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Press Release

March 22, 2013

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

No. 13-14

Unemployment rate at 6.5 percent in February

Alaska's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 6.5 percent in February, down two-tenths of a percentage point from January's rate. The comparable national rate was 7.7 percent.

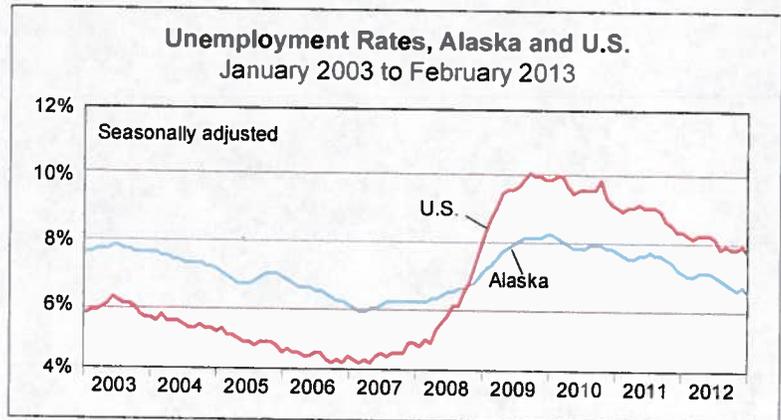
Alaska's February rate was below the 10-year average of 7.1 percent, while the national rate was still above its 10-year average of 6.8 percent.

Area unemployment rates, which are not seasonally adjusted, declined in all but six boroughs and census areas from January to February. Rates dropped the most in the Aleutians East Borough and Aleutians West Census Area, where they fell 3.7 and 3.5 percentage points respectively due to winter commercial fisheries.

The lowest unemployment rate in February was in the North Slope Borough at 4.8 percent and the highest rate was in Hoonah-Angoon Census Area at 25.6 percent. The Municipality of Skagway, Wade Hampton Census Area, and Denali Borough also had rates above 20 percent.

Unemployment rates in Alaska's urban centers were all below the statewide average. The City and Borough of Juneau had the lowest at 5.1 percent, followed by the Municipality of Anchorage at 5.2 percent and Fairbanks North Star Borough at 6.4 percent.

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



Unemployment Rates, Seasonally Adjusted			
	2/13	1/13	2/12
Alaska	6.5%	6.7%	7.1%
U.S.	7.7%	7.9%	8.3%

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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HB 150 Technical and
Vocational Education Program