

OVERVIEW

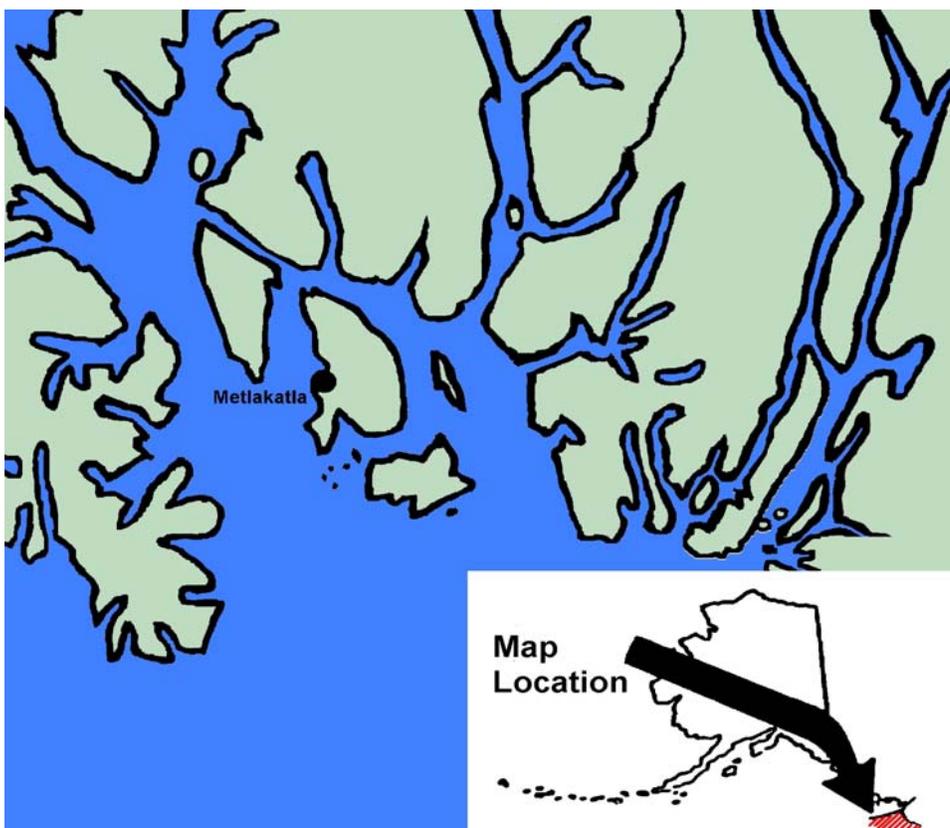
Alaska Native 2003 User Population.

ANNETTE ISLAND SERVICE AREA	1,279
Metlakatla Indian Community	1,279

Users are defined as beneficiaries who used a facility that reports through the IHS data system at least once between 10/1/2000 and 9/30/2003.

Environmental Factors.

The Annette Island Indian Reservation lies in the southernmost portion of the Alexander Archipelago in Southeast Alaska. This 136 square mile reservation is about 680 air miles north of Seattle and 900 air miles south of Anchorage. The major island of the reservation is Annette Island, which measures 10 miles wide by 20 miles long. Like most islands in Southeast Alaska,



Annette has a rugged, mountainous topography. Swampy, muskeg soils and dense rain forests cover low-lying areas and large lakes occupy former glacial valleys.

A group of 800 Tsimpsian Indians formed the first permanent settlement on Annette Island in 1887. They migrated from British Columbia under the leadership of Father William Duncan. Denied both civil rights and religious freedom, these pioneers left their mission community near Prince Rupert, Canada. They traveled over 650 miles to find Metlakatla on the shores of Port Chester. Flanked by a gentle beach and granite mountains, the harbor provided an ideal environment for supporting a new, model community. The community developed rapidly, setting up streets, industries and public institutions.

A Congressional Act on March 3, 1891, first set apart the Annette Island Reservation for the use and occupancy of the “Metlakatla Indians and other Natives who might be permitted to join them.”

ANNETTE ISLAND AREA

In 1916, a Presidential proclamation enlarged the Reservation to include all the waters and inlets within 3,000 feet of the Annette Island shoreline. On August 23, 1944, the reservation's Constitution and By-laws went into effect. This vested governmental authority is a council elected by and from Native community members. Today, the Metlakatla Indian Community of Annette Island Reservation is the only Federal reservation in Alaska with full trust status.

Like the rest of Southeast Alaska, the reservation enjoys a maritime climate characterized by cool summers, mild winters and heavy year-around precipitation. Due to the extreme southerly location, most of this precipitation falls as rain with the greatest amount occurring during October and November. Gale winds (exceeding 32 m.p.h.) are frequent from October through March. Skies are overcast normally 70 percent of the time.

Utilities. The Metlakatla Indian Community operates separate utility systems for the two communities on the island, Metlakatla and Annette. Within Metlakatla, a gravity flow system from Chester Lake provides water. The Economic Development Administration and the Indian Health Service helped upgrade the system extensively. Now buried steel pipe has replaced old wood stave mains throughout the system. Trained personnel regularly monitor storage and treatment facilities for quality, chlorination and fluoridation.

A sanitary sewage system serves Metlakatla adequately with an extensive collection system ending at a lagoon-type treatment plant. Aeration and chlorination occur prior to ocean discharge. The system handles all residential and industrial users adequately.

Annette Island Service Unit Number of Homes With and Without Complete Water and Sewer Service ¹

	# Homes With	# Homes Without	Total # of Homes ²
ANNETTE ISLAND SERVICE UNIT TOTAL	296	0	296
Metlakatla Indian Community	296	0	296

¹Complete service means operable plumbed indoor water and sewer service. Information applies only to year-round primary homes, including individual homes, duplexes and apartment units. Data from FY 2002.

²Excludes homes covered by urban local government water and sewer service.
Source: Alaska Area Native Health Service Office of Environmental Health.

A locally-owned municipal hydroelectric plant provides the community with electrical power. In the future, the plant will not be adequate to supply needs. The community is investigating improvements through the Rural Electrification Association and the State of Alaska.

Transportation. Commercial air and water carriers provide transportation to and from Annette Island. Local air taxis have scheduled and nonscheduled service between Metlakatla and Ketchikan. From Ketchikan, connecting flights are available to Seattle and points north. Air service, although widely used within the region, is unreliable during periods of stormy weather. Float plane service to Metlakatla is even more precarious due to the problems associated with waterfront landings. Commercial freight from Seattle arrives by barge.

The Alaska State Ferry also provides access to Metlakatla. This ferry makes eight trips weekly from Ketchikan carrying freight, passengers and up to 15 vehicles. During winter, weather conditions often cancel trips. Service is not available 1-2 months each year during vessel maintenance.

Transportation within the reservation is usually by foot, boat or private vehicle. A fairly extensive road system provides access to most of the Annette Island Peninsula. Van and bus transportation is available to specific groups such as senior citizens, Head start and school children.

Housing. Housing conditions on the reservation have improved steadily during the last decade. Federal Indian housing projects have constructed over 100 new units. Modern facilities are now available to almost all households. A significant number of homes have serious repair problems, and housing rehabilitation is one of the community's development priorities.

Education. The Annette Island School District provides primary and secondary education to residents. Two schools serve over 350 students. The community encourages advanced vocational training or college and makes scholarships available to students in need.

Annette Island Service Unit Education Status for the Population 25 Years and Over

	Males	Females
<u>White Alone population:</u>		
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	13	22
Bachelors degree or higher	30	23
<u>AI/AN* Alone population:</u>		
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	195	126
Bachelors degree or higher	16	13

*AI/AN=American Indian/Alaska Native.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census Summary File 3

Natural Resources. Timber and ocean fish are the primary natural resources on the reservation. The Annette Island economy depends on the harvesting and primary processing of these resources. Because of a lack of diversity, the local economy has seasonal unemployment typical of the fishing and timber industries. Most economic opportunities occur in the following areas:

1. Fishing and fish processing.
2. Timber cutting, wood processing and shipping.
3. Local and Federal Government programs.
4. Community schools.
5. Limited construction.
6. Limited retail trade.

Annette Island Service Unit Employment Status for the Population 16 years and Over

	Male	Female
<u>White Alone population:</u>		
In labor force	44	46
Employed	43	46
Unemployed	1	0
<u>AI/AN* Alone population:</u>		
In labor force	304	232
Employed	225	194
Unemployed	79	38

AI/AN*=American Indian/Alaska Native
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census Summary File 3

Tribes.
Metlakatla Indian Community - P.O. Box 439,
Metlakatla, AK 99926

DESCRIPTION OF HEALTH-CARE DELIVERY SYSTEM

In October 1981, the Metlakatla Indian Community began providing a full range of outpatient medical and dental services to the town of Metlakatla on Annette Island, and is now has a funding agreement with the IHS under P.L. 93-638, Title V.

Annette Island Indian Health Center - P.O. Box 439, Metlakatla, AK 99926

The Metlakatla Indian Community (MIC) provides outpatient, dental and community health services at the Annette Island Indian Health Center. Ambulatory services include laboratory, radiology, emergency and urgent care, dental, pharmacy, physical therapy and well-child care. There are four specialty services under community health which include mental health, alcohol services, emergency medical transportation and community health representatives.

Specialty services are offered by tribal itinerants and private providers under contract. MIC currently contracts with a physical therapist who works two days a week at the health center.

The current health center is a community-owned woodframe structure in Metlakatla approximately 8,000 square feet in size. The building is in immediate need of replacement. Construction has started on a new health center which is planned to open in FY 2005. The new facility will make it possible for MIC to enhance services such as: 1) Consumer perceptions of the quality of care; 2) JCAHO scores; 3) Community health and acute ambulatory services in the same facility; 4) Health education focusing on alcohol abuse, ear disease, and self-care; and 5) Low-cost adequate housing for professional staff.

MIC is anticipating that services will expand to include environmental health, nutrition, community health nursing, social services, and health education. These services are presently provided by other agencies.

NON-TRIBAL HEALTH AGENCIES AND FACILITIES AND TYPES OF SERVICES PROVIDED TO SERVICE POPULATION

The State of Alaska, Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Public Health, provides public health nursing (itinerant), communicable disease control, health screening, crippled children treatment and follow-up and other mental health and alcoholism programs. The social services program funded by the Bureau of Indian Affairs works closely with the health center's staff.

Inpatient services are not available at Metlakatla. The most widely-used facilities for specialty referral are the Ketchikan General Hospital (through contract health), the Mt. Edgecumbe Hospital in Sitka and the Alaska Native Medical Center in Anchorage.

HEALTH STATUS OF ALASKA NATIVES LIVING IN THE ANNETTE ISLAND SERVICE AREA

Mortality.

Heart disease is the leading cause of death in the Annette Island Service Area, and the only cause with at least one death per year.

Annette Island Service Area
Alaska Native Deaths
Three-Year Average Crude Death Rates per 100,000 Population

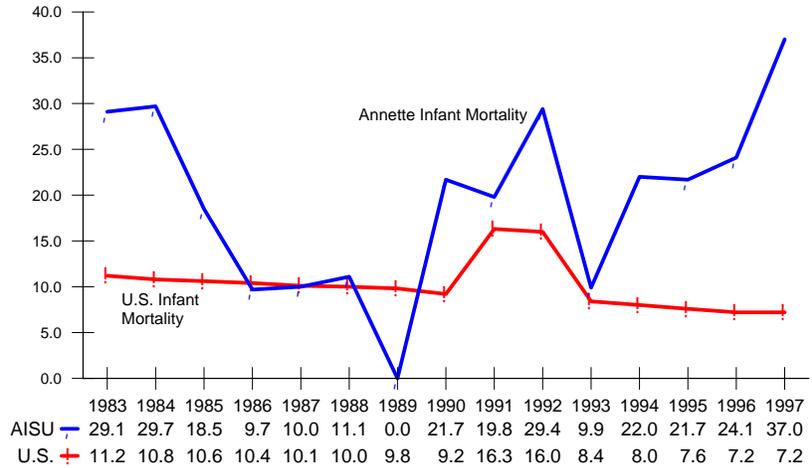
Leading Causes of Death	1994-1996	1995-1997	1996-1998
1) Heart Disease	199.8	221.1	241.7

Alaska Area Native Health Service, Division of Planning, Evaluation & Health Statistics.

Infant Mortality.

The following graph compares the infant mortality rates for the beneficiaries of Annette Island and the U.S. general population.

**Infant Mortality Rates
Annette Island Service Area vs. U.S.
1983 - 1997**

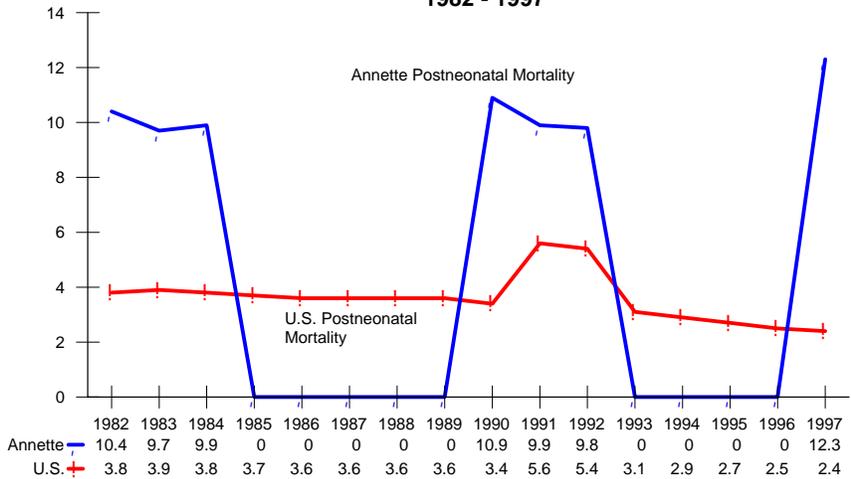


Birth rates are rates per 1,000 live births. Alaska Native births are from IHS report NSU-01. The three year average is the end year of the three year period. U.S. rates are from the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), and are single year rates. Infant death rates are deaths per 1,000 live births. Alaska Native infant deaths are from IHS Reports MINFDTHS-01 and MINFDTHS-02. United States death rates are from the NCHS.

Postneonatal Mortality.

The postneonatal period is defined as 28 to 365 days of age. There were no postneonatal deaths from 1985 to 1989 and from 1993 to 1996.

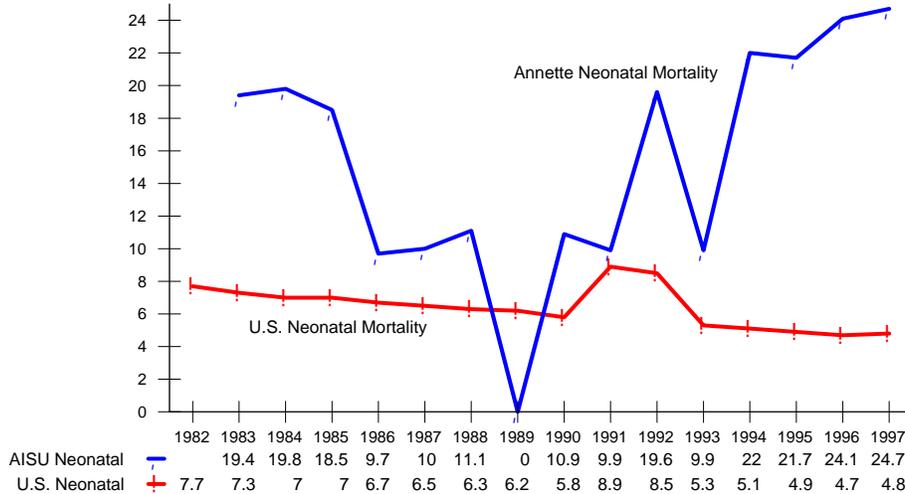
**Postneonatal Mortality Rates
Annette Island Service Area vs. U.S.
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Birth rates are rates per 1,000 total population. Alaska Native births are from IHS report NSU-01. The three year average is the end year of the three year period. U.S. rates are from the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), and are single year rates. Infant death rates are deaths per 1,000 live births. Alaska Native infant deaths are from IHS Reports MINFDTHS-01 and MINFDTHS-02. United States death rates are from the NCHS. Alaska Area Native Health Service, Division of Planning, Evaluation & Health Statistics.

Neonatal Mortality. The neonatal period is defined as less than 28 days of age...

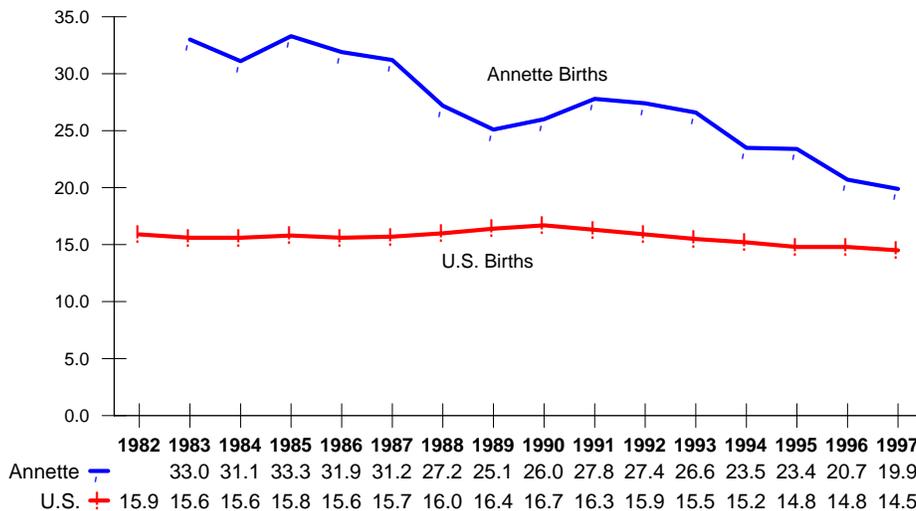
**Neonatal Mortality Rates
Annette Island Service Area vs. U.S.
1982 - 1997**



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Birth Rates.

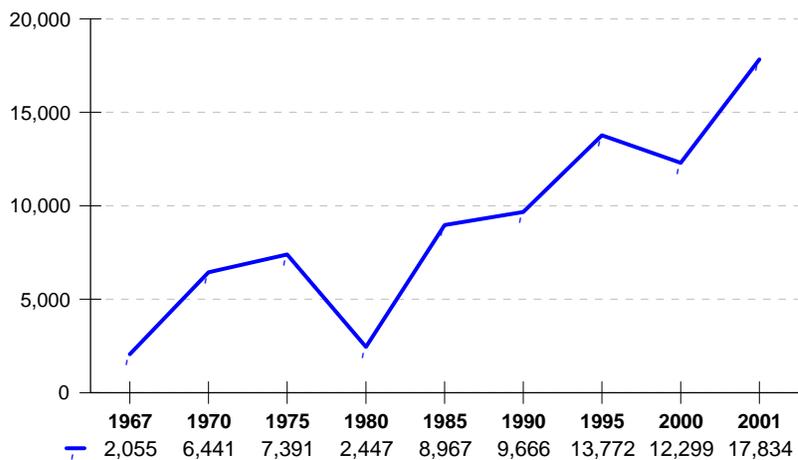
**Birth Rates
Annette Island Service Area vs. U.S.
1982 - 1997**



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OUTPATIENT WORKLOAD/DIAGNOSES

**Annette Island Service Area
Outpatient Workload: FY 1967 - FY 2001**



Source: Indian Health Service Inpatient/Outpatient Reporting System in Albuquerque, APC Report 1A.

**Annette Island Service Area
Leading Causes of Outpatient Visits: FY 2001 - FY 2002**

All Age Groups	FY 2001	FY 2002
Accidents & Injuries	1,410	1,411
Bone & Joint Disorders	1,003	1,213
Hypertension	1,024	1,201
Upper Respiratory Problems	1,104	1,117
Neuroses & Non-Psychotic Disorders	894	980
Diabetes	740	900
Alcohol Abuse	369	700
Arthritis	532	631
Respiratory Allergies	488	586
Diseases of the Mouth	265	421
Other Nutritional & Metabolic Disorders	341	380
Diseases of the Nervous System	312	348
Eczema Urticaria/Skin Allergy	398	317

Source: Indian Health Service Inpatient/Outpatient Reporting System in Albuquerque, APC Report 1C.

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