

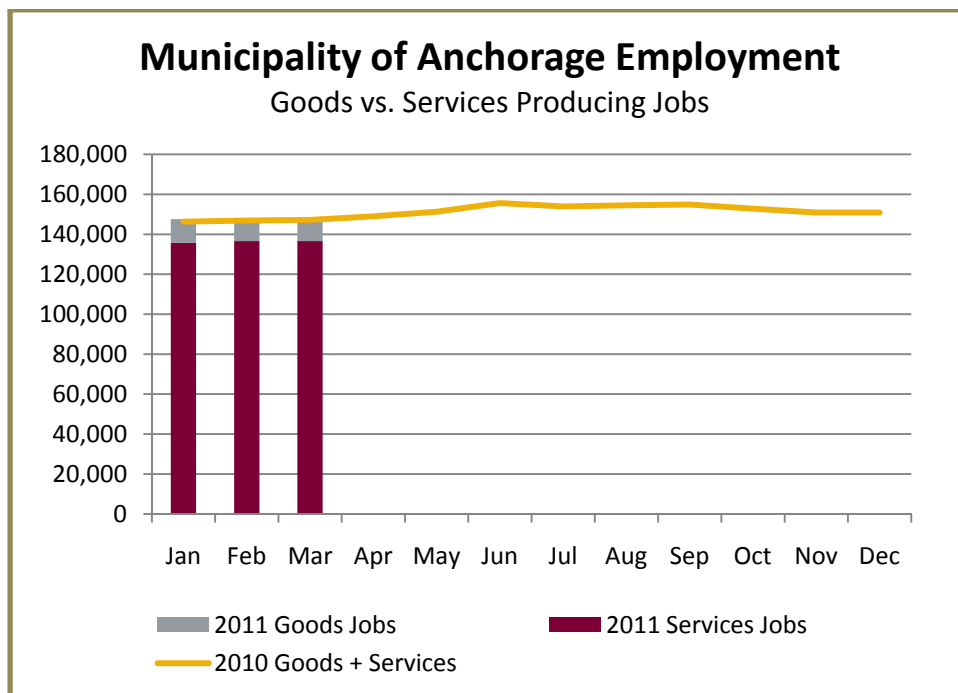
AEDC March 2011 Employment Report

Executive Summary

The unemployment rate in Anchorage was down 1.3 percentage points in March 2011 from its recent high of 7.8 percent in March 2010. Overall unemployment is averaging 6.5 percent in Anchorage in 2011, which is the same as 2009 and a whole percentage point below 2010's 7.6 percent. The labor force in Anchorage continues to grow and is averaging about 740 more workers in 2011, compared to 2010. This is particularly impressive when realizing that Anchorage unemployment continues to drop while the labor force continues to grow.¹

Overall, in Anchorage, jobs are also up for the year by an average of 1,233 when compared to 2010. The sectors seeing the most growth are professional services (up 400), and education and healthcare (up 900 jobs with 700 of those in the healthcare sector).

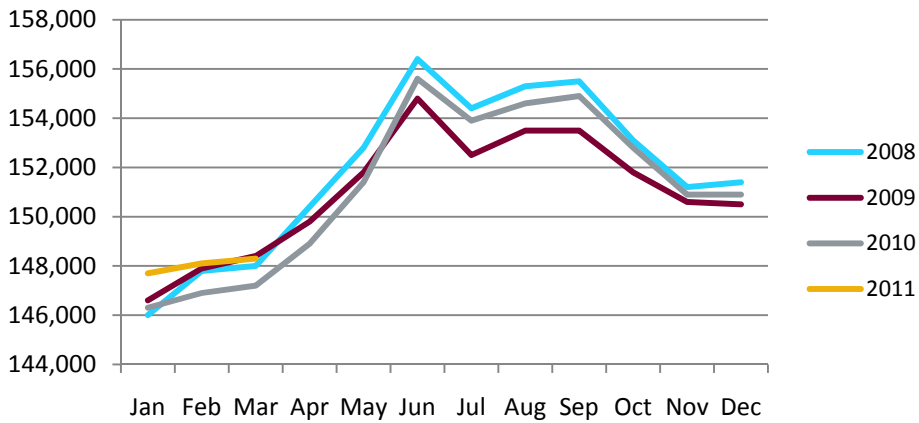
The overall picture is that services producing jobs in Anchorage (engineering, retail, tourism, healthcare, etc.) are up 2011 over 2010 by 1,067 jobs or 0.79 percent. The big news however, is that goods producing jobs which are construction work, mining and oil & gas (those jobs that are specifically tied to production, not those that support the production or maintenance of the production jobs) are still up 133 jobs or 1.16 percent. The interesting point is that neither construction nor oil & gas have had an increase in jobs over 2010 numbers for the first two months of this year and mining is flat so far this year so it's not clear what is driving this increase.



¹ Unemployment rate and labor force only count jobs and people that live and work in the same city, but the Industry Employment Estimates count all jobs within a specified city or region regardless of where a person lives.

Anchorage Employment

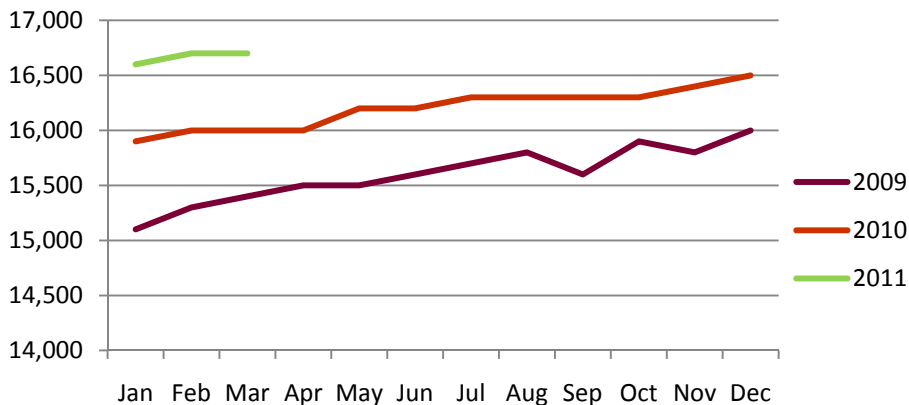
Municipality of Anchorage 2008-Present



Preliminary numbers for Anchorage's employment show an average increase of 1,233 jobs for 2011 vs. 2010, with a month-to-month (Feb. 11 vs. Feb. 10) comparison showing an increase of 1,100 jobs. The employment numbers are still showing growth over the highs of 2008.

Health Care Employment

Municipality of Anchorage 2009-Present

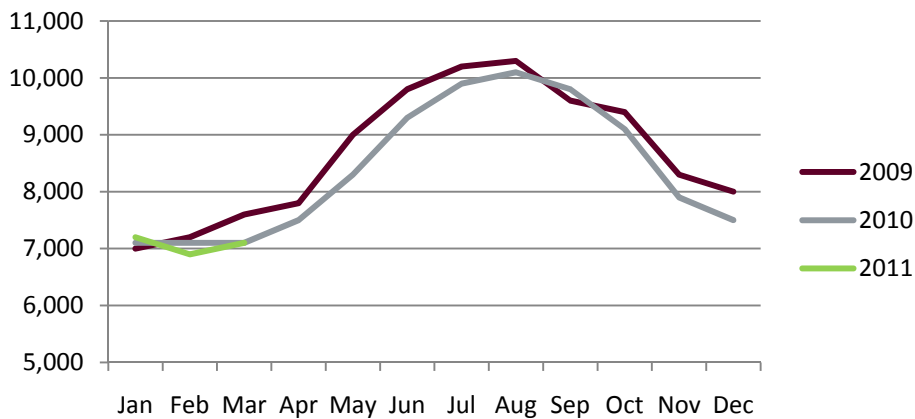


Last month we reported a preliminary loss of 200 jobs in the health care sector. According to the revised numbers for health care jobs there was still a loss however, at 100 jobs, it was about half of what was originally stated.

Health care stayed stable at about 2,700 jobs in March, neither growing nor shrinking over February's numbers. Looking at this holistically, health care has seen a growth of about 233 jobs or about a 1.5 percent year-over-year. This continues to be a hot sector for growth.

Construction Employment

Municipality of Anchorage 2009-Present

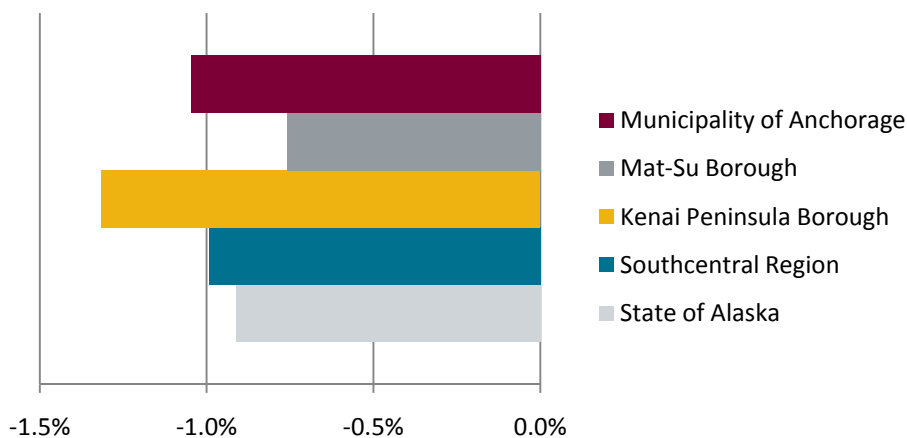


Construction is a naturally cyclical industry. On average year-to-date this sector is down 33 jobs. February to March showed an increase of 200 jobs.

Anecdotally we have been hearing that the 2011 construction season is going to be much better than the 2010 season due to a lack of new housing construction last year and the passage of some large state bonds. So we will be looking for an overall growth over 2010 numbers in this sector.

Unemployment Rates

YTD 2011 vs 2010 Average



Year-to-date 2011 vs. 2010 average unemployment rates are down for the state overall. Each of the regions tracked saw a least a 0.8% decrease in their YTD average unemployment rates.

This is particularly exciting news for Anchorage whose labor force grew by an average of 743 workers. The Mat-Su also experienced an increase in its workforce by an average of 328. The Kenai Peninsula saw a loss of an average of 44 workers.



Unemployment Analysis (Year-To-Date, 2011)

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

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	11 YTD Avg	10 YTD Avg	11 vs 10
	revised	revised	preliminary												
Municipality of Anchorage															
Labor Force	156,242	155,238	155,389										155,623	154,880	743
Employment	145,940	145,163	145,221										145,441	143,127	2,314
Unemployment	10,302	10,075	10,168										10,182	11,753	(1,572)
Unemployment Rate	6.6%	6.5%	6.5%										6.5%	7.6%	-1.0%
Mat-Su Borough															
Labor Force	43,892	43,546	43,523										43,654	43,326	328
Employment	39,289	39,080	39,095										39,155	38,532	623
Unemployment	4,603	4,466	4,428										4,499	4,794	(295)
Unemployment Rate	10.5%	10.3%	10.2%										10.3%	11.1%	-0.8%
Kenai Peninsula Borough															
Labor Force	26,172	26,206	26,428										26,269	26,312	(44)
Employment	23,108	23,220	23,506										23,278	22,971	307
Unemployment	3,064	2,986	2,922										2,991	3,342	(351)
Unemployment Rate	11.7%	11.4%	11.1%										11.4%	12.7%	-1.3%
Southcentral Region															
Labor Force	226,306	224,990	225,340	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	225,648	224,519	1,129
Employment	208,337	207,463	207,822	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	207,900	204,629	3,271
Unemployment	17,969	17,527	17,518	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17,748	19,889	(2,141)
Unemployment Rate	7.9%	7.8%	7.8%										7.9%	8.9%	-1.0%
State of Alaska															
Labor Force	359,660	360,092	361,089										360,280	358,055	2,225
Employment	328,621	329,908	331,144										329,891	324,584	5,307
Unemployment	31,039	30,184	29,945										30,389	33,471	(3,082)
Unemployment Rate	8.6%	8.4%	8.3%										8.4%	9.3%	-0.9%

***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 2011 Municipality of Anchorage

Industry	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2011 YTD Avg.	2010 YTD Avg.	2011 vs 2010 Monthly Avg	% Change
	revised	revised	preliminary													
Total Nonfarm	147,700	148,100	148,300										148,033	146,800	1,233	0.84%
Goods Producing	11,800	11,500	11,700										11,667	11,533	133	1.16%
Services Providing	135,800	136,600	136,600										136,333	135,267	1,067	0.79%
Mining and Logging ²	2,800	2,700	2,800										2,767	2,700	67	2.47%
Mining	2,700	2,700	2,700										2,700	2,700	0	0.00%
Oil & Gas	2,500	2,500	2,500										2,500	2,600	-100	-3.85%
Construction	7,200	6,900	7,100										7,067	7,100	-33	-0.47%
Manufacturing	1,900	1,900	1,800										1,867	1,800	67	3.70%
Trade/Transportation/Utilities	31,000	30,600	31,000										30,867	31,333	-467	-1.49%
Wholesale Trade	4,300	4,300	4,300										4,300	4,400	-100	-2.27%
Retail Trade	16,700	16,400	16,500										16,533	16,733	-200	-1.20%
Trans/Warehouse/Utilities	10,000	9,900	10,100										10,000	10,167	-167	-1.64%
Air Transportation	2,800	2,700	2,700										2,733	2,800	-67	-2.38%
Information	4,000	4,000	4,000										4,000	4,033	-33	-0.83%
Financial Activities	8,800	8,800	8,600										8,733	8,700	33	0.38%
Professional & Business Svcs	17,800	18,100	18,200										18,033	17,633	400	2.27%
Educational & Health Services	22,200	22,300	22,300										22,267	21,367	900	4.21%
Health Care	16,600	16,700	16,700										16,667	15,967	700	4.38%
Leisure & Hospitality	15,100	15,400	15,500										15,333	15,100	233	1.55%
Accommodation	3,100	3,100	3,200										3,133	3,100	33	1.08%
Food Svcs & Drinking Places	10,000	10,200	10,400										10,200	10,000	200	2.00%
Other Services	5,500	5,500	5,500										5,500	5,400	100	1.85%
Government	31,500	31,900	31,500										31,633	31,633	0	0.00%
Federal Government	9,500	9,500	9,500										9,500	9,467	33	0.35%
State Government	10,500	10,800	10,800										10,700	10,667	33	0.31%
State Education	2,600	2,900	2,900										2,800	2,733	67	2.44%
Local Government	11,400	11,600	11,200										11,400	11,500	-100	-0.87%
Local Education	8,400	8,600	8,300										8,433	8,533	-100	-1.17%
Tribal Government ¹	-	-	-										-	-		

- 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.

^{1/} 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.](#)

^{2/} 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		
11 vs 10		
March	1,100	0.75%
11 vs 10		
1st Qtr	1,233	0.84%
11 vs 10 2nd		
Qtr.	N/A	N/A
11 vs 10 3rd		
Qtr.	N/A	N/A
11 vs 10 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 2011 State of Alaska

Industry	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2011 YTD Avg.	2010 YTD Avg.	2011 vs 2010 Monthly Avg	% Change
	revised	revised	preliminary													
Total Nonfarm	310,500	315,500	317,600										314,533	306,533	8,000	2.61%
Goods Producing	38,600	40,100	41,000										39,900	38,367	1,533	4.00%
Services Providing	271,900	275,400	276,600										274,633	268,167	6,467	2.41%
Mining and Logging ²	15,100	15,400	15,700										15,400	14,233	1,167	8.20%
Mining	14,900	15,200	15,300										15,133	14,067	1,067	7.58%
Oil & Gas	13,000	12,900	12,900										12,933	12,067	867	7.18%
Construction	12,300	12,200	12,800										12,433	12,800	-367	-2.86%
Manufacturing	11,200	12,500	12,500										12,067	11,333	733	6.47%
Seafood Processing	7,500	8,700	9,000										8,400	8,000	400	5.00%
Trade/Transportation/Utilities	60,600	60,400	60,800										60,600	58,833	1,767	3.00%
Wholesale Trade	5,900	5,900	5,900										5,900	5,933	-33	-0.56%
Retail Trade	34,200	33,800	33,900										33,967	33,800	167	0.49%
Food & Beverage Stores	5,900	6,000	6,000										5,967	6,067	-100	-1.65%
General Merchandise Stores	9,800	9,800	9,800										9,800	9,767	33	0.34%
Trans/Warehouse/Utilities	20,500	20,700	21,000										20,733	19,100	1,633	8.55%
Air Transportation	5,100	5,300	5,500										5,300	5,300	0	0.00%
Truck Transportation	3,000	3,200	3,300										3,167	2,900	267	9.20%
Information	6,300	6,400	6,300										6,333	6,300	33	0.53%
Telecommunications	4,200	4,200	4,200										4,200	4,100	100	2.44%
Financial Activities	15,000	15,000	15,100										15,033	14,467	567	3.92%
Professional & Business Svcs	24,800	25,500	25,500										25,267	25,000	267	1.07%
Educational & Health Services	42,800	43,200	43,200										43,067	41,100	1,967	4.79%
Health Care	30,900	31,000	31,100										31,000	29,500	1,500	5.08%
Leisure & Hospitality	27,600	28,500	29,400										28,500	26,833	1,667	6.21%
Accommodation	6,300	6,300	6,500										6,367	5,967	400	6.70%
Food Svcs & Drinking Places	17,400	18,700	19,300										18,467	17,233	1,233	7.16%
Other Services	11,400	11,300	11,300										11,333	10,967	367	3.34%
Government	83,400	85,100	85,000										84,500	84,667	-167	-0.20%
Federal Government	16,200	16,400	16,600										16,400	16,633	-233	-1.40%
State Government	25,200	26,300	26,400										25,967	25,867	100	0.39%
State Education	7,500	8,600	8,600										8,233	8,167	67	0.82%
Local Government	42,000	42,400	42,000										42,133	42,167	-33	-0.08%
Local Education	24,700	25,400	25,100										25,067	25,000	67	0.27%
Tribal Government ¹	3,500	3,500	3,600										3,533	3,567	-33	-0.93%

- 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.

^{1/} 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.](#)

^{2/} 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			
11 vs 10			
March	8,100		2.64%
11 vs 10			
1st Qtr	8,000		2.61%
11 vs 10 2nd			
Qtr.			0.00%
11 vs 10 3rd			
Qtr.			0.00%
11 vs 10			
4th Qtr YTD			0.00%

Click Bishop
Commissioner

P.O. Box 111149
Juneau, AK 99811-1149

www.labor.alaska.gov

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Beth Leschper
Communications Director

907.465.2700
cell: 907.723.1321

beth.leschper@alaska.gov

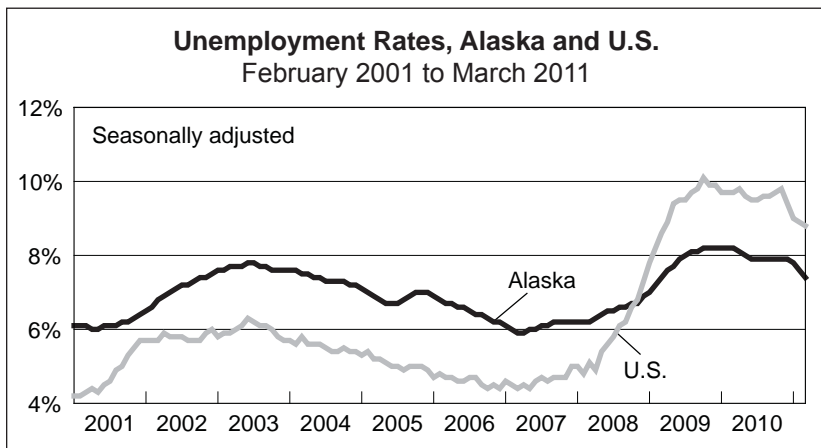
Press Release

April 22, 2011

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

No. 11-24

Unemployment rate at 7.4 percent in March



Alaska's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for March was 7.4 percent, down from February's revised rate of 7.6 percent. The comparable national rate in March was 8.8 percent, a slight decrease from the revised rate of 8.9 percent in February. The Alaska and U.S. rates for March both came in below year-ago levels, and both have trended downward for many months.

The peak jobless rate for the nation was 10.1 percent in October of 2009, and Alaska's unemployment hit 8.2 percent during the last three months of 2009 and the first three months of 2010.

Alaska Nonfarm Payroll Employment¹

	Preliminary 3/11	Revised 2/11	Revised 3/10	Year-over-year change		
				3/10	90% confidence interval ²	
Total Nonfarm Employment ³	317,600	315,500	309,500	8,100	717	15,483
Mining and Logging	15,700	15,400	14,500	1,200	407	1,993
Oil and Gas	12,900	12,900	12,200	700	-	-
Construction	12,800	12,200	12,900	-100	-2,683	2,483
Manufacturing	12,500	12,500	12,000	500	-494	1,494
Seafood Processing	9,000	8,700	8,600	400	-	-
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	60,800	60,400	59,000	1,800	-572	4,172
Retail Trade	33,900	33,800	33,700	200	-1,828	2,228
Information	6,300	6,400	6,300	0	-581	581
Financial Activities	15,100	15,000	14,300	800	-1,143	2,743
Professional and Business Services	25,500	25,500	25,200	300	-1,493	2,093
Educational ⁴ and Health Services	43,200	43,200	41,300	1,900	632	3,168
Health Care	31,100	31,000	29,600	1,500	-	-
Leisure and Hospitality	29,400	28,500	27,200	2,200	163	4,237
Accommodations	6,500	6,300	6,000	500	-	-
Food Svcs. and Drinking Places	19,300	18,700	17,600	1,700	-	-
Other Services	11,300	11,300	11,100	200	-2,976	3,376
Government ⁵	85,000	85,100	85,700	-700	-	-

As of March, Alaska's jobless rate has been lower than the nation's for 28 months in a row. However, the difference between the two has narrowed in recent months. Both rates are still above average, but show an improving labor market for job seekers.

The not-seasonally adjusted jobless rates around the state either did not change or fell slightly in March, which is typical of this time of year. While rates declined slightly in four Alaska regions and held steady in the remaining three in March, all regional rates are below year-ago levels. By April or May, unemployment rates will probably begin to fall as the busy summer season begins.

Beginning with the production of preliminary estimates for March 2011, production of state and metropolitan area Current Employment Statistics estimates has transitioned from state workforce agencies 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>.

Contact: Neal Fried, Economist (907) 269-4861
Research and Analysis Web site: <http://laborstats.alaska.gov>

Unemployment Rates, Seasonally Adjusted

	3/11	2/11	3/10
Alaska	7.4%	7.6%	8.2%
U.S.	8.8%	8.9%	9.7%

Labor Force by Borough and Census Area, Not Seasonally Adjusted¹

	Civilian Labor Force			Unemployed					
	3/11 ^P	2/11	3/10	Number			Rate		
				3/11 ^P	2/11	3/10	3/11 ^P	2/11	3/10
Alaska Statewide	361,089	360,092	358,425	29,945	30,184	32,966	8.3	8.4	9.2
Anchorage/Mat-Su Region	198,912	198,784	197,400	14,596	14,541	16,517	7.3	7.3	8.4
Municipality of Anchorage	155,389	155,238	154,287	10,168	10,075	11,771	6.5	6.5	7.6
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	43,523	43,546	43,113	4,428	4,466	4,746	10.2	10.3	11.0
Gulf Coast Region	38,074	37,664	37,862	3,911	3,999	4,257	10.3	10.6	11.2
Kenai Peninsula Borough	26,428	26,206	26,382	2,922	2,986	3,237	11.1	11.4	12.3
Kodiak Island Borough	6,747	6,735	6,691	440	439	481	6.5	6.5	7.2
Valdez-Cordova Census Area	4,899	4,723	4,789	549	574	539	11.2	12.2	11.3
Interior Region	53,876	53,911	53,539	4,521	4,587	4,924	8.4	8.5	9.2
Denali Borough	854	905	826	161	171	155	18.9	18.9	18.8
Fairbanks North Star Borough	46,170	46,274	46,212	3,385	3,408	3,778	7.3	7.4	8.2
Southeast Fairbanks Census Area	3,671	3,691	3,539	436	452	458	11.9	12.2	12.9
Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area	3,181	3,041	2,962	539	556	533	16.9	18.3	18.0
Northern Region	12,904	12,844	12,587	1,243	1,238	1,307	9.6	9.6	10.4
Nome Census Area	4,230	4,201	4,244	522	526	571	12.3	12.5	13.5
North Slope Borough	5,568	5,565	5,291	245	246	287	4.4	4.4	5.4
Northwest Arctic Borough	3,106	3,078	3,052	476	466	449	15.3	15.1	14.7
Southeast Region	38,596	38,062	38,365	3,323	3,417	3,578	8.6	9.0	9.3
Haines Borough	1,145	1,053	1,177	128	138	156	11.2	13.1	13.3
Hoonah-Angoon Census Area ²	880	856	857	218	224	205	24.8	26.2	23.9
Juneau, City and Borough of	18,490	18,466	18,356	1,083	1,086	1,205	5.9	5.9	6.6
Ketchikan Gateway Borough ²	7,539	7,449	7,538	667	680	749	8.8	9.1	9.9
Petersburg Census Area ²	1,648	1,630	-	208	223	-	12.6	13.7	-
Prince of Wales-Hyder Census Area ²	2,472	2,438	-	452	464	-	18.3	19.0	-
Prince of Wales-Outer Ketchikan Census Area ²	-	-	2,321	-	-	434	-	-	18.7
Sitka, City and Borough of	4,629	4,429	4,559	307	312	317	6.6	7.0	7.0
Skagway, Municipality of ²	530	539	530	122	149	128	23.0	27.6	24.2
Wrangell, City and Borough of ²	949	935	-	96	102	-	10.1	10.9	-
Wrangell-Petersburg Census Area ²	-	-	2,721	-	-	344	-	-	12.6
Yakutat, City and Borough of	314	267	306	42	39	40	13.4	14.6	13.1
Southwest Region	18,733	18,826	18,673	2,354	2,402	2,383	12.6	12.8	12.8
Aleutians East Borough	1,265	1,253	1,251	96	93	90	7.6	7.4	7.2
Aleutians West Census Area	4,119	4,168	4,101	160	166	158	3.9	4.0	3.9
Bethel Census Area	6,994	7,131	7,006	1,109	1,131	1,132	15.9	15.9	16.2
Bristol Bay Borough	484	472	479	50	53	51	10.3	11.2	10.6
Dillingham Census Area	2,141	2,120	2,142	246	240	248	11.5	11.3	11.6
Lake and Peninsula Borough	938	888	909	111	114	104	11.8	12.8	11.4
Wade Hampton Census Area	2,792	2,794	2,785	582	605	600	20.8	21.7	21.5

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