

State Employment Statistics for 2016 (during the hiring freeze)

State Payroll Data

Not all state entities use the state accounting system; exceptions include the University of Alaska and a number of state corporations such as the Alaska Railroad, the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation, and the Alaska Gasline Development Corporation. The figures in the table that follows are based on those state agencies that do use the state accounting system; they represent the majority of state employees. The hiring freeze only applied to the executive branch.

In 2016, as shown in the table below, 2001 people left state employment. Of those, only 60 percent or 1197 were replaced. That is a net employee decrease of 804 employees. Of the 1197 that were replaced, 675 (56%) are more than half funded from sources other than unrestricted general funds. Those funding sources might be federal funds or designated state funds. These data do not reflect an increase in personnel, but show a decrease of 804 employees. In many cases, departments had employees retire or quit and some of these hires were replacement employees. Even during a hiring freeze, departing State Troopers and prison guards need to be replaced. The figures do not include temporary workers such as fire fighters and election workers.

Department	Employees that left state service (1)	Replacement employees (2)	Employees with greater than half their funding from federal or other designated funds, not unrestricted general funds (or less than 50% UGF) (3)	Employees reduced during the hiring freeze
Administration	-124	71	49	-53
Commerce	-75	35	33	-40
Corrections	-195	153	46	-42
Educ & Early Devel	-56	17	15	-39
Environ Conservation	-59	33	31	-26
Fish and Game	-225	106	55	-119
Governor	-16	13	2	-3
Health & Social Svcs	-476	277	76	-199
Labor & Workforce	-98	61	57	-37
Law	-74	37	15	-37
Military & Veterans Affairs	-33	25	19	-8
Natural Resources	-90	62	34	-28
Public Safety	-94	45	3	-49
Revenue	-55	36	31	-19
Transportation	-331	226	209	-105
Total	-2001	1197	675	-804

Source: Division of Personnel and Labor Relations (Recruitment Services)

Department of Labor and Workforce Development Data

Including all facets of state government, overall state employment has decreased by 2,500 people since October 2014, according to data collected by the Department of Labor and Workforce Development. This represents a substantial decrease in the actual number of people to whom the state sends a paycheck. These data are available online at: <http://live.laborstats.alaska.gov/ces/ces.cfm?at=01&a=000000&adj=0>. When looking at these data it is important to compare the same month each year (e.g., October to October) as there tend to be considerable seasonal changes in employment.