Cordova

2018 Commercial Fishing and Seafood Processing Facts

Cordova ranked the #17 fishing port in the U.S. by weight and the #19 port by value, with landings of 59.3 million pounds of seafood worth $54.9 million.

JOBS - FISHING
Permit holders, crew and vessels:
Commercial fishing permit holders: 328
Total permits owned: 532
Permit holders who fished: 288
Commercial crewmember license holders: 297
Permit holders who fished plus crew: 585
Percentage of local population who fished: 24.8
Vessels home ported: 678
Vessels owned: 438
Each of these individual small and family businesses represents investment, employment, and income in the Cordova community.

INCOME:
Estimated ex-vessel income by Cordova–based fishermen: $33.1 million
Earnings generated from commercial fishing circulated in the local economy through property and sales taxes; purchases of homes, rentals, hotels, electricity, entertainment, fuel, vehicles, food, repair and maintenance parts, transportation, travel, medical, and other services. Virtually every business in Cordova benefits from commercial fishing dollars.

JOBS – PROCESSING
Seafood processing jobs in Valdez-Cordova Census Area: 2,207
Alaska resident processing jobs: 455
Total processing wages: $23.4 million
Alaska resident processing wages: $4.8 million
Number of processing facilities: 20

...AND MORE JOBS
In addition to direct harvester and processor workers, fisheries related jobs include fuel, accountants, consultants, air and water travel, hardware and marine repair and supply businesses, advocacy and marketing organizations, aquaculture and hatchery workers, air cargo crew, freight agents, and scientists.

Much of the seafood harvested in Cordova was shipped or flown out, providing many transportation sector jobs.

Government related jobs include Alaska Department of Fish and Game • Fish and Wildlife Protection/Alaska Department of Public Safety • Docks and Harbors • Alaska State Troopers • United States Coast Guard • University of Alaska School of Fisheries• Alaska Sea Grant Marine Advisory program, and more.

REVENUE to the State and Community through Fishery Taxes …
FY 2018 shared taxes – Cordova received $1.98 million in fisheries business and landing taxes through the municipal tax-sharing program from Cordova fisheries. The State of Alaska received a like amount.

LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT
Cordova is in House District 32, Senate District P.
Salmon is the most abundant and valuable species to Cordova fishermen, with total landings of 33.3 million pounds worth more than $26.5 million in 2018.

Footnotes - Sources:
1. Commercial fishing permit activity and estimated harvest and earnings by permit holder are from the Alaska Commercial Fishery Entry Commission (CFEC) at https://www.cfec.state.ak.us/fishery.statistics/earnings.htm
2. Crew numbers are from Alaska Department of Fish and Game commercial crew license list, and are the number of full year adult resident license holders who list their address in a given community. http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=license.licensefile
3. Vessel numbers are from CFEC database data found online at https://www.cfec.state.ak.us/plook/#downloads and are a count of commercial fishing licensed vessels that list home port or ownership in a given community.
4. Number of processing facilities, and population data used to calculate the percentage of residents who fished, are from the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development (DCCED) Community Database. https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/dcca/DCRAExternal
5. NOAA, NMFS Office of Science and Technology, see reports “Total Commercial Fishery Landings at Major U.S. Ports” ranked by value and by weight at http://www.01.nmfs.noaa.gov/commercial-fisheries/commercial-landings/index
6. Revenue figures are from the Alaska Department of Revenue Shared Taxes report: http://www.tax.alaska.gov/programs/sourcebook/index.aspx