

# Pedro Bay

## People and Place

### Location

Pedro Bay is located on the east end of Iliamna Lake, 176 miles southwest of Anchorage. Its area encompasses 17.3 square miles of land and 1.6 square miles of water.

### Demographic Profile

In 2000, Pedro Bay had a population of 50 people in 17 households. All residents lived in households rather than group quarters. The population of the community has remained stable since the first census records were taken in 1950. The racial composition of the community was as follows: American Indian and Alaska Native (40%), White (36%), and two or more races (24%). Approximately 64% of local residents were Alaska Native or part Native. Somewhat unusually, the gender composition featured a greater proportion of females (56%) than males (44%). The median age of the community was 35 years, slightly younger than the U.S. national average of 35.3 years. In terms of educational attainment, 80.6% of Pedro Bay residents aged 25 or older held a high school diploma.

### History

The Lake Iliamna area has been a crossroads of Aleut, Yup'ik and Dena'ina peoples since prehistory. Pedro Bay was named for a man known as "Old Pedro," who lived in the area in the early 1900s. Today, the village retains many Dena'ina cultural influences and relies heavily on subsistence resources.

## Infrastructure

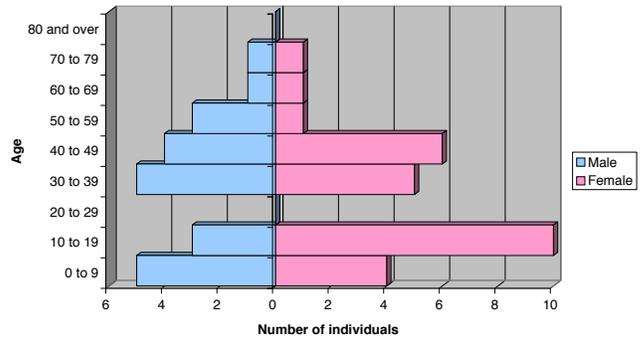
### Current Economy

Commercial fishing and local tourism, along with employment provided by the village council, are the cornerstones of Pedro Bay's economy. Many residents find seasonal employment in the Bristol Bay fishery, and a number of residents hold commercial fishing permits. In addition, subsistence resources provide an important supplement to the formal economy.

In 2000, the median per capita income in Pedro Bay was \$18,419 and the median household income was \$36,750. The 2000 U.S. Census does not report any unemployment for Pedro Bay; however, 20.6% of

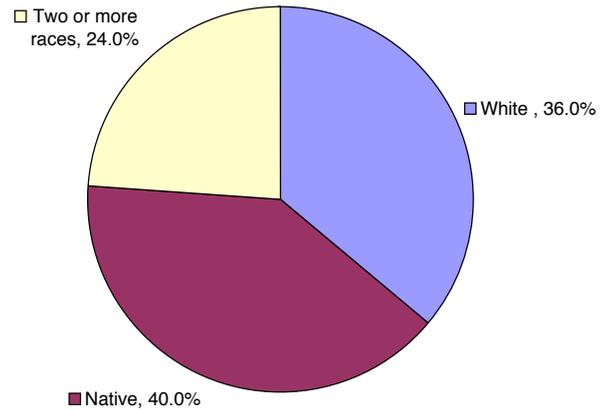
**2000 Population Structure  
Pedro Bay**

Data source: US Census



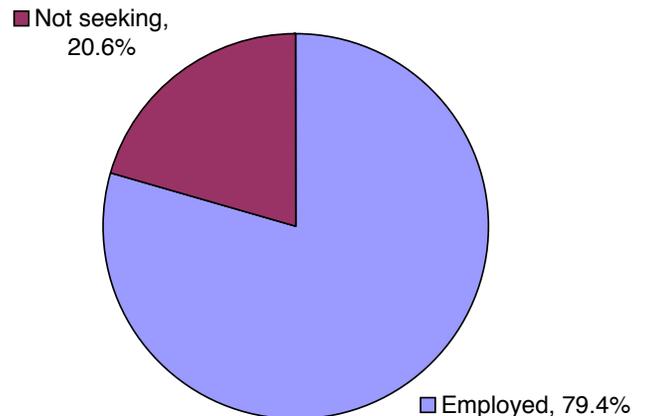
**2000 Racial Structure  
Pedro Bay**

Data source: US Census



**2000 Employment Structure  
Pedro Bay**

Data source: US Census



residents were not in the labor force (i.e. retired or not seeking work). Approximately 6% of residents lived below the poverty level.

## Governance

Pedro Bay is an unincorporated village under the jurisdiction of the Lake and Peninsula Borough. It is governed by a village council. The borough administers a 2% raw fish tax and a 6% accommodations tax. The Pedro Bay Corporation, a Native village corporation, is a federally recognized Native governing body and has a land entitlement under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA). In addition, Pedro Bay is a member of the Bristol Bay Native Corporation and the Bristol Bay Native Association.

The nearest U.S. Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services (BCIS) office is in Anchorage. The nearest Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) office is located in King Salmon. The nearest NMFS enforcement office is in Homer.

## Facilities

Pedro Bay is accessible by air, via a state-owned 3,000-foot gravel airstrip, and by water via either the Kvichak River and Iliamna Lake to the southwest or Iliamna Bay on the Cook Inlet side to the southeast. There is a dock on Iliamna Lake.

Most homes in Pedro Bay use individual wells and septic tanks; there is no piped water or sewer service. The village council operates a diesel-powered electric utility that supplies power to the community. There is a local health clinic, owned by the village council and operated by the Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation. There is also a volunteer fire department. There is one school in Pedro Bay which offers instruction to students from grades K-12. The school has two teachers and 14 students.

## Involvement in North Pacific Fisheries

### Commercial Fishing

In 2000, there were nine commercial vessel owners and five registered crew members residing

in the community. Three local residents held a total of three commercial fishing permits, all for Bristol Bay salmon, including one drift gillnet permit (none fished), and two set gillnet permits (two fished).

In 2000, there were no processing plants and therefore no registered landings in Pedro Bay. In 2003, the Lake and Peninsula Borough was granted \$442,002 in federal salmon disaster funds to compensate for falling salmon prices. The borough was also granted \$29,832 in Steller sea lion compensation funds for economic losses due to the protection of key sea lion habitat. A portion of these sums will likely be used for programs that benefit Pedro Bay.

### Sport Fishing

Despite its small size, Pedro Bay attracts a fair amount of visitors, who come to the area for wilderness tours and sport fishing. Sport fishing license sales in 2000 totaled 127 in Pedro Bay, most of which (121, or 95%) were sold to non-Alaska residents. In 2002, there was one registered saltwater sport fishing guide and one freshwater fishing guide in Pedro Bay. In addition, there were several wilderness lodges in Pedro Bay that catered to outside visitors. Major sport fish species include salmon (primarily sockeye), trout, Arctic grayling, Arctic char, and Dolly Varden.

### Subsistence Fishing

Subsistence activities are an important part of the local economy of Pedro Bay. The ADF&G's Division of Subsistence reports that, in 1996, 100% of Pedro Bay households used subsistence resources. Approximately 92.3% of households used salmon (primarily sockeye) and 76.9% used non-salmon fish species (including halibut, char, and trout). A small portion of households (15.4%) used marine invertebrates for subsistence. Marine mammals were not used.

The annual per capita harvest of subsistence foods for Pedro Bay in 1996 was 396.7 lbs, and was comprised of the following resources: salmon (73.3%), non-salmon fish (6.5%), land mammals (18.3%), birds and eggs (0.5%), marine invertebrates (0.5%), and vegetation (0.8%).