

Provided more effective help for Alaska Natives with disabilities:

- DVR and Alaska's 10 Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation programs met regularly to discuss and pursue better employment outcomes for youth

Helped Alaskans with disabilities get technology to improve their lives:

Via Federal Assistive Technology Act grant:

- Provided 21,549 Alaskans with AT awareness and outreach
- Provided AT-related training, demonstrations, or AT devices to 1,431 individuals
- Helped Alaskans save \$105,359 when getting AT devices

Labor Standards and Safety Division

Alaska Occupational Safety and Health:

- Reduced the lost time injury rate in construction by 38 percent and in health care by 28 percent, exceeding the 2 percent reduction goals for these industries
- Met inspection goals for enforcement and consultation programs
- Increased participation in Construction Health and Safety Excellence program by 67 percent

Wage and Hour:

- Provided more than 7,500 employer educational briefings
- Reduced wage claim resolution time by approximately 25 percent
- Expanded delivery of educational seminars for statewide public participation via Webex for Title 23 (Wage and Hour and Child Labor) and Title 36 (Little Davis-Bacon)

Mechanical Inspection:

- Conducted 4,761 contractor licensing site inspections, 1,776 electrical and plumbing code inspections, 11,521 boiler/pressure vessel inspections, and 584 elevator inspections

Workers' Compensation Division

Administrative:

- Enhanced the Workers' Compensation Database (ICERS), improved speed, and corrected errors

Workers' Compensation Claims:

- Reduced WC premium rates by 14.8 percent in voluntary market and 17.5 percent in the Assigned Risk Pool
- Developed and codified the 2020 WC Medical Fee Schedule in regulation, meaning significant reductions in medical costs for WC claims
- Improved injured worker access to rehabilitation specialists
- Implemented legislative changes to the independent contractor definition and the executive officer waiver coverage exclusion
- Issued 133 hearing decisions within an average of 23 days (goal is 30 days)

Special Investigations Unit:

- Conducted public presentations for nearly 400
- Conducted 525 compliance checks, opened 333 failure-to-insure investigations, and resolved 311 investigations

We are an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

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Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development

REPORT CARD



**2019
Department
accomplishments
at a glance**

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ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development

The Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development's purpose is to promote safe and legal working conditions, advance job opportunities for all Alaskans, and ensure work-related benefits and rights.

Division of Administrative Services, Research and Analysis Section

- **Publisher of Alaska Economic Trends magazine:** Nearly 6,000 electronic subscribers
- **Public presentations:** Presented to a variety of public and private sector audiences
- **Repository for economic data:** R&A website received more than 800,000 hits
- **Met or exceeded federal goals for six cooperative statistical programs:** Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, Current Employment Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, Occupational Employment Statistics, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, and Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses

Alaska Vocational Technical Center

- **Return on investment:** Out of 4,500 post-secondary institutions ranked in the top 10 percent ROI for students.
- **Training for Alaska's Workforce:** More than 1,600 students from 139 communities across the state participated in customized training in Seward and via distance delivery.
- **Student success:** More than 90 percent of the students who attend AVTEC complete the program. Of those completing training nearly 90 percent are working in their field of study.

Division of Employment and Training Services

DETS provides labor exchange, employment and training services, and unemployment insurance to Alaskans and Alaska businesses.

- **Alaska Adult Education:** Awarded 736 GEDs; regional programs assisted 2,308 students
- **Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment:** 4,680 claimants and 3,003 participants
- **Senior Community Service Employment Program:** Assisted 203 older workers, with 52.6 percent finding unsubsidized work; of those, 44.4 percent were employed after one year with \$4,973 in quarterly average earnings
- **Veterans Employment and Training Services:** Veterans receive priority of service at all job centers; 3,103 received veteran career services
- **Wagner-Peyser Employment Services:** 259,828 individual users accessed ALEXsys, 82,468 jobs were posted, and 26,795 individuals visited one of 14 job centers
- **Adult and Dislocated Worker Programs:** 508 served in adult program, with 84 percent finding jobs with median earnings of \$7,626 in the second quarter after exit; 468 dislocated workers served, with 84.4 percent exiting into employment with median earnings of \$11,425 in the second quarter after exit
- **National Health Emergency Dislocated Worker Grant:** Provided employment and training services for 137 youth and 59 professionals, including nurses and teachers. 249 individuals received services through the grant.

- **Trade and Economic Transition Dislocated Worker Grant:** Expanded dislocated worker training and employment programs in the maritime, health care, and construction industries, serving 177 individuals
- **Unemployment Insurance:**

Total UI benefits paid:	\$97,866,118
Total initial claims processed:	51,542
Calls received in UI claim centers:	113,438
Alaskans who received UI benefits:	25,086
Average weekly amount:	\$256

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

Helped 2,780 Alaskans with disabilities prepare for, find, and keep good jobs:

- 96 percent of participants were significantly disabled, with multiple barriers to employment
- 421 exited the vocational rehab program employed and making an average of \$15.10 per hour, which is \$5.21 over Alaska's minimum wage

Helped 944 students with disabilities in 165 communities prepare for employment:

- Offered variety of programs providing work experience, entrepreneurial skills, job readiness skills, and career exploration

Helped 2,473 Alaskans with disabilities obtain Social Security benefits:

- Processed 4,294 claims with a 98.7 percent overall quality rate, saving time and money and ensuring eligible Alaskans got benefits

Helped youth exiting foster care or corrections:

- DVR and a cross-department taskforce worked to improve outcomes for youth