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## **Alaska Bar Association Members: Analysis of Political Affiliations**

**February 7, 2020**

### **Overview**

Data Orbital was retained by the Alaska Family Council, a non-profit public policy group, to analyze the partisan affiliations of active members of the Alaska Bar Association (ABA).

The Alaska Family Council obtained from the ABA a mailing list of active members in Alaska, as of January 23, 2020. The file contained 2,038 names.<sup>1</sup> Data Orbital compared this data with a current file of registered voters in Alaska to determine the partisan affiliations of ABA members.

It was possible to identify political affiliations for 1,918 members, or 94 percent of the file.<sup>2</sup> Data Orbital employed a manual process of comparing the ABA mailing list with state voter records. The data points most commonly used for this research were last name, first name, and city.

### **Partisan affiliations of ABA members**

Partisan affiliation for the 1,918 identified ABA members breaks down as follows:

Alaska Democratic Party	527	27.48%
Alaska Republican Party	304	15.85%
Alaskan Independence Party	10	0.52%
Alaska Libertarian Party	6	0.31%

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<sup>1</sup> The Alaska Bar Association website notes that the group has over 4,000 members. However, this includes active members who live outside Alaska (814), inactive members who live in Alaska (180), inactive members living outside Alaska (635) and retired members (607). The number of active members in Alaska reported on the ABA website is 2,292, which varies slightly from the 2,038 names contained in the data file that ABA provided. <https://alaskabar.org/for-lawyers/member-statistics/> (Accessed Feb. 7, 2020).

<sup>2</sup> Several factors can explain the inability to correlate certain names on the ABA file with the registered voter list. Many ABA members have listed their office mailing address for purposes of receiving ABA mailings, while a residential address is typically used for voter registration. Especially in the case of individuals with common names, the lack of a known residential address can make it difficult or impossible to accurately identify a given ABA member's voter registration profile. In other cases, an individual's name as shown on the ABA member list may be substantially different from what appears on the voter file. It is also possible that some ABA members are new to Alaska and have not yet registered to vote in the state.



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Green Party of Alaska	5	0.26%
Undeclared	603	31.44%
Nonpartisan	463	24.14%

For comparison purposes, below are the partisan affiliation statistics for Alaska voters as a whole<sup>3</sup>:

Alaska Democratic Party	74,652	12.83%
Alaska Republican Party	141,171	24.25%
Alaskan Independence Party	17,213	2.96%
Alaska Libertarian Party	7,259	1.25%
Green Party of Alaska	1,631	0.28%
Undeclared	253,808	43.61%
Nonpartisan	84,093	14.45%
Other Political Groups	2,202	0.38%

## **Background on Data Orbital**

Based in Phoenix, Data Orbital is a top rated survey research and data visualization firm that has conducted surveys across the country. As a member of the American Association of Public Opinion Research Transparency Initiative and an A/B rated firm by FiveThirtyEight.com, Data Orbital prides itself in providing clients with top tier, objective research and analysis.

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<sup>3</sup> Summary data obtained from the Alaska Division of Elections, based on the Feb. 3, 2020 voter file.  
<http://www.elections.alaska.gov/doc/info/statsPPA.php#2020A> (Accessed Feb. 7, 2020)