

Homer

People and Place

*Location*¹



Homer is located on the north shore of Kachemak Bay on the southwestern edge of the Kenai Peninsula. The Homer Spit, a 4.5-mile long bar of gravel, extends from the Homer shoreline. It is 227 road miles south of Anchorage, at the southern-most point of the Sterling Highway. Homer is located in the Kenai Peninsula Borough and the Homer Recording District. The area encompasses 10.6 square miles of land and 14.9 square miles of water.

*Demographic Profile*²

In 2010, there were 5,003 residents in Homer, ranking it as the 22nd largest of 352 communities in Alaska with recorded populations that year. Overall between 1990 and 2010, the population increased by 13.6%. According to Alaska Department of Labor estimates, between 2000 and 2009, the population of permanent residents increased by 12.6%. The average annual growth rate over the decade was 0.80%, which was slightly higher than the statewide average of 0.75%. According to a survey conducted by NOAA’s Alaska Fisheries Science Center (AFSC) in 2011, community leaders reported that an additional 4,000 seasonal workers or transients are present in Homer each year between April and October. They also indicated that population fluctuations are mostly driven by employment in fishing sectors, with an annual population peak in the month of July.

In 2010, a majority of Homer residents identified themselves as White (89.3%), along with 4.5% identifying as two or more races, 4.1% as American Indian and Alaska Native, 1% as Asian, 0.4% as Black or African American, and 0.1% as Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander. Also in 2010, 2.1% of Homer residents identified themselves as Hispanic or Latino. Compared to 2000, this distribution remained relatively consistent. Changes in population from 1990 to 2010 are shown in Table 1 below, and changes in racial and ethnic composition from 2000 to 2010 are presented in Figure 1.

The increase in population in Homer between 1990 and 2010 is reflected in the rising number of households in the community, from 1,411 occupied housing units in 1990 to 1,599 in 2000, and 2,236 in 2010. A portion of this increase in total households is also due to a decrease in average household size, from 2.5 persons per households in 1990 to 2.4 in 2000, and 2.21 in 2010. Of the 2,692 housing units surveyed in 2010, 50.3% were owner-occupied, 32.7% were rented, and 17% were vacant or used only seasonally. In 2010, 71 residents lived in group quarters, compared to 106 in 2000 and 56 in 1990.

¹ 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.

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>.

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

Year	U.S. Decennial Census ¹	Alaska Dept. of Labor Estimate of Permanent Residents ²
1990	3,660	-
2000	3,946	-
2001	-	4,070
2002	-	5,076
2003	-	5,369
2004	-	5,355
2005	-	5,402
2006	-	5,442
2007	-	5,454
2008	-	5,385
2009	-	5,551
2010	5,003	-

¹ (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>.

² 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, Homer: 2000-2010 (U.S. Census).

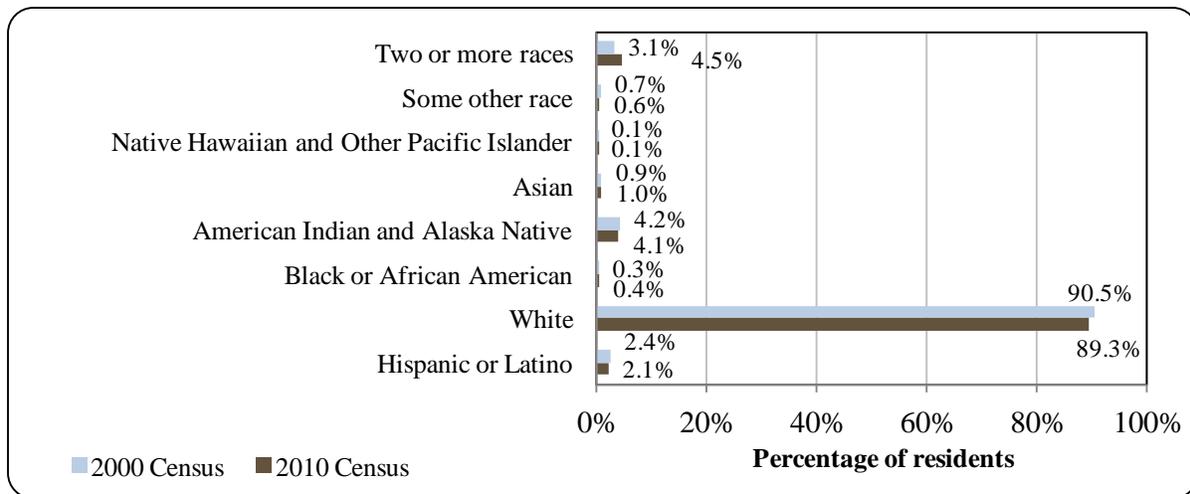
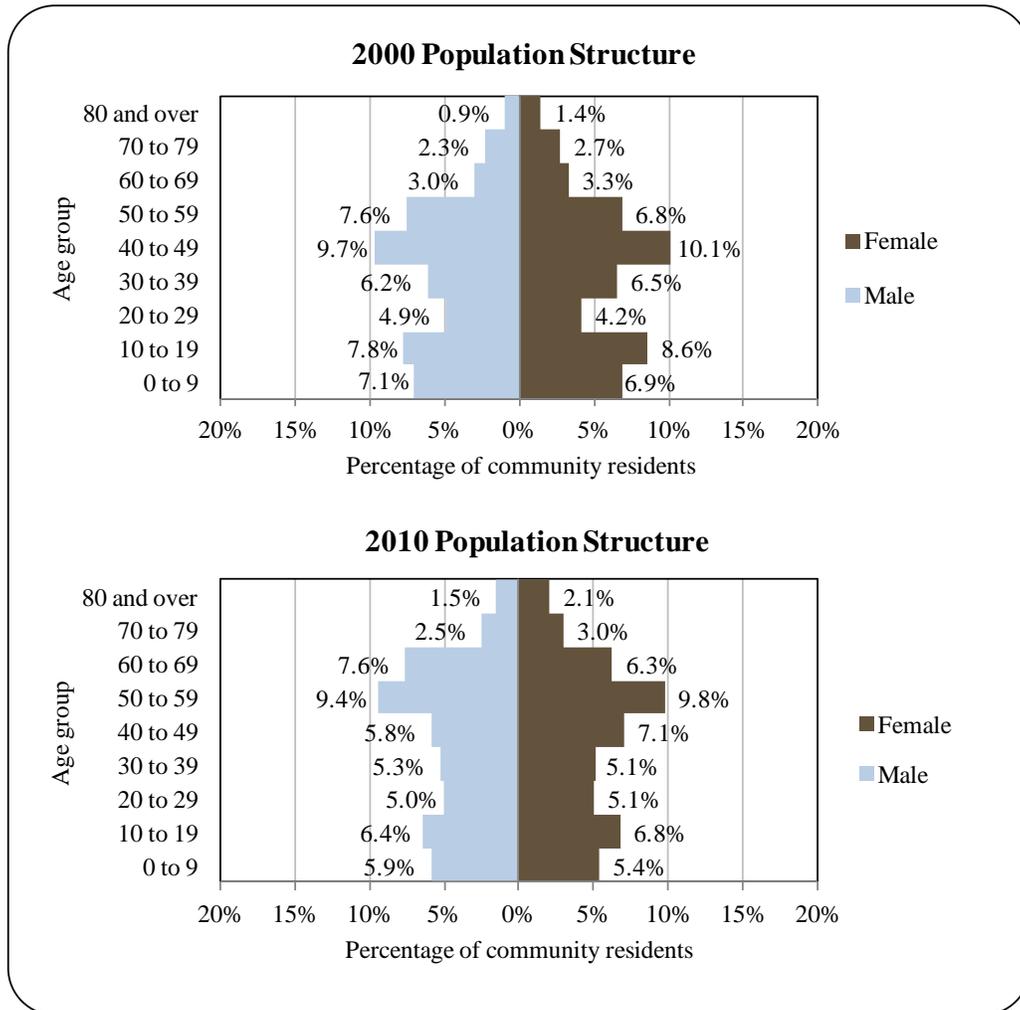


Figure 2. Population Age Structure in Homer Based on the 2000 and 2010 U.S. Decennial Census.



In 2010, the gender makeup of Homer’s population was 49.4% male and 50.5% female. The greater percentage of females than males was unusual compared to the gender balance of the state as a whole, which was 52% male and 48% female that year. Also in 2010, the median age was estimated to be 44 years, higher than both the U.S. national average of 36.8 years and the median age for Alaska, 33.8 years. This represents an increase from a median age of 38.8 in 2000. In 2010, 23% of the Homer population was age 60 or older, compared to 14.6% in 2000. This increase in median age of Homer’s population can be attributed to growth in the community’s popularity as a retirement community as well as the aging of Homer’s existing population.³ The overall population structure of Homer in 2000 and 2010 is shown in Figure 2.

³ City of Homer. 2008. *Comprehensive Plan 2008 (Adopted 2010)*. Retrieved October 8, 2012 from <http://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/planning/comprehensive-plan-2008-adopted-2010>.

In terms of educational attainment, according to the U.S. Census' 2006-2010 American Community Survey (ACS),⁴ 96.1% of Homer residents aged 25 and over were estimated to hold a high school diploma or higher degree in 2010, compared to an estimated 90.7% of Alaskan residents overall. Also in that year, an estimated 0.5% of residents had less than a 9th grade education, compared to 3.5% of Alaskan residents overall; an estimated 3.4% had a 9th to 12th grade education but no diploma, compared to 5.8% of Alaskan residents overall; an estimated 30.9% had some college but no degree, compared to an 28.3% of Alaskan residents overall; an estimated 21.3% held a Bachelor's degree, compared to 17.4% of Alaskan residents overall; and an estimated 12.4% held a graduate or professional degree, compared to an estimated 9.6% of Alaskan residents overall.

History, Traditional Knowledge, and Culture

The Homer area was historically home to the Kachemak Eskimo and Dena'ina Athabascan Indians, with increasing occupation of the Kenai Peninsula by the Dena'ina around 1000 A.D.⁵ Shell middens on Homer Spit, including a particularly large site at Cottonwood Creek, provide evidence that the site has been inhabited for many centuries.^{6,7} In 1895, the U.S. Geological Society sent a party to the area to explore coal and gold potential in the region. In 1896, Homer Pennock arrived with a crew of 50 gold miners and started the first settlement. The City now bears his name.⁸ In 1897, a post office was opened at the site of the new settlement, which was then called "Coal Bay". In 1899, the Cook Inlet Coal Fields Company made substantial investments in the town's infrastructure, including a dock and 28 buildings on the spit, as well as a 7-mile railroad. The railroad transported coal from mines at Homer's Bluff Point, Eastland Creek, and Fritz Creek to the dock at Homer Spit, where ships were loaded.^{9,10} Coal mining continued to be an important economic driver until World War I.¹¹ Homer remained a small community through the early 1900s. A new wave of homesteaders began to settle in the Homer area in 1915, and a general store was opened in 1918. Fur farming was an important industry for early homesteaders, as well as subsistence farming and harvest of local wild foods.¹² Fishing also developed as an important industry in the early 1900s, although a majority of fishing

⁴ 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.

⁵ Fall, J. A., R. T. Stanek, B. Davis, L. Williams and R. Walker. 2004. *Cook Inlet Customary and Traditional Subsistence Fisheries Assessment*. Final Report for Study No. FIS 03-045. Retrieved December 27, 2011 from <http://alaska.fws.gov/asm/index.cfm>.

⁶ Reed, C., E. 1985. *The Role of Wild Resource Use in Communities of the Central Kenai Peninsula and Kachemak Bay, Alaska*. Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game, Division of Subsistence. Technical Paper No. 106. Retrieved October 8, 2012 from <http://www.subsistence.adfg.state.ak.us/TechPap/tp106.pdf>.

⁷ See footnote 3.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ 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.

¹⁰ See footnote 6.

¹¹ See footnote 3.

¹² See footnote 6.

and seafood processing activity centered in nearby Seldovia. Some Homer settlers worked in Cook Inlet canneries.¹³

The Good Friday Earthquake struck in 1964, causing much of Homer to sink between 2 and 8 feet. The harbor incurred serious damage, but was rebuilt with federal funds.¹⁴ The quake hit nearby Seldovia even harder, destroying its waterfront. Following the loss of infrastructure in Seldovia, Homer began to fill the role of the local fishing center.¹⁵ The City of Homer was incorporated in March 1964. Today, commercial fishing remains an important foundation of Homer's economy, and tourism and sportfishing and hunting have become increasingly important. Homer is also a popular retirement community.¹⁶

Natural Resources and Environment

Homer is located in a maritime climactic zone, dominated by the moderating effects of a marine environment and characterized by high humidity, precipitation and fog cover as well as warm winters and cool summers. Winter temperatures range from 14 to 27 °F, and summer temperatures vary from 45 to 65 °F. Average annual precipitation is 24 inches, with annual winter snowfall averaging 55 inches.¹⁷ The landscape surrounding the City is characterized by high bluffs to the north and the gently sloping shoreline of Kachemak Bay to the south. The Kenai Mountains are visible in the distance.¹⁸

Protected areas near Homer include Kachemak Bay State Park and Wilderness, the Kachemak Bay State Critical Habitat Area (CHA), and the Kenai Wilderness. Kachemak Bay State Park is Alaska's first and only "wilderness park". A majority of the State Park's 400,000 acres are located on the southern side of Kachemak Bay, along with a small unit on the Bay's northern shore, and its terrain includes mountains, glaciers, forests, and ocean. Visitors to the State Park enjoy fishing, boating, wildlife viewing, kayaking, hiking, camping, and mountain sports.¹⁹ Portions of Kachemak Bay State Park and Wilderness overlap with the Kenai Wilderness, which covers a total of 1,354,247 acres on the Kenai Peninsula.²⁰

Kachemak Bay itself was designated as a State CHA in 1974, and the Fox River Flats at the mouth of the Bay were also designated as a CHA in 1972. The purpose of these CHAs is to "protect and preserve habitat areas especially crucial to the perpetuation of fish and wildlife, and to restrict all other uses not compatible with that primary purpose." Eleven species of marine mammals utilize Kachemak Bay, including sea otters, Steller sea lions, harbor seals, beluga, minke and orca whales, harbor porpoises, and Dall's porpoises, as well as a diversity of marine plants and invertebrates, birds, and fish and shellfish. The Fox River Flats and associated intertidal zone support at least 21 species of terrestrial mammals, including moose, black bear,

¹³ See footnote 9.

¹⁴ City of Homer. (n.d.). *Facts & Figures*. Retrieved October 8, 2012 from <http://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/economicdevelopment/facts-figures>.

¹⁵ City of Homer. 2008. *Comprehensive Plan 2008 (Adopted 2010)*. Retrieved October 8, 2012 from <http://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/planning/comprehensive-plan-2008-adopted-2010>.

¹⁶ See footnote 9.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ See footnote 15.

¹⁹ Alaska Dept. of Natural Resources. 2009. *Kachemak Bay State Park and State Wilderness Park*. Retrieved January 27, 2012 from <http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/units/kbay/kbay.htm>.

²⁰ Anonymous. (n.d.). *Kenai Wilderness*. Retrieved January 26, 2012 from <http://www.wilderness.net>.

brown bear, coyote, wolf, beaver, river otter, and small furbearers.²¹ In addition to their status as CHAs, Kachemak Bay and the Fox River Flats were designated as part of the National Estuarine Research Reserve System in 1999, a network of 28 estuaries around the country representing different biogeographic regions that are used for long-term research, water-quality monitoring, education, and coastal stewardship. It is the only Research Reserve located in the State of Alaska.²²

The shoreline of the Kenai Peninsula along Cook Inlet is located at the edge of the North American Plate, leading to frequent and often devastating earthquakes and volcanic activity in the area. Five active volcanoes are located within the Kenai Peninsula Borough, all situated on the west side of Cook Inlet. They are Fourpeaked, Augustine, Iliamna, Redoubt and Mount Spurr. Major damage can also be caused by secondary earthquake hazards, including landslides, floods, avalanches, tsunamis, uplift, subsidence, infrastructure failures and soil liquefaction.²³ Other natural hazards that have also been identified as threats in the Kenai Peninsula Borough include flooding, wildfires, snow and avalanches, seiches, severe weather, erosion, and drought.²⁴

The Kenai Peninsula and Cook Inlet oil and gas industry is very active, with a number of new wells being drilled each year. As of 2010, there were 28 producing oil and gas fields on and off shore in the area. Oil production has declined from a peak in 1970 of 230,000 barrels per day. In 2010, only 12,000 barrels were produced per day. Cook Inlet natural gas production has also been declining in recent years.²⁵ With respect to oil and gas development, it is important to note that Homer's shoreline was impacted by the 1989 *Exxon Valdez* disaster.²⁶

According to the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, there are no notable active environmental cleanup sites located in Homer as of September 2012.²⁷

Current Economy²⁸

In the 2011 AFSC survey, community leaders indicated that commercial fishing, ecotourism, and sport hunting and fishing are important economic drivers in Homer. Homer is also an important player in fish buying and processing in Alaska. In 2010, Homer ranked 17th in total fisheries landings and 6th in ex-vessel revenue generated from these landings, out of 67 Alaskan communities with landings that year. In the 2011 AFSC survey, community leaders estimated that 50 local Homer residents are employees of shore-side processing plants. In

²¹ Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game. 1993. *Kachemak Bay and Fox River Flats Critical Habitat Areas Management Plan*. Retrieved June 14, 2012 from

http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/lands/protectedareas/_management_plans/kachemak_bay.pdf.

²² National Estuarine Research Reserve System. (n.d.). *Kachemak Bay Research Reserve website*. Retrieved June 15, 2012 from <http://www.nerrs.noaa.gov/Reserve.aspx?ResID=KBA>.

²³ Kenai Peninsula Borough. 2010. *All-Hazard Mitigation Plan*. Retrieved January 26, 2012 from <http://www2.borough.kenai.ak.us/emergency/hazmit/plan.htm>

²⁴ State of Alaska. 2002. *Hazard Mitigation Plan*. Retrieved February 8, 2012 from <http://biotech.law.lsu.edu/blaw/DOD/manual/.%5CFull%20text%20documents%5CState%20Authorities%5CAla.%20SHMP.pdf>.

²⁵ Resource Development Council. (n.d.). *Alaska's Oil and Gas Industry*. Retrieved January 26, 2012 from <http://www.akrdc.org/issues/oilgas/overview.html>.

²⁶ See footnote 15.

²⁷ Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation. 2012. *List of Contaminated Site Summaries By Region*. Retrieved October 9, 2012 from <http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/csp/list.htm>.

²⁸ Unless otherwise noted, all monetary data are reported in nominal values.

addition, it is important to note that Homer has also become a popular retirement community. As mentioned above, in 2010, 23% of the Homer population was age 60 or older.

Based on household surveys conducted for the 2006-2010 ACS,²⁹ in 2010, the per capita income in Homer was estimated to be \$32,035, and the median household income was estimated to be \$52,057. This represents a significant increase from the per capita and median household incomes reported in 2000 (\$21,823 and \$42,823, respectively). If inflation is taken into account by converting the 2000 values to 2010 dollars,³⁰ the increase in per capita income remains slight even (real per capita income was \$28,697 in 2000), while median household income was shown to have decreased slightly (real median household income was \$56,309 in 2000). In 2010, Homer ranked 50th of 305 Alaskan communities with per capita income data, and 115th in median household income, out of 299 Alaskan communities with household income data that year.

However, Homer's small population size may have prevented the ACS from accurately portraying economic conditions.³¹ 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 Homer in 2010 is \$13,140.^{32,33} This estimate is much 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 Homer between 2000 and 2010. Homer did not meet the Denali Commission's 2011 criteria as a "distressed" community.³⁴ It should be noted that both ACS and DOLWD data are based on wage earnings, and these income statistics do not take into account the value of subsistence within the local economy.

Based on the 2006-2010 ACS, in 2010, a slightly smaller percentage of Homer's population was estimated to be in the civilian labor force in 2010 (63.4%) than in the civilian labor force statewide (68.8%). In the same year, 7.9% of Homer residents were estimated to be living below the poverty line in 2010, compared to 9.5% of Alaskan residents overall, and the unemployment rate was estimated to be 5.4%, similar to the statewide unemployment rate of 5.9%. An additional estimate of unemployment is based on the ALARI database, which indicates that the unemployment rate in Homer in 2010 was 9.9%, compared to a statewide unemployment rate estimate of 11.5%.³⁵ Also based on the 2006-2010 ACS, the majority of Homer's workforce was estimated to be employed in the private sector (65.6%), along with 20.2% that were

²⁹ 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>.

³⁰ Inflation was calculated using the Anchorage Consumer Price Index for 2010 (retrieved January 5, 2012 from the Alaska Department of Labor, <http://labor.alaska.gov/research/cpi/inflationcalc.htm>).

³¹ 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.

³² 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/>.

³³ See footnote 29.

³⁴ Denali Commission. 2011. *Distressed Community Criteria 2011 Update*. Retrieved April 16, 2012 from www.denali.gov.

³⁵ See footnote 32.

estimated to be self-employed, 14% in the public sector, and 0.3% estimated to be unpaid family workers.

Of the 2,337 people aged 16 and over that were estimated to be employed in the civilian labor force in Homer, the greatest number of workers were estimated to be employed in educational services, health care, and social assistance industries (22.6%), arts, entertainment, accommodation and food services (12.8%), professional, scientific, management, administration, and waste management (10.4%), transportation, warehousing, and utilities industries (10.2%), retail trade (9.4%), and construction (9.3%). In addition, 6.5% of the civilian labor force was estimated to be employed in agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting, and mining industries in 2010. The distribution of employment by industry was fairly consistent between 2000 and 2010. The most notable shift was an increase in the percentage of the labor force employed in professional, scientific, management, administration, and waste management industries over the decade. This information about employment by industry is presented in Figure 3. It is important to note that the number of individuals employed in the fishing industry may be underestimated in census statistics; fishermen may hold another job and characterize their employment accordingly.

From the perspective of occupation, in 2010, the greatest percentage of Homer’s civilian labor force was employed in the management and professional occupations (33.3%), along with 21.3% employed in service occupations, 18.9% employed in sales and office occupations, 15.5% in natural resource, construction, and maintenance, and 11% employed in production, transportation, and material moving occupations. These percentages remained quite stable between 2000 and 2010 (Figure 4).

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

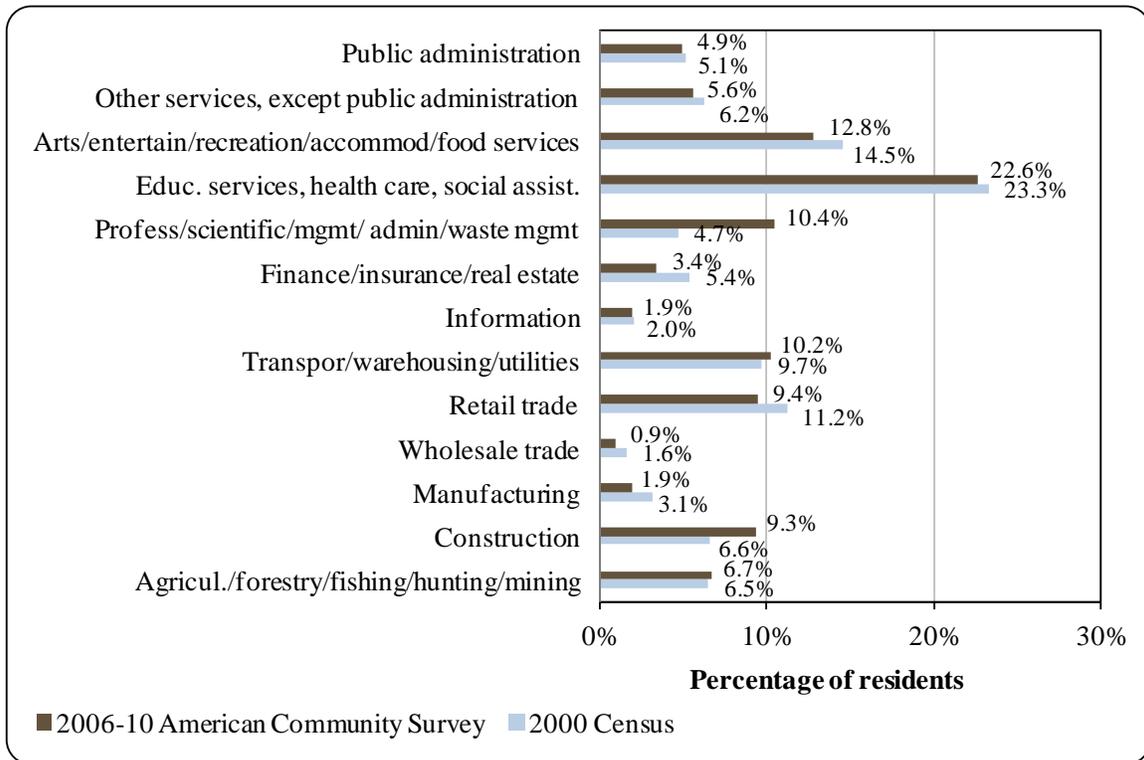
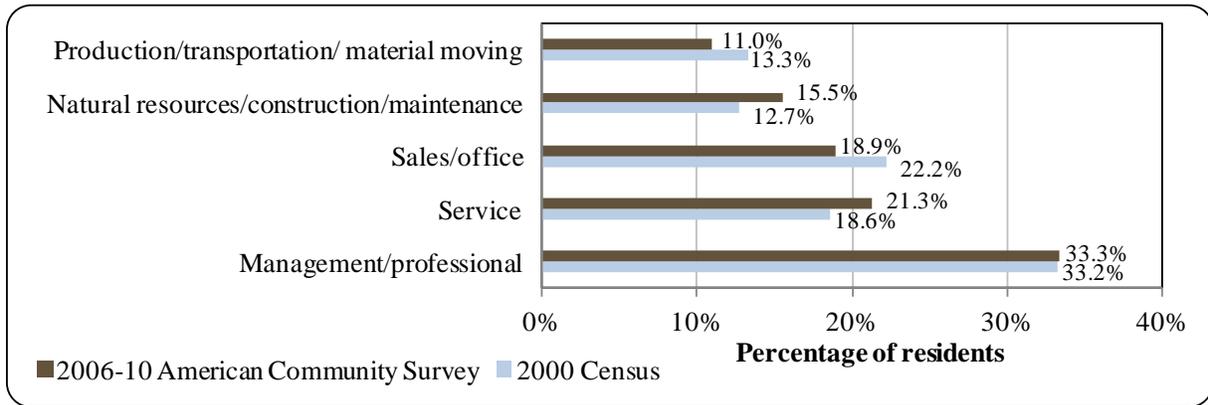


Figure 4. Local Employment by Occupation in 2000-2010, Homer (U.S. Census).



Governance

The City of Homer was incorporated in 1964 and is located within the Kenai Peninsula Borough. Homer is a 1st Class City with a Manager or “Strong Mayor” form of government, with a seven-person city council that includes the Mayor, a nine-person school board, a seven-person planning commission, and several municipal employees. The City collects a 4.5% sales tax and the Borough administers an additional 3% sales tax. Together, the City and Borough collect a combined 11.3 mills property tax.³⁶

In addition to sales and property tax revenues, during the 2000-2010 period, governmental revenues came from licenses and permits, interest, fines and forfeitures, charges for services, and intergovernmental funding sources such as shared revenues and capital/special project grants. Annual municipal revenue in Homer followed an increasing trend over the last decade, rising from \$7,176,000 in 2000 to \$18,737,135 in 2010. Part of this increase can be attributed to an increase in total sales tax revenues over the period. Sources of shared funds included state funds from the State Revenue Sharing program (between \$50,000 and \$65,000 per year from 2000 to 2003) and the Community Revenue Sharing program (\$370,000 per year in 2009 and 2010), as well as shared funds from the SAFE Communities program (public safety, fire, utilities, and infrastructure projects) and the Utility cooperative. In addition, Homer received several fisheries-related grants during the 2000-2010 period. In 2000, the U.S. Economic Development Administration granted Homer \$1,300,000 toward dock demolition and new pilings, the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority granted \$200,000 for boat storage and warehouse, and the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development’s Division of Community and Rural Affairs (DCRA) provided \$35,069 toward repair of the walking surfaces of harbor ramps 4 and 7. In 2003, \$219,375 was received from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for 2003-2004 maintenance harbor dredging. In 2007, the DCRA granted Homer \$10,000 for stocking of smolt in Nick Dudiak Fishing Lagoon. Finally, in 2010, the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities granted \$1,813,000 toward a feasibility study for an Intermodal Deep Water Dock facility in Homer. An overview of selected revenue streams for Homer from 2000 to 2010 is provided in Table 2.

³⁶ Alaska Department of Community and Rural Affairs. (n.d.). *Community Database Online*. Retrieved October 17, 2011 from http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF_BLOCK.htm.

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

Year	Total Municipal Revenue ¹	Sales Tax Revenue ²	State/Community Revenue Sharing ^{3,4}	Fisheries-Related Grants (State and Federal) ⁵
2000	\$7,176,000	\$1,975,109	\$62,477	\$1,535,069
2001	\$7,230,316	\$2,069,920	\$57,039	n/a
2002	\$9,129,077	\$3,243,410	\$53,700	n/a
2003	\$9,034,168	\$3,506,170	\$64,060	\$219,375
2004	\$10,138,928	\$3,737,944	n/a	n/a
2005	\$14,762,482	\$5,119,528	n/a	n/a
2006	\$13,577,487	\$5,670,638	n/a	n/a
2007	\$13,362,590	\$6,173,478	n/a	\$10,000
2008	\$14,449,673	\$6,334,758	n/a	n/a
2009	\$14,207,837	\$5,361,109	\$370,967	n/a
2010	\$18,737,135	\$6,613,640	\$374,392	\$1,813,000

¹ Alaska Dept. of Comm. and Rural Affairs. (n.d.). *Financial Documents Delivery System*.

Retrieved April 15, 2011 from http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dkra/commfin/CF_FinRec.cfm.

² 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.

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

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

⁵ 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.

Homer was not included under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) and is not federally recognized as a Native village.³⁷ The closest offices of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) are located in Homer. The closest offices of the DCCED and the U.S. Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services are located in Anchorage.

Infrastructure

Connectivity and Transportation

Homer is accessible by road, air, and water. The City is often referred to as “The End of the Road” because it is the terminus of the Sterling Highway. Anchorage is located 222 road miles to the north. The state owns and operates the Homer Airport, with a 6,701 feet long by 150 feet wide asphalt runway, as well as a floatplane basin and seaplane base at adjacent Beluga Lake. The City is served by scheduled and chartered aircraft services.³⁸ As of early June 2012,

³⁷ Ibid.

³⁸ Ibid.

roundtrip airfare between Homer and Anchorage was \$239.³⁹ There are also additional private landing strips in the vicinity.⁴⁰

The Homer Spit hosts a variety of port facilities. The Pioneer Dock serves as Homer's Alaska Marine Highway ferry terminal, and also the Coast Guard dock.⁴¹ As of summer 2012, a one-way adult passenger fare on the Alaska State ferry from Homer to Juneau was \$380, and \$706 one-way to Bellingham.⁴² In addition to the ferry terminal, Homer's deep-water dock and harbor are located on the spit. The deep water dock can accommodate vessels with 30-foot draft of up to 340 feet in length, and the boat harbor hosts a marina with moorage for up to 920 vessels as well as a fish dock. Currently, the deep water dock is used as a disembarkation point for cruise ships. The City of Homer has identified expansion of the deep water dock and the harbor as priority development projects.⁴³ Additional marine facilities on the spit include a 4-lane boat launch ramp.⁴⁴

Facilities

Water in Homer is sourced from a dam and 35-acre reservoir at Bridge Creek. Water is filtered and chlorinated and stored in a 500,000-gallon tank before entering the City-operated piped water system. This system provides 2 million gallons of water per day to the City. Those households not connected to the piped water system use individual wells or have water delivered to home tanks. The City also operates a piped sewage system, which directs sewage to a deep shaft sewer treatment plant with a capacity of 880,000 gallons per day. Some individual septic tanks are also in use in Homer.⁴⁵ According to the 2011 AFSC survey, community leaders indicated that improvements to water and sewer pipelines are currently in progress, and a sewage treatment plan upgrade is scheduled to be completed within the next 10 years. Peninsula Sanitation, a private firm, provides refuse collection services locally. Trash is hauled to the Borough-operated landfill and balefill located in Homer. The Homer Electric Association, Inc. provides electricity, which comes from several sources. Homer Electric operates the Bradley Lake Hydroelectric Plant, is part-owner of Alaska Electric Generation & Transmission Cooperative, which operates a gas turbine plant in Soldotna, and also purchased additional electricity from Chugach Electric.⁴⁶ According to the 2011 AFSC survey, community leaders indicated that a natural gas pipeline was scheduled to be completed in 2012.

Police services are provided by the City Police Department and a state troopers post located in Homer. A State District Court and State Jail are also located there. Fire and rescue services are provided by the City Fire Department, the Homer Volunteer Fire Department, the Eastland Volunteer Fire Department, and the City Search and Rescue team.⁴⁷ In the 2011 AFSC survey, community leaders reported that an additional satellite fire department is slated to be

³⁹ This price was calculated on November 21, 2011 using kayak.com.

⁴⁰ See footnote 36.

⁴¹ City of Homer. 2011. *Homer Spit Comprehensive Plan*. Retrieved October 10, 2012 from <http://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/planning/spit-comprehensive-plan-2011>

⁴² Prices retrieved March 7, 2012 from <http://www.dot.state.ak.us/amhs/doc/fares/XGTariffs.pdf>.

⁴³ See footnote 41.

⁴⁴ Alaska Department of Community and Rural Affairs. (n.d.). *Community Database Online*. Retrieved October 17, 2011 from http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF_BLOCK.htm.

⁴⁵ Ibid.

⁴⁶ Ibid.

⁴⁷ Ibid.

built by 2013. Additional community facilities in Homer include a variety of libraries (one public, one academic, and five school libraries), a movie theater, the Pratt Museum, the Alaska Islands and Ocean Visitor Center, a fitness center and high school pool, and a boys and girls club. Telephone, internet, and cable services are all provided locally.⁴⁸

In the 2011 AFSC survey, community leaders reported that a variety of social services are provided locally, including a food bank, job placement services, publicly subsidized housing, mental/behavioral services, and a women's shelter. Senior services are provided by Homer Senior Center, the Friendship Center Adult Day Care, Friendship Terrace Assisted Living, Senior Housing, and Homer Senior Citizens, Inc.⁴⁹

With regard to fisheries-related infrastructure, community leaders reported in the 2011 AFSC survey that 29,228 feet of dock space is available for permanent vessel moorage, as well as 6,000 feet of dock space for transient vessel moorage. They indicated that vessels of up to 170 feet in length can use moorage within the Homer boat harbor, and that boats up to 800 feet in length can use outside docking facilities. They reported that the Port of Homer is capable of handling all types of regulated vessels, including the U.S. Coast Guard, cruise ships, ferries, fuel barges, and HAZMAT vessels. In the survey, community leaders indicated that new dock space was constructed in 2002, a fish cleaning station was added in 2006, and upgrades to roads serving dock space were completed in 2009. Current developments include improvements to electricity and water serving dock facilities and addition of new pilings. By 2014, they indicated that a new barge landing area will be finished. By 2017, a variety of projects are expected to be completed, including improvements to the existing dock structure, improvements to haul out facilities, and an Environmental Protection Agency-certified boat cleaning station.

Community leaders also reported that a full range of fisheries-related services are available in Homer. These include fish processing plants and cold storage facilities, fishing gear manufacture, sales, repair, and storage, boat repair services (electrical, welding, mechanical, machine shop, and hydraulics), marine refrigeration, sales of boat fuel, ice, bait, and tackle, haul-out facilities and tidal grids for small boats (less than 60 tons) and large boats (more than 60 tons), dry dock storage, commercial and recreational vessel moorage, fishing-related attorneys and bookkeeping, and fish lodges.

Medical Services

Medical services are provided at several facilities in Homer, including the Homer Medical Clinic, the Kachemak Bay Medical Clinic, the Seldovia Village Tribe Health Center, and the South Peninsula Hospital. The hospital is a qualified Acute Care facility.⁵⁰ In addition to acute care, the South Peninsula Hospital offers long-term care, a birthing center, laboratory and imaging services, rehabilitation services, surgery, orthopedics, a sleep center, and other specialty services.⁵¹ Homer also has a mental health center. Emergency Services have highway, marine, airport, and floatplane access. Emergency service is provided by 911 Telephone Service and volunteers.⁵²

⁴⁸ Ibid.

⁴⁹ Ibid.

⁵⁰ Ibid.

⁵¹ South Peninsula Hospital. 2010. *Homepage*. Retrieved October 9, 2012 from <http://www.sphosp.com/joomla2/home>.

⁵² See footnote 44.

Educational Opportunities

There are eight schools in Homer, all of which are part of the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District. One school – the Razdolna School – provides a preschool through 12th grade education. As of 2011, the Razdolna School had 63 students and 10 teachers. Two additional schools provide high school education. As of 2011, Homer High School had 399 students and 29 teachers and Homer Flex School had 27 students and 4 teachers. Homer Middle School instructs 7th and 8th grade students, and had 227 students and 17 teachers in 2011. The remaining four schools offer some combination of elementary and intermediate education, including McNeil Canyon Elementary (Kindergarten through 6th grade, 119 students and 12 teachers in 2011), Paul Banks Elementary School (preschool through 2nd grade, 188 students and 17 teachers in 2011), Fireweed Academy (3rd through 6th grade, 116 students and 7 teachers in 2011), and West Homer Elementary School (3rd through 6th grade, 242 students and 20 teachers in 2011).⁵³

In addition to K-12 education, the Kachemak Bay branch of Kenai Peninsula College, University of Alaska, Anchorage is located in Homer. The campus offers continuing and professional development, elder hostel and environmental education programs, adult basic education, family literacy and GED programs, youth job training, career planning and development services, and academic advising.⁵⁴

Involvement in North Pacific Fisheries

History and Evolution of Fisheries

Homer is located in the traditional territory of the Kenaitze people, a branch of Athabascan Native Americans. Historically, the Kenaitze had summer fish camps along the rivers and shores of Cook Inlet. They harvested all five salmon species using dip nets, weirs, dams, and fish traps.⁵⁵ Commercial fisheries began to develop in the Cook Inlet area soon after the United States purchased Alaska from Russia in 1867. Salmon and herring were two of the earliest commercial fisheries in Alaska, during the period when the product was salted for storing and shipment.⁵⁶ The first Cook Inlet salmon cannery was built in 1882 at the mouth of the Kasilof River, in English Bay. An additional 17 canneries had been built in central Alaska by 1890.⁵⁷ Commercial exploitation of halibut and groundfish first extended into the Gulf of Alaska

⁵³ Alaska Department of Education and Early Development. (2012). *Statistics and Reports*. Retrieved April 24, 2012 from <http://eed.alaska.gov/stats/>.

⁵⁴ Partners on the Peninsula website. (n.d.). *Kachemak Bay Campus – Kenai Peninsula College – UAA*. Retrieved October 10, 2012 from <http://pop411.org/category-listings/educationtraining/kachemak-bay-campus-kenai-peninsula-college-uaa.html>.

⁵⁵ Kenaitze Indian Tribe. (n.d.). *Home Page: Raven's People*. Retrieved January 24, 2012 from <http://www.kenaitze-nsn.gov/RavensPeople.html>.

⁵⁶ 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>.

⁵⁷ Clark, McGregor, Mecum, Krasnowski, and Carroll. 2006. "The Commercial Salmon Fishery in Alaska." *Alaska Fisheries Research Bulletin* 12(1):1-146. Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game. Retrieved January 4, 2012 from <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/home/library/PDFs/afrb/clarv12n1.pdf>.

(GOA) in the 1920s after development of diesel engines, which allowed fishing vessels to undertake longer trips.⁵⁸ Commercial crab fisheries began to develop in the GOA in the 1930s.⁵⁹

The community of Homer initially developed as a result of coal mining activity. Commercial fishing did not develop into a primary industry in the community until the late 1950s, when adequate docking facilities were constructed.⁶⁰ Prior to this time, small processing facilities had opened and closed on Homer Spit. The first year-round processing facility in Homer (Alaskan Seafoods) was built in 1954 by Gene Browning. Alaskan Seafoods specialized in frozen king crab and shrimp.⁶¹ In 1964, several crab processors were active in Homer, including Homer Brand Seafoods, Inc., which processed Dungeness crab, and Pacific Alaska Seafoods, which processed both Dungeness and king crab.⁶²

Until the early 1960s, Seldovia had served as a regional center for seafood processing and fishing activity. However, after the Good Friday earthquake of 1964 destroyed Seldovia's waterfront, Homer began to take over this role.⁶³ In 1976, Icicle Seafoods, Inc. built its Homer processing plant, which processed crab, shrimp, halibut, sablefish, herring, and salmon. By the mid-1980s, the Icicle facility reduced operations to approximately six months per year, and focused on salmon and herring processing until the plant burned down in 1998. As of 2012, Icicle Seafoods, Inc. still maintained a fish buying station in Homer, and purchases a large portion of halibut and sablefish delivered to the Homer dock.⁶⁴ See the *Processing Plants* section of this profile for information about current processing facilities in Homer.

In recent decades, charter fishing has grown as an industry in Homer, with focus on halibut and salmon. As the charter industry grew in the late 1980s and early 1990s, conflicts arose between the charter halibut industry and commercial halibut interests regarding allocation of the halibut resource.⁶⁵ Due to these allocation concerns, as well as localized overfishing of the resource, the Alaska Board of Fish (BOF) and North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) began discussing a moratorium on new charter licenses in Southeast and Southcentral Alaska in the 1990s.⁶⁶ In 2007, the NPFMC approved a motion to implement a limited entry program for halibut charter fleets in Areas 2C and 3A (Southeast and Southcentral Alaska) and a daily halibut bag limit for each charter vessel angler of two halibut of any size per day per

⁵⁸ Thompson, W. F. and N. 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>.

⁵⁹ See footnote 56.

⁶⁰ Reed, C., E. 1985. The Role of Wild Resource Use in Communities of the Central Kenai Peninsula and Kachemak Bay, Alaska. Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game, Division of Subsistence. Technical Paper No. 106. Retrieved October 8, 2012 from <http://www.subsistence.adfg.state.ak.us/TechPap/tp106.pdf>.

⁶¹ Klein, J. 2000. *Historical Perspectives: Commercial Fishing*. Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game. Retrieved October 9, 2012 from <http://svp.soic.indiana.edu/svp/4970813/FID1/html/human/histuse/histfish.htm>.

⁶² State of Alaska, Dept. of Fish and Game. 1966. *1964 Alaska Commercial Fishery Operators. Statistical Leaflet No. 8*. Retrieved October 9, 2012 from <http://www.sf.adfg.state.ak.us/FedAidPDFs/CSL.08.pdf>.

⁶³ City of Homer. 2008. *Comprehensive Plan 2008 (Adopted 2010)*. Retrieved October 8, 2012 from <http://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/planning/comprehensive-plan-2008-adopted-2010>.

⁶⁴ Icicle Seafoods, Inc. website. (n.d.). *Homer: About*. Retrieved October 8, 2012 from <http://www.icicleseafoods.com/locations/hom/about.aspx>.

⁶⁵ Meyer, S. October 2010. "Changes Coming for Alaska's Charter Halibut Fishery." Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game website. Retrieved October 8, 2012 from http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?ADFG=wildlifeneews.view_article&articles_id=482&issue_id=91.

⁶⁶ Dean, M. R. and A. L. Howe. 1999. *Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game Sportfishing Guide and Business Registration and Saltwater Sportfishing Charter Vessel Logbook Program, 1998*. ADF&G Special Publication No. 99-1. Retrieved May 2, 2012 from <http://www.sf.adfg.state.ak.us/fedaidpdfs/Sp99-01.pdf>.

person.^{67,68} Allocation decisions between the charter halibut industry and commercial halibut interests remain extremely controversial.⁶⁹

Homer is located in the Lower Cook Inlet state fishery management area, Federal Statistical and Reporting Area 630, Pacific Halibut Fishery Regulatory Area 3A, and the Central GOA federal Sablefish Regulatory Area. ADF&G manages Cook Inlet salmon, herring, and Dungeness crab fisheries. The Lower Cook Inlet management area is divided into the Southern, Outer, Eastern, and Kamishak Bay fishing districts. Upper Cook Inlet is divided into the Central and Northern fishing districts. With regard to salmon fisheries, set gillnet is the only gear allowed in the Northern District, while set and drift gillnet and purse seine gear use is permitted in the Central District. However, salmon seine gear use is limited to the Chinita Bay sub-district, which is open only sporadically. Purse seine gear is used throughout the Lower Cook Inlet management area, and set gillnets are limited to the Kachemak Bay sub-district.⁷⁰ Historically, a sizable spawning biomass of herring was found in western Cook Inlet, and Lower Cook Inlet also supported commercial fisheries for Dungeness, king, and Tanner crab. However, most Cook Inlet crab and herring fisheries are currently closed due to low stock abundance.^{71,72} Minor commercial fisheries for Tanner and Dungeness crab take place in several areas of western Cook Inlet,⁷³ and if a sufficient biomass of herring is present in the Kamishak District, some sac roe harvest may be permitted.⁷⁴

Groundfish and crab fisheries that occur more than 3 nautical miles (nm) off in the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) are under federal jurisdiction. In addition to federal groundfish fisheries that take place in the GOA, state groundfish fisheries take place in the inland and near-coastal waters of Cook Inlet for Pacific cod, sablefish, and rockfish. The Cook Inlet Pacific cod fishery is managed as a parallel fishery, which takes place at the same time as the federal Pacific cod fishery. The Total Allowable Catch (TAC) set by NMFS applied to both fisheries. Beginning in 1997, an additional ‘state-waters fishery’ for Pacific cod was initiated in Cook Inlet. Management plans for state-waters fisheries are approved by the Alaska Board of Fish, and guideline harvest limits (GHL) are set by ADF&G. Typically, state-waters fisheries are opened once federal and parallel fisheries close. In addition to Pacific cod fisheries, a Cook Inlet open access sablefish fishery is managed by ADF&G under a GHL, and the State also manages directed mechanical jig fisheries for lingcod and rockfish in Cook Inlet.⁷⁵

⁶⁷ North Pacific Fishery Management Council. April 2007. *News and Notes* Volume 2-07. Retrieved May 2, 2012 from <http://www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/npfmc/PDFdocuments/newsletters/NEWS407.pdf>.

⁶⁸ Federal Register. March 22, 2012. Dept. of Commerce, NOAA, 50 CFR Part 300, Pacific Halibut Fisheries; Catch Sharing Plan. Retrieved May 2, 2012 from <http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/frules/77fr16740.pdf>.

⁶⁹ See footnote 65.

⁷⁰ Clark, McGregor, Mecum, Krasnowski, and Carroll. 2006. “The Commercial Salmon Fishery in Alaska.” *Alaska Fisheries Research Bulletin* 12(1):1-146. Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game. Retrieved January 4, 2012 from <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/home/library/PDFs/afrb/clarv12n1.pdf>.

⁷¹ 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>.

⁷² Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game. 2012. *Commercial Fisheries Overview: Lower Cook Inlet Management Area*. Retrieved June 19, 2012 from <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?ADFG=commercialbyarealci.main>.

⁷³ Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game. 2012. *Northern Cook Inlet Management Area*. Retrieved October 9, 2012 from <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?ADFG=ByAreaSouthcentralNorthCookInlet.main>.

⁷⁴ Hollowell, G., T. Otis., and E. Ford. July 2012. *2011 Lower Cook Inlet Finfish Management Report*. Retrieved September 7, 2012 from <http://www.sf.adfg.state.ak.us/FedAidPDFs/FMR12-30.pdf>.

⁷⁵ See footnote 71.

Pacific halibut fisheries are managed under the International Pacific Halibut Commission, and federal sablefish fisheries are managed by NMFS. In 1995, management of Alaskan halibut and federal sablefish fisheries shifted from limited entry to a system of Individual Fishing Quotas (IFQ). Motivations for the shift included overcapitalization, short seasons, and the derby-style fishery that led to loss of product quality and safety concerns. As a result of program implementation, the number of shareholders and total vessels participating in the halibut and sablefish fisheries declined substantially, and product quality has improved. This shift to catch shares has been controversial, raising concerns about equity of catch share allocation, reduced crew employment needs, and loss of quota from coastal communities to outside investors.⁷⁶

According to a survey conducted by the AFSC in 2011, community leaders noted the following challenges facing the local fishing economy: 1) fuel prices that are causing high inflation, 2) state-run loan programs that drive up the price of permits, and 3) difficulty responding to shifts in fishery regulations such as the shift to catch share management, changing Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) allotments, and changes to fishing area boundaries. For example, one community leader pointed to a 2010-2011 boundary change in the cod fishery that had a large impact on Homer's cod fleet coast-wide. When asked to describe the effect of fisheries policies or management actions on Homer, one community leader expressed the view that allocation of fishing rights to one group over another group creates a 'class system', disrupts the natural competitive balance of business, and leads to a dynamic of large corporation-owned business at odds with the small town businesses that support Alaskan communities. The same community leader indicated that potential future management actions of concern in Homer include further regulation of the halibut charter fleet in Kachemak Bay and changes in groundfish IFQ allotments.

Homer is not eligible to participate in the Community Quota Entity program or the Community Development Quota program.

Processing Plants

According to ADF&G's 2010 Intent to Operate list, a number of processing facilities were located in Homer that year, including Auction Block Company, Coal Point Seafood Company, Fish Factory LLC, Homer Fish Processing, Kachemak Bay Seafoods, and the Kachemak Shellfish Growers Coop, Inc. More information about each of these facilities is provided below. It is important to note that, based on data reported by NMFS in Alaska processors' Weekly Production Reports, the total number of shore-side processing facilities in Homer declined from 12 in 2000 to 5 in 2010 (Table 5).

The Auction Block Co. has been buying and selling seafood in Homer since 1997, and in 2010 opened a 5,600 square foot processing facility to offer additional value-added products to their wholesaler and distributor customers. Auction Block handles halibut, lingcod, yelloweye rockfish, sockeye and coho salmon, sablefish, king crab, sidestripe shrimp, Pacific cod, scallops, and more.⁷⁷ According to a survey of plant managers conducted by the AFSC in 2011, the

⁷⁶ Fina, M. 2011. "Evolution of Catch Share Management: Lessons from Catch Share Management in the North Pacific." *Fisheries*, Vol. 36(4). Retrieved September 12, 2012 from http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/npfmc/PDFdocuments/catch_shares/Fina_CatchShare_411.pdf.

⁷⁷ The Auction Block Co. (n.d.). *Homepage and Processing Plant*. Retrieved October 9, 2012 from <http://www.auctionblockseafood.com/>.

Auction Block Co. plant employs a maximum of 28 workers each year, and has relied on J-1 workers from Ukraine during recent summer seasons.⁷⁸

Coal Point Seafood co. is located on the docks of the Homer Harbor. According to the 2011 AFSC survey of plant managers, Coal Point Seafoods began its Homer operations in 1992. The company buys directly from fishermen, and sells a wide variety of Alaskan seafood online, including salmon, halibut, rockfish, sablefish, razor clams, oysters, shrimp, and king, Tanner, and Dungeness crab. Coal Point also offers value-added products such as smoked fish and salmon burgers. The facility also offers custom processing for sport fishermen.⁷⁹ The 2011 AFSC plant manager survey found that the Coal Point Seafood plant employed a maximum of 80 workers and provided housing for a maximum of 10 workers from May to August. In addition, a maximum of 40 workers received company-provided meals from June through September.⁸⁰

The Fish Factory LLC operates a seafood processing facility in Homer. This facility is located on the Homer spit.⁸¹ According to the 2011 AFSC survey of plant managers, the facility began operations in 2000, and in 2010 employed a maximum of 40 workers. In addition, the Fish Factory provided lunch to employees during busy workdays.⁸²

According to the 2010 Intent to Operate list, two separate companies were registered under the name “Homer Fish Processing.” One company, with processor code F8488, is Wild Kenai Salmon. This company purchases sockeye salmon from a partner company in Naknek called Naknek Family Fisheries. The sockeye are caught using set gillnets, and are shipped to Homer for processing in the company’s Homer processing facility, known as “A Fisherman’s Resort”. The official port location code for this company was Anchorage, despite the use of a processing facility located in Homer.⁸³

The second company registered under the name of Homer Fish Processing had processor code F8553, and a port location code of Homer. Homer Fish Processing also uses the processing facility at “A Fisherman’s Resort” to process halibut, salmon, scallops, king crab, and lingcod.⁸⁴ According to the 2011 AFSC survey of plant managers, the company provides custom processing to the charter industry, and employs a maximum of 20 workers each year, especially from June through August. The survey also found that the company provides living accommodations to summer employees.⁸⁵

Finally, according to the 2011 AFSC survey of plant managers, since 1992, Kachemak Bay Seafoods has operated a small seafood processing facility in Homer, with a maximum of 2-4 employees each year. In addition, results of the plant manager survey indicate that the Kachemak

⁷⁸ This information is based on the results of a survey of processing plant managers conducted by the Alaska Fisheries Science Center in 2011.

⁷⁹ Coal Point Seafood Company. 1999. *Home, Seafood Selection, and Custom Processing*. Retrieved October 9, 2012 from http://www.welovefish.com/alaska_seafood.htm.

⁸⁰ This information is based on the results of a survey of processing plant managers conducted by the Alaska Fisheries Science Center in 2011.

⁸¹ The Fish Factory. (n.d.). *Address*. Retrieved October 9, 2012 from <http://www.thefishfactory.net/>.

⁸² This information is based on the results of a survey of processing plant managers conducted by the Alaska Fisheries Science Center in 2011.

⁸³ Wild Kenai Red Salmon. 2009. *Home, Our Story, Our Fish, and Contact*. Retrieved October 9, 2012 from <http://wildkenaisalmon.com/>.

⁸⁴ Homer Fish Processing. 2012. *Homepage*. Retrieved October 9, 2012 from <http://www.myalaskafish.com/>.

⁸⁵ This information is based on the results of a survey of processing plant managers conducted by the Alaska Fisheries Science Center in 2011.

Shellfish Growers Coop Inc. began operations via the Kachemak Shellfish Mariculture Association (KSMA) in 1996, employing a maximum of six workers per year.⁸⁶

Fisheries-Related Revenue

In 2010, the City of Homer received \$2,118,636 from fisheries-related taxes and fees. Revenue sources include the Shared Fisheries Business Tax, fees for harbor and port/dock usage, as well as leasing of public land to members of the fishing industry, and seafood, fuel, and other wharfage fees. Table 3 presents details of selected aspects of community finances between 2000 and 2010.⁸⁷

In a survey conducted by the AFSC in 2011, community leaders indicated that harbor maintenance is at least partially funded by these fisheries-related revenue sources. They indicated that harbor fees support the Harbor Enterprise Fund, which in turn covers harbor operation costs.

Commercial Fishing

Homer residents are highly involved in a majority of state and federal commercial fisheries in Alaska, including salmon, halibut, crab, groundfish (lingcod, rockfish, Pacific cod, sablefish), herring, and “other shellfish”. They were active in these fisheries as permit and quota share account holders, crew license holders, and vessel owners. In addition, the community of Homer is one of the leading processing communities in Alaska, ranking 17th in landings and 6th in ex-vessel revenue out of 67 Alaskan ports that received landings in 2010. The higher ranking in terms of ex-vessel value compared to overall landings volume can be partly attributed to the high proportion of lucrative halibut landed in Homer relative to other species. Homer is one of the leading ports for halibut deliveries in Alaska, and the community has been called, “The Halibut Capital of the World”.⁸⁸ In 2010, 27 fish buyers were present locally, and 5 shore-side processing facilities were in operation. In total, 23,546,436 net pounds were landed by Homer fish buyers in 2010, generating a total of \$69,076,590 in ex-vessel revenue (Table 5).

In 2010, 647 commercial crew licenses were held and 505 vessels were primarily owned by Homer residents. Both of these numbers represent declines from the year 2000, when 751 crew licenses were held and 576 vessels were primarily owned by residents. Also in 2010, 483 vessels were listed as homeported in Homer, and 286 vessels delivered catches in town. This information about the commercial fishing sector in Homer is presented in Table 5. According to a survey conducted by the AFSC in 2011, community leaders reported that a wide range of fishing vessel sizes and types use Homer as a base of fishing operations. Fishing vessels range in size from under 35 feet to over 125 feet in length, and use longline, gillnet, purse seine, troll, pot, and jig gear. Community leaders did not note a substantial shift in the number of fishing vessels present in Homer over the past 5 years.

In 2010, 646 Homer residents held a total of 1,113 state Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) permits. Of these, 540 were held for salmon fisheries, 186 were held for

⁸⁶ Ibid.

⁸⁷ 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.

⁸⁸ City of Homer. (n.d.). *Snapshot of Homer*. Retrieved October 10, 2012 from <http://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/community/snapshot-homer>.

halibut, 123 were held for groundfish, 122 for herring, 63 for sablefish, 56 for crab, and 23 were held for “other shellfish”. Information about CFEC permits is presented in Table 4, and further details regarding these permits are presented below.

Of 540 salmon CFEC permits, 335 were held in drift gillnet fisheries (142 for Cook Inlet, 94 in Bristol Bay, 70 in Prince William Sound, and 29 in the Peninsula-Aleutian gillnet fishery), 58 were held in set gillnet fisheries (25 in Cook Inlet, 25 in Bristol Bay, 3 in Prince William Sound, 3 in Kodiak, and 2 in the Peninsula-Aleutian management area), 130 were held in purse seine fisheries (42 in Prince William Sound, 41 in Cook Inlet, 32 in Kodiak, 6 in Southeast, 5 in Chignik, and 4 in Peninsula-Aleutians), 6 permits were held in the statewide power gurdy troll fishery, 5 in the statewide hand troll fishery, 3 in the Lower Yukon gillnet fishery, 1 in the Kotzebue gillnet fishery, and 3 in the Kodiak beach seine fishery. Of all regions and permit types, the greatest percentages of actively fished permits were in the Prince William Sound set gillnet fishery (100% actively fished in 2010), Kodiak set gillnet (100%), Prince William Sound drift gillnet (98.6%), Peninsula-Aleutians drift gillnet (93.1%), Bristol Bay drift gillnet (81.2%), and Bristol Bay set gillnet (76%). Overall, 67% of salmon permits held in Homer were actively fished in 2010. The number of salmon permit holders and the total salmon permits held increased substantially between 2000 and 2010, while the overall percentage actively fished remained relatively stable over the period.

Of 186 halibut CFEC permits, a majority (166) was held in the statewide longline fishery using vessels under 60 feet in length, while 7 were held for the statewide longline fishery for vessels 60 feet or over, 7 were held in the statewide mechanical jig fishery, and 6 were held for statewide hand troll. Overall, 85% were actively fished in 2010. Both the number of halibut permits held and the number of permit holders decreased slightly between 2000 and 2010, while the percentage of permits actively fished remained relatively stable over the period.

The number of groundfish CFEC permits held by Homer residents decreased by over 50% between 2000 and 2010, and the total number of permit holders also decreased by 43% over this period. Of 123 groundfish CFEC permits held in 2010, a majority (109) were held in miscellaneous saltwater finfish fisheries (including Pacific cod and pollock). Most of these permits were associated with longline gear, while some were also associated with mechanical jig, pot gear, hand troll, and otter trawl gear types. In addition, 13 groundfish permits were held in statewide lingcod fisheries, including 7 associated with mechanical jig gear, 3 with hand troll, and 3 with longline gear. Finally one groundfish permit was held in the Southeast Alaska demersal shelf rockfish fishery, for use on a longline vessel under 60 feet in length. In 2010, 56% of all state groundfish permits held by Homer residents were actively fished, a slight increase from 41% of all permits held in 2000.

Of 122 total herring CFEC permits, the greatest numbers were held in purse seine fisheries, including 23 held in the Cook Inlet herring roe and bait fishery, 19 held in the Prince William Sound roe herring fishery, and 16 in the Peninsula-Aleutians roe herring fishery, as well as several each in the Bristol Bay and Southeastern roe herring purse seine fisheries. In addition, 15 permits were held in the Prince William Sound herring spawn on kelp hand-picking fishery and 12 were held in the Kodiak roe herring gillnet fishery, while one or more permits were held in each of the following herring fisheries: Bristol Bay spawn on kelp hand-picking fishery, Norton Sound, Nunivak Island, and Nelson Island herring gillnet fisheries, Security Cove and Bristol Bay roe herring gillnet fisheries, and the Peninsula-Aleutians herring for bait/food purse seine fishery. Of these, 100% of Bristol Bay and Southeast purse seine permits were actively fished in 2010, 100% of Bristol Bay roe herring gillnet permits were actively fished, and the

Peninsula-Aleutians herring for food/bait purse seine permit was actively fished. No herring permits were actively fished in Prince William Sound or Cook Inlet herring fisheries in 2010. The number of Homer residents holding herring permits decreased between 2000 and 2010, as did the total number of permits held. The overall percentage of permits that were actively fished remained relatively stable over the period.

Of the 63 sablefish CFEC permits held in 2010, a majority (53) were held for the statewide fishery (not including Prince William Sound or Southeast Alaska) using longline gear on vessels under 60 feet in length. In addition, one longline permit was held for the Northern Southeast sablefish fishery, one longline permit was held for use statewide, and eight permits were held for the Prince William Sound fixed gear sablefish fishery. Overall, 87% of sablefish permits were actively fished in 2010. The number of Homer permit holders decreased by 17% and the number of permits held decreased by 23% between 2000 and 2010, while the percentage of permits actively fished increased slightly over time.

Of 56 crab CFEC permits held in 2010, a majority were held in the Cook Inlet Dungeness crab fishery (37), although none of these permits were actively fished in 2010. Homer residents also held king crab permits in Bering Sea and Bristol Bay fisheries, Tanner crab permits in Kodiak, Bering Sea, and Peninsula-Aleutians management areas, and a Korean hair crab permit in the Bering Sea. In 2010, 100% of king crab permits were actively fished (4 held in the Bristol Bay fishery, 1 held in the Bering Sea fishery), 5 of 13 Tanner crab permits were actively fished, and the Korean hair crab permit was not active that year. Overall, 18% of state crab permits were actively fished by Homer residents in 2010. The number of crab permits holders remained relatively stable between 2000 and 2010, while the total number of permits held decreased by more than 25%. Between 2000 and 2010, all state crab permits held in Homer were associated with pot gear.

“Other shellfish” CFEC permits were held for shrimp, sea cucumber, and octopi/squid fisheries in 2010. The greatest number (16) was held for Prince William Sound shrimp pot gear fisheries. In addition, five permits were held for the Kodiak sea cucumber dive fishery, one for the Southeast sea cucumber dive fishery, and one for the statewide octopi/squid pot gear fishery. Only two of the shrimp permits were actively fished that year, while all of the sea cucumber and octopi/squid permits were actively fished. It is important to note that, earlier in the 2000-2010 period, “other shellfish” permits were also held in the statewide clam shovel fishery (held from 2000 to 2007), the statewide sea urchin dive fishery excluding southeast (2000 and 2001), the statewide scallop dredge fishery (2000 to 2009), and the weathervane scallop dredge fishery (2005 to 2009). Fluctuations in these diverse fisheries over the 2000-2010 period are reflected in inconsistent numbers of total “other shellfish” permits held by Homer residents between 2000 and 2010, with total permits held ranging between 6 and 28 per year.

In addition to CFEC permits, Homer residents also held federal License Limitation Program (LLP) permits and Federal Fisheries Permits (FFP). Between 2000 and 2010, the number of Homer residents holding groundfish LLPs varied between 141 and 157 per year, and the total number of groundfish LLPs held varied from 160 to 176. The percentage of groundfish LLP permits that were actively fished remained relatively stable over the period. During the same period, the number of crab LLP holders varied between 12 and 17 per year, total crab LLPs held varied between 13 and 18 per year, and the percentage actively fished appears to have declined slightly, from 44% in 2000 to 31% in 2010. In addition, a large number of Federal Fisheries Permits (FFP) was held by Homer residents. In 2010, 120 FFPs were held by a total of

114 residents, a slight decline from 166 FFPs held by 145 residents in 2000. Further information about federal permits is presented in Table 4.

Between 2000 and 2010, Homer residents also held quota share accounts and quota shares in federal fisheries for halibut, sablefish, and crab, with the highest level of participation in the halibut fishery. The number of halibut quota share account holders in Homer was 256 in the year 2000, falling to 199 by 2010, a decline of 22.3%. In comparison, the total number of quota shares held stayed relatively stable, declining by only 5% between 2000 and 2010. The overall halibut IFQ allotment for account holders in Homer decreased by approximately 20% between 2000 and 2010. Further information about halibut catch share participation is presented in Table 6.

The number of sablefish quota share account holders remained relatively stable between 2000 and 2010, with a high of 67 in 2000 and a low of 55 in 2003. In 2010, 60 Homer residents held sablefish quota share accounts, and a total of 9,611,888 quota shares were held that year. The overall halibut IFQ allotment for account holders in Homer increased to approximately 35% above 2000 levels in 2004, and then fell back to close to 2000 levels by 2010. Further information about federal sablefish quota is presented in Table 7.

Between 2005 and 2010, the number of Homer residents holding quota share accounts in the federal crab fishery increased slightly, from 8 quota share accounts in 2005 to 11 in 2010. The total number of quota shares also increased, from 28,276,099 in 2005 to 47,400,206 in 2010. The overall crab IFQ allotment increased by almost 38% by 2007, and remained higher than 2005 levels through 2010. Further information about federal crab catch share participation is presented in Table 8.

Of the landings that were reported between 2000 and 2010, the species landed in the greatest volume in Homer were halibut, salmon, Pacific cod, and sablefish. On average between 2000 and 2010, 11,375,836 net pounds of halibut were landed in Homer, valued on average at \$37,197,035 in ex-vessel revenue. Over the same period, an average of 5,376,463 net pounds of salmon were landed, valued on average at \$2,623,563 in ex-vessel revenue; almost 3.5 million net pounds of Pacific cod and were landed on average; over 1.3 million net pound of sablefish were landed on average. Smaller volumes of ‘other groundfish’, ‘other shellfish’, and pollock were also landed in Homer between 2000 and 2010. Information about pollock was only reported in one year during the period (2001), while data for all other years were considered confidential due to the small number of participants. Information about herring and finfish landings and revenue was also considered confidential for all years during the period. Further information about landings and ex-vessel revenue generated in Homer is presented in Table 9.

It is important to note that Homer ranked much higher compared to other Alaskan processing communities with regard to ex-vessel value of landings (6th) than total volume of landings (17th). This may be explained by the fact that halibut was the leading species landed by volume in Homer, while salmon makes up the bulk of landings in many top processing ports. Halibut was valued at over \$3 per pound on average over the 2000-2010 period, while salmon landed in Homer were valued at just under \$0.50 per pound overall during the period. Sablefish was also lucrative species, with an average price per pound of over \$3.50 for sablefish landings in Homer during the period.

In addition to the landings delivered in Homer by fishermen from many communities, landings and ex-vessel revenue earned by Homer vessel owners is of note. Homer vessel owners made deliveries in many locations around Alaska between 2000 and 2010. Information was reported regarding their landings in all fisheries, with the exception of finfish, in which

information was considered confidential in all years due to the small number of participants. Data regarding crab landings and ex-vessel revenue were also considered confidential in one year during the period (2008). The fisheries with the greatest landings volume by Homer vessel owners were for salmon, herring, Pacific cod, halibut, and crab. On average between 2000 and 2010, Homer vessel owners landed 48,763,166 net pounds of salmon, valued at \$19,539,450 in ex-vessel revenue on average over the period; herring landings averaged 16,157,112 net pounds per year, with average ex-vessel revenue of \$2,060,884; Pacific cod landings averaged 8,265,945 net pounds per year, with average ex-vessel revenue of \$3,044,888; halibut landings averaged 4,985,360 net pounds per year, with average ex-vessel revenue of \$16,494,307; and crab landings averaged 1,522,272 net pounds (for those years in which data were reported), with average ex-vessel revenue of \$3,711,026. Homer vessel owners also landed smaller volumes in fisheries for sablefish, pollock, ‘other groundfish’, and ‘other shellfish’. Further information is presented in Table 10. As in the case of landings delivered in Homer, sablefish and halibut were the most valuable species delivered by Homer vessel owners, as well as crab. On average, Homer vessel owners received just over \$4 per pound for sablefish, \$3.30 per pound for halibut, and \$2.40 per pound for crab.

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

Revenue source	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Raw fish tax ¹	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Shared Fisheries Business Tax ¹	\$21,615	\$27,269	\$3,989	\$50,171	\$92,368	\$162,825	\$70,793	\$93,067	\$92,490	\$103,185	\$97,190
Fisheries Resource Landing Tax ¹	n/a	\$87	\$5,271	\$390	\$59	\$351	\$120	\$91	\$138	\$66	\$735
Fuel transfer tax ²	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Extraterritorial fish tax ²	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bulk fuel transfers ¹	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Boat hauls ²	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Harbor usage ^{2,3}	\$21,699,332 ²	\$2,409,482 ²	\$2,454,846 ²	\$2,968,606 ²	\$2,768,504 ²	\$2,905,274 ²	\$2,944,874 ²	\$3,121,160 ²	\$3,253,737 ²	\$2,960,550 ²	\$1,536,887 ³
Port/dock usage ^{2,3}	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$100,730 ³
Fishing gear storage on public land ³	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$12,953
Seafood wharfage ³	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$49,300
Fuel wharfage ³	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$128,048
Other wharfage ³	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$78,359
Marine fuel sales tax ³	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<i>Total fisheries-related revenue⁴</i>	<i>\$21,720,947</i>	<i>\$2,436,838</i>	<i>\$2,464,106</i>	<i>\$3,019,167</i>	<i>\$2,860,931</i>	<i>\$3,068,450</i>	<i>\$3,015,788</i>	<i>\$3,214,319</i>	<i>\$3,346,365</i>	<i>\$3,063,801</i>	<i>\$2,118,636</i>
<i>Total municipal revenue⁵</i>	<i>\$7,176,000</i>	<i>\$7,230,316</i>	<i>\$9,129,077</i>	<i>\$9,034,168</i>	<i>\$10,138,928</i>	<i>\$14,762,482</i>	<i>\$13,577,487</i>	<i>\$13,362,590</i>	<i>\$14,449,673</i>	<i>\$14,207,837</i>	<i>\$18,737,135</i>

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

¹ 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.

² 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.

³ Reported by community leaders in a survey conducted by the AFSC in 2011.

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

⁵ Total municipal revenue represents the total revenue that the City reports each year in its financial statements. 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.

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

Species		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Groundfish (LLP) ¹	Total permits	176	164	160	162	163	164	170	167	171	170	176
	Active permits	73	72	73	66	67	69	74	76	70	76	83
	% of permits fished	41%	43%	45%	40%	41%	42%	43%	45%	40%	44%	47%
	Total permit holders	157	144	142	142	141	142	147	144	145	143	149
Crab (LLP) ¹	Total permits	18	17	16	16	14	13	14	13	13	13	16
	Active permits	8	8	9	8	8	5	4	4	4	5	5
	% of permits fished	44%	47%	56%	50%	57%	38%	28%	30%	30%	38%	31%
	Total permit holders	17	17	16	16	14	13	14	12	12	13	14
Federal Fisheries Permits ¹	Total permits	166	170	172	140	145	147	111	118	126	114	120
	Fished permits	2	3	1	68	72	71	72	78	78	85	90
	% of permits fished	1%	2%	1%	49%	50%	48%	65%	66%	62%	75%	75%
	Total permit holders	145	147	149	133	138	139	109	115	122	109	114
Crab (CFEC) ²	Total permits	76	81	77	72	64	60	60	55	55	54	56
	Fished permits	27	32	29	29	19	15	10	9	8	8	10
	% of permits fished	36%	40%	38%	40%	30%	25%	17%	16%	15%	15%	18%
	Total permit holders	59	69	66	60	52	55	56	52	56	53	54
Other shellfish (CFEC) ²	Total permits	28	21	14	8	9	11	9	7	6	6	23
	Fished permits	11	8	7	4	5	6	6	3	3	4	9
	% of permits fished	39%	38%	50%	50%	55%	54%	66%	42%	50%	66%	39%
	Total permit holders	24	20	14	8	9	10	9	7	6	6	22
Halibut (CFEC) ²	Total permits	213	211	205	203	207	195	200	190	179	180	186
	Fished permits	171	169	176	175	182	171	177	168	157	161	159
	% of permits fished	80%	80%	86%	86%	88%	88%	89%	88%	88%	89%	85%
	Total permit holders	200	201	198	196	198	189	192	185	173	172	177
Herring (CFEC) ²	Total permits	143	126	114	118	111	115	115	107	110	119	122
	Fished permits	44	36	27	23	24	30	24	19	18	28	27
	% of permits fished	31%	29%	24%	19%	22%	26%	21%	18%	16%	24%	22%
	Total permit holders	89	81	73	77	77	76	75	72	72	74	72

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

Species		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Sablefish (CFEC) ²	Total permits	82	83	75	62	67	63	67	65	65	71	63
	Fished permits	58	62	64	54	56	57	56	60	56	64	55
	% of permits fished	71%	75%	85%	87%	84%	90%	84%	92%	86%	90%	87%
	Total permit holders	71	71	65	56	60	56	60	59	58	64	59
Groundfish (CFEC) ²	Total permits	269	208	150	135	154	132	110	119	134	139	123
	Fished permits	111	87	60	65	68	65	55	66	65	73	69
	% of permits fished	41%	42%	40%	48%	44%	49%	50%	55%	49%	53%	56%
	Total permit holders	179	148	114	104	111	101	89	101	108	111	102
Other Finfish (CFEC) ²	Total permits	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Fished permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	% of permits fished	0%	0%	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total permit holders	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Salmon (CFEC) ²	Total permits	392	369	369	385	403	410	414	441	489	507	540
	Fished permits	307	272	218	261	272	291	282	292	320	335	363
	% of permits fished	78%	74%	59%	68%	67%	71%	68%	66%	65%	66%	67%
	Total permit holders	390	375	368	372	398	400	394	405	461	477	507
<i>Total CFEC Permits²</i>	<i>Permits</i>	<i>1,204</i>	<i>1,100</i>	<i>1,005</i>	<i>983</i>	<i>1,015</i>	<i>986</i>	<i>975</i>	<i>984</i>	<i>1,038</i>	<i>1,076</i>	<i>1,113</i>
	<i>Fished permits</i>	<i>729</i>	<i>666</i>	<i>581</i>	<i>611</i>	<i>626</i>	<i>635</i>	<i>610</i>	<i>617</i>	<i>627</i>	<i>673</i>	<i>692</i>
	<i>% of permits fished</i>	<i>61%</i>	<i>61%</i>	<i>58%</i>	<i>62%</i>	<i>62%</i>	<i>64%</i>	<i>63%</i>	<i>63%</i>	<i>60%</i>	<i>63%</i>	<i>62%</i>
	<i>Permit holders</i>	<i>577</i>	<i>553</i>	<i>537</i>	<i>538</i>	<i>559</i>	<i>547</i>	<i>555</i>	<i>560</i>	<i>601</i>	<i>611</i>	<i>646</i>

¹National 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.]

²Alaska 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 Homer: 2000-2010.

Year	Crew License Holders ¹	Count Of All Fish Buyers ²	Count Of Shore-Side Processing Facilities ³	Vessels Primarily Owned by Residents ⁴	Vessels Homeported ⁴	Vessels Landing Catch in Homer ²	Total Net Pounds Landed in Homer ^{2,5}	Total Ex-Vessel Value of Landings in Homer ^{2,5}
2000	751	37	12	576	598	356	20,728,861	\$32,999,514
2001	684	37	7	545	570	387	22,952,129	\$34,124,348
2002	574	41	6	503	512	373	30,271,052	\$41,072,239
2003	587	33	3	514	520	306	21,378,243	\$44,471,809
2004	609	34	3	521	520	287	26,327,290	\$40,284,107
2005	612	33	3	440	413	271	22,935,518	\$41,493,351
2006	591	34	3	439	407	244	16,584,764	\$45,277,403
2007	677	27	3	453	424	219	17,419,245	\$53,472,884
2008	648	22	3	464	427	235	16,481,280	\$52,013,369
2009	643	20	4	487	451	296	22,521,701	\$54,012,378
2010	647	27	5	505	483	286	23,546,436	\$69,076,590

¹ 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.]

² 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.]

³ 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.]

⁴ 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.]

⁵ Totals only represent non-confidential data.

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

Year	Number of Halibut Quota Share Account Holders	Halibut Quota Shares Held	Halibut IFQ Allotment (Pounds)
2000	256	23,729,260	3,881,334
2001	242	23,023,092	4,278,682
2002	245	22,924,656	4,182,600
2003	238	22,364,255	4,070,244
2004	231	21,994,866	3,827,038
2005	218	21,333,328	3,570,888
2006	223	23,069,022	3,609,467
2007	211	21,351,007	3,245,908
2008	197	21,158,341	3,229,729
2009	195	21,510,003	3,018,851
2010	199	22,477,522	2,906,081

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 Homer: 2000-2010.

Year	Number of Sablefish Quota Share Account Holders	Sablefish Quota Shares Held	Sablefish IFQ Allotment (Pounds)
2000	67	14,348,725	1,303,948
2001	63	15,087,837	1,359,338
2002	56	13,584,077	1,275,608
2003	55	12,934,894	1,463,865
2004	57	12,389,208	1,527,406
2005	56	12,334,932	1,393,495
2006	60	12,951,338	1,468,729
2007	57	12,355,057	1,361,555
2008	57	7,756,784	757,015
2009	57	8,356,510	767,758
2010	60	9,611,888	917,114

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 Homer: 2000-2010.

Year	Number of Crab Quota Share Account Holders	Crab Quota Shares Held	Crab IFQ Allotment (Pounds)
2005	8	28,276,099	838,857
2006	8	36,953,670	937,202
2007	9	34,869,233	1,426,080
2008	9	34,869,233	1,331,000
2009	11	47,440,206	1,538,349
2010	11	47,440,206	1,641,051

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.]

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

	<i>Total Net Pounds¹</i>										
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Crab	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Finfish	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Halibut	10,108,098	13,479,243	13,744,859	12,102,755	10,715,630	10,824,249	9,657,235	9,938,276	9,214,616	13,472,212	11,877,018
Herring	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	202,755	241,211	280,252	398,904	287,725	185,207	244,212	166,497	213,078	204,252	224,108
Groundfish											
Other Shellfish	49,794	50,503	62,652	43,073	49,975	61,118	54,782	54,621	37,027	41,341	38,575
Pacific Cod	5,412,567	3,381,294	3,113,115	1,977,215	2,807,256	2,852,454	3,197,366	4,122,477	3,244,509	3,603,361	4,555,203
Pollock	-	3,337	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sablefish	922,472	1,220,666	1,663,628	1,602,709	1,779,605	1,439,567	1,416,922	1,214,625	1,290,089	1,253,760	835,408
Salmon	4,012,651	4,555,778	11,385,489	5,237,773	10,680,807	7,534,692	2,006,174	1,905,197	2,481,961	3,945,492	5,395,080
<i>Total²</i>	<i>20,708,345</i>	<i>22,932,032</i>	<i>30,253,930</i>	<i>21,362,563</i>	<i>26,321,173</i>	<i>22,897,287</i>	<i>16,576,892</i>	<i>17,401,827</i>	<i>16,481,280</i>	<i>22,521,701</i>	<i>23,537,324</i>
	<i>Ex-vessel Value (Nominal U.S. dollars)</i>										
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Crab	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Finfish	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Halibut	\$26,182,806	\$26,892,821	\$31,085,677	\$35,467,013	\$32,783,244	\$34,310,087	\$37,814,594	\$45,307,587	\$42,001,027	\$42,224,192	\$55,098,333
Herring	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	\$115,873	\$126,194	\$183,419	\$162,832	\$157,669	\$102,501	\$111,180	\$92,831	\$105,398	\$98,176	\$105,357
Groundfish											
Other Shellfish	\$49,939	\$62,986	\$79,233	\$67,102	\$39,390	\$36,176	\$53,058	\$44,571	\$24,281	\$14,575	\$6,448
Pacific Cod	\$1,903,107	\$1,136,886	\$903,141	\$763,584	\$800,340	\$909,294	\$1,384,422	\$2,126,934	\$1,879,617	\$1,169,301	\$1,289,850
Pollock	-	\$219	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sablefish	\$3,355,103	\$3,811,617	\$5,309,473	\$5,747,403	\$5,354,724	\$4,515,057	\$4,933,522	\$4,506,971	\$5,413,045	\$5,889,967	\$4,218,699
Salmon	\$1,314,013	\$1,940,070	\$3,403,459	\$2,123,342	\$1,093,124	\$1,487,854	\$905,649	\$1,221,517	\$2,590,001	\$4,615,904	\$8,164,256
<i>Total²</i>	<i>\$32,920,843</i>	<i>\$33,970,793</i>	<i>\$40,964,592</i>	<i>\$44,331,276</i>	<i>\$40,228,491</i>	<i>\$41,360,969</i>	<i>\$45,202,427</i>	<i>\$53,300,437</i>	<i>\$52,013,369</i>	<i>\$54,012,377</i>	<i>\$68,989,434</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.]

¹ Net pounds refers to the landed weight recorded in fish tickets.

² Totals only represent non-confidential data.

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

	<i>Total Net Pounds¹</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	1,627,874	901,271	1,172,724	979,885	1,170,121	947,504	939,132	1,088,127	-	3,477,134	2,918,944
Finfish	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Halibut	4,540,982	4,456,614	4,842,826	5,342,653	5,301,722	5,019,283	4,977,366	4,937,060	4,958,221	5,175,256	5,286,979
Herring	8,646,410	13,416,602	10,855,833	11,529,020	14,518,946	16,141,467	16,403,957	17,520,338	20,355,317	22,858,995	25,481,348
Other	279,937	441,555	191,977	1,229,755	716,575	753,686	786,252	453,839	500,535	880,441	803,470
Groundfish											
Other	27,348	38,594	42,226	25,449	26,032	31,193	42,419	36,503	35,521	33,335	27,202
Shellfish											
Pacific Cod	10,106,491	8,033,963	9,866,602	5,166,905	7,142,667	6,258,526	7,500,504	9,307,751	6,782,800	9,535,153	11,224,036
Pollock	1,373,561	1,785,524	966,515	988,255	16,376	524,016	1,436,464	141,691	100,057	129,392	73,955
Sablefish	708,232	829,038	820,443	919,942	1,102,549	916,217	905,777	992,652	1,058,420	737,129	826,426
Salmon	33,105,642	31,491,789	31,306,698	35,547,660	38,723,497	71,354,266	54,282,214	66,370,450	56,248,109	44,139,165	73,825,341
<i>Total²</i>	<i>60,416,477</i>	<i>61,394,950</i>	<i>60,065,844</i>	<i>61,729,524</i>	<i>68,718,485</i>	<i>101,946,158</i>	<i>87,274,085</i>	<i>100,848,412</i>	<i>90,038,980</i>	<i>86,966,000</i>	<i>120,467,701</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	\$4,179,190	\$2,263,755	\$3,144,271	\$2,895,416	\$3,563,434	\$2,917,280	\$1,636,376	\$3,247,154	-	\$6,586,124	\$6,677,257
Finfish	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Halibut	\$11,466,849	\$8,786,454	\$10,862,313	\$15,482,193	\$15,982,109	\$15,472,947	\$19,282,085	\$21,924,049	\$21,985,354	\$15,894,526	\$24,298,496
Herring	\$1,060,228	\$1,630,127	\$1,360,342	\$1,013,368	\$1,751,384	\$1,957,636	\$1,446,622	\$1,929,275	\$3,288,083	\$3,457,736	\$3,774,921
Other	\$182,473	\$202,892	\$147,331	\$396,342	\$245,358	\$203,022	\$251,639	\$193,269	\$271,228	\$312,584	\$278,322
Groundfish											
Other	\$18,376	\$36,388	\$28,268	\$22,949	\$19,734	\$15,391	\$41,495	\$35,363	\$14,859	\$15,306	\$7,891
Shellfish											
Pacific Cod	\$3,820,305	\$2,620,418	\$2,769,025	\$1,772,330	\$2,122,638	\$1,985,612	\$3,142,387	\$4,803,781	\$4,143,457	\$3,098,392	\$3,215,427
Pollock	\$171,721	\$216,073	\$99,927	\$105,821	\$982	\$54,185	\$173,020	\$11,536	\$10,706	\$14,139	\$6,779
Sablefish	\$3,108,753	\$3,069,142	\$3,235,723	\$3,829,846	\$3,961,262	\$3,523,132	\$3,679,222	\$3,774,832	\$4,415,428	\$3,175,538	\$4,092,485
Salmon	\$12,446,671	\$9,008,231	\$7,365,921	\$11,535,917	\$11,932,431	\$19,314,843	\$19,409,568	\$25,284,396	\$31,208,789	\$24,146,945	\$43,280,236
<i>Total²</i>	<i>\$36,454,565</i>	<i>\$27,833,479</i>	<i>\$29,013,121</i>	<i>\$37,054,181</i>	<i>\$39,579,332</i>	<i>\$45,444,048</i>	<i>\$49,062,414</i>	<i>\$61,203,655</i>	<i>\$65,337,904</i>	<i>\$56,701,290</i>	<i>\$85,631,812</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.]

¹ Net pounds refers to the landed weight recorded in fish tickets.

² Totals only represent non-confidential data.

Recreational Fishing

Sportfishing is one of the primary activities that draw visitors to Homer.⁸⁹ Between 2000 and 2010, an average of 18,081 sportfishing licenses was sold per year in Homer. On average during this period, 3,884 Homer residents purchased sportfishing licenses (including purchases in Homer and other points of sale). The higher number of licenses sold locally compared to purchases by residents is evidence of the importance of the sportfishing industry as a visitor attraction. In 2010, there were 68 active sport fish guide businesses and 101 licensed sport fish guides located in Homer. The number of active guide businesses remained stable between 2000 and 2010, while the number of licensed guides decreased over time (Table 11).

The declining trend in sport fish guide numbers may be related to rule changes in the Southcentral Alaska halibut charter industry. Due to concerns related to allocation between the commercial and sport halibut fisheries as well as localized overfishing of the resource, the Alaska Board of Fish (BOF) and North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) began discussing a moratorium on new charter licenses in Southeast and Southcentral Alaska in the 1990s.⁹⁰ In 2007, the NPFMC approved a motion to implement a limited entry program for halibut charter fleets in Areas 2C and 3A (Southeast and Southcentral Alaska) and a daily halibut bag limit for each charter vessel angler of two halibut of any size per day per person.^{91,92} Allocation decisions between the charter halibut industry and commercial halibut interests remain extremely controversial.⁹³

Kept/released statistics from charter logbook data reported by ADF&G⁹⁴ show that halibut was by far the most important species caught by volume during fishing charter trips out of Homer between 2000 and 2010. For those years in which data were reported regarding charter halibut catch during the 2000-2010 period, an average of 86,680 halibut were kept per year. An even higher number were released (118,396 per year on average). Other important species targeted by Homer charters were coho and Chinook salmon, pelagic rockfish, and lingcod. On average, 6,330 coho, 5,895 pelagic rockfish, 2,384 lingcod, and 2,060 Chinook were kept per year during the 2000-2010 period. Lingcod and pelagic rockfish both had relatively high release rates, averaging 1,550 and 1,426 released per year. Other species caught in smaller numbers during Homer charter trips included yelloweye rockfish, pink, sockeye, and chum salmon, and shark, although a majority of the sharks caught were released. A small number of sablefish were also reportedly caught in 2010 only.

⁸⁹ City of Homer. 2011. *Homer Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy*. Retrieved October 8, 2012 from http://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/sites/default/files/fileattachments/ceds_fed_2011_final.pdf.

⁹⁰ Dean, M. R. and A. L. Howe. 1999. *Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game Sportfishing Guide and Business Registration and Saltwater Sportfishing Charter Vessel Logbook Program, 1998*. ADF&G Special Publication No. 99-1. Retrieved May 2, 2012 from <http://www.sf.adfg.state.ak.us/fedaidpdfs/Sp99-01.pdf>.

⁹¹ North Pacific Fishery Management Council. April 2007. *News and Notes* Volume 2-07. Retrieved May 2, 2012 from <http://www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/npfmc/PDFdocuments/newsletters/NEWS407.pdf>.

⁹² Federal Register. March 22, 2012. Dept. of Commerce, NOAA, 50 CFR Part 300, Pacific Halibut Fisheries; Catch Sharing Plan. Retrieved May 2, 2012 from <http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/frules/77fr16740.pdf>.

⁹³ Meyer, S. October 2010. "Changes Coming for Alaska's Charter Halibut Fishery." Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game website. Retrieved October 8, 2012 from http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?ADFG=wildlifeneews.view_article&articles_id=482&issue_id=91.

⁹⁴ Alaska Department of Fish and Game. 2011. *Alaska sport fish charter logbook database, 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.]

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

Year	Active Sport Fish Guide Businesses ¹	Sport Fish Guide Licenses ¹	Sport Fishing Licenses Sold to Residents ²	Sport Fishing Licenses Sold in Homer ²
2000	69	146	3,725	13,646
2001	62	146	3,692	14,194
2002	64	138	3,731	17,064
2003	61	143	3,880	17,455
2004	66	142	3,959	19,510
2005	70	114	4,037	20,117
2006	75	131	3,841	19,116
2007	78	124	3,999	20,569
2008	80	110	3,950	20,477
2009	72	108	4,015	17,528
2010	68	101	3,900	19,211

Year	Saltwater		Freshwater	
	Angler Days Fished – Non-Residents ³	Angler Days Fished – Alaska Residents ³	Angler Days Fished – Non-Residents ³	Angler Days Fished – Alaska Residents ³
2000	68,928	40,179	42,157	139,737
2001	62,340	22,585	28,245	69,053
2002	53,537	22,745	26,479	83,335
2003	49,366	24,522	35,299	80,368
2004	57,167	24,224	39,009	83,478
2005	65,997	27,827	37,309	91,489
2006	67,259	23,225	33,988	76,100
2007	67,556	24,465	31,105	89,061
2008	54,136	21,762	28,780	70,285
2009	41,925	21,446	24,959	77,945
2010	47,656	20,292	28,294	71,555

¹ 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.]

² 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.]

³ 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).

According to ADF&G Statewide Harvest Survey data,⁹⁵ species targeted by private anglers in Homer between 2000 and 2010 included all five species of Pacific salmon, rainbow trout, Dolly Varden char, whitefish, Arctic grayling, northern pike, Pacific halibut, rockfish, lingcod, Pacific cod, shark, smelt, Dungeness crab, Tanner crab, razor clams, hardshell clams, and shrimp.

Homer is located within Alaska Sport Fishing Survey Area P, including saltwater fishing in Cook Inlet and freshwater fishing on the Kenai Peninsula. Between 2000 and 2010, saltwater and freshwater sportfishing at this regional level was substantial. In 2010, Alaska residents logged 47,656 saltwater angler days and 28,294 freshwater angler days, while non-Alaska residents logged 20,292 saltwater angler days and 71,555 freshwater angler days. Typically, Alaska residents took part in saltwater sportfishing at greater rates than non-Alaska resident anglers, and the opposite was true of freshwater sportfishing. For both Alaska resident and non-Alaska resident anglers in both freshwater and saltwater, the number of angler days fished per year decreased between 2000 and 2010. Further information about regional sportfishing activity in Homer is presented in Table 11.

Subsistence Fishing

According to a survey conducted by the AFSC in 2011, community leaders indicated that salmon, halibut, and crab are some of the most important subsistence resources utilized by Homer residents. Between 2000 and 2010, no information was reported by ADF&G regarding the percentage of households using different marine resources, or per capita harvest of subsistence resources by Homer residents (Table 12). However, earlier information about household-level subsistence is available from a 1982 ADF&G study. The survey identified species of marine invertebrates, non-salmon fish (not including halibut), and marine mammals harvested by Homer households that year. The species of marine invertebrates harvested by the greatest percentage of Homer households in 1982 included clams (41% of households reported harvest), crab (20%), shrimp (10%), and mussels (8%). The species of non-salmon fish harvested by the greatest percentage of Homer households included steelhead (6% of households reported harvest), Arctic grayling (5%), herring (3%), smelt (3%), as well as trout and whitefish. In addition, a small percentage of Homer households participated in the harvest of seal in 1982.⁹⁶ It is important to note that in many cases, the number of households reporting use of these subsistence resources was greater than the number involved in harvest, indicating the presence of sharing networks in Homer.

Data are also available regarding salmon and halibut permits issued between 2000 and 2010. The number of subsistence salmon permits issued per year to Homer households increased between 2000 and 2008, from 40 in the year 2000 to 72 in 2008. Sockeye was the most heavily utilized salmon species during this period, averaging 1,017 harvested per year. Smaller numbers of coho, pink, chum, and Chinook salmon were also reported harvested in most years. This information about subsistence harvest of salmon is presented in Table 13. Between 2003 and

⁹⁵ 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).

⁹⁶ 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).

2010, the number of Homer residents that participated in the Subsistence Halibut Registration Certificate (SHARC) program varied between 25 and 33, and the number of SHARC cards returned each year varied between 7 and 20. The greatest subsistence harvest of halibut was reported in 2009, when 7,561 pounds of halibut were harvested on 19 SHARC cards. Further information about the subsistence halibut fishery is presented in Table 14.

Information is also available regarding marine mammal harvest by residents of Homer between 2000 and 2010. According to data reported by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and ADF&G, this harvest focused primarily on sea otter and harbor seal. In addition, harvest of one walrus was reported by the FWS in 2000. No information was reported by management agencies regarding harvest of beluga whale, Steller sea lion, or spotted seal between 2000 and 2010. Further information about subsistence harvest of marine mammals by Homer residents is presented in Table 15.

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

Year	Subsistence Salmon Permits Issued ¹	Salmon Permits Returned ¹	Chinook Salmon Harvested ¹	Chum Salmon Harvested ¹	Coho Salmon Harvested ¹	Pink Salmon Harvested ¹	Sockeye Salmon Harvested ¹	Lbs of Marine Inverts ²	Lbs of Non-Salmon Fish ²
2000	40	37	25	60	98	61	1,519	n/a	n/a
2001	28	39	39	209	32	156	948	n/a	n/a
2002	10	32	11	1	n/a	n/a	430	n/a	n/a
2003	57	68	68	3	3	49	345	n/a	n/a
2004	76	73	68	26	30	22	1,069	n/a	n/a
2005	46	45	44	29	97	19	849	n/a	n/a
2006	40	36	51	34	14	32	1,024	n/a	n/a
2007	39	32	138	107	n/a	77	1,412	n/a	n/a
2008	72	68	58	50	21	71	1,555	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.

¹ 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.

² 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, Homer: 2003-2010.

Year	SHARC Issued	SHARC Cards Fished	SHARC Halibut Lbs Harvested
2003	26	7	1,455
2004	28	10	1,512
2005	28	11	2,343
2006	27	15	820
2007	33	7	462
2008	25	20	1,948
2009	25	19	7,561
2010	25	7	1,922

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, Homer: 2000-2010.

Year	# of Beluga Whales ¹	# of Sea Otters ²	# of Walrus ²	# of Polar Bears ²	# of Steller Sea Lions ³	# of Harbor Seals ³	# of Spotted Seals ³
2000	n/a	5	1	n/a	n/a	23	n/a
2001	n/a	5	n/a	n/a	n/a	21	n/a
2002	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	24	n/a
2003	n/a	12	n/a	n/a	n/a	11	n/a
2004	n/a	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	4	n/a
2005	n/a	4	n/a	n/a	n/a	6	n/a
2006	n/a	27	n/a	n/a	n/a	6	n/a
2007	n/a	6	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2008	n/a	28	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2009	n/a	8	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2010	n/a	2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

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

¹ 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.

² 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.

³ 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.