

2020

ANNUAL REPORT

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS



SECRETARIAT
OF CHILD
AND YOUTH
PROTECTION

NATIONAL
REVIEW BOARD

UNITED STATES
CONFERENCE OF
CATHOLIC BISHOPS

OCTOBER 2021

Report on the Implementation of the

CHARTER FOR THE
PROTECTION OF
CHILDREN AND
YOUNG PEOPLE

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AND YOUTH PROTECTION

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UNITED STATES CONFERENCE
OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS
WASHINGTON, DC



The *2020 Annual Report on the Implementation of the “Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People”* was prepared by the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection for the National Review Board and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). It was authorized by the USCCB President, Archbishop José Gomez. It has been directed for publication by the undersigned.

Reverend Michael J.K. Fuller, S.T.D.
Interim General Secretary, USCCB

First Printing, October 2021

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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

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His Excellency Archbishop José H. Gomez
Archbishop of Los Angeles
President

Preface

This report presents the 18th annual independent audit of the United States bishops' implementation of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, adopted in 2002 and updated most recently in 2018.

This year's report covers 2020, a year when the Church found herself confronting a global pandemic. The pandemic's impact on the Church's abuse prevention efforts is detailed in the pages that follow. In addition to the independent audit from the firm, Stonebridge Business Partners, in the pages that follow you will find a Survey of Allegations and Costs from the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA), as well as a progress report from the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection.

This year's audit documents, once again, that new cases of sexual misconduct by priests involving minors are rare today in the Catholic Church in the United States. According to this latest audit, last year there were 22 current allegations nationwide involving minors; of these about one-quarter have been substantiated to date. Those offenders were removed from ministry. Every allegation was reported to law enforcement.

As we know, one allegation of abuse is too many. But my brother bishops and I remain firmly committed to maintain our vigilance in protecting children and vulnerable adults and providing compassion and outreach to victim-survivors of abuse.

On behalf of my brother bishops I again want to express our sorrow and apologies to every person who has suffered at the hands of someone in the Church. While we cannot give you back what has been taken from you, we do commit ourselves to doing everything in our power to help you to heal and to fight the scourge of abuse in the Church and in the wider society.

May we all find hope in Jesus Christ, may the Blessed Virgin Mary be a mother to us all, and may God grant us peace.



National Review Board for the Protection of Children and Young People

3211 FOURTH STREET NE • WASHINGTON DC 20017-1194 • 202-541-5413 • FAX 202-541-5410

June 15, 2021

Most Reverend José H. Gomez
President
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Your Excellency,

This past year has brought with it extreme crisis and turmoil. It is only through God's grace that we have been able to effectively continue our work protecting youth while adjusting to the realities of societal upheaval and a global pandemic. The National Review Board is pleased with the efforts of Stonebridge Business Partners to continue auditing diocesan/eparchial efforts to implement the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*. The audit process did evolve into a virtual format, but the essence of the audit remained unchanged. The report of data gathered, and interviews conducted has been carefully examined by the National Review Board (NRB) and provided to the Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People (CPCYP).

The annual *Charter* audit process was altered slightly due to the need for social isolation and travel restrictions but the timeframe being audited included six months pre-pandemic (July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020). Both Stonebridge Business Partners and the dioceses/eparchies being audited are to be commended for their agility and diligence in completing the audit in a professional and timely manner.

The audit report of 2020 provides a wealth of information that can guide our efforts moving forward. 100% of dioceses participated in this process indicating that bishops in the United States continue to identify child protection as a priority by implementing the *Charter*. However, with two eparchies not participating in the process, we are still short of 100% compliance. The audit did identify two dioceses and two eparchies that were noncompliant for one or more *Charter* articles. These included two dioceses in which the review board did not meet during the audit year and two eparchies that did not produce evidence of background checks and training. Such findings reinforce the need for continued commitment and diligence.

The audit identified 22 allegations of abuse occurring recently. In each case civil authorities were also notified of the allegation so that local law enforcement could address the issues as needed. These cases represent 0.5% of all reports that the Church is aware of during the audit period. The fact that 4,228 allegations received were historical in nature (alleged victim is now an adult and the abuse happened in years or decades past) is also a reminder that the pain of the past remains and we as a Church must continue to reach out to all who have been harmed regardless of when the event occurred. The NRB will continue its efforts to support the CPCYP and to encourage the bishops to address the harm that has been done and enhance all aspects of the *Charter* as we strive to eliminate the threat of harm within the church and minimize the risk so that no child will be subjected to sexual abuse.

The NRB is continuing its efforts to enhance the audit process by recommending changes to the audit. This includes a three-year lookback window which will eliminate any gaps that existed regarding the reporting of case resolution. The on-site audits have also been expanded to include interviews of all or most of the diocesan review board members. Previously only 1-2 members were interviewed. These changes will be implemented with the 2021 audit cycle. The NRB and Secretariat for Child and Youth Protection (SCYP) have also contributed considerable resources to the online Resource Toolbox on the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) CYP

community website. These resources include policies and practices as tools and examples for all dioceses/eparchies to access in support of all aspects of the *Charter* or the audit process. Certainly, these documents are helpful when there are transitions in key roles in dioceses/eparchies such as Victims Assistance Coordinators, Safe Environment Coordinators and Review Board Chairs.

As we are now entering into a third decade of *Charter* implementation, it is important not only to evaluate the incident of abuse but to identify any change in trends and understand why they changed. Our Research and Trends Committee is looking more deeply into the safe environment educational programs being offered to both adults and youth. The research is an attempt to determine which elements or combination of elements of these training programs is most effective in mitigating the occurrence of child abuse and ensuring that any suspicion of abuse is reported to authorities. We have been in contact with leaders in the field of child abuse, education, and research in an effort to develop and support a study of this nature.

The NRB supports the bishops and the SCYP in promoting the principles of high reliable organizations (HRO) and encourages dioceses and eparchies to implement parish audits as one method of achieving this. As the 2020 audit indicates, 65% of dioceses/eparchies reported having a formal internal process for auditing parishes. The concern is the potential for abuse in 35% of the dioceses that are not monitored regularly for safe environment practices. HRO principles and parish audits will promote safety of all and ensure that this tragic history is not repeated. The NRB acknowledges the positive contribution of the bishops in creating the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting system and we encourage the bishops to take the next step at the conference level to pursue an audit process for this system.

We, the NRB, pledge to continue sharing our expertise in an advisory and collaborative role with the body of Bishops and the CPCYP.

May God bless us all in our efforts to strengthen our culture of safety and meet our gospel call for healing.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Suzanne Healy". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid and connected.

Suzanne Healy
Chair



Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection

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27 May 2021

His Excellency Archbishop José H. Gomez
President, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Mrs. Suzanne Healy
Chair, National Review Board

Your Excellency and Mrs. Healy,

In March 2020, the United States and the rest of the globe entered a quarantine lockdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Only essential workers such as first responders, medical personnel, those working in the food industry, and farm workers were permitted to commute outdoors. Our churches and schools offered services remotely, using technology and other creative means of communicating and ministering. We were forced to adapt and improvise to carry out even the most basic of tasks. Behavioral patterns changed, such as wearing face masks and frequent hand washing, and because everyone was home, the opportunity for children and those who were vulnerable to report instances of abuse became difficult. COVID-19 changed our way of life and ushered us towards a new reality.

The 2020 Annual Report documents the results of our dioceses' and eparchies' efforts to protect and heal, to address the needs of an ever-changing milieu, and the consistent work towards improving services and quality of ministry. The ministries of Victim Assistance and Safe Environments are evolving. And the new reality is that unless we evolve and accommodate to the ever-changing environment, work towards being flexible and effective, then we are not learning. We are not growing. If we are unable to address the needs of those we serve, we are ineffective. Additionally, our safe environment trainings have opened the door to the realities of not only child sexual abuse but also elder abuse, fiduciary abuse, and human trafficking, bullying, and cyberbullying, the abuse of power, sexual harassment, and boundary violations. This requires up-to-date education materials and ongoing training for the front line. At the very least, there needs to be an awareness of the known local, state, and national resources as well as the state and federal laws. There is also a growing need to develop and sustain a community's sense of mindfulness to protect those who are vulnerable.

The Church continues to educate adults, children, employees, volunteers, and clergy through safe environment training programs, background checking adults who are ministering directly with minors, and providing pastoral care to victims/survivors of abuse and their families. As the following pages will show, the measures outlined in the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* are working on a national level. Though the Church's efforts are admirable, constant vigilance is still required and the commitment of the clergy and lay faithful remains necessary. The efforts of the Church will hopefully change the culture, and this will only work if everyone follows the rules.

The ministries of Safe Environments and Victim Assistance are here to stay. The protocols and procedures for letters of suitability, background checks, and safe environment training are the norm. By the grace of God, the Church is working towards being accessible, accountable, and safe. We continue to rely on the Holy Spirit and the intercession of Our Mother to guide our efforts as we promise to protect and pledge to heal.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Deacon Bernie Nojadera
Executive Director



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March 31, 2021

Most Reverend Jose H. Gómez
President, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Suzanne Healy
Chairwoman, National Review Board

Archbishop Gomez and Mrs. Healy,

The 2020 audit period marked the tenth consecutive year that StoneBridge Business Partners completed Charter audit procedures on behalf of the Conference. COVID-19 introduced unprecedented challenges to visiting dioceses and eparchies to perform on-site audit procedures. Over the past year, we physically visited 10 dioceses and utilizing remote technologies visited 51 dioceses and eparchies for a total of 61 on-site audit visits. 195 of 197 dioceses and eparchies participated in the audit process.

In an on-going effort to produce more efficient and effective audits, we delivered three Powerpoint presentations to the USCCB and participated in two question and answer conference calls to educate safe environment coordinators and other diocesan/eparchial representatives on our audit process and approach. This year's training documents along with prior year efforts are available on the USCCB website to assist diocesan/eparchial personnel in their preparation. In June, StoneBridge staff attended a refresher training seminar presentation in conjunction with the Secretariat for Child and Youth Protection (SCYP) utilizing remote technologies.

Our work is supported by the efforts expended by the diocesan/eparchial personnel who dedicate their working lives to making a difference in maintaining safe environments. We are grateful for their work in implementing and administering the programs and safeguards that are instrumental to this process. None of this would be possible without the support and prioritization from the bishops throughout the country who are fulfilling the promise made in creating this *Charter* in 2002. We appreciate the support and confidence that the Conference has in our organization by trusting us to assist in this worthy cause.

The annual report that follows compiles the information we gathered during our audits and our related findings and comments.

Sincerely,

StoneBridge Business Partners

Thomas F. Englert, Consultant
StoneBridge Business Partners



Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY · <http://cara.georgetown.edu>

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February 2021

Most Reverend José Gómez, President
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Ms. Suzanne Healy, Chair
National Review Board

Dear Archbishop Gómez and Ms. Healy,

In November 2004, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops commissioned the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) at Georgetown University to design and conduct an annual survey of all dioceses and eparchies whose bishops and eparchs are members of the USCCB. The purpose of this survey is to collect information on new allegations of sexual abuse of minors and the clergy against whom these allegations were made. The survey also gathers information on the amount of money dioceses and eparchies have expended as a result of allegations as well as the amount they have paid for child protection efforts. The national level aggregate results from this survey for each calendar year are reported in the *Annual Report of the Implementation of the "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People."*

The questionnaire for the *2020 Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs* was designed by CARA in consultation with the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection and was only slightly different from the versions used for the 2004 through 2019 *Annual Surveys*. As in previous years, CARA prepared an online version of the survey and provided bishops and eparchs with information about the process for completing it for their diocese or eparchy. In collaboration with the Conference of Major Superiors of Men, major superiors of religious institutes – including brother-only institutes – were also invited to complete a similar survey for their congregations, provinces, or monasteries.

Data collection for 2020 took place between August 2020 and January 2021. CARA received responses from all but two of the 197 dioceses and eparchies of the USCCB and 154 of the 228 member religious institutes of CMSM, for response rates of 99 percent and 68 percent, respectively. CARA then prepared the national level summary tables and graphs of the findings for 2020, which are presented in this *Annual Report*.

We are grateful for the cooperation of the bishops, eparchs, and major superiors and their representatives in completing the survey for 2020.

Sincerely,

Fr. Thomas P. Gaunt, SJ
Executive Director

Phone: 202-687-8080 · Fax: 202-687-8083 · E-mail: CARA@georgetown.edu

PLACING SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH AT THE SERVICE OF THE CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES SINCE 1964

SECTION I

2020



CHAPTER ONE

SECRETARIAT OF CHILD AND YOUTH PROTECTION 2020 PROGRESS REPORT

BACKDROP OF NATIONAL EVENTS

The audit cycle of 2020 was very much a response to the flurry of events the previous year. The events of the 2019 audit cycle included the release of the final redacted version of Pennsylvania Grand Jury Report in December. This report led to similar inquiries throughout the country by various government entities. The states of Missouri and Colorado released reports during the 2020 audit year while many states continued the inquiries with anticipated release dates the following year. The much anticipated report regarding the Theodore McCarrick scandal remained an unknown. It was eventually released in November 2020. These kept the issue of child abuse by clerics in the news and societal pressure to address the mismanagement of cases remained high.

While these events were devastating in many respects, they were also necessary. Reports such as these provide a wealth of information from which to evaluate the systems at work in the past and the effects of changes that had been made in recent years. The Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People (CPCYP) and the National Review Board (NRB) attempt to examine such reports and other documents in search of “take-aways.” These reports identified themes and provided additional basis upon which to support efforts in the areas of prevention and healing. The Secretariat for Child and Youth Protection (Secretariat) and the NRB support the efforts of the CPCYP with the development and implementation of new strategies. Some resources

were newly created, and others were refined to reflect the knowledge gained. In 2019 Pope Francis issued *motu proprio Vos estis lux mundi* which was quickly followed by a statement approved by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops titled *Affirming Our Episcopal Commitment*. These documents laid the groundwork for the 2020 establishment of the Catholic Bishops Abuse Reporting Service (CBAR) by which allegations of abuse by bishops and case mismanagement by bishops can be reported and processed in a timely manner. The Secretariat is developing an E-Learning platform to provide advanced level educational resources for diocesan/eparchial safe environment staff on the many aspects of child protection, pastoral healing of abuse and in-depth understanding of related Catholic Church documents. The CPCYP, NRB and the Secretariat worked in unison to evaluate the method and scope of the *Charter* audit. Lacunas that were identified led to a revision of the audit instrument. These revisions were approved by the Administrative Committee during the November 2019 meeting. The updated audit instrument will be implemented for the 2021 audit cycle. The Secretariat continues to develop and provide training on High Reliable Organization, update a resource toolbox for staff reference, and train Diocesan Review Boards.

Due in part to the changes in some state statutes of limitations regarding the time during which claims may be made and increased publicity, the number of allegations reported in 2019 was significantly high and this trend continued in 2020. It should be noted that the vast majority of these reports were historical in nature. The years of actual abuse remain consistent with the bell curve identified in *The Nature and Scope of Sexual Abuse of Minors by Catholic Priests and Deacons*

in the *United States 1950-2002* study conducted by the John Jay College of Criminology.¹ Details of recent claims are provided in Chapters Two and Three of this report. This influx of reports was accompanied by an increase in lawsuits. To continue the true mission of the Church, some dioceses have entered into Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection. Dioceses filing for bankruptcy during this audit period include the Archdiocese of New Orleans, Diocese of Buffalo, Diocese of Harrisburg, Diocese of Rochester, Diocese of St. Cloud, and Diocese of Syracuse. Utilizing this legal measure allows the diocese to continue working to support the marginalized of our society, provide spiritual guidance to all who ask and meet the needs of the many entities operated by the dioceses, such as schools, missions, and cemeteries.

Not to be dismissed is the global pandemic that has reached into every aspect of our lives. During midyear COVID-19 was identified as a growing crisis. By March of 2020 efforts to mitigate the spread of this disease led to operational closing of businesses, schools, and an end to large social gatherings. The Church was not immune from the impact. When it became clear that the pandemic would continue for an extended period, dioceses and parishes searched for ways to provide services while simultaneously protecting all. The Secretariat received inquiries and requests for assistance in developing strategies to continue the Church mission, while maintaining youth safety as youth education programs transitioned to remote gatherings, safe environment policies and procedures needed to be revised. The question became, 'How do we reach the youth through electronic means while maintaining a safe, secure environment with appropriate supervision?' Simultaneously Church leaders and employees charged with revising policies and programs were also not in the offices. This transition was managed in different ways with varying degrees of success in the early phases. By the end of the audit period (June 30) a new system for work was emerging and plans were actively being developed so that religious education programs, schools and other ministerial services could re-engage more fully in early fall. For safe environment programs this included a more thorough education of adult volunteers on protocols for online communication with youth, transitioning the usual adult safe environment training to all virtual format, and for some a change in the method of conducting background checks for employees and volunteers.

The *Charter* also requires safe environment training for youth which was disrupted when programs ended abruptly. Throughout the spring and summer, plans were developed to provide youth safe environment training remotely or rely on parents and guardians to present this essential knowledge to their children. To comply with *Charter* requirements a process also needed to be developed that could verify participation of the youth in this training.

DATA

Findings in Chapter Two: Stonebridge Audit Report and Chapter Three: Center for Applied Research in the Apostolic – Survey of Allegations and Costs are both encouraging and discouraging. The data reflects that instances of sexual abuse of minors has remained extremely low for the past 20 years. Admittedly, even one instance of abuse is one too many. The fact that reports have remained at this level for two decades suggests that the implementation of safe environment protocols has been effective. More adults are aware and willing to act when they witness suspect behaviors. Youth are more confident in thwarting inappropriate behavior and reporting concerns to adults/authorities. Persons with a known history of inappropriate behavior are not given access to our youth.

The bishops as a whole recognize the importance of youth safety and actively support the efforts of the respective protective offices. Of the 61 dioceses and eparchies audited 57 dioceses and eparchies are successfully implementing all *Charter* mandates and received a finding of 'compliance.' The bishop of each diocese and eparchy audited this year did agree to receive suggestions on how the individual diocese and eparchy might enhance safety protocols. Such deference to expertise ensures the diocese and eparchy reach well beyond the mandates of the *Charter*. There were two dioceses and two eparchies found to be non-compliant on one or more of the *Charter* articles. The Diocese of Fort Worth and the Diocese of Helena were found non-compliant with Article 2 of the *Charter*. Subsequently, bishops of both dioceses called a meeting of their respective Diocesan Review Boards. This would bring both into compliance with *Charter* mandates. St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy and Our Lady of Deliverance of Newark Eparchy were both found non-compliant with

Articles 12 and 13 of the *Charter*. Article 12 requires safe environment training for youth and adults. Article 13 requires background checks for all clerics and adults working with minors. The bishops of these Eparchies were provided with clear assessments and recommendations to address the areas in which they were found lacking. The CPCYP and the Secretariat will continue to offer support and guidance to these dioceses and eparchies so that they can effectively maintain a culture of safety and implement every article of the *Charter*. The Eparchy of St. Mary Queen of Peace and the Eparchy of St. Peter the Apostle did not participate in the audit or the data collection for this audit period. Efforts will be made to encourage full participation in future audits.

Pandemic travel restrictions did result in the interruption of Stonebridge Business Partners’ review of dioceses, but they were successful in transitioning to remote reviews and conducting interviews of diocesan leaders via electronic technology. To ensure that the reviews were thorough and accurate, the review window was extended and thus the publication of the final audit report was delayed. We are confident that this transition did not impact the accuracy of information garnered whether by in-person or remote review.

ARTICLES 8-11 OF THE CHARTER

Articles 8 through 11 of the *Charter* ensure the accountability of procedures for implementing the *Charter* across the United States, and therefore are not subject to audit. General information regarding the implementation of these articles on a national level can be found below.

ARTICLE 8

The *Charter* establishes the Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People (CPCYP). The CPCYP is to advise the USCCB with comprehensive planning and recommendations on all matters related to child and youth protection. The CPCYP meets on four occasions each year. There are two additional meetings with the National Review Board. The following list identifies the bishops, the regions they represent and consultants with particular expertise:

November 2018-November 2019

Bishop Timothy L. Doherty, Chair
Term expires in 2020

Bishop Peter Uglietto (I)
Term expires in 2020

Bishop Terry R. LaValley (II)
Term expires in 2019

Bishop Michael J. Fitzgerald (III)
Term expires in 2020

Bishop Barry C. Knestout (IV)
Term expires in 2020

Bishop Joseph R. Kopacz (V)
Term expires in 2019

November 2019-November 2020

Bishops

Bishop Timothy L. Doherty, Chair
Term expires in 2020

Bishop Peter Uglietto (I)
Term expires in 2020

Bishop John J. O’Hara (II)
Term expires in 2022

Bishop Michael J. Fitzgerald (III)
Term expires in 2020

Bishop Barry C. Knestout (IV)
Term expires in 2020

Bishop Fernand Cheri, III OFM Cap (V)
Term expires in 2022

Bishop David Walkowiak (VI)
Term expires in 2021

Bishop Donald J. Hying (VII)
Term expires in 2021

Bishop John T. Folda (VIII)
Term expires in 2021

Bishop Mark S. Rivituso (IX)
Term expires in 2020

Bishop Patrick J. Zurek (X)
Term expires in 2019

Bishop Joseph V. Brennan (XI)
Term expires in 2019

Bishop Andrew Bellisario, CM (XII)
Term expires in 2020

Bishop Stephen J. Berg (XIII)
Term expires in 2021

Bishop William Wack, CSC (XIV)
Term expires in 2020

Bishop Joy Alappat (XV)
Term expires in 2021

Bishop David Walkowiak (VI)
Term expires in 2021

Bishop Donald J. Hying (VII)
Term expires in 2021

Bishop John T. Folda (VIII)
Term expires in 2021

Bishop Mark S. Rivituso (IX)
Term expires in 2020

Bishop Michael F. Olson (X)
Term expires in 2022

Bishop John P. Dolan (XI)
Term expires in 2022

Bishop Andrew Bellisario, CM (XII)
Term expires in 2020

Bishop Stephen J. Berg (XIII)
Term expires in 2021

Bishop William Wack, CSC (XIV)
Term expires in 2020

Bishop Joy Alappat (XV)
Term expires in 2021

Consultants

Rev. Msgr. Jeffrey Burrill
Associate General Secretary
USCCB

Rev. Mark Padrez, O.P.
President
Conference of Major Superiors of Men

Rev. Ralph O'Donnell
Executive Director
Secretariat of Clergy, Consecrated Life
and Vocations, USCCB

Ms. Mary Ellen D'Intino
Director, Safe Environment Office
Diocese of Manchester

Rev. Msgr. Jeffrey Burrill
Associate General Secretary
USCCB

Dcn. Steve DeMartino.
Director for Safeguarding Initiatives
Conference of Major Superiors of Men

Rev. Luke Ballman
Executive Director
Secretariat of Clergy, Consecrated Life
and Vocations, USCCB

Ms. Mary Ellen D'Intino
Director, Safe Environment Office
Diocese of Manchester

Ms. Mary Jane Doerr
Director, Office of Protection of Children and Youth
Archdiocese of Chicago

Mr. Donald Schmid
Former NRB Member

Ms. Chieko Noguchi
Director of Public Affairs,
USCCB

Mr. Jeffrey Hunter Moon
Director of Legal Affairs
Office of General Counsel, USCCB

Ms. Siobhan Verbeek
Director
Canonical Affairs

Ms. Mary Jane Doerr
Director, Office of the Protection of Children and Youth
Archdiocese of Chicago

Mr. Donald Schmid
Former NRB Member

Ms. Chieko Noguchi
Director of Public Affairs,
USCCB

Mr. Jeffrey Hunter Moon
Director of Legal Affairs
Office of General Counsel, USCCB

Ms. Siobhan Verbeek
Director
Canonical Affairs

ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

To encourage fresh ideas and invigorate participation of all bishops, the CPCYP welcomes new membership every year from one-third of the episcopal regions. The new members this year are Bishop John O’Hara, Auxiliary Bishop of New York, Bishop Fernand Cheri, Auxiliary Bishop of New Orleans, Bishop Michael Olson, Bishop of Fort Worth and Bishop John Dolan, Auxiliary Bishop of San Diego. The chair-elect is Bishop James Johnston, Jr., Bishop of Kansas City, who will take his seat as chair in November of 2020.

The CPCYP works closely with the NRB in the pursuit of advanced knowledge and development of resources related to child abuse and child safety. During this audit period they collaborated on revising the Diocesan Review Board Resource Booklet with an anticipated publication release during the next audit year. Significant efforts were expended in a review of the annual *Charter* audit instruments and process. This effort identified several weaknesses and discussions for improvements are under way.

The ensuing changes will address lacunae identified and build upon the effectiveness of prior processes. The CPCYP has also asked the NRB to assist in the exploration of research-based studies regarding the effectiveness of training programs for safeguarding minors. This project is ongoing.

ARTICLE 9

The *Charter* specifically created the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection (Secretariat) and assigned to it three central tasks:

- To assist each diocese/eparchy in implementing Safe Environment programs designed to ensure necessary safety and security for all children as they participate in church and religious activities.
- To develop an appropriate compliance audit mechanism to assist the bishops and eparchs in adhering to the responsibilities set forth in the *Charter*.
- To prepare a public, annual report describing the compliance of each diocese/eparchy with the provisions of the *Charter*.

The Secretariat provides administrative staffing for the CPCYP and the NRB. It is a resource for bishops in the implementation of safe environment programs and resource for training and development of diocesan personnel responsible for child and youth protection programs. The Secretariat also serves as a resource to dioceses and eparchies on all matters of child and youth protection, including outreach to victims/survivors and child protection efforts. The Secretariat provides monthly reports to reflect the efforts of the Secretariat within the USCCB, the external support by the Secretariat to dioceses and eparchies on *Charter* related matters, and the work of the CPCYP and NRB as supported and facilitated by the Secretariat.

In developing an effective audit mechanism, the Secretariat works closely with a third party, independent auditor, StoneBridge Business Partners, to ensure compliance with responsibilities as set forth in the *Charter*. Details of the audit are set forth in this Annual Report.

The Secretariat's support of dioceses and eparchies includes sponsoring web-based communities to assist the missions of Victim Assistance Coordinators, Safe Environment Coordinators, and Diocesan Review Boards; preparing resource materials extracted from the audits; creating materials to assist in both healing and *Charter* compliance; and providing resources for Child Abuse Prevention Month in April. In keeping with the USCCB emphasis on collaboration, during the month of October, the Secretariat also focuses on the sanctity and dignity of human life as it joins with the Office of Pro-Life Activities in offering prayers and reflections. The Secretariat consults with the Committee on Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations to aid the development of Church leadership in living out their vocations in a manner that honors their commitment to our Lord and his people.

When invited, the Secretariat staff will visit dioceses and eparchies and offer assistance and training. On a limited basis and as needed, the staff of the Secretariat provides support to and referral of victims/survivors to resources that can aid them in their healing. Staff makes efforts to stay current of national and global events as well as advances in the field of child abuse prevention and healing. Relationships with other child serving organizations and professionals are constantly being developed to build

upon advancements in the field and efforts beyond the Church.

SECRETARIAT OF CHILD AND YOUTH PROTECTION STAFF

The following four staff members served in the Secretariat during the audit period of July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019.

Deacon Bernie Nojadera, Executive Director, has been with the Secretariat since 2011. He served as Director of the Office for the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults with the Diocese of San Jose, California, from 2002-2011. He was a pastoral associate at St. Mary Parish, Gilroy, California (1987-2002). He was awarded a Bachelor of Arts degree from St. Joseph College, Mountain View, California, in 1984; a Master of Social Work degree specializing in health and mental health services from San Jose State University in 1991; and a Master of Arts in theology from St. Patrick's Seminary and University, Menlo Park, California, in 2002. He was ordained a permanent deacon in 2008. He has been a member of the Diocese of San Jose Safe Environment Task Force, involved with the San Jose Police Department's Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, the County of Santa Clara Interfaith Clergy Task Force on the Prevention of Elder Abuse, and the County of Santa Clara Task Force on Suicide Prevention. He has worked as a clinical social worker for Santa Clara County Mental Health (1991-2000) and is a military veteran. He is married and has two adult children.

Melanie Takinen, Associate Director, has been with the Secretariat since August of 2016. From 2011-2016 she served as the Director of Safe Environment Training for the Diocese of Phoenix, where she implemented parish and school site visits to review adherence to diocesan child protection policies and procedures. Other employment includes academic counseling, youth ministry and social services. She holds a Master of Science in Psychology from the University of Phoenix, and a Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies with concentrations in Sociology and Education from Arizona State University.

Lauren Sarmir, Coordinator for Resources & Special Projects joined the staff of the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection in August 2019. Before

joining the team, Lauren served as Advancement Operations Manager for the Pontifical North American College's Office of Institutional Advancement. Her previous work experience includes: The Heritage Foundation, United States House and Senate, and United Kingdom House of Commons. Lauren holds a Master's degree in International Politics, and a Bachelor's degree in Politics specializing in Latin American Affairs/Hispanic Studies, both from The Catholic University of America. She and her husband live in Northern Virginia.

Laura Garner, Executive Assistant, joined the staff of the Secretariat on January 3, 2011. Previously, Ms. Garner served as a Staff Assistant in the Office of the General Counsel with the USCCB since 2008. Ms. Garner holds a BA in Psychology from Loyola College and an MA in Art Therapy from George Washington University. Before joining the USCCB, she worked at home as a medical transcriptionist while raising four children.

ACTIVITIES OF THE SECRETARIAT OF CHILD AND YOUTH PROTECTION

Protection and Healing

The Secretariat interacts daily with diocesan staff and the general public and is a vital resource for all who have an interest in protecting our most vital resource, children. Throughout the year, but specifically in April, resources are provided to promote awareness and safety. Consultation is available to assist bishops and diocesan staff in their work with those who have been so gravely harmed. Their desire to skillfully walk with victims down a path of healing is critical to spiritual wellbeing and transformation into thriving survivors. Prayer services are designed and available to all dioceses to foster a relationship with our Lord and comfort all who have been spiritually harmed.

Electronic Resources

Use of electronic resources has been utilized with increasing frequency in recent years. With the impact of the global pandemic this took on new dimensions. The Secretariat was instrumental in the development

of the new USCCB website which was launched this year. The new platform is sophisticated and provides every department technologically advanced options for reaching constituents. The Secretariat has increased its production of webinars and podcasts which are posted on the website for general consumption. Topics include interviews with field experts and healing services for all who have been impacted by the tragedy of sexual abuse. Remote gatherings have provided opportunities for diocesan child and youth protection staff to network, share knowledge and offer mutual support as they face very difficult situations in the execution of their duties.

A Resource Toolbox designed specifically for diocesan child and youth protection staff is continually updated. The content includes hundreds of sample documents and informative and educational recordings. Some are official publications that are the foundation of our work, such as the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* and *Essential Norms for Diocesan/Eparchial Policies Dealing with Allegations of Sexual Abuse of Minors by Priests or Deacons*. Others are sample forms and policies utilized throughout the nation as each diocese searches for ways to enhance their efforts. Professional articles are also available so that staff are able to implement protocols based on the latest research.

A three-tiered on-line educational program is being developed to explore in depth the abuse crisis and the efforts of the Catholic Church to respond. This is intended to provide Victim Assistance Coordinators, Safe Environment Coordinators, and other child and youth protection staff with a thorough understanding of the crisis and develop their abilities to address the issue at the diocesan level. The first level provides basic history and an introduction to the multitude of documents that have been produced to address the issue. Master and Expert levels of this program are taking form. The second and third levels will examine current research, develop advanced ways to assess current efforts and promote the development of more effective response to victims as well as protection for minors. The details are being finalized with an anticipated level one launch date during the next audit period.

HIGH RELIABLE ORGANIZATION TRAINING

The Secretariat continued to develop and refine a training program for dioceses and eparchies on the principles of high reliable organizations (HRO). The five basic principles as described by Karl E. Weick and Kathleen M Sutcliffe in *Managing the Unexpected*² are 1) preoccupation with failure, 2) reluctance to simplify, 3) sensitivity to operations, 4) commitment to resilience and 5) deference to expertise. Extensive research and effort was made to apply these principles as they relate to safe environment and victim assistance ministries within the Catholic Church. The formal program was created and includes diocesan/eparchial specific training with a reference workbook. In the first half of the year six dioceses were fully trained. They were Archdiocese of Santa Fe, Tucson, Oklahoma, Little Rock, Hartford and Dallas. Scheduled trainings for the end of the audit period were postponed due to the pandemic travel restrictions. The program was then modified to accommodate remote learning. A prerecorded lecture followed by real-time virtual discussion allowed for increased flexibility and participation. This format was quickly implemented beginning with the previously postponed presentations. Diocesan interest in the program remains strong and more trainings are planned.

While the focus of these trainings is intended for the offices of child and youth protection, the concepts are applicable to all departments and promote health throughout the dioceses. Training attendees include representatives from the bishop's office, at times the bishop himself, tribunal, vocations, religious formation, finance, communications, missions, evangelization, family and youth education, human resources and many more. Effective implementation of these five principles will promote mindfulness and a culture of accountability, consistency and organizational health within the dioceses and render all better able to Manage the Unexpected.³

CHILD AND YOUTH PROTECTION CATHOLIC LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

The Child and Youth Protection Catholic Leadership Conference is an opportunity for diocesan safe environment coordinators and victim assistance coordinators to convene in person for professional development, networking, and camaraderie with colleagues. The event was cancelled this year due to the global

pandemic. Plans are in the making for a conference in 2021 in Tulsa, OK with the hope that it is safe to gather.

ARTICLE 10

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops established the National Review Board (NRB) during their meeting in June of 2002. The NRB is to collaborate and advise the CPCYP on matters pertaining to the protection of youth. The NRB meets four times each year as well as two joint meetings with CPCYP. There are four standing subcommittees including Research and Trends, Audit, Communications and Nominations. Ad hoc committees are established as need arises. This all-volunteer Board is comprised of individuals with expertise in fields relevant to the work of the CPCYP. Potential candidates are nominated by their local bishops and go through an extensive evaluation process. Finalists are appointed by the USCCB President to serve four-year terms. National Review Board members during this audit period were:

Dr. Francesco Cesareo,
Chair
Term expires 2020

Ms. Stacie Schrieffler-LeBlanc
Term expires 2022

Ms. Amanda Callanan
Term expires 2020

Dr. John Sheveland
Term expires 2023

Adm. Gary Hall
Term expires 2020

Ms. Theresa Simak
Term expires 2022

Hon. Elizabeth Hayden
Term expires 2023

Ms. Jan Slattery
Term expires 2022

Ms. Suzanne Healy
Term expires 2022

Mr. Ernie Stark
Term expires 2020

Dr. Christopher McManus
Term expires 2021

Ms. Belinda Taylor
Term expires 2023

Ms. Eileen Puglisi
Term expires 2021

ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL REVIEW BOARD

The CPCYP is reliant on the expertise and advice of the NRB. Utilizing a rigorous selection process, four new members were nominated by the CPCYP to the USCCB president for appointments to this advisory group. After 7 years of service, Dr. Francesco Cesareo stepped down as Chair from membership on the Board. In June 2020, Ms. Suzanne Healy, former VAC in Los Angeles and current Board member, was appointed as the new chair.

The CPCYP sought the input of the NRB on all projects currently in development. This includes a revision of the Diocesan Review Board Resource Booklet, review of the annual *Charter* audit process, and exploration of research-based studies on the effectiveness of training programs for the safeguarding of minors. Additionally, the NRB assists the bishops in being ever mindful of their ongoing role in healing the wounds that have been inflicted on so many, and their commitment to transparency so that the Church can continue to build trust throughout the community.

ARTICLE 11

In accord with the *Charter* the President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Most Reverend José H. Gomez, Archbishop of Los Angeles, has shared a copy of this Annual Report with the Holy See.

CONCLUSION

This audit year has brought a multitude of challenges, some that were completely outside of our control, yet having significant impact on our working environment and culture. The sophistication of systems currently in place allowed for relatively quick adaptation to a world of social distancing and immersion into virtual engagement. We remain ever grateful to those who identify youth safety as a core value and passionately endeavor to protect all and promote the healing necessary to overcome the tragedies encountered.

While crises are by their very nature challenging and often painful, we are to be reminded that persecution can build a remarkable kingdom. The lessons learned, the skills developed, and the character cultivated can be tools necessary to carry on the mission set before us. It is with knowledge of the ever presence of our Lord that we persist forward to establish a world worthy of His great sacrifice and gift of grace.

NOTES

- 1 John Jay College of Criminal Justice of the City University of New York, *The Nature and Scope of Sexual Abuse of Minors by Catholic Priests and Deacons in the United States 1950-2002*, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, D.C. 2004
- 2 Weick, Karl E., and Sutcliffe, Kathleen M., *Managing the Unexpected*, San Francisco, Jossey-Bass, 2001.

CHAPTER TWO

STONEBRIDGE BUSINESS PARTNERS 2020 AUDIT REPORT

INTRODUCTION

This Audit Report summarizes the results of the 2020 *Charter* audits for inclusion in the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection’s Annual Report, in accordance with Article 9 of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*. Article 9 states, “The Secretariat is to produce an annual public report on the progress made in implementing and maintaining the standards in this *Charter*. The report is to be based on an annual audit process whose method, scope, and cost are approved by the Administrative Committee on the recommendation of the Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People. This public report is to include the names of those dioceses/eparchies which the audit shows are not in compliance with the provisions and expectations of the *Charter*.”

The 2020 *Charter* audits represent a one year audit period with 61 on-site visits and data collection for the remaining diocese and eparchies. StoneBridge Business Partners (StoneBridge) was first contracted in 2011 to provide audit services and collect data from the 197 Catholic dioceses and eparchies in the United States on behalf of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), the USCCB Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People, and the National Review Board.

StoneBridge Business Partners is a specialty consulting firm headquartered in Rochester, New York, which provides forensic, internal, and compliance auditing services to leading organizations nationwide. The substantive auditing processes utilized by StoneBridge are tailored to the specific objectives of each engagement. For the USCCB, StoneBridge worked with the Secretariat of Child and Youth

Protection (SCYP) to develop a comprehensive audit instrument, revise the charts used to collect data, and train StoneBridge staff and diocesan/eparchial personnel on the content, expectations and requirements of the *Charter* audits.

For the audit year 2020, StoneBridge physically visited 10 dioceses and utilized remote technologies to perform 51 additional remote visits to dioceses and eparchies, for a total of 61 on-site audit visits (“on-site audits”) and collected data (“data collection process”) from 134 others. Of the 61 dioceses/eparchies that participated in the on-site audits, there were four instances of non-compliance with certain aspects of the *Charter*. To be found compliant with the data collection process, the dioceses/eparchies only needed to submit Charts A/B and C/D. Therefore, dioceses and eparchies participating in the data collection process were found compliant with the audit requirements during the year. Two eparchies did not participate in either the on-site audit or data collection process during the 2020 audit year.

For on-site audits, compliance with the *Charter* was determined based on implementation efforts during the period of July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. The audit included Articles 1 through 7, and 12 through 17. Articles 8, 9, 10, and 11 are not the subject of these audits, but information on each of these Articles can be found in Section 1 Chapter 1 of the Annual Report.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INSTANCES OF ALLEGED SEXUAL ABUSE INVOLVING MINORS

The topic of sexual abuse of minors is a significant societal issue. It is estimated by RAINN (Rape, Abuse, and Incest National Network) that child protective services either substantiate, or find evidence for, a claim of child sexual abuse every nine minutes. The efforts of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops regarding this issue are documented in the *Charter to Protect Children and Young People* first drafted in 2002 and revised in 2005, 2011, and 2018.

During the audit period (July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020), Dioceses and Eparchies of the US Conference reported 22 current allegations involving minors. Approximately 25% of those allegations have been substantiated to date.

COVID – 19 DISRUPTION

During March of 2020, many areas of the United States experienced government orders to suspend business, school and church operations to slow the spread of COVID-19. The 197 dioceses and eparchies of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops had varying levels of disruption based upon the closure orders. As such, the final three and one-half months of the audit period were substantially different in level of operations than the first eight and one-half months.

StoneBridge observed a number of different techniques employed by dioceses/eparchies to maintain safe environment programs during this unprecedented time of disruption. StoneBridge extended the period of time to perform on-site audit visits for the 2020 year in order for dioceses/eparchies to recover from the disruptions. Remote technologies were implemented both within dioceses/eparchies and by StoneBridge to accommodate the 2020 audit process.

The disruptions in society that COVID brought about had never been experienced since the *Charter* was drafted in 2002. Adapting to new circumstances caused inconsistencies from prior periods in how safe environments were maintained. New techniques implemented due to COVID may remain in place once COVID subsides. The impact on the audit and subsequent periods is noteworthy.

INSTANCES OF NON-COMPLIANCE

For the 2020 audit period, there were four findings of Non-Compliance.

The Diocese of Fort Worth was found non-compliant with Article 2 due to the Review Board not meeting during the audit period. Subsequent to the audit period, the Diocese convened a meeting of the Review Board which brings the Diocese into compliance with Article 2 of the *Charter*.

The Diocese of Helena was found non-compliant with Article 2 due to the Review Board not meeting during the audit period. Subsequent to the audit period, the Diocese convened a meeting of the Review Board which brings the Diocese into compliance with Article 2 of the *Charter*.

St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy was found non-compliant with Articles 12 and 13 due to being unable to provide evidence of background screening and training of adults whose duties included contact with minors.

Our Lady of Deliverance of Newark Eparchy was found non-compliant with Articles 12 and 13 due to the lack of a safe environment training program for minors and a lack of background screening and safe environment training for volunteers whose duties included contact with minors.

INSTANCES OF NON-PARTICIPATION

The Eparchy of St. Mary Queen of Peace, and the Eparchy of St. Peter the Apostle did not participate in either the on-site or data collection process, thus no information on these locations could be included in this report.

COMMENTS ON THE AUDIT ENVIRONMENT

COVID – 19 Disruption

The Audit Environment shifted dramatically in March of 2020 due to the global pandemic of COVID-19. The following were observed by the auditors:

- Chanceries and parishes were closed due to physical distancing requirements
- Ministries were paused and restarted in a virtual format in many places

- Safe environment training of children and adults was temporarily suspended
- New delivery methods of training for adults and children were explored
- Background screening of adults working with children was interrupted
- Turnover of staff and reduced staffing levels within chanceries and parishes

The audit process itself was extended three months to allow dioceses and eparchies the necessary time to prepare. Remote audit procedures were introduced to the audit process to allow for audits to continue when travel to dioceses and eparchies was not recommended.

Key Position Turnover

We have observed that turnover of key positions in a diocese/eparchy can lead to a decline in a safe environment program and, in some cases, non-compliance with the *Charter*. StoneBridge defines key positions as the following: Bishop, Review Board Chair, Safe Environment Coordinator, and Victim Assistance Coordinator. During transitional periods of key positions the level of risk to the safe environment is increased. We noted that COVID has impacted Key Position Turnover. As such, the audit environment risk for the audit period was at a greater level than during a period of stability. Subsequent audit periods are likely to be impacted as well, until the effects of COVID and Key Position Turnover subside.

The USCCB has tools available to dioceses/eparchies that can assist during a transition period. We suggest that dioceses/eparchies consider consulting with the USCCB Office of Child and Youth Protection when key positions are in flux to obtain suggestions and materials that may be useful in reducing the risk in the Audit Environment.

Charter requirements and Vos estis lux mundi

StoneBridge has observed a variety of opinions regarding how the *Charter* and *Vos Estis Lux Mundi* (promulgated by Pope Francis May 9, 2019) relate to each other. The *Charter* which is specific to the US Conference of Catholic Bishops and applies to all clergy, deals strictly with the issue of sexual abuse of minors. *Vos Estis Lux Mundi* is a universal church

document and deals specifically with the discipline of bishops on various matters.

StoneBridge is engaged to audit compliance with the *Charter*. StoneBridge has no role regarding the US Conference of Catholic Bishops implementation of *Vos Estis Lux Mundi*.

We believe that the *Charter* and *Vos Estis Lux Mundi* work in parallel with each other as opposed to one document superseding the other.

StoneBridge's position is that the *Charter* applies to bishops. A Statement of Episcopal Commitment which accompanies the *Charter* states "*We will apply the requirements of the Charter also to ourselves, respecting always Church law as it applies to bishops.*" This indicates to us that bishops intend for the *Charter* to apply to themselves. As such, when an allegation is received regarding a bishop, StoneBridge believes that articles of the *Charter* apply to the situation, such as the Articles dealing with Healing and Reconciliation.

Articles 4 through 7 of the *Charter* are titled "To Guarantee an Effective Response to Allegations of Sexual Abuse of Minors". Article 5 of the *Charter* states "dioceses/eparchies are to follow the requirements of the universal law of the Church and the *Essential Norms* approved for the United States." This statement indicates that *Vos Estis Lux Mundi*, as universal law, would apply in *Charter* related allegations against bishops specifically regarding the procedures for discipline of the bishop involved.

When performing an on-site audit, StoneBridge applies the *Charter* to observed facts and circumstances of a diocese/eparchy. StoneBridge does not apply *Vos Estis Lux Mundi* to observed facts and circumstances of a diocese/eparchy.

The audit environment that StoneBridge works in is not immune to confusion over which Church laws should be applied to a set of facts and circumstances. We respect diocesan/eparchial interpretation of Church laws while auditing, however, we must remain clear on the objectives of our work and strictly follow the interpretations of the *Charter*. The introduction of *Vos Estis Lux Mundi* increases the complexity of the audit environment due to potential conflicts in interpretations.

Conclusion

The audit environment is complex, dynamic and specific to each Diocese/Eparchy. We believe the complexities of the abuse issues present difficulties

in forming an effective response. We encourage Bishops to engage their review boards, outside legal professionals, professionals with abuse related expertise, and others in laity to assist in the development of an effective response within their Diocese/Eparchy.

We recognize the structure of the Church and Canon Law leaves the response of the Church in the hands of each Bishop. We encourage Bishops to continue discerning an appropriate path for the US Conference as a whole to pursue regarding *Charter* issues and other forms of abuse within the clergy.

COMMENTS ON SELECTIVE AUDIT TOPICS

ADDITIONAL ACTIONS OF DIOCESES AND EPARCHIES

There are a number of steps that Dioceses and Eparchies have taken that go beyond the specific requirements of the *Charter*. We believe these activities provide for a stronger safe environment and we encourage the continuation of these activities.

- 100% of on-site visits requested an optional management letter from the auditors during the period. These letters provide suggestions to the Bishop for their consideration while implementing *Charter* procedures within their Diocese/Eparchy.
- Approximately 65% of dioceses/eparchies indicated that they perform parish audits in some form on a regular or “as needed” basis. It is our observation that Chancery offices who maintain regular face-to-face contact with parishes have better results in implementing training and background check procedures than those who do not. StoneBridge continues to suggest to dioceses/eparchies that they consider the feasibility of implementing a formal process to periodically visit parish and school locations in order to review documentation and assess compliance with safe environment requirements. These visits allow the diocese/eparchy to gain a better understanding of how policies and procedures are being implemented at the parish and school level and assist in ensuring compliance with safe environment requirements. We

believe the key element in this process is the development of a relationship that enhances communications between the parish and chancery locations.

- Over 80% of dioceses/eparchies indicated that they require some type of reoccurring adult training. Although not required by the *Charter*, StoneBridge continues to suggest to dioceses/eparchies that they consider implementing a policy for renewing safe environment training for all clergy, employees, and volunteers on a periodic basis (suggested every 5 to 7 years). The training is a good way to ensure that everyone is aware of the importance of the program and will provide them with any new information regarding the protection of children and young people that may have developed from the last time they received training.
- Over 90% of dioceses/eparchies indicated that they require background check renewals. Although not required by the *Charter*, StoneBridge continues to suggest to dioceses/eparchies that they consider renewing background checks periodically (suggested every 5 to 7 years). Renewing background checks ensure that the diocese/eparchy has the most up to date information on those working with minors.
- 22 dioceses elected to have StoneBridge conduct parish/school audits as part of our on-site visit. A total of 98 parishes/schools were visited. While optional, StoneBridge continues to encourage dioceses/eparchies to include these in their visits, especially if they do not currently conduct their own audits.

LIMITATIONS OF THE AUDIT METHODOLOGY

Failure to Participate in the Audit Process

Participation in the audit process is not required under the *Charter*. StoneBridge has yet to witness full participation from all Dioceses and Eparchies during the ten audit cycles we have been engaged. Until there is full participation in an audit period, we are limited in our ability to opine on whether or not the *Charter* has been fully implemented within the US conference.

Parish/School Site visits

As noted under additional actions, approximately 65% of Dioceses/Eparchies have a formal process in place to visit parishes and schools to verify implementation of *Charter* policies at a local level. This leaves approximately 35% of Dioceses and Eparchies that do not have a visitation procedure in place to verify that parishes and schools have effectively implemented *Charter* procedures at the local level. While this process is not a *Charter* requirement, the lack of on-site verification of implementation limits our visibility on whether or not the *Charter* has been effectively implemented within those Dioceses and Eparchies.

Review of Clergy Files

A number of Dioceses and Eparchies have undertaken a review of Clergy files in recent years. Subsequent to some of these reviews, Dioceses and Eparchies have either released lists of clergy who have substantiated allegations of sexual abuse of a minor or updated lists previously released. The file review information and the lists published by Dioceses and Eparchies are not part of the audit process.

Seminaries

StoneBridge makes inquiries of Diocesan staff responsible for the formation of seminarians. StoneBridge does not normally visit Seminaries located within a Diocese.

Resources of Dioceses and Eparchies and Submission of Data on Charts A/B and C/D

We have noted in past years that each Diocese and Eparchy has different levels of resources available to implement the *Charter*. Some Dioceses/Eparchies have developed practically seamless methods for requesting and collecting the necessary data to support whether their clergy, employees, and volunteers who work with children are appropriately trained and background checked. Other dioceses and eparchies continue to struggle with outdated information, lack of cooperation at the parish/school level, and inefficient processes for the information gathered. During the audit period, COVID-19 impacted dioceses and

eparchies abilities to gather data for submission regardless of the systems in place.

Upon review of the information presented, we noted instances of incomplete or inaccurate information being provided on Charts A/B and C/D. While the impacts of COVID-19 can not be ignored, there has been a history of incomplete or inaccurate data in the submission of the Charts during the ten years that StoneBridge has provided their services. For the current audit period, 35% of Dioceses and Eparchies submitted the data past the due date. The late submission limits the ability to review Charts A/B and C/D for completeness and accuracy. It is important to note that while there is a review of the information submitted, StoneBridge does not audit the data collected from Charts A/B and C/D.

OTHER AUDIT FINDINGS AND COMMENTS

The following sections detail observations StoneBridge auditors made during the on-site audit process of this audit period. We believe that if addressed proactively by Dioceses and Eparchies, a safer environment could be achieved. Each topic is categorized by *Charter* article and the frequency with which it was encountered.

Section I details topics we believe could have an impact on a diocese's/eparchy's ability to fully implement the *Charter*.

Section II details topics we believe would facilitate the improvement of policies, procedures, and programs related to the *Charter*.

SECTION I – IMPLEMENTATION OBSERVATIONS

15-25% of Dioceses/Eparchies visited

Article 2 - Policies and Procedures

- Reporting procedures were not available in printed form in all principal languages in which the liturgy is offered. This potentially limits the ability of non-English speaking populations to report instances of abuse.

- Reporting procedures were not consistently displayed at parishes and schools.

Articles 12 and 13 – Screening, Training and Monitoring Issues (highly impacted by COVID)

- Some clergy, employees, and volunteers were not trained or background checked, but had contact with children.

It is important that dioceses/eparchies are effectively monitoring parishes and schools to ensure those working with children have the proper training and background checks.

- A high percentage of children were reported as untrained. For those dioceses/eparchies that wait until spring to train, a large percentage of children were untrained due to the onset of COVID.

It is the responsibility of the diocese/eparchy to work with parishes to ensure the training program for children/youth is working effectively. We did receive reports of dioceses/eparchies requesting that parishes and schools complete training earlier in the school year going forward.

- Safe environment personnel expressed difficulties in getting parishes and schools to respond to their requests. This affects the ability to effectively monitor compliance with the safe environment program requirements. With parish and school closures due to COVID, this issue was more pronounced than in prior audit periods.
- Parishes/schools had difficulty in providing a current listing of employees and volunteers to demonstrate training and background check figures being reported to the diocese/eparchy. In some cases, parishes/schools were not required to submit any type of roster with their annual reporting to the diocese/eparchy. The diocese/eparchy cannot effectively monitor compliance without at least being able to verify the number of people being reported from parishes/schools each year.
- Poor recordkeeping of individuals trained and background checked led to inaccurate reporting of statistics on Chart C/D.

Less than 5% of Dioceses/Eparchies visited

Article 5 – Monitoring Issues

- There was no formal plan in place to monitor the whereabouts or activities of clergy removed from active ministry.

Article 7 – Communications Policy

- No formal Communications Policy concerning communications with the public regarding sexual abuse of minors by clergy.

SECTION II - POLICY AND PROCEDURE OBSERVATIONS

60% of Dioceses/Eparchies visited

Article 2 – Review Board Functioning

- We observed a variety of topics indicating some dysfunction of Review Boards including lack of meetings, inadequate composition or membership, not following the by-laws of the Board, members not confident in their duties, lack of rotation of members, and lack of review of Diocesan/Eparchial policies and procedures.

The Review Board is intended to be a confidential consultative body to assist the Bishop. Dioceses/Eparchies are encouraged to use the resources and talents of their review board members to ensure that *Charter* related policies and procedures are relevant.

25 to 40% of Dioceses/Eparchies visited

Articles 2, 5, and 6 – Policies and Procedures/Codes of Conduct

- The Child Protection Policy did not include language regarding Child Pornography or Individuals who habitually lack the use of reason per the 2011 *Charter* update.
- The Codes of Conduct did not include language regarding Child Pornography or Individuals

who habitually lack the use of reason per the 2011 *Charter* update.

These topics indicate that there is not an active internal review process by the Review Board of Diocesan/Eparchial policies and procedures as suggested by the *Charter*.

Article 12 – Promulgation Letters

- Article 12 requires dioceses/eparchies to maintain a “safe environment” program which the diocesan/eparchial Bishop deems to be in accord with Catholic moral principles. This is typically done through a promulgation letter. We observed either outdated letters that were not inclusive of programs in use by parishes and schools, letters from a previous Bishop, or no documented promulgation.

10 to 25% of Dioceses/Eparchies visited

Article 2 – Victims Assistance Coordinators

- There were instances where the Victim’s Assistance Coordinator was a member of clergy or was performing duties that could be considered a conflict of interest when coordinating pastoral care for those sexually abused.
- There were instances where the Victim Assistance Coordinator was not fully aware of all of their responsibilities.

Article 12 – Safe Environment Training

- Renewal training is not required by the *Charter*. We noted Dioceses/Eparchies that were not effectively monitoring compliance with their own internal policy requirements for renewal training.

Article 13 – Background Screening

- Renewal of Background Checks is not required by the *Charter*. We noted Dioceses/Eparchies that were not effectively monitoring compliance with their own internal policy requirements for renewal of background checks.

5 to 10% of Dioceses/Eparchies visited

Article 12 – Training Programs

- Training programs (primarily for children) were not consistently applied within the Diocese/Eparchy.

AUDIT PROCESS

The following paragraphs detail the audit process, including a description of what is to be expected of dioceses/eparchies with regard to audit documents, audit preparation, on-site visits, remote procedures and the completion of the audit.

Due to COVID restrictions, all of the StoneBridge hosted training sessions were performed remotely. Prior to the start of the audit year, StoneBridge and the SCYP distributed several presentations to all safe environment coordinators and other diocesan/eparchial representatives to educate them on our audit process and approach. Additionally, these materials expressed our anticipated changes due to COVID concerns and restrictions. Subsequent to the distribution of the training materials, StoneBridge and SCYP hosted two Question and Answer conference calls to discuss and answer questions regarding our updated audit process and approach. Other training materials and recordings were also developed by StoneBridge to assist safe environment coordinators and other diocesan/eparchial representatives prepare for the on-site audit, including: Orientation to the Charter (a 5 part series), Review Board Considerations, and Chart A/B Guidance.

Whether participating in an on-site audit or a data collection audit, each diocese and eparchy is required to complete two documents; Chart A/B and Chart C/D. These Charts were developed by StoneBridge and the SCYP, and are used to collect the information necessary from each diocese for inclusion in the Annual Report.

Chart A/B summarizes allegations of sexual abuse of a minor by a cleric as reported to a specific diocese during the audit year. Chart A/B contains information such as the number of allegations, the date the alleged abuse was reported, the approximate dates the alleged abuse occurred, the nature of the allegations including whether the victim is a current minor, the outcome of any investigations, if the allegation

was reported to the diocesan review board and the status of the accused cleric as of the end of the audit period. Chart A/B also reports the number of abuse survivors and/or family members served by outreach during the audit period. Information from Chart A/B is used to compile statistics related to *Charter* Articles 1, 2, 4 and 5.

Chart C/D summarizes the compliance statistics related to Articles 12 and 13, such as:

- total children enrolled in Catholic schools and parish religious education programs
- total priests, deacons, candidates for ordination, employees, and volunteers ministering in the diocese or eparchy
- total number of individuals in each category that have received safe environment training and background evaluations
- programs used for training each category
- agencies used for background evaluations
- frequency of training and background evaluations
- method used for collecting the data from parishes and schools

Statistics from Charts A/B and C/D are presented in *Appendix I*.

During a data collection audit, StoneBridge reviewed both Charts A/B and C/D for completeness and clarified any ambiguities. Afterward, the Charts were forwarded to the SCYP as proof of the diocese/eparchy's participation.

In addition to Charts A/B and C/D, on-site audit participants are required to complete the Audit Instrument, which asks a diocese or eparchy to explain how they are compliant with each aspect of the *Charter*, by Article. During the audit, StoneBridge verified Audit Instrument responses through interviews with diocesan/eparchial personnel and review of supporting documentation.

StoneBridge staff employ various interview techniques during the performance of these audits. The interview style is relaxed and conversational, versus interrogative. The intent is to learn about an interviewee's role(s) at the diocese or eparchy, specifically as his or her role(s) relate to *Charter* implementation. In addition, auditors may interview survivors of abuse and accused clerics, if any are willing. The objective of these interviews is to ensure that both survivors

and the accused are being treated in accordance with guidelines established in the *Charter*.

Parish audits are an optional, but nonetheless important part of the audit methodology. During parish audits, StoneBridge auditors, often accompanied by diocesan/eparchial personnel, visit random diocesan/eparchial parishes and schools to assess the effectiveness of the *Charter* implementation program. StoneBridge staff review database records and a selection of physical files maintained at the parish or school to determine whether employees and volunteers are appropriately trained and background checked. The auditors interview parish/school personnel, and visually inspect posted information on how or where to report an allegation of abuse. The auditors also inquire as to the parishes' policies involving visiting priests. During the 2020 audit year, parish audits could also be performed by utilizing remote procedures.

At the completion of each on-site audit, the auditors prepare up to three letters. The first letter is called the Compliance Letter. This letter communicates to bishops and eparchs whether their dioceses/eparchies are found to be in compliance with the *Charter*. The Compliance Letter is brief, and states that the determination of compliance was "based upon our inquiry, observation and the review of specifically requested documentation furnished to StoneBridge Business Partners during the course of our audit." Any specific instances of noncompliance, if applicable, would be identified in this communication and expanded upon accordingly.

The second letter is referred to as the Participation Letter. This letter communicates that the diocese/eparchy has submitted contact information, Chart A/B and Chart C/D. It also indicates the year of the next scheduled on-site audit.

The third letter is optional, unless compliance is considered in jeopardy, and is called the Management Letter. This letter communicates to the bishop or eparch any suggestions that the auditors wish to make based on their findings during the on-site audit. Any comments made in these letters, as each Management Letter states, "do not affect compliance with the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*; they are simply suggestions for consideration." When a situation exists where compliance is in jeopardy, the comments regarding potential compliance issues are separated in the letter from the ones that are simply suggestions. The letter states

that these issues must be resolved or it could affect compliance at their next on-site audit. As part of the audit process, StoneBridge follows up with these dioceses and eparchies at the end of the following audit year to see what progress they have made with the recommendations.

In any case, suggestions for improvements are delivered verbally during the on-site audit. A list of all the dioceses and eparchies that received on-site audits during 2020 can be found in *Appendix II* of this report.

At the completion of each data collection audit, the bishop or eparch will receive two letters, a participation and data collection compliance letter. The participation letter communicates that the diocese/eparchy has submitted contact information, Chart A/B and Chart C/D. It also indicates the year of the next scheduled on-site audit. The data collection compliance letter states whether or not a diocese or eparchy is “in compliance with the data collection requirements for the 2019/2020 *Charter* audit period.” Receipt of this letter does not imply that a diocese or eparchy is compliant with the *Charter*. Compliance with the *Charter* can only be effectively determined by participation in an on-site audit.

A diocese/eparchy may also receive a data collection memo with their compliance letter. These memos do not affect the compliance of the dioceses/eparchy. They are issued for situations that could potentially cause compliance issues in the future, during the next onsite audit.

A description of each Article and the procedures performed to determine compliance are detailed below:

ARTICLE 1

Article 1 states, “Dioceses/eparchies are to reach out to victims/survivors and their families and demonstrate a sincere commitment to their spiritual and emotional well-being. This outreach may include counseling, spiritual assistance, support groups, and other social services agreed upon by the victim and the diocese/eparchy.” The most common form of outreach provided is payment or reimbursement for professional therapy services. Some dioceses/eparchies will offer other forms of financial support on a case-by-case basis.

When the victim/survivor comes forward him or herself, or with the assistance of a friend or relative, dioceses and eparchies are able to freely communicate with the survivor about available support services and assistance programs. When a survivor comes forward through an attorney, by way of a civil or bankruptcy claim, or the diocese/eparchy is made aware of an allegation as part of an ongoing investigation by law enforcement, dioceses and eparchies may be prevented from providing outreach directly to the survivor. In some cases, however, we find that dioceses and eparchies have attempted to fulfill their *Charter* obligation under Article 1 by communicating information about available support services and assistance programs to the agents of the survivors.

To assess compliance with Article 1, StoneBridge reviewed documentation to support efforts made during the current audit period to offer outreach to victims.

ARTICLE 2

Article 2 has multiple compliance components related to a diocese/eparchy’s response to allegations of sexual abuse of minors. First, Article 2 requires that policies and procedures exist for prompt responses to allegations of sexual abuse of minors. StoneBridge reviewed these policies for completeness, including updates to policies for *Charter* revisions.

Second, Article 2 requires dioceses and eparchies to “have a competent person or persons to coordinate assistance for the immediate pastoral care of persons who report having been sexually abused as minors by clergy or other church personnel.” Most dioceses and eparchies fulfill this requirement by appointing a Victim Assistance Coordinator (“VAC”). Survivors are directed to contact this individual to make reports about child sexual abuse by clergy. Sometimes the contact person is not the VAC, but a different individual working in the pastoral center.

Article 2 also states that “procedures for those making a complaint are to be available in all principal languages in which the liturgy is celebrated in the diocese/eparchy and be the subject of public announcements at least annually.” Dioceses and eparchies comply with this component by publishing versions of policies and procedures in multiple languages. The existence of these procedures is typically made known to the public by an announcement in

the diocesan/eparchial paper, newsletter, website, and some form of publication at the parish level.

The fourth component of compliance with Article 2 concerns the review board. The *Charter* requires every diocese and eparchy to have an independent review board “to advise the diocesan/eparchial bishop in his assessment of allegations of sexual abuse of minors and his determination of a cleric’s suitability for ministry.” In addition, the review board may be charged with regularly reviewing policies and procedures for responding to allegations. A diocese’s or eparchy’s compliance with this component of Article 2 is determined by interviews with review board members, and the review of redacted meeting minutes and agendas from review board meetings that took place during the audit period.

ARTICLE 3

Article 3 prohibits dioceses and eparchies from requesting confidentiality as part of their settlements with survivors. Confidentiality is only allowed if requested by the survivor and must be noted so in the text of the agreement. As evidence of compliance with this Article, dioceses and eparchies provided auditors with redacted copies of complete settlement agreements for review.

ARTICLE 4

Article 4 requires dioceses and eparchies to report an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor to the public authorities and cooperate with their investigation. Additionally, dioceses/eparchies are to advise victims of their right to make a report to public authorities in every instance. Compliance with Article 4 is determined by a review of related policies and procedures, letters to local authorities regarding new allegations, and interviews with diocesan/eparchial personnel responsible for making the reports. In some instances, auditors reach out to the applicable public authorities and confirm diocesan cooperation.

Article 4 also covers the reporting protocol for an allegation of abuse against an individual who habitually lacks the use of reason. The *Charter* was updated in 2011 to include in the definition of a “minor” any adult who “habitually lacks the use of reason.” During the review of policies and procedures, auditors

attempted to locate specific language regarding this matter in relevant diocesan and eparchial policies.

ARTICLE 5

Article 5 of the *Charter* has two components: removal of credibly accused clerics in accordance with canon law, and the fair treatment of all clerics against whom allegations have been made, whether the allegations are deemed credible or not. Accused clerics should be accorded the same rights as victims during an investigation of an allegation. They should be offered civil and canonical counsel, accorded the presumption of innocence, and given the opportunity to receive professional therapy services.

Compliance with Article 5 is determined by a review of policies and procedures, review of relevant documentation (such as decrees of dismissal from the clerical state, decrees mandating a life of prayer and penance, prohibitions concerning the exercise of public ministry, etc.), and interviews with diocesan/eparchial personnel.

ARTICLE 6

Article 6 is concerned with establishing and communicating appropriate behavioral guidelines for individuals ministering to minors. Compliance with Article 6 is determined by a review of a diocese/eparchy’s Code of Conduct, related policies and procedures, and through interviews with diocesan/eparchial personnel.

ARTICLE 7

Article 7 requires dioceses/eparchies to be open and transparent with their communications to the public regarding allegations of sexual abuse of minors by clergy, especially those parishes that may have been affected. The *Charter* does not address the timeliness of such communication, so for the purposes of our audit, a diocese or eparchy was considered compliant if the diocese could demonstrate that at a minimum, a cleric’s removal is formally announced to the affected parish community.

ARTICLE 12

Article 12 of the *Charter* calls for the education of minors and those who minister to minors about ways to create and maintain a safe environment for children and young people. For a diocese or eparchy to be considered compliant with Article 12, the bishop and his staff must be able to demonstrate that training programs exist, the bishop approves the programs, and the appropriate individuals have participated in the training.

During the audits, StoneBridge reviewed training program materials, letters of promulgation regarding the programs, and the recordkeeping method by which a diocese/eparchy tracks whether or not individuals have been trained.

ARTICLE 13

Article 13 of the *Charter* requires dioceses and eparchies to evaluate the background of clergy, candidates for ordination, educators, employees, and volunteers who minister to minors. Specifically, they are to utilize resources of law enforcement and other community agencies. To assess compliance, StoneBridge reviewed the background check policy and the recordkeeping method by which a diocese/eparchy tracks the background check clearances.

Article 13 also addresses the policies and procedures in place for obtaining necessary suitability information about priests or deacons who are visiting from other dioceses or orders. To determine compliance, StoneBridge requested copies of letters of suitability received during the period and inquired as to the diocese/eparchy's retention policy for those letters.

ARTICLE 14

Article 14 governs the relocation of accused clerics between dioceses. Before clerics who have been accused of sexual abuse of a minor can relocate for residence, the cleric's home bishop must communicate suitability status to the receiving bishop. To assess compliance with Article 14, auditors reviewed diocesan/eparchial policies to understand the procedures for receiving transferred and visiting priests and deacons. StoneBridge also inquired of the appropriate

personnel to confirm that practice was consistent with the policy.

ARTICLE 15

Article 15 has two components, only one of which is subject to our audit. That requirement is for bishops to have periodic meetings with the Major Superiors of Men whose clerics are serving within a diocese or eparchy. The purpose of these meetings is to determine each party's role and responsibilities in the event that an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor is brought against a religious order cleric. To assess compliance with Article 15, auditors reviewed copies of calendar appointments, letters documenting the meetings, and discussions with Bishops and delegates who were involved in the meetings.

ARTICLE 16

Article 16 requires dioceses and eparchies to cooperate with other organizations, especially within their communities, to conduct research in the area of child sexual abuse. At minimum, dioceses and eparchies should participate in the annual Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA), the results of which are included in the SCYP's Annual Report.

Auditors inquired of dioceses and eparchies as to what other churches and ecclesial communities, religious bodies, or institutions of learning they have worked with in the area of child abuse prevention.

ARTICLE 17

Article 17 covers formation of clergy, from seminary to retirement. Compliance with this Article is assessed by interviewing diocesan/eparchial personnel responsible for formation of clergy and candidates for ordination, and by review of supporting documentation such as registration forms for clergy seminars, textbooks used for the formation of candidates for the permanent diaconate, and brochures describing priestly retreats.

CONCLUSION

By authorizing these annual audits, the bishops and eparchs of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops demonstrate their commitment to the

protection of children and the prevention of sexual abuse of the vulnerable among us. Prevention is made possible by the commitment and effort of the personnel involved in the *Charter's* implementation. We recognize the dedication of these individuals and we are grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with them throughout the year. Finally, we thank the Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People, the National Review Board, and the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection for their ongoing support of the audit process.

DEFINITIONS

The definitions presented below refer to select terms used in this report.

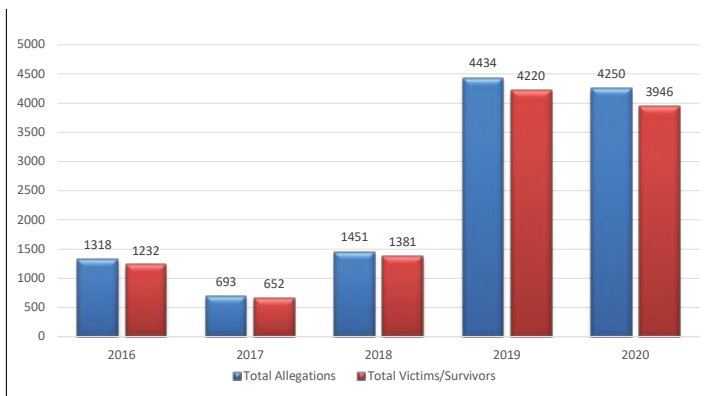
- “Bishop” refers to the head of any diocese or eparchy, and is meant to include bishops, eparchs, and apostolic administrators.
- “Candidates for ordination” refers to all men in formation, including seminarians and those preparing for the permanent diaconate.
- “Canon Law” refers to the body and laws of regulations made by or adopted by ecclesiastical authority for the government of the Christian organization and its members.
- “Children and youth” includes all students enrolled in diocesan/eparchial schools and religious education classes.
- “Clergy” is defined as the body of all people ordained for religious duties. In the context of the *Charter*, clergy includes priests and deacons.
- “Deacons” includes religious order or diocesan deacons in active or supply ministry in a diocese/eparchy (including retired deacons who continue to celebrate occasional sacraments).
- “Educators” includes paid teachers, principals, and administrators in diocesan/eparchial and parish schools.
- “Employees” refers to paid persons (other than priests/deacons or educators) who are employed by and work directly for the diocese/eparchy or parish/school such as central office/chancery/pastoral center personnel, youth ministers who are paid, parish ministers, school support staff, and rectory personnel.
- “Investigation ongoing” describes an allegation in which the diocese/eparchy has started an investigation, but has not yet completed it and has not yet determined credibility.
- “Laicized” or more correctly, “removed from the clerical state” results in the cessation of obligations and rights proper to the clerical state.
- “Minor” includes children and youth under age 18, and any individual over the age of 18 who habitually lacks the use of reason.
- “Priests” includes religious order or diocesan priests in active or supply ministry in a diocese/eparchy (including retired clerics who continue to celebrate occasional sacraments).
- “Sexual Abuse” in context to the *Charter* involves a “delict against the sixth commandment of the Decalogue committed by a cleric with a minor below the age of eighteen years.” In addition, as of 2011, it includes “the acquisition, possession, or distribution by a cleric of pornographic images of minors under the age of fourteen, for purposes of sexual gratification, by whatever means or using whatever technology.”
- “Substantiated” describes an allegation for which the diocese/eparchy has completed an investigation and the allegation has been deemed credible/true based upon the evidence gathered through the investigation.
- “Survivor/victim” refers to any victim of clergy sexual abuse while he or she was a minor, as defined above.
- “Unable to be proven” describes an allegation for which the diocese/eparchy was unable to complete the investigation due to lack of information.
- “Unsubstantiated” describes an allegation for which an investigation is complete and the allegation has been deemed not credible/false based upon the evidence gathered through the investigation.
- “Volunteers” refers to unpaid personnel who assist the diocese/eparchy (including parishes and schools) such as catechists, youth ministers, and coaches.

APPENDIX I – STATISTICS

TOTAL ALLEGATIONS

Between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2020, 4,250 allegations were reported by 3,946 victims/survivors of child sexual abuse by clergy throughout 195 Catholic dioceses and eparchies. These allegations represent reports of abuse between an alleged victim and an alleged accused, whether the abuse was a single incident or a series of incidents over a period of time. The abuse was alleged to have occurred from the 1940’s to the present. Chart 1-1 below summarizes the total allegations and total victims/survivors by audit year from 2016 through 2020.

Chart 1-1: Total Allegations 2016-2020



The number of allegations reported in 2020 was comparable to the total allegations reported in 2019. As reported in 2019, the high number of allegations is in part due to the allegations received as a result of lawsuits, compensation programs, and bankruptcies, making up approximately 66% of allegations. These programs allow those who have previously reported allegations as well as those who have not yet come forward, to be considered for some type of monetary compensation. Additionally, 1% of allegations were a result of clergy file reviews during the current audit period.

For purposes of this audit, the investigation of an allegation has five potential outcomes. An allegation is “substantiated” when the diocese/eparchy has completed an investigation and the allegation has been deemed credible/true based upon the evidence

gathered through the investigation. An allegation is “unsubstantiated” when the diocese/eparchy has completed an investigation and the allegation has been deemed not credible/false based upon the evidence gathered through the investigation. An allegation is “unable to be proven” when the diocese/eparchy was unable to complete the investigation due to lack of information—this is generally the outcome of an investigation when the accused cleric is deceased, or his status or location is unknown. Since the information collected was as of June 30, 2020, some allegations were still under investigation and categorized as “investigation ongoing.” In other cases, an investigation had not yet begun for various reasons, or the allegation had been referred to another diocese/eparchy or is still in the compensation/bankruptcy process. These were categorized as “Other.” Chart 1-2 below summarizes the status of the 4,250 allegations as of June 30, 2020.

Chart 1-2: Status of Allegations as of June 30, 2020

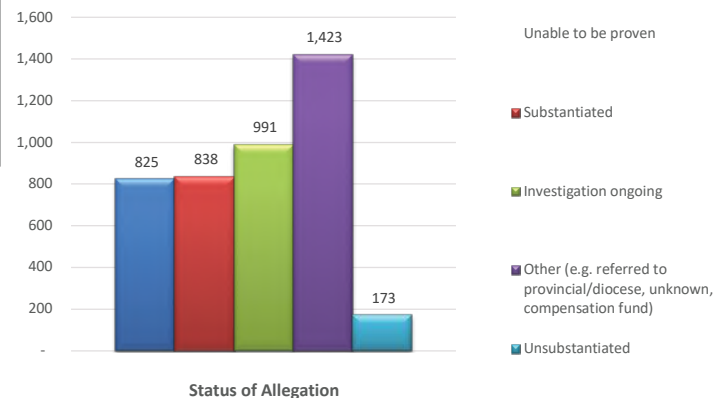
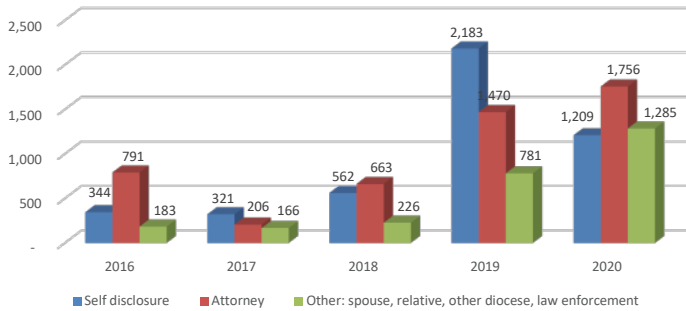


Chart 1-3 below summarizes the ways in which allegations were received from 2016 through 2020. Out of the 4,250 allegations, a total of 1,756, or 41%, were brought to the attention of the diocesan/eparchial representatives through an attorney, making this the principal reporting method during the 2019/2020 audit period. Allegations made by spouses, relatives, or other representatives such as other dioceses/eparchies, religious orders, clergy members, or law enforcement officials on behalf of the victim/survivor

were the second most popular method of reporting, totaling 1,285 allegations. The remaining 1,209 allegations were made by self disclosure.

Chart 1-3: Methods of Reporting Allegations 2016-2020



During the current audit period, dioceses/eparchies provided outreach and support services to 572 victims/survivors and their families who reported during this audit period. Continued support was provided to 1,886 victims/survivors and their families who reported abuse in prior audit periods.

As part of the audit procedures, StoneBridge asked dioceses and eparchies to report on Chart A/B the date the abuse was reported, and the date outreach services were offered. StoneBridge compared these dates to determine how prompt outreach services were offered to victims/survivors from the dioceses and eparchies as required by Article 1.

Of the 4,250 allegations reported during the audit period, a date of outreach was not provided for 2,838 allegations. Reasons for this included COVID-19 disruption, instances of anonymous reporting, lack of contact information for the victim, victims who came through an attorney, allegations reported due to clergy file reviews, and situations where the victim stated in their report that they did not want any assistance.

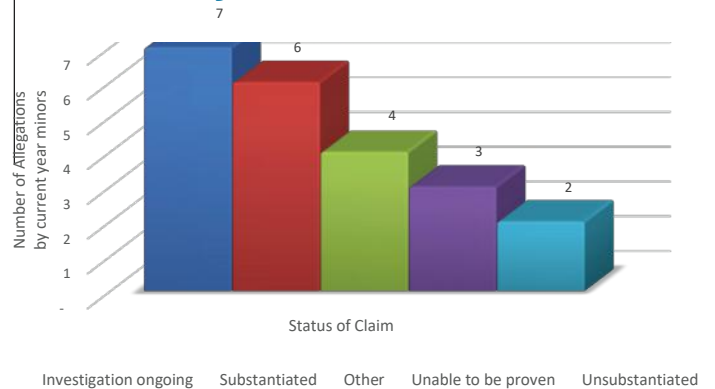
Of the 1,412 allegations where a date of outreach was known, 1,110 were within 30 days, 131 were over 30 days, and the date was unknown in 171 allegations.

Allegations involving Minors

Out of the 4,250 allegations, 22 involved current year minors—consisting of 13 males, 8 females, and one is unknown. Six of the allegations were substantiated, the substantiated allegations derived from five different dioceses. Of the remaining allegations, seven

were categorized as investigation ongoing, two were unsubstantiated, three were categorized as “unable to be proven,” and four were categorized as “other.” Chart 4-1 below summarizes the status of each of the 22 claims made by current year minors as of June 30, 2020.

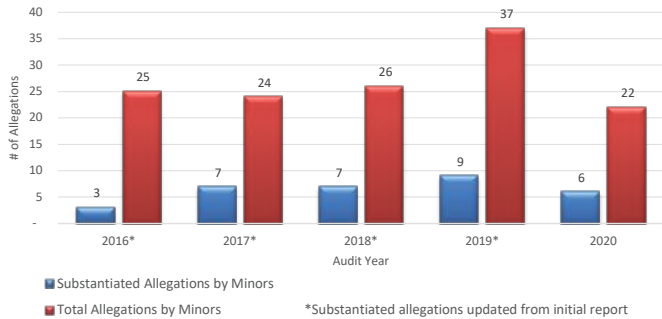
Chart 4-1: Status of claims by current year minors as of June 20, 2020



Revisions to the *Charter* in 2011 included classification of allegations to expand to those who “habitually lack the use of reason” and the acquisition, possession, and distribution of child pornography. There were two allegations involving adults who “habitually lacks the use of reason” and nine allegations involving child pornography. Of the nine child pornography allegations, seven were still under investigation, one was referred to the provincial, and one was substantiated as of June 30, 2020.

Part of StoneBridge’s audit procedures is to follow up with prior year allegations that involved minors where the investigation was ongoing. For the period ending June 30, 2020, Stonebridge followed up on one allegation which was determined to be substantiated. The remaining 11 allegations from 2019 are still categorized as investigation ongoing. Chart 4-2 below compares the total number of allegations by minors with substantiated claims by minors over the last five years.

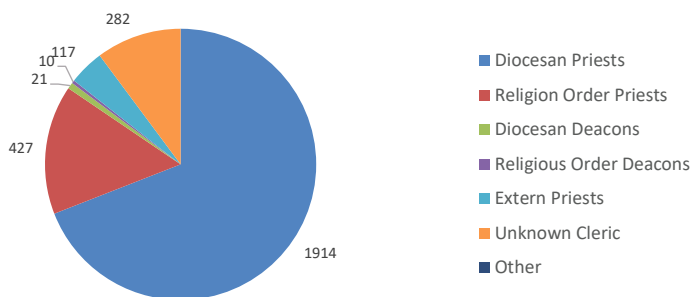
Chart 4-2: Total Allegations by Minors vs. Substantiated Allegations 2016-2020



Accused Clerics

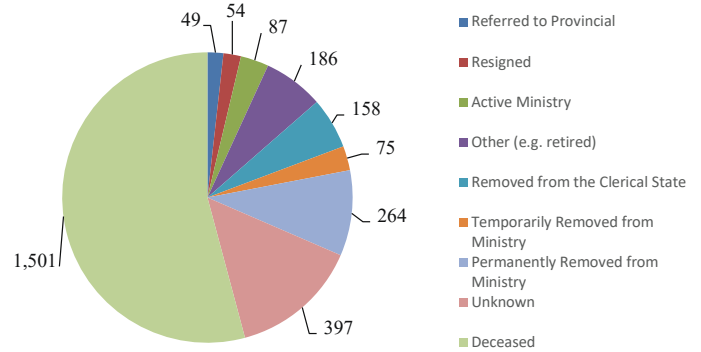
The number of clerics accused of sexual abuse of a minor during the audit period totaled 2,771. The accused clerics were categorized as priests, deacons, unknown, or other. An “unknown” cleric is used for a situation in which the victim/survivor was unable to provide the identity of the accused. “Other” represents a cleric from another diocese for which details of ordination and/or incardination were not available/provided. Accused priests of the audit period totaled 2,458. Of this total, 1,914 were diocesan priests, 427 belonged to a religious order, and 117 were incardinated elsewhere. There were 31 deacons accused during the audit period. Of this total, 21 were diocesan deacons, and ten were religious order deacons. Allegations brought against “unknown” clerics totaled 282. Of the total identified clerics, 1,189, or 43%, had been accused in previous audit periods. See Chart 4-3 below for summary of accused type.

Chart 4-3: Accused Type



See Chart 5-1 below for a summary of the status of the 2,771 accused clerics as of June 30, 2020.

Chart 5-1: Status of Accused Clerics as of June 30, 2020



Training and Background Check Statistics

StoneBridge collected current year safe environment training for each diocese/eparchy. The figures provided by dioceses/eparchies for Article 12 were not audited by StoneBridge. The *Charter* does not require clergy, employees, and volunteers to renew safe environment training or background check information. However, some dioceses/eparchies choose to require some form of refresher training and background check renewal. A complete list of safe environment training programs used in dioceses and eparchies can be found on the SCYP website. It is important to note that the figures reported in the categories below, excluding the children category, represent individuals who have been trained at least once.

TRAINING

Children	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Dioceses/eparchies participating	195	194	194	194	194	190	188	191
Total children	3,661,972	4,008,467	4,209,857	4,411,279	4,538,756	4,666,507	4,828,615	4,910,240
Total children trained	3,100,151	3,685,276	3,914,972	4,117,869	4,267,014	4,371,211	4,484,609	4,645,700
Percent trained	84.7%	91.9%	93.0%	93.3%	94.0%	93.7%	92.9%	94.6%
Percent opted out	1.0%	1.0%	1.3%	1.0%	1.1%	1.2%	1.0%	1.2%

Priests	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Total priests	33,469	33,628	33,814	33,917	35,815	36,158	35,470	36,131
Total priests trained	32,600	33,244	33,542	33,448	35,475	35,987	35,319	35,914
Percent trained	97.4%	98.9%	99.2%	98.6%	99.1%	99.5%	99.6%	99.4%

Deacons	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Total deacons	16,457	16,344	16,414	16,328	16,423	16,300	16,164	16,245
Total deacons trained	16,391	16,204	16,318	16,177	16,294	16,251	16,089	16,129
Percent trained	99.6%	99.1%	99.4%	99.1%	99.2%	99.7%	99.5%	99.3%

Candidates for Ordination	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Total candidates	6,662	6,564	6,787	7,028	6,902	6,577	6,602	6,458
Total candidates trained	6,617	6,482	6,677	6,944	6,847	6,473	6,503	6,360
Percent trained	99.3%	98.8%	98.4%	98.8%	99.2%	98.4%	98.5%	98.5%

Educators	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Total educators	164,279	173,236	175,151	172,832	162,988	164,628	161,669	168,782
Total educators trained	163,112	170,611	173,611	170,678	159,764	162,803	160,757	167,953
Percent trained	99.3%	98.5%	99.1%	98.8%	98.0%	98.9%	99.4%	99.5%

Other Employees	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Total other employees	256,538	273,156	267,052	270,750	269,250	269,090	256,668	257,222
Total other employees trained	250,480	264,847	261,215	263,606	258,978	260,356	250,087	251,146
Percent trained	97.6%	97.0%	97.8%	97.4%	96.2%	96.8%	97.4%	97.6%

Volunteers	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Total volunteers	2,107,964	2,218,853	2,205,252	2,088,272	1,984,063	1,976,248	1,971,201	1,936,983
Total volunteers trained	2,069,213	2,136,439	2,163,099	2,041,019	1,912,152	1,930,262	1,931,872	1,902,143
Percent trained	98.2%	96.3%	98.1%	97.7%	96.4%	97.7%	98.0%	98.2%

BACKGROUND CHECKS

Priests	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Dioceses/eparchies participating	195	194	194	194	194	190	188	191
Total priests	33,469	33,628	33,814	33,917	35,815	36,158	35,470	36,131
Total priests background checked	32,923	33,195	33,592	33,540	35,346	35,720	35,308	35,970
Percent checked	98.4%	98.7%	99.3%	98.9%	98.7%	98.8%	99.5%	99.6%

Deacons	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Total deacons	16,457	16,344	16,414	16,328	16,423	16,300	16,164	16,245
Total deacons background checked	16,417	16,320	16,389	16,222	16,050	16,257	16,006	16,199
Percent checked	99.8%	99.9%	99.8%	99.4%	97.7%	99.7%	99.0%	99.7%

Candidates for Ordination	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Total candidates	6,662	6,564	6,787	7,028	6,902	6,577	6,602	6,458
Total candidates background checked	6,634	6,506	6,711	6,971	6,841	6,577	6,568	6,428
Percent checked	99.6%	99.1%	98.9%	99.2%	99.1%	100.0%	99.5%	99.5%

Educators	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Total educators	164,279	173,236	175,151	172,832	162,988	164,628	161,669	168,782
Total educators background checked	163,442	170,163	173,706	170,719	157,468	158,556	160,273	168,013
Percent checked	99.5%	98.2%	99.2%	98.8%	96.6%	96.3%	99.1%	99.5%

Other Employees	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Total other employees	256,538	273,156	267,052	270,750	269,250	269,090	256,668	257,222
Total other employees background checked	254,766	268,417	263,915	265,599	260,409	263,690	251,189	253,587
Percent checked	99.3%	98.3%	98.8%	98.1%	96.7%	98.0%	97.9%	98.6%

Volunteers	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Total volunteers	2,107,964	2,218,853	2,205,252	2,088,777	1,984,063	1,976,248	1,971,201	1,936,983
Total volunteers background checked	2,083,752	2,156,234	2,163,670	2,022,360	1,927,053	1,935,310	1,931,612	1,898,136
Percent checked	98.9%	97.2%	98.1%	96.8%	97.1%	97.9%	98.0%	98.0%

APPENDIX II: ON-SITE AUDITS PERFORMED BY STONEBRIDGE DURING THE 2020 AUDIT PERIOD

- Diocese of Albany, NY
- Diocese of Allentown, PA
- Diocese of Arlington, VA
- Diocese of Austin, TX
- Diocese of Baton Rouge, LA
- Diocese of Bismarck, ND
- Archdiocese of Boston, MA
- Diocese of Brownsville, TX
- Diocese of Buffalo, NY
- Diocese of Burlington, VT
- Diocese of Charleston, SC
- Diocese of Charlotte, NC
- Diocese of Cheyenne, WY
- Archdiocese of Chicago, IL
- Archdiocese of Cincinnati, OH
- Diocese of Dallas, TX
- Diocese of Davenport, IA
- Archdiocese of Denver, CO
- Archdiocese of Detroit, MI
- Diocese of Duluth, MN
- Diocese of El Paso, TX
- Diocese of Fort Worth, TX
- Diocese of Gaylord, MI
- Diocese of Green Bay, WI
- Diocese of Harrisburg, PA
- Archdiocese of Hartford, CT
- Diocese of Helena, MT
- Diocese of Jefferson City, MO
- Diocese of Joliet, IL
- Diocese of Monterey, CA
- Diocese of Nashville, TN
- Archdiocese of Newark, NJ
- Diocese of Norwich, CT
- Archdiocese of Omaha, NE
- Diocese of Orange, CA
- Eparchy of Our Lady of Deliverance of Newark of the Syrians, NJ
- Eparchy of Parma (Byzantine Eparchy of), OH
- Eparchy of Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of St. Peter, TX
- Eparchy of Phoenix (Byzantine Eparchy of)- formerly Van Nuys, AZ
- Diocese of Phoenix, AZ
- Archeparchy of Pittsburgh, Byzantine Rite, PA
- Diocese of Pittsburgh, PA
- Diocese of Portland, ME
- Diocese of Reno, NV
- Diocese of Rockville Centre, NY
- Diocese of Salt Lake City, UT
- Diocese of San Angelo, TX
- Diocese of Scranton, PA
- Diocese of Shreveport, LA
- Diocese of Sioux City, IA
- Diocese of Sioux Falls, SD
- Diocese of Spokane, WA
- Diocese of Springfield, IL
- Diocese of Springfield, MA
- Eparchy of St. Nicholas in Chicago for Ukrainians, IL
- Diocese of St. Petersburg, FL
- Eparchy of St. Thomas the Apostle (Southfield, MI) (“Detroit Chaldeans”), MI
- Diocese of Stockton, CA
- Diocese of Syracuse, NY
- Diocese of Trenton, NJ
- Diocese of Youngstown, OH

APPENDIX III: ON-SITE AUDITS INVOLVING STONEBRIDGE PARISH/SCHOOL VISITS DURING THE 2020 AUDIT PERIOD

- Diocese of Allentown
- Diocese of Arlington
- Diocese of Austin
- Diocese of Buffalo
- Archdiocese of Cincinnati
- Archdiocese of Detroit
- Diocese of Duluth
- Diocese of Fort Worth
- Diocese of Green Bay
- Diocese of Harrisburg
- Archdiocese of Hartford
- Diocese of Jefferson City
- Diocese of Joliet
- Diocese of Pittsburgh
- Diocese of Portland
- Diocese of Salt Lake City
- Diocese of Scranton
- Diocese of Springfield in Illinois
- Diocese of Springfield in Massachusetts
- Diocese of Syracuse
- Diocese of Trenton
- Diocese of Youngstown

SECTION II

2020



CHAPTER THREE

2020 SURVEY OF ALLEGATIONS AND COSTS

A SUMMARY REPORT FOR THE SECRETARIAT OF CHILD AND YOUTH PROTECTION UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

FEBRUARY 2021, JONATHON L. WIGGINS, PH.D., MARK M. GRAY, PH.D.

INTRODUCTION

At their Fall General Assembly in November 2004, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) commissioned the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) at Georgetown University to design and conduct an annual survey of all the dioceses and eparchies whose bishops or eparchs are members of the USCCB. The purpose of this survey is to collect information on new allegations of sexual abuse of minors and the clergy against whom these allegations were made. The survey also gathers information on the amount of money dioceses and eparchies have expended as a result of allegations as well as the amount they have paid for child protection efforts. The national level aggregate results from this survey for each calendar year are prepared for the USCCB and reported in its *Annual Report of the Implementation of the “Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People.”* A complete set of the aggregate results for ten years (2004 to 2013) is available on the USCCB website.

Beginning in 2014, the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection changed the reporting period for this survey to coincide with the July 1-June 30 reporting period that is used by dioceses and eparchies for their annual audits. Since that time, the annual survey of allegations and costs captures all allegations

reported to dioceses and eparchies between July 1 and June 30. This year’s survey, the 2020 Survey of Allegations and Costs, covers the period between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020. Where appropriate, this report presents data in tables for audit year 2020 compared to audit year 2019 (July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019), 2018 (July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018), 2017 (July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017), 2016 (July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016), 2015 (July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015), and 2014 (July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014).¹

The questionnaire for the *2020 Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs* for dioceses and eparchies was designed by CARA in consultation with the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection. While the versions of the questionnaire used from 2004 to 2019 were nearly identical, this year’s survey revised the questions concerning the details of the allegations (but the questions about the alleged perpetrators and the costs remain the same). In previous years, details about the allegations and the alleged perpetrators were only gathered about the credible allegations that were both reported and classified as credible in that fiscal year. This year’s survey, on the other hand, collects those details about those allegations and alleged perpetrators that were deemed

¹ Before 2014, this survey was collected on a calendar year basis. For discussion of previous trends in the data, refer to the 2013 Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs as reported in the *2013 Annual Report on the Implementation of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, published by the USCCB Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection.

credible during this fiscal year (July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020) regardless of when they were first reported to the arch/diocese, eparchy, or religious institute. Where equivalent, comparisons are made to the previous year's data. Where the data is not equivalent, no comparisons are made.

As in previous years, CARA prepared an online version of the survey and hosted it on the CARA website. Bishops and eparchs received information about the process for completing the survey in their mid-July correspondence from the USCCB and were asked to provide the name of the contact person who would complete the survey. The Conference of Major Superiors of Men (CMSM) also invited major superiors of religious institutes of men to complete a similar survey for their congregations, provinces, and monasteries. Religious institutes of brothers also participated in the survey of men's institutes, as they have since 2015. This year's questionnaire was the third to have alterations in sections of the survey for religious institutes to measure the diagnoses of the alleged offenders.

CARA completed data collection for the 2020 annual survey in January 2021. All but two of the 197 dioceses and eparchies of the USCCB completed the survey, for a response rate of 99 percent.² A total of 154 of the 228 religious institutes that belong to CMSM responded to the survey, for a response rate of 68 percent. The overall response rate for dioceses, eparchies, and religious institutes was 82 percent, lower than the response rate of 89 percent for this survey last year. Once CARA had received all data, it then prepared the national level summary tables and graphs of the findings for the period from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020.

DIOCESES AND EPARCHIES

The Data Collection Process

CARA and the Secretariat contacted every diocese or eparchy that had not sent in a contact name by late August 2020 to obtain the name of a contact person to complete the survey. Dioceses and eparchies began submitting their data for the 2020 survey in September 2020. CARA and the Secretariat sent

multiple reminders by e-mail and telephone to these contact persons, to encourage a high response rate.

By January 2021, all but two of the 197 dioceses and eparchies of the USCCB had responded to the survey, for a response rate of 99 percent.³ The participation rate among dioceses and eparchies has been nearly unanimous each year of this survey. Beginning in 2004 and 2005 with response rates of 93 and 94 percent, respectively, the response reached 99 percent each year from 2006 to 2014, was 100 percent for 2015 and 2016, and was 99 percent for 2017, 2018, and 2019.

A copy of the survey instrument for dioceses and eparchies is included in this report in Appendix I.

Credible Allegations Received by Dioceses and Eparchies

As is shown in Table 1, the responding dioceses and eparchies reported that between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020, they judged 1,539 allegations of sexual abuse of a minor by a diocesan or eparchial priest or deacon to be credible.⁴ These allegations were made by 1,529 individuals against 1,115 priests or deacons. Of the 1,539 allegations deemed credible during this reporting period (July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020), no allegation involved children under the age of 18 in 2020. Nearly all of the other allegations were made by adults who are alleging abuse when they were minors.

Table 1. New Allegations Deemed Credible in FY 2020 by Dioceses and Eparchies

	Victims	Allegations	Offenders
FY 2020	1,529	1,539	1,115

Sources: Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs, 2020

² The Diocese of Pueblo and the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon, Maronite (California) did not provide a response.

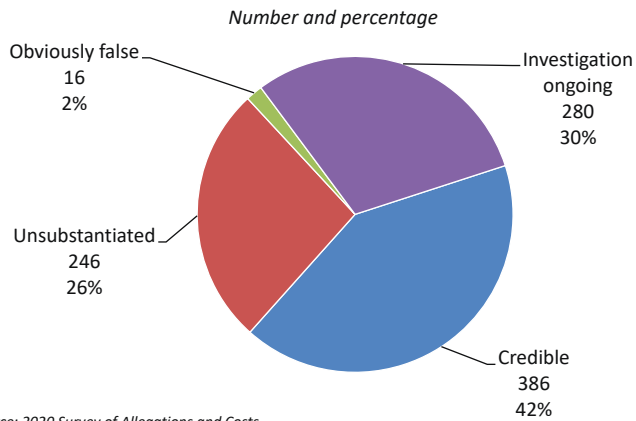
³ The Diocese of Pueblo and the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon, Maronite (California) did not provide a response.

⁴ As was mentioned in the Introduction, this year's survey is the first to collect details about all allegations that were deemed credible during this past fiscal year (July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020) regardless of when they were first reported to the arch/diocese, eparchy, or religious institute. If that same system had been used in last year's report, the total number of allegations for dioceses and eparchies would have been 2,727. This year's figure of 1,539 would be a 44 percent reduction from last year's figure.

Determination of Credibility for Allegations First Received in Previous Fiscal Years

Every diocese and eparchy follows a process to determine the credibility of any allegation of clergy sexual abuse, as set forth in canon law and the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*. Figure 1 shows those allegations received before July 1, 2019 (928 in total). More than four-tenths of the previously-received allegations were found to be credible (42 percent), three-tenths were unable to be determined without investigation (30 percent), a quarter were found to be unsubstantiated (26 percent), and less than one in 20 was determined to be false (2 percent).

Figure 1. Resolution in Fiscal Year 2020 of Allegations Received before July 1, 2019: Dioceses and Eparchies

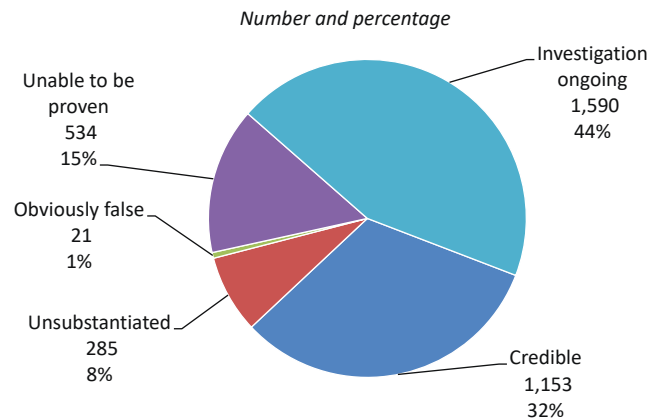


Determination of Credibility for Allegations First Received in This Fiscal Year

Figure 2 presents the outcome for 3,583 allegations first received between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020. Dioceses and eparchies were asked to categorize these new allegations into one of these categories: credible, unsubstantiated, obviously false, and investigation ongoing. As can be seen below, more than four-tenths of new allegations received in fiscal year 2020 require more investigation before they can be classified (44 percent), a third were deemed credible (32 percent), one in seven was classified as unable to be proven (15 percent), nearly one in ten was

unsubstantiated (8 percent), and 1 percent has been determined to be obviously false.

Figure 2. Determination of Credibility for New Allegations First Received in Fiscal Year 2020: Dioceses and Eparchies

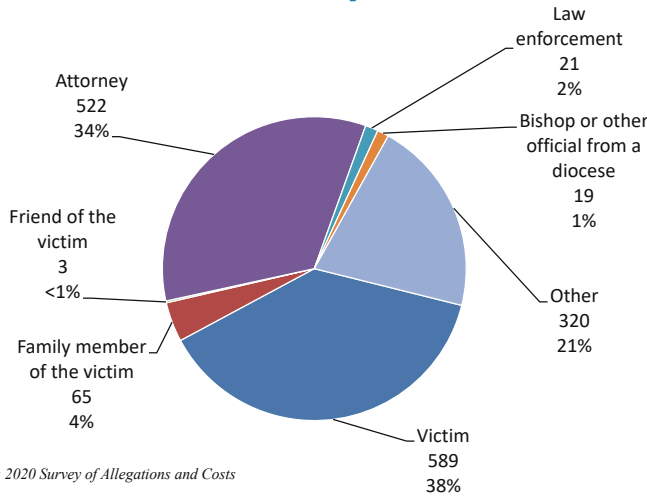


The remainder of this subsection of the report for dioceses and eparchies details the 1,539 allegations that have been classified as credible during this fiscal year, both those first received in a previous fiscal year (the 386 credible allegations shown in Figure 1) and those first received during this fiscal year (the 1,153 credible allegations shown in Figure 15).

Figure 3 illustrates the way in which these 1,539 allegations of abuse were reported to the dioceses or eparchies between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020. Nearly four-tenths of new allegations were reported by a victim (38 percent) and a third were reported by an attorney (34 percent). Less than one in 20 was reported by any other category of persons: a family member of a victim (4 percent), law enforcement (2 percent), a bishop or other official from a diocese (1 percent), and a friend of a victim (less than 1 percent). Twenty-one percent were reported by an “other” source, such as an independent victim compensation program, another diocese, a Review Board investigator, the alleged perpetrator, the victim abuse counselor of the diocese, a document review by the diocese, a third party not related to or a friend of the victim, an independent diocesan investigator,

an official of a Catholic organization, a bankruptcy court, a diocesan employee, or a therapist.

Figure 3. Method of Reporting Allegations of Abuse: Dioceses and Eparchies

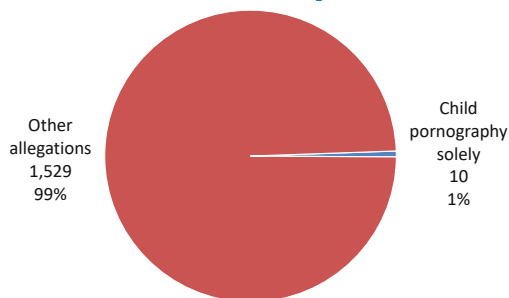


Source: 2020 Survey of Allegations and Costs

Although this year’s report gives details about credible allegations from this as well as previous fiscal years, comparisons can still be useful. Compared to report year 2019, slightly fewer allegations were reported by a victim (45 percent in 2019 compared to 38 percent) and by an attorney (40 percent compared to 34 percent). Also, more “other” methods of reporting were identified during fiscal year 2020 than in the previous fiscal year (21 percent in 2020 compared to 6 percent in 2019).

Figure 4 presents the percentage of all allegations of abuse that were cases solely involving child pornography. Of the 1,539 total allegations deemed credible from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019, 1 percent of allegations solely involved child pornography.

Figure 4. Percentage of Allegations Solely Involving Child Pornography: Dioceses and Eparchies



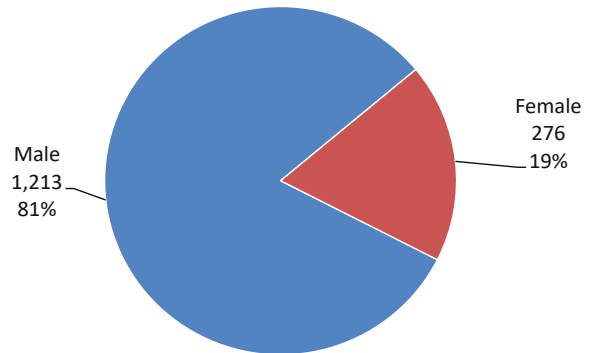
Source: 2020 Survey of Allegations and Costs

In the previous year (July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019), no allegations solely involved child pornography.

Victims, Offenses, and Offenders

The gender of 40 of the 1,539 alleged victims reported between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020 was not identified in the allegation. Among those for whom the gender of the victim was reported, 81 percent were male and 19 percent were female. This proportion is illustrated in Figure 5.

Figure 5. Gender of Abuse Victim: Dioceses and Eparchies

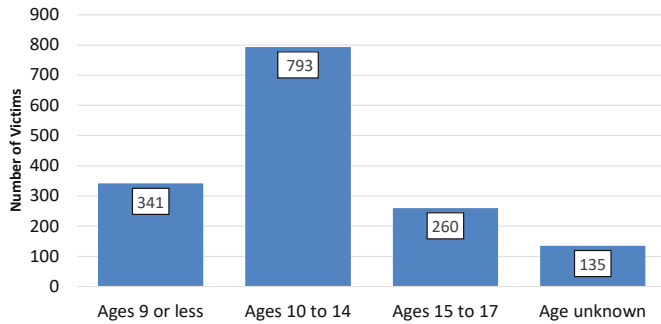


Source: 2020 Survey of Allegations and Costs

The percentages reported for year 2020 in Figure 5 are similar to those reported for year 2019 (July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019), where 80 percent of the victims were male and 20 percent were female.

Some 135 of the 1,529 credible allegations that did not solely involve child pornography did not include information about the alleged victims’ ages. Among those 1,394 where the ages are known, nearly six in ten allegations involved victims who were between the ages of 10 and 14 (57 percent) when the alleged abuse began. A quarter were under age 10 (24 percent) and just under two in ten were between the ages of 15 and 17 (19 percent). Figure 6 presents the distribution of victims by age at the time the alleged abuse began.

Figure 6. Age of Victim When Abuse Began: Dioceses and Eparchies



Source: 2020 Survey of Costs and Allegations

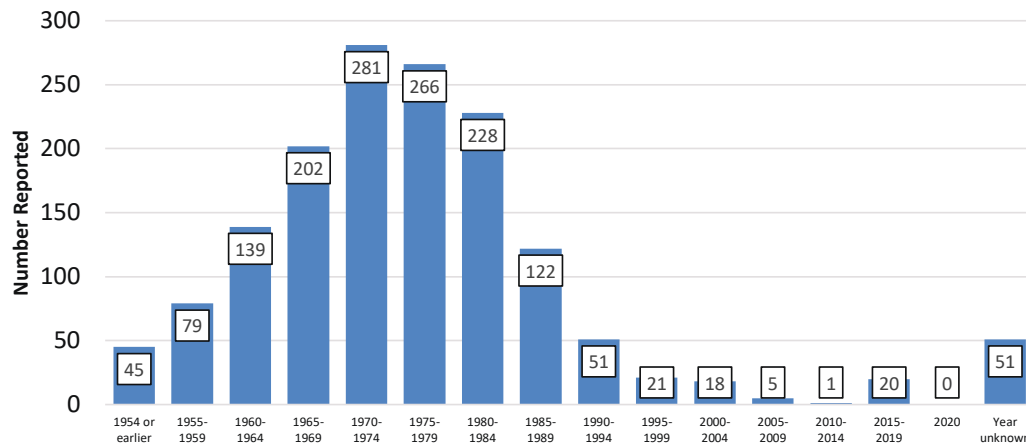
This year’s percentages are similar to those in year 2019 (July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019). For that time period, 22% of allegations involved victims ages 9 or

less, 59% involved victims between the ages of 10 and 14, and 19% involved victims between the ages of 15 and 17.

Figure 7 shows the years in which the abuse reported was alleged to have occurred or begun. For 51 of the allegations (3 percent) deemed credible between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020, no time frame for the alleged abuse could be determined. Among those where a time frame could be determined, 50 percent of all new allegations were said to have occurred or begun before 1975, 47 percent between 1975 and 1999, and 3 percent since 2000. The most common time period for allegations reported was 1970-1974 (281 allegations), followed by 1975-1979 (266 allegations).⁵

⁵ Note that this distribution is similar to the one on p. 35 of this report, which shows the cumulative distribution since 2004.

Figure 7. Year the Alleged Offense Occured or Began: Dioceses and Eparchies



Source: 2020 Survey of Costs and Allegations

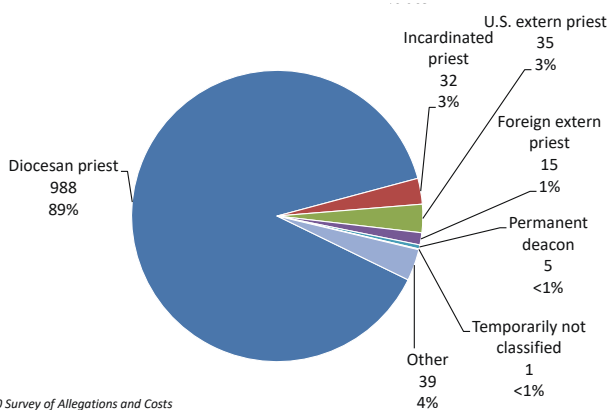
Proportionately, the numbers reported in Figure 7 for year 2020 differ some from those reported for year 2019 (July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019). For that time period, 57 percent of alleged offenses occurred or began before 1975, 41 percent between 1975 and 1999, and 2 percent after 2000.

The survey for 2020 again asks for details about the priests and deacons who were alleged perpetrators. Nine-tenths of the 1,115 diocesan or eparchial priests or deacons had been ordained for the diocese or eparchy in which the abuse was alleged to have occurred (89 percent were diocesan priests and less

than 1 percent was a permanent deacon). One to 3 percent of those identified were priests incardinated into that diocese or eparchy at the time of the alleged abuse (3 percent), extern priests from another U.S. diocese or eparchy (3 percent), or extern priests from another country (1 percent). Four percent of alleged perpetrators were classified as “other,” most commonly because they were either unnamed in the allegation or their name was unknown to the diocese

or eparchy. Figure 8 displays the ecclesial status of offenders at the time of the alleged offense.

Figure 8. Ecclesial Status of Alleged Perpetrator: Dioceses and Eparchies

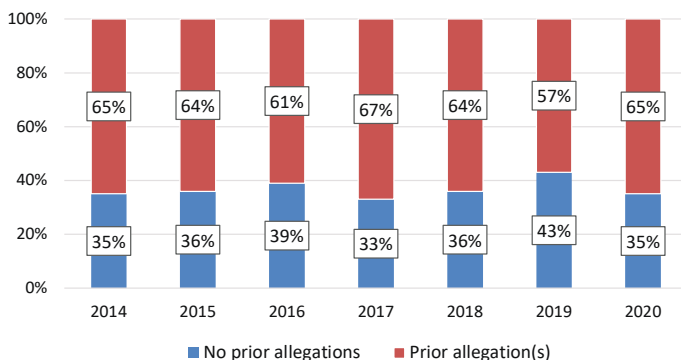


Source: 2020 Survey of Allegations and Costs

The percentages in Figure 8 for year 2020 are similar to those reported for year 2019 (July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018), where 89 percent of alleged perpetrators were priests or deacons who had been ordained for the diocese or eparchy in which the abuse was alleged to have occurred. All other categories reported for that time period represented 1 to 5 percent of alleged perpetrators, similar to the percentages shown above.

Consistent with most of the previous years shown in Figure 9, nearly two-thirds (720 priests and deacons or 65 percent) of the 1,115 priests and deacons identified as alleged offenders between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020 had already been identified in allegations in previous years.

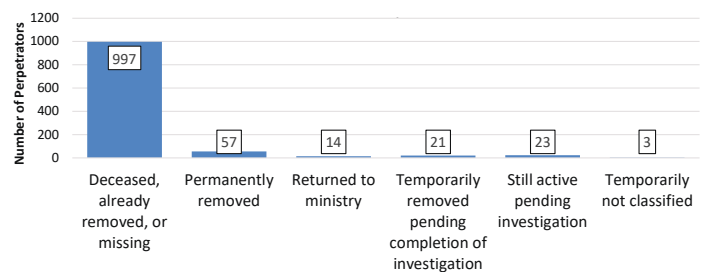
Figure 9. Percentage of Alleged Perpetrators with Prior Allegations: Dioceses and Eparchies



Source: 2020 Survey of Allegations and Costs

The status of all but three of the alleged offenders is known. Figure 10 shows the current status of the other 1,112 alleged offenders. Nine in ten alleged offenders (90 percent) identified between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020 are deceased, already removed from ministry, already laicized, or missing. Another 57 priests or deacons (5 percent) identified during year 2020 were permanently removed from ministry during that time. Twenty-one alleged offenders were temporarily removed from ministry pending investigation of the allegations (2 percent), 23 remain in ministry pending further investigation of the allegations (2 percent), and 14 were returned to ministry (1 percent).

Figure 10. Current Status of Alleged Perpetrators: Dioceses and Eparchies



Source: 2020 Survey of Allegations and Costs

The proportions for year 2019 are similar to those for 2020, with 90 percent of alleged perpetrators deceased, already removed, or missing and all other categories containing between 1 to 5 percent of the alleged perpetrators.

Costs to Dioceses and Eparchies

Dioceses and eparchies that responded to the survey and reported costs related to allegations paid out \$311,980,666 between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020. Like in previous years' surveys, this includes payments for allegations reported in previous years. Table 2 presents payments by dioceses and eparchies according to several categories of allegation-related expenses.

Table 2. Costs Related to Allegations by Dioceses and Eparchies

	Settlements	Other Payments to Victims	Support for Offenders	Attorneys' Fees	Other Costs	GRAND TOTAL
2014	\$56,987,635	\$7,176,376	\$12,281,089	\$26,163,298	\$3,890,782	\$106,499,180
2015	\$87,067,257	\$8,754,747	\$11,500,539	\$30,148,535	\$3,812,716	\$141,283,794
2016	\$53,928,745	\$24,148,603	\$11,355,969	\$35,460,551	\$2,020,470	\$126,914,338
2017	\$162,039,485	\$10,105,226	\$10,157,172	\$27,912,123	\$2,761,290	\$212,975,296
2018	\$180,475,951	\$6,914,194	\$20,035,914	\$25,990,265	\$5,755,823	\$239,172,147
2019	\$200,963,319	\$15,890,882	\$12,054,682	\$43,294,968	\$9,407,966	\$281,611,817
2020	\$219,792,758	\$12,096,388	\$11,960,504	\$56,958,656	\$11,172,360	\$311,980,666
Change (+/-) 2019-2020	+\$18,829,439	-\$3,794,494	-\$94,178	+\$13,663,688	+\$1,764,394	+\$30,368,849
Percentage Change	+9%	-24%	-1%	+32%	+19%	+11%

Sources: Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs, 2014-2020

Seven-tenths of the payments made by dioceses and eparchies between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020 were for settlements to victims (70 percent) and almost two-tenths of the total cost is for attorney's fees⁶ (18 percent). Other payments to victims – those not already included in the settlement – account for 4 percent of all allegation-related costs, and support for offenders (including therapy, living expenses, legal expenses, etc.) amounts to another 4 percent.⁷

Among the “other” allegation-related costs reported by dioceses and eparchies (\$11,172,360 or 4 percent) are payments for items such as investigations of allegations, USCCB compliance audit costs, review board costs, staff and administrative costs,

monitoring services for offenders, consulting fees, court costs, and no-fault settlements.

As can be seen in Table 2, the total costs for year 2020 (\$311,980,666) is 11 percent higher than that reported for year 2019 (\$281,611,817). That increase is mostly due to the increase in the amount paid in settlements and attorneys' fees for the year 2020.

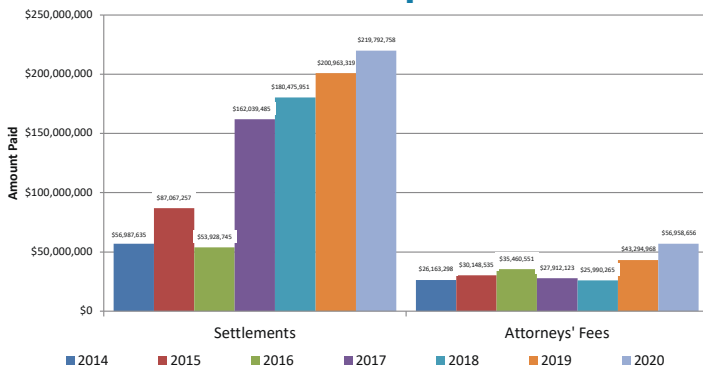
Figure 11 displays the costs paid by dioceses and eparchies for settlements and for attorneys' fees for audit years 2014 through 2020. Compared to year

⁶ Attorneys' fees include all costs for attorneys paid by dioceses and eparchies between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020 as the result of allegations of sexual abuse of a minor.

⁷ These costs are not evenly distributed among dioceses and eparchies. The two dioceses with the greatest total costs related to allegations account for 30 percent of all reported costs. On the other hand, 32 dioceses and eparchies report paying no allegation-related costs, with another 14 paying out \$10,000 or less.

2019, attorneys' fees have increased by 32 percent and settlements have increased by 9 percent.

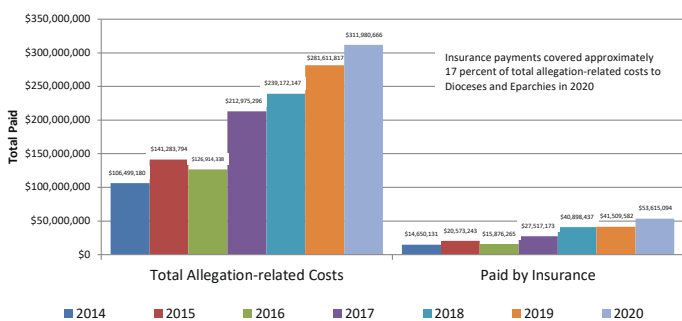
Figure 11. Payments for Settlements and Attorneys' Fees: Dioceses and Eparchies



Source: Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs, 2014-2020

In Figure 12, the total allegation-related costs paid by dioceses and eparchies are shown as well as the approximate proportion of those costs that were covered by diocesan insurance. Diocesan insurance payments covered approximately \$53,615,094 (17 percent) of the total allegation-related costs paid by dioceses and eparchies between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020. Insurance had covered 15 percent of the total allegation-related costs during year 2019 (July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019).

Figure 12. Proportion of Total Allegation-related Costs Paid by Insurance: Dioceses and Eparchies



Source: Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs, 2014-2020

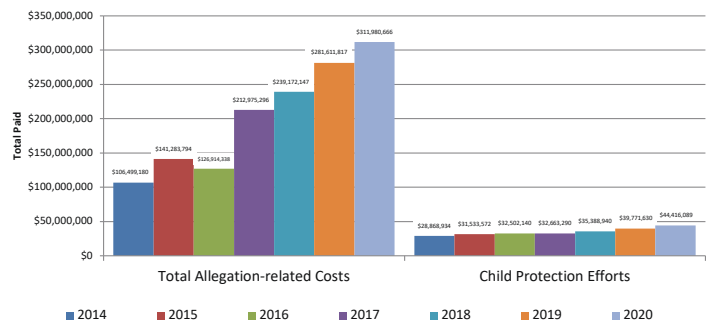
Some 160 dioceses and eparchies that had made a financial settlement to victims in the past audit year (July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020) responded to a series of questions concerning what monetary sources or changes were used to pay for those settlements. The

sources or changes they indicated include insurance pay-outs (17 percent or 27 dioceses or eparchies), sale of property (8 percent), restructuring of debt (6 percent), staff reductions (5 percent), the elimination of some programs or services (3 percent), and bankruptcy filing (2 percent).

Some 26 percent (42 dioceses or eparchies) wrote in an "other" source or change, including: their savings or reserves, funds from their self-insurance reserves, loans, payments from their investments, liquidation of assets, victim assistance funds, their general operating budget, leasing of properties, assessments, and donor contributions earmarked specifically for settlements.

In addition to allegations-related expenditures, at least \$44,416,089 was spent by dioceses and eparchies for child protection efforts such as safe environment coordinators, training programs and background checks. This represents a 12 percent increase from the amount reported for child protection efforts (\$39,771,630) for year 2019 (July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019). Figure 13 compares the allegation-related costs to child protection expenditures paid by dioceses and eparchies in audit years 2014 through 2020.

Figure 13. Proportion of Total Allegation-related Costs and Child Protection Efforts: Dioceses and Eparchies



Source: Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs, 2014-2020

Adding together the total allegation-related costs and the amount spent on child protection efforts reported in year 2020, the total comes to \$356,396,755. This is an 11 percent increase from the \$321,383,447 reported during audit year 2019.

RELIGIOUS INSTITUTES

The Conference of Major Superiors of Men (CMSM) also encouraged the major superiors of religious institutes of men to complete a survey for their congregations, provinces, and monasteries. Since 2014, brother-only institutes were also invited to participate in the survey. Much of the survey was nearly identical to the survey for dioceses and eparchies and was also available online at the same site as the survey for dioceses and eparchies. CMSM sent an email about the survey to all member major superiors in August 2020, requesting their participation. CARA and CMSM also sent several reminders by email to major superiors to encourage them to respond. By November 17, 2020, CARA received responses from 154 of the 228 institutes that belong to CMSM, for a response rate of 68 percent. This is lower than the response rate in recent years but is within the range of response rates overall. The response rate was 79 percent in 2019, 85 percent in 2018, 74 percent for 2017, 78 percent in 2016, 77 percent in 2015, 73 percent in 2014, 2012, 2011, 2009, 2008, and 2007, 72 percent in 2010, 71 percent in 2004, 68 percent in 2006, and 67 percent in 2005.

A copy of the survey instrument for religious institutes is included in Appendix II.

Credible Allegations Received by Religious Institutes

The responding religious institutes reported that between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020 they judged 383 allegations of sexual abuse of a minor committed by a priest, brother, or deacon of the community as credible. These allegations were made by 383 persons against 230 individuals who were priest, brother, or deacon members of the community at the time the offense was alleged to have occurred.⁸

Table 3 presents these numbers. Of the 383 new allegations reported by religious institutes between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020, none involved a child under the age of 18 in 2020. Nearly all of the other allegations were made by adults who are alleging abuse when they were minors.

⁸ As was mentioned in the Introduction, this year's survey is the first to collect details about all allegations that were deemed credible during this past fiscal year (July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020) regardless of when they were first reported to the arch/diocese, eparchy, or religious institute. If that same system had been used in last year's report, the total number of allegations for religious institutes would have been 457. This year's figure of 383 would be a 16 percent reduction from last year's figure.

Table 3. New Credible Allegations Received by Religious Institutes

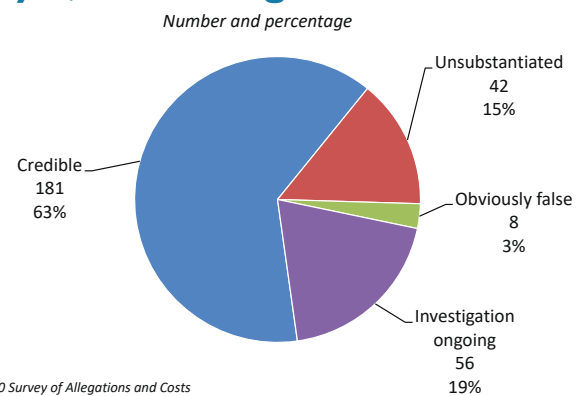
	Victims	Allegations	Offenders
FY 2020	383	383	230

Sources: Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs, 2020

Determination of Credibility for Allegations First Received in Previous Fiscal Years

Every religious institute follows a process to determine the credibility of any allegation of clergy sexual abuse, as set forth in canon law and as advised in the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*. Figure 14 shows those allegations received before July 1, 2019 that were resolved by June 30, 2020 (287 in total). More than six-tenths of the 287 previously-received allegations were found to be credible (63 percent), a fifth were unable to be determined without investigation (19 percent), one in seven was found to be unsubstantiated (15 percent), and less than one in 20 was determined to be false (3 percent).

Figure 14. Resolution in Fiscal Year 2020 of Allegations Received before July 1, 2019: Religious Institutes



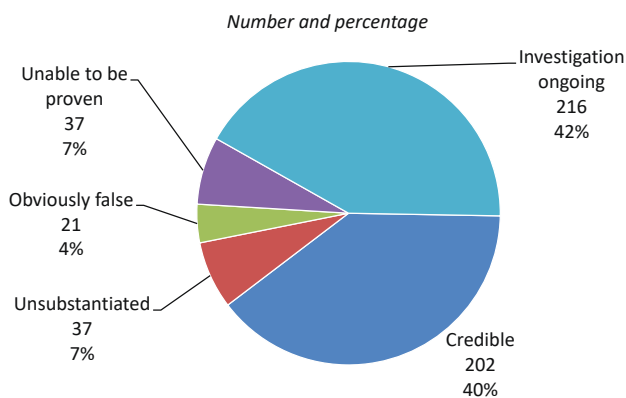
Source: 2020 Survey of Allegations and Costs

Determination of Credibility for Allegations First Received in This Fiscal Year

Figure 15 presents the outcome for 513 allegations first received between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020. Religious institutes were asked to categorize these

new allegations into one of these categories: credible, unsubstantiated, obviously false, unable to be proven, and investigation ongoing. As can be seen in Figure 15, more than four-tenths of new allegations received in fiscal year 2020 require more investigation before they can be classified (42 percent), four-tenths were deemed credible (40 percent), about one in 20 was classified as unable to be proven (7 percent), another one in 20 is unsubstantiated (7 percent), and less than one in 20 has been determined to be obviously false (4 percent).

Figure 15. Determination of Credibility for New Allegations First Received in Fiscal Year 2020: Religious Institutes



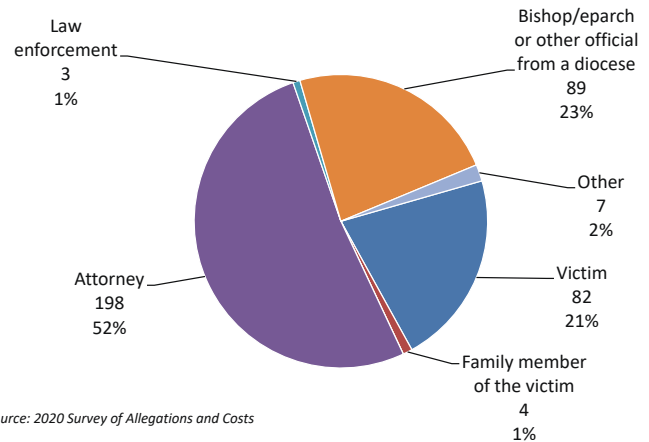
Source: 2020 Survey of Allegations and Costs

The remainder of this subsection of the report for religious institutes details the 383 allegations that have been classified as credible during this fiscal year, both those first received in a previous fiscal year (the 181 credible allegations shown in Figure 14) and those first received during this fiscal year (the 202 credible allegations shown in Figure 15).

Figure 16 displays the way in which the 383 credible allegations of abuse were reported to the religious institutes between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020. About half of the allegations were reported to the institute by an attorney (52 percent), about a quarter by a bishop/eparch or official from a diocese (23 percent), and a fifth by the victim (21 percent). Less than one in 20 was reported by an “other” source (2 percent), by a family member of the victim (1 percent), or by law enforcement (1 percent). Finally, none of the allegations were first reported to

a religious institute by a friend of the victim. Among the 2 percent who wrote in an “other” source, six were first reported by a religious institute pastoral assistance coordinator and one was first reported by the alleged perpetrator himself.

Figure 16. Method of Reporting Allegations of Abuse: Religious Institutes

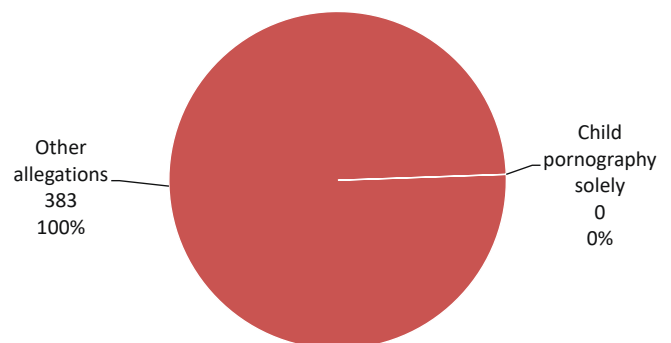


Source: 2020 Survey of Allegations and Costs

Although this year’s report gives details about credible allegations from this as well as previous fiscal years, comparisons can still be illustrative. Compared to report year 2019, more allegations were reported by an attorney (16 percent in 2019 compared to 52 percent in 2020), but fewer were reported by the victim (42 percent compared to 21 percent) and by a bishop/eparch or other official from a diocese (33 percent compared to 23 percent).

None of the 383 new allegations were cases solely involving child pornography, as is shown in Figure 17.

Figure 17. Percentage of Allegations Solely Involving Child Pornography: Religious Institutes



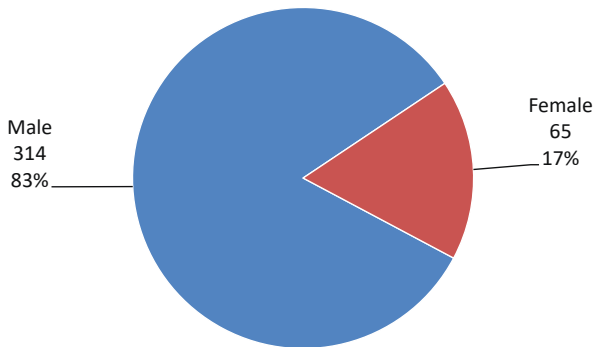
Source: 2020 Survey of Allegations and Costs

In report year 2019 (July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019), two of the allegations solely involved child pornography (1 percent).

Victims, Offenses, and Offenders

For four of the 383 allegations, the gender of the alleged victim is unknown. Among the 379 allegations where the gender of the victim was reported, about eight-tenths were male (83 percent) and one-sixth was a female (17 percent). These proportions are displayed in Figure 18.

Figure 18. Gender of Abuse Victim: Religious Institutes

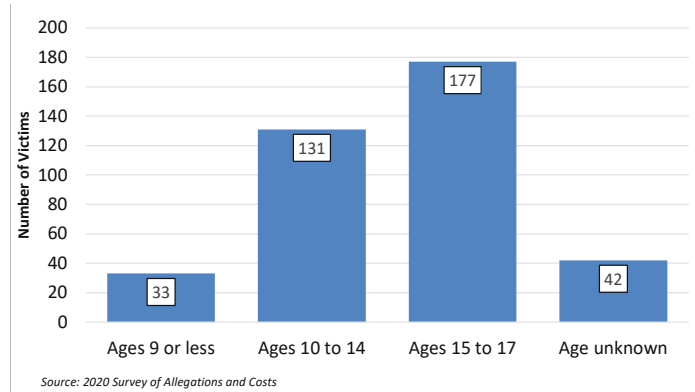


Source: 2020 Survey of Allegations and Costs

The percentage male among victims (83 percent) is identical to that reported for year 2019 (83 percent).

The age of 42 of the victims when the alleged abuse occurred is unknown. Among those 341 allegations where the age was known, about half (52 percent) were ages 15 to 17 when the alleged abuse began, almost four in ten were ages 10 to 14 (38 percent), and one in ten was under age ten (10 percent). Figure 19 presents the distribution of victims by age at the time the alleged abuse began.

Figure 19. Age of Victim When Abuse Began: Religious Institutes

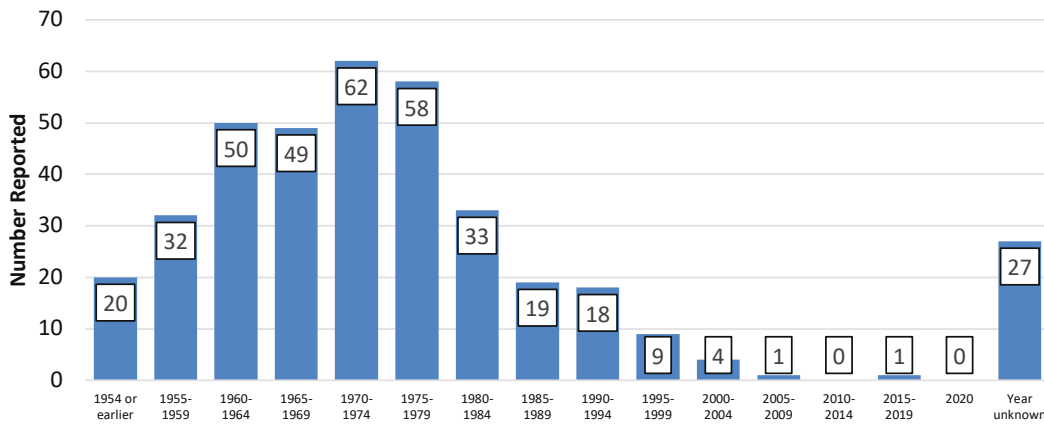


The proportions for the previous reporting year (2019) differ only slightly from those presented in Figure 19. Between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019, 48 percent of the victims were between 15 and 17 (compared to 52 percent in 2020), 39 percent were between the ages of 10 and 14 (compared to the 38 percent reported in 2020), and 13 percent were under age 10 (compared to 10 percent in 2020).

Twenty-seven of the allegations did not include a time frame. Among those 356 allegations where a time frame was known, six-tenths of the allegations deemed credible between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020 are alleged to have occurred or begun before 1975 (60 percent). Thirty-eight percent occurred or began between 1975 and 1999, and 2 percent (six allegations) occurred or began after 2000. Religious institutes reported that 1970-1974 (62 allegations) was the most common time period for the alleged occurrences. Figure 20 illustrates the years when the allegations classified in year 2020 were said to have occurred or begun.⁹

⁹ Note that this distribution is similar to the one on p. 35 of this report, which shows the cumulative distribution since 2004.

Figure 20. Year the Alleged Offense Occured or Began: Religious Institutes



Source: 2020 Survey of Allegations and Costs

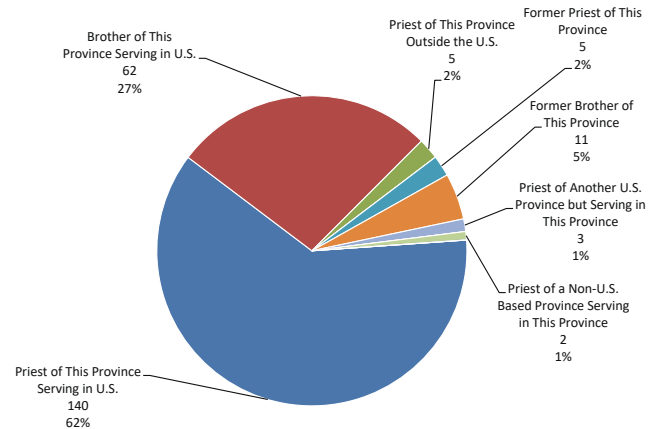
In the previous reporting year (July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019) that included only allegations first reported to the religious institute during that fiscal year, 58 percent are alleged to have occurred or begun before 1975, 38 percent between 1975 and 1999, and 4 percent since 2000.

The survey for 2020 again asks about religious priests, brothers and deacons who were alleged perpetrators. Of the 230 alleged offenders reported, 132 (or 57 percent) had one or more previous allegations reported against them prior to July 1, 2019.

Of the 230 religious priests and brothers against whom credible allegations were determined between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020, two were unable to be classified as of June 30, 2020 due to current civil investigations or litigation. Figure 21 displays the ecclesial status of the 228 alleged offenders at the time of the alleged abuse. More than six in ten were priests of a U.S. province of the religious institute serving in the United States at the time the abuse was alleged to have occurred (62 percent), about a quarter were religious brothers of a U.S. province of the religious institute (27 percent), and none were deacons of a U.S. province of the religious institute. One in 20 or less was either a former brother of the province (5 percent) or a former priest of the province (2 percent). One to 2 percent were priests of their province outside of the U.S. (2 percent), priests of another U.S. province but serving in their province (1 percent), and none were priests of a non-U.S. province serving in their province (0 percent).

percent), or priests of a non-U.S. province serving in their province (1 percent).

Figure 21. Ecclesial Status of Alleged Perpetrator: Religious Institutes



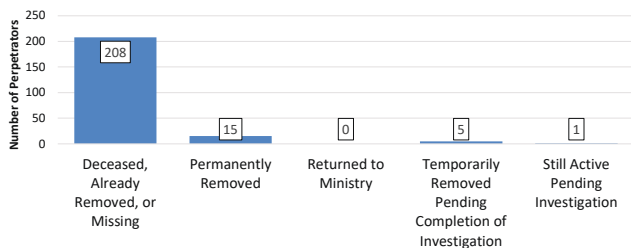
Source: 2020 Survey of Allegations and Costs

Compared to the previous reporting year (July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019), the percentages reported in 2020 differ slightly. In 2019, 56 percent of the alleged perpetrators were priests of the province, 27 percent were brothers of the province, 8 percent were former priests of the province, and 5 percent were former brothers of the province.

The status of all but one of the alleged offenders is known. Figure 22 shows the current status of the other 229 alleged offenders. Nine in ten alleged offenders (91 percent) identified between July 1, 2019 and June

30, 2020 are deceased, already removed from ministry, already laicized, or missing. Another 15 priests, brothers or deacons (7 percent) identified during year 2020 were permanently removed from ministry during that time. Five alleged offenders were temporarily removed from ministry pending investigation of the allegations (2 percent) and one remains in ministry pending further investigation of the allegations (less than 1 percent).¹⁰

Figure 22. Current Status of Alleged Perpetrators: Religious Institutes

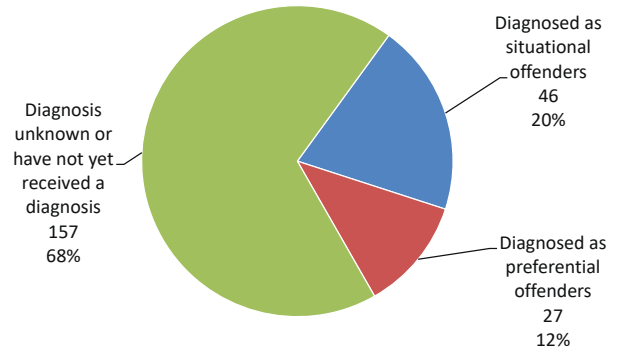


Source: 2020 Survey of Allegations and Costs

This year, for the third time, questions were added to the survey for religious institutes concerning the psychological diagnosis of the alleged perpetrators reported in the current year, with definitions provided to responding religious institutes. Those diagnosed as situational offenders were defined as those who molest “the child for various reasons – most often because of availability – whether male or female – but do NOT have a preference for pre-pubescent children.” Perpetrators diagnosed as preferential offenders “are most often ‘pedophiles,’ who prefer and seek out jobs or ministries with pre-pubescent children.” Finally, those whose diagnosis is not known are those whose records are too “unclear to distinguish any type.” The proportion of alleged perpetrators from the 2020 reporting year that fit each definition is presented in Figure 23 below. Two in three do not have diagnoses (68 percent), 20 percent have been

identified as situational offenders, and 12 percent have been identified as preferential offenders.

Figure 23. Diagnosis of Alleged Perpetrators Reported in 2020: Religious Institutes



Source: 2020 Survey of Allegations and Costs

Among those reported in Figure 23, responding religious institutes were also asked how many from each category were known to have reoffended. Among the 46 offenders diagnosed as situational offenders, 12 re-offended (26 percent). Among the 27 offenders diagnosed as preferential offenders, 14 re-offended (52 percent). Finally, among the 157 whose diagnosis is unknown, 16 re-offended (10 percent).

Costs to Religious Institutes

The responding religious institutes reported paying \$30,285,136 between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020 for costs related to allegations. Like in previous years’ surveys, this includes costs paid during this period for allegations reported in previous years. Table 4 presents the payments by religious institutes across several categories of allegation-related expenses.

¹⁰ As this series of questions was not asked on last year’s survey, no comparisons between the years can be made.

Table 4. Costs Related to Allegations by Religious Institutes

	Settlements	Other Payments to Victims	Support for Offenders	Attorneys' Fees	Other Costs	GRAND TOTAL
2014	\$5,950,438	\$570,721	\$3,121,958	\$2,611,220	\$326,130	\$12,580,467
2015	\$5,451,612	\$337,696	\$2,507,513	\$3,592,233	\$446,696	\$12,335,750
2016	\$6,451,112	\$533,626	\$2,887,150	\$4,427,186	\$106,389	\$14,405,463
2017	\$6,749,006	\$466,591	\$2,869,490	\$5,097,723	\$798,569	\$15,981,379
2018	\$13,870,340	\$403,710	\$3,330,931	\$4,527,393	\$1,315,016	\$23,447,390
2019	\$30,131,119	\$930,972	\$3,594,140	\$5,899,252	\$851,705	\$41,407,188
2020	\$14,835,324	\$1,103,112	\$4,726,637	\$9,031,682	\$588,381	\$30,285,136
Change (+/-)						
2019-						
2020	-\$15,295,795	+\$172,140	+\$1,132,497	+\$3,132,430	-\$263,324	-\$11,122,052
Percentage Change	-51%	+18%	+32%	+53%	-31%	-27%

Sources: Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs, 2014-2020

Half of the payments made by religious institutes between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020 (49 percent of all costs related to allegations reported by religious institutes) were for settlements to victims. Other payments to victims, outside of settlements, were \$1,103,112 (3 percent). Attorneys' fees were an additional \$9 million (30 percent). Support for offenders (including therapy, living expenses, legal expenses, etc.) amounted to \$4,726,637 (16 percent).

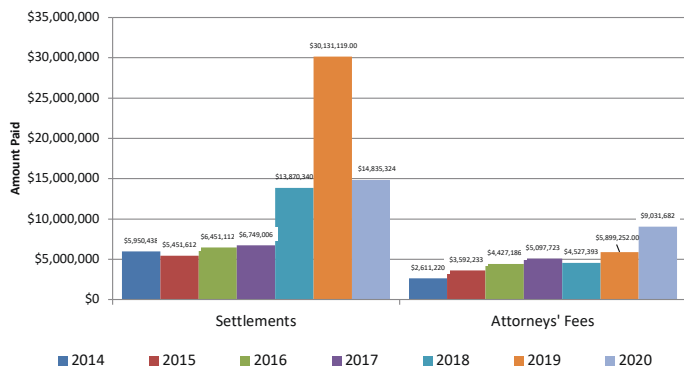
An additional \$588,381 (2 percent) was for other costs. Payments designated as "other costs" reported by religious institutes included outside investigators, meetings with victims, travel costs, canonical representation, background checks, media consultants, reviews and audits of files, risk assessments, Review Board costs, Praesidium fees, software, and Victim Advocate costs.

Compared to the previous year (July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019), total costs related to allegations were

down 27 percent for 2020, mostly due to a 51 percent decrease in the amounts of settlements paid to victims.

Figure 24 illustrates the settlement-related costs and attorney's fees paid by religious institutes during reporting years 2014 through 2020. Compared to report year 2019, settlement-related costs in 2020 decreased by about \$15 million, a decrease of 51 percent. Attorneys' fees in year 2020 increased by more than \$3.1 million compared to year 2019, a 53 percent increase.

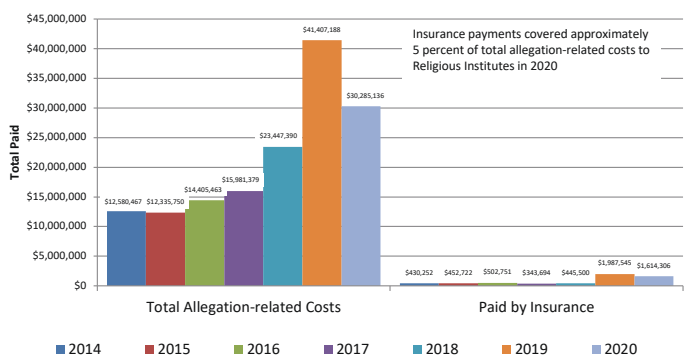
Figure 24. Payments for Settlements and Attorneys' Fees: Religious Institutes



Source: Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs, 2014-2020

Religious institutes that responded to the question reported that 5 percent of the total costs related to allegations between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020 were covered by religious institutes' insurance. Figure 25 displays the total allegation-related costs paid by religious institutes for reporting years 2014 to 2020 as well as the costs that were covered by insurance. The percentage covered by insurance in year 2020 (5 percent) was equal to the percentage in year 2019 (5 percent).

Figure 25. Proportion of Total Allegation-related Costs Paid by Insurance: Religious Institutes



Source: Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs, 2014-2020

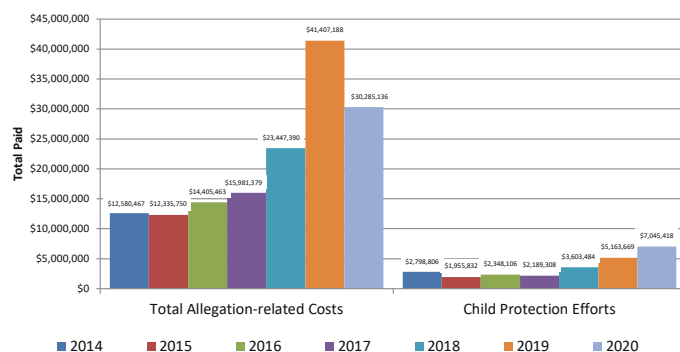
Some 82 religious institutes that had made a financial settlement to victims in the past audit year (July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020) responded to a series of questions concerning what monetary sources or changes were used to pay for those settlements. The sources or changes they indicated include insurance

pay-outs (13 percent or 11 religious institutes), sale of property (1 percent), and the elimination of some programs or services (1 percent).

Some 24 percent (28 religious institutes) wrote in an "other" source or change, including: sales of their investments and investment securities, their general operating budget, their health and retirement investments or funds, a trust set up when the religious institute had earlier filed for bankruptcy, a victims' fund, foundations, a general fund, their unrestricted funds, their savings, a provincial tax on communities, investment income, and other financial reserves.

In addition to allegation-related expenses, religious institutes spent about \$7 million (\$7,045,418) for child protection efforts between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020, such as for training programs and background checks. This is a 36 percent increase compared to the \$5,163,669 reported spent on child protection efforts in year 2019. Figure 26 compares the settlement-related costs and child protection expenditures paid by religious institutes in audit years 2014 through 2020.

Figure 26. Total Allegation-related Costs and Child Protection Efforts: Religious Institutes



Source: Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs, 2014-2020

Altogether, religious institutes reported \$37,330,554 in total costs related to child protection efforts as well as all costs related to allegations that were paid between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020, a 20 percent decrease from the \$46,570,857 combined total reported by religious institutes in these two categories last year.

TOTAL COMBINED RESPONSES OF DIOCESES, EPARCHIES, AND RELIGIOUS INSTITUTES

Tables 5, 6, and 7 present the combined total responses of dioceses, eparchies, and religious institutes. These tables depict the total number of allegations, victims, offenders, and costs as reported by these groups for the period between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020. Dioceses, eparchies, and religious institutes combined judged as credible 1,922 allegations of sexual abuse of a minor by a diocesan, eparchial, or religious priest, religious brother, or deacon. These allegations were made by 1,912 individuals against 1,345 priests, religious brothers, or deacons.¹¹ Of the 1,922 reported new allegations, 50 (or 3 percent) are allegations that are reported to have occurred since calendar year 2000.

Table 5. New Allegations Deemed Credible in FY 2020 Combined Totals

	Victims	Allegations	Offenders
FY 2020	1,912	1,922	1,345

Sources: Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs, 2020

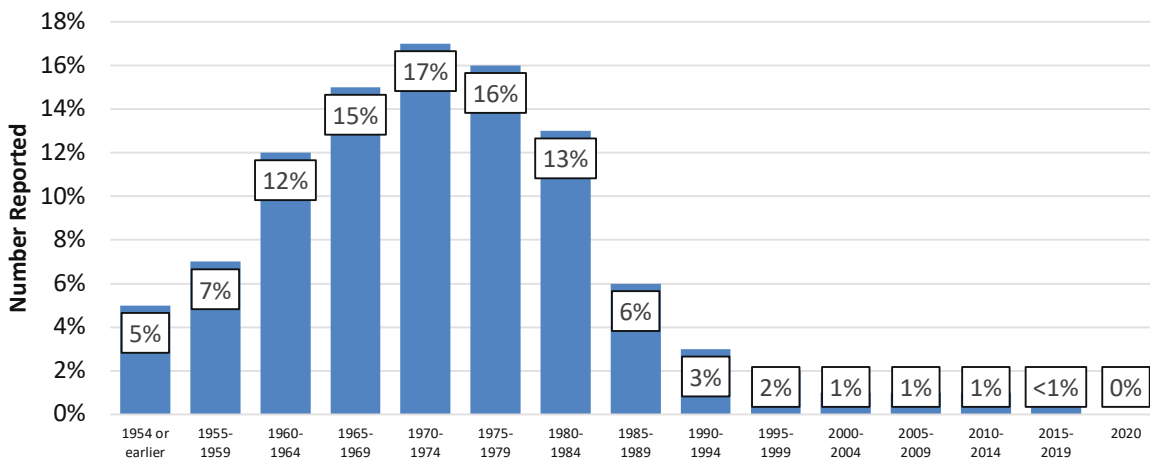
Cumulative View of Year the Alleged Offenses Occurred or Began – 2004 to 2020

Using data that CARA has been collecting from dioceses, eparchies and religious institutes since 2004, Figure 26, below, presents the period that each alleged offense occurred or began for all data collected from 2004 to 2020.¹² Of necessity, the figure only displays those allegations for which the year the alleged offenses occurred or began was known. As can be seen, 56 percent of cumulative credible allegations occurred or began before 1975, 41 percent occurred or began between 1975 and 1999, and 3 percent began or occurred since 2000.

¹¹ As was mentioned in the Introduction, this year's survey is the first to collect details about all allegations that were deemed credible during this past fiscal year (July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020) regardless of when they were first reported to the arch/diocese, eparchy, or religious institute. If that same system had been used in last year's report, the total number of allegations for dioceses, eparchies, and religious institutes would have been 3,184. This year's figure of 1,922 would be a 40 percent reduction from last year's figure.

¹² As the data collection periods for dioceses, eparchies, and religious institutes changed from a calendar year period for the 2004 to 2013 surveys to a fiscal year calendar of July 1 to June 30 for the 2014 to 2019 surveys, there is some double counting during the years 2013 and 2014. Any over count would have a negligible effect on this analysis.

Figure 26. Year Alleged Offenses Occurred or Began Cumulatively for 2004-2019: Dioceses, Eparchies and Religious Institutes



Sources: Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs, 2004 to 2020

Among all new credible allegations reported by dioceses/eparchies and religious institutes to CARA from 2004-2020:

- 12 percent occurred or began in 1959 or earlier
- 27 percent occurred or began in the 1960s
- 33 percent occurred or began in the 1970s
- 19 percent occurred or began in the 1980s
- 5 percent occurred or began in the 1990s
- 2 percent occurred or began in the 2000s
- 1 percent occurred or began in the 2010s
- None occurred during 2020

Combined Costs Related to Allegations for 2020

Dioceses, eparchies, and religious institutes reported paying out \$342,265,802 for costs related to allegations between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020. As in previous years' surveys, this includes payments for allegations reported in previous years. Table 6 presents the payments across several categories of allegation-related expenses.

Table 6. Costs Related to Allegations Combined Totals

	Settlements	Other Payments to Victims	Support for Offenders	Attorneys' Fees	Other Costs	GRAND TOTAL
2014	\$62,938,073	\$7,747,097	\$15,403,047	\$28,774,518	\$4,216,912	\$119,079,647
2015	\$92,518,869	\$9,092,443	\$14,008,052	\$33,740,768	\$4,259,412	\$153,619,544
2016	\$60,379,857	\$24,682,229	\$14,243,119	\$39,887,737	\$2,126,859	\$141,319,801
2017	\$168,788,491	\$10,571,817	\$13,026,662	\$33,009,846	\$3,559,859	\$228,956,675
2018	\$194,346,291	\$7,317,904	\$23,366,845	\$30,517,658	\$7,070,839	\$262,619,537
2019	\$231,094,438	\$16,821,854	\$15,648,822	\$49,194,220	\$10,259,671	\$323,019,005
2020	\$234,628,082	\$13,199,500	\$16,687,141	\$65,990,338	\$11,760,741	\$342,265,802
Change (+/-)						
2018-2019	+\$3,533,644	-\$3,622,354	+\$1,038,319	+\$16,796,118	+\$1,501,070	+\$19,246,802
Percentage Change	+2%	-22%	+7%	+34%	+15%	+6%

Sources: Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs, 2014-2020

Seven-tenths of the payments (69 percent) were for settlements to victims. Attorneys' fees accounted for an additional 19 percent. Support for offenders (including therapy, living expenses, legal expenses, etc.) amounted to 5 percent of these payments. An additional 4 percent were for other payments to victims that were not included in any settlement. A final

3 percent of payments were for "other" allegation-related costs.¹³

¹³ These costs are not evenly distributed among dioceses, eparchies, and religious institutes. Two dioceses with the greatest total costs related to allegations account for 27 percent of all reported costs.

Combined Costs Related to Child Protection Efforts and Allegations

Dioceses, eparchies, and religious institutes paid \$51,461,507 for child protection efforts between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020. This is a 15 percent increase from the amount spent on such child

protection efforts in the previous reporting year. Dioceses, eparchies, and religious institutes expended a total of \$342,265,802 for costs related to allegations between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020. Table 7 presents the combined allegation-related costs and child protection expenditures paid by dioceses, eparchies, and religious institutes.

Table 7. Costs Related to Child Protection Efforts and to Allegations Combined Totals

	Total Amounts for All Child Protection Efforts, Including SEC/VAC Salaries and Expenses, Training Programs, Background Checks, etc.	Total Costs Related to Allegations	TOTAL
FY 2014	\$31,667,740	\$119,079,647	\$150,747,387
FY 2015	\$33,489,404	\$153,539,897	\$187,029,301
FY 2016	\$34,850,246	\$141,319,801	\$176,170,047
FY 2017	\$34,852,598	\$228,956,675	\$263,809,273
FY 2018	\$39,290,069	\$262,619,537	\$301,909,606
FY 2019	\$44,935,299	\$323,019,005	\$367,954,304
FY 2020	\$51,461,507	\$342,265,802	\$393,727,309
Change (+/-)			
2019-2020	+\$6,526,208	+\$19,246,802	+\$25,773,005
Percentage Change	+15%	+6%	+7%

Source: Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs, 2014-2020

Altogether, dioceses, eparchies, and religious institutes reported \$393,727,309 in total costs related to child protection efforts as well as costs related to allegations that were paid between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020. This represents a 7 percent increase from that reported for year 2019 (July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019).

APPENDICES

2020

APPENDIX A

2018 CHARTER FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

PREAMBLE

Since 2002, the Church in the United States has experienced a crisis without precedent in our times. The sexual abuse¹ of children and young people by some deacons, priests, and bishops, and the ways in which these crimes and sins were addressed, have caused enormous pain, anger, and confusion for victims, their families, and the entire Church. As bishops, we have acknowledged our mistakes and our roles in that suffering, and we apologize and take responsibility again for too often failing victims and the Catholic people in the past. From the depths of our hearts, we bishops express great sorrow and profound regret for what the Catholic people have endured.

We share Pope Francis' "conviction that everything possible must be done to rid the Church of the scourge of the sexual abuse of minors and to open pathways of reconciliation and healing for those who were abused" (Letter of His Holiness Pope Francis to the Presidents of the Episcopal Conferences and Superiors of Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life Concerning the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors, February 2, 2015).

Again, with this 2018 revision of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, we re-affirm our deep commitment to sustain and strengthen a safe environment within the Church for children and youth. We have listened to the profound pain and suffering of those victimized by sexual abuse and will continue to respond to their cries. We have agonized over the sinfulness, the criminality, and the breach of trust perpetrated by some members of the clergy. We have determined as best we can the extent of the problem of this abuse of minors by clergy in our country, as well as its causes and context. We will use

what we have learned to strengthen the protection given to the children and young people in our care.

We continue to have a special care for and a commitment to reaching out to the victims of sexual abuse and their families. The damage caused by sexual abuse of minors is devastating and long-lasting. We apologize to each victim for the grave harm that has been inflicted on him or her, and we offer our help now and for the future. The loss of trust that is often the consequence of such abuse becomes even more tragic when it leads to a loss of the faith that we have a sacred duty to foster. We make our own the words of St. John Paul II: that the sexual abuse of young people is "by every standard wrong and rightly considered a crime by society; it is also an appalling sin in the eyes of God" (Address to the Cardinals of the United States and Conference Officers, April 23, 2002). We will continue to help victims recover from these crimes and strive to prevent these tragedies from occurring.

Along with the victims and their families, the entire Catholic community in this country has suffered because of this scandal and its consequences. The intense public scrutiny of the minority of the ordained who have betrayed their calling has caused the vast majority of faithful priests and deacons to experience enormous vulnerability to being misunderstood in their ministry and often casts over them an undeserved air of suspicion. We share with all priests and deacons a firm commitment to renewing the integrity of the vocation to Holy Orders so that it will continue to be perceived as a life of service to others after the example of Christ our Lord.

We, who have been given the responsibility of shepherding God's people, will, with his help and in full collaboration with all the faithful, continue to work to restore the bonds of trust that unite us. We have seen that words alone cannot accomplish this

goal. We will continue to take action in our Plenary Assembly and at home in our dioceses and eparchies.

We feel a particular responsibility for “the ministry of reconciliation” (2 Cor 5:18) which God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, has given us. The love of Christ impels us to ask forgiveness for our own faults but also to appeal to all—to those who have been victimized, to those who have offended, and to all who have felt the wound of this scandal—to be reconciled to God and one another.

Perhaps in a way never before experienced, we feel the power of sin touch our entire Church family in this country; but as St. Paul boldly says, God made Christ “to be sin who did not know sin, so that we might become the righteousness of God in him” (2 Cor 5:21). May we who have known sin experience as well, through a spirit of reconciliation, God’s own righteousness. We know that after such profound hurt, healing and reconciliation are beyond human capacity alone. It is God’s grace and mercy that will lead us forward, trusting Christ’s promise: “for God all things are possible” (Mt 19:26).

In working toward fulfilling this responsibility, we rely, first of all, on Almighty God to sustain us in faith and in the discernment of the right course to take.

We receive fraternal guidance and support from the Holy See that sustains us in this time of trial. In solidarity with Pope Francis, we express heartfelt love and sorrow for the victims of abuse.

We rely on the Catholic faithful of the United States. Nationally and in each diocese/eparchy, the wisdom and expertise of clergy, religious, and laity contribute immensely to confronting the effects of the crisis and taking steps to resolve it. We are filled with gratitude for their great faith, for their generosity, and for the spiritual and moral support that we receive from them.

We acknowledge and re-affirm the faithful service of the vast majority of our priests and deacons and the love that people have for them. They deservedly have our esteem and that of the Catholic people for their good work. It is regrettable that their committed ministerial witness has been overshadowed by this crisis.

In a special way, we acknowledge and thank victims of clergy sexual abuse and their families who have trusted us enough to share their stories and to help us understand more fully the consequences of this reprehensible violation of sacred trust. With Pope Francis, we praise the courage of those who speak out about their abuse; their actions are “a service of love,

since for us it sheds light on a terrible darkness in the life of the Church.” We pray that “the remnants of the darkness which touch them may be healed” (Address to Victims of Sexual Abuse, July 7, 2014).

Let there now be no doubt or confusion on anyone’s part: For us, your bishops, our obligation to protect children and young people and to prevent sexual abuse flows from the mission and example given to us by Jesus Christ himself, in whose name we serve.

As we work to restore trust, we are reminded how Jesus showed constant care for the vulnerable. He inaugurated his ministry with these words of the Prophet Isaiah:

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring glad tidings to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord.

(Lk 4:18-19)

In Matthew 25, the Lord, in his commission to his apostles and disciples, told them that whenever they show mercy and compassion to the least ones, they show it to him.

Jesus extended this care in a tender and urgent way to children, rebuking his disciples for keeping them away from him: “Let the children come to me” (Mt 19:14). And he uttered a grave warning that for anyone who would lead the little ones astray, it would be better for such a person “to have a great millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea” (Mt 18:6).

We hear these words of the Lord as prophetic for this moment. With a firm determination to restore the bonds of trust, we bishops recommit ourselves to a continual pastoral outreach to repair the breach with those who have suffered sexual abuse and with all the people of the Church.

In this spirit, over the last sixteen years, the principles and procedures of the *Charter* have been integrated into church life.

- The Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection provides the focus for a consistent, ongoing, and comprehensive approach to creating a safe environment for young people throughout the Church in the United States.
- The Secretariat also provides the means for us to be accountable for achieving the goals of the *Charter*, as demonstrated by its annual reports

on the implementation of the *Charter* based on independent compliance audits.

- The National Review Board is carrying on its responsibility to assist in the assessment of diocesan/eparchial compliance with the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*.
- The descriptive study of the nature and scope of sexual abuse of minors by Catholic clergy in the United States, commissioned by the National Review Board, was completed in February 2004. The resulting study, examining the historical period 1950-2002, by the John Jay College of Criminal Justice provides us with a powerful tool not only to examine our past but also to secure our future against such misconduct.
- The U.S. bishops charged the National Review Board to oversee the completion of the *Causes and Context* study. The Study, which calls for ongoing education, situational prevention, and oversight and accountability, was completed in 2011.
- Victims' assistance coordinators are in place throughout our nation to assist dioceses and eparchies in responding to the pastoral needs of the abused.
- Diocesan/eparchial bishops in every diocese/eparchy are advised and greatly assisted by diocesan and eparchial review boards as the bishops make the decisions needed to fulfill the *Charter*.
- Safe environment programs are in place to assist parents and children—and those who work with children—in preventing harm to young people. These programs continually seek to incorporate the most useful developments in the field of child protection.

Through these steps and many others, we remain committed to the safety of our children and young people.

While the number of reported cases of sexual abuse has decreased over the last sixteen years, the harmful effects of this abuse continue to be experienced both by victims and dioceses/eparchies.

Thus it is with a vivid sense of the effort which is still needed to confront the effects of this crisis fully and with the wisdom gained by the experience of the last sixteen years that we have reviewed and revised the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*. We now re-affirm that we will assist in the healing of those who have been injured, will do all in our power to protect children and young people, and will work

with our clergy, religious, and laity to restore trust and harmony in our faith communities, as we pray for the Kingdom of God to come, here on earth, as it is in heaven.

To make effective our goals of a safe environment within the Church for children and young people and of preventing sexual abuse of minors by clergy in the future, we, the members of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, have outlined in this *Charter* a series of practical and pastoral steps, and we commit ourselves to taking them in our dioceses and eparchies.

TO PROMOTE HEALING AND RECONCILIATION WITH VICTIMS/SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ABUSE OF MINORS

ARTICLE 1. Dioceses/eparchies are to reach out to victims/survivors and their families and demonstrate a sincere commitment to their spiritual and emotional well-being. The first obligation of the Church with regard to the victims is for healing and reconciliation. Each diocese/eparchy is to continue its outreach to every person who has been the victim of sexual abuse as a minor by anyone in church service, whether the abuse was recent or occurred many years in the past. This outreach may include provision of counseling, spiritual assistance, support groups, and other social services agreed upon by the victim and the diocese/eparchy.

Through pastoral outreach to victims and their families, the diocesan/eparchial bishop or his representative is to offer to meet with them, to listen with patience and compassion to their experiences and concerns, and to share the “profound sense of solidarity and concern” expressed by St. John Paul II, in his Address to the Cardinals of the United States and Conference Officers (April 23, 2002). Pope Benedict XVI, too, in his address to the U.S. bishops in 2008 said of the clergy sexual abuse crisis, “It is your God-given responsibility as pastors to bind up the wounds caused by every breach of trust, to foster healing, to promote reconciliation and to reach out with loving concern to those so seriously wronged.”

We bishops and eparchs commit ourselves to work as one with our brother priests and deacons to foster reconciliation among all people in our dioceses/

eparchies. We especially commit ourselves to work with those individuals who were themselves abused and the communities that have suffered because of the sexual abuse of minors that occurred in their midst.

ARTICLE 2. Dioceses/eparchies are to have policies and procedures in place to respond promptly to any allegation where there is reason to believe that sexual abuse of a minor has occurred. Dioceses/eparchies are to have a competent person or persons to coordinate assistance for the immediate pastoral care of persons who report having been sexually abused as minors by clergy or other church personnel. The procedures for those making a complaint are to be readily available in printed form and other media in the principal languages in which the liturgy is celebrated in the diocese/eparchy and be the subject of public announcements at least annually.

Dioceses/eparchies are also to have a review board that functions as a confidential consultative body to the bishop/eparch. The majority of its members are to be lay persons not in the employ of the diocese/eparchy (see Norm 5 in *Essential Norms for Diocesan/Eparchial Policies Dealing with Allegations of Sexual Abuse of Minors by Priests or Deacons*, 2006). This board is to advise the diocesan/eparchial bishop in his assessment of allegations of sexual abuse of minors and in his determination of a cleric's suitability for ministry. It is regularly to review diocesan/eparchial policies and procedures for dealing with sexual abuse of minors. Also, the board can review these matters both retrospectively and prospectively and give advice on all aspects of responses in connection with these cases.

ARTICLE 3. Dioceses/eparchies are not to enter into settlements which bind the parties to confidentiality, unless the victim/survivor requests confidentiality and this request is noted in the text of the agreement.

TO GUARANTEE AN EFFECTIVE RESPONSE TO ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL ABUSE OF MINORS

ARTICLE 4. Dioceses/eparchies are to report an allegation of sexual abuse of a person who is a

minor to the public authorities with due regard for the seal of the Sacrament of Penance. Diocesan/eparchial personnel are to comply with all applicable civil laws with respect to the reporting of allegations of sexual abuse of minors to civil authorities and cooperate in their investigation in accord with the law of the jurisdiction in question.

Dioceses/eparchies are to cooperate with public authorities about reporting cases even when the person is no longer a minor.

In every instance, dioceses/eparchies are to advise victims of their right to make a report to public authorities and support this right.

ARTICLE 5. We affirm the words of St. John Paul II, in his Address to the Cardinals of the United States and Conference Officers: "There is no place in the priesthood or religious life for those who would harm the young." Pope Francis has consistently reiterated this with victims of clergy sexual abuse.

Sexual abuse of a minor by a cleric is a crime in the universal law of the Church (CIC, c. 1395 §2; CCEO, c. 1453 §1). Because of the seriousness of this matter, jurisdiction has been reserved to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (*Motu proprio Sacramentorum sanctitatis tutela*, AAS 93, 2001). Sexual abuse of a minor is also a crime in all civil jurisdictions in the United States.

Diocesan/eparchial policy is to provide that for even a single act of sexual abuse of a minor—when ever it occurred—which is admitted or established after an appropriate process in accord with canon law, the offending priest or deacon is to be permanently removed from ministry and, if warranted, dismissed from the clerical state. In keeping with the stated purpose of this *Charter*, an offending priest or deacon is to be offered therapeutic professional assistance both for the purpose of prevention and also for his own healing and well-being.

The diocesan/eparchial bishop is to exercise his power of governance, within the parameters of the universal law of the Church, to ensure that any priest or deacon subject to his governance who has committed even one act of sexual abuse of a minor as described below (see notes) shall not continue in ministry.

A priest or deacon who is accused of sexual abuse of a minor is to be accorded the presumption of innocence during the investigation of the allegation and all appropriate steps are to be taken to protect

his reputation. He is to be encouraged to retain the assistance of civil and canonical counsel. If the allegation is deemed not substantiated, every step possible is to be taken to restore his good name, should it have been harmed.

In fulfilling this article, dioceses/eparchies are to follow the requirements of the universal law of the Church and of the *Essential Norms* approved for the United States.

ARTICLE 6. There are to be clear and well publicized diocesan/eparchial standards of ministerial behavior and appropriate boundaries for clergy and for any other paid personnel and volunteers of the Church with regard to their contact with minors.

ARTICLE 7. Dioceses/eparchies are to be open and transparent in communicating with the public about sexual abuse of minors by clergy within the confines of respect for the privacy and the reputation of the individuals involved. This is especially so with regard to informing parish and other church communities directly affected by sexual abuse of a minor.

TO ENSURE THE ACCOUNTABILITY OF OUR PROCEDURES

ARTICLE 8. The Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People is a standing committee of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Its membership is to include representation from all the episcopal regions of the country, with new appointments staggered to maintain continuity in the effort to protect children and youth.

The Committee is to advise the USCCB on all matters related to child and youth protection and is to oversee the development of the plans, programs, and budget of the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection. It is to provide the USCCB with comprehensive planning and recommendations concerning child and youth protection by coordinating the efforts of the Secretariat and the National Review Board.

ARTICLE 9. The Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection, established by the Conference of Catholic Bishops, is to staff the Committee on the

Protection of Children and Young People and be a resource for dioceses/eparchies for the implementation of “safe environment” programs and for suggested training and development of diocesan personnel responsible for child and youth protection programs, taking into account the financial and other resources, as well as the population, area, and demographics of the diocese/eparchy.

The Secretariat is to produce an annual public report on the progress made in implementing and maintaining the standards in this Charter. The report is to be based on an annual audit process whose method, scope, and cost are to be approved by the Administrative Committee on the recommendation of the Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People. This public report is to include the names of those dioceses/eparchies which the audit shows are not in compliance with the provisions and expectations of the *Charter*. The audit method refers to the process and techniques used to determine compliance with the *Charter*. The audit scope relates to the focus, parameters, and time period for the matters to be examined during an individual audit.

As a member of the Conference staff, the Executive Director of the Secretariat is appointed by and reports to the General Secretary. The Executive Director is to provide the Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People and the National Review Board with regular reports of the Secretariat’s activities.

ARTICLE 10. The whole Church, at both the diocesan/eparchial and national levels, must be engaged in maintaining safe environments in the Church for children and young people.

The Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People is to be assisted by the National Review Board, a consultative body established in 2002 by the USCCB. The Board will review the annual report of the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection on the implementation of this *Charter* in each diocese/eparchy and any recommendations that emerge from it, and offer its own assessment regarding its approval and publication to the Conference President.

The Board will also advise the Conference President on future members. The Board members are appointed by the Conference President in consultation with the Administrative Committee and are accountable to him and to the USCCB Executive Committee. Before a candidate is contacted, the Conference President is to seek and obtain, in

writing, the endorsement of the candidate's diocesan bishop. The Board is to operate in accord with the statutes and bylaws of the USCCB and within procedural guidelines developed by the Board in consultation with the Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People and approved by the USCCB Administrative Committee. These guidelines set forth such matters as the Board's purpose and responsibility, officers, terms of office, and frequency of reports to the Conference President on its activities.

The Board will offer its advice as it collaborates with the Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People on matters of child and youth protection, specifically on policies and best practices. For example, the Board will continue to monitor the recommendations derived from the *Causes and Context* study. The Board and Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People will meet jointly every year.

The Board will review the work of the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection and make recommendations to the Executive Director. It will assist the Executive Director in the development of resources for dioceses.

ARTICLE 11. The President of the Conference is to inform the Holy See of this revised *Charter* to indicate the manner in which we, the Catholic bishops, together with the entire Church in the United States, intend to continue our commitment to the protection of children and young people. The President is also to share with the Holy See the annual reports on the implementation of the *Charter*.

TO PROTECT THE FAITHFUL IN THE FUTURE

ARTICLE 12. Dioceses/eparchies are to maintain "safe environment" programs which the diocesan/eparchial bishop deems to be in accord with Catholic moral principles. They are to be conducted cooperatively with parents, civil authorities, educators, and community organizations to provide education and training for minors, parents, ministers, employees, volunteers, and others about ways to sustain and foster a safe environment for minors. Dioceses/eparchies are to make clear to clergy and

all members of the community the standards of conduct for clergy and other persons with regard to their contact with minors.

ARTICLE 13. The diocesan/eparchial bishop is to evaluate the background of all incardinated priests and deacons. When a priest or deacon, not incardinated in the diocese/eparchy, is to engage in ministry in the diocese/eparchy, regardless of the length of time, the evaluation of his background may be satisfied through a written attestation of suitability for ministry supplied by his proper ordinary/major superior to the diocese/eparchy. Dioceses/eparchies are to evaluate the background of all their respective diocesan/eparchial and parish/school or other paid personnel and volunteers whose duties include contact with minors. Specifically, they are to utilize the resources of law enforcement and other community agencies. Each diocese/eparchy is to determine the application/renewal of background checks according to local practice. In addition, they are to employ adequate screening and evaluative techniques in deciding the fitness of candidates for ordination (see USCCB, *Program of Priestly Formation* [Fifth Edition], 2006, no. 39 and the *National Directory for the Formation, Ministry and Life of Permanent Deacons in the United States*, n.178 j).²

ARTICLE 14. Transfers of all priests and deacons who have committed an act of sexual abuse against a minor for residence, including retirement, shall be in accord with Norm 12 of the Essential Norms (see *Proposed Guidelines on the Transfer or Assignment of Clergy and Religious*, adopted by the USCCB, the Conference of Major Superiors of Men [CMSM], the Leadership Conference of Women Religious [LCWR], and the Council of Major Superiors of Women Religious [CMSWR] in 1993).

ARTICLE 15. To ensure continuing collaboration and mutuality of effort in the protection of children and young people on the part of the bishops and religious ordinaries, two representatives of the Conference of Major Superiors of Men are to serve as consultants to the Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People. At the invitation of the Major Superiors, the Committee will designate two of its members to consult with its counterpart at CMSM. Diocesan/eparchial bishops and major superiors of

clerical institutes or their delegates are to meet periodically to coordinate their roles concerning the issue of allegations made against a cleric member of a religious institute ministering in a diocese/eparchy.

ARTICLE 16. Given the extent of the problem of the sexual abuse of minors in our society, we are willing to cooperate with other churches and ecclesial communities, other religious bodies, institutions of learning, and other interested organizations in conducting research in this area.

ARTICLE 17. We commit ourselves to work individually in our dioceses/eparchies and together as a Conference, through the appropriate committees, to strengthen our programs both for initial priestly and diaconal formation and their ongoing formation. With renewed urgency, we will promote programs of human formation for chastity and celibacy for both seminarians and priests based upon the criteria found in *Pastores dabo vobis, no. 50*, the *Program of Priestly Formation*, and the *Basic Plan for the Ongoing Formation of Priests*, as well as similar, appropriate programs for deacons based upon the criteria found in the *National Directory for the Formation, Ministry and Life*

of Permanent Deacons in the United States. We will continue to assist priests, deacons, and seminarians in living out their vocation in faithful and integral ways.

CONCLUSION

As we wrote in 2002, “It is within this context of the essential soundness of the priesthood and of the deep faith of our brothers and sisters in the Church that we know that we can meet and resolve this crisis for now and the future.”

We reaffirm that the vast majority of priests and deacons serve their people faithfully and that they have their esteem and affection. They also have our respect and support and our commitment to their good names and well-being.

An essential means of dealing with the crisis is prayer for healing and reconciliation, and acts of reparation for the grave offense to God and the deep wound inflicted upon his holy people. Closely connected to prayer and acts of reparation is the call to holiness of life and the care of the diocesan/eparchial bishop to ensure that he and his priests and deacons avail themselves of the proven ways of avoiding sin and growing in holiness of life.

IT IS WITH RELIANCE ON THE GRACE OF GOD AND IN A SPIRIT OF PRAYER AND PENANCE THAT WE RENEW THE PLEDGES WHICH WE MADE IN THE 2002 CHARTER:

We pledge most solemnly to one another and to you, God’s people, that we will work to our utmost for the protection of children and youth.

We pledge that we will devote to this goal the resources and personnel necessary to accomplish it.

We pledge that we will do our best to ordain to the diaconate and priesthood and put into positions of trust only those who share this commitment to protecting children and youth.

We pledge that we will work toward healing and reconciliation for those sexually abused by clerics.



Much has been done to honor these pledges. We devoutly pray that God who has begun this good work in us will bring it to fulfillment.

This *Charter* is published for the dioceses/eparchies of the United States. It is to be reviewed again after seven years by the Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People with the advice of the National Review Board. The results of this review are to be presented to the full Conference of Bishops for confirmation. Authoritative interpretations of its provisions are reserved to the Conference of Bishops.

NOTES

- 1 For purposes of this *Charter*, the offense of sexual abuse of a minor will be understood in accord with the provisions of *Sacramentorum sanctitatis tutela* (SST), article 6, which reads:
 - §1. The more grave delicts against morals which are reserved to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith are:
 - 1° the delict against the sixth commandment of the Decalogue committed by a cleric with a minor below the age of eighteen years; in this case, a person who habitually lacks the use of reason is to be considered equivalent to a minor.
 - 2° the acquisition, possession, or distribution by a cleric of pornographic images of minors under the age of fourteen, for purposes of sexual gratification, by whatever means or using whatever technology;
 - §2. A cleric who commits the delicts mentioned above in §1 is to be punished according to the gravity of his crime, not excluding dismissal or deposition.

In view of the Circular Letter from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, dated May 3, 2011, which calls for “mak[ing] allowance for the legislation of the country where the Conference is located,” Section III(g), we will apply the federal legal age for defining child pornography, which includes pornographic images of minors under the age of eighteen, for assessing a cleric’s suitability for ministry and for complying with civil reporting statutes.

If there is any doubt whether a specific act qualifies as an external, objectively grave violation, the writings of recognized moral theologians should be consulted, and the opinions of recognized experts should be appropriately obtained (*Canonical Delicts Involving Sexual Misconduct and Dismissal from the Clerical State*, 1995, p. 6). Ultimately, it is the responsibility of the diocesan bishop/eparch, with the advice of a qualified review board, to determine the gravity of the alleged act.
- 2 In 2009, after consultation with members of the USCCB Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People and the Conference of Major Superiors of Men and approval from the USCCB Committee on Canonical Affairs and Church Governance, additional Model Letters of Suitability, now available on the USCCB website, were agreed upon and published for use by bishops and major superiors in situations which involve both temporary and extended ministry for clerics.



Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate
Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs

APPENDIX B

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR DIOCESES AND EPARCHIES

This questionnaire is designed to survey dioceses and eparchies about credible accusations of abuse and the costs in dealing with these allegations. The results will be used to demonstrate progress in implementing the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People and to reduce the incidence of sexual abuse within the Church.

All data collected here are entirely confidential. Only national aggregate results will be reported.

THE CURRENT AUDIT YEAR COVERS JULY 1, 2019 TO JUNE 30, 2020.

NOTE: An allegation is defined as one victim alleging an act or acts of abuse by one alleged perpetrator.

PREVIOUS AUDIT YEAR ALLEGATIONS RESOLVED DURING THIS AUDIT YEAR

The total number of allegations first received prior to July 1, 2019 that were resolved between June 30, 2019 and July 1, 2020 as:

- _____ A1. Credible. *(See accompanying glossary for the*
- _____ A2. Unsubstantiated. *definitions of these terms.)*
- _____ A3. Obviously false.
- _____ A4. Temporarily unable to be investigated due to current civil investigation or litigation.
- _____ A5. Still being actively investigated.

NEW ALLEGATIONS FIRST RECEIVED DURING THIS AUDIT YEAR (JULY 1, 2019-JUNE 30, 2020)

- _____ 1. The total number of new allegations (including all allegations that are credible, unsubstantiated, obviously false, unable to be proven, temporarily not being investigated due to current civil investigations or litigation, or still being actively investigated) your diocese or eparchy received between **July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020**. *(See accompanying glossary for the definition of a credible allegation.)*
- _____ 2. Of the number reported in item 1, the total number of those that did not meet the threshold for a credible allegation or are still in the process of being investigated to determine their credibility. Of the number reported in item 2, the total number of allegations received between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020 that did not meet the threshold for a credible allegation because they were:
 - _____ 2a. Unsubstantiated. *(See accompanying glossary for the*
 - _____ 2b. Obviously false. *definitions of these terms.)*
 - _____ 2c. Unable to be proven.
 - _____ 2d. Temporarily unable to be investigated due to current civil investigations or litigation (as of June 30, 2020).
 - _____ 2e. Still being actively investigated (as of June 30, 2020).
Note: The sum of items 2a to 2e should equal item 2.
- _____ 3. Of the number reported in item 1, the total number of new credible allegations of sexual abuse of a minor reported against a priest or deacon in your diocese or eparchy **between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020**. (Do not include clergy that are members of religious institutes as they will be reported by their religious institutes.) *(See accompanying glossary for the definition of a credible allegation.) (Note: The sum of items 2 and 3 should be equal to item 1.)*

ALL ALLEGATIONS DEEMED CREDIBLE DURING THIS AUDIT YEAR (JULY 1, 2019-JUNE 30, 2020)

- _____ 4. Total number of allegations (new and recently resolved) deemed as credible by your diocese or eparchy during the period of July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020. *(Item 4 = Item A1 + Item 3.)*
 - _____ 4a. Of the allegations reported in item 4, the number of new credible allegations that involved child pornography solely.
 - _____ 4b. Total number of allegations your diocese or eparchy is reporting that did not involve child pornography solely. *(Item 4 minus item 4a.)*

Of the total number in item 4, the number that were first reported to the diocese or eparchy by:
(Choose only one category for each allegation. The sum of items 5-11 should equal item 4.)

- _____ 5. Victim.
- _____ 6. Family member of the victim.
- _____ 7. Friend of the victim.
- _____ 8. Attorney.
- _____ 9. Law enforcement.
- _____ 10. Bishop or official from another diocese.
- _____ 11. Other: _____.

Of the total number in item 4 (excluding the solely child pornography cases), the number of alleged victims that are:
(Choose only one category for each allegation. The sum of items 12-14 should equal item 4b.)

- _____ 12. Male.
- _____ 13. Female.
- _____ 14. Gender unknown.

Of the total number in item 4 (excluding the solely child pornography cases), the number of alleged victims in each age category when the alleged abuse began:
(Choose only one category for each allegation. The sum of items 15-18 should equal item 4b.)

- _____ 15. 0-9.
- _____ 16. 10-14.
- _____ 17. 15-17.
- _____ 18. Age unknown.

Of the total number in item 4 (excluding the solely child pornography cases), the number alleged to have begun in:
(Choose only one category for each allegation. The sum of items 19-34 should equal item 4b.)

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| _____ 19. 1954 or earlier. | _____ 27. 1990-1994. |
| _____ 20. 1955-1959. | _____ 28. 1995-1999. |
| _____ 21. 1960-1964. | _____ 29. 2000-2004. |
| _____ 22. 1965-1969. | _____ 30. 2005-2009. |
| _____ 23. 1970-1974. | _____ 31. 2010-2014. |
| _____ 24. 1975-1979. | _____ 32. 2015-2019. |
| _____ 25. 1980-1984. | _____ 33. 2020. |
| _____ 26. 1985-1989. | _____ 34. Time period unknown. |

NOTE: Include any alleged perpetrators who are or were ordained members of the clergy legitimately serving in or assigned to the diocese or eparchy at the time the credible allegation(s) was alleged to have occurred. Do not include clergy that are members of religious institutes as they will be reported by their religious institutes.

- _____ 35. Total number of priests or deacons against whom credible allegations of sexual abuse of a minor have been reported or recorded between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020. *(Note: Include all clergy related to the allegations reported in item 4.)*
- _____ 36. Of the total number in item 35, the number that have had one or more previous allegations reported against them prior to July 1, 2019.

Of the total number in item 35, how many were in each category below at the time of the alleged abuse? *(Choose only one category for each alleged perpetrator. The sum of items 37-43 should equal item 35.)*

- _____ 37. Diocesan priests ordained for this diocese or eparchy.
- _____ 38. Diocesan priests incardinated later in this diocese or eparchy.
- _____ 39. Extern diocesan priests from another U.S. diocese serving in this diocese or eparchy.
- _____ 40. Extern diocesan priests from a diocese outside the United States serving in this diocese or eparchy.
- _____ 41. Permanent deacons.
- _____ 42. Temporarily not classified due to current civil investigation or litigation (as of June 30, 2020).
- _____ 43. Other: _____.

Of the total number in item 35, the number that: *(Choose only one category for each alleged perpetrator. The sum of items 44-49 should equal item 35.)*

- _____ 44. Are deceased, already removed from ministry, already laicized, or missing.
- _____ 45. Have been permanently removed or retired from ministry between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020 based on allegations of abuse.
- _____ 46. Have been returned to ministry between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020 based on the resolution of allegations of abuse.
- _____ 47. Remain temporarily removed from ministry pending investigation of allegations (as of June 30, 2020).
- _____ 48. Remain in active ministry pending investigation of allegations (as of June 30, 2020).
- _____ 49. Temporarily not classified due to current civil investigation or litigation (as of June 30, 2020).

COSTS INCURRED DURING THE CURRENT AUDIT YEAR

- \$ _____ 50. Amounts paid for **all child protection** efforts, including SEC/VAC salaries and expenses, training programs, background checks, etc.

Indicate the approximate total amount of funds expended by the diocese or eparchy between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020 for **payments as the result of allegations of sexual abuse of a minor** (notwithstanding the year in which the allegation was received):

- \$ _____ 51. All settlements paid to victims.
- \$ _____ 52. Other payments to victims (e.g., for therapy or other expenses, if separate from settlements).
- \$ _____ 53. Payments for support for offenders (including living expenses, legal expenses, therapy, etc.).
- \$ _____ 54. Payments for attorneys' fees.
- \$ _____ 55. Other allegation-related costs: _____.
- _____ % 56. Approximate percentage of the amount in items 51-55 that was covered by your diocese's or eparchy's insurance.

2020 Annual Report: Findings and Recommendations

If your diocese or eparchy made a financial settlement to victims in the past year (July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020), which of the following monetary sources/changes did your diocese or eparchy use for those settlements:

(Please check all that apply. If no financial settlements were made, please skip this question.)

57. Sale of property.

58. Restructuring of debt.

59. Insurance pay-outs.

60. Bankruptcy filing.

61. Elimination of programs or services.

62. Staff reductions.

63. Other _____.

In the event it is necessary for clarification about the data reported here, please supply the following information:

Name & title of person completing this form: _____

Arch/Diocese or Eparchy: _____ Phone: _____

Thank you for completing this survey.

Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA)

2300 Wisconsin Ave NW, Suite 400A, Washington, DC 20007

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Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate
Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs

APPENDIX C

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR RELIGIOUS INSTITUTES

This questionnaire is designed to survey religious institutes, societies of apostolic life, or the separate provinces thereof about credible accusations of abuse and the costs in dealing with these allegations. The results will be used to demonstrate progress in implementing the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People and to reduce the incidence of sexual abuse within the Church.

All data collected here are entirely confidential. Only national aggregate results will be reported.

THE CURRENT AUDIT YEAR COVERS JULY 1, 2019 TO JUNE 30, 2020.

NOTE: An allegation is defined as one victim alleging an act or acts of abuse by one alleged perpetrator.

PREVIOUS AUDIT YEAR ALLEGATIONS RESOLVED DURING THIS AUDIT YEAR

The total number of allegations first received prior to July 1, 2019 that were resolved between June 30, 2019 and July 1, 2020 as:

- _____ A1. Credible. *(See accompanying glossary for the definitions of these terms.)*
- _____ A2. Unsubstantiated.
- _____ A3. Obviously false.
- _____ A4. Investigation ongoing.

NEW ALLEGATIONS FIRST RECEIVED DURING THIS AUDIT YEAR (JULY 1, 2019-JUNE 30, 2020)

- _____ 1. The total number of new allegations (including all allegations that are credible, unsubstantiated, obviously false, unable to be proven, temporarily not being investigated due to current civil investigations or litigation, or still being actively investigated) your religious institute received between **July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020**. *(See accompanying glossary for the definition of a these terms.)*
- _____ 2. Of the number reported in item 1, the total number of those that did not meet the threshold for a credible allegation or are still in the process of being investigated to determine their credibility. Of the number reported in item 2, the total number of allegations received between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020 that did not meet the threshold for a credible allegation because they were:
 - _____ 2a. Unsubstantiated. *(See accompanying glossary for the definitions of these terms.)*
 - _____ 2b. Obviously false.
 - _____ 2c. Unable to be proven.
 - _____ 2d. Investigation ongoing (as of June 30, 2020).
Note: The sum of items 2a to 2d should equal item 2.
- _____ 3. Of the number reported in item 1, the total number of new credible allegations of sexual abuse of a minor reported against a priest, deacon, or perpetually professed brother in your religious institute **between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020**. (Only include members of your religious institute who are clergy or perpetually professed brothers.) *(See accompanying glossary for the definition of a credible allegation.) (Note: The sum of items 2 and 3 should be equal to item 1.)*

ALL ALLEGATIONS DEEMED CREDIBLE DURING THIS AUDIT YEAR (JULY 1, 2019-JUNE 30, 2020)

- _____ 4. Total number of allegations (new and recently resolved) deemed as credible by your religious institute during the period of July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020. *(Item 4 = Item A1 + Item 3.)*
 - _____ 4a. Of the allegations reported in item 4, the number that involved child pornography solely.
 - _____ 4b. Total number of allegations your religious institute is reporting that did not involve child pornography solely. *(Item 4 minus item 4a.)*

Of the number reported in item 4, the number that were first reported to the religious institute by:
(Choose only one category for each allegation. The sum of items 5-11 should equal item 4.)

- _____ 5. Victim.
- _____ 6. Family member of the victim.
- _____ 7. Friend of the victim.
- _____ 8. Attorney.
- _____ 9. Law enforcement.
- _____ 10. Bishop or official from a diocese.
- _____ 11. Other: _____.

Of the number reported in item 4b, the number of alleged victims that are:
(Choose only one category for each allegation. The sum of items 12-14 should equal item 4b.)

- _____ 12. Male.
- _____ 13. Female.
- _____ 14. Gender unknown.

Of the number reported in item 4b, the number of alleged victims in each age category when the alleged abuse began:
(Choose only one category for each allegation. The sum of items 15-18 should equal item 4b.)

- _____ 15. 0-9.
- _____ 16. 10-14.
- _____ 17. 15-17.
- _____ 18. Age unknown.

Of the number reported in item 4b, the number alleged to have begun in: *(Choose only one category for each allegation. The sum of items 19-34 should equal item 4b.)*

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| _____ 19. 1954 or earlier. | _____ 27. 1990-1994. |
| _____ 20. 1955-1959. | _____ 28. 1995-1999. |
| _____ 21. 1960-1964. | _____ 29. 2000-2004. |
| _____ 22. 1965-1969. | _____ 30. 2005-2009. |
| _____ 23. 1970-1974. | _____ 31. 2010-2014. |
| _____ 24. 1975-1979. | _____ 32. 2015-2019. |
| _____ 25. 1980-1984. | _____ 33. 2020. |
| _____ 26. 1985-1989. | _____ 34. Time period unknown. |

*NOTE: Include any alleged perpetrators who are or were **ordained members of the religious clergy or perpetually professed brothers** legitimately serving in or assigned to a diocese or eparchy or within the religious institute at the time that the credible allegation(s) was alleged to have occurred.*

- _____ 35. Total number of clergy or perpetually professed brothers against whom credible allegations of sexual abuse of a minor have been reported or recorded between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020. *(Note: Include all clergy and brothers related to the allegations reported in item 4.)*
- _____ 36. Of the total number in item 35, the number that have had one or more previous allegations reported against them prior to July 1, 2019.

Of the total number in item 35, how many were in each category below at the time of the alleged abuse? *(Choose only one category for each alleged perpetrator. The sum of items 37-43 should equal item 35.)*

- | Priests | Brothers | |
|----------------|-----------------|---|
| _____ 37a. | _____ 37b. | Member of this province assigned within the United States. |
| _____ 38a. | _____ 38b. | Member of this province assigned outside the United States. |
| _____ 39a. | _____ 39b. | Formerly of this province but no longer a member of the religious institute. |
| _____ 40a. | _____ 40b. | Member of another U.S. province but serving in this province of the religious institute. |
| _____ 41a. | _____ 41b. | Member of a non-U.S. based province but serving in this province of the religious institute. |
| _____ 42. | | Deacon member of your religious institute. |
| _____ 43. | | Temporarily unable to be classified due to current civil investigation or litigation (as of June 30, 2020). |

Of the total number in item 35, the number that: *(Choose only one category for each alleged perpetrator. The sum of items 44-49 should equal item 35.)*

- _____ 44. Are deceased, already removed from ministry, already laicized, or missing.
- _____ 45. Have been permanently removed or retired from ministry between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020 based on allegations of abuse.
- _____ 46. Have been returned to ministry between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020 based on the resolution of allegations of abuse.
- _____ 47. Remain temporarily removed from ministry pending investigation of allegations (as of June 30, 2020).
- _____ 48. Remain in active ministry pending investigation of allegations (as of June 30, 2020).
- _____ 49. Are temporarily not classified due to current civil investigation or litigation (as of June 30, 2020)

Of the number reported in item 35, the number that: *(See accompanying glossary for the definition of a these terms.)*

- _____ 50. Are diagnosed situational offenders.
- _____ 51. Are diagnosed preferential offenders.
- _____ 52. Not known or have not yet received a diagnosis.
- _____ 53. *Of the total number of diagnosed situational offenders in item 44, the number who have reoffended.*
- _____ 54. *Of the total number of diagnosed preferential offenders in item 45, the number who have reoffended.*
- _____ 55. *Of the total number of undiagnosed offenders in item 46, the number who have reoffended.*

COSTS INCURRED DURING THE CURRENT AUDIT YEAR

\$ _____ 56. Amounts paid for **all child protection** efforts, including SEC/VAC salaries and expenses, training programs, background checks, etc.

Indicate the approximate total amount of funds expended by your religious institute between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020 for **payments as the result of allegations of sexual abuse of a minor** (notwithstanding the year in which the allegation was received):

\$ _____ 57. All settlements paid to victims.

\$ _____ 58. Other payments to victims (e.g., for therapy or other expenses, if separate from settlements).

\$ _____ 59. Payments for support for offenders (including living expenses, legal expenses, therapy, etc.).

\$ _____ 60. Payments for attorneys' fees.

\$ _____ 61. Other allegation-related costs: _____.

_____ % 62. Approximate percentage of the amount in items 57-61 that was covered by your religious institute's insurance.

If your religious institute, society of apostolic life, or province made a financial settlement to victims in the past audit year (July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020), which of the following monetary sources/changes was used for those settlements:

(Please check all that apply. If no financial settlements were made, please skip this question.)

- 63. Sale of property.
- 64. Restructuring of debt.
- 65. Insurance pay-outs.
- 66. Bankruptcy filing.
- 67. Elimination of programs or services.
- 68. Staff reductions.
- 69. Other _____.

In the event it is necessary for clarification about the data reported here, please supply the following information:

Name & title of person completing this form: _____

Institute: _____ Phone: _____

Thank you for completing this survey.
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A PRAYER for HEALING

VICTIMS OF ABUSE

God of endless love,
ever caring, ever strong,
always present, always just:
You gave your only Son
to save us by his Blood on the Cross.

Gentle Jesus, shepherd of peace,
join to your own suffering
the pain of all who have been hurt
in body, mind, and spirit
by those who betrayed the trust placed in them.

Hear the cries of our brothers and sisters
who have been gravely harmed,
and the cries of those who love them.
Soothe their restless hearts with hope,
steady their shaken spirits with faith.
Grant them justice for their cause,
enlightened by your truth.

Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts,
heal your people's wounds
and transform brokenness into wholeness.
Grant us the courage and wisdom,
humility and grace, to act with justice.
Breathe wisdom into our prayers and labors.
Grant that all harmed by abuse may find peace in justice.
We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.