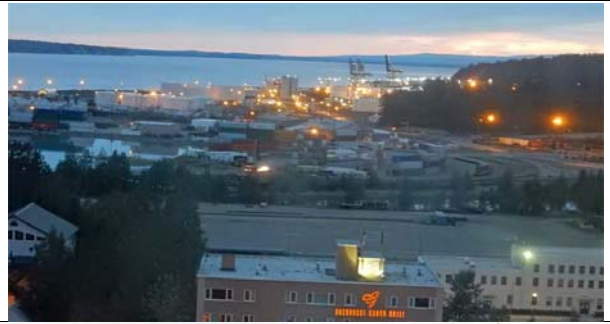


Anchorage

The name, Anchorage, came from a floating hardware store that once was anchored in the area. Anchorage is Alaska's most populous city with over 300,000 people. Counting the surrounding municipal area, the population is closer to 400,000. The city limits are near 2,000 square miles. Its location makes it a vital fueling station for international air travel. Though Alaska was purchased from Russia in 1867, it did not become a U.S. territory until 1912. At the mouth of Ship Creek, a town site was mapped out and the town was incorporated in 1920. The Alaska Railroad during the 1920s created growth, but it was between 1930 and into the 1950s that the airplane caused a real surge of economic and residential growth. In 1949, President Dwight D. Eisenhower made Alaska our 49th state. On March 27, 1964, a devastating earthquake hit Anchorage registering a 9.2 on the Richter scale. Over 100 people died and millions of dollars of damage took place. The Trans-Alaska Pipeline, tourism and resorts helped Anchorage return. Today Anchorage is also known as a winter sports center. Its frost-free growing season makes for a 101 day growing season for vegetables and flowers.





Anchorage's earthquake caused several sections of the city to be devastated.





In the city, the Ship Creek is a very popular place to fish for salmon at high or low tide



An open market exists in the downtown with artists, crafts and food



Alaska