

VILLAGE BACKGROUND

Introduction

New Stuyahok is a southern Yup'ik Eskimo village with Russian Orthodox influences.¹ Residents practice a fishing and subsistence lifestyle. They value their tightly-knit community that centers on family and church life, with a strong foundation of Yup'ik culture. Most adults speak Yup'ik as their first language, and many community meetings are conducted in Yup'ik.

Village Location, Population & Brief History

New Stuyahok is located on the Nushagak River, 52 miles northeast of Dillingham, about 12 miles upriver from Ekwook and 50 miles downriver from Koliganek. It is in the Dillingham Census Area. The village has been constructed at two elevations—one 25 feet above river level, and one about 40 feet above river level. It lies at approximately 59.452780° North Latitude and -157.31194° West Longitude (Sec. 29, T008S, R047W, Seward Meridian) in the Bristol Bay Recording District. The village encompasses 32.6 sq. miles of land and 2.0 sq. miles of water. The State Demographer's estimate for the population in 2004 was 477. New Stuyahok was incorporated as a second-class city in 1972.

The present location is the third site that villagers can remember. The village moved several miles downriver from the "Old Village" to what is now called "Old Stuyahok" at the confluence of the Mulchatna and Stuyahok Rivers in 1918. During the 1920s and 30s, the village was engaged in herding reindeer for the U.S. government. According to Schichnes and Chythlook (1991),² villagers became dissatisfied with that location for several reasons. First, the site was too far inland to receive barge service or for the BIA to establish a school. As river levels lowered, access for the fishing fleet - who brought traditional sailing vessels back to the village each season - became impractical. The site was subjected to flooding during the 1920 and 1930s. By the 1940s, the reindeer herd had dwindled to nothing. Finally, in 1940, the village moved downriver again to its present location.

According to New Stuyahok elders, residents initially lived in tents on the present village site. In 1941, residents built 14 log homes. During this time, Chief Ivan Blunka gave up his log home and stayed in a tent so that his home could be used as a school for the children in the village. In 1942, the community constructed a log school, which was the first school in New Stuyahok. Between 1942 and 1943 residents brought down the existing Russian Orthodox Church from the old village site to the present village site.

Stuyahok can be translated into English as "going downriver place." According to village elders, every spring villagers would use the skins of harvested animals to make skin boats called *angyiyaraq*. This is also the name of the mountain upriver from Stuyahok Mountain, known in English as 'Little Mountain'. The villagers would travel in the *angyiyaraq* to Stuyahok for the fishing season.³ New Stuyahok's population was first recorded at 88 persons in 1950. The BIA school and a post office were built in 1961. An airstrip was built soon thereafter. During the 1960s, New Stuyahok experienced a 40 percent increase in the village population. The community was incorporated in 1972.

Access

Air transport is most frequently used to reach New Stuyahok. Regular and charter flights are available from Dillingham. The State-owned gravel airstrip is 1,800 feet long by 50 feet wide and lighted. It is located on a hilltop where windy conditions often preclude landing. The community has requested funds for construction of a crosswind landing strip. There are no docking facilities in New Stuyahok. Goods are lightered on a regular basis during the summer. Skiffs, ATVs and snow machines are prevalent forms of local transportation.

Physical Setting and Habitat

New Stuyahok is located in a climatic transition zone. The primary influence is maritime, although a continental climate affects the weather. Average summer temperatures range from 37° to 66°; winter temperatures average 4° to 30°. Annual precipitation ranges from 20 to 35 inches. Fog and low clouds are common during the summer; strong winds often preclude access during the winter.

The river is ice-free from June through mid-November. Both the Nushagak River and Nunachuak Creek are navigable. The main channel of the Nushagak River extends for 29 miles and is an important corridor for boat travel between New Stuyahok and Dillingham. The main channel of the Mulchatna River extends for 17 miles. The lower Nushagak, Koktuli (*Qugtuli*) River and Mulchatna Rivers form a major salmon migration route, as well as important king and chum salmon spawning habitat. Moose density is moderate, while caribou density varies by season but is occasionally high.⁴

Environmental Issues

Environmental issues identified by the New Stuyahok Traditional Council's Environmental Program include: solid waste management, particularly water run off from existing landfill and landfill management; recycling; education on environmental issues to children in school; battery collection & disposal; used oil disposal; and, animal carcass disposal (New Stuyahok IGAP Four Year Technical Performance Report, December 2003).

Subsistence Economy

Village economies generally have few opportunities for earning cash income. Subsistence activities greatly enhance the viability of village economies by substituting labor, which is in ready supply, for cash, which is in short supply. New Stuyahok has a high harvest rate of subsistence wild foods with an estimated harvest of 700 pounds per person. The entire community relies heavily upon subsistence activities such as hunting, fishing, trapping and gathering berries for their diet. Salmon, moose, caribou, rabbit, ptarmigan, duck and geese are the primary sources of meat.

The Division of Subsistence of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game conducted a detailed harvest survey of 40 households (54 percent of total households) in New Stuyahok. The survey documented the types of resources harvested, estimates of harvest quantities, patterns of non-commercial distribution, and exchange of wild and renewable resources during the 12-month period from April 1987 through March 1988. The survey reported that the Nushagak River communities were supported by a mixed subsistence/market economic system, a system that continues today. At that time commercial salmon fishing represented the greatest percentage of jobs while employment opportunities in other sectors were fairly limited. In New Stuyahok, 65.9 percent of adults were employed for an average of five months. Most jobs were part-time and seasonal in nature. The next largest percentage of jobs were with the local governments or the school district. Some monetary income was earned by trapping and selling furs, particularly from beavers.

In many villages, much of the economic activity is at the household level, and consists of the basic needs of daily life—food, clothing, and shelter. In the past, there was little importation of food. Families wholly depended on the subsistence harvest of fish, game, and wild plants - particularly berries. Even today, the cost of transportation makes imported food very expensive. The distance from markets usually reduces the freshness and quality of many imported foods. The protection of subsistence resources is essential for families to maintain adequate nutrition at a reasonable cost. Fish and game is harvested and then shared among the residents throughout the village which substitutes the need for a purely cash-driven economy. Therefore, employment statistics and income levels alone do not adequately describe the quality of life for many residents in New Stuyahok.

New Stuyahok Economy & Population

Subsistence continues to play an important part of the local economy in New Stuyahok, particularly because of the limited opportunities for cash employment. As in much of the Bristol Bay area, most cash employment is seasonal with little year-round employment. Commercial fishing is especially important as a source of jobs and income. Government is another important source of jobs and income.

Income

Personal income is the income received by people from all sources—private sector and government wages, salary disbursements, other labor income, farm and non-farm self employment income, rental income of people, personal dividend income, personal interest income, and transfer payments. Personal income does not have taxes subtracted from it. Per capita personal income is the annual total personal income of residents of an area divided by the number of residents. Per capita personal income is a typical measure of economic well-being.

As in many other Alaska villages, incomes vary considerably from year to year and household to household. Incomes in villages are generally much lower than those of urban communities in Alaska. For example, per capita personal income is only \$7,931 compared to \$16,021 for the census area and \$22,660 for the State (see Table 1 below).

The New Stuyahok median household income from the 2000 Census was \$26,042—less than half of the State’s median household income of \$59,036 (U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000). The lower median household income in New Stuyahok is due, in part, to the larger household size which was 4.49 individuals in New Stuyahok compared to 3.20 for the census area as a whole and 2.74 for the State. Almost 67 percent of households have a cash income under \$35,000 per year (see Table 2). New Stuyahok is categorized as a “distressed” community by the Denali Commission.

Table 1. Personal Income in 1999 for New Stuyahok, Dillingham Census Area, and Alaska

	New Stuyahok	Dillingham Census Area	Alaska
Median Household Income (\$)	26,042	43,079	51,571
Median Family Household Income (\$)	26,458	45,391	59,036
Per Capita Income (\$)	7,931	16,021	22,660

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, DP-3. Values calculated by Northern Economics, Inc.

Table 2. New Stuyahok Income Distributions for Family Households and all Households, 1999

	% of Family Households	% of all Households
Less than \$10,000	11.2	9.5
\$10,000 to \$14,999	12.4	12.4
\$15,000 to \$24,000	22.5	25.7
\$25,000 to \$34,999	22.5	19.0
\$35,000 to \$49,999	11.2	13.3
\$50,000 to \$74,999	14.6	15.2
\$75,000 to \$99,999	3.4	1.9
\$100,000 and above	2.2	2.9
Total	100.0	100.0

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Census 2000, DP-3. Values calculated by Northern Economics, Inc.

Commercial Fishing

New Stuyahok community members have held permits and participated in commercial fisheries for halibut, herring, and salmon. However, both permit ownership and overall participation by remaining permit holders have fallen precipitously since 1990. For example, community members have not participated in the halibut fishery since 1992 and only one permit holder remains as compared to the eight permits held in 1990. Community members currently hold nine commercial herring permits in comparison to the 52 that were held just over a decade ago. The decline in the herring fisheries has perhaps been felt more keenly in New Stuyahok, Togiak and Manokotak than other communities in the area. In sharp comparison, the number of salmon permits has fallen only slightly since 1990, but participation has fallen dramatically (see Table 3).

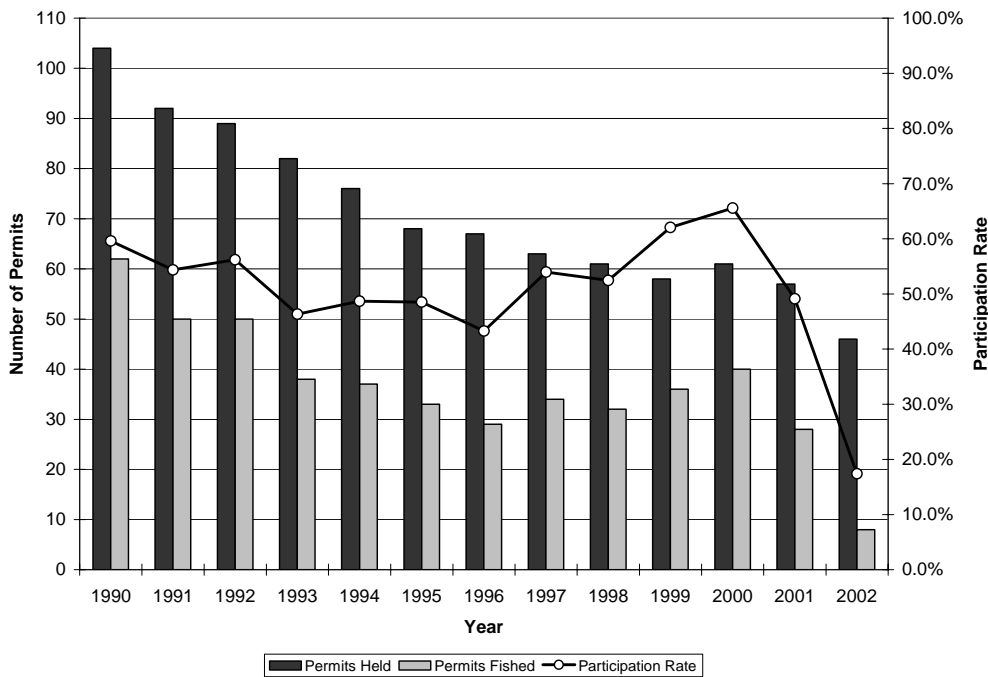
Table 3. Fishing Permits and Fishing Participation, 1990-2002, New Stuyahok

Species	Permits	Year												
		1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Halibut	Fished	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Held	8	7	5	6	6	3	3	2	2	1	1	1	
Herring	Fished	19	8	9	2	1	3	3	4	3	2	5	1	1
	Held	52	42	38	33	26	22	20	19	19	16	19	16	9
Salmon	Fished	39	39	41	36	36	30	26	30	29	34	35	27	7
	Held	44	43	46	43	44	43	44	42	40	41	41	40	37
Total	Fished	62	50	50	38	37	33	29	34	32	36	40	28	8
	Held	104	92	89	82	76	68	67	63	61	58	61	57	46

Source: Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission, 2004. Values calculated by Northern Economics, Inc.

In 1990, New Stuyahok residents owned 104 fishing permits and fished 62 of them (a 60% participation rate). Since 2000, the participation rate of fishing permits has drastically declined in New Stuyahok. In 2000, residents fished 40 permits. Comparatively, in 2002, residents fished only 8 permits - one of the lowest participation rates in the area, and the all-time lowest participation rate in over a decade.

Figure 2. Fishing Participation and Permit Ownership in New Stuyahok, 1990-2002



Source: Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission, 2004. Values calculated by Northern Economics, Inc.

Poverty Rate

The poverty rate is a commonly used indicator for determining economic need for families, households, and individuals in a community. Poverty rates are used by a variety of federal agencies to determine the level of need in a community. This is also one of the criteria used by the Denali Commission in determining whether or not a community is considered “distressed.” The poverty “line” is based on the level of cash income required for an individual to pay the cost of basic necessities. Individuals earning less income than this amount are considered to be living in poverty. The poverty “rate” is the proportion of the population that lives below the official poverty line.

In village communities that predominantly rely on subsistence activities to provide a large percentage of basic necessities such as food, clothing and tools, this indicator (the poverty rate) can sometimes be deceiving since benefits and costs relating to subsistence activities are not easily factored-in when calculating the poverty rate. Ideally, the poverty rate should provide a good estimate for determining how many people in a community are unable to take care of their basic needs, such as food, clothing, and housing. Since the poverty rate is purely determined by the level of cash income and does not recognize other methods of providing these basic needs, the poverty rate is not always an accurate indicator of the number of individuals living in a state of actual poverty.

Previous research has shown that poverty populations in rural communities are more likely to be long-term poor than poverty populations in urban areas. Almost every aspect of personal and community health is negatively affected by poverty. Community factors such as the status of resources like affordable housing, transportation, education and training, jobs providing a living wage, health insurance, and availability of child care determine to a large extent an area’s poverty rate. The poverty rate for families in New Stuyahok is almost five times the poverty rate for families in Alaska as a whole. Individuals in New Stuyahok are more than three times likely to be classified as living in poverty than individuals in the State as a whole (see Table 4 below).

Table 4. New Stuyahok Poverty Status in 1999

	New Stuyahok	Dillingham Census Area	Alaska
Number of Families in Poverty	32.6	18.3	6.7
- With Related children under 18 Years	35.6	23.0	9.3
- With Related Children under 5 Years	37.0	26.3	13.4
Number of Individuals in Poverty	31.7	21.4	9.4

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000. Values calculated by Northern Economics, Inc.

Employment

A community’s labor force provides a measure of how much employment and economic activity a community may have. Labor force is defined as the number of persons 16 years of age or older, the age at which an individual is legally able to work.

Table 5 shows the number and percent of individuals 16 years and older, individuals in this age category in the civilian labor force, and employed and unemployed individuals. Of the total population (471) in New Stuyahok as of 2000 Census data, 295 (63% of the total population) are of the legal age to be employed (age 16 or older). Of that group of employable individuals, 130 (44%

of the population 16 years and over) are employed and 2 (less than 1%) are in the Armed Forces. Of the remaining individuals that are age 16 and over, 27 (9%) are unemployed and seeking work, and 136 (46%) are unemployed and not actively seeking work.

Unemployment rates do not take into account individuals who are underemployed or discouraged workers who have given up hope of finding a job and are not actively seeking employment. Approximately 71 percent of the population 16 years and over is in the labor force in the Dillingham Census Area (U.S. Census 2000). However, only 54 percent of individuals 16 and over in New Stuyahok participate in the labor force.

Labor force participation rates can be affected by the seasonal nature of seafood processing employment, the traditional practice of a subsistence lifestyle, and the absence of other employment opportunities (see Table 5). Many individuals 16 years and over may not be actively looking for work because they are aware of the limited opportunities available. At the time of Census 2000, two individuals from New Stuyahok were serving in the Armed Forces.

Table 5. Employment Status of Population 16 Years and Over Alaska, Dillingham Census Area, and New Stuyahok, 1999

Employment Status	Alaska		Dillingham Census Area		New Stuyahok	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Population 16 Years and Over	458,054	100	3,216	100	295	100
In Labor Force	326,596	71.3	2,007	62.4	159	53.9
Civilian Labor Force	309,485	67.6	1,995	62.0	157	53.2
Employed	281,532	61.5	1,765	54.9	130	44.
Unemployed	27,953	6.1	230	7.2	27	9.2
Percent of Civilian Labor Force		9		11.5		17.2
Armed Forces	17,111	3.7	12	0.4	2	0.7
Not in Labor Force	131,458	28.7	1,209	37.6	136	46.1

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, DP-3. Values calculated by Northern Economics, Inc.

Table 6 shows the occupation of the employed civilian population 16 years of age and older in the New Stuyahok in 1999. According to the U.S. Census, fewer than four percent of individuals 16 years and over report fishing as their primary occupation. Management, professional and related occupations total just over 43 percent of the employed workforce, followed by sales and office occupations at almost 31 percent, and service occupations at almost 15 percent.

Table 6 also shows the reported occupations of the employed civilian population 16 years and over. Of note is that no one has reported employment in the fishing sector. We know that this does not adequately reflect the importance of fishing in this community. This disparity is most likely due to the timing of the census, which occurs in April every ten years, and asks respondents what they did for employment in the previous week. Thus, the census may not account for those involved in fishing at other times of the year, including the important summer salmon season. Of the total population of employed individuals (130 individuals) in New Stuyahok, 56 (43%) are employed in “management, professional, and related” occupations, 19 (14.6%) are employed in “service” occupations, 40 (30.8%) are employed in “sales and office” occupations, 9 (7%) are employed in

“construction, extraction, and maintenance” occupations, and 6 (4.6%) are employed in “production, transportation, and material moving” occupations.

In addition, census data on employment may not reflect what is actually happening in a village where two or more individuals may share one or more jobs. The survey conducted by the Division of Subsistence, Alaska Department of Fish and Wildlife (1991), found that among the sample population around 66 percent of the adults in the community were employed and held an average of 1.6 jobs each. However, these adults were employed for an average of five months. Only 12.3 percent of adults were employed on a year-round basis.

Table 6. Occupation of Employed Civilian Population 16 Years and Over, New Stuyahok, Census 2000

Occupation	Number	Percent
Management, Professional, and Related Occupations	56	43.1
Service Occupations	19	14.6
Sales and Office Occupations	40	30.8
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	-	-
Construction, Extraction, and Maintenance Occupations	9	6.9
Production, Transportation, and Material Moving Occupations	6	4.6

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, DP-3. Values calculated by Northern Economics, Inc.

Table 7 shows the percentage of four different classes of workers: private wage and salary workers, government workers, self-employed workers in their own business who are not incorporated, and unpaid family workers. The government sector is a very significant source of employment in New Stuyahok, accounting for almost 68 percent of workers. Many of these government jobs are related to the school, so may not provide year-round employment. The employment classes of the 130 individuals employed in New Stuyahok (as of 2000 Census data) include 88 (67.7%) government workers, 37 (28.5%) private wage and salary workers, and 5 (3.8%) self-employed workers. In contrast government workers account for around 48 percent of employment in the Dillingham Census Area as a whole.

Table 7. Class of Worker New Stuyahok, 1999

Employment Class	Number	Percent
Private Wage and Salary Workers	37	28.5
Government Workers	88	67.7
Self-Employed Workers (Not Incorporated Business)	5	3.8
Unpaid Family Workers	-	-

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, SF-3. Values calculated by Northern Economics, Inc.

Table 8 shows percent of employment by industry. Fishing and hunting do not account for any employment. Of the 130 individuals employed in New Stuyahok, the majority of 55 individuals (42.3% of the total number of individuals employed in New Stuyahok) are employed in the “education, health, and social services” industry, 35 individuals (26.9%) are employed in the “retail trade” industry, 24 (18.5%) are employed in the “public administration” industry, 11 (8.5%) are employed in the “transportation, warehousing, and utilities” industry, 4 (3.1%) are employed in the “other services (except public administration)” industry, and 1 individual (0.8%) is employed in the “finance, insurance, real estate, and rental/leasing” industry. Most jobs in New Stuyahok are in the education, health and social services industry, the retail trade industry, and the public administration industry.

Table 8. Percent Employment by Industry New Stuyahok, Census 2000

Industry	Number	Percent
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting, and Mining	0	0
Construction	0	0
Manufacturing	0	0
Wholesale Trade	0	0
Retail Trade	35	26.9
Transportation and Warehousing, and Utilities	11	8.5
Information	0	0
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate, and Rental and Leasing	1	0.8
Professional, Scientific, Management, Administrative, and Waste Management Services	0	0
Educational, Health and Social Services	55	42.3
Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, Accommodation and Food Services	0	0
Other Services (except Public Administration)	4	3.1
Public Administration	24	18.5

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, DP-3. Values calculated by Northern Economics, Inc.

Population Trends

Information about population trends and characteristics helps describe the general nature of a community or area. An analysis of population trends can help determine if changes are occurring for specific groups defined by age, gender, race, or education level, thereby influencing the nature of social and economic relationships in the community.

Table 9 shows the population of New Stuyahok compared to the Dillingham Census Area at 10-year intervals from the U.S. Census. In 1950, the population of New Stuyahok was 88 individuals. Since 1950, New Stuyahok has experienced constant growth from one decade to the next, while the Dillingham Census Area has experienced both increases and decreases in population over the decades. Between 1960 and 1970, New Stuyahok’s population increased by 49% while the overall

population in the Dillingham Census area actually declined by 13% during the same time. Between 1970 and 1980, New Stuyahok population grew by 53% while the Dillingham Census Area grew by about 33%. Between 1980 and 1990, the population in New Stuyahok again grew by 18% while the Dillingham Census Area's overall population declined by 13%. Again, between 1990 and 2000, New Stuyahok's population increased by about 21%. During this same time, the population in the Dillingham Census Area also grew by about 23%. Between 2000 and February 2005, New Stuyahok grew by an additional 12% to its current population of 528 individuals.

Figure 3 shows the annual population of New Stuyahok from 1980 to 2004. As noted in the introduction, the village moved down river to its current location in 1940. There are no firm population statistics for the community of Old Stuyahok. Van Stone estimated that the population of Old Stuyahok ranged from 50 to 75 individuals in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries with a peak of 90 to 125 between 1920 to approximately 1935.⁵ New Stuyahok's population was first recorded as 88 in 1950. The BIA school was built in 1961 and the population grew by 40 percent in the 1960s and between 1960 and 2000 the population more than tripled. However, the population of New Stuyahok has been going up and down since 1999 (see Table 10). According to a census completed by the City of New Stuyahok in February 2005, the current population is 528 residents.

Table 9. Population of New Stuyahok and Dillingham Census Area, 1930-2000

Community	1930	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000
New Stuyahok	-	-	88	145	216	331	391	471
Census Area	-	-	-	4,024	3,485	4,616	4,012	4,922

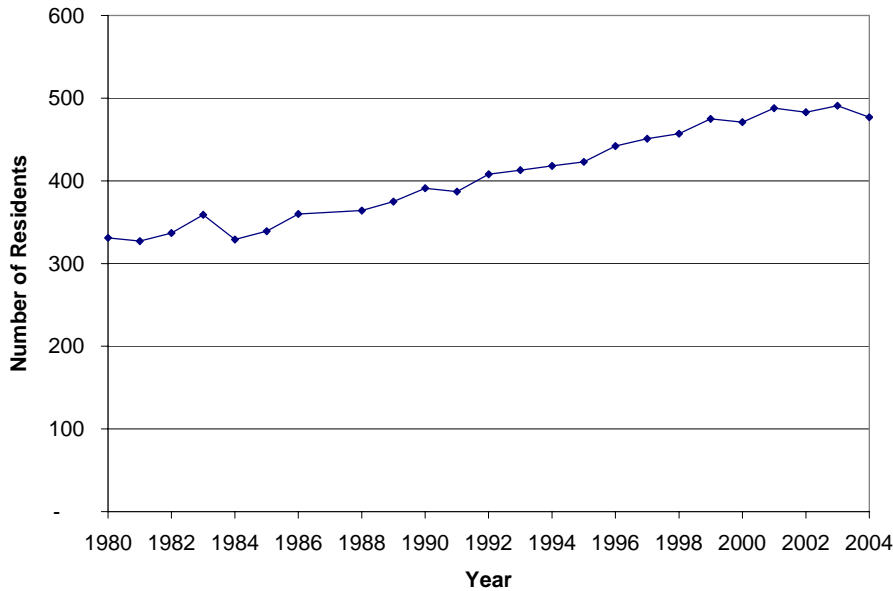
Source: DCED community profiles. <http://www.census.gov/population/cencounts/ak190090.txt>. Population for 2003 and 2004 from AKDOLWD Provisional Estimate. Values calculated by Northern Economics, Inc.

Table 10. New Stuyahok Population, 1998 to 2005

1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
457	475	471	488	483	491	477	528

Source: Northern Economics, Inc., 2005. "Alaska Population Annual Database". Compiled from ADOLWD Annual Population Estimates; ADOWLD data from 2000-2004 is available on the Internet at <http://www.labor.state.ak.us/research/pop/estimates/04t4-3.xls>.

Figure 3. Population of New Stuyahok, 1980 through 2004



Source: Northern Economics, Inc., 2005. "Alaska Population Annual Database". Compiled from ADOLWD Annual Population Estimates; ADOWLD data from 2000-2004 is available on the Internet at <http://www.labor.state.ak.us/research/pop/estimates/04t4-3.xls>.

Race

U.S. Census figures show that in 2000, 70.1 percent of Dillingham Census Area residents were Alaska Native or American Indian compared to 92.8 percent of the residents of New Stuyahok.

Table 11. Percent of Population by Race New Stuyahok and Dillingham Census Area, Census 2000

Geographic Area	White	Alaska Native	Black	Asian	Other race	Two or More
New Stuyahok	3.8	92.8	0	0	0	3.4
Census Area	21.6	70.1	0.4	0.6	0.5	6.7

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, SF-3. Values calculated by Northern Economics, Inc.

Age & Gender

Age distribution gives an indication of whether the population of a community is generally young or old and growing or declining. It is a predictor of future school enrollments, an indicator of what resources and programs the community may need for specific age groups, and one source of information about the available labor force, and the impacts of changes in the nature of the local economy.

Table 12 shows the total population, the percent of the population under 18, median age, and gender for Alaska, the Dillingham Census Area, and New Stuyahok. The median age for the

Dillingham Census Area and New Stuyahok is lower than the median age for the State as whole. The median age in New Stuyahok is very young at 24.4 years. In contrast, the median age for the State is 32.4 years while the median age of the U.S. in 2000 was 35.3.

In New Stuyahok, 40.8 percent of the population is under 18 compared to only 30.4 percent of the population of the State as a whole. The economic reality in many communities in Western Alaska is a lack of jobs or income producing activities, but at the same time a younger and growing population suggests that many more jobs or income producing activities are needed above and beyond current levels. As the median age of a community decreases and the percentage of residents under 18 increases, each adult carries a greater proportion of the community's need for productive labor including subsistence activities, bringing cash income into the community, providing child care and serving as teachers, providing leadership for the community, and helping to maintain the community's infrastructure.

In New Stuyahok, 55 percent of the population was male and 45 percent female at the time of Census 2000.

Table 12. Total Population, Age and Gender, Alaska, Dillingham Census Area and New Stuyahok, 2000 Census

Geographic Area	Total Population	Percent			
		Under 18	Median Age	Male	Female
Alaska	626,932	30.4	32.4	51.7	48.3
Census Area	4,922	38.1	28.9	52.2	47.8
New Stuyahok	471	40.8	24.4	55.0	45.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, DP-1. Values calculated by Northern Economics, Inc.

Education

New Stuyahok is part of the Southwest Regional School District and has a K-12 school with 164 students currently enrolled for the 2005 school year.⁶

In New Stuyahok, at the time of Census 2000, 67.5 percent of the population 25 years and older was a high school graduate or higher, while 10.2 percent of the population had a bachelor's degree or higher. In Alaska as a whole, 88.3 percent of the population 25 years and over was a high school graduate or higher, while 24.7 percent had a bachelor's degree or higher. Not recorded in the 2000 Census are three residents who attained Associate Degrees.

Table 13. New Stuyahok Educational Attainment of Population 25 Years and Over,

Attainment	Number	Percent
Less than 9th Grade	63	25.9
9th to 12 grade, No Diploma	16	6.6
High School Graduate (includes equivalency)	119	49.0
Some College, No Degree	20	8.2
Associate Degree	-	-
Bachelor's Degree	12	4.9
Graduate or Professional Degree	13	5.3

Source: Census 2000. Values calculated by Northern Economics, Inc.

Housing

The Bristol Bay Housing Authority was created by Alaska Statute AS 18.55.955 in 1974 to administer Low Income Housing programs funded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The programs are governed by the terms of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act. In 1996, Congress revamped Indian Housing Programs with the passage of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act (NAHASDA).

The Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (NAHASDA) became effective on October 1, 1997. The Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act of 1996 (NAHASDA) reorganized the system of housing assistance provided to Native Americans through the Department of Housing and Urban Development by eliminating several separate programs of assistance and replacing them with a block grant program. The two programs authorized for Indian tribes under NAHASDA are the Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) which is a formula based grant program and Title VI Loan Guarantee which provides financing guarantees to Indian tribes for private market loans to develop affordable housing. Regulations are published at 24 CFR Part 1000.

The Indian Housing Block Grant Program (IHBG) is a formula grant that provides a range of affordable housing activities on Indian reservations and Indian areas. The block grant approach to housing for Native Americans was enabled by the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act of 1996 (NAHASDA).

Eligible IHBG recipients are Federally recognized Indian tribes or their tribally designated housing entity (TDHE), and a limited number of state recognized tribes who were funded under the Indian Housing Program authorized by the United States Housing Act of 1937 (USHA). With the enactment of NAHASDA, Indian tribes are no longer eligible for assistance under the USHA.

An eligible recipient must submit to HUD an Indian Housing Plan (IHP) each year to receive funding. At the end of each year, recipients must submit to HUD an Annual Performance Report (APR) reporting on their progress in meeting the goals and objectives included in their IHPs. Eligible activities include housing development, assistance to housing developed under the Indian Housing Program, housing services to eligible families and individuals, crime prevention and safety, and model activities that provide creative approaches to solving affordable housing problems.

New Stuyahok Traditional Council has chosen BBHA as their “Tribally Designated Housing Entity,” as provided for in NAHASDA. BBHA passes through to the Council one half of the “Need” funds provided by a formula allocation under NAHASDA. BBHA maintains a “Regional Pool” with the other half of the funds from each village participating in the “Pool,” and constructs new home on an annual basis from a ranked Village list.

BBHA monitors sub-recipient activity for provision of housing services and programs administered by the individual tribes who use BBHA as their Tribally Designated Housing Entity.

Under the prior 1937 Act (USHA), 43 single family homes were built in New Stuyahok in 1985 (30 units) and 1993 (13 units), 27 of which have been conveyed to the homebuyers. Ultimately, all will transfer to the private ownership of the program participants.

Regionally, BBHA has participated in an IRS Section 42 Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) housing program administered in Alaska by the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation. The regional LIHTC inventory includes a 24-unit (three 8 unit buildings named Forest View) apartment building in Dillingham, two 8-unit LIHTC buildings - one in King Salmon and one in South Naknek, (named Taiga View), two additional 8-unit LIHTC buildings in Dillingham, (named Muklung Manor), and is in construction of 4 4-unit (16 units) LIHTC buildings in Togiak (Togiak View). Recently, 3 – 4 units (12 units) of LIHTC buildings have been approved for Manokotak.

According to the FY05 NAHASDA funding formula, the "need" component as computed by HUD through BBHA for New Stuyahok is \$ 319,096. One half of these funds stay in a regional pool for construction of homes in accordance with a ranked regional list of villages, the other half of the funds are passed through to the New Stuyahok Traditional Council for locally administered programs, such as rehab of village residents' owned homes, and youth programs.

New Stuyahok’s rank for FY05 in the regional pool for new single family homes funded by HUD/NAHASDA is position # 2. Ten homes will be built in New Stuyahok in 2006, funded by the regional pool, Alaska Housing Finance Corporation’s Supplemental Grant Program, an Indian Community Development Block Grant recently approved, and a HUD Title VI loan, for a total cost of \$ 3 million.

There is no multi-family housing in New Stuyahok. BBHA will look at the feasibility of multi-family housing financed by Tax Credits through the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation, which is a competitive process, should the demand and waiting list exist. The project could be four-plex apartments in nature, combined with such buildings in other neighboring villages, to make the project financially feasible.

A \$ 1.8 million five unit Senior Housing Project has recently been completed and occupied, funded from Alaska Housing Finance Corporation's "GOAL" program, and HUD’s 202 (Public Housing) funds, which required a separate 501(c) 3 be set up for this purpose. The project also has a resident manager.

In addition to housing development facilitated through the NAHASDA & BBHA programs, the City of New Stuyahok has subdivided 50 new housing lots near to the site of the existing airport and the site of the future school and power plant. These lots will be made available to residents through a variety of conveyance methods to enable residents to build their own houses. Funding assistance is being sought to assist residents with construction costs. In addition, the city is reviewing ordinances to govern development. Utilities and roads still need to be constructed to the new housing sites.

Table 14 shows the number of individuals living in households and group housing, the total number of households, average household size, total number of family households, average family size, and the number of individuals not living in a household. Both the average household size and average family size in the Dillingham Census Area are larger than in Alaska as a whole, the average household and family size in New Stuyahok is larger still. The average household size in Alaska is 2.74 and the average family size is 3.28. In New Stuyahok the average household size is 4.49 and the average family size is 4.87.

Table 14. Households in Dillingham Census Area and New Stuyahok, Census 2000

	Census Area	New Stuyahok
Population in Households	4,889	471
Population in Group Quarters	33	0
Total Number of Households	1,529	105
Average Household Size	3.20	4.49
Number of Family Households	1,106	91
Average Family Size	3.84	4.87
Number of Non-family Households	423	14

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, DP-1. Values calculated by Northern Economics, Inc.

At the time of the survey conducted by the Division of Subsistence, in 1988, the community had 74 occupied houses while Census 2000 reports that there were 111 housing units with 109 occupied units. Of these units, according to the census, 61 were owner-occupied housing units. In 2000, 350 residents five years and over (79.9 percent) reported living in the same house in 1995.

Number of Small Businesses and Types

The records in Table 15 reflect current business licenses on file with the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, Division of Occupation Licensing, Business Licensing Section. These licenses may not represent actual business activity. Stuyahok, Ltd., the village corporation, owns and operates the community store through its subsidiary Panarqkuk Limited Store.

Table 15. Current Business Licenses in New Stuyahok

Business Licenses	SIC Codes (Primary - Secondary)
Amanda's Child Care Services	6244
Anna Andrew	6244
Anuska's Day Care	6244, 8300
Barbara's Baby Block	6244
Bob's Repair Shop	8111, 7500
Dorothy Wonhola Daycare Center	6244
Evelyn Chunak	6244
Gladys L. Yukluk	6244
Gramma Sophie's Child Care	6244
Katherine Chocknok	6244, 8300
M & R's Snatch And Go	6244
Mary Acovak	7222
Mary Yukluk	6244
Mary's Child Care	6244
Mary's Day Care Center	6244
Monica's	4539
Nastasia N. Neketa	6244
Natalia's Daycare	6244
Olia Blunka	6244
Sophie Walcott	6244
Sud's Child Care	6244
Tatianna's Daycare	6244
Vera Petla	6244

Source: Alaska Department of Commerce and Community Economic Development, Community Database Online, Rural Business Licenses. Values calculated by Northern Economics, Inc.

Facilities, Utilities, Schools and Health Care

At the time of Census 2000, 35.8 percent of the 105 households in New Stuyahok did not have complete plumbing while 27.5 did not have a complete kitchen, 11.9 percent lacked telephone service. At that time, 3.7 percent heated with wood and 92.7 percent heated with fuel oil or kerosene. This census data is derived from a sample which is one reason it may not match the following information from the Department of Commerce and Community Economic Development Community Profile Database.

Water is derived from a well and is treated. A new well is under development. The majority of the community (94 homes), facilities and the school are connected to a piped water and sewer system installed in 1971 and have complete plumbing. Some residents use individual wells and septic tanks; six homes are without complete plumbing. A Master Plan has been funded.

¹This community profile draws on information from the U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, and the Alaska Community Database maintained by the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, Division of Community Advocacy. Values calculated by Northern Economics, Inc. Village elders and residents expanded on and corrected information provided by the above sources.

² Janet Schichnes and Molly Chythlook, *Contemporary Use of Fish and Wildlife in Ekwok, Koliganek, and New Stuyahok, Alaska*. Technical Paper No. 185, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Subsistence, Juneau, Alaska, October 1991.

³ Personal Communication, Planning Team member Moxie Andrew, Jr., interviews with New Stuyahok Elders.

⁴ *Bristol Bay Area Plan for State Lands*. Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, September 1984.

⁵ 1984, "Mainland Southwest Alaska Eskimo." In *Handbook of North American Indians*, Volume 5: Arctic. David Damas, ed., pp. 224-242. Washington: Smithsonian Institution.

⁶ Southwest Regional School District web page accessed at <http://dlg.swrsd.org/do/doHomePage.shtml>.