

Cook Inlet Region, Inc.

2014 Alaska Housing Assessment



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# *Cook Inlet Region, Inc. (CIRI) Dashboard*<sup>1</sup>

**Population:** The Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development's current (2012) population estimate for the Cook Inlet Region, Inc. (CIRI) ANCSA region is 444,135, an increase of 22% from 2000.

**Housing Units:** There are currently 180,094 housing units in the Cook Inlet Regional (CIRI) ANCSA region. Of these, 156,173 are occupied, 5,234 vacant units are for sale or rent, and the remaining 18,687 are seasonal or otherwise vacant units (Profile Figure R6).

**Energy:** The average home in the CIRI ANCSA region is 1,895 square feet and uses 137,000 BTUs of energy per square foot annually. This is the same as 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 CIRI ANCSA region is \$3,120, which is approximately 1.1 times more than the cost in the Anchorage municipality, and 1.5 times more than the national average (Profile Figure R13).

**Energy Programs:** Approximately 24% of the occupied housing units in the CIRI ANCSA region have completed either the Home Energy Rebate or Weatherization program, 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 2-stars on average 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 nearly meet the 2012 BEES standard of 4 air-changes per hour at 50 pascals (ACH50). In contrast, homes built in the 1940s are 2.4 times leakier than those built since 2000 (Profile Figure R7).

**Ventilation:** An estimated 100,824 occupied housing units (or 65%) in the CIRI 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:** Four percent of occupied units are estimated to be either overcrowded (3%) or severely overcrowded (1%). This is roughly similar to the national average, and makes the Cook Inlet Regional (CIRI) region the second least overcrowded ANCSA region in the state.

**Affordability:** According to American Community Survey (ACS) data, approximately 34% of households in the CIRI ANCSA 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 average annual energy costs constitute approximately 4% of census median area income for occupied housing.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Figures referenced in the Dashboard are located in the ANCSA Region profile.



### Cook Inlet Region, Inc. (CIRI) Summary

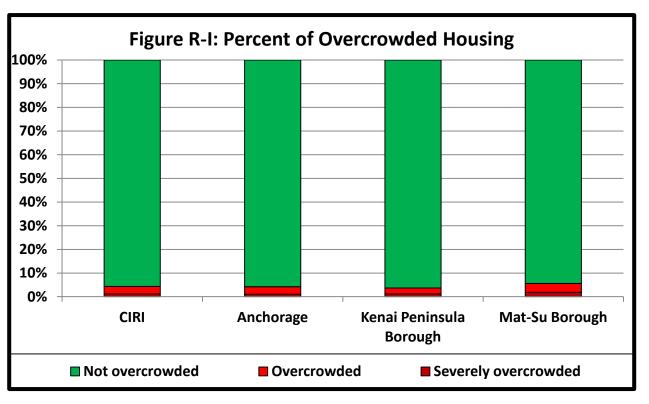
#### Community

The Cook Inlet ANCSA region is located in Southcentral Alaska. Anchorage, the largest city in the state, is in this region as are the numerous communities of the Matanuska-Susitna Valley and Kenai Peninsula. The average home size in the region is the largest in the state at 1,895 square feet. While the average home size varies at the community level, there is little variation on a census area level with the average homes in the Anchorage, Kenai Peninsula Borough, and Mat-Su Borough census areas all being within 35 square feet of each other.

#### Overcrowding

CIRI The region has less overcrowding than all other regions in Alaska with the exception of Approximately 4% of Sealaska. households in the region have more than one person per room. The percentage of overcrowded housing is fairly similar between the three census areas within CIRI (Figure R-I), with 4% in Anchorage, 6% in the Mat-Su Borough, and 4% in the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

Approximately 3% of housing units in the region are vacant and available for sale or rent. Housing availability at the community level is fairly consistent; Port Alsworth has a low

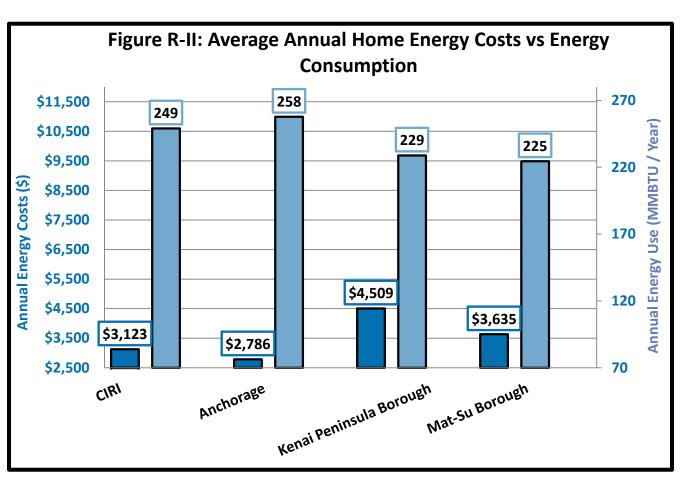


of approximately zero available housing units while Seldovia has the high with 8% available.



# Energy<sup>2</sup>

Regionally, the average annual home energy costs, are \$3,123, or 1.5 times more than the national average energy costs (Figure R-II). The CIRI region's average annual energy use of 249 million BTUs is approximately 2.7 times the national average residential The Kenai energy use. Peninsula Borough census area has the highest energy costs at \$4,509 while the Anchorage municipality has the lowest average annual energy costs at \$2,786. The Mat-Su Borough census area lies between Kenai and Anchorage with average energy costs of \$3,635 per year.

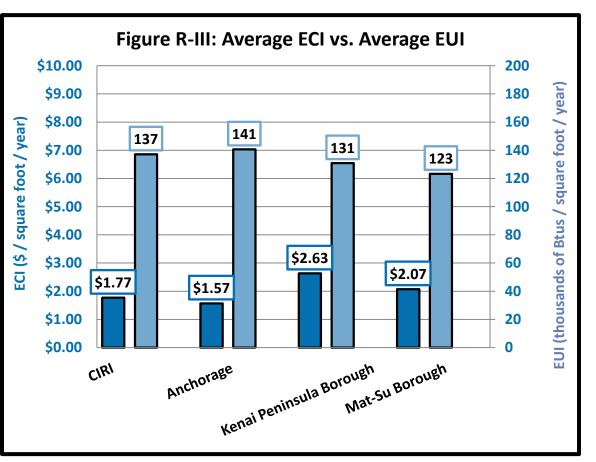


<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Regional data appearing in this section is based on communities with sufficient levels of ACS data, so not all communities were included in the analysis.



The CIRI region has the fifth lowest energy use per square foot<sup>3</sup> of any ANCSA region in the state. The CIRI region also has by far the lowest energy cost per square foot<sup>4</sup> of any of the state's ANCSA regions at  $\frac{1.77}{\text{ft}^2}$ . The energy use and cost per square foot for each census area in the region are shown in Figure R-III. On average, Anchorage municipality homes are slightly smaller but household energy use is 15% more than in either of the two surrounding census areas. Consequently, Anchorage has a higher energy use index of 141 kBTUs/ft<sup>2</sup>/year, compared to 131 in the Kenai Peninsula and 123 in the Mat-Su boroughs. The energy use index for the entire CIRI region is 137, nearly identical to the average EUI value for the state.

The home heating index (HHI) value for CIRI, 9.5 BTUs/ft<sup>2</sup>/HDD, is also similar to the statewide average of 9.2. Within the CIRI region, Anchorage homes are less energy



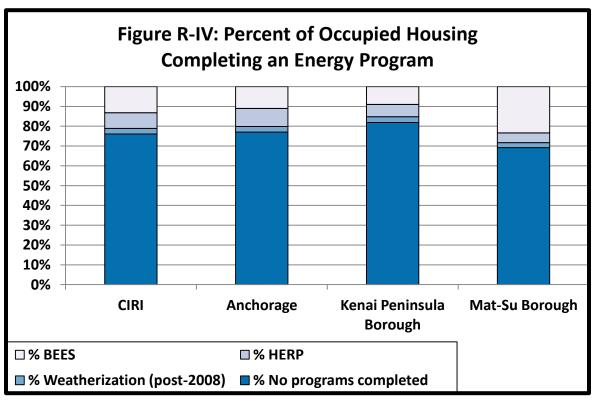
efficient, with an average HHI of 9.8 compared to 8.9 in Kenai and 8.2 in Mat-Su.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Energy use per square foot is also known as Energy Use Intensity, or EUI and is given in kBtus per square foot, per year.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 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.

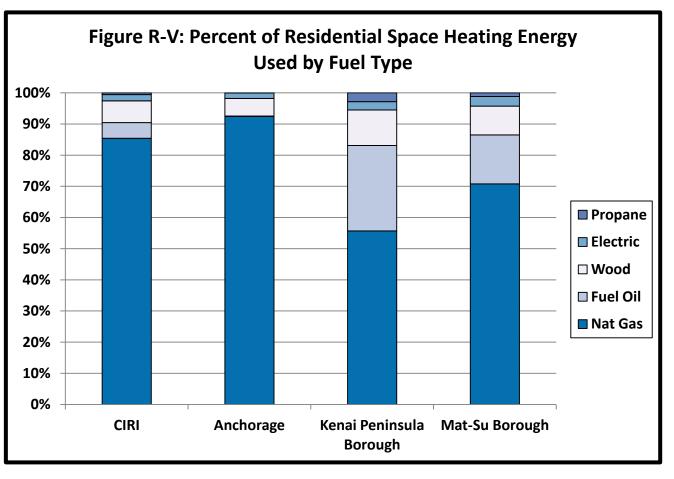


Understanding the variations between participating in energy communities efficiency programs is essential to targeting work and resource allocation in the region. Approximately 24% of housing units in the CIRI region have completed an AHFC Home Energy Rebate or Weatherization program, or been certified to meet BEES since 2008. Figure R-IV shows that participation rates in the Weatherization program are similar on a census area level, with all three census areas having participation around 2 or 3%. The highest participation in the Home Energy Rebate Program is in Anchorage, with 9% of homes having completed the program. The Mat-Su region has the highest BEES activity, where 23% of new homes have been certified to meet BEES.



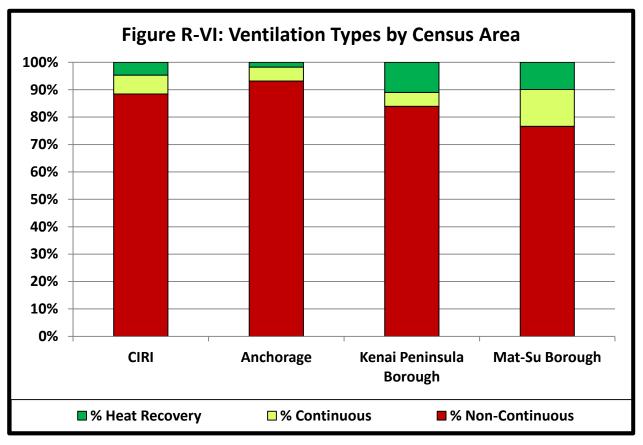


The lower household energy Anchorage costs in are influenced by the inexpensive natural gas available in that census area, accounting for 92% of the space heating needs (Figure R-V). Natural gas is not as widely available in the Kenai Peninsula and is used in approximately 56% of homes for space heating. Natural gas use in the Mat-Su Borough follows the same pattern as the energy costs, and is the primary fuel for approximately 71% of space heating needs.





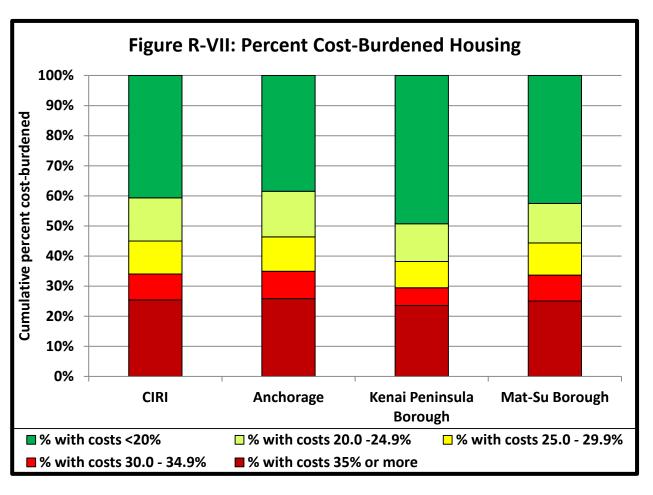
Approximately 88% of homes in the CIRI region have no continuous ventilation system (Figure R-VI). Within CIRI, the Mat-Su Borough has the highest percentage of homes with continuous mechanical ventilation, either with or without heat recovery, installed at 23%. Approximately 7% of homes in the municipality of Anchorage have a continuous heat recovery or ventilation system installed.





### Affordability

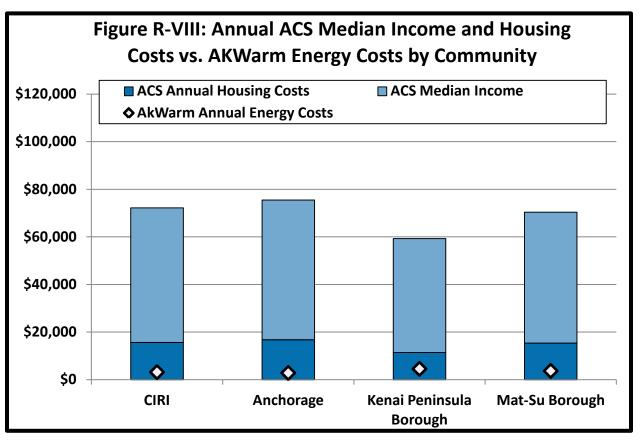
Approximately 34% of households in the CIRI region are costburdened, spending 30% or more of household income on housing costs. <sup>5</sup> Figure R-VII shows the percent of cost-burdened households in the different census areas in the region, ranging from 29% in the Kenai Peninsula Borough census area to 35% in the Anchorage municipality census area. Of all ANCSA regions in the state, the CIRI region has the highest percentage of homes that are cost-burdened



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>CCHRC'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.



Figure R-VIII gives the median household income for the CIRI region and its census areas, alongside housing and energy costs.<sup>5</sup> Reported housing costs from ACS data, including energy costs, rent, and housing taxes, along with AKWarm annual estimated energy costs are also shown in the graph. According to ACS data, the median household incomes for Anchorage, the Kenai Peninsula Borough, and the Mat-Su Borough range from \$59,256 to Anchorage's median \$75,485. income of \$75,485 is the highest in the region while the lowest median income is \$59,256 in the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

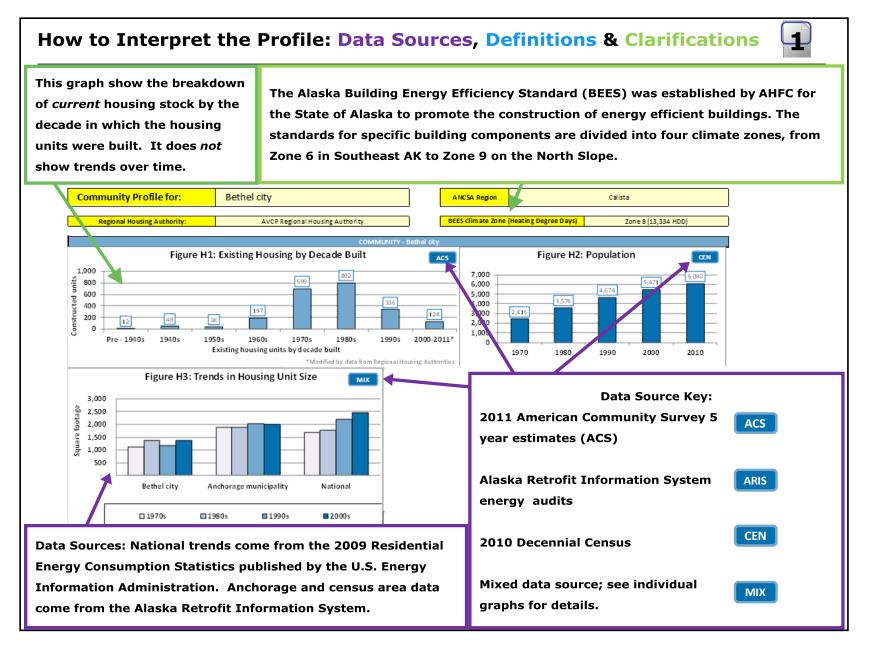




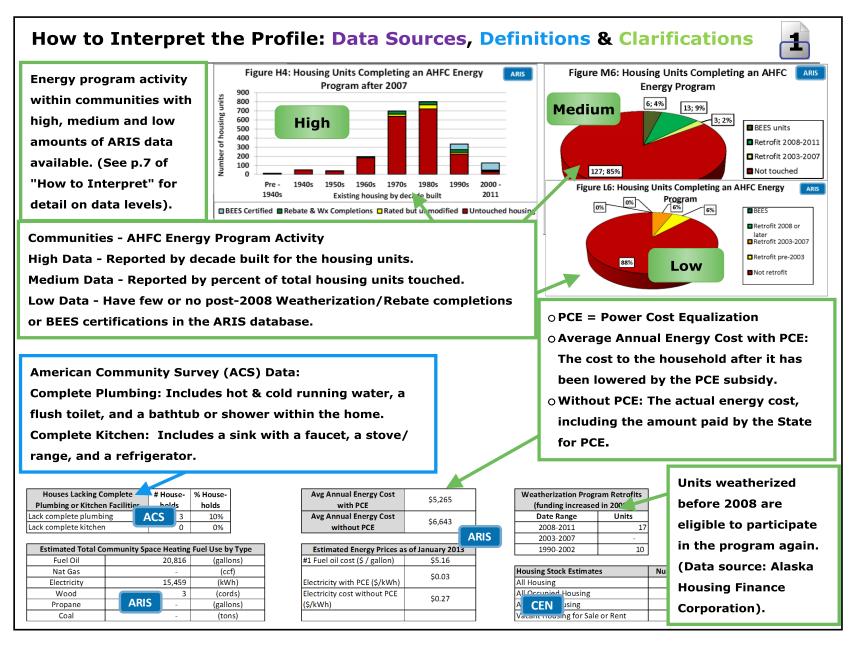
### **Community, Regional, and Statewide Housing Characteristics**

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.



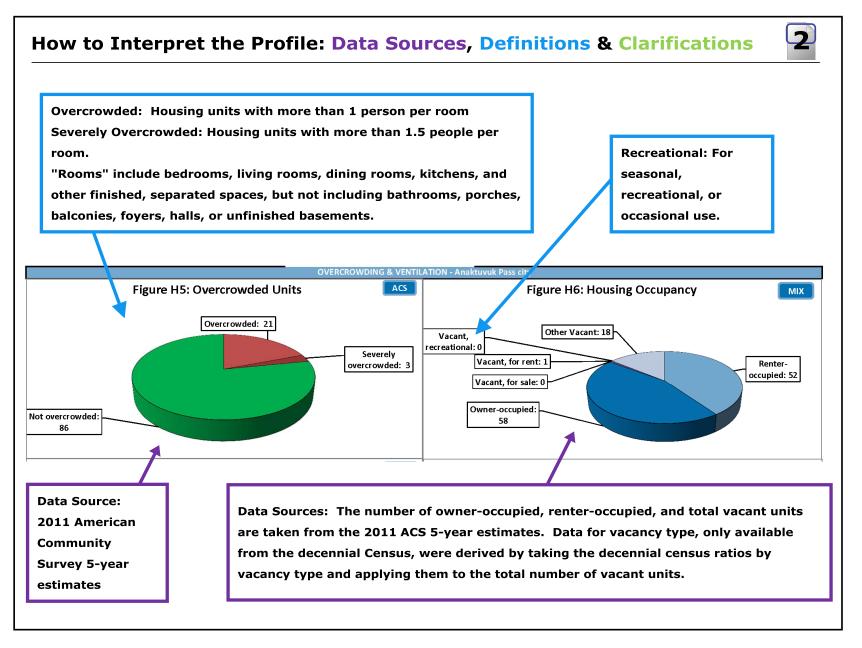






#### 2014 Alaska Housing Assessment







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

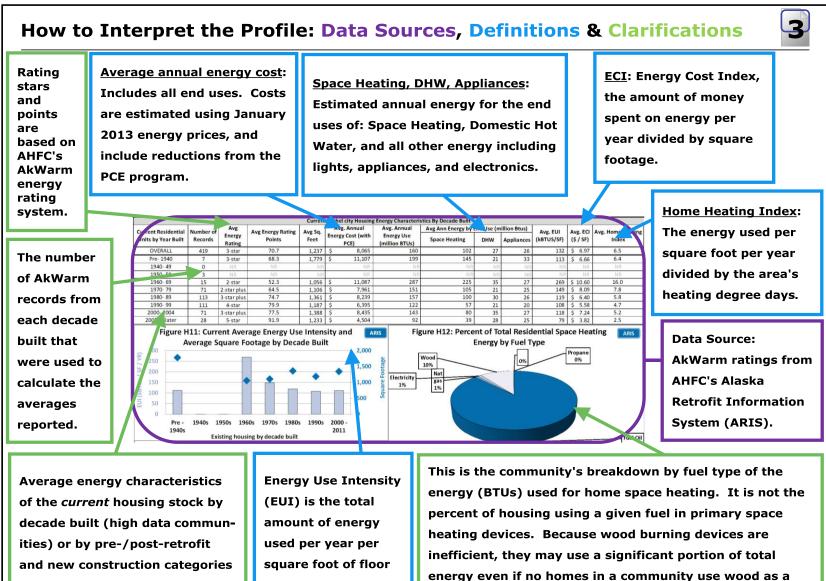
Heat Recovery: Continuous mechanical ventilation with heat recovery operated with automatic controls.

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.





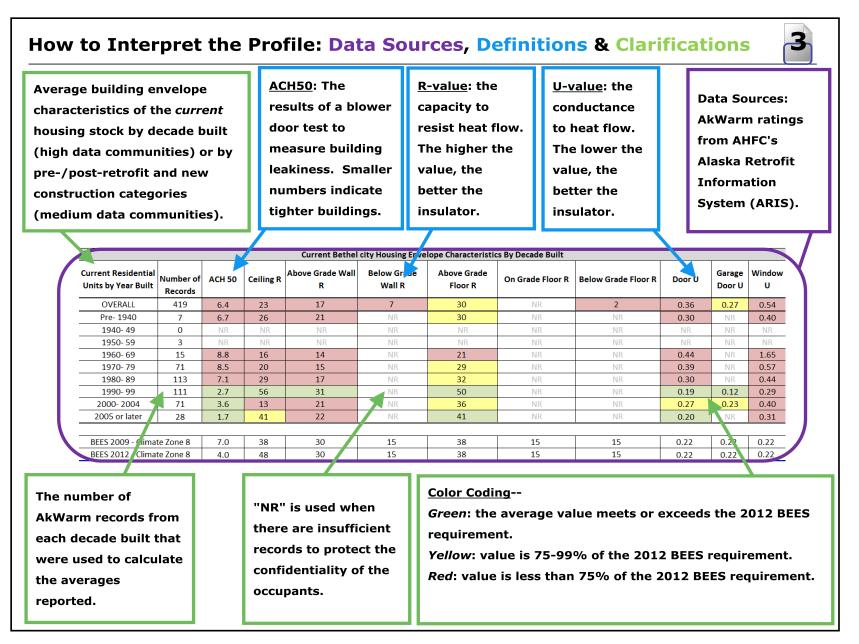
primary fuel.

How To Interpret the Profile

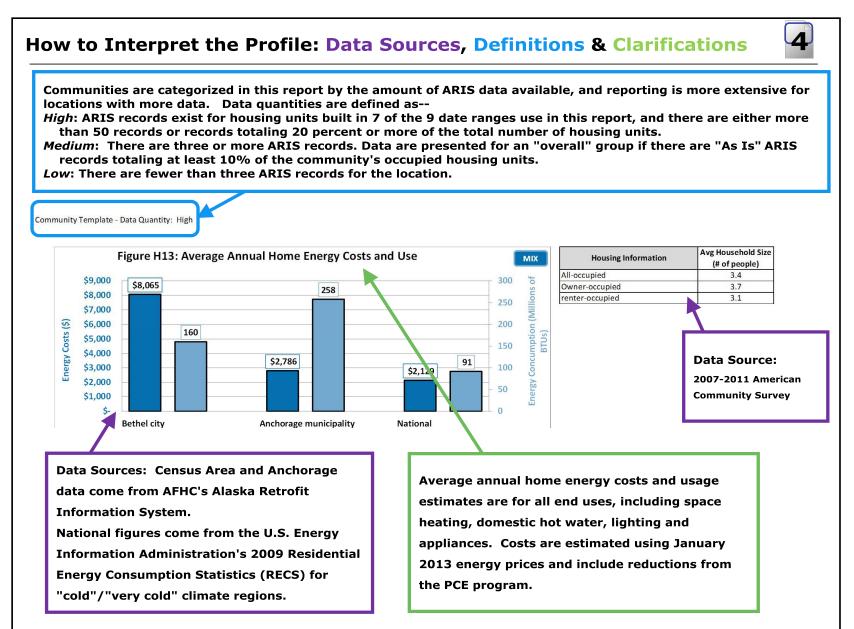
(medium data communities).

space.

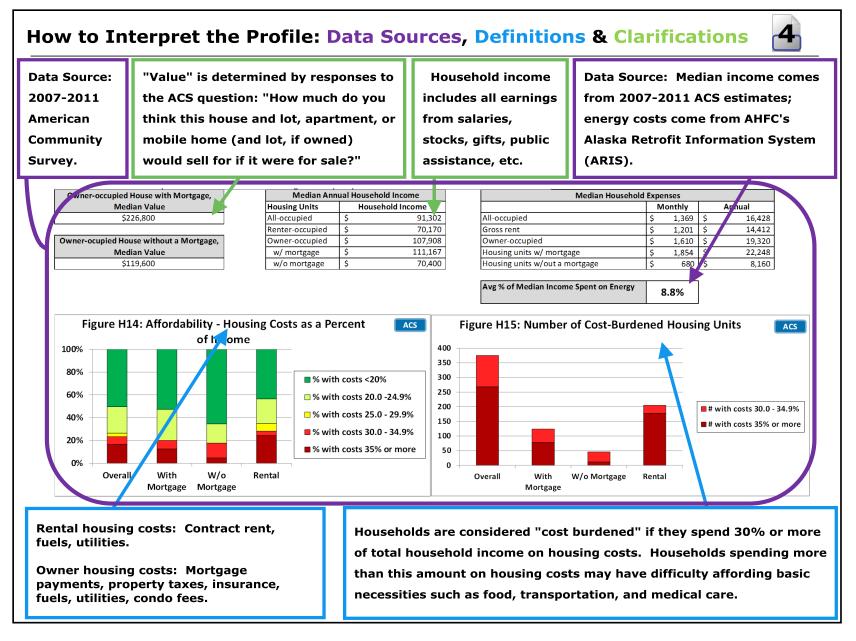












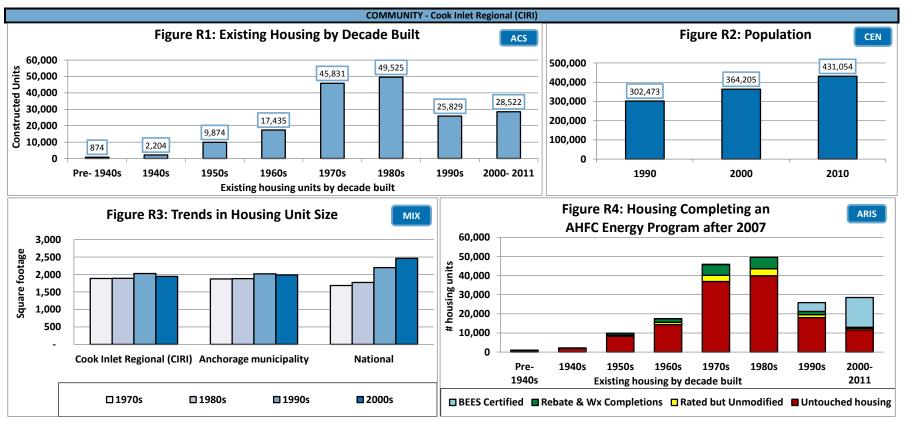


**ANCSA Region Profile for:** 

Cook Inlet Regional (CIRI)

Climate Zone (Heating Degree Day Range)

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



Houses Lacking Complete	Households			
Plumbing or Kitchen Facilities	Number	Percent		
Lack complete plumbing	3,436	2%		
Lack complete kitchen	3,123	2%		

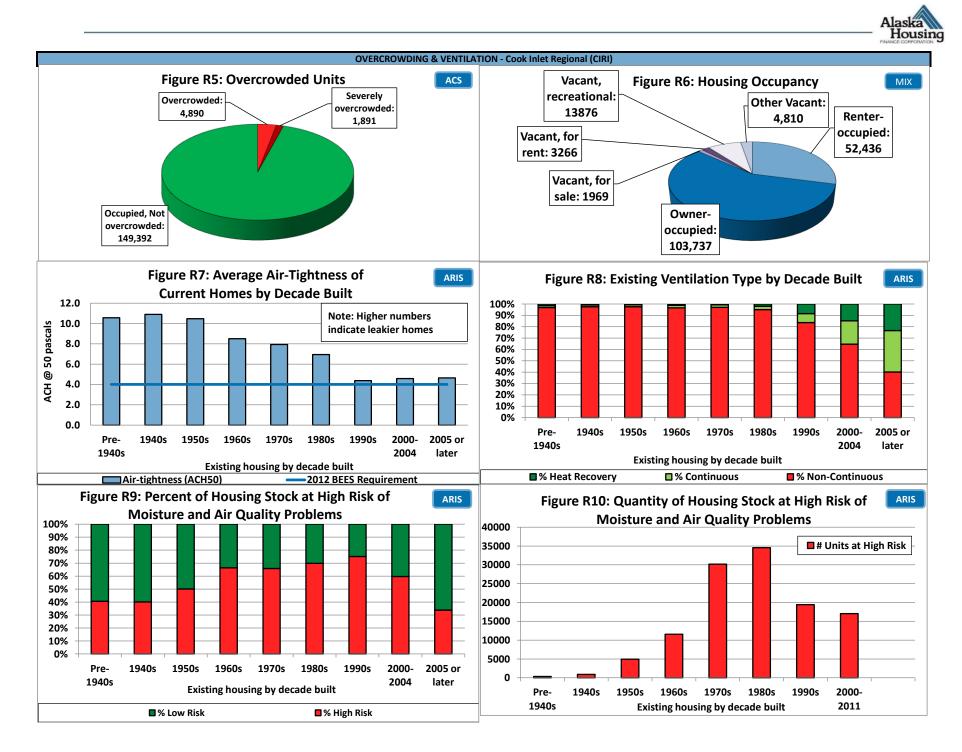
Estimated Total Annual Community Space Heating Fuel Use								
Fuel Oil	11,150,182	(gallons)						
Natural Gas	253,532,847	(ccf)						
Electricity	175,878,734	(kWh)						
Wood	90,197	(cords)						
Propane	1,802,942	(gallons)						
Coal	735	(tons)						

Avg Annual Energy Cost with PCE	NO PCE
Avg Annual Energy Cost without PCE	\$3,123

Housing Need Indicators	Number of units	% Occupied Housing
Overcrowded	6,781	4%
Housing cost burdened	51,817	33%
1 Star Homes	6,803	4%

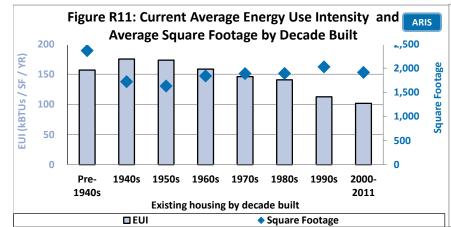
(funding
Units
4,357
1604
7613

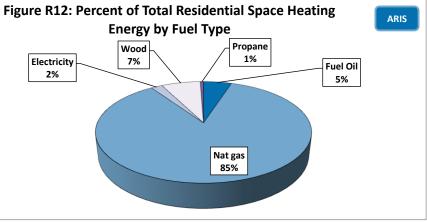
Housing Stock Estimates	Number of Units
All Housing	180,094
All Occupied Housing	156,173
All Vacant housing	23,921
Vacant Housing for Sale or Rent	5,234





					ENERGY - Co	ook Inlet Regional (C	IRI)					
	Current Cook Inlet Regional (CIRI) Housing Energy Characteristics By Decade Built											
Current Residential	# of	Avg Energy	Avg Energy Rating	Avg Sq.	Avg. Annual	Avg. Annual	Avg Annual Energy / End Use (million Btus)			Avg. EUI		Avg. Home
Units by Year Built	AkWarm Records	Rating Stars	Points	Feet	Energy Cost	Energy Use (million BTUs)	Space Heating	DHW	Appliances	(kBTUS /SF)	Avg. ECI	Heating Index
OVERALL	60,643	3-star	70.9	1,895	\$3,123	249	177	34	32	137	\$1.77	9.5
Pre- 1940	115	2-star	59.3	2,364	\$4,710	334	269	30	35	157	\$2.39	12.0
1940- 49	403	2-star	56.6	1,720	\$3,174	272	210	31	30	175	\$2.08	12.8
1950- 59	2,229	2-star	57.3	1,631	\$3,010	266	203	32	31	173	\$2.02	12.5
1960- 69	4,393	2-star plus	62.6	1,839	\$3,066	277	211	35	31	158	\$1.81	11.3
1970- 79	13,161	2-star plus	65.7	1,888	\$3,160	272	204	35	33	146	\$1.78	10.3
1980-89	14,334	3-star	70.6	1,892	\$3,246	263	195	35	32	141	\$1.81	9.8
1990- 99	8,801	4-star	78.8	2,027	\$3,157	224	131	27	26	113	\$1.69	7.3
2000- 2004	10,418	4-star plus	83.6	1,948	\$2,871	191	123	37	32	103	\$1.66	6.2
2005 or later	6,789	4-star plus	84.7	1,858	\$2,791	171	107	33	32	98	\$1.71	5.9





	Current Cook Inlet Regional (CIRI) 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	60,643	7.0	26	13	5	19	3	3	0.36	0.36	0.50	
Pre- 1940	115	10.6	16	10	3	13	3	2	0.44	0.44	0.59	
1940- 49	403	10.9	18	9	3	14	3	2	0.45	0.45	0.58	
1950- 59	2,229	10.5	20	9	3	14	3	2	0.42	0.42	0.58	
1960- 69	4,393	8.5	21	11	4	17	2	2	0.42	0.42	0.57	
1970- 79	13,161	7.9	23	11	4	17	2	2	0.38	0.38	0.54	
1980- 89	14,334	7.0	27	13	5	18	3	3	0.37	0.37	0.51	
1990- 99	8,801	4.4	37	18	6	24	3	3	0.27	0.27	0.38	
2000- 2004	10,418	4.6	37	16	12	23	3	3	0.26	0.26	0.38	
2005 or later	6,789	4.6	36	16	12	24	3	3	0.25	0.25	0.35	
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

