Reducing and preventing crime continues to be a top priority of the Department of the Navy (DON) and the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS). To stay ahead of emerging threats, we continuously evolve and aggressively partner to maximize impact to the DON. As the work environment continues to evolve due to new and unprecedented criminal, social and fiscal challenges, prioritization of resources is a practical necessity. As a top priority, NCIS continues to focus on proactive operations and investigations targeting criminal elements impacting the physical or emotional well-being of the warfighter, their families, and the DON. NCIS investigations and operations directly impact operational readiness and lethality of the warfighter.

Collecting crime statistics and using them to explore the complex nature and scope of criminal acts impacting the DON, serves to provide senior leaders insight into five major investigative areas directly affecting DON assets globally.

This is the 18th DON Annual Crime Report (ACR) produced by the NCIS Criminal Data Analysis Division under the guidance of the NCIS Criminal Investigations and Operations Directorate. This report includes a spotlight on NCIS’ efforts to combat sexual assaults, a five-year overview of the reporting criminal trends from 2017 to 2021 within each of the five major investigative areas, a section highlighting non-criminal fatalities and an appendix containing DON resources related to the investigative areas. The Methodology section on page 4 is paramount in fully understanding subsequent sections, as it identifies parameters for data collection and offenses reported within each of the investigative areas covered.

As law enforcement reporting within the DON continues to evolve, refinement of the methods for data collection, analysis, and presentation continue to advance NCIS’ ability to mature the critical assignment of compiling and analyzing pertinent crime statistics. NCIS continues to innovate, evolve, and integrate, to better mitigate and neutralize threats to the DON. Partnering with both the United States Navy (USN), the United States Marine Corps (USMC) and the external law enforcement community enables superior support for increased operational readiness, enhanced lethality of the force and optimal performance affordability as we “Get Real and Get Better.”

Kurt Thomas
Executive Assistant Director
NCIS Criminal Investigations & Operations
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NCIS proactively and aggressively confronts criminal threats to the DON, along with USN and USMC law enforcement partners. The ACR examines criminal reporting to the DON and enables DON law enforcement entities to focus crime reduction strategies consistent with the most salient threats to the DON. This ACR analyzes five investigative categories: Death\(^1\), Adult Sexual Assault, Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation, Narcotics, and Procurement Fraud. Below is a comparison between 2020 and 2021 reporting.

**KEY FINDINGS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>-/+ PERCENT CHANGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>DEATH</strong>(^2)</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>299</td>
<td>-8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ADULT SEXUAL ASSAULT</strong></td>
<td>1,399</td>
<td>1,486</td>
<td>+6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE</strong>(^*)</td>
<td>337</td>
<td>337</td>
<td>NO CHANGE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NARCOTICS</strong></td>
<td>2,658</td>
<td>2,010</td>
<td>**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PROCUREMENT FRAUD</strong></td>
<td>165</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>-50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OVERALL</strong></td>
<td>4,884</td>
<td>4,214</td>
<td>-14%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^*\) Includes Child Exploitation

\(^\text{**}\) To standardize the narcotics data in accordance with the other crime categories, different methodologies and processes were applied to the CY21 narcotics query and validation of the data. In doing so, year to year comparisons are not suitable.

- Decreases noted in Death and Procurement Fraud.
- An increase was noted in Adult Sexual Assault.
- Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation offenses stayed the same in 2020 and 2021 and they have been declining since 2017.
- Narcotics and Adult Sexual Assault accounted for 83% of the reported offenses in this report.
- Domestic related homicides increased in 2021 from 3 in 2020 to 7 in 2021.
- The most prevalent drugs of choice reported were marijuana, followed by cocaine and Lysergic Acid Diethylamide (LSD).
- The decrease of Procurement Fraud investigations can be attributed to new business practices implemented in 2021 after the establishment of the Economic Crimes Field Office in 2020.

\(^1\) Investigations into unattended deaths within the DON are considered criminal until the manner of death is determined by the medical examiner. In order to show general trends within DON death investigative reporting over the last several years, this report includes both criminal and non-criminal fatalities: homicide, suicide, accidental, natural, and those in which the manner of death is pending autopsy findings. Further analysis is provided in subsequent sections related to homicide, suicide, and accidental deaths due to the impact they have on operational readiness within the DON.

\(^2\) Includes homicides, suicides, accidents, and natural deaths, along with deaths where the manner of death is pending autopsy findings.
SPOTLIGHT:
NCIS RESPONSE TO SEXUAL ASSAULT

In 2021, the NCIS Adult Sexual Assault Task Force (NASATF) initiative created NCIS led teams of senior NCIS Special Agents paired with Marine Corps Criminal Investigations Division (CID) investigators and Navy Masters-at-Arms investigators for a more targeted and partnered approach to investigating reports of sexual assault, specifically abusive sexual contact. The NASATF is being piloted at two NCIS offices: Norfolk Field Office for the Navy and NCIS Resident Agency Quantico for the Marine Corps. The NASATF collaborates with the USN Region Legal Service Office, USMC Legal Support Services Team, Sexual Assault Response Coordinators, and Victims’ Legal Counsel with the intent of providing greater synergy and more expedient abusive sexual contact investigations.

NCIS diligently continues its efforts to combat all sexual assaults in the DON by complying with the Fort Hood Independent Review Committee Recommendation (IRC) 1.4: Professionalized career billets for military justice personnel handling special victim crimes. NCIS established a career track for sexual assault investigators within the enterprise. Additional special victim investigation manpower and associated support dollars were needed in order to support IRC recommendation 1.4. Over the next five years, there is a proposal to hire an additional 60 full-time employees will be hired to work sexual assault investigations. The increase in staffing will consist of Special Agents, Investigative Support Specialists, Criminal Investigative Analysts, and Digital Forensic Examiners.

The Catch a Serial Offender Program was developed with the Department of the Navy (DON) selected as the executive agent for the Department of Defense (DoD). NCIS was designated within DON as the lead program manager for DoD and developed the CATCH software platform. It is managed by the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office (SAPRO) and provides service members and their adult dependents making a Restricted Sexual Assault Report an opportunity to anonymously disclose suspect information to military criminal investigative services in order to assist the DoD in identifying serial offenders.

In FY21, CATCH received 471 submissions from victims who had previously filed a Restricted Report across the Military Services and National Guard Bureau. CATCH submissions resulted in 24 matches during FY21. Since its launch in August 2019, CATCH received 915 total victim submissions resulting in 35 matches as of September 30, 2021.

---

This ACR provides an overview of DON investigative offenses reported from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021. Five major offense categories are examined: Death, Adult Sexual Assault, Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation, Narcotics related crimes, and Procurement Fraud. The ACR addresses these five offense categories because of their potential to impact the quality of life, operational readiness, and war fighting capabilities of the DON, even though other offenses are also investigated by DON law enforcement. Specific crimes within each area are also examined, with the significant findings reported. The Death section is unique. It captures a five-year snapshot of data related to homicides, suicides, accidental and natural deaths, together with deaths where the cause of death is pending due to autopsy or toxicology reports not completed at time the data was compiled and includes an in-depth examination of homicides. Suicides and accidental deaths are explored in detail in Section 3 because they are not criminal acts, but are of extreme importance to the DON and DOD.

The NCIS, Navy Security Forces (NSF), Marine Corps Provost Marshal’s Office (MCPMO), and Marine Corps Criminal Investigative Division (MCCID) are the investigative entities within the DON. All DON investigative entities submit data into the Consolidated Law Enforcement Operations Center (CLEOC). The system serves as the central repository for DON law enforcement entities to document criminal offense data for the entire DON worldwide. For the purposes of this report, each NSF, MCPMO, MCCID, and NCIS office is assigned to a specific Commander, Navy Installation Command region or Marine Corps Installation region, respectively, and the data is presented according to these regions in the Overview of DON Crimes Statistics for 2021 section. It is important to note the information in this report may not be all-inclusive due to IT infrastructure challenges and other issues, which may impede and/or prevent some DON law enforcement entities from contributing to CLEOC.4

Many statistical crime reports include per capita data, which compares values among groups of different size. This calculation was not included in this report due to varying population groups within Navy (USN) and Marine Corps (USMC) reporting, including active-duty service members, retired service members, dependents, government and contractor employees, and civilians. Since population greatly fluctuates during the year due to deployments, temporary duty stations, and attendance at training courses, the emphasis remains on reported offense data.

Due to limitations in data collection and reporting, several factors should be considered when evaluating CLEOC data. For instance, offense information may be missing or incomplete at the time of this report or may remain unknown despite vigorous investigative efforts. Also, information may be undisclosed due to a number of reasons, including but not limited to: victim participation, limited assistance with local law enforcement agencies, and state laws that prevent disclosure of certain information. The following sections delve further into the five investigative areas and highlight overall DON, USN and USMC crime trends.

---

4 USN law enforcement reporting into CLEOC is not all-inclusive and may not represent the total number of offenses occurring within the USN branch of the DON.
OVERVIEW OF 5-YEAR CRIME TRENDS

OFFENSES

Below depicts the crime offenses reported over the last five years, to include a breakout by crime category.

TOTAL NUMBER OF DON OFFENSES FROM 2017 - 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Offenses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>4,934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>5,234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>4,997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>4,884</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>4,214</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AVERAGE/YEAR: 4,853

DON OFFENSES BY CRIME CATEGORY FROM 2017 - 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Narcotics</td>
<td>2,438</td>
<td>2,603</td>
<td>2,610</td>
<td>2,658</td>
<td>2,010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average/Year: 2,464*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Sexual Assault</td>
<td>1,565</td>
<td>1,761</td>
<td>1,558</td>
<td>1,399</td>
<td>1,486</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average/Year: 1,554*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Sexual Abuse</td>
<td>413</td>
<td>394</td>
<td>390</td>
<td>337</td>
<td>337</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Includes Child Exploitation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average/Year: 374*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Death</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>312</td>
<td>302</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>299</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average/Year: 313*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Procurement Fraud</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average/Year: 148*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5 To standardize the narcotics data in accordance with the other crime categories, different methodologies and processes were applied to the CY21 narcotics query and validation of the data. In doing so, year to year comparisons are not suitable.
The next five sections will provide a 5-year summary of each crime topic area and then go into more detail with respect to the offenses reported in 2021, which will highlight more specific trends.

**2021 DON CRIME TRENDS**

**DON BREAKDOWN OF OFFENSES BY USN AND USMC REGIONS**

The chart displays the breakdown of offenses by USN and USMC regions, with specific categories for each region.

- Mid-Atlantic
- Naval District Washington
- Northwest
- Southeast
- Southwest
- Europe/Africa/Central
- Hawaii
- Japan
- Korea
- Marianas

Legend:
- DEATH
- ADULT SEXUAL ASSAULT
- CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE AND EXPLOITATION
- NARCOTICS
- PROCUREMENT FRAUD
MARINE CORPS INSTALLATION COMMANDS (MCICOM)

- MC East
- MC Pacific
- MC West
- MARFORCOM
- National Capital Region

DEATH
ADULT SEXUAL ASSAULT
CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE AND EXPLOITATION
NARCOTICS
PROCUREMENT FRAUD
DEATH: HOMICIDE

FIVE-YEAR DON DEATH OFFENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Homicides</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AVERAGE/YEAR: 30

USN

USMC

2021 DON HIGHLIGHTS

- Homicides increased 6% from 2020.
- 37% of homicides were domestic-related.
- All occurred off-base.
- In 2021, there were two child abuse fatalities due to homicide the same as in 2020. Both victims were under the age of five.

TOP 3 CAUSES OF DEATH FOR 2021 DON HOMICIDES

The chart indicates the most common causes of homicides in the DON, most of which were caused by gunshot wound. Due to rounding, percentages may not add up to 100%.

- **Gunshot Wound**: 58% (11 victims)
- **Blunt Force Trauma**: 26% (5 victims)
- **Other**: 16% (3 victims)

---

6 Although not all manners of death are considered criminal in nature (e.g., suicide, accidental and natural), the 2021 DON Overview will provide the general death trends with a more detailed look at homicides in the remainder of this section. A subsequent section will focus on the non-criminal fatalities of suicide and accidental death.

7 Includes homicide deaths where the victim was related to the suspect, as well as suicide deaths in which the evidence revealed the victim’s death was due to domestic-related issues.

8 The “Other” category includes deaths caused by asphyxia, drugs, stabbing, and unknown at the time of report.
## 2021 USN and USMC Highlights

### USN

**11 Homicide Deaths**

- **4** Domestic-related homicides, one involving a murder-suicide.
- **1** Active shooter incident in April 2021 at an off-base Naval Medical Center warehouse and storage facility where a Seaman and Petty Officer First Class were shot by a USN co-worker stationed at Fort Detrick in Maryland. After wounding the service members, the shooter was fatally wounded by the civilian police at Fort Detrick after he fled the initial scene, circumvented base security, and displayed a weapon.

### USMC

**8 Homicide Deaths**

- **3** Domestic-related homicides
- **1** Police involved shooting occurred at the front gate of the Marine Corps Recruit Depot where an MP was approached by a person with a knife.

### Investigative Highlights

#### USMC

**USMC LCPL Sentenced to Five Years and Five Months for Manslaughter**

On June 17, 2021, a USMC Lance Corporal (LCPL) was sentenced to five years, five months confinement, reduction in rank to E-1, forfeiture of all pay and allowances, and dishonorably discharged from the USMC after being found guilty of involuntary manslaughter at General Court Martial. The LCPL and a friend got into a verbal and physical altercation with the Victim, a local college student in Boston, and his friends. The Victim fell to the ground after being hit in the head by the LCPL who subsequently fled the scene. The Victim suffered blunt force trauma to his head and died after removal from life support. The LCPL was a marine reservist from Twenty-nine Palms on active-duty orders in anticipation of deployment at the time of the assault.

**USMC Lance Corporal Sentenced to Life in Jail for Second Degree Murder of Stepdaughter**

On April 30, 2021, a USMC LCPL was sentenced in the Yuma, Arizona County Superior Court to life imprisonment with no eligibility for suspension sentence, probation, pardon or release from confinement on any basis until he has served thirty-five years for second degree murder. The LCPL physically assaulted his stepdaughter while her mother was at work. The next morning the mother discovered her daughter unresponsive partially hanging off her toddler bed with blood and unidentified marks on her face, which were later determined to be burns on an unknown origin. The child died as the result of a subdural hemorrhage due to blunt force head trauma. NCIS initiated the investigation, working it jointly with the Yuma, Arizona Police Department.
Although not all manners of death are considered criminal in nature (e.g., suicide, accidental and natural), the 2021 DON Overview will provide the general death trends with a more detailed look at homicides in the remainder of this section. A subsequent section will focus on the non-criminal fatalities of suicide and accidental death.

Includes homicide deaths where the victim was related to the suspect, as well as suicide deaths in which the evidence revealed the victim’s death was due to domestic-related issues.

The “Other” category includes deaths caused by asphyxia, drugs, stabbing, and unknown at the time of report.

Healthy Relationship Approached to Sexual Assault Prevention, Programs and Strategies for Use within the U.S. Military, published in 2021, is designed to provide U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) and U.S. military prevention teams and leaders with an overview of a healthy relationship approach to sexual assault prevention, an explanation of why it could be an effective tool, and strategies for implementing a program within their commands.10

Characteristics that increase risk for victimization: duty station transitions, being a member of the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps (relative to Air Force)11, basic training, being in a workplace with a higher proportion of males, sexual harassment, and peers who accept sexual harassment.12

Characteristics that increase risk for sexual assault perpetration: prior sexual assault perpetration, belief in ideas that justify rape in certain circumstances and blame victims for the assault, alcohol intoxication and peers who accepted sexual harassment in addition to other factors.13

2021 DON HIGHLIGHTS

- 1,486 Adult Sexual Assault9 offenses were reported.
- In 2021, Adult Sexual Assault offenses appear to be trending upwards as COVID restrictions have eased and sailors and marines return to their normal duties.
- In Adult Sexual Assaults, the most frequent relationship reported between the victim and offender was co-workers (50%) followed by acquaintance/friend (23%).

The Rand report, Healthy Relationship Approaches to Sexual Assault Prevention, Programs and Strategies for Use within the U.S. Military, published in 2021, is designed to provide U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) and U.S. military prevention teams and leaders with an overview of a healthy relationship approach to sexual assault prevention, an explanation of why it could be an effective tool, and strategies for implementing a program within their commands.10

Characteristics that increase risk for victimization: duty station transitions, being a member of the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps (relative to Air Force)11, basic training, being in a workplace with a higher proportion of males, sexual harassment, and peers who accept sexual harassment.12

Characteristics that increase risk for sexual assault perpetration: prior sexual assault perpetration, belief in ideas that justify rape in certain circumstances and blame victims for the assault, alcohol intoxication and peers who accepted sexual harassment in addition to other factors.13

In 2021, Adult Sexual Assault offenses appear to be trending upwards as COVID restrictions have eased and sailors and marines return to their normal duties.

In Adult Sexual Assaults, the most frequent relationship reported between the victim and offender was co-workers (50%) followed by acquaintance/friend (23%).
• 31 investigations had a documented nexus to sexual harassment. In many instances, the subject sexually harassed the victim before or after a sexual assault occurred and/or was being investigated by command for other incidents of sexual harassment. Some sexual harassment complaints involve crude behavior, unwanted sexual attention, and/or sexual coercion.

• In September 2021, the Secretary of Defense approved the Independent Review Commission Recommendation – Implementation Roadmap, which will initially focus on Tier 1 recommendations with estimated implementation by 2027. The Tier 1 recommendations build the Department’s foundation and infrastructure for a best-in-practice sexual assault prevention and response program.14

• It included recommendations for establishment of Offices of Special Victims Prosecutors and removing prosecution of sexual assaults and related crimes out of the military chain of command. It also established independent, trained investigators for sexual harassment, and mandatory initiation of involuntary separation for all substantiated complaints.15

• 4 investigations involved sexual assaults against or involving Midshipmen at the U.S. Naval Academy. This is a 75% decrease in investigations from 2020, which had 16 investigations and continues a downward trend from 2019, which had 20 investigations.

• NCIS data reflects a similar trend noted in the DoD Annual Report on Sexual Harassment and Violence at the Military Service Academies, Academic Program Year (APT) 2019-2020. It reported the overall number of sexual assault reports decreased compared to the previous APY. However, it should be noted the report cites the reason for the decrease is unclear, as the Department did not administer a scientific prevalence survey this year to gather the data used for the report.16

2021 BREAKDOWN OF ADULT SEXUAL ASSAULT OFFENSES

Ninety-nine percent of adult sexual assault offense types are depicted in the graph below, with the remaining 1% comprised of aggravated sexual contact and attempts.

---


## 2021 USN AND USMC HIGHLIGHTS

### USN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>979 VICTIMS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Timeliness of reporting between date of assault and date reported averaged <strong>244 days and with 31% of victims reporting</strong> between one to 12 months after an assault.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Base housing and ships</strong> represent the most common locations where sexual assaults took place.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>58%</strong> of USN cases were service member on service member assaults; this is a decrease of 2% from 2020.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>35%</strong> of sexual assaults involved substance abuse of drugs and/or alcohol.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>84</strong> sexual assaults were committed by spouses and intimate partners, a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the abuser.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>55 (6%)</strong> victims were sexually assaulted by spouses and <strong>25 (3%)</strong> victims were sexually assaulted by significant others, former spouses or former significant others.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### USMC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>527 VICTIMS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Timeliness of reporting between date of assault and date reported averaged <strong>293 days and with 29% of victims reporting</strong> between one to three days after an assault.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Barracks and residences</strong> represent the most common locations where sexual assaults took place.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>52%</strong> of USMC cases were service member on service member assaults; this is a 3% decrease from 2020.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>43%</strong> of sexual assaults involved substance abuse of drugs and/or alcohol.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>65</strong> sexual assaults were committed by spouses and intimate partners, a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the abuser.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>55 (9%)</strong> victims were sexually assaulted by spouses and <strong>13 (2%)</strong> victims were sexually assaulted by significant others, former spouses or former significant others.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INVESTIGATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

USN

USN RESERVIST PETTY OFFICER FIRST CLASS SENTENCED TO 36 YEARS CONFINEMENT FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT

On February 24, 2021, a USN Reservist Petty Officer First Class was sentenced to 36 years confinement and a dishonorable discharge after being found guilty of Article 120, Sexual assault with additional charges of Article 120B, Rape of a child and Article 134, Production of child pornography, with 30-year sentences to be served concurrently. Prince William County Police Department (Prince William, VA) initiated the investigation when family members reported seeing inappropriate photographs of the Sailor’s 17-year-old stepdaughter. The USN reservist drugged his stepdaughter with sleeping medication, sexually assaulted her and photographed her naked body in their home and on the Washington Navy Yard, at the residence of a high-ranking officer, where the Sailor had frequent access as a Culinary Specialist. During the course of the investigation, it was learned the Sailor had sexually assaulted and raped his stepdaughter when she was 14 and 15 years old. The case was then turned over to NCIS due to the Subject being a reservist in the USN.

USN SEAMAN SENTENCED TO 15 YEARS CONFINEMENT FOR RAPE, ASSAULT WITH INTENT TO COMMIT OTHER CRIMES, BURGLARY, AND ASSAULT

On March 8, 2021, a USN Seaman was sentenced to 15 years confinement, reduction in rank and dishonorable discharge after being found guilty of rape and sexual assault; assault - with intent to commit murder, voluntary manslaughter, rape, robbery, forcible sodomy, arson, burglary, or housebreaking; burglary; unlawful entry; and assault. The Sailor broke into the barracks room of a female sailor where he strangled and fought with her as she attempted to escape. During their struggle, he removed the victim’s pants and digitally assaulted her. The victim bit her attacker’s arm. The Sailor was observed on video surveillance entering and exiting the victim’s room and when interrogated, had a bite mark on his arm.

USMC

USMC PRIVATE FIRST CLASS SENTENCED TO 11 YEARS CONFINEMENT FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT AND ASSAULT CONSUMMATED BY BATTERY

On January 11, 2021, a USMC Private First Class was sentenced to 11 years confinement, reduction in rank, forfeiture of all pay and allowances, required to register as a sex offender, and dishonorably discharged after being found guilty of UCMJ Article 120, sexual assault and Article 128, assault consummated by battery. The Marine met the victim on a dating application and they arranged to meet. They drove around in the subject’s car and when the victim told him she wanted to go home, he demanded sex from her, and she refused. He physically assaulted the victim and she used mace to stop the attack. The Marine continued to demand sex and oral sex; she refused. The Marine kicked her out of the car and the victim flagged down local law enforcement to report the incident. The Marine was the subject of an on-going investigation by NCIS regarding allegations of sexual assault of victims while he was attending school at Camp Jackson, NC in 2019, so NCIS assumed investigative jurisdiction for the case.

USMC CORPORAL WAS SENTENCED TO TWO YEARS CONFINEMENT FOR TWO COUNTS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT

On December 8, 2021, a USMC Corporal was sentenced to two years confinement, reduction in rank, forfeiture of all pay and allowances, and a dishonorable discharge after being found guilty of two counts of sexual assault. The Marine admitted to sexually assaulting the victim. The case was initially investigated by the San Diego Police Department, but NCIS assumed investigative jurisdiction for military prosecution.
### FIVE-YEAR DON CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE AND EXPLOITATION OFFENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>USN</th>
<th>USMC</th>
<th>Average/Year: 374</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>223</td>
<td>190</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>156</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>181</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>130</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>139</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2021 DON HIGHLIGHTS

- 337 child sexual abuse offenses in 2021; no change from 2020.
- Of the 233 identified subjects, 195 were military members and 38 were civilians.

- The most cited relationship between the subject and victim was acquaintance/friend and parent/step-parent or a parent’s significant other.
  - According to the Centers for Disease Control Centers and Prevention, someone known and trusted by the child or the child’s family members, perpetrates 91% of child sexual abuse.\(^{18}\)
- 211 offenses took place at residences located in the community and government family quarters.
- Internet contact cases involved the use of various social media platforms like Snapchat, Kik, and Instagram. These were the top 3 documented social media sites mentioned in NCIS reporting by both the victim and/or subject to meet or communicate with each other and/or exchange/upload photographs and videos.
  - Signs a child or young person may be the target of sexual abuse online may include isolating themselves and spending more time on digital devices, social changes like vague talk about a new friend or spending increasing amounts of time talking secretly with a new friend online, and/or emotional changes, which may include sudden, unexplained personality changes and mood swings and/or outbursts of anger and irritation.\(^{19}\)
- Of the 337 investigations, 22 were undercover operations.

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\(^{17}\) This section provides data related to Child Contact Sexual Abuse (CSA), Child Pornography (CP), and Internet Contact (IC) offenses. Many cases may involve one or more type of these offenses.


The diagram below breaks down the Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation offenses within the DON.

DEPARTMENT OF NAVY

USN

USMC

DEPARTMENT OF NAVY
### CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE AND EXPLOITATION

#### 2021 USN AND USMC HIGHLIGHTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>USN</th>
<th>USMC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>198 CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE OFFENSES</strong></td>
<td><strong>139 CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE OFFENSES</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In <strong>50</strong> Internet Contact investigations, <strong>19</strong> “Victims” were undercover agents (UCs) or officers, with no child involvement.</td>
<td>In <strong>22</strong> Internet Contact investigations, <strong>3</strong> “Victims” were UCs or officers, with no child involvement.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INVESTIGATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

USN

PETTY OFFICER FIRST CLASS SENTENCED TO 210 YEARS CONFINEMENT FOR PRODUCTION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

On June 22, 2021, a USN Petty Officer First Class was sentenced to 210 years confinement in U.S. District Court for the District of Connecticut on seven counts of Production of Child Pornography. This was a joint investigation with NCIS, Groton Police Department (GPD) and the FBI. The Sailor sexually assaulted his two children. After he was interviewed by GPD, he admitted he had sexually assaulted several other minor victims, ranging in age from four months to eight years old. During the analysis of digital media, child pornography was discovered including photographs and videos he produced of the victims. The Sailor also distributed some of the images on the dark web.

PETTY OFFICER SECOND CLASS SENTENCED TO 21 YEARS CONFINEMENT AND DISHONORABLY DISCHARGED FROM THE USN FOR SEXUAL ABUSE OF A CHILD INVOLVING SEXUAL CONTACT AND TWO COUNTS SEXUAL ASSAULT OF A CHILD

On April 2, 2021, USN Petty Officer Second Class was sentenced to 21 years confinement for sexual abuse of a child involving sexual contact and two counts sexual assault of a child and dishonorably discharged at a General Court-Martial. The Sailor’s stepdaughters disclosed they were sexually assaulted multiple times while living onboard Naval Air Station Pensacola, FL and while on vacation in Jacksonville, FL. The abuse took place for nearly two years, beginning in 2016.

CIVILIAN NAVY CONTRACTOR SENTENCED TO 25 ½-YEARS PRISON FOR SEXUALLY ASSAULTING HIS STEP-DAUGHTER

On October 9, 2021, a USN civilian contractor plead guilty and was sentenced to 25 ½-years confinement, ordered to pay a special assessment of $100, and must register as a sex offender for sexual abuse. On several occasions in 2017, the contractor sexually assaulted his stepdaughter on board a Navy annex, a controlled military facility, in his workspace. His stepdaughter did not have authority to access the annex, so he hid her in the trunk of his car when entering the annex.

USMC

USMC CORPORAL SENTENCED TO 16 YEARS CONFINEMENT, REDUCTION IN RANK, DISHONORABLE DISCHARGE AND REQUIRED TO REGISTER AS A SEXUAL OFFENDER FOR LIFE

On March 15, 2021, a USMC Corporal pled guilty and was sentenced to 16 years confinement, reduction in rank to E-1, dishonorably discharged, and will have to register as a sex offender for sexual abuse of a child involving sexual contact, sexual assault of a child, and domestic violence. The Marine sexually assaulted his 12-year-old and 7-year-old stepdaughters for an extended period of time. The girls’ mother also disclosed physical abuse by the Marine.

USMC LANCE CORPORAL SENTENCED TO 12 YEARS CONFINEMENT FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT OF A CHILD

On May 14, 2021, a USMC Lance Corporal was sentenced to 21 years confinement, reduction in rank to E1, dishonorable discharge and must register as a sex offender as a result of a General Court-Martial for sexual abuse of a child and child pornography. The Marine sexually assaulted the 14-year-old victim while she was living with her sister and brother-in-law. He frequently visited the victim at her sister’s residence and continued to sexually assault her. On two occasions, he filmed himself sexually assaulting the victim. The Marine was aware of her age when he visited the residence because on one occasion decorations for her 14th birthday were on display in the home including balloons in the shape of a one and four.
To standardize the narcotics data in accordance with the other crime categories, different methodologies and processes were applied to the CY21 narcotics query and validation of the data. In doing so, year to year comparisons are not suitable. In addition, total narcotics offenses were adjusted to exclude offenses related to possession of drug paraphernalia/equipment.

- 1,860 subjects were involved in 2,010 offenses.
- 4% of subjects were involved in 2 or more drugs.
- 87% of the subjects were involved in use and possession offenses, with the most prevalent drugs being Marijuana, Cocaine, followed by Lysergic Acid Diethylamide (LSD).
- 13% of the subjects were involved in distribution offenses, with the most prevalent drug types being LSD, Marijuana, followed by Cocaine.
- During 2020, LSD was added back into the DoD drug testing program while NCIS implemented targeted proactive narcotics efforts. These initiatives may increase awareness of drug testing and the consequences of being involved with illegal drugs by DON service members.

- In 2021, NCIS conducted an NCIS wide operational initiative and crime reduction campaign called Second Front, which focused specifically on LSD and Fentanyl and captured proactive NCIS narcotics data between July and December 2021. It produced 148 investigations with 152 subjects; one investigation had 50 documented subjects.

*USN*  
*USMC*
In July 2021, Delta-8 tetrahydrocannabinol, also known as delta-8 THC, was added to the Drug Demand Reduction Awareness Program drug-testing program.

- Delta-8 THC is a psychoactive substance found in the Cannabis sativa plant, of which marijuana and hemp are two varieties. Delta-8 THC is one of over 100 cannabinoids produced naturally by the cannabis plant but is not found in significant amounts in the cannabis plant. As a result, concentrated amounts of delta-8 THC are typically manufactured from hemp-derived cannabidiol (CBD).
- Delta-8 THC has intoxicating effects, similar to delta-9 THC, the component responsible for the “high” people may experience from using cannabis.
- Delta-8 THC is available in retail stores, smoke shops, CBD shops, and online and is available in various product forms, to include: delta-8 extract, gummies, chocolates, beverages, tinctures, distillates, etc.
- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has received adverse event reports involving products containing delta-8 THC. Most adverse events occurred after ingesting delta-8 THC through food products like brownies or gummies and adverse effects may include hallucinations, vomiting, tremor, anxiety, dizziness, confusion, and loss of consciousness.

### 2021 USN AND USMC HIGHLIGHTS

#### USN

**777 SUBJECTS** related to use/possession and/or distribution.

In use/possession offenses the most reported drugs were marijuana, LSD, followed by cocaine. The most prevalent drugs in distribution offenses were cocaine, LSD, followed by marijuana.

Drugs were most frequently discovered at residences, highways/roadways, to include entry gates, followed by government/public buildings.

#### USMC

**1,083 SUBJECTS** related to use/possession and/or distribution.

In use/possession offenses the most reported drugs were marijuana, cocaine, followed by LSD. For distribution offenses, it was LSD, marijuana, followed by cocaine.

Drugs were most frequently discovered at residences, government/public buildings, followed by highways/roadways, to include entry gates.

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21 5 Things to Know about Delta-8 Tetrahydrocannabinol – Delta-8 THC, May 2022. [https://www.fda.gov/consumers/consumer-updates/5-things-know-about-delta-8-tetrahydrocannabinol-delta-8-thc. Viewed May 2022.](https://www.fda.gov/consumers/consumer-updates/5-things-know-about-delta-8-tetrahydrocannabinol-delta-8-thc)

22 5 Things to Know about Delta-8 Tetrahydrocannabinol – Delta-8 THC, May 2022. [https://www.fda.gov/consumers/consumer-updates/5-things-know-about-delta-8-tetrahydrocannabinol-delta-8-thc. Viewed May 2022.](https://www.fda.gov/consumers/consumer-updates/5-things-know-about-delta-8-tetrahydrocannabinol-delta-8-thc)

23 5 Things to Know about Delta-8 Tetrahydrocannabinol – Delta-8 THC, [https://www.fda.gov/consumers/consumer-updates/5-things-know-about-delta-8-tetrahydrocannabinol-delta-8-thc. Viewed May 2022.](https://www.fda.gov/consumers/consumer-updates/5-things-know-about-delta-8-tetrahydrocannabinol-delta-8-thc)
2021 DOCUMENTED DRUG TYPES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

- **Marijuana, 57%**
- **Cocaine, 14%**
- **AMPHETAMINES, 2%**
- **ECSTASY, 2%**
- **LSD, 12%**
- **MULTIPLE DRUGS, 4%**
- **Prescription Drugs, 1%**
- ****Other, 3%
- ***Opioids, 3%**
- *****Unknown, 2%**

*Opioid category includes codeine, fentanyl, heroin, hydrocodone, morphine, nor fentanyl, oxycodone, oxymorphone, and other synthetic opioids.

**Other category includes mushrooms and other psychedelics, khat, steroids, and over the counter medications.

***Unknown category includes drugs documented as unknown, or that were unidentified or untested at the time the data was captured.
INVESTIGATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

**USN**

**FORMER NAVY SAILOR SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR DISTRIBUTING DEADLY FENTANYL PILLS AFTER ACTIVE-DUTY SAILOR DIED**

On September 17, 2021, a former Navy Seaman was sentenced in District Court in Seattle, Washington to 4 years in prison and 3 years of supervised release for distribution of fentanyl. The Subject was separated from the Navy in August 2020. The investigation began April 18, 2020, when a Navy sailor was found dead in his workspace aboard the USS Carl Vinson. Two counterfeit pills laced with fentanyl were found on the victim provided to him by the Subject. During the investigation, other persons involved in the distribution and trafficking of the pills involved were convicted of a variety of drug-related offenses. The case was investigated by NCIS and the Kitsap County Sheriff’s Office.

**USMC**

**CIVILIAN CONVICTED OF CONSPIRACY TO POSSESS WITH INTENT TO DISTRIBUTE A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE CAUSING THE ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF A MARINE**

On September 1, 2021, a civilian was sentenced in U.S. District Court, San Diego, California to 168 months of confinement and 4 years of supervised release for conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute a controlled substance. An investigation was initiated after a USMC Corporal stationed at Camp Pendleton, California, was discovered deceased in his barracks room. Cause of death was determined to be opioid toxicity (fentanyl). A forensic examination of his media devices identified a civilian as the supplier of the fentanyl who was investigated for distribution of narcotics and his role in the death of the USMC Corporal. This was a joint investigation with the San Diego County Sheriff’s Department and the San Diego Law Enforcement Coordination Center.
Procurement Fraud

Five-Year DON Procurement Fraud Offenses

- 82 procurement fraud offenses in 2021.
- Several factors attributed to the decrease, including a reduction in Economic Crimes Field Office (ECFO) personnel and modification of business rules to focus on investigations NCIS is required by policy to investigate and those with high impact.

- During fiscal year (FY) 2020, DoD’s appropriations amounted to approximately $712.6 billion and it obligated $421.8 billion for contracting activity. DoD generally accounts for about two-thirds of federal contracting activity, obligating more than all civilian federal agencies combined, and in FY20 was led by the Navy in terms of obligations. 24

- ECFO priorities include an emphasis on identifying and reducing product substitution, combatting corruption in acquisition, and disrupting foreign exploitation of during acquisition, which impacts National Security.

- The majority of investigated offenses involved general procurement, product substitution, and conflicts of interest.

- Investigations into procurement fraud offenses were primarily initiated as the result of NCIS criminal intelligence, or incidents or complaints reported to NCIS, followed by DoD and Department of Navy Inspector General referrals and allegations received.

- Procurement fraud recovery amounts, which include funds collected through civil settlements, court ordered restitutions and forfeitures, yielded a total of $107,687,161 in FY21 compared to $7,523,032 in FY20.

- By focusing economic crime resources on high-impact major procurement fraud investigations and areas with high-risk to the DON in FY21, recoveries dramatically increased as the result of noteworthy plea agreements and sentences.

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### 2021 USN AND USMC HIGHLIGHTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>USN</th>
<th>USMC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>82 OFFENSES</strong></td>
<td>No USMC offenses due to reasons stated above; however, incidents reported to NCIS meeting ECFO’s criteria for high-impact investigations and areas of high risk will be evaluated and/or investigated.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**General Procurement** was the most common offense. The most prevalent products and services involved in **general procurement and product substitution** investigations include aircraft, missile, and ship parts; office equipment; husbanding services, and administrative services related to leasing office space, information technology support, and personnel.
2021 DON PROCUREMENT FRAUD RECOVERIES

- SUBCONTRACTOR KICKBACK: $4,342,651
- BRIBERY: $3,040,683
- DEFECTIVE PRICING: $50,000,000
- PRODUCT SUBSTITUTION: $20,068,319
- GENERAL PROCUREMENT: $10,492,414
- COST MISCHARGING: $19,712,094
- ENVIRONMENTAL CRIMES: $31,000
INVESTIGATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

USN

DOD CONTRACTOR TO PAY $25 MILLION TO SETTLE FALSE CLAIMS ACT CASE FOR KNOWINGLY OVERCHARGING ON UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE CONTRACTS

On January 12, 2021, a defense contractor based in Bingen, Washington agreed to pay $25 million to settle allegations it violated the False Claims Act by knowingly submitting materially false cost and pricing data for contracts with the U.S. Special Operations Command (SOCOM) and the DON to supply and operate Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) between 2009 and 2017. The settlement resolves allegations the contractor knowingly induced the government to award seven, noncompetitively bid contracts at inflated prices by proposing cost and pricing data for new parts and materials in support of its contract proposal while planning to and in fact using less expensive recycled, refurbished, reconditioned, and/or reconfigured parts to perform the contracts. The settlements were the result of a coordinated effort by the Commercial Litigation Branch (Fraud Section) of the Civil Division of the Department of Justice, the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Western District of Washington, NCIS, the Defense Contract Audit Agency, and the Defense Criminal Investigative Service.

UNITED STATES RECEIVES $1.1 MILLION TO SETTLE CIVIL CLAIMS WITH DEFENSE CONTRACTOR ACCUSED OF FRAUD

On August 20, 2020, a defense contractor based in Middleburg, FL agreed to pay the U.S. government $1.1 million to settle allegations it improperly submitted claims for standby or delayed costs associated with construction contracts at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay. The contractor provided construction services at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay. It agreed to construct a facility there, but delays occurred. The contractor submitted requests for equitable adjustment for additional stand-by and delay costs, it is alleged the contractor’s claims for equipment and labor costs were inflated and based on misrepresented, incomplete, and insufficient data. The case was investigated by NCIS, Defense Contract Audit Agency, and the U.S. Attorney’s office of Middle District Florida.

USMC

COMPANY AGREED TO PAY $50 MILLION TO RESOLVE FALSE CLAIM ACT ALLEGATIONS INVOLVING SUBMISSION OF FRAUDULENT SALES HISTORIES

On May 17, 2021, a defense contractor in Illinois agreed to pay $50 million to resolve allegations it fraudulently induced the USMC to enter into a contract modification at inflated prices for a suspension system for armored vehicles known as Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles. The contractor knowingly created fraudulent commercial sales invoices and submitted those invoices to the government to justify the company’s prices. The civil settlement includes the resolution of claims brought under the qui tam or whistleblower provisions of the False Claims Act by a former Government Contracts Manager for the contractor. Under those provisions, a private party can file an action on behalf of the United States and receive a portion of any recovery. The resolution obtained in this matter was the result of a coordinated effort between the Civil Division’s Commercial Litigation Branch, Fraud Section, and the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the District of Columbia, with assistance from NCIS, the Department of Defense’s Defense Criminal Investigative Service, U.S. Army CID’s Major Procurement Fraud Unit, and the Defense Contract Audit Agency.
NON-CRIMINAL FATALITIES: SUICIDE

Due to the significant interest in all deaths involving DON personnel, NCIS conducts investigations into all non-combat, medically unexpected fatalities, on or off DON installations, facilities, vessels, and aircraft, to assist in determining whether the death was a result of homicide, suicide, natural causes, or accidental means. Suicide affects morale and operational readiness due to its impact on families, friends, and fellow service members. NCIS is steadfast in efforts to investigate all deaths and bring closure to families and friends of victims.

FIVE-YEAR DON SUICIDES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>USN</th>
<th>USMC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2021 DON HIGHLIGHTS

- 102 suicide deaths; the most frequent manner of death reported in the DON
- Suicides decreased 26% from 2020.
  - According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC), Vital Statistics Rapid Release, Report No. 16, dated November 2021, provisional data for suicides in the general population in 2020 is 3% less than in 2019.
  - Suicide deaths have decreased for both branches from last year. USN went from 83 to 61, a reduction of 27% and USMC went from 55 to 41, a reduction of 25%.
- Suicides are at the lowest level in 5 years.
- 55% of suicides took place at off-base residences.
- Victims were primarily enlisted, male, and under the age of 30.
- The primary method of suicide death was firearms, 67%, followed by hanging 22%.
  - The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention reported in 2020, firearms accounted for 53% of all suicide deaths.
  - The DoD, Annual Suicide Report, Calendar Year 2020 reported firearms were the primary method of suicide death for all service members and provided the results of a survey examining Service member attitudes and behaviors around firearm safe storage, and beliefs about firearms and suicide risk. The research identified misconceptions related to beliefs about firearms that can pose a risk to those who own them. The findings are highlighted in Appendix A, Suicide section.
- 28% of suicides had relationship issues as a contributing factor.
- 5 total victims were the subject of on-going investigations by NCIS, their command or other law enforcement agencies involving a wide variety of offenses including driving under the influence, solicitation of a prostitute, child exploitation, and drugs.

2 victims reported they were sexually assaulted prior to their deaths. One victim reported an assault to someone in her command in December 2020, but declined to participate in a law enforcement investigation. The NCIS investigation was closed as she was only seeking victim advocacy services. The second victim’s allegation was investigated in May 2017 and it was closed in May 2018 due to the receipt of the Sexual Assault Disposition Report received in May 2018, which stated command action was precluded due to insufficient evidence to prosecute. Both victims had expressed suicidal ideation previously.

2021 USN AND USMC HIGHLIGHTS

**USN**

- **61 Victims**
  - 11 Suicides involved various relationship/marital issues relating to divorce, breakups, and infidelity.
  - 3 Victims were actively involved in an on-going investigation by NCIS, their command, or other law enforcement agency concerning allegations of prostitution, alcohol abuse, and sexual assault.
  - 8 Victims had previous suicidal ideations.
  - 1 Suicide involved an intentional overdose of oxycodone.

**USMC**

- **41 Victims**
  - 12 Suicides involved various relationship/marital issues relating to divorce, breakups, domestic violence, and infidelity.
  - 2 Victims were actively involved in an on-going investigation either by NCIS, their command, or other law enforcement agency involving drugs and a work-related issue.
  - 6 Victims had previous suicidal ideations.

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28 Other/UNK category in the graph includes suicide deaths by drugs, exsanguination, pending and unknown causes.

29 Persons who die by suicide may have had several contributing factors. It is possible mental health issues could have been present but not known, diagnosed, or reported.
Accidental deaths are included in this report due to their impact on morale, agility, and operational readiness. Awareness of these incidents can lead to improved training, enhanced policy and safety measures, sea and aviation readiness, and force modernization, which will support prevention and mitigation of accidental deaths.

**2021 DON HIGHLIGHTS**

- 83 accidental deaths.
- 70% involved service members.
- 43 deaths were caused by blunt force trauma, primarily due to falls or vehicular accidents.
  - 34 of these blunt force trauma deaths involved active-duty service members.
- 7 sailors were killed in workplace accidents.
  - 5 were killed when the helicopter they were flying in fell into the ocean after its rotor hit the flight deck.
  - 1 died in a vehicular accident while driving in a convoy.
  - 1 died in a fast rope insertion training exercise from a helicopter.
- 3 contractors were killed in workplace accidents cause by a falling tree, a rolling forklift, or a fall off of scaffolding.
- Over 63% occurred off base.
- 12 drug overdose deaths involved polysubstance use including 9 involving fentanyl.\(^{30,31}\)
  - According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, nearly 92,000 persons in the U.S. died from drug-involved overdose in 2020, including illicit drugs and prescription opioids. Fentanyl and other synthetic opioids are the most common drugs involved in overdose deaths, which is reflected in this reporting.\(^{32}\)
  - Even in small doses, fentanyl can be deadly, which is of concern for all USN and USMC-affiliated personnel.
- 13 Illegal immigrants died of exposure crossing the US/Mexico border in Yuma, Arizona at the Barry Goldwater Air Force Range.

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\(^{30}\) Polysubstance use definition – the use of more than one drug taken together or within a short time period, either intentionally or unintentionally. Intentional polysubstance use occurs when a person takes a drug to increase or decrease the effects of a different drug or wants to experience the effects of the combination. Unintentional polysubstance use occurs when a person takes drugs that have been mixed or cut with other substances, like fentanyl, without their knowledge. It could include over the counter medication, prescription medication and alcohol. [https://www.cdc.gov/stopoverdose/polysubstance-use/index.html](https://www.cdc.gov/stopoverdose/polysubstance-use/index.html), Viewed February 2022.

\(^{31}\) The 12 overdose deaths were confirmed through medical examiner, autopsy, or toxicology reports when data was collected for this report. The actual number may be higher due to the fact official reporting from medical examiner, autopsy, or toxicology reports listing manner and cause of death are received after the data is collected.

**CY21 CAUSE OF DEATH FOR ACCIDENTAL DEATHS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Victims</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blunt Force Trauma</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drowning</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drugs &amp; Alcohol</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other/Unknown*</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asphyxiation</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Due to rounding, percentages may not add up to 100%*

**2021 USN AND USMC HIGHLIGHTS**

**USN**

- **46 VICTIMS**
  - 25 deaths were caused by **blunt force trauma**.
  - 18 deaths involved vehicle accidents, of which 6 involved motorcycles.
  - 3 were due to **drowning** while swimming, snorkeling, or paddle boarding.
  - Alcohol and/or drugs were a contributing factor in 6 non-overdose accidental deaths.

**USMC**

- **37 VICTIMS**
  - 18 deaths were caused by **blunt force trauma**.
  - 16 deaths involved vehicle accidents, of which 7 involved motorcycles.
  - 2 were due to **drowning** surfing or snorkeling.
  - Alcohol and/or drugs were a contributing factor in 6 non-overdose accidental deaths.

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33 Other/Unknown category in the graph includes Accidental Deaths by asphyxia, gunshot wound, and unknown causes.
On February 26, 2021, Secretary of Defense Austin established the 90-Day Independent Review Commission (IRC) on Sexual Assault in the Military. The Commission, was charged with conducting “an independent, impartial assessment” of the military’s current treatment of sexual assault and sexual harassment. The IRC gathered input from key stakeholders across DoD, the Military Departments and Services, and external organizations. In particular, the IRC sought the views and perspectives from the individuals who would be most impacted by its recommendations: commanders; enlisted service members; and survivors—including active-duty service members, individuals recently separated from service, and veterans. The IRC developed more than 80 recommendations. In addition to these recommendations, the IRC identified common themes illustrative of the current state of sexual assault and sexual harassment in the military.

**KEY RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Cross-Cutting Recommendations**
- Ensure Service members who experience sexual harassment have access to support services and care.
- Professionalize, strengthen, and resource the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response workforce across the enterprise.
- Improve the military’s response to domestic violence, which is inherently tied to sexual assault.
- Improve data collection, research, and reporting on sexual harassment and sexual assault to better reflect the experiences of Service members from marginalized populations—including LGBTQ+ Service members, and racial and ethnic minorities.
- Establish the DoD roles of the Senior Policy Advisor for Special Victims, and the DoD Special Victim Advocate.

**Accountability**
- Create the Office of the Special Victim Prosecutor in the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) and shift legal decisions about prosecution of special victim cases out of the chain of command.
- Provide independent trained investigators for sexual harassment and mandatory initiation of involuntary separation for all substantiated complaints.
- Offer judge ordered military protective orders for victims of sexual assault and related offenses, enabling enforcement by civilian authorities.
Prevention
• Equip all leaders with prevention competencies and evaluate their performance.
• Establish a dedicated primary prevention workforce.
• Create a state-of-the-art prevention research capability in DoD.

Climate and Culture
• Codify in DoD policy and direct the development of metrics related to sexual harassment and sexual assault as part of readiness tracking and reporting.
• Use qualitative data to select, develop, and evaluate the right leaders for Command positions.
• Apply an internal focus on sexual violence across the force in DoD implementation of the 2017 National Women, Peace, and Security Act

Fully execute on the principle that addressing sexual harassment and sexual assault in the 21st century requires engaging with the cyber domain.

Victim Care and Support
• Optimize victim care and support by establishing a full-time victim advocacy workforce outside of the command reporting structure.
• Expand victim service options for survivors by establishing and expanding existing partnerships with civilian community services and other Federal agencies.
• Center the survivor by maximizing their preferences in cases of expedited transfer, restricted reporting, and time off for recovery from sexual assault.

Common Themes
• Broken Trust
• Leadership is Paramount
• The Military Justice System is Not Equipped to Properly Respond to Special Victim Crimes
• Sexual Harassment and Sexual Assault Exist on a Continuum of Harm
• Victims Bear a Heavy Burden
• Critical Deficiencies in the Workforce
• Outdated Gender and Social Norms Persist Across the Force
• Little is Known about Perpetration

View report at https://media.defense.gov/2021/Jul/02/2002755437/-1/-1/0/IRC-FULL-REPORT-FINAL-1923-7-1-21.PDF
REPORTING CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

Emergencies and Eminent Danger

Call 911 or military police if witness violence or have reason to believe a child is in immediate danger

Military Resources

- Department of Defense Child Abuse and Safety Hotline:
  - CONUS: 877-790-1197
  - OCONUS: 571-372-5348
- Family Advocacy Program - https://installation.militaryonesource.mil
- Military OneSource: For more information about education, safety, prevention, and treatment contact
  - Call phone number: 800-342-9647 or

Other Resources

- National Child Abuse Hotline at 800-422-4453
- State Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Numbers - State Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Numbers - Child Welfare Information Gateway

2021 Child Abuse Prevention Month Message and Resources Guide - 2021 Child Abuse Prevention Month Messaging and Resources Guide (militaryonesource.mil)
NCIS PARTNERSHIP WITH JOINT CRIMINAL OPIOID AND DARKNET ENFORCEMENT

The Joint Criminal Opioid and Darknet Enforcement (JCODE) Team is an FBI-led multi-agency team that was created to lead and coordinate government efforts to detect, disrupt, and dismantle major criminal enterprises reliant upon the Darknet for trafficking opioids and other illicit narcotics. JCODE expanded its mission into online fraud and weapons trafficking while maintaining a strong focus on narcotics and opioids.

The JCODE team consists of twelve entities that provide personnel to support the mission. NCIS is the only MCIO with a representative on the JCODE team. Inter-agency collaboration affords de-confliction opportunities involving the targeting and dismantling of the online sale of illegal drugs, especially fentanyl and other opioids.

Through this partnership, NCIS has had success in identifying narcotics transactions on the dark web in support of NCIS investigations and predicking new initiatives by identifying persons with a DON nexus purchasing illicit narcotics on the dark web.
Review the following List of Matters Appropriate for the Inspector General:

- Abuse of Authority/Position
- Bribes/Kickbacks/Acceptance of Gratuities
- Conflicts of Interests
- Ethics Violations
- Fraud/Travel Fraud (TDY and TAD)
- Gifts (Improper)
- Improper Referral for Mental Health Evaluations
- Mismanagement (Significant Cases)
- Misuse of Official Time, Gov’t Property, Position and Public Office
- Political Activities
- Procurement Issues
- Purchase Card/Travel Card Abuse
- Reprisal (Military Whistleblower Protection)
- Safety/Public Health (Substantial/Specific)
- Systemic Problems
- Time and Attendance (Significant Violations)
- Waste (Gross)
SUICIDE

THE NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE IS NOW: 988 SUICIDE AND CRISIS LIFELINE

988 has been designated as the new three-digit dialing code that will route callers to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. While some areas may be currently able to connect to the Lifeline by dialing 988, this dialing code will be available to everyone across the United States starting on July 16, 2022.

DO D ANNUAL SUICIDE REPORT (ASR), CALENDAR YEAR 2020

On February 26, 2021, Secretary of Defense Austin established the 90-Day Independent Review Commission (IRC) on Sexual Assault in the Military. The Commission, was charged with conducting “an independent, impartial assessment” of the military’s current treatment of sexual assault and sexual harassment. The IRC gathered input from key stakeholders across DoD, the Military Departments and Services, and external organizations. In particular, the IRC sought the views and perspectives from the individuals who would be most impacted by its recommendations: commanders; enlisted service members; and survivors—including active-duty service members, individuals recently separated from service, and veterans. The IRC developed more than 80 recommendations. In addition to these recommendations, the IRC identified common themes illustrative of the current state of sexual assault and sexual harassment in the military.

DON SUICIDE HOTLINE INFORMATION

Life is worth living!

Click here for your lifeline.

1-800-273-TALK
(8255 Option 1)
ABUSIVE SEXUAL CONTACT – Use of fraud, fear, or the victim’s incapability to consent due to sleep, intoxication, or physical/mental defect.

AGGRAVATED SEXUAL CONTACT – Use of force to restrain or compel submission, or cause or threaten grievous bodily harm, or drug or otherwise render unconscious.

CHILD PORNOGRAPHY – Material that contains either: (1) An obscene visual depiction of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct or (2) A visual depiction of an actual minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct.

CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE (physical) – Includes sex crimes where the victim is under the age of 16. The offense types include rape, attempted rape, carnal knowledge, attempted carnal knowledge, molestation, sodomy, aggravated assault with intent to commit sodomy, indecent acts not amounting to sodomy, and other sex related crimes (incest, indecent exposure, obscene telephone calls, voyeurism, etc.).

DOMESTIC ABUSE – Domestic violence or a pattern of behavior resulting in emotional or psychological abuse, economic control, or interference with personal liberty that is directed toward a person who is:
   a. Current or former spouse;
   b. A person with whom the abuser shares a child in common; or
   c. A current or former intimate partner with whom the abuser shares or has shared a common domicile.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE – An offense under the USC, UCMJ, or State law which involves the use, attempted use, or threatened use of physical force against a person and is committed by a current or former spouse, parent, or guardian of the victim; by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common; by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabited with the victim as a spouse, parent, or guardian; or by a person who similarly situated to a spouse, parent, or guardian of the victim.

GENERAL PROCUREMENT – Fraud pertaining to criminal irregularities in connection with procurement, and administration or disposition of U.S. Government property or services not otherwise defined in other procurement fraud areas reported herein. Examples include allegations of violations of the False Claims Act and other incidents involving time and attendance fraud, falsified test results, Anti-Deficiency Act violations, and anti-competitive business practices.

INTERNET CONTACT – These offenses include incidents in which an adult communicates with either a child under the age of 18 or an undercover officer/agent who is posing as a child under the age of 18, over the internet for the purpose of one or more of the following:
   - Sexually explicit conversations,
   - Requesting nude/sexual photographs and/or videos of the victim
   - Subject sends nude/sexual photographs and/or videos to the victim
   - Solicitation of a minor to meet in person for sexual acts
   - Exploitation

MANNER OF DEATH – The legal classification of death, whether it be natural, unnatural or undeterminable.
RAPE – Use of force to restrain or compel submission, or cause or threaten grievous bodily harm, or drug or otherwise render unconscious.

SEXUAL ACT – Penetration of the vagina, anus, or mouth by the penis or any body part or any object.

SEXUAL ASSAULT – Use of fraud, fear, or the victim’s inability to consent due to sleep, intoxication, or physical/mental defect.

SEXUAL CONTACT – Touching or causing another to touch the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, buttocks, or any other body part.

SEXUAL EXPLOITATION – Child. Used for all investigations involving child pornography, online enticement of children to include attempts to meet a minor for sexual activity, commercial sexual exploitation of children, and child sex tourism

SEXUAL HARASSMENT – Conduct that involves unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and deliberate or repeated offensive comments or gestures of a sexual nature.

PROCUREMENT FRAUD – Unlawful manipulation of the procurement process to acquire contracts, goods or services or to obtain an unfair advantage during the process.36

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35 DoD Instruction, Number 5505.10, Incorporating Change 1, Effective April 28, 2020, Criminal Investigations of Noncombat Deaths.

36 SECNAV Instruction, Number 5430.92B, Assignment of Responsibilities to Counteract Acquisition Fraud, Waste, and Related Improprieties, Effective June 11, 2018.