

ALASKA ECONOMIC

TRENDS

August 2004

The Trends

1000

Alaska Department of Labor
and Workforce Development

Frank H. Murkowski
Governor of Alaska

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**Frank H. Murkowski, Governor of Alaska
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Joanne Erskine, Editor

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Email *Trends* authors at: trends@labor.state.ak.us

August *Trends* authors are staff with the Research and Analysis Section, Administrative Services Division, Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

**Subscriptions:
trends@labor.state.ak.us
(907) 465-4500**

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Alaska's largest private employers in 2003

For the third year in a row in 2003 and probably for many more to come, Providence Health System Alaska graced the top of the list of Alaska's largest employers. (See Exhibit 1.) Just a decade ago Providence had fewer than 2,000 employees. Its workforce of 3,556 is approximately 120 more than it was in 2002. Safeway/Carrs was the runner-up for the third year in a row with 3,135 employees. These two are the only employers that have broken the 3,000 barrier and it probably will be years before any others reach this number.

Seven newcomers join Trends 100

Seven new employers joined the list of the state's largest employer, making for a relatively long list of newcomers. (See Exhibit 3.) Most of these new firms simply grew enough to hit the current threshold of 266 employees or larger. Among this group were Chugach Support Services (Job Corps), Lowe's, Quality Asphalt Paving (the first construction company to make the *Trends* 100 list since 1997), Nightingale Nursing Services, Northern Air Cargo and Northrim Bank. Lowe's opened a second store in Anchorage in 2003 and most others have been growing incrementally over the years to finally make the list in 2003. Chugach Development Corporation, in contrast, won some large federal contracts that boosted employment so significantly in 2003 that they not only joined the *Trends* 100, but landed up the list in 36th place.

Two players gained and one lost on the thousand plus list

Just a decade ago only nine of Alaska's private sector companies employed more than a thousand workers compared to 13 in 2003. The thousand plus group grew by one this past year. The latest additions were Alaska Communications Systems (ACS) and NANA Management Services. ACS grew by 15 to make this list and NANA Management Services grew by over 200. Employment at Alyeska Pipeline Service Company fell by over 100 in 2003, causing them to fall below the 1,000 mark.

Four firms leapfrog 10 or more rankings—the smallest group ever

Only four firms grew by 10 or more rankings in 2003, making it the smallest group ever to leapfrog 10 rankings. (See Exhibit 4.) There is no ready explanation for this list's being so small in 2003. Job Ready's employment grew from 415 to 634 or from 56th place in 2002 to its current 30th place. Ocean Beauty's employment grew by 100, improving its position by 16 places to the 34th spot in 2003, their second year in a row on this list. They grew by acquiring seafood processing plants around the state. Laidlaw's employment grew by 42 rising from 62nd position in 2002 into 50th place in 2003. Horizon Lines' employment grew by 52, climbing from the 87th spot on the list to 70th.

1 Alaska's 100 Largest Private Employers 2003

Rank	Firm Name	Average Annual Employment	Business Activity	Headquarters or Largest AK Work Site	Web Site Address
1	Providence Health System Alaska	3,556	Hospital/Medical Center	Anchorage*	providence.org/alaska
2	Safeway Stores/Carrs	3,135	Grocery	Anchorage*	safeway.com
3	Wal-Mart/Sam's Club	2,443	General Merchandise/Grocery	Anchorage*	walmartstores.com
4	Fred Meyer	2,341	Grocery/General Merchandise	Anchorage*	fredmeyerstores.com
5	Alaska Airlines	1,726	Air Carrier	Anchorage*	jobs.alaskaair.com
6	BP Exploration	1,417	Oil & Gas Production	Anchorage*	bpamocojobs.com
7	Banner Health System	1,243	Hospital/Medical Center	Fairbanks*	bannerhealth.com
8	NANA Management Services	1,227	Catering/Hotels	Fairbanks*	nana.com
9	Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation	1,217	Health Care	Bethel*	ykhc.org
10	ASRC Energy Services	1,171	Oilfield Services	Anchorage*	asrcenergy.com
11	Federal Express	1,094	Airfreight/Courier Service	Anchorage*	fedex.com/us/careers
12	VECO Operations	1,018	Oilfield Services	Anchorage*	veco.com
13	Alaska Communications Systems (ACS)	1,012	Communications	Anchorage*	acsalaska.com
14	GCI Communications	990	Communications	Anchorage*	gci.com
15	Southcentral Foundation	** 947	Health Care	Anchorage*	ak-scf.org
16	Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium	** 919	Hospital/Medical Center	Anchorage*	anthc.org
17	Alyeska Pipeline Service Company	895	Pipeline Transportation	Anchorage*	alyeska-pipe.com
18	ConocoPhillips	864	Oil & Gas Production	Anchorage*	conocophillipsalaska.com
19	Spenard Builders Supply	823	Building Products	Anchorage*	sbsalaska.com
20	Alaska Regional Hospital	822	Hospital/Medical Center	Anchorage*	alaskaregional.com
21	Alaska USA Federal Credit Union	774	Financial Services	Anchorage*	alaskausa.com
22	First National Bank Alaska	736	Financial Services	Anchorage*	fnbalaska.com
23	Southeast Alaska Regional Health Corp.	705	Social Services/Health Care	Juneau*	searhc.org
24	Wells Fargo	712	Financial Services	Anchorage*	wellsfargo.com
25	UniSea	689	Seafood Processing	Dutch Harbor	unisea.com
26	Costco	672	General Merchandise/Grocery	Anchorage*	costco.com
27	Tanana Chiefs Conference	671	Social Services/Health Care	Anchorage*	tananachiefs.org
28	Alaska Commercial Company	667	General Merchandise/Grocery	Anchorage*	alaskacommercial.com
29	Doyon/Universal Ogden, Joint Venture	661	Catering/Security	Anchorage*	doyon.com
30	Job Ready	634	Vocational Rehab Services	Anchorage*	jobready-ak.com
31	ERA Aviation	617	Air Carrier	Anchorage*	era-aviation.com
32	The Alaska Club	603	Health Club	Anchorage*	thealaskaclub.com
33	Icicle Seafoods	592	Seafood Processing	Petersburg*	icicleseafoods.com
34	Ocean Beauty Seafoods	577	Seafood Processing	Kodiak*	oceanbeauty.com
35	Manilaq Association	569	Social Services/Health Care	Kotzebue*	manilaq.org
36	Chugach Development Corp.	557	Facilities Support Services	Anchorage*	chugach-ak.com
37	McDonalds Restaurants of Alaska	554	Eating Establishment	Anchorage*	mcdonalds.com/careers
38	Anchorage Daily News	543	News Paper	Anchorage*	adn.com
39	Hope Community Services	540	Social Services	Anchorage*	hopealaska.com
40	Valley Hospital	538	Hospital/Medical Center	Palmer*	valley-hosp.com
41	Peter Pan Seafoods	524	Seafood Processing	King Cove*	ppsf.com
42	North Pacific Processors	518	Seafood Processing	Kodiak*	npccd.com
43	Northwest Airlines	511	Air Carrier	Anchorage*	nwa.com/corpinfo
44	Sears Roebuck	509	General Merchandise	Anchorage*	sears.com
45	Williams Express (now Holiday Gas Stations)	505	Retail/Gas Stations	Anchorage*	williams.com
46	Westward Seafood	502	Seafood Processing	Unalaska*	westwardseafoods.com
47	Alyeska Resort	480	Hotel/Resort	Girdwood/Anch	alyeskaresort.com
48	Nabors Alaska Drilling Company	463	Oilfield Services	Anchorage*	nabors.com
49	Alaska Hotel Properties (Princess Hotels)	451	Hotels	Denali Park*	princessalaskalodges.com
50	Laidlaw Transit	429	School/Charter Bus Company	Anchorage*	laidlawtransitservices.com

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

Alaska's 100 Largest Private Employers

2003 (continued)



Rank	Firm Name	Average Annual Employment	Business Activity	Headquarters or Largest AK Work Site	Web Site Address
51	Norton Sound Health Corporation	428	Health Care	Nome*	nshcorp.org
52	Pizza Hut	427	Eating Establishment	Anchorage*	pizzahut.com
53	Peak Oilfield Service Company	419	Oil Field Services	Anchorage*	ciri.com/jobs/jobs.htm
54	Home Depot	413	Building Products	Anchorage*	homedepot.com
55	Cominco Alaska (Red Dog Mine)	412	Mining	Red Dog Mine*	cominco.com
56	United Parcel Services (UPS)	409	Air Freight/Courier Service	Anchorage*	ups.com
57	Aramark Leisure Services	408	Catering/Concessionaire	Denali Park*	aramark.com
58	Denali Foods (Taco Bell)	407	Eating Establishment	Anchorage*	tacobell.com
59	Westmark Hotels	399	Hotels	Anchorage*	coolworks.com/westmarkhotels
60	Fairbanks Gold Mining Company (Fort Knox)	399	Mining	Fairbanks*	kinross.com
61	PenAir	398	Air Carrier	Anchorage*	penair.com
62	Houston/NANA Joint Venture	398	Oil Field Services	Anchorage*	nana.com
63	Salvation Army-Alaska	394	Social Services	Anchorage*	salvationarmy.org
64	Assets	392	Social Services	Anchorage*	assetsinc.org
65	First Student	384	School/Charter Bus Company	Anchorage	firstgroup.com
66	Norquest Seafoods	382	Seafood Processing	Ketchikan*	norquestseafood.com
67	Chugach Electric Association	364	Utility	Anchorage*	chugachelectric.com
68	Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation	359	Health Care	Dillingham*	bbna.com/jobs/bbahcjobs/aboutbbhc
69	Hotel Captain Cook	354	Hotel	Anchorage*	captaincook.com
70	Horizon Lines of Alaska	354	Water Transportation	Anchorage*	horizon-lines.com
71	Carlile Enterprises	348	Trucking/Warehousing	Anchorage*	carlilekw.com
72	Tesoro Northstore Company	346	Retail/Gas Stations	Anchorage*	tesoropetroleum.com
73	Schlumberger Technologies	345	Oil Field Services	Anchorage*	slb.com
74	Halliburton Energy Services	341	Oil Field Services	Anchorage*	halliburton.com
75	Burger King	340	Eating Establishment	Anchorage*	burgerking.com
76	Rural Alaska Community Action Prog.	336	Social Services	Anchorage*	ruralcap.com
77	Swissport	333	Airport Services	Anchorage	swissport.com/noflash.shtml
78	Lowe's	332	Building Products	Anchorage	lowes.com
79	JC Penney Company	331	Apparel	Anchorage*	jcpennyinc.com/company/career
80	Frontier Community Services	330	Social Services	Soldotna*	_____
81	Hilton Anchorage	329	Hotel	Anchorage	hilton.com/corporate/employment
82	Nightingale Nursing Services	325	Home Health	Anchorage*	homehealthnursing.com
83	Union Oil of California (Unocal)	324	Oil Production	Anchorage	unocal.com
84	Assoc. of Village Council Presidents	317	Social Services	Bethel*	avcp.org
85	Gottschalks	312	Apparel	Anchorage*	gottschalks.com
86	Royal Highway Tours (Princess Tours)	310	Tour Busses	Anchorage*	coolworks.com/princess_tours
87	Ketchikan General Hospital	310	Hospital/Medical Center	Ketchikan	peacehealth.org
88	Matanuska Telephone Association	301	Utility	Palmer*	mta-telco.com/jobs.htm
89	ARC of Anchorage	300	Social Services	Anchorage*	arc-anchorage.org
90	Petro Star	297	Refineries/retail gasoline	Fairbanks*	asrcenergy.com
91	SMG of Alaska (formerly Facility Management)	296	Facilities Support Services	Anchorage*	sullivanarena.com
92	AT&T/Alascom	293	Communications	Anchorage*	att.com/hr/employment
93	Alaska Sales and Service	289	Car Dealership	Anchorage*	alaskasalesandservice.com/
94	Nordstrom	288	Department Store	Anchorage*	nordstrom.com
95	Anchorage Cold Storage	280	Wholesale	Anchorage	odomcorp.com
96	Chugach Support Services (Job Corps)	280	Job Training	Palmer*	chugach-ak.com
97	Blockbuster Video	276	Entertainment Services	Anchorage*	blockbuster.com
98	Quality Asphalt Paving	272	Construction	Anchorage*	qualityasphaltpaving.com
99	Northern Air Cargo	269	Air Freight	Anchorage*	nacargo.com
100	Northrim Bank	266	Financial Services	Anchorage*	northrim.com

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

* Has worksites in multiple communities.
** Excludes federal employees.

2 Trends 100 by Industry

2003 employment

NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING

Mining (except oil and gas)

Cominco Alaska	412
Fairbanks Gold Mining Company (Ft. Knox)	399

Oil and Gas Extraction

BP Exploration	1,417
ASRC Energy Services	1,171
VECO Operations	1,018
ConocoPhillips	864
Peak Oilfield Service Company	419
Nabors Alaska Drilling Company	463
Schlumberger Technologies	345
Houston/NANA Joint Venture	398
Union Oil of California (Unocal)	324
Halliburton Energy Services	341

CONSTRUCTION

Quality Asphalt Paving	272
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MANUFACTURING

Seafood Processing

UniSea	689
Icicle Seafoods	592
North Pacific Processors	518
Westward Seafood	502
Peter Pan Seafoods	524
Ocean Beauty Seafoods	577
Norquest Seafoods	382

TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES

Wholesale Trade

Anchorage Cold Storage	280
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Retail Trade

Safeway Stores/Carrs	3,135
Wal-Mart/Sam's Club	2,443
Fred Meyer	2,341
Spensard Builders Supply	823
Alaska Commercial Company	667
Costco	672
Sears Roebuck	509
Home Depot	413
Williams Express	505
Tesoro Northstore Company	346
Lowe's	332
JC Penney	331
Petro Star	297
Gottschalks	312
Nordstrom	288
Alaska Sales and Services	289

Transportation

Alaska Airlines	1,726
Federal Express	1,094
Alyeska Pipeline Service Company	895
ERA Aviation	617

Seventeen Native organizations/ corporations make the list

Seventeen of the Top 100 employers are either Native Alaska nonprofit organizations or subsidiaries of one of Alaska's regional Native corporations. (See Exhibit 5.) They employ nearly 18 percent of the *Trends* 100 workforce. The single largest group of these employers are nonprofit health and social services organizations (see discussion on nonprofits). Five of these companies are tied to the oil industry and the others are management service companies. Because this is a listing of individual firms without consideration for partial or full ownership, the regional Native corporations' full impact on the state's labor market is often masked. If the subsidiaries of the regional corporations were combined under the heading of their parent corporations, most regionals would appear on the *Trends* 100 list. Despite this definitional limitation, their representation is significant. The eighth, ninth and tenth largest private sector employers come from this group. The largest firm in this grouping is NANA Management Services, a subsidiary of NANA Inc. It is the eighth largest private sector employer in the state, with 1,227 employees. Chugach Development Corporation and Chugach Support Services are two new additions to the *Trends* 100 list.

Nonprofits are prominent

Many nonprofits in the state are among Alaska's largest employers. (See Exhibit 6.) In fact, 22 of the *Trends* 100 are nonprofits and they employ nearly a quarter (24 percent) of this workforce. Their representation actually fell by one when the Fairbanks Native Association dropped off the list. Most of these nonprofits provide either health care or a combination of health care and social services. Maniilaq Association, based in Kotzebue, is an example of this combination. A few are also advocacy organizations, others are utility companies, and one is a credit union. Many of these nonprofits rely heavily on public sector revenues to operate.

Health care is the dominant activity among the nonprofits. Some of these employers are the

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

Trends 100 by Industry 2003 employment (continued) **2**

largest or second largest in their respective communities. Providence Health System Alaska, for example, is the largest private sector employer in the state and Anchorage. Other examples include the Norton Sound Health Corporation (Kotzebue), Bristol Bay Health Corporation (Dillingham), Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation (Bethel), Banner Health (Fairbanks) and Valley Hospital (Mat-Su Borough). One of the reasons the health care industry looms so large is because it is labor-intensive, providing around-the-clock and year-around service.

Only half of the top ten made the list a decade later

Only five of this year's ten largest employers have maintained their place on this select list over the past decade. (See Exhibit 7.) These five are Providence Health System Alaska, Safeway Stores/Carrs, Fred Meyer, Alaska Airlines, and BP Exploration. The rearrangement that has removed some companies from the top ten and replaced them with others reflects some of the changes that have taken place in Alaska's economy over the past decade. For example, ten years ago there were only two retailers in the top ten and today there are three. Wal-Mart did not even appear on the *Trends* 100 list ten years ago. Native corporations/organizations have made an impressive entrance into the top ten, from none in 1993 to three last year—NANA Management Services, Yukon-Kuskowim Health Corporation and ASRC Energy Services. In 1993, Providence was the only health care company and now there are two more: Banner Health and the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation. The only company no longer to be found on the *Trends* 100 list is Mark Air, which closed its doors in 1995. Alaska Airlines' movement from tenth place to fifth may be explained by the growth in the visitor industry and industry consolidation.

Trends 100 employers are big and the pay is good

Alaska's 100 largest employers employ 63,579 wage and salary workers or 29 percent of all private sector wage and salary employment. In 2003, they paid \$2.9 billion in wages. The

Northwest Airlines	511
First Student	384
United Parcel Services (UPS)	409
Laidlaw Transit	429
PenAir	398
Carlile Enterprises	348
Royal Highway Tours	310
Swissport	333
Horizon Lines (formerly CSX Lines)	354
Northern Air Cargo	269
Utilities	
Chugach Electric Association	364
INFORMATION	
Publishing	
Anchorage Daily News	543
Telecommunications	
Alaska Communications Systems	1,012
GCI Communications	990
Matanuska Telephone Association	301
AT&T/Alascom	293
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	
Finance and Insurance	
Alaska USA Federal Credit Union	774
First National Bank of Alaska	736
Wells Fargo	712
Northrim Bank	266
Real Estate, Rental and Leasing	
Blockbuster Video	276
PROFESSION AND BUSINESS SERVICES	
Administrative and Support Services	
Chugach Development Corp.	557
SMG of Alaska (Sullivan Arena)	296
EDUCATION & HEALTH SERVICES	
Educational Services	
Chugach Support Services	280
Health Services and Social Assistance	
Providence Health System Alaska	3,556
Banner Health (includes Fairbanks Memorial)	1,243
Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation	1,217
Alaska Regional Hospital	822
Southcentral Foundation	947
Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium	919
Southeast Alaska Regional Health Corp. (SEARCH)	705
Tanana Chiefs Conference	671
Job Ready	634
Hope Community Services	540
Maniilaq Association	569
Valley Hospital	538
Norton Sound Health Corporation	428
Salvation Army-Alaska	394

(continued next page)

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

2 Trends 100 by Industry 2003 employment (continued)

Assets	392
Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation	359
Rural Alaska Community Action Program	336
Nightingale Nursing Services	325
Ketchikan General Hospital	310
ARC of Anchorage	300
Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP)	317
Frontier Community Services	330

LEISURE & HOSPITALITY

Accommodation

Alyeska Resort	480
Alaska Hotel Properties (Princess Hotels)	451
Westmark Hotels	399
Hotel Captain Hotel	354
Hilton Hotel	329

Food Services and Drinking Places

NANA Management Services	1,227
Doyon/Universal Ogden, JV	661
McDonalds Restaurants of Alaska	554
Pizza Hut	427
Aramark Leisure Services	408
Denali Foods (Taco Bell)	407
Burger King	340

Recreation

The Alaska Club	603
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average annual wage paid by the *Trends 100* was \$45,286 compared to \$36,315 for the entire private sector or \$42,252 for the public sector. The strong presence of the oil industry with its high wages explains much of this group's higher average wage. The average wage for oil industry jobs among the *Trends 100* employers was \$92,857. Approximately 11 percent of employment for the state's biggest employers was oil industry related, whereas the oil industry represented only a little less than 4 percent of the entire private sector workforce.

The payroll impact of these employers varies dramatically and often has little relationship with the size of the workforce. For example, there are employers among the top ten whose payroll is smaller than some of those ranked in the seventies for employment.

Trends 100 oil industry employers are many

Oil industry employers tend to be large, and therefore, unlike any other industry, most of them are on this list. (See Exhibit 2.) In 2003, over 83 percent of all oil industry employees were working for one of the state's largest private sector employers. In 2003, these companies employed 6,760 workers. As a capital-intensive industry, it generally favors both large producer and service companies. This trend is not expected to change.

Many retailers are on the list

In 2003, the state's retailers employed nearly 22 percent of all *Trends 100* workers, providing the second largest piece of this employment pie. The number of retailers did not change in 2003 but some of the players did. The newest addition is Lowe's, a result of a new store opening in Anchorage in late 2002. One big loss was Kmart, which closed all of its Alaska stores in 2003. Retail's impact on payroll is significantly smaller than its employment numbers. Lower wages and a preponderance of part-time employment reduce retailers' contribution to payroll. Although retail

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

3 New Arrivals to Trends 100 In 2003

Chugach Development Corp.
Lowe's
Nightingale Nursing Services
Chugach Support Services
Quality Asphalt Paving
Northern Air Cargo
Northrim Bank

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

4 The Big Movers in 2003 Up ten or more ranks from 2002

Laidlaw Transit
Horizon Lines of Alaska
Job Ready
Ocean Beauty Seafoods

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

Alaska Native Corporations/Organizations **5**

Fully or partly own and/or operate 17 Trends 100 firms

employment represents a large share of the *Trends* 100 workforce, the largest employers account for barely 41 percent of overall retail employment. In 2003 there were more than 2,400 other retailers in the state that did not make this list but account for most of the jobs in the industry.

Manufacturing is now represented only by seafood

Manufacturing is one of Alaska's smaller industries, employing five percent of the state's private wage and salary workforce and six percent of the *Trends* 100 workforce. For the first time ever, all of the listed manufacturing firms are seafood-processing companies. Silver Bay Logging was the last timber firm to make the list in 2001 and employment at the Agruim fertilizer plant in Nikiski shrank slightly in 2003, causing it to fall off the *Trends* 100 list. Seafood's representation fell by one with the closure of Wards Cove facilities in several locations.

Top 100 employers can be found around the state

Although the majority of the Top 100 employers are headquartered or have their largest work site in Anchorage, their employees are literally spread throughout the state. Every one of the top ten employers has employees outside of Anchorage, and very few on the full list have employees exclusively in Anchorage. One company that represents this geographic dispersal well is First National Bank Alaska, which is headquartered in Anchorage but has banks in 15 communities around the state.

Top Ten employers change when the public sector is added

When the public sector is included, ranking among the state's largest employers changes dramatically. (See Exhibit 8.) Only four private sector employers would place in the "Top Ten", Providence Health System Alaska, Safeway/Carrs, Wal-Mart/Sam's

NANA Management Services	1,227
Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation	1,217
ASRC Energy Services	1,171
Southcentral Foundation	947
Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium	919
Southeast Alaska Regional Health Corporation (SEARCH)	705
Tanana Chiefs Conference	671
Doyon/Universal Ogden, Joint Venture	661
Maniilaq Association	569
Chugach Development Corp.	557
Norton Sound Health Corporation	428
Peak Oilfield Service Company	419
Houston/NANA Joint Venture	398
Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation	359
Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP)	317
Petro Star	297
Chugach Support Services	280

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

Nonprofit Organizations **6**

Are large component in Trends 100

Providence Health System Alaska	3,556
Banner Health System (mostly Fairbanks Mem. Hosp.)	1,243
Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation	1,217
Southcentral Foundation	947
Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium	919
Alaska USA Federal Credit Union	774
Southeast Alaska Regional Health Corporation (SEARCH)	705
Tanana Chiefs Conference	671
Hope Community Services	540
Maniilaq Association	569
Valley Hospital	538
Norton Sound Health Corporation	428
Salvation Army-Alaska	394
Assets	392
Chugach Electric Association	364
Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation	359
Rural Alaska Community Action Program	336
Frontier Community Services	330
Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP)	317
Ketchikan General Hospital	310
Matanuska Telephone Association	301
ARC of Anchorage	300

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

7 Fifty Percent Turnover In top 10 from a decade ago

2003

Rank	Top 10 Employers	Employment
1	Providence Health System Alaska	3,556
2	Safeway Stores/Carrs	3,135
3	Wal-Mart/Sam's Club	2,443
4	Fred Meyer	2,341
5	Alaska Airlines	1,726
6	BP Exploration	1,417
7	Banner Health System	1,243
8	NANA Management Services	1,227
9	Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation	1,217
10	ASRC Energy Services	1,171

1993

1	Carr Gottstein Foods	3,212
2	ARCO Alaska	2,516
3	Providence Alaska	1,996
4	Alyeska Pipeline Service Company	1,282
5	VECO	1,261
6	BP Exploration	1,254
7	National Bank of Alaska	1,180
8	Fred Meyer	1,118
9	Mark Air	1,045
10	Alaska Airlines	975

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

Club and Fred Meyer. This should be no surprise since 27 percent of the state's workforce is employed by the public sector, organizations which tend to be large. Therefore, the public sector including the federal government, state government, school districts and the Municipality of Anchorage head this list.

Many of Alaska's top employers are Fortune 500 companies

Over a quarter (29) of Alaska's largest employers also share the company of the nation's Fortune 500 companies. (See Exhibit 9). They range from Costco to Wells Fargo and ConocoPhillips to Blockbuster.

9 The Fortune 500 More than a quarter of Trends 100 firms are on this list

ATT/Alascom
Anchorage Hilton Hotel
Aramark Leisure Services
Alaska Regional Health Corp.
Blockbuster Video
Burger King
ConocoPhillips
Costco
Federal Express
Fred Meyer
Halliburton Energy Services
Home Depot
JC Penney
Kmart
Lowe's
McDonalds
NANA/Marriott, Joint Venture
Nordstrom
Northwest Airlines
Pizza Hut
Safeway Stores
Sears Roebuck
Taco Bell
Tesoro Northstore Company
Union Oil of California (Unocal)
United Parcel Service (UPS)
Wal-Mart/Sam's Club
Wells Fargo
Williams Express

8 With Public Sector Included The top ten in 2003

Rank	Name of Organization	Employment	Headquarters or Largest Work Site
1	Uniformed Military	17,657	Anchorage
2	State of Alaska	17,174	Anchorage
3	Federal Government	17,105	Juneau
4	University of Alaska	6,982	Fairbanks
5	Anchorage School District	6,719	Anchorage
6	Providence Health System Alaska	3,556	Anchorage
7	Safeway Stores/Carrs	3,135	Anchorage
8	Municipality of Anchorage	2,919	Anchorage
9	Wal-Mart/Sam's Club	2,443	Anchorage
10	Fred Meyer	2,341	Anchorage

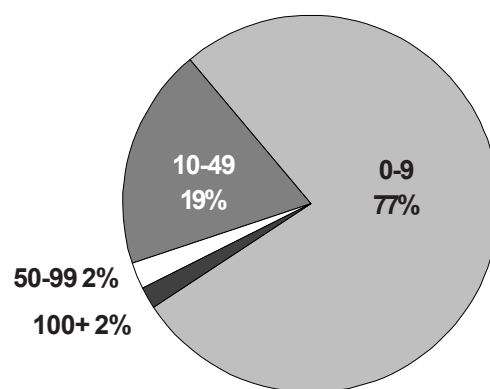
Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

Source: Fortune Magazine

Alaska has establishments of all shapes and sizes, but small firms predominate

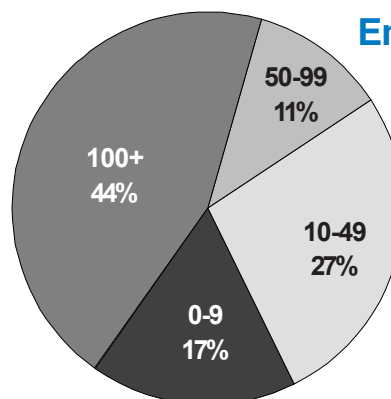
Employers by Firm Size, 2003

Most of the 16,141 private businesses in Alaska are small. Nearly 77 percent of employers had fewer than ten employees in 2003. Yet, 44 percent of Alaska's 217,243 workers (annual average employment) were employed in large businesses with 100 or more employees. These large firms also paid a disproportionate percentage of total earnings, more than 50 percent in 2003. (See Exhibit 1.)



Firm size can play a role in the characteristics of jobs. Large establishments offer greater occupational mobility and potential for career advancement, whereas small establishments provide their workers with broader experience by requiring them to assume a wider range of duties and responsibilities. Small establishments are distributed throughout Alaska; every locality has small businesses. Large establishments are less common but play a more prominent role in the economies of the areas in which they are located.

Employment by Firm Size

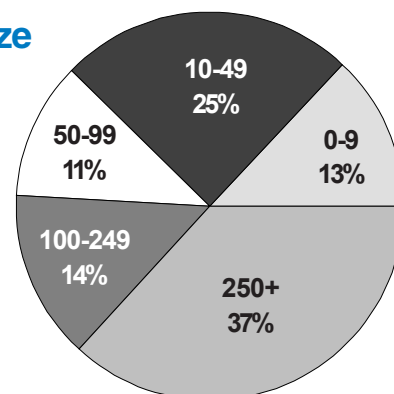


Firm size varies by industry

While small firms were the largest category of employers across all industries, the size of businesses varied widely by industry. Each industry has a unique combination of occupations, production techniques, inputs and outputs, and business characteristics that determine firm size.

In 2003 the highest concentration of small firms (firms with fewer than 10 employees) was found in the broad Other Services sector (84.7%), Real

Earnings by Firm Size



Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

2 Private Industry Firms by Size

2003

NAICS description	Size Class	Average Number of Firms	Annual Average Employment	Yearly Earnings	Annual Average Earnings
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting	0-4	74	101	\$5,381,091	\$53,543
	5-9	16	109	4,549,279	41,737
	10-19	9	120	4,266,181	35,675
	20-49	11	367	13,910,580	37,912
	50-99	6	373	*	*
	100-249	1	108	*	*
	Total	117	1,178	47,250,232	40,119
Mining	0-4	82	156	9,943,629	63,878
	5-9	19	124	11,774,422	95,083
	10-19	13	166	12,987,619	78,396
	20-49	14	404	34,985,766	86,652
	50-99	8	540	39,557,979	73,312
	100-249	6	828	64,107,145	77,447
	250-499	9	3,171	241,707,196	76,230
	500-999	2	1,493	*	*
	1000+	3	3,359	*	*
	Total	156	10,239	892,604,190	87,177
Utilities	0-4	26	85	2,132,469	25,112
	5-9	21	140	4,315,572	30,807
	10-19	11	154	5,064,678	32,799
	20-49	6	175	11,211,429	64,065
	50-99	4	261	*	*
	100-249	5	818	50,263,730	61,460
	250-499	1	364	*	*
	Total	74	1,997	115,432,497	57,805
Construction	0-4	1,627	2,640	86,072,380	32,601
	5-9	427	2,695	100,321,091	37,225
	10-19	251	3,249	148,540,123	45,721
	20-49	127	3,546	201,303,427	56,766
	50-99	36	2,450	168,000,628	68,574
	100-249	14	1,795	*	*
	250-499	1	397	*	*
	Total	2,482	16,772	879,462,163	52,436
Manufacturing	0-4	262	667	19,447,352	29,153
	5-9	83	636	20,743,718	32,599
	10-19	66	918	31,911,450	34,749
	20-49	45	1,431	49,396,855	34,523
	50-99	16	1,065	31,958,481	30,022
	100-249	9	1,363	46,278,197	33,957
	250-499	4	1,315	*	*
	500-999	4	2,651	83,802,128	31,611
	1000+	1	1,533	*	*
	Total	489	11,579	392,316,367	33,881
Wholesale Trade	0-4	463	656	29,822,860	45,491
	5-9	103	675	29,375,175	43,497
	10-19	76	1,028	40,076,865	38,985
	20-49	58	1,634	57,404,017	35,126
	50-99	14	867	32,671,057	37,672
	100-249	5	783	*	*
	250-499	1	280	*	*
	Total	720	5,923	236,095,061	39,858
Retail Trade	0-4	1,070	2,175	\$42,499,626	\$19,542
	5-9	427	2,765	53,633,387	19,398
	10-19	283	3,679	74,968,051	20,378
	20-49	161	4,763	126,905,229	26,642
	50-99	53	3,590	108,979,832	30,354
	100-249	28	3,952	121,315,852	30,696
	250-499	8	2,926	73,058,667	24,969
	500-999	4	2,759	*	*
	1000+	3	7,919	*	*
	Total	2,038	34,528	895,007,343	25,921

Estate and Rental, (83.1%) Professional and Technical (83.0%) and Construction (82.8%) sectors of Alaska's economy. The Mining, Utilities and Information sectors had the highest percentages of large firms (12.5%, 8.5% and 5.5% respectively), reflecting the business characteristics of the Oil and Gas, Electric Power Generation, and Telecommunications industry subsectors. (See Exhibit 2.)

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

Private Industry Firms by Size

2003 (continued)

2

	NAICS description	Size Class	Average Number of Firms	Annual Average Employment	Yearly Earnings	Annual Average Earnings		
Methodology	Transportation and Warehousing	0-4	496	724	\$22,320,727	\$30,816		
		5-9	115	755	23,405,029	31,007		
		10-19	103	1,366	46,947,023	34,372		
		20-49	70	2,171	84,423,881	38,884		
		50-99	36	2,506	94,288,509	37,629		
		100-249	21	3,027	124,417,880	41,109		
		250-499	9	3,222	125,232,465	38,864		
		500-999	4	2,295	*	*		
		1000+	2	2,820	*	*		
		Total	855	18,886	849,913,131	45,001		
Employment data were extracted from the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development's Quarterly Employment and Earnings Reports database. Firms subject to unemployment insurance laws must file a quarterly report showing their employment during the pay period that includes the 12 th of each month in the quarter. The self-employed, unpaid family workers, domestics and most persons engaged in agriculture (including most seafood harvesters) are excluded from this employment database.	Information	0-4	124	229	7,876,695	34,346		
		5-9	45	288	8,333,010	28,951		
		10-19	37	488	17,027,875	34,863		
		20-49	23	710	30,409,170	42,825		
		50-99	12	809	25,603,541	31,632		
		100-249	9	1,365	60,559,686	44,382		
		250-499	2	594	*	*		
		500-999	2	1,783	*	*		
		1000+	1	762	*	*		
		Total	254	7,028	316,221,103	44,996		
This analysis considered each unemployment insurance (UI) account number as a separate firm. Firms operating with multiple UI account numbers were counted one time for each operative account number. Firms with multiple worksites, but operating under a single UI account, were counted once.	Finance and Insurance	0-4	292	530	18,311,264	34,577		
		5-9	87	558	20,282,033	36,369		
		10-19	72	973	38,673,021	39,746		
		20-49	51	1,622	85,974,839	53,005		
		50-99	19	1,247	70,070,223	56,202		
		100-249	8	1,219	62,100,527	50,937		
		250-499	1	266	*	*		
		500-999	3	2,161	*	*		
		Total	533	8,575	389,342,328	45,403		
		A firm was placed in a size category based on the firm's employment level in the third month of each quarter. Annual average number of firms in a size class is the sum of the four quarterly observations divided by four.	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	0-4	404	723	17,136,087	23,704
5-9	101			630	14,973,444	23,780		
10-19	52			649	18,750,044	28,898		
20-49	35			1,076	32,535,392	30,237		
50-99	11			787	25,943,803	32,976		
100-249	5			565	*	*		
250-499	1			276	*	*		
Total	608			4,705	129,920,986	27,612		
Annual average earnings equal total wages for all four quarters divided by total employment for 12 months, multiplied by 12.	Professional and Technical Services			0-4	1,097	1,784	\$61,938,028	\$34,719
				5-9	235	1,527	59,794,315	39,169
		10-19	157	2,091	92,175,122	44,080		
		20-49	84	2,416	124,513,235	51,535		
		50-99	22	1,495	73,772,919	49,355		
		100-249	8	1,121	*	*		
		250-499	1	81	*	*		
		Total	1,604	10,514	476,913,327	45,359		
		Notes: Industry sector totals will not sum to statewide figures due to the exclusion of a small percentage of firms lacking industry classification. * Data not releasable for reasons of confidentiality.	Management of Companies and Enterprises	0-4	7	14	657,963	48,144
				5-9	4	33	2,379,481	71,206
20-49	3			104	*	*		
50-99	2			141	*	*		
100-249	1			51	*	*		
Total	16			342	25,298,963	73,884		
Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section	Administrative and Waste Services	0-4	604	991	26,014,150	26,239		
		5-9	186	1,192	28,386,637	23,813		
		10-19	104	1,340	41,088,941	30,665		
		20-49	52	1,583	46,038,341	29,081		
		50-99	23	1,557	49,909,477	32,053		
		100-249	15	2,307	71,597,025	31,031		
		250-499	2	842	*	*		
		500-999	1	306	*	*		
		1000+	1	1,227	*	*		
		Total	987	11,346	325,983,057	28,731		

2 Private Industry Firms by Size 2003 (continued)

NAICS description	Size Class	Average Number of Firms	Annual Average Employment	Yearly Earnings	Annual Average Earnings
Educational Services	0-4	108	196	\$4,669,518	\$23,784
	5-9	30	210	5,183,589	24,743
	10-19	21	279	6,227,996	22,336
	20-49	15	462	11,489,263	24,855
	50-99	3	194	*	*
	100-249	3	540	*	*
	250-499	1	146	*	*
Total		182	2,027	57,089,310	28,167
Health Care and Social Assistance	0-4	688	1,625	54,404,660	33,480
	5-9	372	2,410	71,589,143	29,707
	10-19	218	2,804	90,480,942	32,264
	20-49	107	3,187	102,028,402	32,014
	50-99	30	2,028	57,488,142	28,354
	100-249	25	3,797	105,684,484	27,836
	250-499	9	2,973	*	*
	500-999	9	6,255	248,229,368	39,684
1000+	3	6,016	*	*	
Total		1,461	31,094	1,089,123,773	35,027
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	0-4	284	436	7,727,061	17,723
	5-9	74	471	6,425,972	13,655
	10-19	51	648	9,204,414	14,203
	20-49	35	946	15,792,519	16,701
	50-99	3	189	*	*
	100-249	3	364	*	*
	250-499	1	277	*	*
	500-999	1	603	*	*
Total		451	3,932	59,511,362	15,134
Accommodation and Food Services	0-4	758	1,429	\$20,905,492	\$14,632
	5-9	367	2,392	31,176,872	13,036
	10-19	250	3,282	44,394,745	13,528
	20-49	181	5,285	81,462,241	15,413
	50-99	55	3,763	65,760,338	17,477
	100-249	26	3,865	75,356,343	19,498
	250-499	8	2,831	50,126,224	17,707
	500-999	4	2,408	62,798,219	26,078
Total		1,648	25,254	431,980,474	17,106
Other Services, except Public Administration	0-4	925	1,733	42,069,140	24,274
	5-9	274	1,822	46,713,048	25,645
	10-19	136	1,725	49,922,224	28,939
	20-49	57	1,610	50,343,271	31,272
	50-99	13	904	21,985,898	24,323
	100-249	7	1,005	*	*
	250-499	3	967	*	*
Total		1,414	9,765	265,654,286	27,204
Statewide Total	0-4	9,436	16,951	480,980,886	28,374
	5-9	2,990	19,458	544,317,454	27,974
	10-19	1,912	24,984	773,225,442	30,949
	20-49	1,134	33,506	1,168,280,736	34,868
	50-99	364	24,763	915,536,346	36,972
	100-249	197	28,870	1,103,226,376	38,213
	250-499	62	20,928	827,292,560	39,530
	500-999	33	22,714	993,220,980	43,728
	1000+	14	23,636	1,072,268,978	45,366
		16,141	217,243	7,886,947,758	36,305

Notes: Industry sector totals will not sum to statewide figures due to the exclusion of a small percentage of firms lacking industry classification.

* Data not releasable for reasons of confidentiality.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

Less Growth in May

Fishermen factor in fuel prices, fish prices before faring forth

Alaska Employment Scene

by
Brigitta Windisch-Cole
Economist

May's employment report for Alaska remained positive: the state's unemployment rate dropped to 7.1 percent from April's 7.3 percent, (see Exhibit 5) and the number of unemployed Alaskans was 1,100 lower than a year ago in May. Employment estimates showed an increase of 1,500 jobs over the year ago level that translated to a growth rate of one half percent. (See Exhibit 2.) In previous months of 2004 the annual growth rate varied between 1.3 and 2.1 percent. May's growth rate does not necessarily point to a slowdown in Alaska's economy. It may simply indicate a slight delay in seasonal hiring which precedes full summer employment.

May is often considered a mobilization month when many dormant work sites of the fishing and visitor industries resume activity. The construction industry usually powers up its workforce as well. Between April and May, Alaska's labor market added 11,000 jobs, most of them in seasonal industries. Except for state government, other industries showed little change. The near 1,000 drop in state jobs was partially driven by the semester break at the University system.

Regional performance was mixed

The Anchorage/Mat-Su region had the highest annual growth rate in the state. (See Exhibit 1.) Construction, retail, and health care industries have helped Southcentral Alaska's economy the most. The Gulf Coast region got a big boost from the seafood industry as it posted higher employment levels than a year ago. Retail also made strong contributions. The Interior region

that includes Fairbanks has benefited from construction and the expansion of retail. In the Southwest region the slump in employment is related to seasonal reductions in the seafood industry. In the Northern region the economy is largely driven by the oil industry and the lack of development has led to a loss of jobs in a variety of oil support industries. Economic growth in the Southeast region has declined; year-to-date employment figures showed a slight downward trend compared to the first five months of 2003. Timber and its related industries have struggled for several years and will suffer additional losses when Silver Bay Logging closes its Wrangell sawmill in October. While most of the region's private sector is enjoying over the year growth, Southeast has experienced a reduction in state government employment.

Commercial fishing revolves around herring in spring

Late March marks the start of the sac roe herring fishery that starts in Southeast and usually ends in early June in Norton Sound. This year, the first herring fishery in Sitka lasted for less than two hours and fishermen scooped up nearly 5,200 (short) tons of fish. In two subsequent openings the Southeast fleet caught an additional 5,500 tons for a total catch slightly exceeding the local quota. Kodiak's herring fishery in April and May resulted in a 3,220 ton harvest. The state's largest herring fishery, Togiak, yielded nearly

(continued on page 18)

Anchorage Mat-Su Region Leads employment growth May '03–May '04



Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

2 Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment

By place of work

Alaska	preliminary		Changes from:			Municipality of Anchorage	preliminary		Changes from:		
	5/04	4/04	5/03	4/04	5/03		5/04	4/04	5/03	4/04	5/03
Total Nonfarm Wage & Salary	305,100	294,100	303,600	11,000	1,500	Total Nonfarm Wage & Salary	145,300	142,600	143,200	2,700	2,100
Goods Producing	37,100	33,700	37,200	3,400	-100	Goods Producing	12,900	11,500	12,600	1,400	300
Services Providing	268,000	260,500	266,300	7,500	1,700	Services Providing	132,400	131,200	130,600	1,200	1,800
Natural Resources & Mining	9,900	9,800	10,400	100	-500	Natural Resources & Mining	2,100	2,100	2,100	0	0
Logging	300	400	700	-100	-400	Mining	2,000	2,000	2,000	0	0
Mining	9,600	9,300	9,700	300	-100	Oil & Gas Extraction	1,800	1,900	1,900	-100	-100
Oil & Gas Extraction	8,000	7,900	8,200	100	-200	Construction	9,100	7,700	8,700	1,400	400
Construction	17,800	14,700	17,300	3,100	500	Manufacturing	1,800	1,700	1,900	100	-100
Manufacturing	9,400	9,200	9,500	200	-100	Trade, Transportation, Utilities	33,400	32,800	32,900	600	500
Wood Products Manufacturing	300	200	300	100	0	Wholesale Trade	4,700	4,500	4,600	200	100
Seafood Processing	5,500	5,600	5,700	-100	-200	Retail Trade	17,600	17,500	17,200	100	400
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	62,900	59,900	62,300	3,000	600	Food & Beverage Stores	2,400	2,400	2,400	0	0
Wholesale Trade	6,200	6,000	6,100	200	100	General Merchandise Stores	4,200	4,100	4,000	100	200
Retail Trade	34,900	33,900	34,300	1,000	600	Trans/Warehousing/Utilities	11,100	10,800	11,000	300	100
Food & Beverage Stores	6,000	5,800	6,000	200	0	Air Transportation	3,500	3,500	3,500	0	0
General Merchandise Stores	8,800	8,700	8,500	100	300	Information	4,500	4,400	4,600	100	-100
Trans/Warehousing/Utilities	21,800	20,000	21,900	1,800	-100	Telecommunications	2,700	2,600	2,700	100	0
Air Transportation	6,600	6,400	6,700	200	-100	Financial Activities	9,100	8,900	8,800	200	300
Truck Transportation	2,800	2,600	2,700	200	100	Professional & Business Svcs	6,200	15,500	16,400	700	-200
Information	6,900	6,800	7,000	100	-100	Educational & Health Services	18,500	18,200	17,300	300	1,200
Telecommunications	4,200	4,000	4,100	200	100	Health Care/Social Assistance	17,000	17,100	16,000	-100	1,000
Financial Activities	14,700	14,300	14,400	400	300	Ambulatory Health Care	6,500	6,400	6,100	100	400
Professional & Business Svcs	23,600	22,500	23,900	1,100	-300	Hospitals	5,400	5,300	5,200	100	200
Educational & Health Services	34,300	34,500	33,000	-200	1,300	Leisure & Hospitality	14,900	14,700	14,600	200	300
Health Care/Social Assistance	32,200	32,300	30,800	-100	1,400	Accommodation	3,200	3,000	3,000	200	200
Ambulatory Health Care	12,500	12,600	12,500	-100	0	Food Svcs & Drinking Places	10,000	9,900	9,900	100	100
Hospitals	8,700	8,600	8,400	100	300	Other Services	5,800	5,800	5,700	0	100
Leisure & Hospitality	31,100	27,800	30,700	3,300	400	Government	30,000	30,800	30,300	-800	-300
Accommodation	8,500	6,700	8,200	1,800	300	Federal Government	9,800	9,800	9,700	0	100
Food Svcs & Drinking Places	18,800	17,500	18,600	1,300	200	State Government	9,000	9,700	9,300	-700	-300
Other Services	11,600	11,300	11,500	300	100	State Education	1,900	2,600	1,900	-700	0
Government	82,800	83,500	83,600	-700	-800	Local Government	11,200	11,400	11,300	-200	-100
Federal Government	17,400	17,000	17,300	400	100	Local Education	300	300	300	0	0
State Government	23,800	24,800	24,200	-1,000	-400	Tribal Government	8,000	7,800	8,000	200	0
State Education	6,800	8,000	6,700	-1,200	100						
Local Government	41,600	41,600	42,100	0	-500						
Local Education	3,900	3,700	3,800	200	100						
Tribal Government	24,000	24,000	24,400	0	-400						

Notes to Exhibits 2, 3, 4, & 6—¹Nonfarm excludes self-employed workers, fishermen, domestics, and unpaid family workers as well as agricultural workers. ²Includes employees of public school systems and the University of Alaska. ³Excludes uniformed military. Exhibits 2 & 3—Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Exhibits 4 & 6—Prepared in part with funding from the Employment Security Division.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

3 Hours and Earnings

For selected industries

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	preliminary 5/04	revised 4/04	revised 5/03	preliminary 5/04	revised 4/04	revised 5/03	preliminary 5/04	revised 4/04	revised 5/03
Mining	\$1,408.76	1,342.21	1,276.70	47.1	44.8	42.5	\$29.91	29.96	30.04
Construction	1,123.47	1,034.16	1,324.45	40.5	37.2	44.4	27.74	27.80	29.83
Manufacturing	453.23	359.40	539.00	35.8	29.9	44.0	12.66	12.02	12.25
Seafood Processing	435.34	330.62	510.09	38.8	30.5	47.1	11.22	10.84	10.83
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	535.42	503.50	541.31	34.3	32.4	34.5	15.61	15.54	15.69
Retail Trade	439.34	423.18	463.76	32.4	31.3	34.0	13.56	13.52	13.64
Financial Activities	733.02	702.20	671.58	38.0	35.9	36.9	19.29	19.56	18.20

Average hours and earnings estimates are based on data for full-time and part-time production workers (manufacturing) and nonsupervisory workers (nonmanufacturing). Averages are for gross earnings and hours paid, including overtime pay and hours.

Benchmark: March 2003

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

4 Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment

By place of work

Fairbanks North Star Borough

	preliminary revised		Changes from:		
	5/04	4/04	5/03	4/04	5/03
Total Nonfarm Wage & Salary¹	37,400	35,650	37,150	1,750	250
Goods Producing	4,050	3,250	4,100	800	-50
Services Providing	33,350	32,400	33,100	950	250
Natural Resources & Mining	850	800	950	50	-100
Mining	850	800	950	50	-100
Construction	2,650	1,950	2,600	700	50
Manufacturing	550	500	550	50	0
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	7,400	7,150	7,200	250	200
Wholesale Trade	600	600	600	0	0
Retail Trade	4,100	4,100	3,950	0	150
Trans/Warehousing/Utilities	2,700	2,450	2,650	250	50
Information	650	650	600	0	50
Financial Activities	1,450	1,400	1,400	50	50
Professional & Business Svcs	2,100	1,950	2,150	150	-50
Educational & Health Services	4,200	4,100	4,150	100	50
Health Care/Social Assistance	4,000	3,950	3,950	50	50
Leisure & Hospitality	4,300	3,850	4,250	450	50
Accommodation	1,300	1,000	1,250	300	50
Food Svcs & Drinking Places	2,600	2,450	2,550	150	50
Other Services	1,400	1,400	1,400	0	0
Government²	11,950	12,000	11,950	-50	0
Federal Government ³	3,400	3,350	3,400	50	0
State Government	5,350	5,400	5,300	-50	50
Local Government	3,200	3,250	3,250	-50	-50
Tribal Government	0	0	0	0	0

Southeast Region

Total Nonfarm Wage & Salary¹	37,500	34,550	37,650	2,950	-150
Goods Producing	4,100	3,700	4,200	400	-100
Services Providing	33,450	30,850	33,450	2,600	0
Natural Resources & Mining	600	600	750	0	-150
Logging	300	300	450	0	-150
Mining	300	300	300	0	0
Construction	1,950	1,700	1,900	250	50
Manufacturing	1,500	1,400	1,550	100	-50
Wood Products Mfg.	150	150	100	0	50
Seafood Processing	1,000	1,000	1,150	0	-150
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	7,650	6,300	7,650	1,350	0
Retail Trade	4,600	4,050	4,600	550	0
Trans/Warehousing/Utilities	2,700	1,900	2,700	800	0
Information	550	500	500	50	50
Financial Activities	1,350	1,200	1,350	150	0
Professional & Business Svcs	1,450	1,250	1,450	200	0
Educational & Health Services	3,550	3,550	3,400	0	150
Health Care/Social Assistance	3,350	3,350	3,250	0	100
Leisure & Hospitality	3,850	3,000	3,850	850	0
Accommodation	1,350	950	1,350	400	0
Food Svcs & Drinking Places	1,800	1,500	1,800	300	0
Other Services	1,200	1,150	1,150	50	50
Government²	13,850	13,850	14,000	0	-150
Federal Government ³	2,050	1,900	2,000	150	50
State Government	5,650	5,800	5,850	-150	-200
Local Government	6,150	6,150	6,150	0	0
Tribal Government	800	750	800	50	0

Interior Region

	preliminary revised		Changes from:		
	5/04	4/04	5/03	4/04	5/03
Total Nonfarm Wage & Salary¹	44,100	41,100	43,900	3,000	200
Goods Producing	4,400	3,600	4,550	800	-150
Services Providing	39,650	37,450	39,350	2,200	300
Natural Resources & Mining	950	950	1,050	0	-100
Mining	950	950	1,000	0	-50
Construction	2,850	2,150	2,900	700	-50
Manufacturing	600	500	600	100	0
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	8,750	8,050	8,550	700	200
Information	650	650	600	0	50
Financial Activities	1,500	1,450	1,500	50	0
Professional & Business Svcs	2,550	2,350	2,550	200	0
Educational & Health Services	4,400	4,300	4,350	100	50
Leisure & Hospitality	5,550	4,450	5,500	1,100	50
Accommodation	1,750	1,150	1,750	600	0
Food Svcs & Drinking Places	3,300	2,800	3,250	500	50
Other Services	1,550	1,550	1,550	0	0
Government²	14,700	14,650	14,750	50	-50
Federal Government ³	4,000	3,850	4,000	150	0
State Government	5,600	5,650	5,550	-50	50
Local Government	5,100	5,150	5,200	-50	-100
Tribal Government	300	300	300	0	0

Anchorage/Mat-Su Region

Total Nonfarm Wage & Salary¹	161,900	158,750	159,150	3,150	2,750
Goods Producing	14,950	13,250	14,550	1,700	400
Services Providing	146,950	145,500	144,600	1,450	2,350
Natural Resources & Mining	2,150	2,150	2,200	0	-50
Construction	10,700	9,050	10,300	1,650	400
Manufacturing	2,100	2,050	2,100	50	0
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	37,100	36,350	36,400	750	700
Information	5,000	4,900	5,150	100	-150
Financial Activities	9,850	9,650	9,450	200	400
Professional & Business Svcs	17,150	16,450	17,150	700	0
Educational & Health Services	21,000	20,750	19,700	250	1,300
Leisure & Hospitality	16,700	16,250	16,550	450	150
Other Services	6,350	6,250	6,250	100	100
Government²	33,800	34,950	33,950	-1,150	-150
Federal Government ³	10,000	9,950	9,900	50	100
State Government	2,050	2,800	2,050	-750	0
Local Government	13,850	14,250	13,850	-400	0
Tribal Government	300	300	300	0	0

Gulf Coast Region

Total Nonfarm Wage & Salary¹	29,100	27,100	28,900	2,000	200
Goods Producing	5,600	5,100	5,550	500	50
Services Providing	23,500	22,050	23,350	1,450	150
Natural Resources & Mining	1,150	1,100	1,200	50	-50
Oil & Gas Extraction	1,050	1,000	1,050	50	0
Construction	1,600	1,300	1,700	300	-100
Manufacturing	2,800	2,650	2,650	150	150
Seafood Processing	2,150	1,950	1,900	200	250
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	5,800	5,250	5,650	550	150
Retail Trade	3,500	3,200	3,350	300	150
Trans/Warehousing/Utilities	2,050	1,750	2,050	300	0
Information	450	450	450	0	0
Financial Activities	800	750	850	50	-50
Professional & Business Svcs	1,450	1,400	1,450	50	0
Educational & Health Services	2,250	2,250	2,150	0	100
Health Care/Social Assistance	2,200	2,200	2,050	0	150
Leisure & Hospitality	3,650	3,000	3,600	650	50
Accommodation	1,300	950	1,250	350	50
Food Svcs & Drinking Places	1,900	1,650	1,900	250	0
Other Services	1,400	1,350	1,400	50	0
Government²	7,750	7,650	7,800	100	-50
Federal Government ³	900	800	850	100	50
State Government	1,650	1,750	1,700	-100	-50
Local Government	5,200	5,150	5,250	50	-50
Tribal Government	400	350	400	50	0

5 Unemployment Rates

By region and census area

Not Seasonally Adjusted*	preliminary		revised	
	5/04	4/04	5/03*	
United States	5.3	5.4	5.8	
Alaska Statewide	7.1	7.3	7.7	
Anchorage/Mat-Su Region	5.4	5.7	6.1	
Municipality of Anchorage	4.9	5.1	5.6	
Mat-Su Borough	7.5	8.2	8.3	
Gulf Coast Region	10.4	10.7	11.0	
Kenai Peninsula Borough	9.7	11.5	10.6	
Kodiak Island Borough	12.9	7.2	13.6	
Valdez-Cordova	10.1	11.6	9.4	
Interior Region	6.5	7.2	7.3	
Denali Borough	5.9	12.8	6.3	
Fairbanks North Star Bor.	5.6	6.0	6.4	
Southeast Fairbanks	10.8	14.7	11.7	
Yukon-Koyukuk	18.7	17.6	19.8	
Northern Region	16.7	15.2	16.2	
Nome	17.5	15.6	15.2	
North Slope Borough	13.3	11.9	13.1	
Northwest Arctic Bor.	20.1	19.1	21.9	
Southeast Region	6.5	7.4	7.3	
Haines Borough	7.6	11.7	10.4	
Juneau Borough	5.0	5.1	5.5	
Ketchikan Gateway Bor.	7.1	8.5	8.1	
PoW-Outer Ketchikan	10.9	13.3	12.6	
Sitka Borough	4.9	5.5	5.0	
Skagway-Hoonah-Angoon	8.0	11.1	8.4	
Wrangell-Petersburg	10.0	9.9	11.0	
Yakutat Borough	10.1	12.8	19.9	
Southwest Region	17.1	15.1	16.4	
Aleutians East Borough	5.2	3.7	6.0	
Aleutians West	13.9	12.5	13.9	
Bethel	17.5	15.1	17.9	
Bristol Bay Borough	12.3	12.4	10.9	
Dillingham	13.5	14.2	13.5	
Lake & Peninsula Bor.	17.8	20.0	17.4	
Wade Hampton	30.8	25.9	25.9	
Seasonally Adjusted				
United States	5.6	5.6	6.1	
Alaska Statewide	7.3	7.1	7.9	

2003 Benchmark

Comparisons with previous year's numbers are of very limited use because of the magnitude of year-end revisions. The official definition of unemployment currently in place excludes anyone who has not made an active attempt to find work in the four-week period up to and including the week that includes the 12th of the reference month. Due to the scarcity of employment opportunities in rural Alaska, many individuals do not meet the official definition of unemployed because they have not conducted an active job search.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

(continued from page 15)

19,000 tons of fish in May, about 75 percent of the quota. Fewer boats than normal were fishing. Low harvest prices and high fuel costs discouraged the herring fleet from the large Togiak fishery. A lack of buyers deterred fishermen in the Norton Sound fishery.

The fuel cost and harvest price differential lie behind particularly fierce competition in the fast-paced Southeast fishery. Prices for Sitka herring were rumored to be about four times the advance price offered in Togiak. Herring fishermen tried to make large sets to avoid traveling elsewhere. Normally, fishermen holding multiple herring permits sequentially fish different areas, and fishermen from all over the state travel long distances to Togiak.

The first salmon harvest kicks in with high marks

The Copper River fishery, the first wild salmon season of the year, started on a high note, yielding premium prices, about \$6.30 per pound of king salmon and \$4.25 for sockeye. The reputation of Copper River salmon has spread and fresh product is marketed from coast to coast. Salmon prices typically fall when big catches are landed in other areas. Although the salmon forecast predicts an even better harvest than last year, fish prices and fuel costs will determine whether fishermen have a successful season.

The seafood processing industry continues to consolidate. Trident Seafoods, the largest processor in the state, has purchased NorQuest Seafoods, the eighth largest. This purchase enlarges Trident's presence in several Alaska locations and makes it the sole buyer of Chignik salmon.

6 Nonfarm Wage/Salary Employment

By place of work

Northern Region	preliminary		revised		Changes from:	
	5/04	4/04	5/03	4/04	5/03	
Total Nonfarm Wage & Salary¹	15,900	15,700	16,500	200	-600	
Goods Producing	5,400	5,300	5,500	100	-100	
Services Providing	10,500	10,400	11,000	100	-500	
Oil & Gas Extraction	4,700	4,650	4,750	50	-50	
Government²	5,000	4,950	5,150	50	-150	
Federal Government ³	150	200	150	-50	0	
State Government	350	350	350	0	0	
Local Government	4,450	4,400	4,650	50	-200	
Tribal Government	450	450	500	0	-50	
Total Nonfarm Wage & Salary¹	16,850	17,300	17,500	-450	-650	
Goods Producing	2,400	2,900	2,900	-500	-500	
Services Providing	14,400	14,400	14,600	0	-200	
Seafood Processing	2,300	2,600	2,600	-300	-300	
Government²	7,550	7,550	7,900	0	-350	
Federal Government ³	350	350	350	0	0	
State Government	600	550	550	50	50	
Local Government	6,650	6,650	7,000	0	-350	
Tribal Government	1,550	1,450	1,550	100	0	

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

Employer Resources

Employers and employees need to know the law regarding fair wages and hours. The Wage and Hour Administration provides information on several laws dealing with the payment of wages to workers (wage claims, prevailing wage, minimum wage and overtime). Programs administered by Wage and Hour include: Minimum Wage and Overtime, Child Labor Enforcement, Prevailing Wage Enforcement, Employment Preference Enforcement, Licensing Employment Agencies, and Alaska Family Leave Act. Go to: <http://www.labor.state.ak.us/employer/employer.htm> and click on Wage and Hour.

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window displaying the 'Links for Employers' page. The page header includes the 'LABOR.STATE.AK.US State of Alaska' logo and a 'Jobs Alaskan' banner. Navigation tabs for 'Job Seekers', 'Workers', 'Employers', 'Researchers', 'Department Shortcuts', and 'Search' are visible. The date 'Mon, May 12, 2003' is shown. The main content area is titled 'Links for Employers' and is divided into two columns. The left column contains 'Department Links' and 'State Links'. The right column contains a list of 25 links related to employer resources.

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Jobs Alaskan

[Job Seekers](#) [Workers](#) [Employers](#) [Researchers](#) [Department Shortcuts](#) [Search](#)

Mon, May 12, 2003

Links for Employers

Department Links

- [Commissioner](#)
- [Alaska's Job Bank](#)
- [News Releases](#)
- [Finding Work in Alaska](#)
- [Unemployment Insurance](#)
- [Veteran Services](#)
- [Fisherman's Fund](#)
- [Unemployment Appeals](#)
- [Seafood Jobs in Alaska](#)

State Links

- [State of Alaska](#)
- [State Jobs](#)
- [State News](#)
- [Online Public Notices](#)

- [Alaska Business Handbook \(1.6 mb Adobe Acrobat Format\)](#)
- [Alaska Job Center Network](#)
- [Alaska Job Centers](#)
- [Alaska UI Tax Calculation Cookbook](#)
- [Alaska's Job Bank](#)
- [Alien Labor Certifications](#)
- [America's Job Bank \(Place job orders and search resumes\)](#)
- [Community and Small Business Development](#)
- [Economic, Occupation & Population Information](#)
- [Employment Application \(Adobe Acrobat Format\)](#)
- [Employment Practices and Working Conditions](#)
- [Employment-Related Posters](#)
- [Employment Security Tax](#)
- [Fidelity Bonding Program](#)
- [Fishermen's Fund](#)
- [Government Labor Relations](#)
- [Job Order Form](#)
- [Job Order Fax Form \(Adobe Acrobat Format\)](#)
- [Laborers' & Mechanics' Minimum Rates of Pay](#)
- [Occupational Coding Manual](#)
(used for employers' quarterly contribution reports)
- [Occupational Safety and Health](#)
- [Seafood Jobs](#)
- [Second Injury Fund](#)
- [The Workforce ATM](#)
- [Unemployment Insurance](#)
- [Vocational Rehabilitation](#)
- [Wage and Hour](#)