

News Release

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2014 Alaska Housing Assessment Identifies Severe Shortcomings in Statewide Housing Stock

Provides policymakers with tool to identify housing solutions

ANCHORAGE, AK, June 24, 2014 – A statewide, regional and community look at major factors affecting Alaska's housing stock has been released today by Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC).

"Housing in Alaska is unique," said AHFC CEO/Executive Director Bryan Butcher. "Alaskans in rural communities face aging infrastructure; high energy costs; and transportation and accessibility concerns for new and existing buildings. Urban communities may benefit from economies of scale but still suffer from high costs, overcrowding and energy inefficient housing."

New for 2014, the report includes data from professional energy audits conducted on approximately 30 percent of occupied housing in Alaska. A recent abundance of energy data compiled in AHFC's Home Energy Rating Software, combined with identification of Alaska's unique energy challenges, led to an increased focus on those issues.

The release of AHFC's 2014 Alaska Housing Assessment, a 1,400-page report authored by Cold Climate Housing Research Center in Fairbanks, includes the following highlights:

- More than 15,000 homes in Alaska are overcrowded or severely overcrowded;
- More than 75,000 households are cost-burdened (meaning households are spending more than 30 percent of total income on housing costs)
- Nearly 20,000 homes have the lowest possible energy rating, a 1 Star.

To access the executive summary, full report or to view it by ANCSA region or census area, visit www.ahfc.us.

Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) is a public corporation with a long history of providing Alaskans access to safe, quality and affordable housing through home financing programs, energy efficiency and weatherization programs, public housing and more. Since 1986, AHFC has contributed \$1.9 billion to the State of Alaska's General Fund.

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