

# **Alaska Native K-12 Education Indicators**

**Chugach**

**Prepared for:  
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# Chugach Region

## Population

Communities included in the Chugach region for determining population are those communities served by the Chugach School, Cordova City School, and Valdez City School Districts. Communities are as follows:

|              |               |
|--------------|---------------|
| Chenega CDP  | Valdez city   |
| Cordova city | Whittier city |
| Tatitlek CDP |               |

*Note:* CDP is the U.S. Census Bureau abbreviation for Census Designated Place.

Almost 10 percent of the Chugach region population was identified as Alaska Native Alone or in combination with some other race for Census 2000. The Alaska Native population is greater than shown in the following table, but Census 2000 sampling and suppression of data for communities with small populations causes an undercount of the actual population.

**Table 40**  
**Chugach Region Demographics Profile**

| Chugach Region Demographics Summary |                  |         |  |         |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|---------|--|---------|
|                                     | Total Population |         | Alaska Native Alone or in combination with some other race |         |
|                                     | Number           | Percent | Number   | Percent |
| <b>Population</b>                   | 6,865            |         | 663  |         |
| <b>Gender</b>                       |                  |         |  |         |
| Male                                | 3,628            | 52.8    | 345  | 52.0    |
| Female                              | 3,237            | 47.2    | 318  | 48.0    |
| <b>Age</b>                          |                  |         |  |         |
| < 5 years                           | 466              | 6.8     | 65   | 9.8     |
| 5 - 14                              | 1,173            | 17.1    | 151  | 22.8    |
| 15 - 19                             | 501              | 7.3     | 70   | 10.6    |
| 20 - 34                             | 1,178            | 17.2    | 95   | 14.3    |
| 35 - 44                             | 1,426            | 20.8    | 116  | 17.5    |
| 45 - 64                             | 1,789            | 26.1    | 119  | 17.9    |
| 65 or more years                    | 332              | 4.8     | 47   | 7.1     |

*Source:* U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000. Total population includes Alaska Natives and in combination with some other race.

The percentage of the Alaska Native population that is school age (ages 5 through 19) is much larger than the percentage of Chugach's population that is school age, 33.4 percent compared to 24.4 percent.

## Enrollment by School District

There are three school districts in the Chugach geographic area with nine schools. Native enrollment for the 2002-2003 school year was 17 percent of the total 1,555 enrollment.

**Table 41**  
**Chugach Region Enrollment by School**  
**2002-2003 School Year**

| District                    | School                            | Enrollment |                |              |                   |              |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|----------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|
|                             |                                   | Native     | Percent Native | All Other    | Percent All Other | Total        |
| Chugach Schools             | <i>Chenega Bay School</i>         | 12         | 85.7           | 2            | 14.3              | 14           |
|                             | <i>Chugach Extension Corresp.</i> | 12         | 9.8            | 111          | 90.2              | 123          |
|                             | <i>Tatitlek Community School</i>  | 35         | 100.0          | -            | 0.0               | 35           |
|                             | <i>Whittier Community School</i>  | 11         | 25.0           | 33           | 75.0              | 44           |
| Cordova City Schools        | <i>Cordova Jr/Sr High School</i>  | 44         | 19.0           | 188          | 81.0              | 232          |
|                             | <i>Mt. Eccles Elementary</i>      | 32         | 13.5           | 205          | 86.5              | 237          |
| Valdez City Schools         | <i>George H Gilson Jr. H.S.</i>   | 16         | 11.8           | 120          | 88.2              | 136          |
|                             | <i>Hermon Hutchens Elementary</i> | 67         | 15.4           | 369          | 84.6              | 436          |
|                             | <i>Valdez High School</i>         | 36         | 12.1           | 262          | 87.9              | 298          |
| <b>Chugach Region Total</b> |                                   | <b>265</b> | <b>17.0</b>    | <b>1,290</b> | <b>83.0</b>       | <b>1,555</b> |

Source: State of Alaska Department of Education and Early Development.

## List of Schools Making AYP

The following schools made Adequate Yearly Progress for the school year 2002-2003:

| District             | School   |
|----------------------|--|
| Chugach Schools      | <i>Chenega Bay School - Chenega Bay</i><br><i>Whittier Community School - Whittier</i> |
| Cordova City Schools | <i>Mt. Eccles Elementary - Cordova</i>   |
| Valdez City Schools  | <i>George H Gilson Jr. H.S. - Valdez</i><br><i>Valdez High School - Valdez</i>         |

## List of Schools Not Making AYP

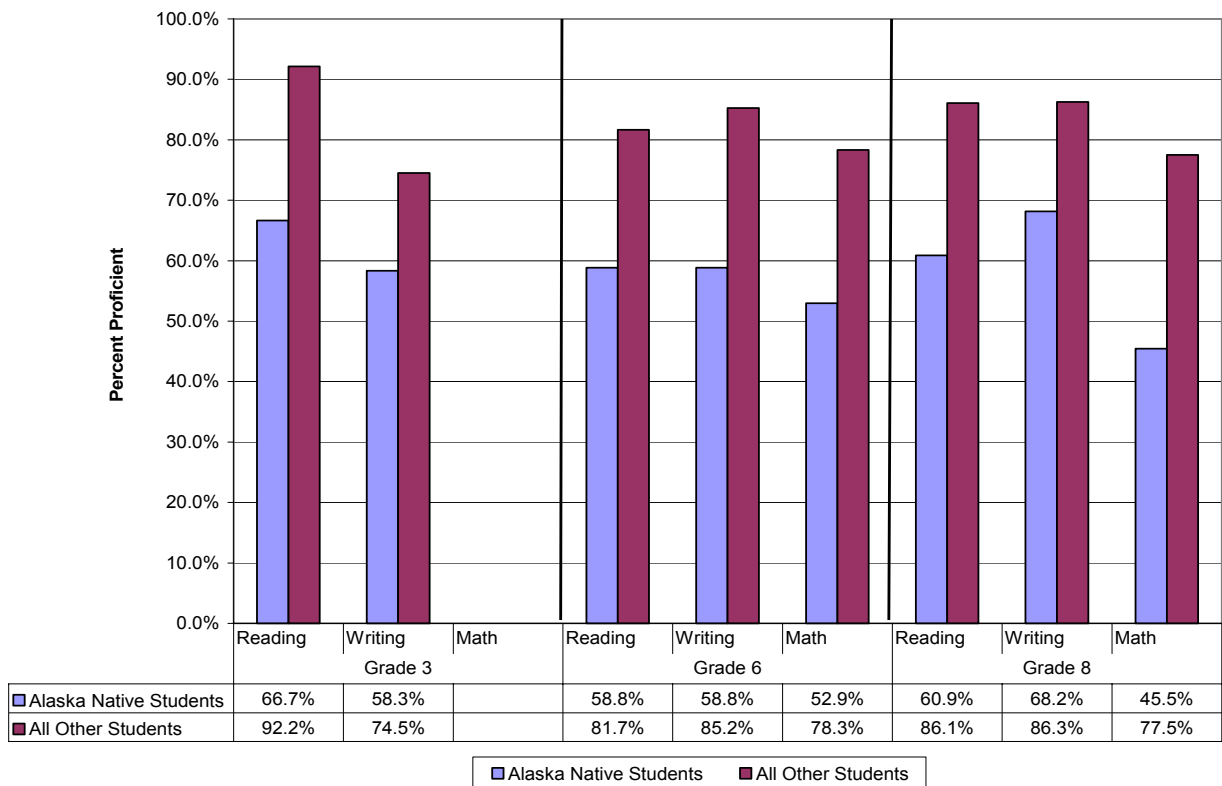
The following schools did not make Adequate Yearly Progress for the school year 2002-2003:

| District             | School                                      | Reason for not Meeting AYP   |
|----------------------|---|--|
| Chugach Schools      | <i>Chugach Extension Corresp. - Valdez</i>  | Participation rates for school as a whole and Caucasian students.  |
|                      | <i>Tatitlek Community School - Tatitlek</i> | 1. Participation rates for school as a whole, Alaska Native, and economically disadvantaged students. 2. Language Arts scores for school as a whole and Alaska Native students. 3. Math scores for school as a whole and Alaska Native students. |
| Cordova City Schools | <i>Cordova Jr/Sr High School - Cordova</i>  | Participation rates for school as a whole, Caucasian, and economically disadvantaged students.   |
| Valdez City Schools  | <i>Hermon Hutchens Elementary - Valdez</i>  | Language Arts scores for students with disabilities.   |

## Education Benchmarks

School districts included with the Chugach region are the Chugach Schools, the Valdez City Schools, and the Cordova City Schools. Kenai Peninsula Borough School boundaries extend into the Chugach geographic region but the decision was made to include this school district data with the Cook Inlet geographic region. Chugach School District 3<sup>rd</sup> grade test results have been suppressed for confidentiality reasons along with grades 3 and 6 of the Cordova City School District, and grade 3 math results for the Valdez City School District.

**Figure 27**  
**Chugach Region Benchmark Results**  
**2002-2003 School Year**



*Source:* State of Alaska Department of Education and Early Development. Missing benchmarks are due to confidential data elements. Due to the suppression and/or absence of data from some schools, benchmark results may not accurately represent the entire region.

## Daily Attendance Rates

The Chugach region schools had average attendance rates of 93.5 percent for the 2001-2002 school year. (See Table 42.) DEED measures attendance rates by taking the sum of all days present for all students in a school for the year and dividing this by the sum of all days present and all days absent for all students in a school for the year. The information is not available by ethnicity and is not yet available for the 2002-2003 school year.

**Table 42**  
**Chugach Region Attendance Rates**  
**2001-2002 School Year**

| District Name                 | School Name                     | Attendance Rate |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Cordova City                  | Cordova Jr/Sr High School       | 91.6%           |
| Cordova City                  | Mt. Eccles Elementary           | 93.8%           |
| Valdez City                   | George H Gilson Jr. High School | 94.4%           |
| Valdez City                   | Hermon Hutchens Elementary      | 93.9%           |
| Valdez City                   | Valdez High School              | 93.9%           |
| <b>Chugach Region Average</b> |                                 | <b>93.5%</b>    |

Source: State of Alaska Department of Education and Early Development, 2001- 2002 school year.

## Dropout Rates

A dropout is defined as a student who was enrolled in the school at some time during the school year and left the school at some time during that same school year. The dropout rate for Alaska Native students in the Chugach region for grades 7 through 12 was 0.9 percent for the 2001-2002 school year. This compares to all other students in the Chugach region who dropped out at a rate of 1.5 percent. Several regions' dropout rates appear low, and zero dropouts in a region are unlikely.

**Table 43**  
**Chugach Region Dropout Rates for Grades 7 through 12**  
**2001-2002 School Year**

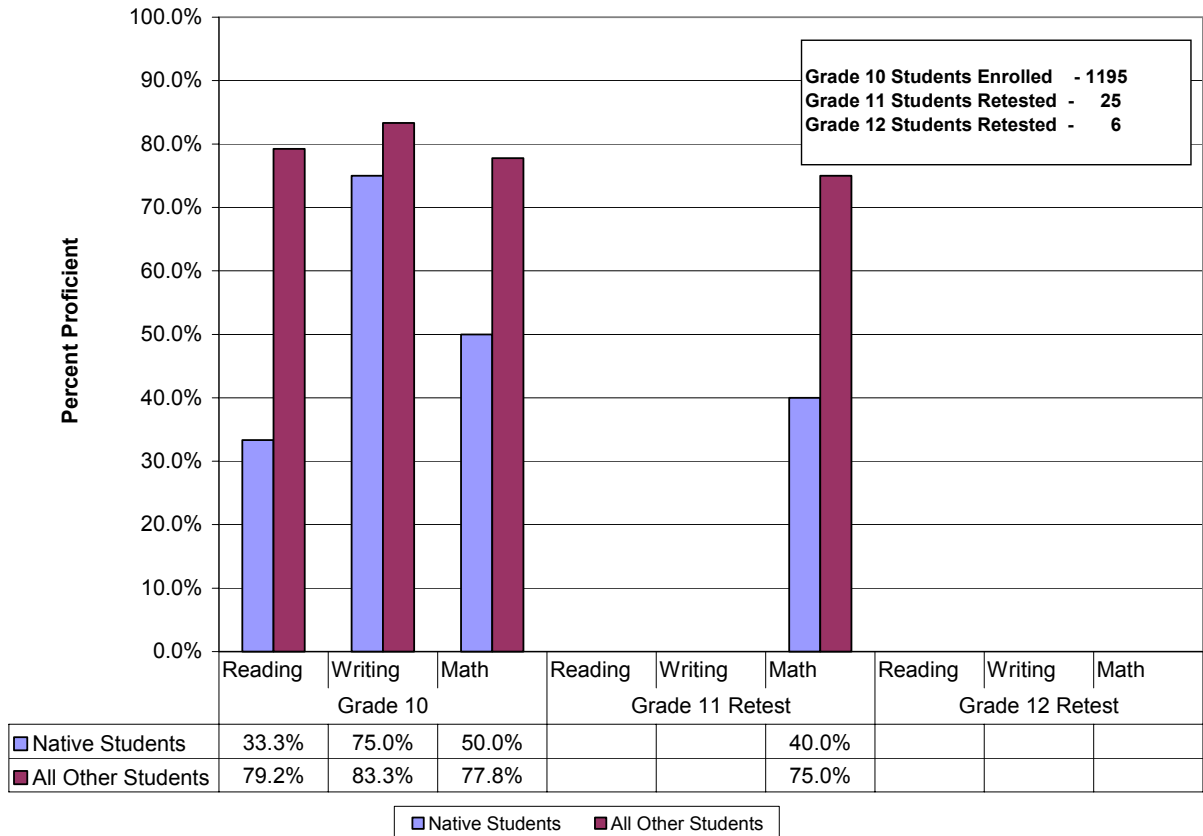
| District                    | School Name                | Alaska Native |          |            | All Other Students |          |            | Total      | Total     | % Total    |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|----------|------------|--------------------|----------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|
|                             |                            | Enrollment    | Dropouts | % Dropouts | Enrollment         | Dropouts | % Dropouts | Enrollment | Dropouts  | Dropouts   |
| Chugach                     | Chenega Bay School         | 2             | 0        | 0.0        | 0                  | 0        | na         | 2          | 0         | 0.0        |
| Chugach                     | Chugach Extension Corresp. | 3             | 0        | 0.0        | 31                 | 0        | 0.0        | 34         | 0         | 0.0        |
| Chugach                     | Tatitlek Community School  | 17            | 0        | 0.0        | 0                  | 0        | na         | 17         | 0         | 0.0        |
| Chugach                     | Whittier Community School  | 2             | 0        | 0.0        | 16                 | 0        | 0.0        | 18         | 0         | 0.0        |
| Cordova                     | Cordova Jr/Sr High School  | 43            | 0        | 0.0        | 186                | 1        | 0.5        | 229        | 1         | 0.4        |
| Valdez                      | George H Gilson Jr. H.S.   | 20            | 0        | 0.0        | 119                | 1        | 0.8        | 139        | 1         | 0.7        |
| Valdez                      | Valdez High School         | 30            | 1        | 3.3        | 259                | 7        | 2.7        | 289        | 8         | 2.8        |
| <b>Chugach Region Total</b> |                            | <b>117</b>    | <b>1</b> | <b>0.9</b> | <b>611</b>         | <b>9</b> | <b>1.5</b> | <b>728</b> | <b>10</b> | <b>1.4</b> |

Source: State of Alaska Department of Education and Early Development, 2001-2002 school year. Several regions' dropout rates appear low, and zero dropouts in a region are unlikely.

## High School Graduation Qualifying Exams

Chugach region high school graduation qualifying exam results were compiled for the ethnicities and schools that had releasable data. Some grade and subject data were not released. Due to the small number of students who retake the exam in the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade, much of this data has been suppressed.

**Figure 28**  
**Chugach Region High School Graduation Qualifying Exam Results**  
**2002-2003 School Year**



Source: State of Alaska Department of Education and Early Development. High school students are first offered the High School Graduation Qualifying Exam in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade. Students may retake the tests for the subjects which they were not proficient in the 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Once a student passes the subject matter, they need not retake the exams. Exam results listed here are for the schools and ethnic categories for which data was released. The number of students retesting is based on the greatest number of students in a given subject matter.

## Graduation Rates

Alaska Natives in the Chugach geographic region graduated at the rate of 111.1 percent compared to all other ethnicities which had a graduation rate of 94.4 percent for the 2001-2002 school year. Graduation rates (until 2002-2003) were calculated by dividing the number of graduates (regular diploma recipients) by the number of 12<sup>th</sup> grade students that were enrolled on the last day of school. Students receiving Certificates of Attendance are not counted as graduates but are counted in the denominator if they were enrolled on the last day.

**Table 44**  
**Chugach Region Graduation Rates**  
**2001-2002 School Year**

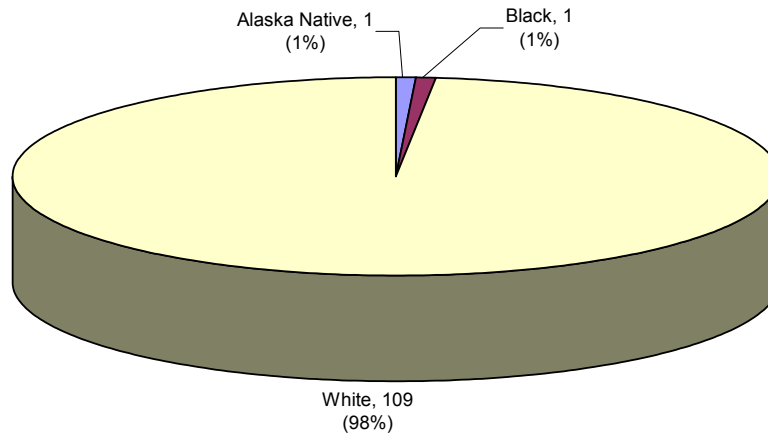
| District                    | School Name                | Alaska Natives |           |              | All Other Students |           |             | Total Enrollment | Total Graduates |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|-----------|--------------|--------------------|-----------|-------------|------------------|-----------------|
|                             |                            | Enrollment     | Graduates | % Graduates  | Enrollment         | Graduates | % Graduates |                  |                 |
| Chugach                     | Chugach Extension Corresp. | 0              | 0         | na           | 2                  | 0         | 0.0         | 2                | 0               |
| Chugach                     | Tatitlek Community School  | 3              | 3         | 100.0        | 0                  | 0         | na          | 3                | 3               |
| Chugach                     | Whittier Community School  | 0              | 0         | na           | 1                  | 1         | 100.0       | 1                | 1               |
| Cordova                     | Cordova Jr/Sr High School  | 8              | 10        | 125.0        | 21                 | 21        | 100.0       | 29               | 31              |
| Valdez                      | Valdez High School         | 7              | 7         | 100.0        | 48                 | 46        | 95.8        | 55               | 53              |
| <b>Chugach Region Total</b> |                            | <b>18</b>      | <b>20</b> | <b>111.1</b> | <b>72</b>          | <b>68</b> | <b>94.4</b> | <b>90</b>        | <b>88</b>       |

Source: State of Alaska Department of Education and Early Development, 2001- 2002 school year. Percent of graduates that are greater than 100 may be due to differing time frames for gathering enrollment and graduates data or students who graduate during the school year and are not counted enrolled on the last day of school.

## Teacher Ethnicity

There were 111 teachers in the Chugach region schools for the 2002-2003 school year. One teacher was Alaska Native.

**Figure 29**  
**Chugach Region Teacher Ethnicity**  
**2002-2003 School Year**



Source: State of Alaska Department of Education and Early Development.