

ADOPTION



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Superior courts in Alaska granted 529 adoptions in 1998. That is a 2.9 percent decrease from the 545 superior court adoptions granted during 1997. In addition, 162 cultural adoptions and 86 out of state adoptions were recorded. Not all adoptions involve children. Of the 777 total adoptions in 1998, 26 involved the adoption of adults 18 years of age and over. The total number of adoptions resulted 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 162 cultural adoptions which occurred in 1998 represented a 10.2 percent increase from 147 in 1997. There were 86 children born in Alaska who were adopted out of state during 1998, compared with 88 out-of-state adoptions in 1997. Table 4.1 below lists numbers of adoptions by type and year for 1994 through 1998.

TABLE 4.1 ADOPTIONS BY TYPE, ALASKA, 1994-1998

YEAR	TYPE OF ADOPTION				TOTAL
	ALASKA			OUT OF STATE	
	COURTS	CULTURAL	SUBTOTAL		
1994	559	184	743	114	857
1995	548	206	754	110	864
1996	476	189	665	101	766
1997	545	147	692	88	780
1998	529	162	691	86	777

TABLE 4.2A ADOPTIONS BY CENSUS AREA WHERE DECREE WAS GRANTED AND BY AGE OF ADOPTEE, ALASKA, 1998

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
ALEUTIANS WEST			1			1
ANCHORAGE	48	85	87	51	8	279
BETHEL	28	14	12	8		62
BRISTOL BAY		1				1
DILLINGHAM		2		4		6
FAIRBANKS NSB	8	27	27	21	4	87
JUNEAU BOROUGH	3	7	12	9	3	34
KENAI PENINSULA	3	8	11	14		36
KETCHIKAN		5	6	3	1	15
KODIAK ISLAND	1	6	5		1	13
LAKE-PENINSULA		1	1	2		4
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA	1	4	9	5	1	20
NOME	11	2	4	6		23
NORTH SLOPE	8	4	2	5		19
NORTHWEST ARCTIC	9	3	6	3		21
SITKA BOROUGH		3	2	1		6
VALDEZ-CORDOVA	1	2	1	1	1	6
WADE HAMPTON	28	14	2	6		50
WRANGELL-PETERSBG			3	1		4
YUKON-KOYUKUK	1			2		3
OUTSIDE ALASKA	6	15	24	34	7	86
TOTAL	156	204	215	176	26	777

Tables 4.2A and 4.2C show adoptions by the age of the adoptee; Tables 4.2B and 4.2D 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 those in which the race of the adoptee is unknown, all were born outside of Alaska. (For more information on determining the race of the child by the race of the mother, see Appendix E.)

TABLE 4.2B ADOPTIONS BY NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION WHERE DECREE WAS GRANTED AND BY AGE OF ADOPTEE, ALASKA, 1998

NRC WHERE ADOPTION DECREE WAS GRANTED	AGE OF ADOPTEE					TOTAL
	<1 YEAR	1-4 YEARS	5-9 YEARS	10-17 YEARS	18+ YEARS	
AHTNA INC.			1			1
ALEUT CORP.		1	1			2
ARCTIC SLOPE CORP.	8	4	2	5		19
BERING STRAITS CORP.	11	2	4	6		23
BRISTOL BAY CORP.		4	1	6		11
CALISTA CORP.	56	28	14	14		112
CHUGACH NATIVES INC.	1	2		1	1	5
COOK INLET REG CORP.	52	97	107	70	9	335
DOYON LTD.	9	27	27	23	4	90
KONIAG INC.	1	6	5		1	13
NANA REGIONAL CORP.	9	3	6	3		21
SEALASKA CORP.	3	15	23	14	4	59
OUTSIDE ALASKA	6	15	24	34	7	86
TOTAL	156	204	215	176	26	777

TABLE 4.2C ADOPTIONS BY CENSUS AREA WHERE DECREE WAS GRANTED AND BY RACE OF ADOPTEE, ALASKA, 1998

CENSUS AREA WHERE ADOPTION DECREE WAS GRANTED	RACE OF ADOPTEE					TOTAL
	WHITE	NATIVE	AFR/AM	ASIAN/PI	UNK	
ALEUTIANS EAST		1				1
ALEUTIANS WEST		1				1
ANCHORAGE	142	67	16	8	46	279
BETHEL		62				62
BRISTOL BAY		1				1
DILLINGHAM	2	4				6
FAIRBANKS NSB	64	10	6	3	4	87
JUNEAU BOROUGH	21	6		1	6	34
KENAI PENINSULA	24	6		2	4	36
KETCHIKAN	10	4			1	15
KODIAK ISLAND	6	5	1	1		13
LAKE-PENINSULA		4				4
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA	14				6	20
NOME	1	22				23
NORTH SLOPE		19				19
NORTHWEST ARCTIC		20			1	21
SITKA BOROUGH	4				2	6
VALDEZ-CORDOVA	3	1			2	6
WADE HAMPTON		50				50
WRANGELL-PETERSBG	2	2				4
YUKON-KOYUKUK		3				3
OUTSIDE ALASKA	76	7	3			86
TOTAL	369	295	26	15	72	777

TABLE 4.2D ADOPTIONS BY NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION WHERE DECREE WAS GRANTED, AND BY RACE OF ADOPTEE, ALASKA, 1998

NRC WHERE ADOPTION DECREE WAS GRANTED	RACE OF ADOPTEE					TOTAL
	WHITE	NATIVE	AFR/AM	ASIAN/PI	UNK	
AHTNA INC.		1				1
ALEUT CORP.		2				2
ARCTIC SLOPE CORP.		19				19
BERING STRAITS CORP.	1	22				23
BRISTOL BAY CORP.	2	9				11
CALISTA CORP.		112				112
CHUGACH NATIVES INC.	3				2	5
COOK INLET REG CORP.	180	73	16	10	56	335
DOYON LTD.	64	13	6	3	4	90
KONIAG INC.	6	5	1	1		13
NANA REGIONAL CORP.		20			1	21
SEALASKA CORP.	37	12		1	9	59
OUTSIDE ALASKA	76	7	3			86
TOTAL	369	295	26	15	72	777

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 777

adoptions granted during 1998, 36.6% of the children were adopted by the spouse of a natural parent, 50.6% of the children were adopted by two parents, and 12.9% were adopted by single parents.

Table 4.3A 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 4.3B 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 4.3A ADOPTIONS BY RACES OF PARENTS (WHEN ADOPTIVE PARENT IS MARRIED TO NATURAL PARENT) AND BY CHILD'S PLACE OF BIRTH, ALASKA, 1998

RACE OF PARENTS		CHILD'S PLACE OF BIRTH			TOTAL
NATURAL	ADOPTIVE	ALASKA	USA	FOREIGN	
WHITE	WHITE	108	96	12	216
	NATIVE	3		1	4
	AFR/AM	4	3		7
	ASIAN		2		2
	UNKN	16			16
	TOTAL	131	101	13	245
NATIVE	WHITE	7			7
	NATIVE	13			13
	AFR/AM	1			1
	UNKN	2			2
	TOTAL	23			23
AFR/AM	AFR/AM	2	2	2	6
	UNKN	1			1
	TOTAL	3	2	2	7
ASIAN	WHITE	3	1		4
	ASIAN	1	1		2
	TOTAL	4	2		6
UNKN	WHITE		3		3
	TOTAL		3		3
TOTAL		161	108	15	284

TABLE 4.3B ADOPTIONS BY RACES OF ADOPTIVE PARENTS (WHEN NEITHER PARENT IS THE NATURAL PARENT) AND CHILD'S PLACE OF BIRTH, ALASKA, 1998

RACE OF ADOPTIVE PARENTS		CHILD'S PLACE OF BIRTH			TOTAL
MOTHER	FATHER	ALASKA	USA	FOREIGN	
WHITE	WHITE	118	31	53	202
	NATIVE	10			10
	AFR/AM	1			1
	ASIAN			2	2
	NONE	22	3	13	38
	TOTAL	151	34	68	253
NATIVE	WHITE	13	5		18
	NATIVE	132			132
	AFR/AM	1			1
	NONE	41	1		42
	TOTAL	187	6		193
AFR/AM	WHITE	1	2		3
	AFR/AM	11	2		13
	NONE	1	2		3
	TOTAL	13	6		19
ASIAN	WHITE	2		2	4
	ASIAN	3			3
	TOTAL	5		2	7
UNKN	UNKN	3			3
	NONE	4			4
	TOTAL	7			7
NONE	WHITE	5	1		6
	NATIVE	4			4
	AFR/AM	1			1
	UNKN	2			2
	NONE	1			1
	TOTAL	13	1		14
TOTAL		376	47	70	493

TABLE 4.3C ADOPTIONS BY RACES OF ADOPTIVE PARENTS (WHEN NEITHER PARENT IS THE NATURAL PARENT) AND CHILD'S RACE, ALASKA, 1998

RACE OF ADOPTIVE PARENTS		RACE OF ADOPTEE					TOTAL
MOTHER	FATHER	WHITE	NATIVE	AFR/AM	ASIAN/PI	UNK	
WHITE	WHITE	94	50	5	6	47	202
	NATIVE	1	9				10
	AFR/AM			1			1
	ASIAN				1	1	2
	NONE	6	16	2		14	38
	TOTAL	101	75	8	7	62	253
NATIVE	WHITE	1	14			3	18
	NATIVE		132				132
	AFR/AM	1					1
	NONE		41			1	42
TOTAL	2	187			4	193	
AFR/AM	WHITE	2				1	3
	AFR/AM	2	2	9			13
	NONE	1		1		1	3
	TOTAL	5	2	10		2	19
ASIAN	WHITE	1	1		2		4
	ASIAN		1		2		3
	TOTAL	1	2		4		7
UNKN	UNKN	3					3
	NONE	1	2	1			4
	TOTAL	4	2	1			7
NONE	WHITE	4	2				6
	NATIVE		4				4
	AFR/AM		1				1
	UNKN	1	1				2
	NONE	1					1
	TOTAL	6	8				14
TOTAL		119	276	19	11	68	493

TABLE 4.4A ADOPTIONS BY CENSUS AREA WHERE ADOPTION DECREE WAS GRANTED, AND BY PARENT ADOPTING CHILD, ALASKA, 1998

CENSUS AREA WHERE DECREE WAS GRANTED	MOTHER AND FATHER	ADOPTING PARENT MARRIED TO NATURAL PARENT	SINGLE PARENT	TOTAL
ALEUTIANS EAST	1			1
ALEUTIANS WEST		1		1
ANCHORAGE	146	101	32	279
BETHEL	49		13	62
BRISTOL BAY	1			1
DILLINGHAM	3	2	1	6
FAIRBANKS NSB	31	48	8	87
JUNEAU BOROUGH	15	15	4	34
KENAI PENINSULA	11	23	2	36
KETCHIKAN	6	8	1	15
KODIAK ISLAND	10	2	1	13
LAKE-PENINSULA	2		2	4
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA	4	14	2	20
NOME	21	2		23
NORTH SLOPE	12	4	3	19
NORTHWEST ARCTIC	11	1	9	21
SITKA BOROUGH	2	4		6
VALDEZ-CORDOVA	1	4	1	6
WADE HAMPTON	37		13	50
WRANGELL-PETERSBG	2	2		4
YUKON-KOYUKUK	2		1	3
OUTSIDE ALASKA	26	53	7	86
TOTAL	393	284	100	777

TABLE 4.4B ADOPTIONS BY NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION WHERE DECREE WAS GRANTED, AND BY PARENT ADOPTING CHILD, ALASKA, 1998

NRC WHERE DECREE WAS GRANTED	MOTHER AND FATHER	ADOPTING PARENT MARRIED TO NATURAL PARENT	SINGLE PARENT	TOTAL
AHTNA INC.		1		1
ALEUT CORP.	1	1		2
ARCTIC SLOPE CORP.	12	4	3	19
BERING STRAITS CORP.	21	2		23
BRISTOL BAY CORP.	6	2	3	11
CALISTA CORP.	86		26	112
CHUGACH NATIVES INC.	1	3	1	5
COOK INLET REG CORP.	161	138	36	335
DOYON LTD.	33	48	9	90
KONIAG INC.	10	2	1	13
NANA REGIONAL CORP.	11	1	9	21
SEALASKA CORP.	25	29	5	59
OUTSIDE ALASKA	26	53	7	86
TOTAL	393	284	100	777