

Figure 1. Chugiak/Eagle River



Figure 2. Anchorage

## Anchorage Community Indicators: An Overview

The Justice Center at the University of Alaska Anchorage has begun a new public education project designed to provide information about various aspects of the city—the Anchorage Community Indicators Project. The first offering in this project—the following map series—presents results taken from a telephone survey conducted by the Center in late spring 2003.

The maps focus on residents' attitudes toward five issues: schools, public transportation, snow removal, police performance and emergency medical services. Each map reflects the average response of residents by community council area.

The survey sampled residents of Anchorage who were 18 years or older. Respondents were contacted using a random-digit-dialing method of selection. Over 1900 Anchorage residents participated. We were able to geocode the residence locations for 70 percent of this total.

We chose to present results according to community council areas rather than by census blocks, because community council areas provide referents more readily grasped by Anchorage residents. We need to note, however, that this was a

framework for presentation which we chose after conducting the survey. The survey itself was not designed to be geographically representative of individual community council areas. As a result, some areas were very under-sampled. We have chosen not to present results from the areas where the number of geocoded responses was fewer than five—Downtown, South Fork, Basher, and Glen Alps. These community council areas are not colored in the map, but the tables contain data associated with each. Also—for the areas of Eklutna, Turnagain Arm and Portage Valley, no responses geocoded—that is, while there were probably survey respondents in these areas, the data associated with residence location were insufficient for mapping.

As mentioned previously, the maps present the average (mean) response to each question from the respondents in that area. For a more nuanced understanding, each map should be viewed in conjunction with its data table. The tables present not just the means but also the medians and standard deviations for responses in the community council areas.

The maps are descriptive rather than analytical. Our survey did not probe for the reasons underlying a particular response. In the discussion attached to each map, we have pointed out anomalies and listed some of the questions that occurred to us regarding each issue.

This first series of maps includes:

- An orienting map that outlines the community council structure as it was in early summer 2003.
- Community Satisfaction with Schools
- Community Satisfaction with Public Transportation
- Community Satisfaction with Snow Removal
- Community Satisfaction with Police Performance
- Community Satisfaction with Emergency Medical Services

The Community Indicators Project will be publishing additional map series based on data from the community telephone survey as well as from other Justice Center data collections.

This map series and the codebook for the underlying survey will be available on the Justice Center website ([www.uaa.alaska.edu/just](http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/just)) later this fall. Prior to the posting, additional technical information about the data and maps can be obtained by phone at (907) 786-4885.

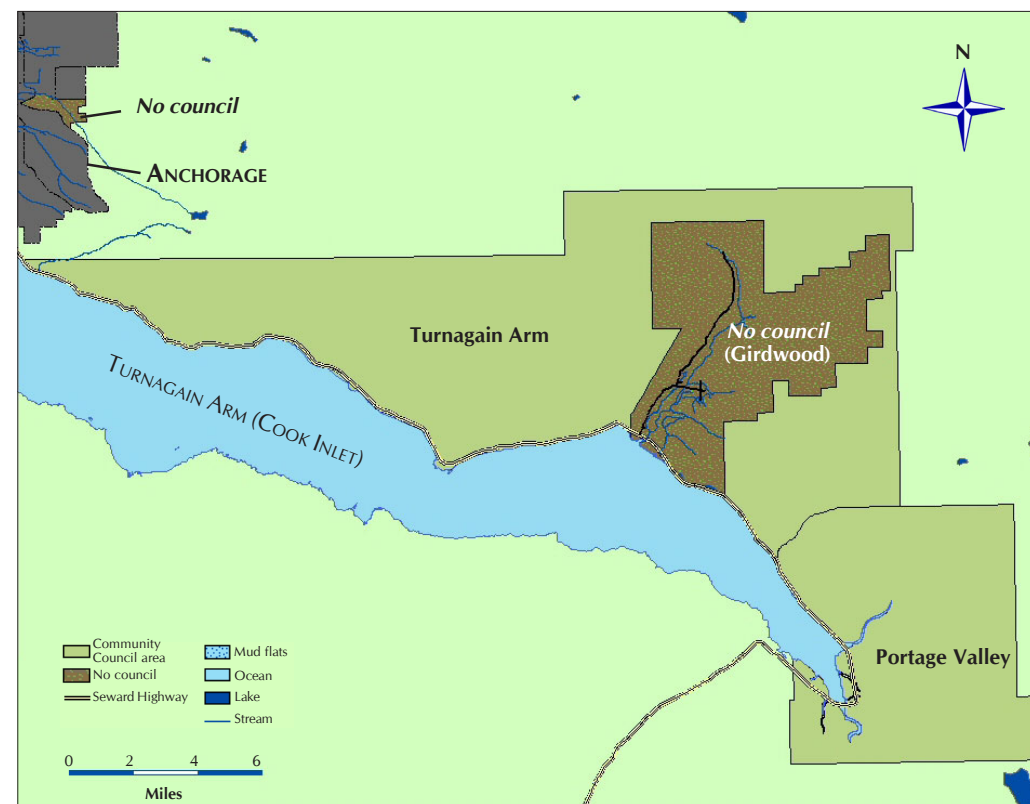


Figure 3. Turnagain Arm/Girdwood/Portage