

# AEDC April 2012 Employment Report

## ANCHORAGE

**5.8%** **2012 YTD**  
Unemployment Rate

**5.6%** **April 2012**  
Unemployment Rate

**1,450** Average increase  
of jobs (YTD) for  
2012 vs. 2011

**0.72%** **1,100** Increase of  
jobs for  
April '12 vs.  
April '11

**561** Average less  
workers (YTD) in  
2012 than 2011

**Total Jobs = Goods + Service**

**1,400**  
**1.0%** More Services Producing  
Jobs (YTD) in 2012 than  
2011

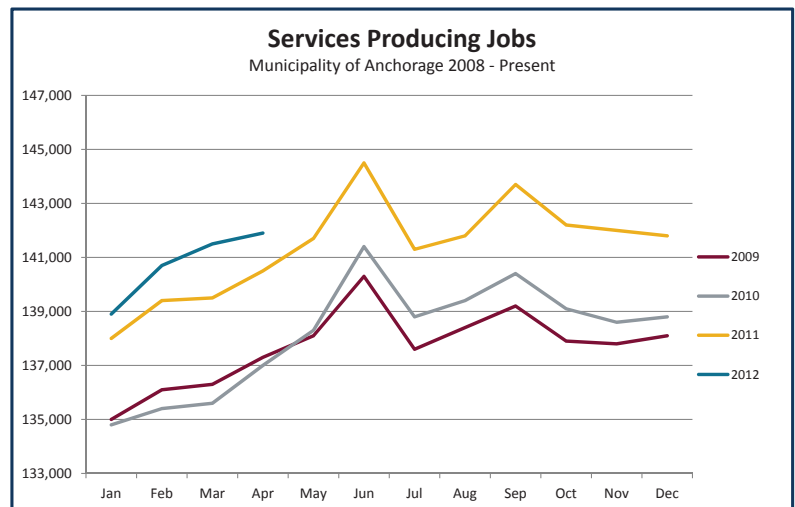
**100**  
**0.87%** Goods Producing Jobs  
(YTD) in 2012 than 2011

## Executive Summary

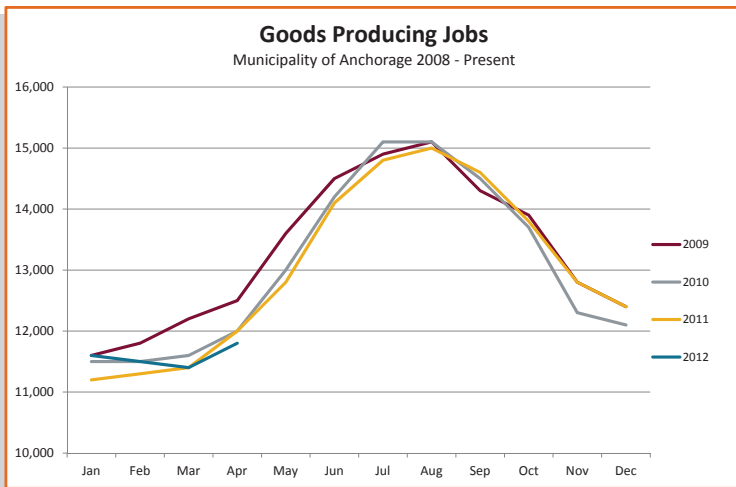
The unemployment rate in Anchorage is averaging 5.8 percent so far in 2012. April's rate is 0.7 percentage points less than the same time last year. In 2011 we saw the unemployment rate decline pretty steadily all year, but what was so exciting about the decrease in 2011 is that it happened in the face of a growing labor force. So far in 2012 this isn't the same case. Unemployment is down so far, but our labor force is also down about 561 people.

## Services Producing Jobs

Services producing jobs in Anchorage (engineering, retail, tourism, healthcare, etc.) made sizable gains this month and are up in 2012 compared to 2011 by 1,400 jobs or 1.0 percent. The sectors seeing the most growth are leisure and hospitality (up 425), transportation (up 400) and healthcare (up 575).



Overall, unemployment is averaging **5.8%** in Anchorage for the first 4 months of 2012, which is **0.7%** below 2011 for the same time.



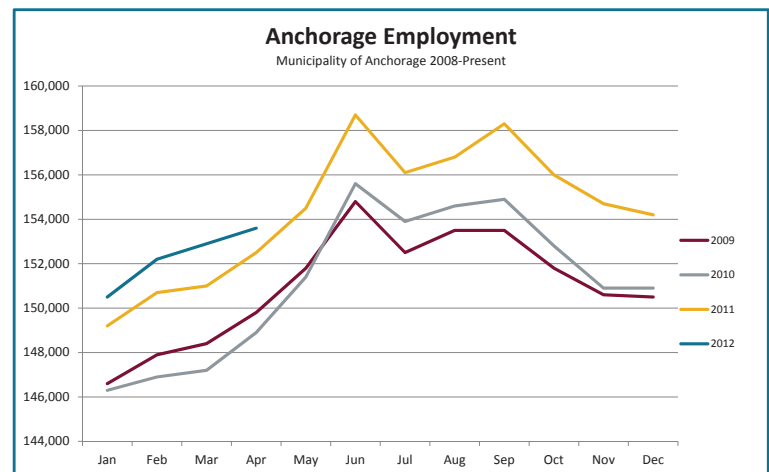
## Goods Producing Jobs

Goods producing jobs which are construction work, mining and oil & gas production (those jobs that are specifically tied to production, not those that support the production or maintenance of the production jobs) are up 100 jobs or 0.87 percent comparing 2012 to 2011. Manufacturing which saw a small growth last year is holding steady in 2012. So far in 2012, manufacturing is up by 200 jobs or 11.27 percent from this time last year, but the total number has not changed since the end of 2011. While construction jobs are still down from last year, the last three months have seen an increase of 200 jobs.

**200**  
**11.27%** More Manufacturing Jobs (YTD) in 2012 than 2011

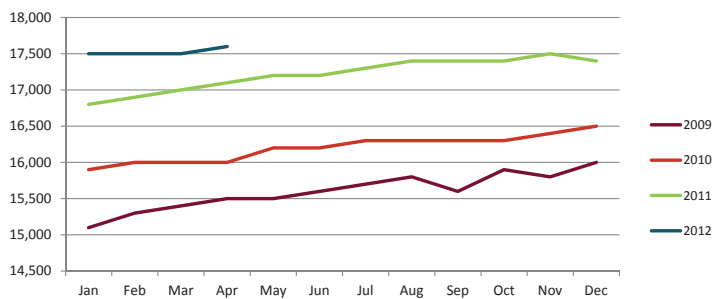
## Anchorage Employment

April's revised numbers for Anchorage's employment show an average increase of 1,450 jobs for 2012 vs. 2011, with a month-to-month (April '12 vs. April '11) comparison showing an increase of 1,100 jobs. This is a strong start to the year and is being fueled by the continued growth from the health care, transportation and leisure and hospitality industries.



## Health Care Employment

Municipality of Anchorage 2009 - Present

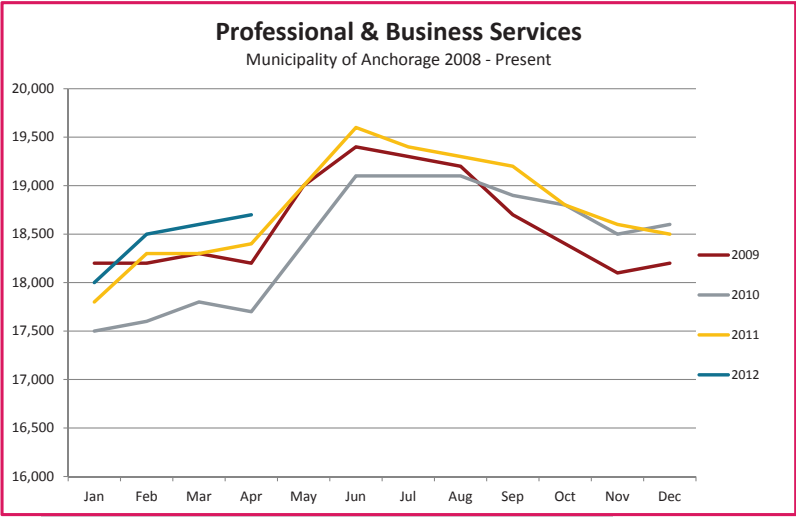


## Health Care Employment

In January, AEDC predicted a growth for 2012 of 700 healthcare jobs. So far in 2012 health care is averaging 575 more jobs than the same time in 2011. This is an increase of about 3.39 percent. Health care has been a monster growth sector for Anchorage over the past couple years and hasn't shown signs of slowing yet.

**17,600**  
Health Care Jobs in April 2012

**3.39%** increase of about **575** jobs (YTD) in 2012 vs. 2011



Professional & Business Services are part of the services side of the jobs equation.

(Total jobs = Goods + Services)

In January, AEDC predicted that this sector would grow by 150 jobs. So far, 2012 is averaging a growth of about 250 jobs or 1.37 percent.

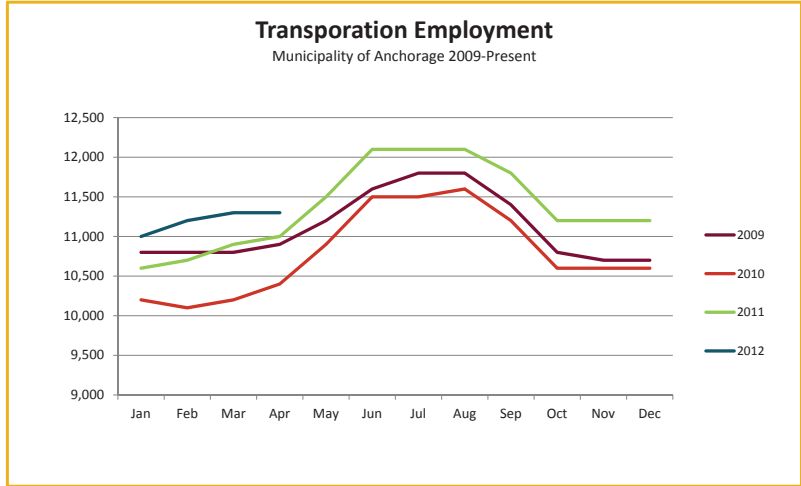


**250**

Professional & Business Services Jobs (YTD) in 2012 vs. 2011

### Transportation

AEDC predicted an increase of 100 jobs in transportation for 2012. The year has started out with a boom, averaging about 400 more jobs than in 2011, which is promising. However, the sector's numbers still are 800 jobs lower than the previous year's high of 12,100.



**11,300**  
Transportation Jobs in April 2012



increase of about **400** Transportation Jobs (YTD) in 2012 vs. 2011



## Unemployment Analysis (Year-To-Date, 2012)

• Anchorage • Mat-Su Borough • Kenai Peninsula Borough •

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	12 YTD Avg	11 YTD Avg	12 vs 11
	revised	revised	revised	revised											
<b>Municipality of Anchorage</b>															
Labor Force	156853	156529	156685	155981									156,512	157,073	(561)
Employment	147598	147299	147441	147172									147,378	146,757	621
Unemployment	9255	9230	9244	8809									9,135	10,317	(1,182)
Unemployment Rate	5.9%	5.9%	5.9%	5.6%									5.8%	6.6%	-0.7%
<b>Mat-Su Borough</b>															
Labor Force	43471	43437	43434	42783									43,281	43,447	(165)
Employment	39238	39158	39196	39125									39,179	39,014	165
Unemployment	4233	4279	4238	3658									4,102	4,433	(331)
Unemployment Rate	9.7%	9.9%	9.8%	8.6%									9.5%	10.2%	-0.7%
<b>Kenai Peninsula Borough</b>															
Labor Force	27083	26863	27259	27088									27,073	26,636	437
Employment	24324	24110	24591	24709									24,434	23,667	767
Unemployment	2759	2753	2668	2379									2,640	2,970	(330)
Unemployment Rate	10.2%	10.2%	9.8%	8.8%									9.8%	11.1%	-1.4%
<b>Southcentral Region</b>															
Labor Force	227,407	226,829	227,378	225,852		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	226,867	227,156	(289)
Employment	211,160	210,567	211,228	211,006		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	210,990	209,437	1,553
Unemployment	16,247	16,262	16,150	14,846		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,876	17,719	(1,842)
Unemployment Rate	7.1%	7.2%	7.1%	6.6%									7.0%	7.8%	-0.8%
<b>State of Alaska</b>															
Labor Force	361764	363359	364856	362887									363,217	362,750	467
Employment	332873	334539	336373	336640									335,106	332,310	2,796
Unemployment	28891	28820	28483	26247									28,110	30,440	(2,330)
Unemployment Rate	8.0%	7.9%	7.8%	7.2%									7.7%	8.4%	-0.7%

**\*Note:** These numbers reflect employment, unemployment, etc. for only those people that are residence of the specified City/Region, thus are not inclusive of people who commute to another city for their jobs. (Ex: Someone lives in Wasilla but works in Anchorage. They would be counted in the Mat-Su Borough's labor force and employment numbers, not the Municipality of Anchorage numbers)



## Industry Employment Estimates 2012 Municipality of Anchorage

Industry	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2012 YTD Avg.	2011 YTD Avg.	2012 vs 2011 YTD Change	% Change
	revised	revised	revised	revised												
Total Nonfarm	150,500	152,200	152,900	153,600									152,300	150,850	1,450	0.96%
Goods Producing	11,600	11,500	11,400	11,800									11,575	11,475	100	0.87%
Services Providing	138,900	140,700	141,500	141,900									140,750	139,350	1,400	1.00%
Mining and Logging <sup>2</sup>	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000									3,000	2,850	150	5.26%
Oil & Gas	2,900	2,900	2,900	2,900									2,900	2,750	150	5.45%
Construction	6,600	6,400	6,500	6,800									6,575	6,850	-275	-4.01%
Manufacturing	2,000	2,000	1,900	2,000									1,975	1,775	200	11.27%
Trade/Transportation/Utilities	32,400	32,300	32,500	32,800									32,500	31,925	575	1.80%
Wholesale Trade	4,500	4,400	4,500	4,500									4,475	4,500	-25	-0.56%
Retail Trade	16,900	16,700	16,700	17,000									16,825	16,650	175	1.05%
Trans/Warehouse/Utilities	11,000	11,200	11,300	11,300									11,200	10,800	400	3.70%
Air Transportation	3,000	2,900	3,000	3,000									2,975	2,850	125	4.39%
Information	3,900	3,900	3,900	3,900									3,900	4,000	-100	-2.50%
Financial Activities	8,600	8,700	8,800	8,800									8,725	8,750	-25	-0.29%
Professional & Business Svcs	18,000	18,500	18,600	18,700									18,450	18,200	250	1.37%
Educational & Health Services	23,600	23,800	23,900	23,800									23,775	23,175	600	2.59%
Health Care	17,500	17,500	17,500	17,600									17,525	16,950	575	3.39%
Leisure & Hospitality	16,100	16,200	16,500	16,400									16,300	15,875	425	2.68%
Accommodation	3,200	3,200	3,200	3,100									3,175	3,125	50	1.60%
Food Svcs & Drinking Places	10,500	10,600	10,800	11,000									10,725	10,525	200	1.90%
Other Services	5,700	5,700	5,800	5,900									5,775	5,750	25	0.43%
Government	30,500	31,600	31,600	31,600									31,325	31,700	-375	-1.18%
Federal Government	9,400	9,400	9,400	9,300									9,375	9,475	-100	-1.06%
State Government	10,000	10,900	10,900	10,900									10,675	10,750	-75	-0.70%
State Education	2,100	2,900	2,900	2,900									2,700	2,825	-125	-4.42%
Local Government	11,200	11,300	11,300	11,400									11,300	11,450	-150	-1.31%
Local Education	8,500	8,500	8,500	8,500									8,500	8,575	-75	-0.87%

- Nonfarm Wage & Salary excludes self-employed workers, fishers, domestics, and unpaid family workers.

- Government includes employees of public school systems and the University of Alaska.

- Beginning January 2001, wage and salary employment estimates were published under a new classification system. The Standard Industrial Classification system (SIC) has been replaced by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). Data prior to 2001 are comparable only at the Total Nonfarm and Government levels.

<sup>1/</sup> As of January 2001, certain federally-recognized tribal entities were moved to Local Government, which created a series break for Total Government and Local Government. [Please see the April 2002 Alaska Economic Trends publication for a detailed explanation.](#)

<sup>2/</sup> This category was called "Natural Resources and Mining" in previous years. The change is in name only; the industries it includes remain the same.

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

Quick Comparisons		
12 vs 11		
April	1,100	0.72%
12 vs 11		
1st Qtr	1,567	0.96%
12 vs 11		
2nd Qtr	n/a	n/a
12 vs 11 3rd		
Qtr.	n/a	n/a
12 vs 11 4th		
Qtr.	n/a	n/a

\* **Note:** The above numbers are representative of all people employed in the Municipality of Anchorage, this is inclusive of workers who claim residence outside of the Municipality of Anchorage. (Ex: someone who lives in the Mat-Su, but works in Anchorage would be included in these number)



## Industry Employment Estimates 2012 State of Alaska

Industry	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2012 YTD Avg.	2011 YTD Avg.	2012 vs 2011 YTD Change	% Change
	revised	revised	revised	revised												
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	309,200	317,100	319,900	321,100									316,825	315,350	1,475	0.47%
Goods Producing	36,800	38,900	39,700	38,700									38,525	39,900	-1,375	-3.45%
Services Providing	272,400	278,200	280,200	282,400									278,300	275,450	2,850	1.03%
Mining and Logging <sup>2</sup>	15,400	16,000	16,100	16,300									15,950	15,200	750	4.93%
Mining	15,300	15,700	15,800	15,900									15,675	14,975	700	4.67%
Oil & Gas	12,800	13,200	13,200	13,200									13,100	12,575	525	4.17%
Construction	11,600	11,500	11,400	11,600									11,525	12,925	-1,400	-10.83%
Manufacturing	9,800	11,400	12,200	10,800									11,050	11,775	-725	-6.16%
Seafood Processing	7,000	8,600	8,900	7,600									8,025	8,450	-425	-5.03%
Trade/Transportation/Utilities	59,600	59,700	60,300	61,800									60,350	59,650	700	1.17%
Wholesale Trade	5,900	6,000	6,000	6,000									5,975	6,075	-100	-1.65%
Retail Trade	33,900	33,500	33,600	34,700									33,925	34,025	-100	-0.29%
Food & Beverage Stores	6,100	6,200	6,100	6,300									6,175	5,950	225	3.78%
General Merchandise Stores	9,800	9,500	9,400	9,600									9,575	9,625	-50	-0.52%
Trans/Warehouse/Utilities	19,800	20,200	20,700	21,100									20,450	19,550	900	4.60%
Air Transportation	5,500	5,400	5,500	5,600									5,500	5,450	50	0.92%
Information	6,300	6,300	6,300	6,300									6,300	6,350	-50	-0.79%
Telecommunications	4,100	4,100	4,100	4,100									4,100	4,100	0	0.00%
Financial Activities	14,500	14,700	14,600	14,500									14,575	14,475	100	0.69%
Professional & Business Svcs	25,800	27,100	27,200	27,300									26,850	25,950	900	3.47%
Educational & Health Services	45,500	45,900	46,200	46,400									46,000	43,925	2,075	4.72%
Health Care	31,800	32,100	32,000	32,300									32,050	31,050	1,000	3.22%
Leisure & Hospitality	27,900	28,300	28,900	29,400									28,625	28,425	200	0.70%
Accommodation	5,700	5,800	6,100	6,200									5,950	6,225	-275	-4.42%
Food Svcs & Drinking Places	18,200	18,300	18,500	18,800									18,450	18,325	125	0.68%
Other Services	10,600	10,700	10,900	10,900									10,775	11,150	-375	-3.36%
Government	82,200	85,500	85,800	85,800									84,825	85,525	-700	-0.82%
Federal Government	15,900	16,000	16,100	16,200									16,050	16,675	-625	-3.75%
State Government	24,100	26,400	26,500	26,600									25,900	26,100	-200	-0.77%
State Education	6,500	8,600	8,600	8,600									8,075	8,325	-250	-3.00%
Local Government	42,200	43,100	43,200	43,000									42,875	42,750	125	0.29%
Local Education	25,200	25,600	25,700	25,800									25,575	25,550	25	0.10%
Tribal Government <sup>1</sup>	3,700	3,700	3,700	3,800									3,725	3,525	200	5.67%

- Nonfarm Wage & Salary excludes self-employed workers, fishers, domestics, and unpaid family workers.

- Government includes employees of public school systems and the University of Alaska.

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

Quick Comparisons		
<b>12 vs 11</b>		
April	-300	-0.09%
<b>12 vs 11</b>		
1st Qtr	6,200	2.01%
<b>12 vs 11</b>		
2nd Qtr	N/A	N/A
<b>12 vs 11 3rd</b>		
Qtr.	N/A	N/A
<b>12 vs 11</b>		
4th Qtr	N/A	N/A

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## Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

May 18, 2012

No. 12-33

### Unemployment rate at 6.9 percent in April

Alaska's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for April was 6.9 percent, essentially unchanged from 7.0 percent in March. The comparable national rate was 8.1 percent, down one-tenth of a percentage point.

The U.S. and Alaska rates have both declined gradually but consistently in recent months, although unlike Alaska's rate, the U.S. rate remains significantly higher than pre-recession levels.

Job numbers show the same pattern. U.S. employment is still about five million below its January 2008 peak, while Alaska quickly recovered after the mild job losses of 2009. Preliminary estimates for 2012 show a continuing trend of modest job growth in Alaska.

Unemployment rates around the state, which are not seasonally adjusted, fell in all but one region in April as the labor market geared up for summer. Juneau's rate of 4.8 percent was the state's lowest, and the Wade Hampton Census Area's was highest at 21.4 percent. Rates tend to decline over the spring and summer as many Alaskans take seasonal jobs in fishing, seafood processing, construction and tourism.



Unemployment Rates, Seasonally Adjusted			
	4/12	3/12	4/11
Alaska	6.9%	7.0%	7.5%
U.S.	8.1%	8.2%	9.0%

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](http://labor.alaska.gov/research/ces/ces.htm). The estimates are preliminary and subject to potentially large revisions.

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Research and Analysis Web site: [laborstats.alaska.gov](http://laborstats.alaska.gov)

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

	Civilian Labor Force			Unemployed					
	4/12 <sup>P</sup>	3/12	4/11	Number			Rate		
				4/12 <sup>P</sup>	3/12	4/11	4/12 <sup>P</sup>	3/12	4/11
<b>Alaska Statewide</b>	<b>363,398</b>	<b>364,856</b>	<b>362,269</b>	<b>26,493</b>	<b>28,483</b>	<b>27,931</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>7.7</b>
<b>Anchorage/Mat-Su Region</b>	<b>199,341</b>	<b>200,119</b>	<b>200,134</b>	<b>12,583</b>	<b>13,482</b>	<b>13,663</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>6.8</b>
Municipality of Anchorage	156,431	156,685	157,066	8,894	9,244	9,756	5.7	5.9	6.2
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	42,910	43,434	43,068	3,689	4,238	3,907	8.6	9.8	9.1
<b>Gulf Coast Region</b>	<b>39,067</b>	<b>39,422</b>	<b>38,415</b>	<b>3,281</b>	<b>3,598</b>	<b>3,599</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>9.4</b>
Kenai Peninsula Borough	27,075	27,259	26,615	2,401	2,668	2,651	8.9	9.8	10.0
Kodiak Island Borough	6,992	7,183	6,883	406	406	445	5.8	5.7	6.5
Valdez-Cordova Census Area	5,000	4,980	4,917	474	524	503	9.5	10.5	10.2
<b>Interior Region</b>	<b>54,619</b>	<b>54,485</b>	<b>54,074</b>	<b>4,118</b>	<b>4,475</b>	<b>4,137</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>7.7</b>
Denali Borough	938	882	907	153	178	137	16.3	20.2	15.1
Fairbanks North Star Borough	46,808	46,930	46,379	3,062	3,338	3,105	6.5	7.1	6.7
Southeast Fairbanks Census Area	3,588	3,549	3,567	393	423	402	11.0	11.9	11.3
Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area	3,285	3,124	3,221	510	536	493	15.5	17.2	15.3
<b>Northern Region</b>	<b>13,088</b>	<b>13,398</b>	<b>12,681</b>	<b>1,263</b>	<b>1,342</b>	<b>1,251</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>9.9</b>
Nome Census Area	4,225	4,370	4,150	484	507	519	11.5	11.6	12.5
North Slope Borough	5,640	5,791	5,434	284	316	267	5.0	5.5	4.9
Northwest Arctic Borough	3,223	3,237	3,097	495	519	465	15.4	16.0	15.0
<b>Southeast Region</b>	<b>39,295</b>	<b>38,205</b>	<b>39,044</b>	<b>2,757</b>	<b>3,137</b>	<b>2,915</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>7.5</b>
Haines Borough	1,278	1,110	1,286	118	133	120	9.2	12.0	9.3
Hoonah-Angoon Census Area	932	821	920	186	210	185	20.0	25.6	20.1
Juneau, City and Borough of	18,720	18,471	18,598	902	980	985	4.8	5.3	5.3
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	7,797	7,554	7,750	564	633	599	7.2	8.4	7.7
Petersburg Census Area	1,632	1,603	1,640	153	192	180	9.4	12.0	11.0
Prince of Wales-Hyder Census Area	2,416	2,392	2,396	363	434	369	15.0	18.1	15.4
Sitka, City and Borough of	4,591	4,471	4,551	255	280	265	5.6	6.3	5.8
Skagway, Municipality of	565	512	561	87	121	90	15.4	23.6	16.0
Wrangell, City and Borough of	1,057	1,033	1,029	101	121	85	9.6	11.7	8.3
Yakutat, City and Borough of	307	238	313	28	33	37	9.1	13.9	11.8
<b>Southwest Region</b>	<b>17,989</b>	<b>19,225</b>	<b>17,921</b>	<b>2,491</b>	<b>2,447</b>	<b>2,366</b>	<b>13.8</b>	<b>12.7</b>	<b>13.2</b>
Aleutians East Borough	1,444	1,368	1,441	134	115	130	9.3	8.4	9.0
Aleutians West Census Area	2,989	4,329	2,925	308	211	235	10.3	4.9	8.0
Bethel Census Area	7,085	7,191	7,104	1,077	1,120	1,069	15.2	15.6	15.0
Bristol Bay Borough	721	449	727	52	52	49	7.2	11.6	6.7
Dillingham Census Area	1,889	2,099	1,903	210	218	223	11.1	10.4	11.7
Lake and Peninsula Borough	1,014	927	1,024	101	107	107	10.0	11.5	10.4
Wade Hampton Census Area	2,847	2,862	2,797	609	624	553	21.4	21.8	19.8

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