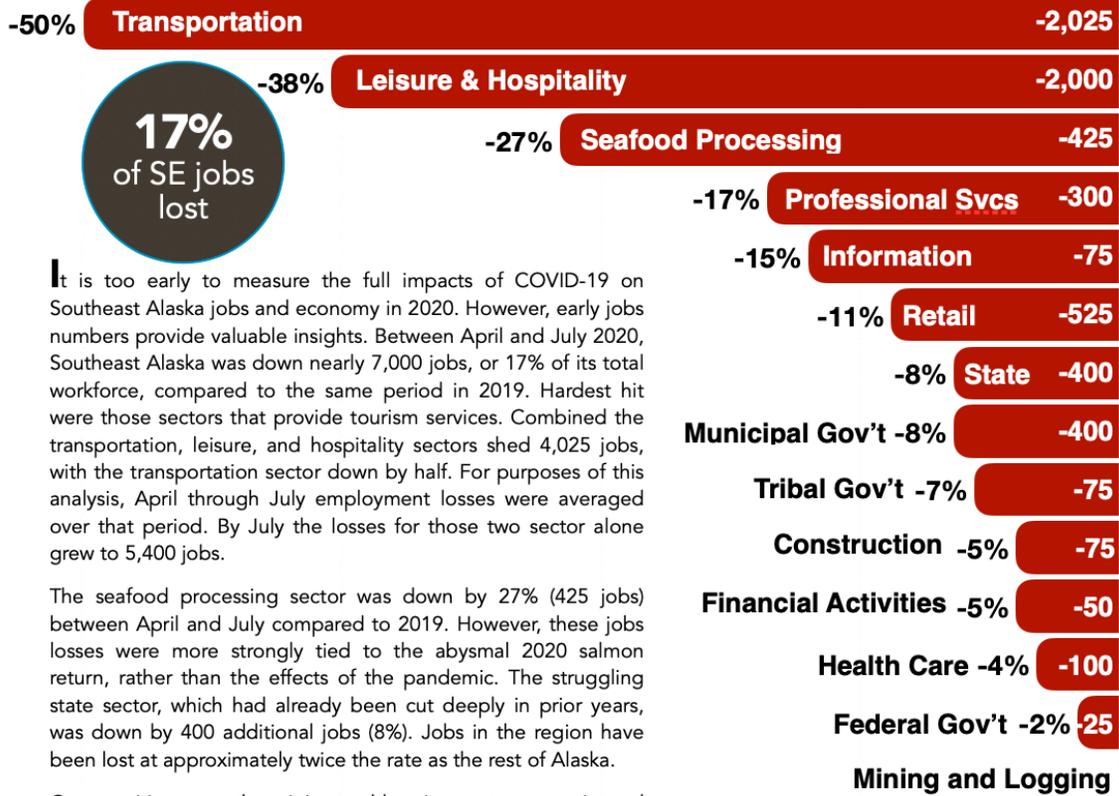


2020 Southeast Jobs COVID Impacts

Change in Southeast Jobs: **April to July 2020 Compared to 2019 = -6,850**



17%
of SE jobs
lost

It is too early to measure the full impacts of COVID-19 on Southeast Alaska jobs and economy in 2020. However, early jobs numbers provide valuable insights. Between April and July 2020, Southeast Alaska was down nearly 7,000 jobs, or 17% of its total workforce, compared to the same period in 2019. Hardest hit were those sectors that provide tourism services. Combined the transportation, leisure, and hospitality sectors shed 4,025 jobs, with the transportation sector down by half. For purposes of this analysis, April through July employment losses were averaged over that period. By July the losses for those two sector alone grew to 5,400 jobs.

The seafood processing sector was down by 27% (425 jobs) between April and July compared to 2019. However, these jobs losses were more strongly tied to the abysmal 2020 salmon return, rather than the effects of the pandemic. The struggling state sector, which had already been cut deeply in prior years, was down by 400 additional jobs (8%). Jobs in the region have been lost at approximately twice the rate as the rest of Alaska.

On a positive note, the mining and logging sectors experienced no changes in workforce levels during this period. Note that self-employment data for this period is not available, and has not been included in this analysis. Approximately one-fifth of Southeast jobs fall into this category.

COVID-19 Impacts 2020

Southeast Alaska July Unemployment 2020

Between July of 2019 and July of 2020 the Southeast Alaska unemployment rate jumped from 4.7% to 11.3%, more than doubling. The Skagway Borough currently has the second highest unemployment rate in Alaska as a whole, with an unemployment rate of 19.1%. Sitka has the lowest regional unemployment rate. Southeast Alaska's unemployment rate was higher than that of the state or nation for July.

