

Dianne Blumer
Commissioner
P.O. Box 111149
Juneau, AK 99811-1149
www.labor.alaska.gov



Beth Leschper
Communications Director
907.465.2700
cell: 907.723.1321
beth.leschper@alaska.gov

Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

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Unemployment rate at 6.3 percent in July

Alaska's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 6.3 percent in July, up three-tenths of a percentage point from June's revised rate. The comparable national rate was 7.4 percent.

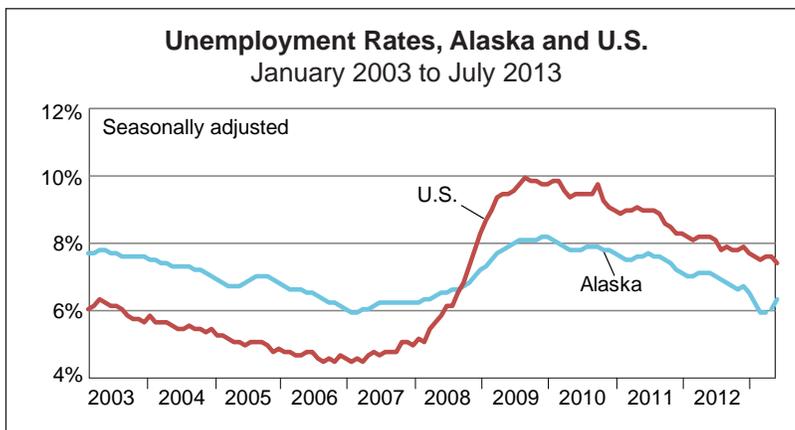
Alaska's not-seasonally adjusted rate was 5.9 percent in July, down six-tenths of a percentage point from June. Large declines in the unadjusted rate are typical from June to July. The unadjusted rate was also seven-tenths of a percentage point lower than it was one year ago.

Not-seasonally adjusted rates fell in 26 of 29 boroughs and census areas. Summer employment was firing on all cylinders in July, reflected in low unemployment across the state.

The lowest rates were in Bristol Bay Borough at 1.1 percent and the Municipality of Skagway at 2.3 percent. Bristol Bay and Skagway both have small year-round populations and depend heavily on a single summer industry. In Bristol Bay it's salmon fishing, and in Skagway it's tourism.

The largest over-the-month rate drops were in Aleutians East Borough and Aleutians West Census Area, where rates fell 4 and 2.3 percentage points, respectively. The summer pollock and salmon fisheries are in full swing in the Aleutians by July, which explains the drop in unemployment.

Contact: Caroline Schultz, Economist (907) 465-6027
Research and Analysis Web site: <http://laborstats.alaska.gov>



| Unemployment Rates, Seasonally Adjusted | | | |
|---|------|------|------|
| | 7/13 | 6/13 | 7/12 |
| Alaska | 6.3% | 6.0% | 7.1% |
| U.S. | 7.4% | 7.6% | 8.2% |

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 Adjusted¹

| | Civilian Labor Force | | | Unemployed | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 7/13 ^P | 6/13 | 7/12 | Number | | | Rate | | |
| | | | | 7/13 ^P | 6/13 | 7/12 | 7/13 ^P | 6/13 | 7/12 |
| Alaska Statewide | 373,700 | 371,481 | 375,515 | 22,220 | 24,207 | 24,851 | 5.9 | 6.5 | 6.6 |
| Anchorage/Mat-Su Region | 198,699 | 199,667 | 199,769 | 10,574 | 11,363 | 12,024 | 5.3 | 5.7 | 6.0 |
| Anchorage, Municipality of | 155,685 | 156,405 | 156,401 | 7,692 | 8,271 | 8,707 | 4.9 | 5.3 | 5.6 |
| Matanuska-Susitna Borough | 43,014 | 43,262 | 43,368 | 2,882 | 3,092 | 3,317 | 6.7 | 7.1 | 7.6 |
| Gulf Coast Region | 43,547 | 42,529 | 43,466 | 2,579 | 2,846 | 2,961 | 5.9 | 6.7 | 6.8 |
| Kenai Peninsula Borough | 29,913 | 29,309 | 29,892 | 1,840 | 2,025 | 2,152 | 6.2 | 6.9 | 7.2 |
| Kodiak Island Borough | 7,248 | 7,128 | 7,248 | 362 | 413 | 419 | 5.0 | 5.8 | 5.8 |
| Valdez-Cordova Census Area | 6,386 | 6,092 | 6,326 | 377 | 408 | 390 | 5.9 | 6.7 | 6.2 |
| Interior Region | 55,376 | 54,992 | 55,719 | 3,328 | 3,651 | 3,712 | 6.0 | 6.6 | 6.7 |
| Denali Borough | 2,477 | 2,356 | 2,420 | 89 | 99 | 98 | 3.6 | 4.2 | 4.0 |
| Fairbanks North Star Borough | 46,371 | 45,941 | 46,777 | 2,439 | 2,711 | 2,830 | 5.3 | 5.9 | 6.0 |
| Southeast Fairbanks Census Area | 3,339 | 3,399 | 3,351 | 339 | 370 | 354 | 10.2 | 10.9 | 10.6 |
| Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area | 3,189 | 3,296 | 3,171 | 461 | 471 | 430 | 14.5 | 14.3 | 13.6 |
| Northern Region | 12,665 | 12,809 | 12,589 | 1,220 | 1,310 | 1,292 | 9.6 | 10.2 | 10.3 |
| Nome Census Area | 3,919 | 4,159 | 3,878 | 485 | 520 | 500 | 12.4 | 12.5 | 12.9 |
| North Slope Borough | 5,539 | 5,431 | 5,503 | 287 | 303 | 312 | 5.2 | 5.6 | 5.7 |
| Northwest Arctic Borough | 3,207 | 3,219 | 3,208 | 448 | 487 | 480 | 14.0 | 15.1 | 15.0 |
| Southeast Region | 42,571 | 41,665 | 43,311 | 2,178 | 2,387 | 2,497 | 5.1 | 5.7 | 5.8 |
| Haines Borough | 1,693 | 1,413 | 1,715 | 88 | 97 | 93 | 5.2 | 6.9 | 5.4 |
| Hoonah-Angoon Census Area | 1,571 | 1,584 | 1,616 | 147 | 165 | 164 | 9.4 | 10.4 | 10.1 |
| Juneau, City and Borough of | 18,244 | 18,703 | 18,534 | 770 | 840 | 884 | 4.2 | 4.5 | 4.8 |
| Ketchikan Gateway Borough | 9,238 | 8,824 | 9,391 | 442 | 485 | 508 | 4.8 | 5.5 | 5.4 |
| Petersburg Census Area | 1,748 | 1,674 | 1,817 | 101 | 114 | 155 | 5.8 | 6.8 | 8.5 |
| Prince of Wales-Hyder Census Area | 2,624 | 2,548 | 2,696 | 279 | 327 | 330 | 10.6 | 12.8 | 12.2 |
| Sitka, City and Borough of | 5,065 | 4,617 | 5,144 | 224 | 239 | 257 | 4.4 | 5.2 | 5.0 |
| Skagway, Municipality of | 918 | 911 | 934 | 21 | 16 | 18 | 2.3 | 1.8 | 1.9 |
| Wrangell, City and Borough of | 1,149 | 1,088 | 1,139 | 85 | 80 | 65 | 7.4 | 7.4 | 5.7 |
| Yakutat, City and Borough of | 321 | 303 | 325 | 21 | 24 | 23 | 6.5 | 7.9 | 7.1 |
| Southwest Region | 20,843 | 19,815 | 20,664 | 2,340 | 2,646 | 2,365 | 11.2 | 13.4 | 11.4 |
| Aleutians East Borough | 1,363 | 1,078 | 1,348 | 118 | 137 | 118 | 8.7 | 12.7 | 8.8 |
| Aleutians West Census Area | 3,125 | 3,072 | 3,090 | 224 | 292 | 218 | 7.2 | 9.5 | 7.1 |
| Bethel Census Area | 6,903 | 7,141 | 6,824 | 1,118 | 1,211 | 1,103 | 16.2 | 17.0 | 16.2 |
| Bristol Bay Borough | 2,763 | 1,941 | 2,738 | 30 | 35 | 39 | 1.1 | 1.8 | 1.4 |
| Dillingham Census Area | 2,642 | 2,504 | 2,625 | 194 | 216 | 205 | 7.3 | 8.6 | 7.8 |
| Lake and Peninsula Borough | 1,592 | 1,376 | 1,580 | 69 | 78 | 74 | 4.3 | 5.7 | 4.7 |
| Wade Hampton Census Area | 2,455 | 2,703 | 2,459 | 587 | 677 | 608 | 23.9 | 25.0 | 24.7 |

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