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## Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

November 22, 2013

No. 13-50

### Unemployment rate at 6.5 percent in October

Alaska's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 6.5 percent in October, unchanged from September. The comparable national rate was 7.3 percent.

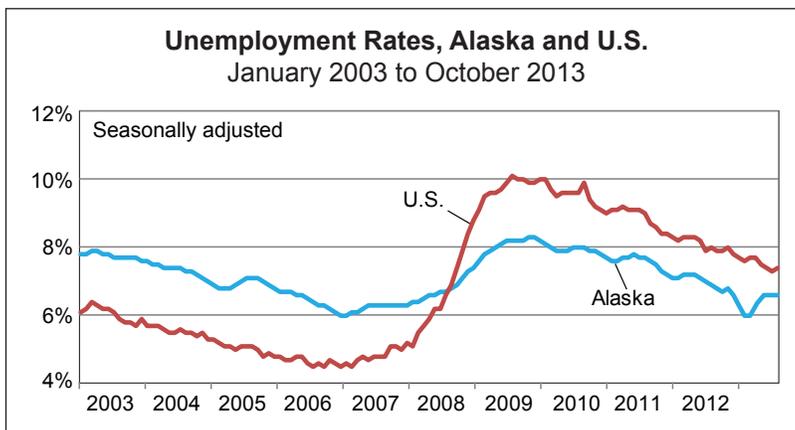
Alaska's rate has been below the national rate for five full years, but the gap between the U.S. rate and Alaska's has been slowly shrinking since 2010.

October's not-seasonally adjusted rate increased six-tenths of a percentage point to 6.1 percent from September's 5.5 percent. This bump put October's rate at the level it was a year ago, the first time in 2013 that an unadjusted monthly rate was not below its 2012 level.

As is typical for this time of year, the unadjusted rate increased in 25 out of 29 boroughs and census areas. The largest increase was in the Municipality of Skagway, where the rate climbed from 2.7 to 15.6 percent. The Denali Borough's rate, which is similarly driven by seasonal tourism, increased by 6.5 percentage points over the month.

The City and Borough of Juneau had the lowest rate in October at 4.3 percent. The highest rate was in the Wade Hampton Census Area at 19.7 percent.

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



Unemployment Rates, Seasonally Adjusted			
	10/13	9/13	10/12
Alaska	6.5%	6.5%	6.8%
U.S.	7.3%	7.2%	7.9%

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					
	10/13 <sup>P</sup>	9/13	10/12	Number			Rate		
				10/13 <sup>P</sup>	9/13	10/12	10/13 <sup>P</sup>	9/13	10/12
<b>Alaska Statewide</b>	<b>363,773</b>	<b>366,054</b>	<b>364,633</b>	<b>22,090</b>	<b>20,112</b>	<b>22,064</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>6.1</b>
<b>Anchorage/Mat-Su Region</b>	<b>200,247</b>	<b>197,193</b>	<b>201,651</b>	<b>10,173</b>	<b>9,398</b>	<b>10,224</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>5.1</b>
Anchorage, Municipality of	156,905	154,611	158,025	7,379	6,877	7,434	4.7	4.4	4.7
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	43,342	42,582	43,626	2,794	2,521	2,790	6.4	5.9	6.4
<b>Gulf Coast Region</b>	<b>38,630</b>	<b>40,197</b>	<b>38,247</b>	<b>2,740</b>	<b>2,396</b>	<b>2,797</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>7.3</b>
Kenai Peninsula Borough	27,054	27,561	26,591	1,942	1,753	1,971	7.2	6.4	7.4
Kodiak Island Borough	6,763	7,038	6,899	325	283	370	4.8	4.0	5.4
Valdez-Cordova Census Area	4,813	5,598	4,757	473	360	456	9.8	6.4	9.6
<b>Interior Region</b>	<b>54,800</b>	<b>55,868</b>	<b>54,716</b>	<b>3,282</b>	<b>2,950</b>	<b>3,281</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>6.0</b>
Denali Borough	1,307	2,090	837	134	80	131	10.3	3.8	15.7
Fairbanks North Star Borough	46,734	46,958	47,211	2,379	2,169	2,424	5.1	4.6	5.1
Southeast Fairbanks Census Area	3,419	3,447	3,486	343	301	330	10.0	8.7	9.5
Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area	3,340	3,373	3,182	426	400	396	12.8	11.9	12.4
<b>Northern Region</b>	<b>13,427</b>	<b>12,953</b>	<b>12,888</b>	<b>1,179</b>	<b>1,156</b>	<b>1,110</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>8.6</b>
Nome Census Area	4,535	4,314	4,267	443	437	436	9.8	10.1	10.2
North Slope Borough	5,598	5,439	5,530	269	256	272	4.8	4.7	4.9
Northwest Arctic Borough	3,294	3,200	3,091	467	463	402	14.2	14.5	13.0
<b>Southeast Region</b>	<b>38,625</b>	<b>41,279</b>	<b>38,856</b>	<b>2,306</b>	<b>1,951</b>	<b>2,309</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>5.9</b>
Haines Borough	1,160	1,528	1,281	92	79	88	7.9	5.2	6.9
Hoonah-Angoon Census Area	991	1,389	929	124	127	109	12.5	9.1	11.7
Juneau, City and Borough of	18,104	18,513	18,147	784	703	803	4.3	3.8	4.4
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	7,997	8,627	7,912	464	372	472	5.8	4.3	6.0
Petersburg Census Area	1,628	1,751	1,698	142	118	151	8.7	6.7	8.9
Prince of Wales-Hyder Census Area	2,382	2,578	2,461	266	253	258	11.2	9.8	10.5
Sitka, City and Borough of	4,372	4,632	4,387	217	192	206	5.0	4.1	4.7
Skagway, Municipality of	647	817	630	101	22	113	15.6	2.7	17.9
Wrangell, City and Borough of	1,057	1,123	1,086	97	68	86	9.2	6.1	7.9
Yakutat, City and Borough of	287	321	325	19	17	23	6.6	5.3	7.1
<b>Southwest Region</b>	<b>18,043</b>	<b>18,566</b>	<b>18,278</b>	<b>2,411</b>	<b>2,262</b>	<b>2,345</b>	<b>13.4</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>12.8</b>
Aleutians East Borough	1,086	1,029	1,156	132	131	133	12.2	12.7	11.5
Aleutians West Census Area	3,050	3,045	3,365	351	231	359	11.5	7.6	10.7
Bethel Census Area	7,553	7,159	7,395	1,067	1,079	1,021	14.1	15.1	13.8
Bristol Bay Borough	556	1,048	563	38	32	35	6.8	3.1	6.2
Dillingham Census Area	1,849	1,996	1,830	186	173	183	10.1	8.7	10.0
Lake and Peninsula Borough	1,106	1,284	1,175	76	67	64	6.9	5.2	5.4
Wade Hampton Census Area	2,843	3,005	2,794	561	549	550	19.7	18.3	19.7

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.

<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