

Alaska

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Alaska

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largest metros

Metropolitan Area	Population (2023 est.)	County/Borough
Anchorage, AK MSA	401,314	Municipality of Anchorage
Fairbanks, AK MSA	94,840	Fairbanks North Star Borough
Juneau, AK ?SA	31,555	City and Borough of Juneau
Ketchikan, AK ?SA	13,738	Ketchikan Gateway Borough

Largest Cities

Rank	City	Population (2025)
1	Anchorage	291,131
2	Fairbanks	32,711
3	Juneau	32,451
4	Knik-Fairview	20,174
5	Badger	18,941
6	College	11,006
7	North Lakes	9,821
8	Meadow Lakes	9,522
9	Wasilla	9,299
10	Tanaina	9,049

See also [Top Ten Largest Cities in Alaska](#).

sports

investigate

- **Alaska Aces:** A minor league hockey team that plays in the ECHL. They are based in Anchorage².
- **Mat-Su Miners:** A baseball team in the Alaska Baseball League, based in Palmer.
- **Chugiak-Eagle River Chinooks:** Another baseball team in the Alaska Baseball League, based in Chugiak.
- **Anchorage Glacier Pilots:** A baseball team in the Alaska Baseball League, based in Anchorage.
- **Peninsula Oilers:** A baseball team in the Alaska Baseball League, based in Kenai

NCAA Division I

Most sports from the state's universities compete in Division II. The **men's ice hockey** programs are the exception, competing at the highest level of college athletics.

Program	University	Location	Division I Sport	Conference Affiliation
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Alaska Nanooks	University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF)	Fairbanks	Men's Ice Hockey	Independent (CCHA member starting 2025-26)
Alaska Anchorage Seawolves	University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA)	Anchorage	Men's Ice Hockey	Independent

- **The "Alaska Civil War":** The rivalry between the Nanooks and the Seawolves is one of the most unique in all of college sports. The two teams compete annually for the **Alaska Airlines Governor's Cup**, a battle for state bragging rights that captivates hockey fans across Alaska.
- **UAF Nanooks:** The University of Alaska Fairbanks team is notable for being the **northernmost Division I athletic program in the United States**. The Nanooks have produced several NHL players, including goaltender Chad Johnson and two-time Stanley Cup champion defenseman Shawn Chambers. They play their home games at the 4,595-seat **Carlson Center**.
- **UAA Seawolves:** The Seawolves have a rich history that includes three **NCAA tournament appearances** (1990, 1991, 1992). The program faced financial difficulties and was put on hiatus but was successfully revived through fundraising and returned to the ice for the 2022-23 season. They currently play at the on-campus **Avis Alaska Sports Complex**.

flowchart TD

A[Alaska's D1 Hockey Rivalry
The "Alaska Civil War"] --> B & C

subgraph B [University of Alaska Fairbanks]

B1[Nanooks]

B2[Location: Fairbanks]

B3[Arena: Carlson Center]

B4[Conference: CCHA
starting 2025-26]

end

subgraph C [University of Alaska Anchorage]

C1[Seawolves]

C2[Location: Anchorage]

C3[Arena: Avis Alaska
Sports Complex]

C4[Conference: Independent]

end

B <-->|Governor's Cup| C

parks

recreational activities

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