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## Press Release

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### Unemployment rate at 6.4 percent in December

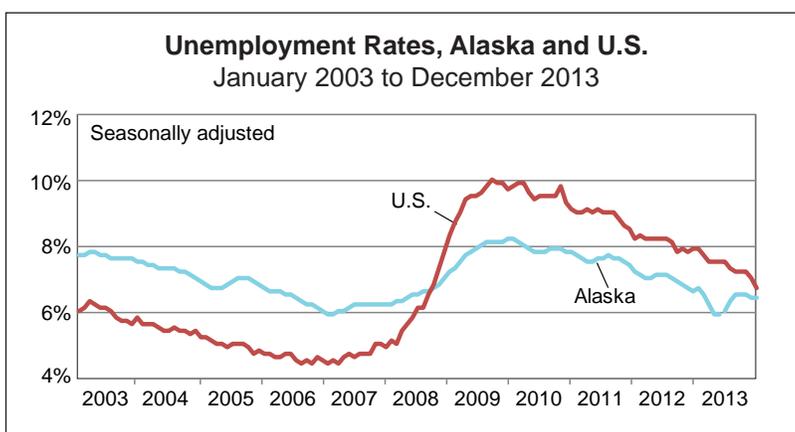
Alaska's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 6.4 percent in December. November's preliminary rate of 6.5 percent was revised to 6.4 percent.

The comparable national rate in December was 6.7 percent.

Alaska's unemployment rate ended the year three-tenths of a percentage point below where it started. Although the rate took a rollercoaster ride in the middle of 2013 — most likely due to volatility in the numbers that will be smoothed out in later revisions — the overall trend through the year was downward.

Not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates increased in almost all of Alaska's boroughs and census areas, as is typical in December. Exceptions were in the municipalities of Anchorage and Skagway, where rates were essentially flat, and the North Slope Borough, where the rate fell eight-tenths of a percentage point. The North Slope Borough had the lowest rate in December at 3.9 percent.

Hoonah-Angoon Census Area had the highest rate in December at 21.3 percent. Wade Hampton Census Area and Skagway also had rates above 20 percent. The largest rate increases were in the Aleutians East Borough and Aleutians West Census Area, where rates increased 4.7 and 3.7 percentage points respectively.



Unemployment Rates, Seasonally Adjusted			
	12/13	11/13	12/12
Alaska	6.4%	6.4%	6.6%
U.S.	6.7%	7.0%	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.

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

## Labor Force by Borough and Census Area, Not Seasonally Adjusted<sup>1</sup>

	Civilian Labor Force			Unemployed					
	12/13 <sup>P</sup>	11/13	12/12	Number			Rate		
				12/13 <sup>P</sup>	11/13	12/12	12/13 <sup>P</sup>	11/13	12/12
<b>Alaska Statewide</b>	<b>362,581</b>	<b>363,523</b>	<b>363,049</b>	<b>23,606</b>	<b>22,600</b>	<b>25,316</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>7.0</b>
<b>Anchorage/Mat-Su Region</b>	<b>203,084</b>	<b>202,963</b>	<b>203,758</b>	<b>10,580</b>	<b>10,289</b>	<b>11,460</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>5.6</b>
Anchorage, Municipality of	158,797	158,841	159,323	7,359	7,269	8,047	4.6	4.6	5.1
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	44,287	44,122	44,435	3,221	3,020	3,413	7.3	6.8	7.7
<b>Gulf Coast Region</b>	<b>37,830</b>	<b>38,089</b>	<b>37,380</b>	<b>3,164</b>	<b>2,886</b>	<b>3,380</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>9.0</b>
Kenai Peninsula Borough	26,822	26,882	26,486	2,114	2,014	2,255	7.9	7.5	8.5
Kodiak Island Borough	6,496	6,626	6,274	553	399	600	8.5	6.0	9.6
Valdez-Cordova Census Area	4,512	4,581	4,620	497	473	525	11.0	10.3	11.4
<b>Interior Region</b>	<b>54,243</b>	<b>54,065</b>	<b>54,261</b>	<b>3,535</b>	<b>3,435</b>	<b>3,911</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>7.2</b>
Denali Borough	722	727	793	138	127	163	19.1	17.5	20.6
Fairbanks North Star Borough	46,858	46,727	46,920	2,512	2,465	2,876	5.4	5.3	6.1
Southeast Fairbanks Census Area	3,366	3,331	3,458	386	359	397	11.5	10.8	11.5
Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area	3,297	3,280	3,090	499	484	475	15.1	14.8	15.4
<b>Northern Region</b>	<b>13,521</b>	<b>13,363</b>	<b>13,079</b>	<b>1,173</b>	<b>1,177</b>	<b>1,152</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>8.8</b>
Nome Census Area	4,466	4,462	4,322	452	443	457	10.1	9.9	10.6
North Slope Borough	5,764	5,681	5,699	226	265	265	3.9	4.7	4.6
Northwest Arctic Borough	3,291	3,220	3,058	495	469	430	15.0	14.6	14.1
<b>Southeast Region</b>	<b>37,466</b>	<b>37,758</b>	<b>37,441</b>	<b>2,679</b>	<b>2,483</b>	<b>2,772</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>7.4</b>
Haines Borough	1,050	1,092	1,108	124	112	118	11.8	10.3	10.6
Hoonah-Angoon Census Area	920	868	843	196	171	189	21.3	19.7	22.4
Juneau, City and Borough of	17,825	17,982	18,160	820	798	900	4.6	4.4	5.0
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	7,577	7,731	7,416	513	478	552	6.8	6.2	7.4
Petersburg Census Area	1,568	1,582	1,567	194	160	210	12.4	10.1	13.4
Prince of Wales-Hyder Census Area	2,273	2,316	2,214	317	291	283	13.9	12.6	12.8
Sitka, City and Borough of	4,403	4,350	4,359	250	229	262	5.7	5.3	6.0
Skagway, Municipality of	573	552	540	117	113	128	20.4	20.5	23.7
Wrangell, City and Borough of	1,007	1,022	983	119	103	107	11.8	10.1	10.9
Yakutat, City and Borough of	270	263	251	29	28	23	10.7	10.6	9.2
<b>Southwest Region</b>	<b>16,439</b>	<b>17,286</b>	<b>17,131</b>	<b>2,475</b>	<b>2,332</b>	<b>2,643</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>15.4</b>
Aleutians East Borough	714	935	768	140	139	224	19.6	14.9	29.2
Aleutians West Census Area	2,144	2,776	2,327	311	301	465	14.5	10.8	20.0
Bethel Census Area	7,402	7,347	7,625	1,092	1,020	1,048	14.8	13.9	13.7
Bristol Bay Borough	519	551	529	44	40	47	8.5	7.3	8.9
Dillingham Census Area	1,691	1,814	1,843	190	193	203	11.2	10.6	11.0
Lake and Peninsula Borough	1,007	963	1,086	83	76	89	8.2	7.9	8.2
Wade Hampton Census Area	2,962	2,900	2,953	615	563	567	20.8	19.4	19.2

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