



Chugach Alaska Corporation

2014 Alaska Housing Assessment



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Chugach Alaska Corporation Dashboard¹

Population: The Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development's current (2012) population estimate for the Chugach Alaska Corporation ANCSA region is 12,223, an increase of 1% from 2000.

Housing Units: There are currently 5,844 housing units in the Chugach Alaska Corporation ANCSA region. Of these, 4,555 are occupied, 289 vacant units are for sale or rent, and the remaining 1,000 are seasonal or otherwise vacant units (Profile Figure R6).

Energy: The average home in the Chugach Alaska Corporation ANCSA region is 1,804 square feet and uses 128,000 BTUs of energy per square foot annually. This is 7% less than the statewide average of 137,000 BTUs per square foot per year.

Energy Costs: Using AKWarm estimates, average annual energy cost for homes in the Chugach Alaska Corporation ANCSA region is \$7,740, which is approximately 2.8 times more than the cost in Anchorage, and 3.6 times more than the national average (Profile Figure R13).

Energy Programs: Approximately 15% of the occupied housing in the Chugach Alaska Corporation ANCSA region have completed the Home Energy Rebate or Weatherization programs, or have received BEES certification since 2008, compared to 21% statewide (Profile Figure R12).

Housing Quality: Within current housing stock, newer homes have better energy performance. On average, homes built in the 1940s are currently rated at 1-star-plus compared to a current average rating of 4-star-plus for homes built after 2000.

Air-tightness: Within current housing stock, newer homes are tighter. On average, homes built in the last decade exceed the 2012 BEES standard of 4 air-changes per hour at 50 Pascals (ACH50). In contrast, homes built before 1940 are 4 times leakier than those built since 2000 (Profile Figure R7).

Ventilation: An estimated 2,305 occupied housing units (or 51%) in the Chugach Alaska Corporation ANCSA region are relatively air-tight and lack a continuous ventilation system. These houses are at higher risk of moisture and indoor air quality-related issues (Profile Figures R9-R10).

Overcrowding: Six percent of occupied units are estimated to be either overcrowded (5%) or severely overcrowded (1%). This is roughly 2 times the national average, and makes the Chugach Alaska Corporation region the fourth least overcrowded ANCSA region in the state.

Affordability: According to American Community Survey (ACS) data, approximately 23% of households in the Chugach Alaska Corporation region spend 30% or more of total income on reported housing costs, including rent, water and sewer utilities, and energy costs. Using AKWarm estimates, the region's average annual energy costs constitute approximately 12% of census median area income for occupied housing.

¹ Figures referenced in the Dashboard are located in the ANCSA Region profile.



Chugach Alaska Corporation Summary

Community

The Chugach Alaska Corporation region is located in the southeast corner of mainland Alaska, just south of the Ahtna region and at the northern edge of the Southeast panhandle. The average home size in the region is 1,804 square feet, the second largest in the state, behind the Cook Inlet region. Average home sizes in individual communities range from a low of 1,036 square feet in Nanwalek to a high of 1,975 square feet in Valdez.

Overcrowding

Figure R-I shows the overcrowding in the Chugach region and its six most populous communities. These communities have between an estimated zero overcrowded households in Willow Creek to a high of 43% of households in Nanwalek with more than one person per room. The community with the highest percentage of overcrowding in the region (100%) is found in Nelchina.

Approximately 5% of housing units in the region are vacant and available for sale or rent. Nelchina, with the highest percentage of overcrowded households, has the most available housing, with 54% of housing units for sale or rent. Port



Graham has the region's lowest percentage (2%) of available housing.



Energy²

Regionally, the average annual energy cost per household is \$7,735. The highest average annual energy use and costs in the Chugach region are found in Valdez, with an average energy cost of \$9,487, and an average energy use of 257 million BTUs (Figure R-The lowest average II). annual energy use and costs are found in Nanwalek, with an average annual energy cost of \$4,486, and an average energy use of 126 million BTUs.



² Regional data appearing in this section are based on communities with sufficient levels of ARIS data, so not all communities were included in the analysis.



The Chugach region has the fourth lowest energy use per square foot³ of any of the ANCSA regions using an estimated 128 kBTUs/ft²/yr. Figure R-III shows the energy use and cost per square foot for communities in the Chugach region.⁴ Of the communities in the Chugach region Valdez has both the highest ECI (\$5.04/ft²) and EUI (135 kBTU/ft²). Seward and Nanwalek use the least energy, 114 and 118 kBTU/ft² per year respectively. Nanwalek and Valdez also have the and highest lowest average home heating indices of communities



in the Chugach region, with Nanwalek at 6.8 $BTUs/ft^2/HDD$ and Valdez at 10.5.

³ Energy use per square foot is also known as Energy Use Intensity, or EUI and is given in kBTUs per square foot, per year.

⁴ Energy cost per square foot is also known as the Energy Cost Index, or ECI and is given in dollars per square foot, per year.



Understanding the variations between communities participating in energy efficiency programs is essential to targeting work and resource allocation in the region. Approximately 15% of housing units in the Chugach region have participated in either the Weatherization or Home Energy Rebate programs, or have received BEES certification since 2008. Participation rates varv by community (Figure R-IV). The greatest participation occurred in Nanwalek, with approximately 44% of homes completing one of the AHFC programs. Nanwalek had the highest participation rate for two of the individual programs: 14% of homes have been certified to meet



BEES and approximately 11% have completed Weatherization retrofits. The highest participation in the Home Energy Rebate Program occurred in Valdez and Cordova, both with approximately 8% of homes completing the program. The lowest participation for all programs in the region is in Whittier, where an estimated zero households have participated in an AHFC energy program.



Figure R-V gives the fuel types used for space heating in the Chugach region where fuel oil is the Wood also predominant fuel. contributes significantly to the space heating energy and is used for at least 10% of space heating needs in all communities with sufficient energy data for reporting except for Cordova, where residents use wood for only 5% of space heating needs. The highest use of wood occurs in Nanwalek, where residents use wood for approximately 20% of space heating energy.





Figure R-VI shows that the Chugach region has a relatively low percentage (10%) of homes with continuous mechanical ventilation, either with or without heat recovery, installed. Only the Aleut and Ahtna regions have lower rates of utilization. The community of Seward has 16% of homes with an HRV or continuous ventilation, the highest of any community in the region. The lowest occurrence is found in Valdez at 6%.





Affordability

According to ACS estimates, approximately 25% households in the Chugach region are considered cost-burdened, spending 30% or more of total household income on housing costs.⁵ Affordability varies widely among the region's communities, from a low of approximately zero cost-burdened households in Willow Creek to a high of 39% of households in Port Graham. Figure R-VII shows the of cost-burdened percent households for the Chugach region populous and its most communities. The percent of costburdened home in the six most populous communities have a slightly smaller range with Willow Creek at an estimated 0% costburdened and Seward at an estimated 33% of households costburdened.



Chugach Alaska Corporation

⁵CCHRC's analysis of ACS energy costs indicate that there are systematic underestimations for rural Alaska, which suggests that ACS-based cost burdened housing estimates are low. See Appendix A, "Analysis of American Community Survey Energy Cost Estimates" for more details.

Alaska Housing

Figure R-VIII shows the median household incomes and housing costs for the Chugach region and six of its communities.⁶ Regional median household income is approximately \$63,373. The six most populous communities have median household incomes ranging from a low of \$17,500 in Willow Creek to a high of \$79,750 in The highest median Cordova. income, \$87,679, is found outside the six most populous communities in Silver Springs.





Community, Regional, and Statewide Housing Characteristics

This ANCSA region summary only includes the highlights of housing characteristics at the ANCSA regional level. A detailed data profile with charts and tables for this region follows. The 2014 Alaska Housing Assessment provides a significant amount of data and analysis at statewide, ANCSA region, census area, and community levels. This assessment provides a statewide analysis of housing characteristics, how they compare to national numbers, and the estimated housing needs. Within the 2014 Alaska Housing Assessment, written summaries are available for each individual ANCSA region and census area, and data profiles are available for each community and census area characterizing the housing stock from the perspective of community, overcrowding, energy and affordability. These different tiers of information and analysis allow researchers, housing authorities, policymakers and others to generate answers to specific questions. For a detailed discussion of estimating housing need and comparison of methods to previous Housing Assessments, see Appendix B, "Statewide Need Assessment" of the 2014 Alaska Housing Assessment.









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How to Interpret the Profile: Data Sources, Definitions & Clarifications

Heat Recovery: Continuous mechanical ventilation with heat recovery operated with automatic controls.

Continuous: Mechanical ventilation without heat recovery operated with automatic controls.

Non-Continuous ventilation: Includes homes with range and/or bath fans not operated using automatic controls.

ACH50: The results of a Figure H7: Average Tightness of Current Homes by Figure H8, xisting Ventilation Type by Decade Built **ARIS** blower door test to measure Decade Built 10.0 100% building air leakage. Smaller als 8.0 80% 6.0 60% numbers indicate tighter ACH @ 50 4.0 40% buildings. Tighter buildings 2.0 20% 0.0 0% lose less heated air to the 2000 - 2005 or Pre 1940s 1950s 1960s 1970s 1980s 1990s Pre -1940s 1950s 1960s 1970s 1980s 1990s 2000 - 2005 or 1940 2004 later 1940s 2004 outside and thus use less Existing housing by decade built Existing housing by decade built % Heat recovery % Non-continuous Air-tightness (ACH50) 2012 BEES Requirement % Continuous energy for space heating. Figure H9: Percent of Housing Stock at High Risk of ARIS Figure H10: Quantity of Housing Stock at High Risk of ARIS Moisture and Air Quality Problems Moisture and Air Quality Problems 450 100% 400 # Units at High Risk 80% 350 The 2012 Building Energy 300 60% 250 **Efficiency Standard** 40% 200 150 (BEES) for air-tightness is 20% 100 50 0% for reference only, as it 194 1950s 1960s 1970s 1980s 1990s 2000 - 2005 or Pre -1940s 1950s 1970s 1980s 1990s 2000 -2004 later Pre -194 Js 1960s Existing housing by decade built was implemented after 1940s 2011 8 High Risk Existing housing by decade built % Low Risk the majority of homes in Alaska were built. Decades with no bar High Risk of Moisture and Air Quality Problems: Note lack sufficient data that moisture or poor indoor air quality have not been Data Source: for reporting. They physically measured; these houses are considered Alaska Retrofit should not be "at-risk" because they are relatively air tight (less Information considered zero than 0.5 estimated natural air changes per hour) and System quantities. do not have a continuous ventilation system.





primary fuel.

How To Interpret the Profile

(medium data communities).

space.















ANCSA Region Profile for:

Chugach Alaska Corp

Climate Zone (Heating Degree Day Range)

Zone 7 (9,000 - 12,600 HDD)



Houses Lacking Complete	House	eholds			
Plumbing or Kitchen Facilities	Number	Percent			
Lack complete plumbing	178	4%			
Lack complete kitchen	150	3%			

Estimated Total Annual Community Space Heating Fuel Use								
Fuel Oil	4,565,984	(gallons)						
Natural Gas	-	(ccf)						
Electricity	5,284,148	(kWh)						
Wood	4,321	(cords)						
Propane	280,095	(gallons)						
Coal	73	(tons)						

Avg Annual Energy Cost with PCE	\$7,735	
Avg Annual Energy Cost without PCE	\$7,930	

Housing Need Indicators	Number of units	% Occupied Housing
Overcrowded	287	6%
Housing cost burdened	1,019	22%
1 Star Homes	576	13%

Weatherization Retrofits	(funding
increased 2008)	
Date Range	Units
2008-2011	114
2003-2007	27
1990-2002	79

Housing Stock Estimates	Number of Units
All Housing	5,844
All Occupied Housing	4,555
All Vacant housing	1,289
Vacant Housing for Sale or Rent	289





	ENERGY - Chugach Alaska Corp														
Current Chugach Alaska Corp Housing Energy Characteristics By Decade Built															
Current Residential	# of	# of Avg Energy	Avg Energy	Avg Energy	Avg Energy	Avg Energy Rating	Ανσ Sα	Avg. Annual	Avg. Annual	Avg Annual Energy /	'End Use (n	nillion Btus)	Δνα ΕΙΠ		
Units by Year Built	AkWarm Records	Rating Stars	Points	Feet	Energy Cost (with PCE)	Energy Use (million BTUs)	Space Heating	DHW	Appliances	(kBTUS /SF)	Avg. ECI	Heating Index			
OVERALL	1,251	2-star plus	64.6	1,804	\$7,735	215	153	29	30	128	\$4.63	10.2			
Pre- 1940	69	2-star	52.9	1,784	\$8,392	237	180	27	30	143	\$5.12	12.2			
1940- 49	31	1-star plus	49.3	1,416	\$6,569	182	134	19	28	136	\$4.83	11.3			
1950- 59	73	2-star	56.5	1,641	\$7,110	205	151	24	30	140	\$4.91	11.3			
1960- 69	78	2-star	59.7	1,768	\$8,601	251	193	28	30	152	\$5.19	12.8			
1970- 79	325	2-star plus	60.8	1,877	\$8,947	249	189	29	30	143	\$5.21	11.8			
1980- 89	238	3-star	68.3	1,845	\$7,591	210	150	30	31	120	\$4.35	9.3			
1990- 99	201	4-star	78.9	1,921	\$6,326	171	95	25	26	94	\$3.60	6.6			
2000- 2004	153	5-star	89.1	1,497	\$4,184	107	51	30	26	78	\$3.00	3.9			
2005 or later	83	4-star	82.2	1,882	\$5,998	155	94	31	31	83	\$3.27	5.6			





	Current Chugach Alaska Corp Housing Envelope Characteristics By Decade Built											
Current Residential Units by Year Built	# of AkWarm Records	ACH 50	Ceiling R	Above Grade Wall R	Below Grade Wall R	Above Grade Floor R	On Grade Floor R	Below Grade Floor R	Door U	Garage Door U	Window U	
OVERALL	1,251	9.2	21	12	4	18	3	3	0.36	0.36	0.54	
Pre- 1940	69	14.4	13	9	3	13	3	3	0.43	0.43	0.57	
1940- 49	31	12.5	13	10	5	10	2	2	0.32	0.32	0.55	
1950- 59	73	11.6	17	11	3	13	3	3	0.44	0.44	0.61	
1960- 69	78	11.2	18	11	3	19	3	3	0.41	0.41	0.60	
1970- 79	325	9.8	21	11	4	18	3	3	0.38	0.38	0.61	
1980- 89	238	8.2	25	14	4	21	3	3	0.33	0.33	0.52	
1990- 99	201	5.5	33	18	7	21	4	3	0.24	0.24	0.38	
2000- 2004	153	2.7	42	18	16	31	3	3	0.23	0.23	0.33	
2005 or later	83	5.3	41	14	7	32	5	3	0.27	0.27	0.34	
BEES 2009 - Climat	e Zone 7	7.0	38	21	15	38	15	15	0.33	0.33	0.33	
BEES 2012 - Climat	e Zone 7	4.0	43	25	15	38	15	15	0.30	0.30	0.30	

Alaska Housing



