aska Econ<u>omic</u> S REN August 2003 The Trends 1 Providence Health System Alaska's Largest Private Employer

Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development Frank H. Murkowski Governor of Alaska



August 2003 Volume 23 Number 8

ISSN 0160-3345

Alaska Economic Trends is a monthly publication dealing with a variety of economic-related issues in the state.

Alaska Economic Trends is funded by the Employment Security Division and published by the Department of Labor and Workforce Development, P.O. Box 21149, Juneau, Alaska 99802-1149.

Printed and distributed by Assets, Inc., a vocational training and employment program, at a cost of \$.98 per copy.

To contact us for more information, to subscribe, or for mailing list changes or back copies, email trends@labor.state.ak.us

Material in this publication is public information and, with appropriate credit, may be reproduced without permission.

> Cover photo Providence Health System Alaska

Trends is available on the Internet. See URL above.

2

http://almis.labor.state.ak.us

Frank H. Murkowski, Governor of Alaska Greg O'Claray, Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development

Joanne Erskine, Editor Cover design by Sam Dapcevich

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

Contents:

The *Trends* 100 Alaska's largest private employers in 2002

Employment Scene

11

3

Jobs Grow Moderately in May Tourism and health care lead the way

The Trends 100

Alaska's largest private employers in 2002

or the second year in a row, Providence Health System Alaska topped the list of Alaska's 100 largest private employers. Its workforce numbered 3,417 in 2002. The Medical Center in Anchorage has

the lion's share of Providence's employment, but the company has also grown by acquiring and partnering with other health care facilities in Anchorage and elsewhere in the state.

Providence is likely to remain on top of this list for years to come, since the only other employer in the 3,000 league was Safeway Stores/Carrs with 3,028 employees (see Exhibit 1), a number that declined by more than 250 from year-ago levels.

One establishment on the 2002 list, Kmart, is no longer operating in the state, having closed its doors in early 2003. Another, Wards Cove Packing Company, closed its seafood processing operation, the major part of its business. Overall the Top 100 list remained relatively stable.

The 1000 + club

In 2002 twelve of Alaska's private businesses employed more than 1,000 workers—two more than in 2001 and twice as many as when this list was first compiled in 1985. One of the newcomers is Alyeska Pipeline Service Company where employment increased by 15 in 2002, pushing it just seven over the 1,000 mark. More impressive was Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation's jump from fourteenth spot in 2001 with a workforce of 940, to tenth in 2002 with 1,110 employees.

Eight new arrivals in 2002*

Eight companies, representing an eclectic group of industries, joined the list for the first time in 2002. (See Exhibit 3.) Petro Star is an oil refiner, fuel distributor, and retailer. Job Ready and Frontier Community Services are health services and social assistance providers. CIRI Alaska Tourism owns hotel properties, tour boat operations, and other visitor related businesses. Sky Chefs is an airline caterer. Alaska Sales and Services is a car dealership. Gottschalks is primarily an apparel merchandiser.

Most of these companies have been in Alaska for years and their growth put them in the Top 100. First Student, on the other hand, joined the list after it won a sizeable contract with the Anchorage and Mat-Su School Districts to bus children. Sky Chefs returned to the list after climbing on in 2000 and falling off in 2001.

Seven companies leap frog 10 or more rankings

Every year there is a dynamic group of employers that leap frog at least 10 places in the rankings, no easy feat. (See Exhibit 4.) Some of these companies grew aggressively while others merged with or bought out existing companies. For example, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium was not even on the Top 100 in 2000, but every year since then it has climbed at least 10 places in the

* Corrected Aug. 7, 2003 to include Job Ready.

(continued page 6)

Alaska's 100 Largest Private Employers

2002

	2002			lleedawerten
		verage Annual		Headquarters
Ran		yment	Business Activity	or Largest Work Site
1	Providence Health System Alaska	3,417	Hospital/Medical Center	Anchorage*
2	Safeway Stores/Carrs	3,028	Grocery	Anchorage*
3	Wal-Mart/Sam's Club	2,345	Grocery/General Merchandise	Anchorage*
4	Fred Meyer	2,251	Grocery/General Merchandise	Anchorage*
5	Alaska Airlines	1,882	Air Carrier	Anchorage*
6	BP Exploration	1,549	Oil & Gas Production	Anchorage*
7	Alaska Petroleum Contractors	1,210	Oil Field Services	Anchorage*
8	Banner Health System	1,204	Hospital/Medical Center	Fairbanks*
9	Federal Express	1,120	Airfreight/Courier Service	Anchorage*
10	Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation	1,110	Health Care	Bethel*
11	VECO Operations	1,098	Oil Field Services	Anchorage*
12	Alyeska Pipeline Service Company	1,007	Pipeline Transportation	Fairbanks*
13	Alaska Communications Systems (ACS) 997	Communications	Anchorage*
14	ConocoPhillips	946	Oil & Gas Production	Anchorage*
15	NANA Marriott, Joint Venture	939	Catering/Hotels	Anchorage*
16	Alaska Regional Hospital	898	Hospital/Medical Center	Anchorage*
17	Kmart	892	General Merchandise	Anchorage*
18	Southcentral Foundation	886	Social Services/Health Care	Anchorage*
19	GCI Communications	872	Communications	Anchorage*
20	Alaska USA Federal Credit Union	767	Credit Union	Anchorage*
21	First National Bank of Alaska	753	Banking	Anchorage*
22	Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium	752	Hospital/Medical Center	Anchorage*
23	Spenard Builders Supply	742	Building Products	Anchorage*
24	Alaska Commercial Company	684	Grocery/General Merchandise	Anchorage*
25	UniSea	676	Seafood Processing	Dutch Harbor
26	Wells Fargo	675	Banking	Anchorage*
27	Peak Oilfield Service Company	671	Oilfield Services	Anchorage*
28	Southeast Alaska Regional Health Corp	669	Health Care	Juneau*
29	Tanana Chiefs Conference	669	Social Services/Health Care	Fairbanks*
30	Doyon/Universal Ogden, Joint Venture	667	Catering/Security	Anchorage*
31	Costco	655	Grocery/General Merchandise	Anchorage*
32	ERA Aviation	651	Air Carrier	Anchorage*
33	Icicle Seafoods	616	Seafood Processing	Petersburg*
34	Nabors Alaska Drilling Company	558	Oilfield Services	Anchorage*
35	The Alaska Club	546	Health Club	Anchorage*
36	McDonalds Restaurants of Alaska	544	Eating Establishment	Anchorage*
37	Anchorage Daily News	541	Newspaper	Anchorage*
38	Hope Community Services	537	Social Services	Anchorage*
39	Maniilaq Association	520	Social Services/Health Care	Kotzebue*
40	Sears Roebuck	520	General Merchandise	Anchorage*
41	North Pacific Processors	519	Seafood Processing	Kodiak*
42	Home Depot	512	Building Products	Anchorage*
43	Williams Express	510	Retail/Gas Stations	Anchorage*
44	Valley Hospital	500	Hospital/Medical Center	Palmer*
45	Alyeska Resort	496	Hotel/Resort	Girdwood
46	Westward Seafood	496	Seafood Processing	Unalaska*
47	Peter Pan Seafoods	488	Seafood Processing	King Cove*
48	Northwest Airlines	479	Air Carrier	Anchorage*
49	Pizza Hut	473	Eating Establishment	Anchorage*
50	Ocean Beauty Seafoods	449	Seafood Processing	Kodiak*

eadquarters r Largest ork Site

Web Site Address

providence.org/alaska safeway.com walmartstores.com fredmeyerstores.com jobs.alaskaair.com bpamocojobs.com arc.com bannerhealth.com fedex.com/us/careers ykhc.org veco.com alyeska-pipe.com acsalaska.com phillips66.com nana.com alaskaregional.com kmart.com/corp ak-scf.org gci.com alaskausa.com fnbalaska.com anthc.org sbsalaska.com alaskacommercial.com unisea.com wellsfargo.com ciri.com/jobs/jobs.htm searhc.org tananachiefs.com doyon.com costco.com era-aviation.com icicleseafoods.com nabors.com thealaskaclub.com mcdonalds.com/careers adn.com hopealaska.org manillaq.org sears.com ppsf.com homedepot.com williams.com valley-hosp.com alyeskaresort.com westwardseafoods.com ppsf.com nwa.com/corpinfo pizzahut.com oceanbeauty.com

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

Alaska's 100 Largest Private Employers

Web Site Address

princessalaskalodges.com

cominco.com

Headquarters

or Largest

2002 (continued)

Dan		nual
Кан	k Firm Name Employn	nem
51	Cominco Alaska	444
52	Alaska Hotel Properties (Princess Hotels)	437
53	Aramark Leisure Services	424
54	Norton Sound Health Corporation	420
55	Schlumberger Technologies	419
56	Job Ready	415
57	Houston/NANA Joint Venture	412
58	First Student	405
59	Westmark Hotels	395
60	Denali Foods (Taco Bell)	392
61	Salvation Army-Alaska	392
62	United Parcel Service (UPS)	388
63	Laidlaw Transit	387
64	PenAir	387
65	Assets	385
66	Tesoro Northstore Company	382
67	Burger King	381
68	Fairbanks Gold Mining Company	376
69	Chugach Electric Association	368
70	Carlile Enterprises	363
71	Union Oil of California (Unocal)	357
72	Royal Highway Tours	353
73	Halliburton Energy Services	352
74	Norquest Seafoods	351
75	Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation	351
76	Rural Alaska Community Action Prog.	349
77	Hotel Captain Cook	345
78	Swissport	338
79	Udelhoven Oilfield Services	330
80	JC Penney Company	328
81	Hilton Anchorage	319
82	Wards Cove Packing Company	311
83	Petro Star	308
84	ARC of Anchorage	307
85	Ketchikan General Hospital	307
86	Assoc. of Village Council Presidents	306
87	Gottschalks	304
88	Horizon Lines (formerly CSX Lines)	302
89	Agrium U.S.	297
90	Frontier Community Services	293
91	Matanuska Telephone Association	293
92	AT&T/Alascom Inc	290
93	Anchorage Cold Storage	289
94	CIRI Alaska Tourism	288
95	Facility Management of Alaska	285
96	Nordstrom	284
97	Fairbanks Native Association	271
98	Blockbuster Video	270
99	Sky Chefs	270
100	Alaska Sales and Service	269

Average Annual

Business Activity			
Mining			
Hotel			
Catering/Concessionaire			
Health Care			
Oil Field Services			
Social Services			
Oilfield Services			
School/Charter Bus Company			
Hotel			
Eating Establishment			
Social Services			
Airfreight/Courier Service			
School/Charter Bus Company			
Air Carrier			
Social Services Retail/Gas Stations			
Eating Establishment			
Mining Utility Company			
Trucking/Warehousing			
Oil Production			
Tour Buses			
Oil Field Services			
Seafood Processing			
Health Care			
Social Services			
Hotel			
Airport Services			
Oil Field Services			
Apparel			
Hotel			
Seafood Processing			
Refineries/retail gasoline			
Social Services			
Hospital/Medical Center			
Social Services			
Apparel			
Shipping and Warehouse			
Chemicals/Fertilizer Social Services			
Telephone Communications			
Communications			
Wholesale/Grocery			
Tourism			
Public facility management			
Department Store			
Social Services			
Entertainment Services			
Catering			
Car Dealership			

Work Site Red Dog Mine* Denali Park* Denali Park* Nome* Anchorage* Anchorage Anchorage* Anchorage* Anchorage* Anchorage* Anchorage* Anchorage* Anchorage* Anchorage* Anchorage Anchorage* Anchorage* Fairbanks Anchorage* Anchorage* Anchorage* Anchorage* Anchorage* Ketchikan* Dillingham* Anchorage* Anchorage Anchorage Anchorage* Anchorage* Anchorage Naknek* Fairbanks* Anchorage Ketchikan Bethel* Anchorage* Anchorage* Nikiski Soldotna Palmer* Anchorage* Anchorage* Anchorage* Anchorage* Anchorage Fairbanks Anchorage* Anchorage* Anchorage*

aramark.com nshcorp.org nana.com firstgroup.com coolworks.com/westmarkhotels tacobell.com salvationarmy.org ups.com laidlawtransitservices.com penair.com assetsinc.org tesoropetroleum.com burgerking.com kinross.com chugachelectric.com carlilekw.com unocal.com coolworks.com/princess_tours halliburton.com norquestseafood.com bbna.com/jobs/bbahcjobs/aboutbbahc.htm ruralcap.com captaincook.com swissport.com/noflash.shtml udelhoven.com jcpenneyinc.com hilton.com wardscove.com asrcenergy.com/ arc-anchorage.org peacehealth.org avcp.org gottschalks.com horizon-lines.com agrium.com mta-telco.com/jobs.htm att.com/hr/employment odomcorp.com ciritourism.com/8.cfm sullivanarena.com nordstrom.com fairbanksnative.org blockbuster.com lsg-skychefs.com alaskasalesandservice.com/

* Have work locations in multiple communities.



NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING

MANUFACTURING

Seafood Processing	
UniSea	676
Icicle Seafoods	616
North Pacific Processors	519
Westward Seafood	496
Peter Pan Seafoods	488
Ocean Beauty Seafoods	449
Norquest Seafoods	351
Wards Cove Packing Company	311
Chemical Manufacturing	
Agrium U.S.	297

Agrium U.S.

UTILITIES

Chugach Electric Association

TRADE, TRANSPORATION, UTILITIES

Wholesale Trade	
Anchorage Cold Storage	289
Retail Trade	
Safeway Stores/Carrs	3,028
Wal-Mart/Sam's Club	2,345
Fred Meyer	2,251
Kmart	892
Spenard Builders Supply	742
Alaska Commerical Company	684
Costco	655
Sears Roebuck	520
Home Depot	512
Williams Express	510
Tesoro Northstore Company	382
JC Penney	328
Petro Star	308
Gottschalks	304
Nordstrom	284
Alaska Sales and Services	269
Trenewertetien	

rankings. The Health Consortium's dramatic growth has come from the privatization of the Alaska Native Hospital in Anchorage. As the Health Consortium gets bigger and the privatization process nears completion, such significant leaps become less likely in future years.

444

376

1,549

1,210 1,098

946

671

558

419 412

357

352

330

368

The Alaska Club is moving up the list quickly as it expands existing facilities and acquires others around the state. Home Depot opened a new store in Fairbanks in late 2001, and Ocean Beauty bought out Cook Inlet Seafoods. The Association of Village Council Presidents and Westward Seafood moved up the list by increasing the size of their workforces.

The biggest employers often pay well

Alaska's 100 largest companies in 2002 generated 63,124 jobs, nearly a third of all private sector wage and salary employment. Employment for these companies grew by 1.4 percent, which was almost identical to the overall growth for the state's private sector.

In 2002, payroll for these employers totaled \$2.8 billion or 37 percent of all private sector payroll. The average annual wage of the Trends 100 was \$44,080 compared to an average of \$35,914 for the overall private sector. The higher wages are largely explained by the strong presence of the high-wage oil industry. The average annual wage for the oil industry employers in the Top 100 was \$98,688.

Native organizations are well represented

The Top 100 includes 17 employers that are either Native Alaska nonprofit organizations or subsidiaries of one of Alaska's regional Native corporations. (See Exhibit 5.) Just five years ago there were only 12. The list keeps growing, illustrating the increasing influence of Native Alaska institutions on Alaska's economy. Because this list represents individual firms irrespective of ownership, the role of regional Native corporations in the state's labor market is often masked. If all subsidiary firms were shown under their parent

Transportation

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

Trends 100 by Industry 2002 employment—(continued)

company, most of the regional Native corporations	
would appear on the Trends 100 list.	

The largest Native-owned subsidiary in 2002 was Alaska Petroleum Contractors, with 1,210 employees. It is the perennial number one Native-owned employer and this year's seventh largest private sector employer. Alaska Petroleum Contractors is an oil service company wholly owned by Arctic Slope Regional Corporation (ASRC). Four more companies with Native ties are also in the oil services industry: Peak Oilfield Service Company, partially owned by CIRI; Doyon/Universal Ogden JV; Houston/NANA JV; and Petro Star, also an ASRC company. Two of the Native companies, CIRI Alaska Tourism and NANA Marriott JV are heavily invested in the visitor industry. The remaining ten Native employers provide either health care or social services.

Nonprofits play a big role

Twenty-three of the Top 100 employers were nonprofit organizations and nearly one out of every four persons (24 percent) in the Top 100 workforce works for a nonprofit employer. (See Exhibit 6.) Just four years ago there were only 15 nonprofits on the Top 100 list, indicating their growing influence among Alaska's largest employers. A majority of these nonprofit employers are tied to health care or social services. One, Alaska USA Federal Credit Union, is in the financial arena, and a few others are member-owned utilities such as Chugach Electric Association.

The health care industry's large presence in the state helps explain the prevalence of nonprofits on the list. In fact, many of these health care nonprofits are either the largest or second largest employers in their communities. For example, Providence Health System Alaska is the largest private sector employer in Anchorage. The Bristol Bay Health Corporation and Yukon-Kuskokwim Heath Corporation are the largest employers in Dillingham and Bethel respectively. The laborintensive nature of the work and the round-the-clock nature of much of the services explain their large staffs.

Alaska Airlines Federal Express Alyeska Pipeline Service Company ERA Aviation Northwest Airlines First Student United Parcel Services (UPS) Laidlaw Transit PenAir Carlile Enterprises Royal Highway Tours Swissport Horizon Lines (formerly CSX Lines) CIRI Alaska Tourism	1,882 1,120 1,007 651 479 405 388 387 387 363 353 353 338 302 288
Publishing Anchorage Daily News	541
Telecommunications	
Alaska Communications Systems	997
GCI Communications	872
Matanuska Telephone Association AT&T/Alascom	293 290
	230
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	
Finance and Insurance	
Alaska USA Federal Credit Union	767
First National Bank of Alaska	753
Wells Fargo	675
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	
Blockbuster Video	270
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	205
Facility Management of Alaska	285
EDUCATION & HEALTH SERVICES	
Health Services and Social Assistance	
Providence Health Systems Alaska	3,417
Banner Health System	1,204
Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation	1,110
Alaska Regional Hospital	898
Southcentral Foundation	886
Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium	752
Southeast Alaska Regional Health Corporation	
Tanana Chiefs Conference	669
Hope Community Services	537
Maniilaq Association	520
Valley Hospital	500
Norton Sound Health Corporation	420
Job Ready* Salvation Army-Alaska	415 392
Assets	392 385
Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation	351
* Corrected Aug. 7, 2003 to include Job Ready (200	

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

Trends100 by Industry

2002 employment—(continued)

Rural Alaska Community Action Program Ketchikan General Hospital ARC of Anchorage Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP) Frontier Community Services Fairbanks Native Association	349 307 307 306 293 271
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	
Accommodation	
Alyeska Resort	496
Alaska Hotel Properties (Princess Hotels)	437
Westmark Hotels	395
Hotel Captain Hotel	345
Hilton Hotel	319
Food Services and Drinking Places	
NANA Marriott, JV	939
Doyon/Universal Ogden, JV	667
McDonalds Restaurants of Alaska	544
Pizza Hut	473
Aramark Leisure Services	424
Denali Foods (Taco Bell)	392
Burger King	381
Sky Chefs	270
Recreation	
The Alaska Club	546

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

Solution New Arrivals to *Trends* 100

Job Ready* First Student Petro Star Gottschalks Frontier Community Services CIRI Alaska Tourism Sky Chefs Alaska Sales and Service * Corrected Aug. 7, 2003 to include Job Ready.

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

The Big Movers

Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium The Alaska Club Home Depot Westward Seafood Ocean Beauty Seafoods Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP) Another reason for the health care industry's prevalence on the list is the privatization of formerly public services. Both the Southcentral Foundation and Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium are prime examples of this trend.

Oil and health care heavily represented

Almost ninety percent of all oil industry workers in Alaska were employed by one of the state's largest employers. (See Exhibit 2.) There is no other industry in the state where companies in the Top 100 employ the vast majority of all employment for the industry. The two other industries heavily represented by these employers are health care/ social assistance and seafood processing. A little over half of all employment for both of these industries is represented by the Top 100 employers.

The largest employer in the health care/social assistance industry is Providence Health System Alaska. UniSea in Dutch Harbor is the largest for seafood processing. There are other industries such as retail trade and transportation that are strongly represented among Alaska's largest employers, but the share of these industries' total employment represented among Top 100 employers is considerably smaller because most employers in those industries tend to be smaller.

A decade ago the top ten were a bit different

Only four of 2002's top ten employers were on this short list a decade ago. (See Exhibit 7.) Nearly all of the current top ten were somewhere among the Top 100 in 1992, however, and have simply grown or added enough additional employment through merger or acquisition to move into the top ten. Wal-Mart is the only employer on the 2002 list that was not in the state at all a decade ago. The changes in the list are also somewhat indicative of how the Alaska economy has evolved over the past decade. More health care providers and retailers made the list in 2002, while fewer oil industry firms.

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

Alaska Native Corporations/Organizations Fully or partly own and/or operate 17 of the *Trends* 100 firms

They are everywhere in the state

Although most of these Top 100 employers have their headquarters or largest work sites in Anchorage, fewer than 20 confine their activity exclusively to Anchorage. For example, First National Bank of Alaska's headquarters is in Anchorage but it has offices in 15 communities throughout the state. About a quarter of the Top 100 have no presence at all in the state's largest city.

Many are even Fortune 500 players

Nearly a third of these companies are also Fortune 500 employers. Names such as Wal-Mart, Hilton, Home Depot, and Costco are names most Alaskans, as well as most Americans, can identify. (See Exhibit 8.) A few are less well known by the public, such as Aramark Leisure Services, a company that provides catering and concessions in Denali National Park. None of Alaska's Top 100 companies moved onto the Fortune 500 list for the first time in 2002.

Top ten ranking changes when public sector is included

When the public sector is included, the list of Alaska's 10 largest employers looks vastly different. (See Exhibit 9.) Public sector employers displace all but four from the private sector in this top 10. By nature, public sector organizations tend to be large. The Anchorage School District, for example, has more employees than any private organization in the state. Large public organizations also tend to be relatively stable, making it unlikely that this lineup will change significantly in the foreseeable future.

Alaska Petroleum Contractors	1,210
Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation	1,110
NANA Marriott, Joint Venture	939
Southcentral Foundation	886
Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium	752
Peak Oilfield Service Company	671
Southeast Alaska Regional Health Corporation (SEARCH) 669
Tanana Chiefs Conference	669
Doyon/Universal Ogden, Joint Venture	667
Maniilaq Association	520
Norton Sound Health Corporation	420
Houston/NANA Joint Venture	412
Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation	351
Petro Star	311
Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP)	306
CIRI Alaska Tourism	288
Fairbanks Native Association	271

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

Nonprofit Organizations Employ 24% of the *Trends* 100 workforce

Providence Health System Alaska	3,417
Banner Health System (mostly Fairbanks Mem. Hosp.)	1,204
Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation	1,110
Southcentral Foundation	886
Alaska USA Federal Credit Union	767
Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium	752
Southeast Alaska Regional Health Corporation (SEARCH)	669
Tanana Chiefs Conference	669
Hope Community Services	537
Maniilaq Association	520
Valley Hospital	500
Norton Sound Health Corporation	420
Salvation Army-Alaska	392
Assets	385
Chugach Electric Association	368
Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation	351
Rural Alaska Community Action Program	349
ARC of Anchorage	307
Ketchikan General Hospital	307
Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP)	306
Frontier Community Services	293
Matanuska Telephone Association	293
Fairbanks Native Association	271

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



2002

The Fortune 500 Nearly a third of *Trends* 100 firms are on this list

Rank	Top 10 Employers	Employment	ATT/Alascom
			Anchorage Hilton Hotel
1	Providence Health System Alaska	3,417	Aramark Leisure Services
2	Safeway Stores/Carrs	3,028	Alaska Regional Health Corp.
3	Wal-Mart/Sam's Club	2,345	Blockbuster Video
4	Fred Meyer	2,251	Burger King
5	Alaska Airlines	1,882	ConocoPhillips
6	BP Exploration	1,549	Costco
7	Alaska Petroleum Contractors	1,210	Federal Express
8	Banner Health System	1,204	Fred Meyer
9	Federal Express	1,120	Halliburton Energy Services
10	Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation	1,110	Home Depot
			JC Penney
	1992		Kmart
			McDonalds
1	Carr Gottstein Foods	3,146	NANA/Marriott, Joint Venture
2	ARCO Alaska	2,691	Nordstrom
3	Providence Alaska	1,959	Northwest Airlines
4	Trident Seafoods	1,415	Pizza Hut
5	BP Exploration	1,388	Safeway Stores
6	Alyeska Pipeline Service Company	1,325	Sears Roebuck
7	National Bank of Alaska	1,153	Taco Bell
8	Fred Meyer	1,108	Tesoro Northstore Company
9	VECO Operations	1,038	United Airlines
10	Alaska Airlines	996	Union Oil of California (Unocal)
Source: Ala	ska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Reso	earch and Analysis Section	United Parcel Service (UPS)

With Public Sector Included The top ten in 2002 Headquarters or

Rank	Name of Organization	Employment	Largest Work Site
	-		_
1	Uniformed Military	17,790	Anchorage
2	Federal Government	16,757	Anchorage
3	State of Alaska	16,593	Juneau
4	University of Alaska	6,822	Fairbanks
5	Anchorage School District	7,061	Anchorage
6	Providence Alaska Medical Cent	er 3,417	Anchorage
7	Safeway Stores/Carrs	3,028	Anchorage
8	Municipality of Anchorage	2,904	Anchorage
9	Wal-Mart/Sam's Club	2,345	Anchorage
10	Fred Meyer	2,251	Anchorage

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

10

ALASKA ECONOMIC TRENDS

AUGUST 2003

Wal-Mart/Sam's Club

Source: Fortune Magazine

Wells Fargo

Williams Express

Jobs Grow Moderately in May

Tourism and health care industries lead the way

Alaska Employment Scene

by Brigitta Windisch-Cole Labor Economist

laska gained nearly 11,100 jobs in May as employers geared up for the summer season. Over half of the new jobs were in tourism-related businesses within the Trade, Transportation & Utilities sector (2,800) and in the Leisure & Hospitality sector

(3,600). Construction saw a large seasonal increase, adding 2,800 new jobs in May. Out of the state's eleven employment sectors (printed in bold in Exhibits, 2, 4, and 6) only Manufacturing shed jobs, due to seafood processing's contracting its workforce in the off-season between the end of the winter fisheries and the start of salmon season.

Overall, May's workforce expansion was slightly smaller than in recent years. Over-the-year job growth was nearly 2,600 jobs, a modest .9 percent, but the sixth highest growth rate of the fifty states (preliminary estimates.) On the national scene, employment was down 361,000 jobs from its May 2002 level.

In Alaska, the health care and social services industries led the way in over-the-year employment growth, adding 1,600 jobs since May 2002. Both privatization of health care and the expansion of services contributed strongly to the gain. The runner-up performers were the accommodation and food service industries, up a combined 1,100 jobs over May 2002. Restaurant employment alone was up a robust 5.2 percent. New restaurants in Anchorage and Fairbanks provided most of the growth, but new eating places in rural tourist areas also contributed.

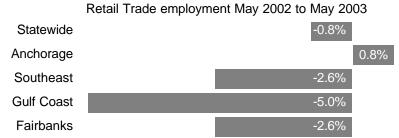
Construction displayed continued strength, posting 700 more jobs than last May. All construction sectors remained strong in Anchorage, while growth in the Interior region came mostly from publicly-sponsored projects. Both the Natural Resources & Mining sector and the Manufacturing sector lost ground over the year. Seafood processing was down 500 jobs from May 2002. This industry faces continuing troubles. True World Seafoods, formerly International Seafoods, announced that it will cease operations in early July, idling its production sites in Kodiak and Bristol Bay. Job losses in the Natural Resource & Mining sector were caused by weak world timber markets and reduced oil field development activity.

Kmart's closure has a big effect

The 2003 closure of all five Kmart stores in Alaska cost the state more than 800 jobs. As a result, the May over-the-year comparison showed a retail employment drop of 5 percent in the Gulf Coast. The drop in retail employment was 2.6 percent in both Southeast Alaska and Fairbanks. Anchorage lost the largest number of employees in the closure, but its large economy masked the effect with employment gains from other retailers. Statewide, the loss of Kmart jobs was enough to turn retail employment negative. (See Exhibits 1, 2, and 4.)

(continued on page 14)

The Closure of Kmart Impacts Retail Trade employment





2 Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment By place of work

Alaska ^{pr}	eliminary 5/03	revised 4/03	5/02	Change 4/03	s from: 5/02
Total Nonfarm Wage & Salary	300,800	289,700	298,200	11,100	2,600
Goods Producing	35,700	33,600	36,100	2,100	-400
Services Providing	265,000	256,100	262,000	8,900	3,000
Natural Resources & Mining	10,200	10,000	10,800	200	-600
Logging	500	400	600	100	-100
Mining	9,900	9,700	10,200	200	-300
Oil & Gas Extraction	8,300	8,200	8,700	100	-400
Construction	16,600	13,800	15,900	2,800	700
Manufacturing	8,900	9,800	9,500	-900	-600
Wood Products Manufacturin	g 300	300	300	0	0
Seafood Processing	5,200	6,000	5,700	-800	-500
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	61,300	58,500	62,300	2,800	-1,000
Wholesale Trade	6,000	6,000	6,300	0	-300
Retail Trade	33,900	32,900	34,200	1,000	-300
Food & Beverage Stores	5,900	5,500	5,800	400	100
General Merchandise Store	es 8,600	8,500	9,200	100	-600
Trans/Warehousing/Utilities	21,400	19,500	21,900	1,900	-500
Air Transportation	6,600	6,000	6,700	600	-100
Truck Transportation	2,800	2,600	2,800	200	0
Information	6,900	6,800	7,200	100	-300
Telecommunications	4,000	3,900	4,100	100	-100
Financial Activities	13,700	13,300	13,600	400	100
Professional & Business Svc	s 23,300	22,300	23,100	1,000	200
Educational & Health Service	s 32,100	31,700	30,400	400	1,700
Health Care/Social Assistance	9 29,800	29,500	28,200	300	1,600
Ambulatory Health Care	12,800	12,800	11,900	0	900
Hospitals	7,700	7,600	7,500	100	200
Leisure & Hospitality	31,100	27,500	30,300	3,600	800
Accommodation	7,900	6,200	7,700	1,700	200
Food Svcs & Drinking Places	19,100	17,400	18,200	1,700	900
Other Services	12,500	12,400	12,300	100	200
Government ²	84,100	83,600	82,800	500	1,300
Federal Government ³	16,900	16,500	16,600	400	300
State Government	24,800	25,000	24,300	-200	500
Local Government	42,300	42,100	41,900	200	400
Tribal Government	3,400	3,300	3,400	100	0

3 Hours and Earnings For selected industries

1: 2	Municipality of Anchorage	iminary 5/03	revised 4/03	5/02	Changes 4/03	from: 5/02
0	Total Nonfarm Wage & Salary ¹	143,800	140,100	141,500	3,700	2,300
0	Goods Producing	12,700	11,400	12,800	1,300	-100
C	Services Providing	131,100	128,800	128,700	2,300	2,400
0	Natural Resources & Mining	2,600	2,600	2,900	0	-300
0	Mining	2,600	2,500	2,800	100	-200
0	Oil & Gas Extraction	2,300	2,300	2,700	0	-400
0	Construction	8,300	7,000	8,100	1,300	200
0	Manufacturing	1,800	1,800	1,900	0	-100
0	Trade, Transportation, Utilities	32,000	31,700	32,500	300	-500
C	Wholesale Trade	4,500	4,500	4,700	0	-200
0	Retail Trade	17,100	17,100	16,900	0	200
0	Food & Beverage Stores	2,500	2,300	2,400	200	100
0	General Merchandise Store	es 3,900	4,000	4,200	-100	-300
0	Trans/Warehousing/Utilities	10,400	10,200	10,900	200	-500
C	Air Transportation	3,400	3,300	3,500	100	-100
0	Information	4,800	4,400	4,700	400	100
0	Telecommunications	2,600	2,600	2,700	0	-100
0	Financial Activities	8,100	8,000	8,400	100	-300
C	Professional & Business Svcs	,	16,100	16,300	700	500
0	Educational & Health Services	,	16,900	16,100	200	1,000
0	Health Care/Social Assistance	,	15,500	14,700	200	1,000
D	Ambulatory Health Care	6,600	6,600	6,100	0	500
D	Hospitals	4,800	4,700	4,600	100	200
0	Leisure & Hospitality	15,200	14,600	14,700	600	500
0	Accommodation	3,200	3,100	3,100	100	100
0	Food Svcs & Drinking Places	10,300	9,800	9,800	500	500
0	Other Services	6,100	6,100	5,800	0	300
0	Government ²	31,000	30,900	30,400	100	600
0	Federal Government ³	9,600	9,600	9,400	0	200
0	State Government	9,700	9,800	9,500	-100	200
0	Local Government	11,700	11,500	11,400	200	300
0	Tribal Government	300	300	200	0	100

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

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	preliminary	revised	revised	preliminary	revised	revised	preliminary	revised	revised
	5/03	4/03	5/02	5/03	4/03	5/02	5/03	4/03	5/02
Mining	\$1,251.55	\$1,325.34	\$1,311.00	41.9	43.9	47.5	\$29.87	\$30.19	\$27.60
Construction	1335.15	1188.80	1084.25	45.0	40.0	40.7	29.67	29.72	26.64
Manufacturing	524.10	466.34	505.99	43.1	38.7	34.8	12.16	12.05	14.54
Seafood Processing	498.82	461.58	336.34	49.0	43.3	33.5	10.18	10.66	10.04
Trade, Transportation, Utilitie	s 539.93	535.42	522.61	34.5	34.3	32.3	15.65	15.61	16.18
Retail Trade	461.03	453.18	477.76	33.8	33.2	32.0	13.64	13.65	14.93
Financial Activities	671.23	681.90	712.09	36.8	36.8	32.8	18.24	18.53	21.71

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 2002

A Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment By place of work Interior Region

Fairbanks	5/03	revised 4/03	5/02	Changes 4/03	s from: 5/02
North Star Borough					
Total Nonfarm Wage & Salary ¹	37,050	35,200	36,400	1,850	650
Goods Producing	3,900	3,250	3,750	650	150
Services Providing	33,100	31,950	32,600	1,150	500
Natural Resources & Mining	850	850	850	0	0
Mining	850	850	850	0	0
Construction	2,500	1,900	2,350	600	150
Manufacturing	600	550	550	50	50
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	7,250	7,050	7,450	200	-200
Retail Trade	4,050	4,050	4,150	0	-100
General Merchandise Store	s 900	900	1,150	0	-250
Trans/Warehousing/Utilities	2,700	2,450	2,800	250	-100
Air Transportation	850	800	850	50	0
Information	650	600	650	50	0
Financial Activities	1,300	1,300	1,300	0	0
Professional & Business Svcs	1,850	1,650	1,850	200	0
Educational & Health Services	3,750	3,750	3,650	0	100
Health Care/Social Assistance	3,450	3,450	3,350	0	100
Leisure & Hospitality	4,150	3,650	4,000	500	150
Accommodation	1,000	900	950	100	50
Food Svcs & Drinking Places	2,650	2,450	2,550	200	100
Other Services	2,000	1,950	2,100	50	-100
Government ²	12,150	11,950	11,650	200	500
Federal Government ³	3,400	3,300	3,300	100	100
State Government	5,550	5,300	5,100	250	450
Local Government	3,250	3,350	3,250	-100	0
Tribal Government	0	0	0	0	0

Southeast Region

Total Nonfarm Wage & Salary ¹	36,500	33,500	37,050	3,000	-550
Goods Producing	3,550	3,000	3,750	550	-200
Services Providing	32,950	30,500	33,300	2,450	-350
Natural Resources & Mining	550	450	700	100	-150
Logging	250	150	400	100	-150
Mining	300	300	300	0	0
Construction	1,750	1,500	1,700	250	50
Manufacturing	1,250	1,050	1,300	200	-50
Wood Products Mfg.	150	150	150	0	0
Seafood Processing	850	650	900	200	-50
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	7,200	5,850	7,600	1,350	-400
Retail Trade	4,450	3,750	4,600	700	-150
Trans/Warehousing/Utilities	3 2,350	1,700	2,550	650	-200
Information	500	500	500	0	0
Financial Activities	1,250	1,150	1,300	100	-50
Professional & Business Svcs	5 1,450	1,250	1,500	200	-50
Educational & Health Services	3 ,450	3,500	3,400	-50	50
Health Care/Social Assistance	3,300	3,300	3,150	0	150
Leisure & Hospitality	4,100	3,100	4,250	1,000	-150
Accommodation	1,450	950	1,450	500	0
Food Svcs & Drinking Places	1,750	1,400	1,800	350	-50
Other Services	1,150	1,100	1,150	50	0
Government ²	13,850	14,050	13,700	-200	150
Federal Government ³	1,850	1,850	1,850	0	0
State Government	5,800	5,950	5,800	-150	0
Local Government	6,200	6,300	6,050	-100	150
Tribal Government	600	550	550	50	50

Interior Region	iminary 5/03	revised 4/03	0 5/02	Changes 4/03	from: 5/02
Total Nonfarm Wage & Salary ¹	43,700	40,550	42,900	3,150	800
Goods Producing	4,300	3,500	4,050	800	250
Services Providing	39,400	37,050	38,850	2,350	550
Natural Resources & Mining	1,000	950	1,000	50	0
Mining	950	950	1,000	0	-50
Construction	2,700	1,950	2,450	750	250
Manufacturing	600	550	600	50	0
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	8,450	7,900	8,600	550	-150
Information	850	800	850	50	0
Financial Activities	1,400	1,400	1,350	0	50
Professional & Business Svcs	2,000	1,750	1,950	250	50
Educational & Health Services	3,950	3,900	3,800	50	150
Leisure & Hospitality	5,600	4,500	5,450	1,100	150
Accommodation	1,500	1,050	1,450	450	50
Food Svcs & Drinking Places	3,350	2,900	3,250	450	100
Other Services	2,450	2,200	2,350	250	100
Government ²	14,700	14,600	14,500	100	200
Federal Government	3,900	3,700	3,800	200	100
State Government	5,550	5,500	5,400	50	150
Local Government	5,250	5,350	5,300	-100	-50
Tribal Government	250	250	250	0	0

Anchorage/Mat-Su Region

	450 050	455 050	455 050	4 0 0 0	o 400
Total Nonfarm Wage & Salary ¹	159,250	155,050		4,200	· · · ·
Goods Producing	14,600	12,950	14,400	1,650	200
Services Providing	144,650	142,050	141,450	2,600	3,200
Natural Resources & Mining	2,700	2,650	2,950	50	-250
Construction	9,850	8,350	9,450	1,500	400
Manufacturing	2,050	2,000	2,000	50	50
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	36,050	35,500	35,900	550	150
Information	5,000	4,800	5,100	200	-100
Financial Activities	8,800	8,600	8,900	200	-100
Professional & Business Svcs	17,450	16,750	17,050	700	400
Educational & Health Services	19,100	18,950	18,050	150	1,050
Leisure & Hospitality	16,750	16,100	16,100	650	650
Other Services	6,650	6,650	6,350	0	300
Government ²	34,900	34,700	34,000	200	900
Federal Government ³	9,800	9,750	9,600	50	200
State Government	10,850	10,950	10,450	-100	400
Local Government	14,300	14,050	13,950	250	350
Tribal Government	300	350	300	-50	0

Gulf Coast Region

Total Nonfarm Wage & Salary ¹	28,350	26,950	28,750	1,400	-400
Goods Producing	5,450	5,500	5,750	-50	-300
Services Providing	22,900	21,400	22,950	1,500	-50
Natural Resources & Mining	1,400	1,350	1,400	50	0
Oil & Gas Extraction	1,250	1,200	1,250	50	0
Construction	1,650	1,400	1,600	250	50
Manufacturing	2,450	2,750	2,750	-300	-300
Seafood Processing	1,750	2,050	2,100	-300	-350
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	5,500	5,000	5,900	500	-400
Retail Trade	3,300	3,000	3,450	300	-150
Trans/Warehousing/Utilities	2,000	1,800	2,050	200	-50
Information	450	400	450	50	0
Financial Activities	850	850	850	0	0
Professional & Business Svcs	1,400	1,400	1,450	0	-50
Educational & Health Services	1,950	1,900	1,850	50	100
Health Care/Social Assistance	1,850	1,800	1,800	50	50
Leisure & Hospitality	3,550	2,850	3,450	700	100
Accommodation	1,450	1,050	1,400	400	50
Food Svcs & Drinking Places	1,900	1,600	1,850	300	50
Other Services	1,450	1,450	1,450	0	0
Government ²	7,750	7,550	7,600	200	150
Federal Government ³	900	750	850	150	50
State Government	1,750	1,700	1,700	50	50
Local Government	5,150	5,100	5,050	50	100
Tribal Government	350	300	300	50	50

5 Unemployment Rates By region and census area

1	oreliminary	revis	sed
Not Seasonally Adjusted*	05/03	04/03	05/02
United States	5.8	5.8	5.5
Alaska Statewide	7.1	7.4	7.2
Anchorage/Mat-Su Region	5.6	5.8	5.7
Municipality of Anchorage	5.0	5.2	5.1
Mat-Su Borough	7.8	8.5	8.3
Gulf Coast Region	10.3	10.6	10.0
Kenai Peninsula Borough	9.9	11.4	10.9
Kodiak Island Borough	12.6	7.1	7.4
Valdez-Cordova	8.7	11.5	9.5
Interior Region	6.6	7.6	6.9
Denali Borough	5.6	11.0	5.2
Fairbanks North Star Bord	•	6.7	6.1
Southeast Fairbanks	10.5	11.9	12.2
Yukon-Koyukuk	18.0	17.8	17.9
Northern Region	15.6	14.0	14.6
Nome	14.7	13.4	15.0
North Slope Borough	12.7	10.7	10.9
Northwest Arctic Borough		19.4	19.3
Southeast Region	6.9	8.1	7.4
Haines Borough	9.7	14.7	8.7
Juneau Borough	5.2	5.5	5.1
Ketchikan Gateway Borou	0	9.4	9.0
Prince of Wales-Outer Ketch		12.5	15.0
Sitka Borough	4.8	5.4	6.0
Skagway-Hoonah-Angoor		11.5	10.1
Wrangell-Petersburg	10.2	11.7	8.6
Yakutat Borough	18.1	21.6	16.3
Southwest Region	15.2	13.3	14.4
Aleutians East Borough	5.3	3.9	4.2
Aleutians West	13.2	8.8	11.2
Bethel	16.8	14.8	15.5
Bristol Bay Borough	9.6	10.8	10.0
Dillingham	12.4	11.3	10.5
Lake & Peninsula Borough	15.4	17.3	13.7
Wade Hampton	24.2	22.3	26.9
Seasonally Adjusted			
United States	6.1	6.0	5.8
Alaska Statewide	7.3	7.2	7.5

2002 Benchmark

Comparisons between different time periods are not as meaningful as other time series produced by Research and Analysis. 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. They are considered not in the labor force.

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

(continued from page 11)

The Kmart closure will also affect local tax revenues. The City and Borough of Juneau and the Kenai Peninsula Borough both lost an important payer of sales and property taxes. The City of Kenai felt the loss even more keenly, since the city stood to lose a significant portion of its tax base. This illustrates the magnified impacts small economies can experience from negative economic events.

Kenai has attracted a Home Depot commitment that will nearly restore the former levels of retail employment in the area. During the remodeling and operational start up period, however, the city will feel the tax revenue shortfall.

The jobless rate improves

The unemployment rate dropped to 7.1 percent in May, an improvement of .3 percentage points over April. (See Exhibit 5.) Unemployment rates fell in the Anchorage/Mat-Su, Southeast, Interior, and Gulf Regions but rose in the Northern and Southwest Regions. Alaska's large labor markets needed workers in the construction trades, and the visitor industry had a significant demand for workers in areas affected by summer tourism.

Jobless rates were highest in the Wade Hampton Census Area and in the Northwest Arctic Borough where the Red Dog Mine cut jobs. Unemployment typically increases at the end of school years in remote areas. Laid off school personnel rarely find summer jobs in these small and scattered communities. Moreover, recent graduates often enter the labor forces of small communities and drive up local jobless rates.

Nonfarm Wage/Salary Employment By place of work

Northern Region	preliminary 5/03	revised 4/03	5/02	Changes 4/03	from: 5/02
Total Nonfarm Wage & Salary	/ ¹ 15,550	15,900	16,150	-350	-600
Goods Producing	5,050	5,200	5,300	-150	-250
Services Providing	10,500	10,700	10,850	-200	-350
Oil & Gas Extraction	4,150	4,250	4,300	-100	-150
Government ²	5,050	5,200	5,150	-150	-100
Federal Government ³	150	150	150	0	0
State Government	350	350	350	0	0
Local Government	4,550	4,700	4,700	-150	-150
Tribal Government	500	500	500	0	0
Southwest Regior	1				
Total Nonfarm Wage & Salary	¹ 17,350	17,850	17,400	-500	-50
Goods Producing	2,650	3,400	2,900	-750	-250
Services Providing	14,750	14,450	14,500	300	250
Seafood Processing	2,450	3,250	2,700	-800	-250
Government ²	7,800	7,600	7,850	200	-50
Federal Government ³	350	350	350	0	0
State Government	550	550	600	0	-50
Local Government	6,900	6,700	6,900	200	0
Tribal Government	1,450	1,450	1,500	0	-50

Employer Resources

Some times the best candidate for a job is not the most qualified. The candidate may lack specific skills needed for the job. On-the-Job Training gives employers the opportunity to hire a good worker, train the employee to meet their needs, and have all or part of the employee's wages reimbursed by a participating agency. Go to http://www.jobs.state.ak.us/employer.htm and click on "On-the-Job Training" for more information.

