

# Play - 20th

**Anchorage ranks 20th**, which is a decrease of 8 places from last year. This decrease is primarily due to drops in the arts and cultural sector, with arts-related jobs and performing arts establishments both decreasing, as well as decreases in the numbers of full-service restaurants and arts institutions per capita.

	2017	1 yr change	Source
Full-service restaurants per 100,000 residents	26	-4	U.S. Census Bureau
Arts-related businesses per 1,000 city residents	16	-3	ArtsIndex
Library visits per capita*	41	-16	Institute of Museum & Library Services
Acres of parkland per 1,000 residents	1	--	The Trust for Public Land
Number of playgrounds per 10,000 residents	10	-1	The Trust for Public Land
% of respondents who are not obese	21	+21	U.S. Census Bureau
Museums, historical sites & similar per 100,000 residents	10	-3	ArtsIndex
Arts-related jobs per 1,000 city residents	47	-17	ArtsIndex
Performing arts establishments per 100,000 residents	19	-8	ArtsIndex



## Trails & Transit Area of Focus

The Trails Initiative of Live. Work. Play. raised **\$200,000** in sponsorships towards the new Trails Wayfinding project, which includes building and installing maps and signs along the Anchorage trail system (see an example to the right,) to help residents and visitors get around safely. Mile markers were installed along the Chester Creek trail in summer 2017, and the remainder of the signs will be installed on the Chester Creek and Coastal Trails in 2018. The LWP Trails Initiative also partnered with the Community Safety Area of Focus to host two trails safety events, promoting membership in Trail Watch and teaching trail users strategies to safely intervene in potentially dangerous situations.



# 2017 Report Card

# Live.

# Work.

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# Live - 29th

Anchorage ranks 29th overall, a decrease of 2 places from last year. In 2016-2017, we saw affordability of homes continue to decrease as the cost of living in Anchorage ticked upward, and the percentage of residents with health care coverage also dropped. Property crime decreased slightly.

	2017	1 yr change	Source
2 BR, 1 bath, 900 sq. ft. apartment rental cost*	31	-7	Council for Community & Economic Research
Diversity index	23	+7	U.S. Census Bureau
Cost of living composite index*	39	-2	Council for Community & Economic Research
Share of homes affordable for median income households*	13	-5	National Association of Homebuilders
% of population reporting health as "good" or better*	10	+1	Center for Disease Control & Prevention
% of respondents with any type of health care coverage	33	-12	U.S. Census Bureau
Property crimes per 1,000 residents, 3-year avg. annual change (2014-2016)	48	+5	Federal Bureau of Investigations
Violent crimes per 1,000 residents, 3-year avg. annual change (2014-2016)	43	+6	Federal Bureau of Investigations

In 2017, the Live. Work. Play. Housing Area of Focus successfully advocated for the initiation of a feasibility study for a Storm Water Utility (SWU). A SWU is a unified entity formed to manage storm drainage for the entire city, connecting the existing patchwork system of drainage, which creates significant flooding and environmental issues in streams and lakes and presents major infrastructure obstacles for housing developers. The Housing Area of Focus also helped gain the Anchorage Planning and Zoning Commission approval for an ordinance that would make it easier for homeowners to build Accessory Dwelling Units, also known as "mother-in-law apartments." These units would allow for increased housing options for young people and seniors looking for smaller scale housing in residential areas.



ADU Example

# Work - 17th

Anchorage's overall ranking in the Work category has remained steady at 17th. Educational attainment of the Anchorage population has increased, with more people earning both high school and bachelor's degrees. However, median income has decreased along with an increase in unemployment during the recession.

	2017	1 yr change	Source
Mean travel time to work	7	+7	U.S. Census Bureau
% of population 25 & older who are high school graduates or higher	3	+2	U.S. Census Bureau
Median household income	2	-1	U.S. Census Bureau
Taxes as a % of income for a family of 3 with \$50,000 earnings annually	1	+1	DC office of CFO
% of Population 25 and older with a bachelor's degree or higher	22	+6	U.S. Census Bureau
% of population above poverty level	2	-1	U.S. Census Bureau
Per capita personal income	6	-2	U.S. Census Bureau
Average monthly earnings	14	-1	U.S. Census Bureau
Unemployment rate	46	-16	U.S. Department of Labor Statistics
% of commuters that use public transportation to get to work	36	+6	U.S. Census Bureau
Net job flows	41	-7	U.S. Census Bureau
Gender pay equity	29	+12	U.S. Census Bureau

This Workforce Development Area of Focus hosted three **Job Skills Boot Camp** programs, half-day sessions led by local business leaders and intended to provide soft skills and professionalism training to job seekers in low-income/high-unemployment areas. In January 2017, the Workforce Development Area of Focus completed Anchorage's first-ever **Internship Playbook**, a manual for employers who want to create or improve internship programs and connect with each other to provide training opportunities for students and early career employees.

One of three

Job Skills

Boot Camps

