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Press Release

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Alaska employment up 0.6 percent in first half of 2014

JUNEAU, Alaska—Alaska's average monthly employment during the first half of 2014 was 332,473, a 0.6 percent increase over the first half of 2013. Total wages increased by \$253 million, or 3.0 percent, over the same period when adjusted for inflation. Alaska employers paid \$8.7 billion in wages during the first six months of this year.

All job growth in the first half of 2014 was in the private sector. The construction industry led with 979 added jobs, largely the result of activity on the North Slope. The retail sector, buoyed by the opening of several major box stores, gained 881 jobs.

Government employment continued to shrink in the first half of 2014. Federal employment was down 714 jobs from the prior year, continuing its fourth year of decline. Local government employment fell by 441 jobs because of school district cuts across the state. State government was up 503 jobs, mainly due to an anomaly in counting some university staff and student workers after the holiday break in January 2014 but not in 2013.

Research and Analysis Web site: laborstats.alaska.gov

Alaska Employment by Industry

First Half 2013 to First Half 2014

| Industry | Average Monthly Employment | | Employment Change | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------|
| | First Half 2013 | First Half 2014 | By Number | By Percent |
| Total, All Industries | 330,495 | 332,473 | 1,978 | 0.6% |
| Total Private | 247,882 | 250,512 | 2,630 | 1.1% |
| Goods-Producing | 46,046 | 47,890 | 1,844 | 4.0% |
| Natural Resources and Mining | 17,914 | 18,148 | 235 | 1.3% |
| Oil and Gas | 13,934 | 14,320 | 386 | 2.8% |
| Construction | 14,925 | 15,904 | 979 | 6.6% |
| Manufacturing | 13,208 | 13,838 | 630 | 4.8% |
| Seafood Processing | 9,529 | 10,153 | 624 | 6.6% |
| Service-Providing | 201,836 | 202,622 | 786 | 0.4% |
| Trade, Transportation, and Utilities | 62,534 | 63,179 | 645 | 1.0% |
| Wholesale Trade | 6,544 | 6,469 | -75 | -1.1% |
| Retail Trade | 34,945 | 35,826 | 881 | 2.5% |
| Transp and Warehousing | 18,940 | 18,802 | -138 | -0.7% |
| Information | 6,058 | 6,189 | 131 | 2.2% |
| Financial Activities | 12,899 | 12,851 | -48 | -0.4% |
| Professional and Business Services | 29,812 | 29,508 | -305 | -1.0% |
| Education and Health Services | 46,158 | 45,842 | -316 | -0.7% |
| Health Care | 33,425 | 33,694 | 269 | 0.8% |
| Social Assistance | 10,445 | 9,913 | -532 | -5.1% |
| Leisure and Hospitality | 32,225 | 32,664 | 439 | 1.4% |
| Other Services | 11,808 | 11,767 | -41 | -0.3% |
| Total Government | 82,614 | 81,962 | -652 | -0.8% |
| Federal Government | 15,593 | 14,879 | -714 | -4.6% |
| State Government | 26,119 | 26,622 | 503 | 1.9% |
| Local Government | 40,902 | 40,461 | -441 | -1.1% |

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages