



THE STATE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Alaska State Commission for Human Rights Publishes ISER Statewide Discrimination Survey Analysis

August 6, 2026 (Anchorage, Alaska) – The Alaska State Commission for Human Rights (“ASCHR” or the “Commission”) recently published its analysis of the data from a first-ever statewide discrimination survey undertaken jointly with the Anchorage Equal Rights Commission.

The report concluded among other things that race appears to play a role in how individuals perceive experiences of discrimination with Black, Native, and Asian respondents reporting being treated poorly and having others assume they work in a lower job class. Similarly, Black and multiracial respondents report being unfairly written up or disciplined at work at a significantly higher rate when compared to White respondents. Women also report higher incidences of discriminatory workplace experiences when compared to men.

The Commission’s Executive Director, Rob Corbisier, said that the intent behind the survey was to make the data available for the benefit of the public. It worked with Alaska Survey Research to conduct the poll and requested the University of Alaska, Anchorage’s Institute of Social and Economic Research to analyze the data.

“Alaskans now have a statewide, independent baseline measuring how discrimination is experienced across our state. Good public policy begins with good data, and this report gives policymakers, employers, and communities with an objective foundation for understanding where progress has been made and where more work remains,” said Dorene Lorenz, ASCHR Chairperson.

Jennifer Booz, the Executive Director for the Anchorage Equal Rights Commission, added that “This report offers meaningful insight into how Alaskans experience discrimination, and it underscores the importance of continuing our commitment to fairness, opportunity, and respect for communities across the state.”

The report has regional breakouts with a specific analysis focusing on Anchorage, where 59% of respondents reporting that the word “diversity” has a primarily positive connotation, slightly higher than the population as a whole at 50.9%. The entire analysis and report can be found at <https://humanrights.alaska.gov/publications/iser-survey-report/>.

The Commission is an independent quasi-judicial state agency that aims to eliminate discrimination and support Alaskans when they face discrimination in the workplace, places of public accommodation, housing, credit and financing, and government practices. The Commission consists of seven volunteers who are appointed by the governor and confirmed by the legislature for rotating five-year terms. The Commission consists of Chairperson Dorene Lorenz (Juneau), Vice Chairperson Jessie Ruffridge (Soldotna), William Craig (Sitka), Rebecca Carrillo (Juneau), and Grace Salazar (Anchorage); two seats are currently vacant.

Commission staff is available for assistance directly to the business community, either through speaking engagements to organizations, reviewing non-discrimination policies and procedures, and providing copies of

its guidance documents, which are also available on its website:

<https://humanrights.alaska.gov/publications/other-aschr-publications/>

For more information about the agency, please visit <https://humanrights.alaska.gov>. To talk about discrimination experiences directly to an investigator, call (800)-478-4692 or (907)-274-4692.

