

Holding Multiple Jobs in Alaska

More common among young workers, women

Roughly 11 percent of Alaskans held more than one job at a time in 2010. For some, moonlighting is a one-time way to pay down debt or save for a high-ticket item. For others, seasonal employment offers a second-income opportunity that comes once a year. Others work two or more jobs as a year-in, year-out way of life — sometimes by choice but often by circumstance.

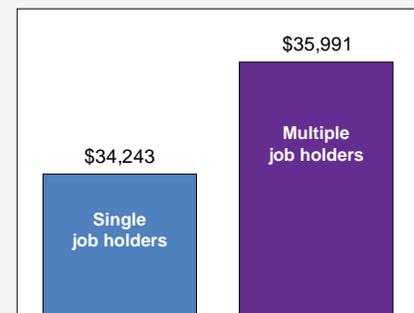
Multiple job holders spanned all industries and all parts of the state, and they made up 10.7 percent of Alaska's total workforce. More than half these workers were women, and almost a third were in their 20s.

Wages low from secondary jobs

Total wages for workers who held a single job in 2010 approached nearly \$12.5 billion, with an average annual wage of \$34,243. Those with two or more jobs made just 5 percent more — or \$35,991 per year. (See Exhibit 1.)

For over a third of multiple job holders, second-

1 Slightly More Yearly Income Alaska multiple job holders, 2010



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

ary jobs accounted for less than 10 percent of their total wages in 2010. Another 20 percent earned between 10 and 20 percent from extra jobs, and more than a quarter earned over 30 percent. (See Exhibit 2.)

Having another job is often short term — two years or fewer for more than half of these workers. For others it was their normal routine, with about 10 percent holding two or more jobs for at least seven years. (See Exhibit 3.)

All industries have them

Multiple job holders are not limited to any industry. Workers held at least one secondary job in every industry in 2010, most of them in a different industry from their primary work. (See Exhibit 4.)

Trade, transportation, and utilities was the industry with the most multiple job holders in 2010: more than 8,600 of its approximately 81,000 total workers. The educational and health services industry and local government came in second and third, with 7,400 and 7,350, respectively.

Although most held a second job in another indus-

What is a 'multiple job holder'?

For this article, workers were considered multiple job holders if they worked for two different employers, in two different occupations, or in two different locations during the same quarter.

To eliminate people who merely changed jobs during a quarter and never actually held two jobs at the same time, only those who worked in one of the distinct jobs in the preceding and subsequent quarters were counted as multiple job holders.

For example, a person who worked as a server at the Olive Garden in Anchorage during the first three quarters of the year and who also worked as a groundskeeper for the city during the second quarter of the year would be identified as a multiple job holder during the second quarter. The job for which the person received the most wages over the year was considered his or her primary job.

Federal employees and self-employed workers, which include almost all of Alaska's commercial fishermen, are not included in this analysis because they are not covered by state unemployment insurance.

try, many stayed within their primary industry. The highest percentage who did so was in leisure and hospitality, where about 48 percent of its multiple job holders worked in a secondary position in the same industry. The second-highest percentage was in educational and health services at more than 46 percent, followed by construction with almost 45 percent.

The industry with the highest percentage of multiple job holders was educational and health services¹ with 15 percent. Personal care aides, registered nurses, and home health aides were the main secondary occupations. Local government followed with 14.3 percent, with the leading secondary occupations in retail, janitorial services, and cashiering. (See Exhibit 5.)

No single area stands out

The types of common secondary work vary by area, according to the local economy. For example, retail salespeople, cashiers, and waiters and waitresses were popular secondary occupations in more urban areas, such as Anchorage, and places that depend on tourism, such as communities in Southeast.

In Southwest Alaska, where the economy is centered on fishing and seafood processing, demand was high for processing workers and people who move stock and freight part-time or seasonally.

Workers found secondary jobs in construction in every area of the state in 2010, but had significant opportunities in rural areas, where the percentage of total jobs in construction was higher.

In sheer number, Anchorage had the most multiple job holders in 2010 at about 18,300, followed by Fairbanks with more than 5,000. The Juneau, Matanuska-Susitna, and Kenai Peninsula boroughs each had more than 2,500. (See Exhibit 6.)

Though Yakutat had the lowest number of workers with multiple jobs — fewer than 80 — its proportion was the highest at more than 18 percent. Nome and Wade Hampton followed at 15.8 percent and 15.6 percent, respectively.

Typical occupations

Certain occupations provide attractive secondary

¹Educational and health services does not include workers in public schools, because they are categorized in local government.

2 Earnings from Second Job Percent, Alaska, 2010

Percent of earnings from secondary job	Multiple job holders in category	% of total multiple job holders in category
Less than 10%	15,089	34.5%
10% to less than 20%	8,581	19.6%
20% to less than 30%	8,675	19.8%
30% to less than 40%	7,024	16.0%
40% to less than 50%	4,403	10.1%

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

3 Most Are Short-Term Alaska multiple jobs, 2010

# of years holding multiple jobs	Multiple job holders in category	Percent of total multiple job holders
1	14,139	32.3%
2	8,943	20.4%
3	6,053	13.8%
4	4,313	9.9%
5	3,260	7.4%
6	2,606	6.0%
7	4,458	10.2%

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

employment, such as those with relatively high turnover and large numbers of openings. Others offer entry-level opportunities that require minimal education or prior training. These jobs also tend to offer flexible hours or off-hours that don't conflict with primary daytime work.

In 2010, retail salesperson was the occupation with the largest number of multiple job holders, at 2,064. Cashiers, waiters and waitresses, janitors and cleaners, and personal and home health aides followed, in that order. Together, workers who held these five occupations accounted for 17 percent — or 7,340 — of all multiple job holders for the year. (See Exhibit 7.)

Those with a second job in sales earned a total of \$59.6 million in 2010, more than any other single secondary occupation. Retail sales workers were followed by personal care aides, janitors and cleaners, waiters and waitresses, and cashiers.

4 Workers by Industry

Multiple jobs, 2010

Industry of primary job	Total multiple job holders	Industry of Secondary Job													Un- known
		Local Gov	State Gov	Natl Res and Mining	Const	Manufacturing	Trade, Transp and Utilities	Info	Financial Activities	Business Svcs	Prof and Business Svcs	Educational/ Health Svcs	Leisure and Hospitality	Other Svcs	
Local Government	7,361	2,177	600	57	222	113	1,122	106	216	481	1,027	869	343	10	18
State Government	2,794	394	301	28	84	32	568	31	55	270	486	397	137	8	3
Natural Resources and Mining	951	84	26	184	145	31	176	5	16	130	39	69	39	1	6
Construction	2,431	183	35	75	1,089	43	281	15	77	257	86	191	80	-	19
Manufacturing	1,056	68	17	8	47	361	198	7	19	81	49	152	46	-	3
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	8,632	794	162	69	284	205	3,214	98	257	843	683	1,622	348	4	49
Information	661	76	23	4	17	6	118	107	21	92	44	117	33	-	3
Financial Activities	1,744	191	31	6	65	20	374	30	344	156	145	286	84	2	10
Professional and Business Svcs	3,582	233	150	62	236	63	569	34	98	958	353	668	136	1	21
Educational and Health Svcs	7,390	772	379	27	87	43	851	47	139	492	3,431	763	312	5	42
Leisure and Hospitality	5,377	335	81	17	101	89	888	43	118	448	396	2,601	218	4	38
Other Services	1,617	227	73	9	44	29	257	20	48	142	284	261	212	-	11
Public Administration	52	16	4	-	-	-	5	-	1	4	19	3	-	-	-
Unknown	124	16	1	1	9	1	21	3	2	18	8	29	11	-	4
Total	43,772	5,566	1,883	547	2,430	1,036	8,642	546	1,411	4,372	7,050	8,028	1,999	35	227

* Primary jobs were those in which workers earned the highest wages over the year.
Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

5 Leading Primary and Secondary Occupations

Alaska industries with the most multiple job holders, 2010

Industry	Primary job	Primary job count	Secondary job	Secondary job count
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	Retail Salespersons	1,230	Retail Salespersons	157
		1,230	Cashiers	91
		1,230	Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Incl Fast Food	52
		1,002	Retail Salespersons	85
		1,002	Cashiers	83
		1,002	Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Incl Fast Food	53
		303	Material Moving Workers, All Other	127
		303	Tank Car, Truck, and Ship Loaders	52
		303	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	10
		295	Retail Salespersons	34
Educational and Health Services	Sales and Related Workers, All Other	295	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	14
		295	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	13
		283	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	24
		283	Retail Salespersons	24
		283	Cashiers	15
		869	Personal Care Aides	175
		869	Home Health Aides	93
		869	Health Care Support Workers, All Other	85
		528	Registered Nurses	258

(continued on next page)

5 Leading Primary and Secondary Occupations, continued

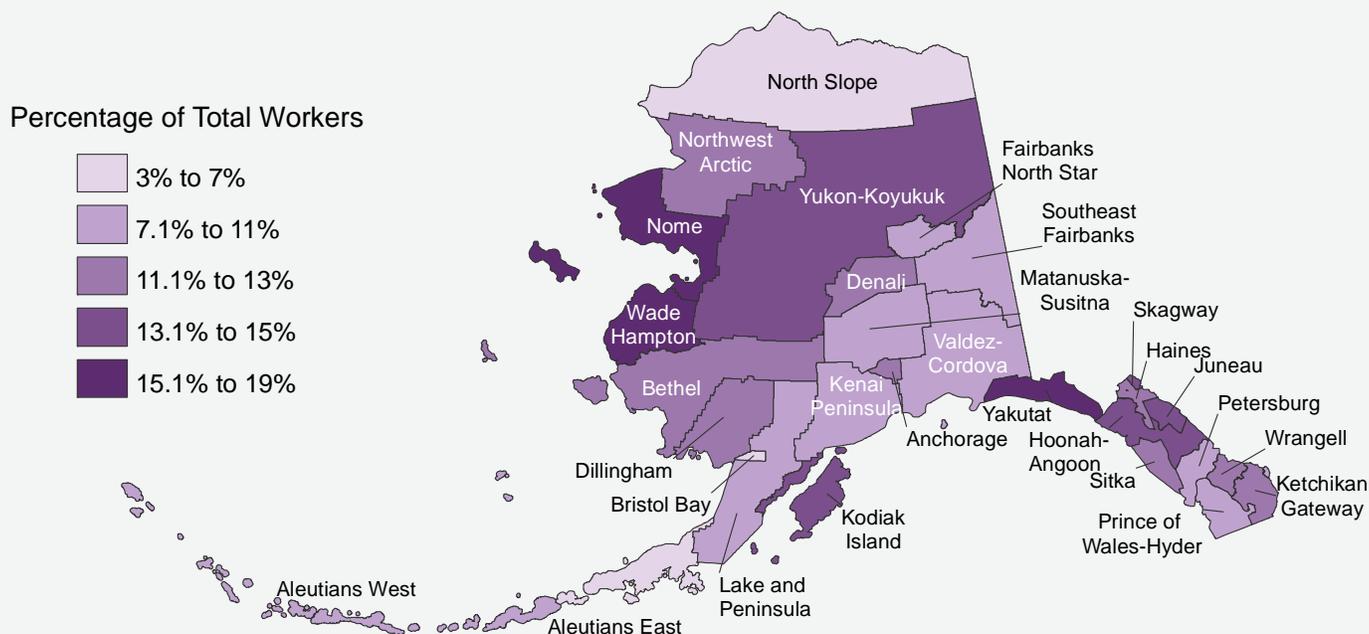
Industries with the most multiple job holders, Alaska, 2010

Industry	Primary job	Primary job count	Secondary job	Secondary job count
		528	Administrative Services Managers	26
		528	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	25
	Home Health Aides	444	Personal Care Aides	86
		444	Home Health Aides	52
		444	Health Care Support Workers, All Other	50
	Healthcare Support Workers, All Other	411	Personal Care Aides	59
		411	Home Health Aides	38
		411	Healthcare Support Workers, All Other	26
	Nursing Assistants	257	Nursing Assistants	54
		257	Personal Care Aides	47
		257	Home Health Aides	24
Local Government	Teacher Assistants	703	Personal Care Aides	35
		703	Cashiers	34
		703	Retail Salespersons	33
	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	433	Education, Training, and Library Workers, All Other	43
		433	Retail Salespersons	27
		433	Waiters and Waitresses	23
	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	428	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	72
		428	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	26
		428	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	17
		428	Personal Care Aides	16
		428	Home Health Aides	15
	Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Tech Education	413	Postsecondary Teachers, All Other	40
		413	Business Teachers, Postsecondary	21
		413	Retail Salespersons	18
	Special Education Teacher Assistants	385	Personal Care and Service Workers, All Other	42
		385	Home Health Aides	22
		385	Retail Salespersons	22
Leisure and Hospitality	Waiters and Waitresses	886	Waiters and Waitresses	228
		886	Bartenders	54
		886	Food Servers, Nonrestaurant	45
	Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	503	Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Incl Fast Food	56
		503	Retail Salespersons	29
		503	Cashiers	27
	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	401	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	70
		401	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	55
		401	Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Incl Fast Food	41
	Cooks, Restaurant	309	Cooks, Restaurant	97
		309	Waiters and Waitresses	24
		309	Food Preparation Workers	18
	Bartenders	273	Bartenders	82
		273	Waiters and Waitresses	52
		273	Cashiers	7
Professional and Business Services	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	345	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	94
		345	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	34
		345	Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Incl Fast Food	9
	Security Guards	187	Security Guards	47
		187	Retail Salespersons	15
		187	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	7
	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	149	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	33
		149	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	20
		149	Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Incl Fast Food	7
	Office and Administrative Support Workers, All Other	116	Office and Administrative Support Workers, All Other	14
		116	Retail Salespersons	8
		116	Waiters and Waitresses	6
	Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	98	Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	56
		98	Retail Salespersons	4
		98	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	3

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

6 No Clear Geographic Pattern Emerges

Alaska multiple job holders by borough or census area, 2010



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

7 Top Secondary Occupations

Alaska multiple job holders, 2010

Secondary occupation	# of multiple job holders
Retail Salespersons	2,064
Cashiers	1,420
Waiters and Waitresses	1,318
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	1,315
Personal and Home Care Aides	1,225
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	918
Construction Laborers	843
Office and Administrative Support Workers, All Other	805
Office Clerks, General	800
Home Health Aides	731
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	695
Bartenders	642
Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	599
Registered Nurses	509
Seafood Processing Workers, Except Surimi and Fish Roe	504

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

Together, workers in these occupations made more than \$212 million, or 13.5 percent of all multiple job holder earnings for the year.

Although they aren't the norm, some secondary jobs require highly skilled and educated workers, such as the 500 registered nurses who earned more than \$32.7 million from these jobs in 2010. More than 460 people with jobs as postsecondary teachers and 290 who worked as heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers earned \$29.5 million and \$16.1 million in secondary wages respectively for the same period.

They tend to be young

Though some workers hold down two or more jobs well beyond typical retirement age, it's more common among younger workers. That isn't surprising, as many young people begin their careers in services and retail. Some recent high school and college graduates pay their bills by piecing together several part-time jobs.

More than 30 percent of the multiple job holders with reported ages were between 20 and 29

in 2010, and nearly 16 percent were 25 years old, the highest for any single age.

After age 25, the distribution began a gradual but steady decline to age 65, when less than 9 percent worked more than one job. (See Exhibit 8.)

Older group earns more

Average wages from secondary jobs increased by age group until workers reached their 60s, a period when many cut back or retire, following the same pattern as wages from their primary jobs. This older group also earned most of their income from their primary jobs.

More than 7,400 multiple job holders in 2010 were in their 50s, making up 18 percent of the total. They earned \$47,386 from their primary and secondary jobs combined per year on average, more than any other age group. In contrast, the more than 12,100 multiple job holders in their 20s earned an average of \$26,295. (See Exhibit 9.)

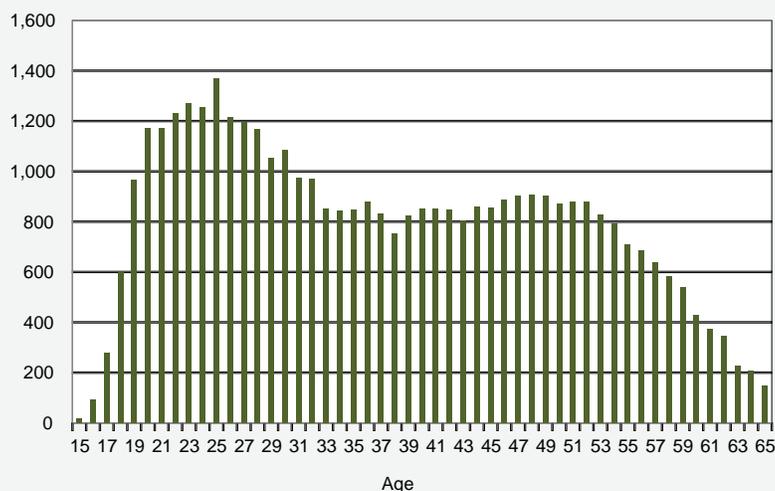
More women work 2 jobs

Women made up 54.4 percent of multiple job holders, but earned less than half of total secondary wages.

Women earned \$717 million in 2010, or about 46 percent of the total, in contrast to men's earnings of \$806 million. Women who held multiple jobs made an average of \$31,890 per year from both jobs combined, and men earned \$42,789. (See Exhibit 10.)

Multiple Job Holders by Age 8

Alaska, 2010



Note: Includes only those whose age has been reported.
Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

Workers By Age and Earnings 9

Alaska multiple job holders, 2010

Age range	Multiple job holders	Average annual wages	Primary job earnings	Secondary job earnings	Total earnings
14-19	1,958	\$10,603	\$7,540	\$3,063	\$20,761,076
20s	12,101	\$26,295	\$20,122	\$6,173	\$318,197,691
30s	8,863	\$39,754	\$31,439	\$8,315	\$352,339,836
40s	8,674	\$44,512	\$35,296	\$9,215	\$386,093,617
50s	7,410	\$47,386	\$37,554	\$9,832	\$351,129,086
60s	2,122	\$42,062	\$33,087	\$8,975	\$89,256,069

Note: Does not include multiple job holders over age 70. Includes only those whose age has been reported.
Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

Workers by Gender 10

Alaska multiple job holders, 2010

	# of multiple job holders	Percent multiple job holders	Wages from secondary jobs	Percent of sec wages
Women	22,499	54.4%	\$717 million	40%
Men	18,836	45.6%	\$806 million	54%
Total	41,335		\$1.523 billion	

Note: Includes only those whose gender has been reported.
Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section