

Alaska High School Senior Survey

ACPE conducted a survey of Alaska high school seniors to determine if the COVID-19 pandemic impacted their postsecondary education plans (PSE).

Survey Methods & Respondents

Contact Information Acquisition: Permanent Fund Dividend (PFD) Database

PFD Database Search Parameters: Date of Birth Range: 2001-2003; Email Listed

Survey Send Date: May 5-8, 2020

Number of Surveys Sent: 8,703

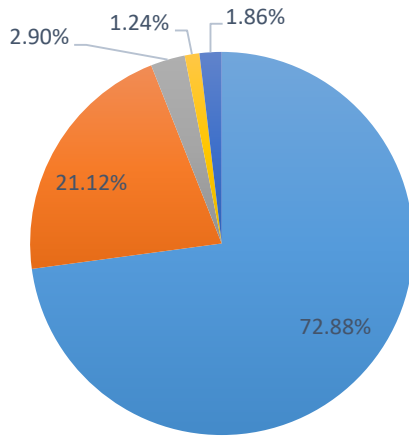
Number of Respondents: 607 as of May 28, 2020



Survey Respondent Demographics

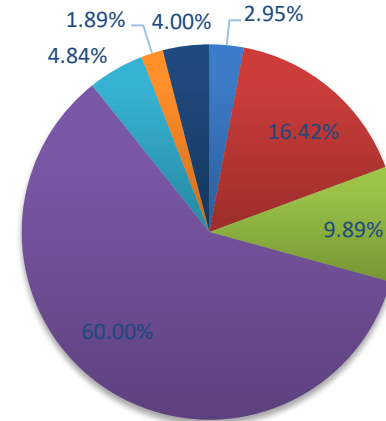
Over 90% of respondents are Alaska high school seniors or recent high school graduates.

Self-Identified Respondent Population



- Alaska High School Seniors
- Recent Alaska High School Graduate
- Parent, Guardian of Alaska High School Senior
- Alaska High School Student (Grade 9-11)
- Other

Self-Identified Ethnicity Information



- African American/Black
- Alaska Native/American Indian
- Asian
- Caucasian/White
- Hispanic or Latino
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- Other



Survey Respondent Geographical Demographics

The 607 respondents offer a geographically diverse representation of 59 cities and village communities across Alaska.

Anchor Point	Eagle River	Ketchikan	North Pole	Sterling
Anchorage	Eek	Kodiak	Nuiqsut	Talkeetna
Anvik	Fairbanks	Kotzebue	Palmer	Tanacross
Bethel	Fort Wainwright	Kwethluk	Petersburg	Tok
Big Lake	Girdwood	McGrath	Russian Mission	Utqiagvik
Chevak	Homer	Metlakatla, Annette Island	Sand Point	Valdez
Chugiak	Hoonah	Naknek	Savoonga	Wainwright
Cordova	Hooper Bay	Nikiski	Selawik	Wasilla
Craig	Iliamna	Ninilchik	Seward	Whittier
Crooked Creek	Juneau	Noatak	Sitka	
Delta Junction	Kenai	Nome	Soldotna	
Dillingham	Kenny Lake	Noorvik	South NakNek	



Survey Results & Analysis

The following slides provide survey design and deployment information, key findings and analysis, and next steps.

Key findings are reflected in the following categories:

Postsecondary Education Planning (PSE)

Impacts on PSE & Admissions Process

Impacts on Distance-Delivered Education

Financial Aid Awareness



Sample Survey Questions

Respondents answered a variety of postsecondary planning questions.

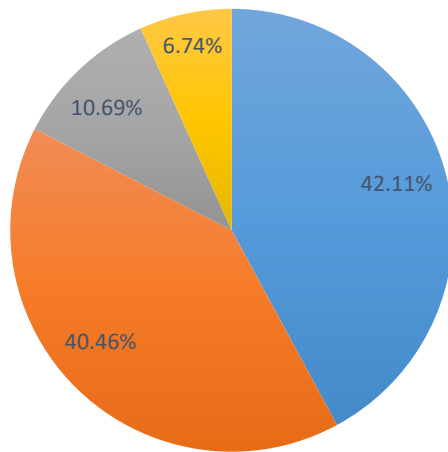
- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, have your postsecondary plans changed?
- Do you have a plan to pay for your postsecondary plans?
- Has the COVID-19 pandemic changed your interest in pursuing a career field deemed essential/critical? (i.e. healthcare, education, transportation)
- What are new factors that have influenced your decision to pursue PSE?



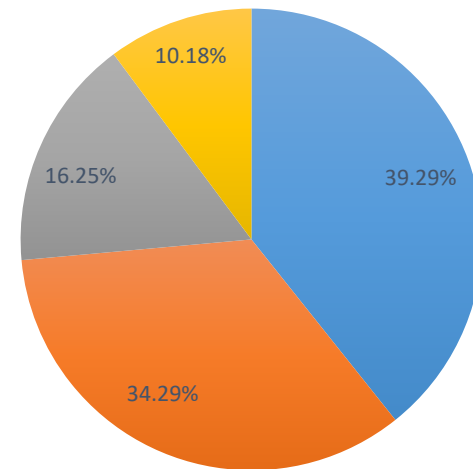
Postsecondary Planning – Changes due to COVID-19

Of the survey respondents, 33% report that their PSE plans changed in some way due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Prior to COVID-19, PSE Plans



Current PSE Plans



■ Pursue PSE in Alaska ■ Pursue PSE out-of-state
■ Not pursue PSE ■ Other/Don't Know

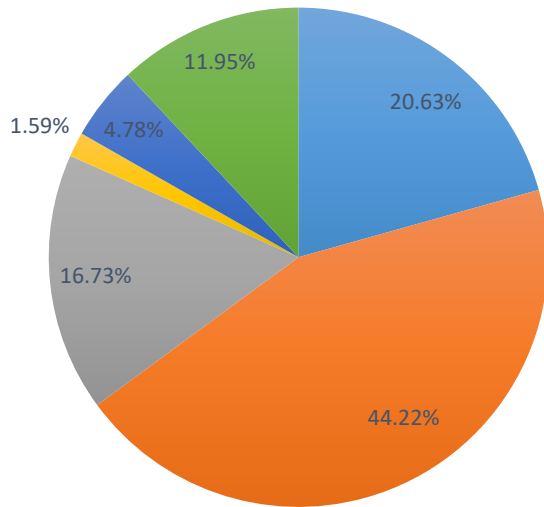
■ Pursue PSE in Alaska ■ Pursue PSE out-of-state ■ Not pursue PSE ■ Other/Don't Know



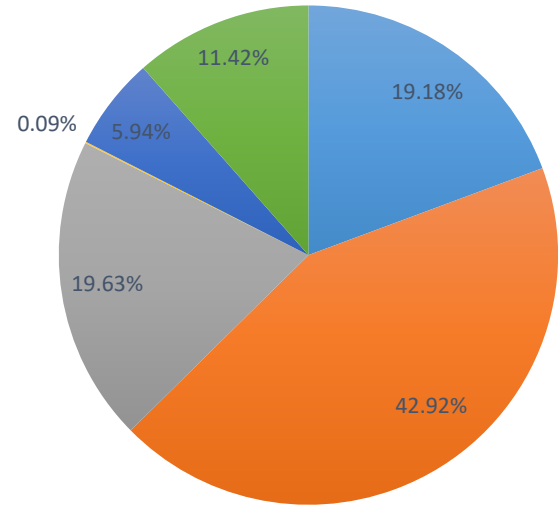
Postsecondary Planning – Alaska PSE

Due to COVID-19, there is 2.75% decrease in Alaskans planning to pursue a AA/BA, but a 2.9% increase in those planning to pursue apprenticeship or certificate programs.

Alaska PSE Plans Before COVID-19



Current Alaska PSE Plans



- Associate's Degree
- Bachelor's Degree
- Apprenticeship or Certificate
- GED Completion Program
- Military
- Work full time

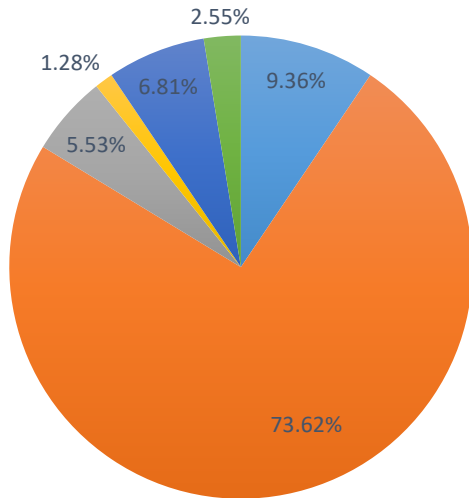
- Associate's Degree
- Bachelor's Degree
- Apprenticeship or Certificate
- GED Completion Program
- Military
- Work full time



Postsecondary Planning – Out-of-State PSE

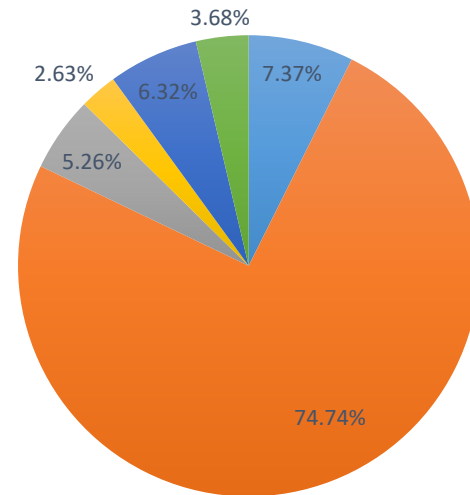
Due to COVID-19, there is a slight increase in students planning to pursue a BA instead of AA, and an increase in pursuing the military and full-time employment.

Out-of-State PSE Plans Before COVID-19



- Associate's Degree
- Bachelor's Degree
- Apprenticeship or Certificate
- Military
- Other/Don't Know
- Work full time

Current Out-of-State PSE Plans



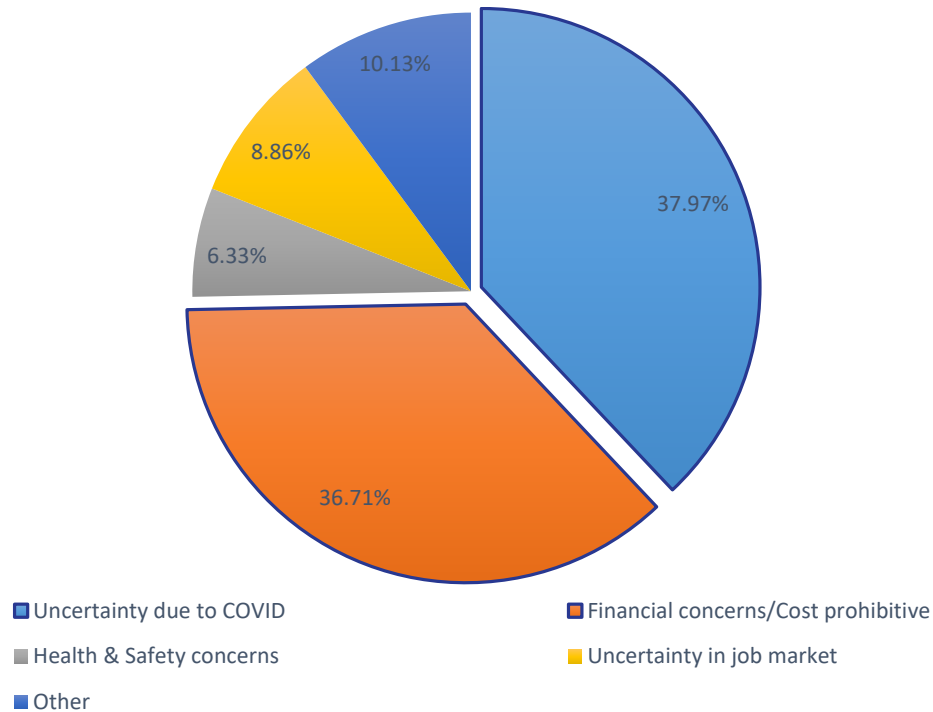
- Associate's Degree
- Bachelor's Degree
- Apprenticeship or Certificate
- Join the military
- Other/Don't Know
- Work full time



Impacts on PSE and Admissions Process

Of the 16.25% of respondents who do not plan to pursue PSE immediately due to COVID-19, financial concerns and uncertainty are top factors.

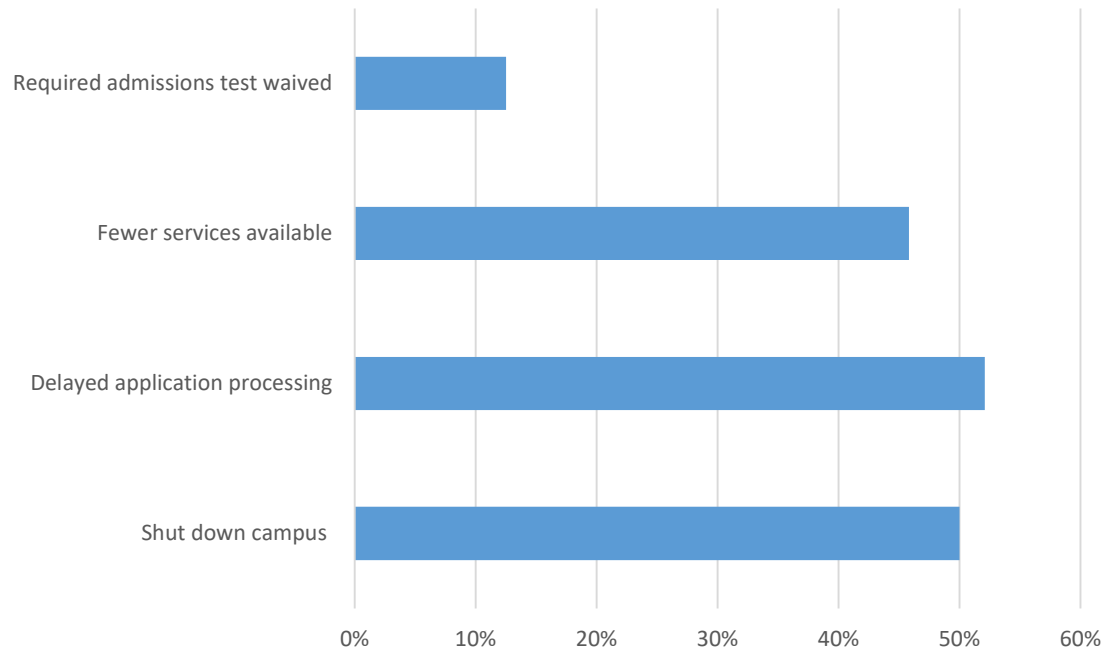
Factors in not pursuing PSE



Impacts on PSE and Admissions Process

Of the 73.58% of respondents who plan to pursue PSE this fall, they state that the admissions process has been impacted in the following ways:

Top Impacts on Admissions Process
(check all that apply)

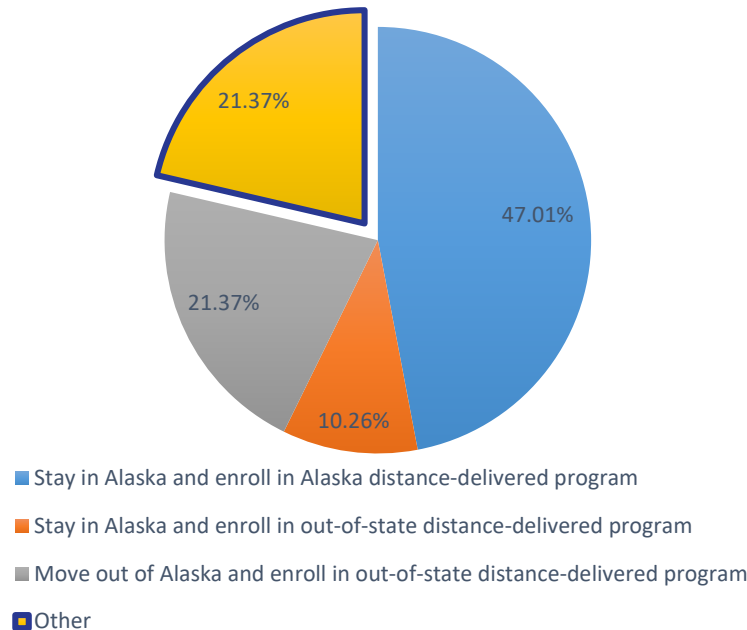


Impacts on Distance-Delivered Education

27.89% of respondents stated that COVID-19 changed their interest in pursuing distance-delivered PSE.

Of the 21.37% who answered "Other" in distance-delivered PSE plans, nearly all state that they are less inclined to pursue distance courses as a result of COVID-19.

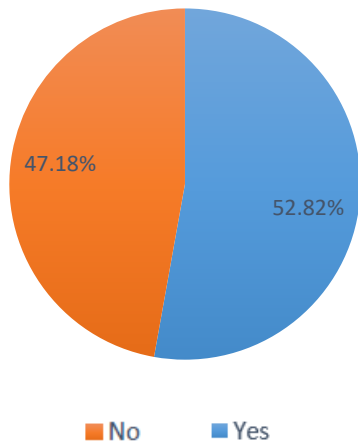
Distance-Delivered PSE Plans



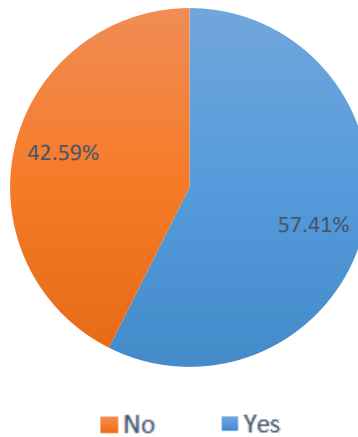
Financial Aid Awareness

52.82% of respondents stated they have concerns over how to pay for PSE due to COVID-19.

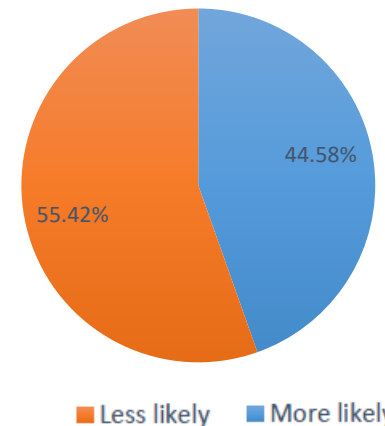
PSE Financial Concerns



FAFSA Complete



More/Less Likely to Consider Alaska state loan program



Next Steps

After compiling and analyzing the responses from this survey, ACPE intends on taking a variety of next steps to ensure dissemination of a key findings report. The overarching goal of these action items is to offer postsecondary stakeholders relevant information from which they can build intentional and responsive plans for the upcoming academic year.

- Distribute Alaska High School Senior Survey Report to:
 - Alaska Postsecondary Education Institutions
 - Alaska Department of Education & Early Development (DEED)
 - Alaska Education Stakeholders & Policy-Makers
- Implement targeted outreach campaigns
- Determine planning implications and activities



Alaska High School Senior Survey

Contact Information

If you have additional questions regarding the Alaska High School Senior Survey and its key findings, please contact:

Kate Hillenbrand, MPA
Director of Communications & Outreach
kate.hillenbrand@alaska.gov
(907) 269-3025

