

# Matanuska-Susitna Borough



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## 2021 Commercial Fishing and Seafood Processing Facts

### JOBS - FISHING

#### Permit holders, crew and vessels:

Commercial fishing permit holders: **350<sup>1</sup>**  
Total permits owned: **427<sup>1</sup>**  
Permit holders who fished: **217<sup>1</sup>**  
Commercial crewmember license holders: **383<sup>2</sup>**  
Permit holders who fished plus crew: **600<sup>1,2</sup>**  
Vessels home ported: **36<sup>3</sup>** Vessels owned: **195<sup>3</sup>**

**Each of these individual small and family businesses represents investment, employment, and income in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough community.**

#### INCOME:

Estimated **ex-vessel income** by Matanuska-Susitna Borough-based fishermen: **\$33.3 million<sup>1</sup>**

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 the Matanuska-Susitna Borough benefits from commercial fishing dollars.**

### JOBS – PROCESSING

Seafood processing jobs in the Mat-Su Borough: **19<sup>4</sup>**  
Total borough processing wages: **\$37 thousand<sup>4</sup>**

### ...AND MORE JOBS

**In addition to direct harvester and processor workers,** fisheries related jobs include hatcheries, 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 • Hatcheries • 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 **\$47.6 million** in fisheries business and landings taxes in FY 2021. Total seafood industry contributions to the state treasury totaled over **\$63.1 million**, including business, landings, salmon development, and seafood marketing taxes, among others.<sup>5</sup>

### LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough includes House Districts 7-12, and Senate Districts D-F.

***The Matanuska-Susitna Borough includes the communities of Big Lake, Houston, Palmer, Talkeetna, Trapper Creek, Sutton, Wasilla, and Willow***

#### 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](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.
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. Processor employment and wage data is from the Alaska Department of Labor provided on request.
5. Alaska Department of Revenue, *Annual Report 2021*: [viewer.aspx \(alaska.gov\)](viewer.aspx (alaska.gov))