

Mid Session Summit 2026

Top **10** Economic Updates

Southeast Alaska



Rain Coast
Data



**SOUTHEAST
CONFERENCE**

Story #1

**Population only
down a tiny bit**

POPULATION DOWN **21** 2024 TO 2025 **-0.03%**

**Southeast Alaska
Population Change
2024 to 2025**

-21
People

- Juneau -101 -0.3%
- Haines -77 -3%
- Angoon -19 -5%
- Klawock -14
- Coffman Cove -13
- Yakutat -1
- Hoonah 4
- Gustavus 8
- Tenakee Springs 8
- Kake 9
- Pelican 10 +11%
- Sitka 10
- Saxman 12
- Hydaburg 14
- Skagway 18
- Wrangell 18
- Metlakatla 20
- Ketchikan 27
- Petersburg 33
- Craig 37

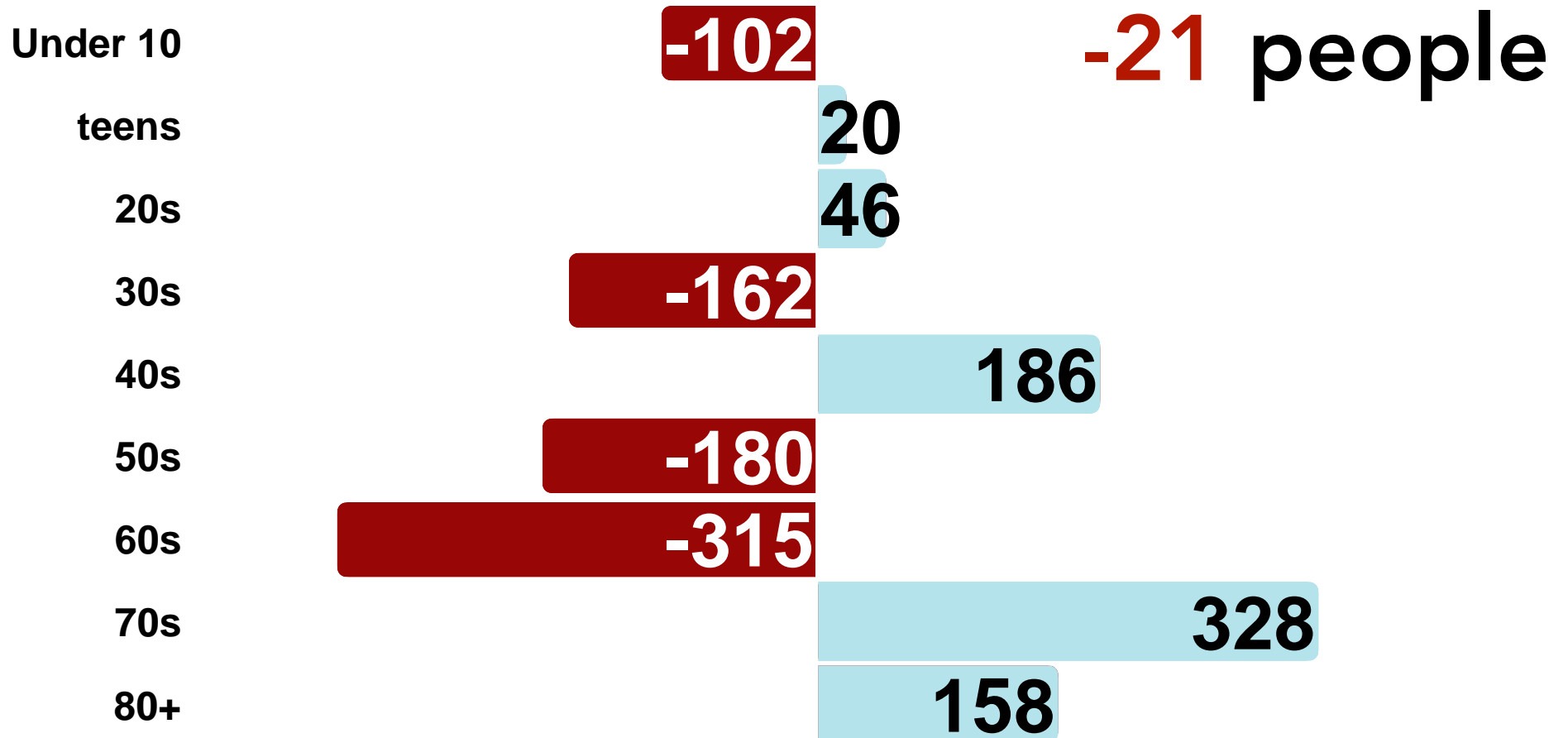


1 Year Population Change: 2024-2025

-114 more people moved
away than moved here

93 more births than deaths

1 Year Population Change: 2024-2025



POPULATION 70,233

A **3%** 4-YEAR DECLINE OF **2,500** PEOPLE

10-YEAR DECLINE OF **4,000**



POPULATION DOWN **21** 2024 TO 2025



-2,500

**4-Year Population Change
2021 to 2025**

-3%

Southeast Alaska

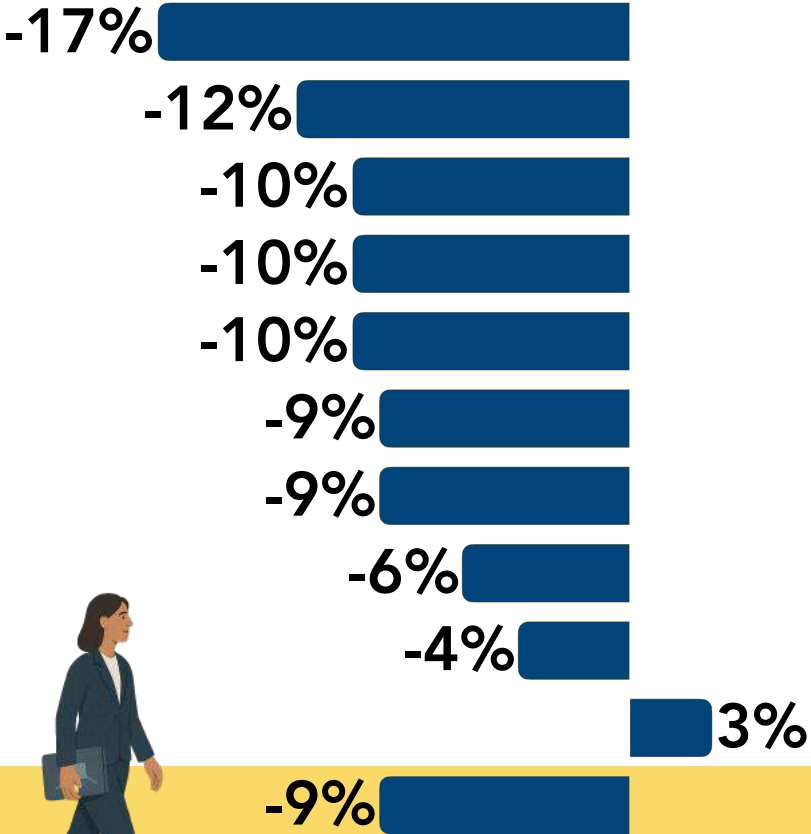
<u>Community</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>%</u>
Juneau	-1,073	-3%
Ketchikan	-553	-4%
Sitka	-382	-5%
Haines	-174	-7%
Skagway	-71	-6%
Hoonah	-70	-8%
Wrangell	-66	-3%
Yakutat	-66	-9%
Angoon	-32	-9%
Kake	-30	-5%
Metlakatla	-10	-1%
Hyder	-1	-2%
Gustavus	3	0%
Pelican	7	8%
Tenakee Springs	7	6%
Petersburg	20	1%
Prince of Wales	88	3%

Story #2

**Decline in workforce
aged population,
increase in
nonresidents**

2025 WORKING AGE VERSUS 2016

Prince of Wales
Hoonah-Angoon
Yakutat
Sitka
Wrangell
Juneau
Haines
Ketchikan
Skagway
Petersburg
Southeast

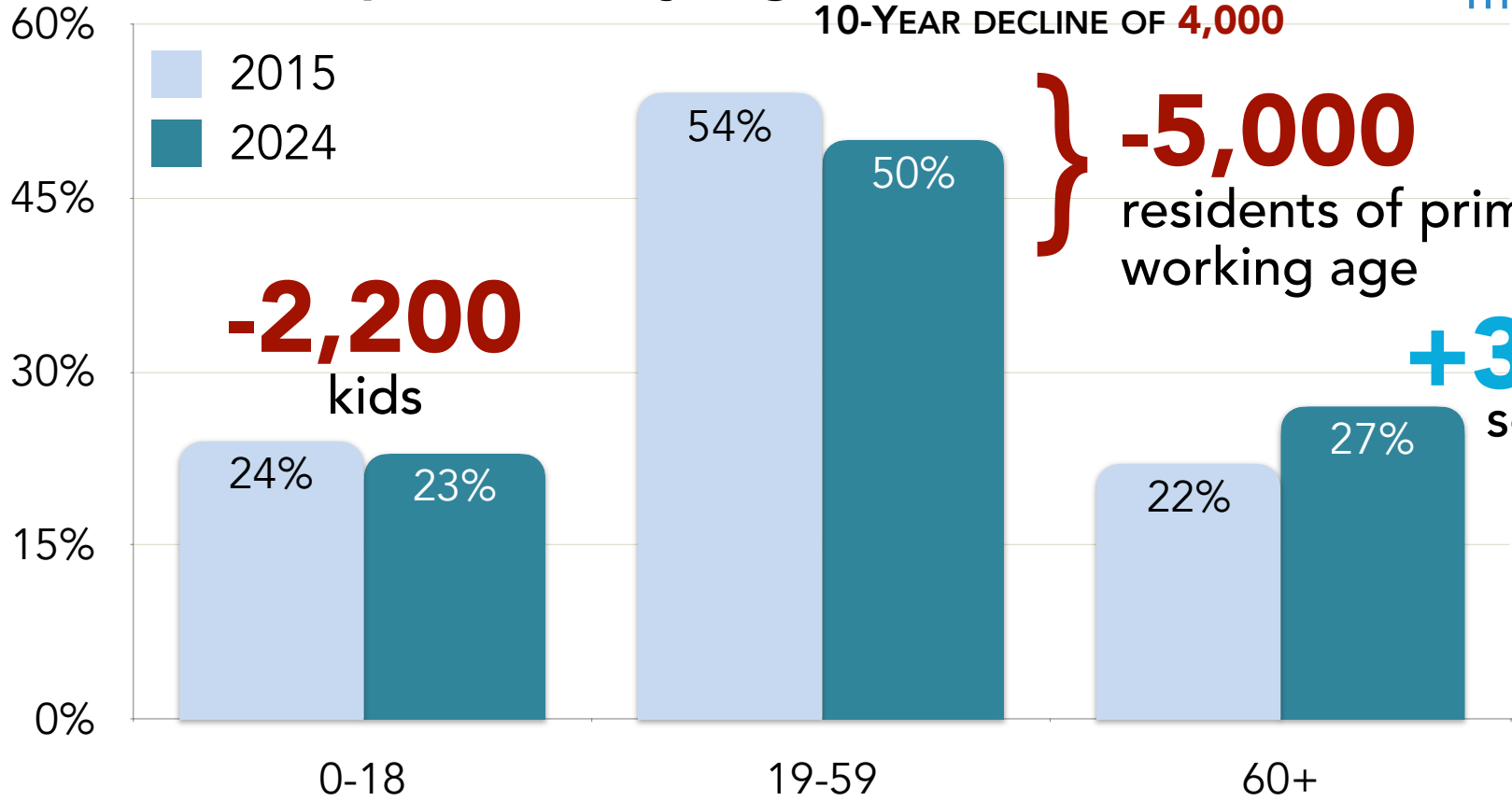


AGED 25-54

Southeast Workforce Challenge

SE Population by Age, 2016-2025

+350
more jobs
now



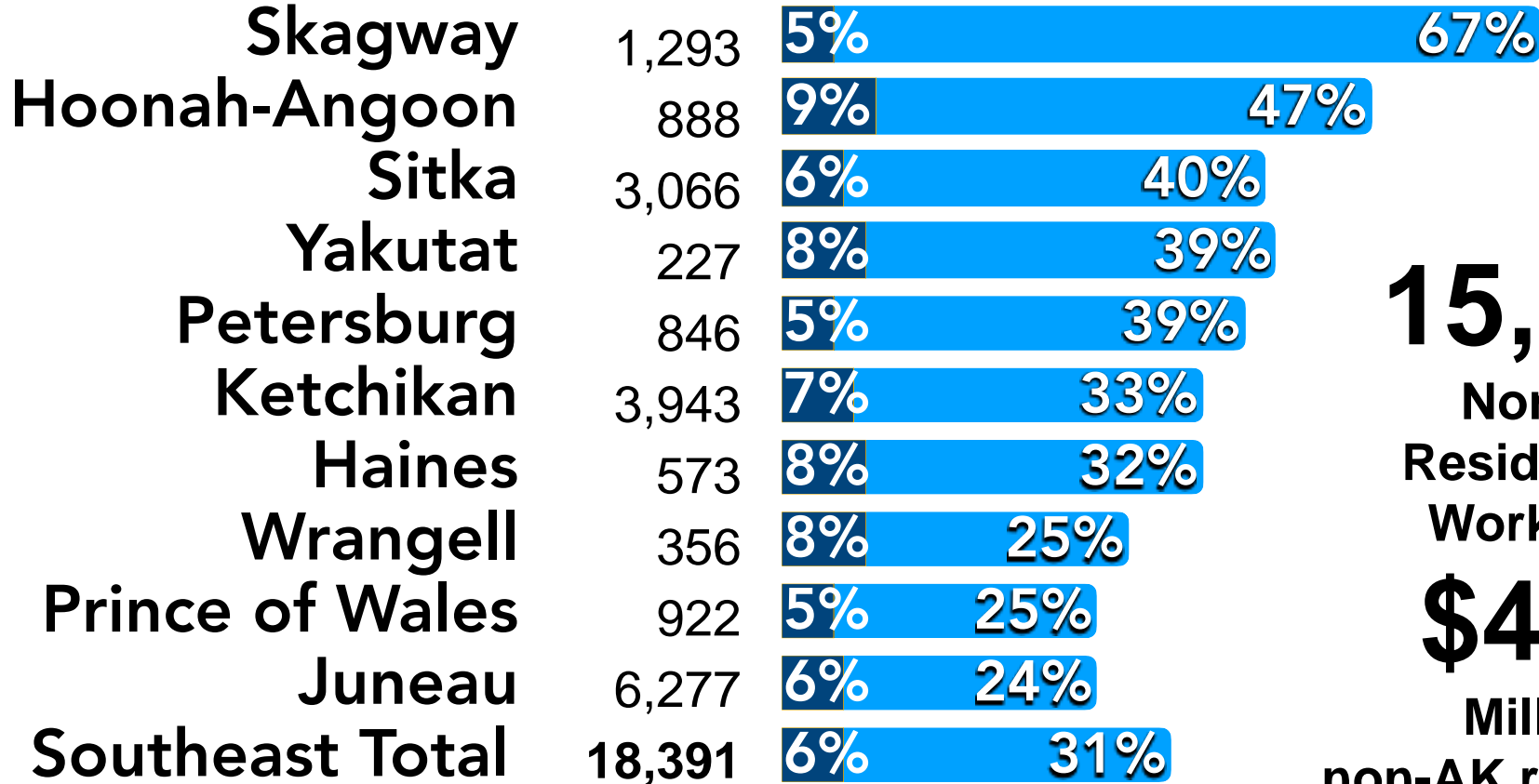
-2,200
kids

-5,000
residents of prime+
working age

+3,400
seniors

2024 NON RESIDENTS

■ % Nonlocal residents (Non-local Alaskans)
■ % Non AK Residents



15,300

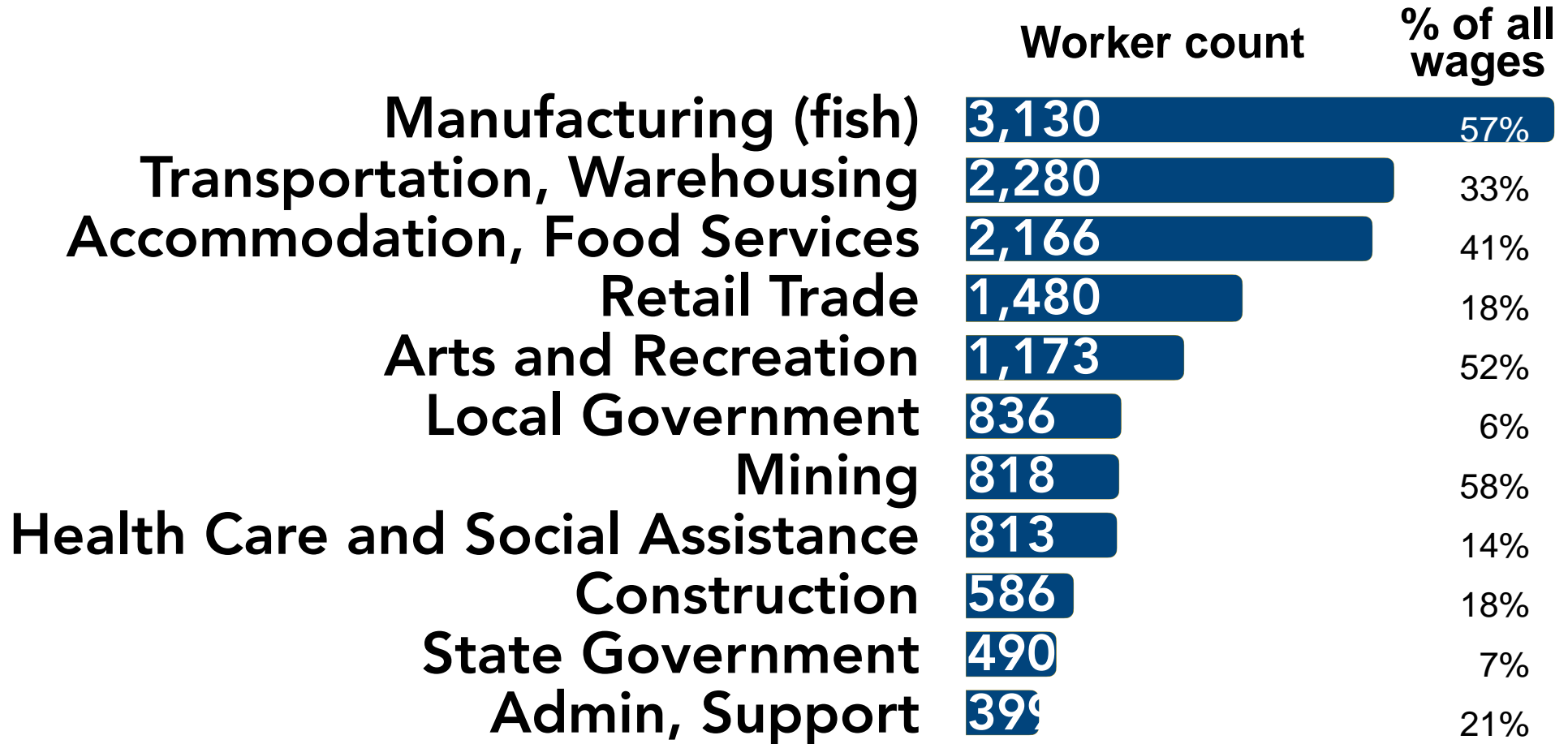
Non AK
Residents in
Workforce

\$464

Million
non-AK res wages

Non-resident includes new residents not yet eligible for the PFD

2024 NON RESIDENTS

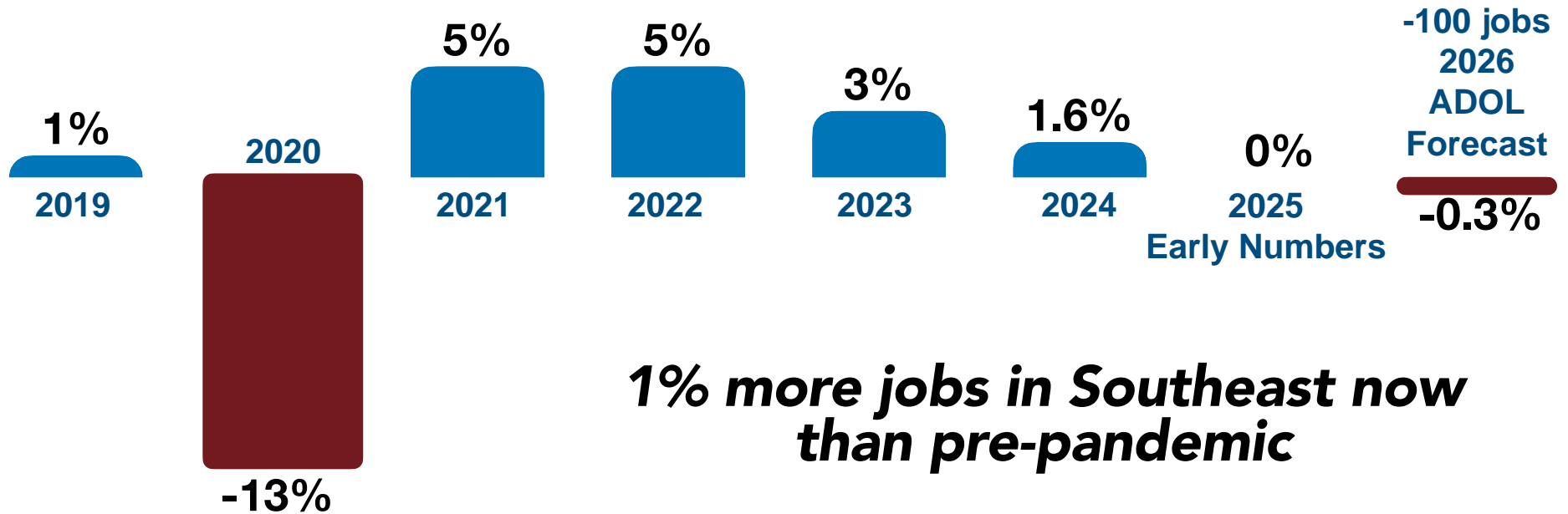


Story #3

**Region near
peak jobs ever**

Southeast Alaska Economics

Change in Southeast Alaska Jobs 2019-2026



1% more jobs in Southeast now than pre-pandemic

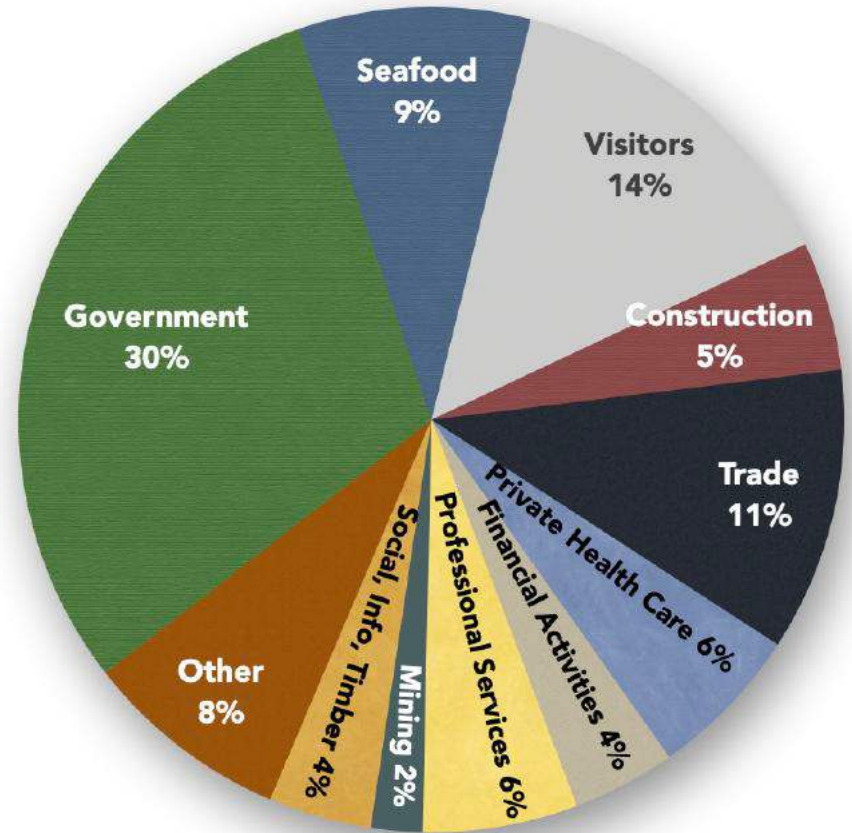
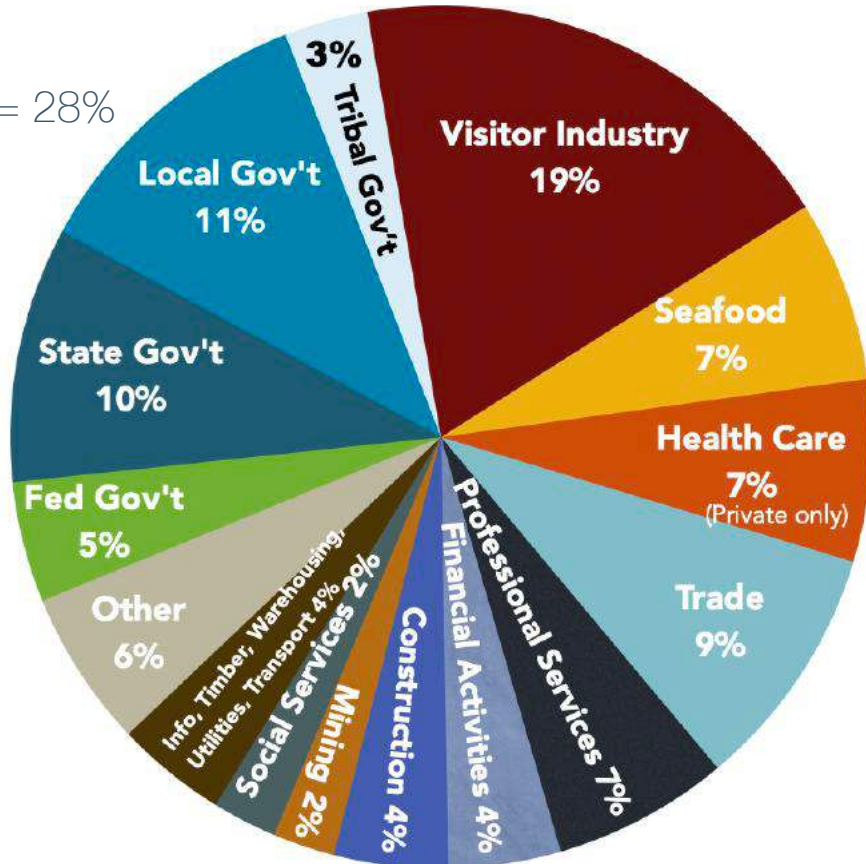
Preliminary Numbers 2025
**Southeast
Economy
= Peak Jobs Ever**

Tied with 2012, 2024
Excludes self employment

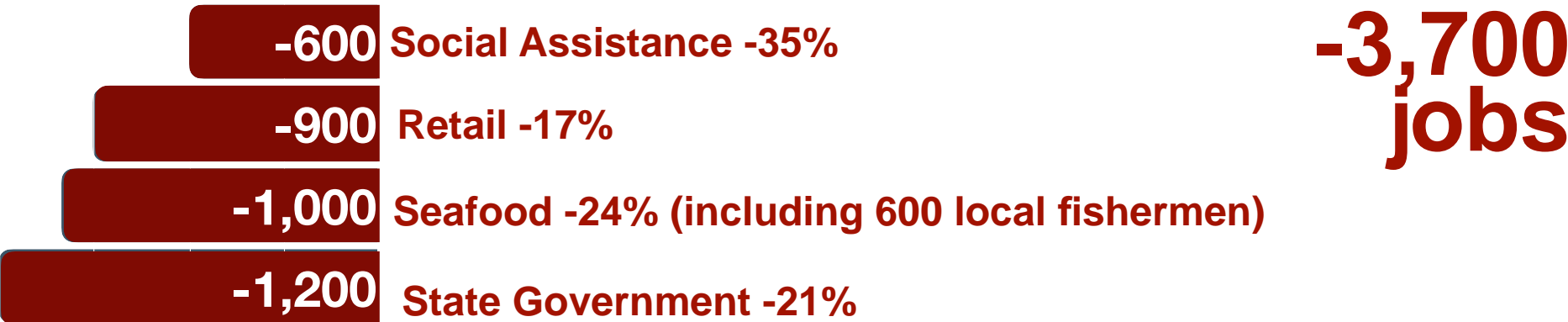
2024 -215 jobs, -0.5%
45,722 Jobs

2012
45,937 Jobs

Gov = 28%



Our economy is changing: 2012-2024



Story #4

**Cruise passenger
#s down (flat) in
2025**

CRUISE

SE Passengers

-8,000 pax
-0.4%



1.2 mill

1.3 million

48

Passengers

10% of a
cruise season

1.2 mill

1.72 mill

1.78 million

1.77 million

2015

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2021

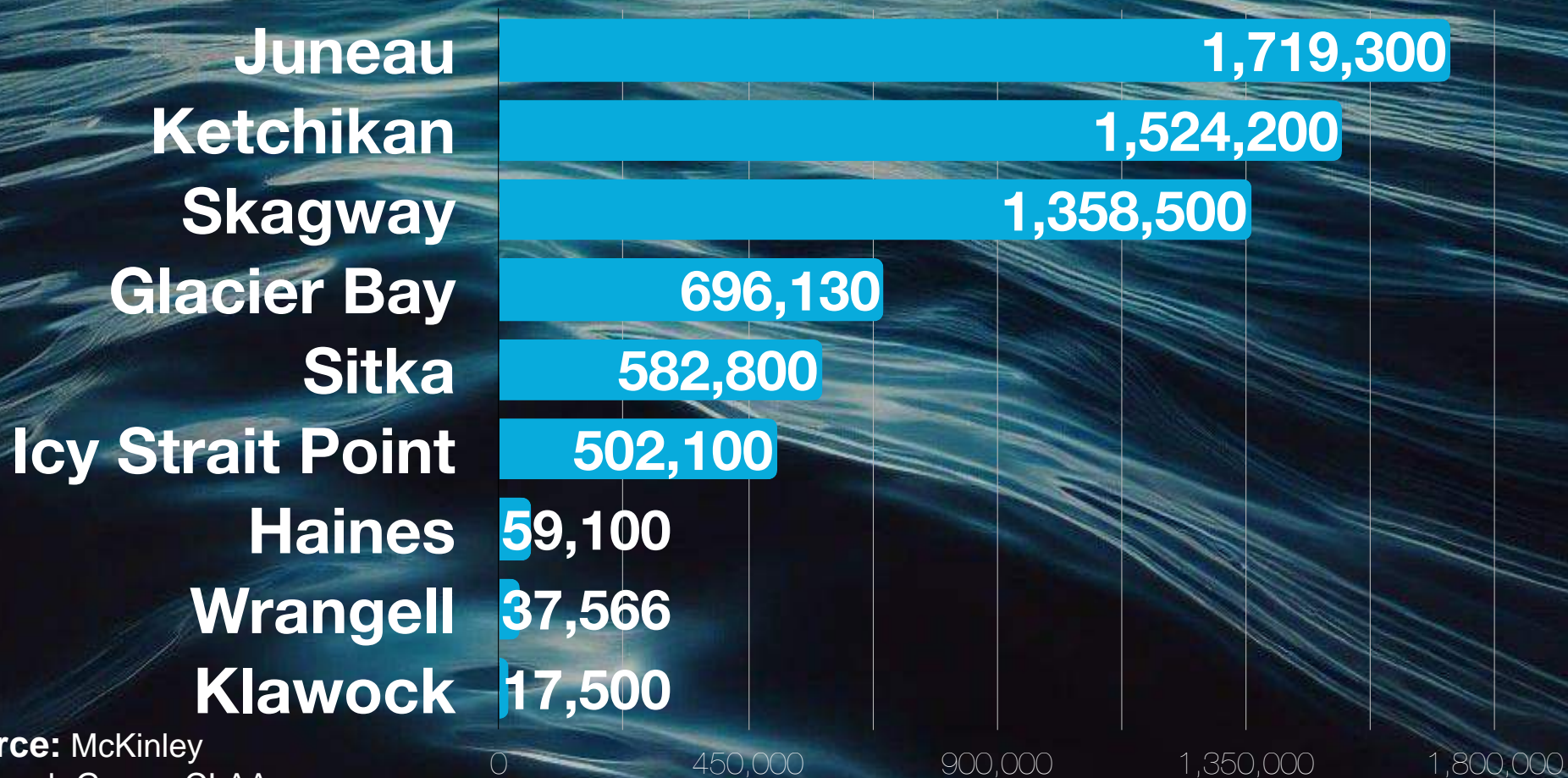
2022

2023

2024

2025

Southeast Cruise Passengers Arrivals by Port 2025



Source: McKinley
Research Group, CLAA

Southeast CRUISE Statistics

Source: McKinley
Research Group, CLAA

SOUTHEAST ALASKA CRUISE PASSENGERS ARRIVALS BY PORT

Port	2024	2025	CHANGE 2024 TO 2025
Juneau	1,732,000	1,719,300	-0.7%
Ketchikan	1,497,700	1,524,200	1.8%
Skagway	1,257,000	1,358,500	8.1%
Glacier Bay	702,200	696,130	-0.9%
Sitka	602,600	582,800	-3.3%
Icy Strait Point	541,200	502,100	-7.2%
Haines	87,700	59,100	-33%
Wrangell	24,072	37,566	56%
Klawock	3,400	17,500	415%
Total Southeast	1.785 million	1.777 million	-0.4%

2026 Estimates

(Early estimates might already be outdated)

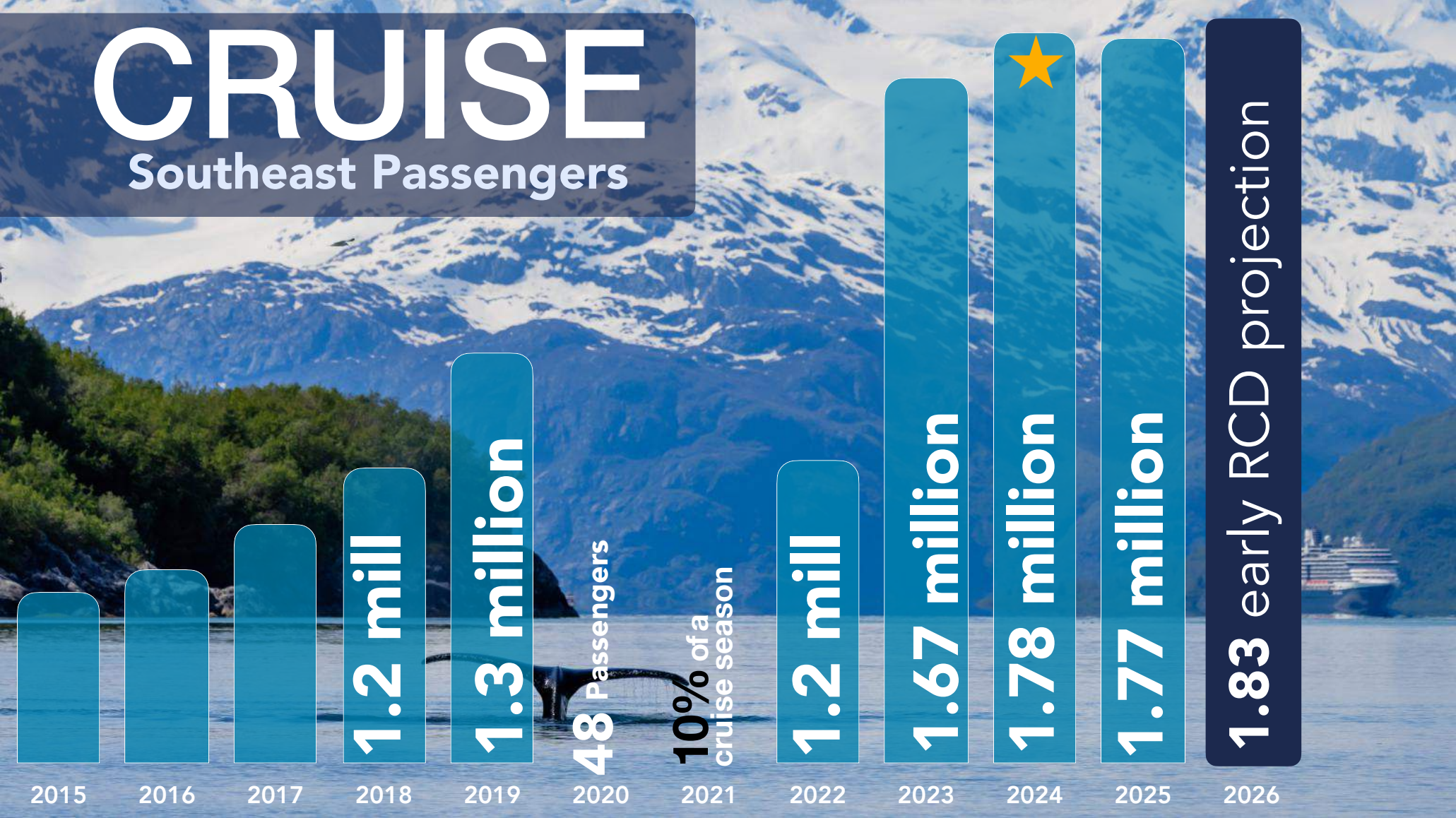
Source: McKinley Research Group, CLAA

SOUTHEAST ALASKA CRUISE PASSENGERS ARRIVALS BY PORT

Port	2025	CHANGE 2025 TO 2026
Juneau	1,719,300	3%
Ketchikan	1,524,200	13%
Skagway	1,358,500	3%
Glacier Bay	696,130	-2%
Sitka	582,800	6%
Icy Strait Point	502,100	39%
Haines	59,100	-15%
Wrangell	37,566	86%
Klawock	17,500	30%
Total Southeast	1.77 million	3% (early RCD projection)

CRUISE

Southeast Passengers



2015

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2021

2022

2023

2024

2025

2026

1.2 mill

1.3 million

48 Passengers

10% of a
cruise season

1.2 mill

1.67 million

1.78 million

1.77 million

1.83 early RCD projection

Tourism #1 job provider, #1 wage provider Since 2023

8,300 Annualized Jobs \$347 Million Earnings



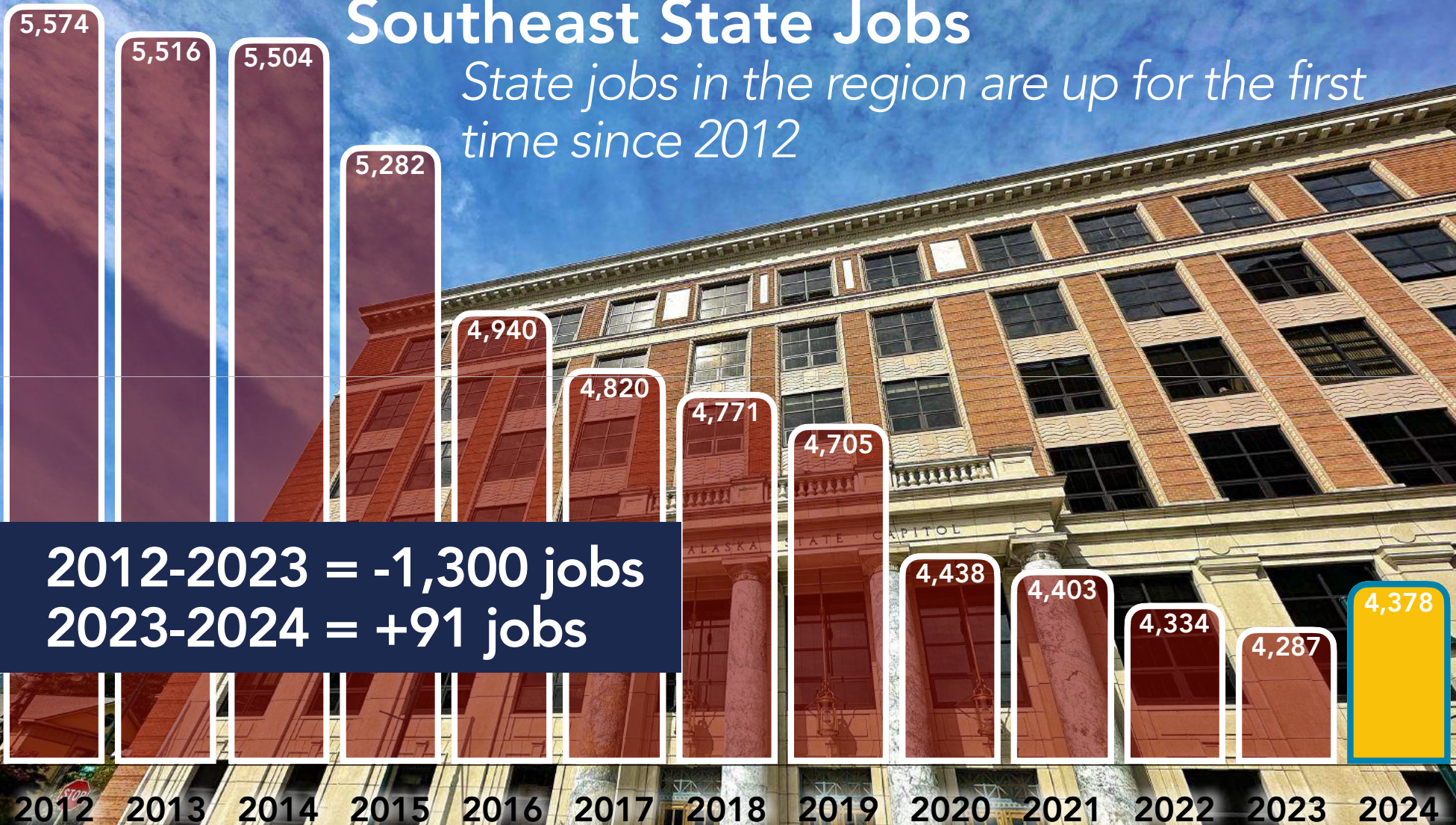
Early 2025 Data +200 jobs

Story #5

**State jobs up for
first time in a
dozen years**

Southeast State Jobs

State jobs in the region are up for the first time since 2012



Story #6

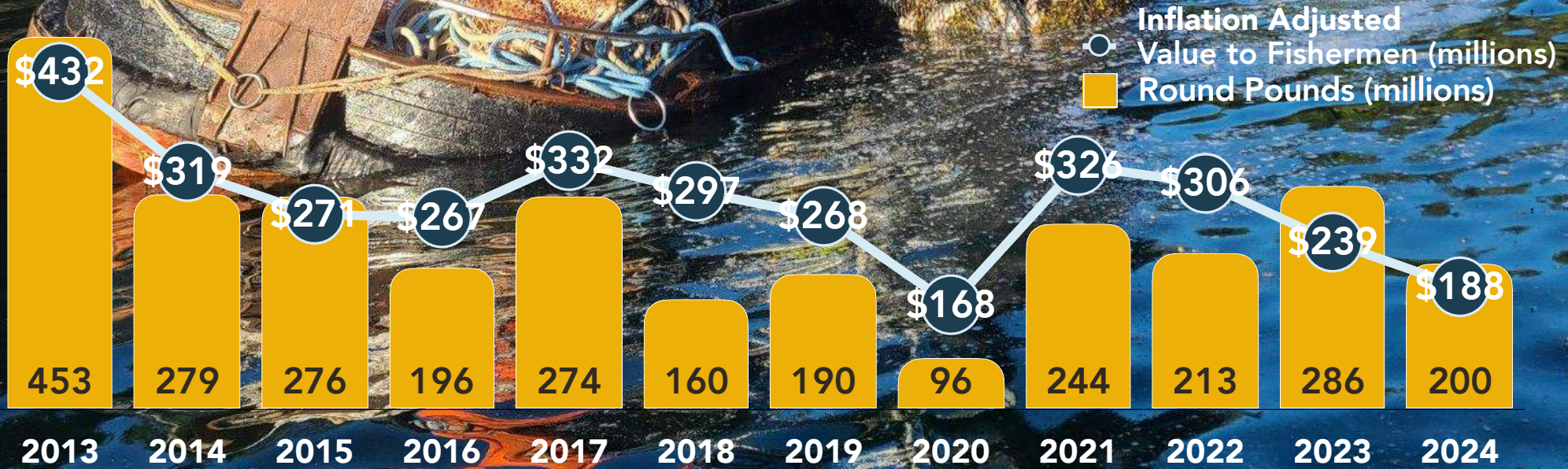
Seafood continues to struggle

SEAFOOD INDUSTRY

A large fishing boat with a blue hull and white superstructure is positioned in the lower-left quadrant of the image. The boat has a complex rig of masts and rigging. In the background, a range of rugged mountains with patches of snow or ice stretches across the horizon under a clear sky. The ocean is a deep blue with some whitecaps.

7% of all regional jobs/wages
Was the top earnings provider in 2022

LOW VALUE CATCH



2024 CATCH VALUE COMPARED TO 2022

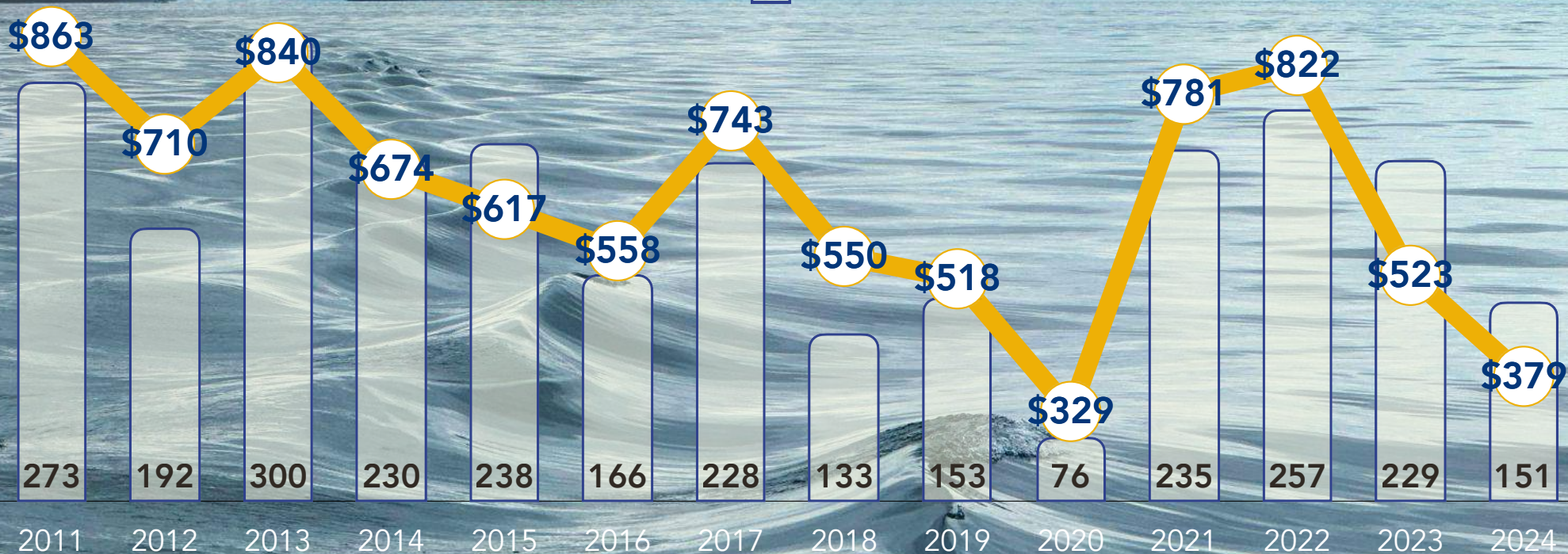


-39% **-\$117** Decreased Catch Value in Millions

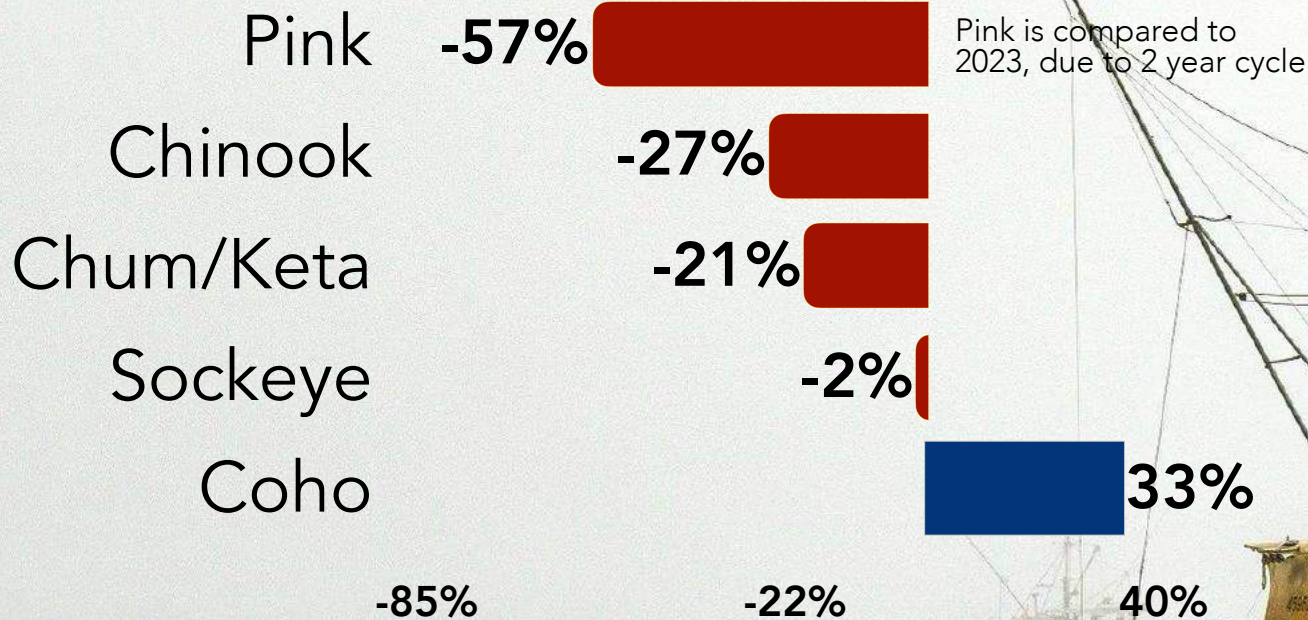
Value of Seafood Processed in Millions

2022-2024 **-54%, -\$442 million**

- Inflation Adjusted Value in millions
- Pounds in millions

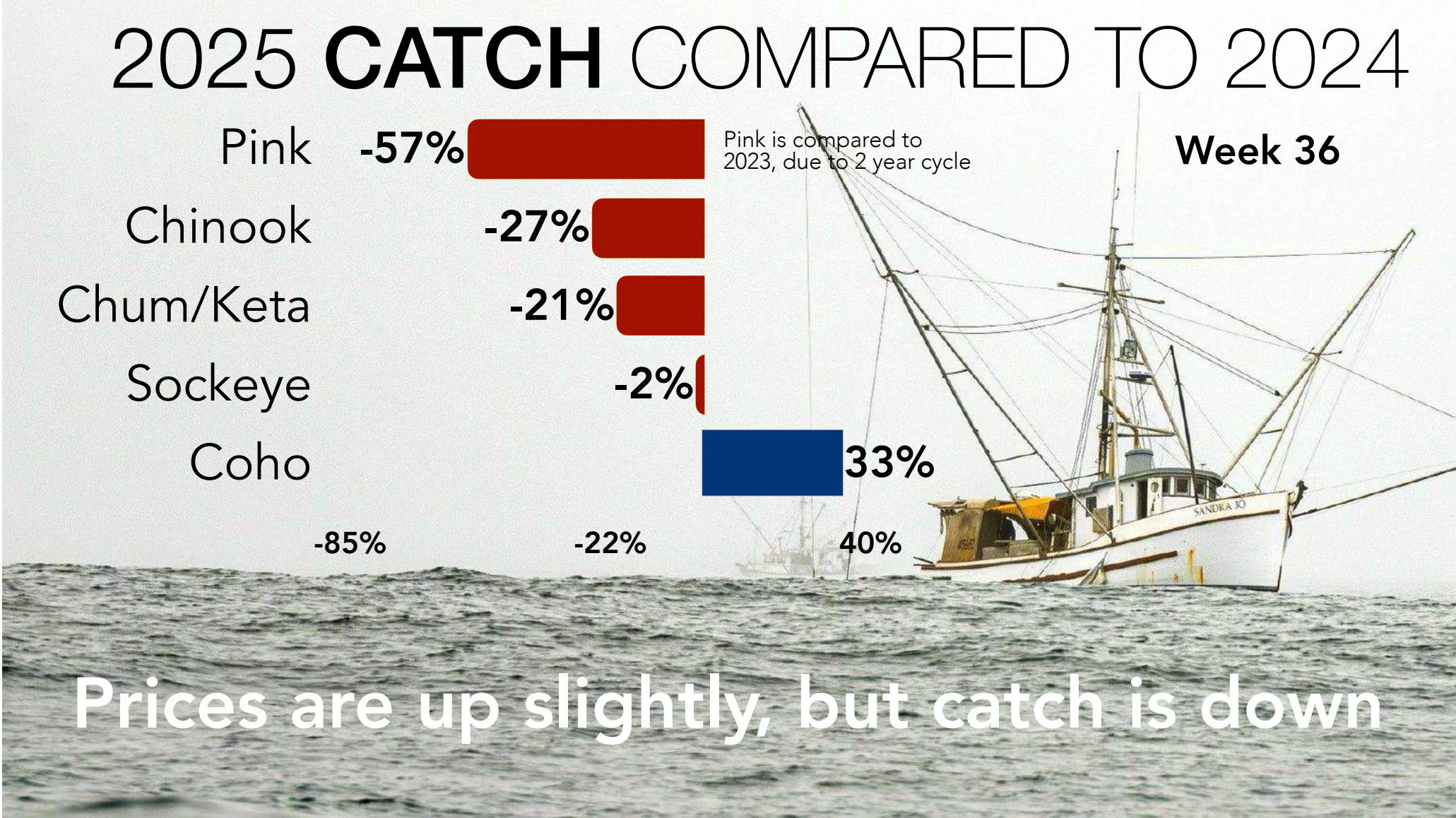


2025 CATCH COMPARED TO 2024



Week 36

Prices are up slightly, but catch is down



Story #7

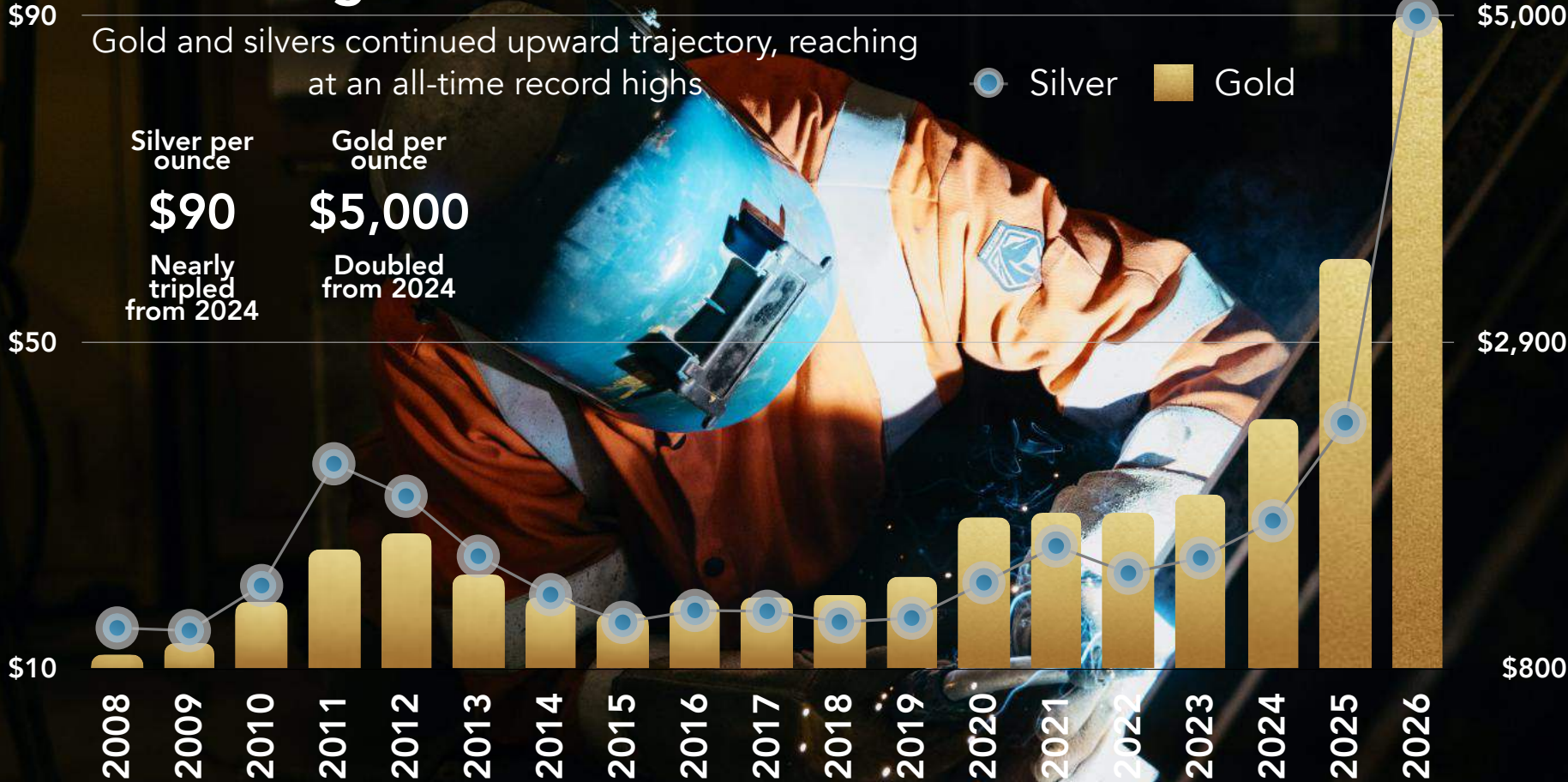
**Mining is strong,
metal values
growing**



Silver per ounce

Average Gold/Silver Prices 2008 to 2026

Gold per ounce



Three Operating Mines Southeast: 2025

Hecla
Greens Creek

+10

530

Coeur
Kensington

+26

395

Dawson
Sundance

48



Mining Outlook

“Outlook for mining in the region is very positive, buoyed by strong metals prices. Some large capital projects are planned for the next couple of years so there will be above average investment dollars coming to regional contractors and businesses associated with mining.”

Story #8

Construction Costs Growing

CONSTRUCTION

An aerial photograph of a construction site. In the upper left, there is a large structure under construction with a dense grid of red rebar. The site is filled with various construction materials, including stacks of red pipes and wooden planks. Several vehicles, including a yellow excavator, a white truck, and a red car, are parked on a dirt area. In the lower left, there are several buildings with blue corrugated metal roofs. The site is surrounded by a mix of green trees and dry, brownish vegetation.

Early 2025 Data +/- 0 jobs

1,950 jobs

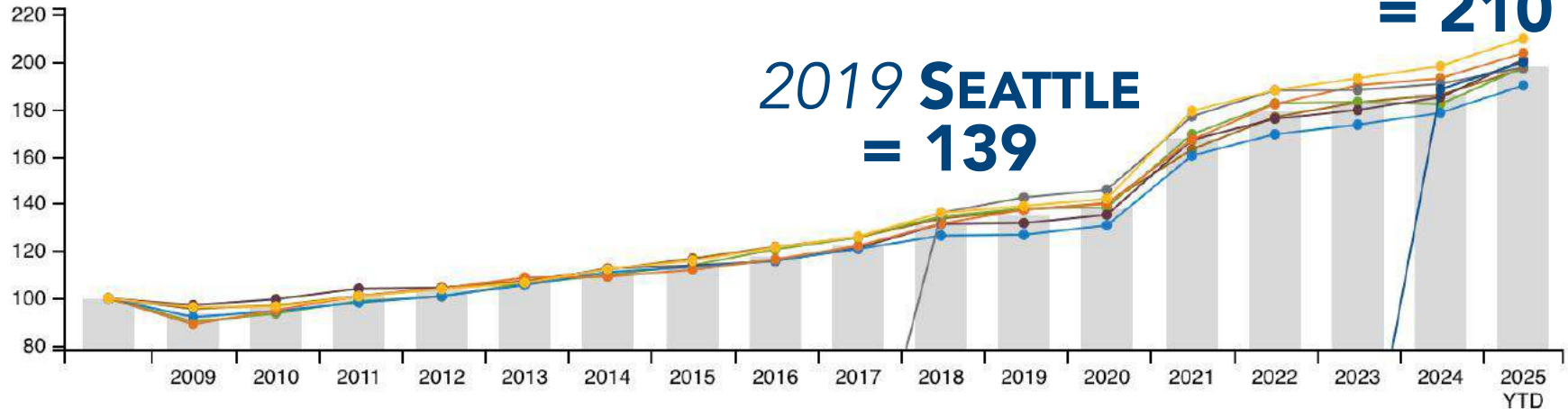
Overall Construction Cost Index Q3 2025

(JANUARY 2009 = 100)

+51%, 6 YEARS

**2025 SEATTLE
= 210**

**2019 SEATTLE
= 139**



Legend: National (Grey), Chicago (Brown), Denver (Green), Milwaukee (Dark Purple), Minneapolis (Blue), Phoenix (Orange), Portland (Dark Grey), Seattle (Yellow), SLC (Dark Blue)

Construction

*"I am very concerned about tariffs raising the cost of construction materials. Construction is already extremely expensive in our area and a lack of contractor confidence in pricing stability is going to raise bid pricing.
Uncertainty is bad for business."*

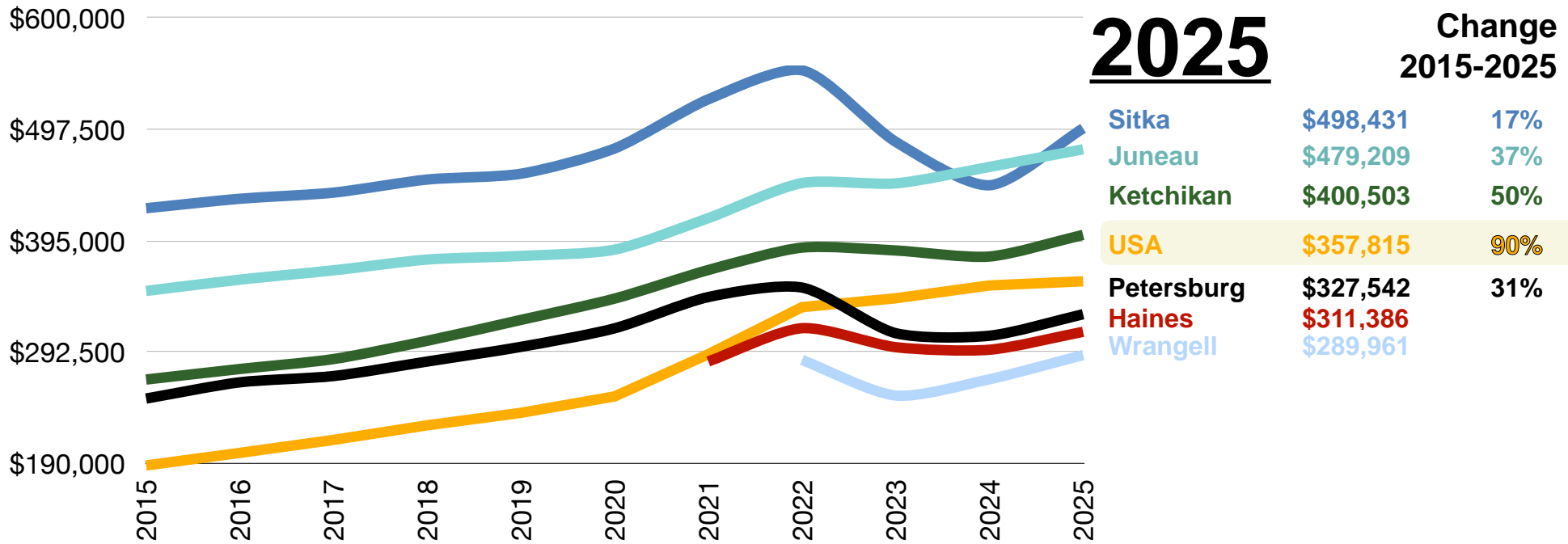
Story #9

**Housing
continue to be
obstacle**



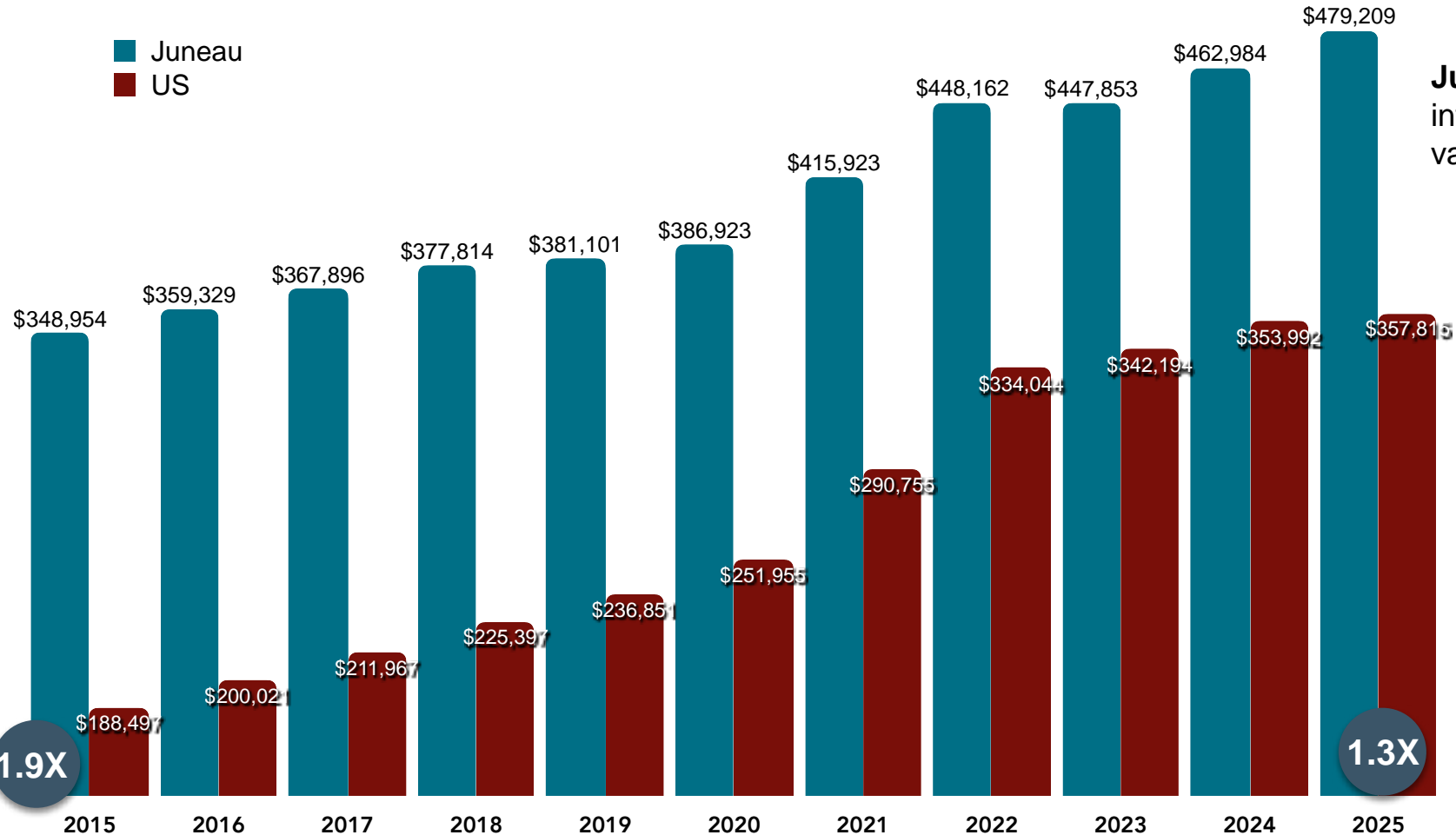
AVERAGE VALUE SINGLE-FAMILY HOME

Not adjusted for inflation



Juneau AVERAGE VALUE SINGLE-FAMILY HOME

■ Juneau
■ US



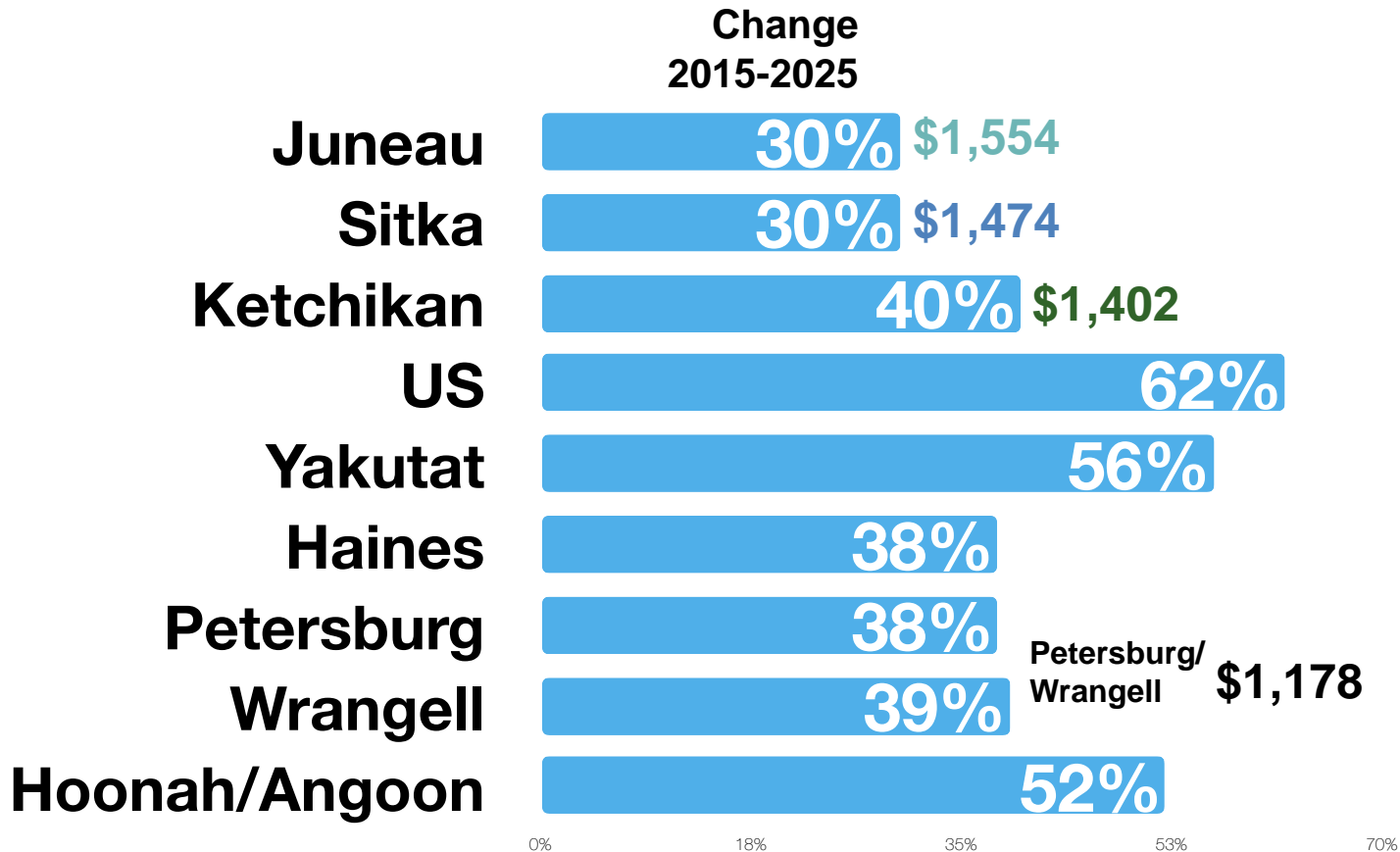
Juneau = +37%
inflation-only
value \$437,302

USA = +90%
inflation-only
value \$256,038

1.9X

1.3X

AVERAGE OR MEDIAN CONTRACT RENT

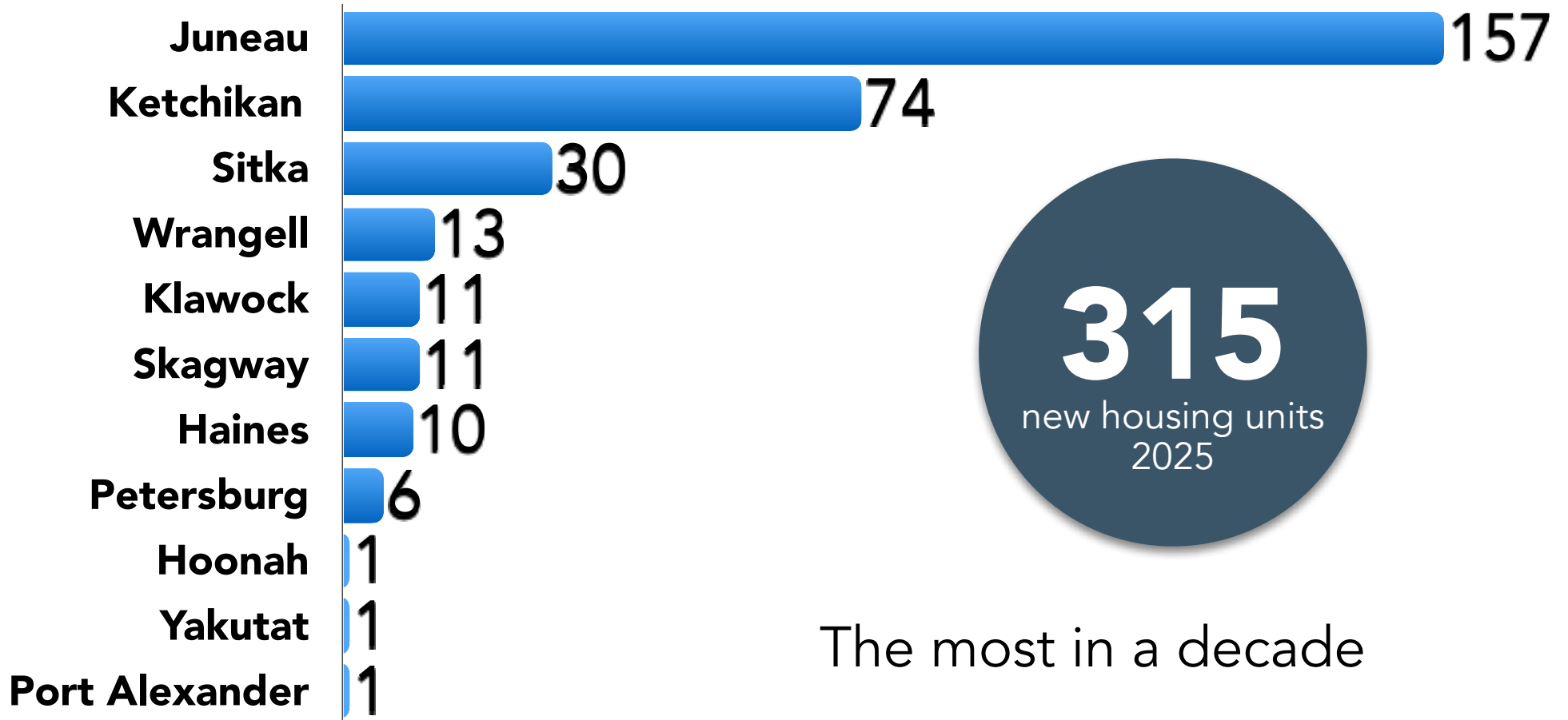


Alaska rent now similar to the U.S.

In 1980 Alaska's median rent was about 50% above the national level

Rents increasing slower than cost of home purchase by %

SOUTHEAST NEW HOUSING 2025

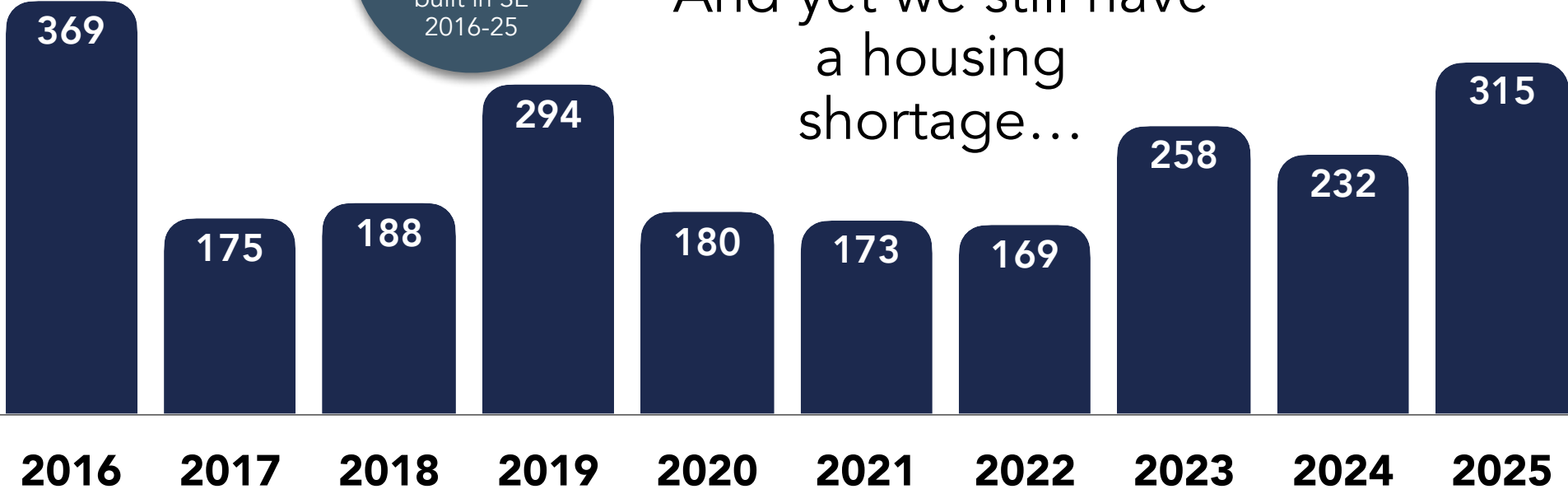


SOUTHEAST NEW HOUSING 2016-2025

2,400
new housing units
built in SE
2016-25

Population down
4,000

And yet we still have
a housing
shortage...



+1,400 65+ live alone households

2015 Seniors
Living Alone



2024 Seniors
Living Alone



-800 3+ person households, all ages

“Southeast Alaska's top problem is undoubtedly housing - its high cost, and low availability/quality. We are seeing that no other economic opportunities can function without it.”

Business Leader

“If this were a place where young families could buy a home, we would be flooded with them. It's not about jobs, it's about housing.”

Randy Hughey, Sitka Community Land Trust

Southeast Worker Retention & Turnover Factors

Southeast Alaska business leaders were asked to rank the significance of factors that result in hiring and long term retention, or in staff turnover or not taking the job. This is an overall ranking of their responses.

Why they come/stay at SE Jobs:

1) Recreation

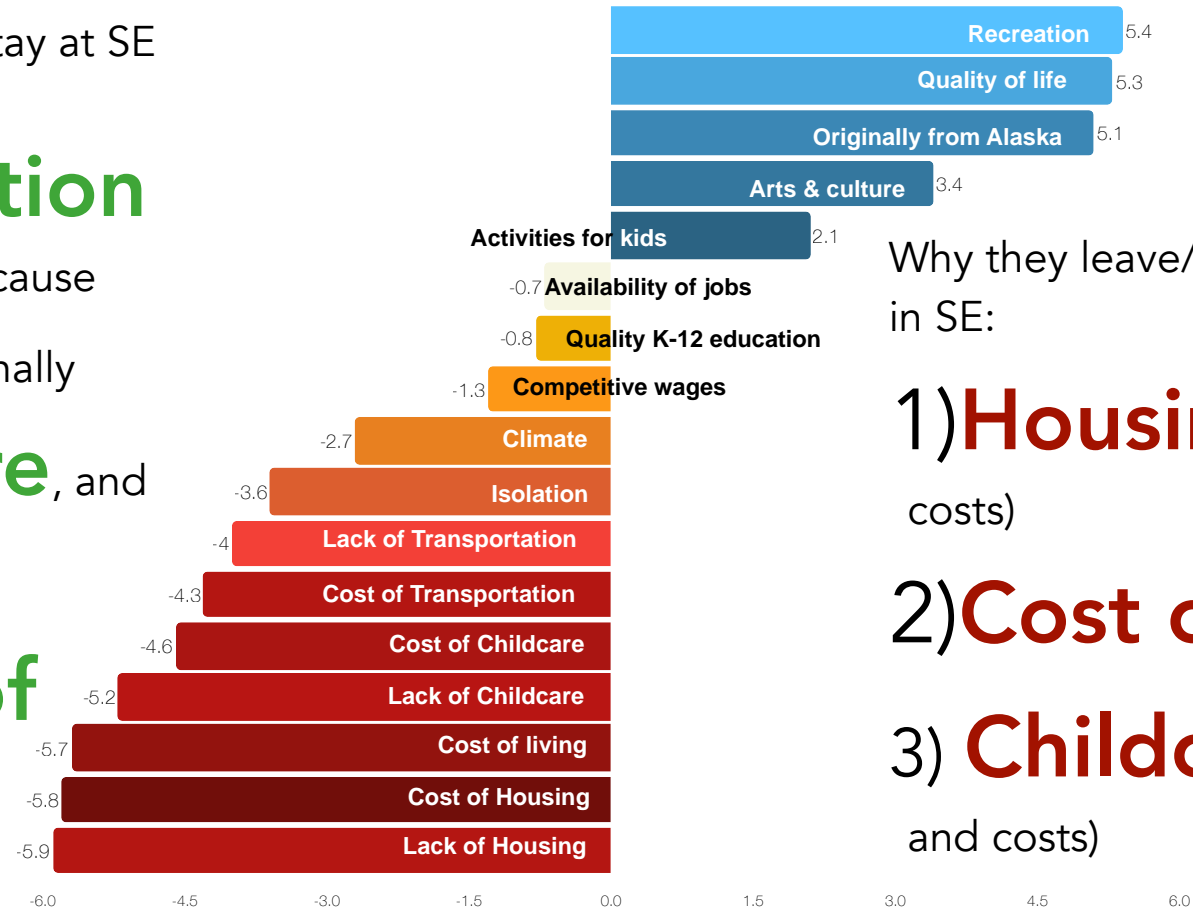
opportunities, because

2) they are originally

from here, and

3) the for high

quality of life.



Why they leave/don't take jobs in SE:

1) Housing (lack of and costs)

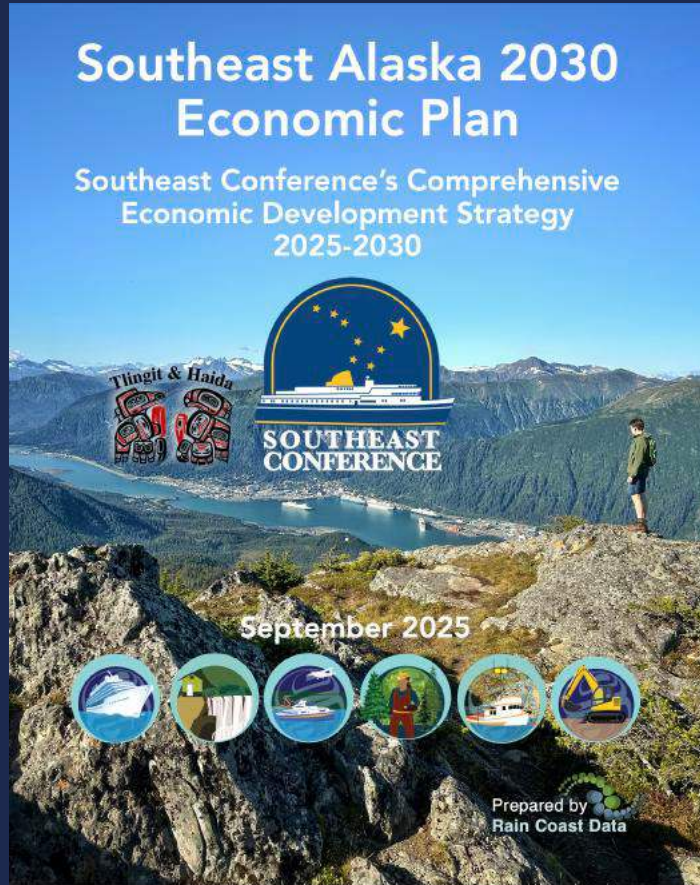
2) Cost of Living

3) Childcare (lack of and costs)

Story #10

5 year Regional Economic Plan is Out

2030 Southeast Economic Plan



**New 5 year
plan out!**



SWOT Analysis: 120 options

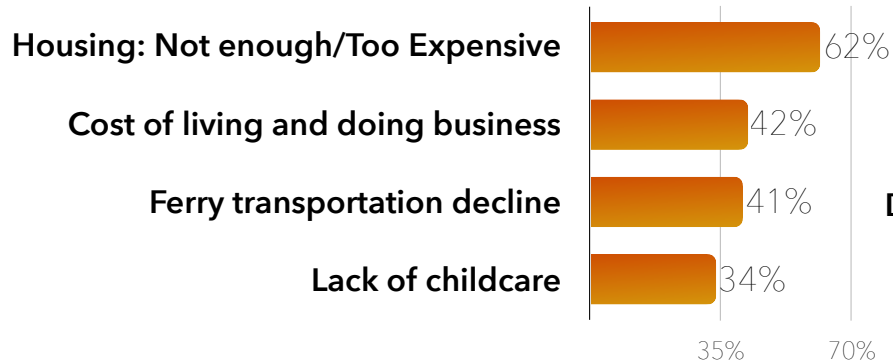
STRENGTHS



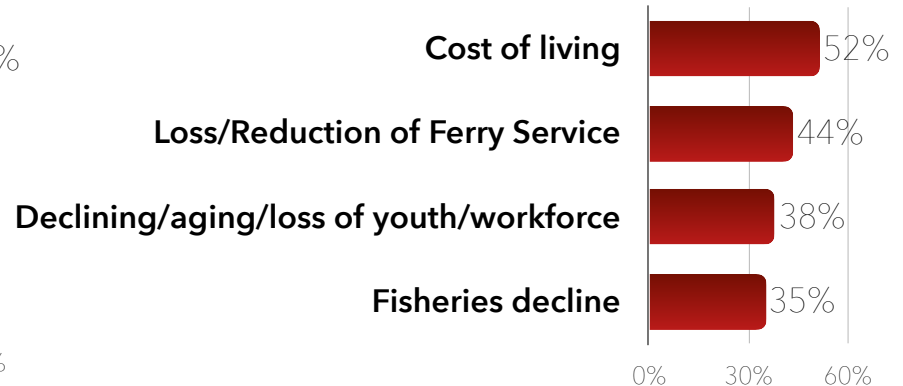
OPPORTUNITIES



WEAKNESSES

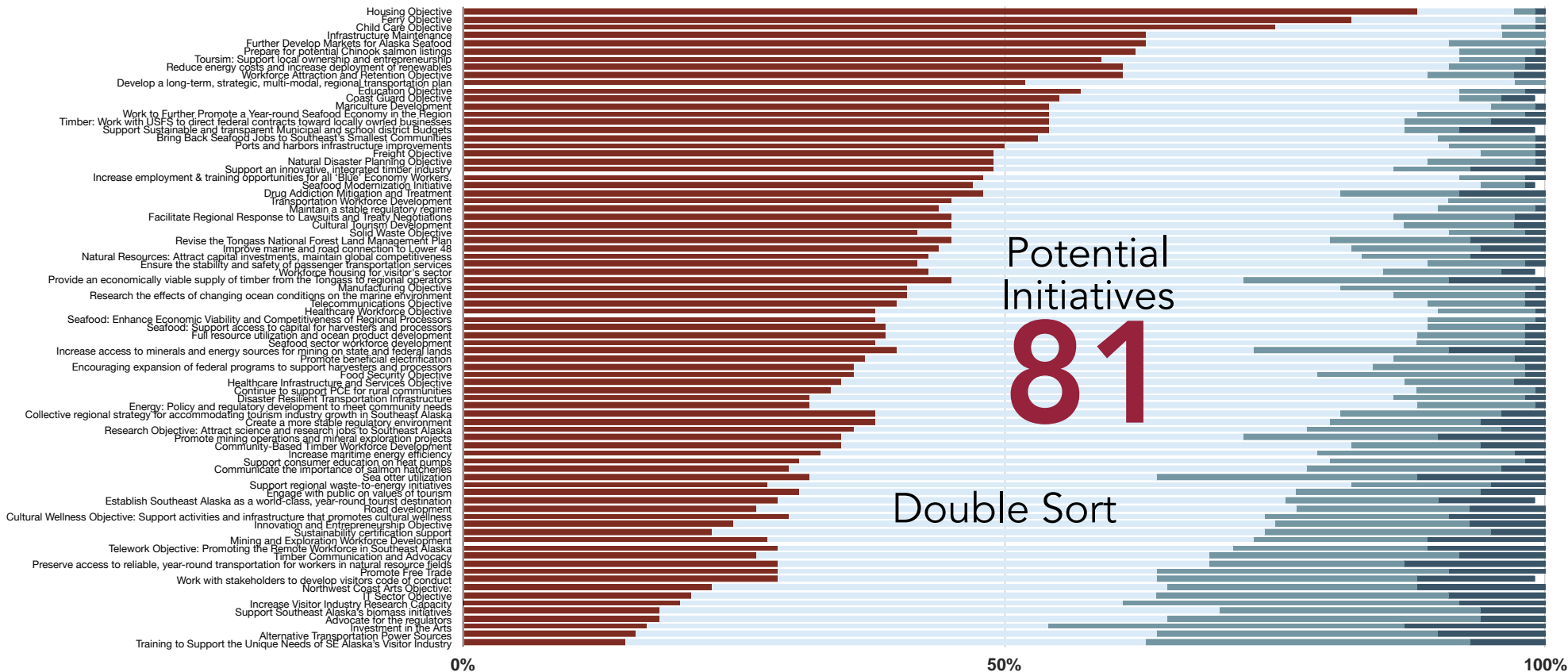


THREATS



Southeast 2030 Initiatives: Prioritization

■ Highest SE priority
 ■ Medium SE priority
 ■ Low SE priority
 ■ Not a priority at this time



SOUTHEAST 2030 STRATEGIC PLAN SUMMARY

Priorities
46

Economic Development

- #1 TOP 10** ★ 1. **Housing Objective:** Support the sustainable development of housing
- #3 TOP 10** ★ 2. **Child Care Objective:** Increase Child Care Capacity in Southeast Alaska
- TOP 10** 3. **Infrastructure Maintenance**
- 4. **Education Objective**
- TOP 10** 5. **Workforce Attraction and Retention Objective**
- 6. **Coast Guard Objective:** Support Coast Guard vessel homeporting opportunities
- 7. **Natural Disaster Planning Objective:** Support Disaster Preparation and Relief Efforts
- 8. **Solid Waste Objective:** Support Regional Solid Waste Management Solutions
- 9. **Healthcare Workforce Objective**
- 10. **Telecommunications Objective:** Improve communications access in Southeast Alaska
- 11. **Manufacturing Objective:** Promote Regionally Manufactured Local Products
- 12. **Food Security Objective:** Increase supply and distribution of local foods

Transportation

- #2 TOP 10** ★ 1. **Support the stability, sustainability and longevity of the Marine Highway Systems of Alaska**
- TOP 10** 2. Develop a long-term, strategic, multi-modal, regional transportation plan
- 3. Improve and expand opportunities to move freight to and from markets
- 4. Ports and harbors infrastructure improvements
- 5. Transportation Workforce Development
- 6. Ensure the stability and safety of passenger transportation services
- 7. Improve marine and road connection to Lower 48
- 8. Disaster Resilient Transportation Infrastructure



Southeast Alaska Priority Objectives for 2030 ★

Seafood Industry

- TOP 10** ★ 1. **Further Develop Markets for Alaska Seafood**
- TOP 10** ★ 2. **Seafood Modernization Initiative**
- 3. Work to Further Promote a Year-round Seafood Economy in the Region
- 4. Full resource utilization and ocean product development
- 5. Mariculture Development
- 6. Bring Back Seafood Jobs to Southeast's Smallest Communities
- 7. Support access to capital for harvesters and processors
- 8. Maintain a stable regulatory regime



Natural Resources

- TOP 10** 1. Prepare for potential Chinook salmon listings
- 2. Work with USFS to direct federal contracts toward locally owned businesses
- 3. Support an innovative, integrated timber industry
- 4. Attract capital investments, maintain global competitiveness
- 5. Provide an economically viable supply of timber from the Tongass to regional operators
- 6. Increase access to minerals and energy sources for mining on state and federal lands
- 7. Advocate for the regulators
- 8. Revise the Tongass National Forest Land Management Plan



Visitor Industry

- TOP 10** ★ 1. **Support local ownership and entrepreneurship**
- 2. Workforce housing for visitor's sector
- 3. Cultural Tourism Development
- 4. Collective regional strategy for accommodating tourism industry growth in Southeast Alaska



Energy

- 1. **Reduce energy costs and increase deployment of renewables** ★ **TOP 10**
- 2. Promote beneficial electrification
- 3. Support consumer education on heat pumps
- 4. Policy & regulatory development to meet community energy needs & priorities
- 5. Continue to support PCE for rural communities
- 6. Biomass in energy



Key change

Our overall economic health depends on **longterm community sustainability**

Priority Objective #1

Housing Objective: Support the sustainable development of housing

Develop new housing stock, improve existing housing quality, build targeted housing for an aging population, and increase the diversity of housing choices in the region. Include fair market housing options for homeownership and private market rentals, along with subsidized rentals through rental assistance or vouchers, public housing, and housing for seniors, veterans, the homeless, and other special needs populations. Increase access to housing, including to low- and moderate-income housing, to create more livable, economically competitive, resilient communities. Work across the region to find ways to reduce the costs associated with land development and new housing construction. Southeast homes are the oldest in Alaska. Work to improve housing conditions in homes that are aging and have mold and rot issues. Create walkable housing opportunities so people can easily access stores, school and healthcare without having to own a vehicle. Support energy efficiency programs to reduce the cost of home heating and modernize Southeast Alaska's housing stock.



Project Champion

Name: **Jacqueline Kus.een Pata**

Title: **President/CEO**

Organization: **Tlingit Haida Regional Housing Authority**

Priority Objective #2

Support the stability, sustainability and longevity of the Marine Highway System

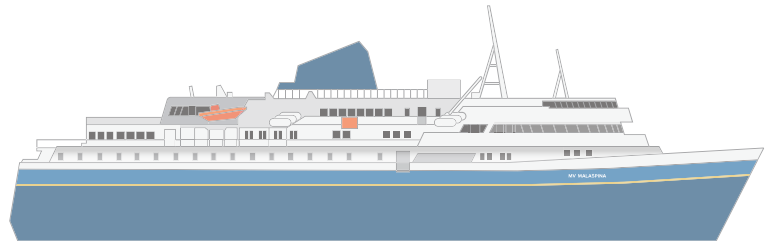
With many geographically remote and isolated communities that cannot be connected via traditional roads, the Marine Highway Systems in Alaska must provide reliable, basic transportation service for passengers and freight to coastal communities, create an economy of scale, and provide cost effective transportation services. In a coordinated effort to restore, strengthen and expand critical service, investment is needed in a strategic, long-term and short-term plan that includes bridge capacity support through private sector transportation partnerships. Public and private collaboration can improve reliability, efficiency, affordability and stability. Pursue standardized and appropriately sized fleet and terminal modernizations that can be realistically and manageably staffed while meeting essential service needs with potential for economic growth to communities. Design the system for a smaller workforce and increased efficiency and automation, to mitigate impacts and constraints faced with limited available personnel. Develop targeted workforce development programs and a schedule for job consistency to reduce turnover. Advocate for State and Federal support of all system components. Strategically and expeditiously pursue and obligate PL 117-58 funds.

Project Champion

Name: **Robert Venables**

Title: **Executive Director**

Organization: **Southeast Conference**



Priority Objective #3

Increase Child Care Capacity in Southeast Alaska

Expanding childcare capacity in Southeast Alaska is essential for fostering a vibrant economy and attracting younger workers and families to the region.

Addressing the current shortages in supply, affordability, and quality of childcare services requires a multifaceted approach prioritizing workforce development, sustainable funding, and operational support.

A critical component of enhancing childcare quality is developing a skilled workforce. Southeast communities should invest in and support their current and future childcare providers to enroll in the SEAAEYC apprenticeship program. Providing foundational early childhood education knowledge and on-the-job training can ensure high standards of care across the region.

Investing in such initiatives is vital to building a pipeline of professionals capable of meeting the growing demand for childcare services.

The region should establish a pooled funding model to overcome the financial barriers associated with childcare businesses' high operational costs and low profit margins. This approach combines investments from state, local, and corporate partners to create a sustainable funding pool to support community-specific childcare initiatives. By aggregating resources, the pooled fund can provide both start-up and operational grants, incentivizing the establishment of new childcare businesses and sustaining existing ones. Such a funding structure ensures that childcare providers remain viable while offering affordable, high-quality care to families.



Project Champion

Name: **Blue Shibler**

Title: **Executive Director**

Organization: **Southeast Alaska
Association for the Education of Young
Children**

Jacqueline Kus.een Pata
President/CEO Tlingit
Haida Regional Housing
Authority

Jeremy Woodrow
Executive Director Alaska
Seafood Marketing
Institute

Susan Bell VP Strategic
Initiatives Huna Totem

Blue Shibler Executive
Director Southeast Alaska
Association for the
Education of Young
Children

Kristy Clement CEO
Alaska Fisheries
Development Foundation
(AFDF)

Jason Custer Vice
President, Corporate
Development Alaska
Power & Telephone
Company

Robert Venables
Executive Director
Southeast Conference

**Every priority
objective has a
staff and board
champion as well**



For Plan's top priorities

Top 10 Stories of the Southeast Economy 2026

- 1) **Population**, was only down a smidge
- 2) Decline in **workforce aged population**, increase in nonres
- 3) **Jobs** close to peak jobs ever
- 4) **Cruise Passenger Numbers** down in 2025
- 5) **State sector** added jobs for the first time in 12 years
- 6) **Seafood** continues to struggle
- 7) **Metal values** like silver and gold are sky rocketing
- 8) **Construction costs** are growing
- 9) **Housing** continues to be an obstacle
- 10) **Economic Plan** is out

Thank You



Rain Coast
Data



**SOUTHEAST
CONFERENCE**