

Per Capita Income

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How it stacks up in Alaska in 1997 and 1998

The U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, recently released 1998 personal income statistics for Alaska. Total personal income in Alaska in 1998 was

estimated at \$15.7 billion, which translated into a statewide per capita income of \$25,675.¹ Alaska's per capita income grew at a 2.8% rate in 1998, the fifth-slowest growth rate among the 50 states. Nationally, per capita income grew at a 4.4% rate; the nation's per capita income was \$26,412. Alaska ranked 20th among the 50 states in per capita income. (See Exhibit 4.) As has been the case throughout much of the last 20 years, slower earnings growth was the primary reason for Alaska's slower per capita income growth.

1 Per Capita Personal Income Alaska and Regions – 1997

	1997	1996	1995
United States	\$25,288	\$24,164	\$23,059
State of Alaska	24,969	24,310	23,971
Bristol Bay Borough	33,769	33,321	35,590
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	30,396	29,899	30,048
Anchorage Municipality	29,765	28,690	27,845
Haines Borough	29,190	29,346	28,526
Juneau Borough	28,811	28,479	28,114
Valdez-Cordova C.A.	26,743	25,864	25,177
Denali Borough	25,467	24,198	22,464
Sitka Borough	24,995	24,866	23,865
North Slope Borough	23,725	24,331	24,654
Yakutat Borough	23,620	21,983	22,854
Aleutians West C.A.	23,522	28,268	28,220
Wrangell-Petersburg C.A.	23,503	22,952	23,301
Dillingham C.A.	23,292	22,219	22,049
Kenai Peninsula Borough	23,143	22,826	22,824
Aleutians East Borough	21,851	21,479	21,412
Skagway/Hoonah/Angoon	21,729	20,902	20,646
Fairbanks North Star Bor.	21,417	20,643	20,660
Kodiak Island Borough	20,149	19,472	19,630
Southeast Fairbanks C.A.	19,870	19,069	18,444
Northwest Arctic Borough	19,083	18,063	17,643
Nome Census Area	18,383	17,557	17,274
Lake & Peninsula Borough	17,889	17,081	16,518
Yukon-Koyukuk C.A.	17,826	17,706	18,094
P.O.W.-Outer Ketchikan C.A.	16,953	16,245	17,153
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	16,769	16,794	16,855
Bethel Census Area	15,752	15,138	15,249
Wade Hampton C.A.	11,169	10,538	9,884

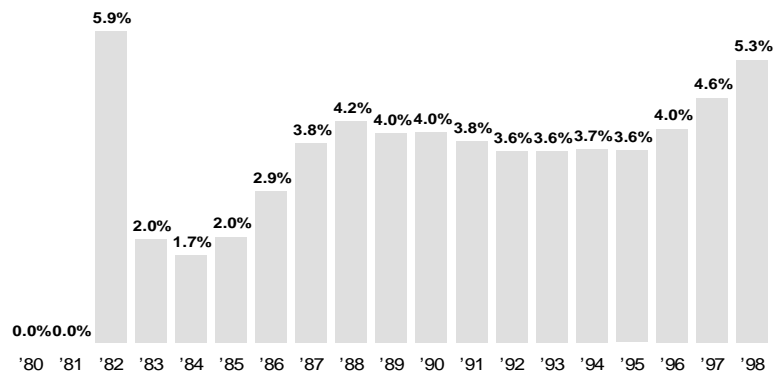
C.A. = Census Area

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis

Bristol Bay Borough posts highest per capita income in Alaska

Released concurrently with the 1998 state estimates were the 1997 personal income estimates at the county level. The Bristol Bay Borough's per capita income for 1997 of \$33,769 ranked as the highest in the state. Seven of Alaska's 27 areas had per capita incomes higher than the national average. Wade Hampton Census Area's per capita income of \$11,169 was just 44% of the national average and 45% of the state's average. (See Exhibit 1.)

PFD Share of Income Grows 2 PFD's percent of per capita income



Sources: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis; Alaska Department of Revenue, Permanent Fund Division; Alaska Department of Labor, Research and Analysis Section

Per Capita Income and the PFD

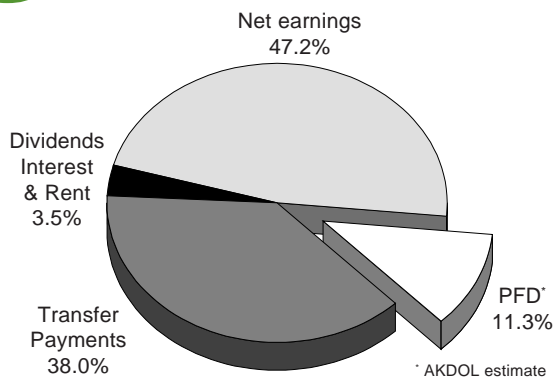
Since 1982, most Alaskans have enjoyed an income boost from the distribution of the Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend (PFD). Steady growth in the dividend, particularly its sharp growth during the past three years, has meant that Alaskans have experienced an increasing income boost from dividend distribution. When the dividend program started, it provided about a two percent increase in Alaska's per capita personal income. Since 1993, the dividend's contribution to per capita income has grown from about three percent to more than five percent. (See Exhibit 2.)

In some areas of Alaska, such as the Wade Hampton Census Area, the impact of the dividend on per capita income is much more profound. In 1997 it is estimated that the dividend accounted for more than 11 percent of Wade Hampton's per capita income.² (See Exhibit 3.) Other demographic factors, such as average household size, also contribute to an area's reliance on the dividend. The average household size of 4.16 persons in Wade Hampton meant that the 1998 dividend accounted for an average of more than \$6,400 in income per household. This compares to the statewide average of about \$4,170 per household.

¹ Per capita income is measured by dividing the total personal income in the state by the state's total population.

² For estimates for other census areas, see web site.

3 PFD is 11% of Income In Wade Hampton – 1997



Sources: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis; Alaska Department of Revenue, Permanent Fund Division; Alaska Department of Labor, Research and Analysis Section

State Per Capita Personal Income Ranked by 1998 estimate

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Rank		1998	1997	1996	1995	1994
	United States	\$26,412	\$25,288	\$24,164	\$23,059	\$22,056
1	Connecticut	\$37,598	\$35,863	\$33,979	\$32,073	\$30,310
2	New Jersey	33,937	32,356	30,892	29,568	28,333
3	Massachusetts	32,797	31,239	29,591	28,097	26,433
4	New York	31,734	30,250	29,015	27,587	26,242
5	Maryland	29,943	28,674	27,298	26,141	25,329
6	Delaware	29,814	28,493	27,125	25,603	24,465
7	New Hampshire	29,022	27,766	26,418	25,313	24,119
8	Illinois	28,873	27,688	26,393	25,135	23,956
9	Colorado	28,657	27,015	25,627	24,304	23,019
10	Washington	27,961	26,451	24,958	23,677	22,687
11	Minnesota	27,510	26,243	25,235	23,736	22,802
12	California	27,503	26,314	25,142	23,983	22,953
13	Virginia	27,385	26,109	24,950	23,943	23,031
14	Nevada	27,200	26,514	25,877	24,541	23,391
15	Rhode Island	26,797	25,667	24,356	23,520	22,315
16	Pennsylvania	26,792	25,670	24,533	23,268	22,343
17	Hawaii	26,137	25,598	25,086	24,848	24,090
18	Michigan	25,857	24,956	23,996	23,407	22,338
19	Florida	25,852	24,799	23,834	22,676	21,761
20	Alaska	25,675	24,969	24,310	23,971	23,417
21	Ohio	25,134	24,163	23,054	22,217	21,237
22	Wisconsin	25,079	24,048	22,987	21,960	21,012
23	Georgia	25,020	23,882	22,900	21,696	20,632
24	Kansas	24,981	23,972	22,707	21,481	20,638
25	Texas	24,957	23,707	22,345	21,320	20,312
26	Oregon	24,766	23,920	22,894	21,618	20,508
27	Nebraska	24,754	23,618	22,847	21,029	20,365
28	Missouri	24,427	23,629	22,586	21,540	20,576
29	Indiana	24,219	23,202	22,234	21,427	20,734
30	Vermont	24,175	23,017	22,179	21,246	20,196
31	North Carolina	24,036	23,168	22,053	20,996	19,920
32	Iowa	23,925	23,120	22,032	20,412	19,964
33	Tennessee	23,559	22,699	21,800	21,109	20,088
34	Wyoming	23,167	22,596	21,524	20,685	19,865
35	Arizona	23,060	21,998	21,071	20,078	19,127
36	Maine	22,952	21,937	20,948	19,995	19,190
37	South Dakota	22,114	21,076	20,450	18,724	18,568
38	North Dakota	21,675	20,103	20,197	18,149	18,156
39	Kentucky	21,506	20,570	19,475	18,601	17,872
40	Alabama	21,442	20,672	19,838	19,041	18,163
41	Louisiana	21,346	20,458	19,609	18,826	18,086
42	South Carolina	21,309	20,508	19,651	18,789	17,914
43	Idaho	21,081	20,392	19,741	18,961	18,186
44	Oklahoma	21,072	20,305	19,342	18,544	17,984
45	Utah	21,019	20,185	19,214	18,054	17,004
46	Arkansas	20,346	19,595	18,808	17,934	17,090
47	Montana	20,172	19,660	18,872	18,286	17,590
48	New Mexico	19,936	19,298	18,634	18,029	17,150
49	West Virginia	19,362	18,724	18,116	17,441	16,948
50	Mississippi	18,958	18,098	17,398	16,574	15,886

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis