

# Appendix 3: About Cordova

Cordova is incorporated as a home rule city. Of the five classes of Alaska municipal entities, home rule cities have the broadest range of authorities and have all legislative powers as allowed by law or charter. Alaska State Statute, Title 29, Section 29.10.200, sets out the limitations on home rule legislative powers.

This section offers graphs and data describing the Cordova community, how it is changing, and how it compares to the State of Alaska and to other coastal Alaska communities.

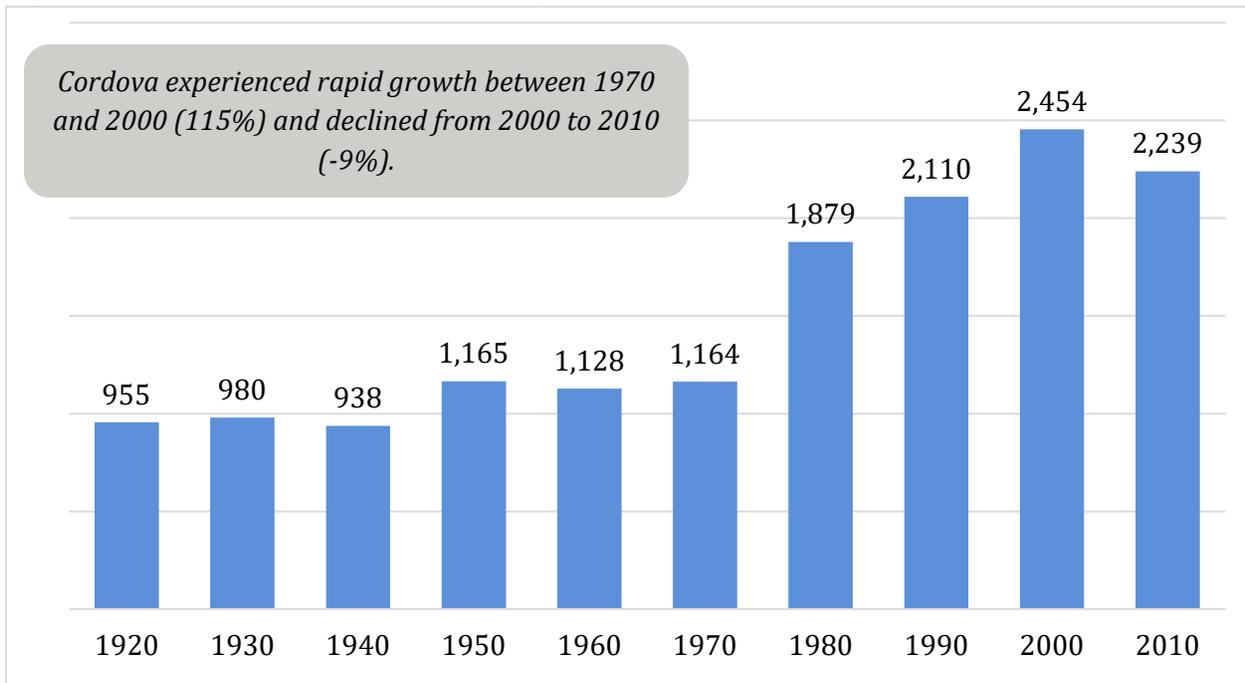
*These grey boxes include key trends or notable takeaways for each figure (map, graphic or table).*

The data derives from a range of sources; most referenced are the U.S. Census Bureau and the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development. When community-level data is unavailable, regional data is shared. “Regional data” is defined by the U.S. Census Bureau designation of the Valdez-Cordova Census Area; this area includes Valdez (population 3,903), Cordova (population 2,360), along with 23 other smaller communities in the geographic area such as Glennallen, Copper Center, Kenny Lake, Tazlina and Whittier. To determine how Cordova is changing compared to similar Alaska communities on key demographic and economic indicators, the project team selected three coastal Alaska communities. They include:

- **The City of Valdez (“Valdez”)**, Cordova’s closest neighbor in Prince William Sound. Valdez has a larger population than Cordova. Unlike Cordova, Valdez is accessible via road. Valdez is the terminus for the Alyeska Pipeline, which generates large property tax revenues for the City of Valdez. Valdez and Cordova are both in the Valdez-Cordova Census Area.
- **The City of Dillingham (“Dillingham”)**, a coastal community and fishing hub in Bristol Bay. Dillingham’s population is nearly identical to Cordova. Dillingham is not accessible by road. Dillingham is the largest community in the Dillingham Census Area.
- **The City and Borough of Wrangell (“Wrangell”)**, a southeast community with a population approximately the same size as Cordova. Like Cordova and Dillingham, Wrangell’s economy is primarily driven by fishing with some other sectors such as tourism. Wrangell is also not accessible by road.

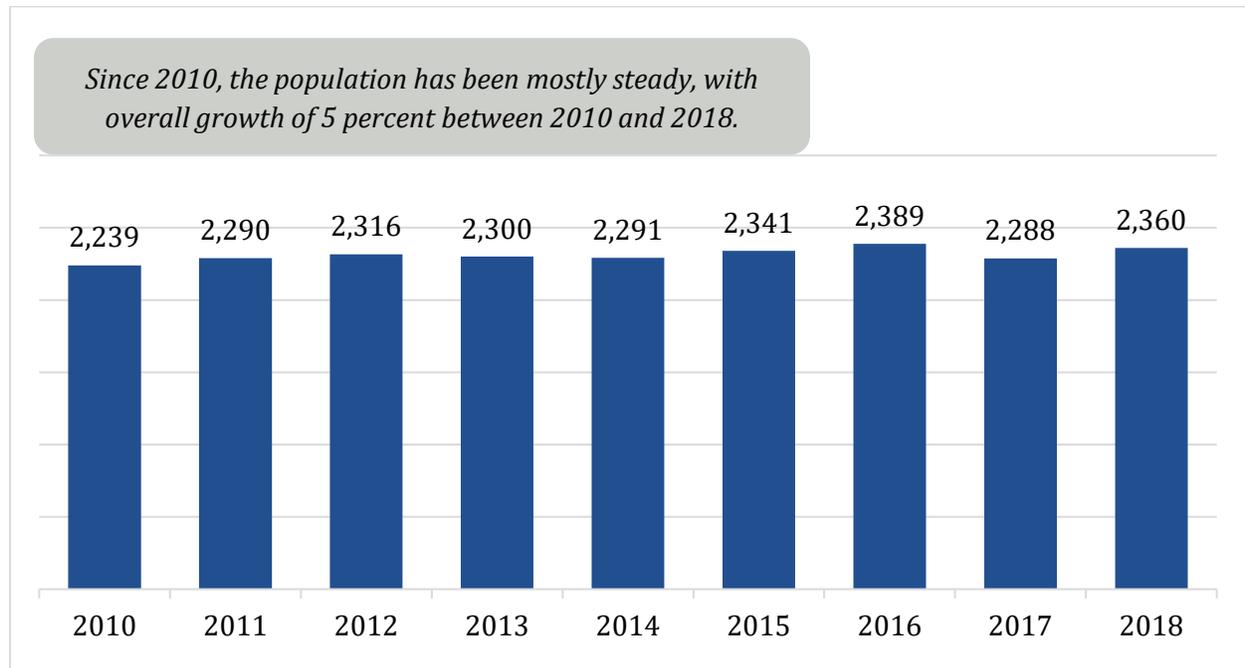
**AREA HISTORY** | *The Native Village of Eyak (NVE) is an Alaska Native Village mostly comprised of four distinct Alaska Native peoples (Eyak, Chugach Region People, Tlingit, and Athabaskan) who are organized together as a federally recognized tribe. The area has always been a place known for trading, and traditionally the Eyak people acted as middlemen for the traders. These have always been abundant lands and waters both for personal and commercial use through trading. Our traditional lands follow the boundaries set under ANCSA in 1971 and stretch across the Copper River Delta and Prince William Sound to encompass Middleton Island. There are many historical village sites across our lands, with the last traditional village annexed into the City of Cordova in the early 1900’s. Today, ancient grave sites, longhouse remnants and culturally altered vegetation attest to the rich history of our homelands. NVE supports the revitalization of our traditional languages and culture through annual events and heritage preservation which includes subsistence activities, skin sewing, weaving and beading as well as exercising our sovereign rights to self-governance through self-determination.*

Figure 1: Historic Population for the City of Cordova, 1920-2010



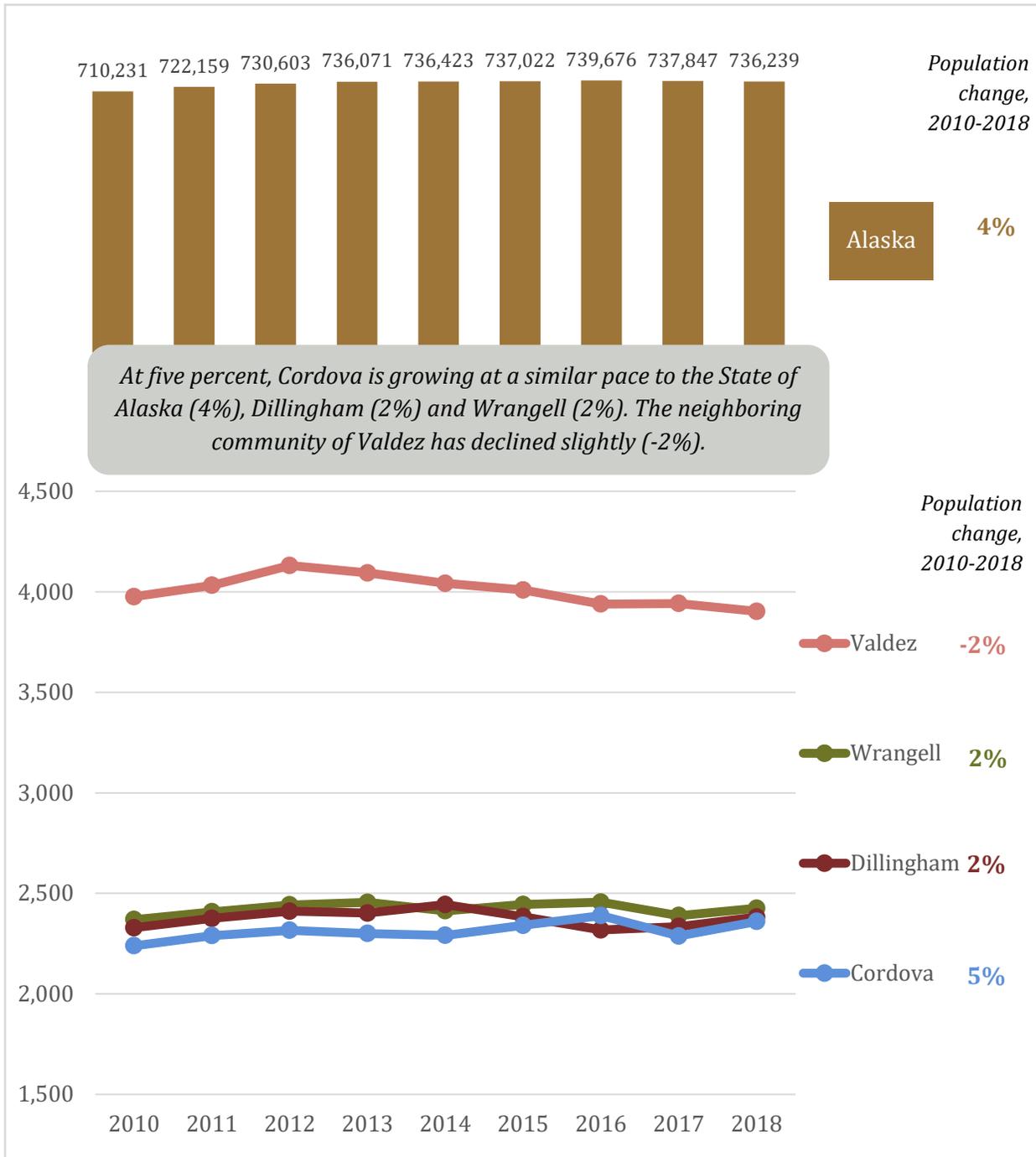
Source: U.S. Census

Figure 2: Recent Population for the City of Cordova, 2010-2018



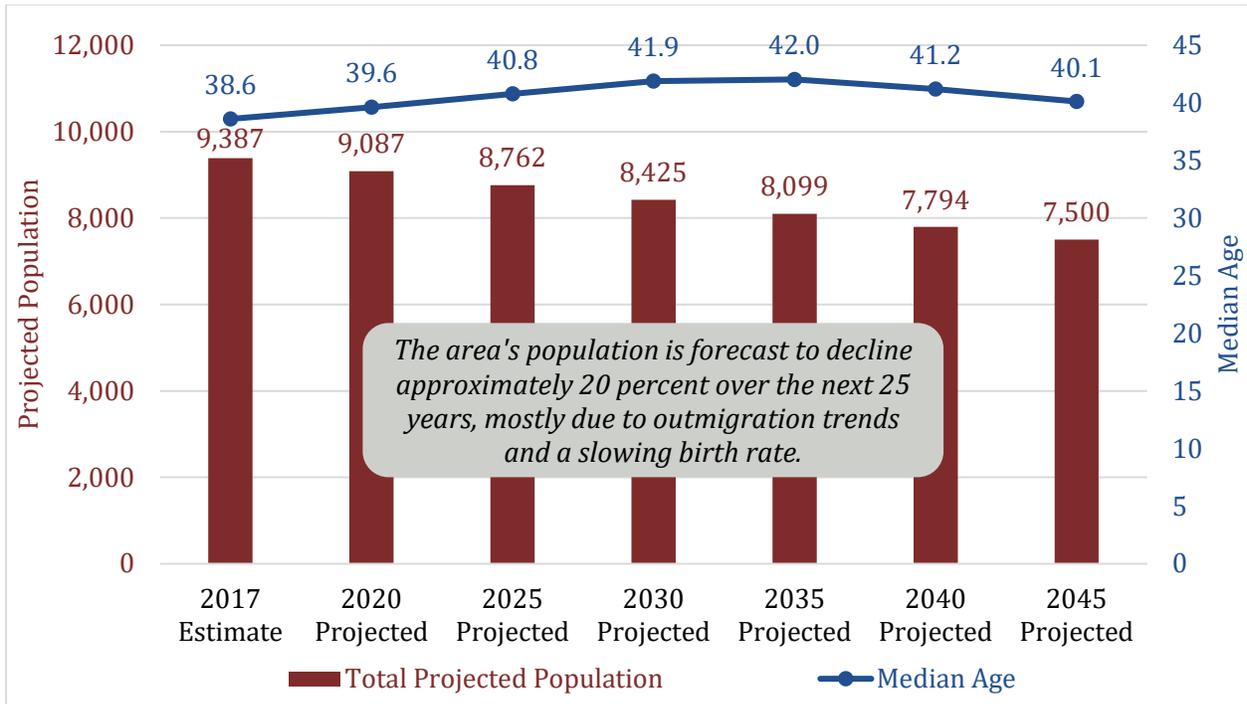
Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

Figure 3: Population for the State of Alaska and Comparative Coastal Communities, 2010-2018



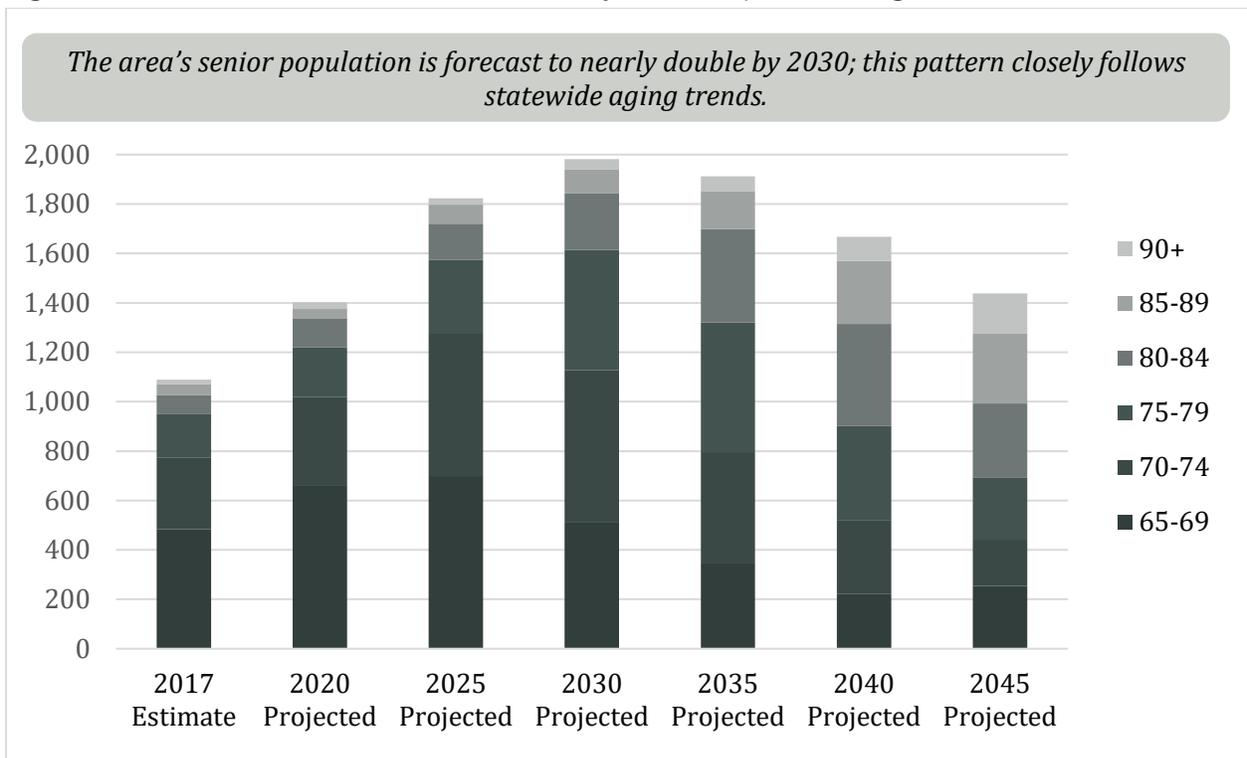
Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

Figure 4: Valdez-Cordova Census Area Project Population Change and Estimated Median Age, 2017-2045



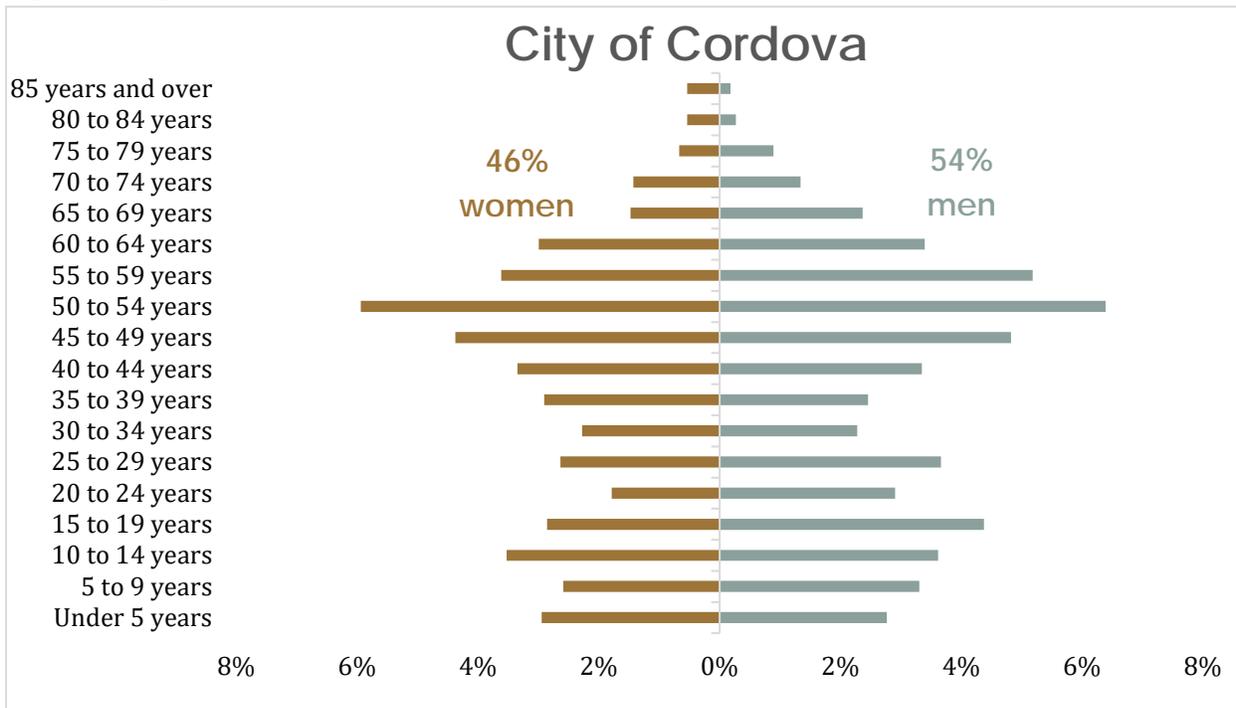
Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

Figure 5: Valdez-Cordova Census Area Projected Population Age 65+

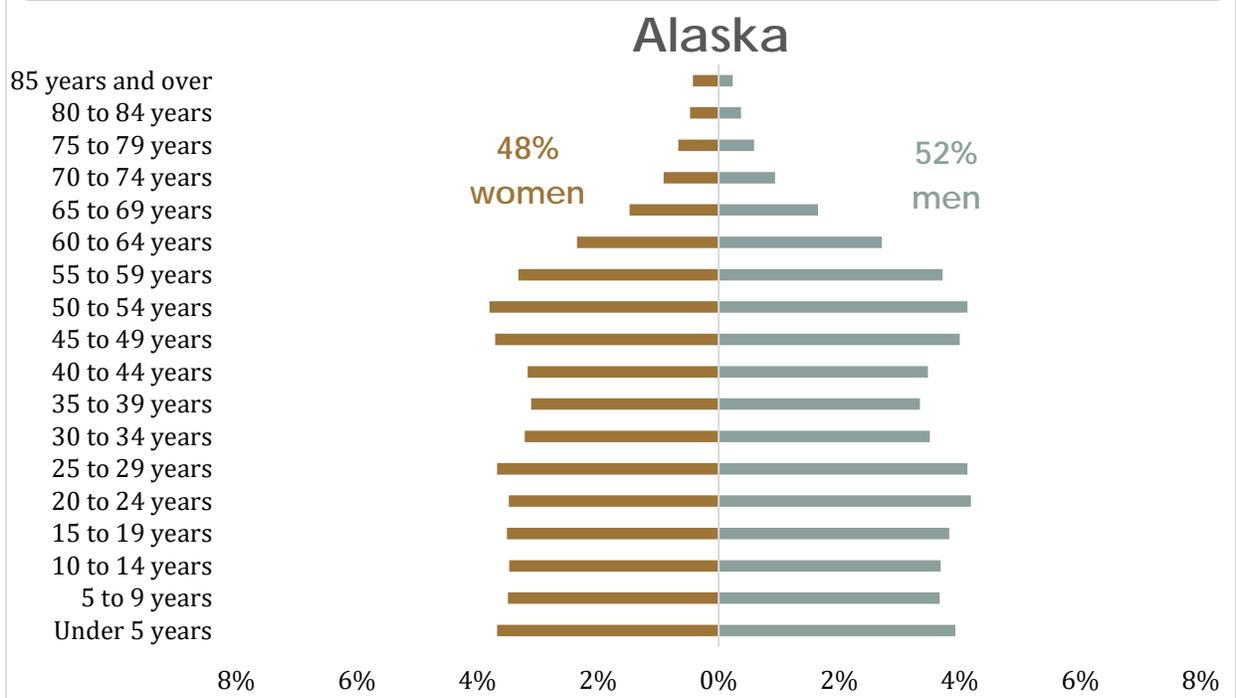


Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

Figure 6: Age and Gender Distribution, Cordova and Alaska, 2010

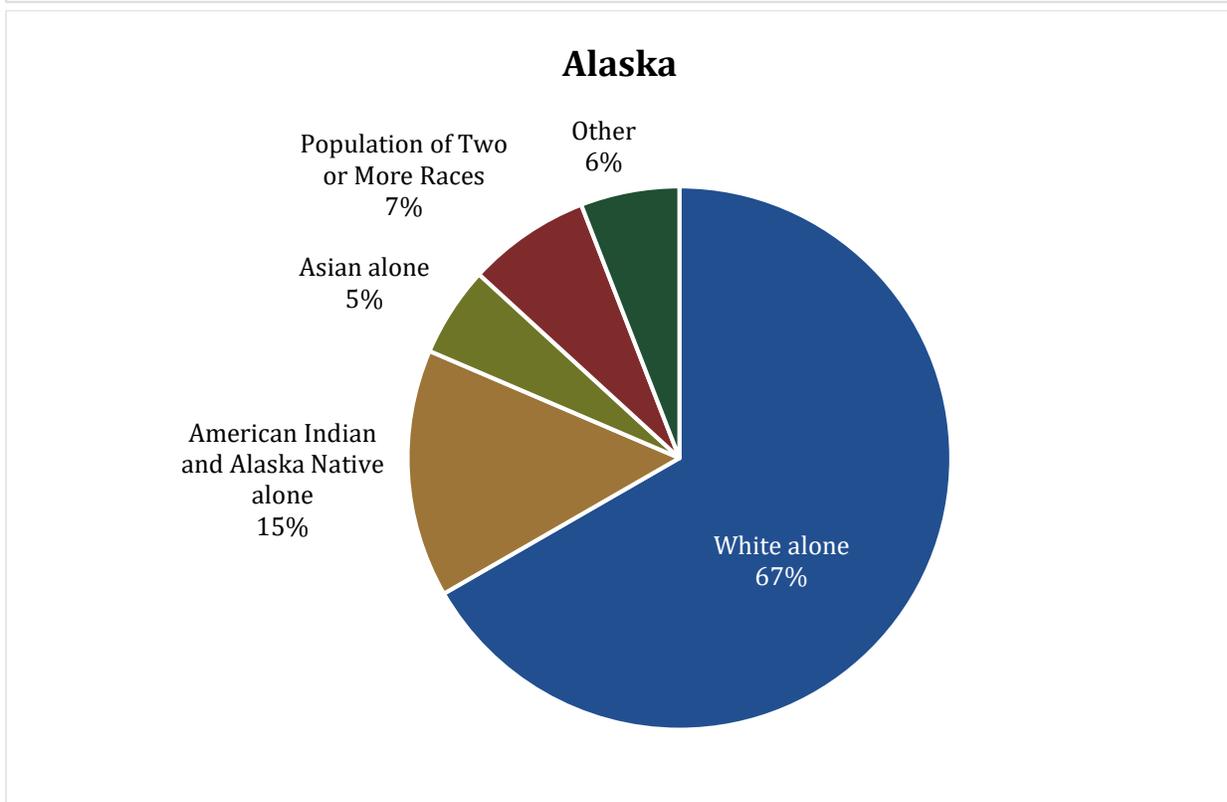
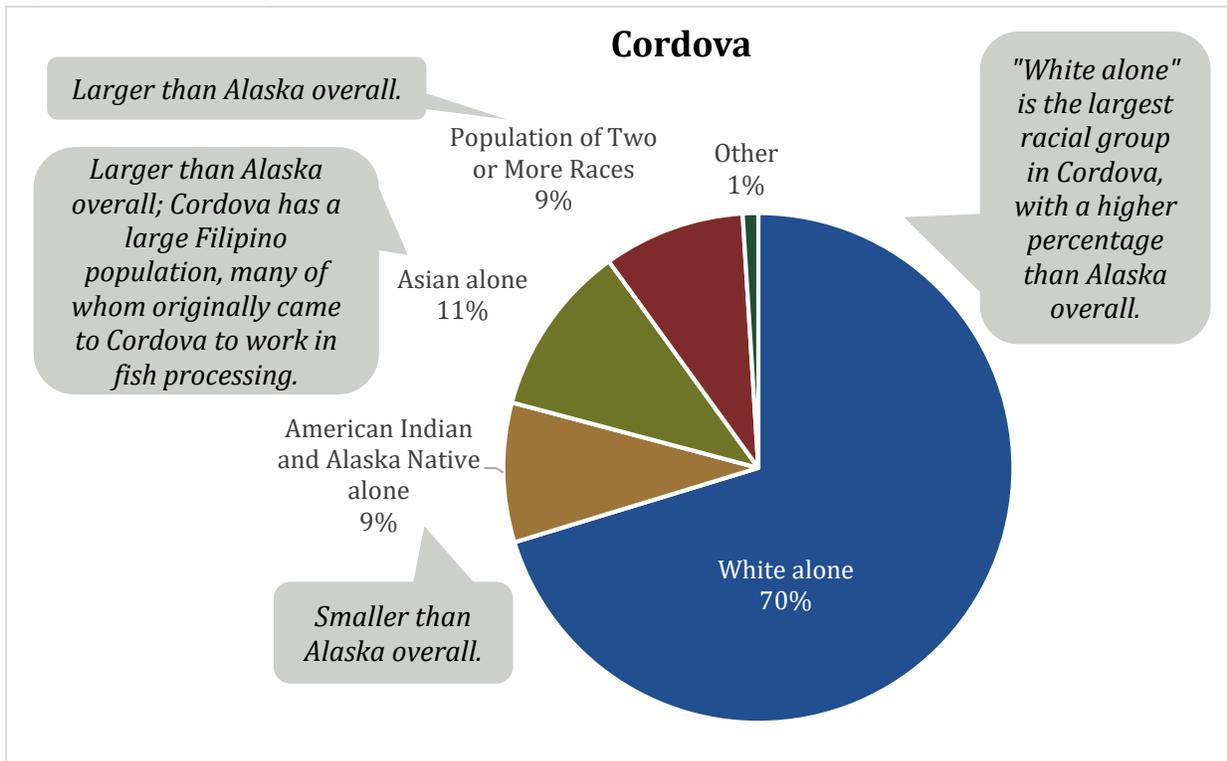


*Cordova has proportionally fewer residents ages 20-39 and more residents age 45-64 than the rest of the state. This could be due in part to Cordova's high cost of living, potentially leading some young adults to seek employment elsewhere.*



Source: U.S. Census

Figure 7: Race, City of Cordova and Alaska, 2010



Source: U.S. Census