2018 Commercial Fishing and Seafood Processing Facts

JOBS - FISHING

Permit holders, crew and vessels:
Commercial fishing permit holders: 114¹
Total permits owned: 121¹
Permit holders who fished in 2018: 40¹
Commercial crewmember license holders: 92²
Permit holders who fished plus crew: 132¹,²
Vessels home ported: 3³ Vessels owned: 26³

Each of these individual small and family businesses represents investment, employment, and income in the Kusilvak Census Area.

INCOME

Estimated ex-vessel income by Fairbanks North Star Borough based fishermen: $2.7 million¹

Earnings generated from commercial fishing circulated in the local economy through property and sales taxes; purchases, utilities, repair and maintenance, and other services. Virtually every business in the Kusilvak Census Area benefits from commercial fishing dollars.

JOBS – PROCESSING

Seafood processing jobs in Fairbanks North Star Borough: 20⁵
Alaska resident processing jobs: 23 (90%)⁵
Total processing wages: $141,849⁵
Alaska resident processing wages: $132,345 (93.3%)⁵

…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, air cargo crew, freight agents, and scientists.

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 …

The state general fund received over $24.7 million in fisheries business and landings taxes in FY 2018. Total seafood industry contributions to the state treasury totaled over $78.3 million, including business, landings, salmon development, and seafood marketing taxes, among others.⁶

LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

The Fairbanks North Star Borough includes House District 1 through 6 and Senate Districts A, B and C.

The Fairbanks North Star Borough includes Fairbanks, Ft. Wainwright, North Pole, Badger, Chatanika, Chena Hot Springs, Chena Ridge, College, Eielson AFB, Ester, Farmers Loop, Fox, Goldstream, Harding-Birch Lakes, Moose Creek, Pleasant Valley, Salcha, South Van Horn, Steele Creek, and Two Rivers.

Footnotes - Sources:
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.lisencelist
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/DCRACentral.
5. Processor employment and wage data is from the Alaska Department of Labor at http://live.laborstats.alaska.gov/seafood/seafoodstatewide.cfm.