

Dianne Blumer

Commissioner

P.O. Box 111149

Juneau, AK 99811-1149

www.labor.alaska.gov



Beth Leschper

Communications Director

907.465.2700

cell: 907.723.1321

beth.leschper@alaska.gov

Press Release

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For more information: Caroline Schultz, Economist
(907) 465-6027 or Caroline.Schultz@Alaska.Gov

Alaska set employment record in 2013

JUNEAU, Alaska — Comprehensive employment and wage data for the third quarter of 2013 have recently been released. Alaska employment peaked at 358,470 in August, the state's highest monthly job count on record.

Third quarter employment is always the year's highest due to Alaska's seasonal economy. Average monthly employment during the third quarter of 2013 was 353,189, up 0.6 percent from the third quarter of 2012.

Employers paid \$4.3 billion in wages, up 2.2 percent from the third quarter of 2012.

Private sector jobs were up 3,348 from the third quarter of 2012, partly due to the seafood processing industry adding more than 1,000 jobs to accommodate a large pink salmon harvest.

Other areas of growth included the health care and social assistance sector, which added more than 750 jobs from the third quarter of 2012.

Average monthly federal employment fell by 993 in the third quarter compared to the prior year. Local government jobs also declined in the same period, but the magnitude of the loss is overstated because school start dates vary from year to year.

For more on specific industries, boroughs or census areas, visit Labor.Alaska.Gov/research/qcew/qcew.htm.

Alaska Employment and Wages by Industry

Third Quarter 2012 and Third Quarter 2013

Industry	Average Monthly Employment		Employment Change, 2012 to 2013		Wages Paid (2013 Dollars)		Change in Wages, 2012 to 2013	
	3rd Qtr 2012	3rd Qtr 2013	By Number	By Percent	2012 (millions)	2013 (millions)	By Amount (mil)	By Percent
Total, All Industries	351,103	353,189	2,086	0.6%	\$4,410	\$4,507	\$97	2.2%
Total Private Sector	274,433	277,781	3,348	1.2%	\$3,384	\$3,485	\$101	3.0%
Natural Resources and Mining	18,976	19,054	78	0.4%	\$519	\$532	\$14	2.6%
Construction	19,676	19,856	180	0.9%	\$384	\$403	\$19	4.9%
Manufacturing	19,829	20,887	1,057	5.3%	\$202	\$231	\$29	14.3%
Seafood Processing	15,883	16,922	1,039	6.5%	\$151	\$180	\$29	19.2%
Wholesale Trade	6,485	6,748	263	4.1%	\$84	\$88	\$4	5.0%
Retail Trade	37,106	37,450	344	0.9%	\$275	\$276	\$1	0.3%
Transportation and Warehousing	22,274	21,965	-309	-1.4%	\$326	\$328	\$2	0.7%
Utilities	2,194	2,213	19	0.9%	\$45	\$45	\$0	0.1%
Information	6,199	6,228	29	0.5%	\$91	\$91	\$0	0.5%
Financial Activities	14,641	13,462	-1,179	-8.1%	\$187	\$166	-\$21	-11.1%
Professional and Business Services	30,053	31,373	1,320	4.4%	\$435	\$465	\$29	6.7%
Education and Health Services	45,261	46,095	835	1.8%	\$514	\$526	\$12	2.3%
Health Care and Social Assistance	43,114	43,880	766	1.8%	\$497	\$508	\$11	2.2%
Leisure and Hospitality	39,387	39,654	267	0.7%	\$224	\$230	\$6	2.9%
Other Services	11,903	11,996	93	0.8%	\$94	\$96	\$2	2.1%
Total Government	76,671	75,408	-1,263	-1.6%	\$1,026	\$1,022	-\$4	-0.4%
Federal Government	16,787	15,794	-993	-5.9%	\$306	\$292	-\$14	-4.7%
State Government	25,930	26,212	283	1.1%	\$365	\$376	\$11	3.0%
Local Government	33,954	33,402	-552	-1.6%	\$355	\$354	-\$1	-0.3%

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