

Alaska Postsecondary Education Attainment Metrics -2020-

Goal: 65% of working-age Alaskans have a postsecondary credential by 2025

Progress is measured on Alaskans' academic **readiness** for postsecondary education, **access** to and support for postsecondary enrollment, and credential **completion** rates. Green arrows (↑, ↓) show improvement from the previous year, red arrows (↑, ↓) show worsening, and the associated number indicates either a unit or percentage point change.

Click the charts to the left or the table below for trend data and source notes.

Attainment Rate for Statewide Residents

Certificates	16%
Associate	8%
Bachelor's	19%
Master's	7%
+ Doctorate	4%

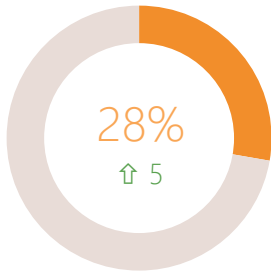
54%

working-age Alaskans with a postsecondary credential

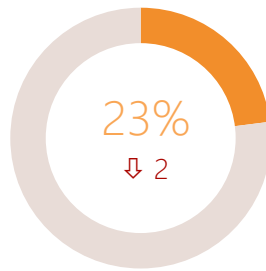
Prepared by the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education
For the Alaska Postsecondary Access and Completion Network
With support from the Lumina Foundation

Readiness

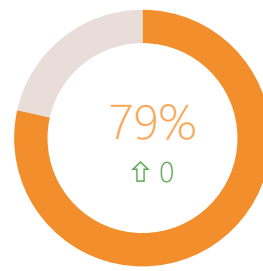
9th Graders Proficient in Math, PEAKS



Alaska College-Ready Graduates

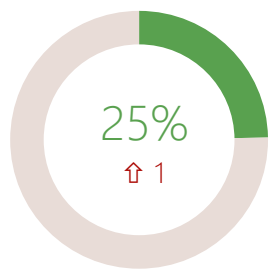


High School Graduation Rate, 4 Year Cohort

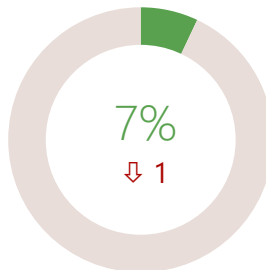


Access

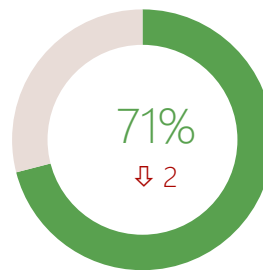
Income Spent on In-State Education



Enrollment Rate, 18+

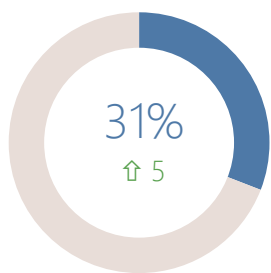


Full-Time Retention Rate

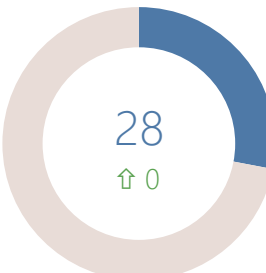


Completions

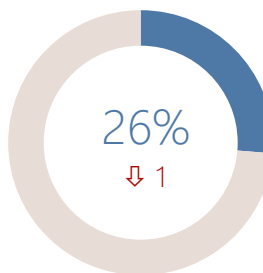
Graduation within Six Years at Four-Year Institutions



Credentials Awarded per 100 Full-Time Students



Undergraduate Award Rate, Part-Time, Non-First Time





Goal: 65% of working-age Alaskans have a postsecondary credential by 2025

Readiness

9th Graders Proficient in Math, PEAKS Assessment The

Performance Evaluation for Alaska's Schools (PEAKS) assessments measure students' performance on skills and concepts within the state education standards. In 2019, 2,223 9th grade students scored proficient, and 5,792 scored below proficient in math. Alaska's students have lower proficiency rates for math compared to English/language arts, and take developmental coursework in math at the University of Alaska at higher rates (UA Year in Review, Table 1.14c). Since students are not required to take the ACT or SAT for high school graduation or postsecondary admission at several of Alaska's institutions, increases in those test scores may reflect who decides to take the ACT or SAT instead of providing a clear performance measure for high school students. Tracking changes in performance on the PEAKS assessment in the ninth grade, therefore, may more closely measure Alaska students' readiness when they enter postsecondary education. Source: Alaska Department of Education and Early Development

Access

Income Spent on In-State Education

This metric is the average in-state tuition, fees, room, and board for public, 4-year institutions as a percent of median household income in Alaska. In 2017-2018, total cost of attendance was \$18,373 (NCES, Table 330.20). Median household income in 2018 was \$74,346 (ACS, Table S1903). Nationally, this rate was 32%, suggesting that Alaska's cost of attendance is relatively affordable and, if it remains low, it may support students' access to postsecondary education. Sources: National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Digest of Education Statistics; US Census, American Community Survey (ACS) PUMS Microdata 1-Year Estimates.

Completions

Graduation within Six Years at Four-Year Institutions

Graduation rates within 150% of normal program time are measured for full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking students at 4-year Alaska postsecondary institutions 6 years later. Nationally, this rate was 59% (NCES, IPEDS Graduation Rates component provisional data for 2018). This metric highlights the proportion of students from a cohort who earn a credential within a set amount of time, which helps understand students' progress through postsecondary programs and the role of institutions to support timely credential completion. Source: National Center for Education Statistics, IPEDS Data Center

Attainment

Attainment Rate for Alaska Residents

The certificate attainment rate for Alaska was estimated based on the national proportion of the population with a certificate, adjusted to reflect Alaska's population. The equivalent estimate for Alaska Native/American Indian residents is 29%. Due to the margin of survey error, Alaskans' attainment rates have not meaningfully changed since 2014. Attainment rates are measured for Alaskans age 25-65. Source for Certificate Attainment Rates: 2014 US Census Survey of Income and Program Participation
 Source for Degree Attainment Rates: US Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS) PUMS Microdata, 1-Year Estimates.

Alaska College-Ready Graduates

Alaska high school graduates earn eligibility for the Alaska Performance Scholarship (APS) by completing rigorous courses, earning a grade point average of 2.5 or greater, and by scoring well on the ACT, SAT, or WorkKeys tests in high school. Students can use the scholarship award of up to \$4,755 per year at qualifying Alaska postsecondary institutions. This metric is the proportion of Alaska's public high school graduating class earning APS eligibility each year. Since it combines several performance measures in high school, it provides a broad understanding about students' readiness for postsecondary education. The annual APS Outcomes Report tracks trends in APS eligibility and enrollment in postsecondary education, and demonstrates students' outcomes in postsecondary education and the Alaska workforce. Typically, students who meet APS eligibility requirements and earn the scholarship take fewer developmental courses in their first year and have higher graduation rates at the University of Alaska. Improvements in the APS eligibility rate, therefore, may indicate improvements in Alaska students' readiness for postsecondary education. Source: Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education

Enrollment Rate, 18+

This metric measures the proportion of the population 18 and older without a college degree who have enrolled in college or graduate school within the last 3 months. In 2018, an estimated 25,000 were recently enrolled out of 357,000 Alaska residents 18 or older without a college degree. Nationally, this rate was 9%. Tracking enrollment as a rate rather than a total count of students may support understanding enrollment trends independent from the size of the 18 and older population. Source: US Census, American Community Survey (ACS) PUMS Microdata 1-Year Estimates. National Source: Steven Ruggles, et al. (2019). IPUMS USA: Version 9.0 American Community Survey 2018 1-Year Estimates.

Credentials Awarded per 100 Full-Time Students

This shows the number of postsecondary credentials awarded per year (5,231 in 2018) out of the state's total full-time equivalent enrolled student population (18,910) to ease comparisons with other states, institutions, or years with different compositions of full-time or part-time students (NCES, IPEDS Completions provisional data for 2018). For US institutions, there were 29 awards per 100 FTE students. This metric is independent of compositional trends in the total number of students enrolled and whether they are enrolled full- or part-time during the year, unlike an annual count of the total number of credentials awarded by Alaska's institutions. Therefore, this metric closely tracks Alaska's institutions and their role facilitating progress towards the statewide attainment goal. Source: National Center for Education Statistics, IPEDS Data Center

High School Graduation Rate, 4 Year Cohort

This graduation rate is the 2018 4-year cohort graduation rate for Alaska's public high school students. 7,731 students graduated in this cohort out of 9,848 total. Alaska Native students have the lowest 4-year cohort graduation rate compared with other racial or ethnic groups. Alaska's statewide rate in 2017 ranked 46th compared to other states. Nationally, the graduation rate was 84.6% (NCES, 2017 adjusted cohort graduation rate for public high school students). Source: Alaska Department of Education and Early Development

Full-Time Retention Rate

This metric is the percentage of full-time, first-time degree/certificate seeking undergraduates from the previous fall enrolled in the current fall term (Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS)). Among all US Title IV institutions, this rate was 76% in fall 2018. Tracking this metric may support understanding the effectiveness of institutions to support students' transitions into Alaska's postsecondary education, and connects this transition to students' progress towards graduation with a credential. Source: National Center for Education Statistics, IPEDS Retention Rates

Undergraduate Award Rate, Part-Time, Non-First Time

This metric is the percent of degree/certificate-seeking part-time, non-first-time undergraduates at degree-granting institutions awarded a degree or certificate 6 years later out of the cohort first entering the reporting institution in 2010-2011. For US institutions, this award rate was 23% (NCES, IPEDS Outcome Measures provisional data for 2018). This metric highlights the ability of Alaska's institutions to support degree or certificate completion among non-traditional students. Note: IPEDs reporting methodology for Outcomes Measures changed between 2016 and 2017. Source: National Center for Education Statistics, IPEDS Data Center