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TECHNICAL VOCATIONAL  
EDUCATION PROGRAM  
REAUTHORIZATION REPORT

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UNIVERSITY *of* ALASKA  
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# Table Of Contents

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Importance of TVEP for Alaska	03
Overview & Strategies	04
Recipients & Outcomes	05
Supporting High-Demand Industries	06
Industry & Regional Impact	08
UA Graduate Outcomes	09
Industry Specific Investments & Outcomes	10

# A Critical Funding Source for Alaska's Workforce Needs

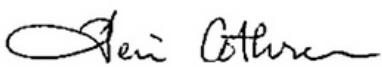
Alaska State Legislature,

While the economy is looking brighter post-pandemic, there are billions in federal infrastructure funding being invested statewide, and mining, oil, and gas have big investments on the horizon, the looming question is where will employers find the skilled workforce needed to capitalize on these opportunities? Alaska already has a skilled workforce shortage and these investments are predicted to increase an already competitive job market.

According to the January 2024 *Alaska Economic Trends Magazine*, published by the Department of Labor and Workforce Development, worker shortages are also being compounded by migration losses and workers aging out of the workforce. They shared the Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that Alaska has two job openings for every unemployed person seeking work. Even though the recent Anchorage Economic Development Corporation annual forecast luncheon projected 2024 to be a great year for the economy, their President Jenna Wright also shared that workforce shortages are “going to inhibit our ability to advance the economy.”

These challenges also present opportunities. By reauthorizing the Technical Vocational Education Program (TVEP) and creating continuity of funding to support career and technical education (CTE), Alaskans can be upskilled and reskilled for employment or career advancement. Without reauthorization, the approximately \$13 million distributed annually through TVEP will significantly impact statewide access to CTE and preparing Alaskans for the generational opportunities on the horizon.

The University of Alaska (UA) is committed to meeting the state's high-demand workforce needs and ensuring Alaskans are trained for Alaska jobs. TVEP provides strategic investments across UA's three universities and thirteen community campuses to strengthen CTE programs and prepare thousands of Alaskans for work in Alaska. We strongly support reauthorization of TVEP to provide continuity of this critical funding source at a critical time for Alaska's economic growth.



**Teri Cothren**

Associate Vice President  
UA Workforce Development



# TVEP Overview



The Alaska legislature established the Technical Vocational Education Program (TVEP) in 2000 from a portion of the Unemployment Insurance receipts. The program is administered by the Alaska Workforce Investment Board and provides grants to career and technical education providers for training and education that lead to high-demand occupations.

The University of Alaska (UA) system is a comprehensive and productive provider of workforce training in Alaska that has been a major recipient of TVEP as a funding source for expanding workforce development training since the program's inception. UA manages its TVEP funds as a single allocation within the UA system to initiate or enhance workforce development programs. Graduates find employment upon successful completion from both credit and non-credit programs.

## UA Investment Strategies

UA manages its TVEP funds as a single allocation for one-time capital funding to upgrade technology, labs, and equipment, and to develop or expand programs aligned to high-demand workforce priorities identified by the AWIB.

UA TVEP funding distributions are administered through a competitive grant process that is inclusive of career and technical education programs across the UA System, serving all six Alaska economic regions. The proposals must meet the following criteria for funding consideration:

- ▶ Aligns with high-demand and/or regional workforce needs
- ▶ Increases access and flexibility of training delivery
- ▶ Assists with employment, retention, or career advancement
- ▶ Develops or enhances partnerships that strengthen career pathways between secondary, postsecondary, and employers

# FY23 TVEP Outcomes

TVEP Allocations	% of Allocation	Grant Amount	# of Adults	# of High School Students	Total # of Participants	Investment per Participant
Alaska Vocational Technical Center (AVTEC)	17.0%	\$2,329,900	1,170	166	1,336	\$1,744
Alaska Technical Center	9.0%	\$1,233,500	85	5	90	\$13,706
Amundsen Educational Center*	2.0%	\$274,100	5	0	5	\$54,820
Galena Interior Learning Academy	4.0%	\$556,800	0	211	211	\$2,639
Ilisagvik College	5.0%	\$685,300	799	89	888	\$772
Northwestern Alaska Career and Technical Center (NACTEC)	3.0%	\$411,200	27	233	260	\$1,582
Partners for Progress in Delta, Inc.	3.0%	\$411,200	90	105	195	\$2,109
Southwest Alaska Vocational and Education Center (SAVEC)	3.0%	\$411,200	175	8	183	\$2,247
Yuit Elitnaurviaq	9.0%	\$1,233,500	470	46	516	\$2,391
<b>University of Alaska*</b>	<b>45.0%</b>	<b>\$6,167,300</b>	<b>3,550</b>	<b>1,294</b>	<b>4,844</b>	<b>\$1,273</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$13,714,000</b>	<b>6,371</b>	<b>2,157</b>	<b>8,528</b>	<b>\$1,608</b>

\*Fairbanks Pipeline Training Center received \$867,300 in pass-through funding from the University of Alaska to support construction, oil, and gas.

## UA Maximizes TVEP Funding

UA's 45% allocation trains 57% of TVEP supported students  
 UA is among the lowest cost per student at \$1,273, whereas the TVEP recipient average is \$1,608.

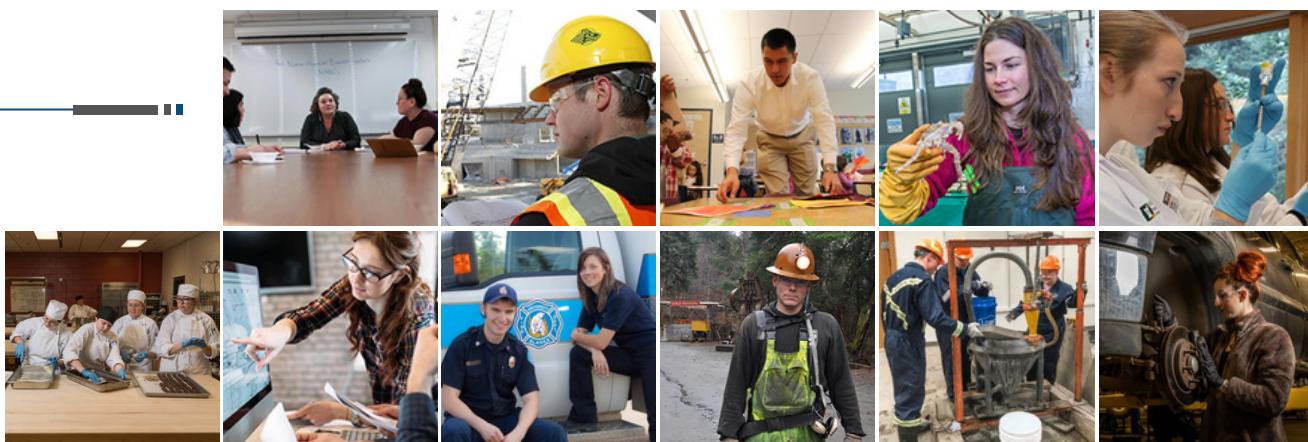
# UA TVEP Supports Alaska's High-Demand Industries

The 2023 UA Workforce Reports ([alaska.edu/research/wd/reports.php](http://alaska.edu/research/wd/reports.php)) capture the impact that university programs have in preparing students to join Alaska's workforce. The reports answer key questions related to the largest and fastest growing occupations that require some postsecondary education and highlights University of Alaska (UA) graduate employment outcomes from 2011 to 2022, including average wages earned, where they work in Alaska, what industries they work in, and how they help boost the Alaska hire rate.

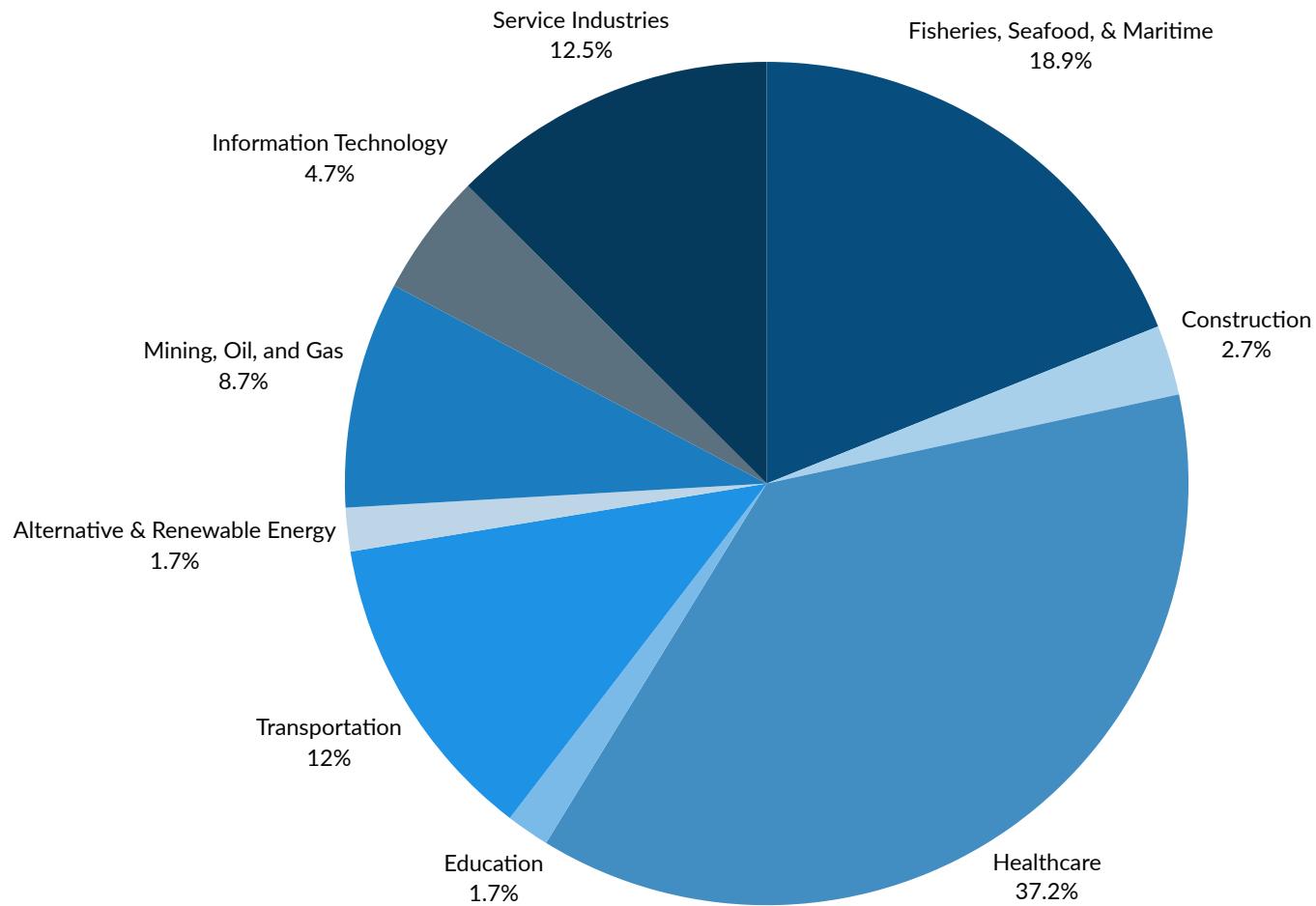
*Education pays – people working jobs in Alaska that require a high school degree earn an average of \$44,679 annually, which jumps to \$63,883 for jobs that require associate degrees, \$86,140 for those that require bachelor degrees, and \$102,511 for jobs in Alaska that require graduate or professional degrees.*

*- Dan Robinson, Research Chief, Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development*

Many of these programs are in high-demand fields needed to grow Alaska's economy, receive TVEP funding, and include UA's breadth of programs from short-term occupational endorsements and certificates to two-year associate degrees, and bachelor and graduate degrees. Each workforce report features a table of available UA programs related to key occupations within each industry.

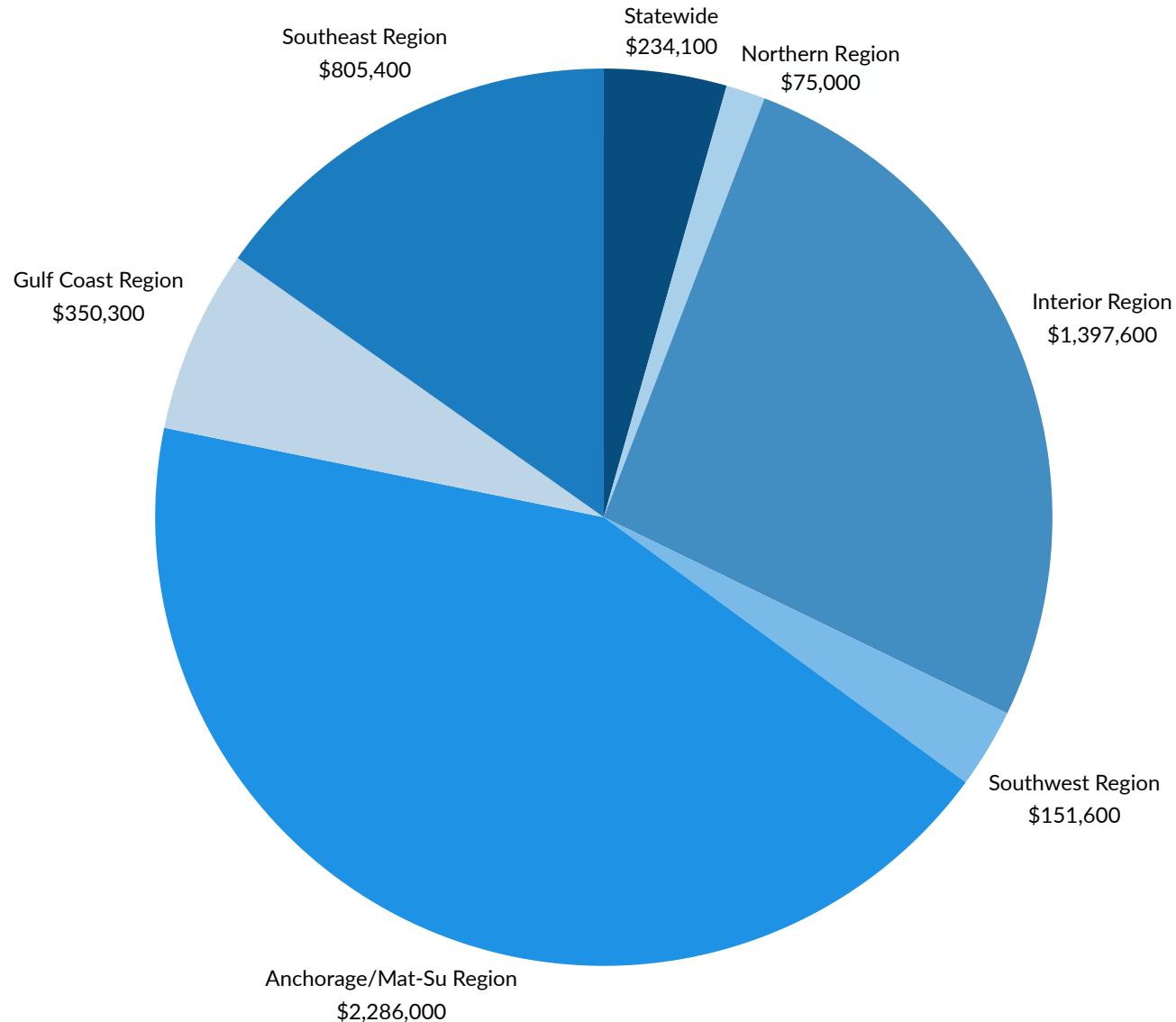


# High-Demand Industries Supported by UA TVEP in FY23



*In addition to these totals, Fairbanks Pipeline Training Center (FPTC) received \$867,300 in pass-through funding to support construction, oil, and gas.*

# Economic Regions Supported by UA TVEP in FY23



*In addition to these totals, Fairbanks Pipeline Training Center (FPTC) received \$867,300 in pass-through funding to support construction, oil, and gas.*

# UA Graduate Outcomes

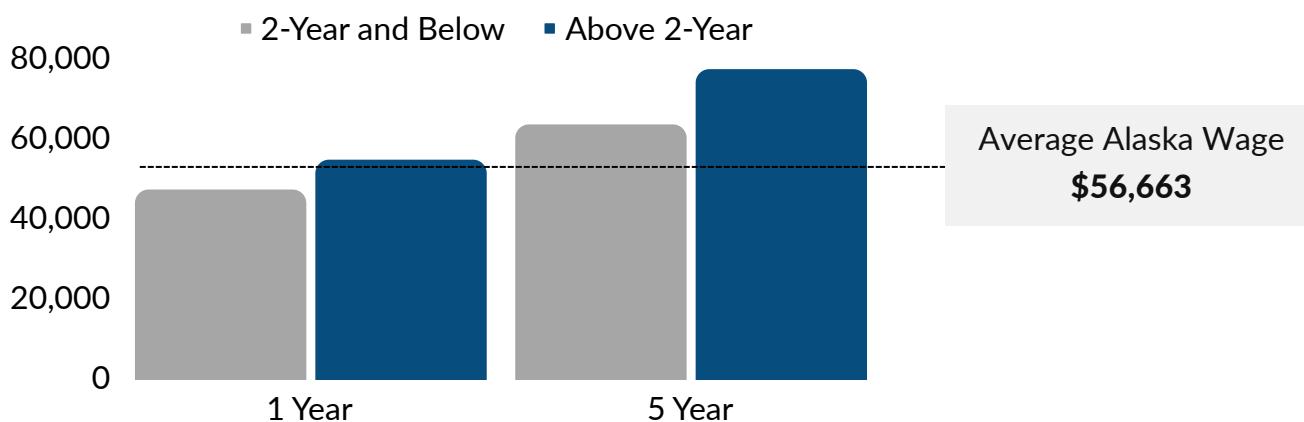
Since 2011, 26,948 students have graduated from programs relevant to Alaska's high-demand industries and produced the following outcomes:

Degree Type	Graduates	Employed in Alaska within 1 Year	Average First-Year Wage	Average Fifth-Year Wage
Certificate and Associate	10,794	80.8%	\$47,504	\$63,754
Bachelor and Above	16,154	74.3%	\$54,959	\$77,554



For comparison, residency is 79.8% for all Alaska workers.

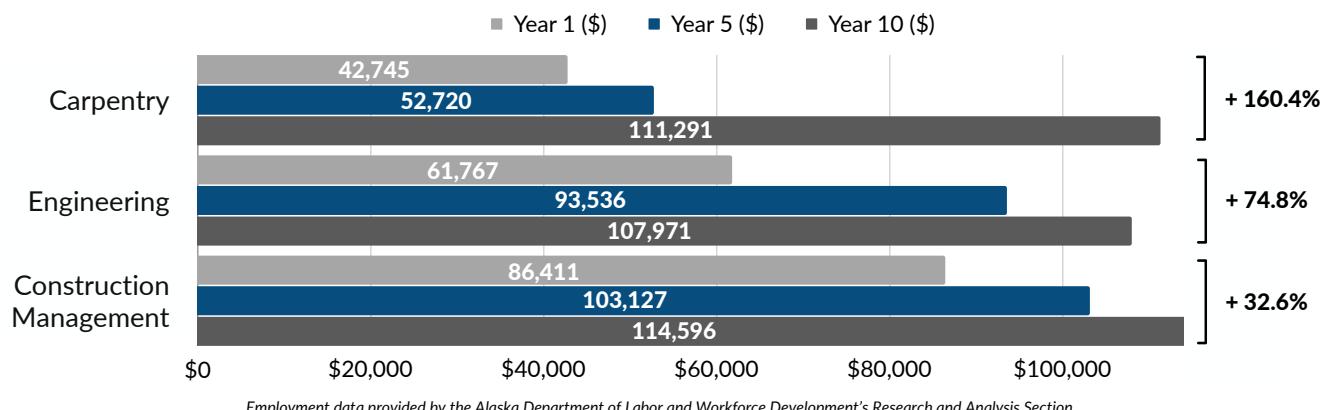
## UA Graduates' Average Wages



# Construction

Skilled construction workers are critical to building and maintaining Alaska's roads, ports, bridges, and other infrastructure. Growth for construction jobs almost always signals growth for the Alaska economy, and billions of investment from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act is significantly increasing the construction workforce needs. UA provides 46 programs important to Alaska's construction industry. Graduates work directly in construction as well as in closely related industries such as transportation, architecture, engineering, and state and local government. Below are graduate employment and wage outcomes, and highlights of FY23 TVEP investments.

## Wage Growth of High-Demand Jobs



### Highlights

**\$142,300\***

of TVEP FY23 funding invested in  
UA construction programs

- UAA Kenai Peninsula College converted the Industrial Process Instrumentation Program to increase accessibility for remote learning areas
- UAF CTC became accredited as an American Welding Society program
- UAS invested in equipment updates to expand course offerings

\*TVEP is one of several funding sources that supports UA construction programs

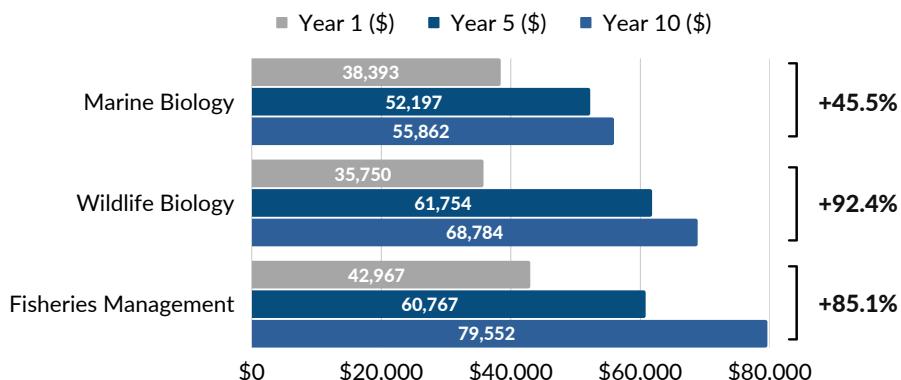
### Construction Graduates' Average Wage



# Fisheries, Seafood & Maritime

Alaska's fisheries are a major economic force in the state, and University of Alaska programs focus on everything from fisheries management to marine biology and oceanography. UA has identified 19 programs whose graduates are important to fisheries and marine science in Alaska. Detailed below are their employment wage outcomes, plus other information that can be used to assess UA programs and their usefulness to one of the state's key industries.

## Wage Growth of High-Demand Jobs



*Employment data provided by the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development's Research and Analysis Section*

## Highlights

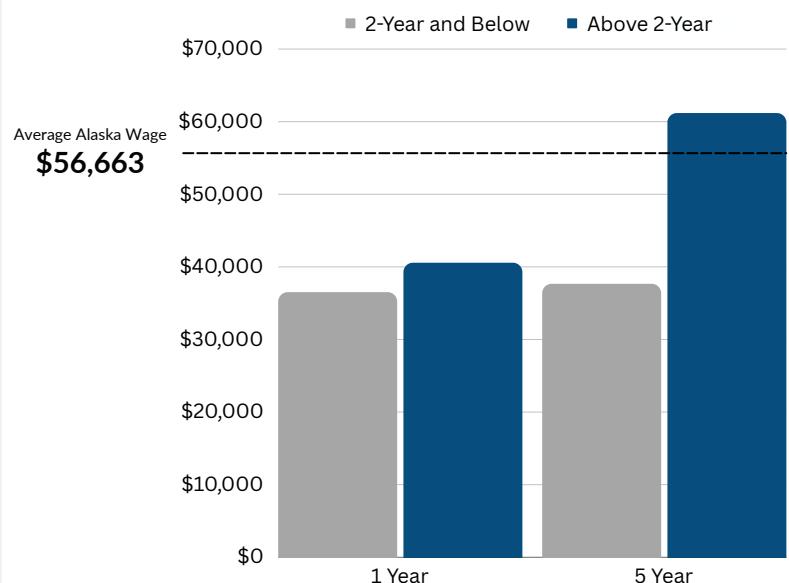
**\$1,002,900\***

of TVEP FY23 funding invested in UA fisheries, seafood, and maritime programs

- UAF CTC and Alaska Sea Grant developed a "Supervision and Leadership for Seafood Processors" Training Program targeting Alaska's seafood processing industry.
- UAS Sitka grew hands-on farming and nursery capacity for current faculty to develop new curriculum, work with mariculture products, and conduct professional development.

\*TVEP is one of several funding sources that supports UA fisheries, seafood, and maritime programs

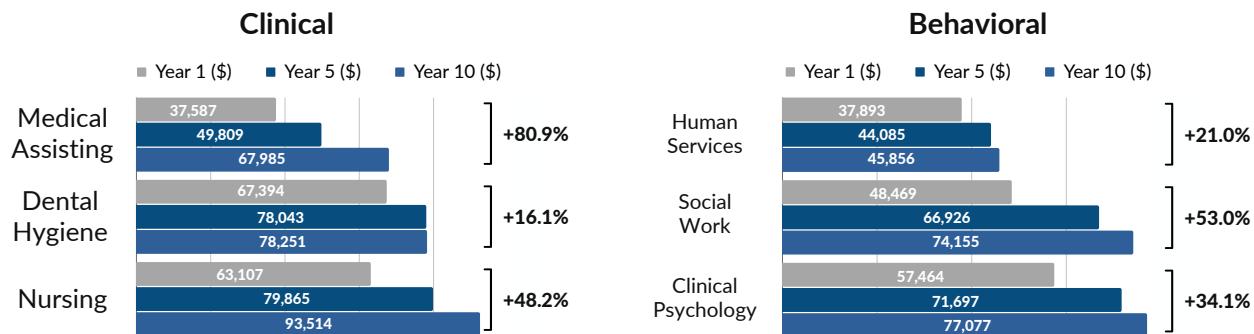
## Fisheries, Seafood & Maritime Graduates' Average Wage



# Healthcare

No industry has grown as much as health care over the last decade, and the University of Alaska has focused on meeting that strong demand, which is forecasted to continue for at least the next decade. More than 6,300 graduates from clinical and behavioral health programs were working in Alaska within a year after graduation, and 4,500 of them were working directly for health care employers.

## Wage Growth of High-Demand Jobs



*Employment data provided by the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development's Research and Analysis Section*

## Highlights

**\$1,969,000\***

of TVEP FY23 funding invested in UA healthcare programs

- UAA College of Health funding increased the number of nursing graduates and expanded opportunities for nursing education throughout the state.
- UAF CTC enabled online, hybrid, and in-person learning opportunities, utilizing the TVEP-funded paramedicine simulation lab, allowing students to gain experience.

\*TVEP is one of several funding sources that supports UA healthcare programs

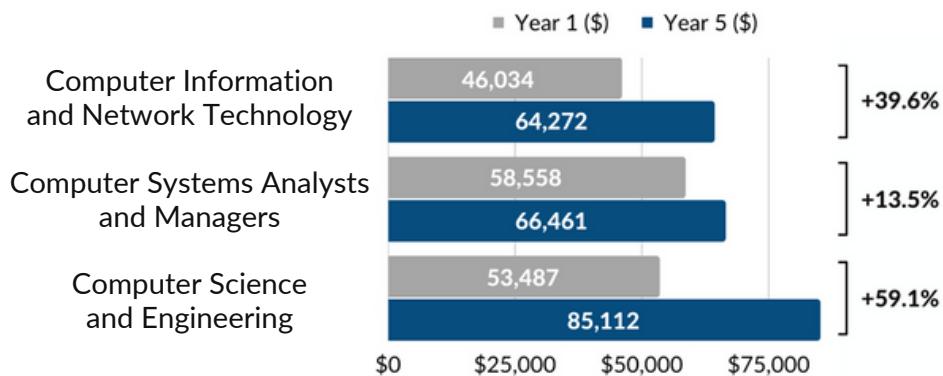
## Healthcare Graduates' Average Wage



# Information Technology

Graduates from IT programs find work in a range of private sector industries as well as in the public sector. About 30 percent of graduates from 14 UA programs found work in state or local government and another 26 percent in either companies categorized in either Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services or Information.

## Wage Growth of High-Demand Jobs



*Employment data provided by the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development's Research and Analysis Section*

### Highlights

**\$248,700\***

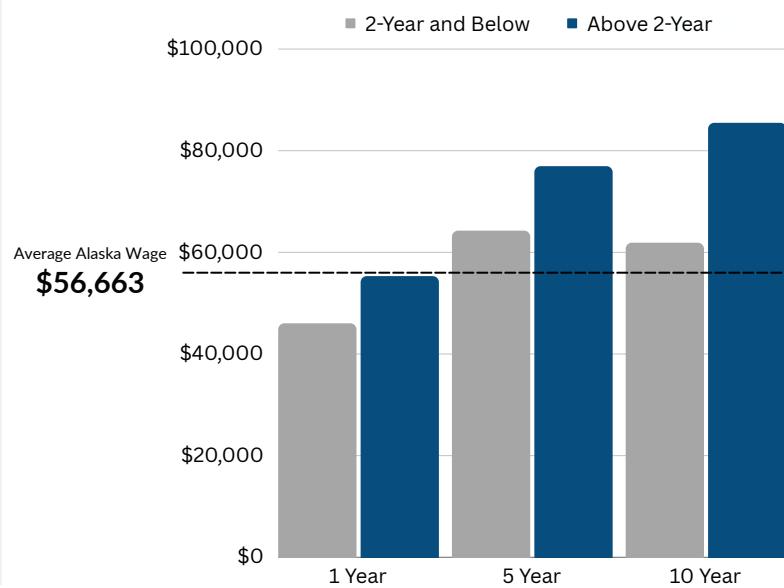
of TVEP FY23 funding invested in UA information technology programs

Placeholder

Placeholder

\*TVEP is one of several funding sources that supports UA information technology programs

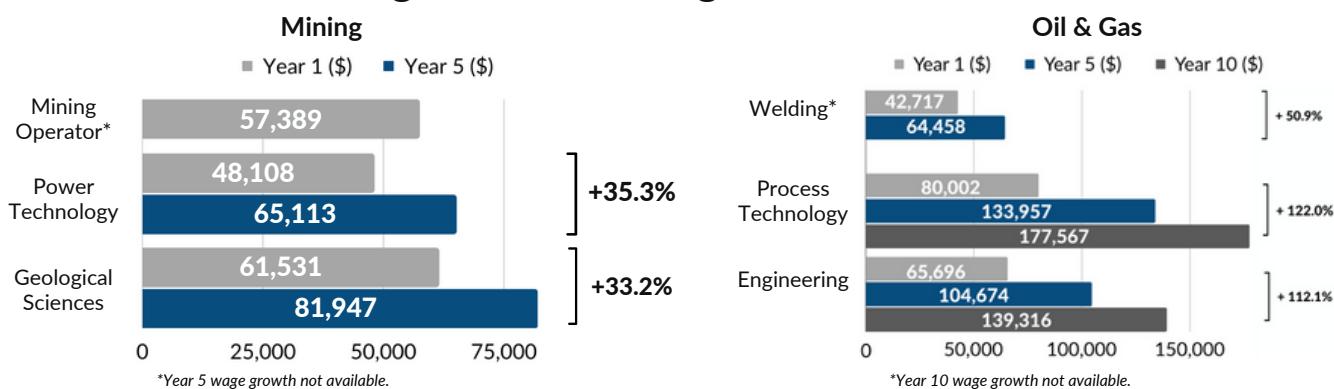
### Information Technology Graduates' Average Wage



# Mining, Oil, & Gas

Alaska's six large mines currently in production are already an important part of the state's economy, and the demand for the minerals and metals mined in Alaska is expected to grow. Factors include the ongoing transition to more electric vehicles and concerns about international supply chains. UA's mining programs are specifically targeted to industry's needs, and provide training critical to mining and other industries as well, such as oil and gas. As the oil and gas industry has been a primary driver of the Alaska economy for decades, wages are high and the education required for many of these jobs are also valuable to several other industries. Even prior to the worker shortage created partly by the pandemic and partly by demographics, engineers, welders, and process technicians were in high demand inside and outside of Alaska.

## Wage Growth of High-Demand Jobs



Employment data provided by the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development's Research and Analysis Section

## Highlights

**\$460,550\***

of TVEP FY23 funding invested in UA mining, oil, and gas programs

— PLACEHOLDER

— PLACEHOLDER

\*TVEP is one of several funding sources that supports UA mining, oil, and gas programs

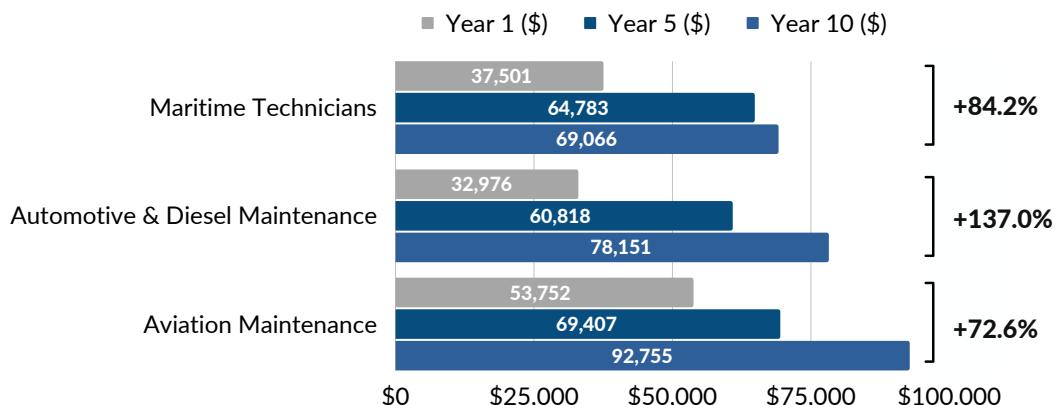
## Mining, Oil, and Gas Graduates' Average Wage



# Transportation

With more than 570,000 square miles of land — 16 percent of the U.S. total — and nearly 75,000 square miles of water, the transportation sector plays an outsized role in Alaska's economy. UA has 24 programs to train workers critical to the state's air, land, and water transportation infrastructure. Programs include training for pilots, air traffic controllers, heavy equipment operators, marine transport workers, and global supply chain managers, among others.

## Wage Growth of High-Demand Jobs



*Employment data provided by the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development's Research and Analysis Section*

### Highlights

**\$635,900\***

of TVEP FY23 funding invested in  
UA transportation programs

- UAA Aviation Maintenance Technology expanded courses to remote communities, advancing currently-employed individuals seeking FAA Mechanic certification through work experience.
- UAF Automotive Technology acquired new vehicles used to train students in diagnosis and repair, providing students with practical, hands-on mechanic experience.

\*TVEP is one of several funding sources that supports UA transportation programs

### Transportation Graduates' Average Wage





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*Many Traditions One Alaska*

 Office of Workforce Development

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