



What Kind Of People Live In Alaska?

Description

Alaska (><) Philippines Connection 7

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The Problem is the USA Nuclear Arsenal in Alaska—and independent-minded people who live here...

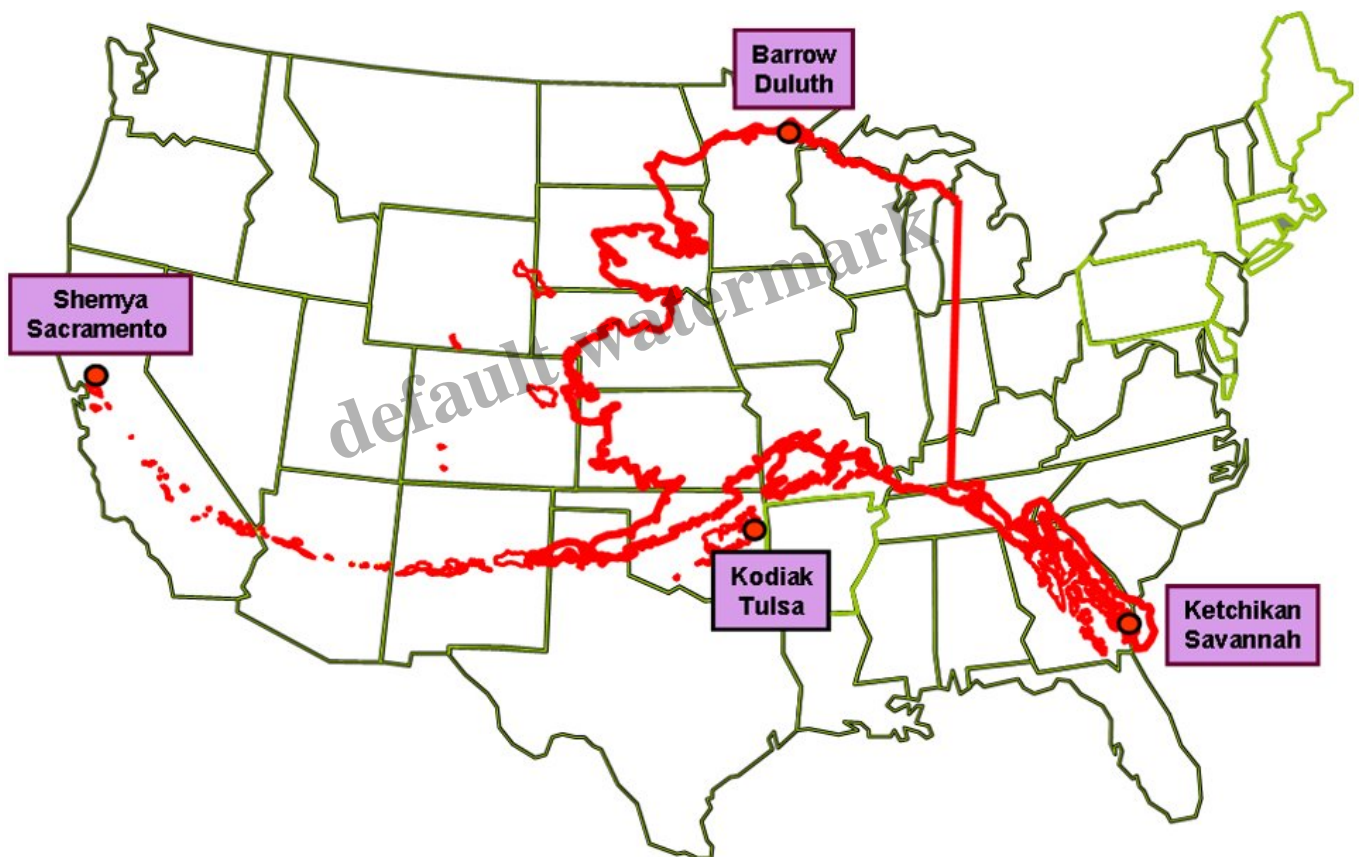
After more than 60 years living in Alaska, I have seen a lot of people come and go and observed what kinds of people are likely to stay. In the 2020 census Alaska was ranked the least densely populated state with 733,391 people over 586,000 square miles of land. This represented an increase of only 23,160 people over the 2010 census.

The next largest state of the USA in area is Texas with 261,232 sq mi. and 29.53M people.

[1]Alaska census, 2020

The Men That Don't Fit In
BY ROBERT SERVICE

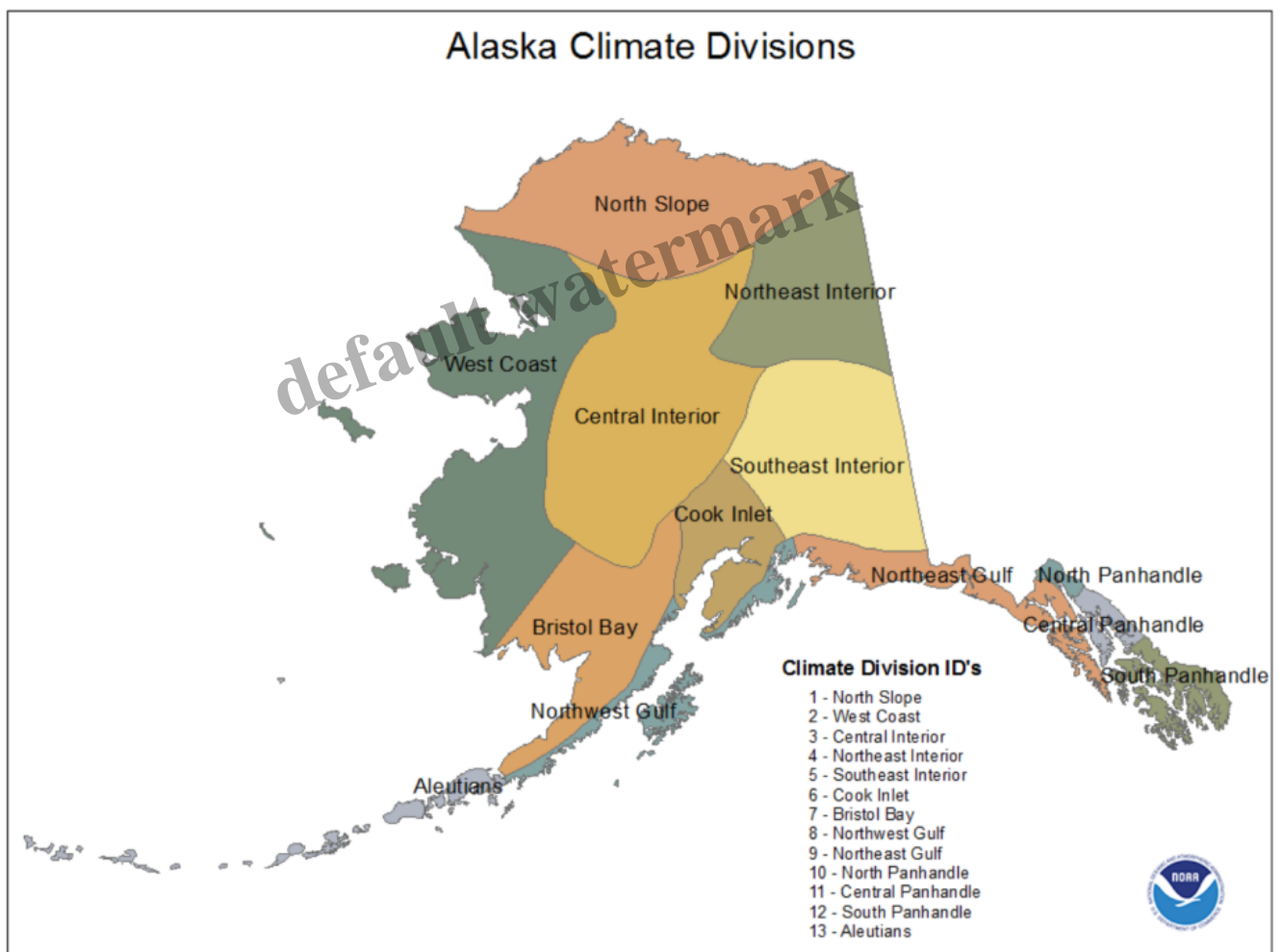
*There's a race of men who don't fit in,
A race that can't stay still;
So they break the hearts of kith and kin
And they roam the world at will.
They range the field and they rove the flood,
And they climb the mountain's crest;
Theirs us the curse f the gypsy blood,
And they don't know how to rest.*



Alaska is one-fifth the size of the continental USA.

But the fact is it takes a special kind of person to live in the **Alaska Climate Zone** and often people come here to live for the wrong reasons. We who have lived here a long time know how to prepare for winter conditions, and adapt to the challenges of short summers with long days, followed by long winter nights, keeping warm, and driving in icy conditions.

*If they just went straight they might go far;
They are strong and brave and true;
But they're always tired of the things that are,
And they want the strange and new.
They say: "Could I find my proper groove,
What a deep mark I would make!"
So they chop and change, and each fresh move
Is only a fresh mistake.*



People living in other places may look at Alaska's inflated economy and think this is a place to get rich quickly and go home to live happily ever after. Or, some may come here thinking with such a small population they may expect to be successful in their chosen field because they are confident of their skills and certain they will be appreciated. There are myriad other reasons some people decide to come to Alaska to live and more often than not the reasons have to do with getting away from a situation they have created for themselves somewhere else thinking Alaska is far enough away to start

fresh. I have seen a lot of people come to Alaska for the wrong reasons and have to leave after a relatively short time.

The BEST reason to come to Alaska is to work in a specialized field of demand for top pay. Before deciding to move here it would be prudent to check out whether our schools and government infrastructure are at a level worthy of your investment. I have known a lot of quality professionals who come here and are able to make a good life for themselves and their families because they can earn enough to override our inherent inflation—caused by cost of shipping so many items from somewhere else. I have written about this before. Anyone considering moving to Alaska should also read this story.

[2]Job Considerations to Stay in Alaska

What Anchorage purchasing power would be elsewhere

If you earn \$70k in Anchorage, here is what you'd need to earn in these cities to have the same standard of living.

California	San Francisco	\$98,784.53
	Los Angeles	\$83,259.67
	Sacramento	\$65,580.11
Texas	Dallas	\$56,629.83
	Austin	\$55,801.10
	Houston	\$50,883.98
Washington	Seattle	\$82,817.68
	Olympia	\$62,872.93
	Spokane	\$56,961.33
Florida	Miami	\$66,629.83
	Orlando	\$57,900.55
	Tallahassee	\$52,762.43

Notes: These are the top four states that exchange movers with Alaska. Yearly earnings are after taxes.

Sources: Internal Revenue Service Gross Migration to Alaska by State; and The Council for Community and Economic Research

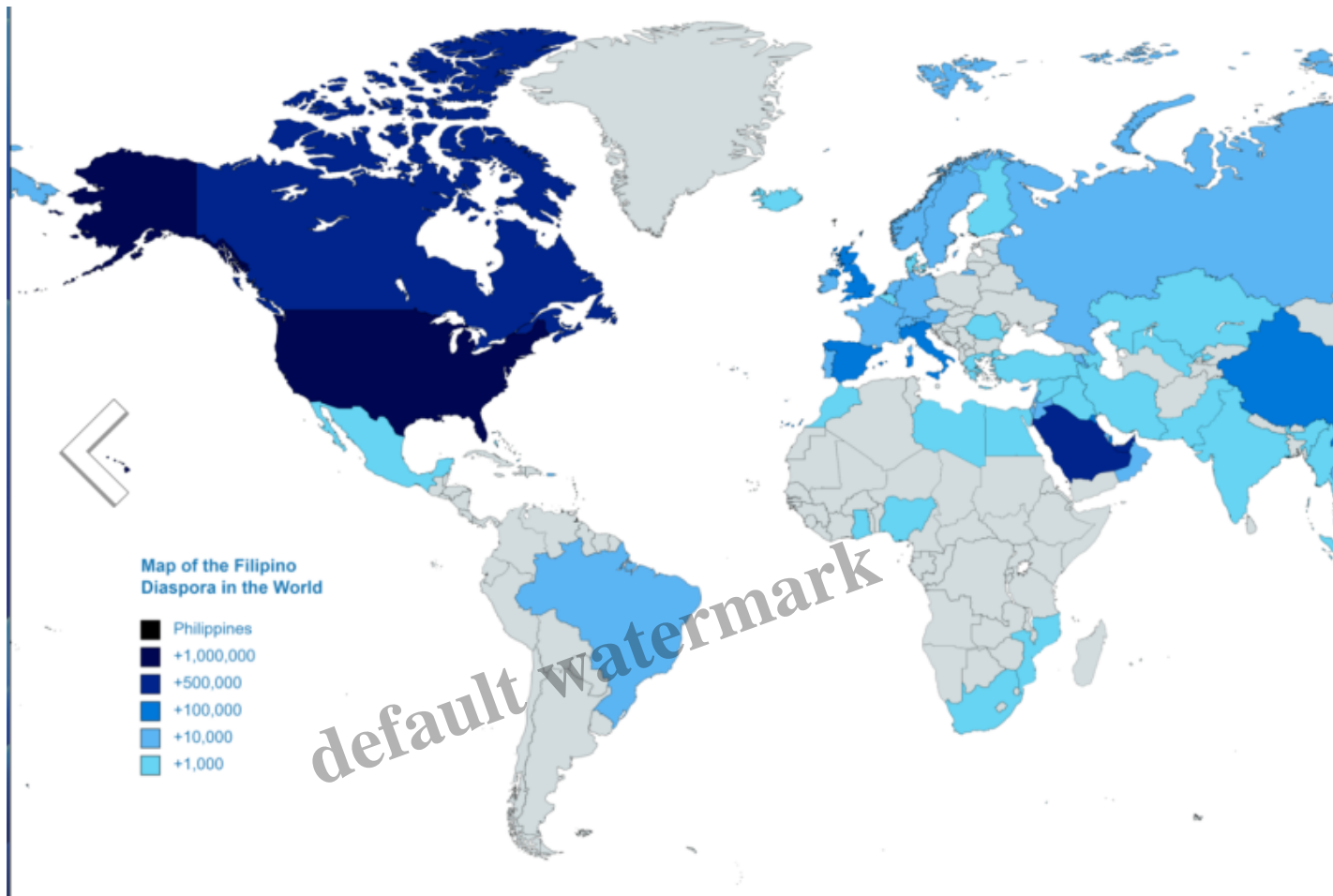
Many Filipinos also come to Alaska for economic opportunity. They represent the largest Asian population in Alaska and have a strong presence in Juneau, the **Capital of Alaska**, where a statue of **Jose Rizal** has been placed in **Manila Square** in recognition of the significant contribution of Filipino people to Alaska.

[3]Filipino Community, Inc.

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Distribution of Persons of Filipino descent Around the World



[4] *'Alaskeros': Pinoys in Alaska, the original overseas Filipino workers, The Philippine Star.*

There are an estimated 114 Million Filipinos in the Philippines and another estimated 1.77 million **Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW)** who reside in another country for a limited period of employment. Money sent home to Philippines by OFW is a major source of income for the country's economy and a tribute to the quality workers originating from Philippines.

[5] Overseas Filipino Worker, Wikipedia

Anyone coming to Alaska to live will soon recognize the unique lifestyle of this most northern state of the USA. Our economy is based on natural resource development and government service employment. Many service jobs, such as those in the tourism industry, are mostly seasonal and inadequate to support a family. Our economy is too volatile to expect a quality life without career employment skills.

Alaska hit a 41-year high of 8.1 Percent Inflation in 2022

From the **Alaska Department of Labor**. Last year's inflation rate also tied for the fifth-highest in the 61-year history of Alaska's consumer price index. The four highest years were in the 1970s and early 1980s during a period known nationally as *The Great Inflation*. That era of persistent, rapid price

growth included Alaska's historical peak of 13.7 percent in 1975 during the construction of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline

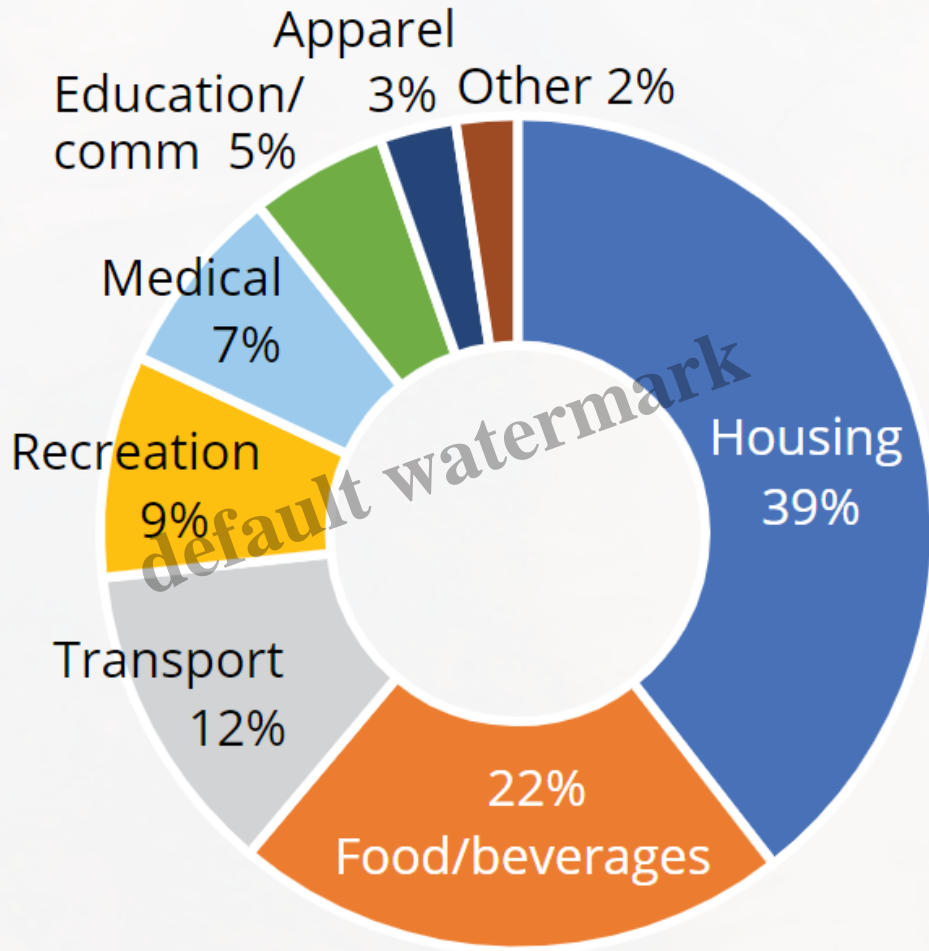
I was a reporter for the **Anchorage Daily News** and remember well the rush for high-pay Alaska jobs associated with construction of the pipeline and oil rush fever. Further inflated Cost-Of-Living could happen again anytime with a transportation breakdown catastrophe between Alaska and Seattle.

*And each forgets, as he strips and runs
With a brilliant, fitful pace,
It's the steady, quiet, plodding ones
Who win in the lifelong race.
And each forgets that his youth has fled,
Forgets that his prime is past,
Till he stands one day, with a hope that's dead,
In the glare of the truth at last.*
[6] **Alaska Department of Labor**, Trends Magazine

According to this report from the **AK Labor**, Transportation prices rose the most last year while food, beverages and housing also rose precipitously. Due to Alaska's volatile economy it is foolhardy to come here expecting to stay very long without some form of support system or at least a guaranteed job. But the good news is by April of 2023 inflation in Alaska had dropped back to 3.1 Percent.

What Alaskans Buy

Where urban Alaskans spent their money, 2022



Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

The Railbelt Population Center of Alaska

The majority of Alaska population is located along what is called the **Alaska Railroad Railbelt** from the **Port of Alaska** at the largest city of Anchorage, to semi-urban communities of Kenai, Matanuska-Susitna Borough, and Fairbanks.

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States CBSAs Counties

Change State: Alaska

Alaska

Click a value below to change the map and table.

Total Population (2020): 733,391	Housing Units (2020): 326,200
Numeric Change in Population (2010-2020): 23,160	Housing Unit Vacancy Rate (2020): 17.5%
Percent Change in Population (2010-2020): 3.3%	Percent Change in Housing Units (2010-2020): 6.3%

Population Density in Alaska Counties: 2020



Alaska Counties (Ranked by 2020 total population)

1. Anchorage Municipality	291,247
2. Matanuska-Susitna Borough	107,081
3. Fairbanks North Star Borough	95,655
4. Kenai Peninsula Borough	58,799
5. Juneau City and Borough	32,255
6. Bethel Census Area	10,000

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*He has failed, he has failed; he has missed his chance;
He has just done things by half.
Life's been a jolly good joke on him,
And now is the time to laugh.
Ha, ha! He is one of the Legion Lost;
He was never meant to win;
He's a rolling stone, and it's bred in the bone;
He's a man who won't fit in.*

It has been said that becoming an Alaskan may make a person unfit to live anywhere else. After 60 Alaska winters this writer is lately undergoing rehabilitation for that condition, in Philippines...

Another story you might enjoy: Celebrating Rizal on My Birthday:
<https://donnliston907.substack.com/p/celebrating-rizal-on-my-birthday>

See what other blasphemies are being said about Alaska to readers of DONN's GROWING **International Platform**:

PostCards from Philippines (What I did this Winter!)



Sign-Up for DONN's International Website [HERE!](#)

DonnListon907.Substack.com

References:

[1]Alaska census

<https://www.census.gov/library/stories/state-by-state/alaska-population-change-between-census-decade.html>

[2]Filipino Community Inc,

<http://www.filcomalaska.org/>

[3]Job Considerations to Stay in Alaska

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[4] ‘Alaskeros’:Pinoys in Alaska, the original overseas Filipino workers.

<https://philstarlife.com/living/812040-pinoys-in-alaska-the-original-ofws>

[5]Overseas Filipino Worker, Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Overseas_Filipino_Worker

During the Presidency of [Ferdinand Marcos](#), three government agencies were created to tend to the needs of Filipino migrant workers, namely:

1. National Seamen Board (NSB) : To “develop and maintain a comprehensive program for Filipino seamen employed overseas”.
2. Overseas Employment Development Board (OEDB) – To “promote the overseas employment of Filipino workers through a comprehensive market and development program”.
3. Bureau of Employment Services (BES) – responsible for the regulation of “private sector participation in the recruitment of (local and overseas) workers”.

In 1982, these three agencies were consolidated to create the [Philippine Overseas Employment Administration](#) (POEA), which later became an attached agency to the [Department of Labor and Employment](#).^[4] On December 30, 2021, then-President Duterte signed into law the “[Department of Migrant Workers Act](#)” (Republic Act 11641), which consolidates all OFW-related services into one department.^[8] The new [Department of Migrant Workers](#) is slated to be operational by 2023.^[9]

[6]Alaska Department of Labor, Trends Magazine

<https://live.laborstats.alaska.gov/trends-magazine/2023/July/the-cost-of-living-in-alaska>

[7]Alaska Land Ownership

Fact Sheet



Title: Land Ownership In Alaska

Current land ownership in Alaska can be traced back to three main events in the state's history:

- ◆ Russian traders arrived in Alaska in the mid-1700's and established small, scattered trading settlements. Alaska Natives (the Eskimo, Indian, and Aleut peoples) continued as "landowners" during this period of Russian occupation.

On October 18, 1867, Russia sold Alaska to the United States government. As a result, the federal government owned the Alaska Territory, approximately 375 million acres (about the size of the continental U.S.).

- ◆ Alaska became a state in 1959. The federal government granted the new state 28% of its total area. Approximately 103,350,000 acres were selected under three types of grants: National Forest Community (400,000 acres), National Forest (102,550,000 acres). Additional territorial grants, for schools, university and mental health lands, totaling 1.2 million acres were confirmed with statehood. All grants combined total approximately 105 million acres.
- ◆ In 1971 Congress passed the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA). This law granted 44 million acres and 1 billion dollars to village and native corporations created under the act. Generally, ANCSA gave Native selections priority over state land selections.

State Land

To date, the state has received patent to approximately 85% (90 million acres) of federal land selections. The state was permitted to select lands, from any federal land not already reserved for other uses, to provide:

1. Land and resources to support the state's economy for road construction, public facilities development, and building houses, schools, and other public and private facilities.
2. A reduction in federal control over state internal affairs by giving the state jurisdiction over its own land.

The state chose land to meet three specific needs - settlement, resources and recreation.

Settlement – The State of Alaska selected land to encourage development and settlement. Public facilities, road construction and other public needs were included. Once owned, the state transfers large tracts of land to local governments, and leases and disposes of land to the private sector. There are approximately 580,000 acres currently in the state's land disposal program, pending eventual lease or sale.

Resources - The Alaskan economy is based on exploration for and the development of natural resources. Lands were selected for agriculture, forestry, commercial fisheries, mining and gas development, and wildlife habitat.

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Once land is selected, land planners develop state land use plans. Planners consider policies set by the Governor and state legislature, the character of the land itself, recommendations made by resource experts and public input to determine the most appropriate management for currently owned or selected state land. Plans are developed for land in selected status and the terms of its conveyance to the state.

Federal Land

The federal government is still the largest landowner in Alaska with 60% of the total area (approximately 170 million acres). This acreage includes national parks, wildlife refuges, national forests, military lands, and the North Slope National Petroleum Reserve. More than a dozen federal agencies manage federal lands in Alaska.

The majority of federally owned lands have been set aside for public use (approximately 100 million acres). These are designated as follows:

The National Park Service and Fish and Wildlife Service manage about 119.3 million acres (71.0 million acres respectively) for primary uses of resource protection and fish and wildlife conservation.

The Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management manage about 97.7 million acres (77.9 million acres respectively) for multiple use purposes including timber production, wildlife, recreation, water and mining. Management of these lands is based on sustainability and compatibility among various uses.

The remaining federal land is designated for special purposes, such as military reservations, the National Petroleum Reserve and U.S. Postal Service lands.

Native Lands

Native lands are private lands. The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, passed by Congress in 1971, mandated the creation of regional and village Native corporations for the distribution of 44 million acres and payment of one billion dollars mandated to Native ownership.

Thirteen regional corporations were created for the distribution of ANSCA land and money. Those that shared in selection of 16 million acres, the thirteenth corporation, based in Seattle, received a cash settlement only. 224 village corporations, of 25 or more residents, shared 26 million remaining acres, which include historical sites and existing native-owned lands, went into operation to provide land to small villages of less than 25 people.

Other Private Land

Land in private ownership (other than Native land) comprises less than one percent of the total land in Alaska. Much of the best land for development around Alaska's communities is, or was, privately owned. Private land development meets people's needs by providing places to live, work, and recreate. It also provides a tax base for cities and communities to help support public services.

Category

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