



**AEDC**  
**Anchorage Economic**  
Development Corporation

# Anchorage Employment Report

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All data referenced in this employment report is from the State of Alaska, Dept. of Labor & Workforce Development website: [www.laborstats.alaska.gov](http://www.laborstats.alaska.gov) and from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics: [www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov).

**Report compiled by Anchorage Economic Development Corp. Research Department.**

**Report generously sponsored by First National Bank Alaska.**

If you are interested in learning more about this data or are interested in how AEDC can help you develop a report, call AEDC at 907.258.3700.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### MONTHLY UNEMPLOYMENT

The non-seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for Anchorage in August was 4.5 percent, a 0.3 percent drop from the July revised rate of 4.8 percent. August was the first time Anchorage's unemployment rate has reached 4.5 percent since October 2006. Anchorage's August unemployment rate is 0.7 percent below the national rate of 5.2 percent and 1 percent lower than the statewide rate of 5.5 percent. The August unemployment rate for Anchorage was 0.4 percent lower than August 2014. ***As always, it should be noted that these are preliminary survey figures for the month and will be revised next month.***

# 4.5%

August 2015  
Unemployment Rate  
for Anchorage (preliminary)

### YEAR-TO-DATE UNEMPLOYMENT

The average year-to-date (YTD) non-seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in Anchorage was 5.2 percent at the end of August, 0.2 percent lower than at this time last year. **An increase of 632 in the employment total and 350 in the Anchorage labor force during the YTD period has resulted in the reported unemployment total decreasing by 282.** The total number of unemployed people in Anchorage for the month of August is estimated at 7,010 (those actively looking for jobs), 790 less than August 2014.

# 5.2%

2015 YTD  
Unemployment Rate  
for Anchorage (preliminary)

This is the smallest pool of unemployed people in Anchorage for any month since October 2007. In the Mat-Su Borough, the YTD average monthly unemployment rate is down 0.2 percent from 2014 YTD, while the Kenai Peninsula Borough's rate remains unchanged during this time (see the charts, starting on page 12, for more details).

***It is important to note that these Anchorage unemployment numbers represent the labor force residing in Anchorage, and does not describe the number of filled positions in Anchorage. The industry employment estimates referenced in the remainder of this report are representative of the number of jobs in the Municipality of Anchorage, regardless of the job holder's place of residency.***

### ANCHORAGE INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

The Anchorage employment estimate for August, which includes total jobs in Anchorage held by city residents and commuters, is 162,600, 400 more jobs than in August 2014. **The YTD average for 2015 is 157,213, 263 jobs higher than compared to YTD 2014.** This represents a 0.17 percent increase in the total monthly average over the same period.

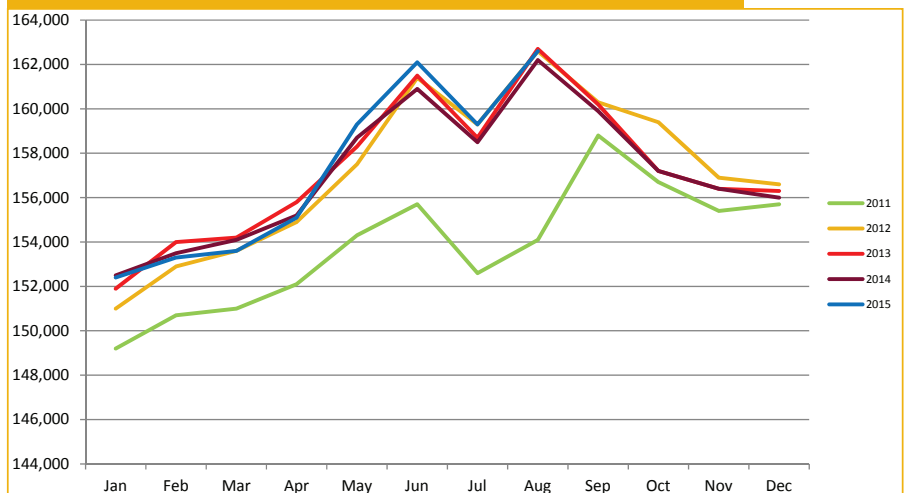
The private sector (total jobs minus government jobs) has grown by 288 jobs during this time, while Government employment has decreased by 25. Federal and State Government employment has decreased by 88 and 113, respectively, while Local Government has increased by 138. (Total change does not equal zero due to rounding of monthly estimates.)

In the Goods Producing category, both the Construction and Mining & Logging (which includes Oil & Gas employment) industries are showing growth. Service Providing industries that have flat or positive growth so far this year are Trade/Transportation/Utilities (TTU), Information, Educational & Health Services and Leisure & Hospitality. Seven of the ten major industries' job estimates for August 2015 are at or above August 2014 totals.

# 162,600

Total jobs in Anchorage  
August 2015 (preliminary)

### ANCHORAGE EMPLOYMENT Municipality of Anchorage 2011-Present



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY CONTINUED

### MONTHLY REVISIONS

Each month, the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development's (DOLWD) Research and Analysis Division revises the previous month employment numbers based on the availability of newer or late arriving data. The following tables show the revision changes in Anchorage's and Alaska's July job totals by industry.

Most adjustments are relatively minor; however, some changes do occur which are significant. Changes such as these are normally the result of rounding errors, job classification modifications, sample size or modeling issues, or errors within the industry.

JULY 2015 REVISIONS, ANCHORAGE			
<i>Industry</i>	<i>Preliminary Total</i>	<i>Revised Total</i>	<i>Net Change</i>
Total Nonfarm	159,200	159,300	+100
Goods Producing	16,200	16,300	+100
Professional & Business Services	21,100	21,200	+100
Education & Health Services	25,200	25,100	-100
Health Care	19,200	19,100	-100
Leisure & Hospitality	18,100	18,200	+100
Food Serv. & Drinking Places	12,200	12,100	-100
Government	25,800	25,900	+100
JULY 2015 REVISIONS, ALASKA			
<i>Industry</i>	<i>Preliminary Total</i>	<i>Revised Total</i>	<i>Net Change</i>
Total Nonfarm	363,900	363,300	-600
Goods Producing	64,900	94,500	-400
Manufacturing	25,100	24,700	-400
Seafood Processing	20,300	20,100	-200
Services Providing	299,000	298,800	-200
Trade/Transportation/Utilities	72,400	72,300	-100
Trans./Warehouse/Utilities	25,400	25,300	-100
Education & Health Services	47,500	47,400	-100
Health Care	35,000	34,800	-200
Leisure & Hospitality	41,100	41,200	+100
Accommodation	12,100	12,200	+100
Other Services	12,400	12,300	-100

## INSIDE THE NUMBERS: WAGE DATA

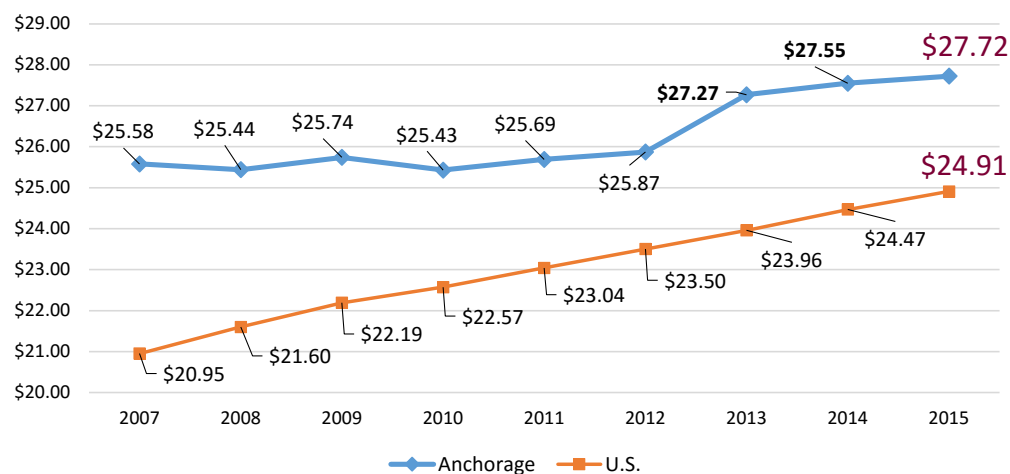
This month, we're exploring the wage data contained in Current Employment Statistics (CES), Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) and the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) programs.

### MONTHLY DATA

The CES is a monthly sample designed to give researchers the most up to date data on earnings and employment. As a survey of 588,000 establishments nation-wide, it has a higher margin of error than most other Bureau of Labor Statistics products, but is still considered a reliable measure of current conditions. Along with employment counts, the CES also collects data regarding average weekly hours worked, hourly and weekly earnings averages and gross payroll figures. All information is provided at the Supersector level, referred to in this report as "Industry" (Information, Professional & Business Services, Government, etc.).

### CES WAGE DATA

#### ANCHORAGE & U.S. PRIVATE SECTOR AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS 2007-2015 YTD

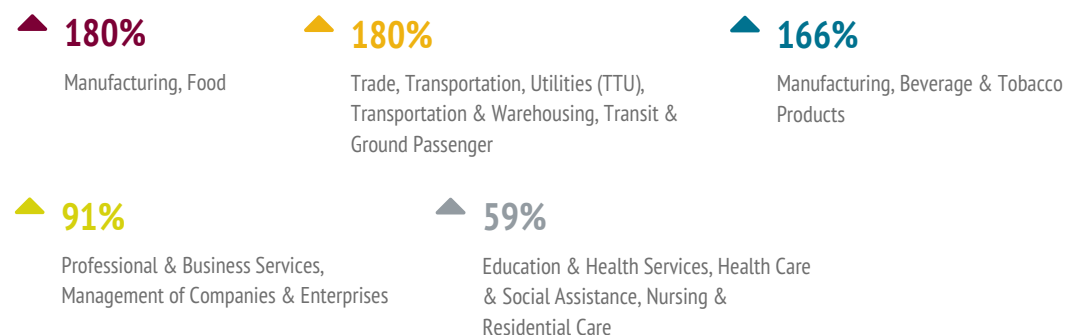


### QUARTERLY DATA

QCEW data provides information on all workers in the U.S., the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands covered by state unemployment insurance. This represents about 95 percent of the employees in industry throughout the nation, making it one of the most comprehensive reports on employment and wages available. The level of detail goes deeper than the industry level of the CES, offering data related to specific sub-industries. For example, instead of providing data for just the Construction industry, the QCEW shows figures for the sub-category "Construction of Buildings" and then under that, "Residential" or "Nonresidential." Information is provided for the number of business units, monthly employment totals, total earnings and the average monthly wage at each level.

### QCEW WAGE DATA

#### TOP ANCHORAGE INDUSTRIES PERCENTAGE GROWTH IN TOTAL ANNUAL WAGES 2009-2014

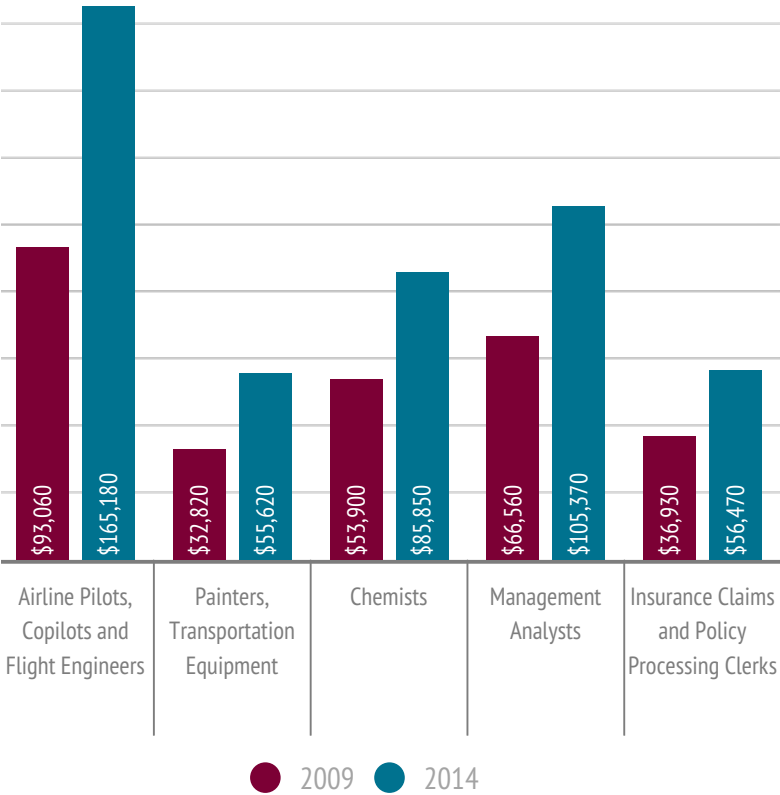


INSIDE THE NUMBERS, CONTINUED

YEARLY DATA

The OES is a semi-annual mail survey that produces employment and wage estimates for over eight hundred occupations. Unlike the CES and QCEW, which gives information based on industries, the OES allows users to gain insights into specific occupations, regardless of what industry the component workers fall under. Data includes total employment numbers, median and mean hourly wages and annual mean wages. This is important information for many federal government functions including the administration of the H I -B visa program, BLS employment projections and calculating Medicare reimbursement rates. Job seekers will also find this information valuable as a resource to compare salaries for different occupations in various locations throughout the U.S.

OES WAGE DATA  
TOP ANCHORAGE OCCUPATIONS  
BY AVERAGE ANNUAL WAGE GROWTH,  
2009 & 2014



For complete data sets, go to Alaska’s Department of Labor and Workforce Development’s Research and Analysis or the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics websites.

# GOODS PRODUCING JOBS

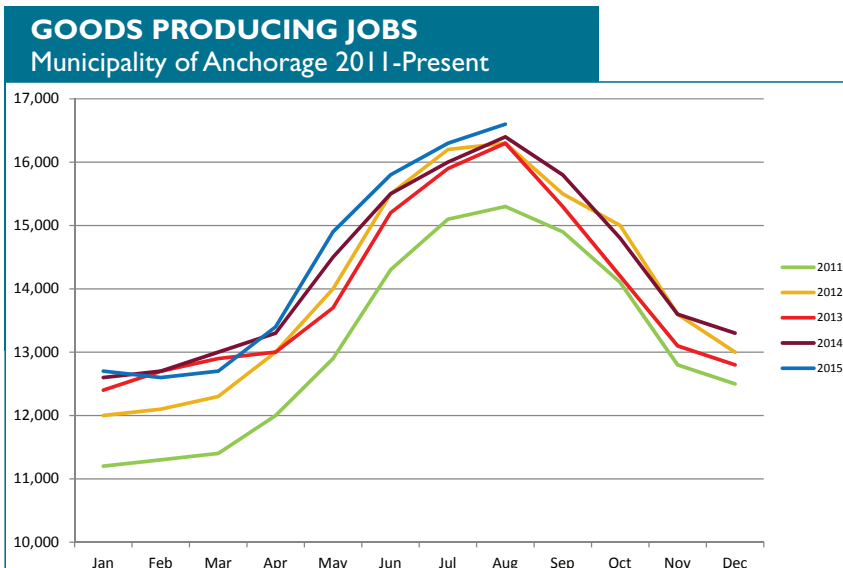
## CONSTRUCTION WORK, MINING, OIL & GAS PRODUCTION, MANUFACTURING

With a job total of 14,375, employment in the Goods Producing<sup>1</sup> group has increased by 125 jobs YTD compared to the same period a year ago. The Mining and Logging industry has gained 38 jobs in 2015 when compared against the same period of 2014, and the Construction industry has improved by 88 jobs over this time as well. The Manufacturing industry is the only one in this group to show a decrease of jobs at this point, with an estimated 25 fewer jobs YTD than last year at this time. Based on the statewide job estimates, these losses are most likely from a reduction in seafood processing employment.

The Oil & Gas sector is part of the Mining & Logging industry. The job total for the Oil & Gas sector is up 63 this year when compared to 2014 YTD. Monthly totals have been holding steady at 3,800 since a 100 job increase from January to February 2015, indicating steady employment in this sector. Ongoing fluctuations in oil prices may impact future expansion projects in Alaska, but at this time, **industry employment seems to be holding its ground while companies are advancing their pre-planned projects on the North Slope and Cook Inlet fields.**

Growth in the Construction industry continued in August as the monthly total made its annual peak, reaching 10,100 for the month. As of August, Construction employment is showing an YTD increase of 88 jobs from the 2014 YTD total. Monthly estimates will slowly decrease for the next two months before dropping significantly in November. If this year trends in a similar pattern as last year, we could see employment gains of around 150-200 at the end of the year.

<sup>1</sup>Those jobs that are specifically tied to production, not those which support the production or maintenance of the production jobs.



In Anchorage:

**16,600**

**GOODS PRODUCING JOBS**

August 2015 (preliminary)



**10,100**

**CONSTRUCTION JOBS**

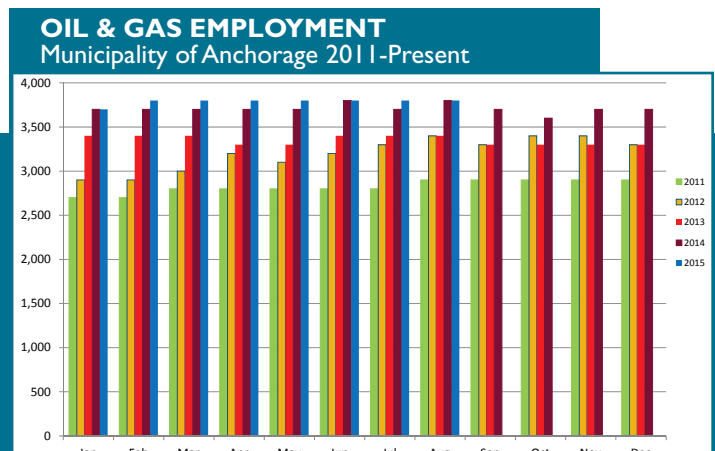
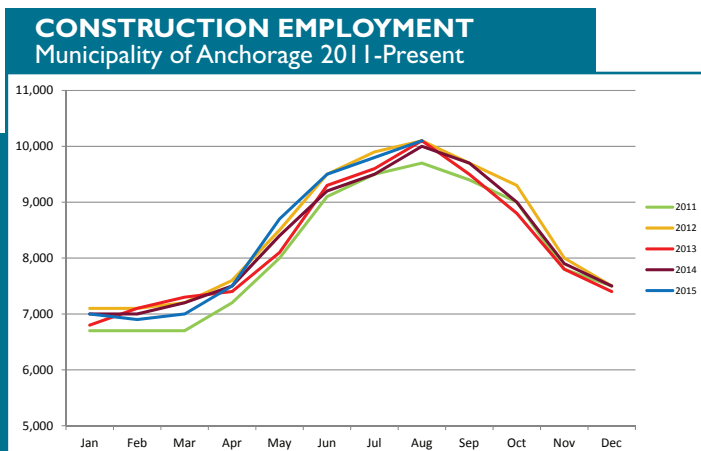
August 2015 (preliminary)



**3,800**

**OIL & GAS JOBS**

August 2015 (preliminary)



## SERVICES PROVIDING JOBS

ENGINEERING, RETAIL, TOURISM, HEALTH CARE, ETC.

**Service Providing jobs in Anchorage totaled 146,100 in August, 400 more than August of 2014.**

Overall, the YTD average is up 163 from 2014. **Job growth in the Information industry continues to lead all industries, increasing 3.45 percent YTD compared to the same period last year.** After a brief contraction in early 2013, the industry has been maintaining monthly employment levels between 3,900 and 4,100. The monthly estimate broke 4,200 in June for the first time since December of 2010 and has remained there through August. Strong demand for services from local telecommunications providers and a competitive broadcasting market have been a positive influence on Information job numbers and the industry will likely retain these jobs for the near future.

The Trade/Transportation/Utilities industry is also showing above average YTD growth, up 338 jobs, or 1.01 percent over 2014 YTD. **The Retail Trade sector is still leading this rally, showing a 463 job increase YTD over the same period of 2014.** The August monthly estimate for Retail Trade jobs was 18,500; 200 jobs more than August of 2014. Retail employment generally contracts slightly in September as tourism related businesses scale back after the summer, but hiring quickly picks up again during the holiday season.

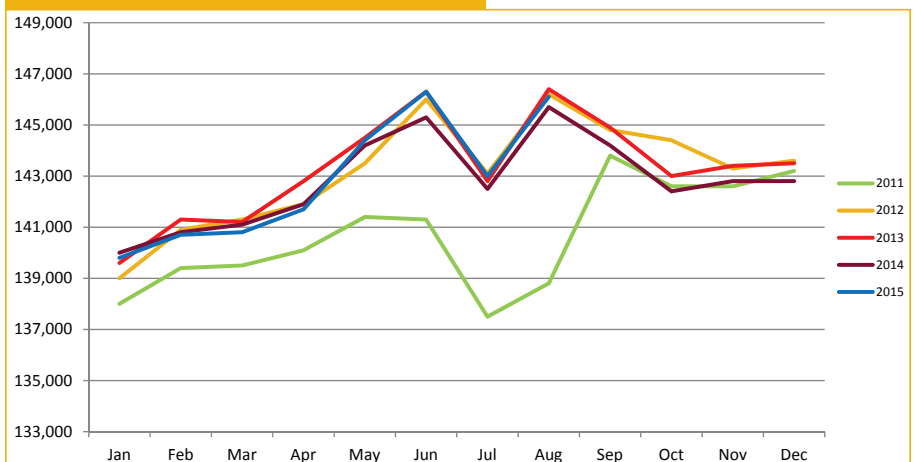
The Leisure & Hospitality industry continues to stay strong and is now showing a 138 job YTD improvement over 2014 YTD. The August monthly estimate remains above 18,000 for the third consecutive month and stands at 18,100. Employment in the Accommodation sector is up 25 jobs YTD and the Food Service and Drinking Places category is showing a 63 job increase over the same time. The remaining 50 added YTD jobs in this sector are attributed to the Arts, Entertainment and Recreation sector of the industry which is not individually reported in the DOLWD statistics.

The monthly average for Government jobs is showing a slight decrease of 25 jobs YTD over last year at this time. While Local Education employment is down 250 for 2015 YTD from 2014, the overall monthly average for Local Government 2015 YTD is up 138 jobs, or 1.38 percent over 2014 YTD. Federal Government employment is averaging 88 fewer jobs than at this point last year but is continuing a trend of closing the gap each month since May. State Government totals are down 113 jobs YTD from this time last year, including a YTD decline of 88 jobs in the State Education sector. Expected cuts in the University of Alaska's budget for next year may be a sign of more employment reductions to come.

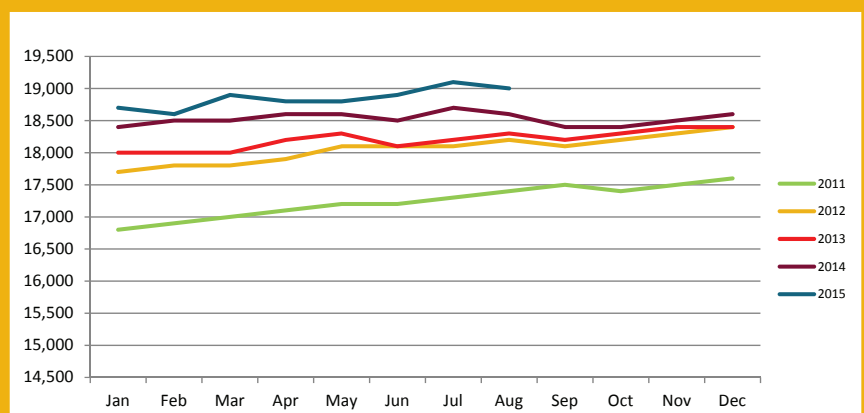
## HEALTH CARE EMPLOYMENT

Health Care positions have increased by 300 YTD compared to 2014 YTD. The growth rate in this industry remains at 1.62 percent for this period. The August estimate of 19,000 is 400 jobs higher than August of 2014 and marks the second consecutive month over 19,000. There is anecdotal evidence of an uptick in new health care businesses in Anchorage which may be driving this growth, particularly in the primary care services.

**SERVICES PROVIDING JOBS**  
Municipality of Anchorage 2011-Present



**HEALTH CARE EMPLOYMENT**  
Municipality of Anchorage 2011-Present



**19,000 HEALTH CARE JOBS**  
August 2015 (preliminary)



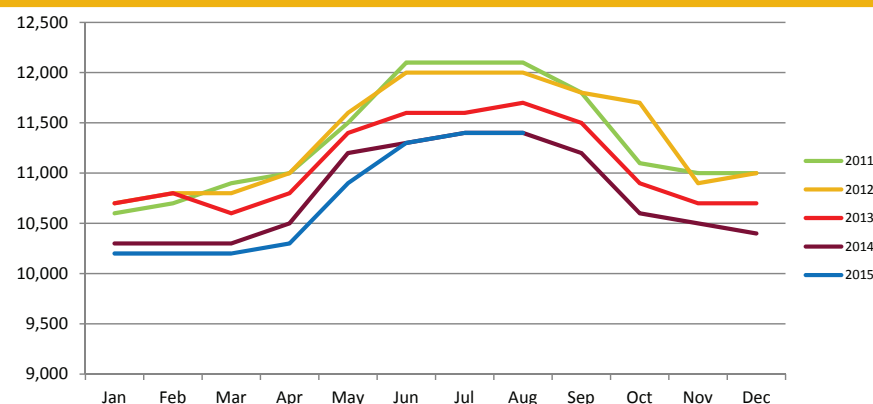
## SERVICES PROVIDING JOBS, CONT.

### TRANSPORTATION

The Trade/Transportation/Utilities industry continues to show significant YTD growth with 338 jobs over 2014 YTD totals. The August estimate of 34,800 is 200 jobs higher than August of 2014. As reported earlier, Retail Trade is still driving this growth with 463 more jobs YTD than this period in 2014. **Retail remains on track to have added over 1,000 jobs in the last two years.**

Monthly job totals for the Transportation/Warehouse/Utilities sector have increased each month from March to July and has leveled off at 11,400, equaling the total for August of 2014. The YTD average has slowly been improving throughout 2015 and is now 100 jobs below the 2014 YTD average. Cargo transit at the Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport is up 19.4 percent for the first half of 2015 when compared with the same period of 2014, which may help to boost air transportation hiring this year.

#### TRANSPORTATION/WAREHOUSE/UTILITIES EMPLOYMENT Municipality of Anchorage 2011-Present



**11,400**

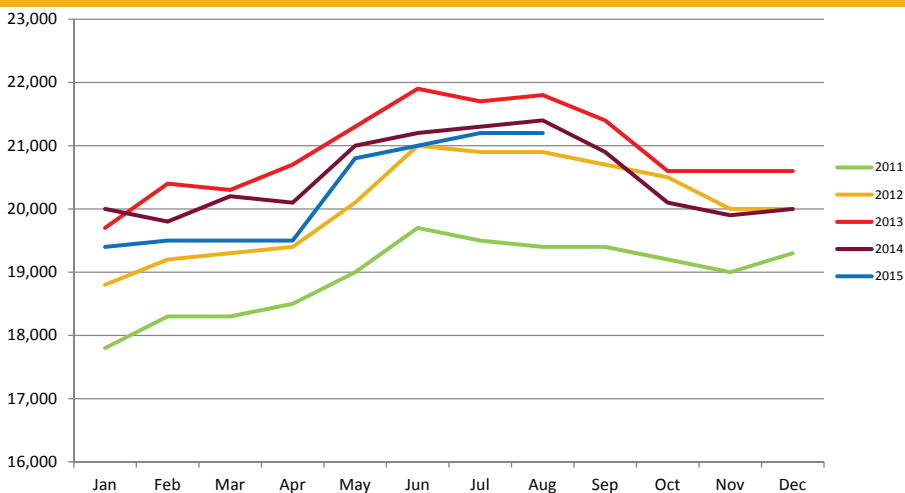
**TRANSPORTATION/WAREHOUSE/UTILITIES JOBS**  
August 2015 (preliminary)

### PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES

ENGINEERING, ARCHITECTURE, LEGAL SERVICES, ACCOUNTING, SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, WASTE MANAGEMENT & ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

This industry's August estimate of 21,200 is 200 jobs lower than August of 2014. As with the Transportation/Warehouse/Utilities sector, these jobs are highly seasonal and the second half of the year will likely shed some light on the industry's outlook for 2016.

#### PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES EMPLOYMENT Municipality of Anchorage 2011-Present

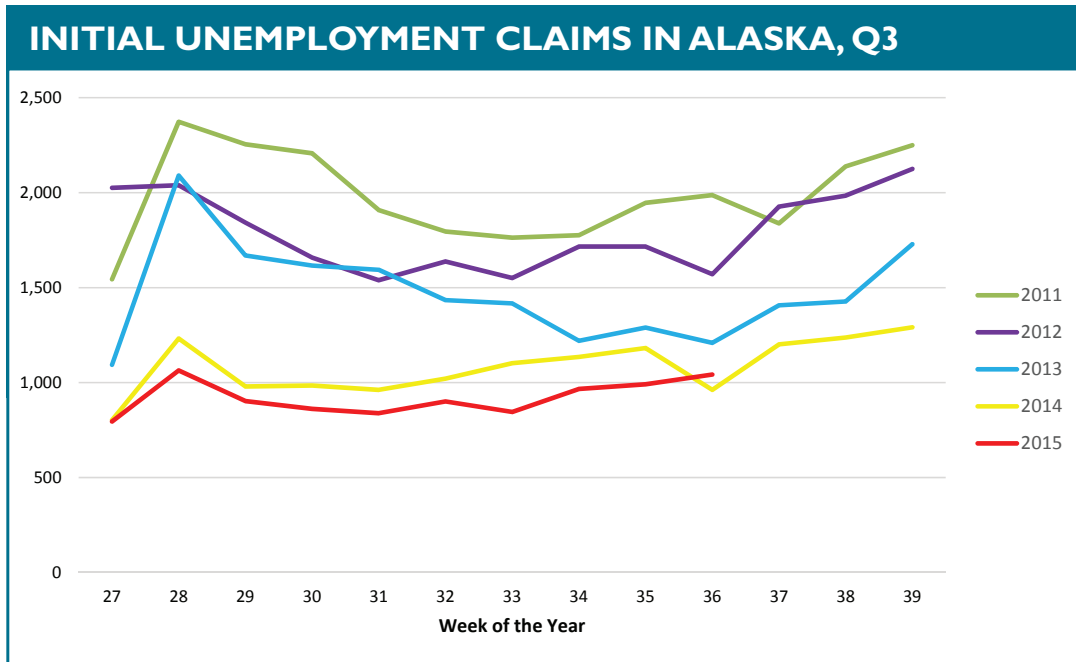


**21,200**

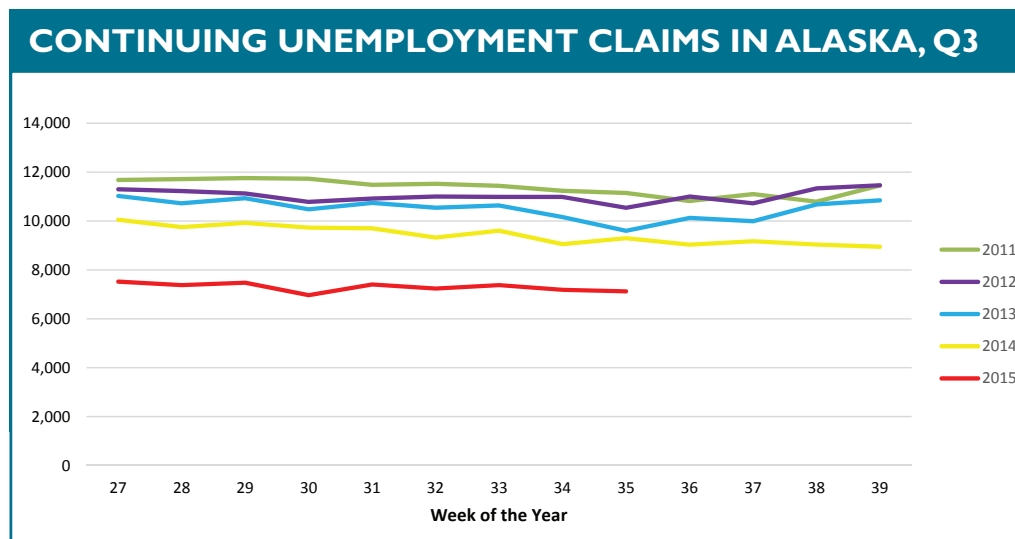
**PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES JOBS**  
August 2015 (preliminary)

## UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS

Initial unemployment claim applications can be interpreted as a proxy for layoffs. They tend to fall as job growth accelerates and climb as workers encounter difficulties finding employment. Filings remained consistent with historical trends throughout the summer, albeit at a lower rate. However, in the first week of September, initial claims were slightly higher than at this point last year, the first time this had occurred in 2015. Still, statewide totals for the third quarter of 2015 continue to average over 100 fewer claims each week than in the third quarter of 2014.



Continuing claims figures help to show how well unemployed workers are re-entering the workforce. This total does not include workers receiving extended benefits from the federal government. The gap between weekly totals in 2015 and 2014 continues to shrink and have flattened out on a week to week basis which may indicate that filings have reached the point where they will go no lower. Continuing claims are expected to follow historical trends for the remainder of the year, increasing each week.

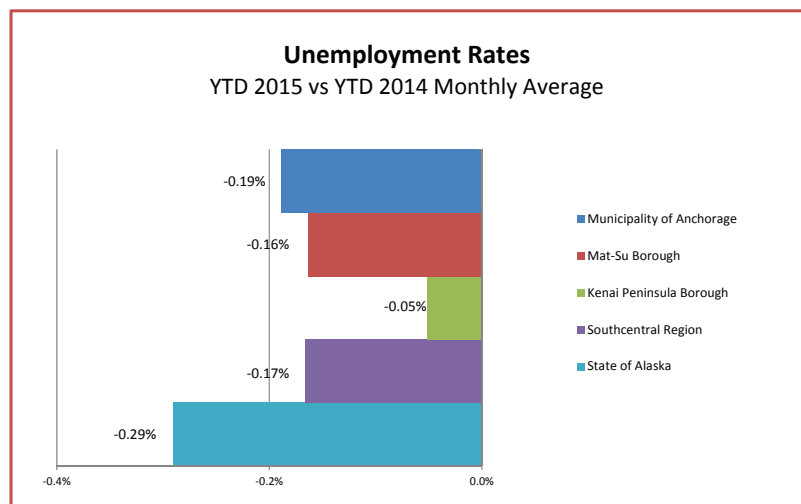
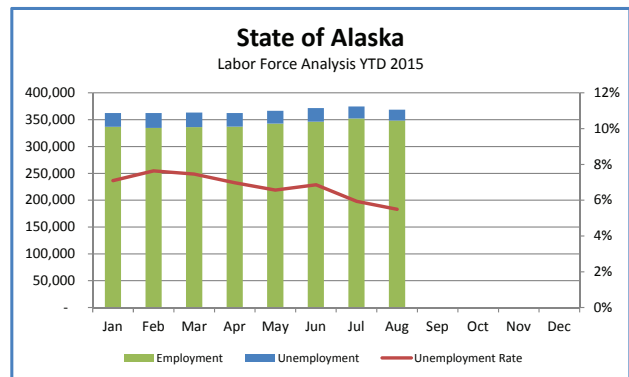
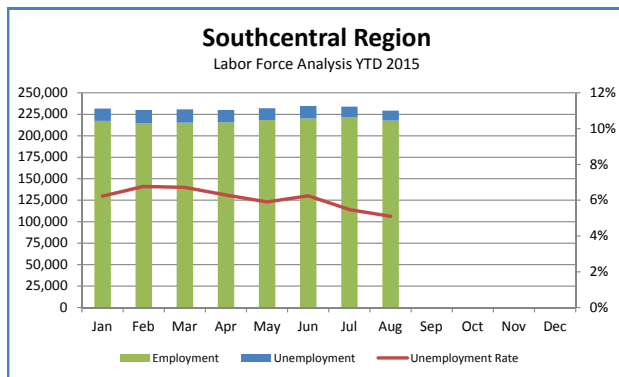
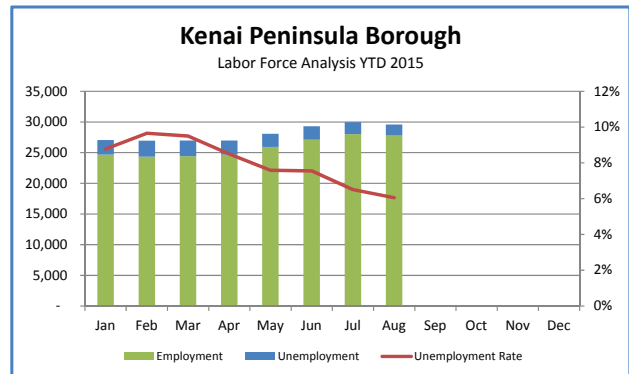
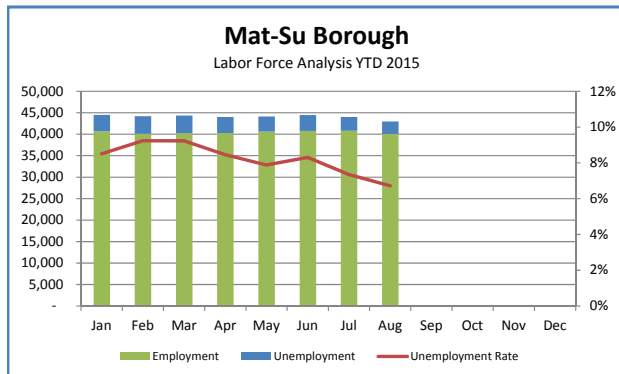
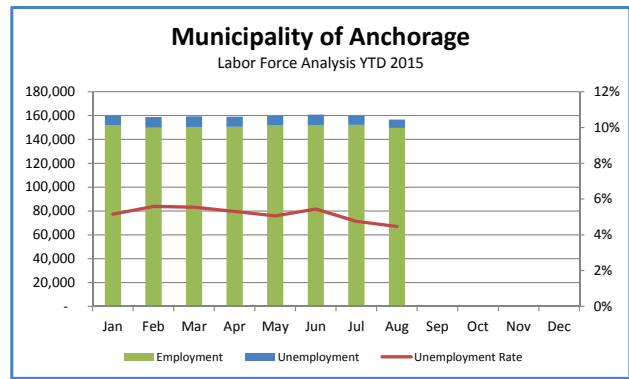
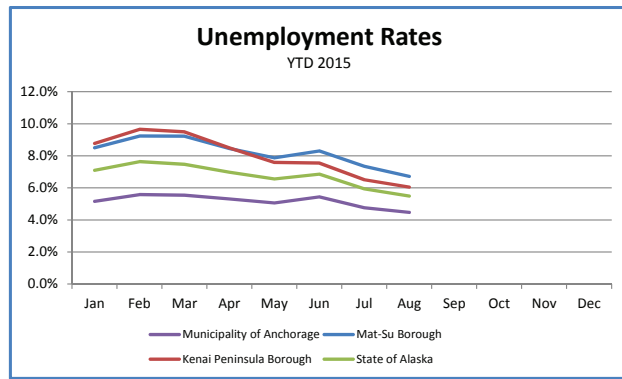


# UNEMPLOYMENT ANALYSIS (YTD, 2015)

Anchorage, Mat-Su, Kenai Peninsula Borough

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	15 YTD Avg	14 YTD Avg	15 vs 14 (YTD)
<b>Municipality of Anchorage</b>								Preliminary							
Labor Force	Revised 160,158	Revised 158,783	Revised 159,357	Revised 159,050	Revised 159,764	Revised 160,906	Revised 159,939	156,727					159,336	158,985	350
Employment	151,886	149,911	150,517	150,599	151,678	152,146	152,322	149,717					151,097	150,465	632
Unemployment	8,272	8,872	8,840	8,451	8,086	8,760	7,617	7,010					8,239	8,520	(282)
Unemployment Rate	5.2%	5.6%	5.5%	5.3%	5.1%	5.4%	4.8%	4.5%					5.17%	5.36%	-0.19%
<b>Mat-Su Borough</b>															
Labor Force	44,502	44,205	44,356	44,033	44,139	44,471	44,049	42,984					44,092	43,999	93
Employment	40,715	40,120	40,261	40,308	40,660	40,778	40,811	40,095					40,469	40,311	158
Unemployment	3,787	4,085	4,095	3,725	3,479	3,693	3,238	2,889					3,624	3,688	(64)
Unemployment Rate	8.5%	9.2%	9.2%	8.5%	7.9%	8.3%	7.4%	6.7%					8.22%	8.38%	-0.16%
<b>Kenai Peninsula Borough</b>															
Labor Force	27,057	26,963	26,984	27,002	28,086	29,322	29,992	29,601					28,126	27,980	146
Employment	24,682	24,359	24,420	24,706	25,954	27,108	28,039	27,809					25,885	25,736	149
Unemployment	2,375	2,604	2,564	2,296	2,132	2,214	1,953	1,792					2,241	2,244	(3)
Unemployment Rate	8.8%	9.7%	9.5%	8.5%	7.6%	7.6%	6.5%	6.1%					7.97%	8.02%	-0.05%
<b>Southcentral Region</b>															
Labor Force	231,717	229,951	230,697	230,085	231,989	234,699	233,980	229,312					231,554	230,964	590
Employment	217,283	214,390	215,198	215,613	218,292	220,032	221,172	217,621					217,450	216,512	938
Unemployment	14,434	15,561	15,499	14,472	13,697	14,667	12,808	11,691					14,104	14,452	(349)
Unemployment Rate	6.2%	6.8%	6.7%	6.3%	5.9%	6.2%	5.5%	5.1%					6.09%	6.26%	-0.17%
<b>State of Alaska</b>															
Labor Force	362,290	362,202	363,153	362,298	366,569	371,587	374,501	368,517					366,390	368,591	(2,201)
Employment	336,571	334,534	336,041	337,018	342,510	346,092	352,250	348,288					341,663	342,646	(983)
Unemployment	25,719	27,668	27,112	25,280	24,059	25,495	22,251	20,229					24,727	25,945	(1,219)
Unemployment Rate	7.1%	7.6%	7.5%	7.0%	6.6%	6.9%	5.9%	5.5%					6.75%	7.04%	-0.29%

**\*Note:** These numbers reflect employment, unemployment, etc. for only those people that are residence of the specified City/Region, thus are not inclusive of people who commute to another city for their jobs. (Ex: Someone lives in Wasilla but works in Anchorage. They would be counted in the Mat-Su Borough's labor force and employment numbers, not the Municipality of Anchorage numbers)



# INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES 2015

## Municipality of Anchorage

Industry	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2015 YTD Avg.	2014 YTD Avg.	2015 vs 2014 YTD Change	% Change
Total Nonfarm	152,400	153,300	153,600	155,100	159,300	162,100	159,300	162,600					157,213	156,950	263	0.17%
Goods Producing	12,700	12,600	12,700	13,400	14,900	15,800	16,300	16,600					14,375	14,250	125	0.88%
Services Providing	139,800	140,700	140,800	141,700	144,400	146,300	143,000	146,100					142,888	142,688	163	0.11%
Mining and Logging <sup>2</sup>	3,800	3,900	3,900	3,900	3,900	3,900	3,900	3,900					3,888	3,850	38	0.97%
Oil & Gas	3,700	3,800	3,800	3,800	3,800	3,800	3,800	3,800					3,788	3,725	63	1.68%
Construction	7,000	6,900	7,000	7,500	8,700	9,500	9,800	10,100					8,313	8,225	88	1.06%
Manufacturing	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,900	2,300	2,400	2,500	2,600					2,138	2,163	-25	-1.16%
Trade/Transportation/Utilities	32,600	32,700	32,500	33,100	34,100	34,800	34,900	34,800					33,688	33,350	338	1.01%
Wholesale Trade	4,700	4,700	4,700	4,800	4,900	5,000	4,900	4,900					4,825	4,850	-25	-0.52%
Retail Trade	17,800	17,800	17,600	18,000	18,300	18,500	18,500	18,500					18,125	17,663	463	2.62%
Trans/Warehouse/Utilities	10,200	10,200	10,200	10,300	10,900	11,300	11,400	11,400					10,738	10,838	-100	-0.92%
Information	4,000	4,100	4,100	4,100	4,100	4,200	4,200	4,200					4,125	3,988	138	3.45%
Financial Activities	7,300	7,300	7,300	7,400	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500					7,413	7,563	-150	-1.98%
Professional & Business Svcs	19,400	19,500	19,500	19,500	20,800	21,000	21,200	21,200					20,263	20,625	-363	-1.76%
Educational & Health Services	24,500	24,800	25,100	24,900	25,100	25,300	25,100	25,200					25,000	24,913	88	0.35%
Health Care	18,700	18,600	18,900	18,800	18,800	18,900	19,100	19,000					18,850	18,550	300	1.62%
Leisure & Hospitality	16,200	16,200	16,400	16,600	17,300	18,100	18,200	18,100					17,138	17,000	138	0.81%
Accommodation	3,000	3,100	3,000	3,100	3,400	3,500	3,600	3,500					3,275	3,250	25	0.77%
Food Svcs & Drinking Places	10,800	10,800	10,900	11,200	11,600	12,200	12,100	12,200					11,475	11,413	63	0.55%
Other Services	6,100	6,100	6,100	6,100	6,200	6,200	6,100	6,200					6,138	6,125	13	0.20%
Government	29,700	29,900	29,800	30,200	29,300	29,200	25,900	28,800					29,100	29,125	-25	-0.09%
Federal Government	8,400	8,400	8,300	8,500	8,400	8,500	8,600	8,500					8,450	8,538	-88	-1.02%
State Government	10,800	11,000	10,900	11,000	10,400	10,200	10,100	10,100					10,563	10,675	-113	-1.05%
State Education	2,800	2,900	2,900	2,900	2,300	2,000	1,900	2,100					2,475	2,563	-88	-3.41%
Local Government	10,500	10,600	10,500	10,700	10,500	10,500	7,200	10,200					10,088	9,950	138	1.38%
Local Education	7,700	7,700	7,700	7,900	7,700	7,600	4,300	4,300					6,863	7,113	-250	-3.51%

- Nonfarm Wage & Salary excludes self-employed workers, fishers, domestics, and unpaid family workers.

- All totals are seasonally non-adjusted totals.

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

- Beginning January 2001, wage and salary employment estimates were published under a new classification system. The Standard Industrial Classification system (SIC) has been replaced by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). Data prior to 2001 are comparable only at the Total Nonfarm and Government levels.

<sup>1/</sup> As of January 2001, certain federally-recognized tribal entities were moved to Local Government, which created a series break for Total Government and Local Government. Please see the April 2002 Alaska Economic Trends publication for a detailed explanation.

<sup>2/</sup> This category was called "Natural Resources and Mining" in previous years. The change is in name only; the industries it includes remain the same.

- Some totals may not equal components due to rounding.

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

**\* Note:** The above numbers are representative of all people employed in the Municipality of Anchorage, this is inclusive of workers who claim residence outside of the Municipality of Anchorage. (Ex: someone who lives in the Mat-Su, but works in Anchorage would be included in these number)

### Quick Comparisons

15 vs 14 August	400	0.25%
15 vs 14 1st Qtr	-267	-0.17%
15 vs 14 2nd Qtr	567	0.36%
15 vs 14 3rd Qtr	600	0.37%
15 vs 14 4th Qtr	-	-

# INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES 2015

## State of Alaska

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2015 YTD Avg.	2014 YTD Avg.	2015 vs 2014 YTD Change	% Change
	Revised	Revised	Revised	Revised	Revised	Revised	Revised	Preliminary								
Total Nonfarm	323,000	325,500	327,500	333,500	343,600	357,700	363,300	357,800					341,488	339,638	1,850	0.54%
Goods Producing	43,600	44,400	45,200	46,800	47,200	55,300	64,500	60,700					50,963	50,988	-25	-0.05%
Services Providing	279,400	281,100	282,300	286,700	296,400	302,400	298,800	297,100					290,525	288,650	1,875	0.65%
Mining and Logging <sup>2</sup>	17,200	17,300	17,600	17,600	17,700	18,100	18,300	18,300					17,763	17,763	0	0.00%
Mining	17,100	17,100	17,400	17,300	17,400	17,700	17,900	17,900					17,475	17,475	0	0.00%
Oil & Gas	14,700	14,800	15,000	14,900	14,800	15,100	15,200	15,300					14,975	14,600	375	2.57%
Construction	15,100	14,900	15,300	16,600	18,400	20,300	21,500	21,800					17,988	17,075	913	5.34%
Manufacturing	11,300	12,200	12,300	12,600	11,100	16,900	24,700	20,600					15,213	16,150	-938	-5.80%
Seafood Processing	7,400	8,500	8,600	8,500	7,000	12,700	20,100	16,400					11,150	12,375	-1,225	-9.90%
Trade/Transportation/Utilities	62,600	62,400	62,700	64,500	69,900	71,400	72,300	72,100					67,238	64,888	2,350	3.62%
Wholesale Trade	6,100	6,200	6,200	6,400	6,600	6,700	6,600	6,700					6,438	6,525	-88	-1.34%
Retail Trade	36,100	35,900	36,100	37,100	38,700	39,800	40,400	40,100					38,025	36,638	1,388	3.79%
Food & Beverage Stores	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,300	6,500	6,700	6,500					6,250	6,300	-50	-0.79%
General Merchandise Stores	9,800	9,600	9,500	9,700	9,900	10,100	10,200	10,300					9,888	9,800	88	0.89%
Trans/Warehouse/Utilities	20,400	20,300	20,400	21,000	24,600	24,900	25,300	25,300					22,775	21,725	1,050	4.83%
Air Transportation	5,600	5,600	5,700	6,000	6,400	6,800	6,800	6,800					6,213	5,913	300	5.07%
Information	6,200	6,300	6,200	6,100	6,200	6,300	6,300	6,200					6,225	6,250	-25	-0.40%
Telecommunications	4,200	4,300	4,300	4,200	4,300	4,300	4,400	4,400					4,300	4,125	175	4.24%
Financial Activities	11,900	12,000	11,800	11,900	11,800	12,100	12,300	12,100					11,988	10,770	1,218	11.30%
Professional & Business Svcs	28,100	28,200	28,100	28,600	29,500	30,200	30,100	29,200					29,000	30,050	-1,050	-3.49%
Educational & Health Services	47,200	47,300	47,900	48,300	48,300	47,600	47,400	47,000					47,625	46,813	813	1.74%
Health Care	34,100	34,000	34,500	34,600	34,700	34,900	34,800	34,400					34,500	33,813	688	2.03%
Leisure & Hospitality	29,900	30,100	30,700	31,500	35,200	40,300	41,200	40,800					34,963	34,925	38	0.11%
Accommodation	7,800	7,800	7,800	8,100	9,500	11,700	12,200	12,200					9,638	8,763	875	9.99%
Food Svcs & Drinking Places	18,300	18,300	18,800	19,200	20,600	22,600	22,700	22,300					20,350	21,125	-775	-3.67%
Other Services	11,600	11,700	11,700	11,900	12,100	12,300	12,300	12,000					11,950	11,763	188	1.59%
Government	81,900	83,100	83,200	83,900	83,400	82,200	76,900	77,700					81,538	81,775	-238	-0.29%
Federal Government	14,200	14,200	14,400	14,500	15,100	15,700	15,700	15,500					14,913	15,000	-88	-0.58%
State Government	26,300	26,600	26,700	26,900	25,900	24,800	24,200	24,700					25,763	26,350	-588	-2.23%
State Education	8,200	8,600	8,600	8,600	7,400	6,000	5,700	6,400					7,438	7,700	-263	-3.41%
Local Government	41,400	42,300	42,100	42,500	42,400	41,700	37,000	37,500					40,863	40,425	438	1.08%
Local Education	23,500	24,100	24,000	24,300	24,000	22,500	17,100	18,200					22,213	22,125	88	0.40%
Tribal Government <sup>1</sup>	3,400	3,400	3,500	3,600	3,800	3,900	4,100	4,100					3,725	3,688	38	1.02%

- Nonfarm Wage & Salary excludes self-employed workers, fishers, domestics, and unpaid family workers.

- All totals are non-seasonally adjusted totals.

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

- Beginning January 2001, wage and salary employment estimates were published under a new classification system. The Standard Industrial Classification system (SIC) has been replaced by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). Data prior to 2001 are comparable only at the Total Nonfarm and Government levels.

<sup>1/</sup> As of January 2001, certain federally-recognized tribal entities were moved to Local Government, which created a series break for Total Government and Local Government. Please see the April 2002 Alaska Economic Trends publication for a detailed explanation.

<sup>2/</sup> This category was called "Natural Resources and Mining" in previous years. The change is in name only; the industries it includes remain the same.

- Totals may not equal sub-sections due to rounding.

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

### Quick Comparisons

15 vs 14 August	-2,100	-0.58%
15 vs 14 1st Qtr	3,500	1.09%
15 vs 14 2nd Qtr	1,667	0.49%
15 vs 14 3rd Qtr.	-350	-0.10%
15 vs 14 4th Qtr		

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## Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

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No. 15-36

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### Unemployment rate at 6.7 percent in July

JUNEAU, Alaska—Alaska's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 6.7 percent in July, essentially unchanged from June's 6.8 percent. The comparable national rate was 5.3 percent.

Alaska's seasonally adjusted rate has remained level through the past four months. The adjusted rate smooths out the swings from summer to winter employment, which makes it easier to detect underlying economic trends.

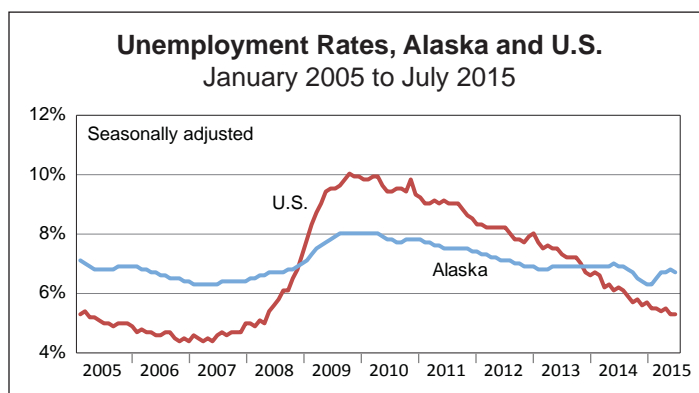
July's unadjusted rate was 5.9 percent, one whole percentage point lower than June's 6.9 percent. Large drops in the unadjusted rate from June to July are typical as Alaska's summer economy heats up.

Unadjusted rates fell in nearly every borough and census area in the state. July is one of the few months in the year when rates throughout the state move in the same direction due to increased activity in construction, tourism, and fishing.

The lowest rate was 2.1 percent in the Bristol Bay Borough, where commercial fishing dominates. The highest rate was in the recently renamed Kusilvak Census Area, at 26.9 percent. The unemployment rate in this economically depressed area was more than 10 percentage points higher than the Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area and the Northwest Arctic Borough, which shared the next highest July rate at 16.5 percent.

For detailed employment estimates, see <http://live.laborstats.alaska.gov/ces/>. The estimates are preliminary and subject to potentially large revisions.

###



**Unemployment Rates, Seasonally Adjusted**

	7/15	6/15	7/14
Alaska	6.7%	6.8%	6.9%
U.S.	5.3%	5.5%	6.2%

Sources: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section; and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics



## Labor Force by Borough and Census Area, Not Seasonally Adjusted<sup>1</sup>

	Civilian Labor Force			Unemployed					
	7/15 <sup>P</sup>	6/15	7/14	Number			Rate		
	7/15 <sup>P</sup>	6/15	7/14	7/15 <sup>P</sup>	6/15	7/14	7/15 <sup>P</sup>	6/15	7/14
<b>Alaska</b>	<b>374,708</b>	<b>371,587</b>	<b>378,906</b>	<b>22,285</b>	<b>25,495</b>	<b>23,995</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>6.3</b>
<b>Anchorage/Mat-Su Region</b>	<b>204,024</b>	<b>205,377</b>	<b>206,002</b>	<b>10,870</b>	<b>12,453</b>	<b>11,549</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>5.6</b>
Anchorage, Municipality	159,966	160,906	161,470	7,627	8,760	8,125	4.8	5.4	5.0
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	44,058	44,471	44,532	3,243	3,693	3,424	7.4	8.3	7.7
<b>Gulf Coast Region</b>	<b>42,669</b>	<b>41,434</b>	<b>42,424</b>	<b>2,602</b>	<b>2,995</b>	<b>2,779</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>6.6</b>
Kenai Peninsula Borough	30,068	29,322	29,821	1,956	2,214	1,984	6.5	7.6	6.7
Kodiak Island Borough	6,844	6,532	6,862	300	377	402	4.4	5.8	5.9
Valdez-Cordova Census Area	5,757	5,580	5,741	346	404	393	6.0	7.2	6.8
<b>Interior Region</b>	<b>53,610</b>	<b>53,866</b>	<b>54,966</b>	<b>3,051</b>	<b>3,638</b>	<b>3,465</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>6.3</b>
Denali Borough	1,699	1,686	1,753	65	72	77	3.8	4.3	4.4
Fairbanks North Star Borough	46,449	46,502	47,552	2,281	2,772	2,590	4.9	6.0	5.4
Southeast Fairbanks Census Area	2,967	3,022	3,089	293	334	358	9.9	11.1	11.6
Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area	2,495	2,656	2,572	412	460	440	16.5	17.3	17.1
<b>Northern Region</b>	<b>11,358</b>	<b>11,399</b>	<b>11,577</b>	<b>1,269</b>	<b>1,393</b>	<b>1,320</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>11.4</b>
Nome Census Area	3,921	4,115	4,010	505	568	535	12.9	13.8	13.3
North Slope Borough	4,339	4,234	4,411	253	291	259	5.8	6.9	5.9
Northwest Arctic Borough	3,098	3,050	3,156	511	534	526	16.5	17.5	16.7
<b>Southeast Region</b>	<b>41,548</b>	<b>39,424</b>	<b>42,419</b>	<b>2,176</b>	<b>2,482</b>	<b>2,383</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>5.6</b>
Haines Borough	1,449	1,132	1,487	81	90	96	5.6	8.0	6.5
Hoonah-Angoon Census Area	1,356	1,341	1,359	149	162	133	11.0	12.1	9.8
Juneau, City and Borough	17,733	17,697	18,080	760	875	837	4.3	4.9	4.6
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	7,900	7,527	8,069	407	483	469	5.2	6.4	5.8
Petersburg Borough	2,074	1,604	2,124	127	145	143	6.1	9.0	6.7
Prince of Wales-Hyder Census Area	2,812	2,772	2,932	304	331	335	10.8	11.9	11.4
Sitka, City and Borough	5,659	4,935	5,767	200	235	224	3.5	4.8	3.9
Skagway, Municipality	1,067	1,043	1,080	48	54	46	4.5	5.2	4.3
Wrangell, City and Borough	1,192	1,084	1,210	78	87	77	6.5	8.0	6.4
Yakutat, City and Borough	306	289	311	22	20	23	7.2	6.9	7.4
<b>Southwest Region</b>	<b>21,503</b>	<b>20,086</b>	<b>21,517</b>	<b>2,320</b>	<b>2,535</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>11.6</b>
Aleutians East Borough	2,611	1,854	2,602	82	94	92	3.1	5.1	3.5
Aleutians West Census Area	4,323	3,942	4,347	133	176	185	3.1	4.5	4.3
Bethel Census Area	7,157	7,353	7,153	1,127	1,184	1,208	15.7	16.1	16.9
Bristol Bay Borough	1,248	938	1,252	26	35	30	2.1	3.7	2.4
Dillingham Census Area	2,772	2,491	2,763	204	238	211	7.4	9.6	7.6
Kusilvak Census Area	2,497	2,786	2,485	672	719	672	26.9	25.8	27.0
Lake and Peninsula Borough	895	722	915	76	89	102	8.5	12.3	11.1

P = Preliminary. As more information becomes available, data are revised every month for the previous month and again at the end of every calendar year.

Note: The official definition of unemployment excludes anyone who has not made an active attempt to find work in the four-week period up to and including the week that includes the 12th of the reference month. Many in rural Alaska do not meet the definition because they have not conducted an active job search due to the scarcity of employment opportunities.

<sup>1</sup>Unemployment rates that are not seasonally adjusted should not be compared with those that are.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section; and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics