

# One-Stop Operator Report

## Alaska Job Center Network



ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
& WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

### Labor Exchange Program Participants (7/1/2007 to 6/30/2008)

Registered Participants: .....	114,816
Total Veterans and Transitional Service Member (TSM) Participants:..	11,188
Total Youth Participants: .....	5,244
Number of Participants that Entered Employment: .....	31,274
Retained Employment at Six Months: .....	41,655
Total Job Openings Received from Employers: .....	64,296
Daily Customers Served in Job Center Resource Rooms: .....	226,929

### Career Support & Training Services Participants (7/1/2007 - 6/30/2008)

#### Workforce Investment Act (WIA)

##### Adult

Total Adults: .....	2,935
Entered Employment Rate (Adults): .....	70.4%
Credential and Employment Rate (Adults): .....	58.3%
Six-Month Retention Rate (Adults): .....	83.7%
Six-Month Average Earning (Adults):.....	\$14,689

##### Dislocated Worker

Total Dislocated Workers: .....	698
Entered Employment Rate (Dislocated Worker): .....	75.8%
Credential and Employment Rate (Dislocated Worker): .....	63.6%
Six-Month Retention Rate (Dislocated Worker): .....	89.4%
Six-Month Average Earning (Dislocated Worker):.....	\$19,971

#### State Training and Employment Program (STEP)

Total Participants: .....	398
Total Exiters: .....	250

Source: Alaska Job Center *Preliminary* Performance Data, DOLWD

## Current Projects

### Variable Reporting Closeout

In June, ALEXsys variable reporting project was put into production. It was further enhanced by the creation of a data warehouse component (ALEXware) that will be leveraged for a variety of ALEXsys, AGIA and WIA reporting requirements. The reporting function allows supervisors and managers the ability to create ad hoc reports from the field to better manage resources. It also allowed the Department the opportunity to assess what enhancements were needed to both ALEXsys and ALEXware to begin the Credentialing Project.

### Credentialing

The Credentialing Project is in its initial phase for ALEXsys. The goal is to allow the Department to better match job seeker's certification to employer job requirements. This will allow us to track professional licenses, certifications, and any endorsements including education degree types and trade level distinctions (Master, Journey, Apprentice) and any individual who earns an Alaska Career Ready Certificate (ACRC). The ability to search by degree types, certificates, and trades has been identified as being a critical component in our commitment to prepare Alaskans for jobs needed for the Alaska Gas Pipeline.

### Data Warehouse

Information from ALEXsys is exported into the data warehouse on a regular basis. The Trade Act System data is primed for merging into the data warehouse. The structure and hierarchy for matching and merging Workforce Investment Act Management Information System data is in place. This goal is to have a central location to ensure the information extracted from the warehouse is comprehensive and inclusive of all services provided by the Department.

The Department is being proactive in preparing for future Federal Reporting that will be rolled out with the implementation of Common Performance Measures. The Workforce Investment Standard Performance Reporting (WISPR) report will require that participant information from all employment and training programs be combined and reported in one report. The effort currently in place for the warehouse is the first step for integration that will allow for the WISPR report to be generated ensuring a smooth transition to the new reporting requirements.

## **Rapid Response and the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act (WARN)**

WARN offers protection to workers, their families, and communities by requiring employers to provide notice 60 days in advance of covered plant closing and mass layoffs. This notice must be provided to each employee to be laid off and/or the employee representative (e.g. a labor union), to the State dislocated worker unit, and to the Governor's office. Alaska has seen very few WARN Notices due to the generally small size of our businesses; however, a WARN notice was filed this past August by Alaska Distributors.

Alaska Distributors is in the process of selling their Alaska operations to the Odem Corporation. All employees will be terminated and must apply for new jobs with the Odem Corporation. A total of 130 workers were affected by the sale of the company and approximately 40 of those will be rehired by Odem.

This business closure affected multiple locations of whom were the majority (90 workers) located in Anchorage. Other locations affected are Fairbanks, Kenai, Juneau, Ketchikan, Sitka and Kodiak. The layoff date is scheduled for October 3, 2008.

The Rapid Response team coordinated with the business and held in person worker meetings in both Anchorage and Fairbanks. An overview of unemployment insurance, employment services, career support, and training services and vocational counseling was provided at the meetings. All workers residing outside of Anchorage and Fairbanks were contacted in person by a Rapid Response team member and sent packets of information which explain the services available to them.

### **Youth First Activities that were Delivered via Alaska Job Centers**

The Alaska Job Centers continue to provide increased outreach to Alaska's in-school and out-of-school youth by the continuation of eight Job Center staff positions called Career Guides. Career Guides are found in seven strategic locations, and focus service delivery to youth in their area. In FY08, we added an additional Career Guide in Bethel to provide more outreach to rural areas. A key component of the Career Guide's job is to travel to communities and visit schools throughout their respective Job Center Region. We continue to have two Student Interns at the King Career Center (KCC) in Anchorage. Due to budget constraints, we have eliminated Student Interns at the other Job Centers.

The Career Guides and Student Interns are an excellent way to reach youth by establishing a working relationship with the schools, Native organizations, community service agencies, and employers in their communities. They continue to increase the youth knowledge of labor market trends and occupational options utilizing tools such as the Alaska Labor Exchange System (ALEXsys) and the Alaska Career Information System

(AKCIS). The Career Guides provide labor market information, occupational training information and career information regarding employment opportunities to school counselors, teachers, parents, and school boards. They develop models in each area to promote efficiencies, partnerships and sustainability for career planning and development. The Student Interns at KCC will continue to assist the Career Guides in serving youth and young adults. This will allow them to learn about Alaska's critical industry needs and occupations, assisting youth in Job Center Resource Rooms, and educating peers about the Alaska workforce.

## **Registered Apprenticeship**

In collaboration with the Division of Business Partnerships (DBP), Office of Apprenticeship, we have developed a new tool kit for Employment Security Division (ESD) Apprenticeship Specialists. This software program, SharePoint, includes commonly used web-sites and forms that will provide ease and consistency in establishing registered apprenticeships. We have recently developed a new veterans' brochure on apprenticeship, a flyer for employers, are in the process of finalizing a job seeker flyer, and a school-to-apprenticeship brochure.

Office of Apprenticeship for State and Federal programs provides information to specialists in their monthly teleconference. During these teleconferences staff discuss what is going on around the state, success stories and updates on "new" apprenticeship, school-to-apprenticeship and innovative training programs.

The Employment Security Division has received an RSA in the amount of \$350,000 from DBP to aggressively market the apprenticeship model for occupations outlined in the AGIA plan. Out of the 113 AGIA-related occupations, 60 have been identified as apprenticeable occupations. Employers may receive wage subsidies and individual training accounts/supportive services to enhance the development of their workforce. Expanded employer outreach, apprenticeship specialist training and support continue to be priorities.

Thomas W. Nelson  
Director, ESD  
PO Box 115509  
Juneau, AK 99811-5509  
907-465-5933  
[www.jobs.alaska.gov](http://www.jobs.alaska.gov)

