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Employment Down 0.9 Percent, Unemployment Rate Unchanged

JUNEAU, Alaska—Alaska's total employment was down by an estimated 0.9 percent in November compared to November 2016, a loss of about 2,800 jobs. Although employment losses continue, they have moderated noticeably in the second half of 2017.

Oil and gas jobs were down by 7.8 percent and construction by 4.8 percent. Health care was the only industry to add jobs. Transportation, warehousing, and utilities remained at the same level as last year, as did local government. Federal jobs were down 0.7 percent and state government 2.4 percent.

Alaska's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained at 7.2 percent, where it has been since August. The comparable national rate for November was 4.1 percent.

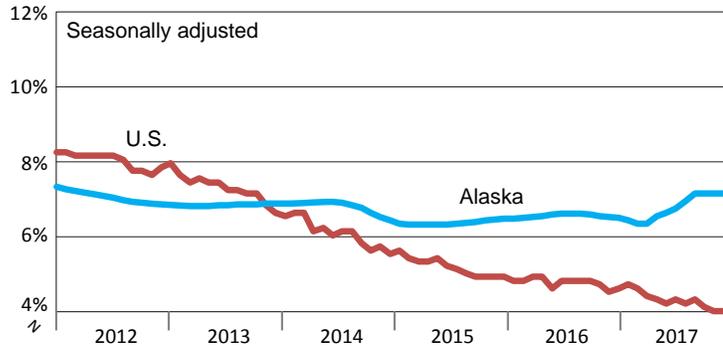
Alaska's not-seasonally adjusted rate was 7.1 percent, up four-tenths of a percentage point from October, an expected increase as winter sets in. Unemployment rates went up in 24 of 29 boroughs and census areas. The largest increases were again in Skagway and the Denali Borough, where the remainder of tourism-related activity wound down.

Unemployment rates fell in the North Slope Borough, Northwest Arctic Borough, Sitka, and the Aleutians West Census Area. The Kodiak Island Borough's rate was flat.

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Unemployment Rates, Alaska and U.S.

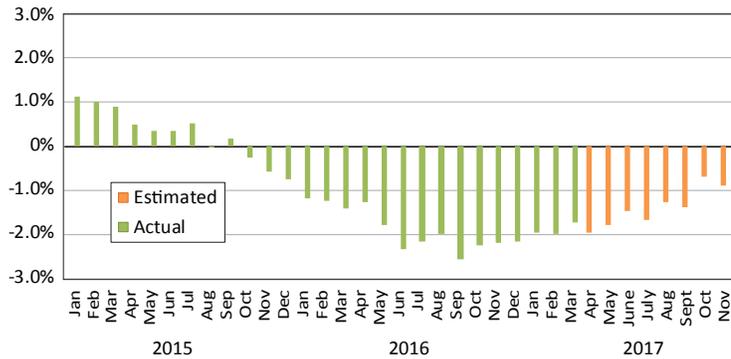
January 2012 to November 2017



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

Wage and Salary Employment

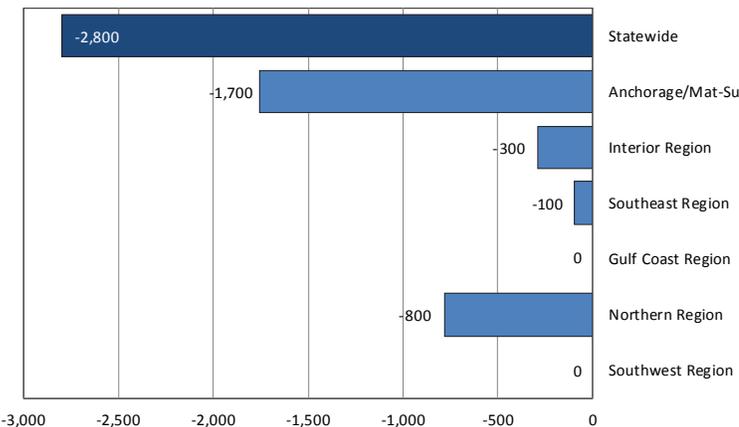
Percent change from same month the previous year



Note: Actual employment counts for 2016 are from the benchmarked Current Employment Statistics and Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages employment series. Estimated employment counts from 2017 are based on a forecast of the QCEW series.

Regional Employment

Change from November 2016 to November 2017



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

Area Unemployment Rates

Not seasonally adjusted¹

	Rate		
	11/17 ^P	10/17	11/16
Alaska	7.1	6.7	6.4
Anchorage/Mat-Su Region	6.3	6.1	5.7
Anchorage, Municipality	5.8	5.6	5.1
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	8.4	7.8	7.7
Gulf Coast Region	8.2	7.4	7.6
Kenai Peninsula Borough	8.7	7.9	8.1
Kodiak Island Borough	4.8	4.8	4.9
Valdez-Cordova Census Area	9.5	8.2	9.1
Interior Region	7.3	6.6	6.5
Denali Borough	20.2	10.3	18.8
Fairbanks North Star Borough	6.3	5.9	5.6
Southeast Fairbanks Census Area	11.0	9.5	9.5
Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area	17.5	15.8	15.8
Northern Region	11.1	11.1	10.6
Nome Census Area	11.9	11.1	11.7
North Slope Borough	6.9	7.5	6.5
Northwest Arctic Borough	15.5	15.7	15.2
Southeast Region	6.9	6.2	6.2
Haines Borough	12.7	9.3	10.2
Hoonah-Angoon Census Area	16.6	12.5	14.1
Juneau, City and Borough	4.9	4.7	4.4
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	7.0	6.2	6.3
Petersburg Borough	9.1	8.0	8.6
Prince of Wales-Hyder CA	11.7	10.8	10.7
Sitka, City and Borough	4.7	4.8	4.1
Skagway, Municipality	20.5	14.5	17.3
Wrangell, City and Borough	8.6	7.3	7.8
Yakutat, City and Borough	11.4	10.0	9.1
Southwest Region	11.5	10.5	10.5
Aleutians East Borough	4.3	2.6	4.3
Aleutians West Census Area	4.4	4.6	4.4
Bethel Census Area	13.0	12.8	12.1
Bristol Bay Borough	11.5	11.1	12.7
Dillingham Census Area	10.4	10.1	9.8
Kusilvak Census Area	19.5	19.3	16.6
Lake and Peninsula Borough	15.1	12.9	12.6

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.

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

Employment By Industry

	Average Monthly Employment			Compared to Nov 2016	
	Nov 2017 ¹	Oct 2017 ¹	Nov 2016 ²	Change	Percent
Total Nonfarm Employment	314,700	324,500	317,500	-2,800	-0.9%
Total Private	233,000	242,700	235,100	-2,100	-0.9%
Mining and Logging	12,600	12,900	13,400	-800	-6.0%
Oil and Gas	9,500	9,600	10,300	-800	-7.8%
Construction	13,800	16,000	14,500	-700	-4.8%
Manufacturing	8,200	10,900	8,300	-100	-1.2%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	62,800	64,200	63,200	-400	-0.6%
Wholesale	6,200	6,200	6,300	-100	-1.6%
Retail	36,500	36,500	36,800	-300	-0.8%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	20,100	21,500	20,100	0	0%
Information	5,800	5,800	6,200	-400	-6.5%
Financial Activities	11,900	11,900	12,000	-100	-0.8%
Professional and Business Services	26,600	27,500	26,900	-300	-1.1%
Education and Health	49,800	49,700	48,900	900	1.8%
Health Care	36,800	36,700	35,800	1,000	2.8%
Leisure and Hospitality	30,600	32,900	30,700	-100	-0.3%
Other Services	10,900	10,900	11,000	-100	-0.9%
Total Government	81,700	81,800	82,400	-700	-0.8%
Federal ³	14,800	14,800	14,900	-100	-0.7%
State ⁴	23,900	24,000	24,500	-600	-2.4%
Local ⁵	43,000	43,000	43,000	0	0%

¹Employment estimates for 2017 are based on a forecast of Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) data.

²Employment estimates for 2016 are QCEW data adjusted to Current Employment Statistics definitions.

³Excludes uniformed military

⁴Includes the University of Alaska

⁵Includes public schools and tribal government