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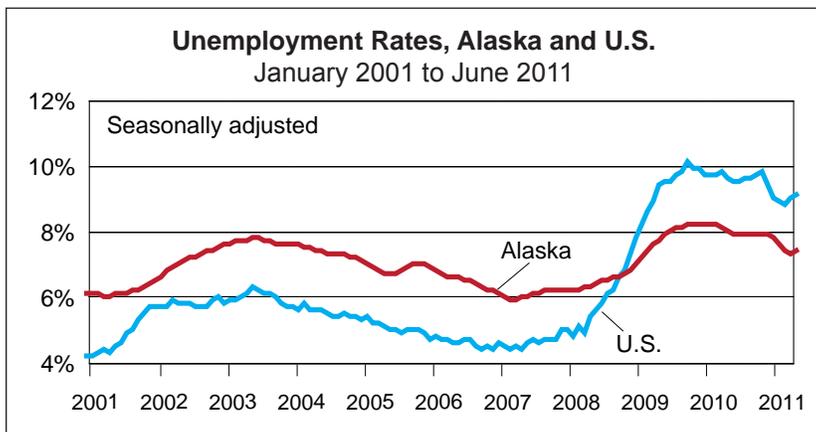
Press Release

July 22, 2011

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

No. 11-40

Unemployment rate at 7.5 percent in June



Alaska Nonfarm Payroll Employment¹

	Preliminary 6/11	Revised 5/11	Revised 6/10	Year-over-year change		
				6/10	90% confi- dence interval ²	
Total Nonfarm Employment ³	348,500	328,500	342,800	5,700	-1,683	13,083
Mining and Logging	16,900	16,300	16,000	900	107	1,693
Oil and Gas	13,600	13,200	13,100	500	-	-
Construction	18,500	16,200	18,600	-100	-2,683	2,483
Manufacturing	16,200	9,200	15,400	800	-194	1,794
Seafood Processing	12,200	5,600	11,600	600	-	-
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	67,800	65,900	66,700	1,100	-1,272	3,472
Retail Trade	37,500	36,500	37,100	400	-1,628	2,428
Information	6,500	6,500	6,400	100	-481	681
Financial Activities	15,000	14,900	15,300	-300	-2,243	1,643
Professional and Business Services	28,100	26,600	27,500	600	-1,193	2,393
Educational ⁴ and Health Services	43,300	43,200	41,600	1,700	432	2,968
Health Care	31,800	31,600	30,000	1,800	-	-
Leisure and Hospitality	39,300	34,200	36,900	2,400	363	4,437
Accommodations	7,800	7,100	10,200	-2,400	-	-
Food Svcs. and Drinking Places	23,500	21,700	21,400	2,100	-	-
Other Services	12,100	11,700	11,800	300	-2,876	3,476
Government ⁵	84,800	83,800	86,600	-1,800	-	-

Notes: A dash indicates that confidence intervals are not available at this level of detail.

¹Not seasonally adjusted

²Based on the margin of error of the estimate, a 90 percent confidence interval statistically determines a range of values within which the "true" value falls with a 90 percent level of confidence. For more information, go to <http://labor.alaska.gov/research/c-i.pdf>.

³Excludes the self-employed, fishermen and other agricultural workers, and private household workers

⁴Private education only

⁵Includes public schools, the University of Alaska, and federally recognized tribal entities

Unemployment Rates, Seasonally Adjusted

	6/11	5/11	6/10
Alaska	7.5%	7.3%	7.9%
U.S.	9.2%	9.1%	9.5%

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

Alaska's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for June was 7.5 percent, a statistically insignificant increase from May's rate of 7.3, which was revised down from 7.4 percent. The comparable nationwide rate in June was 9.2 percent, slightly up from May's rate of 9.1 percent.

In Alaska and nationwide, unemployment rates remain below 2010 levels. The national jobless rate has trended slowly upward since April, and June marked the 31st month in a row in which Alaska's unemployment rate was lower than the nation's.

In May, the most recent month for which individual state data are available, 31 states and Washington, D.C., had unemployment rates higher than Alaska's; 16 states had lower rates; and two reported the same rate. Nevada again had the highest jobless rate at 12.1 percent, and North Dakota remained the lowest at 3.2 percent. Only 24 states reported decreases in their unemployment rates in May, down from the 39 states whose rates decreased in April.

Around Alaska, the not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates ranged from 2.0 percent in Bristol Bay to 23.5 percent in Wade Hampton Census Area. Skagway's rate was 3.1 percent, representing the group of boroughs and census areas whose seasonal fishing and tourism employment prompts a sharp drop in joblessness each summer. Some other areas of the state, such as Wade Hampton, experience chronically high unemployment due to a persistent lack of available jobs.

Beginning with the production of preliminary estimates for March 2011, production of state and metropolitan area Current Employment Statistics estimates has transitioned from the Department of Labor and Workforce Development's Research and Analysis Section to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Concurrent with this transition, the BLS implemented several changes to the methods to help standardize estimation across states. While these changes reduce the potential for statistical bias in state and metropolitan area estimates, they may increase month-to-month variability. More detailed information on the CES changes is available on the BLS Web site at <http://www.bls.gov/sae/cesprocs.htm>.

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

Labor Force by Borough and Census Area, Not Seasonally Adjusted¹

	Civilian Labor Force			Unemployed					
	6/11 ^P	5/11	6/10	Number			Rate		
				6/11 ^P	5/11	6/10	6/11 ^P	5/11	6/10
Alaska Statewide	372,564	364,046	365,737	29,280	26,693	28,247	7.9	7.3	7.7
Anchorage/Mat-Su Region	200,134	196,972	194,898	14,484	13,080	14,344	7.2	6.6	7.4
Municipality of Anchorage	156,860	154,375	152,972	10,588	9,488	10,715	6.7	6.1	7.0
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	43,274	42,597	41,926	3,896	3,592	3,629	9.0	8.4	8.7
Gulf Coast Region	42,068	39,874	41,767	3,567	3,299	3,343	8.5	8.3	8.0
Kenai Peninsula Borough	29,464	28,026	29,245	2,612	2,403	2,507	8.9	8.6	8.6
Kodiak Island Borough	6,690	6,412	6,652	508	463	456	7.6	7.2	6.9
Valdez-Cordova Census Area	5,914	5,436	5,870	447	433	380	7.6	8.0	6.5
Interior Region	56,474	55,555	55,613	4,319	3,983	4,062	7.6	7.2	7.3
Denali Borough	2,386	1,826	2,298	103	110	95	4.3	6.0	4.1
Fairbanks North Star Borough	47,071	46,697	46,668	3,344	3,034	3,197	7.1	6.5	6.9
Southeast Fairbanks Census Area	3,756	3,762	3,584	374	357	335	10.0	9.5	9.3
Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area	3,261	3,270	3,063	498	482	435	15.3	14.7	14.2
Northern Region	12,572	12,691	12,363	1,381	1,181	1,313	11.0	9.3	10.6
Nome Census Area	4,043	4,180	4,008	586	509	583	14.5	12.2	14.5
North Slope Borough	5,435	5,459	5,326	282	230	292	5.2	4.2	5.5
Northwest Arctic Borough	3,094	3,052	3,029	513	442	438	16.6	14.5	14.5
Southeast Region	41,956	41,868	41,955	2,954	2,705	2,804	7.0	6.5	6.7
Haines Borough	1,499	1,422	1,531	102	99	104	6.8	7.0	6.8
Hoonah-Angoon Census Area ²	1,467	1,381	1,433	195	180	153	13.3	13.0	10.7
Juneau, City and Borough of	18,835	19,308	18,754	1,032	943	1,028	5.5	4.9	5.5
Ketchikan Gateway Borough ²	8,966	8,569	8,929	625	570	581	7.0	6.7	6.5
Petersburg Census Area ²	1,730	1,759	-	156	160	-	9.0	9.1	-
Prince of Wales-Hyder Census Area ²	2,619	2,580	-	410	337	-	15.7	13.1	-
Prince of Wales-Outer Ketchikan Census Area ²	-	-	2,591	-	-	334	-	-	12.9
Sitka, City and Borough of	4,697	4,726	4,821	303	271	293	6.5	5.7	6.1
Skagway, Municipality of ²	809	774	808	25	34	20	3.1	4.4	2.5
Wrangell, City and Borough of ²	1,009	1,027	-	77	80	-	7.6	7.8	-
Wrangell-Petersburg Census Area ²	-	-	2,755	-	-	261	-	-	9.5
Yakutat, City and Borough of	325	322	333	29	31	30	8.9	9.6	9.0
Southwest Region	19,360	17,085	19,143	2,576	2,445	2,382	13.3	14.3	12.4
Aleutians East Borough	1,078	786	1,046	120	151	90	11.1	19.2	8.6
Aleutians West Census Area	2,912	2,206	2,808	214	312	192	7.3	14.1	6.8
Bethel Census Area	7,164	6,992	7,121	1,211	1,078	1,146	16.9	15.4	16.1
Bristol Bay Borough	1,861	1,227	1,865	37	36	38	2.0	2.9	2.0
Dillingham Census Area	2,225	1,985	2,282	250	221	228	11.2	11.1	10.0
Lake and Peninsula Borough	1,321	1,116	1,290	87	91	86	6.6	8.2	6.7
Wade Hampton Census Area	2,799	2,773	2,731	657	556	602	23.5	20.1	22.0

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.

²Because of the creation of new boroughs, this borough or census area has been changed or no longer exists. Data for the Skagway Municipality and Hoonah-Angoon Census Area (previously the Skagway-Hoonah-Angoon Census Area) became available in 2010. Data for the City and Borough of Wrangell, Petersburg Census Area, and Prince of Wales-Hyder went into effect in January 2011. Prior to January 2011, data were published for Wrangell-Petersburg Census Area and Prince of Wales-Outer Ketchikan Census Area.

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