



Town of Valdez

Valdez is a city in Valdez-Cordova Census Area in the U.S. state of Alaska. According to 2005 Census Bureau estimates, the population of the city is 4,015.^[1] The city is one of the most important ports in Alaska.

Geography:

Valdez is located at $61^{\circ}7'23''\text{N}$, $146^{\circ}18'19''\text{W}$ ^[GR1]. Valdez is located near the head of a deep fjord in the northeast section of Prince William Sound in Alaska. It is surrounded by the Chugach Mountains, which are heavily glaciated. Valdez is the northernmost port in North America that is ice-free year-round. The northernmost point of the coastal Pacific temperate rain forest is in Valdez, on Blueberry Hill.

According to the United States Census Bureau, the city has a total area of 277.1 square miles (717.6 km²), of which, 222.0 square miles (574.9 km²) of it is land and 55.1 square miles (142.7 km²) of it (19.88%) is water.

Demographics:

As of the census^[GR2] of 2000, there were 4,036 people, 1,494 households, and 1,042 families residing in the city. The population density was 18.2 people per square mile (7.0/km²). There were 1,645 housing units at an average density of 7.4/sq mi (2.9/km²). The racial makeup of the city was 83.62% White, 0.42% Black or African American, 7.19% Native American, 2.18% Asian, 0.45% Pacific Islander, 1.41% from other races, and 4.73% from two or more races. 3.96% of the population were Hispanic or Latino of any race.

There were 1,494 households out of which 41.5% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 56.4% were married couples living together, 8.4% had a female householder with no husband present, and 30.2% were non-families. 21.8% of all households were made up of individuals and 2.8% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.66 and the average family size was 3.15.

In the city the population was spread out with 29.7% under the age of 18, 7.3% from 18 to 24, 33.2% from 25 to 44, 26.4% from 45 to 64, and 3.5% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 35 years. For every 100 females there were 107.9 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there were 107.0 males.

Recommended attractions:

The Valdez Museum and Historical Archive: <http://www.alaska.net/~vldzmuse/>

Columbia Glacier: The largest tidewater glacier in Alaska.

Keystone Canyon: Area known for great river rafting.

Worthington Glacier: An accessible glacier with a hiking trail that offers spectacular views.