

## State and local estimates

**A**laska's population increased 10.3 percent, or 64,781 people, from 2000 to 2009, bringing the state's population to 692,314, based on estimates released in January by the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

With only a year left in the decade, Alaska's population has so far been growing at a slower average annual rate in the 2000s (1.1 percent) than in the 1990s (1.3 percent). Despite the trend of slow growth, Alaska's population grew at an above-average rate from 2008 to 2009, increasing about 1.5 percent or 10,337 people.

Compared to the United States as a whole, however, Alaska has grown at a significantly faster rate since 2000. The U.S. population increased 8.8 percent during the 2000 to 2009 period, versus Alaska's 10.3 percent. Alaska is still the 47<sup>th</sup> most populous state. It has more population than North Dakota, Vermont, Wyoming and the District of Columbia.

The Alaska Department of Labor creates its estimates using the U.S. Census Bureau's annual state level estimates and decennial census<sup>1</sup> numbers, Alaska Permanent Fund dividend applications, vital statistics, as well as military and other surveys. Using those population indicators, the Alaska Department of Labor creates a detailed account of Alaska's population by size, composition and geographical distribution.

The 2009 estimates are provisional. All population estimates in this article are as of July 1 of a particular year – the average annual population for that year – unless indicated otherwise.

<sup>1</sup> The decennial census is a count of the U.S. population conducted every 10 years by the Census Bureau in years ending in zero.

## The state as a whole

Population change is measured by natural increase and net migration. These two measures are made up of four main components: births, deaths, in-migration and out-migration. The impact these components have on Alaska's growth vary by year and decade, depending on certain economic and social factors.

Alaska's growth from 2000 to 2009 came from natural increase (births minus deaths), which added 66,149 people. The state lost 1,368 people through net-migration (in-migration minus out-migration). On average, 92,000 people migrate to and from Alaska each year, with nearly equal in-migration and out-migration.

Natural increase was also the main contributor to Alaska's population growth from 2008 to 2009, adding 8,076 people. Yet, unlike in the 2000 to 2009 period, in-migration overtook out-migration, adding 2,261 people.

When breaking down net migration into international and domestic migration, the gain of 2,261 migrants between 2008 and 2009 comes out to be a gain of 1,239 domestic migrants and 1,022 international migrants. (See Exhibit 1.)

The net in-migration that occurred in 2008 to 2009 hasn't occurred since 2003 to 2004.

The increase in migrants can be explained by the increase in military movement into Alaska. Due to the fact that Alaska Department of Labor population estimates capture the resident population, all troops are counted as living in the state regardless of their deployment status. Therefore, boroughs and census areas with a

# Components of Population Change

## Alaska, 1990 to 2009



large military presence may have populations lower than the estimates, depending on current deployments. The Fairbanks North Star Borough and the Municipality of Anchorage are the most affected by this method of estimation.

### Economic regions, boroughs and census areas

Between the 2000 Census and the 2009 estimate,<sup>2</sup> only 11 of Alaska's 29 boroughs and census areas gained population. Seven of those 11 areas had significant population increases: the Municipality of Anchorage (+30,305), Matanuska-Susitna Borough (+24,992), Fairbanks North Star Borough (+10,939), Kenai Peninsula Borough (+3,887), Southeast Fairbanks Census Area (+1,069), Bethel Census Area (+951) and Wade Hampton Census Area (+666). (See Exhibits 2 and 3.)

While 11 of the 29 boroughs increased in number of people from 2000 to 2009, only three of the 11 had increases in the proportion of Alaska's total population. The three – the Mat-Su Borough, Anchorage Municipality and Fairbanks North Star Borough – accounted for 90.3 percent of the growth in the 11 boroughs and census areas. The Municipality of Anchorage made up 41.3 percent of the growth, and the Mat-Su Borough and Fairbanks North Star Borough made up 34.1 percent and 14.9 percent, respectively.

<sup>2</sup> The remainder of this article analyzes data from the 2000 Census only, not the July 1, 2000, estimate.

July 1 to June 30	End of Period Population	Population Change	Average Annual Rate of Change	Components of Change								
				Births	Birth Rate (per 1,000)	Deaths	Death Rate (per 1,000)	Natural Increase	Total Net Migrants	Net International Migrants <sup>1,2</sup>	Net Internal Migrants <sup>3</sup>	
1989-90	553,171	14,271	2.61%	11,776	21.9	2,142	4.0	9,634	4,637	—	—	
1990-91	569,054	15,883	2.83%	11,798	21.3	2,225	4.0	9,573	6,310	—	—	
1991-92	586,722	17,668	3.06%	11,744	20.6	2,214	3.9	9,530	8,138	—	—	
1992-93	596,906	10,184	1.72%	11,347	19.3	2,477	4.2	8,870	1,314	—	—	
1993-94	600,622	3,716	0.62%	10,978	18.4	2,422	4.1	8,556	-4,840	—	—	
1994-95	601,581	959	0.16%	10,439	17.4	2,500	4.2	7,939	-6,980	—	—	
1995-96	605,212	3,631	0.60%	10,079	16.8	2,707	4.5	7,372	-3,741	—	—	
1996-97	609,655	4,443	0.73%	10,018	16.6	2,574	4.3	7,444	-3,001	—	—	
1997-98	617,082	7,427	1.21%	9,924	16.3	2,642	4.3	7,282	145	—	—	
1998-99	622,000	4,918	0.79%	9,864	16.0	2,609	4.2	7,255	-2,337	—	—	
1999-00	627,533	5,533	0.89%	10,102	16.2	2,829	4.5	7,273	-1,740	—	—	
2000-01	632,200	4,667	0.74%	9,980	15.9	2,934	4.7	7,046	-2,379	1,103	-3,482	
2001-02	640,643	8,443	1.33%	9,871	15.6	3,075	4.9	6,796	1,647	174	1,473	
2002-03	647,884	7,241	1.12%	10,025	15.6	3,107	4.8	6,918	323	-1,772	2,095	
2003-04	657,483	9,599	1.47%	10,299	15.9	3,060	4.7	7,239	2,360	2,334	26	
2004-05	664,334	6,851	1.04%	10,368	15.8	3,167	4.8	7,201	-350	1,042	-1,392	
2005-06	671,202	6,868	1.03%	10,656	16.0	3,163	4.8	7,493	-625	1,797	-2,422	
2006-07	676,056	4,854	0.72%	11,057	16.5	3,457	5.2	7,600	-2,746	874	-3,620	
2007-08	681,977	5,921	0.87%	11,285	16.7	3,505	5.2	7,780	-1,859	1,197	-3,056	
2008-09 <sup>4</sup>	692,314	10,337	1.50%	11,454	16.8	3,378	5.0	8,076	2,261	1,022	1,239	

Notes: All columns represent Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development estimates unless stated otherwise. All estimates represent July 1 of that year (the average annual population) unless stated otherwise.

<sup>1</sup> According to the U.S. Census Bureau

<sup>2</sup> Migration between Alaska and countries outside the U.S.

<sup>3</sup> Migration between Alaska and the rest of the U.S.

<sup>4</sup> Provisional estimate

Sources: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section, Demographics Unit; U.S. Census Bureau

Migration had a major impact on Alaska's boroughs and census areas from 2000 to 2009, with most losing population through net out-migration. However, the Mat-Su Borough (+18,571), Municipality of Anchorage (+1,203), Kenai Peninsula Borough (+831) and Southeast Fairbanks Census Area (+471) were areas where in-migration markedly surpassed out-migration. (See Exhibit 4.)

Natural increase characterized the growth in Alaska's Northern economic region. The region's two boroughs and one census area had average annual rates of natural increase greater than 1.5 percent. (See Exhibit 5.)

All the regions in the state had growth at least partly due to natural increase, however, some boroughs in the Southeast region, along with the Aleutians in the Southwest region, had average annual rates of natural increase less than 0.5 percent.

# 2 Alaska's Population, 1990 to 2009

## By economic region, borough and census area

	2009 Vintage Population Estimates								
	Estimate 2009	Estimate 2008	Estimate 2007	Estimate 2006	Estimate 2005	Estimate 2004	Estimate 2003	Estimate 2002	Estimate 2001
Alaska	692,314	681,977	676,056	671,202	664,334	657,483	647,884	640,643	632,200
Anchorage/Mat-Su Region	374,902	366,341	362,836	360,650	352,533	348,346	340,613	332,220	326,646
Anchorage, Municipality of	290,588	283,912	282,968	283,348	278,407	277,880	273,069	267,860	264,886
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	84,314	82,429	79,868	77,302	74,126	70,466	67,544	64,360	61,760
Gulf Coast Region	76,686	76,408	75,488	74,698	74,987	74,791	75,473	74,400	73,694
Kenai Peninsula Borough	53,578	52,959	52,230	51,467	51,269	51,239	51,454	50,682	50,082
Kodiak Island Borough	13,860	13,954	13,664	13,457	13,693	13,573	13,817	13,643	13,565
Valdez-Cordova Census Area	9,248	9,495	9,594	9,774	10,025	9,979	10,202	10,075	10,047
Interior Region	108,463	107,400	106,027	102,188	102,096	99,744	96,314	98,952	97,570
Denali Borough	1,838	1,806	1,766	1,797	1,824	1,850	1,917	1,887	1,902
Fairbanks North Star Borough	93,779	92,762	91,525	87,797	87,739	85,474	82,173	84,765	83,276
Southeast Fairbanks Census Area	7,243	7,159	6,992	6,749	6,474	6,144	5,923	5,945	5,907
Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area	5,603	5,673	5,744	5,845	6,059	6,276	6,301	6,355	6,485
Northern Region	23,664	23,597	23,588	23,691	23,696	23,900	23,863	23,814	23,624
Nome Census Area	9,500	9,493	9,485	9,545	9,468	9,432	9,354	9,343	9,265
North Slope Borough	6,798	6,703	6,726	6,811	6,899	7,133	7,225	7,239	7,231
Northwest Arctic Borough	7,366	7,401	7,377	7,335	7,329	7,335	7,284	7,232	7,128
Southeast Region	69,338	69,163	69,115	70,433	70,923	70,934	71,810	71,939	71,774
Haines Borough	2,286	2,322	2,264	2,252	2,225	2,271	2,335	2,373	2,383
Juneau City and Borough	30,661	30,405	30,198	30,822	31,238	31,130	31,300	31,003	30,458
Ketchikan Gateway Borough <sup>2</sup>	12,984	12,980	13,116	13,206	13,136	13,085	13,527	13,677	13,747
Prince of Wales- Outer Ketchikan Census Area <sup>3</sup>	5,392	5,358	5,310	5,481	5,513	5,570	5,592	5,682	5,816
Sitka City and Borough	8,627	8,641	8,621	8,992	8,948	8,826	8,892	8,794	8,727
Skagway-Hoonah-Angoon Census Area <sup>4</sup>	2,908	2,908	2,976	3,008	3,050	3,106	3,150	3,229	3,358
Hoonah-Angoon Census Area	2,043	2,062	2,133	2,153	2,216	2,233	2,307	2,385	2,520
Skagway Municipality	865	846	843	855	834	873	843	844	838
Wrangell-Petersburg Census Area <sup>5</sup>	5,852	5,957	6,010	6,036	6,169	6,270	6,324	6,462	6,589
Petersburg Census Area <sup>5</sup>	3,794	3,848	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wrangell City and Borough <sup>5, 6</sup>	2,058	2,109	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Yakutat City and Borough	628	592	620	636	644	676	690	719	696
Southwest Region	39,261	39,068	39,002	39,542	40,099	39,768	39,811	39,318	38,892
Aleutians East Borough	2,778	2,698	2,792	2,591	2,657	2,655	2,714	2,723	2,548
Aleutians West Census Area	4,549	4,436	4,499	4,916	5,245	5,242	5,328	5,071	5,253
Bethel Census Area	16,997	16,924	16,790	17,049	17,099	16,883	16,751	16,514	16,107
Bristol Bay Borough	967	1,027	1,032	1,058	1,176	1,101	1,103	1,163	1,173
Dillingham Census Area	4,729	4,767	4,779	4,806	4,793	4,852	4,904	4,918	4,889
Lake and Peninsula Borough	1,547	1,552	1,534	1,559	1,621	1,611	1,627	1,639	1,732
Wade Hampton Census Area	7,694	7,664	7,576	7,563	7,508	7,424	7,384	7,290	7,190

Note: All columns represent Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development estimates unless stated otherwise. All estimates are as of July 1 of that year (the average annual population for that year) unless stated otherwise.

<sup>1</sup> This period represents April 1, 2000, to June 30, 2009.

<sup>2</sup> The Ketchikan Gateway Borough annexed part of Outer Ketchikan in May 2008, adding eight people to the borough. No adjustment has been made to the 2000 population shown here for the eight people.

<sup>3</sup> The Prince of Wales-Outer Ketchikan Census Area boundary changed in May 2008 and the census area was renamed the Prince of Wales-Hyder Census Area.

<sup>4</sup> The Skagway-Hoonah-Angoon Census Area became the Skagway Municipality and Hoonah-Angoon Census Area when the Skagway Municipality was formed in June 2007.

As expected, the fastest-growing region in Alaska from 2000 to 2009 was Anchorage/Mat-Su, which gained 55,297 people, a 17.3 percent increase. Both areas within the region grew – the Mat-Su Borough (+42.1 percent) and the Municipality of Anchorage (+11.6 percent).

However, annual growth in the Mat-Su Borough from 2008 to 2009 slowed to 2.3 percent, which

was down from the average annual growth of 3.8 percent from 2000 to 2009. From 2008 to 2009, Anchorage gained 6,676 people (primarily through natural increase) and Mat-Su gained 1,885 people (mainly through net in-migration).

The Interior region gained 11,046 people from 2000 to 2009, an 11.3 percent increase. The Southeast Fairbanks Census Area (+17.3 percent)

April 1 Census 2000	April 1 Census 1990	Change			Average Annual Rate of Change			Natural Increase (Births minus- Deaths)	Net Migration (In minus Out)	Natural Increase (Births minus Deaths) <sup>1</sup>	Net Migration (In minus Out) <sup>1</sup>
		2008- 2009	2000- 2009	1990- 2000	2008- 2009	2000- 2009	1990- 2000				
626,931	550,043	10,337	65,383	76,888	1.5%	1.1%	1.3%	8,076	2,261	67,916	-2,533
319,605	266,021	8,561	55,297	53,584	2.3%	1.7%	1.8%	4,345	4,216	35,523	19,774
260,283	226,338	6,676	30,305	33,945	2.3%	1.2%	1.4%	3,492	3,184	29,102	1,203
59,322	39,683	1,885	24,992	19,639	2.3%	3.8%	4.0%	853	1,032	6,421	18,571
73,799	64,063	278	2,887	9,736	0.4%	0.4%	1.4%	593	-315	5,246	-2,359
49,691	40,802	619	3,887	8,889	1.2%	0.8%	2.0%	340	279	3,056	831
13,913	13,309	-94	-53	604	-0.7%	-0.0%	0.4%	171	-265	1,489	-1,542
10,195	9,952	-247	-947	243	-2.6%	-1.1%	0.2%	82	-329	701	-1,648
97,417	92,111	1,063	11,046	5,306	1.0%	1.2%	0.6%	1,523	-460	12,717	-1,671
1,893	1764	32	-55	129	1.8%	-0.3%	0.7%	24	8	151	-206
82,840	77,720	1,017	10,939	5,120	1.1%	1.3%	0.6%	1,356	-339	11,591	-652
6,174	5,913	84	1,069	261	1.2%	1.7%	0.4%	70	14	598	471
6,510	6,714	-70	-907	-204	-1.2%	-1.6%	-0.3%	73	-143	377	-1,284
23,789	20,380	67	-125	3,409	0.3%	-0.1%	1.5%	478	-411	3,981	-4,106
9,196	8,288	7	304	908	0.1%	0.4%	1.0%	186	-179	1,467	-1,163
7,385	5,979	95	-587	1,406	1.4%	-0.9%	2.1%	141	-46	1,237	-1,824
7,208	6,113	-35	158	1,095	-0.5%	0.2%	1.6%	151	-186	1,277	-1,119
73,082	68,989	175	-3,744	4,093	0.3%	-0.6%	0.6%	470	-295	4,560	-8,304
2,392	2,117	-36	-106	275	-1.6%	-0.5%	1.2%	2	-38	36	-142
30,711	26,751	256	-50	3,960	0.8%	-0.0%	1.4%	282	-26	2,349	-2,399
14,059	13,828	4	-1,075	231	0.0%	-0.9%	0.2%	84	-80	861	-1,936
6,157	6,278	34	-765	-121	0.6%	-1.4%	-0.2%	27	7	367	-1,132
8,835	8,588	-14	-208	247	-0.2%	-0.3%	0.3%	52	-66	606	-814
3,436	3,680	0	-528	-244	0.0%	-1.8%	-0.7%	7	-7	133	-661
2,574	2,988	-19	-531	-832	-0.9%	-2.5%	-1.5%	4	-23	—	—
862	692	19	3	154	2.2%	0.0%	2.2%	3	16	—	—
6,684	7,042	-105	-832	-358	-1.8%	-1.4%	-0.5%	8	-113	172	-1,004
4,260	—	-54	-466	—	-1.4%	-1.3%	—	-4	-50	—	—
2,451	—	-51	-393	—	-2.4%	-1.9%	—	12	-63	—	—
808	705	36	-180	103	5.9%	-2.7%	1.4%	8	28	36	-216
39,239	38,479	193	22	760	0.5%	0.0%	0.2%	667	-474	5,889	-5,867
2,697	2,464	80	81	233	2.9%	0.3%	0.9%	10	70	112	-31
5,465	9,478	113	-916	-4,013	2.5%	-2.0%	-5.4%	26	87	243	-1,159
16,046	13,656	73	951	2,390	0.4%	0.6%	1.6%	342	-269	3,110	-2,159
1,258	1,410	-60	-291	-152	-6.0%	-2.8%	-1.1%	-2	-58	59	-350
4,922	4,012	-38	-193	910	-0.8%	-0.4%	2.0%	75	-113	597	-790
1,823	1,668	-5	-276	155	-0.3%	-1.8%	0.9%	15	-20	106	-382
7,028	5,791	30	666	1,237	0.4%	1.0%	1.9%	201	-171	1,662	-996

<sup>5</sup> The Wrangell-Petersburg Census Area became the Petersburg Census Area and Wrangell City and Borough in May 2008, when the borough was incorporated. No adjustment has been made to the borough's 2000 population for the 25 people who were added when the borough was formed.

<sup>6</sup> The 2000 census population for the Petersburg Census Area and Wrangell City and Borough, when added, total more than the 2000 census population for the Wrangell-Petersburg Census Area.

Sources: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section, Demographics Unit; U.S. Census 2000, 1990

and Fairbanks North Star Borough (+13.2 percent) both had major increases in population largely due to natural increase, while the Denali Borough (-2.9 percent) and Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area (-13.9 percent) had population losses due to out-migration.

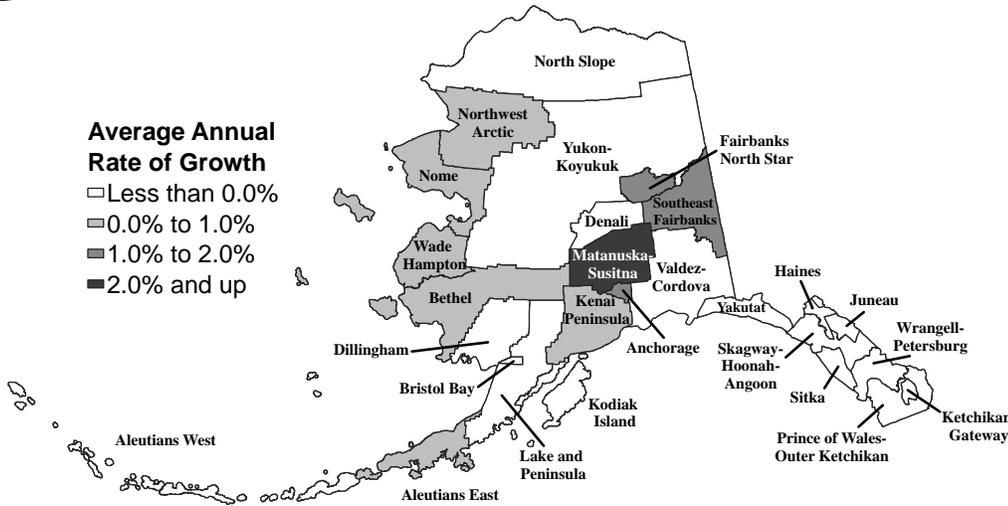
Yet, for the Interior from 2008 to 2009, only the Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area lost popula-

tion (-70 people), while the Fairbanks North Star Borough (+1,017), Southeast Fairbanks Census Area (+84) and Denali Borough (+32) all gained population.

The Gulf Coast region's population as a whole grew by 2,887 people from 2000 to 2009, a 3.9 percent increase. The increase was due to natural increase outpacing net out-migration in the

### 3 Population Growth Rates

#### Average annual growth rates, Alaska 2000 to 2009



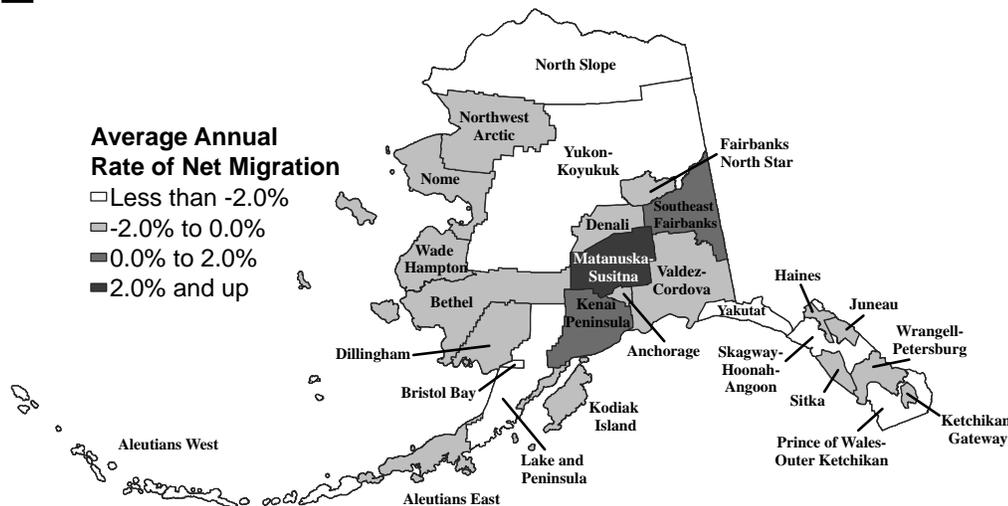
Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section, Demographics Unit

(+5,889) just surpassing net out-migration (-5,867). Only three of Southwest's seven boroughs and census areas grew – the Wade Hampton Census Area (+9.5 percent), Bethel Census Area (+5.9 percent) and Aleutians East Borough (+3.0 percent) – and the growth was due to natural increase.

That trend was similar during the 2008 to 2009 period, with the Aleutians West Census Area (+113 people), Aleutians East Borough (+80), Bethel Census Area (+73) and Wade Hampton Census Area (+30) growing. The remainder of the region declined in population due to net-out migration.

### 4 Migration Rates

#### Average annual net migration, Alaska 2000 to 2009



Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section, Demographics Unit

The Northern region declined slightly from 2000 to 2009, losing 125 people, a 0.5 percent decrease, due to out-migration overtaking natural increase. The region's Nome Census Area (+3.3 percent) and Northwest Arctic Borough (+2.2 percent) increased in population. The North Slope Borough lost a significant portion of its population (-7.9 percent)

Kenai Peninsula Borough. The Valdez-Cordova Census Area (-9.3 percent) and Kodiak Island Borough (-0.4 percent) declined in population and only the Kenai Peninsula Borough (+7.8 percent) grew.

That trend held true from 2008 to 2009, with the Valdez-Cordova Census Area (-247 people) and Kodiak Island Borough (-94) losing population and the Kenai Peninsula Borough (+619) growing.

The Southwest region experienced nearly stagnant growth from 2000 to 2009, gaining only 22 people, a 0.1 percent increase, with natural increase

through out-migration.

That trend changed in 2008 to 2009, with the North Slope Borough gaining the most people (+95) due to natural increase. The Nome Census Area only gained seven people; the Northwest Arctic Borough lost 35 people due to net out-migration.

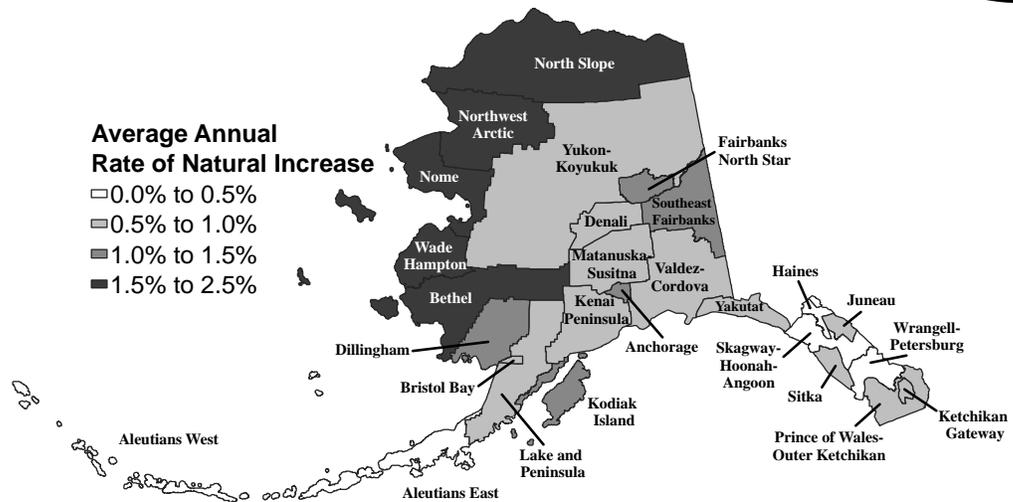
Finally, the region with the greatest decline as a whole from 2000 to 2009 was Southeast. It lost 3,744 people, a 5.1 percent decline, due to net out-migration. Only the Skagway Municipality gained population (+0.3 percent), though not

enough to be considered significant.

However, from 2008 to 2009, Juneau (+256 people), Yakutat (+36), the Prince of Wales-Outer Ketchikan Census Area (+34), Skagway (+19) and the Ketchikan Gateway Borough (+4) had population gains. Out-migration was the driver behind the declining population throughout the remainder of the region, partly due to an aging population.

## Natural Increase 5

### Average annual rates of natural increase, Alaska 2000 to 2009



Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section, Demographics Unit

## Places

The lowest level of population estimates released by the Alaska Department of Labor for 2009 is place estimates. A place is an incorporated city (municipalities and city-boroughs fall into this category), Census Designated Place (a closely settled unincorporated population center) or an Alaska Native Village Statistical Area (the settled area associated with each Alaska Native Village).

Looking at the number of places with populations of more than 2,000, there were five more on the list in 2009 (41 total) than in 2000 (36 total). Twenty-three were incorporated as of 2009. (See Exhibit 6.)

In 2009, 54.2 percent of the state's population was in the Anchorage/Mat-Su region (374,902), up from 51.0 percent in 2000. Not surprisingly, half the state's dozen most-populous places were in the Anchorage-Mat-Su region – the Municipality of Anchorage (290,588), Knik-Fairview CDP (13,824), Lakes CDP (8,388), Tanaina CDP (7,407), Meadow Lakes CDP (7,319) and Wasilla city (7,245). If they were incorporated, four places in the Mat-Su Borough would be larger than Wasilla city, and Knik-Fairview would become the fourth-largest city in the state.

Fourteen places with populations of more than 2,000 had average annual growth rates above 2.0 percent for the 2000 to 2009 period: the Knik-Fairview CDP (+6.0 percent), Fishhook CDP

(+4.5 percent), Meadow Lakes CDP (+3.8 percent), Deltana CDP (+3.7 percent), Tanaina CDP (+3.6 percent), Homer city (+3.1 percent), North Pole city (+3.1 percent), Gateway CDP (+2.9 percent), Willow CDP (+2.7 percent), Wasilla city (+2.6 percent), Kalifornsky CDP (+2.3 percent), Butte CDP (+2.2 percent), Big Lake CDP (+2.2 percent) and Lakes CDP (+2.1 percent).

All but four of the 14 rapidly growing places are in the Mat-Su Borough. The remaining four are throughout the state – the Kalifornsky CDP and Homer city are in the Kenai Peninsula Borough, the Deltana CDP is in the Southeast Fairbanks Census Area and North Pole city is in the Fairbanks North Star Borough. While most of the four are growing due to natural increase, net immigration or both, Homer experienced a large increase in population mostly due to the 2002 annexation of significant portions of the Diamond Ridge CDP and Miller Landing CDP.

Thirteen places with populations greater than 2,000 had either stagnant or negative average annual growth rates for the 2000 to 2009 period. They include Eielson Air Force Base CDP (-5.6 percent), Wrangell City and Borough (-1.6 percent), Unalaska city (-1.5 percent), Valdez city (-1.4 percent), Cordova city (-1.3 percent), Barrow city (-1.0 percent), Dillingham city (-0.8 percent), Seward city (-0.8 percent), Petersburg city (-0.7 percent), Ketchikan city (-0.5 percent), Sitka City

# 6 Places with More than 2,000 People Alaska, 2000 to 2009

	Vintage 2009 Population Estimates										April 1, 2000 Census	Change 2000 to 2009	Average Annual Rate of Change, 2000 to 2009
	2009 Estimate	2008 Estimate	2007 Estimate	2006 Estimate	2005 Estimate	2004 Estimate	2003 Estimate	2002 Estimate	2001 Estimate	2000 Estimate			
Alaska	692,314	681,977	676,056	671,202	664,334	657,483	647,884	640,643	632,200	626,931	65,383	0.92%	
Anchorage, Municipality of	290,588	283,912	282,968	283,348	278,407	277,880	273,069	267,860	264,886	260,283	30,305	1.02%	
Fairbanks city	32,506	31,450	31,801	30,189	31,115	30,109	28,929	29,778	29,521	30,224	2,282	0.67%	
Juneau City and Borough	30,661	30,405	30,198	30,822	31,238	31,130	31,300	31,003	30,458	30,711	-50	-0.02%	
Knik-Fairview CDP	13,824	13,103	12,304	11,385	10,280	9,260	8,561	8,001	7,639	7,049	6,775	6.00%	
College CDP	12,552	12,616	12,180	12,136	12,215	12,161	12,057	11,938	12,054	11,402	1,150	0.89%	
Sitka City and Borough	8,627	8,641	8,621	8,992	8,948	8,826	8,892	8,794	8,727	8,835	-208	-0.22%	
Lakes CDP	8,388	8,308	8,103	7,975	7,764	7,480	7,043	6,927	6,814	6,706	1,682	2.06%	
Ketchikan city	7,503	7,502	7,644	7,641	7,687	7,713	7,979	8,374	8,458	7,922	-419	-0.50%	
Kalifornsky CDP	7,495	7,394	7,151	6,995	6,835	6,644	6,249	6,160	6,017	5,846	1,649	2.29%	
Tanaina CDP	7,407	7,254	7,127	7,016	6,633	6,298	5,861	5,601	5,263	4,993	2,414	3.60%	
Meadow Lakes CDP	7,319	7,179	6,841	6,535	6,386	5,951	5,577	5,309	5,040	4,819	2,500	3.81%	
Wasilla city	7,245	6,932	6,927	6,486	6,372	6,146	6,381	5,949	5,516	5,469	1,776	2.58%	
Kenai city	7,115	7,068	6,913	6,797	6,779	6,845	7,130	7,077	6,888	6,942	173	0.23%	
Kodiak city	6,626	6,541	5,796	5,670	6,139	6,210	6,109	6,100	6,073	6,334	292	0.42%	
Bethel city <sup>1</sup>	5,803	5,649	5,634	5,810	5,963	5,872	5,885	5,740	5,463	5,471	332	0.54%	
Homer city <sup>2</sup>	5,551	5,385	5,454	5,442	5,402	5,355	5,878	5,536	4,070	3,946	1,605	3.13%	
Palmer city	5,532	5,395	5,417	5,444	5,308	5,221	5,261	4,837	4,581	4,533	999	1.84%	
Sterling CDP	5,348	5,179	5,132	5,059	4,988	4,924	4,879	4,781	4,756	4,705	643	1.18%	
Nikiski CDP	4,465	4,413	4,333	4,212	4,196	4,293	4,352	4,362	4,363	4,327	138	0.29%	
Barrow city <sup>1</sup>	4,119	4,051	4,036	4,069	4,180	4,369	4,412	4,436	4,443	4,581	-462	-0.98%	
Gateway CDP	4,068	4,121	4,007	3,862	3,687	3,564	3,299	3,216	3,120	2,952	1,116	2.94%	
Soldotna city	4,021	3,926	3,898	3,762	3,800	3,778	4,001	3,851	3,792	3,759	262	0.62%	
Unalaska city <sup>1</sup>	3,662	3,549	3,652	4,028	4,299	4,363	4,370	4,035	4,248	4,283	-621	-1.45%	
Valdez city	3,475	3,628	3,580	3,675	3,754	3,719	3,897	3,952	3,825	4,036	-561	-1.38%	
Nome city	3,468	3,565	3,481	3,541	3,512	3,481	3,412	3,482	3,485	3,505	-37	-0.10%	
Fishhook CDP	3,337	3,308	3,087	2,947	2,798	2,644	2,350	2,243	2,191	2,030	1,307	4.51%	
Big Lake CDP	3,331	3,198	3,147	3,083	2,985	2,929	2,889	2,706	2,614	2,635	696	2.16%	
Butte CDP	3,255	3,225	3,198	3,203	3,115	2,976	2,921	2,785	2,737	2,561	694	2.21%	
Kotzebue city <sup>1</sup>	3,154	3,124	3,121	3,105	3,123	3,142	3,068	3,075	3,059	3,082	72	0.21%	
Petersburg city	2,973	3,010	3,042	3,125	3,156	3,132	3,080	3,157	3,225	3,224	-251	-0.75%	
Eielson Air Force Base CDP	2,896	3,187	4,252	4,380	4,555	4,680	4,433	5,841	5,151	5,400	-2,504	-5.58%	
Seward city	2,609	2,561	2,649	2,593	2,598	2,544	2,744	2,755	2,758	2,830	-221	-0.75%	
Deltana CDP	2,355	2,265	2,194	1,929	1,903	1,741	1,707	1,669	1,652	1,570	785	3.70%	
Dillingham city <sup>1</sup>	2,264	2,335	2,404	2,405	2,371	2,407	2,385	2,468	2,461	2,466	-202	-0.79%	
Willow CDP	2,218	2,136	2,046	1,964	1,898	1,863	1,814	1,719	1,667	1,658	560	2.67%	
North Pole city	2,200	2,207	1,977	1,648	1,601	1,530	1,602	1,601	1,469	1,570	630	3.09%	
Cordova city (includes Eyak <sup>1</sup> )	2,126	2,155	2,180	2,236	2,292	2,300	2,291	2,302	2,382	2,454	-328	-1.32%	
Wrangell City and Borough	2,058	2,109	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2451	-393	-1.61%	
Ridgeway CDP	2,050	2,007	1,981	1,972	2,063	2,060	2,020	1,969	1,962	1,932	118	0.55%	
Ester CDP	2,034	1,967	2,034	1,937	1,858	1,817	1,804	1,825	1,704	1,680	354	1.76%	
Bear Creek CDP	2,009	2,034	1,951	1,946	1,901	1,906	1,829	1,833	1,836	1,748	261	1.29%	

Notes:  
The U.S. Census Bureau provided the census numbers.  
All estimates represent July 1 of that year unless stated otherwise, and all estimates are Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development estimates.  
CDP is an abbreviation for Census Designated Place.

<sup>1</sup> Alaska Native Village Statistical Area

<sup>2</sup> Homer had a substantial annexation in 2002.

Sources: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section, Demographics Unit; U.S. Census Bureau (Census 2000)

and Borough (-0.2 percent), Nome city (-0.1 percent) and Juneau City and Borough (0.0 percent).

When studying all of Alaska's 352 places, especially those outside of the Anchorage/Mat-Su region, the majority aren't experiencing any growth or are declining. Of the 352 places, 192 (54.5 percent) had either no growth from 2000 to 2009 or declined in population.

*Population estimates are available on Research and Analysis' Web site at laborstats.alaska.gov. Click on "Population & Census" on the left and pull down to "Estimates & Projections." Then, toward the middle of the page, click on "Alaska Population Estimates 2000-2009," and then "Vintage 2009 Estimates."*