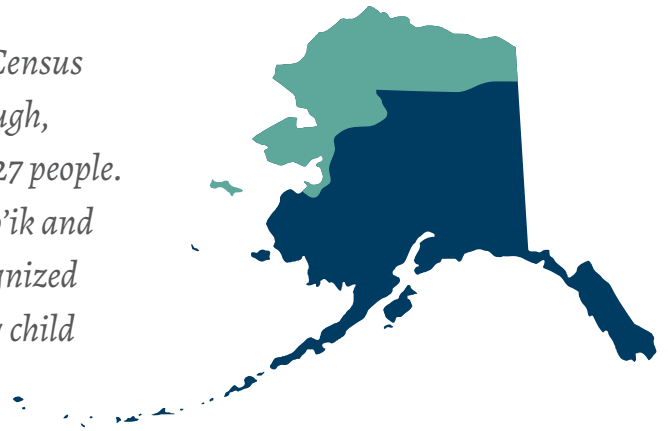


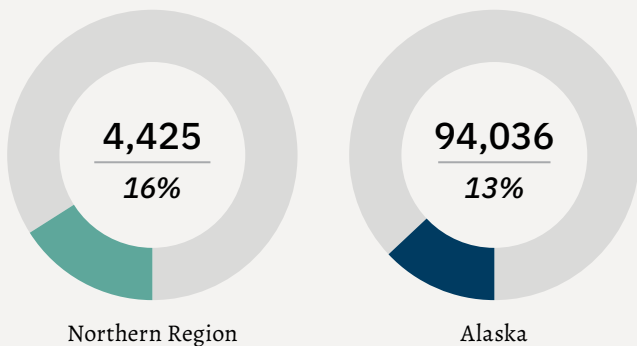
Early Childhood Regional Profile:

NORTHERN

The Northern region of Alaska is made up of the Nome Census Area, North Slope Borough, and Northwest Arctic Borough, covering 163,040 square miles with a population of 27,627 people. The Northern region is home to the Inupiaq, central Yup'ik and St. Lawrence Island Yup'ik people and 38 federally recognized Alaska Native tribes. Less than five percent of the young child population is in the Northern Region.

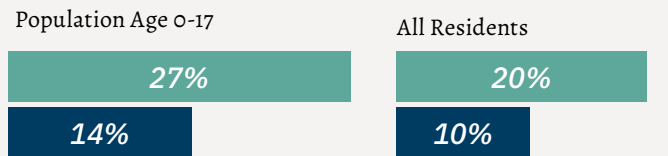


POPULATION (AGE 0-8)



Alaska Department of Labor, Population Estimates, 2018

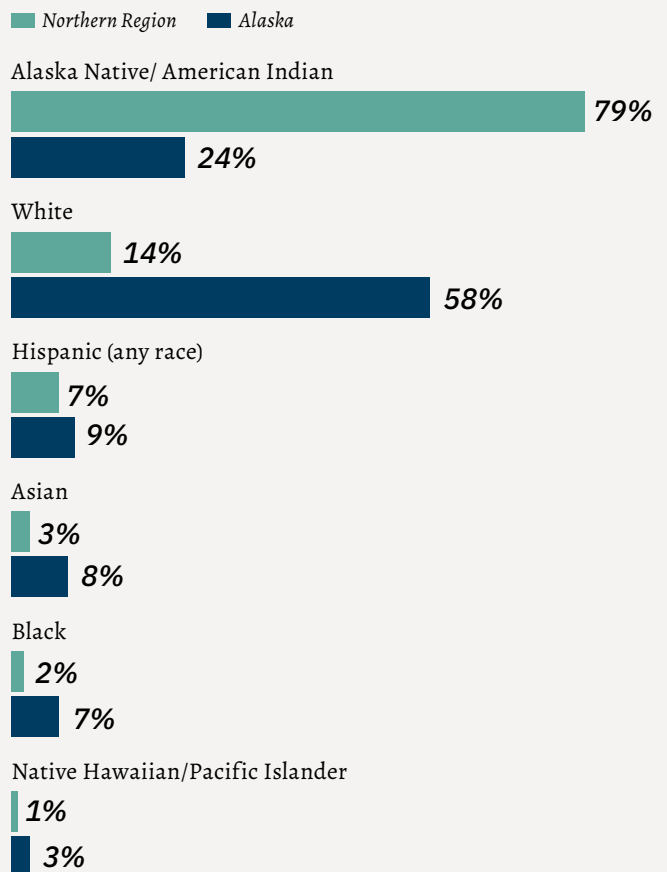
POVERTY RATE



U.S. Census American Community Survey 2017

Residents of the Northern region are twice as likely to live in poverty compared to all Alaskans, and children are even more likely than adult residents to live below the poverty level. Children age 0-8 in the region are three times more likely to be Alaska Native/American Indian than at the state level, and less likely to be of any other race/ethnicity.

RACE/ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN (0-8)*



Alaska Department of Labor 2018 Population Estimates *Categories not mutually exclusive

BABIES

The Northern region has the second highest birth rate and highest teen birth rate of any region in the state.

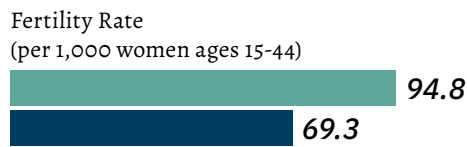
However, both rates have declined in recent years, following national and state-wide trends.

In 2018, mothers in the Northern region gave birth to 550 babies

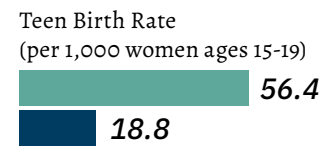
Alaska Vital Statistics 2018 Annual Report

FERTILITY RATES

■ Northern Region ■ Alaska

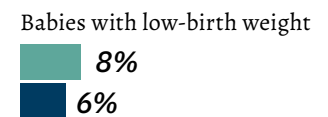
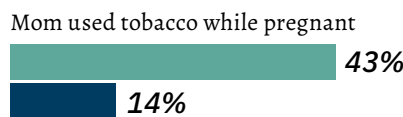
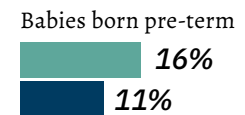
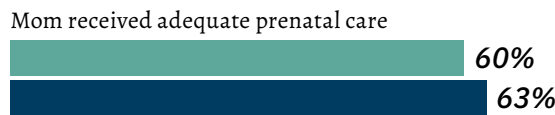


Alaska Vital Statistics 2018 Annual Report



PRENATAL EXPERIENCES & BIRTH OUTCOMES

■ Northern Region ■ Alaska



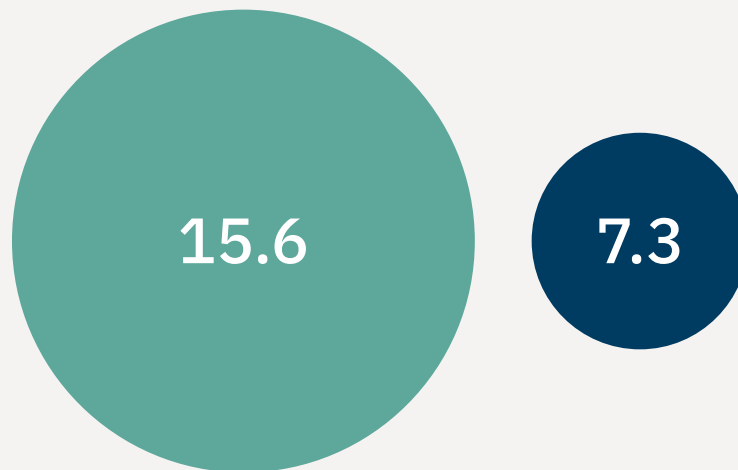
Alaska Vital Statistics 2018 Annual Report

CHILD SAFETY & CHILD MALTREATMENT

The Northern region has the highest rate of substantiated reports of maltreatment for young children (0-8) in the state, and is three times higher than the statewide rate. The rate of out-of-home placement of children by the Office of Children's Services is just below the state rate. Young children (ages 0-8) account for 62% of all children in the region with a substantiated report of maltreatment, and 50% of all children in out-of-home placement. **Young children 0-4 also have a mortality rate that is more than double the state average.**

UNDER AGE 5 CHILD DEATH RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS, 2016-2018

■ Northern Region ■ Alaska



Alaska Vital Statistics 2018 Annual Report

	Number of children (0-8)	Prevalence (per 1,000 children ages 0-8)	State Prevalence (Per 1,000 Children age 0-8)
Substantiated Reports of Harm	268	60.6	19.9
Out-of-home placement	107	24.2	25.8

Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, Office of Children's Services, FY 2019

MEDICAID COVERAGE

Almost nine out of 10 young children age 0-8 (3,901) in the Northern region are covered by Medicaid health insurance. Medicaid spending on children age 0-8 and pregnant/postpartum women in the Northern region was \$32.5 million, accounting for 9% of total spending in the state during this time period.

Medicaid Program	Number Served	% of 0-8 Population Served	Total Funding (State & Federal)	Percent of Total Funding in Alaska
Medicaid CHIP: children 0-8 population	348	8%	\$1,066,981	7%
Medicaid Title XIX: children 0-8	3,553	80%	\$24,121,194	9%
Medicaid Title XIX : Pregnant & Postpartum	893	--	\$7,301,631	10%

Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, Medicaid Allocation and Audit Services, FY 2018

FAMILY SUPPORTS

Several federal programs provide benefits to low-income children, adults and families. These include Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) which provides cash assistance, the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) which provides reimbursement for qualified child care expenses, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) which provides benefits to purchase food and Women, Infants and Children (WIC) which provides specific foods for pregnant

women and children under five. These programs are available to children and their families who meet specific criteria.

TANF, CCAP and SNAP provide people in the Northern region with a monthly average of \$1.7 million in benefits, accounting for 8% of all spending for these programs in the state.

The caseloads reported below can be an individual, siblings or other family unit. These benefits do not include Tribal TANF or Tribal CCDF spending, which may provide additional benefits.

Assistance Program	Avg. Monthly Regional Caseload (All Ages)	Avg. Monthly Regional Benefits (All Ages)	Percent of Avg. Monthly Caseloads in Alaska
TANF	163 - 167	\$108,173	6% - 7%
CCAP	9	\$5,348	<1%
SNAP	1,940	\$1,614,631	5%
WIC	1,069	--	9%

Alaska Department of Public Assistance Summary Reports, FY 19

EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

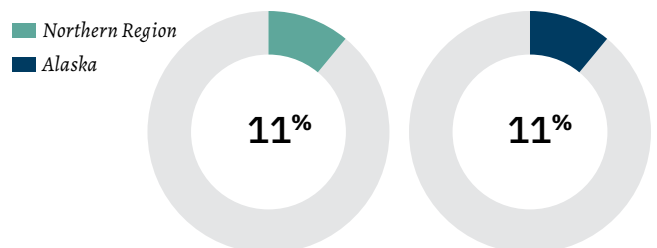
The Infant Learning Program (ILP) provides additional early intervention services for children age 0-2 who are experiencing a delay. Three agencies provide services in the Northern Region: Northwest Arctic Borough School District, Norton Sound Health Corporation and the Alaska Center for Children and Adults.

INFANT LEARNING PROGRAM		Northern Region
Number children (age 0-2) served		131
% of statewide total		4%

Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, Infant Learning Program Report on Communities Served, FY 18

MATERNAL DEPRESSION

The prevalence of maternal depression in the Northern region is the same as the statewide average. Only 22% of mothers report a health care provider discussing depression, or how they are feeling with them, less than the statewide average of 31%.



Alaska Childhood Understanding Behaviors Survey, 2017-18

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

There are only five licensed care facilities in the region; two accept CCAP vouchers, both of which are located in Nome Census Area. CCAP can only be used at licensed facilities or with exempt providers. None of the licensed facilities in the region participate in Learn & Grow, the state's Quality Rating & Improvement System for early care. Head Start/

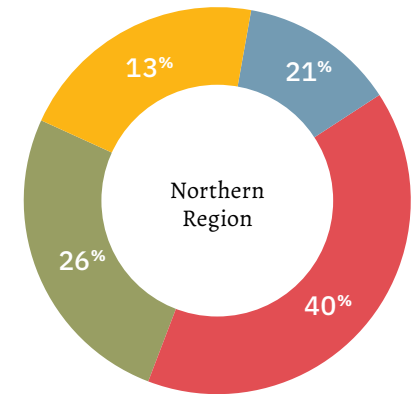
Early Head Start (EHS) and School District Pre-K programs provide the majority of early learning opportunities, although not all children are served in a classroom setting. thread estimates 40% of children 0-5 are in unlicensed care, which might include using family, friends or neighbors to care for children.

Census Area	Licensed Child Care		Head Start /EHS		School District Pre-K	
	No. of Sites	Capacity	No. of Sites	No. Served	No. of Schools with Pre-K	No. Served
Nome	3	100	16	244	15	212
North Slope Borough	1	20	0	0	8	278
NW Arctic Borough	1	20	0	0	11	147
Northern Region	5	140	16	244	34	637
Alaska	496	17,193	121	3,288	246	3,754
% of Statewide	<1%	1%	13%	7%	14%	17%

Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, Child Care Facilities Database, 2019; Alaska Head Start Association Center Locator, 2019; Alaska Department of Education and Early Development, Early Learning Programs, SFY 2018; OASIS Enrollment 2018-19; Head Start counts per site provided by Alaska Department of Education and Early Development using Head SFY 2018, Quarter 4 Reports

EARLY CARE NEEDS AMONG CHILDREN (0-5)

■ Not in need ■ In licensed/regulated care
■ In unlicensed care ■ Unmet need

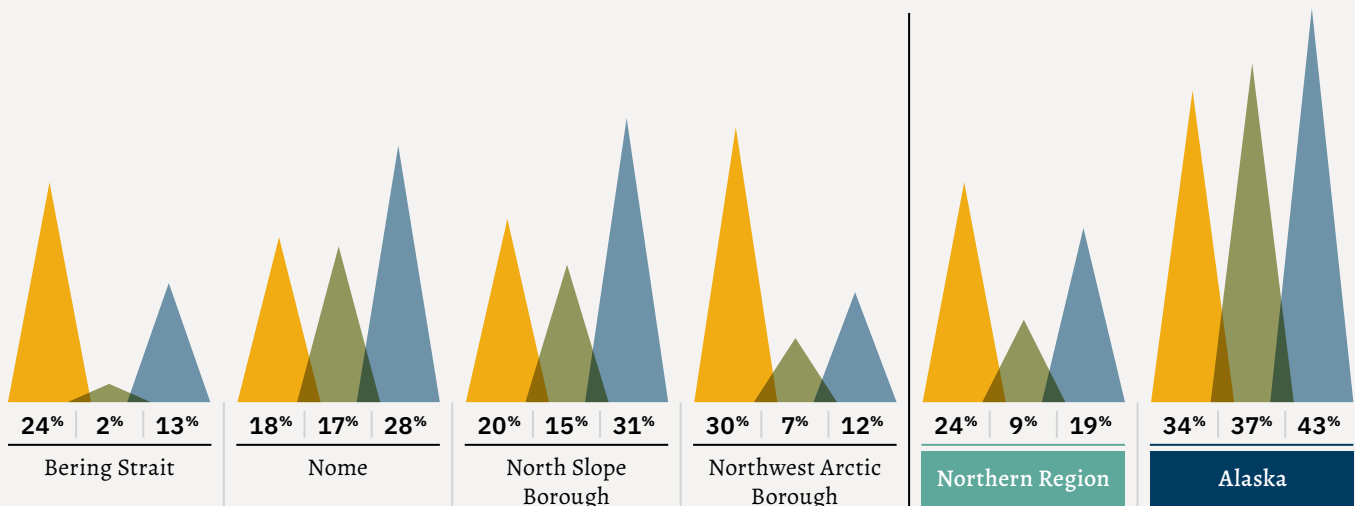


thread, Alaska Early Care and Learning Dashboard

SCHOOL READINESS & SUCCESS

On standardized assessments, children in the Northern region lag behind in kindergarten readiness, as well as the Alaska Performance Evaluation for Alaska's Schools (PEAKS) standards-based assessments in 3rd grade English/Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics.

■ Kindergarten readiness ■ 3rd grade ELA proficiency ■ 3rd grade math proficiency



Alaska Department of Education and Early Development, Developmental Profile Assessment, 2018-19 and Performance Evaluation for Alaska's Schools, 2019

Photo Credit: Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development; Division of Community and Regional Affairs' Community Photo Library.

Data compiled and analyzed by the Stellar Group

