

Alaska

A wide-angle photograph of a majestic Alaskan landscape. In the foreground, a calm body of water reflects the surrounding scenery. The middle ground is dominated by steep, rugged mountains covered in patches of snow and dark rock. The sky above is filled with soft, white clouds, with some blue visible between them. The overall tone is serene and majestic.

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Essay Question

What are the positive and negative effects of tourism on Alaska?



Economy

- Tourism is major component of the Alaskan economy
- Airlines and cruise ships frequently travel to Alaska
- Other industries include raw materials and fishing
- Gold, diamonds, oil (Primary sector)



Oil



- The State of Alaska has collected \$157 billion (in today's dollars) from oil since 1959
- State estimates 90 percent of its revenue will continue to come from the oil and gas industry.
- 33% of Alaskan jobs are tied to the petroleum industry.

Logging

- Second largest industry in the 70s
- 4,600 jobs in 1990 to approximately 400 logging and manufacturing jobs in 2016.
- Harvesting has begun to slow down in all sectors
- Continues to outpace growth on private land



Hunting & Fishing

Key Figures	2016
Skippers & Crew	27,738
Skippers	9,125
Crew	18,613
Alaska Residents	15,592
Fishing & Related Vessels	9,423
Total Length of All Vessels	70.6 mi.
Ex-Vessel Value (\$Millions)*	\$1,671
Percent to AK Residents*	38%
Harvest Volume (Millions lbs.)*	5,643

- Nationally, the Alaska seafood industry has a \$5.2 billion in annual labor income and a \$12.8 billion in economic output.
- Alaska exports more than one million metric tons of seafood each year, bringing over \$3 billion of new money into the U.S. economy.
 - Alaska's fisheries have produced over 169 billion pounds since 1959.
- Invasive species, harmful algal blooms, and disease-causing pathogens already are becoming more common and harming indigenous fish
- Most hunting seasons in Alaska begin in August and end in September
 - black bear, brown bear, and grizzly bear, caribou, deer, elk and mountain goat

Mining

Gold:

- Highly profitable at \$1218 per oz (2018)
- economic advantage/ attracts tourists
- Hardrock mining sites are the largest source of pollution in the United States
- Road access cause issues to the environment

Diamonds:

- added seventeen hundred jobs into the market (diamond sorting, polishing, selling, mining.)
- reduced emissions by using scrubbers
- Carbon Dioxide



Biggest Alaska Nugget:
The Alaska Centennial Nugget
weighing in at 294.10 oz = \$358,213

Tourism in Alaska

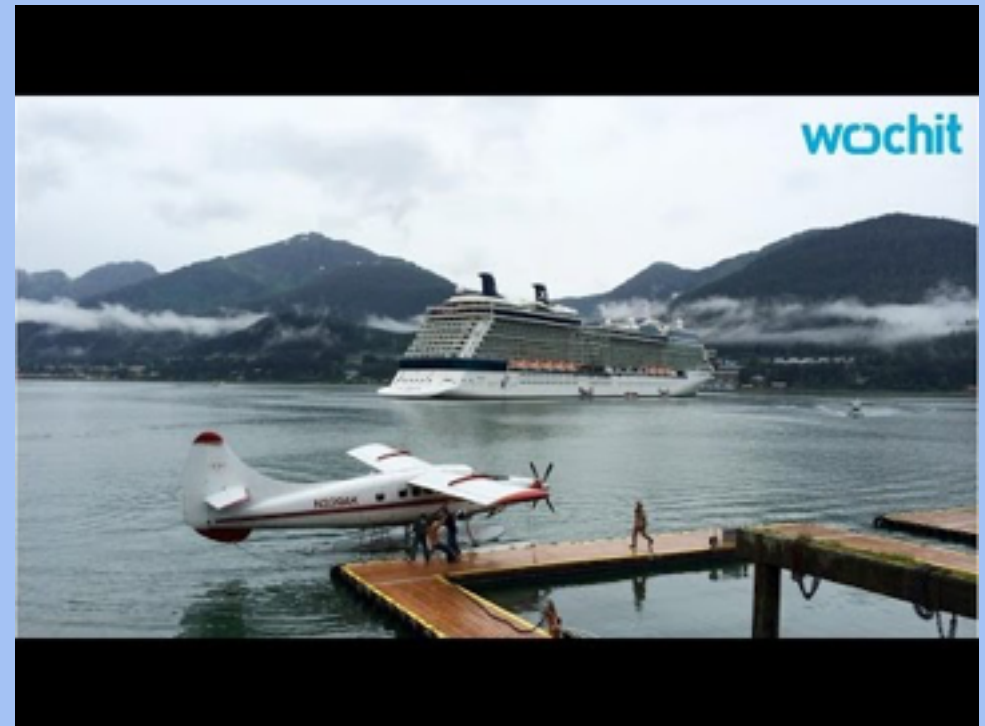
- Helps to provide 38,700 jobs annually.
- Generates 1.3 billion in labor income
- When tourists visit Alaska, on average they spend \$1000/person
- Majority of revenue gained from tourism comes from cruises



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Tourism continued...

- Even though tourism generates a lot of revenue for Alaska, it also creates a lot of pollution
- Many cruise ships have very sooty emissions that pollute the air and atmosphere
- Cruise ships also dump one billion gallons of raw sewage into the oceans every year



Mackenzie Howard

Cultural perspectives

- The spirit houses at Eklutna, Alaska, are unique to the Athabaskan Native people, built by family members after a death of a loved one.
- The colors that are placed upon the tops of the houses, represent clans and crosses represent the church.
- Logging on Native corporation lands account for over two-thirds of all logging jobs in Alaska.



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Environment

- Arctic National Refuge: largest national wildlife refuge, it is at risk
- Main components of the economy also have deteriorated the environment
- Mining, logging, and tourism all bring damage to the environment in terms of pollution, habitat destruction, and global warming



Climate Change

- Arctic areas are heating up more than three times faster than the rest of the world.
- Increased forest fires, plant disease, and slow the growth of forests
- Changes the habitat of many animals leading to death
- Even effects humans.



Climate Change: 100 Alaskan Villages At Risk From Climate Change



Earthquakes



- History of Large earthquakes good friday earthquake March 26 1964 (9.2)
- The earthquake lasted approximately 4.5 minutes and became the most powerful recorded earthquake in U.S history.
- Leading to a tsunami killing over a hundred people

References

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