A PROJECTION OF MORTGAGE DEMAND

IN URBAN ALASKA: FISCAL YEAR 1982

by

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prepared for

Alaska Housing Finance Corporation

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February 1981

MEMORANDUM

April 17, 1981

TO: Jay Kennedy, Alaska Housing Finance Corporation

FROM: Lee Huskey, ISER

SUBJECT: Reveiw of Fiscal Year 1982 Mortgage Demand Projection

Demand for mortgage funds in FY 1981 has exceeded all previous projections. As a result of this unexpected level of demand, the projections which I made for mortgage demand appear conservative. This memorandum will briefly examine three areas where either assumptions made were conservative or new information leads to substantial changes.

In some sense, this memorandum provides a sensitivity test for the model. In any model, the assumptions which lie behind the projections determine the level of the projections; changes in these assumptions result in changes in the projection. Given the ad hoc nature of the assumptions used in the mortgage demand model; the dated data base; and the major structural change brought by changes in AHFC programs, there is little guarantee of the accuracy of the projections. By examining the effects of changing some of the more important assumptions, we can examine the sensitivity of the model.

The fiscal year 1982 projections may not be conservative, if the demand in FY 1981 reflects an aberration in the housing market. Housing market distortions may result from two factors: (1) pent up demand from past years which were a result of high mortgage rates and the lack of mortgage funds in 1979 and (2) the perception that mortgage funds are limited which resulted in a "land rush" mentality to get "cheap" mortgage funds while they last. In addition, changes in AHFC programs, such as the low income subsidy and PAM, have expanded the effective demand. These factors have greatly increased housing demand. This demand pressure has been placed against a supply of housing which has not expanded resulting in rapidly rising housing prices. The rise in housing prices also increases mortgage demand. These factors may result in a swelling of mortgage demand the first year of the programs which will subside as housing is constructed, reducing the pressure on price, and as adjustments to the new programs are worked out. The importance of these effects can only be judged by examining the 1981 mortgages.

There are three areas where either new information or conservative assumptions make a reestimate of FY 82 mortgage demand necessary. These are: total housing demand, the savings constraint, and prices.

Introduction

This paper presents a projection of the mortgage demand which will face the Alaska Finance Corporation in fiscal year 1982. Recent changes to the structure under which Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) operates makes the projection of future demand a necessary planning step. This projection is to be used in conjunction with the informed opinions of AHFC officials and representatives of the state's housing and financial industries to decide on the probable level of mortgage demand in fiscal year 1982. In addition to providing information for the current decision making, this study is also the first step in developing a more refined methodology for projecting future mortgage demand.

Alaska Housing Finance Corporation was originally established to sell tax-exempt housing bonds and provide a secondary mortgage market for a portion of the housing market. Two major changes in the legislation have expanded AHFC's function to the provision of mortgage funds for the majority of the state housing markets. The first legislative change occurred at the national level; the U.S. Congress passed a bill which restricted AHFC's ability to use tax-exempt bonds to provide Alaska mortgage funds. In response to this change at the national level, the Alaska legislature provided a mechanism for the state to subsidize mortgage funds raised in regular bond markets. In addition, the state removed the income limits which had restricted the market served by AHFC.

The changes in legislation are the reason a projection of mortgage demand is required by AHFC. The legislative changes change the structure under which AHFC operates, primarily by broadening the market it serves. Because of this change, past experience is of little help in determining the future requirements of the program, and a projection of the demand becomes a necessary planning step. In addition, such a projection is a requirement in the budget process. AHFC can no longer simply go to the bond market to raise funds since it requires state funding for its subsidy. This requirement means that AHFC must have an estimate of its future level of business when it approaches the legislature for funding.

Alaska Urban Areas

A major distinction in the programs provided by AHFC is between programs for urban and rural housing. This projection in this study includes only the urban mortgage market. Rural Alaska has its own specific set of housing problems; these include the lack of an adequate secondary market and a history of inadequate housing. These problems require special considerations and programs. This study, as a first step in improving AHFC's projection capability, deals with the most straightforward aspects of AHFC's programs, the urban housing programs.

Although the rural areas have special problems, the urban areas are by far the largest part of AHFC's market. AHFC defines the urban area to include those areas which are road connected to Anchorage and Fairbanks and towns with greater than 4,500 population. For purposes of this study, we define the urban area to include the Anchorage, Fairbanks, Kenai, Seward, Valdez, Kodiak, Matanuska-Susitna, Southeast Fairbanks, Sitka, Ketchikan, and Juneau Census Divisions.

The urban areas contain the major portion of the state's population. In 1978, this area included eighty-two percent of the state's population. The population in this region expanded slightly faster than population in the state as a whole between 1970 and 1978. The share of state's population in this region increased from eighty percent in 1970 (Department of Commerce and Economic Development, 1979). This region will provide the majority of the demand for mortgage funds in fiscal year 1982.

Mortgage Demand

The effective demand for purchasing housing determines the demand for mortgage funds. The amount of mortgage funds depends only on the number of units, their value, and the proportion of the total house price which is loaned. We assume that AHFC handles all of the mortgages for single family, duplex, and condominiums in urban Alaska. We also assume that AHFC handles only one-half of existing mobile home sales and 75 percent of new sales. Conversations with credit union officials indicate that a large proportion of mobile home purchases are still made through conventional consumer loans; this is primarily because of assessing practices, quality limitations, and timing.

The loan-to-value ratio describes the proportion of housing price which is loaned. We assumed that on average AHFC would loan 95 percent of the value for all units, except duplexes. Because of the high cost of duplexes, some of these may exceed the lending limits set by AHFC; we assume that the loan-to-value limits will be 90 percent for existing units and 80 percent for new units. These assumptions reflect only the averages, and individuals may increase their down payment for many reasons.

Table 1 shows the mortgage demand by housing type. The projected mortgage demand facing the state is \$702.9 million. This is distributed between all four types, with the major share (79 percent) going to singlefamily units. Condominiums account for 6 percent, duplexes for 11 percent, and mobile homes for 4 percent. The mortgage demand projected in this report is a conditional projection. It is dependent on the set of assumptions described in the report.

Two aspects of the fiscal year 1982 mortgage demand need to be considered: exemptions under the Ullman Bill which allow the state to sell some tax-exempt housing bonds and the effect of the AHFC's low-income mortgage subsidy program. The Ullman Bill provides for the use of taxexempt bonds to finance certain housing; this bill allows up to \$200 million

TABLE 1. MORTGAGE DEMAND: ALASKA URBAN AREAS FISCAL YEAR 1982

Туре	Units	Value	Total Value (000,000)	Proportion Served by 	Loan-to-Value Ratio	Mortgage Demand (000,000)
Single Family						
Existing	4,864	\$95 , 000	\$462.1	100%	95%	\$439.0
New	1,123	109,400	122.9	100%	95%	116.8
Mobile Home						
Existing	955	26,500	25.3	50%	95%	12.0
New	670	30,500	20.4	75%	95%	14.5
Condominiums						
Existing	253	75,000	19.0	100%	95%	18.1
New	308	86,400	26.6	100%	95%	25.3
Duplex						
Existing	396	108,300	42.9	100%	90%	38.6
New	387	124,700	48.3	100%	80%	38.6

worth of mortgages on housing which has a value of less than 90 percent of the average home sale value in the previous year. Single-family, condominiums, and duplexes can be financed under this exemption. A rough calculation based on the demand figures presented in this report indicates that there is the approximately \$200 million of mortgage demand in Alaska urban areas which would meet the criteria. The average home price is \$95,000; 90 percent of this is approximately \$86,000. If we take value of sales below \$87,000 (see Table 11 below), there is \$192 million in mortgage demand. There is \$168.2 million in single family, 6.9 million in duplex, and \$16.9 million in condominiums. These results depend importantly on our assumptions. Given the conditional nature of our projections, we can project that there will be \$200 million in mortgage demand which can be served with tax-exempt bonds.

The effect of AHFC's Special Mortgage Program with Home Ownership Fund Assistance is to subsidize the cost of home ownership for lowerincome households. The subsidy reduces the interest on the loan to 6 percent or the payment to 25 percent of the household's income. The income limits depend on family size and are approximately \$29,000 for a family of four. We can use our analysis to assess the qualitative effect of this program on mortgage demand. The effect of this program is to expand the value of a house which lower-income households can afford. The maximum price of a home which a household with an income of \$20,000 can afford is increased from \$44,000 to \$66,000, while a household with \$30,000 income can purchase an \$80,000 home instead of one costing \$66,000. Because of the limited supply of lower-priced housing, this program expands the effective demand of housing by providing access to available housing. One further consideration is that savings and down payment still provide an effective constraint to participation in this program. Without the subsidy program, given our assumptions, total demand for single-family housing less than \$66,000 would be 1,246. Comparing this with an available supply of 628 and the inability to build at this price indicates an excess demand of 618 households. The subsidy program reduces this excess by 410 households

by allowing these households to increase their purchases of higher-priced housing which is available.

The following sections of this report describe the methodology used in making these projections.

The Determinants of Mortgage Demand

The major determinants of mortgage demand are the demand for housing and the household's housing choice decision. The housing choice decision includes the choice among types of housing--single-family, multifamily, duplex, or mobile home--and the choice of tenure--owning or renting. The mortgage demand facing AHFC will depend on the demand for owner-occupied housing. The choice of housing type will affect the total mortgage value.

Mortgage demand is influenced by the total demand for housing, not simply the demand for new housing units. In many cases, decision makers are concerned with projecting the demand for increased housing units, which is primarily a function of the growth in population. While the increase in housing is an important concern, especially to the construction industry, we are interested in projecting the total demand for housing. Total demand includes not only the increased demand generated by increased population, but also housing demand generated by current residents who decide to move to new housing and in-migrants who replace population which moves out of the region.

Although the growth in total population and the demand for new housing receive the greatest attention, there are other equally important changes in the demographic structure of the population which affect the demand for housing. Even in a region with stable level of population, the population is not static. The age structure, family size, and sex distribution are examples of population characteristics which change over time. These changes

reflect the aging of the population, the natural forces of birth and death, and migration. Changes in these population characteristics affect what households consider as their best choice in housing and may lead to a change in housing units, generating a demand for housing.

The decision of a household to move from its present location has been studied a great deal by economists, geographers, sociologists, and others. These studies fit within the larger question of residential location. The mobility decision deals with two types of mobility: the decision to move to a different house within the region and the decision to move out of the region; each of these affects housing demand. The primary factors influencing the decision to move are life cycle changes. These include changes in family size and composition as well as employment changes such as increases in income or changing jobs. Changes in the wealth position of households, such as those resulting from increased equity in their current house, may also result in the decision to move.

Life cycle changes affect housing demand by changing what the household feels is its optimal housing choice. For example, as the number of people in the family increases, the family may decide its present house is too small and a bigger house would be optimal. A change in the optimal house may generate a move and add to the current demand for housing. When a household purchases a home, it also purchases a neighborhood; so changes in the neighborhood may also generate a desire to move. The importance of neighborhood and location may lead to another type of "movement," home improvement. If life cycle changes mean the house is not optimal but the neighborhood and location remain optimal, the household may change the house instead of moving. Major home improvement projects also lead to a demand for mortgage funds through refinancing.

The other type of mobility which is important to housing demand is the movement of new families into the region. The number of new migrants and the housing demand they generate may be greater than the net increase

in population since some migration occurs to replace people who have outmigrated or left the region. The decision to leave the region is also influenced by employment opportunities and life cycle considerations. The number of new residents entering a region will be determined by the expansion of the job opportunities in the region and the number of outmigrants. All of these new residents, not simply the net increase, will demand housing. Those households which choose owner-occupied housing will increase the demand for mortgage funds.

When estimating future mortgage demand, it is necessary to distinguish between potential demand (or housing needs) and effective demand. Potential demand is determined primarily by the demographic and life cycle factors we discussed above. The level of effective demand depends not only on this potential demand, but also on the growth of incomes, the income distribution, and the availability of mortgage funds. Effective demand distinguishes the effect of prices on housing desires; not every household which desires an owner-occupied house can afford one. Price provides an effective constraint, not simply because of the inverse relation between price and quantity demanded, but also because of the link between income and price forged by lending institution eligibility rules.

Housing supply and its distribution among various price levels may also limit effective demand. The response of the housing supply industry determines the extent to which increased potential demand becomes effective demand. If no new construction occurred in response to increased demand, the effect would be simply to increase the price of housing. The extent that supply increases in response to demand increases will determine the extent that price increases. The supply response needs to be measured in terms of its type and price distribution. Both the price and quantity response will influence effective demand.

HOUSING DEMAND IN FY 1982

This section describes a projection of housing demand for FY 1982 and the model which was used to produce the projection. The model used reduces the complexity of housing choice decision making by projecting three separate steps of the process. The model projects in three steps: (1) the decision to move, (2) the housing choice decision (potential demand), and (3) the effective demand for housing. The model can only be considered a preliminary effort in the development of a mortgage demand forecasting model. This effort, in addition to producing a preliminary forecast, will also provide a description of areas where increased effort would improve AHFC's ability to forecast future mortgage demand.

The projections presented in this section are dependent on the set of assumptions and assumed relationships which make up the model. Models provide a way of reducing our uncertainty, but they cannot be expected to eliminate the uncertainty. Models simply provide a way to reduce the uncertainty by specifying those areas about which we make assumptions. Because of this, we know that the projections produced with this model are contingent on the set of assumptions incorporated in the model.

The model and projection are demand oriented. The demand orientation is expressed by the assumption that increases in the demand for housing are the primary determinants of the effective demand. Supply enters only when considering the price of housing and its constraining effect on demand. The quantity of new housing produced is assumed to equal the level of effective demand for new housing. This may not be the most appropriate assumption and, in fact, may overestimate mortgage demand in periods of rapid growth.

The other basic consideration of the model is that it is a life cyclebased model. Potential demand is a function of the number of households in various life cycle stages. The concentration on life cycle as the prime determinant of housing demand is consistent with most other work on household mobility and housing choice.

A final general consideration concerns the calibration of the model. Models depend on information and data about the system they describe. This information provides both the starting point for the projection and the parameter value assumptions which quantify the assumed relationship which defines the model. The perfect set of information would include upto-date and regionally specific information on the socioeconomic and life cycle characteristics of the base population, the housing preferences of individuals by life cycle stages, the determinants of these preferences, and the characteristics of the region's housing supply. As in most modeling exercises, we did not have access to this perfect set of information; the information used in this study came primarily from an existing 1976 survey of the Alaska population conducted by the Census Bureau (Survey of Income and Education [SIE]) and two national publications which described movers (Housing Characteristics of Recent Movers and Geographical Mobility, both published by the Bureau of the Census).

The next three sections of the report describe the three separate components of the model. In each section, a general description of the model is given; the specific assumptions used are described; the results are presented; and the caveats which should be considered when using these results are introduced.

Decision to Move. This submodel estimates the number of households who will be in the market for housing. There are four groups of households: those moving to different housing within the region, those making major improvements to their existing housing, new households, and inmigrating households. We assume the first two can be estimated as one group, the movers; and the second two as another group, new households. The size of each group is a function of the head of household age distribution of the population; changes in age reflect life cycle changes for the households. The number of new households will also be determined by the increase in employment opportunities since in-migrants are needed to fill these new jobs.

To estimate the size of each group, we need the following information:

- The base year household distribution by age; 1980 is the base year.
- The rates at which households in different age cohorts move within the region and outside the region.
- The increase in employment opportunities over the base year level.
- The household employment rate, which allows us to estimate the number of households a given employment increase generates.

The assumptions and steps followed in estimating the size of each group are described below.

1. <u>Base Population</u>. The 1980 Census will provide a description of the households in urban Alaska. Unfortunately, this information was not available at this time. The household distribution in 1980 was estimated from a projection of the 1980 employment. Employment was used instead of population because there is still disagreement over the population levels in 1980.

The change in statewide employment by industry projected between 1979 and 1980 in <u>The Alaska Economic Information and</u> <u>Reporting System Quarterly Report</u> (Office of the Governor, November 1980) was allocated to the urban and non-urban regions of Alaska based on historical trends (see Table A-1). The number of households related to this level of employment were forecast in two steps. First, an occupation distribution was forecast using the occupation-industry matrix developed by the State Labor Department (see Table A-2). The number of employees who are household heads was estimated based on the distribution found for non-Natives in the 1976 Alaska Survey of Income and Education. The survey did not distinguish respondents by place within Alaska, so non-Natives were used to represent urban Alaska.

These rates were adjusted so that they were consistent with household estimates made for urban Alaska (see Goldsmith and Huskey, 1980) (see Table A-3).

Once the number of households by occupation of household head were estimated for the base year, the households were placed in life cycle groups. Each life cycle group consists of households with the same age of household head, household size, and residency in Alaska. We assumed this distribution by occupation would be the same as that found in the 1976 SIE. The distribution was applied to the projected households by occupation. The base year (1980) household distribution is shown in Table 2.

2. <u>Movers</u>. The movers submodel simulates the complex demographic changes which result in a household's decision to move to a different house within the region. Changes in the age of the household head are assumed to represent the important demographic changes. The decision to move is represented by a set of household mover rates for each age group, which represents the probability that a household will change houses within one year. These rates are shown in Table A-4. These rates were based on national mover rates found in <u>Geographical Mobility: March 1975 to March 1979</u> (Table 9, p. 22). These rates were applied to the existing population by age of household head distribution to determine the number of movers. Movers were assumed to have the same distribution across life cycle groups as found in the population in each age group.

3. <u>New Households</u>. In this preliminary model, the aging and creation of new households was not explicitly treated. The short time period over which the projection was made was the primary reason for this. The new households formed from the existing population were assumed to follow housing demand patterns similar to in-migrant households. The total number of new households was assumed to equal the in-migrant households.

		< 2 Years		3	– 5 Year	s		6 + Years	S
	Hou	sehold Si	ze	Hou	sehold Si	.ze	Нот	usehold S:	ize
Age of Household	1 - 2	3 - 5	6 +	1 - 2	3 - 5	6 +	1 - 2	3 - 5	6 +
< 25	1,430	1,958	168	735	841	99	2,798	1,907	68
25 - 50	2,878	8,956	2,675	2,812	5,424	4,356	8,629	22,813	11,217
50 <	1,000	625	292	524	1,217	200	10,499	5,334	2,742

TABLE 2. 1980 DEMOGRAPHIC STRUCTURE OF HOUSEHOLDS RESIDENCY

1. Based on demographic rates by occupation of household head found in 1976 Survey of Income and Education.

There are two major determinants of the number of new (in-migrant) households: the number of households leaving the region (out-migrants) and the number of new employment opportunities created. The number of out-migrating households was determined in a manner similar to that used to determine the number of movers. Out-migration rates for each age group are assumed to describe the complex set of changes which determine the decision to leave the region. These rates are also taken from <u>Geographical Mobility</u> and reflect national rates. The rates are shown in Table A-4. Applying these rates to the population determines the number of households leaving the region. Out-migrant households were assumed to be distributed among occupations as in the base population.

Growth in the employment opportunities also leads to the creation of new households. The projected growth of employment opportunities in the region in 1981 and 1982 was found as in the base year (see Table A-1). Growth in the region reflects a moderate rate of growth, with none of the large construction projects frequently discussed (ALPETCO, Northwest Gasline, PacAlaska LNG, etc.) assumed to get beyond the site preparation stage prior to 1983. Increased employment opportunities are translated into number of households using the industry-occupation matrix and household head-by-occupation distribution described above.

The total new households equal both the number required to replace out-migrants and the number required to fill new jobs. These new households were distributed to life cycle groups by assuming these households could be described by the occupational distribution for households with less than two years residency found in the 1976 SIE. This distribution was applied to the new households to estimate the number of households in each life cycle group.

The steps and assumptions described above provide an estimate of the number of households demanding housing in 1981 and 1982; the average of these years is assumed to describe the fiscal year 1982 demand. Table 3 describes the number of households in each important group. Of the 102,197 households in the region in 1980, an average of 9,229 move within the region and 11,717 leave the region in 1981 and 1982. For fiscal year 1982, there are a total of 25,203 households which will demand new housing. These numbers show that, according to our assumptions, the movement of population independent of its net increase is a much greater influence on housing demand, accounting for 83 percent of the total demand in this period.

The results of this step depend on the accuracy of the assumptions used. The primary problem with the model may be its simplicity. Increased completeness of description would result from disaggregating each mover group, introducing the aging of the population, and expanding the determinants of the decision to move.

The primary reason the model is simple is the lack of data about the household decision-making process, which is the main limitation to the use of these projections. The primary source of Alaska data was the 1976 SIE; this data may reflect the rapid growth in the economy which occurred between 1974 and 1976. Our only means of correcting for problems resulting from this was to adjust the distributions by occupation and length of residency. The other problem with the data is the use of national parameters to describe the movement rates. This assumes the only influence on movement is age of head, and controlling for this provides an accurate regional description. This is probably not an accurate assumption, but because of the lack of local information, it is the only approach available. Many of these data problems will be eliminated with the 1980 census when similar information for Alaska becomes available.

TABLE 3. OUT-MIGRANTS, MOVERS, AND IN-MIGRANTS

<u>1980-81</u>

Age of Household Head	Out-migrants	Movers	In-migrants
< 25	1,631	1,088	2,361
25 - 50	9,139	7,275	12,135
50 <	673	652	1,889

<u>1981-82</u>

Age of Household Head	Out-migrants	Movers	<u>In-migrants</u>
< 25	1,750	1,168	2,125
25 - 50	9,531	7,587	11,512
50 <	709	688	1,926

<u>Housing Choice</u>. This submodel estimates the type of housing desired by the households projected to move to new housing. There are five types of housing: single family, mobile home, duplex, multifamily, and condo. Of these, only condo and multifamily distinguish an owner as well as a structure type. We assume that one-half of those desiring duplexes wish to own them and half wish to rent. For single-family and mobile homes, we appeal to historical distributions to differentiate owner and renter occupancy. Housing choice, like the decision to move, is assumed to be a function of the household's life cycle stage.

To estimate the number of households desiring each type of housing, we need two pieces of information. First, we need to know the number of households in each life cycle group. This distribution of housing demands is an output of the Decision to Move Submodel. Second, we need information on how the housing choice is affected by life cycle characteristics.

Defining parameters which describe the relationship between life cycle and housing choice is the most important part of this submodel. Regression analysis of the survey information provided in the 1976 SIE was used to estimate these parameters. A linear probability model was estimated for each of five housing types. These regressions can be used to estimate the probability that a person with given life cycle characteristics would choose a particular type of housing. Each household in the survey provided an observation which related their housing choice and life cycle characteristics.

This method provides not only a method for projecting the housing choice but also a test to the hypothesis that housing choice is influenced by life cycle characteristics. Three life cycle characteristics were chosen to explain housing choice: age of head, household size, and residency. This choice was influenced by theory and the nature of our data. Family size and incomes have often been isolated as the major determinants of housing choice. Age of head was included primarily as a

proxy for income and also wealth. Income was not included directly for three reasons. First, the only measure of income was current income, which may not represent permanent income (or the household's assumptions about its long-run income potential) which may be the true determinant of housing choice. Secondly, the income would have been in 1976 dollars and would reflect the relationship between income and housing prices in that year; this would not be easy to project into the future. Finally, and most importantly, the observations from the SIE were of current owners; there was no way to distinguish recent purchasers. Because of this, there is no reason to believe the relationship between an owner's current income and the household's current income represents the relation at the time the unit was occupied. The length of residency was included because of our hypothesis that recent movers are less likely to purchase housing. Reasons for this include the high cost of the move's exhausting assets and the short-term nature of new residents' potential residency.

Table 4 shows the parameters from these regressions. Although the goodness of fit varies between the various housing types (measured by R^2 ; and $R^2 = 1$ measures a perfect fit), certain reasonable hypotheses about the importance of life cycle and housing choice are supported. Examining the single-family and multifamily equations shows that age, residency, and family size have alternate effects. Older, bigger, longer resident households tend to choose single-family more and multifamily less. This seems a reasonable result.

These equations are used to project the number of households desiring each housing type. The housing choice estimates are achieved by using these equations to estimate the probability that households in each life cycle group will choose a type of housing. These probabilities are multiplied by the number of households in each life cycle group projected above (see Table A-5). Table 5 shows that the projected distribution for 1980 housing is similar to that found in 1978, which may provide some support to our results.

Age	Single	Family	Mobil	e Home	Du	<u>plex</u>	Condo	minium	Mult	ifamily
< 25	185	(20.9)*	.012	(.2)	.015	(.4)	022	(2.4)	.183	(26.5)*
25-50										
50 <	.128	(17.2)*	030	(2.3)	015	(.6)	.017	(2.3)	101	(13.9)*
Household Size										
1 - 2	059	(4.4)*	.009	(.3)	.023	(1.9)	.006	(.3)	.017	(.5)
3 - 5										
6 +	.106	(12.4)*	030	(2.4)	038	(4.5)*	011	(1.0)	027	(1.0)
Residency										
1 - 2	144	(13.7)*	044	(3.1)	004	(.0)	002	(.0)	.192	(31.5)*
3 - 5										
6 +	.185	(30.6)*	034	(2.5)	019	(.9)	.009	(.6)	142	(23.2)*
Constant	.418		.139		.101		.023		.319	
$\bar{\mathbf{R}}^2$	13.6		0.2		0.4		0.4		14.6	

 * F statistic in parentheses; significant at greater than 95 percent.

SOURCE: 1976 Survey of Income and Education

	1980	<u>1978</u>
Single Family	.525	.514
Mobile Home	.100	.131
Duplex	.085	.086
Condominium	.029	270
Multifamily	.261	.270

SOURCE: 1978 distribution from Electric Power Consumption for the Railbelt, 1980.

Table 6 shows the distribution of housing choice among the five types of housing. The major choice is multifamily housing, which accounts for 45 percent of the desires of housing demanders. Single-family housing accounts for 34 percent of the desires. This high proportion of multifamily demand can be explained not only by the relative youth of demanders but also because of the effect of length of residency, since over 63 percent of the demand is by households new to the region.

The major limitations on the results of this submodel concern, as in the movers submodel, model structure and data. The primary concern with model structure concerns a fuller description of the housing choice decision. In this model, we concentrated primarily on type of structure. A further component of the choice is tenure (owner/renter); expanding the analysis to include this decision would improve the results. The major data problem has been previously isolated; the housing choice decision we are observing does not just include recent movers. A better data set would include just recent movers. One way we attempt to correct for this is by including residency as an explanatory variable.

Effective Housing Demand. Not everyone who wishes to purchase housing will be able to do so. The effective demand for housing is a function not only of the desire to own various types of housing, but it also depends on the ability of these households to purchase housing. This submodel estimates the number of households that are able to purchase housing. This step starts with desires of households to move into various types of housing; in this step, we deal only with those housing types--single family, mobile homes, duplex, condominiums--which have a major proportion of owner occupants. The number of households actually able to purchase housing depends on the nexus of the price of housing they desire, their incomes, and wealth. To assess the constraint on desires to ownership, we must know about the supply conditions of housing as well as the demand aspects.

TABLE	6.	PROJECTED	HOUSIN	G DEMAND:
		ALASKA	URBAN .	AREAS

	1981	1982	<u>FY 1982¹</u>
Single Family	8,729	8,469	8,599
Mobile Home	2,433	2,378	2,406
Duplex	2,397	2,365	2,381
Condominium	560	546	553
Multifamily	11,281	11,249	11,265

 $^{^{1}}_{\rm Growth}$ in FY 1982 is assumed to equal the average of the growth in 1981 and 1982.

To estimate the level of effective demand, we need to know the following information:

- The income and wealth position of households by the type of housing they desire.
- The distribution of prices found in the existing stock of housing and the supply response, both price and quantity, of new housing to the existence of excess demand.
- Financial institution rules which translate the income and wealth of households into ability to purchase housing.

The assumptions and steps followed in estimating the level of effective demand are described below.

1. <u>Housing Demand by Housing Value</u>. Housing is not one singular product; housing differs in many important ways, including size, location, and style. One of the important dimensions which differentiates housing, and in fact reflects differences in other dimensions, is price. This step allocates the potential demand estimated above by the price of house which can be afforded. Basic to this is a definition of the income and wealth position of the population.

The income and wealth distributions used in this step were based on those found in the 1976 SIE. The income distribution by age was found in two steps. First, the income distribution by age was found from the SIE for each occupation. These distributions were multiplied by the projected occupational employment and summed across occupations to produce an income distribution for each age group (see Table A-6); this accounts for changes in the occupation structure and its effect on income distribution. This assumes income is a function of the occupation of employment and the job experience represented by age.

The wealth position of households is represented by the savings distribution found in the SIE. This underestimates the wealth positions of individuals to the extent that wealth is held in other assets, but this consideration of wealth is primarily to emphasize its importance as a constraint. The savings distribution is found by age and income, which assumes the time a household has had to save and the amount it earns are the primary determinants of savings. The savings distribution shown in Table A-7 seems to support our working hypotheses that savings increase with age and income. Both income and savings distributions are adjusted from their 1976 levels based on projections found in the 1980 AEIRS projection; they are both assumed to increase at the projected rate of growth in per capita personal income between 1976 and 1981 (1.36 percent), although the distributions are assumed to remain the same.

Table 7 illustrates how a household's income and wealth position constrains its demand for housing. The constraint comes in the form of financial lending rules which define a relationship between income, wealth, and the maximum value of housing that a household can afford. The general lending rule we assumed defines the maximum house price that a household can borrow by:

- (a) limiting the household's monthly payment to twenty-five percent of its income;
- (b) assuming the loan amount is one hundred times this monthly payment; and
- (c) requiring a down payment of five percent.

Given this lending rule, the maximum house price which any household can pay is determined by its income. The proportion of households in each income group which can purchase a house at this maximum price is determined by their savings which must equal five percent of this price.

			Age						
Income	Maximum House Price ¹	<	25	25 -	- 50	50	<		
	~	Maximum	<u>Minimum</u> ³	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum		
< \$20,000	\$ 66,000 ²	24.4%		43.0%		77.5%			
\$20-30,000	\$ 80,000 ²	45.0	63.0%	54.0	62.1%	74.4	78.8%		
\$30-40,000	\$ 87,000	20.0	26.0	68.6	76.0	80.1	85.9		
\$40-50,000	\$109,500	33.3	33.3	73.8	77.5	85.4	89.1		
\$50 - 70 , 000	\$154,000	100.0	100.0	80.0	81.5	82.0	87.2		
\$70-100,000	\$219,000	-	-	100.0	-	100.0	-		
\$100,000 <	_	-	-	100.0	-	100.0			

TABLE 7.PROPORTION OF HOUSEHOLDS BY AGE AND INCOMEABLE TO AFFORD MAXIMUM HOUSE VALUE

¹Based on assumed lending rule which restricts loan value to equal one hundred times 25 percent of household monthly income. Loan value is assumed equal to 95 percent of house value.

²AHFC mortgage subsidy program allows maximum house value to expand by approximately one-third.

 $^{3}\ensuremath{\mathsf{Minimum}}$ is maximum amount of previous group.

The special AHFC low income housing subsidy program eases the effect of the lending rule on low income households. In this program, AHFC subsidizes the interest payment of low income households. This has the effect of expanding the housing price low income households can purchase by approximately one-third. The down payment or wealth constraint is still effective for these households.

Potential housing demand by income and age is shown in Table 8. This distribution was found using the distribution of housing type by income and age found in the SIE and agespecific housing choice projections found with the housing choice equations. Housing choice by income for each age group was adjusted to equal the age-specific housing choice projections.

2. <u>Housing Supply</u>. The ability to purchase the housing desired will also be constrained by the supply of housing. The effective demand for mortgage funds will be limited by the number of houses available for sale. For example, if there are ten households which can buy \$100,000 houses, but there are only five of these houses available, the effective mortgage demand will be \$500,000. Supply can be described in terms of its price and quantity. There are two dimensions of supply, existing stock and new production.

The available existing stock of housing for sale is that which is vacated by movers and out-migrants. The quantity and type of housing made available in this manner was estimated based on two pieces of information. First, the proportion of movers moving from owner-occupied dwellings was estimated using national information on recent movers (see Table A-8). The proportion of movers moving from owner-occupied units by age of household head was applied to the total number of movers and out-migrants by age

TABLE 8. HOUSING DEMAND BY HOUSEHOLD INCOME AND AGE

Age of

Household Head		Income							
	< \$20,000	\$20-30,000	\$30-40,000	\$40-50,000	<u>\$50-70,000</u>	\$70-100,000	<u>\$100,000 <</u>		
< 25 Yea	rs								
Housing Type									
Single Family Mobile Home Duplex Condominium	77 169 114 8	54 76 75 3	112 79 146 -	62 48 45 -	79 21 19 -	14 - - -	- - - -		
<u>25-50 Ye</u>	ars								
Housing Type									
Single Family Mobile Home Duplex Condominium	860 389 381 91	644 245 252 47	1,430 460 502 66	1,344 235 148 76	1,813 409 270 100	750 79 182 55	187 17 21 -		
<u>50 iears</u>									
<u>Housing Type</u> Single Family Mobile Home Duplex Condominium	103 30 65 14	112 20 34 10	205 42 48 21	190 41 27 9	143 41 51 36	162 6 - 17	59 - 1		

SOURCE: Based on distribution of housing type by age by income from 1976 SIE and the age-specific housing choice projection.

to estimate the number of owner-occupied units made available. The second step involved allocating these units among types. The distribution of types by age of household head was based on the 1976 SIE distribution. The existing supply of housing by type estimated with this procedure is shown in Table 9.

Very little information is available on the price dimension of supply. Our assumed price distribution is based on information on Anchorage sales and AHFC loans. The average price of existing units was assumed to be reflected by AHFC loans in 1980. During this period, AHFC financed approximately all of the housing market, so their loans are assumed to be representative of the market. Table 10 shows the assumed average price of each type. These were based on an assumed loan-to-value ratio of 95 percent for single family, condominiums, and mobile homes and 90 percent for duplexes. Average house prices were assumed to increase at the projected rate of increase in the housing component of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) (AEIRS, 1980). (The rate of increase projected between 1980 and FY 1982 was 1.105.)

The distribution of housing prices around these averages is also important since the relation between this distribution and the housing demand by income distribution determines effective demand. Our assumed price distribution is based on an analysis of single-family sales in Anchorage (information on sales distribution was provided by Anchorage Multilisting Service). Sales data from 1979 and 1980 were examined, and a cumulative distribution of proportion of housing supply by proportion of average price was developed (see Table A-9). The distribution was almost identical in 1979 and 1980. This single-family-Anchorage distribution was used to allocate the existing supply of all types of housing by price. The lack of available information on the supply characteristics of other types and other areas made this extreme assumption necessary.

TABLE 9. EXISTING SUPPLY OF OWNER-OCCUPIED HOUSING BY AGE

		Age		
Housing Type	< 25	25 - 50	50 <	<u>Total</u>
Single Family	110	4,166	588	4,864
Mobile Home	59	828	68	955
Duplex	3	205	44	252
Condominium	53	669	67	789

TABLE 10. AVERAGE VALUE OF HOUSING ALASKA URBAN AREAS

Туре	Existing ¹	New ²	
Single Family	\$95,000	\$109,400	(93,000) ³
Mobile Home	26,500	30,500	(25,900)
Duplex	108,300	124,700	(106,000)
Condominium	75,000	86,400	(73,000)

¹Based on AHFC loans for 1980. Assumes 95 percent financing for single-family, mobile home, condominiums, and 90 percent for duplexes. Price assumed to increase at projected increase in housing component of the CPI (Office of the Governor, 1980).

²Average price of new housing based on comparison of Anchorage average with estimate of average price of new construction. This rate applied to urban area prices and to all types.

³Minimum price of new construction in parentheses, based on estimate of Anchorage minimum for single-family units.

New housing is the other dimension of housing supply. Our description of the response of new housing to increased demand is not very well developed. There are two dimensions to this description, the average price and minimum price of new units. These dimensions are based solely on informed opinions of area realtors. Based on this source, we developed an average and minimum price for new single-family construction in Anchorage. The relation between the urban Alaska single-family price and Anchorage average was used to extend our information on new Anchorage housing to urban Alaska and to other types of housing. New houses were assumed to be built to meet the excess demand above the minimum price for each type of unit. Although this greatly simplifies the dynamics of housing supply, it is appropriate for our demand-oriented model.

3. <u>Effective Demand</u>. Table 11 compares the existing supply, constrained demand, and excess demand by housing price for single-family, condominiums, and duplexes. The level of constrained demand reflects the effect of income and savings on housing desires. The level of constrained demand is determined by the rates from Table 7 to the housing desires shown in Table 8. It equals the total number of households which desire each type of housing and can afford no more than the price described.

This table reflects two additional assumptions about demand. First, it is assumed that the large mobile home demand estimated by the housing choice equations is primarily a result of the peculiar supply conditions in 1976. We assume one-fourth of this demand is allocated equally to the other three types. Secondly, we assume that ten percent of the single-family and mobile home demand projected by the housing choice equations is for rentals and demand is reduced by this amount. This assumption is based

TABLE 11. CONSTRAINED DEMAND BY HOUSING TYPE¹ FISCAL 1982

		Single Family			Condominium		Duplex ²			
Value	Existing Supply	Constrained Demand	Net Demand	Existing Supply	Constrained Demand	Net Demand	Existing Supply	Constrained Demand	Net Demand	
<\$44,000	170	167	-3	21	19	-2	10	94	84	
66,000	458	659	201	69	89	20	24	327	303	
80,000	584	458	-126	44	52	8	26	229	203	
87,000	818	1,128	310	62	89	17	37	454	417	
110,000	1,694	1,088	-606	38	91	53	118	166	48	
154,000	984	1,542	558				151	300	149	
219,000	122	853	731	19	249	230	30	220	190	
219,000 <	34	227	193							

1 Assumes one-fourth projected mobile home demand is demand for other units. This demand (600 units) is evenly distributed among these types.

²Duplex supply is structures; each contains two units. Constrained demand is for units. Net demand includes both renters and purchasers.

on limited evidence from Anchorage where the rental proportion approaches 15 percent (<u>Population Profile</u>, 1978). We assume that everyone who demands a mobile home can afford one, so mobile homes are not included in this table.

The construction of new housing is derived from this table. It is assumed to equal the excess demand above the minimum price for which new housing can be built. We assume that excess supply at lower prices is used to absorb excess demand prior to the construction of new units.

The demand for each type of housing is shown to be effectively constrained by the relation between income, wealth, and the supply of housing. Both the quantity and price dimensions of supply are important for this effect. Of primary importance is the assumption that not all types of housing can be produced; that there is a minimum price at which housing can be produced. Table 12 summarizes the effects of these constraints by comparing the housing desires with constrained and effective demand. The effective demand is 76 percent of the housing choice for single family and 75 percent for condominiums. Only 61 percent of those wishing to live in duplexes are able to (two times the effective demand).

Information and model limitations in this submodel are most important. Many of our results concerning effective demand depend on an assumed structure of supply. As we have mentioned, our knowledge of the supply side is extremely limited, and a different assumed distribution and response would produce different results. If the supply of lower-priced housing is greater than we assumed, the effective demand will be greater. If the supply response of new housing differs, both in quantity and price response, the effective demand will differ.

The demand side also suggests caution for two reasons. First, the data used is old (1976) and may provide a faulty description of the income

Туре	Housing ² Choice	Constrained Demand	Existing Supply	New Construction	Effective ⁴ Demand
Single Family	7,919	6,122	4,864	1,123	5,987
Condominium	753	589	253	308	561
Duplex ¹	2,581	1,790	396	387 ³	783
Mobile Home	1,625	1,625	955	670	1,625

TABLE 12. HOUSEHOLD EFFECTIVE DEMAND FISCAL YEAR 1982

¹Housing Choice and constrained demand are in units. Existing supply and new construction are in structures (assume one rental-one owner unit per structure).

²Adjustments made to those in Table 5 are based on the assumptions that one-fourth of mobile home demand is demand for other types of housing, and ten percent of single-family and mobile home demand is for rentals.

³New duplex construction assumes that all those who cannot afford to buy duplexes rent. New construction equals the total who can afford to buy new structures as long as that does not exceed one-half total unmet demand.

⁴Effective demand equals existing supply plus new construction.

and savings structure of the population. These distributions may also be influenced by, as well as influence, the choice of housing. For example, recent home buyers may have only limited savings because of their purchase. Secondly, the description of housing demand may represent specific supply constraints of the particular year the survey was taken. This may influence both the type chosen and the owner-renter distribution.

Conclusions

This report has projected a demand for mortgage funds of approximately \$700 million facing AHFC in fiscal year 1982. The projection is contingent on the accuracy of the parameters and relationships used. In most cases, the assumptions made and methodologies used in this study present the best possible given the limited data available on housing demand and supply. Because of the contingent nature of the projection, this projection must be considered with other types of analysis when estimating the mortgage demand.

Although the results provided in this analysis are limited by the available data, the model exercise should be considered a useful exercise. This model can only be considered a preliminary effort. The evaluation of the model described in this paper will allow AHFC to decide on the future usefulness of such a model for their decision making. The model also helps to define a research agenda, if a future model is chosen. This paper has emphasized important data needs and model improvements which would allow a better projection of mortgage demand.

There are several areas where additional research could improve the model and its resultant projections. These areas are briefly described below:

- Improved description of the baseline population. The 1980 census will provide updated information on population and housing. This information should be incorporated when it is available.
- Description of movers and out-migrants. A better description of these groups and the determinants of their movement is needed. The 1980 census will provide some information of the type used in this study for Alaska-specific populations. Further information on the cause of movement would have to come through surveys of recent or potential movers.
- Housing choice of movers and in-migrants. The current model uses the housing choice of all households given their current life cycle stage; an improvement would be to have this information for households at the time the choice is made. This would allow us to include the effect of income and wealth on choice. This information, at least for purchasers, may come from AHFC files. A better source of information would include surveying recent movers.
- Existing supply. A better understanding of movers and out-migrants would include a description of the housing they leave. This would allow an improved description of the existing supply.
- <u>Housing supply response</u>. The response of housing supply needs to be better understood since it is an important constraint to effective demand. This response must be understood in terms of the price and quantity response of new and existing housing. The quantity response of existing housing relates to the effects of increased wealth on the movement of home owners. Such an understanding could be developed using sales and building permit data. A historical series could be developed which could be explained by various demand factors.

In addition to their usefulness for projection of future levels of demand, models are useful in the analysis of policy questions. The development of a more detailed housing market model would allow AHFC to address questions of policy. The model could be used to examine the effects of alternate policies on mortgage demand or other important policy variables.

Even the crude model developed in this paper points out some questions of policy importance. The model's isolation of the determinants of effective demand outline important considerations for future policy. Effective demand is a function of the income and wealth position of the population and the price distribution of the housing stock. Programs which are intended to expand the opportunity to own housing must not concentrate only on the income constraint. The lack of savings for the initial down payment may be a more effective constraint, and this will affect more than low-income households. Effective demand is also limited by the availability of housing which households can afford. Because of this, the supply response of housing to increases in demand may determine the impact of AHFC programs on effective demand. This response includes three dimensions: new housing construction (its quantity and price), the effect on the price of existing stock, and the effect of price increases on the decision to move and the expansion of supply at lower prices.

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APPENDIX A

TABLE A-1.	EMPLOYMENT	BY	INDUSTRY
	ALASKA URH	3AN	AREAS ^{1,2}
	1980 -	- 19	981

Industry	1980	1981	1982
Mining	3,684	5,264	6,785
Construction	8,483	9,228	9,409
Manufacturing	8,346	8,736	9,086
Transportation, Communication, and Utilities	14,468	15,309	16,071
Trade	26,404	27,835	29,110
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	7,045	7,370	7,967
Service	27,736	28,924	30,145
Federal Government	14,922	15,367	15,367
State and Local Government	27,325	27,917	28,481
Other Employment	991	1,079	1,156

¹Includes Anchorage, Fairbanks, Kenai, Seward, Kodiak, Matanuska-Susitna, Southeast Fairbanks, Valdez, Sitka, Ketchikan, and Juneau Census Divisions.

²Based on state control forecast presented in <u>Alaska Economic Informa-</u> <u>tion and Reporting System, Quarterly Report</u>, November 1980, Alaska Office of the Governor.

TABLE A-2. EMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION ALASKA URBAN AREAS¹

<u>Occupation</u>	1980	1981	1982
Management and Administration	14,244	14,957	15,599
Professional and Technical	22,795	23,788	24,613
Services	22,124	23,180	24,180
Maintenance and Production	40,898	43,906	46,244
Clerical	32,311	33,780	35,178
Sales	7,032	7,410	7,763
Unemployed ²	13,107	13,888	14,550
Not in the Labor Force ²	176,294	186,791	195,826

¹Derived from employment projections and occupational distribution by industry found in the State's Occupational Employment Statistics program's occupational employment survey conducted in 1978 and 1979.

 $^{^2 \}rm Assumes$ historical average of 8.6 percent unemployment and 46 percent labor force participation throughout.

TABLE	A-3.	PROPORTION	HEADS	OF	HOUSEHOLD
		ВҮ	OCCUPAT	TOL	1

Occupation	Percent of Employees Who Are Household Heads
Professional and Technical	.73
Management and Administration	.93
Sales	.46
Clerical	.22
Maintenance and Production	.82
Service	.33
Unemployed	.31
Not in the Labor Force	.096

¹Based on distribution in Survey of Income and Education, Bureau of Census, 1976. Adjusted to reflect household total estimated for 1978 in <u>Electric Power Consumption for the Railbelt</u>.

Age	Percent Out-migrating in One Year	Percent Moving During One Year
< 25	16.3	13.0
25-50	13.1	12.0
50 <	3.0	3.0

TABLE A-4. OUT-MIGRANTS AND MOVERS RATES BY AGE OF HOUSEHOLD HEAD

SOURCE: National averages from Bureau of Census, <u>Geographic Mobility</u>, p. 20, No. 353; Table 9, "Metropolitan Mobility by Age, Sex, and Relationship to Head of Household," p. 22.

TABLE A-5. HOUSING DEMAND BY LIFE CYCLE GROUP

(In-migrants and Movers)

		< 2 Years			3	3 - 5 Years			6 + Years		
		1 - 2	3 - 5	6 +	1 - 2	3 - 5	6 +	1 - 2	3 – 5	6 +	
<u>1981</u>											
	Age										
	< 25	1,180	1,481	87	80	91	12	304	207	7	
	25-50	3,140	8,097	2,447	293	566	454	900	2,379	1,170	
	50 <	1,099	610	236	15	35	6	305	155	80	
1982											
_	Age										
	< 25	1,142	1,473	68	67	77	9	225	174	6	
	25-50	3,151	8,414	2,528	225	491	395	782	2,067	1,017	
	50 <	1,099	699	236	15	34	6	296	151	77	

TABLE A	-6. HOU	SEHOI	D]	INCOME	D]	ISTRIBUTION	l
	ВҮ	AGE	OF	HEAD	OF	HOUSEHOLD	

		Age					
<u>Income</u> (1976\$)	< 25	25 - 50	_50 <				
< \$20,000	.528	.282	.232				
\$20-30,000	.249	.262	.242				
\$30-40,000	.158	.211	.220				
\$40-50,000	.053	.120	.130				
\$50-70 , 000	.012	.104	.136				
\$70-100,000	_	.020	.026				
\$100,000 <	-	.001	.014				

SOURCE: Based on distribution found in 1976 SIE of income by occupation by age. This distribution was adjusted to account for change in occupational distribution.

(000's of 1976 \$)

				Income			
Age	< 20	20-30	30-40	40-50	50-70	70-100	100 <
< 25							
Savings							
< 1 1 - 2 2 - 3 3 - 4 4 - 5 5 <	.62 .10 .09 .04 .01 .15	.25 .20 .10 .10 .05 .30	.36 .36 .07 .07 _ .14	.17 .17 .33 _ _ .33	- - - 1.0	- - - -	- - - -
<u>25 - 50</u>							
Savings							
< 1 1 - 2 2 - 3 3 - 4 4 - 5 5 <	.39 .15 .08 .08 .04 .26	.19 .13 .14 .06 .03 .45	.15 .06 .09 .08 .05 .58	.05 .06 .11 .05 .03 .71	.03 .04 .07 .04 .01 .80	- .06 - .94	- - - 1.0
_50 <							
Savings							
< 1 1 - 2 2 - 3 3 - 4 4 - 5 5 <	.16 .02 .11 .04 .05 .63	.05 .13 .08 .04 .03 .68	.06 .05 .08 .06 .02 .74	.05 - .05 .05 .05 .81	.03 .05 .03 .03 .05 .82	- .14 - .14 .71	- - - 1.0

SOURCE: 1976 SIE

Age of Household Head	Previous Unit Owner Occupied	Previous Unit Renter Occupied
< 25	.08	•92
25 - 50	.35	.65
50 <	.49	.51

TABLE A-8. PREVIOUS TENURE OF RECENT MOVERS BY AGE

SOURCE: Housing Characteristics of Recent Movers, Annual Housing Survey 1977, Bureau of the Census (Table E-2).

Price as a Proportion of Average	Proportion of Sales
40%	2%
60%	8%
80%	24%
90%	35%
Average	54%
110%	70%
120%	82%
140%	92%
160%	94%
180%	98%
200%	99%

TABLE A-9. CUMULATIVE DISTRIBUTION OF ANCHORAGE HOUSE SALES BY PRICE (1979)^{1,2}

¹Based on analysis of sales in 1979 provided by Anchorage Multilisting Service. Distribution in 1980 was similar.

 $^{^2\}ensuremath{\mathsf{Cumulative}}$ distribution describes the proportion of sales below a given price.