

Savoonga (suh-VOON-guh)



People and Place

*Location*¹

Savoonga is located on the northern coast of St. Lawrence Island in the northern Bering Sea, 164 miles west of Nome. It lies 39 miles southeast of Gambell. Savoonga is located in the Cape Nome Recording District and the Nome Census Area, but is not located within an organized borough. The city boundaries encompass 6.1 square miles of land and do not include any water.

*Demographic Profile*²

In 2010, there were 671 residents in Savoonga, making it the 93rd largest of 352 total Alaskan communities with recorded populations in that year. Overall between 1990 and 2010, the population has increased by 12.13%. Between 2000 and 2010, the average annual growth rate was 0.46%, indicating a slow rate of growth. The change in population from 1990 to 2010 is provided in Table 1.

In 2010, nearly all residents of Savoonga identified themselves as American Indian and Alaska Native (94.5%), with the remaining racial composition as follows: White (4.9%), two or more races (0.4%), and Asian (0.1%). The percentage of the population identifying themselves as American Indian and Alaskan Natives decreased by 0.8% between 2000 and 2010, with corresponding increases in the percentage of the population that identified themselves as White and as two or more races (Figure 1).

In 2010, the average household size was 4.04, a slight decrease from 4.40 in 1990 and 4.43 in 2000. However, there has been an increase in the number of households from 116 in 1990 to 145 in 2000 to 166 in 2010. Of the 151 housing units surveyed for the 2010 Decennial Census, 137 were owner-occupied and 29 were renter-occupied, with 19 vacant housing units. None of the population of Savoonga was estimated to be living in group quarters in 2010.

In 2010, the gender makeup was slightly skewed, at 51.7% male and 48.3% female, similar to the state as a whole (52% male, 48% female). The median age in Savoonga in 2010 was 26.6 years, lower than the U.S. national average of 36.8 years and the median age for Alaska, 33.8 years. The greatest percentage of residents fell within the age category 0-19 years old, with the next largest percentage for the age category 20-39 years old. Relatively few people were 80 or older. The overall population age structure from 2000 to 2010 is detailed in Figure 2.

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 Savoonga from 1990 to 2010 by Source.

Year	U.S. Decennial Census ¹	Alaska Dept. of Labor Estimate of Permanent Residents ²
1990	519	-
2000	643	-
2001	-	655
2002	-	686
2003	-	703
2004	-	713
2005	-	697
2006	-	712
2007	-	711
2008	-	721
2009	-	721
2010	671	-

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, Savoonga: 2000-2010 (U.S. Census).

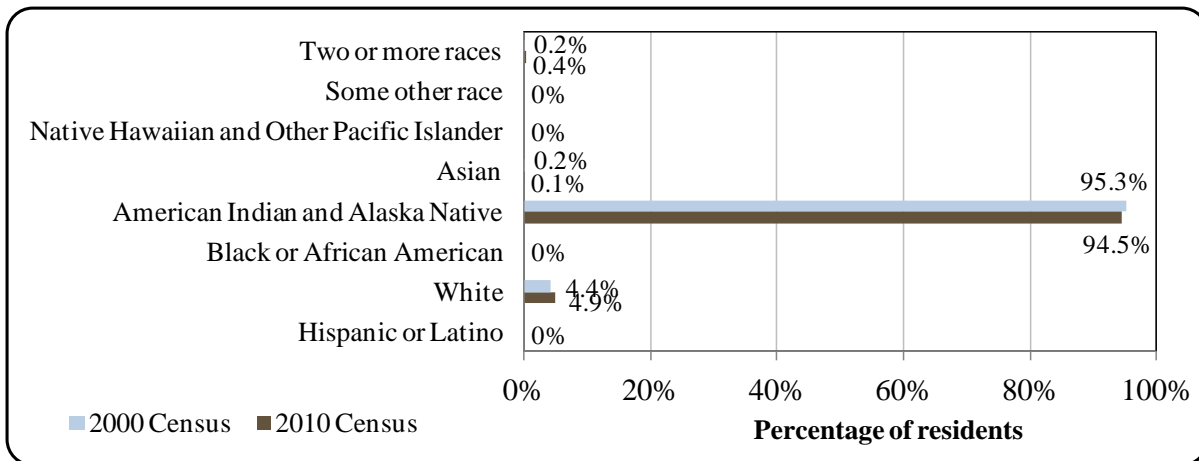
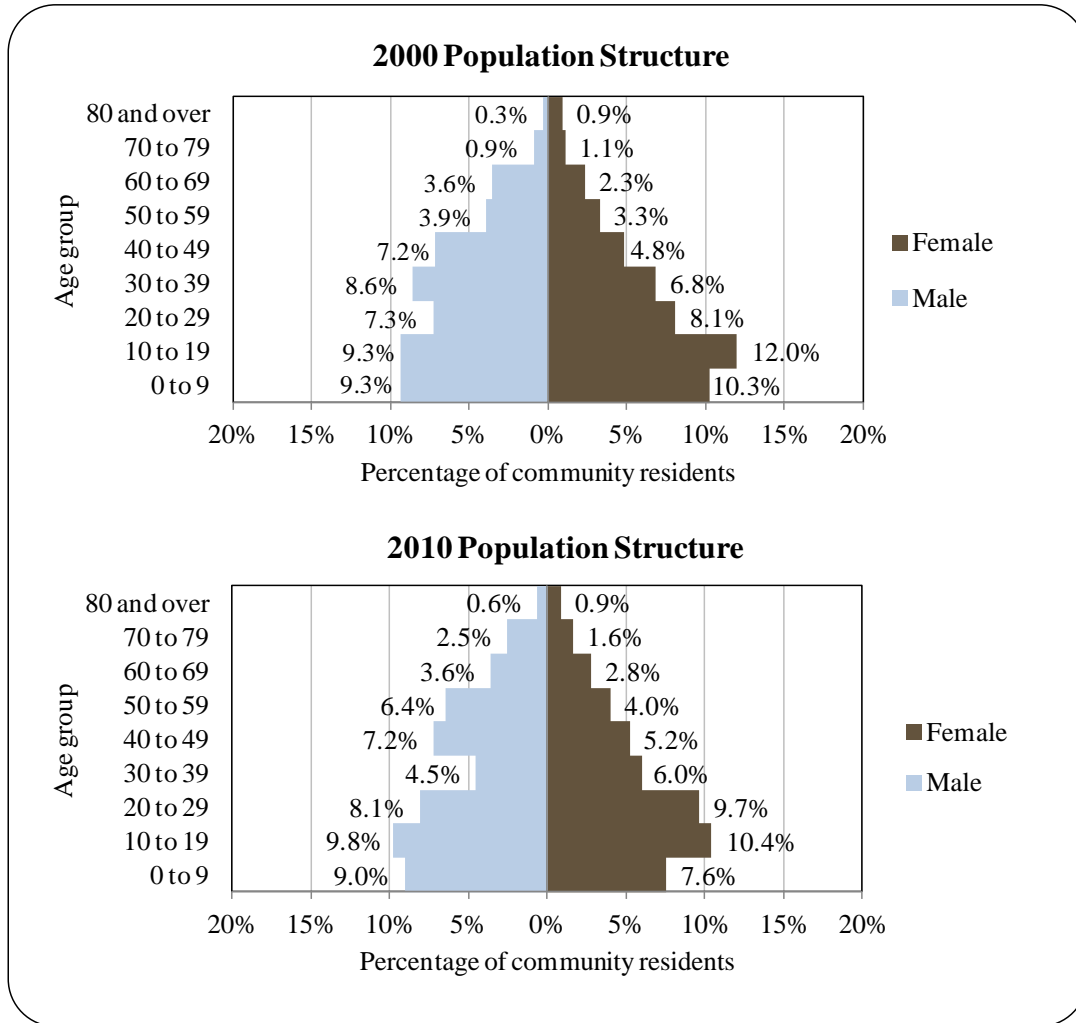


Figure 2. Population Age Structure in Savoonga Based on the 2000 and 2010 U.S. Decennial Census.



In terms of educational attainment, according to the 2006-2010 American Community Survey (ACS),³ 63.1% of Savoonga residents age 25 and over were estimated to hold a high school diploma or higher degree, compared to 90.7% of Alaskan residents overall. Also in 2010, 19% of the population had less than a ninth grade education, compared to 3.5% of Alaskan residents overall; 19% had a ninth-12th grade education but no diploma, compared to 5.8% of Alaskan residents overall; 46.8% held a high school diploma or equivalent, compared to 27.4% of Alaskan residents overall; 12.9% had some college but no degree, compared to 28.3% of Alaskan residents overall; 2.7% held an Associate’s degree, compared to 8% of Alaskan residents overall; and 0.7% held a graduate or professional degree, compared to 9.6% of Alaskan residents overall.

³ 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 Alaska communities with small populations that have a low probability of being adequately sampled.

History, Traditional Knowledge, and Culture

St. Lawrence Island has been inhabited intermittently for the past 2,000 years by Yup'ik Eskimos. In the 1800s, numerous villages were located on the island with a population totaling about 4,000 people. The population was dramatically reduced when a tragic famine swept across the island between 1878 and 1880. In 1900, a herd of reindeer was moved to the island, and President Roosevelt declared the island a 'reindeer reservation' in 1903. The herd grew to over 10,000 animals by 1917.^{4,5} The modern community of Savoonga grew around a reindeer camp established at the site in 1916. Grazing lands were better in this portion of the island, and the herd tended to remain in the area. Additional residents were attracted by the good hunting and trapping in the area. A post office was established in 1934, the same year that the traditional form of governance was reorganized under the Indian Reorganization Act. The City of Savoonga was incorporated in 1969.⁶

Given the proximity of St. Lawrence Island to the former Soviet Union, the island was an important defense site beginning during World War II. The U.S. Army and U.S. Navy built radar, sonar, and communication installations, and an airstrip was constructed by the Civil Aeronautics Commission along with lodgings and support buildings. St. Lawrence Island remained an important strategic defense site through the Cold War.⁷

In the years leading up to the passage of the 1971 Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA), St. Lawrence Island's status as a federal reserve meant that Savoonga and the neighboring community of Gambell underwent a different process during land claims settlement than other Alaska Native villages. Under ANCSA, most Alaska Native villages received a combination of money and land entitlement. In addition, previous federal reserves were granted land ownership under ANCSA and controlled by Native corporations. Because Savoonga and Gambell were located within the St. Lawrence Island Reserve, they had the option to choose a larger land entitlement in lieu of the monetary portion of the ANCSA settlement. Together, the communities of Gambell and Savoonga received title to the entire 1.136-million acres of land that made up the former St. Lawrence Island Reserve.⁸

Today, St. Lawrence Island remains jointly owned by Savoonga and Gambell. Savoonga is a traditional St. Lawrence Yup'ik village with a subsistence lifestyle based on walrus and whale hunting. Due to the island's isolation, most residents are bilingual – Siberian Yup'ik is still the first language, with English as the second language. The sale, importation, and possession of alcohol are banned in the village.⁹

⁴ Mikulski, P. (2012). *Savoonga Local Economic Development Plan 2009-2013, with Addendum*. Kawerak, Inc. Retrieved March 13, 2013 from <http://www.kawerak.org/ledps/savoonga.pdf>.

⁵ Franklin, Jonathan. 1993. "Digging for Ivory: The Challenge of Preserving Native Alaskan Archaeological Sites." *Stanford Environmental Law Journal*, 12 (164-210). Retrieved July 11, 2012 from <http://heinonline.org>.

⁶ See footnote 4.

⁷ Hogan, M., S. Christopherson, and A. Rothe. 2006. *Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) in the Norton Sound Region: Location, History of Use, Contaminants Present, and Status of Clean Up Efforts*. Report prepared for Alaska Community Action on Toxics.

⁸ Cook Inlet Region, Incorporated. 2012. *ANCSA – LAND*. Retrieved July 11, 2012 from http://www.ciri.com/content/history/ancsa_land.aspx.

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.

Natural Resources and Environment

Savoonga is located on the north-central shore of St. Lawrence Island, a 90-mi long island of volcanic origin. Half of the island contains low mountains of approximately 1,000 ft in elevation, while the remainder of the island's area is low, wet tundra. Vegetation at higher altitudes is primarily dry alpine tundra. Steep cliffs surround much of the coastline, providing excellent nesting habitat for sea birds.¹⁰ The climate is subarctic maritime with some continental influences during the winter. Summer temperatures average 40 to 51 °F (4.4 to 10.6 °C); winters average -7 to 11 °F (-21.7 to -11.7 °C). Temperature extremes from -34 to 67 °F (-36.7 to 19.4 °C) have been recorded. Average precipitation is 10 inches annually, with 58 inches of snowfall. The island is subject to prevailing winds, averaging 18 mph. Freeze-up on the Bering Sea occurs in mid-November, with break-up in late May.¹¹

The people of Savoonga have begun to witness changing weather patterns resulting from climate change. Information compiled by Aksik (Stories about Adaptation and Subsistence: Native voices from the frontlines of climate change) indicate that hunters, gatherers, and village leaders have taught them about climate change in their area. According to accounts compiled by Aksik,¹² a multi-year scientific and advocacy project involved in documenting climate changes witnessed by native people in the Bering Sea, the weather in Savoonga is more random, severe, and unpredictable than it has been in previous times. Subsistence hunters have observed changes in ocean currents and migratory patterns of marine mammals, reduced sea ice coverage and quality, increased erosion due to larger storms and melting permafrost. Inland, they note drying or disappearance of some tundra lakes, changes in the timing of berry harvest, and the appearance of animals not previously known to inhabit the island, such as Arctic hares and a larger number of wolves.¹³

Natural hazards of particular concern in Savoonga include coastal erosion and flooding during fall and winter storms. Several large storms in the past decade have caused serious damage, and the threat of erosion is increased with decreased protection from sea ice as the pack diminishes with climate change. Development of a hazard mitigation plan has been identified as a high priority for the community.¹⁴

According to the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), two active environmental cleanup sites are located on St. Lawrence Island. Both are "Formerly Used Defense Sites" following the presence of the U.S. Military on the island during World War II and the Cold War. One is an Aircraft Control and Warning Station that was operated by the U.S. Air Force in Gambell from 1948 to 1956. The other is the White Alice Communication Site, which operated from 1957 to 1972 at Northeast Cape, 50 miles east of Savoonga. Petroleum contamination is present in soils and groundwater at both sites, along with low-level concentrations of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), dioxins, arsenic, chromium and other

¹⁰ Rausch, R.L. (1953). "On the Land Mammals of St. Lawrence Island, Alaska." *Arctic Health Research Center*. Retrieved March 13, 2013 from <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1535&context=parasitologyfacpubs>.

¹¹ See footnote 9.

¹² "Aksik is a Siberian Yupik term called out by captains to turn the boat quickly, as if to avoid danger or move in a new direction, by placing an oar against the bow and down in to the water and pulling back using the gunnel as a fulcrum point." (Source: Aksik. (2011). *Stories about Adaptation and Subsistence: Native voices from the frontlines of climate change - Savoonga*. Retrieved May 4, 2012 from <http://aksik.org/village/savoonga>)

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ See footnote 4.

metals in places. Local residents are concerned about a possible link with cancer rates on the island, as well as impacts on the safety of subsistence food sources from these areas of the island. The DEC and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are currently working to remove known contaminated soil, identify additional areas of contamination, and plan continued cleanup.¹⁵

Current Economy¹⁶

Subsistence harvest of marine mammals and fish provides a foundation for Savoonga's local economy. Important subsistence species include walrus, seal, fish, and bowhead and gray whales. Wage income is also provided by commercial fishing and seafood processing, fox trapping, and ivory carving. There is a tourism sector on the island, primarily drawing bird watchers. Some harvest of the unmanaged reindeer herd on the island also contributes to the local economy.¹⁷ In 2010, other local employers included the Bering Strait School District, local government offices, local retailers, regional education, health, housing, and other community services, airport construction, the regional Community Development Quota (CDQ) group (the Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation).¹⁸

Based on the 2006-2010 ACS,¹⁹ the per capita income in Savoonga in 2010 was estimated to be \$8,326, and the median household income was estimated to be \$30,313, compared to \$7,725 and \$23,438 in 2000, respectively. However, after accounting for inflation by converting 2000 values to 2010 dollars,²⁰ the real per capita income (\$10,158) decreased during the period and the median household income (\$30,821) decreased only slightly between 2000 and 2010. However, Savoonga's small population size may have prevented the ACS from accurately portraying economic conditions.²¹ A potentially more accurate understanding of per capita income is obtained through 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. Decennial Census, the resulting per capita income estimate for Savoonga in 2010 is \$5,675, which provides support for an overall decrease compared to the real per capita income values reported by the U.S. Census in 2000.²² The decrease in per capita income is reflected by the fact that the community was recognized as "distressed" by the Denali Commission indicating that over 70% of residents aged 16 and older

¹⁵ Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation (n.d.). *List of Contaminated Sites by Region*. Retrieved March 13, 2013 from <http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/csp/list.htm>.

¹⁶ Unless otherwise noted, all monetary data are reported in nominal values.

¹⁷ 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.

¹⁸ 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/>.

¹⁹ U.S. Census Bureau (n.d.). *Profile of selected social, economic and housing characteristics of all places within Alaska*. Datasets utilized include the 2010 American Community Survey 5-year estimates. Retrieved November 1, 2011 from <http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>.

²⁰ Inflation was calculated using the Anchorage Consumer Price Index for 2010 (retrieved October 18, 2011 from the Alaska Department of Labor, <http://labor.alaska.gov/research/cpi/inflationcalc.htm>).

²¹ 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 Alaska communities with small populations that have a low probability of being adequately sampled.

²² See footnotes 18 and 19.

earned less than \$16,120 in 2010.²³ However, it should be noted that both ACS and DOLWD data are based on wage earnings and do not take into account the value of subsistence within the local economy.

In 2010, Savoonga had the 291st largest per capita income out of 305 communities in Alaska, and the 246th largest median household income out of 299 communities in Alaska. Also in 2010, 38% of the civilian labor force was estimated to be unemployed, and 47.6% of local residents were estimated to be living below the poverty line. It should be noted that income and poverty statistics are based on wage income and other money sources; the relatively low income figures and high poverty rates reported for Savoonga are not reflective of the value of subsistence to the local economy. In addition, these unemployment and poverty statistics are likely inaccurate given the small population of Savoonga. A potentially more accurate estimate is based on the ALARI database, which indicates that the unemployment rate in 2010 was 21.9%.

Based on the 2006-2010 ACS, in 2010, the greatest number of workers was estimated to be employed in the private sector (54.2%), along with 45.8% employed in the public sector. Out of 155 people aged 16 and over estimated to be employed in the civilian labor force, the majority were employed in education services, health care, and social assistance (35.5%). Large percentages of the labor force were also employed in construction (17.4%), public administration (14.8%), arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodations, and food service (9%), and transportation, warehousing, and utilities (7.7%). Compared to 2000, there were substantial increases in the percentage of the workforce employed in both construction industries and arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food service industries. Some employment in manufacturing industries was estimated in 2010 (2.5% of the workforce), compared to 0% in 2000. In 2010, only a small percentage of the workforce was estimated to be employed in agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting, and mining industries (1.9%). However, given the data reported in the *Commercial Fishing* section below, 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. It is also important to note that subsistence fishing is not captured in these figures. Information about employment by industry is presented in Figure 3.

When viewing employment in terms of occupation, employment was relatively evenly distributed among occupation categories, with the highest percentages estimated to be working in service and management/professional occupations (25.8% and 27.1%, respectively). Compared to 2000, there was a reduction in the percentage of the workforce employed in management/professional and sales/office occupations, while the percentage in other occupations appears to have increased. Employment by occupation is presented in Figure 4.

²³ Denali Commission. (2011). *Distressed Community Criteria 2011 Update*. Retrieved April 16, 2012 from www.denali.gov.

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

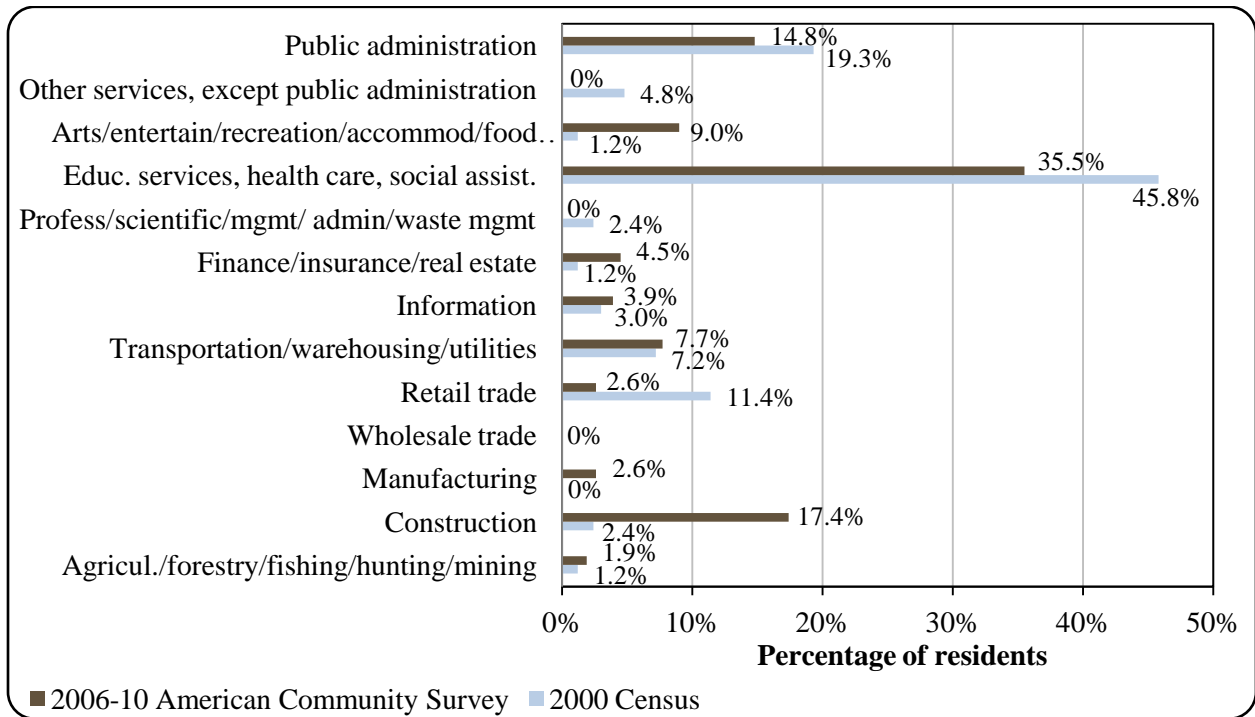
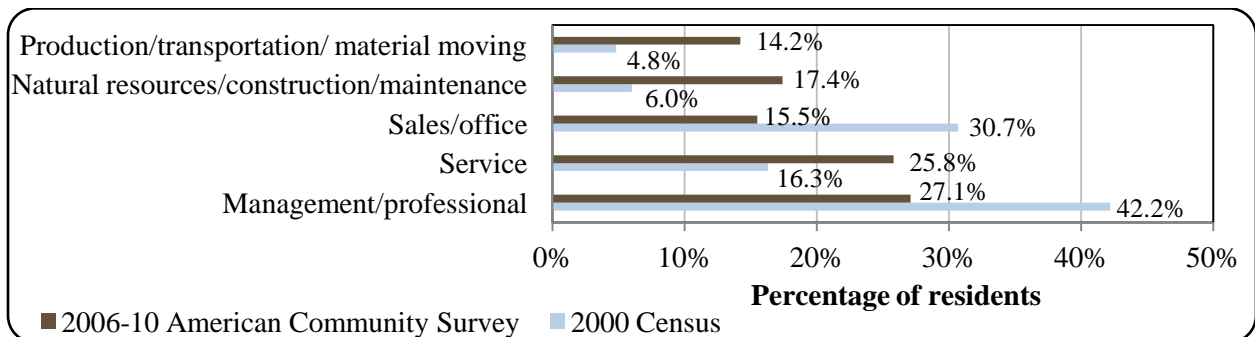


Figure 4. Local Employment by Occupation in 2000-2010, Savoonga (U.S. Census).



Governance

Savoonga is a 2nd Class City, and is not located in an organized borough. The City was incorporated in 1969 and has a Strong Mayor form of government with a seven-person city council including the Mayor, an eleven-person advisory school board, a planning commission, and several municipal employees. As of 2010, the City administers a 3% sales tax.²⁴ In addition to sales tax revenues, locally-generated revenues in Savoonga between 2000 and 2010 came from enterprises such as water/sewer service charges, washeteria/sauna fees, electric utility and garbage collection fees, proceeds from the Teen Center and Deli, harbor/dock charges, and bingo

²⁴ 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.

and pull tab receipts. Other local revenues came from a contract for maintenance of the electric utility and building and equipment rentals. Outside revenue sources included shared revenues from state and federal sources and from grants in many years. Sources of state revenue sharing included the State Revenue Sharing program from 2000 to 2003 (more than \$20,000 per year), the Community Revenue Sharing program in 2009 and 2010 (over \$130,000 each year), a telephone/ electric co-op tax refund, and a state raw fish tax refund (see the *Fisheries-Related Revenues* section for more details).

Savoonga did not receive any fisheries-related state or federal grants between 2000 and 2010. However, the City’s Certified Financial Statements included reported revenues received in some years from the Norton Sound region’s Community Development Quota (CDQ) non-profit, the Norton Sound Economic Development Council (NSEDC). Funds were received from the NSEDC to purchase equipment including a front loader and boat trailers. The NSEDC also provided funds to Savoonga through the Community Benefit Share program, part of the non-profit’s effort to sustain fisheries-related economies in the Norton Sound region.²⁵

Table 2. Selected Municipal, State, or Federal Revenue Streams for the Community of Savoonga 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	\$839,363	\$45,058	\$28,700	n/a
2001	\$780,091	\$32,784	\$25,000	n/a
2002	\$887,033	\$34,562	\$28,000	n/a
2003	\$931,498	\$42,466	\$22,000	n/a
2004	\$777,446	\$41,585	n/a	n/a
2005	\$842,184	\$33,649	n/a	n/a
2006	\$835,236	\$41,361	n/a	n/a
2007	\$1,110,410	\$44,184	n/a	n/a
2008	\$1,076,909	\$52,231	n/a	n/a
2009	\$1,046,490	\$64,588	\$132,693	n/a
2010	\$1,062,281	\$72,622	\$132,832	n/a

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/dcra/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.

Savoonga was included under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA), and is federally recognized as a Native village. The authorized traditional entity, recognized by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), is the Native Village of Savoonga. The community has a Native

²⁵ Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation. (n.d.) *Community Benefit Share Program*. Retrieved September 6, 2013 from <http://www.nsedc.com/cbs.html>.

village corporation, Kukulget, Incorporated, that runs businesses in tourism and gravel sales.²⁶ The regional Native corporation to which Savoonga belongs is the Bering Straits Native Corporation.²⁷

Because of the unique history of St. Lawrence Island as a federal reindeer reserve (the St. Lawrence Island Reserve), the communities of Savoonga and Gambell opted to receive title to all 1,135,843 acres of the St. Lawrence Island Reserve in lieu of the monetary portion of ANCSA land claims (see the *History, Traditional Knowledge, and Culture* section).²⁸ These combined lands are still held in common between Gambell and Savoonga, and are managed by the St. Lawrence Island Economic Development Corporation.²⁹

Savoonga is also a member of Kawerak Inc., a Tribal non-profit organization with a mission to “assist, promote and provide programs and services to improve the social, economic, educational, cultural and governmental self-sufficiency for the betterment of the Native people within the region, and to preserve the traditional culture, languages and values.”³⁰ Kawerak, Inc. is one of the 12 regional Alaska Native 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations that were identified under ANCSA and charged with naming incorporators to create regional for-profit corporations. Today, these regional Native Associations receive federal funding to administer a broad range of services to villages in their regions.³¹ Kawerak, Inc. offers children and family services, community services, and education, employment and training opportunities for residents of the 18 member villages located in the Bering Straits region. The non-profit also includes a Natural Resources Division, which incorporates the Eskimo Walrus Commission, Land Management Services, Reindeer Herders Association, and Subsistence Resources Division.³²

Offices of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) and the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development are located in Nome. The closest offices of the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), and Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services are located in Anchorage.

Infrastructure

Connectivity and Transportation

Savoonga’s isolated location, with no seaport and iced-in conditions during the winter, means a dependence on air transport. The state-owned gravel airstrip is 4,400 ft long and 100 ft wide. Daily air service is available between Savoonga and Nome. There is no dock, and supplies

²⁶ Kawerak, Inc. 2012. *Savoonga Local Economic Development Plan, 2009-2013*. (Addendum added February 13, 2012.) Retrieved August 26, 2013 from <http://www.kawerak.org/ledps/savoonga.pdf>.

²⁷ 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.

²⁸ Franklin, Jonathan. 1993. “Digging for Ivory: The Challenge of Preserving Native Alaskan Archaeological Sites.” *Stanford Environmental Law Journal*, 12 (164-210). Retrieved July 11, 2012 from <http://heinonline.org>.

²⁹ See footnote 27.

³⁰ Kawerak, Inc.. 2006. *Homepage*. Retrieved February 17, 2012 from <http://www.kawerak.org/>.

³¹ U.S. Government Accountability Office. 2005. *Alaska Native Villages: Report to Congressional Addressees and the Alaska Federation of Natives*. Retrieved February 7, 2012 from <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d05719.pdf>.

³² See footnote 30.

are lightered from Nome or off-loaded on the beach.³³ In June 2012, round-trip airfare from Savoonga to Anchorage was \$882.³⁴

*Facilities*³⁵

Utilities are operated by Savoonga Joint Utilities, a non-profit arm of the City, and run by a utility board. Well water is treated and stored in a 100,000-gallon tank at the washeteria.³⁶ A circulating water and sewer system serves 45 households; the remaining 32 homes currently haul water and honeybuckets.³⁷ The clinic and school have independent wells and septic systems. An unpermitted landfill is available. Law enforcement is provided by the City Police and the state troopers post in Nome, while fire and rescue services are provided by the Savoonga First Responders/Rescue Team. Savoonga also has a city jail, a city teen center, a municipal building, a high school gym, and a school library.³⁸

Medical Services

Medical services are provided by the Savoonga Clinic, which is owned by the city and operated by the Norton Sound Health Corporation. The clinic is a Community Health Aid Program site. Alternate health care is provided by the Savoonga First Responders/Rescue Team. Emergency Services have coastal and air access and are provided by a health aide.³⁹ The nearest qualified Emergency Care Center is in Gambell, and the nearest hospital is in Nome.

Educational Opportunities

The Hogarth Kingeekuk Senior Memorial High School provides instruction for students from pre-school through 12th grade. In 2011, the school had 245 students and 19 teachers.⁴⁰ Savoonga is also a Head Start site.⁴¹

Involvement in North Pacific Fisheries

History and Evolution of Fisheries

The life of the St. Lawrence Island Yupik people has long been based on subsistence hunting and gathering, practices which continue to this day. Historically, whales and other marine mammals were hunted, pink and chum salmon, inconnu, whitefish, herring, crab, and

³³ See footnote 27.

³⁴ Airfare was obtained from the travel website <http://www.travelocity.com> for a round-trip ticket for travel from June 1 to June 8, 2012. Retrieved on December 1, 2011.

³⁵ See footnote 27.

³⁶ “Washeteria” is another word for laundromat. In Alaska, washeterias often include shower facilities.

³⁷ A “honeybucket” is an indoor bucket used as a toilet in houses without plumbing.

³⁸ See footnote 27.

³⁹ Ibid.

⁴⁰ Alaska Department of Education and Early Development. (2012). *Statistics and Reports*. Retrieved April 24, 2012 from <http://eed.alaska.gov/stats/>.

⁴¹ Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc. *2010 Head Start Report*. Retrieved on December 20, 2011 from <http://www.ruralcap.com/>.

halibut were harvested, and birds and eggs were also an important part of the diet.⁴² Today, Savoonga is a traditional St. Lawrence Yup'ik village with a subsistence lifestyle based on walrus and whale hunting. Savoonga is hailed as the “Walrus Capital of the World.” Whale, seal, walrus, and reindeer comprise 80% of islanders’ diets. Seal, polar bear, caribou, and fish are also important for subsistence purposes.⁴³

A commercial halibut fishery has increased in importance for residents of St. Lawrence Island in recent decades. Savoonga is located with the International Pacific Halibut Commission area 4D. The community participates in the CDQ program as a member of the Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation (NSEDC). Federal halibut quota held by the NSEDC is harvested by area residents using locally owned fishing vessels, and is delivered to a processing plant located in Savoonga (see *Processing Plants* section).⁴⁴ This system began in 1995, when management of the Pacific halibut and sablefish fisheries shifted from limited entry to a catch share program. The program includes allocation of the annual Total Allowable Catch (TAC) of halibut and sablefish via Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ). In the Bering Sea – Aleutian Islands (BSAI) region, quota shares are also allocated to six CDQ non-profit organizations representing 65 communities in Western Alaska.⁴⁵ In 2010, the NSEDC received an allocation of 146,250 lbs of CDQ halibut quota, all of which was allocated for harvest within Area 4D.⁴⁶ In addition to CDQ quota, a number of Savoonga residents hold individual halibut quota share accounts and IFQ, as well as state-issued Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) halibut permits (see *Commercial Fishing* section).

Marine mammal subsistence harvests are managed under several co-management efforts. The first co-management system was established with the creation of the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission (AEWC) in 1977. The AEWC represents whalers from Kaktovik, Nuiqsut, Barrow, Wainwright, Point Hope, Kivalina, Little Diomedea, Wales, Savoonga, and Gambell. Savoonga is also a member community in the Eskimo Walrus Commission (formed in 1978), the Beluga Whale Committee (formed in 1988), and the Nanuq Commission (formed in 1994 for polar bear management). In 1994, Section 119 of the reauthorization for the Marine Mammal Protection Act provided a legislative basis for these cooperative agreements with Alaska Native organizations.⁴⁷

Processing Plants

ADF&G’s 2010 Intent to Operate list notes one processing plant currently operating in Savoonga. According to a survey of plant managers conducted by the Alaska Fisheries Science Center in 2011, the Savoonga Norton Sound Seafood Products plant reportedly processes halibut, red king crab, salmon, and herring, and was founded in 1992. Norton Sound Seafood Products is

⁴² Alaska Native Heritage Center. 2008. *Inupiaq & St. Lawrence Island Yupik People – Who We Are*. Retrieved July 11, 2012 from http://www.alaskanative.net/en/main_nav/education/culture_alaska/inupiaq/.

⁴³ 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.

⁴⁴ Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation. (n.d.). *Halibut Target Fishery*. Retrieved July 11, 2012 from <http://www.nsedc.com/halibut.html>.

⁴⁵ Fina, Mark. 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.

⁴⁶ NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service. 2010. *Memorandum: 2010 Community Development Quota (CDQ) Halibut Allocations*. Retrieved January 8, 2013 from <http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/ram/10ifqcdqtac.pdf>.

⁴⁷ Glenn Gray and Associates (2007). *North Slope Borough Coastal Management Plan*. Retrieved February 29, 2012 from http://www.co.north-slope.ak.us/programs/coastal_management/NSB_Coastal_Management_Plan.pdf.

a subsidiary of the NSEDC, with plants located in Savoonga, Unalakleet, and Nome, and buying stations at Elim, Golovin, and Shaktoolik.⁴⁸ According to the plant managers survey, the Savoonga Norton Sound Seafood Products plant employs between 4 and 10 employees, with the largest number of workers in the month of August.

Fisheries-Related Revenue

Savoonga receives a small amount of fisheries-related revenue from a raw fish tax and the Shared Fisheries Business Tax. While the amount of revenue received from raw fish tax was relatively stable for years in which data were reported, the amount of revenue received from the Shared Fisheries Business Tax varied between 2000 and 2010 (Table 3).⁴⁹

In addition to the revenues listed in Table 3, the City of Savoonga reported in its Certified Financial Statements that funds were received from the NSEDC to fund purchase of equipment including a front loader and boat trailers. In addition, the NSEDC provided funding to Savoonga through the Community Benefit Share program, part of the non-profit's effort to sustain fisheries-related economies in the Norton Sound region.⁵⁰

Commercial Fishing

Savoonga residents held halibut Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) permits in many years during the 2000-2010 period, with the most active participation in the halibut fishery between 2007 and 2010. In 2010, 14 permits were held, of which 12 (86%) were actively fished that year. Both the number of permits held and the percentage of permits actively fished remained relatively stable between 2007 and 2010. In 2010, all 14 halibut CFEC permits were for the statewide long line fishery using vessels under 60 ft in length. Although some residents held halibut CFEC permits in previous years during the 2000-2010 period, none were actively fished. No state or federal permits were held by Savoonga residents in fisheries for other species between 2000 and 2010 (Table 4).

Prior to 2006, there were few crew license holders or fish buyers in Savoonga, as well as few vessels owned by local residents or vessels homeported or landing catch in the community. Between 2006 and 2010, however, there were between 12 and 20 crew license holders and 1 fish buyer in Savoonga, as well as 1 shore-side processing facility (as described above), which was operational for all years between 2000 and 2010. Also between 2006 and 2010, there were between 8 and 13 vessels owned primarily by Savoonga residents, and between 7 and 13 vessels homeported in Savoonga. Between 7 and 11 vessels landed catch in Savoonga between 2006 and 2010; however, the landings and associated ex-vessel value are considered confidential due to the small number of participants, with the exception of halibut landings by Savoonga residents between 2007 and 2010 (Tables 5 and 9). Both landings and ex-vessel value for halibut increased overall between 2007 and 2010 (Table 10). No residents of Savoonga held quota shares for halibut (Table 6), sablefish (Table 7), or crab (Table 8) between 2000 and 2010.

⁴⁸ Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation. (n.d.). *Norton Sound Seafood Products (NSSP)*. Retrieved July 11, 2012 from <http://www.nsedc.com/nssp.html>.

⁴⁹ 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.

⁵⁰ Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation. (n.d.) *Community Benefit Share Program*. Retrieved September 6, 2013 from <http://www.nsedc.com/cbs.html>.

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

Revenue source	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Raw fish tax ¹	\$300	\$480	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$247	\$200	\$227	\$225	n/a	n/a
Shared Fisheries											
Business Tax ¹	\$82	\$171	\$1,034	\$112	\$97	\$247	\$298	\$227	\$124	\$92	\$1,303
Fisheries Resource	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Landing Tax ¹											
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	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Port/dock usage ²	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
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	n/a
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>\$382</i>	<i>\$651</i>	<i>\$1,034</i>	<i>\$112</i>	<i>\$97</i>	<i>\$495</i>	<i>\$498</i>	<i>\$454</i>	<i>\$349</i>	<i>\$92</i>	<i>\$1,303</i>
<i>Total municipal revenue⁵</i>	<i>\$839,363</i>	<i>\$780,091</i>	<i>\$887,033</i>	<i>\$931,498</i>	<i>\$777,446</i>	<i>\$842,184</i>	<i>\$835,236</i>	<i>\$1,110,410</i>	<i>\$1,076,909</i>	<i>\$1,046,490</i>	<i>\$1,062,281</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 Cont. Permits and Permit Holders by Species, Savoonga: 2000-2010.

Species		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Sablefish (CFEC) ²	Total permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Fished permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	% of permits fished	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total permit holders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Groundfish (CFEC) ²	Total permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Fished permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	% of permits fished	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total permit holders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Finfish (CFEC) ²	Total permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Fished permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	% of permits fished	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total permit holders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Salmon (CFEC) ²	Total permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Fished permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	% of permits fished	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total permit holders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Total CFEC Permits²</i>	<i>Permits</i>	8	4	1	0	0	0	11	12	8	16	14
	<i>Fished permits</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	6	12	12
	<i>% of permits fished</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	83%	75%	75%	86%
	<i>Permit holders</i>	8	4	1	0	0	0	11	12	8	15	14

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 Savoonga: 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 Savoonga ²	Total Net Pounds Landed In Savoonga ^{2,5}	Total Ex-Vessel Value Of Landings In Savoonga ^{2,5}
2000	1	1	1	8	8	1	--	--
2001	0	0	1	4	4	0	0	\$0
2002	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	\$0
2003	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	\$0
2004	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	\$0
2005	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	\$0
2006	5	0	1	11	10	0	0	\$0
2007	12	1	1	12	11	10	--	--
2008	23	1	1	8	7	7	--	--
2009	28	1	1	13	13	11	--	--
2010	20	1	1	11	11	11	--	--

Note: Cells showing “--” indicate that the data are considered confidential.

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 Savoonga: 2000-2010.

Year	Number of Halibut Quota Share Account Holders	Halibut Quota Shares Held	Halibut IFQ Allotment (Pounds)
2000	0	0	0
2001	0	0	0
2002	0	0	0
2003	0	0	0
2004	0	0	0
2005	0	0	0
2006	0	0	0
2007	0	0	0
2008	0	0	0
2009	0	0	0
2010	0	0	0

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

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

Year	Number of Sablefish Quota Share Account Holders	Sablefish Quota Shares Held	Sablefish IFQ Allotment (Pounds)
2000	0	0	0
2001	0	0	0
2002	0	0	0
2003	0	0	0
2004	0	0	0
2005	0	0	0
2006	0	0	0
2007	0	0	0
2008	0	0	0
2009	0	0	0
2010	0	0	0

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

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

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

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

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

	<i>Total Net Lbs¹</i>										
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Crab	--	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	--	--	--
Finfish	--	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	--	--	--
Halibut	--	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	--	--	--
Herring	--	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	--	--	--
Other Groundfish	--	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	--	--	--
Other Shellfish	--	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	--	--	--
Pacific Cod	--	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	--	--	--
Pollock	--	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	--	--	--
Sablefish	--	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	--	--	--
Salmon	--	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	--	--	--
<i>Total²</i>	--	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	--	--	--
	<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	--	--	--	--
Finfish	--	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	--	--	--	--
Halibut	--	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	--	--	--	--
Herring	--	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	--	--	--	--
Other Groundfish	--	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	--	--	--	--
Other Shellfish	--	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	--	--	--	--
Pacific Cod	--	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	--	--	--	--
Pollock	--	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	--	--	--	--
Sablefish	--	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	--	--	--	--
Salmon	--	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	--	--	--	--
<i>Total²</i>	--	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	--	--	--	--

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 lbs 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 Savoonga Residents: 2000-2010.

	<i>Total Net Lbs¹</i>										
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Crab	--	--	--	0	0	0	--	--	--	--	--
Finfish	--	--	--	0	0	0	--	--	--	--	--
Halibut	--	--	--	0	0	0	--	29,607	22,865	25,762	61,406
Herring	--	--	--	0	0	0	--	--	--	--	--
Other Groundfish	--	--	--	0	0	0	--	--	--	--	--
Other Shellfish	--	--	--	0	0	0	--	--	--	--	--
Pacific Cod	--	--	--	0	0	0	--	--	--	--	--
Pollock	--	--	--	0	0	0	--	--	--	--	--
Sablefish	--	--	--	0	0	0	--	--	--	--	--
Salmon	--	--	--	0	0	0	--	--	--	--	--
<i>Total²</i>	--	--	--	0	0	0	--	29,607	22,865	25,762	61,406
	<i>Ex-vessel Value (nominal U.S. dollars)</i>										
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Crab	--	--	--	\$0	\$0	\$0	--	--	--	--	--
Finfish	--	--	--	\$0	\$0	\$0	--	--	--	--	--
Halibut	--	--	--	\$0	\$0	\$0	--	\$127,073	\$68,344	\$79,940	\$197,557
Herring	--	--	--	\$0	\$0	\$0	--	--	--	--	--
Other Groundfish	--	--	--	\$0	\$0	\$0	--	--	--	--	--
Other Shellfish	--	--	--	\$0	\$0	\$0	--	--	--	--	--
Pacific Cod	--	--	--	\$0	\$0	\$0	--	--	--	--	--
Pollock	--	--	--	\$0	\$0	\$0	--	--	--	--	--
Sablefish	--	--	--	\$0	\$0	\$0	--	--	--	--	--
Salmon	--	--	--	\$0	\$0	\$0	--	--	--	--	--
<i>Total²</i>	--	--	--	\$0	\$0	\$0	--	\$127,073	\$68,344	\$79,940	\$197,557

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 lbs refers to the landed weight recorded in fish tickets.

² Totals only represent non-confidential data.

Recreational Fishing

No active sport fish guide businesses or licensed sport fish guides were registered in Savoonga between 2000 and 2010. Likewise, no sport fishing licenses were sold in Savoonga during this period, although a small number of Savoonga residents purchased sport fishing licenses in most years (irrespective of the point of sale) (Table 11). Additionally, no charter fishing activity was documented in Savoonga between 2000 and 2010.

The ADF&G Statewide Harvest Survey does not include St. Lawrence Island (including Savoonga) within a survey region; therefore there are no data available from the Statewide Harvest Survey for this area. The nearest survey area is Area W-Seward Peninsula and Norton Sound.

Table 11. Sport Fishing Trends, Savoonga: 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 Savoonga ²	Saltwater Angler Days Fished – Non-Residents ³	Saltwater Angler Days Fished – Alaska Residents ³
2000	0	0	3	0	n/a	n/a
2001	0	0	7	0	n/a	n/a
2002	0	0	7	0	n/a	n/a
2003	0	0	5	0	n/a	n/a
2004	0	0	5	0	n/a	n/a
2005	0	0	4	0	n/a	n/a
2006	0	0	1	0	n/a	n/a
2007	0	0	5	0	n/a	n/a
2008	0	0	0	0	n/a	n/a
2009	0	0	7	0	n/a	n/a
2010	0	0	3	0	n/a	n/a

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/sport_fishingsurvey/ (Accessed September 2011).

Subsistence Fishing

Many residents of Savoonga supplement their incomes and diet with subsistence resources. Whale, seal, walrus, and reindeer comprise 80% of islanders' diets.⁵¹ Traditional subsistence culture is of utmost importance to the people of Savoonga. The culture of Savoonga is an extension of the land and sea with intricate, ancient rituals revolving around walrus and whale hunting. Savoonga is noted as the "Walrus Capitol of the World," but whaling is equally, if not more important to the people.⁵²

Data were not available or were minimal regarding per capita subsistence harvest and the percentage of Savoonga households that utilized various marine resources for subsistence purposes between 2000 and 2010 (Table 12). Data are also not available regarding annual subsistence harvests of salmon, marine invertebrates, and non-salmon fish (not including halibut) (Table 13).

However, data were available from management agencies regarding halibut and marine mammal subsistence. Data for annual subsistence halibut harvest show a substantial decline in the number of residents holding Subsistence Halibut Registration Certificate (SHARC) cards between 2003 and 2010, as well as a decline in the number of SHARC cards reported as fished, and the amount of lbs of halibut harvested per year (Table 14). Data reported about marine mammal subsistence show average harvest of 546 walrus and 6 polar bears by Savoonga residents between 2000 and 2010. Information on subsistence harvest of beluga whale, sea otter, Steller sea lion, harbor seal, and spotted seal was not reported by management agencies between 2000 and 2010 (Table 15).

⁵¹ 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.

⁵² Aksik. (2011). *Stories about Adaptation and Subsistence: Native voices from the frontlines of climate change - Savoonga*. Retrieved May 4, 2012 from <http://aksik.org/village/savoonga>.

Table 12. Subsistence Participation by Household and Species, Savoonga: 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 (lbs)
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