

# ALASKA OCCUPATIONAL EMPLOYMENT

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By John Van Houten

Research and Analysis' most recent employment estimates and projections indicate a continuation of a trend, similar to the national trend, that has been evident for several years in Alaska. Rapid expansion of high technology has focused attention on high-tech occupations associated with computers, communications, and robots. These areas, which have grown faster than the economy as a whole, are expected to continue to grow faster. Technology advances notwithstanding, high-tech jobs will remain a small slice of the employment pie. Traditional occupations will offer by far the greatest number of employment opportunities now and through the 1980's. The majority of job openings will continue to be in clerical, service, maintenance and production occupations.

This article is the first of two covering Research and Analysis' most recent occupational employment estimates and projections. A subsequent issue of *Alaska Economic Trends* will contain a detailed outlook for some 230 specific occupations in Alaska, Anchorage, and Fairbanks. The following pie charts and bar graph are useful in gaining a perspective of Alaska employment patterns and occupational opportunities. They give comparisons of estimated employment distribution, by both major occupational groups and industries, among the United States, Alaska statewide, six geographical regions, Anchorage, and Fairbanks. The following are some highlights of the information contained in the charts and graphs:

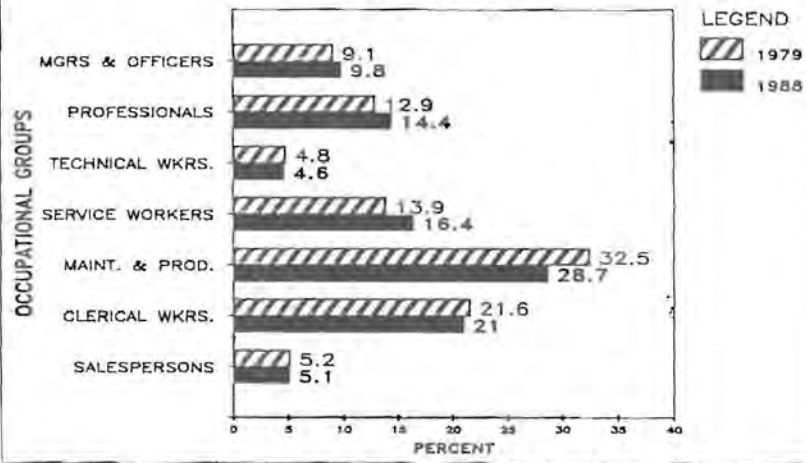
- ★ Service workers (which include janitors/cleaners, waiters/waitresses, and food service workers) are projected to have the largest increase in percentage of total jobs between 1979 and 1988.
- ★ Maintenance and production occupations account for 29% of Alaskan employment followed by clerical jobs at 21%.
- ★ Anchorage-MatSu region accounted for half of all Alaska's employment in 1983.
- ★ Government (federal, state, local) accounts for about 30% of Alaskan employment followed by trade industries with about 20%.
- ★ Sales occupations in Alaska account for 5% of the employment; in the United States they account for 12%.

- ★ Professionals' slice of the employment pie is fairly constant in all 6 Alaskan regions; a high of 16% is in the Southeast, a low of 10.9% in the Gulf Coast region.
- ★ Maintenance and production workers have a high of 48% in Alaska's Northern region and a low of 22.1% in Anchorage-MatSu; 30% of the U.S. employment is in maintenance and production occupations.

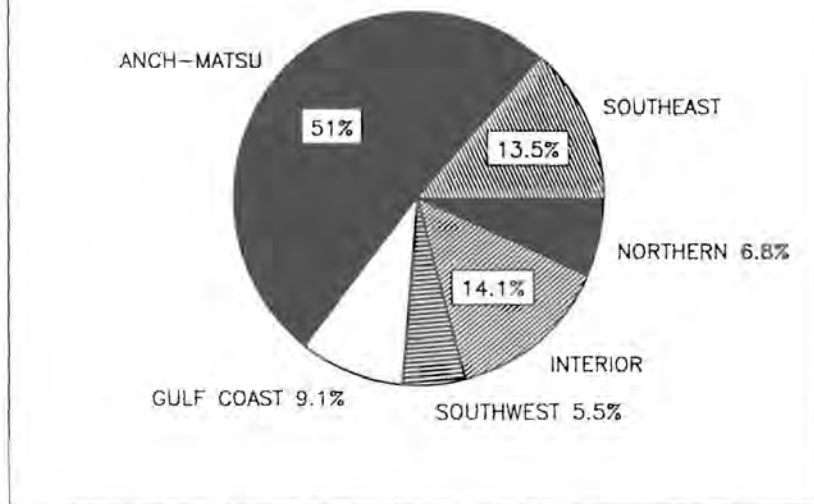
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*In the following graphs F.I.R.E. stands for Finance Insurance and Real Estate.*

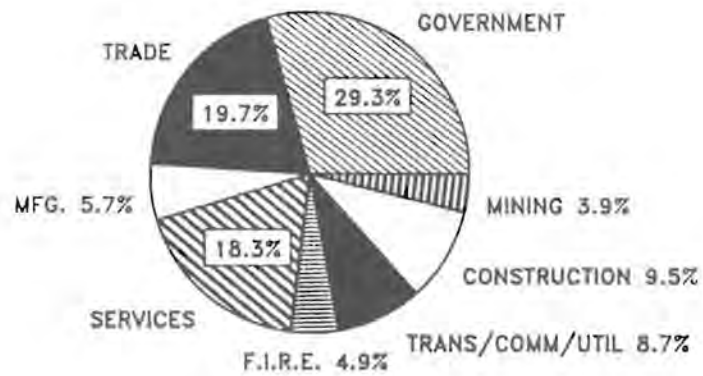
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF  
MAJOR OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS  
ALASKA STATEWIDE  
1979-1988



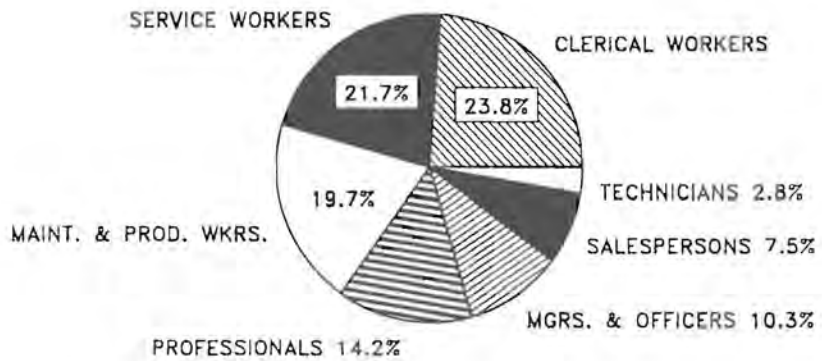
EMPLOYMENT BY REGION  
ALASKA 1983



EMPLOYMENT  
 PERCENT DISTRIBUTION BY MAJOR INDUSTRY  
 ALASKA STATEWIDE  
 1983



JOB OPENINGS  
 FROM INDUSTRY GROWTH PLUS DEATH AND RETIREMENT  
 PERCENT DISTRIBUTION BY MAJOR OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS  
 ALASKA STATEWIDE ANNUAL AVERAGE 1983-1988



EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES  
 PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF MAJOR OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS  
 ALASKA STATEWIDE  
 1984



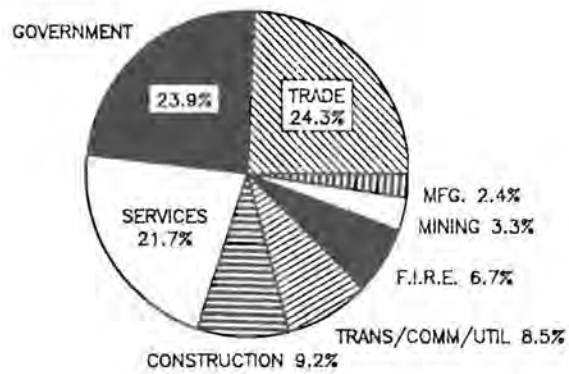
EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES  
 PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF MAJOR OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS  
 UNITED STATES  
 1983



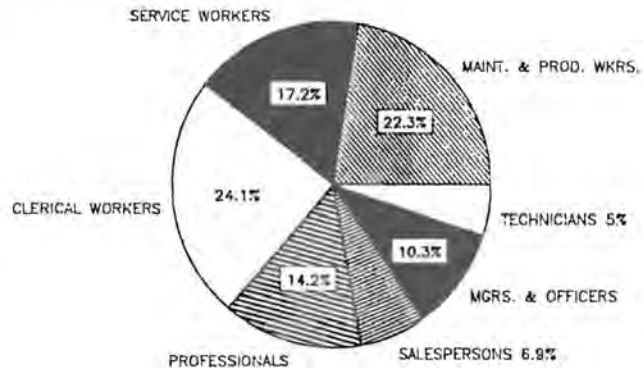
EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES  
 PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF MAJOR OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS  
 ANCHORAGE-MATSU REGION  
 1984



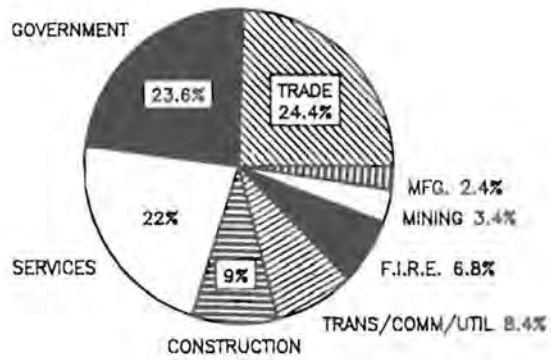
EMPLOYMENT  
 PERCENT DISTRIBUTION BY MAJOR INDUSTRY  
 ANCHORAGE-MATSU REGION  
 1983



EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES  
 PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF MAJOR OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS  
 ANCHORAGE  
 1984



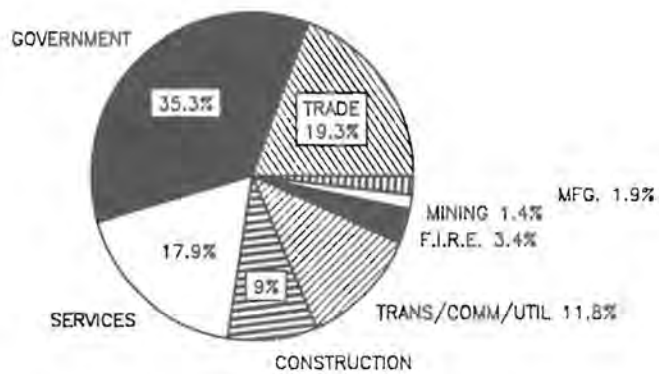
EMPLOYMENT  
 PERCENT DISTRIBUTION BY MAJOR INDUSTRY  
 ANCHORAGE  
 1983



EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES  
 PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF MAJOR OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS  
 FAIRBANKS & INTERIOR REGION  
 1984



EMPLOYMENT  
 PERCENT DISTRIBUTION BY MAJOR INDUSTRY  
 FAIRBANKS-INTERIOR REGION  
 1983

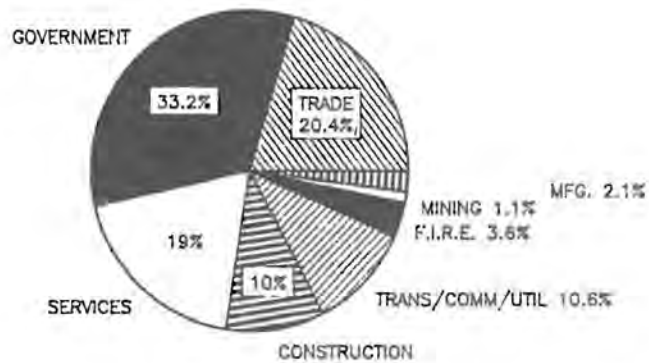




EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES  
 PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF MAJOR OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS  
 FAIRBANKS  
 1984



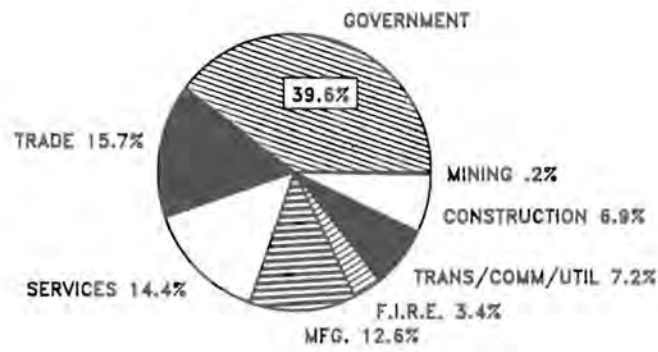
EMPLOYMENT  
 PERCENT DISTRIBUTION BY MAJOR INDUSTRY  
 FAIRBANKS  
 1983



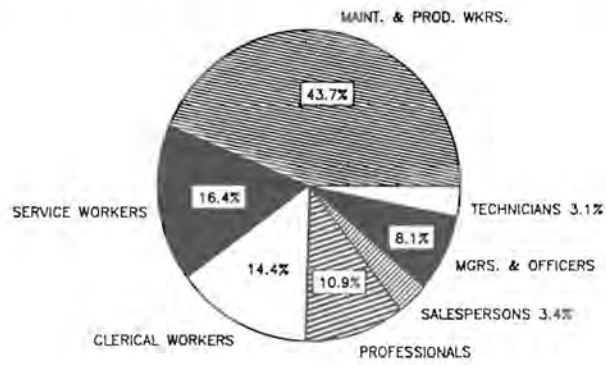
EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES  
 PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF MAJOR OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS  
 SOUTHEAST REGION  
 1984



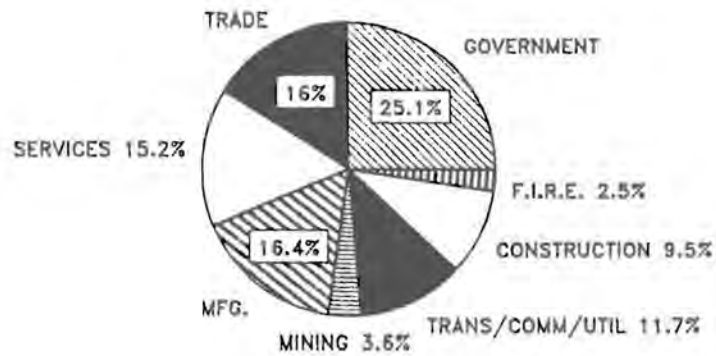
EMPLOYMENT  
 PERCENT DISTRIBUTION BY MAJOR INDUSTRY  
 SOUTHEAST REGION  
 1983



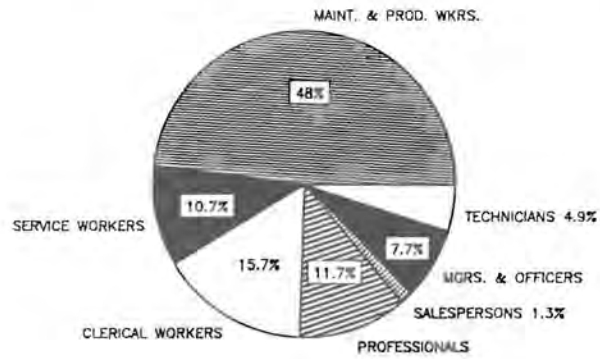
EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES  
 PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF MAJOR OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS  
 GULF COAST REGION  
 1984



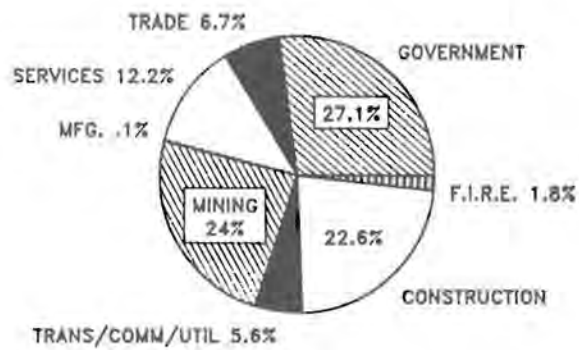
EMPLOYMENT  
 PERCENT DISTRIBUTION BY MAJOR INDUSTRY  
 GULF COAST REGION  
 1983



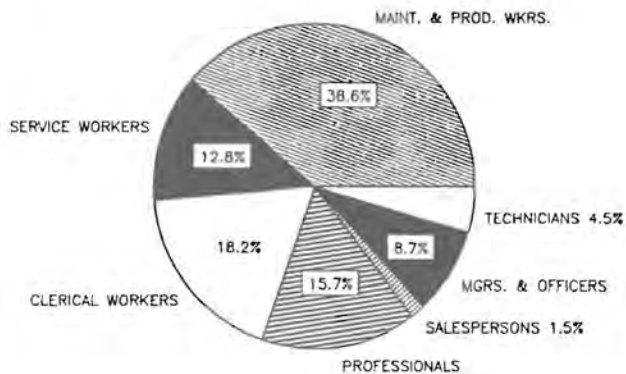
EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES  
 PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF MAJOR OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS  
 NORTHERN REGION  
 1984



EMPLOYMENT  
 PERCENT DISTRIBUTION BY MAJOR INDUSTRY  
 NORTHERN REGION  
 1983



EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES  
 PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF MAJOR OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS  
 SOUTHWEST REGION  
 1984



EMPLOYMENT  
 PERCENT DISTRIBUTION BY MAJOR INDUSTRY  
 SOUTHWEST REGION  
 1983

