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## Press Release

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### Unemployment rate at 6.5 percent in February

Alaska's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 6.5 percent in February, down two-tenths of a percentage point from January's rate. The comparable national rate was 7.7 percent.

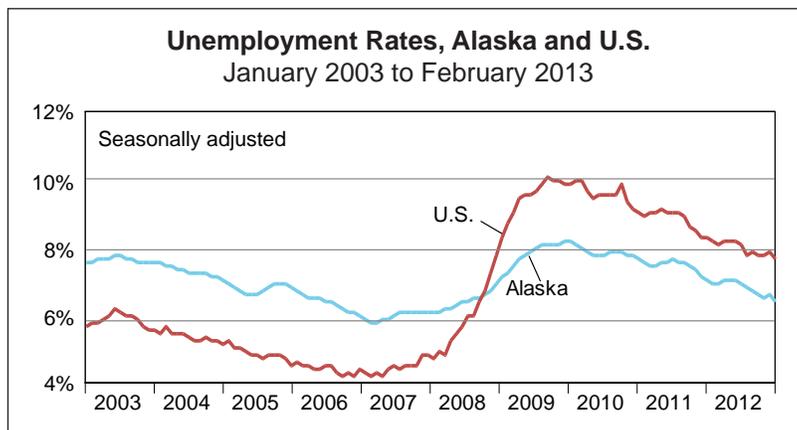
Alaska's February rate was below the 10-year average of 7.1 percent, while the national rate was still above its 10-year average of 6.8 percent.

Area unemployment rates, which are not seasonally adjusted, declined in all but six boroughs and census areas from January to February. Rates dropped the most in the Aleutians East Borough and Aleutians West Census Area, where they fell 3.7 and 3.5 percentage points respectively due to winter commercial fisheries.

The lowest unemployment rate in February was in the North Slope Borough at 4.8 percent and the highest rate was in Hoonah-Angoon Census Area at 25.6 percent. The Municipality of Skagway, Wade Hampton Census Area, and Denali Borough also had rates above 20 percent.

Unemployment rates in Alaska's urban centers were all below the statewide average. The City and Borough of Juneau had the lowest at 5.1 percent, followed by the Municipality of Anchorage at 5.2 percent and Fairbanks North Star Borough at 6.4 percent.

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Research and Analysis Web site: <http://laborstats.alaska.gov>



Unemployment Rates, Seasonally Adjusted			
	2/13	1/13	2/12
Alaska	6.5%	6.7%	7.1%
U.S.	7.7%	7.9%	8.3%

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.

## Labor Force by Borough and Census Area, Not Seasonally Adjusted<sup>1</sup>

	Civilian Labor Force			Unemployed					
	2/13 <sup>P</sup>	1/13	2/12	Number			Rate		
				2/13 <sup>P</sup>	1/13	2/12	2/13 <sup>P</sup>	1/13	2/12
<b>Alaska Statewide</b>	<b>362,412</b>	<b>361,085</b>	<b>363,470</b>	<b>25,988</b>	<b>27,671</b>	<b>29,402</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>8.1</b>
<b>Anchorage/Mat-Su Region</b>	<b>201,123</b>	<b>201,488</b>	<b>201,828</b>	<b>11,823</b>	<b>12,633</b>	<b>13,786</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>6.8</b>
Municipality of Anchorage	157,059	157,275	157,331	8,142	8,708	9,403	5.2	5.5	6.0
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	44,064	44,213	44,498	3,681	3,925	4,384	8.4	8.9	9.9
<b>Gulf Coast Region</b>	<b>38,303</b>	<b>38,075</b>	<b>38,150</b>	<b>3,296</b>	<b>3,576</b>	<b>3,791</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>9.9</b>
Kenai Peninsula Borough	26,525	26,413	26,488	2,406	2,534	2,806	9.1	9.6	10.6
Kodiak Island Borough	7,205	6,940	7,123	366	480	421	5.1	6.9	5.9
Valdez-Cordova Census Area	4,573	4,722	4,539	524	562	564	11.5	11.9	12.4
<b>Interior Region</b>	<b>53,385</b>	<b>52,513</b>	<b>53,617</b>	<b>4,049</b>	<b>4,350</b>	<b>4,625</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>8.6</b>
Denali Borough	753	757	769	173	181	192	23.0	23.9	25.0
Fairbanks North Star Borough	46,117	45,324	46,315	2,941	3,207	3,430	6.4	7.1	7.4
Southeast Fairbanks Census Area	3,383	3,377	3,370	420	450	446	12.4	13.3	13.2
Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area	3,132	3,055	3,163	515	512	557	16.4	16.8	17.6
<b>Northern Region</b>	<b>13,287</b>	<b>13,068</b>	<b>12,925</b>	<b>1,283</b>	<b>1,258</b>	<b>1,326</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>10.3</b>
Nome Census Area	4,355	4,278	4,223	509	512	516	11.7	12.0	12.2
North Slope Borough	5,731	5,611	5,589	276	267	313	4.8	4.8	5.6
Northwest Arctic Borough	3,201	3,179	3,113	498	479	497	15.6	15.1	16.0
<b>Southeast Region</b>	<b>37,181</b>	<b>37,411</b>	<b>37,471</b>	<b>3,003</b>	<b>3,181</b>	<b>3,359</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>9.0</b>
Haines Borough	1,093	1,087	1,089	131	131	141	12.0	12.1	12.9
Hoonah-Angoon Census Area	818	845	820	209	213	212	25.6	25.2	25.9
Juneau, City and Borough of	18,194	18,331	18,257	931	1,020	1,027	5.1	5.6	5.6
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	7,362	7,389	7,437	601	616	690	8.2	8.3	9.3
Petersburg Census Area	1,520	1,536	1,523	209	238	211	13.8	15.5	13.9
Prince of Wales-Hyder Census Area	2,244	2,234	2,339	378	387	472	16.8	17.3	20.2
Sitka, City and Borough of	4,247	4,246	4,261	280	299	300	6.6	7.0	7.0
Skagway, Municipality of	503	528	533	119	129	149	23.7	24.4	28.0
Wrangell, City and Borough of	959	957	966	112	119	119	11.7	12.4	12.3
Yakutat, City and Borough of	241	258	246	33	29	38	13.7	11.2	15.4
<b>Southwest Region</b>	<b>19,130</b>	<b>18,531</b>	<b>19,478</b>	<b>2,530</b>	<b>2,673</b>	<b>2,513</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>14.4</b>	<b>12.9</b>
Aleutians East Borough	1,316	1,393	1,353	120	178	128	9.1	12.8	9.5
Aleutians West Census Area	4,360	3,703	4,445	231	325	220	5.3	8.8	4.9
Bethel Census Area	7,105	7,329	7,208	1,165	1,155	1,151	16.4	15.8	16.0
Bristol Bay Borough	449	465	469	41	48	51	9.1	10.3	10.9
Dillingham Census Area	2,162	1,925	2,218	220	227	227	10.2	11.8	10.2
Lake and Peninsula Borough	928	900	959	100	104	112	10.8	11.6	11.7
Wade Hampton Census Area	2,810	2,816	2,826	653	636	624	23.2	22.6	22.1

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.

<sup>1</sup>Unemployment 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