

Haines

People and Place

Location

Haines lies on the shores of the Lynn Canal on the Chilkat Peninsula between the Chilkoot and Chilkat Rivers. The town is bordered by the spectacular Chilkat Mountain Range to the west and the Coast Range to the east. The historic routes to the Klondike gold fields, the Chilkat, Chilkoot and White Pass, are to the north of the community. The area encompasses 13.5 square miles of land and 8.0 square miles of water.

Demographic Profile

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, the population of Haines was 1,811. Total population numbers increased rapidly since the 1980s, jumping from 463 in the 1970s to 993 the following decade. Since the turn of the century, the population remains relatively stable, in the vicinity of 400 people. Unlike many fishing communities, the genders are in fairly equal balance in Haines according to Census data, with males making up 49.9% of the population and females 50.1%. The racial composition of the population in 2000 was predominantly White (79.6%), 13.9% Alaska Native or American Indian, 0.2% Black or African American, 0.7% Asian, and 0.1% Hawaiian Native. About 0.4% of the population classified themselves as 'other.' Overall, 5.1% identified with two or more races. A total of 18.5% of the population recognized themselves as all or part Alaska Native or American Indian. Only 1.5% of the population identified themselves as Hispanic. The median age was 40.2 years which is somewhat higher than the national median of 35.3 for the same year. According to the Census data, 28.4% of the population was under 19 years of age while only 21.9% of the population was over 55 years of age.

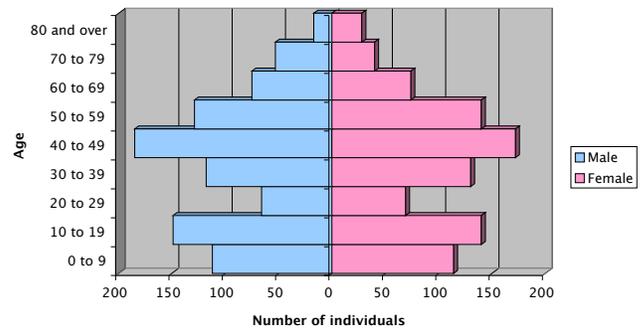
There were 895 housing units in Haines, 143 of which were vacant in 2000. Of those, only 47 were vacant due to seasonal use. At the time of the 2000 Census, only 0.2% of the population lived in group quarters. About 87.8% of the population had a high school diploma or higher, while 20% had a bachelor's degree or higher.

History

The Tlingit Indians were the original inhabitants of the Chilkat Valley, a major conjunction of trade routes between the coast and the interior. In fact, the

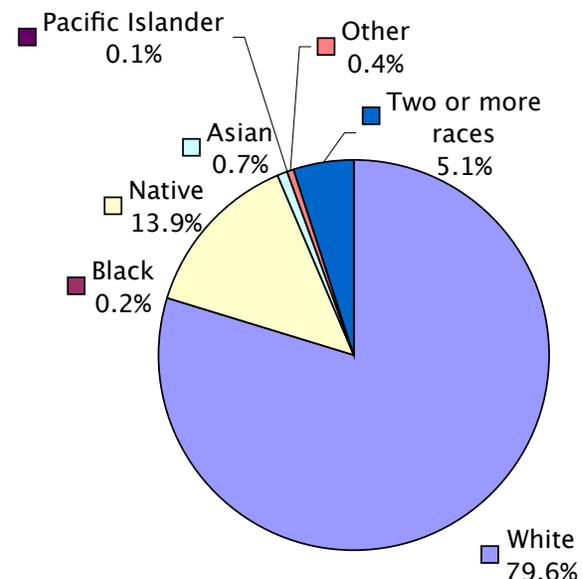
**2000 Population Structure
Haines**

Data source: US Census



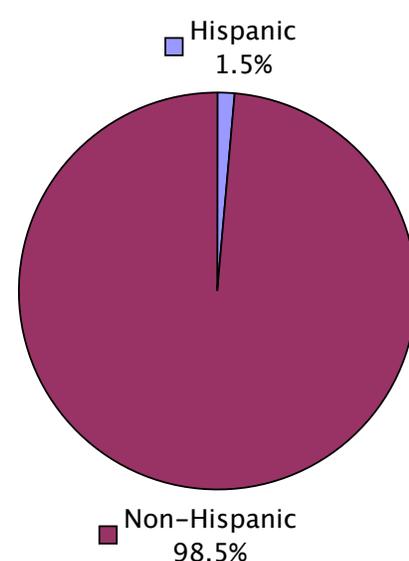
**2000 Racial Structure
Haines**

Data source: US Census



**2000 Hispanic Ethnicity
Haines**

Data source: US Census



Haines area was called “Dtehshuh” meaning “end of the trail.” The village of Klukwan, 22 miles from Haines, is still the crucial village for the Tlingit nation. Sheldon Jackson, a Presbyterian missionary in Sitka, built mission schools for each of the local villages and in 1879, Missionary S. Hall Young and Naturalist John Muir traveled to Yendustucky, selected as the site for the mission. In 1881, the Chilkat Mission was finally established by Eugene and Caroline Willard. The community was later renamed Haines in honor of the Secretary of the Presbyterian Women’s Executive Society of Home Missions, Mrs. F.E. Haines, who had raised funds for the mission.

The town again became an established departure point for a freight trail to the gold fields of the interior during the mid-1890s. The Dalton Trail, as it became known, reached over the Chilkat Pass and followed the same general route one now drives on the Haines Highway. At the beginning of the Klondike Gold Rush in the late 1890’s, Haines grew as a mining supply center. As the U.S.-Canada boundary dispute heated during the Klondike Gold Rush, Ft. William H. Seward was commissioned in 1898 as a U.S. military presence. Garrisoned in 1903, the army post became a major component of Haines economy, until it was deactivated after WWII. Commercial fishing in the area began before the turn of the century, and there were several canneries by the early 1900s. Fires were not infrequent among the fish processing plants, but the robustness of the industry made it very resilient to these disasters.

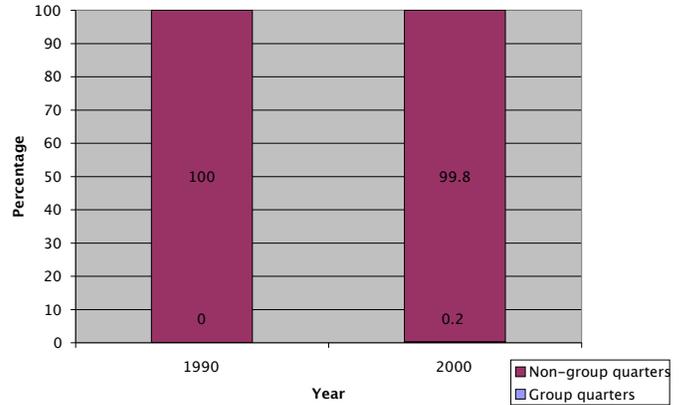
Infrastructure

Current Economy

The economy of Haines is highly seasonal due to its dependence on the fishing and tourism industries. The economy is based on commercial fishing, timber, government work, tourism, and construction. Tourism is a growing industry in the area, as many independent travelers use the Alaska Marine Highway Ferry System and the Haines Highway to and from the interior of Alaska and the lower 48 states. Scenic beauty and supreme sport fishing grounds attract visitors to the area. The Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve draws visitors from around the world. Today, around 45,000 cruise ship passengers visit each year. Employment in Haines is provided mainly by tourism, timber, and fishing.

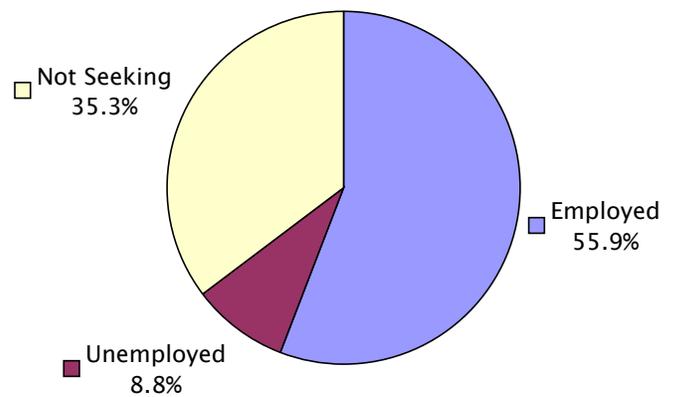
**% Group Quarters
Haines**

Data source: US Census



**2000 Employment Structure
Haines**

Data source: US Census



There is no fish processing plant in Haines. The government, and particularly the school system, employs a number of people, and the tourism and service sectors are growing. A total of 244 commercial fishing permits were held by 128 permit holders in 2000 according to the Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission.

At the time of the 2000 U.S. Census, 55.9% of the potential labor force was employed and there was an 8.8% unemployment rate. A seemingly high 35.3% of the population over 16 years of age was not in the labor force, though this may be explained by the intensely seasonal nature of the fishing and tourism industries, and 7.9% of the population was below the poverty level. The median household income in the same year was \$39,926 and the per capita income was \$22,505.

Governance

The City of Haines was incorporated in 1910 as a first-class city with a mayor/council form of government. Haines is included in the third-class Haines Borough which was formed subsequent to the incorporation of the city in 1968. The City has full powers of taxation, police and fire protection, road maintenance, waters and harbors, planning and zoning, coastal zone management, and water and sewer service. The Borough has the power to tax for educational purposes. It has planning and zoning and fire protection on a service area basis. The Chilkoot Indian Association of Haines is the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)-recognized Indian Reorganization Act (IRA) village council. Haines is a member of the for-profit regional Native corporation Sealaska Corporation to which many of the communities of Southeast Alaska belong. Haines is also a member community of the Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Tribes, a regional Native non-profit organization. Haines is not allocated land under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA).

The most easily accessible National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) regional office is located in Juneau, while there are both a Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services (BCIS) and an Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) regional office located in Haines itself.

Facilities

The community of Haines is accessible by road, air, and sea. It is connected by road to the interior of Alaska and the lower 48 states by the Alaska Canada (Alcan) Highway via the Haines “Cut-Off” Road which connects the Alaska Highway at Haines Junction with the Alaskan seaport of Haines. Because of this and Haines’s ice-free deepwater port and dock, it is the northern terminus of the Alaska Marine Highway System. Haines has a State-owned 4,600 foot paved runway with daily scheduled flights to Juneau by small aircraft. In most cases, it is least expensive to fly to Anchorage via Juneau. Roundtrip flights to Juneau cost around \$165 and a roundtrip flight between Juneau and Anchorage costs approximately \$200. There is also a State-owned seaplane base, two small boat harbors with a total of 240 moorage slips, a State Ferry terminal, and a cruise ship dock. Freight arrives by ship, barge, plane, and truck.

Water is derived from Lilly Lake and Piedad

Springs, is treated and stored in a 500,000-gallon tank, and then distributed throughout Haines. Sewage is collected by a piped system and receives primary treatment before discharge through two ocean outfalls. Nearly all homes are fully plumbed. Haines Sanitation Inc., a private firm, collects refuse and owns the permitted landfill. The City participates in recycling and hazardous waste disposal programs.

Electricity is supplied by the Alaska Power Company from a diesel power source. Health services are provided by the Haines Medical Clinic which is owned by the borough. Public safety is provided by a city-backed police department and state troopers. Haines is within the Haines Borough School District and there are three schools in Haines itself. Twelve students attended Haines Correspondence School in 2000. At Haines Elementary and Junior High School, 15 teachers instruct 192 students, 9 teachers instruct 115 students at Haines High School. Haines has a well-developed tourism industry and there are several businesses that provide accommodations and guided tours catering to visitors.

Involvement in North Pacific Fisheries

Commercial Fishing

The seafood industry has been historically and is currently the most important industry in Haines. The Chilkoot and Chilkat watersheds are renowned for their productive wild salmon habitat. According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and reported by the Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission, 244 permits were held by 128 permit holders with only 152 permits fished in Haines in 2000. There were 29 vessel owners in the federal fisheries, 69 vessel owners in the salmon fishery, and 156 crew members claiming residence in Haines in 2000. The commercial vessel fleet delivering landings to Haines was involved in halibut (10 vessels) and salmon (165 vessels) fisheries in 2000. Landings in Haines for 2000 included 4,550.25 tons of salmon (in accordance with confidentiality regulations, landings data for the community are unavailable).

Commercial fishing permits are issued according to specifications of species, vessel size, gear type, and fishing area. Permits issued in Haines for 2000 related to halibut, herring, sablefish, other groundfish, crab, other shellfish and salmon.

Halibut: There were a total of 51 permits issued

for halibut in Seward in 2000 (38 fished). Permits for halibut pertained to one hand troll (not fished), 34 longline vessels under 60 feet (24 fished) and 16 longline vessels over 60 feet. All permits designated for halibut were for statewide waters.

Herring: There were a total of eight permits issued for the herring fishery in Seward in 2000 (two fished). Permits for herring roe pertained to one gillnet in Bristol Bay (not fished), one gillnet in Norton Sound (not fished), four permits for herring spawn on kelp in northern southeast waters (two fished) and two permits for herring spawn on kelp in southern southeast waters (not fished).

Sablefish: A total of 10 sablefish permits were issued in 2000 in Haines (7 fished). Permits pertained to nine longline vessels under 60 feet in statewide waters (five fished), one longline vessel over 60 feet restricted to northern southeast waters and one longline vessel over 60 feet in southern southeast waters.

Other groundfish: A total of 40 permits were issued in 2000 for other groundfish in Haines (13 fished). Permits pertained to one lingcod longline vessel under 60 feet in statewide waters (not fished), one lingcod dinglebar troll in statewide waters (not fished), one miscellaneous saltwater finfish hand troll in statewide waters (not fished), 28 miscellaneous saltwater finfish longline vessels under 60 feet in statewide waters (9 fished), one miscellaneous saltwater finfish mechanical jig in statewide waters (not fished), 6 demersal shelf rockfish longline vessels under 60 feet in southeast waters (2 fished), and 2 demersal shelf rockfish longline vessels over 60 feet in southeast waters.

Crab: A total of 14 permits were issued in Haines for crab in 2000 (5 fished). One permit pertained to 300 pots or 100% of the maximum for Dungeness crab in southeast waters (none fished). One permit pertained to 150 pots or 50% of the maximum for Dungeness crab in southeast waters (none fished). Seven permits pertained to 75 pots or 25% of the maximum for Dungeness crab in southeast waters (four fished). One permit pertained to red and blue king crab pot gear in southeast waters and two permits pertained to red, blue, and brown king and Tanner crab pot gear in southeast waters (neither permit was fished). Two permits pertained to Tanner crab ring nets in southeast waters (neither permit was fished).

Other shellfish: A total of 23 permits were issued for other shellfish in Haines in 2000 (9 fished). Permits pertained to one shrimp pot gear vessel under 60 feet

in southeast waters (one fished), one shrimp beam trawl in southeast waters (not fished), 17 shrimp pot gear vessels in southeast waters (7 fished), 2 permits for sea cucumber diving gear in southeast waters (one permit fished), and two permits for sea urchin diving gear in southeast waters (neither permit fished).

Salmon: A total of 98 permits were issued in Haines in 2000 for the salmon fishery (78 fished). Salmon permits pertained to one purse seine restricted to Kodiak (not fished), 63 drift gillnets limited to southeast waters (61 fished), 6 drift gillnets limited to Bristol Bay, one set gillnet on the Alaska Peninsula (not fished), one set gillnet limited to Bristol Bay, 13 hand trolls in statewide waters (one fished) and 13 power gurdy trolls in statewide waters (9 fished).

Five seafood processing plants had operations in Haines in 2000 including a Wards Cove packaging facility; however, only two of these filed 'Intents to Operate' in 2003. The facilities were equipped to process both halibut and salmon.

It was announced in July 2003 that the Haines Borough would receive \$2,878 worth of federal salmon disaster funds to be distributed to several municipalities statewide which have been affected by low salmon prices in order to compensate for consequent losses of salmon taxes or raw fish taxes. The disbursement of these disaster funds illustrates state and federal responses to communities and boroughs affected by depleted salmon resources. Communities and boroughs are ultimately responsible for the allocation of the funds. Further disbursements are expected in the future to offset the costs of basic public services for which fish taxes become insufficient.

Sport Fishing

There were 8 saltwater sport fishing businesses registered in Haines in 2002 and 10 businesses licensed to provide freshwater recreational fishing according to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. There was a total of 3,556 sport fishing licenses sold in Haines in 2000, 853 of which were sold to Alaska residents.

Although all five species of Pacific salmon run up the Chilkat River each year, the Chilkoot River supports four species of salmon only, as chinook salmon do not run up the Chilkoot. Chinook or king salmon arrive in the spring soon after the eulachon.

A limited saltwater sport fishing season is allowed for these prized salmon depending on Alaska Department of Fish and Game's (ADF&G) estimated

number of fish returning each year. Sockeye and pink salmon arrive next, and both can be fished by sport fishermen in both freshwater and saltwater. Dolly Varden, char and halibut are also prevalent in the vicinity of Haines and are popular for sport fishing.

Subsistence Fishing

Data from 1996 compiled on behalf of the ADF&G Division of Subsistence provides useful information about subsistence practices in Haines. Records describe the subsistence patterns for all 97.8% of households which participated in the use of subsistence resources, including harvesting, sharing, and consuming resources, illustrating the importance of subsistence to life in the community. Of the total population, 89.2% used salmon and 86.0% used non-salmon fish (herring, herring roe, smelt, cod, flounder, greenling, halibut, perch, rockfish sculpin, sole, char, grayling, and trout), only 9.7% of all households used marine mammals and a high percentage, 77.4%, used marine invertebrates.

The average per capita harvest for the year 1996 was 195.81 lbs. The composition of total subsistence harvest can be shown by the percentages of the

resources which demonstrate the amount of each resource category used by the community relative to other resources categories. The total subsistence harvest was composed of 29.81% salmon, 41.28% non-salmon fish, 14.90% mammals, 0% marine mammals, 0.71% birds and eggs, 5.36% marine invertebrates, and 7.43% vegetation. The wild food harvest in Haines made up 126% of the recommended dietary allowance of protein in 1996 (corresponding to a daily allowance of 49 g of protein per day or 0.424 lbs of wild food per day) (Wolfe, Division of Subsistence, ADF&G).

A total of 221 permits were held by households in Haines for subsistence fishing of salmon according to ADF&G Division of Subsistence records from 1999. Sockeye salmon made up the largest proportion of the salmon harvest by a wide margin, followed by chum salmon. Residents of Haines who hold a valid Subsistence Halibut Registration Certificate (SHARC) issued by NMFS are eligible to harvest subsistence halibut. These allocations are based on recognized customary and traditional uses of halibut. Regulations to implement subsistence halibut fishing were published in the Federal Register in April 2003 and became effective May 2003.