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Press Release

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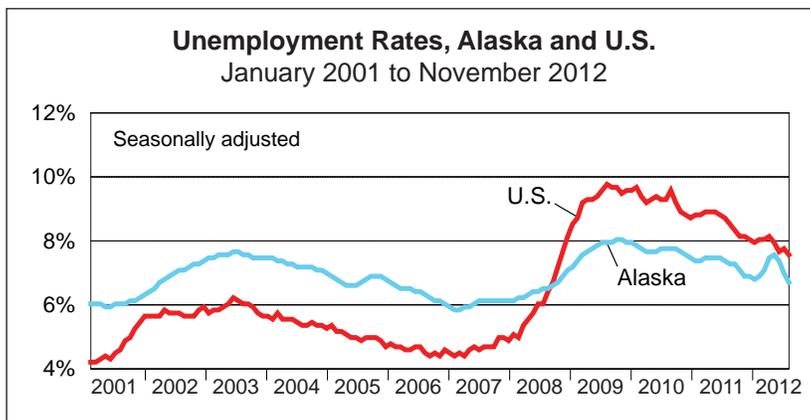
Unemployment rate at 6.8 percent in November

Alaska's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell three-tenths of a percentage point in November to 6.8 percent. The comparable national rate was 7.7 percent, down from 7.9 percent in October.

Alaska's November decrease marks the third straight month of lower rates since August. Recent declines have returned the rate close to what it was before summer, and brought it slightly below the state's 10-year average. The national rate remains just over a percentage point above its average over the same period.

Alaska's not-seasonally adjusted rate in November was 6.6 percent, up from October's revised rate of 5.9 percent. Increases in the unadjusted rate are normal this time of year, after the end of summer employment.

The highest and lowest November rates for Alaska's boroughs and census areas — which are not seasonally adjusted — were both in Southeast. Juneau's rate was lowest at 4.7 percent. Skagway, which largely depends on summer tourism, was highest at 22.0 percent.



Unemployment Rates, Seasonally Adjusted			
	11/12	10/12	11/11
Alaska	6.8%	7.1%	7.4%
U.S.	7.7%	7.9%	8.7%

Sources for graph and table: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section; and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

For detailed employment estimates, see <http://live.laborstats.alaska.gov/ces/>. The estimates are preliminary and subject to potentially large revisions.

Contact: Neal Fried, Economist (907) 269-4861
Research and Analysis Web site: <http://laborstats.alaska.gov>

Labor Force by Borough and Census Area, Not Seasonally Adjusted¹

	Civilian Labor Force			Unemployed					
	11/12 ^P	10/12	11/11	Number			Rate		
				11/12 ^P	10/12	11/11	11/12 ^P	10/12	11/11
Alaska Statewide	359,975	361,318	365,609	23,633	21,402	26,146	6.6	5.9	7.2
Anchorage/Mat-Su Region	199,148	197,159	202,407	10,909	9,911	12,329	5.5	5.0	6.1
Municipality of Anchorage	156,438	155,146	158,750	7,731	7,222	8,591	4.9	4.7	5.4
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	42,710	42,013	43,657	3,178	2,689	3,738	7.4	6.4	8.6
Gulf Coast Region	38,404	38,758	38,826	3,072	2,714	3,515	8.0	7.0	9.1
Kenai Peninsula Borough	26,798	26,944	27,043	2,119	1,915	2,408	7.9	7.1	8.9
Kodiak Island Borough	6,895	6,999	7,004	476	358	625	6.9	5.1	8.9
Valdez-Cordova Census Area	4,711	4,815	4,779	477	441	482	10.1	9.2	10.1
Interior Region	54,367	55,097	54,816	3,623	3,180	3,999	6.7	5.8	7.3
Denali Borough	790	835	874	152	127	168	19.2	15.2	19.2
Fairbanks North Star Borough	46,943	47,601	47,101	2,662	2,348	2,992	5.7	4.9	6.4
Southeast Fairbanks Census Area	3,487	3,482	3,643	378	320	377	10.8	9.2	10.3
Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area	3,147	3,179	3,198	431	385	462	13.7	12.1	14.4
Northern Region	13,161	13,147	13,076	1,120	1,080	1,172	8.5	8.2	9.0
Nome Census Area	4,332	4,348	4,289	440	423	454	10.2	9.7	10.6
North Slope Borough	5,744	5,654	5,562	278	267	300	4.8	4.7	5.4
Northwest Arctic Borough	3,085	3,145	3,225	402	390	418	13.0	12.4	13.0
Southeast Region	37,958	38,789	38,710	2,553	2,238	2,830	6.7	5.8	7.3
Haines Borough	1,148	1,276	1,143	107	84	110	9.3	6.6	9.6
Hoonah-Angoon Census Area	840	923	831	159	107	150	18.9	11.6	18.1
Juneau, City and Borough of	18,078	18,126	18,588	849	775	921	4.7	4.3	5.0
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	7,641	7,898	7,831	508	460	578	6.6	5.8	7.4
Petersburg Census Area	1,649	1,710	1,656	180	145	173	10.9	8.5	10.4
Prince of Wales-Hyder Census Area	2,320	2,422	2,388	281	250	330	12.1	10.3	13.8
Sitka, City and Borough of	4,427	4,380	4,361	238	200	272	5.4	4.6	6.2
Skagway, Municipality of	559	633	598	123	110	161	22.0	17.4	26.9
Wrangell, City and Borough of	1,034	1,096	1,065	84	84	106	8.1	7.7	10.0
Yakutat, City and Borough of	262	325	249	24	23	29	9.2	7.1	11.6
Southwest Region	16,939	18,371	17,774	2,357	2,279	2,301	13.9	12.4	12.9
Aleutians East Borough	948	1,164	936	180	130	172	19.0	11.2	18.4
Aleutians West Census Area	2,658	3,386	2,834	371	350	359	14.0	10.3	12.7
Bethel Census Area	7,198	7,430	7,558	983	992	937	13.7	13.4	12.4
Bristol Bay Borough	550	567	532	36	34	41	6.5	6.0	7.7
Dillingham Census Area	1,803	1,842	1,902	184	178	193	10.2	9.7	10.1
Lake and Peninsula Borough	1,045	1,183	1,045	71	62	73	6.8	5.2	7.0
Wade Hampton Census Area	2,737	2,799	2,967	532	533	526	19.4	19.0	17.7

P = Preliminary. As more information becomes available, data are revised every month for the previous month and again at the end of every calendar year.

Note: The official definition of unemployment excludes anyone who has not made an active attempt to find work in the four-week period up to and including the week that includes the 12th of the reference month. Many in rural Alaska do not meet the definition because they have not conducted an active job search due to the scarcity of employment opportunities.

¹Unemployment rates that are not seasonally adjusted should not be compared with those that are.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section; and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics