

## Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant and System Operators (51-8031)

**Occupation description:** Operate or control an entire process or system of machines, often through the use of control boards, to transfer or treat water or wastewater.

### Employment and Job Openings

	Employment			Average annual openings		
	2016 estimate	2026 projection	Percent change	Labor force exits	Occupation transfers	Total
<b>Alaska</b>	494	518	4.9	14	27	43
<b>United States</b>	119,200	115,400	-3.2	3,300	6,200	9,120

#### Job outlook

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

### 2018 Wages

	Mean Wage	Wage by Percentile				
	Mean	10th	25th	Median	75th	90th
<b>United States</b>	23.79	13.60	17.30	22.49	28.88	36.64
<b>Alaska</b>	30.36	18.65	25.11	29.71	36.73	43.06
<b>Anchorage/Mat-Su Area</b>	35.35	20.72	31.37	36.84	42.29	46.32
<b>Balance of State</b>	28.59	17.87	24.27	28.33	33.25	39.50

### Labor Force Indicators

#### 2016 Worker Characteristics

Total workers	Nonresident workers	Percent nonresident	Percent age 45 plus	Percent age 50 plus
729	52	7.1	46.7	36.6

#### 2016 Potential Supply

Qualified but working in another occupation	210
Currently employed in a lower paid occupation	133
UI claimants previously working in occupation	94

#### 2016 ALEXsys Employment Data

Number of registrants	260
Number of job position postings	41
Ratio of registrants to job position postings	6.3

## Alaska Licensing Information

Water and Wastewater Systems Operator – [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:** Long-term on-the-job training

### Training Resources

	Degree
<b>Alaska Job Corps (Palmer)</b>	
<a href="#">Wastewater Treatment</a>	
<b>NTL Alaska, Inc. (Fairbanks)</b>	
<a href="#">Alaska Water Treatment Systems - Intermediate</a>	
<a href="#">Introduction to Alaska Small Wastewater Systems</a>	
<a href="#">Introduction to Alaska Small Water Systems</a>	
<a href="#">Water Distribution Systems 1&amp;2</a>	
<b>University of Alaska Fairbanks, Bristol Bay (Dillingham)</b>	
<a href="#">Rural Waste Management Spill Response</a>	OEC
<b>Zender Environmental Health &amp; Research Group (Anchorage)</b>	
<a href="#">Qualified Sampler Training (Water Quality and Soil Sampling)</a>	