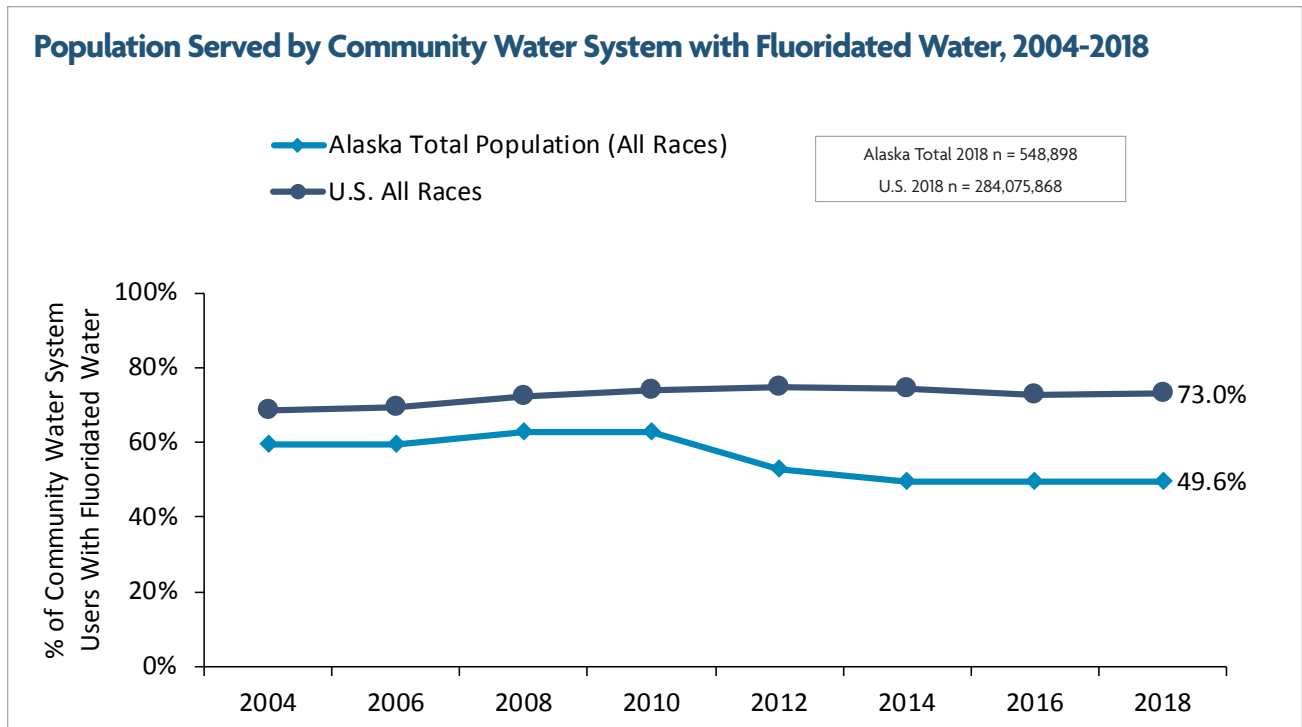


Community Water Fluoridation



Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Water Fluoridation Reporting System Table C-139

Definition

Community water fluoridation is the controlled addition of a fluoride compound to a community water supply to achieve a concentration optimal for dental caries prevention. Drinking fluoridated water keeps teeth strong and reduces cavities (also called tooth decay) by about 25% in children and adults.⁴³

The data in this report show the number of people served by community water systems that receive fluoridated water. The percentage is based on the total number of people using community water systems, not the total population of the state.

Objectives

Increase the proportion of the Alaska population served by community water systems with optimally fluoridated water to 60%. - *HEALTHY ALASKANS 2030, OBJECTIVE #3*

Summary

- » During 2018, approximately half (49.6%) of community water system users in Alaska were receiving fluoridated water. This percentage ranks Alaska 44 out of the 50 states. This percentage is significantly lower than for the U.S. population as a whole.
- » Since 2010, the percentage of community water system users in Alaska receiving fluoridated water has decreased significantly. Several large community water systems, including those in Fairbanks and Juneau, stopped adding fluoride to their water systems in the last decade.

Table C-139: Population Served by Community Water System with Fluoridated Water, 2004-2018

Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Oral Health

	All Alaskans Statewide				U.S. Population		
	# Served by Fluoridated Community Water System	% Served by Fluoridated Community Water System	Rank	Total # Served by Community Water System	# Served by Fluoridated Community Water System	% Served by Fluoridated Community Water System	Total # Served by Community Water System
2004	307,205	59.5	35	516,311	180,632,481	68.7	262,929,376
2006	308,801	59.5	35	518,993	184,028,038	69.2	265,936,471
2008	404,213	62.8	33	643,651	195,545,109	72.4	270,089,930
2010	404,039	62.8	36	643,374	204,283,554	73.9	276,432,414
2012	361,240	52.9	41	682,873	210,655,401	74.6	282,379,894
2014	335,555	49.3	43	680,639	211,393,167	74.4	284,130,601
2016	233,192	49.6	44	469,850	201,565,162	72.8	276,969,134
2018	272,280	49.6	44	548,898	207,426,536	73.0	284,075,868

Note: Rank is among the 50 states, based on percentage of community water system users drinking fluoridated water. 1 represents largest percentage of users and 50 the lowest percentage.

43Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2021). Water Fluoridation Basics. Retrieved from www.cdc.gov/fluoridation/basics/index.htm