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PERSONAL INCOME PATTERNS IN ALASKA

This study compares personal income in Alaska to income levels in the United States as a whole, and analyzes income distribution patterns within the state. Special attention is given to distribution of income by racial-cultural group, and to differences between urban and rural income levels. In addition, some inferences are drawn concerning distribution of income between permanent state residents and transient members of the workforce.

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL ALASKA PER CAPITA INCOME

Table 1 contains total personal income and population figures for the United States as a whole and for Alaska, and the resulting per capita income figures. Proprietor income and income from all other sources is included. Ratios of Alaska per capita income to that of the United States are also shown.

Since 1950, both Alaskan and U.S. per capita incomes have risen. However, the ratio of Alaska's per capita income to that of the U.S. declined substantially during the

18 years shown in Table 1. Throughout the period, sharp movements occurred in the Alaska-to-U.S. per capita income ratio as a result of identifiable economic developments.

Very high Alaska per capita incomes during 1950-1952 coincided with large amounts of defense construction in Alaska resulting from the Korean conflict. Table 1 shows that the construction boom of that period was accompanied by a population increase of 40 per cent — from 135,000 to 189,000 — between July 1, 1950 and 1952. This rapid increase was largely due to increased civilian employment opportunities in Alaska. Between 1950 and 1951, annual average employment in construction increased from 6,300 to 11,500 and total civilian employment rose from 52,500 to 61,700 — a year-to-year gain of 18 per cent in the job total. As a result, the ratio of Alaska's per capita income to that of the U.S. jumped from 1.59 in 1950 to 1.72 in 1951.

Since the Korean War, the largest improvement in the Alaska-to-U.S. per capita income ratio was from 1.16 in 1959 to 1.28 in 1960. Although increased construction payrolls contributed \$9 million to that upward movement,

TABLE 1
Comparison of Alaska and U.S. Per Capita Incomes, 1950-1967

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
(1) U.S. Total Personal Income ¹ (millions of dollars)	227,228	254,474	271,126	286,865	289,016	309,742	332,070	350,113	360,180	382,840	398,725	414,411	440,192	463,053	494,913	535,949	583,461	625,068
(2) Alaska Total Personal Income ¹ (millions of dollars)	322	448	494	511	495	505	548	537	528	562	649	635	666	704	791	858	915	1,017
(3) U.S. Total Resident Population ² (in thousands)	151,868	153,982	156,393	158,956	161,884	165,069	168,088	171,187	174,149	177,135	179,992	183,057	185,890	188,658	191,372	193,815	195,936	197,863
(4) Alaska Total Resident Population ² (in thousands)	135	158	189	205	215	222	224	231	224	224	228.2	235.5	242.8	250.0	255.8	264.6	272.0	278.0
(5) U.S. Per Capita Income ¹ (dollars per person per year)	1,496	1,653	1,734	1,805	1,785	1,876	1,976	2,045	2,068	2,161	2,215	2,264	2,368	2,454	2,586	2,765	2,978	3,159
(6) Alaska Per Capita Income ³ (dollars per person per year)	2,385	2,835	2,614	2,493	2,302	2,275	2,446	2,325	2,357	2,509	2,846	2,696	2,743	2,816	3,092	3,243	3,364	3,658
(7) Ratio: Alaska to U.S. Per Capita Income (Line 6 ÷ Line 5)	1.59	1.72	1.51	1.38	1.29	1.21	1.24	1.14	1.14	1.16	1.28	1.19	1.16	1.15	1.20	1.17	1.13	1.16
(8) Ratio: Alaska to U.S. Per Capita Income, Using Per Capita Income Data Provided in the U.S. Office of Business Economics Series. (Differences from Line 7 are asterisked.)	1.59	1.72	1.51	1.38	1.29	1.21	1.24	1.14	1.14	1.16	1.28	1.19	1.16	1.14*	1.19*	1.16*	1.16*	1.18*

¹SOURCE: Alaska and U.S. personal income data are from the series produced by the Office of Business Economics, U.S. Department of Commerce.

²SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census; *Current Population Reports*, Series P-25, Nos. 368, 369, and 384.

³SOURCE: Figures for 1950 and 1960 are from the U.S. Bureau of the Census surveys in those years. Intercensus population totals for 1951-1959 are from the National Office of Vital Statistics' publication, *Vital Statistics of the United States*. All estimates after the 1960 census are by the Office of Statistical Services, Alaska Department of Health and Welfare.

⁴SOURCE: Computed directly from Lines 1 and 3. These figures do not in any year vary more than one dollar from the per capita income figures published by the Office of Business Economics, U.S. Department of Commerce.

⁵SOURCE: For all years except 1960, computations were made directly from data in Lines 2 and 4. In 1960 the unrounded population total was used. The resulting per capita income figures for 1950-1960 are identical in all cases with the Alaska per capita income figures prepared by the U.S. Office of Business Economics. However, beginning in 1961 the per capita income figures in the two series are not the same because the Office of Business Economics relied on Census Bureau estimates of Alaska's population, while the per capita income figures in Line 6 above are based on population estimates produced by the Office of Statistical Services, Alaska Department of Health and Welfare.

another important factor was the increase of \$14 million in the wholesale value of sea food production. Also, pulp and lumber wages increased by \$6 million from 1959 to 1960.

The construction industry once again played the key role in 1964, when, due to re-construction following the Good Friday Earthquake in the Anchorage area, construction payrolls increased by \$27 million over the preceding year. As a result, the Alaska-to-U.S. per capita income ratio moved from 1.15 in 1963 to 1.20 in 1964.

In evaluating Alaska per capita income changes, a

recurring question has been to what extent do permanent Alaskan residents, including Natives (Eskimos, Indians, and Aleuts), achieve higher living standards as a result of economic development occurring within the state?

It is known that during construction booms many jobs have been filled by in-migrants. What is less known is the extent to which more permanent types of economic expansion benefit Alaskan residents.

For example, Table 2 shows that local, state, and federal government employment has increased by 9,100 jobs since 1960. But how many of these new jobs went to non-

TABLE 2
Alaska Workforce Summary
1960-67

	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	Year-to-Year Change: 1966-67
TOTAL CIVILIAN WORKFORCE	74,000	75,500	76,900	80,600	83,800	89,800	92,800	96,400	+3,600
TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT	5,900	7,500	7,200	7,500	7,100	7,700	8,400	8,400	0
Per Cent of Workforce	8.0	9.9	9.4	9.3	8.4	8.6	9.0	8.7	—
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT	68,100	68,000	69,700	73,100	76,700	82,100	84,400	88,000	+3,600
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Empl.	56,900	57,100	58,900	62,100	65,400	70,500	73,200	76,800	+3,600
Mining	1,100	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,100	1,400	2,000	+ 600
Metal Mining	500	400	300	200	200	200	200	200	0
Coal Mining	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	0
Oil & Gas	400	600	700	800	800	700	1,000	1,600	+ 600
Other Mining	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Contract Construction	5,900	4,100	4,000	4,200	5,800	6,400	5,900	6,000	+ 100
Manufacturing	5,800	5,300	5,500	5,700	5,600	6,300	6,600	6,600	0
Food Processing	2,800	2,800	2,800	2,900	2,600	3,000	3,400	3,100	— 300
Logging, Lumbering & Pulp	2,200	1,700	1,900	2,000	2,100	2,300	2,300	2,600	+ 300
Other Manufacturing	800	800	800	800	900	1,000	900	900	0
Transp., Comm., & Pub. Utilities	6,800	7,200	7,100	6,900	6,900	7,200	7,300	7,500	+ 200
Trucking & Warehousing	900	900	900	900	1,000	1,200	900	1,200	+ 300
Water Transportation	1,500	1,300	1,300	1,200	1,200	1,000	1,200	1,000	— 200
Air Transportation	2,000	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,900	2,000	2,200	+ 200
Other Transportation	600	600	600	500	500	500	600	700	+ 100
Comm. & Pub. Utilities	1,800	2,600	2,500	2,500	2,400	2,600	2,600	2,400	— 200
Trade	7,700	8,100	8,200	8,600	8,800	10,000	10,800	11,800	+1,000
Wholesale	1,400	1,600	1,600	1,600	1,700	1,900	2,100	2,400	+ 300
Retail	6,300	6,500	6,600	7,000	7,100	8,100	8,700	9,400	+ 700
Gen. Mdse. & Apparel	1,700	1,800	1,700	1,800	1,800	2,100	2,300	2,800	+ 500
Food Stores	900	900	900	1,000	1,100	1,200	1,300	1,200	— 100
Eating & Drinking Places	1,700	1,600	1,600	1,700	1,800	1,900	2,100	2,200	+ 100
Other Retail	2,000	2,200	2,400	2,500	2,400	2,900	3,000	3,100	+ 100
Fin., Ins., & Real Estate	1,400	1,500	1,700	1,900	2,000	2,200	2,300	2,300	0
Services	5,400	5,700	6,000	6,400	6,900	7,500	7,800	8,700	+ 900
Hotels, Motels, Lodges, etc.	600	600	700	700	900	1,000	1,100	1,200	+ 100
Personal Services	600	600	600	600	600	700	700	800	+ 100
Business Services	500	700	900	1,000	1,200	1,400	1,400	1,600	+ 200
Medical Services	1,000	1,100	1,100	1,300	1,400	1,400	1,500	1,600	+ 100
Other Services	2,700	2,700	2,700	2,800	2,800	3,000	3,100	3,500	+ 400
Government	22,700	23,800	25,000	27,100	28,100	29,700	30,900	31,800	+ 900
Federal	15,600	15,600	15,700	16,600	17,200	17,400	17,500	17,400	— 100
State	3,900	4,600	5,200	6,200	6,300	7,000	7,700	8,100	+ 400
Local	3,200	3,600	4,100	4,300	4,600	5,300	5,700	6,300	+ 600
Miscellaneous & Unclassified	100	200	200	100	100	100	200	200	0

SOURCE: Alaska Department of Labor, Employment Security Division, Research and Analysis Section. All data are calendar year annual averages.

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residents? No one can say with certainty because records have not been kept. It would also be valuable to know the number of new government jobs which were filled by Alaska Natives (Eskimos, Indians, and Aleuts). However, this information is not available either.

The same issues may be raised concerning new jobs resulting from natural resource development. How many went to people from "outside"? How many went to Natives? Fortunately, the census reports for 1950 and 1960 shed some light on this issue, based on natural resource development in Southeast Alaska. These reports were referred to by Dr. George Rogers in a recent address before the Alaska Native Brotherhood in which he analyzed the employment impact of Alaska's two wood pulp mills. Dr. Rogers said:

Total personal income received by residents of Southeast Alaska from jobs directly involved in natural resources products industries rose from \$8.2 million in 1950 to \$21.7 million in 1960 and from all sources (including other industries, services, government, etc.) from \$48.5 million in 1950 to \$97.9 million. Per capita income (these total income figures divided by every man, woman and child residing in Southeast Alaska) rose from \$1,720 in 1950 to \$2,765 in 1960. Other measures could be cited, but they all reflect the obvious conclusion that the establishment of two pulp mills in Southeast Alaska was a major development in terms of economic expansion.

These statistics deal only with the results of development in terms of the total economy and general employment. What were they in terms of the people involved and more specifically the Native people? . . .

For my present purposes it is fortunate that the U.S. Census enumerations for 1950 and 1960 took place a few years before and after this development. These reports, therefore, provide a means of measuring and analyzing the human aspects of this experience. I will only cite two of these. Despite the creation of a whole range of new employment opportunities, we find that the participation rate (or the percentage of persons gainfully employed) of the normal working-age Native population actually declined between 1950 and 1960 (from 38% to 37%) while that of the non-Native population enjoyed a significant increase (from 59% to 64%). This decade also experienced a 25% increase in total population. Breaking this data into

areas and race classifications, there appeared to have actually been a movement of Native people away from the two centers of development at Ketchikan and Sitka. (There was a very modest total increase in Native population in these areas, but that was due to natural increase being slightly higher than the out-migration of people from the areas).

Just these two sets of statistical comparisons are sufficient for us to draw the conclusion that the new jobs and the new income created by this development were taken up by more intensive utilization of the non-Native labor force and a significant immigration of additional workers from outside Southeast Alaska. The new developments had virtually no impact upon the employment situation of the Native people¹.

¹Key note address by Dr. George W. Rogers, 56th Annual Convention, Alaska Native Brotherhood, Juneau, Alaska, November 11, 1968.

TABLE 3
Indexes of Intercity Differences in the Cost
of Equivalent Goods and Services

Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau and Ketchikan, Alaska, compared with Seattle, Washington¹ Autumn 1964, 1965, 1966, and 1967 (Costs in Seattle = 100)

City and Year	All Items	Food ²	Total ³	Housing Rental ⁴	Apparel and Upkeep	Other Goods & Serv- ices ⁵	All Items Less Housing
Anchorage							
1964	123	121	132	162	110	120	119
1965	122	123	130	157	110	117	118
1966	122	123	130	152	112	116	118
1967	121	122	130	146	108	116	117
Fairbanks							
1964	134	138	143	188	124	127	130
1965	133	140	141	187	124	123	129
1966	132	139	141	180	122	122	127
1967	132	142	140	179	120	121	127
Juneau							
1964	124	123	133	150	118	119	120
1965	124	126	134	151	116	116	119
1966	125	127	135	147	115	117	120
1967	127	132	137	147	115	119	122
Ketchikan							
1964	119	118	121	126	117	117	117
1965	117	119	121	127	116	113	116
1966	118	122	122	127	114	113	116
1967	118	123	122	126	117	113	117

¹ Based on the average pattern of expenditures of Alaskan wage and clerical-worker families of two or more persons who were full-year residents in the State during 1959 or 1960. (Average expenditures of families living in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, or Ketchikan were combined with a system of weights based on the estimated number of consumer units in each city as derived from the 1960 Census of Population.)

² Includes food at home and away from home.

³ Includes rent, hotel and motel rates, home ownership costs (mortgage principal and interest payments, taxes, insurance, maintenance and repairs), fuel and utilities, household furnishings and operation. (Intercity indexes measure differences in the cost of maintaining a home as reflected in principal payments and mortgage interest charges. These indexes cannot be used to measure changes in acquisition costs, i.e., interest rates and the prices of owned homes purchased in current markets.)

⁴ Average contract rent for tenant-occupied, 2, 3, 4, and 5-room dwellings meeting defined standards, plus cost of heating fuel, utilities, and specified equipment when the cost of these items is not included in the monthly rent.

⁵ Includes transportation, medical care, personal care, recreation, reading and education, tobacco, beverages, and miscellaneous expenses.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

In answer to the questions presented earlier, Rogers indicates that many new jobs in natural resource development were filled by in-migrants, and very few were filled by Alaska Natives.

The meaning of Alaska per capita income in terms of living standards for Alaskans is also influenced by price levels in the state. Table 3 compares price levels in the four largest cities in Alaska to price levels in Seattle. In 1967, the ratio of Alaskan prices to those in Seattle ranged from 1.32 in Fairbanks to 1.18 in Ketchikan. All of these price ratios exceed the Alaska-to-U.S. per capita income ratio, which was only 1.16 in 1967. This indicates lower average living standards in Alaska than in the U.S. as a

whole.

Table 3 also shows that in 1967 individual price indexes for housing and for food exceeded the "All Items" price index in each of Alaska's four largest cities. Therefore, Alaskan price patterns probably hit harder at low income residents than at middle and upper income persons who typically spend a smaller share of their income on housing and food.

The situation appears even less favorable when food prices in smaller Alaskan cities, shown in Table 4, are considered. The most recent figures show that, compared to Seattle, food costs are 71 per cent higher in Nome and 85 per cent higher in Bethel. Food costs are higher still

TABLE 4
September 1968 Average Retail Prices of 40 Items in Thirteen Alaska Cities Compared With Seattle

Food Item	Unit	Seattle ¹	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Sitka	Juneau	Kodiak	Seward	Kenai-Soldotna	Valdez	Anchorage	Palmer	Fairbanks	Bethel	Nome
Flour	5 lb.	\$.66	\$.86	\$.89	\$.93	\$.89	\$.93	\$.88	\$.88	\$.84	\$.90	\$.89	\$.96	\$ 1.28	\$ 1.05
Rice	lb.	.28	.30	.34	.31	.34	.32	.35	.46	.35	.31	.33	.32	.32	.48
Corn flakes	12 oz.	.33	.42	.41	.43	.41	.32	.41	.41	.46	.39	.38	.31	.51	.53
Bread	1½ lb.	.29	.48	.45	.52	.43	.51	.49	.55	.55	.49	.49	.52	.72	.55
Round steak	lb.	1.16	1.27	1.29	1.44	1.32	1.34	1.59	1.44	1.39	1.42	1.34	1.38	1.88	1.59
Chuck roast	lb.	.61	.84	.90	.82	.81	.81	.89	.91	.91	.87	.79	.88	1.48	1.20
Hamburger	lb.	.50	.72	.79	.69	.72	.74	.81	.70	.87	.67	.75	.72	1.18	.79
Pork chops	lb.	1.10	1.20	1.18	1.28	1.16	1.14	1.15	1.16	1.25	1.34	1.07	1.42	1.28	1.29
Bacon	lb.	.84	.94	1.00	1.01	1.01	.94	1.01	1.02	1.10	.91	1.02	1.04	1.19	1.18
Frankfurters	lb.	.70	.76	.80	.79	.78	.79	.80	.82	.80	.81	.80	.86	1.00	.98
Frying chicken	lb.	.49	.61	.64	.69	.71	.66	.52	.62	.69	.56	.59	.62	.91	.79
Tuna fish	6½ oz.	.35	.44	.44	.45	.45	.44	.45	.48	.46	.43	.44	.48	.50	.48
Milk, fresh	1½ gal.	.54	.79	.82	.83	.79	.92	.92	.94	1.01	.89	.88	.98	1.49	1.42
Ice cream	½ gal.	.94	1.30	1.34	1.20	1.26	1.45	1.25	1.26	1.52	1.09	1.12	1.29	2.04	1.94
Butter	lb.	.81	.90	.97	.95	.89	.99	1.00	.94	1.10	.97	.97	.98	1.46	1.19
Milk, evap.	14½ oz.	.17	.22	.23	.23	.22	.23	.24	.22	.24	.22	.22	.22	.28	.28
Eggs, large A	doz.	.50	.61	.68	.60	.51	.65	.65	.71	.72	.59	.49	.64	.94	.92
Orange juice, frozen	6 oz.	.22	.31	.36	.34	.32	.29	.28	.34	.38	.31	.34	.36	.48	.46
Apples	lb.	.31	.34	.34	.42	.44	.41	.35	.40	.46	.39	.34	.46	.57	.59
Bananas	lb.	.18	.29	.33	.37	.32	.42	.31	.32	.39	.29	.30	.39	.54	.49
Oranges	lb.	.31	.28	.29	.33	.36	.28	.32	.33	.33	.32	.34	.38	.59	.54
Potatoes	lb.	.08	.08	.12	.10	.09	.12	.12	.12	.14	.12	.12	.15	.28	.21
Onions	lb.	.15	.16	.25	.14	.14	.18	.21	.18	.22	.21	.23	.20	.26	.34
Carrots	lb.	.17	.26	.27	.27	.24	.27	.30	.30	.35	.31	.26	.31	.48	.46
Lettuce	lb.	.23	.31	.42	.33	.42	.42	.41	.37	.39	.36	.27	.49	.59	.59
Cabbage	lb.	.14	.22	.26	.26	.22	.22	.25	.23	.28	.22	.17	.24	.54	.44
Tomatoes	lb.	.35	.42	.57	.55	.49	.77	.55	.62	.56	.54	.44	.59	.96	.69
Pineapple-grapefruit drink	46 oz. can	.33	.44	.51	.53	.52	.63	.50	.60	.57	.48	.55	.56	.66	.63
Pears	No. 2½ can	.54	.57	.73	.74	.66	.62	.54	.69	.70	.62	.62	.61	.75	.66
Fruit cocktail	303 can	.27	.36	.38	.41	.37	.35	.31	.37	.38	.38	.35	.45	.54	.44
Peas	303 can	.28	.32	.28	.32	.32	.31	.27	.36	.34	.34	.24	.36	.42	.41
Chicken soup	10½ oz.	.18	.23	.23	.25	.24	.24	.24	.23	.25	.24	.22	.24	.28	.30
Baby foods	4½-5 oz.	.12	.13	.16	.16	.17	.17	.15	.14	.16	.14	.14	.15	.26	.20
Coffee	lb.	.74	.88	.94	.92	.84	.95	.95	.87	.96	.85	.93	.96	1.28	1.12
Salad or cooking oil	24 oz.	.52	.72	.68	.74	.70	.70	.78	.80	.85	.69	.64	.69	.83	.94
Margarine	lb.	.30	.28	.37	.29	.33	.33	.27	.26	.44	.29	.27	.54	.36	.42
Salad dressing, Italian	8 oz.	.39	.48	.46	.54	.47	.47	.44	.50	.50	.49	.51	.53	.49	.61
Cola drink	6 pack	.68	1.03	1.11	1.20	1.04	1.13	.96	1.04	1.36	1.02	1.00	1.08	1.50	1.50
Beans, dried	lb.	.29	.34	.29	.31	.30	.27	.32	.36	.33	.33	.27	.32	.31	.39
Sugar	5 lb.	.64	.80	.88	.89	.86	.87	.91	.84	.92	.82	.82	.90	1.30	1.22
TOTAL		\$17.69	\$21.91	\$23.40	\$23.58	\$22.56	\$23.60	\$23.15	\$23.79	\$25.52	\$22.62	\$21.94	\$24.58	\$32.73	\$30.31
% of Seattle		100	124	132	133	128	133	131	134	144	128	124	138	185	171
Total June, 1968		17.14	21.26	22.82	22.69	21.95	22.92	22.87	22.73		20.95	21.26	23.97	31.53	30.37
Total September, 1967		16.81	20.86	22.29	22.44	21.48	22.51	21.43		24.63	22.38	21.30	23.64		29.73
TOTAL Per Cent Change: Sept. 1967-Sept. 1968		+ 5.2	+ 5.0	+ 5.0	+ 5.1	+ 5.0	+ 4.8	+ 8.0	--	+ 3.6	+ 1.1	+ 3.0	+ 4.0	--	+ 2.0

¹Based on September, 1968 U.S. Department of Labor, BLS "Retail Food Prices by Cities."

SOURCE: Quarterly Report on Alaska's Food Prices. Published by the Alaska Agricultural Experiment Station, cooperating with the Crop Research Division, Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

TABLE 5
Relationship of Alaskan Wages in Construction and Oil & Gas Field Work to Alaska Per Capita Income

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
(1) Construction Wages in Alaska (in millions of dollars)	\$42	\$83	\$85	\$77	\$65	\$60	\$87	\$64	\$66	\$64	\$73.2	\$47.1	\$47.6	\$51.1	\$77.8	\$88.0	\$88.8	\$95.2
(2) Wages in Oil & Gas Field Work	\$ 4	\$ 4	\$ 3	\$ 2	\$ 0	\$ 1	\$ 1	\$ 1	\$ 2	\$ 3	\$ 3.8	\$ 6.2	\$ 7.3	\$ 8.1	\$ 8.5	\$ 8.3	\$12.5	\$24.2
(3) Sum of Wages in Construction and Oil & Gas	\$46	\$87	\$88	\$79	\$65	\$61	\$88	\$65	\$68	\$67	\$77.0	\$53.3	\$54.9	\$59.2	\$86.3	\$96.3	\$101.3	\$119.4
(4) Per Cent Change from Prev. Yr.: Construction and Oil & Gas Wages	-	+89	+ 1	-10	-18	- 6	+44	-26	+ 5	- 1	+15	-31	+ 3	+ 8	+46	+12	+ 5	+18
(5) Per Cent Change from Prev. Yr.: Alaska Per Capita Income	-	+19	- 8	- 5	- 8	- 1	+ 8	- 5	+ 1	+ 6	+13	- 5	+ 2	+ 3	+10	+ 5	+ 4	+ 9
(6) Per Cent Change from Prev. Yr.: Alaska Total Resident Population	-	+17	+20	+ 8	+ 5	+ 3	+ 1	+ 3	- 3	0	+ 2	+ 3	+ 3	+ 3	+ 2	+ 3	+ 3	+ 2
(7) Per Cent Change from Prev. Yr.: Ratio of Alaska to U.S. Per Capita Income	-	+ 8	-12	- 9	- 7	- 6	+ 2	- 8	0	+ 2	+10	- 7	- 3	- 1	+ 4	- 3	- 3	+ 3
(8) Per Cent Change from Prev. Yr.: U.S. Per Capita Income	-	+10	+ 5	+ 4	- 1	+ 5	+ 5	+ 3	+ 1	+ 4	+ 2	+ 2	+ 5	+ 4	+ 5	+ 7	+ 8	+ 6

SOURCE: All wage data for 1960-1967 are from the Alaska Department of Labor, Employment Security Division, Research and Analysis Section. Construction wages for earlier years are also taken from records of the Alaska Department of Labor, but oil and gas wages for 1950-1959 are from the United States Department of Commerce, Office of Business Economics series published in the *Survey of Current Business*. Data in lines (5) through (8) above are derived from Table 1.

in small villages throughout the state, although no indexes are prepared.

Another factor in the evaluation of per capita income patterns is the extent to which males of working age have become a smaller portion of the total Alaska population. Census figures show that working age males were 43.8 per cent of the total Alaska population in 1950, compared to only 35.4 per cent in 1960. Furthermore, a decline to only 31.1 per cent in 1965 is indicated by the latest Census Bureau projection. In that same year, however, only 26.5 per cent of the population of the entire U.S. was accounted for by working age males. Consequently, if Alaska's population characteristics continue to become more similar to those of the U.S., further declines in the proportion of working age males can be anticipated. Alaska per capita income would tend to move downward with further decreases in the proportion of working age males.

Large scale in-migration of single men, or men who leave their families in other states, would reverse the trend towards a decrease in the proportion of working age males in Alaska. Increased oil and gas field operations could cause such in-migration to occur. Continued increases in construction activity might have the same effect. Although such developments would tend to maintain a relatively high ratio of Alaska-to-U.S. per capita income, limited benefits would accrue to permanent Alaskan residents if most of the wage payment increases go to new in-migrants. Judging from past experience, the smallest benefits would be received by the Native population.

Table 5 compares movements in Alaska's per capita income to wage totals in construction and in oil and gas field work. Since 1950, year-to-year per capita income increases of 10 per cent or better occurred on only three occasions — in 1951, 1960, and 1964 — in each of which construction played a major role.

A significant recent development was the 9 per cent increase in per capita income between 1966 and 1967.

This was the first time since 1963-1964 that Alaska per capita income growth matched or exceeded that of the entire United States. The explanation is in part the continued high level of construction payrolls combined with a dramatic rise in oil and gas wage totals. As shown in Tables 5 and 6, wages in oil and gas virtually doubled from 1966 to 1967, and the 1967 payroll was almost three times that of 1965. These developments accompanied the continued gradual increase of wages in government and nongovernment services, as indicated in Table 6.

If construction activities are maintained at a high level, and if expansion in oil and gas field work continues, the ratio of Alaska-to-U.S. per capita income may continue to rise for several years. However, as in times past, upward movements in average income may obscure patterns of distribution which favor in-migrants and provide little or no benefits to the large Native population of the state. These distributional patterns are described and measured in the next two sections.

INCOME DISTRIBUTION BY INCOME LEVEL, URBAN-VS.-RURAL RESIDENCE, AND RACE

Table 7 presents 1960 census data which show that there are great numbers of Alaskans at extremely low income levels and a large number at relatively high levels, with surprisingly few in the middle ranges.

When Table 7 data are expressed in percentage terms and aggregated as in Table 8, Column I, fewer individuals and families are found in the \$3,000-\$7,000 range than in either the "Under \$3,000" or "Over \$7,000" group.

For the purposes of this analysis, the most interesting aspect of Table 8 is the difference between urban and rural income distributions. In urban portions of the state, the highest percentage of families and unrelated individuals is found in the over \$7,000 group, while the next highest percentage is in the \$3,000-\$7,000 range, and the lowest percentage is below the \$3,000 level. For rural areas the order is reversed. The median income of urban

TABLE 6
Total Personal Income in Alaska, and Wage Payments by Industry

	Calendar Year 1961	Calendar Year 1962	Calendar Year 1963	Calendar Year 1964	Calendar Year 1965	Calendar Year 1966	Calendar Year 1967	% Change 1960 to 1967
TOTAL PERSONAL INCOME (in millions of dollars)	635	666	704	791	858	915	1,017	+ 60.2
Military Wages (in millions of dollars)	120	121	122	140	141	154	175	+ 45.8
Civilian Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Payments (in thousands of dollars)	\$417,556	\$435,117	\$467,682	\$530,647	\$581,302	\$623,287	\$692,177	+ 65.8
Mining	11,474	12,454	12,508	12,536	13,146	17,490	28,436	+147.8
Oil Exploration	6,242	7,295	8,064	8,527	8,329	12,488	24,198	+287.7
Other Mining	5,232	5,159	4,444	4,009	4,817	5,002	4,238	- 19.0
Construction	47,143	47,584	51,116	77,779	87,995	88,849	95,210	+102.0
Manufacturing	40,086	41,571	43,983	46,024	54,672	56,192	56,418	+ 40.7
Food Processing	20,128	18,640	18,517	18,228	23,978	24,152	20,124	0.0
Log, Lumber, & Pulp	14,131	16,158	18,408	19,836	21,799	23,199	27,583	+ 95.2
Other Manufacturing	5,827	6,773	7,058	7,960	8,895	8,841	8,711	+ 49.5
Transportation, Comm., & Util.	62,293	61,551	62,494	64,499	68,702	72,572	78,989	+ 26.8
Trucking and Warehousing	6,127	6,574	7,045	8,380	10,131	8,000	11,005	+ 79.6
Water Transportation	7,135	7,932	7,838	7,495	6,929	8,995	9,271	+ 29.9
Air Transportation	14,902	14,897	15,821	16,774	17,759	18,947	22,115	+ 48.4
Other Transp., Comm., & Util.	34,129	32,148	31,790	31,850	33,883	36,630	36,598	+ 7.3
Trade	54,197	53,484	56,712	61,318	71,450	79,118	89,599	+ 65.3
Wholesale Trade	16,643	14,807	15,251	17,348	19,468	22,894	25,998	+ 56.2
Retail Trade	37,554	38,677	41,461	43,970	51,982	56,224	63,601	+ 69.4
Gen. Mdse. & Apparel	8,735	8,393	9,071	9,209	10,724	12,774	16,332	+ 87.0
Food Stores	5,420	5,778	6,643	7,161	8,095	8,832	9,523	+ 75.7
Eating and Drinking Places	8,753	8,340	8,845	9,342	10,786	10,856	11,654	+ 33.1
Other Retail	14,646	16,166	16,902	18,258	22,377	23,762	26,092	+ 78.2
Finance, Insur., & Real Estate	9,266	10,458	11,988	13,617	15,822	17,326	17,465	+ 88.5
Services & Miscellaneous	33,461	36,517	37,550	41,834	47,008	50,734	58,179	+ 73.9
Government	159,636	171,498	191,331	213,040	222,507	241,006	267,881	+ 67.8
Federal (civilian only)	108,505	110,874	119,170	134,864	130,593	137,121	149,619	+ 37.9
State	28,182	34,870	44,059	46,518	52,193	59,821	67,683	+140.2
Local	22,949	25,754	28,102	31,658	39,721	44,064	50,579	+120.4

SOURCE: Total personal income and military wage data are from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Office of Business Economics series published in the Survey of Current Business. All civilian nonagricultural wage data are from the Alaska Department of Labor, Employment Security Division, Research and Analysis Section.

residents is twice the rural median.

For the civilian population, Table 8 probably understates the difference between urban and rural income levels. This is because the census figures include several large military establishments in the rural category. Of 32,680 military personnel in the state in April 1960, the census included 26,327 as rural inhabitants. That number far exceeds the census figure of 19,452 for total civilian employment in rural areas. Consequently, inclusion of military personnel in the census figures obscures relationships concerning the income, place of residence, and race of Alaska's civilian population.

Nonetheless, it is clear that civilian nonwhites are much more likely than whites to live in rural areas. Only 18.7 per cent of Alaska's non-whites were found in urban areas in 1960, contrasted to 56.4 per cent of all whites. In Alaska most non-whites are Alaska Natives — i.e. Eskimos, Indians, or Aleuts. Census figures for 1960 show that

Natives accounted for 80 per cent of the total non-white population.

The lower incomes shown in Table 8 for rural Alaskans, as compared to urban residents, and the high percentage of non-whites living in rural areas, suggest

TABLE 7
Income in 1959 of Alaskan Families and Unrelated Individuals

Number receiving under \$1,000	8,160
" " 1,000 to 1,999	14,422
" " 2,000 to 2,999	7,602
" " 3,000 to 3,999	6,401
" " 4,000 to 4,999	6,456
" " 5,000 to 5,999	6,324
" " 6,000 to 6,999	5,539
" " 7,000 to 9,999	13,844
" " 10,000 and over	15,790

SOURCE: U.S. Census Report, PC(1), 3C, Alaska, p. 3-71.

TABLE 8
Percentage Distribution of 1959 Income to Alaskan Families and Unrelated Individuals

	Column 1 The State	Column 2 Urban	Column 3 Rural
Total	100.00	100.0	100.0
Under \$3,000	35.7	17.5	45.6
\$3,000 to \$7,000	29.3	32.3	27.5
\$7,000 & Over	35.0	50.2	26.9
Median Income	\$4,880	\$7,025	\$3,585

SOURCE: U.S. Census Report PC(1), 3C, Alaska, p. 3-71.

that race and income levels are related factors. The strong relationship between race and income levels is verified by the 1959 median income figure of \$8,060 for white families, compared to a median of only \$3,339 for non-whites. For unrelated individuals and families combined, the white median income was \$5,504 compared to \$2,321 for non-whites.

The pattern of higher incomes for whites was characteristic not only of the state as a whole, but also of each of the individual districts—both urban and rural. In each of 18 census districts for which income data were reported separately by race, the white median family income was substantially above the non-white median.

Within rural areas, those few persons who earned high incomes were almost invariably white. The number of whites earning more than \$10,000 in rural areas during 1959 totaled 4,250 compared to only 144 non-whites — a ratio of 30:1. High incomes in rural areas were usually received by construction workers, electronics workers, or government employees.

In summary, 1960 census figures show that most Na-

tive Alaskans lived in rural areas and received low incomes, while whites tended to live in urban areas and to receive relatively high incomes. Nearly all high incomes in rural areas were received by whites.

PER CAPITA INCOME BY CENSUS DISTRICT

An analysis of per capita income data in Table 9² supports the following statement contained in a 1965 publication of the Alaska Department of Labor entitled **Labor Market Area Profiles**:

The existence of widespread poverty side by side with relative affluence, and the tendency for those who are now poor to remain poor even though personal income rises steadily in the middle and upper income groups, is characteristic today of . . . Alaska.

When the statement above was published, income data by census district were available only for calendar years 1961-63. In Table 9, data are presented also for calendar years 1964-1966 and for fiscal year 1967. The six and one-half year period covered by Table 9 is sufficient to establish that in Alaska today "the poor are getting poorer and the rich are getting richer."

Most of the larger urban areas have experienced marked increases in per capita incomes. From calendar year 1961 to fiscal year 1967 the increase was 29 per cent in Anchorage, 38 per cent in Fairbanks, and 34 per cent in Ketchikan. In spite of an increase of only 8 per cent in Juneau since 1961, the most recent figures show that per capita income in that city still is higher than in the other large urban districts.

The only districts in which per capita incomes declined were Bristol Bay, Bethel, Barrow, Wade Hampton, and Upper Yukon. The decrease in Wade Hampton is especially significant since that district also had the lowest per capita income during 1961. Next to Wade Hampton, the lowest 1961 incomes were in the Kuskokwim and Bethel districts. A subsequent gain of only 5 per cent oc-

TABLE 9
Income Per Capita, by Census District, Based on:
(1) Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Payments (civilian only)
(2) Welfare Payments¹
(3) Unemployment Insurance Benefit Payments²
(In Dollars)

Census District Name	CY 1961	CY 1962	CY 1963	CY 1964	CY 1965	CY 1966	CY 1967	FY 1967	% Change CY 1961 to
Prince of Wales	893	855	1,066	926	1,012	1,663	2,440	+173	
Ketchikan	2,008	2,168	2,303	2,431	2,552	2,688	2,692	+ 34	
Wrangell-Petersburg	1,690	1,777	1,872	1,763	1,917	2,069	2,235	+ 32	
Sitka	1,813	1,762	1,986	2,226	2,310	2,447	2,568	+ 42	
Juneau	3,117	3,106	3,584	3,397	3,450	3,287	3,355	+ 8	
Lynn Canal-Icy Straits	1,679	1,622	1,730	1,817	1,682	1,779	1,945	+ 15	
Cardova-McCarthy	2,145	2,470	2,334	1,857	2,369	2,585	2,563	+ 19	
Valdez-China-Whittier	1,765	2,055	2,389	2,134	1,936	3,608	3,892	+121	
Palmer-Wasilla-Talkeetna	1,138	1,236	1,450	1,644	1,560	1,607	1,567	+ 38	
Anchorage	2,496	2,584	2,586	3,067	3,025	3,084	3,217	+ 22	
Seward	1,654	1,761	1,951	1,775	2,116	2,108	2,016	+ 22	
Kenai-Cook Inlet	1,128	1,312	1,265	1,501	1,959	3,173	4,100	+263	
Kodiak	1,827	2,219	2,069	2,232	2,509	2,924	2,856	+ 56	
Aleutian Islands	2,645	2,318	2,434	2,979	2,616	2,398	2,689	+ 2	
Bristol Bay	2,263	1,578	1,411	1,533	2,765	2,016	1,912	- 16	
Bethel	653	660	662	679	637	645	683	+ 5	
Barrow	2,475	2,330	2,156	2,282	2,256	2,054	2,055	- 17	
Kobuk	779	807	805	807	709	765	806	+ 3	
Nome	939	923	988	1,044	1,181	1,127	1,174	+ 25	
Wade Hampton	400	312	344	328	296	306	326	- 18	
Kuskokwim	632	623	588	571	532	605	666	+ 5	
Yukon-Koyukuk	4,286	4,070	3,930	4,690	4,671	5,002	4,814	+ 12	
Fairbanks	2,115	2,119	2,289	2,427	2,730	2,892	2,913	+ 38	
Upper Yukon	1,989	2,019	1,979	2,202	1,744	1,923	1,809	- 9	
TOTAL ALASKA	2,104	2,125	2,207	2,444	2,543	2,640	2,772	+ 32	

¹Figures shown include welfare payments from all programs, including general assistance payments administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs as well as payments made under programs administered by the Alaska Department of Health and Welfare.

²Figures shown include payments from the State unemployment insurance program only. Excluded are payments made under Federal programs for former military personnel and former Federal civilian employees.

SOURCE: Population figures used in computing per capita income are from Table 13. Income totals by district are those presented in Table 12.

TABLE 10
Consumer Price Indexes

	1961	1967	Per Cent Change: 1961-1967
Fairbanks (Base 100.0=May-Oct. 1960)	Oct. 101.7	Oct. 111.2	+ 9.3
Anchorage (Base 100.0=May-Oct. 1960)	Oct. 101.3	Oct. 109.2	+ 7.8
Juneau (Base 100.0=Apr.-Nov. 1961)	Nov. 100.7	Nov. 115.3	+14.5
Ketchikan (Base 100.0=Apr.-Nov. 1961)	Nov. 100.4	Nov. 112.0	+11.6
Seattle (Base 100.0=1957-1959)	Nov. 105.7	Nov. 119.2	+12.8
U.S. City Average (Base 100.0=1957-1959)	Nov. 104.6	Nov. 117.8	+12.6

SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

²Based on income from wages, unemployment insurance benefits, and welfare payments.

TABLE 11
Comparison of Urban Versus Western Alaska Civilian
Per Capita Incomes, Based on Wage Income,
Unemployment Benefits, and Welfare Payments¹

	Cal- endar Year	Cal- endar Year	Cal- endar Year	Cal- endar Year	Cal- endar Year	Cal- endar Year	Fis- cal Year
URBAN ALASKA, consisting of:							
Anchorage Census District							
Fairbanks Census District							
Juneau Census District							
Ketchikan Census District	\$2,410	\$2,467	\$2,562	\$2,878	\$2,953	\$3,026	\$3,118
WESTERN ALASKA, consisting of:							
Kobuk Census District							
Nome Census District							
Wade-Hampton Census District							
Bethel Census District	\$721	\$689	\$712	\$729	\$715	\$709	\$750
Kuskokwim Census District							
RATIO:							
Urban Per Capita Income ¹ to Western Alaska Per Capita Income ¹	3.3	3.6	3.6	3.9	4.1	4.3	4.2

¹ Although proprietor's income and several other income categories are not reflected in the per capita income figures above, 80 per cent of all civilian personal income in Alaska is accounted for by the sources used. Therefore, it is unlikely that inclusion of all cash income would substantially alter the ratios of urban per capita income to that of Western Alaska. However, the ratios would be decreased by the inclusion of estimates for non-cash income from subsistence hunting and fishing. No such estimates are available, but it is known that subsistence activities are a very important aspect of the economy of Western Alaska.

SOURCE: Per capita incomes shown above are computed from civilian income data in Table 12 divided by civilian population estimates in Table 13.

curred in Kuskokwim, while Bethel per capita income declined 5 per cent.

It should be noted that per capita income figures discussed above reflect wage data obtained from employers. Consequently, wages are assigned to the census district in which employment occurred. In a census of households, by contrast, area wage figures reflect the place of permanent residence of the worker, although he may have commuted or moved temporarily to a job in another area. A continuing statistical series showing income by place of permanent residence could be developed by processing personal income tax forms submitted to the Alaska Department of Revenue.

The per capita income changes discussed above do not reflect changes in price levels, which have moved upward in all parts of Alaska since 1961. Table 10 shows movements in the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) price indexes for the four largest urban centers. Because of rising prices, changes in actual buying power have been less favorable than indicated by changes in per capita income.

In evaluating per capita income data in Table 9, it should be kept in mind that the civilian population estimates used are not highly accurate for districts with small populations. Also, because the population estimates are projections of 1960 census figures, the more recent figures are probably less accurate than the projections for earlier years.

The civilian population projections are based primarily on the Census Bureau's "Component Method II" which

relies on school enrollment changes to indicate net in- or out-migration.

One obvious danger of Component Method II is its inadequacy in reflecting migration of large numbers of single men. The movement of 10,000 single men into an area will have no effect upon school enrollments, and therefore no effect upon population estimates based on Component Method II. In the Prince of Wales district, and also in the Kenai-Cook Inlet and other districts, it is entirely possible that indicated rates of increase in per capita income are too high because of erroneous population estimates.

The accuracy of estimated changes in per capita income would tend to be less for smaller areas with small populations than for more inclusive areas containing larger numbers of whole families and a greater variety of economic activities.

With these factors in mind, per capita income has been computed for an entire rural region consisting of five contiguous census districts in Western Alaska. Computed in a similar manner were average per capita income figures for the four largest urban districts combined. The two series of figures are compared in Table 11. Computations are derived from district income totals in Table 12 divided by population estimates in Table 13.

Data in Table 11 show extremely low levels of income in Western Alaska compared to urban districts. A general condition of poverty also prevails in many other census districts, especially for non-whites, but this fact is obscured by "islands" of economic activity, such as electronic defense installations or construction sites, which cause district wage totals to be very misleading. An example is the Yukon-Koyukuk Census District, with per capita incomes in excess of \$4,000 indicated in Table 9. During 1959 the median family income for non-whites was only \$2,228 in that district, according to the census of 1960. For unrelated individuals, the median income for non-whites was only \$1,320.

Although proprietor income and several other income categories are not reflected in Table 11 or Table 12, 80 per cent of all cash income is accounted for. It is therefore unlikely that the high ratios of urban-to-Western Alaska per capita income would be decreased by the inclusion of cash income from all sources. The ratios would probably be decreased by including estimates of non-cash income from subsistence hunting and fishing, since these activities are important in the economy of Western Alaska. However, reliable estimates of the value of subsistence activities are unavailable.

Regardless of which sources of income are considered, it is apparent that incomes are rising far more rapidly in

TABLE 12
ANNUAL INCOME TOTALS BY CENSUS DISTRICT, FROM:

- (1) Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Payments (civilian only)
(2) Welfare Payments¹
(3) Unemployment Insurance Benefit Payments²

CENSUS DISTRICT NAME	CY 1961	CY 1962	CY 1963	CY 1964	CY 1965	CY 1966	FY 1967
Prince of Wales	1,411,228	1,380,038	1,655,855	1,621,128	1,913,309	3,354,712	4,904,538
Ketchikan	21,229,750	23,234,251	24,958,178	26,847,091	28,717,773	30,748,131	30,922,704
Wrangell-Petersburg	6,049,597	7,152,388	7,622,659	8,549,388	9,554,425	10,911,769	11,908,162
Sitka	14,612,116	14,357,950	16,353,739	17,501,698	18,844,743	17,703,603	18,993,801
Juneau	31,985,560	31,370,271	37,268,466	39,669,930	42,051,637	42,746,012	44,410,808
Lynn Canal-Icy Straits	4,530,944	4,579,356	5,150,567	5,586,516	5,298,561	5,645,322	6,303,033
Cordova-McCarthy	3,335,540	4,067,842	4,094,556	3,296,677	4,560,976	4,886,353	5,013,220
Valdez-Chitina-Whittier	2,965,386	3,832,962	4,860,852	5,101,907	6,976,928	8,762,792	9,134,428
Palmer-Wasilla							
Talkeetna	6,238,229	7,044,010	8,192,021	10,021,953	9,442,419	10,172,240	9,959,303
Anchorage	187,446,177	195,765,970	205,101,419	244,118,283	263,776,014	279,908,254	295,324,241
Seward	5,026,238	5,234,265	5,478,208	4,684,669	4,575,488	4,612,047	4,954,210
Kenai-Cook Inlet	7,257,777	9,707,894	10,087,301	11,474,454	16,247,407	27,984,199	36,839,576
Kodiak	10,234,197	11,437,520	11,528,141	13,465,376	17,006,699	20,370,943	20,875,779
Aleutian Islands	10,673,220	8,840,697	9,912,530	13,529,418	12,712,661	11,820,170	13,354,770
Bristol Bay	8,918,035	6,064,348	5,917,851	5,846,572	11,096,966	8,310,236	8,138,001
Bethel	3,933,057	4,150,969	4,201,116	4,462,430	4,560,858	4,753,456	5,046,018
Barrow	4,949,057	4,785,585	5,225,215	5,733,832	5,544,883	5,325,251	5,412,064
Kobuk	2,641,878	2,844,776	2,765,598	3,020,634	2,835,231	2,857,203	3,181,746
Nome	5,796,893	5,507,423	5,967,302	6,570,763	7,334,687	6,770,690	7,072,765
Wade Hampton	1,139,832	1,229,434	1,279,356	1,288,048	1,285,473	1,489,907	1,573,264
Kuskokwim	1,546,198	1,511,863	1,485,026	1,371,618	1,409,314	1,596,495	1,714,060
Yukon-Koyukuk	16,138,421	14,957,872	14,880,664	15,954,589	15,970,003	16,856,083	16,452,747
Fairbanks	68,227,595	73,714,860	82,017,145	86,995,923	96,412,927	103,806,756	104,934,736
Upper Yukon	3,322,416	3,192,567	2,719,729	2,842,988	2,350,743	2,390,821	2,313,770
TOTAL ALASKA	429,609,341	445,965,111	478,723,494	539,555,885	590,480,125	633,783,445	668,737,744

¹ Figures shown include welfare payments from all programs, including general assistance payments administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs as well as payments made under programs administered by the Alaska Department of Health and Welfare.

² Figures shown include payments from the State unemployment insurance program only. Excluded are payments made under Federal programs for former military personnel and former Federal civilian employees.

NOTE: Income from indicated sources has accounted for over 80 per cent of all civilian income in the state in recent years.

SOURCE: Wage and unemployment insurance benefit data are from the Alaska Department of Labor, Employment Security Division, Research and Analysis Section. Welfare data are from the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Alaska Department of Health and Welfare.

urban areas than in Western Alaska. Table 11 shows that in 1961 average per capita income in Alaska's four largest urban districts³ was 3.3 times as great as in Western Alaska, and by fiscal year 1967 that ratio had increased to 4.2. Although there was a small rise in Western Alaska per capita income, it was probably not enough to overcome increased living costs, and it was much less than the increase in urban areas.

Furthermore, the small rise which did occur in Western Alaska per capita income obscures the fact that improvement was restricted primarily to the Nome Census District. Increases in state government wage payments accounted for much of the income gain in Nome, and most of this went to white in-migrants rather than to permanent residents of the district, most of whom are Eskimo.

³Based on income from wages, unemployment insurance benefits, and welfare payments.

TABLE 13
Civilian Population Estimates by Census District

CENSUS DIST. NAME	July 1 1961	July 1 1962	July 1 1963	July 1 1964	July 1 1965	July 1 1966	Jan. 1 1967
Prince of Wales	1,581	1,614	1,554	1,750	1,890	2,017	2,010
Ketchikan	10,575	10,715	10,836	11,042	11,252	11,439	11,485
Wrangell-Petersburg	3,579	4,026	4,073	4,849	4,983	5,274	5,329
Sitka	8,058	8,150	8,234	7,864	8,159	7,235	7,395
Juneau	10,263	10,100	10,400	11,679	12,189	13,006	13,237
Lynn Canal-Icy Straits	2,699	2,823	2,978	3,075	3,151	3,173	3,259
Cordova-McCarthy	1,555	1,647	1,754	1,775	1,925	1,890	1,956
Valdez-Chitina-Whittier	1,680	1,865	2,035	2,391	2,376	2,429	2,347
Palmer-Wasilla-							
Talkeetna	5,482	5,697	5,648	6,096	6,052	6,331	6,355
Anchorage	75,086	75,761	79,297	79,608	87,187	90,766	91,787
Seward	3,038	2,973	2,808	2,639	2,162	2,188	2,458
Kenai-Cook Inlet	6,432	7,399	7,974	7,643	8,292	8,820	9,985
Kodiak	5,602	5,154	5,573	6,034	6,777	6,967	7,309
Aleutian Islands	4,036	3,814	4,073	4,542	4,860	4,929	4,967
Bristol Bay	3,940	3,842	4,194	3,815	4,013	4,122	4,256
Bethel	6,024	6,286	6,343	6,575	7,156	7,373	7,393
Barrow	2,000	2,054	2,424	2,513	2,458	2,592	2,633
Kobuk	3,392	3,524	3,435	3,743	4,001	3,733	3,948
Nome	6,174	5,968	6,039	6,295	6,208	6,009	6,025
Wade Hampton	2,850	3,935	3,720	3,925	4,346	4,867	4,831
Kuskokwim	2,445	2,426	2,526	2,404	2,649	2,641	2,575
Yukon-Koyukuk	3,765	3,675	3,786	3,402	3,419	3,370	3,418
Fairbanks	32,254	34,788	35,826	35,850	35,312	35,891	36,029
Upper Yukon	1,670	1,581	1,374	1,291	1,348	1,243	1,279
TOTAL ALASKA	204,180	209,817	216,904	220,800	232,175	238,305	241,266

SOURCE: Alaska Department of Labor, Employment Security Division, Research and Analysis Section. Figures for Jan. 1, 1967 were interpolated from estimates for July 1, 1966 and July 1, 1967.

As shown in Table 14, if Nome data are excluded from the calculation of per capita incomes in Western Alaska, a decrease rather than an increase occurred between calendar year 1961 and fiscal year 1967. The ratio of urban Alaska per capita income to that of Western Alaska, exclusive of Nome, rose from 3.8 in calendar year 1961 to 5.1 in fiscal year 1967.

The per cent of personal income accounted for by welfare payments, as indicated by data in Tables 12, 17, and 18, has remained at about 9 per cent in Western Alaska throughout 1961-1967 — or at 11 per cent if Nome data are excluded. These figures contrast with less than 1 per cent for the state as a whole.

In conclusion, actual buying power per person and living standards are definitely not improving in rural areas of the state, although living standards steadily increase in large urban centers. Consequently, disparities in living standards are continuing to increase. In Alaska almost all victims of poverty, in both urban and rural areas, are non-white — chiefly Eskimo, Indian, or Aleut.

TABLE 14
Comparison of Urban Versus Western Alaska
(Excluding Nome) Civilian Per Capita Incomes,
Based on Wage Income, Unemployment Benefits,
and Welfare Payments¹

	Cal- endar Year 1961	Cal- endar Year 1962	Cal- endar Year 1963	Cal- endar Year 1964	Cal- endar Year 1965	Cal- endar Year 1966	Fis- cal Year 1967
URBAN ALASKA, consisting of:							
Anchorage Census District							
Fairbanks Census District							
Juneau Census District							
Ketchikan Census District	\$2,410	\$2,467	\$2,562	\$2,878	\$2,953	\$3,026	\$3,118
WESTERN ALASKA (EXCLUDING NOME), consisting of:							
Kobuk Census District							
Wade-Hampton Census District							
Bethel Census District							
Kuskokwim Census District	\$630	\$602	\$607	\$609	\$556	\$575	\$614
RATIO:							
Urban Per Capita Income ¹ to Western Alaska Per Capita Income ¹ (Excluding Nome)	3.8	4.1	4.2	4.7	5.3	5.3	5.1
¹ Although proprietor's income and several other income categories are not reflected in the per capita income figures above, 80 per cent of all civilian income in Alaska is accounted for by the sources used. Therefore, it is unlikely that inclusion of all cash income would substantially alter the ratios of urban per capita income to that of Western Alaska. However, the ratios would be decreased by the inclusion of estimates for non-cash income from subsistence hunting and fishing. No such estimates are available, but it is known that subsistence activities are a very important aspect of the economy of Western Alaska.							
SOURCE: Per capita incomes shown above are computed from civilian income data in Table 12 divided by civilian population estimates in Table 13.							

TABLE 15
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Payments (Civilian Only)
(In Dollars)

CENSUS DISTRICT NAME	CY 1961	CY 1962	CY 1963	CY 1964	CY 1965	CY 1966	FY 1967
Prince of Wales	1,271,272	1,295,935	1,555,096	1,529,296	1,820,852	3,268,146	4,828,173
Ketchikan	20,353,134	22,644,436	24,349,468	26,236,817	28,078,586	30,104,200	30,223,569
Wrangell-Petersburg	5,699,351	6,864,989	7,297,593	8,255,308	9,244,584	10,605,688	11,561,025
Sitka	14,221,381	14,057,857	16,086,989	17,264,813	18,605,640	17,413,083	18,729,834
Juneau	31,473,509	30,889,756	36,808,327	39,326,190	41,636,308	42,334,686	43,965,256
Lynn Canal-Icy Straits	4,271,150	4,373,102	4,943,143	5,428,542	5,120,088	5,475,645	6,155,340
Cordova-McCarthy	3,222,601	3,968,179	3,988,212	3,209,473	4,485,099	4,738,925	4,872,247
Valdez-Chitina-Whittier	2,809,683	3,690,641	4,702,896	4,956,707	6,821,026	8,574,190	8,950,563
Palmer-Wasilla-Talkeetna	5,871,173	6,713,807	7,862,193	9,799,126	9,208,236	9,868,218	9,612,627
Anchorage	184,606,940	193,349,163	202,493,883	242,397,806	261,797,956	277,311,108	292,654,916
Seward	4,841,721	5,061,246	5,313,384	4,498,152	4,388,730	4,398,689	4,779,384
Kenai-Cook Inlet	6,724,298	9,250,707	9,464,690	10,976,870	15,868,275	27,525,377	36,395,807
Kodiak	10,089,287	11,267,212	11,320,484	13,253,412	16,862,481	20,192,010	20,684,226
Aleutian Islands	10,558,607	8,701,668	9,756,503	13,419,349	12,616,864	11,734,363	13,250,688
Bristol Bay	8,743,753	5,882,926	5,616,859	5,576,697	10,863,456	8,041,655	7,843,492
Bethel	3,386,627	3,519,513	3,926,077	3,926,077	3,989,453	4,089,835	4,386,806
Barrow	4,760,261	4,557,198	5,019,351	5,583,791	5,382,554	5,156,495	5,241,582
Kobuk	2,156,683	2,356,576	2,297,249	2,635,293	2,423,949	2,401,063	2,727,244
Nome	5,122,848	4,853,785	5,305,693	6,012,961	6,762,510	6,161,131	6,473,842
Wade Hampton	856,686	904,357	960,773	1,034,359	992,998	1,162,314	1,259,809
Kuskokwim	1,283,174	1,249,344	1,211,608	1,148,699	1,181,213	1,363,334	1,474,608
Yukon-Koyukuk	15,729,365	14,565,115	14,520,686	15,645,041	15,647,916	16,509,856	16,089,438
Fairbanks	66,376,810	72,122,688	80,693,858	85,875,491	95,336,398	102,644,400	103,622,812
Upper Yukon	3,126,079	2,976,958	2,520,909	2,657,200	2,166,445	2,211,905	2,131,846
TOTAL ALASKA	417,556,393	435,117,158	467,681,158	530,647,470	581,301,617	623,286,316	657,915,134

SOURCE: Alaska Department of Labor, Employment Security Division, Research and Analysis Section.

TABLE 16
Unemployment Insurance Payments
(In Dollars)

Census District Name	CY 1961	CY 1962	CY 1963	CY 1964	CY 1965	CY 1966	FY 1967
Prince of Wales	88,808	46,958	54,598	50,127	54,834	52,996	45,957
Ketchikan	681,565	405,178	400,734	375,908	386,930	361,815	413,721
Wrangell-Petersburg	292,825	239,008	280,365	243,262	251,486	240,606	281,978
Sitka	278,557	185,267	147,020	124,444	132,306	182,126	156,682
Juneau	350,918	317,558	264,917	199,346	204,490	201,423	226,418
Lynn Canal-Icy Straits	141,616	93,073	101,100	62,514	84,015	88,959	72,734
Cordova-McCarthy	88,454	80,599	94,376	71,280	51,433	109,648	106,050
Valdez-Chitina-Whittier	71,757	62,493	77,907	64,578	59,786	90,684	89,664
Palmer-Wasilla-Talkeetna	330,771	294,235	284,773	173,352	196,993	220,594	260,173
Anchorage	2,570,805	2,156,024	2,294,498	1,399,969	1,593,840	2,177,971	2,226,839
Seward	132,365	115,541	106,569	133,780	143,814	154,050	114,692
Kenai-Cook Inlet	441,500	374,826	524,582	394,736	290,336	375,492	361,493
Kodiak	94,075	114,954	138,930	120,510	58,327	96,418	119,576
Aleutian Islands	55,325	75,773	83,877	46,319	40,061	33,178	48,810
Bristol Bay	103,899	105,843	146,464	94,086	82,585	99,317	86,939
Bethel	180,097	227,772	213,215	147,979	163,623	209,723	178,198
Barrow	69,946	80,851	73,773	31,678	43,296	52,719	53,629
Kobuk	196,910	221,266	203,756	98,242	114,665	153,273	154,029
Nome	247,948	243,707	266,735	148,156	139,903	153,152	149,170
Wade Hampton	81,535	112,749	105,789	49,828	77,275	105,252	84,240
Kuskokwim	79,718	85,826	97,568	65,969	53,713	55,229	59,390
Yukon-Koyukuk	204,143	164,472	149,096	99,234	116,007	124,261	138,297
Fairbanks	1,552,037	1,264,032	1,022,417	827,580	764,968	723,828	811,924
Upper Yukon	35,536	33,562	36,733	24,881	30,646	19,335	17,604
TOTAL ALASKA	8,371,110	7,101,567	7,169,792	5,047,758	5,135,332	6,082,049	6,258,207

SOURCE: Alaska Department of Labor, Employment Security Division, Research & Analysis Section.

TABLE 17
Welfare Payments Administered by the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs
(In Dollars)

Census District Name	CY 1961	CY 1962	CY 1963	CY 1964	CY 1965	CY 1966	FY 1967
Prince of Wales	24,556	11,213	11,385	11,345	11,739	11,442	8,280
Ketchikan	55,491	42,173	45,280	38,418	41,561	60,320	63,618
Wrangell-Petersburg	16,489	7,795	6,037	7,042	8,627	8,571	8,255
Sitka	18,314	12,682	14,862	18,337	23,409	25,558	24,449
Juneau	32,085	29,001	25,806	24,838	29,951	44,399	53,630
Lynn Canal-Icy Straits	23,522	19,317	22,132	21,312	24,858	23,802	18,043
Cordova-McCarthy	2,441	2,468	2,848	3,396	8,880	10,792	7,935
Valdez-Chitina-Whittier	36,450	29,308	29,193	30,234	34,856	36,550	32,833
Palmer-Wasilla-Talkeetna	8,349	11,512	12,067	9,731	9,038	12,928	16,003
Anchorage	76,612	84,323	88,914	90,984	84,050	98,943	122,254
Seward	11,484	14,422	15,103	17,169	14,288	11,716	12,542
Kenai-Cook Inlet	22,451	21,677	28,741	27,152	15,080	13,826	12,772
Kodiak	17,931	19,618	26,115	33,146	34,651	24,663	14,125
Aleutian Islands	10,844	14,680	15,870	11,214	6,464	8,925	11,568
Bristol Bay	19,047	27,867	77,632	108,625	78,505	100,456	138,762
Bethel	23,709	34,984	48,450	43,242	46,582	81,442	108,558
Barrow	26,378	36,368	31,951	21,259	16,265	16,593	17,409
Kobuk	45,813	39,546	25,781	24,815	35,317	39,095	36,701
Nome	106,585	93,947	79,538	78,902	100,582	110,471	103,817
Wade Hampton	20,015	18,420	18,730	25,385	29,092	33,617	40,491
Kuskokwim	20,466	20,609	21,446	21,890	30,736	39,392	41,522
Yukon-Koyukuk	34,213	43,413	44,538	37,802	30,148	32,342	35,388
Fairbanks	74,108	81,684	55,746	39,088	56,021	135,540	197,012
Upper Yukon	44,281	40,951	35,595	29,195	27,100	35,693	40,432
TOTAL ALASKA	771,634	757,978	783,760	774,521	797,800	1,017,076	1,166,399

SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs. Calendar year figures shown above are estimates based on fiscal year data supplied by the Bureau.

TABLE 18
Welfare Payments Administered by the Alaska Department of Health and Welfare

Census District Name	CY 1961	CY 1962	CY 1963	CY 1964	CY 1965	CY 1966	FY 1967
Prince of Wales	26,592	25,932	34,776	30,360	25,884	22,128	22,128
Ketchikan	139,560	142,464	162,696	195,948	210,696	221,796	221,796
Wrangell-Petersburg	40,932	40,596	38,664	43,776	49,728	56,904	56,904
Sitka	93,864	102,144	104,868	94,104	83,388	82,836	82,836
Juneau	129,048	133,956	169,416	119,556	180,888	165,504	165,504
Lynn Canal-Icy Straits	94,656	93,864	84,192	74,148	69,600	56,916	56,916
Cordova-McCarthy	22,044	16,596	9,120	12,528	15,564	26,988	26,988
Valdez-Chitina-Whittier	47,496	50,520	50,856	50,388	61,260	61,368	61,368
Palmer-Wasilla-Talkeetna	27,936	24,456	32,988	39,744	28,152	70,500	70,500
Anchorage	191,820	176,460	224,124	229,524	300,168	320,232	320,232
Seward	40,668	43,056	43,152	35,568	28,656	47,592	47,592
Kenai-Cook Inlet	69,528	60,684	69,288	75,696	73,716	69,504	69,504
Kodiak	32,904	35,736	42,612	58,308	51,240	57,852	57,852
Aleutian Islands	48,444	48,576	56,280	52,536	49,272	43,704	43,704
Bristol Bay	51,336	47,712	76,896	67,164	72,420	68,808	68,808
Bethel	342,624	368,700	347,592	345,132	361,200	372,456	372,456
Barrow	92,472	111,168	100,140	97,104	102,768	99,444	99,444
Kobuk	242,472	227,388	238,812	262,284	261,300	263,772	263,772
Nome	319,512	315,984	315,336	330,744	331,692	345,936	345,936
Wade Hampton	181,596	193,908	194,064	178,476	186,108	188,724	188,724
Kuskokwim	162,840	156,084	154,404	135,060	143,652	138,540	138,540
Yukon-Koyukuk	170,700	184,872	166,344	172,512	175,932	189,624	189,624
Fairbanks	224,640	246,456	245,124	253,764	255,540	302,988	302,988
Upper Yukon	116,520	141,096	126,492	131,712	126,552	123,888	123,888
TOTAL ALASKA	2,910,204	2,988,408	3,088,236	3,086,136	3,245,376	3,398,004	3,398,004

SOURCE: Alaska Department of Health & Welfare. Annual figures shown above are estimates based on monthly figures for October.

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