SOUTHEAST ALASKA by the Numbers 2026

CHANGES 2024 TO 2025

SOUTHEAST ALASKA'S ECONOMY

The **Labor force** increased by **590 jobs** to **46,312, +1.3%**

Total wages increased by **$202 million** to $3.1 billion, **+7%**

Regional **population** was flat falling by just **21 people** to **70,233**

Total **Passenger Arrivals** decreased by **1% to 2.2 million**

Construction Wages increased by **$23 million**, **+14%**

Social Services Employment decreased by **88 jobs**, **-8%**

2025

The 2025 economy was a really good one for Southeast Alaska.

Peak Employment: In 2025, the region added nearly 600 jobs, reaching its highest number of jobs ever. Growth was cross-sector with seafood, tourism, private health care, and construction each adding more than 100 annualized jobs.

Record Wages: Regional wages also reached a new high, even when adjusted for inflation, increasing by $202 million (+7%). The average wage grew by 6% to $66,796, outpacing the rate of inflation.

Housing Construction Up: The region added 315 new housing units in 2025, the highest annual total since 2016.

Population Flat: After years of decline, the Southeast population stabilized, dropping by just 21 people in 2025, while 17 of the region's 32 communities gained residents.

Cruise Visitation Flat: Southeast saw 1.78 million cruise passengers in 2025, down 7,900 passengers from 2024. It was only the second time cruise numbers declined in the last dozen years.

Government and Social Services Down: Government employment declined in every category except the Coast Guard. Non-CG federal employment fell sharply, dropping 15% in the fourth quarter of 2025. Social services losses also continued; the sector has shed 359 jobs, or 25% of its workforce, over the past four years.

2026

Following five years of growth, the Southeast economy remains strong in the first half of 2026. Preliminary data point to overall job growth similar to 2025, while business confidence is even higher, especially in mining and tourism.

Metal Prices Surging: Gold prices are nearly double and silver prices nearly triple their 2024 averages, raising the value of regional mineral production and energizing mining exploration projects.

Tourism Growing: Cruise ships are expected to bring 1.97 million passengers to the region in 2026, an increase of 10.7%, driven by itinerary changes, larger vessels, and new cruise lines.

Healthcare Up: Early data indicate continued strong employment growth in the healthcare sector, led by SEARHC.

Oil Prices High: Oil is averaging $90 per barrel in 2026 so far. Higher prices strengthen state revenues while significantly increasing operating costs, especially for mining, fishing, tourism, and freight operations.

Seafood Harvests Down: Early reports from the 2026 seafood season are mixed. Significantly stronger prices are offset by low harvests across nearly every species.

"Overall 2026 outlook: cautiously optimistic if we address workforce, housing, transportation reliability, infrastructure, and cost pressures with practical regional solutions."
2026 Business Climate Survey respondent

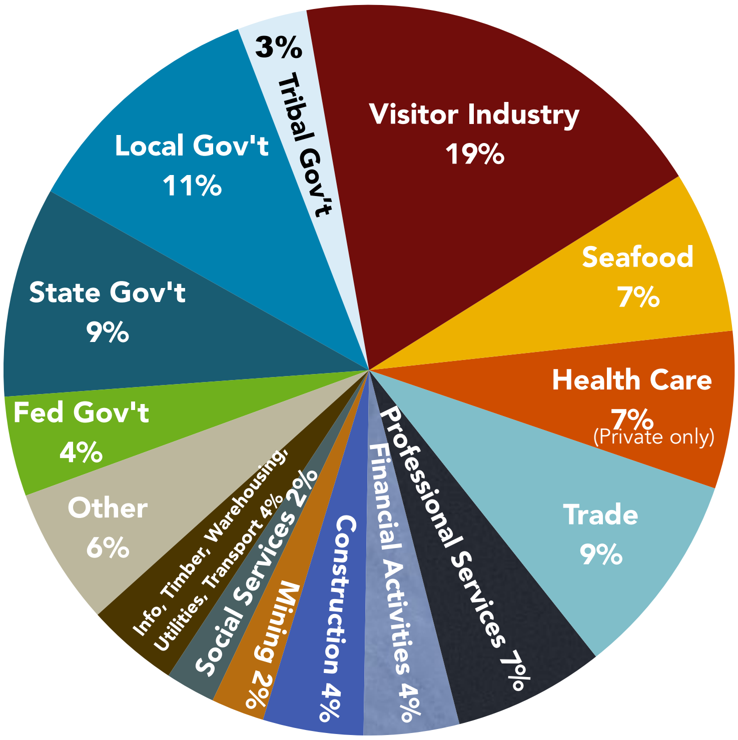
The Whole **Southeast Alaska Economy** 2025

In 2025, Southeast Alaska gained nearly 600 year-round equivalent jobs and $202 million in workforce earnings compared to 2024.

Annual Average Jobs

46,312 Jobs

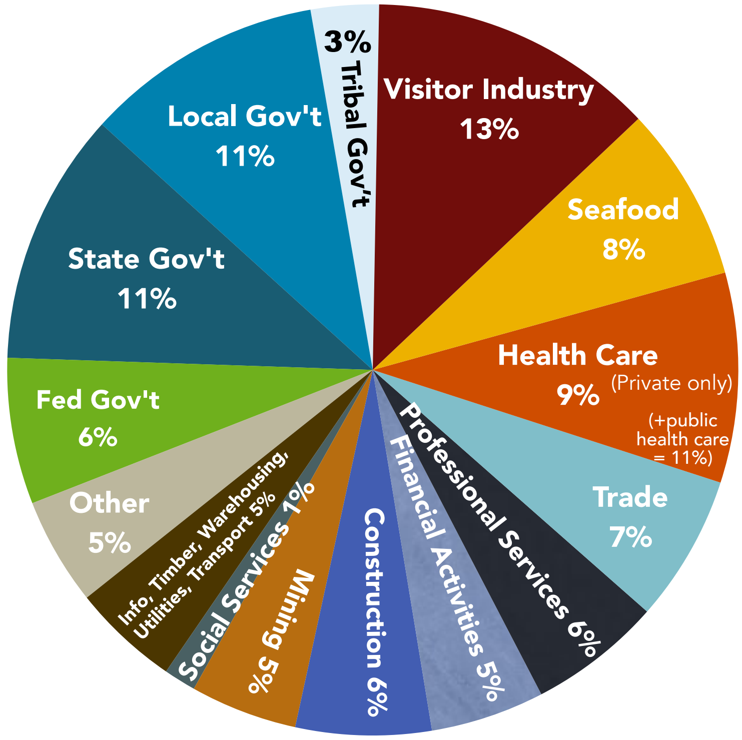
UP 590 JOBS IN 2025 +1.3%



Employment Earnings

$3.1 Billion Workforce Earnings

UP $202 MILLION +7%



2025 Southeast Alaska Employment and Earnings

	Employment Numbers				Employment-Related Earnings		
	Annual Average Employment (2025)	Self-Employed/ Active Duty	Total Employment	Change 2024 to 2025	Wages (2025)	Self-Employment/ Active Duty Earnings	Total Earnings
Government (includes Coast Guard)	12,216	675	**12,891**	-117	$913,073,667	$52,650,000	**$965,723,667**
Visitor Industry	7,749	972	**8,721**	132	$352,303,869	$39,547,693	**$391,851,562**
Seafood Industry	1,487	1,840	**3,327**	218	$101,267,326	$138,808,598	**$240,075,924**
Trade: Retail and Wholesale	3,792	420	**4,212**	-13	$163,199,239	$38,068,550	**$201,267,789**
Health Care Industry (private only)	2,954	276	**3,230**	109	$268,791,677	$18,327,823	**$287,119,500**
Construction Industry	1,539	519	**2,058**	107	$141,787,731	$43,817,663	**$185,605,394**
Financial Activities	1,070	886	**1,956**	24	$68,136,487	$87,638,300	**$155,774,787**
Professional and Business Services	1,673	1,421	**3,094**	72	$117,684,139	$64,135,007	**$181,819,146**
Mining Industry	1,081	7	**1,088**	26	$145,805,083	$603,576	**$146,408,659**
Social Services	914	109	**1,023**	-88	$40,500,898	$3,619,705	**$44,120,603**
Information	310	52	**362**	-22	$19,889,770	$1,705,195	**$21,594,965**
Timber Industry	228	41	**269**	-5	$16,200,766	$1,540,711	**$17,741,477**
Warehousing, Utilities & Non-Visitor Transportation	1,024	233	**1,257**	13	$83,624,299	$23,419,466	**$107,043,765**
Other	1,825	999	**2,824**	134	$94,493,892	$52,868,111	**$147,362,003**
Total	**37,862**	**8,450**	**46,312**	**590**	**$2.5 billion**	**$566.8 million**	**$3.1 billion**

Sources: Alaska Department of Labor Employment & Wage data; US Census Nonemployer (self-employment) Statistics; Active Duty Military Population.
Notes: Seafood Industry includes animal aquaculture, fishing & seafood product preparation, and Southeast Alaska resident commercial fishermen (nonresident fishermen & crew who did not report income are excluded). **Visitor Industry** includes leisure & hospitality, and visitor transportation (air, water, scenic). **Timber** includes forestry and logging support activities for forestry, and wood product manufacturing.

Change in the Last Year: 2024 to 2025

Table tracks key Southeast indicators over the past year, along with associated changes.

Demographics	2024	2025	% Change 2024-2025	Change 2024-2025
Total Population [1]	70,254	70,233	-0.03%	-21
Under Age 20 [2]	15,971	15,889	-1%	-82
Ages 20–39 [2]	17,529	17,413	-1%	-116
Ages 70 and older [2]	9,185	9,671	5%	486
UAS Enrollment (fall enrollment)	2,313	2,204	-5%	-109
K-12 School District Enrollment [3]	10,289	9,893	-4%	-396
General Economic Conditions	**2024**	**2025**	**% Change**	**Change**
Total Employment (jobs, self-employed & USCG) [1,5,6]	45,722	46,312	1%	590
Total Employment Earnings [1, 5, 6]	$2.9 billion	$3.1 billion	7%	$202 million
Total Private Sector Payroll [1, 6]	$1.97 billion	$2.13 billion	8%	$162 million
Average Annual Wage [1]	$63,238	$66,796	6%	$3,558
Annual Unemployment Rate [1]	4.1%	4.3%	5.0%	0.2%
Top Economic Sectors	**2024**	**2025**	**% Change**	**Change**
Government	Public Sector: 31% of all employment earnings			
Total Government Employment [1, 5]	13,008	12,891	-1%	-117 jobs
Federal Employment [1, 5] (6% of all employment earnings)	2,068	2,047	-1%	-21 jobs
State Employment [1] (11% of all job earnings)	4,378	4,312	-2%	-66 jobs
City and Tribal Employment [1] (14% of all job earnings)	6,562	6,532	-0.5%	-30 jobs
Total Government Payroll (includes USCG) [1, 5]	$938.5 million	$965.7 million	3%	$27.2 million
State of Alaska Payroll [1]	$329.3 million	$346.2 million	5%	$16.9 million
Visitor Industry	Key Industry: 13% of all employment earnings			
Total Visitor Industry Employment [1, 6]	8,589	8,721	2%	132 jobs
Total Visitor Industry Wages/Earnings [1, 6]	$367.4 million	$391.9 million	7%	$24.4 million
Total Southeast Alaska Passenger Arrivals	**2,269,131**	**2,247,030**	**-1%**	**-22,101**
Cruise Passengers [10]	1,785,000	1,777,100	-0.4%	-7,900
Total Air Passenger Arrivals from Outside SE [11]	477,592	462,215	-3%	-15,377
Total AMHS Passengers from Outside SE [12]	6,539	7,715	18%	1,176
Commercial Fishing & Seafood Industry	Key Industry: 8% of all employment earnings			
Total Seafood Employment (includes fishermen) [1, 6]	3,109	3,327	7%	218 jobs
Total Seafood Employment Earnings [1, 6]	$215.6 million	$240.1 million	11%	$24.5 million
Commercial Fishing Boats Homeported in SE [15]	2,527	2,410	-5%	-117 boats
Pounds (whole seafood landed pounds by SE residents) [8]	200.4 million	186.7 million	-7%	-13.7 million
Estimated Ex-vessel Harvest Value [8]	$188.3 million	$213.7 million	13%	$25.4 million
Health Care Industry (public & private health)	Key Industry: 11% of all employment earnings			
Health Care Employment [1, 6]	3,889	3,979	2%	90 jobs
Health Care Wages [1, 6]	$314.7 million	$332.2 million	6%	$17.5 million
Maritime Economy (Includes employment from all industries)	Key Industry: 14% of all employment earnings			
Private Maritime plus USCG Employment [1,5,6]	6,028	6,379	6%	351 jobs
Private Maritime plus USCG Wages [1,5,6]	$413.9 million	$442.8 million	7%	$28.8 million
Other Selected Statistics	**2024**	**2025**	**% Change**	**Change**
Construction Employment [1, 6] (6% of all employment earnings)	1,951	2,058	5%	107
Mining Employment [1] (5% of all employment earnings)	1,062	1,088	2%	26
Price of Gold [7]	$2,405	$3,443	43%	$1,038
Total Southeast AMHS Ridership [12]	129,529	132,868	3%	3,339
Cost of Living: Consumer Price Index [1]	266.2	271.8	2%	5.6 index points
Housing Units Permitted/Completed [4,1]	232	315	36%	83
Avg. Daily Volume ANS Oil Production (barrels/day) [14]	464,084	462,008	-0.4%	-2,076
Annual Avg. Domestic Crude WTI Oil Prices (in $/Barrel) [14]	$80.19	$69.70	-13%	-$10

Sources: [1]Alaska Department of Labor (ADOL); [2]ADOL Southeast Alaska Population by Age; [3]Alaska Department of Education and Early Development; [4]Based on the quarterly Alaska Housing Unit Survey, a survey of local governments and housing agencies; [5] US Coast Guard; [6] US Census Nonemployer (self-employment) Statistics and estimates based on business climate surveys; [7]Kitco Metals Inc.; [8]ADF&G Southeast Alaska Commercial Seafood Industry Harvest and Ex-Vessel Value Information; [10]Cruise Line Agencies of Alaska; [11]US Bureau of Transportation Statistics (RITA); [12]Alaska Marine Highway System data; [14]Alaska Department of Revenue Crude Oil and Natural Gas Prices; [15]Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission.

SEAFOOD INDUSTRY

Seafood Industry

3,327 Annualized Jobs 2025

$240 Million in Wages 2025

Jobs Up 7% +218
Earnings Up 11% $24.5M

2025 In 2025, Southeast Alaska's seafood industry added 218 annualized jobs (+7%) and $24.5 million in earnings (+11%). The industry supported 3,327 annualized jobs and generated $240 million in earnings, representing 7% of all regional jobs and 8% of regional earnings.

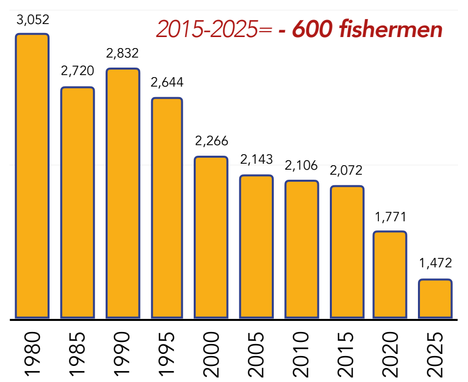
Regional fishermen landed 187 million pounds of seafood worth $214 million. Although harvest value increased by $25 million from 2024, it remained approximately $49 million below the inflation-adjusted average for the preceding decade. Harvest volume was 27 million pounds below the prior 10-year average.

Salmon accounted for 74% of pounds landed but only 43% of harvest value. Halibut, black cod, crab, and dive fisheries accounted for just 15% of pounds but half of total value.

"Commercial fishing, especially for individual boat owners, is not doing well. Although ex-vessel prices have increased, they remain far short of providing reasonable profit margins given the higher costs of fuel, moorage, insurance, and other expenses."

2026 Business Climate Survey respondent

Southeast Fishermen Decline



Over the past decade, the number of active Southeast resident commercial fishermen fell by 600, or 29%. By 2025, the region had fewer than half as many resident fishermen as it did in 1980—a long-term contraction that has reshaped fishing communities and the regional economy.

The 2025 Southeast Catch Compared to the 2024 Catch in Millions				
Species	**2024 Pounds Landed**	**2025 Pounds Landed**	**2025 Catch Value**	**24-25 Change in Value**
Pink Salmon	53.9	65.4	$24.9	46%
Chum Salmon	72.2	58.8	$37.3	-4%
Herring	26.1	13.2	$5.6	37%
Black Cod	15.4	16.8	$41.8	24%
Halibut	7.5	6.1	$38.1	7%
Coho Salmon	7.3	8.4	$12.8	18%
Sockeye Salmon	3.7	4.0	$6.9	6%
Crab	3.5	3.5	$23.7	143%
Chinook	2.1	1.6	$9.8	-12%
Geoduck, Sea Cucumbers, Urchins	2.2	1.7	$6.2	-49%
All Other	6.6	7.2	$6.5	137%
Pounds	**200.4 million**	**186.7 million**	**$213.7 million**	**+$25 million**

2026

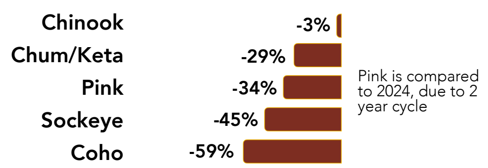
Low Harvests, Stronger Prices

Seafood prices strengthened considerably in 2026. Chum prices more than doubled, and Chinook prices were up by 40% Through early August, prices paid to Southeast trollers for coho were 21% higher than a year earlier.

However, the total catch appears headed for a third consecutive annual decline and could rank among the lowest harvests in decades. Through August 22, Southeast harvests of all five salmon species remained below prior-season levels at the same date. Coho was down 59%, sockeye 45%, chum 29%, and Chinook 3%. Pink catches surged in August after a historically slow start, but the cumulative harvest remained 34% below 2024 levels.

SE Salmon Catch: 2025 vs. 2026

Year over year: week 34



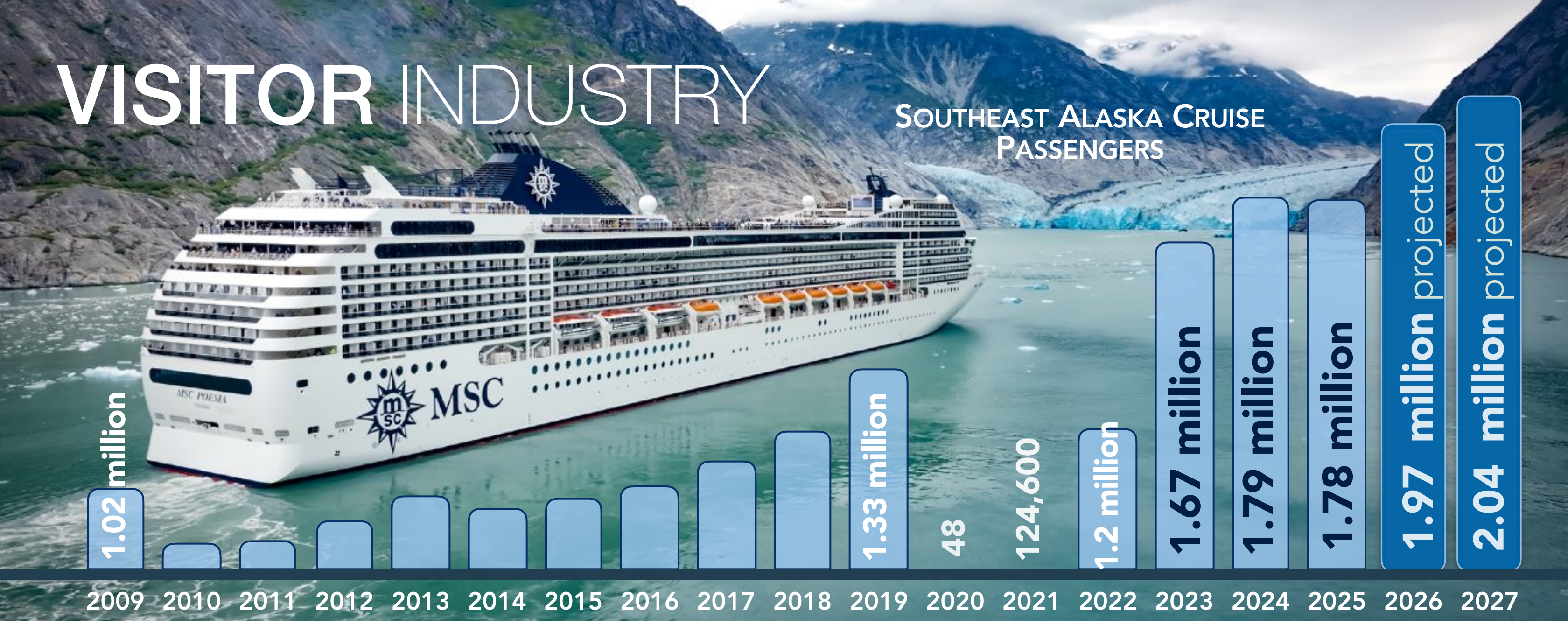
Source: ADF&G; ASMI/McKinley Research, Aug. 22, 2026

Dungeness crab harvests were also exceptionally low. The first-week harvest was the lowest in more than 30 years, prompting a three-week reduction in the summer season. ADF&G subsequently limited the fall fishery to 30 days.

Overall, stronger prices are providing some relief, but low harvests and high operating costs continue to challenge Southeast fishermen.

Sources: Combination of ADOL Employment and Wage data; US Census Nonemployer (self-employment) Statistics; ADF&G Seafood Production of Shorebased Plants in Southeast Alaska; ADF&G Southeast Alaska Commercial Seafood Industry Harvest and Ex-Vessel Value Information; Alaska Commercial Salmon Harvests and Ex-vessel Values, ADF&G. Weekly Alaska Salmon Harvest Updates are produced for ASMI by McKinley Research. **Notes: Seafood Industry** includes animal aquaculture, fishing, & seafood product preparation and Southeast Alaska resident commercial fishermen (nonresident fishermen & crew who did not report income are excluded). **Photo by George Nickerson**

VISITOR INDUSTRY



Visitor Industry

8,721 Annualized Jobs
$392 Million in Wages in 2025

Jobs up 2% +132 in 2025
Earnings up by 7% +$24m

2025 Visitor numbers were essentially flat in 2025, while tourism employment and earnings continued to grow.

Southeast Alaska's #1 Sector

The visitor industry was the region's largest single sector in both employment and earnings for the third consecutive year. Tourism generated 13% of all regional employment income and accounted for 19% of year-round-equivalent employment. In 2025, visitor industry wages grew by $24 million, or 7%, while jobs increased by 2%, indicating higher average earnings per job.

Flat Visitor Season 2025

Total passenger arrivals declined by 1% in 2025, a reduction of approximately 22,000. The region received 1.78 million cruise passengers, 8,000 fewer than in 2024, while air passenger arrivals from outside Southeast fell by 3%. Ferry arrivals from outside the region increased for the first time in three years, rising 18%.

2026 **10.7% Cruise Passenger Growth**

In contrast to 2025, the 2026 cruise season is seeing strong growth. Cruise ships are expected to carry 1.97 million passengers to the region, a 10.7% increase. Growth is being driven by new deployments, larger vessels, and Alaska debuts by cruise lines including Virgin Voyages and MSC Cruises. Wrangell, Klawock, and Hoonah are expected to experience the largest percentage gains. Most cruise growth is occurring outside Juneau, where daily ship and passenger limits now constrain expansion.

Air travel is moving in the opposite direction. During the first half of 2026, regional air passenger arrivals were 9% below the same period in 2025.

"We are definitely setting records this year. Business is booming. We are well staffed and operating smoothly."

-**Tourism business leader in August 2026**

Positive Business Outlook

Tourism businesses across Southeast remain optimistic, with 78% expecting a good or very good year in 2026. Confidence is supported by continued demand for Alaska travel, particularly cruise visitation, guided experiences, fishing, and cultural and nature-based tourism.

Industry Challenges

Record visitor-sector employment is intensifying long-standing workforce recruitment and housing challenges. Businesses also report that rising fuel, freight, food, and labor costs are limiting profitability, while unreliable ferry and air service complicates visitor operations.

Although recent cruise-limitation measures failed in Juneau and Sitka, recurring proposals add uncertainty to long-term planning and infrastructure investment.

More than 2 million Cruise Passengers Expected **2027**

Cruise growth is expected to moderate in 2027, with passenger volume increasing by approximately 3.7% to 2.04 million. Explora Journeys will come to Alaska for the first time, while Sitka and Icy Strait Point are projected to grow more rapidly than Juneau and Skagway.

Southeast Alaska Cruise Passenger Arrivals by Port

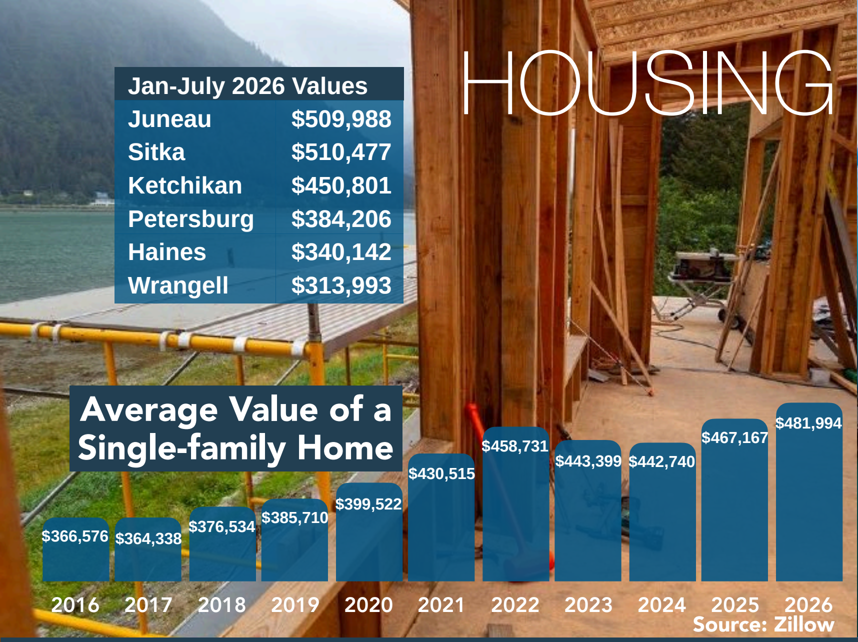
Port	2025 actuals	2026 projected	2027 projected
Juneau	1,719,300	1,770,900	1,780,200
Ketchikan	1,524,200	1,644,873	1,667,866
Skagway	1,357,498	1,398,223	1,402,950
Glacier Bay	696,130	680,300	683,600
Hoonah (Icy Strait Point)	502,100	680,000	696,000
Sitka	582,800	610,000	651,300
Haines	59,100	50,200	56,782
Wrangell	37,566	74,898	64,355
Klawock	17,500	30,478	33,964
Total Southeast	1.777 million	1.968 million	2.04 million

Notes: *2025 actuals represent passenger arrivals reported by McKinley Research and CLIA, while 2026 and 2027 projections are based on published cruise schedules, scheduled vessel capacity, historical occupancy patterns, and estimates provided by ports and industry partners. Lower-berth capacity assumes two passengers per cabin. Projections may exceed this figure to account for additional occupants, while actual arrivals may be reduced by unsold cabins, canceled calls, or itinerary changes.*

Sources: CLIA Alaska & Cruise Line Agencies of Alaska. Combination of ADOL Employment and Wage data and US Census Nonemployer (self-employment) Statistics; US Bureau of Transportation Statistics (RITA); Alaska Marine Highway System; Juneau International Airport Passenger Statistics; Juneau Docks & Harbors capacity figures. **Note:** In this analysis, the visitor industry includes leisure and hospitality businesses, along with air, water & scenic transportation companies.

Photo by MSC Cruises

HOUSING CONSTRUCTION



Housing Indicators

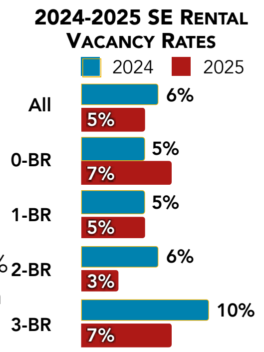
A lack of housing remains Southeast Alaska's greatest economic constraint, limiting business growth by preventing workers from moving to the region and making it harder for young people to stay. Southeast has approximately 32,500 occupied housing units.

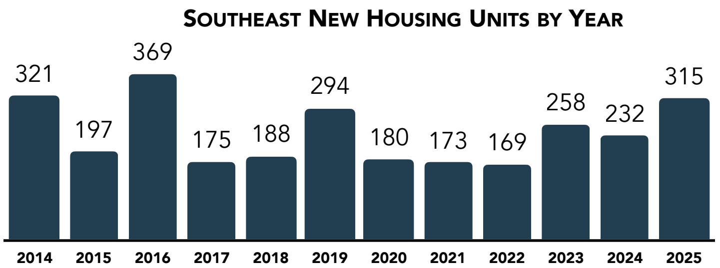
New Housing: In 2025, Southeast added 315 housing units, the most in one year since 2016. Over the past decade, communities added more than 2,400 units, expanding the region's housing stock by 8%. The number of occupied housing units increased by approximately the same amount.

Growth in One-Person Households: Over the past decade, one-person households increased from 8,300 to 10,300, absorbing most of the region's newly added housing inventory. The majority of this growth came from residents age 65 and older living alone, whose households increased from 2,240 to 3,900. As a result, Southeast has more occupied homes but fewer residents, helping explain why the housing shortage persists despite new construction.

Rental Housing: The region has approximately 10,300 renter-occupied housing units. The rental vacancy rate declined from 6.1% in 2024 to 5.0% in 2025. Two-bedroom units had the lowest vacancy rate at 3%, compared with 7% for three-bedroom units. Median adjusted rent increased by 3% to $1,478. Rents were unchanged in Sitka, while the combined Wrangell-Petersburg market recorded the largest increase, at 4.4%.

Housing Values: Between 2016 and mid-2026, Southeast's average single-family home value increased by 31.5%, from $366,576 to $481,994. That outpaced the 28% increase in Alaska inflation. Nevertheless, high purchase prices and mortgage rates continue to create significant affordability challenges.





Construction Industry

2,058 Annualized Jobs in 2025
$185.6 Million in Wages

Jobs Up 5% +107
Earnings up by 14% +$22.7m

2025 Construction employment was up in 2025. Construction jobs increased by 5% (107 jobs), while wages grew by 14%. Construction workers in the region earned $186 million, representing 6% of all regional workforce earnings in 2025.

Major projects and housing construction were active across Southeast in 2025. In addition to 315 new housing units, projects included Sitka's Mt. Edgecumbe Medical Center, the Sitka and Ketchikan airport expansions, Haines Highway reconstruction, Petersburg's Wellness, Education and Resource Center, road reconstruction on Prince of Wales Island, Sitka's marine haulout, and Juneau's Aurora and Taku Harbor rebuilds.

2026 Construction and engineering firms reported an even stronger outlook for 2026. Three-quarters of business leaders expressed a positive outlook, up from 69% in 2025, and 36% expect conditions to improve moving into 2027. Alaska DOT&PF has identified 31 Southeast transportation projects for 2026—22 new and nine continuing—including road, airport, ferry terminal, bridge, and safety improvements, reinforcing that optimism. However, workforce shortages, high costs, funding delays, and uncertainty surrounding public-sector investment creates challenges.

"There will be lots of construction related work for small and large businesses. The future is so bright we'll have to wear shades."
-Business Climate Survey Respondent 2026.

"I'm working harder than ever and barely surviving. Inflation costs in the construction industry are spiraling upward quickly. My crew is skilled, but older, hurt and expensive."
-Business Climate Survey Respondent 2026.

Sources: ADOL Quarterly Alaska Housing Unit Survey, a survey of local governments and housing agencies; US Census; Zillow; Air DNA. Combination of Alaska Department of Labor Employment and Wage data and US Census Nonemployer (self-employment) Statistics; State of Alaska.
Photos by Sean Neilson

Kensington Mine

PeaceHealth

Mining Industry

1,088 Annualized Jobs in 2025

UP 26 JOBS IN 2025, WAGES UP BY 4%, $5 MILLION

2025 Total mining jobs in Southeast grew by 2% in 2025, while wages were up by 4%. The average annual mining wage was $134,545 in 2025, more than twice the overall regional wage of $66,796. There are three operating mines in the region:

- **Hecla Greens Creek** is the largest silver mine in the US and has been in production since 1989. In August 2026, Hecla Greens Creek employed **540** full-time permanent workers (+10 from 2025). In 2025, Greens Creek produced 8.7 million ounces of silver, 59,349 ounces of gold, 18,213 tons of lead, and 51,387 tons of zinc.
- **Coeur Alaska's Kensington** gold mine began operations in 2010. Kensington produced 106,068 ounces of gold in 2025, an 11% increase from 2024, with the mine reaching record ore-mining and milling volumes. In 2026, Kensington employed **402** full-time permanent staff (+7 from 2025).
- **Dawson** is a smaller gold and silver project on Prince of Wales. Dawson Mine reported **53** full-time workers in 2026 (+3). The mine produced 8,006 ounces of gold in 2025, and 14,400 ounces of silver.

Additional mining exploration and development projects are active in the region, led by the **New Amalga Gold Project** (formerly Herbert Gold) in Juneau, which is advancing toward permitting.

The outlook for mining in the region is very positive, supported by historically high metal prices. Gold prices have been strengthened by safe-haven investment and central-bank demand, while silver continues to benefit from investment demand and a tight global market. In January 2026, gold briefly exceeded $5,500 per ounce and silver topped $120. Although both prices later retreated, they are expected to remain high.

Health Care Industry

3,979 Annualized Jobs in 2025

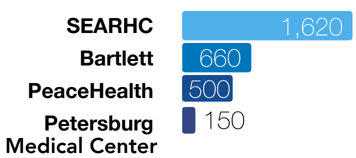
$332 Million in Wages

JOBS UP 2% +90, WAGES UP BY $17.5 MILLION

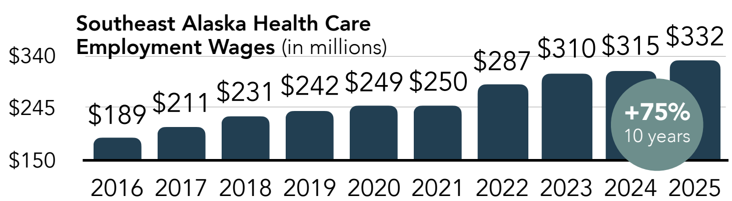
2025 Southeast Alaska's nearly 4,000 healthcare workers accounted for 9% of regional employment in 2025 and earned $332 million, representing 11% of all workforce earnings. Healthcare wages have increased by 75% over the last decade. Healthcare is now the region's third-largest source of workforce earnings, behind only the visitor industry and state government. The region added 90 healthcare jobs in 2025, and early data indicate continued employment growth in 2026.

Four institutions employed nearly three-quarters of the region's healthcare workforce in 2025: the SouthEast Alaska Regional Health Consortium (SEARHC), with 1,620 workers; Bartlett Regional Hospital, with 660; PeaceHealth, serving Ketchikan and Prince of Wales Island, with 500; and Petersburg Medical Center, with 150.

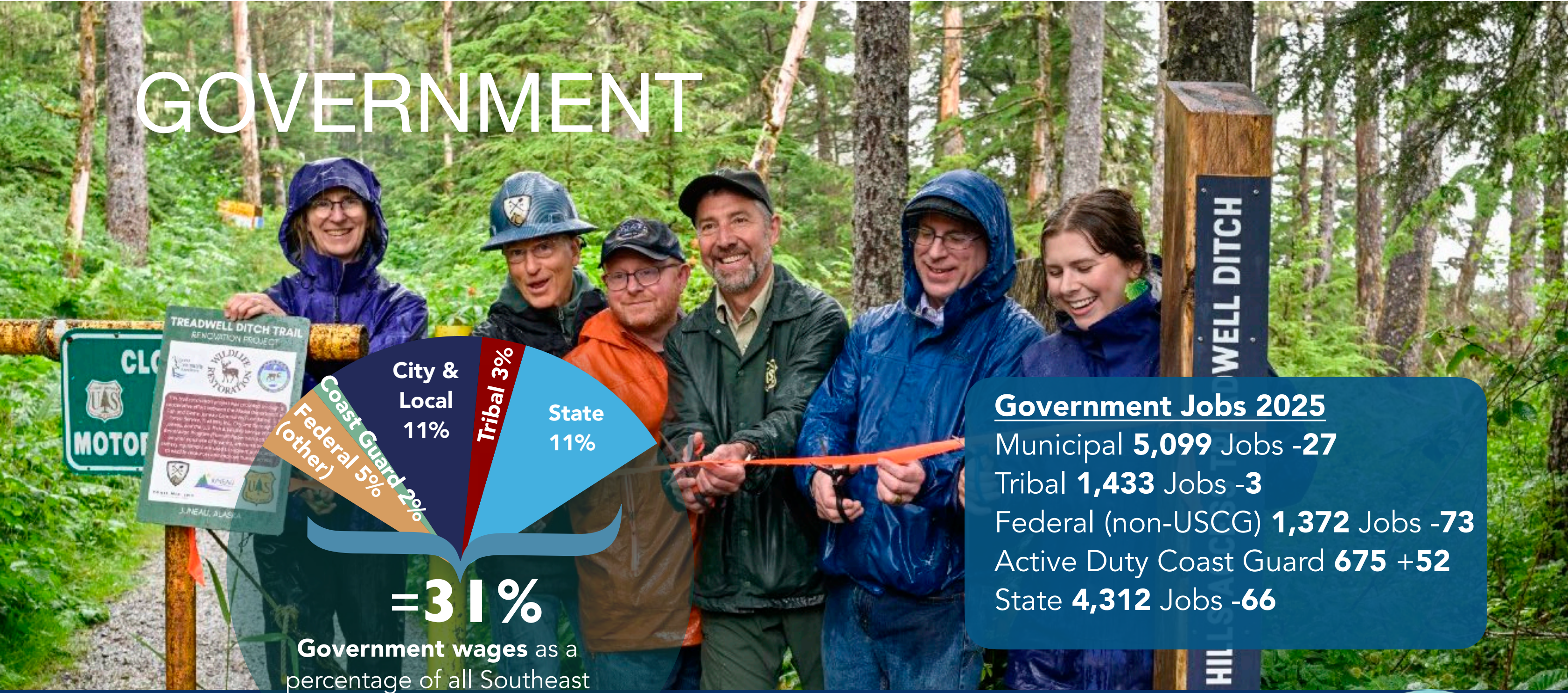
Top Healthcare Employers



SEARHC accounted for 44% of regional healthcare employment and two-thirds of healthcare wages in 2025. The organization alone accounted for 7% of all workforce earnings in Southeast Alaska. In 2026, SEARHC opened a $300 million hospital in Sitka and a new Juneau campus offering urgent care and pharmacy services, while continuing construction of a Juneau dental clinic. It also began work on a consolidated medical services campus and employee housing in Wrangell, neared final approval for a critical access hospital and employee housing in Haines, and advanced plans for a critical access hospital and updated clinic in Klawock.



Sources: Combination of Alaska Department of Labor Employment and Wage data and US Census Nonemployer (self-employment) Statistics; State of Alaska; SEARHC, Kitco Metals Inc; Coeur Mining Inc. Annual Report; Hecla Mining Company Annual Report.



=31%
Government wages as a percentage of all Southeast employment earnings in 2025

Government Jobs 2025
Municipal **5,099** Jobs **-27**
Tribal **1,433** Jobs **-3**
Federal (non-USCG) **1,372** Jobs **-73**
Active Duty Coast Guard **675** **+52**
State **4,312** Jobs **-66**

Government

12,891 Annualized Jobs in 2025

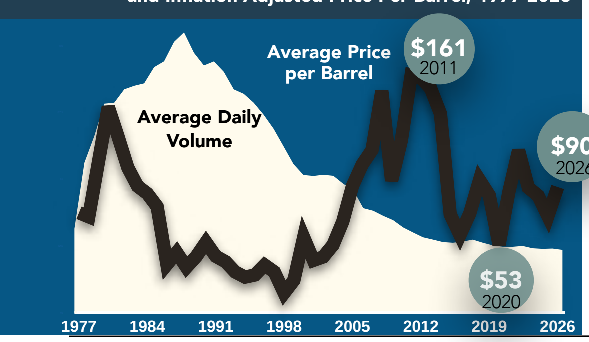
JOBS DOWN 1%, -117 IN 2025

WAGES UP BY 3%, +$27M

2025 Employment declined in every major government category except the active-duty Coast Guard in 2025, resulting in a combined loss of 117 jobs (-1%). Government wages increased by $27 million (3%). Government accounted for 12,891 annualized jobs, or 28% of regional employment, and $966 million in earnings, or 31% of the regional total.

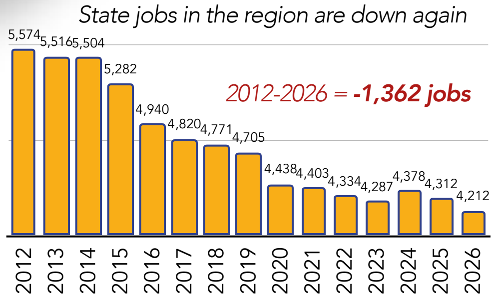
Local Government

Local government employment fell by 27 jobs to 5,099 in 2025, while wages increased by $13 million (4%). Nearly 2,000 local government employees (40%) work in K-12 education, and another 15% work in public healthcare. Other local government employees work in public safety, utilities, public works, airports, and harbors.



Southeast State Jobs

State jobs in the region are down again



State Government Jobs Down Again

From 2012 to 2025, state government employment fell 23%, a loss of 1,262 jobs, 81% of them in Juneau. Early 2026 data indicate another decline of approximately 100 jobs.

Alaska North Slope oil has averaged approximately $90 per barrel so far in 2026, $11 above its 50-year inflation-adjusted average of $79. Based on current production and tax assumptions, sustaining that difference for a full fiscal year would generate roughly $40 million in additional unrestricted state revenue per month.

Tribal Government Flat

Tribal government employment was essentially unchanged in 2025, declining by three jobs to 1,433, while wages increased 6% to $93 million. Tribal governments account for 11% of regional government employment and 3% of all Southeast Alaska jobs and workforce earnings.

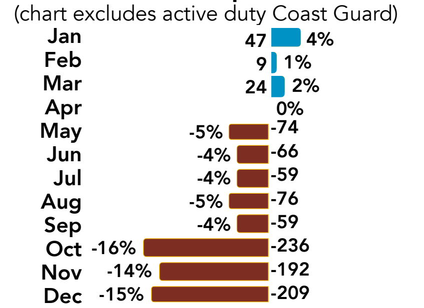
US Coast Guard

Federal employment includes 675 active-duty U.S. Coast Guard personnel, up 52 from 2024. Additional homeporting would expand the USCG's economic impact. The icebreaker Storis will be based in Juneau, where a second major cutter is under consideration. The Coast Guard estimates up to 638 active-duty personnel and their families could relocate to Juneau by 2029. In Sitka, a $50 million project for a second cutter is expected to begin in September 2026.

Federal Government

Federal employment declined by 21 jobs overall in 2025, as growth in the Coast Guard offset much of the loss of other federal jobs. Annual averages understate the severity of the late-year contraction: excluding active-duty Coast Guard, federal employment was 15% lower in December 2025 than one year earlier, following layoffs and retirement incentives. Wages for federal employment excluding active-duty Coast Guard fell $3.2 million (-2%) for the year.

Change in Federal Jobs 2024 vs. 2025
Month in 2025 compared to 2024
(chart excludes active duty Coast Guard)

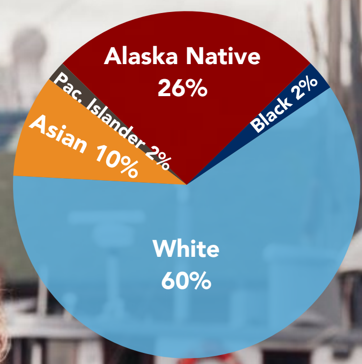


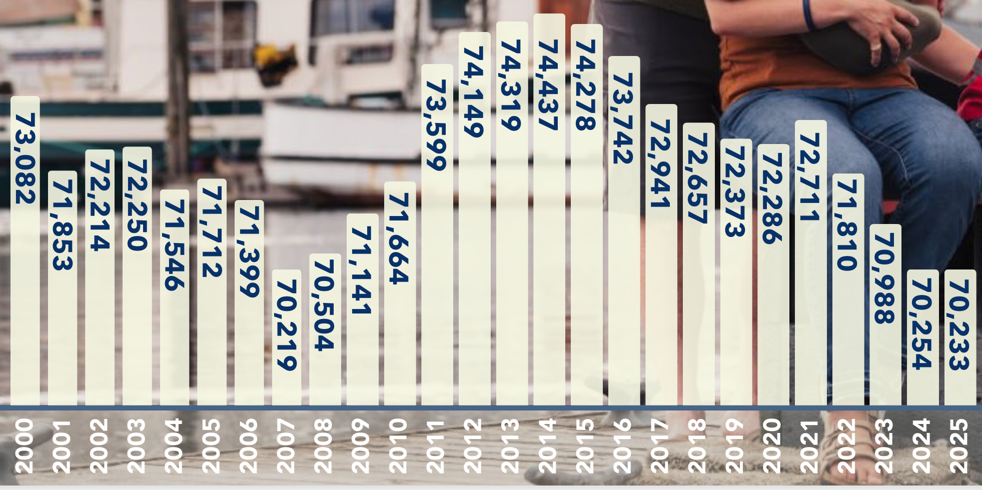
Sources: ADOL Employment and Wage data; Alaska Department of Revenue Crude Oil Prices. Alaska Office of Management Budget.

Photo credit **Michael Penn**

DEMOGRAPHICS

"Southeast will continue to lose its best and brightest as the cost of living is too high for young people to afford to buy their own homes and build a family.
2026 Business Climate Survey respondent





Population 70,233

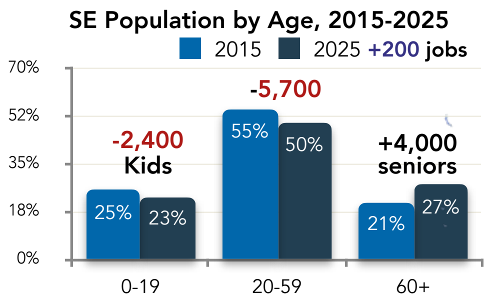
Population Change 2024 to 2025

Community	2024	2025	Change
Juneau Borough	31,283	31,182	-0.3%
Ketchikan Borough	13,350	13,377	0.2%
Sitka Borough	8,022	8,032	0.1%
Petersburg Borough	3,362	3,395	1.0%
Haines Borough	2,524	2,447	-3.1%
Wrangell Borough	2,019	2,037	0.9%
Metlakatla	1,381	1,401	1.4%
Skagway Borough	1,116	1,134	1.6%
Craig	967	1,004	3.8%
Hoonah	830	834	0.5%
Klawock	731	717	-1.9%
Gustavus	656	664	1.2%
Yakutat Borough	634	633	-0.2%
Kake	520	529	1.7%
Thorne Bay	494	509	3.0%
Hydaburg	352	366	4.0%
Angoon	348	329	-5.5%
Coffman Cove	208	195	-6.3%
Hollis	154	144	-6.5%
Tenakee Springs	122	130	6.6%
Naukati Bay	123	121	-1.6%
Pelican	89	99	11%
Whale Pass	97	87	-10%
Klukwan	84	77	-8%
Port Alexander	63	65	3.2%
Edna Bay	43	50	16%
Kasaan	44	50	14%
Hyder	41	41	0%
Elfin Cove	40	35	-13%
Port Protection	31	31	0%
Game Creek	16	16	0%
Point Baker	11	9	-18%
Remainder	499	493	-1.2%
Total	**70,254**	**70,233**	**-0.03%**

2025 The region's population has declined in ten of the past eleven years. In 2025, however, it fell by just 21 people, while 17 of the region's 32 communities gained population. Still, the cumulative 11-year decline totals 4,204 people (-6%). If current trends continue, the Alaska Department of Labor projects Southeast will lose another 11,100 residents by 2050.

Declining Youth and Working-Age Populations

Over the past decade, the number of residents under age 20 declined by 2,400, while the population age 60 and older grew by 4,000 and now accounts for 27% of all residents. The working-age population (ages 20–59) declined by 5,700, even as total jobs increased by 200, widening the gap between workforce supply and demand.

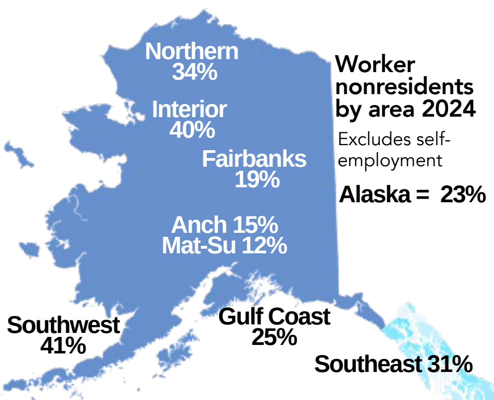


Strong Youth Job Market

In 2026, Juneau ranked sixth among 182 U.S. cities for summer jobs and seventh for the strength of its youth job market.

Workforce Residency

In 2024, 31% of regional workers (15,325) were classified as nonresidents, up from 25% in 2014. Nonresidents earned 21% of all Southeast wages ($465 million). About 8% of nonresidents later become residents. The nonresident count is individual workers—including temporary and seasonal workers—rather than year-round-equivalent jobs, and excludes the self-employed. Seafood processing had the highest nonresident share (73%), while utilities had the highest resident share (90%). The map below compares workforce nonresidency across Alaska regions.



Sources: Alaska Department of Labor (ADOL); ADOL Southeast Alaska Population by Age, Sex and Borough/Census Area; Alaska Population Projections; US Census. WalletHub. Nonresidents Working in Alaska (ADOL). Photo credit Ketchikan PeaceHealth.

Jobs by Community

Looking at all communities across Southeast in 2025, job counts were up in all but four communities compared to 2024. The largest percentage gains were in **Petersburg** (+6%), **Angoon** (+5%), and **Klukwan** (+5%). Employment declined in **Ketchikan**, **Hoonah**, **Yakutat**, and **Hyder**.

Wages increased in all but two areas, and four posted double-digit gains. The largest percentage increases were in **Klukwan** (+17%), **Haines** (+15%), and **Petersburg** (+11%).

Compared with 2019, employment was substantially higher in **Gustavus** (+40%), **Hoonah** (+28%), and **Yakutat** (+13%).

Juneau accounted for approximately half of all regional employment (48%) and wages (52%).

Note: *This analysis* ***excludes self-employment,*** *which is not available below the borough or census-area level. Although the figures do not capture every worker, they provide an important measure of local employment trends.*

ANNUAL EMPLOYMENT CHANGE BY COMMUNITY 2024 TO 2025

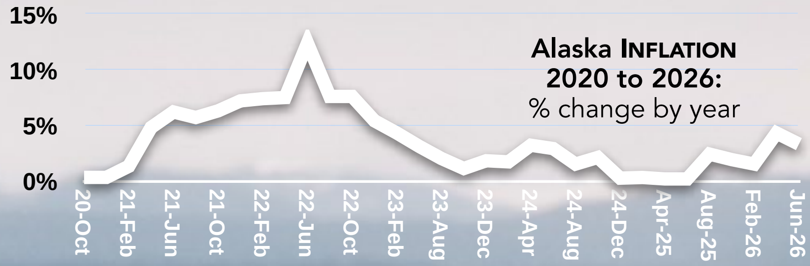
Community	2024 Annual Average Employment	2025 Annual Average Employment	2024 Wages in millions	2025 Wages in millions	Employment Change 2024-2025	Wage Change 2024-2025
Juneau	18,036	**18,098**	$1,232	**$1,299**	0.3%	5%
Ketchikan	7,345	**7,322**	$456.3	**$479.1**	-0.3%	5%
Sitka	4,496	**4,535**	$275.0	**$296.8**	1%	8%
Prince of Wales	1,441	**1,462**	$77.1	**$82.4**	1.5%	7%
Petersburg	1,265	**1,337**	$68.4	**$75.8**	6%	11%
Haines	1,046	**1,064**	$53.8	**$61.9**	2%	15%
Wrangell	778	**798**	$44.3	**$48.1**	3%	9%
Skagway	1,138	**1,176**	$61.3	**$64.1**	3%	5%
Metlakatla	508	**509**	$28.8	**$30.8**	0.2%	7%
Hoonah SSA	557	**551**	$29.9	**$29.7**	-1%	-0.4%
Yakutat	333	**316**	$20.6	**$20.8**	-5%	1%
Gustavus SSA	282	**285**	$16.2	**$16.5**	1%	1%
Kake	170	**177**	$6.8	**$7.2**	4%	5%
Angoon SSA	132	**138**	$4.8	**$5.3**	5%	10%
Hyder	40	**31**	$2.5	**$2.1**	-22%	-18%
Klukwan	55	**58**	$1.6	**$1.9**	5%	17%

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section.
Notes: A sub-subarea (SSA) is the smallest unit for which the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages is analyzed. The Hoonah SSA includes Pelican and Elfin Cove. The Angoon SSA includes Tenakee Springs. Prince of Wales includes the Hollis, Thorne Bay and Hydaburg SSAs.

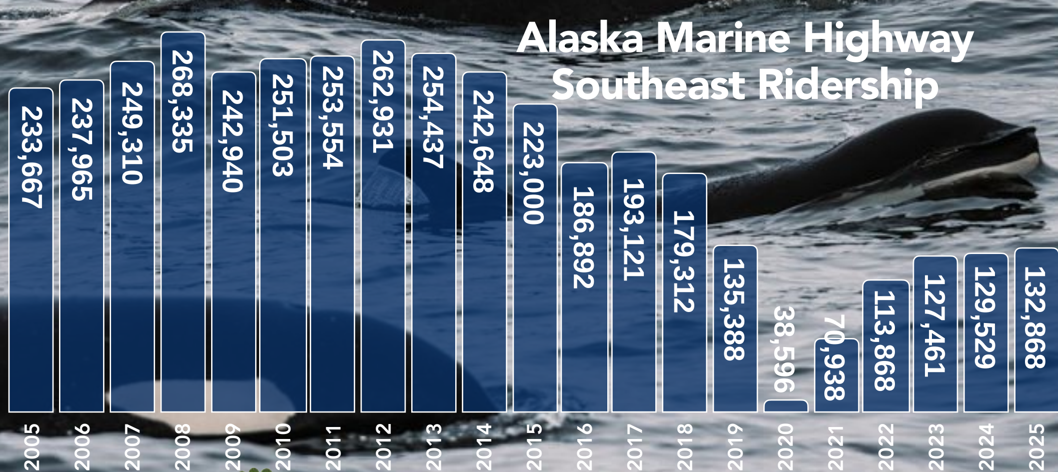
SOUTHEAST ALASKA GDP 2024 = $6.3 BILLION
Change 2023 TO 2024 = 3%

Area	2024 GDP in millions	Change 2023-24
Juneau	$3,227	3%
Ketchikan	$1,237	5%
Sitka	$735	5%
Prince of Wales	$294	-2%
Petersburg	$217	-2%
Haines	$150	8%
Hoonah-Angoon	$144	6%
Skagway	$128	10%
Wrangell	$119	4%
Yakutat	$42	-1%
Region	**$6,293**	**3%**

Source: BEA



Regional wages have increased faster than the rate of inflation. Source: BLS



Source: AMHS

Photography credit: Caitlin Blaisdell Photography

SOUTHEAST ALASKA REGIONAL OVERVIEW

VIRTUALLY ALL OF THE REGIONAL LAND BASE IS FEDERAL. THE FEDERALLY-MANAGED TONGASS NATIONAL FOREST MAKES UP NEARLY FOUR-FIFTHS OF ALL SOUTHEAST ALASKA LANDS.

Southeast Alaska Land Ownership
Circle size = Number of Acres

94% ALL FEDERAL LANDS

78% TONGASS

16% OTHER FEDERAL HOLDINGS MAKE UP NEARLY ALL THE REST (MOSTLY GLACIER BAY)

3.4% ALASKA NATIVE ORGANIZATIONS ARE THE REGION'S NEXT-LARGEST LANDOWNER

2.5% STATE OF ALASKA LANDS INCLUDE THOSE MANAGED AS PART OF THE MENTAL HEALTH TRUST

0.25% MUNICIPAL LAND HOLDINGS

0.05% PRIVATE LANDOWNERS

Sources: State of Alaska; US Forest Service; Sealaska. *Economies in transition: An assessment of trends relevant to management of the Tongass National Forest, USDA 1998.* Photo Credits: **Sean Neilson Media and Richard Dalton III**

THE REGION

The Southeast Alaska panhandle stretches 500 miles along the coast from Metlakatla to Yakutat, encompassing approximately 33,500 square miles of land and water. Its saltwater shoreline extends roughly 18,500 miles, and more than 1,000 islands account for 40% of the region's land area. Southeast is home to 34 communities. The three largest—Juneau, Ketchikan, and Sitka—contain 75% of the regional population.

CULTURE

The region's cultural identity is deeply rooted in its Indigenous heritage. Alaska Native people—predominantly Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian—make up 26% of the population and have lived in Southeast Alaska for at least 11,000 years. The region's mild climate, abundant food sources, and plentiful raw materials supported the development of highly organized societies with extensive trade networks and a rich artistic legacy. In 2024, more than 400 business leaders ranked Alaska Native culture and heritage as the region's greatest economic strength.

ECONOMIC TRENDS

Beginning in the 1880s and accelerating after statehood in 1959, Southeast Alaska experienced a century of economic expansion. From statehood through the early 1990s, the region's population and employment more than doubled, driven by timber, fishing, and government. In the early 1990s, pulp mill and sawmill closures eliminated 3,200 jobs, and the population declined through 2007. An economic recovery began in 2008, with jobs, wages, and population reaching record highs by 2015. The pandemic then devastated the regional economy in 2020, eliminating 6,000 jobs. By 2024, employment and wages had fully recovered.

Southeast Alaska reached record employment and wages in 2025, but the regional economy rests on a different foundation than it did a decade and a half ago. Key economic pillars now support far fewer jobs: state government has lost a quarter of its workforce, seafood employment is down 20%, and timber has declined by a third. At the same time, tourism, health care, and mining have driven growth. Southeast now supports more jobs and higher wages with fewer residents. Housing shortages are making it increasingly difficult to attract and retain workers and young families, even as the economy's need for them continues to grow.

LAND OWNERSHIP

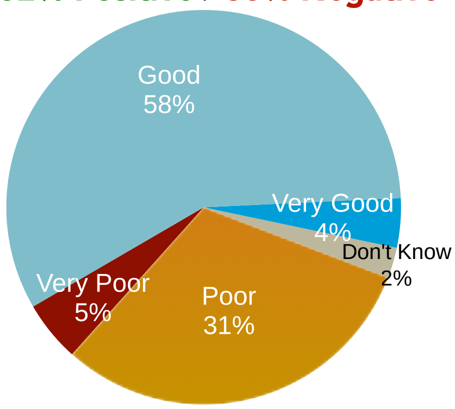
One of Southeast Alaska's greatest economic-development constraints is the limited amount of privately owned or accessible land (see infographic at left). Federal agencies manage 94% of the regional land base, including 78%, or 16.7 million acres, within the Tongass National Forest. Much of the remaining federal land lies within Glacier Bay National Park.

Alaska Native organizations, including village, urban, and regional corporations and the Annette Island Reservation, own 3.4% of the land base, or 728,100 acres. The State of Alaska manages 2.5%, or 511,500 acres. Local governments own just 53,000 acres, representing 0.25% of the regional land base, while privately owned non-Native land accounts for only 0.05%.

SOUTHEAST **ECONOMIC CLIMATE** SURVEY

Spring 2026 Business Climate Snapshot: How do you view the overall business climate right now?

62% Positive / 36% Negative



Business Climate Improves

2026

In April 2026, 360 Southeast Alaska business owners and top managers responded to Southeast Conference's Business Climate Survey.

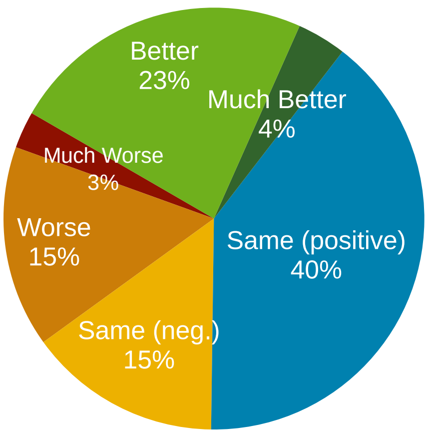
Sixty-two percent of regional business leaders had a positive view of the Southeast Alaska business climate in early 2026, a two-point increase over 2025.

Mining, **tourism**, **real estate,** and **construction** reported the strongest business climate ratings. By contrast, **manufacturing**, **timber**, and **seafood** businesses reporting poor or very poor conditions outnumbered those expressing positive views.

Among communities, business leaders in **Yakutat**, **Sitka**, and **Skagway** reported the most favorable early 2026 business climate perspectives. In **Gustavus**, **Petersburg**, and **Haines** respondents were more likely to characterize current conditions negatively than positively.

2026/27 Economic Outlook: What is the economic outlook for your business or industry over the next year?

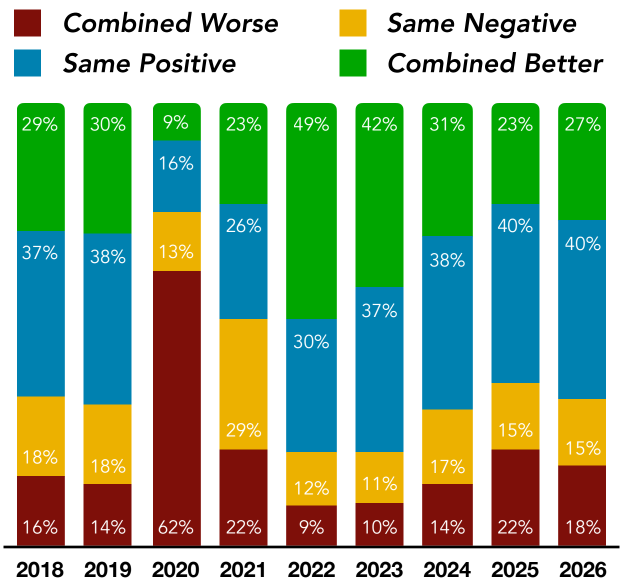
67% Positive / 33% Negative



Economic Outlook Improving

Business leaders are becoming more optimistic about the future. More than a quarter (27%) expect their prospects to be better or much better over the next year. Overall, 67% expressed a positive outlook, up four percentage points from 2025.

Real estate, **financial services**, and **construction** report the most positive outlooks moving into 2027. By contrast, **social services** and **manufacturing** businesses were more likely to anticipate worsening conditions. **Hoonah** and **Wrangell** report the strongest outlooks, while **Petersburg** and **Gustavus** remain the most pessimistic.



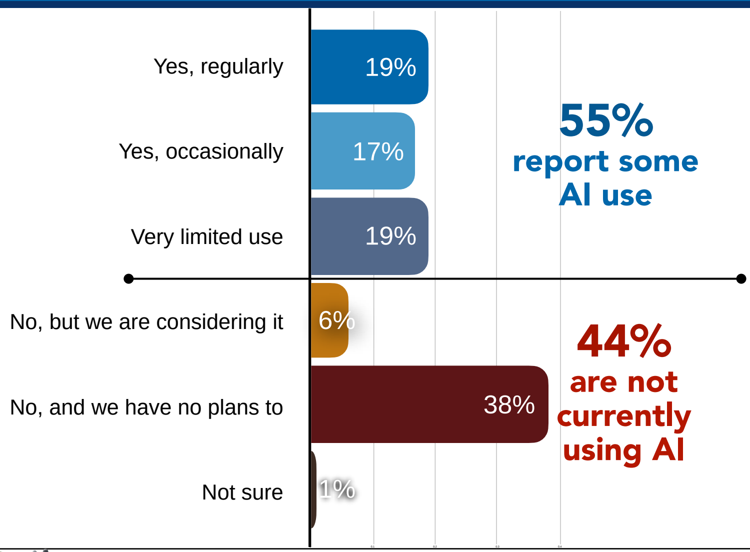
Does your business currently use artificial intelligence (AI) tools in its operations?

Businesses Are Beginning To Use AI

Businesses were asked about their use of artificial intelligence (AI) in business operations. Just over half (55%) reported at least some use: 19% use AI regularly, 17% occasionally, and 19% only to a very limited extent. Another 6% are considering adoption, while 38% have no plans to use AI.

AI use varies widely by industry. Financial services businesses are the most likely to use AI regularly or occasionally (90%), followed by professional and business services (63%). Accommodation businesses are the least likely to use AI, with 77% reporting no plans to adopt it.

Sitka businesses are the most likely to report regular or occasional AI use (53%), followed by **Juneau** (49%). Businesses in **Haines** and **Prince of Wales** are the least likely to use AI.



A SHIFTING ECONOMY 2011-2025

Change in Jobs from 2011 to 2025: +850 jobs

The Southeast economy has shifted considerably since 2011, even as total employment has changed remarkably little. Between 2011, when this report was first published, and 2025, year-round-equivalent employment increased by just 1.9%, or 850 jobs. That modest net gain masks significant changes across industries.

Over the last 14 years, four sectors added nearly 3,800 jobs. The visitor industry led the growth, adding almost 2,400 annualized jobs (+37%). Mining grew fastest in percentage terms, expanding by 66% (+432 jobs). Health care added 655 jobs (+20%) while shifting away from public-sector employment, and professional and business services gained 319 jobs (+16%).

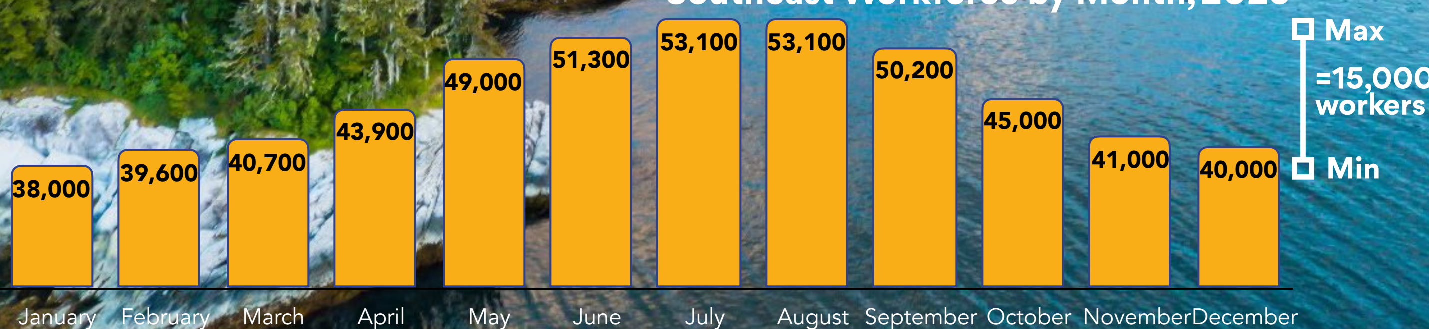
During the same period, five sectors lost nearly 4,000 jobs, including substantial losses in industries that historically defined the regional economy. State government employment fell by 24%, a loss of nearly 1,400 jobs. Seafood declined by 821 annualized jobs (-20%), while timber employment fell by 140 jobs (-34%). Retail trade lost 928 jobs (-18%), and social assistance lost 705 jobs, or 41% of its workforce.

Despite these steep declines, Southeast Alaska reached record employment in 2025 as growth more than offset losses, underscoring the regional economy's diversity and resilience.

2025 jobs up **1.9%** Over 2011 levels

Another defining feature of the regional economy is its seasonality. More than 15,000 jobs are added each summer as tourism, seafood, and construction activity surges, increasing total employment by about 40% compared with its January low. This seasonal influx adds pressure to the region's already constrained housing supply.

Southeast Workforce by Month, 2025



Sources: Alaska Department of Labor Employment & Wage data; US Census Nonemployer (self-employment) Statistics; Active Duty Military Population; analysis by Rain Coast Data.

Photo by Sean Neilson Media

A Message from **Southeast Conference**

Executive Director **Robert Venables**

The Architects of Our Future - Woosh haa wlitseen (together we are strong)

The world is a tumultuous environment, and many in our communities feel the pain of the resulting chaos and uncertainty that this global economy brings. The nation seems to be sprinting into its next phase of economic upheaval, while the State of Alaska heads into an unknown chapter with a new governor and significant changes in the State Legislature. Issues surrounding AI, data centers, gas pipelines, supply chains, infrastructure, dependable ferry service, adequate housing, and childcare create a level of uncertainty that discourages economic development and thriving communities. But we are determined to be the architects of our future and determine how the Southeast economy should develop and what industry should look like for our place-based economies. Our natural resources are abundant and should be fully utilized for the maximum benefit of our families.

Southeast Conference is proud of the partnerships that have been foundational to our successes. The Alaska Mariculture Cluster's work will guide the emerging industry for years to come. The ACES heat pump initiative is helping to lower household energy costs, and the improvements being made to AMHS and the broader transportation system will prioritize investments that are critical to our supply chains. These accomplishments happen because of your participation as we implement our Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). Regions that embrace change, form partnerships, and meet the moment with a plan can thrive and attract the investment and talent that will define our next generation of success. Regions that don't will be spectators.

Together, we are stronger and are creating a more innovative, inclusive, and sustainable region that reflects the evolving needs and hopes of our communities. As we plan ahead, it is essential to support and empower our next generation of champions to become the architects of a brighter future for Southeast Alaska.

Incoming President **Gracia O'Connell**

I grew up here in Southeast Alaska, where my childhood was built around this landscape — playing in the woods, memorizing the ferry schedule, flying according to weather, and working tourist seasons in Skagway. Those early years shaped my relationship with nature, the tides, the economic nuances of this region, and community.

Like many others, after graduating from high school I moved to the "big city" to pursue further education and career opportunities. During my years in Anchorage, I realized just how special and unique Southeast is. So often I sat in rooms where Alaska challenges were discussed and solutions presented, and time and time again, I would be the one to raise my hand and ask, "How might this work in Southeast?" or "Does anyone know what it's like to live on an island?" Road system solutions rarely translate when we are dependent on a marine highway.

After twenty years in the Alaska credit union network, in 2020 I was presented with an opportunity of a lifetime when I accepted a role with Tongass FCU. I instantly connected with our mission to bring financial services to underserved coastal communities, and I was beyond proud to be among the team that opened the first credit union branch in my hometown of Hoonah that same year. Hoonah is a perfect example of a community long abandoned by traditional banks, leaving local businesses and community members to find alternative solutions for managing cash and qualifying for loans — solutions that every one of our Southeast Conference members is familiar with. Certainly, we have all tried to explain mail delays, spotty internet, or a slow fishing season to a representative up north or outside. There's just something about living here that changes your perspective, inspires creativity, and turns challenge into opportunity.

Our communities are small, spread out, and expensive to serve — by boat, by plane, by weather window. But "hard to reach" isn't the same as "not worth reaching," and the people of this region are the best kind of people I know. We just get stuff done, even when it's hard or choppy or never been done before. Whether it's digital access, workforce development, or the basic infrastructure that lets a business operate out of Ketchikan or Kake or Klawock, I believe our job is to keep building the economic bridge between where people are and the services and opportunities we all deserve.

I'm honored to step into this role and support the mission of Southeast Conference to bring people together across this region to solve problems none of us can solve alone. I look forward to working alongside you to maintain a thriving and resilient Southeast Alaska – the best place to call home.

The mission of Southeast Conference is to u**ndertake and support activities that promote strong economies, sustainable communities, and a healthy environment in Southeast Alaska**. As the state- and federally designated regional economic development organization, Southeast Conference serves as the collective voice for advancing the region's economy. Its 200 member organizations represent 1,200 people from 32 communities across the region. Southeast Conference was founded 68 years ago by a group working to establish a regional transportation system, an effort that led to the formation of the Alaska Marine Highway System. Its members have remained united through nearly 70 years of change, continuing to focus on concerns unique to the region.

SOUTHEAST **2030 STRATEGIC PLAN** SUMMARY

In 2025, Southeast Conference released the Southeast Alaska 2030 Economic Plan, a five-year strategic plan for the region—also known as a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). Members worked together to develop an overall vision statement and 45 objectives, including seven priority objectives, along with regional and industry-specific SWOT analyses. More than 400 people representing small businesses, tribes, Native organizations, municipalities, and nonprofits participated in various elements of the planning process. The plan's objectives are listed below, with the seven priority objectives identified by stars.

Economic Development

★ 1. **Housing objective:** Support the sustainable development of housing *#1 Plan priority*

★ 2. **Childcare objective:** Increase childcare capacity in Southeast Alaska

3. **Infrastructure maintenance**
4. **Education objective:** Partner with University of Alaska Southeast and K-12 school districts to build career pathways
5. **Workforce attraction and retention objective**
6. **Coast Guard objective:** Support Coast Guard vessel homeporting opportunities
7. **Natural disaster planning objective:** Support disaster preparation and relief efforts
8. **Solid waste objective:** Support regional solid waste management solutions
9. **Healthcare workforce objective**
10. **Telecommunications objective:** Improve communications access in Southeast Alaska
11. **Manufacturing objective:** Promote regionally manufactured local products
12. **Food security objective:** Increase supply and distribution of local foods

Transportation

★ 1. **Support the stability, sustainability, and longevity of the Alaska Marine Highway System**

2. Develop a long-term, strategic, multimodal, regional transportation plan
3. Improve and expand opportunities to move freight to and from markets
4. Ports and harbors infrastructure improvements
5. Transportation workforce development
6. Ensure the stability and safety of passenger transportation services
7. Improve marine and road connections to Lower 48
8. Disaster-resilient transportation infrastructure

★ = Priority Objectives

Seafood

★ 1. **Further develop markets for Alaska seafood**

★ 2. **Seafood modernization initiative**

3. Work to further promote a year-round seafood economy in the region
4. Full resource utilization and ocean product development
5. Mariculture development
6. Bring back seafood jobs to Southeast's smallest communities
7. Support access to capital for harvesters and processors
8. Maintain a stable regulatory regime

Natural Resources

1. Prepare for potential Chinook salmon listings
2. Work with USFS to direct federal contracts toward locally owned businesses
3. Support an innovative, integrated timber industry
4. Attract capital investments, maintain global competitiveness
5. Provide an economically viable supply of timber from the Tongass to regional operators
6. Increase access to minerals and energy sources for mining on state and federal lands
7. Advocate for the regulators
8. Revise the Tongass National Forest Land Management Plan

Visitor Industry

★ 1. **Support local tourism ownership and entrepreneurship**

2. Workforce housing for the visitor sector
3. Cultural tourism development
4. Collective regional strategy for accommodating tourism industry growth in Southeast

Energy Sector

★ 1. **Reduce energy costs and increase deployment of renewables**

2. Support consumer education on heat pumps
3. Policy and regulatory development to meet community energy needs and priorities
4. Continue to support PCE for rural communities
5. Biomass in energy

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