

## Cantwell

Ahtna Athabascan

Ahtna, Inc.  
P.O. Box 649  
Glenallen, AK 99588  
(907) 822-3476

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	69,120 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	54,404 acres
Total labor force	81
High school graduate or higher	51.9%
Bachelor's degree or higher	7.4%
Unemployment rate	34.6%
Per capita income (1989)	\$10,944
Population	147
Percent native	22.4%

### LOCATION

Cantwell is located on the George Parks Highway, at the west end of the Denali Highway, 211 miles north of Anchorage and 28 miles south of Denali National Park.

### CLIMATE

Cantwell has a continental climate, with long, cold winters and short, warm summers. Temperatures in the winter can be as low as -54°F, while summer highs may reach 89°F.

### CULTURE AND HISTORY

The village takes its name from the Nenana River, which was formerly called the Cantwell River. The earliest inhabitants of the area trapped, hunted, and fished over a large region. Cantwell itself began as a stop on the Alaska Railroad. Oley Nicklie was the first Indian to settle here. When fur prices dropped, he and his two brothers sought work with the railroad. At the present time, Cantwell is primarily a non-native community.

### GOVERNMENT

Cantwell is unincorporated under Alaska law and is located in the Denali Borough (see Alaska introduction). Cantwell is governed by a traditional council, headed by a president. Shareholders in the village corporation also hold shares in Ahtna, Inc., regional native corporation (see Alaska introduction).

### ECONOMY

Cantwell's economy is based on tourism and transportation. Part-time seasonal construction jobs also provide income. Most native residents also depend on subsistence hunting, fishing, trapping, and gathering.

### CONSTRUCTION

Twenty residents list construction as their occupation.

### FORESTRY

Two residents are employed in forestry.

### GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER

State government provides work for 23 residents, while the federal government employs an additional two.

### MINING

There is a mine near the village; two residents list mining as their occupation.

### SERVICES

There is a dog kennel in the village, several clothing stores, two general-merchandise stores, a grocery store, and an auto-repair shop. There are five child-care services. Retail trade employs four residents.

### TOURISM AND RECREATION

There are two restaurants, a bar, three businesses that provide lodging for visitors, and seven wilderness charter services. There are also two gift and novelty shops.

### TRANSPORTATION

There is a trucking company in the village. Three residents are employed in the transportation industry.

### INFRASTRUCTURE

Cantwell is accessible by road, rail, and air. The George Parks Highway connects to Fairbanks and Anchorage, and the Denali Highway links Denali National Park with the Richardson Highway during summer months. The Alaska Railroad still provides train service from Fairbanks.

### COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Residents of Cantwell obtain their water from individual wells and surface sources. Sewage is disposed of through individual septic tanks and outhouses. Electricity is provided to residents by the Alaska Energy Authority. Local telephone service is provided by the Matanuska Telephone Association, while long-distance service is available through Alascom. Cable television service is available, as well as one channel through the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 85 housing units in the village, 62 are occupied; approximately 80 percent are heated with oil, while the rest use wood. There is a village school, operated by the Denali Borough.

### HEALTH CARE

Health care is provided by the Cantwell Health Clinic, owned by the village and leased to the U.S. Public Health Service; it is administered by the Copper River Native Association.

## Chalkyitsik

Kutchin (Gwich'in) Athabascan

Chalkyitsik Native Corporation  
P.O. Box 53  
Chalkyitsik, AK 99788  
(907) 662-2563

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	91,790 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	50,616 acres
Total labor force	16
High school graduate or higher	46.9%
Bachelor's degree or higher	-
Unemployment rate	31.3%
Per capita income (1989)	\$3,957
Population	90
Percent native	92.2%

### LOCATION

Chalkyitsik is located on the Balck River in east central Alaska. It is under Doyon, Ltd., regional native corporation (see Alaska introduction).

**CLIMATE**

Chalkyitsik has a continental-subarctic climate, characterized by seasonal extremes of temperature. Winters are long and harsh, summers warm and short. Total annual precipitation averages 6.5 inches, including snowfall of 43 inches. Summer high temperatures range from 65°F to 80°F or above, while winter lows range from -71°F to 0°F.

**CULTURE AND HISTORY**

The name of the village means “fish-hooking place” in Kutchin Athabascan, and it has traditionally been an important seasonal fishing site. Villagers practice a subsistence lifestyle.

**GOVERNMENT**

Chalkyitsik is unincorporated under Alaska law and is located in the unorganized borough (see Alaska introduction). It is governed by a traditional village council, headed by a first chief. Shareholders in the village corporation are also shareholders in Doyon, Ltd., regional native corporation.

**ECONOMY**

Wage opportunities are limited in the village. Part-time jobs are mostly found in the school, the village council, the health clinic, or state and federal agencies. Subsistence activities continue to play an important role in the village economy.

**FISHERIES**

Two residents list fishing as their occupation.

**GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER**

Local government employs two people, state government provides work for five more, and the federal government employs an additional two.

**SERVICES**

There is a general-merchandise store in the village, run by the village corporation.

**TOURISM AND RECREATION**

There is a restaurant in the village.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

Access to Chalkyitsik is primarily by air. Residents own boats that are used for fishing, hunting, and recreation. No roads connect Chalkyitsik with other villages, although there is a winter trail to Fort Yukon.

**COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

Water is available at a central location, taken from a surface source. There is a honeybucket pit available for sewage disposal; residents also use outhouses. Electricity is provided by Chalkyitsik Village Utilities Co., which generates power by burning oil. Local telephone service is provided by United Utilities, Inc., while long-distance service is available through Alascom. Cable television service is available, in addition to one channel through the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 52 housing units in the village, 33 are occupied; 80 percent are heated with wood, while the rest use other sources. The village school is operated by the Yukon Flats Regional Education Attendance Area.

**HEALTH CARE**

Health care is provided by the Chalkyitsik Health Clinic, which is owned by the village and leased to the U.S. Public Health Service. The clinic is administered by the Tanana Chiefs Conference.

**Chefornak**

Yup'ik Eskimo

Chefarnmute, Inc.  
P.O. Box 70  
Chefornak, AK 99561  
(907) 867-8115

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA Interim conveyance (1994)	92,160 acres 75,054 acres
Total labor force	65
High school graduate or higher	41.4%
Bachelor's degree or higher	2.3%
Unemployment rate	6.2%
Per capita income (1989)	\$4,168
Population	320
Percent native	97.5%

**LOCATION**

Chefornak is located on the south bank of the Kinia River, at its junction with the Keguk River, in the Yukon-Kuskokwim delta. The village lies within the Clarence Rhode National Wildlife Refuge, established for migratory-waterfowl protection. It is 98 air miles southwest of Bethel and 490 miles southwest of Anchorage.

**CLIMATE**

Chefornak is located in a marine climate zone. Annual precipitation averages 22 inches, including 43 inches of snowfall annually. Summer high temperatures range from 41°F to 57°F, while winter lows range from 6°F to 24°F.

**CULTURE AND HISTORY**

The area has historically been occupied by Yup'ik Eskimos. In the early 1950s, Alexie Amagiqchik founded a small general store at the site. He had moved from a village on the Bering Sea to the new location one mile inland to escape potential floodwaters. Others from the original village followed and settled in Chefornak. Village residents practice a subsistence life-style, with some commercial fishing.

**GOVERNMENT**

In 1974 Chefornak was incorporated as a second-class city under the laws of the state of Alaska, with a mayor and city council (see Alaska introduction). It also has a traditional council, headed by a president. There is a police force. Shareholders in its village corporation also hold shares in Calista Corporation regional native corporation (see Alaska introduction).

**ECONOMY**

Other than the school, commercial fishing, and local government positions, most employment in Chefornak is seasonal, supplemented by subsistence activities, including trapping. In the spring, sea mammals are harvested; in the summer, herring are caught along with whitefish and waterfowl; and in the fall several fish species are taken, including pike, tom cod, and smelt.

Chefornak is interested in developing its fisheries products by establishing a fish-processing operation for herring, flounder, cod, and whitefish. Mink and fox farming is also a possibility. The village would like to develop a market for traditional cultural activities of the area, including arts and crafts items.

**CONSTRUCTION**

Two residents make their living in the construction industry.

**FISHERIES**

The Alaska State Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission reports that 33 commercial-fishing permits (herring-roe and salmon net fishing) are held by village residents. The village operates a fish freezer for commercial and subsistence catches. The 1992 Community Development Quota program increased the pollack groundfish quota for small communities such as Chefornak.

**GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER**

Local government employs 13 people, state government provides work for 20 more, and the federal government employs an additional eight.

**MANUFACTURING**

Two residents are employed in the manufacture of nondurable goods.

**SERVICES**

There is a general-merchandise store in the village, as well as two grocery stores, a videotape rental business, and a video arcade. There is also a child-care service. Two residents work in retail trade, two in finance and related businesses, and two in personal services.

**TRANSPORTATION**

There is an airport-service business in the village. Six residents are employed in the transportation industry.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

An airstrip provides chartered and private air access year-round. Although there are no docking facilities, a number of fishing boats and skiffs are used for local travel. Snowmachines are relied upon during the winter.

**COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

Most residents of Chefornak are served by one well, with water-distribution points at various locations in the village. There is a honeybucket-hauling service, a honeybucket dump, and a community septic system. A landfill for solid-waste disposal is located about a third of a mile west of the village.

Electricity is available through the Naterkaq Light Plant, operated by the city and using oil to generate power. Local telephone service is provided by United Utilities, Inc., while long-distance service is available through Alascom. Cable-television service is also available. Of 79 housing units in the village, 64 are occupied; all are heated with oil. Amakigchik Elementary School and Chaptnguak High School are operated by the Lower Kuskokwim Regional Education Attendance Area.

**HEALTH CARE**

Health care is provided by the Chefornak Health Clinic, owned by the village and leased to the U.S. Public Health Service. It is administered by the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation

**Chenega Bay****Athabascan**

Chenega Corporation  
P.O. Box 60  
Chenega Bay, AK 99574-9999  
(907) 573-5118  
Fax: 573-5135

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	75,229 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	71,088 acres
Total labor force	42
High school graduate or higher	48.3%
Bachelor's degree or higher	-
Unemployment rate	14.3%
Per capita income (1989)	\$9,830
Population	94
Percent native	69.1%

**LOCATION**

Chenega Bay is located on Evans Island in Crab Bay, 42 miles southeast of Whittier, in Prince William Sound. It is 104 miles southeast of Anchorage.

**CLIMATE**

Chenega Bay's climate is maritime. Average summer temperatures range from a low of 49°F to a high of 63°F. Winter temperatures range from a low of 17°F to a high of 28°F. Precipitation averages 66 inches a year, including snowfall of 80 inches.

**CULTURE AND HISTORY**

The name of this Athabascan Indian village was first reported by Ivan Petroff in the 1880 census. At that time, the village was located on the southern tip of Chenega Island. A post office was established in 1946. The village was abandoned after the 1964 earthquake and tsunami, to be reestablished in the mid-1980s on Evans Island. Residents engage in a subsistence and commercial-fishing life-style.

**GOVERNMENT**

Chenega Bay is unincorporated under Alaska law and is located in the unorganized borough (see Alaska introduction). The village is governed by a village council, headed by a president and organized under the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934. Shareholders in the village corporation also hold shares in Chugach Alaska Corporation (see Alaska introduction).

**ECONOMY**

Commercial fishing, oyster farming, and subsistence activities are the focus of the economy. The school also provides some employment.

**CONSTRUCTION**

Although no residents list construction as their occupation, there is a general building-contracting business in the village.

**FISHERIES**

Twenty residents list their occupation as fishing.

**GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER**

Local government employs one person, state government provides work for four more, and the federal government employs an additional four.

**MANUFACTURING**

One resident is employed in nondurable manufacturing, while two make their living in durable manufacturing.

**SERVICES**

There is a grocery store in the village, and the village corporation leases real estate and runs a business-consulting service. There is also a child-care service in Chenega Bay. Two residents are employed in repair businesses, with two more in professional services other than health and education.

**TOURISM AND RECREATION**

There are 11 restaurants, nine businesses that provide lodging for visitors, and five wilderness charter services. There are also two video-tape rental businesses and two bowling alleys. Fifteen residents are employed in entertainment or recreation businesses.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

Chenega Bay is accessible by floatplane and has a small dock. Floatplanes are available for charter from Cordova, Valdez, Anchorage, or Seward. An airstrip is currently under construction.

**COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

The village of Chenega Bay provides piped water from a central surface source. It also operates a piped sewage service to a community septic system.

Electricity is available from the Chenega Bay IRA Council. Local telephone service is provided by United Utilities, Inc., while long-distance service is available through Alascom. There is a cable-television service in the village, as well as one channel offered by the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 34 housing units in the town, 29 are occupied; almost three-quarters are heated with wood, while the rest use oil. The village school is operated by the Chugach Regional Education Attendance Area.

**HEALTH CARE**

Health care is provided by the Chenega Bay Health Clinic, owned by the village and leased to the U.S. Public Health Service. The clinic is administered by Chugachmiut.

## Chevak

Yup'ik Eskimo

Chevak Company Corporation  
P.O. Box 5478  
Chevak, AK 99653  
(907) 858-7920

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	138,240 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	113,970 acres

Total labor force	187
High school graduate or higher	63.1%
Bachelor's degree or higher	3.2%
Unemployment rate	17.8%
Per capita income (1989)	\$4,303

Population	598
Percent native	93.0%

**LOCATION**

Chevak is located on the north bank of the Niglikfak River, 17 miles east of Hooper Bay in the Yukon-Kuskokwim delta.

**CLIMATE**

Chevak has a maritime climate. Winter lows can reach -25°F, while summer highs can range to 79°F. Snowfall averages 60 inches per year.

**CULTURE AND HISTORY**

The name refers to the "connecting slough" on which Chevak is situated. Yup'ik Eskimos have inhabited the region for thousands of years. Commercial fishing and subsistence activities are an important part of the local culture.

**GOVERNMENT**

Chevak was incorporated under Alaska law as a second-class city in 1967, with a mayor and city council (see Alaska introduction). The village also has a traditional council, headed by a president. Shareholders in the village corporation also hold shares in Calista Corporation regional native corporation (see Alaska introduction).

**ECONOMY**

Employment in Chevak is at its peak in the summer months and declines to a few full-time positions during winter. Some commercial fishing, construction projects, and BLM fire fighting provide summer employment. These are supplemented by local subsistence activities.

**CONSTRUCTION**

Two people are employed in construction in the village.

**FISHERIES**

The 1992 Community Development Quota program encouraged commercial fishing opportunities by increasing the pollack groundfish quota for small communities such as Chevak.

**GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER**

Local government employs 71 people, state government provides work for 22 more, and the federal government employs an additional three.

**MANUFACTURING**

Two residents are employed in nondurable manufacturing.

**SERVICES**

There are five general-merchandise stores and a grocery store in the village, in addition to a child-care service. Thirty residents work in retail trade, three in wholesale trade, eight in communications or utilities, two in repair businesses, four in personal services, and ten in professional services other than health and education.

**TOURISM AND RECREATION**

There is a video-tape rental business and a recreation center run by the traditional village council together with the village corporation.

**TRANSPORTATION**

Two residents work in the transportation industry.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

Chevak's location near the Bering Sea subjects the city to heavy winds and rains which sometimes preclude air access. Skiffs are used in the summer on the river, and snowmachines are used in the winter for local transportation.

**COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

The city of Chevak provides water from a community well; individual wells are also used. There is a city honeybucket-hauling service. The city operates a washeteria, and bulk fuel is available for purchase by residents. Electricity is available to residents from the

Alaska Village Electric Cooperative, generating power by burning oil. Local telephone service is provided by United Utilities, Inc., while long-distance service is available through Alascom. Cable-television service is available, as is one channel through the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 164 housing units in the town, 147 are occupied; all are heated with oil. The village school is operated by the Kashunamiut Regional Education Attendance Area.

#### HEALTH CARE

Health care is provided by the Chevak Health Clinic, owned by the city and leased to the U.S. Public Health Service. It is administered by the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation.

## Chickaloon

Tanaina (Dena'ina) Athabascan

Chickaloon-Moose Creek Native Association, Inc.  
Star Route 3, Box 8342  
Palmer, AK 99645  
(907) 746-2548

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	65,400 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	19,650 acres
Total labor force	86
High school graduate or higher	63.4%
Bachelor's degree or higher	-
Unemployment rate	26.7%
Per capita income (1989)	\$11,429
Population	145
Percent native	6.2%

#### LOCATION

Chickaloon is located on the Chickaloon River, on the Glenn Highway, 26 miles northeast of Palmer in the Talkeetna Mountains.

#### CLIMATE

Chickaloon has a mixed maritime and continental climate. Winter lows range from 6°F to 14°F, while summer highs range from 47°F to 67°F.

#### CULTURE AND HISTORY

The village was named for the river and was established in this coal-rich region around 1916 as the terminus of the Matanuska Branch of the Alaska Railroad. Although primarily non-native, the community of Chickaloon is extremely proactive regarding subsistence and sovereignty concerns. The community issues its own driver's licenses and vehicle-registration tags.

#### GOVERNMENT

Chickaloon is unincorporated under Alaska law and is part of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough (see Alaska introduction). The native village is governed by a village council, headed by a president. Shareholders in the village corporation also hold stock in Cook Inlet Regional Corporation (see Alaska introduction).

#### ECONOMY

Local retail businesses and government provide the majority of employment; some residents work in the Palmer-Wasilla area. Subsistence activities remain important for both native and non-native residents.

#### CONSTRUCTION

There is a cabinet shop in the village. Six residents work in the construction industry.

#### GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER

Local government employs six people and state government provides work for 21 more.

#### MANUFACTURING

There is a backpack-manufacturing business in the village.

#### SERVICES

There is a general retail store in Chickaloon, in addition to a detective agency. Seven residents work in communications or utilities, and 15 work in retail trade.

#### TOURISM AND RECREATION

There are two wilderness-guide businesses, in addition to an RV park and several gift shops.

#### TRANSPORTATION

Six residents work in the transportation industry.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE

Chickaloon is accessible by the statewide highway system. Goods are most often brought in from the Palmer-Wasilla area or from Anchorage.

#### COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Water is available from individual wells and surface sources. Sewage is disposed of in individual septic tanks; outhouses are also used. Electricity is available to residents from the Matanuska Electric Association, an area service. Local telephone service is provided by Matanuska Telephone Association. Of 158 housing units in the village, 51 are occupied; half are heated with wood, about one-third use bottled gas, and the rest use electricity for heating. There is no village school.

#### HEALTH CARE

Health care is available in the city of Palmer, about 25 miles away.

## Chignik

Alutiiq Aleut

Far West, Incorporated  
P.O. Box 3572  
Kodiak, AK 99615  
(907) 846-5900

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	119,086 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	110,612 acres
Total labor force	71
High school graduate or higher	63.4%
Bachelor's degree or higher	-
Unemployment rate	4.2%
Per capita income (1989)	\$11,429
Population	188
Percent native	45.2%

#### LOCATION

Chignik, also known as Chignik Bay, is located at the head of

Anchorage Bay, on the Pacific side of the Alaska Peninsula. Chignik Lagoon and Chignik Lake are located nearby. Anchorage is about 450 miles to the northeast, and Kodiak is approximately 260 miles in the same direction.

#### CLIMATE

Chignik has a maritime climate, characterized by cool summers, relatively warm winters, and rainy weather. Precipitation averages 127 inches annually, with 58 inches of snow. The average temperature in January is around 20°F; in July it is around 65°F; and in October, it is about 35°F.

#### CULTURE AND HISTORY

The native village of Kaniagmuit was originally located at the present site of Chignik; it was destroyed by the Russians in the 1700s. Chignik was founded in the early 1900s as the site of a salmon cannery. The village name means “big wind” in Sugpiaq Aleut. Historically an Aleut area with Russian and Scandinavian influences, the current population is a mixture of non-natives, Aleuts, and Eskimos. Commercial fishing is the focal activity of the community.

#### GOVERNMENT

Chignik, one of the 17 communities in the Lake and Peninsula Borough, incorporated as a second-class city in 1983, with a mayor and city council (see Alaska introduction). The city levies no taxes, but the Lake and Peninsula Borough charges a 2 percent tax on the sale of raw fish within the borough. Lodges and hunting and fishing guides pay a bed tax of \$1 per visitor per day. The seven members of the Chignik City Council are elected to three-year staggered terms. The mayor is elected from, and by, the membership of the City Council. The group meets once a month between September and May; no meetings are scheduled during salmon-fishing season.

The traditional Chignik Bay Village Council, headed by a president, also has seven members and is recognized by the Bureau of Indian Affairs as the tribal governing body for Alaska native residents. Shareholders in the village corporation also hold shares in Bristol Bay Native Corporation (see Alaska introduction).

#### ECONOMY

As is typical of villages in the region, commercial fishing is the mainstay of the cash economy.

#### CONSTRUCTION

There are five people employed in construction in the village.

#### FISHERIES

Twenty-five residents are employed in the fishing industry. Salmon, halibut, black cod, and tanner crab are the species harvested commercially. Two privately owned companies operate year-round fish-processing plants in Chignik. There is also a fish hatchery.

#### GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER

Local government employs 23 people, state government provides work for 13 more, and the federal government employs an additional 350.

#### SERVICES

There is a store selling general merchandise, two beauty shops, a repair service, and a child-care service. Four residents are employed in retail trade and three in professional services other than health or education.

#### TOURISM AND RECREATION

The mixed Aleut-Scandinavian history of the area and the two seafood-processing facilities, built in the late 1800s, are proven

visitor attractions. Hunting (moose, brown bear, caribou, and ducks) is popular, as is halibut fishing. Sightseeing and photography of wildlife, birds, and the landscape are also popular attractions. Three residents are employed in entertainment or recreation.

#### TRANSPORTATION

Two residents work in the transportation industry.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE

Chignik is accessible by air and sea. There is a gravel runway serving regular flights from King Salmon, approximately 200 miles to the northeast. Barge services arrive weekly from late spring through early fall, biweekly during the remainder of the year. Ferry services between Chignik and Kodiak are provided ten times a year.

#### COMMUNITY FACILITIES

The city of Chignik operates the water and sewer systems. Water is supplied by a nearby lake and by wells. Sewage is collected in a community septic system and discharged via an outfall line. There is no charge for water and sewer service. Garbage is disposed of in the community landfill, also free of charge. There is a washeteria. Electricity is available to residents from Chignik Electric, owned by the city and generating power by burning oil. Local telephone service is provided by Pacific Telecommunications, Inc., while long-distance service is available through Alascom. Cable-television service is also available, as is one channel through the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 104 housing units in the town, 46 are occupied; all are heated with oil. The school at Chignik is part of the Lake and Peninsula Borough School District.

#### HEALTH CARE

The one-bed Chignik Bay Subregional Clinic is staffed by two community health aides and a physician's assistant. The clinic has lab, x-ray, and pharmacy services available. The nearest hospitals are located in Kodiak and Anchorage. The clinic is administered by the Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation.

## Chignik Lagoon

Koniag Aleut

Chignik Lagoon Native Corporation

P.O. Box 3084

Kodiak, AK 99615

(907) 840-2268

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	95,466 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	89,555 acres

Total labor force	10
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High school graduate or higher	30.8%
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Bachelor's degree or higher	–
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Unemployment rate	20.0%
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Per capita income (1989)	\$26,067
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Population	53
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Percent native	56.6%
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#### LOCATION

Chignik Lagoon is located on the south shore of the Alaska Peninsula, about 450 miles southwest of Anchorage.

#### CLIMATE

Chignik Lagoon's maritime climate is characterized by cool

summers and relatively warm winters. Average summer temperatures range between 39°F and 60°F; winter temperatures vary from 21°F to 36°F.

#### CULTURE AND HISTORY

Chignik Lagoon takes its name from its proximity to the village of Chignik. The Koniag people who live in the village are descendants of both Koniags and Aleuts. Chignik Lagoon is a traditional Koniag village, influenced by an influx of outside fishermen in the summer months.

#### GOVERNMENT

Chignik Lagoon is unincorporated under Alaska law and is located in the Lake and Peninsula Borough (see Alaska introduction). The village also has a traditional council, headed by a president. Shareholders in the village corporation also hold shares in Bristol Bay Native Corporation (see Alaska introduction).

#### ECONOMY

Fishing is the mainstay of the economy, which depends on the success of the salmon fleet. Residents also rely upon subsistence hunting and fishing as a source of food.

#### FISHERIES

Only two residents list their primary occupation as fishing, although it is the main source of income in the village.

#### GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER

Local government employs two people and state government provides work for four more.

#### SERVICES

There is a store selling general merchandise in the village, as well as a boat dealer. Four residents are employed in retail trade.

#### TOURISM AND RECREATION

There is a restaurant, a sporting-goods store, and a business that organizes hunts for brown bears.

#### TRANSPORTATION

There is a transportation company in the village; two residents are employed in the transportation industry.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE

The village is accessible by air and sea. There is an airstrip and a public seaplane dock, and regular and charter flights are available from King Salmon, about 200 miles to the northeast. A cargo ship brings supplies annually.

#### COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Water is obtained from individual wells. Sewage is disposed of in outhouses and individual septic tanks. Bulk fuel is available to village residents. Electricity is provided to residents by Chignik Lake Electric Utility, Inc., generating power by burning oil. Local telephone service is provided by Pacific Telecommunications, Inc., while long-distance service is available through Alascom. Cable-television service is available, as well as one channel through the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 83 housing units in the village, 17 are occupied; seven-eighths are heated with oil, while the rest use wood. The village school is operated by the Lake and Peninsula Borough.

#### HEALTH CARE

Health care is provided by the Chignik Lagoon Health Clinic, owned by the village and leased to the U.S. Public Health Service; the clinic is administered by Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation.

## Chignik Lake

#### Alutiiq Aleuts

Chignik River Limited  
General Delivery  
Chignik Lake, AK 99548  
(907) 845-2228

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	99,961 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	89,803 acres
Total labor force	33
High school graduate or higher	42.2%
Bachelor's degree or higher	11.1%
Unemployment rate	15.2%
Per capita income (1989)	\$6,123
Population	133
Percent native	91.7%

#### LOCATION

Chignik Lake is located on the south side of the Alaska Peninsula, on the shore of the lake with the same name, about 265 miles southwest of Kodiak and 565 miles southwest of Anchorage. The villages of Chignik Lagoon and Chignik are both nearby.

#### CLIMATE

The maritime climate of Chignik Lake is characterized by cool summers, relatively warm winters, and rainy weather. Thick cloud cover and heavy winds limit travel to the village, especially in the fall and spring. Average summer temperatures range from 39°F to 60°F, although extremes as high as 80°F may occur; winter temperatures range from 21°F to 50°F, with extreme lows of 15°F. Storms with winds as high as 100 miles per hour have been experienced.

#### CULTURE AND HISTORY

The present population traces its roots to Alutiiq Aleuts from the west, near Illnik, and the old village of Kanatag, near Becharof Lake. A community was established at Chignik Lake in 1903, as a winter residence for a family who fished near Chignik Lagoon. During the early 1950s a school was built, making it possible for other families to move to the area from surrounding villages. At that time the community began to be occupied on a year-round basis.

#### GOVERNMENT

Chignik Lake is not an incorporated municipality under Alaska law, but is part of the Lake and Peninsula Borough (see Alaska introduction). Local government functions are carried out by the five-member Chignik Lake Traditional Village Council. The president is elected to a three-year term of office, and the vice-president and secretary-treasurer serve two-year terms; the other two members are elected to a one-year term of office. Shareholders in the village corporation are also shareholders in Bristol Bay Native Corporation (see Alaska introduction).

#### ECONOMY

Fishing is the mainstay of Chignik Lake's economy, which depends on the success of the salmon-fishing fleet. Subsistence hunting and fishing are also important.

#### CONSTRUCTION

Five residents are employed in the construction industry.

#### FISHERIES

Although no residents listed their occupation as fishing during the

1990 U.S. census, commercial fishing is the principal source of income in the village. Seven local residents hold limited-entry salmon permits. The remaining men of the village work as crew members for a Chignik Lake permit holder or for a permit holder from another community. Beginning in early June, residents prepare to fish (primarily in Chignik Bay and Lagoon) for red salmon and successive runs of pink, chum, and silver salmon.

#### GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER

Local government employs nine people, while state government provides work for 19 more.

#### SERVICES

There is a retail food store and a welding-repair service in the village.

#### TRANSPORTATION

There are two airport businesses in the village.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE

Chignik Lake is accessible by air and sea; there are no roads connecting it to other communities. There is a state-owned 3,200-foot gravel airstrip in the village, and seaplanes may land on the lake. Regularly scheduled and charter flights are available. There is weekly cargo service to Chignik Lake from Seattle via Chignik Lagoon in the summer; this service is available at least once a month in the winter. The state maintains approximately one-half mile of local gravel road. Three-wheeled all-terrain vehicles ("three wheelers") are the favorite form of local transportation. Trucks and skiffs are also commonly used.

#### COMMUNITY FACILITIES

The Chignik Lake Water System operates the water and sewer systems; the water system relies on wells. Sewage is held in individual septic/leachfield systems. Fifteen HUD homes are connected to a central sewer system with a waste pump and sewage lagoon. Bulk fuel is available for purchase by residents. There is a washeteria. Electricity is available to residents from Chignik Lake Electric Utility, which purchases electricity from the Lake and Peninsula Borough School District during the school year. A 50-kilowatt diesel generator is operated during summer months. Local telephone service is provided by Pacific Telecommunications, Inc., while long-distance service is available through Alascom. Cable-television service is available, as is one channel through the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 57 housing units in the village, 34 are occupied; almost 90 percent are heated with oil. The school at Chignik Lake is part of the Lake and Peninsula Borough School District.

#### HEALTH CARE

Health care is provided by Chignik Lake Health Clinic, staffed by two community health aides and administered by the Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation. No x-ray, laboratory, or pharmacy facilities are available. An Indian Health Service doctor and a state of Alaska public health nurse see patients in Chignik Lake twice yearly. A dentist and optometrist visit annually. The closest full-service hospital is located in Kodiak, 250 miles to the northeast.

## Chistochina

Ahtna Athabascan

Ahtna, Incorporated  
P.O. Box 649  
Glennallen, AK 99588  
(907) 822-3476

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	69,120 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	63,115 acres
Total labor force	25
High school graduate or higher	47.6%
Bachelor's degree or higher	-
Unemployment rate	52.0%
Per capita income (1989)	\$10,743
Population	60
Percent native	61.7%

#### LOCATION

Chistochina is located at mile 32.7 on the Tok cutoff to the Glenn Highway, 42 miles northeast of Glennallen. Sinona Creek, Boulder Creek, the Chistochina River, and the Copper River surround the village.

#### CLIMATE

The climate of Chistochina is continental, with long, severe winters and short, warm summers. Temperatures range from winter lows of -62°F to summer highs of 91°F. Snowfall averages 61 inches, with a total of 13 inches of precipitation per year.

#### CULTURE AND HISTORY

Chistochina began as an Ahtna fish camp and a stopover place for traders and trappers. The village access road later became part of the Valdez-Eagle Trail, constructed by miners during the gold rush to the Eagle area in 1897. Gold was mined along the upper Chistochina River and its runoff creeks. Chistochina Lodge was built as a roadhouse for prospectors. The trail was used for the construction of U.S. Army Signal Corps telegraph lines from Valdez to Eagle between 1901 and 1904. The area was settled by homesteaders, although it has remained the most traditional of all the region's communities. Subsistence is a crucial component of the life-style.

#### GOVERNMENT

Chistochina is unincorporated under Alaskan law and is located in the unorganized borough (see Alaska introduction). The native community is governed by a traditional council, headed by a president. Shareholders in the village corporation are also shareholders in Ahtna, Inc., regional native corporation (see Alaska introduction).

#### ECONOMY

Subsistence hunting, fishing, trapping, and gathering are the basis of the village's economy. Most cash employment is seasonal.

#### GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER

The Alaska state government provides work for two residents, while the federal government employs two more.

#### SERVICES

There is a kennel in the village. Eight residents are employed in professional services other than health and education.

**TOURISM AND RECREATION**

There is a campground in the village.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

Chistochina is accessible year-round by the Glenn and Richardson highways. Small aircraft may land at a nearby uncontrolled airstrip.

**COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

Water is available from a central source and from individual wells, in addition to surface sources. Sewage is disposed of in individual septic tanks and outhouses. Electricity is available to residents from the Alaska Power and Telephone Company, generating power by burning oil. Local telephone service is provided by the Copper Valley Telephone Co-op (Glennallen exchange), while long-distance service is available through Alascom. Cable television service is available, as is one channel through the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 34 housing units in the village, 20 are occupied; almost three-quarters are heated with wood, while the rest use oil. The village school is operated by the Copper River Regional Education Attendance Area.

**HEALTH CARE**

Health care is provided by the Chistochina Health Clinic, owned by the village corporation and leased to the U.S. Public Health Service; the clinic is administered by the Mount Sanford Tribal Council.

## Chitina

Ahtna Athabascan

Chitina Native Corporation

P.O. Box 3

Chitina, AK 99566

(907) 823-2223

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	115,200 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	104,245 acres

Total labor force	18
High school graduate or higher	80.0%
Bachelor's degree or higher	-
Unemployment rate	33.3%
Per capita income (1989)	\$5,017

Population	49
Percent native	46.9%

**LOCATION**

Chitina is located on the west bank of the Copper River, at its confluence with the Chitina River, at mile 34 on the Edgerton Highway, 53 miles southeast of Copper Center. It lies outside the western boundary of the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve.

**CLIMATE**

Chitina is located in the continental climate zone. Temperatures range from winter lows of -58°F to summer highs of 91°F. Annual snowfall averages 52 inches, with total precipitation of 12 inches per year.

**CULTURE AND HISTORY**

Athabascan Indians have evidently occupied this region for the last five-to-seven thousand years. Chitina was historically a large native village whose population was slowly decimated by the influx of

outside people, disease, and conflicts. Rich copper deposits were discovered at the turn of the century along the northern flanks of the Chitina River valley, bringing a rush of prospectors and homesteaders to the area. The Copper River & Northwestern Railway enabled Chitina to develop into a thriving community by 1914. It had a general store, clothing store, meat market, stables, a tinsmith, five hotels, rooming houses, a pool hall, bars, restaurants, dance halls, and a movie theater. Almost all of Chitina was owned by Otto Adrian Nelson, a surveying engineer for the Kennecott Mines. He supplied electric power to all structures with a unique hydroelectric system. After the mines closed in 1938, Chitina became a ghost town, with only the natives and a few non-natives staying on.

In 1963 the Nelson estate was purchased by "Mudhole" Smith, a pioneer bush pilot, who sold off the townsite and buildings. Currently the community has a mixed population of Ahtna Indians and non-natives. Most residents are involved in subsistence activities year-round. During the summer, subsistence dipnetting for salmon on the Copper River attracts a large number of Alaskans from Anchorage and other areas of the state.

**GOVERNMENT**

Chitina is unincorporated under Alaska law and is part of the unorganized borough (see Alaska introduction). The native residents of Chitina are governed by a traditional village council, headed by a president. Shareholders in the village corporation also hold shares in Ahtna, Inc., regional native corporation (see Alaska introduction).

**ECONOMY**

Residents participate in subsistence activities year-round. The summer influx of people interested in fishing, as well as tourists and campers, provides some cash income in fish guiding and other services.

**AGRICULTURE**

There is a horse farm and stables in the village.

**GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER**

Local government employs one person.

**SERVICES**

The village has a general store and gas station, a liquor store and saloon, and an art gallery. Three residents are employed in communications or utilities, while eight more work in retail trade.

**TOURISM AND RECREATION**

There is a fishing camp in the village, as well as several other guide services. There are also several restaurants and a stable that offers horseback riding.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

The Edgerton and Richardson highways link Chitina with the rest of the state road system. The state maintains a public airstrip 5 miles south of town, along the Edgerton Highway.

**COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

Water is obtained from individual wells; sewage is disposed of using individual septic tanks and outhouses. Electricity is provided to residents by Chitina Electric, Inc., using a combination of oil and hydropower. Local telephone service is provided by the Copper Valley Telephone Co-op; long-distance service is available through Alascom. Cable-television service is available, as is one channel through the Rural Alaska Television Network. The village school is operated by the Copper River Regional Education Attendance Area.

**HEALTH CARE**

Health care is provided by the Chitina Health Clinic, owned by the village and leased to the U.S. Public Health Service; it is administered by the Copper River Native Association.

**Chuathbaluk**

Yup'ik Eskimo, Ingalik Athabaskan	
Kuskokwim Corporation	
P.O. Box 104460	
Anchorage, AK 99610	
(907) 276-2101	
Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	92,160 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	80,921 acres
Total labor force	35
High school graduate or higher	36.8%
Bachelor's degree or higher	-
Unemployment rate	8.6%
Per capita income (1989)	\$4,517
Population	97
Percent native	89.7%

**LOCATION**

Chuathbaluk is located on the north bank of the Kuskokwim River, 11 miles upriver from Aniak. It is 87 miles northeast of Bethel and 310 miles west of Anchorage, at an elevation of 299 feet.

**CLIMATE**

A continental climate prevails in Chuathbaluk, with long, hard winters and short, warm summers. Snowfall averages 85 inches per year, with a total precipitation of 17 inches. Temperatures range from winter lows of -55°F to summer highs of 87°F. Heavy winds can cause flight delays in the fall.

**CULTURE AND HISTORY**

The population of Chuathbaluk is made up mostly of Yup'ik Eskimos, but with some Ingalik (Athabaskan) Indians as well. In the early and mid-1800s, Ingalik Indians resided in summer camps at the site of what is now Chuathbaluk. By 1833 natives had established a settlement in the area, which came to be known variously as Chukbak, St. Sergius Mission, Kuskokwim Russian Mission, and Little Russian Mission. The village's present name derives from the Yup'ik Eskimo word "curapalek", meaning "hills where the big blueberries grow."

The area's rich natural resources and abundant wildlife were a mainstay for the local native population and for Russian and American fur traders and merchants. In the mid-1800s to early 1900s, Russian and American settlers occupied a site 10 miles east of the village. This site, known as the Kolmakov Redoubt, was included in the National Register of Historic Places in 1972.

The Russian Orthodox church established a missionary presence in the community in 1891. By 1894 St. Sergius Mission had been constructed, and residents of Kukuktuk, 20 miles downriver, moved to the site. Much of the village population was lost to an influenza epidemic in 1900, and by 1929 the site was deserted, although Russian Orthodox church members from surrounding areas continued to hold services at the mission. In 1954 the Sam Phillips family from Crow Village resettled at the abandoned mission site,

joined later by others from nearby communities. The church was rebuilt in the late 1950s, and a state school opened in the 1960s.

**GOVERNMENT**

Chuathbaluk was incorporated under Alaska law as a second-class city in 1975. It is governed by a seven-member city council, from which the mayor is elected. A city manager, who reports directly to the council, manages day-to-day operations. Municipal powers govern the community's streets and sidewalks, police protection, and community centers and extend to the city-owned landfill, fuel, heavy equipment rental, and laundromat operations. An advisory school board has been formed.

Chuathbaluk's native population is represented by a seven-member traditional council and by the Kuskokwim Native Association, which receives direction from the council. As the official tribal governing body of the village, the traditional council is eligible to administer various federal programs and grants. The council has sponsored training programs on land administration and tribal governmental skills. It is currently involved in economic development efforts (tourism, crafts, roads), social development, and suicide-prevention programs.

Shareholders in the village corporation are also shareholders in Calista Corporation regional native corporation (see Alaska introduction).

**ECONOMY**

Most residents in Chuathbaluk make their living from subsistence hunting, fishing, and gathering activities. During the summer, residents fish for king, silver, and chum salmon, trout, dolly varden, pike, grayling, and char. Commonly hunted animals are waterfowl, rabbit, porcupine, moose, and black bear. Blueberries, salmon berries, blackberries, currants, raspberries, and cranberries are harvested in the summer and fall.

Summer seasonal employment includes fire fighting for the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, work at the local sawmill, and commercial fishing. Some year-round employment is provided by local public services, including the health clinic, city and tribal governments, the school district, and the post office. Local artisans produce handicrafts such as beadwork, fur garments, mukluks (fur boots), parkas, and ulus (Eskimo women's knives). Residents have been instrumental in the establishment of the Interior Rivers Arts and Crafts Cooperative, located in Aniak. The community has also sponsored the establishment of a sports-fishing service, Hook-M-Up Tours.

**CONSTRUCTION**

There are five general building contractors and three construction companies in the village. There is also a lumber mill and a lumber-and-construction supply business. Sixty-two people are employed in construction.

**FISHERIES**

While no residents listed their occupation as fishing in the 1990 U.S. census, the Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission reports that one salmon gill-net permit was used by a resident in 1989.

**GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER**

Local government employs six people, and state government provides work for ten more.

**MANUFACTURING**

There is a sawmill and a boatworks in the village; five residents are

employed in durable manufacturing. In addition, two residents make their living by producing crafts.

#### SERVICES

There are two general-merchandise stores in the village, a fuel-oil dealership (operated by the city), a vehicle-fuel dealer, and a city-operated laundromat.

#### TOURISM AND RECREATION

There is a videotape rental business in the village.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE

Access to Chathbaluk is by plane, boat, and barge. After freeze-up in the fall, motor vehicles are sometimes driven on the river to nearby communities. The village has a 1,700-foot airstrip located a mile to the north, maintained by the Alaska Department of Transportation. There are regularly scheduled weekday flights. Supply barges from Aniak and Bethel serve the community from June to October.

#### COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Water is provided from a community water system, sponsored by the U.S. Public Health Service. The source is a well located at a central watering point; the water is treated for iron removal and is hauled manually. The Middle Kuskokwim Electric Cooperative provides electricity for the community; it serves over 30 residential customers, five businesses, and five community facilities. Power is generated by burning oil. Local telephone service is provided by United Utilities, Inc., while long-distance service is available through Alascom. Cable television service is available, as well as one channel through the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 33 housing units in the town, 28 are occupied; half are heated with oil, half with wood. Crow Village Sam School is part of the Kuspuk School District.

#### HEALTH CARE

Health care is provided by the Chuathbaluk Health Clinic, owned by the city and leased to the U.S. Public Health Service. It is administered by the Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation. The nearest hospital is located in Bethel.

## Circle

Kutchin (Gwich'in) Athabascan

Danzhit Hanlani Corporation  
General Delivery  
Circle, AK 99733  
(907) 773-1280

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	115,982 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	102,301 acres
Total labor force	30
High school graduate or higher	64.1%
Bachelor's degree or higher	7.7%
Unemployment rate	36.7%
Per capita income (1989)	\$6,322
Population	73
Percent native	86.3%

#### LOCATION

Circle is located on the south bank of the Yukon River, at the edge of the Yukon Flats, 160 miles northeast of Fairbanks.

#### CLIMATE

Circle has a continental-subarctic climate, characterized by seasonal extremes in temperature. Winters are long and harsh, while summers are warm and short. Total annual precipitation averages 6.5 inches, including snowfall of 43.4 inches. Summer temperatures range from 65°F to 72°F; winter temperatures can range from -71°F to 0°F.

#### CULTURE AND HISTORY

Circle was a supply point for goods shipped up the Yukon River and then overland to the mining camps. The present population of Circle is predominantly Kutchin Athabascans, who practice a subsistence life-style.

#### GOVERNMENT

Circle is unincorporated under the laws of the state of Alaska and is located in the unorganized borough (see Alaska introduction). It is governed by a village council, headed by a chief and organized under the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934. Shareholders in the village corporation are also shareholders of Doyon, Ltd., regional native corporation (see Alaska introduction).

#### ECONOMY

Since Circle is connected by road to Fairbanks, tourists and recreationists come through seasonally; however, almost all residents are involved in subsistence activities to supplement their cash incomes. Employers include the school, clinic, village corporation, trading post, and post office.

#### GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER

State government employs nine people, and the federal government employs an additional five.

#### TRANSPORTATION

A total of five residents are employed in the transportation industry.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE

Circle has direct road access to Fairbanks during the summer months, by way of the Steese Highway. Barges deliver goods from the Yukon River during the summer months. An airstrip is also available, serving regularly scheduled and charter flights. Residents use all-terrain vehicles, snowmachines, and dogsleds for transportation, recreation, and subsistence activities.

#### COMMUNITY FACILITIES

The village of Circle provides piped water from a central source, and individual wells are also used. Outhouses and individual septic tanks are the primary means of sewage disposal. Electricity is available to residents from Circle Utilities, Inc., generating power by burning oil. Local telephone service is provided by Circle Telephone, while long-distance service is available through Alascom. One channel of television is offered by the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 31 housing units in the town, 23 are occupied; over three-quarters are heated with wood, while the rest use oil. The village school is operated by the Yukon Flats Regional Education Attendance Area.

#### HEALTH CARE

The Circle Health Clinic, owned by the village and leased to the U.S. Public Health Service is administered by the Tanana Chiefs Conference.

## Clark's Point

Yup'ik Eskimo, Alutiiq Aleut

Saguyak Incorporated  
P.O. Box 4  
Clark's Point, AK 99569  
(907) 236-1244

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	110,948 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	107,308 acres

Total labor force	27
High school graduate or higher	53.8%
Bachelor's degree or higher	11.5%
Unemployment rate	18.5%
Per capita income (1989)	\$6,133

Population	60
Percent native	88.3%

### LOCATION

Clark's Point is situated on a sand spit in the southwestern part of the Bristol Bay lowlands, near the confluence of the Nushagak River and Bristol Bay. The village is 15 miles from the regional center of Dillingham and 337 miles southwest of Anchorage. It is surrounded by rolling hills, tundra, and marshlands.

### CLIMATE

Clark's Point is in a climatic transition zone, with the primary maritime influence affected by the continental climate of interior Alaska during the winter. Average summer temperatures range from a low of 37°F to a high of 66°F. Winter temperatures range from a low of 4°F to a high of 30°F. Precipitation averages between 20 and 26 inches annually. Periods of strong winds are common, particularly between December and March.

### CULTURE AND HISTORY

Clark's Point was settled in the late 1800s, when a salmon saltery was established there by John W. Clark. The point originally had an Eskimo name, "Saguyak," but there is no evidence of a settlement at the site prior to the establishment of the saltery. The community was founded on the fishing operations of white settlers, although presently its population is predominantly Eskimo and Aleut.

### GOVERNMENT

In 1971 Clark's Point was incorporated under Alaska law as a second-class city and is located in the unorganized borough (see Alaska introduction). It has a seven-member city council that meets every other month. The mayor is elected by, and from, the membership of the City Council to a one-year term. Shareholders in the village corporation are also shareholders in Bristol Bay Native Corporation (see Alaska introduction).

### ECONOMY

The economy of Clark's Point is based on the commercial fishing industry, with nearly all year-round residents participating. All five species of salmon are harvested commercially. All residents depend on subsistence to some extent and travel over a great area if necessary. Exchange relationships exist with nearby communities.

### FISHERIES

The commercial-fishing industry employs 14 people year-round; however, in the summer months the local seafood-processing plant can employ several hundred people.

### GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER

Local government employs three people, while state government employs an additional 17.

### MANUFACTURING

Two residents are employed in nondurable manufacturing.

### SERVICES

There is a grocery store in the village (summer only) and two restaurants (summer only).

### INFRASTRUCTURE

Air transport is the primary means of reaching Clark's Point. Regular and charter flights are available from Dillingham. The 2,700-foot airstrip is maintained by the State of Alaska. Freight is brought by barge to Dillingham during the summer and then flown or lightered to the community. Boat facilities exist only at the seafood-processing plant.

### COMMUNITY FACILITIES

The city of Clark's Point provides piped water from a central source, and individual wells are also used. Approximately 40 percent of the residences are connected to the community sewer and outfall lines; remaining residences are connected to individual septic systems. Electricity is provided to residents by the City of Clark's Point. Local telephone service is provided by the Nushagak Telephone Co-op, Inc., while long-distance service is available through Alascom. Cable-television service is available, as well as one channel through the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 55 housing units in the town, 18 are occupied; all are heated with oil. The village school is operated by the Southwest Region Regional Education Attendance Area.

### HEALTH CARE

Health care is provided by the Clark's Point Health Clinic. It is administered by the Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation.

## Copper Center

Ahtna Athabascan

Ahtna Incorporated  
P.O. Box 649  
Glennallen, AK 99588  
(907) 822-3476

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	115,200 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	106,076 acres

Total labor force	98
High school graduate or higher	59.0%
Bachelor's degree or higher	3.6%
Unemployment rate	-
Per capita income (1989)	\$8,343

Population	449
Percent native	34.5%

### LOCATION

Copper Center is located along the Richardson Highway, between miles 100 and 105. It lies on the west bank of the Copper River, at its confluence with the Klutina River, adjacent to Wrangell-St. Elias National Park.

**CLIMATE**

Copper Center is located in the continental climate zone with temperatures ranging from -74°F to 96°F. Snowfall averages 39 inches per year, and precipitation is 9 inches per year.

**CULTURE AND HISTORY**

Athabascan people have occupied the Copper River basin for the past 5,000 to 7,000 years. They had fish camps at every bend in the river, and villages at several points. Copper Center was a large village at one time, and in the last decade of the 19th century became a “tent city” for miners looking for a shortcut to the Klondike. In 1896 Ringwald Blix built a roadhouse which was highly regarded for its outstanding services. It was located on the Fairbanks-Valdez Trail and therefore became the principal supply center for the miners in the Nelchina-Sustina region. In 1932 the original roadhouse was destroyed in order to build the Copper Center Lodge. This lodge is now on the National Register of Historic Roadhouses and is considered the jewel of Alaskan roadhouses. The first church in the Copper River region, the Chapel on the Hill, was built here in 1942 by Vince Joy and U.S. Army volunteers stationed in the area. Over the years, Mr. Joy built other churches and a bible college in the area.

**GOVERNMENT**

The village is unincorporated under Alaska law and is located in the unorganized borough (see Alaska introduction). It is governed by a traditional council, headed by a president. Shareholders in its village corporation are also shareholders of Ahtna, Inc. (see Alaska introduction).

**ECONOMY**

The economy of Copper Center is based on local services and businesses, the National Park offices, and tourism. Many native residents also depend on subsistence hunting, fishing, trapping, and gathering.

**CONSTRUCTION**

There are two general building contractors and three construction companies in the village. Fourteen people are employed in construction.

**FORESTRY**

There is one logging company and two forestry-supply stores in Copper Center. Twenty-seven residents are employed by the forestry industry.

**GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER**

State government provides work for 13 people, and the federal government employs an additional 12.

**SERVICES**

Services in Copper Center include stores selling everything from electrical appliances to general merchandise to sporting goods. There are also numerous repair services in Copper Center, for everything from household goods to automobiles and motorcycles. Ten residents are employed in retail trade, and 24 are employed in repair services.

**TOURISM AND RECREATION**

There are four souvenir shops, three restaurants, and two wilderness charter services located in Copper Center. There is also an art gallery and two RV parks.

**TRANSPORTATION**

There are three trucking services and three river-boat charter services in Copper Center.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

The Richardson Highway connects Copper Center to all major population centers of the state, year-round. There is also an air strip, serving chartered flights and general aviation.

**COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

Water is provided by the village of Copper Center at a central location; individual wells are also used. Individual septic tanks and outhouses are the primary means of sewage disposal. Electricity is made available to residents by the Copper Valley Electric Association, generating power by burning oil. Local telephone service is provided by the Copper Valley Telephone Co-op, while long-distance service is available through Alascom. One television channel is offered by the Rural Alaska Television Network, and residents are also able to receive a channel from Glennallen. Of 244 housing units in the village, 166 are occupied; almost 80 percent are heated with oil, while most of the rest are heated with wood. The village school is operated by the Copper River Regional Education Attendance Area.

**HEALTH CARE**

Health care is provided by the Copper Center Health Clinic, owned by the village and leased to the U.S. Public Health Service. It is administered by the Copper River Native Association.

**Council**

Inupiat Eskimo

Council Native Corporation  
 P.O. Box 1183  
 Nome, AK 99762  
 (907) 443-5231

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	84,378 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	66,554 acres
Total labor force	-
High school graduate or higher	-
Bachelor's degree or higher	-
Unemployment rate	-
Per capita income (1989)	\$720
Population	8
Percent native	62.5%

**LOCATION**

Council is located at the terminus of the Nome-Council road, 60 miles northeast of Nome.

**CLIMATE**

Council has a continental climate, with maritime influences when Norton Sound is ice-free. Its inland location causes greater daily variation in temperatures than in nearby coastal communities. Winter lows average -6°F, while summer highs average 64°F.

**CULTURE AND HISTORY**

Council's history is synonymous with the gold-rush period. The gold found at Ophir Creek was the second-richest claim in the world. At one time, the population of Council was estimated at 15,000. Historically this was a fish camp for the Fish River Tribe; however, today the community is primarily a summer fish-camp site for residents of Nome.

**GOVERNMENT**

Council is unincorporated under Alaska law and is located in the unorganized borough (see Alaska introduction). The village is governed by a traditional council, headed by a president. Shareholders in the village corporation are also shareholders in Bering Straits Native Corporation (see Alaska introduction).

**ECONOMY**

Council is a seasonal fish camp, with subsistence as the major economic activity. Several Nome residents have homes in Council, used for summer subsistence food-gathering activities.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

Council is connected by road to Nome. There are two airstrips, with air charter services available from Nome. Dogsleds and snowmachines are the major means of transportation during the winter.

**COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

The village of Council provides water at a central location, but individual wells are also used. The primary means of sewage disposal are honeybucket dumping and outhouses. Residents obtain electricity by means of individual generators, producing power by burning oil. Local telephone service is provided by the Mukluk Telephone Company, while long-distance service is available through Alascom. One television channel is offered by the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 32 housing units in Council, only three are occupied year-round; all are heated with wood.

**HEALTH CARE**

Health care services are available in Nome. The regional health corporation is the Norton Sound Health Corporation.

## Craig

Tlingit, Haida

Shaan Seet Incorporated  
P.O. Box 690  
Craig, AK 99921  
(907) 826-3251

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	23,040 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	23,150 acres
Total labor force	691
High school graduate or higher	69.2%
Bachelor's degree or higher	5.6%
Unemployment rate	14.8%
Per capita income (1989)	\$18,016
Population	1,260
Percent native	22.9%

**LOCATION**

Craig is located on the west coast of Prince of Wales Island, 56 miles northwest of Ketchikan. It lies 750 miles north of Seattle, 750 miles southwest of Anchorage, and 220 miles south of Juneau.

**CLIMATE**

Prince of Wales Island is dominated by a cool, moist, maritime climate. Average summer temperatures range from 49°F to 63°F, while average winter temperatures vary from 29°F to 39°F. Average annual precipitation is 145 inches.

**CULTURE AND HISTORY**

Historically, the Tlingit and Haida Indians have utilized the area around Craig for its rich resources. A salmon saltery and cold-storage plant were built in 1911; a cannery was built in the area in 1912. A sawmill, school, post office and a number of years of excellent pink-salmon runs contributed to the growth of the community through the late 1930s. In 1972 a large sawmill was built 6 miles from Craig, near Klawock, which provided year-round jobs and helped to stabilize the economy. Today Craig is primarily a non-native fishing community, with influences from its Tlingit-Haida culture and history.

**GOVERNMENT**

Craig is a first-class city under Alaska law, incorporated in 1922, with a mayor and city council, and is located in the unorganized borough (see Alaska introduction). It also has a traditional village council, organized under the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934 and headed by a president. Shareholders in the village corporation are also shareholders in Sealaska Corporation regional native corporation (see Alaska introduction).

**ECONOMY**

Craig's economy is based on the fishing industry, logging, and sawmill operations. Economic growth is due in part to the increased role of Craig as a service and transportation center for all the Prince of Wales Island communities.

**CONSTRUCTION**

There are two general building contractors and two construction companies in the city of Craig. Fifty-seven people are employed in construction.

**FISHERIES AND FORESTRY**

A fish-buying station and a major cold-storage plant are located in Craig, and there are five logging companies, as well as six other businesses related to the forestry industry. Eighty people are employed in fisheries and the forestry industry.

**GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER**

Local government employs 62 people, state government provides work for 23 more, and the federal government employs an additional 32.

**MANUFACTURING**

There is a sawmill and a wood-products plant in the city, as well as a boat-building and repair business. There is also a pottery manufacturing company. One hundred and forty-one people are employed in manufacturing.

**SERVICES**

Services are extensive in Craig, catering not only to residents but also to customers in numerous surrounding villages. There are nine child-care services, a dental clinic, a chiropractic clinic, and stores selling everything from electrical appliances to general merchandise to sporting goods. There are also numerous repair services in Craig for everything from household goods to boats and automobiles. Retail trade employs 121 residents, wholesale trade another 13, financial and related businesses ten, repair services nine, communications or utilities 13, personal services 26, and professional services other than health or education employ 32.

**TOURISM AND RECREATION**

There are four restaurants, four businesses that provide lodging for visitors, one souvenir shop, and 21 wilderness and fishing charter services located in Craig.

**TRANSPORTATION**

There is one taxi company and three trucking service companies. A total of 42 residents are employed in the transportation industry.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

Craig is connected to Klawock, Thorne Bay, and Hydaburg by a paved road. Scheduled air transportation to Ketchikan is available from the nearby Klawock airport. A floatplane dock and heliport are maintained in Craig. The state ferry serves Hollis, 30 miles away, and enables transportation of passengers, cargo, and vehicles. Craig does not have a deep-draft dock; however, there are two small-boat harbors. Cargo barges deliver goods once a month during the summer.

**COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

The city of Craig provides piped water from a surface source to nearly 95 percent of the homes in the city. The city also operates a piped-sewage service. In addition, the city provides refuse service and maintains a harbor and port facility. Electricity is provided to residents by the Alaska Power and Telephone Company, generating power by burning oil. Local telephone service is provided by National Utilities, while long-distance service is available through Alascom. Craig Cable TV, Inc., provides cable television service, and one channel is offered by the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 504 housing units in the town, 444 are occupied; over 50 percent are heated with oil, while the rest use wood and bottled gas. The school system is operated by the city of Craig.

**HEALTH CARE**

Health care is provided by the Craig Family Medical Clinic, owned by the village corporation and leased to the U.S. Public Health Service; it is operated by the Southeast Alaska Regional Health Corporation. Dental and chiropractic services are also available in Craig.

average measures 85 inches per year, with total precipitation averaging 17 inches per year. Temperatures range from winter lows of -55°F to summer highs of 87°F. High winds are typical in the fall and winter.

**CULTURE AND HISTORY**

Historically this site was used as a summer camp for residents of Kwigiumpainukamuit. In 1890, a permanent settlement was established as a way station for the Flat and Iditarod gold-mining camps, providing easy access to the Kuskokwim River. In 1914 a roadhouse was established upriver from the creek mouth, in what became known as the “upper village” of Crooked Creek. A post office was opened in 1927, and a school was built in 1928. The “lower village” of Crooked Creek was settled by Yup’ik Eskimos and Ingalik Indians. By the 1940s, there was a Russian Orthodox church (St. Nicholas Chapel), and several homes. The upper and lower halves of the village still remain today.

**GOVERNMENT**

Crooked Creek is an unincorporated community under Alaska law, within the unorganized borough (see Alaska introduction). The native population is represented by a five-member traditional council, headed by a president. Shareholders in its village corporation are also shareholders in the Calista Corporation (see Alaska introduction).

**ECONOMY**

The economy of Crooked Creek is primarily based on subsistence activities. Most livelihoods in Crooked Creek are dependent on hunting, fishing, and gathering activities. During the summer, fishing in Crooked Creek and the Kuskokwim River provides a variety of salmon and other fish species. Some income is obtained from trapping and pelt sales, and limited year-round or seasonal jobs are provided by government programs, the school district, and local support services.

Crooked Creek is striving to increase employment opportunities for its residents and is developing a market for local handmade products. The village wants to develop the potential for tourism, including working-artisan exhibits.

**Crooked Creek**

Yup’ik Eskimo, Ingalik Athabascan

Kuskokwim Corporation  
P.O. Box 104460  
Anchorage, AK 99610  
(907) 276-2101

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	92,160 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	84,833 acres
Total labor force	33
High school graduate or higher	43.9%
Bachelor’s degree or higher	–
Unemployment rate	32.1%
Per capita income (1989)	\$7,604
Population	106
Percent native	90.6%

**LOCATION**

Crooked Creek is located in the Kilbuck-Kuskokwim Mountains, at the Crooked Creek-Kuskokwim River juncture. The community is 51 miles northeast of Aniak, 141 miles northeast of Bethel, and 275 miles west of Anchorage.

**CLIMATE**

Crooked Creek’s climate is considered continental. Snowfall on the

**GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER**

Local government employs two people, state government provides work for four more, and the federal government employs an additional five.

**MANUFACTURING**

Three residents are employed in durable manufacturing.

**SERVICES**

Crooked Creek has two general-merchandise stores, a grocery store, and a sporting-goods store. Ten residents are employed in retail trade.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

The Kuskokwim River is the local highway in both summer and winter. All-terrain vehicles and snowmachines are used by residents on the frozen river in winter, while skiffs and barges provide transportation and cargo hauling in the summer. The state owns and operates a 2,100-foot gravel airstrip southwest of the village.

**COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

The village of Crooked Creek maintains a well that provides water for residents; water is hauled by residents. Sewage and solid-waste disposal are handled on an individual basis; honeybuckets and pit

privies are used for sewage disposal. The sewage dump site is one-quarter mile from the village.

Electric service is provided by the Middle Kuskokwim Electric Cooperative, generating power by burning oil. Local telephone service is provided by Bush-Tell, Inc., while long-distance service is available through Alascom. One television channel is offered by the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 49 housing units in the town, 33 are occupied; half are heated with wood, and the other half are heated with oil. Crooked Creek has one school, operated by the Kuspuk Regional Education Attendance Area.

#### HEALTH CARE

The village health clinic is owned by the village corporation and leased to the U.S. Public Health Service; it is operated by the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation. Hospital services are provided by the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Regional Hospital in Bethel.

## Deering

Inupiat Eskimo

NANA Corporation  
P.O. Box 49  
4706 Harding Drive  
Kotzebue, AK 99752  
(907) 442-3301

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	92,800 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	80,161 acres

Total labor force	60
High school graduate or higher	62.7%
Bachelor's degree or higher	3.0%
Unemployment rate	7.1%
Per capita income (1989)	\$6,983
Population	157
Percent native	94.3%

#### LOCATION

Deering is located on the north side of the Seward Peninsula, at the mouth of the Inmachuk River on Kotzebue Sound, 57 miles southwest of Kotzebue. It is built on a flat sand-and-gravel spit, 300 feet wide and a half-mile long.

#### CLIMATE

Deering is located in a transitional climate zone, characterized by long, cold winters and cool summers. Temperatures range from winter lows of -60°F to summer highs of 85°F. Snowfall averages 36 inches, with a total precipitation of 9 inches per year.

#### CULTURE AND HISTORY

The village was established in 1901 as a supply station for interior gold mining near the historic Malimiut Eskimo village of Inmachukmiut. The present name was taken from the schooner "Abbey Deering." Today the population of the village is primarily Inupiat Eskimo.

#### GOVERNMENT

Deering was incorporated in 1970 as a second-class city under Alaska, with a mayor and city council; it is located in the Northwest Arctic Borough (see Alaska introduction). It also has a village council, organized under the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934,

headed by a president. Shareholders in the village corporation are also shareholders in NANA regional native corporation (see Alaska introduction).

#### ECONOMY

Deering's economy is primarily based on the subsistence activities of the residents. The Karnun-Moto reindeer herd of 1,400 animals provides some local employment. A number of residents earn their income from handicrafts and trapping, while the school, city, local shops, the non-profit native corporation Manilaaq, and an airline provide the only year-round employment. Some mining occurs in the Seward Peninsula's interior.

#### CONSTRUCTION

Two residents are employed in construction.

#### GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER

Local government employs 34 people, and state government provides work for five more.

#### MINING

Four residents are employed in the mining industry.

#### SERVICES

Services in Deering include a general store, grocery store, and a child-care business. Three residents are employed in retail trade, and five are employed in wholesale trade. Professional services other than health and education provide employment for two residents.

#### TRANSPORTATION

Five residents are employed in the transportation industry.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE

Deering's major means of transportation are plane, small boat, and snowmachine. There are no roads linking the village to other areas in the state. A 2,600-foot gravel airstrip offers flights by four Kotzebue air services. A lighterage service barges goods from Kotzebue. Small boats and snowmachines are used for local travel.

#### COMMUNITY FACILITIES

The city of Deering provides water at a central location, as well as by truck. The primary means of sewage disposal are individual septic tanks and outhouses. The city of Deering also operates a washeteria and a bulk-fuel service. Electricity is available to residents from the Ipnatchiaq Electric Company, generating power by burning oil. Local telephone service is provided by OTZ Telephone Company, while long-distance service is provided by Alascom. The city of Deering provides a cable-television service, and one television channel is offered by the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 54 housing units in the town, 44 are occupied; almost 95 percent are heated with oil. The village school is operated by the Northwest Arctic Borough.

#### HEALTH CARE

Health care is provided by the Deering Health Clinic, owned by the city and leased to the U.S. Public Health Service; it is operated by Manilaaq Association.

## Dillingham

Yup'ik Eskimo, Alutiiq Aleut, Athabascan Indian

Choggiung Ltd.  
P.O. Box 330  
Dillingham, AK 99576  
(907) 842-5218

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA Interim conveyance (1994)	175,506 acres 154,955 acres
Total labor force	901
High school graduate or higher	70.3%
Bachelor's degree or higher	7.4%
Unemployment rate	6.7%
Per capita income (1989)	\$14,531
Population	2,017
Percent native	55.8%

### LOCATION

Dillingham is located at the extreme northern end of Nushagak Bay, in northern Bristol Bay, at the confluence of the Wood and Nushagak rivers. It lies 327 miles southwest of Anchorage and is a six-hour flight from Seattle.

### CLIMATE

The primary climatic influence in Dillingham is maritime; however, the arctic climate of the interior also affects the Bristol Bay coast. Average summer temperatures range from 37°F to 66°F, and average winter temperatures range from 4°F to 30°F. Average annual precipitation is 26 inches, including 65 inches of snow. Heavy fog is common in July and August. Winds up to 60 or 70 miles per hour may occur between December and March and interfere with transportation.

### CULTURE AND HISTORY

Historically the area around Dillingham was inhabited by Eskimos and Athabascans and became a fur-trade center when Russians erected the Alexandrovsky Post there in 1818. The community was known as Nushagak by 1837, when a Russian Orthodox mission was established. In 1884 the first salmon cannery in the Bristol Bay region was built there; ten more were constructed within the next 17 years. The post office was named after U.S. Senator Paul Dillingham in 1904, and the town site now known as Dillingham was first surveyed in 1947.

Traditionally a native area with Russian influences, Dillingham is now a highly mixed population of non-natives, Eskimos, Aleuts, and Indians. The outstanding commercial-fishing opportunities in the Bristol Bay area are the focus of the local culture.

### GOVERNMENT

Dillingham was incorporated as a first-class city in 1963, with a mayor and city council; it is located in the unorganized borough (see Alaska introduction). The six city council members are elected to three-year, staggered terms of office; the mayor is elected to a three-year term by Dillingham voters. It also has a traditional village council, headed by a president. Shareholders in the village corporation are also shareholders in Bristol Bay Native Corporation (see Alaska introduction).

### ECONOMY

Dillingham serves as the economic, transportation, and governmental center for the Bristol Bay region. The community provides a support base for the commercial-fishing fleet that

harvests the world's largest red-salmon fishery, as well as the largest herring fishery on the west coast of North America. The city's role as the regional center for government and services helps to stabilize seasonal employment; nevertheless, many residents depend on subsistence activities such as the trapping of beaver, otter, mink, lynx, and fox to provide cash income.

### CONSTRUCTION

There are five general building contractors and three construction companies in the village. Twenty-five people are employed in construction.

### FISHERIES

Commercial fishing and seafood processing account for half of the total employment of Dillingham. Although only 25 residents indicate that their full-time occupation is fishing, many other residents work seasonally in the industry; during spring and summer, the population of Dillingham doubles.

### GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER

Local government employs 127 people, state government provides work for 98 more, and the federal government employs an additional 65.

### MANUFACTURING

There is a clothing and textile manufacturer, a wood-working company, and three boat-building and repair businesses in Dillingham. Twenty-nine people are employed in manufacturing.

### SERVICES

Services are extensive in Dillingham, catering not only to this city but also to customers in numerous surrounding villages. There are two child-care services, two travel agencies, and stores selling everything from electrical appliances to general merchandise to sporting goods. There are also numerous repair services in Dillingham, including four automobile-repair shops and three boat-repair shops. There are also five marine-supply businesses. Retail trade employs 104 residents, wholesale trade another 14, financial and related businesses 18, repair services 36, communications or utilities 35, personal services 27, and professional services other than health or education employ 61.

### TOURISM AND RECREATION

There are six restaurants, nine businesses that provide lodging for visitors, and five wilderness charter services. There are also three videotape rental businesses and three souvenir shops. Five residents are employed in entertainment or recreation businesses.

### TRANSPORTATION

There are five taxi companies, three trucking and courier services, a water-freight transportation company, and nine air-transportation businesses. A total of 94 residents are employed in the transportation industry.

### INFRASTRUCTURE

Dillingham can be reached by air and sea. Regular jet flights are available from Anchorage. The state of Alaska's 6,404-foot paved runway can accommodate aircraft as large as Boeing 737 and 727 jets. The Dillingham airport is classified as a regional airport and serves as a major shipping point for Bristol Bay salmon. Barges bring supplies to Dillingham from Seattle four times during the summer. There are 50 miles of local roads, seven of which are paved.

### COMMUNITY FACILITIES

The city of Dillingham provides piped water to its residents, and individual wells are also used. It also provides a piped-sewage

service. In addition the city operates a washeteria and maintains a harbor and port facility.

Electricity is available to residents from the Nushagak Electric Company, generating power by burning oil. Local telephone service is provided by the Nushagak Telephone Co-op, Inc., while long-distance service is available through Alascom. Cable-television service is available, and one channel is offered by the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 851 housing units in the town, 691 are occupied; over 95 percent are heated with oil. The Dillingham City School District operates elementary, middle, and high schools.

**HEALTH CARE**

Health care is provided by the Kakanak Hospital and the Dillingham Health Clinic, owned and operated by the U.S. Public Health Service. Ambulance and emergency services are provided by the Dillingham Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad. The regional health corporation is the Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation.

**Diomedé**

Inupiat Eskimo	
Diomedé Native Corporation	
P.O. Box Holder	
Little Diomedé, AK 99762	
(907) 636-3221	
Fax: 636-3061	
Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	105,600 acres
Interim conveyance (4/94)	84,873 acres
Total labor force	48
High school graduate or higher	35.0%
Bachelor's degree or higher	-
Unemployment rate	6.7%
Per capita income (1989)	\$3,063
Population	192
Percent native	93.8%

**LOCATION**

The village of Diomedé is located on the west coast of Little Diomedé Island, in the Bering Straits, 135 miles northwest of Nome. It is only 2.5 miles from Big Diomedé Island, which belongs to Russia; the international boundary lies between the two islands.

**CLIMATE**

Diomedé has a maritime climate, with cool, moist weather prevailing. Summer temperatures range from 40°F to 50°F; winter temperatures vary from -10°F to 6°F. Annual precipitation averages 10 inches, including 30 inches of snowfall. During the summer months, cloudy skies and fog are common. Winds blow consistently from the north, averaging over 15 miles per hour, with gusts to 60 miles per hour and above.

**CULTURE AND HISTORY**

Diomedé is a traditional Eskimo village, with a culture centered on subsistence activities. Sea mammals, polar bears, cod, crab, and birds are all important subsistence resources. Mainland Eskimos traditionally travel to Diomedé Island to hunt polar bears.

Historically, Diomedé residents hunted on both sea and ice and traded with natives in both Asia and Alaska. They were closely related to families living on Big Diomedé Island. When the Soviet Union sealed its borders, Big Diomedé Island became a military base and all native residents were moved to the mainland of Siberia.

**GOVERNMENT**

Diomedé was incorporated under Alaska law as a second-class city in 1970, with a mayor and city council; it is located in the unorganized borough (see Alaska introduction). It also has an Indian Reorganization Act village council, headed by a president. Shareholders in the village corporation also hold shares in the Bering Straits Native Corporation (see Alaska introduction).

**ECONOMY**

Residents of Diomedé rely almost entirely on subsistence activities for their livelihoods. Fish, crab, walrus, seal, beluga whales, and polar bear are important subsistence resources. Employment is limited to jobs with the city and school; seasonal mining, construction, and commercial-fishing positions have declined in recent years. Ivory carving provides supplemental income for a number of village residents; the city acts as a wholesale agent for the carvings.

**CONSTRUCTION**

The construction industry employs two village residents.

**FISHERIES**

Commercial fishing employs some village residents on a seasonal basis.

**GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER**

Local government employs eight people, state government provides work for 23 more, and the federal government employs five village residents.

**MANUFACTURING**

Nondurable manufacturing provides work for two residents.

**SERVICES**

Retail trade employs four village residents and personal services two.

**TRANSPORTATION**

The transportation industry provides employment for two village residents.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

Diomedé is accessible only by air in the winter and by boat in the summer. Mail is delivered weekly by helicopter. There is no airstrip, so planes land on an ice runway in the winter; the open sea around the village is usually too rough or foggy during the summer for most pilots to attempt to land. Regular flights are scheduled from Nome, however, conditions permitting. There is no dock in the village; goods must be lightered to shore. A barge delivers cargo to the village at least once a year. Skin boats are still used for sea travel, including trips to the village of Wales for visiting and supplies, 28 miles away on the mainland.

**COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

The city of Diomedé provides water at a central watering point; residents also use individual wells and surface sources. There is a honeybucket dump for sewage disposal and a community septic system. The city operates a washeteria. Electricity is available to residents through the Diomedé Joint Utility Company, generating power by burning oil. Local telephone service is provided by the

Mukluk Telephone Company, while long-distance service is provided by Alascom. One television channel is offered by the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 41 housing units in the village, all are occupied; all are heated with oil. The village school is operated by the Bering Straits Regional Education Attendance Area.

#### HEALTH CARE

Health care is provided by the Little Diomedes Health Clinic, owned by the city and leased to the U.S. Public Health Service; it is administered by the Norton Sound Health Corporation. Emergencies are handled by the Diomedes Volunteer Fire Department First Responders.

## Dot Lake

Tanacross Athabascan

Dot Lake Native Corporation  
P.O. Box 275  
Dot Lake, AK 99737  
(907) 882-2695

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	69,120 acres
Interim conveyance (4/94)	63,279 acres
Total labor force	22
High school graduate or higher	36.4%
Bachelor's degree or higher	-
Unemployment rate	13.6%
Per capita income (1989)	\$6,245
Population	49
Percent native	54.3%

#### LOCATION

Dot Lake is located on the Alaska Highway in the interior of the state, 50 miles northwest of Tok and 155 miles southeast of Fairbanks.

#### CLIMATE

Dot Lake has a continental climate, characterized by long, cold winters and short, warm summers. During the winter, cold air settles in the valley, and ice fog is common. Winter temperatures average -22°F, with extreme lows of -65°F; summer temperatures average 65°F, with extreme highs of 95°F.

#### CULTURE AND HISTORY

Dot Lake is located in traditional Tanacross Athabascan territory; residents maintain a strongly subsistence-based culture. The village was traditionally a seasonal hunting camp, but with the construction of the Alaska Highway, many local people moved to the site permanently. Archaeological evidence shows more than 10,000 years of continuous habitation in the area.

There are two settlements in the area: the native village, and a non-native village one mile away.

#### GOVERNMENT

Dot Lake is unincorporated under Alaska law

and is located in the unorganized borough (see Alaska introduction). It is governed by a traditional village council, headed by a president. Shareholders in the village corporation also hold shares in Doyon, Ltd., regional native corporation (see Alaska introduction).

#### ECONOMY

Subsistence activities play an important role in the local economy. Employment in the area is limited to village services, a tourist lodge, a motel, an orphanage, the village school, and the clinic. Seasonal jobs are available in U.S. Bureau of Land Management fire fighting, and handicrafts also provide supplementary income.

#### CONSTRUCTION

The construction industry employs two village residents.

#### GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER

Local government employs two people.

#### SERVICES

Retail trade employs two village residents, financial and related businesses four, and professional services other than health and education seven.

#### TRANSPORTATION

The transportation industry provides employment for one village resident.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE

Dot Lake is accessible by road; the nearest airports are in Delta Junction and Tok. Supplies are brought in by truck or bus; regular bus service is available. Snowmachines and all-terrain vehicles are used for local transportation.

#### COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Piped water from a community well is provided by the village, in addition to water at a central point; residents also use individual wells. Sewage is disposed of by means of a community septic system, as well as by individual septic tanks and outhouses. There is a washeteria in the village. Electricity is available to residents through Alaska Power and Telephone, generating power by burning oil. Local telephone service is provided by the National Utilities, while long-distance service is provided by Alascom. One



Athabascan Woman at Fish Camp (Courtesy of Alaska Division of Tourism)

channel of television can be received from Fairbanks, and one channel is offered by the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 30 housing units in the village, 21 are occupied; over 60 percent are heated with oil, and most of the rest use wood. The village school is operated by the Alaska Gateway Regional Education Attendance Area.

**HEALTH CARE**

Health care is provided by the Dot Lake Health Clinic, owned by the village and leased to the U.S. Public Health Service; it is administered by the Tanana Chiefs Conference. Emergencies are handled by the McComb Plateau Emergency Medical Service Association.

**Eagle**

Kutchin (Gwich'in) Athabascan	
Hungwitchin Corporation	
2004 Sandvik Rd., Apt. 208	
Fairbanks, AK 99709	
(907) 479-2619	
Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	92,160 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	83,609 acres
Total labor force	82
High school graduate or higher	69.6%
Bachelor's degree or higher	13.0%
Unemployment rate	31.7%
Per capita income (1989)	\$7,551
Population	168
Percent native	3.0%

**LOCATION**

The city of Eagle and Eagle Village are located on the Taylor Highway, 6 miles west of the Alaska-Canadian border. The Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve is northwest of the area.

**CLIMATE**

Eagle's continental climate, typical of interior Alaska, shows seasonal extremes. Average January temperatures range from lows of -22°F to highs of -2°F. July averages range from lows of 50°F to highs of 72°F. Average annual precipitation is moderate, much of it in the form of snow.

**CULTURE AND HISTORY**

The area has been the historical home of the Kutchin (Gwich'in) Indians. A log-house trading station called Belle Isle was established at the site around 1874 and operated intermittently until its development as a mining camp in 1889. The community was then named Eagle City, after the nesting eagles on nearby Eagle Bluff. A U.S. Army camp was built there in 1899, and a year later Fort Egbert was built; it was abandoned in 1911. The Valdez-Eagle telegraph line was completed in 1930. Most Eagle residents are non-native; however, nearby Eagle Village is home to over 30 natives. Subsistence activities are a major part of the lifestyle.

**GOVERNMENT**

Eagle was incorporated under Alaska law as a second-class city in 1901, with a mayor and city council; it is located in the unorganized borough (see Alaska Introduction). It also has a village council organized under the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934, headed by a first chief. Shareholders in the village corporation also hold shares

in Doyon, Ltd., regional native corporation (see Alaska introduction).

**ECONOMY**

Retail businesses, mining, and seasonal employment such as BLM fire fighting provide the majority of employment opportunities in the area. Year-round positions are limited, and subsistence activities are of major importance.

**CONSTRUCTION**

Two people are employed in construction.

**GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER**

Local government employs two people, state government provides work for five more, and the federal government employs an additional six.

**MINING**

There is a placer-mining operation in the village; three residents are employed in the mining industry.

**SERVICES**

There is a lumber store in the village, two general-merchandise stores, and a grocery store. There is a massage service, an auto-repair shop, and several firms offering business services. Sixteen residents are employed in retail trade, four in repair services, two in personal services, and three in professional services other than health and education.

**TOURISM AND RECREATION**

There are five craft and gift stores, a cafe, and a sporting-goods store. In addition there are two businesses that provide lodging for visitors, as well as two tour operators and a hunting service.

**TRANSPORTATION**

Seven residents are employed in the transportation industry.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

Eagle has access to the state road system and Canada only during the summer months, via the Taylor and Klondike highways. Also during the summer, a ferry provides vehicle and passenger transportation up the Yukon River to Dawson City, Canada. There is an airport in the village, serving regular and charter flights.

**COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

The city of Eagle provides water at a central point from a community well; individual wells are also used, as well as surface sources. Individual septic tanks and outhouses are used for sewage disposal. There is a washeteria in the village. The Eagle Power Company provides electricity, generated by burning oil. Local telephone service is provided by the Nushagak Telephone Co-op, Inc., while long-distance service is available from Alascom. One television channel is offered by the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 146 housing units in the village, 66 are occupied; somewhat more than half use wood heat, while the rest are heated by oil. There is a village school, run by the Alaska Gateway Regional Education Attendance Area.

**HEALTH CARE**

Health care is provided by the Eagle Health Clinic, owned by the village and leased to the U.S. Public Health Service; it is administered by the Tanana Chiefs Conference. Ambulance service is provided by Eagle Emergency Medical Service.

## Eek

Yup'ik Eskimo

Iqfijouaq Company  
 P.O. Box 49  
 Eek, AK 99578  
 (907) 536-5211

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	115,200 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	87,363 acres
Total labor force	80
High school graduate or higher	46.8%
Bachelor's degree or higher	1.6%
Unemployment rate	23.9%
Per capita income (1989)	\$5,228
Population	254
Percent native	95.7%

### LOCATION

Eek lies on the west bank of the Eek River, 12 miles east of the Kuskokwim River. It is in the Yukon-Kuskokwim delta, 42 miles southwest of Bethel and 420 miles west of Anchorage.

### CLIMATE

Eek is located in the marine climate zone. Annual precipitation averages 22 inches, including 43 inches of snowfall. Average summer temperatures range from lows of 41°F to highs of 57°F, while average winter temperatures vary from lows of 6°F to highs of 24°F.

### CULTURE AND HISTORY

The area has historically been the home of Yup'ik Eskimos and is still a traditional Eskimo village. It was founded by residents of an older village that was affected by erosion. A post office was established in 1949.

About half of the families move to fish camps each summer; those who stay participate in the commercial fishery.

### GOVERNMENT

In 1970 Eek was incorporated as a second-class city under Alaska law, with a mayor and city council; it is located in the unorganized borough (see Alaska introduction). Eek also has a traditional village council, headed by a president. Shareholders in the village corporation are also shareholders in Calista Corporation regional native corporation (see Alaska introduction).

### ECONOMY

Eek's economy is a mix of subsistence and cash activities. Commercial fishing, fish processing, and construction provide summer employment. All families participate in either commercial or subsistence fishing.

### FISHERIES

The Alaska State Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission reports that 59 limited-entry permits were issued for Eek, most for the herring-roe and salmon-net fisheries. The 1992 Community Development Quota program also increased the pollack groundfish quota for small communities like Eek.

### GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER

Local government employs 11 people, state government provides work for 33 more, and the federal government employs an additional four.

### SERVICES

There are five general-merchandise stores and a food store in the village. Six residents work in retail trade.

### TRANSPORTATION

Four residents work in the transportation industry.

### INFRASTRUCTURE

A 1,400-foot gravel airstrip provides chartered and private air access year-round. Fishing boats, skiffs, and snowmachines are used for local transportation to Bethel and other villages. Barges deliver fuel and supplies during the summer months.

### COMMUNITY FACILITIES

The city provides water at community watering points and a washeteria; water is also obtained from the river. Sewage is disposed of in a small pond; it is collected by a honeybucket-pickup system. Bulk fuel is available for purchase by residents. Electricity is provided by the Alaska Village Electric Cooperative, generating power by burning oil. Local telephone service is provided by United Utilities, Inc., while long-distance service is available through Alascom. Cable-television service is available, and one channel is offered by the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 80 housing units in the village, 72 are occupied; over 80 percent are heated by oil, while most of the rest use wood. The village school covers preschool through high school; it is operated by the Kuskokwim Regional Education Attendance Area.

### HEALTH CARE

Health care is provided by the Eek Health Clinic, owned by the village and leased to the U.S. Public Health Service; it is administered by the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation.

## Egegik

Yup'ik Eskimo, Alutiiq Aleut

Becharof Corporation  
 1577 C Street Plaza, #124  
 Anchorage, AK 99501  
 (907) 263-9820  
 Fax: 274-3721

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	94,470 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	88,649 acres
Total labor force	37
High school graduate or higher	40.4%
Bachelor's degree or higher	-
Unemployment rate	24.3%
Per capita income (1989)	\$15,051
Population	122
Percent native	70.5%

### LOCATION

Egegik is located at the mouth of the Egegik River on the Alaska Peninsula, 100 miles southwest of Dillingham and 335 miles southwest of Anchorage. Treeless tundra and wetland areas border the community.

### CLIMATE

Egegik's weather is cool, humid, and windy. Fog and southeast winds are common in the summer, with northeast winds being more

frequent during the winter months. Annual precipitation averages between 20 and 26 inches, including 65 inches of snow. Summer temperatures range between lows of 37°F and highs of 65°F, with winter lows averaging -20°F and highs 40°F.

#### CULTURE AND HISTORY

The Egegik River is one of the most productive salmon rivers in Bristol Bay; during the commercial-fishing season, the population swells to over 3,500. Across the river is the settlement of Coffee Point, the site of a salmon-processing plant and individual fish camps. The name of the village is derived from the Yup'ik Eskimo word igagik, meaning "neck."

Settlement of the Bristol Bay region first occurred over 6,000 years ago; Yup'ik Eskimos and Athabascan Indians jointly occupied the area. Egegik is also on the traditional border between Yup'ik Eskimo territory, to the north, and Alutiiq Aleut territory, to the south. The village was first reported as a fish camp in 1876 and later developed around a salmon saltery established in 1895. During the influenza outbreaks that began in 1918, natives from other villages moved to Egegik in an attempt to isolate themselves from the disease. Today subsistence is still a basic part of the life-style of most residents.

#### GOVERNMENT

Egegik is one of the unincorporated communities in the Lake and Peninsula Borough (see Alaska introduction). The local governing body is the Egegik Village Council, a seven-member traditional council that meets monthly, headed by a president. Council members serve three-year staggered terms. Shareholders in the village corporation also hold shares in Bristol Bay Native Corporation (see Alaska introduction).

#### ECONOMY

The economy of Egegik is based solely on the commercial salmon industry. Commercial-fishing and salmon-processing activities provide employment to local residents and summer visitors alike. For year-round residents, however, subsistence hunting and fishing remain important.

#### FISHERIES

There are two canneries and freezer facilities in the village. A seafood-processing plant is in operation in nearby Coffee Point. Several floating processors also operate in the area during the peak fishing season. Four residents listed their primary occupation as fishing in the 1990 U.S. census.

#### GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER

Local government employs five people, state government provides work for six more, and the federal government employs an additional five.

#### SERVICES

There is a general-merchandise store and a retail food store in the village. There is also a fuel-oil dealer, two coin-operated laundries, and a repair shop. Three residents are employed in retail trade, in addition to three in wholesale trade.

#### TOURISM AND RECREATION

There is a coffee shop, a sandwich shop, a sporting-goods store, and a business that offers lodging for visitors.

#### TRANSPORTATION

Seven residents are employed in the transportation industry.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE

Egegik is primarily accessible by air and water. There is a 2,500-foot

gravel airstrip with a crosswind runway, owned by the state of Alaska. There is regular passenger and mail service from King Salmon, with charter services also available from Naknek and Dillingham. Barge services are provided from Seattle twice yearly.

#### COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Egegik's water is supplied by wells, with about 50 percent of the facilities connected to the community water system. The remainder of the community uses individual wells. About 70 percent of the facilities in Egegik are connected to the village sewer system; sewage is held in a community-maintained sewage lagoon. The 250-square-foot landfill is maintained by the Egegik Improvement Corporation; there is no refuse-collection service. Bulk fuel is available for purchase by residents. Electric power is provided by Egegik Light and Power, generating electricity by burning oil. Local telephone service is provided by Pacific Telecommunications, Inc., while long-distance service is available from Alascom. One television channel is offered by the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of the 66 housing units in the village, 48 are occupied; all are heated by oil. The Egegik School is operated by the Lake and Peninsula Borough School District. It serves students from kindergarten through high school.

#### HEALTH CARE

Health care is provided by the Egegik Health Clinic, owned by the village and leased to the U.S. Public Health Service; it is administered by the Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation and staffed by two full-time community health aides. An Indian Health Service doctor and dentist visit at least twice a year; an optometrist visits every other year. Patients travel to the Kanakanak Hospital in Dillingham or to Anchorage for nonroutine care.

## Eklutna

Tanaina (Dena'ina) Athabascan

Eklutna, Incorporated  
510 L Street, Suite 200  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
(907) 276-5701

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	124,727 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	63,042 acres
Total labor force	202
High school graduate or higher	20.0%
Bachelor's degree or higher	-
Unemployment rate	3.5%
Per capita income (1989)	\$4,753
Population	381
Percent native	12.6%

#### LOCATION

Eklutna is located at the head of the Knik Arm of Cook Inlet, at the mouth of the Eklutna River, 25 miles northeast of Anchorage. It is within the boundaries of the Unified Municipality of Anchorage.

#### CLIMATE

Eklutna's climate is largely maritime. The average temperatures in January range from a low of 6°F to a high of 14°F; in July the lows average 47°F, while the highs average 67°F.

## CULTURE AND HISTORY

The Eklutna area was the site of many Athabascan Indian villages as long as 800 years ago. Today's residents are descendants of the Tanaina tribe. Russian Orthodox missionaries arrived in the 1840s, and a railroad station was built in 1918. Brightly-colored "spirit houses" in the Russian style now lend character to Eklutna. The Russian Orthodox religion is still prevalent.

## GOVERNMENT

Eklutna is an unincorporated community within the municipality of Anchorage (see Alaska introduction). It also has a traditional village council, headed by a president. Shareholders in the village corporation also hold shares in Cook Inlet Regional Corporation (see Alaska introduction).

## ECONOMY

Eklutna residents are employed in a variety of occupations in Anchorage, Eagle River, and the Matanuska-Susitna Valley. They are actively developing tourism opportunities.

## CONSTRUCTION

Six residents are employed in the construction industry.

## GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER

Local government employs 26 people, and the federal government employs an additional 38.

## MINING

Nineteen residents are employed in mining.

## SERVICES

There is a bar in Eklutna. Twenty-nine residents are employed in retail trade, four in wholesale trade, 13 in finance and related businesses, five in repair services, five in personal services, and nine in professional services other than health and education.

## TRANSPORTATION

A total of 11 residents are employed in the transportation industry.

## INFRASTRUCTURE

The village lies on the highway between Anchorage and Palmer, with ready access to a variety of transportation services in those communities.

## COMMUNITY FACILITIES

As part of the municipality of Anchorage, Eklutna residents receive piped water from a community well; sewage is disposed of in individual septic tanks. Bulk fuel is available in Anchorage. Electricity is provided by Alaska Power and Light, using hydropower from the Eklutna Power House. Local telephone service is available through the Matanuska Telephone Association; long-distance service is provided by Alascom and GCI. Three television stations can be received from Anchorage. Of 139 housing units in the village, 123 are occupied; 80 percent are heated by gas, with the rest heated by electricity, oil, and wood. The village school is operated by the Anchorage City School District.

## HEALTH CARE

Health care is provided by doctors and hospitals in Anchorage.

## Ekuk

Yup'ik Eskimo

Choggiung Ltd.  
P.O. Box 330  
Dillingham, AK 99576  
(907) 324-4218  
Fax: 842-5462

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	76,800 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	70,350 acres
Total labor force	-
High school graduate or higher	-
Bachelor's degree or higher	-
Unemployment rate	-
Per capita income (1989)	-
Population	3
Percent native	66.6%

## LOCATION

Ekuk is located on the east coast of Nushagak Bay, 17 miles south of Dillingham, in the southwestern part of the state.

## CLIMATE

Ekuk is located in a climatic transition zone. The primary influence is maritime, although the interior continental climate also affects the region. Average summer temperatures range from 37°F to 66°F; winter temperatures range from 4°F to 30°F.

## CULTURE AND HISTORY

There are very few permanent residents in Ekuk. In the summer, however, the nearly deserted village comes alive with cannery crews, commercial fishing, and subsistence activities. Ekuk is a seasonal home, reflecting traditional Yup'ik Eskimo subsistence patterns of spending the fishing season at a coastal campsite and hunting and trapping inland during fall and winter.

The village is mentioned in Russian accounts of 1824 and 1828; it was probably a major Eskimo village in prehistoric times. Russians employed natives as guides for their boats as they navigated up Nushagak Bay to the trading post at Aleksandrovsk. The year-round population, however, dwindled to little more than 40 or 50 people after the late 1800s, partly because of severe erosion.

Before a cannery was opened at Ekuk in 1903, many residents had moved to the Moravian mission at Carmel; in addition, during 1888 and 1889, the numerous canneries that sprang up on the east and west sides of the bay drew many Ekuk residents. Others moved upriver where game was more abundant. The shoreline of the village continues to suffer from severe erosion, and there is the constant threat of flooding. All these factors have caused people to leave at the end of the fishing season. Many of the homes and fish-drying racks have had to be moved back from the shore to protect them from destruction. The village had a school from 1958 to 1974.

## GOVERNMENT

Ekuk is unincorporated under Alaska law and is located in the unorganized borough (see Alaska introduction). The village has a traditional council, headed by a president. Shareholders in the village corporation are also shareholders in Bristol Bay Native Corporation (see Alaska introduction).

## ECONOMY

Ekuk's major employer is the fishing industry. In the summer, the

community is flooded with seasonal fishing crews and fish processors.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE

Air and water transport are the most frequent means of getting to Ekuk. There is a gravel, dirt, and silt runway that serves scheduled and charter flights from Dillingham during the summer months. Freight is brought in by barge to the cannery dock during the summer as well.

#### COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Water is available from individual wells; honeybuckets and outhouses are used for sewage disposal. Information regarding the community source of electricity and other public services was unavailable at the time of writing. Local telephone service is available through the Nushagak Telephone Co-op, Inc., while long-distance service is provided by Alascom. One television channel is offered by the Rural Alaska Television Network. There is no school in the village.

#### HEALTH CARE

Health care is provided in the summer by a health aide; this worker is administered by the Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation. Alternate care is available at the health clinic in Clark's Point.

## Ekwok

Yup'ik Eskimo

Ekwok Natives Ltd.  
General delivery  
Ekwok, AK 99580  
(907) 464-3317  
Fax: 464-3305

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	93,682 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	88,145 acres
Total labor force	18
High school graduate or higher	29.3%
Bachelor's degree or higher	-
Unemployment rate	23.5%
Per capita income (1989)	\$6,223
Population	77
Percent native	87.0%

#### LOCATION

Ekwok is located along the Nushagak River, 43 miles northeast of Dillingham and 285 miles southwest of Anchorage. The local terrain is hilly and characterized by spruce and birch forests.

#### CLIMATE

Ekwok is in a climatic transition zone. The primary influence is maritime, but it is modified by the continental climate of interior Alaska. Cloudy skies, mild temperatures, heavy precipitation, and periods of strong surface winds are common. Summer temperatures range from lows of 37°F to highs of 77°F. Winter temperatures average lows of 4°F and highs of 30°F.

#### CULTURE AND HISTORY

Ekwok is the oldest continuously occupied Yup'ik Eskimo village on the river. It was originally settled during the early 1900s, when

settlers came to the area to fish and harvest the abundant supply of wood. The settlement was first used as a fish camp and base for berry picking. The name means "beginning of higher ground."

The village was said to be the largest settlement along the river by 1923. In 1930 the Bureau of Indian affairs established a school in Ekwok. Mail service began in 1930, with the opening of a post office that served the entire river for a time. But service was extremely irregular; residents depended on infrequent deliveries from Dillingham by dogsled. In 1941 Ekwok officially opened a post office. The village continued to grow slowly, drawing residents from coastal communities in the region.

Many of the earliest homes in Ekwok were located in a low, flat area near the riverbank. When the village suffered from the effects of severe flooding in the early 1960s, the villagers relocated on higher ground, at Ekwok's current location. The Southwest Region Regional Education Attendance Area took over the school from the BIA in 1971, and in 1980 a high school was built.

#### GOVERNMENT

Ekwok was incorporated under Alaska law as a second-class city in 1974, with a mayor and city council; it is located in the unorganized borough (see Alaska introduction). The seven-member City Council meets on the second Tuesday of each month. Council members are elected to three-year staggered terms; the mayor is elected by, and from, the membership of the city council to a one-year term. In addition the village has a traditional tribal council, headed by a president; it also has seven members. Holders of shares in the village corporation are also shareholders in Bristol Bay Native Corporation (see Alaska introduction).

#### ECONOMY

The main source of income in Ekwok is the salmon-fishing industry. A few residents trap for furs. The entire population depends on subsistence activities for various food sources. With fresh produce hard to come by, many residents grow gardens in the summer. The village corporation owns a fishing lodge, and gravel is mined near the community.

#### CONSTRUCTION

Two residents work in the construction industry.

#### FISHERIES

Although commercial fishing is extremely important seasonally as a source of income, no residents listed their primary occupation as fishing in the 1990 U.S. census.

#### GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER

Local government employs five people, state government provides work for one more, and the federal government employs an additional two.

#### MINING

There is a gravel mine near the village.

#### SERVICES

There are four general-retail or grocery stores in the community.

#### TOURISM AND RECREATION

In addition to the fishing lodge owned by the village corporation, there are two fishing-guide services and a sporting-goods store.

#### TRANSPORTATION

Two residents are employed in the transportation industry.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

The state of Alaska's 3,500-foot gravel runway can accommodate DC-3 and smaller aircraft. There is no crosswind runway or tower service available. Air cargo, passenger, and mail services are available from Dillingham. The 4 miles of gravel road in the village are maintained by the city of Ekwok. There is no taxi or local delivery service. No developed harbor or dock facilities exist in Ekwok, although there is a suitable unloading area along the Nushagak River. Cargo is brought in regularly by a lighterage company.

**COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

Individual wells provide water for the community. About a quarter of Ekwok's residences are connected to the city sewer lines, while the remaining homes are connected to individual septic systems. Bulk fuel is available. A 100-cubic-yard landfill is used for solid-waste disposal. The city provides electric power, generated by burning oil. Local telephone service is available through the Bristol Bay Telephone Co-op, Inc., while long-distance service is provided by Alascom. One television channel is offered by the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 39 housing units in the village, 30 are occupied; about three-quarters are heated by wood, while the rest use oil.

The Ekwok School is part of the Southwest Region Regional Education Attendance Area. Classes are offered from preschool through the eighth grade; High school students attend school outside the village. The school district operates a Yup'ik Eskimo culture program. Vocational programs are offered by the Bristol Bay Native Association.

**HEALTH CARE**

Health care is provided by the Ekwok Health Clinic, owned by the village and leased to the U.S. Public Health Service; it is administered by the Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation. It is staffed by a community health aide; an Indian Health Service doctor and dentist visit once a year. The Kakanak Hospital in Dillingham and additional hospitals in Anchorage are available for full-service medical care.

Peninsula, 96 miles east of Nome and 460 miles northwest of Anchorage.

**CLIMATE**

Elim has a subarctic climate, with maritime influences when Norton Sound is ice-free. Summers are cool and moist; winters are cold and dry. Summer temperatures range from lows of 46°F to highs of 62°F; winter temperatures range from lows of -8°F to highs of 8°F. Average annual precipitation is 19 inches, including about 80 inches of snow.

**CULTURE AND HISTORY**

This settlement was formerly the Malimiut (Inupiat) Eskimo village of Nuviakchak. The area was a federal reindeer reserve, established in 1911, but reservation status was eliminated by the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (see Alaska introduction); the village corporation now owns the former reservation.

The Covenant Mission church and school opened in 1914, which attracted more people to the village. The Iditarod dogsled race from Anchorage to Nome passes through the village.

**GOVERNMENT**

Elim is a second-class city under Alaska law, incorporated in 1970, with a mayor and city council, located in the unorganized borough (see Alaska introduction). It also has a village council, organized under the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934 and headed by a president. Shareholders in the village corporation also hold shares in Bering Straits Native Corporation (see Alaska introduction).

**ECONOMY**

The Elim economy is based on subsistence activities; year-round cash employment is offered only by the city and the school. Unemployment is high, and seasonal part-time employment in nearby Nome has declined recently, due to a depressed gold market. Residents rely on fish, seal, beluga whale, reindeer, moose, and the produce from summer gardens to supplement cash earnings.

**FISHERIES**

There is a fish-buying business in the village.

**GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER**

Local government employs ten people, state government provides work for 17 more, and the federal government employs an additional five.

**SERVICES**

There are two retail food stores, a tax-return preparation service, and two child-care services in the village. Seven residents work in retail trade, with another eight employed in professional services other than health and education.

**TRANSPORTATION**

Five residents are employed in the transportation industry.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

Elim is best reached by air and sea. Regularly scheduled flights are available from Nome, and improvements to the city-operated airport in 1989 have made the facility one of the best and most modern in the region. There is no dock in the village, so supplies must be lightered to shore by a company operating from Nome. A cargo ship annually brings freight to Nome.

**COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

The city provides piped water from a surface source; sewage is piped to a community septic system. There is a washeteria in the

**Elim**

Inupiat Eskimo	
Elim Native Corporation	
P.O. Box 39010	
Elim, AK 99739	
(907) 890-3741	
Fax: 890-3091	
Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	297,982 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	297,982 acres
Total labor force	83
High school graduate or higher	67.2%
Bachelor's degree or higher	3.4%
Unemployment rate	36.1%
Per capita income (1989)	\$5,341
Population	264
Percent native	91.7%

**LOCATION**

Elim is located on the northwest shore of Norton Bay on the Seward

community, and bulk fuel is available for purchase by residents. Electric power is provided by the Alaska Village Electric Cooperative, generating power by burning oil. Local telephone service is available through the Mukluk Telephone Company; long-distance service is provided by Alascom. Cable-television service is available, and one channel is offered by the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 81 housing units in the village, 73 are occupied; half are heated by wood, half by oil. The village school is operated by the Bering Straits Regional Education Attendance Area.

#### HEALTH CARE

Health care is provided by the Elim Health Clinic, owned by the city and leased to the U.S. Public Health Service. The clinic is administered by the Norton Sound Health Corporation.

## Emmonak

Yup'ik Eskimo

Emmonak Corporation  
General Delivery  
Emmonak, AK 99581  
(907) 949-1129  
Fax: 949-1412

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA Interim conveyance (1994)	138,240 acres 117,578 acres
Total labor force	212
High school graduate or higher	55.5%
Bachelor's degree or higher	2.3%
Unemployment rate	34.6%
Per capita income (1989)	\$6,220
Population	642
Percent native	92.1%

#### LOCATION

Emmonak is located at the mouth of the Yukon River, on the north bank of Kwiguk Pass, in the Yukon-Kuskokwim delta, 175 miles northwest of Bethel.

#### CLIMATE

Emmonak lies in the maritime climate zone. Temperatures range from winter lows of -25°F to summer highs of 79°F. Average annual precipitation is 19 inches, including snowfall of from 50 to 60 inches. The growing season is 100 days long.

#### CULTURE AND HISTORY

Emmonak is a Yup'ik Eskimo village involved in commercial fishing and fish processing, as well as subsistence activities. The original settlement was 1.4 miles south of its present location; residents were forced to move because of flooding.

#### GOVERNMENT

Emmonak was incorporated under Alaska law as a second-class city in 1964 and is located in the unorganized borough (see Alaska introduction). It also has a traditional village council, headed by a president. Shareholders in the village corporation also hold shares in Calista Corporation regional native corporation (see Alaska introduction).

#### ECONOMY

Emmonak has a seasonal economy, with most activity occurring during the summer. The city is becoming a center for commercial fishing, fish purchasing, and fish processing on the lower Yukon River. Subsistence activities and trapping are important economic activities for most village residents during the fall and winter.

#### CONSTRUCTION

Two people are employed in construction.

#### FISHERIES

Two residents listed fishing as their primary occupation in the 1990 U.S. census.

#### GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER

Local government employs 12 people, state government provides work for 49 more, and the federal government employs an additional eight.

#### MANUFACTURING

One resident is employed in manufacturing.

#### SERVICES

Emmonak has a general-merchandise store and two grocery stores, a repair shop, a group of professional musicians, and a snowmachine dealer. Retail trade employs 33 residents, wholesale trade another nine, finance and related businesses two, and professional services other than health and education eight.

#### TOURISM AND RECREATION

There are three restaurants in the village, as well as a video arcade. The city of Emmonak also operates a hotel. Three residents are employed in recreation or entertainment.

#### TRANSPORTATION

There is a taxi service in Emmonak, in addition to two charter airplane services. There is a terminal-service business operating at the airport. The transportation industry employs 17 residents.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE

Emmonak relies on air and water transportation; there are no roads connecting the village with other communities. Trails to Kotlik, Alakanuk, and Sheldon Point are used by snowmachines during the winter months. Skiffs are used during the summer.

#### COMMUNITY FACILITIES

The city provides piped water from a central surface source. Sewage is disposed of through a community piped-sewage system. The city also operates a washeteria. Electricity is available to residents from the Alaska Village Electric Cooperative, generating power by burning oil. Local telephone service is provided by United Utilities, Inc., while long-distance service is available through Alascom. Cable television service is available and one television channel is offered by the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 172 housing units in the village, 161 are occupied; over three-quarters are heated by oil, with almost all the rest using wood. The village school is operated by the Lower Yukon Regional Education Attendance Area.

#### HEALTH CARE

Health care is provided by the Emmonak Health Clinic, owned by the city and leased to the U.S. Public Health Service. It is administered by the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation.

## English Bay

Aleut-Athapascan

Chugach Natives Incorporated  
819 C Street  
Anchorage, AK 99501

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA  
Interim conveyance

Total labor force	22
High school graduate or higher	73.2%
Bachelor's degree or higher	-
Unemployment rate	54.2%
Per capita income (1989)	\$12,442
Population	161
Percent native	91.3%

## Evansville

Nunamiut Eskimo, Koyukon Athabascan

Evansville, Inc.  
214 Second Avenue  
Fairbanks, AK 99701  
(907) 451-8008

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA Interim conveyance (1994)	69,120 acres 63,924 acres
Total labor force	25
High school graduate or higher	52.6%
Bachelor's degree or higher	-
Unemployment rate	16.0%
Per capita income (1989)	\$11,937
Population	33
Percent native	57.6%

### LOCATION

Evansville is located about 180 air miles and 250 road miles northwest of Fairbanks, adjacent to Bettles.

### CLIMATE

The area experiences a continental climate, with extreme temperature differences. Winter lows may reach -40°F or below, while summer temperatures may be as high as 70°F. Average annual precipitation is 13.4 inches, including 77 inches of snowfall.

### CULTURE AND HISTORY

Nunamiut Eskimos and Koyukon Athabascan Indians have lived as neighbors and kin in the area for generations. The village was named for Wilford Evans, Sr., who owned a trading post and river-barge business in Allakaket. He opened a sawmill and built the Bettles Lodge and General Store.

### GOVERNMENT

Evansville is unincorporated under Alaska law and is located in the unorganized borough (see Alaska introduction). The village is governed by a traditional council, headed by a chief. Shareholders in the village corporation are also shareholders in Doyon, Ltd., regional native corporation (see Alaska introduction).

### ECONOMY

Evansville's economy is linked to air transportation, visitor services, and government, as well as its proximity to the city of Bettles. Ninety percent of the heads of household are employed, most full-time. Government agencies provide employment in the Kanuti Refuge and Gates of the Arctic National Park.

### GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER

Local government employs seven people, state government provides work for three more, and the federal government employs an additional five.

### TOURISM AND RECREATION

There are tourist facilities in nearby Bettles.

### TRANSPORTATION

Two residents work in the transportation industry.

### INFRASTRUCTURE

Boat travel on the Koyukuk River and air travel via the Bettles airport are the primary means of transportation. For four months during the year, the Hickel Trail, a 28-mile winter road, gives residents access to the Dalton Highway, which leads to Fairbanks. Snowmachine trails connect Evansville with surrounding villages.

### COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Water is available from individual wells and a surface source. Sewage is disposed of in individual septic tanks. Bulk fuel is available for purchase by residents. Alaska Power and Telephone provides electric power to the village, generating power by burning oil. Local telephone service is provided by National Utilities, while long-distance service is available through Alascom. One television channel is offered by the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 17 housing units in the village, 13 are occupied; two-thirds are heated by oil, while the rest are heated by wood. The village school is operated by the Yukon-Koyukuk Regional Education Attendance Area.

### HEALTH CARE

Health care is provided by the Frank Tobuk, Sr., Health Clinic, owned by the village and leased to the U.S. Public Health Service. It is administered by the Tanana Chiefs Conference.

## Eyak

Eyak, Alutiiq Aleut

Eyak Corporation  
P.O. Box 340  
Cordova, AK 99574  
(907) 424-7161  
Fax: 424-5161

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA Interim conveyance (1994)	148,720 acres 117,924 acres
Total labor force	92
High school graduate or higher	100%
Bachelor's degree or higher	-
Unemployment rate	4.3%
Per capita income (1989)	\$63,913
Population	172
Percent native	7.6%

**LOCATION**

Eyak is located on the Copper River Highway, 5.5 miles southeast of Cordova, in the Malaspina coastal plain.

**CLIMATE**

Eyak's climate is primarily maritime. Winter temperatures range from lows of 17°F to highs of 28°F; summer temperatures range from 49°F to 63°F. Average annual precipitation is 66 inches, including 80 inches of snowfall.

**CULTURE AND HISTORY**

Eyak was first reported in 1869 as "Hyacks," an Eskimo village, and then in 1880 as "Thiak." In 1899 Lieutenant Commander Moser, USN, reported it as a cannery called "Odiak." Eyak is primarily a non-native community, home to many people employed in commercial fishing.

**GOVERNMENT**

Eyak is unincorporated under Alaska law and is located in the unorganized borough (see Alaska introduction). It was annexed to the city of Cordova in 1993. It has a traditional village council, headed by a president. Shareholders in the village corporation also hold shares in Chugach Alaska Corporation regional native corporation (see Alaska introduction).

**ECONOMY**

The Prince William Sound fishery and its fish-processing businesses, in addition to logging and retail businesses, provide employment in Eyak.

**CONSTRUCTION**

Nine village residents are employed in the construction business.

**FISHERIES**

Commercial fishing is an important source of wage income for residents of Eyak.

**FORESTRY**

Logging is a major source of employment in the village.

**GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER**

Local government employs three people and state government provides work for four more.

**MANUFACTURING**

Two residents are employed in manufacturing.

**SERVICES**

Fourteen residents are employed in retail trade in the village, in addition to four in personal services and two employed in professional services other than health and education.

**TRANSPORTATION**

A total of three residents are employed in the transportation industry.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

Eyak is connected by road to Cordova; there is no highway connection to the rest of the state. Cordova offers an airport, harbor, dock, and a state ferry landing.

**COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

The city of Cordova provides water, sewage services, and refuse disposal.

Local telephone service is provided by the Cordova Telephone Co-op, while long-distance service is available from Alascom and GCI. Cable television is available, as well as one channel offered by the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 62 housing units in the village, 55 are occupied; over 86 percent are heated by oil, while the rest use either bottled gas or wood. The village school is operated by the city of Cordova.

**HEALTH CARE**

Health care is provided by a hospital in Cordova; the regional health corporation is Chugachmiut.

## False Pass

**Unangan Aleut**

Isanotski Corporation

General Delivery

False Pass, AK 99583

(907) 548-2217

Fax: 548-2214

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	77,188 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	65,061 acres

Total labor force	23
High school graduate or higher	48.6%
Bachelor's degree or higher	-
Unemployment rate	-
Per capita income (1989)	\$5,584

Population	68
Percent native	76.5%

**LOCATION**

False Pass is located 646 miles southwest of Anchorage. It is on the eastern shore of Unimak Island, adjacent to Isanotski Strait, which separates the Alaska Peninsula from Unimak Island. The strait is a direct and well-used access from the Pacific Ocean and Gulf of Alaska to the fishing grounds of the Bering Sea and Bristol Bay.

**CLIMATE**

False Pass has a maritime climate, with mild winters and cool summers. Winter lows average 11°F, with highs averaging 40°F; summer temperatures range from 32°F to 55°F. The village is situated on the Pacific west-to-east storm track, causing the prevailing southeast winds to be constant and often strong. Snowfall averages 56 inches, with total annual precipitation of 33 inches.

**CULTURE AND HISTORY**

The English name of the village derives from the fact that the Bering Sea side of the strait is extremely shallow. The Aleut name of the community is Isanax, translated as "the pass." False Pass was settled in the early 1900s by the homesteader William Gardner. In 1917 a cannery was relocated from Morzhovoi Bay to the present-day location of False Pass. The cannery grew, and additional people from nearby areas such as Morzhovoi, Sanak Island, and Ikatan moved to the village. In the early 1960s, an airstrip and school were established at the village.

**GOVERNMENT**

False Pass was incorporated under Alaska law as a second-class city in 1990; it is one of six communities in the Aleutians East Borough

(see Alaska introduction). A seven-member city council is elected to three-year staggered terms of office. The mayor is elected by, and from, city council members to a one-year term. The False Pass City Council meets on the third Tuesday of every month. The village also has a traditional tribal council, headed by a president. The five-member council typically oversees issues affecting the tribe, such as health care and social services. Shareholders in the village corporation also hold shares in Aleut Corporation regional native corporation (see Alaska introduction).

#### ECONOMY

The local economy is based on the commercial salmon, halibut, herring, and cod fisheries. False Pass is also an important refueling stop for fishing fleets en route to Bristol Bay and the Bering Sea.

#### CONSTRUCTION

Three people are employed in the construction industry.

#### FISHERIES

Nine residents are employed in fishing or fish processing. There is a seafood-processing plant in the village.

#### GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER

Local government employs three people, and the federal government employs an additional six.

#### SERVICES

There is a bakery in the village, a clothing store, a general-merchandise store, and an equipment-rental business.

#### TOURISM AND RECREATION

There is a gift shop in the village.

#### TRANSPORTATION

Three residents work in the transportation industry.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE

Boats and aircraft provide the only means of transportation into False Pass. New dock facilities were completed in September 1992. Cargo service from Seattle is available. The 2,700-foot gravel runway is owned and operated by the state of Alaska. There is no crosswind runway or flight tower. There are 3 miles of gravel road on the island, maintained by the city of False Pass. No local taxi or delivery services are available.

#### COMMUNITY FACILITIES

The city of False Pass manages the water utility; the 60,000-gallon storage tank is fed by a spring. Residential sewage is held in individual septic tanks. Wastewater from the seafood-processing plant flows into the strait through an outfall line. The city also collects refuse twice a week and disposes of it in a one-acre landfill. Bulk fuel is available for purchase by residents.

Public-safety services are provided by a village public-safety officer, who also acts as fire chief and provides training to the eight-member volunteer fire department. The electric utility is operated by the city; it generates power by burning oil. Local telephone service is provided by Pacific Telecommunications, Inc.; long-distance service is available from Alascom. Cable-television service is available, and one channel is offered by the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 36 housing units in the village, 23 are occupied; all are heated by oil. The False Pass School is operated by the Aleutians East Borough School District. Classes are offered from preschool through high school.

#### HEALTH CARE

Health care is provided by the False Pass Health Clinic, owned by the village and leased to the U.S. Public Health Service. It is administered by the Eastern Aleutian Tribe. Annual visits are made by an Indian Health Service physician, dentist, and ophthalmologist. A state of Alaska public health nurse visits the community twice a year. The nearest fully equipped clinic is in Cold Bay, and the closest hospital is in Anchorage. A mental-health counselor, employed by the Aleutians East Borough, visits the community on a biweekly basis.

## Fort Yukon

Kutchin (Gwich'in) Athabaskan

Gwitchyaa Zhee Corporation  
P.O. Box 329  
Ft. Yukon, AK 99746  
(907) 662-2322

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	214,479 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	175,437 acres

Total labor force	234
High school graduate or higher	49.4%
Bachelor's degree or higher	2.3%
Unemployment rate	27.4%
Per capita income (1989)	\$6,764

Population	580
Percent native	85.0%

#### LOCATION

Fort Yukon is located on the north bank of the Yukon River, at its junction with the Porcupine River, about 145 miles northeast of Fairbanks.

#### CLIMATE

Fort Yukon's climate is one of extremes. The winters are long and harsh, and the summers are warm but short. After freeze-up, the plateau is a source of cold, continental arctic air. Winter low temperatures range from -76°F to 0°F; summer high temperatures range from 65°F to 80°F or above. Annual precipitation averages 6.6 inches, with 43.4 inches of snowfall.

#### CULTURE AND HISTORY

The native residents of the village are descendants of the Yukon Flats, Chandalar River, Birch Creek, Black River, and Porcupine River Kutchin tribes. The village was founded in 1847 by Alexander Murray, as a Canadian outpost in Russian territory. It soon became an important trade center for the Kutchin Indians. A post office was established in 1898.

Subsistence is an important component of the local culture.

#### GOVERNMENT

Fort Yukon was incorporated as a second-class city under Alaska law in 1959 and is located in the unorganized borough (see Alaska introduction). It also has a village council, headed by a first chief, constituted in accordance with the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934. Shareholders in the village corporation also hold shares in Doyon, Ltd., regional native corporation (see Alaska introduction).

**ECONOMY**

City, state, and federal agencies and the village corporation are the primary employers in Fort Yukon. Residents also rely on subsistence activities.

**CONSTRUCTION**

Five residents are employed in the construction industry.

**FISHERIES**

Twelve residents are employed in fishing.

**FORESTRY**

There are two commercial hunting-and-trapping businesses in the village.

**GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER**

Local government employs 29 people, state government provides work for 61 more, and the federal government employs an additional eight.

**SERVICES**

There are several general-merchandise stores, a grocery store, and several miscellaneous retail stores in the village. There are two repair services. Ten residents are employed in retail trade, with another four working in wholesale trade. Personal services employ four residents, and 18 work in professional services other than health and education.

**TOURISM AND RECREATION**

There is a restaurant and lodge in Fort Yukon, in addition to a tour service.

**TRANSPORTATION**

There is a truck-rental and -leasing business in the village. Thirteen residents work in the transportation industry.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

Fort Yukon is accessible only by air during the winter months; during the summer, barges and boats also reach the village. There are 17 miles of local roads. The city bus system provides rides throughout the town. Snowmachines and dogsleds are used on the frozen river in the winter.

**COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

The city of Fort Yukon provides piped water from a community well; water is also available from a central point and individual wells. Sewage is disposed of in a honeybucket dump and individual septic tanks; outhouses are also used. There is a washeteria in the village. Bulk fuel is available for purchase by residents. Electricity is provided by Gwitchyaa Zhee Utilities, generating power by burning oil. Local telephone service is provided by Interior Telephone Company, while long-distance service is available through Alascom. Cable-television service is available, and one channel is offered by the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 272 housing units in the village, 205 are occupied; somewhat more than half of the buildings are heated with wood, while the rest are heated with oil. The village schools are operated by the Yukon Flats Regional Education Attendance Area.

**HEALTH CARE**

Health care is provided by the Yukon Flats Health Center, owned and run by the city of Fort Yukon. It is administered by the Tanana Chiefs Conference. Ambulance service is provided by the Fort Yukon Emergency Medical Service and Rescue Squad.

**Gakona**

Ahtna Athabascan

Ahtna, Inc.  
P.O. Box 649  
Glennallen AK 99588  
(907) 822-3476

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	74,715 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	68,084 acres
Total labor force	12
High school graduate or higher	100%
Bachelor's degree or higher	-
Unemployment rate	-
Per capita income (1989)	\$13,512
Population	25
Percent native	-

**LOCATION**

Gakona is located at the confluence of the Copper and Gakona rivers, 15 miles northeast of Glennallen. It lies at mile 2 on the Tok Cutoff to the Glenn Highway, just east of the Richardson Highway.

**CLIMATE**

Gakona is located in the continental climate zone. Temperatures range from winter lows of -62°F to summer highs of 91°F. Snowfall averages 61 inches, with total precipitation of 13 inches per year.

**CULTURE AND HISTORY**

Gakona is a non-native community, although the surrounding Copper River area is populated by Ahtna Indians.

Athabascan Indians have lived in the Copper River basin for thousands of years. Gakona traditionally served as a wood and fish camp and later became a permanent village. In 1904 Doyle's Roadhouse was constructed at the junction of the Valdez-Eagle and Valdez-Fairbanks trails and became a stopping point for travelers. There was also a stagecoach station and blacksmith shop; all these buildings are still standing. Gakona Lodge was built in 1929 and is on the National Register of Historical Places. It contains many relics of the gold-rush era.

**GOVERNMENT**

Gakona is unincorporated under Alaska law and is located in the unorganized borough (see Alaska introduction). It has a traditional village council, headed by a president. Shareholders in the village corporation also hold shares in Ahtna, Inc., regional native corporation (see Alaska introduction).

**ECONOMY**

Gakona depends upon local businesses and seasonal tourist travel. Summers provide employment opportunities for local fishing and hunting guides, rafting operations, and outfitters. Most native residents of the area rely on subsistence activities and trapping.

**AGRICULTURE**

There is a farm in the village.

**CONSTRUCTION**

There is a construction business in the village.

**MINING**

There is a mining enterprise in the village.

**MANUFACTURING**

There is a sawmill in the village, a newspaper print shop, and a dogsled maker.

**SERVICES**

Services are extensive in Gakona, catering mainly to tourists. There are several general-merchandise stores, several food stores, two kennels, a number of repair shops, several lumber dealers, and a management service. Eight residents are employed in retail trade.

**TOURISM AND RECREATION**

There are several gift shops, selling wood products and jewelry. There are also several restaurants and a number of hotels, bed-and-breakfast businesses, "ranches," and an RV park. In addition the village has several guide services and outfitters.

**TRANSPORTATION**

There is a trucking service, a water passenger-transport service, and a charter air service. Four residents are employed in the transportation industry.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

The Glenn Highway, Richardson Highway, and Tok Cutoff provide access to Anchorage, Fairbanks, and the contiguous forty-eight states. Gakona also has an airstrip.

**COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

Both piped water and individual wells provide water for residents. Outhouses are used for sewage disposal. Local telephone service is provided by the Copper Valley Telephone Co-op, while long-distance service is available through Alascom. Cable-television service is available, and one channel is offered by the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 12 housing units in the village, seven are occupied; all are heated with oil.

**HEALTH CARE**

Health care is provided by the clinic in Gulkana, only a few miles away by road. The Gakona First Responders are available for emergencies. The regional health corporation is the Copper River Native Association. There is no school in the village.

## Galena

Koyukon Athabascan

Gana-a 'Yoo, Ltd.  
P.O. Box 38  
Galena, AK 99741  
(907) 656-1609  
Fax: 656-1609

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	115,200 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	108,327 acres
Total labor force	502
High school graduate or higher	65.5%
Bachelor's degree or higher	2.3%
Unemployment rate	9.2%
Per capita income (1989)	\$8,441
Population	833
Percent native	45.3%

**LOCATION**

Galena is located on the north bank of the Yukon River, 45 miles east of Nulato and 270 air miles west of Fairbanks.

**CLIMATE**

Galena experiences a cold, continental climate, with extreme temperature differences. Temperatures range from -40°F or below in the winter to 70°F and above in the summer. Average precipitation is 12.7 inches, including 60 inches of snowfall annually.

**CULTURE AND HISTORY**

Galena was established near an old fish-camp site in 1917, as a supply point for the area's lead-ore mines. In 1920 Koyukon Athabascans living upriver began moving to Galena to sell wood to steamboats and to haul freight for the mines. The population is now almost half Athabascan, and traditional festivals attract visitors from other river villages. The establishment of the Galena and Campion Air Force bases in the 1950s brought more growth and change to Galena.

**GOVERNMENT**

Galena was incorporated as a first-class city under Alaska law in 1971, with a city manager, mayor, and city council; it is located in the unorganized borough (see Alaska introduction). There is also a traditional village council, headed by a chief. Shareholders in the village corporation also hold shares in Doyon, Ltd., regional native corporation (see Alaska introduction).

**ECONOMY**

Galena serves as the transportation, government, and commercial center for the western interior of the state. Jobs with the federal, state, city, and village governments dominate, but Galena also has many other jobs in air transportation and retail businesses.

**CONSTRUCTION**

There is a general contractor in the village. Twenty-four residents are employed in the construction industry.

**GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER**

Local government employs 58 people, state government provides work for 30 more, and the federal government employs an additional 21.

**MANUFACTURING**

There is a boat-building business in the village. Two residents are employed in durable manufacturing.

**SERVICES**

Services are extensive in Galena, catering not only to this community of almost 1,000 people but also to customers in numerous surrounding villages. There are three kennels, a bookkeeping service, a building-maintenance service, a liquor store, a newspaper, a radio station, a hardware store, several general-merchandise stores, a snowmachine dealer, an auto-repair shop, and two other repair shops. Twenty-seven residents are employed in retail trade, ten in communications and utilities, three in finance and related businesses, two in personal services, and eight in professional services other than health or education.

**TOURISM AND RECREATION**

There are three businesses offering lodging for visitors, a sporting-goods store, and an art dealer.

**TRANSPORTATION**

There is a taxi company and a school-bus enterprise. Twenty-one residents are employed in the transportation industry.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

Galena is not connected by road to any other community. Air transport is the only year-round connection available. The rivers provide access for boats and cargo barges in summer months; during the winter, the frozen rivers are used by snowmachines.

**COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

The city provides piped water from a community well; water is also available from a central location and from a water truck. Honeybuckets and individual septic tanks, as well as outhouses, are used for sewage disposal. There is a washeteria in the village. Electricity is provided by the city of Galena, generating power by burning oil. Local telephone service is provided by Interior Telephone Company and the U.S. Air Force, while long-distance service is available through Alascom. One television channel is offered by the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 286 housing units in the village, 190 are occupied; almost three-quarters are heated with oil, while almost all the rest are heated with wood. The city school district operates the local schools.

**HEALTH CARE**

Health care is provided by the Galena Health Center, owned by the city and leased to the U.S. Public Health Service. It is administered by the Tanana Chiefs Conference. An ambulance is available from the Galena Air Force Base medic.

## Gambell

Siberian Eskimo

Sivuqaq Incorporated  
P.O. Box 101  
Gambell, AK 99742  
(907) 985-5826

Former St. Lawrence Island	
Reserve lands (with Savoonga)	1,135,950 acres
Patented lands	1,135,950 acres
Total labor force	119
High school graduate or higher	43.5%
Bachelor's degree or higher	1.6%
Unemployment rate	16.8%
Per capita income (1989)	\$3,767
Population	525
Percent native	96.2%

**LOCATION AND LAND STATUS**

Gambell is located on the northwest cape of St. Lawrence Island, 200 miles southwest of Nome, in the Bering Sea. It is 36 miles from the Chukotsk Peninsula in Siberia.

In 1891 President Theodore Roosevelt declared the entire island a reindeer reserve; this status carried with it the claim to the island on the part of the residents of the villages of Gambell and Savoonga, the only villages on the island. With the passage of the 1971 Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, the islanders elected to accept the former reserve lands as their part of the settlement. While this made them ineligible for some of the provisions of the act, it also resulted in a land base that is much larger than that otherwise provided for in ANCSA.

**CLIMATE**

Gambell has a maritime climate, with continental influences in the winter. Average summer temperatures range from 34°F to 48°F, while average winter temperatures range from -2°F to 10°F. Extreme winds with relatively mild temperatures are typical for St. Lawrence Island.

**CULTURE AND HISTORY**

St. Lawrence Island has been inhabited for as long as 10,000 years. There was little contact with the outside world (other than with related groups in Siberia) until European traders began to frequent the area. In the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, over 4,000 people inhabited the island, in 35 villages. Famine decimated the population in the 1880s. In 1891, President Roosevelt established the island as a reindeer reserve.

Residents are almost all bilingual. The isolation of Gambell has helped to maintain the traditional Siberian Yupik Eskimo culture, language, and subsistence life-style, based on marine mammals. Walrus-hide boats are still used for hunting.

**GOVERNMENT**

Gambell was incorporated as a second-class city under Alaska law in 1963, with a city council and a mayor, and is located in the unorganized borough (see Alaska introduction). It also has an Indian Reorganization Act (1934) council, headed by a president. Shareholders in the village corporation also hold shares in Bering Straits Native Corporation (see Alaska introduction).

**ECONOMY**

The economy is largely based upon subsistence harvests from the sea-seal, walrus, fish, and beluga whale. Foxes are trapped as a secondary source of cash income. Some reindeer roam free on the island, but most harvesting occurs out of the other village on the island, Savoonga. Ivory carving and the sale of archaeological artifacts are popular sources of income. Bird-watchers, drawn by the abundant seabird colonies, provide limited tourism.

**GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER**

Local government employs 51 people, state government provides work for nine more, and the federal government employs an additional four.

**MINING**

There is a gravel- and sand-extraction business in the village.

**MANUFACTURING**

There is a native crafts business in Gambell. Five residents are employed in manufacturing.

**SERVICES**

There are three child-care services in the village, as well as an automatic vending-machine dealer. Eleven residents work in retail trade, in addition to ten in communication and utilities, two in repair businesses, and three in professional services other than health and education.

**TOURISM AND RECREATION**

Gambell has two crafts stores, a hotel, and a restaurant.

**TRANSPORTATION**

There is an airport-maintenance business. Seven residents are employed in the transportation industry.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

Gambell's isolated location on an island with no seaport results in

heavy dependence upon air transport. Regular flights from Nome and charters from Nome and Unalakleet are available. Major airport improvements are scheduled through 1995. Lighterage services bring freight from Kotzebue and Shishmaref.

#### COMMUNITY FACILITIES

The city of Gambell provides piped water from a community well; water is also available from a central location in the village and from a surface source. Sewage is disposed of by means of a city septic system; there is also a community honeybucket-hauling service. The city operates a washeteria.

Electricity is available to residents from the Alaska Village Electricity Cooperative, generating power by burning oil. Local telephone service is provided by United Utilities, Inc., while long-distance service is available through Alascom. One television channel is available through the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 132 housing units in the village, 120 are occupied; almost all are heated with oil. The village school is operated by the Bering Straits Regional Education Attendance Area.

#### HEALTH CARE

Health care is provided by the Gambell Health Clinic, owned by the city and leased to the U.S. Public Health Service; it is administered by the Norton Sound Health Corporation.

## Georgetown

Yup'ik Eskimo

Kuskokwim Corporation  
P.O. Box 104460  
Anchorage, AK 99610  
(907) 276-2101

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	69,120 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	61,919 acres
Total labor force	-
High school graduate or higher	-
Bachelor's degree or higher	-
Unemployment rate	-
Per capita income (1989)	-
Population	-
Percent native	-

#### LOCATION

Georgetown is located on the north bank of the upper Kuskokwim River, in the Kilbuck-Kuskokwim Mountains. It is east of the mouth of the George River, 16 miles northwest of Red Devil.

#### CLIMATE

Georgetown has a continental climate, with temperatures ranging between -59°F in the winter and as high as 94°F in the summer. Precipitation amounts to 17 inches annually, including snowfall of 80 inches.

#### CULTURE AND HISTORY

Gold was found along the George River near Georgetown in 1909. This mining settlement and the river were named for three traders: George Hoffman, George Fredericks, and George Morgan. Georgetown is currently used as a seasonal fish camp. There are no year-round residents, and wage employment is not available.

#### GOVERNMENT

The village is unincorporated under Alaska law and is located in the unorganized borough (see Alaska introduction). There is a village council, headed by a president. Shareholders in the village corporation also hold shares in Calista Corporation regional native corporation (see Alaska introduction).

#### ECONOMY

Georgetown serves as a seasonal fish camp; there is no cash economy.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE

The Kuskokwim River serves as the major transportation link to other villages. Barges that serve villages upriver may also serve Georgetown. In the winter, transportation is primarily by snowmachine and aircraft.

#### COMMUNITY FACILITIES

There are no community facilities in Georgetown.

## Golovin

Inupiat Eskimo

Golovin Native Corporation  
P.O. Box 62099  
Golovin, AK 99762  
(907) 779-3251

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	99,860 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	88,058 acres
Total labor force	59
High school graduate or higher	46.7%
Bachelor's degree or higher	-
Unemployment rate	15.3%
Per capita income (1989)	\$5,899
Population	127
Percent native	92.9%

#### LOCATION

Golovin is located on a point of land by Golovin Bay, on the Seward Peninsula, 70 miles east of Nome.

#### CLIMATE

Marine climatic influences prevail during the summer, when the sea is ice-free. Summer temperatures range from 40°F to 60°F; winter temperatures range from -21°F to 19°F. Average annual precipitation is 10 inches, including 38 inches of snowfall.

#### CULTURE AND HISTORY

Golovin was named for Captain Vasili Golovin of the Russian Navy. It is an Inupiat Eskimo village with a fishing, herding, and subsistence life-style. The Eskimo village of Chinik, located at the present site of Golovin, was originally settled by the Kauweramiut Eskimos, who later mixed with the Unalignmiut Eskimos. After gold was discovered at Council, Golovin became a supply point for the Council goldfields. In 1887 the Mission Covenant of Sweden established a church and school at the site. Reindeer herding was an integral part of the missions in the area in the early 20th century.

## GOVERNMENT

Golovin was incorporated as a second-class city under Alaska law in 1971, with a city council and a mayor; it is located in the unorganized borough (see Alaska introduction). There is also a traditional village council, headed by a president; the village in this context is referred to as Chinik. Shareholders in the village corporation also hold shares in Bering Straits Native Corporation (see Alaska introduction).

## ECONOMY

Golovin's economy is based on subsistence activities, reindeer herding, fish processing, and commercial fishing. Fish, beluga whale, moose, and reindeer are the main subsistence species utilized.

## GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER

Local government employs 24 people, state government provides work for two more, and the federal government employs an additional three.

## SERVICES

There is a restaurant and a tobacco store in the village, as well as two child-care services. The village corporation operates a lumber and building-materials business, as well as providing a number of business services. Two residents are employed in retail trade, three in finance and related businesses, three in personal services, and eight in professions other than health and education.

## TRANSPORTATION

Three residents are employed in the transportation industry.

## INFRASTRUCTURE

Since there are no roads connecting the village with other areas, access to Golovin is limited to air and sea. Both scheduled and charter flights are available from Nome. The airport was recently improved, and the runway lengthened. There is no dock; ship-borne supplies are lightered from Nome and offloaded on the beach. A cargo ship brings supplies for the village once each summer to Nome.

## COMMUNITY FACILITIES

The city of Golovin provides water at a central point in the village, as well as a water truck; the water is obtained from a surface source. The city also operates a honeybucket dump; individual septic systems and outhouses are in use as well. There is a washeteria in the village, and bulk fuel is available for purchase by residents. Electricity is available to residents from Golovin Power Utility, operated by the city and generating power by burning oil. Local telephone service is provided by Mukluk Telephone Company, while long-distance service is available through Alascom. Golovin Native Corporation provides cable-television service, and one channel is offered by the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 49 housing units in the village, 42 are occupied; three-fourths are heated with oil, while the rest use wood. The village school is operated by the Bering Straits Regional Education Attendance Area.

## HEALTH CARE

Health care is provided by the Golovin Health Clinic, owned by the city and leased to the U.S. Public Health Service. It is administered by the Norton Sound Health Corporation.

## Goodnews Bay

Yup'ik Eskimo

Kuitsarak, Incorporated  
General Delivery  
Goodnews Bay, AK 99589

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA Interim conveyance (1994)	115,200 acres 101,074 acres
Total labor force	68
High school graduate or higher	33.3%
Bachelor's degree or higher	-
Unemployment rate	3.1%
Per capita income (1989)	\$3,562
Population	241
Percent native	95.9%

## LOCATION

Goodnews Bay is located on the north shore of Goodnews Bay, at the mouth of Goodnews River. It is 116 air miles south of Bethel, 110 miles northwest of Dillingham, and 400 miles west of Anchorage. The setting is characterized by scenery of great beauty, composed of mountains, rivers leading up from the bay, lakes and ponds, and a variety of trees and brush.

## CLIMATE

Goodnews Bay is located in a transitional climatic zone, exhibiting characteristics of both a marine and continental climate. Summer temperatures range from 41°F to 57°F; winter temperatures vary from 6°F to 24°F. Average annual precipitation is 22 inches, including 43 inches of snowfall.

## CULTURE AND HISTORY

This is a traditional Yup'ik Eskimo village practicing a subsistence, trapping, and fishing lifestyle. In the Yup'ik language, residents call the village Mumtraq. The village was moved to its present location due to constant flooding and storms at the old site; shortly thereafter, in the 1930s, a government school and post office were built. A high school was built in 1979.

## GOVERNMENT

In 1970 Goodnews Bay incorporated as a second-class city under Alaska law, with a mayor and city council; it is located in the unorganized borough (see Alaska introduction). It also has a traditional village council, headed by a president. Shareholders in the village corporation also hold shares in Calista Corporation regional native corporation (see Alaska introduction).

## ECONOMY

The city, school, local businesses, and commercial fishing provide the majority of the income for local residents, supplemented by subsistence activities. Forty to fifty percent of residents engage in trapping. Salmon, seal, walrus, birds, berries, moose, and bear are all important subsistence resources.

The community would like to develop its fisheries resources, including the construction of a cold storage and smokery. There is also potential in developing opportunities for tourism.

## FISHERIES

The Alaska State Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission reports 79 permits held by Goodnews Bay residents, for salmon and herring-roe net fisheries. The 1992 Community Development Quota Program increased the pollack groundfish quota for small communities, benefiting the village.

**GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER**

Local government employs nine people, state government provides work for 18 more, and the federal government employs an additional nine.

**SERVICES**

There are several general retail stores in the village, in addition to a food store, two variety stores, and a restaurant. Three residents are employed in retail trade, 18 in wholesale trade, two in repair services, and four in communications and utilities.

**TRANSPORTATION**

Three residents are employed in the transportation industry.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

The village has a 2,000-foot gravel airstrip for chartered or private planes, accessible year-round. There are no docking facilities, although local residents use boats and skiffs extensively during the summer months for transport. Snowmachines are the primary means of travel during the winter. Barges deliver fuel and other supplies during the summer months.

**COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

Water is available from a central point and is obtained both from a community well and a surface source. There is a honeybucket-hauling service and individual septic systems for sewage disposal. The city of Goodnews Bay operates a washeteria. Bulk fuel is available for purchase by residents. Electricity is available to residents from the Alaska Village Electric Cooperative, generating power by burning oil. Local telephone service is provided by United Utilities, Inc., while long-distance service is available through Alascom. Cable-television service is available, as well as one channel offered by the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 72 housing units in the village, 66 are occupied; almost all are heated with oil. The Rocky Mountain High School is operated by the Lower Kuskokwim School District.

**HEALTH CARE**

Health care is provided by the Goodnews Bay Health Clinic, owned by the city and leased to the U.S. Public Health Service. It is administered by the Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation.

## Grayling

Holikachuk, Ingalik Athabascan

Hee-Yea-Lindge Corporation  
Box 9  
Grayling, AK 99590  
(907) 453-5133

Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	92,160 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	83,648 acres
Total labor force	81
High school graduate or higher	46.7%
Bachelor's degree or higher	-
Unemployment rate	29.6%
Per capita income (1989)	\$5,776
Population	208
Percent native	93.3%

**LOCATION**

Grayling is located in interior Alaska, on the west bank of the Yukon river, east of the Nulato Hills, 18 air miles north of Anvik.

**CLIMATE**

Grayling's climate is continental. Temperatures range from winter lows of -60°F to summer highs of 87°F. Snowfall averages 110 inches, with 21 inches of total precipitation per year.

**CULTURE AND HISTORY**

In 1900 the Nunivak, a U.S. Revenue steamer, stopped for fuel in Grayling and reported 75 inhabitants. The village was later abandoned until 1962, when residents of Holikachuk moved to the site. The population of Grayling is comprised of Holikachuk and Ingalik (Athabascan) Indians. Subsistence activities are an important aspect of the village culture.

Every other year, Grayling is a checkpoint on the annual 1,159-mile Iditarod dogsled race from Anchorage to Nome.

**GOVERNMENT**

Grayling was incorporated as a second-class city under Alaska law in 1969, with a mayor and city council; it is located in the unorganized borough (see Alaska introduction). It also has a village council, organized under the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934 and headed by a president. Shareholders in the village corporation also hold shares in Doyon, Ltd., a regional native corporation (see Alaska introduction).

**ECONOMY**

Grayling's economy is heavily dependent on subsistence activities; cash employment is found primarily in seasonal work during the summer. Subsistence activities include fishing, hunting, trapping, gathering, and gardening.

**CONSTRUCTION**

Three residents are employed in the construction business.

**GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER**

Local government employs 28 people, state government provides work for 11 more, and the federal government employs an additional three.

**SERVICES**

There are three general-merchandise stores in the village, along with a grocery store and gas and oil services, run by the village corporation. Eight residents are employed in retail trade, two in wholesale trade, six in communication and utilities, three in finance or related businesses, two in repair businesses, and two in professional services other than health and education.

**TOURISM AND RECREATION**

There is a business in the village that provides lodging for visitors.

**TRANSPORTATION**

Five residents are employed in the transportation business.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

No roads connect Grayling with other communities. Summer access to the village is by air or water. Regular and charter flights are served by the village landing strip. Goods are brought to the village by barge during the summer months; residents use small boats for local transportation before freeze-up in the fall and all-terrain vehicles and snowmachines in the winter months.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

The city of Grayling provides piped water from a surface source; sewage is disposed of through a community sewer system. Electricity is available to residents from the Alaska Village Electric Cooperative, generated by burning oil. Local telephone service is provided by Bush-Tell, Inc., while long-distance service is available through Alascom. One television channel is available through the Rural Alaska Television Network. Of 62 housing units in the village, 51 are occupied; somewhat more than half are heated with wood, while the rest use oil. The village school is operated by the Iditarod Area Regional Educational Attendance Area.

HEALTH CARE

Health care is provided by the Grayling Health Clinic, owned by the city and leased to the U.S. Public Health Service. It is administered by the Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation.

GOVERNMENT

Gulkana is unincorporated under Alaska law and is located in the unorganized borough (see Alaska introduction). Native residents are represented by a traditional village council, headed by a president. Shareholders in the village corporation also hold shares in the Ahtna, Inc., regional native corporation (see Alaska introduction).

ECONOMY

Residents of Gulkana rely to a great extent on subsistence activities to supplement their incomes. Employment is limited, as there are no businesses in the village. The Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve provides some federal employment.

CONSTRUCTION

The construction industry employs seven village residents.

GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER

The federal government employs 12 village residents.

MANUFACTURING

Nondurable manufacturing provides work for four residents.

SERVICES

Retail trade employs five village residents, while four are employed in professional services other than health and education.

TRANSPORTATION

The transportation industry provides employment for six village residents.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Gulkana is accessible by road and by air; the Richardson Highway passes close by the village and is maintained year-round. Scheduled and charter flights are served by an airstrip seven miles from the village.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Piped water is provided to residents from a community well. Individual septic tanks are used for sewage disposal. Local telephone service is provided by the Copper Valley Telephone Co-op (Glennallen exchange), while long-distance service is provided by Alascom. Of 60 housing units in the village, 42 are occupied; over 90 percent are heated with oil, while most of the rest use wood. The village school is operated by the Copper River Regional Education Attendance Area.

HEALTH CARE

Health care is provided by the Gulkana Health Clinic, owned by the village and leased to the U.S. Public Health Service; it is administered by the Copper River Native Association.

**Gulkana**

Ahtna Athabascan	
Ahtna, Incorporated	
P.O. Box 649	
Glennallen, AK 99588	
(907) 822-3476	
Total area of entitlement under ANCSA	92,160 acres
Interim conveyance (1994)	76,157 acres
Total labor force	44
High school graduate or higher	44.2%
Bachelor's degree or higher	-
Unemployment rate	27.3%
Per capita income (1989)	\$11,276
Population	113
Percent native	59.2%

LOCATION

Gulkana is located on the east bank of the Gulkana River, at its confluence with the Copper River. It lies at mile 127 of the Richardson Highway, 14 miles north of Glennallen and on the edge of the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve.

CLIMATE

Gulkana is located in the continental climate zone, characterized by long, cold winters and short, warm summers. Temperatures range from winter lows of -65°F to occasional summer highs of 91°F. Average annual precipitation is 11 inches, including 47 inches of snowfall.

CULTURE AND HISTORY

Gulkana is now a mixed community, with Ahtna Indians forming the majority of the population. Most native residents take part in a traditional Athabascan subsistence-based culture. Gulkana was originally established in 1903 as a telegraph station and was called Kulkana, after the nearby river. The Gulkana Roadhouse was built in the early 1900s by C. L. Hoyt, a fur dealer who ran it until 1916. A store, post office, and Orr stage station were also located nearby. The original settlement was located across the river from the present site; the first house was built in the new location in the early 1950s. Eventually all the villagers moved their homes.