

# Alaska lost 4.5% of its federal jobs

## Reductions were widespread across departments in 2025

By KARINNE WIEBOLD

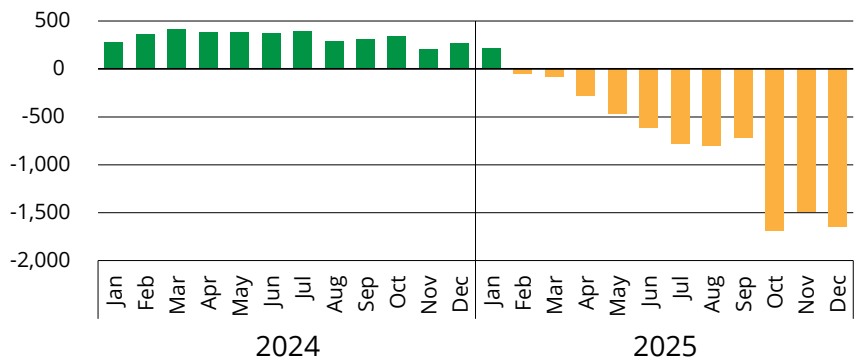
Soon after taking office for a second term in early 2025, President Donald Trump created the Department of Government Efficiency, or DOGE, to drastically reduce the federal workforce.

Previous administrations have cut federal employment, but what made last year's sweeping job cuts unusual was how, and how fast, they were implemented.

The effects of the announced cuts were difficult to track. Thousands of employees remained on the payroll for months after resigning, an unusual benefit meant to encourage more federal workers to leave. Over that time, some were rehired and some who were fired were reinstated through court order. Other complicating factors included the federal hiring freeze, early and regular retirements, and a long federal shutdown.

After a year, however, enough data are available to see what was cut, where, and when, and assess how those reductions affected Alaska.

### Federal job loss picked up in Alaska in late 2025



Note: Change is from the same month in the previous year

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

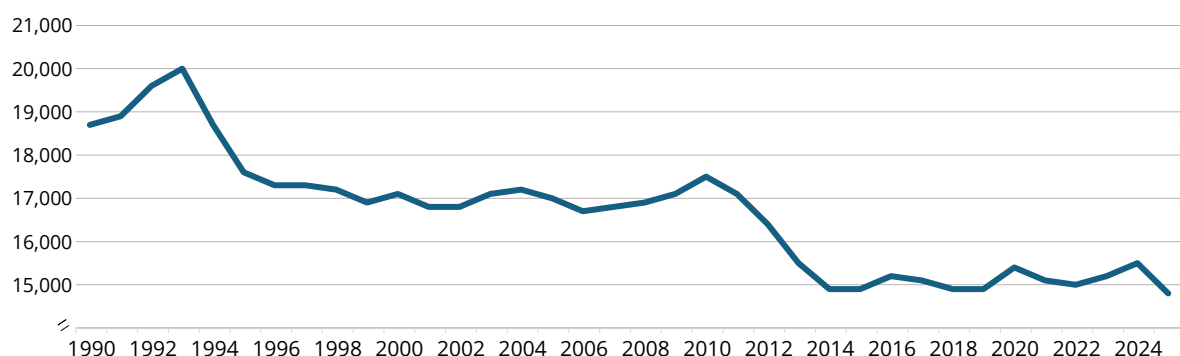
### How the cuts compare nationally

Nationally, the massive reduction effort netted a modest 2.9 percent drop in federal employment, which equated to 87,000 fewer jobs.

Alaska lost about 4.5 percent of its federal jobs — nearly 700 — putting us third among the most-affected states.

All states lost federal employment, but the impact varied. Maryland, with its proximity to the nation's

### Federal employment in Alaska hits its lowest level in decades



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

capital, took the biggest hit, losing 6.5 percent over the year. New Mexico followed at -5.8 percent.

New Mexico's heavy losses were in some of the same agencies as Alaska. New Mexico lost the most jobs in the Bureau of Land Management and in the Forest Service, agencies within the departments of the Interior and Agriculture, respectively.

On the low end, Maine and Texas each lost less than 1 percent.

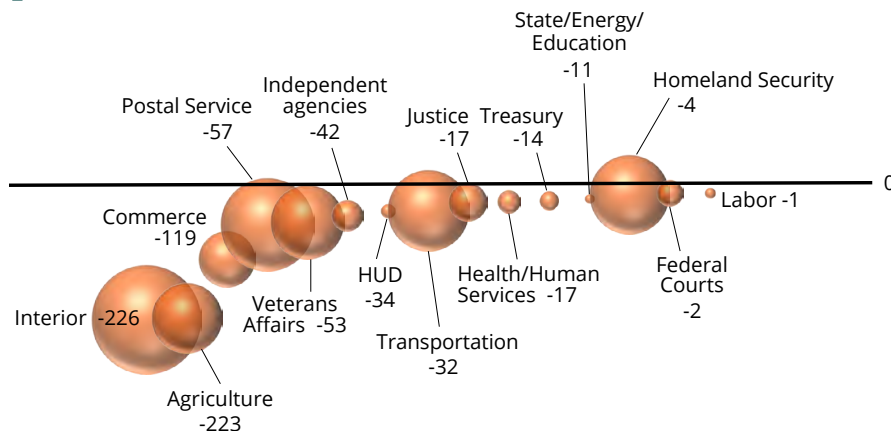
## The pattern and history in Alaska

These job cuts brought Alaska to its lowest federal employment level in more than 35 years.

In the early 1990s, federal employment peaked at more than 20,000. Over the last decade, Alaska has averaged 15,100 annually, and was at 15,500 in 2024. That fell to 14,800 jobs in 2025, a steep but not unprecedented drop from the year before.

Alaska saw similar federal losses in 2012 and 2013 in the wake of the national Great Recession, and

## Federal job loss in Alaska by agency, Q4 2025



*Bubble shows relative size of that agency in Alaska*



**Note:** Change is from the same month in the previous year

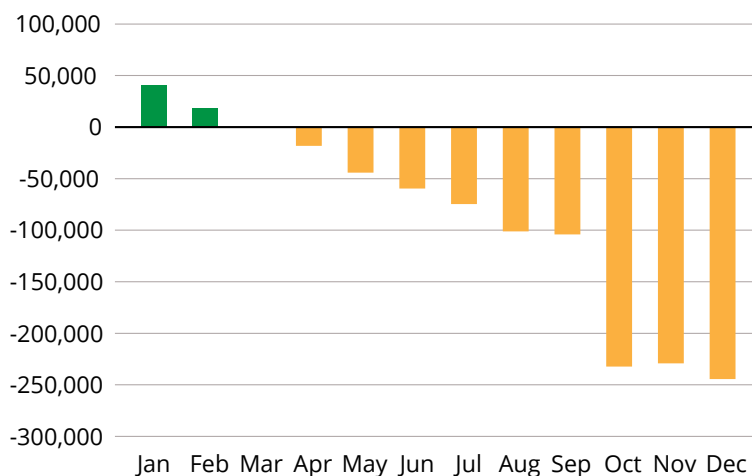
**Source:** Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

more dramatic drops twice in the early/mid-1990s at the end of the Cold War when the Department of Defense reduced force.

The Naval Air Facility in Adak closed in 1997, and Eareckson Air Station (formerly Shemya Air Force Base) was deactivated and converted to contractor operation in 1995. Around the same time, the Clinton administration launched the National Performance Review, which helped spur the Federal Workforce Restructuring Act of 1994.

What makes last year's losses stand out more than the total decline is how abruptly employment fell near the end of the year.

## National federal job loss pattern was similar



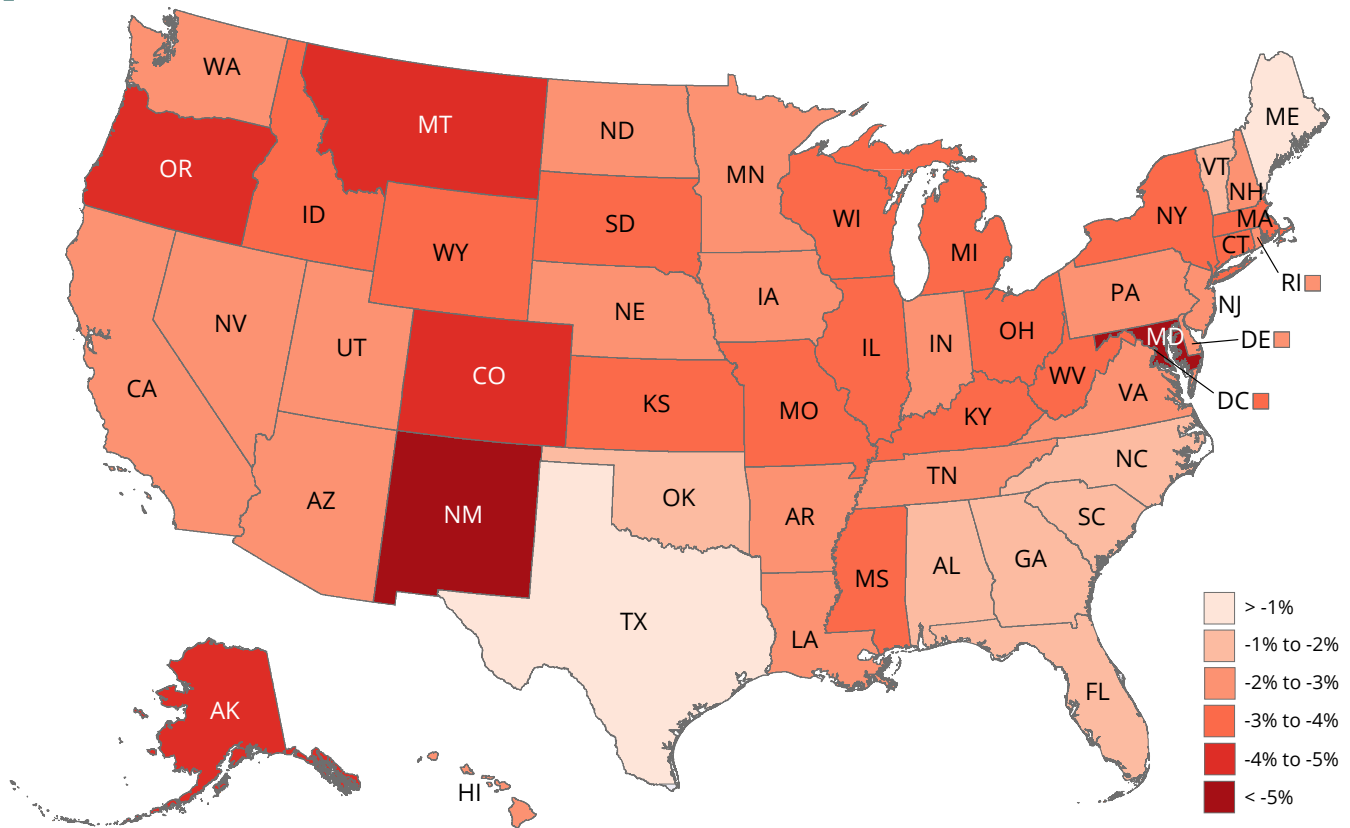
**Note:** Change is from the same month in the previous year

**Source:** Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

## Biggest losses came late

In the first quarter of 2025, federal employment was up slightly from the first quarter of the previous year. Second quarter jobs were down by 454, and third quarter by 762. Losses more than doubled in the fourth quarter, with federal employment down by 1,607 from the last quarter of 2024.

## Alaska was one of the hardest-hit states for federal job losses, 2024-2025



Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section, and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

**Federal jobs  
percent change**

## Active-duty military by area

| Area                            | Military count in 2025 |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| Aleutians West Census Area      | 12                     |
| Anchorage, Municipality         | 10,223                 |
| Chugach Census Area             | 141                    |
| Denali Borough                  | 80                     |
| Fairbanks North Star Borough    | 9,501                  |
| Juneau, City and Borough        | 235                    |
| Kenai Peninsula Borough         | 88                     |
| Ketchikan Gateway Borough       | 220                    |
| Kodiak Island Borough           | 812                    |
| Petersburg Borough              | 21                     |
| Sitka, City and Borough         | 199                    |
| Southeast Fairbanks Census Area | 284                    |

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

Part of the reason for the late-year drop is that federal workers who accepted the “Fork in the Road” resignation offer remained on the payroll through the end of the federal fiscal year, Sept. 30, even though most were no longer working. That kept those jobs from showing up as losses until October.

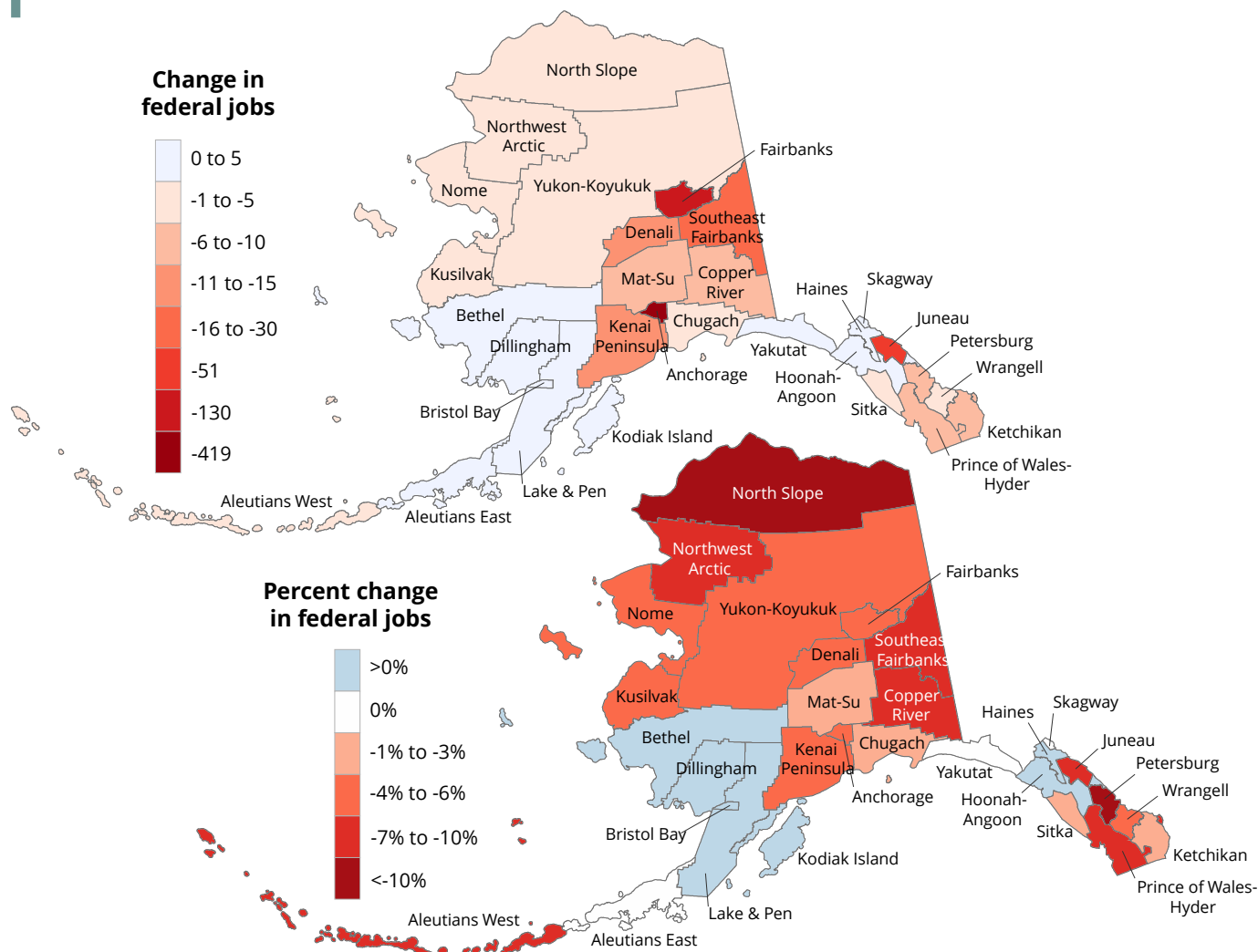
For that reason, the job numbers in this article focus not just on the year’s average loss but the fourth quarter loss, as that paints a fuller picture of the cuts and their direction.

The later cuts sliced deepest into a handful of agencies, with six sustaining over 60 percent of the fourth-quarter losses.

The Department of Defense lost the most by far (-755), with significant cuts to Army and Air Force civilian employment and the Army Corps of Engineers. The Forest Service, a significant presence in Alaska, lost 180 jobs in late 2025. The Bureau of Land Management, whose duties include forest firefighting, lost 133 jobs in the fourth quarter and NOAA lost 101.

Another small but notable late-year change is that

## Federal job losses in Alaska by area, by number and percentage, 2024-2025



Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

Housing and Urban Development had 35 jobs in Alaska in late 2024 but almost none by late 2025.

Alaska lost \$36.5 million in federal wages in 2025

### A closer look at losses by agency

#### Military presence didn't insulate Alaska

Alaska's strategic location and unique training environment have significant military importance. For active-duty military, overall numbers have been stable recently and some increases are on the horizon. Refueling tankers assigned to Eielson Air Force Base in the Interior will bring an additional 200 airmen and their families to the revitalized base in 2026.

The military has made significant infrastructure improvements to all major installations in recent years, with more planned.

Aside from active-duty personnel, civilian Department of Defense workers, military contractors, procurement, and construction also contribute significantly to Alaska's economy.

However, Alaska's military importance did not insulate the state from civilian military job cuts. Nearly half of Alaska's losses came from the Department of Defense. Air Force civilian cuts were largest, followed by Army civilian workers at Fort Wainwright in

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## Total federal job cuts in Alaska in 2025 and in the fourth quarter

| Area                                                                                   | Change in total yearly jobs |              |             |             | Late-year job change |              |             |             |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
|                                                                                        | Total 2024                  | Total 2025   | Change      | Pct change  | Q4 2024 jobs         | Q4 2025 jobs | Change      | Pct change  |
| <b>DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE</b>                                                           | <b>6,350</b>                | <b>6,011</b> | <b>-340</b> | <b>-5%</b>  | <b>6,323</b>         | <b>5,569</b> | <b>-755</b> | <b>-12%</b> |
| Air Force Base Support Services                                                        | 524                         | 481          | -43         | -8%         | 496                  | 466          | -30         | -6%         |
| Army Air Force Exchange Service/PX                                                     | 354                         | 349          | -5          | -1%         | 334                  | 314          | -20         | -6%         |
| Army Morale, Welfare, and Recreation                                                   | 349                         | 331          | -18         | -5%         | 322                  | 322          | 0           | 0%          |
| Air Force Civilian Career Training                                                     | 18                          | 11           | -7          | -37%        | 18                   | 10           | -8          | -44%        |
| Army Corps of Engineers                                                                | 471                         | 415          | -56         | -12%        | 480                  | 373          | -107        | -22%        |
| Army Installation Management Command                                                   | 981                         | 908          | -73         | -7%         | 1,002                | 834          | -168        | -17%        |
| Army National Guard Units Title 32                                                     | 10                          | 11           | 1           | 6%          | 10                   | 10           | 0           | 0%          |
| Defense Commissary Agency                                                              | 172                         | 184          | 11          | 7%          | 172                  | 170          | -2          | -1%         |
| Military Treatment Under DHA/Defense Health                                            | 477                         | 424          | -52         | -11%        | 474                  | 378          | -96         | -20%        |
| U.S. Northern Command                                                                  | 70                          | 60           | -10         | -14%        | 72                   | 50           | -22         | -30%        |
| Pacific Air Forces                                                                     | 2,871                       | 2,785        | -86         | -3%         | 2,888                | 2,596        | -293        | -10%        |
| Space Force                                                                            | 38                          | 36           | -2          | -6%         | 39                   | 34           | -5          | -12%        |
| Naval Sea Systems/Spec Warfare Command/Army Civilian HR (combined for confidentiality) | 16                          | 15           | -1          | -7%         | 16                   | 11           | -5          | -29%        |
| <b>DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR</b>                                                      | <b>2,264</b>                | <b>2,115</b> | <b>-148</b> | <b>-7%</b>  | <b>2,108</b>         | <b>1,882</b> | <b>-226</b> | <b>-11%</b> |
| U.S. Geological Survey                                                                 | 164                         | 140          | -23         | -14%        | 157                  | 128          | -29         | -18%        |
| Fish and Wildlife Service                                                              | 494                         | 412          | -82         | -17%        | 449                  | 364          | -85         | -19%        |
| Bureau of Indian Affairs                                                               | 104                         | 105          | 1           | 1%          | 111                  | 92           | -19         | -17%        |
| Bureau of Land Management                                                              | 629                         | 549          | -81         | -13%        | 603                  | 470          | -133        | -22%        |
| National Park Service                                                                  | 737                         | 682          | -55         | -7%         | 637                  | 572          | -65         | -10%        |
| Offices of Secretary/Inspector General/Solicitor                                       | 68                          | 171          | 103         | 151%        | 84                   | 207          | 123         | 146%        |
| Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement/<br>Bureau of Reclamation               | 22                          | 16           | -6          | -26%        | 22                   | 11           | -11         | -50%        |
| Bureau of Ocean Energy Management                                                      | 45                          | 40           | -5          | -12%        | 44                   | 37           | -8          | -17%        |
| <b>INDEPENDENT AGENCIES</b>                                                            | <b>156</b>                  | <b>150</b>   | <b>-6</b>   | <b>-4%</b>  | <b>164</b>           | <b>122</b>   | <b>-42</b>  | <b>-25%</b> |
| Social Security Administration                                                         | 35                          | 35           | 1           | 2%          | 38                   | 34           | -4          | -11%        |
| Denali Commission                                                                      | 16                          | 17           | 0           | 2%          | 18                   | 13           | -5          | -28%        |
| General Services Administration                                                        | 40                          | 34           | -6          | -15%        | 41                   | 22           | -19         | -47%        |
| Small Business Administration                                                          | 11                          | 11           | 0           | 3%          | 12                   | 7            | -5          | -40%        |
| Environmental Protection Agency                                                        | 40                          | 40           | 0           | -1%         | 40                   | 36           | -4          | -10%        |
| National Transportation Safety Board                                                   | 5                           | 5            | 0           | 3%          | 5                    | 5            | 0           | 0%          |
| All Other*                                                                             | 10                          | 8            | -2          | -16%        | 11                   | 6            | -5          | -44%        |
| <b>DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE</b>                                                          | <b>530</b>                  | <b>481</b>   | <b>-49</b>  | <b>-9%</b>  | <b>544</b>           | <b>425</b>   | <b>-119</b> | <b>-22%</b> |
| Natl Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration                                            | 471                         | 432          | -39         | -8%         | 487                  | 386          | -101        | -21%        |
| Bureau of the Census/Economic Development                                              | 59                          | 49           | -10         | -17%        | 57                   | 39           | -18         | -31%        |
| <b>DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION</b>                                                    | <b>1,150</b>                | <b>1,176</b> | <b>26</b>   | <b>2%</b>   | <b>1,169</b>         | <b>1,137</b> | <b>-32</b>  | <b>-3%</b>  |
| <b>DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY</b>                                                 | <b>1,089</b>                | <b>1,110</b> | <b>20</b>   | <b>2%</b>   | <b>1,104</b>         | <b>1,100</b> | <b>-4</b>   | <b>0%</b>   |
| Coast Guard                                                                            | 234                         | 232          | -2          | -1%         | 240                  | 221          | -19         | -8%         |
| Coast Guard Morale, Welfare, and Recreation                                            | 61                          | 68           | 7           | 11%         | 65                   | 72           | 7           | 11%         |
| Coast Guard Exchange                                                                   | 16                          | 17           | 1           | 4%          | 16                   | 19           | 3           | 19%         |
| Citizenship and Immigration Svc/Secret Service                                         | 19                          | 18           | -1          | -7%         | 20                   | 15           | -5          | -25%        |
| Customs and Border Protection                                                          | 125                         | 121          | -4          | -3%         | 126                  | 120          | -6          | -5%         |
| Federal Emergency Management Agency                                                    | 33                          | 34           | 1           | 2%          | 35                   | 30           | -5          | -14%        |
| Immigration and Customs Enforcement                                                    | 21                          | 26           | 5           | 23%         | 24                   | 27           | 4           | 15%         |
| Transportation Sec Admin/TSA Administrator                                             | 580                         | 595          | 15          | 3%          | 579                  | 596          | 17          | 3%          |
| <b>DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH &amp; HUMAN SERVICES</b>                                       | <b>93</b>                   | <b>81</b>    | <b>-12</b>  | <b>-13%</b> | <b>88</b>            | <b>71</b>    | <b>-17</b>  | <b>-19%</b> |
| Indian Health Service                                                                  | 45                          | 40           | -5          | -11%        | 44                   | 38           | -5          | -12%        |
| Centers for Disease Control and Prevention                                             | 32                          | 30           | -2          | -7%         | 31                   | 24           | -7          | -23%        |
| All Other**                                                                            | 15                          | 11           | -5          | -30%        | 14                   | 9            | -5          | -34%        |
| <b>DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE</b>                                                           | <b>249</b>                  | <b>247</b>   | <b>-2</b>   | <b>-1%</b>  | <b>254</b>           | <b>237</b>   | <b>-17</b>  | <b>-7%</b>  |
| Federal Bureau of Investigation                                                        | 131                         | 133          | 2           | 1%          | 136                  | 127          | -8          | -6%         |

## Total federal job cuts in Alaska in 2025 and in the fourth quarter

| Area                                                                  | Change in total yearly jobs |               |             |              | Late-year job change |               |               |               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
|                                                                       | Total 2024                  | Total 2025    | Change      | Pct change   | Q4 2024 jobs         | Q4 2025 jobs  | Change        | Pct change    |
| <b>DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, CONTINUED</b>                               |                             |               |             |              |                      |               |               |               |
| Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives                  | 11                          | 10            | -1          | -7%          | 10                   | 9             | -1            | -10%          |
| Drug Enforcement Administration                                       | 15                          | 16            | 1           | 6%           | 15                   | 16            | 1             | 9%            |
| U.S. Attorneys Office                                                 | 68                          | 61            | -7          | -10%         | 68                   | 56            | -12           | -18%          |
| U.S. Marshals Service                                                 | 26                          | 29            | 3           | 11%          | 26                   | 28            | 3             | 10%           |
| <b>DEPARTMENT OF LABOR</b>                                            | <b>22</b>                   | <b>18</b>     | <b>-3</b>   | <b>-15%</b>  | <b>19</b>            | <b>18</b>     | <b>-1</b>     | <b>-7%</b>    |
| OSHA/Mine Safety and Health Administration                            | 11                          | 9             | -1          | -11%         | 9                    | 10            | 1             | 7%            |
| All Other***                                                          | 11                          | 9             | -2          | -19%         | 10                   | 8             | -2            | -20%          |
| <b>DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE</b>                                      | <b>909</b>                  | <b>833</b>    | <b>-76</b>  | <b>-8%</b>   | <b>876</b>           | <b>654</b>    | <b>-223</b>   | <b>-25%</b>   |
| Animal and Plant Health Inspection/Food Safety and Inspection Service | 68                          | 64            | -5          | -7%          | 66                   | 60            | -6            | -10%          |
| Farm Service Agency County Office                                     | 5                           | 6             | 1           | 14%          | 4                    | 4             | 0             | -8%           |
| Forest Service                                                        | 712                         | 641           | -71         | -10%         | 675                  | 495           | -180          | -27%          |
| Natural Resources Conservation Service                                | 90                          | 88            | -3          | -3%          | 91                   | 73            | -18           | -20%          |
| RR Housing Service                                                    | 25                          | 27            | 2           | 8%           | 31                   | 15            | -16           | -52%          |
| RR Development/Natl Agricultural Stats Service                        | 8                           | 8             | 0           | 0%           | 8                    | 6             | -2            | -25%          |
| <b>DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS</b>                                 | <b>957</b>                  | <b>938</b>    | <b>-19</b>  | <b>-2%</b>   | <b>960</b>           | <b>907</b>    | <b>-53</b>    | <b>-6%</b>    |
| Fairbanks Vet Center                                                  | 25                          | 26            | 1           | 2%           | 26                   | 25            | -1            | -4%           |
| Wasilla Vet Center                                                    | 25                          | 25            | 0           | 0%           | 24                   | 23            | -1            | -3%           |
| Kenai Vet Center Satellite                                            | 24                          | 24            | 0           | -1%          | 23                   | 23            | 0             | -1%           |
| Alaska VA Health Care System                                          | 559                         | 567           | 8           | 1%           | 585                  | 548           | -37           | -6%           |
| Anchorage Vet Center                                                  | 113                         | 79            | -35         | -31%         | 80                   | 76            | -4            | -5%           |
| Veterans Affairs/Ft Richardson Natl Cemetery                          | 211                         | 219           | 8           | 4%           | 221                  | 211           | -10           | -5%           |
| <b>DEPTS OF STATE/EDUCATION/ENERGY</b>                                | <b>15</b>                   | <b>12</b>     | <b>-3</b>   | <b>-21%</b>  | <b>15</b>            | <b>4</b>      | <b>-11</b>    | <b>-74%</b>   |
| <b>DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY</b>                                         | <b>61</b>                   | <b>55</b>     | <b>-7</b>   | <b>-11%</b>  | <b>61</b>            | <b>46</b>     | <b>-14</b>    | <b>-24%</b>   |
| IRS/Office of the Comptroller of the Currency                         | 61                          | 55            | -7          | -11%         | 61                   | 46            | -14           | -24%          |
| <b>DEPT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT</b>                          | <b>35</b>                   | <b>1</b>      | <b>-35</b>  | <b>-98%</b>  | <b>35</b>            | <b>1</b>      | <b>-34</b>    | <b>-97%</b>   |
| <b>POSTAL SERVICE</b>                                                 | <b>1,541</b>                | <b>1,494</b>  | <b>-47</b>  | <b>-3%</b>   | <b>1,534</b>         | <b>1,477</b>  | <b>-57</b>    | <b>-4%</b>    |
| <b>FEDERAL COURTS</b>                                                 | <b>117</b>                  | <b>118</b>    | <b>2</b>    | <b>2%</b>    | <b>119</b>           | <b>117</b>    | <b>-2</b>     | <b>-1%</b>    |
| <b>TOTAL FEDERAL</b>                                                  | <b>15,537</b>               | <b>14,839</b> | <b>-698</b> | <b>-4.5%</b> | <b>15,374</b>        | <b>13,767</b> | <b>-1,607</b> | <b>-10.5%</b> |

\*Office of Personnel Management, Marine Mammal Commission, National Labor Relations Board, Smithsonian Institute, Arctic Research Commission, Americorp, Government Accountability Office, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp., Overseas Private Investment Corp., Federal Trade Commission  
 \*\*Food and Drug Administration, Office of the Secretary, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, Health Resources and Services Administration, National Institutes of Health, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services  
 \*\*\*Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment and Training Administration, Wage and Hour Division, Veterans Employment and Training Services

**Notes:** Calendar year. Does not include uniformed military. Agency breakouts were derived from federal wage records. A slash indicates we have combined agencies. May not sum due to rounding.

**Source:** Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

Fairbanks and Fort Greely near Delta Junction, then the Army Corps of Engineers and military health and treatment facilities.

Alaska houses nearly 22,000 active-duty military members; the largest installations are Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson in Anchorage and Fort Wainwright Army Base and Eielson Air Force Base near Fairbanks. Alaska has smaller installations, too, including Fort Greely and Clear Space Force Station in the Denali Borough.

Although the Coast Guard is included in the active-duty numbers, their civilian workforce is categorized under the Department of Homeland Security, where the Coast Guard is housed during peacetime.

The Coast Guard presence in Kodiak has grown, accompanied by base improvements including

housing. The Kodiak base is the largest in the entire Pacific Area.

## Veterans Affairs also lost jobs

Veterans Affairs is separate from the Department of Defense. While the VA lost just 19 jobs in Alaska overall last year, employment was down by 53 in the fourth quarter, with 37 of those in veteran health care.

Alaska has the highest share of veterans in the nation; 10 percent of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and 9.5 percent of the Fairbanks North Star Borough are veterans, for example. (For more on veterans and their contributions to Alaska's economy, see the [November 2025 issue of Trends.](#))

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## Total federal jobs and wages by area, and change from 2024 to 2025

| Area                              | 2024          |                        | 2025          |                        | Change in jobs | Change in total wages |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|------------------------|---------------|------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
|                                   | Yearly jobs   | Total wages            | Yearly jobs   | Total wages            |                |                       |
| Aleutians East Borough            | 15            | \$1,030,000            | 15            | \$1,086,000            | 0              | \$56,000              |
| Aleutians West Census Area        | 14            | \$1,292,000            | 13            | \$1,262,000            | -1             | -\$30,000             |
| Anchorage, Municipality           | 8,413         | \$862,980,000          | 7,994         | \$842,517,000          | -419           | -\$20,463,000         |
| Bethel Census Area                | 68            | \$4,662,000            | 73            | \$5,540,000            | 5              | \$878,000             |
| Bristol Bay Borough               | 56            | \$5,867,000            | 58            | \$5,656,000            | 2              | -\$211,000            |
| Chugach Census Area               | 54            | \$4,923,000            | 53            | \$4,980,000            | -1             | \$57,000              |
| Copper River Census Area          | 91            | \$8,433,000            | 84            | \$7,974,000            | -7             | -\$459,000            |
| Denali Borough                    | 197           | \$18,175,000           | 185           | \$17,226,000           | -12            | -\$949,000            |
| Dillingham Census Area            | 65            | \$5,577,000            | 66            | \$6,035,000            | 1              | \$458,000             |
| Fairbanks North Star Borough      | 3,258         | \$297,453,000          | 3,128         | \$290,500,000          | -130           | -\$6,953,000          |
| Haines Borough                    | 11            | \$1,555,000            | 12            | \$1,554,000            | 1              | -\$1,000              |
| Hoonah-Angoon Census Area         | 149           | \$11,832,000           | 150           | \$11,919,000           | 1              | \$87,000              |
| Juneau, City and Borough          | 730           | \$84,422,000           | 679           | \$82,115,000           | -51            | -\$2,307,000          |
| Kenai Peninsula Borough           | 397           | \$39,562,000           | 383           | \$39,471,000           | -14            | -\$91,000             |
| Ketchikan Gateway Borough         | 206           | \$20,693,000           | 200           | \$20,486,000           | -6             | -\$207,000            |
| Kodiak Island Borough             | 248           | \$19,399,000           | 252           | \$19,858,000           | 4              | \$459,000             |
| Kusilvak Census Area              | 27            | \$1,052,000            | 26            | \$1,036,000            | -1             | -\$16,000             |
| Lake and Peninsula Borough        | 34            | \$1,958,000            | 37            | \$2,143,000            | 3              | \$185,000             |
| Matanuska-Susitna Borough         | 286           | \$31,808,000           | 277           | \$31,710,000           | -9             | -\$98,000             |
| Nome Census Area                  | 50            | \$3,679,000            | 47            | \$3,487,000            | -3             | -\$192,000            |
| North Slope Borough               | 17            | \$1,367,000            | 15            | \$1,226,000            | -2             | -\$141,000            |
| Northwest Arctic Borough          | 45            | \$3,617,000            | 42            | \$3,206,000            | -3             | -\$411,000            |
| Petersburg Borough                | 82            | \$7,701,000            | 73            | \$7,204,000            | -9             | -\$497,000            |
| Prince of Wales-Hyder Census Area | 88            | \$7,252,000            | 82            | \$6,940,000            | -6             | -\$312,000            |
| Sitka, City and Borough           | 110           | \$10,391,000           | 109           | \$10,387,000           | -1             | -\$4,000              |
| Skagway, Municipality             | 10            | \$1,497,000            | 10            | \$1,677,000            | 0              | \$180,000             |
| Southeast Fairbanks Census Area   | 361           | \$37,960,000           | 332           | \$32,379,000           | -29            | -\$5,581,000          |
| Wrangell, City and Borough        | 40            | \$3,461,000            | 38            | \$3,487,000            | -2             | \$26,000              |
| Yakutat, City and Borough         | 19            | \$1,716,000            | 19            | \$1,706,000            | 0              | -\$10,000             |
| Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area         | 62            | \$4,117,000            | 58            | \$3,765,000            | -4             | -\$352,000            |
| Unknown or undefined              | 334           | \$36,681,000           | 329           | \$37,062,000           | -5             | \$381,000             |
| <b>Total</b>                      | <b>15,537</b> | <b>\$1,542,112,000</b> | <b>14,839</b> | <b>\$1,505,594,000</b> | <b>-698</b>    | <b>-\$36,518,000</b>  |

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

# FEDERAL JOB CUTS

Continued from page 10

## Large cuts in Forest Service, BLM

Alaska has large national forests, other public lands, and legendary summer forest fires.

The Forest Service lost 71 jobs during the year, but the final three months of the year recorded 180 fewer jobs, making up most of the Department of Agriculture's deep losses. was the largest fourth-quarter loss among departments that have a significant presence in Alaska.

The Bureau of Land Management, under the Department of the Interior, dropped from 603 jobs in the fourth quarter of 2024 to 470 in fourth quarter 2025. The seasonal summer peak fell from 714 jobs to 612.

## Smaller losses at national parks

Alaska has the five largest national parks and preserves in the country: Wrangell-St. Elias at 13.2 million acres, followed by Gates of the Arctic (8.5 million), Denali (6.1 million), Katmai (4.1 million), and Glacier Bay (3.3 million). Of the 10 largest parks in the country, seven are in Alaska.

Hundreds of thousands of people visit Alaska's parks each year, and the vast majority are tourists from out of state.

The National Park Service only lost 55 jobs in 2025 overall, but its employment is highly seasonal. In 2024, it peaked at 942 jobs, and in 2025, it was 846.

Again, however, the way the cuts were made — with many workers being paid through September 2025 — means the full magnitude of the losses won't be known until summer 2026 numbers become available.

## Large cuts at NOAA late in 2025

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration manages commercial fisheries, protects marine mammals, and forecasts weather.

Although only down 39 jobs through the year, the losses were two-and-a-half times deeper by the fourth quarter (-101 jobs).

Anchorage and Juneau have a strong NOAA presence, with slightly more in the capital. Both areas sustained considerable losses: -18 percent (-29 jobs) in Anchorage and -24 percent (-50 jobs) in Juneau in the fourth quarter.

## 60 percent of the federal job losses came from Anchorage

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The largest areas lost the most federal jobs. Sixty percent of the losses came from Anchorage, home to the joint base and the state headquarters for many federal agencies.

Fairbanks, with Fort Wainwright and Eielson, lost 130 jobs — 4 percent of its federal employment.

Juneau, where NOAA and the Forest Service are the two largest federal agencies, lost 51 jobs, or 7.5 percent of its total federal employment.

The fourth hardest-hit was the group of small communities outside of Fairbanks. The Southeast Fairbanks Census Area lost 29 total jobs over the year. Denali Borough losses came mostly from the Clear Space Force Station and the Park Service.

Rural areas where the post office is the primary federal employer lost the fewest jobs, and several even added a few.

Karinne Wiebold is an economist in Juneau. Reach her at (907) 465-6039 or [karinne.wiebold@alaska.gov](mailto:karinne.wiebold@alaska.gov).