

# ALASKA WAGE RATES

By John Van Houten

Occupational wage rates are an important consideration in business and personal planning. Employers want comparisons between their wage schedules and the prevailing wage rates. Similarly, job seekers and persons planning careers are interested in wage rate comparisons among various occupations and different geographical areas. Because of these and other reasons, requests for wage rates are among the most frequently asked for information from Research and Analysis.

Research and Analysis has two major sources from which to answer these requests: the results of an annual entry-level wage rate survey and compilations of wage rates offered by employers who have placed job orders at the 19 local Job Service offices throughout Alaska. The 1983 entry-level wage survey comprised 197 occupations and included responses from more than 1,200 employers throughout Alaska. The data are compiled on a statewide basis and for six geographic-economic regions and printed in the publication *1983 Wage Rates for Selected Occupations*. Copies of this report are available from the Department of Labor, Research & Analysis.

The second source, Job Service job-order wage offerings, includes some 1,200 occupations defined in the 4th edition of the Bureau of Labor Statistics' *Dictionary of Occupational Titles* (DOT). More than 54,000 job orders were placed during 1983. Table 1 is an Alaska statewide listing of occupations which had 25 or more job orders. Occupations with less than 25 job orders were placed in the "all other categories." Openings and the average wage offered are listed in the tables. The openings indicated are job orders placed with Job Service offices; they were not all necessarily filled. Tables 2 and 3 are listings of job orders placed with the Anchorage and Fairbanks offices, respectively, and include occupations for which 15 or more orders were placed during 1983.

Persons interested in more information than provided here should call Research and Analysis. Wage rates are available for all occupations for which job orders were placed and local information is available for each of the 19 Job Service offices listed in Table 4.

**Table I**  
**Average Wage Rates of Job Orders Received**  
**Statewide**  
**1983**

Occupation	No. of Openings	Mean Wage
<b>MANAGERS AND OFFICERS</b>		
CAPTAIN, WATER VESSEL	25	\$ 22.30
MANAGER, EATING OR DRINKING ESTABLISHMENT	33	6.87
ALL OTHER MANAGERS	331	11.42
<b>PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL</b>		
ACCOUNTANTS AND AUDITORS	51	14.82
AIRPLANE PILOT	28	22.35
BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE TECHNICIAN	25	5.67
CASEWORKER	72	9.68
CIVIL ENGINEER	27	14.76
COMPUTER PROGRAMMER	25	10.97
DENTAL ASSISTANT	33	8.71
DRAFTER	113	9.71
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC TECHNICIANS	44	11.05
GROUP RECREATION WORKER	81	5.97
NURSE, LICENSED PRACTICAL	29	8.97
NURSE, PROFESSIONAL	71	11.27
RADIO OPERATOR	35	6.77
RADIOLOGIC TECHNICIAN	32	7.87
SURVEYOR	54	13.47
TRAVEL AGENT OR TRAVEL ACCOMMODATIONS APPRaiser	41	8.39
VOCATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL COUNSELOR	82	10.72
ALL OTHER MEDICAL AND DENTAL TECHNOLOGISTS/TECHNICIANS	40	11.76
ALL OTHER TEACHERS	87	10.54
ALL OTHER TECHNICIANS	43	7.97
ALL OTHER PROFESSIONAL WORKERS	423	9.93
<b>SERVICES</b>		
BAKER, BREAD/PASTRY	149	6.39
BARTENDER	195	6.97
BELLHOP/BAGGAGE PORTER/DOORKEEPER/ROOM SERVICE ATTENDANT	43	5.29
BUTCHER OR MEAT CUTTER	43	7.81
CHILD CARE ATTENDANT	481	4.13
CHILD CARE WORKER	56	6.00
COOK, INSTITUTION OR CAFETERIA	227	8.22
COOK, RESTAURANT	581	6.56
COOK, SHORT ORDER/SPECIALTY FAST FOODS	582	5.22
CORRECTION OFFICER OR JAILER	56	12.67
COUNTER ATTENDANT, LUNCHROOM, COFFEE SHOP, OR CAFETERIA	846	4.45
DINING ROOM/CAFETERIA ATTENDANT OR BARTENDER HELPER	217	4.48
FIRE FIGHTER	348	7.99
FOREST CONSERVATION WORKER	145	7.51
GAME OPERATORS/RIDE OPERATORS/CONCESSION WORKERS	26	8.70
GUARDS AND DOORKEEPERS	139	6.55

Table 1  
Average Wage Rates of Job Orders Received  
Statewide  
1983  
(Continued)

Occupation	No. of Openings	Mean Wage
HOST/HOYESS, RESTAURANT, LOUNGE, OR COFFEE SHOP	96	5.26
HOUSE CLEANER	166	5.28
HOUSEKEEPER	37	5.88
KITCHEN HELPER	1,112	5.15
MAID	353	5.42
NURSE AIDE OR ORDERLY	32	6.90
PANTRY/SANDWICH/COFFEE MAKER	172	5.31
SECURITY CHECKER	52	5.28
SUPERVISOR, NONWORKING—SERVICE ONLY	65	9.25
WAITER/WAITRESS	1,273	4.32
ALL OTHER JANITORS, PORTERS, AND CLEANERS	1,001	5.91
ALL OTHER FOOD SERVICE WORKERS	153	4.14
ALL OTHER SERVICE WORKERS	1,601	6.17
ALTERATION TAILOR	29	5.91
<b>MAINTENANCE AND PRODUCTION</b>		
AUTOMOTIVE BODY REPAIRER	28	9.44
BAGGER	238	4.09
BINDERY WORKER, ASSEMBLY	25	4.26
BRICKLAYER	53	14.40
BUS DRIVER, SCHOOL	57	10.66
CANNERY WORKER	10,583	5.46
CARPENTER	1,318	11.43
CEMENT MASON	87	12.73
CHOKER SETTER, LUMBER	47	13.11
CLEANER, VEHICLE	183	5.03
DELIVERY OR ROUTE WORKER	168	5.32
ELECTRICIAN HELPER	32	7.72
ELECTRICIAN	244	16.33
FALLER OR BUCKER	111	10.92
GARDENERS AND GROUNDSKEEPERS	604	5.22
GLAZIER	26	17.90
HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR	355	15.41
INDUSTRIAL TRUCK OPERATOR	42	9.54
LINE SERVICE ATTENDANT	33	5.15
MAINTENANCE REPAIRER, GENERAL UTILITY	239	7.53
MECHANIC, AIRCRAFT	62	12.92
MECHANIC, AUTOMOTIVE	281	10.26
MECHANIC, DIESEL	65	12.42
MECHANIC, ENGINEERING EQUIPMENT	111	15.24
MECHANIC, MAINTENANCE	28	10.84
MECHANIC, REFRIGERATION OR AIR CONDITIONING	25	13.43
ORDINARY SEAMAN	27	17.14
PAINTER, MAINTENANCE	383	9.01
PAINTER, PRODUCTION	51	8.89
PARKING LOT ATTENDANT	120	4.88
PLUMBER OR PIPEFITTER	267	15.23
PRINT DEVELOPER, MACHINE	26	5.53

Table 1  
Average Wage Rates of Job Orders Received  
Statewide  
1983  
(Continued)

Occupation	No. of Openings	Mean Wage
PRODUCTION PACKAGER, HAND OR MACHINE	44	6.09
ROOFER	68	13.99
SERVICE STATION/FUEL PUMP ATTENDANT OR LUBRICATOR	328	4.65
SHEET METAL WORKER	57	13.01
STOCK CLERK, SALES FLOOR	91	5.52
SUPERVISOR, NONWORKING	119	16.44
SURVEYOR HELPER	68	8.27
TIRE FABRICATOR OR REPAIRER	88	6.34
TRUCK DRIVER, HEAVY	336	9.79
WELDER OR FLAMECUTTER	74	14.30
ALL OTHER ASSEMBLERS	75	7.46
ALL OTHER HELPERS, SKILLED TRADES	115	6.28
ALL OTHER LABORERS AND UNSKILLED WORKERS	9668	6.75
ALL OTHER MECHANICS AND REPAIRERS	172	9.03
ALL OTHER OPERATIVES AND SEMISKILLED WORKERS	581	9.57
ALL OTHER SKILLED CRAFT AND KINDRED WORKERS	325	12.52
<b>CLERICAL</b>		
ACCOUNTING CLERK	80	7.14
BOOKKEEPER, HAND	447	7.92
CAR RENTAL CLERK	71	4.98
CASHIER	503	6.81
COLLECTOR	33	8.00
COMPUTER OPERATOR	29	13.95
COUNTER CLERK	34	4.40
CREDIT CLERK	59	9.15
DESK CLERK	160	5.82
FILE CLERK	113	5.39
GENERAL OFFICE CLERK	1232	6.60
KEYPUNCH OPERATOR	56	7.77
LIBRARY ASSISTANT	29	7.30
MAIL CLERK	35	6.61
MESSANGER	286	5.33
ORDER CLERK	39	5.80
PAYROLL OR TIMEKEEPING CLERK	71	8.41
PRODUCTION CLERK OR COORDINATOR	44	7.50
PROOF MACHINE OPERATOR	35	5.81
RECEPTIONIST	581	6.38
SECRETARY	685	8.69
SHIPPING OR RECEIVING CLERK	45	6.59
STOCK CLERK, STOCKROOM, WAREHOUSE, OR STORAGE YARD	423	5.63
SURVEY WORKER	131	6.89
SWITCHBOARD OPERATOR	59	5.75
TEACHER AIDE OR EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANT	63	8.29
TELLER	153	8.45
TRANSPORTATION AGENT	31	7.49

Table 1  
Average Wage Rates of Job Orders Received  
Statewide  
1983  
(Continued)

Occupation	No. of Openings	Mean Wage
TRAVEL CLERK	27	6.37
TYPIST	665	7.94
ALL OTHER OFFICE MACHINE OPERATORS	310	7.29
ALL OTHER OFFICE CLERICAL WORKERS	344	7.79
ALL OTHER PLANT CLERICAL WORKERS	121	8.27
<b>SALES</b>		
DEMONSTRATOR	62	5.58
SALES AGENT ASSOCIATE REPRESENTATIVE, INSURANCE	25	8.62
SALES CLERK	864	5.17
ALL OTHER SALES AGENTS ASSOCIATES REPRESENTATIVES	605	6.25
ALL OTHER SALES WORKERS	137	5.10
<b>TOTAL JOB OPENINGS</b>	<b>18,916</b>	

Table 2  
Average Wage Rates of Job Orders Received  
Anchorage  
1983

Occupation	No. of Openings	Mean Wage
<b>MANAGERS AND OFFICERS</b>		
ALL MANAGERS	143	\$11.78
<b>PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL</b>		
CASEWORKER	26	9.88
DRAFTER	79	9.87
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC TECHNICIANS	25	8.17
GROUP RECREATION WORKER	28	6.81
NURSE, PROFESSIONAL	29	10.61
SURVEYOR	16	15.00
TEACHER, SECONDARY SCHOOL	17	9.54
VOCATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL COUNSELOR	19	13.95
ALL OTHER ENGINEERS	17	15.32
ALL OTHER MEDICAL AND DENTAL TECHNOLOGISTS/TECHNICIANS	16	13.02
ALL OTHER TEACHERS	17	9.97
ALL OTHER TECHNICIANS	49	9.66
ALL OTHER PROFESSIONAL WORKERS	150	8.90
<b>SERVICES</b>		
BAKER, BREAD/PASTRY	22	5.77
BARTENDER	70	7.77
BELLHOP/BAGGAGE PORTER/DOORKEEPER/ROOM SERVICE ATTENDANT	18	5.12
BUTCHER OR MEAT CUTTER	35	7.86
CHILD CARE ATTENDANT	110	4.22
CHILD CARE WORKER	15	5.95
COOK, INSTITUTION OR CAFETERIA	99	7.79
COOK, SHORT ORDER/SPECIALTY FAST FOODS	335	4.51
COOK, RESTAURANT	312	6.78
COUNTER ATTENDANT, LUNCHROOM, COFFEE SHOP, OR CAFETERIA	135	4.91
DINING ROOM/CAFETERIA ATTENDANT OR BARTENDER HELPER	138	4.58
FIRE FIGHTER	63	7.97
GUARDS AND DOORKEEPERS	94	5.98
HOST/HOSTESS, RESTAURANT, LOUNGE, OR COFFEE SHOP	35	5.83
HOUSE CLEANER	17	5.07
KITCHEN HELPER	385	4.83
MAID	145	5.30
PANTRY/SANDWICH/COFFEE MAKER	102	5.49
PARKING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER	17	5.04
SECURITY CHECKER	47	4.97
SUPERVISOR, NONWORKING—SERVICE ONLY	37	7.34
WAITER/WAITRESS	432	4.29
ALL OTHER JANITORS, PORTERS, AND CLEANERS	532	5.46
ALL OTHER SERVICE WORKERS	108	5.65
<b>MAINTENANCE AND PRODUCTION</b>		
ASPHALT RAKER	2,363	6.68

Table 2  
 Average Wage Rates of Job Orders Received  
 Anchorage  
 1983  
 (Continued)

Occupation	No. of Openings	Mean Wage
AUTOMOTIVE BODY REPAIRER	24	9.31
BRICKLAYER	33	12.36
CANNERY WORKER	1,837	5.13
CARPENTER	749	10.59
CEMENT MASON	57	10.36
CLEANER, VEHICLE	97	5.02
DELIVERY OR ROUTE WORKER	89	5.21
DENTAL LABORATORY TECHNICIAN	16	7.39
DRY WALL APPLICATOR	29	9.79
ELECTRICIAN	113	13.20
ELECTRICIAN HELPER	24	6.33
FALLER OR BUCKER	50	8.52
GARDENERS AND GROUNDSKEEPERS	200	6.41
GASOLINE ENGINE OR MOWER REPAIRER	18	7.42
HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR	174	13.37
INDUSTRIAL TRUCK OPERATOR	35	8.41
LINE SERVICE ATTENDANT	18	4.78
MAINTENANCE REPAIRER, GENERAL UTILITY	127	7.58
MECHANIC, AIRCRAFT	33	11.78
MECHANIC, AUTOMOTIVE	157	10.04
MECHANIC, DIESEL	32	11.91
MECHANIC, ENGINEERING EQUIPMENT	41	14.65
MECHANIC, MAINTENANCE	16	10.67
MECHANIC, REFRIGERATION/AIR CONDITIONING	23	12.20
OPTICIAN, DISPENSING/OPTICAL MECHANIC	21	6.26
PAINTER, MAINTENANCE	245	9.42
PARKING LOT ATTENDANT	77	4.92
PLUMBER OR PIPEFITTER	159	14.26
PRINT DEVELOPER, MACHINE	24	5.50
ROOFER	16	10.06
RUG CLEANER, HAND	19	5.47
SERVICE STATION/FUEL PUMP ATTENDANT/LUBRICATOR	192	4.52
SHEET METAL WORKER	32	11.19
SUPERVISOR, NONWORKING	44	16.74
TIRE FABRICATOR/REPAIRER	67	6.41
TRUCK DRIVER, HEAVY	104	11.29
TRUCK DRIVER, LIGHT	119	5.97
WELDER OR FLAMECUTTER	43	13.08
ALL OTHER ASSEMBLERS	42	7.66
ALL OTHER HELPERS, SKILLED TRADES	58	6.68
ALL OTHER LABORERS AND UNSKILLED WORKERS	1,773	6.20
ALL OTHER MECHANICS AND REPAIRERS	68	8.28
ALL OTHER OPERATIVES AND SEMISKILLED WORKERS	185	7.91
ALL OTHER SKILLED CRAFT AND KINDRED WORKERS	144	9.51
CLERICAL		
ACCOUNTING CLERK	207	6.69

Table 2  
Average Wage Rates of Job Orders Received  
Anchorage  
1983  
(Continued)

Occupation	No. of Openings	Mean Wage
BOOKKEEPER, HAND	216	8.27
CAR RENTAL CLERK	21	5.01
CASHIER	160	5.20
COLLECTOR	22	6.77
COMPUTER OPERATOR	17	8.22
CREDIT CLERK	33	6.98
DESK CLERK	38	6.00
FILE CLERK	51	5.60
GENERAL OFFICE CLERK	493	6.05
KEYPUNCH OPERATOR	29	7.86
MAIL CLERK	24	6.07
MESSENGER	143	5.63
ORDER CLERK	27	5.90
PAYROLL OR TIMEKEEPING CLERK	36	7.65
PROOF MACHINE OPERATOR	21	5.69
RATER	17	6.28
RECEPTIONIST	288	6.08
SECRETARY	307	8.31
SHIPPING OR RECEIVING CLERK	28	5.72
STOCK CLERK, STOCKROOM, WAREHOUSE, OR STORAGE YARD	88	5.31
SURVEY WORKER	65	6.13
SWITCHBOARD OPERATOR	44	6.09
TELLER	58	6.54
TYPIST	304	7.45
ALL OTHER OFFICE MACHINE OPERATORS	21	6.84
ALL OTHER OFFICE CLERICAL WORKERS	163	6.54
ALL OTHER PLANT CLERICAL WORKERS	70	6.68
<b>SALES</b>		
SALES CLERK	383	5.02
ALL OTHER SALES AGENTS/ASSOCIATES/ REPRESENTATIVES	365	6.22
ALL OTHER SALES WORKERS	79	4.74
<b>TOTAL JOB OPENINGS</b>	<b>17,538</b>	

**Table 3**  
**Average Wage Rates of Job Orders Received**  
**Fairbanks**  
**1983**

Occupation	No. of Openings	Mean Wage
<b>MANAGERS AND OFFICERS</b>		
MANAGER, EATING, DRINKING ESTABLISHMENT	20	\$6.96
ALL OTHER MANAGERS	36	11.41
<b>PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL</b>		
DRAFTER	17	10.14
RADIO OPERATOR	33	6.58
VOCATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL COUNSELOR	15	9.43
ALL OTHER MEDICAL AND DENTAL TECHNOLOGISTS, TECHNICIANS	33	9.29
ALL OTHER TEACHERS	20	9.59
ALL OTHER TECHNICIANS	18	9.92
ALL OTHER PROFESSIONAL WORKERS	99	9.57
<b>SERVICES</b>		
BARTENDER	28	6.25
CHILD CARE ATTENDANT	81	4.66
COOK, SHORT ORDER, SPECIALTY FAST FOODS	85	5.54
COOK, RESTAURANT	115	6.92
COUNTER ATTENDANT, LUNCHROOM, COFFEE SHOP, OR CAFETERIA	36	5.15
FIRE FIGHTER	316	8.08
HOUSE CLEANER	25	5.19
HOST, HOSTESS, RESTAURANT, LOUNGE, OR COFFEE SHOP	33	4.60
KITCHEN HELPER	165	4.97
MAID	22	4.99
WAITER, WAITRESS	239	4.10
ALL OTHER FOOD SERVICE WORKERS	16	4.92
ALL OTHER JANITORS, PORTERS, AND CLEANERS	127	6.08
ALL OTHER SERVICE WORKERS	73	7.89
<b>MAINTENANCE AND PRODUCTION</b>		
ASPHALT RAKER	17	5.64
BUS DRIVER	21	7.96
CARPENTER	157	10.92
DELIVERY OR ROUTE WORKER	11	4.97
HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR	12	12.78
MAINTENANCE REPAIRER, GENERAL, UTILITY	38	7.75
MECHANIC, AUTOMOTIVE	54	10.58
MECHANIC, DIESEL	17	13.16
MECHANIC, ENGINEERING EQUIPMENT	30	14.81
ORDER FILLER	283	8.20
PAINTER, MAINTENANCE	26	10.55
PARKING LOT ATTENDANT	19	4.86
PLUMBER, PIPEFITTER HELPER	28	11.76
SERVICE STATION/FUEL PUMP ATTENDANT/LUBRICATOR	26	4.98
STOCK CLERK, SALES FLOOR	40	5.32
TREE TRIMMER	20	6.77
TRUCK DRIVER, HEAVY	26	8.81

Table 3  
Average Wage Rates of Job Orders Received  
Fairbanks  
1983  
(Continued)

Occupation	No. of Openings	Mean Wage
ALL OTHER ASSEMBLERS	31	5.92
ALL OTHER HELPERS, SKILLED TRADES	25	7.41
ALL OTHER MECHANICS AND REPAIRERS	38	8.57
ALL OTHER SKILLED CRAFT AND KINDRED WORKERS	85	9.57
ALL OTHER OPERATORS AND SEMISKILLED WORKERS	101	8.89
ALL OTHER LABORERS AND UNSKILLED WORKERS	1,029	6.76
<b>CLERICAL</b>		
BOOKKEEPER, HAND	85	7.49
CASHIER	91	5.87
GENERAL OFFICE CLERK	241	7.32
PAYROLL OR TIMEKEEPING CLERK	18	7.46
PRODUCTION CLERK OR COORDINATOR	27	7.96
RECEPTIONIST	64	6.20
SECRETARY	72	8.16
STOCK CLERK, STOCKROOM, WAREHOUSE, OR STORAGE YARD	58	5.73
SURVEY WORKER	16	4.36
TELLER	19	21.71
TYPIST	80	7.30
ALL OTHER OFFICE MACHINE OPERATORS	53	7.36
ALL OTHER OFFICE CLERICAL WORKERS	152	6.24
ALL OTHER PLANT CLERICAL WORKERS	13	8.10
<b>SALES</b>		
SALES CLERK	124	5.92
ALL OTHER SALES AGENTS/ASSOCIATES/ REPRESENTATIVES	139	6.75
ALL OTHER SALES WORKERS	14	5.42
TOTAL JOB OPENINGS	5,115	

Table 4  
Alaska Job Service Offices

Anchorage Job Service 3301 Eagle Street-Suites 101-106 Anchorage, Alaska 99503 (907) 264-2631	Kodiak Employment Center (309 Center Street) Box 1546 Kodiak, Alaska 99615 (907) 486-3105
Barrow Job Service (Stevenson Street) Box 525 Barrow, Alaska 99723 (907) 852-4500	Kotzebue Job Service Box 295 Kotzebue, Alaska 99752 (907) 442-3280
Bethel Job Service Box 187 Bethel, Alaska 99559 (907) 543-2210	Mat-Su Employment Center (1½ Mile Knik Road) Pouch Z Wasilla, Alaska 99687 (907) 376-2407
Dillingham Job Service Box 261 Dillingham, Alaska 99576 (907) 842-5579	Nome Job Service (Front Street) Box 161 Nome, Alaska 99762 (907) 443-2626
Fairbanks Employment Center (675 Seventh Avenue, Station D) Pouch 1010 Fairbanks, Alaska 99707 (907) 452-1501	Petersburg Job Service (114 Main Street) Box 389 Petersburg, Alaska 99833 (907) 772-3791
Glennallen Job Service Box 145 Glennallen, Alaska 99588 (907) 822-3350	Seward Employment Center (Municipal Bldg., Room 203) Box 875 Seward, Alaska 99664 (907) 224-5276
Homer Job Service Box 2085 Homer, Alaska 99603 (907) 235-7791	Sitka Employment Center (304 Lake Street) Box 1189 Sitka, Alaska 99835 (907) 747-3347
Juneau Employment Center 212 Ferry Way Juneau, Alaska 99801 (907) 586-1150	Tok Job Service (Second Street) Box 439 Tok, Alaska 99780 (907) 883-5629
Kenai Employment Center (110 Trading Bay Road) Drawer 1091 Kenai, Alaska 99611 (907) 283-4304	Unalaska-Dutch Harbor Job Service Box 554 Dutch Harbor, Alaska 99692 (907) 581-1580
Ketchikan Employment Center (326 Dock Street) Box 7878 Ketchikan, Alaska 99901 (907) 225-3181	