

Bright Future For Juneau; Evaluates U of A

Juneau is one of the most stable communities in Alaska and faces a bright future, according to the University of Alaska's institute of Social, Economic and Government Research.

The Institute's monthly Alaska Review of Business and Economic Conditions predicts an economically rosy future for the state's capital city.

Juneau's main industry is a stable one - government. Fifty-three percent of the work force in Juneau in 1965 was employed in government. This high percentage in government work, the report states, is

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partly responsible for a low unemployment rate in Juneau (4.1 per cent) and a low seasonal variation in employment.

Juneau's best economic prospects for the future, according to the report, involve timber and tourism.

The St. Regis Paper Co. of New York is considering the Juneau area as a location for a lumber and pulp mill to process timber cut in the Tongas National Forest.

Even if St. Regis does not locate in Juneau, the report says, there is enough timber in the area to support another lumber operation.

Since the advent of the Marine Highway System in 1963, the number of tourists visiting Juneau has increased almost 50 per cent. The report predicts that the volume of tourists will continue to increase and should double by 1980.

Juneau's stable government employment, the report concludes, together with its timber and tourism potential assure the state capital of continued steady growth and a steady, year-round economy.