Department of Labor and Workforce Development

Research and Analysis

Research and Analysis' goal is to promote sound decisions by providing accurate and comprehensive economic information. We provide a range of economic data to the public and contracted customers through our publications, estimates, surveys, and analyses. Policymakers as well as employers and job-seekers use these products to make choices based on an up-to-date understanding of Alaska's economy.

We have about 30 staff members in Juneau and three in Anchorage.

Data We Produce

Alaska's workforce

- Size of the labor force (total number employed plus those looking for work)
- Unemployment numbers
- Nonresident numbers
- Data on work-related injuries, illnesses, and fatalities

Industries

- Monthly estimates of payroll jobs
- Quarterly employment and earnings
- Short-term and long-term employment forecasts
- Workplace fatalities, injuries, and illnesses

Occupations

- Employment and wages
- Short-term and long-term forecasts

Population and Census

- Population estimates and projections
- Maps and other geographic information
- Migration data
- Review, update, and distribute Census Bureau data

Housing

Costs of buying, building, and renting, by area

Publications and Reports

Periodicals

- Alaska Economic Trends: Monthly magazine with features on Alaska's economy, population, cost of living, occupations, industries, geographic areas, and more, published since 1961. A hardcover version of Trends is available by subscription and it is also available online.
- Alaska Population Overview: Resident population estimates (published annually)
- Alaska Population Projections: Projected future populations based on population size and rates of fertility, mortality, and migration (published biennially)
- Nonresidents Working in Alaska: Estimates of the numbers of residents and nonresidents working in Alaska (published annually
- Unemployment Insurance Actuarial Study and Financial Handbook: Financing and coverage information for Alaska's unemployment insurance system (published annually)

Examples of special reports

• A History of Alaska Population Settlement (2013): traces Alaska's population settlement, beginning with the indigenous peoples before contact with Europeans through Russian America, the U.S. Purchase, the Gold Rush, World War II, the oil boom and bust, and the modern day.

Online Tools

- Alaska Local and Regional Information (ALARI): Interactive access to various
 economic, workplace, and population information at state, region, borough/census
 area, and community levels. ALARI provides a snapshot of an area's resident
 workforce rather than an area's economy.
- Alaska Occupation and Geographic Coding Guide: Designed to assist employers with assigning occupation and geographic codes to their workers.
- Alaska Occupations Information: Interactive access to occupations information—one
 place to see assorted information regarding an occupation—description, employment
 and job openings, wages, labor force indicators, licensing information, typical training
 requirements, and training resources.
- Alaska Training Clearinghouse: Drill-down site to explore training possibilities by provider, program, or occupation. Used by those seeking training in Alaska and by counselors helping them find it.
- Census and American Community Survey (ACS): Interactive data retrieval of U.S.
 Census Bureau data. Presents select Census and ACS population, social, economic, and housing data in user-friendly formats.

Other projects and requests

- Generate employment and earnings data of students for training program evaluations
- Update Alaska Career Information System (AKCIS) with Alaska-specific occupation, school, and scholarship information
- Survey fish harvesters annually and estimate employment
- Create maps for other state agencies such as precinct maps for the Office of the Governor's Division of Elections
- Present to a variety of audiences including private employers, government agency staff, Alaska policymakers, educators, and service organizations
- Respond to requests for information, such as:
 - Special reports for legislators
 - Individual information requests
 - Relocation questions and data for businesses and people out of state

Most of R&A's products are available at <u>laborstats.alaska.gov</u>. For more information, visit the site or call R&A's main Juneau office at (907) 465-4500.