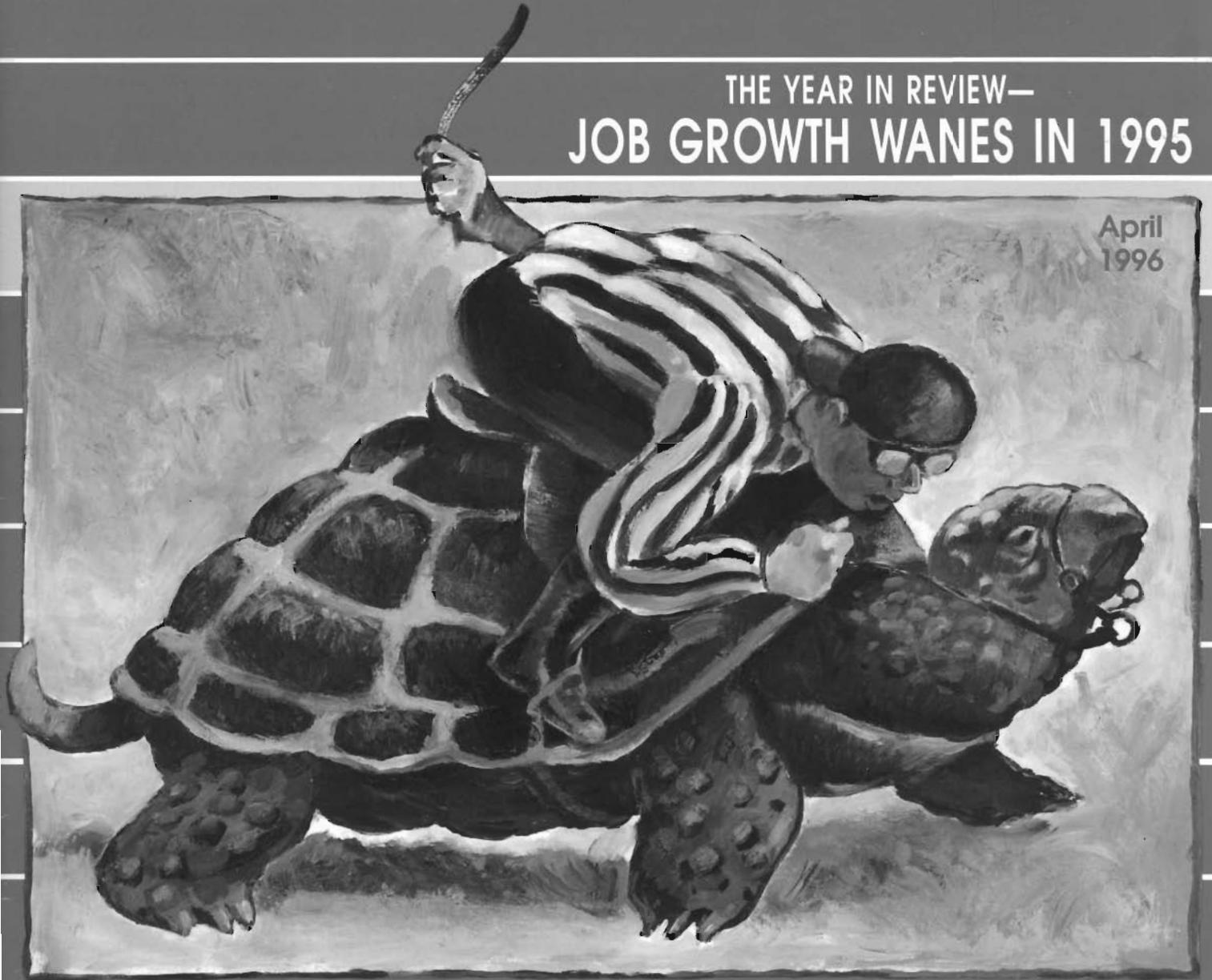


ALASKA ECONOMIC

# TRENDS

THE YEAR IN REVIEW—  
JOB GROWTH WANES IN 1995

April  
1996



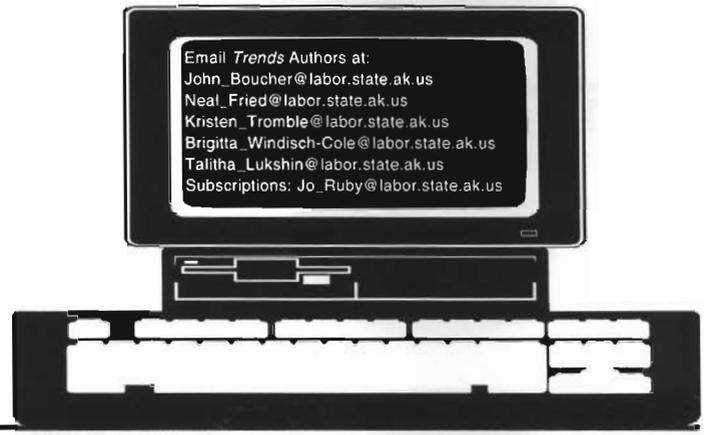
SLOW GROWTH IS  
BETTER THAN NONE

WORKPLACE FATALITIES  
DECLINE IN 1994

ON THE ANNUAL  
BENCHMARK REVISION

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR • TONY KNOWLES, GOVERNOR

# ALASKA ECONOMIC TRENDS



*Alaska Economic Trends* is a monthly publication dealing with a variety of economic-related issues in the state.

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# Job Growth Wanes in 1995

by John Boucher, Neal Fried, Kristen Tromble, Brigitta Windisch-Cole

Alaska's economy grew for the eighth straight year in 1995, propelled by an expanding services sector and strong construction activity. (See Figure 1.) However, job growth was slower than at any time during the 1990s. Wage and salary jobs grew by 1.1%, less than half of the 2.5% pace set in 1994. Oil and timber industry woes combined with federal government downsizing and the demise of two airlines to put a damper on employment growth. Slower growth in Alaska's retail sector completed the recipe for one of the more sluggish economic performances in recent memory.

## 2,800 more jobs in 1995

On an annual basis, Alaska's economy added 2,800 jobs in 1995. (See Table 1.) That number represented the smallest job gain posted in the 1990s. For most of the 90s, the economy has added about 5,000 jobs a year.

Several events caused the slower job growth. The oil and gas industry delivered a three-punch combination: the ARCO layoff, Alyeska Pipeline layoffs, and consolidation at oil field service companies. These blows sent oil and gas and oil transportation employment reeling. Meanwhile, civilian and military agencies continued to shed employees, extending the decline of federal government employment into its second year. MarkAir exited Alaska in mid-year, in effect closing its Alaska operations. Several months later, MarkAir's commuter spin-off, MarkAir Express, laid off all but a handful of workers. By year's end, employment in Alaska's air industry stalled and began to nosedive.

## Health care, construction, job training, tourism push services forward

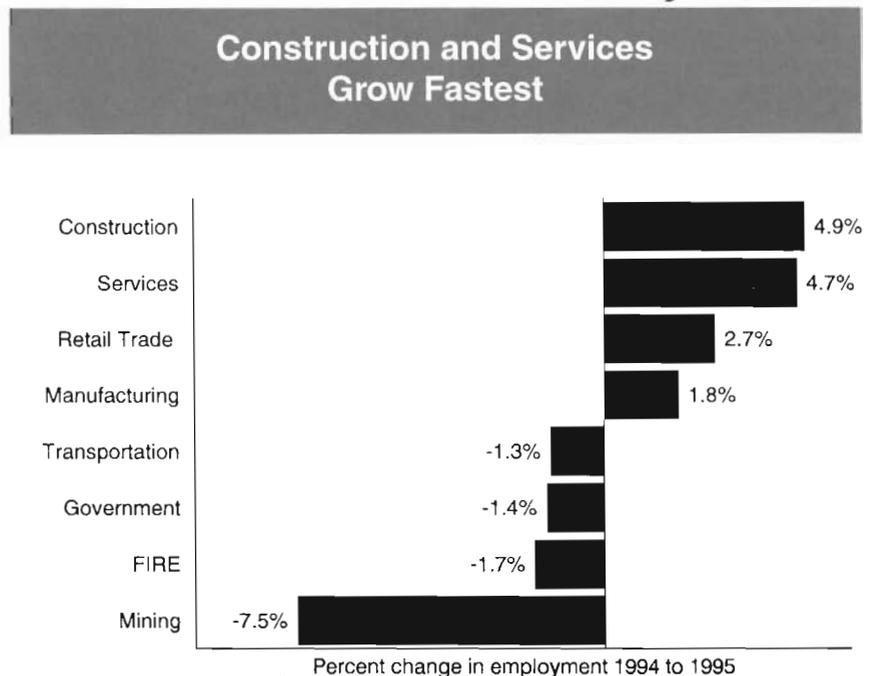
The biggest contributor to Alaska's job growth last year was services. Nearly every facet of services added jobs. Job additions were noted in hospitals and health care facilities and

in firms providing professional services, like engineers and architects, to the construction industry. Business services, fueled by the temporary help sector, contributed to job growth in 1995. Some business services growth came at the expense of jobs in the financial industry. Computer programming and data processing services got a boost when two large banks contracted out computer processing centers to other firms.

Social services agencies, particularly those providing job training and vocational rehabilitation services, experienced a healthy employment increase last year. Amusement and recreation services and hotels and lodging places, two sectors heavily influenced by Alaska's visitor industry, posted banner years for employment growth. The notable exception to services growth was legal services. Employment at attorney's offices fell for the second year in a row.

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Figure • 1



FIRE = Finance, Insurance and Real Estate  
Source: Alaska Department of Labor, Research & Analysis Section.

Table • 1

## Change in Wage and Salary Employment 1994-1995

Alaska					Municipality of Anchorage				
	1994	1995	Change	Percent Change		1994	1995	Change	Percent Change
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	259,300	262,100	2,800	1.1	Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	120,100	120,600	500	0.4
Goods-producing	39,600	39,700	100	0.3	Goods-producing	11,600	11,200	-400	-3.4
Mining	10,700	9,900	-800	-7.5	Mining	3,200	2,700	-500	-15.6
Construction	12,300	12,900	600	4.9	Construction	6,400	6,400	0	0.0
Manufacturing	16,600	16,900	300	1.8	Manufacturing	2,000	2,100	100	5.0
Durable Goods	3,200	3,200	0	0.0	Service-producing	108,500	109,500	1,000	0.9
Lumber & Wood Products	2,300	2,200	-100	-4.3	Transportation	12,600	12,000	-600	-4.8
Nondurable Goods	13,500	13,700	200	1.5	Air Transportation	4,700	4,500	-200	-4.3
Seafood Processing	10,300	10,600	300	2.9	Communications	2,300	2,200	-100	-4.3
Pulp Mills	500	500	0	0.0	Trade	28,700	29,600	900	3.1
Service-producing	219,800	222,500	2,700	1.2	Wholesale Trade	6,100	6,400	300	4.9
Transportation	23,300	23,000	-300	-1.3	Retail Trade	22,600	23,200	600	2.7
Trucking & Warehousing	3,000	3,100	100	3.3	Gen. Merch. & Apparel	4,500	4,700	200	4.4
Water Transportation	1,900	2,000	100	5.3	Food Stores	3,300	3,100	-200	-6.1
Air Transportation	7,600	7,300	-300	-3.9	Eating & Drinking Places	7,700	8,200	500	6.5
Communications	3,800	3,700	-100	-2.6	Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	7,200	7,100	-100	-1.4
Trade	52,700	54,200	1,500	2.8	Services & Misc.	31,300	32,600	1,300	4.2
Wholesale Trade	8,300	8,600	300	3.6	Hotels & Lodging Places	2,600	2,600	0	0.0
Retail Trade	44,400	45,600	1,200	2.7	Health Services	6,500	6,700	200	3.1
Gen. Merch. & Apparel	8,800	9,200	400	4.5	Government	28,800	28,200	-600	-2.1
Food Stores	7,200	7,200	0	0.0	Federal	11,100	10,500	-600	-5.4
Eating & Drinking Places	14,700	15,100	400	2.7	State	8,100	8,100	0	0.0
Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	11,900	11,700	-200	-1.7	Local	9,500	9,500	0	0.0
Services & Misc.	58,000	60,700	2,700	4.7					
Hotels & Lodging Places	6,300	6,400	100	1.6					
Health Services	12,700	13,200	500	3.9					
Government	73,900	72,900	-1,000	-1.4					
Federal	18,700	17,700	-1,000	-5.3					
State	21,600	21,500	-100	-0.5					
Local	33,500	33,700	200	0.6					

### Retailers ring up another job gain

Fueled by general merchandise and apparel stores and eating and drinking establishments, retail employment was the second largest contributor to private-sector job growth in 1995. Much of last year's job growth in general merchandisers occurred early in the year, as chain store job counts moved higher on the momentum of store openings that occurred in 1994. By mid-year, this aspect of the retail expansion had largely run its course. Food stores job growth, which was a source of solid job gains in 1994, also sputtered to a halt as the year wore on.

Employment gains in other types of retailers also occurred last year. Eating and drinking

establishments posted a second consecutive year of strong employment growth. Gas stations, boat dealers, building supply stores, furniture stores and gift shops also contributed to retail job growth.

### Construction has another solid year

For the third year in a row, Alaska's construction industry posted a strong performance. (See Figure 1.) Residential construction outstripped even the most optimistic predictions as private and public sector housing construction kept builders busy. A good residential building season was augmented by military housing projects at Eielson AFB and the Kodiak Coast Guard base, as well as

## Change in Wage and Salary Employment 1994-1995

### Southeast Region

	1994	1995	Change	Percent Change
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	34,900	35,700	800	2.3
Goods-producing	5,750	5,750	0	0.0
Mining	150	200	50	33.3
Construction	1,450	1,600	150	10.3
Manufacturing	4,100	3,950	-150	-3.7
Durable Goods	1,800	1,650	-150	-8.3
Lumber & Wood Products	1,700	1,500	-200	-11.8
Nondurable Goods	2,350	2,350	0	0.0
Seafood Processing	1,600	1,600	0	0.0
Pulp Mills	500	550	50	10.0
Service-producing	29,150	29,950	800	2.7
Transportation	2,900	2,950	50	1.7
Trade	6,400	6,700	300	4.7
Wholesale Trade	550	550	0	0.0
Retail Trade	5,850	6,150	300	5.1
Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	1,400	1,400	0	0.0
Services & Misc.	6,100	6,600	500	8.2
Government	12,350	12,350	0	0.0
Federal	2,000	1,950	-50	-2.5
State	5,350	5,400	50	0.9
Local	4,950	5,050	100	2.0

### Gulf Coast Region

	1994	1995	Change	Percent Change
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	26,450	27,050	600	2.3
Goods-producing	6,900	7,050	150	2.2
Mining	1,050	1,100	50	4.8
Construction	1,150	1,150	0	0.0
Manufacturing	4,700	4,750	50	1.1
Seafood-Processing	3,500	3,550	50	1.4
Service-producing	19,550	20,000	450	2.3
Transportation	2,200	2,250	50	2.3
Trade	4,850	5,000	150	3.1
Wholesale Trade	650	600	-50	-7.7
Retail Trade	4,200	4,400	200	4.8
Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	700	700	0	0.0
Services & Misc.	5,200	5,350	150	2.9
Government	6,650	6,750	100	1.5
Federal	650	650	0	0.0
State	1,750	1,750	0	0.0
Local	4,250	4,350	100	2.4

### Southwest Region

	1994	1995	Change	Percent Change
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	17,150	17,100	-50	-0.3
Goods-producing	5,400	5,550	150	2.8
Seafood-Processing	5,000	5,250	250	5.0
Service-producing	11,750	11,550	-200	-1.7
Government	5,750	5,300	-450	-7.8
Federal	850	600	-250	-29.4
State	500	500	0	0.0
Local	4,400	4,250	-150	-3.4

### Fairbanks North Star Borough

	1994	1995	Change	Percent Change
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	30,650	31,200	550	1.8
Goods-producing	2,850	3,150	300	10.5
Mining	800	700	-100	-12.5
Construction	1,500	1,900	400	26.7
Manufacturing	550	550	0	0.0
Service-producing	27,750	28,050	300	1.1
Transportation	2,150	2,300	150	7.0
Trucking & Warehousing	500	550	50	10.0
Air Transportation	550	550	0	0.0
Communication	250	300	50	20.0
Trade	7,000	7,000	0	0.0
Wholesale Trade	800	800	0	0.0
Retail Trade	6,200	6,200	0	0.0
Gen. Merch. & Apparel	1,250	1,250	0	0.0
Food Stores	750	750	0	0.0
Eating & Drinking Places	2,400	2,350	-50	-2.1
Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	1,050	950	-100	-9.5
Services & Misc.	7,250	7,500	250	3.4
Government	10,300	10,300	0	0.0
Federal	3,100	3,050	-50	-1.6
State	4,400	4,350	-50	-1.1
Local	2,850	2,900	50	1.8

### Northern Region

	1994	1995	Change	Percent Change
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	15,600	15,300	-300	-1.9
Goods-producing	5,950	5,600	-350	-5.9
Mining	5,100	4,950	-150	-2.9
Service-producing	9,700	9,700	0	0.0
Government	4,700	4,750	50	1.1
Federal	200	250	50	25.0
State	350	300	-50	-14.3
Local	4,150	4,200	50	1.2

Notes: Subtotals may not add due to rounding.

Alaska and Municipality of Anchorage prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. All other tables prepared in part with funding from the Alaska Department of Labor, Employment Security Division. Government includes employees of public school systems and the University of Alaska.

Benchmark: March 1995

Source: Alaska Department of Labor, Research & Analysis Section.

construction and renovation of low-income housing in several areas. Other public projects, such as the Healy clean coal facility, Anchorage schools and hospitals, and numerous rural water and sewer projects, kept builders active. A solid year for highway and street renovation also contributed to public sector construction spending. Big projects outside of the public sector were often related to investment in Alaska's tourism and mining sectors. Fairbanks was a hot spot as construction work at the Fort Knox gold mine and two hotels occurred. Southeast also saw its share of tourism investment as new dock facilities and a tram got underway in Juneau.

### **Manufacturers make mixed gain**

Alaska's manufacturing sector rounded out 1995's list of growth industries. While manufacturers posted a job gain of 300, the industry gave some extremely mixed employment signals. On the positive side, a strong winter quarter and a record setting salmon catch propelled Alaska's seafood processors to employment growth. However, low salmon prices meant trouble for processors, and the year ended with at least two processors closing. In the wood products industry, shut-downs and shift cutbacks characterized the sawmill segment, while the logging and pulp mill portions of the industry appeared to be making a slight rebound. Elsewhere in the manufacturing industry, the solid construction season bolstered employment at firms making concrete products.

### **Oil layoffs overshadow hard rock mining activity**

The ARCO layoff in the last quarter of 1994 combined with the continued consolidation of oil field service contracts to make for one of the roughest shakeout periods in Alaska's oil and gas industry in recent years. Oil industry job losses took their toll, particularly on Anchorage and the North Slope, but the economic reverberations were felt throughout the state.

On the hard rock mining front, anticipation heightened about projects that will come on line in the next two years, but little movement occurred in job counts. On the down

side, the Valdez Creek placer mine, the second largest mine in the state, shut down its operations in 1995. However, that bad news was more than offset by expansion at the Red Dog and Alaska Gold mines, opening of the Nixon Forks mine, and continued ramping up at the Greens Creek, Kensington, and Fort Knox mines.

### **Feds lose 1,000 jobs**

Alaska's public sector lost 1,000 jobs last year as the effects of federal government downsizing continued to mount. Troop draw-downs and base closures affected Alaskan military installations, resulting in cuts to defense-related federal government employment. Defense-related agencies weren't the only group that pared down last year. The process of reinventing federal government took its toll on agencies like the Bureaus of Land Management, Indian Affairs, and Mines in the Interior Department. The Forest Service in the Department of Agriculture, the Federal Aviation Administration in the Department of Transportation, and the Postal Service also lopped jobs.

In state and local government, employment held steady. There were slight gains in local government as many cities took advantage of a federally funded program to beef up their police forces. Employment at public schools also crept up due to increased school enrollment and new school facilities. State government employment dropped slightly from 1995 levels as the University of Alaska and state agencies felt fiscal pressure to curb personnel costs.

### **Anchorage's economy budgeted little in 1995**

In 1995, Anchorage's economy posted its weakest performance in seven years. Anchorage's wage and salary work force grew by 500 jobs or 0.4%. (See Figure 2.) Anchorage's economic performance was one of the weakest in the state. (See Table 1.) Several factors produced this lackluster picture. Sizeable layoffs occurred in the oil and transportation industries, and the federal government continued to downsize. As the headquarters or administrative center for these employers, Anchorage felt the brunt of the

layoffs. This was coupled with flat or moderate growth in Anchorage's remaining industries.

### Services make the biggest gains

Without the 1,300 jobs gained in the service industry, Anchorage's job count would have shrunk in 1995. Engineering and management services and health care were the biggest gainers. The former benefited from a decent construction season while the latter grew on the strength of hospital employment gains and general health services. Business services also enjoyed strong gains, boosted by increases in the temporary help and contingent work force business.

### A less eventful year for retail

In 1994, more than half a dozen major retailers entered the market and employment soared by 2,000. Last year was far less eventful for retailers, primarily because no new large stores opened. Job gains in 1995 were moderate and mixed. Some growth was left-over momentum from 1994, and by the end of the year, growth in major segments of retail trade had evaporated. This performance is not surprising given the sluggish economy and the 1994 saturation of retail. By 1995, the size of Anchorage's retail work force relative to its total work force was larger than the national average—a sign that much of the city's retail market was satiated.

For the second year in a row, eating and drinking establishments was one segment of retail trade that made impressive gains. Restaurant employment grew 6.5%, making it the biggest contributor to retail growth. Several new restaurants opened and others expanded during the past year.

### Construction enjoyed a decent year

Construction industry employment started weakly but gained strength during 1995. Construction of four new elementary schools and two middle schools sustained Anchorage's construction work force. Work on the State Court House and the Alaska Native Hospital also helped. Toward the end of the season, construction of the new \$160 million

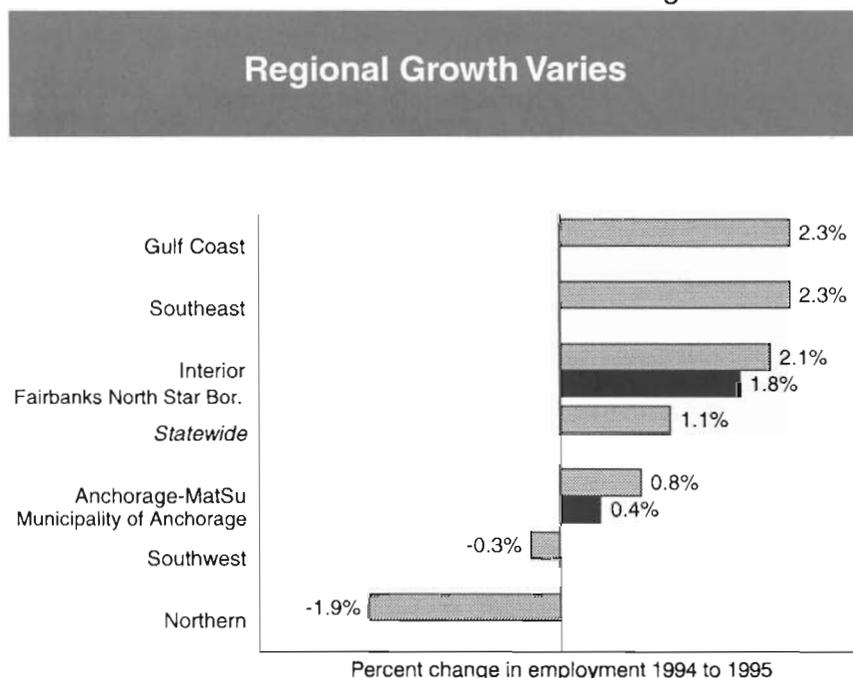
Elmendorf AFB Hospital gave the industry a lift. Residential construction activity fared better than predicted, as new residential building permits climbed to 1,000, compared to 858 in 1994. Most of these permits were for single-family homes, but 199 of them were multi-family units.

### Big losses in air transportation

The demise of MarkAir in April and a mass layoff at MarkAir Express in December accounted for all of the job losses in the air industry. As home base for these carriers, Anchorage felt the economic brunt of these shutdowns. The combined loss amounted to 700-800 jobs in Anchorage. Air transportation losses shown in Table 1 are smaller for several reasons. Since both carriers operated part of the year, the 1995 average employment doesn't fully account for all of the jobs lost; some losses will carry over into 1996. Also, the net loss to the industry will be less because other carriers expanded operations to fill some of the gaps left from the two carriers.

Downsizing at Alyeska Pipeline Service Company also contributed to job declines in trans-

Figure • 2



Source: Alaska Department of Labor, Research & Analysis Section.

portation. As the volume of oil flowing from the North Slope declines, Alyeska plans to continue to shrink the size of its work force.

### **Oil patch numbers fall in Anchorage**

Losing 500 jobs in 1995 pulled Anchorage's oil industry work force to an eight-year low. Set into motion in late 1994, most of the downsizing took place in 1995. By the end of the year, cuts had subsided and it appeared that oil industry employment had stabilized. On the positive side, the export ban of North Slope oil was lifted, and interest in development of marginal fields has emerged. These developments could help stabilize the oil patch work force.

### **Federal government's losses shrink public sector**

For the second year in a row, the federal government's work force in Anchorage declined. In fact, federal government was among the largest job losers in Anchorage—600 in total. The biggest losers were large federal agencies, such as the Department of Defense and Department of Interior. However, hardly an agency escaped unscathed. Employment in the rest of the Anchorage public sector remained unchanged.

### **Anchorage's finance sector got a bit smaller**

The city's finance sector pruned its work force a bit in 1995. The small job losses were not necessarily a reflection of the industry's health, since both bank lending and deposits increased. However, changes in technology and the way lenders do business are influencing the size of the work force. Some banks are out-sourcing work that was previously done in-house, and technology is putting a lid on their labor needs.

### **Fairbanks lays foundation for a gold rush**

Fairbanks' economy added 550 jobs to its wage and salary work force in 1995. This

1.8% job growth accounted for nearly 20 percent of the state's total employment gain.

With an annual average of 1,900 construction workers, building activity around Fairbanks showed its strongest performance since 1985. Ground was broken for the \$256 million Fort Knox gold mine, the largest construction project in the state. Construction of two hotels added almost 250 rooms in time for the 1996 season. New military housing and remodeling projects continued on Eielson Air Force Base, providing on-post housing for approximately 150 military families. Other public construction projects included repairs on the Butrovich building at the University of Alaska. Fairbanks' seniors also benefited from construction activity with 34 new housing units at the downtown MLH Manor.

Residential construction increased about 17 percent over last year. By November, contractors had registered 81 multi-housing and 129 single-family unit building permits. Fairbanks' rental market eased with the availability of on-post housing for military personnel and new construction.

Tourism is making strong gains in Fairbanks. During the travel months, hotel receipts increased more than 12 percent over last year. Over 1,000 more passengers entered Alaska via the Yukon Territory during visitor season.

Retail employment remained about the same in Fairbanks during 1995. A few eating and drinking establishments closed their doors, causing a slight drop in restaurant employment.

Public sector employment in Fairbanks increased at the local level while state and federal employment declined. Several federal agencies lost positions, including the Bureau of Land Management, the Department of the Interior, and the Federal Aviation Administration. State employment losses reflected a reduction of student employment at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

During the past year, some oil service companies, which report employment in Fairbanks, cut staff, causing a drop in mining

employment. In spite of the gold strikes in the Fairbanks area, metal mining employment increased only slightly during 1995. Most of the present employment related to mine development is counted in construction. When the Fort Knox mine starts operations in 1996, mining employment will rise. Other major gold discoveries in the Fairbanks vicinity promise future growth in this industry.

### **Gulf Coast economies prosper**

In 1995, employment grew 2.3% in the Gulf Coast region, which includes the Valdez-Cordova census area and the Kenai Peninsula and Kodiak boroughs. (See Figure 2.) This made the Gulf Coast and Southeast regions the fastest growing areas in the state. The Gulf Coast economy added 600 jobs during 1995. (See Table 1.)

Fisheries in the regions along the Gulf ended with mixed harvest results. This year, Kodiak topped all previous records for salmon. Seafood processing plants had to restrict deliveries by mid-August because of cold storage capacity limitations. The herring and groundfish harvests also ended on a positive note for the Kodiak fleet. Contrasting the success of Kodiak's season was the repeated harvest failure of the herring fishery in Prince William Sound. Cook Inlet and Prince William Sound salmon fishers shared a slow season. Because of the mixed harvest results in the Gulf region, employment in seafood processing industries experienced only a small increase.

Tourism continued to develop on the Kenai Peninsula. Gross sales during the 1995 tourist season increased by almost 5 percent. Sales revenues climbed significantly in Seward where gross sales leapt almost 23 percent. Passengers from about 100 cruise ships calling on Seward's port contributed to this successful season. Visits to the Kenai Fjords Park increased close to 10 percent over 1994 counts.

### **Southwest fishers netted a bountiful catch**

Employment in Southwest Alaska slipped below last year's level. Total wage and salary employment lost ground because of the closure of the Adak Naval station. Since 1994, federal employees, along with military personnel and dependents, have been moving from the base. In 1995, an additional 250 civilian workers and military exchange personnel left Adak. The final base closure is scheduled for January 1998. Adak's school district essentially ceased to exist when military dependents left the base in the summer of 1994. Therefore, local government employment dropped.

Southwest's economy experienced another seafood boom, led by a spectacular harvest of sockeye salmon in Bristol Bay. The 50% scaled back catch quota for opilio (snow) crab hardly affected harvesters who received premium product prices averaging \$2.40 per pound. A high value herring fishery combined with a solid groundfish fishery added further luster to the 1995 season. Fish processing plant operators augmented their work force, showing a 5% industry employment gain.

Employment in Southwest Alaska's trade, services, and transportation categories expanded, partially spurred by the seafood boom and a burgeoning visitor industry.

### **The Northern region's economic growth shifted westward**

In Northern Alaska, employment fell by 300 jobs. (See Table 1.) Most of these losses were oil related. After the completion of the 1994 GHX-II project, oil service and construction companies scaled back employment. The drop also includes some of the 1995 ARCO layoffs.

Some economic growth in the Nome area and the Northwest Arctic and North Slope boroughs does not show up because oil-related losses overwhelmed the gains. In the western part of the Northern region, services and trade employment grew. Health care service employment contributed to growth. In the retail industry, new eating and drinking places added jobs. In addition, the Red Dog Mine in the Northwest Arctic Borough expanded.

Tourism is also on the rise in the Northern region of the state. The Dalton Highway, where traffic increased about 34 percent during 1995, is becoming a tourist attraction.

### **Southeast among the growth leaders**

Growth in services, retail trade and construction launched Southeast Alaska to a better than expected performance in 1995. Overall, nonagricultural wage and salary employment rose 2.3%.

Services and miscellaneous showed an 8.2% jump in employment in 1995. This statistic is deceptive, as two reporting changes contributed to the number's growth. When these changes are factored out, the underlying growth in services was 5.3%, and total growth for the region was 1.8%.

Even with this adjustment, the services industry added the most new jobs in 1995, with all covered service sectors reporting increases. Medical services employment rose over 7 percent due largely to growth at Southeast Alaska Regional Health Corporation and Ketchikan General Hospital. Employment soared at some social service organizations as they hired workers with new grant money from AmeriCorps or Medicaid.

Retail trade added the second highest number of new jobs. Food stores, boosted by a new Carr's store in Juneau, was the fastest growing segment of retail. Employment in eating and drinking and other retail establishments also grew faster than the regional average. Some of this growth was likely tourist related, while other growth came as stores expanded in response to the competition that has entered the market in recent years.

Construction was Southeast's second fastest growing sector. Building construction led growth in the construction industry. Residential construction in Juneau was particularly strong; the number of new housing units permitted in 1994 and 1995 averaged almost two and two-thirds times the number for the previous two years. Ketchikan and Sitka also saw a healthy increase in the number of units permitted in 1995 compared to 1994. Ketchikan issued permits for over

twice as many units, while Sitka's number increased more than 17 percent.

Mining, Southeast's fastest growing industry, also experienced healthy job gains. Greens Creek's employment surged as it prepared to reopen its mine, and Coeur Alaska added jobs when it assumed control of the Kensington mine project. These gains more than offset losses at Echo Bay, which struggled with permits for the AJ mine.

Lumber and wood products was Southeast's big job loser with over the year losses reflecting the closure of the Wrangell sawmill in late 1994. This sector also suffered from cutbacks at Ketchikan Pulp Company, which temporarily closed its Ketchikan sawmill and reduced shifts at its Metlakatla sawmill. However, in another part of the timber industry, logging employment rose over 6 percent.

In Southeast's other industries, tourism booked a strong season despite cruise ship mishaps and a threatened ferry strike that slowed projected growth. Another year of good fish harvests kept seafood processing employment near last year's level. Total government employment stayed virtually flat from 1994 to 1995, with federal job losses offset by gains at the local level.

### **Setbacks meant slower job gain in 1995**

In 1995, Alaska's economy grew at a 1.1% pace. This was the slowest rate of growth and the smallest number of jobs added to the economy during the 1990s. Broad-based job growth in the services sector, a strong construction year, and the tail end of the retail expansion were significant contributors to economic growth. Meanwhile, oil industry layoffs, federal government downsizing and the closure of two large airlines were responsible for the slower job growth.

Regionally, growth was somewhat balanced. Southeast Alaska and the Gulf Coast region were among the faster growing areas of the state; Anchorage and the Northern region brought up the rear. On balance, 1995 was a struggle for Alaska's economy, but it still managed to eke out a little bit of growth.

# On the Annual Benchmark Revision

by John Boucher

In January of every year, the Alaska Department of Labor (AKDOL) revises the non-agricultural wage and salary employment data series in a procedure referred to as **benchmarking**. The 1995 benchmark revised the employment estimates for 1994 and 1995. These revised estimates are published in this issue of *Trends*. (See Tables 1-18.)

## Monthly job estimates based on a sample of employers

The monthly employment estimates published throughout the year in "Alaska's Employment Scene" are based on a sample of employers. The AKDOL uses current employment and payroll information from approximately 1,400 of Alaska's 15,000 wage and salary employers to produce the monthly employment estimates. Less than 10 percent of Alaska's employers take part in the survey, but participating employers represent nearly half of total nonagricultural employment. For example, the firms sampled in June 1995 accounted for 121,200 jobs out of the total nonagricultural employment of 276,500 (44.1%). These firms voluntarily participate in the U.S. Department of Labor's Current Employment Statistics (CES) program. The firms' data allow AKDOL economists to produce reliable and timely estimates on both the direction and the magnitude of movement of nonagricultural wage and salary employment.

## Revised employment estimates incorporate latest UI tax data

Quarterly Unemployment Insurance (UI) tax reports, referred to as the "Quarterly Report of Employment and Wages," or the ES-202 report, provide the most comprehensive count of nonagricultural wage and salary employment for Alaska. However, ES-202 data are not immediately incorporated into the current employment estimates because there is

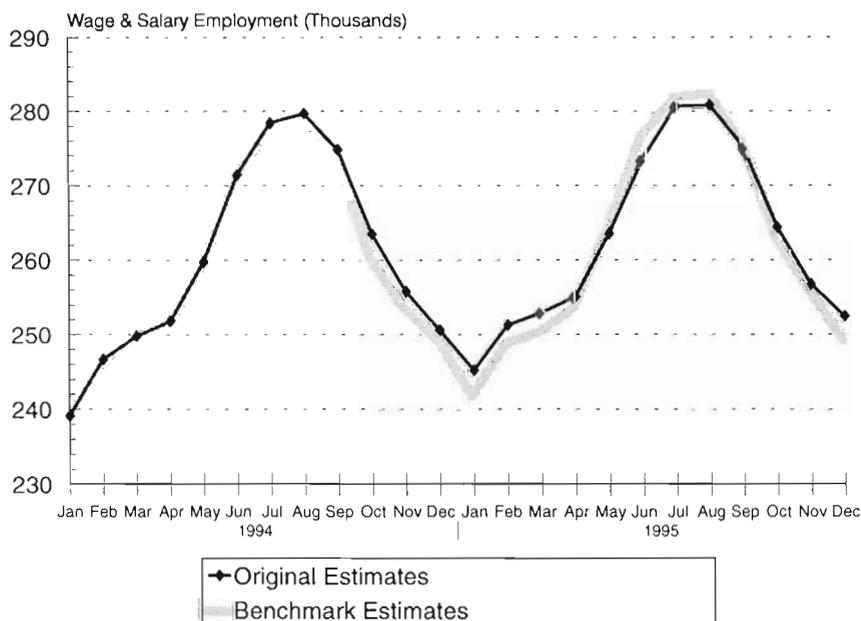
a six-to-nine month lag in collection, processing and publication of this information. (The ES-202 data are published annually in the AKDOL's *Employment and Earnings Summary Report*.) The recently completed benchmark process, though, incorporates the most recent ES-202 data available.

During the benchmark, revised estimates were calculated through December 1995. These estimates incorporate ES-202 data through June 1995. The remaining six months of 1995 were reestimated using an augmented CES sample. The new sample incorporates additional employer information not available at the time the original estimates were generated.

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Figure • 1

### Original Estimates Tracked Economy Well



Source: Alaska Department of Labor, Research & Analysis Section.

## Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work 1994 and 1995

### ALASKA 1994

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Average
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	239,000	246,600	249,500	251,800	259,800	271,400	277,600	278,700	274,200	260,200	253,600	249,500	259,300
Goods-producing	31,300	36,600	37,300	35,500	37,400	44,200	51,500	50,200	45,200	39,900	34,800	30,700	39,600
Mining	10,600	10,500	10,400	10,500	10,400	10,700	10,900	11,100	11,100	10,900	10,500	10,200	10,700
Construction	9,300	9,600	10,100	10,600	12,100	13,600	14,900	15,500	15,100	13,900	12,100	10,500	12,300
Manufacturing	11,400	16,500	16,800	14,400	14,900	19,900	25,700	23,600	19,000	15,100	12,200	10,000	16,600
Durable Goods	1,900	2,300	2,700	3,200	3,500	3,700	3,600	3,800	3,700	3,700	3,400	2,400	3,200
Lumber & Wood Products	1,300	1,600	2,000	2,400	2,500	2,600	2,600	2,700	2,600	2,700	2,500	1,500	2,300
Nondurable Goods	9,500	14,200	14,100	11,200	11,400	16,200	22,100	19,800	15,300	11,400	8,800	7,600	13,500
Seafood Processing	6,400	11,100	11,000	8,000	8,200	12,900	18,800	16,500	12,100	8,300	5,700	4,300	10,300
Pulp Mills	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500
Service-producing	207,700	210,000	212,200	216,300	222,400	227,200	226,100	228,500	229,000	220,300	218,800	218,800	219,800
Transportation	21,100	21,400	21,700	22,400	23,600	25,100	25,400	25,300	25,300	23,400	22,500	22,700	23,300
Trucking & Warehousing	2,600	2,600	2,700	2,800	3,000	3,300	3,300	3,200	3,100	3,000	2,900	3,000	3,000
Water Transportation	1,400	1,600	1,700	1,800	2,100	2,300	2,300	2,400	2,200	2,000	1,700	1,800	1,900
Air Transportation	6,900	7,000	7,000	7,200	7,500	8,000	8,100	8,200	8,100	7,600	7,500	7,500	7,600
Communications	3,700	3,700	3,700	3,800	3,800	3,900	3,900	3,900	3,900	3,800	3,700	3,700	3,800
Trade	47,900	47,900	48,900	50,600	53,400	55,800	56,600	57,000	55,800	52,600	52,900	53,100	52,700
Wholesale Trade	7,900	7,900	7,900	8,000	8,300	8,600	8,800	8,900	8,800	8,200	8,300	8,300	8,300
Retail Trade	40,000	40,000	41,000	42,600	45,100	47,200	47,800	48,100	47,000	44,400	44,600	44,800	44,400
Gen. Merch. & Apparel	7,800	7,600	8,400	8,700	8,700	9,000	9,100	9,200	9,200	9,100	9,500	9,600	8,800
Food Stores	6,700	6,800	6,800	7,000	7,200	7,400	7,600	7,600	7,400	7,100	7,100	7,300	7,200
Eating & Drinking Places	12,800	13,000	13,100	13,900	15,300	16,300	16,400	16,600	15,900	14,500	14,200	13,900	14,700
Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	11,300	11,500	11,600	11,800	12,000	12,300	12,300	12,400	12,400	11,900	11,800	11,800	11,900
Services & Misc.	53,400	54,400	55,000	56,000	58,300	61,100	61,600	62,200	61,000	57,700	57,400	57,400	58,000
Hotels & Lodging Places	4,700	4,700	4,900	5,100	6,300	7,900	8,500	8,600	7,700	5,800	5,400	5,400	6,300
Health Services	12,400	12,500	12,600	12,500	12,700	12,700	12,700	12,800	12,800	12,700	12,800	13,000	12,700
Government	74,000	74,800	75,000	75,500	75,100	72,900	70,200	71,600	74,500	74,700	74,200	73,800	73,900
Federal	18,700	18,600	18,600	18,800	19,000	19,400	19,500	19,100	18,900	18,300	17,800	18,100	18,700
State	21,600	22,100	22,100	22,300	21,600	20,500	20,700	21,100	22,200	22,200	21,900	21,100	21,600
Local	33,700	34,100	34,300	34,400	34,500	33,000	30,000	31,400	33,400	34,200	34,500	34,600	33,500

### ALASKA 1995

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Average
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	241,900	248,900	250,500	253,700	264,100	276,500	281,900	282,700	275,700	263,300	255,800	250,600	262,100
Goods-producing	30,200	35,400	35,400	35,400	39,000	44,900	53,100	51,400	45,500	40,000	35,000	30,700	39,700
Mining	9,400	9,700	9,700	9,500	9,700	10,200	10,200	10,400	10,300	10,100	9,800	9,600	9,900
Construction	9,000	9,500	9,400	10,600	13,000	15,100	16,000	16,800	16,200	15,200	12,800	11,000	12,900
Manufacturing	11,800	16,200	16,300	15,300	16,300	19,600	26,900	24,200	19,000	14,700	12,400	10,100	16,900
Durable Goods	1,700	2,400	2,800	3,200	3,500	3,700	3,800	3,800	3,700	3,600	3,300	2,400	3,200
Lumber & Wood Products	1,000	1,600	1,900	2,200	2,400	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,300	1,500	2,200
Nondurable Goods	10,100	13,800	13,500	12,100	12,800	15,900	23,100	20,400	15,300	11,100	9,100	7,700	13,700
Seafood Processing	6,900	10,600	10,300	8,900	9,600	12,600	19,900	17,200	12,100	8,000	6,000	4,500	10,600
Pulp Mills	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500
Service-producing	211,700	213,500	215,100	218,300	225,100	231,600	228,800	231,300	230,200	223,300	220,800	219,900	222,500
Transportation	21,700	21,800	22,100	22,300	23,200	24,500	24,700	24,800	24,600	22,700	21,800	21,400	23,000
Trucking & Warehousing	2,700	2,800	2,800	2,900	3,100	3,300	3,400	3,400	3,300	3,200	3,200	3,100	3,100
Water Transportation	1,400	1,700	1,700	1,800	2,100	2,300	2,500	2,600	2,500	2,100	1,800	1,700	2,000
Air Transportation	7,300	7,300	7,400	7,400	7,200	7,600	7,800	7,900	7,600	7,100	6,900	6,600	7,300
Communications	3,700	3,700	3,700	3,700	3,700	3,800	3,800	3,700	3,800	3,800	3,700	3,700	3,700
Trade	50,300	49,800	50,400	51,600	54,600	58,000	58,200	58,500	56,500	54,000	54,000	54,000	54,200
Wholesale Trade	8,100	8,200	8,200	8,400	8,600	8,900	9,100	9,300	9,000	8,400	8,400	8,400	8,600
Retail Trade	42,200	41,600	42,200	43,200	46,000	49,100	49,100	49,200	47,500	45,600	45,600	45,600	45,600
Gen. Merch. & Apparel	8,700	8,300	8,300	8,500	8,900	9,400	9,400	9,500	9,500	9,700	10,000	9,900	9,200
Food Stores	6,900	6,900	7,000	7,000	7,200	7,500	7,600	7,500	7,400	7,100	7,100	7,200	7,200
Eating & Drinking Places	13,300	13,300	13,600	14,300	15,500	17,100	17,100	17,200	16,300	14,900	14,500	14,300	15,100
Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	11,400	11,400	11,400	11,500	11,700	12,000	11,900	12,000	12,000	11,900	11,600	11,600	11,700
Services & Misc.	55,900	56,900	57,500	58,700	61,300	64,500	65,100	65,300	63,800	60,600	59,700	59,600	60,700
Hotels & Lodging Places	4,900	4,900	5,100	5,500	6,800	8,400	8,800	8,700	7,600	5,800	5,300	5,300	6,400
Health Services	12,800	13,000	13,100	13,000	13,200	13,300	13,300	13,400	13,300	13,300	13,400	13,400	13,200
Government	72,400	73,600	73,700	74,200	74,300	72,600	68,900	70,700	73,300	74,100	73,700	73,300	72,900
Federal	17,600	17,400	17,400	17,400	17,800	18,400	18,300	18,300	18,100	17,300	17,100	17,200	17,700
State	21,400	22,000	22,100	22,300	21,900	20,600	20,100	20,400	21,800	22,100	22,000	21,300	21,500
Local	33,400	34,200	34,200	34,500	34,600	33,600	30,500	32,000	33,400	34,700	34,600	34,800	33,700

Notes: Subtotals may not add due to rounding.

Alaska & Municipality of Anchorage tables prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Government includes teachers and other personnel employed by primary and secondary schools and the University of Alaska.

Benchmark: March 1995

Source: Alaska Department of Labor, Research & Analysis Section.

## Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work 1994 and 1995

### MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE 1994

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Average
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	114,700	115,900	116,500	118,200	120,400	123,200	123,300	124,300	124,100	121,200	119,900	120,000	120,100
Goods-producing	10,400	10,400	10,400	10,800	11,400	12,500	13,400	13,800	13,200	12,000	10,900	10,300	11,600
Mining	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,400	3,200	3,200	3,200	3,200	3,100	2,900	2,900	2,800	3,200
Construction	5,200	5,200	5,200	5,500	6,300	7,100	7,800	8,200	7,900	7,100	6,100	5,500	6,400
Manufacturing	1,700	1,700	1,700	1,900	1,900	2,200	2,400	2,400	2,200	2,000	1,900	2,000	2,000
Service-producing	104,300	105,500	106,100	107,400	109,000	110,700	109,900	110,500	110,900	109,200	109,000	109,700	108,500
Transportation	11,800	11,900	11,900	12,200	12,600	13,200	13,300	13,100	13,200	12,700	12,400	12,500	12,600
Air Transportation	4,400	4,500	4,400	4,600	4,600	4,800	5,000	5,000	4,900	4,900	4,800	4,900	4,700
Communications	2,300	2,300	2,300	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,300	2,300	2,300	2,200	2,200	2,300
Trade	26,800	27,000	27,400	27,900	28,500	29,200	29,400	29,800	29,800	29,100	29,400	29,700	28,700
Wholesale Trade	5,800	5,900	5,900	5,900	6,100	6,200	6,200	6,300	6,300	6,100	6,100	6,100	6,100
Retail Trade	21,000	21,100	21,500	22,000	22,400	23,000	23,200	23,500	23,500	23,000	23,300	23,600	22,600
Gen. Merch & Apparel	3,900	4,000	4,300	4,400	4,300	4,400	4,500	4,600	4,700	5,000	5,000	5,000	4,500
Food Stores	3,200	3,300	3,200	3,300	3,300	3,300	3,300	3,400	3,300	3,200	3,200	3,300	3,300
Eating & Drinking Places	7,100	7,200	7,300	7,600	7,800	8,000	7,900	8,100	8,100	7,800	7,800	7,800	7,700
Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	7,100	7,200	7,200	7,300	7,400	7,500	7,400	7,300	7,200	7,100	7,100	7,100	7,200
Services & Misc.	29,600	30,200	30,400	30,700	31,200	32,200	31,800	32,200	32,000	31,500	31,500	31,700	31,300
Hotels & Lodging Places	2,300	2,200	2,300	2,300	2,400	2,700	2,700	2,900	2,800	2,600	2,700	2,700	2,600
Health Services	6,300	6,300	6,400	6,400	6,400	6,500	6,500	6,600	6,500	6,500	6,500	6,600	6,500
Government	29,000	29,200	29,200	29,300	29,300	28,600	28,000	28,100	28,700	28,800	28,600	28,700	28,800
Federal	11,200	11,200	11,200	11,200	11,200	11,300	11,300	11,200	11,100	11,000	10,800	11,000	11,100
State	8,200	8,400	8,400	8,400	8,200	7,600	7,600	7,800	8,300	8,400	8,300	8,100	8,100
Local	9,600	9,600	9,600	9,700	9,900	9,700	9,100	9,100	9,300	9,400	9,500	9,600	9,500

### MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE 1995

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Average
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	115,800	116,600	117,200	118,100	120,700	124,400	123,500	124,500	124,300	122,100	120,300	120,100	120,600
Goods-producing	9,000	9,400	9,600	10,000	11,200	12,600	13,000	13,400	12,900	12,100	10,800	10,200	11,200
Mining	2,600	2,800	2,800	2,700	2,700	2,700	2,600	2,700	2,600	2,700	2,500	2,500	2,700
Construction	4,500	4,700	4,800	5,200	6,400	7,500	7,900	8,300	8,000	7,300	6,400	5,800	6,400
Manufacturing	1,900	1,900	2,000	2,100	2,100	2,400	2,500	2,400	2,300	2,100	1,900	1,900	2,100
Service-producing	106,800	107,200	107,600	108,100	109,500	111,800	110,500	111,100	111,400	110,000	109,500	109,900	109,500
Transportation	12,100	12,000	12,100	11,800	11,600	12,200	12,100	12,200	12,300	11,900	11,700	11,700	12,000
Air Transportation	4,800	4,800	4,800	4,600	4,200	4,400	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,200	4,300	4,100	4,500
Communications	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,200	2,100	2,200	2,200	2,200	2,300	2,200
Trade	28,500	28,100	28,200	28,800	29,800	30,600	30,500	30,700	30,200	29,700	29,800	30,000	29,600
Wholesale Trade	6,100	6,100	6,100	6,400	6,500	6,600	6,600	6,700	6,600	6,400	6,200	6,200	6,400
Retail Trade	22,400	22,000	22,100	22,400	23,300	24,000	23,900	24,000	23,600	23,300	23,600	23,800	23,200
Gen. Merch & Apparel	4,500	4,300	4,300	4,300	4,600	4,800	4,700	4,900	4,800	4,800	5,100	5,000	4,700
Food Stores	3,100	3,100	3,100	3,100	3,100	3,200	3,200	3,200	3,200	3,100	3,100	3,100	3,100
Eating & Drinking Places	7,700	7,600	7,700	7,900	8,300	8,600	8,600	8,600	8,400	8,200	8,100	8,200	8,200
Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	7,000	7,100	7,100	7,100	7,100	7,300	7,200	7,200	7,200	7,100	7,000	7,100	7,100
Services & Misc.	30,900	31,300	31,600	31,800	32,400	33,500	33,400	33,500	33,700	33,100	32,800	33,000	32,600
Hotels & Lodging Places	2,600	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,600	2,900	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,600
Health Services	6,500	6,600	6,700	6,600	6,700	6,800	6,800	6,900	6,700	6,800	6,800	6,800	6,700
Government	28,300	28,700	28,600	28,600	28,600	28,200	27,300	27,500	28,000	28,200	28,200	28,100	28,200
Federal	10,700	10,700	10,700	10,500	10,600	10,700	10,700	10,600	10,500	10,300	10,200	10,300	10,500
State	8,100	8,400	8,400	8,400	8,200	7,600	7,400	7,700	8,300	8,400	8,400	8,100	8,100
Local	9,500	9,600	9,500	9,700	9,800	9,900	9,200	9,200	9,200	9,500	9,600	9,700	9,500

Notes: Subtotals may not add due to rounding.

Alaska & Municipality of Anchorage tables prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Government includes teachers and other personnel employed by primary and secondary schools and the University of Alaska.

Benchmark: March 1995

Source: Alaska Department of Labor, Research & Analysis Section.

## Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work 1994 and 1995

### SOUTHEAST ALASKA 1994

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Average
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	30,300	30,850	31,800	33,650	36,000	37,650	38,750	39,900	38,400	35,100	33,850	32,300	34,900
Goods-producing	3,500	3,850	4,250	5,150	5,800	6,800	8,050	8,500	7,500	6,250	5,300	4,050	5,750
Mining	100	150	150	150	150	150	150	200	200	200	200	150	150
Construction	1,100	1,150	1,150	1,450	1,600	1,650	1,750	1,750	1,750	1,600	1,450	1,200	1,450
Manufacturing	2,300	2,550	2,950	3,550	4,050	5,000	6,150	6,550	5,550	4,450	3,650	2,700	4,100
Durable Goods	1,050	1,200	1,500	1,850	2,050	2,150	2,100	2,200	2,150	2,100	1,950	1,250	1,800
Lumber & Wood Products	1,000	1,150	1,450	1,750	1,900	2,000	2,000	2,050	2,050	2,000	1,800	1,150	1,700
Nondurable Goods	1,250	1,350	1,450	1,700	2,000	2,850	4,050	4,350	3,400	2,350	1,700	1,450	2,350
Seafood Processing	550	650	750	1,000	1,300	2,100	3,300	3,650	2,700	1,650	950	700	1,600
Pulp Mills	500	500	500	500	500	550	500	500	500	500	500	500	500
Service-producing	26,800	27,000	27,550	28,500	30,200	30,850	30,700	31,400	30,900	28,850	28,550	28,250	29,150
Transportation	2,250	2,250	2,400	2,650	3,150	3,450	3,350	3,550	3,350	2,750	2,700	2,700	2,900
Trade	5,400	5,350	5,500	6,050	6,700	7,300	7,200	7,350	6,950	6,300	6,250	6,250	6,400
Wholesale Trade	500	500	500	550	550	600	600	650	600	550	550	500	550
Retail Trade	4,900	4,850	5,000	5,500	6,150	6,700	6,600	6,700	6,350	5,750	5,700	5,750	5,850
Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	1,200	1,250	1,300	1,350	1,450	1,500	1,600	1,550	1,550	1,450	1,400	1,400	1,400
Services & Misc.	5,550	5,600	5,700	5,800	6,300	6,600	6,750	6,850	6,650	6,000	5,850	5,800	6,100
Government	12,400	12,550	12,650	12,650	12,600	12,000	11,800	12,100	12,400	12,350	12,350	12,100	12,350
Federal	1,900	1,900	1,950	2,000	2,100	2,150	2,200	2,150	2,050	2,050	1,900	1,850	2,000
State	5,450	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,400	5,250	5,250	5,350	5,400	5,300	5,250	5,100	5,350
Local	5,050	5,150	5,200	5,150	5,100	4,600	4,350	4,600	4,950	5,000	5,200	5,150	4,950

### SOUTHEAST ALASKA 1995

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Average
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	30,800	31,600	32,250	34,550	37,000	38,150	40,150	40,900	39,450	36,000	34,400	33,150	35,700
Goods-producing	3,500	3,950	4,300	5,150	5,750	6,400	8,300	8,650	7,600	6,100	5,300	4,150	5,750
Mining	200	200	150	150	150	200	200	200	200	200	250	250	200
Construction	1,100	1,150	1,250	1,600	1,800	1,950	1,900	1,950	1,850	1,800	1,500	1,300	1,600
Manufacturing	2,200	2,600	2,900	3,400	3,800	4,250	6,200	6,500	5,550	4,100	3,550	2,600	3,950
Durable Goods	800	1,200	1,450	1,700	1,900	2,000	2,000	2,000	1,900	1,900	1,750	1,150	1,650
Lumber & Wood Products	650	1,100	1,300	1,600	1,750	1,850	1,850	1,850	1,750	1,750	1,600	1,050	1,500
Nondurable Goods	1,400	1,400	1,450	1,700	1,900	2,250	4,200	4,500	3,650	2,200	1,800	1,450	2,350
Seafood Processing	650	700	750	1,000	1,150	1,500	3,450	3,750	2,850	1,450	1,050	700	1,600
Pulp Mills	500	500	500	500	500	550	500	550	550	550	550	550	550
Service-producing	27,300	27,650	27,950	29,400	31,250	31,750	31,850	32,250	31,850	29,900	29,100	29,000	29,950
Transportation	2,400	2,350	2,400	2,700	3,250	3,500	3,500	3,550	3,400	2,850	2,650	2,600	2,950
Trade	5,750	5,750	5,900	6,350	7,000	7,550	7,650	7,600	7,250	6,600	6,450	6,450	6,700
Wholesale Trade	500	500	500	500	500	500	550	550	550	550	550	550	550
Retail Trade	5,250	5,250	5,400	5,850	6,500	7,050	7,100	7,050	6,700	6,050	5,900	5,900	6,150
Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	1,250	1,250	1,250	1,400	1,450	1,450	1,450	1,450	1,450	1,450	1,350	1,400	1,400
Services & Misc.	5,750	5,900	5,950	6,350	6,850	7,350	7,500	7,500	7,250	6,400	6,250	6,250	6,600
Government	12,150	12,400	12,450	12,600	12,700	11,900	11,750	12,150	12,500	12,600	12,400	12,300	12,350
Federal	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,850	2,000	2,050	2,050	2,050	2,050	1,950	1,850	1,850	1,950
State	5,400	5,500	5,550	5,550	5,500	5,250	5,200	5,250	5,400	5,350	5,350	5,200	5,400
Local	4,950	5,100	5,100	5,200	5,200	4,600	4,500	4,850	5,050	5,300	5,200	5,250	5,050

Notes: Subtotals may not add due to rounding.

Prepared in part with funding from the Alaska Department of Labor, Employment Security Division.

Government includes teachers and other personnel employed by primary and secondary schools and the University of Alaska.

Benchmark: March 1995

Source: Alaska Department of Labor, Research & Analysis Section.

## Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work 1994 and 1995

### ANCHORAGE/MAT-SU REGION 1994

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Average
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	123,900	124,850	126,000	127,800	130,550	133,300	133,200	134,700	134,700	131,600	130,100	130,150	130,050
Goods-producing	11,050	10,950	11,100	11,400	12,150	13,400	14,250	14,650	14,200	13,100	11,800	11,050	12,450
Mining	3,650	3,650	3,650	3,550	3,350	3,350	3,300	3,300	3,300	3,150	3,050	2,950	3,350
Construction	5,600	5,500	5,650	5,900	6,750	7,700	8,450	8,850	8,600	7,800	6,700	6,000	6,950
Manufacturing	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,950	2,050	2,350	2,500	2,500	2,300	2,150	2,050	2,100	2,100
Service-producing	112,850	113,900	114,900	116,400	118,400	119,900	118,950	120,050	120,500	118,500	118,300	119,100	117,650
Transportation	12,750	12,800	12,800	13,150	13,600	14,150	14,200	14,050	14,200	13,750	13,400	13,500	13,550
Trade	29,050	29,200	29,900	30,400	31,150	31,950	32,100	32,550	32,500	31,700	32,000	32,300	31,250
Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	7,450	7,550	7,600	7,700	7,800	7,850	7,750	7,750	7,650	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,650
Service & Misc.	31,700	32,250	32,550	32,800	33,500	34,500	34,250	34,750	34,550	33,800	33,800	34,050	33,550
Government	31,900	32,100	32,050	32,350	32,350	31,450	30,650	30,950	31,600	31,750	31,600	31,750	31,700
Federal	11,350	11,300	11,300	11,350	11,350	11,400	11,450	11,250	11,250	11,100	10,900	11,100	11,250
State	9,000	9,200	9,150	9,250	9,100	8,400	8,400	8,600	9,150	9,200	9,150	8,950	8,950
Local	11,550	11,600	11,600	11,750	11,900	11,650	10,800	11,100	11,200	11,450	11,550	11,700	11,500

### ANCHORAGE/MAT-SU REGION 1995

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Average
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	125,500	126,100	126,800	128,000	131,300	135,300	134,650	135,850	135,050	132,900	131,000	130,350	131,050
Goods-producing	9,700	10,000	10,150	10,650	12,050	13,600	14,100	14,550	14,000	13,200	11,800	11,100	12,100
Mining	2,750	2,850	2,900	2,800	2,750	2,800	2,700	2,750	2,700	2,700	2,550	2,550	2,750
Construction	5,000	5,150	5,200	5,700	7,050	8,300	8,750	9,200	8,850	8,250	7,200	6,500	7,100
Manufacturing	1,950	2,000	2,050	2,150	2,250	2,500	2,650	2,600	2,450	2,250	2,050	2,050	2,250
Service-producing	115,800	116,100	116,650	117,350	119,250	121,700	120,550	121,300	121,050	119,700	119,200	119,250	119,000
Transportation	13,050	12,950	13,050	12,850	12,700	13,100	13,250	13,300	13,350	12,950	12,650	12,500	13,000
Trade	30,850	30,450	30,600	31,200	32,350	33,350	33,250	33,400	32,850	32,400	32,550	32,650	32,150
Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	7,450	7,500	7,500	7,550	7,550	7,700	7,600	7,650	7,600	7,550	7,500	7,450	7,550
Service & Misc.	33,200	33,550	33,850	34,100	34,950	36,250	36,400	36,450	36,400	35,650	35,400	35,500	35,150
Government	31,250	31,650	31,650	31,650	31,700	31,300	30,050	30,500	30,850	31,150	31,100	31,150	31,150
Federal	10,850	10,850	10,800	10,600	10,700	10,850	10,800	10,700	10,650	10,400	10,300	10,450	10,650
State	8,900	9,150	9,200	9,250	9,050	8,450	8,250	8,500	9,100	9,200	9,200	8,950	8,950
Local	11,500	11,650	11,650	11,800	11,950	12,000	11,000	11,300	11,100	11,550	11,600	11,750	11,550

### SOUTHWEST ALASKA 1994

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Average
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	15,950	18,900	18,500	16,400	16,100	17,450	19,950	18,700	18,100	16,250	15,000	14,300	17,150
Goods-producing	4,450	7,150	6,800	4,650	4,350	5,700	8,600	6,850	5,800	4,350	3,250	2,700	5,400
Seafood Processing	4,200	6,850	6,500	4,350	4,000	5,250	8,100	6,350	5,350	3,900	2,900	2,400	5,000
Service-producing	11,500	11,750	11,700	11,750	11,750	11,750	11,350	11,850	12,300	11,900	11,750	11,600	11,750
Government	6,000	6,100	6,050	6,100	5,900	5,600	4,950	5,350	5,750	5,650	5,700	5,600	5,750
Federal	1,000	1,000	950	950	900	950	900	900	900	600	600	600	850
State	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	450	500	450	500
Local	4,500	4,600	4,600	4,650	4,500	4,150	3,550	3,950	4,350	4,600	4,600	4,550	4,400

### SOUTHWEST ALASKA 1995

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Average
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	15,250	18,500	18,100	16,500	16,900	18,350	20,150	18,650	17,550	16,150	14,950	14,100	17,100
Goods-producing	4,150	6,950	6,600	5,200	5,350	6,650	9,000	6,950	5,650	4,250	3,350	2,750	5,550
Seafood Processing	3,900	6,750	6,350	5,000	5,100	6,350	8,650	6,550	5,250	3,850	3,050	2,450	5,250
Service-producing	11,100	11,550	11,500	11,300	11,550	11,700	11,150	11,700	11,900	11,900	11,600	11,350	11,550
Government	5,400	5,550	5,500	5,300	5,250	5,200	4,650	5,000	5,300	5,600	5,550	5,450	5,300
Federal	600	600	600	550	550	600	600	600	600	600	550	550	600
State	500	500	500	450	500	550	550	500	500	500	500	450	500
Local	4,300	4,450	4,400	4,300	4,200	4,050	3,500	3,900	4,200	4,500	4,500	4,450	4,250

Notes: Subtotals may not add due to rounding.

Prepared in part with funding from the Alaska Department of Labor, Employment Security Division.

Government includes teachers and other personnel employed by primary and secondary schools and the University of Alaska.

Benchmark: March 1995

Source: Alaska Department of Labor, Research & Analysis Section.

## Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work 1994 and 1995

### GULF COAST 1994

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Average
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	22,150	24,400	25,150	24,900	26,100	29,850	31,750	31,150	28,350	26,000	24,450	23,150	26,450
Goods-producing	4,350	6,500	6,750	5,800	6,100	8,700	10,650	9,950	7,700	6,550	5,350	4,200	6,900
Mining	1,000	1,000	900	950	1,000	950	1,100	1,150	1,250	1,250	1,150	1,100	1,050
Construction	800	800	950	950	1,050	1,200	1,350	1,400	1,450	1,400	1,250	1,000	1,150
Manufacturing	2,550	4,700	4,900	3,900	4,050	6,550	8,200	7,400	5,000	3,900	2,950	2,100	4,700
Seafood Processing	1,600	3,500	3,650	2,600	2,850	5,300	7,000	6,200	3,850	2,650	1,700	1,100	3,500
Service-producing	17,800	17,900	18,400	19,100	20,000	21,150	21,100	21,200	20,650	19,450	19,100	18,950	19,550
Transportation	1,950	1,950	2,100	2,150	2,150	2,350	2,450	2,450	2,350	2,250	2,150	2,200	2,200
Trade	4,100	4,050	4,250	4,650	4,900	5,550	5,850	5,800	5,300	4,600	4,550	4,500	4,850
Wholesale Trade	550	550	550	550	600	700	800	850	750	550	550	500	650
Retail Trade	3,550	3,500	3,700	4,100	4,300	4,850	5,050	4,950	4,550	4,050	4,000	4,000	4,200
Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	650	650	650	650	700	700	700	750	700	700	700	650	700
Services & Misc.	4,550	4,650	4,700	4,950	5,450	5,950	5,950	5,900	5,600	4,950	4,850	4,750	5,200
Government	6,550	6,600	6,700	6,700	6,800	6,600	6,150	6,300	6,700	6,950	6,850	6,850	6,650
Federal	600	600	600	600	700	750	700	700	700	700	650	650	650
State	1,750	1,750	1,800	1,800	1,750	1,700	1,700	1,700	1,850	1,800	1,750	1,650	1,750
Local	4,200	4,250	4,300	4,300	4,350	4,150	3,700	3,900	4,150	4,450	4,450	4,550	4,250

### GULF COAST 1995

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Average
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	23,350	24,650	25,000	25,300	27,350	30,100	33,000	32,450	29,000	26,350	24,800	23,300	27,050
Goods-producing	4,950	6,000	6,100	6,050	6,600	8,250	11,400	10,700	8,000	6,550	5,500	4,300	7,050
Mining	950	950	950	1,150	1,100	1,150	1,200	1,300	1,350	1,250	1,100	1,000	1,100
Construction	800	850	800	850	1,100	1,300	1,450	1,500	1,500	1,450	1,300	1,050	1,150
Manufacturing	3,200	4,200	4,350	4,050	4,400	5,800	8,750	7,900	5,150	3,850	3,100	2,250	4,750
Seafood Processing	2,300	3,100	3,100	2,800	3,200	4,550	7,400	6,550	3,800	2,550	1,850	1,200	3,550
Service-producing	18,400	18,650	18,900	19,250	20,750	21,850	21,600	21,750	21,000	19,800	19,300	19,000	20,000
Transportation	2,050	2,050	2,050	2,100	2,350	2,400	2,450	2,450	2,400	2,250	2,150	2,050	2,250
Trade	4,400	4,400	4,550	4,550	5,050	5,700	5,900	5,950	5,400	4,800	4,700	4,650	5,000
Wholesale Trade	550	550	550	500	600	600	700	800	750	550	550	550	600
Retail Trade	3,850	3,850	4,000	4,050	4,450	5,100	5,200	5,150	4,650	4,250	4,150	4,100	4,400
Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	650	650	650	650	750	750	750	700	700	700	700	650	700
Services & Misc.	4,650	4,750	4,850	5,150	5,650	6,200	6,350	6,350	5,700	5,050	4,900	4,850	5,350
Government	6,650	6,800	6,800	6,800	6,950	6,800	6,150	6,300	6,800	7,000	6,850	6,800	6,750
Federal	600	600	600	600	700	750	750	700	700	650	600	600	650
State	1,700	1,700	1,750	1,750	1,750	1,700	1,650	1,750	1,850	1,850	1,750	1,650	1,750
Local	4,350	4,500	4,450	4,450	4,500	4,350	3,750	3,850	4,250	4,500	4,500	4,550	4,350

Notes: Subtotals may not add due to rounding.

Prepared in part with funding from the Alaska Department of Labor, Employment Security Division.

Government includes teachers and other personnel employed by primary and secondary schools and the University of Alaska.

Benchmark: March 1995

Source: Alaska Department of Labor, Research & Analysis Section.

## Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work 1994 and 1995

### FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH 1994

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Average
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	28,050	28,350	28,700	29,450	30,900	31,850	33,000	32,850	32,700	31,150	30,700	29,850	30,650
Goods-producing	1,950	2,050	2,150	2,300	2,650	3,200	3,600	3,800	3,700	3,400	3,050	2,550	2,850
Mining	500	550	650	650	650	800	1,000	1,050	1,100	1,000	1,050	850	800
Construction	950	1,000	1,000	1,100	1,450	1,800	2,000	2,100	2,000	1,850	1,450	1,200	1,500
Manufacturing	500	500	500	550	550	600	600	650	600	550	550	500	550
Service-producing	26,100	26,300	26,550	27,150	28,250	28,650	29,400	29,050	29,000	27,750	27,650	27,300	27,750
Transportation	1,900	1,900	1,950	2,000	2,150	2,450	2,500	2,450	2,450	2,100	2,000	2,000	2,150
Trucking & Warehousing	400	400	400	450	500	550	550	550	500	500	450	500	500
Air Transportation	550	550	550	550	550	600	600	600	600	550	550	550	550
Communications	300	250	250	300	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250
Trade	6,400	6,300	6,300	6,550	7,400	7,600	7,750	7,700	7,450	6,900	6,850	6,750	7,000
Wholesale Trade	750	750	750	700	750	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800
Retail Trade	5,650	5,550	5,550	5,850	6,650	6,800	6,950	6,900	6,650	6,100	6,050	5,950	6,200
Gen. Merch. & Apparel	1,250	1,200	1,150	1,200	1,250	1,250	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,250
Food Stores	700	700	700	700	750	750	750	750	750	750	750	750	750
Eating & Drinking Places	1,950	1,950	1,950	2,150	2,800	2,900	3,000	2,950	2,750	2,200	2,150	2,050	2,400
Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,050	1,050	1,150	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,000	1,000	1,050	1,050
Services & Misc.	6,550	6,700	6,750	6,850	7,300	7,700	8,050	7,950	7,650	7,150	7,200	7,150	7,250
Government	10,250	10,400	10,550	10,700	10,350	9,750	10,000	9,850	10,350	10,600	10,600	10,350	10,300
Federal	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,100	3,100	3,200	3,300	3,150	3,050	3,000	3,000	3,100	3,100
State	4,350	4,500	4,550	4,600	4,200	3,900	4,150	4,100	4,450	4,700	4,700	4,400	4,400
Local	2,900	2,900	3,000	3,000	3,050	2,650	2,550	2,600	2,850	2,900	2,900	2,850	2,850

### FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH 1995

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Average
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	28,800	29,200	29,200	29,950	31,800	33,350	33,350	33,500	33,200	31,300	30,800	30,200	31,200
Goods-producing	2,400	2,550	2,400	2,500	3,150	3,800	3,950	4,150	3,950	3,500	3,050	2,550	3,150
Mining	700	700	700	650	700	850	850	800	750	650	650	600	700
Construction	1,200	1,350	1,200	1,350	1,900	2,350	2,500	2,750	2,650	2,300	1,850	1,450	1,900
Manufacturing	500	500	500	500	550	600	600	600	550	550	550	500	550
Service-producing	26,400	26,650	26,800	27,450	28,650	29,550	29,400	29,350	29,250	27,800	27,750	27,650	28,050
Transportation	2,000	1,950	2,000	2,100	2,400	2,650	2,700	2,750	2,600	2,200	2,050	2,050	2,300
Trucking & Warehousing	450	450	450	500	550	600	600	650	600	550	550	500	550
Air Transportation	500	500	500	550	550	550	550	600	550	550	550	500	550
Communications	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	250	250	250	300
Trade	6,300	6,200	6,300	6,500	7,000	7,800	7,850	7,800	7,500	6,950	6,950	6,950	7,000
Wholesale Trade	800	800	800	750	800	850	850	850	850	800	800	800	800
Retail Trade	5,500	5,400	5,500	5,750	6,200	6,950	7,000	6,950	6,650	6,150	6,150	6,150	6,200
Gen. Merch. & Apparel	1,150	1,050	1,100	1,150	1,250	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,350	1,250
Food Stores	700	700	700	700	700	750	800	750	750	800	800	800	750
Eating & Drinking Places	1,850	1,850	1,850	2,050	2,350	2,900	3,000	2,950	2,650	2,200	2,150	2,150	2,350
Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	950	900	950	950	950	950	950	950	1,000	950	1,000	1,000	950
Services & Misc.	6,900	7,050	7,050	7,200	7,700	8,200	8,250	8,200	7,850	7,250	7,250	7,300	7,500
Government	10,250	10,550	10,500	10,700	10,600	9,950	9,650	9,650	10,300	10,450	10,500	10,350	10,300
Federal	3,000	2,900	2,900	3,000	3,100	3,200	3,250	3,200	3,150	2,950	2,950	3,000	3,050
State	4,350	4,650	4,600	4,700	4,400	4,050	3,850	3,800	4,200	4,550	4,650	4,450	4,350
Local	2,900	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,100	2,700	2,550	2,650	2,950	2,950	2,900	2,900	2,900

Notes: Subtotals may not add due to rounding.

Prepared in part with funding from the Alaska Department of Labor, Employment Security Division.

Government includes teachers and other personnel employed by primary and secondary schools and the University of Alaska.

Benchmark: March 1995

Source: Alaska Department of Labor, Research & Analysis Section.

## Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work 1994 and 1995

### INTERIOR REGION 1994

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Average
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	31,750	32,200	32,600	33,750	35,650	37,400	38,150	38,300	38,150	35,850	34,850	33,850	35,200
Goods-producing	2,100	2,250	2,350	2,550	3,000	3,600	4,100	4,250	4,100	3,850	3,450	2,900	3,200
Mining	650	700	750	800	800	950	1,200	1,250	1,250	1,150	1,150	950	950
Construction	950	1,050	1,050	1,150	1,550	1,950	2,200	2,300	2,200	2,050	1,700	1,400	1,650
Manufacturing	500	500	550	600	650	700	700	700	650	650	600	550	600
Service-producing	29,650	29,950	30,250	31,200	32,650	33,800	34,050	34,050	34,050	32,000	31,400	30,950	32,000
Transportation	2,250	2,300	2,400	2,500	2,750	3,250	3,250	3,200	3,200	2,650	2,400	2,350	2,700
Trade	6,800	6,700	6,700	7,050	7,950	8,300	8,450	8,350	8,050	7,350	7,300	7,200	7,500
Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	1,050	1,050	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,200	1,150	1,150	1,150	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100
Services & Misc.	7,000	7,150	7,200	7,500	8,000	8,650	9,000	8,950	8,550	7,750	7,700	7,700	7,950
Government	12,550	12,750	12,850	13,050	12,850	12,400	12,200	12,400	13,100	13,150	12,900	12,600	12,750
Federal	3,600	3,600	3,600	3,700	3,750	3,950	4,000	3,900	3,750	3,600	3,600	3,650	3,750
State	4,550	4,750	4,800	4,850	4,500	4,350	4,500	4,600	4,950	5,150	4,900	4,600	4,700
Local	4,400	4,400	4,450	4,500	4,600	4,100	3,700	3,900	4,400	4,400	4,400	4,350	4,300

### INTERIOR REGION 1995

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Average
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	32,600	33,200	33,200	34,500	36,950	39,100	38,850	39,050	38,650	36,250	35,000	34,250	35,950
Goods-producing	2,700	2,900	2,750	3,050	3,750	4,450	4,650	4,800	4,650	4,200	3,400	2,900	3,700
Mining	850	850	850	800	850	1,000	1,000	950	900	850	850	800	900
Construction	1,350	1,550	1,400	1,700	2,300	2,800	3,000	3,200	3,100	2,750	1,950	1,550	2,200
Manufacturing	500	500	500	550	600	650	650	650	650	600	600	550	600
Service-producing	29,900	30,300	30,450	31,450	33,200	34,650	34,200	34,250	34,000	32,050	31,600	31,350	32,300
Transportation	2,350	2,350	2,450	2,550	2,950	3,400	3,400	3,450	3,350	2,750	2,450	2,400	2,800
Trade	6,750	6,650	6,700	6,950	7,600	8,550	8,600	8,500	8,050	7,500	7,450	7,450	7,550
Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	1,050	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,050	1,050	1,050	1,050	1,050	1,050	1,050	1,050
Services & Misc.	7,400	7,550	7,600	7,900	8,450	9,200	9,250	9,200	8,700	7,950	7,850	7,850	8,250
Government	12,350	12,750	12,700	13,050	13,200	12,450	11,900	12,050	12,850	12,800	12,800	12,600	12,650
Federal	3,500	3,450	3,400	3,550	3,650	3,900	3,950	3,900	3,850	3,500	3,500	3,550	3,650
State	4,550	4,850	4,850	4,950	4,850	4,350	4,150	4,100	4,500	4,800	4,850	4,650	4,600
Local	4,300	4,450	4,450	4,550	4,700	4,200	3,800	4,050	4,500	4,500	4,450	4,400	4,350

### NORTHERN ALASKA 1994

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Average
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	15,000	15,250	15,550	15,200	15,250	15,850	15,900	16,150	16,350	15,800	15,550	15,500	15,600
Goods-producing	5,850	5,900	6,050	6,000	5,950	6,000	6,000	6,100	5,950	5,950	5,700	5,700	5,950
Mining	5,200	4,950	4,900	5,000	5,100	5,200	5,200	5,250	5,150	5,150	4,900	5,000	5,100
Service-producing	9,150	9,350	9,500	9,200	9,300	9,850	9,900	10,050	10,400	9,850	9,850	9,800	9,700
Government	4,600	4,600	4,700	4,550	4,550	4,900	4,550	4,550	4,950	4,900	4,850	4,800	4,700
Federal	200	200	200	200	200	250	250	250	250	250	200	200	200
State	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	300	350
Local	4,050	4,050	4,150	4,000	4,000	4,300	3,950	3,950	4,350	4,300	4,300	4,300	4,150

### NORTHERN ALASKA 1995

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Average
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	14,650	15,000	15,050	14,750	14,900	15,700	15,400	15,550	15,750	15,700	15,550	15,400	15,300
Goods-producing	5,350	5,550	5,450	5,250	5,350	5,650	5,800	5,900	5,750	5,700	5,700	5,550	5,600
Mining	4,750	4,900	4,800	4,600	4,750	5,050	5,100	5,150	5,150	5,100	5,100	5,100	4,950
Service-producing	9,300	9,450	9,600	9,500	9,550	10,050	9,600	9,650	10,000	10,000	9,850	9,850	9,700
Government	4,450	4,600	4,700	4,650	4,750	5,000	4,500	4,550	4,900	4,950	4,850	4,900	4,750
Federal	200	200	200	200	250	250	250	250	250	250	200	200	250
State	300	300	350	300	350	300	300	300	350	300	300	300	300
Local	3,950	4,100	4,150	4,150	4,150	4,450	3,950	4,000	4,300	4,400	4,350	4,400	4,200

Notes: Subtotals may not add due to rounding.

Prepared in part with funding from the Alaska Department of Labor, Employment Security Division.

Government includes teachers and other personnel employed by primary and secondary schools and the University of Alaska.

Benchmark: March 1995

Source: Alaska Department of Labor, Research & Analysis Section.

## Alaska Hours and Earnings for Selected Industries 1995 Annual Averages

### AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS 1995

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Average
Mining	\$1,156.09	\$1,235.22	\$1,179.49	\$1,191.16	\$1,222.09	\$1,269.88	\$1,283.08	\$1,253.41	\$1,275.05	\$1,282.40	\$1,256.74	\$1,243.49	\$1,239.42
Construction	1,047.08	983.14	969.44	1,073.83	1,185.03	1,253.68	1,279.46	1,307.56	1,331.84	1,232.34	1,052.42	949.63	1,174.03
Manufacturing	399.44	544.48	554.44	478.06	514.60	491.21	560.97	580.50	571.24	545.83	460.33	462.00	525.80
Seafood Processing	274.79	504.79	512.57	339.46	378.35	359.05	505.34	520.18	486.21	415.27	289.01	340.58	437.58
Trans., Comm. & Utilities	675.61	642.78	626.15	645.75	634.11	647.40	687.96	674.20	677.34	696.12	674.42	675.37	663.95
Trade	400.87	396.14	397.65	415.86	407.10	412.60	431.43	417.09	414.17	421.60	410.93	406.28	411.08
Wholesale	660.13	651.95	626.48	649.90	624.46	650.57	699.84	662.71	658.82	649.34	632.55	626.04	650.16
Retail	350.63	347.10	354.50	370.60	366.73	370.64	382.70	373.24	369.66	380.47	371.25	366.42	367.25
Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	475.17	463.98	462.03	480.48	457.37	468.74	468.85	460.03	475.97	495.20	485.16	492.49	473.16

### AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS 1995

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Average
Mining	47.4	51.0	48.3	48.5	49.8	51.6	52.2	50.5	50.9	52.3	54.1	53.3	50.9
Construction	41.9	41.8	41.5	44.1	46.2	48.2	48.1	48.5	49.2	47.0	42.3	39.8	45.7
Manufacturing	35.1	57.8	57.1	41.0	43.5	40.9	54.2	53.8	52.6	45.6	34.9	35.0	47.8
Seafood Processing	33.8	64.8	64.8	41.6	44.2	39.5	57.1	57.1	56.8	48.4	32.4	36.7	51.0
Trans., Comm. & Utilities	34.7	34.3	33.2	35.0	34.5	35.3	36.4	35.9	35.5	35.3	34.8	34.3	35.0
Trade	33.8	33.8	33.9	34.8	34.5	35.6	36.5	34.7	33.7	34.0	33.6	33.8	34.4
Wholesale	38.9	38.6	38.2	38.8	38.1	39.5	40.5	39.4	38.8	38.4	37.1	37.6	38.7
Retail	32.8	32.9	33.1	34.0	33.8	34.9	35.8	33.9	32.8	33.2	33.0	33.1	33.6
Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	36.3	35.5	35.9	36.4	35.4	35.7	35.9	35.8	35.6	36.6	35.7	36.4	35.9

### AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS 1995

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Average
Mining	\$24.39	\$24.22	\$24.42	\$24.56	\$24.54	\$24.61	\$24.58	\$24.82	\$25.05	\$24.52	\$23.23	\$23.33	\$24.35
Construction	24.99	23.52	23.36	24.35	25.65	26.01	26.60	26.96	27.07	26.22	24.88	23.86	25.69
Manufacturing	11.38	9.42	9.71	11.66	11.83	12.01	10.35	10.79	10.86	11.97	13.19	13.20	11.00
Seafood Processing	8.13	7.79	7.91	8.16	8.56	9.09	8.85	9.11	8.56	8.58	8.92	9.28	8.58
Trans., Comm. & Utilities	19.47	18.74	18.86	18.45	18.38	18.34	18.90	18.78	19.08	19.72	19.38	19.69	18.97
Trade	11.86	11.72	11.73	11.95	11.80	11.59	11.82	12.02	12.29	12.40	12.23	12.02	11.95
Wholesale	16.97	16.89	16.40	16.75	16.39	16.47	17.28	16.82	16.98	16.91	17.05	16.65	16.80
Retail	10.69	10.55	10.71	10.90	10.85	10.62	10.69	11.01	11.27	11.46	11.25	11.07	10.93
Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	13.09	13.07	12.87	13.20	12.92	13.13	13.06	12.85	13.37	13.53	13.59	13.53	13.18

Notes: Annual averages may not add due to rounding.

Averages are based on data for full and part time production workers (manufacturing) and nonsupervisory workers (nonmanufacturing) and are for gross earnings and hours paid, including overtime pay and hours. Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Benchmark: March 1995

Source: Alaska Department of Labor, Research and Analysis Section.

### Original estimates tracked employment changes well

The statewide estimates tracked the trend of the benchmarked employment numbers very accurately during 1994 and 1995. The sample-generated estimates slightly overstated employment growth in Alaska's economy for 1995; however, the revision was less than two-hundredths (0.02) of a percentage point. (See Figure 1.) On an annual average basis, both the benchmarked and original estimates showed an employment increase of 1.1% from 1994 to 1995.

### Several series affected by classification and location changes

As part of ongoing collection of ES-202 employment data, one-third of Alaska's employers are surveyed annually to confirm the accuracy of their industry classification and business location. The survey results are incorporated into the AKDOL employment series at benchmark. During the process of incorporating the survey results, a small percentage of employers change their industry and/or location. This, in turn, can affect

the direction and level of the published employment series. The 1995 benchmark altered several published employment series due to location and/or industry modifications. The following published series<sup>1</sup> were influenced by industry or location changes:

**Statewide:** Mining, Construction, Durable Goods Manufacturing, Nondurable Goods Manufacturing, Trade, Wholesale Trade.

**Municipality of Anchorage:** Transportation, Communications, Manufacturing, Trade, Wholesale Trade.

**Anchorage-MatSu:** Trade, Transportation.

**Gulf Coast:** Manufacturing.

**Fairbanks and Interior:** Mining, Construction.

### Hours and earnings statistics also revised

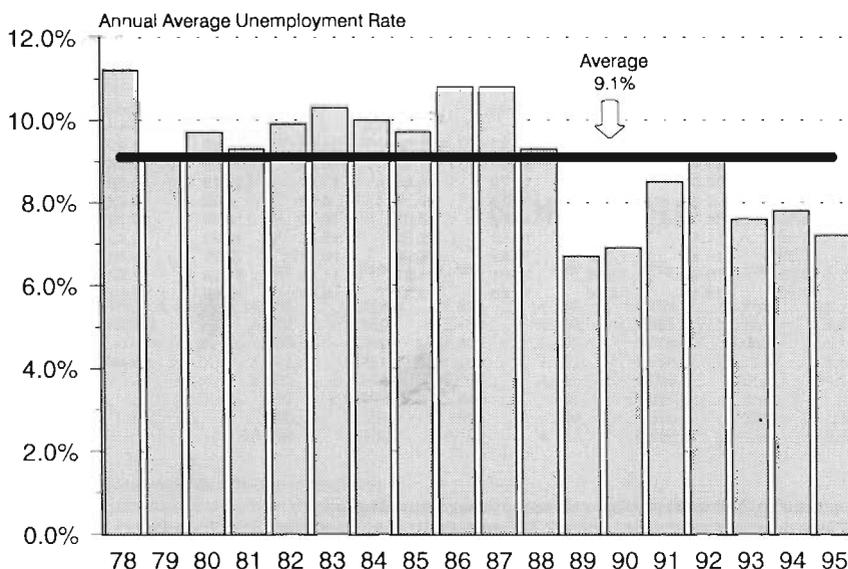
Employers also provide the data used to estimate hours and earnings statistics. During the benchmark, these estimates are adjusted to reflect the revised level of employment. When the employment data are benchmarked, the hours and earnings data are reviewed to determine how employment changes affected the hours and earnings estimates. (See Table 19.) Usually, the hours and earnings data change either due to the benchmarking of employment or to new firms being added to augment the existing hours and earnings sample. (Hours and earnings data are not reported in the quarterly ES-202 report; therefore, estimates of average weekly hours and earnings data are entirely sample based.)

### Unemployment rate falls to 7.2% in '95

Alaska's statewide jobless rate fell over one-half of a percentage point in 1995 to 7.2%. The rate was the second lowest in the 1990s, and the third lowest annual rate since 1978.

Figure • 2

### Unemployment Falls to 7.2% in 1995



Source: Alaska Department of Labor, Research & Analysis Section.

<sup>1</sup>For a detailed description of the effects industry and location code changes had on these series, contact John Boucher at AKDOL's Research & Analysis Section; email John\_Boucher@labor.state.ak.us or telephone (907) 465-6036.

Lower rates were posted in 1989 and 1990, when the Exxon Valdez oil spill accelerated Alaska's economy out of the mid-80s recession. (See Figure 2.)

Although last year's rate showed improvement compared to 1994, the economy did not perform as well as the rate indicated. The struggling oil, timber, and air transportation industries, as well as reductions of the military and civilian federal government work force, were evidence of a less than robust economy.

The declining unemployment rate was due to a combination of factors. First, Alaska's wage and salary job statistics have grown steadily, which translated into an increase in the number of job opportunities available. While the number of jobs available increased, net migration to Alaska slowed significantly. (Net migration is estimated by taking the number of individuals entering the state and subtracting the number of individuals leaving the state.) This meant that the net number of adults moving to Alaska who could fill the additional wage and salary jobs was relatively small. The slow rate of net migration meant that employers increasingly relied

upon the state's resident labor force to fill additional wage and salary jobs. This trend contributed to the overall drop in the unemployment rate.

### **Federal shutdown delays production of new local area rates**

Recent cutbacks of federal funding for measuring local area unemployment rates necessitated a procedural change in how local area unemployment rates are calculated. The change was scheduled to occur with the March 1995 benchmark, but the temporary shutdown of the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics delayed the benchmark procedure and the implementation of the new methodology. Currently, the benchmark and change in methodology are scheduled to occur with the release of the February unemployment statistics. (March 15 in Alaska.) As of this writing, AKDOL has very limited knowledge as to how the change in methodology will affect local area rates. It is possible that the new methodology will result in significant revisions of some local area unemployment rates.

# Fatalities at the Workplace Decline in 1994

by Talitha Lukshin

**S**ixty workplace fatalities occurred in Alaska in 1994, according to the most recent results of the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI). The fatality count has declined steadily since 1992, the first year the census was compiled. (See Figure 1.) The CFOI records workplace fatalities of the self-employed, civilian and military government, as well as all private sector wage and hour employees.

### **Deaths due to exposure increase**

Deaths due to exposure to gases such as carbon monoxide, argon, and freon rose to six in 1994. Cases from violent acts dropped by half from 1993. More importantly, homicides dropped to four, down from 12 in the prior year. Two of the four homicides in 1994 involved a robbery motive.

Talitha Lukshin is a statistical technician with the Research & Analysis Section, Administrative Services Division, Alaska Department of Labor. She is located in Juneau.

### Fishing industry fatalities continue decline

While deaths in the commercial fishing industry declined to fourteen in 1994, this activity retained the highest fatality count of all state industries. Much of the decline in commercial fishing fatalities has been attributed to new safety regulations implemented by the U.S. Coast Guard. The most dramatic change was the drop in deaths related to vessels sinking.

### Mining and construction workplace fatalities increase in 1994

Three of the four mining fatalities were in the oil and gas sector, with one in hard rock

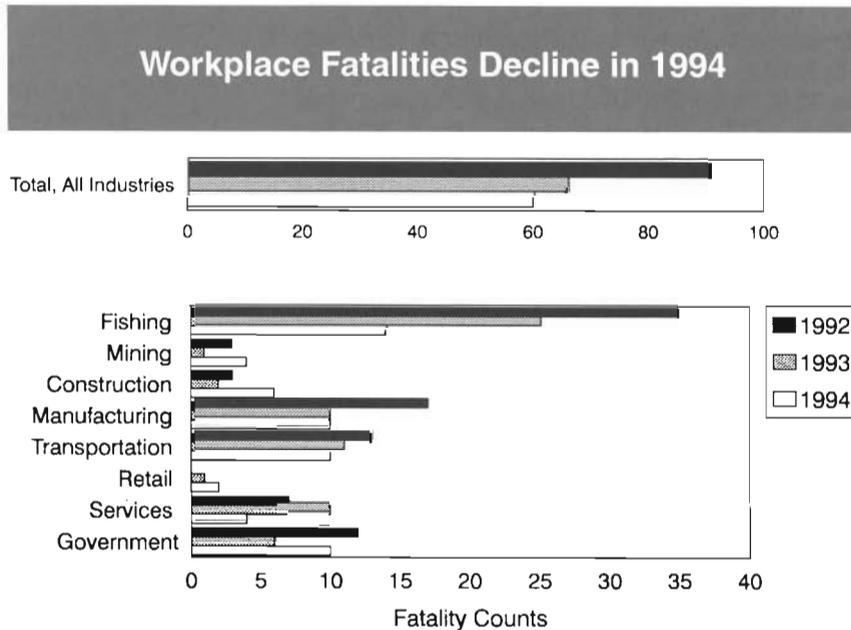
mining. Two workers were struck by falling objects from above and the other was killed in an explosion. Three construction workers died in separate accidents involving collapsing structures. A confined space asphyxiation occurred on the slope when a welder entered a pipe being purged with argon gas. A mechanic was backed over when he climbed under a truck.

### Logging fatalities drop, but seafood processing deaths increase

No accidents were reported by the aerologging operations in Alaska during 1994. However, as in the past, logging fatalities occurred due to workers being struck by a falling tree or a rolling log. Working around vehicles also continued to be a risk in this industry. Of the four deaths for seafood processing in 1994, three occurred to the offshore fleet. A fire aboard the *M/V All Alaskan* took one life, but 132 crew were safely evacuated. Another vessel incident involved an asphyxiation due to exposure to freon; and on a processor, a deckhand fell over-board. The death at a shore-based facility occurred when a worker's clothing caught in the equipment he was cleaning, causing a mechanical asphyxiation.

The complete "1994 Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries" will be available in the publication *Occupational Injury and Illness Information, Alaska 1994*, to be released later this year. Copies may be obtained through: Alaska Department of Labor, Research and Analysis Section, P.O. Box 25501, Juneau, Alaska 99802-5501; email: Talitha\_Lukshin@labor.state.ak.

Figure • 1



Source: Alaska Department of Labor, Research & Analysis Section.

*Occupational Injury and Illness, Alaska 1992-1993*, is now available from the Alaska Department of Labor. Providing baseline state and national data, the publication presents five-year rate trends by each major Alaskan industry. Specific occupations with the highest number of reported nonfatal cases are shown within each industry analysis. The types of events leading to these cases are also presented. Fatal occupational injury cases are discussed with detailed tables by year with the events, occupations and industry. Copies of the publication are available by writing or calling the Research and Analysis Section, P.O. Box 25501, Juneau, Alaska 99802-5501, 465-4500.

# Slow Growth is Better Than None

by Brigitta Windisch-Cole

**A**laska's statewide unemployment rate increased by 1.5 percentage points over the month, reaching 9.7%. (See Table 4.) This is the first time since December 1994 that the unemployment rate rose above last year's level. About 1,500 more Alaskans were looking for work than a year ago, when 28,400 were jobless.

Only Kodiak, helped by the start of winter fishing, experienced an over-the-month improvement in its January unemployment rate. Still, Kodiak's jobless rate increased compared to January's unemployment rate of 7.9%. This year's rate was 9.6%. The closure of a seafood processing plant, which employed over 100 workers last January, impacted Kodiak's jobless count. While the fishery in the Bering Sea also started with fewer workers, the unemployment rate for the Aleutian West area dropped, compared to last year. (See Table 4.)

Typically, Alaska's economy in January waned. Monthly employment dropped by 7,500 jobs including post-Christmas cutbacks in retail and temporary staff reductions at schools and the University of Alaska during Christmas vacation. Employment fell in all industries except seafood processing. (See Table 1.)

Mixed industry performances contributed to January's listless 0.5% job growth. While retail, service, construction, and mining industries added jobs, transportation, manufacturing and finance, insurance and real estate industries and public sector employment lost jobs. (See Figure 1.)

One positive development in January occurred in Alaska's oil and gas industry. For the first time since the ARCO layoffs in 1994, oil-related industries contributed to over-the-year job growth. Winter drilling pushed oil and gas employment slightly above last year's level. Other job growth in mining can be attributed to the new jobs at the Greens Creek and Nixon Fork mines.

## The weather surprises a few

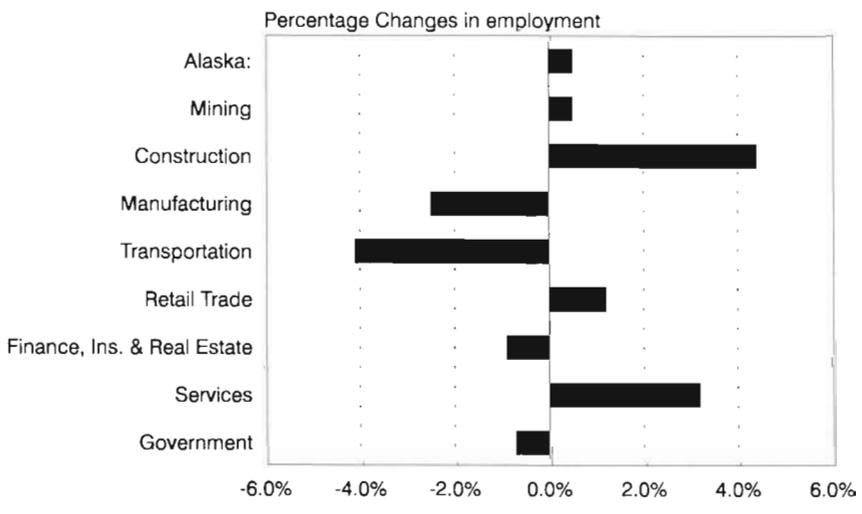
While winter blizzards paralyzed economies in the central and eastern U.S., the lack of snow kept some Alaskans from enjoying winter recreation. A shortage of snow made it a tough season for resorts reliant upon visits from winter sports enthusiasts. In Anchorage, part of the 300 jobs lost at hotel and lodging places can be blamed on the snowless January. (See Table 1.) In spite of this setback, employment numbers revealed that the service industries provided most of Alaska's annual job growth. Health care services and professional services added most to the employment gain.

Other employment losses related to the snowless winter occurred in retailers specializing in winter sports equipment. But growth in other retail categories such as eating and drinking establishments and food stores kept employment up to contribute to the 1.2% employment growth. (See Figure 1.)

Brigitta Windisch-Cole is a labor economist with the Research & Analysis Section, Administrative Services Division, Alaska Department of Labor. She is located in Anchorage.

Figure • 1

Comparing January 1996 Employment to Last Year's



Source: Alaska Department of Labor, Research & Analysis Section.

T a b l e • 1

## Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work

Alaska	p/	r/	Changes from			Municipality of Anchorage	p/	r/	Changes from		
	1/96	12/95	1/95	12/95	1/95		1/96	12/95	1/95	12/95	1/95
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	243,100	250,600	241,900	-7,500	1,200	Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	116,200	120,100	115,800	-3,900	400
Goods-producing	30,400	30,700	30,200	-300	200	Goods-producing	9,100	10,200	9,000	-1,100	100
Mining	9,500	9,600	9,400	-100	100	Mining	2,500	2,500	2,600	0	-100
Construction	9,400	11,000	9,000	-1,600	400	Construction	4,800	5,800	4,500	-1,000	300
Manufacturing	11,500	10,100	11,800	1,400	-300	Manufacturing	1,800	1,900	1,900	-100	-100
Durable Goods	1,900	2,400	1,700	-500	200	Service-producing	107,100	109,900	106,800	-2,800	300
Lumber & Wood Products	1,100	1,500	1,000	-400	100	Transportation	11,500	11,700	12,100	-200	-600
Nondurable Goods	9,600	7,700	10,100	1,900	-500	Air Transportation	4,200	4,100	4,800	100	-600
Seafood Processing	6,400	4,500	6,900	1,900	-500	Communications	2,300	2,300	2,100	0	200
Pulp Mills	500	500	500	0	0	Trade	28,500	30,000	28,500	-1,500	0
Service-producing	212,700	219,900	211,700	-7,200	1,000	Wholesale Trade	6,100	6,200	6,100	-100	0
Transportation	20,800	21,400	21,700	-600	-900	Retail Trade	22,400	23,800	22,400	-1,400	0
Trucking & Warehousing	3,000	3,100	2,700	-100	300	Gen. Merch. & Apparel	4,400	5,000	4,500	-600	-100
Water Transportation	1,500	1,700	1,400	-200	100	Food Stores	3,100	3,100	3,100	0	0
Air Transportation	6,600	6,600	7,300	0	-700	Eating & Drinking Places	7,800	8,200	7,700	-400	100
Communications	3,700	3,700	3,700	0	0	Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	7,000	7,100	7,000	-100	0
Trade	51,000	54,000	50,300	-3,000	700	Services & Misc.	32,200	33,000	30,900	-800	1,300
Wholesale Trade	8,300	8,400	8,100	-100	200	Hotels & Lodging Places	2,300	2,500	2,600	-200	-300
Retail Trade	42,700	45,600	42,200	-2,900	500	Health Services	6,800	6,800	6,500	0	300
Gen. Merch. & Apparel	8,800	9,900	8,700	-1,100	100	Government	27,900	28,100	28,300	-200	-400
Food Stores	7,100	7,200	6,900	-100	200	Federal	10,100	10,300	10,700	-200	-600
Eating & Drinking Places	13,600	14,300	13,300	-700	300	State	8,100	8,100	8,100	0	0
Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	11,300	11,600	11,400	-300	-100	Local	9,700	9,700	9,500	0	200
Services & Misc.	57,700	59,600	55,900	-1,900	1,800						
Hotels & Lodging Places	4,800	5,300	4,900	-500	-100						
Health Services	13,300	13,400	12,800	-100	500						
Government	71,900	73,300	72,400	-1,400	-500						
Federal	16,800	17,200	17,600	-400	-800						
State	21,200	21,300	21,400	-100	-200						
Local	33,900	34,800	33,400	-900	500						

T a b l e • 2

## Alaska Hours and Earnings for Selected Industries

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	p/	r/	1/95	p/	r/	1/95	p/	r/	1/95
	1/96	12/95	1/95	1/96	12/95	1/95	1/96	12/95	1/95
Mining	\$1,206.84	\$1,243.49	\$1,156.09	50.9	53.3	47.4	\$23.71	\$23.33	\$24.39
Construction	970.70	949.63	1,047.08	40.7	39.8	41.9	23.85	23.86	24.99
Manufacturing	373.57	462.00	399.44	29.3	35.0	35.1	12.75	13.20	11.38
Seafood Processing	213.75	340.58	274.79	25.0	36.7	33.8	8.55	9.28	8.13
Trans., Comm. & Utilities	667.26	675.37	675.61	33.7	34.3	34.7	19.80	19.69	19.47
Trade	400.93	406.28	400.87	33.3	33.8	33.8	12.04	12.02	11.86
Wholesale	624.93	626.04	660.13	37.0	37.6	38.9	16.89	16.65	16.97
Retail	358.60	366.42	350.63	32.6	33.1	32.8	11.00	11.07	10.69
Finance-Ins. & R.E.	492.02	492.49	475.17	36.8	36.4	36.3	13.37	13.53	13.09

Notes to Tables 1-3:

Tables 1&2- Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 3- Prepared in part with funding from the Employment Security Division.

p/ denotes preliminary estimates.

r/ denotes revised estimates.

Government includes employees of public school systems and the University of Alaska.

Average hours and earnings estimates are based on data for full- and part-time production workers (manufacturing) and nonsupervisory workers (nonmanufacturing). Averages are for gross earnings and hours paid, including overtime pay and hours.

Benchmark: March 1995



January's cold weather halted outdoor construction in most parts of the state. An on-time construction schedule on Alaska's most prominent construction projects, however, created jobs for the indoor crews. Construction employment grew by 4.4% in an over-the-year comparison.

## T a b l e • 4

### Unemployment Rates by Region & Census Area

Not Seasonally Adjusted	Percent Unemployed		
	p/ 1/96	r/ 12/95	1/95
<b>United States</b>	6.3	5.2	6.2
<b>Alaska Statewide</b>	9.7	8.2	9.4
<b>Anchorage/Mat-Su Region</b>	7.7	6.4	7.6
Municipality of Anchorage	6.7	5.6	6.8
Mat-Su Borough	12.9	10.8	12.2
<b>Gulf Coast Region</b>	15.9	15.2	14.8
Kenai Peninsula Borough	18.4	14.7	17.5
Kodiak Island Borough	9.1	19.0	7.9
Valdez-Cordova	15.1	11.3	13.3
<b>Interior Region</b>	10.8	8.7	10.4
Denali Borough	18.6	16.3	17.6
Fairbanks North Star Bor.	9.6	7.8	9.2
Southeast Fairbanks	20.1	15.0	18.4
Yukon-Koyukuk	17.9	14.8	18.7
<b>Northern Region</b>	12.3	9.6	11.1
Nome	15.5	12.5	13.6
North Slope Borough	4.8	3.4	4.4
Northwest Arctic Borough	17.6	13.7	16.5
<b>Southeast Region</b>	11.5	9.2	11.3
Haines Borough	18.0	15.9	18.3
Juneau Borough	7.5	6.6	7.0
Ketchikan Gateway Bor.	13.0	9.9	11.9
Pr. of Wales-Outer Ketch.	19.0	16.6	21.1
Sitka Borough	8.3	6.5	8.4
Skagway-Hoonah-Angoon	14.4	10.1	18.5
Wrangell-Petersburg	18.9	13.9	16.4
Yakutat Borough	15.1	9.2	15.6
<b>Southwest Region</b>	8.4	7.3	7.7
Aleutians East Borough	5.7	5.6	2.4
Aleutians West	1.6	1.3	2.7
Bethel	10.0	9.4	10.1
Bristol Bay Borough	10.2	8.9	10.1
Dillingham	12.0	8.3	10.4
Lake & Peninsula Borough	12.0	8.1	9.4
Wade Hampton	16.5	15.0	14.1
<b>Seasonally Adjusted</b>			
United States	5.8	5.6	5.4
Alaska Statewide	N/A <sup>1</sup>	7.9	7.8

<sup>1</sup> Due to the temporary shutdown of the U.S. Department of Labor, benchmark revision of the labor force data was delayed by one month. Labor force data on the 1995 benchmark will be available with the release of the February 1996 labor force estimates.

p/ denotes preliminary estimates      r/ denotes revised estimates  
Benchmark: March 1994

- Comparisons between different time periods are not as meaningful as other time series published by the Alaska Department of Labor.
- The official definition of unemployment currently in place excludes anyone who has made no attempt to find work in the four-week period up to and including the week that includes the 12th of each month. Most Alaska economists believe that Alaska's rural localities have proportionately more of these discouraged workers.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor, Research & Analysis Section.

### The outlook for air transportation employment improves

Job losses stemming from the MarkAir and MarkAir Express layoffs have put a deep dent in employment numbers in air transportation. But the demise of these two companies opened opportunities for small commuter airlines on rural routes. It also meant that other airlines are establishing service between Alaska and Lower 48 destinations. Reno Air, impressed by last summer's traffic, became a year-around competitor. Just recently, America West announced that it will start flying between Anchorage and Seattle this summer. A new charter airline, originating in Munich, Germany, will join the summer traffic. Air transportation employment should soon gain from the increased air traffic.

### A shaky start for the winter fishery

The 1996 winter fishery began with some turmoil in Southwest Alaska. Heated price negotiations over snow crab kept most of the 220-vessel crab fleet tied to the docks. The nearly two-week strike did not avert a drop in prices, which settled at about half of last year's level, in spite of the scaled back catch quota. The vagary of product price can be attributed to the catches of the Russian crab fleet. The pollock fishery started in late January with reduced price offerings for its catch. In January, fish processing plants had hired 250 fewer workers in the Southwest region than the year before. (See Table 3.) A 25% reduction in crab harvest quota and the delayed fishing schedule caused this drop. In other fishing regions, a groundfish opener kicked off the winter fishery. But here, too, seafood processing employment dipped below last year's level. (See Tables 1 and 2.)

### January's Summary

Employment tapered off while unemployment was on the rise. Employment in January barely managed over-the-year growth. The winter fishery now underway was delayed by a strike over product prices, while a

lack of snow hurt businesses serving winter sports enthusiasts. The outlook for air transportation employment, however, became more positive when airline companies announced plans to enter the Alaskan market.

# Alaska Employment Service

Anchorage: Phone 269-4800

Bethel: Phone 543-2210

Dillingham: Phone 842-5579

Eagle River: Phone 694-6904/07

Mat-Su: Phone 376-2407/08

Fairbanks: Phone 451-2871

Glennallen: Phone 822-3350

Kotzebue: Phone 442-3280

Nome: Phone 443-2626/2460

Tok: Phone 883-5629

Valdez: Phone 835-4910

Kenai: Phone 283-4304/4377/4319

Homer: Phone 235-7791

Kodiak: Phone 486-3105

Seward: Phone 224-5276

Juneau: Phone 465-4562

Petersburg: Phone 772-3791

Sitka: Phone 747-3347/3423/6921

Ketchikan: Phone 225-3181/82/83



## Alaska Economic Regions

The Alaska Department of Labor shall foster and promote the welfare of the wage earners of the state and improve their working conditions and advance their opportunities for profitable employment.