



SITKA TRENDS

ECONOMIC NEWSLETTER

March 2023

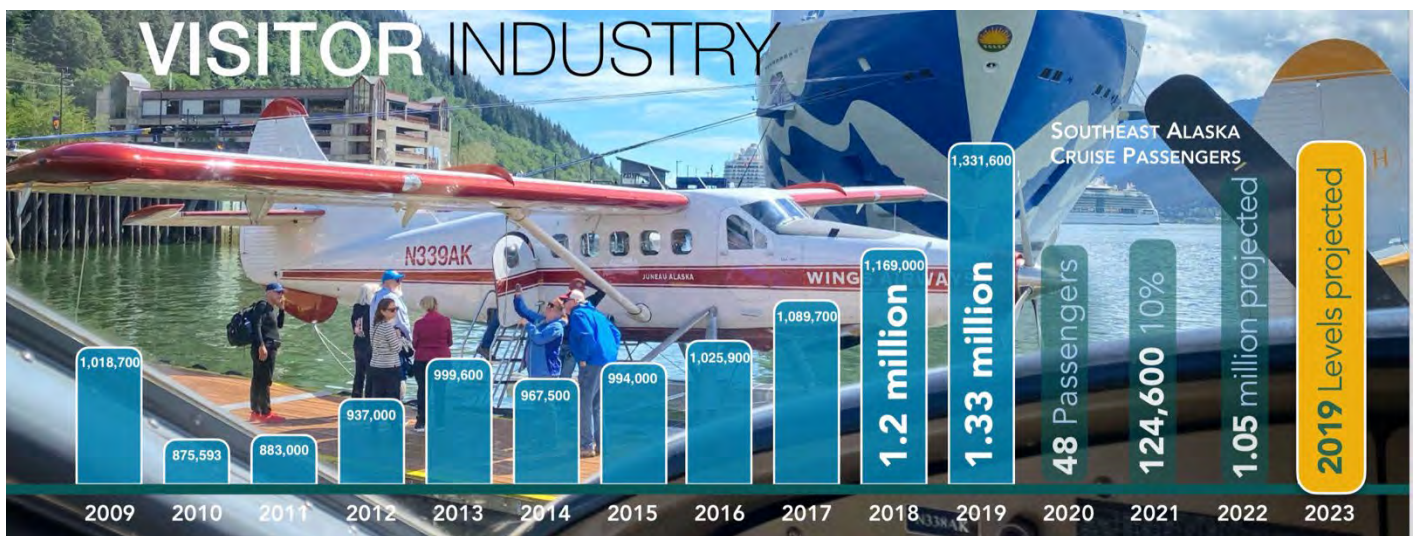
The Sitka Economic Development Association's Executive Director, Garry White & President, Cory Baggen both attended the Southeast Conference mid-session summit last month. They both left the conference cautiously optimistic about the future health and growth of the region. Major discussions included:

FEDERAL FUNDING

The successful implementation of federal investment COVID relief dollars has been, and continues to be, a major discussion point as businesses work to rebuild post pandemic. Conference attendees agreed through the economically trying times of the pandemic, SE businesses were able to utilize these resources to survive and are now back on track to thrive in 2023.

TOURISM

It is no secret that tourism is back in Southeast Alaska, just look outside your window on any summer day! In just the first half of 2022 over 1,100 jobs were added to the region as tourist's returned to town. The number of cruise ship passengers arriving in the region is set to be 700% higher than 2021, with a record setting schedule. The region is expected to see more than 40 ships, making 700 voyages between April and October.





EMPLOYMENT

Data shows construction jobs are up in the region by 5%, mining jobs up by 7% and salmon harvest levels are drawing the need for a larger workforce than last year. However, there is a continued decline in the State sector, down 170 jobs in just the first half of 2022 resulting in a 24% decline over the course of a decade and many businesses are still rebuilding from the pandemic.

HOUSING

Lastly, housing continues to be Southeast Alaska's major pain point, and why we left the conference *cautiously* optimistic. The area is ripe for success with the major boom in tourism. However, if we do not come up with a housing solution we won't be able to sustain a workforce for this growth. This situation is not unique to Sitka, but being felt all over Southeast.

Why we need your support now more than ever!

The before mentioned is just a few reasons why we need your continued support. Our economy has potential to break records, but only if we begin to tackle some work force and housing issues, amidst other things, as we continue to grow. Those of us at SEDA hope you will agree we need to be focused, proactive and determined in our efforts to strengthen our economy and maintain a high quality of life for residents like you.

That's why SEDA's Board and Staff are working for you.

Your investment in SEDA is an investment in the economic future of Sitka and Southeast Alaska. When you contribute to SEDA, you are supporting proactive economic development activities that include:

- Retention and expansion of existing local businesses, which remains a huge challenge in the current economic climate.
- Brokering innovation driven development in the seafood and maritime industries.
- Continued expansion of the Gary Paxton Industrial Park to include the ongoing development of the multi-purpose dock and a marine haul out facility to support the local fleet and businesses activities serving the marine service industry.
- Marketing Sitka's fresh water resource.
- Supporting the development of housing affordable for our workers and families.
- Supporting workforce development to meet the coming labor shortage and preparing our youth for local employment opportunities.
- Advocating for operational and management changes to the Alaska Marine Highway System that will provide for long-term viability of our ferry service.

SEDA's Board of Directors represents a broad spectrum of private sector businesses and the members of the Board make annual financial contributions to the organization because they know that supporting local economic development is a good business investment. It is a good investment for your business too. Please find our investor form at the bottom of this newsletter and also attached separately for your printing convenience.



The data below are the most recent available from various sources.

EMPLOYMENT	January 2023	January 2022	January 2021
Total Labor Force – Sitka (Source: Alaska Dept. of Labor)	4,042	3,914	3,850
Number Filing for Unemployment – Sitka (Source: Alaska Dept. of Labor)	142	188	294
Unemployment Rate – Sitka (Source: Alaska Dept. of Labor)	3.5%	4.8%	7.6%
Unemployment Rate – Alaska (Source: Alaska Dept. of Labor)	4.4%	5.9%	7.6%
Unemployment Rate – National (Source: Alaska Dept. of Labor)	3.9%	4.4%	6.8%
Job Openings (Source: Alaska Dept. of Labor)	March 2023	March 2021	March 2020
Job orders at Sitka Job Center (includes SEARHC)	169	129	119
SEARHC job openings in Sitka	48	69	40
<i>*No March 2022 data available</i>			

Quarterly Census Employment (Source: AK Dept. of Labor QCEW)	3rd Qtr 2022	2021 Annual	2020 Annual
Average Monthly Employment	4,873	4,132	3,751
Average Government Employment	895	849	851
Average Private Ownership Employment	3,978	3,283	2,900
Average Monthly Wage (Source: AK Dept. of Labor QCEW)	3rd Qtr 2022	2021	2020
All Sectors	\$5,076	\$4,363	\$4,287
Government Total	\$4,903	\$5,117	\$5,025
Federal Government	\$6,469	\$7,262	\$6,481
State Government	\$4,631	\$4,499	\$4,503
Local Government	\$4,742	\$5,001	\$4,981
Private Sector	\$5,115	\$4,168	\$4,071



Per Capita Personal Income (Source: US Bureau Econ. Analysis) Includes all forms of income: rent, retirement, employment, etc.	2021	2020	2019
Sitka	\$75,917	\$69,742	\$70,715
Juneau	\$75,996	\$72,097	\$71,082
Ketchikan	\$72,278	\$67,465	\$69,052
Alaska	\$65,813	\$62,756	\$61,316
City Revenues – Fiscal Year (July 1- June 30)	FY2023	FY2022	FY2021
Sales Tax Collected – Total Remitters	\$15,668,226	\$14,572,130	\$13,115,998
Bed Tax Collected – Total Remitters		\$669,958	\$407,024
Property Tax Collected – Total Remitters	\$7,321,141	\$7,200,260	\$7,242,612
Raw Fish Tax – Received into Harbor Fund		\$1,752,179	\$855,702
<i>*FY2023 budget, FY 2022 projected</i>			
Cost of Living Indicators			
Transportation – Regular Gasoline per gallon	March 9, 2023	March 9, 2022	% Change
Sitka (Source: AAA)	\$5.08	\$5.38	-5.59%
Juneau (Source: AAA)	\$4.36	\$4.24	2.71%
Anchorage (Source: AAA)	\$3.73	\$4.61	-19.09%
Alaska Average (Source: AAA)	\$3.83	\$4.58	-16.83%
National Average (Source: AAA)	\$3.47	\$4.25	-18.46%
Housing - HUD Fair Market Rent – Sitka (Source: U.S. HUD)	2023	2022	% Change
Efficiency	\$956	\$907	5.40%
One-Bedroom	\$1,110	\$1,040	6.73%
Two-Bedroom	\$1,316	\$1,229	7.07%
Three-Bedroom	\$1,870	\$1,715	9.04%
Housing - HUD Fair Market Rent – Ketchikan (Source: U.S. HUD)	2023	2022	% Change
Efficiency	\$905	\$886	2.14%
One-Bedroom	\$1,029	\$1,014	1.48%
Two-Bedroom	\$1,354	\$1,334	1.50%
Three-Bedroom	\$1,815	\$1,777	2.14%
Housing – Construction and Sales	4th Qtr 2023	4th Qtr 2022	4th Qtr 2021



Value of Construction Permits Issued (Source: CBS Building Department)	\$2,683,619	\$2,821,145	\$5,424,216
Net Dwelling Units Added (Source: AHFC)	7	2	16
Total Homes Sold – all types combined (Source: CBS Assessing Dept.)	37	48	34
Vacant Lots Sold – residential (Source: CBS Assessing Dept.)	9	9	4
POPULATION	2022	2021	2020
City & Borough of Sitka (Source: AK Dept. of Labor)	8,350	8,387	8,523
Southeast Alaska (Source: AK Dept. of Labor)	72,218	72,494	72,571
State of Alaska (Source: AK Dept. of Labor)	736,556	734,323	728,903
PUBLIC SCHOOL ENROLLMENT – Sitka School District	Oct. 1, 2022	Oct. 1, 2021	Oct. 1, 2020
Total student enrollment KG-12 (Source: AK Dept. of Education)	1,137	1,177	1,162





2023 INVESTOR FORM

Suggested Contribution Levels:

- Diamond \$5,000
- Platinum \$2,500-\$4,999
- Gold \$1,000-\$2,499
- Silver \$500-\$999
- Bronze \$100-\$499

Make Checks Payable to SEDA

Donation from (you will receive a recognition letter for IRS tax deduction):

Name_____

Company_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

We would like to acknowledge all of our supporters on the SEDA website, Facebook page, and at SEDA events. May we acknowledge your contribution?

Yes No, please keep my contribution confidential.

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION!

Mail this form and your check to:
SEDA 329 Harbor Drive, Suite 202
Sitka, AK 99835

Have questions to ask or ideas to share?

Contact: Garry White, Executive Director
Phone: 907-747-2660 Email: garrywhite@gci.net

Thank You!

2022 SEDDA Sponsors

Diamond Level



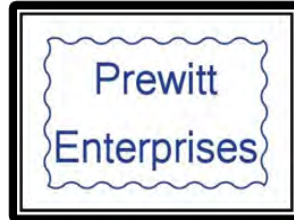
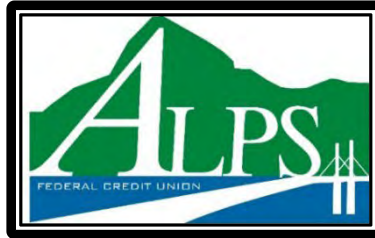
Platinum Level



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