

Atka (AT-ka)



People and Place

*Location*¹

Atka is located on Atka Island, 1,200 mi southwest of Anchorage and 350 mi west of Unalaska. The area encompasses 8.7 square mi of land and 27.4 square mi of water. Atka was incorporated as a Second-class city in 1988, is located in the Aleutians West Census Area, and is not under the jurisdiction of a borough.

*Demographic Profile*²

In 2010, there were 61 residents, ranking Atka 288th of 352 communities in Alaska in terms of population size. Between 1990 and 2010, the population declined by 16.4%. Between 2000 and 2009, the population fell by 22.8% with an average annual growth rate of -2.68%, which was well below the statewide average annual growth rate of 0.75% and indicative of a steadily declining population. In a survey conducted by the Alaska Fisheries Science Center (AFSC) in 2011, community leaders reported that the estimated number of permanent residents was 72 in 2010, while the estimated number of seasonal or transient residents was 12. Atka typically has seasonal workers living in the community between March and August with the population peaking from April through July. This peak in population is thought to be entirely driven by employment in the fisheries sectors. Information regarding population trends can be found in Table 1.

Atka was predominately an Aleut (Unangas) community in 2010. In that year, 95.1% of the population reported themselves as American Indian or Alaska Native, compared to 80.4% in 2000; and 4.9% identified themselves as White, compared to 6.5% in 2000. Those identifying themselves as two or more races dropped from 10.9% in 2000 to 0% in 2010. No residents reported themselves as Hispanic or Latino in 2010. Information regarding racial and ethnic trends can be found in Figure 1.

The average household size in 2010 was 2.54, compared to 3.60 in 1990 and 2.69 in 2000. In that year there were 43 total housing units, compared to 26 in 1990 and 41 in 2000. Of the households surveyed in 2010, 23.3% were owner-occupied, compared to 63.4% in 2000; 32.6% were renter-occupied, compared to 14.6% in 2000; 37.2% were vacant, compared to 12.2% in 2000; and 7% were occupied seasonally, compared to 9.8% in 2000. There were no residents living in group quarters in 2010, compared to six in 2000.

The gender distribution of Atka residents was relatively skewed in 2010 at 59.0% male, and 41.0% female. This was less even than both the distribution statewide (52.0% male, 48.0%

¹ 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.

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>.

female), and in 2000 (50.0% male, 50.0% female). The median age that year was 35.5 years, which was somewhat higher than the statewide median of 33.8 years and identical to the median in 2000.

Compared to 2000, the population structure in 2010 was more irregular. In that year, 31.2% of residents were under the age of 20, compared to 31.4% in 2000; 16.4% were over the age of 59, compared to 13.0% in 2000; 39.6% were between the ages of 30 and 59, compared to 44.5% in 2000; and 13.2% were between the ages of 20 and 29, compared to 10.8% in 2000.

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

Year	U.S. Decennial Census ¹	Alaska Department of Labor Estimate of Permanent Residents ²
1990	73	-
2000	92	-
2001	-	92
2002	-	102
2003	-	94
2004	-	93
2005	-	90
2006	-	73
2007	-	74
2008	-	73
2009	-	71
2010	61	-

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

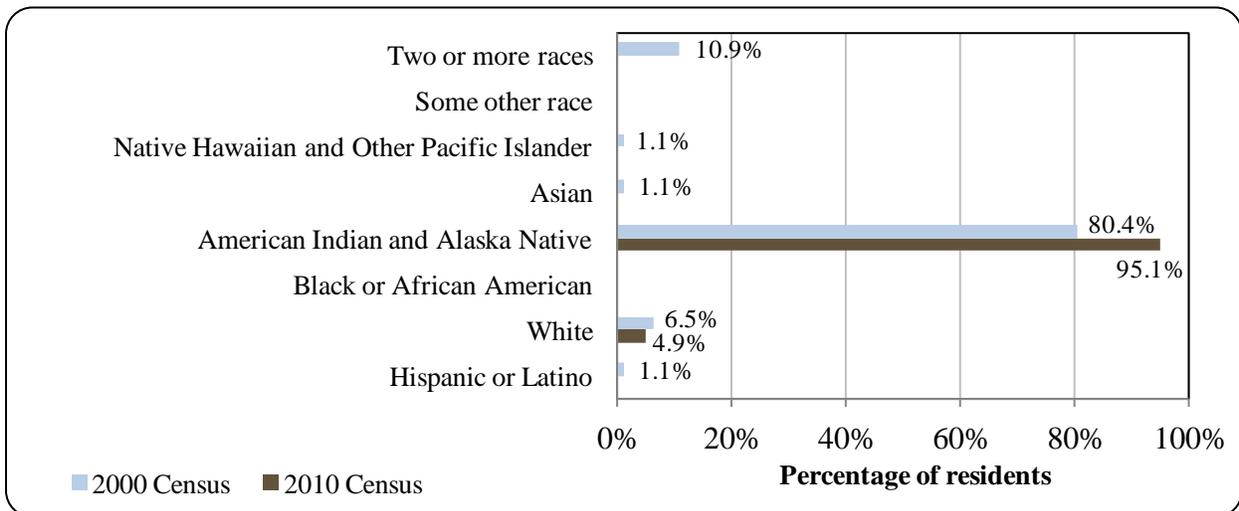
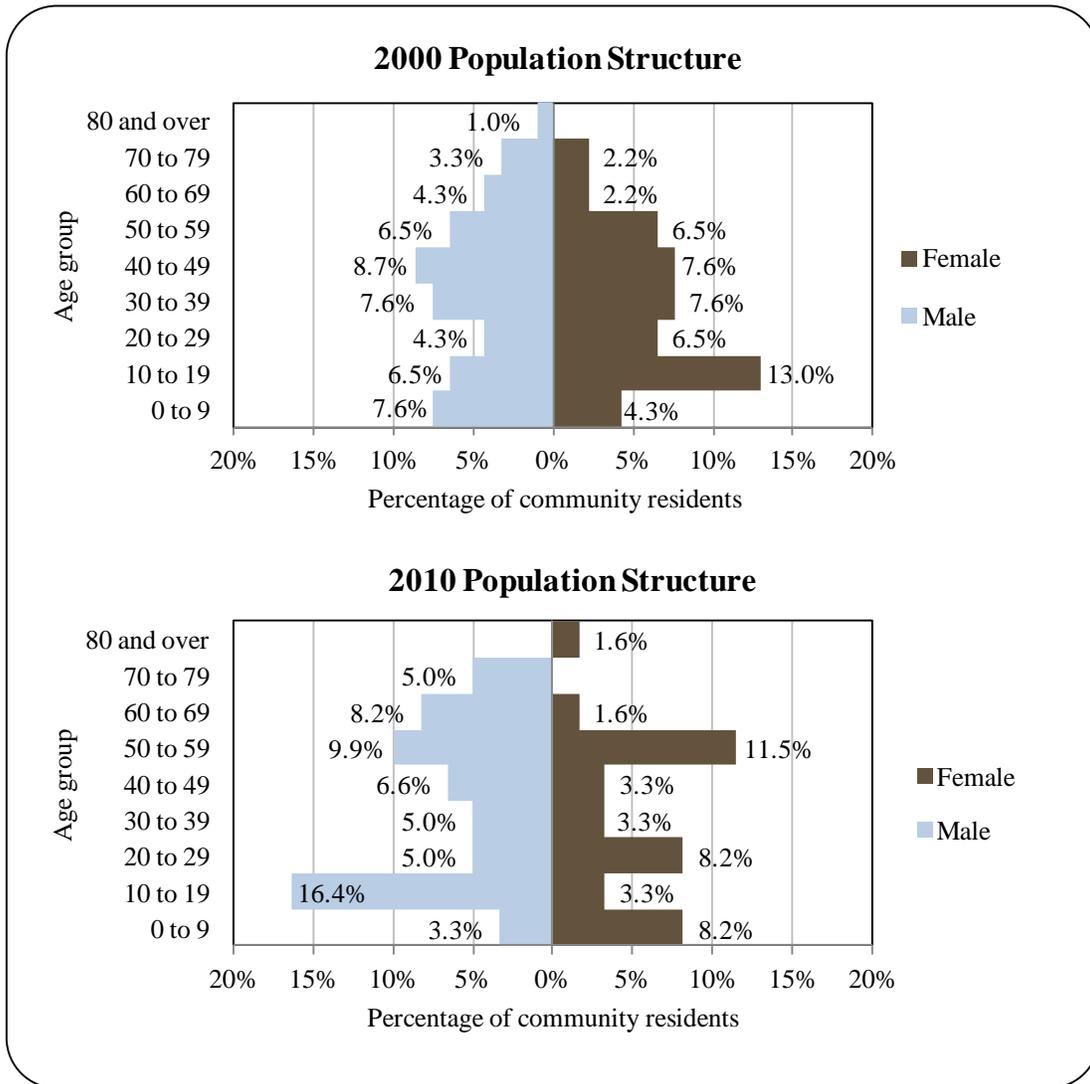


Figure 2. Population Age Structure in Atka Based on the 2000 and 2010 U.S. Decennial Census.



Gender distribution by age cohort was significantly less even in 2010 than in 2000, with notable male biases among many age ranges. In 2010, the greatest absolute gender difference occurred in the 10 to 19 range (16.4% male, 3.3% female), followed by the 60 to 69 (8.2% male, 1.6% female) and 70 to 79 (5.0% male, 0.0% female) ranges. Of those three, the greatest relative gender difference occurred in the 70 to 79 range. Information regarding Atka’s population structure can be found in Figure 2.

According to the U.S. Census’ 2006-2010 American Community Survey (ACS),³ an estimated 71.4% of residents aged 25 years and older held a high school diploma or higher

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

degree in 2010, compared to an estimated 90.7% of Alaska residents overall. Also in that year, an estimated 14.3% had less than a 9th grade education, compared to an estimated 3.5% of Alaska residents overall; an estimated 14.3% had a 9th to 12th grade education but no degree, compared to an estimated 5.8% of Alaska residents overall; and an estimated 14.3% had some college but no degree, compared to an estimated 28.3% of Alaska residents overall. No residents were estimated to hold a post-secondary degree in 2010.

*History, Traditional Knowledge, and Culture*⁴

There is evidence of human occupation of the Aleutian Islands dating back at least 8,000 years; however, it is believed that humans were populating North America at least 13,000 years ago during the end of the last glacial maximum. Archaeological sites dating back over 11,000 years have been found on Prince of Wales Island, lending evidence to a possible coastal migration route.⁵

The island has been occupied by Unangas for at least 2,000 years. Unangas speak the western dialect, known since the Russian era as "Aleut". Recent archaeological evidence indicates that the present village site may have had human use since prehistoric times. The first contact with Russians occurred in 1747, and Atka became an important trade site and safe harbor for Russians. In 1787, a number of hunters were enslaved and relocated to the Pribilofs to work in the fur seal harvest. The townsite was settled in the 1860s. After the end of the sea otter hunting era in the late 1800s, Atka had no viable cash economy. Reindeer were introduced to the island in 1914. During the 1920s, Atka became relatively affluent due to fox farming. After the Japanese attacked Unalaska and seized Attu and Kiska in June 1942, the U.S. Government evacuated Atka residents to the Ketchikan area and burned it to the ground to prevent Japanese forces from using it and advancing. The community was rebuilt by the U.S. Navy after the war, and residents were allowed to return. Many Attu villagers, released from imprisonment in Japan in 1945, relocated to Atka. This exposure to the outside world brought many changes in the traditional culture and attitudes in the community.

Natural Resources and Environment

Atka lies in a maritime climate zone and temperatures range from 20 to 60 °F (-7 to 16 °C). Precipitation averages 60 inches per year, and snowfall averages 61 inches per year. There are frequent winds and severe storms in the winter and calm, foggy weather in summer.⁶

Atka Island is part of the Aleutian Islands Unit of the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge (AMNWR), which covers 3.4 million acres of the Aleutian Islands, Pribilof Islands, and areas around the Chukchi Sea.⁷ The local environment is characterized by tundra which transitions to upland mountainous regions. Steep topographical relief and shallow soils prevent

⁴ 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.

⁵ National Park Service. (n.d.). *Archaeological Overview of Alaska*. Retrieved May 30, 2012 from: <http://www.nps.gov/akso/akarc/early.htm>.

⁶ See footnote 4.

⁷ US Fish and Wildlife Service. (n.d.) *Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge*. Retrieved December 28, 2011 from: <http://alaska.fws.gov/nwr/akmar/units.htm>.

many trees from growing in the Aleutians, and trees that are found often consist of introduced spruce. Local flora includes many grasses, sedges, lichens, mosses, wildflowers, and heath plants. Wild rye often grows near beaches. Marine fish are diverse and abundant, and include pollock, herring, skates, smelt, cod, rockfish, sablefish, greenling, sculpin, halibut, flounder, crab, shellfish, shrimp, and all five species of Pacific salmon. Freshwater species include whitefish, arctic lamprey, Dolly Varden and arctic char, sculpin, arctic grayling, northern pike, burbot, and sheefish. Marine mammals include 11 species of whale, dolphin, porpoise, sea otter, fur seal, Steller sea lion, walrus, harbor seal, and elephant seal. Over 250 species of birds migrate through the Aleutian Islands Unit of the AMNWR.⁸

Although Atka does not have a hazard mitigation plan, the Aleutians East Borough identified several natural hazards which potentially impact Aleutian communities, including volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, coastal flooding and erosion, ground failure, tsunami, and extreme weather. All of these hazards have records of occurrence in the area and have a high potential for future occurrence.⁹

According to the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC),¹⁰ there were no significant environmental remediation projects active within Atka in 2010.

Current Economy¹¹

Atka's economy is based on subsistence living and wages earned from the halibut fishery. A small local fish processing plant, Atka Pride Seafoods, operates seasonally to serve the local fleet. They currently process halibut and sablefish. A number of offshore fish processors carry out crew changes through Atka. Year-round income opportunities in the village are limited to education- and government-related work. A reindeer herd of over 2,500 head provides a source of food.¹² Top employers in 2010¹³ included the City of Atka, Village Safe Water, Aleutian Pribilof Island Association, Atka Pride Seafoods Inc. Aleutian School District, Aleutian Pribilof Islands Community Development Association (APICDA), Atka Native Store, and Atxam Corporation. In a survey conducted by the AFSC in 2011, community leaders reported that the community's economy is reliant on commercial fishing and recreational hunting/fishing.

In 2010,¹⁴ the estimated per capita income was \$27,542 and the estimated median household income was \$90,000, compared to \$17,980 and \$30,938 in 2000, respectively.¹⁵ After adjusting for inflation by converting 2000 values to 2010 dollars,¹⁶ the real per capita income

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Aleutians East Borough. (2010). *Multi-Jurisdictional Hazards Mitigation Plan*. Retrieved December 28, 2011 from: <http://www.aleutianseast.org/vertical/Sites/%7BEBDABE05-9D39-4ED4-98D4-908383A7714A%7D/uploads/%7B5F7E9057-83A3-4DBA-B144-073C3F6461D6%7D.PDF>.

¹⁰ Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (n.d.). *Contaminated Sites Program*. Retrieved June 6, 2012 from: <http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/csp/list.htm>

¹¹ Unless otherwise noted, all monetary data are reported in nominal values.

¹² See footnote 4.

¹³ 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/>.

¹⁴ 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>.

¹⁵ See footnote 3.

¹⁶ Inflation was calculated using the Anchorage Consumer Price Index for 2000 and 2010 (retrieved January 5, 2012 from the Alaska Department of Labor, <http://labor.alaska.gov/research/cpi/inflationcalc.htm>).

(\$22,460) and real median household income (\$40,683) indicate significant increases in both individual and household earnings. In 2010, Atka ranked 83rd of 305 communities from which per capita income was estimated, and 14th of 299 communities from which median household income was estimated.

It should be noted that Atka's small population size may have prevented the ACS from accurately portraying economic conditions.¹⁷ 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). According to the ALARI database, total wages earned by Atka residents in 2010 was \$1.03 million.¹⁸ When compared with the 2010 population, per capita income equals \$16,834; suggesting that caution should be used when comparing 2010 ACS estimates with the 2000 Census.¹⁹ The per capita income estimate based on ALARI data is likely more accurate than the 2010 ACS estimate, as \$90,000 was confirmed as unlikely based on estimates given by the community directly.

According to 2006-2010 ACS estimates,²⁰ 68.4% of residents aged 16 years and over were part of the civilian labor force in 2010. In that year, unemployment was estimated at 0.0%, compared to an estimated 5.9% statewide; and an estimated 4.2% of residents lived below the poverty line, compared to an estimated 9.5% of Alaska residents overall. Of those employed, an estimated 76.9% worked in the private sector and an estimated 23.1% worked in the public sector. Again, it is likely that the 2010 ACS misrepresented economic conditions within Atka due to the community's small population size. According to 2010 ALARI employment data, the unemployment rate was 18.4% based on unemployment insurance claimants.

By industry, most (38.5%) employed residents were estimated to work in finance, real estate, or insurance sectors; followed by public administration sectors (23.1%) and non-public administration service sectors (15.4%). By occupation type, most (46.2%) employed residents were estimated to hold management or professional positions; followed by natural resource, construction, or maintenance positions (30.8%); sales or office positions (15.4%); and production, transportation, or material moving positions (7.7%). Information regarding employment trends can be found in Figures 3 and 4.

Overall there were strong variations among most industry sectors and occupation types between 2000 and 2010. There was a significant increase in the proportion of residents employed in finance, insurance, real estate, and non-public administration sectors; while there was a significant decrease in arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodations, food services, education services, health care, and social assistance sectors. By occupation type, there was a significant increase in the proportion of management, professional, natural resources, construction, and maintenance positions; while there was a significant decrease in the proportion of service, sales, and office positions. It should be noted that while it is possible that the significant shifts can be attributed to economic regime changes, it is also likely the ACS sampling methods were unable

¹⁷ 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.

¹⁸ ALARI estimates based on wages reported for unemployment insurance purposes. Estimates do not include self-employed or federally employed residents.

¹⁹ 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/>.

²⁰ See footnote 17.

to capture economic conditions accurately. ALARI estimated that in 2010, most (58.5%) private or state employees worked in local government sectors; followed by education or health service sectors (14.6%); manufacturing sectors (12.2%); financial sectors (7.3%); and professional or business sectors (7.3%).

In 2010, no individuals characterized themselves as working in natural resource-based occupations or industries that include fishing. However, given the data reported in the *Commercial Fishing* section below, the number of individuals employed in the farming, fishing, and forestry industries may be underestimated by census statistics as fishermen may hold another job and characterize their employment accordingly.

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

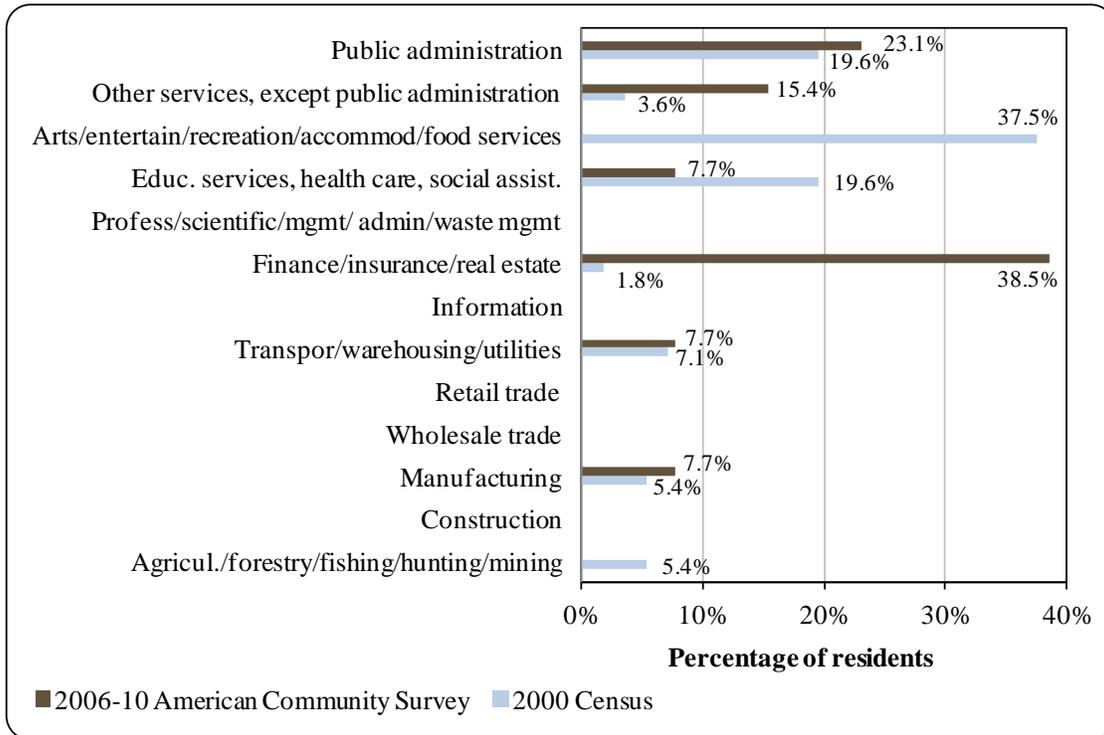
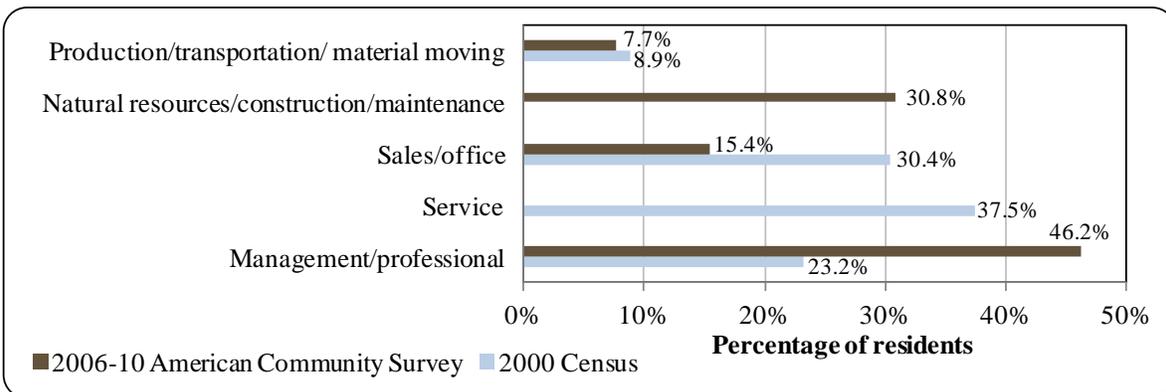


Figure 4. Local Employment by Occupation in 2000-2010, Atka (U.S. Census).



Governance²¹

Atka is a Second-class city with a mayoral form of government. The community has a seven member city council and 10 municipal employees which include a fire chief, Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO), and Anchorage-based City Administrator. In addition, there is a U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) recognized Tribal government, and an Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) chartered Native village corporation (Atxam Corporation). The regional ANCSA chartered Native Corporation representing Atka is the Aleut Corporation. Total ANCSA land entitlement in the area is over 100,000 acres. The closest National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), U.S. Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services (BCIS), and Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) offices are located in Unalaska, 350 mi east. As of 2010, the city administered a 10% bed tax and 2% raw fish tax.

In 2010, total municipal revenue was \$833,779, compared to \$243,643 in 2000; a 165% increase after adjusting for inflation.²² In addition, the community was allocated \$99,561 from the state Community Revenue Sharing program, which accounted for approximately 12% of the municipal budget that year. In contrast, Atka received \$27,706 in State Revenue Sharing in 2000, which accounted for approximately 11% of the municipal budget that year. Municipal revenue estimates include only general fund revenues, and include capital project and business related funds. Information regarding municipal finances can be found in Table 2.

Infrastructure

Connectivity and Transportation

Atka has a state-owned, city-maintained 4,800-ft by 100-ft asphalt, lighted runway. Scheduled air services are available three times weekly from Unalaska. Planes can be chartered from Cold Bay or Unalaska. Freight service is provided from April to October. The city dock and port facility is located 5 mi from town in Nazan Bay.²³ Roundtrip airfare between Anchorage and Unalaska in June 2012 was \$958.²⁴

Facilities

The community system was constructed in 1978 and was expanded in 1982 to a new housing area. Water is supplied by a stream and wooden reservoir dam northwest of the city. Water is treated and stored in a 130,000-gal water tank before distribution. All homes are connected to the piped water and sewer system and are plumbed. Sewage is piped to a central septic system. Wastewater flows untreated through outfall lines into Nazan Bay. Garbage is collected twice a week.²⁵

²¹ 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.

²² Inflation calculated using Anchorage CPI from Alaska DOL: <http://labor.alaska.gov/research/cpi/cpi.htm>

²³ Ibid.

²⁴ Airfare was calculated using lowest fare. Source: <http://www.travelocity.com> (retrieved November 22, 2011).

²⁵ See footnote 21.

Table 2. Selected Municipal, State, or Federal Revenue Streams for the Community of Atka 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	\$243,643	n/a	\$27,706	n/a
2001	\$249,155	n/a	\$26,744	n/a
2002	\$306,036	n/a	\$26,736	n/a
2003	\$245,396	n/a	\$26,840	n/a
2004	\$301,820	n/a	-	n/a
2005	\$288,960	n/a	-	n/a
2006	\$306,160	n/a	-	n/a
2007	\$418,695	n/a	-	n/a
2008	\$693,672	n/a	-	n/a
2009	\$736,251	n/a	\$99,724	n/a
2010	\$833,779	n/a	\$99,561	n/a

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

¹ Alaska Department of Community and Rural Affairs. (n.d.). *Financial Documents Delivery System*. Retrieved at http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dcra/commfin/CF_FinRec.cfm. Data retrieved April 15, 2011.

² Alaska Department of Community and Econ Development (n.d.). *Alaska Taxable (2000-2010)*. Retrieved at http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/osa/osa_summary.cfm. Data retrieved April 15, 2011.

³ Alaska Department of Revenue (n.d.). *(2000-2009) Taxes and Fees Annual Report*. Accessed at www.tax.state.ak.us. Data retrieved April 15, 2011.

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

⁵ Alaska Department of Community and Rural Affairs. (n.d.). *Community Funding Database*. Retrieved at http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF_Grants.htm. Data retrieved April 15, 2011.

In a survey conducted by the AFSC in 2011, community leaders reported on general and fisheries-related infrastructure and services present or under development in the community. These include a fishing cleaning station, barge landing area, dock improvements, dock utilities, dock access, pilings, broadband internet access, road improvements, airport improvements, general utility improvements, alternative energy projects, emergency response systems, telephone service, fire department, post office, and fire department improvements. In addition, there are plans for dockside fuel tanks, a breakwater, harbor dredging, a jetty, dry dock space, haulout facilities, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) certified cleaning station, sewage treatment station, and a new landfill. Fisheries-related businesses located in the community include fish processors, fishing gear sales, boat repair (machine shop, mechanical services, and hydraulics), small vessel haulout facilities (less than 60 tons), commercial fishing vessel moorage, tackle sales, bait sales, commercial cold storage facilities, marine refrigeration, boat fuel sales, fishing gear storage, ice sales, water taxi, and air taxi.

According to a Community Development Plan created by the City of Atka in 2006,²⁶ development projects completed or marked as ongoing include housing improvements and

²⁶ City of Atka. (2006). *Community Development Plan*. Retrieved December 28, 2011 from: <http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/plans/Atka-GCP-2006.pdf>.

repair, a new clinic, ambulance services, road and bridge repair, community enrichment programs, fish marketing, processor improvements, a restaurant, and a new post office. Projects that the community would like to pursue include an airport terminal, additional rental housing, a recreation center, and a larger general store.

Medical Services

The Atka Village Clinic is a Primary Health Care Facility, regional Emergency Medical Service provider, and Community Health Aid Program (CHAP) site. Acute and long-term care is provided in Unalaska.

*Educational Opportunities*²⁷

Yakov E. Netsvetov School provides Kindergarten through 12th grade instruction. As of 2011, there were 10 students enrolled and one teacher employed.

Involvement in North Pacific Fisheries

History and Evolution of Fisheries

Unangas have occupied Atka Island for at least 2,000 years and perhaps as long as 4,500 years.²⁸ During this time, the local inhabitants have relied extensively on a subsistence lifestyle. Today, residents of Atka participate heavily in commercial, recreational, and subsistence fisheries.

Previous to Alaska's purchase in 1867, American schooners were fishing for cod in the Aleutian Islands and Okhotsk Sea regions. By the end of the nineteenth century, salmon canneries were being established in western Alaska and on the eastern portion of the Alaska Peninsula. No large-scale commercial seafood processing operation was undertaken in the Aleutian area during those years however. In 1916, Pacific American Fisheries, Inc. established a cannery at Makushin Bay, Unalaska. In those days, adverse weather conditions typically kept the small seine fleet close to Unalaska and Umnak islands. Following the 1924 White Act, newly protected fisheries began to proliferate throughout the Aleutian region. The implementation of a 1928 Executive Order removed Akun, Akutan, Tigalda, Umnak, and Unalaska Islands from an earlier established wildlife reserve, opening up further opportunities. The International Packing Company fished the Aleutian area between 1924 and 1942 and operated a floating processor in the regional through 1941. Pink, sockeye, and chum salmon were popular species.²⁹ In 1982, local residents formed the Atka Fishermen's Association and began fishing commercially for halibut. The first seafood processing plant was built in 1987, and Atka Pride Seafoods was formed following Atka's entry into the Community Development Quota (CDQ) program. Dock

²⁷ Alaska Department of Education and Early Development. (2012). *Statistics and Reports*. Retrieved April 24, 2012 from <http://eed.alaska.gov/stats/>.

²⁸ Veltre, D. W. (1998). Prehistoric Maritime Adaptations in the Western and Central Aleutian Islands, Alaska. *Arctic Anthropology*, 35(1), 223-233.

²⁹ Atkinson, C.E. (n.d.). A Brief Review of the Salmon Fishery in the Aleutian Islands Region. Retrieved May 20, 2012 from: [http://www.npafc.org/new/inpfc/INPFC%20Bulletin/Bull%20No.1/Bull1%20p93-104%20\(Atkinson\).pdf](http://www.npafc.org/new/inpfc/INPFC%20Bulletin/Bull%20No.1/Bull1%20p93-104%20(Atkinson).pdf).

facilities were completed in 1997.³⁰ Popular commercial fisheries within the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area include red king crab, snow crab, walleye pollock, golden king crab, Tanner crab, weathervane scallops, Dungeness crab, Pacific cod, flatfish, sablefish, Pacific salmon, Pacific herring, and halibut.

Aerial surveys of Pacific herring biomass began in the Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Islands region in 1979, when large congregations of herring were documented in coastal waters between Adak and Port Heiden. No herring sac roe harvests have occurred within the Aleutian Islands region due to lack of interest. Herring food and bait fisheries began in the Eastern Aleutian Islands area in 1929, occurring intermittently until 1981, when a Dutch Harbor food and bait fishery began operating annually. In 2004, an exploratory herring fishery was established in the vicinity of Adak Island. This fishery has attracted very little interest, and no harvests have occurred since it was established.³¹

Groundfish were first commercially harvested in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI) region in 1864, when a single schooner fished for Pacific cod in the Bering Sea. Most fishing effort during the early cod fishery was concentrated north of Unimak Island and the Alaska Peninsula. Pacific halibut was commercially harvested within the region as early as the late 1800s as well; however, halibut did not reach North American markets until 1928. Foreign fleets had a large presence within the BSAI region throughout much of the 20th century, targeting pollock, sablefish, turbot, perch, and other groundfish. Foreign fleets were phased out during the 1980s as fishing fleets became increasingly “Americanized”. Today, walleye pollock is the largest groundfish fishery in the BSAI region in terms of lbs landed and ex-vessel value. Pacific cod is the second largest fishery, followed by various flatfish including arrowtooth flounder, rock sole, and yellowfin sole. Other important commercial species include sablefish, rockfish, and Atka mackerel.³²

According to a survey conducted by the AFSC in 2011, community leaders reported that Atka participates in the fisheries management process in Alaska through a paid staff member who attends North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) meets and/or Board of Fisheries meetings. In addition, Atka relies on regional organizations to provide information on fisheries management issues.

Atka is located in Federal Reporting Area 541, International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) Regulatory Area 4A, and the Aleutian Islands Sablefish Regulatory District. Atka is eligible for participation in the CDQ program and is represented by APICDA. The CDQ program was established in an effort to address social and economic hardships imposed on BSAI fishing communities from cost prohibitive entry requirements into groundfish, halibut, and crab fisheries. Non-profit corporations, created under CDQ program requirements, are provided with an apportionment of quota allowing for direct investments by CDQ entities into local infrastructure and services.³³

³⁰ See footnote 26.

³¹ Bernard, A. C. (2011). *Alaska Peninsula-Aleutian Islands Management Area Herring Sc Roe and Food and Bait Fisheries: Annual Management Report 2010*. Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Fishery Management Report No. 11-06. Retrieved February 4, 2013 from: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/FedAidPDFs/FMR11-06.pdf>.

³² North Pacific Fishery Management Council. (2012). *Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area*. Retrieved February 4, 2013 from: <http://alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/npfmc/PDFdocuments/fmp/BSAI/BSAI.pdf>.

³³ Ibid.

Processing Plants

Atka Pride Seafoods is a subsidiary of APICDA. Since 1994, Atka Pride has processed seafood on the island of Atka in the western region of the Aleutian Islands chain. From June through September Atka Pride processes halibut and sablefish. In regard to local infrastructure projects, APICDA has constructed a small dock (and attendant floating barges), a major dock facility, a water catchment system and pipeline to the city dock, and a hydro-electricity facility. Between 2006 and 2008, its infrastructure plans included construction of a boat harbor, widening of the face of the Atka City Dock, development of a fuel supply business, and extension of the local airport runway.³⁴ The plant relies on public docks, water services, and power/electricity (except in summer months), and in 2010 employed a maximum of seven workers.³⁵

According to the 2010 Alaska Department of Fish and Game's Intent to Operate list, the Atxam Corporation, operates a fish processing plant in Atka and shares a mailing address with Atka Pride Seafoods, although its port location code is listed as Adak.

According to a survey conducted by the AFSC in 2011, community leaders reported that three residents are employed permanently in the seafood processing sector.

Fisheries-Related Revenue

Overall, Atka received \$449,358 in fisheries-related taxes and fees in 2010. This represented a 141% increase in fisheries-related revenue from 2000 after adjusting for inflation by converting 2000 values to 2010 dollars.³⁶ During that time, Atka saw large increases in revenue received from Fisheries Resource Landing Taxes, and harbor fees. In 2010, Fisheries Resource Landing Taxes made up almost half of fisheries-related revenue that year.

It should be noted that 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.

In a survey conducted by the AFSC in 2011, community leaders reported that services funded by fisheries-related revenue include harbor maintenance, road construction and maintenance, water and wastewater systems, law enforcement, and fire protection. In 2010, the community received \$100,000 from its CDQ entity (APICDA). Information regarding fisheries-related revenue trends can be found in Table 3.

Commercial Fishing

In 2010, four residents, or 6.6% of the population, held a total of four permits issued by the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC), all of which were for halibut. This represented a decline from 2000 when 9 residents held 17 CFEC issued permits. In that year, 53% were for halibut, 24% were for sablefish, 18% were for groundfish, and 6% were for salmon. In addition, residents held 228,323 shares of halibut quota on nine accounts in 2010, compared to 234,999 shares held in 2000. Residents held 257,848 shares of sablefish quota on one account in 2000. Between 2000 and 2010, no residents held Federal Fisheries Permits (FFP)

³⁴ Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Development Association. (n.d.) Retrieved from: <http://apicda.com/>.

³⁵ This information is based on the results of a processing plant survey conducted by the Alaska Fisheries Science Center in 2011.

³⁶ Inflation calculated using Anchorage CPI from Alaska DOL: <http://labor.alaska.gov/research/cpi/cpi.htm>

or License Limitation Program (LLP) permits for groundfish or crab. No residents held crab quota between 2010 and when the program began.

In 2010, residents held 7 commercial crew licenses, compared to 19 in 2000. In addition, residents held majority ownership of three vessels that year, compared to six in 2000. Of the CFEC permits held in 2010, 100% were actively fished, compared to 59% in 2000. The only fishery prosecuted by residents of Atka that year was for statewide longline halibut.

In 2010, Atka ranked 41st of 67 communities in terms of total lbs landed and 35th in terms of ex-vessel value of landings. Total lbs landed and ex-vessel value of landings in Atka between 2000 and 2010 are considered confidential, with the exception of 2009 when no landings were reported. Landings reported by Atka residents between 2000 and 2010 are also considered confidential. Information regarding commercial fishing trends can be found in Tables 4 through 10.

In a survey conducted by the AFSC in 2011, community leaders reported that between 2005 and 2010, the community did not see a change in the number of commercial vessels or vessels smaller than 60 ft visiting Atka. In addition, vessels larger than 60 ft, charter/party boats, and private vessels typically do not visit the community.

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

Revenue source	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Raw fish tax ¹	\$5,776	\$20,441	n/a	\$25,989	\$32,795	\$23,169	\$22,350	\$26,085	\$74,740	\$15,181	\$26,000
Shared Fisheries Business Tax ¹	\$105,484	\$102,961	\$124,299	\$108,606	\$123,586	\$148,210	\$146,589	\$141,586	\$127,498	\$138,302	\$180,824
Fisheries Resource Landing Tax ¹	\$26,598	\$41,259	\$46,089	\$33,872	\$34,767	\$70,807	\$82,080	\$158,278	\$101,137	\$142,545	\$201,634
Fuel transfer tax ²	n/a										
Extraterritorial fish tax ²	n/a										
Bulk fuel transfers ¹	n/a										
Boat hauls ²	n/a										
Harbor usage ²	\$6,150	\$7,000	\$5,400	\$5,200	\$4,000	\$10,000	\$6,000	\$6,300	\$6,000	\$36,828	\$40,900
Port/dock usage ²	n/a										
Fishing gear storage on public land ³	n/a										
Marine fuel sales tax ³	n/a										
<i>Total fisheries- related revenue⁴</i>	<i>\$144,007</i>	<i>\$171,661</i>	<i>\$175,788</i>	<i>\$173,667</i>	<i>\$195,148</i>	<i>\$252,186</i>	<i>\$257,019</i>	<i>\$332,249</i>	<i>\$309,374</i>	<i>\$332,856</i>	<i>\$449,358</i>
<i>Total municipal revenue⁵</i>	<i>\$243,643</i>	<i>\$249,155</i>	<i>\$306,036</i>	<i>\$245,396</i>	<i>\$301,820</i>	<i>\$288,960</i>	<i>\$306,160</i>	<i>\$418,695</i>	<i>\$693,672</i>	<i>\$736,251</i>	<i>\$833,779</i>

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

¹ Alaska Department of Community and Economic Development (n.d.) *Alaska Taxable (2000-2010)*. Retrieved April 15, 2011 from http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/osa/osa_summary.cfm.

² Alaska Department of Community 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 municipal budget. Alaska Department of Community 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.

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

Species		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Groundfish (LLP) ¹	Total permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Active permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	% of permits fished	n/a										
	Total permit holders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Crab (LLP) ¹	Total permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Active permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	% of permits fished	n/a										
	Total permit holders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fisheries Permits ¹	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	n/a										
	Total permit holders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Crab (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	n/a										
	Total permit holders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other shellfish (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	n/a										
	Total permit holders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Halibut (CFEC) ²	Total permits	9	9	8	6	7	6	3	7	4	2	4
	Fished permits	7	6	6	5	5	4	3	7	4	1	4
	% of permits fished	78%	67%	75%	83%	71%	67%	100%	100%	100%	50%	100%
	Total permit holders	9	9	8	6	7	6	3	7	4	2	4
Herring (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	n/a										
	Total permit holders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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

Species		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Sablefish (CFEC) ²	Total permits	4	5	1	4	5	4	1	2	2	0	0
	Fished permits	3	4	0	3	3	3	0	1	1	0	0
	% of permits fished	75%	80%	0%	75%	60%	75%	0%	50%	50%	n/a	n/a
	Total permit holders	4	5	1	4	5	4	1	2	2	0	0
Groundfish (CFEC) ²	Total permits	3	2	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
	Fished permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	% of permits fished	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Total permit holders	3	2	1	1	1	1	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	n/a										
	Total permit holders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Salmon (CFEC) ²	Total permits	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
	Fished permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	% of permits fished	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Total permit holders	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Total CFEC Permits²</i>	<i>Permits</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>4</i>
	<i>Fished permits</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>4</i>
	<i>% of permits fished</i>	<i>59%</i>	<i>59%</i>	<i>55%</i>	<i>67%</i>	<i>57%</i>	<i>58%</i>	<i>75%</i>	<i>89%</i>	<i>83%</i>	<i>50%</i>	<i>100%</i>
	<i>Permit holders</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>4</i>

¹National Marine Fisheries Service. 2011. Data on Limited Liability Permits, 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 Atka: 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 Atka ²	Total Net Lbs Landed In Atka ^{2,5}	Total Ex-Vessel Value Of Landings In Atka ^{2,5}
2000	19	1	1	6	6	10	--	--
2001	17	1	1	5	5	9	--	--
2002	3	2	1	4	4	9	--	--
2003	10	2	1	3	2	7	--	--
2004	9	2	1	3	2	6	--	--
2005	3	1	1	3	2	5	--	--
2006	2	1	1	2	2	7	--	--
2007	7	1	1	2	2	6	--	--
2008	10	1	1	2	3	6	--	--
2009	2	0	1	1	2	0	--	--
2010	7	1	1	3	4	10	--	--

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 Atka: 2000-2010.

Year	Number of Halibut Quota Share Account Holders	Halibut Quota Shares Held	Halibut IFQ Allotment (pounds)
2000	9	234,999	83,584
2001	9	125,230	52,933
2002	9	212,209	76,419
2003	9	211,952	76,333
2004	9	211,952	51,316
2005	9	211,952	41,282
2006	9	211,952	30,517
2007	9	215,775	26,788
2008	9	215,775	34,592
2009	9	228,323	36,791
2010	9	228,323	42,487

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 Atka: 2000-2010.

Year	Number of Sablefish Quota Share Account Holders	Sablefish Quota Shares Held	Sablefish IFQ Allotment (pounds)
2000	1	257,848	25,961
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 Atka: 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.]

Table 9. Landed Pounds and Ex-vessel Revenue, by Species, in Atka: 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	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Finfish	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Halibut	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Herring	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Other Groundfish	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Other Shellfish	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Pacific Cod	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Pollock	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Sablefish	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Salmon	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<i>Total²</i>	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	<i>Ex-vessel Value (nominal U.S. dollars)</i>										
	<i>2000</i>	<i>2001</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>2004</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>2006</i>	<i>2007</i>	<i>2008</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>2010</i>
Crab	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Finfish	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Halibut	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Herring	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Other Groundfish	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Other Shellfish	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Pacific Cod	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Pollock	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Sablefish	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Salmon	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<i>Total²</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 lbs refers to the landed weight recorded in fish tickets.

² Totals only represent non-confidential data.

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

	<i>Total Net Pounds¹</i>										
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Crab	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Finfish	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Halibut	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Herring	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Other Groundfish	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Other Shellfish	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Pacific Cod	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Pollock	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Sablefish	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Salmon	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<i>Total²</i>	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	<i>Ex-vessel Value (nominal U.S. dollars)</i>										
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Crab	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Finfish	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Halibut	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Herring	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Other Groundfish	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Other Shellfish	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Pacific Cod	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Pollock	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Sablefish	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Salmon	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<i>Total²</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 lbs refers to the landed weight recorded in fish tickets.

² Totals only represent non-confidential data.

Recreational Fishing

Recreational fishing by non-Alaska resident anglers is limited in Atka due to its remote location. No sportfishing licenses were sold in the community between 2000 and 2010. In addition, no sport fish guide businesses were registered to be active in the community during that time. Only three Atka residents held sportfishing licenses in 2010.

Atka is located in the Aleutian Islands ADF&G Harvest Survey Area, which includes all Alaskan waters, including drainages, between Cape Douglas and the community of Naknek. In 2010, angler days fished totaled 5,297 for saltwater fisheries and 33,635 for freshwater fisheries. In that year, non-Alaska resident anglers accounted for 38.4% of saltwater and 58.4% of freshwater angler days fished, compared to 15.8% and 39.5% in 2000, respectively. Between 2000 and 2010, there were no reports of charter businesses operating within Atka.

According to a survey conducted by the AFSC in 2011, community leaders reported that species targeted by shore-based and private vessel based anglers include all five species of Pacific

salmon, halibut, rockfish, and clams. Information regarding recreational fishing trends can be found in Table 11.

Table 11. Sport Fishing Trends, Atka: 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 Atka ²
2000	0	0	3	0
2001	0	0	0	0
2002	0	0	6	0
2003	0	0	2	0
2004	0	0	1	0
2005	0	0	1	0
2006	0	0	4	0
2007	0	0	2	0
2008	0	0	1	0
2009	0	0	3	0
2010	0	0	3	0

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	1,664	8,870	17,749	27,227
2001	1,760	3,939	16,840	14,350
2002	4,126	5,210	15,865	18,417
2003	1,603	4,333	16,557	11,878
2004	1,948	12,721	18,813	19,360
2005	3,585	5,129	14,130	12,038
2006	2,809	4,392	22,323	8,830
2007	2,588	9,356	20,371	15,870
2008	3,436	4,298	21,797	10,207
2009	3,488	3,815	18,996	16,020
2010	2,036	3,261	19,643	13,992

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

Subsistence Fishing

Salmon, halibut, and cod have been important subsistence resources in the Aleutian Islands for thousands of years. On average, Aleutian Island households harvest 1,292 lbs of fish, game, wild plants, and marine mammals each year.³⁷

According to 2005 interviews conducted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS),³⁸ the community historically harvested sockeye salmon at Korovin Bay during the summer. In the past, community members would set up camps and traps on the shore until USFWS shut them down around 1949. Another fish trap was built in 1991 and used for several years but was abandoned when subsistence users switched to gill nets. Elders reported that sockeye salmon were abundant in Korovin Lake and that in some years the lake filled to capacity. Some people in Atka travel west to Adak in private vessels to troll for Chinook salmon. Nuclear tests on Amchitka Island are perceived by many subsistence users to have been seriously detrimental to the fish in the region.

In a survey conducted by the AFSC in 2011, community leaders reported that Atka residents harvest fish, hunt marine and terrestrial birds and mammals, and gather local vegetation for subsistence purposes. In addition, a reindeer herd is maintained on Atka Island as a local source of meat. Information provided by the ADF&G is limited and data on household subsistence participation and subsistence salmon harvests are not available.

According to the ADF&G *Community Subsistence Information System*,³⁹ species which residents of Atka have used and/or harvested include chitons, mussels, butter clams, cockles, Dungeness crab, hair crab, horse clams, limpets, octopus, Pacific littleneck clams, pinkneck clams, razor clams, rock jingles, scallops, sea anemone, sea cucumber, sea urchin, shrimp, snails, squid, Tanner crab, king crab, fur seal, harbor seal, ringed seal Steller sea lion, whale, arrowtooth flounder, Atka mackerel, black rockfish, brook trout, sculpin, Dolly Varden, Arctic grayling, greenling roe, herring (roe and food/bait), lingcod, mahi mahi, Pacific cod, rainbow trout, Irish lord, red rockfish, sablefish, steelhead, swordfish, sole, shark, tuna, and walleye pollock. In 2010, 1 resident held a Subsistence Halibut Registration Certificate (SHARC), although there were no reported harvests between 2006 and 2010. In 2008, an estimated 7,000 lbs of marine mammals were harvested, a significant increase from 2000 when an estimated 942 lbs were harvested. Marine mammal harvests peaked in 2003 at an estimated 16,986 lbs harvested. Between 2000 and 2008, an estimated 503 marine mammals were harvested. Data regarding sea lion and seal harvests are unavailable. Information regarding subsistence trends can be found in Tables 12 through 15.

Additional Information

In a survey conducted by the AFSC in 2011, community leaders reported that expanding the community's seafood processor is one of the current challenges for the portion of Atka's

³⁷ U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. (2005). *Subsistence Fisheries Harvest Assessment and Traditional Ecological Knowledge, Lower Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Islands*. Retrieved June 13, 2012 from: <http://alaska.fws.gov/asm/pdf/fisheries/reports/02-032Final.pdf>.

³⁸ Ibid.

³⁹ 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).

economy that is based on fishing. In addition, above all other management actions the creation of the CDQ program has had the greatest impact on the community.

Table 12. Subsistence Participation by Household and Species, Atka: 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, Atka: 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	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2001	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2002	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2003	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2004	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2005	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2007	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2008	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2009	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	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, Atka: 2003-2010.

Year	SHARC Issued	SHARC Cards Fished	SHARC Halibut Lbs Harvested
2003	13	4	1,625
2004	13	9	1,032
2005	12	4	795
2006	4	n/a	n/a
2007	4	n/a	n/a
2008	3	n/a	n/a
2009	3	n/a	n/a
2010	1	n/a	n/a

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, Atka: 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	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2001	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2002	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2003	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2004	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2005	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2007	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2008	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2009	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2010	n/a	1	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.