



# *University of Alaska*

## *Reskilling & Upskilling for Alaskans*

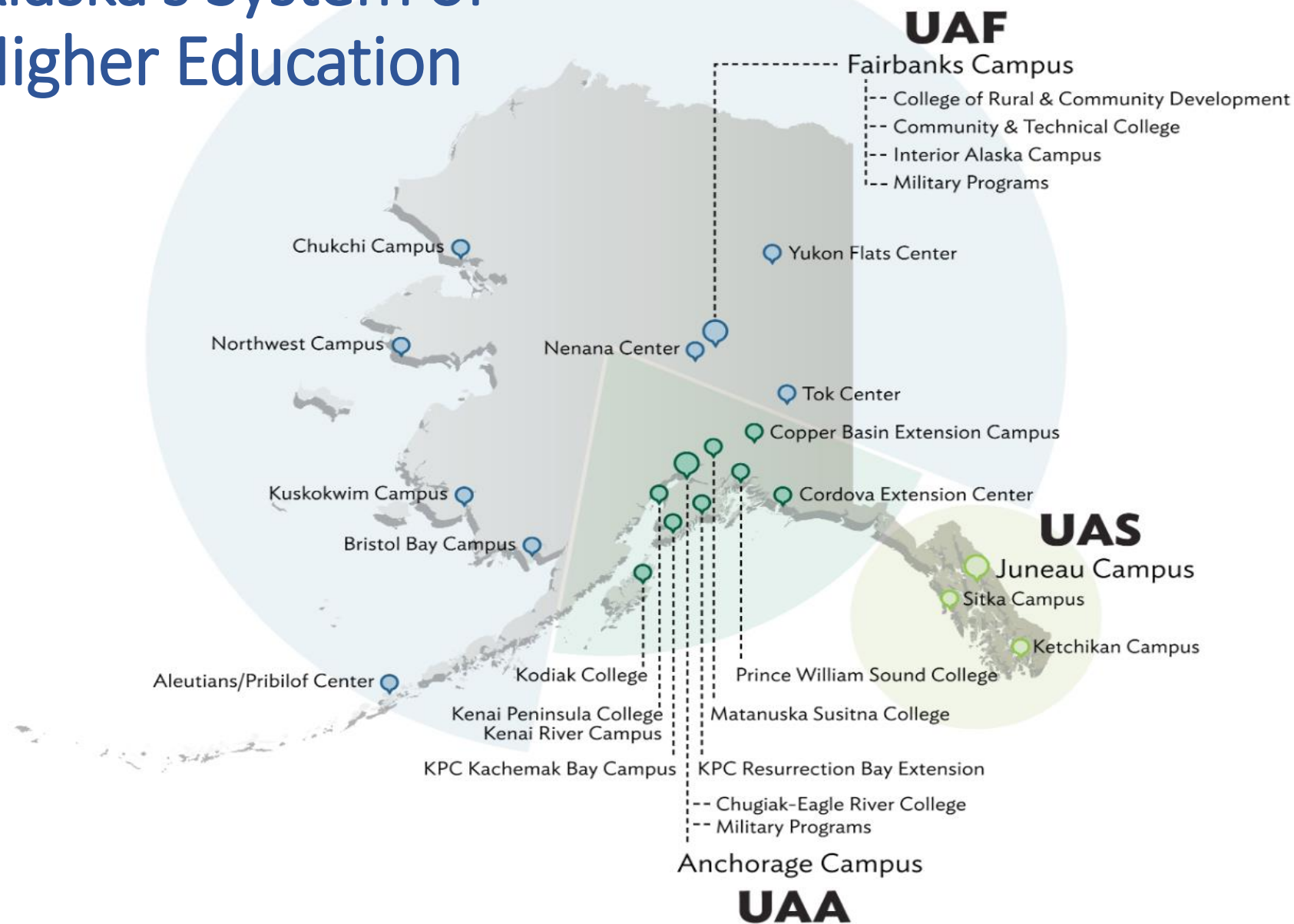
*Teri Cothren*  
Associate Vice President

Senate Finance Committee

April 8, 2021



# Alaska's System of Higher Education





# UA's Critical Workforce Mission

- Alaska's most comprehensive provider of workforce training
- UA offers more than 200 programs in workforce development
  - Non-credit industry recognized certifications, endorsements, certificates
  - Associate Degrees
  - Bachelor, Masters and Doctorate Degrees
- Programs in high-demand industries needed for Alaska's economic growth





# Value of Postsecondary Education

- Median earnings jump from:
  - \$35,328 for high school graduates
  - \$44,619 for Alaskans with an associate degree
  - \$57,708 for those with a bachelor's degree
  - \$77,402 for holders of graduate or professional degrees
- Lower unemployment rates and upward mobility
- Provide skills required for employment and career advancement





# UA Workforce Reports – Industries Highlighted



Administration & Finance



Aviation



Construction



Fisheries & Marine Science



Health



Information Technology



Mining



Oil & Gas



Teacher Education

Available at: [www.alaska.edu/research/wd/reports.php](http://www.alaska.edu/research/wd/reports.php)





# UA Workforce Reports

## THE IT INDUSTRY AND UA GRADUATES FAST FACTS

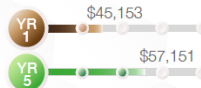


The University of Alaska has identified 14 programs whose graduates are important to the information technology (IT) industry in Alaska. Detailed below are their employment and wage outcomes, plus other information that can be used to assess UA programs and their usefulness to one of the state's key industries.

### Graduates from key UA programs

#### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

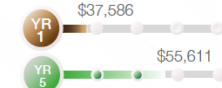
**77.1%** working in AK  
within a year of  
graduating



26.6% wage growth

#### COMPUTER & NETWORKING TECH

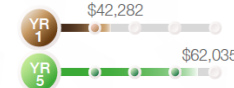
**80.2%** working in AK  
within a year of  
graduating



48.0% wage growth

#### COMPUTER SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

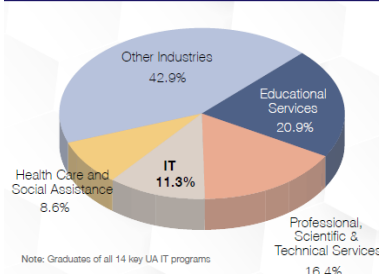
**72.3%** working in AK  
within a year of  
graduating



46.7% wage growth

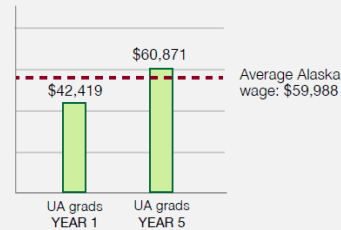
Note: Data reflects the actual employment and wage data of all graduates working in Alaska, and is not limited to those employed in IT

### The industries where first-year graduates work



Note: Graduates of all 14 key UA IT programs

### Program grads' average wages



Average Alaska wage: \$59,988

The IT Industry and UA Graduates: Fast Facts, January 2021 Page 1

## THE IT INDUSTRY AND UA GRADUATES FAST FACTS



### Do these programs boost the Alaska hire rate?

**95.5%**

of working graduates  
are Alaska residents



For comparison, residency is ...

- 79.3% for all Alaska workers
- 90.5% for all IT\* services workers

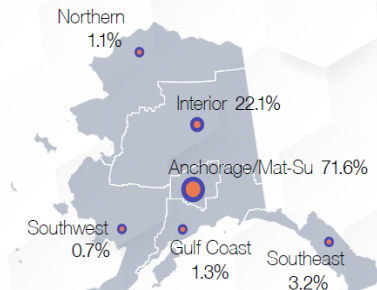
\* (Professional, Scientific, & Technical Services)

### Over the last three years, the IT industry hired ...

- 151** Computer User Support
- 108** Computer Network Support
- 87** Network/Computer System Administrators
- 72** Software Developers
- 70** Computer, Automated Teller, and Office Machine Repairers

Notes: These occupations have had the most hires in the past three years among occupations that require postsecondary education. Hires include all hires, not just UA grads, to identify where demand is greatest.

### Where do UA's IT program grads work?

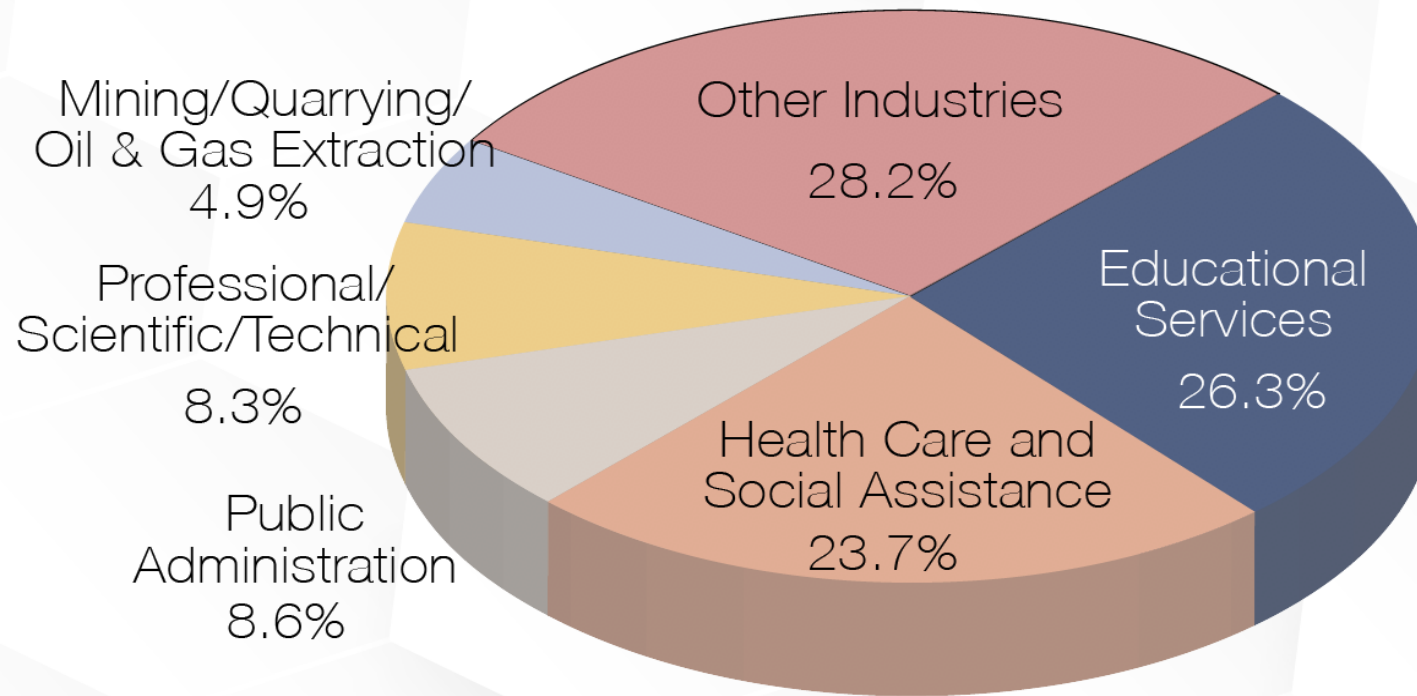


The IT Industry and UA Graduates: Fast Facts, January 2021 Page 2



# Summary of First-Year Employment

## The industries where first-year graduates work



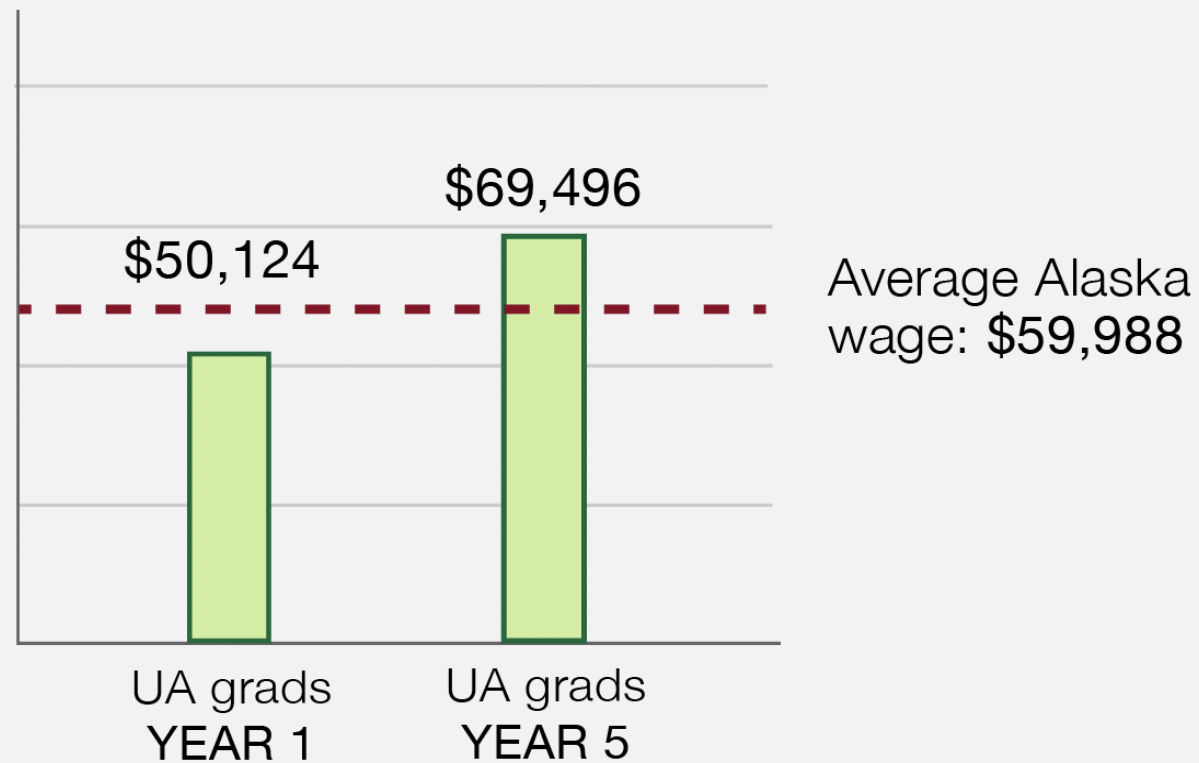
*Aggregate of all 17,725 UA graduates included in the 9 industry workforce reports*





# Average Wages of UA Graduates

## UA grads' average wages



*Aggregate of all 17,725 UA graduates included in the 9 industry workforce reports*

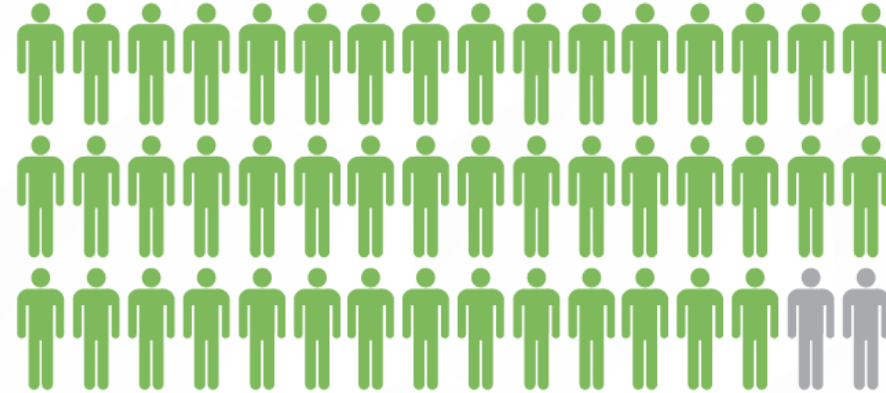




# Percent of UA Graduates Working in Alaska

**96.3%**

of working graduates  
are Alaska residents



For comparison, residency for  
all Alaska workers is

**79.3%**

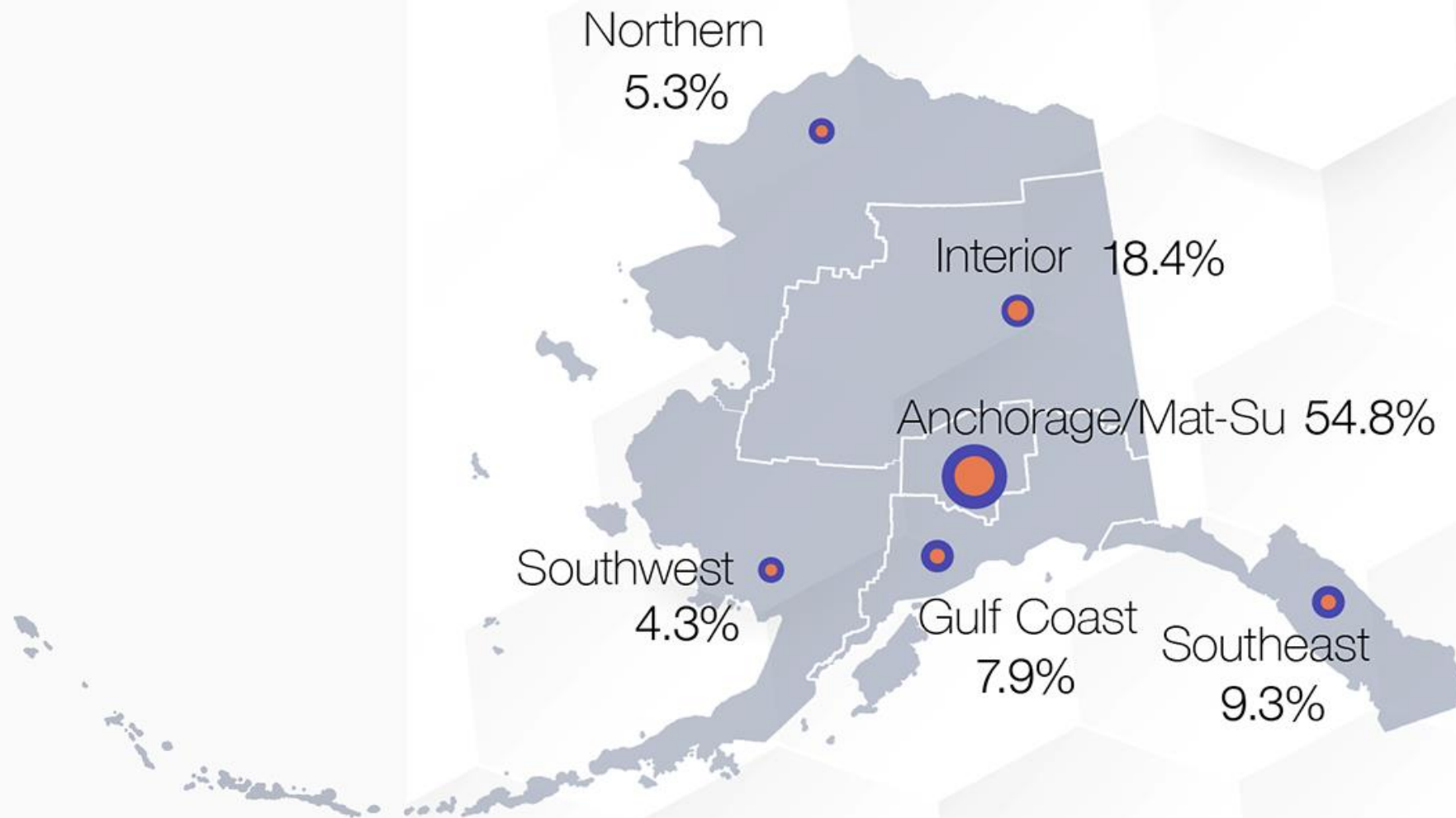
*Aggregate of all 17,725 UA graduates included in the 9 industry workforce reports*



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of ALASKA  
*Many Traditions One Alaska*



# Where UA Graduates Work in Alaska



*Aggregate of all 17,725 UA graduates included in the 9 industry workforce reports*



# UA is Key to Meeting AK's High-Demand Workforce Needs

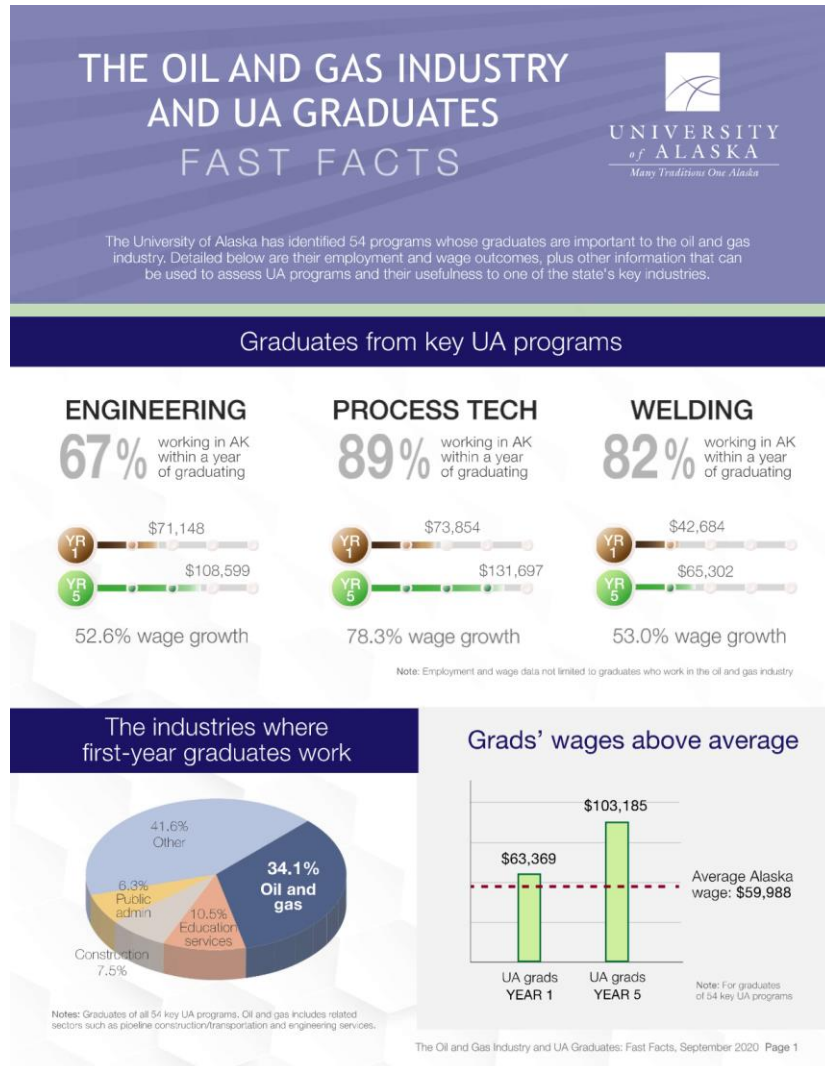
## Projected job growth or loss by Alaska industry, 2018 to 2028



... by number of jobs



# UA Workforce Report – Oil and Gas



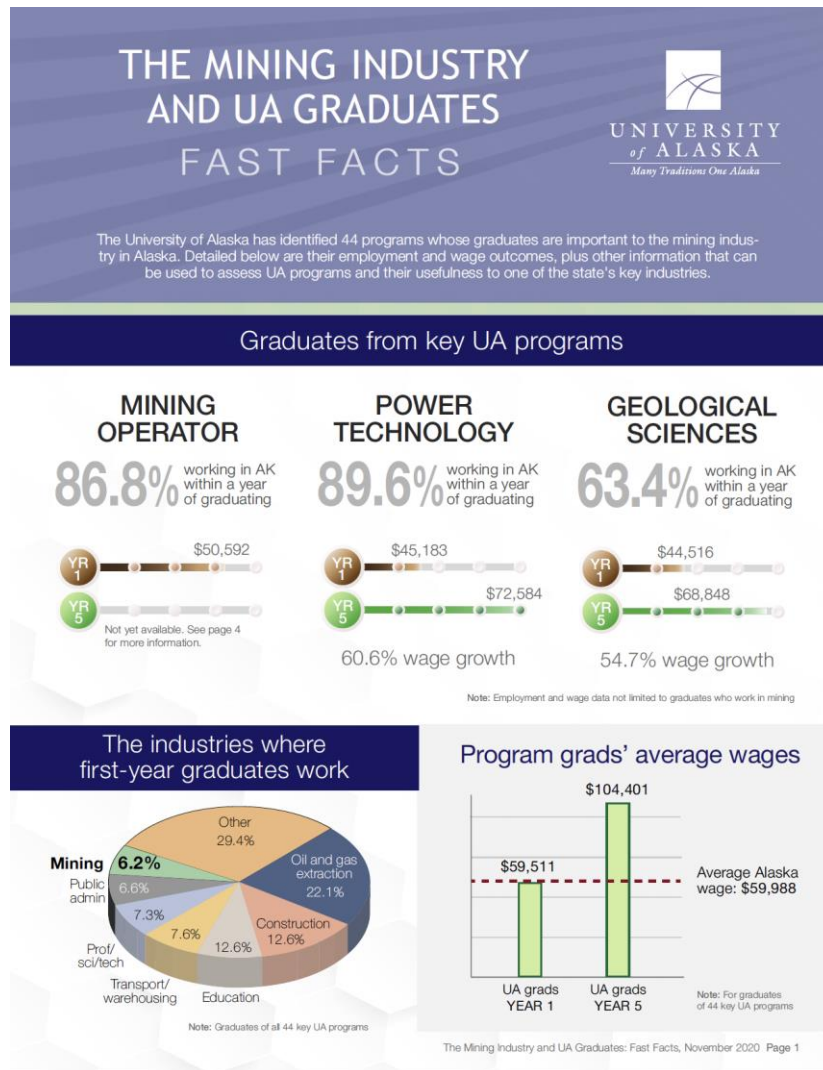
## UA Oil and Gas Graduate Highlights

- How many programs serve the oil and gas industry? **54**
- Do these programs boost the Alaska hire rate?
  - **93.5% of working grads are Alaska residents**
  - **Residency is 70.9% for all oil and gas workers**
- What percentage of grads obtain employment in Alaska on average in their first-year? **79.3%**
- What are the wages above the State average?
  - **+\$3,381 Year 1**
  - **+\$43,197 Year 5**





# UA Workforce Report – Mining



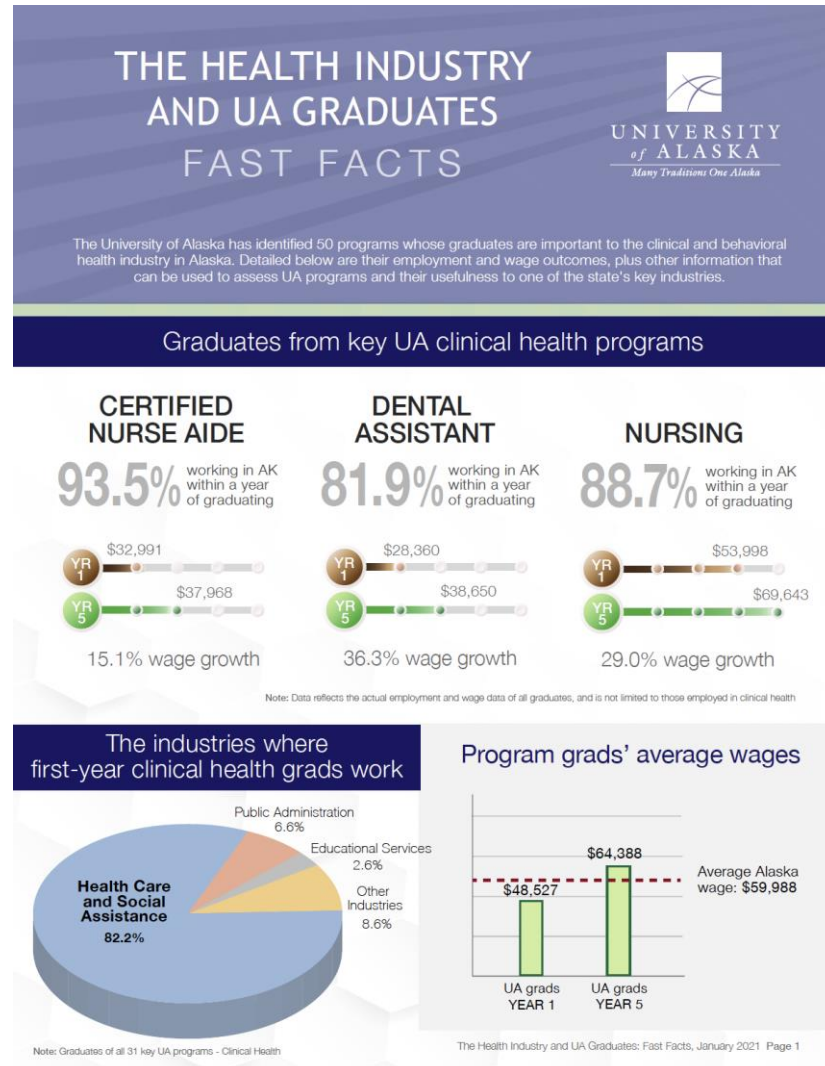
## UA Mining Graduate Highlights

- How many programs serve the mining industry?  
**44**
- Do these programs boost the Alaska hire rate?
  - 92.7% of working grads are Alaska residents**
  - Residency is 65.3% for all mining workers**
- What percentage of grads obtain employment in Alaska on average in their first-year? **79.9%**
- What are the wages compared to the State average wage by year five? **+\$44,413 for a total of \$104,401**





# UA Workforce Report – Health



## UA Clinical & Behavioral Health Grad Highlights

- How many health programs does UA offer? **50**
- Do these programs boost the Alaska hire rate?
  - **96.7% of working grads are Alaska residents**
  - **Residency is 85.5% for all health workers**
- What percentage of first-year grads work in health care and social assistance?
  - **82.2% of clinical graduates**
  - **57.8% of behavioral health graduates**
- What are the grads average five-year wages?
  - **\$64,388 for clinical graduates**
  - **\$52,304 for behavioral health graduates**





# Conclusion

UA supports Essential Worker Grant Program (SB 10)

- Providing postsecondary education funding
- Reskilling and upskilling Alaskans
- Supporting Alaska's economic recovery







# Thank you

## Teri Cothren

Associate Vice President

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*University of Alaska*

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