

## Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

September 19, 2014

No. 14-40

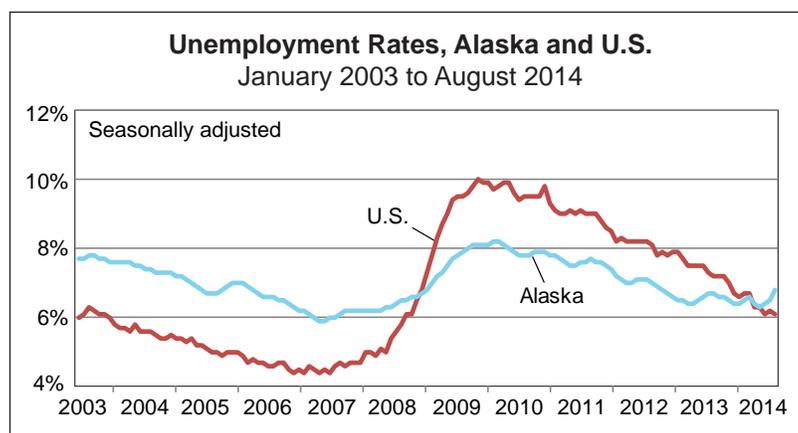
### Unemployment rate at 6.8 percent in August

Alaska's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 6.8 percent in August, up three-tenths of a percentage point from July. The comparable national rate was 6.1 percent.

Alaska's rate had held relatively steady at around 6.5 percent since early 2013. It's too early to tell whether August's uptick signals a new trend.

The not-seasonally adjusted jobless rate was 6.3 percent in August, up from July's 6.1 percent. Typically the unadjusted rate continues to fall through August or September before beginning a steady climb as Alaska's seasonal industries wind down for the year.

The Municipality of Skagway had the lowest unadjusted rate in August at 1.3 percent. Other areas with low rates included the Bristol Bay Borough at 2.0 percent and the Denali Borough at 2.9 percent. The highest rate was in the Wade Hampton Census Area at 22.8 percent.



Unemployment Rates, Seasonally Adjusted			
	8/14	7/14	8/13
Alaska	6.8%	6.5%	6.7%
U.S.	6.1%	6.2%	7.2%

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

**Contact: Caroline Schultz, Economist (907) 465-6027**  
Research and Analysis Web site: laborstats.alaska.gov

For detailed employment estimates, see <http://live.laborstats.alaska.gov/ces/>. The estimates are preliminary and subject to potentially large revisions.

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

	Civilian Labor Force			Unemployed					
	8/14 <sup>P</sup>	7/14	8/13	Number			Rate		
				8/14 <sup>P</sup>	7/14	8/13	8/14 <sup>P</sup>	7/14	8/13
<b>Alaska Statewide</b>	<b>372,820</b>	<b>376,645</b>	<b>369,001</b>	<b>23,314</b>	<b>22,858</b>	<b>21,377</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>5.8</b>
<b>Anchorage/Mat-Su Region</b>	<b>197,977</b>	<b>199,077</b>	<b>195,125</b>	<b>11,170</b>	<b>10,889</b>	<b>10,110</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>5.2</b>
Anchorage, Municipality of	154,884	155,570	152,678	8,276	7,878	7,476	5.3	5.1	4.9
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	43,093	43,507	42,447	2,894	3,011	2,634	6.7	6.9	6.2
<b>Gulf Coast Region</b>	<b>43,596</b>	<b>44,044</b>	<b>43,077</b>	<b>2,721</b>	<b>2,663</b>	<b>2,475</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>5.7</b>
Kenai Peninsula Borough	30,129	30,536	29,735	2,000	1,906	1,806	6.6	6.2	6.1
Kodiak Island Borough	7,112	7,213	7,031	345	384	308	4.9	5.3	4.4
Valdez-Cordova Census Area	6,355	6,295	6,311	376	373	361	5.9	5.9	5.7
<b>Interior Region</b>	<b>54,695</b>	<b>54,795</b>	<b>54,806</b>	<b>3,377</b>	<b>3,351</b>	<b>3,192</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>5.8</b>
Denali Borough	2,543	2,574	2,503	74	74	85	2.9	2.9	3.4
Fairbanks North Star Borough	45,510	45,633	45,790	2,550	2,509	2,380	5.6	5.5	5.2
Southeast Fairbanks Census Area	3,506	3,456	3,404	340	344	316	9.7	10.0	9.3
Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area	3,136	3,132	3,109	413	424	411	13.2	13.5	13.2
<b>Northern Region</b>	<b>12,831</b>	<b>12,809</b>	<b>12,451</b>	<b>1,257</b>	<b>1,268</b>	<b>1,203</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>9.7</b>
Nome Census Area	4,161	3,950	4,006	524	517	480	12.6	13.1	12.0
North Slope Borough	5,462	5,543	5,342	257	246	277	4.7	4.4	5.2
Northwest Arctic Borough	3,208	3,316	3,103	476	505	446	14.8	15.2	14.4
<b>Southeast Region</b>	<b>44,039</b>	<b>44,022</b>	<b>43,972</b>	<b>2,347</b>	<b>2,283</b>	<b>2,098</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>4.8</b>
Haines Borough	1,854	1,955	1,867	83	90	84	4.5	4.6	4.5
Hoonah-Angoon Census Area	1,653	1,670	1,634	152	141	133	9.2	8.4	8.1
Juneau, City and Borough of	18,507	18,474	18,520	830	802	761	4.5	4.3	4.1
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	9,489	9,545	9,468	472	449	408	5.0	4.7	4.3
Petersburg Census Area	1,874	1,842	1,837	144	126	101	7.7	6.8	5.5
Prince of Wales-Hyder Census Area	2,798	2,789	2,750	332	343	275	11.9	12.3	10.0
Sitka, City and Borough of	5,356	5,219	5,375	217	216	214	4.1	4.1	4.0
Skagway, Municipality of	974	1,003	985	13	24	24	1.3	2.4	2.4
Wrangell, City and Borough of	1,205	1,187	1,209	78	70	78	6.5	5.9	6.5
Yakutat, City and Borough of	329	338	327	26	22	20	7.9	6.5	6.1
<b>Southwest Region</b>	<b>19,681</b>	<b>21,896</b>	<b>19,572</b>	<b>2,441</b>	<b>2,406</b>	<b>2,300</b>	<b>12.4</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>11.8</b>
Aleutians East Borough	1,266	1,372	1,279	102	90	113	8.1	6.6	8.8
Aleutians West Census Area	3,062	3,117	3,081	188	183	210	6.1	5.9	6.8
Bethel Census Area	7,308	7,508	7,232	1,171	1,161	1,098	16.0	15.5	15.2
Bristol Bay Borough	1,562	2,964	1,573	32	29	33	2.0	1.0	2.1
Dillingham Census Area	2,456	2,798	2,446	211	203	191	8.6	7.3	7.8
Lake and Peninsula Borough	1,191	1,639	1,173	90	95	68	7.6	5.8	5.8
Wade Hampton Census Area	2,836	2,498	2,788	647	645	587	22.8	25.8	21.1

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