



2020 ANNUAL REPORT OF CRIMES AGAINST VOLUNTEERS

September 29, 2021



Peace Corps/Office of Safety and Security
Paul D. Coverdell Building
1275 First Street NE
Washington, DC 20526
202.692.2200
855.855.1961

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In past years, the Annual Report of Crimes Against Volunteers summarized data on the Peace Corps' five key crime indicators:

1. Volunteers' perceptions of their safety
2. The proportion of Volunteers who experience crime during their service (crime prevalence)
3. The proportion of crime victims who report crimes to Peace Corps staff (reporting rate)
4. Volunteers' reasons for not reporting crimes to Peace Corps staff
5. The number, types, and characteristics of crime reports Peace Corps staff receive annually

The report also included information on Volunteer deaths during service. Only one cause of death — homicide — is a crime. Homicide is extremely rare in the history of the Peace Corps.

This year's report differs from previous reports due to the global evacuation of Volunteers. On March 15, 2020, the Peace Corps began the eight-day process of evacuating nearly 7,000 Volunteers from more than 60 countries. This limits the data available for 2020. Data from two surveys, the Annual Volunteer Survey (AVS) and the Security Incident Questionnaire (SIQ), which are used for crime indicators 1 through 4 are not available for the current reporting period (Table 1). This report will include the number and types of crime reports collected during 2020 (indicator 5) but will not report on the characteristics of those reports due to the limited data available.

This report will focus on the challenges presented to the collection and reporting of crime data as a result of the evacuation, discuss changes to the systems the Peace Corps uses to collect data, and provide a brief overview of the 2020 data that the Peace Corps has available for reporting including Volunteer deaths during service.

For analysis of crime trends prior to the 2020 evacuation, please refer to the [2019 Annual Report of Crimes Against Volunteers](#).

Prior to 2021, the data in this report were provided on a calendar year basis. In order to standardize reporting across the agency, this and future reports will be done on a fiscal year (FY) basis. This year's report is based on FY2020 data covering October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020. This report includes crime incidents that were reported during the five months of the fiscal year when Volunteers were in the field and incidents that were reported to Peace Corps staff after the evacuation.

Overview

Since the founding of the Peace Corps in 1961, more than 241,000 American men and women have served as Peace Corps Volunteers in 143 different countries. The Peace Corps has 60 years of experience assessing and mitigating threats to the safety of Volunteers and preparing Volunteers for the challenges of living

and working abroad. One of those challenges is the risk of crime.

Crime Risks and Peace Corps Service

The risk of crime is not unique to serving in the Peace Corps — crime happens both at home and abroad. The challenge comes in helping Volunteers adapt their U.S.-based understanding of crime risks to the

situational and cultural realities of the host communities where they live and work.

For instance, although Volunteers live modestly by U.S. norms, they may be viewed as well off by host country standards. This may make them attractive targets for property crimes.

Additionally, in some Peace Corps countries the economic and social status of women and women's gender roles differ from those of women in the United States. Because of these differences, female Volunteers may experience higher levels of sexual harassment or non-consensual sexual contact than they experience in the United States.

In-country Safety and Security Programs

The Peace Corps has well-established systems for monitoring and responding to changing crime environments. Each Peace Corps post has a comprehensive safety and security program responsible for, among other things, reducing the risk of crime. One or more full-time locally-hired safety and security staff assist each country director in carrying out this program.

In-country safety and security staff bring together the efforts of various other staff to address crime risks. Crime prevention efforts begin with carefully choosing communities where Volunteers live. Program staff assess community crime risks and the security of housing against established safety criteria when selecting communities. Consistent with the Sam Farr and Nick Castle Peace Corps Reform Act of 2018 (P.L. 115-256, known as the Farr-Castle Act), staff also provide host families and a person of authority at Volunteers' workplaces information or orientation on awareness and prevention of sexual harassment and sexual assault.

Pre-Service Training

Before moving Volunteers to selected communities, Peace Corps trainees participate in up to 12 weeks of intensive pre-service training. Training staff:

- Alert trainees to host country crime risks
- Teach situational awareness skills,
- Help trainees develop strategies to reduce crime risks
- Instruct Volunteers on policies to reduce their chances of experiencing crime when traveling in-country
- Inform Volunteers on procedures for reporting crimes to staff
- Educate Volunteers on the types of services available to crime victims

Volunteers also attain the language, intercultural, and technical knowledge needed to build relationships with people in their communities who can watch out for the Volunteers and come to their aid should problems arise.

In 2020, a number of revisions and updates were made to the Volunteer global core safety and security training sessions. These include moving the Sexual Assault Reporting and Response sessions from online to an in-person session, integrating home safety topics, and updating the online Safety and Security Learning Assessment completed by all Volunteers.

US-Direct Hire Peace Corps Safety and Security Officers

In addition to in-country staff, ten field-based Peace Corps safety and security officers (PCSSOs) assigned to the Office of Safety and Security in Washington, D.C. provide technical oversight and guidance to overseas staff. PCSSOs frequently assist country directors and in-country safety and security staff in identifying and addressing crime risks. Because

PCSSOs are based overseas, they are also able to respond quickly to emergency situations that may arise.

Crime Monitoring and Response

In-country and headquarters staff routinely monitor crime trends and changing risks. Program, safety, and medical staff periodically visit Volunteers in their local communities. During these visits, staff evaluate the ongoing security of communities and take steps to address Volunteer safety. These steps may be repairing locks or other housing security devices, coordinating with local authorities to address concerns, or ensuring community members are supporting Volunteers.

Volunteer Crime Reporting

Volunteers are strongly encouraged to contact Peace Corps staff should a crime occur or if they have any security concerns whatsoever. When Volunteers report crimes, staff respond by assessing whether there is an ongoing, immediate risk to the Volunteer's safety and provide logistic, administrative, or medical support as needed. Designated Security Specialists (DSS) in Washington are on-call 24 hours a day to direct and coordinate the Agency's global response to crime, as needed. After completion of service, including after evacuation, Volunteers are still able to report crimes to Peace Corps staff by contacting the Office of Victim Advocacy (OVA).

If Volunteers wish to report a crime to local authorities, staff assist them through the legal process, work that has continued during and after the evacuation. Staff can also quickly remove Volunteers from host communities when warranted or mobilize emergency medical care if necessary, including evacuation to the United States.

Crime Data

The Peace Corps has two systems for monitoring crime: the Security Incident Questionnaire (SIQ) and the Security Incident Management System (SIMS)—which replaced the Consolidated Incident Reporting System (CIRS) in April, 2021. In-country staff, PCSSOs, and headquarters staff review crime reports documented in SIMS on an ongoing basis.

Volunteer crime reports serve as a leading-edge indicator of shifts in the amount and types of crimes Volunteers are experiencing. Information from crime reports is also used to alert Volunteers to changing risks, modify operations, or take other steps to mitigate emerging issues.

Although Volunteers are encouraged to tell Peace Corps staff about all crimes they experience, overall only about half of Volunteer crime victims report incidents directly to staff. This is not an anomaly given that many crime victims in the United States do not report crimes.¹

The top reason Volunteers give for not telling Peace Corps staff about crimes at the time the incidents occur is that they did not think the unreported incidents were particularly serious or threatening. Many also choose to handle matters on their own or with the assistance of community members.

Because many Volunteers never report crimes when the incidents occurred, the Peace Corps introduced an online crime survey in 2014, the Security Incident Questionnaire (SIQ). All Volunteers are invited to fill out the SIQ at the end of their service and, in previous years, more than 80 percent agreed to do so. The majority of Volunteers who ended service in FY2020 departed the Peace Corps as a consequence of the global Volunteer evacuation. Only about 50 percent completed the survey.

¹ Langton, L. et al (2012). Victimizations Not Reported to the Police, 2006 – 2010, Washington DC, Bureau of Justice Statistics.

The survey is used to collect data on the combination of crimes Volunteers previously reported to staff and those that went unreported at the time of the incidents. Survey respondents who did not report incidents to Peace Corps staff are also asked their most important reason for not telling staff about incidents.

In-country staff receive a summary of survey results annually. PCSSOs guide staff in the systematic evaluation of the data, which then informs revisions to posts' crime mitigation strategies.

The evacuation interrupted normal collection and reporting of data. Challenges to collecting data are discussed in the section, "Challenges for 2020 and Beyond." Updates and future changes to our crime data systems are discussed in the section, "Peace Corps Systems." Table 1 on p. 13 gives a brief overview of the Peace Corps' data systems and the information they collect.

CHALLENGES FOR 2020 AND BEYOND

In March 2020, all Peace Corps Volunteers were evacuated throughout the world due to the spread of COVID-19. This section explains the many challenges to reporting and analyzing crime indicator data for FY2020 and the next several years as a result of the evacuation and a prolonged absence.

Affected Crime Indicators

The evacuation affected the Peace Corps' ability to report and analyze all five of its crime indicators:

1. Volunteers' perceptions of their safety (AVS)
2. The proportion of Volunteers who experience crime during their service (crime prevalence, SIQ)
3. The proportion of crime victims who report crimes to Peace Corps staff (reporting rate, SIQ and SIMS)
4. Volunteers' reasons for not reporting crimes to Peace Corps staff (SIQ)
5. The number, types, and characteristics of crime reports Peace Corps staff receive annually (SIMS)

Indicators 1 through 4 are based on survey data, Indicator 1 data come from the Annual Volunteer Survey (AVS) and Indicators 2 through 4 from the Security Incident Questionnaire (SIQ). These two surveys were both impacted by the evacuation, and Peace Corps cannot report on Indicators 1 through 4 as a result.

The AVS survey, which is typically conducted between June and August, was not conducted in FY2020 due to the evacuation.

The SIQ, which surveys Volunteers at the end of their service, had a much lower response in FY2020

(approximately 50 percent) compared to prior years (approximately 80 percent) due to posts being unable to oversee its completion with all Volunteers ending service at the same time. Results from the SIQ are not reportable as a result of the lower response rate and Volunteers serving shorter terms.

Indicator 5 is based on the crime reports that staff receive from Volunteers. The Peace Corps continued to receive reports from Volunteers after the evacuation. All incidents that were reported after Volunteers departed their countries of service occurred before the evacuation, which began five months into the fiscal year. These incidents are reported in the section, "FY2020 Crime Reports," on p. 16.

Challenges to Interpreting Crime Data

It will take several years to re-establish the flow of data that has allowed the Peace Corps to assess changes in crime trends and Volunteer crime reporting behavior. The Peace Corps will not be able to assess these trends until the Agency resumes operations with a similar number of both new Volunteers and Volunteers at close of service (COS). In the interim, the details of reported crimes (SIMS) and a limited number of Volunteers' first-person accounts of crimes (SIQ data from Volunteers who serve less than two years) will be the sole source of information for assessing possible changes in crime risks.

Some of the issues affecting the interpretability of the data over the next several years are:

Changing Portfolio of Posts

Volunteers are expected to return to posts over a period of time as conditions in host countries allow. This means that annual crime rates will represent

different conglomerations of posts in FY2021 and 2022 and possibly into FY2023. If, for example, posts that experience higher crime rates are not repopulated during FY2021, but are included the following year, one would expect to see an increase in global crime rates due simply to changes in the posts represented in the data.

Atypical Exit Cohorts

Data on crimes Volunteers report to staff will be documented in the Security Incident Management System (SIMS) as incidents are reported by Volunteers. As is the case in the general population, many Volunteers do not report crime.¹ To more fully understand crimes against Volunteers, the Agency relies on data from the Security Incident Questionnaire (SIQ).

Data on the extent to which Volunteers experience crimes comes from the SIQ and are based on information obtained from Volunteers when they leave service (i.e., exit cohorts). Pre-evacuation exit cohorts were made up predominantly of two-year Volunteers ending their service as scheduled and a relatively small proportion of Volunteers who terminated service early (ET) and Peace Corps Response Volunteers (PCRVs) (Volunteers who serve for relatively brief periods in specialized assignments).

Once Volunteers begin to redeploy overseas again, those Volunteers leaving the Peace Corps for the next two years will be individuals who terminated early and PCRVs. Two-year Volunteers from some posts will leave the Peace Corps in 2024, but it will be 2025 before the exit cohort population is again comparable to pre-evacuation exit cohorts.

The atypical nature of upcoming exit cohorts will complicate the interpretation of crime data because crime prevalence rates increase proportionate to the

time Volunteers are in their country of service. For SIMS, the Agency will continue to receive reports from Volunteers, but reporting rate analysis will not be possible until the population of Volunteers within an exit cohort increases and stabilizes. For SIQ, analyses of SIQ data collected from evacuees suggest that the overall global crime prevalence rate is approximately 30% among Volunteers in their first year of service, but 50% among those in their second year. Consequently, data on the proportion of Volunteers who leave the Peace Corps in the next few years are expected to show a lower level of crime victimization because these are volunteers who terminated early and therefore have been at risk for a shorter period of time.

Changing Crime Risk Environment

Media outlets in the U.S. and abroad noted marked declines in certain crimes as nations closed their borders, and required people to stay at home and social distance in response to the spread of COVID-19. One explanation for this reported trend is that the absence of people on the streets, on public transportation, and in other busy locations effectively deprived opportunist criminals of their usual victim pools.

At the same time, some crimes increased. For example, some offenders took advantage of stores and shops being empty to burglarize businesses with little chance of being caught. Conversely, with more people at home, residential burglaries became riskier and home burglaries decreased. An increase in domestic violence has also been attributed to people being sequestered at home with their abusers.

Based on discussions during the past year with Peace Corps staff throughout the world, several factors appear to influence how COVID-19 affected crime in countries that host Volunteers. Among those factors

¹ Langton, L. et al (2012). Victimizations Not Reported to the Police, 2006 – 2010, Washington DC, Bureau of Justice Statistics.

are the spread of the virus, and the scope and stringency of the steps countries took to contain the spread.

As countries are lifting COVID-19 precautions and 'returning to normal', post staff believe that crime is also returning to 'normal'; thus Volunteers are returning to crime risk environments that are in flux. Peace Corps staff are monitoring the changing crime environments so they can adjust crime mitigation strategies as needed. However, until the countries that host Peace Corps Volunteers reach a stable 'new normal', it will be difficult to know whether changes in Volunteer crime victimization are due to the success or failure of post mitigation strategies, changes in criminal offending, or COVID-19 precautions.

Limited Comparison Data

Finally, it is difficult to decipher whether Volunteer victimization rates are changing by looking at only a few data points. This is because crime rates are similar to daily temperatures – they naturally fluctuate from day to day (or year to year in the case of crime rates). Daily temperatures are not

considered 'unseasonable' unless they exceed the range of normal variation. It takes several years to establish what the normal variation is in Volunteer victimization rates. For all the reasons previously mentioned, the variation in crime victimization rates in the next few years may not reflect the normal level of variation.

Similarly, changes in crime victimization cannot be inferred solely from reported crimes. Multiple factors affect the number of crime reports Peace Corps staff receive each year including the size of the Volunteer population, whether victims choose to report incidents to staff, as well as the level of victimization.

Moving Forward

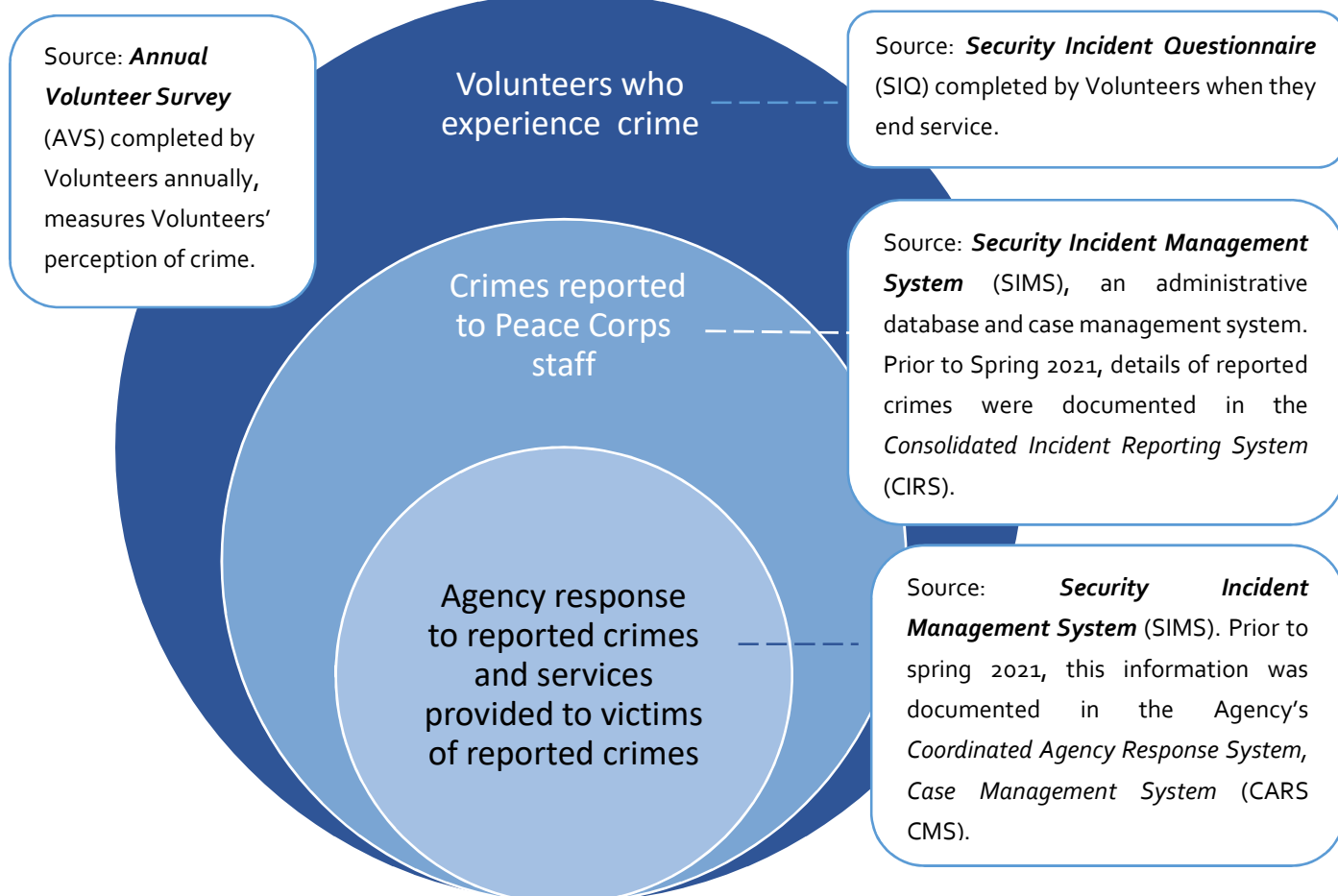
For the reasons outlined in this section, the changing portfolio of posts, atypical exit cohorts, the changing crime risk environment, and limited comparison data, the Peace Corps will face many challenges in reporting and analyzing crime data in the following years. The Peace Corps will respond to these challenges and continue providing the best possible information on crimes committed against Volunteers.



Senegal

PEACE CORPS SYSTEMS

Figure 1: Relationship of Peace Corps crime data and the systems that collect it.



Changes and Updates

The Peace Corps will also see many changes and updates to the systems we use for collecting and analyzing crime data over the next several years. The break-in-service provides the Peace Corps with an opportunity to introduce these changes with minimal disruption to operations.

Annual Volunteer Survey (AVS)

The Annual Volunteer Survey (AVS) is typically conducted between June and August each year. Volunteers were not at posts during this time period in FY2020. This survey will be updated and annual data collection will resume once Volunteers return to

service. Indicator 1, Volunteers' perception of safety, will be reported after the next available AVS in future reports.

Security Incident Questionnaire (SIQ)

The Security Incident Questionnaire (SIQ) is a confidential online survey Volunteers complete when they leave the Peace Corps. It identifies Volunteers who experienced any of 11 crimes during service (see Appendix A for Crime Definitions).

SIQ data are used primarily to calculate annual crime prevalence rates (i.e., the proportion of Volunteers who experienced at least one incident of a crime during service). It also yields qualitative data on

Volunteers' reasons for not reporting crimes to Peace Corps staff and first-person descriptions of crimes Volunteers experienced.

SIQ data can be synchronized with data in the Security Incident Management System (SIMS), an Agency data system that is used to document details of crime incidents Volunteers report to staff. Comparing data from these two sources makes it possible to assess whether changes in the number of crime reports staff receive are due to changes in the volume of Volunteers experiencing crimes or changes in Volunteer crime reporting behavior.

Posts use SIQ data in a mandatory annual review of crime data in order to inform strategies for mitigating crime risks. Posts are required to develop mitigation strategies for any crime with a prevalence rate above the 2015 benchmark based on the average for all posts or any crime that has increased more than two standard deviations from the post's historical average.

Security Incident Management System (SIMS)

The Agency began the transition to the Security Incident Management System (SIMS) in April 2021. SIMS replaced both the Agency's previous system for reporting incidents, the Consolidated Incident Reporting System (CIRS), and the system for case

management, the Coordinated Agency Response System (CARS).

SIMS will enable the Peace Corps to record crime incidents and track the agency's response to those incidents in a single, modern system. Improvements in usability, validation, and data integration will give the Peace Corps a higher degree of confidence in the integrity of the Agency's crime report data going forward, allowing the Peace Corps to better report and analyze these data in the future.

The break-in-service has allowed Peace Corps to introduce this system without disrupting the workflow of our staff at posts. The Peace Corps will continue to train staff on the new system as Volunteers return to posts further ensuring that the quality of our crime report data remains high.

The break in service will also present limitations on the new system. It is unlikely that the new system will have a full year's worth of data representing a 'normal' year of operation until at least FY2023 or FY2024. This will continue to make it difficult to draw meaningful conclusions from the data.

See Table 1 for information on data sources and Appendix A for crime definitions. Figures 2 and 3 on the following pages provide detailed information on the return to service timeline for SIMS and SIQ.



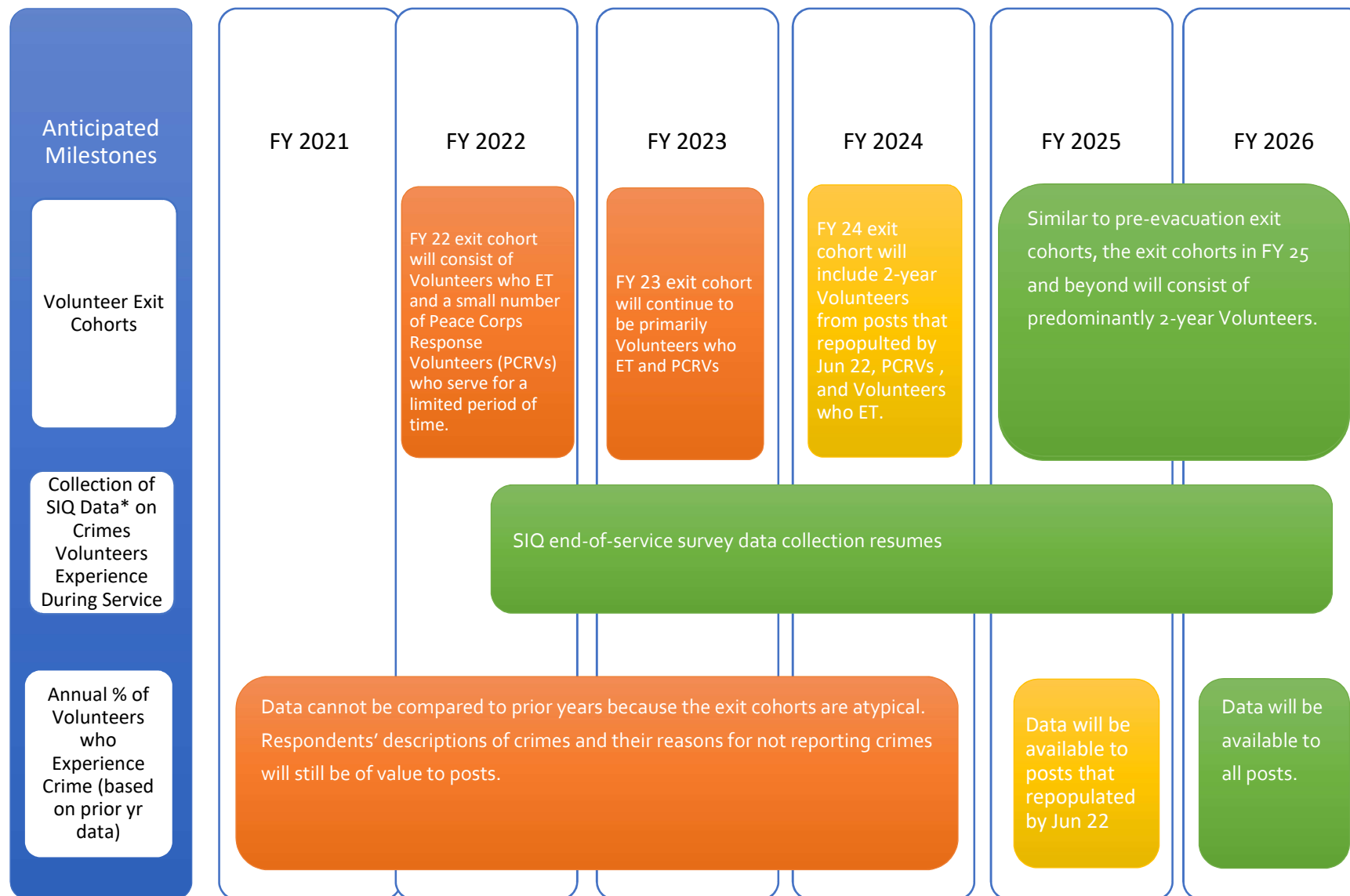
Republic of Georgia

DATA SOURCES

Table 1. Sources of data presented in this report

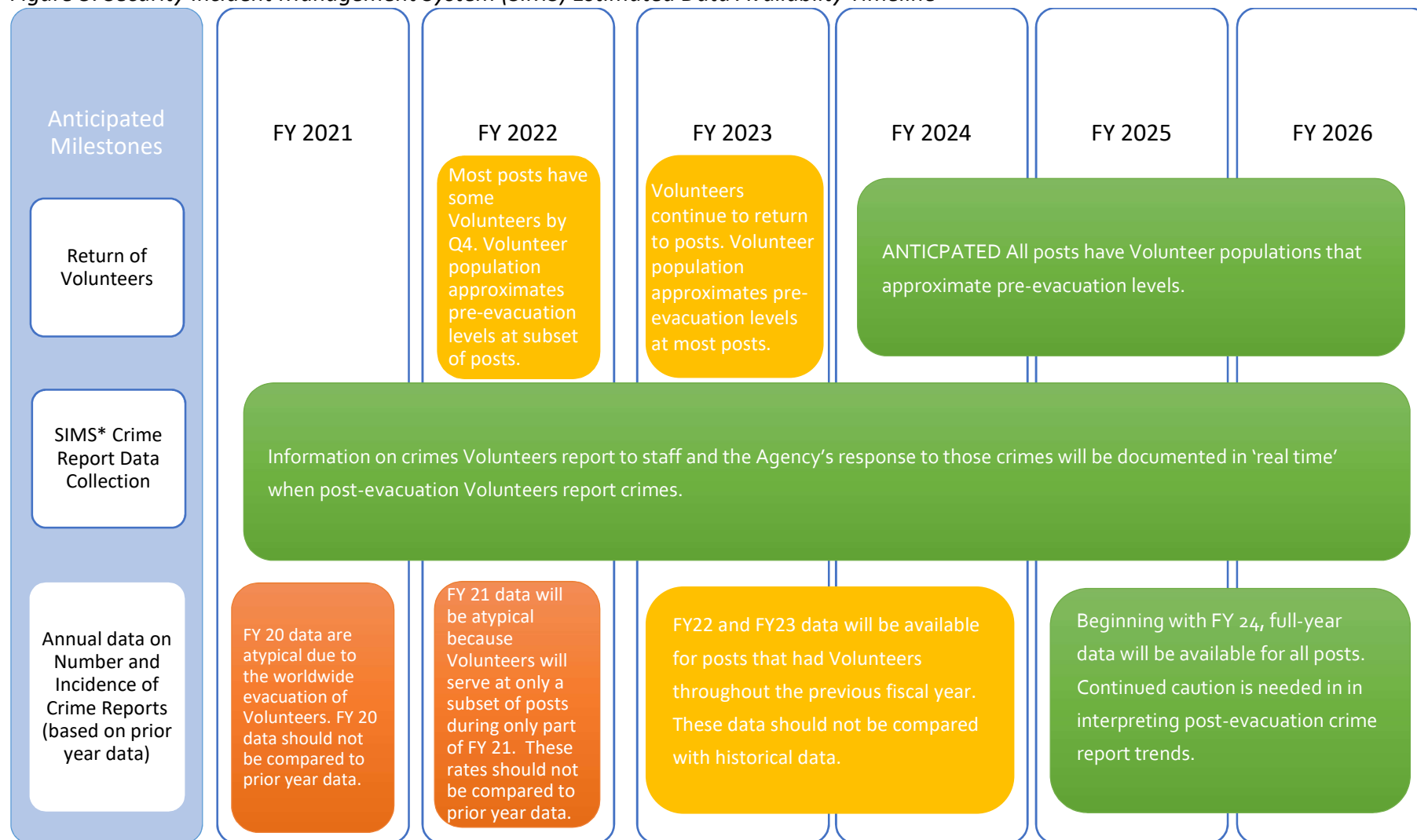
Source	Method	Population	Time Frame	Information Typically Included in this Report	Information Available for FY2020
Annual Volunteer Survey (AVS)	Self-administered online survey conducted in June through August of each year.	Two year Volunteers who are serving between June and August of each year.	Prior 12 months.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percent of currently serving Volunteers who find Peace Corps service rewarding/very rewarding. Percent of currently serving Volunteers who would recommend Peace Corps service to others. Percent of currently serving Volunteers who found safety and security training effective/very effective. Percent of currently serving Volunteers who feel safe/very safe where they live. Percent of currently serving Volunteers who feel safe/very safe where they work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AVS data were not collected in FY2020.
Security Incident Questionnaire (SIQ)	Self-administered online survey completed when Volunteers leave the Peace Corps.	Exit cohorts (Volunteers ending service during each calendar year), including trainees, two-year Volunteers, and Peace Corps Response Volunteers. The year listed is the year Volunteers ended service, not necessarily the year incidents occurred.	Entire period of service (on average, approximately two years).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crime prevalence: percent of Volunteers in an exit cohort who experienced crime, whether or not they reported the incidents to Peace Corps staff. Reporting rate: percent of victims in an exit cohort who reported crime incidents to Peace Corps staff at the time of the incidents. Volunteers' reasons, in their own words, for not reporting crimes to Peace Corps staff. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SIQ data were collected during the evacuation. Lower response rates make it difficult to draw conclusions from these data or make comparisons to previous years.
Security Incident Management System (SIMS)	Administrative database used by Peace Corps staff to record details on crime incidents Volunteers report to staff, as well as to manage agency response to incidents.	Annual Volunteer population made up of Volunteers who serve for all or part of a calendar year. This population includes Volunteers who ended service during the year, those just beginning service, and Volunteers continuing service that began in a prior year.	Crime reports staff receive within a fiscal year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of reports received during the fiscal year. Report caseload composition: types of crimes that were reported as percent of all crime reports. Location and offender characteristics of reported crimes as percent of all crime reports and percent of annual Volunteer population. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of reports received during the fiscal year (incidents that occurred before evacuation). Difficulty reporting composition and characteristics of crime reports due to the unusual circumstances, limited time period.

Figure 2. Security Incident Questionnaire (SIQ) Estimated Data Availability Timeline



The SIQ is used to gather information about all crimes Volunteers experienced during service, including those they reported to post staff at the time the crime occurred and those that were not reported. In comparison, SIMS is used to document only the subset of crimes Volunteers report

Figure 3. Security Incident Management System (SIMS) Estimated Data Availability Timeline*



*Prior to spring 2021, the Peace Corps maintained two discrete administrative databases for documenting details about the crimes Volunteers report to Peace Corps staff (i.e., the Consolidated Incident Reporting System; CIRS) and the response and services provided to victims of those incidents (i.e., the Coordinated Agency Response System, Case Management System; CARS CMS). The information documented in those systems are now documented in a single, integrated system – the Security Incident Management System (SIMS).

FY2020 CRIME REPORTS

When Volunteers report crimes to Peace Corps staff, details of the incidents are documented in the agency's Security Incident Management System (SIMS) as reports of victimizations. Prior to 2021, this information was recorded in the agency's Consolidated Incident Reporting System (CIRS).

The table below shows the number of incident reports the Agency received during the previous six fiscal years. Peace Corps Volunteers were present at posts for only five months during FY2020 and this is reflected in the lower number of incidents reported. The shorter period of service means that FY2020 cannot be compared with previous fiscal years.

Table 2: Annual number Victimizations reported to Peace Corps staff

Incident Type		FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020*
Total Incidents Reported		1493	1553	1622	1695	1515	679
Property Crimes	Theft	596	603	596	557	480	184
	Burglary	274	299	304	254	216	100
	Robbery	172	101	140	113	138	55
	Vandalism	6	7	10	7	8	4
Sexual Assaults	Non-Aggravated Sexual Assault	170	216	222	323	312	110
	Rape	46	61	58	89	72	51
	Aggravated Sexual Assault	26	37	45	62	67	36
Other Crimes	Aggravated Physical Assault	23	23	34	31	24	6
	Threat	34	49	45	33	20	21
	Non-Aggravated Physical Assault	93	100	109	177	138	77
	Kidnapping	1	1	5	0	0	1
	Stalking	52	56	54	49	40	34

Source: Security Incident Management System

*FY2020 Data is not comparable with previous fiscal years due to the global evacuation in March 2020

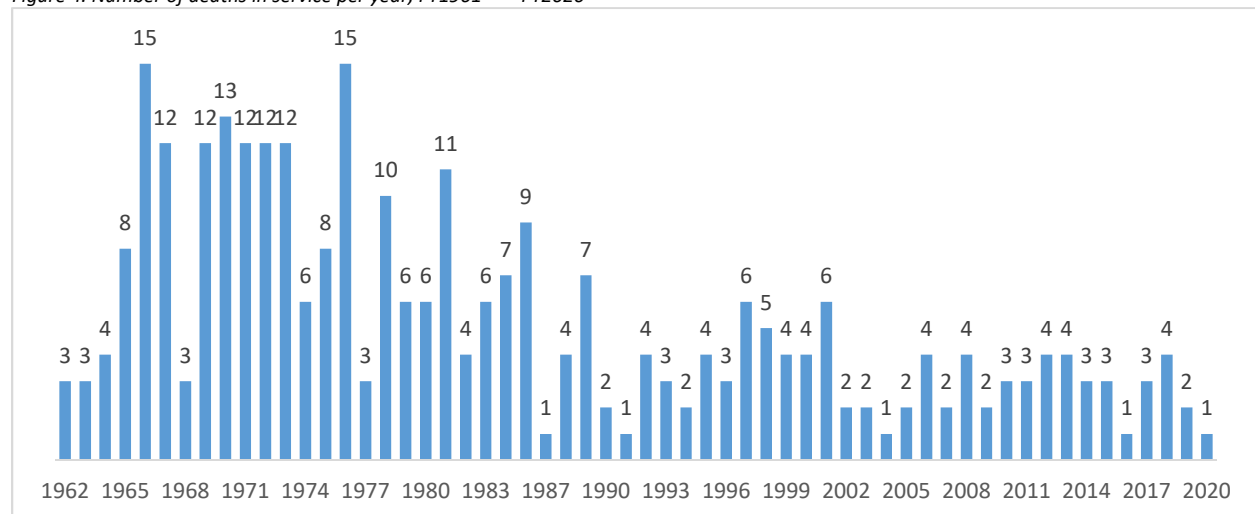
See crime definitions in Appendix A

VOLUNTEER DEATHS DURING SERVICE

Since 1961 when the Peace Corps was established, 240,000 American men and women have volunteered to serve others around the world in the pursuit of peace. As of 2020, 306 Peace Corps Volunteers have passed away during service (figure 4).

The chart below differs from the *2019 Annual Report of Crimes Against Volunteers* in that it has been re-calibrated to show deaths on a fiscal year basis.

Figure 4. Number of deaths in service per year, FY1961* — FY2020**



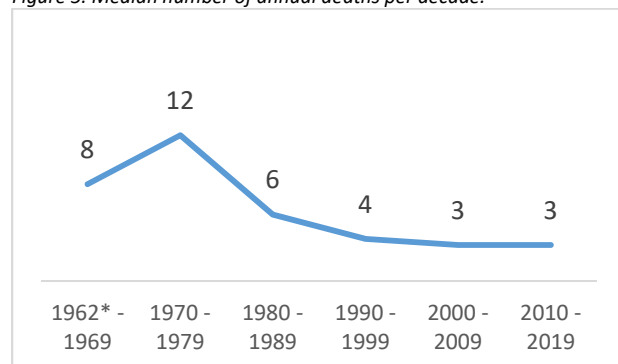
*1961 is not comparable to other years because the first group of Volunteers left the United States in August of 1961.

**2020 is not comparable to other years due to the global evacuation of Volunteers

Volunteer Deaths Have Declined

Volunteer deaths have decreased notably over time (Figure 4). The median number of annual Volunteer deaths peaked at 12 in the 1970s, but has steadily decreased since then.

Figure 5. Median number of annual deaths per decade.



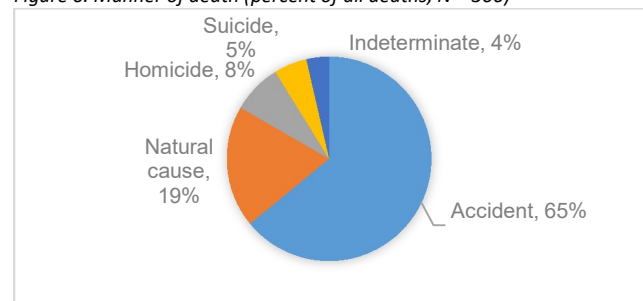
*1961 and 2020 is excluded because it is not comparable to other years

** In the 1980s, the Peace Corps restricted Volunteers from using motorcycles. Before then, many Volunteers had motorcycles and most rode on backs of motorcycles.

Leading Causes of Deaths

The number one cause of Volunteer deaths is accidents (65 percent of all deaths), particularly motor vehicle and traffic accidents (figure 19).

Figure 6. Manner of death (percent of all deaths, N = 306)



*Manner of death is listed as indeterminate when an investigation into the cause of death is pending, or the cause of death remains unknown

Homicide

Of the various manners of death, only homicide — the willful non-negligent killing of a Volunteer by

another person — is recorded as a crime by the Peace Corps. In the history of the Peace Corps, there have been 24 homicides, half of which began as robberies.

Reducing the Risk of Motor Vehicle and Traffic Accidents

In 2017, with support from the Department of Transportation, the Office of Safety and Security reviewed all of the fatal traffic accidents involving Volunteers in the prior five years to identify common risk factors. The relatively small number of incidents made conclusive analyses difficult, but data suggest that private vehicles (as opposed to taxis or buses) present the greatest risk.

In the past two years, the Agency has taken multiple steps to mitigate the risk of motor vehicle and traffic accidents. They include:

- Reviewing the transportation policy at each post to ensure all required topics are being addressed properly and that appropriate mitigation strategies are in place
- Enhancing the training materials used to educate Volunteers about transportation risks
- Mandating documentation of all road traffic accidents
- Conducting webinars on using internal and external data to assess the risk for accidents and develop interventions



Cambodia

APPENDIX A – CRIME DEFINITIONS

The Peace Corps classifies crimes using a hierarchy-based system similar to that used by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (Table 3); however, there are notable differences. For example, attempts are counted as crimes in a number of Peace Corps' definitions, and the category 'non-aggravated sexual assault' includes elements (e.g., kissing and groping) that most jurisdictions in the United States would assign to a different classification. Adoption of these expanded definitions could be expected to result in rates for some crime categories being higher than they might otherwise be. If a particular incident includes elements that overlap two or more crime categories, the incident is assigned to only one – the higher category. For example, if someone breaks into a house (burglary) damaging a door in the process (vandalism) and steals items (theft), the incident is classified as burglary. The Security Incident Questionnaire and Security Incident Management System use the same crime definitions. However, homicide and stalking are not captured by the Security Incident Questionnaire.

Table 3. Crime definitions and classification hierarchy

	Crime	Definition
Highest Category	Homicide	The willful, non-negligent killing of one human by another.
	Kidnapping	Unlawful seizure and/or detention of a Volunteer against their will for more than a short period of time.
	Rape	Penetration, no matter how slight, of a Volunteer's vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by another person's sex organ, without the consent of the Volunteer, including when the Volunteer is incapacitated or otherwise incapable of consenting.
	Aggravated sexual assault	Intentional contact, either directly or through clothing, with a Volunteer's genitalia, anus, groin, breasts, thigh, or buttocks; or kissing or disrobing a Volunteer; or forcing a Volunteer to contact someone's genitalia, anus, groin, breast, thigh, or buttocks; or the attempt to carry out any of these acts and there is use or threatened use of a weapon, or use or threatened use of force or other intimidating action, or the Volunteer is incapacitated or otherwise incapable of consenting.
	Robbery	Taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a Volunteer under confrontational circumstances including the threat of force, violence, or putting the Volunteer in fear of immediate harm.
	Aggravated physical assault	Attack or threat of attack with a weapon in a manner capable of causing death or severe bodily injury or the attack without a weapon when severe injury occurs.
	Non-aggravated sexual assault	Intentional contact, either directly or through clothing, with a Volunteer's genitalia, anus, groin, breast, thigh, or buttocks; or kissing a Volunteer on the mouth, ear, or neck; or touching a Volunteer with the offender's genitalia, either directly or through clothing, or offender's semen or vaginal fluids (no matter which body part is touched); or attempts to carry out any of those acts.
	Non-aggravated physical assault	Deliberate aggressive contact or attempted contact that does not require the Volunteer to use substantial force to disengage and results in no injury or minor injury.
	Burglary	Unlawful or forcible entry of a Volunteer's residence (including hotel or hostel room). Burglary often, but not always, involves taking property.
	Threat	The use of threatening words or other conduct that places a Volunteer in reasonable fear of bodily harm.
Lowest Category	Theft	Taking or attempting to take away a Volunteer's property or cash without the use of force, illegal entry, or direct contact with the victim.
	Vandalism	Mischievous or malicious defacement, destruction, or damage of Volunteer property.
	Stalking*	A course of conduct directed at a Volunteer that would causes the Volunteer or another reasonable person to either fear for his or her safety or the safety of others or suffer substantial emotional distress.

*Stalking is not part of the severity hierarchy as it may be comprised of multiple different incidents within the hierarchy.