

Top 25 Lists: Monitoring the Status of Alaska Fishing Communities, 1980 - 2010

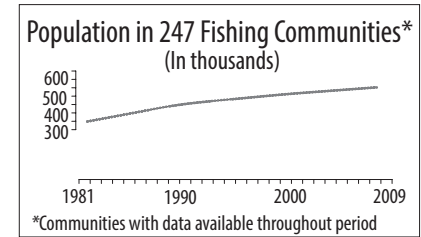
Commercial fishing provides social and economic benefits for hundreds of communities across Alaska, with dozens of species being harvested commercially. The state's fisheries are complex, with the species mix, vessels and gear, environmental conditions, and socioeconomic circumstances varying widely from one part of the state to another. And while the majority of Alaska's fisheries continue to be successfully managed for sustainable harvests, fishing communities face a number of challenges, including changing market conditions, volatile catches and stock dynamics, changes in fishery regulations, redistribution of access rights, and climate change.

In recent work funded by the North Pacific Research Board (NPRB), researchers at ISER, Alaska Pacific University, and California Polytechnic State University used data from the state Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission, the Alaska Division of Community and Regional Affairs, and the U.S. Bureau of the Census to develop a set of metrics to reflect the status of fishing communities—including information about the performance of commercial fisheries, the intensity of fishing as an occupation, fishermen experience, and vessel characteristics, among others factors. They used those measures to compare conditions in specific fishing communities and to assess statewide trends in community status across a 30-year period (1980 to 2010). They believe these measures can be used and updated over time to help regulatory agencies and Alaska communities better understand and deal with the challenges ahead.

The first paper from this work—by Suresh Andrew Sethi of Alaska Pacific University, William Riggs of California Polytechnic State University, and Gunnar Knapp of ISER—is being published in *Ocean and Coastal Management* in February 2014; see <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0964569113002883>. A second paper is forthcoming.

As one part of that research, on the following pages we present lists of the Top 25 Alaska fishing communities, under six measures, by decade for the past three decades. The complete dataset and a summary report of the project will be available from the NPRB in early 2014.

25 Alaska Fishing Communities with the Largest Populations, 1980 - 2010*

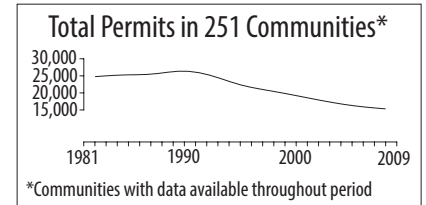


Annual Average, 1980 -1990		Annual Average, 1991 - 2000		Annual Average, 2001 - 2010	
1. Anchorage	200,385	1. Anchorage	245,008	1. Anchorage	277,632
2. Fairbanks	26,744	2. Fairbanks	30,503	2. Juneau	31,021
3. Juneau	23,140	3. Juneau	28,929	3. Fairbanks	30,945
4. Sitka	8,196	4. College	11,333	4. College	12,261
5. Ketchikan	7,731	5. Sitka	8,724	5. Sitka	8,860
6. College	7,646	6. Ketchikan	8,075	6. Ketchikan	7,992
7. Kodiak	5,561	7. Kenai	6,665	7. Kenai	7,029
8. Kenai	5,326	8. Kodiak	6,348	8. Wasilla	6,768
9. Bethel	4,125	9. Bethel	5,112	9. Kodiak	6,222
10. Adak	3,974	10. Wasilla	4,821	10. Bethel	5,806
11. Valdez	3,574	11. Sterling	4,299	11. Palmer	5,305
12. Nome	3,022	12. Barrow	4,081	12. Sterling	5,207
13. Petersburg	3,014	13. Valdez	4,050	13. Homer	4,527
14. Homer	2,935	14. Homer	3,817	14. Nikiski	4,418
15. Soldotna	2,901	15. Palmer	3,783	15. Barrow	4,378
16. Barrow	2,868	16. Dutch Harbor	3,746	16. Dutch Harbor	4,334
17. Wasilla	2,794	17. Soldotna	3,634	17. Valdez	4,003
18. Palmer	2,504	18. Nikiski	3,614	18. Soldotna	3,981
19. Wrangell	2,490	19. Nome	3,503	19. Nome	3,556
20. Kotzebue	2,403	20. Petersburg	3,216	20. Kotzebue	3,147
21. Sterling	2,361	21. Kotzebue	2,933	21. Petersburg	3,072
22. Seward	2,271	22. Seward	2,771	22. Big Lake	3,028
23. Dutch Harbor	2,206	23. Wrangell	2,465	23. Seward	2,755
24. Cordova	1,995	24. Cordova	2,299	24. Wrangell	2,407
25. Nikiski	1,926	25. Dillingham	2,264	25. Dillingham	2,391

*Fishing communities are defined as those where owners of commercial fishing permits declare their residence and that derive economic or social benefits from fishing.

Source: "Metrics to monitor the status of fishing communities: an Alaska state of the state retrospective, 1980-2010," by Suresh Andrew Sethi, William Riggs, and Gunnar Knapp, in *Ocean and Coastal Management*, Volume 88, February 2014

25 Alaska Communities with the Most Commercial Fishing Permits, 1980 - 2010*



Annual Average, 1980 -1990		Annual Average, 1991 - 2000		Annual Average, 2001 - 2010	
1. Anchorage	2,295	1. Kodiak	1,653	1. Kodiak	1,326
2. Kodiak	2,126	2. Sitka	1,484	2. Sitka	1,166
3. Homer	1,192	3. Petersburg	1,348	3. Petersburg	1,144
4. Petersburg	1,178	4. Homer	1,312	4. Homer	978
5. Sitka	1,130	5. Anchorage	1,281	5. Anchorage	904
6. Juneau	1,071	6. Ketchikan	849	6. Juneau	657
7. Ketchikan	1,028	7. Juneau	822	7. Ketchikan	578
8. Cordova	1,017	8. Cordova	813	8. Cordova	575
9. Kenai	704	9. Wrangell	618	9. Wrangell	449
10. Dillingham	608	10. Dillingham	473	10. Togiak	338
11. Soldotna	551	11. Craig	451	11. Craig	324
12. Wrangell	535	12. Togiak	436	12. Dillingham	323
13. Togiak	417	13. Kenai	402	13. Kenai	283
14. Sand Point	367	14. Sand Point	375	14. Sand Point	273
15. Seward	334	15. Haines	291	15. Yakutat	250
16. Yakutat	289	16. Yakutat	285	16. Bethel	217
17. Bethel	287	17. Soldotna	266	17. Haines	189
18. Anchor Point	267	18. Kasilof	245	18. Kasilof	185
19. Hoonah	264	19. Hoonah	242	19. Wasilla	184
20. Haines	262	20. Bethel	241	20. Soldotna	182
21. Craig	251	21. Anchor Point	230	21. Hoonah	159
22. Naknek	244	22. Seward	224	22. Unalakleet	132
23. Manokotak	234	23. Wasilla	195	23. Fairbanks	129
24. Unalakleet	232	24. King Cove	192	24. Naknek	126
25. Valdez	225	25. Unalakleet	181	25. Manokotak	125

*Communities with the most commercial fishing permits are based on where the permit holders declare residence; one person may own permits in multiple fisheries.

Source: "Metrics to monitor the status of fishing communities: an Alaska state of the state retrospective, 1980-2010," by Suresh Andrew Sethi, William Riggs, and Gunnar Knapp, in *Ocean and Coastal Management*, Volume 88, February 2014

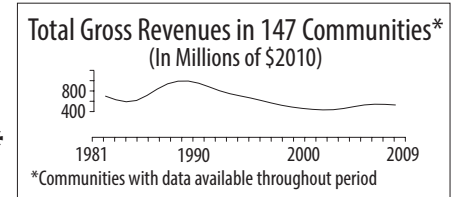
25 Alaska Communities with the Largest Number of Active Commercial Fisheries, 1980 - 2010*

Annual Average, 1980 - 1990		Annual Average, 1991 - 2000		Annual Average, 2001 - 2010	
1. Anchorage	60.9	1. Anchorage	59.9	1. Anchorage	48.1
2. Kodiak	55.6	2. Homer	56.7	2. Homer	45.8
3. Homer	48.5	3. Kodiak	50.2	3. Kodiak	45.3
4. Petersburg	40.1	4. Sitka	47.3	4. Sitka	44
5. Juneau	39.3	5. Petersburg	47.2	5. Petersburg	38.7
6. Cordova	36.8	6. Juneau	45.4	6. Juneau	37
7. Ketchikan	35.9	7. Ketchikan	36.6	7. Ketchikan	29.5
8. Sitka	34.1	8. Cordova	33.1	8. Cordova	25.6
9. Seward	31.2	9. Wrangell	32.8	9. Wasilla	25.6
10. Kenai	30.1	10. Seward	30.9	10. Wrangell	23.3
11. Soldotna	28.1	11. Wasilla	29.3	11. Seward	22.5
12. Wrangell	27.5	12. Kenai	28	12. Dutch Harbor	20.2
13. Seldovia	25.5	13. Anchor Point	27.4	13. Craig	19.5
14. Dutch Harbor	24.4	14. Dutch Harbor	25.5	14. Kenai	18.5
15. Fairbanks	23.1	15. Craig	25.4	15. Sand Point	17.9
16. Anchor Point	22.2	16. Sand Point	23	16. Douglas	16.9
17. Wasilla	21.2	17. Seldovia	22.4	17. Palmer	16.3
18. Eagle River	21	18. Palmer	22	18. Haines	14.8
19. Kasilof	20.5	19. Kasilof	21.8	19. Kasilof	14.4
20. Douglas	20.1	20. Haines	20.2	20. Anchor Point	14
21. Palmer	19.7	21. Soldotna	20.2	21. Seldovia	14
22. Haines	19.3	22. Fairbanks	19.9	22. Soldotna	13.9
23. Sand Point	18.5	23. Douglas	19	23. Fairbanks	13.8
24. Pelican	18	24. Auke Bay	18.2	24. Hoonah	13.7
25. Craig	17.5	25. Eagle River	18	25. King Cove	13.6

*Active commercial fisheries by community is the total number of fisheries in which resident permit holders make landings. Keep in mind that the figures are based on where the permit holders declare residence (which may or may not be in proximity to the areas where they fish).

Source: "Metrics to monitor the status of fishing communities: an Alaska state of the state retrospective, 1980-2010," by Suresh Andrew Sethi, William Riggs, and Gunnar Knapp, in *Ocean and Coastal Management*, Volume 88, February 2014

25 Alaska Communities with the Highest Gross Revenues from Fishing, 1980 - 2010*

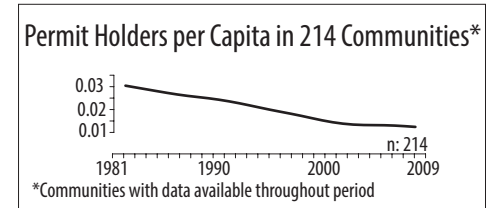


Annual Average, 1980 -1990 (In Millions of \$2010)		Annual Average, 1991- 2000 (In Millions of \$2010)		Annual Average, 2001 - 2010 (In Millions of \$2010)	
1. Kodiak	\$163.2	1. Kodiak	\$141.8	1. Kodiak	\$110.4
2. Anchorage	\$53.5	2. Homer	\$53.3	2. Homer	\$52.9
3. Cordova	\$52.7	3. Petersburg	\$50.2	3. Petersburg	\$47.8
4. Homer	\$50.7	4. Anchorage	\$44.7	4. Sitka	\$36.2
5. Petersburg	\$47.5	5. Sitka	\$34.8	5. Cordova	\$28.9
6. Sand Point	\$32.8	6. Cordova	\$30.2	6. Anchorage	\$28.2
7. Ketchikan	\$26.6	7. Sand Point	\$22.3	7. Ketchikan	\$15.9
8. Sitka	\$25.3	8. Ketchikan	\$21.2	8. Sand Point	\$15.8
9. Dillingham	\$23.2	9. Dutch Harbor	\$16.3	9. Juneau	\$15.6
10. Dutch Harbor	\$22.7	10. Juneau	\$16.2	10. Wrangell	\$9.9
11. Kenai	\$20.4	11. Dillingham	\$15.9	11. King Cove	\$8.0
12. Juneau	\$19.7	12. King Cove	\$12.3	12. Seward	\$7.9
13. King Cove	\$18.4	13. Kenai	\$11.5	13. Wasilla	\$7.7
14. Soldotna	\$14.5	14. Wrangell	\$9.9	14. Dutch Harbor	\$7.4
15. Seward	\$12.8	15. Seward	\$8.6	15. Kenai	\$6.7
16. Naknek	\$9.9	16. Wasilla	\$7.1	16. Craig	\$5.9
17. Seldovia	\$8.9	17. Kasilof	\$6.9	17. Dillingham	\$5.8
18. Wrangell	\$8.8	18. Soldotna	\$6.8	18. Haines	\$5.0
19. Kasilof	\$8.6	19. Haines	\$6.2	19. Soldotna	\$4.6
20. Chignik Lagoon	\$7.9	20. Seldovia	\$5.8	20. Chignik Lagoon	\$4.3
21. Haines	\$7.3	21. Togiak	\$5.6	21. Kasilof	\$3.9
22. Togiak	\$7.1	22. Craig	\$5.5	22. Douglas	\$3.5
23. Anchor Point	\$6.2	23. Naknek	\$5.3	23. Seldovia	\$3.1
24. Yakutat	\$5.5	24. Anchor Point	\$5.2	24. Hoonah	\$2.8
25. Pelican	\$5.4	25. Chignik Lagoon	\$5.1	25. Yakutat	\$2.7

*Communities with the highest gross revenues from fishing are based on where the permit holders declare residence. These revenues include only the value of catches landed at Alaska ports; they do not include the value of catches from the federally managed groundfish fisheries that are not landed at Alaska ports.

Source: "Metrics to monitor the status of fishing communities: an Alaska state of the state retrospective, 1980-2010," by Suresh Andrew Sethi, William Riggs, and Gunnar Knapp, in *Ocean and Coastal Management*, Volume 88, February 2014

25 Alaska Communities with the Largest Number of Active Permit Holders Per Capita*



Annual Average, 1980 -1990		Annual Average, 1991 - 2000		Annual Average, 2001 - 2010	
1. Point Baker	0.77	1. Point Baker	0.75	1. Elfin Cove	0.79
2. Clam Gulch	0.67	2. Elfin Cove	0.6	2. Meyers Chuck	0.74
3. Elfin Cove	0.59	3. Egegik	0.4	3. Point Baker	0.67
4. Egegik	0.5	4. Port Alexander	0.34	4. Ugashik	0.38
5. Pilot Point	0.46	5. Nelson Lagoon	0.32	5. Nelson Lagoon	0.36
6. Port Alexander	0.4	6. South Naknek	0.31	6. South Naknek	0.32
7. Meyers Chuck	0.39	7. Clam Gulch	0.3	7. Port Alexander	0.31
8. Nelson Lagoon	0.38	8. Kasilof	0.3	8. Chignik Lagoon	0.24
9. Chignik Lagoon	0.37	9. Pilot Point	0.3	9. Pelican	0.24
10. South Naknek	0.37	10. Togiak	0.26	10. Kasilof	0.21
11. Edna Bay	0.37	11. Chignik Lagoon	0.26	11. Yakutat	0.18
12. Pelican	0.34	12. Pelican	0.24	12. Edna Bay	0.17
13. Iliamna	0.34	13. Edna Bay	0.24	13. Mekoryuk	0.16
14. Naknek	0.32	14. Iliamna	0.23	14. Naknek	0.16
15. Togiak	0.32	15. Meyers Chuck	0.23	15. Egegik	0.15
16. Portage Creek	0.31	16. Manokotak	0.22	16. Togiak	0.15
17. Yakutat	0.3	17. Yakutat	0.21	17. Chicken	0.14
18. Kasilof	0.29	18. Naknek	0.19	18. False Pass	0.14
19. Goodnews Bay	0.29	19. Platinum	0.18	19. Clam Gulch	0.14
20. Manokotak	0.28	20. Mekoryuk	0.17	20. Cordova	0.13
21. Ugashik	0.28	21. Goodnews Bay	0.17	21. Manokotak	0.12
22. Aleknagik	0.26	22. Eek	0.17	22. Petersburg	0.12
23. Port Heiden	0.24	23. Excursion Inlet	0.16	23. Iliamna	0.12
24. Platinum	0.22	24. Port Heiden	0.16	24. Seldovia	0.12
25. Nunam Iqua	0.22	25. Seldovia	0.16	25. Pilot Point	0.12

*The number of active permit holders, divided by the population of the community where they declare residence. Many of the top communities have very small populations, and most residents fish.

Source: "Metrics to monitor the status of fishing communities: an Alaska state of the state retrospective, 1980-2010," by Suresh Andrew Sethi, William Riggs, and Gunnar Knapp, in *Ocean and Coastal Management*, Volume 88, February 2014

25 Alaska Communities with Longest Average Vessel Length, 1980 - 2010*

(Among Communities with at Least 10 Registered Vessels)

Annual Average, 1980 -1990 (Length In Feet)		Annual Average, 1991 - 2000 (Length in Feet)		Annual Average, 2001 - 2010 (Length in Feet)	
1. Dutch Harbor	39.8	1. Pelican	35.9	1. Nikolaevsk	38.3
2. Pelican	35.2	2. Douglas	33.8	2. Port Alexander	37.8
3. Halibut Cove	33.9	3. Seward	33.8	3. Dutch Harbor	36.5
4. Chignik	32.3	4. Port Alexander	33.7	4. Auke Bay	35.9
5. Seward	32.2	5. Kodiak	33.7	5. Douglas	35.8
6. Kodiak	31.7	6. Seldovia	33.5	6. Anchor Point	34.9
7. Homer	31.4	7. Dutch Harbor	33.4	7. Seward	34.8
8. Edna Bay	31.3	8. Anchor Point	33.3	8. Wrangell	34.7
9. Chignik Lagoon	31.2	9. Fritz Creek	33.2	9. Haines	34.6
10. Douglas	30.8	10. Wrangell	32.5	10. Kodiak	34.3
11. Auke Bay	30.6	11. Ketchikan	32.3	11. Delta Junction	34.3
12. Whittier	30.5	12. Metlakatla	32.2	12. Juneau	33.7
13. Ketchikan	30.4	13. Homer	32.2	13. Homer	33.7
14. Haines	30.4	14. Haines	32.1	14. Sitka	33.5
15. Seldovia	30.3	15. Sitka	32	15. Ketchikan	33.4
16. Sitka	30.2	16. Edna Bay	31.9	16. Willow	33.1
17. Petersburg	30.2	17. Sterling	31.7	17. Metlakatla	32.9
18. Metlakatla	29.9	18. Kenai	31.5	18. Gustavus	32.7
19. Port Alexander	29.9	19. Petersburg	31.1	19. Pelican	32.6
20. Wrangell	29.7	20. Ward Cove	31	20. Sterling	32.5
21. Anchor Point	29.6	21. Juneau	30.9	21. Kenai	32.5
22. Levelock	29.3	22. Point Baker	30.9	22. Petersburg	31.9
23. Valdez	29.2	23. Auke Bay	30.8	23. Chignik Lagoon	31.8
24. New Stuyahok	29	24. Valdez	30.7	24. King Salmon	31.6
25. Juneau	28.9	25. Chignik Lagoon	30.4	25. Ward Cove	31.5

*Communities where the permit holders who own the vessels declare residence.

Source: "Metrics to monitor the status of fishing communities: an Alaska state of the state retrospective, 1980-2010," by Suresh Andrew Sethi, William Riggs, and Gunnar Knapp, in *Ocean and Coastal Management*, Volume 88, February 2014