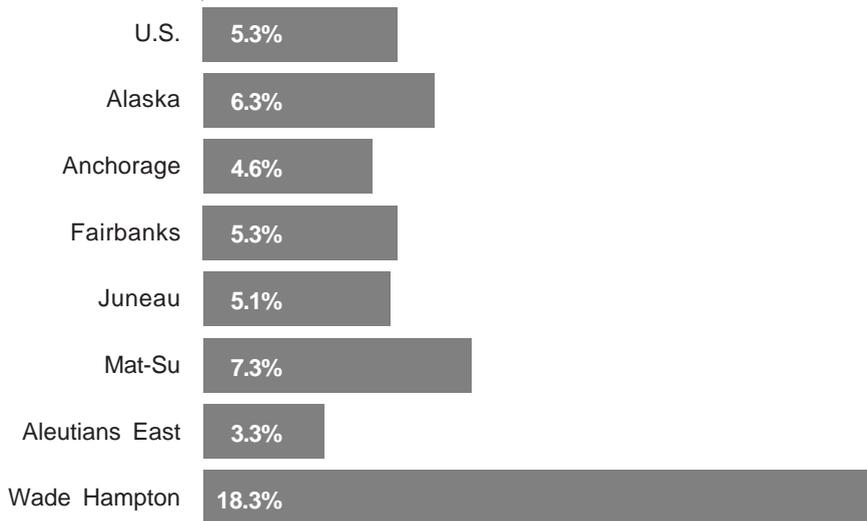


October Unemployment for Selected Areas

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section
CA indicates census area; other areas are boroughs. All rates not seasonally adjusted

(Detailed table on reverse)

Alaska Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Employment

	preliminary		revised		Changes from	
	10/02	09/02	10/01	09/02	10/01	09/02
Total Nonagricultural Employment	296,300	307,500	292,100	-11,200	4,200	
Mining	9,900	10,100	10,900	-200	-1,000	
Construction	17,300	18,800	16,500	-1,500	800	
Manufacturing	12,600	15,900	12,700	-3,300	-100	
Transportation, Commun. & Utilities	27,600	29,100	28,100	-1,500	-500	
Trade	59,400	61,400	58,500	-2,000	900	
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	12,900	13,000	12,700	-100	200	
Services & Misc.	75,000	78,600	72,500	-3,600	2,500	
Government	81,600	80,600	80,200	1,000	1,400	

Government includes employees of public schools, the University of Alaska, and certain federally-recognized tribal entities.
Benchmark date: March 2001

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

Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

October 2002:	Alaska 6.8%	U.S. 5.7%
September 2002:	Alaska 7.5%	U.S. 5.6%
October 2001:	Alaska 6.1%	U.S. 5.4%

Contact: Dan Robinson, Labor Economist, Juneau (907) 465-6036
Fairbanks toll free number (800) 478-9900

URL Address: www.labor.state.ak.us/research/research.htm

Alaska's unemployment rate held steady in October at 6.3 percent. The state typically sees an increase in its unemployment rate from September to October as the remaining seasonal jobs end for the year. A larger than expected increase in the unemployment rate last month suggests that the seasonal wind-down may have come early this year.

October's unemployment rate is six-tenths of a percentage point higher than October 2001's rate of 5.7 percent. The comparable national rate fell one-tenth of a percentage point to 5.3 percent, and is now only slightly higher than October 2001's rate of 5.0 percent. Dan Robinson, a labor economist with the Department of Labor and Workforce Development, reported the numbers.

Anchorage's unemployment rate fell slightly over the month to 4.6 percent, while both Fairbanks and Juneau saw small increases. Among the state's six economic regions, the Anchorage/Mat-Su Region, the Northern Region, and the Southwest Region recorded lower rates in October. The Gulf Coast, Interior, and Southeast Regions all saw over-the-month increases in their unemployment rates.

Three boroughs or census areas showed dramatic over-the-month movement: Denali Borough, with an increase from 6.0 percent to 13.1 percent; Haines Borough, with an increase from 6.4 percent to 12.6 percent; and Skagway-Hoonah-Angoon Census Area, with an increase from 5.6 percent to 10.2 percent. All three areas are heavily dependent on the summer visitor industry.

Preliminary wage and salary employment estimates for October show a decline of approximately 11,200 jobs over the month. The bulk of the losses come from the manufacturing sector, which includes the seafood processing industry, and the services sector, which includes the hotel/motel industry.

The state has added an estimated 4,200 jobs over the year, an increase of 1.4 percent. Alaska remains one of the few states in the country that has added jobs over the last 12 months. Most of the growth has been in the services sector of the economy, with particularly strong numbers from the medical care industry. Estimates also show noticeable growth in government, trade, and construction.

Labor Force by Region and Census Area

	Labor Force			Unemployment			Rate			Employment		
	10/02	09/02	10/01	10/02	09/02	10/01	10/02	09/02	10/01	10/02	09/02	10/01
Alaska Statewide	331,879	333,950	322,358	21,039	21,071	18,218	6.3	6.3	5.7	310,840	312,879	304,140
Anchorage/Mat-Su Region	183,899	181,144	177,259	9,293	9,498	7,798	5.1	5.2	4.4	174,606	171,646	169,461
Municipality of Anchorage	149,998	148,356	145,794	6,827	7,086	5,797	4.6	4.8	4.0	143,171	141,270	139,997
Mat-Su Borough	33,901	32,788	31,465	2,466	2,412	2,001	7.3	7.4	6.4	31,435	30,376	29,464
Gulf Coast Region	33,696	34,671	32,907	3,267	3,152	2,863	9.7	9.1	8.7	30,429	31,519	30,044
Kenai Peninsula Borough	21,780	22,407	21,152	2,274	2,202	1,893	10.4	9.8	8.9	19,506	20,205	19,259
Kodiak Island Borough	6,708	7,030	6,718	394	490	484	5.9	7.0	7.2	6,314	6,540	6,234
Valdez-Cordova CA	5,208	5,233	5,037	599	459	486	11.5	8.8	9.6	4,609	4,774	4,551
Interior Region	51,173	52,490	49,929	3,184	3,015	2,826	6.2	5.7	5.7	47,989	49,475	47,103
Denali Borough	1,256	1,198	1,211	164	72	139	13.1	6.0	11.5	1,092	1,126	1,072
Fairbanks North Star Bor.	45,017	46,268	43,986	2,408	2,340	2,164	5.3	5.1	4.9	42,609	43,928	41,822
Southeast Fairbanks CA	2,716	2,739	2,650	311	259	289	11.5	9.5	10.9	2,405	2,480	2,361
Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area	2,184	2,285	2,082	301	344	234	13.8	15.1	11.2	1,883	1,941	1,848
Northern Region	9,024	8,871	9,068	1,151	1,255	886	12.8	14.1	9.8	7,873	7,616	8,182
Nome Census Area	3,297	3,220	3,395	345	364	327	10.5	11.3	9.6	2,952	2,856	3,068
North Slope Borough	3,449	3,378	3,439	408	436	278	11.8	12.9	8.1	3,041	2,942	3,161
Northwest Arctic Borough	2,278	2,273	2,235	398	455	281	17.5	20.0	12.6	1,880	1,818	1,954
Southeast Region	38,858	40,777	38,713	2,465	2,283	2,486	6.3	5.6	6.4	36,393	38,494	36,227
Haines Borough	1,257	1,243	1,219	158	80	125	12.6	6.4	10.3	1,099	1,163	1,094
Juneau Borough	17,002	17,883	16,894	873	823	839	5.1	4.6	5.0	16,129	17,060	16,055
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	7,551	7,958	7,519	567	570	566	7.5	7.2	7.5	6,984	7,388	6,953
Pr. of Wales-Outer Ketchikan CA	3,017	3,171	2,986	263	258	244	8.7	8.1	8.2	2,754	2,913	2,742
Sitka Borough	4,266	4,504	4,220	211	215	184	4.9	4.8	4.4	4,055	4,289	4,036
Skagway-Hoonah-Angoon CA	2,118	2,132	2,141	215	119	246	10.2	5.6	11.5	1,903	2,013	1,895
Wrangell-Petersburg CA	3,356	3,585	3,431	161	205	250	4.8	5.7	7.3	3,195	3,380	3,181
Yakutat Borough	289	301	304	16	12	32	5.5	4.0	10.5	273	289	272
Southwest Region	15,228	15,998	14,483	1,679	1,869	1,360	11.0	11.7	9.4	13,549	14,129	13,123
Aleutians East Borough	1,530	1,597	1,475	51	55	43	3.3	3.4	2.9	1,479	1,542	1,432
Aleutians West Census Area	2,051	2,119	1,938	184	172	130	9.0	8.1	6.7	1,867	1,947	1,808
Bethel Census Area	6,424	6,790	6,115	725	847	595	11.3	12.5	9.7	5,699	5,943	5,520
Bristol Bay Borough	493	517	470	44	49	36	8.9	9.5	7.7	449	468	434
Dillingham Census Area	1,848	1,894	1,765	196	172	165	10.6	9.1	9.3	1,652	1,722	1,600
Lake & Peninsula Borough	623	656	593	67	76	54	10.8	11.6	9.1	556	580	539
Wade Hampton CA	2,261	2,425	2,126	413	498	336	18.3	20.5	15.8	1,848	1,927	1,790

Benchmark: March 2001

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section. • Comparisons between different time periods are not as

meaningful as other time series produced by Research and Analysis. • The official definition of unemployment currently in place 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. Due to the scarcity of employment opportunities in rural Alaska locations, many individuals do not meet the official definition of unemployed because they have not conducted an active job search. These individuals are considered not in the labor force.