

Population

Communities included in the Chugach region for determining population are those communities served by the Chugach, Cordova City, 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.

It is estimated that the population of Chugach region has decreased by 0.7 percent (-45 people) between Census 2000 and 2003. Almost 10 percent of the Chugach region's population were identified as Alaska Natives, 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.

24.4 percent of the Chugach region's total population are of school age (5 to 19 years), but 33.4 percent of the region's Native population are of school age.

Table 72
Chugach Region Demographics Profile Census 2000 and 2003 Estimates

	Total Population		Alaska Native Alone or in combination with some other race	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Population				
2003 estimate	6,820	--	--	--
Census 2000	6,865	--	663	9.7%
Change	-45	-0.7%	--	--
Gender (Census 2000)				
Male	3,628	52.8%	345	52.0%
Female	3,237	47.2	318	48.0
Age (Census 2000)				
< 5 years	466	6.8%	65	9.8%
5 - 14 years	1,173	17.1	151	22.8
15 - 19 years	501	7.3	70	10.6
20 - 34 years	1,178	17.2	95	14.3
35 - 44 years	1,426	20.8	116	17.5
45 - 64 years	1,789	26.1	119	17.9
65 or more years	332	4.8	47	7.1

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau and Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

Note: Total population includes Alaska Natives, alone or in combination with some other race. Age, gender, and ethnicity information is not available from the Department of Labor and Workforce Development's 2003 population estimates.

School Inventory and Enrollment

Public school enrollment is the count of students enrolled on October 1, 2003 for the 2003-2004 school year. Therefore, students leaving or entering a school after October 1, 2003 are not reflected in the enrollment figure.

There are three school districts in the Chugach geographic area, with nine public schools. Native enrollment for the 2003-2004 school year represented 16.8 percent of the total 1,565 enrollment. In the 2002-2003 school year Alaska Native enrollment had made up 17 percent of a total enrollment of 1,555 students.

Alaska Native “students with disabilities” represented 24.3 percent (54 students) of all students enrolled with disabilities (222 students) in the Chugach region.

There were no private schools in the Chugach region that reported enrollments to the Department of Education and Early Development.

*Table 73
Chugach Region
Public School Enrollment by School and Ethnicity
2003 – 2004 School Year*

District and School Name	Alaska Native		All Other		Total Number
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Chugach Schools					
Chenega Bay School	9	69.2%	4	30.8%	13
Chugach Extension Correspondence School	23	17.7	107	82.3	130
Tatitlek Community School	26	100.0	-	-	26
Whittier Community School	8	18.2	36	81.8	44
Cordova City Schools					
Cordova Jr/Sr High School	45	20.1%	179	79.9%	224
Mt. Eccles Elementary	39	15.4	215	84.6	254
Valdez City Schools					
George H Gilson Jr. H.S.	14	9.7%	130	90.3%	144
Hermon Hutchens Elementary	63	14.7	367	85.3	430
Valdez High School	36	12.0	264	88.0	300
Chugach Region Total	263	16.8%	1,302	83.2%	1,565
Comparison to Previous Year					
Chugach Totals 2002-2003 School Year	265	17.0%	1,290	83.0%	1,555
Number Change	-2		+12		+10
Percent Change	-0.8%		+0.9%		+0.6%

Source: Alaska Department of Education and Early Development.

Average Daily Attendance Rates

The Chugach region schools had average daily attendance rates of 95.1 percent for the 2003-2004 school year. This represents a slight increase (+0.7 percent) over the 2002-2003 school year.

The Alaska Department of Education and Early Development 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. This information is not available by ethnicity.

Table 74
Chugach Region
Average Daily Attendance Rates by School
2001 – 2002, 2002 – 2003, and 2003 – 2004 School Years

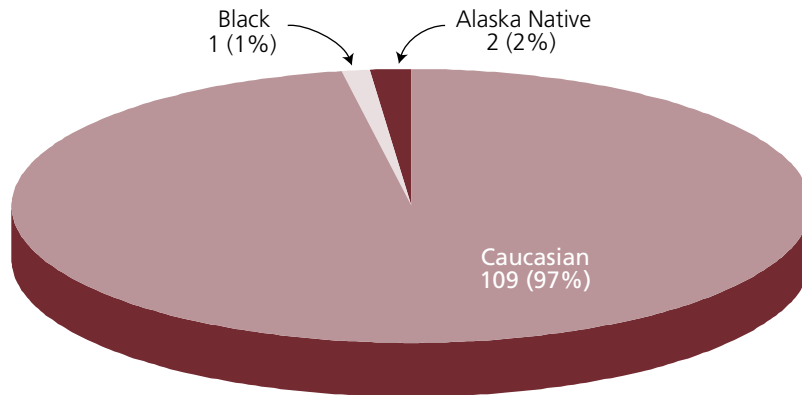
District and School Name	Attendance Rate (percentage)			Percent Change from 2002-2003 to 2003-2004
	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004	
Chugach Schools	97.3%	96.9%	97.6%	+0.7%
Chenega Bay School	93.5	91.4	96.2	+4.8
Chugach Extension Corresp.	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0
Tatitlek Community School	95.6	95.0	96.3	+1.3
Whittier Community School	89.9	91.0	91.1	+0.2
Cordova City Schools	92.7%	93.2%	94.9%	+1.7%
Cordova Jr/Sr High School	91.6	92.2	95.3	+3.1
Mt. Eccles Elementary	93.8	94.2	94.5	+0.3
Valdez City Schools	94.0%	94.1%	94.6%	+0.5%
George H Gilson Jr. H.S.	94.4	94.8	94.5	-0.3
Hermon Hutchens Elementary	93.9	94.3	94.8	+0.5
Valdez High School	93.9	93.5	94.1	+0.6
Chugach Region Average	94.0%	94.4%	95.1%	+0.7%

Source: Alaska Department of Education and Early Development.

Teacher Ethnicity

There were 112 teachers (including teachers, head teachers, visiting teachers and remedial specialists) in the Chugach region schools for the 2003-2004 school year. Two teachers were Alaska Natives, one more Alaska Native teacher than in the 2002-2003 school year.

*Figure 36
Chugach Region
Number and Percent of Teachers by Ethnicity
2003 – 2004 School Year*



Source: Alaska Department of Education and Early Development.

Educator Turnover

For this report, “educator turnover” includes instances in which a superintendent, principal, or teacher changes his or her job classification within the same school (for instance, a teacher becomes a principal) and/or leaves the school where he or she worked from the 2002-2003 school year to the 2003-2004 school year.

The following table provides educator turnover rates, broken out by superintendents and principals combined and by teachers for the three school districts that are included in the Chugach region. The category of teachers includes: teacher, head teacher, visiting teacher, and remedial specialist.

Superintendent/principal turnover in the Chugach region was 33.3 percent, and teacher turnover was 13.4 percent.

*Table 75
Chugach Region
Educator Turnover by School District
Between 2002 – 2003 and 2003 – 2004 School Years*

District Name	Teachers			Superintendents/Principals		
	Number Employed	Turnover Number	Turnover Percent	Number Employed	Turnover Number	Turnover Percent
Chugach Schools	16	6	37.5%	1	0	0.0%
Cordova City Schools	32	6	18.8	3	1	33.3
Valdez City Schools	64	3	4.7	5	2	40.0
Chugach Region Total	112	15	13.4%	9	3	33.3%

Source: Alaska Department of Education and Early Development.

List of Schools Making AYP

Eight out of the nine Chugach region schools made adequate yearly progress in the 2003-2004 school year. Three of these eight schools had not made adequate yearly progress in the 2002-2003 school year.

The table below show which schools in the Chugach Region made adequate yearly progress for the school year 2003-2004. This table also indicates whether the school had met AYP in the 2002-2003 school year.

*Table 76
Chugach Region
Public Schools Making AYP by School District
2003 – 2004 School Year*

School Name and City	Met AYP in 2002-2003 School Year
Chugach Schools	
Chenega Bay School, Chenega Bay	Yes
Chugach Extension Correspondence, Valdez	No
Whittier Community School, Whittier	Yes
Cordova City Schools	
Cordova Jr/Sr High School, Cordova	No
Mt. Eccles Elementary, Cordova	Yes
Valdez City Schools	
George H Gilson Jr. H.S., Valdez	Yes
Hermon Hutchens Elementary, Valdez	No
Valdez High School, Valdez	Yes

Source: Alaska Department of Education and Early Development.

List of Schools Not Making AYP

Tatitlek Community School did not make adequate yearly progress for the school year 2003-2004. This school has a Level 2 AYP sanction. AYP Level Sanctions vary, depending on whether the school is receiving Title I funding. Tatitlek Community School is a Title I funded school. See Appendix A for sanctions for schools receiving or not receiving Title I funds.

The following table shows the reasons why Tatitlek Community School did not make adequate yearly progress for the 2003-2004 or 2002-2003 school years.

*Table 77
Chugach Region
Public Schools Not Making AYP by School District
2003 – 2004 School Year*

District and School Name	Title I School	AYP Level 2003-2004 School Year	Annual Measurable Objective Not Met in 2003-2004 School Year	Met AYP in 2002-2003 School Year
			(See Legend Key Below)	
<i>Chugach Schools</i>				
Tatitlek Community School, Tatitlek	Yes	Level 2	MA1, G1	No
Legend Key: P = Participation Rate LA = Language Arts MA = Math A = Attendance G = Graduation Rate 1 = School as a Whole 2 = African American 3 = Alaska Native 4 = American Indian 5 = Asian 6 = Caucasian 7 = Hispanic 8 = Economically Disadvantaged 9 = Students with Disabilities 10 = Limited English Proficiency				

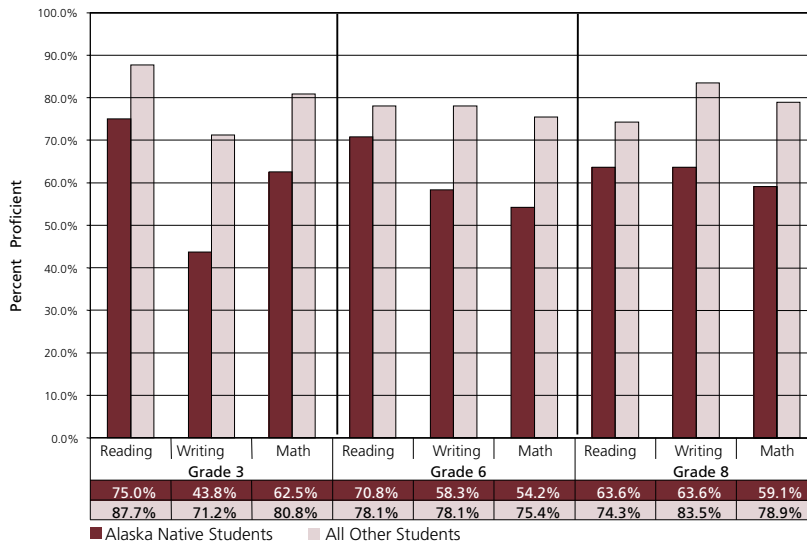
Source: Alaska Department of Education and Early Development.

Benchmark Examinations

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 region, but the decision was made to include these school district data with the Cook Inlet geographic region.

The table below shows the benchmark examination results for students enrolled in the third, sixth, and eighth grades. Alaska Native students have significantly lower test results for all grades and subjects than do students of all other ethnicities combined.

Figure 37
Chugach Region Benchmark Examination Results by Ethnicity, 2003 – 2004 School Year



Source: Alaska Department of Education and Early Development.

Comparisons of Chugach region benchmark examination results between the 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 school years for Alaska Native student performance are found in the table below. The two school years may not be directly comparable because some data were withheld, if they might have revealed an individual student’s performance. Other variables may include opening and closing of schools within regions and varying student populations for Grades 3, 6, and 8.

Table 78
Chugach Region Benchmark Examination Results for Alaska Native Students
2002 – 2003 and 2003 – 2004 School Years

School Year	Grade 3			Grade 6			Grade 8		
	Reading	Writing	Math	Reading	Writing	Math	Reading	Writing	Math
2003 - 2004	75.0%	43.8%	62.5%	70.8%	58.3%	54.2%	63.6%	63.6%	59.1%
2002 - 2003	66.7%	58.3%	0.0%	58.8%	58.8%	52.9%	60.9%	68.2%	45.5%
Change (%)	+8.3%	-14.6%	+62.5%	+12.0%	-0.5%	+1.2%	+2.8%	-4.5%	+13.6%

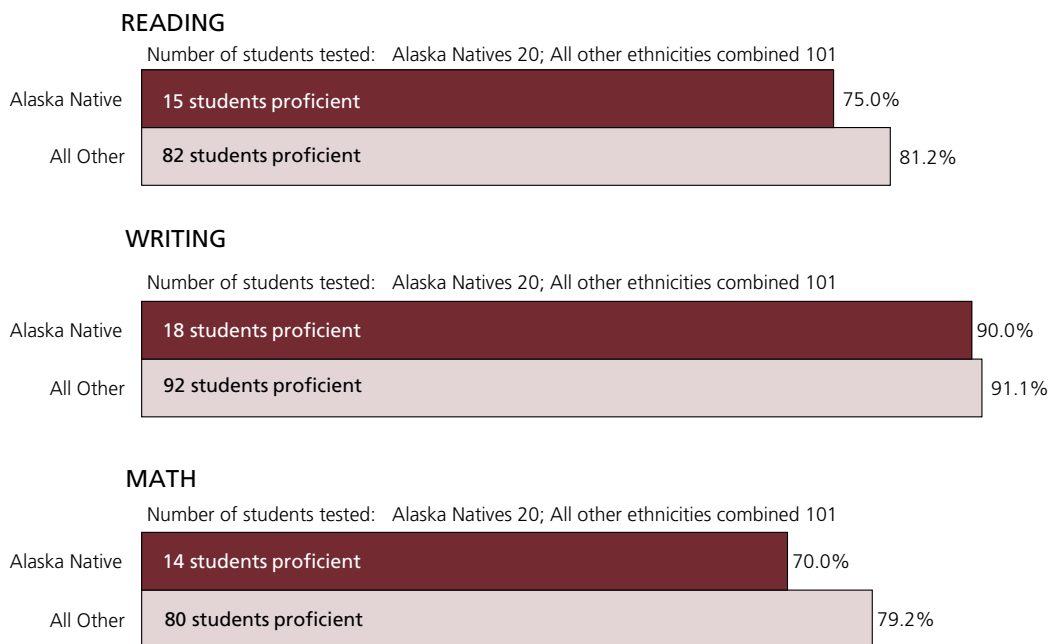
Source: Alaska Department of Education and Early Development.

High School Graduation Qualifying Examinations

Students are required to pass the Alaska High School Graduation Qualifying Examination in order to receive high school diplomas. Students can begin taking the exam in their sophomore years and are eligible to retake the exam as juniors and seniors for any un-passed portions of the test. Students are offered retests in both the spring and fall of their junior and senior years. Those who do not pass the High School Graduation Qualifying Examination will be denied diplomas and will receive Certificates of Achievement instead.

In the Chugach region, lower percentages of Alaska Native students were proficient in the subject areas tested, when compared to all other students.

*Figure 38
Chugach Region
High School Graduation Qualifying Exam Proficiency Results
for Grade 10 Test-takers, by Ethnicity
2003 – 2004 School Year*



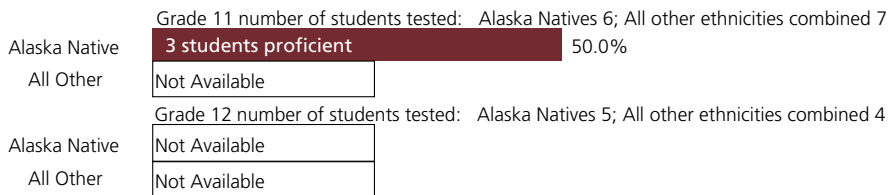
Source: Alaska Department of Education and Early Development.

Note: Proficiency is based on a percent of students who took the test and is not based on enrollment.

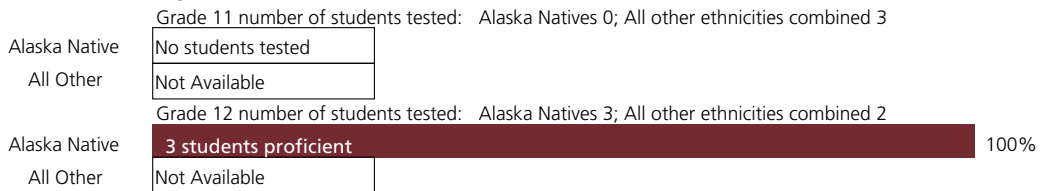
Chugach region High School Graduation Qualifying Examination results were compiled for the ethnicities and schools that had available data. Some re-testing results for students in the 11th and 12th grades were not available because some data may have revealed an individual student's performance or there were no Alaska Native students tested.

Figure 39
Chugach Region
High School Graduation Qualifying Exam Proficiency Results
for Grade 11 and 12 Re-Testers, by Ethnicity
2003 – 2004 School Year

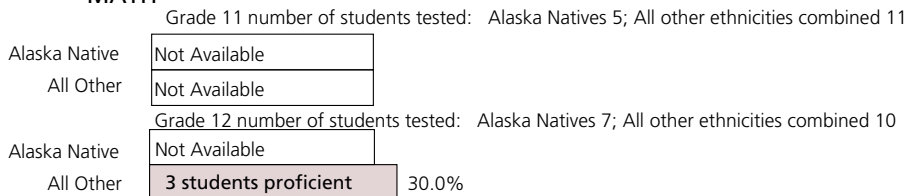
READING



WRITING



MATH



Source: Alaska Department of Education and Early Development.

Note: Proficiency is based on a percent of students who took the test and is not based on enrollment.

High School Graduation Rates

In the 2003-2004 school year, the Chugach region graduation rate for all students was 83.3 percent. Alaska Native students graduated at a rate of 72.2 percent, compared to 85.1 percent for all other ethnicities combined.

A graduate is defined as a student who has received a regular diploma from a state- or district-approved education program, as evidenced by receipt of a secondary school diploma from school authorities. Any student who receives a diploma under a waiver from the competency examination required in AS 14.03.075 (a), as specified by the state board, is considered to be a graduate. This does not include an individual who receives a Certificate of Achievement.

The No Child Left Behind Act requires the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development to adopt a cohort method for determining high school graduation rates. Beginning in the 2002-2003 school year, the Department switched to a new cohort method to measure the relative percent of students that graduate from high school in four years. For the 2003-2004 school year graduation rate indicator, the cohort includes all students starting high school (Grade 9) in the 2000-2001 school year through their graduation scheduled four years later in the 2003-2004 school year.

The graduation rate formula used by the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development is:

Number of Graduates (2003-2004)

Number of Graduates (2003-2004)

- + *Number of Continuing 12th Grade Students (2003-2004)*
- + *Number of 12th Grade Drop-outs (2003-2004)*
- + *Number of 11th Grade Drop-outs (2002-2003)*
- + *Number of 10th Grade Drop-outs (2001-2002)*
- + *Number of 9th Grade Drop-outs (2000-2001)*

It is important to note there are some limitations with this new methodology. For instance, a student that graduated in five years, rather than four years, would be counted in the next cohort of students. A student that graduates in three years, instead of four, would be counted in the prior cohort. Additionally, in the 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 school years, student-level information was submitted with anonymous information that could not be linked directly with specific students. The Department had no way to check for duplication or to see that the ethnic codes are valid for those two years.

Table 79
 Chugach Region
 High School Graduation Rates by School and Ethnicity
 Cohort of 2000-2001 through 2003 – 2004 School Years

District and School Name	Alaska Natives				All Other Ethnicities			
	Number of Graduates	Continuing Students*	Drop-Outs 2001-2004**	Graduation Rate***	Number of Graduates	Continuing Students*	Drop-Outs 2001-2004**	Graduation Rate***
Chugach Schools								
Chugach Extension Corresp. Tatitlek Community School	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	66.7%
Whittier Community School	-	1	-	0.0%	-	-	1	0.0
	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	100.0
Cordova Schools								
Cordova Jr/Sr High School	7	1	-	87.5	30	1	1	93.8
Valdez Schools								
Valdez High School	6	2	1	66.7	63	6	7	82.9
Chugach Region Total	13	4	1	72.2%	97	8	9	85.1%

Source: Alaska Department of Education and Early Development.

Notes: * Continuing 12th Grade students include students who did not graduate in the 12th year but remained enrolled in school to complete course work toward graduation in the following year(s).
 ** Includes a sum of total student drop-outs from the 2000-2001, 2001-2002, 2002-2003, 2003-2004 school years.
 *** Graduation rates are calculated using the following formula: Number of Graduates ÷ (Number of Graduates + Number of Continuing Students + Number of Drop-outs (2000/2001 to 2003/2004)).

Drop-Out Rates

A drop-out 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.

Chugach region drop-out rates are displayed in the following table for the 2003–2004 school year. Reporting, calculating, and interpreting drop-out rates are subject to error and should be viewed with some caution, when reported at the region and school district levels. Drop-out rates do not directly correspond to high school graduation rates because graduation rates use a cohort method of calculation (over the past four years), rather than a single-year event, and do not include 7th and 8th grades.

The drop-out rate for Alaska Native students in the Chugach region for grades 7 through 12 was 6.4 percent for the 2003-2004 school year. This compares to all other students in the Chugach region who dropped out at a rate of 1.8 percent.

When compared to 2001-2002 school year drop-out figures, it appears that drop-outs have increased for the region.

*Table 80
Chugach Region
Drop-Out Rates for Grades 7 through 12 by School and Ethnicity
2001-2002 and 2003 – 2004 School Year*

District and School Name	Alaska Native Students			All Other Students			Total Students		
	Enrollment	Drop-outs	% Drop-outs	Enrollment	Drop-outs	% Drop-outs	Enrollment	Drop-outs	% Drop-outs
Chugach Schools									
Chenega Bay School	1	0	0.0%	2	0	0.0%	3	0	0.0%
Chugach Extension Corresp. Tatitlek Community School	8	2	25.0	27	0	0.0	35	2	5.7
Valdez High School	16	0	0.0	0	0	-	16	0	0.0
	36	5	13.9	264	8	3.0	300	13	4.3
Cordova City Schools									
Cordova Jr/Sr High School	45	1	2.2	179	2	1.1	224	3	1.3
Valdez City Schools									
George H Gilson Jr. H.S. Whittier Community School	14	0	0.0	130	0	0.0	144	0	0.0
	5	0	0.0	15	1	6.7	20	1	5.0
ChugachRegionTotal	125	8	6.4%	617	11	1.8%	742	19	2.6%
<i>Comparison to 2001-2002 School Year</i>									
Chugach Totals 2001-2002 School Year	117	1	0.9%	611	9	1.5%	728	10	1.4%
Number Change	+8	+7		+6	+2		+14	+9	
Percent Change	+6.8%	+700.0%		+1.0%	+22.2%		+1.9%	+90.0%	

Source: Alaska Department of Education and Early Development.