

Tanana Chiefs Conference

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) 2022-2026 & Economic Recovery Plan

Appendices, March 2022

Appendix A: Detailed Background

Appendix B: CEDS Regional Survey Results

Appendix C: Outreach Materials

Appendix D: COVID-19 and Economic Recovery Resources

Appendix E: Priority Project List by Community

Appendix A: Detailed Background

Culture and History

Athabascan peoples have a long history in Interior Alaska dating at least back 12,000 years. Subsistence and traditional lifestyles are still widely practiced, with knowledges and methods handed down from each generation. Some Alaska Athabascan languages are still spoken and taught today; others are disappearing. Christian missionary and US federal government-sponsored boarding schools which operated over a century ago in Alaska have resulted in current primary home and public use of the English language by all Alaska Athabascan ethnic groups.

Total Athabascan ethnic groups and languages number above 40. Athabascan historical settlement areas extend from Alaska, northern and western Canada, the Pacific Northwest, California, and the Four Corners of Utah, Colorado, Arizona, and New Mexico. For a list of the major ethnic groups in the TCC region, see the callout box.

Today the TCC region has a mixed subsistence-cash economy, with many residents splitting time between subsistence and cash-based employment. Subsistence harvesting of salmon and other fish species, hunting of big game, and trapping of furbearing animals are all common and frequent activities in Interior Alaska. The Yukon River hosts five-species salmon runs, from Chinook, sockeye, coho, chum, and pink, while the Koyukuk River hosts all but sockeye. At least back to 2007, for both major rivers and five salmon species, runs have significantly declined, and in the past decade Chinook salmon runs have nearly crashed every season.

Athabascan Ethnic Groups in TCC Region

Gwich'in
Han
Upper Tanana
Tanacross
Lower Tanana
Koyukon
Upper Kuskokwim
Holikachuck
Deg Hit'an

List of TCC Villages, Tribes, Village Corporations by Subregion

List of TCC Villages and Tribes by Subregion

TCC Subregion	Village	Tribe	Borough/ Census Area
Upper Kuskokwim	McGrath	McGrath Native Village Council	Yukon-Koyukuk
	Medfra*	Medfra Traditional Council	Yukon-Koyukuk
	Nikolai	Edzeno' Native Village Council	Yukon-Koyukuk
	Takotna	Takotna Tribal Council	Yukon-Koyukuk
	Telida	Telida Native Village Council	Yukon-Koyukuk
Lower Yukon	Anvik	Anvik Tribal Council	Yukon-Koyukuk
	Grayling	Grayling IRA Council	Yukon-Koyukuk
	Holy Cross	Holy Cross Traditional Council	Yukon-Koyukuk
	Shageluk	Shageluk IRA Council	Yukon-Koyukuk
Upper Tanana	Dot Lake	Dot Lake Traditional Council	Southeast Fairbanks
	Eagle	Eagle IRA Council	Southeast Fairbanks
	Healy Lake	Healy Lake Traditional Council	Southeast Fairbanks
	Northway	Northway Traditional Council	Southeast Fairbanks
	Tanacross	Tanacross IRA Council	Southeast Fairbanks
	Tetlin	Tetlin IRA Council	Southeast Fairbanks
	Tok	Tok Native Association	Unorganized
Yukon Flats	Arctic Village	Arctic Village Traditional Council	Yukon-Koyukuk
	Beaver	Beaver Traditional Council	Yukon-Koyukuk
	Birch Creek	Denduu Gwich'in Tribal Council	Yukon-Koyukuk
	Canyon Village*	Canyon Village Tribal Council	Yukon-Koyukuk
	Chalkyitsik	Chalkyitsik Village Council	Yukon-Koyukuk
	Circle	Circle Tribal Council	Yukon-Koyukuk
	Fort Yukon	Native Village of Fort Yukon	Unorganized
	Venetie	Venetie Village Council	Yukon-Koyukuk
Yukon Koyukuk	Galena	Louden Tribal Council	Yukon-Koyukuk
	Huslia	Huslia Traditional Council	Yukon-Koyukuk
	Kaltag	Kaltag Tribal Council	Yukon-Koyukuk
	Koyukuk	Koyukuk Traditional Council	Yukon-Koyukuk
	Nulato	Nulato Tribal Council	Yukon-Koyukuk
	Ruby	Ruby Tribal Council	Yukon-Koyukuk
Yukon Tanana	Alatna	Alatna Village Council	Yukon-Koyukuk
	Allakaket	Allakaket Tribal Council	Yukon-Koyukuk
	Evansville	Evansville Tribal Council	Yukon-Koyukuk
	Hughes	Hughes Village Council	Yukon-Koyukuk
	Lake Minchumina*	Lake Minchumina Tribal Council	Yukon-Koyukuk
	Manley Hot Springs	MHS Traditional Council	Yukon-Koyukuk
	Minto	Minto Village Council	Yukon-Koyukuk
	Nenana	Nenana Native Village	Unorganized

TCC Subregion	Village	Tribe	Borough/ Census Area
	Rampart	Rampart Village Council	Yukon-Koyukuk
	Stevens Village	Stevens Village IRA Council	Yukon-Koyukuk
	Tanana	Tanana Tribal Council	Yukon-Koyukuk
TCC	Fairbanks	Tanana Chiefs Conference	Fairbanks North Star
*Medfra, Canyon Village and Lake Minchumina do not have any year-round residents			

List of Village Corporations in the TCC Region

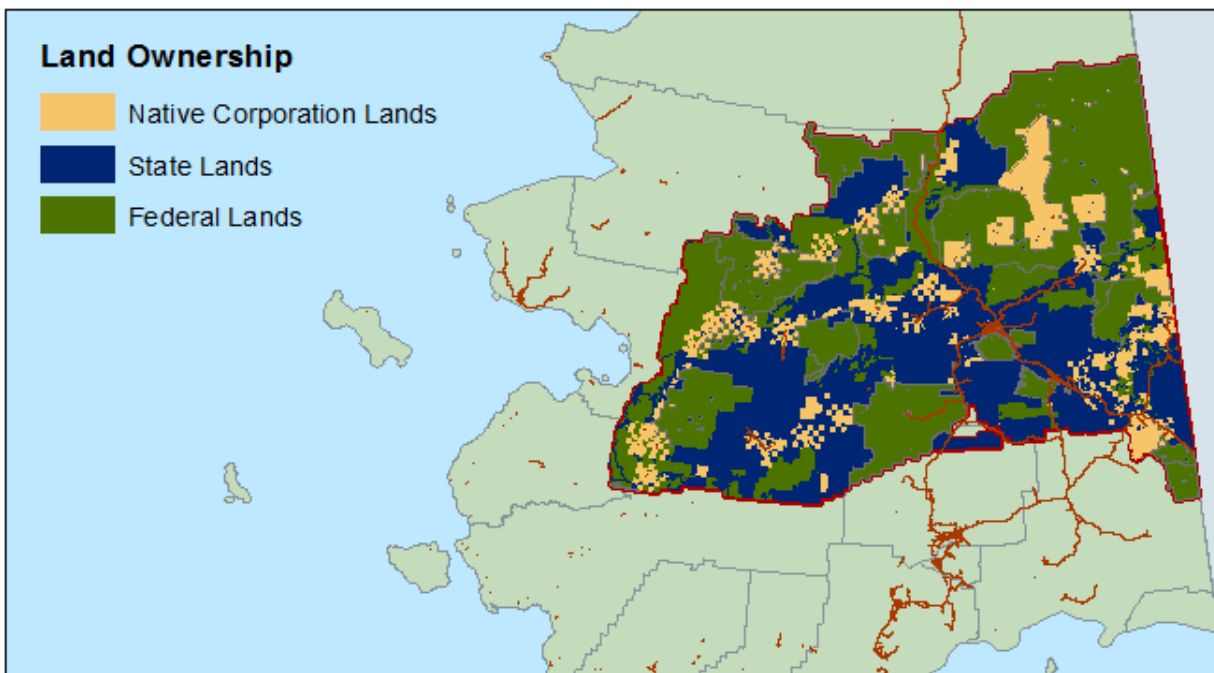
Village Corporation	Village (alphabetical)
K'oyitl'ots'ina Corp.	Alatna, Allakaket, Hughes, Huslia
Deloy Ges, Inc	Anvik
Neets'ai Corporation	Arctic Village
Beaver Kwit'chin	Beaver
Tihteet'aii Inc.	Birch Creek
Kian Tr'ee Corporation	Canyon Village
Chalkyitsik Native Corporation	Chalkyitsik
Danzhit Hanl'ai Corp.	Circle
Dot Lake Native Corp.	Dot Lake
Hungwitchin Corp	Eagle
Evansville Inc.	Evansville
Gwitchyaa Zhee Corp.	Fort Yukon
Gana-A' Yoo Ltd.	Galena, Kaltag, Nulato, Koyukuk
Hee-Yea-Lingde Corp.	Grayling
Mendas Cha-ag Native Corp	Healy Lake
Deloycheet Inc.	Holy Cross
Minchumina Natives Inc	Lake Minchumina
Bean Ridge Corporation	Manley Hot Springs
MTNT Ltd.	McGrath, Nikolai, Takotna, Telida
Medfra Native Council Inc.	Medfra
Seth-De-Ya-Ah Corp.	Minto
Toghotthele Corp.	Nenana
Northway Natives Inc.	Northway
Baan o yeel kon	Rampart
Dineega Corp.	Ruby
Zho-Tse Inc.	Shageluk
Dinyee Corp.	Stevens Village
Tanacross Inc.	Tanacross
Tozitna Ltd.	Tanana
Tetlin Native Corporation	Tetlin
Tok Native Association	Tok
Venetie Indian Reservation	Venetie

Land Ownership Map

Land Ownership

The TCC region covers 235,000 square miles in Interior Alaska, an area equal to about 37 percent of the entire state and just slightly smaller than the state of Texas. Land ownership patterns in the region mirror the rest of the state. The federal government is the largest landowner, followed by the State of Alaska, and then, collectively, the largest private landowners – the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) Native Corporations.

TCC Regional Land Ownership Map



Map developed by PDC Engineers for the 2016 TCC CEDS with data from the Bureau of Land Management

The distribution of land ownership by acre for the region is as follows: ¹

- 63,212,373 acres are federally owned.
- 48,443,527 acres are owned by the State of Alaska.
- 7,922,107 acres are owned by Doyon, the Regional Native Corporation.
- 3,613,434 acres are owned by village corporations.
- 229,857 acres are private allotments.
- All subsurface areas below Doyon and village corporation land are owned by Doyon. ²

¹ The data presented is derived from BLM's spatial data management system and is current as of December 2015.

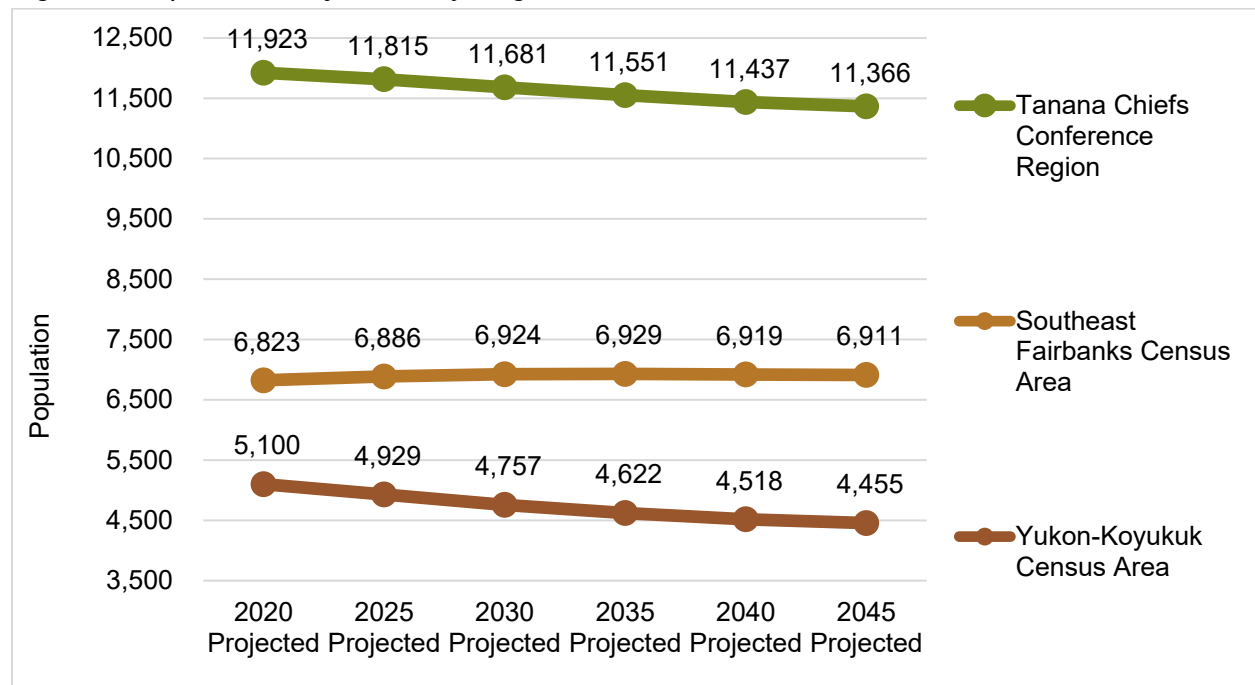
² The villages of Venetie, Arctic Village, and Tetlin are an exception to this rule. For more information, see the "Native Corporation Lands" section that follows.

Demographics

Population Projections

The population of the TCC region is expected to decline in the coming decades, though projected population change varies by census area (Figure 1). There are several components of change driving this decline: a slight projected decrease in the regional birth rate, a moderate increase in projected deaths (likely due to an aging population), and consistent trends of out-migration in the region.

Figure 1: Population Projections by Region, 2020 – 2045

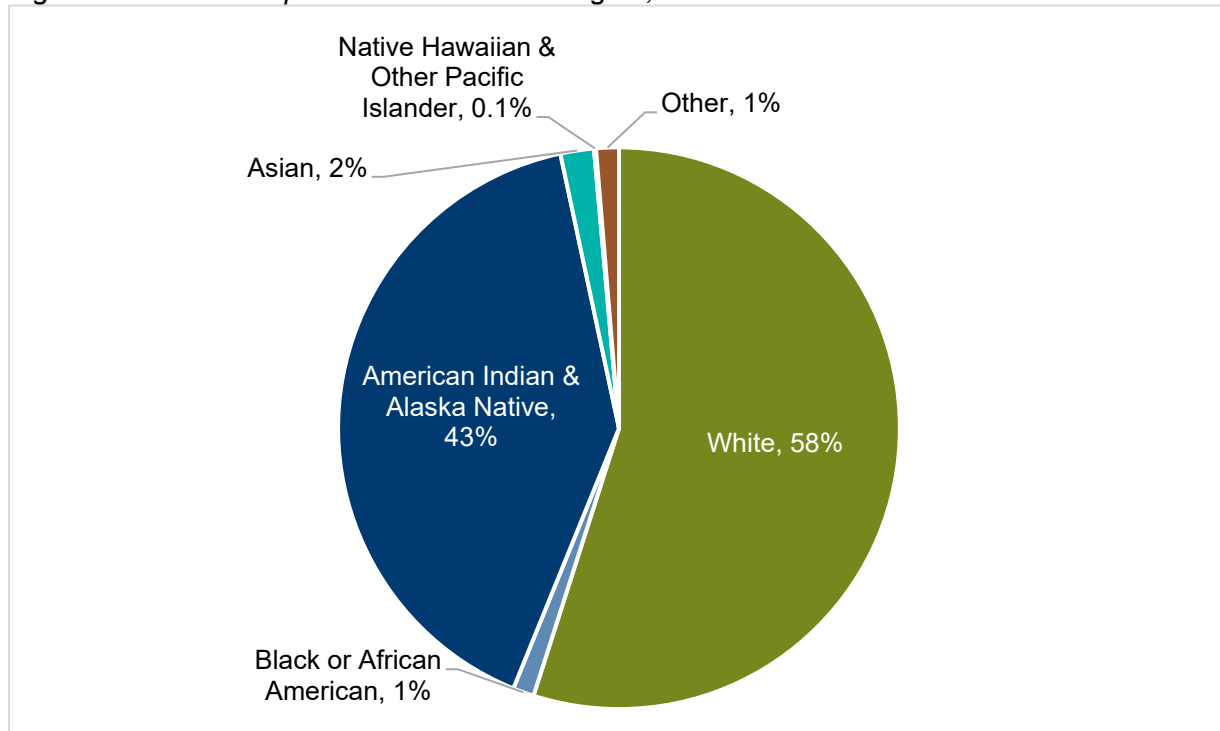


Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section, “Population by Age and Sex, and Components of Change: 2019 to 2045,” 2019, Available at <https://live.laborstats.alaska.gov/pop/projections.html>

Racial Composition

The majority of the TCC region's population is white or Alaska Native (Figure 2). Fifty-eight percent of the population is white, 43 percent are American Indian or Alaska Native, two percent are Asian, one percent is Black or African American, and one percent identify with other races.

Figure 2: Racial Composition for the TCC Region, 2015-2019



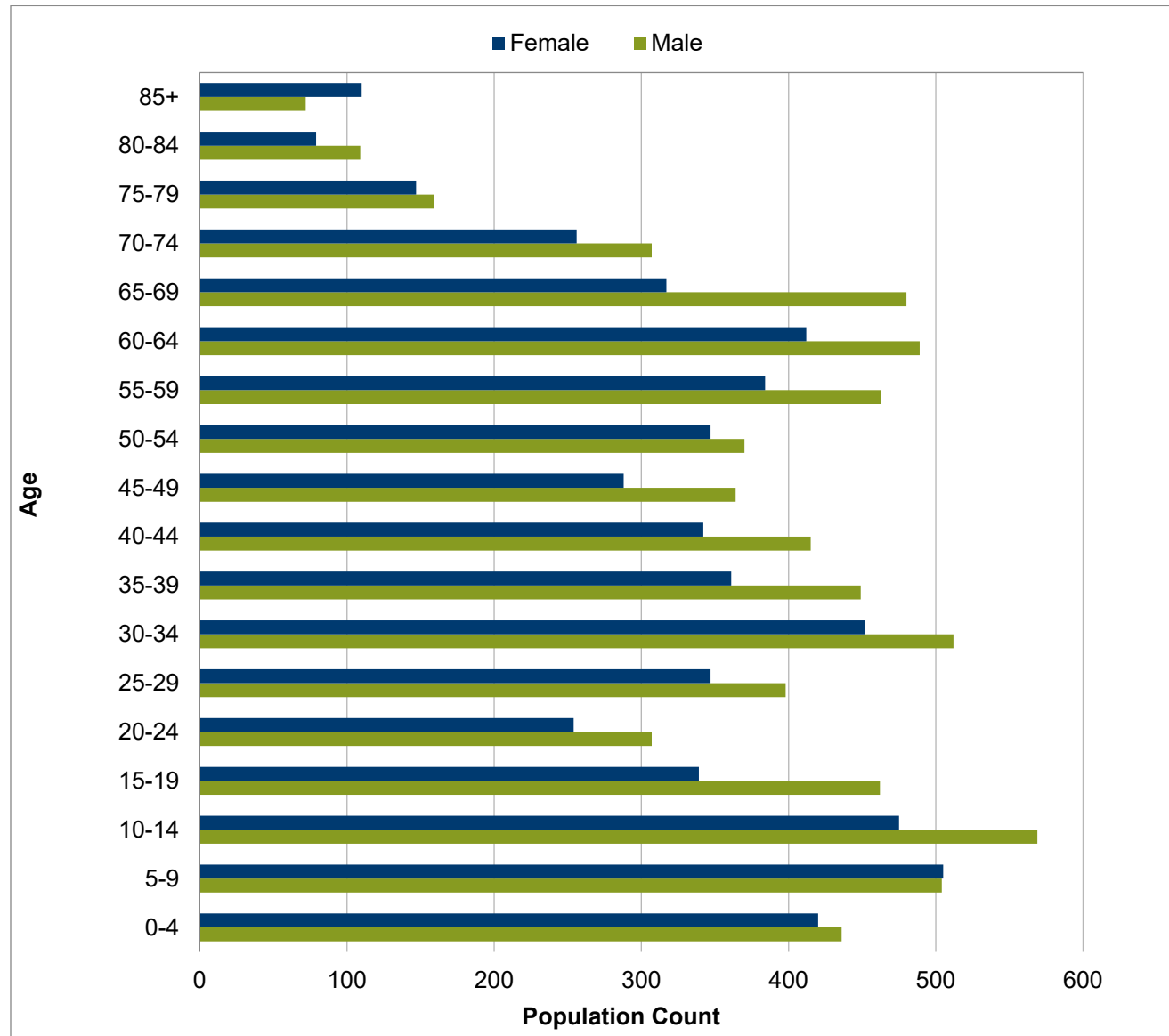
Note: This chart includes those of more than one race, so numbers exceed 100%.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, "2015-2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates," 2019 Available at <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/advanced>

Population by Age and Sex

The TCC region population by age and sex is shown in Figure 3. In terms of age, the number of residents in the 20-29 and 40-54 age groups is noticeably smaller than the number of residents in age groups immediately preceding them in age. These age groups make up an important component of the workforce in most communities and a reduction in that age group in the region could indicate that working-age residents are leaving for job and/or higher education opportunities outside the region.

Figure 3: Population by Age and Gender for the TCC Region, 2020

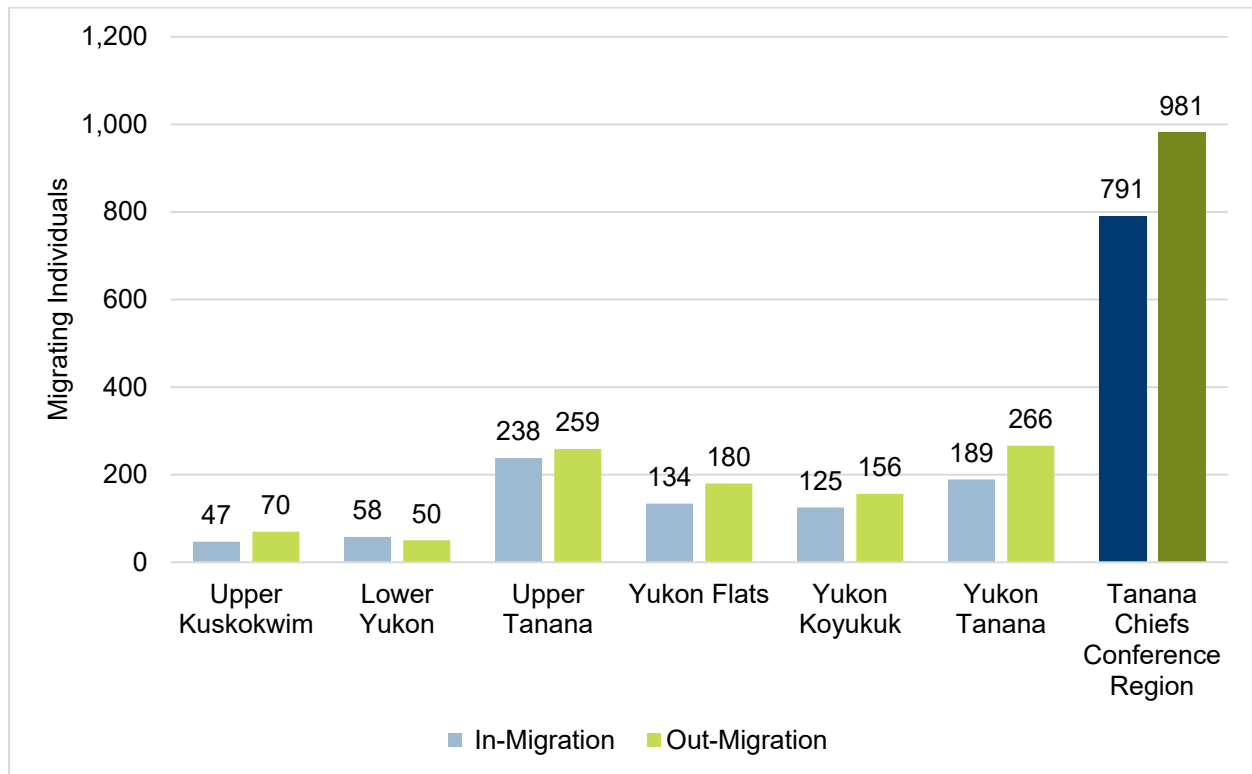


Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, “Economic Regions and Boroughs/Census Areas: Alaska Population by Age, Sex and Borough/Census Area” 2020, Available at <https://live.laborstats.alaska.gov/pop/index.cfm>

Migration

Figure 4 shows migration patterns in and out of the TCC region and subregion, based on Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend application data. There is a net migration out of the TCC region, though migration patterns vary among subregions.

Figure 4: Migration Patterns for TCC Subregions, 2019-2020



Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, “Change in Place of Residence for Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend (PFD) Applicants,” 2020, Available at <https://live.laborstats.alaska.gov/pop/migration.html>

Economy and Business

Industry Clusters

Location quotient data can tell us which industries are more specialized in a specific regional economy and help us understand the unique characteristics of a region. Location quotient data for the TCC region is shown in Figure 5. Industries with higher concentration are shaded green; those with lower concentrations are shaded red. The top three industries with the highest concentrations in the TCC region for both employment and wages include natural resources and mining, leisure and hospitality, and public administration.

Figure 5: Location Quotients for the TCC Region, 2020

Industry	Annual Establishments	Annual Average Employment	Total Annual Wages	Employment Location Quotient	Wages Location Quotient
Natural resources and mining	17	587	\$76,314,571	18.5	33.3
Leisure and hospitality	43	202	\$5,534,818	6.9	11.7
Public administration	65	1,105	\$52,433,868	6.0	4.4
Education and health services	42	1,313	\$68,921,205	2.0	2.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities	132	613	\$29,364,951	1.8	1.5
Other services	19	124	\$5,545,843	1.0	1.5
Construction	27	133	\$11,944,171	0.6	0.9
Information	14	28	\$1,131,502	0.3	0.1
Professional and business services	42	183	\$10,796,232	0.3	0.2
Manufacturing	7	35	\$1,171,964	0.2	0.1
Financial activities	7	22	\$1,030,320	0.2	0.1
Total, All Industries	510	4,572	\$279,348,563	1.0	1.0

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, NAICS Sectors, Annual Averages, All establishment sizes," 2020, Available at https://data.bls.gov/cew/apps/data_views/data_views.htm#tab=Tables

***Note:** Location quotients compare the concentration of an industry within a specific area to the concentration of that industry nationwide. Industries in shades of red have a low concentration compared with the rest of the nation, while those in shades of green have a higher concentration compared to the rest of the nation.

Businesses

Figure 6 shows percent change in annual private business employment in 2019 and 2020. The TCC region, Alaska, and the Fairbanks North Star Borough all experienced declines ranging from two to 11 percent in average private business employment between 2019 and 2020.

Figure 6: Percent Change in Annual Average Private Business Employment, 2019-2020

Geography	2019		2020		2019-2020 % Change in Private Business Employment
	Total Private Businesses	% of Workforce Employed	Total Private Businesses	% of Workforce Employed	
Alaska	20,162	77%	20,657	76%	-10%
Fairbanks North Star Borough	2,162	74%	2,166	73%	-8%
Tanana Chiefs Conference	309	51%	309	51%	-2%
Southeast Fairbanks Census Area	189	68%	188	68%	2%
Yukon Koyukuk Census Area	120	32%	121	31%	-11%

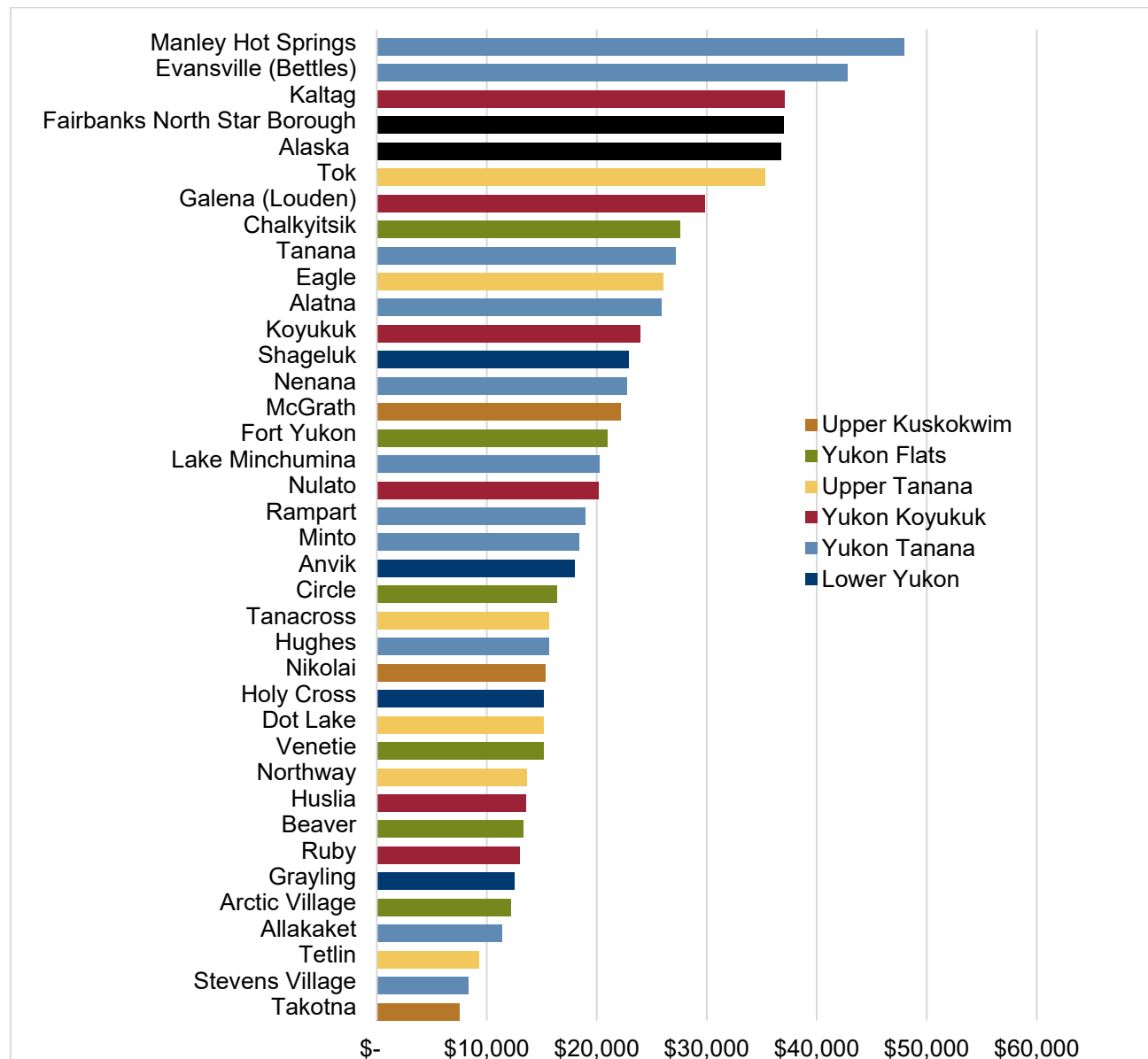
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages," 2020, Available at https://data.bls.gov/cew/apps/data_views/data_views.htm#tab=Tables

Income

Per capita income varies across the TCC region (Figure 7). The per capita income for the majority of TCC communities is less than that of the Fairbanks North Star Borough and the state average.

Most communities in the region had a per capita income of less than \$30,000 in 2019, while three of the region's communities made less than \$10,000 per capita. Only two communities (Manley Hot Springs and Evansville/Bettles) made over \$40,000 per capita in 2019.

Figure 7: Per Capita Income by Community and Subregion, 2015-2019



Note: Dataset timeframe does not reflect pandemic conditions.

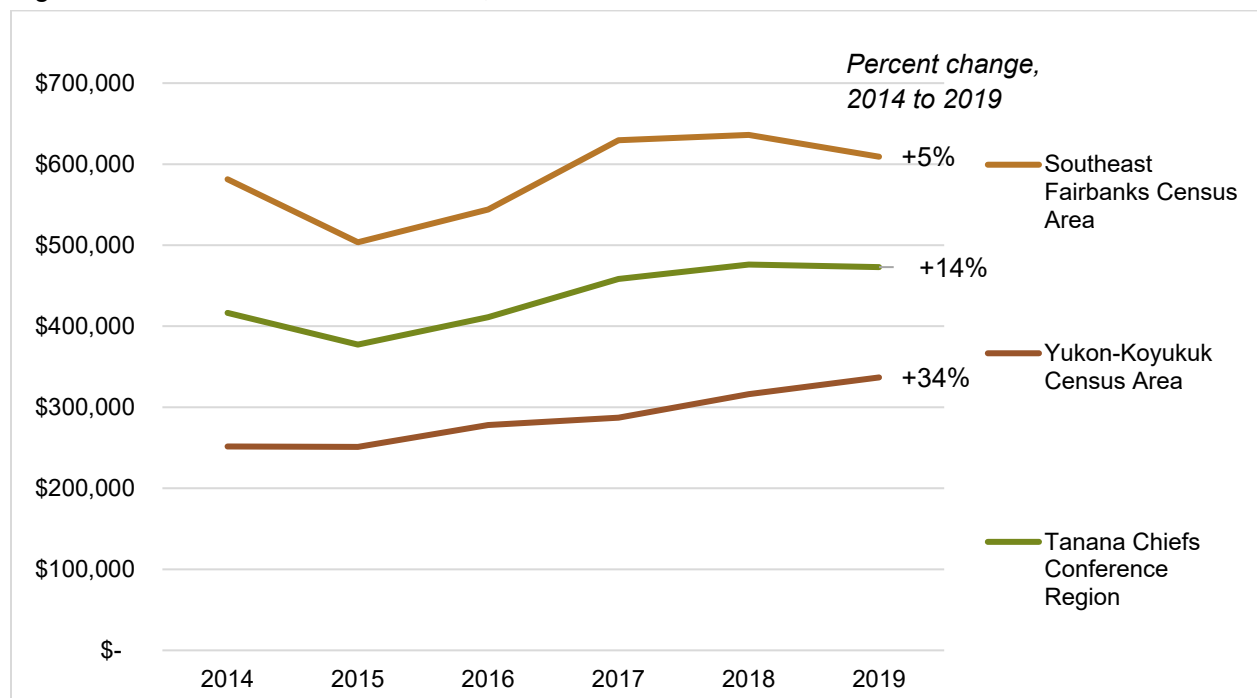
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, "American Community Survey Estimates Detailed Tables," 2015-2019, Available at <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/all?t=Income%20and%20Poverty>

Gross Domestic Product

According to the Bureau of Economic Analysis, gross domestic product (GDP) by county and metropolitan area is the “measure of the market value of all final goods and services produced within an area in a particular period of time.” In concept, an industry's GDP by county and metropolitan area, referred to as its “value added,” is equivalent to its gross output (sales or receipts and other operating income, commodity taxes, and inventory change), minus its intermediate inputs (consumption of goods and services purchased from other U.S. industries or imported). GDP by county and metropolitan area is the local area counterpart of the nation's GDP, BEA's featured measure of U.S. production. GDP for the TCC region is shown in Figure 8. Notable trends include:

- Between 2014 and 2019, both the Southeast Fairbanks Census Area and Yukon -Koyukuk Census Area experienced GDP growth.
- The TCC region experienced a higher percent increase in GDP between 2014 and 2019 (14 percent) compared with Alaska and the Fairbanks North Star Borough, which experienced a two percent decrease and eight percent increase respectively during this time span.

Figure 8: Annual Current-dollar GDP, 2015-2019



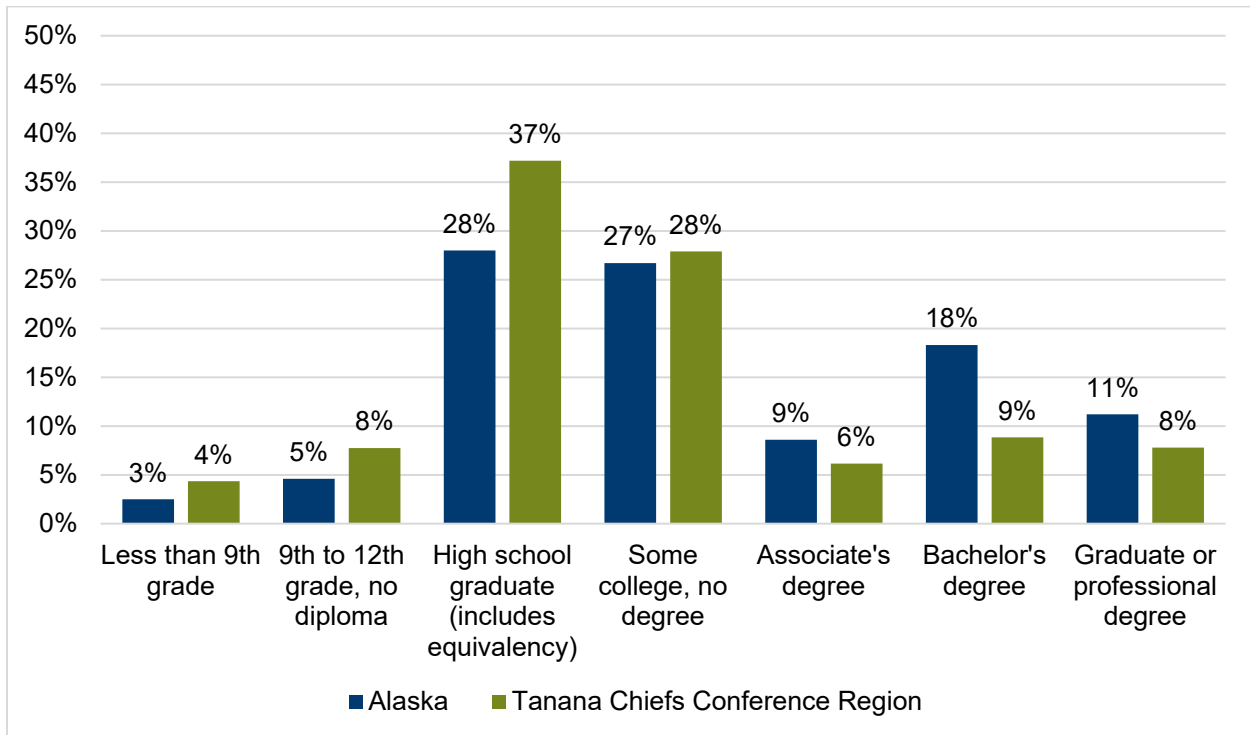
Note: Dataset timeframe does not reflect pandemic conditions.

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, “CAGDP1 Gross Domestic Product (GDP) summary by county and metropolitan area,” 2019, Available at <https://www.bea.gov/data/gdp/gdp-county-metro-and-other-areas>

Educational Attainment

Figure 9 shows educational attainment rates for Alaska and the TCC region. Most of the adult population in the TCC region has a high school diploma and many have at least some college. Educational attainment in the region is lower than the state average, with a larger proportion of the TCC population not completing high school and a smaller proportion having earned a bachelor's degree or higher when compared with the state average.

Figure 9: Educational Attainment by Region, 2015-2019



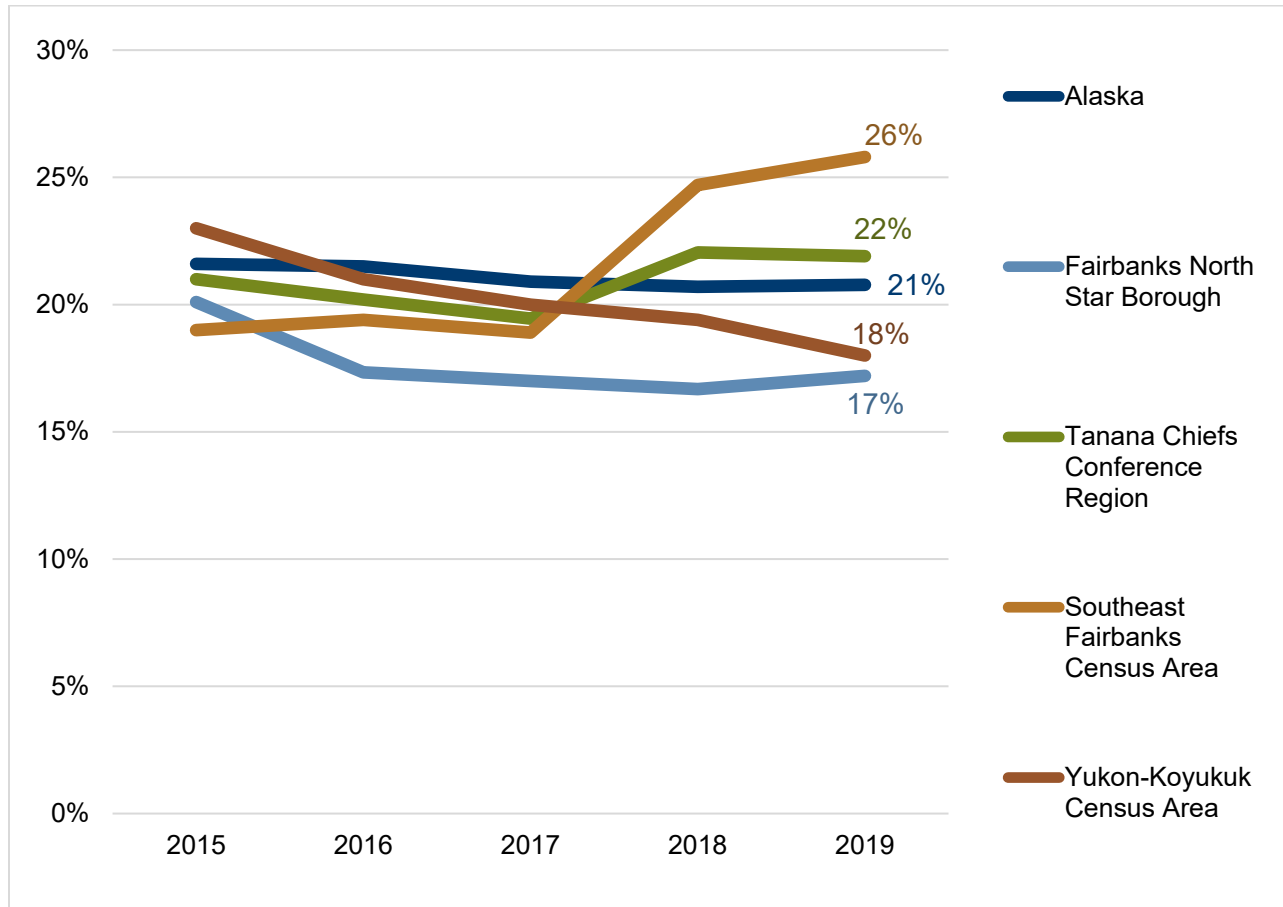
Note: Graph includes only traditional collegiate programs; many vocational education programs and related certifications may not be reflected. Dataset timeframe does not reflect pandemic conditions.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, "2015-2019 American Community Survey Estimates Detailed Tables," 2015-2019, Available at <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/advanced>

Resident vs. Nonresident Workers

Figure 10 shows the percentage of nonresident workers in the TCC region and other comparative Alaska regions. The TCC region saw a one percent increase in private sector nonresident workers between 2015 and 2019, with all this growth attributed to the Southeast Fairbanks Census Area.

Figure 10: Nonresident Workers by Area (private sector), 2015-2019



Note: Dataset timeframe does not reflect pandemic conditions.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section, “Nonresidents Working in Alaska” publications, 2015-2019, Available at <https://live.laborstats.alaska.gov/reshire/index.cfm>

Wages

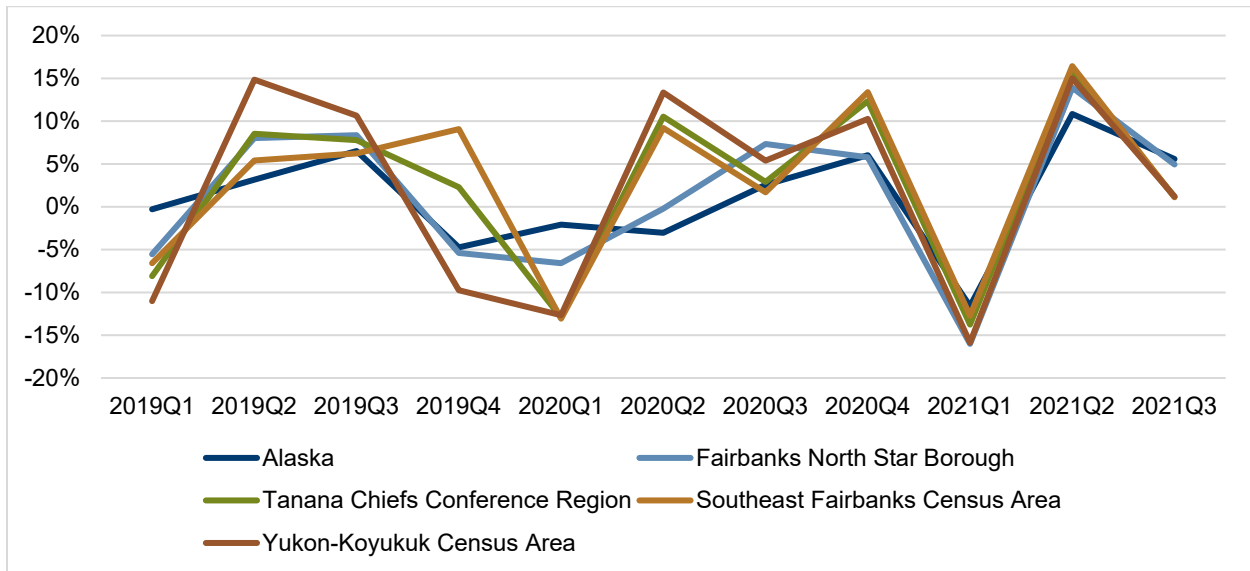
Wages across these regions are influenced by seasonal employment (Figure 11). As shown in Figure 12, total industry wages in the TCC region experienced fluctuations similar to those of Alaska and the Fairbanks North Star Borough, with the sharpest declines occurring in the first quarter of every year (wintertime). 2020 total wages for the TCC region overall did not experience declines when compared with the same quarters of 2019, though this varies by census area within the region.

Figure 11: Percent Change in Total Quarterly Wages (all industries), 2019-2020

Geography	2019Q1- 2020Q1 Percent Change	2019Q2- 2020Q2 Percent Change	2019Q3- 2020Q3 Percent Change	2019Q4- 2020Q4 Percent Change
Alaska	2%	-4%	-7%	3%
Fairbanks North Star Borough	3%	-4%	-5%	6%
Tanana Chiefs Conference Region	4%	6%	1%	11%
Southeast Fairbanks Census Area	6%	10%	5%	9%
Yukon Koyukuk Census Area	0%	-1%	-6%	15%

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, “Current Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages,” 2021, Available at <https://live.laborstats.alaska.gov/qcew/index.html>

Figure 12: Percent Change from Previous Quarter in Total Industry Wages, 2019Q1 - 2021Q3

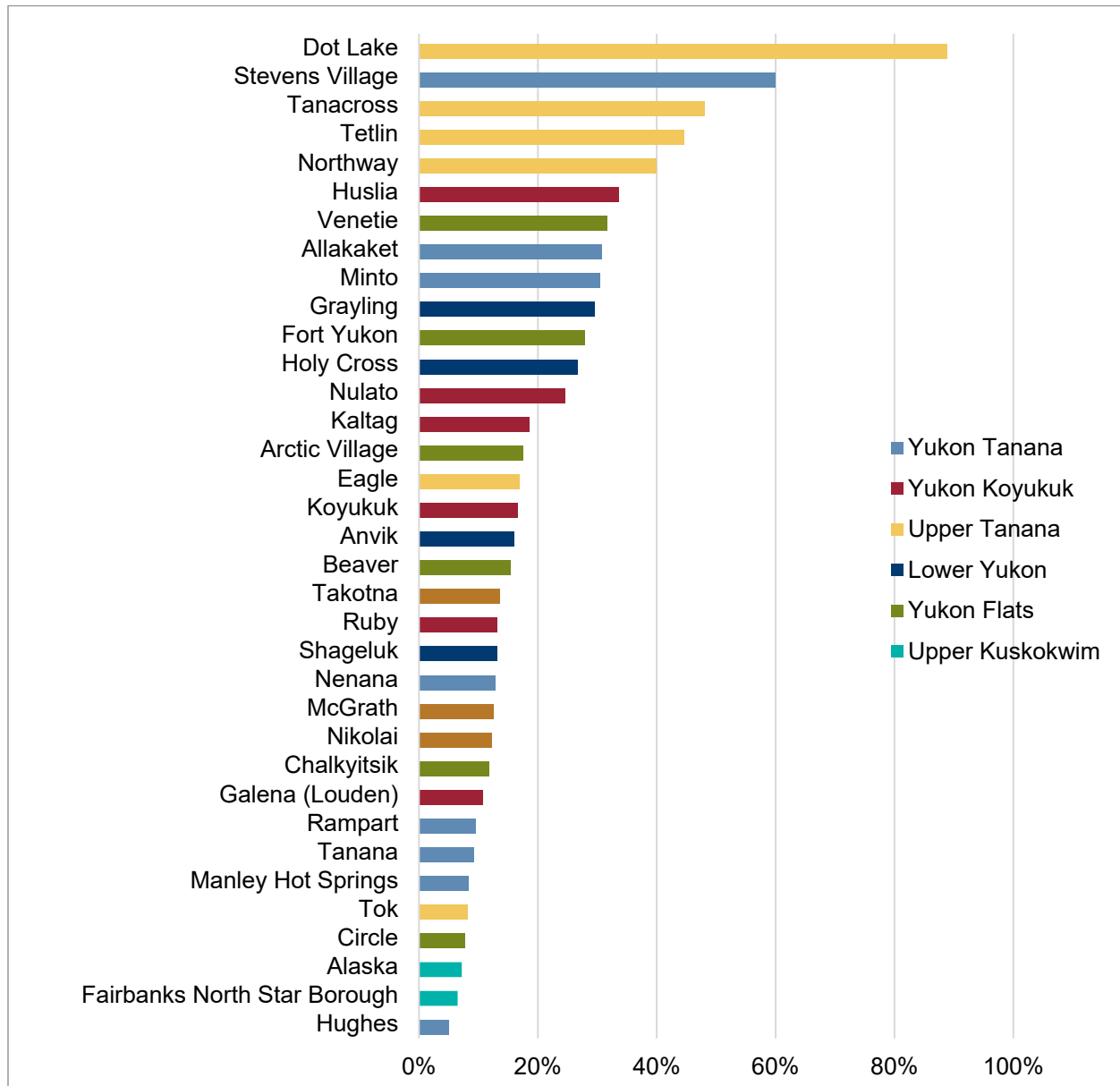


Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, “Current Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages,” 2021, Available at <https://live.laborstats.alaska.gov/qcew/index.html>

Unemployment

Unemployment rates vary between communities in the TCC region and between each of its subregions (Figure 13). Between 2015 and 2019, the communities of Tetlin, Tanacross, Stevens Village, and Dot Lake experienced the highest unemployment rates, with over 40 percent of their respective populations claiming unemployment, while the communities of Hughes, Circle, and Tok experienced the lowest unemployment rates, with less than 10 percent of their respective populations claiming unemployment.

Figure 13: Unemployment Rate by Community and Region, 2015-2019



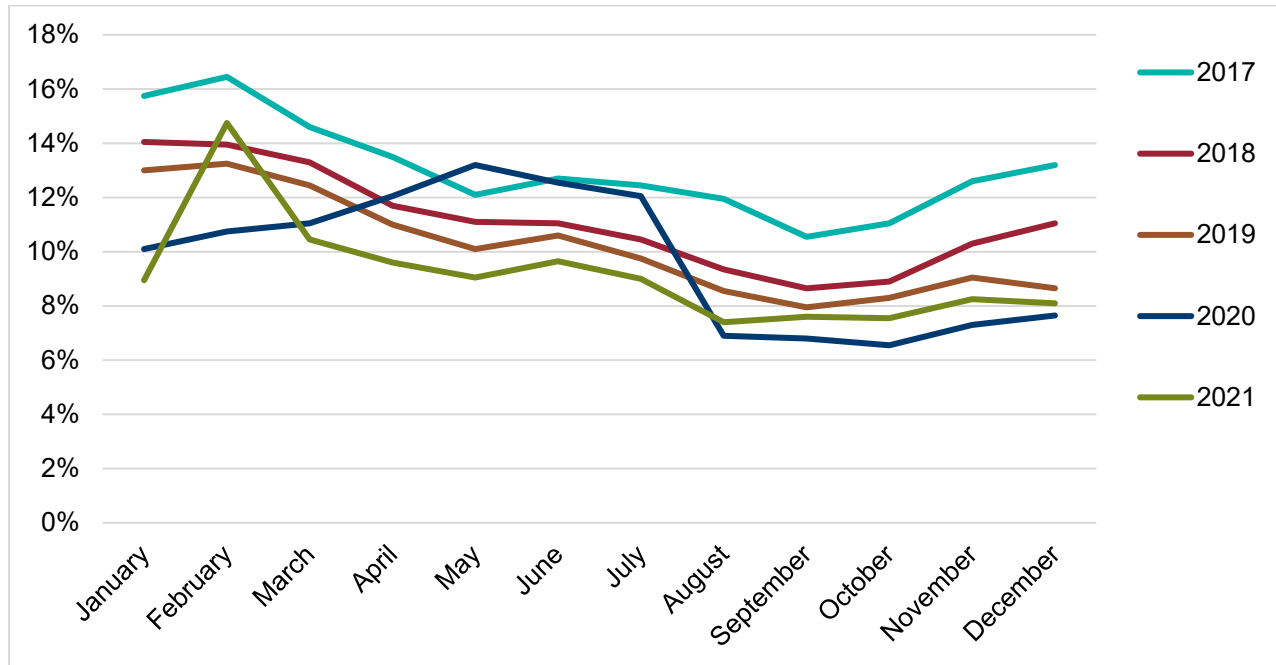
Note: Dataset timeframe does not reflect pandemic conditions.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, "2015-2019 American Community Survey Estimates Detailed Tables," 2019, Available at <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/advanced>

Seasonal Unemployment

Employment opportunities in the TCC region fluctuate throughout the year (Figure 14). Unemployment rates tend to be higher in the winter and early spring and lower in the summer and fall.

Figure 14: Seasonal Unemployment Rates in the TCC Region, 2017-2021

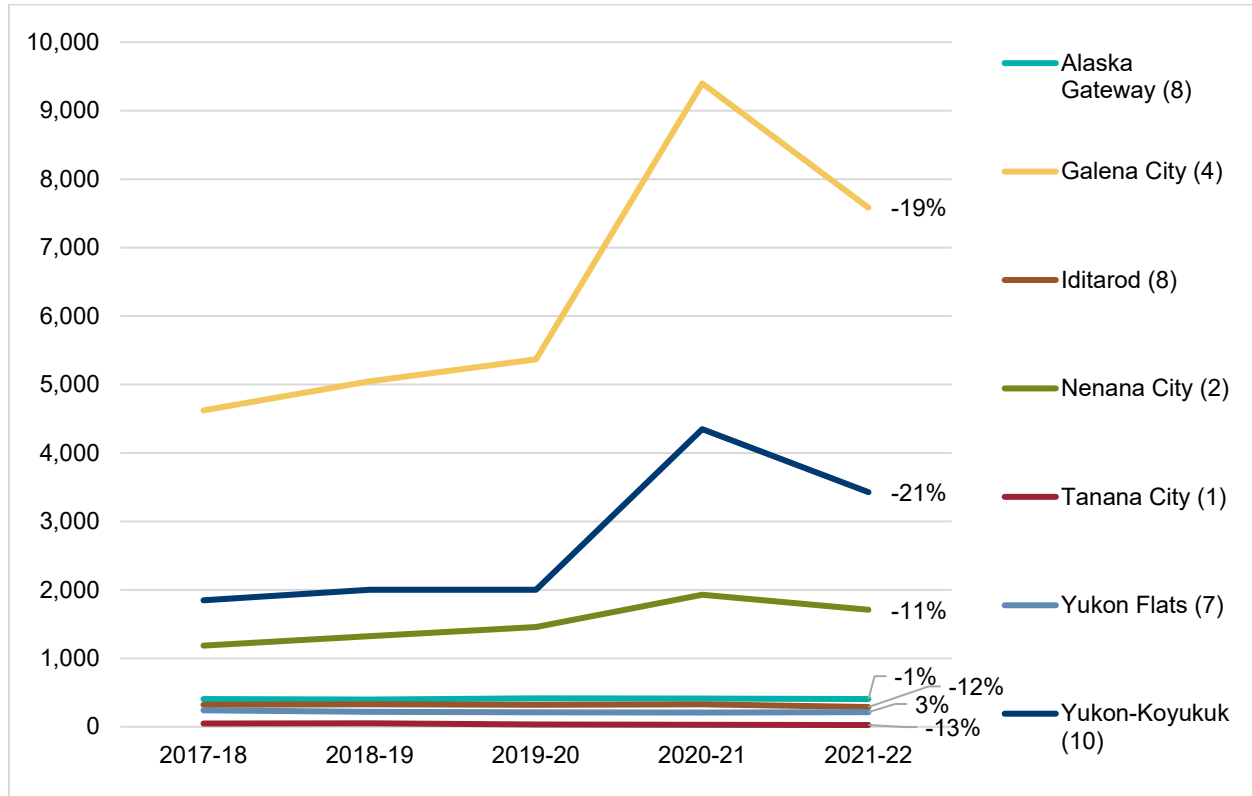


Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section, "Unemployment Rates by Area Not Seasonally Adjusted," 2017-2020, Available at <https://live.laborstats.alaska.gov/labforce/index.html>

School District Enrollment

Figure 15 shows pre-K through 12th grade enrollment by school district from 2017-2018 through the 2021-2022 school year. The Galena City, Yukon-Koyukuk, and Nenana City school districts experienced a period of rapid growth in Pre-K through 12th grade enrollment between the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school year due to increased enrollment in their respective district's homeschool program, though all school districts experienced a decline in enrollment in the following school year.

Figure 15: Pre-K Through 12th Grade Enrollment by School District, 2017-2022



Source: Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) Data Center, Statistics & Reports, "District Enrollment Totals for all Alaskan Public School Districts," 2022, Available at <https://education.alaska.gov/data-center>

Infrastructure Summary

Transportation

History

The discovery of gold and subsequent gold rush in the late 1800s and early 1900s introduced a United States military presence into Interior Alaska, including new transportation routes. By 1901, a military road was available between Valdez and Eagle. The construction of the Alaska Railroad route between Fairbanks, Nenana and Seward began in 1915 and was completed in 1923. During the 1920s, airfield construction became popular throughout Alaska. World War II brought additional transportation upgrades, including the 1,522-mile Alaska Highway from Dawson Creek, British Columbia to Fairbanks.³

Overview of Existing Transportation Infrastructure

The TCC region contains approximately 2,500 miles of roads, including the City of Fairbanks. About 750 of these miles are in the Fairbanks North Star Borough. According to the TCC Transportation department, there are 1,603 miles in the TCC region included in the Indian Reservation Roads program.

Remote villages primarily depend on air transport for essential goods and services such as diesel fuel, mail, food items, medicine. Services such as stores, medical facilities, and more remain in hub communities. The 42 communities in the TCC region are served by 37 runways. Runways in the region are usually surfaced with packed dirt or gravel. The length of runways is the main factor that determines the size of aircraft that can land or take off.

Figure 16 shows the list of TCC communities and the primary mode(s) of transportation used to access each community. Ten communities are accessible by road. In general, these communities have the lowest transportation costs when compared with communities accessed via air and barge. Seventeen communities are accessed by air. These communities struggle with increasing air travel costs and limited air carrier service options. Nineteen TCC communities are serviced by barge. In these communities, barge service can be limited by ice in the winter.

³ Summarized from the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities' "Interior Alaska Transportation Plan." November 2010. Available at: <http://dot.alaska.gov/nreg/studies/iatp/files/chapter-2.pdf>

Figure 16: Primary Modes of Transportation per TCC Community

10 Road Communities	17 Air Service Communities	19 Barge Communities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nenana • Minto • Healy Lake (accessible by road in winter and road/boat in summer) • Dot Lake • Rampart (road close to the community and then boat service is available) • Tanacross • Tok • Tetlin • Northway • Eagle (road closed in winter) • Circle (road closed in winter) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shageluk • Nikolai • Telida • Takotna • Huslia • Hughes • Alatna (via Allakaket) • Allakaket • Evansville (at times ice road access via haul road) • Venetie • Arctic Village • Canyon Village (via Ft. Yukon) • Chalkyitsik • Birch Creek • Beaver • McGrath • Rampart 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holy Cross • Anvik • Grayling • Beaver • Hughes • Huslia • Ruby • Koyukuk • McGrath • Kaltag • Nenana (hub for cargo) • Nulato • Koyukuk • Galena • Manley • Tanana • Rampart • Stevens Village • Fort Yukon

Developed for the 2016 TCC CEDS with input from TCC staff

Transportation Financing

The State of Alaska relies heavily on federal funds to pay for capital transportation projects. State funding is used primarily for maintenance and as required match funds. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) also provides funding for Tribal transportation programs. Tribes can either receive their transportation funding directly through FHWA or can contract with the Bureau of Indian Affairs to help manage the Tribal FHWA funds.⁴

The 2019 TCC Regional Transportation Strategy provides an overview of the two types of transportation maintenance funding available to Tribes.

- **Tribal Transportation Program (TTP)** funding is from a Tribe's annual TTP funds (which are received as Tribal Shares) that the Tribe uses for transportation facility maintenance. TTP funds can be used for maintenance only on facilities identified in the National Tribal Transportation Facility Inventory (NTTFI).
- **The BIA Transportation Facility Maintenance Program** is separate funding that is provided by Congress for the BIA Transportation Facility Maintenance Program in the annual Department of the Interior appropriations acts. Tribes may use these funds for maintaining BIA Road Systems and BIA transportation facilities. There is only one BIA maintained road in the State of Alaska.

⁴ Summarized from the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities' Interior Alaska Transportation Plan. November 2010. <http://dot.alaska.gov/nreg/studies/iatp/files/chapter-2.pdf/>

Proposed Transportation Projects

The following are new transportation projects being considered in Interior Alaska.

- **Alberta to Alaska (A2A) Access Road to the State Highway System**

The Alberta to Alaska railway is designed to potentially be a central economic route for the Northwest region within North America. The addition of this 1,600-mile railway from northern Alberta to Alaska will expand important transportation connections between Canada and the United States. The project has gained a Presidential Border Crossing Permit and is currently seeking regulatory approvals.⁵

- **Ambler Road**

According to the 2019 TCC Regional Transportation Strategy, the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA) submitted an application in 2016 for the Ambler Access Project connecting the Dalton Highway to the Ambler Mining District. Government agencies such as the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, the U.S. National Park Service, and the Bureau of Land Management are required to consult with Tribes on environmental impact regulations and are doing so.⁶ In February 2022, the Biden administration filed documents in a federal court seeking to revisit the issuance of a federal right-of-way permit for the road to AIDEA, which was approved under the Trump administration.⁷

TCC is firmly opposed to this road, and in 2014 the TCC full Board of Directors passed a resolution 54-14 opposing the Ambler Road project and directing TCC employees to monitor the State of Alaska's development proposals and activities.

- **Road to Rampart**

The State of Alaska began construction on the 30-mile stretch from Eureka to Rampart Village. The funding was depleted after finishing 17 miles, bringing the road to the Granite Creek crossing. Currently, the road is only operable as an ice road during the winter months. The Native Village of Rampart has been maintaining the road during the winter months as a secure route to the Alaska Highway system in case of emergencies. As of 2019, the Tribe was actively seeking funding for the remaining 13.9 miles from Granite Creek to the Yukon River.⁸

- **Yukon Kuskokwim Corridor Plan**

The YK Freight Corridor Plan has been completed. The project team found that due to the current economic climate, fuel supply chain logistics, and other factors, this project would not currently succeed in public finance project selection processes and is therefore unlikely to proceed into the NEPA/design phase in the short term. In the future, the Freight Corridor may still be viable if barge operators determine the fuel price differentials between the two rivers warrant overland transfers, or an Alaska natural gas pipeline project creates pricing opportunities for western Alaska freight markets.⁹

⁵ Alaska To Alberta Rail, "About A2A," 2021, Available at <https://a2arail.com/about-a2a/>

⁶ Tanana Chiefs Conference, "Regional Transportation Strategy for Rural Villages Located in Alaska's Interior," July 2019, Available at <https://www.tananachiefs.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/FINAL-TCC-Transportation-Strategy-July-2019.pdf>

⁷ Anchorage Daily News, "Biden administration moves to review Ambler Road plans," February 2022. Available at <https://www.adn.com/alaska-news/rural-alaska/2022/02/22/biden-administration-to-review-trump-era-decision-advancing-ambler-road/>

⁸ Tanana Chiefs Conference, "Regional Transportation Strategy for Rural Villages Located in Alaska's Interior," July 2019, Available at <https://www.tananachiefs.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/FINAL-TCC-Transportation-Strategy-July-2019.pdf>

⁹ United States Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration, "Yukon-Kuskokwim Region Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2018 – 2023," 2018, Available at http://www.avcp.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Y-K-CEDS-2018-2023_FINAL_7-31-18_FULL.pdf

- **Yukon River Reconnaissance Study**

ADOT&PF is also conducting a Yukon River Reconnaissance Study. The study is evaluating the Dalton Highway Yukon River Bridge to identify current conditions and future transportation needs in the area.¹⁰

Energy

Energy Use in the Region

The 2018 Alaska Housing Assessment profiled the residential energy use and costs in the Doyon region, which includes the Fairbanks North Star Borough and the TCC region. The Doyon region has the highest annual home energy costs in the state (approximately 1.3 times the statewide average and 2.3 times the national average). Highlights from the assessment include:¹¹

- **Average Home Energy Use:** The average home in the Doyon region uses 237 million BTUs of energy annually, compared to the statewide average of 227 million BTUs.
- **Affordability:** Approximately 13,939 (35 percent) of households in the Doyon region are cost-burdened, compared with 31 percent statewide. Cost-burdened households are defined as households spending more than 30 percent of total household income on housing costs, including rent, utilities, and energy.
- **Retrofit Needs:** Approximately 26 percent of occupied homes in the region are considered drafty, and an additional 58 percent face the opposite issue of being relatively airtight but lacking a mechanical ventilation system. This is the highest percentage of homes that are airtight and without mechanical ventilation in Alaska and puts these homes at risk for moisture-related and indoor-air-quality-related problems. Approximately 41 percent of all homes in the Doyon region were built before 1980 and have not been retrofitted.

For most communities in the Interior, there are two sets of electric rates: the residential electric rate set by the utility based on cost of electricity production and profit share (if applicable) and the effective rate of electricity, which is a reduced rate paid by residents in communities with utilities enrolled in the Alaska Energy Authority (AEA)'s Power Cost Equalization (PCE) Program. In addition to residential homes, the PCE program subsidizes the rates of eligible Tribal and municipal community buildings and public facilities that are not operated for profit. While some parts of Alaska have made significant advances in the use of renewables, natural gas, and other energy alternatives, the TCC region still relies almost exclusively on diesel for electric generation.¹²

Fuel costs vary throughout the region. According to the fuel price survey conducted by the Alaska Division of Community and Regional Affairs, July 2021 gas prices ranged from a low of \$4.25 a gallon in Minto to \$8.00 a gallon in Arctic Village and Hughes. Heating oil prices are also variable across communities.

¹⁰ Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities, Northern Region, "Yukon River Reconnaissance Study," Available at <https://dot.alaska.gov/nreg/yukonriverrecon/>

¹¹ Alaska Housing Finance Corporation, "2018 Alaska Housing Assessment," Available at <https://www.ahfc.us/pros/energy/alaska-housing-assessment/2018-housing-assessment>

According to the same fuel price survey, heating oil prices ranged from \$2.69 per gallon in Circle to \$12.00 per gallon in Arctic Village.¹³

The Interior Alaska Regional Energy Plan

TCC completed Phase II of the Interior Alaska Regional Energy Plan in July 2015. The Interior Alaska Regional Energy Plan is part of a statewide effort led by the Alaska Energy Authority, with the intention of identifying energy projects that have the potential to reduce long-term energy cost and fossil fuel dependence.¹⁴ The Phase II report identified six focus areas, each with defined goals and actions, and priority projects for each community and subregion. The six focus areas are:

- Utility Management & Operations
- Energy Efficiency
- Electricity
- Heating
- Transportation
- Planning

Renewable Energy

The TCC region has renewable energy potential, ranging from biofuels (wood), solar, hydroelectric from river currents, geothermal and wind. Technology is advancing and it is becoming easier to integrate renewable energy into existing electric grids.¹⁵ With TCC's Tribal communities paying some of the highest energy costs in the nation, the TCC Energy Program works in partnership with Tribes to develop projects that can reduce the burden of high energy costs and encourage Tribal energy sovereignty.¹⁶ Past projects have included community-scale solar projects, high-efficiency building designs, diesel generator replacements and communitywide energy efficiency projects.

Water, Sewer and Solid Waste

In 2017, the United States Arctic Research Commission Alaska Rural Water and Sanitation Working Group prepared a report estimating that approximately 22 percent of rural Alaskan households lack in-home water and sewer service.¹⁷ The report also identified challenges to providing clean water and sanitation, including:

- High cost of building and maintaining rural sanitation facilities.
- Climate change impacts on water and wastewater infrastructure, making upgrades necessary.
- Lack of adequate funding to serve remaining homes or to make the improvements required for healthy living.

¹³ Alaska Division of Community and Regional Affairs, "Fuel Price Survey," 2021, Available at

<https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/dcra/researchanalysis/fuelpricesurvey.aspx>

¹⁴ Alaska Energy Authority, "Phase II Interior Alaska Regional Energy Plan," 2015, Available at <https://www.akenergyauthority.org/What-We-Do/Energy-Planning-Project-Development/Regional-Energy-Plans>

¹⁵ Tanana Chiefs Conference, "Energy Conservation," 2021, Available at <https://www.tananachiefs.org/services/energy-conservation/>

¹⁶ Tanana Chiefs Conference, "Energy Conservation," 2021, Available at <https://www.tananachiefs.org/services/energy-conservation/>

¹⁷ United States Arctic Research Commission, "Alaska Rural Water and Sanitation Working Group," 2017, Available at https://www.arctic.gov/uploads/assets/arwswg_flyer_3-30-17.pdf

- Lack of necessary technologies to address health problems associated with water and sewer system deficiencies.

Villages can seek funding for water and sewer infrastructure projects through the State of Alaska Village Safe Water and the Indian Health Service Sanitation Deficiency System funding programs. Those with only a washeteria are considered “unserved” because they do not have piped water to homes.¹⁸ According to the State of Alaska, 13 communities in the TCC region are categorized as unserved communities: Alatna, Allakaket, Birch Creek, Chalkyitsik, Circle, Koyukuk, Ruby, Shageluk, Stevens Village, Takotna, Arctic Village, Eagle, and Venetie.

As a result of high construction costs, many rural residents haul water from a central (treated) water point, often a washeteria/laundromat. About 83 percent of Alaska’s public water systems and 90 percent of private wells rely on ground water.¹⁹ Alaska has a large quantity of groundwater (water that is found under the surface of the ground). Generally, this water requires less treatment than surface water. Groundwater is less available in northern parts of Alaska where the permafrost runs deep. In those cases, public water systems make frequent use of streams, rivers, lakes, and rainwater.

Recently, federal and State of Alaska funding for Village Safe Water (VSW) capital projects has declined severely while the estimated cost of addressing rural water and sewer needs has risen. The State of Alaska has committed funds to stimulate interest and encourage the private sector research and develop of new and cost-effective ways to deliver water and sewer services in rural Alaska. In 2013, the state initiated a multi-year process called the Alaska Water and Sewer Challenge to encourage the formation of teams and provide funding to develop and test innovative and cost-effective technologies to provide basic water and sewer services to homes in rural Alaska. As of 2021, the challenge is in phase four (Field System Development & Testing).²⁰

The funding process for water and sewer projects is complex. The TCC Office of Environmental Health (OEH) assists villages and works with the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) and VSW to secure projects that meet the community needs and have potential to be competitive for funding. Once a project is funded OEH will conduct plan reviews at various stages of development.

OEH staff work with local water operators to develop preventative maintenance plans for village water treatment plants. Not only does this extend the life of the treatment facility and reduce operations costs, it also increases a community’s score when competing for water and sewer project funding.

¹⁸ An unserved community is one in which 55% or fewer homes are served by a piped, septic tank & well, or covered haul system.

¹⁹ *State of Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Division of Water*, “Groundwater in Alaska,” 2008, Available at <https://dec.alaska.gov/water/>

²⁰ *State of Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Division of Water*, “Alaska Water and Sewer Challenge” 2021, Available at <https://dec.alaska.gov/water/water-sewer-challenge/>

Natural Hazards

Climate Change

Climate change has already warmed Alaska by an average of three degrees Fahrenheit over the past six decades. The daily maximum temperature statewide is projected to increase an additional four to eight degrees by 2065.²¹

Figure 17 through Figure 23 are based on community climate chart modeling from the SNAP Scenarios Network for Alaska & Arctic Planning. This tool uses “Representative Concentration Pathways (RCPs)” to display climate scenarios. RCPs describe paths to future climates based on atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations. The following charts are based on a “medium” scenario that assumes greenhouse gas emissions peak in 2080 and radiative forcing stabilizes after 2100.²² In all models of TCC subregions, average temperatures are projected to increase by two to three degrees Celsius in the coming decades.

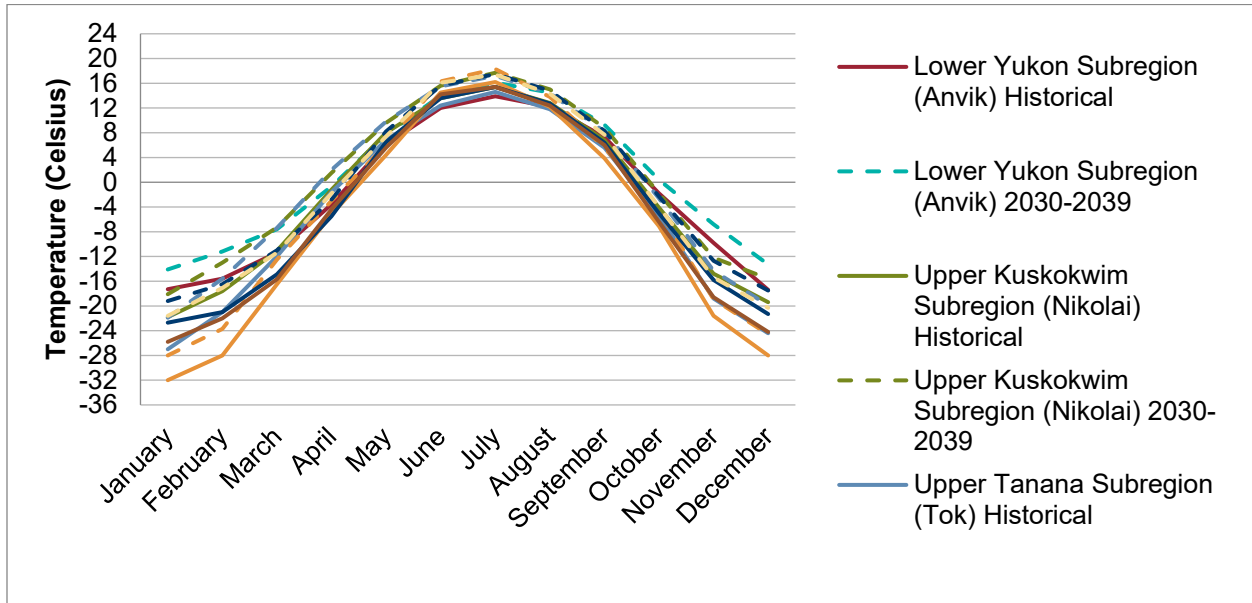
In addition to changing temperatures, climate change brings many impacts to the region, including a loss of ice and/or frozen ground needed for travel or food storage, precipitation changes, an increased fire risk, permafrost thaw and erosion, and changes in species composition to “favor species that are less cold-hardy (including desirable crops and invasive species).”²³

²¹ U.S. Government Publishing Office, “Fourth National Climate Assessment Volume II, Chapter 26: Alaska.” 2018, Available at <https://nca2018.globalchange.gov/>

²² SNAP Scenarios Network for Alaska & Arctic Planning, International Arctic Research Center at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, “Community Climate Charts,” 2022, Available at <https://snap.uaf.edu/tools/community-charts>

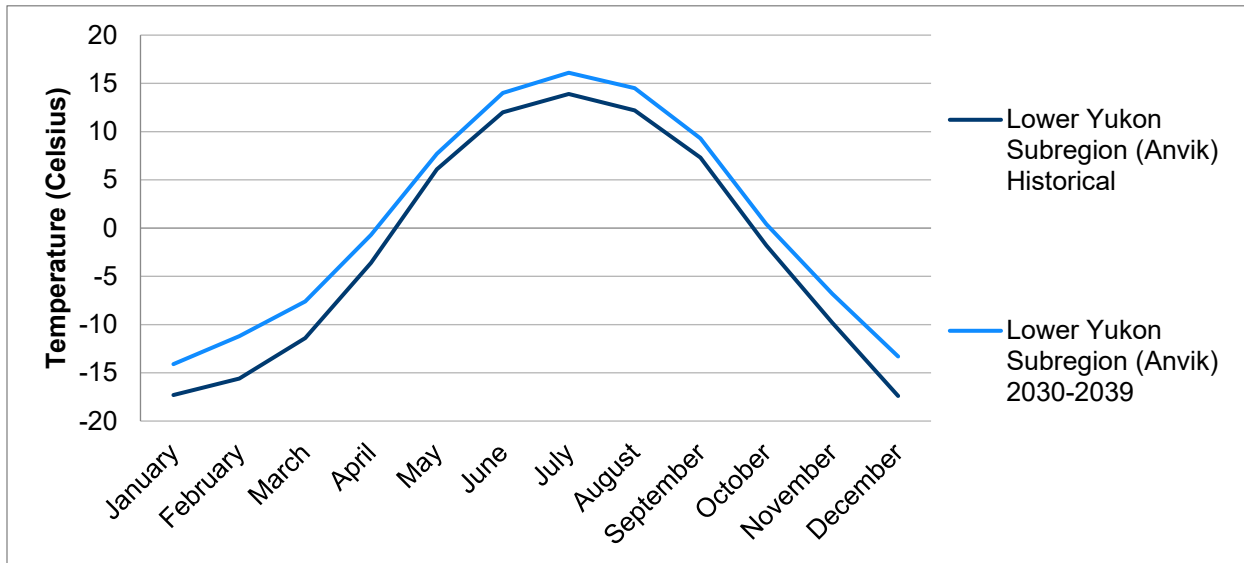
²³ SNAP Scenarios Network for Alaska & Arctic Planning, International Arctic Research Center at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, “Community Climate Charts,” 2022, Available at <https://snap.uaf.edu/tools/community-charts>

Figure 17: Projected Temperature Changes by TCC Interior Subregion with Medium Emission Impact (RCP 6.0) for 2030-2039



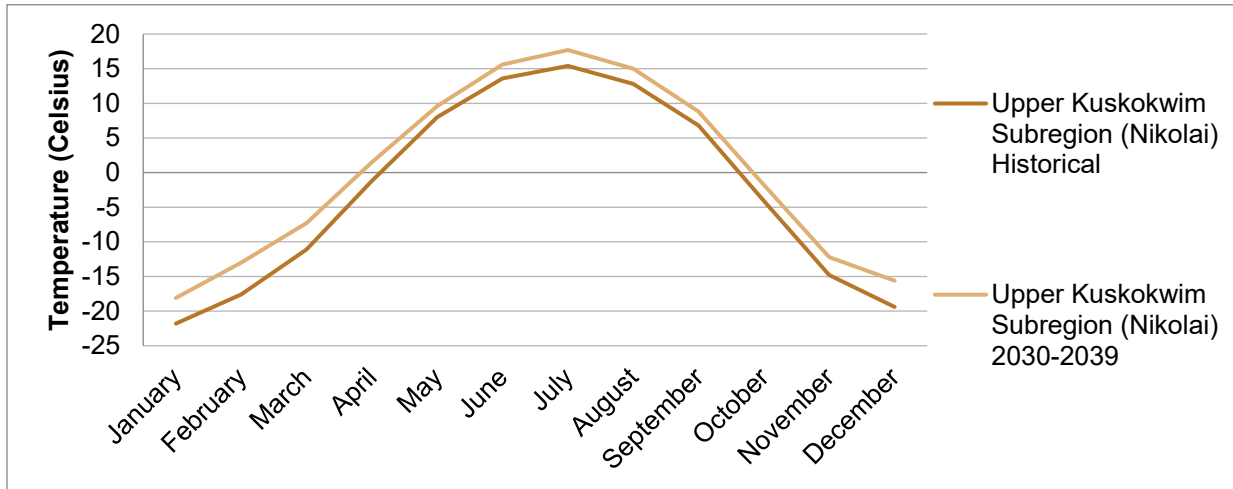
Source: SNAP Scenarios Network for Alaska & Arctic Planning, International Arctic Research Center at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, “Community Climate Charts,” 2022, Available at <https://snap.uaf.edu/tools/community-charts>

Figure 18: Lower Yukon Subregion Projected Temperature Changes



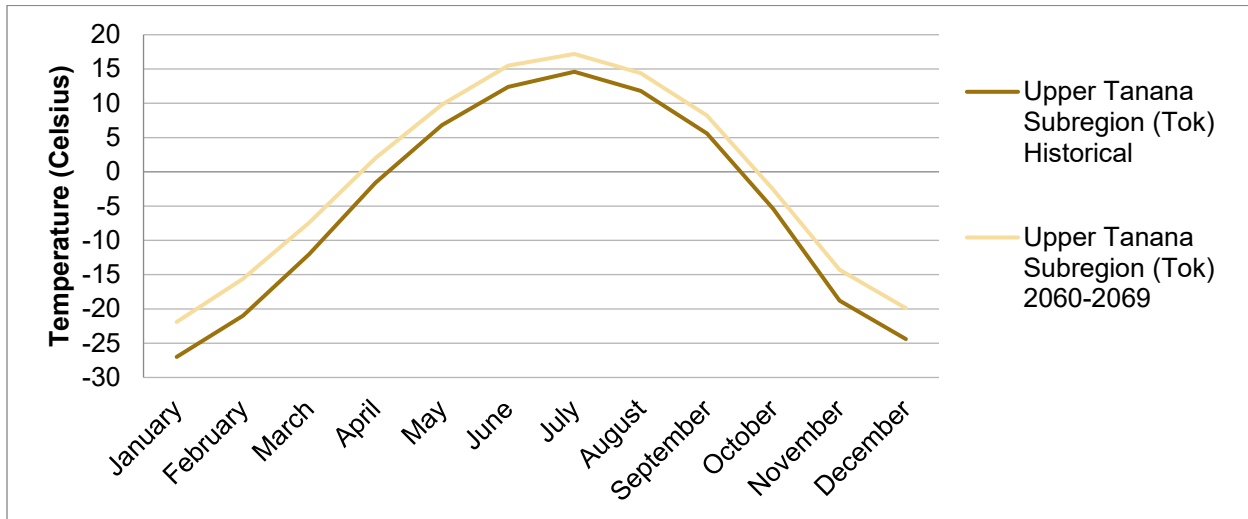
Source: SNAP Scenarios Network for Alaska & Arctic Planning, International Arctic Research Center at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, “Community Climate Charts,” 2022, Available at <https://snap.uaf.edu/tools/community-charts>

Figure 19: Upper Kuskokwim Subregion Projected Temperature Changes



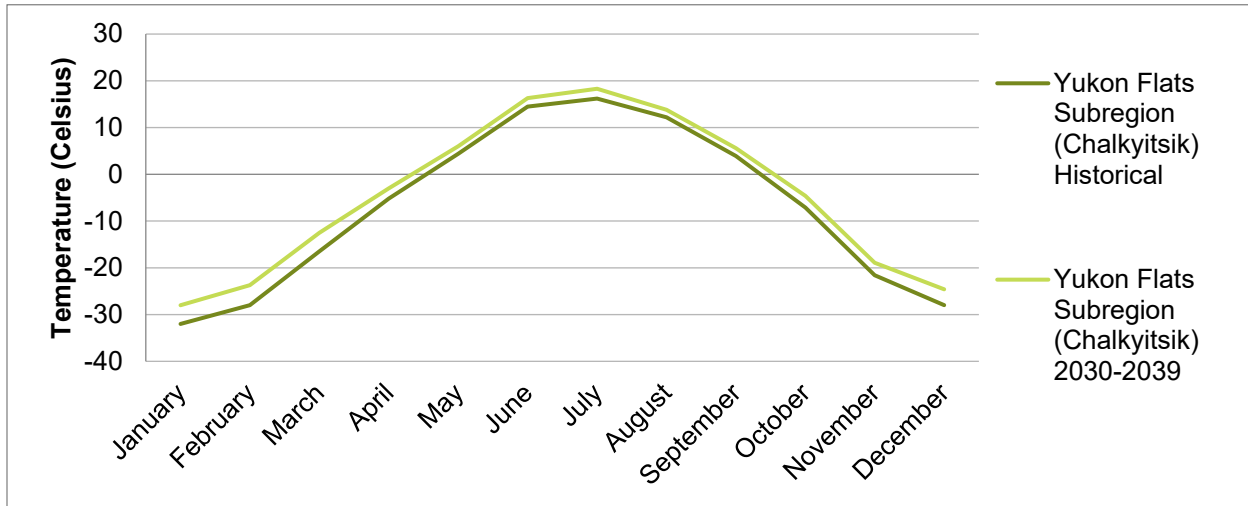
Source: SNAP Scenarios Network for Alaska & Arctic Planning, International Arctic Research Center at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, “Community Climate Charts,” 2022, Available at <https://snap.uaf.edu/tools/community-charts>

Figure 20: Upper Tanana Subregion Projected Temperature Changes



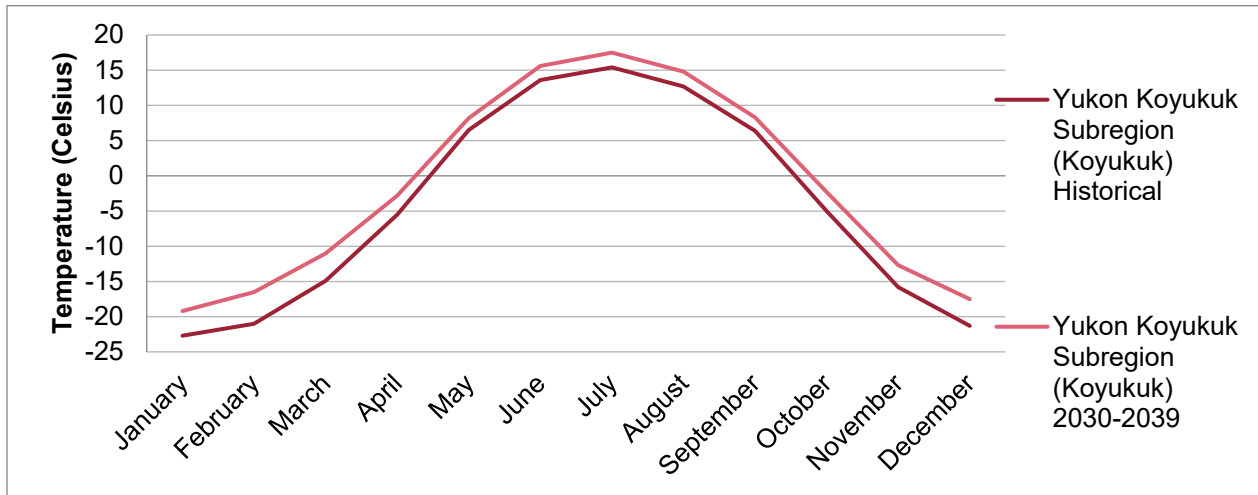
Source: SNAP Scenarios Network for Alaska & Arctic Planning, International Arctic Research Center at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, “Community Climate Charts,” 2022, Available at <https://snap.uaf.edu/tools/community-charts>

Figure 21: Yukon Flats Subregion Projected Temperature Changes



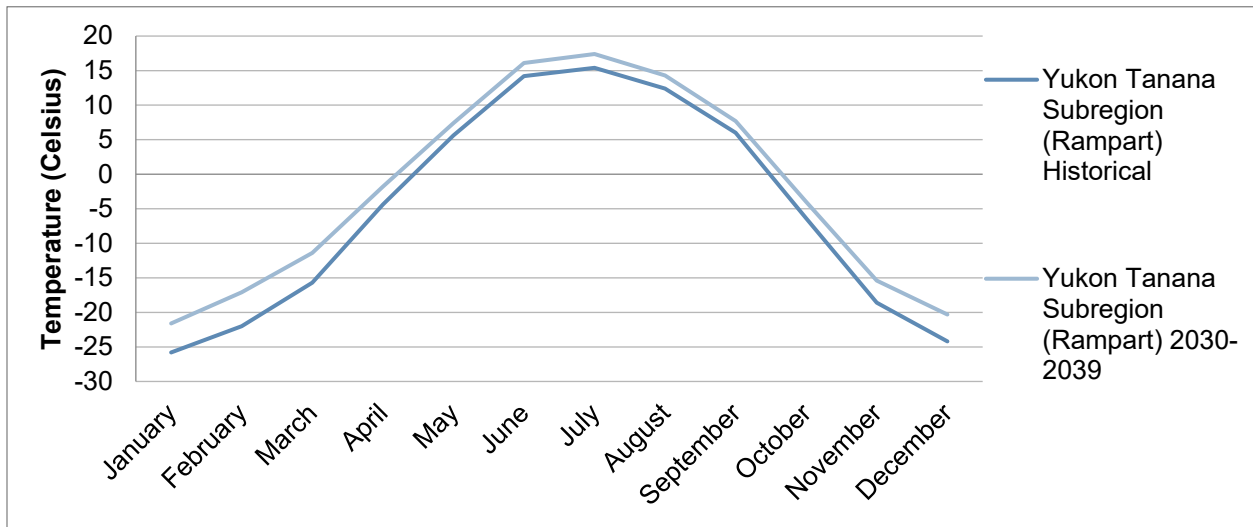
Source: SNAP Scenarios Network for Alaska & Arctic Planning, International Arctic Research Center at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, "Community Climate Charts," 2022, Available at <https://snap.uaf.edu/tools/community-charts>

Figure 22: Yukon Koyukuk Subregion Projected Temperature Changes



Source: SNAP Scenarios Network for Alaska & Arctic Planning, International Arctic Research Center at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, "Community Climate Charts," 2022, Available at <https://snap.uaf.edu/tools/community-charts>

Figure 23: Yukon Tanana Subregion Projected Temperature Changes



Source: SNAP Scenarios Network for Alaska & Arctic Planning, International Arctic Research Center at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, “Community Climate Charts,” 2022, Available at <https://snap.uaf.edu/tools/community-charts>

Wildfires

According to the Alaska Center for Climate Assessment and Policy, the average wildfire area burned per decade in Alaska is projected to double by the middle of this century.²⁴ Since 1988, the frequency of years that burned over 250,000 acres on Yukon Flats quadrupled.²⁵

Floods

Many TCC communities are located alongside riverbanks or deltas and are susceptible to flooding because of ice jams, snow, glacial melts, rising sea levels, and heavy rainfall. With climate change, scientists expect increased water flow, flooding, and woody debris.²⁶

In 2019, a report prepared for the Denali Commission identified 38 “Group 1” Alaska communities in immediate danger of flooding and erosion. Ten are within the TCC region: Allakaket, Circle, Eagle, Fort Yukon, Galena, Hughes, Koyukuk, Nenana, Nulato, and McGrath. The threat of flooding and erosion for these communities is immediate to critical infrastructure. Damages resulting from a moderate flood or compounding erosion would impact community sustainability, present life safety concerns, affect access to

²⁴ Climate Central, “THE AGE OF ALASKAN WILDFIRES,” 2015, Available at <http://assets.climatecentral.org/pdfs/AgeofAlaskanWildfires.pdf>

²⁵ Alaska Interagency Coordination Center, Alaska Fire Science Consortium, Available at <https://fire.ak.blm.gov/>

²⁶ Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge & International Arctic Research Center, “Yukon Flats changing environment” 2021, Available at <https://uaf-iarc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Yukon-Flats-Changing-Environment.pdf>

emergency services, and/or require support from outside the region to assist the community in responding to the event.²⁷

Earthquakes

The TCC region has several fault systems with the potential for major earthquakes. In 2002, a magnitude-7.9 earthquake occurred along the Denali Fault.²⁸

Industry Impacts

Continued high worldwide oil prices and long-term declines in statewide oil exploration and production will likely result in a decrease in the availability of oil industry jobs for Alaska residents.

Mining and resource extraction efforts in the region are a potential source of income but may also bring a variety of environmental risks and can undermine traditional ways of life, especially for anadromous waterways and other important fish and game habitat used by subsistence gatherers.

²⁷ Denali Commission, “Statewide Threat Assessment: Identification of Threats from Erosion, Flooding, and Thawing Permafrost in Remote Alaska Communities,” 2019, Available at <https://www.denali.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Statewide-Threat-Assessment-Final-Report-20-November-2019.pdf>

²⁸ Alaska Earthquake Center. “Why Earthquakes Happen in Alaska,” 2015, Available at <http://earthquake.alaska.edu/earthquakes/about>

Subsistence Resources

Yukon and Kuskokwim River salmon populations have been declining drastically since 1998, resulting in decreased allowable subsistence and commercial catch. In 2020 and 2021, the region experienced closures of subsistence fishing for Chinook and chum salmon runs. Run sizes are expected to continue declining into 2022.²⁹

Road access proposals and projects could potentially result in a surge of nonresident hunting and fishing of subsistence harvesting areas. This possibility could impact species that are important for subsistence.³⁰

Figure 24 summarizes per capita wild resource harvests by pounds of usable weight for different species by census area. Wild resource harvests contribute significantly to households in the TCC region, with the Southeast Alaska Census Area averaging 243.6 pounds of wild resource harvests per capita annually, and the Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area averaging 324.1 pounds annually. These numbers are both well over the statewide average of 61.6 pounds and more than ten times greater than the Fairbanks area.

Figure 24: Per capita wild resource harvest by pounds usable weight

Census Area	Salmon	Other fish	Shellfish	Land mammals	Marine mammals	Birds and eggs	Wild plants	All resources
Southeast Fairbanks Census Area (portion)	76.3	36.6	0.3	110.8	0	6.4	13	243.6
Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area	159	45.1	0.1	103.3	0	10.1	6.6	324.1
Fairbanks Nonsubsistence Area	7.1	1.3	0.1	7.9	0	-	-	16.4
State	22.8	12.4	1.6	15	6.7	1.3	1.9	61.6

Source: Alaska Dept of Fish and Game, “Estimated harvests of wild resources for home use in Alaska by census area, region, and category”, 2017, Available at <https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static-sub/csis/pdfs/estimated%20harvests%20by%20region%20and%20census%20area.pdf>

²⁹ Alaska Department of Fish & Game, Northern Bering Sea surface trawl survey, 2019, Available at https://s3-us-west-1.amazonaws.com/akssfapm/APM_Uploads/2017/51002/.pdf/2019northernberingseacruisereportakssfinal.pdf

Cost of Living

In Figure 25, heating fuel costs in the TCC region are 200 percent higher than the national average while costs for basic grocery items like apples are nearly 500 percent higher than the national average. This paired with a lower per capita income contributes to an extremely high cost of living in the region.

Figure 25: Cost of Living Comparisons, 2021

Region	Price per gallon for gasoline	Price per gallon for heating fuel	Price per kWh without PCE	PCE per kWh	Price per kWh with PCE	Price per lb of bananas	Price per lb of apples
United States	\$3.33	\$2.89	\$0.14	-	-	\$0.57	\$1.32
Alaska	\$3.76	\$3.39	\$0.23	-	-	\$0.89	\$1.99
TCC Region	\$5.33	\$5.72	\$0.72	\$0.40	\$0.32	\$2.66	\$6.08
Upper Kuskokwim	\$6.55	\$6.76	\$0.90	\$0.47	\$0.43	\$2.69	\$3.99
Lower Yukon	\$5.38	\$5.60	\$0.57	\$0.31	\$0.26	\$2.09	\$2.55
Upper Tanana	\$4.50	\$4.00	\$0.52	\$0.28	\$0.24	\$3.00	\$11.00
Yukon Flats	\$4.40	\$7.35	\$0.90	\$0.54	\$0.36	\$2.69	\$3.99
Yukon Koyukuk	\$5.90	\$5.27	\$0.67	\$0.32	\$0.34	\$2.50	\$9.95
Yukon Tanana	\$5.28	\$5.36	\$0.78	\$0.47	\$0.30	\$3.00	\$5.00

Note: Grocery data collected via phone interviews with grocery store clerks across the region.

Source: State of Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, Division of Community and Regional Affairs, Research & Analysis, Fuel Price Survey, Historical Fuel Prices in 100 Communities, Available at <https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/dcra/researchanalysis/fuelpricesurvey.aspx>.

Appendix B: CEDS Regional Survey Results

Responses to Question #1, “What do you like most about living in the TCC region?” (196 responses)

Most Repeated Themes, with Sample Quotes

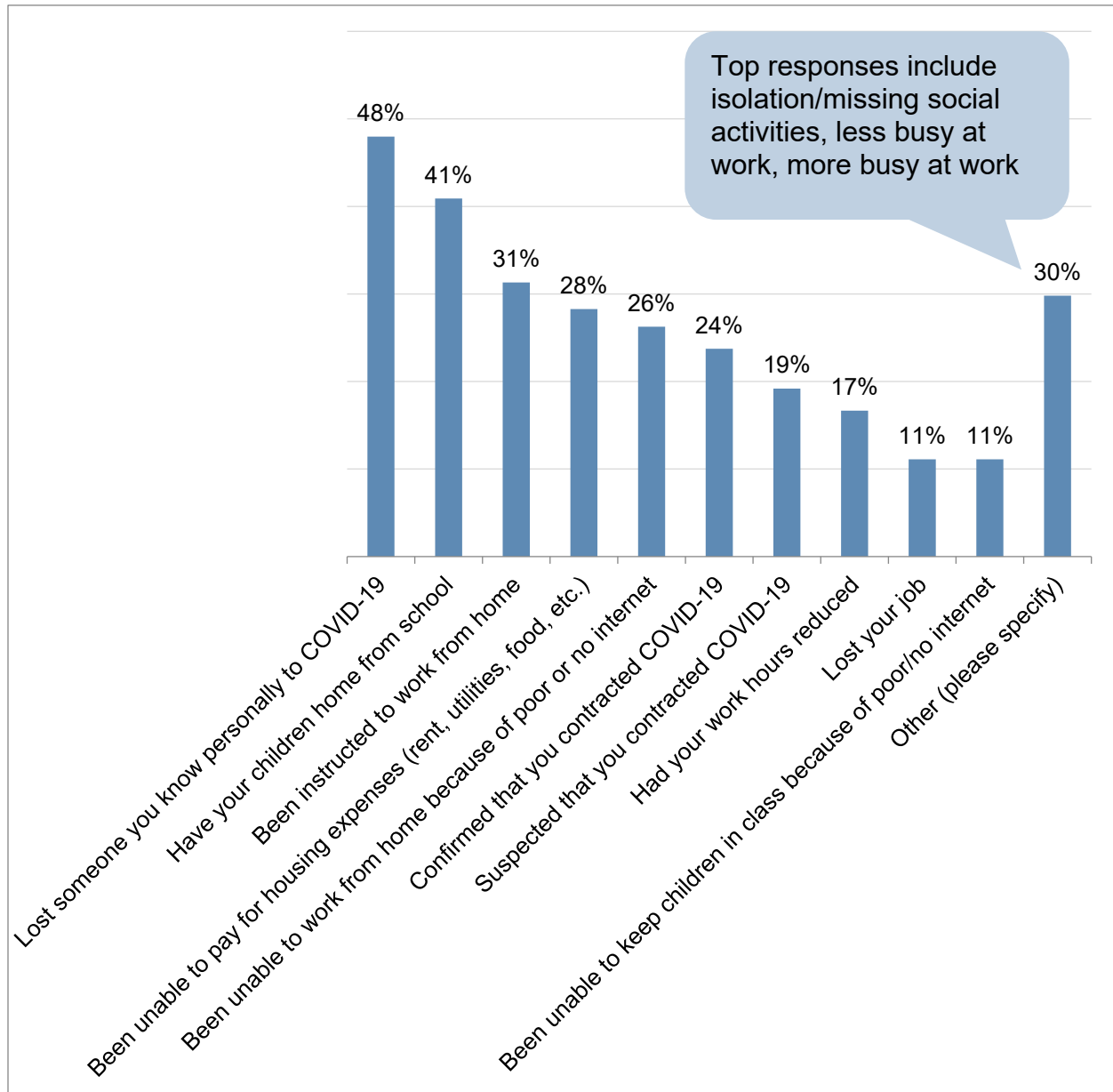
- **A strong sense of community, belonging, and home (75 responses)**
 - “Our region has become more together, we are working together and to me, that is what counts, like we are family, I love living here.”
 - “There is nowhere else in the world that feels like home. There is a sense of connectedness and community that can’t be broken. The right mix of new, traditional, and intermingled peoples, customs, and experiences.”
 - “I like how we are a big community and love how we support each other.”
 - “I love how our people come together when times are hard. Love seeing our people standing together through thick and thin.”
- **A subsistence lifestyle, and land and wildlife stewardship (48 responses)**
 - “The natural beauty. I am drawn to the boreal forest, with its hot summers, freezing snowy winters, and abundant wildlife, berries, and mushrooms! Also, the friendliness and ‘small-town’ feel of Fairbanks.”
 - “Interior Alaska is my ancestral homelands. Being able to get on the land for fishing, hunting and berry picking is the best life.”
 - “I like the Dine’ people here, the rivers, moose and the warmth in the summer and the skies.”
- **Tribes and Native organizations, and residents take care of one another, and Tribal organizations provide quality services (39 responses)**
 - “The corporations help their people a lot. And want to see their people succeed.”
 - “I like the fact that TCC is always finding ways and trying to better the communities whether it providing fish to our elders, sending cleaning packages, having sanitation jobs to help maintain a clean work safe environment for the employees and our community members that go to the public places.”
 - “Our Tribes, regional & subregional, works together for solutions of mutual benefit with TCC as moderator.”
- **Pride in culture and Alaska Native heritage (24 responses)**
 - “Our culture, the sense of community, our traditional foods, the Yukon, proximity to goods and services in Fairbanks.”
 - “It’s important to me, because my family and ancestors were born and raised in this region. I want to continue the legacy of our native people and ensure it’s survival by living in peace and happiness as they did.”
 - “Athabascan culture and the land!”

Responses to Question #2, “What do you like least about living in the TCC region?” (194 responses)

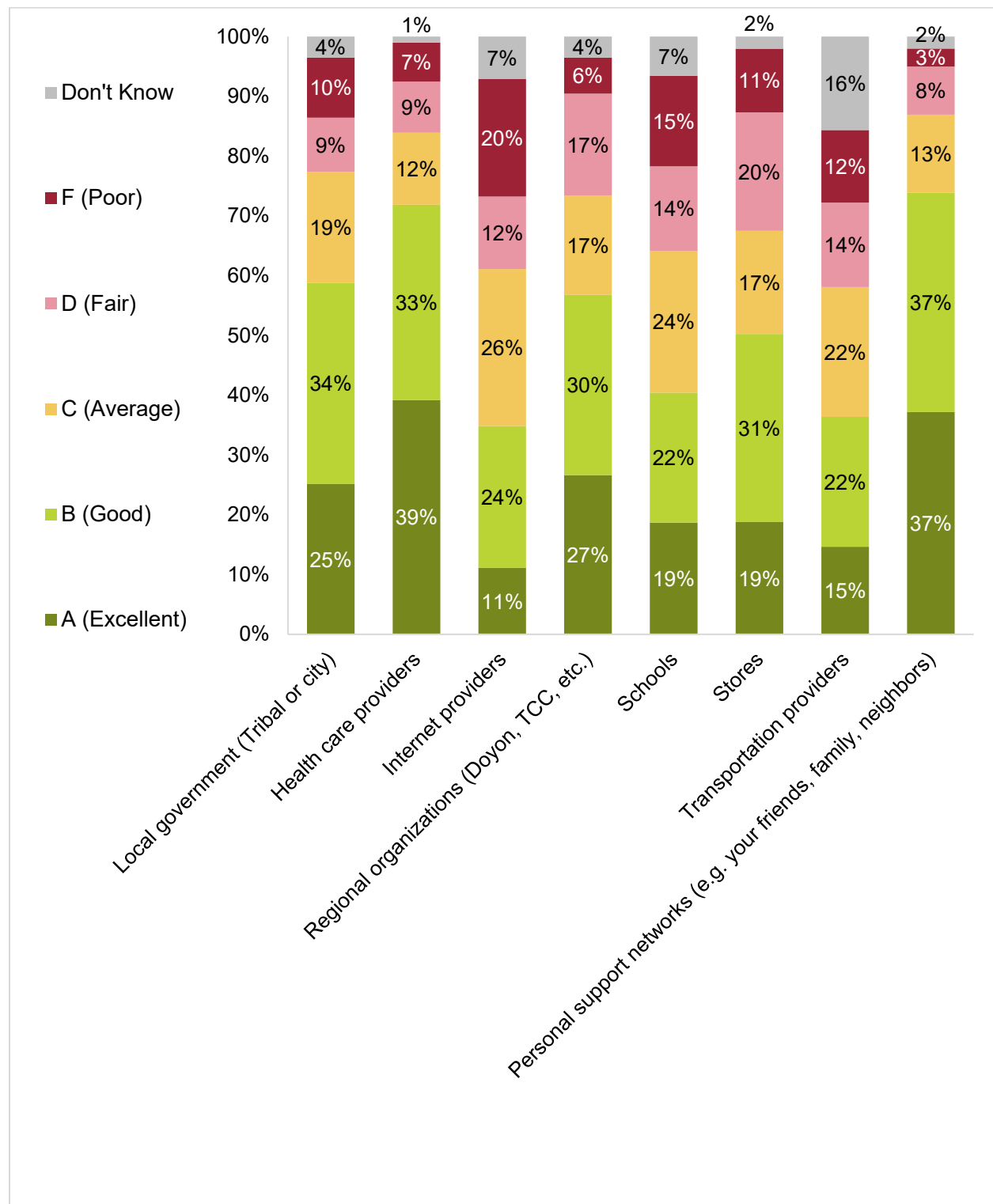
Most Repeated Themes, with Sample Quotes

- **Limited access to full health and social services (31 responses)**
 - “The difficulties and expense of travel to and from the village to obtain medical care or getting enough food and supplies.”
 - “Even though TCC has free health care it is very limited on what they are able to provide to the community.”
 - “Not enough help with mental health, addiction. Prevention and wellness.”
 - “The down side of living in village is not having adequate healthcare to fight the pandemic no ventilator in the villages we have to be medical if any of our people got covid and during the unpredictable weather that can be a life threatening scare if they do not make it out.”
- **Cold winters and seasonal weather (24 responses)**
 - “The bitter cold winter months.”
 - “The cold and dark, however, that’s just part of living in Alaska.”
 - “When I was younger I never thought of slippery winter streets/sidewalks, now as an elderly person I think about slipping/falling every time I go outside in the winter.”
- **High cost of living (23 responses)**
 - The cost of living and traveling to our villages.
 - High cost of living which deeply hinders the health and happiness of all our people.
 - Prices of everything being doubled in the villages.
- **Limited access off the road system, and a sense of remoteness for many villages (19 responses)**
 - “We are so far and not enough workers to help when needed such as asap and other programs.”
 - “Not on the road system so we’re not always able to get fresh produce.”
 - “How far apart we all are.”

Responses to Question #3, “Which of the following have you personally experienced since the beginning of the pandemic? Select all that apply.” (198 responses)



Responses to Question #4, “How would you grade our region’s response to the pandemic?” (199 responses)



Responses to Question #5, “What actions would best help TCC families, communities and businesses recover from the pandemic?” (198 responses)

Most Repeated Themes, with Sample Quotes

- **Job opportunities and getting people back to work (40 responses)**
 - “More support for people who have had lost jobs and reduced hours.”
 - “Create jobs so people can go back to work.”
 - “Help support people going back to work, there is a staffing crisis going on, so many vacant jobs and so many people that can work.”
 - “Create an online market to Support indigenous artists and the artists market. Most people are creating beautiful artwork from home but can’t sell because of Covid restrictions.”
- **Following COVID-19 mitigation strategies such as masking, distancing, sanitizing (32 responses)**
 - “Masking up, sanitizing, quarantine when travelling, no gatherings - like huge potlatches”
 - “Require masks to workers to keep elders safe and washing hands.”
 - “We seem to have weathered the pandemic okay so far, even with TCC and Tribal office employees having to work from home and quarantine. Maybe extend sick days for people who need to call out to get Covid testing after being exposed so that they don't have to go to work and potentially expose others because they can't afford to stay home.”
- **Providing financial assistance (31 responses)**
 - “Allow us to have access to the Covid monies received.”
 - “Maybe offering wage increase and having some kind of funds to help families and businesses.”
 - “Provide more help for those that could not afford the job loss or quarantine time during this pandemic. There are a lot that lives paycheck to paycheck and are right on the edge of losing their home, etc.”
- **Promote vaccinations and testing (26 responses)**
 - “I think something that would help is we try to push harder to encourage people to get vaccinated. Due to the rising numbers of COVID in Alaska masks should be required in every public place.”
 - “Making sure everyone gets the vaccination.”
 - “I think TCC response was adequate - vaccines readily available.”

Responses to Question #6, “Lessons Learned: What should we do differently in the future to help us better prepare and respond to future disasters?” (192 responses)

Most Repeated Themes, with Sample Quotes

- **Importance of emergency planning and collaboration (54 responses)**
 - “This is a tough one, we lucked out and received a lot of funding from the government, but that may not be the case in the future, we should prepare ourselves, to self-support our native communities in times of need.”
 - “Create a plan in case of another pandemic. Provide each employee with a laptop/portable printer to be able to work from home, provide TCC region with the supplies to weather the disaster at hand. I believe TCC did a great job so far.”
 - “Planning, planning, planning. The biggest issue: adequate food in the interior and supply lines during a disaster. This desperately needs to be addressed. We have learned a lot from Covid. Apply our new knowledge to our current disaster plans. Most important I feel is that we need to have internet access in all villages for all residents.”
 - “Develop emergency plans for every emergency situation: winter storms, floods, earthquakes and wildfires.”
- **Promote general health and wellness and improve health care systems (18 responses)**
 - “Educate people on self-care like what needs to be done when home sick. How to take care of yourself at home.”
 - “I think for unexpected disasters like this, one thing I notice was there wasn’t enough places where critically ill people were able to be helped and it caused chaos for both the community and the people that were trying to help the community.”
 - “Improve wellness and prevention services, we were all isolated, scared, etc. what things could people do to help with all of this and increased anxiety, loss, etc. Also, more and easier access to counseling services.”
- **Prioritize communications to communities and residents (18 responses)**
 - “Have a hotline set up to call in with questions.”
 - “Emails, text messages of updates and tips on how to deal with the situation mentally.”
 - “Communication and working together to address the needs of all residents fairly and quickly!”
- **Provide household-level education and training on emergency planning (17 responses)**
 - “People need to be educated to do their own preparations for disasters. We’ve created too much dependency. The flood recovery was terrible and this is going to be even worst - we in general have developed an attitude of entitlement and dependency.”
 - “Free classes about current disasters, and ongoing classes for future possible disasters. On-line, or and, in-person.”
 - “Come together to solve problems. teach our people how to prepare for another disaster. Prepare them to gather food, supplies and knowledge of disasters.”
- **Improve food security (16 responses)**
 - “More food storage and how to preserve food.”
 - “Have a plan of logistics on how to expedite food and necessities to the communities.”
 - Food security preparedness, make sure everyone has what they need at home. Look after Elders.”

Responses to Question #7, “What can we do to better support new and existing businesses? (examples: improve transportation routes to expedite delivery of goods and services; implement energy efficiency improvements, improve internet access)” (189 responses)

Most Repeated Themes, with Sample Quotes

- **Reliable and Affordable Telecommunications (59 responses): Increase broadband and cell service connectivity**
 - “Improve internet!”
 - “High speed broadband to every home and community gathering place.”
 - “I think the best way to support our village businesses is to get broadband, faster internet would create more opportunities for our Tribal citizens.”
 - “Better internet to our rural communities. So many programs with funds are tied to the internet, and so many of our communities have poor internet, and cannot access web portals or even Zoom meetings.”
- **Transportation (36 responses): Take steps to increase transportation access and reduce the cost of shipping and material goods through improvements to transportation, especially air service**
 - “Encourage more customer-service friendly air carriers.”
 - “Support businesses by advocating for infrastructure improved docking and loading and unloading goods and services, with in each community served airports, boat launches and dock areas, for easy access.”
 - “Improve transportation routes to expedite delivery of goods and services.”
- **Business Development and Entrepreneurship (26 responses): Provide training, workshops, and startup funding for small business**
 - “Support with business plan development on how to survive through pandemics. Job training.”
 - “Provide businesses with professional support to seek out business capital, business growth, marketing, etc.”
 - “Provide startup funding for new businesses.”
- **Energy (19 responses): Reduce the cost of heat and electricity, which are high and impact the bottom line for small business in the region**
 - “Decrease the cost of energy.”
 - “Energy efficiency for sure.”
 - “Improving energy efficiency, especially reducing heat loss in all buildings, will help improve air quality and save money. As more people shift to working from home permanently, I would like to see incentives for energy savings in the home office as well, especially switching to renewable energy.”

Responses to Question #8, “What can we do to create more and better paying jobs? (examples: more residents trained in natural resources management, move forward with self-governance efforts and independent control of Tribal funds)” (194 responses)

Most Repeated Themes, with Sample Quotes

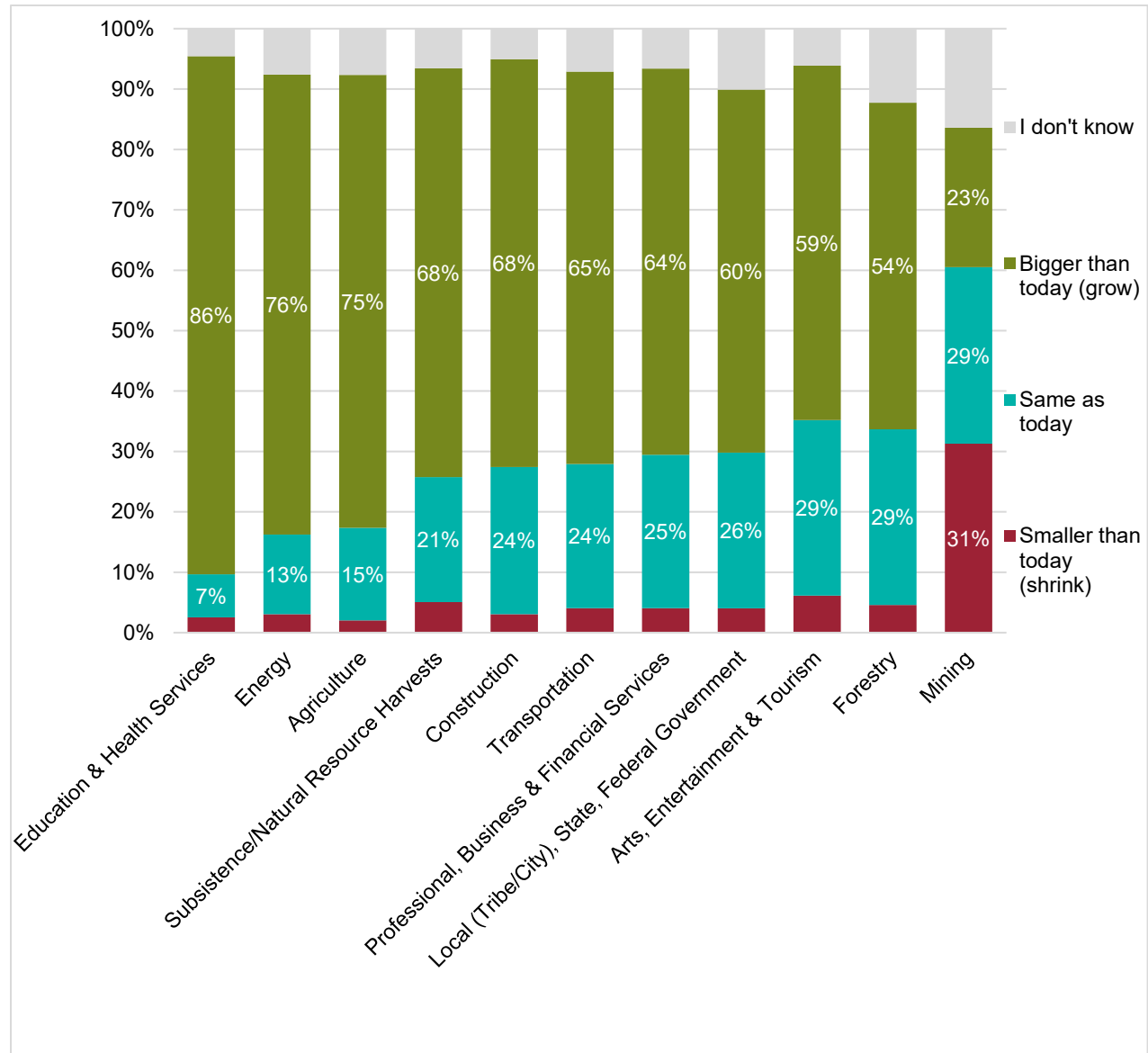
- Increase the availability of trainings (76 responses)
 - “Need to have a trained workforce for sure. Not just college educations, we need more electricians, plumbers, heavy equipment operators and mechanics, that can do the work locally that is needed.”
 - “Offer more training opportunities to people in the villages for jobs related to healthcare, office work, carpentry, and heavy equipment.”
 - “Train more people in medical fields or engineering so that they have the highest paying jobs.”
 - “Better on the job training and possibly trade schools. Stress the importance of local hire and hard work.”
- Improve workforce development in schools and better connect young people with jobs (26 responses)
 - “High school kids need to get involved with Fish & Game more classes on science so they could study our fish and climate weather to help us understand it.”
 - “Make training more easily available to young people or people new to working specialized jobs.”
 - “To support the education of our young people to be qualified for these jobs.”
- Increase the availability in jobs in villages (13 responses)
 - “Bring more jobs to the villages. Some TCC jobs in our village have been open for ten years. Help Tribal Members to go through the rigorous screening process to work for TCC.”
 - “Have more work-from-home jobs available in the case of another emergency. I enjoyed being an intern at TCC over the summer, so I wish I could’ve done that again - even over Zoom/emails.”
 - “Keep doing what your doing, TCC has a lot of village employees, which really helps.”
- Offer improved wages and benefits (13 responses)
 - “Pay better wages for those looking for work.”
 - “Compensation with extra days off for wellness.”
 - “I see too much temporary jobs without benefits. I’m retired and I see too much people with small SS checks.”

Responses to Question #9, “What can we do to better train and support workers and leaders in the TCC region? (example: Reduce barriers to training participation, such as offering guidance and support for child care, housing and transportation costs to out-of-community trainings.)” (187 responses)

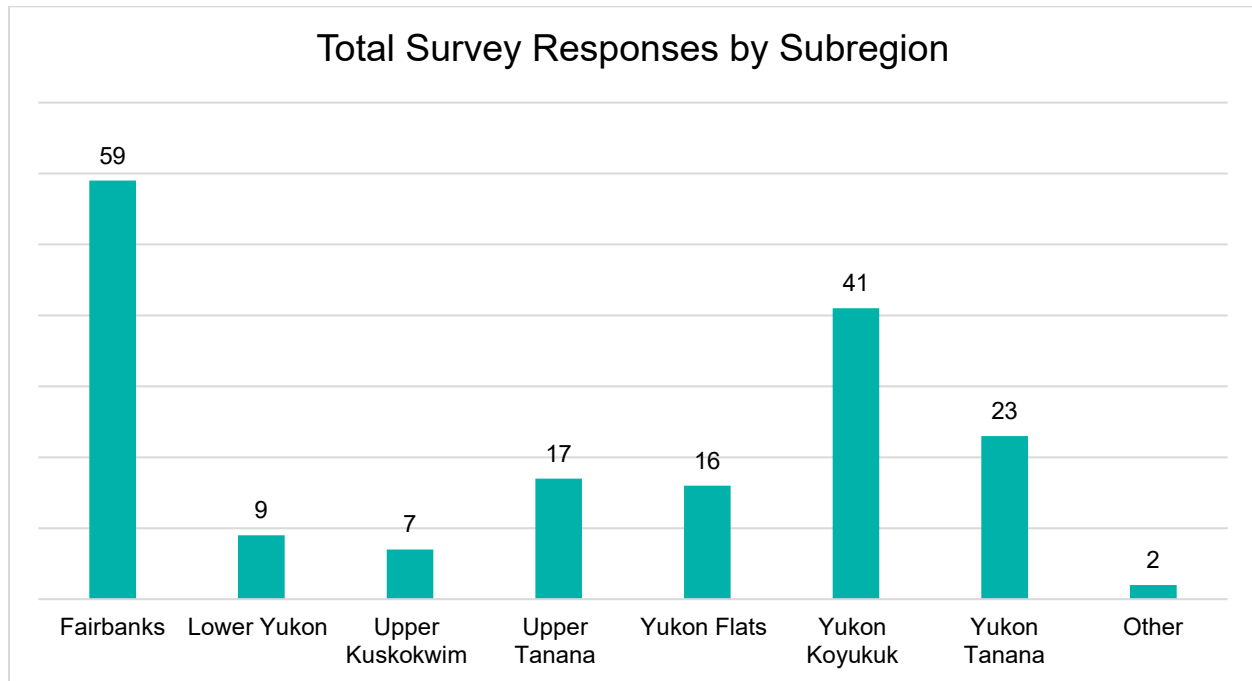
Most Repeated Themes, with Sample Quotes

- Improve access to training (providing training in communities or virtually and reducing barriers such as lack of transportation, housing or child care) (40 responses)
 - “Bring trainings to rural communities, increase economy in rural communities by doing so!”
 - “Offer housing, transportation and child-housing and housing costs. Bring more on-the-job trainings to our village.”
 - “If Tribe members can’t come to Fairbanks for training then hold Zoom trainings.”
- Increase availability of childcare in villages (33 responses)
 - “Child care is a big issue. Elders such as myself have to provide childcare on top of everything else. We need child care/early learning centers from 7:30 - 5:30. Provide trainings etc. in villages where appropriate. Partner with employers to provide training opportunities.”
 - “Housing and child care is needed for rural employees to hold/keep jobs in our rural communities. Many staff that would be excellent workers, do not have reliable housing or child care, and will leave a position or move from the village.”
 - “More day care for children.”
- Ensure adequate housing is available for village employment opportunities, and housing availability for out-of-town trainings (19 responses)
 - “Help with housing and transportation expenses for all TCC-affiliated community residents for out-of-community trainings.”
 - “Housing a big problem in the rural villages.”
 - “Child care assistance and offer more job trainings with housing and transportation assistance if out of the community.”
- Increase training availability in key industries/occupations and basic workplace habits (23 responses)
 - “Training is very important for new people coming into a job for the first time, operators, clerks, assistant workers.”
 - “Cohort style with practical skill development, community healing, childcare, home building skill development with itinerant support for self-help efforts.”
 - “Have leadership trainings in each subregion. Have Tribal council trainings.”
 - “A variety of job training would be great. For example....train women to be truck drivers.”

Responses to Question #10, “20 years from now, what is the ideal combination of industries in the TCC region? Which industries should grow, stay the same, or shrink?” (198 responses)



Responses to Question #12, “What community are you from?” (174 responses)



Note: there were also 18 respondents with an unidentified location due to an initial survey error with this question; these respondents are excluded from the chart above.

Appendix C: Outreach Materials

Project Flyer

Blank Copy of Project Survey

Announcement Emails

TCC CEDS Presentation Slides

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Update & Economic Recovery Plan

We are updating the TCC CEDS and creating a supplemental COVID-19 Economic Recovery Plan. The combined document will help us respond to change and create a stronger, more resilient economy in the TCC region, including examining how the region can recover from the economic impacts of the pandemic.

We Want to Hear from You!

Respond to the survey:

www.surveymonkey.com/r/tcceconomy

Talk with us: We are scheduling interviews and meeting with businesses and organizations this summer. Want to connect? Reach out to the project team.

We have prizes! Respond and win one of three \$100 gift cards.

Survey closes October 15, 2021.

Scan code with your phone to go to the survey



Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)



What do you like most about living in the TCC region?



What do you like least about living in the TCC region?



How can we support businesses, workers, leaders in the TCC region?



What do we want our economy to look like 20 years from now?

Economic Recovery Plan

How has the pandemic impacted our region's economy?

How well have we responded to the pandemic so far?

What steps should we take to help our economy recover from the pandemic?

What should we do differently in the future to help us better prepare?

Schedule

Summer -Fall 2021
Discover and Listen

- Invite regional input
- Compile and analyze data



Winter 2021
Draft and Review

- Develop goals, objectives and strategies



Winter - Spring 2022
Finalize and Activate

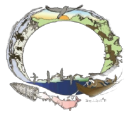
- Finalize plan
- Take action on recommendations

Contact Us

LaVerne Huntington
TCC Planning & Development Manager
907-452-8251 x 3096
Laverne.huntington@tananachiefs.org

Shelly Wade
Stakeholder Engagement Lead
907-242-5326 (call or text)
shelly@agnewbeck.com

Learn More: <https://www.tananachiefs.org/ceds/>



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TCC Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and COVID-19 Economic Recovery Plan Survey

Help create a stronger and more resilient TCC region economy.

TCC is updating the region's **Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)** and developing a **COVID-19 Economic Recovery Plan**.

Share your experience and ideas.

Take this **5-minute survey** and be eligible to win a prize! To be eligible for one of three \$100 VISA gift cards, respond to all the questions and include your contact information at the end of the survey.

The survey is open through **August 15, 2021**. Click [here](#) to view the project flyer or visit the [project website](#) for more information.

Our Region

1. What do you like most about living in the TCC region?

2. What do you like least about living in the TCC region?

Learning From the Pandemic

3. Which of the following have you personally experienced since the beginning of the pandemic? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Confirmed that you contracted COVID-19
- ☐ Suspected that you contracted COVID-19
- ☐ Lost someone you know personally to COVID-19
- ☐ Lost your job
- ☐ Had your work hours reduced
- ☐ Been instructed to work from home
- ☐ Been unable to work from home because of poor or no internet
- ☐ Been unable to pay for housing expenses (rent, utilities, food, etc.)
- ☐ Have your children home from school
- ☐ Been unable to keep children in class because of poor or no internet
- ☐ Other (please specify)

4. How would you grade our region's response to the pandemic?

	A (Excellent)	B (Good)	C (Average)	D (Fair)	F (Poor)	Don't Know
Local government (Tribal or city)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Health care providers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Internet providers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Regional organizations (Doyon, TCC, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Schools	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Stores	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Transportation providers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Personal support networks (e.g. your friends, family, neighbors)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Comments (optional)

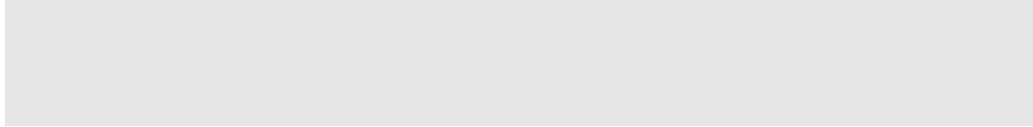
5. What actions would best help TCC families, communities and businesses recover from the pandemic?

6. Lessons Learned: What should we do differently in the future to help us better prepare and respond to future disasters?

Our Future Economy

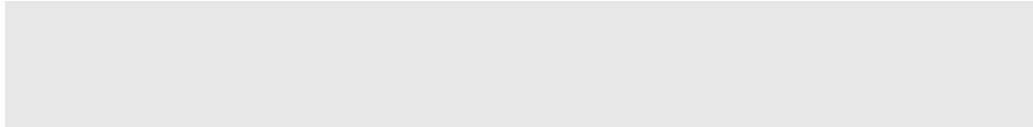
7. What can we do to better support new and existing businesses?

(examples: improve transportation routes to expedite delivery of goods and services; implement energy efficiency improvements, improve internet access)



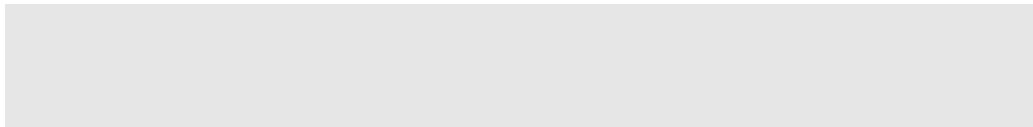
8. What can we do to create more and better paying jobs?

(examples: more residents trained in natural resources management, move forward with self-governance efforts and independent control of tribal funds)



9. What can we do to better train and support workers and leaders in the TCC region?

(example: Reduce barriers to training participation, such as offering guidance and support for child care, housing and transportation costs to out-of-community trainings.)



10. 20 years from now, what is the ideal combination of industries in the TCC region? Which industries should grow, stay the same, or shrink?

	Smaller than today (shrink)	Same as today	Bigger than today (grow)	I don't know
Agriculture	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Arts, Entertainment & Tourism	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Construction	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Education & Health Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Energy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Forestry	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Local (Tribe/City), State, Federal Government	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mining	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Professional, Business & Financial Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Subsistence/Natural Resource Harvests	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Transportation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Do you want to explain any of your selections? Are there other industries not listed above that you would like to see increase or decrease? Tell us more.

11. Final Thoughts: What else can we do to create a thriving TCC region economy?

12. What community are you from?

13. To be eligible for a prize, please share your contact information below.

Note: you must respond to all questions to be eligible for a prize.

Name

Phone Number

Email Address

14. Would you like to be added to the project email list? If you select "yes," please make sure to include your email in the previous question.

☐ Yes

☐ No

From: [Shelly Wade](#)
To: [Shelly Wade](#)
Subject: DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS: TCC CEDS, December 19th!
Date: Friday, December 17, 2021 2:33:11 PM

Good afternoon, everyone – DON'T FORGET to review and submit your comments on the [Draft 2022-2026 TCC Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy \(CEDS\)](#).

The DEADLINE for comments is THIS SUNDAY, December 19th.

Submit your comments on the draft and **be eligible to win one of 10 \$100 Visa gift cards**. Winners will be selected via livestream on TCC's Facebook page on December 20th.

Thank you and Happy/Safe Holidays to all!

Respectfully,

Shelly

Shelly Wade, AICP

907.242.5326 Cell (call or text) | shelly@agnewbeck.com

Dena'inaq e'nen'aq' gheshtnu ch'q'u yeshdu. (Dena'ina) *I live and work on the land of the Dena'ina. (English)*

Translation by J. Isaak and S. Shaginoff-Stuart

From: Shelly Wade

Sent: Friday, November 19, 2021 2:24 PM

To: Shelly Wade <shelly@agnewbeck.com>

Subject: We need you! TCC Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS): Public Review Available for Comment

Dear Tanana Chiefs Conference Region Leaders, Residents, Tribes, Businesses, and Partners –

WE NEED YOUR INPUT!

The **Draft 2022-2026 TCC Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)** is ready for your review and feedback. Attached, please find the following components of the Public Review Draft:

- Draft TCC CEDS – Executive Summary
- Draft TCC CEDS – Full CEDS
- Appendix – forthcoming!

Have a say in what goes into the final CEDS. The deadline for comments is Sunday, December 19th. Tell us – what you like, what you don't like, what's missing, and what priorities you support most.

How to submit your comments:

1. Electronically, through the following comment form:
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/tccceds_draft.
2. Email or call the project team:

LaVerne Huntington, TCC Planning and Development Manager

- Phone: 907-452-8251 x3096
- Email: Laverne.huntington@tananachiefs.org
- Shelly Wade, Stakeholder Engagement Lead, Agnew::Beck Consulting
 - Phone: 907-242-5326 (call or text)
 - Email: shelly@agnewbeck.com

Visit <https://www.tananachiefs.org/ceds/> to learn more and download copies of the Public Review Draft of the TCC CEDS. We also encourage you to share the draft with your TCC friends, family, and colleagues.

Have a safe and happy holiday. We look forward to hearing from you and working together to create **Healthy, Strong, Unified TCC Tribes & Communities!**

Sincerely,

Shelly Wade, AICP

Principal::Owner, Agnew:: Beck Consulting

907.242.5326 Cell (call or text) | shelly@agnewbeck.com | www.agnewbeck.com | Engage. Plan. Implement.

Dena'inaq eñen'aq' gheshtnu ch'q'u yeshdu. (Dena'ina) *I live and work on the land of the Dena'ina. (English)*

Translation by J. Isaak and S. Shaginoff-Stuart

From: [Shelly Wade](#)
To: [Shelly Wade](#)
Subject: IMPORTANT FINAL REMINDER: 2022-2026 TCC Economic Recovery Plan: We need your input!
Date: Friday, March 25, 2022 6:07:10 AM
Attachments: [03-02-22 TCC CEDS&EconomicRecoveryPlan.pdf](#)
[03-02-22 TCC CEDS&EconomicRecoveryPlan Appendices.pdf](#)
Importance: High

Good morning and Happy Friday, Tanana Chiefs Conference Region Leaders, Residents, Tribes, Businesses, and Partners,

THIS IS AN IMPORTANT REMINDER:

The **comment deadline** for the *DRAFT 2022-2026 TCC Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) & Economic Recovery Plan* is **TODAY, Friday, March 25th, 2022.**

- **How to Access the Draft:**

- See attached or [CLICK HERE](#) to view and download *the Draft CEDS & ERP*.

- **How to Submit Your Comments:**

- Send to Shelly Wade, Agnew::Beck Project Manager
 - Phone: 907-242-5326 (call or text)
 - Email: shelly@agnewbeck.com

We look forward to your feedback!

Sincerely,

Shelly

Shelly Wade, AICP

Principal::Owner, Agnew:: Beck Consulting
907.242.5326 Cell (call or text) | shelly@agnewbeck.com | www.agnewbeck.com | Engage. Plan. Implement.

Dena'inaq e'nen'aq' gheshtnu ch'q'u yeshdu. (Dena'ina) *I live and work on the land of the Dena'ina. (English)*
Translation by J. Isaak and S. Shaginoff-Stuart

From: Shelly Wade <shelly@agnewbeck.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 2, 2022 5:49 PM

To: Shelly Wade <shelly@agnewbeck.com>

Subject: 2022-2026 TCC CEDS & Economic Recovery Plan: We need your input!

Dear Tanana Chiefs Conference Region Leaders, Residents, Tribes, Businesses, and Partners –

The **DRAFT 2022-2026 TCC Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) & Economic Recovery Plan (ERP – it's new!)** is ready for your review and feedback. Attached, please find the following:

- Draft TCC CEDS & Economic Recovery Plan
- Draft TCC CEDS & Economic Recovery Plan Appendices

What's new from the previous version?

On January 27, 2022, The TCC Executive Board approved the 2022-2026 CEDS. The attached **expanded CEDS & Economic Recovery Plan** includes **COVID-19 recovery-focused information and implementation ACTION PLANS** for **priority strategies** in the CEDS. Here's what's new and where you can find it:

- Expanded summary background chapter with a **new section identifying the impacts of**

COVID-19 on the TCC region, including a review of health data, economic impacts, education impacts, and recovery-related federal relief revenues (pages 38-46).

- **Detailed action plans** that identify the specific steps, timing, and partners needed to make measurable progress on priority strategies (pages 67-83).
- Additional details in the appendices, including more background and economic data (Appendix B) and a list of recovery resources (Appendix D).

Tell us – what you like, what you don't like, what's missing. Please share:

1. What questions do you have about the pandemic-specific data? Related, what ideas do you have for pandemic-specific recovery strategies?
2. What's missing from the priority strategy action plans? What other ideas do you for how we can make progress on priority strategies?
3. What capital projects (in your community or subregion) should be reflected in the action plans?

The deadline for comments is Friday, March 25th. Connect with us to submit your comments:

- Shelly Wade, TCC CEDS & ERP Stakeholder Engagement Lead, Agnew::Beck Consulting
 - Phone: 907-242-5326 (call or text)
 - Email: shelly@agnewbeck.com

Visit <https://www.tananachiefs.org/ceds/> to learn more; copies of the draft will be uploaded to the site over the coming days. We also encourage you to share the draft with your TCC friends, family, and colleagues.

We look forward to hearing from you and working together to create **Healthy, Strong, Unified TCC Tribes & Communities!**

Sincerely,

Shelly

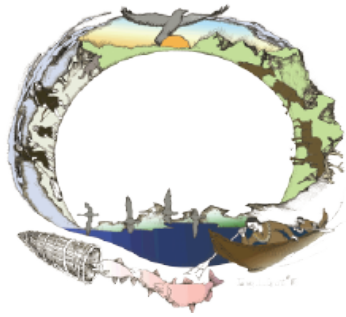
Shelly Wade, AICP

Principal::Owner, Agnew:: Beck Consulting

907.242.5326 Cell (call or text) | shelly@agnewbeck.com | www.agnewbeck.com | Engage. Plan. Implement.

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Translation by J. Isaak and S. Shaginoff-Stuart



Tanana
Chiefs
Conference

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Update & Economic Recovery Plan

November 17, 2021
CEDS Committee Meeting #2

Facilitated by Agnew::Beck Consulting, Northern Social-Environmental Research, and Information Insights

Welcome and Review Progress to Date



Land Acknowledgement

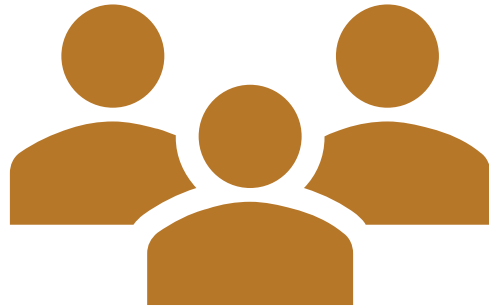
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gheshtnu ch'q'u yeshdu.* (Dena'ina)

Translation by J. Isaak and S. Shaginoff-Stuart

*I live and work on the
land of the Dena'ina.* (English)



Roll Call



Virtual/General Meeting Guidelines

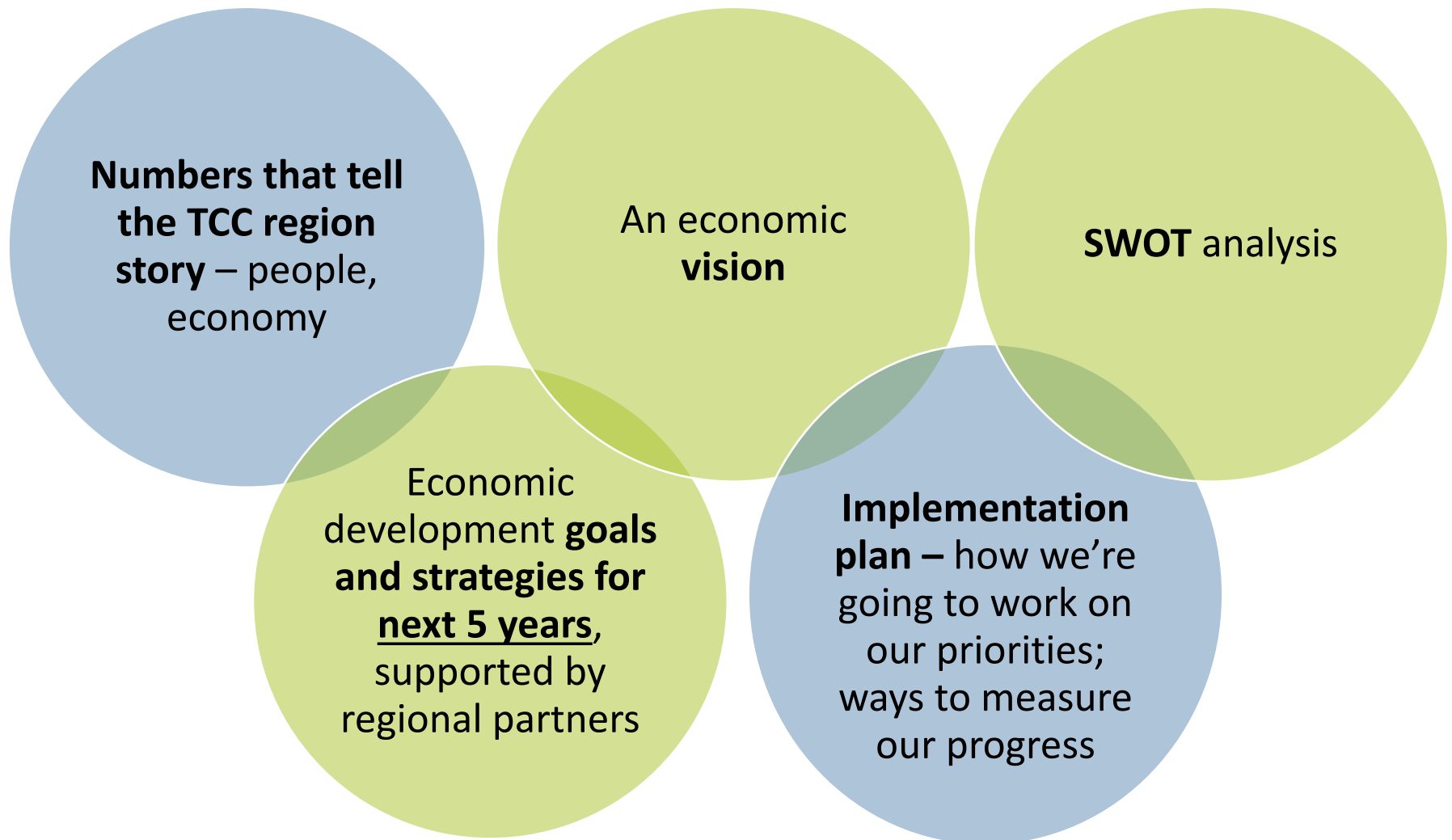
- Follow the lead.
- “Mute” is our friend.
- We want to see you...if we can😊.

Meeting Objectives

- CEDS Outreach, Interviews, Survey, and Draft Report Progress
- Further Define Economic Recovery and Resilience for the TCC Region
- Draft Report Progress: SWOT Analysis, Vision, Goals, and Priority Strategies for 2022-2026
- Wrap-up and Next Steps – Looking Ahead to the Economic Recovery Plan in 2022

What does a CEDS include?

Green = focus of our conversation today



Timeline



Draft CEDS: Proposed Changes Prior to Public Launch on Friday

- Add Executive Summary with priority strategies, interview themes, and survey themes
- Add photos
- Add additional quotes from interviews and the survey
- Incorporate feedback from the CEDS Committee today

Outreach Efforts: Survey, Interviews, and Subregionals

- 199 survey respondents from July-October
- 23 CEDS interviews
- 2 ERP interviews
- 2 Subregional presentations:
 - Yukon Tanana
 - Upper Tanana
- Promotion via The Council newsletter, Facebook, Tribal Partnership Zoom call

Interview Summary Highlights

Broadband Connectivity

- Low broadband connectivity has significantly impacted the region during the pandemic, especially for online education and daily business.
- Doyon, Limited and TCC have been closely coordinating on planning affordable broadband connectivity for the region.

Importance of Mixed Economy

- There is a strong desire to continue and strengthen the mixed economy of subsistence and cash wage earning. In the face of the pandemic, subsistence has never been so important.

Workforce Development and Local Hire

- Means of strengthening the cash economy could be initiatives to conduct more vocational/technical training and local hire in the villages.

Interviews – Other Themes

Fisheries Crash

- The Chinook and chum fishery crashes during both 2020 and 2021 seasons have been a disaster for Yukon and Koyukuk River fishermen.

Pandemic Relief

- The direct federal stimulus/relief payments to individuals, Tribes, municipal governments, TCC, and Doyon, Limited have been effective against pandemic impacts.

Housing Needs Assessment

- The Interior Regional Housing Authority has renewed efforts to conduct a region-wide housing needs assessment in 2021.

Cost of Living

- Cost of living (heat, electric, shipping, etc.) in the region remains high, especially for the villages off the road system.

Survey – What do you like most about living in the TCC region?

Community,
people, home

(75 responses)

Subsistence, lands
and resources

(48 responses)

We take care of one
another; support from
regional organizations
like TCC

(39 responses)

Culture and Alaska
Native heritage

(24 responses)

Survey – What do you like least about living in the TCC region?

Limited access to
health and social
services

(31 responses)

Cold winters,
weather

(24 responses)

Cost of living

(23 responses)

Access,
remoteness

(19 responses)

Survey – What can we do to better support new and existing businesses?

More reliable and
affordable phone and
internet

(59 responses)

More affordable and
frequent
transportation,
especially air service

(36 responses)

Business planning
and support

(26 responses)

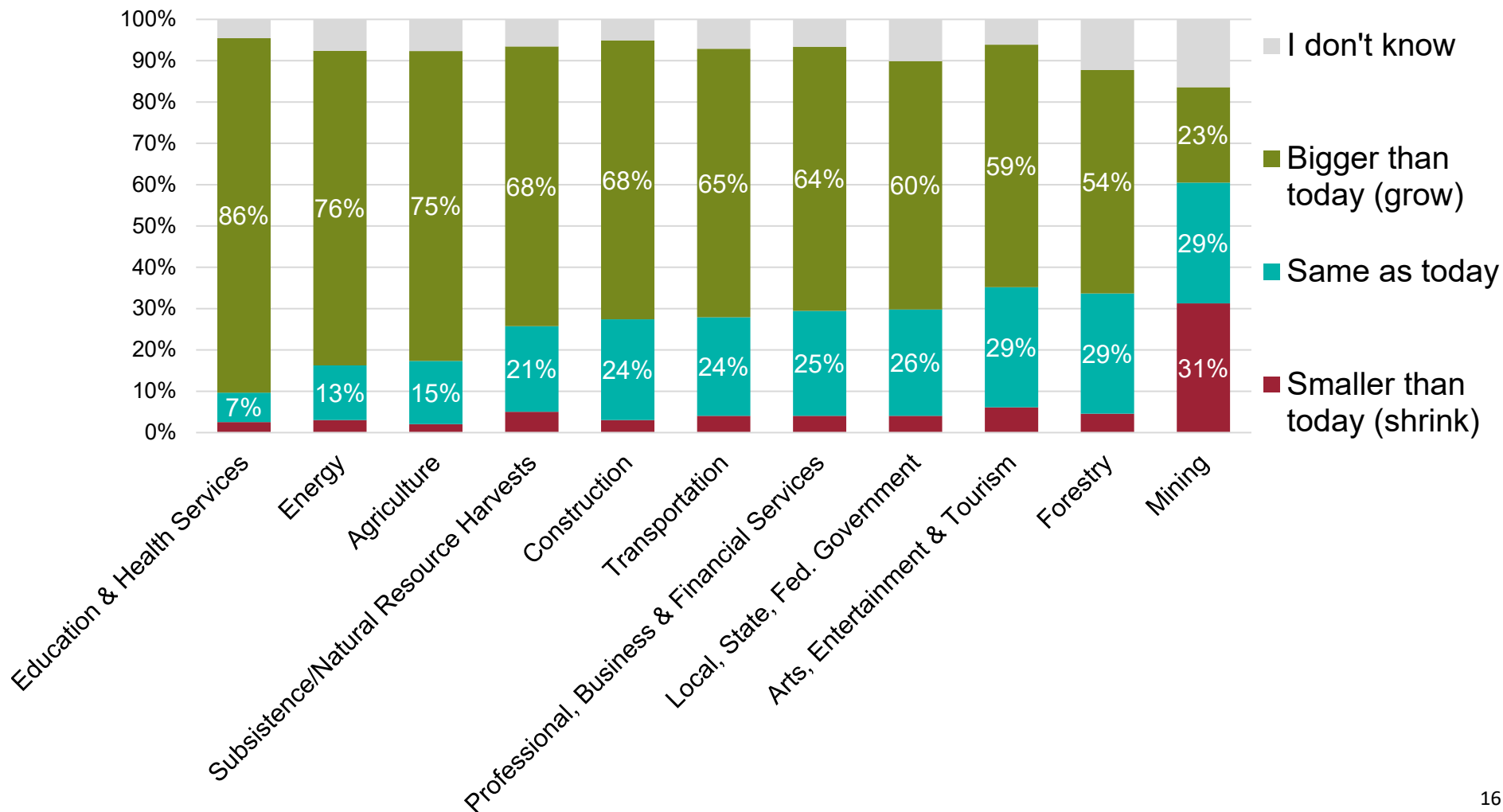
Access to affordable
energy

(19 responses)

Survey – Industry Composition

20 years from now, what is the ideal combination of industries in the TCC region? Which industries should grow, stay the same, or shrink?

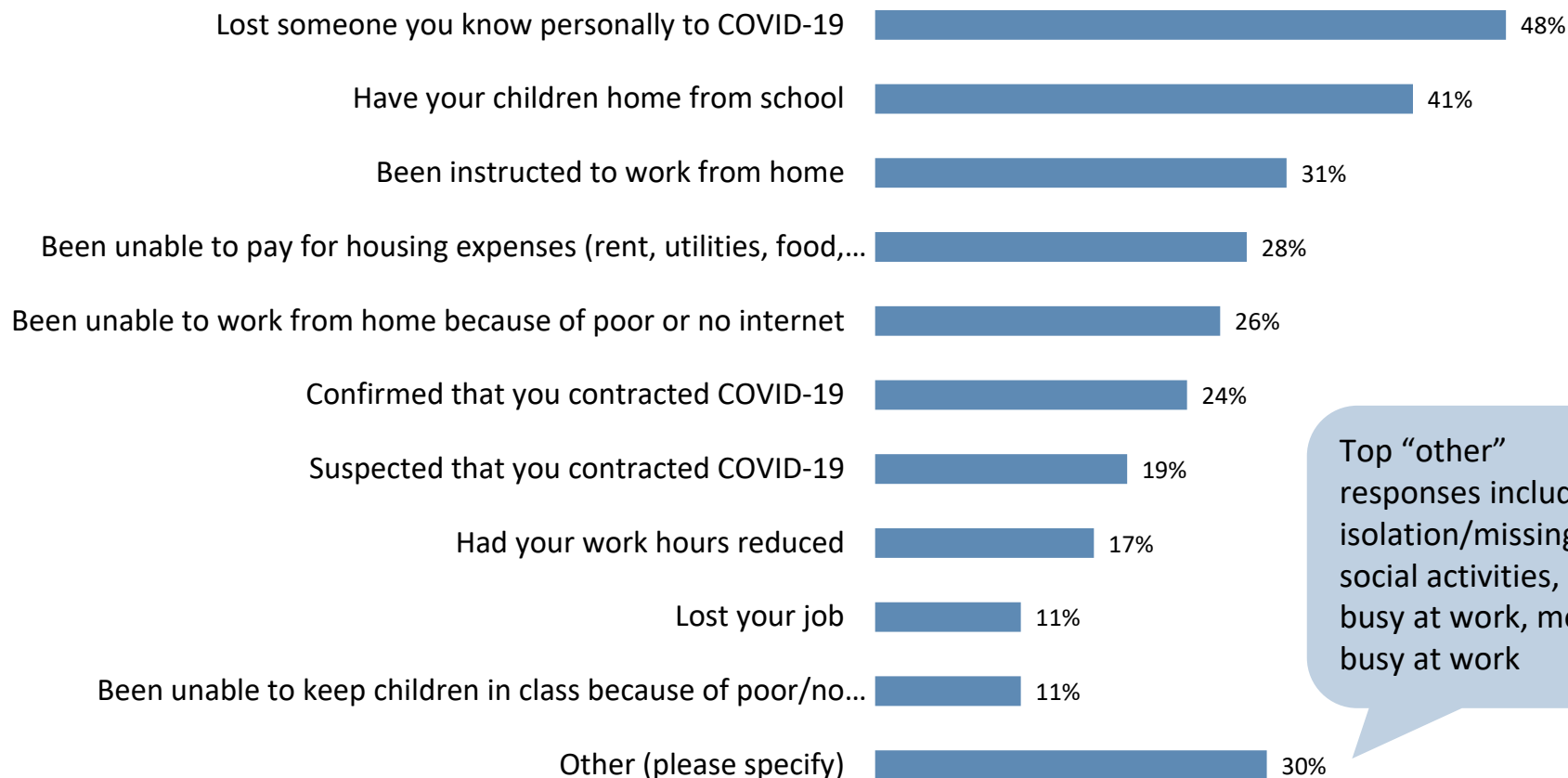
n=198



Survey – COVID-19 Impacts

Which of the following have you personally experienced since the beginning of the pandemic?

(n=198, participants could select all that apply)



Defining Economic Recovery and Resilience



Defining Economic Recovery

1. What does economic recovery mean to you?
2. What's an example of current or past economic recovery in the TCC region?
3. What needs to happen before we can say the TCC region economy has recovered from the COVID-19 pandemic (i.e., what does economic recovery look like)?

Defining Resilience

Resilience is “the region’s ability to avoid, withstand and recover from economic shifts, natural disasters and impacts of climate change”

- *U.S. Economic Development Administration and TCC CEDS (2016)*

Let’s get more specific!

Defining Resilience

1. What does resilience mean to you?
2. What is an example of current or past resilience in the TCC region?

Review and Confirm SWOT, Vision, Goals, and Priority Strategies

Full SWOT section in CEDS draft: pages 21-31



SWOT Analysis

SWOT Analysis Objective: identify contributors and barriers to economic resilience

	Internal	External
Positive	Strengths	Opportunities
Negative	Weaknesses	Threats

SWOT: Strengths

Subsistence

Mixed
Economy

Willingness to
Work

TCC, Doyon,
IRHA Self-
Determination

Strong TCC
Health
Presence

**See pages 21-23 of the draft CEDS to view the full list.
Anything missing?**

SWOT: Weaknesses

High Cost of
Living

Low Local Hire

Less Training
Opportunities
in Villages

Small Business
Presence in
Villages

Over-reliance
on TCC,
Doyon, IRHA

**See pages 24-26 of the draft CEDS to view the full list.
Anything missing?**

SWOT: Opportunities

Voc-Tech
Training
Opportunities

Broadband
Funding
Opportunities

Land and
Fisheries
Stewardship

Small Business
Presence in
Villages

IRHA Housing
Needs
Assessment

**See pages 27-29 of the draft CEDS to view the full list.
Anything missing?**

SWOT: Threats

Fisheries
Uncertainty

State's Poor Track
Record of
Recognizing Tribal
Sovereignty

Climate Change
Stressors

Ongoing Pandemic
Impacts

Loss of Programs
such as PCE,
Bypass Mail, etc.

**See pages 29-31 of the draft CEDS to view the full list.
Anything missing?**

Economic Vision (from 2016 CEDS)

Healthy, Strong, Unified Tribes.

- *Is this still the right vision?*
- *Does this vision capture and align with our concepts of recovery and resilience?*

Draft Goals (adapted from 2016 CEDS)

Will these goals help us achieve our vision and support resiliency and recovery?



Goal 1

- Promote Healthy Communities, Self-Sustaining Local Governments, and a High Quality of Life

Goal 2

- Strengthen Businesses and Develop a Stronger Workforce

Goal 3

- Support the Development, Maintenance, and Improvement of Critical Infrastructure

Goal 4

- Promote a Healthy Environment and Carefully Manage Natural Resources

Priority Strategies - DRAFT

- A. Establish reliable, fast, and affordable broadband connectivity in the region through Tribal, private, and public partnerships.
- B. Encourage young people to pursue careers in natural resource sciences and management; establish a clearinghouse of trainings and employment opportunities in the sector.
- C. Move forward with self-governance efforts and independent control of Tribal funds by providing education, advocacy, and support to TCC Tribes.
- D. Support development of energy efficiency improvements and alternative energy systems by creating a Community Energy Action Plan for each TCC community.
- E. Work with partners such as the Cold Climate Housing Research Center to design housing prototypes for energy efficient small homes suitable for the culture and climate.
- F. Advocate for continuation of the Power Cost Equalization (PCE) program.

Will these priority strategies help us achieve our vision and support resiliency and recovery?

Is this the right set of priority strategies? Is there anything missing?

Priority Strategies - DRAFT

- G. Establish an airline working group to research the feasibility of starting a Tribal airlines operation.
- H. Convene TCC, Doyon, Doyon Foundation, Interior Regional Housing Authority, and Denakanagga for collaborative meetings and/or an Economic Summit at least twice a year to identify and advocate for shared economic development priorities.
- I. Expand the availability of childcare by promoting training and business opportunities in the sector, including encouraging residents to get trained and licensed as childcare providers.
- J. Manage local forests to maximize productivity of local biomass for heating and construction materials (potentially via shared wood lots) and to reduce threats from wildfires.
- K. Form regional purchasing groups to conduct bulk fuel purchases to increase purchasing power and help lower fuel prices.
- L. Support the public-private partnership Interior Energy Project and related efforts to bring natural gas heat and power generation to Interior Alaska.

Will these priority strategies help us achieve our vision and support resiliency and recovery?

Is this the right set of priority strategies? Is there anything missing?

Prioritization

- Select your top 5!

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/tccceds_priorities

Draft TCC CEDS

Other thoughts, ideas, suggestions on the draft?



Tanana
Chiefs
Conference

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy
(CEDS), 2022-2026

DRAFT – November 2021

Wrap-Up



Timeline



Timeline



Public Review Draft: how can we get the word out?

Dates: November 19th to December 19th

- Project distribution list (over 150 contacts)
- Facebook
- The Council
- Tribal Partnership meetings
- **CEDS Committee promotion**

Other
ideas?

Thank you!

A scenic photograph of a sunset or sunrise over a body of water. The sky transitions from a deep blue at the top to a bright orange and yellow near the horizon. The water reflects the colors of the sky. In the background, there are silhouettes of mountains. The foreground shows dark, silhouetted vegetation.

Questions or Comments?

LaVerne Huntington

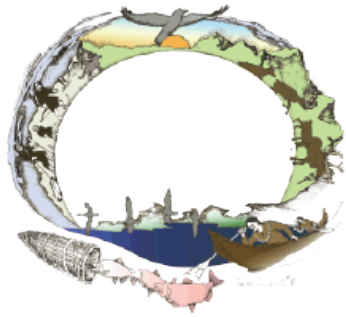
TCC Planning & Development Manager

Laverne.huntington@tananachiefs.org, 907-452-8251 x 3096

Shelly Wade

Stakeholder Engagement Lead, Agnew::Beck

shelly@agnewbeck.com, 907-242-5326



Tanana
Chiefs
Conference

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Update & Economic Recovery Plan

March 3, 2022
CEDS Committee Meeting #3

Facilitated by Agnew::Beck Consulting, Northern Social-Environmental Research, and Information Insights

Welcome & Review Progress to Date



Land Acknowledgement

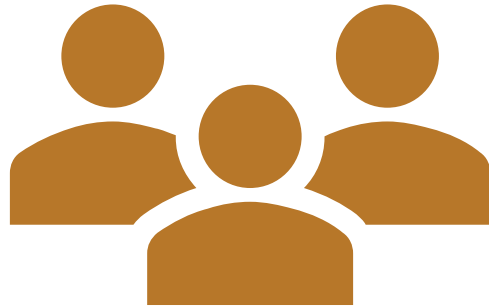
*Dena'inaq ełnen'aaq'
gheshtnu ch'q'u yeshdu.* (Dena'ina)

Translation by J. Isaak and S. Shaginoff-Stuart

*I live and work on the
land of the Dena'ina.* (English)



Roll Call



Virtual/General Meeting Guidelines

- Follow the lead.
- “Mute” is our friend.
- We want to see you...if we can😊.

Meeting Objectives

- Discuss TCC CEDS outreach efforts and finalization
- Review COVID-19 economic impacts data
- Review action planning process and detailed walk through of an example
- Discuss outreach plans and next steps for finalizing the full TCC CEDS & Economic Recovery Plan

Project Purpose

Comprehensive
Economic
Development Strategy
(CEDS) Update

&

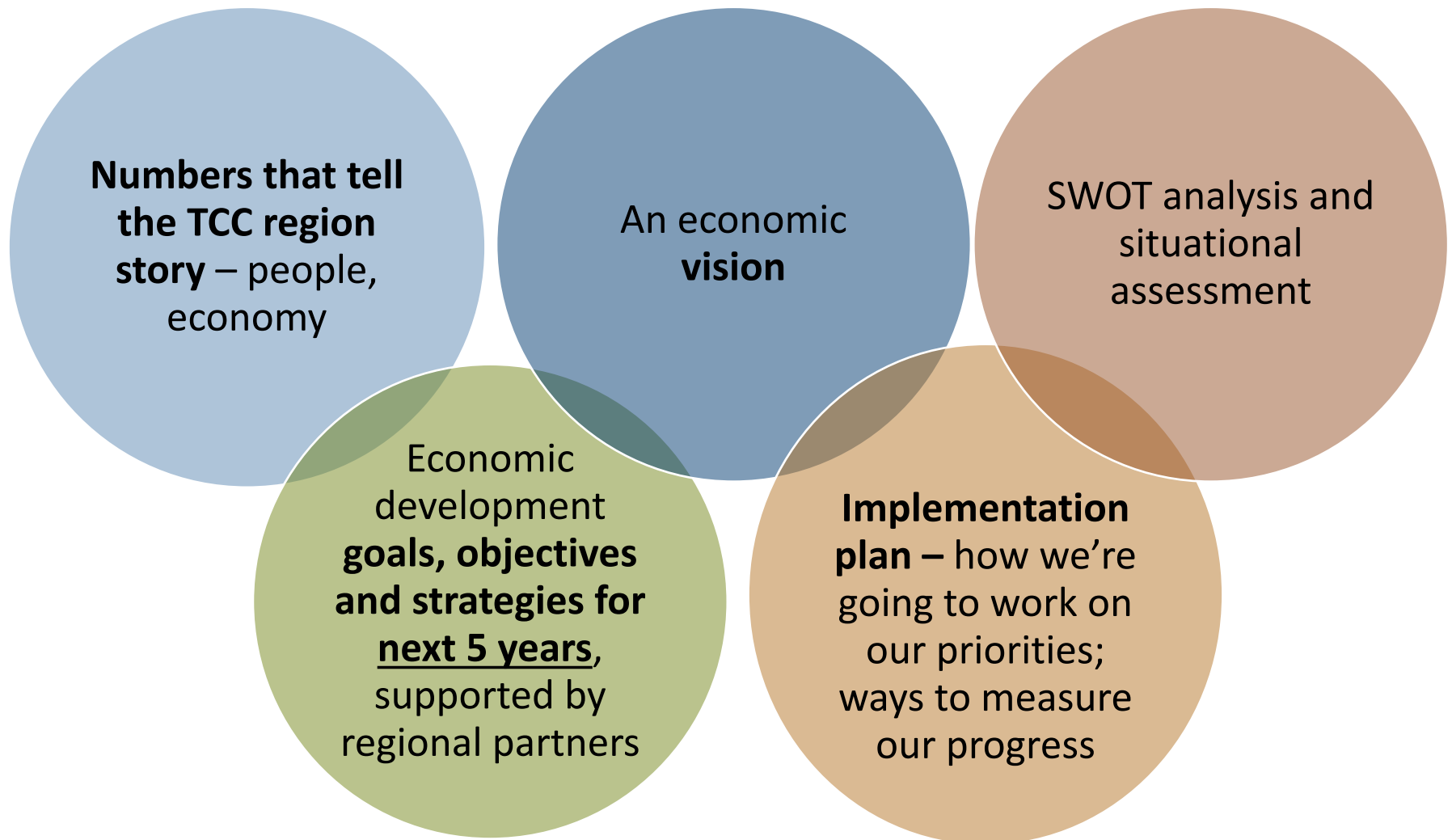
COVID-19 Economic
Recovery Plan

- Help us respond to change
- Create a stronger, more resilient economy
- Identify COVID-19 pandemic-related economic impacts and recovery strategies

Timeline



What does a CEDS include?



TCC CEDS Outreach

- Emailed distribution list with the draft
- Sent hard copies and comment forms to all TCC communities
- Announced on Tribal Partnerships Zoom
- Posted on Facebook
- Offered 10 \$100 Visa gift cards as incentive to submit feedback – *did FB Live reveal of incentive winners*

Received 19 sets of comments

Review Additions to the TCC CEDS & Economic Recovery Plan



Health Impacts – Some Disparities

Per capita case rates were lower in the TCC region compared to FNSB and Alaska

Geography	All Cases (% of pop.)	Hospitalizations (% of pop.)	Deaths (% of pop.)
Tanana Chiefs Conference Region	2,321 (19%)	100 (0.8%)	22 (0.2%)
Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area	930 (17%)	34 (0.6%)	8 (0.1%)
Southeast Fairbanks Census Area	1,391 (20%)	66 (1.0%)	14 (0.2%)
Fairbanks North Star Borough	19,286 (20%)	395 (0.4%)	111 (0.1%)
Alaska	172,329 (24%)	3,337 (0.5%)	955 (0.1%)
United States	63397935 (19%)	3,919141 (1.2%)	842,873 (0.3%)

But hospitalizations and deaths were higher

Numbers are from March 2020 through December 2021

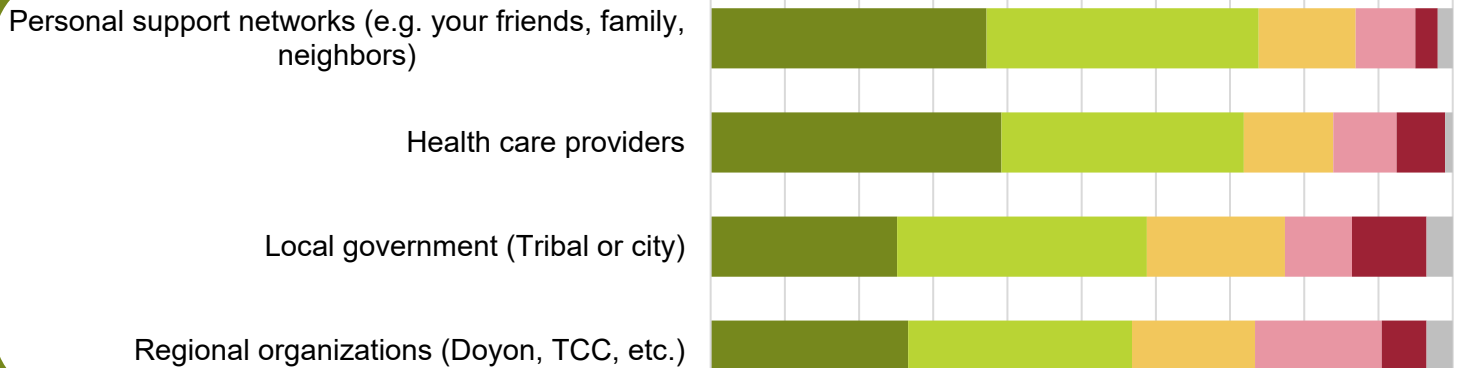
Source: Alaska Department of Health and Social Services Coronavirus Response Hub, "COVID-19 Cases Dashboard," January 18, 2022, Available at: [Alaska COVID19 Data Hub \(arcgis.com\)](https://arcgis.com)

Grading Our Response

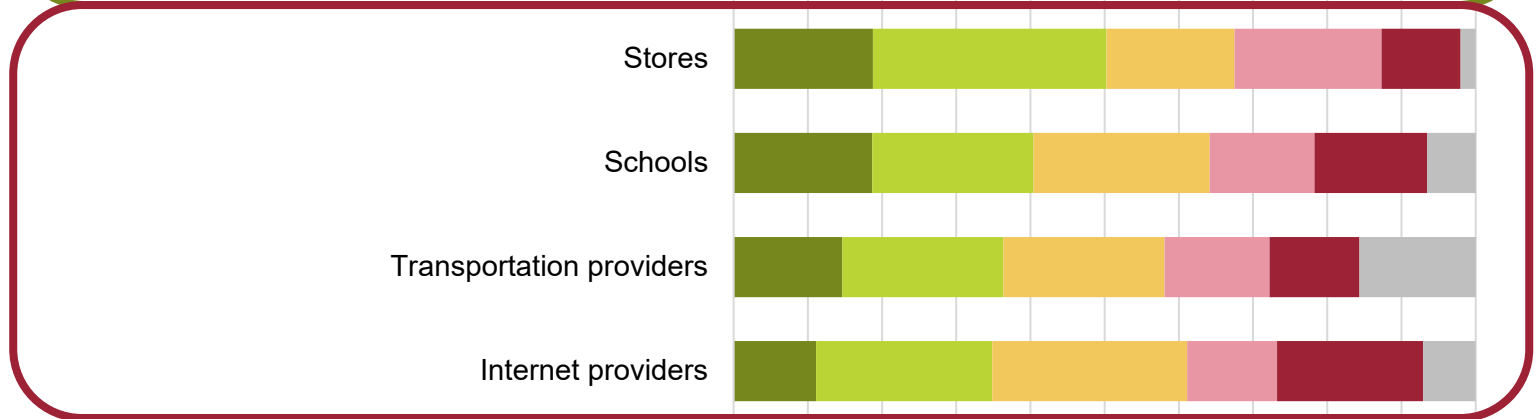
(from TCC regional survey, 199 responses between June – October 2021)

How would you grade our region's response to the pandemic?

More than half gave an "A" or "B" grade



Fewer than half gave an "A" or "B" grade

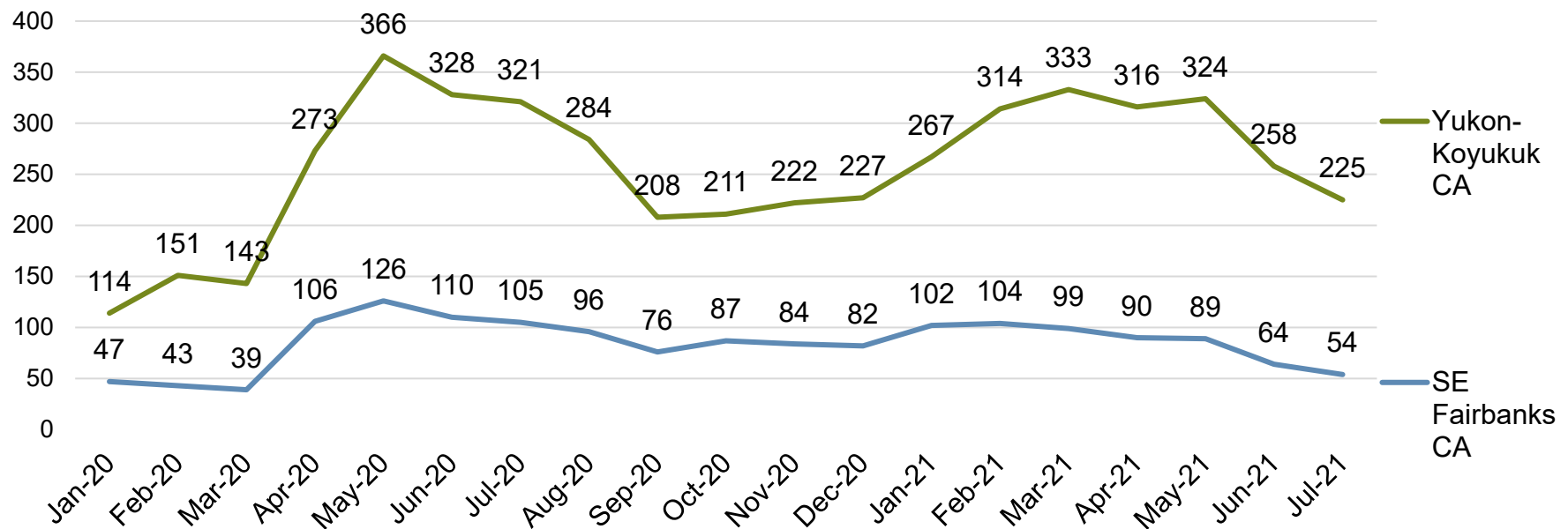


0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

■ A (Excellent) ■ B (Good) ■ C (Average) ■ D (Fair) ■ F (Poor) ■ Don't Know

Unemployment Insurance Claims

peaked in May 2020 and have declined but not returned to pre-pandemic levels



What other trends can we see in unemployment insurance data? Here are the demographic groups that appear hardest hit by the pandemic in the TCC region – individuals:

- Between the ages of 25 and 44
- Who earn less than \$40,000 a year
- Employed in the food services, retail trade, accommodation, & transportation sectors

Education

Based on data from the Alaska Department of Education & Early Development, **overall impacts to school district attendance, dropout rates, and graduation rates appear relatively small.**

- Overall **attendance rates** for TCC region school districts **stayed flat and, in some cases, increased** during the 2019-2020 school year when compared with the year prior.
- **Dropout rates** also **stayed flat or decreased** during the 2019-2020 school year.
- Some school districts saw **lower graduation rates** during the 2019-2020 school year.

How does this compare with what we heard in the fall 2021 regional survey?

Many respondents mentioned education-related impacts:

- 41% with children home from school
- 11% said they were unable to keep children in class because of poor/no internet

New Revenues to the TCC Region

COVID -19 Assistance, Mostly to Tribes

2020-2022

Recipient Type	Outlayed <i>Total amount paid to date</i>	Obligated <i>Total amount announced</i>	Percent of total outlayed COVID funds	Percent of total obligated COVID funds
American Indian/Alaska Native Tribal Designated Organization	\$135,285,764	\$140,506,354	89.23%	84.51%
Small Business	\$10,504,737	\$10,554,202	6.93%	6.35%
State Government	\$2,498,889	\$4,101,441	1.65%	2.47%
Individual	\$1,181,554	\$1,183,554	0.78%	0.71%
Individual; small business	\$185,351	\$223,995	0.12%	0.13%
Nonprofit with 501c3 status (other than an institution of higher education)	\$188,677	\$188,677	0.12%	0.11%
For-profit organization (other than small business)	\$122,951	\$122,951	0.08%	0.07%
City or township government	\$56,005	\$67,125	0.04%	0.04%
Other	\$1,597,408	\$9,313,545	1.05%	5.60%
Total	\$151,621,335	\$166,261,844	100%	100%

Note: The assistance summarized in this table includes loans, grants, and direct payments, but excludes contracts.

An outlay occurs when federal money is actually paid out, not just promised to be paid ("obligated").

Source: USAspending.gov, "COVID-19 Spending by Prime Award for the Southeast Fairbanks and Yukon-Koyukuk Census Areas," 2020-2022, Available at: <https://www.usaspending.gov/search/?hash=4af42718b8e639929b65c67ec04a3d5e>

Priority Strategies

Broadband Connectivity

1. Establish **reliable, high-speed, and affordable internet connectivity** in the region by implementing recommendations in the TCC Tribal Broadband Plan, prioritizing local ownership of communications infrastructure.



Natural Resource Careers

2. Encourage young people to **pursue careers in natural resource sciences and management**; establish a clearinghouse of training and employment opportunities in the sector.



Self-Governance

3. Move forward **with self-governance efforts** and independent control of Tribal funds by providing education, advocacy, and support to TCC Tribes.



Priority Strategies

Energy

4. Support development of energy efficiency improvements and alternative energy systems by creating a **Community Energy Action Plan** for each TCC community.
5. Advocate for continuation of **the Power Cost Equalization** program.
6. Form regional purchasing groups to conduct **bulk fuel purchases** to increase purchasing power and help lower fuel prices.
7. Construct a **transmission line between Tok and Delta**, connecting Alaska Power and Telephone with the Railbelt electrical grid.
8. Construct **interties between nearby TCC region communities**, including Tok-to-Northway and potentially a Nulato-to-Koyukuk intertie.
9. Reduce reliance on fossil fuels by continuing deployment **of renewable energy investments**.
10. Transition smaller standalone electric utilities to **electric consortia**.



Aviation Operations

11. Establish an airline working group to research the feasibility of starting a **Tribal airlines operation**.



Priority Strategies

Regional Collaboration

12. Convene TCC, Doyon, Doyon Foundation, Interior Regional Housing Authority, and Denakanagga for **collaborative meetings and/or an Economic Summit** at least twice a year to identify and advocate for shared economic development priorities.



Childcare Expansion

13. Expand the **availability of childcare** by promoting training and business opportunities in the sector, including encouraging residents to get trained and licensed as childcare providers.



Forest Management

14. **Manage local forests** to maximize productivity of local biomass for heating and construction materials (potentially via shared wood lots) and to reduce threats from wildfires.



Priority Strategies

Water-Sewer

15. Continue to **expand water-sewer infrastructure in underserved communities**, including advocating for continued funding of key programs and offering technical assistance to communities seeking funding.



Community Halls

16. Support planning initiatives for **building and sustaining community halls and multi-purpose centers**, so villages have a central gathering space.



Action Plans: Broadband Extract

Strategy #1: Establish reliable, high-speed, and affordable internet in the region by implementing recommendations in the TCC Tribal Broadband Plan, prioritizing local ownership of communications infrastructure.

Capital Project	Actions	Lead	Timeline	Funding	Notes
	a. Expand regional working group to define roles and responsibilities to enhance collaboration, strategic decision making, and resource-sharing on broadband infrastructure investments.				
✓	a. Continue to invest in local, “shovel-ready” project development and support communities in securing grant funding	TCC village corporations, subregional and regional organizations, telecom and firms)	project scope (\$3 million to \$100 million)	Broadband ReConnect Program, USDA Community Connect Grant Program, USDA Distance Learning & Telemedicine Grants, 5G Fund for Rural America... <i>see CEDS for full list</i>	after grant award depending on project scope
		ol	N/A	N/A	Ongoing
	additional 10% in federal E-rate support for broadband special construction projects.				

Actions: Near-term steps that organizations, businesses, and partners can take to help move a strategy forward.

Capital Project: Identifies whether the action includes an infrastructure or facility component

Action Plans: Broadband Extract

Strategy #1: Establish reliable, high-speed, and affordable internet in the region by implementing
Plan Step 1: TCC Tribal Broadband Plan, prioritizing local ownership of communications

Lead (Support): The lead organization responsible for the action, plus supporting partners, and community entities that can support implementation.

Estimated Resources: Estimated costs to implement the action steps over the next five years, and/or estimated staffing resources (FTE = full time equivalent).

Possible Funding Sources: A list of potential funding sources that could be used to accomplish the action, including public, private, and nonprofit funding sources.

Target Completion: Estimated year when the action will be complete.

	Lead (Support)	Estimated Resources	Possible Funding Sources	Target Completion
	TCC, Doyon (village corporations, tribal organizations currently working on broadband infrastructure at the village level)	\$5,000 to \$30,000, or 0.50 FTE TCC/Doyon staff time	Denali Commission	6 months to one year
	Government – T'ee teraan'in - microwave in subregion	USDA Rural Development Broadband ReConnect Program, USDA Community Connect Grant Program, USDA Distance Learning & Telemedicine Grants, 5G Fund for Rural America... see CEDS for full list	3 to 5 years	
a. Advocates help with additional broadband special construction projects.				

Action Plans: Broadband Extract

Performance Measure: access to unlimited, high-speed internet

Where this is at today

- 78% of TCC villages have schools with 25/3 speeds
 - 62% of TCC village clinics have broadband speeds of 25/3 and above
 - 17% of TCC communities have access to an affordable residential internet plan (including those with internet speeds of less than 25/3)
 - 0% of TCC communities have documented 25/3 speeds for households
- 25/3 = at least 25 megabits per second (Mbps) download, at least 3 megabits per second upload

Source for all the above: 2021 TCC Tribal Broadband Plan

Objective: where we want to be in 5 years

- Every household will have the ability to purchase unlimited, high-speed internet packages (at least 25/3) for less than \$100 per month
- Schools, clinics, and businesses will have the option to purchase plans

Performance Measure(s): How the region will measure progress on the strategy, with quantifiable benchmarks/ targets.

Action Plans: Broadband Extract

Strategy #1: Establish reliable, high-speed, and affordable internet in the region by implementing recommendations in the TCC Tribal Broadband Plan, prioritizing local ownership of communications infrastructure.

Capital Project	Actions	Lead (Support)	Estimated Resources	Possible Funding Sources	Target Completion
	a. Expand regional working group and define roles and responsibilities to enhance collaboration, strategic decision making, and resource-sharing on broadband infrastructure investments.	TCC, Doyon (village corporations, key Tribal organizations currently engaged in broadband planning at the village and subregional levels)	\$5,000 to \$30,000, or 0.50 FTE TCC/Doyon staff time	Denali Commission	6 months to one year
✓	c. Continue to invest in local, “shovel-ready” project development and support communities in securing grant funding for projects such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council of Athabascan Tribal Governments – T’ee teraan’in - microwave in subregion Doyon, Limited – fiber for Yukon River villages <i>See CEDS for full list</i> 	TCC (Doyon, Tribes, village corporations, subregional and regional organizations, telecom cooperatives and firms)	Depends on project scope (\$3 million to \$100 million)	USDA Rural Development Broadband ReConnect Program, USDA Community Connect Grant Program, USDA Distance Learning & Telemedicine Grants, 5G Fund for Rural America... <i>see CEDS for full list</i>	3 to 8 years after grant award depending on project scope

Action Plans: Natural Resources Extract

Strategy #2: Encourage young people to pursue careers in natural resource sciences and management; establish a clearinghouse of training and employment opportunities in the sector.

Actions	Lead (Support)	Estimated Resources	Possible Funding	Target Completion
<p>d. Encourage young residents to shadow and participate in key natural management boards including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. TCC Hunting & Fishing Task Force b. Yukon River and Kuskokwim River Inter-Tribal Fish Commissions c. State of Alaska Board of Fish, Board of Game, and Advisory Councils d. (see CEDS draft for full list) 	TCC Hunting & Fishing Task Force (DNR, BLM, USFWS, NPS, Alaska Federation of Natives)	Varies	TCC's Summer Youth Employment program, Navigating the New Arctic Community Office (NNA-CO)	Ongoing
f. Establish an associate degree program in wildland fire management at UAF.	UAF (TCC, State of Alaska, federal agencies Arctic Council wildland fire working group)	Unknown	State of Alaska, federal agencies	2026
i. Encourage school districts to promote, expand, and facilitate STEM programming and opportunities to students both in and outside of communities, including Alaska Summer Research Academy (hosted by UAF) and Alaska Native Science and Engineering Programing (ANSEP).	School districts (TCC, UAF, ANSEP, UAF's Tamamta program)	Alaska Summer Research Academy: \$700 per student; ANSEP: varies	Alaska Native Education (ANE) grants, NNA-CO funds	Ongoing

Action Plans: Energy Extract

Strategy #8: Construct interties between nearby TCC region communities, including Tok-to-Northway and potentially a Nulato-to-Koyukuk intertie.

Capital Project	Actions	Lead (Support)	Estimated Resources	Possible Funding Sources	Target Completion
✓	a. Based on the Tok-to-Northway Intertie Study, secure and commission a detailed transmission line design; study environmental impacts and quantitative cost/benefit evaluation of economic feasibility; conduct additional public input sessions; collect resolutions from affected communities and letters of support/ memoranda of agreement from Alaska Power and Telephone (AP&T) and potential users.	TCC Rural Energy (AP&T)	N/A	Denali Commission, EDA	Mid 2023
✓	b. Secure funding, competitively select construction contractor, and construct Tok-to-Northway intertie.	AP&T (TCC Rural Energy)	\$13 million	EDA	2 years from contractor selection
✓	c. Commission engineering report of Nulato-to-Koyukuk intertie.	TCC Rural Energy	\$100K	Denali Commission, EDA	2024

Other Additions: Appendices

Appendix A

Additional background added:

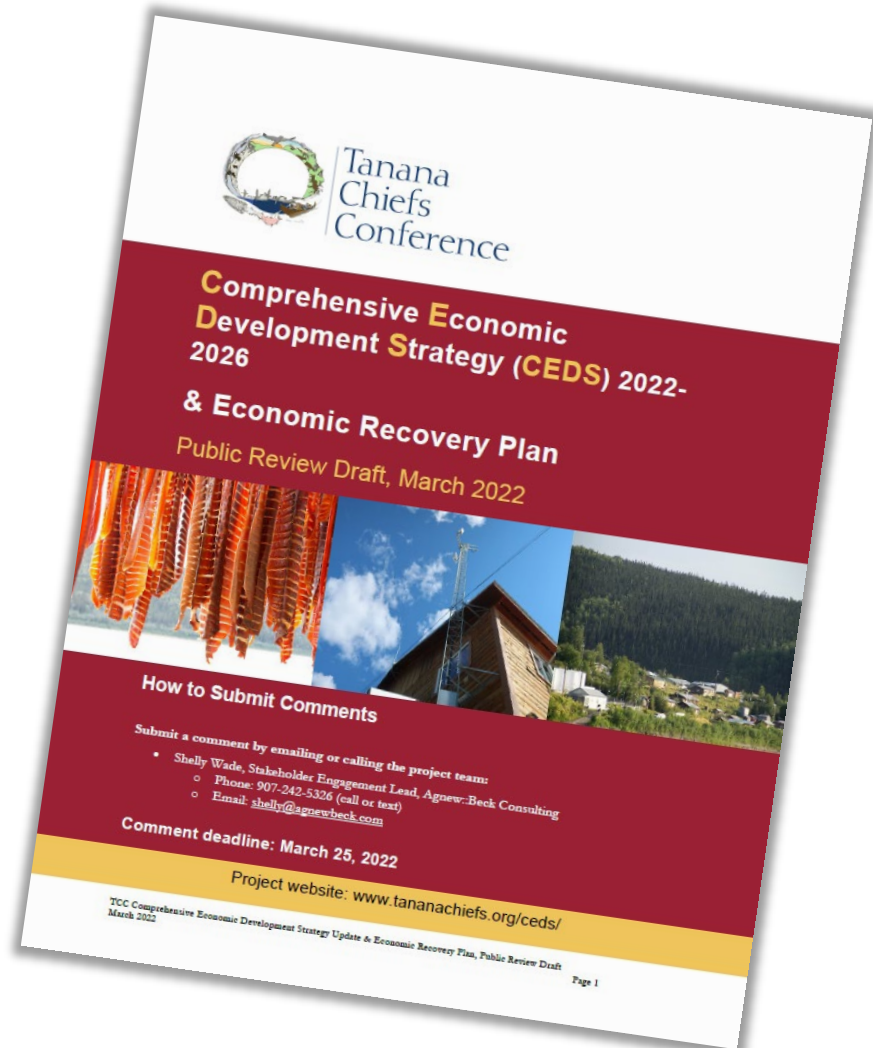
- Demographics (population projections, age, etc.)
- Economy (Per capita income, GDP, Educational attainment, etc.)
- Infrastructure Summary
- Natural Hazards Summary
- Cost of Living

Appendix D – new!

- List of COVID-19 recovery resources and sites to learn more

TCC CEDS & Economic Recovery Plan

Other thoughts, ideas,
suggestions on the draft
so far?



Other Interior Alaska CEDS: Fairbanks North Star Borough CEDS



2021 Fairbanks North Star Borough Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Update

PURPOSE

WHAT IS INCLUDED?

TOPICS

PROJECT TEAM

GET INVOLVED

SCHEDULE

RESOURCES

CONTACT US

A Stronger, More Resilient Economy.

www.FNSBCEDS.com

Last
month
(Feb. 22-23,
2022)

Visit the website
to learn more
and view
emerging goals,
strategies,
actions

FNSBCEDS.com



Save the Date: February 22nd -23rd 2022

2022 Interior Alaska Economic Summit

The 2022 Interior Alaska Economic Summit will bring regional community, business, and industry leaders together to collaborate on economic opportunities as we work towards a stronger, more resilient Interior Alaska economy. The Summit is free and will be held at the Westmark in Fairbanks.

Topics for Breakout Sessions

(preliminary at-a-glance agenda on reverse)

Industry Clusters
Key sectors that drive the FNSB economy

- Agriculture
- Energy
- Forestry
- Health Care
- Mining
- Research & Innovation
- Visitor Industry

Community Influencers
Supportive foundations needed to grow and flourish

- Business Development & Entrepreneurship
- Communications (phone, internet)
- Education & Workforce Development
- Land Use, Housing, & Environment
- Indoor & Outdoor Recreation
- Transportation

Discuss TCC CEDS & Economic Recovery Plan Outreach



Outreach Plans

- Emailed to distribution list
- Sub Regional Meetings (March 10-12): short presentations at the Yukon Koyukuk and Upper Tanana sub regional meetings (and hopefully more!)
- 2022 TCC Annual Convention (March 14-17) – flyer
- CEDS Committee assistance – help us get the word out!

Other ideas?

Capital Improvement Projects

Request top 3 priorities from Tribes for inclusion in the appendix:

Is there already a centralized community priorities list?

If not, should we include one in the CEDS & ERP appendix?

Appendix 6: Priority Project List by Community

Community	#1 Priority Project	#2 Priority Project	#3 Priority Project
Alatna	Build new businesses, including a new store. Alatna relies on Allakaket for the only store, which is about eight miles round trip, in which we have to cross a river; Allakaket is unavailable to us during freeze up and break up. Alatna is in need of a local store in order to save gas, stop dangerous river crossings, and to create jobs for residents.	Elder nutrition/garage building. This building could host an elder's nutrition program to build strength and to promote gatherings and build love and communication in our community. A garage building would help our youth to learn to maintain vehicles in order for them to run properly, a great asset to have while there are teachers available.	Open a community school. Currently students must travel 8.5 miles round trip to the school in Allakaket. Students miss school during the months of break up and freeze up of the river. If we were able to get funding for a safe route to school, this could help with getting our kids to and from Allakaket.
Allakaket	Planning the construction of a new subdivision, located outside the flood plain. Expand Tribal Transportation Plan Blazer Loop subdivision.	Local multipurpose building with library and computer lab to help support student education, museum of community.	Emergency response for safety of community, including search and rescue supplies for emergency situations and an emergency community response center that is different from medical response.
Anvik	Job creation-try to manage what project may be coming and promoting local hire for new projects, such as the biomass project, clearing the fire break, home rehabilitation, rebuilding the public works	Identify remaining funding needed for biomass project.	Fire crew.

Wrap-Up



Timeline



What comes after the TCC CEDS & Economic Recovery Plan is complete?

Implementation

Thank you!

A scenic sunset over a body of water with mountains in the background. The sky transitions from a deep blue at the top to a bright orange near the horizon. The water is calm, reflecting the colors of the sky. In the foreground, there are dark silhouettes of trees and bushes.

Questions or Comments?

Shannon Erhart

Tribal Development Deputy Director

shannon.erhart@tananachiefs.org, 907-452-8251 ext. 3288

Shelly Wade

Stakeholder Engagement Lead, Agnew::Beck

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Appendix D: COVID-19 and Economic Recovery Resources

- **Foraker Group:** [Alaska nonprofit resources allocated through the American Rescue Plan Act](#)
 - List of Alaska allocations
 - Summary of COVID-19 impacts on nonprofits nationally
 - Information on paid leave tax credits
 - Information on unemployment insurance reimbursement
 - Information on PPP and other COVID-19 relief loans
 - Information on the Aid for State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Governments program
 - Full American Rescue Plan Act analysis by section
- **Alaska Federal Funding (joint informational coalition):** [State and federal grant resources for Alaska governments, businesses, organizations and individuals](#)
 - Comprehensive lists of active and pending grant opportunities
 - Information on eligibility and compliance for ARPA funding to Tribal governments
- **Anchorage Economic Development Corporation:** [Resource guide for COVID-19 relief and information](#)
 - Resources for business owners, employees, nonprofits and residents
 - Includes information in multiple languages
- **State of Alaska:** [Full list of federal COVID-19 relief funds appropriated for Alaska](#)
 - Includes breakdown of funding by Act
- **U.S. Treasury:** [Capital Projects Fund](#)
 - Includes a breakdown of the fund, which targets projects in rural, low-income and Tribal communities
 - Focuses on broadband and other modern infrastructure
 - Includes information on how to request funding, deadlines, funding amounts and eligible projects
- **State of Alaska:** [Alaska Economic Stabilization Team](#)
 - Full economic stabilization plan
 - Includes resources such as CDC guidelines, loans, unemployment, and eviction information
- **Alaska Municipal League:** [COVID-19 Resources for Municipalities](#)
 - Questions and answers for municipalities
 - Extensive CARES Act fact sheets and guides for municipalities, small businesses, and nonprofits
 - FEMA resources for Tribal governments and municipalities, including fact sheets and public assistance forms
 - Families First Corona Response Act information
 - Links to relevant State of Alaska resources, including industry specific guidelines and plans

- **Alaska Municipal League:** [ARPA Compliance Support Service Agreement](#)
 - Form to enter into an agreement with AML for support on ARPA compliance
 - Includes a fee structure based on size of allocation
- **Back To Biz:** [Business recovery program](#)
 - Resources to assist business recovery from the pandemic
 - Includes information on improving websites, reaching customers online, online sales platforms and tips and tricks for business owners and entrepreneurs
- **Alaska Federation of Natives:** [Navigator program](#)
 - Includes workshops and trainings
 - Includes funding opportunities
 - Includes other resources and partners for assistance grant writing assistance, child care, housing, and more

Appendix E: Priority Project List by Community

The following projects were identified by communities as top capital improvement project (CIP) priorities, as identified via a phone survey of TCC communities. Not all communities responded to the phone survey.

Community	#1 Priority Project	#2 Priority Project	#3 Priority Project
Alatna	Sewage lagoon repair	Traditions; health, safety, and governance	Transportation – road repairs
Allakaket	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>
Anvik	Housing	Building a youth center	Employing more residents
Arctic Village	Water and sewer to all homes	New community hall or multi-purpose building	Fix power line distribution
Beaver	Housing	Store, food and essentials	Washateria upgrades
Birch Creek	Upgrade energy; fuel, and power generation; electric grade, lines and transformers, so their system has capacity to carry a load for village growth. Invest in fuel and gas tank farm, upgrade generator	Upgrade telephone system and communications, from current state	Build/upgrade Tribal office, community building, washateria, housing, and other infrastructure. Invest in Village Public Safety Officer, including vehicles and housing
Canyon Village	Prepare for big move	Saving up gas for a boat going home	Safe transit during move, and prepping for Winter
Chalkyitsik	Garage for Council vehicles.	Multi-purpose building	New generator or new homes
Circle	60 X 80 Steel prefab garage project that will house emergency equipment, serve as a mechanics shop and become an innovative training center in partnership with the Yukon Flats Region as well as the Local Unions.	Expanding on and rehabilitating housing. There is a housing shortage as well as inhabitable homes that individuals are still residing in. We would like to utilize our resources and build log cabins. This shall include water and sewer projects for proposed and current homes.	We would like to install solar paneling on our Tribal buildings such as the new multipurpose building, community hall, clinic and water plant.
Dot Lake	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>
Eagle	Broadband; cell service and communications for emergencies	Housing, water and sewer; working with IRHA for a solution that's efficient and affordable.	Hunting and subsistence

Community	#1 Priority Project	#2 Priority Project	#3 Priority Project
Fort Yukon	Road improvement		
Galena	Housing	Water/sewer	<i>no response</i>
Grayling	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>
Healy Lake	Water and sewer, housing	Broadband	Hunting and fishing
Holy Cross	Build youth center	Housing	Community shop
Hughes	Rehabilitate the clinic	Invest in a road from Hughes to cemetery for year-round access	Construction of Elder-Youth Traditional Facility, replacing the old community center
Huslia	Housing	Job creation and retention	Water and sewer infrastructure
Kaltag	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>
Koyukuk	Water and sewer	Housing	Road improvements
Lake Minchumina	More opportunities for economic development	Eco-tourism	Small business expansion
Manley Hot Springs	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>
McGrath	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>
Medfra	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>
Minto	Housing and utilities	Youth center, fitness center	Business district
Nenana	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>
Nikolai	Clinic duplex for workers	Identify site for new landfill and update/implement hazard mitigation plan	New power plant (hopefully 2023), fix deteriorating buildings, build new housing
Northway	Housing: survey land for new homes and ensure title is cleared; protect existing homes from flooding/erosion and relocate if necessary; purchase land for new homes, focusing efforts on high land where Northway is gradually relocating; develop utility and energy access; continue with construction and rehabilitating homes; weatherize and retrofit homes and infrastructure to be more resilient to extreme	Conduct an assessment for an elder assistant living center within 10 years	Conduct an assessment for a youth center within 10 years

Community	#1 Priority Project	#2 Priority Project	#3 Priority Project
	weather, permafrost thaw, and other aspects of climate change and natural hazards; develop a housing application and selection process		
Nulato	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>
Rampart	Lagoon, water and sewer projects (with ANTHC in summer 2022); hiring a diesel mechanic	Renovate deteriorating laundromat and redo electrical wiring around town	New clinic; update community plan
Ruby	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>
Shageluk	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>
Stevens Village	New washeteria; need to develop a preliminary engineering report	Take ownership of school and hopefully compact with TCC and state to reopen with under 10 kids	Move and update infrastructure (electrical and water well) threatened by river bank erosion
Takotna	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>
Tanacross	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>
Tanana	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>
Telida	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>
Tetlin	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>
Tok	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>	<i>no response</i>
Venetie	Develop a trail to another village for starting a treatment center	Workforce training focused on key skills such as equipment operation, business management, bookkeeping, accounting, etc.	Building a better village. Infrastructure, learning to build a store, community center, and more.