

Unalaska



United Fishermen of Alaska
PO Box 20229
Juneau, AK 99802-0229
Phone 907.586.2820
ufa@ufafish.org
www.ufafish.org

2021 Commercial Fishing and Seafood Processing Facts

Dutch Harbor ranked the #1 fishing port in the U.S. by weight and the #3 port by value, with landings of 745 million pounds of seafood worth \$249.0 million in 2021.⁶

JOBS - FISHING

Permit holders, crew and vessels:

Commercial fishing permit holders: **13¹**
Total permits owned: **21¹**
Permit holders who fished: **9¹**
Commercial crewmember license holders: **20²**
Permit holders who fished plus crew: **29^{1,2}**
Percentage of local population who fished: **1%^{1,2,4}**
Vessels home ported: **18³** Owned: **11³**

Each of these individual small and family businesses represents investment, employment, and income in Unalaska.

INCOME

Estimated **ex-vessel income** by Unalaska-based fishermen: **\$12.5 million¹**

Earnings generated from commercial fishing circulated in the local economy through purchases, fuel, vehicles, maintenance, transportation, travel, and other services. Virtually every business in the Unalaska community benefits from commercial fishing dollars.

JOBS – PROCESSING

Seafood processing jobs in the Aleutians West Census Area: **3,086⁵**

Total processing wages: **\$84.0 million⁵**
Alaska resident processing wages: **\$30.4 million⁵**
Number of processing facilities (2022): **6⁴**

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.
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. Population data used to calculate the percentage of residents who fished, are from the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development Database: [Alaska Population Estimates](#).
5. Processor employment and wage data is from the Alaska Department of Labor provided on request.
6. 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 [Top US Ports \(noaa.gov\)](https://www.noaa.gov).
7. Revenue figures are from the Alaska Department of Revenue Shared Taxes report: [FY2021 - Shared Tax Report - - Working Updated 11.29.2021.xlsx \(alaska.gov\)](#).
8. Local taxes from DCCED are from Table 2 of the Alaska Taxable database, found here: [Alaska Taxable 2021.pdf](#)

...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.

Much of the seafood harvested in Unalaska 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 • 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 ...

FY 2021 shared taxes – **Unalaska received \$8.3 million in fisheries business and landing taxes** through the municipal tax-sharing program from Unalaska fisheries landings and businesses.⁷ The State of Alaska received a like amount. In addition, **local fisheries taxes added \$5.0 million in revenue to the City of Unalaska.⁸**

LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

Unalaska is in House District 37, Senate District S.