

**Susan Bell**  
Commissioner

P.O. Box 110800  
Juneau, AK 99811-0800

[www.commerce.alaska.gov](http://www.commerce.alaska.gov)



**Dru Fenster**  
Communications  
Coordinator

907.465.2523  
[dru.fenster@alaska.gov](mailto:dru.fenster@alaska.gov)

## Press Release

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Contact: Dru Fenster  
Communication Coordinator  
(907) 465-2523  
[dru.fenster@alaska.gov](mailto:dru.fenster@alaska.gov)

### **Tourism Impact Study Shows Significant Alaskan Employment and Revenues**

(Juneau, AK) – A new report shows Alaska's visitor industry accounts for 45,000 peak season jobs and more than \$3.7 billion in direct and indirect spending in Alaska. The visitor industry contributes nearly \$179 million to state and municipal governments.

The Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development (DCCED) contracted with McDowell Group to gauge the impact of Alaska's visitor industry during the period of May 2011 to April 2012. Data used for the study includes visitor volume and expenditures collected through the department's Alaska Visitor Statistics Program.

"We are very pleased to see signs of recovery in visitation and Alaska employment," said Susan Bell, DCCED commissioner. "The outlook is for increased cruise and non-cruise visitors in 2013."

The "Economic Impact of Alaska's Visitor Industry" report also includes regional visitor industry spending, employment, and labor income estimates. The report can be found online at <http://commerce.alaska.gov/ded/dev/toubus/research.htm> along with information about other Division of Economic Development programs.

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