

ADOPTION



760 ADOPTIONS

Superior courts in Alaska granted 472 adoptions in 1996. That is a 13.2 percent decrease from the 544 superior court adoptions granted during 1995. In addition, 187 cultural adoptions and 101 out of state adoptions were recorded. Not all adoptions involve children. Of the 760 total adoptions in 1996, 17 involved the adoption of adults 18 years of age and over. The total number of adoptions results in an adoption rate of 1.3 adoptions per 1,000 population.

In 1990, under the Indian Child Welfare Act 25 USC 1903(4), Alaska began issuing substitute birth certificates for cultural adoptions of Native children. Under the Bureau of Vital Statistics' regulations, a substitute birth certificate may be issued when a Native child is culturally adopted into a family where at least one of the adoptive parents is Native. The 187 cultural adoptions which occurred in 1996 represent a 9.2 percent decrease from 206 in 1995. There were 101 children born in Alaska who were adopted out of state during 1996. This represents a 6.5 percent decrease from the 108 out-of-state adoptions in 1995. Table 3.1 below lists numbers of adoptions by type and year for 1992 through 1996.

TABLE 3.1 **ADOPTIONS BY TYPE, ALASKA, 1992-1996**

YEAR	TYPE OF ADOPTION				TOTAL
	ALASKA			OUT OF STATE	
	COURTS	CULTURAL	SUBTOTAL		
1992	626	252	878	129	1,007
1993	608	219	827	138	965
1994	558	182	740	113	853
1995	544	206	750	110	860
1996	472	187	659	101	760

TABLE 3.2A ADOPTIONS BY CENSUS AREA WHERE DECREE WAS GRANTED AND BY AGE OF ADOPTEE, ALASKA, 1996

CENSUS AREA WHERE ADOPTION DECREE WAS GRANTED	AGE OF ADOPTEE					TOTAL
	<1 YEAR	1-4 YEARS	5-9 YEARS	10-17 YEARS	18+ YEARS	
ALEUTIANS EAST	1					1
ANCHORAGE	36	84	84	50	8	262
BETHEL	27	11	10	9		57
DILLINGHAM	5	1	1	3		10
FAIRBANKS NSB	9	23	32	17	2	83
JUNEAU BOROUGH	2	11	9	4	1	27
KENAI PENINSULA	1	9	10	12	2	34
KETCHIKAN	3	3	7	1		14
KODIAK ISLAND	2	1	2	1		6
LAKE-PENINSULA	1					1
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA	2		7	7		16
NOME	17	8	8	4		37
NORTH SLOPE	12	2	6	7		27
NORTHWEST ARCTIC	9	4	10	9		32
SITKA BOROUGH		1	1	1		3
VALDEZ-CORDOVA		2		1		3
WADE HAMPTON	19	5	4	3		31
WRANGELL-PETERSBG		1	2			3
YUKON-KOYUKUK	3	5	3	1		12
OUT OF STATE	5	13	41	38	4	101
TOTAL	154	184	237	168	17	760

Tables 3.2A and 3.2C show adoptions by the age of the adoptee; Tables 3.2B and 3.2D show adoptions by the race of the adoptee. In these tables, race of the adoptee is determined by the race of the natural mother. (For more information on determining the race of the child by the race of the mother, see Appendix E.)

TABLE 3.2B ADOPTIONS BY CENSUS AREA WHERE DECREE WAS GRANTED AND BY RACE OF ADOPTEE, ALASKA, 1996

CENSUS AREA WHERE ADOPTION DECREE WAS GRANTED	RACE OF ADOPTEE					TOTAL
	WHITE	NATIVE	BLACK	ASIAN/PI	UNK	
ALEUTIANS EAST		1				1
ANCHORAGE	101	59	13	5	84	262
BETHEL		54		1	2	57
DILLINGHAM		10				10
FAIRBANKS NSB	40	10	7	2	24	83
JUNEAU BOROUGH	9	12			6	27
KENAI PENINSULA	14	6			14	34
KETCHIKAN	3	2			9	14
KODIAK ISLAND	3				3	6
LAKE-PENINSULA		1				1
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA	12				4	16
NOME	1	36				37
NORTH SLOPE		25			2	27
NORTHWEST ARCTIC	2	27			3	32
SITKA BOROUGH	2				1	3
VALDEZ-CORDOVA	1				2	3
WADE HAMPTON		31				31
WRANGELL-PETERSBG		2	1			3
YUKON-KOYUKUK		12				12
OUT OF STATE	88	7	2	4		101
TOTAL	276	295	23	12	154	760

TABLE 3.2C ADOPTIONS BY NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION WHERE DECREE WAS GRANTED AND BY AGE OF ADOPTEE, ALASKA, 1996

NRC WHERE ADOPTION DECREE WAS GRANTED	AGE OF ADOPTEE					TOTAL
	<1 YEAR	1-4 YEARS	5-9 YEARS	10-17 YEARS	18+ YEARS	
ALEUT CORP.	1					1
ARCTIC SLOPE CORP.	12	2	6	7		27
BERING STRAITS CORP	17	8	8	4		37
BRISTOL BAY CORP.	6	1	1	3		11
CALISTA CORP.	46	16	14	12		88
CHUGACH NATIVES INC		2		1		3
COOK INLET REG CORP	39	93	101	69	10	312
DOYON LTD	12	28	35	18	2	95
KONIAG INC.	2	1	2	1		6
NANA REGIONAL CORP.	9	4	10	9		32
SEALASKA CORP.	5	16	19	6	1	47
OUT OF STATE	5	13	41	38	4	101
TOTAL	154	184	237	168	17	760

TABLE 3.2D ADOPTIONS BY NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION WHERE DECREE WAS GRANTED, AND BY RACE OF ADOPTEE, ALASKA, 1996

NRC WHERE ADOPTION DECREE WAS GRANTED	RACE OF ADOPTEE					TOTAL
	WHITE	NATIVE	BLACK	ASIAN/PI	UNK	
ALEUT CORP.		1				1
ARCTIC SLOPE CORP.		25			2	27
BERING STRAITS CORP	1	36				37
BRISTOL BAY CORP.		11				11
CALISTA CORP.		85		1	2	88
CHUGACH NATIVES INC	1				2	3
COOK INLET REG CORP	127	65	13	5	102	312
DOYON LTD	40	22	7	2	24	95
KONIAG INC.	3				3	6
NANA REGIONAL CORP.	2	27			3	32
SEALASKA CORP.	14	16	1		16	47
OUT OF STATE	88	7	2	4		101
TOTAL	276	295	23	12	154	760

Adoptions may occur under several different circumstances. A child may be adopted by the spouse of a natural parent; a child may be adopted into a two-parent family; or a child may be adopted by a single parent. Of the 760 adoptions granted during 1996, 41.7% of the children were adopted by the spouse of a natural parent, 39.6% of the children were adopted by two parents, and 7.5% were adopted by single parents.

Table 3.3A shows races of natural and adoptive parents and the birth place of the child when the adopting parent is married to a natural parent. Table 3.3B shows races of adopting parents when neither parent is the natural parent. In those cases where either the mother or father is indicated by "NONE," the child was adopted by a single parent.

TABLE 3.3A ADOPTIONS BY RACES OF PARENTS (WHEN ADOPTIVE PARENT IS MARRIED TO NATURAL PARENT) AND BY CHILD'S PLACE OF BIRTH, ALASKA, 1996

RACE OF PARENTS		CHILD'S PLACE OF BIRTH			TOTAL
NATURAL	ADOPTIVE	ALASKA	USA	FOREIGN	
WHITE	WHITE	128	30	7	165
	NATIVE	3	1		4
	UNKN	17			17
	TOTAL	148	31	7	186
NATIVE	WHITE	19	1		20
	NATIVE	18			18
	UNKN	2	1		3
	TOTAL	39	2		41
BLACK	BLACK	1	2		3
	TOTAL	1	2		3
ASIAN	WHITE	2	1		3
	BLACK	1			1
	TOTAL	3	1		4
UNKN	WHITE		55	6	61
	BLACK		2		2
	ASIAN		2		2
	UNKN	1	1		2
	TOTAL	1	60	6	67
TOTAL		192	96	13	301

TABLE 3.3B ADOPTIONS BY RACES OF ADOPTIVE PARENTS (WHEN NEITHER PARENT IS THE NATURAL PARENT) AND CHILD'S PLACE OF BIRTH, ALASKA, 1996

RACE OF ADOPTIVE PARENTS		CHILD'S PLACE OF BIRTH			TOTAL
MOTHER	FATHER	ALASKA	USA	FOREIGN	
WHITE	WHITE	103	37	42	182
	NATIVE	11	1		12
	BLACK	1	3		4
	NONE	10	2	3	15
	TOTAL	125	43	45	213
NATIVE	WHITE	25	1	1	27
	NATIVE	145	4		149
	BLACK	1	1		2
	NONE	24	1		25
	TOTAL	195	7	1	203
BLACK	BLACK	8	4		12
	NONE	5			5
	TOTAL	13	4		17
ASIAN	WHITE	2			2
	ASIAN	1		2	3
	TOTAL	3		2	5
UNKN	WHITE	1	1		2
	UNKN	7		1	8
	TOTAL	8	1	1	10
NONE	WHITE	4		1	5
	NATIVE	6			6
	TOTAL	10		1	11
TOTAL		354	55	50	459

TABLE 3.3C ADOPTIONS BY RACES OF ADOPTIVE PARENTS (WHEN NEITHER PARENT IS THE NATURAL PARENT) AND CHILD'S RACE, ALASKA, 1996¹

RACE OF ADOPTIVE PARENTS		RACE OF ADOPTEE					TOTAL
MOTHER	FATHER	WHITE	NATIVE	BLACK	ASIAN/PI	UNK	
WHITE	WHITE	74	37	4	3	64	182
	NATIVE		11			1	12
	BLACK			4			4
	NONE	4	6	1		4	15
	TOTAL	78	54	9	3	69	213
NATIVE	WHITE		25			2	27
	NATIVE	1	144			4	149
	BLACK		1			1	2
	NONE		24			1	25
	TOTAL	1	194			8	203
BLACK	BLACK	3	1	3		5	12
	NONE		1	4			5
	TOTAL	3	2	7		5	17
ASIAN	WHITE	1			1		2
	ASIAN		1		1	1	3
	TOTAL	1	1		2	1	5
UNKN	WHITE	1				1	2
	UNKN	5		1	1	1	8
	TOTAL	6		1	1	2	10
NONE	WHITE	2	2			1	5
	NATIVE	1	5				6
	TOTAL	3	7			1	11
TOTAL		92	258	17	6	86	459

¹ If natural father or natural mother is Native, child's race is Native; otherwise child's race is the same as the natural mother.

TABLE 3.4A ADOPTIONS BY CENSUS AREA WHERE ADOPTION DECREE WAS GRANTED, AND BY PARENT ADOPTING CHILD, ALASKA, 1996

CENSUS AREA WHERE DECREE WAS GRANTED	MOTHER AND FATHER	ADOPTING PARENT MARRIED TO NATURAL PARENT	SINGLE PARENT	TOTAL
ALEUTIANS EAST	1			1
ANCHORAGE	134	106	22	262
BETHEL	48	1	8	57
DILLINGHAM	8	1	1	10
FAIRBANKS NSB	34	47	2	83
JUNEAU BOROUGH	13	11	3	27
KENAI PENINSULA	10	23	1	34
KETCHIKAN	7	6	1	14
KODIAK ISLAND	3	3		6
LAKE-PENINSULA	1			1
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA	6	10		16
NOME	28	4	5	37
NORTH SLOPE	17	7	3	27
NORTHWEST ARCTIC	24	3	5	32
SITKA BOROUGH	1	2		3
VALDEZ-CORDOVA	1	2		3
WADE HAMPTON	28		3	31
WRANGELL-PETERSBG	3			3
YUKON-KOYUKUK	6	3	3	12
OUT OF STATE	29	72		101
TOTAL	402	301	57	760

TABLE 3.4B ADOPTIONS BY NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION WHERE DECREE WAS GRANTED, AND BY PARENT ADOPTING CHILD, ALASKA, 1996

NRC WHERE DECREE WAS GRANTED	MOTHER AND FATHER	ADOPTING PARENT MARRIED TO NATURAL PARENT	SINGLE PARENT	TOTAL
ALEUT CORP.	1			1
ARCTIC SLOPE CORP.	17	7	3	27
BERING STRAITS CORP	28	4	5	37
BRISTOL BAY CORP.	9	1	1	11
CALISTA CORP.	76	1	11	88
CHUGACH NATIVES INC	1	2		3
COOK INLET REG CORP	150	139	23	312
DOYON LTD	40	50	5	95
KONIAG INC.	3	3		6
NANA REGIONAL CORP.	24	3	5	32
SEALASKA CORP.	24	19	4	47
OUT OF STATE	29	72		101
TOTAL	402	301	57	760