. The presence of this ethnicity has risen to 27.10% in 2016 (chart page 26). Victim statistics located on pages 41-42 also indicate this is an area of concern. The Marshallese population is a second culturally specific group in Arkansas that will be targeted in this effort.

An additional area of focus for Arkansas is people with disabilities. Arkansas has a higher percentage of citizens with disabilities than the national average, 15.54% versus 11.83%. Arkansas lacks a solid infrastructure to support self-advocacy for persons with disabilities. Arkansas’s Adult Protective Services system has no resources for services so they attempt to utilize the same systems used for all victims. Not all methods used to support victims work well with people with disabilities and in some cases, can create additional difficulties. It is critical for Arkansas to build an infrastructure to support these underserved victims in our state.

Objectives:

- DFA-IGS, in coordination with the Board and the staff of the Commission, will facilitate by December 2018, at least three (3) rural catchment area meetings with community members to explain the state's goals to expand services for victims, expand education and awareness, and expand advocates within the community.
- DFA-IGS, in coordination with the Board and the staff of the Commission, will develop a partnership with a targeted population provider during 2019 to expand outreach efforts for targeted populations.
- DFA-IGS, in coordination with the Board and the staff of the Commission, will develop a partnership with an additional targeted population provider during 2019, six (6) months after first new partnership, to expand outreach efforts for targeted populations.
- DFA-IGS will develop a partnership with an additional targeted population provider during 2020 to expand outreach efforts for targeted populations.
- Issue target specific solicitation subgrants for targeted populations based upon data driven decisions.
- DFA-IGS will continue research on LGBTQI communities to determine if targeted specific requests for proposal solicitations can be issued.

Challenges

- Lack of established providers within the same geographical locations as needs.
- Cultural barriers and language issues often hinder delivery of services and create a need for building trust with these communities.
- Lack of supporting data for specific populations.

Goal 1.3: Create a workgroup to facilitate the creation of an infrastructure consisting of state level coalitions, state agencies and service providers to build an effective trauma informed service system for victims of extreme forms of violence such as human trafficking and/or who have issues with domestic violence committed by law enforcement.

Local service providers who are listed on the Polaris website along with state level service providers and provider coalitions will initially create a work group and will meet monthly via rotating locations and with access to a web based conference call line to build initial infrastructure with the possibility of later funding if it is determined that it is needed to accomplish a broader effort.

Objectives:

- DFA-IGS and the Advisory Committee will work to move towards a more trauma informed service system in the State of Arkansas reflected in all efforts including all subgrantees.
- DFA-IGS will work with the Board, the staff of the Commission, and infrastructure work group to analyze where various forms of information may be collected and reviewed, such as the Legislative Task Force on Human Trafficking completed

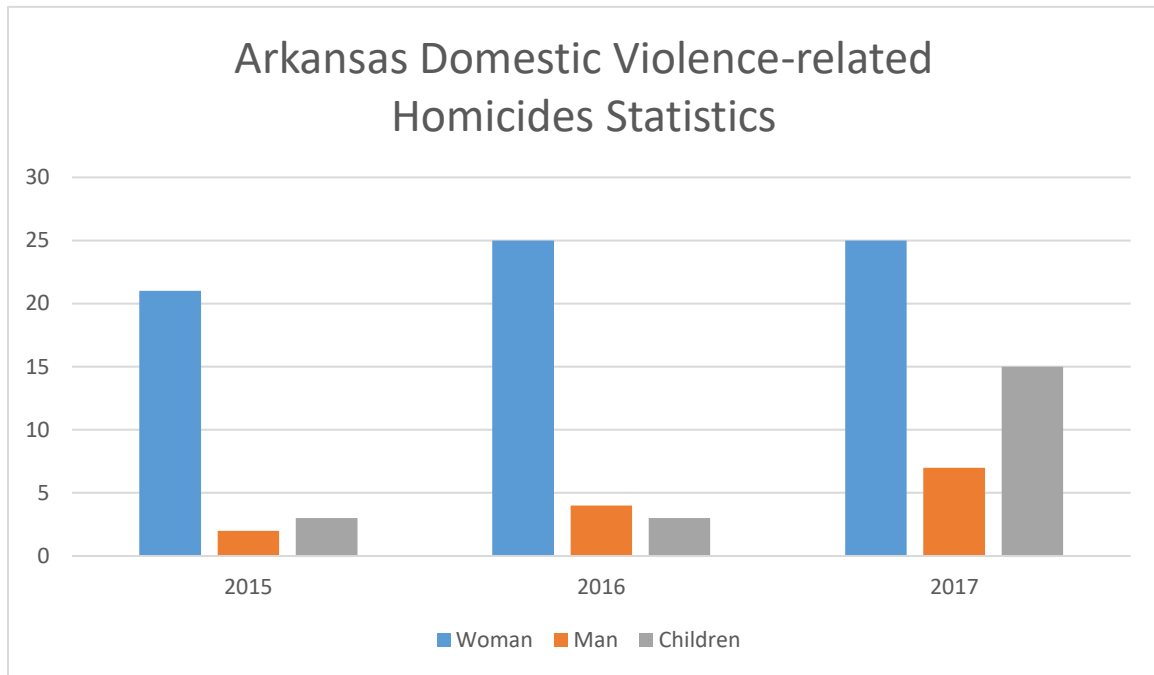
document in August 2014, FBI's Denied Innocence Task Force, Local Human Trafficking Task Forces in Ft. Smith and Northwest Arkansas, Legal Clinic at the University of Arkansas or other forms of data, including information on human trafficking and domestic violence perpetrated by law enforcement.

- Using this information, work group and other multidisciplinary team members will develop a strategic plan for this goal.
- Review the data collected by the Arkansas Crime Information Center, Fusion Center Staff and other sources to inform the mechanisms to ensure proper definitions for reporting exists related to human trafficking.
- Offer training as needed on trauma informed service systems to include such things as human trafficking.
- DFA-IGS will work with subgrantees to improve services provision to victims with the potential to fund a pilot project.
- DFA-IGS will work with subgrantees to ensure proper reporting.
- The Board and the staff of the Commission will form a work group to develop a statewide Educational program that provides protocol for Law Enforcement Agencies to follow to ensure victim services are provided.

Challenges

- Arkansas is just beginning to understand trauma informed service systems and how to implement programs. Discussion and analysis of data need to continue.
- No existing infrastructure to observe the newly identified needs.

2. Domestic Violence-related Homicides Goals and Objectives



Year	Woman	Man	Children	Total Per Year
2015	21	2	3	26
2016	25	4	3	32
2017	25	7	15	47
Total Per Category	71	13	21	105

See Appendix Q, Q1, and Q2

Goal 2.1: Change public attitude towards domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence within Arkansas communities to provide services for victims.

There are communities within Arkansas that currently accept domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence as acceptable behaviors. To begin providing services within these communities, attitudes much change to acknowledge a crime has taken place.

Victims Service Needs Survey 2, Appendix C1, question 9 stated “Are any of the following types of violence perceived/tolerated as “accepted” within your community? (Choose all that apply.) Training and education must occur to change this attitude.

Abuse of people with disabilities	16.7%
Child abuse	16.7%
Domestic abuse/violence	40.3%
Elder abuse	15.3%
Human trafficking related	11.8%
Sexual abuse	19.4%
Other violent crimes (i.e. assault/battery)	16.7%
No (not accepted within the community)	45.1%

The answer to this question defines the issues in Arkansas related to attitudes that create an environment that allows violence to occur.

Objectives:

- DFA-IGS, in collaboration with the Board and the staff of the Commission, will strongly encourage participation in the Arkansas Department of Health’s Statewide Awareness Program.
- DFA-IGS, in collaboration with the Board and the staff of the Commission, will work with stakeholders to increase training/education projects to increase safety awareness for victims

Goal 2.2: Increase training/education projects which can include additional safety awareness for victims. This can include, but is not limited to, smart phone apps, safety cards, bill boards, social media, public service announcements, etc.

Objectives:

- DFA-IGS, in collaboration with the Board and the staff of the Commission, will work with stakeholders to increase training/education projects to increase safety awareness for victims
- DFA-IGS, in collaboration with the Board and the staff of the Commission, will work with stakeholders to develop an effective infrastructure of programs and services.

Goal 2.3: Increase prevention programs and awareness for law enforcement, courts, prosecutors, and victim services programs.

The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) provided court statistics for Arkansas found in Appendix G2, G3, and G4. The two-year comparison charts on pages 43-53 from 2016 to 2017 indicates a higher percentage of guilty disposition. Domestic Violence incidents reported by victims, ACIC report, (Appendix G) indicate many more incidents of violence occur than go through the courts. Arkansas’s goals to reduce to domestic violence related homicides include:

- Increase Prevention Programs

- Increase Shelter Programs or Safety Zones
- Increase Offender Accountability and coordinated responses
- Provide Public Awareness training

Objectives:

- DFA-IGS will work with the Board, the staff of the Commission, Providers and Law Enforcement Agencies to increase prevention programs and awareness for law enforcement, courts, prosecutors, and victim service programs and the use of Laura's Card, victim's tool which provides victim's rights under the law and resources for the victim to contact for help.
- DFA-IGS will work with the Board, the staff of the Commission, Providers and Law Enforcement Agencies to work on policy and procedures to ensure data elements from the Laura's Law - State's Legality Assessment tool can be used to support informed programs services (Ark. Code Ann. § 12-12-108 -- Domestic Violence Investigation (Laura's Law – Lethality Assessment)).
- DFA-IGS will work with the Board and the staff of the Commission to establish programmatic goals for highest risk factor for domestic violence related homicides and provide information to providers for program delivery.

B. Priority Areas

1. Goals for STOP Funding

Based upon a complete review of Section III Needs and Context, input from stakeholders, the Grant Advisory Board and the staff of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission (planning committee), the following priority areas have been established for STOP funding:

- 1) Legal services and legal advocacy
- 2) Shelter services/Rapid Rehousing Rental Assistance
- 3) Coordinate Community response teams
- 4) Prevention
- 5) Emergency Transitional Basic Needs of Victims

Also noted during the review is assistance to incarcerated victims, reduction in human trafficking, prosecution of offenders, specific law enforcement officers for domestic violence cases, assistance with supervised visitations, emergency financial assistance, transportation, mental health and counseling services. These services are listed below with appropriate priority ranking:

Priority 1 – Legal services and legal advocacy

Utilizing funding for legal services and legal advocacy will allow Arkansas to increase the capacity and expand services in rural areas, target culturally specific services and underserved populations and build human tracking infrastructure. Programs will also be encouraged to incorporate this into existing programs or to expand efforts. The use of funding in this area is supported by STOP

Purpose Area 5 for developing, enlarging, or strengthening victim services and legal assistance programs, including sexual assault, domestic violence, stalking, and dating violence programs, developing or improving delivery of victim services to underserved populations, providing specialized domestic violence court advocates in courts where a significant number of protection orders are granted, and increasing reporting and reducing attrition rates for cases involving violent crimes against women, including crimes of sexual assault, dating violence, stalking and domestic violence.

In addition to STOP Purpose Area 5, STOP Purpose Area 9 will also be addressed within this priority. STOP Purpose Area 9 requires developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs to assist law enforcement, prosecutors, courts, and others to address the needs and circumstances of the elderly and individuals with disabilities who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault, including recognizing, investigating, and prosecuting instances of such violence or assault and targeting outreach and support, counseling, and other victim services to such as the elderly and individuals with disabilities.

Priority 2 – Shelter Services/Rapid Rehousing Rental Assistance

Shelter services are a critical service for victims. Currently, Arkansas has over thirty (30) subgrantees providing shelter services. One of these shelters is funded by STOP while the others are funded with FVPSA and VOCA. To support STOP Purpose Area 11, maintaining core victim services and criminal justice initiatives, while supporting complementary new initiatives and emergency services for victims and their families, and to meet a need identified by stakeholders, Arkansas will allocate funding to emergency shelters under victim service category.

Priority 3 – Coordinated Community Response Teams

Currently, Arkansas has a statewide contract with the Arkansas Crime Information Center to implement a technology solution called VINE3. VINE3 is an information and notification delivery system focused on an entirely new experience for victims and survivors of crime. With the increasing prominence of mobile, social, web services and smartphones, VINE3 provides informational access to unified resources that today are not in a central place and can be difficult for a victim to locate. VINE3 is the technological solution that will give crime victims complete control and choice, along with their families, to identify and work collaboratively with victim service providers and allied professionals. It is imperative for victims to know where to go for help, but it is also important for advocates to have this same understanding. Continued efforts within this area support STOP Purpose Area 7. STOP Purpose Area 7 requires supporting formal and informal statewide, multidisciplinary efforts, to the extent not supported by State funds, to coordinate the response of state law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, courts, victim services agencies, and other state agencies and departments, to violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, stalking, and dating violence. In addition, the State's overall goals for STOP identify mentoring projects that will support a coordinated response team. VINE3 cannot provide critical safety choices and plans; however, it is a single repository which can provide notifications to victims regarding court notifications and other information about offenders. The victim can use these notifications to determine if their individual critical safety choices and plans needs to be utilized.

Based on the responses, we encourage applications that address purpose areas 1, 2 and 3 for training of law enforcement, judges, and prosecutors. This directly ties the three (3) goals of the overall state plan. We would like new services funded by STOP federal funds for targeted populations identified in goal 2 and would encourage new projects to target these efforts. These efforts should be in collaboration with the Board and the staff of the Commission.

Priority 4 – Prevention

Prevention is identified as a priority for Arkansas by stakeholders. Training is a key component of prevention. Arkansas currently utilizes STOP funds for training and education programs and this activity needs to continue. To provide consistent services to victims, DFA-IGS, the Board, and the staff of the Commission strongly suggest programs related to prevention that are in coordination with the Centers for Disease Control’s RPE grant service currently offered in Arkansas. These activities are supported by the following STOP Purpose Areas:

- 1 – Training law enforcement officers, judges, other court personnel, and prosecutors to more effectively identify and respond to violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, stalking, and dating violence.
- 2 – Developing, training, or expanding units of law enforcement officers, judges, other court personnel, and prosecutors specifically targeting violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault, dating violence, stalking, and domestic violence.
- 3 – Developing and implementing more effective police, court, and prosecution policies, protocols, orders, and services specifically devoted to preventing, identifying, and responding to violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault, dating violence, stalking, and domestic violence, as well as the appropriate treatment of victims.
- 7 – Supporting formal and informal statewide, multidisciplinary efforts, to the extent not supported by State funds, to coordinate the response of state law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, courts, victim services agencies, and other state agencies and departments, to violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, stalking, and dating violence.

Priority 5 – Emergency Transitional Basic Needs of Victims

An additional priority identified by stakeholders is for basic needs of a victim. DFA-IGS received feedback indicating basic needs, such as food, transportation, shelter, medical needs, and clothing can become issues so hard to overcome. These activities are supported by STOP Purpose Area 11: Maintaining core victim services and criminal justice initiatives, while supporting complementary new initiatives and emergency services for victims and their families.

a & b. “Crystal Judson” purpose area training and plan

Arkansas does not have a subgrantee that addresses the Crystal Judson purpose area. The Board and the staff of the Commission will form a work group to develop a statewide educational program that provides protocol for law enforcement agencies to follow to ensure services are

provided to victims.

This was included for review by the work group for trauma informed services in Goal 1.3, Section IV (a) (1).

2. General Description of types of program and projects funded by STOP

Arkansas currently utilizes STOP funds to support the following activities:

- Shelter Services
- Civil Legal Advocacy/Court Accompaniment
- Civil Legal Assistance
- Counseling Services/Support Group
- Criminal Justice Advocacy/Court Accompaniment
- Crisis Intervention/Hotline
- Hospital Advocacy
- Transportation
- Victim/Survivor Advocacy
- Service Provider/Advocate Training
- Criminal Justice Support/Advocacy
- Prevention Education
- Prosecution
- Law Enforcement

The subgrantees, in the following list, provide a combination of the services list above in various parts of Arkansas.

STOP Funded Projects (Appendix E)

Sub-Grantee Organization	Funding Category	Funding Amount	Funding Year	Total by Category
AOC	Courts	\$ 17,380.00	2017	\$ 17,380.00
UA - Partners	Discretionary	\$ 135,662.66	2016	\$ 135,662.66
City of Hope	Law Enforcement	\$ 22,815.96	2017	
City of Malvern PD	Law Enforcement	\$ 38,709.16	2017	
City of Prescott PD	Law Enforcement	\$ 18,851.84	2017	
City of Searcy PD	Law Enforcement	\$ 71,456.23	2016	
City of Texarkana PD	Law Enforcement	\$ 56,036.80	2017	
Miller Co Sheriff	Law Enforcement	\$ 32,747.07	2017	
Ouachita Co Sheriff	Law Enforcement	\$ 23,218.09	2017	

Saline Co Sheriff	Law Enforcement	\$ 53,862.03	2015	
White Co Sheriff	Law Enforcement	\$ 47,914.48	2015	\$ 365,611.66
09th East JD	Prosecution	\$ 86,071.57	2017	
12th JD	Prosecution	\$ 27,306.39	2017	
13th JD	Prosecution	\$ 64,394.28	2017	
18th West JD	Prosecution	\$ 40,198.81	2017	
19th East JD	Prosecution	\$ 38,748.10	2015	
23rd JD	Prosecution	\$ 86,022.35	2016	\$ 342,741.50
ACASA	Victim Services	\$ 171,572.81	2017	
City of Little Rock	Victim Services	\$ 36,085.77	2016	
Sanctuary	Victim Services	\$ 118,754.08	2017	
WCAAA	Victim Services	\$ 177,057.95	2016	\$ 503,470.61

3. Description of how funds to be distributed

Arkansas will adhere to the federal allocation percentages as follows:

- Grant Administration 10% for each category
- Law Enforcement 25%
- Prosecuting Attorney 25%
- Victim Services 20%
- Victim Services – Culturally Specific 10%
- Courts 5%
- Awareness 5%

Not later than two (2) years after the date of enactment of VAWA 2013, no less than twenty percent (20%) of the total award amount to the State will be allocated for programs or projects that address sexual assault. This amount will be reallocated within the law enforcement, prosecution, courts, or victim services

4. Letters of Support

- a. Prosecution – Appendix O
- b. Law Enforcement – Appendix O1
- c. Court – Appendix O2
- d. Victim Services Programs to be assisted – Appendix O3

5. Sexual Assault Set-Aside

Not later than two (2) years after the date of enactment of VAWA 2013, no less than twenty percent (20%) of the total award amount to the State will be allocated for programs or projects that address sexual assault. This amount will be reallocated within the law enforcement, prosecution, courts, or victim services.

In Goal 2.1, Arkansas identified the need to change the public attitude towards domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence. To accomplish this goal, Arkansas will spend STOP's 20% set-aside funding for sexual assault on training and educational efforts in coordination with Arkansas's Sexual Assault Coalition. Goal 2.2 identifies possible training and educational cost to meet this goal. These goals are supported by the STOP Priority 4 which is identified in Section IV.B.1.

6. Subgrant listing with contact - Appendix E

Listing of projects above on Question 2, pages 64-65 chart. Additional information such as contact names, numbers and email addresses are in Appendix E.

C. Grant-making Strategy

1. A description of how the State will address the needs of sexual assault victims, domestic violence victims, dating violence victims, and stalking victims, as well as how the State will hold offenders who commit each of these crimes accountable.

The State will address the needs of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking as stated in the Goal and Objectives listed in IV(A). To accomplish these Goals and Objectives, actions identified as Priorities in IV(B)(1) will be accomplished.

Arkansas will be funding prosecutors to address the priorities in IV(B): Legal services and legal advocacy, Shelter services/Rapid Rehousing Rental Assistance, Coordinate Community response teams, Prevention and Emergency Transitional Basic Needs of Victims.

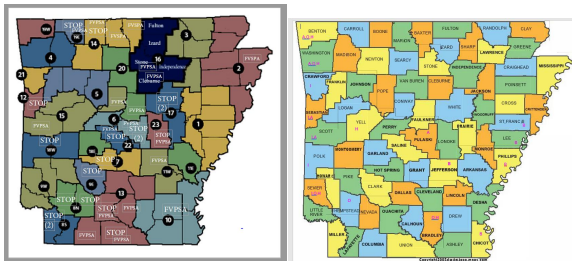
The list of programs and projects to be funded by STOP are in IV(B)(2).

Letters of support provide documentation from the four disciplines (prosecution, law enforcement, courts, and victim services) that describes the demographic characteristics of the populations to be served as identified in section IV(B)(4)(d). (Appendix O, O1, O2, and O3)

2. A description of how the state will give priority to areas of varying geographic size with the greatest showing of need based on the availability of existing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking programs.

As identified in Goal 1.1, Arkansas will address the geographic needs of the State. Arkansas is a rural state comprised of seventy-five (75) counties, fifty-two (52) of which have a population density of 49 or less persons per square mile. Providing adequate services to this rural population continues to be a challenge due to the extreme distances involved in the catchment areas and the lack of available community resources. Based upon the demographic data provided on Pages 29-31, target specific solicitations will be issued to find qualified subgrantees and provide services ensuring full coverage of the State.

3. A description of how the state will determine the amount of subgrants based on the population and geographic area to be served.



Sub-grant amounts are awarded based on the availability of funds and the applicants' request for funds. Currently, because DFA-IGS administers STOP, VOCA and FVPSA, all applications (requests for funds) are normally able to be fully funded, pending final review by The Grant Advisory Board and the staff of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission, and approval by DFA-IGS. Strategically, DFA-IGS plans to target underserved areas based on population for increased programming.

4. A description of how the state will equitably distribute monies on a geographic basis including nonurban and rural areas of various geographic size.

Recognition of state catchment areas as shown on page 28 will allow DFA-IGS to issue target specific solicitations to obtain services in geographical areas that do not currently have a subgrantee. To encourage this process, forming mentoring relationships between catchment areas will aid in the implementation of new programs. Funding amounts are based on the scope of services currently offered with the area and the priority of needs to be addressed. Some areas of the state do not have infrastructure to support victim service programs. Mentoring goals have been set to aid in the implementation of new services within this area.

5. Description of methods to be used for solicitation/review of proposals and selection of subgrant

projects and for which sectors these methods apply, including whether the process will be competitive and whether the state plans to use pass-through administration for any or all categories of subgrants.

SUBGRANT ALLOCATION STRATEGIES

The State of Arkansas uses STOP funds to support law enforcement agencies, prosecution services, court services, and other criminal justice agencies to implement/continue projects which include special investigation and prosecution units, law enforcement and prosecutorial-based victim services, including court and personal advocacy and civil legal assistance, including assistance with filing for orders of protection.

Arkansas awards STOP funds through an open and competitive bid process, which includes the set-aside funds for culturally specific services and activities as well as Sexual Assault set-aside funding. Request for Proposals (RFP's) are issued every two (2) years. In the pre-bid process, special effort is given to contact eligible agencies statewide. These efforts include, but are not limited to: publishing RFP notices in the statewide newspaper; publishing RFP notice in Hispanic newspaper; providing RFP to the Grant Advisory Board and the staff of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission; posting on agency website, and individual mail-outs.

During the Request for Proposal/Application process, STOP applicants must provide a Certification of Consultations form (Appendix H) indicating they have consulted with other service providers (law enforcement, prosecution, victim services, and courts) in their service delivery area about service gaps, needs and how best to approach the issues in the application.

The process for the selection of sub-grants is as follows:

- Developing the Request for Proposal (RFP) and the application packet which includes recruiting potential applicants by placing advertisements in newspapers statewide including El Latino newspaper and posting to our DFA statewide website.
- Mailing and e-mailing the RFP to potential applicants and current sub-grant organizations.
- Preparing the RFP for posting on the Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration's website.
- Responding to technical questions and other inquiries from potential applicants.
- Conducting two (2) technical assistance workshops for potential applicants.
- Documenting receipt of application.
- Three stage application review (Eligibility, Administrative, and the Grant Advisory Board and the staff of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission).
- Funding recommendations made.
- Funding decision made: Applicants notified via email of determinations.
- Appeal process.
- Processing the awards.

The Victim Justice Assistance, the Grant Advisory Board and the staff of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission, along with DFA-IGS Grants Analysts, evaluate the applications. Reviewers must not have a financial interest in the funding to be considered, and must not have any other conflict of interest which might negatively and/or positively influence their recommendations. (Appendix I)

In evaluating each application, the review panel is asked to consider several factors which include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Demonstration of need including geographic location to be served, other programs available; local demographics, local statistics, underserved populations to be served, etc.;
- Adequate correlation between the cost of the project and the objective(s) to be achieved;
- Probability of project to meet identified goals(s);
- Demonstration that funds will not be used to supplant other funds;
- Degree of cooperation between local officials, community groups, and citizens to fulfill goals for the overall success of the project;
- Demonstration that the applicant agency has met and will continue to comply with all applicable state and federal laws and guidelines; and
- Overall quality of the application.

With the final approval of the Administrator of the Office of Intergovernmental Services, applicants are notified of funding decisions. Awards are made for one (1) year with the possibility of continuing that award for a second year. Applicants who do not receive funding are given the reasons for their denial of funds.

6. Timeline for STOP Grant Cycle - Appendix F

IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

DATE	EVENT
March 2019	SOLICITATION posted on Department of Finance & Administration, Office of Intergovernmental Services (DFA-IGS) website, area newspapers, and emailed to interested applicants
March 2019	Written questions regarding the announcement can be submitted via e-mail or fax to the Program Manager. E-mail: IGS.Contact@dfa.arkansas.gov
March 2019	SOLICITATION TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE Workshops SITE: TBD End of inquiries/questions regarding the application.
March 2019	Application questions and answers will be posted on DFA-IGS website.
May 2019	APPLICATION SUBMISSION DEADLINE – 11:59 p.m.
May -September 2019	Proposal review and selection, Applicant Notification, and Appeals
October 2019	Awards signed and submitted to DFA-IGS
October 2019	Project start date

**Applicant registrations are approved Monday through Friday during regular business hours; please ensure you register your organization in time to receive authorization for IGS Connect.*

PROPOSAL DEADLINE: Monday May 2019 at 11:59 p.m.
Proposals received after the deadline will not be accepted.

Monthly – DFA-IGS reviews financial expenditures reimbursement requests monthly prior to reimbursements being made to subgrantees.

Quarterly –

- DFA-OGS receives all program reports on a quarterly basis from subgrantees. Each are reviewed to ensure program objectives are being met.
- DFA-IGS combines all reporting into the States Yearly federal program report to be submitted.
- DFA-IGS prepares and submit the quarterly financial reports.

Every 2 Years – An on-site monitoring visit is done to each organization

Close Out

- DFA-IGS prepares final federal close out program and financial reports within 90 days of grant award end date.
- DFA-IGS does a final close out of each sub-grant with 30 days of the grant award end date.

7. Multiple – or Single Year Basis Projects

Arkansas subgrants are awarded for two years as follows: one year with the possibility of continuing that award for a second year providing that funds are available and the funded project is in good standing.

8. Ensure subgrantee consult with victim services

During the application process, STOP applicants must provide a copy of a Formal Memorandum of Understanding between entities indicating they have consulted with other service providers (law enforcement, prosecution, victim services, and courts) in their service delivery area about service gaps, needs and how best to approach the issues in the application. (Appendix J)

9. Ensure eligible entities are aware of funding

Request for Proposal notifications are issued in statewide newspapers. In addition, DFA-IGS notifies the Grant Advisory Board and the staff of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission of all postings. Another publication used is a Hispanic newspaper. DFA places this notification on its website. The Advisory Board and other Providers place on social media and other websites for full advertisement.

In the upcoming year, DFA-IGS will be issuing target specific solicitations and will seek to put notices in publications within the targeted areas of need. These publications may take the form of newspapers, magazines, or on-line format.

10. Information on Projects that Arkansas plans to fund

Arkansas plans to continue to fund currently funded projects identified in question IV. B. 2. In addition, to implement the outlines goals and objectives identified at the beginning of Section IV, Arkansas expects to fund the following new programs:

- Three (3) Culturally Specific/ Underserved Population subgrantees via target solicitation
- Targeted solicitation regarding Domestic Violence-related Homicides, Sexual Assault, Stalking, Dating Violence as related to goal 2.1 (20% Set aside for Sexual Assault)
- Create an infrastructure to build trauma informed service systems for victims of extreme forms of violence such as human trafficking and or who have issues with domestic violence

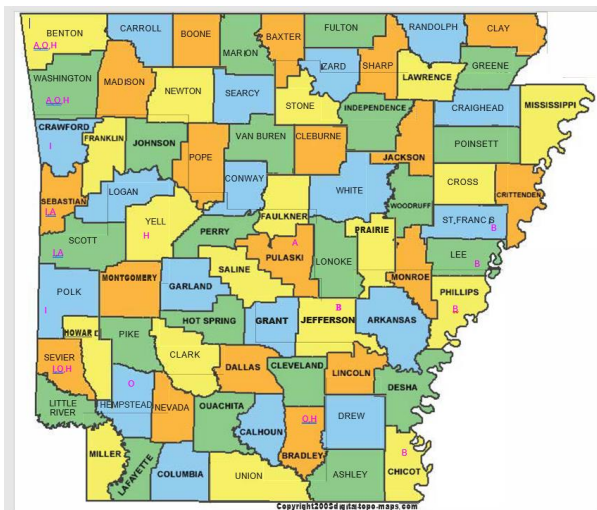
Addressing the Needs of Underserved Victims

1. Underserved Populations

DFA-IGS historically has recruited programs and projects from organizations who target culturally specific/underserved victims. DFA-IGS publishes the RFP statewide in the newspapers and in Hispanic magazines. We also rely on the Grant Advisory Board and the staff of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission to represent various segments of the populations to include culturally specific organizations and underserved populations. They disseminate information and our solicitations to various organizations who would be able to provide STOP services for required categories. To strengthen this approach, DFA-IGS will issue target specific solicitations to meet the needs of underserved populations. This will be done in relationship with statistical data to support the effort.

2. Culturally Specific

DFA-IGS will publish the RFP statewide in the newspapers, in Hispanic magazines and other culturally specific media. We will continue to collaborate with the Grant Advisory Board and the staff of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission to help identify culturally specific organizations and underserved populations. As stated above in Plan Priorities and Approaches section, we plan to pursue greater involvement of culturally specific stakeholders. To strengthen this approach, DFA-IGS will issue target specific solicitations to meet the needs of culturally specific populations. This will be done in coordination with statistical data to support the effort. Refer to Goal 1.2. The map below indicates where the largest group of culturally specific community reside. DFA-IGS is prioritizing African American (B), Marshallese (A), and the Hispanic or Latin(H) populations will be targeted to ensure the 10% required funding will be subgranted.



3. Distributed Population Equally

During 2019, DFA-IGS, the Grant Advisory Board and the staff of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission will undergo an in-depth review of the possible options related to establishing a funding methodology for the allocation of funds statewide. Statistical information related to populations, income levels, and crimes will be considered to fairly allocate funding.

DFA-IGS understands the needs of each population differ. To equitably distribute the funding across each population, a goal of ¼ of the allowed allocation per population referenced as underserved in our goal 1.2 and section III will be established for targeted subgrants. DFA-IGS expects to pay for cost such interpretative services to provide victim assistance and education, translation of materials to ensure victims have ready and readable resources and direct victim advocacy. These allocations will be combined with any allowable carry-over funds to support all categories prioritizing the referenced underserved populations.

Currently, STOP awards are made in categories to meet funding requirements.

4. 10% Culturally Specific Organizations

Women's Council on African American Affairs (Healing Hearts and Spirits) meets the victims' services, culturally specific area 10% set-aside. This subgrantee provides services to assist victims of Sexual assault and/or stalking by:

- Providing advocacy, court accompaniment, hospital accompaniment
- Assistance in completing applications for Arkansas Crime Victim's Reparations
- Criminal justice advocacy

Per their website at <https://www.hhscenter.org/>, the mission and services are:

Victims Services Program

Our mission is to promote and nurture individuals in areas of education, economic and community development, healthcare issues, public safety and race relations.

The Center for Healing Hearts & Spirits' Victim Services Program was designed to assist crime victims and their affected families to improve the quality of victim's services delivery in high-crime, urban and rural areas of Pulaski County ensuring equal access to divers and underserved populations to the criminal justice system and victim services.

E. Sub-grantee Management, Monitoring, and Assessment

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Pursuant to state and federal regulations, DFA-IGS is required to conduct regular evaluations of sub-grant organizations. The purpose of these evaluations is to ensure compliance with the applicable statute(s), program guidelines, fiscal accountability and other sub-grant agreement terms and conditions and to ensure the delivery of effective and quality services to victims of crime.

Sub-grant monitoring is used to review victim service delivery performance data; timekeeping and equipment records, as well as documentation of costs supported by federal funds. Sub-grant monitoring provides an opportunity to review the qualitative and quantitative performance of a sub-grant award. Sub-grant monitoring is an on-going process that involves one or more of the following:

- a. Desk Monitoring – Desk monitoring includes a review of invoice submittals and supporting documentation; a review of quarterly performance reports; e-mail transmittals; telephone calls, and any other documents or communications that may flow between the Project Monitor and the sub-grant organization.
- b. On-site Monitoring – On-site monitoring provides a first-hand look at the sub-grant organization's operations. It is an opportunity to meet the management and staff; establish a positive working relationship; and to review the sub-grant organization's files and documentation. Several types and purposes exist for on-site monitoring, including:
 - i. *Formal* on-site monitoring – is a scheduled visit, utilizing a standardized monitoring tool to assess the program's compliance with federal and state rules, fiscal management procedures, and organizational structure.
 - ii. *Informal* on-site visits – may be conducted at any time. The purpose of these visits is to meet staff, observe macro-operations, and learn about program activities.
 - iii. *Evaluation* on-site visits – used for first time sub-grant organizations to meet staff, evaluate and give guidance regarding the structure of the organization, program administration, service delivery, community support, and compliance with federal and state rules, as well as, fiscal management procedures.
 - iv. *Intervention* on-site visits – as needed, to provide technical assistance and direction to sub-grant organizations experiencing performance or fiscal problems. Except in cases warranting immediate intervention, other grant management methods such as desk monitoring, written correspondence and telephone consultation will be tried before an intervention visit is scheduled.
- c. Complaints – Complaints regarding a sub-grant organization are investigated within the parameters of the sub-grant agreement and/or applicable statute(s) or rule(s).

Financial monitoring occurs on a monthly and quarterly basis as Requests for Reimbursement Invoices are processed. Payments to sub-grantees are on a reimbursement basis; therefore, all requests for payments must include supporting documentation.

Additionally, on-site monitoring, which addresses various aspects of a sub-grant organization's compliance with sub-grant requirements and special conditions, are conducted through a review of the following documents:

- a. Personnel records – includes paid and volunteer staff providing services.
- b. Client files – the records of service recipient. No personally identifying information will be disclosed.
- c. Financial records – including source documentation for sub-grant expenditures and match.
- d. Policies and procedures – organization, as well as program policies and procedures.
- e. Board of Directors' meeting minutes.
- f. In addition to a review of documentation and necessary facility inspections, DFA-IGS may also interview staff regarding the provision of services. Staff can include the agency director, federally funded staff, and administrative staff responsible for contract reporting and bookkeeping. This provides an opportunity to talk about the services being provided to crime victims and other aspects of the program services. In some instances, there may be a need to interview victims.

AGREED UPON PROCEDURES

The Department of Finance and Administration has developed a set of Agreed Upon Procedures (AUP) to be used as another monitoring tool. The AUP is used to test and report on grant recipients' compliance with the stated terms and conditions of their sub-grant award and state and federal regulations and guidelines. The findings from these procedures must be compiled in the *Independent Accountant's Report on Applying Agreed Upon Procedures*. These procedures are required for all recipients of awards from DFA-IGS under the Victim Justice and Assistance grants, except those entities that are required to have performed a Single Audit under OMB Circular A-133. The complete manual of guidelines and procedures of the AUP can be accessed online at:

<http://www.dfa.arkansas.gov/offices/intergovernmentalservices/grants/pages/resources.aspx>

Arkansas will continue to work with the Board and the staff of the Commission to determine the best way to effectively and efficiently monitor subgrantees.

V. Conclusion

The development of the 2017-2020 Stop Implementation Plan for Arkansas is a result of a collaborative effort with DFA-IGS, Arkansas's Victim Justice Advisory Board, the staff of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission, and various stakeholders throughout Arkansas. The process for Arkansas can be summed up as stated by one of the Grant Advisory Board and staff member of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission members, "The work being done with this input (and how we use it and see it once submitted) and the discussions of the state implementation plan **HAVE TO CONTINUE**. This is our first step toward change and, in the process, we have got to find more ways to get input from victims of violence and their families. With that information, we can better answer this question and adequately plan."

VI. Resources for Data

<https://advance.lexis.com/container?config=00JAA3ZTU0NTIzYy0zZDEyLTRhYmQtYmRmMS1iMwIxNDgxYWMxZTQKAFBvZENhdGFsb2cubRW4ifTiwi5vLw6cl1uX&crd=380beb6f-2cf8-49ac-9a77-a9ec92f8a958&prid=ab5e11bb-a4e9-4a51-b33f-78f7cc211db7>

<https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/disabilityandhealth/impacts/arkansas.html>

<https://www.census.gov/data/data-tools.html>

http://netstate.com/states/intro/ar_intro.htm