

Department of Labor and Workforce Development

Leveraging Resources Looking to the Future

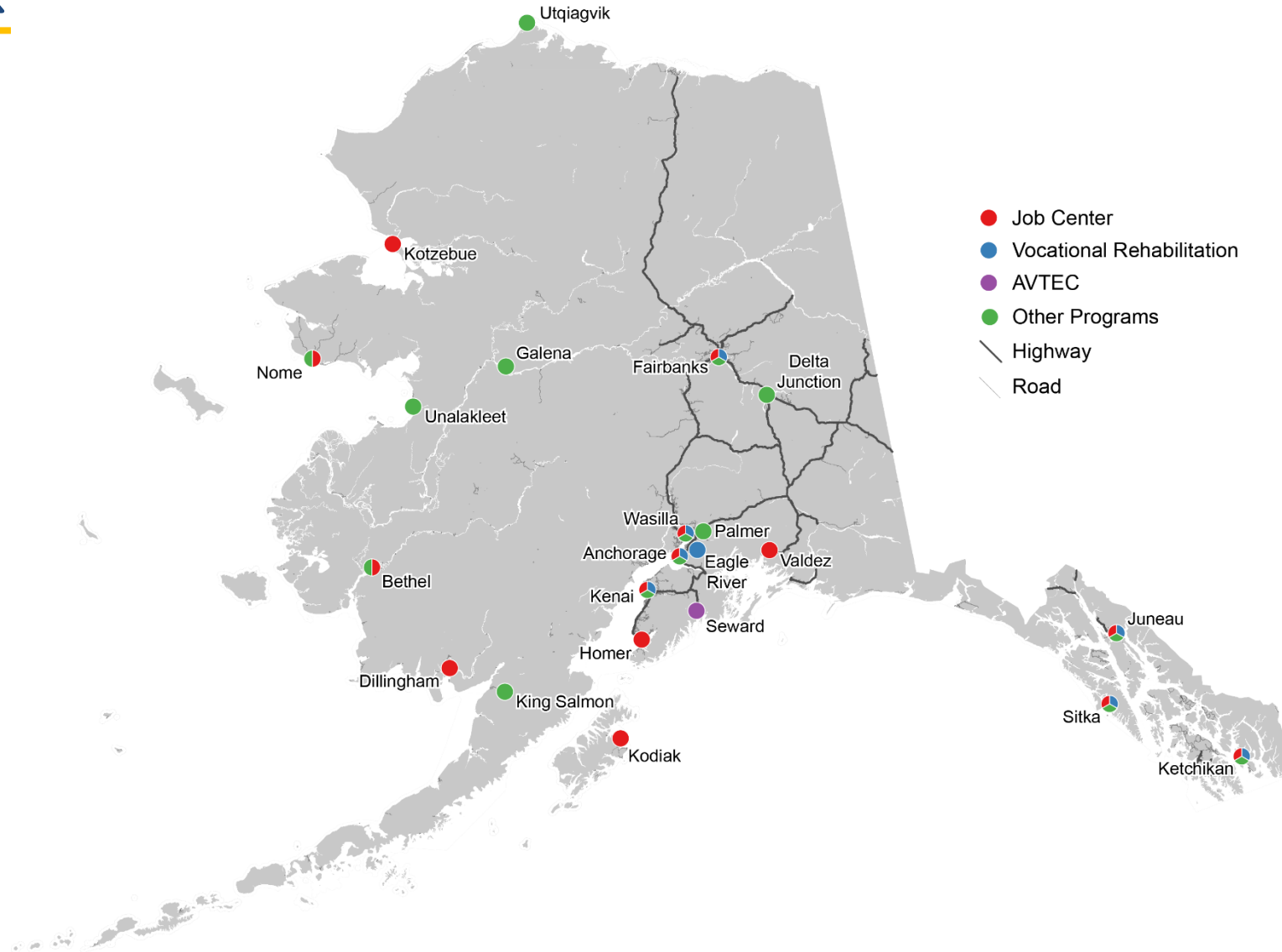


ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
Cathy Muñoz, Commissioner



From Ketchikan to Utqiagvik

- **14 Job Centers (includes a satellite job center in Kotzebue)**
- **9 Regional TVEP Recipients**
- **30 STEP Grantees**
- **8 Construction Academies**
- **AVTEC**
- **7 Divisions**



DOLWD Vision Statement and the Future

Vision Statement:

“Create a DOLWD workforce where people want to work, with whom other state departments want to partner, which industry champions, and the public appreciates”



Highlights of 2024

- Opened the Office of Citizenship Assistance
- Increased training support through the Job Center Network
- Collaboration with DEED on Career Guide expansion
- Teacher Apprenticeship project
- Implemented the AKOSH Diversionary program
- Became a DOD SkillBridge site
- Improvements to the Certificate of Fitness process



Contribution to Department's Mission:

“Assist legal immigrants in Alaska with employment services”



Labor Market Information (Research & Analysis)

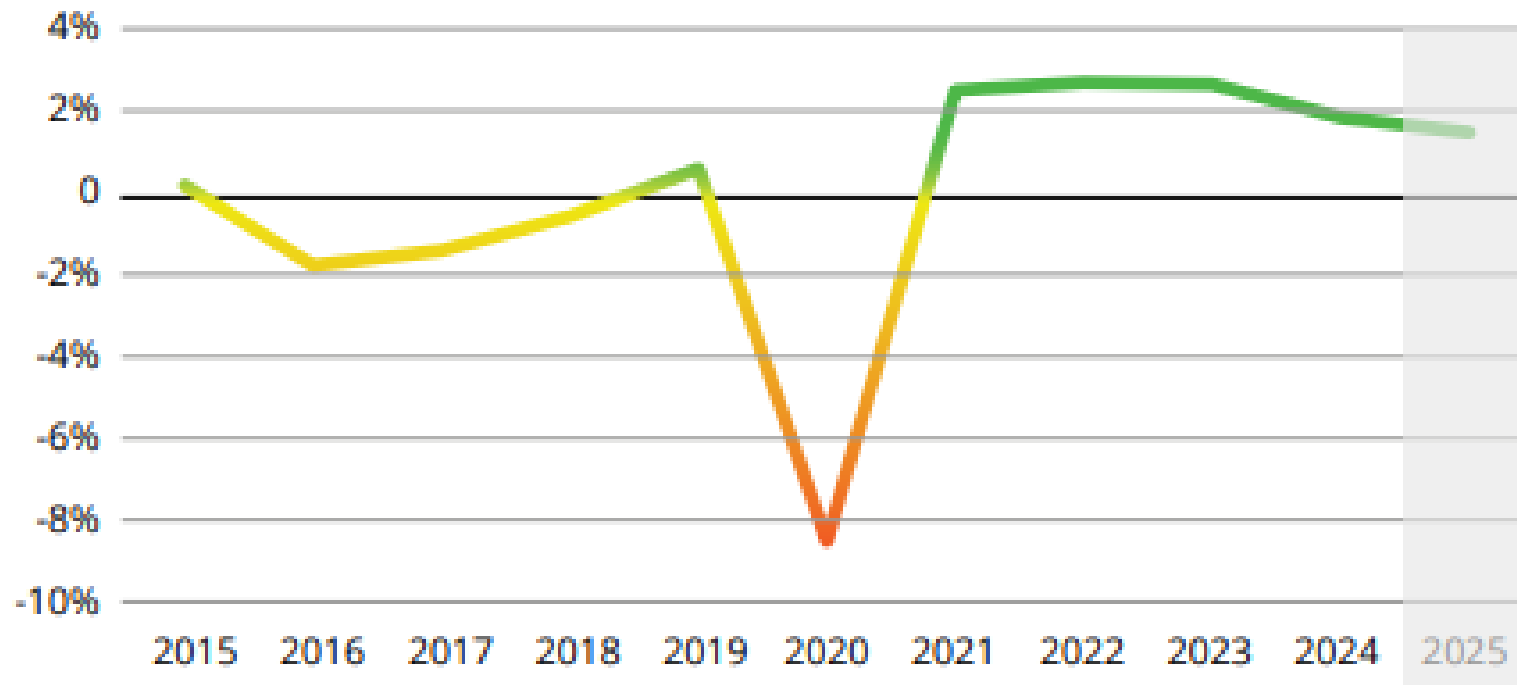
The *Alaska Economic Trends* is a monthly magazine that covers a range of economic topics and is searchable online as far back as 1978.

<https://labor.alaska.gov/trends/>



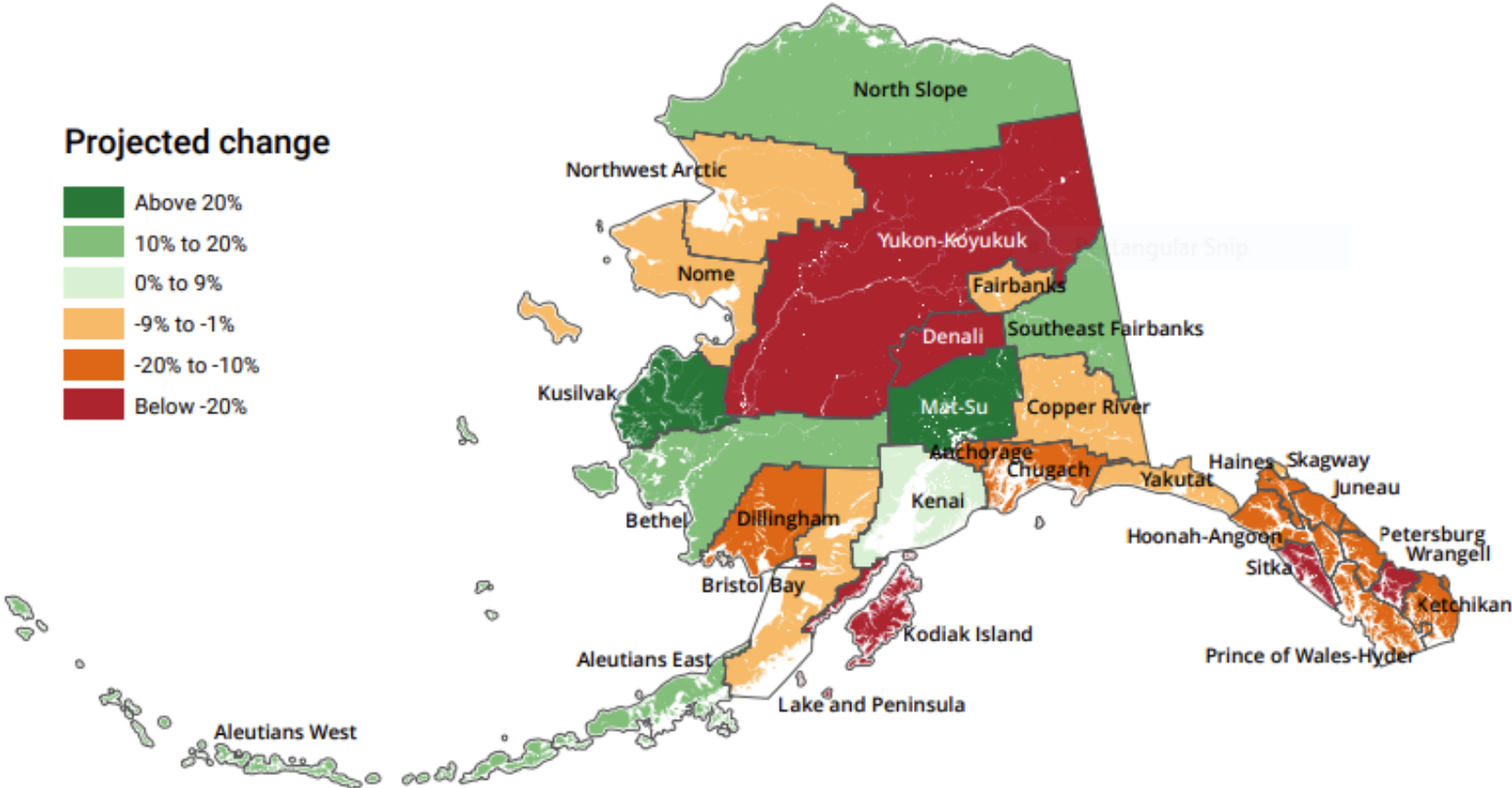
Statewide Jobs Forecast for 2025 (Research & Analysis)

Steady statewide job growth set to continue



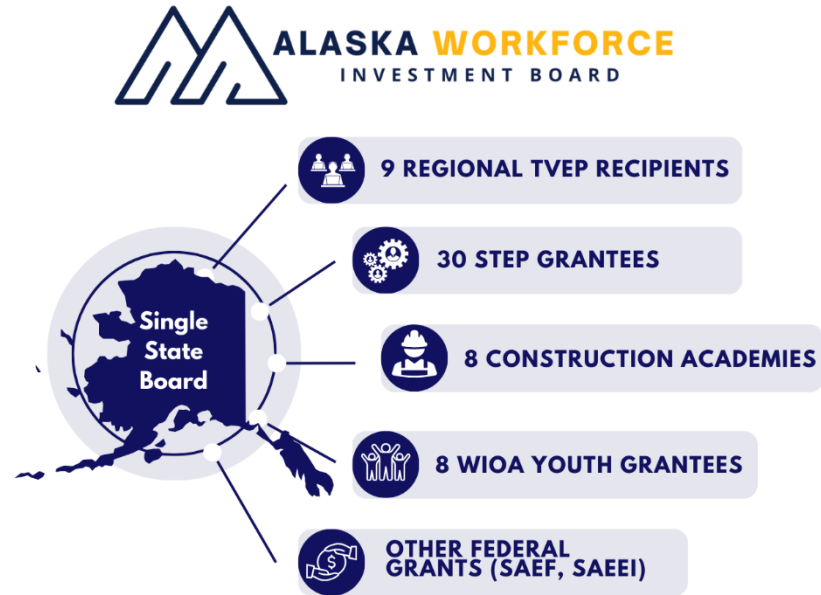
Labor Market Information (Research & Analysis)

Projected population change by Alaska area from 2023 to 2050



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

Alaska Workforce Investment Board



Employment and Training Services

Jobs
**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
& WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

Select Language ▾ Log in ▾

If you have ever been laid off due to the impacts of international trade on or before June 30, 2022, you may still qualify for lifetime training and other benefits from the Trade Adjustment Assistance program.
[Contact](#) your nearest Alaska job center for more information.

Important: Some unemployment insurance (UI) claimants must register in this system to continue to be eligible for UI benefits; entering the system as a guest user does not satisfy that requirement.

Compare Training Programs Find a Candidate Find a Job

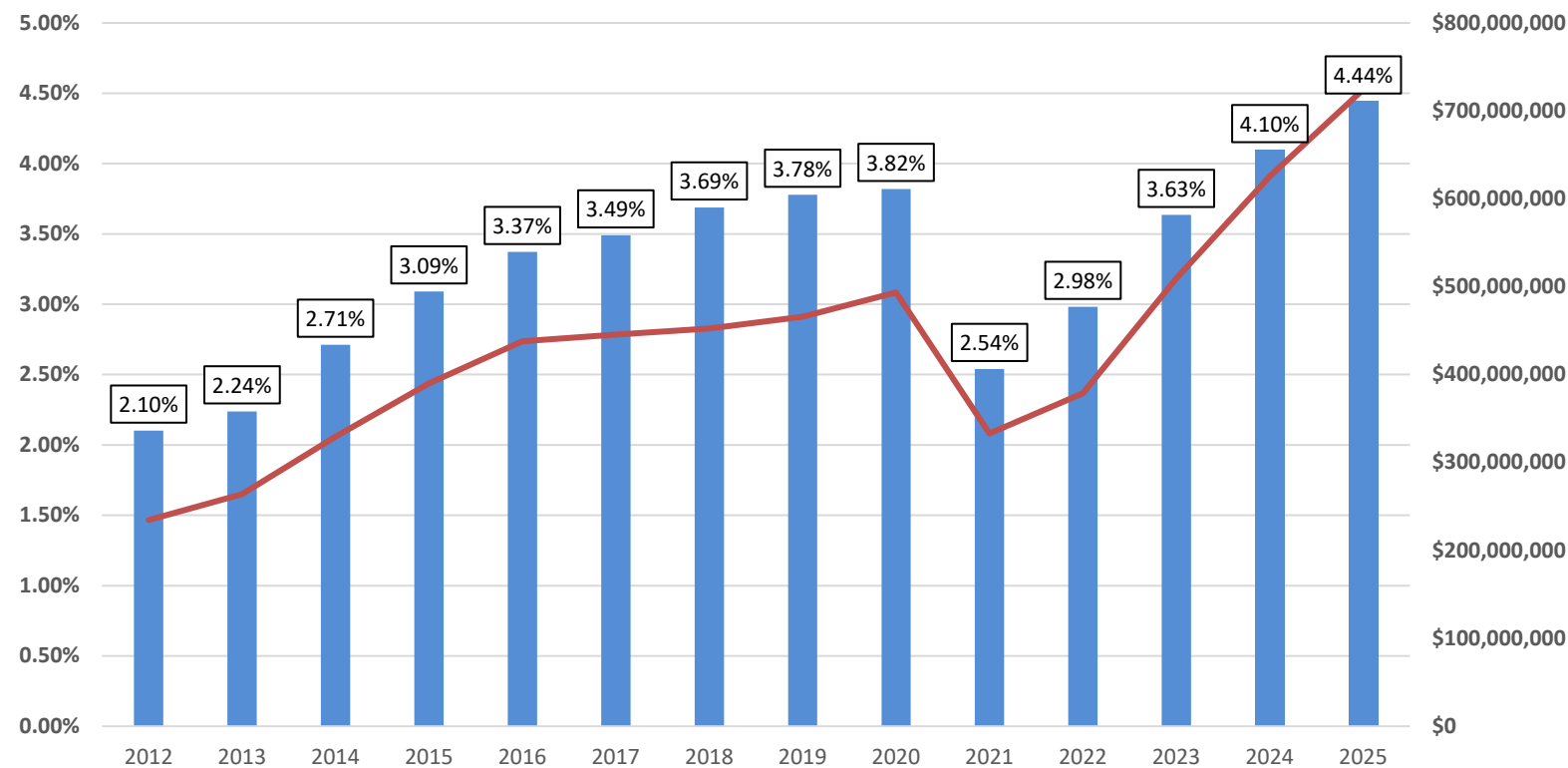
Training Information



Employment and Training Services – Unemployment Insurance

Alaska’s UI Trust Fund is healthy.

UI Trust Fund Reserve Ratio and Fund Balance



Note: Sep. 30th values are presented here as that date is designated as the balance to be used for annual UI tax rate calculations.

Alaska Vocational Technical Center (AVTEC)

AVTEC is a nationally accredited provider of workforce training with a mission to deliver flexible, accessible and affordable training for Alaskans from across the state in areas of:

- Construction
- Culinary Arts
- Diesel/Heavy Equipment
- Industrial Electricity
- Industrial Welding
- Information Technology
- Plumbing and Heating
- Refrigeration
- Maritime



Vocational Rehabilitation

Mission: Assist individuals with disabilities in obtaining and maintaining employment

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) program

Provides individualized services to enable Alaskans with disabilities to secure employment

Mature Alaskans Seeking Skills Training (MASST) program

Assists Alaskans 55 and older, who are unemployed and low income, with job training and work experiences to help them become self-sufficient

Disability Determination Services (DDS) program

Provides effective adjudication of claims for disability benefits under Title II (Social Security) and Title XVI (Supplemental Security Income) of the Social Security Act

Business Enterprise Program (BEP)

Provides employment opportunities to people who experience blindness and other severe disabilities by assisting them to establish and operate businesses such as coffee kiosks, snack bars, micro markets and vending machines on state and federal property

Labor Standards & Safety

Mission:

To ensure safe and legal working conditions for Alaskan workers.

- **Alaska Occupational Safety and Health (AKOSH):** Protects Alaskan workers from industrial accidents and job-related injuries or illness through the enforcement of state and federal standards and provides consultation and enforcement for employers and employees to follow healthful work practices.
- **Mechanical Inspection:** Provides protection through inspection and certification of boilers, pressure vessels, elevators, and inspection of electrical, and plumbing installations. This section also issues certificates of fitness for electric and plumbing work and enforces contractor registration.
- **Wage and Hour:** Oversees Alaska labor laws to ensure that workers are justly compensated for their labors and safeguarded from unfair practices. This includes enforcement of minimum wages and overtime regulations, child labor laws, “right to return” transportation, public contract laws.

AKOSH Diversionary Program

The AKOSH initiative includes the implementation of a **Diversionary Program** inside the informal settlement procedure for inspections that result in initial citations. This initiative aims to encourage proactive abatement efforts and incentivize employers to prioritize workplace health and safety. Key elements of the proposal include:

- Elimination or Reduction of Penalties
- Structured Incentives for Enhanced Compliance
- Conditions for Participation
- Confidentiality and Protection for Participants
- Demonstrated Success of the Diversionary Program
- Consultation and Training Support

Mechanical Inspection

- Reciprocity – Electrical & Plumbing
- Provisional Licensing – Electrical & Plumbing
- Federal/Military Credits
- 3rd Party Testing



Alaska Labor Relations Agency

Statewide jurisdiction over ~ 65,500 employees from:

- Over 500 schools
- University of Alaska
- Alaska Railroad
- Political Subdivisions
- State of Alaska



Under AS 23.40.070-260 and AS 42.40.705-890, facilitates cooperative relations between Alaska's public employers and labor organizations that represent public employees.

Workers' Compensation

Administration:

- Log almost 20,000 reports of injury annually
- Track \$250m in benefits and services
- Compile and store data from over 60 years of claims

Adjudication:

- Publish decisions of formal hearings
- Mediate agreements between parties
- Hold thousands of informal meetings for expediency of claims

Reemployment:

- Orders eligibility evaluations
- Approves reemployment plans
- Monitors rehabilitation specialists
- Coordinate stay-at-work/return-to-work benefits

Investigation:

- Investigate and educate employers
- Follow up on fraud claims
- Collaborate with other investigative units to keep Alaska workers safe

Workers' Compensation Benefits Guaranty

- Provide for medical and indemnity benefits for injured uninsured workers
- Process payments on judgements from uninsured employers
- Actively manage the Benefits Guaranty Fund

Fisherman's Fund

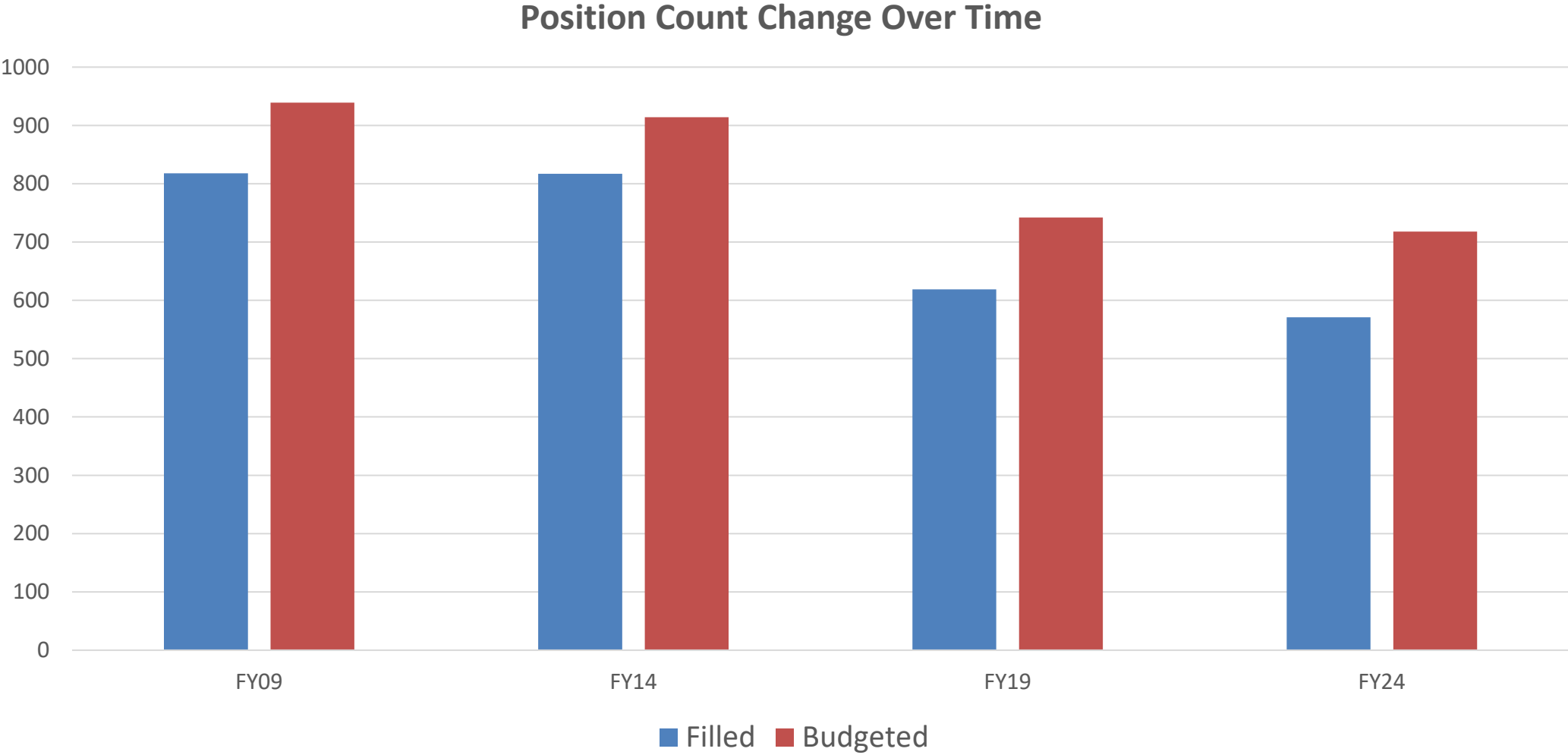
- Manage and reimburse commercial fisherman's injury claims
- Actively manage the "Fisherman's Fund"
- Manage the claims database

Self-Insurance Program

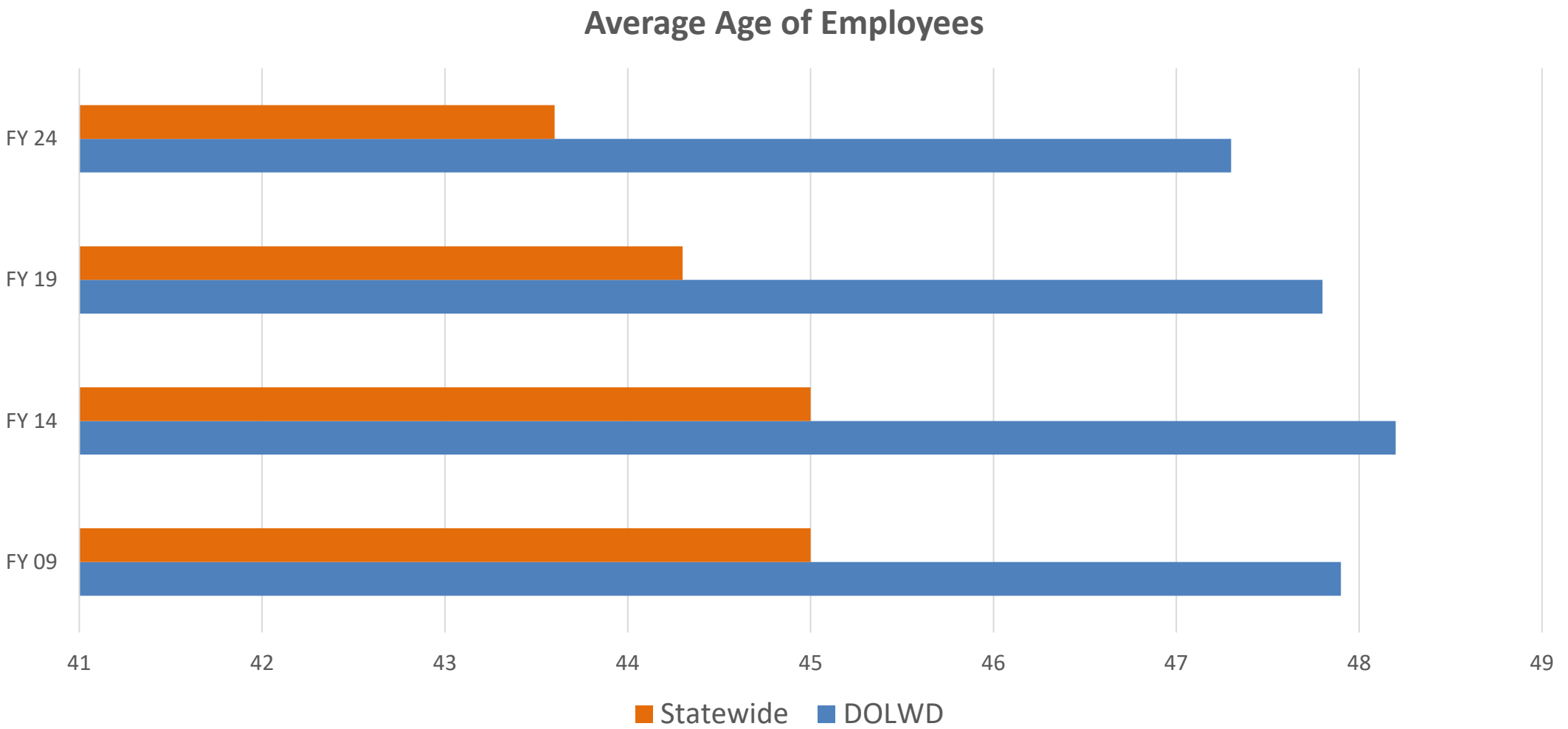
- Ensure the self-insured entity meets statutory financial criteria
- Perform annual audits on each organization
- Collects proper collateral as prescribed by statute



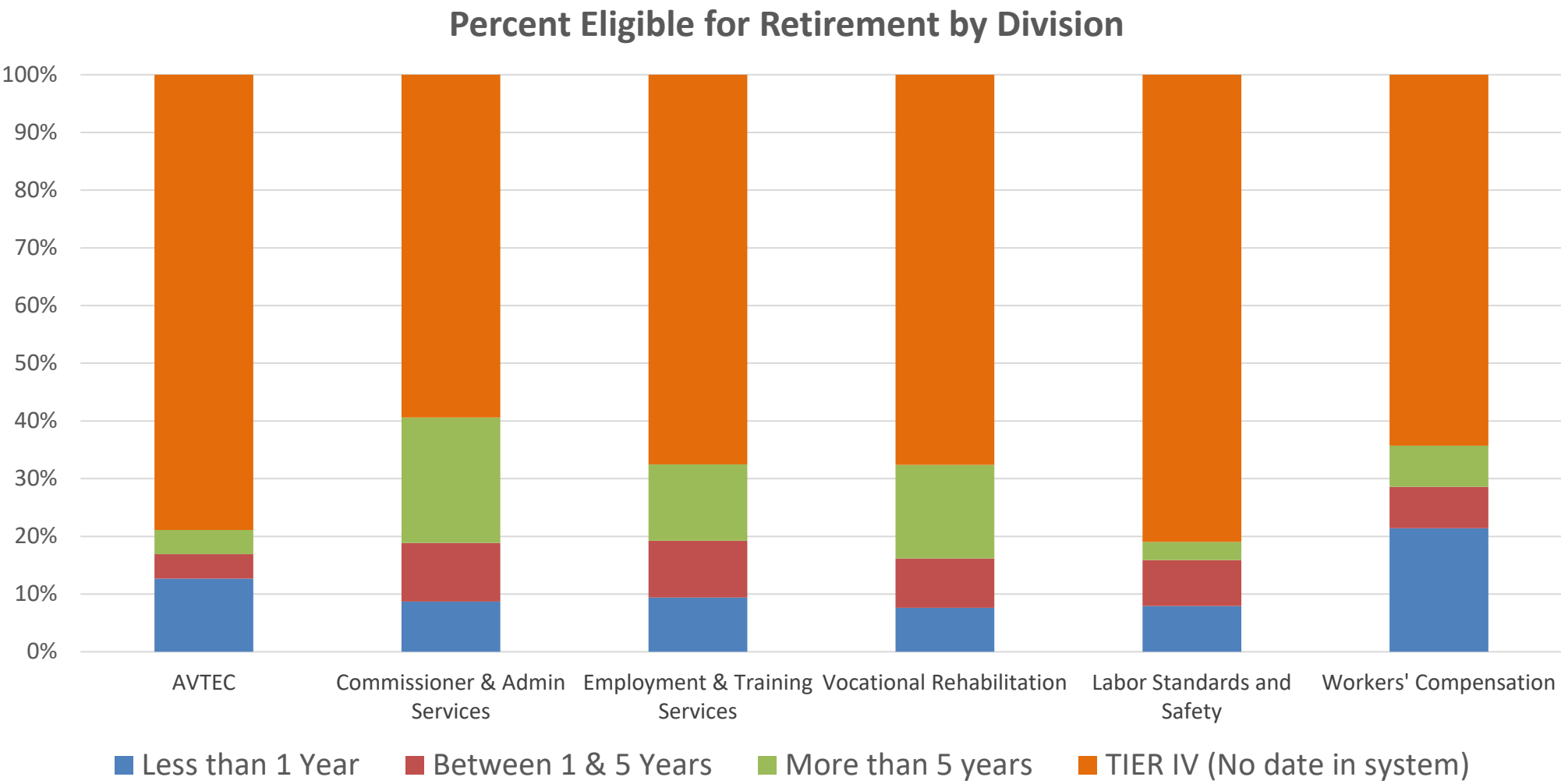
Department Staffing



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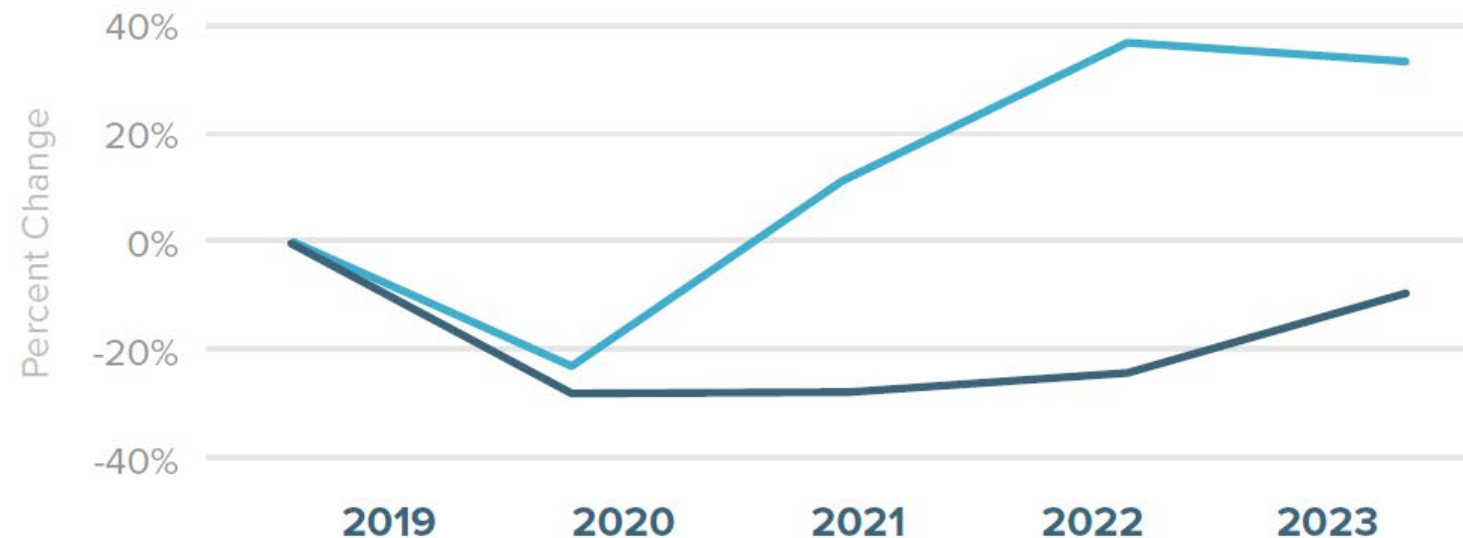
- ▶ Current DOLWD vacancy rate - 22.2% as of December 31st, 2024
 - ▶ Total permanent positions 723 - Filled 562 - Vacant 161
- ▶ Vacancy rate at the start of 2020 (Just before the pandemic) - 17%

Figure 1

Jobs & Applications Compared to 2019

Source: Applicant data from 45M+ applications in NEOGOV Insight

— JOBS
— APPLICANTS



PREPARING ALASKANS FOR THE JOBS OF TODAY—AND TOMORROW



ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
Cathy Muñoz, Commissioner



Contacts

Cathy Muñoz, Commissioner

Email: Commissioner.Labor@alaska.gov

Phone: (907) 465-2702

Dan DeBartolo, Director ASD

Email: dan.debartolo@alaska.gov

Phone: (907) 465-5984

Kim Kolvig, Legislative Liaison

Email: kimberly.kolvig@alaska.gov

Phone: (907) 465-5870

