

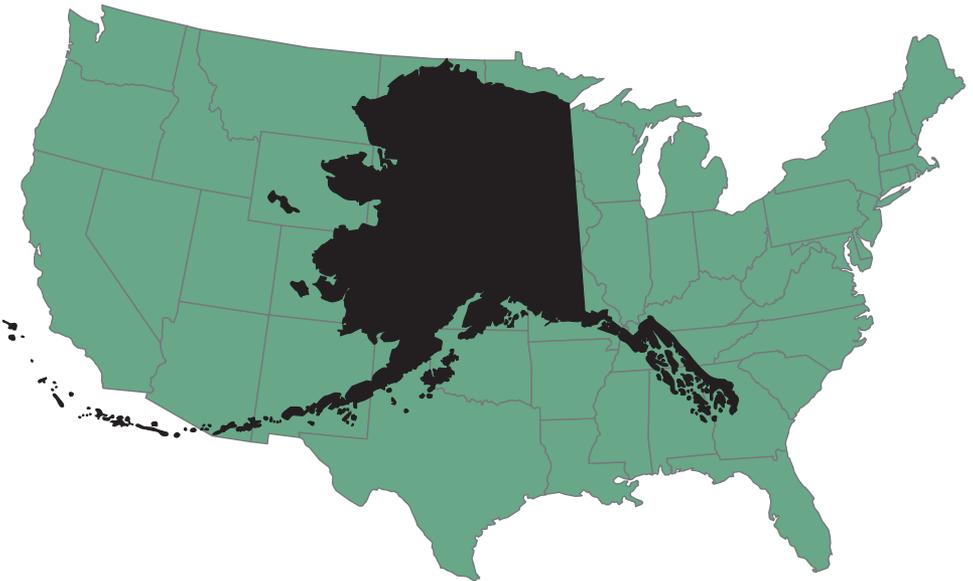
# Population Characteristics



# Population Size

Geographically the nation's largest state, Alaska makes up approximately 16% of the United States land area, but only 0.2% of the population. The Maternal and Child Health (MCH) population consists of infants, children (ages 1-9), adolescents (ages 10-14), and women of childbearing age (ages 15-44) – comprising nearly 50% of Alaska's population.

- The land area of Alaska is 570,373 square miles – nearly one-fifth the size of the contiguous United States. The 2001 Alaska population is 633,630 – making it one of the least-populated states, ranking 48<sup>th</sup>.
- Alaska's 2001 MCH population is 14.3% higher than that of the United States. Children ages 1-9 make up 16% of Alaska's population, compared to only 12.5% of the U.S.
- Proportionately, there are nearly 50% more 1-4 year olds in Alaska than the U.S.
- Women of childbearing age make up 22% of Alaska's population, nearly the same as that of the U.S. (21.7%).



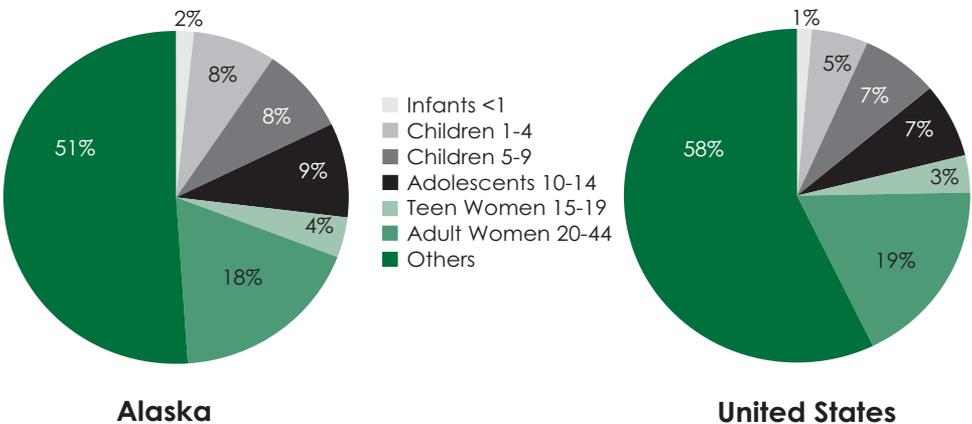
# Population Characteristics

## Population Composition by Maternal and Child Health Groupings, Alaska and United States, 2001

Maternal and Child Health Population Groupings, Alaska, 2001			
Population Group	Age in Years	Alaska	U.S.
		Population Estimate	Population Estimate
Infants	< 1	10,190	4,025,848
Children	1 - 4	49,865	15,338,019
Children	5 - 9	52,762	20,238,095
Adolescents	10 - 14	57,217	20,881,535
Women of Childbearing Age	15 - 44	140,492	61,734,473
Teen Women	15 - 19	24,723	9,835,228
Adult Women	20 - 44	115,769	51,899,245
Others		323,104	162,875,843
<b>Total Population</b>		<b>633,630</b>	<b>285,093,813</b>

Alaska Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research & Analysis Section, Demographics Unit.  
 US Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division. Monthly Postcensal Resident Population.  
 (See References for full citation)

## Maternal and Child Health Populations as a Percent of Total Population, Alaska and United States, 2001



Alaska Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research & Analysis Section, Demographics Unit.  
 US Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division. Monthly Postcensal Resident Population.  
 (See References for full citation)

# Population Demographics

Despite its low population density average of 1.1 persons per square mile, Alaska's population was considered 65.6% urban<sup>†</sup> in 2000. In comparison, the United States had a population density average of 81.5 persons per square mile and was considered 79.0% urban<sup>†</sup>.<sup>1</sup> According to the Alaska Department of Labor, most Alaskans live in settlements of moderate density surrounded by large tracts of uninhabited land.

Less than 5% of Alaska's population indicated more than one race on the 2000 census. For the information presented here, race is specific to those indicating one race alone on the 2000 census, unless otherwise specified. These population estimates are provided by the Alaska Department of Labor and are based on the 2000 census.

- Whites and Alaska Natives make up the majority of Alaska's population. Whites account for the largest percent of the population (71.0%), while Alaska Natives are the second largest race group, making up 15.8% of the total population.
- Blacks and Asian or Pacific Islanders comprise a very small percent of Alaska's population. Combined they make up less than 10% of the state's total population.
- Alaska has a very small black population, accounting for 3.7% of the total population. The majority live in the Anchorage/Mat-Su (72.5%) and Interior (22.6%) regions.
- Alaska's Hispanic community is quite small – 4.1% of Alaskans, regardless of race, indicate they are of Hispanic ethnicity.
- The Anchorage/Mat-Su region is home to 51.4% of the Alaskan population. Of these, 77.1% are white, 7.3% are Alaska Native, 5.6% are Asian or Pacific Islander, and 5.2% are black. Only 4.9% of the people living in this region indicate they are two or more races.
- The majority of people living in Alaska's Northern and Southwest regions are Alaska Native (75.5% and 69.8%, respectively).

<sup>†</sup>Urban as defined by the 2000 U.S. Census.

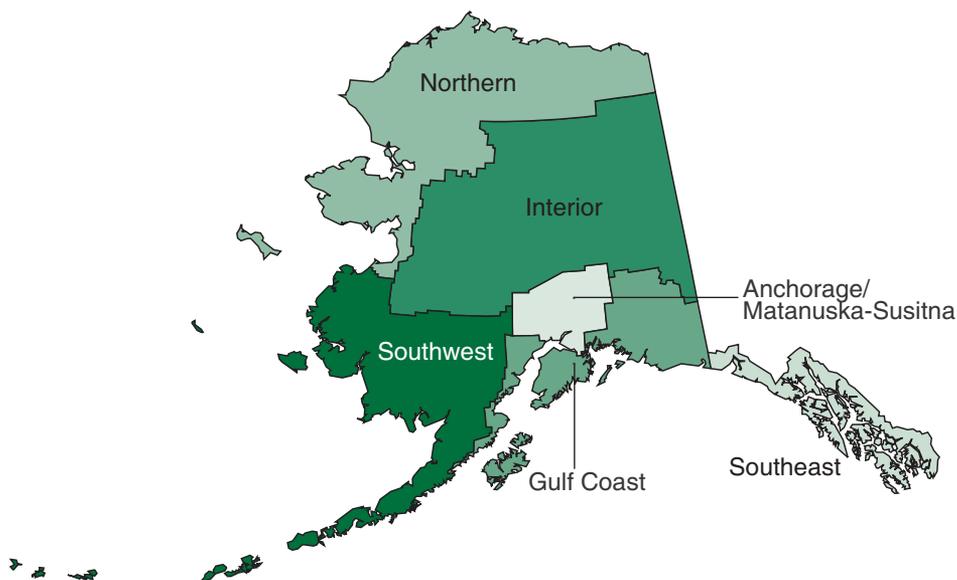
<sup>1</sup> Alaska Population Overview. (See References for full citation)

# Population Characteristics

## Alaska Population by Race, Ethnicity and Region July 1, 2001

Region	One Race Alone					Two + Races	Hispanic Ethnicity (any race)
	Total	White	Alaska Native	Black	Asian or Pacific Is.		
Anchorage/Mat-Su	325,992	77.1%	7.3%	5.2%	5.6%	4.9%	5.1%
Gulf Coast	74,466	81.1%	9.9%	0.6%	4.6%	3.8%	3.1%
Interior	97,900	76.1%	11.8%	5.4%	2.2%	4.6%	3.8%
Northern	23,819	17.0%	75.5%	0.5%	2.6%	4.5%	1.5%
Southeast	72,275	72.1%	17.3%	0.6%	3.9%	6.2%	2.9%
Southwest	39,178	20.0%	69.8%	0.8%	5.9%	3.5%	3.1%
<b>Alaska (Total)</b>	<b>633,630</b>	<b>71.0%</b>	<b>15.8%</b>	<b>3.7%</b>	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>4.1%</b>

Data Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research & Analysis Section, Demographics Unit.



# Population Growth

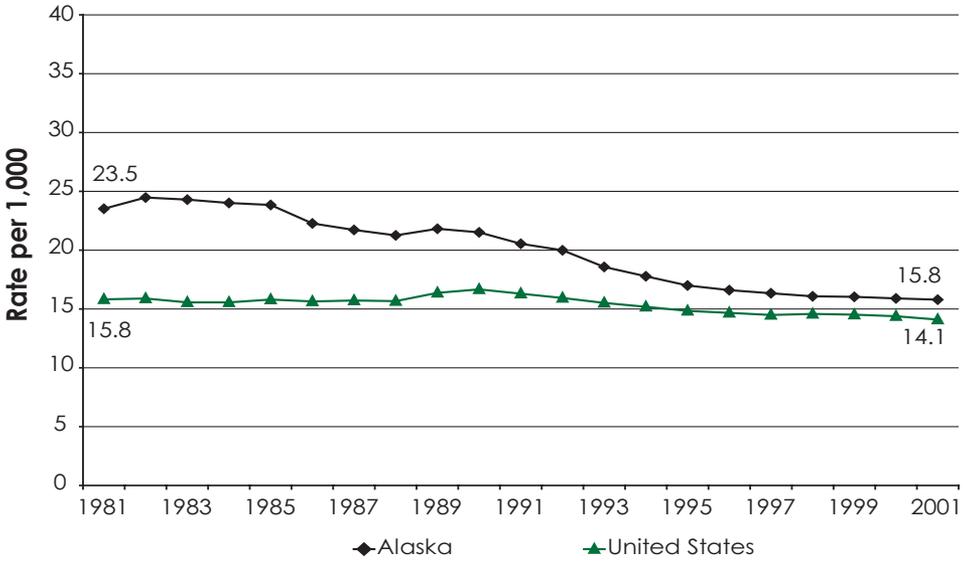
During 1990-2001, Alaska continued an increasing trend in population growth. During this time period, population growth averaged 1.3% annually. Despite the significant declines in birth rates among Alaskans, the major stimulus of Alaska's growth since 1993 has been natural population increase (more births than deaths). Alaska has one of the highest rates of natural population increase in the nation.<sup>1</sup>

- Alaska has experienced a significantly decreasing trend in the crude birth rate, with an average annual decline of 2.4% over the last two decades.
- Compared to 1981, there has been a 32.8% decrease in the crude birth rate in Alaska. The national rate has also declined over the last two decades (10.8%).
- In 1981, the crude birth rate was 1.5 times higher than the U.S. rate. In 2001, Alaska's rate was only 12% higher than the U.S. rate.
- Alaska Native women have the highest crude birth rate, 22.5 per 1,000 population – 1.6 times that of whites. Alaska Native women make up 18% of the female population and deliver approximately one-fourth of total Alaskan births.

<sup>1</sup> Alaska Population Overview. (See References for full citation)

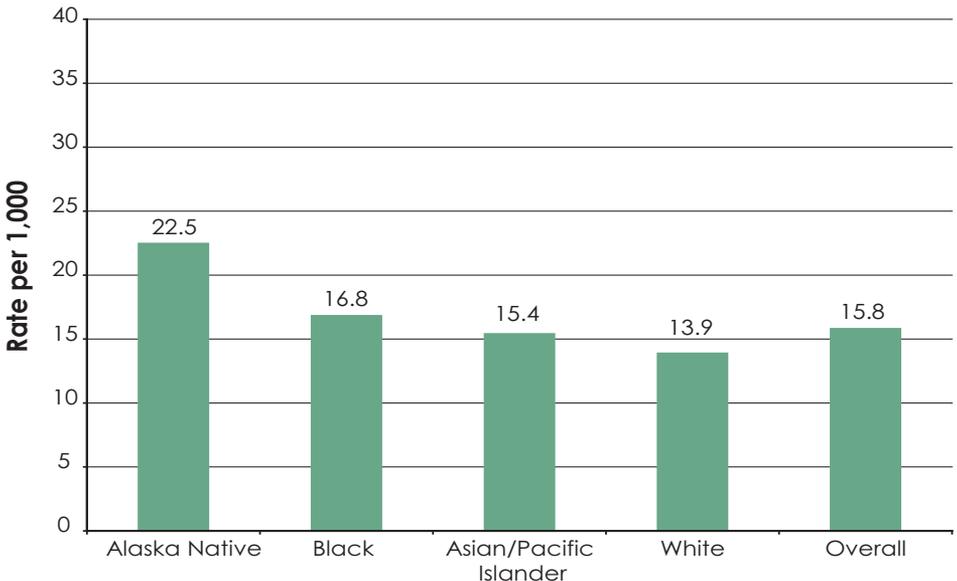
# Population Characteristics

## Crude Birth Rate by Year Alaska and United States, 1981-2001



Data Source: Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics; National Center for Health Statistics. Prepared by MCH Epidemiology Unit.

## Crude Birth Rate by Race Alaska, 2001



Data Source: Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics. Prepared by MCH Epidemiology Unit.

# PRAMS-Eligible Population

Every year in Alaska, approximately 10,000 infants are born. The PRAMS-eligible population<sup>1</sup> is defined as all state residents who gave birth during the year specified. For Alaska, out-of-state births to Alaska residents were included in the sample through the year 2000. Starting with 2001 births, only in-state births to Alaska residents are eligible to be sampled for PRAMS. PRAMS data are representative of women whose pregnancies resulted in a live birth and are not generalizable to all pregnant women. Since the actual sampled unit is the mother (for survey completion), not the infant, the PRAMS-eligible population is slightly less than the total number of births in the State.

- While the majority of the PRAMS-eligible population (64.4%) were white women, one-fourth (24.7%) were Alaska Native women. Seven percent of the PRAMS-eligible population was Hispanic (any race).
- Nearly half (47.4%) of the PRAMS-eligible population were 25 through 34 years old and 27.9% were 20 through 24 years old.
- Eighty-seven percent (86.5%) of the population had at least a high school education.
- Half of the PRAMS-eligible population resided in the Anchorage/Mat-Su Region. Another 27.2% lived in either the Gulf Coast or Interior Regions. The Northern Region had the lowest percentage of PRAMS-eligible population at 5.3%. (See page 11 for Alaska regional map.)
- Nearly 68% were married at the time they gave birth. Five percent had a low birthweight infant and 36.4% were primiparous.

<sup>1</sup> The figures on the accompanying table are population percentages compiled from state birth certificate data.

# Population Characteristics

## Characteristics of PRAMS-Eligible Population Alaska, 2001

	Population Size (N)	Percent	Respondents (n)
<b>Maternal Race</b>			
White	6093	<b>64.4</b>	687
Alaska Native	2340	<b>24.7</b>	669
Black	421	<b>4.4</b>	44
Asian or Pacific Islander	613	<b>6.5</b>	66
<b>Maternal Ethnicity</b>			
Hispanic	646	<b>7.3</b>	83
Non-Hispanic	8157	<b>92.7</b>	1261
<b>Maternal Age</b>			
15-19 years	1005	<b>10.5</b>	192
20-24 years	2679	<b>27.9</b>	437
25-34 years	4563	<b>47.4</b>	717
35 years or older	1363	<b>14.2</b>	201
<b>Maternal Education</b>			
<12 years	1251	<b>13.4</b>	243
12 years	4193	<b>45.0</b>	706
>12 years	3869	<b>41.5</b>	520
<b>Maternal Residence</b>			
Anchorage/ Mat-Su	4835	<b>50.5</b>	661
Gulf Coast	973	<b>10.2</b>	142
Interior	1625	<b>17.0</b>	246
Northern	502	<b>5.3</b>	141
Southeast	876	<b>9.1</b>	127
Southwest	759	<b>7.9</b>	231
<b>Marital Status</b>			
Married	6510	<b>67.7</b>	924
Unmarried	3112	<b>32.3</b>	624
<b>Birthweight</b>			
Low (< 2500 g)	458	<b>4.8</b>	296
Normal (≥2500 g)	9138	<b>95.2</b>	1230
<b>Parity</b>			
1st birth	3470	<b>36.4</b>	562
2nd or later	6050	<b>63.6</b>	974
<b>OVERALL</b>	9627	<b>100.0</b>	1550

# Socio-Economic Profile

Data from the U.S. Census Bureau indicate that the median annual income for Alaskan households was \$51,571 compared with \$41,994 nationally<sup>1</sup> and that an average of 2.74 persons were living in Alaskan households, while nationally this figure was 2.59.<sup>2</sup> The socio-economic profile for the PRAMS-eligible population is estimated from PRAMS respondents – as household income, living in a crowded household, and prenatal Medicaid status are not obtainable from the birth certificate itself. Income refers to the previous year's income for the household. Crowded household living is determined by noting whether the ratio of the number of adults and children living in the household divided by the number of rooms exceeds 1. Medicaid is a U.S. government program that provides health care coverage to low income families. Prenatal Medicaid status refers to whether this program paid, at least in part, for prenatal care.

- Nearly forty percent of the population (38.7%) lived in a household that brings in a combined income in excess of \$40,000 annually. Twenty percent of the population (19.6%) estimated their annual income in excess of \$60,000 annually.
- An estimated 2,164 women who delivered a live-born infant in 2001 (approximately one-quarter of the population) had an annual household income of \$15,000 or less.
- At the time of being surveyed, 20.3% of the population was living in a crowded household.
- In 2001, nearly 41% of the population indicated that Medicaid either paid for or helped pay for their prenatal care. This equates to about 4,000 women who delivered a newborn in Alaska in 2001.

<sup>1</sup> U. S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census of Population and Housing, Demographic Profile. State and County Quickfacts. <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/02000.html>. 1999 estimates. (03/2005).

<sup>2</sup> U. S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census of Population and Housing, Demographic Profile. State and County Quickfacts. <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/02000.html>. 2000 estimates. (03/2005).

# Population Characteristics

## Characteristics of PRAMS-Eligible Population (cont'd) Alaska, 2001

	Estimated Population Size	95% CI of Pop'n size	Percent	95% CI of Percent	Respondents (n)
<b>Annual household income</b>					
≤ \$15,000	2164	(1,946 - 2,383)	<b>23.7</b>	(21.3 - 26.0)	413
\$15,001 - \$25,000	1250	(1,069 - 1,431)	<b>13.7</b>	(11.7 - 15.7)	218
\$25,001 - \$40,000	2181	(1,944 - 2,418)	<b>23.9</b>	(21.3 - 26.4)	310
≥ \$40,001	3539	(3,276 - 3,803)	<b>38.7</b>	(35.9 - 41.6)	502

% Missing = 5.1

State-specific; Q84

### In crowded household

More than one person per room	1885	(1,688 - 2,082)	<b>20.3</b>	(18.2 - 22.4)	1487
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% Missing = 3.5

Core; Q62, Q63

### Prenatal Medicaid status

Medicaid	3877	(3,611 - 4,143)	<b>40.8</b>	(38.1 - 43.6)	713
Non-Medicaid	5618	(5,359 - 5,876)	<b>59.2</b>	(56.4 - 61.9)	807

% Missing = 0.4

Core; Q21