



2025 ANNUAL

BUSINESS CONFIDENCE

INDEX REPORT



AEDC
Anchorage Economic
Development Corporation

RESEARCH PROVIDED BY


McKINLEY RESEARCH
GROUP, LLC

REPORT SPONSORS

Furniture Enterprises
OF ALASKA, INC.

PREMERA | 
BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF ALASKA

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Summary of Key Findings	01
Introduction and Methodology	08
Expectations for Business in 2025	09
Gross Sales/Annual Operating Budget	09
Net Profits	10
Employment	10
Capital Expenditures	11
Comparison of Net Profits 2023-2024	12
Barriers to Business Growth	13
Capital Improvement Plans	16
Expectations for the Economy in 2025	17
Anchorage Economy	17
Alaska Economy	18
Policy Impacts	19
Anchorage Economic Issues	21
Anchorage Sales Tax	23
State of Alaska Budget	24
Business Characteristics	25
Business Sector	25
Organization Size	26
Current Employment	27
Appendix	28

SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS

Anchorage Economic Development Corporation (AEDC) contracted with McKinley Research Group (MRG), an Alaska-based research firm with offices in Anchorage and Juneau, to conduct the 17th annual AEDC Business Confidence Index (BCI) Survey. The purpose of this survey is to assess business conditions and to compare business confidence in the Anchorage area in 2025 to previous years. The survey was fielded in April and May 2025. Online responses from 172 Anchorage-area businesses and organizations were analyzed and modeled to produce business confidence indices. Key findings are highlighted below.

BUSINESS CONFIDENCE INDICES

The index combines and weights five key indicators to produce a score that can be easily compared to previous years. The scale has a maximum score of 100, and an index above 50 indicates a generally optimistic outlook while an index score below 50 indicates a generally pessimistic outlook.

In 2025, declines in five out of five categories led to an overall lower Composite Index score, declining 9.1 points to 49.1 from 58.2 in 2024. The 2025 index score is 4.9 points below the 10 year average of 54.0. It is the third lowest score since tracking began in 2009, with lower scores only in 2021 (48.5) and 2016 (48.8).

The largest change in views was about confidence in the Anchorage Economy, which decreased by 15.3 points. The planned capital expenditures index declined the second most at 10.6 points, with the gross sales index declining by 9.2 points.

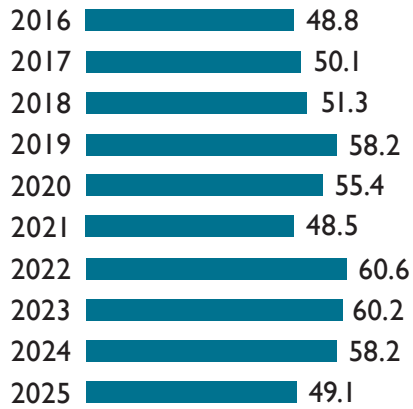
Comparing all indices to last year's results, business confidence expectations in 2025 are:

- Lower for the overall Composite Index: ↓ 9.1 points to 49.1
- Lower for the Anchorage Economy Index: ↓ 15.3 points to 34.2
- Lower for Gross Sales Index: ↓ 9.2 points to 53.6
- Lower for Net Profits Index: ↓ 6.0 points to 53.1
- Lower for Employment Index: ↓ 4.5 points to 51.8
- Lower for Capital Expenditures Index: ↓ 10.6 points to 52.9

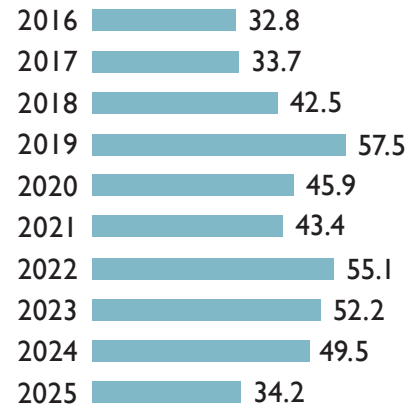
The charts on the following page compare the indices for each annual AEDC BCI survey conducted in the last 10 years.

Figure I. Anchorage Business Confidence Indices, 2016-2025
(0 – Very pessimistic, 50 – Neither Pessimistic nor Optimistic, 100 – Very Optimistic)

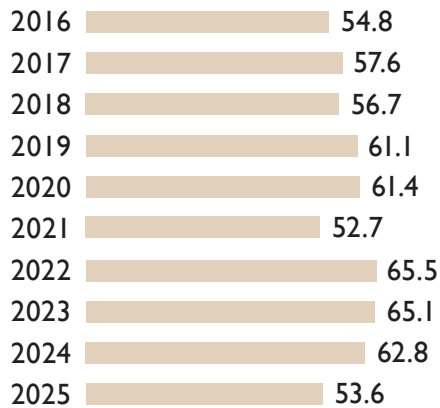
Composite Index



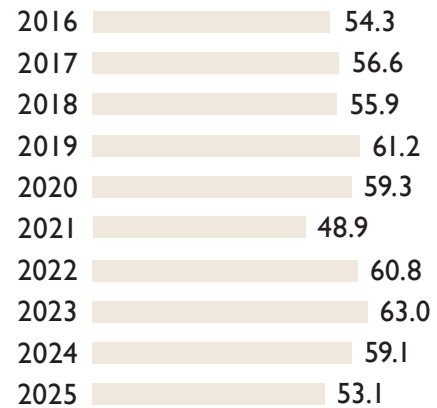
Anchorage Economy



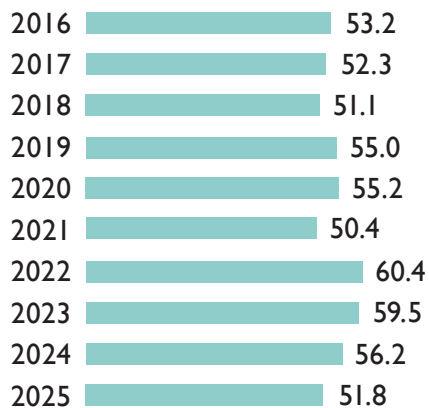
Gross Sales



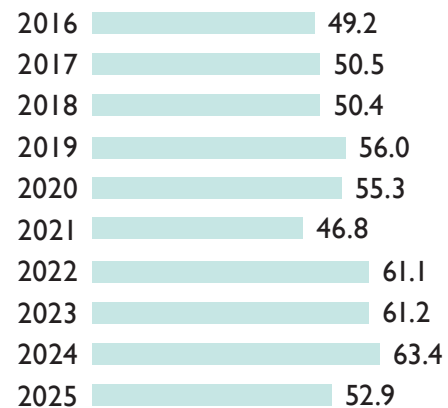
Net Profits



Employment



Capital Expenditures

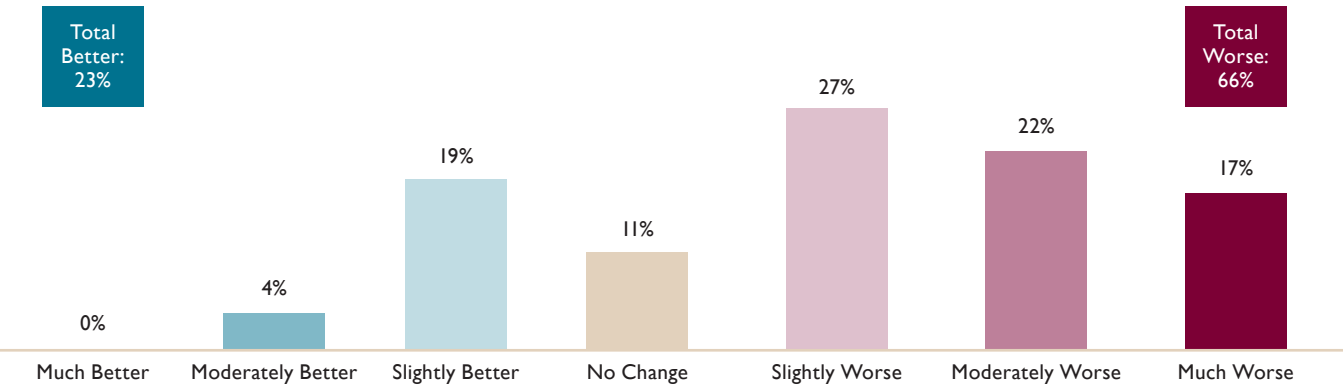


EXPECTATIONS FOR 2025

ANCHORAGE ECONOMY

When asked how the Anchorage economy will fare in 2025 compared to 2024, businesses were significantly less likely to say it would fare better (23%) than to say it would fare worse (66%). The most common response was slightly worse at 27%. Expectations were lower than in the previous survey, when 44% said the economy would fare better and 40% said it would worsen.

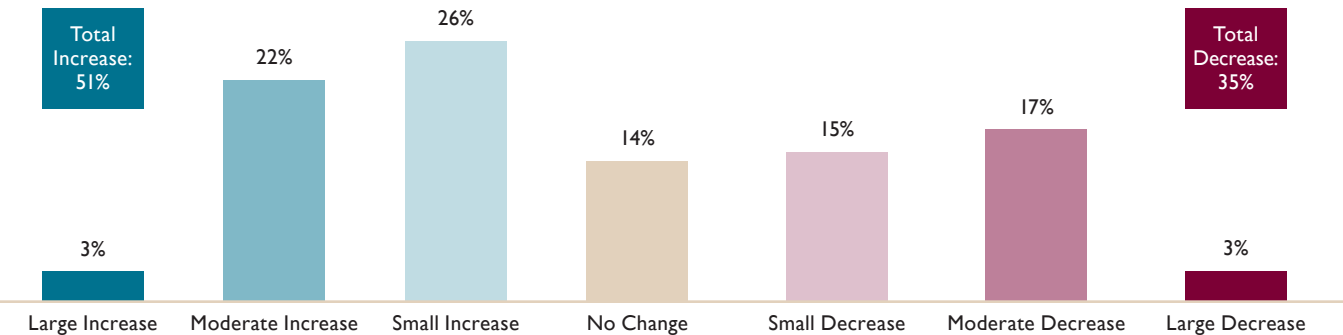
Figure 2. Expectations for Anchorage Economy in 2025



GROSS SALES AND NET PROFIT

Half of respondents (51%) said they expect their gross sales/operating budget to increase in 2025, down from 67% in 2024. About 35% expect their gross sales/operating budget to decrease and 14% expect it to stay the same.

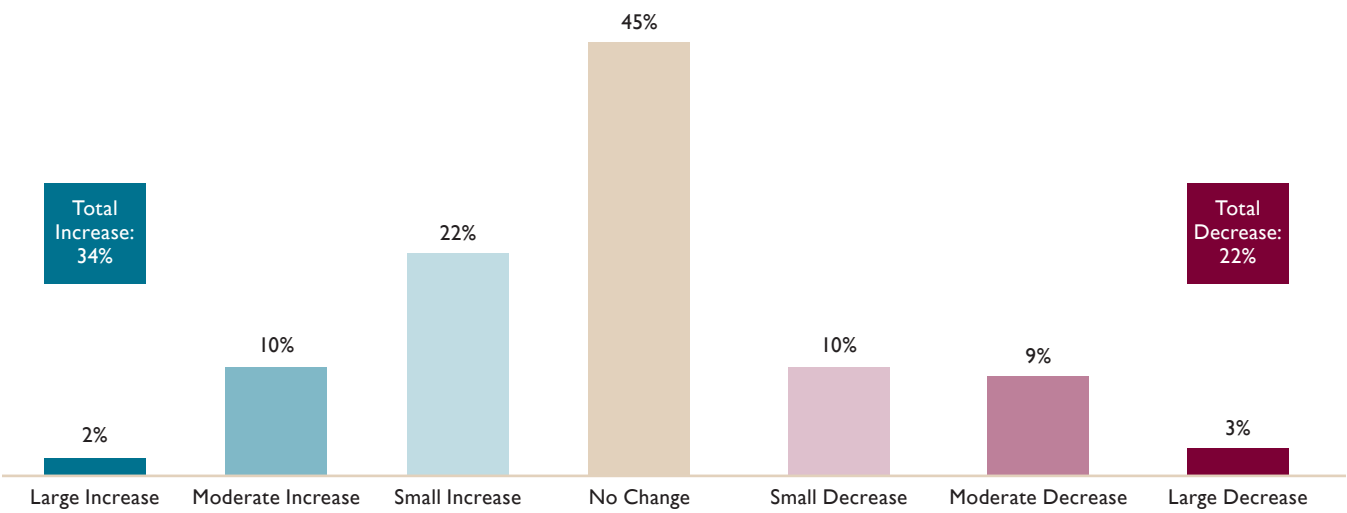
Figure 3. Expectations for Gross Sales/Annual Operating Budget in 2025



EMPLOYMENT

One-third of respondents (34%) expect their employment to increase in 2025; 22% expect a decrease, and 45% expect no change. Compared to 2024, a lower percentage of respondents expected to increase employment (42% in 2024).

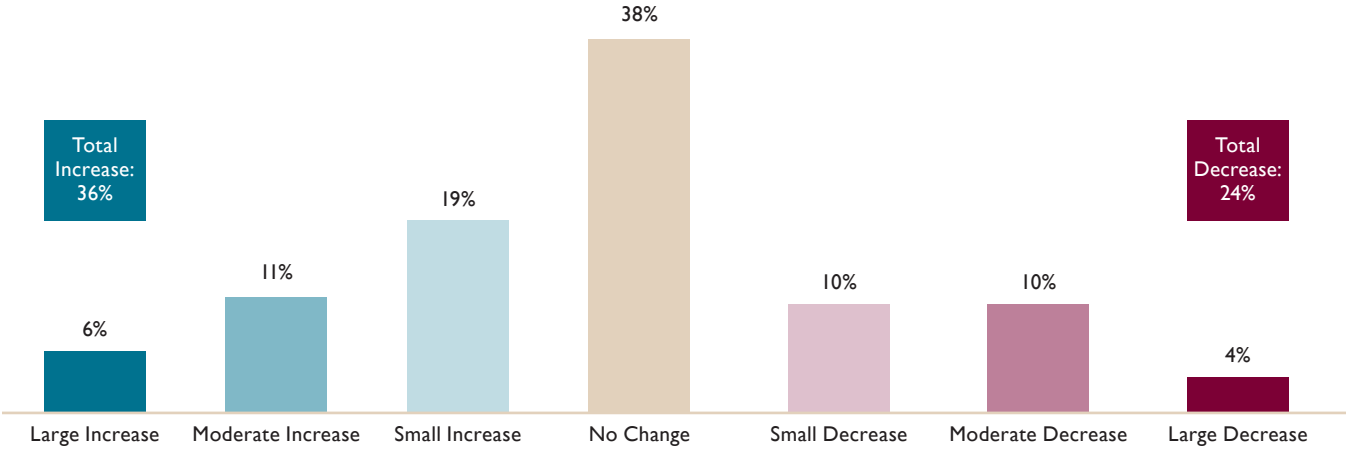
Figure 4. Expectations for Employment in 2025



CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

Over one-third of respondents (36%) expect their capital expenditures to increase in 2025, down significantly from 55% in 2024. A higher percentage (38%) expect them to stay the same, and 24% expect capital expenditures to decline.

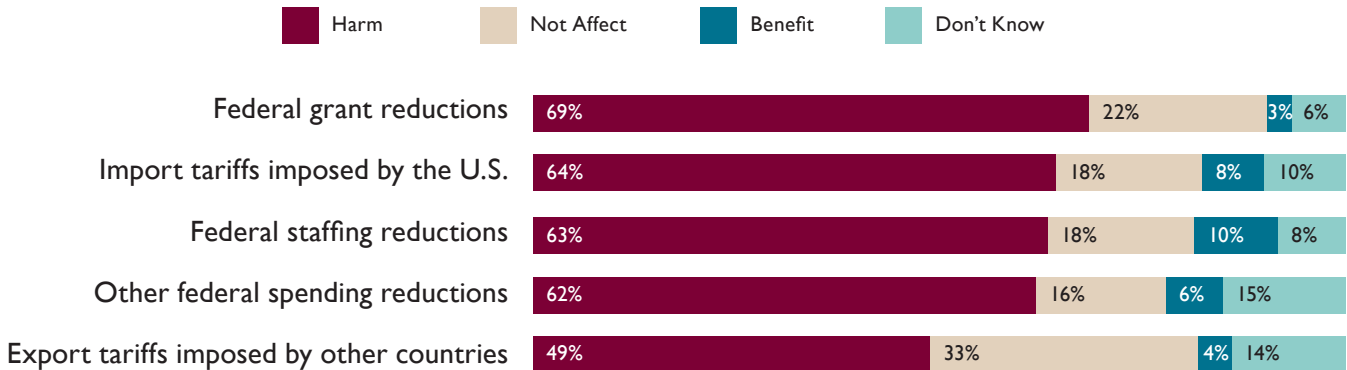
Figure 5. Expectations for Capital Expenditures in 2025



POLICY IMPACTS

Survey participants were asked about expected business impacts in 2025 related to five federal policy and spending changes. For each policy change, 10% or fewer respondents predicted that their business would benefit.

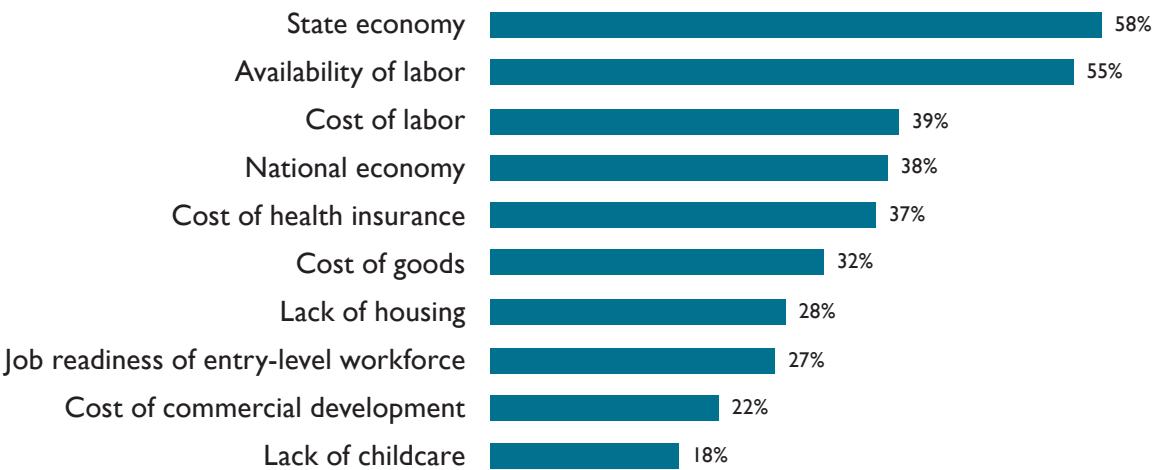
Figure 6. Predicted Policy Impacts



BARRIERS TO BUSINESS GROWTH

Respondents were presented with a list of 21 potential barriers to growth and asked to identify which were significant barriers to their organization’s growth. The number one barrier to growth was the condition of the state economy (58%), followed by availability of labor (55%), and cost of labor (39%). As in 2024, barriers related to the availability and cost of labor remained among the top ten significant barriers for business growth.

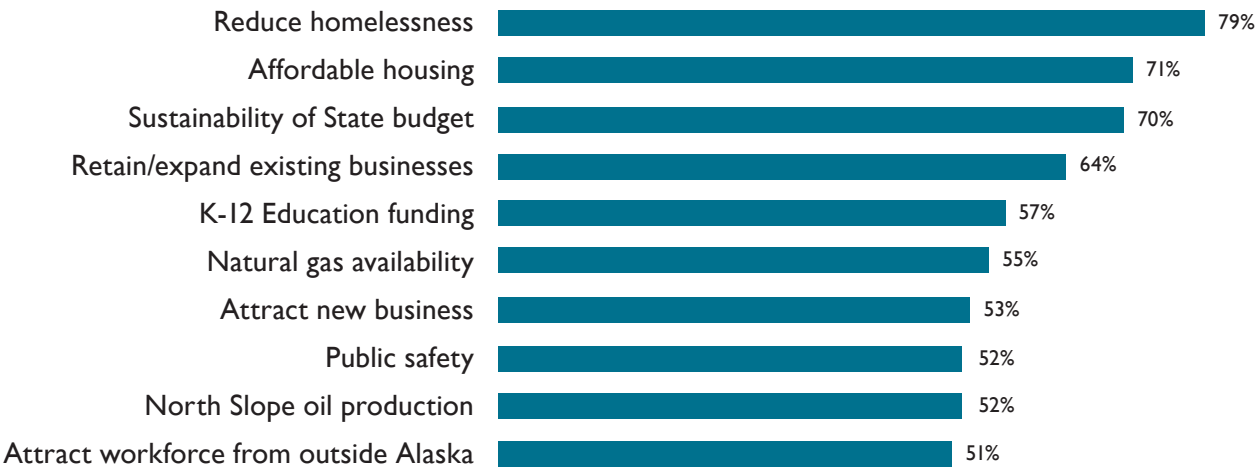
Figure 7. Top 10 Significant Barriers to Business Growth



IMPORTANT ISSUES AFFECTING THE ANCHORAGE ECONOMY

Respondents were presented with a list of issues and asked to identify which were very important for the Anchorage economy. The top issues for the Anchorage economy included the impacts of homelessness (79%), affordable housing (71%), and sustainability of the State of Alaska operating budget (70%).

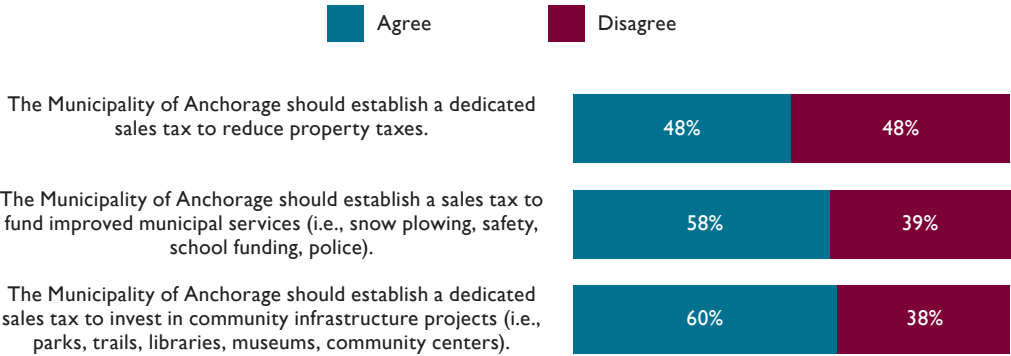
Figure 8. Top 10 “Very Important” Issues for Anchorage Economy



BUSINESS SUPPORT FOR ANCHORAGE SALES TAX

Respondents were asked to indicate their level of agreement with statements about establishment and use of an Anchorage sales tax. The highest level of agreement was in support of a dedicated sales tax to support community infrastructure projects (60%).

Figure 9. Agree/Disagree Statements about Sales Tax



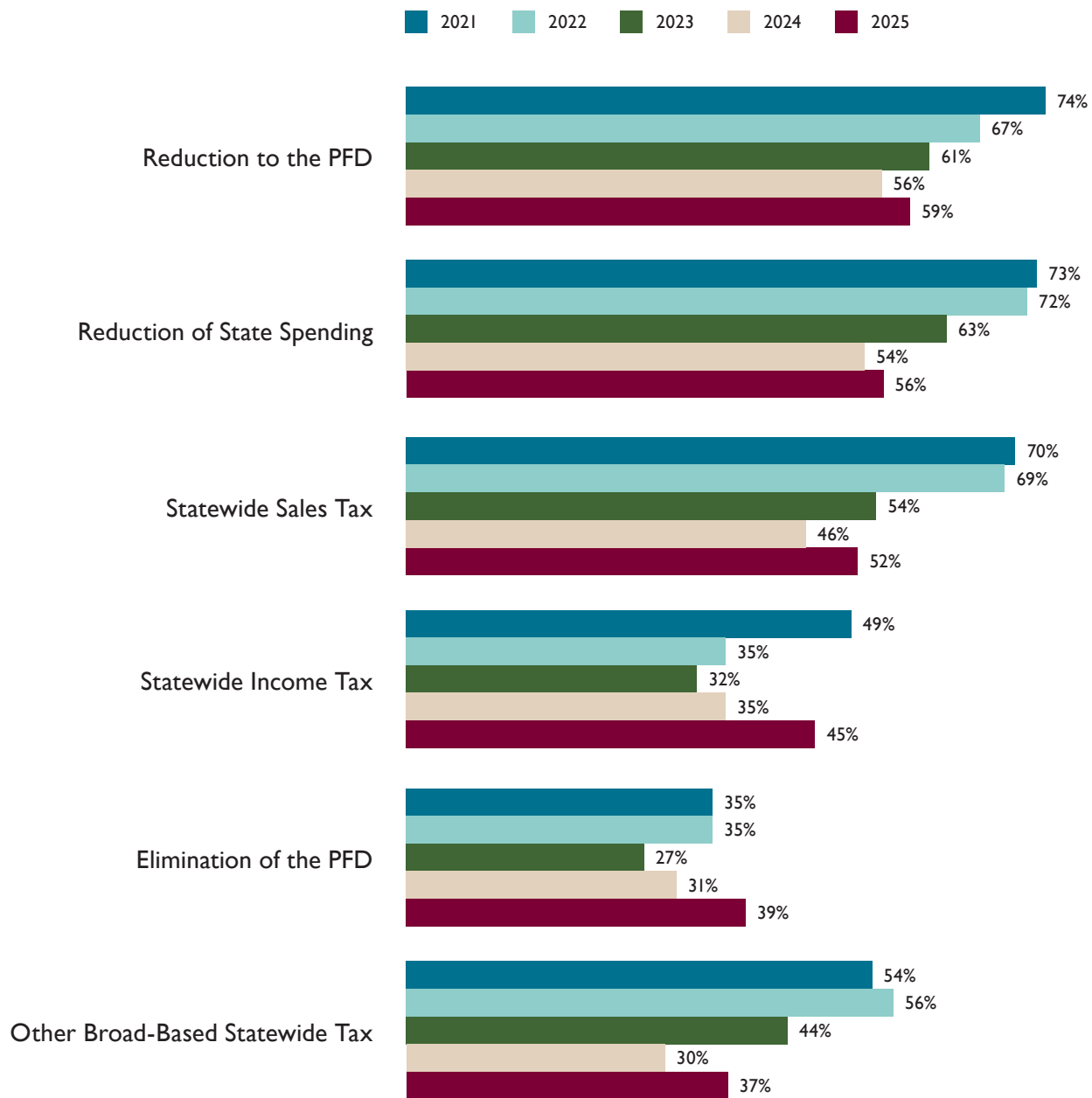
Note: Due to omission of “don’t know” responses, some rows may not sum to 100%.

LONG-TERM FISCAL STABILITY

Respondents were asked to indicate their level of support for six potential methods of addressing the State's budget challenges. Reduction to the PFD (59%) and reduction of State spending (56%) received the highest levels of support. The least supported was another broad-based statewide tax (37%, up from 30% in 2024).

All methods gained support from 2024 to 2025. Support for a statewide income tax saw the highest increase in support, from 35% in 2024 to 45% in 2025.

Figure 10. Methods to Address the State Budget Challenges: % Supportive, 2021-2025



Note: Wording of this question in 2025 is the same as in the 2024 survey, which was changed to include the wording state budget 'challenges' rather than 'deficit' (as in 2021-2023).

INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

Anchorage Economic Development Corporation (AEDC) contracted with McKinley Research Group (MRG) to conduct the 17th annual Business Confidence Index (BCI) survey of businesses and organizations in the Municipality of Anchorage. The purpose of the survey is to identify factors that affect Anchorage businesses and the overall economy, and to assess business confidence in the Municipality of Anchorage.

The 2025 survey was fielded from April 3rd to May 13th. Respondents were asked a series of questions regarding their organization's business performance in 2024 compared to 2023, expectations for 2025, perceived barriers to growth, importance of various issues to the Anchorage economy, and perceptions of the overall economies in Anchorage and Alaska.

The 2025 response rate was slightly lower than the five-year average (177), with 172 businesses and organizations fully completing the survey.

The index combines and weights five key indicators (gross sales, net profits, employment, capital expenditures, and estimates of the strength of the Anchorage economy) to produce a single metric to gauge expectations about the overall Anchorage economy. The index, with a possible maximum of 100, indicates a positive outlook above 50 and a negative outlook below 50.

Table I. Number of Surveys Completed by Year

Survey Year	Number of Responses
2025	172
2024	150
2023	240
2021	115
2020	210
Average	177

EXPECTATIONS FOR BUSINESS IN 2025

Survey participants were asked a series of questions about expected business performance in 2025 compared to the previous year (2024).

For all four topics (gross sales/annual operating budget, net profits, employment, and capital expenditures), respondents' expectations of business performance had declined since the previous year. Tables detailing the results of each question follow and include comparison data for 2016 to 2025.

GROSS SALES/ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET

- Half of respondents (51%) said they expect their gross sales/operating budget to increase in 2025, while 35% expect it to decrease and 14% expect it to stay the same.
- The percentage saying decrease (35%) was the highest since 2021 (34%).

Table 2. In terms of gross sales/annual operating budget, how do you expect your organization to perform in 2025 compared to 2024? (2016-2025 results) (%)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Increase (NET)	49	54	53	62	67	51	70	68	67	51
Large Increase	4	5	4	4	5	2	4	5	6	3
Moderate Increase	19	27	22	26	22	22	29	32	34	22
Small Increase	26	22	27	32	40	27	37	31	27	26
Decrease (NET)	31	28	27	21	20	34	10	14	20	35
Small Decrease	17	14	16	11	12	13	4	8	8	15
Moderate Decrease	11	10	8	8	6	14	5	6	7	17
Large Decrease	3	4	3	2	2	7	1	<1	5	3
No Change	18	17	20	18	13	15	18	17	13	14

Note: Due to omission of "Not Applicable" responses, some columns may not add up to 100%.

NET PROFITS

- Fewer than one-half of respondents (46%) expect their net profits to increase in 2025, while about one-third (36%) expect net profits to decrease and 14% expect net profits to stay the same.

Table 3. In terms of net profits, how do you expect your organization to perform in 2025 compared to 2024? (2016-2025 results) (%)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Increase (NET)	49	53	51	64	60	46	59	64	58	46
Large Increase	2	5	3	4	4	2	3	3	3	3
Moderate Increase	19	25	20	23	21	17	21	29	31	22
Small Increase	28	23	28	37	35	27	36	32	24	21
Decrease (NET)	28	29	27	20	23	37	15	15	25	36
Small Decrease	15	15	15	13	12	12	8	8	14	16
Moderate Decrease	9	9	9	5	8	16	5	7	6	17
Large Decrease	4	5	3	2	3	9	2	1	5	3
No Change	23	18	22	15	17	18	22	19	17	14

Note: Due to omission of "Not Applicable" responses, some columns may not add up to 100%.

EMPLOYMENT

- About one-third of respondents (34%) expect an increase in their organization's employment in 2025 compared to 2024, while 22% expect a decrease and 45% expect no change.
- The percentage of respondents expecting an employment increase in 2025 (34%) was below the 10-year average of 38%.

Table 4. In terms of employment, how do you expect your organization to perform in 2025 compared to 2024? (2016-2025 results) (%)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Increase (NET)	36	30	26	36	39	34	54	50	42	34
Large Increase	2	1	1	1	2	2	3	2	<1	2
Moderate Increase	10	11	6	9	9	6	14	13	12	10
Small Increase	24	18	19	26	28	26	37	35	29	22
Decrease (NET)	21	21	20	14	15	23	9	7	11	22
Small Decrease	12	14	14	11	9	10	6	5	5	10
Moderate Decrease	7	5	4	3	5	8	2	2	4	9
Large Decrease	2	2	2	0	1	5	1	<1	2	3
No Change	43	48	53	50	46	42	35	42	47	45

Note: Due to omission of "Not Applicable" responses, some columns may not add up to 100%.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

- About one-third of respondents (36%) expect their capital expenditures to increase in 2025, while 24% expect them to decrease and 38% expect them to stay the same.
- Responses trended negatively compared to 2024. The percentage expecting an increase (36%) was well below the previous three years.

Table 5. In terms of capital expenditures, how do you expect your organization to perform in 2025 compared to 2024? (2016-2025 results) (%)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Increase (NET)	34	33	36	45	40	31	50	53	55	36
Large Increase	3	3	2	4	2	1	4	5	9	6
Moderate Increase	9	11	9	14	14	11	14	16	25	11
Small Increase	22	19	25	27	24	19	32	31	21	19
Decrease (NET)	32	29	25	17	15	32	5	10	9	24
Small Decrease	17	14	11	9	6	11	3	6	3	10
Moderate Decrease	8	10	5	3	6	11	<1	3	3	10
Large Decrease	7	5	9	5	3	10	2	1	3	4
No Change	34	37	39	38	45	37	40	35	37	38

Note: Due to omission of "Not Applicable" responses, some columns may not add up to 100%.

COMPARISON OF NET PROFITS 2023-2024

The 2025 survey asked respondents one question about how their businesses fared in 2024 compared to 2023: how net profits have changed.

- Over half of respondents reported an increase in their net profits (58%), while 28% reported a decrease, and 10% reported no change.
- The percentage of businesses reporting an increase in profits was higher compared to the previous survey period: 58% saw an increase between 2023 and 2024 compared to 50% with increased profit between 2022 and 2023.

Table 6. In terms of net profits, how did your business perform in 2024 compared to 2023? (%)

	2022 Compared to 2021	2023 Compared to 2022	2024 Compared to 2023
Increase (NET)	61	50	58
Large Increase	11	5	9
Moderate Increase	25	21	29
Small Increase	25	24	20
Decrease (NET)	26	30	28
Small Decrease	11	11	14
Moderate Decrease	12	10	12
Large Decrease	3	9	2
No Change	11	12	10

Note: Due to omission of "Not Applicable" responses, some columns may not add up to 100%.

BARRIERS TO BUSINESS GROWTH

Respondents were presented with a list of potential barriers to growth and asked to identify which were “significant barriers” to their organization’s growth.

- The number one barrier to growth was the condition of the state economy (58%), followed by availability of labor, noted by 55% of respondents, and cost of labor (39%).
- Factors with the lowest levels of “significant barrier” responses were energy prices (17%), public safety (14%), and access to capital (12%).

Table 7. Which of the following factors are currently a significant barrier to your organization’s growth? (2023-2025 results) (%)

Factors	2023	2024	2025	Change 2024 to 2025
State Economy	42	40	58	+18
Availability of Labor	54	55	55	-
Cost of Labor	47	39	39	-
National Economy	28	25	38	+13
Cost of Health Insurance	35	33	37	+4
Cost of Goods	37	37	32	-5
Lack of Housing	28	42	28	-14
Job Readiness of Entry-Level Workforce	24	31	27	-4
Cost of Commercial Development	14	19	22	+3
Lack of Childcare	19	31	18	-13
Energy Prices	20	21	17	-4
Public Safety	13	23	14	-9
Access to Capital	11	15	12	-3

TAXES

Asked if taxes are a significant barrier to organizational growth, most respondents (78%) said no. Those who answered affirmatively were asked which type of taxes are the biggest barrier and were allowed to select all that apply. The highest percentage of respondents expressed that federal taxes were the biggest barrier (66%), followed by local taxes (51%) and state taxes (41%).

Table 8. Are taxes a significant barrier to your organization’s growth? (%)

	2025
Yes	22
No	78

Table 9. Which are the biggest barriers? (%)

[BASE: Respondents who express taxes are a significant barrier to growth]

	2025
Federal Taxes	66
State Taxes	41
Local Taxes	51

REGULATIONS

Asked if regulations are a significant barrier, 59% of respondents said no and 41% said yes. Those who said regulations are a barrier were asked which are the biggest barrier. Two-thirds (67%) said federal regulations were the top barrier, followed by state regulations (63%) and local regulations (57%). Respondents were able to select all that apply.

Table 10. Are regulations a significant barrier to your organization’s growth? (%)

	2025
Yes	41
No	59

Table 11. Which are the biggest barriers? (%)

[BASE: Respondents who express regulations are a significant barrier to growth]

	2025
Federal Regulations	67
State Regulations	63
Local Regulations	57

OTHER BARRIERS TO GROWTH

Respondents were asked to share other barriers to growth in the form of an open-ended question: “Are there any other barriers that prevent your organization from achieving growth?”

Seventy respondents shared answers. Verbatim responses are provided in the appendix. Common themes include uncertainty both from federal and state policies, declining consumer confidence, workforce issues (availability, labor costs, lack of talent), infrastructure deficiencies (roads, energy, housing, education), and uncertainty with investment and funding (both grants and loans).

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANS

Survey participants were asked if they were planning significant capital improvements in 2025 or 2026. Respondents were asked a follow-up question about job creation if they answered affirmatively and asked a question about whether recent economic changes affected plans if they answered “No.”

- Twenty-nine percent of respondents said they are planning capital improvements in 2025, down from 38% in 2024.
- Of those planning improvements, two-thirds (66%) said the improvement will create jobs.
- Over two-thirds of respondents (71%) are not planning capital improvements. Of these respondents, 42% noted that recent changes in Anchorage’s economy had affected their plans and 58% said recent economic changes in Anchorage had not affected their plans.

Table 12. Are you planning significant capital improvements in 2025 or 2026? (2016-2025 results) (%)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Planning Capital Improvement	27	31	25	28	28	22	31	32	38	29
Will Create Jobs	68	67	69	80	73	62	78	72	65	66
Will Not Create Jobs	32	33	31	20	27	38	22	28	35	34
Not Planning Capital Improvement	73	69	75	72	72	78	69	68	63	71
Recent change in Anchorage Economy Affected Plans	40	41	44	50	55	60	44	39	46	42
Recent change in Anchorage Economy Did Not Affect Plans	60	59	56	50	45	40	56	61	54	58

*Note: Due to a shift in survey timing question wording changed slightly. Previously the survey asked about planned capital improvements “in the next two years”.
The 2025 survey question asked about 2025 and 2026.*

EXPECTATIONS FOR THE ECONOMY IN 2025

Survey participants were asked how they think the overall Anchorage economy and overall Alaska economy will each fare in 2025 compared to 2024. Tables detailing results follow, with comparison data for 2016 to 2025.

ANCHORAGE ECONOMY

- Just 23% of respondents expect the Anchorage economy will fare better in 2025 compared to 2024, down significantly from 44% in 2024, 46% in 2023, and 60% in 2022.
- Two-thirds of respondents (66%) expect the Anchorage economy will be worse, and 11% expect no change.

**Table 13. How do you think the Anchorage economy will fare in 2025, compared to 2024?
(2016-2025 results) (%)**

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Better (NET)	10	18	29	58	30	40	60	46	44	23
Much Better	<1	1	2	2	1	1	4	2	1	-
Moderately Better	<1	3	4	12	8	9	10	11	11	4
Slightly Better	10	14	23	44	21	30	46	33	32	19
Worse (NET)	78	70	58	23	48	52	30	35	40	66
Slightly Worse	48	40	36	18	35	24	19	26	25	27
Moderately Worse	22	23	17	4	9	16	6	6	10	22
Much Worse	8	7	5	1	4	12	5	3	5	17
No Change	12	12	14	19	22	8	10	18	16	11

Note: Due to omission of "Not Applicable" responses, columns may not sum to 100%.

ALASKA ECONOMY

- Fewer than one-third of respondents (28%) expect the Alaska economy to improve in 2025, down significantly from 50% in 2024.
- About two-thirds of respondents (65%) expect the overall Alaska economy to worsen in 2025, up sharply from 34% in both 2023 and 2024.

**Table 14. How do you think the overall Alaska economy will fare in 2025, compared to 2024?
(2016-2025 results) (%)**

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Better (NET)	5	19	32	62	35	43	63	51	50	28
Much Better	0	1	2	3	3	3	3	3	1	1
Moderately Better	<1	4	5	16	6	7	10	12	14	3
Slightly Better	5	14	25	43	26	33	50	36	35	24
Worse (NET)	88	71	52	24	49	52	28	34	34	65
Slightly Worse	40	32	29	17	35	25	21	25	24	26
Moderately Worse	36	29	19	6	10	17	3	6	8	23
Much Worse	12	10	4	1	4	10	4	3	2	16
No Change	7	9	16	15	16	5	9	17	16	9

Note: Due to omission of "Not Applicable" responses, columns may not sum to 100%.

POLICY IMPACTS

Survey participants were asked a series of questions about expected business impacts for each of five recent federal policy and spending changes, and whether recent federal policy changes affected business decisions. Detailed results follow.

PREDICTED IMPACTS OF POLICY CHANGES

Respondents were asked to predict whether each change would benefit their business, harm their business, or not impact their business. The questions were new for the 2025 survey.

- For each policy change, 10% or fewer predicted that their business would benefit. Federal staffing reductions saw the highest level of predicted benefits at 10%.
- Respondents expected the highest level of harm from federal grant reductions (69%), followed by import tariffs (64%), federal staffing reductions (63%), and other federal spending reductions (62%).

Table 15. For each of the following policy changes, can you predict whether it will not affect, harm your business or benefit your business in 2025? (%)

	Benefit	Not Affect	Harm	Don't Know
Federal Staffing Reductions	10	18	63	8
Import Tariffs Imposed by the U.S.	8	18	64	10
Other Federal Spending Reductions	6	16	62	15
Export Tariffs Imposed by Other Countries	4	33	49	14
Federal Grant Reductions	3	22	69	6

IMPACTS OF FEDERAL POLICY ON BUSINESS DECISIONS

Asked to explain if recent federal policy changes have affected their business decisions, more than half of survey participants (53%) responded affirmatively and left a comment. Forty-seven percent of respondents said recent federal policy changes had not affected their business decisions.

Table 16. Have recent federal policy changes affected your business decisions? (%)

	2025
Yes	53
No	47

The most common themes shared by respondents are widespread economic uncertainty, with delayed investments, hiring, and expansion plans as a result. Respondents expressed that disruptions to federal grants and contracts have affected nonprofits and service providers, requiring program cuts and operational downsizing. Others expressed that cost increases from tariffs on imported goods and materials are impacting sectors like retail, construction, and event planning. Some respondents worry that consumer spending—impacted by job insecurity and market instability—will be reduced.

Many organizations are in “wait and see” mode, while others are actively cutting budgets, diversifying funding sources, and reducing reliance on federal partnerships.

Some respondents noted that Presidential Executive Orders and other shifting regulations have created a lack of clarity from federal agencies and are another source of unease. Some organizations say they are being more cautious due to fear of disruption and future economic pain, while a small minority of comments reflect that some respondents are either unaffected or anticipate that resource extraction resulting from policy change will be a source of growth.

The full list of responses can be found in the appendix.

ANCHORAGE ECONOMIC ISSUES

Survey participants were presented with a list of issues and asked to identify which were very important to the Anchorage economy and most important for the Anchorage economy.

ISSUES “VERY IMPORTANT” TO ANCHORAGE ECONOMY

Presented with a list of issues, respondents were asked to identify all issues they felt were very important to the Anchorage economy.

- According to respondents, top issues impacting the Anchorage economy include homelessness (79%), affordable housing (71%), and the Alaska operating budget (70%).
- The least mentioned issues were availability of childcare services (42%), reduced healthcare costs (39%), and improved road infrastructure (37%).

Table 17. Which of the following do you think are very important for the Anchorage economy? (2023-2025 results) (%)

	2023	2024	2025	Change 2024 to 2025
Reduce Homelessness*	70	75	79	+4
Affordable Housing	73	75	71	-4
Sustainability of State budget*	64	59	70	+11
Retain/expand Existing Businesses*	68	64	64	0
K-12 Education Funding	N/A	52	57	+5
Natural Gas Availability	N/A	N/A	55	-
Attract New Business*	63	59	53	-6
Public Safety*	60	56	52	-4
North Slope Oil Production	57	48	52	+4
Attract Workforce from Outside of Alaska*	71	66	51	-15
Retain K-12 Student Population	44	52	51	-1
Revitalize Downtown*	50	46	49	+3
Port of Alaska Modernization	59	53	48	-5
Workforce Training	50	46	46	0
Increase Childcare Availability*	58	58	42	-16
Reduce Healthcare costs	46	50	39	-11
Improve Road Infrastructure*	35	39	37	+2

* Wording changed from previous years; some change may be a result of methodological differences

N/A Not asked in that survey year

ISSUES “MOST IMPORTANT” TO ANCHORAGE ECONOMY

Respondents were asked to select one issue from the items they identified as very important as the “most important” for the Anchorage economy.

- Three issues garnered mentions by more than 10% of respondents: sustainability of the State budget (13%), and K-12 education funding and North Slope oil production (both 11%).
- While the impacts of homelessness earned the highest percentage of very important responses in the previous question, it was most important for only 10% of respondents.
- The most important issues in 2024 differed from responses in 2025. Only 5% of 2024 respondents rated sustainability of the state budget as the most important factor, while 13% of respondents mentioned the state budget in 2025.

Table 18. Which of the following do you think is most important for the Anchorage economy? (2023-2025 results) (%)

	2023	2024	2025	Change 2024 to 2025
Sustainability of State Budget*	11	5	13	+8
K-12 Education Funding	N/A	9	11	+2
North Slope Oil Production	13	8	11	+3
Reduce Homelessness*	5	9	10	+1
Affordable Housing	7	14	9	-5
Revitalize Downtown*	4	3	6	+3
Other Project/Issue	N/A	N/A	6	-
Attract Workforce from Outside of Alaska*	12	11	5	-6
Public Safety*	1	2	5	+3
Natural Gas Availability	N/A	N/A	5	-
Retain/Expand Existing Businesses*	11	7	4	-3
Port of Alaska Modernization	5	4	4	0
Attract New Businesses*	6	4	3	-1
Workforce Training	6	1	3	+2
Retain K-12 Student Population	2	3	2	-1
Reduce Healthcare costs	2	2	1	-1
Increase Childcare Availability*	1	1	1	0
Improve Road Infrastructure*	<1	1	1	0

* Wording changed from previous years; some change may be a result of methodological differences

N/A Not asked in that survey year

ANCHORAGE SALES TAX

Respondents were asked to indicate their level of agreement with statements about the establishment of a sales tax and specific uses of a sales tax.

- The highest level of agreement was for establishing a sales tax to invest in community infrastructure projects (60%), followed closely by improving municipal services (58%).
- Using sales tax revenues to reduce property taxes garnered the least amount of agreement (48%) and the highest level of disagreement (48%).

Table 19. Agreement with “The Municipality of Anchorage should establish a dedicated sales tax to...”, 2025 (%)

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Total Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total Disagree
...invest in community infrastructure projects.	33	27	60	17	21	38
...fund improved municipal services.	22	36	58	17	22	39
...reduce property taxes.	22	26	48	26	22	48

Note: Due to omission of “Don’t Know” responses, some rows may not sum to 100%.

2024-2025 COMPARISON

Support for a municipal sales tax in Anchorage rose from 2024 to 2025 for all three statements. Support for using a dedicated sales tax for community infrastructure saw the highest gain, from 47% in 2024 to 60% in 2025. Support for improved municipal services saw a gain of 11% from 2024 to 2025 (47% to 58%). Support for using sales tax to reduce property taxes remained fairly consistent, rising from 45% in 2024 to 48% in 2025.

Table 20. Agreement with statements regarding Municipality of Anchorage sales tax (2024-2025 results) (%)

	2024	2025	Change 2024 to 2025
...invest in community infrastructure projects.	47	60	+13
...fund improved municipal services.	47	58	+11
...reduce property taxes.	45	48	+3

STATE OF ALASKA BUDGET

Respondents were asked to indicate their level of support for six potential methods for addressing the State’s budget challenges.

- Over half of respondents (59%) support a reduction to the PFD, followed by reduction of State spending (56% supportive).
- The highest level of opposition was to elimination of the PFD (56% opposed).

Table 21. In response to the State of Alaska’s budget challenges, how supportive are you of each of the following? 2025 (%)

	Very Supportive	Supportive	Total Supportive	Opposed	Very Opposed	Total Opposed
Reduction to the PFD	29	30	59	17	20	37
Reduction of State Spending	28	28	56	26	11	37
Statewide Sales Tax	16	36	52	19	25	44
Statewide Income Tax	22	23	45	25	28	53
Elimination to the PFD	15	24	39	26	30	56
Other Broad-Based Statewide Tax	11	26	37	18	18	36

*Note: Due to omission of “Don’t Know” responses, some rows may not sum to 100%.
Question wording was changed slightly in the 2024 survey to address state budget ‘challenges’ rather than ‘deficit’ (used in 2021-2023).*

2024-2025 COMPARISON

Since 2021, a reduced PFD, reduced State spending, and a statewide sales tax have been the methods of addressing the State’s budget challenges with the highest percentage of respondents in support.

Table 22. Support of potential methods of addressing the State’s budget challenges (2021-2025 results) (%)

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Change 2024 to 2025
Reduction to the PFD	74	67	61	56	59	+3
Reduction of State Spending	73	72	63	54	56	+2
Statewide Sales Tax	70	69	54	46	52	+6
Statewide Income Tax	49	35	32	35	45	+10
Elimination to the PFD	35	35	27	32	39	+7
Other Broad-Based Statewide Tax	54	56	44	30	37	+7

Note: Question wording was changed slightly in the 2024 survey to address state budget ‘challenges’ rather than ‘deficit’ (used in 2021-2023).

BUSINESS CHARACTERISTICS

BUSINESS SECTOR

The most common business sectors represented by respondents were finance/insurance/real estate (19%), professional services (16%), and non-profit (10%), the same top three as the previous two years.

**Table 23. Which sector best describes your organization? (Self-identified)
(2016-2025 results) (%)**

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	12	13	11	21	17	16	18	18	19	19
Professional Services	16	18	14	15	17	13	12	16	13	16
Non-Profit	10	9	7	11	15	10	10	10	11	10
Construction/Maintenance	5	3	6	5	5	4	8	4	7	7
Engineering/Architecture	11	7	4	6	5	12	6	6	5	7
Wholesale/Retail Trade	6	6	8	5	5	4	6	5	5	7
Tourism/Hospitality	7	6	6	5	4	8	10	7	7	5
Transportation	5	5	4	5	4	4	3	8	5	5
Alaska Native Corporation	3	4	4	2	6	4	4	5	3	5
Health Care	3	4	6	3	3	5	3	5	3	4
Manufacturing	2	3	2	1	1	2	3	2	4	2
Government/Military	5	3	3	4	2	3	1	3	3	2
Media/Communication	5	7	7	5	3	3	8	2	3	2
Mining/Oil Production	1	2	4	1	1	2	2	<1	2	2
Utilities	3	1	1	1	1	-	2	1	1	2
Arts	*	*	2	-	-	1	1	<1	1	2
Education/Childcare	*	*	2	2	2	2	1	3	2	1
Other	<1	1	1	-	4	2	-	-	2	1
Information Technology	2	4	3	2	3	1	1	3	1	1
Social Services	1	1	1	<1	1	<1	1	1	1	1
Mining/Oil Support Services	2	2	3	1	1	<1	1	2	-	1
Fishing/Seafood	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	-	1	-

*Not included in that survey year.

ORGANIZATION SIZE

One-quarter of responding businesses (25%) reported an annual sales/operating budget of more than \$25 million, up from 20% in 2024. The next most popular category was \$1 million to \$5 million (21%). The percentage of businesses reporting gross sales or an operating budget under \$250,000 dropped from 16% in 2024 to 11% in 2025.

Table 24. Which of the following categories best describes your organization’s annual gross sales or annual operating budget? (2016-2025 results) (%)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Under \$250,000	13	20	27	15	12	10	8	13	16	11
\$250,000 to \$500,000	9	10	6	7	10	7	10	6	8	6
\$500,000 to \$1 Million	9	8	10	7	8	9	8	6	8	10
\$1 Million to \$5 Million	25	13	20	24	19	20	26	22	18	21
\$5 Million to \$10 Million	7	10	8	11	14	14	9	8	8	12
More Than \$10 Million	31	33	25	32	31	34	31	40	*	*
\$10 Million to \$25 Million	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	16	13
More Than \$25 Million	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	20	25
Don't Know	6	7	4	4	5	6	8	5	6	3

**Not included in that survey year.*

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Responding businesses represented a wide range in terms of employment numbers, with 38% of respondents employing fewer than 10 people, and a combined 21% employing 100 or more.

Table 25. How many people do you currently employ in Anchorage? Please include full-time and part-time employees. (2016-2025 results) (%)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Under 10	43	46	54	36	36	40	36	34	42	38
Under 5	*	*	*	*	*	*	21	24	35	26
5 to 9	*	*	*	*	*	*	15	10	7	12
10 to 49	31	26	24	30	30	31	33	31	31	31
50 to 99	6	7	6	12	12	12	11	14	8	8
100 to 249	10	7	7	10	10	5	9	8	9	9
250 to 500	4	5	2	5	5	4	4	8	5	6
500 or More	5	8	5	6	6	5	6	6	5	6
Don't Know	2	1	1	<1	<1	1	1	-	<1	-

**Not included in that survey year.*

APPENDIX

The following section includes responses for open-ended survey questions. For readability, wording has been edited slightly for grammar, punctuation, or spelling.

HAVE RECENT FEDERAL POLICY CHANGES AFFECTED YOUR BUSINESS DECISIONS?

- Absolutely. We are a retail company and import over 50% of our products AND our domestic products are often made with imported components. Plus drop in stock market and consumer angst all slow sales
- Adjustments to policies to comply with Executive Orders
- As fear of job losses and tariff uncertainties escalate, patients pull back from paying even small co-pays for therapy and drop out while simultaneously experiencing increased mental health distress and escalation of medical symptoms exacerbated by stress.
- Cancellation of grant awards and hostility toward renewable energy.
- Capital project costs will be higher with tariffs. Those who have lost their jobs will not be using our business.
- Change in grant funding which impacts our clients.
- Changes in grant funding for electrification.
- Clearly increased cost
- Constantly reviewing potential impacts, changes, etc. tied to EOs
- The cost of items for our business will go up due to how much we order / sell outside of US. Also, discretionary \$\$\$ our customers will have will be less in 2026
- Cut business to reflect lower gross revenues spending and costs
- Delayed or cancelled grants
- Development of new housing just got more expensive with lumber coming primarily out of Canada and appliances/parts out of China - examples. Estimates for multifamily rental housing construction is already more than \$5600k per unit in Anchorage. Tariffs will drive this cost higher.
- Disrupted cash flows of partners
- EPA CCG grant application will not likely be reviewed or awarded
- Even my industry (professional services) is deeply intertwined with the global market; negative impacts on the global market (through tariffs) will make it more costly to conduct business. Federal funding is one of the key sources of revenue for the Alaska-based entities who are our primary customer base.
- Executive Orders have changed the way we present ourselves
- Expected grants delayed or cancelled
- Federal grants and contracts are about 30% of our organization's business (State pass-through federal dollars are probably another 10%). While a few have been canceled outright, we expect larger impacts in the next fiscal year with fewer RFPs and pass-through dollars available. We have frozen hiring and will be reducing force when we have more clarity on the size of fed cuts.
- Frozen grant funds, lack of access to federal agencies, lack of access to public information

- Funded programs have closed and my services are no longer required. The overall uncertainty has made organizations unwilling to look for grant funding, a key component of my business.
- Grant funding changes has made federal grants harder to get. Steel and lumber prices have a direct effect on my business
- Grants
- Grants being unavailable to apply for will impact program operations including and up to closures.
- Has a little, but too early to say what the long-term impact will be.
- Have had to rethink funding source and capital strategies as a non-profit Native CDFI.
- Have to watch item expense - people are less likely to use advertising
- Holding capital and controlling expenses
- Holding off on expansion until the chaos coming from the Trump administration settles down
- I have customers overseas who are afraid and hesitant to come to an event I'm putting on here due to foreigners being detained when crossing into/out of the country. I am questioning putting on more events until things calm down. I have no confidence in the current administration and therefore I'm making more conservative business decisions.
- I have labor and spending. Budgets were set last year so we are adjusting to increased pricing.
- I operate a mental health private practice. Federal employees and other industries experiencing job insecurity effects client's active participation, withdrawal of insurance benefits, and decreased ability to seek services due to loss of health insurance. As a provider that heavily relies on health insurance companies for payments, my clinic is apprehensive in taking on new patients with federal occupations/benefits due to risk of non-payment.
- I will not be seeking government contracts or executing current contracts without up-front payment.
- I'm waiting to hire an additional employee.
- IRS reduction in force has created backlogs for my accounting clients. Federal grant freezes and threats put my nonprofit clients at risk
- It is decimating years of investments, staffing and business initiatives.
- It will likely decrease our revenue in H2
- Keeping lower stocks for sale
- Killing federal jobs, hurting nonprofits that provide important services
- Lost Business opportunity
- Made decisions not to pursue certain grant funding due to the nature of them being frozen currently.
- Makes me want to increase my DEI in protest.
- Many of our client's funding streams have been impacted by the recent changes, causing us to have to pivot away from some clients and diversify our business to clients with more reliable funding streams.
- Many of our clients rely on federal grants, which means the impact to our business is through decreased demand or a lack of staffing to efficiently manage workflow and timely funding payments.
- Market conditions have greatly lowered revenue we can make on investments
- Money will be used wisely
- More caution lending to entities reliant upon federal funding

- More cautious about DEI language, programming related to inclusion/diversity. Questioning planning without more information re: federal direction/decisions.
- Nearly everything is on pause until the environment becomes more clear.
- No staffing, extreme chaos/uncertainty
- Not applying for as many grants, considering closing down program
- Not looking to upgrade or change investments. Uncertainty for owners and tenants not being able to count on the government meeting the governments already approved obligations.
- Not yet
- Our business focuses on products that are purchased predominantly by travelers. I expect fewer travelers and fewer people in places where are products are sold (e.g., National Parks) due to staffing reductions. Additionally, our costs will go up due to the tariff war.
- Our industry is heavily reliant on federal funding, which seems more volatile these days.
- Our organization has started reducing expenditures for employment and materials.
- Paused shipments from Importers
- Positive views on Oil and Gas development will help us greatly.
- Potential reductions in Federal grants and spending have led us to reconsider capital spending and employee recruitment.
- Products/materials for our events will cost more and affect business decisions
- Reduction in support of education
- Resource extraction encouraged
- Restricted access to grant and contract funding
- Slower to hire than normal. A portion of our work is now dependent on unpredictable federal budgets/decisions.
- Some of our rural work is supported by AIDEA/AEA and we expect funding delays, however so far we are seeing increased activity. Tariffs should boost us manufacturing.
- Stopped recruitment of permitter for large federal permitting. Deregulation is slowing clients to make decisions.
- Tariff policy is now an important part of the discussion in a lot of ways; but at least for the moment is mostly a source of uncertainty - not a consistent pressure in any particular direction.
- Tariffs
- Tariffs are impacting supply chain
- Tariffs have either massively increased the cost of or outright killed one of our product development projects. They have also hugely increased uncertainty about ancillary product costs and consumer decisions.
- The cancellation of federal funding and grants has led to uncertainty among almost all my clients, leading to reduced work for our agency
- The Diversity Committee is quite worried how this will affect our city.
- The economic uncertainty and downturns created by the federal government will adversely affect all Alaskan businesses and their decision-making processes.

- The pivot on energy policy has deeply affected the engagement and advice to energy consulting clients.
- The tariffs, layoffs at federal agencies, and changes to grant distribution have impacted our community significantly and made it challenging for us to predict 2025 purchasing trends. We've already seen purchasing decrease, and are strategizing on how to keep the business open with lower sales
- The types of partnerships we pursue, the availability of information and reporting from federal agencies, and the cost of goods and services all play into the success of our work. Federal policy changes that diminish those elements will negatively impact our work.
- The uncertainty it has caused will adversely affect business.
- Tighten budget and
- Timing of investment and decision Go/No go
- Uncertainty
- Uncertainty around federal grant resources for development projects may stall or kill those projects.
- USTRANSCOM Single source contracting. Loss of GSA opportunities Loss of State Jobs due to loss of Fed Support. Oil Revenues in decline.
- We are hesitant to invest in remodeling any of our locations due to uncertainty in the local economy and the higher costs of building materials.
- We are likely to have layoffs and big project losses which will curtail our spending
- We had to revise our DEI policy. We have had some projects get paused or be terminated. Federal layoffs has actually improved the hiring pool in a very tight employment market.
- We have expedited planned furniture purchases to avoid tariffs and have permanently held on other purchases and remodels due to uncertainty and loss of income.
- We have seen an uptick in job applicants. But we have also seen an increase in uncertainty and fear.
- We have witnessed panic from staff worried about the danger to federal funding. There is a general sense that the Government is out of control. We have had to adjust wages and policies to encourage hiring and retention. The cost of living for our staff and our vulnerable clients may significantly increase.
- We import meat from Australia
- We lost a lot of money in the stock market and now we are in the middle of a large office buildout, and we are cutting everything back because we don't have the cash flow we had two weeks ago
- We rely heavily on federal grants and agency spending. Decreases in both are hurting both our direct spend activity, as well as our ability to provide services as a whole (e.g., slow down in processing at federal offices delays distribution of pass-through funds).
- We're concerned about expanding and delaying plans.
- We're cutting costs where possible, to prepare ourselves if tourism demand should shrink this summer.
- We're less likely to enter into contracts and agreements with federal partners. While the individuals are still reliable, we've heard from others in our industry that Federal partners are not paying for services rendered and as a small nonprofit that gives us pause about entering into agreements with them.
- We're pretty much freezing any additional spending, and cutting budgets where necessary, which will be a lot this year.
- We're thinking about how we're going to make up for gaps left behind by federal chaos and defunding. More people will struggle financially and in other ways that will now need to be served

- Yes- the reduction in grants and employments will affect our non-profit but also the capacity and capable of other non-profits to address the challenges.
- Yes, I import products from other countries, my COGS will go up.
- Yes, trump tariffs are a disaster.
- Yes, we have reconsidered where to source our wines.
- Yes. Additional resources devoted to monitoring federal policy changes and planning to avoid harms and take advantage of opportunities that might attend those changes.
- Yes. Tariffs will hurt the air cargo business in/out of the Alaska Int'l Airport System.

ARE THERE ANY OTHER BARRIERS THAT PREVENT YOUR ORGANIZATION FROM ACHIEVING GROWTH?

- "It's the economy stupid" Still a good quote.
- A declining school system
- A lack of cheap, plentiful in-state energy. Lack of in-state roads.
- Aging out staff, irreplaceable
- Alaska rural climate is both an advantage and disadvantage
- Anchorage Assembly
- Anchorage crime and lack of cleanliness
- Budget cuts
- Certificate of Needs - SOA
- Chaos in the market overall caused by the Trump administration
- Companies are needing to step up to the plate with managers' ongoing learning - fewer seem to purchase their managers' professional memberships now
- Consumer confidence
- Cost of goods, concerns about consumer confidence
- Cost of labor and availability of skilled labor
- Cost of medical care
- Decline in our state's population. Our population follows the money.
- Decreasing insurance reimbursements versus increasing cost of doing business.
- Economic instability
- Failing schools, rising crime, homeless all over the city
- Federal agency chaos
- Federal banking restrictions
- Federal fluctuation resulting in poor business environment
- Federal Reduction in Force makes everything I do take longer and therefore I have less time to grow my company
- Funding- we rely on grants and contracts, foundations and donors.

- General uncertainty in economy and about political situation preventing businesses from purchasing my services, which are largely B2B. Having a stable tax regime
- Having to dedicate capital to security services and physical security measures.
- High interest rates
- Housing availability
- If organizations cannot survive the upcoming governmental changes, it will effect our membership numbers
- Instability of Federal Government Policy and Activities
- Insurance and permitting costs
- Interest rates
- Labor in Alaska
- Labor pool and economic outlook hindering capital availability and spend
- Lack of a local law school to produce young lawyers willing to live in Alaska
- Lack of a manufacturing base that could create an export market
- Lack of available talent and high cost of living in AK that makes it difficult to attract staff.
- Lack of federal and state support for renewable energy.
- Lack of infrastructure, particularly energy and ground transportation.
- Lack of job ready employees
- Lack of labor resources
- Lack of local and state funding
- Lack of local talent
- Lack of state funding and state agency staffing. Alaska wears blinders when it comes to doing business.
- Leadership decisions that don't seem to support my mission
- Limited skilled labor force across the design and construction industry.
- Little state investment
- Loss of population impacts decisions to build more housing.
- Loss of population loss of higher paying jobs
- Negative foreign affairs affecting tourism.
- Ongoing State fiscal deficit creating economic uncertainty which reduces how much capital we are willing to deploy
- Organizational capacity
- Our current President has paralyzed our nation to such a degree that people are becoming unwilling to travel to Alaska. Canadian reservations are down 90%, and international reservations are down over 50% (and will like decrease further).
- Overall stability of the US & AK economy impacting people's willingness to buy
- Pervasive sense of uncertainty and fear in regards to rising costs, potential loss of job, and challenges to the rule of law
- Poor gig work infrastructure/low local participation in gig work apps

- Poor Overall Economy. A sense that AK is about ready for a recession
- Poorly conceived and poorly executed federal trade and economic policy
- Price of oil / state economy
- Reduction in discretionary income for both businesses and individuals could have an impact on the willingness to donate to non-profits and our general operations.
- School funding deficit
- Severe lack of competent manufacturing partners.
- Shortage of judges and level of corporate activity in Alaska.
- State and local economy
- State investment in the University of Alaska, federal cuts to research
- State oil tax legislation uncertainty. Unstable tax structure and increased spending by state. Minimum wage and time off legislation.
- Subject to mortgage and housing market conditions
- Tariffs
- The federal government instilling fear in Americans and paralyzing the economy. It's challenging to grow an existing business model when no one wants to spend or, alternatively, desires to fly under the radar to avoid unnecessary visibility and possible unwanted scrutiny.
- The reduction in federal \$\$\$ for grants, federal layoffs, state \$\$\$ in reductions for childcare and education and overall instability in Federal Govt will contribute a down turn in spending
- Trump tariffs

WHAT OTHER PROJECTS OR ISSUES DO YOU THINK ARE VERY IMPORTANT FOR THE ANCHORAGE ECONOMY? (OTHERS)

- “Live Work Play” opportunities
- A modest sales tax
- A state income tax
- Access and maintenance of outdoor recreation facilities
- Access to CSP
- Access to public spaces/outdoors
- Actually reducing homelessness rather than promoting it.
- Add new housing units
- Adequately funding deferred maintenance for parks
- Affordable housing
- Ambler Road Engineering
- ANC needs diversified revenue streams
- Anchorage Assembly (x3)
- Arts Funding
- ASD Funding

- Assembly overspending
- Assembly not listening to public or enforcement on law
- Assertion of State 90/10 split rights
- Assertion of the RS 2477 rights
- Attract retail businesses
- Attracting redevelopment of old real estate with new/improved
- Attracting workforce
- Beautify Anchorage (it's ugly)
- Bring in more people
- Business impacts of homelessness - on safety and business impacts
- Camping in city limits
- Chugach park trail maintenance & access
- Chugach state park access infrastructure
- Clean up downtown. It has gotten scary!
- Community Development funding
- Consistent investment in infrastructure
- Continued growth of airport
- Conversation about having a state or income tax
- Cost of health care-small businesses can't afford it at all and we are getting pushed out by corps
- Creating affordable childcare so people can return to work
- Crime (x2)
- Decline in immigration (including refugee resettlement)
- Dismantling the Anchorage Assembly
- Diversify from property taxes
- Diversification of local govt revenue
- Diversification so we're not so dependent on gov't and oil jobs/money
- Diversifying the economy. Can't suck off the teats of oil forever.
- Don't undertake open-ended tax proposals
- Downtown
- Education
- Education - can't diversify if CEOs and decision makers won't have good schools for their kids
- Education Funding
- Education, training and workforce development
- Effective local governance
- Empowering residents
- Federal policy on trade (will affect airport)

- Finding common ground to work across polarizing issues
- Fisheries sustainability
- Fix the school problem increasing student allocation does not work. Educational system is top heavy
- Full private audit of ASD spending and budgeting. Very high spending for very poor results as-is
- Gas development
- Guard the PFD. Tariffs are already having a huge negative impact on our PFD.
- Health care costs
- Homeless (x8)
- Housing Affordability
- Housing and Homelessness
- Housing regulations
- Improve downtown
- Improve indoor facilities for families
- Increase-greatly-taxation on energy/oil companies
- Inflation rates
- international relations
- Investing in higher education in addition to K-12
- Investing in universities is crucial
- Investment in infrastructure
- Investment in infrastructure that benefits the public at large
- Investment into quality-of-life improvement measures
- Lack of accountability of state funds
- Lack of consistent funding
- Lack of quality education k-12
- Lack of state income
- Lack of sufficient housing
- Leaning into cultural tourism and other untapped unique characteristics that can add a new dimension
- Local infrastructure cooperation with developers
- Local property tax reduction, dollar for dollar if a new sales tax.
- Loss of families and working age population due to lack of investment in education.
- Lower residential taxes
- Making commercial office space more accessible.
- Manage municipal resources
- Mental Health
- Mining development
- MOA Building Department

- More affordable housing
- More bike trails, keep safe
- More drug health clinics
- More mental health clinics
- More support for young families; free public events--especially in winter
- Municipal assembly is a major problem
- Municipal Sales Tax
- Municipality Funding
- Municipality Taxes and downtown revitalization
- National Park Service Funding
- Need to find ways to increase maintenance dollars to repair trails and keep infrastructure from deteriorating.
- New businesses
- New housing
- New value-added industry
- North Slope Exploration & Development
- North slope oil developments
- Northlink Airpark
- Oil & Gas Development
- Port of Alaska
- Pride of Anchorage outreach
- Project Anchorage
- Provide essential municipal services
- Public safety
- Public safety and rule of law
- Public safety via the reduction in people using drugs and having mental health crises in the streets
- Quality of life amenities
- Rationalize PFD
- Recall the mayor
- Recent MoA suspension of design guidelines for multifamily was a positive.
- Reduce crime
- Reduce federal chaos
- Reduce property taxes
- Reduce the loss of young workers who are leaving the State for better opportunities
- Reduction of uncertainty in the economic future
- Remove all homeless camps immediately
- Rent for small biz is too high

- Retain federal jobs
- Retain federal spending
- Retain military bases
- Retaining existing workforce
- Retention of federal funding
- Retraining workers out of the workforce
- Revitalization of existing buildings / housing
- Revitalize commercial and housing units
- Revitalize downtown Anchorage and the sign/way finder project
- Revitalizing Anchorage, not just downtown
- Safety/crime
- Sales tax as proposed
- Sales tax for large community capital projects
- Sales tax is needed to generate more revenue to invest in ourselves
- Skilled trades training for youth
- Solve homeless problem
- Spaces for community events and gatherings
- Sports facilities/soccer fields
- Stable and predictable government practices; businesses need stability
- Stable income for state government
- State and Southcentral natural gas line/production
- State budget fiscal uncertainty
- Stop Trawler Bycatch
- Streamline the planning process for commercial projects.
- Street infrastructure for pedestrians
- Susitna Road Engineering
- Tariffs
- The Airport
- The availability of higher education, internships, and trade schools
- The Port
- Too many programs that aren't self sustaining
- Tourism
- Trail system need revamp
- Trained workforce
- Training for skilled labor
- Transparency and dependability in local/ state government

- Transportation adds/fixes
- Transportation Cost
- Trash on streets
- Unhoused people causing public health concerns
- Upskill and prepare workers for Alaskan Jobs
- Vagrancy
- Vagrant cost
- Vagrants
- Vote new Assembly members
- We need a reliable revenue stream to be able to make the changes we want.
- Wildfire mitigation

OTHER ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE TO THE ANCHORAGE ECONOMY

- Anchorage Assembly
- Diversification of local government revenue
- Diversifying the economy. Can't suck off the teats of oil forever.
- Municipality Funding
- Municipality Taxes and downtown revitalization
- Retain federal jobs



THANK YOU TO OUR DIAMOND SPONSORS



PREPARED BY



AEDC
Anchorage Economic
Development Corporation

510 L STREET, SUITE 603
ANCHORAGE, AK 99501

AEDCWEB.COM