

IBENDS

ALASKA'S LARGEST 100 PRIVATE EMPLOYERS IN 1994

THE TRENDS 100

NEW HIRES DECLINE DURING FALL OF 1994

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH SLOWS IN JUNE

September 1995

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR • TONY KNOWLES, GOVERNOR



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Tony Knowles, Governor State of Alaska

Tom Cashen, Commissioner Department of Labor

Arbe Williams, Director Division of Administrative Services

Chuck Caldwell, Chief Research and Analysis Section

JoAnn H. Wilson, Editor

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Alaska's Largest 100 Private Employers in 1994 The *Trends* 100

THE HEHUS TOO

by Neal Fried and Brigitta Windisch-Cole

he Carrs grocery chain once again led Alaska's list of the top 100 private sector employers—in fact it remains the only private sector employer which has more than 3,000 employees. And it is likely to keep that distinction for the foreseeable future.

Only one newcomer to the top 10 list

In 1994 Wal-Mart was the only new member to move into the top 10 category. In 1993 Sam's Club (owned by Wal-Mart) did make the *Trends* 100 list, but then Wal-Mart opened up three stores in early 1994, catapulting it to the top 10 list. Shifts among the top 10 players also took place. Fred Meyer's and National Bank of Alaska's rankings improved as BP Exploration's fell slightly. MarkAir's position fell to number 16.

After 10 years half of top 10 remain on top

When the most recent list of top 10 employers is compared with the first list ever compiled (1985), half of the original members remain on this rarified list of Alaska largest employers. (See Table 5.) And all of the original top 10 players can still be found somewhere in the *Trends* 100 list.

Nine newcomers to the Trends 100 list

Wal-Mart was not the only new kid on the *Trends* 100 block. (See Table 3.) In 1994 nine new companies graced the list. Houston Contracting, Doyon Drilling, and Nabors Alaska Drilling are three oil industry related employers to make the cut. Houston's numbers have grown because of its status as the prime contractor working on a project for Alyeska Pipeline Service Company at the Valdez Terminal. Both Doyon and Nabors are among the small cadre of large oil drillers on the North Slope. Caterair is benefiting from a growing trend for airlines to contract out more of their services. Alyeska Prince

Hotel's ascension to the list came because the resort opened its new 307-room hotel in 1994. Inlet Fisheries simply hired more workers in 1994.

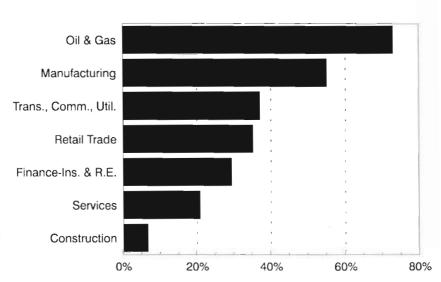
Employment grew more rapidly for Alaska's big employers

Unlike last year, employment growth among Alaska's big employers was more robust than the rest of the private sector economy. In 1994 employment for the *Trends* 100 grew by 5.4% compared to 3.9% for the overall private sector. Much of the explanation for this accelerated pace was retail trade's strong growth in 1994. And since trade represents the single largest slice of the *Trends* 100 employment pie, its influence is large. (See Figure 2.)

Neal Fried and Brigitta Windisch-Cole are labor economists with the Research & Analysis Section, Administrative Services Division, Alaska Department of Labor. They are located in Anchorage.

Figure • 1

A Majority of Oil and Gas and Manufacturing Employees Work for *Trends* 100 Firms—1994



Alaska's 100 Largest Private Employers 1994

Rank	Firm Name	Employment	Headquarter or Largest Work Site	Business Activity
1	Carr Gottstein Foods	3,320	Anchorage	Retail-Grocery
2	ARCO Alaska	2,354	Anchorage	Oil & Gas Production
3	Providence Hospital	1,918	Anchorage	Hospital
4	Fred Meyer	1,652	Anchorage	Retail-Grocery
5	VECO	1,566	Anchorage	Oil Field Services
6	Alyeska Pipeline Service Company	1,288	Anchorage	Pipeline
7	National Bank of Alaska	1,219	Anchorage	Banking
8	Wal-Mart/Sam's Club	1,164	Anchorage	Retail-General Merchandise
9	Trident Seafoods Corp.	1,144	Akutan	Seafood Processing
10	BP Exploration (Alaska)	1,100	Anchorage	Oil & Gas Production
11	Alaska Airlines	1,093	Anchorage	Air Carrier
12	Kmart Corp.	959	Anchorage	Retail-General Merchandise
13	First National Bank of Anchorage	938	Anchorage	Banking
14	Fairbanks Memorial Hospital	938	Fairbanks	Hospital
15	Safeway Stores	920	Anchorage	Retail-Grocery
16	MarkAir	910	Anchorage	Air Carrier
17	Ketchikan Pulp Mill	884	Ketchikan	Pulp & Lumber Products
18	Alaska Petroleum Contractors	678	Anchorage	Oil Field Services
19	Alaska USA Federal Credit Union	677	Anchorage	Credit Union
20	Alascom	671	Anchorage	Telephone Communications
21	Alaska Regional Hospital	667	Anchorage	Hospital
22	Icicle Seafoods	663	Petersburg	Seafood Processing
23	Westmark Hotels	659	Anchorage	Hotel
24	Federal Express	659	Anchorage	Air Courier Services
25	UniSea	637	Unalaska	Seafood Processing
26	Union Oil of California	601	Anchorage	Oil & Gas Production
27	Sears Roebuck & Company	590	Anchorage	Retail-General Merchandise
28	J C Penney	579	Anchorage	Retail-General Merchandise
29	HC Price	573	Anchorage	Construction
30	ERA Aviation	572	Anchorage	Air Carrier
31	Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corp.	572	Bethel	Health Care
32	Alaska Commercial Company	569	Anchorage >	Retail-General Merchandise
33	Tanana Chiefs Conference	537	Fairbanks	Social Services
34	All Alaskan Seafoods (now Tyson En	t.) 528	. Kodiak	Seafood Processing
35	Kinn Enterprises (dba McDonalds)	513	Anchorage	Retail-Eating Establishment
36	Spenard Builders Supply	513	Anchorage	Trade-Lumber Products
37	Pizza Hut	510	Anchorage	Retail-Eating Establishment
38	Costco	510	Anchorage	Retail-General Merchandise

Alaska's 100 Largest Private Employers 1994

Rank	Firm Name E	Employment	Headquarter or Largest Work Site	Business Activity
39	Peak Oilfield Service Company	508	Prudhoe Bay	Oil Field Services
40	Anchorage Daily News	504	Anchorage	Newspaper
41	Peter Pan Seafoods	503	King Cove	Seafood Processing
42	Hotel Captain Cook (Hickel Investment		Anchorage	Hotel
43	Norquest Seafoods	479	Ketchikan	Seafood Processing
44	Ocean Beauty (formerly King Crab)	453	Kodiak	Seafood Processing
45	Nana/Marriott J.V.	452	Anchorage	Retailer-Caterer
46	Ogden Facility Management of Alaska	448	Anchorage	Facilities Management
47	Cook Inlet Processing	441	Nikiski	Seafood Processing
48	Southeast Alaska Regional Health Cor	p. 425	Juneau	Health Care
49	Maniilaq Association	414	Kotzebue	Social Services
50	Chugach Electric Association	398	Anchorage	Electric Utility
51	GCI Communications	391	Anchorage	Communications
52	Denali Foods/Taco Bell	387	Anchorage	Retail-Eating Establishment
53	Alyeska Prince Hotel	380	Girdwood	Hotel
54	Payless Drug Stores	380	Anchorage	Retail-General Merchandise
55	United Parcel Service	367	Anchorage	Courier Services
56	ARA Leisure Services	358	Fairbanks	Retail-Caterer
57	Wards Cove Packing	354	Naknek	Seafood Processing
58	Anchorage Westward Hilton	354	Anchorage	Hotel
59	Salvation Army	354	Anchorage	Social Services
60	Nordstrom	352	Anchorage	Retail-General Merchandise
61	Key Bank of Alaska	350	Anchorage	Banking
62	Tesoro Northstore Company (7-11)	346	Anchorage	Retail-Grocery
63	Cominco Alaska	343	Red Dog	Mine
64	International Seafoods of Alaska	342	Kodiak	Seafood Processing
65	Sea Land Freight Services	340	Anchorage	Shipping & Warehousing
66	Caterair	338	Anchorage	Retail-Caterer
67	Norton Sound Health Corp.	336	Nome	Health Care
68	Piquniq Management Corp.	332	Kodiak	Facilities Support
69	Valley Hospital	327	Palmer	Hospital
70	Providence Extended Care	,	The same of the sa	The surface of the su
1539	(Our Lady of Compassion Care Center		Anchorage	Health Care
71	MarkAir Express	323	Anchorage	Air Carrier
72	Hope Cottages	322	Anchorage	Residential Care
73	Lamonts	320	Anchorage	Retail-Apparel
74	Reeve Aleutian Airways	317	Anchorage	Air Carrier
75	Burger King	306	Anchorage	Retail-Eating establishment

Alaska's 100 Largest Private Employers 1994

			Headquarter or Largest		
Rank	Firm Name	Employment	Work Site	Business Activity	
76	North Pacific Processors	302	Anchorage	Seafood Processing	
77	Matanuska Telephone Association	301	Palmer	Communications	
78	Central Peninsula General Hospital	301	Soldotna	Hospital	
79	Bristol Bay Area Health Corp.	296	Dillingham	Health Care	
80	Inlet Fisheries	286	Kenai	Seafood Processing	
81	Ketchikan General Hospital	284	Ketchikan	Hospital	
82	Laidlaw Transit	283	Anchorage	Bus Charter Services	
83	Mapco Express	281	Anchorage	Retail-Gas Station	
84	Houston Contracting	280	Anchorage	Oil Field Services	
85	Alaska Sales & Service	278	Anchorage	Motor Vehicle Dealer	
86	Tyson Seafood Group				
	(formerly Arctic Fisheries)	272	Akutan	Seafood Processing	
87	Anchorage Cold Storage	266	Anchorage	Wholesale-Grocery	
88	AK Spec Ed & Training (ASETS*)	262	Anchorage	Sheltered Workshop/Voc.	Rehab
89	Peninsula Home Health Care	262	Soldotna	Residential Care	
90	Silver Bay Logging	262	Cube Cove	Logging	
91	E & S Diversified Services	259	Anchorage	Janitorial	
92	Alaska Pulp Corp.	258	Ketchikan	Pulp Mill/Lumber	
93	Peninsula Airways	258	Anchorage	Air Carrier	
94	Mayflower Contract Svcs. (now Laidla	w) 254	Anchorage	Bus Charter Services	
95	Alaska Hotel Properties (Princess)	252	Denali Park	Hotel	
96	Westward Seafood	238	Kodiak	Seafood Processing	
97	Doyon Drilling	236	Anchorage	Oil Field Services	
98	Sheraton Anchorage Hotel	234	Anchorage	Hotel	
99	Northwest Airlines	233	Anchorage	Air Carrier	
100	Nabors Alaska Drilling	231	Anchorage	Oil & Gas Well Drilling	

TOTAL TRENDS 100 EMPLOYMENT 56,669

Note: Based on 1994 average employment. Firms with identical employment ranked by unrounded employment. Source: Alaska Department of Labor, Research & Analysis Section.

Trends 100 by Industry

199	4 Employment	1	994 Employment
CONSTRUCTION		SERVICES (cont.)	,
HC Price	573	Bristol Bay Area Health Corp.	296
Houston Contracting	280	Ketchikan General Hospital	284
-		Peninsula Home Health Care	262
FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE		Other Services	
National Bank of Alaska	1,219	Tanana Chiefs Conference	537
First National Bank of Anchorage	938	Ogden Facility Management of Alaska	448
Alaska USA Federal Credit Union	677	Maniilag Association	414
Key Bank of Alaska	350	Salvation Army	354
		Piquniq Management Corp.	332
MANUFACTURING		Hope Cottages	322
Seafood processing		AK Spec Ed & Training (ASETS*)	262
Trident Seafoods Corp.	1,144	E & S Diversified Services	259
Icicle Seafoods	663		
UniSea	637	TRADE	
All Alaskan Seafoods (now Tyson Ent.)	528	Eating & Drinking	
Peter Pan Seafoods	503	Kinn Enterprises (dba McDonalds)	513
Norquest Seafoods	479	Pizza Hut	510
Ocean Beauty (formerly King Crab)	453	Nana/Marriott J.V.	452
Cook Inlet Processing	441	Denali Foods/Taco Bell	387
Wards Cove Packing	354	ARA Leisure Services	358
International Seafoods of Alaska	342	Caterair	338
North Pacific Processors	302	Burger King	306
Inlet Fisheries	286	Other retail	000
Tyson Seafood Group		Carr Gottstein Foods	3,320
(formerly Arctic Fisheries)	272	Fred Meyer	1,652
Westward Seafood	238	Wal-Mart/Sam's Club	1,164
Wood products		Kmart Corp.	959
Ketchikan Pulp Mill	884	Safeway Stores	920
Silver Bay Logging	262	Sears Roebuck & Company	590
Alaska Pulp Corp.	258	J C Penney	579
Other manufacturing		Alaska Commercial Company	569
Union Oil of California	601	Spenard Builders Supply	513
Anchorage Daily News	504	Costco	510
		Payless Drug Stores	380
MINING		Nordstrom	352
Hard Rock Mining		Tesoro Northstore Company (7-11)	346
Cominco Alaska	343	Lamonts	320
Oil & Gas		Mapco Express	281
ARCO Alaska	2,354	Alaska Sales & Service	278
VECO	1,566	Wholesale	
BP Exploration (Alaska)	1,100	Anchorage Cold Storage	266
Alaska Petroleum Contractors	678	3	
Peak Oilfield Service Company	508	TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATIONS	S. UTILITIES
Doyon Drilling	236	Air transportation	,
Nabors Alaska Drilling	231	Alaska Airlines	1,093
		MarkAir	910
SERVICES		Federal Express	659
Hotels		ERA Aviation	572
Westmark Hotels	659	MarkAir Express	323
Hotel Captain Cook (Hickel Investments)	485	Reeve Aleutian Airways	317
Alyeska Prince Hotel	380	Peninsula Airways	258
Anchorage Westward Hilton	354	Northwest Airlines	233
Alaska Hotel Properties (Princess)	252	Communications & Utilities	
Sheraton Anchorage Hotel	234	Alascom	671
Health Care		Chugach Electric Association	398
Providence Hospital	1,918	GCI Communications	391
Fairbanks Memorial Hospital	938	Matanuska Telephone Association	301
Alaska Regional Hospital	667	Other Transportation	
Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corp.	572	Alyeska Pipeline Service	1,288
Southeast Alaska Regional Health Corp.	425	United Parcel Service	367
Norton Sound Health Corp.	336	Sea-Land Freight Services	340
Valley Hospital	327	Laidlaw Transit	283
Providence Extended Care	326	Mayflower Contract Services	254
Central Peninsula General Hospital	301		

Trends 100 Newcomers

*Wal-Mart/Sam's Club
Caterair
Inlet Fisheries
Houston Contracting
Tyson Seafood Group (formerly Arctic Fisheries)
Peninsula Home Health Care
Doyon Drilling
Alyeska Prince Hotel
Nabors Alaska Drilling

*Sam's Club showed as PACE in 1993 employment numbers. Now Wal-Mart and Sam's Club count as one employer.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor, Research & Analysis Section.

It still pays to work for them

Not only do Alaska's largest employers employ a disproportionate slice of Alaska's labor force, but they also pay an even larger share of the total payroll. In 1994 the Trends 100 employed 30.6% of the state's private sector work force and paid out 36.7% of its payroll. This means their average paychecks are bigger. The average monthly wage paid by these employers was \$3,012 compared to \$2,512 for all private sector employers. This difference between the average monthly wage for Alaska's largest employers and the rest of the employers has narrowed over time. In 1990 the Trends 100 average monthly wage was \$2,921 versus \$2,358 for all private sector employers. The growing prominence of the retail players among the top employers explains some of this trend. This is because their wages tend to be lower and part-time employment is more prevalent.

Anchorage dominates the list but Trends 100 firms are everywhere

It is true that more than half (65) of these employers are either headquartered or have their largest work site in Anchorage. However, only 14 of these Anchorage-based employers have all their employees in Anchorage. The largest group of firms not based in the state's largest city is the fish processors—none of which are based in Anchorage. National Bank of Alaska remains the most geographically dispersed employer with 27 different sites.

Most oil industry employees employed by *Trends* 100

Among Alaska industries, oil and gas had the highest share of workers employed by one of the Top 100 employers, 72.9%. (See Figure 1.) Many of the oil industry employers did shrink during the past year as they cut staff. At the same time, however, new partnering agreements began to evolve over the past three years which have added more oil industry employers to this list. (See Table 3.)

Although the *Trends* 100 oil industry employers account for only 11.8% of all *Trends* 100 employment, their payroll accounts for 27.0%. The average monthly wage for the oil industry employers was \$6,917 compared to \$3,012 for all of the *Trends* 100 employers.

Retail is the biggest employer

In 1994 the state's largest retailers employed 27.5% of all *Trends* 100 employment. In 1990 it was 18.0%. It not surprising that retail trade's share of the *Trends* 100 employment continues to grow. Last year retail trade employment in the state grew by the single largest increase since 1983.

Unlike the oil industry, however, retail's employment is not dominated by the big employers. Only 35.2% of all retail employment is represented by the big players. (See Figure 1.) In 1994 there were more than 3,470 retail establishments in the state. The

industry is actually dominated by smaller and medium-size employers.

Construction and mining are on a short list

Construction and mining are represented by only three firms. The reason for their small showing is two-fold. Both of these industries are dominated by smaller firms and both industries are very seasonal. A number of construction companies and a few mining companies may have in excess of 200 employees during their peak months of activity, but on an annualized basis (dividing the sum of their monthly employment by 12 months), their employment numbers fall below 200. The number of construction and mining *Trends* 100 employers might climb as larger construction and mining projects get underway.

Both construction contractors on the list have been heavily involved with oil pipeline repairs. Houston is a newcomer this year and HC Price was new last year. Cominco or Red Dog remains the only mining company on the list. Its employment did climb slightly in 1994.

Health care, hotels, and nonprofits dominate services

Health care, especially hospital employment, is an around-the-clock business and that is the reason so many health care providers show up on the list. In fact, the hospitals on the list account for about 95 percent of all hospital employment. It is not unusual for hospitals around the state to be the largest employer in the community. For example, Fairbanks Memorial Hospital and Central Peninsula Hospital (Soldotna) are the largest employers in their respective communities. Providence Hospital is the second largest employer in Anchorage.

Hotels got a big boost last year with the expansion of the Alyeska Resort. With its appearance on the *Trends* 100 list, the total number of hotels grew to six in 1994. Employment for these employers grew by 12.5% versus 5.4% for all of the *Trends* 100. This should come as no big surprise given the

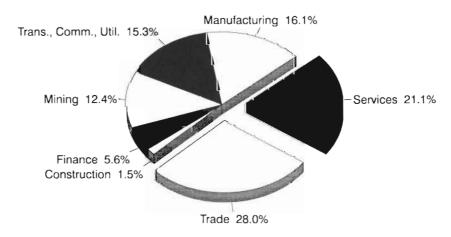
Trends 100 Movers
(Firms moving up 10 or more ranks from 1993)

Alaska USA Federal Credit Union
Kmart Corp.
Alaska Petroleum Contractors
Ocean Beauty (formerly King Crab)
Hotel Captain Cook (Hickel Investments)
HC Price
International Seafoods of Alaska
Maniilaq Association
GCI Communications
Denali Foods/Taco Bell

Source: Alaska Department of Labor, Research & Analysis Section.

Figure • 2

Trade and Services Have Nearly 1/2 of Trends 100 Jobs—1994



Comparing the Top 10 Employers Over the Decade

1985	Ranking	1994	Ranking
ARCO Alaska	1	Carr Gottstein Foods	1
Carr's Quality Centers	2	ARCO Alaska	2
Providence Hospital	3	Providence Hospital	3
BP Exploration (Alaska)	4	Fred Meyer	4
Fairbanks Memorial Hospital	5	VECO	5
Alascom	6	Alyeska Pipeline Service Compan	y 6
National Bank of Alaska	7	National Bank of Alaska	7
Alyeska Pipeline Service Company	8	Wal-Mart/Sam's Club	8
Safeway Stores	9	Trident Seafoods Corp.	9
First National Bank of Anchorage	10	BP Exploration (Alaska)	10

Source: Alaska Department of Labor, Research & Analysis Section.

strong growth taking place in the visitor industry. Other hotels may join this list in the near future.

A number of the state's nonprofits are counted among the state's largest employers. The largest is the Tanana Chiefs Conference which is the second largest employer in Interior Alaska. Maniilaq Association, based in Kotzebue, was one of the *Trends* 100 movers. (See Table 4.) Maniilaq Association is the state's 49th biggest employer and the Northwest Arctic Borough's number one employer.

A lot of fish processors grace the list

Right behind retail, fish processors represent the second largest industry group. The same number of processors made 1994's list as 1993's but the players are a bit different.

(See Tables 1 and 2.) This is typically a dynamic group that is sometimes difficult to keep up with. At times the changes are as simple as a name change, but more often they include acquisitions, takeovers, and consolidations.

National Bank of Alaska continues to top the financial sector

National Bank of Alaska remained the only financial institution with more than 1,000 employees. There were no newcomers to this list but Alaska USA Federal Credit Union was one of the *Trends* 100 movers. (See Table 4.) In 1994, Alaska USA moved its member service center and over 100 jobs from Oak Harbor, Washington, to Anchorage, boosting its employment by over 100.

New Hires Decline During Fall of 1994

by Todd Mosher

he Alaska New Hires Quarterly Report identifies opportunities provided by the combined effect of job turnover and job creation. A new hire is defined as an employee who was not working for the employer during any of the previous four quarters.

New hires decline as peak summer industries wind down

There were 47,948 Alaska new hires during the final quarter of 1994, down 36.6% from 3rd Quarter 1994 and 2.4% from 4th Quarter 1993. (See Table 1.) The decline in new hires coincides with seasonal declines in peak summer industries and the start of the 1994-95 school year. Seafood processing new hires dropped from 8,813 in 3rd Quarter 1994 to only 1,406 in 4th Quarter 1994. Fall construction new hires dropped to barely more than half the summer level. New hires in tourism-related transportation and hotels and lodging declined by 56.4% and 62.2%, respectively. During the fall of 1994, 16.8% of Alaskan wage and salary employees were newly hired by one or more employers. This contrasts to 23.1% in the spring and summer of 1994 and 17.4% in 4th Quarter 1993.

The drop in new hires did not mean higher levels of unemployment in the fall months of 1994. Although there was a decline in lowerskill, entry-level openings, there was also an exodus of many younger, less experienced workers—particularly younger nonresidents and students. For those entry-level job seekers remaining in Alaska after the end of summer, prospects were probably better than a quick glance at the new hires data would indicate.

New-hire seasonal declines occurred in all regions and major industries

Although the Gulf Coast experienced the greatest percentage decrease in new hires from spring to fall quarter (53.9%) due to the end of the peak seafood processing season,

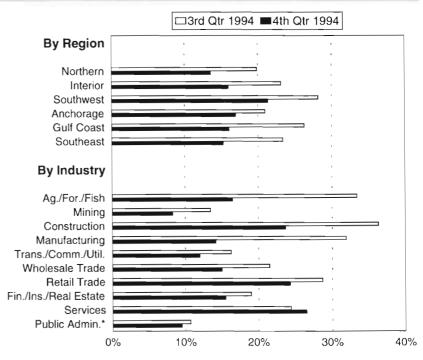
significant declines occurred in every major region of the state. Southeast, Interior, Southwest, and Northern new hires dropped by about 40-44 percent; Anchorage new hires fell by nearly 23 percent.

New hires were lower in fall than in summer for every major Alaskan industry. The drop was sharpest in manufacturing, which includes seafood processing (74.4%), agriculture/forestry/aquaculture (67.0%), construction (47.2%), and mining (40.3%). Declines were more modest in public administration (10.7%), finance/insurance/real estate (22.8%), and retail trade (24.7%). In 4th Quarter 1994, 55.7% of new hires were em-

Todd Mosher is a statistical technician with the Research & Analysis Section, Administrative Services Division, Alaska Department of Labor. He is located in Juneau.

Figure • 1

Percent New Hires



*Includes all employees of publicly-owned institutions.

An employee's region is determined by his or her actual place of employment. If the place of employment is not reported, the employee's region is determined by the location of the employer.

Alaska New Hires¹ 4th Quarter 1994

	4th Qtr 94	Change from 3rd Qtr 94	Change from 4th Qtr 93
Total New Hires:	47,948	-27,680	-1,165
By Region ²			
Northern	2,672	-1,771	61
Interior	5,937	-4,301	178
Southwest	4,304	-2,916	544
Anchorage	23,394	-6,959	-427
Gulf Coast	4,956	-5,789	-426
Southeast	6,008	-4,745	-112
Marine	161	-682	-330
Outside	347	-238	-202
Unknown	169	-279	-451
By Industry			
Ag./Forestry/Fishing	283	-575	-50
Mining	996	-673	186
Construction	4,817	-4,309	-432
Manufacturing	2,713	-7,899	-127
Seafood Processing	1,406	-7,407	-111
All Other	1,307	-492	-16
Trans./Comm./Util.	3,313	-1,757	358
Tourism Related	448	-580	-1
All Other	2,865	-1,177	359
Wholesale Trade	1,361	-829	60
Retail Trade	14,008	-4,590	-540
Fin./Ins./Real Estate	2,031	-603	297
Services	12,719	-5,763	-118
Hotels & Lodging	1,059	-1,743	-31
All Other	11,660	-4,020	-87
Public Admin.3	5,707	-682	-799

¹ A "new hire" is defined as an employee that was hired by the firm in the report quarter and has not been employed by the firm during any of the previous four quarters.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor, Research & Analysis Section.

ployed in the retail trade or service industries, up from 49.0% in 3rd Quarter 1994.

In the final quarter of 1994, newly hired workers accounted for 26.5% of the service industry's payroll employees, the highest percent of any industry. (See Figure 1.) About 24 percent of the retail and manufacturing industries' 4th Quarter payrolls were new hires. The service industry was the only one that had a higher percentage of new hires in the final quarter of 1994 than in the preceding quarter.

Top occupations for 4th Quarter new hires

The occupations with the most new hires were sales clerks (1,755) and general office workers (1,739). (See Table 2.) Four occupations appearing in Table 2 were not on the summer top 20 list: teacher aides (774), adult education teachers (597), bookkeepers, accounting and auditing clerks (502), and child care workers (486). However, all of the occupations on the fall top 20 list, with the exception of fast food preparation and service workers, had fewer new hires than in the previous quarter. New hires of adult education teachers, child care workers, and bookkeepers peaked in late summer but continued strong into the final quarter. Retail and service-related occupations received a boost from seasonal holiday hiring, but were generally net losers of new hires compared to the peak tourism months.

Occupations showing 4th Quarter gains in new hires

Of the 194 occupations with 50 or more new hires in the third or fourth quarters of 1994, 22 (or 11.3%) had more new hires in the fourth quarter than in the third. (See Table 3.) Together, these 22 occupations accounted for about 10 percent of all 4th Quarter new hires. Most of the occupations showing 4th

² An employee's region is determined by his or her actual place of employment. If the place of employment is not reported, the employee's region is determined by the location of the employer.

³ Includes all employees of publicly-owned institutions.

Quarter gains can be tied to the start of the school year or holiday season demand for goods and services.

Methodology

The new hires series is produced by matching Occupational Data Base files, Alaska Department of Labor wage files, and Permanent Fund Dividend files keyed on employer numbers and employee social security numbers. This match is made for the report quarter and the four previous quarters. Each employer's full listing of employees is considered for the report guarter. If an employee worked for the employer in any of the previous four quarters, he or she is considered continuously employed or a seasonal rehire and is excluded from the new hires subset; otherwise, the employee is defined as a new hire for that employer.

A worker can be counted as a new hire for more than one employer during the report quarter, but not more than once for the same employer. This method purposely treats the turnover of an existing job as a new hire. The new hires series is designed to measure job opportunities provided by the combined effect of turnover and job growth.

An employee's region is set by his or her actual place of employment, unless that information is not provided by the employer. Historically, about 10 percent of employees' place of employment is left unreported by employers. In that case, the employee's region is determined by the location of the employer.

Top 20 Occupations for New Hires 4th Quarter 1994

Rank	Occupation	New Hires 4th Qtr 94	Change from 3rd Qtr 94
1	Sales Clerks	1,755	-751
2	General Office Workers	1,739	-288
3	Carpenters	1,539	-596
4	Construction Laborers	1,490	-1,216
5	Misc. Manual Occupations	1,401	-1,374
6	Waiters & Waitresses	1,327	-730
7	Janitors & Cleaners	1,287	-320
8	Cashiers	1,029	-465
9	Cannery Workers, Seafood Processing	876	-5,835
10	Misc. Food & Beverage Preparers	818	-507
11	Teacher Aides	774	300
12	Food Counter & Related Cafeteria Occs.	. 679	-103
13	Fast Food Prep. & Service Workers	676	2
14	Kitchen Workers, Food Prep.	614	-390
15	Adult Education Teachers	597	244
16	Receptionists	524	-198
17	Bookkeepers, Accounting & Auditing Cl	erks 502	-55
18	Child Care Workers, Except Private Ho	usehold 486	-90
19	Electricians	482	-346
20	Secretaries	471	-151

Note: Occupations were not reported by the employer for 7,073 out of 47,948 new hires. Source: Alaska Department of Labor, Research & Analysis Section.

T a b | e • 3

Occupations with More New Hires in 4th Quarter 1994 than in 3rd Quarter 1994

Occupation	3rd Qtr 94	4th Qtr 94	Change
Teacher Aides	474	774	300
Adult Education Teachers	353	597	244
Misc. Public Administrators	12	157	145
Communications Equipment Repaire	ers 26	92	66
Driver-Sales Workers	135	180	45
Correctional Institution Officers	49	93	44
Athletes & Related Workers	67	107	40
Apparel Salespersons	274	303	29
Carpet & Soft Tile Installers	46	75	29
Furniture Salespersons	48	74	26
Nursing Aides, Orderlies, & Attenda	nts 225	246	21
Communications Equipment Operat	ors 30	50	20
Elementary School Teachers	228	242	14
Secondary School Teachers	162	172	10
Retail Sales Supervisors	107	117	10
Admin. Support & Clerical Workers	206	213	7
Machine Feeders & Offbearers	44	50	6
Order Clerks	45	50	5
Misc. Services Salespersons	117	121	4
Fast Food Prep. & Service Workers	674	676	2
Health Aides, Except Nursing	94	96	2
Demonstrators, Promoters, & Model	ls 82	83	1

Note: Includes occupations with 50 or more new hires. Source: Alaska Department of Labor, Research & Analysis Section.

Employment Growth Slows in June

by Kristen Tromble

he state's economy added 9,600 jobs in June as seasonal industries boosted summer employment. Seafood processing added the most new jobs. The construction industry and tourism-related businesses such as hotels and lodges, retailers, and passenger transportation firms provided most of the remaining increase.

Compared to June 1994, Alaska's total employment was up only 1,800 jobs or 0.7%. Performance by industry was mixed with job gains in services, trade, construction, and finance, insurance and real estate. Job losses occurred in mining, manufacturing, government, and transportation. Factors driving the decreases included layoffs at ARCO and MarkAir and timber job losses in Southeast. Some good news came in government employment when the Forest Service announced it would keep its regional office in Juneau. Over 100 jobs were at stake in the proposed move to Portland.

Alaska's statewide unemployment rate fell three-tenths of a percentage point in June to 6.5%. Over 2,700 fewer workers were unemployed compared to June 1994. Every region except the Northern region experienced a drop in unemployment. Declines were particularly noticeable in areas dependent on fishing and tourism. The Denali, Aleutians East, and Kodiak boroughs and the Prince of Wales-Outer Ketchikan census area recorded the largest drops. The lowest unemployment rates were posted in the Aleutians East Borough (1.4%), Aleutians West census area (1.9%), the Denali Borough (3.8%), and the North Slope Borough (3.9%). The Northwest Arctic Borough had the highest rate at 18.1%.

Tourism rides the waves

Tourism hit a few bumps on the road to a record season. A Princess cruise ship's encounter with a rock on June 23 caused enough damage to necessitate the cancellation of several cruises affecting 9,000 passengers. The accident, which occurred near Juneau, sent reverberations throughout the state. Tour operators, hotels, and retail shops and restaurants from Southeast to the Interior scrambled to replace the lost business. Unprecedented mid-season discounts were offered in Fairbanks and Denali.

Another possible snag for tourism appeared when failed negotiations between the state and a ferry workers' union led to a strike ballot. A ferry strike would severely impact Southeast communities and businesses. An August strike could strand tourists and slash attendance at the Southeast Alaska State Fair.

Increased tourism traffic helped lift air transportation to a stronger than expected performance. Employment was down only 300 jobs from June 1994 despite the loss of over 900 jobs at MarkAir. (See Figure 1.) Other airlines have expanded, taking up much of the slack.

More cuts in timber industry

Southeast's timber industry continued to struggle. Citing a decline in timber supply, Ketchikan Pulp Company (KPC) closed its Ketchikan sawmill at the end of June and announced production cuts at its Metlakatla sawmill beginning in August. A total of 150 jobs will be affected. Currently, KPC is testing the manufacture of cedar lumber. Production of cedar lumber could raise employment significantly. However, economic and regulatory considerations must be addressed before this activity could begin.

Kristen Tromble is a labor economist with the Research & Analysis Section, Administrative Services Division, Alaska Department of Labor. She is located in Juneau.

Better days ahead for mining

Recent declines in hard rock mining with cutbacks at Cambior and Echo Bay should soon reverse. Employment at Greens Creek mine will increase this fall, and Coeur Alaska is proceeding apace with plans for the Kensington mine north of Juneau. Coeur recently bought out Echo Bay's interest and assumed control of the mine's operations. If gold prices warrant, construction on the mine could begin next spring. During the two-year construction phase, Juneau and Haines will benefit from up to 600 new direct and indirect jobs.

Where's the halibut?

Statewide, seafood processing employment was down 800 jobs from June 1994. Commercial salmon fisheries were just gearing up in June and increased activity is expected in July. In June, Lower Cook Inlet returns were fairly good while the Kodiak and Copper River fisheries did better than expected. Near the end of the month, Bristol Bay fishers began hauling in a record sockeve harvest. The introduction of individual fishing quotas for halibut changed the character of this fishery. The halibut catch is down as much as 50 percent from this time last year as fishers delayed filling their quotas. Halibut prices have not risen as much as expected and fishers may be waiting in hope of a better return.

Construction still building

Construction, which got off to an early seasonal start, reached its highest June employment since 1986. (See Figure 2.) Major projects in Fairbanks included the Ft. Knox gold mine and housing at Eielson Air Force Base. In Anchorage, work continued on hospitals and new schools. Also, residential housing construction was stronger than expected. Despite recent layoffs at ARCO and MarkAir, the Anchorage housing market has

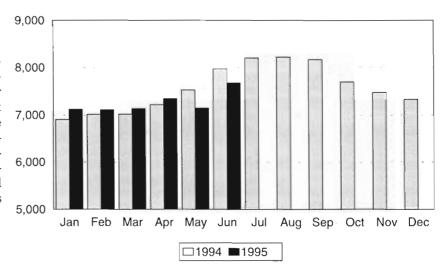
held steady. Housing construction also boosted Juneau's numbers. Other activity around the state included the Healy clean coal project and work on the Seward highway.

Summary

As expected, June employment numbers reflected gains in industries tied to the summer season. Tourism-related boosts in services, trade, and transportation were particularly strong. Construction and seafood processing employment also rose from May levels. State and local government employment fell as schools shut down for the summer. Given the jobs lost over the year in transportation, mining, and timber, Alaska's economy is performing well. Seasonal employment should help tide the economy over into fall

Figure • 1

Layoffs Take A Bite Out of Air Transportation



Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work

	p/	r/		Change	s from	Municipality	p/	r/		Change	s from
Alaska	6/95	5/95	6/94	5/95	6/94	of Anchorage	6/95	5/95	6/94	5/95	6/94
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	273,200	263,600	271,400	9,600	1,800	Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	124,700	121,800	123,200	2,900	1,500
Goods-producing	43,200	38,300	44,200	4,900	-1,000	Goods-producing	12,700	11,700	12,500	1,000	200
Mining	9,800	9,400	10,700	400	-900	Mining	2,900	3,000	3,200	-100	-300
Construction	14,400	12,900	13,600	1,500	800	Construction	7,500	6,600	7,100	900	400
Manufacturing	19,000	16,000	19,900	3,000	-900	Manufacturing	2,300	2,100	2,200	200	100
Durable Goods	3,500	3,400	3,600	100	-100	Service-producing	112,000	110,100	110,700	1,900	1,300
Lumber & Wood Products	2,400	2,400	2,600	0	-200	Transportation	13,100	12,300	13,300	800	-200
Nondurable Goods	15,500	12,600	16,300	2,900	-800	Air Transportation	4,500	4,300	4,800	200	-300
Seafood Processing	12,100	9,200	12,900	2,900	-800	Communications	2,500	2,400	2,400	100	100
Pulp Mills	500	500	500	0	0	Trade	29,800	29,000	29,100	800	700
Service-producing	230,000	225,300	227,200	4,700	2,800	Wholesale Trade	6,200	6,100	6,100	100	100
Transportation	24,900	23,500	25,200	1,400	-300	Retail Trade	23,600	22,900	23,000	700	600
Trucking & Warehousing	3,400	3,100	3,300	300	100	Gen. Merch. & Apparel	4,800	4,500	4,400	300	400
Water Transportation	2,300	2,200	2,300	100	0	Food Stores	3,300	3,300	3,300	0	0
Air Transportation	7,700	7,100	8,000	600	-300	Eating & Drinking Places	8,100	7,900	8,000	200	100
Communications	4,000	3,900	3,900	100	100	Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	7,600	7,500	7,500	100	100
Trade	57,200	54,300	55,700	2,900	1,500	Services & Misc.	33,200	32,400	32,200	800	1,000
Wholesale Trade	8,600	8,400	8,500	200	100	Hotels & Lodging Places	2,900	2,800	2,700	100	200
Retail Trade	48,600	45,900	47,200	2,700	1,400	Health Services	6,700	6,700	6,500	0	200
Gen. Merch. & Apparel	9,600	9,100	9,000	500	600	Government	28,300	28,900	28,600	-600	-300
Food Stores	7,600	7,300	7,400	300	200	Federal	11,000	10,900	11,300	100	-300
Eating & Drinking Places	16,600	15,600	16,300	1,000	300	State	7,600	8,200	7,600	-600	0
Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	12,500	12,000	12,300	500	200	Local	9,700	9,800	9,700	-100	0
Services & Misc.	62,900	60,300	61,100	2,600	1,800						
Hotels & Lodging Places	8,200	6,700	7,900	1,500	300						
Health Services	13,300	13,300	12,700	0	600						
Government	72,500	75,200	72,900	-2,700	-400						
Federal	18,800	18,400	19,400	400	-600						
State	20,600	21,900	20,500	-1,300	100						
Local	33,100	34,900	33,000	-1,800	100						

T a b l e • 2

Alaska Hours and Earnings for Selected Industries

	Average Weekly Earnings		Earnings	Avera	Average Weekly Hours		Average Hourly Earning		
	p/	r/		p/	r/		p/	r/	
	6/95	5/95	6/94	6/95	5/95	6/94	6/95	5/95	6/94
Mining	1252.97	1221.10	1233.53	51.1	49.8	50.7	24.52	24.52	24.33
Construction	1240.13	1177.60	1130.46	47.9	46.0	45.4	25.89	25.60	24.90
Manufacturing	486.00	516.89	479.55	40.0	43.4	40.4	12.15	11.91	11.87
Seafood Processing	351.51	378.35	372.78	38.5	44.2	39.7	9.13	8.56	9.39
Trans., Comm. & Utilities	641.34	640.10	686.71	35.2	34.6	37.2	18.22	18.50	18.46
Trade	408.25	404.68	390.11	35.5	34.5	34.8	11.50	11.73	11.21
Wholesale	640.25	623.14	632.75	39.4	38.3	40.2	16.25	16.27	15.74
Retail	368.18	365.38	347.14	34.8	33.8	33.9	10.58	10.81	10.24
Finance-Ins. & R.E.	467.43	457.37	441.21	35.6	35.4	35.9	13.13	12.92	12.29

Notes to Tables 1-3:

Tables 1&2- Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 3- Prepared in part with funding from the Employment Security Division.

p/ denotes preliminary estimates.

r/ denotes revised estimates.

Government includes employees of public school systems and the University of Alaska.

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

Benchmark: March 1994

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work

	p/	r/	(Change	from
Southeast Region	6/95	5/95	6/94	5/95	6/94
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	37,850	36,450	37,650	1,400	200
Goods-producing	6,400	5,800	6,850	600	-450
Mining	150	150	150	0	0
Construction	1,850	1,800	1,700	50	150
Manufacturing	4,400	3,850	5,000	550	-600
Durable Goods	1,850	1,750	2,150	100	-300
Lumber & Woods Products	1,750	1,650	2,000	100	-250
Nondurable Goods	2,550	2,100	2,850	450	-300
Seafood Processing	1,800	1,350	2,100	450	-300
Pulp Mills	500	550	550	-50	-50
Service-producing	31,450	30,650	30,800	800	650
Transportation	3,450	3,200	3,400	250	50
Trade	7,700	7,050	7,300	650	400
Wholesale Trade	600	550	600	50	0
Retail Trade	7,100	6,500	6,700	600	400
Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	1,600	1,450	1,500	150	100
Services & Misc.	6,900	6,550	6,600	350	300
Government	11,800	12,400	12,000	-600	-200
Federal	2,050	1,950	2,150	100	-100
State	5,250	5,450	5,250	-200	0
Local	4,500	5,000	4,600	-500	-100

Anchorage/I	Mat-Su	Region
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Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	134,750	131,900	133,400	2,850	1,350	
Goods-producing	13,550	12,450	13,450	1,100	100	
Mining	3,050	3,100	3,450	-50	-400	
Construction	8,100	7,200	7,700	900	400	
Manufacturing	2,400	2,150	2,300	250	100	
Service-producing	121,200	119,450	119,950	1,750	1,250	
Transportation	13,950	13,300	14,200	650	-250	
Trade	32,500	31,600	31,900	900	600	
Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	8,000	7,850	7,900	150	100	
Services & Misc.	35,500	34,700	34,500	800	1,000	
Government	31,250	32,000	31,450	-750	-200	
Federal	11,050	10,950	11,400	100	-350	
State	8,450	9,050	8,400	-600	50	
Local	11,750	12,000	11,650	-250	100	

Gulf Coast Region

Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	29,800	26,950	29,900	2,850	-100	T
Goods-producing	8,450	6,800	8,750	1,650	-300	C
Mining	1,000	1,000	950	0	50	5
Construction	1,250	1,150	1,200	100	50	S
Manufacturing	6,200	4,650	6,600	1,550	-400	(
Seafood Processing	4,800	3,300	5,300	1,500	-500	
Service-producing	21,350	20,150	21,150	1,200	200	
Transportation	2,400	2,250	2,350	150	50	
Trade	5,650	4,950	5,550	700	100	
Wholesale Trade	700	650	700	50	0	I
Retail Trade	4,950	4,300	4,850	650	100	7
Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	650	650	700	0	-50	(
Services & Misc.	6,050	5,550	5,950	500	100]
Government	6,600	6,750	6,600	-150	0	S
Federal	700	650	750	50	-50	
State	1,700	1,700	1,700	0	0	
Local	4,200	4,400	4,150	-200	50	

	p /	p/ r/ Chan			iges from:	
Interior Region	6/95	5/95	6/94	5/95	6/94	
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	38,050	36,400	37,400	1,650	650	
Goods-producing	3,800	3,100	3,600	700	200	
Mining	900	750	950	150	-50	
Construction	2,200	1,700	1,950	500	250	
Manufacturing	700	650	700	50	0	
Service-producing	34,250	33,300	33,800	950	450	
Transportation	3,350	2,900	3,250	450	100	
Trade	8,550	8,050	8,300	500	250	
Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	1,200	1,100	1,200	100	0	
Services & Misc.	8,900	8,100	8,650	800	250	
Government	12,250	13,150	12,400	-900	-150	
Federal	3,850	3,650	3,950	200	-100	
State	4,350	4,850	4,350	-500	0	
Local	4,050	4,650	4,100	-600	-50	
Fairbanks North S	star Bo	rough				
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	32,550	31,350	31,800	1,200	750	
Goods-producing	3,350	2,700	3,200	650	150	
Mining	700	600	800	100	-100	
Construction	2,050	1,500	1,800	550	250	
Manufacturing	600	600	600	0	0	
Service-producing	29,200	28,650	28,600	550	600	
Transportation	2,600	2,250	2,450	350	150	
Trucking & Warehousing	650	550	550	100	100	
Air Transportation	600	600	600	0	0	
Communications	250	250	250	0	0	

7,800

7,000

1,300

2,900

1,100

7,950

9,750

3,100

4,000

2,650

800

800

7,400

6,600

1,250

2,750

1,050

7,400

10,550

3,050

4,400

3,100

700

800

7,600

6,800

1,250

2,900

1,100

7,700

9,750

3,200

3,900

2,650

750

800

200

200

50

50

0

0

250

-100

100

0

0

0

400

50

100

150

50

550

-800

-400

-450

50

Southwest Region

Trade

Wholesale Trade

Gen. Merch. & Apparel

Eating & Drinking Places

Finance-Ins. & Real Estate

Retail Trade

Food Stores

Government

Federal

State

Local

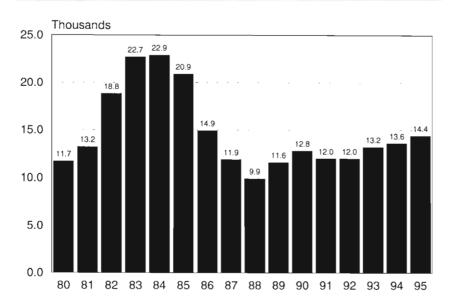
Services & Misc.

0	Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	17,350	16,750	17,450	600	-100
0	Goods-producing	5,600	4,850	5,700	750	-100
0	Seafood Processing	5,250	4,500	5,250	750	0
0	Service-producing	11,750	11,900	11,750	-150	0
0	Government	5,450	5,850	5,600	-400	-150
0	Federal	850	850	950	0	-100
0	State	550	500	500	50	50
0	Local	4,050	4,500	4,150	-450	-100
0						

Northern Region

	_				
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	15,400	14,800	15,750	600	-350
Goods-producing	5,350	5,100	5,900	250	-550
Mining	4,650	4,400	5,150	250	-500
Service-producing	10,050	9,700	9,850	350	200
Government	5,000	4,900	4,900	100	100
Federal	250	250	250	0	0
State	300	350	350	-50	-50
Local	4,450	4,300	4,300	150	150

Construction: Going Up



Source: Alaska Department of Labor, Research & Analysis Section.

Unemployment Rates by Region & Census Area

Pe	rcent p/	Unempl	loyed
Not Seasonally Adjusted	6/95	5/95	6/94
United States	5.8	5.5	6.2
Alaska Statewide	6.5	6.8	7.4
Anchorage/Mat-Su Region	5.5	5.8	6.6
Municipality of Anchorage	4.8	5.2	5.8
MatSu Borough	9.2	9.0	10.7
Gulf Coast Region	9.5	10.6	9.6
Kenai Peninsula Borough	9.5	10.3	10.4
Kodiak Island Borough	11.2	12.9	9.5
Valdez-Cordova	7.0	8.5	6.9
Interior Region	6.9	7.4	7.9
Denali Borough	3.8	6.3	3.8
Fairbanks North Star Bor.	6.4	6.8	7.6
Southeast Fairbanks	8.5	9.5	9.2
Yukon-Koyukuk	16.2	15.7	13.0
Northern Region	10.9	10.4	11.3
Nome	12.3	12.6	12.7
North Slope Borough	3.9	3.1	4.5
Northwest Arctic Borough	18.1	17.1	18.6
Southeast Region	5.9	6.1	7.0
Haines Borough	7.8	7.3	6.5
Juneau Borough	4.7	4.8	5.6
Ketchikan Gateway Bor.	5.2	5.8	7.3
Pr. of Wales-Outer Ketch.	8.7	10.4	10.1
Sitka Borough	5.5	5.4	9.3
Skagway-Hoonah-Angoon	6.3	7.7	6.2
Wrangell-Petersburg	9.4	8.5	6.9
Yakutat Borough	9.1	7.9	7.5
Southwest Region	6.8	7.0	7.3
Aleutians East Borough	1.4	3.9	1.4
Aleutians West	1.9	2.0	2.5
Bethel	9.9	10.4	10.4
Bristol Bay Borough	5.6	4.9	2.6
Dillingham	5.9	6.1	9.8
Lake & Peninsula Borough	8.9	7.7	8.5
Wade Hampton	14.7	13.5	14.2
Seasonally Adjusted			
United States	5.6	5.7	6.0
Alaska Statewide	6.7	6.4	7.8

p/ denotes preliminary estimates r/ denotes revised estimates Benchmark: March 1994

- Comparisons between different time periods are not as meaningful as other time series published by the Alaska Department of Labor.
- The official definition of unemployment currently in place excludes anyone who has made no attempt to find work in the four-week period up to and including the week that includes the 12th of each month. Most Alaska economists believe that Alaska's rural localities have proportionately more of these discouraged workers.

Alaska Employment Service

Anchorage: Phone 269-4800

Bethel: Phone 543-2210

Dillingham: Phone 842-5579

Eagle River: Phone 694-6904/07

Mat-Su: Phone 376-2407/08

Fairbanks: Phone 451-2871

Glennallen: Phone 822-3350

Kotzebue: Phone 442-3280

Nome: Phone 443-2626/2460

Tok: Phone 883-5629

Valdez: Phone 835-4910

Kenai: Phone 283-4304/4377/4319

Homer: Phone 235-7791

Kodiak: Phone 486-3105

Seward: Phone 224-5276

Juneau: Phone 465-4562

Petersburg: Phone 772-3791

Sitka: Phone 747-3347/3423/6921

Ketchikan: Phone 225-3181/82/83



The mission of the Alaska Employment Service is to promote employment and economic stability by responding to the needs of employers and job seekers.