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Press Release

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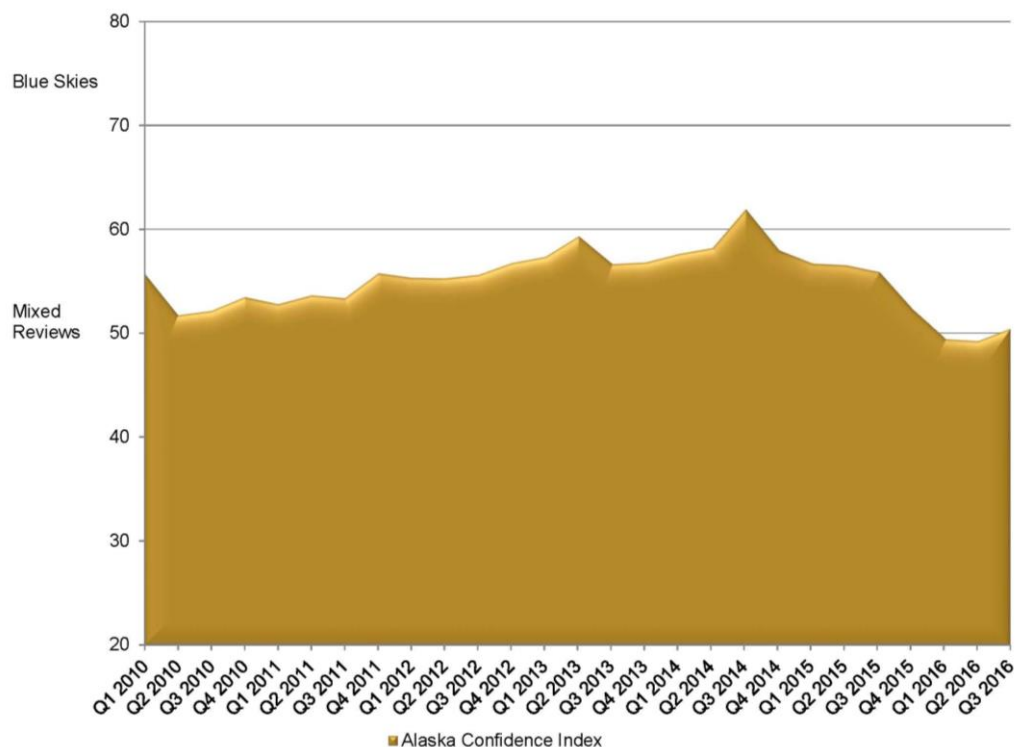
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Alaskans' Economic Confidence Increasing

November 2, 2016 ANCHORAGE – Alaskans' economic confidence is rebounding, according to the Alaska Confidence Index (ACI) released by the Alaska Division of Economic Development today. The overall index rose from below the 50 point mark to 50.5 during the third quarter of 2016. Driving the index's gain was a swing in Alaskans' personal economic confidence in the present and for the future. Current and future expectations for local and state economic conditions halted their multi-quarter decline. While still depressed from historic levels, overall state and local economic expectations didn't worsen in the third quarter.

"There are a number of reasons Alaskans may be feeling somewhat more confident about the economy," said Britteny Cioni-Haywood, Director for the Division of Economic Development. "The 2016 summer visitor season is projected to be one of the strongest yet, the stock market hit an all-time high in August and September, and during the survey period Alaskans were anticipating the arrival of their permanent fund dividend."



The ACI is a measure of Alaska household's confidence in the health of the local economy, their personal financial situation, and their expectations for the future. Northern Economics, Inc. generates the ACI using data collected by the Alaska Survey, is a random quarterly sample of at least 750 Alaska households. The ACI is comprised of six individual components: State Economy Confidence, Local Economy Confidence, Personal Financial Confidence, and Expectations for the Future (State, Local, and Personal), and is expressed using a value of 0 to 100. Values above 50 represent relative confidence in the economy, while values below 50 indicate lack of confidence. The ACI is supported by a sponsorship by the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development.

Housed within Alaska State Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, the Division of Economic Development supports the growth and diversification of Alaska's economy through policy, promotion, financing, and business assistance. For additional information about the division, please visit commerce.alaska.gov/web/DED. To learn more about DCCED and its other agencies, please visit commerce.alaska.gov.

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