

# What do we know about the Alaska economy and where is it heading?

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# Outline

- 1 General Overview
  - Alaska's Economy: An overview of the last two years
- 2 Decomposition of the effects
  - Private channel
  - Government channel
- 3 Sectoral breakdown
- 4 What happens next?
  - Old forecast
  - Updated forecast
- 5 How do we reconcile the health of the economy with the need to close the budget gap ?

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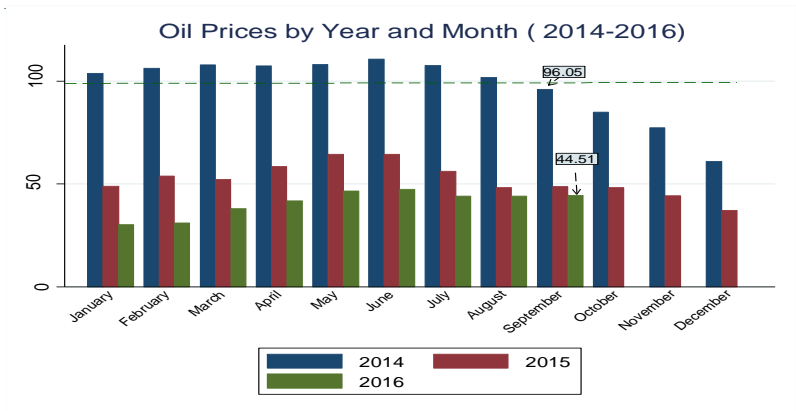
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# Summary

## A rapid decline

In August 2014, ANS oil prices stood at 101.78 dollars and the number of employees in the state was at 355,638. A year later, oil prices were down 52.5 percent at just over 48 dollars but employment was only down 100 jobs in that same time span

# Oil Prices

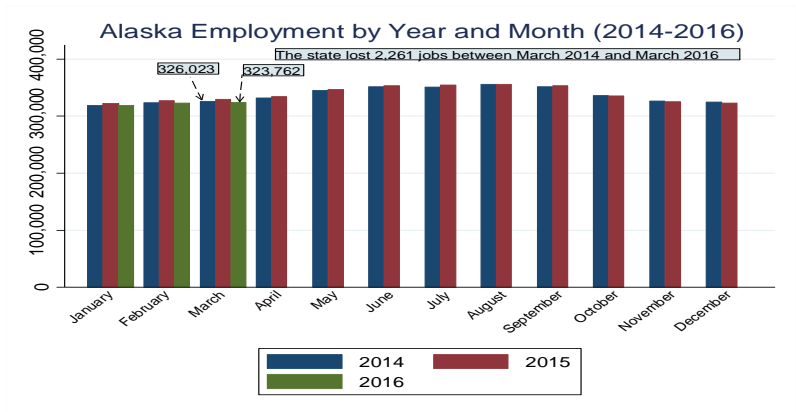


## Why the discrepancy?

The lack of job response in that first year of decline is not very surprising. That is because many projects that were already under way before the price decline had to be completed and much of the **state government generous capital budget allocations** in 2012, 2013, and 2014 were still making their way into the economy. The economy's health has weakened considerably since then.

Oil and Gas, Construction, and State Government have been the most affected sectors

# AK emp



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# Obvious Private Employment Channel: three subcomponents

- The first and most obvious is through direct employment in Oil & Gas
- The second is through purchases made by Oil & Gas firms from other Alaska companies in multiple sectors
- The third is through the local spending by Oil & Gas workers

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## Obvious Government channel

- This channel reflects the dependence of the state's finances on oil revenues. From 2005 to 2014, oil revenues averaged 90 percent of Alaska's "unrestricted general fund revenues"
- The government activities financed by these revenues support jobs in the state government, local government, and the private sector
- While it is easy to understand how state government jobs depend on the budget, it may be less clear when it comes to local government and private jobs

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# Less Obvious Government channel

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## Sectoral Breakdown

- State government and private industry were hardest hit through March 2016, with the state government losing nearly 1,700 jobs.
- Private industry lost a total of 1,518 jobs. By contrast, local governments (which include school districts) added nearly 800 jobs, and the number of federal civilian jobs was up 165 positions.

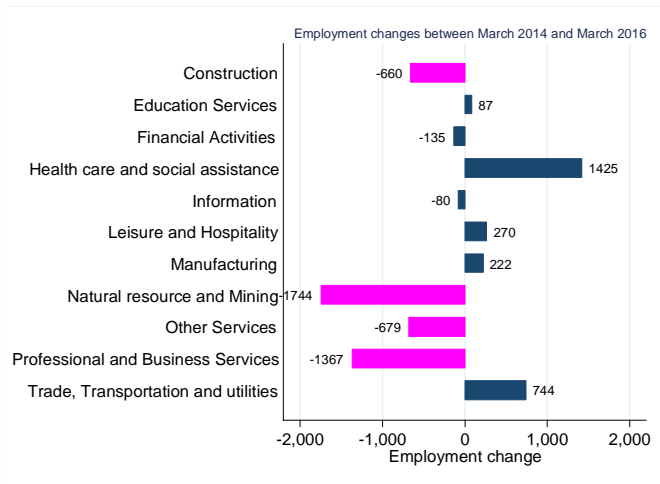
<u>March 2014 to March 2016</u>				
Private Sector	State Government	Federal Government	Local Government	Total
-1,518	-1,691	165	783	-2,261

## Sectoral Breakdown

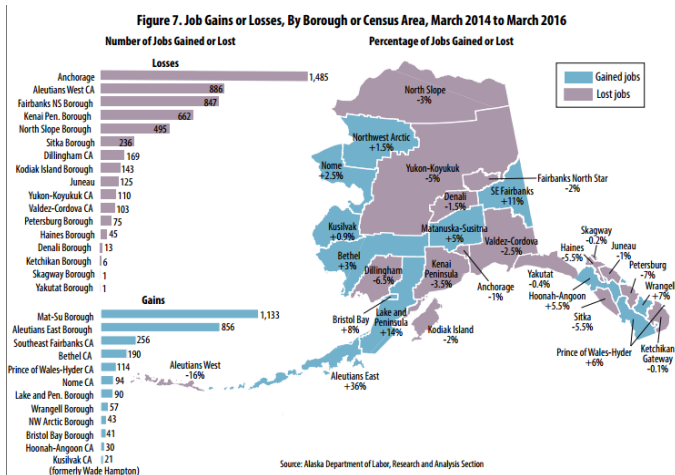
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## More refined sectoral breakdown



# Geographical breakdown



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# Geographical breakdown

<u>Boroughs &amp; Census Areas</u>	<u>Average Share of Employment in 2014</u>						
	<u>NatRes &amp; Mining</u>	<u>Construction</u>	<u>Professional &amp; Business services</u>	<u>State Gov</u>	<u>Local Gov</u>	<u>Total Without Local Government</u>	<u>Total With LG</u>
Aleutians East	NA	NA	1%	1%	13%	2%	15%
Aleutians West	1%	1%	4%	1%	12%	7%	19%
Anchorage	2%	5%	13%	7%	6%	27%	33%
Bethel	NA	1%	1%	5%	37%	7%	44%
Bristol Bay	NA	3%	2%	2%	12%	6%	18%
Denali Borough	NA	NA	7%	1%	6%	8%	14%
Dillingham Borough	NA	0%	1%	4%	23%	6%	28%
Fairbanks	4%	7%	6%	14%	8%	30%	39%
Haines	NA	NA	2%	4%	15%	7%	22%
Hoonah-Angoon Census Area	NA	3%	NA	2%	34%	5%	38%
Juneau	5%	4%	6%	24%	11%	38%	49%
Kenai	7%	5%	4%	6%	16%	22%	38%
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	2%	5%	3%	9%	15%	19%	35%
Kodiak	3%	4%	4%	4%	13%	15%	28%
Kusilvak Census Area (formerly Wade Hampton CA)	NA	NA	NA	1%	66%	1%	67%
Lake and Penn	NA	4%	NA	1%	49%	5%	53%
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	1%	8%	6%	7%	15%	22%	37%
Nome	NA	2%	4%	6%	36%	12%	48%
North Slope	57%	2%	13%	0%	12%	72%	84%
NWA	NA	NA	NA	3%	35%	3%	38%
Petersburg	3%	3%	3%	3%	25%	11%	36%
POW	6%	3%	2%	2%	43%	12%	55%
Sitka	NA	NA	4%	8%	15%	12%	27%
Skagway	NA	NA	NA	1%	12%	1%	13%
SE Fairbanks	19%	3%	9%	5%	12%	36%	48%
Valdez	3%	3%	6%	7%	17%	19%	36%
Wrangell	NA	3%	1%	3%	29%	7%	35%
Yakutat	NA	NA	NA	5%	32%	5%	37%

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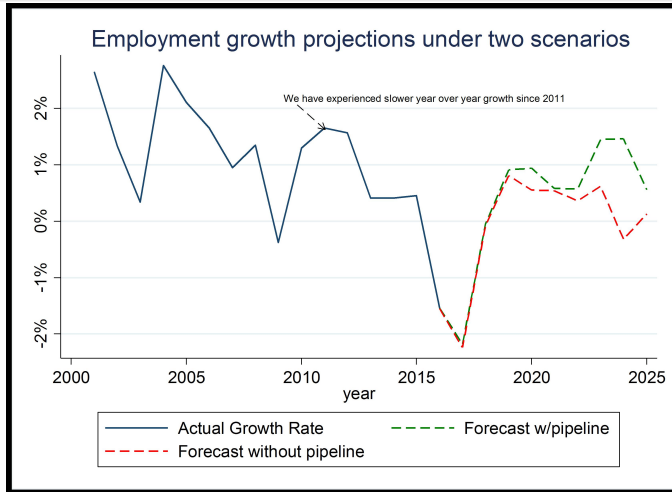
- We projected a decline in total employment of about 2 percent during 2016 and 2017 as a result of the lower oil prices, and cuts to the state capital budget which had already occurred but had not yet been reflected in actual capital spending
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# Old Forecast

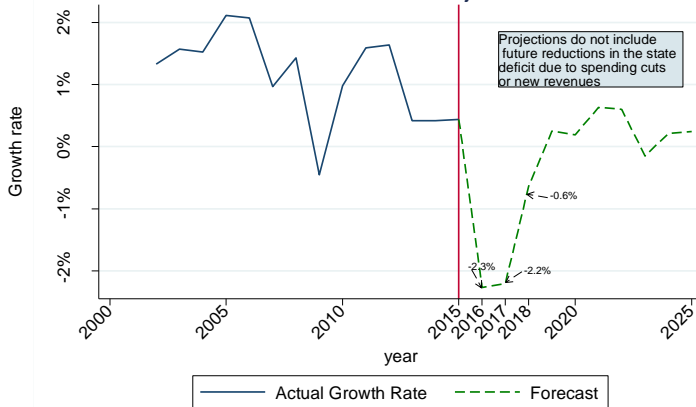


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# Summary of the Forecast

Annual Percentage Change in Total Alaska Employment:  
Historical and Projected



- One of the reasons for the prolonged decline of activity is the high multipliers of the most affected sectors

	<b>Multipliers of the most affected sectors</b>	
	<i>Model 1</i>	<i>Model 2</i>
Construction	1.85	2.05
Oil & Gas Extraction	2.71	2.02
Professional, Scientific and Technical services	1.73	2.09
Management companies and enterprises	1.92	2.09

# Does this tell us anything?

## A bit more explanation

In 2016, the losses were more concentrated than they will be in 2017

In 2017, we expect the supporting industries along with household spending dependent industries to suffer

By the end of 2017, employment will be back to 2010 levels which means the economy would have lost 15,000 jobs by then

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# A few thoughts on the future state of the economy

- We anticipate the next year to endure a similar decline of activity to the one we have just experienced
- The losses will be distributed across sectors as the multiplier makes its way through the economy
- While downside risk remains, we anticipate 2018 to be less weak and therefore potentially better able to absorb a shock stemming from the imposition of taxes or further cuts
- The long term health of the economy requires fiscal stability. Most of the available measure will potentially mean exacerbating and extending the current slowdown

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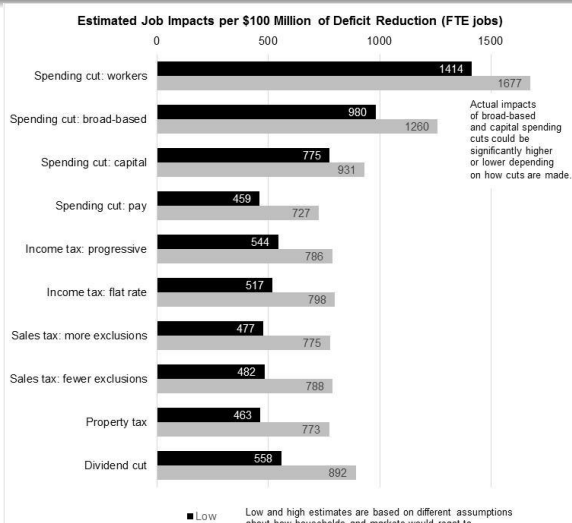
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# Employment impacts



# Differences between 1985 and 2015

- How does the economy compare to that of 1985?
  - The economy, measured by jobs, is about 50 percent larger than it was in 1985
  - Several industries (mining, tourism, air cargo) are considerably larger
  - PF is three times the size it was then
  - Assets have increased in value
  - Federal payments to individuals have also risen
  - Share of people over 65 has increased (Payments related to retirement and other transfers have increased seven fold)

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