

ALASKA ECONOMIC

TRENDS

October 2001

The Gender Gap In Earnings



Gap has narrowed
5 percent over 11
years, to 67 percent in
1999

Alaska Department of Labor
and Workforce Development

Tony Knowles
Governor of Alaska

ALASKA ECONOMIC TRENDS

**October
2001
Volume 21
Number 10**

ISSN 0160-3345

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

Alaska Economic Trends is funded by the Employment Security Division and published by the Department of Labor and Workforce Development, P.O. Box 21149, Juneau, Alaska 99802-1149.

Printed and distributed by Assets, Inc., a vocational training and employment program, at a cost of \$.86 per copy.

To contact us for more information, to subscribe, or for mailing list changes or back copies, email trends@labor.state.ak.us

Material in this publication is public information and, with appropriate credit, may be reproduced without permission.

Trends is available on the Internet. See URL above.

<http://www.labor.state.ak.us/research/research.htm>

Tony Knowles, Governor of Alaska
Ed Flanagan, Commissioner of Labor
and Workforce Development

Joanne Erskine, Editor

Email *Trends* authors at:

trends@labor.state.ak.us

October *Trends* authors are staff in the Research and Analysis Section, Administrative Services Division, Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

Cover design by Chris Snyder

Subscriptions:
trends@labor.state.ak.us
(907) 465-4500

Contents:

The Gender Gap in Earnings	3
Gap has narrowed 5 percent over 11 years, to 67 percent in 1999	
Race and Ethnicity in Alaska	11
Definitions have changed; comparisons have become complex, racial distributions have shifted	
<i>Employment Scene</i>	22
Economic Story Differs from Region to Region Urban centers show strongest growth	

The Gender Gap in Earnings

by Jeff Hadland
Economist

Gap has narrowed 5 percent over 11 years, to 67 percent in 1999

Women in Alaska continue to earn significantly less than men in all industries, age groups, geographic areas, and most occupations, but the earnings gap between the genders is slowly narrowing. In 1999, women earned 66.8% as much as men, while in 1988 that ratio was 61.7%. This is a five percent improvement over 11 years. (See Exhibit 1.)

National numbers directly comparable to Alaska data are not available. However, the US Census Bureau reports that, based on March 2000 Current Population Survey data, women age 15 and over working full time and year-round had median earnings of \$26,300, approximately 72 percent of the median earnings of men.

The difference in average annual wages between the genders in Alaska was \$10,000 in 1999. Alaska females earned on average \$20,079 versus average male earnings of \$30,066. (See Exhibit 1.) Total earnings per worker include all wage and salary earnings from part-time and full-time work.

In the private sector, the ratio of female to male earnings was 62.4%, while in state and local government it was 74.4%. The private sector employs about 72 percent of the workforce in Alaska. (See Exhibit 3.)

Many industries are dominated by one gender

In many industries, the vast majority of the workers are all one gender. Less than 13 percent of all

workers in mining (including oil and gas) and construction are female. More than 60 percent of workers in the services and finance/insurance/real estate industries are female. Health services, insurance and local education account for the largest number of female workers. (See Exhibits 2 and 4.)

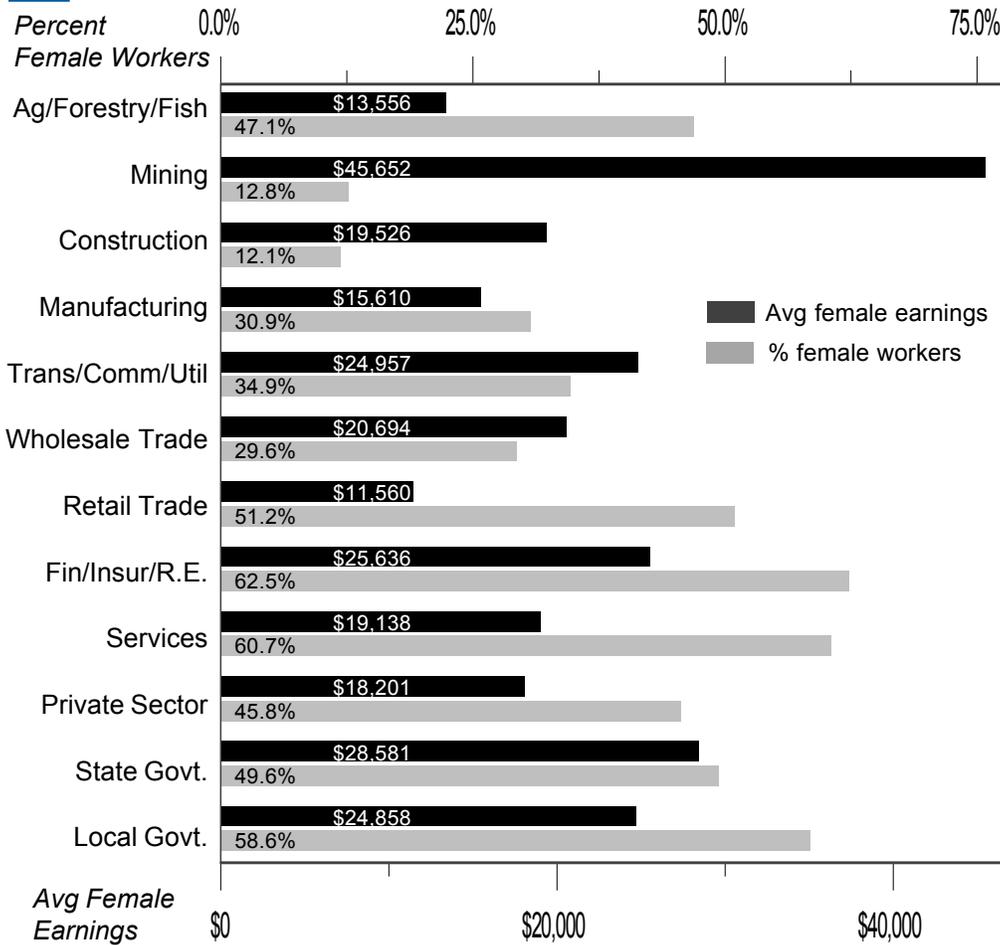
The highest average earnings were in the mining industry (including oil and gas). Men earned a little more than \$60,000 in 1999 versus \$45,652 for women. Men held 87 percent of these nearly 9,000 jobs. For men, the second highest average earnings were in transportation, which includes high-paying oil pipeline and air transportation jobs. For women, the second highest paying industry

Employment and Earnings 1 By gender, 1988-1999

		1988	1990	1995	1997	1999
Employment (Percent)	Male	53.0	52.7	53.0	52.8	52.2
	Female	47.0	47.3	46.9	47.2	47.8
Total Wages (Percent)	Male	64.6	64.5	63.3	63.2	62.1
	Female	35.4	35.5	36.7	36.8	37.9
Avg. Annual Wages	Male	\$24,232	\$27,655	\$29,261	\$29,327	\$30,066
	Female	14,962	16,934	19,182	19,059	20,079
Ratio Female to Male Avg. Wage		61.7%	61.2%	65.6%	65.0%	66.8%

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

2 Female Workers and Earnings by Industry Alaska 1999



sector was state government. Women working in local government experienced narrower earnings gaps with men. Those female workers (many working in local education as teachers) earned on average 79 percent of what men earned in local government in 1999.

Gender concentration by occupation

Certain occupations show heavy concentrations of one gender. Nationally, about 58 percent of employed women age 16 and over work in administrative support, clerical, and service jobs. In Alaska, where the occupational coding information is not directly comparable to national data, at least 50 percent of women workers in 1999 were employed in administrative support, clerical, and service jobs.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

3 Workers and Earnings by Sex and Major Industry Alaska 1999

	Average Total Earnings	Male Workers	Male Earnings	Male Avg Annual Earnings	Male Qtrs Worked	Male Avg Qtrly Earnings
Ag/Forestry/Fishing	\$15,857	1,083	\$19,389,569	\$17,904	3,040	\$6,378
Mining	58,301	9,005	541,759,897	60,162	32,239	16,804
Construction	28,438	17,861	529,893,564	29,668	55,932	9,474
Manufacturing	23,291	8,968	239,660,237	26,724	28,390	8,442
Trans/Comm/Util	34,316	18,506	727,803,952	39,328	64,838	11,225
Wholesale Trade	28,119	7,112	222,149,993	31,236	24,260	9,157
Retail Trade	14,710	29,549	532,256,889	18,013	92,841	5,733
Finance/Insur/R.E.	28,529	5,111	170,439,096	33,348	16,609	10,262
Services	21,107	29,853	720,961,680	24,150	94,061	7,665
Total Private Sector	24,141	127,048	3,704,314,877	29,157	412,210	8,986
State Govt.	33,725	11,202	434,414,964	38,780	40,855	10,633
Local Govt.	27,611	16,520	520,470,525	31,505	55,688	9,346

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

Exhibits 8 and 9 show the occupations with the largest number of male and female workers in Alaska in 1999. The largest numbers of male workers were employed in manual occupations, and as carpenters, construction laborers, janitors/cleaners, and cannery workers. The largest numbers of female workers were working in general office occupations, and as sales clerks, secretaries, and bookkeepers.

Among the occupations with the largest number of male workers, women earned about as much or more than men when working as food and beverage preparation workers, teacher aides, tractor-trailer truck drivers, combined food preparation occupations, kitchen workers, plant operators, elementary school teachers, and freight movers. However, although female elementary school teachers earned almost as much as males, the earnings gap widened at the secondary and post-secondary level. Female post-secondary teachers earned about two-thirds as much as men in 1999.

Some male-dominated occupations have very few female workers. Occupations with 5 percent or fewer women include: heavy equipment mechanics, plumbers/pipe-fitters, automobile mechanics, welders and cutters, carpenters, electricians, material moving equipment operators, truck drivers-tractor-trailer, supervisors of mechanics and repairers, airplane pilots and navigators, and excavating/loading machine operators.

Occupations employing the largest numbers of female workers include general office occupations, sales clerks, bookkeepers and accounting and auditing clerks, secretaries, elementary school teachers, waiters and waitresses, teacher aides, and cashiers. Occupations where at least 90 percent of the workers were female in 1999 include: legal secretaries, dental assistants, hairdressers and cosmetologists, secretaries, receptionists, billing clerks, pre-kindergarten and kindergarten teachers, bank tellers, registered

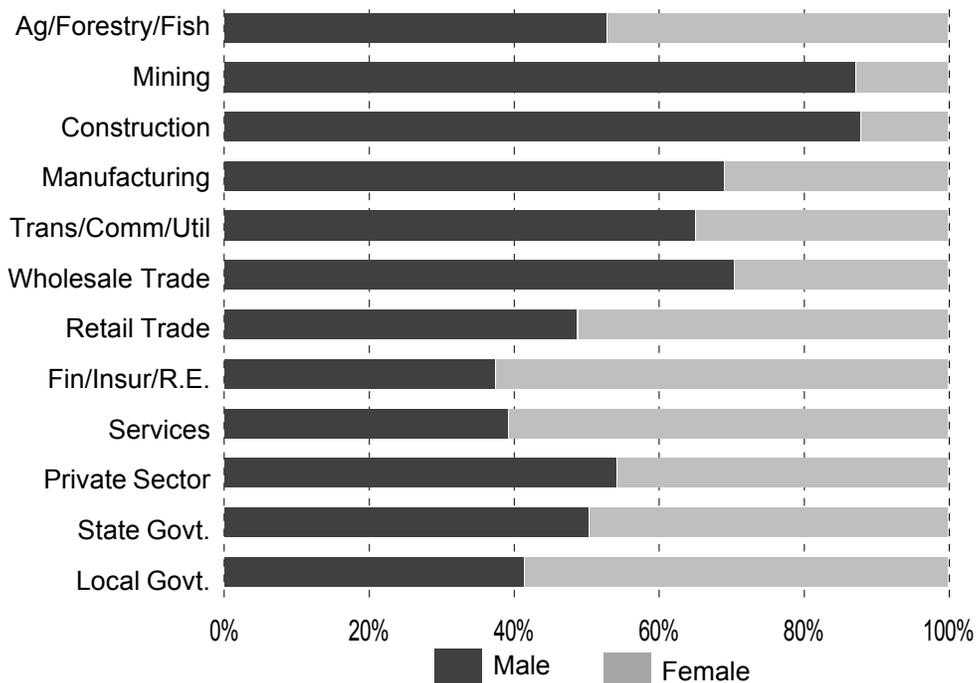
Workers and Earnings by Sex and Major Industry 3

Alaska 1999 (continued)

	Female Workers	Female Earnings	Female Avg Annual Earnings	Female Qtrs Worked	Female Avg Qtrly Earnings	Fem/Male Avg Annual Earnings %	Fem/Male Avg Qtrly Earnings %
Ag/Forestry/Fishing	963	\$13,054,749	\$13,556	3,047	\$4,284	75.7	67.2
Mining	1,325	60,488,849	45,652	4,709	12,845	75.9	76.4
Construction	2,464	48,111,258	19,526	7,660	6,281	65.8	66.3
Manufacturing	4,008	62,566,794	15,610	12,387	5,051	58.4	59.8
Trans/Comm/Util	9,910	247,320,517	24,957	34,936	7,079	63.5	63.1
Wholesale Trade	2,985	61,770,130	20,694	10,015	6,168	66.2	67.4
Retail Trade	30,975	358,067,191	11,560	94,967	3,770	64.2	65.8
Finance/Insur/R.E.	8,515	218,292,776	25,636	30,167	7,236	76.9	70.5
Services	46,160	883,429,654	19,138	151,099	5,847	79.2	76.3
Total Private Sector	107,305	1,953,101,918	18,201	348,987	5,596	62.4	62.3
State Govt.	11,006	314,560,088	28,581	40,266	7,812	73.7	73.5
Local Govt.	23,362	580,730,228	24,858	80,161	7,245	78.9	77.5

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

4 Employment by Gender and Industry Alaska 1999



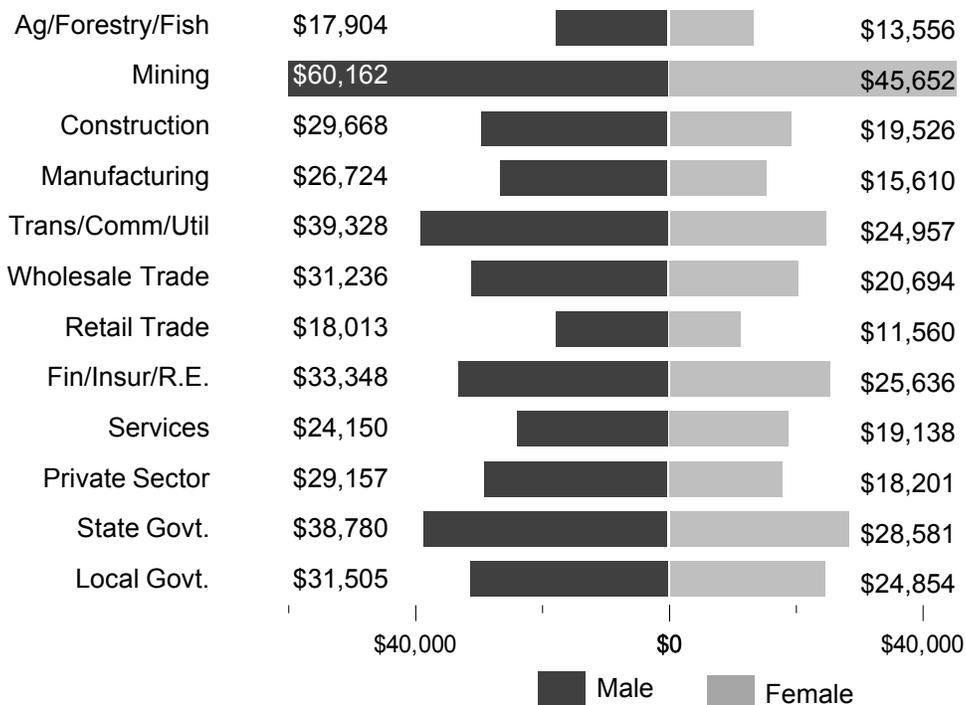
Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

nurses, hairdressers, and dental assistants.

Somesituationsbetterfor women

Although there is no occupation, industry, location or category where females attain both good wages and parity with males, there are some where they fare above average. Females are about half of the state government workforce, and they bring home 73.5% as much wages as males. Some 11,000 Alaska women work in state jobs, the majority in Juneau and Anchorage, earning an average of \$28,581. In local government, women enjoy a smaller gender gap, but lower average earnings.

5 Average Annual Earnings By gender and industry—Alaska 1999



Dollarsandpercents

There are several occupations in which females earn more than their male counterparts. Striking among these are legal secretaries, who earn 192% of male earnings. These earnings, however, are less than the average earnings figure for males, and the same is true of other occupations in this group.

Since the most recent *Trends* gender gap article was published in 1999, showing 1997 data, female general managers and other top executives have crossed the 50 percent line, rising from 48.4% of male wages to 55.4%. In that report, five

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

Ratio Female to Male Earnings 6

Annual averages by industry—Alaska 1999

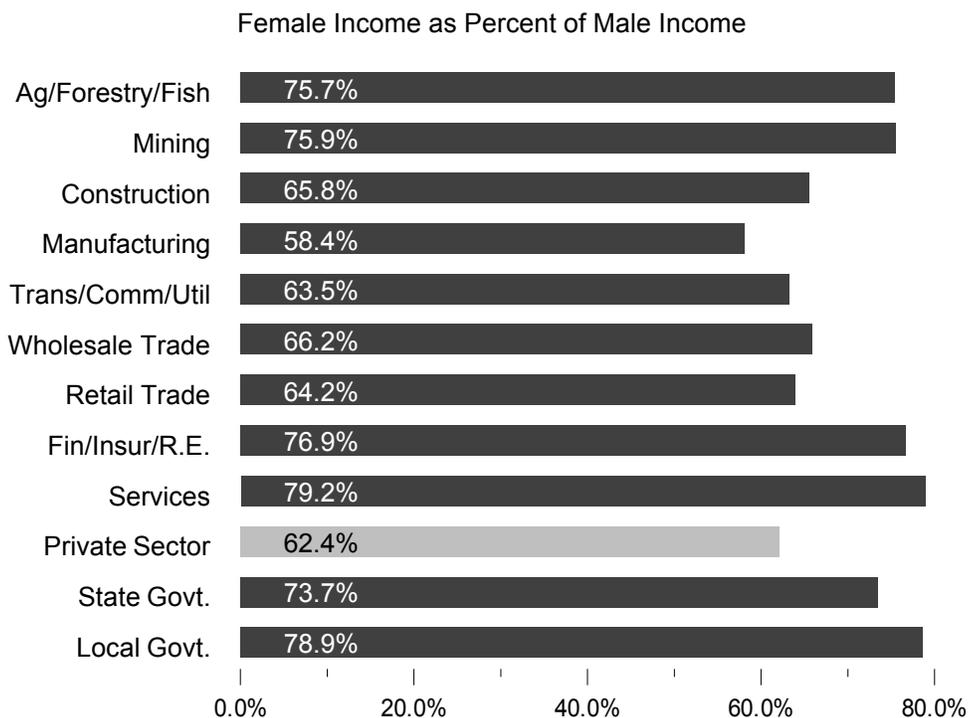
occupations showed female wages less than 50 percent of male wages; in the current report all are above 50 percent.

In the agriculture, forestry and fisheries industry, the gender income ratio improved more than ten percent, from 65.5% in 1997 to 75.7% in 1999. This is a small sector, with only 2,046 workers in 1999. (See Exhibits 3 and 6.)

Truck drivers present some interesting statistics. Some 14 percent of light truck drivers are female, and their average earnings of \$12,938 are 56 percent of what males earn. Heavy truck drivers are 5.4% female, and earn 72.3% of male earnings. The 34 women tractor-trailer drivers represent 4.2% of the workers, and they earn 111 percent of male earnings, at \$38,583.

Earnings by age group

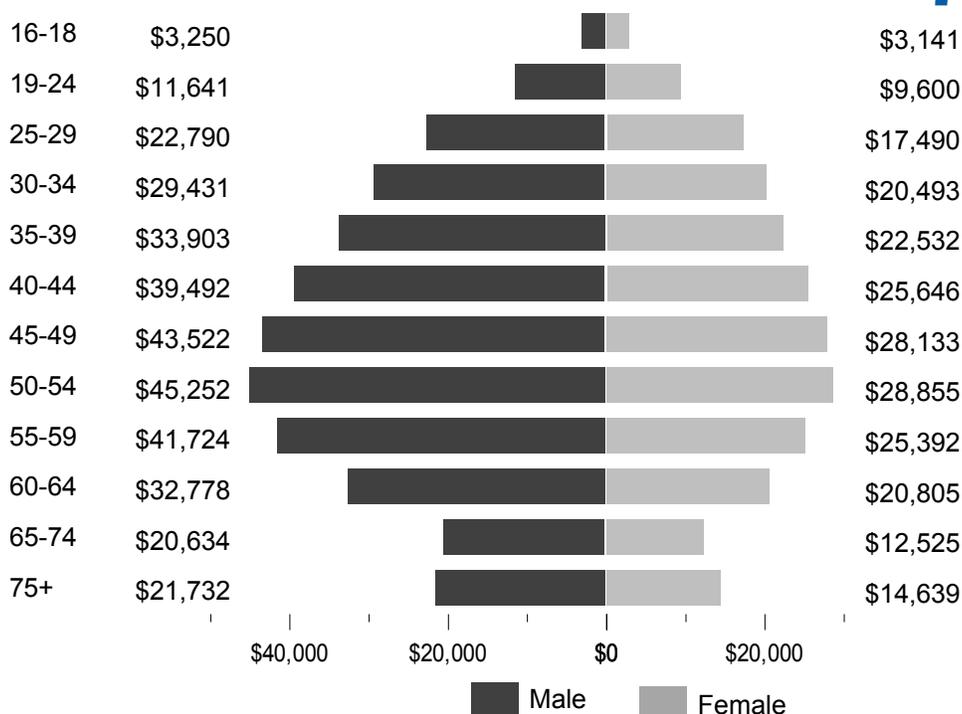
Females earned less than males in every age category in 1999. Earnings for both men and women peaked in the 50 to 54 year age group, when women workers were earning 63.8% as much as men, below the overall average. The income disparity between men and women is smaller in the younger age groups. Women age 25 to 29 earn about 77 percent as much as men while women age 30 to 34 earn about 70 percent as much as men.



Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

Annual Average Earnings by Age 7

And gender—Alaska 1999



Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section



Top Male Occupations—Workers, Earnings, Earnings Ratio

Alaska 1999

	Male Workers	Female Workers	Percent Female	Avg Male Earnings	Avg Female Earnings	Female Earn as % of Male Earn
Manual Occupations, nec	5,902	1,156	16.4	\$12,381	\$6,817	55.1
Carpenters	4,363	131	2.9	23,608	18,679	79.1
Construction Laborers	4,129	406	9.0	16,943	13,316	78.6
Janitors & Cleaners	3,781	2,182	36.6	14,537	12,073	83.0
Cannery Workers, Incl. Seafood Processing	2,949	1,599	35.2	10,467	8,898	85.0
Sales Clerks	2,778	5,959	68.2	13,745	9,462	68.8
Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, nec	2,605	329	11.2	20,961	18,893	90.1
General Office Occupations	2,554	10,157	79.9	18,217	16,343	89.7
Stock Handlers & Baggers	2,148	752	25.9	12,928	7,327	56.7
Combined Food Prep & Service, Fast Food	1,865	1,758	48.5	4,917	5,252	106.8
Automobile Mechanics	1,846	45	2.4	30,536	17,536	57.4
Misc. Food & Beverage Preparation Occup.	1,824	1,199	39.7	8,804	10,096	114.7
Maintenance Repairers, General Utility	1,824	175	8.8	25,588	13,645	53.3
General Managers & Other Top Executives	1,798	1,003	35.8	71,746	39,721	55.4
Truck Drivers, Light	1,773	296	14.3	22,745	12,938	56.9
Electricians	1,732	53	3.0	41,496	25,465	61.4
Management Related Occup., nec	1,599	2,034	56.0	40,700	27,603	67.8
Truck Drivers, Heavy	1,576	90	5.4	31,368	22,680	72.3
Operating Engineers	1,504	83	5.2	42,176	28,733	68.1
Cashiers	1,393	3,385	70.8	13,692	11,569	84.5
Guards & Police, Except Public Service	1,392	312	18.3	21,708	16,051	73.9
Plumbers, Pipefitters & Steamfitters	1,345	22	1.6	39,466	16,047	40.7
Cooks, Restaurant	1,336	435	24.6	13,695	10,213	74.6
Mechanics & Repairers, nec	1,288	138	9.7	31,295	23,336	74.6
Airplane Pilots & Navigators	1,253	64	4.9	54,791	42,526	77.6
Sheriffs, Bailiffs, & Other Law Officers	1,251	219	14.9	43,336	34,497	79.6
Kitchen Workers, Food Preparation	1,221	1,477	54.7	11,095	10,935	98.6
Elementary School Teachers	1,193	3,714	75.7	37,788	35,810	94.8
Supervisors, Mechanic & Repairer	1,172	58	4.7	52,171	41,663	79.9
Stock & Inventory Clerks	1,143	639	35.9	24,259	16,060	66.2
Secondary School Teachers	1,101	1,530	58.2	39,848	33,725	84.6
Heavy Equipment Mechanics	1,043	14	1.3	43,537	38,141	87.6
Bus Drivers	1,032	612	37.2	15,614	13,310	85.2
Salespersons; nec	1,005	1,381	57.9	24,905	13,260	53.2
Officials & Administrators; Other, nec	967	745	43.5	56,519	41,150	72.8
Supervisor; Sales, Retail	932	843	47.5	40,583	27,011	66.6
Social Workers	902	2,089	69.8	28,942	25,221	87.1
Writers & Waitresses	867	3,596	80.6	10,858	9,040	83.3
Counter Clerks	865	1,334	60.7	13,989	9,715	69.4
Postsecondary Teachers	849	785	48.0	31,211	20,719	66.4
Civil Engineers	803	146	15.4	55,253	40,043	72.5
Truck Drivers, Tractor-Trailer	783	34	4.2	34,721	38,583	111.1
Adult Education & Other Teachers, nec	774	1,702	68.7	20,402	17,527	85.9
Teacher Aides	752	3,489	82.3	10,331	11,705	113.3
Police & Detectives, Public Service	739	117	13.7	47,384	35,264	74.4
Garage & Service Station Related Occup.	721	114	13.7	12,136	9,900	81.6
Salespersons, Motor Vehicles, Mobile Home	715	145	16.9	34,438	22,759	66.1
Supervisor, Food & Beverage Prep & Svc	715	674	48.5	28,395	20,535	72.3
Vehicle Washers & Equipment Cleaners	713	131	15.5	12,333	8,564	69.4
Misc. Plant or Systems Operators	704	47	6.3	87,821	85,391	97.2
Attendants, Amusement & Recreation Facil	701	863	55.2	7,841	6,336	80.8
Stevedores	698	69	9.0	18,038	9,721	53.9
Sailors & Deckhands	694	91	11.6	21,493	11,478	53.4
Bookkeepers & Accounting & Auditing Clerks	675	4,020	85.6	27,999	22,900	81.8
Welders & Cutters	668	20	2.9	35,758	24,418	68.3
Engineers, nec	666	107	13.8	67,026	51,757	77.2
Traffic, Shipping, & Receiving Clerks	663	351	34.6	19,139	16,902	88.3
Painters (Construction & Maintenance)	642	53	7.6	20,360	10,519	51.7
Excavating & Loading Machine Operators	640	34	5.0	34,640	20,726	59.8
Misc. Material Moving Equipment Operators	633	25	3.8	46,674	25,253	54.1
Manager, Administrative Services	617	1,242	66.8	55,323	33,963	61.4
Accountants & Auditors	609	997	62.1	47,648	39,277	82.4

nec: not elsewhere classified

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

9

Top Female Occupations—Workers, Earnings, Earnings Ratio

Alaska 1999

	Male Workers	Female Workers	Percent Female	Average Male Earnings	Average Female Earnings	Female Earn as % of Male Earn
General Office Occup.	2,554	10,157	79.9	\$18,217	\$16,343	89.7
Sales Clerks	2,778	5,959	68.2	13,745	9,462	68.8
Bookkeepers & Accounting & Auditing Clerks	675	4,020	85.6	27,999	22,900	81.8
Secretaries	278	3,850	93.3	21,272	23,791	111.8
Elementary School Teachers	1,193	3,714	75.7	37,788	35,810	94.8
Waiters & Waitresses	867	3,596	80.6	10,858	9,040	83.3
Teacher Aides	752	3,489	82.3	10,331	11,705	113.3
Cashiers	1,393	3,385	70.8	13,692	11,569	84.5
Registered Nurses	265	2,933	91.7	43,012	37,504	87.2
Receptionists	221	2,897	92.9	19,053	15,525	81.5
Maids & Housemen	556	2,220	80.0	11,800	9,482	80.4
Janitors & Cleaners	3,781	2,182	36.6	14,537	12,073	83.0
Social Workers	902	2,089	69.8	28,942	25,221	87.1
Management Related Occup., nec	1,599	2,034	56.0	40,700	27,603	67.8
Child Care Workers, exc. Private Household	323	1,814	84.9	11,335	8,596	75.8
Admin. Support Occup, incl. Clerical	503	1,795	78.1	20,280	20,654	101.8
Nursing Aides, Orderlies, & Attendants	383	1,770	82.2	21,777	17,659	81.1
Combined Food Prep & Service, Fast Food	1,865	1,758	48.5	4,917	5,252	106.8
Adult Education & Other Teachers, nec	774	1,702	68.7	20,402	17,527	85.9
Cannery Workers, incl. Seafood Process	2,949	1,599	35.2	10,467	8,898	85.0
Administrative Assistants & Officers	305	1,540	83.5	44,469	25,617	57.6
Secondary School Teachers	1,101	1,530	58.2	39,848	33,725	84.6
Kitchen Workers, Food Prep.	1,221	1,477	54.7	11,095	10,935	98.6
Food Counter, Fountain & Related Occup.	557	1,422	71.9	7,168	6,440	89.8
Salespersons; nec	1,005	1,381	57.9	24,905	13,260	53.2
Counter Clerks	865	1,334	60.7	13,989	9,715	69.4
Reservation Agents & Ticket Clerks	376	1,245	76.8	19,475	18,267	93.8
Manager, Administrative Services	617	1,242	66.8	55,323	33,963	61.4
Teachers, exc. Postsecondary	373	1,226	76.7	22,061	15,559	70.5
Misc. Food & Beverage Prep. Occup.	1,824	1,199	39.7	8,804	10,096	114.7
Bartenders	523	1,194	69.5	12,767	11,123	87.1
Manual Occup., nec	5,902	1,156	16.4	12,381	6,817	55.1
Bank Tellers	99	1,124	91.9	15,801	15,768	99.8
Health Aides, Except Nursing	162	1,087	87.0	23,059	22,864	99.2
General Managers & Other Top Executives	1,798	1,003	35.8	71,746	39,721	55.4
Accountants & Auditors	609	997	62.1	47,648	39,277	82.4
Attendants, Amusement & Recreation Facil	701	863	55.2	7,841	6,336	80.8
Supervisor; Sales, Retail	932	843	47.5	40,583	27,011	66.6
Postsecondary Teachers	849	785	48.0	31,211	20,719	66.4
Cooks, Institution & Cafeteria	450	779	63.4	25,909	15,093	58.3
Information Clerks, nec	231	768	76.9	26,316	22,342	84.9
Stock Handlers & Baggers	2,148	752	25.9	12,928	7,327	56.7
Officials & Administrators; Other, nec	967	745	43.5	56,519	41,150	72.8
Teachers; Special Education	203	744	78.6	45,190	43,359	95.9
Personal Service Occup., nec	336	725	68.3	16,306	14,069	86.3
Billing Clerks	56	697	92.6	26,953	24,232	89.9
Purchasing Agents & Buyers, nec	526	680	56.4	41,383	25,499	61.6
Supervisors, Food & Beverage Prep & Svc.	715	674	48.5	28,395	20,535	72.3
Dental Assistants	42	671	94.1	21,447	20,031	93.4
Stock & Inventory Clerks	1,143	639	35.9	24,259	16,060	66.2
Record Clerks, Nec	125	620	83.2	22,549	17,719	78.6
Hairdressers & Cosmetologists	44	620	93.4	14,057	13,974	99.4
Hotel Clerks	233	617	72.6	11,889	10,568	88.9
Bus Drivers	1,032	612	37.2	15,614	13,310	85.2
Supervisors, General Office Occup.	181	577	76.1	40,349	30,427	75.4
Welfare Service Aides	267	572	68.2	4,987	8,113	162.7
Health Technologists & Technicians, nec	287	556	66.0	31,651	24,696	78.0
Order Clerks	215	545	71.7	32,065	30,945	96.5
Recreation Workers	326	532	62.0	10,682	9,147	85.6
Pre-kindergarten & Kindergarten Teachers	44	523	92.2	23,808	22,882	96.1
Short-Order Cooks	607	481	44.2	6,143	5,164	84.1
Personnel, Training, & Labor Relations	275	471	63.1	45,053	36,827	81.7
Technicians, nec	501	469	48.4	39,794	30,054	75.5
Secretaries, Legal	9	452	98.0	14,615	28,091	192.2

nec: not elsewhere
classified

What are the underlying causes of income disparity between genders?

An analysis of causes of the gender gap is outside the scope of this article. However, a number of factors may influence these differences. Since experience and tenure on the job command a premium in pay, women workers who leave the workforce, or work part time in order to care for children and families, are at a disadvantage. Differences between men and women in the number of hours worked per week and weeks worked per year also affect earnings. Women, especially those who are single heads of families, are often unable to work the long hours that bring higher pay. These are factors associated with the worker or the worker's immediate environment.

Educational differences may play a role in upper echelon jobs. The US Census Bureau reports that an equal percentage of women and men in the US have high school diplomas. In the 25 to 29 age group, women are more likely to have at least bachelor's degrees (30 percent) than men (28 percent). Men possess doctoral degrees to a much greater extent than women. This could be a factor in their possession of the highest paying management and professional jobs.

Another type of factor is discrimination. Discrimination or other barriers may exist in hiring, training, advancement or pay rates.

Summary

From 1988 to 1999, females have made a modest increase in their rate of participation in the Alaska workforce, from 47.0% to 47.8%. Men's average annual earnings have remained about \$10,000 more than women's since 1988. The gender gap, or ratio of female to male earnings, has narrowed by 5% from 61.7% to 66.8%.

From 1990 to 1999, the difference between the gender gap in private industry and that in state and local government has narrowed from 15 percent to 12 percent.

Much of the gender gap is related to the different employment patterns of males and females, and the wide range of wage rates among occupational groups and industries. Little change is evident in these patterns of employment over recent years. Little change is evident in male domination in the highest paying industries and occupational groups.

Methodology

All private sector, state and local government worker unemployment insurance wage records were aggregated to obtain total worker wage and salary earnings for 1999. Worker occupation, industry and place of work data were obtained from the employer for whom they earned the most money in 1999. A total of 296,443 wage records had complete age and gender information obtained from a match with historical Permanent Fund Dividend applicant files from 1994 through 1999 and with current Alaska voter registration files.

Race and Ethnicity in Alaska

by Greg Williams
Demographer

Definitions have changed;
comparisons have become complex;
and racial distributions have shifted

Defining the term “race” has always been somewhat arbitrary. Traditionally, race has referred to descent from a common ancestral group which bestows common physical characteristics. The tendency today to define race by a people’s culture, history, and way of life blurs the distinction between race and nationality or ethnicity. Hence, persons of Hispanic or Latino origin (considered an ethnicity) can come from very diverse racial backgrounds.

“Race,” as used for federal programs and as collected by the U.S. Census, is defined by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). When planning began in the early 1990s for the 2000 census, OMB held public hearings that addressed a wide range of concerns over the way race was defined. These hearings led to changes in the categories of race and ethnicity used in the 2000 census. In prior years one had to choose one of four races: White, Black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, or Asian and Pacific Islander. In the *Federal Register* for October 30, 1997, OMB revised its 1977 guidelines and established a five-race classification for federal data on race and ethnicity. It also allowed for identifying origins in more than one race.

American Indian or Alaska Native. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.

Asian. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent, including Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Black or African American. A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa. Terms such as “Haitian” or “Negro” can be used in addition to “Black or African American.”

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.

White. A person having origins in any set of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.

With respect to ethnicity, the standards provide for the collection of data on whether or not a person is of “Hispanic or Latino” culture or origin.

Hispanic or Latino. A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race. The term, “Spanish Origin,” can be used in addition to “Hispanic or Latino.”

Under the new guidelines, OMB provided for multi-race reporting. This allowed persons of mixed race to identify themselves as a combination of races rather than being forced to choose one race. With five races, permutations and combinations result in 63 possible race categories.

The Census Bureau followed the OMB guidelines in conducting the 2000 census. All race and ethnicity was self-reported by the respondent and represented each individual’s interpretation of the choices presented. In addition to the race and ethnic categories recognized by OMB, the census allowed people to define themselves as “some other race” and to write in their race. Most often the “some other race” response involved confu-

sion over Hispanic or Latino as a race rather than an ethnicity.

To make census data comply with federal program uses, the Census Bureau may, in 2002, create a new set of estimates of age, race and sex (as they did for the 1990 and 1980 censuses) that allocates the “some other race” category to one of the 63 multi-race categories. Estimates may also be corrected for mis-reporting of age known as “age heaping.” Some people tend to round their age to the nearest five, or increase or decrease their reported age around significant ages (i.e., 18, 21, 39, or 65). These estimates are referred to as the MARS estimates (Modified Age, Race and Sex). The MARS estimates have been the basis for the race estimates produced by the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development

(AKDOL) during the 1990s. They are considered more accurate because they conform to OMB standards. New MARS estimates will consist of 63 race combinations and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity. The exact methods that will be used to produce these new, more complex estimates have not been finalized at this time.

All these changes make race and ethnicity more difficult to understand. They also make race data from Census 2000 more difficult to compare with 1990 and earlier censuses. If there ever was a simple answer to the question, “How many Alaska Natives live in Alaska?” there isn’t any longer. From now on, the question will have several answers, and different federal programs may require different measures. As of this writing, which federal programs will require what definition of race is uncertain.

1 Population by Race, Alaska 2000

By Race Alone, Equal Proportion or in Combination

Race	Race		Race in Combination Only		
	Number (A)	Percent of Total Population	Number (B)	Percent of Total Population	Percent Multi-race
Race					
Total Population	626,932		34,146		5.4%
<i>Number of responses</i>	626,932	100.0%	70,953	100.0%	10.7%
One race	592,786		—	—	
White	434,534	69.3%	29,465	41.5%	6.4%
Black or African American	21,787	3.5%	5,360	7.6%	19.7%
American Indian and Alaska Native	98,043	15.6%	21,198	29.9%	17.8%
Asian	25,116	4.0%	7,570	10.7%	23.2%
Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander	3,309	0.5%	2,206	3.1%	40.0%
Some other race	9,997	1.6%	5,154	7.3%	34.0%
Two or more races	34,146	5.4%	—	—	—
Hispanic or Latino and Race					
Total Population	626,932	100.0%	626,932	100.0%	—
Not Hispanic or Latino	601,080	95.9%	601,080	95.9%	—
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	25,852	4.1%	25,852	4.1%	—
<i>Number of Hispanic responses</i>	25,852	100.0%	4,089	100.0%	13.7%
One race	22,160	85.7%	—	—	
White	10,746	41.6%	2,847	69.6%	20.9%
Black or African American	714	2.8%	700	17.1%	49.5%
American Indian and Alaska Native	1,538	5.9%	1,149	28.1%	42.8%
Asian	375	1.5%	534	13.1%	58.7%
Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander	128	0.5%	215	5.3%	62.7%
Some other race	8,659	33.5%	2,336	57.1%	21.2%
Two or more races	3,692	14.3%	—	—	

Sources: Census 2000; Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis, Demographic Unit

New measures of race in 2000

The Census Bureau has so far provided race and ethnicity tabulations in the following forms from the 2000 census.

1. One race alone and two or more races.
2. Race alone or in combination.
3. 63 race categories.

A National Academy of Sciences panel studied a series of possible ways to combine the 2000 race data to produce race data comparable to the 1990 and earlier definitions of race. These tabulations are referred to as “bridge” estimates, because they allow comparison of the two sets of incompatible data.

Of the possible ways of combining the new race data to create tabulations that are comparable to earlier data, the method easiest to understand is

what is generally referred to as “equal proportion or equal fractions.” This method proved to be the simplest and most comparable to earlier race definitions. The principle of “equal proportion” involves weighting the multi-race responses on the assumption that they are equal shares of each race. For example, the category of “Alaska Native and White” would be weighted 0.5 Alaska Native and 0.5 White. After all the multi-races are proportionately weighted, the race fractions are summed and rounded to the nearest whole person to obtain the estimated number of persons equivalent to the single race responses of earlier censuses.

In addition, in an attempt to further approximate the 1990 MARS classification of race, the state demographer’s office has distributed the “some other race” group to the 1990 race categories for this set of preliminary MARS estimates. The Census Bureau used a “hot deck” to assign the “some

Population by Race, Alaska 2000

By Race Alone, Equal Proportion or in Combination (continued)

Race	Race Alone (Minimum Population)		Equal Proportion “Bridge Series”		Race Alone or in Combination (Maximum Population)	
	Number (C)	Percent of Total Population	Number (D)	Percent of Total Population	Number (E)	Percent of Total Population
Race						
Total Population	626,932		626,932		626,932	
<i>Number of responses</i>	592,786	100.0%	626,932	100.0%	663,739	100.0%
One race	—	—	—	—	—	—
White	434,534	73.3%	448,877	71.6%	463,999	69.9%
Black or African American	21,787	3.7%	24,281	3.9%	27,147	4.1%
American Indian and Alaska Native	98,043	16.5%	108,343	17.3%	119,241	18.0%
Asian	25,116	4.2%	28,664	4.6%	32,686	4.9%
Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander	3,309	0.6%	4,301	0.7%	5,515	0.8%
Some other race	9,997	1.7%	12,466	2.0%	15,151	2.3%
Two or more races	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hispanic or Latino and Race						
Total Population	626,932	100.0%	626,932	100.0%	626,932	100.0%
Not Hispanic or Latino	601,080	95.9%	601,080	95.9%	601,080	95.9%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	25,852	4.1%	25,852	4.1%	25,852	4.1%
<i>Number of Hispanic responses</i>	22,160	100.0%	25,852	100.0%	29,941	100.0%
One race	—	—	—	—	—	—
White	10,746	48.5%	12,112	46.9%	13,593	45.4%
Black or African American	714	3.2%	1,035	4.0%	1,414	4.7%
American Indian and Alaska Native	1,538	6.9%	2,075	8.0%	2,687	9.0%
Asian	375	1.7%	612	2.4%	909	3.0%
Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander	128	0.6%	220	0.9%	343	1.1%
Some other race	8,659	39.1%	9,798	37.9%	10,995	36.7%
Two or more races	—	—	—	—	—	—

Sources: Census 2000; Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis, Demographic Unit

other race.” This technique randomly assigns “some other race” based on the race distribution of the household or neighborhood in which a person was living. Since the most detailed race record available is the block level from the 2000 census, the “some other race” was distributed proportionally according to the race distribution of the block (or in some cases neighboring block) in which it was found. These equal-proportion “bridge” race estimates for 2000 may not be exactly like those which eventually will be produced by the Census Bureau, but they should be close enough to use in the interim to view changes in race from 1990 to 2000.

As of this date, the AKDOL has not decided which approach will be used to prepare estimates for this decade. Every effort will be made to produce estimates that will be the most widely usable for the variety of program users. Several years may pass before data collected by federal and state agencies are fully compatible with the OMB standards and federal program application guidelines.

In the interim, it seems reasonable to produce estimates that are comparable to both the past and the new standards. Census 2000 race and ethnicity and AKDOL’s “bridge” estimates are presented in the accompanying exhibits.

Alaska has seen changes in race and ethnicity since 1990

Exhibit 1 presents a variety of race and ethnic information from the 2000 census along with the “bridge” estimates for Alaska. Column A shows all those who identified themselves as only one race as well as the number who identified themselves as two or more races (34,146 or 5.4%). Alaska had the second highest percentage of any state (next to Hawaii) of persons who identified themselves as multi-racial. Column B shows the distribution of the 70,953 racial responses made by the 34,146 persons who stated multi-race. Persons who declared themselves to be multi-race said they were: White (41.5%), American Indian or Alaska Native (29.9%), Asian (10.7%), Black or

2 Population by Race and Hispanic/Latino Origin 1990 and 2000, Alaska

	1990 Census		Census 2000 Equal Proportion “Bridge Series”		Change 1990-2000	Avg Ann % Change 1990-2000
	Number	Percent of Total Population	Number	Percent of Total Population		
Race						
Total Population	550,043	100.0%	626,932	100.0%	76,889	1.3%
White	415,492	75.5%	448,877	71.6%	33,385	0.8%
Black or African American	22,451	4.1%	24,281	3.9%	1,830	0.8%
American Indian and Alaska Native	85,698	15.6%	108,343	17.3%	22,645	2.3%
Asian	17,814	3.2%	28,664	4.6%	10,850	4.7%
Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander	1,914	0.3%	4,301	0.7%	2,387	7.7%
Some other race	6,674	1.2%	12,466	2.0%	5,792	6.1%
Hispanic or Latino and Race						
Total Population	550,043	100.0%	626,932	100.0%	76,889	1.3%
Not Hispanic or Latino	532,240	96.8%	601,080	95.9%	68,840	1.2%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	17,803	3.2%	25,852	4.1%	8,049	3.7%
White	8,770	1.6%	12,112	1.9%	3,342	3.2%
Black or African American	652	0.1%	1,035	0.2%	383	4.5%
American Indian and Alaska Native	1,104	0.2%	2,075	0.3%	971	6.1%
Asian	892	0.2%	612	0.1%	-280	-3.7%
Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander	106	0.0%	220	0.0%	114	7.0%
Some other race	6,279	1.1%	9,798	1.6%	3,519	4.4%

Sources: Census 2000; Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis, Demographic Unit

African American (7.6%), some other race (7.3%), and Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (3.1%). A substantial proportion of persons other than White declared themselves to be multi-race. Of all race responses, the share of each race's multi-race responses was as follows: Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (40.0%), Some other race (34%), Asian (23.2%), Black or African American (19.7%), American Indian or Alaska Native (17.8%) and White (6.4%).

Columns C, D and E show the range of race as measured in different ways. Each of these eliminates the "Two or more races" category. Column C looks at the distribution of the 592,786 persons who declared themselves to be one race only. Because of the higher proportions of multi-race among the nonwhite population, this number will show the smallest proportion of nonwhite population. Column E tabulates all of the individual responses to race. It counts the person who listed two races twice, three races three times, etc. The proportion of multi-race responses by race dis-

cussed above is obtained by dividing column B by column E. Since this measure counts each person of multi-race in each group that they list, the total is greater than the population (663,739 race response). Column D shows the equal-proportion "bridge" estimate. Since it weights each multiple response as a part of a person, it adds to the total population (626,932) and is most comparable with the 1990 definition of race.

Exhibit 2 compares the equal-proportion estimate for 2000 with race from the 1990 census. This retains the "Some other race" category. Exhibit 3 compares the equal-proportion estimate with the 1990 MARS estimates, which eliminates the "Some other race" category. Exhibit 3 should give the clearest picture of changes in race in Alaska in the last decade.

During the 1990s the population of Alaska increased by 76,889 persons, for an average annual growth rate of 1.3%. Although Whites made up almost 73% of the 2000 population, they ac-

Modified Population by Race and Hispanic/Latino Origin 3 Alaska, 1990 and 2000

	1990 Census MARS		Census 2000 Equal Proportion "Bridge Series" MARS Estimate		Change 1990-2000	Avg Ann % Change 1990-2000
	Number	Percent of Total Population	Number	Percent of Total Population		
<i>Note: Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race.</i>						
Race						
Total Population	550,043	100.0%	626,932	100.0%	76,889	1.3%
White	420,745	76.5%	455,284	72.6%	34,539	0.8%
Black or African American	22,833	4.2%	25,547	4.1%	2,714	1.1%
American Indian and Alaska Native	86,252	15.7%	111,091	17.7%	24,839	2.5%
Asian & Pacific Islander	20,213	3.7%	35,010	5.6%	14,797	5.4%
Asian	—	—	30,352	4.8%		
Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander	—	—	4,658	0.7%		
Hispanic or Latino and Race						
Total Population	550,043	100.0%	626,932	100.0%	76,889	1.3%
Not Hispanic or Latino	532,240	96.8%	601,080	95.9%	68,840	1.2%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	17,803	3.2%	25,852	4.1%	8,049	3.7%
White	13,716	2.5%	19,716	3.1%	6,000	3.6%
Black or African American	1,011	0.2%	1,856	0.3%	845	5.9%
American Indian and Alaska Native	1,607	0.3%	2,934	0.5%	1,327	5.8%
Asian & Pacific Islander	1,469	0.3%	1,346	0.2%	-123	-0.9%
Asian	—	—	995	0.2%		
Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander	—	—	351	0.1%		

Sources: Census 2000; Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis, Demographic Unit

counted for only 45% of the population increase during the 1990s, for an average annual growth rate of 0.8%. While American Indians and Alaska Natives account for 17.7% of the 2000 population, they accounted for 32% of the population growth during the decade. The average annual growth rate for Native Americans was 2.5%. The

most rapid population increases were found among Asians and Pacific Islanders. At only 5.6% of the 2000 population, they accounted for 19.2% of the state's growth in the 1990s with an average annual growth rate of 5.4%. The Black or African American population of Alaska (4.1%) slipped below the Asian population in 2000. African

4 Modified Estimates (MARS) of Race and Ethnicity Alaska, 1990 and 2000

	April 1, 2000 Equal Proportion "Bridge Series"					RACE April 1, 1990 Modified (MARS) Race Estimates				
	Total	White	Native American	African American	Asian & Pacific Islander	Total	White	Native American	African American	Asian & Pacific Islander
ALASKA	626,932	455,284	111,091	25,547	35,010	550,043	420,745	86,252	22,833	20,213
Anchorage/Mat-Su Region	319,605	251,813	28,369	18,216	21,207	266,021	222,715	16,732	15,113	11,461
Anchorage Municipality	260,283	198,219	24,025	17,657	20,382	226,338	185,601	14,780	14,801	11,156
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	59,322	53,594	4,344	559	825	39,683	37,114	1,952	312	305
Gulf Coast Region	73,799	60,897	8,446	514	3,942	64,063	54,985	6,370	401	2,307
Kenai Peninsula Borough	49,691	44,027	4,531	315	818	40,802	37,220	2,942	204	436
Kodiak Island Borough	13,913	8,805	2,309	153	2,646	13,309	9,467	2,162	138	1,542
Valdez Cordova Census Area	10,195	8,065	1,606	46	478	9,952	8,298	1,266	59	329
Interior Region	97,458	75,834	13,061	5,716	2,847	92,111	73,009	10,915	5,997	2,190
Fairbanks North Star Borough	82,840	67,416	7,203	5,535	2,686	77,720	64,672	5,383	5,618	2,047
Southeast Fairbanks CA	6,174	5,045	913	139	77	5,913	4,734	798	291	90
Denali Borough	1,893	1,684	135	29	45	1,764	1,644	79	26	15
Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area	6,551	1,689	4,810	13	39	6,714	1,959	4,655	62	38
Northern Region	23,789	4,337	18,555	153	744	20,380	4,213	15,712	62	393
Nome Census Area	9,196	1,920	7,143	49	84	8,288	2,064	6,157	9	58
North Slope Borough	7,385	1,424	5,312	75	574	5,979	1,307	4,344	41	287
Northwest Arctic Borough	7,208	993	6,100	29	86	6,113	842	5,211	12	48
Southeast Region	73,082	54,363	14,681	567	3,471	68,989	53,450	12,928	426	2,185
Haines Borough	2,392	2,027	334	5	26	2,117	1,817	282	1	17
Juneau Borough	30,711	24,047	4,370	353	1,941	26,751	21,765	3,509	300	1,177
Ketchikan Borough	14,070	10,801	2,440	97	732	13,828	11,363	1,913	55	497
Prince of Wales-Outer Ketchikan CA	6,146	3,456	2,613	18	59	6,278	3,872	2,368	9	29
Sitka Borough	8,835	6,379	1,951	55	450	8,588	6,406	1,805	42	335
Skagway-Hoonah-Angoon CA	3,436	2,085	1,303	10	38	3,680	2,280	1,369	6	25
Wrangell-Petersburg CA	6,684	5,142	1,320	28	194	7,042	5,565	1,370	12	95
Yakutat Borough	808	426	350	1	31	705	382	312	1	10
Southwest Region	39,199	8,040	27,979	381	2,799	38,479	12,373	23,595	834	1,677
Aleutians East Borough	2,697	728	1,069	53	847	2,464	909	1,052	26	477
Aleutians West Census Area	5,465	2,419	1,223	194	1,629	9,478	6,661	1,101	685	1,031
Bethel Census Area	16,006	2,236	13,461	91	218	13,656	2,122	11,379	63	92
Bristol Bay Borough	1,258	670	562	7	19	1,410	905	455	38	12
Dillingham Census Area	4,922	1,200	3,642	24	56	4,012	1,035	2,938	9	30
Lake & Peninsula Borough	1,823	392	1,416	3	12	1,668	392	1,263	1	12
Wade Hampton Census Area	7,028	395	6,606	9	18	5,791	349	5,407	12	23

Sources: Census 2000; Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis, Demographic Unit

Americans contributed only 3.5% of the growth with an average annual rate of increase of only 1.1%. While Hispanics or Latinos may be of any race, 76% listed themselves as White. Hispanics or Latinos were 4.1% of the 2000 population of Alaska, but accounted for 10.5% of the population growth during the nineties. The Hispanic or Latino population had a 3.7% average annual growth rate during the decade. Alaska has been

more diverse and multi-racial than much of America. The trends of the 1990s should continue. In 2000, the Non-Hispanic White population was 69.5%.

Geographic distribution

Exhibits 4, 5 and 6 present the equal-proportion estimates for 2000 with the 1990 MARS race and

Modified Estimates (MARS) of Race and Ethnicity 4 Alaska, 1990 and 2000

	ETHNICITY			Change 1990-2000					
	Hispanic or Latino	April 1 2000	April 1 1990	Total	White	Native American	African American	Asian & Pacific Islander	Hispanic or Latino
<i>Note: Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race.</i>									
ALASKA	25,852	17,793	76,889	34,539	24,839	2,714	14,797	8,059	
Anchorage/Matanuska-Susitna Region	16,284	10,010	53,584	29,098	11,637	3,103	9,746	6,274	
Anchorage Municipality	14,799	9,258	33,945	12,618	9,245	2,856	9,226	5,541	
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	1,485	752	19,639	16,480	2,392	247	520	733	
Gulf Coast Region	2,221	1,659	9,736	5,912	2,076	113	1,635	562	
Kenai Peninsula Borough	1,087	726	8,889	6,807	1,589	111	382	361	
Kodiak Island Borough	848	663	604	-662	147	15	1,104	185	
Valdez Cordova Census Area	286	270	243	-233	340	-13	149	16	
Interior Region	3,732	3,148	5,347	2,825	2,146	-281	657	584	
Fairbanks North Star Borough	3,440	2,889	5,120	2,744	1,820	-83	639	551	
Southeast Fairbanks Census Area	167	177	261	311	115	-152	-13	-10	
Denali Borough	47	29	129	40	56	3	30	18	
Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area	78	53	-163	-270	155	-49	1	25	
Northern Region	324	266	3,409	124	2,843	91	351	58	
Nome Census Area	92	106	908	-144	986	40	26	-14	
North Slope Borough	175	124	1,406	117	968	34	287	51	
Northwest Arctic Borough	57	36	1,095	151	889	17	38	21	
Southeast Region	2,077	1,577	4,093	913	1,753	141	1,286	500	
Haines Borough	33	27	275	210	52	4	9	6	
Juneau Borough	1,040	749	3,960	2,282	861	53	764	291	
Ketchikan Borough	372	285	242	-562	527	42	235	87	
Prince of Wales-Outer Ketchikan CA	107	121	-132	-416	245	9	30	-14	
Sitka Borough	290	209	247	-27	146	13	115	81	
Skagway-Hoonah-Angoon CA	97	53	-244	-195	-66	4	13	44	
Wrangell-Petersburg Census Area	132	119	-358	-423	-50	16	99	13	
Yakutat Borough	6	14	103	44	38	0	21	-8	
Southwest Region	1,214	1,133	720	-4,333	4,384	-453	1,122	81	
Aleutians East Borough	339	180	233	-181	17	27	370	159	
Aleutians West Census Area	573	742	-4,013	-4,242	122	-491	598	-169	
Bethel Census Area	140	80	2,350	114	2,082	28	126	60	
Bristol Bay Borough	7	33	-152	-235	107	-31	7	-26	
Dillingham Census Area	111	49	910	165	704	15	26	62	
Lake & Peninsula Borough	21	32	155	0	153	2	0	-11	
Wade Hampton Census Area	23	17	1,237	46	1,199	-3	-5	6	

Sources: Census 2000; Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis, Demographic Unit

ethnic estimates, percent and racial share. Several observations stand out. The Anchorage Municipality, Matanuska-Susitna Borough and Kenai Peninsula Borough grew faster than the rest of Alaska, and also became more racially diverse. These three areas increased from 55.8% of the state's population in 1990 to 58.9% in 2000. The other large boroughs, Fairbanks North Star, Juneau, Ketchikan Gateway and Kodiak Island all lost share

to Anchorage/MatSu and Kenai.

The state's Black or African American population is the most concentrated. In 2000, 90 percent of the population was concentrated in the two largest boroughs, Anchorage Municipality (69.1%) and Fairbanks North Star Borough (21.7%). Alaska's African American population is historically associated with the military, and the closing and re-

5 Percent Distribution, MARS Race and Ethnicity Estimates Alaska, 1990 and 2000

Area Name	RACE				RACE			
	April 1, 2000				April 1, 1990			
	Equal Proportion "Bridge Series"				Modified (MARS) Race Estimates			
	White	Native American	African American	Asian & Pacific Islander	White	Native American	African American	Asian & Pacific Islander
ALASKA	72.6%	17.7%	4.1%	5.6%	76.5%	15.7%	4.2%	3.7%
Anchorage/Mat-Su Region	78.8%	8.9%	5.7%	6.6%	83.7%	6.3%	5.7%	4.3%
Anchorage Municipality	76.2%	9.2%	6.8%	7.8%	82.0%	6.5%	6.5%	4.9%
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	90.3%	7.3%	0.9%	1.4%	93.5%	4.9%	0.8%	0.8%
Gulf Coast Region	82.5%	11.4%	0.7%	5.3%	85.8%	9.9%	0.6%	3.6%
Kenai Peninsula Borough	88.6%	9.1%	0.6%	1.6%	91.2%	7.2%	0.5%	1.1%
Kodiak Island Borough	63.3%	16.6%	1.1%	19.0%	71.1%	16.2%	1.0%	11.6%
Valdez Cordova Census Area	79.1%	15.8%	0.5%	4.7%	83.4%	12.7%	0.6%	3.3%
Interior Region	77.8%	13.4%	5.9%	2.9%	79.3%	11.8%	6.5%	2.4%
Fairbanks North Star Borough	81.4%	8.7%	6.7%	3.2%	83.2%	6.9%	7.2%	2.6%
Southeast Fairbanks CA	81.7%	14.8%	2.3%	1.2%	80.1%	13.5%	4.9%	1.5%
Denali Borough	89.0%	7.1%	1.5%	2.4%	93.2%	4.5%	1.5%	0.9%
Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area	25.8%	73.4%	0.2%	0.6%	29.2%	69.3%	0.9%	0.6%
Northern Region	18.2%	78.0%	0.6%	3.1%	20.7%	77.1%	0.3%	1.9%
Nome Census Area	20.9%	77.7%	0.5%	0.9%	24.9%	74.3%	0.1%	0.7%
North Slope Borough	19.3%	71.9%	1.0%	7.8%	21.9%	72.7%	0.7%	4.8%
Northwest Arctic Borough	13.8%	84.6%	0.4%	1.2%	13.8%	85.2%	0.2%	0.8%
Southeast Region	74.4%	20.1%	0.8%	4.7%	77.5%	18.7%	0.6%	3.2%
Haines Borough	84.7%	14.0%	0.2%	1.1%	85.8%	13.3%	0.0%	0.8%
Juneau Borough	78.3%	14.2%	1.1%	6.3%	81.4%	13.1%	1.1%	4.4%
Ketchikan Borough	76.8%	17.3%	0.7%	5.2%	82.2%	13.8%	0.4%	3.6%
Prince of Wales-Outer Ketchikan CA	56.2%	42.5%	0.3%	1.0%	61.7%	37.7%	0.1%	0.5%
Sitka Borough	72.2%	22.1%	0.6%	5.1%	74.6%	21.0%	0.5%	3.9%
Skagway-Hoonah-Angoon CA	60.7%	37.9%	0.3%	1.1%	62.0%	37.2%	0.2%	0.7%
Wrangell-Petersburg CA	76.9%	19.7%	0.4%	2.9%	79.0%	19.5%	0.2%	1.3%
Yakutat Borough	52.7%	43.3%	0.1%	3.8%	54.2%	44.3%	0.1%	1.4%
Southwest Region	20.5%	71.4%	1.0%	7.1%	32.2%	61.3%	2.2%	4.4%
Aleutians East Borough	27.0%	39.6%	2.0%	31.4%	36.9%	42.7%	1.1%	19.4%
Aleutians West Census Area	44.3%	22.4%	3.5%	29.8%	70.3%	11.6%	7.2%	10.9%
Bethel Census Area	14.0%	84.1%	0.6%	1.4%	15.5%	83.3%	0.5%	0.7%
Bristol Bay Borough	53.3%	44.7%	0.6%	1.5%	64.2%	32.3%	2.7%	0.9%
Dillingham Census Area	24.4%	74.0%	0.5%	1.1%	25.8%	73.2%	0.2%	0.7%
Lake & Peninsula Borough	21.5%	77.7%	0.2%	0.7%	23.5%	75.7%	0.1%	0.7%
Wade Hampton Census Area	5.6%	94.0%	0.1%	0.3%	6.0%	93.4%	0.2%	0.4%

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis, Demographic Unit

duction of bases during the 1990s have caused African Americans to decline as a share of the population. This includes the traditionally more military areas of Aleutians West, Fairbanks North Star Borough and Southeast Fairbanks. The share of the state's total African American population in Anchorage and Mat-Su increased from 66.2 % to 71.3% between 1990 and 2000.

The White population of the state is concentrated in the most heavily populated boroughs and census areas, and the Alaska Native population is more rural than the population at large. In 2000, 85% of the White population lives in the five largest areas: Anchorage Municipality (43.5%), Fairbanks North Star Borough (14.8%), Matanuska-Susitna Borough (11.8%), Kenai Peninsula Borough (9.7%),

Percent Distribution, MARS Race and Ethnicity Estimates

Alaska, 1990 and 2000 (continued)

5

	ETHNICITY		Change 1990-2000					Hispanic or Latino
	Hispanic or Latino		White	Native American	African American	Asian & Pacific Islander		
	April 1 2000	April 1 1990						
ALASKA	4.1%	3.2%	-3.9%	2.0%	-0.1%	1.9%	0.9%	
Anchorage/Mat-Su Region	5.1%	3.8%	-4.9%	2.6%	0.0%	2.3%	1.3%	
Anchorage Municipality	5.7%	4.1%	-5.8%	2.7%	0.2%	2.9%	1.6%	
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	2.5%	1.9%	-3.2%	2.4%	0.2%	0.6%	0.6%	
Gulf Coast Region	3.0%	2.6%	-3.3%	1.5%	0.1%	1.7%	0.4%	
Kenai Peninsula Borough	2.2%	1.8%	-2.6%	1.9%	0.1%	0.6%	0.4%	
Kodiak Island Borough	6.1%	5.0%	-7.8%	0.4%	0.1%	7.4%	1.1%	
Valdez Cordova Census Area	2.8%	2.7%	-4.3%	3.0%	-0.1%	1.4%	0.1%	
Interior Region	3.8%	3.4%	-1.4%	1.6%	-0.6%	0.5%	0.4%	
Fairbanks North Star Borough	4.2%	3.7%	-1.8%	1.8%	-0.5%	0.6%	0.4%	
Southeast Fairbanks CA	2.7%	3.0%	1.7%	1.3%	-2.7%	-0.3%	-0.3%	
Denali Borough	2.5%	1.6%	-4.2%	2.7%	0.1%	1.5%	0.8%	
Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area	1.2%	0.8%	-3.4%	4.1%	-0.7%	0.0%	0.4%	
Northern Region	1.4%	1.3%	-2.4%	0.9%	0.3%	1.2%	0.1%	
Nome Census Area	1.0%	1.3%	-4.0%	3.4%	0.4%	0.2%	-0.3%	
North Slope Borough	2.4%	2.1%	-2.6%	-0.7%	0.3%	3.0%	0.3%	
Northwest Arctic Borough	0.8%	0.6%	0.0%	-0.6%	0.2%	0.4%	0.2%	
Southeast Region	2.8%	2.3%	-3.1%	1.3%	0.2%	1.6%	0.6%	
Haines Borough	1.4%	1.3%	-1.1%	0.6%	0.2%	0.3%	0.1%	
Juneau Borough	3.4%	2.8%	-3.1%	1.1%	0.0%	1.9%	0.6%	
Ketchikan Borough	2.6%	2.1%	-5.4%	3.5%	0.3%	1.6%	0.6%	
Prince of Wales-Outer Ketchikan CA	1.7%	1.9%	-5.4%	4.8%	0.1%	0.5%	-0.2%	
Sitka Borough	3.3%	2.4%	-2.4%	1.1%	0.1%	1.2%	0.8%	
Skagway-Hoonah-Angoon CA	2.8%	1.4%	-1.3%	0.7%	0.1%	0.4%	1.4%	
Wrangell-Petersburg CA	2.0%	1.7%	-2.1%	0.3%	0.2%	1.6%	0.3%	
Yakutat Borough	0.7%	2.0%	-1.5%	-0.9%	0.0%	2.4%	-1.2%	
Southwest Region	3.1%	2.9%	-11.6%	10.1%	-1.2%	2.8%	0.2%	
Aleutians East Borough	12.6%	7.3%	-9.9%	-3.1%	0.9%	12.0%	5.3%	
Aleutians West Census Area	10.5%	7.8%	-26.0%	10.8%	-3.7%	18.9%	2.7%	
Bethel Census Area	0.9%	0.6%	-1.6%	0.8%	0.1%	0.7%	0.3%	
Bristol Bay Borough	0.6%	2.3%	-10.9%	12.4%	-2.1%	0.7%	-1.8%	
Dillingham Census Area	2.3%	1.2%	-1.4%	0.8%	0.3%	0.4%	1.0%	
Lake & Peninsula Borough	1.2%	1.9%	-2.0%	2.0%	0.1%	-0.1%	-0.8%	
Wade Hampton Census Area	0.3%	0.3%	-0.4%	0.6%	-0.1%	-0.1%	0.0%	

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis, Demographic Unit

and Juneau Borough (5.3%). In 1990, only 82% of the White population lived in these five boroughs. The greatest increase in the share of Whites during the decade occurred in Matanuska-Susitna Borough (+3.0%) and Kenai Peninsula Borough (+0.8%).

In contrast, only 40% of the Alaska Native or American Indian population lived in these same five boroughs in 2000. However, the proportion

of Alaska Natives living in these boroughs has increased by almost 7 percentage points since 1990. The Alaska Native population, while the most dispersed, became more concentrated. In 2000, 82% of the Native population was spread over 12 boroughs or census areas. In 1990, the percentage in these same 12 areas was only 76.2%.

The percentage Alaska Native or American Indian in 2000 and the change since 1990 are as fol-

6 Share of State, MARS Race and Ethnicity Estimates Alaska, 1990 and 2000

Area Name	April 1, 2000 Equal Proportion "Bridge Series"					April 1, 1990 Modified (MARS) Race Estimates				
	Percent of Total	White	Native American	African American	Asian & Pacific Islander	Percent of Total	White	Native American	African American	Asian & Pacific Islander
Anchorage/Mat-Su Region	51.0%	55.3%	25.5%	71.3%	60.6%	48.4%	52.9%	19.4%	66.2%	56.7%
Anchorage Municipality	41.5%	43.5%	21.6%	69.1%	58.2%	41.1%	44.1%	17.1%	64.8%	55.2%
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	9.5%	11.8%	3.9%	2.2%	2.4%	7.2%	8.8%	2.3%	1.4%	1.5%
Gulf Coast Region	11.8%	13.4%	7.6%	2.0%	11.3%	11.6%	13.1%	7.4%	1.8%	11.4%
Kenai Peninsula Borough	7.9%	9.7%	4.1%	1.2%	2.3%	7.4%	8.8%	3.4%	0.9%	2.2%
Kodiak Island Borough	2.2%	1.9%	2.1%	0.6%	7.6%	2.4%	2.3%	2.5%	0.6%	7.6%
Valdez Cordova Census Area	1.6%	1.8%	1.4%	0.2%	1.4%	1.8%	2.0%	1.5%	0.3%	1.6%
Interior Region	15.5%	16.7%	11.8%	22.4%	8.1%	16.7%	17.4%	12.7%	26.3%	10.8%
Fairbanks North Star Borough	13.2%	14.8%	6.5%	21.7%	7.7%	14.1%	15.4%	6.2%	24.6%	10.1%
Southeast Fairbanks CA	1.0%	1.1%	0.8%	0.5%	0.2%	1.1%	1.1%	0.9%	1.3%	0.4%
Denali Borough	0.3%	0.4%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.3%	0.4%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area	1.0%	0.4%	4.3%	0.1%	0.1%	1.2%	0.5%	5.4%	0.3%	0.2%
Northern Region	3.8%	1.0%	16.7%	0.6%	2.1%	3.7%	1.0%	18.2%	0.3%	1.9%
Nome Census Area	1.5%	0.4%	6.4%	0.2%	0.2%	1.5%	0.5%	7.1%	0.0%	0.3%
North Slope Borough	1.2%	0.3%	4.8%	0.3%	1.6%	1.1%	0.3%	5.0%	0.2%	1.4%
Northwest Arctic Borough	1.1%	0.2%	5.5%	0.1%	0.2%	1.1%	0.2%	6.0%	0.1%	0.2%
Southeast Region	11.7%	11.9%	13.2%	2.2%	9.9%	12.5%	12.7%	15.0%	1.9%	10.8%
Haines Borough	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%	0.0%	0.1%	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%	0.0%	0.1%
Juneau Borough	4.9%	5.3%	3.9%	1.4%	5.5%	4.9%	5.2%	4.1%	1.3%	5.8%
Ketchikan Borough	2.2%	2.4%	2.2%	0.4%	2.1%	2.5%	2.7%	2.2%	0.2%	2.5%
Prince of Wales-Outer Ketchikan CA	1.0%	0.8%	2.4%	0.1%	0.2%	1.1%	0.9%	2.7%	0.0%	0.1%
Sitka Borough	1.4%	1.4%	1.8%	0.2%	1.3%	1.6%	1.5%	2.1%	0.2%	1.7%
Skagway-Hoonah-Angoon CA	0.5%	0.5%	1.2%	0.0%	0.1%	0.7%	0.5%	1.6%	0.0%	0.1%
Wrangell-Petersburg CA	1.1%	1.1%	1.2%	0.1%	0.6%	1.3%	1.3%	1.6%	0.1%	0.5%
Yakutat Borough	0.1%	0.1%	0.3%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%
Southwest Region	6.3%	1.8%	25.2%	1.5%	8.0%	7.0%	2.9%	27.4%	3.7%	8.3%
Aleutians East Borough	0.4%	0.2%	1.0%	0.2%	2.4%	0.4%	0.2%	1.2%	0.1%	2.4%
Aleutians West Census Area	0.9%	0.5%	1.1%	0.8%	4.7%	1.7%	1.6%	1.3%	3.0%	5.1%
Bethel Census Area	2.6%	0.5%	12.1%	0.4%	0.6%	2.5%	0.5%	13.2%	0.3%	0.5%
Bristol Bay Borough	0.2%	0.1%	0.5%	0.0%	0.1%	0.3%	0.2%	0.5%	0.2%	0.1%
Dillingham Census Area	0.8%	0.3%	3.3%	0.1%	0.2%	0.7%	0.2%	3.4%	0.0%	0.1%
Lake & Peninsula Borough	0.3%	0.1%	1.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.1%	1.5%	0.0%	0.1%
Wade Hampton Census Area	1.1%	0.1%	5.9%	0.0%	0.1%	1.1%	0.1%	6.3%	0.1%	0.1%

Sources: Census 2000; Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis, Demographic Unit

lows: Anchorage Municipality (21.6%, +4.5%), Bethel Census Area (12.1%, -1.1%), Fairbanks North Star Borough (6.5%, +0.2%), Nome Census Area (6.4%, -0.7%), Wade Hampton Census Area (5.9%, -0.3%), Northwest Arctic Borough (5.5%, -0.6%), North Slope Borough (4.8%, -0.3%), Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area (4.3%, -1.1%), Kenai Peninsula Borough (4.1%, +0.7%), Mat-Su Borough (3.9%, +1.6%), Juneau Borough (3.9%, -0.1%) and Dillingham Census Area (3.3%, -0.1%). Clearly, the Alaska Native population is gradually becoming more concentrated in the more urban areas of Alaska.

Area Name	ETHNICITY	
	Hispanic or Latino	
	April 1 2000	April 1 1990
Anchorage/Mat-Su Region	63.0%	56.3%
Anchorage Municipality	57.2%	52.0%
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	5.7%	4.2%
Gulf Coast Region	8.6%	9.3%
Kenai Peninsula Borough	4.2%	4.1%
Kodiak Island Borough	3.3%	3.7%
Valdez Cordova CA	1.1%	1.5%
Interior Region	14.4%	17.7%
Fairbanks North Star Bor.	13.3%	16.2%
Southeast Fairbanks CA	0.6%	1.0%
Denali Borough	0.2%	0.2%
Yukon-Koyukuk CA	0.3%	0.3%
Northern Region	1.3%	1.5%
Nome Census Area	0.4%	0.6%
North Slope Borough	0.7%	0.7%
Northwest Arctic Borough	0.2%	0.2%
Southeast Region	8.0%	8.9%
Haines Borough	0.1%	0.2%
Juneau Borough	4.0%	4.2%
Ketchikan Borough	1.4%	1.6%
Prince of Wales-Outer Ketchikan CA	0.4%	0.7%
Sitka Borough	1.1%	1.2%
Skagway-Hoonah-Angoon CA	0.4%	0.3%
Wrangell-Petersburg CA	0.5%	0.7%
Yakutat Borough	0.0%	0.1%
Southwest Region	4.7%	6.4%
Aleutians East Borough	1.3%	1.0%
Aleutians West Census Area	2.2%	4.2%
Bethel Census Area	0.5%	0.4%
Bristol Bay Borough	0.0%	0.2%
Dillingham Census Area	0.4%	0.3%
Lake & Peninsula Borough	0.1%	0.2%
Wade Hampton Census Area	0.1%	0.1%

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis, Demographic Unit

Asian and Hispanic populations are distributed in much the same manner as the White population, but with some differences. Asians are more concentrated in Anchorage and in coastal areas because of a historical association with fish processing. In 2000, 84% of the Asian population lived in five borough/census areas. The share of Alaska's Asian and Pacific Island population and its change since 1990 are as follows: Anchorage Municipality (58.2%, +3.0%), Fairbanks North Star Borough (7.7%, -2.5%), Kodiak Island Borough (7.6%, -0.1%), Juneau Borough (5.5%, -0.3%), and Aleutians West Census Area (4.7%, 0.4%). In the last decade, the greatest change has been the share of Asians in Anchorage.

As with the country as a whole, the Hispanic population has increased substantially in the last decade. In 2000, 90% of the Hispanic or Latino population was found in seven borough/census areas. The share of Alaska's Hispanic or Latino population and its change since 1990 are as follows: Anchorage Municipality (57.0%, +5.2%), Fairbanks North Star Borough (13.3%, -2.9%), Matanuska-Susitna Borough (5.7%, +1.5%), Kenai Peninsula Borough (4.2%, +0.1%), Juneau Borough (4.0%, -0.2%), Kodiak Peninsula Borough (3.3%, -0.4%), and Aleutians West Census Area (2.2%, -2.0%). Hispanics and Asians are next to African Americans in their degree of concentration in Anchorage.

Summary

Changed definitions of race and the inclusion of multi-race occur in a time of increasing racial and cultural diversity. A declining share of Alaska's population is Non-Hispanic White. A noticeable proportion of all races other than White consider themselves to be multi-race. Alaska Natives, Asians and Hispanics account for over half of the growth in the state's population during the last decade. Finally, it is clear that that growth has occurred disproportionately in the more populated areas of the state.

Note: Race Alone and Race Alone or in combination counts for boroughs and census areas are available on-line from the AKDOL Research and Analysis web site or from Census.gov (American Factfinder).

Economic Story Differs From Region to Region

Urban centers show strongest growth

Alaska
Employment
Scene
by
Neal Fried
Labor Economist

The economic and employment picture is mixed around the state. Most of the gains are coming from the Northern, Anchorage/MatSu, and the Interior (mostly Fairbanks) regions. (See Exhibit 1.) These regions are outperforming the rest of the state for a variety of reasons. One factor is the current vitality of the oil industry. Both the Anchorage/MatSu region and Fairbanks benefit from its strength. While Anchorage is headquarters for most oil industry companies, Fairbanks is an important supply hub for the North Slope oil fields. In both places the

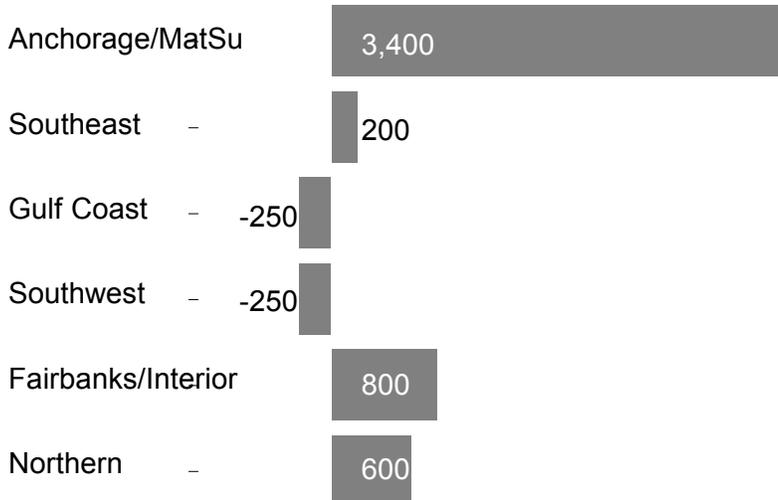
oil industry employment numbers are strong, and these numbers tell only part of the story because contractors, transporters, engineering firms and a host of other industries provide direct services to oil and gas firms. In other words, when oil industry activity is up, it increases business to a wide range of associated industries.

The healthy construction climate also helps these same regions' performance. Most of the state's larger contractors work out of Anchorage or Fairbanks, so these areas show extra bounce in construction industry employment. Moreover, both regions are strong simply because their economies are the largest and second largest in the state, and because of the resulting economic diversity. The absence of any big negatives enhances the positive performances and is another signal of a strong economy. Both the Fairbanks and the Anchorage/MatSu economies are also buoyed by the possibility of a gas line, and/or development in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR), although the precise effect is difficult to measure.

July's largest percentage employment gains were in the Northern region, which includes the North Slope and the Northwest Arctic boroughs and the Nome census area. Nearly all the growth in the region relates to oil industry activity on the North Slope, however, and that has little effect on most of the communities in the region. For July, oil

1 Three Regions Lead Job Growth Interior, Anchorage/MatSu, Northern

Change in Number of Jobs—July 2000–July 2001



Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

industry employment ran 20 percent ahead of year-ago figures. Without these strong oil industry numbers, employment in the region would actually be below last year's levels.

The coastal regions are flagging

Employment in the coastal regions of the state is registering either minimal employment growth or negative numbers when compared to year-ago levels. The common economic soft spots are fisheries and timber. The visitor season also appears weaker than in past years.

Southeast's July employment numbers came in 200 ahead of last year's count. Unlike most regions of the state, Southeast's fish harvests have been fairly healthy, resulting in seafood processing employment that matches last year's level. On the negative side, timber employment is down significantly from year-ago levels. Employment in Southeast has stayed above water, but the region's overall numbers would likely be in the red but for the positive effect of Juneau's larger, more stable economy.

The Gulf Coast (Kodiak, the Kenai Peninsula and Valdez-Cordova) and Southwest regions (Bristol Bay and the Aleutians) employment balance sheet stayed negative in July, compared to year-ago levels, as it has for most of the year.

Sagging employment numbers can be traced to the combination of very low area-wide salmon harvest prices and weak catches in Bristol Bay, the Alaska Peninsula, and Cook Inlet. The visitor season on the Kenai Peninsula and elsewhere in these regions also appears to have lost some spunk compared to previous years. It did not provide the same cushion as in previous years.

The Kenai Peninsula and Valdez economies are not quite so vulnerable to the vagaries of the fisheries as are most of the Southwest region and Kodiak. Both of these areas have reaped benefits from the present strength in the oil patch.

Unemployment remains low, but watch out for the rest of the country

Once again, July's unemployment rate of 5.0%, like the jobless rates of the past three years, came in at a record or near record low. Much of the explanation for Alaska's tight labor market has been the booming national economy that has created some of the lowest unemployment rates in three decades. This may soon change. The nation's unemployment rate is beginning to rise and recent large layoffs around the nation could eventually spell higher rates of joblessness in Alaska. The reasons are two-fold: fewer Alaskans will be lured out of the state by the lower 48 job market, and more job seekers will be attracted to Alaska as opportunities elsewhere dwindle. If the nation's job market continues to soften, Alaska will certainly be affected.

(continued on page 22)

Alaska Ranks Third in Nation 2 In median household income in 2000

1	New Jersey	\$ 54,226
2	Connecticut	53,108
3	Alaska	52,876
4	Maryland	52,436
5	Hawaii	51,046
6	New Hampshire	49,509
7	Massachusetts	49,505
8	Minnesota	48,623
9	Delaware	47,629
10	Colorado	46,738

U.S. Average **\$ 41,343**

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census

3 Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

By place of work

	preliminary		revised		Changes from:		Municipality of Anchorage	preliminary		revised		Changes from:	
	7/01	6/01	7/00	6/01	7/00	7/01		6/01	7/00	6/01	7/00		
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	308,600	301,200	304,500	7,400	4,100	Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	141,100	141,100	138,200	0	2,900		
Goods-producing	49,300	42,200	49,000	7,100	300	Goods-producing	14,500	13,800	13,900	700	600		
Service-producing	259,300	259,000	255,500	300	3,800	Service-producing	126,600	127,300	124,300	-700	2,300		
Mining	11,700	11,500	10,500	200	1,200	Mining	3,100	3,000	2,700	100	400		
Oil & Gas Extraction	10,100	9,900	8,900	200	1,200	Oil & Gas Extraction	2,900	2,800	2,500	100	400		
Construction	18,000	17,100	17,400	900	600	Construction	9,000	8,500	8,700	500	300		
Manufacturing	19,600	13,600	21,100	6,000	-1,500	Manufacturing	2,400	2,300	2,500	100	-100		
Durable Goods	2,500	2,600	3,000	-100	-500	Transportation/Comm/Utilities	15,500	15,100	15,700	400	-200		
Lumber & Wood Products	1,100	1,200	1,700	-100	-600	Air Transportation	6,100	6,000	6,400	100	-300		
Nondurable Goods	17,100	11,000	18,100	6,100	-1,000	Communications	3,800	3,700	3,700	100	100		
Seafood Processing	14,300	8,200	15,300	6,100	-1,000	Trade	33,100	33,000	32,600	100	500		
Transportation/Comm/Utilities	29,700	29,300	30,000	400	-300	Wholesale Trade	6,500	6,500	6,500	0	0		
Trucking & Warehousing	3,300	3,300	3,200	0	100	Retail Trade	26,600	26,500	26,100	100	500		
Water Transportation	2,600	2,500	2,600	100	0	Gen. Merchandise & Apparel	5,100	5,000	4,900	100	200		
Air Transportation	10,100	10,000	10,500	100	-400	Food Stores	2,500	2,500	2,800	0	-300		
Communications	5,600	5,500	5,600	100	0	Eating & Drinking Places	10,100	10,000	9,800	100	300		
Electric, Gas & Sanitary Svcs.	2,900	2,900	2,900	0	0	Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	7,700	7,700	7,700	0	0		
Trade	62,700	61,600	62,100	1,100	600	Services & Misc.	42,500	42,700	40,700	-200	1,800		
Wholesale Trade	9,200	9,000	9,300	200	-100	Hotels & Lodging Places	3,400	3,400	3,400	0	0		
Retail Trade	53,500	52,600	52,800	900	700	Business Services	7,800	7,700	7,300	100	500		
Gen. Merchandise & Apparel	9,900	9,800	9,700	100	200	Health Services	10,100	9,900	9,300	200	800		
Food Stores	6,800	6,700	7,000	100	-200	Legal Services	1,200	1,200	1,200	0	0		
Eating & Drinking Places	19,700	19,200	19,200	500	500	Social Services	4,100	4,100	3,900	0	200		
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	13,200	13,100	13,100	100	100	Engineering & Mgmt. Svcs.	5,400	5,600	5,300	-200	100		
Services & Misc.	81,900	81,200	79,000	700	2,900	Government	27,800	28,800	27,600	-1,000	200		
Hotels & Lodging Places	10,200	9,800	10,100	400	100	Federal	9,800	9,800	10,000	0	-200		
Business Services	10,300	10,300	9,900	0	400	State	8,700	8,700	8,300	0	400		
Health Services	18,200	18,100	17,100	100	1,100	Local	9,300	10,300	9,300	-1,000	0		
Legal Services	1,600	1,600	1,600	0	0								
Social Services	8,200	8,200	7,900	0	300								
Engineering & Mgmt. Svcs.	7,700	7,700	7,600	0	100								
Government	71,800	73,800	71,300	-2,000	500								
Federal	17,400	17,300	17,900	100	-500								
State	22,200	21,900	21,300	300	900								
Local	32,200	34,600	32,100	-2,400	100								

Notes to Exhibits 3, 4, & 5—Nonagricultural excludes self-employed workers, fishers, domestics, and unpaid family workers as well as agricultural workers. Government category includes employees of public school systems and the University of Alaska.

Exhibits 3 & 4—Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Exhibit 5—Prepared in part with funding from the Employment Security Division.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

4 Hours and Earnings

For selected industries

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	preliminary 7/01	revised 6/01	revised 7/00	preliminary 7/01	revised 6/01	revised 7/00	preliminary 7/01	revised 6/01	revised 7/00
Mining	1462.72	1465.04	1340.86	49.2	48.9	51.1	29.73	29.96	26.24
Construction	1301.44	1309.70	1365.42	44.8	45.1	48.8	29.05	29.04	27.98
Manufacturing	475.32	513.36	584.67	40.8	37.2	48.4	11.65	13.80	12.08
Seafood Processing	407.43	384.12	538.38	40.5	35.6	50.6	10.06	10.79	10.64
Transportation/Comm/Utilities	757.20	724.76	736.29	35.7	34.3	34.6	21.21	21.13	21.28
Trade	506.91	499.47	487.51	35.9	35.6	36.3	14.12	14.03	13.43
Wholesale Trade	748.47	706.04	717.60	40.7	38.9	40.0	18.39	18.15	17.94
Retail Trade	466.48	466.13	448.75	35.1	35.1	35.7	13.29	13.28	12.57
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	641.83	627.63	631.90	37.6	35.6	36.4	17.07	17.63	17.36

Average hours and earnings estimates are based on data for full-time 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 2000

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

5 Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

By place of work

Fairbanks North Star Borough	preliminary	revised	Changes from:			Interior Region	preliminary	revised	Changes from:			
	7/01	6/01	7/00	6/01	7/00		7/01	6/01	7/00	6/01	7/00	
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	36,350	35,700	35,800	650	550	Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	43,200	42,050	42,400	1,150	800	
Goods-producing	4,300	4,000	3,950	300	350	Goods-producing	4,650	4,300	4,200	350	450	
Service-producing	32,050	31,700	31,850	350	200	Service-producing	38,550	37,750	38,200	800	350	
Mining	1,200	1,100	1,050	100	150	Mining	1,350	1,250	1,150	100	200	
Construction	2,400	2,250	2,250	150	150	Construction	2,550	2,350	2,350	200	200	
Manufacturing	700	650	650	50	50	Manufacturing	750	700	700	50	50	
Transportation/Comm/Utilities	3,400	3,400	3,550	0	-150	Transportation/Comm/Utilities	4,650	4,550	4,750	100	-100	
Trucking & Warehousing	650	650	650	0	0	Trade	8,650	8,400	8,700	250	-50	
Air Transportation	1,000	950	1,050	50	-50	Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	1,350	1,300	1,400	50	-50	
Communications	350	350	400	0	-50	Services & Misc.	11,200	10,700	10,800	500	400	
Trade	7,100	7,000	7,150	100	-50	Hotels & Lodging Places	2,250	2,150	2,150	100	100	
Wholesale Trade	750	750	750	0	0	Government	12,700	12,800	12,550	-100	150	
Retail Trade	6,350	6,250	6,400	100	-50	Federal	4,100	4,050	4,200	50	-100	
Gen. Merchandise & Apparel	1,100	1,050	1,150	50	-50	State	4,900	4,650	4,700	250	200	
Food Stores	600	600	600	0	0	Local	3,700	4,100	3,650	-400	50	
Eating & Drinking Places	2,650	2,650	2,600	0	50							
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	1,250	1,250	1,300	0	-50	Anchorage/Mat-Su Region	Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	155,750	155,650	152,350	100	3,400
Services & Misc.	9,700	9,500	9,350	200	350	Goods-producing	16,350	15,550	15,500	800	850	
Hotels & Lodging Places	1,600	1,550	1,550	50	50	Service-producing	139,400	140,100	136,850	-700	2,550	
Health Services	2,100	2,100	2,000	0	100	Mining	3,150	3,000	2,750	150	400	
Government	10,600	10,550	10,500	50	100	Construction	10,650	10,100	10,150	550	500	
Federal	3,500	3,500	3,550	0	-50	Manufacturing	2,550	2,450	2,600	100	-50	
State	4,550	4,350	4,400	200	150	Transportation/Comm/Utilities	16,500	16,200	16,650	300	-150	
Local	2,550	2,700	2,550	-150	0	Trade	37,100	36,800	36,500	300	600	
						Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	8,250	8,300	8,200	-50	50	
						Services & Misc.	46,800	47,000	44,800	-200	2,000	
						Government	30,750	31,800	30,700	-1,050	50	
						Federal	9,900	9,950	10,250	-50	-350	
						State	9,550	9,500	9,150	50	400	
						Local	11,300	12,350	11,300	-1,050	0	
Southeast Region						Southwest Region	Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	20,000	17,450	20,250	2,550	-250
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	41,300	39,250	41,100	2,050	200	Goods-producing	6,450	3,800	6,850	2,650	-400	
Goods-producing	7,050	5,350	7,300	1,700	-250	Service-producing	13,550	13,650	13,400	-100	150	
Service-producing	34,250	33,900	33,800	350	450	Seafood Processing	6,100	3,450	6,550	2,650	-450	
Mining	300	300	300	0	0	Government	5,450	5,650	5,350	-200	100	
Construction	2,200	2,150	2,150	50	50	Federal	350	350	350	0	0	
Manufacturing	4,550	2,900	4,850	1,650	-300	State	600	550	550	50	50	
Durable Goods	1,150	1,150	1,450	0	-300	Local	4,500	4,750	4,450	-250	50	
Lumber & Wood Products	800	800	1,200	0	-400							
Nondurable Goods	3,400	1,750	3,400	1,650	0	Gulf Coast Region	Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	32,400	30,850	32,650	1,550	-250
Seafood Processing	3,100	1,450	3,100	1,650	0	Goods-producing	8,600	7,050	9,350	1,550	-750	
Transportation/Comm/Utilities	3,600	3,550	3,600	50	0	Service-producing	23,800	23,800	23,300	0	500	
Trade	7,450	7,250	7,350	200	100	Mining	1,300	1,300	1,400	0	-100	
Wholesale Trade	700	650	700	50	0	Oil & Gas Extraction	1,250	1,250	1,350	0	-100	
Retail Trade	6,750	6,600	6,650	150	100	Construction	1,750	1,700	1,650	50	100	
Food Stores	1,400	1,350	1,400	50	0	Manufacturing	5,550	4,050	6,300	1,500	-750	
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	1,350	1,350	1,350	0	0	Seafood Processing	4,750	3,200	5,350	1,550	-600	
Services & Misc.	9,550	9,350	9,400	200	150	Transportation/Comm/Utilities	2,800	2,750	2,650	50	150	
Health Services	1,750	1,750	1,700	0	50	Trade	6,650	6,400	6,600	250	50	
Government	12,300	12,400	12,100	-100	200	Wholesale Trade	800	650	850	150	-50	
Federal	2,000	1,900	2,050	100	-50	Retail Trade	5,850	5,750	5,750	100	100	
State	5,250	5,400	5,100	-150	150	Eating & Drinking Places	2,200	2,100	2,150	100	50	
Local	5,050	5,100	4,950	-50	100	Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	850	850	850	0	0	
						Services & Misc.	7,050	6,900	6,800	150	250	
						Health Services	1,200	1,200	1,150	0	50	
						Government	6,450	6,900	6,400	-450	50	
						Federal	850	850	950	0	-100	
						State	1,550	1,550	1,500	0	50	
						Local	4,050	4,500	3,950	-450	100	
Northern Region												
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary	16,250	16,150	15,650	100	600							
Goods-producing	6,400	6,250	5,650	150	750							
Service-producing	9,850	9,900	10,000	-50	-150							
Mining	5,700	5,650	4,850	50	850							
Oil & Gas Extraction	5,200	5,200	4,350	0	850							
Government	4,100	4,150	4,200	-50	-100							
Federal	200	200	150	0	50							
State	350	300	300	50	50							
Local	3,550	3,650	3,750	-100	-200							

6 Unemployment Rates

By region and census area

(continued from page 23)

Alaska ranked third in household income

Not Seasonally Adjusted preliminary	Percent Unemployed		
	07/01	revised 06/01	revised 07/00
United States	4.7	4.7	4.2
Alaska Statewide	5.0	5.6	5.3
Anch/Mat-Su Region	4.1	4.2	3.5
Municipality of Anchorage	3.7	3.7	4.1
Mat-Su Borough	6.1	6.6	6.5
Gulf Coast Region	6.1	7.5	5.9
Kenai Peninsula Borough	6.7	7.1	6.7
Kodiak Island Borough	4.5	9.7	4.4
Valdez-Cordova	5.5	6.0	4.8
Interior Region	5.0	5.6	5.6
Denali Borough	4.1	3.5	3.1
Fairbanks North Star Borough	4.5	5.0	5.1
Southeast Fairbanks	7.7	8.3	8.9
Yukon-Koyukuk	12.3	14.4	12.8
Northern Region	11.3	12.5	11.3
Nome	12.0	13.2	11.7
North Slope Borough	8.5	9.3	10.0
Northwest Arctic Borough	14.3	16.1	13.0
Southeast Region	4.8	5.4	4.8
Haines Borough	4.8	6.2	3.5
Juneau Borough	3.9	4.0	4.0
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	5.0	6.0	4.6
Prince of Wales-Outer Ketchikan	8.7	10.2	10.2
Sitka Borough	3.9	3.8	3.8
Skagway-Hoonah-Angoon	6.5	7.3	5.6
Wrangell-Petersburg	5.3	6.7	5.1
Yakutat Borough	9.9	13.2	10.3
Southwest Region	9.6	12.6	9.0
Aleutians East Borough	3.1	4.6	1.9
Aleutians West	7.0	13.7	7.2
Bethel	10.5	12.5	9.7
Bristol Bay Borough	4.9	8.0	5.8
Dillingham	6.8	9.2	4.7
Lake & Peninsula Borough	7.2	10.9	7.1
Wade Hampton	17.4	21.3	18.1
Seasonally Adjusted			
United States	4.5	4.5	4.0
Alaska Statewide	6.2	5.8	6.5

The Census Bureau recently released 2000 median household income data for the nation and for all fifty states. The data comes from a detailed survey called the American Community Survey, rather than from the decennial census itself. The Census Bureau intends to use the survey to replace the long form used during the decennial census, and to conduct it on an ongoing basis, rather than only once every ten years.

According to the results of the survey, Alaska's household income of \$52,876 ranked third among all states and was 28 percent higher than the U.S. household income of \$41,343. (See Exhibit 2.)

The third-place ranking is particularly interesting considering the difference between it and the per capita income numbers of the closely observed Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA). The 2000 per capita figures ranked Alaska 15th in the nation and only one percent above the U.S. average. In 1990, Alaska's per capita income figure ranked sixth in the nation. (See the August issue of *Alaska Economic Trends* for this discussion.)

So why this dramatic difference in ranking? To some extent the figures result from using different income measures. But even recognizing such differences it is still hard to reconcile the discrepancy in ranking. One likely explanation is demographics. Alaska's average household size is larger than the nation's—2.71 versus 2.61—meaning more income can accrue to an Alaska household. Alaska's labor force participation is also considerably higher than the nation's. In Alaska, 73.1% of the 16 and over population is active in the labor force compared to 66% for the nation. In other words, more individuals contribute to each household's income in Alaska than in most other parts of the country. Future BEA revisions could narrow this gap, and other reasons may come to light with the release of more data from this survey and the 2000 Census.

It is also important to note that so far only statewide numbers are available, and that a wide variation in household income from region to region is likely when more geographic detail becomes available. Of some significance is that these figures are not adjusted for the cost of living. As more of this type of information becomes available during the next two years, a comprehensive picture of the state's economic and demographic standing, as well as that of the various regions within the state, will emerge.

2000 Benchmark

Comparisons between different time periods are not as meaningful as other time series produced by Research and Analysis. The official definition of unemployment currently in place excludes anyone who has not made an active attempt to find work in the four-week period up to and including the week that includes the 12th of the reference month. Due to the scarcity of employment opportunities in rural Alaska, many individuals do not meet the official definition of unemployed because they have not conducted an active job search. They are considered not in the labor force.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

Employer Resources

Success in today's business world is not easy. Employers must be aware of every available time and money saving opportunity. The Alaska Employment Service can help businesses reduce the time and money spent recruiting employees. Click on: <http://www.job.state.ak.us/employer.html>

http://www.job.state.ak.us/employer.htm

Welcome to the Alaska Job Center Network

Employer Connection

Job Order Options

- [Online Job Order](#)
- [Email Job Order Form](#)
- [Job Order by Fax \(.pdf\)](#)
- Call the Anchorage Job Center
Midtown: 1-888-830-4473
- [Contact an Alaska Job Center](#)

Seafood Industry Employers

- [Seafood Jobs \(home page\)](#)
- [Seafood Job Order Form](#)

Jobs

American's Job Bank

Direct job order input, resume search, resume scout, and more.

AJCN staff help employers recruit qualified workers by listing job openings in each Alaska Job Center across the state, on Alaska's Job Bank, and on America's Job Bank.

Welfare-to-Work

To recruit Welfare-to-Work clients or for information about on-the-job training, call 1-888-830-JOBS (5627) or contact a [job developer](#).

On-the-Job Training

\$\$\$ for employers to train dedicated workers!

Address: http://www.labor.state.ak.us/handbook/employer.htm

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Alaska Employer Handbook

Most Alaska employers do not enter the business world with a degree in business management. An understanding of business practices, particularly in personnel management, often comes from common sense, trial and error, and "learning the hard way."

This handbook is designed to provide employers with basic information about several personnel practices and a working knowledge of state and federal requirements regarding employees. Information presented here is intended to be used as a guideline and, unless specifically stated, should not be considered legally binding nor a full representation of legal requirements.

- Guidelines for good employee management
- Alaska Employment Service--The leading edge in Alaska business

Address: http://www.labor.state.ak.us/handbook/aes.htm

Chapter 2

Alaska Employment Service-- The leading edge in Alaska business

Success in today's business world is not easy. Employers must be aware of every available time and money saving opportunity. The Alaska Employment Service can help businesses reduce the time and money spent recruiting employees.

The Alaska Employment Service (AES) acts as a recruiting agency for Alaska businesses. Employers can call or visit a local office and the Employment Center Manager will answer questions and explain the recruiting process and employer services. By working with an employer and learning about the business' special needs, the AES helps to match the right employee with the right job.

There are **19 AES offices** located in the state. Trained Employment Specialists have the capability of searching and exploring for that right employee by accessing applicant files from the vast Alaska labor pool. They can locate candidates with the qualifications that individual businesses need.

- [Placing a job order](#)
- [Job seeker services](#)

[Back to Alaska Employer Handbook](#)