

Eighth Edition 2015 - October



AEDC
Anchorage Economic
Development Corporation

Anchorage Employment Report

Sponsored by:



First National Bank

A L A S K A

MEMBER FDIC

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....3

 MONTHLY REVISIONS.....4

INSIDE THE NUMBERS: 2ND QUARTER 2015 QCEW DATA.....5

GOODS PRODUCING JOBS SUMMARY6

SERVICES PROVIDING JOB SUMMARY.....7

 HEALTH CARE SNAPSHOT7

 TRANSPORTATION SNAPSHOT.....8

 PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES SNAPSHOT8

UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS.....9

UNEMPLOYMENT ANALYSIS OF SOUTHCENTRAL REGION (TABLE)..... 10

 LABOR FORCE ANALYSIS CHARTS..... 11

ANCHORAGE EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES TABLE..... 12

ALASKA EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES TABLE..... 13

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR PRESS RELEASE..... 14

All data referenced in this employment report is from the State of Alaska, Dept. of Labor & Workforce Development website: **www.laborstats.alaska.gov** and from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics: **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 October was 4.7 percent, showing no change from the September revised rate. **This ties with 2014, as the lowest October unemployment rate for Anchorage since 2007, when it reached 4.6 percent.** Anchorage's October unemployment rate is 0.1 percent below the national rate of 4.8 percent and 1.4 percent lower than the statewide rate of 6.1 percent. *As always, it should be noted that these are preliminary survey figures for the month and will be revised next month.*

4.7%

October 2015

Unemployment Rate
for Anchorage (preliminary)

YEAR-TO-DATE UNEMPLOYMENT

The average year-to-date (YTD) non-seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in Anchorage was 5.1 percent at the end of October; 0.2 percent lower than at this time last year. **An increase of 671 in the employment total and 301 in the Anchorage labor force during the YTD period has resulted in the reported unemployment total decreasing by 370.** The total number of unemployed people in Anchorage for the month of October is estimated at 7,476 (those actively looking for jobs), 10 less than October 2014. This pool of unemployed people in Anchorage increased by 153 since September. In the Mat-Su Borough, the YTD average monthly unemployment rate is down 0.3 percent from 2014 YTD, while the Kenai Peninsula Borough's rate has reduced by 0.1 percent during this time (see the charts on page 11 for more details).

5.1%

2015 YTD

Unemployment Rate
for Anchorage (preliminary)

It is important to note that these Anchorage unemployment numbers represent the labor force residing in Anchorage and do 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 October, which includes total jobs in Anchorage held by city residents and commuters, is 158,500, 1,300 more jobs than in October of 2014. **The monthly employment decline from September to October 2015, is at a similar pace as the last two years which may indicate that the estimates for the remainder of the year will follow a comparable curve.** The 2015 YTD monthly average is 157,800, 530 jobs higher than compared to YTD 2014. This represents a 0.34 percent increase in the total monthly average over the same period.

The private sector (total jobs minus government jobs) has grown by 520 jobs during this time, while Government employment has increased by 10. Federal and State Government employment has decreased by 40 and 160, respectively, while Local Government has increased by 180 (sector changes do not equal the industry change 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. Services Providing industries that have flat or positive growth so far this year are Trade/Transportation/Utilities (TTU), Information, Educational & Health Services, Leisure & Hospitality and Government. Eight of the ten major industries' job estimates for October 2015 are at or above October 2014 totals.

158,500

Total jobs in Anchorage
October 2015 (preliminary)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY CONTINUED

MONTHLY REVISIONS

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

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

SEPTEMBER 2015 REVISIONS, ANCHORAGE

<i>Industry</i>	<i>Preliminary Total</i>	<i>Revised Total</i>	<i>Net Change</i>
Total Nonfarm	161,900	161,500	-400
Goods Producing	16,100	16,000	-100
Construction	10,000	9,900	-100
Services Providing	145,800	145,500	-300
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	11,400	11,300	-100
Information	4,400	4,300	-100
Professional & Business Services	21,000	20,800	-200
Education & Health Services	25,100	25,200	+100
Health Care	18,800	18,900	+100
Food Services & Drinking Places	11,800	11,700	-100
Other Services	6,400	6,300	-200

SEPTEMBER 2015 REVISIONS, ALASKA

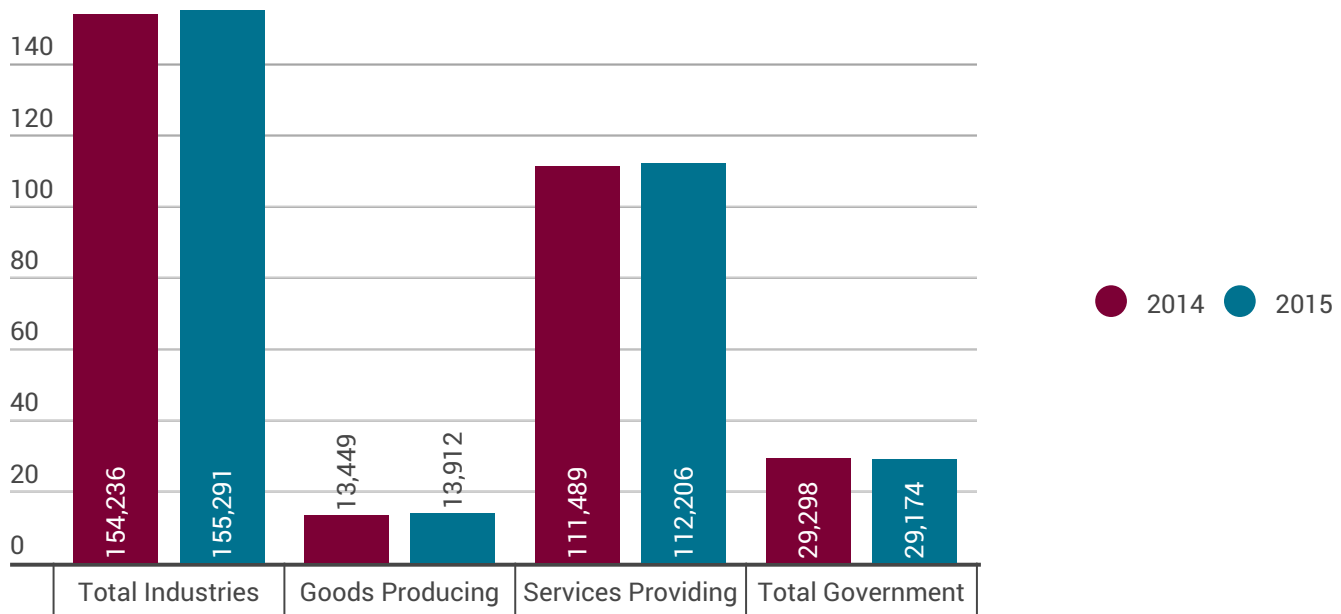
<i>Industry</i>	<i>Preliminary Total</i>	<i>Revised Total</i>	<i>Net Change</i>
Total Nonfarm	349,400	349,900	+500
Mining & Logging	18,000	17,900	-100
Oil & Gas	14,900	14,800	-100
Manufacturing	15,000	15,100	+100
Seafood Processing	11,200	11,300	+100
Services Providing	295,000	295,500	+500
Trade/Transportation/Utilities	68,900	68,800	-100
Retail Trade	38,600	38,400	-200
Air Transportation	6,300	6,400	+100
Information	6,200	6,300	+100
Telecommunications	4,300	4,500	+200
Professional & Business Services	29,400	29,800	+400
Health Care	33,800	33,900	+100
Other Services	12,000	12,100	+100

INSIDE THE NUMBERS:

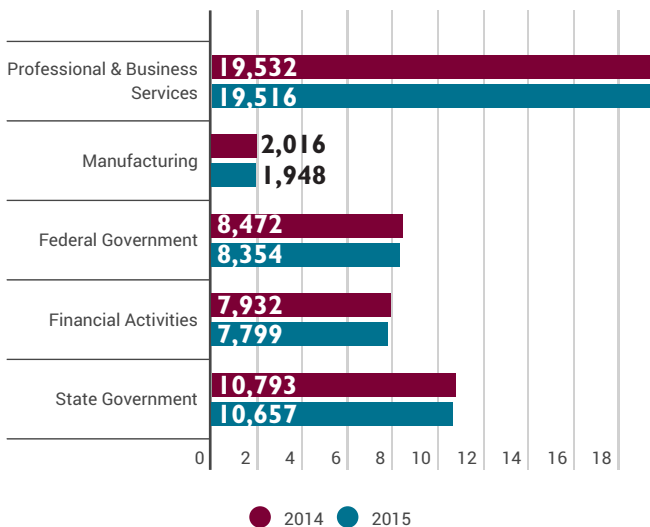
2ND QUARTER 2015 QCEW DATA

In early November, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics released the latest data from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) product. QCEW data are universal counts of jobs taken from data provided from unemployment insurance covered industries. This includes the majority of jobs in Alaska but excludes some significant groups such as the self-employed and the military. QCEW data are considered the most accurate representation of monthly job figures and are used to revise the monthly data regularly included in this report series at the end of the year. The following charts compare the 2015 data available to the same period of 2014.

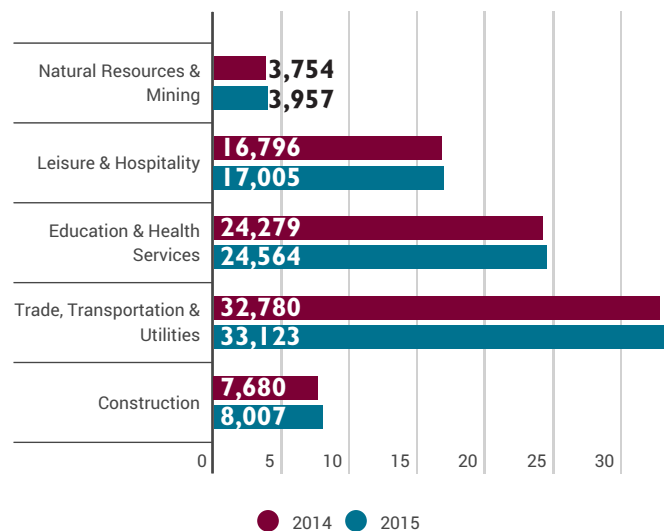
AVERAGE MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT FOR FIRST TWO QUARTERS 2014 & 2015



LARGEST AVERAGE MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT LOSSES FOR FIRST TWO QUARTERS 2014 & 2015



LARGEST AVERAGE MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT GAINS FOR FIRST TWO QUARTERS 2014 & 2015



GOODS PRODUCING JOBS

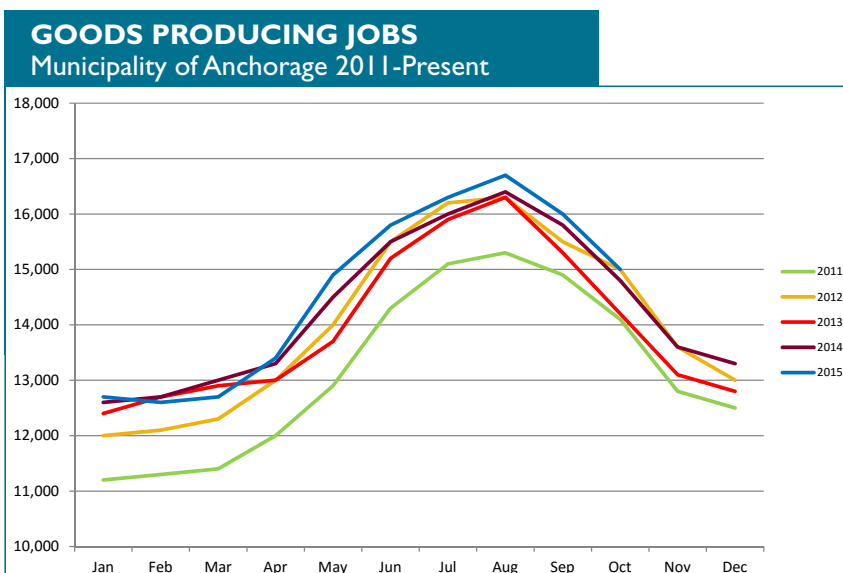
CONSTRUCTION WORK, MINING, OIL & GAS PRODUCTION, MANUFACTURING

With a job total of 14,610, employment in the Goods Producing* group has increased by 150 jobs YTD compared to the same period a year ago. The Mining and Logging industry has gained 50 jobs in 2015, when compared against the same period of 2014, while Construction has gained 120 during this time. The Manufacturing industry is the only one in this group to show a decrease of jobs at this point, with an estimated 10 fewer jobs YTD than last year at this time.

The Oil & Gas sector is part of the Mining & Logging industry. The job total for the Oil & Gas sector is up 50 this year when compared to 2014 YTD. The October monthly estimate is at 3,700 for the third month in a row. **Positive developments during the month of October include BlueCrest's announcement of a three oil well program at their Cosmopolitan unit in Cook Inlet, ConocoPhillips' new production at Kuparuk on the North Slope and Petro Star Inc.'s announcement of the groundbreaking for an asphalt plant in North Pole.**

Growth in the Construction industry continued to hold strong in October and is at 9,100, 100 jobs more than October 2014. As of October, Construction employment is showing an YTD increase of 120 jobs from the 2014 YTD total. The total estimated value of Municipal construction permit applications for October is \$36.6 million, down slightly from \$37.6 million in October 2014. Both single family and duplex permit values have increased over this same period.

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



In Anchorage:

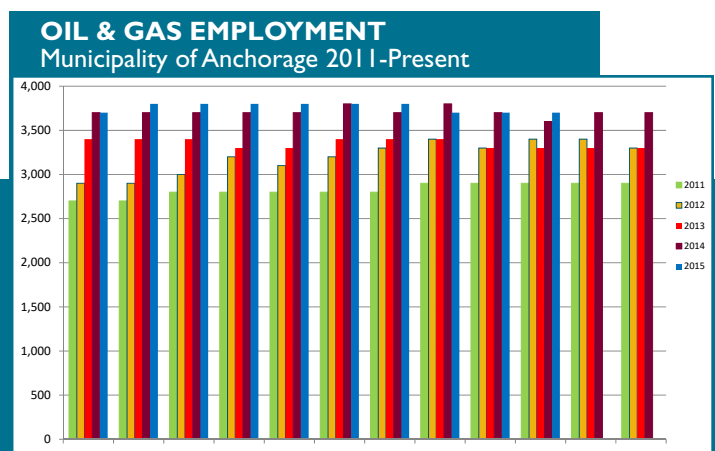
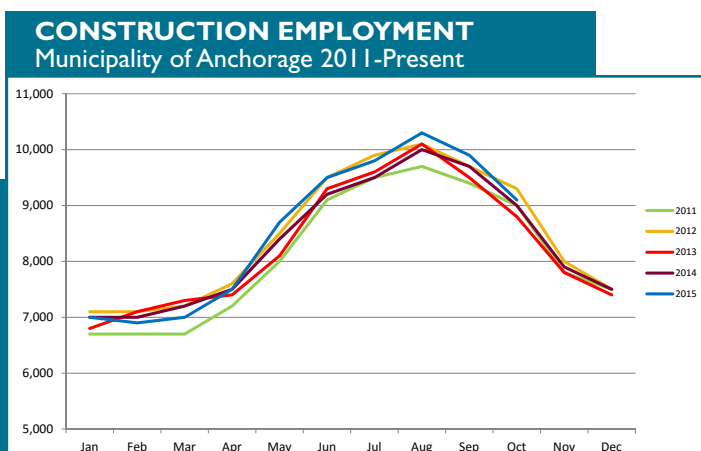
15,000
GOODS PRODUCING JOBS
October 2015 (preliminary)



9,100
CONSTRUCTION JOBS
Oct. 2015 (preliminary)



3,700
OIL & GAS JOBS
Oct. 2015 (preliminary)



SERVICES PROVIDING JOBS

ENGINEERING, RETAIL, TOURISM, HEALTH CARE, ETC.

Services Providing jobs in Anchorage totaled 143,600 in October, 1,200 more than October of 2014.

Overall, the YTD average is up 390 jobs from 2014.

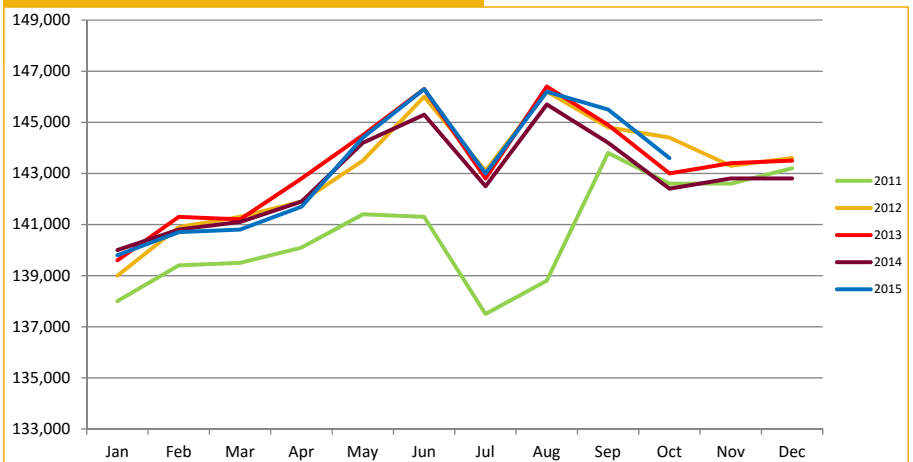
Job growth in the Information industry continues to lead all industries, increasing 3.5 percent YTD compared to the same period last year. The monthly estimate was at 4,100 in October, 100 more jobs than in October 2014. According to the latest QCEW data, employment in the Telecommunications sector is leading this growth, averaging 125 jobs more for the YTD period ending in June over the 2014 counts.

The Trade/Transportation/Utilities industry is also showing above average YTD growth, up 350 jobs, or 1.05 percent over 2014 YTD. The Retail Trade sector is still leading this rally, showing a 400 job increase YTD over the same period of 2014. The October monthly estimate of Retail Trade jobs was 18,300, 200 jobs more than October of 2014. **The October estimate is also the first time Retail Trade has increased from September to October since 2012.** QCEW data has also shown an uptick in employment in the Air Transportation sector. The Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport is reporting a 14.1 percent increase in cargo transiting the airport in the first three quarters of 2015 when compared to the same period in 2014, which may be good news for retention of these new jobs.

The Leisure & Hospitality industry is now showing a 160 job YTD improvement over 2014 YTD. **The October monthly estimate is at 16,800, 200 jobs higher than October of 2014.** Employment in the Accommodation sector is up 60 jobs YTD and the Food Service and Drinking Places category is showing a 70 job increase over the same time.

The monthly average for Government is up 10 jobs YTD over last year at this time. Local Education employment is up 160 for 2015 YTD from 2014, and the overall monthly average for Local Government 2015 YTD is up 180 jobs, or 1.8 percent over 2014 YTD. Federal Government employment is averaging 40 fewer jobs than at this point last year and is continuing a trend of closing the gap each month since May. State Government totals are down 160 jobs YTD from this time last year, including an YTD decline of 100 jobs in the State Education sector.

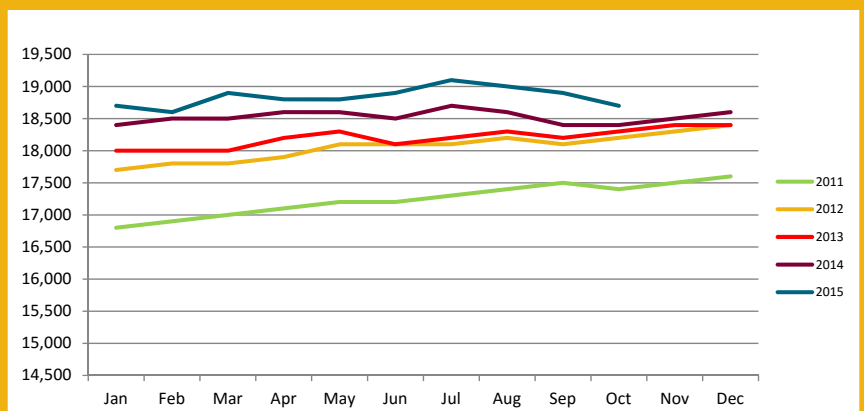
SERVICES PROVIDING JOBS
Municipality of Anchorage 2011-Present



HEALTH CARE EMPLOYMENT

Health care positions have increased by 320 YTD compared to 2014 YTD. The growth rate in this industry is at 1.73 percent for this period. The October estimate of 18,700 is 300 jobs higher than October of 2014. **This indicates that the job growth seen so far this year will likely remain in the near term.** The Out Patient Health Care sector, referenced in QCEW data, continues to lead this industry's growth, averaging nearly 460 additional jobs each month in 2015, over 2014, through June.

HEALTH CARE EMPLOYMENT
Municipality of Anchorage 2011-Present



18,700 HEALTH CARE JOBS
October 2015 (preliminary)



First National Bank
ALASKA
MEMBER FDIC

SERVICES PROVIDING JOBS, CONT.

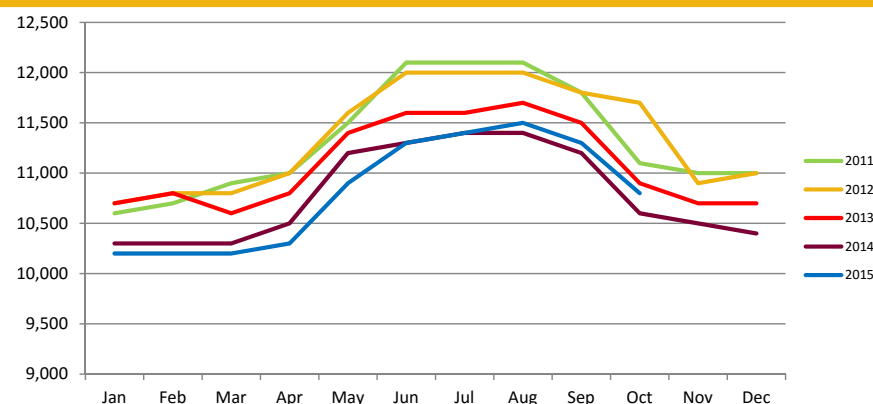
TRANSPORTATION

The Trade/Transportation/Utilities industry continues to show significant YTD growth with 350 jobs over 2014 YTD totals. The October estimate of 33,800 is 400 jobs higher than October of 2014. As reported earlier, Retail Trade is still driving this growth with 400 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 continued its annual seasonal decline in October; dropping to 10,800. However, the October 2015 estimate is 200 jobs higher than October 2014. Additionally, the YTD

average has slowly been improving throughout 2015, and is now 40 jobs below the 2014 YTD average. Between these YTD improvement and positive figures in the QCEW (which impact the revision of these statistics in the early part of 2016), the chances of this sector breaking even in job growth for 2015 seem to be getting better.

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



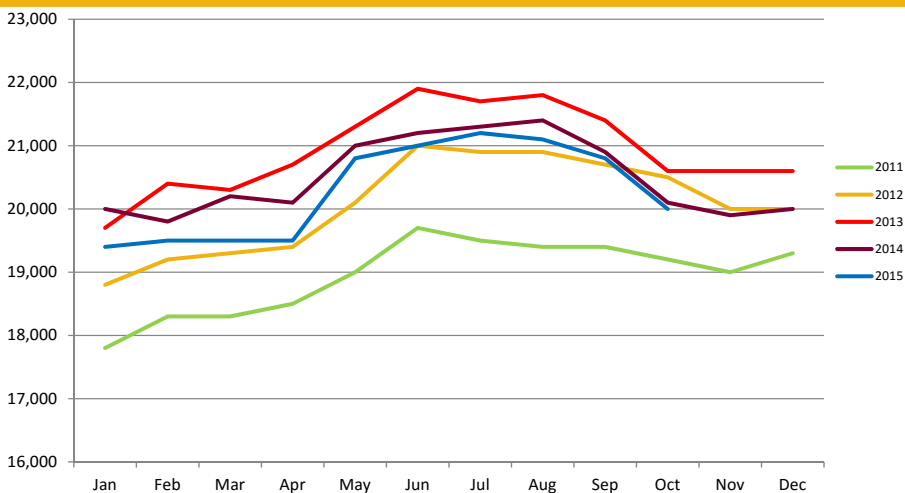
10,800
TRANSPORTATION/WAREHOUSE/UTILITIES JOBS
October 2015 (preliminary)

PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES

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

The YTD average in this industry is down 320 jobs from 2014. The October estimate of 20,000 is 100 jobs below October of 2014. Based on the new QCEW data, the majority of these lost positions come from the Administrative and Support Services component, while Waste Management/Remediation employment is on the rise.

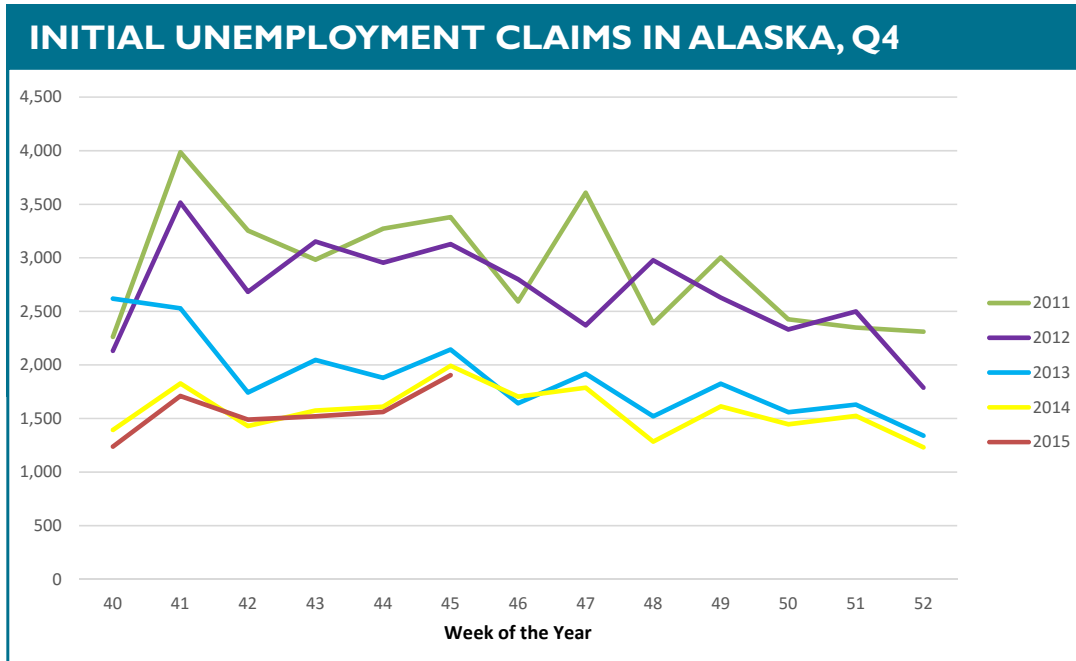
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES EMPLOYMENT Municipality of Anchorage 2011-Present



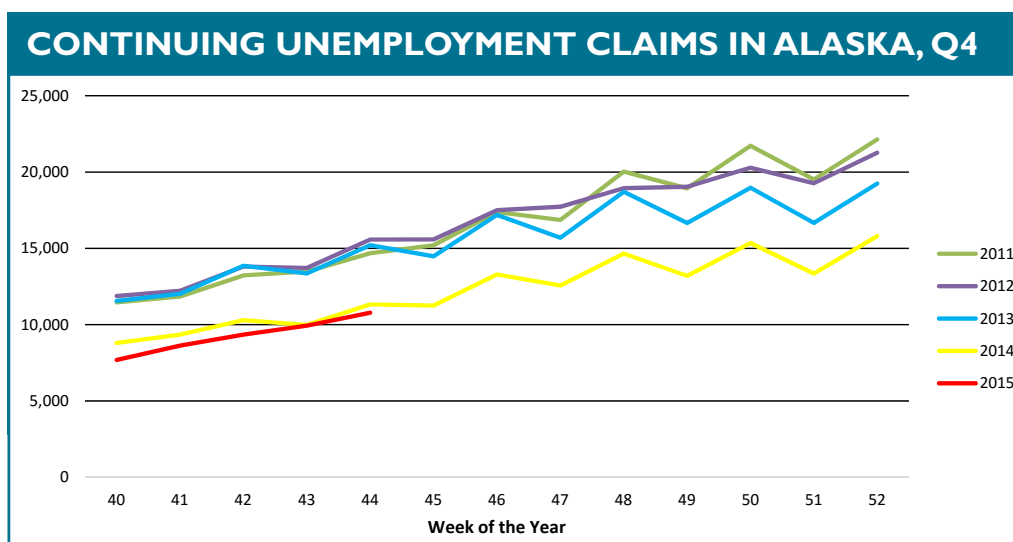
20,000
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES JOBS
October 2015 (preliminary)

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. Early figures for the fourth quarter indicate a return to 2014 levels and trends after being below them for the first three quarters. This is consistent with the theory that initial claims have reached a structural “floor”, a level at which the typical cycles of hiring prevent the claims numbers from going any lower. The trajectory of the initial claims data for the rest of the year and into the first quarter of 2016 may provide some indication as to the strength of the economy in the coming year.



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 this year and the previous year has effectively disappeared for the first time since August of 2014. While claims totals should follow historical trends by increasing weekly for the rest of the year, there are no indications that there will be any significant spikes that will move the trend from the current low level. Again, the figures for the final two months of 2015 and the first quarter of 2016 should shed some light on the trends for 2016.



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)
Municipality of Anchorage															
Labor Force	160,158	158,783	159,357	159,050	159,764	160,906	159,939	156,851	157,408	159,595			159,181	158,880	301
Employment	151,886	149,911	150,517	150,599	151,678	152,146	152,322	149,851	150,085	152,119			151,111	150,441	671
Unemployment	8,272	8,872	8,840	8,451	8,086	8,760	7,617	7,000	7,323	7,476			8,070	8,439	(370)
Unemployment Rate	5.2%	5.6%	5.5%	5.3%	5.1%	5.4%	4.8%	4.5%	4.7%	4.7%			5.07%	5.31%	-0.24%
Mat-Su Borough															
Labor Force	44,502	44,205	44,356	44,033	44,139	44,471	44,049	43,014	43,104	43,821			43,969	43,931	39
Employment	40,715	40,120	40,261	40,308	40,660	40,778	40,811	40,130	40,147	40,679			40,461	40,305	156
Unemployment	3,787	4,085	4,095	3,725	3,479	3,693	3,238	2,884	2,957	3,142			3,509	3,626	(118)
Unemployment Rate	8.5%	9.2%	9.2%	8.5%	7.9%	8.3%	7.4%	6.7%	6.9%	7.2%			7.98%	8.25%	-0.27%
Kenai Peninsula Borough															
Labor Force	27,057	26,963	26,984	27,002	28,086	29,322	29,992	29,597	28,081	27,526			28,061	28,000	61
Employment	24,682	24,359	24,420	24,706	25,954	27,108	28,039	27,808	26,202	25,486			25,876	25,784	92
Unemployment	2,375	2,604	2,564	2,296	2,132	2,214	1,953	1,789	1,879	2,040			2,185	2,216	(31)
Unemployment Rate	8.8%	9.7%	9.5%	8.5%	7.6%	7.6%	6.5%	6.0%	6.7%	7.4%			7.79%	7.91%	-0.13%
Southcentral Region															
Labor Force	231,717	229,951	230,697	230,085	231,989	234,699	233,980	229,462	228,593	230,942			231,212	230,811	401
Employment	217,283	214,390	215,198	215,613	218,292	220,032	221,172	217,789	216,434	218,284			217,449	216,530	919
Unemployment	14,434	15,561	15,499	14,472	13,697	14,667	12,808	11,673	12,159	12,658			13,763	14,281	(518)
Unemployment Rate	6.2%	6.8%	6.7%	6.3%	5.9%	6.2%	5.5%	5.1%	5.3%	5.5%			5.95%	6.19%	-0.23%
State of Alaska															
Labor Force	362,290	362,202	363,153	362,298	366,569	371,587	374,501	368,589	362,904	360,661			365,475	368,481	(3,006)
Employment	336,571	334,534	336,041	337,018	342,510	346,092	352,250	348,392	342,220	338,794			341,442	342,891	(1,448)
Unemployment	25,719	27,668	27,112	25,280	24,059	25,495	22,251	20,197	20,684	21,867			24,033	25,591	(1,557)
Unemployment Rate	7.1%	7.6%	7.5%	7.0%	6.6%	6.9%	5.9%	5.5%	5.7%	6.1%			6.58%	6.94%	-0.37%

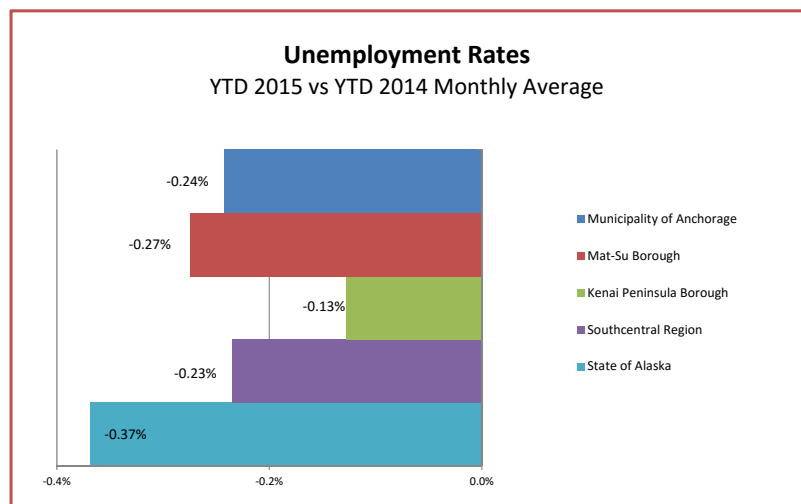
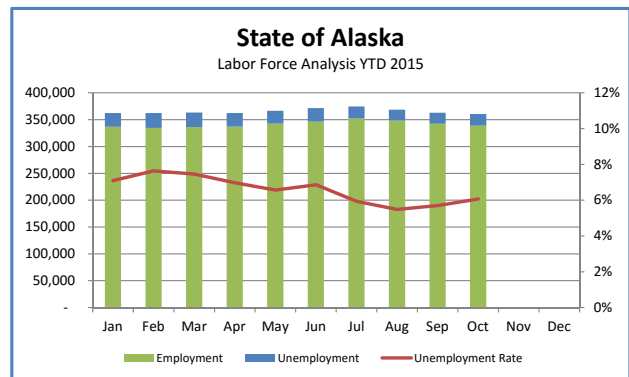
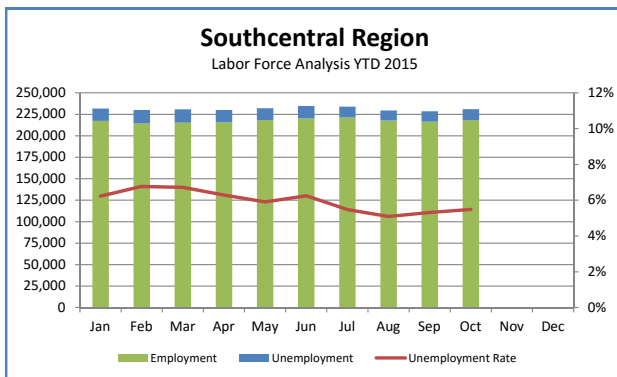
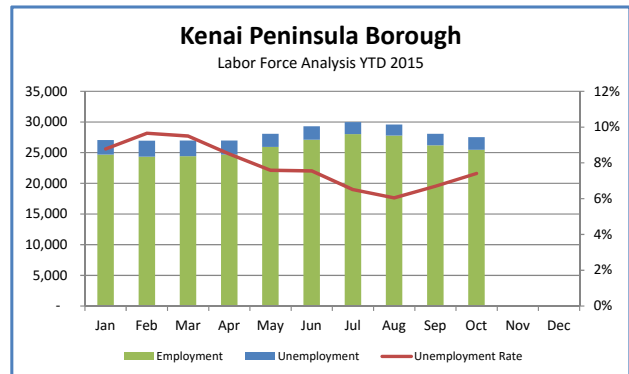
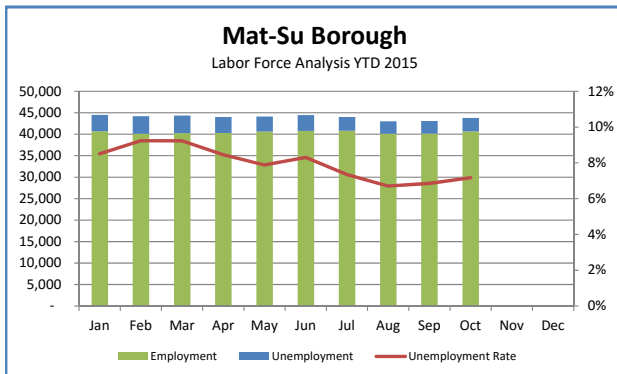
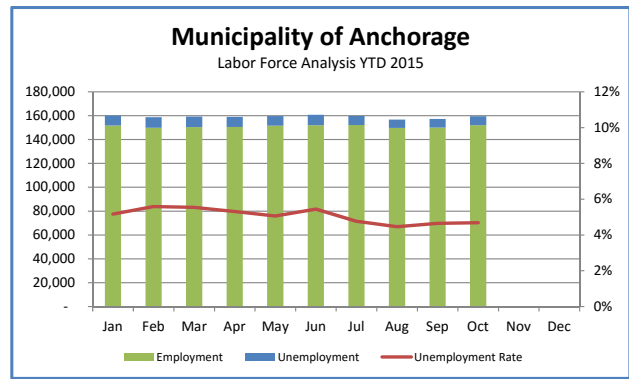
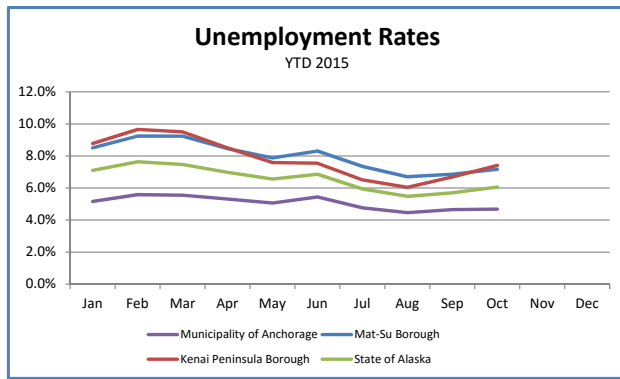
***Note:** These numbers reflect employment, unemployment, etc. for only those people that are residence of the specified City/Region, thus are not inclusive of people who commute to another city for their jobs. (Ex: Someone lives in Wasilla but works in Anchorage. They would be counted in the Mat-Su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



AEDC
Anchorage Economic
Development Corporation



First National Bank
A L A S K A
MEMBER FDIC



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	162,900	161,500	158,500			157,800	157,270	530	0.34%
Goods Producing	12,700	12,600	12,700	13,400	14,900	15,800	16,300	16,700	16,000	15,000			14,610	14,460	150	1.04%
Services Providing	139,800	140,700	140,800	141,700	144,400	146,300	143,000	146,200	145,500	143,600			143,200	142,810	390	0.27%
Mining and Logging ²	3,800	3,900	3,900	3,900	3,900	3,900	3,900	3,900	3,900	3,800			3,880	3,830	50	1.31%
Oil & Gas	3,700	3,800	3,800	3,800	3,800	3,800	3,800	3,700	3,700	3,700			3,760	3,710	50	1.35%
Construction	7,000	6,900	7,000	7,500	8,700	9,500	9,800	10,300	9,900	9,100			8,570	8,450	120	1.42%
Manufacturing	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,900	2,300	2,400	2,500	2,600	2,300	2,000			2,140	2,150	-10	-0.47%
Trade/Transportation/Utilities	32,600	32,700	32,500	33,100	34,100	34,800	34,900	34,900	34,400	33,800			33,780	33,430	350	1.05%
Wholesale Trade	4,700	4,700	4,700	4,800	4,900	5,000	4,900	4,900	4,800	4,700			4,810	4,830	-20	-0.41%
Retail Trade	17,800	17,800	17,600	18,000	18,300	18,500	18,500	18,500	18,200	18,300			18,150	17,750	400	2.25%
Trans/Warehouse/Utilities	10,200	10,200	10,200	10,300	10,900	11,300	11,400	11,500	11,300	10,800			10,810	10,850	-40	-0.37%
Information	4,000	4,100	4,100	4,100	4,100	4,200	4,200	4,200	4,300	4,100			4,140	4,000	140	3.50%
Financial Activities	7,300	7,300	7,300	7,400	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,400	7,400			7,410	7,560	-150	-1.98%
Professional & Business Svcs	19,400	19,500	19,500	19,500	20,800	21,000	21,200	21,100	20,800	20,000			20,280	20,600	-320	-1.55%
Educational & Health Services	24,500	24,800	25,100	24,900	25,100	25,300	25,100	25,200	25,200	25,300			25,050	24,880	170	0.68%
Health Care	18,700	18,600	18,900	18,800	18,800	18,900	19,100	19,000	18,900	18,700			18,840	18,520	320	1.73%
Leisure & Hospitality	16,200	16,200	16,400	16,600	17,300	18,100	18,200	18,100	17,400	16,800			17,130	16,970	160	0.94%
Accommodation	3,000	3,100	3,000	3,100	3,400	3,500	3,600	3,600	3,400	3,300			3,300	3,240	60	1.85%
Food Svcs & Drinking Places	10,800	10,800	10,900	11,200	11,600	12,200	12,100	12,200	11,700	11,300			11,480	11,410	70	0.61%
Other Services	6,100	6,100	6,100	6,100	6,200	6,200	6,100	6,300	6,300	6,300			6,180	6,140	40	0.65%
Government	29,700	29,900	29,800	30,200	29,300	29,200	25,900	28,800	29,700	29,800			29,230	29,220	10	0.03%
Federal Government	8,400	8,400	8,300	8,500	8,400	8,500	8,600	8,500	8,600	8,500			8,470	8,510	-40	-0.47%
State Government	10,800	11,000	10,900	11,000	10,400	10,200	10,100	10,100	10,700	10,600			10,580	10,740	-160	-1.49%
State Education	2,800	2,900	2,900	2,900	2,300	2,000	1,900	2,100	2,700	2,800			2,530	2,630	-100	-3.80%
Local Government	10,500	10,600	10,500	10,700	10,500	10,500	7,200	10,200	10,400	10,700			10,180	10,000	180	1.80%
Local Education	7,700	7,700	7,700	7,900	7,700	7,600	4,300	7,300	7,600	7,800			7,330	7,170	160	2.23%

- 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.

^{1/} 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.

^{2/} 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	1,300	0.83%
October		
15 vs 14	-267	-0.17%
1st Qtr		
15 vs 14	567	0.36%
2nd Qtr		
15 vs 14	1,033	0.65%
3rd Qtr		
15 vs 14	1,300	0.83%
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	Revised	Revised	Preliminary						
Total Nonfarm	323,000	325,500	327,500	333,500	343,600	357,700	363,300	358,300	349,900	333,300			341,560	339,830	1,730	0.51%
Goods Producing	43,600	44,400	45,200	46,800	47,200	55,300	64,500	61,100	54,400	46,500			50,900	50,820	80	0.16%
Services Providing	279,400	281,100	282,300	286,700	296,400	302,400	298,800	297,200	295,500	286,800			290,660	289,010	1,650	0.57%
Mining and Logging ²	17,200	17,300	17,600	17,600	17,700	18,100	18,300	18,300	17,900	17,400			17,740	17,860	-120	-0.67%
Mining	17,100	17,100	17,400	17,300	17,400	17,700	17,900	17,900	17,600	17,100			17,450	17,580	-130	-0.74%
Oil & Gas	14,700	14,800	15,000	14,900	14,800	15,100	15,200	15,200	14,800	14,400			14,890	14,680	210	1.43%
Construction	15,100	14,900	15,300	16,600	18,400	20,300	21,500	22,000	21,400	18,900			18,440	17,460	980	5.61%
Manufacturing	11,300	12,200	12,300	12,600	11,100	16,900	24,700	20,800	15,100	10,200			14,720	15,500	-780	-5.03%
Seafood Processing	7,400	8,500	8,600	8,500	7,000	12,700	20,100	16,600	11,300	6,300			10,700	11,680	-980	-8.39%
Trade/Transportation/Utilities	62,600	62,400	62,700	64,500	69,900	71,400	72,300	72,200	68,800	67,000			67,380	65,110	2,270	3.49%
Wholesale Trade	6,100	6,200	6,200	6,400	6,600	6,700	6,600	6,700	6,600	6,600			6,470	6,520	-50	-0.77%
Retail Trade	36,100	35,900	36,100	37,100	38,700	39,800	40,400	40,100	38,400	38,100			38,070	36,780	1,290	3.51%
Food & Beverage Stores	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,300	6,500	6,700	6,500	6,200	6,300			6,250	6,280	-30	-0.48%
General Merchandise Stores	9,800	9,600	9,500	9,700	9,900	10,100	10,200	10,300	10,100	10,300			9,950	9,860	90	0.91%
Trans/Warehouse/Utilities	20,400	20,300	20,400	21,000	24,600	24,900	25,300	25,400	23,800	22,300			22,840	21,810	1,030	4.72%
Air Transportation	5,600	5,600	5,700	6,000	6,400	6,800	6,800	6,800	6,400	5,900			6,200	5,940	260	4.38%
Information	6,200	6,300	6,200	6,100	6,200	6,300	6,300	6,200	6,300	6,300			6,240	6,250	-10	-0.16%
Telecommunications	4,200	4,300	4,300	4,200	4,300	4,300	4,400	4,400	4,500	4,500			4,340	4,140	200	4.83%
Financial Activities	11,900	12,000	11,800	11,900	11,800	12,100	12,300	12,100	12,200	12,100			12,020	11,036	984	8.92%
Professional & Business Svcs	28,100	28,200	28,100	28,600	29,500	30,200	30,100	29,400	29,800	29,000			29,100	30,060	-960	-3.19%
Educational & Health Services	47,200	47,300	47,900	48,300	48,300	47,600	47,400	47,200	47,200	47,500			47,590	46,740	850	1.82%
Health Care	34,100	34,000	34,500	34,600	34,900	34,900	34,800	34,400	33,900	33,800			34,370	33,760	610	1.81%
Leisure & Hospitality	29,900	30,100	30,700	31,500	35,200	40,300	41,200	40,700	37,100	30,800			34,750	34,870	-120	-0.34%
Accommodation	7,800	7,800	7,800	8,100	9,500	11,700	12,200	12,000	10,700	8,100			9,570	8,870	700	7.89%
Food Svcs & Drinking Places	18,300	18,300	18,800	19,200	20,600	22,600	22,700	22,400	21,000	18,300			20,220	21,000	-780	-3.71%
Other Services	11,600	11,700	11,700	11,900	12,100	12,300	12,300	11,800	12,100	12,200			11,970	11,780	190	1.61%
Government	81,900	83,100	83,200	83,900	83,400	82,200	76,900	77,600	82,000	81,900			81,610	82,030	-420	-0.51%
Federal Government	14,200	14,200	14,400	14,500	15,100	15,700	15,700	15,500	15,400	14,300			14,900	14,960	-60	-0.40%
State Government	26,300	26,600	26,700	26,900	25,900	24,800	24,200	24,600	25,600	25,500			25,710	26,460	-750	-2.83%
State Education	8,200	8,600	8,600	8,600	7,400	6,000	5,700	6,400	7,800	8,100			7,540	7,850	-310	-3.95%
Local Government	41,400	42,300	42,100	42,500	42,400	41,700	37,000	37,500	41,000	42,100			41,000	40,610	390	0.96%
Local Education	23,500	24,100	24,000	24,300	24,000	22,500	17,100	18,200	22,600	23,600			22,390	22,320	70	0.31%
Tribal Government ¹	3,400	3,400	3,500	3,600	3,800	3,900	4,100	4,100	3,900	3,700			3,740	3,700	40	1.08%

- 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.

1/ 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.

2/ 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	2,300	0.69%	
October			
15 vs 14	3,500	1.09%	
1st Qtr			
15 vs 14	1,667	0.49%	
2nd Qtr			
15 vs 14 3rd Qtr.	-167	-0.05%	
15 vs 14	2,300	0.69%	
4th Qtr			

Heidi Drygas
Commissioner

www.labor.alaska.gov



P.O. Box 111149
Juneau, AK 99811-1149
907.465.2700
commissioner.labor@alaska.gov

Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

November 20, 2015

No. 15-47

For more information: Caroline Schultz, Economist
907-465-6027, Caroline.Schultz@Alaska.Gov

Unemployment rate stays at 6.4 percent in October

JUNEAU, Alaska—Alaska's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained at 6.4 percent in October, unchanged from the month before. The comparable national rate was 5.0 percent.

The unadjusted rate increased four-tenths of a percentage point for the state, from 5.7 percent in September to 6.1 percent in October. This increase reflects the normal taper of Alaska's economy as seasonal industries wind down for winter.

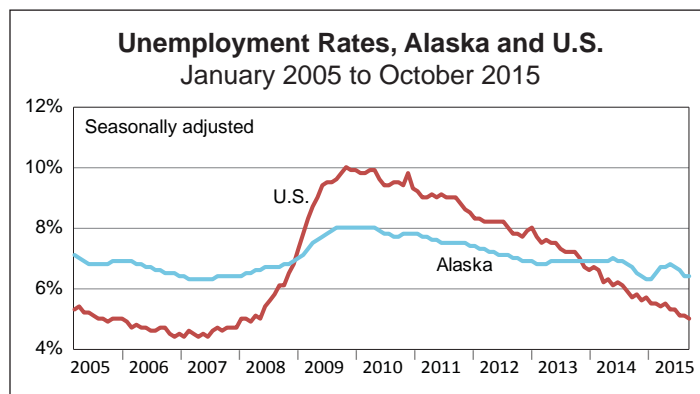
Around the state, unadjusted rates rose from September to October in 23 out of 29 boroughs and census areas, consistent with the statewide trend. Anchorage's rate remained unchanged at 4.7 percent.

All three parts of the Northern Region — the Nome Census Area and the Northwest Arctic and North Slope boroughs — bucked the statewide trend and had slightly lower unemployment rates in October. That's partly due to those areas having fewer seasonal jobs in industries like tourism and seafood processing.

The largest rate increase was in Skagway, where it climbed from 4.3 to 15.8 percent. Skagway's economy is heavily dependent on cruise ship tourism, which ends in September.

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

	10/15	9/15	10/14
Alaska	6.4%	6.4%	6.7%
U.S.	5.0%	5.1%	5.7%

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 Adjusted¹

	Civilian Labor Force			Unemployed					
	10/15 ^P	9/15	10/14	Number			Rate		
				10/15 ^P	9/15	10/14	10/15 ^P	9/15	10/14
Alaska	360,661	362,904	363,930	21,867	20,684	22,496	6.1	5.7	6.2
Anchorage/Mat-Su Region	203,416	200,512	203,276	10,618	10,280	10,605	5.2	5.1	5.2
Anchorage, Municipality	159,595	157,408	159,418	7,476	7,323	7,480	4.7	4.7	4.7
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	43,821	43,104	43,858	3,142	2,957	3,125	7.2	6.9	7.1
Gulf Coast Region	38,601	39,925	39,082	2,729	2,459	2,718	7.1	6.2	7.0
Kenai Peninsula Borough	27,526	28,081	27,797	2,040	1,879	1,981	7.4	6.7	7.1
Kodiak Island Borough	6,510	6,641	6,590	267	261	291	4.1	3.9	4.4
Valdez-Cordova Census Area	4,565	5,203	4,695	422	319	446	9.2	6.1	9.5
Interior Region	53,065	53,587	53,769	3,206	2,906	3,362	6.0	5.4	6.3
Denali Borough	999	1,451	994	94	67	99	9.4	4.6	10.0
Fairbanks North Star Borough	46,778	46,763	47,245	2,438	2,203	2,514	5.2	4.7	5.3
Southeast Fairbanks Census Area	2,765	2,838	2,924	279	258	328	10.1	9.1	11.2
Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area	2,523	2,535	2,606	395	378	421	15.7	14.9	16.2
Northern Region	11,110	11,047	11,923	1,045	1,092	1,118	9.4	9.9	9.4
Nome Census Area	4,072	4,048	4,498	411	428	456	10.1	10.6	10.1
North Slope Borough	4,171	4,147	4,178	231	240	228	5.5	5.8	5.5
Northwest Arctic Borough	2,867	2,852	3,247	403	424	434	14.1	14.9	13.4
Southeast Region	35,627	38,792	36,398	2,228	1,948	2,430	6.3	5.0	6.7
Haines Borough	984	1,271	1,004	90	72	101	9.1	5.7	10.1
Hoonah-Angoon Census Area	999	1,211	990	133	118	143	13.3	9.7	14.4
Juneau, City and Borough	16,646	17,392	16,848	745	695	818	4.5	4.0	4.9
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	6,609	7,394	6,771	453	378	502	6.9	5.1	7.4
Petersburg Borough	1,479	1,684	1,604	115	117	132	7.8	6.9	8.2
Prince of Wales-Hyder Census Area	2,656	2,836	2,773	301	268	329	11.3	9.4	11.9
Sitka, City and Borough	4,282	4,704	4,322	189	178	202	4.4	3.8	4.7
Skagway, Municipality	742	969	785	117	42	95	15.8	4.3	12.1
Wrangell, City and Borough	974	1,027	986	70	63	83	7.2	6.1	8.4
Yakutat, City and Borough	256	304	315	15	17	25	5.9	5.6	7.9
Southwest Region	18,837	19,043	19,482	2,039	2,000	2,263	10.8	10.5	11.6
Aleutians East Borough	2,109	2,048	2,243	71	72	96	3.4	3.5	4.3
Aleutians West Census Area	3,959	4,053	3,842	166	117	234	4.2	2.9	6.1
Bethel Census Area	7,278	7,158	7,729	940	982	1,055	12.9	13.7	13.6
Bristol Bay Borough	280	515	293	33	31	33	11.8	6.0	11.3
Dillingham Census Area	1,756	1,796	1,897	191	183	192	10.9	10.2	10.1
Kusilvak Census Area	2,840	2,808	2,860	567	552	570	20.0	19.7	19.9
Lake and Peninsula Borough	615	665	618	71	63	83	11.5	9.5	13.4

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.

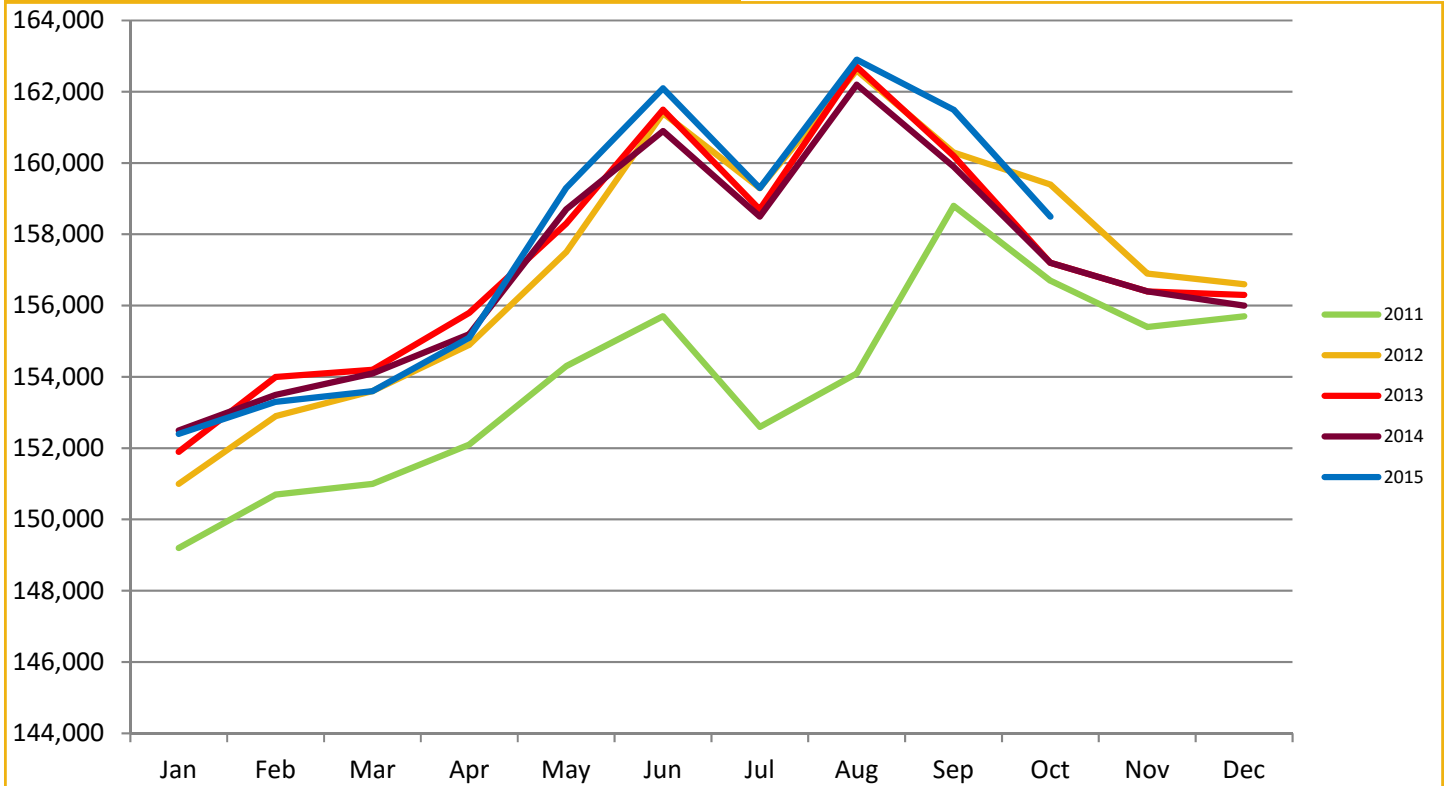
Note: The official definition of unemployment excludes anyone who has not made an active attempt to find work in the four-week period up to and including the week that includes the 12th of the reference month. Many in rural Alaska do not meet the definition because they have not conducted an active job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

¹Unemployment 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

ANCHORAGE EMPLOYMENT

Municipality of Anchorage 2011-Present



AEDC
Anchorage Economic
Development Corporation