The Economic Value of

ALASKA'S SEAFOOD

Alaska's annual wild seafood harvest of **5 to 6 billion pounds** produces significant economic benefits for Alaska communities, businesses and thousands of Alaskans.



In 2017-2018:

Alaska's commercial fisheries employed **29,400 fishermen** on average, including **16,319 Alaska residents**.

Ex-vessel value amounted to **\$2 billion** on average.

Seafood processing accounted for **70%** of manufacturing employment, making it the largest manufacturing sector in Alaska.

Processing companies employed nearly **26,000** workers, including **7,300** Alaska residents (2018).

\$4.7 billion worth of seafood products (first wholesale value).

The seafood industry directly employed **58,700** people in 2018 – more than any other private sector industry in Alaska – and created an additional **10,900** secondary jobs.

REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT IMPACTS

2017-2018 Average

Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim
3,200 1,000

Southcentral 11,500 7,300 WORKERS FTE JOBS

Bristol Bay 13,500 5,100 WORKERS FTE JOBS

> Kodiak 6,100 5,800

Southeast 10,700 8,000

BSAI 13,700 10,500 WORKERS FTE JOBS

ECONOMICS OF ALASKA'S SEAFOOD INDUSTRY

\$5.6 billion

Total annual economic activity created by the seafood industry in Alaska (2017-2018 average).

\$172 million

Total annual state, municipal, and federal taxes, fees, and self-assessments paid by commercial fishermen and seafood processors to operate in Alaska in 2018.

\$2.1 billion

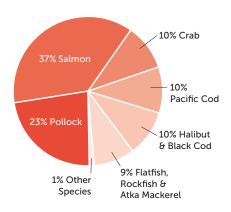
Annual labor income generated by the seafood industry in Alaska (2017-2018 average).

58,700

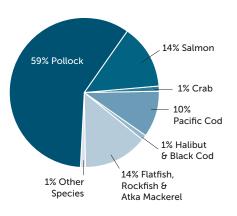
Number of workers directly employed in Alaska's seafood industry (2017-2018 average).

This handout was prepared for the Pacific Seafood Processors Association and the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute by Little Bird Design Studio, Anchorage, AK. Sources for the data and findings in this handout come from The Economic Value of Alaska's Seafood Industry report, prepared by McDowell Group for the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute in January 2020. The report can be downloaded at www.alaskaseafood.org.

VALUE BY SPECIES



Percent of Ex-Vessel Value



Percent of Volume

VALUE BY MARKET

The U.S. is the largest single market for Alaska seafood.

However, a wide diversity of markets is key to seafood value and resiliency. Alaska seafood is exported directly to more than 97 countries, accounting for over \$3 billion in sales, or two thirds of total value, each year. Thus, foreign market development and fair and open trade policies are critical to Alaska's seafood industry.

VALUE TRENDS



First Wholesale Value (Billion Dollars)

FACTORS AFFECTING VALUE

The value of Alaska's seafood production is a function of many factors, including:

- Wild fish stock fluctuations and ecosystem health
- Trade policies (market access and tariffs)
- Alaska volumes and competing global supply (Alaska produces 2% of global seafood supply)
- Exchange rates and strength of the U.S. dollar
- Marketing (creating demand for Alaska products)
- Input costs
- Production innovation and efficiency



IMPACTS, INVESTMENT AND GENERATING LONG-TERM VALUE

Alaska's wild, sustainable commercial fisheries have produced over 181 billion pounds since statehood. This is worth an estimated \$187 billion in 2018 dollars.

Maintaining or increasing value requires significant industry investment in marketing, product development, and infrastructure in Alaska, as well as in the management system that is the foundation of our long-term health. Managing sustainable, productive fisheries requires a commitment to and investment in data collection, research, and in-season management, which comes at a cost. It is essential that the state of Alaska and the seafood industry continue to partner to maximize the socio-economic benefits of Alaska seafood; even a 5% decline in commercial seafood value equates to \$285 million less in instate economic activity.



