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Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

July 20, 2012

No. 12-41

Unemployment rate at 7.3 percent in June

Alaska's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 7.3 percent for June, up from May's rate of 7.0 percent. The U.S. rate remained at 8.2 percent. The state and national jobless rates have both changed very little during the first half of 2012 — Alaska's rate has ranged from 6.9 to 7.3 percent, and the nation's has been between 8.1 and 8.3 percent.

It is too early to tell whether the June increase in Alaska's rate indicates a new trend. Both the Alaska and U.S. rates remain below year-ago levels. Alaska's rate is down half a percentage point and the national rate is eight-tenths of a percentage point lower than in June 2011.

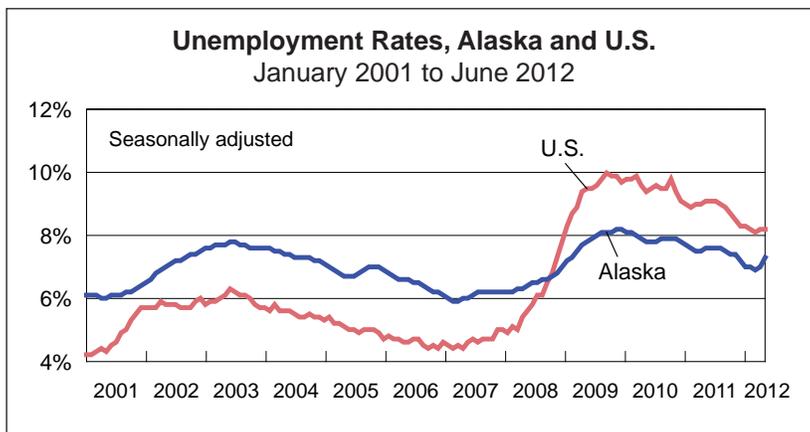
Alaska's rate is hovering at its 10-year average, and the state's job count has increased each year after a small decline in 2009. In contrast, the nation is still recovering its recession-related job losses and the national unemployment rate remains well above pre-recession levels.

In May, 28 states had higher rates than Alaska and 21 had lower rates. The highest was in Nevada at 11.6 percent, and the lowest was 3.0 percent in North Dakota.

Regional employment rates, which are not seasonally adjusted, ranged from 2.2 percent in Bristol Bay to 25.6 percent in Wade Hampton.

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Research and Analysis Web site: laborstats.alaska.gov



Unemployment Rates, Seasonally Adjusted			
	6/12	5/12	6/11
Alaska	7.3%	7.0%	7.6%
U.S.	8.2%	8.2%	9.1%

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 labor.alaska.gov/research/ces/ces.htm. The estimates are preliminary and subject to potentially large revisions.

Labor Force by Borough and Census Area, Not Seasonally Adjusted¹

	Civilian Labor Force			Unemployed					
	6/12 ^P	5/12	6/11	Number			Rate		
				6/12 ^P	5/12	6/11	6/12 ^P	5/12	6/11
Alaska Statewide	375,395	367,276	372,700	28,887	25,772	28,567	7.7	7.0	7.7
Anchorage/Mat-Su Region	200,189	198,652	199,815	13,865	12,251	14,146	6.9	6.2	7.1
Municipality of Anchorage	157,224	156,126	157,048	10,030	8,871	10,372	6.4	5.7	6.6
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	42,965	42,526	42,767	3,835	3,380	3,774	8.9	7.9	8.8
Gulf Coast Region	42,440	40,422	42,509	3,491	3,116	3,476	8.2	7.7	8.2
Kenai Peninsula Borough	29,285	28,308	29,341	2,521	2,277	2,546	8.6	8.0	8.7
Kodiak Island Borough	7,138	6,679	7,169	510	391	495	7.1	5.9	6.9
Valdez-Cordova Census Area	6,017	5,435	5,999	460	448	435	7.6	8.2	7.3
Interior Region	56,690	56,108	56,108	4,314	3,897	4,170	7.6	6.9	7.4
Denali Borough	2,347	1,646	2,294	119	127	100	5.1	7.7	4.4
Fairbanks North Star Borough	47,265	47,476	46,917	3,264	2,919	3,222	6.9	6.1	6.9
Southeast Fairbanks Census Area	3,803	3,692	3,699	415	360	369	10.9	9.8	10.0
Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area	3,275	3,294	3,198	516	491	479	15.8	14.9	15.0
Northern Region	13,020	13,040	12,492	1,507	1,288	1,390	11.6	9.9	11.1
Nome Census Area	4,211	4,249	4,096	583	504	571	13.8	11.9	13.9
North Slope Borough	5,529	5,561	5,284	365	294	321	6.6	5.3	6.1
Northwest Arctic Borough	3,280	3,230	3,112	559	490	498	17.0	15.2	16.0
Southeast Region	42,865	41,506	42,067	2,899	2,598	2,874	6.8	6.3	6.8
Haines Borough	1,466	1,399	1,434	102	98	99	7.0	7.0	6.9
Hoonah-Angoon Census Area	1,457	1,345	1,428	189	183	188	13.0	13.6	13.2
Juneau, City and Borough of	19,254	19,088	18,905	998	864	1,004	5.2	4.5	5.3
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	9,312	8,595	9,157	604	542	614	6.5	6.3	6.7
Petersburg Census Area	1,740	1,732	1,667	193	182	150	11.1	10.5	9.0
Prince of Wales-Hyder Census Area	2,519	2,482	2,500	372	331	394	14.8	13.3	15.8
Sitka, City and Borough of	4,832	4,690	4,743	300	268	293	6.2	5.7	6.2
Skagway, Municipality of	839	772	821	27	28	26	3.2	3.6	3.2
Wrangell, City and Borough of	1,085	1,077	1,058	84	75	77	7.7	7.0	7.3
Yakutat, City and Borough of	361	326	354	30	27	29	8.3	8.3	8.2
Southwest Region	20,191	17,551	19,713	2,809	2,623	2,515	13.9	14.9	12.8
Aleutians East Borough	1,151	863	1,109	154	182	123	13.4	21.1	11.1
Aleutians West Census Area	3,107	2,398	3,041	265	390	224	8.5	16.3	7.4
Bethel Census Area	7,316	6,986	7,132	1,276	1,075	1,170	17.4	15.4	16.4
Bristol Bay Borough	2,177	1,107	2,151	47	45	38	2.2	4.1	1.8
Dillingham Census Area	2,224	2,111	2,211	234	216	240	10.5	10.2	10.9
Lake and Peninsula Borough	1,338	1,205	1,317	96	96	86	7.2	8.0	6.5
Wade Hampton Census Area	2,878	2,881	2,752	737	619	634	25.6	21.5	23.0

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.

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