

Head Start by the Numbers

Alaska

This fact sheet is based on the 2005 Program Information Report (PIR) data, which all Head Start programs are required to complete on an annual basis.¹ For more information on the PIR and national Head Start or Early Head Start data, see the "[Child Care and Early Education](http://www.clasp.org)" page at www.clasp.org.

Programs

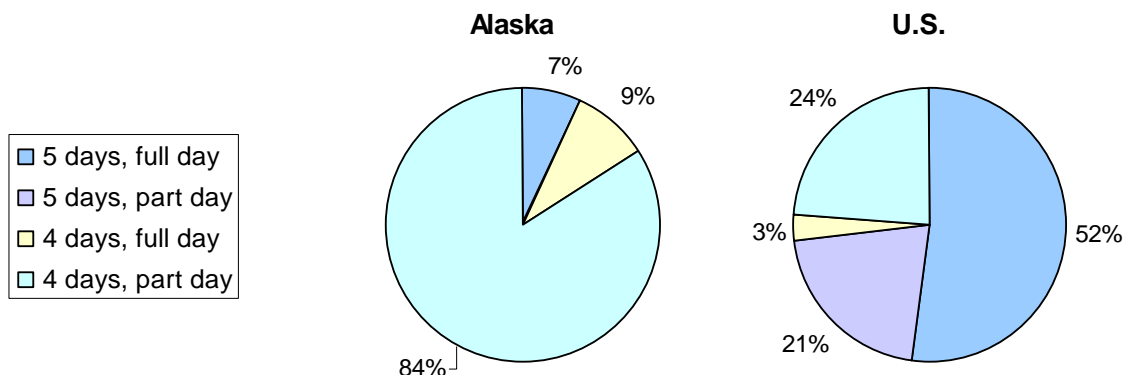
Total number of programs: 21
Number of Early Head Start programs: 4
Number of preschool programs: 17
Number of Migrant and Seasonal programs: 0

Total number of slots: 3,218
ACF-funded slots: 2,889²
Slots funded through other sources: 329³

Program options

	Alaska	U.S.
Center-based	79%	91%
Home-based	15%	5%
Family child care	1%	1%
Combination	5%	1%
Locally-designed	0%	1%

Operating schedule for center-based programs⁴



Participants

Total actual enrollment: 3,727⁵
Number of children enrolled: 3,682
Number of pregnant women enrolled: 45

Primary language spoken in the home

	Alaska	U.S.
English	86%	71%
Native North American/ Alaskan Native languages	8%	0%
Spanish	2%	24%
other	4%	5%

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Race and Ethnicity⁶

	Alaska	U.S.
American Indian or Alaskan Native	61%	5%
Asian	3%	2%
Black or African American	4%	31%
Hispanic (any race)	4%	33%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	1%	1%
White	18%	35%
Bi-racial or Multi-racial	8%	7%
Unspecified	4%	18%



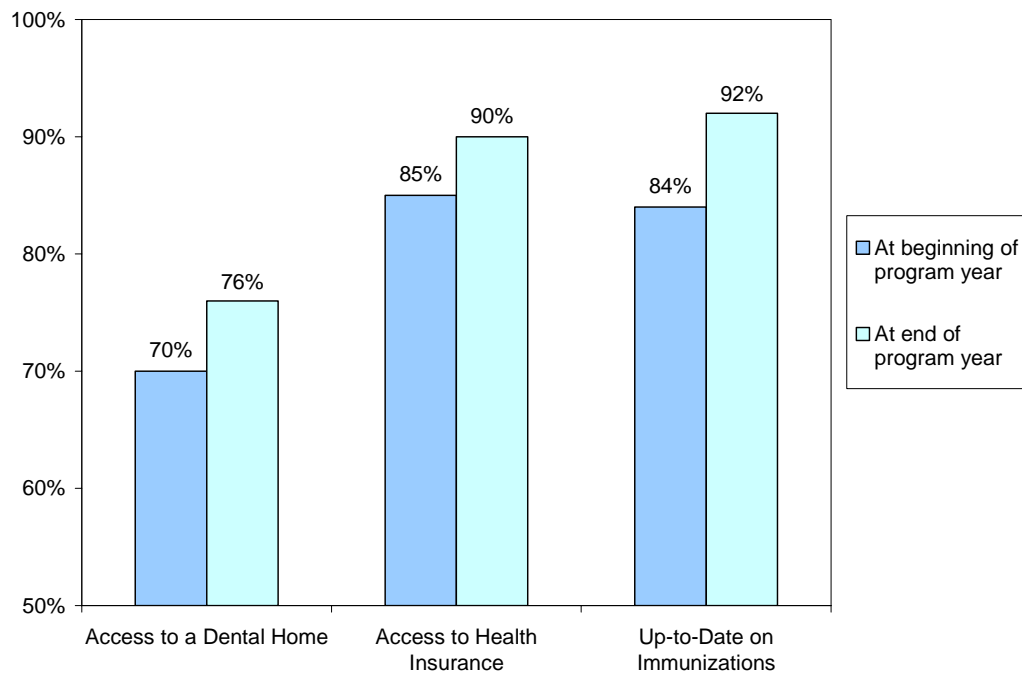
Medical screenings⁷

Percent screened	70%
Of children screened, percent requiring follow-up treatment	24%
Of children requiring further treatment, percent receiving follow-up treatment	88%

Disability Services

Percent of children diagnosed as having a disability	15%
Of children with a disability, percent of children diagnosed during the program year	48%
Of children with a disability, percent of children diagnosed prior to this program year	52%

Access to medical services^{8 9}



Families

Total number of families: 3,389

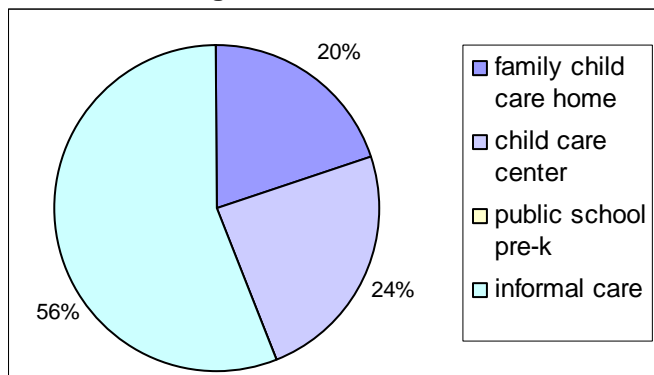
	Alaska	U.S.
Single-parent families	40%	56%
Two-parent families	60%	44%
Families with at least one employed parent	71%	71%
Families with at least one parent in school/ job training	15%	16%
Families receiving TANF	20%	19%
Families receiving WIC	49%	49%

Head Start Family Services

<i>Percent of families who received:</i>	
Parenting education	33%
Health education	33%
Housing assistance	18%
Emergency/crisis intervention services	12%
Mental health services	10%
Adult education	8%
Job training	8%
Transportation assistance	6%
Substance abuse prevention/treatment	6%
<i>Percent of families who accessed at least one family service through Head Start</i>	<i>60%</i>



Child Care Arrangements



Percent of children receiving a child care subsidy: 14%

Percent of children in Head Start programs operating at least eight hours per day: 10%

For children requiring care outside of Head Start hours
(includes all children, regardless of subsidy receipt)

Staff

Total number of staff: 974

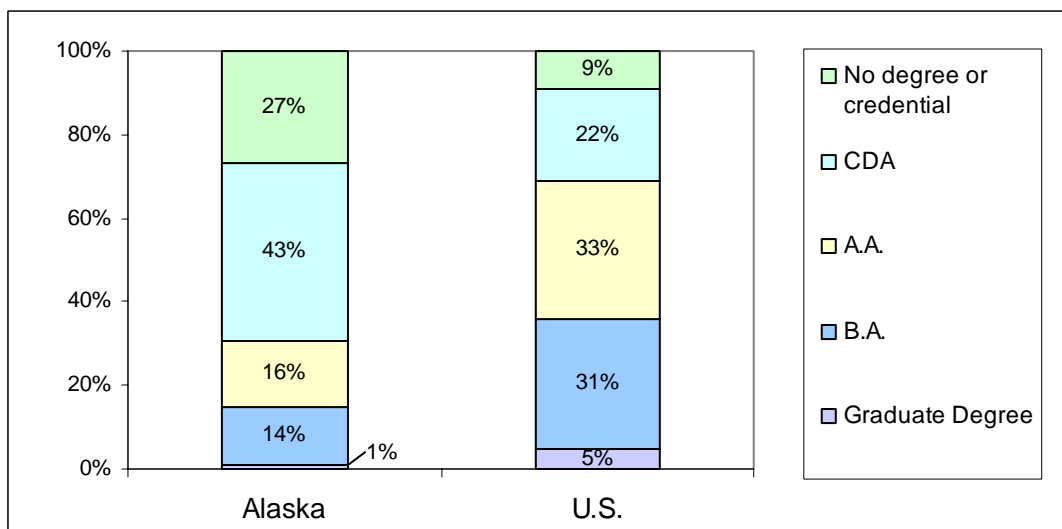
Total number of teachers: 192

Percent who left the program during the year: 22%

Percent of staff who are current or former Head Start parents: 35%

Average teacher salary: \$23,287¹⁰

Teacher Education Level



Endnotes

¹ Data includes all Head Start programs in the state, including Head Start preschool, Early Head Start, Migrant and Seasonal Head Start, and American Indian and Alaskan Native programs.

² Includes slots funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families.

³ Includes slots funded by all sources other than ACF (for example, states or school districts).

⁴ The PIR defines “full-day” programs as those operating at least six hours per day and “part-day” programs as those operating less than six hours per day.

⁵ The PIR collects data on all children and pregnant women enrolled at any point, including those who do not complete the year. Since some participants drop out during the program year and are replaced, the number of total actual participants exceeds the number of Head Start slots.

⁶ Percentages do not add up to 100 percent because persons of Hispanic ethnicity may be of any race. In 2005, race categories on the PIR were changed. The “Hispanic” category, previously included as a race category, was moved to a separate question that asks for the number of children and pregnant women who were of Hispanic origin, regardless of racial background. The high proportion of Head Start participants whose race is “unspecified” may reflect confusion about the new race and ethnicity categories.

⁷ The PIR includes all children who were enrolled in Head Start at any point during the program year, including those who dropped out before 45 days of enrollment, the time frame during which Head Start programs are required to provide medical and dental screenings.

⁸ “Up-to-date on immunizations” includes those children who are not on the schedule recommended for their age group but who have been brought up to date to the extent possible given the late start on their immunization schedule. Due to variations in reporting on children’s access to a medical home, this information is not available for Alaska.

⁹ Due to variations in reporting whether children are receiving medical services through Indian Health Services and migrant community health centers, information on medical homes is not available for Alaska.

¹⁰ This average includes all programs in the state, including part-day programs, programs that operate for a short period of time such as Migrant and Seasonal Programs, and programs that may only operate for part of a week. Therefore, the range of teacher salaries may vary greatly throughout the state.