

Earth Drillers, Except Oil and Gas (47-5021)

Occupation description: Operate a variety of drills such as rotary, churn, and pneumatic to tap sub-surface water and salt deposits, to remove core samples during mineral exploration or soil testing, and to facilitate the use of explosives in mining or construction. May use explosives. Includes horizontal and earth boring machine operators.

Employment and Job Openings

	Employment			Average annual openings		
	2016 estimate	2026 projection	Percent change	Labor force exits	Occupation transfers	Total
Alaska	150	180	20.0	4	13	20
United States	19,600	23,500	19.6	500	1,700	2,590

Job outlook

Alaska: Alaska's employment growth is strong with low employment opportunities. [Read more.](#)

2018 Wages ?

	Mean Wage	Wage by Percentile				
	Mean	10th	25th	Median	75th	90th
United States	22.87	14.81	17.29	21.36	27.03	33.62
Alaska	27.98	20.88	24.40	27.07	29.77	35.29
Anchorage/Mat-Su Area	27.41	23.39	25.29	27.32	29.52	31.60
Balance of State	27.59	19.96	23.08	26.26	29.06	33.48

Labor Force Indicators

2016 Worker Characteristics

Total workers	Nonresident workers	Percent nonresident	Percent age 45 plus	Percent age 50 plus
255	149	58.4	25.9	17.2

2016 Potential Supply

Qualified but working in another occupation	40
Currently employed in a lower paid occupation	20
UI claimants previously working in occupation	65

2016 ALEXsys Employment Data

Number of registrants	224
Number of job position postings	26
Ratio of registrants to job position postings	8.6

Alaska Licensing Information

Well Driller – [View licensing requirements and number licensed](#)

Typical Entry-level Education, Experience, and/or On-the-job Training

Education: High school diploma or equivalent

Work experience: None

On-the-job training: Moderate-term on-the-job training

Training Resources

Degree

ABC of Alaska (Anchorage)

Confined Space Entry

Cranes, Derricks, Hoists, Elevators, and Conveyors

Excavations

Degree

Alaska Operating Engineers/Employers Training Trust (Palmer)

Heavy Equipment Operator

Degree

Alaska Petroleum Academy (Kenai)

Confined Space Entry (8 Hours)

Confined Space Rescue (16 Hours)

Degree

Alaska Teamster-Employer Service Training Trust (Anchorage)

Mining Safety and Health Administration

Degree

Alaska West Training Center (Fairbanks)

Permit Required Confined Space Entry - S01

Permit Required Confined Space Entry and Fire Watch - S01a

Permit Required Confined Space Rescue - S02

Degree

American Health and Safety, LLC (Fairbanks)

Automotive Lift Training

Degree

Beacon Occupational Health and Safety Services (Anchorage)

Confined Space Entry (OSHA and NSTC Offered)	
Confined Space Rescue (OSHA)	

Degree

Center for Employment Education (Anchorage)

Mining Safety and Health	
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Degree

Delta Mine Training Center (Delta Junction)

Health, Safety, and Environmental Training	
Surface Mine Training	
Underground Mine Training	

Degree

Environmental Management Inc (Anchorage)

Confined Space Procedures	Certificate
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Degree

Iisagvik College (Barrow)

CDL/Heavy Truck Operations	Endorsement
Heavy Equipment Operations	Endorsement

Degree

LTR Training Systems, Inc. (Anchorage)

Confined Space Entry	
Confined Space Rescue	
Defensive Handgun Training For Aggressive Wildlife	

Degree

Northern Industrial Training (Palmer)

Confined Space Entry/011	
Confined Space Entry/011	
Construction Equipment Training 240 Hours HE204	CDL
Construction Equipment Training/Pro Truck Driver	CDL
Construction Equipment Training/Pro Truck Driver/COMBO503	CDL
Elite Combo/COMBO507	Cer/CDL
Mine Safety & Health Administration (MSHA) SURFACE Inexperienced Miner/054	

Degree

Partners for Progress in Delta, Inc (Delta Junction)

Heavy Equipment Operator and Mechanic	
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Satori Group Inc (Anchorage)	
Degree	
Confined Space Entry	Certificate

Southwest Alaska Vocational and Education Center (Igiugig)	
Degree	
Heavy Equipment Operator Training	Certificate

University of Alaska, Mining and Petroleum Training Service (Soldotna)	
Degree	
Confined Space Entry	
Mine Safety and Health Administration Part 48 Surface New Miner	
Mine Safety and Health Administration Part 48 Surface Refresher	
Mine Safety and Health Administration Part 48 Underground New Miner	
Mine Safety and Health Administration Part 48 Underground Refresher	
PC Well Intervention Supervisory Level	
Well Control Drilling Level Surface Stack	
Well Control Introductory Level Surface Stack	
Well Control Supervisory Level Surface Stack	
Well Control Supervisory Level Surface/Subsea	

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