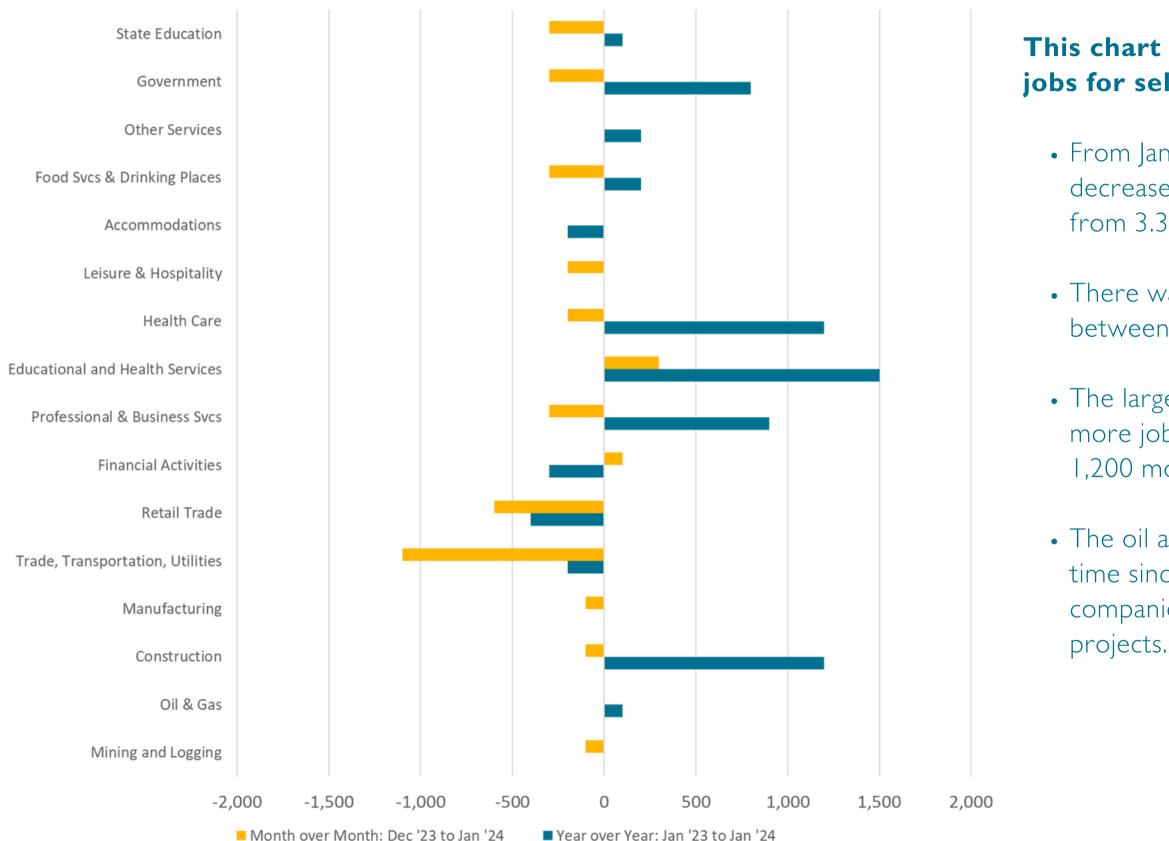
# EMPLOYMENT UPDATE JANUARY 2024







# **JANUARY JOB GAINS & LOSSES**





### This chart shows the changes in the number of Anchorage jobs for select industry sectors.

• From January 2023 to January 2024 Anchorage's labor force decreased by 1,110 workers and the unemployment rate rose from 3.3% to 4.1%.

• There was a reduction in the estimated overall labor force. between December 2023 and January 2024 of 1,287 workers.

• The largest job gains year over year were in government with 800 more jobs, construction with 1,200 more jobs and healthcare with 1,200 more jobs.

• The oil and gas sector had an estimated 1,700 jobs for the first time since September of 2020, indicating that private oil companies may be ramping up hiring for new North Slope



# **JOBS RECOVERY: ALL SECTORS**



AEDC monitors pandemic job recovery by analyzing job numbers in 2019 as compared to today and Anchorage record job market recovery by analyzing job numbers in 2015 as compared to today.

The Anchorage job market continues to recover towards pre-pandemic (2019) job levels but is well below numbers experienced in 2015.

The monthly job difference in Anchorage compared to January 2020, now represents less than 1% of the job market (900 jobs).



### **ANCHORAGE UNEMPLOYMENT: 4.1%**

This graph shows Anchorage's monthly unemployment rate since 2015.

Historically, even in our highest jobs years,
Anchorage unemployment hovers around 56%. Unemployment over 6% suggests we have too few jobs, while unemployment much below 5% suggests we have too few workers.

When we have too few jobs, we risk losing population as workers move to places where they are more in demand. This reduces our economies of scale and can hurt property values and our municipal tax base. High unemployment also means more people relying on public assistance, driving up public sector costs.

When we have too few workers, we make it difficult to start or grow businesses. This can drive up consumer costs, reduce the availability of goods and services, and prevent outside businesses from expanding into our market or cause local businesses to look outside for opportunities to expand. In the month of January, the Anchorage unemployment rate increased 0.5% to 4.1%.

Our unemployed rate has been stable since recovery from the pandemic years 2020 and 2021, and remains slightly below the years preceding the pandemic.

Since December, our labor force decreased by an estimated 1,287 people to 151,979, including 145,792 employed persons and 6,187 unemployed persons.



# Thank You to Our Diamond Investors





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