

Improving Financial Justice for Victims of Crime, Part II: Exploring Victim Dynamics

RESEARCH PARTNERS

**Joseph Allen, Ph.D.
Chaminade University
Criminology & Criminal Justice Department**

**Amanda Sawa, JRI Restitution Accountability Project Coordinator
Crime Victim Compensation Commission
State of Hawaii**

Report Submitted:

***Research Funded through Justice Research & Statistics Association (JRSA) and U.S.
Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs through the Office for Victims of Crime***

***Award #2016-XV-GX-K006, Creating a National Resource Center Providing Training and
Technical Assistance that Enhances Service Providers' Capacity to Support and
Integrate Victim-Related Research and Evaluation Activities***

Table of Contents

Introduction	2
Problem Statement & Research Question(s)	2
Methodology	3
Data Sources, Quality, & Addressing Issues	4
Results	4
Offense Type by Victim's Gender, Age, & Applicant's County of Residence	5
Offense Severity by Victim's Gender, Age, & Applicant's County of Residence	9
Percentage of Victims Receiving Specific Award Types by Victims' Gender & Age	11
Overview of Average Days from Sentence Start Date to 1st Restitution Payment by Victim's Gender, Age, & Applicant's County of Residence	13
Discussion of Findings & Implications for Policy & Practice	14
Victim Dynamics, Experiences, & Outcomes: Victim's Gender	14
Victim Dynamics, Experiences, & Outcomes: Victim's Age	15
Victim Dynamics, Experiences, & Outcomes: Victim's Age & Gender	16
Victim Dynamics, Experiences, & Outcomes: Applicant's County of Residence	16
Concluding Statements on Findings Discussion	17
Research Partnership & Future (Pathways)	18
Ways Partnership can be Sustained	18
If/How the Project Strengthened the Relationship	18
Informing Stakeholders of Findings/Results (Present & Ongoing)	18
Appendix I: Table 7. Offense Type by Victim's Gender & Age	19

Introduction

This project extends the previously-funded study “Improving Financial Justice for Victims of Crime” that was completed and submitted in December 2018. All aspects of the previous partnership were continued in this study, and it is expected that this partnership will continue to strengthen and expand because of these studies. The Crime Victim Compensation Commission (the Commission) and its research partner, Dr. Joseph Allen from Chaminade University, are exploring future possibilities of adding a third cohort of data to the previous two-cohort study (2010/2014) conducted during the first phase of this project.

In the previous study, the primary goals were to “ . . . better understand[] victims’ experiences along the continuum of: (1) harms suffered, to (2) legal judgments/orders, and finally to (3) the restitution payments received.”¹ The study focused on outcomes related to restitution and compensation afforded to victims, namely with a process-oriented framing and examination. Of chief import to the investigation was ultimately the success of victims to recover losses as determined by the courts. Within this study framework, potential ‘gaps in services’ or breakdowns in processing were explored with comparisons being highlighted across court circuits and collection agencies (i.e., Hawaii State Judiciary, Department of Public Safety/Hawaii Paroling Authority).

Problem Statement & Research Question(s)

The previous study was quite illuminating when examining the system outcomes and the obstacles encountered during the process of obtaining compensation and restitution. However, what was not covered given the scope of work was the victims themselves. Specifically, is there anything intrinsically different about the experiences of victims based on their characteristics

¹ “Improving Financial Justice for Victims of Crime”. (December 2018), p. 4.

(i.e., demographic and situational)? This supplemental study is a victim-centric examination of experiences and outcomes across the demographic variables of victim age, victim gender, and county of residence of the applicant.

Methodology

The data collected for the original study included demographic data on victims in terms of (1) age, (2) gender, and (3) county of residence. The data set also included information about the (1) offense type and (2) sentence disposition associated with each victim's compensation claim. This supplemental study drills down into the victim characteristics and offense type/sentence disposition, looking at many of the experiences and outcomes examined in the initial report. This supplemental study does not focus on a system-view per se (e.g., comparing court circuits or collection agencies), but looks at victims as the unit of analysis.² The examination of these variables and relationships include statistical methods ranging from simple frequencies and cross-tabulations.

The success of this project relied upon the continued collaboration between the Crime Victim Compensation Commission and Research Partner, Dr. Joseph Allen, Associate Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Chaminade University. In order to allow for a meaningful examination of restitution patterns, the data set for this study was derived from compensation claims covering two data points, cases that the Commission closed in 2010 and 2014. This allowed for a fairly robust population size to examine (N=1,015). The study was an analysis of secondary data captured through May 1, 2018. The data were collected by the Commission and

² At this point, it is not assumed that the data will be examined by cohort, but instead collectively. If crosstabs support meaningful figures (i.e., based on the number of categories), it will be minimally examined and included if there is a change from one cohort to the other; otherwise, it is assumed that the data for this study will be done in sum (N=1,015).

turned over to the researcher. The data were then made uniform and consistent for use in statistical analyses, namely simple frequencies, cross tabulations, and mean comparisons.

Data Sources, Quality, & Addressing Issues

The data for this study were collected from a mix of hardcopy and digital sources, including: (1) the Commission's hardcopy case files, (2) the Commission's digital database -- Compensation and Restitution Management System (CRMS), and (3) the Hawaii State Judiciary's 'eCourt Kokua' public record website. Upon completion, the data collected were assessed to be accurate and largely complete. The data were often cross-validated with the researcher when analyses were performed, providing numerous points of reconciliation and verification. This created opportunities to correct and/or input erroneous or missing data. Besides minor, though normal, issues of data reconciliation and cleaning, the data collection process was more protracted than initially anticipated. Due to the mixed sources used to complete incomplete records, usually hardcopy and digital, more effort was required to capture all necessary data elements.

Results

The following section reports the results of the data analyses. Within this section, the focus will be on victims' genders, ages, and applicants' counties of residence as related to: (1) offense type, (2) offense severity level, (3) percentage receiving specific compensation award types, and (4) number of days from sentence start date to the first restitution payment.

Offense Type by Victim's Gender, Age, & Applicant's County of Residence

Table 1 displays a comparison between female and male victims by offense type.

Table 1. Victim Offense Type by Victim's Gender (N=705)			
Offense Type / Gender	Female	Male	Total % / (N)
Death-Related ³	2.2%	8.4%	4.3% (30)
Physical Assault-Related ⁴	30.3%	74.5%	45.2% (319)
Sexual Assault/Sex-Related ⁵	14.4%	2.9%	10.5% (74)
Abuse-Related ⁶	41.9%	5.4%	29.5% (208)
Threat/Harassment-Related ⁷	7.5%	6.3%	7.1% (50)
Other ⁸	3.9%	2.5%	3.4% (24)
Total % / (N)	100.0% (466)	100.0% (239)	100.0% (705)

- Compared to females, males were nearly 4 times more likely to be victims of death-related offenses (8.4% vs. 2.2%) and roughly 2.5 times more likely to be victims of physical assault-related offenses (74.5% vs. 30.3%).
- Compared to males, females were nearly 8 times more likely to be victims of abuse-related offenses (41.9% vs. 5.4%) and about 5 times more likely to be victims of sex assault/sex-related offenses (14.4% vs 2.9%).

³ Death-related offenses include: Murder-1st Degree, Murder-2nd Degree, Attempted Murder-2nd Degree, Manslaughter, Attempted Manslaughter, Negligent Homicide-1st Degree.

⁴ Physical Assault-related offenses include: Assault-1st Degree, Assault-2nd Degree, Assault-3rd Degree, Choking, Harassment Strike Shove Kick, Kidnapping, Unlawful Imprisonment-1st Degree, Robbery-1st Degree, Robbery-2nd Degree.

⁵ Sexual Assault/Sex-related offenses include: Sexual Assault-1st Degree, Sexual Assault- 2nd Degree, Sexual Assault-3rd Degree, Sexual Assault-4th Degree, Accomplice to Sexual Assault -1st Degree, Continuous Sexual Assault of a Minor under the Age of Fourteen Years, Promoting Prostitution-2nd Degree.

⁶ Abuse-related offenses include: Abuse of Family or Household Member, Felony Abuse.

⁷ Threat/Harassment-related offenses include: Terroristic Threatening-1st Degree, Terroristic Threatening-2nd Degree, Violating an Order for Protection, Extortion-2nd Degree, Harassment.

⁸ Other offenses include: Arson-1st Degree, Burglary-1st Degree, Criminal Property Damage-1st Degree, Disorderly Conduct, Theft-2nd Degree, Unauthorized Entry into a Dwelling, Unauthorized Entry into a Dwelling-2nd Degree, Unauthorized Entry into a Motor Vehicle-1st Degree, Unauthorized Entry Into Motor Vehicle-1st Degree, Negligent Injury-1st Degree, Negligent Injury-2nd Degree, Endangering the Welfare of a Minor-1st Degree, Reckless Endangerment-1st Degree, Reckless Endangerment-2nd Degree.

Table 2 displays a comparison between age groups by offense type.

Table 2. Victim Offense Type by Victim's Age (N=705)						
Offense Type⁹/ Age	≤12	13-17	18-24	25-59	60-older	Total % / (N)
Death-Related	0.0%	0.0%	1.8%	5.6%	4.0%	4.3% (30)
Physical Assault-Related	22.2%	23.8%	44.7%	48.0%	64.0%	45.2% (319)
Sex Assault/Sex-Related	61.1%	49.2%	4.4%	5.6%	0.0%	10.5% (74)
Abuse-Related	5.6%	17.5%	36.8%	31.1%	12.0%	29.5% (208)
Threat/Harassment-Related	11.1%	3.2%	8.8%	6.6%	16.0%	7.1% (50)
Other	0.0%	6.4%	3.5%	3.1%	4.0%	3.4% (24)
Total % / (N)	100.0% (18)	100.1% (63)	100.0% (114)	100.0% (485)	100.0% (25)	100.0% (705)

- Victims who were minors (aged “12 and younger” and “13-17” years old) were significantly more likely to be victims of sex assault/sex-related offenses, about 10 times higher than other age groups. Relatively small population size in the “≤12” category may make this percentage a bit higher than if the population size were increased, but the population size for the 13-17 year old age category is seen as indicative of a strong pattern.
- The age groups of “18-24” and “25-59” show the most notable rates of physical assault-related victimization, 44.7% and 48.0%, respectively. (“60 and older” is highest, but due to small population size for this category, the rate is not viewed concretely as a pattern).
- The age groups of 18-24 and 25-59 years old show the highest rates of abuse-related victimization, 36.8% and 31.1%, respectively.
- The youngest and oldest age categories, ≤12 and 60 years old and older, show the highest rates of threat/harassment-related victimization. (though, again, smaller population size in these age categories may not make these patterns definitive).

⁹ Listing of offenses comprising each category is located in footnote on page 4.

Table 3 displays a comparison between the compensation applicant's county of residence by offense type. Note: It is important to keep in mind that someone other than the victim may have applied for compensation if they incurred expenses as a result of the victim's death or injury. Examples of a compensation applicant include the victim themselves, a relative of a deceased victim, or a parent/guardian of a minor victim. The county of residence data tells us where the applicant lived, which in some instances was different from where the victim lived at the time of the crime. This said, those applicants who indicated living "Outside Hawaii" may have been victims who were Hawaii residents that later moved, victims who were visitors, or individuals applying on behalf of a victim.

Table 3. Victim Offense Type by Applicant's County of Residence (N=705)						
Offense Type¹⁰ / County	Hawaii	Honolulu	Kauai	Maui	Outside Hawaii	Total % / (N)
Death-Related	2.1%	4.8%	3.9%	4.7%	12.2%	4.3% (30)
Physical Assault-Related	37.8%	47.0%	57.7%	56.3%	48.9%	45.2% (319)
Sexual Assault/ Sex-Related	3.8%	12.8%	19.2%	14.1%	19.5%	10.5% (74)
Abuse-Related	41.6%	26.8%	11.5%	17.2%	12.2%	29.5% (208)
Threat/Harassment-Related	11.8%	4.5%	7.7%	4.7%	4.9%	7.1% (50)
Other	2.9%	4.2%	0.0%	3.1%	2.4%	3.4% (24)
Total % / (N)	100.0% (238)	100.0% (336)	100.0% (26)	100.0% (64)	100.0% (41)	100.0% (705)

- Individuals who applied for compensation for death-related offenses, such as relatives of deceased victims, were more likely to live outside of Hawaii than within the Hawaii counties, about 3 times more likely (12.2% vs. 2.1%-4.8%).

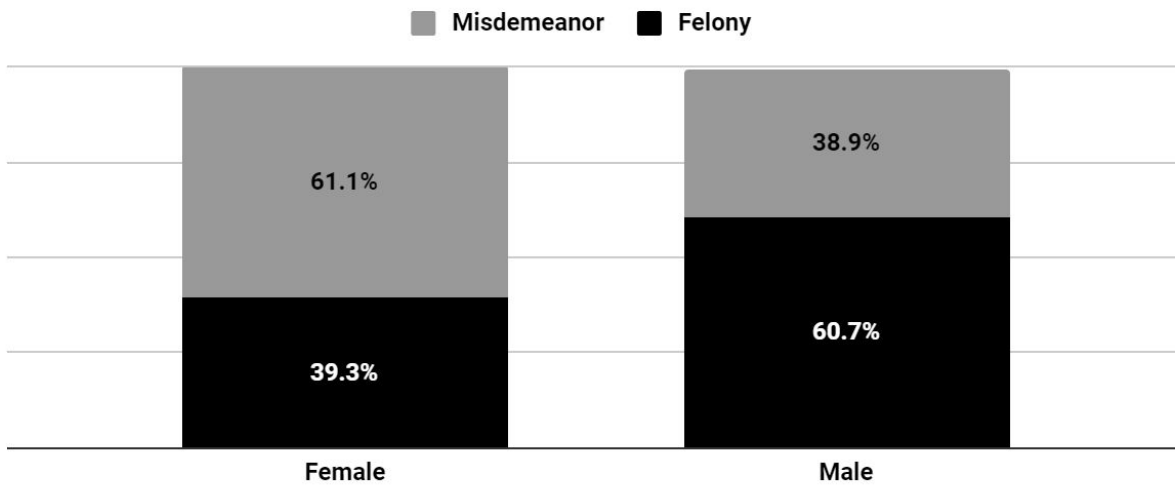
¹⁰ Listing of offenses comprising each category is located in footnote on page 4.

- Applications from Hawaii County were notably lower in 4 of the 6 offense type categories, but they were considerably higher for abuse-related (41.6%) and threat/harassment-related victimization (11.8%).
- The City & County of Honolulu also showed a fairly high rate of applications for abuse-related offenses (26.8%).
- For sexual assault/sex-related offenses, applicants were more likely to reside on Kauai or live outside of Hawaii, 19.2% and 19.5%, respectively.

Offense Severity by Victim's Gender, Age, & Applicant's County of Residence

Figure 1 compares female and male victims by offense severity level.

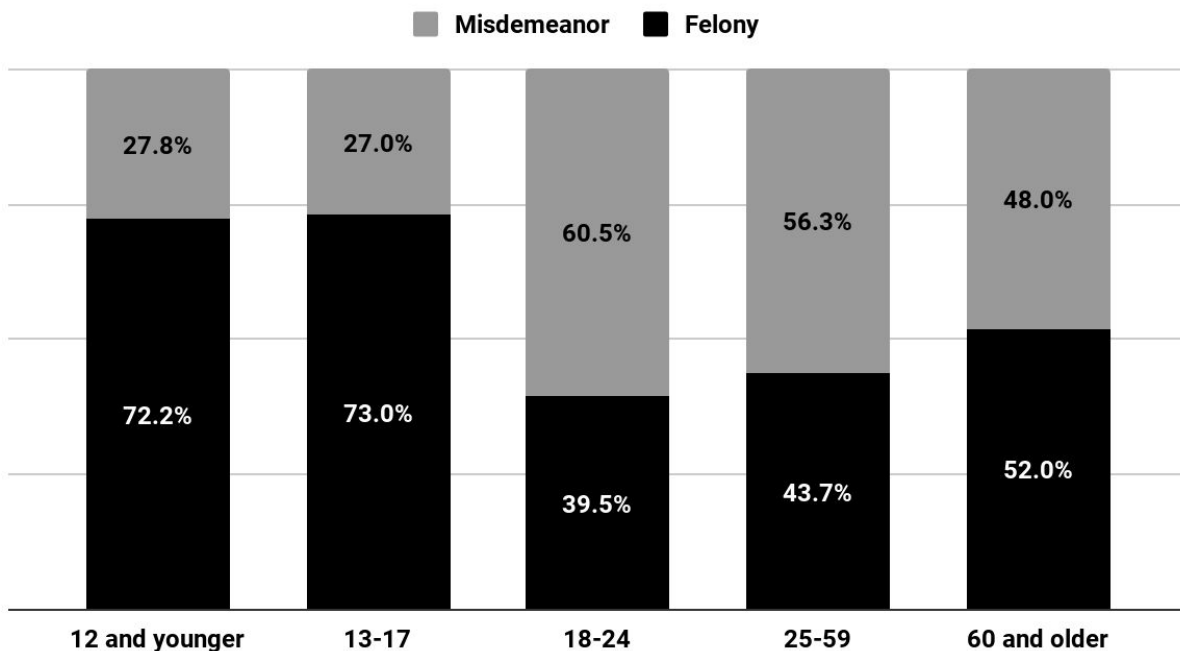
Figure 1. Offense Severity Level by Victim's Gender (N=705)



- When compared to female victims, male victims were about 1.5 times more likely to be the victim of a felony-level offense (60.7% vs. 39.3%).

Figure 2 displays a comparison between age groups by offense severity level.

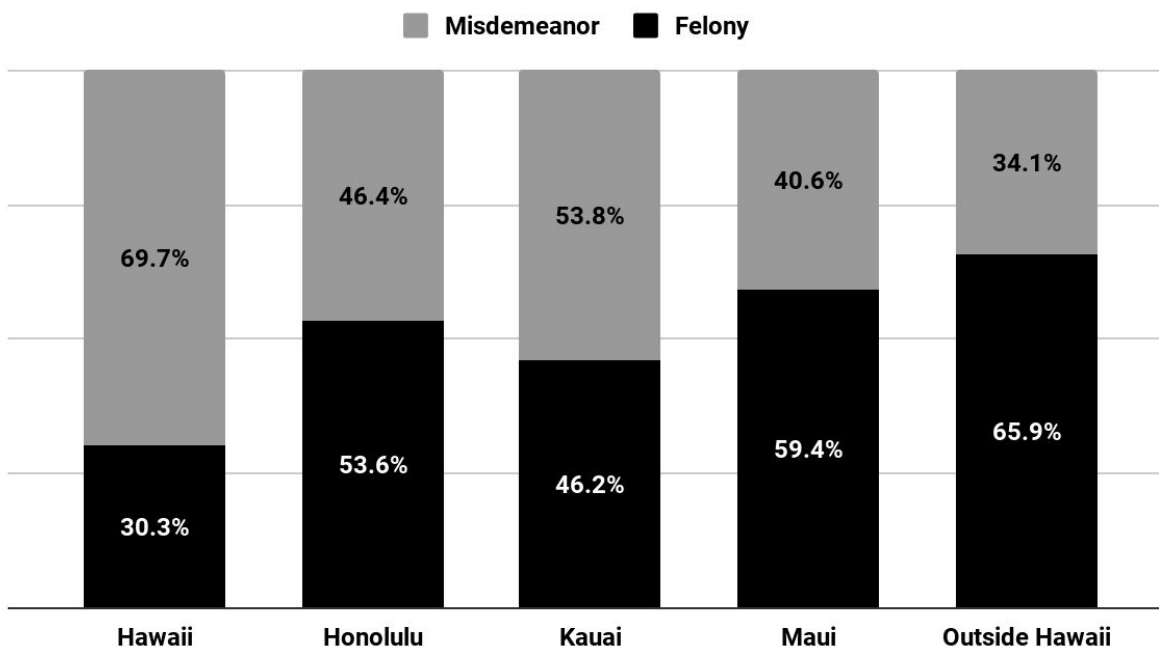
Figure 2. Offense Severity Level by Victim's Age (N=705)



- When examining age, minors (ages “12 and younger” and “13-17” years old) were roughly 1.5 to 2 times more likely to be the victim of a felony-level offense than all other age categories (72.2%-73.0% vs. 39.5%-52.0%).

Figure 3 displays a comparison between the applicant's county of residence by offense severity level. See footnote for a better understanding of "applicant" vs. "victim".¹¹

Figure 3. Offense Severity Level by Applicant's County of Residence (N=705)



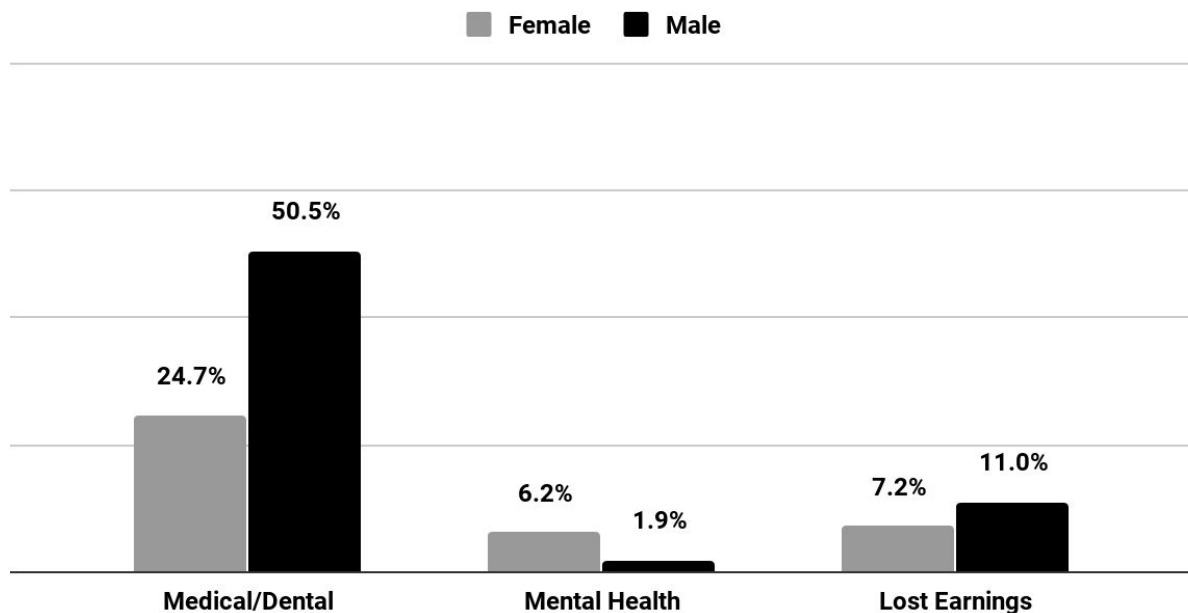
- Applicants who indicated that their county of residence was "Outside Hawaii" were the most likely to be applying for compensation for felony-level offenses.
- Hawaii County had a significantly lower rate of felony-level offense compensation applications when compared to the other counties (30.3%).

¹¹ Note: It is important to keep in mind that someone other than the victim may have applied for compensation if they incurred expenses as a result of the victim's death or injury. Examples of a compensation applicant include the victim themselves, a relative of a deceased victim, or a parent/guardian of a minor victim. The county of residence data tells us where the applicant lived, which in some instances was different from where the victim lived at the time of the crime. This said, those applicants who indicated living "Outside Hawaii" may have been victims who were Hawaii residents that later moved, victims who were visitors, or individuals applying on behalf of a victim.

Percentage of Victims Receiving Specific Award Types by Victims' Gender & Age¹²

Figure 4 compares female and male victims by the percentage receiving compensation awards for: (1) medical/dental expenses, (2) mental health expenses, and (3) lost earnings.¹³

Figure 4. Percentage of Victims Awarded Medical/Dental, Mental Health, & Lost Earnings by Victim's Gender (N=1,015)



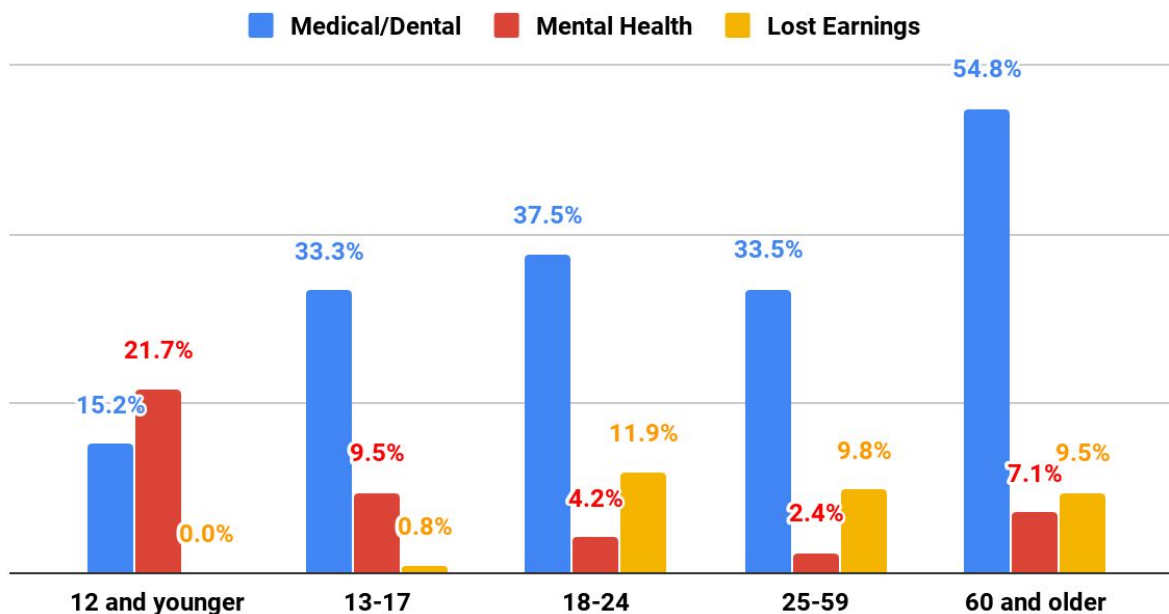
- Male victims were twice as likely to be awarded medical/dental compensation than female victims (50.5% vs. 24.7%).
- Female victims were over 3 times as likely to be awarded mental health compensation than male victims (6.2% vs. 1.9%).
- Male victims were about 1.5 times as likely to be awarded lost earnings compensation than female victims (11.0% vs. 7.2%).

¹² Examination of percentage of victims receiving specific award types by county of residence was not included in the analysis due to it not being viewed as a moderately related variable (e.g., more of a system-oriented relationship and highly correlated with offense type and severity).

¹³ Acknowledgement compensation awards were not included in this analysis given that the vast majority of all applicants received the award (95.2%); on the other hand, awards for funeral, legal fees, and pecuniary losses were not included due to the very low percentage of awards for these categories overall, 3.1%, 0.0%, and 0.3%, respectively.

Figure 5 compares age of victims by the percentage receiving compensation awards for: (1) medical/dental expenses, (2) mental health expenses, and (3) lost earnings.¹⁴

Figure 5. Percentage of Victims Awarded Medical/Dental, Mental Health & Lost Earnings by Victim's Age (N=1,015)



- Generally speaking, victims of older age categories were more likely to receive medical/dental compensation awards; meanwhile victims of younger age categories were more likely to receive mental health compensation awards.
- The rate of compensation awards for lost earnings were highest among the “18-24” and “25-59” year old victims.

¹⁴ Acknowledgement compensation awards were not included in this analysis given that the vast majority of all applicants received the award (95.2%); on the other hand, awards for funeral, legal fees, and pecuniary losses were not included due to the very low percentage of awards for these categories overall, 3.1%, 0.0%, and 0.3%, respectively.

Overview of Average Days from Sentence Start Date to 1st Restitution Payment by Victim's Gender, Age, & Applicant's County of Residence

Tables 4-6 compare victims by gender, age, and county of residence by the average number of days from sentence start date to receipt of the first restitution payment.

Table 4. Average Days from Sentence Start Date to 1st Payment by Victim's Gender (N=190)			
Gender	Mean # of Days	N	Std. Deviation
Female	390.1	122	390.3
Male	431.4	68	458.9

- Initial restitution payments were received 10% sooner for cases with female victims compared to male victims (390.1 days vs. 431.4 days).

Table 5. Average Days from Sentence Start Date to 1st Payment by Victim's Age (N=190)			
Age	Mean # of Days	N	Std. Deviation
≤12	287.0	3	147.0
13-17	571.1	16	412.8
18-24	393.9	41	554.7
25-59	398.5	124	368.3
60 and older	228.5	6	263.5

- The Commission waited longest to receive their first restitution payment for cases where the victims were aged 13-17 years old (avg. of 571.1 days) -- about 1.5-2.5 times longer than for cases with victims of other age groups.

Table 6. Average Days from Sentence Start Date to 1st Payment by Applicant's County of Residence¹⁵ (N=190)			
County	Mean # of Days	N	Std. Deviation
Hawaii	350.8	46	322.4
Honolulu	408.4	99	422.5
Kauai	285.0	8	332.5
Maui	473.2	19	576.3
Outside Hawaii	505.6	18	432.1

- The Commission waited longest to receive their first restitution payment for cases where the applicant resided outside of Hawaii (average of 505.6 days).

Discussion of Findings & Implications for Policy and Practice

Victim Dynamics, Experiences, & Outcomes: Victim's Gender

For the compensation claims submitted to the Commission in the 2010 and 2014 cohorts, males were much more likely than women to be the victims of death- and physical assault-related offenses. This translates into males being 1.5 times more likely to be the victim of a felony-level offense rather than a misdemeanor. Females were much more likely than males to be the victims of sexual assault/sex- and abuse-related offenses. Females were also more likely to be victims of misdemeanor offenses rather than felonies in comparison to males. When examining compensation award outcomes by gender, it is not surprising, then, that male victims were twice as likely to receive awards for medical/dental expenses and one and a half times more likely to be awarded for lost earnings. It is also somewhat expected, given the offense profile of sexual

¹⁵ Note: It is important to keep in mind that someone other than the victim may have applied for compensation if they incurred expenses as a result of the victim's death or injury. Examples of a compensation applicant include the victim themselves, a relative of a deceased victim, or a parent/guardian of a minor victim. The county of residence data tells us where the applicant lived, which in some instances was different from where the victim lived at the time of the crime. This said, those applicants who indicated living "Outside Hawaii" may have been victims who were Hawaii residents that later moved, victims who were visitors, or individuals applying on behalf of a victim.

assault/sex- and abuse-related victimization suffered by females, that they were awarded mental health compensation 3 times more often than male victims. Somewhat unanticipated though is that, for both genders, mental health compensation was awarded at a relatively low rate overall (6.2% for females and only 1.9% for males). In terms of restitution reimbursed to the Commission, payments were received for cases with female victims about 40 days sooner than for cases with their male victim counterparts (390.1 days for females vs. 431.4 days for males), about a -10% time difference.

Victim Dynamics, Experiences, & Outcomes: Victim's Age

Physical assault-related offenses, the most commonly occurring offense type for compensation awards studied, occurred most commonly among the 18-24 and 25-59 year old age groups. Of particular concern was that victims who were minors (12 and younger and 13-17 years old) were significantly more likely to be victims of sex assault/sex-related offenses, about 10 times higher than other age groups. Given that these age groups, ≤ 12 and 13-17 years old, experienced this type of victimization, they were 1.5 to 2 times more likely to be the victim of a felony-level offense than a misdemeanor when compared to the older age categories. When examining compensation outcomes by age, it was not surprising then that these younger age groups (≤ 12 and 13-17 years old) were considerably more likely to receive compensation awards for mental health expenses. A visible trend was that as victims age, they were more likely to receive medical/dental compensation awards. In terms of restitution received by the Commission, cases with victims aged 13-17 years old waited longer to receive their first restitution payment, between 1.5-2.5 times longer than other age groups (an average of 571.1 days).

Victim Dynamics, Experiences, & Outcomes: Victim's Age & Gender

Table 7 in the Appendix compares offense type by both the victim's age and gender. This table was not included in the main document because the extra layer imposed in the crosstab created many figures (percentages) that were based on too small of a population size (e.g., too few of a count per cell). This, if not taken into proper consideration, could lead a casual reader to conclude that all of the patterns or trends were viable. This must be avoided though, especially when the percentages were extreme and based on small population size. This said, there was one very striking finding that was based on solid numbers (highlighted in Table 7). What was found was that females aged 13-17 years old were a major outlier when looking at sex assault/sex-related offenses. Forty-five percent (44.8%) of this gender-age combination were victims of sex assault/sex-related offenses.

Victim Dynamics, Experiences, & Outcomes: Applicant's County of Residence¹⁶

Generally speaking, applicants who indicated that their county of residence was outside of Hawaii were more likely to be applying for the most serious offenses at the highest, or among the highest, rates. They were about 3 times more likely to apply for death-related offenses (12.2% vs. 2.1-4.8%) and had the highest application rate for sexual assault/sex-related offenses (19.5%). They also had the highest application rate for felony-level offenses (65.9%). Hawaii County had the lowest rates of applications for the most serious offense types (e.g., death-, physical assault, sexual assault/sex-related) and the lowest rate of applications for felony-level offenses (30.3%). However, Hawaii County had significantly higher application rates

¹⁶ Note: It is important to keep in mind that someone other than the victim may have applied for compensation if they incurred expenses as a result of the victim's death or injury. Examples of a compensation applicant include the victim themselves, a relative of a deceased victim, or a parent/guardian of a minor victim. The county of residence data tells us where the applicant lived, which in some instances was different from where the victim lived at the time of the crime. This said, those applicants who indicated living "Outside Hawaii" may have been victims who were Hawaii residents that later moved, victims who were visitors, or individuals applying on behalf of a victim.

than the other counties when it came to abuse- and threat/ harassment-related offenses (41.6% and 11.8%, respectively). In terms of restitution payments received by the Commission, cases with applicants from outside of Hawaii waited the longest to receive their first restitution payment, an average of over 500 days (505.6).

Concluding Statements on Findings Discussion

This study went up and beyond the evaluation- and system-oriented initial study. Understanding victim dynamics and outcomes better highlighted different experiences seen along these demographic lines, bringing about awareness if there were noticeable discrepancies between groups. This 'big picture' approach did not look at victims simply as victims flowing through a system, but also recognized their place in society, the greater community and how these may have interacted with their experiences within this system involving restitution, compensation, and most importantly, justice. For example, differences were seen between groups considered traditionally 'especially vulnerable' from other less vulnerable groups. With the knowledge of these patterns and trends, it delineates places where more attention needs to be paid, educational efforts and information can be better disseminated, and resources can be more directly allocated. It is at this intersection of knowledge and resources where criminal justice meets social justice.

Research Partnership & Future (Pathways)

Ways Partnership can be Sustained

The partnership between the Crime Victim Compensation Commission and Chaminade University (CUH) worked quite well. Communication and follow-up were at high levels. Research tasks were completed with solid teamwork and when obstacles were encountered, they were minimal and overcome. The primaries on this research project at the Commission and Chaminade University have discussed the future of this partnership and feel that there are definitely areas where future collaborations would be beneficial to initiate. The groups have discussed performing further analyses of the data, exploring support for further research, and integrating CUH graduate students into the research and mission efforts put forth by the Commission.

If/How the Project Strengthened the Relationship

Prior to this project, there was no working relationship between the Commission and CUH. Despite working in similar and sometimes overlapping areas historically, the primaries from both partners never worked directly on a project. This opportunity has cultivated this relationship.

Informing Stakeholders of Findings/Results (Present & Ongoing)

The research project partners will be presenting the results of this research to the commissioners and staff of the Crime Victim Compensation Commission, and the State's Justice Reinvestment Initiative (JRI) workgroups. The research may also be presented at professional conferences.

APPENDIX I:

Table 7. Offense Type by Victim's Gender & Age

Table 7. Offense Type by Victim's Gender & Age (N=705)

Gender	Offense/Age	<12	13-17	18-24	25-59	60 and older	Total
Female	Death-Related	0.0%	0.0%	10.0%	90.0%	0.0%	100.0%
		0	0	1	9	0	10
	Physical Assault-related	2.8%	2.8%	16.3%	75.2%	2.8%	100.0%
		4	4	23	106	4	141
	Sexual Assault/ Sex-Related	13.4%	44.8%	6.0%	35.8%	0.0%	100.0%
		9	30	4	24	0	67
	Abuse-Related	0.5%	5.1%	20.5%	72.8%	1.0%	100.0%
		1	10	40	142	2	195
	Threat/Harassment-Related	0.0%	2.9%	17.1%	68.6%	11.4%	100.0%
		0	1	6	24	4	35
	Other	0.0%	16.7%	16.7%	61.1%	5.6%	100.0%
		0	3	3	11	1	18
Male	Death-Related	0.0%	0.0%	5.0%	90.0%	5.0%	100.0%
		0	0	1	18	1	20
	Physical Assault-related	0.0%	6.2%	15.7%	71.3%	6.7%	100.0%
		0	11	28	127	12	178
	Sex Assault/ Sex-Related	28.6%	14.3%	14.3%	42.9%	0.0%	100.0%
		2	1	1	3	0	7
	Abuse-Related	0.0%	7.7%	15.4%	69.2%	7.7%	100.0%
		0	1	2	9	1	13
	Threat/Harassment-Related	13.3%	6.7%	26.7%	53.3%	0.0%	100.0%
		2	1	4	8	0	15
	Other	0.0%	16.7%	16.7%	66.7%	0.0%	100.0%
		0	1	1	4	0	6

Improving Financial Justice for Victims of Crime, Part II: Exploring Victim Dynamics

RESEARCH PARTNERS

Joseph Allen, Ph.D.
Chaminade University
Criminology & Criminal Justice Department

Amanda Sawa, JRI Restitution Accountability Project Coordinator
Crime Victim Compensation Commission
State of Hawaii

Research Funded through Justice Research & Statistics Association (JRSA) and U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs through the Office for Victims of Crime

Award #2016-XV-GX-K006, Creating a National Resource Center Providing Training and Technical Assistance that Enhances Service Providers' Capacity to Support and Integrate Victim-Related Research and Evaluation Activities

Overall Research Question & Goals

- Answer the question: Is there anything intrinsically different about the experiences of victims based on their characteristics (i.e., demographic and situational)?
- Compare victims' experiences and outcomes across the demographic variables of age, gender, and county of residence of the applicant.
- Examine experiences and outcomes related to: (1) offense type, (2) offense severity level, (3) percentage receiving specific compensation award types, and (4) number of days from sentence start date to first restitution payment.

Research Study Overview - Approach

- Examine restitution assessment and enforcement for cases where the Commission awarded compensation to crime victims and requested reimbursement through restitution from offenders.
- Supplemental study conducted during summer/fall of 2019.
- Data from all compensation cases closed by the Commission in 2010 & 2014.

Research Study Overview - Approach

- Overall Population Size (N) = 705
- Data Sources -- mixture of hardcopy and digital sources, including:
 - (1) Commission hardcopy case files
 - (2) Commission digital database -- Compensation and Restitution Management System (CRMS)
 - (3) Hawaii State Judiciary 'eCourt Kokua' public record website

Table 1. Victim Offense Type by Victim's Gender (N=705)

Offense Type / Gender	Female	Male	Total % / (N)
Death-Related	2.2%	8.4%	4.3% (30)
Physical Assault-Related	30.3%	74.5%	45.2% (319)
Sexual Assault/Sex-Related	14.4%	2.9%	10.5% (74)
Abuse-Related	41.9%	5.4%	29.5% (208)
Threat/Harassment-Related	7.5%	6.3%	7.1% (50)
Other	3.9%	2.5%	3.4% (24)
Total % / (N)	100.0% (466)	100.0% (239)	100.0% (705)

Table 2. Victim Offense Type by Victim's Age (N=705)

Offense Type / Age	≤12	13-17	18-24	25-59	60≥	Total % / (N)
Death-Related	0.0%	0.0%	1.8%	5.6%	4.0%	4.3% (30)
Physical Assault-Related	22.2%	23.8%	44.7%	48.0%	64.0%	45.2% (319)
Sex Assault/Sex-Related	61.1%	49.2%	4.4%	5.6%	0.0%	10.5% (74)
Abuse-Related	5.6%	17.5%	36.8%	31.1%	12.0%	29.5% (208)
Threat/Harassment-Related	11.1%	3.2%	8.8%	6.6%	16.0%	7.1% (50)
Other	0.0%	6.4%	3.5%	3.1%	4.0%	3.4% (24)
Total % / (N)	100.0% (18)	100.1% (63)	100.0% (114)	100.0% (485)	100.0% (25)	100.0% (705)

Table 3. Victim Offense Type by Applicant's County of Residence (N=705)

Offense Type / County	Hawaii	Honolulu	Kauai	Maui	Outside Hawaii	Total % / (N)
Death-Related	2.1%	4.8%	3.9%	4.7%	12.2%	4.3% (30)
Physical Assault-Related	37.8%	47.0%	57.7%	56.3%	48.9%	45.2% (319)
Sexual Assault/ Sex-Related	3.8%	12.8%	19.2%	14.1%	19.5%	10.5% (74)
Abuse-Related	41.6%	26.8%	11.5%	17.2%	12.2%	29.5% (208)
Threat/Harassment-Related	11.8%	4.5%	7.7%	4.7%	4.9%	7.1% (50)
Other	2.9%	4.2%	0.0%	3.1%	2.4%	3.4% (24)
Total % / (N)	100.0% (238)	100.0% (336)	100.0% (26)	100.0% (64)	100.0% (41)	100.0% (705)₇

Figure 1. Offense Severity Level by Victim's Gender (N=705)

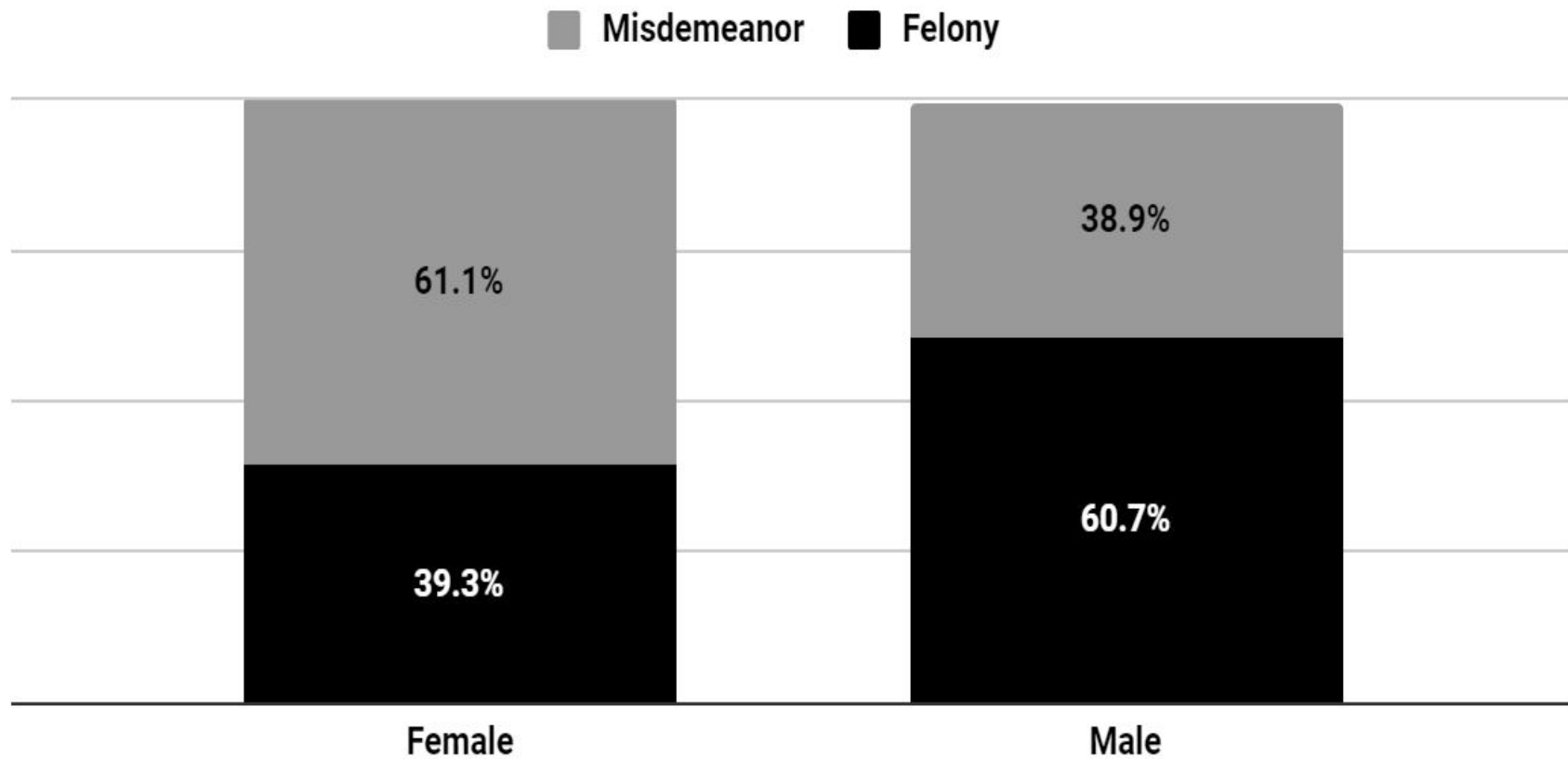


Figure 2. Offense Severity Level by Victim's Age (N=705)

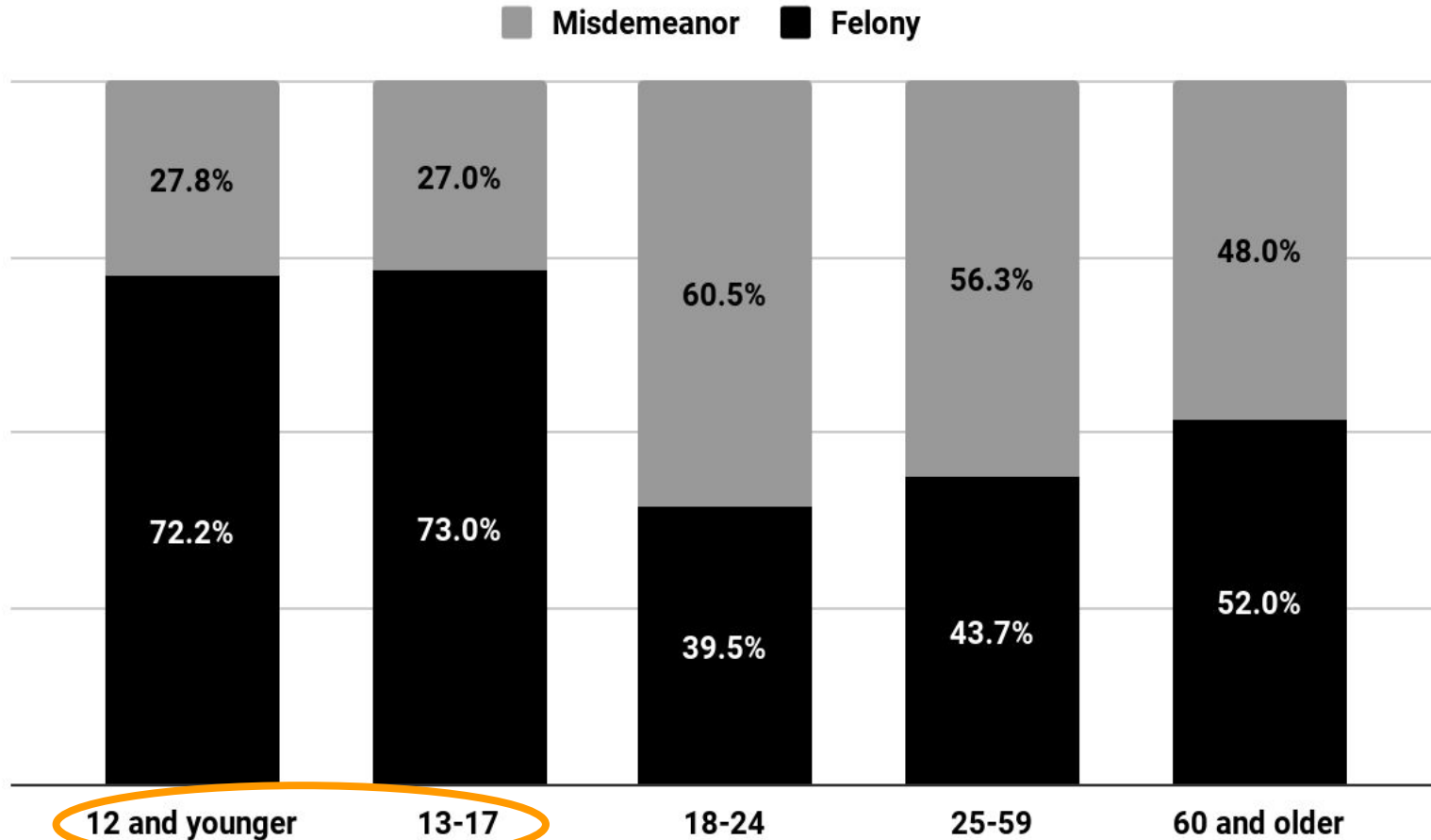


Figure 3. Offense Severity Level by Applicant's County of Residence (N=705)

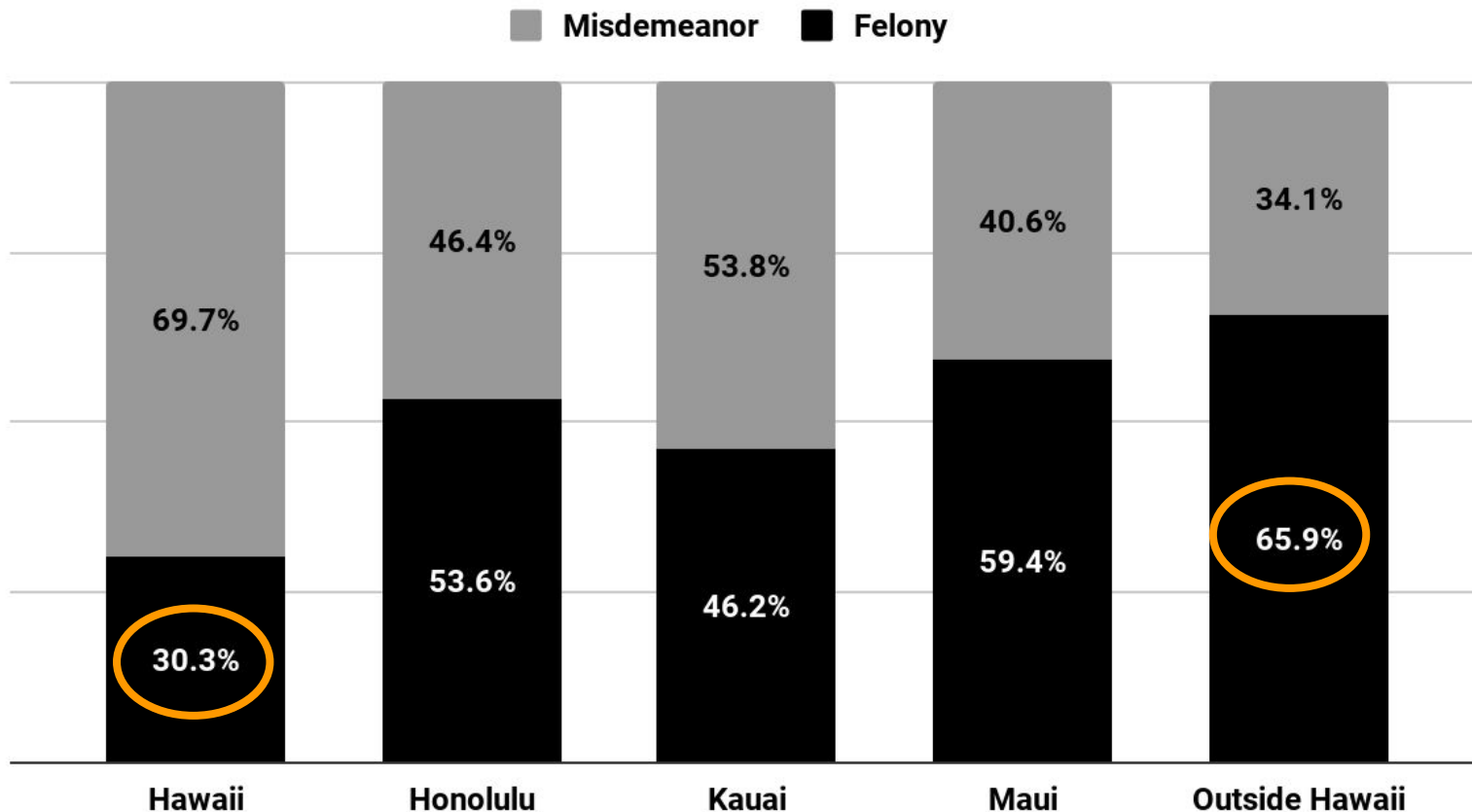


Figure 4. Percentage of Victims Awarded Medical/Dental, Mental Health, & Lost Earnings by Victim's Gender (N=1,015)

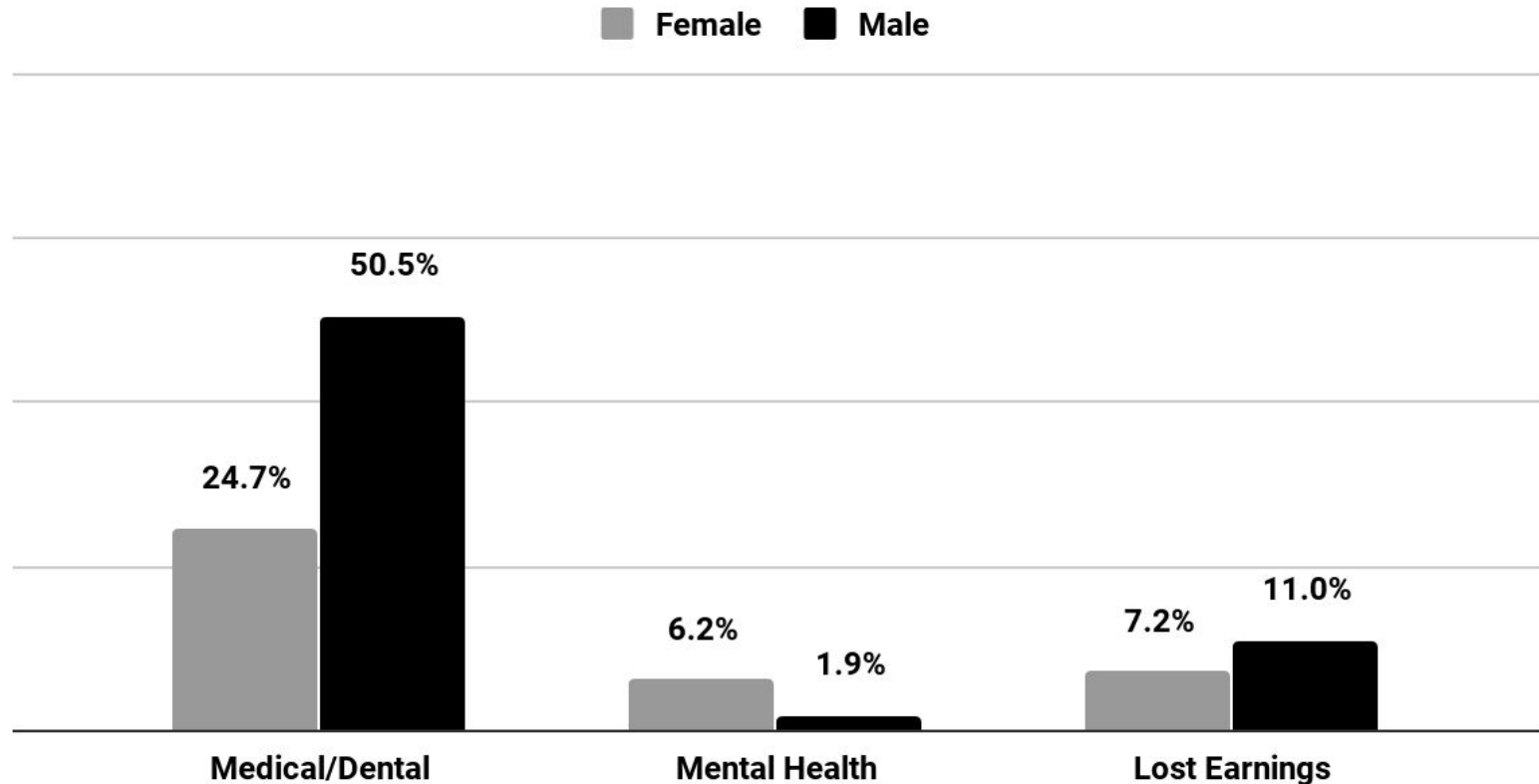


Figure 5. Percentage of Victims Awarded Medical/Dental, Mental Health & Lost Earnings by Victim's Age (N=1,015)

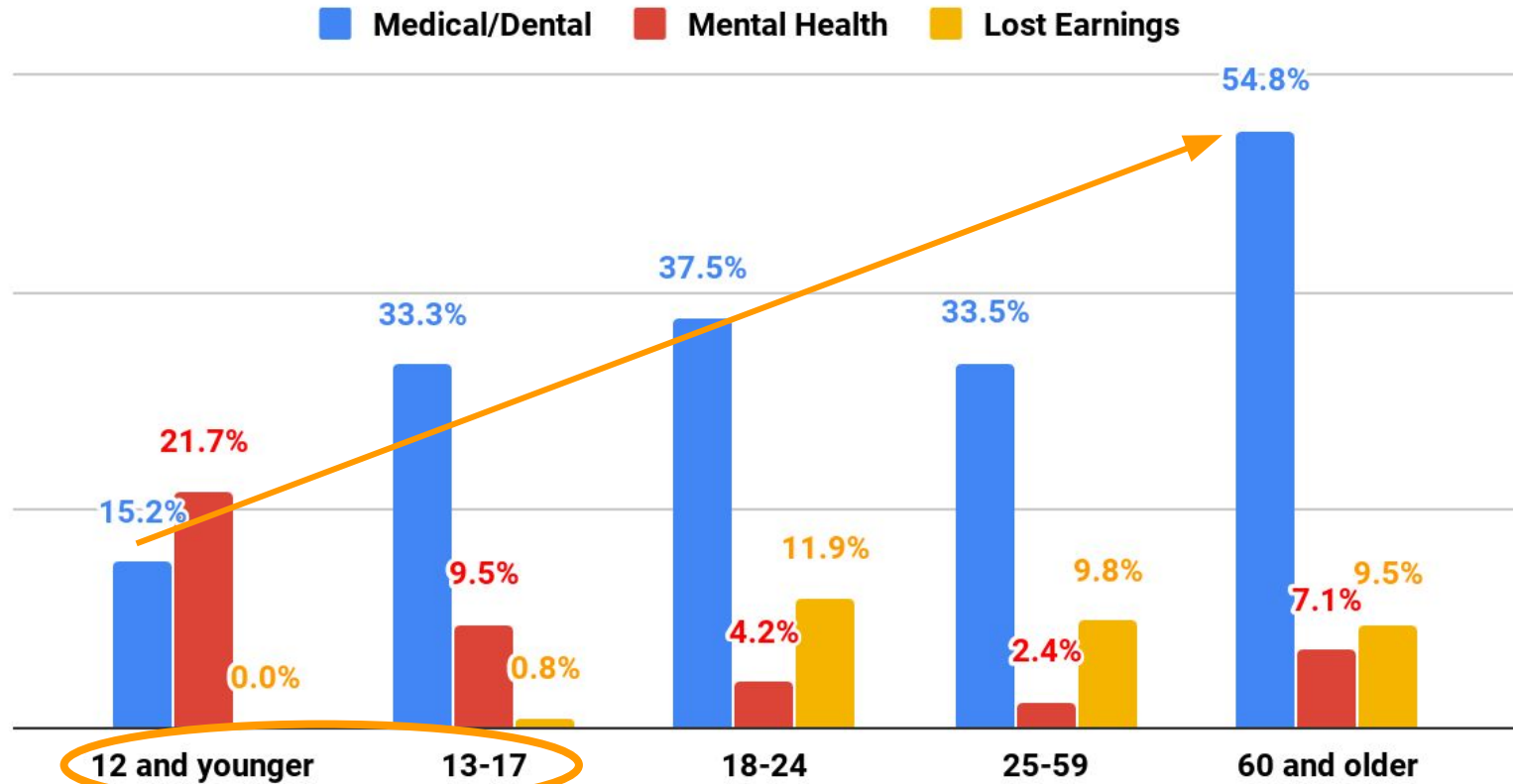


Table 4. Average Days from Sentence Start Date to 1st Payment by Victim's Gender (N=190)

Gender	Mean # of Days	N	Std. Deviation
Female	390.1	122	390.3
Male	431.4	68	458.9

Table 5. Average Days from Sentence Start Date to 1st Payment by Victim's Age (N=190)

Age	Mean # of Days	N	Std. Deviation
12 and younger	287.0	3	147.0
13-17	571.1	16	412.8
18-24	393.9	41	554.7
25-59	398.5	124	368.3
60 and older	228.5	6	263.5

Table 6. Average Days from Sentence Start Date to 1st Payment by Applicant's County of Residence (N=190)

County	Mean # of Days	N	Std. Deviation
Hawaii	350.8	46	322.4
Honolulu	408.4	99	422.5
Kauai	285.0	8	332.5
Maui	473.2	19	576.3
Outside Hawaii	505.6	18	432.1

Table 7. Offense Type by Victim's Gender & Age (N=705)

Gender	Offense / Age	≤12	13-17	18-24	25-59	≥60	Total / (N)
Female	Death-Related	0.0%	0.0%	10.0%	90.0%	0.0%	100.0% (10)
	Physical Assault-related	2.8%	2.8%	16.3%	75.2%	2.8%	100.0% (141)
	Sexual Assault/ Sex-Related	13.4%	44.8%	6.0%	35.8%	0.0%	100.0% (67)
	Abuse-Related	0.5%	5.1%	20.5%	72.8%	1.0%	100.0% (195)
	Threat/Harassment-Related	0.0%	2.9%	17.1%	68.6%	11.4%	100.0% (35)
	Other	0.0%	16.7%	16.7%	61.1%	5.6%	100.0% (18)
Male	Death-Related	0.0%	0.0%	5.0%	90.0%	5.0%	100.0% (20)
	Physical Assault-related	0.0%	6.2%	15.7%	71.3%	6.7%	100.0% (178)
	Sex Assault/Sex-Related	28.6%	14.3%	14.3%	42.9%	0.0%	100.0% (7)
	Abuse-Related	0.0%	7.7%	15.4%	69.2%	7.7%	100.0% (13)
	Threat/Harassment-Related	13.3%	6.7%	26.7%	53.3%	0.0%	100.0% (15)
	Other	0.0%	16.7%	16.7%	66.7%	0.0%	100.0% (6)

Major Research Findings & Conclusions

- Males are more likely to be the victims of death-related and physical assault-related offenses; meanwhile, females are more likely to be the victims of sexual assault/sex-related and abuse-related offenses.
- Mental health compensation is awarded at a seemingly low rate (3-4% of cases), though 3 times higher for females than males.
- Minors are significantly more likely to be the victims of sexual assault/sex-related offenses, in particular females aged 13-17 years old.
- Applicants who live outside of Hawaii waited the longest to receive restitution payments.