

## **Saint Mary's**



### **People and Place**

#### *Location*<sup>1</sup>

Saint Mary's is located on the north bank of the Andreafsky River, five miles from its confluence with the Yukon River. It lies 450 air miles west-northwest of Anchorage. The City of Saint Mary's encompasses the Yup'ik villages of Saint Mary's and Andreafsky. Saint Mary's is located in the Bethel Recording District and the Wade Hampton Census Area. The City boundaries encompass 44.0 square miles of land and 6.3 square miles of water.

#### *Demographic Profile*<sup>2</sup>

In 2010, there were 507 residents in Saint Mary's, making it the 117<sup>th</sup> largest of 352 total Alaskan communities with recorded populations that year. Overall since 1990, the population has increased by 10.6%. According to Alaska Department of Labor estimates, there was an overall increase in permanent resident of 10.6% between 2000 and 2009. The average annual growth rate during this period was -0.14%, reflecting a small population peak from 2003-2006 followed by a slight decline in the end of the decade. The change in population from 1990 to 2010 is provided in Table 1.

The majority of residents in Saint Mary's in 2010 identified themselves as American Indian and Alaska Native (91.5%), with 4.7% of residents identifying themselves as two or more races and 3.7% identifying themselves as White. There were no residents of Saint Mary's that identified themselves as Hispanic in 2010. The percentage of the population identifying themselves as American Indian and Alaska Natives increased by 5.5% between 2000 and 2010, with corresponding decreases in the percentage of the population identifying themselves as White, Asian, and Hispanic or Latino. The percentage of the population identifying themselves as two or more races also increased between 2000 and 2010. The change in racial and ethnic composition between 2000 and 2010 is provided in Figure 1 below.

In 2010 the average household size was 3.34, a slight decrease from 3.70 in 1990 and 3.58 in 2000. However, there has been an overall increase in the number of households from 118 in 1990 to 137 in 2000 to 151 in 2010. Of the 209 housing units surveyed for the 2010 Decennial Census, 102 were owner-occupied, 49 were renter-occupied, and 58 were vacant. In 2010, there were three residents of Saint Mary's that were reported to be living in group quarters.

In a survey conducted by NOAA's Alaska Fisheries Science Center (AFSC) in 2011, community leaders reported that seven people live in Saint Mary's as seasonal workers or transient residents.

---

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

<sup>2</sup> 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>.

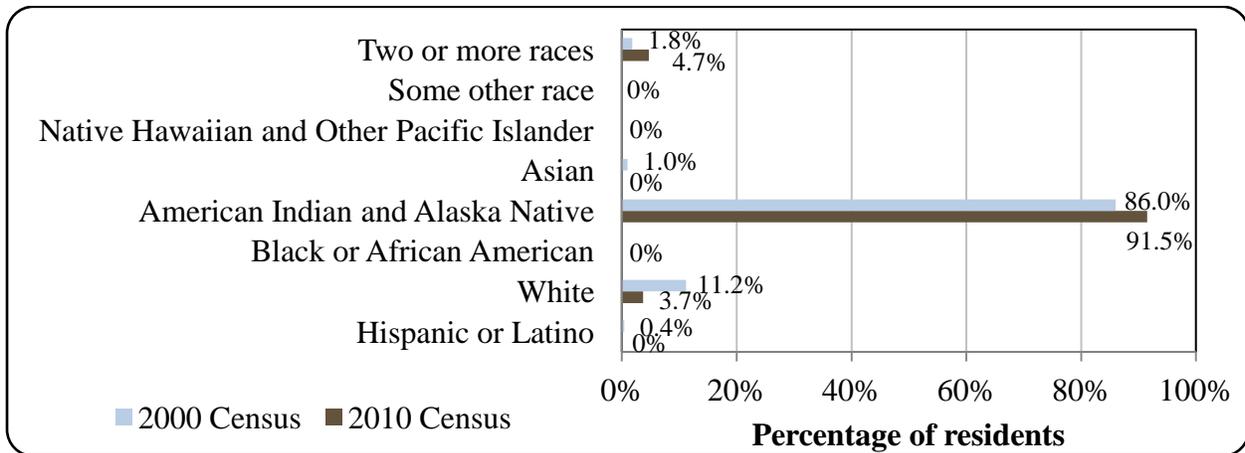
Table 1. Population in Saint Mary’s from 1990 to 2010 by Source.

Year	U.S. Decennial Census <sup>1</sup>	Alaska Dept. of Labor Estimate of Permanent Residents <sup>2</sup>
1990	441	-
2000	500	-
2001	-	512
2002	-	546
2003	-	581
2004	-	537
2005	-	562
2006	-	539
2007	-	518
2008	-	535
2009	-	553
2010	507	-

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

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

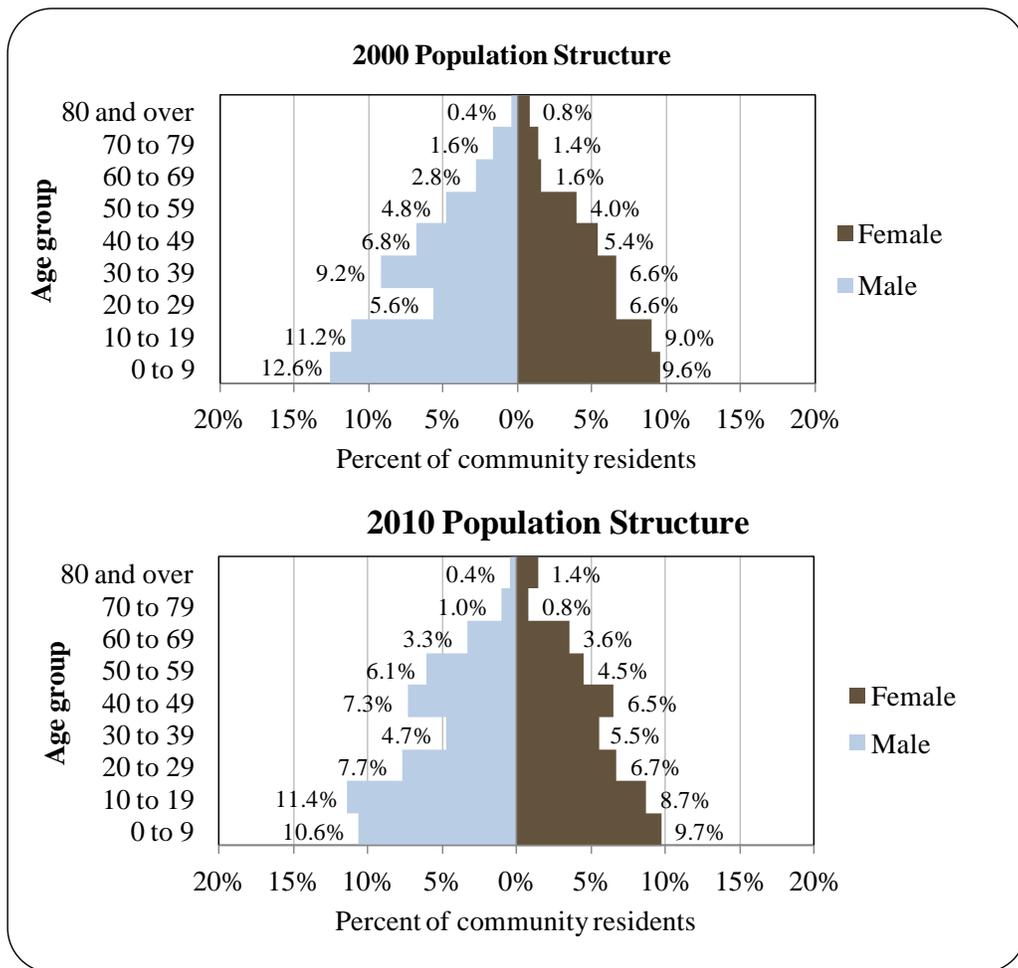
Figure 1. Racial and Ethnic Composition, Saint Mary’s: 2000-2010 (U.S. Census).



In 2010, the gender makeup was slightly skewed, at 52.7% male and 47.3% female, which is similar to the state as a whole (52% male, 48% female). The median age in Saint Mary’s was 26.3 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 into the age category 0 to 19 years old, with 20-29 years old and 40-49 years old as the next largest categories. Relatively few people were 70 or older. Males and females were relatively evenly distributed in each age category. The 30-39 year old age group is disproportionately small compared to the other age groups. The overall population structure of Saint Mary’s in 2000 and 2010 is shown in Figure 2.

In terms of educational attainment, according to the 2006-2010 American Community Survey (ACS),<sup>3</sup> 81.3% of residents aged 25 and older were estimated to hold a high school diploma or higher degree, compared with 90.7% of Alaskan residents overall. Also in 2010, 15.4% of the population had less than a ninth grade education, compared with 3.5% of Alaskan residents overall; 3.4% had a 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade education but no diploma, compared with 5.8% of Alaskan residents overall; 33.2% held a high school diploma or equivalent, compared with 27.4% of Alaskan residents overall; 28.8% had some college but no degree, compared with 28.3% of Alaskan residents overall; 1.9% held an Associate’s degree, compared with 8% of Alaskan residents overall; 3.4% held a Bachelor’s degree, compared with 17.4% of Alaskan residents overall; and 13.9% held a graduate or professional degree, compared with 9.6% of Alaskan residents overall.

Figure 2. Population Age Structure in Saint Mary’s Based on the 2000 and 2010 U.S. Decennial Census.



<sup>3</sup> While American Community Survey (ACS) estimates can provide a good snapshot estimate for larger populations, smaller populations can be misrepresented by ACS estimates if demographic information is not collected from a representative sample of the population. This is especially problematic for Alaskan communities with small populations that have a low probability of being adequately sampled.

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

Saint Mary's is located in traditional Yup'ik Eskimo territory. Alaska Natives living in southwest Alaska are named after the two main dialects of the Yup'ik language, known as Yup'ik and Cup'ik. The arrival of ancestral Eskimo cultures to Alaska is marked by the appearance around 4000 years ago of the "Arctic Small Tools tradition." These small, finely-flaked tools first appeared in northwestern Alaska and spread rapidly southward.<sup>4</sup> Historically the Yup'ik people were very mobile, traveling with the migration of game, fish and plants. The ancient settlements and seasonal camps contained small populations, with numerous settlements throughout the region consisting of extended families or small groups of families.<sup>5</sup> Because "southwestern Alaska lacked significant amounts of any of the commercially valuable resources that first drew non-Natives to other parts of the state," the native people of the southwest region did not experience continual contact with the outside world until missionaries settled in the area beginning in the mid-1800's. The first to arrive were the Russian Orthodox, followed by the Moravians, and finally by the Jesuits.<sup>6</sup>

The modern settlement of Saint Mary's was originally established in 1899 as a supply depot and winter headquarters for the Northern Commercial Company's fleet of riverboats. The community originally went by the name of Andreafsky, named after the Andrea family who settled on the river around the same time and built a Russian Orthodox church. Later, in 1903, Jesuit missionaries arrived and constructed a mission 90 miles downriver from Andreafsky at a site known as "Akukurak." The Jesuits offered education and care for children orphaned by the flu epidemic that swept through the region in 1900-1901. The mission school flourished, and grew to 70 full-time students by 1915. However, the slough on which Akukurak was situated silted in severely, and in the late 1940s, the villagers relocated to the present site of Saint Mary's where a new mission was constructed.<sup>7</sup>

In the years that followed, a number of Yup'ik families moved into the Andreafsky area to be near the Jesuit mission. In 1967, the area adjacent to the mission incorporated as the City of Saint Mary's, although Andreafsky chose to remain independent. In 1980, the residents of Andreafsky voted for annexation into the City. In 1987, the Catholic Church closed the mission school. Today, Saint Mary's is a Yup'ik Eskimo community that maintains a fishing and subsistence lifestyle. The sale of alcohol is prohibited in the City.<sup>8</sup>

---

<sup>4</sup> National Park Service (n.d.) *Archaeology of the Tundra and Arctic Alaska website*. Retrieved December 8, 2011 from <http://www.nps.gov/akso/akarc/arctic.htm>.

<sup>5</sup> Alaska Native Heritage Center (n.d) *Yup'ik & Cup'ik - Who We Are website*. Retrieved December 8, 2011 from [http://www.alaskanative.net/en/main\\_nav/education/culture\\_alaska/yupik/](http://www.alaskanative.net/en/main_nav/education/culture_alaska/yupik/).

<sup>6</sup> Fienup-Riordan, Ann, William Tyson, Pual John, Marie Meade, and John Active (2000). *Hunting Tradition in a Changing World*. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press. Pg. 115.

<sup>7</sup> Alaska Dept. of Comm. and Rural Affairs. (n.d.). *Community Database Online*. Retrieved October 17, 2011 from [http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF\\_BLOCK.htm](http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF_BLOCK.htm).

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

## Natural Resources and Environment

Saint Mary’s is located within the Yukon River delta. The topography on the north side of the River is characterized by gentle rolling hills of up to 150 ft above sea level. Flat lowlands are present on the south side of the River, ranging from 10 to 30 ft above sea level. Vegetation includes deciduous/conifer forest and tundra, including alpine and dry/moist tundra at higher elevations and wet tundra in lower elevations.<sup>9</sup> A shallow and discontinuous permafrost layer is present in the area, with a depth ranging between 1.5 and 3 ft deep depending on ground cover and weather.<sup>10</sup> The climate in Saint Mary’s is continental with a significant maritime influence. Temperatures range between -44 and 83 °F (-42.2 to 28.3 °C). Annual precipitation averages 16 inches, with 60 inches of snowfall. The Yukon River is ice-free from June through October.<sup>11</sup>

The community is located in the northern third of the 22 million-acre Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), and approximately 25 miles south of the southern border of the Andreafsky Wilderness Area, which covers slightly more than 5% of the Yukon Delta NWR. Wildlife in the Andreafsky region includes moose, foxes, beavers, martens, minks, wolves, wolverines, caribou, and large populations of black and brown bears.<sup>12</sup> The Yukon Delta NWR supports millions of water birds, including shorebirds, seabirds, tundra swans, emperor, white-fronted and Cackling Geese, black brant and other migratory birds.” In addition to protecting species and their habitats, the NWR was established to fulfill treaty obligations; to provide the opportunity for continued subsistence uses; and to ensure water quality and necessary water quantity.” Refuge lands are open to sport and subsistence hunting and fishing, as well as trapping. Nunavaknuk Lake and the Kusilvak Mountains to its south are located approximately 45 miles west of Saint Mary’s.<sup>13</sup>

Natural hazards identified in the Wade Hampton Census Area include flooding, wildfire, earthquake, severe weather, erosion and volcanic activity.<sup>14</sup> Areas of the community close to the River are particularly susceptible to annual spring flooding. A cluster of cinder cone volcanoes, known as “Ingakslugwat Hills” is located approximately 50 miles southwest of Saint Mary’s in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta. The 32 small cinder cones and eight larger craters covers an area of more than 300 square miles, and is thought to have been active during the Holocene Period.<sup>15</sup>

The Yukon-Kuskokwim delta is rich in mineral deposits. Historically, significant mining activity took place in the Marshall mining district, located upriver from Saint Mary’s. No mining

---

<sup>9</sup> Pilot Station Traditional Council. (2009). *Pilot Station Community Development Plan*. Retrieved April 6, 2012 from <http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/plans/PilotStation-GCP-2006.pdf>.

<sup>10</sup> City of Saint Mary’s, WHPacific, and Bechtol Planning and Development. (2009). *City of Saint Mary’s, Alaska Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan*. Retrieved March 12, 2013 from <http://www.commerce.alaska.gov/dca/plans/StMarys%20-%20Feb%202010.pdf>.

<sup>11</sup> Alaska Dept. of Comm. and Rural Affairs. (n.d.). *Community Database Online*. Retrieved October 17, 2011 from [http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF\\_BLOCK.htm](http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF_BLOCK.htm).

<sup>12</sup> Wilderness.net website (n.d). *Andreafsky Wilderness*. Retrieved December 8, 2011 from <http://www.wilderness.net>.

<sup>13</sup> U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (2011). *Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge website*. Retrieved December 8, 2011 from <http://yukondelta.fws.gov/>.

<sup>14</sup> State of Alaska. 2002. *Hazard Mitigation Plan*. Retrieved February 8, 2012 from <http://biotech.law.lsu.edu/blaw/DOD/manual/.%5CFull%20text%20documents%5CState%20Authorities%5CAla.%20SHMP.pdf>.

<sup>15</sup> Global Volcanism Program (n.d.). *Ingakslugwat Hills*. Retrieved February 8, 2012 from <http://www.volcano.si.edu/world/volcano.cfm?vnum=1104-03->.

development is currently taking place there, although active development is underway at the Donlin Creek mine in the Kuskokwim Delta.<sup>16</sup>

According to the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, there were no notable active environmental cleanup sites located in the Saint Mary’s area as of March 2013.<sup>17</sup>

## Current Economy<sup>18</sup>

The economy of Saint Mary’s is largely seasonal, based primarily on commercial fishing, trapping, and subsistence harvest. Important subsistence resources for local residents include salmon, moose, bear, and waterfowl. A small seafood processing facility also operates in the community, and there are two general stores and a regional post office.<sup>19</sup> Other local employers in 2010 included Saint Mary’s School District, local government offices, regional health, housing and other community services, Hageland Aviation Services Inc., local retailers, and the State of Alaska.<sup>20</sup>

Based on the 2006-2010 ACS,<sup>21</sup> the per capita income in Saint Mary’s in 2010 was \$15,688, and the median household income in 2010 was \$38,000, compared to \$15,837 and \$39,375 in 2000, respectively. However, after accounting for inflation by converting the 2000 values to 2010 dollars,<sup>22</sup> the real per capita income in 2000 (\$20,825) and the real median household income in 2000 (\$51,778) indicated a substantial decrease in these values between 2000 and 2010. However, Saint Mary’s small population size may have prevented the ACS from accurately portraying economic conditions.<sup>23</sup> 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. 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 Saint Mary’s in 2010 is \$11,320, which provides support for an overall decrease compared to the real per capita income values reported by the U.S. Census in 2000.<sup>24</sup>

In 2010, Saint Mary’s ranked 196<sup>th</sup> out of 305 Alaskan communities with reported per capita income that year, and 201<sup>st</sup> out of 299 Alaskan communities with reported household income data. Based on the ACS, in the same year, 60.1% of the population age 16 and older was estimated to be in the civilian labor force, compared to the statewide rate of 68.8%. The local

---

<sup>16</sup> See footnote 9.

<sup>17</sup> Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation (n.d.). *List of Contaminated Sites by Region*. Retrieved March 5, 2012 from <http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/csp/list.htm>.

<sup>18</sup> Unless otherwise noted, all monetary data are reported in nominal values.

<sup>19</sup> See footnote 11.

<sup>20</sup> Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development (n.d.). *Alaska Local and Regional Information Database*. Retrieved April 23, 2012 from <http://live.laborstats.alaska.gov/alari/>.

<sup>21</sup> 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>.

<sup>22</sup> 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/inflationscale.htm>).

<sup>23</sup> While American Community Survey (ACS) estimates can provide a good snapshot estimate for larger populations, smaller populations can be misrepresented by ACS estimates if demographic information is not collected from a representative sample of the population. This is especially problematic for Alaskan communities with small populations that have a low probability of being adequately sampled.

<sup>24</sup> See footnotes 20 and 21.

unemployment rate was 25.7%, compared to the statewide unemployment rate of 5.9%. Approximately 15.6% of local residents were living below the poverty line in 2010, compared to 9.6% of Alaskans overall. It should be noted, however, 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 Saint Mary's 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 Saint Mary's. An alternative estimate is based on the ALARI database, which indicates that the unemployment rate in 2010 was 24.6%.<sup>25</sup>

Based on household surveys conducted for the 2006-2010 ACS, the greatest number of workers was estimated to be employed in the public sector (61.2%), along with 38.8% in the private sector. Out of the 139 people aged 16 and over that were estimated to be employed in the civilian labor force in 2010, the greatest numbers were estimated to work in education services, health care, and social assistance (53.2%) and public administration (19.4%). When compared to 2000, there was a more than 60% increase in the estimated percentage of the workforce employed in educational services, health care, and social assistance industries, a small increase in public administration employment, and decreases in transportation, warehousing, and utilizes industries and retail trade employment. Information about employment by industry is presented in Figure 3.

When viewing employment in terms of occupation, in 2010, a majority of the workforce was estimated to be employed in management/professional occupations (48.2%), along with 20.1% in service occupations and 19.4% in sales/office occupations. Compared to 2000, the percentage of the workforce employed in management/professional occupations increased by approximately 47%, while the percentage in service occupations remained stable. There were declines in employment in other occupation sectors between 2000 and 2010. Employment in Saint Mary's in 2000 and 2010 is broken down by occupation in Figure 4.

In 2010, no residents of Saint Mary's were estimated to be working in industries or occupations that included fishing. However, given the data reported in the *Commercial Fishing* section below, the number of individuals employed in farming, fishing, and forestry industries may be underestimated in census statistics as fishermen may hold another job and characterize their employment accordingly.

---

<sup>25</sup> See footnote 20.

Figure 3. Local Employment by Industry in 2000-2010, Saint Mary's (U.S. Census).

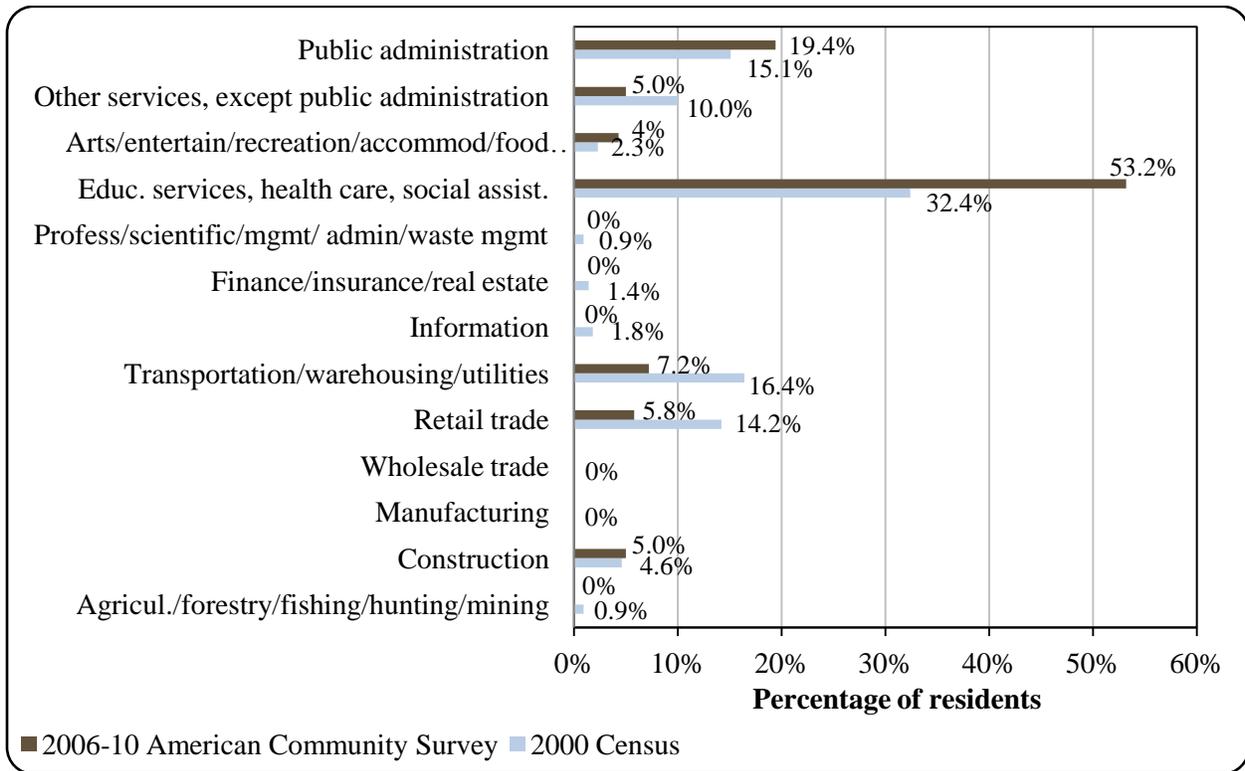
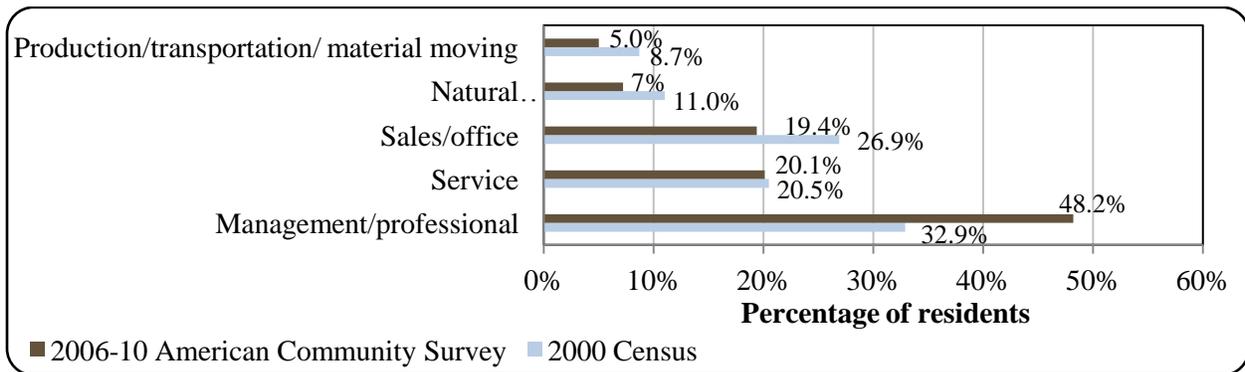


Figure 4. Local Employment by Occupation in 2000-2010, Saint Mary's (U.S. Census).



## Governance

Saint Mary's is a 1<sup>st</sup> Class City and is not located within an organized borough. As of 2010, the City of Saint Mary's administered a 3% sales tax and a 3% Alcohol Use Tax.<sup>26</sup> In addition to tax revenues, other locally-generated income sources in Saint Mary's between 2000 and 2010 included enterprise revenues from water/sewer and the electrical utility, building leases

<sup>26</sup> Alaska Dept. of Comm. and Rural Affairs. (n.d.). *Community Database Online*. Retrieved October 17, 2011 from [http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF\\_BLOCK.htm](http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF_BLOCK.htm).

and rentals, dock, and equipment rentals, gravel sales, land sales, bingo and pull tab receipts, interest income, and parks and recreation fees. Outside revenue sources included shared revenues and grant. State sources of shared funds included the State Revenue Sharing program from 2000 to 2003 (between \$27,000 and \$48,000 per year) and the Community Revenue Sharing program (just under \$125,000 each year). Federal revenue sharing came from the Payment in Lieu of Taxes program in several years during the decade. One fisheries-related grant was reported received in 2002 for a harbor hydrographic survey, in the amount of \$88,908. Information about selected municipal, state, or federal revenue sources are presented in Table 2.

Table 2. Selected Municipal, State, or Federal Revenue Streams for the Community of Saint Mary’s from 2000 to 2010.

Year	Total Municipal Revenue <sup>1</sup>	Sales Tax Revenue <sup>2</sup>	State/Community Revenue Sharing <sup>3,4</sup>	Fisheries-Related Grants (State and Federal) <sup>5</sup>
2000	\$1,569,774	\$83,812	\$33,809	n/a
2001	\$1,930,841	\$131,590	\$47,855	n/a
2002	\$1,777,664	\$106,912	\$27,638	\$88,908
2003	\$1,978,054	\$106,347	\$33,550	n/a
2004	\$1,027,973	\$107,105	n/a	n/a
2005	\$1,367,877	\$100,997	n/a	n/a
2006	\$1,133,810	\$93,870	n/a	n/a
2007	\$2,367,858	\$96,337	n/a	n/a
2008	\$1,112,956	\$105,484	n/a	n/a
2009	\$1,342,794	\$111,989	\$124,007	n/a
2010	\$1,006,349	\$107,198	\$123,734	n/a

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

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

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

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

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

Two federally recognized Native Traditional Councils are based in Saint Mary’s. They are the Algaaciq Native Village (Yupit of Andreafski) and the Native Village of Pitkas Point which represents the nearby small village of Pitkas Point, located less than 6 miles from Saint Mary’s by road. Under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA), Native village corporations were created for each of these Tribes, and both have office locations in Saint Mary’s. The village corporation associated with the Algaaciq Native Village is Saint Mary’s Native Corporation, which manages 115,200 acres of land. The village corporation associated with the Native Village of Pitka’s Point is Pitka’s Point Native Corporation, which manages 69,120 acres of land. The regional Native corporation to which both Native Villages belong is the Calista Corporation.<sup>27</sup>

<sup>27</sup> Ibid.

The Algaaciq and Pitka’s Point Villages are also members of the Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP), a tribal 501(c)(3) non-profit organization headquartered in Bethel that serves communities in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta. At the request of villages, AVCP provides social services, human development, and culturally relevant programming to “promote tribal self-determination and self-governance and to work to protect tribal culture and traditions.”<sup>28</sup> The AVCP is one of the 12 regional Alaska Native 501(c)(3) non-profit 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.<sup>29</sup> AVCP is made up of 56 villages and 45 village corporations.<sup>30</sup>

The nearest offices of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) and the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development are located in Bethel. The nearest office of the Alaska Department of Natural Resources is located in McGrath, and the nearest offices of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services, and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement are located in Anchorage.

## Infrastructure

### *Connectivity and Transportation*

Saint Mary’s is served by barge and aircraft. The state-owned 6,008 ft long by 150 ft wide gravel runway with 1,520 ft long by 60 ft wide crosswind strip provides year-round access. The airfield is capable of receiving large jet aircraft. A 22-mi road links Saint Mary’s to Andreafsky, Pitka’s Point, and Mountain Village. These roads are not maintained during winter months but are used by snowmobiles. The Andreafsky River provides the only deep-water dock in the area.<sup>31</sup> Roundtrip airfare between Saint Mary’s and Anchorage in June 2012 was \$460.<sup>32</sup>

### *Facilities*

Water is derived from Alstrom Creek reservoir and is treated. A majority of the homes in the City have complete plumbing and are connected to the piped water and sewer system. Waste heat from the power plant supports the circulating water system. A 1.7-million-gallon sewage lagoon provides waste treatment. Six residences haul water and use honeybuckets. The City

---

<sup>28</sup> Association of Village Council Presidents (n.d.). *Homepage*. Retrieved December 6, 2011 from [www.avcp.org](http://www.avcp.org).

<sup>29</sup> 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>.

<sup>30</sup> Calista Corporation (2011). *Our Communities: The Villages of the Calista Region*. Retrieved February 6, 2012 from <http://www.calistacorp.com/shareholders/communities>.

<sup>31</sup> Alaska Dept. of Comm. and Rural Affairs. (n.d.). *Community Database Online*. Retrieved October 17, 2011 from [http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF\\_BLOCK.htm](http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF_BLOCK.htm).

<sup>32</sup> Airfare was obtained on 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.

provides honeybucket<sup>33</sup> pickup services. A washeteria<sup>34</sup> is available nearby at Pitka’s Point. An unpermitted landfill is shared with Pitka’s Point.<sup>35</sup>

Law enforcement services are provided by the City Police Department, Village Public Safety Officers (VPSO), and a local state trooper. A City Volunteer Fire Department operates a fire truck and ambulance. Saint Mary’s also has a Boys and Girls Club youth center and a school library.<sup>36</sup>

In a survey conducted by the AFSC in 2011, community leaders reported that new dock space was completed in the last ten years, including 70 ft of dock space for permanent vessels to moor and 30 ft of dock space available for transient vessels to moor. Community leaders also indicated that vessels up to 300 ft long can use moorage in Saint Mary’s and that Saint Mary’s is capable of handling fuel barges and gravel barges.

### *Medical Services*

Medical services are provided by the John Afcan Memorial Clinic, which is owned and operated by the Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation. The clinic is a Community Health Aid Program site and is staffed by an operations manager, a health practitioner, a dentist, and four health aides. Emergency services have river, limited highway, and air access and are provided by a health aide.<sup>37</sup> The nearest hospital is located in Bethel.

### *Educational Opportunities*

The Saint Mary’s School provides instruction to students from pre-school through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. The school had 185 students and 14 teachers in 2011.<sup>38</sup> In addition, the Rural Alaska Community Action Program (RurAL CAP) runs Head Start (ages 3 to 5 years) and Early Head Start (birth to 3 years) programs in Saint Mary’s.<sup>39</sup>

## **Involvement in North Pacific Fisheries**

### *History and Evolution of Fisheries*

Yup’ik Eskimo people were historically very mobile, following the migration and seasonal availability of subsistence resources.<sup>40</sup> Indigenous people living along the Yukon River have long harvested salmon for subsistence purposes. Salmon were historically used for personal subsistence as well as food for sled dogs. The first recorded commercial harvest of salmon took place in 1918, and early harvests were relatively large. Concerns about providing sufficient

---

<sup>33</sup> A “honeybucket” is an indoor bucket used as a toilet in houses without plumbing.

<sup>34</sup> “Washeteria” is another word for laundromat. In Alaska, washeterias often include shower facilities.

<sup>35</sup> See footnote 31.

<sup>36</sup> Ibid.

<sup>37</sup> Ibid.

<sup>38</sup> Alaska Department of Education and Early Development. (2012). *Statistics and Reports*. Retrieved April 24, 2012 from <http://eed.alaska.gov/stats/>.

<sup>39</sup> Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc. *2010 Head Start Report*. Retrieved on December 20, 2011 from <http://www.ruralcap.com/>.

<sup>40</sup> Alaska Native Heritage Center. (n.d) *Yup’ik & Cup’ik - Who We Are website*. Retrieved December 8, 2011 from [http://www.alaskanative.net/en/main\\_nav/education/culture\\_alaska/yupik/](http://www.alaskanative.net/en/main_nav/education/culture_alaska/yupik/).

salmon resources for subsistence harvest led to limitations on commercial salmon fishing during several periods, including a complete commercial fishing closure between 1925 and 1931. In the 1980s, concerns about possible overharvest of Chinook runs led to reduced commercial fisheries in the late 1980s and 1990s along the Yukon River. Poor returns in the late 1990s and early 2000s resulted in restrictive management of the commercial fishery and complete closure in 2001 to ensure subsistence resources.<sup>41</sup>

Currently, commercial fishing is allowed along the entire 1,200 miles of the main stem of the Yukon River, as well as 225 miles of the Tanana River. There are 7 fishing districts, 10 sub-districts and 28 statistical areas used by the State to manage fisheries. Fishing on the lower Yukon River takes place with set and drift gillnets. Subsistence fishermen also most often utilize these gear types. Many subsistence fishermen are also commercial fishermen.<sup>42</sup>

In addition to salmon, several Saint Mary’s residents held permits in fisheries for ‘freshwater fish’ and herring during the 2000-2010 period. Commercial freshwater fish fisheries may target species such as Arctic char, pike, rainbow trout, Dolly Varden, and sheefish.<sup>43</sup> Commercial catch of herring for bait began in Alaska around 1900, and herring sac roe fisheries developed in the late 1970s. Along the Yukon/Kuskokwim coast there are six commercial gillnet sac roe districts: Security Cove, Goodnews Bay, Cape Avinof, Nelson Island, Nunivak Island, and Cape Romanzof. Harvests in these areas have been declining in recent years, in part due to lack of processing capacity in the region.<sup>44</sup>

Saint Mary’s is located more than 100 miles up the Yukon River from the Bering Sea. This area is included in District 2 of the Lower Yukon River salmon fishery. It is also important to note that the ocean area into which the Yukon River flows is encompassed by Federal Statistical and Reporting Area 514, Pacific Halibut Fishery Regulatory Area 4E, and the Bering Sea Sablefish Regulatory Area. Because Pilot Station is more than 50 miles inland, it is not eligible to participate in the Community Development Quota (CDQ) program. Saint Mary’s is also not eligible to participate in the Community Quota Entity (CQE) program.

In a survey conducted by the AFSC in 2011, community leaders reported that commercial fishing boats under 35 ft in length use Saint Mary’s as their base of operations during the fishing season, and that the primary gear type used by these boats is gillnets. Community leaders also indicated that Saint Mary’s participates in the fisheries management process in Alaska, both through a representative that sits on regional fisheries advisory and/or working groups run by the ADF&G, as well as by relying on regional organizations to provide information on fisheries management issues. In the same survey, community leaders note that the biggest challenge for local fishermen is fishing quotas.

---

<sup>41</sup> Clark, McGregor, Mecum, Krasnowski and Carroll. 2006. “The Commercial Salmon Fishery in Alaska.” *Alaska Fisheries Research Bulletin* 12(1):1-146. Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game. Retrieved January 4, 2012 from <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/home/library/PDFs/afrb/clarv12n1.pdf>.

<sup>42</sup> Ibid.

<sup>43</sup> Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game. 2006. *Our Wealth Maintained: A Strategy for Conserving Alaska’s Diverse Wildlife and Fish Resources*. Retrieved June 21, 2012 from <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=species.wapview>.

<sup>44</sup> Woodby, Doug, Dave Carlile, Shareef Siddeek, Fritz Funk, John H. Clark, and Lee Hulbert. 2005. *Commercial Fisheries of Alaska*. Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game, Special Publication No. 05-09. Retrieved December 29, 2011 from <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/FedAidPDFs/sp05-09.pdf>.

### *Processing Plants*

According to ADF&G's 2010 Intent to Operate list, one seafood processing facility was located in Saint Mary's that year. Boreal Fisheries, Inc. is a husband-and-wife operation that began operations in 1974. Boreal Fisheries processes salmon: Chinook and chum from June 16-July 10, chum from August 1-September 5, and coho from August 15-September 5. Boreal Fisheries purchases its Chinook salmon from local fishermen.

In addition, although not registered on ADF&G's Intent to Operate list in 2010, a processing plant was active as recently as 2008 in Marshall (approximately 60 miles upriver from Saint Mary's). Maserculiq Fish Processors, Inc. utilizes fish harvested by local Yup'ik Eskimo fishermen and produces value-added salmon products which are distributed by Yukon King Seafoods of Alaska.<sup>45</sup>

### *Fisheries-Related Revenue*

Between 2000 and 2010, Saint Mary's received revenue from the Shared Fisheries Business Tax, harbor usage fees, and port/dock usage fees. The amount received from the Shared Fisheries Business Tax was minimal between 2000 and 2007, though it increased to an amount between \$3,300 and \$4,397 from 2008 to 2010. The amount of revenue received from harbor usage also varied from year to year, between \$50,500 and \$186,260 from 2000 to 2009. The amount of revenue received from port/dock usage fees varied somewhat between 2000 and 2009, from \$10,608 to \$20,750 (Table 3).<sup>46</sup>

### *Commercial Fishing*

In 2010, 83 Saint Mary's residents held Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) permits. While there were four herring CFEC permits and four other finfish CFEC permits held by Saint Mary's residents that year, none of these permits were actively fished. Herring CFEC permits issued in 2010 were for the Norton Sound gillnet fishery, and other finfish CFEC permits issued in 2010 were for the statewide freshwater fish set gillnet fishery. There were 74 salmon CFEC permits held by Saint Mary's residents in 2010 for the Lower Yukon gillnet fishery, 91% of which were as actively fished that year. The number of salmon CFEC permits and permit holders increased slightly between 2000 and 2010; though the percentage of permits reported as fished remained relatively stable (Table 4).

There were 83 crew license holders in Saint Mary's in 2010, a number that remained relatively stable between 2000 and 2010, with the exception of 2001 when there were only 2 reported crew license holders (Table 5). According to ADF&G records, between one and four fish buyers were in operation in Saint Mary's in some years between 2000 and 2005, although none were reported from 2006 to 2010. According to NMFS reports, a shore-side processing facility was in operation in Saint Mary's in 2002 and again from 2005 to 2010. There were 38 vessels owned primarily by Saint Mary's residents in 2010, a number which increased slightly between 2000 and 2010. The number of vessels homeported in Saint Mary's also increased from

---

<sup>45</sup> Yukon King Seafoods website. (2008). *About us*. Retrieved December 8, 2011 from <http://www.yukonking.com>.

<sup>46</sup> A direct comparison between fisheries-related revenue and total municipal revenue cannot reliably be made as not all fisheries-related revenue sources are included in the municipal budget.

32 in 2000 to 43 in 2010. Vessels landed catch in Saint Mary's in only three year during the 2000-2010 period – 2002, 2003, and 2005.

No residents of Saint Mary's held quota shares or were allocated Individual Fisheries Quota (IFQ) between 2000 and 2010 for halibut or crab (Tables 6 and 8). There was one resident holding 136 shares of sablefish quota and 11 lbs of sablefish IFQ allotment in 2010 (Table 7). The number of sablefish quota share holders and quota shares held remained consistent between 2002 and 2010, though the number of lbs of IFQ allotment varied from year to year.

No landings were reported in 2010 in Saint Mary's (Table 9). For the only years between 2000 and 2010 where landings were reported (2000, 2002, 2003, 2005), the landings and ex-vessel value are confidential due to the small number of participants. Landings and ex-vessel value, when reported by vessel owner residence, were confidential for all species and all years due to the small number of participants with the exception of landings and value for salmon between 2006 and 2009 (Table 10). Landings were somewhat variable during this time period, though the ex-vessel value of those landings decreased overall between 2006 and 2009.

NOAA-TM-AFSC-259 – Volume 12  
Community Profiles for North Pacific Fisheries – Alaska: Saint Mary’s

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

Revenue source	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Raw fish tax <sup>1</sup>	n/a										
Shared Fisheries											
Business Tax <sup>1</sup>	n/a	\$58	n/a	\$98	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$70	\$3,300	\$4,397	\$3,979
Fisheries											
Resource Landing											
Tax <sup>1</sup>	n/a										
Fuel transfer tax <sup>2</sup>	n/a										
Extraterritorial											
fish tax <sup>2</sup>	n/a										
Bulk fuel											
transfers <sup>1</sup>	n/a										
Boat hauls <sup>2</sup>	n/a										
Harbor usage <sup>2</sup>	\$78,000	\$112,043	\$96,500	\$93,500	\$186,260	\$180,260	\$130,500	\$51,120	\$50,500	\$110,500	n/a
Port/dock usage <sup>2</sup>	\$20,500	\$14,671	\$13,713	\$14,500	\$10,608	\$14,806	\$21,306	\$19,000	\$20,750	\$14,338	n/a
Fishing gear											
storage on public											
land <sup>3</sup>	n/a										
Marine fuel sales											
tax <sup>3</sup>	n/a										
<i>Total fisheries-</i>											
<i>related revenue</i> <sup>4</sup>	\$98,500	\$126,772	\$110,213	\$108,098	\$196,868	\$195,066	\$151,806	\$70,190	\$74,550	\$129,235	\$3,979
<i>Total municipal</i>											
<i>revenue</i> <sup>5</sup>	\$3,051,450	\$1,930,841	\$1,777,664	\$1,978,054	\$1,027,973	\$1,367,877	\$1,133,810	\$2,367,858	\$1,112,956	\$1,342,794	\$1,006,349

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

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

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

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

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

<sup>5</sup> Total municipal revenue represents the total revenue that the City reports each year in its 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](http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dcra/commfin/CF_FinRec.cfm).

NOAA-TM-AFSC-259 – Volume 12  
Community Profiles for North Pacific Fisheries – Alaska: Saint Mary’s

Table 4. Permits and Permit Holders by Species, Saint Mary’s: 2000-2010.

Species		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Groundfish (LLP) <sup>1</sup>	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	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total permit holders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Crab (LLP) <sup>1</sup>	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	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total permit holders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fisheries Permits <sup>1</sup>	Total permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Fished permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	% of permits fished	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total permit holders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Crab (CFEC) <sup>2</sup>	Total permits	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
	Fished permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	% of permits fished	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total permit holders	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Other shellfish (CFEC) <sup>2</sup>	Total permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Fished permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	% of permits fished	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total permit holders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Halibut (CFEC) <sup>2</sup>	Total permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Fished permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	% of permits fished	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total permit holders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Herring (CFEC) <sup>2</sup>	Total permits	2	4	4	4	5	5	5	4	4	4	4
	Fished permits	0	2	1	0	0	3	4	0	0	0	0
	% of permits fished	-	50%	25%	-	-	60%	80%	-	-	-	-
	Total permit holders	2	4	4	4	5	5	5	4	4	4	4

Table 4 Cont. Permits and Permit Holders by Species, Saint Mary’s: 2000-2010.

Species		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Sablefish (CFEC) <sup>2</sup>	Total permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Fished permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	% of permits fished	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total permit holders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Groundfish (CFEC) <sup>2</sup>	Total permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Fished permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	% of permits fished	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total permit holders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Finfish (CFEC) <sup>2</sup>	Total permits	1	1	1	25	24	6	7	7	8	7	4
	Fished permits	0	0	0	14	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
	% of permits fished	-	-	-	56%	-	-	29%	-	-	-	-
	Total permit holders	1	1	1	25	24	6	7	7	8	7	4
Salmon (CFEC) <sup>2</sup>	Total permits	66	65	67	65	67	70	73	74	76	74	74
	Fished permits	59	0	62	60	63	68	72	70	64	59	67
	% of permits fished	89%	-	93%	92%	94%	97%	99%	95%	84%	80%	91%
	Total permit holders	71	65	68	65	71	77	77	80	86	80	83
<i>Total CFEC Permits<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>Permits</i>	<i>69</i>	<i>70</i>	<i>72</i>	<i>95</i>	<i>96</i>	<i>81</i>	<i>85</i>	<i>85</i>	<i>89</i>	<i>86</i>	<i>82</i>
	<i>Fished permits</i>	<i>59</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>63</i>	<i>74</i>	<i>63</i>	<i>71</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>70</i>	<i>64</i>	<i>59</i>	<i>67</i>
	<i>% of permits fished</i>	<i>86%</i>	<i>3%</i>	<i>88%</i>	<i>78%</i>	<i>66%</i>	<i>88%</i>	<i>92%</i>	<i>82%</i>	<i>72%</i>	<i>69%</i>	<i>82%</i>
	<i>Permit holders</i>	<i>71</i>	<i>66</i>	<i>69</i>	<i>79</i>	<i>82</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>77</i>	<i>80</i>	<i>87</i>	<i>80</i>	<i>83</i>

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

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

Table 5. Characteristics of the Commercial Fishing Sector in Saint Mary’s: 2000-2010.

Year	Crew License Holders <sup>1</sup>	Count Of All Fish Buyers <sup>2</sup>	Count Of Shore-Side Processing Facilities <sup>3</sup>	Vessels Primarily Owned By Residents <sup>4</sup>	Vessels Homeported <sup>4</sup>	Vessels Landing Catch In Saint Mary’s <sup>2</sup>	Total Net Pounds Landed In Saint Mary’s <sup>2,5</sup>	Total Ex-Vessel Value Of Landings In Saint Mary’s <sup>2,5</sup>
2000	93	1	0	23	32	0	--	--
2001	2	0	0	18	19	0	0	\$0
2002	88	1	1	21	26	2	--	--
2003	97	4	0	27	29	3	--	--
2004	98	0	0	27	27	0	0	\$0
2005	88	3	1	29	28	9	--	--
2006	81	0	1	36	33	0	0	\$0
2007	96	0	1	33	34	0	0	\$0
2008	84	0	1	32	35	0	0	\$0
2009	82	0	1	33	36	0	0	\$0
2010	83	0	1	38	43	0	0	\$0

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

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

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

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

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

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

Table 6. Halibut Catch Share Program Participation in Saint Mary’s: 2000-2010.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of Halibut Quota Share Account Holders</b>	<b>Halibut Quota Shares Held</b>	<b>Halibut IFQ Allotment (Pounds)</b>
2000	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 Saint Mary’s: 2000-2010.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of Sablefish Quota Share Account Holders</b>	<b>Sablefish Quota Shares Held</b>	<b>Sablefish IFQ Allotment (Pounds)</b>
2000	0	0	0
2001	0	0	0
2002	1	136	14
2003	1	136	16
2004	1	136	17
2005	1	136	16
2006	1	136	15
2007	1	136	15
2008	1	136	14
2009	1	136	12
2010	1	136	11

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 Islands Crab Catch Share Program Participation by Residents of Saint Mary’s: 2000-2010.

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

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

Table 9. Landed Pounds and Ex-vessel Revenue, by Species, in Saint Mary’s: 2000-2010.

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

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

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

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

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

Table 10. Landed Pounds and Ex-vessel Revenue, by Species, by Saint Mary’s Residents:  
 2000-2010.

	<i>Total Net Lbs<sup>1</sup></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	--	--	--	--	--	--	11,597	36,537	27,121	21,511	--
<i>Total<sup>2</sup></i>	--	--	--	--	--	--	11,597	36,537	27,121	21,511	--
	<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	--	--	--	--	--	--	\$24,551	\$34,282	\$20,969	\$12,377	--
<i>Total<sup>2</sup></i>	--	--	--	--	--	--	\$24,551	\$34,282	\$20,969	\$12,377	--

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

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

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

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

*Recreational Fishing*

According to the ADF&G Statewide Harvest Survey, coho salmon, chum salmon, Dolly Varden, Atlantic grayling, northern pike, Pacific halibut, and rockfish are caught by private anglers in Saint Mary’s. According to a survey conducted by the AFSC in 2011, community leaders reported that recreational fishing in Saint Mary’s takes place on small boats owned by private anglers.

During the 2000-2010 period, one licensed sport fish guide was present in 2000 only. No active sport fish guide businesses were in operation in Saint Mary’s in any year during the decade. The number of sport fishing licenses sold to residents of Saint Mary’s was often higher than the total number sold in the community, suggesting that Saint Mary’s residents may travel to other communities to prepare for and engage in sport fishing activities (Table 11).

Saint Mary’s is located within the Yukon River Drainage Alaska Sport Fishing Survey Area. No saltwater angler days were reported to be fished in this survey area between 2005 and 2010. Between 2000 and 2004, the number of saltwater angler days fished by non-Alaska residents decreased from 81 in 2000 to 17 in 2004, though there were no angler days fished by non-Alaska residents in 2002 and 2003. The number of saltwater angler days fished by Alaska residents was highly variable between 2000 and 2003, and there were no saltwater angler days fished by Alaska residents between 2004 and 2010. During this period, freshwater angler days fished varied considerably for both Alaska residents and non-Alaska residents. Alaska residents fished consistently more angler days in freshwater in this region between 2000 and 2010, averaging 7,355 angler days fished per year compared to an average of 3,861 angler days fished by non-Alaska residents. Information about the sport fishing sector in and near Saint Mary’s is presented in Table 11.

Table 11. Sport Fishing Trends, Saint Mary’s: 2000-2010.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Active Sport Fish Guide Businesses<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Sport Fish Guide Licenses<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Sport Fishing Licenses Sold to residents<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Sport Fishing Licenses Sold in Saint Mary’s<sup>2</sup></b>
2000	0	1	107	79
2001	0	0	101	64
2002	0	0	120	82
2003	0	0	152	117
2004	0	0	171	99
2005	0	0	107	85
2006	0	0	165	100
2007	0	0	159	101
2008	0	0	124	158
2009	0	0	85	113
2010	0	0	147	142

Table 11 Cont. Sport Fishing Trends, Saint Mary’s: 2000-2010.

Year	Saltwater		Freshwater	
	Angler Days Fished – Non-Residents <sup>3</sup>	Angler Days Fished – Alaska Residents <sup>3</sup>	Angler Days Fished – Non-Residents <sup>3</sup>	Angler Days Fished – Alaska Residents <sup>3</sup>
2000	81	45	3,345	7,878
2001	29	14	4,063	6,454
2002	0	89	5,761	9,194
2003	0	17	3,344	5,756
2004	17	0	5,479	7,613
2005	0	0	4,182	4,783
2006	0	0	3,607	7,816
2007	0	0	3,168	8,226
2008	0	0	2,573	10,400
2009	0	0	2,969	7,639
2010	0	0	3,983	5,151

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

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

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

### *Subsistence Fishing*

For residents of Saint Mary’s, cash income is supplemented by subsistence activities, including trapping. Important local subsistence resources include salmon, moose, bear, and waterfowl.<sup>47</sup>

For the 2000-2010 period, no data were available regarding the percentage of households participating in subsistence of marine resources or per capita subsistence harvest (Table 12). Likewise, no data were available on subsistence harvest of halibut (Table 14) or marine mammals (Table 15) by Saint Mary’s residents. However, data were reported about subsistence salmon harvest. The number of subsistence salmon permits issued to residents of Saint Mary’s varied between and 104 and 148 per year, and the number reported as fished varied between 41 and 61. The salmon species harvested in the greatest volume was chum. Chinook were also heavily used, although the number of fish harvested was on average less than one-third of total chum harvest. Coho and pink salmon were harvested in smaller numbers. A small sockeye harvest was reported in one year of the period. No information was available from ADF&G regarding harvest of marine invertebrates or non-salmon fish during the 2000-2010 period (Table 13).

<sup>47</sup> Alaska Dept. of Comm. and Rural Affairs. (n.d.). *Community Database Online*. Retrieved October 17, 2011 from [http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF\\_BLOCK.htm](http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF_BLOCK.htm).

Table 12. Subsistence Participation by Household and Species, Saint Mary’s: 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
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, Saint Mary’s: 2000-2010.

Year	Subsistence Salmon Permits Issued <sup>1</sup>	Salmon Permits Returned <sup>1</sup>	Chinook Salmon Harvested <sup>1</sup>	Chum Salmon Harvested <sup>1</sup>	Coho Salmon Harvested <sup>1</sup>	Pink Salmon Harvested <sup>1</sup>	Sockeye Salmon Harvested <sup>1</sup>	Lbs of Marine Inverts <sup>2</sup>	Lbs of Non-Salmon Fish <sup>2</sup>
2000	148	52	1,800	8,286	117	54	n/a	n/a	n/a
2001	130	41	3,815	10,253	610	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2002	118	41	2,045	7,387	209	7	n/a	n/a	n/a
2003	112	47	1,917	5,411	276	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2004	109	51	2,358	7,098	258	137	15	n/a	n/a
2005	104	49	2,693	7,367	252	144	n/a	n/a	n/a
2006	125	61	2,233	7,811	171	236	n/a	n/a	n/a
2007	125	61	2,233	7,811	171	236	n/a	n/a	n/a
2008	124	61	1,756	7,281	591	367	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.

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

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

Table 14. Subsistence Halibut Fishing Participation, Saint Mary’s: 2003-2010.

Year	SHARC Issued	SHARC Cards Fished	SHARC Halibut Lbs Harvested
2003	n/a	n/a	n/a
2004	n/a	n/a	n/a
2005	n/a	n/a	n/a
2006	n/a	n/a	n/a
2007	n/a	n/a	n/a
2008	n/a	n/a	n/a
2009	n/a	n/a	n/a
2010	n/a	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, Saint Mary’s: 2000-2010.

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

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

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

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

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