

## STATEWIDE IN ALASKA

### MANPOWER TRAINING—MDTA INSTITUTIONAL

During the late 1950's and early 1960's it had become apparent that there was a shortage of manpower in certain occupations in the United States, and that this shortage would, if something was not done, continue to grow. To help meet this shortage, the Manpower Development and Training Act of 1962 (MDTA) was passed. In 1966 there was a number of amendments to the Act which broadened its scope in respect to who is eligible for training.

The Manpower Development and Training Act is set up into two basic areas: (1) Research on the potential occupational shortages, for which there is a reasonable expectation of employment; (2) To plan and implement the training of unemployed and underemployed to help fill the occupational shortages. With the identification of an occupational shortage a definite need for a training program must be shown before it can get started. There must also be a sufficient amount of persons who are willing to train in this program.

### RESPONSIBILITY

The Department of Labor, Employment Security Division through the Manpower Centers is charged with the responsibility of counseling, testing, selection, referral to training, and for the placement and follow-up after training. They are also responsible for the training allowances that are provided for the trainees. The State Division of Vocational Education conducts the actual training, by providing the training facilities, instructors, equipment, counseling, books, supplies and materials. The training is conducted through local training facilities with the coordination and cooperation of industry. All training under MDTA is provided at no cost to the trainee.

### TWO PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVES

One principal objective under MDTA is to provide occupational training for the unemployed and underemployed persons who cannot reasonably be expected to secure full-time employment without such training, and thus to become self-supporting. This principal has been broadly interpreted to cover a variety of persons, but has always been aimed

primarily at the unemployed heads of households whose skills have become obsolete. Some of the different persons now covered, other than unemployed and underemployed, are young persons who are just entering the labor market and older persons who need new skills.

Another principal objective is that of job employment after training. Because the failure or success of a training program is based on post-training employment, every effort is made to secure a job for individuals after completion of training. Placement efforts are a continuous process from a time before the individual completes training through training completion and, if needed, after completion.

### BASIC ELIGIBILITY

The basic eligibility requirements under MDTA is that a person must be 16 years of age or older who is unemployed or underemployed, and who cannot reasonably be expected to get full-time employment without such training. Veterans and disadvantaged persons are given preference for suitable training programs under MDTA.

### ALLOWANCES

The Act also provides for allowance payments to the trainee while he is in training. There are three basic types of allowances: (1) A training allowance in order to provide an income while in training. This is a computed amount equal to the average unemployment insurance in the State for the most recent quarter for which data is available, and is recomputed each quarter. (2) A subsistence allowance for maintenance of separate residence when training is at a facility which is not within commuting distance of his regular place of residence. It is payable for each day that a trainee is away overnight from his regular place of residence. Subsistence allowance is payable at a rate of \$56.00 per week in Alaska. (3) A transportation allowance to cover the cost of transportation to and from training, where the training facility is not within commuting distance of the trainee's regular place of residence. This allowance cannot exceed the most economical public transportation cost between the trainee's residence and the training facility or 10 cents per mile whichever is the lesser.

The allowances vary with respect to age and work history, distance from regular place of residence to the training facility, and marital status and dependency.

to Barrow. Approximately 50 percent of the programs have been conducted in Anchorage. The remainder of the programs were spread over the State with Fairbanks having 11 percent of the programs; Nome 10 percent; Juneau 6 percent; and Ketchikan had 5 percent. Both Bethel and Seward had 2.5% of the programs. Various other communities had the remaining 13 percent.

INDUSTRY	(Thousands)			Changes From:	
	10-72	9-72	10-71	9-72	10-71
CIVILIAN WORKFORCE.....	129,700	135,000	124,400	-5,300	5,300
INVOLVED IN WORK STOPPAGES.....	0	100	0	- 100	0
TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT.....	8,900	9,600	8,600	- 700	300
Percent of Workforce.....	6.9	7.1	6.9	-	-
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT <sup>2/</sup> .....	120,800	125,300	115,800	-4,500	5,000
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary <sup>3/</sup> .....	107,200	110,800	102,100	-3,600	5,100
Mining.....	2,500	2,500	2,300	0	200
Construction.....	10,000	10,400	10,000	- 400	0
Manufacturing.....	7,900	9,500	7,500	-1,600	400
Durable Goods.....	3,500	3,700	3,000	- 200	500
Lumber, Wood Products.....	2,400	2,600	2,000	- 200	400
Other Durable Goods.....	1,100	1,100	1,000	0	100
Non Durable Goods.....	4,400	5,800	4,500	-1,400	- 100
Food Processing.....	2,800	4,200	3,000	-1,400	- 200
Other Non Durable Goods.....	1,600	1,600	1,500	0	100
Transp.-Comm. & Utilities.....	10,900	11,900	10,100	-1,000	800
Trucking & Warehousing.....	1,700	2,000	1,500	- 300	200
Water Transportation.....	1,000	1,400	1,100	- 400	- 100
Air Transportation.....	2,900	3,000	2,700	- 100	200
Other Transp.-Comm. & Utilities.....	5,300	5,500	4,800	- 200	500
Trade.....	17,400	17,300	16,500	100	900
Wholesale Trade.....	3,300	3,400	3,200	- 100	100
Retail Trade.....	14,100	13,900	13,300	200	800
General Merchandise & Appar.....	3,600	3,500	3,600	100	0
Food Stores.....	2,300	2,300	1,900	0	400
Eating & Drinking Places.....	3,200	3,200	3,100	0	100
Other Retail Trade.....	5,000	4,900	4,700	100	300
Finance-Insurance & Real Estate.....	3,400	3,500	3,400	- 100	0
Service & Miscellaneous.....	13,900	14,200	13,300	- 300	600
Government <sup>4/</sup> .....	41,200	41,500	39,000	- 300	2,200
Federal.....	17,300	17,500	17,600	- 200	- 300
State.....	13,400	13,400	12,100	0	1,300
Local.....	10,500	10,600	9,300	- 100	1,200

State Unemployment Insurance			
Insured Unemployed Based on Key Week			
	10-72	9-72	10-71
Total Weeks Claimed.....	3,399	2895	3040
Percent Distribution			
Characteristic	10-72	9-72	10-71
Total.....	100	100	100
Sex and Age			
Men			
Under 45.....	42	39	43
45 and over.....	25	26	25
Women			
Under 45.....	24	26	22
45 and over.....	9	9	10
Industry			
Mining.....	3	4	6
Contract Construction.....	28	22	20
Manufacturing.....	12	16	19
Transp.-Comm. & Utilities.....	11	12	14
Trade.....	22	21	21
Finance-Insurance & R. E....	3	3	2
Service & Miscellaneous.....	19	21	17
All Other.....	2	1	1
Occupation			
Professional & Managerial...	8	7	7
Clerical & Sales.....	16	17	17
Service.....	15	18	15
Farming-Fishing & Forestry..	2	1	2
Processing.....	5	9	9
Machine Trades.....	4	3	6
Bench Work.....	1	1	1
Structural Work.....	32	28	28
Miscellaneous.....	12	12	13
Unknown.....	5	4	2
Length of Current Spell of Insured Unemployment			
1-4 Weeks.....	55	43	50
5-14 Weeks.....	33	35	38
15 Weeks and over.....	12	22	12

<sup>1/</sup> Estimated in accordance with techniques recommended by U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.  
<sup>2/</sup> Includes domestics, nonagricultural self employed and unpaid family workers, and agricultural workers.  
<sup>3/</sup> Prepared in cooperation with the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.  
<sup>4/</sup> Includes teachers in primary and secondary schools, and personnel employed by the University of Alaska.

### MANPOWER TRAINING IN ALASKA

From 1962 through 1970 there were 4,954 Alaskans trained under MDTA with a completion rate of 73.6%. The national completion rate for the same time span is about 72%. The training courses have covered a wide range of occupations from basic education to licensed practical nurse and are aimed at meeting the needs of the labor market of Alaska. The length of the courses have varied from 3 weeks up to 73 weeks with an average length of 19 weeks. The average costs for a completion was approximately \$2,500, this includes educational costs and allowance costs.

MDTA Training programs have been conducted at various locations around the State from Ketchikan

The goal of the Alaska Department of Labor is to provide meaningful training for the State's unemployed and underemployed which will prepare them for existing and anticipated occupational shortages in the Alaska labor market.

## ALASKA'S ECONOMY IN OCTOBER

**TOTAL EMPLOYMENT:** Total estimated employment continues to decrease in October as Alaska's seasonal industries adjusted their employment to off-season levels. The total of non-agricultural wage and salary employees was reduced by 3,600 workers or 3.2%. From September to October the drop was not as large as for the like period in 1971 when 4,500 or 4.4% less were employed. The loss during October was primarily due to losses in the food processing sector which lost 1,400 workers; the transportation, communications and utilities industry, a loss of 1,000; and a loss of

400 in construction. Only two industries showed slight increases while the remainder showed either no change or moderate losses of 100 or 200 employees.

When compared with October, 1971 figures we find total employment in 1972 to be 4.9% or 5,000 workers higher, as only food processing, water transportation, and federal government are employing fewer people than a year ago.

**Mining:** Employment in mining was unchanged during October. Statewide employment is holding about 200 positions higher than last year at this time.

**Construction:** Employment in construction decreased by 400 workers as many projects were either completed or terminated for the winter. When compared to October 1971 figure we find no change in construction employment.

**Manufacturing:** Declining employment in the food processing sector highlighted this month's activity in manufacturing, a loss of 1,400 employees. Compared to last year, employment in the industry was ahead by 400. Logging, lumber and pulp employment fell over the month as seasonal influences continued to slow activity in the industry.

**Transportation, Communications, and Public Utilities:** An overall decline of 1,000 employees occurred in this industry during October. The losses were diversified throughout all sectors of the industry with the largest, 400 employees, in the water transportation sector. Compared to last year all sectors, except water transportation showed an increase in employment.

**Trade:** Total employment in trade varied slightly during the month of October, finishing up 100 positions. Wholesale trade was down by 100 employees, while the other sectors remained constant or increased by 100 employees. All sectors advanced over the 1971 figures to raise total industry employment to a figure 900 above October, 1971.

**Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate:** Employment declined by 100 in October in keeping with the normally stable pattern of employment. There was no change in employment relative to last year.

**Service and Miscellaneous:** A seasonal drop of 300 employees was noted during the month in the service industry. Employment was still 600 ahead of the figure for October, 1971.

INDICATORS OF ALASKA ECONOMIC ACTIVITY*			
INDICATOR	Most Recent Month	Previous Month	Year Ago
	10-72	9-72	10-71
<b>Selected Economic Activity Measures</b>			
Total Unemployment Rate <i>a/</i> .....	9.5	10.7	9.6
Insured Unemployment (weekly average) <i>a/ b/</i> .....	5,581	6,277	5,030
New Employers (unadjusted) <i>a/</i> .....	201	139	129
Nonagricultural Wage Payments (millions \$, unadjusted)...	104	108	98
Wage Payments in Mining, Manufacturing & Construction..	28	30	27
<b>Employment (1967=100) <i>a/</i></b>			
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary.....	137.5	133.9	131.0
Mining.....	128.1	118.7	117.9
Construction.....	132.9	123.4	132.9
Manufacturing.....	130.7	126.4	124.1
Transportation-Communications & Utilities.....	144.4	146.1	133.8
Trade.....	145.1	141.0	137.6
Finance-Insurance & Real Estate.....	145.0	147.1	145.0
Services.....	158.9	156.7	152.0
Government.....	129.5	127.0	122.6
<b>Alaska State Employment Service Activities</b>			
Nonagricultural Placements (unadjusted).....	1,319	1,112	857
Nonagricultural Placements (daily average) <i>a/</i> .....	61	44	42
Job Openings Received.....	952	1,577	1,280
Job Openings Unfilled.....	NA	NA	442
<b>Banking Activities (millions \$, unadjusted) <i>a/</i></b>			
Loans & Investments.....	563	568	452
Demand Deposits.....	267	267	230
Time Deposits.....	339	334	281
<b>Personal Income (millions \$ Annual Rate) <i>a/</i></b>			
	8-72	7-72	8-71
	1,642.5	1,639.9	1,516.4
<b>Production Measures</b>			
Electric Power Production (thou. kWh) <i>a/ b/</i> .....	NA	106,618	101,273
Public Construction Contracts Awarded (\$'000, annual rate, unadj.) <i>a/</i> .....	93,898	98,513	50,752
Federally Owned.....	41,728	41,210	22,833
State Owned Highways.....	52,170	57,303	27,919
<b>Crude Petroleum Production (000 bbls., unadj.) <i>b/</i></b>			
	9-72	8-72	9-71
	5,984	6,170	6,548

\* All data seasonally adjusted unless otherwise noted. Current month preliminary.  
*a/* Seasonally adjusted by the 1966 U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics seasonal adjustment method.  
*b/* Unemployment in Alaska insured by State law.  
*c/* Employers newly subject to the Alaska Employment Security Act.  
*d/* Source: Business Week Magazine, seasonally adjusted by the Alaska Employment Security Division.  
*e/* Source: Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco. Members banks only.  
*f/* Source: Federal Power Commission. Data represents approximately 89 percent of the total electric utility load in Alaska.  
*g/* Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census, Construction Statistics Division; series is total of Federally-owned awards, and State-owned highway awards only.  
*h/* Source: Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mines and Minerals.