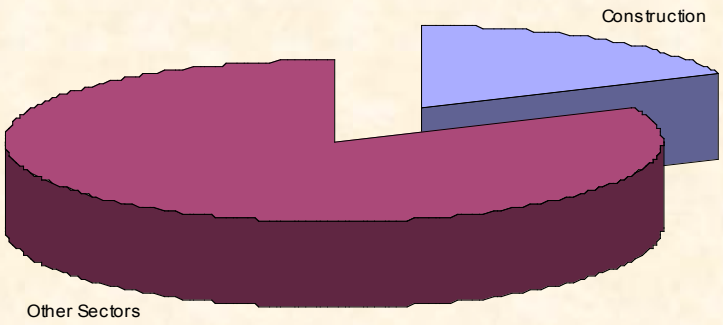
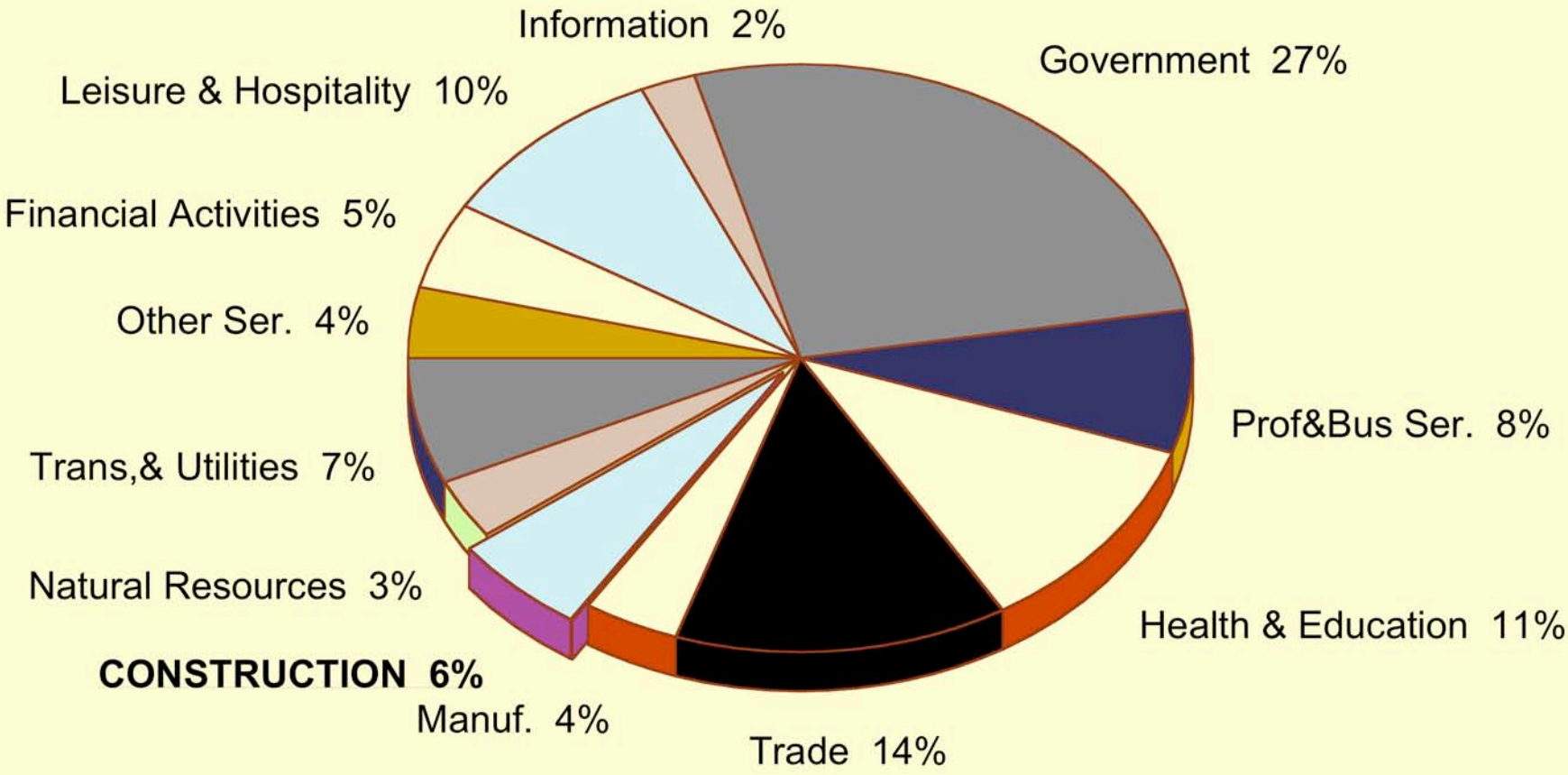
Alaska's Skilled Laborers Are there enough?

Richard Cattanach
Associated General Contractors of Alaska

Alaska Construction Spending 2005

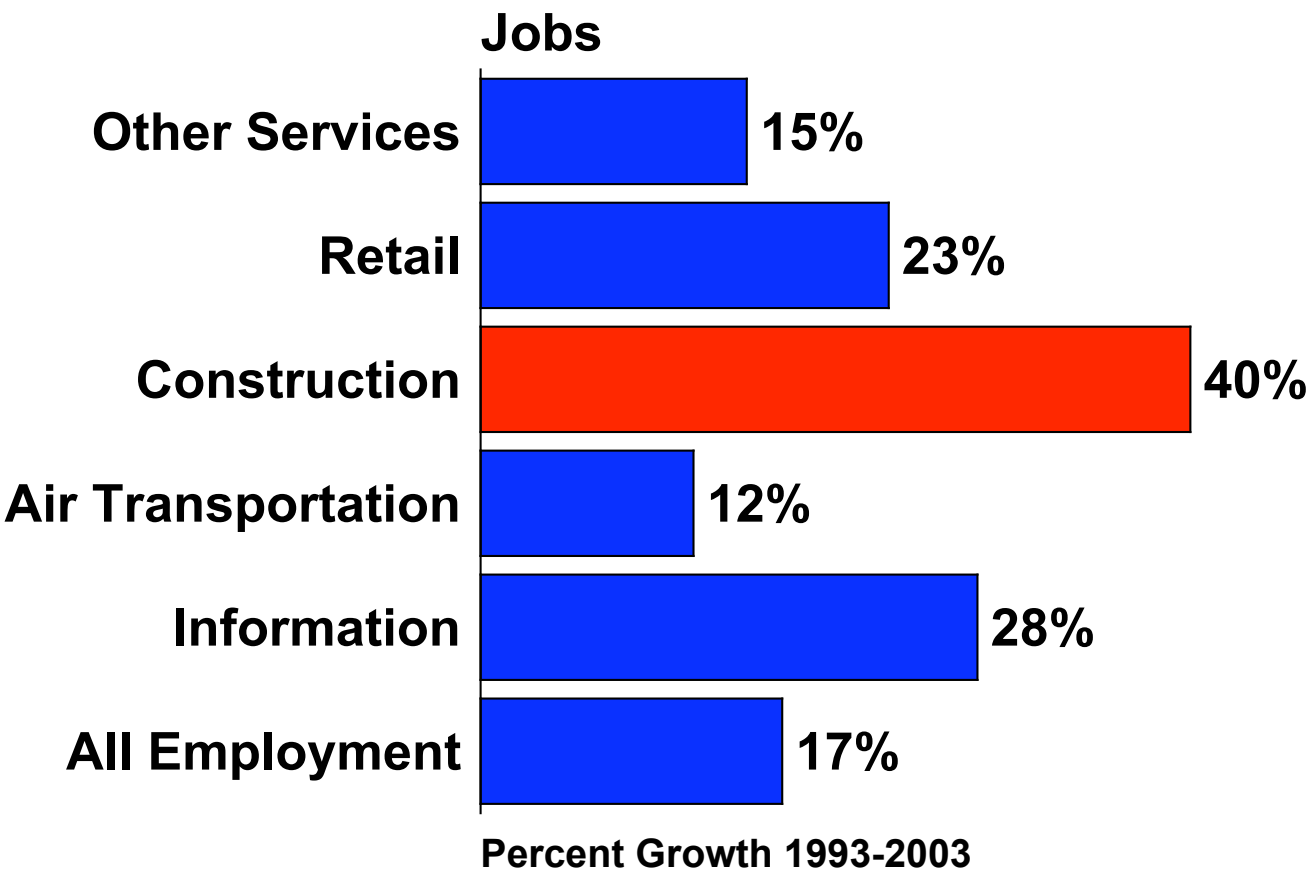


Alaska's Construction Industry Employment 2004



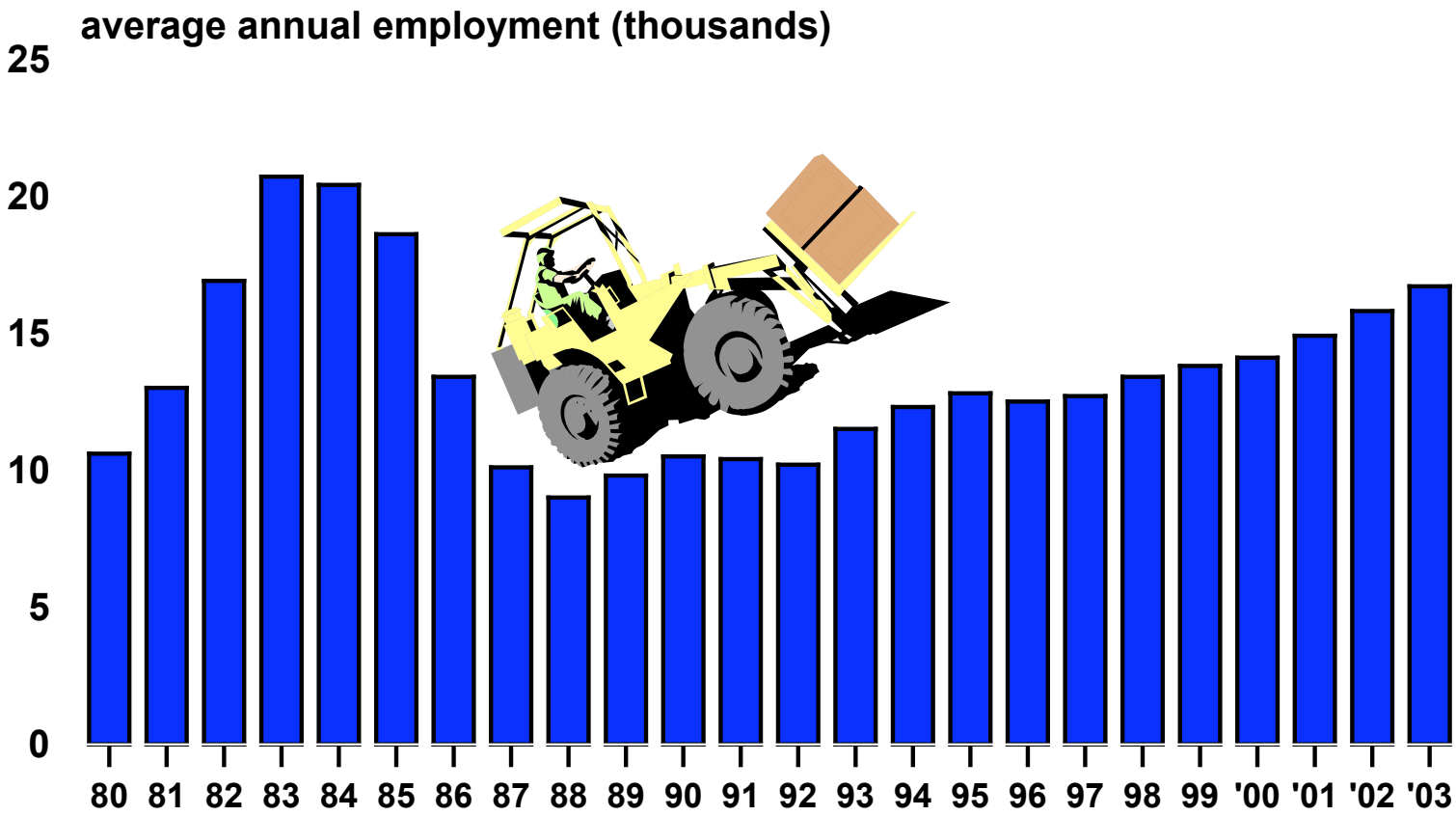
Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis.

Construction has been one of the State's Stars Over the Past Decade



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

Alaska's Construction Industry
The Picture of Stability Since 1989



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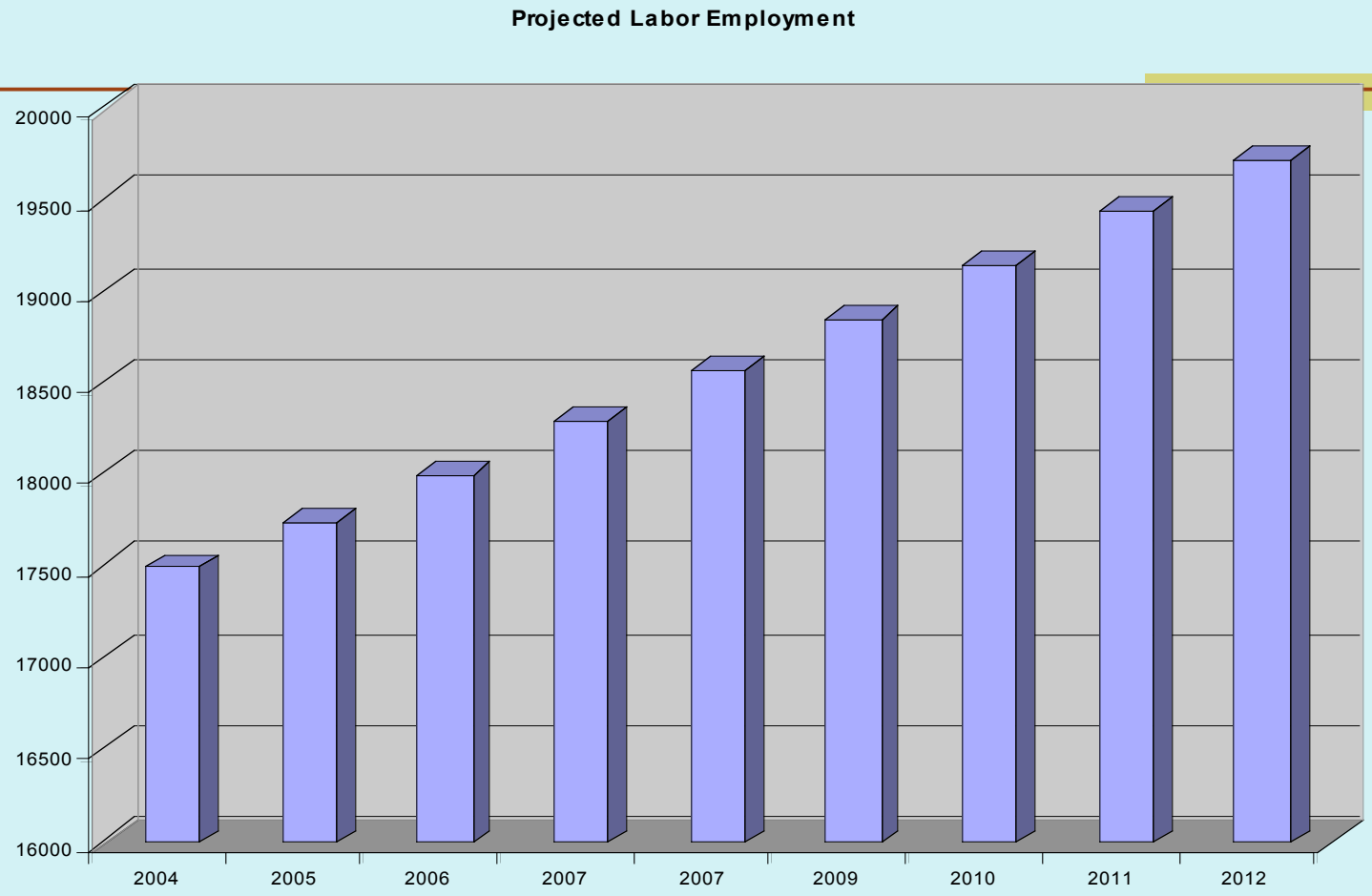
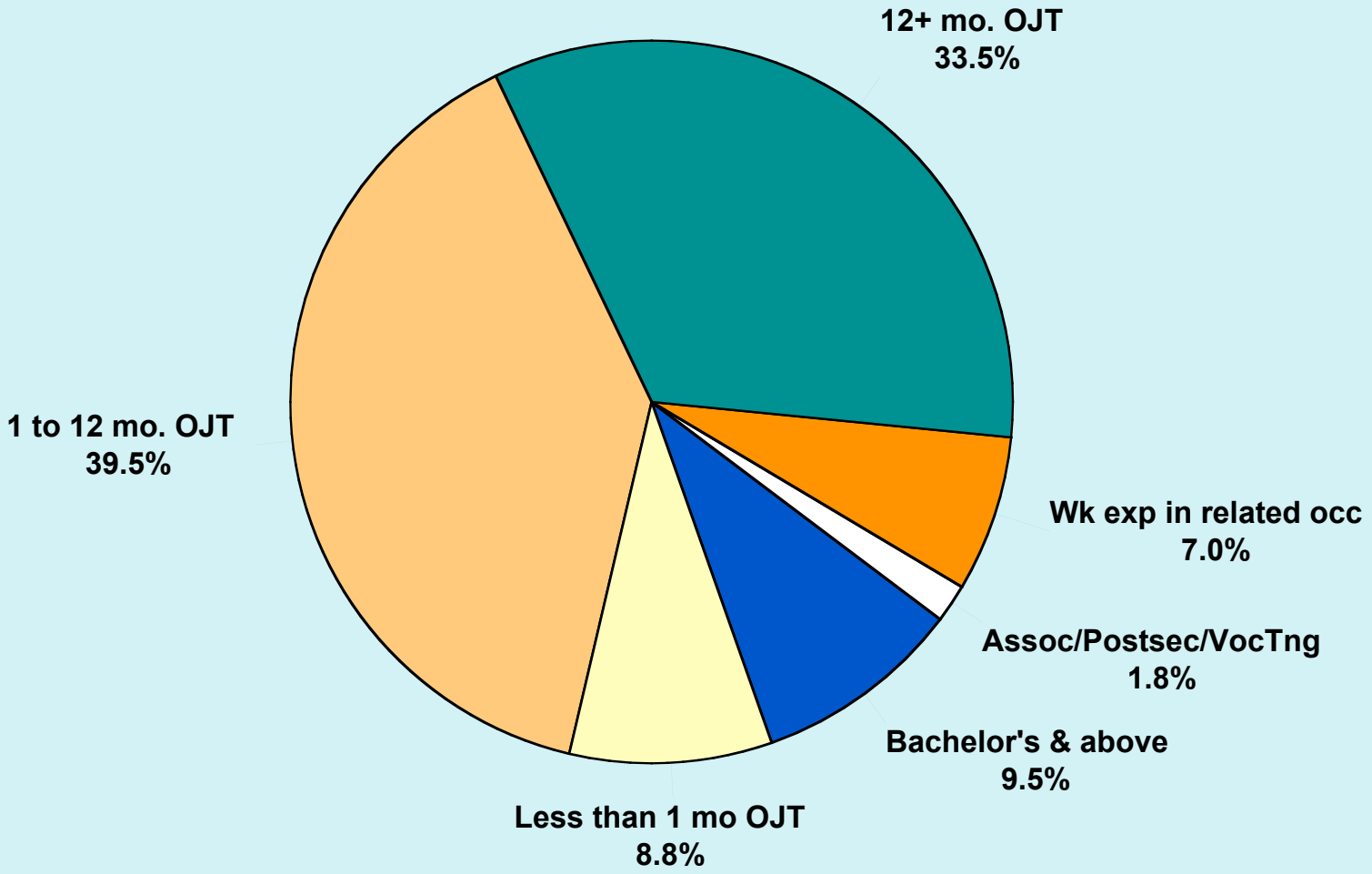

Projected Labor Employment
20000
19500
19000
18500
18000
17500
17000
16500
16000
2004
2005
2006
2007
2007
2009
2010
2011
2012

Construction Pays High Wages

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

Alaska's Current Construction Jobs by Level of Required Education

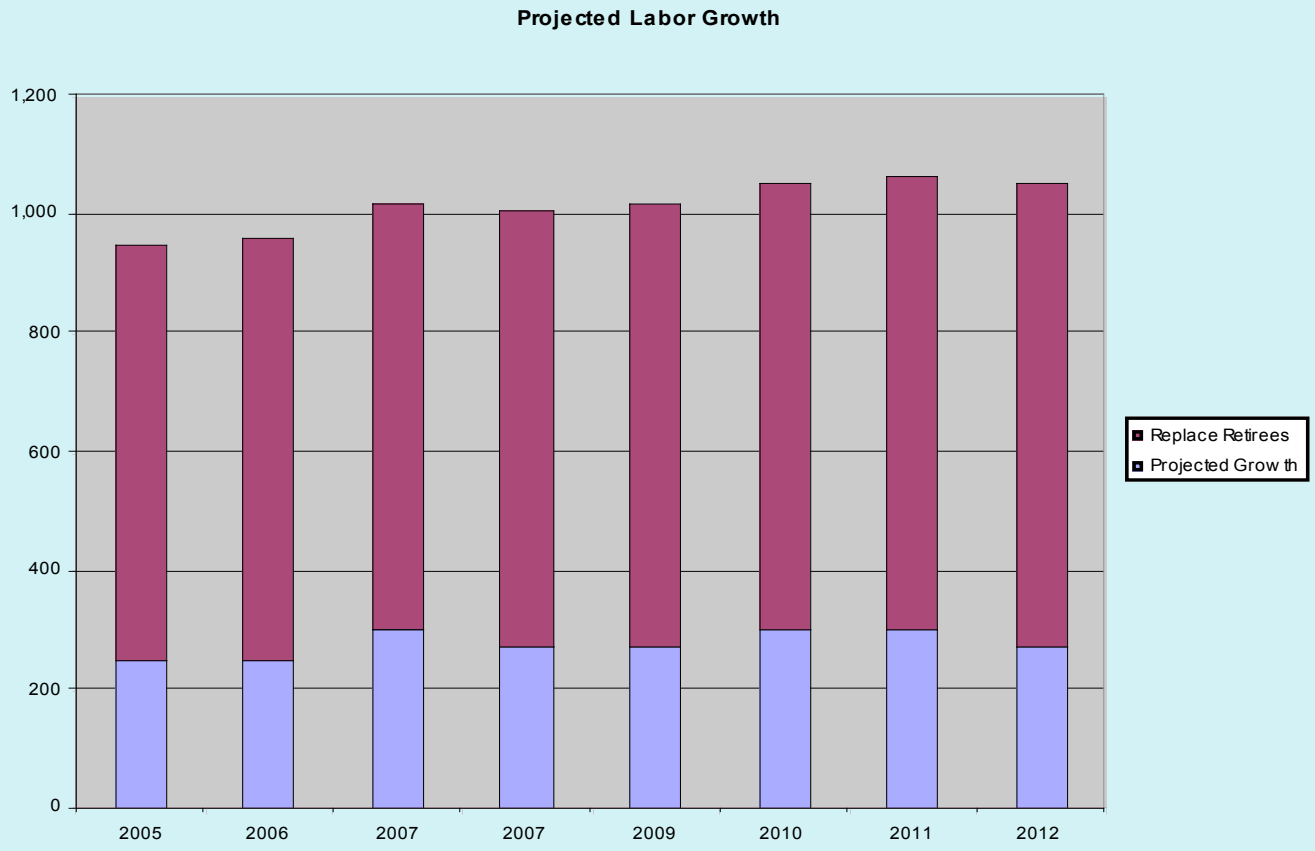
Estimated 2002



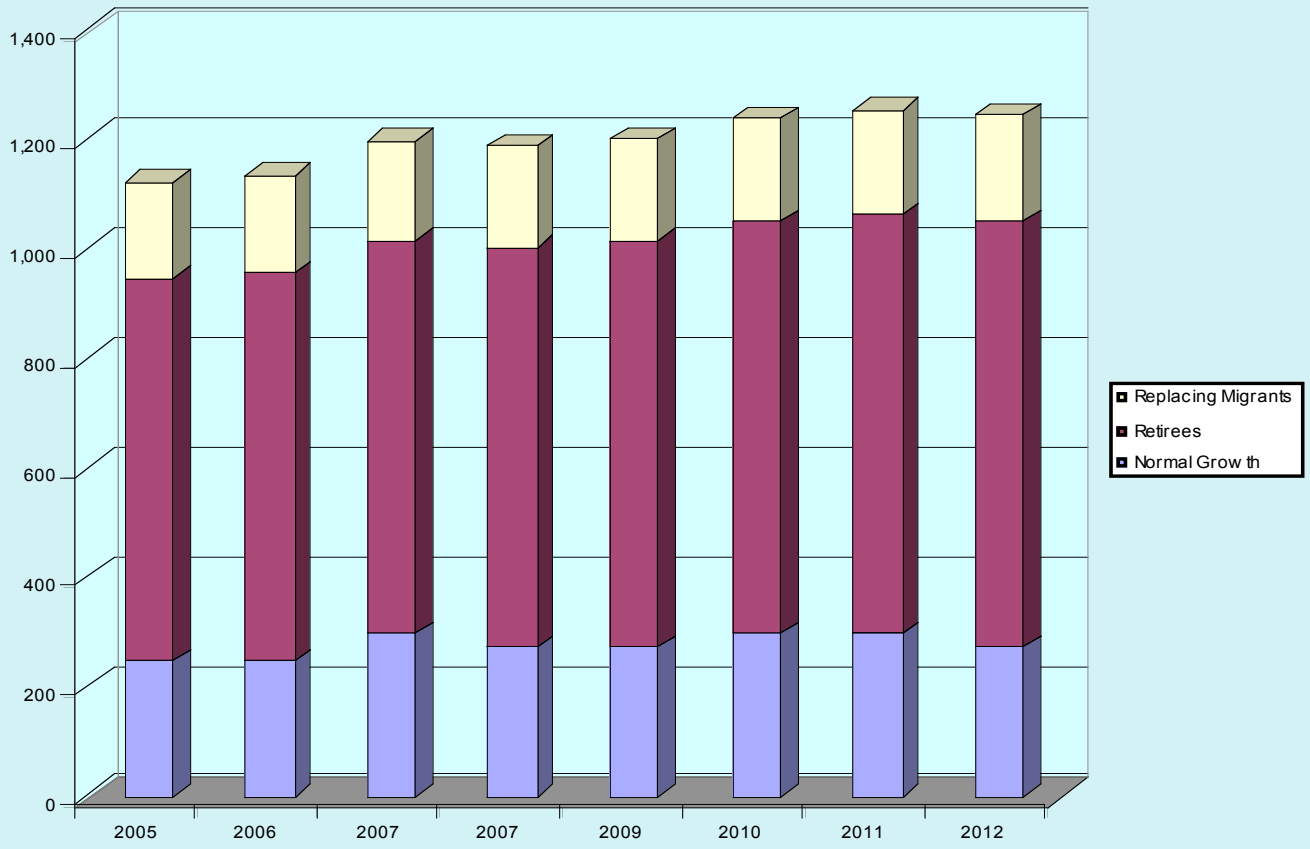
Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research & Analysis Section

	Non-Resident Workers %[13]	Workers 45+ %[14]
Carpenters	17.4	30.1
Construction Laborers	16.8	22.6
Electricians	19.5	31.4
Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	17.6	29.2
Operating Engineers and Other Construction Equipment Operators	17.2	45.2
Construction Managers	16.7	56.3
Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	14.7	42.2

Projected Labor Growth



Projected Labor Growth – Including Migrants

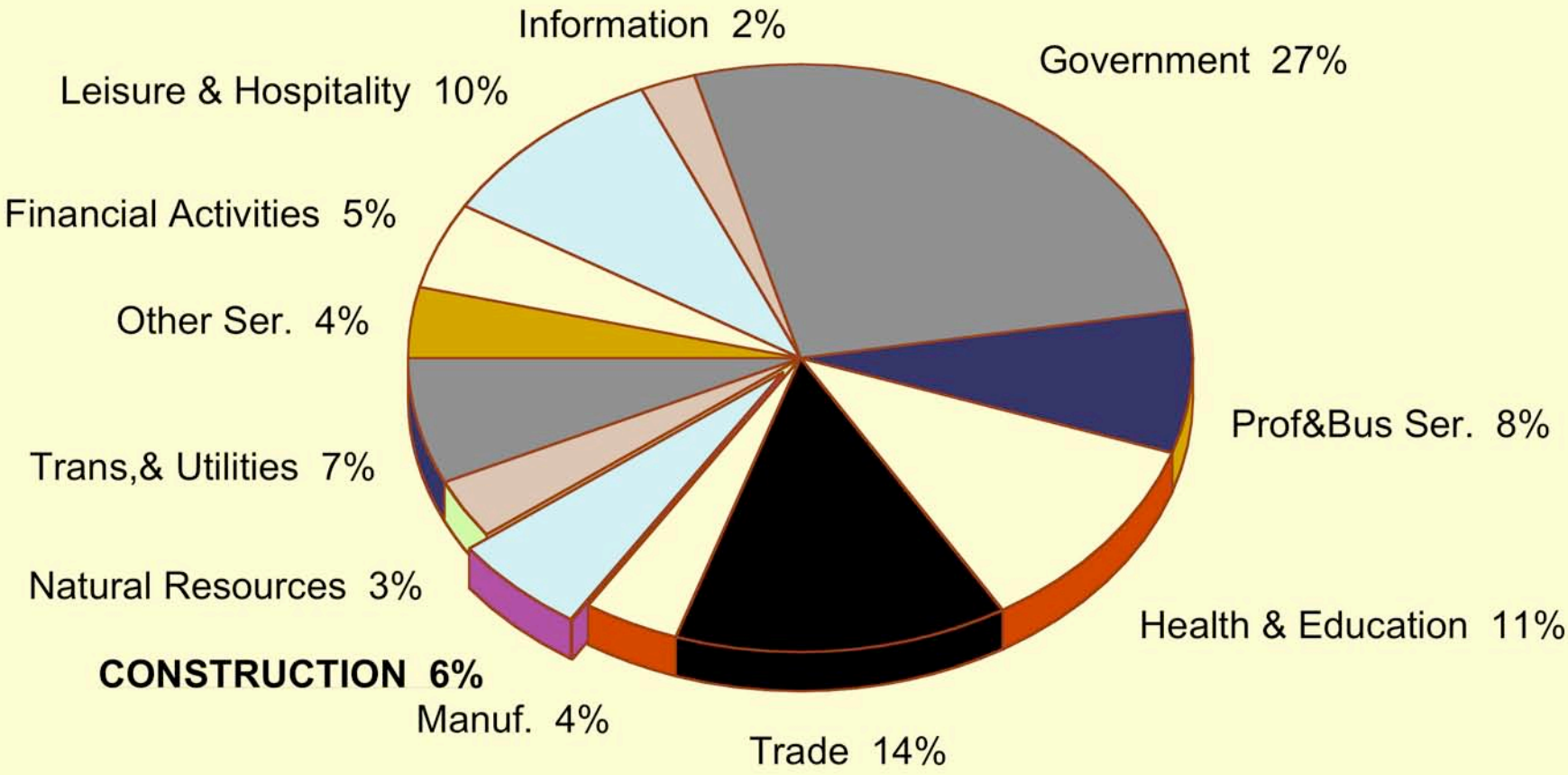


Labor Needs Relative to High School Graduates

- High School Graduates –
  - Average 1999- 2003 7,000
- Number going to College
  30% 2,100
- Available to enter workforce 4,900
- Construction Needs 2005 1,125

- Percentage of New Graduates Needed ***23%***

Alaska's Construction Industry Employment 2004



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

Advantages of Construction

Job opportunities are expected to be excellent in the construction industry, especially for workers with training and experience.

Opportunities will result from both newly created positions and the need to replace existing workers.

Seven of the top ten occupations ranked for training priority – across all industries -- are found in construction.

Workers in construction have relatively high hourly wages.

Training Rank

1. Registered Nurses
2. **General and Operations Managers**
3. Airline Pilots, Copilots, and Flight Engineers
4. **First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Construction Trades**
5. **Operating Engineers and Other Construction Equipment Operators**
6. **Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer**
7. **Electricians**
8. Petroleum Pump System Operators, Refinery Operators and Gaugers
9. **Construction Managers**
10. **Carpenters**

Bolded Occupations are those found in the construction industry.

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

Potential Labor Shortages

Craft	Current	Pipeline
Plumbers, Pipefitters	868	450
Equipment Operators	774	2,100
Truck Drivers	293	1,700
Laborers	1,590	1,300

Potential Labor Shortages

Plumbers & Pipefitters	52%
Equipment Operators	271%
Truck Drivers	580%
Laborers	82%

What's Being Done

- Current Apprenticeship Programs
  - 120 Completed Training in 2003
  - 10% of Need
- State Efforts

  No long term strategy in place

  $20 million training funds for Gas line
- AGC Efforts

  Build Up

  NCCER

  UAA