# EMPLOYMENT UPDATE

JUNE 2024







Sponsored by:



## **JUNE JOB GAINS & LOSSES**



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

- increase of 1.7%.

• Year over year (YOY), from June 2023 to June 2024, Anchorage's estimated labor force increased by 1,189, and the overall unemployment rate increased from 3.7% to 4.2%.

• Month over month (MOM), between May and June 2024, there was a decrease of 1,730 employed persons.

• Overall estimated jobs increased by 3,100 YOY and 2,600 MOM, representing an annual increase in jobs of 2% and a monthly

• The industries that saw the highest number of jobs increases YOY included Leisure and Hospitality (600), Health Care (1,500 jobs), and Construction (2,000 jobs).

• The sectors with the largest reduction in jobs were Trade, Transportation and Utilities with a loss of 600 jobs and the Retail Trade, Financial Activities, Food Services and Government sectors with a loss of 200 jobs each.



## **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 is finally consistently performing just slightly higher than pre-pandemic job levels but is well below numbers experienced in 2015, as shown by the navy blue bars.



### **ANCHORAGE UNEMPLOYMENT: 4.2%**

In the month of June, the estimated Anchorage unemployment rate increased from 3.6%, to 4.2%.

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

Historically, even in our highest jobs years, Anchorage unemployment hovers around 5-6%. 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 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. Anchorage's unemployed rate has recovered from the pandemic years 2020 and 2021 and is, on average, still much lower than pre-pandemic years.



#### **Thank You to Our Diamond Investors**









Flycoin





For more information, please visit www.aedcweb.com 510 L Street Suite 603, Anchorage, AK 99501

