

## **Palmer (PALL-mur)**



### **People and Place**

#### *Location*

Palmer is located in the center of the lush farmlands of the Matanuska Valley, between the Talkeetna and Chugach mountains. The City is situated on the west bank of the Matanuska River, just north of its junction with the Knik River. Palmer is 42 miles northeast of Anchorage on the Glenn Highway. It is located in the Palmer Recording District and the Matanuska-Susitna (Mat-Su) Borough Census Area. The City encompasses 3.8 square miles of land and 0 square miles of water.<sup>1,2</sup>

#### *Demographic Profile*<sup>3</sup>

In 2010, there were 5,937 residents in Palmer, ranking it as the 18<sup>th</sup> largest of 352 communities in Alaska with recorded populations that year. Overall between 1990 and 2010, the population of Palmer more than doubled. According to Alaska Department of Labor estimates, between 2000 and 2009, the population of permanent residents increased by 22%. The average annual growth rate during this period was 0.67%, reflecting a consistent upward trend with small declines in some years. According to a survey conducted by NOAA's Alaska Fisheries Science Center (AFSC) in 2011, community leaders indicated that seasonal workers or transients are present in Palmer between May and September, and the population of the community typically peaks between June and August. They also reported that population fluctuations are only slightly driven by employment in fisheries sectors.

In 2010, the majority of the population of Palmer identified themselves as White (79.1%), along with 9.2% who identified as American Indian or Alaska Native, 1.8% as Black or African American, 1.1% as Asian, 0.4% as Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, 0.8% as 'some other race', and 7.6% who identified with two or more races. In addition, 4.6% of Palmer's population identified themselves as Hispanic in 2010. The percentage of the population made up of White residents decreased from 88.6% in 1990 to 80.9% in 2000, and 79.1% by 2010. At the same time the percentage of the population made up by American Indians and Alaska Natives increased from 7.7% in 1990 to 8.2% in 2000, and 9.2% by 2010. The change in population from 1990 to 2010 is provided in Table 1, and changes in racial and ethnic composition from 2000 to 2010 are shown in Figure 1.

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<sup>1</sup> Alaska Dept. of Comm. and Rural Affairs. (n.d.). *Community Database Online*. Retrieved October 17, 2011 from [http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF\\_BLOCK.htm](http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF_BLOCK.htm).

<sup>2</sup> City of Palmer, Palmer Planning Team and Agnew:Beck Consulting. 2006. *City of Palmer Comprehensive Plan*. Retrieved March 12, 2012 from <http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/plans/Palmer-CP-2006.pdf>.

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Census Bureau (n.d.). *Profile of selected social, economic and housing characteristics of all places within Alaska*. Datasets utilized include the 2000 (SF1 100% and SF3 sample data) and 2010 (Demographic Profile SF) Decennial Census and the 2010 American Community Survey 5-year estimates. Retrieved November 1, 2011 from <http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>.

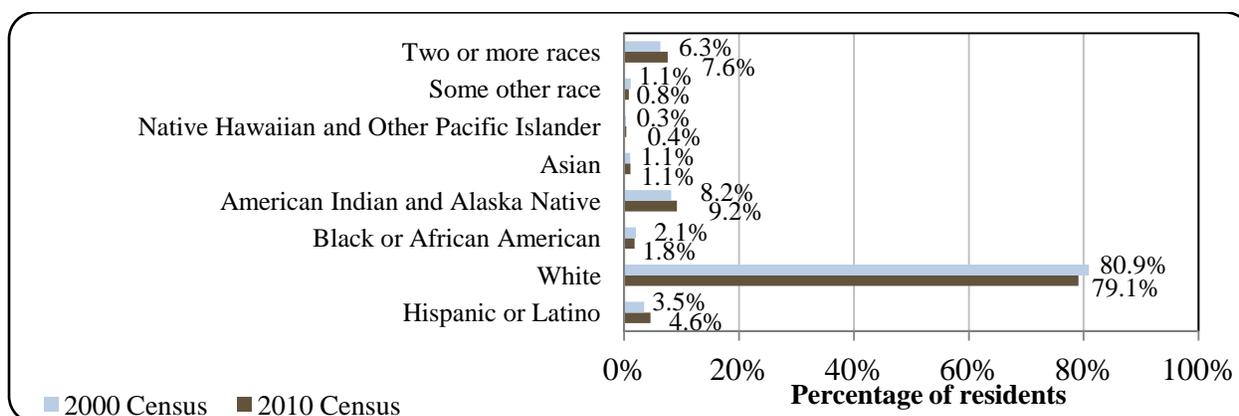
Table 1. Population in Palmer from 1990 to 2010 by Source.

Year	U.S. Decennial Census <sup>1</sup>	Alaska Dept. of Labor Estimate of Permanent Residents <sup>2</sup>
1990	2,866	-
2000	4,533	-
2001	-	4,581
2002	-	4,837
2003	-	5,261
2004	-	5,221
2005	-	5,308
2006	-	5,444
2007	-	5,417
2008	-	5,395
2009	-	5,532
2010	5,937	-

<sup>1</sup> (1) U.S. Census Bureau (1990). *CP-1: General Population Characteristics of all places within Alaska*. Retrieved November 1, 2011 from <http://www.census.gov/prod/www/abs/decennial/1990.html>. (2) U.S. Census Bureau (n.d.). *Profile of selected social, economic and housing characteristics of all places within Alaska*. Datasets utilized include the 2000 (SF1 100% and SF3 sample data) and 2010 (Demographic Profile SF) Decennial Census and the 2010 American Community Survey 5-year estimates. Retrieved November 1, 2011 from <http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>.

<sup>2</sup> Alaska Department of Labor. (2011). *Current population estimates for Alaskan Communities*. Retrieved April 15, 2011, from <http://labor.alaska.gov/research/pop/popest.htm>.

Figure 1. Racial and Ethnic Composition, Palmer: 2000-2010 (U.S. Census).



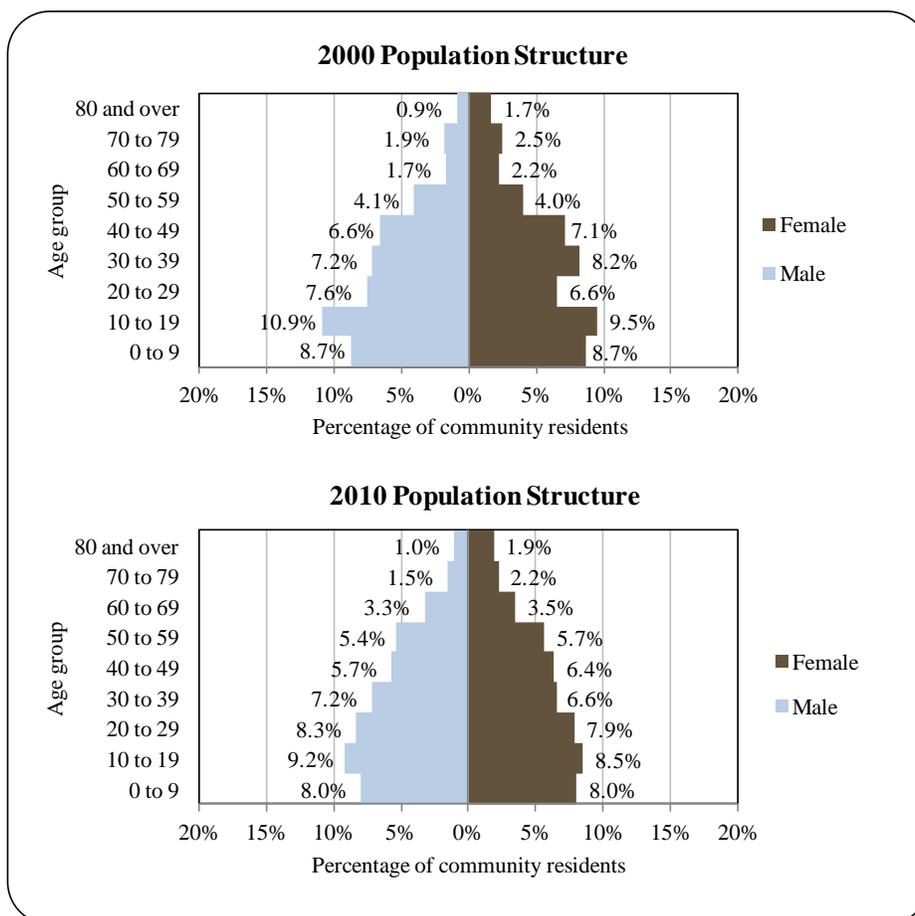
Based on the U.S. Census, the average household size in Palmer remained relatively stable between 1990 and 2010, increasing from 2.7 to 2.81 between 1990 and 2000, and decreasing again to 2.7 in 2010. The number of households in Palmer increased over time, from 998 households in 1990 and 1,472 in 2000, to 2,113 in 2010. Of the 2,281 housing units surveyed for the 2010 U.S. Census, 54.5% were owner-occupied, 38.1% were rented, and 7.4% were vacant or used only seasonally. In 2010, 423 Palmer residents were living in group quarters.

In 2010, there were more women than men in Palmer (population 49.5% male and 50.5% female). In comparison, the state population had more men than women overall (52% male, 48% female). The median age of Palmer residents was 38.8 years, lower than the national average of 36.8 years and the median age for Alaska, 33.8 years. In 2010, there was a relatively even

distribution of males and females across age groups. That year, 13.4% of Palmer’s population was 60 or older. The population structure of Palmer in 2000 and 2010 is shown in Figure 2.

In terms of educational attainment, according to the 2006-2010 American Community Survey (ACS),<sup>4</sup> 89.4% of Palmer residents aged 25 and over were estimated to hold a high school diploma or higher degree in 2010, compared to 90.7% of Alaska residents overall. Also in 2010, 3.8% of the population was estimated to have less than a 9<sup>th</sup> grade education, compared to 3.5% of Alaska residents overall; 6.8% were estimated to have a 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade education but no diploma, compared to 5.8% of Alaska residents overall; 30.6% were estimated to have some college but no degree, compared to 28.3% of Alaska residents overall; 7.7% were estimated to have an Associate’s degree, compared to 8% of Alaska residents overall; 13.8% were estimated to have a Bachelor’s degree, compared to 17.4% of Alaska residents overall; and 6.4% were estimated to have a graduate or professional degree, compared to 9.6% of Alaska residents overall.

Figure 2. Population Age Structure in Palmer Based on the 2000 and 2010 U.S. Decennial Census.



<sup>4</sup> While American Community Survey (ACS) estimates can provide a good snapshot estimate for larger populations, smaller populations can be misrepresented by ACS estimates if demographic information is not collected from a representative sample of the population. This is especially problematic for Alaskan communities with small populations that have a low probability of being adequately sampled.

### *History, Traditional Knowledge, and Culture*

Starting around 1000 A.D., the Matanuska Valley was the home of two groups of Athabascan Indians, the Ahtna and Dena'ina.<sup>5</sup> The Athabascan people migrated seasonally, traveling in small groups to fish, hunt, and trap. They traditionally lived in small groups of 20 to 40 people that moved systematically through their resource territories. Annual summer fish camps for the entire family and winter villages served as base camps.<sup>6</sup> Historical accounts and oral traditions suggest that at least two villages were located at the head of Knik Arm, near the mouth of the Knik and Matanuska Rivers, and another village was once located near Palmer.<sup>7</sup>

During the time of Russian fur trading, the Ahtna traveled along the Matanuska River, transporting furs from the Dena'ina to Copper Fort near Chitina.<sup>8</sup> George Palmer is said to have arrived in 1875. He was a trader in Knik and established a trading post on the Matanuska River around 1890. A railway siding was constructed in Palmer in 1916. In 1935, Palmer became the site of one of the most unusual experiments in American history: the Matanuska Valley Colony. The Federal Emergency Relief Administration, one of the many New Deal relief agencies created by President Roosevelt, planned an agricultural colony in Alaska. Two hundred and three families, mostly from Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota, were invited to join the colony. They arrived in Palmer in the early summer of 1935. Although the failure rate was high, many of their descendants still live in the Valley today. The City of Palmer was formed in 1951. Construction of the statewide road system and the rapid development of Anchorage have fueled growth in the area. Today, the Valley is renowned for the annual Alaska State Fair.<sup>9</sup>

### **Natural Resources and Environment**

Palmer is influenced by both continental and maritime climate patterns. Temperatures in January range from -36 to 51 °F and from 37 to 85 °F in July. Annual precipitation averages 16.5 inches, with 50 inches of snowfall.<sup>10</sup> The landscape around Palmer is primarily bottomland spruce-poplar forest, typical of floodplains and low river terraces.<sup>11</sup> As of 2008, the State of Alaska owned approximately 1.8 million acres of timber lands in the Matanuska and Susitna Valleys. Timber harvest for use as lumber has decreased in recent decades.<sup>12</sup> Relatively level, deep and easily tilled soils in the area allowed the development of a thriving agricultural industry in the Matanuska Valley historically.<sup>13</sup> The Matanuska Valley continues to produce vegetables and potatoes, and as of 2008 had four operating dairy farms. However, the role of agriculture has

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<sup>5</sup> City of Palmer, Palmer Planning Team and Agnew:Beck Consulting. 2006. *City of Palmer Comprehensive Plan*. Retrieved March 12, 2012 from <http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/plans/Palmer-CP-2006.pdf>.

<sup>6</sup> Alaska Native Heritage Center. 2008 *Athabascans - Who We Are*. Retrieved January 9, 2012 from [http://www.alaskanative.net/en/main\\_nav/education/culture\\_alaska/athabascan/](http://www.alaskanative.net/en/main_nav/education/culture_alaska/athabascan/).

<sup>7</sup> See footnote 5.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

<sup>9</sup> Alaska Dept. of Comm. and Rural Affairs. (n.d.). *Community Database Online*. Retrieved October 17, 2011 from [http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF\\_BLOCK.htm](http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF_BLOCK.htm).

<sup>10</sup> Ibid.

<sup>11</sup> See footnote 5.

<sup>12</sup> Metiva, M., and D. Hanson. 2008. *Mat-Su Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy: December 2008 Update*. Mat-Su Resource Conservation & Development Center and Mat-Su Borough. Retrieved March 13, 2012 from <http://www.matsugov.us/>.

<sup>13</sup> See footnote 5.

declined as a percentage of the modern economy, and increased housing development has placed pressure on the best agricultural lands.<sup>14</sup>

Popular recreation sites near Palmer include Hatcher Pass Public Use Area, Crevasse-Moraine Trails, Kepler Lake, Bonnie Lake, Finger Lake, and Long Lake.<sup>15</sup> Hatcher Pass Public Use Area is located 15 miles north of Palmer on the Little Susitna River. This area provides for a variety of recreational activities, including recreational gold panning. It has also been identified as important habitat for spawning, rearing, and migration of anadromous fish. Permits are required to ensure that recreational mining activities do not conflict with habitat considerations.<sup>16</sup> The 130,000-acre Matanuska Valley Moose Range is also located north of Palmer. Created in 1984, the Range is managed for wildlife habitat, coal, and timber production, and public recreation, with grazing as a secondary land use.<sup>17</sup> Northeast of Palmer, the Nelchina Public Use Area (NPUA) encompasses approximately 2.5 million acres of the Talkeetna Mountains. The NPUA was established in 1985 for the protection of fish and wildlife habitat, including caribou calving areas, trumpeter swan nesting areas, and habitat for moose, Dall sheep, and brown bear, as well as to perpetuate and enhance public uses including wildlife hunting and viewing, and recreation. Recreational mining activities are also allowed within area boundaries, with restrictions during caribou calving season.<sup>18</sup>

In 2010, the most important commercial mineral export from the Matanuska Valley was sand and gravel.<sup>19</sup> Additional mining activity in Southcentral Alaska included continued exploration by Full Metal Minerals Ltd. and Harmony Gold Corp. at the Lucky Shot gold property, located just northwest of Palmer. To the northeast of the City, Usibelli Coal Mine Inc. continued to develop coal deposits at the Wishbone Hill coal property near Sutton. The Mat-Su Borough granted Usibelli a 25-year lease to 60 acres of land. Usibelli estimated that approximately one-half million tons of bituminous coal is buried near the surface in the western portion of the coal lease area.<sup>20</sup> Some oil and natural gas exploration and production activity is also taking place within the Borough. Several coal bed methane leases have been granted, including a pilot project on 840 acres of farmland near Palmer that is being developed by Fowler Oil and Gas Corporation.<sup>21</sup>

Natural hazards that have been identified in Palmer include earthquakes, and flood and erosion hazards.<sup>22</sup> Three types of earthquakes have the potential to occur in the Mat-Su Borough, including those caused by subduction of the Pacific Plate under the North American Plate, transform earthquakes caused by plates sliding past each other, and intraplate earthquakes that occur within a tectonic plate, sometimes at great distance from the edge of a plate. Approximately 11% of the world's earthquakes take place in Alaska, at a rate of about one

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<sup>14</sup> See footnote 12.

<sup>15</sup> See footnote 9.

<sup>16</sup> Alaska Dept. of Natural Resources. 2012. *Fact Sheet: Hatcher Pass Public Use Area*. Retrieved March 13, 2012 from [http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/factsht/mine\\_fs/hatcherp.pdf](http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/factsht/mine_fs/hatcherp.pdf).

<sup>17</sup> Alaska Dept. of Natural Resources. (n.d.). *Matanuska Valley Moose Range Management Plan*. Retrieved March 13, 2012 from [http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/planning/mgtplans/mat\\_valley/pdf/Summary\\_Brochure.pdf](http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/planning/mgtplans/mat_valley/pdf/Summary_Brochure.pdf).

<sup>18</sup> Alaska Dept. of Natural Resources. 2000. *Fact Sheet: Nelchina Public Use Area*. Retrieved March 13, 2012 from [http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/factsht/nelchina\\_pua.pdf](http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/factsht/nelchina_pua.pdf).

<sup>19</sup> See footnote 12.

<sup>20</sup> Szumigala, D.J., L.A. Harbo, and J.N. Adleman. *Alaska's Mineral Industry 2010*. Alaska Dept. of Natural Resources and Alaska Dept. of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, Special Report 65.

<sup>21</sup> See footnote 12.

<sup>22</sup> See footnote 5.

earthquake per year.<sup>23</sup> Although 99% of the City of Palmer is located outside of the range of flooding from the Matanuska River, river erosion threatens homes located close to its banks, as well portions of an old railroad line that runs north out of Palmer.<sup>24</sup> Additional high risk natural hazards in the Mat-Su Borough include wildfire and severe weather.<sup>25</sup>

According to the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, there are no notable active environmental cleanup sites located in Palmer as of July 2012.<sup>26</sup>

## Current Economy<sup>27</sup>

According to a survey conducted by the AFSC in 2011, community leaders reported that natural resource-based industries are not a primary component of the local economy. The surrounding Matanuska Valley has a history of agricultural production, although population growth in the region has led to conversion of much of this land to subdivisions, and Palmer has evolved from rural, to bedroom community, to an independent commercial and employment center.<sup>28</sup> In the 2011 AFSC survey, community leaders indicated that although Palmer is not a port city, fishing vessels are owned by residents. In 2010, 39 Palmer residents were the primary owner of a fishing vessel, and 92 residents held commercial fishing permits (see *Commercial Fishing* section of this profile).

In 2010, top employers in Palmer included the State of Alaska, the Mat Su Borough School District, retail and other services, the City and the Borough.<sup>29</sup> Many Palmer residents also commute to Anchorage for employment. Some light manufacturing occurs locally. In addition, Palmer is also home to 200 musk oxen whose underwool (qiviut) is knitted into garments by Alaska Native women from several rural villages. Between 2,500 and 3,500 garments are created each year by these women and sold by an Anchorage cooperative. The 75-acre musk ox farm is a tourist attraction. The university has an Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station Office and a district Cooperative Extension Service office in Palmer. The University's Matanuska Research Farm is also located in Palmer.<sup>30</sup>

Based on household surveys conducted for the 2006-2010 ACS,<sup>31</sup> in 2010, the per capita income in Palmer was estimated to be \$22,709 and the median household income was estimated to be \$54,706. This represents an increase from the per capita and median household incomes

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<sup>23</sup> Adler, B. 2008. *Mat-Su Borough All-Hazards Mitigation Plan: Phase One – Natural Hazards*. Mat-Su Borough Department of Emergency Services. Retrieved March 13, 2012 from [http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/planning/nfip/Hazard\\_Mitigation\\_Plans/Mat\\_Su\\_Boro\\_HMP.pdf](http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/planning/nfip/Hazard_Mitigation_Plans/Mat_Su_Boro_HMP.pdf).

<sup>24</sup> City of Palmer, Palmer Planning Team and Agnew:Beck Consulting. 2006. *City of Palmer Comprehensive Plan*. Retrieved March 12, 2012 from <http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/plans/Palmer-CP-2006.pdf>.

<sup>25</sup> See footnote 23.

<sup>26</sup> Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation (n.d.). *List of Contaminated Sites by Region*. Retrieved April 17, 2012 from <http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/csp/list.htm>.

<sup>27</sup> Unless otherwise noted, all monetary data are reported in nominal values.

<sup>28</sup> See footnote 24.

<sup>29</sup> Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development (n.d.). *Alaska Local and Regional Information Database*. Retrieved April 23, 2012 from <http://live.laborstats.alaska.gov/alari/>.

<sup>30</sup> Alaska Dept. of Comm. and Rural Affairs. (n.d.). *Community Database Online*. Retrieved October 17, 2011 from [http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF\\_BLOCK.htm](http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF_BLOCK.htm).

<sup>31</sup> U.S. Census Bureau (n.d.). *Profile of selected social, economic and housing characteristics of all places within Alaska*. Datasets utilized include the 2000 (SF1 100% and SF3 sample data) and 2010 (Demographic Profile SF) Decennial Census and the 2010 American Community Survey 5-year estimates. Retrieved November 1, 2011 from <http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>.

reported in the year 2000 (\$17,203 and \$45,571, respectively). However, if inflation is taken into account by converting the 2000 values to 2010 dollars,<sup>32</sup> the per capita income is shown to have remained stable (real per capita income was \$22,622 in 2000), and median household income is shown to have decreased (real median household income was \$59,925 in 2000). In 2010, Palmer ranked 129<sup>th</sup> of 305 Alaskan communities with per capita income data that year, and 103<sup>rd</sup> in median household income, out of 299 Alaskan communities with household income data.

However, Palmer's small population size may have prevented the ACS from accurately portraying economic conditions.<sup>33</sup> An alternative estimate of per capita income is provided by economic data compiled by the Alaska Local and Regional Information (ALARI) database maintained by the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DOLWD). If total wages reported in the ALARI database for 2010 are divided by the 2010 population reported by the U.S. Census, the resulting per capita income estimate for Palmer in 2010 is \$13,301.<sup>34</sup> This estimate is lower than the 2000 per capita income reported in by the U.S. Census, suggesting that caution is warranted when citing an increase in per capita income in Palmer between 2000 and 2010. Palmer was not recognized as "distressed" by the Denali Commission in 2010.<sup>35</sup> It is important to note that both ACS and DOLWD data are based on wage earnings, and do not take into account the value of subsistence within the local economy.

Based on the 2006-2010 ACS, in 2010, a lower percentage of Palmer residents were estimated to be in the civilian labor force (54.2%) than were estimated to be in the civilian labor force statewide (68.8%). In the same year, 18.1% of local residents were estimated to be living below the poverty line, compared to 9.5% of Alaska residents overall, and the unemployment rate was estimated to be 7.7%, compared to a statewide unemployment rate of 5.9%. In contrast, an unemployment estimate based on the ALARI database indicates that the unemployment rate in 2010 was 13.2%, slightly higher than the statewide unemployment rate estimate of 11.5% derived from that source.<sup>36</sup>

Also based on the 2006-2010 ACS, a majority of Palmer's workforce was estimated to be employed in the private sector (69.5%), along with 25.1% in the public sector, and 5.4% estimated to be self-employed. Of the 2,308 people aged 16 and over that were estimated to be employed in the civilian labor force, the greatest number of workers were estimated to be employed in educational services, health care, and social assistance (25.2%), arts, entertainment, recreation, and accommodation and food services (11.8%), and retail trade (10.9%). That year, 4.2% of the employed civilian labor force in Palmer was estimated to work in agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining. However, the number of individuals employed in farming, fishing, and forestry industries is likely underestimated in census statistics; fishermen may hold another job and characterize their employment accordingly. This information about employment by industry is presented in Figure 3, and employment is broken down by occupation in Figure 4.

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<sup>32</sup> Inflation was calculated using the Anchorage Consumer Price Index for 2000 and 2010 (retrieved January 5, 2012 from the Alaska Department of Labor, <http://labor.alaska.gov/research/cpi/inflationcalc.htm>).

<sup>33</sup> While American Community Survey (ACS) estimates can provide a good snapshot estimate for larger populations, smaller populations can be misrepresented by ACS estimates if demographic information is not collected from a representative sample of the population. This is especially problematic for Alaskan communities with small populations that have a low probability of being adequately sampled.

<sup>34</sup> See footnotes 29 and 31.

<sup>35</sup> Denali Commission. 2011. *Distressed Community Criteria 2011 Update*. Retrieved April 16, 2012 from [www.denali.gov](http://www.denali.gov).

<sup>36</sup> See footnote 29.

Figure 3. Local Employment by Industry in 2000-2010, Palmer (U.S. Census).

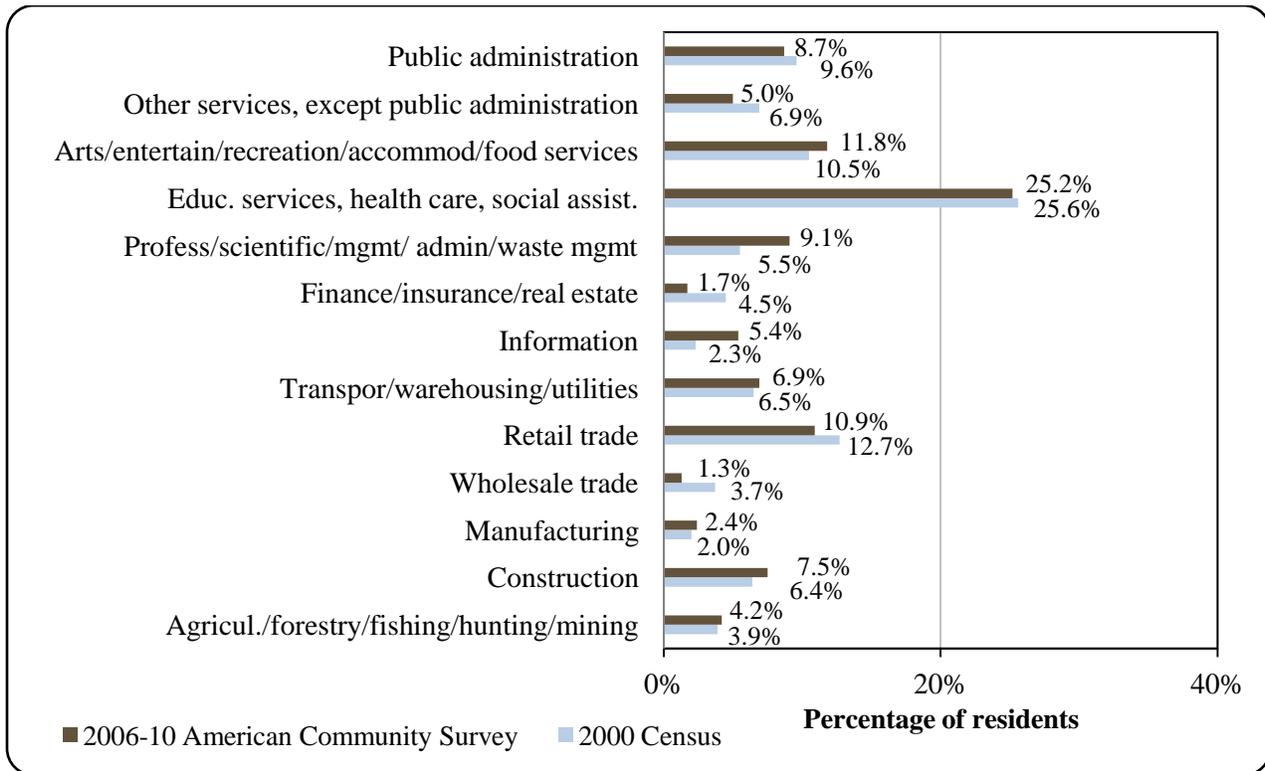
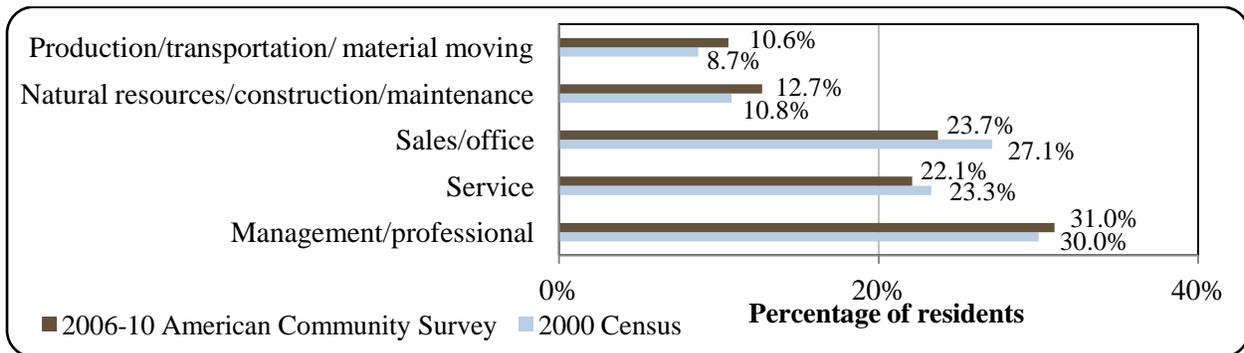


Figure 4. Local Employment by Occupation in 2000-2010, Palmer (U.S. Census).



An alternative estimate of employment is provided by economic data compiled in the ALARI database, which indicate that there were 2,423 employed residents in Palmer in 2010, of which 21% were employed in trade, transportation, and utilities, 15.4% in education and health services, 12.8% in leisure and hospitality, 10.2% in local government, 9% in construction, 8.8% in professional and business services, 6.9% in state government, 4.5% in natural resources and mining, 3.5% in information, 3.3% in financial activities, 0.9% in manufacturing, 0.2% in

unknown industries, and 3.5% in other industries.<sup>37</sup> As with income statistics, it should also be noted that ACS and DOLWD employment statistics do not reflect residents' activity in the subsistence economy.

## Governance

Palmer is a Home Rule City in the Mat-Su Borough. The City was incorporated in 1951 and has a Strong Mayor form of government, with a seven-person city council including the Mayor, a seven-person advisory school board, a seven-person planning and zoning commission, and a number of municipal employees. The City administers a 3% sales tax, and the Borough administers a 5% Bed Tax and 5.74% Tobacco and Cigarette Tax. Together, the City and Borough require a 12.961 mills property tax.<sup>38</sup> In addition to local tax revenues, other locally-generated income sources in Palmer between 2000 and 2010 included license and permit fees and charges for services including fire protection and police dispatch, equipment and building rentals, community center and library fees, planning and zoning, and public safety. Outside revenue sources included state maintenance contracts, state and federal grants, and various sources of shared revenue. The City received State Revenue Sharing contributions of between \$110,000 and \$134,000 each year from 2000 to 2003, and Community Revenue Sharing contributions of approximately \$375,000 per year in 2009 and 2010. Other sources of shared revenue included state electric and telephone co-op tax refund and state fish tax refunds in some years (see the *Fisheries-Related Revenue* section). No information was reported regarding fisheries-related grants received by Palmer between 2000 and 2010. Information about selected aspects of Palmer's municipal revenue is presented in Table 2.

Palmer was not included under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA), and is not federally recognized as a Native village.<sup>39</sup> Offices of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) and the Alaska Department of Natural Resources are located in Palmer. The nearest offices of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development and the U.S. Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services are located in Anchorage.

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<sup>37</sup> Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development (n.d.). *Alaska Local and Regional Information Database*. Retrieved April 23, 2012 from <http://live.laborstats.alaska.gov/alari/>.

<sup>38</sup> Alaska Dept. of Comm. and Rural Affairs. (n.d.). *Community Database Online*. Retrieved October 17, 2011 from [http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF\\_BLOCK.htm](http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF_BLOCK.htm).

<sup>39</sup> Ibid.

Table 2. Selected Municipal, State, or Federal Revenue Streams for the Community of Palmer from 2000 to 2010.

Year	Total Municipal Revenue <sup>1</sup>	Sales Tax Revenue <sup>2</sup>	State/Community Revenue Sharing <sup>3,4</sup>	Fisheries-Related Grants (State and Federal) <sup>5</sup>
2000	\$6,641,064	\$2,464,268	\$134,124	n/a
2001	\$6,103,523	\$2,760,798	\$112,231	n/a
2002	\$6,225,911	\$2,914,417	\$110,887	n/a
2003	\$6,616,419	\$3,066,089	\$116,537	n/a
2004	\$7,107,856	\$3,640,723	n/a	n/a
2005	\$8,117,491	\$3,829,234	n/a	n/a
2006	\$8,498,171	\$3,980,530	n/a	n/a
2007	\$10,611,832	\$4,416,002	n/a	n/a
2008	\$11,590,345	\$4,818,801	n/a	n/a
2009	\$12,122,507	\$4,946,081	\$379,588	n/a
2010	\$11,443,914	\$5,207,143	\$373,439	n/a

<sup>1</sup> Alaska Dept. of Comm. and Rural Affairs. (n.d.). *Financial Documents Delivery System*. Retrieved April 15, 2011 from [http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commfin/CF\\_FinRec.cfm](http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commfin/CF_FinRec.cfm).

<sup>2</sup> Alaska Dept. of Comm. and Econ. Dev. (n.d.). *Alaska Taxable (2000-2010)*. Retrieved April 15, 2011 from [http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/osa/osa\\_summary.cfm](http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/osa/osa_summary.cfm).

<sup>3</sup> Alaska Dept. of Rev. (n.d.). *(2000-2009) Taxes and Fees Annual Report*. Retrieved April 15, 2011 from <https://www.tax.state.ak.us>.

<sup>4</sup> The State Revenue Sharing program ceased in 2003 and was replaced by the Community Revenue Sharing program starting in 2009.

<sup>5</sup> Alaska Dept. of Comm. and Rural Affairs. (n.d.). Community Funding Database. Retrieved April 15, 2011 from [http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF\\_Grants.htm](http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF_Grants.htm).

## Infrastructure

### *Connectivity and Transportation*

Palmer lies 42 miles northeast Anchorage on the Glenn Highway. Commercial airlines serve the Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport in Anchorage, but the Palmer Municipal Airport supports private and chartered services with two paved airstrips, one at 6,009 ft long by 100 ft wide and the other at 3,617 ft long by 75 ft wide.<sup>40</sup> The Alaska State Division of Forestry bases its wildland firefighting operations out of the Palmer Municipal Airport.<sup>41</sup> There are also several privately-owned airstrips in the vicinity. Float planes may land at nearby Finger Lake and Wolf Lake. The Alaska Railroad connects Palmer to Whittier, Seward, and Anchorage for ocean freight delivery.<sup>42</sup>

<sup>40</sup> Ibid.

<sup>41</sup> Adler, B. 2008. *Mat-Su Borough All-Hazards Mitigation Plan: Phase One – Natural Hazards*. Mat-Su Borough Department of Emergency Services. Retrieved March 13, 2012 from [http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/planning/nfip/Hazard\\_Mitigation\\_Plans/Mat\\_Su\\_Boro\\_HMP.pdf](http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/planning/nfip/Hazard_Mitigation_Plans/Mat_Su_Boro_HMP.pdf).

<sup>42</sup> See footnote 38.

### *Facilities*

Water in Palmer is derived from three deep wells, treated, and stored in a million-gallon reservoir. Individual wells are also in use. All homes are completely plumbed, and the City operates a piped water and sewer system. Sewage is collected and treated in a sewage lagoon. Some individual septic tanks are also in use. The Borough operates a landfill outside the City, and a sludge disposal site is also available.<sup>43</sup> Solid waste collection services are provided by the City.<sup>44</sup> The Matanuska Electric Association Inc. (MEA) provides electric utility service to the entire City of Palmer, generating 85% by gas turbine and 15% hydroelectric. MEA purchases virtually all of the electricity it distributes from Chugach Electric Association Inc., pursuant to a contract expiring January 1, 2015. Piped natural gas, provided by Enstar, is used to heat homes.<sup>45</sup>

Public safety services are provided by the City of Palmer Police Department and a state troopers post in Palmer. Palmer is also the seat of the State Superior Court District Court Magistrate. Palmer has a city jail, a correctional center, and a pre-trial facility. The Borough Public Safety Building is also located in Palmer. Rescue and fire fighting services are provided by the Victory and Wolverine volunteer fire departments, and the Palmer and Borough ambulance services.<sup>46</sup>

Additional community facilities include the Palmer Community Center, a senior citizen's center, a Pioneer's Home, the Borough swimming pool, an Elks Lodge, Moose Lodge, two museums, and a variety of libraries. Telephone, internet, cable services are available in Palmer.<sup>47</sup> According to a survey conducted by the AFSC in 2011, community leaders reported that Palmer also has a food bank, publicly subsidized housing, and job placement services, and that plans are under way to build a new community center within the next 10 years. Community leaders also indicated that no fisheries-related facilities are present in Palmer, given it is not a port city, and that local residents typically travel to Anchorage, Seward or Homer to access fisheries-related businesses and services not available in Palmer.

### *Medical Services*

Medical services are provided at the Mat-Su Regional Medical Center in Palmer, located between Wasilla and Palmer, approximately 7 miles from downtown Palmer. The hospital is a privately owned qualified Acute Care facility. Long term care is provided in Palmer at the Veterans' Home and Palmer Pioneers' Home. Emergency services have highway, air, floatplane, and helicopter access. Emergency service is provided by 911 Telephone Service and volunteers.<sup>48</sup>

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<sup>43</sup> Ibid.

<sup>44</sup> City of Palmer, Palmer Planning Team and Agnew:Beck Consulting. 2006. *City of Palmer Comprehensive Plan*. Retrieved March 12, 2012 from <http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/plans/Palmer-CP-2006.pdf>.

<sup>45</sup> See footnote 38.

<sup>46</sup> Ibid.

<sup>47</sup> Ibid.

<sup>48</sup> Ibid.

### *Educational Opportunities*

Six active school facilities are present in Palmer, including one primary school, one intermediate school, one middle school, two high schools, and one K-12 school. Swanson Elementary School serves grades preschool through 2, and as of 2011 had 465 students and 28 teachers; Sherrod Elementary School serves grades 3 through 5, and as of 2011 had 460 students and 26 teachers; Palmer Middle School serves grades 6 through 8, and as of 2011 had 575 students and 37 teachers; Palmer High School serves grades 9 through 12, and as of 2011 had 774 students and 45 teachers; Valley Pathways serves grades 9 through 12, and as of 2011 had 199 students and 11 teachers; and Academy Charter School serves grades Kindergarten through 12, and as of 2011 had 231 students and 19 teachers.<sup>49</sup>

In addition to these six active schools, Mat-Su Secondary School is located in Palmer. It is a secure detention unit school, which offers students a way to continue earning high school credits while they transition back into the Palmer School District or into/out of treatment programs.<sup>50</sup> However, as of 2011, Mat-Su Secondary School was reported to not have any enrolled students or current teaching staff.<sup>51</sup>

## **Involvement in North Pacific Fisheries**

### *History and Evolution of Fisheries*

Historically, Athabascan Indians moved seasonally through the Palmer region to pursue subsistence fishing, hunting, and trapping activities.<sup>52</sup> Today, Palmer residents are most engaged in fisheries for salmon and halibut. In addition to local Cook Inlet fisheries, Palmer fishermen participate in fisheries around the state. For example, in 2010, 25% of Palmer salmon permits were held in Cook Inlet gillnet fisheries, while 41% were held in Bristol Bay gillnet fisheries, and the remaining permits were held in other salmon fisheries ranging from Southeast Alaska to Norton Sound. In addition to salmon and halibut, Palmer residents were most highly engaged in fisheries for herring and groundfish during the 2000-2010 period (see *Commercial Fishing* section).

Commercial salmon and herring fisheries began to develop shortly after the purchase of Alaska by the U.S. in 1867. The earliest herring harvest was for human consumption, while harvest of herring for bait began around 1900, and herring sac roe fisheries developed in the late 1970s.<sup>53,54</sup> Commercial exploitation of halibut and groundfish first extended into the Gulf of

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<sup>49</sup> Alaska Department of Education and Early Development. (2012). *Statistics and Reports*. Retrieved April 24, 2012 from <http://eed.alaska.gov/stats/>.

<sup>50</sup> Mat-Su Secondary School. 2008. *Homepage*. Retrieved March 12, 2012 from <http://www.matsuk12.us/myf/site/default.asp/>.

<sup>51</sup> Alaska Dept. of Comm. and Rural Affairs. (n.d.). *Community Database Online*. Retrieved October 17, 2011 from [http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF\\_BLOCK.htm](http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF_BLOCK.htm).

<sup>52</sup> Alaska Native Heritage Center. 2008 *Athabascans - Who We Are*. Retrieved January 9, 2012 from [http://www.alaskanative.net/en/main\\_nav/education/culture\\_alaska/athabaskan/](http://www.alaskanative.net/en/main_nav/education/culture_alaska/athabaskan/).

<sup>53</sup> Clark, McGregor, Mecum, Krasnowski and Carroll. 2006. *The Commercial Salmon Fishery in Alaska*. Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game, Pgs. 105-146. Retrieved December 28, 2011 from [http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/home/library/PDFs/afrb/clarv12n1\\_p4.pdf](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/home/library/PDFs/afrb/clarv12n1_p4.pdf).

<sup>54</sup> Woodby, Doug, Dave Carlile, Shareef Siddeek, Fritz Funk, John H. Clark, and Lee Hulbert. 2005. *Commercial Fisheries of Alaska*. Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game, Special Publication No. 05-09. Retrieved December 29, 2011 from <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/FedAidPDFs/sp05-09.pdf>.

Alaska (GOA) in the 1920s after development of diesel engines, which allowed fishing vessels to undertake longer trips.<sup>55</sup>

Cook Inlet is the closest marine area to Palmer. ADF&G manages the Cook Inlet salmon and herring fisheries.<sup>56</sup> The marine waters bordering Cook Inlet are encompassed by Federal Reporting Area 630, Pacific Halibut Fishery Regulatory Area 3A, and the Central Gulf of Alaska Sablefish Regulatory Area. Pacific halibut fisheries are managed under the International Pacific Halibut Commission. Groundfish fisheries that occur within 3 nautical miles (nmi) of the coast or in inland waters are under the jurisdiction of the State of Alaska, and fisheries that take place beyond 3 nm in the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) are under federal jurisdiction.

Palmer is not eligible to participate in either the Community Development Quota (CDQ) program or the Community Quota Entity (CQE) program. According to a survey conducted by the AFSC in 2011, community leaders reported that Palmer does not participate in fisheries management processes in Alaska.

### *Processing Plants*

ADF&G's 2010 Intent to Operate list does not list a registered processing plant in Palmer. However, numerous processing facilities are located in nearby Anchorage.

### *Fisheries-Related Revenue*

Between 2000 and 2010, revenue was reported in Palmer in two different years from the Shared Fisheries Business Tax. In 2003, \$15 of revenue was reported, and in 2010, \$3,128 of revenue was reported. No other information was reported regarding fisheries-related revenue in Palmer between 2000 and 2010 (Table 3).<sup>57</sup>

### *Commercial Fishing*

Although Palmer is not a port city, local residents are involved in the commercial fishing industry as crew license holders, quota share account and permit holders, and vessel owners. In 2010, 88 Palmer residents held commercial fishing crew permits and 39 fishing vessels were primarily owned by residents. These numbers represent decreases since the year 2000, when 107 Palmer residents held crew licenses, and 74 fishing vessels were primarily owned by residents. The number of vessels reported as homeported in Palmer has also decreased over the period, from 26 in 2000 to 7 as of 2010 (Table 5).

In 2010, 92 Palmer residents held a total of 117 state-issued Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) permits. Of these, 75 were held in salmon fisheries, 15 in halibut fisheries, 9 in crab fisheries, and the rest in fisheries for 'other shellfish' (4), herring (3), sablefish (5), and groundfish (6). In the same year, the greatest number of salmon CFEC permits were held in the Bristol Bay drift gillnet fishery (20 permits), Cook Inlet set gillnet fishery (15), Bristol Bay set gillnet fishery (11), Prince William Sound drift gillnet fishery (5), Cook Inlet drift gillnet fishery

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<sup>55</sup> Thompson, William F. and Norman L. Freeman. 1930. *History of the Pacific Halibut Fishery*. Report of the International Fisheries Commission. Number 5. Retrieved June 1, 2012 from <http://www.iphc.int/publications/scirep/Report0005.pdf>.

<sup>56</sup> Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game. 2012. *Commercial Fisheries Overview*. Retrieved June 27, 2012 from <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?ADFG=fishingcommercialbyarea.main>.

<sup>57</sup> A direct comparison between fisheries-related revenue and total municipal revenue cannot reliably be made as not all fisheries-related revenue sources are included in the municipal budget.

(4), and Kodiak purse seine fishery (3). One or two CFEC permits were also held in 12 additional salmon fisheries around the State, in areas including Chignik, Peninsula-Aleutians, Yakutat, Lower Yukon, Upper Yukon, Kuskokwim, Kotzebue, and Norton Sound, using fishing gear including set and drift gillnet, purse seine, hand troll, and fishwheel. Salmon permit numbers remained relatively stable between 2000 and 2010, although the percentage of permits that were actively fished decreased from 82% in 2000 to 67% in 2010.

Of the 15 halibut CFEC permits held by Palmer residents, 12 were held in the statewide longline fishery using vessels under 60 ft, 2 were held in the statewide longline fishery using vessels over 60 ft, and 1 was held in the statewide mechanical jig fishery. Of these, 10 were actively fished that year, including 9 in the statewide longline fishery using vessels under 60 ft and 1 using vessels over 60 ft. The number of halibut permits held stayed relatively stable between 2000 and 2010, although the percentage of active permits decreased from 92% in 2000 to 67% in 2010.

Crab CFEC permits held in Palmer in 2010 were for Dungeness crab (one of three permits actively fished in the Cook Inlet pot gear fishery, one of one permit active in the Southeast 150 pots fishery), king crab (one of one permit actively fished in the Bering Sea pot gear, vessels 60 ft or over fishery, and zero of one permit active in the Bristol Bay pot gear, vessels 60 ft or over fishery in 2010), and Tanner crab (one of one permit active in the Peninsula-Aleutians pot gear, vessel under 60 ft fishery, one of one permit active in the Bering Sea pot gear, vessels 60 ft or over fishery, and zero of one permit active in the Kodiak pot gear, vessel under 60 ft fishery).

The number of groundfish and herring CFEC permits held by Palmer residents decreased markedly between 2000 and 2010. In the case of groundfish, 18 permits were held in 2000, decreasing to 6 by 2010. The percentage of groundfish permits actively fished also decreased over the period, from 50% in 2000 to 17% by 2010. In 2010, groundfish permits were held in statewide groundfish fisheries targeted miscellaneous saltwater finfish, using longline, pot gear, or mechanical jig, along with one Gulf of Alaska permit for pot gear. In the case of herring, 3 of 13 CFEC permits were actively fished in 2000 (23%), decreasing to 0 of 3 total herring permits actively fished in 2010 (0%). In 2010, herring permits were held in roe herring gillnet fisheries in Prince William Sound and Goodnews Bay. Earlier, in 2000, herring permits had also been held in roe herring gillnet fisheries in Bristol Bay and Security Cove, the herring gillnet fishery in Norton Sound, and the Prince William Sound herring spawn on kelp fishery. CFEC permit information is presented in Table 4.

In addition to CFEC permits, three Palmer residents held License Limitation Program permits (LLP) in federal groundfish fisheries, of which one was actively fished in 2010. One Palmer resident held an inactive LLP in a federal crab fishery in 2010, and three Palmer residents held Federal Fisheries Permits (FFP) in 2010, of which one was actively fished that year. Between 2000 and 2010, the number of quota share account holders in the federal halibut catch share fishery in Palmer decreased from 17 to 15. The number of halibut quota shares held initially decreased from 911,606 to 578,308, and then increased to over 1 million shares between 2008 and 2010. Also between 2000 and 2010, the number of Palmer residents holding quota share accounts in the federal sablefish catch share fishery varied between 2 and 4, and the amount of quota shares held increased from 473,306 in 2000 to 665,340 in 2010. With respect to both halibut and sablefish catch share fisheries, annual individual fishing quota (IFQ) allotments remained relatively stable between 2000 and 2010. No quota shares were held in federal crab catch share fisheries by Palmer residents during the 2000-2010 period. Information about LLP

and FFP permits is presented in Table 4, while information about federal catch share participation is presented in Tables 6 through 8.

Given that no fish buyers or shore-side processors were present in Palmer between 2000 and 2010 (Table 5), no landings or ex-vessel revenue were generated in the community (Table 9). Rather, Palmer vessel owners delivered landings in other locations. Information was available for all years between 2000 and 2010 regarding salmon harvest by Palmer vessel owners, and for some years during the period for harvest of halibut, Pacific cod, sablefish, and ‘other groundfish.’ Information about harvest in other years and for other species is considered confidential due to the small number of participants. On average between 2000 and 2010, 3,056,909 net lbs of salmon were harvested by Palmer vessel owners, valued at an average of \$1,537,949 in ex-vessel revenue. For those years in which information can be reported regarding halibut, landings averaged 65,262 net lbs valued at an average of \$175,418 in ex-vessel revenue. For those years in which information can be reported regarding Pacific cod harvest, landings averaged 421,454 net lbs valued at an average of \$116,702. Finally, for those years in which ‘other groundfish’ information can be reported, Palmer vessel owners harvested an average of 18,922 net lbs valued at an average of \$10,650. Sablefish landings and revenue information can be reported for one year between 2000 and 2010. That year (2004), Palmer vessel owners landed a total of 56,692 net lbs of sablefish, valued at \$154,028 in ex-vessel revenue. Landings and ex-vessel revenue earned by Palmer vessel owners are presented in Table 10.

Table 3. Known Fisheries-Related Revenue (in U.S. Dollars) Received by the Community of Palmer: 2000-2010.

Revenue source	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Raw fish tax <sup>1</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a							
Shared Fisheries Business Tax <sup>1</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$15	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$3,128
Fisheries Resource Landing Tax <sup>1</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a							
Fuel transfer tax <sup>2</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a							
Extraterritorial fish tax <sup>2</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a							
Bulk fuel transfers <sup>1</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a							
Boat hauls <sup>2</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a							
Harbor usage <sup>2</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a							
Port/dock usage <sup>2</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a							
Fishing gear storage on public land <sup>3</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a							
Marine fuel sales tax <sup>3</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a							
<i>Total fisheries-related revenue<sup>4</sup></i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>\$15</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>\$3,128</i>
<i>Total municipal revenue<sup>5</sup></i>	<i>\$6.6 M</i>	<i>\$6.1 M</i>	<i>\$6.2 M</i>	<i>\$6.6 M</i>	<i>\$7.1 M</i>	<i>\$8.1 M</i>	<i>\$8.4 M</i>	<i>\$10.6 M</i>	<i>\$11.6 M</i>	<i>\$12.1 M</i>	<i>\$11.4 M</i>

Note: n/a indicates that no data were reported for that year.

<sup>1</sup> Alaska Dept. of Comm. and Econ. Dev. (n.d.) *Alaska Taxable (2000-2010)*. Retrieved April 15, 2011 from [http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/osa/osa\\_summary.cfm](http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/osa/osa_summary.cfm).

<sup>2</sup> Alaska Dept. of Comm. and Rural Affairs. (n.d.) *Financial Documents Delivery System*. Retrieved April 15, 2011 at [http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dcra/commfin/CF\\_FinRec.cfm](http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dcra/commfin/CF_FinRec.cfm).

<sup>3</sup> Reported by community leaders in a survey conducted by the AFSC in 2011.

<sup>4</sup> Total fisheries related revenue represents a sum of all known revenue sources in the previous rows.

<sup>5</sup> Total municipal revenue represents the total revenue that the city reports each year in its municipal budget. Alaska Dept. of Comm. and Rural Affairs. (n.d.) *Financial Documents Delivery System*. Retrieved April 15, 2011 at [http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dcra/commfin/CF\\_FinRec.cfm](http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dcra/commfin/CF_FinRec.cfm).

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Table 4. Permits and Permit Holders by Species, Palmer: 2000-2010.

Species		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Groundfish (LLP) <sup>1</sup>	Total permits	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3
	Active permits	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	1	1
	% of permits fished	75%	75%	75%	75%	75%	75%	75%	50%	50%	33%	33%
	Total permit holders	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	3
Crab (LLP) <sup>1</sup>	Total permits	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	Active permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	% of permits fished	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Total permit holders	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Federal Fisheries Permits <sup>1</sup>	Total permits	5	6	6	6	7	7	4	4	4	3	3
	Fished permits	0	0	0	3	2	2	2	2	1	2	1
	% of permits fished	0%	0%	0%	50%	29%	29%	50%	50%	25%	67%	33%
	Total permit holders	5	6	6	5	6	6	4	4	4	3	3
Crab (CFEC) <sup>2</sup>	Total permits	3	5	2	3	3	3	5	5	7	6	9
	Fished permits	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
	% of permits fished	0%	60%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	33%
	Total permit holders	3	5	2	3	3	3	5	5	7	6	7
Other shellfish (CFEC) <sup>2</sup>	Total permits	1	3	1	3	2	2	2	1	1	1	4
	Fished permits	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
	% of permits fished	0%	33%	0%	33%	0%	50%	50%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Total permit holders	1	2	1	3	2	2	2	1	1	1	4
Halibut (CFEC) <sup>2</sup>	Total permits	12	12	11	11	16	17	16	13	12	14	15
	Fished permits	11	9	9	11	13	14	12	11	10	11	10
	% of permits fished	92%	75%	82%	100%	81%	82%	75%	85%	83%	79%	67%
	Total permit holders	12	12	11	11	16	17	16	13	12	14	14
Herring (CFEC) <sup>2</sup>	Total permits	13	10	11	11	6	7	6	4	4	3	3
	Fished permits	3	5	3	2	0	2	1	1	0	0	0
	% of permits fished	23%	50%	27%	18%	0%	29%	17%	25%	0%	0%	0%
	Total permit holders	8	7	8	8	5	6	5	4	5	3	3

Table 4 cont'd. Permits and Permit Holders by Species, Palmer: 2000-2010.

<b>Species</b>		<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>
Sablefish (CFEC) <sup>2</sup>	Total permits	3	2	2	4	7	5	3	4	4	4	5
	Fished permits	3	2	2	4	7	5	3	4	4	3	3
	% of permits fished	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	75%	60%
	Total permit holders	2	1	1	3	6	4	2	3	4	4	5
Groundfish (CFEC) <sup>2</sup>	Total permits	18	15	14	13	7	7	5	5	4	5	6
	Fished permits	9	5	1	1	1	1	2	2	3	1	1
	% of permits fished	50%	33%	7%	8%	14%	14%	40%	40%	75%	20%	17%
	Total permit holders	10	9	9	9	6	6	4	4	4	5	5
Other Finfish (CFEC) <sup>2</sup>	Total permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Fished permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	% of permits fished	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total permit holders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Salmon (CFEC) <sup>2</sup>	Total permits	72	70	71	65	66	67	68	64	71	74	75
	Fished permits	59	51	44	44	40	42	44	43	51	52	50
	% of permits fished	82%	73%	62%	68%	61%	63%	65%	67%	72%	70%	67%
	Total permit holders	70	64	67	63	64	68	69	63	71	72	76
<i>Total CFEC Permits<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>Permits</i>	<i>122</i>	<i>117</i>	<i>112</i>	<i>110</i>	<i>107</i>	<i>108</i>	<i>105</i>	<i>96</i>	<i>103</i>	<i>107</i>	<i>117</i>
	<i>Fished permits</i>	<i>85</i>	<i>76</i>	<i>59</i>	<i>63</i>	<i>61</i>	<i>65</i>	<i>63</i>	<i>61</i>	<i>68</i>	<i>67</i>	<i>67</i>
	<i>% of permits fished</i>	<i>70%</i>	<i>65%</i>	<i>53%</i>	<i>57%</i>	<i>57%</i>	<i>60%</i>	<i>60%</i>	<i>64%</i>	<i>66%</i>	<i>63%</i>	<i>57%</i>
	<i>Permit holders</i>	<i>84</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>75</i>	<i>76</i>	<i>80</i>	<i>85</i>	<i>76</i>	<i>84</i>	<i>86</i>	<i>92</i>

<sup>1</sup>National Marine Fisheries Service. 2011. Data on License Limitation Program, Alaska Federal Processor Permits (FPP), Federal Fisheries Permits (FFP), and Permit holders. NMFS Alaska Regional Office. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. [URL not publicly available as some information is confidential.]

<sup>2</sup>Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission. 2011. Alaska commercial fishing permits, permit holders, and vessel licenses, 2000 – 2010. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. [URL not publicly available as some information is confidential.]

Table 5. Characteristics of the Commercial Fishing Sector in Palmer: 2000-2010.

Year	Crew License Holders <sup>1</sup>	Count Of All Fish Buyers <sup>2</sup>	Count Of Shore-Side Processing Facilities <sup>3</sup>	Vessels Primarily Owned by Residents <sup>4</sup>	Vessels Homeported <sup>4</sup>	Vessels Landing Catch in Palmer <sup>2</sup>	Total Net Pounds Landed in Palmer <sup>2,5</sup>	Total Ex-Vessel Value of Landings in Palmer <sup>2,5</sup>
2000	107	0	0	74	26	0	0	\$0
2001	76	0	0	72	28	0	0	\$0
2002	51	0	0	65	27	0	0	\$0
2003	74	0	0	65	25	0	0	\$0
2004	83	0	0	64	23	0	0	\$0
2005	86	0	0	42	6	0	0	\$0
2006	77	0	0	34	6	0	0	\$0
2007	95	0	0	33	7	0	0	\$0
2008	98	0	0	32	6	0	0	\$0
2009	85	0	0	34	6	0	0	\$0
2010	88	0	0	39	7	0	0	\$0

<sup>1</sup> Alaska Department of Fish and Game. 2011. Alaska sport fish and crew license holders, 2000 – 2010. ADF&G Division of Administrative Services. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. [URL not publicly available as some information is confidential.]

<sup>2</sup> Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission. 2011. Alaska fish ticket data. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. [URL not publicly available as some information is confidential.]

<sup>3</sup> Alaska Department of Fish and Game. (2011). Data on Alaska fish processors. ADF&G Division of Commercial Fisheries. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. [URL not publicly available as some information is confidential.]

<sup>4</sup> Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission. 2011. Alaska commercial fishing permits, permit holders, and vessel licenses, 2000 – 2010. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. [URL not publicly available as some information is confidential.]

<sup>5</sup> Totals only represent non-confidential data.

Table 6. Halibut Catch Share Program Participation by Residents of Palmer: 2000-2010.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of Halibut Quota Share Account Holders</b>	<b>Halibut Quota Shares Held</b>	<b>Halibut IFQ Allotment (Pounds)</b>
2000	17	911,606	126,517
2001	17	874,836	140,775
2002	16	804,350	127,205
2003	16	795,005	117,916
2004	17	743,778	117,431
2005	16	578,308	93,060
2006	16	687,880	109,576
2007	15	996,425	146,289
2008	15	1,306,655	182,096
2009	15	1,353,518	174,276
2010	15	1,068,187	135,083

Source: National Marine Fisheries Service. 2011. Alaska Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) permit data. NMFS Alaska Regional Office. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. [URL not publicly available as some information is confidential.]

Table 7. Sablefish Catch Share Program Participation by Residents of Palmer: 2000-2010.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of Sablefish Quota Share Account Holders</b>	<b>Sablefish Quota Shares Held</b>	<b>Sablefish IFQ Allotment (Pounds)</b>
2000	3	473,306	50,974
2001	2	431,948	44,612
2002	2	431,948	43,070
2003	2	431,948	48,599
2004	3	455,829	55,398
2005	3	455,829	53,197
2006	4	455,829	50,846
2007	3	455,829	48,925
2008	2	522,041	45,115
2009	2	522,041	40,818
2010	3	665,340	47,843

Source: National Marine Fisheries Service. 2011. Alaska Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) permit data. NMFS Alaska Regional Office. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. [URL not publicly available as some information is confidential.]

Table 8. Bering Sea and Aleutian Island Crab Catch Share Program Participation by Residents of Palmer: 2000-2010.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of Crab Quota Share Account Holders</b>	<b>Crab Quota Shares Held</b>	<b>Crab IFQ Allotment (Pounds)</b>
2005	0	0	0
2006	0	0	0
2007	0	0	0
2008	0	0	0
2009	0	0	0
2010	0	0	0

Source: National Marine Fisheries Service. 2011. Alaska Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) permit data. NMFS Alaska Regional Office. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. [URL not publicly available as some information is confidential.]

Table 9. Landed Pounds and Ex-vessel Revenue, by Species, in Palmer: 2000-2010.

	<i>Total Net Pounds<sup>1</sup></i>										
	<i>2000</i>	<i>2001</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>2004</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>2006</i>	<i>2007</i>	<i>2008</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>2010</i>
Crab	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Finfish	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Halibut	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Herring	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Groundfish	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Shellfish	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pacific Cod	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pollock	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sablefish	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Salmon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Total<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
	<i>Ex-vessel Value (nominal U.S. dollars)</i>										
	<i>2000</i>	<i>2001</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>2004</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>2006</i>	<i>2007</i>	<i>2008</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>2010</i>
Crab	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Finfish	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Halibut	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Herring	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Groundfish	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Shellfish	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Pacific Cod	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Pollock	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Sablefish	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Salmon	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>Total<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>

Source: Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission. 2011. Alaska fish ticket data. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. [URL not publicly available as some information is confidential.]

<sup>1</sup> Net pounds refers to the landed weight recorded in fish tickets.

<sup>2</sup> Totals only represent non-confidential data.

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Table 10. Landed Pounds and Ex-vessel Revenue, by Species, by Palmer Residents: 2000-2010.

	<i>Total Net Pounds<sup>1</sup></i>										
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Crab	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Finfish	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Halibut	88,863	65,806	89,865	66,224	87,514	64,030	28,979	-	-	30,818	-
Herring	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Groundfish	20,476	80,632	4,757	5,293	9,064	6,529	5,705	-	-	-	-
Other Shellfish	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pacific Cod	499,250	360,145	-	-	-	404,968	-	-	-	-	-
Pollock	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sablefish	-	-	-	-	56,692	-	-	-	-	-	-
Salmon	2,674,051	2,624,960	2,067,885	2,426,783	3,508,582	3,553,695	3,690,623	4,382,922	3,150,151	3,241,081	2,305,268
<i>Total<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>3,282,640</i>	<i>3,131,543</i>	<i>2,162,507</i>	<i>2,498,300</i>	<i>3,661,852</i>	<i>4,029,222</i>	<i>3,725,307</i>	<i>4,382,922</i>	<i>3,150,151</i>	<i>3,271,899</i>	<i>2,305,268</i>
	<i>Ex-vessel Value (nominal U.S. dollars)</i>										
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Crab	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Finfish	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Halibut	\$229,250	\$134,157	\$202,564	\$192,743	\$261,996	\$192,554	\$106,352	-	-	\$83,726	-
Herring	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Groundfish	\$14,079	\$37,477	\$3,969	\$4,004	\$6,418	\$4,535	\$4,071	-	-	-	-
Other Shellfish	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pacific Cod	\$158,152	\$85,790	-	-	-	\$106,163	-	-	-	-	-
Pollock	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sablefish	-	-	-	-	\$154,028	-	-	-	-	-	-
Salmon	\$1,288,742	\$893,497	\$762,541	\$902,529	\$1,394,776	\$1,608,120	\$1,690,601	\$2,208,236	\$1,902,734	\$2,201,206	\$2,064,461
<i>Total<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>\$1,690,223</i>	<i>\$1,150,921</i>	<i>\$969,074</i>	<i>\$1,099,276</i>	<i>\$1,817,218</i>	<i>\$1,911,373</i>	<i>\$1,801,024</i>	<i>\$2,208,236</i>	<i>\$1,902,734</i>	<i>\$2,284,932</i>	<i>\$2,064,461</i>

*Note: Cells showing – indicate that the data are considered confidential.*

Source: Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission. 2011. Alaska fish ticket data. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. [URL not publicly available as some information is confidential.]

<sup>1</sup> Net pounds refers to the landed weight recorded in fish tickets.

<sup>2</sup> Totals only represent non-confidential data.

### *Recreational Fishing*

According to ADF&G, the number of active sport fish guides registered in Palmer remained relatively stable over the 2000-2010 period, varying between four and eight active businesses per year. In contrast, the number of licensed sport fish guides present in the community declined substantially over the decade, from 63 in 2000 to 29 in 2010. Despite this decline, these numbers represent a significant sport fishing infrastructure in Palmer. The presence of this infrastructure suggests that sport fishing is a tourism draw to the area. However, according to a survey conducted by the AFSC in 2011, community leaders indicated that a majority of sport fishing activity in the Palmer area is done by local residents using their private boats.

Between 2000 and 2010, the number of Palmer residents that purchased sport fishing licenses (irrespective of point of sale) varied between 6,825 and 8,724, generally increasing over the period. The number of fishing licenses sold in Palmer was slightly smaller, varying between 4,831 and 6,340 between 2000 and 2010. These numbers suggest that local residents may travel to nearby communities such as Anchorage or Wasilla to purchase licenses and fishing gear. Information about sport fishing activity in Palmer is presented in Table 11.

According to the 2011 AFSC survey, community leaders indicated that salmon and halibut are the most commonly targeted sport species in Palmer. The Alaska Statewide Harvest Survey,<sup>58</sup> conducted by ADF&G between 2000 and 2010, noted additional species known to be targeted by private anglers in Palmer. In freshwater, additional species included landlocked salmon, rainbow trout, Dolly Varden, whitefish, burbot, Arctic grayling, northern pike, and smelt. In saltwater, additional species targeted by sport fishing included Dolly Varden, rockfish, lingcod, Pacific cod, sablefish, shark, and smelt. The survey also noted sport harvest of razor clams, hardshell clams, shrimp, and ‘other shellfish’ by anglers in Palmer.<sup>59</sup> No kept/release log book data were reported for fishing charters out of Palmer between 2000 and 2010.<sup>60</sup>

Palmer is located within Alaska Sport Fishing Survey Area K – Knik Arm. Between 2000 and 2010, freshwater sport fishing activity was more important than saltwater sport fishing at this regional level, and Alaska residents consistently fished a greater number of angler days than non-Alaska residents. In 2010, Alaska residents logged 95,285 freshwater and 124 saltwater angler days, while non-Alaska resident logged 10,872 freshwater days and no saltwater angler days. This information about regional sport fishing activity in Palmer is presented in Table 11.

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<sup>58</sup> Alaska Department of Fish and Game. 2011. *Alaska Sport Fishing Survey results, 2000 – 2010*. ADF&G/ADF&G Division of Sport Fish, Alaska Statewide Harvest Survey project. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/sportfishingsurvey/> (Accessed September 2011).

<sup>59</sup> The Alaska Statewide Harvest Survey includes separate categories for Dungeness crab, Tanner crab, razor clams, hardshell clams and shrimp. Remaining species fall into the ‘other shellfish’ category.

<sup>60</sup> Alaska Department of Fish and Game. 2011. *Alaska sport fish charter logbook database, 2000 – 2010*. ADF&G/ADF&G Division of Administrative Services. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. [URL not publicly available as some information is confidential.]

Table 11. Sport Fishing Trends, Palmer: 2000-2010.

Year	Active Sport Fish Guide Businesses <sup>1</sup>	Sport Fish Guide Licenses <sup>1</sup>	Sport Fishing Licenses Sold to Residents <sup>2</sup>	Sport Fishing Licenses Sold in Palmer <sup>2</sup>
2000	4	63	6,825	4,979
2001	4	64	7,082	4,831
2002	4	53	7,194	5,067
2003	6	60	7,547	5,162
2004	7	56	7,721	6,148
2005	7	28	8,003	6,351
2006	8	31	8,158	5,935
2007	5	30	8,217	6,340
2008	6	27	8,504	5,896
2009	5	22	8,724	5,729
2010	6	29	8,688	5,412

Year	Saltwater		Freshwater	
	Angler Days Fished – Non-Residents <sup>3</sup>	Angler Days Fished – Alaska Residents <sup>3</sup>	Angler Days Fished – Non-Residents <sup>3</sup>	Angler Days Fished – Alaska Residents <sup>3</sup>
2000	130	317	13,308	106,880
2001	345	277	14,933	94,862
2002	464	754	17,367	106,163
2003	49	386	15,626	87,000
2004	33	151	11,681	101,663
2005	378	424	14,284	100,677
2006	89	234	12,239	107,233
2007	117	473	13,524	106,567
2008	17	308	14,080	122,167
2009	37	122	10,678	111,462
2010	0	124	10,872	95,285

<sup>1</sup> Alaska Department of Fish and Game. 2011. Alaska sport fish guide licenses and businesses, 2000 – 2010. ADF&G Division of Administrative Services. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. [URL not publicly available as some information is confidential.]

<sup>2</sup> Alaska Department of Fish and Game. 2011. Alaska sport fish and crew license holders, 2000 – 2010. ADF&G Division of Administrative Services. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. [URL not publicly available as some information is confidential.]

<sup>3</sup> Alaska Department of Fish and Game. 2011. Alaska Sport Fishing Survey results, 2000 – 2010. ADF&G Division of Sport Fish, Alaska Statewide Harvest Survey project. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/sportfishingsurvey/> (Accessed September 2011).

### *Subsistence Fishing*

Palmer is located in the traditional territory of two groups of Athabascan Indians, the Ahtna and Dena'ina people.<sup>61</sup> Historically, Athabascans migrated seasonally, traveling in small groups to pursue subsistence fishing, hunting, and trapping activities.<sup>62</sup> Today, the economy of Palmer is based primarily on government services, retail, and manufacturing,<sup>63</sup> but some local residents continue to participate in subsistence activities. According to a survey conducted by the AFSC in 2011, community leaders reported that the most important subsistence resources for Palmer residents include herring and littleneck clams harvested in Cook Inlet, and salmon harvested in the Matanuska River and its tributary streams.

No information was reported by ADF&G regarding per capita subsistence harvest or the percentage of households in Palmer utilizing various marine resources for subsistence purposes between 2000 and 2010 (Table 12). However, information is available during the 2000-2010 period regarding total subsistence harvest of salmon and halibut. Between 2000 and 2008, the number of subsistence salmon permits issued to Palmer households varied between 371 and 608. Sockeye salmon were the most heavily harvested species during this period, averaging 10,796 sockeye harvested for subsistence per year. Several hundred Chinook and coho salmon were also harvested on average each year between 2000 and 2008, along with a small number of chum salmon each year and pink salmon in some years during the period. This information about subsistence salmon harvest is presented in Table 13. Between 2003 and 2010, the number of Subsistence Halibut Registration Certificates (SHARC) issued to Palmer residents increased from 3 to 12 in 2009. In 2010, 10 cards were issued, 1 was returned, and a total of 24 lbs of halibut were reported harvested for subsistence purposes by Palmer residents. This information about subsistence harvest of halibut is presented in Table 14.

No information was reported by management agencies regarding subsistence harvest of marine invertebrates, non-salmon fish (not including halibut), or marine mammals between 2000 and 2010 (Tables 13 and 15).

### **Additional Information**

The Matanuska Valley is famous statewide and nationally for the extremely large vegetables produced by local farmers. These vegetables frequently win prizes as the Alaska State Fair, which is held in Palmer every fall. More than 250,000 people attend the 12-day event, which generates more than \$2 million for the local economy.<sup>64</sup>

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<sup>61</sup> Alaska Dept. of Comm. and Rural Affairs. (n.d.). *Community Database Online*. Retrieved October 17, 2011 from [http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF\\_BLOCK.htm](http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF_BLOCK.htm).

<sup>62</sup> Alaska Native Heritage Center. 2008 *Athabascans - Who We Are*. Retrieved January 9, 2012 from [http://www.alaskanative.net/en/main\\_nav/education/culture\\_alaska/athabaskan/](http://www.alaskanative.net/en/main_nav/education/culture_alaska/athabaskan/).

<sup>63</sup> See footnote 61.

<sup>64</sup> Metiva, M., and D. Hanson. 2008. *Mat-Su Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy: December 2008 Update*. Mat-Su Resource Conservation & Development Center and Mat-Su Borough. Retrieved March 13, 2012 from <http://www.matsugov.us/>.

Table 12. Subsistence Participation by Household and Species, Palmer: 2000-2010.

Year	% Households Participating in Salmon Subsistence	% Households Participating in Halibut Subsistence	% Households Participating in Marine Mammal Subsistence	% Households Participating in Marine Invertebrate Subsistence	% Households Participating in Non-Salmon Fish Subsistence	Per Capita Subsistence Harvest (pounds)
2000	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2001	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2002	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2003	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2004	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2005	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2007	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2008	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2009	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2010	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Note: n/a indicates that no data were reported for that year.

Source: Alaska Department of Fish and Game. 2011. Community Subsistence Information System (CSIS). ADF&G Division of Subsistence. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sb/CSIS/> (Accessed February 2011).

Table 13. Subsistence Fishing Participation for Salmon, Marine Invertebrates, and Non-Salmon Fish, Palmer: 2000-2010.

Year	Subsistence Salmon Permits Issued <sup>1</sup>	Salmon Permits Returned <sup>1</sup>	Chinook Salmon Harvested <sup>1</sup>	Chum Salmon Harvested <sup>1</sup>	Coho Salmon Harvested <sup>1</sup>	Pink Salmon Harvested <sup>1</sup>	Sockeye Salmon Harvested <sup>1</sup>	Lbs of Marine Inverts <sup>2</sup>	Lbs of Non-Salmon Fish <sup>2</sup>
2000	567	537	389	16	260	13	9,409	n/a	n/a
2001	608	572	327	5	306	n/a	12,198	n/a	n/a
2002	437	408	379	50	165	4	8,936	n/a	n/a
2003	371	344	284	20	174	3	8,123	n/a	n/a
2004	574	515	532	29	224	10	11,793	n/a	n/a
2005	538	476	266	25	221	9	12,298	n/a	n/a
2006	549	464	338	48	159	n/a	11,827	n/a	n/a
2007	569	508	601	31	81	n/a	14,616	n/a	n/a
2008	543	494	332	9	148	3	7,961	n/a	n/a
2009	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2010	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Note: n/a indicates that no data were reported for that year.

<sup>1</sup> Fall, J.A., C. Brown, N. Braem, J.J. Simon, W.E. Simeone, D.L. Holen, L. Naves, L. Hutchinson-Scarborough, T. Lemons, and T.M. Krieg. 2011, revised. Alaska subsistence salmon fisheries 2008 annual report. Alaska Department of Fish and Game Division of Subsistence, Technical Paper No. 359, Anchorage. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle.

<sup>2</sup> Alaska Department of Fish and Game. 2011. Community Subsistence Information System (CSIS). ADF&G Division of Subsistence. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sb/CSIS/> (Accessed February 2011).

Table 14. Subsistence Halibut Fishing Participation, Palmer: 2003-2010.

Year	SHARC Issued	SHARC Cards Fished	SHARC Halibut Lbs Harvested
2003	3	n/a	n/a
2004	3	n/a	n/a
2005	4	n/a	n/a
2006	5	3	n/a
2007	6	3	118
2008	5	2	158
2009	12	2	91
2010	10	1	24

Note: n/a indicates that no data were reported for that year.

Source: Fall, J.A. and D. Koster. 2011. Subsistence harvests of Pacific halibut in Alaska, 2009. Alaska Department of Fish and Game Division of Subsistence, Technical Paper No. 357, Anchorage. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle.

Table 15. Subsistence Harvests of Marine Mammal Resources, Palmer: 2000-2010.

Year	# of Beluga Whales <sup>1</sup>	# of Sea Otters <sup>2</sup>	# of Walrus <sup>2</sup>	# of Polar Bears <sup>2</sup>	# of Steller Sea Lions <sup>3</sup>	# of Harbor Seals <sup>3</sup>	# of Spotted Seals <sup>3</sup>
2000	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2001	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2002	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2003	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2004	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2005	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2007	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2008	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2009	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2010	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Note: n/a indicates that no data were reported for that year.

<sup>1</sup> Frost, K.J., and R.S. Suydam. 2010. Subsistence harvest of beluga or white whales (*Delphinapterus leucas*) in northern and western Alaska, 1987–2006. *J. Cetacean Res. Manage.* 11(3): 293–299. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle.

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2011. Marking, Tagging and Reporting Program data bases for northern sea otter, Pacific walrus and polar bear. Office of Marine Mammals Management. Anchorage, Alaska. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle.

<sup>3</sup> Wolfe, R.J., Fall, J.A. and M. Riedel. 2009. The subsistence harvest of harbor seals and sea lions by Alaska Natives in 2008. Alaska Native Harbor Seal Commission and Alaska Department of Fish and Game Division of Subsistence, Technical Paper No. 347, Anchorage.