

# State of Alaska

## Department of Labor & Workforce Development



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### **Employment Down 0.8 Percent, Unemployment Rate Unchanged**

JUNEAU, Alaska—Alaska's total employment was down an estimated 0.8 percent in March from March 2017, a loss of about 2,600 jobs.

As a percentage, oil and gas employment's decline of 6.0 percent was the largest (-600 jobs). Retail was down 2.0 percent (-700 jobs). Construction's loss of 0.8 percent (-100 jobs) was smaller than in recent months. Employment fell in all three sectors of government: federal by 0.7 percent, state by 0.8 percent and local by 1.2 percent. Local government's declines were in public education. Health care continued to be the outlier, adding 1,000 jobs since March 2017 for a 2.7 percent increase.

Alaska's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained at 7.3 percent in March. The comparable national rate was 4.1 percent.

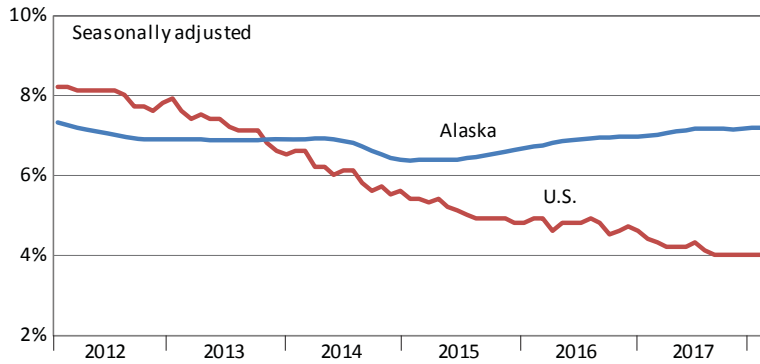
Alaska's not-seasonally adjusted rate dropped to 7.9 percent, down three-tenths of a percentage point from February. Unemployment rates fell in all but three of 29 boroughs and census areas, increasing slightly in Petersburg and Kusilvak and holding steady in Aleutians West. The lowest rates were in the Aleutians East Borough (1.8 percent) and the Aleutians West Census Area (2.5 percent), as is typical for areas with winter fisheries.

Rates were over 20 percent in rural areas with limited year-round employment including Kusilvak (22.6 percent), Hoonah-Angoon (20.5 percent) and the Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area (20.1 percent). Skagway, which depends on summer tourism, also has consistently high rates in the offseason (21.1 percent).

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# Unemployment Rates, Alaska and U.S.

January 2012 to March 2018



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

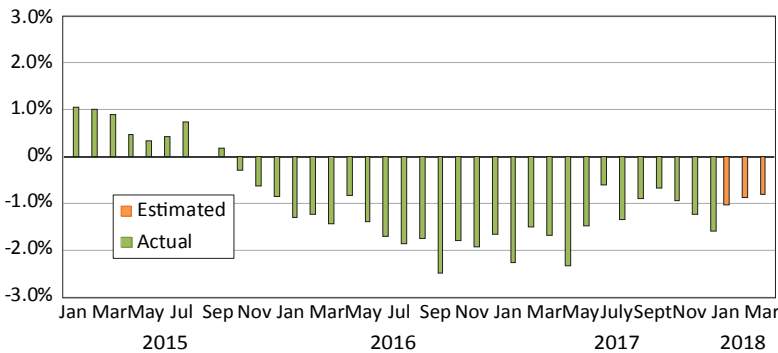
# Area Unemployment Rates

Not seasonally adjusted<sup>1</sup>

	Rate		
	3/18 <sup>P</sup>	2/18	3/17
<b>Alaska</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>7.7</b>
<b>Anchorage/Mat-Su Region</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>7.0</b>
Anchorage, Municipality	6.4	6.7	6.2
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	9.7	10.0	9.7
<b>Gulf Coast Region</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>9.0</b>
Kenai Peninsula Borough	9.9	10.3	9.8
Kodiak Island Borough	5.0	5.4	4.7
Valdez-Cordova Census Area	11.2	12.2	11.0
<b>Interior Region</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>7.7</b>
Denali Borough	18.2	19.1	21.3
Fairbanks North Star Borough	6.9	7.4	6.6
Southeast Fairbanks Census Area	12.4	12.9	11.7
Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area	20.1	21.5	20.1
<b>Northern Region</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>11.7</b>
Nome Census Area	13.2	13.6	12.2
North Slope Borough	6.7	7.2	7.1
Northwest Arctic Borough	16.1	17.0	17.0
<b>Southeast Region</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>7.5</b>
Haines Borough	15.1	16.9	12.2
Hoonah-Angoon Census Area	20.5	22.3	17.9
Juneau, City and Borough	5.2	5.4	5.2
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	8.0	8.1	7.8
Petersburg Borough	12.5	12.3	11.0
Prince of Wales-Hyder CA	14.5	15.9	13.7
Sitka, City and Borough	5.0	5.3	5.0
Skagway, Municipality	21.1	25.3	21.0
Wrangell, City and Borough	9.2	10.5	9.0
Yakutat, City and Borough	9.8	12.2	10.0
<b>Southwest Region</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>9.8</b>
Aleutians East Borough	1.8	1.9	1.8
Aleutians West Census Area	2.5	2.5	2.4
Bethel Census Area	13.9	14.6	13.7
Bristol Bay Borough	16.3	18.1	14.3
Dillingham Census Area	9.7	10.5	9.8
Kusilvak Census Area	22.6	22.3	20.7
Lake and Peninsula Borough	15.5	16.5	13.8

# Wage and Salary Employment

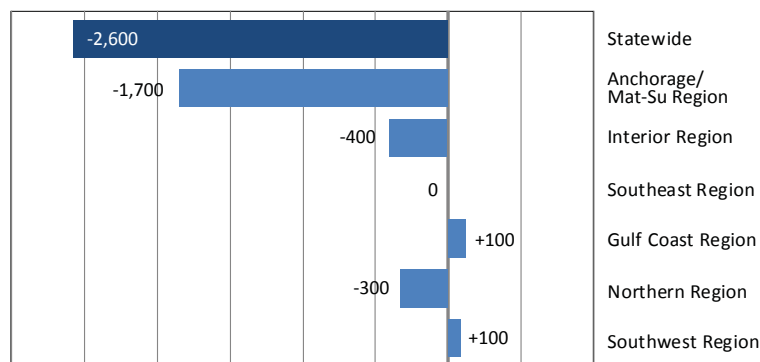
Percent change from same month the previous year



Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

# Regional Employment

Change from same month the previous year



Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

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.

<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

# Employment By Industry

	Average Monthly Employment			Compared to Mar 2017	
	Mar 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2017	Change	Percent
<b>Total Nonfarm Employment</b>	<b>315,700</b>	<b>314,500</b>	<b>318,300</b>	<b>-2,600</b>	<b>-0.8%</b>
<b>Total Private</b>	<b>234,200</b>	<b>233,200</b>	<b>236,000</b>	<b>-1,800</b>	<b>-0.8%</b>
Mining and Logging	12,500	12,400	13,100	-600	-4.6%
Oil and Gas	9,400	9,400	10,000	-600	-6.0%
Construction	12,900	12,700	13,000	-100	-0.8%
Manufacturing	12,800	12,800	12,900	-100	-0.8%
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	60,200	60,100	61,000	-800	-1.3%
Wholesale	6,200	6,200	6,300	-100	-1.6%
Retail	34,300	34,300	35,000	-700	-2.0%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	19,700	19,500	19,700	0	0%
Information	5,800	5,800	6,100	-300	-4.9%
Financial Activities	11,500	11,500	11,600	-100	-0.9%
Professional and Business Services	26,600	27,000	26,900	-300	-1.1%
Education and Health	50,500	50,300	49,700	800	1.6%
Health Care	38,300	38,000	37,300	1,000	2.7%
Leisure and Hospitality	30,700	29,900	30,900	-200	-0.6%
Other Services	10,700	10,800	10,800	-100	-0.9%
<b>Total Government</b>	<b>81,500</b>	<b>81,300</b>	<b>82,300</b>	<b>-800</b>	<b>-1.0%</b>
Federal <sup>1</sup>	14,700	14,500	14,800	-100	-0.7%
State <sup>2</sup>	24,100	23,800	24,300	-200	-0.8%
Local <sup>3</sup>	42,700	43,000	43,200	-500	-1.2%

<sup>1</sup>Excludes uniformed military

<sup>2</sup>Includes the University of Alaska

<sup>3</sup>Includes public schools and tribal government

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section