

**Aggregate income:** Total income for a population. For example, “aggregate household income in Anchorage” is the sum of the income for all households in Anchorage.

**Alcohol control (local option):** Alaska communities can use a referendum process to regulate how (and whether) alcohol enters the community. See “Alcohol Control by Referendum in Northern Native Communities: the Alaska Local Option Law,” Matthew Berman and Teresa Hull, ISER, April 2004 (<http://www.iser.uaa.alaska.edu/projects/alcohol/referen1.pdf>)

**Average:** “This measure represents an arithmetic average of a set of numbers. It is derived by dividing the sum of a group of numerical items by the total number of items in that group. For example, average family income is obtained by dividing the total of all income reported by people 15 years and over in families by the total number of families.” Source: [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/epss/glossary\\_m.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/epss/glossary_m.html)

**Average family size:** Calculated by dividing the total number of people in all families by the total number of families.

**Average household size:** Calculated by dividing the total number of people in all households by the number of households.

**Birth rate:** The average annual number of births during a year per 1,000 population, also known as the crude birth rate.

**Cerebrovascular Disease** is another name for a Stroke, also called CVA and Cerebral infarction. A stroke is an interruption of the blood supply to any part of the brain, resulting in damaged brain tissue. More information at: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/000726.htm>

**Child:** The U.S. Census definition of ‘child’ is: “A son or a daughter by birth, a stepchild, or an adopted child of the householder, regardless of the child’s age or marital status.” ([http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/epss/glossary\\_c.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/epss/glossary_c.html))

**Chronic Liver Disease and Cirrhosis of the Liver:** According to the National Digestive Diseases Information Clearinghouse, “in cirrhosis of the liver, scar tissue replaces normal, healthy tissue, blocking the flow of blood through the organ and preventing it from working as it should.” Two common causes of cirrhosis in the United States include chronic alcoholism and hepatitis C. More information: <http://digestive.niddk.nih.gov/ddiseases/pubs/cirrhosis/index.htm>

**Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Diseases (COPD):** The National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute explains Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Diseases (COPD) as “...a lung disease in which the lung is damaged, making it hard to breathe. In COPD, the airways—the tubes that carry air in and out of your lungs—are partly obstructed, making it difficult to get air in and out.” They go on to say that cigarette smoking is the most common cause of COPD. Source: [http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/dci/Diseases/Copd/Copd\\_WhatIs.html](http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/dci/Diseases/Copd/Copd_WhatIs.html)

**Civilian labor force** includes both employed and unemployed people who are not in the military.

**Death rate:** The average annual number of deaths during a year per 1,000 population, also known as the crude death rate.

**Diabetes or Diabetes Mellitus** is a disease where there are high levels of sugar in the blood, which can be caused by the pancreas producing too little insulin (a hormone that regulates blood sugar), or resistance to insulin, or both. More information: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/001214.htm>

**Dropout rate:** “The Alaska Department of Education and Early Development classifies students as dropouts if they (1) left school without graduating or completing an approved program; (2) moved out of the school district or state and are not known to be enrolled elsewhere; (3) enrolled in adult education programs or schools not approved by the district; or (4) were suspended or expelled from school and didn’t return.” Source: <http://kidscount.alaska.edu/2002/Education.pdf>

**Educational attainment:** The highest level of education completed, either as the highest year of school completed or the highest degree received.

**Employed:** Includes civilians 16 years and older who were "at work" or "with a job but not at work" for the week during which data were collected (the "reference week"). "Work" includes paid work, working in own business or farm, or 15 hours or more of unpaid work on a family farm or family business. "With a job/not at work" includes temporary absence from work for reasons such as "illness, bad weather, industrial dispute, vacation or personal reasons." People excluded from the "employed" designation are those doing unpaid volunteer work and people on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces.

**Family:** Two or more people who reside together and who are related by birth, marriage, or adoption.

**Family household:** For census purposes, a family includes a householder and one or more people living in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. (There may also be unrelated people living in the same household who are not included in the family for purposes of census tabulations. The census definition only allows data for one family within a household.)

**Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD)** is a permanent birth defect syndrome caused by a mother's consumption of alcohol while she is pregnant. More information: <http://health.hss.state.ak.us/fas/info/Default.htm>

**Fertility:** The number of live births in a year divided by the number of females of child-bearing age (usually defined as women ages 15-44).

**Group quarters:** All people not living in households are classified by the Census Bureau as living in group quarters. Group quarters are either institutional (such as correctional facilities and nursing homes) or non-institutional (i.e., college dormitories, military barracks, group homes, missions, and shelters).

**Heart Disease:** Medline Plus explains heart disease as "any disorder that affects the heart's ability to function normally. The most common cause of heart disease is narrowing or blockage of the coronary arteries, which supply blood to the heart itself. This happens slowly over time." Source and more information: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/000147.htm>

**Household:** A household includes all the people who live in a particular housing unit (as their usual place of residence).

**Household income:** The total money income during the previous year of all people age 15 and older living in a household.

**Householder:** The householder is the person or one of the people in whose name the home is owned or being bought or rented. A householder can be the head of a family household or a non-family household (see definition of 'family household' and 'non-family' household).

**Income:** Income includes wages and salary, commissions, bonuses or tips; self-employment income; interest, dividends, net rental income, royalty income or income from estates and trusts; Social Security or Railroad Retirement income; Supplemental Security Income (SSI); public assistance or welfare payments; retirement, survivor or disability pensions; and any other income regularly received such as Veterans' (VA) payments, unemployment compensation, child support or alimony. Source: [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/epss/glossary\\_i.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/epss/glossary_i.html)

**Infant mortality rate:** The number of deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births in a year.

**Influenza:** The influenza virus causes a contagious infection of the nose, throat and lungs. Also called "the flu." More information: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/000080.htm>

**In-migration:** Change of residence that results when someone moves into a geographic area from a different geographic area, state or country.

**Labor Force:** The labor force includes people classified as in the 'civilian labor force' and people on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces. The Civilian Labor Force includes both employed and unemployed people who are not in the military.

**Legal intervention:** According to the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Legal Intervention is "injury or poisoning caused by police or other legal authorities (including security guards) during law enforcement activities. Includes injuries and poisonings (mace, pepper spray) inflicted during legal action or execution, or while attempting to enforce the law such as arrest or restraint of arrested persons." Source: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/wisqars/nonfatal/definitions.htm>

**Mean:** See "Average."

**Mean household income:** Mean household income is calculated by dividing total household income for all households in a geographic area by the total number of households in that geographic area.

**Median age:** The midpoint age where half of the population is older than that age and half of the population is younger than that age.

**Median income:** Median Income is the midpoint where half the entities (households, for example) have a higher income and the other half has a lower income.

**Migration:** Migration includes all changes of residence where people move into, out of or within a geographic area, state or country.

**Mixed race:** beginning with the 2000 Census, respondents were allowed to self-identify themselves as of more than one race. For more information see: U.S. Census "Questions and Answers for Census 2000 Data on Race",

March 14, 2001. <http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/2001/raceqandas.html>

**Natural increase:** The difference between the number of births and the number of deaths.

**Non-family household:** One person living alone or a group of unrelated people living in the same housing unit.

**Non-family householder:** A householder living alone or with non-relatives.

**Not in labor force:** People who are 'not in the labor force' must be 16 years or older and not working or looking for work. People considered 'not in labor force' often include students, stay at home parents, retired workers, seasonal workers in the off season (and not looking for work), institutionalized people, and people doing less than 15 hours of unpaid work per week for a family business.

**Occupation:** Occupation describes the kind of work a person does in their job. Examples of occupations include managerial, business and financial, scientists and technicians, entertainment, health care, food service, personal services, sales, office and administrative support, maintenance and repair, and production workers.

**Out-migration:** Change of residence that results when someone moves out of a geographic area to a different geographic area or country.

**People in family:** Total number of people living in one household and related to the householder.

**People in household:** Total number of people living in one household who may or may not be related to the householder.

**Per capita income:** Average income per person, calculated by dividing total income for the population by the number of people.

**Personal income:** The sum of wage and salary disbursements, other labor income, proprietors' income with inventory and capital consumption adjustments, rental income of persons with capital consumption adjustment, personal dividend income, personal interest income, and transfer payments to persons, less personal contributions for social insurance. (Note: "Capital consumption adjustment" is a method of changing calculations of depreciation from a historical cost basis to a replacement cost basis.) Source: <http://www.bea.doc.gov/bea/regional/definitions/>

**Pneumonia:** An inflammation of the lungs which can be caused by organisms such as bacteria, viruses, and fungi. More information: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/000145.htm>

**Poverty:** Poverty status is calculated depending on number of children in a family and money income. Non-cash benefits and income of non-related people in the household aren't included in the family income used to calculate poverty status of a family. The Census Bureau uses the poverty thresholds, which are the dollar amounts below which a family or unrelated individual would be considered in poverty. These thresholds are used for statistical purposes. See <http://www.census.gov/hhes/poverty/povdef.html> for more information.

**Poverty threshold:** Poverty thresholds are calculated depending on size of the family and number of children. Poverty thresholds vary by size of family and are the SAME throughout the U.S. See the 2003 Poverty Threshold table at: <http://www.census.gov/hhes/poverty/threshld/thresh03.html>

**Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) Files:** Census files containing a small sample of individual records, with personal identifying information removed. These data are from the Census long form and the American Community Survey. They show population and housing characteristics for the people in the sample.

**Racial composition:** The composition of a population according to what race or races are represented within the population. In the U.S.

2000 Census, the question on race changed from previous censuses; so respondents were asked to identify themselves as being of one or more races, and which race(s) these are. This new method of identifying race causes difficulties in comparing changes in the 'racial composition' of a population between the 2000 census and earlier censuses.

**Real income:** Income that is adjusted using the CPI (consumer price index) to remove effects of inflation so that income values in different years can be more easily compared.

**Rural Alaska:** Defined by ISER as the census areas and boroughs that are not included in the definition of Urban Alaska (see Urban Alaska).

**Sample data:** Information that is collected from only some of the people (the sample) within a population. The census long form collects (sample) data from one in six households in the United States and Puerto Rico.

**Subsistence:** Using natural resources for personal and family consumption (food, shelter, clothing, etc). For a brief Subsistence Chronology see: [http://www.alaskool.org/projects/anca/subsistence\\_chron/subchron.htm](http://www.alaskool.org/projects/anca/subsistence_chron/subchron.htm)

**Suicide:** Medline Plus states "Suicide is the act of deliberately taking one's own life. Suicidal behavior is any deliberate action with potentially life-threatening consequences, such as taking a drug overdose or deliberately crashing a car." Source and more information: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/001554.htm>

**Unemployed:** Civilians 16 years and older who are neither "at work" nor "with a job but not at work," who were actively looking for work during the previous 4 weeks, and who were available to accept a job. Also defined as unemployed are civilians who didn't work but were waiting to be called back to a job from which they had been laid off and people who were away from work due to temporary illness.

**Unemployment rate:** The number of 'unemployed people age 16 and over' (as defined under 'unemployed') divided by the number of 'people age 16 and over' in the 'civilian labor force.'

*Note: The U.S. Census Bureau provides a complete glossary of census terms: [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/epss/glossary\\_a.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/epss/glossary_a.html)*

**Unintentional Injuries:** An injury or poisoning that is not done intentionally. More information: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/wisqars/nonfatal/definitions.htm>

**Urban Alaska:** Defined by ISER as including Juneau City and Borough, Anchorage Municipality, Kenai Peninsula Borough, Fairbanks North Star Borough and Matanuska Susitna Borough.

**Weighted Average:** To calculate weighted average, first calculate electricity consumption by multiplying the use (KWH) per customer times the number of customers in each community. Second, calculate total revenues for each community by multiplying use (KWH) per customer times the cost per KWH. Third, add the electricity consumption (sales) for all the communities to get the regional total; add the revenues for all the communities to get the regional total. Fourth, divide the total revenues (\$) by the total regional sales of electricity (KWH). This gives you the *weighted average* cost of residential electricity for the region.

When using weighted averages, *if there are large variations in rates between communities of different sizes, the weighted average will be "pulled" towards the rate value of the communities with the largest customer base.* That is exactly the case in Southeast Alaska. The weighted average residential electric rate is 10.5 cents/kwh, even though many small communities have much higher rates. [See [akelectricpowerfinal.pdf](#) p. 50 for data: *Alaska Electric Power Statistics (with Alaska Energy Balance) 1960-2001*, Prepared by Institute of Social and Economic Research, University of Alaska Anchorage, Prepared for Alaska Energy Authority, Regulatory Commission of Alaska, Denali Commission, November, 2003]

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