

# **Unemployment Insurance Actuarial Study and Financial Handbook 2000**

State of Alaska  
Tony Knowles, Governor

Department of Labor and Workforce Development  
Ed Flanagan, Commissioner



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# Preface

In 1935, the U.S. Congress passed the Social Security Act, establishing an economic stabilization program of partial wage replacement for workers during periods of temporary and involuntary unemployment. Under the federal-state partnership created by the act, each state designs its own system within federally established guidelines. Alaska's participation in this program is governed by the Alaska Employment Security Act, AS 23.20.

One of the provisions of the act, AS 23.20.022, requires that the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development (AKDOL) submit to the governor a biennial actuarial study of the unemployment insurance (UI) tax and benefit structures. This is the 14<sup>th</sup> such actuarial study. It is designed to fulfill the statutory requirements and also to provide a comprehensive published source for anyone needing information on the UI system in Alaska.

Information in this publication generally follows a time series of 10 years, although many of the graphs included in the narrative have been extended to 16-year periods. Readers interested in a longer historical perspective should refer to earlier reports of this series. These publications are available upon request from the department's Research and Analysis Section.

The Unemployment Insurance Actuarial Study and Financial Handbook, 2000, consists of an Executive Summary, Unemployment Insurance Covered Employment and Wages (Chapter 1), Unemployment Insurance Benefit Payments (Chapter 2), and Alaska's Unemployment Insurance Benefit Financing System (Chapter 3). Three appendices are also included. Each chapter contains a narrative section, data tables with more comprehensive information, and graphs to illustrate key points of the chapter.

The Executive Summary presents some highlights of the following chapters.

Chapter 1 focuses on Alaska's payroll and employment that are covered by the unemployment insurance (UI) system in Alaska. It discusses total payroll, average monthly employment, and average earnings per worker. Each is broken out by major industry.

Chapter 2 examines the payment of UI benefits to unemployed workers. It explains some key eligibility provisions of the system and describes the main programs. It also analyzes the distribution of payments by area and industry, the characteristics of UI claimants, and discusses some of the important issues regarding the payment of UI benefits.

Chapter 3 centers on the financing of the UI system. It discusses the UI trust fund and administration of the fund. It also includes a somewhat detailed explanation of how employer and employee taxes are calculated.

Appendix A describes the data sources used in this publication and some of the limitations of the data. Appendix B summarizes the major changes in UI law since 1937. Appendix C is a glossary.

## **Executive Summary**

***Extensive information about the Unemployment Insurance (UI) system in Alaska and recent trends is presented in Chapters 1-3. The following findings are some of the most significant for 2000:***

- Alaska's UI program covered an average of 275,000 workers in 2000, or 98.3% of all nonagricultural wage and salary workers.
- Average monthly covered employment, total covered payroll, total taxable payroll, and average annual earnings have increased in 2000, and exceed all previous levels.
- Total covered payroll in Alaska in 2000 was \$8.9 billion, of which \$6.8 billion was paid by employers required to pay UI tax contributions.
- Average weekly earnings for covered workers in 2000 rose to \$659, about 3.8% more than in 1998 (\$635). Top earnings continued to be in the oil and gas industry (\$1,735), while the lowest were in trades (\$430).
- The fastest wage growth in both the 1999-2000 period was in the finance industry (now at \$486).
- About \$114 million in benefits was paid to 54.9 thousand unemployed workers claiming unemployment insurance in 2000. Regular benefits amounted to \$109 million, while \$100,000 was paid out to those receiving state supplemental benefits. The extended benefits program paid out an additional \$4.9 million.
- In 2000, the average weekly benefit payment for regular benefits in Alaska was \$190, up about \$14 from 1998. On the average, those claiming regular benefits received 15 weeks of benefits, and extended benefits were paid for an average of 6 weeks.
- In 2000, Alaska ranked 47<sup>th</sup> in the nation in terms of benefit adequacy, or the percentage of average weekly earnings replaced by unemployment benefits. On the other hand, Alaska ranked second highest in the nation in terms of the percentage of unemployed workers who actually received benefits.
- At the end of 2000, Alaska's UI trust fund had a healthy reserve balance of \$216.1 million.
- In 2001, the average employer tax rate was 2.08% of taxable payroll.





## Chapter 1

# UI Covered Employment and Wages

This chapter discusses the coverage provisions of the unemployment insurance (UI) program in Alaska beginning with workers who are covered by state and federal programs. As UI is payable only to people who have worked for wages, employment and payroll information is reviewed next. Finally, average earnings are examined.

As a result of a change in the definition of what constitutes reportable wages, the reader must be aware of limitations within the following analysis. An explanation of the impact of this change, which became effective in July 1995, is found in the sidebar in this chapter and in Appendix A, "Data Sources and Limitations." The reader should note that this change does impact various time series discussed in this publication.

The previous issue of this Handbook published 1998 information and highlighted changes from 1996 through 1998. This issue will examine changes since then, and comment on significant trends in wages, pay, and benefit payments that have occurred in the past ten years.

### Most workers in Alaska are covered by Unemployment Insurance

State and federal unemployment insurance (UI) programs covered 275,547 workers in Alaska in 2000. This is 98.3% of all nonagricultural wage and salary workers, the same percentage as in 1998. (See Table 1.1 and Figure 1.1.) State programs covered 92.2% and federal programs covered 6.1% of Alaska's workers. Over the course of the past ten years, the total percentage has remained stable, averaging 98.3%. However, as the number of federal workers in Alaska has fallen, the 10 year trend shows an increasing per-

centage of workers covered under state UI programs.

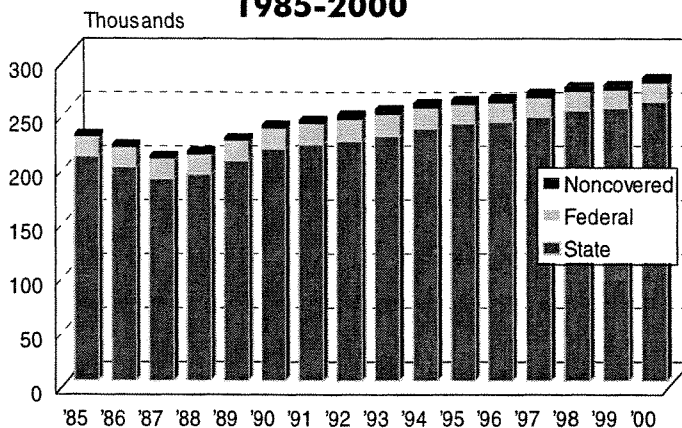
The last major group of workers to be provided coverage was state and local government employees, in 1978. Before that year about 85 percent of all workers were covered. The 1.7% of workers now remaining uncovered are full-commission salespersons, elected and appointed officials, fishers, unpaid family and domestic workers, and the self-employed.

### Some employers pay UI taxes quarterly, some reimburse the state for benefit costs

Nonprofit organizations and state and local government agencies have the option to reimburse the state for the cost of benefits paid to their former employees. All other employers are assigned tax rates, and must pay taxes quarterly, based on the "taxable wages" paid out to their employees.

The percentage of covered employment with "reimbursable" employers has continued to fall slowly from 23.0% in 1991, to 21.3% in 2000. This will be a continuing trend. As the state matures it is predictable that workers

**Figure 1.1 Employment by UI Coverage 1985-2000**



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

of reimbursable employers will become a smaller proportion of the total workforce. (See Table 1.2.) In 2000, average monthly employment covered under reimbursable employer accounts was 55,138, slightly more than one-fifth of employment.

### Employment and payroll continue moderate to good growth

During the three years following the recession of 1986-87, employment grew 4.9% and payroll grew 7.4% annually until 1990. Since 1990, however, growth has been moderate, and the past two years have shown 1.6% average annual growth in employment and 3.6% in total payroll.

Total covered employment (Table 1.2) grew at the rate of 0.8% in 1999 and 2.5% in 2000. Reimbursable employment, those working for nonprofit corporations, and state and local governments, grew at slower rates: 0.6% in 1999, and 1.7% in 2000.

Total covered payroll (Table 1.3) grew 1.5% in 1999 and 5.6% in 2000. Reimbursable accounts, on the other hand, posted much lower rates of 0.9% in 1999 and 3.5% in 2000.

The past two years have treated some industries better than others. Construction and Services have shown noteworthy strong growth. Oil and Gas Mining had reductions in employment, but had held strong in payroll.

### Employment

Average monthly covered employment increased from 250,251 in 1998 to 258,428 in 2000. Six industries have posted employment growth since 1998. The top winners were transportation, communications, and utilities (8.6%), services (7.1%), and construction (5.0%). Moderate employment gains show in the numbers for finance, insurance, and real estate (1.9%), Trade (1.8%), and other manufacturing (1.6%) (not food, lumber, or paper related), and in the agriculture, forestry and fishing group.

Five industries show employment decreases from 1998 to 2000. The paper products industry, once a landmark of the southeast economy, has passed from the scene with the closing of the two mills in Ketchikan and Sitka.

Other industries with employment loss were oil and gas mining (-3.0%), other mining (-4.0%), food products (-8.0%), lumber and wood products (-5.7%), and public administration (-1.7%)

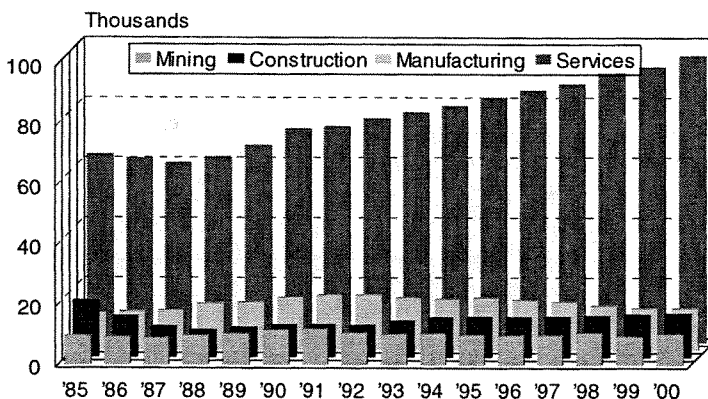
### Payroll

The total covered payroll paid to Alaska workers covered by the unemployment insurance system increased by 38.9% from 1991 to 2000, and 7.3% from 1998 to 2000. Total covered payroll now stands at about \$8.9 billion, up from approximately \$6.4 billion in 1991.

The biggest winner was transportation, communications, and utilities (14.5%), while the other mining industry declined (down 3.4%).

Only two industries, paper products and lumber and wood, have lost total covered payroll since 1991. All others have shown long term growth.

**Figure 1.2 Covered Employment  
Monthly Average 1985-2000**



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

The services industry, long Alaska's largest industry group, has added over a billion dollars to its payroll since 1991, when its payroll was about \$1.8 billion. In the past two years the services industry has added another 10 percent to its payroll, and now pays its employees about \$2.9 billion a year.

Three other industries had good growth rates over the past two years. Those are construction (8.0%), oil and gas (6.5%), trade (4.2%), and food processing (2.5%). Payroll in public administration grew only 0.2% over two years.

### **The services industry is Alaska's growth engine**

Employment in Alaska's services industry has grown steadily for the past ten years, increasing from 70,821 in 1991 to 95,194 in 2000. Since 1991, growth in services has accounted for 60.8% of all new jobs added. From 1998 to 2000, the industry has accounted for 68.9% of increased employment.

In 1991, the services industry held 32.4% of all employment in Alaska. At the end of 2000, 36.8% of all jobs in covered employment were in services.

Since 1991, only four other industries have increased their share of the industrial mix. The largest of these industries is trade, which has grown by 25.2% since 1991, moving from 46,014 employees in 1991 to 57,588 workers in 2000. Trade is Alaska's second largest industry group.

As mentioned before, the industry group hit hardest over the past ten years is manufacturing. Manufacturers produce food, lumber and wood, paper, and other products. Employment in manufacturing has fallen from 7.9% of all employment in 1991 to 5.3% in 2000.

### **Average annual earnings show increases**

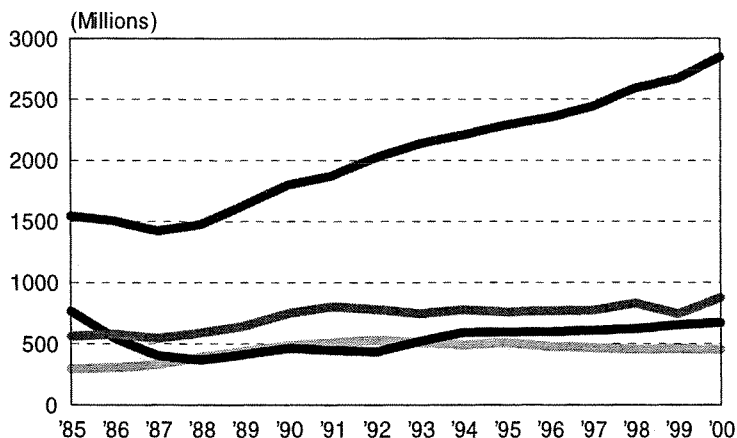
After stalling in 1995-1996, average annual earnings have continued their climb upwards. The overall last two years increase is 3.9% from \$33,012 in 1998 to \$34,292 in 2000. (See Table 1.5.) This earnings increase is slightly higher than, but generally reflective of, the increase in the Anchorage Consumer Price Index (the CPI-U) from 1998 to 2000.

From 1991 to 2000, the industries showing the greatest wage growth have been finance, insurance, and real estate (31.6%), oil and gas (28.9%), food processing (22.4%), and trade (21.8%). The paper products industry data on average annual earnings is unreliable in that it reflects the close down of the industry, with the closing of the two mills.

No industries showed average wage losses in the period from 1998 to 2000.

Since 1991 Alaska's two best paying industries have continued to be the oil and gas industry (\$90,193 annually) and other mining industries (\$63,201). Expectedly, Alaska's lowest wage industry is trade (\$22,335).

**Figure 1.3**  
**Total Covered Payroll 1985-2000**



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

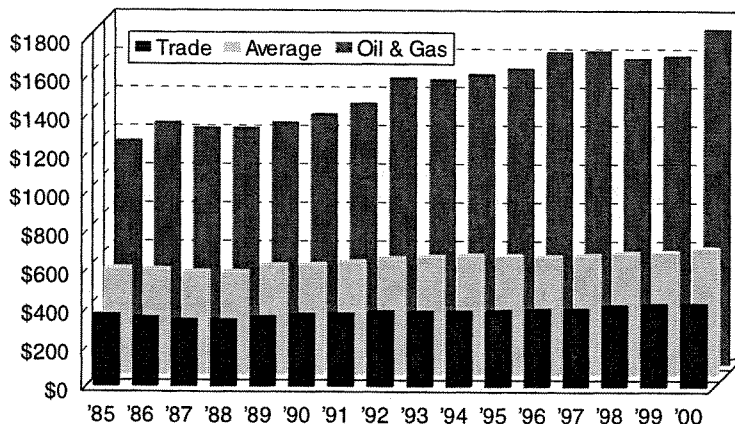
## Change in Definition of Reported Wages

Alaska's employers are required to report the amount of wages paid to every worker during each quarter of the year. In addition, they report the amount of each workers wages which are "taxable" under UI regulations. On July 1, 1995 a change in the reporting definition of total wages went into effect. Under the new definition, certain retirement benefits and "cafeteria plan" benefits were excluded from the computation of reportable total wages.

Because the change in the requirement occurred mid-year, employers were given an option to implement the change at the start of 1996, and later submit any corrections for the 3rd and 4th quarter 1995. Since changing computer systems in the middle of a year would have been difficult, most employers took advantage of the option.

Data users should be mindful of the change in reporting when comparing wage data prior to, and after, 1995. Since the change started in mid 1995, the full impact of the change would be in place in 1996. AKDOL does not have a quantitative measure of how much the reporting definition change has impacted the data for different industries.

**Figure 1.4 Average Weekly Earnings 1985-2000**



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

# Chapter 1 Tables

## UI Covered Employment and Wages

### Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment Covered and Noncovered, 1991-2000

**Table  
1.1**

Year	Total Employment	Insured through State UI Programs	% of Total	Insured through Federal UI Programs	% of Total	Not Insured by UI Programs	% of Total
1991	240,873	218,367	90.7	18,922	7.9	3,584	1.5
1992	245,898	221,795	90.2	19,549	8.0	4,554	1.9
1993	251,038	226,475	90.2	19,856	7.9	4,707	1.9
1994	256,763	233,455	90.9	18,764	7.3	4,544	1.8
1995	259,737	237,816	91.6	17,504	6.7	4,417	1.7
1996	261,443	239,654	91.7	17,322	6.6	4,467	1.7
1997	266,251	244,255	91.7	17,342	6.5	4,654	1.7
1998	272,141	250,251	92.0	17,182	6.3	4,708	1.7
1999	273,839	252,228	92.1	16,828	6.1	4,783	1.7
2000	280,348	258,428	92.2	17,119	6.1	4,801	1.7

Notes: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section:  
Employment, Wages, and Contributions—ES-202 report to the U.S. Department of Labor.

**Table  
1.2****Average Monthly Covered Employment (excluding federal)  
by Industry, 1990 - 1999**

INDUSTRY	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Total	218,367	221,795	226,475	233,455	237,816	239,654	244,255	250,251	252,228	258,428
Ag/For/Fish	1,098	1,458	1,604	1,327	1,357	1,418	1,517	1,424	1,495	1,616
Mining	11,476	10,481	10,051	10,274	9,812	9,616	9,614	10,493	9,355	10,163
Oil and Gas	10,258	9,229	8,952	9,152	8,687	8,209	8,018	8,916	7,863	8,652
Other Mining	1,218	1,252	1,099	1,123	1,126	1,407	1,597	1,577	1,492	1,511
Construction	10,595	10,436	11,986	13,029	13,273	13,224	13,361	13,701	14,106	14,387
Manufacturing	17,273	18,052	17,153	16,688	17,137	16,350	15,786	14,539	13,716	13,659
Food Products	9,942	11,660	11,049	10,730	11,012	10,500	10,167	9,292	8,461	8,534
Lumber & Wood	3,060	2,340	2,348	2,247	2,233	1,882	1,990	1,585	1,684	1,494
Paper Products	907	908	771	513	526	524	228	100	14	9
Other Mfg.	3,364	3,144	2,985	3,198	3,366	3,444	3,402	3,564	3,557	3,622
Trans/Comm/Util	21,482	23,563	23,805	24,193	23,861	23,766	25,044	26,126	26,913	28,376
Trade	46,014	47,916	49,145	52,668	54,086	54,606	55,963	56,548	57,245	57,588
Finance/Insur/R.E.	9,535	9,815	10,328	11,115	10,871	10,959	11,287	11,640	11,895	11,857
Services	70,821	74,116	76,192	78,341	81,258	83,529	85,709	89,560	91,401	95,194
Public Admin.	25,673	25,191	25,218	25,308	25,588	25,894	25,656	25,719	25,571	25,269
Unclassified	4,400	767	994	512	573	295	318	502	533	319

**PERCENT DISTRIBUTION**

Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Ag/For/Fish	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
Mining	5.3	4.7	4.4	4.4	4.1	4.0	3.9	4.2	3.7	3.9
Oil and Gas	4.7	4.2	4.0	3.9	3.7	3.4	3.3	3.6	3.1	3.3
Other Mining	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6
Construction	4.9	4.7	5.3	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.6
Manufacturing	7.9	8.1	7.6	7.1	7.2	6.8	6.5	5.8	5.4	5.3
Food Products	4.6	5.3	4.9	4.6	4.6	4.4	4.2	3.7	3.4	3.3
Lumber & Wood	1.4	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.6
Paper Products	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other Mfg.	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4
Trans/Comm/Util	9.8	10.6	10.5	10.4	10.0	9.9	10.3	10.4	10.7	11.0
Trade	21.1	21.6	21.7	22.6	22.7	22.8	22.9	22.6	22.7	22.3
Finance/Insur/R.E.	4.4	4.4	4.6	4.8	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.6
Services	32.4	33.4	33.6	33.6	34.2	34.9	35.1	35.8	36.2	36.8
Public Admin.	11.8	11.4	11.1	10.8	10.8	10.8	10.5	10.3	10.1	9.8
Unclassified	2.0	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1

**REIMBURSABLE ACCOUNTS**

Total	50,163	51,336	51,539	51,509	52,082	52,374	52,911	53,898	54,224	55,138
Trans/Comm/Util	904	931	935	868	851	875	829	634	676	719
Services	27,412	29,138	29,516	29,531	29,900	30,144	30,679	31,663	32,049	33,154
Public Admin.	21,841	21,178	21,010	21,020	21,223	21,369	21,307	21,493	21,399	21,168
Other	6	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)

Notes: Reimbursable account data are included in the uppermost portion of this table.

(\*) Comparable data no longer available for this series. Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section:  
Employment, Wages, and Contributions—ES-202 report to the U.S. Department of Labor.

# Total Covered Payroll (excluding federal) by Industry (\$1,000), 1991-2000

Table  
1.3

INDUSTRY	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Total	6,378,361	6,979,390	7,222,753	7,529,797	7,655,455	7,659,605	7,904,441	8,261,192	8,389,193	8,862,098
Ag/Forestry/Fish	29,095	42,100	45,015	34,764	35,653	37,718	42,791	37,208	39,940	42,259
Mining	748,817	779,290	746,335	777,488	758,946	771,032	771,359	831,305	744,384	875,844
Oil and Gas	687,058	708,737	683,737	712,455	690,411	688,618	675,047	732,449	651,373	780,347
Other Mining	61,759	70,553	62,598	65,033	68,535	82,414	96,313	98,856	93,011	95,497
Construction	464,221	434,411	520,144	592,441	593,813	597,056	607,686	622,871	652,342	672,828
Manufacturing	483,658	529,892	509,508	489,486	511,816	477,371	469,531	452,335	460,731	450,542
Food Products	223,152	279,945	263,136	252,483	263,782	239,458	228,218	235,025	249,008	240,938
Lumber & Wood	118,792	95,294	97,758	92,347	95,766	80,553	84,106	64,297	68,878	63,713
Paper Products	37,555	41,221	39,489	24,745	25,100	23,751	17,732	5,860	808	452
Other Mfg.	104,159	113,432	109,124	119,911	127,169	133,608	139,474	147,152	142,037	145,439
Trans/Comm/Util	761,587	895,258	919,958	964,883	954,099	951,364	1,031,271	1,094,265	1,140,905	1,253,006
Trade	894,837	966,258	990,457	1,063,143	1,106,233	1,135,009	1,173,263	1,234,688	1,272,294	1,286,217
Finance/Insur/R.E.	260,450	287,190	315,349	337,803	334,499	349,059	370,950	399,428	415,413	436,362
Services	1,796,913	2,022,028	2,135,651	2,206,906	2,288,408	2,349,682	2,439,947	2,591,045	2,670,933	2,850,398
Public Admin.	921,567	1,002,283	1,018,185	1,045,716	1,051,876	978,972	980,491	974,901	969,966	976,968
Unclassified	17,216	20,680	22,152	17,167	20,112	12,342	17,153	23,147	22,286	17,673

## PERCENT DISTRIBUTION

Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Ag/Forestry/Fish	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Mining	11.7	11.2	10.3	10.3	9.9	10.1	9.8	10.1	8.9	9.9
Oil and Gas	10.8	10.2	9.5	9.5	9.0	9.0	8.5	8.9	7.8	8.8
Other Mining	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1
Construction	7.3	6.2	7.2	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.5	7.8	7.6
Manufacturing	7.6	7.6	7.1	6.5	6.7	6.2	5.9	5.5	5.5	5.1
Food Products	3.5	4.0	3.6	3.4	3.4	3.1	2.9	2.8	3.0	2.7
Lumber & Wood	1.9	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.1	1.1	0.8	0.8	0.7
Paper Products	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0
Other Mfg.	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.6
Trans/Comm/Util	11.9	12.8	12.7	12.8	12.5	12.4	13.0	13.2	13.6	14.1
Trade	14.0	13.8	13.7	14.1	14.5	14.8	14.8	14.9	15.2	14.5
Finance/Insur/R.E.	4.1	4.1	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.6	4.7	4.8	5.0	4.9
Services	28.2	29.0	29.6	29.3	29.9	30.7	30.9	31.4	31.8	32.2
Public Admin.	14.4	14.4	14.1	13.9	13.7	12.8	12.4	11.8	11.6	11.0
Unclassified	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2

## REIMBURSABLE ACCOUNTS

Total	1,683,745	1,901,857	1,949,119	2,002,542	2,011,599	1,937,890	1,960,524	1,981,410	1,999,588	2,068,377
Trans/Comm/Util	45,408	47,955	47,506	45,960	43,286	46,086	44,331	30,582	32,068	33,997
Services	813,463	949,488	993,881	1,026,279	1,033,936	1,030,096	1,048,399	1,078,162	1,098,798	1,158,769
Public Admin.	824,761	898,614	902,081	921,853	925,569	855,163	856,309	861,985	858,376	865,710
Other	113	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)

Notes: Reimbursable account data are included in the uppermost portion of this table.

(\*) Comparable data no longer available for this series.

Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

A change in definition of covered payroll began mid 1995, see Appendix A.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section:  
Employment, Wages, and Contributions—ES-202 report to the U.S. Department of Labor.

# Table 1.4

## Taxable Covered Payroll by Industry (\$1,000), 1990-1999

INDUSTRY	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Total	3,039,796	3,263,435	3,397,312	3,592,202	3,698,894	3,739,737	3,853,741	3,995,639	4,124,730	4,396,916
Ag/Forestry/Fish	21,459	25,028	31,158	26,140	26,811	28,466	29,281	27,883	29,886	31,476
Mining	290,700	313,736	291,384	291,797	301,547	291,153	292,382	307,749	284,576	389,279
Oil and Gas	257,209	280,940	258,445	259,747	266,403	249,099	245,925	263,699	242,956	347,186
Other Mining	33,491	32,796	32,939	32,049	35,144	42,054	46,457	44,051	41,620	42,093
Construction	318,541	311,875	300,607	407,034	408,102	409,505	410,102	424,804	442,912	452,222
Manufacturing	361,082	385,073	390,586	364,459	376,682	352,338	343,164	329,194	344,682	340,363
Food Products	192,683	221,522	237,345	216,050	223,480	205,307	198,445	202,977	213,952	204,849
Lumber & Wood	80,748	70,073	62,805	63,833	64,625	54,887	55,430	43,387	47,514	45,137
Paper Products	22,566	23,359	23,281	14,837	14,467	14,580	11,573	3,831	297	237
Other Mfg.	65,085	70,119	67,155	69,739	74,110	77,564	77,716	78,999	82,919	90,141
Trans/Comm/Util	419,187	452,979	475,279	512,598	507,618	500,036	545,896	576,217	601,667	652,568
Trade	667,273	702,260	734,172	820,991	856,898	881,561	902,972	929,309	960,143	981,582
Finance/Insur/R.E.	175,285	186,443	188,306	225,623	220,764	227,546	238,200	251,495	260,975	266,253
Services	711,716	729,863	771,601	860,167	911,534	962,675	1,006,797	1,065,030	1,118,170	1,203,532
Public Admin.	63,243	66,197	67,380	75,986	79,359	82,048	80,254	74,933	72,336	73,477
Unclassified	11,310	89,981	146,839	7,407	9,579	4,409	4,693	9,024	9,382	6,162

### PERCENT DISTRIBUTION

Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Ag/Forestry/Fish	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7
Mining	9.6	9.6	8.6	8.1	8.2	7.8	7.6	7.7	6.9	8.9
Oil and Gas	8.5	8.6	7.6	7.2	7.2	6.7	6.4	6.6	5.9	7.9
Other Mining	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.0
Construction	10.5	9.6	8.8	11.3	11.0	11.0	10.6	10.6	10.7	10.3
Manufacturing	11.9	11.8	11.5	10.1	10.2	9.4	8.9	8.2	8.4	7.7
Food Products	6.3	6.8	7.0	6.0	6.0	5.5	5.1	5.1	5.2	4.7
Lumber & Wood	2.7	2.1	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.1	1.2	1.0
Paper Products	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0
Other Mfg.	2.1	2.1	2.0	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.1
Trans/Comm/Util	13.8	13.9	14.0	14.3	13.7	13.4	14.2	14.4	14.6	14.8
Trade	22.0	21.5	21.6	22.9	23.2	23.6	23.4	23.3	23.3	22.3
Finance/Insur/R.E.	5.8	5.7	5.5	6.3	6.0	6.1	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.1
Services	23.4	22.4	22.7	23.9	24.6	25.7	26.1	26.7	27.1	27.4
Public Admin.	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.1	1.9	1.8	1.7
Unclassified	0.4	2.8	4.3	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

A change in definition of covered payroll began mid 1995, see Appendix A.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section:  
Employment, Wages, and Contributions—ES-202 report to the U.S. Department of Labor.



**Average Annual Earnings in Covered Employment  
(excluding federal) by Industry (\$) 1991-2000**

**Table  
1.5**

INDUSTRY	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Total	30,532	31,468	31,892	32,254	32,191	31,961	32,361	33,012	33,260	34,292
Ag/Forestry/Fish	28,167	28,875	28,064	26,197	26,273	26,599	28,208	26,129	26,716	26,150
Mining	68,269	74,353	74,255	75,675	77,349	80,182	80,233	79,225	79,571	86,180
Oil and Gas	69,960	76,795	76,378	77,847	79,476	83,886	84,191	82,150	82,840	90,193
Other Mining	53,667	56,352	56,959	57,910	60,866	58,574	60,309	62,686	62,340	63,201
Construction	41,821	41,626	43,396	45,471	44,738	45,149	45,482	45,462	46,246	46,766
Manufacturing	28,289	29,354	29,704	29,332	29,866	29,197	29,744	31,112	33,591	32,985
Food Products	23,072	24,009	23,815	23,531	23,954	22,806	22,447	25,293	29,430	28,233
Lumber & Wood	38,965	40,724	41,635	41,098	42,887	42,802	42,264	40,566	40,901	42,646
Paper Products	42,313	45,398	51,218	48,236	47,719	45,326	77,772	58,600	57,714	50,222
Other Mfg.	33,165	36,079	36,557	37,496	37,780	38,794	40,998	41,288	39,932	40,154 <sup>1</sup>
Trans/Comm/Util	36,472	37,994	38,646	39,883	39,986	40,030	41,178	41,884	42,392	44,157
Trade	19,616	20,166	20,154	20,186	20,453	20,785	20,965	21,834	22,225	22,335
Finance/Insur/R.E.	27,971	29,260	30,533	30,392	30,770	31,851	32,865	34,315	34,923	36,802
Services	26,199	27,282	28,030	28,171	28,162	28,130	28,468	28,931	29,222	29,943
Public Admin.	38,170	39,787	40,375	41,320	41,108	37,807	38,217	37,906	37,932	38,663
Unclassified	25,280	26,962	22,286	33,529	35,099	41,837	53,940	46,110	41,812	55,401

**REIMBURSABLE ACCOUNTS (\$)**

Total	35,337	37,047	37,818	38,878	38,624	37,001	37,053	36,762	36,876	37,513
Trans/Comm/Util	49,652	51,509	50,809	52,949	50,865	52,670	53,475	48,237	47,438	47,284
Services	31,037	32,586	33,673	34,753	34,580	34,173	34,173	34,051	34,285	34,951
Public Admin.	40,423	42,431	42,936	43,856	43,612	40,019	40,189	40,105	40,113	40,897
Other	20,750	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)

Notes: Average Annual Earnings = Total Covered Payroll (Table 1.3) divided by Average Covered Employment (Table 1.2).

Reimbursable account data are included in the uppermost portion of this table.

(\*) Comparable data no longer available for this series.

A change in definition of covered payroll began mid 1995, see Appendix A.

1/ The Ketchikan pulp mill closed Mar 1997. Workers were given severance payments based on years of service.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section:  
Employment, Wages, and Contributions/ES-202 report to the U.S. Department of Labor.

**Table  
1.6**

**Average Weekly Earnings in Covered Employment  
(excluding federal) by Industry (\$) 1991-2000**

INDUSTRY	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Total	587.15	605.15	613.31	620.26	619.05	614.64	622.34	634.84	639.62	659.47
Ag/Forestry/Fish	541.67	555.29	539.70	503.80	505.26	511.53	542.45	502.48	513.76	502.89
Mining	1,312.86	1,429.86	1,427.98	1,455.29	1,487.48	1,541.97	1,542.94	1,523.55	1,530.21	1,657.30
Oil and Gas	1,345.39	1,476.82	1,468.81	1,497.06	1,528.39	1,613.19	1,619.07	1,579.81	1,593.08	1,734.47
Other Mining	1,032.07	1,083.70	1,095.37	1,113.66	1,170.50	1,126.43	1,159.78	1,205.50	1,198.84	1,215.41
Construction	804.25	800.50	834.54	874.44	860.35	868.26	874.66	874.26	889.34	899.35
Manufacturing	544.02	564.49	571.23	564.07	574.35	561.48	571.99	598.30	645.98	634.33
Food Products	443.70	461.71	457.99	452.51	460.65	438.57	431.67	486.41	565.96	542.94
Lumber & Wood	749.33	783.15	800.67	790.34	824.74	823.11	812.78	780.11	786.57	820.11
Paper Products	813.72	873.03	984.96	927.61	917.67	871.66	1,495.61	1,126.92	1,109.89	965.81
Other Mfg.	637.79	693.60	703.03	721.07	726.55	746.05	788.42	794.01	767.92	772.20
Trans/Comm/Util	701.39	730.66	743.18	766.98	768.96	769.82	791.89	805.46	815.24	849.18
Trade	377.23	387.80	387.57	388.19	393.33	399.72	403.17	419.89	427.41	429.52
Finance/Insur/R.E.	537.90	562.70	587.18	584.45	591.73	612.53	632.02	659.91	671.60	707.73
Services	503.83	524.65	539.04	541.74	541.58	540.96	547.46	556.36	561.96	575.83
Public Admin.	734.04	765.14	776.45	794.61	790.54	727.06	734.94	728.96	729.47	743.51
Unclassified	486.16	518.50	428.57	644.79	674.99	804.56	1,037.31	886.72	804.08	1,065.41
REIMBURSABLE ACCOUNTS (\$)										
Total	679.56	712.45	727.28	747.64	742.76	711.56	712.56	706.97	709.16	721.40
Trans/Comm/Util	954.85	990.56	977.09	1,018.26	978.17	1,012.88	1,028.37	927.63	912.27	909.30
Services	596.87	626.65	647.55	668.32	665.00	657.16	657.18	654.83	659.33	672.14
Public Admin.	777.37	815.99	825.69	843.38	838.68	769.59	772.87	771.26	771.40	786.48
Other	399.04	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)

Notes: Average Weekly Earnings = Average Annual Earnings (Table 1.5) divided by 52.

Reimbursable account data are included in the uppermost portion of this table.

(\*) Comparable data no longer available for this series.

A change in definition of covered payroll began mid 1995, see Appendix A.

1/ The Ketchikan pulp mill closed Mar 97. Workers were given severance payments based on years of service.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section:  
Employment, Wages, and Contributions/ES-202 report to the U.S. Department of Labor.

**Average Monthly Covered Employment  
(excluding federal) by Ownership 1991-2000**

**Table  
1.7**

OWNERSHIP	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Total	218,367	221,795	226,475	233,455	237,816	239,654	244,255	250,251	252,228	258,428
State Government	20,807	20,191	19,683	19,887	19,880	19,849	19,441	19,831	19,950	20,198
Local Government	28,660	29,470	29,944	29,815	30,589	30,966	30,997	31,276	31,305	31,468
Private Industry	168,900	172,134	176,848	183,753	187,347	188,839	193,817	199,144	200,973	206,762
Taxable	162,972	165,441	169,641	176,675	180,390	181,707	186,146	191,254	193,007	198,361
Reimbursable	5,928	6,693	7,207	7,078	6,957	7,132	7,671	7,890	7,966	8,401

**PERCENT DISTRIBUTION**

Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
State Government	9.5	9.1	8.7	8.5	8.4	8.3	8.0	7.9	7.9	7.8
Local Government	13.1	13.3	13.2	12.8	12.9	12.9	12.7	12.5	12.4	12.2
Private Industry	77.3	77.6	78.1	78.7	78.8	78.8	79.4	79.6	79.7	80.0
Taxable	74.6	74.6	74.9	75.7	75.9	75.8	76.2	76.4	76.5	76.8
Reimbursable	2.7	3.0	3.2	3.0	2.9	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.3

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section:  
Employment, Wages, and Contributions—ES-202 report to the U.S. Department of Labor.

**Total Covered Payroll (excluding federal)  
by Ownership (\$1,000) 1991-2000**

**Table  
1.8**

OWNERSHIP	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Total	6,667,085	6,979,390	7,222,753	7,529,797	7,655,455	7,659,605	7,904,441	8,261,192	8,389,193	8,862,098
State Government	788,394	810,009	816,910	833,973	835,813	755,786	751,853	761,013	766,996	800,004
Local Government	966,951	1,036,179	1,078,060	1,119,757	1,131,558	1,130,507	1,134,393	1,120,982	1,125,164	1,127,624
Private Industry	4,911,740	5,133,202	5,327,783	5,576,067	5,688,084	5,773,312	6,018,195	6,379,197	6,497,033	6,934,470
Taxable	4,751,787	4,945,025	5,124,752	5,372,562	5,487,951	5,565,271	5,790,375	6,136,602	6,248,464	6,652,396
Reimbursable	159,953	188,177	203,031	203,505	200,133	208,041	227,820	242,595	248,569	282,074

**PERCENT DISTRIBUTION**

Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
State Government	11.8	11.6	11.3	11.1	10.9	9.9	9.5	9.2	9.1	9.0
Local Government	14.5	14.8	14.9	14.9	14.8	14.8	14.4	13.6	13.4	12.7
Private Industry	73.7	73.5	73.8	74.1	74.3	75.4	76.1	77.2	77.4	78.2
Taxable	71.3	70.9	71.0	71.4	71.7	72.7	73.3	74.3	74.5	75.1
Reimbursable	2.4	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.7	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.2

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.  
A change in definition of covered payroll began in mid 1995, see Appendix A.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section:  
Employment, Wages, and Contributions—ES-202 report to the U.S. Department of Labor.

**Table  
1.9****Taxable Covered Payroll by Ownership  
(\$1,000) 1991-2000**

OWNERSHIP	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Total	3,184,860	3,263,435	3,397,312	3,592,202	3,698,894	3,739,737	3,853,741	3,995,639	4,124,730	4,396,916
State Government	8,814	8,795	8,838	9,003	8,801	8,804	8,823	8,841	8,933	9,125
Local Government	76,780	78,476	86,153	87,916	90,299	95,652	91,641	86,997	83,215	84,403
Private Industry	3,099,266	3,176,164	3,302,321	3,495,283	3,599,794	3,635,281	3,753,277	3,899,801	4,032,582	4,303,388

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION										
State Government	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Local Government	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.6	2.4	2.2	2.0	1.9
Private Industry	97.3	97.3	97.2	97.3	97.3	97.2	97.4	97.6	97.8	97.9

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

A change in definition of covered employment began mid 1995, see Appendix A.

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

Employment, Wages, and Contributions/ES-202 report to the U.S. Department of Labor.

**Table  
1.10****Average Annual Earnings in Covered Employment  
(excluding federal) by Ownership (\$) 1991-2000**

OWNERSHIP	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Total	30,532	31,468	31,892	32,254	32,191	31,961	32,361	33,012	33,260	34,292
State Government	37,891	40,117	41,503	41,936	42,043	38,077	38,674	38,375	38,446	39,608
Local Government	33,739	35,160	36,003	37,557	36,992	36,508	36,597	35,842	35,942	35,834
Private Industry	29,081	29,821	30,126	30,345	30,361	30,573	31,051	32,033	32,328	33,538
Taxable	29,157	29,890	30,209	30,409	30,423	30,628	31,107	32,086	32,374	33,537
Reimbursable	26,983	28,115	28,171	28,752	28,767	29,170	29,699	30,747	31,204	33,576

Note: Average Annual Earnings = Total Covered Payroll (Table 1.8) divided by Average Covered Employment (Table 1.7).

A change in definition of covered payroll began mid 1995, see Appendix A.

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

Employment, Wages, and Contributions/ES-202 report to the U.S. Department of Labor

**Table  
1.11****Average Weekly Earnings in Covered Employment  
(excluding federal) by Ownership (\$) 1991-2000**

OWNERSHIP	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Total	587.15	605.15	613.31	620.26	619.05	614.64	622.34	634.84	639.62	659.47
State Government	728.67	771.49	798.14	806.45	808.52	732.25	743.72	737.98	739.34	761.69
Local Government	648.82	676.16	692.36	722.25	711.39	702.08	703.79	689.26	691.19	689.12
Private Industry	559.25	573.48	579.35	583.57	583.87	587.94	597.13	616.02	621.69	644.97
Taxable	560.71	574.81	580.95	584.79	585.05	588.99	598.20	617.04	622.58	644.94
Reimbursable	518.90	540.68	541.76	552.92	553.21	560.96	571.13	591.29	600.07	645.70

Note: Average Weekly Earnings = Average Annual Earnings (Table 1.10) divided by 52.

A change in definition of covered payroll began mid 1995, see Appendix A.

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

Employment, Wages, and Contributions/ES-202 report to the U.S. Department of Labor

## Chapter 2

# UI Benefit Payments

This chapter focuses on the payment of unemployment insurance (UI) benefits. Where does the money go? A general description of the regular UI benefit payment system is presented first. Then, there is a discussion of eligibility provisions, followed by information on the benefit schedule, dependents' allowance, and duration. Next, brief summaries of extended benefits, and state supplemental benefits programs are provided. Finally, the distribution of payments by industry and area is covered.

### UI benefit payments in 1999 and 2000 reflect continued low unemployment

Near record low unemployment rates for the past several years held UI benefit payments at approximately \$129.2 million in 1999 and \$114.3 million in 2000. Benefit payments in 2000 were the lowest in ten years. We would have to go back to the recovery period following the 1986-87 recession to find lower figures. (See Table 2.14.)

During the past decade Alaska's two highest years of UI benefit payments were in 1992 and 1993. During these two years Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) was payable in Alaska. This special, federally funded program pumped a total of over \$115 million into the state in 1992 and 1993.

UI benefit payments made to out-of-state claimants have been falling since 1993, when such payments reached 23.5% of all regular UI benefit payments made. (See Table 2.13.) In 2000, out-of-state payments were at about \$19 million, or 16.5% of all regular UI benefit payments paid. The booming economy in the contiguous United States is reflected in the lower number of workers looking for seasonal employ-

ment in Alaska, and then later claiming UI benefits from their home "down south."

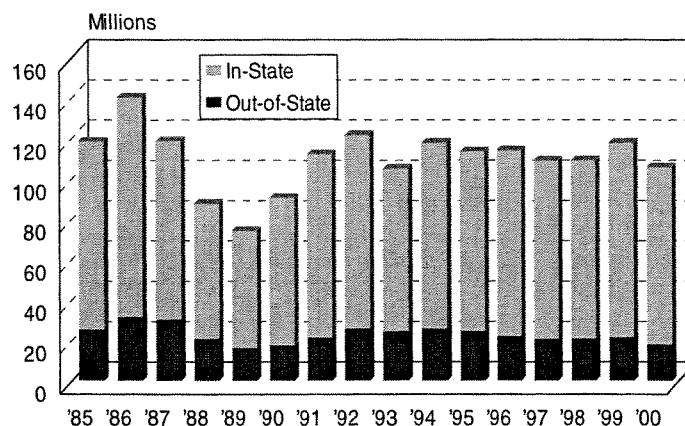
Three different programs distributed UI benefits in Alaska in 1999 and 2000. About 95 percent of all the dollars paid out in 1999 and 2000 was paid through the regular UI program, and approximately 5 percent was paid through the Extended Benefits program. A small amount of money (about 0.1%) was paid by the State Supplemental Benefits program.

### Regular benefits is the nation's mainstay UI program

Continuously available in every state in the United States, the regular UI benefits program is each state's largest UI program. The regular UI program was created by the Employment Security Act of 1937, and is loosely modeled after benefit programs in Europe.

In Alaska, eligibility for regular benefits is granted individuals who have earned at least \$1,000 in their "base period," with at least \$100 earned outside the base period quarter in which they made the most money (See the Glossary, Appendix C, for term definitions).

**Figure 2.1 UI Regular Benefit Payments 1985-2000**



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

The base period is defined as the first four of the five most recently completed quarters on the date of application for unemployment insurance benefits. However, base period earnings are not always simply the claimant's earnings during the base period. In 1981, the Alaska Legislature enacted AS 23.20.350, which redefines base period wage to better reflect the claimant's attachment to the labor force. For the purpose of computing benefits payable, base period earnings are determined as follows:

1. If the insured worker is paid 90% or more of their earnings in one calendar quarter, the worker's base period earnings are their earnings in the three other quarters multiplied by 10; or
2. If the insured worker is paid less than 90% of their earnings in one calendar quarter, the worker's base period earnings are simply their earnings during the base period.

The amount of benefits a claimant may receive weekly depends upon the claimant's base period earnings. The minimum weekly benefit amount currently is \$44 at \$1,000 base period earnings, and increases by \$2 increments for each \$250 in earnings. (See Table 2.3.) The maximum benefit amount since 1997 has been \$248 for base period earnings of \$26,500 or more.

In 2000, 43,557 unemployed persons received \$109.6 million in regular UI benefits. These claimants were potentially

eligible to receive up to an average of 20.7 weeks, but only actually claimed 14.2 weeks. The average weekly benefit payment was \$189. (See Tables 2.5 and 2.14.)

### Claimants with children receive an additional allowance

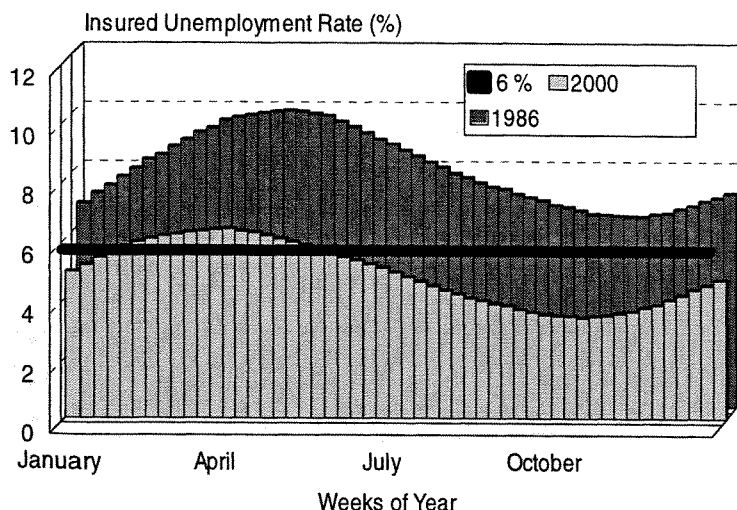
Alaska is one of only 12 states to provide additional dependent benefits to UI claimants. As in the majority of states with the dependent allowance, the allowance increases the maximum amount of benefits payable during the claim, because it is added to the basic weekly benefit.

Dependent benefits introduce the concept of need into what is fundamentally an insurance program. In Alaska, for example, the dependent allowance can exceed the base weekly benefit amount for individuals earning up to \$4,500 during their base period.

Claimants are eligible to receive \$24 per dependent up to a maximum of \$72. To qualify for dependent benefits, the child must be less than 18 years of age, be lawfully in the individual's physical custody at the time the individual claims the allowance for dependents, or depend on the claimant for more than 50 percent of support. A dependent must be an unmarried child, or step-child, or a legal ward of any age who is both dependent on the claimant for more than 50 percent of support and prevented by infirmity from engaging in gainful employment.

In 2000, 19,228 persons receiving regular UI benefits were paid \$12.5 million in dependent benefits. Those claiming dependent allowance were 35.0 percent of all regular UI program claimants. The dependent allowance they received amounted to 11.8 percent of all regular UI benefit dollars paid in 2000. (See Table 2.16.)

**Figure 2.2 Alaska Insured Unemployment Rate—1986 and 2000**



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

## Duration of benefits depends on the stability of the claimant's work

The length of time a claimant may claim benefits varies in each state. In Alaska, it varies with each claimant. Alaska sets potential duration of benefits by dividing the amount of base period earnings by the amount of earnings in the highest quarter. The intent is to provide a duration of benefits which relates to the duration of employment: the higher the ratio of base period earnings to high quarter earnings, the more stable the earnings stream, and therefore, the higher the potential duration of benefits.

The duration of benefits is set according to a schedule in AS 23.20.350(e), and ranges from 16 weeks with a ratio of less than 1.50, to 26 weeks with a ratio of 3.50 or more. (See Table 2.4.) Claimants with a ratio of less than 1.50 have earned more than two-thirds of their wages in one quarter.

Alaska's highly seasonal economy ensures that the amount paid to claimants in the late winter months is frequently double the amount disbursed in the late summer. The state's duration schedule contributes to this high winter claims load, by providing claimants (without other disqualification) a minimum of 16 weeks of benefits. These long duration periods propel many claimants into the month of December, or later, virtually ensuring the high levels of claims needed to "trigger" extended benefits.

## Reason claimants leave or refuse work may affect duration of benefits

All states disqualify claimants who voluntarily quit work without good cause, who are discharged for misconduct, or who unreasonably refuse an offer of suitable work. Although the disqualification provisions vary from state to state, almost every state (46

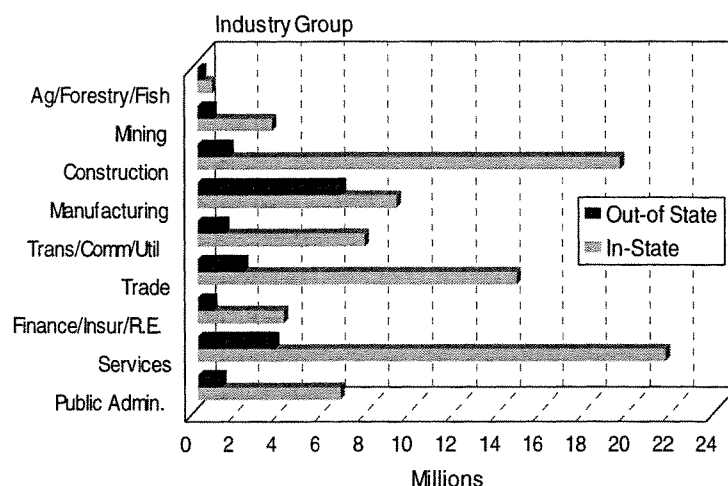
states in all) provides for a complete denial of benefits for the duration of a claimant's unemployment. To requalify for benefits, claimants must obtain another job, work for a specific period, and then become unemployed again for a nondisqualifying reason.

In the three remaining states, benefits are either postponed, reduced, or both. In Alaska, a claimant who voluntarily quits work, or who is discharged for misconduct, suffers a six-week postponement of benefits (including the one-week waiting period everyone must serve). There is also a benefit reduction equal to three times the weekly benefit amount. This policy is the most liberal in the nation. The primary argument for this short period is that the disqualification should be no longer than it takes the average person to find work. The rationale is that after a six-week period the worker's continuing unemployment is no longer due to their reasons for leaving work, but to the unavailability of work. The main argument in favor of longer or unlimited disqualification is that the unemployment does not become involuntary after six weeks, just because the "average" worker returns to work within that time. The worker continues to be unemployed due to a voluntary act. An additional argument is that the leniency of the disqualification is yet another disincentive to work.

## Extended Benefits: Alaska's UI benefit helper

Under normal circumstances, UI claimants receive no more benefits once they exhaust the maximum amount to which

**Figure 2.3** UI Regular Benefit Payments by Industry 1998



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

they are entitled. However, they may collect additional payments of up to half the amount of their maximum regular benefits when certain economic conditions exist. These additional payments are called extended benefits (EB).

In order for EB to be payable, unemployment must be high enough to meet a set federal standard. Specifically, an extended benefits period exists as long as the insured unemployment rate (IUR) in the state is at least 6 percent. Prior to 1982, the “trigger” rate was 5 percent, and EB was payable continuously beginning in 1975. With the trigger rate at 6 percent, Alaska generally triggers off between July and September, and triggers back on in January or February. As figure 2.2 illustrates, in 1986, during the peak of the recession, the IUR never fell below 6 percent and EB was payable year round.

The IUR is calculated by dividing the average number of weeks of UI claimed for the past thirteen weeks by the average covered employment for the past four quarters. Among the states, only Alaska triggers on to EB each year. Two factors ensure that EB will trigger on in Alaska each winter. The first is a highly seasonal economy, which drives up unemployment in the winter months. The second is Alaska’s high UI benefits reciprocity rate. (See Table 2.17.) In 2000, Alaska ranked second highest nationally in the average weekly percentage of the unemployed receiving UI benefits. A number of factors contribute to our state’s high reciprocity

rate. These are: eligibility based on relatively low base period earnings, a high minimum duration of 16 weeks, and a short postponement rather than an absolute disqualification from benefits for those leaving employment or refusing work without good cause.

Since the cessation of the Emergency Unemployment Compensation program in early 1994, EB has again become Alaska’s little helper. In the past five years, EB has pumped over \$30.3 million into the wintertime economy.

In 2000, 5,400 claimants received over \$4.8 million in EB payments. The average duration of EB was 5.3 weeks, and the average weekly benefit amount paid was \$182.33. EB triggered on during the week ending on February 12, 2000, and triggered off during the week ending April 29, 2000.

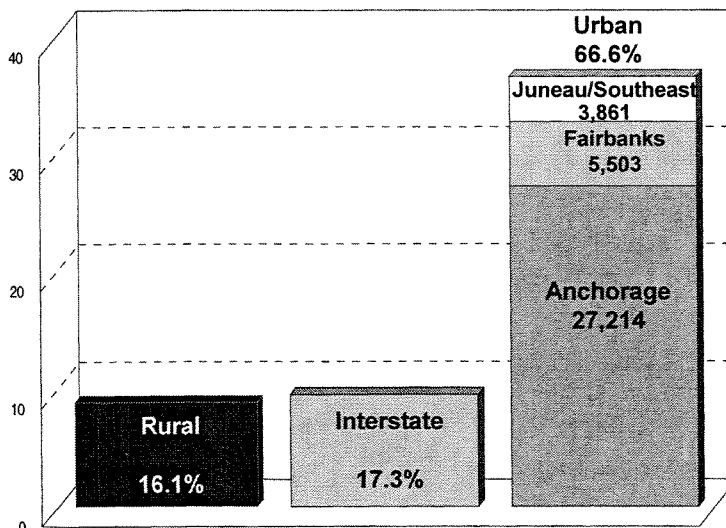
### Supplemental state benefits assist claimants with low earnings

On September 26, 1982, federal and conforming state law disallowed the payment of extended benefits to low-wage claimants who failed to earn at least 40 times their weekly benefit amount during their base period. More than 1,000 claimants were suddenly ineligible for EB when their regular benefits ran out.

The Supplemental State Benefits (SSB) program was created by the Alaska Legislature to provide an alternative for these low wage claimants. Claimants who are ineligible for extended benefits solely because of the “forty times rule” are eligible for SSB whenever EB is triggered on.

In 2000, 226 unemployed workers received \$115,354 in SSB payments. Their average weekly benefit check was \$92.68 and the average claim duration was 5.4 weeks. (See Tables 2.8 and 2.14.)

**Figure 2.4 Claimants by Processing Center 2000**



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



## Workers from three Alaska industries claim the majority of benefits

In 2000, 59.5% of all regular state benefit payment dollars were paid to former employees of three industries. These were services (23.8% of all regular benefits paid), construction (19.8%), and trade (15.9%). Together they received \$62.9 million of the \$105.7 million paid out in regular state benefits. (See Table 2.11.)

The services industry has been the top recipient of benefits for at least the past 10 years. The highly seasonal construction industry has held second place for nine of the past ten years, and the trade industry for one of the past ten.

From 1999 to 2000, the largest increase in former employees claiming benefits was in the food products industry (up 200 claimants), and the largest decrease in claimants receiving an initial UI check was in the oil and gas industry (down 1,697). Overall, first payments of UI benefits in 2000 were down 2,069 from 1999.

Looking back over the past 10 years, the percentage distribution of benefit payments among Alaska's industries remains essentially unchanged. The same can also be said about average duration in weeks claimed among former employees of Alaska's industries.

The highest average weekly payments in 2000 were paid to former employees in the oil and gas industry (\$213.36) and the lowest to the former workers of the food products industry (\$144.39). Two years earlier, the highest average weekly payment went to past employees of the paper products industry as it did for eight of the last ten years.

## Almost one-fifth of all regular UI benefits paid out of state

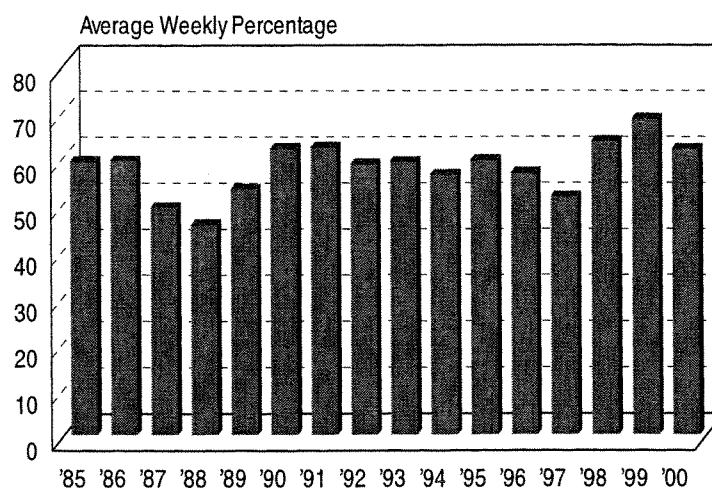
Between 1999 and 2000, the proportion of regular benefits payments sent out of state was

at its lowest level in the last ten years, 18.3% in 1999 and 17.0% in 2000. (See Table 2.12.) In 2000, that 17.0 percentage amounted to \$18 million in interstate benefits paid. These interstate claimants are those who have worked and earned wages in Alaska during their base period. (See Figure 2.1.) More than half of all regular benefits paid out of state went to those in Washington (22.0%), California (23.6%), and Oregon (9.0%). (See Table 2.15.) More than two-thirds of all interstate payments went to former workers in manufacturing (37.1%), services (19.9%), and trade (12.0). (See Table 2.10.)

Since 1987, the average weekly benefit amount has been higher for those filing from out of state than for those filing instate. (See Tables 2.9 and 2.10.) In 2000, the average weekly benefit amount for interstate claimants was \$176.88 with average duration of 16.4 weeks. Instate claimants, on the other hand, saw weekly benefit amounts of \$164.48 and duration of 14.3 weeks.

Among out-of-state claimants, those with the highest average weekly benefit amounts were from the oil and gas industry (\$225.56), and other mining (\$223.39). The lowest average benefit amounts were paid to workers from the food products industry.

**Figure 2.5** Percentage of Unemployed Receiving UI in Alaska



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



## Chapter 2 Tables

### UI Benefit Payments

#### Unemployment, 1991-2000

**Table  
2.1**

Year	Total Labor Force	Total Unem- ployment	Total Unem- ployment Rate (TUR) %	Covered Employ- ment	Insured Unem- ployment	Insured Unem- ployment Rate (IUR) %	Percent Ratio IUR to TUR
1991	258,000	22,000	8.5	218,367	13,237	6.1	71.1
1992	262,000	24,000	9.2	221,795	13,880	6.3	68.3
1993	299,000	23,000	7.7	226,475	12,213	5.4	70.1
1994	305,000	24,000	7.9	223,455	13,554	6.1	77.1
1995	303,723	22,220	7.3	237,816	12,885	5.4	74.1
1996	315,928	24,682	7.8	239,654	13,120	5.5	70.1
1997	316,032	24,930	7.9	244,255	12,095	5.0	62.8
1998	316,898	18,351	5.8	250,251	12,140	4.9	83.8
1999	315,209	20,072	6.4	252,228	12,866	5.1	80.1
2000	321,964	21,296	6.6	258,428	12,290	4.8	71.9

**Note:**

The Total Unemployment Rate (TUR), and the Insured Unemployment Rate (IUR) are presented for the purpose of comparison. The TUR is the rate most often used in the media when discussing rates of unemployment in the population. The TUR is the percentage derived from dividing total unemployment (both insured and uninsured) by the total labor force (both insured and uninsured). The IUR is the percentage derived by dividing the 13 week average of UI weeks claimed by the insured labor force.

**Sources:**

Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section  
Employment, Wages, and Contributions, ES 202 report to the U.S. Department of Labor.

Report of Claims Activities, ETA 539 report to the U.S. Department of Labor.  
Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS).

# Table 2.2

## Unemployment Insurance Claimant Characteristics, 2000

Characteristics	Number	Percent of Total	Characteristics	Number	Percent of Total
Total	54,946	100.0	Average Annual Earnings (\$):		
Gender:			1,000- 9,999	14,692	26.7
Male	33,997	61.9	10,000-19,999	16,442	29.9
Female	20,949	38.1	20,000-29,999	10,526	19.2
Age:			30,000-39,999	5,908	10.8
Less than 21	1,539	2.8	40,000-49,999	3,230	5.9
21-24	4,573	8.3	50,000-59,999	1,876	3.4
25-34	14,501	26.4	60,000-69,999	1,006	1.8
35-44	17,059	31.0	70,000-79,999	550	1.0
45-54	12,023	21.9	80,000-89,999	292	0.5
55-64	4,485	8.2	90,000+	424	0.8
65+	766	1.4	Geographic Location:		
Number of Dependents:			Aleutians East Borough	178	0.3
0	31,246	56.9	Aleutians West Census Area	363	0.7
1	9,350	17.0	Anchorage Borough	14,245	25.9
2	7,985	14.5	Bethel Census Area	1,195	2.2
3+	6,365	11.6	Bristol Bay Borough	131	0.2
Ethnic Background:			Denali Borough	247	0.4
Alaska Native/American Indian	11,119	20.2	Dillingham Census Area	305	0.6
Asian and Pacific Islander	3,902	7.1	Fairbanks North Star Borough	5,411	9.8
Black	1,860	3.4	Haines Borough	280	0.5
Hispanic	2,440	4.4	Juneau Borough	1,783	3.2
White	34,788	63.3	Kenai Peninsula Borough	4,746	8.6
Other	340	0.6	Ketchikan Gateway Borough	1,274	2.3
No Information	497	0.9	Kodiak Island Borough	1,637	3.0
Industry:			Lake & Peninsula Borough	125	0.2
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	426	0.8	Matanuska-Susitna Borough	4,912	8.9
Mining	2,039	3.7	Nome Census Area	690	1.3
Oil and Gas	1,644	3.0	North Slope Borough	520	0.9
Other Mining	395	0.7	Northwest Arctic Borough	516	0.9
Contract Construction	8,206	14.9	Prince of Wales-Outer Ketchikan C A	912	1.7
Manufacturing	7,998	14.6	Sitka Borough	487	0.9
Food Products	6,218	11.3	Skagway-Hoonah-Angoon C A	501	0.9
Lumber and Wood Products	1,166	2.1	Southeast Fairbanks Census Area	580	1.1
Paper Products	8	0.0	Valdez-Cordova Census Area	935	1.7
Other Manufacturing	606	1.1	Wade Hampton Census Area	775	1.4
Transport., Communications and Util.	4,628	8.4	Wrangell-Petersburg Census Area	728	1.3
Trade	9,994	18.2	Yakutat Borough	87	0.2
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	2,188	4.0	Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area	652	1.2
Services	13,810	25.1	Alaska Area Unknown	1,236	2.2
Public Administration	5,005	9.1	Total In-State	45,451	82.7
Unclassified	652	1.2	Out-of-State	9,495	17.3
Occupation:			Local Office:		
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing	1,393	2.5	Anchorage	27,214	49.5
Benchwork	157	0.3	Central - Interstate Claims	9,495	17.3
Clerical and Sales	10,064	18.3	Central - Rural Mail Claims	8,873	16.1
Machine Trades	1,549	2.8	Fairbanks	5,503	10.0
Processing	5,925	10.8	Juneau / SE Urban	3,861	7.0
Professional, Technical, Managerial	7,794	14.2			
Service	7,815	14.2			
Structural Work	13,809	25.1			
Miscellaneous and Unknown	6,440	11.7			

Notes: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.  
Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development,  
Research and Analysis Section:  
UI Claimant Characteristics Files.

Starting 1996, the UI claims processing work at many offices  
was consolidated into regional centers in Anchorage and Juneau.  
All UI Claims filing is now done by mail or telephone.

The Anchorage Center serves clients in Anchorage, Bethel,  
Dillingham, Eagle River, Glennallen, Homer, Kenai, Kodiak,  
Kotzebue, Mat-Su, Nome, Seward, Tok, and Valdez.

Juneau / SE Urban serves Juneau, Ketchikan, Petersburg, Sitka.

# Schedule of UI Weekly Benefit Amounts

**Table  
2.3**

Base Period Earnings (\$)			Base Period Earnings (\$)		
At Least	But Less Than	Weekly Benefit Amount (\$)	At Least	But Less Than	Weekly Benefit Amount (\$)
0	1,000	0	15,000	15,250	156
1,000	1,250	44	15,250	15,500	158
1,250	1,500	46	15,500	15,750	160
1,500	1,750	48	15,750	16,000	162
1,750	2,000	50	16,000	16,250	164
2,000	2,250	52	16,250	16,500	166
2,250	2,500	54	16,500	16,750	168
2,500	2,750	56	16,750	17,000	170
2,750	3,000	58	17,000	17,250	172
3,000	3,250	60	17,250	17,500	174
3,250	3,500	62	17,500	17,750	176
3,500	3,750	64	17,750	18,000	178
3,750	4,000	66	18,000	18,250	180
4,000	4,250	68	18,250	18,500	182
4,250	4,500	70	18,500	18,750	184
4,500	4,750	72	18,750	19,000	186
4,750	5,000	74	19,000	19,250	188
5,000	5,250	76	19,250	19,500	190
5,250	5,500	78	19,500	19,750	192
5,500	5,750	80	19,750	20,000	194
5,750	6,000	82	20,000	20,250	196
6,000	6,250	84	20,250	20,500	198
6,250	6,500	86	20,500	20,750	200
6,500	6,750	88	20,750	21,000	202
6,750	7,000	90	21,000	21,250	204
7,000	7,250	92	21,250	21,500	206
7,250	7,500	94	21,500	21,750	208
7,500	7,750	96	21,750	22,000	210
7,750	8,000	98	22,000	and over	212
8,000	8,250	100			
8,250	8,500	102			
			Amendment effective 01-01-97		
8,500	8,750	104			
8,750	9,000	106	22,000	22,250	212
9,000	9,250	108	22,250	22,500	214
9,250	9,500	110	22,500	22,750	216
9,500	9,750	112	22,750	23,000	218
9,750	10,000	114	23,000	23,250	220
10,000	10,250	116	23,250	23,500	222
10,250	10,500	118	23,500	23,750	224
10,500	10,750	120	23,750	24,000	226
10,750	11,000	122	24,000	24,250	228
11,000	11,250	124	24,250	24,500	230
11,250	11,500	126	24,500	24,750	232
11,500	11,750	128	24,750	25,000	234
11,750	12,000	130	25,000	25,250	236
12,000	12,250	132	25,250	25,500	238
12,250	12,500	134	25,500	25,750	240
12,500	12,750	136	25,750	26,000	242
12,750	13,000	138	26,000	26,250	244
13,000	13,250	140	26,250	26,500	246
13,250	13,500	142	26,500	26,750	248
13,500	13,750	144	26,750	and over	248
13,750	14,000	146			
14,000	14,250	148			
14,250	14,500	150			
14,500	14,750	152			
14,750	15,000	154			

Source: Alaska Statutes 23.20.350(d).  
The existing schedule was amended  
(effective January 1, 1997)  
to provide for earnings over \$22,000.

# Table 2.4

## Schedule of Weekly Benefits Duration

Ratio of Base Period Earnings to High Quarter Earnings	Duration of Benefits (in Weeks)
Less than 1.50	16
1.50-1.99	18
2.00-2.49	20
2.50-2.99	22
3.00-3.49	24
3.50 or more	26

Source: Alaska Statutes 23.20.350(e).

# Table 2.5

## Payment Data, UI Regular Benefits (Taxable and Reimbursable) 1991-2000

All Claimants		Claimants Exhausting Benefits		Average Duration (in Weeks)			Average Weekly Benefit Amount (AWBA)		Maximum Weekly Benefit Amount (\$)	
Year	Number of First Pay- ments 1/	Number of Weeks Paid	Number 3/	Percent of First Pay- ments 1/	Potential	Actual Exhausts 3/	Actual for Amount 2/	Ratio of WBA to Average Weekly Earnings	Without Depen- dents Benefits	With Depen- dents Benefits
1991	44,523	682,519	20,825	46.8	20.7	15.3	20.1	169.72	0.29	212.00
1992	44,094	732,262	23,502	53.3	20.9	16.6	20.6	169.92	0.28	212.00
1993	40,689	642,198	20,292	49.9	21.0	15.8	20.8	170.73	0.28	212.00
1994	46,801	712,689	21,336	45.6	20.8	15.2	20.5	169.99	0.27	212.00
1995	46,832	678,057	19,480	41.6	20.9	14.5	20.7	172.88	0.28	212.00
1996	45,116	684,730	19,623	43.5	20.8	15.2	20.5	172.53	0.28	212.00
1997	43,617	641,264	17,726	40.6	20.5	14.7	20.6	175.76	0.28	248.00
1998	43,750	632,329	17,706	40.5	20.8	14.5	20.8	176.00	0.28	248.00
1999	45,635	679,381	19,252	42.2	20.9	14.9	20.8	181.58	0.28	248.00
2000	43,557	619,357	16,962	38.9	20.8	14.2	20.7	189.86	0.29	248.00

1/ The number of first payments relates to the calendar year indicated. The percent who exhaust their benefits relates to first payments in the 12-month period ending June 30 of the same year.

2/ Average weekly benefit amount for all claimants excluding certain part-time workers.

3/ Exhausts: Persons receiving payments for the maximum number of weeks available to them in a particular program.

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

ETA 5-159 report to the U.S. Department of Labor;

BEP 3565 P Quarterly Management Reports;

ES-218 report to the U.S. Department of Labor.

# **Average Weekly Benefits (Regular UI) as a Percentage of Average Weekly Earnings (Covered Employment), 2000**

**T<sub>able</sub>  
2.6**

State	Average Benefit Amount (\$)	Rank	Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Rank	AWBA as % of Earnings	Rank
Alabama	159.41	50	548.68	36	29.1	46
<b>ALASKA</b>	<b>189.86</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>658.53</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>28.8</b>	<b>47</b>
Arizona	162.51	48	622.41	21	26.1	49
Arkansas	210.08	32	500.37	47	42.0	7
California	160.00	49	789.92	6	20.3	51
Colorado	255.86	8	709.81	9	36.0	27
Connecticut	257.56	7	874.18	2	29.5	45
Delaware	214.85	27	703.60	11	30.5	44
Dist. of Columbia	241.03	14	956.11	1	25.2	50
Florida	220.21	24	582.52	29	37.8	23
Georgia	211.89	31	652.45	18	32.5	39
Hawaii	283.67	4	571.86	31	49.6	1
Idaho	209.46	34	526.76	41	39.8	13
Illinois	251.58	10	729.16	7	34.5	33
Indiana	222.19	23	593.31	27	37.4	24
Iowa	238.42	15	533.91	38	44.7	3
Kansas	247.09	12	559.35	32	44.2	4
Kentucky	224.78	21	550.31	35	40.8	10
Louisiana	182.06	45	530.42	39	34.3	35
Maine	202.29	37	524.18	42	38.6	21
Maryland	212.51	30	680.85	12	31.2	41
Massachusetts	293.45	1	850.48	4	34.5	32
Michigan	244.12	13	709.85	8	34.4	34
Minnesota	290.51	2	679.01	13	42.8	5
Mississippi	156.62	51	476.85	48	32.8	37
Missouri	186.22	44	598.70	25	31.1	42
Montana	187.92	43	454.07	51	41.4	8
Nebraska	188.00	42	527.53	40	35.6	28
Nevada	222.43	22	616.77	24	36.1	26
New Hampshire	217.21	25	665.05	15	32.7	38
New Jersey	289.61	3	839.00	5	34.5	31
New Mexico	180.43	47	516.32	43	34.9	30
New York	247.48	11	864.39	3	28.6	48
North Carolina	231.21	19	594.82	26	38.9	18
North Dakota	210.01	33	468.27	50	44.8	2
Ohio	236.40	16	620.90	22	38.1	22
Oklahoma	214.40	28	507.22	45	42.3	6
Oregon	232.62	18	626.57	20	37.1	25
Pennsylvania	264.76	6	649.73	19	40.7	12
Rhode Island	253.48	9	619.99	23	40.9	9
South Carolina	190.18	39	537.78	37	35.4	29
South Dakota	180.86	46	468.40	49	38.6	20
Tennessee	188.74	41	581.50	30	32.5	40
Texas	227.11	20	668.18	14	34.0	36
Utah	213.89	29	553.80	33	38.6	19
Vermont	215.55	26	551.41	34	39.1	16
Virginia	203.88	36	661.31	16	30.8	43
Washington	280.94	5	708.77	10	39.6	14
West Virginia	197.53	38	506.43	46	39.0	17
Wisconsin	233.11	17	588.18	28	39.6	15
Wyoming	207.10	35	507.75	44	40.8	11
United States 1/	221.00		671.41		32.9	

Note: U.S. data include Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

Sources: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section:  
ETA 5-159 report, and ES-202 Report, U.S. Department of Labor.

# Table 2.7

## Payment Data, UI Extended Benefits, 1991-2000

Year	Number of First Payments	Number of Weeks Paid	Number of Claimants Exhausting Benefits	Average Duration in Weeks	Average Weekly Benefit (\$) Amount 1/
1991	8,951	57,369	3,272	6.4	164.37
1992	6	32	7	5.3	136.84
1993	2	10	3	5.0	131.75
1994	13,605	89,840	4,857	6.6	166.65
1995	7,505	43,695	2,028	5.8	169.55
1996	7,037	41,199	1,897	5.9	171.15
1997	5,702	33,047	1,434	5.8	167.34
1998	5,973	31,666	1,293	5.3	171.60
1999	7,160	41,123	1,970	5.7	168.77
2000	5,368	28,266	1,084	5.3	182.33

1/ Excludes certain part-time workers.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section: Claims and Payment Activities, ETA 5-159 report to the U.S. Department of Labor.



**Payment Data, UI State Supplemental Benefits, 1991-2000**

Year	Number of First Payments	Number of Weeks Paid	Number of Claimants Exhausting Benefits	Average Duration in Weeks	Average Weekly Benefit (\$) Amount 1/
1991	761	4,536	336	6.0	102.54
1992	731	5,546	458	7.6	102.42
1993	1,067	7,943	688	7.4	102.75
1994	384	2,696	290	7.0	94.73
1995	233	1,298	104	5.6	101.32
1996	231	1,337	102	5.8	103.19
1997	154	914	72	5.9	97.60
1998	212	1,212	91	5.7	97.43
1999	250	1,470	128	5.9	92.68
2000	226	1,218	82	5.4	92.68

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1/ Excludes certain part-time workers.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section:  
Claims and Payment Activities, ETA 5-159 report to the U.S. Department of Labor.

**Table 2.9 UI Regular Benefit Payments (Taxable and Reimbursable) by Industry Intrastate, 1993-2000**

INDUSTRY	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
NUMBER OF WEEKS PAID								
Totals (incl. unclass.)	503,348	593,895	550,571	570,030	538,485	536,869	574,601	533,309
Ag/Forestry/Fish	5,005	5,644	4,795	4,685	4,620	4,440	4,185	4,228
Mining	27,477	27,332	24,200	29,449	23,149	19,020	39,697	16,599
Oil and Gas	22,263	21,893	19,470	25,160	19,390	14,380	35,595	12,578
Other Mining	5,214	5,439	4,730	4,289	3,759	4,640	4,102	4,021
Construction	69,707	94,806	100,049	101,613	97,178	95,982	99,814	97,082
Manufacturing	58,536	85,973	64,437	71,060	66,022	66,062	62,766	60,681
Food Products	38,995	59,840	44,708	49,927	44,069	44,921	43,609	44,143
Lumber & Wood	7,976	10,459	7,490	10,167	8,456	10,954	11,196	10,434
Paper Products	3,658	7,827	5,781	3,372	5,746	2,952	372	207
Other Mfg.	7,907	7,847	6,458	7,594	7,751	7,235	7,589	5,897
Trans/Comm/Util	50,168	56,454	57,640	52,545	48,083	49,981	49,082	46,104
Trade	103,580	111,625	101,412	105,561	98,486	100,375	106,598	101,532
Finance/Insur/R.E.	17,251	20,600	25,147	22,680	21,368	23,360	24,855	24,126
Services	127,157	143,670	129,740	138,392	135,416	134,510	143,953	139,128
Public Admin.	42,148	45,466	41,734	41,971	42,094	40,791	41,211	40,892
Unclassified	2,319	2,325	1,417	2,074	2,069	2,348	2,440	2,937
NUMBER OF FIRST PAYMENTS								
Totals (incl. unclass.)	32,534	40,329	37,113	36,813	35,920	36,492	38,653	37,352
Ag/Forestry/Fish	337	411	330	310	321	327	283	299
Mining	1,709	1,849	1,614	1,961	1,354	1,389	2,528	1,181
Oil and Gas	1,382	1,518	1,265	1,723	1,095	1,078	2,272	922
Other Mining	327	331	349	238	259	311	256	259
Construction	4,989	7,072	6,989	6,760	6,654	6,691	6,859	6,885
Manufacturing	4,133	5,508	4,350	4,367	4,337	4,347	3,911	3,982
Food Products	2,579	3,651	2,927	2,825	2,791	2,897	2,601	2,778
Lumber & Wood	618	889	635	724	662	730	789	741
Paper Products	484	454	356	259	388	206	47	11
Other Mfg.	452	514	432	559	496	514	474	452
Trans/Comm/Util	3,215	3,949	3,840	3,390	3,259	3,423	3,423	3,381
Trade	6,438	7,313	6,787	6,749	6,548	6,871	7,215	7,265
Finance/Insur/R.E.	1,025	1,406	1,551	1,318	1,414	1,448	1,586	1,596
Services	7,864	9,602	8,684	9,024	9,059	9,021	9,890	9,640
Public Admin.	2,672	3,047	2,833	2,757	2,807	2,802	2,734	2,848
Unclassified	152	172	135	177	167	173	224	275
AMOUNT OF PAYMENTS (\$)								
Totals (incl. unclass.)	80,771,580	92,239,211	89,143,076	92,123,501	88,426,083	88,232,651	96,274,373	87,718,650
Ag/Forestry/Fish	722,065	825,949	716,245	722,423	716,400	689,356	659,528	660,549
Mining	5,386,594	5,262,416	4,784,505	5,789,479	4,868,294	3,917,167	8,860,426	3,479,159
Oil and Gas	4,371,425	4,322,462	3,879,894	4,915,804	4,132,349	2,976,320	8,028,376	2,653,259
Other Mining	1,015,169	939,954	904,611	873,675	735,945	940,847	832,050	825,900
Construction	12,888,140	17,384,443	18,898,006	19,193,516	19,204,267	19,288,194	19,859,679	19,469,057
Manufacturing	8,695,512	12,103,658	9,363,301	10,252,579	10,118,976	10,066,630	9,501,276	9,205,777
Food Products	5,155,985	7,285,068	5,659,127	6,348,381	5,704,308	5,845,808	5,814,106	6,030,827
Lumber & Wood	1,450,800	1,863,235	1,400,714	1,894,373	1,637,920	2,162,409	2,178,116	2,035,262
Paper Products	745,714	1,629,753	1,153,993	658,751	1,324,327	662,986	76,099	39,577
Other Mfg.	1,343,013	1,325,602	1,149,467	1,351,074	1,452,421	1,395,427	1,432,955	1,100,111
Trans/Comm/Util	8,241,229	9,110,556	9,825,550	8,756,292	7,881,034	8,288,612	8,135,030	7,733,461
Trade	14,951,744	15,530,548	14,616,436	15,279,534	14,121,728	14,514,619	15,576,244	14,641,150
Finance/Insur/R.E.	2,881,820	3,407,467	4,206,776	3,761,251	3,477,139	3,807,280	4,175,253	3,995,930
Services	19,549,747	21,121,888	19,723,709	21,064,470	20,767,479	20,469,052	22,370,585	21,524,259
Public Admin.	7,134,760	7,198,484	6,799,592	7,007,920	6,963,130	6,841,856	6,803,356	6,590,303
Unclassified	319,969	293,802	208,956	296,037	307,636	349,885	332,996	419,005

**Table 2.9 (continued)**

	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION - AMOUNT OF PAYMENTS								
Totals (incl. unclass.)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Ag/Forestry/Fish	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.8
Mining	6.7	5.7	5.4	6.3	5.5	4.4	9.2	4.0
Oil and Gas	5.4	4.7	4.4	5.3	4.7	3.4	8.3	3.0
Other Mining	1.3	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.8	1.1	0.9	0.9
Construction	16.0	18.8	21.2	20.8	21.7	21.9	20.6	22.2
Manufacturing	10.8	13.1	10.5	11.1	11.4	11.4	9.9	10.5
Food Products	6.4	7.9	6.3	6.9	6.5	6.6	6.0	6.9
Lumber & Wood	1.8	2.0	1.6	2.1	1.9	2.5	2.3	2.3
Paper Products	0.9	1.8	1.3	0.7	1.5	0.8	0.1	0.0
Other Mfg.	1.7	1.4	1.3	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.3
Trans/Comm/Util	10.2	9.9	11.0	9.5	8.9	9.4	8.4	8.8
Trade	18.5	16.8	16.4	16.6	16.0	16.5	16.2	16.7
Finance/Insur/R.E.	3.6	3.7	4.7	4.1	3.9	4.3	4.3	4.6
Services	24.2	22.9	22.1	22.9	23.5	23.2	23.2	24.5
Public Admin.	8.8	7.8	7.6	7.6	7.9	7.8	7.1	7.5
Unclassified	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.5

AVERAGE WEEKLY PAYMENTS (\$)								
Totals (incl. unclass.)	160.47	155.31	161.91	161.61	164.21	164.35	167.55	164.48
Ag/Forestry/Fish	144.27	146.34	149.37	154.20	155.06	155.26	157.59	156.23
Mining	196.04	192.54	197.71	196.59	210.30	205.95	223.20	209.60
Oil and Gas	196.35	197.44	199.28	195.38	213.12	206.98	225.55	210.94
Other Mining	194.70	172.82	191.25	203.70	195.78	202.77	202.84	205.40
Construction	184.89	183.37	188.89	188.89	197.62	200.96	198.97	200.54
Manufacturing	148.55	140.78	145.31	144.28	153.27	152.38	151.38	151.71
Food Products	132.22	121.74	126.58	127.15	129.44	130.14	133.32	136.62
Lumber & Wood	181.90	178.15	187.01	186.33	193.70	197.41	194.54	195.06
Paper Products	203.86	208.22	199.62	195.36	230.48	224.59	204.57	191.19
Other Mfg.	169.85	168.93	177.99	177.91	187.38	192.87	188.82	186.55
Trans/Comm/Util	164.27	161.38	170.46	166.64	163.90	165.84	165.74	167.74
Trade	144.35	139.13	144.13	144.75	143.39	144.60	146.12	144.20
Finance/Insur/R.E.	167.05	165.41	167.29	165.84	162.73	162.98	167.98	165.63
Services	153.74	147.02	152.02	152.21	153.36	152.17	155.40	154.71
Public Admin.	169.28	158.33	162.93	166.97	165.42	167.73	165.09	161.16
Unclassified	137.98	126.37	147.46	142.74	148.69	149.01	136.47	142.66

AVERAGE DURATION IN WEEKS								
Totals (incl. unclass.)	15.5	14.7	14.8	15.5	15.0	14.7	14.9	14.3
Ag/Forestry/Fish	14.9	13.7	14.5	15.1	14.4	13.6	14.8	14.1
Mining	16.1	14.8	15.0	15.0	17.1	13.7	15.7	14.1
Oil and Gas	16.1	14.4	15.4	14.6	17.7	13.3	15.7	13.6
Other Mining	15.9	16.4	13.6	18.0	14.5	14.9	16.0	15.5
Construction	14.0	13.4	14.3	15.0	14.6	14.3	14.6	14.1
Manufacturing	14.2	15.6	14.8	16.3	15.2	15.2	16.0	15.2
Food Products	15.1	16.4	15.3	17.7	15.8	15.5	16.8	15.9
Lumber & Wood	12.9	11.8	11.8	14.0	12.8	15.0	14.2	14.1
Paper Products	7.6	17.2	16.2	13.0	14.8	14.3	7.9	18.8
Other Mfg.	17.5	15.3	14.9	13.6	15.6	14.1	16.0	13.0
Trans/Comm/Util	15.6	14.3	15.0	15.5	14.8	14.6	14.3	13.6
Trade	16.1	15.3	14.9	15.6	15.0	14.6	14.8	14.0
Finance/Insur/R.E.	16.8	14.7	16.2	17.2	15.1	16.1	15.7	15.1
Services	16.2	15.0	14.9	15.3	14.9	14.9	14.6	14.4
Public Admin.	15.8	14.9	14.7	15.2	15.0	14.6	15.1	14.4
Unclassified	15.3	13.5	10.5	11.7	12.4	13.6	10.9	10.7

# Table 2.10

## UI Regular Benefit Payments (Taxable and Reimbursable) by Industry Interstate, 1993-2000

INDUSTRY	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
NUMBER OF WEEKS PAID								
Totals (incl. unclass.)	138,247	156,252	142,693	127,164	117,420	120,789	118,762	101,627
Ag/Forestry/Fish	1,921	2,372	1,035	902	1,129	915	789	1,034
Mining	8,058	7,225	7,636	6,044	5,049	3,175	9,690	3,126
Oil and Gas	6,373	5,708	6,667	5,061	4,299	2,414	8,668	2,496
Other Mining	1,685	1,517	969	983	750	761	1,022	630
Construction	8,154	10,610	12,235	10,865	8,771	8,910	7,621	6,914
Manufacturing	47,679	58,561	48,944	45,471	43,679	48,474	42,971	41,870
Food Products	38,934	48,124	40,571	38,235	36,046	41,212	38,539	37,517
Lumber & Wood	5,057	5,239	4,508	4,794	4,355	5,155	3,486	3,469
Paper Products	2,154	3,892	2,775	1,101	2,548	1,243	71	43
Other Mfg.	1,534	1,306	1,090	1,341	730	864	875	841
Trans/Comm/Util	9,395	10,986	11,567	9,020	8,358	8,026	7,699	6,666
Trade	20,437	20,966	19,547	17,753	15,810	15,833	16,495	13,255
Finance/Insur/R.E.	5,574	5,120	5,711	4,946	4,187	4,320	3,927	3,434
Services	27,577	30,617	28,020	24,855	23,775	24,177	23,377	19,380
Public Admin.	9,205	9,387	7,885	7,103	6,441	6,635	5,948	5,547
Unclassified	247	408	113	205	221	324	245	401
NUMBER OF FIRST PAYMENTS								
Totals (incl. unclass.)	8,052	10,439	9,678	8,293	7,680	7,354	6,967	6,199
Ag/Forestry/Fish	130	148	78	69	78	63	57	71
Mining	418	507	521	413	282	218	547	174
Oil and Gas	316	416	444	362	233	170	490	143
Other Mining	102	91	77	51	49	48	57	31
Construction	515	753	859	716	637	502	430	416
Manufacturing	3,254	4,197	3,626	3,288	3,062	3,269	2,703	2,723
Food Products	2,678	3,457	2,972	2,758	2,527	2,851	2,422	2,445
Lumber & Wood	360	434	425	398	387	317	223	227
Paper Products	142	229	150	58	104	53	6	1
Other Mfg.	74	77	79	74	44	48	52	50
Trans/Comm/Util	532	725	727	551	516	461	451	414
Trade	1,036	1,349	1,243	1,060	974	869	910	741
Finance/Insur/R.E.	273	333	343	282	281	227	209	207
Services	1,437	1,859	1,791	1,490	1,465	1,345	1,319	1,124
Public Admin.	439	551	479	409	369	381	322	305
Unclassified	18	17	11	15	16	19	19	24
AMOUNT OF PAYMENTS (\$)								
Totals (incl. unclass.)	24,269,843	25,665,432	24,466,248	21,908,339	20,459,119	20,805,096	21,629,019	17,975,643
Ag/Forestry/Fish	338,508	385,177	172,999	156,953	198,756	164,103	166,928	204,143
Mining	1,731,803	1,499,568	1,602,016	1,250,924	1,118,122	729,302	2,323,245	703,735
Oil and Gas	1,362,167	1,173,298	1,410,215	1,062,318	959,189	560,450	2,099,792	563,001
Other Mining	369,636	326,270	191,801	188,606	158,933	168,852	223,453	140,734
Construction	1,601,598	1,957,552	2,461,715	2,123,025	1,808,173	1,967,330	1,674,265	1,495,375
Manufacturing	7,748,207	8,890,810	7,618,549	7,224,018	7,142,649	7,295,672	6,864,822	6,669,077
Food Products	5,988,630	6,835,939	5,961,543	5,801,113	5,521,293	5,707,362	5,897,449	5,759,934
Lumber & Wood	1,016,023	1,017,985	877,042	941,660	885,400	1,130,011	774,874	732,842
Paper Products	438,923	804,095	568,802	234,220	581,081	280,718	12,750	10,664
Other Mfg.	304,631	232,791	211,162	247,025	154,875	177,581	179,749	165,637
Trans/Comm/Util	1,727,884	1,954,966	2,153,581	1,709,935	1,566,659	1,550,961	1,513,564	1,284,463
Trade	3,343,132	3,219,479	3,141,060	2,876,736	2,484,454	2,634,055	2,846,013	2,154,320
Finance/Insur/R.E.	1,018,985	904,711	1,037,681	915,628	766,350	829,235	770,423	698,587
Services	4,926,401	5,078,199	4,775,805	4,252,860	4,114,491	4,269,413	4,236,727	3,583,703
Public Admin.	1,794,809	1,712,125	1,485,577	1,366,070	1,223,650	1,303,275	1,188,161	1,110,530
Unclassified	38,516	62,845	17,265	32,190	35,815	61,750	44,871	71,710

**Table 2.10 (continued)**

INDUSTRY	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION - AMOUNT OF PAYMENTS								
Totals (incl. unclass.)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Ag/Forestry/Fish	1.4	1.5	0.7	0.7	1.0	0.8	0.8	1.1
Mining	7.1	5.8	6.5	5.7	5.5	3.5	10.7	3.9
Oil and Gas	5.6	4.6	5.8	4.8	4.7	2.7	9.7	3.1
Other Mining	1.5	1.3	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.8	1.0	0.8
Construction	6.6	7.6	10.1	9.7	8.8	9.5	7.7	8.3
Manufacturing	31.9	34.6	31.1	33.0	34.9	35.1	31.7	37.1
Food Products	24.7	26.6	24.4	26.5	27.0	27.4	27.3	32.0
Lumber & Wood	4.2	4.0	3.6	4.3	4.3	5.4	3.6	4.1
Paper Products	1.8	3.1	2.3	1.1	2.8	1.3	0.1	0.1
Other Mfg.	1.3	0.9	0.9	1.1	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.9
Trans/Comm/Util	7.1	7.6	8.8	7.8	7.7	7.5	7.0	7.1
Trade	13.8	12.5	12.8	13.1	12.1	12.7	13.2	12.0
Finance/Insur/R.E.	4.2	3.5	4.2	4.2	3.7	4.0	3.6	3.9
Services	20.3	19.8	19.5	19.4	20.1	20.5	19.6	19.9
Public Admin.	7.4	6.7	6.1	6.2	6.0	6.3	5.5	6.2
Unclassified	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.4
AVERAGE WEEKLY PAYMENT (\$)								
Totals (incl. unclass.)	175.55	164.26	171.46	172.28	174.24	172.24	182.12	176.88
Ag/Forestry/Fish	176.21	162.38	167.15	174.01	176.05	179.35	211.57	197.43
Mining	214.92	207.55	209.80	206.97	221.45	229.70	239.76	225.12
Oil and Gas	213.74	205.55	211.52	209.90	223.12	232.17	242.25	225.56
Other Mining	219.37	215.08	197.94	191.87	211.91	221.88	218.64	223.39
Construction	196.42	184.50	201.20	195.40	206.15	220.80	219.69	216.28
Manufacturing	162.51	151.82	155.66	158.87	163.53	150.51	159.75	159.28
Food Products	153.81	142.05	146.94	151.72	153.17	138.49	153.03	153.53
Lumber & Wood	200.91	194.31	194.55	196.42	203.31	219.21	222.28	211.25
Paper Products	203.77	206.60	204.97	212.73	228.05	225.84	179.58	248.00
Other Mfg.	198.59	178.25	193.73	184.21	212.16	205.53	205.43	196.95
Trans/Comm/Util	183.92	177.95	186.18	189.57	187.44	193.24	196.59	192.69
Trade	163.58	153.56	160.69	162.04	157.14	166.36	172.54	162.53
Finance/Insur/R.E.	182.81	176.70	181.70	185.12	183.03	191.95	196.19	203.43
Services	178.64	165.86	170.44	171.11	173.06	176.59	181.23	184.92
Public Admin.	194.98	182.39	188.41	192.32	189.98	196.42	199.76	200.20
Unclassified	155.94	154.03	152.79	157.02	162.06	190.59	183.15	178.83
AVERAGE DURATION IN WEEKS								
Totals (incl. unclass.)	17.2	15.0	14.7	15.3	15.3	16.4	17.0	16.4
Ag/Forestry/Fish	14.8	16.0	13.3	13.1	14.5	14.5	13.8	14.6
Mining	19.3	14.3	14.7	14.6	17.9	14.6	17.7	18.0
Oil and Gas	20.2	13.7	15.0	14.0	18.5	14.2	17.7	17.5
Other Mining	16.5	16.7	12.6	19.3	15.3	15.9	17.9	20.3
Construction	15.8	14.1	14.2	15.2	13.8	17.7	17.7	16.6
Manufacturing	14.7	14.0	13.5	13.8	14.3	14.8	15.9	15.4
Food Products	14.5	13.9	13.7	13.9	14.3	14.5	15.9	15.3
Lumber & Wood	14.0	12.1	10.6	12.0	11.3	16.3	15.6	15.3
Paper Products	15.2	17.0	18.5	19.0	24.5	23.5	11.8	43.0
Other Mfg.	20.7	17.0	13.8	18.1	16.6	18.0	16.8	16.8
Trans/Comm/Util	17.7	15.2	15.9	16.4	16.2	17.4	17.1	16.1
Trade	19.7	15.5	15.7	16.7	16.2	18.2	18.1	17.9
Finance/Insur/R.E.	20.4	15.4	16.7	17.5	14.9	19.0	18.8	16.6
Services	19.2	16.5	15.6	16.7	16.2	18.0	17.7	17.2
Public Admin.	21.0	17.0	16.5	17.4	17.5	17.4	18.5	18.2
Unclassified	13.7	24.0	10.3	13.7	13.8	17.1	12.9	16.7

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section  
UC-217 report, Benefit Payments by Industry and Area.

**Table  
2.11****UI Regular Benefits Payments (Taxable and Reimbursable)  
by Industry Total 1993-2000**

INDUSTRY	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
NUMBER OF WEEKS PAID								
Totals (incl. unclass.)	641,595	750,147	693,264	697,194	655,905	657,658	693,363	634,936
Ag/Forestry/Fish	6,926	8,016	5,830	5,587	5,749	5,355	4,974	5,262
Mining	35,535	34,557	31,836	35,493	28,198	22,195	49,387	19,725
Oil and Gas	28,636	27,601	26,137	30,221	23,689	16,794	44,263	15,074
Other Mining	6,899	6,956	5,699	5,272	4,509	5,401	5,124	4,651
Construction	77,861	105,416	112,284	112,478	105,949	104,892	107,435	103,996
Manufacturing	106,215	144,534	113,381	116,531	109,701	114,536	105,737	102,551
Food Products	77,929	107,964	85,279	88,162	80,115	86,133	82,148	81,660
Lumber & Wood	13,033	15,698	11,998	14,961	12,811	16,109	14,682	13,903
Paper Products	5,812	11,719	8,556	4,473	8,294	4,195	443	250
Other Mfg.	9,441	9,153	7,548	8,935	8,481	8,099	8,464	6,738
Trans/Comm/Util	59,563	67,440	69,207	61,565	56,441	58,007	56,781	52,770
Trade	124,017	132,591	120,959	123,314	114,296	116,208	123,093	114,787
Finance/Insur/R.E.	22,825	25,720	30,858	27,626	25,555	27,680	28,782	27,560
Services	154,734	174,287	157,760	163,247	159,191	158,687	167,330	158,508
Public Admin.	51,353	54,853	49,619	49,074	48,535	47,426	47,159	46,439
Unclassified	2,566	2,733	1,530	2,279	2,290	2,672	2,685	3,338
NUMBER OF FIRST PAYMENTS								
Totals (incl. unclass.)	40,586	50,768	46,791	45,106	43,600	43,846	45,620	43,551
Ag/Forestry/Fish	467	559	408	379	399	390	340	370
Mining	2,127	2,356	2,135	2,374	1,636	1,607	3,075	1,355
Oil and Gas	1,698	1,934	1,709	2,085	1,328	1,248	2,762	1,065
Other Mining	429	422	426	289	308	359	313	290
Construction	5,504	7,825	7,848	7,476	7,291	7,193	7,289	7,301
Manufacturing	7,387	9,705	7,976	7,655	7,399	7,616	6,614	6,705
Food Products	5,257	7,108	5,899	5,583	5,318	5,748	5,023	5,223
Lumber & Wood	978	1,323	1,060	1,122	1,049	1,047	1,012	968
Paper Products	626	683	506	317	492	259	53	12
Other Mfg.	526	591	511	633	540	562	526	502
Trans/Comm/Util	3,747	4,674	4,567	3,941	3,775	3,884	3,874	3,795
Trade	7,474	8,662	8,030	7,809	7,522	7,740	8,125	8,006
Finance/Insur/R.E.	1,298	1,739	1,894	1,600	1,695	1,675	1,795	1,803
Services	9,301	11,461	10,475	10,514	10,524	10,366	11,209	10,764
Public Admin.	3,111	3,598	3,312	3,166	3,176	3,183	3,056	3,153
Unclassified	170	189	146	192	183	192	243	299
AMOUNT OF PAYMENTS (\$)								
Totals (incl. unclass.)	105,041,423	117,904,643	113,609,324	114,031,840	108,885,202	109,037,747	117,903,392	105,694,293
Ag/Forestry/Fish	1,060,573	1,211,126	889,244	879,376	915,156	853,459	826,456	864,692
Mining	7,118,397	6,761,984	6,386,521	7,040,403	5,986,416	4,646,469	11,183,671	4,182,894
Oil and Gas	5,733,592	5,495,760	5,290,109	5,978,122	5,091,538	3,536,770	10,128,168	3,216,260
Other Mining	1,384,805	1,266,224	1,096,412	1,062,281	894,878	1,109,699	1,055,503	966,634
Construction	14,489,738	19,341,995	21,359,721	21,316,541	21,012,440	21,255,524	21,533,944	20,964,432
Manufacturing	16,443,719	20,994,468	16,981,850	17,476,597	17,261,625	17,362,302	16,366,098	15,874,854
Food Products	11,144,615	14,121,007	11,620,670	12,149,494	11,225,601	11,553,170	11,711,555	11,790,761
Lumber & Wood	2,466,823	2,881,220	2,277,756	2,836,033	2,523,320	3,292,420	2,952,990	2,768,104
Paper Products	1,184,637	2,433,848	1,722,795	892,971	1,905,408	943,704	88,849	50,241
Other Mfg.	1,647,644	1,558,393	1,360,629	1,598,099	1,607,296	1,573,008	1,612,704	1,265,748
Trans/Comm/Util	9,969,113	11,065,522	11,979,131	10,466,227	9,447,693	9,839,573	9,648,594	9,017,924
Trade	18,294,876	18,750,027	17,757,496	18,156,270	16,606,182	17,148,674	18,422,257	16,795,470
Finance/Insur/R.E.	3,900,805	4,312,178	5,244,457	4,676,879	4,243,489	4,636,515	4,945,676	4,694,517
Services	24,476,148	26,200,087	24,499,514	25,317,330	24,881,970	24,738,465	26,607,312	25,107,962
Public Admin.	8,929,569	8,910,609	8,285,169	8,373,990	8,186,780	8,145,131	7,991,517	7,700,833
Unclassified	358,485	356,647	226,221	328,227	343,451	411,635	377,867	490,715

Table 2.11 (continued)

INDUSTRY	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION - AMOUNT OF PAYMENTS								
Totals (incl. unclass.)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Ag/Forestry/Fish	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.8
Mining	6.8	5.7	5.6	6.2	5.5	4.3	9.5	4.0
Oil and Gas	5.5	4.7	4.7	5.2	4.7	3.2	8.6	3.0
Other Mining	1.3	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.8	1.0	0.9	0.9
Construction	13.8	16.4	18.8	18.7	19.3	19.5	18.3	19.8
Manufacturing	15.7	17.8	14.9	15.3	15.9	15.9	13.9	15.0
Food Products	10.6	12.0	10.2	10.7	10.3	10.6	9.9	11.2
Lumber & Wood	2.3	2.4	2.0	2.5	2.3	3.0	2.5	2.6
Paper Products	1.1	2.1	1.5	0.8	1.7	0.9	0.1	0.0
Other Mfg.	1.6	1.3	1.2	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.2
Trans/Comm/Util	9.5	9.4	10.5	9.2	8.7	9.0	8.2	8.5
Trade	17.4	15.9	15.6	15.9	15.3	15.7	15.6	15.9
Finance/Insur/R.E.	3.7	3.7	4.6	4.1	3.9	4.3	4.2	4.4
Services	23.3	22.2	21.6	22.2	22.9	22.7	22.6	23.8
Public Admin.	8.5	7.6	7.3	7.3	7.5	7.5	6.8	7.3
Unclassified	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.5

## AVERAGE WEEKLY PAYMENTS (\$)

Totals (incl. unclass.)	163.72	157.18	163.88	163.56	166.01	165.80	170.05	166.46
Ag/Forestry/Fish	153.13	151.09	152.53	157.40	159.19	159.38	166.16	164.33
Mining	200.32	195.68	200.61	198.36	212.30	209.35	226.45	212.06
Oil and Gas	200.22	199.11	202.40	197.81	214.93	210.60	228.82	213.36
Other Mining	200.73	182.03	192.39	201.49	198.46	205.46	205.99	207.83
Construction	186.10	183.48	190.23	189.52	198.33	202.64	200.44	201.59
Manufacturing	154.82	145.26	149.78	149.97	157.35	151.59	154.78	154.80
Food Products	143.01	130.79	136.27	137.81	140.12	134.13	142.57	144.39
Lumber & Wood	189.28	183.54	189.84	189.56	196.97	204.38	201.13	199.10
Paper Products	203.83	207.68	201.36	199.64	229.73	224.96	200.56	200.96
Other Mfg.	174.52	170.26	180.26	178.86	189.52	194.22	190.54	187.85
Trans/Comm/Util	167.37	164.08	173.09	170.00	167.39	169.63	169.93	170.89
Trade	147.52	141.41	146.81	147.24	145.29	147.57	149.66	146.32
Finance/Insur/R.E.	170.90	167.66	169.95	169.29	166.05	167.50	171.83	170.34
Services	158.18	150.33	155.30	155.09	156.30	155.89	159.01	158.40
Public Admin.	173.89	162.45	166.98	170.64	168.68	171.74	169.46	165.83
Unclassified	139.71	130.50	147.86	144.02	149.98	154.06	140.73	147.01

## AVERAGE DURATION IN WEEKS

Totals (incl. unclass.)	15.8	14.8	14.8	15.5	15.0	15.0	15.2	14.6
Ag/Forestry/Fish	14.8	14.3	14.3	14.7	14.4	13.7	14.6	14.2
Mining	16.7	14.7	14.9	15.0	17.2	13.8	16.1	14.6
Oil and Gas	16.9	14.3	15.3	14.5	17.8	13.5	16.0	14.2
Other Mining	16.1	16.5	13.4	18.2	14.6	15.0	16.4	16.0
Construction	14.1	13.5	14.3	15.0	14.5	14.6	14.7	14.2
Manufacturing	14.4	14.9	14.2	15.2	14.8	15.0	16.0	15.3
Food Products	14.8	15.2	14.5	15.8	15.1	15.0	16.4	15.6
Lumber & Wood	13.3	11.9	11.3	13.3	12.2	15.4	14.5	14.4
Paper Products	9.3	17.2	16.9	14.1	16.9	16.2	8.4	20.8
Other Mfg.	17.9	15.5	14.8	14.1	15.7	14.4	16.1	13.4
Trans/Comm/Util	15.9	14.4	15.2	15.6	15.0	14.9	14.7	13.9
Trade	16.6	15.3	15.1	15.8	15.2	15.0	15.1	14.3
Finance/Insur/R.E.	17.6	14.8	16.3	17.3	15.1	16.5	16.0	15.3
Services	16.6	15.2	15.1	15.5	15.1	15.3	14.9	14.7
Public Admin.	16.5	15.2	15.0	15.5	15.3	14.9	15.4	14.7
Unclassified	15.1	14.5	10.5	11.9	12.5	13.9	11.0	11.2

# Table 2.12

## UI Regular Benefits Payments (Taxable and Reimbursable) by Industry - Interstate as a Percentage of Total, 1993-2000

INDUSTRY	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
NUMBER OF WEEKS PAID								
Totals (incl. unclass.)	21.5	20.8	20.6	18.2	17.9	18.4	17.1	16.0
Ag/Forestry/Fish	27.7	29.6	17.8	16.1	19.6	17.1	15.9	19.7
Mining	22.7	20.9	24.0	17.0	17.9	14.3	19.6	15.8
Oil and Gas	22.3	20.7	25.5	16.7	18.1	14.4	19.6	16.6
Other Mining	24.4	21.8	17.0	18.6	16.6	14.1	19.9	13.5
Construction	10.5	10.1	10.9	9.7	8.3	8.5	7.1	6.6
Manufacturing	44.9	40.5	43.2	39.0	39.8	42.3	40.6	40.8
Food Products	50.0	44.6	47.6	43.4	45.0	47.8	46.9	45.9
Lumber & Wood	38.8	33.4	37.6	32.0	34.0	32.0	23.7	25.0
Paper Products	37.1	33.2	32.4	24.6	30.7	29.6	16.0	17.2
Other Mfg.	16.2	14.3	14.4	15.0	8.6	10.7	10.3	12.5
Trans/Comm/Util	15.8	16.3	16.7	14.7	14.8	13.8	13.6	12.6
Trade	16.5	15.8	16.2	14.4	13.8	13.6	13.4	11.5
Fin., Ins. & Real Est.	24.4	19.9	18.5	17.9	16.4	15.6	13.6	12.5
Services	17.8	17.6	17.8	15.2	14.9	15.2	14.0	12.2
Public Admin.	17.9	17.1	15.9	14.5	13.3	14.0	12.6	11.9
Unclassified	9.6	14.9	7.4	9.0	9.7	12.1	9.1	12.0
NUMBER OF FIRST PAYMENTS								
Totals (incl. unclass.)	19.8	20.6	20.7	18.4	17.6	16.8	15.3	14.2
Ag/Forestry/Fish	27.8	26.5	19.1	18.2	19.5	16.2	16.8	19.2
Mining	19.7	21.5	24.4	17.4	17.2	13.6	17.8	12.8
Oil and Gas	18.6	21.5	26.0	17.4	17.5	13.6	17.7	13.4
Other Mining	23.8	21.6	18.1	17.6	15.9	13.4	18.2	10.7
Construction	9.4	9.6	10.9	9.6	8.7	7.0	5.9	5.7
Manufacturing	44.1	43.2	45.5	43.0	41.4	42.9	40.9	40.6
Food Products	50.9	48.6	50.4	49.4	47.5	49.6	48.2	46.8
Lumber & Wood	36.8	32.8	40.1	35.5	36.9	30.3	22.0	23.5
Paper Products	22.7	33.5	29.6	18.3	21.1	20.5	11.3	8.3
Other Mfg.	14.1	13.0	15.5	11.7	8.1	8.5	9.9	10.0
Trans/Comm/Util	14.2	15.5	15.9	14.0	13.7	11.9	11.6	10.9
Trade	13.9	15.6	15.5	13.6	12.9	11.2	11.2	9.3
Fin., Ins. & Real Est.	21.0	19.1	18.1	17.6	16.6	13.6	11.6	11.5
Services	15.4	16.2	17.1	14.2	13.9	13.0	11.8	10.4
Public Admin.	14.1	15.3	14.5	12.9	11.6	12.0	10.5	9.7
Unclassified	10.6	9.0	7.5	7.8	8.7	9.9	7.8	8.0
AMOUNT OF PAYMENTS (\$)								
Totals (incl. unclass.)	23.1	21.8	21.5	19.2	18.8	19.1	18.3	17.0
Ag/Forestry/Fish	31.9	31.8	19.5	17.8	21.7	19.2	20.2	23.6
Mining	24.3	22.2	25.1	17.8	18.7	15.7	20.8	16.8
Oil and Gas	23.8	21.3	26.7	17.8	18.8	15.8	20.7	17.5
Other Mining	26.7	25.8	17.5	17.8	17.8	15.2	21.2	14.6
Construction	11.1	10.1	11.5	10.0	8.6	9.3	7.8	7.1
Manufacturing	47.1	42.3	44.9	41.3	41.4	42.0	41.9	42.0
Food Products	53.7	48.4	51.3	47.7	49.2	49.4	50.4	48.9
Lumber & Wood	41.2	35.3	38.5	33.2	35.1	34.3	26.2	26.5
Paper Products	37.1	33.0	33.0	26.2	30.5	29.7	14.4	21.2
Other Mfg.	18.5	14.9	15.5	15.5	9.6	11.3	11.1	13.1
Trans/Comm/Util	17.3	17.7	18.0	16.3	16.6	15.8	15.7	14.2
Trade	18.3	17.2	17.7	15.8	15.0	15.4	15.4	12.8
Finance/Insur/R.E.	26.1	21.0	19.8	19.6	18.1	17.9	15.6	14.9
Services	20.1	19.4	19.5	16.8	16.5	17.3	15.9	14.3
Public Admin.	20.1	19.2	17.9	16.3	14.9	16.0	14.9	14.4
Unclassified	10.7	17.6	7.6	9.8	10.4	15.0	11.9	14.6

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

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

UC-217 report, Benefit Payments by Industry and Area.



# UI Regular Benefit Payments by Local Office, 1993-2000

Table  
2.13

LOCAL OFFICE	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
NUMBER OF WEEKS PAID								
Total	642,198	712,689	678,057	684,730	641,264	632,329	679,381	619,357
Anchorage	151,071	163,572	156,965	180,726	247,591	304,590	342,264	309,458
Central - Interstate	138,688	144,282	133,326	120,163	113,433	110,423	114,721	97,148
Central - Mail	57,353	65,459	62,619	75,630	94,878	105,208	109,410	112,132
Eagle River	14,198	14,597	15,118	6,777	-	-	-	-
Fairbanks	66,261	72,876	69,639	68,375	61,281	61,862	64,109	58,986
Homer	13,592	13,966	14,045	9,173	-	-	-	-
Juneau	23,199	25,731	26,236	36,182	49,802	50,246	48,877	41,633
Kenai	37,766	40,663	40,092	46,113	24,236	-	-	-
Ketchikan	15,588	14,976	13,914	9,144	-	-	-	-
Kodiak	20,132	32,748	24,906	28,695	4,543	-	-	-
Matanuska-Susitna	48,060	54,037	54,162	57,466	42,253	-	-	-
Seward	8,897	10,401	10,062	9,456	3,247	-	-	-
Sitka	6,396	12,994	7,274	5,572	-	-	-	-
Valdez	5,449	6,693	7,355	5,466	-	-	-	-
Petersburg	3,847	4,009	3,318	2,266	-	-	-	-
Glennallen	3,983	4,186	4,334	2,783	-	-	-	-
Dillingham	2,991	3,181	2,444	-	-	-	-	-
Tok	5,310	7,012	7,541	5,139	-	-	-	-
Bethel	5,729	6,023	8,201	5,406	-	-	-	-
Nome	6,530	8,151	9,346	5,623	-	-	-	-
Kotzebue	7,158	7,132	7,160	4,575	-	-	-	-
AVERAGE DURATION IN WEEKS								
Total	15.8	15.2	14.5	15.2	14.7	14.5	14.9	14.2
Anchorage	16.3	14.8	14.5	15.2	14.2	14.3	14.3	13.8
Central - Interstate	17.1	16.3	14.7	15.1	15.2	15.7	17.2	16.3
Central - Mail	13.9	14.1	14.3	15.1	14.9	14.6	15.2	14.8
Eagle River	14.5	13.3	13.0	14.4	-	-	-	-
Fairbanks	15.4	15.3	14.2	14.9	14.2	13.7	14.1	13.3
Homer	16.5	15.5	15.1	16.3	-	-	-	-
Juneau	14.3	14.1	13.9	13.8	14.0	13.6	14.4	13.1
Kenai	17.1	15.1	15.0	15.2	16.7	-	-	-
Ketchikan	12.4	13.2	12.6	14.8	-	-	-	-
Kodiak	15.2	18.0	15.4	17.7	24.2	-	-	-
Matanuska-Susitna	16.0	15.5	15.1	15.5	16.1	-	-	-
Seward	16.1	15.3	15.3	14.9	15.0	-	-	-
Sitka	11.5	16.4	13.3	14.1	-	-	-	-
Valdez	13.6	14.8	13.2	15.1	-	-	-	-
Petersburg	13.6	15.3	12.2	15.4	-	-	-	-
Glennallen	15.9	15.3	13.7	16.0	-	-	-	-
Dillingham	16.1	14.9	16.5	-	-	-	-	-
Tok	17.8	15.8	15.7	17.1	-	-	-	-
Bethel	19.8	16.1	14.1	17.3	-	-	-	-
Nome	16.0	15.3	14.7	16.1	-	-	-	-
Kotzebue	16.6	15.2	16.1	14.7	-	-	-	-

**Table 2.13 (continued)****UI Regular Benefit Payments by Local Office, 1993-2000**

LOCAL OFFICE	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
AMOUNT OF PAYMENTS (\$)								
Total	105,349,484	116,692,350	113,639,510	113,045,662	108,955,464	108,747,786	120,270,570	114,783,808
Anchorage	24,857,790	27,180,705	27,198,316	30,911,558	42,383,717	52,669,995	61,335,171	58,111,488
Central - Interstate	24,751,692	25,125,887	23,541,100	21,236,471	20,390,889	20,333,054	21,765,535	18,981,714
Central - Mail	8,636,930	10,025,547	9,860,742	11,933,454	14,525,601	16,308,879	17,323,283	18,936,894
Eagle River	2,499,068	2,589,869	2,747,639	1,246,621	-	-	-	-
Fairbanks	10,772,401	11,901,280	11,901,532	11,551,384	10,773,006	10,920,359	11,744,353	11,352,212
Homer	1,990,260	2,064,300	2,170,391	1,419,523	-	-	-	-
Juneau	3,876,780	4,371,494	4,500,136	5,030,372	8,443,966	8,515,499	8,102,228	7,401,500
Kenai	6,049,196	6,479,261	6,559,914	7,480,904	3,997,436	-	-	-
Ketchikan	2,534,714	2,379,810	2,230,930	1,433,352	-	-	-	-
Kodiak	2,883,877	4,622,992	3,298,120	3,732,130	702,713	-	-	-
Matanuska-Susitna	7,974,914	9,090,217	9,321,200	9,930,356	7,253,729	-	-	-
Seward	1,172,104	1,475,983	1,419,602	1,386,672	484,407	-	-	-
Sitka	1,034,793	2,200,458	1,133,720	846,451	-	-	-	-
Valdez	849,645	1,062,754	1,212,209	897,737	-	-	-	-
Petersburg	587,209	615,645	488,281	346,212	-	-	-	-
Glennallen	613,932	668,016	693,540	459,435	-	-	-	-
Dillingham	489,641	495,926	389,549	-	-	-	-	-
Tok	754,932	1,041,496	1,139,223	792,178	-	-	-	-
Bethel	858,136	884,779	1,187,441	757,848	-	-	-	-
Nome	972,357	1,264,382	1,474,925	883,650	-	-	-	-
Kotzebue	1,189,113	1,151,549	1,171,000	769,354	-	-	-	-
AVERAGE WEEKLY PAYMENT (\$)								
Total	164.05	163.74	167.60	165.10	169.91	171.98	177.03	185.33
Anchorage	164.54	166.17	173.28	171.04	171.18	172.92	179.20	187.78
Central - Interstate	178.47	174.14	176.57	176.73	179.76	184.14	189.73	195.39
Central - Mail	150.59	153.16	157.47	157.79	153.10	155.02	158.33	168.88
Eagle River	176.02	177.42	181.75	183.95	-	-	-	-
Fairbanks	162.58	163.31	170.90	168.94	175.80	176.53	183.19	192.46
Homer	146.43	147.81	154.53	154.75	-	-	-	-
Juneau	167.11	169.89	171.53	139.03	169.55	169.48	165.77	177.78
Kenai	160.18	159.34	163.62	162.23	164.94	-	-	-
Ketchikan	162.61	158.91	160.34	156.75	-	-	-	-
Kodiak	143.25	141.17	132.42	130.06	154.68	-	-	-
Matanuska-Susitna	165.94	168.22	172.10	172.80	171.67	-	-	-

Notes: The Central Mail unit included Valdez prior to 1988; Petersburg, Glennallen, Dillingham, and Tok prior to 1989; and Bethel, Nome, and Kotzebue prior to 1990.

Starting 1996, the UI claims processing work at many offices was consolidated into regional centers in Anchorage and Juneau.

The Anchorage Center serves clients in Anchorage, Bethel, Dillingham, Eagle River, Glennallen, Homer, Kenai, Kodiak, Kotzebue, Mat-Su, Nome, Seward, Tok, and Valdez.

The Juneau / SE Urban Center serves Juneau, Ketchikan, Petersburg, and Sitka.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section: BEP 3565 P Quarterly Management Reports.

# Amount of UI Benefit Payments by Census Area, 2000

## Table 2.14

Census Areas	State UI 1/ Regular (\$)	State UI 1/ EB (\$)	UCFE Regular (\$)	UCFE EB (\$)	UCX Regular (\$)	UCX EB (\$)	* EUC (\$)	SSB (\$)	All Programs Total (\$)
Aleutians East B	351,010	8,058	0	0	0	0	0	0	359,068
Aleutians West CA	649,749	12,315	5,727	0	0	0	0	0	667,791
Anchorage Municipality	27,758,874	1,241,426	568,632	32,057	381,355	14,168	0	16,407	30,012,919
Bethel CA	2,116,042	137,212	18,403	1,425	7,886	0	0	7,855	2,288,823
Bristol Bay Borough	233,406	10,422	5,739	0	0	0	0	928	250,495
Denali Borough	469,261	32,866	83,610	5,928	0	0	0	0	591,665
Dillingham CA	514,105	17,772	744	0	2,541	0	0	2,964	538,126
Fairbanks N Star B	10,354,204	508,124	363,506	10,086	293,013	22,512	0	4,901	11,556,346
Haines Borough	465,105	36,827	5,286	0	0	0	0	1,304	508,522
Juneau Borough	3,110,537	117,217	60,998	0	13,568	1,712	0	4,783	3,308,815
Kenai Peninsula B	8,725,248	678,465	89,077	6,082	42,639	1,354	0	16,088	9,558,953
Ketchikan Gateway B	2,351,680	87,499	15,942	328	6,131	0	0	3,889	2,465,469
Kodiak Island Borough	3,772,339	85,918	17,434	1,069	1,870	0	0	1,195	3,879,825
Lake & Peninsula B	222,840	2,524	10,940	522	0	0	0	165	236,991
Matanuska-Susitna B	10,068,664	521,804	165,515	7,329	68,247	0	0	12,715	10,844,274
Nome CA	1,409,283	99,735	15,409	1,214	840	0	0	5,773	1,532,254
North Slope Borough	1,281,180	69,002	4,960	0	0	0	0	408	1,355,550
Northwest Arctic B	1,011,901	73,363	5,328	0	4,446	0	0	4,852	1,099,890
Prince of Wales-O K	1,982,556	96,596	23,313	708	0	0	0	3,420	2,106,593
Sitka Borough	830,729	31,399	34,411	268	0	0	0	508	897,315
Skagway-Hoonah-Ang.	856,814	38,915	39,713	0	0	0	0	336	935,778
Southeast Fairbanks CA	1,189,155	74,996	87,139	292	13,093	0	0	5,354	1,370,029
Valdez - Cordova CA	1,740,231	118,069	20,534	284	6,658	0	0	1,662	1,887,438
Wade Hampton CA	1,418,796	92,620	4,942	282	7,375	615	0	4,726	1,529,356
Wrangell - Petersburg CA	1,440,215	49,583	23,139	920	0	0	0	1,736	1,515,593
Yakutat Borough	152,362	708	0	0	0	0	0	0	153,070
Yukon - Koyukuk CA	1,193,709	81,131	2,730	3,815	496	0	0	5,328	1,287,209
Area Unknown	2,048,655	110,315	55,091	0	23,059	1,040	0	5,899	2,244,059
In-State Totals	87,718,650	4,434,881	1,728,262	72,609	873,217	41,401	0	113,196	94,982,216
Interstate Totals	17,975,643	286,845	953,640	14,544	113,230	3,450	0	2,158	19,349,510
Totals All Areas	105,694,293	4,721,726	2,681,902	87,153	986,447	44,851	0	115,354	114,331,726

## Ten-Year Historical Data Series for Census Area Totals (\$)

Year	State UI 1/ Regular	State UI 1/ EB	UCFE Regular	UCFE EB	UCX Regular	UCX EB	EUC	SSB	All Programs Total
1991	112,153,789	9,281,316	3,316,482	214,828	814,743	0	2,798,884	473,221	129,053,263
1992	121,771,578	3,801	3,897,584	0	2,476,242	0	47,069,125	613,796	175,832,126
1993	105,041,423	579	3,827,029	0	1,767,553	0	68,737,851	813,931	180,188,366
1994	117,904,643	14,895,807	4,536,264	449,480	1,280,696	144,639	10,494,385	304,145	150,010,059
1995	113,609,324	7,248,703	4,343,639	202,109	1,199,348	57,836	46,043	136,008	126,843,010
1996	114,031,840	6,906,444	3,342,795	186,912	883,029	49,526	15,994	137,013	125,553,553
1997	108,885,202	5,438,470	2,911,603	115,401	998,659	34,166	0	90,726	118,474,227
1998	109,037,747	5,478,978	3,243,112	115,178	962,573	39,421	0	119,680	118,996,689
1999	117,903,392	6,842,307	2,992,843	172,629	1,129,943	56,767	0	136,217	129,234,098
2000	105,694,293	4,721,726	2,681,902	87,153	986,447	44,851	0	115,354	114,331,726

1/ UI and UI-Combined (includes federal portion of UI-Combined).

2/ The EUC program expired on April 30, 1994

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section:  
UC 217 report, Benefit Payments by Industry and Area.

**Table  
2.15****UI Regular Benefit Payments to Interstate Claimants <sup>1/</sup> by State 1999-2000**

State	1999		2000	
	(\$) Regular Benefits Paid	Percent Distribution	(\$) Regular Benefits Paid	Percent Distribution
Alabama	162,385	0.8	102,870	0.6
Arizona	790,830	3.7	677,093	3.8
Arkansas	157,305	0.7	96,976	0.5
California	4,660,069	21.5	4,237,893	23.6
Colorado	361,106	1.7	279,743	1.6
Connecticut	39,939	0.2	28,383	0.2
Delaware	6,425	0.0	7,973	0.0
Dist. of Columbia	14,562	0.1	2,911	0.0
Florida	539,643	2.5	520,084	2.9
Georgia	319,488	1.5	244,402	1.4
Guam	0	0.0	0	0.0
Hawaii	370,962	1.7	352,435	2.0
Idaho	788,503	3.6	660,812	3.7
Illinois	166,016	0.8	88,749	0.5
Indiana	100,689	0.5	65,878	0.4
Iowa	68,417	0.3	34,463	0.2
Kansas	148,256	0.7	62,696	0.3
Kentucky	114,033	0.5	94,931	0.5
Louisiana	319,442	1.5	137,572	0.8
Maine	44,789	0.2	85,655	0.5
Maryland	69,965	0.3	52,113	0.3
Massachusetts	74,973	0.3	45,190	0.3
Michigan	264,323	1.2	175,651	1.0
Minnesota	259,469	1.2	239,175	1.3
Mississippi	129,243	0.6	92,703	0.5
Missouri	243,269	1.1	190,582	1.1
Montana	781,945	3.6	539,423	3.0
Nebraska	48,621	0.2	57,769	0.3
Nevada	540,406	2.5	351,598	2.0
New Hampshire	61,934	0.3	45,463	0.3
New Jersey	75,821	0.4	47,199	0.3
New Mexico	239,026	1.1	201,966	1.1
New York	202,283	0.9	246,289	1.4
North Carolina	266,123	1.2	223,730	1.2
North Dakota	142,165	0.7	60,454	0.3
Ohio	127,145	0.6	122,611	0.7
Oklahoma	393,289	1.8	199,622	1.1
Oregon	1,827,904	8.5	1,626,532	9.0
Pennsylvania	185,059	0.9	144,867	0.8
Puerto Rico	13,844	0.1	15,445	0.1
Rhode Island	15,240	0.1	25,085	0.1
South Carolina	100,924	0.5	59,029	0.3
South Dakota	97,171	0.4	90,672	0.5
Tennessee	163,041	0.8	119,744	0.7
Texas	921,200	4.3	614,293	3.4
Utah	143,528	0.7	145,365	0.8
Vermont	45,074	0.2	24,289	0.1
Virginia	117,748	0.5	166,883	0.9
Virgin Islands	3,728	0.0	10,914	0.1
Washington	4,513,946	20.9	3,955,069	22.0
West Virginia	48,266	0.2	22,630	0.1
Wisconsin	149,421	0.7	151,908	0.8
Wyoming	147,055	0.7	93,678	0.5
Canada	43,011	0.2	36,183	0.2
Total	21,629,019	100.0	17,975,643	100.0

<sup>1/</sup> These are payments from Alaska to recipients in other states.

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section:  
UC-217 report, Benefit Payments by Industry and Area.

**Payment of Dependents' Benefits, 1991-2000**

Year	Number of First Pays with Depen- dents	All First Pays	Percent First Pays with Depen- dents	Weeks Compen- sated with Depen- dents	All Weeks Compen- sated	Percent Weeks Compen- sated with Depen- dents	(\$) Amount of Depen- dent Benefits	Average (\$) Payment of Dependent Benefits	
								Claimants with Dependents	All Claimants
1991	16,413	44,523	36.9	278,019	682,519	40.7	12,413,232	44.65	18.19
1992	15,846	44,094	35.9	291,300	732,262	39.8	13,032,168	44.74	17.80
1993	14,847	40,689	36.5	257,242	642,198	40.1	11,541,100	44.86	17.97
1994	18,586	46,801	39.7	288,853	712,689	40.5	14,004,072	48.48	19.65
1995	19,655	46,832	42.0	288,692	678,057	42.6	13,639,536	47.25	20.12
1996	19,259	45,116	42.7	294,374	684,730	43.0	13,197,336	44.83	19.27
1997	18,511	43,617	42.4	275,395	641,264	42.9	12,363,624	44.89	19.28
1998	19,226	43,750	43.9	278,024	632,329	44.0	12,486,840	44.91	19.75
1999	20,315	45,635	44.5	305,563	679,381	45.0	13,733,040	44.94	20.21
2000	19,228	43,557	44.1	278,312	619,357	44.9	12,545,376	45.08	20.26

Notes: Dependent allowance is \$24.00 per dependent (maximum \$72.00).  
State UI (Regular) program only

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section:  
BEP 3565 P Quarterly Management Report.

**Table  
2.17****Average Weekly Percentage of Unemployed  
Receiving UI Benefits, 2000**

State	Average Weekly Unemployed	Average Weeks Compensated	Compensated as % of Unemployed	Rank
Alabama	95,800	25,625	26.7	35
Alaska	19,200	11,911	62.0	2
Arizona	91,125	18,610	20.4	43
Arkansas	53,225	18,229	34.2	20
California	834,600	298,064	35.7	19
Colorado	60,375	12,004	19.9	48
Connecticut	38,525	27,611	71.7	1
Delaware	14,700	6,189	42.1	13
Dist. of Columbia	15,550	5,866	37.7	17
Florida	283,025	57,249	20.2	45
Georgia	146,275	29,826	20.4	44
Hawaii	25,875	7,453	28.8	29
Idaho	30,150	10,148	33.7	23
Illinois	276,525	93,824	33.9	21
Indiana	95,075	26,545	27.9	32
Iowa	36,025	18,265	50.7	5
Kansas	48,800	13,862	28.4	31
Kentucky	77,750	24,556	31.6	28
Louisiana	101,850	20,019	19.7	49
Maine	22,925	7,648	33.4	24
Maryland	95,150	23,980	25.2	37
Massachusetts	87,175	53,966	61.9	3
Michigan	175,550	73,060	41.6	14
Minnesota	75,700	28,560	37.7	16
Mississippi	71,600	15,709	21.9	41
Missouri	83,650	34,634	41.4	15
Montana	23,400	6,317	27.0	34
Nebraska	25,425	6,192	24.4	39
Nevada	38,300	18,011	47.0	9
New Hampshire	17,225	2,348	13.6	52
New Jersey	162,200	78,470	48.4	7
New Mexico	45,775	8,028	17.5	50
New York	409,475	130,879	32.0	26
North Carolina	136,525	43,793	32.1	25
North Dakota	9,400	3,176	33.8	22
Ohio	239,125	59,317	24.8	38
Oklahoma	49,050	10,219	20.8	42
Oregon	87,750	38,661	44.1	11
Pennsylvania	244,550	115,769	47.3	8
Puerto Rico	132,400	42,197	31.9	27
Rhode Island	19,350	10,230	52.9	4
South Carolina	73,950	21,116	28.6	30
South Dakota	9,425	1,501	15.9	51
Tennessee	105,800	37,906	35.8	18
Texas	447,175	90,096	20.1	46
Utah	33,375	9,188	27.5	33
Vermont	9,050	4,239	46.8	10
Virginia	90,250	18,035	20.0	47
Washington	146,650	63,888	43.6	12
West Virginia	44,500	11,819	26.6	36
Wisconsin	98,950	49,660	50.2	6
Wyoming	10,550	2,459	23.3	40
United States	5,655,250	1,847,236	32.7	

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section:  
UI Data Summary, Quarters 1-4, 1999, produced by the U.S. Department of Labor.

## Chapter 3

# Alaska's UI Benefit Financing System

This chapter focuses on the other side of unemployment insurance (UI): where the money comes from to pay benefits. First the core of the financing system is discussed, with its benefit costs and the benefit cost rate. Next is a description of the UI trust fund, along with a discussion of the general level and trends of employer and employee taxes. This is followed by an explanation of the tax calculation procedures and formulas, experience rating, and the trust fund solvency adjustment. Finally, administration of the program and revenue from direct reimbursements to the fund are discussed.

### Unemployment insurance is self-financing

Unemployment compensation is an insurance program, not a social welfare program. As such, it should be self-supporting. This means that, in the long run, employer and employee contributions and reimbursements must be roughly equal to benefits paid out to claimants. Each state has its own financing system to achieve that goal by varying employer taxes and in some cases employee taxes. Alaska is one of only three states that tax employees each year in order to pay for part of benefit costs.

Alaska's system previously was based solely upon the "reserve multiple" (a system still used in many states), which varies tax rates according to a schedule based on the ratio of UI trust fund reserves to payroll. In 1980, state law transformed the unemployment insurance tax structure into a highly reliable, self-adjusting financial system based less on trust fund reserves and more on UI benefit costs. The tax base automatically adjusts to changes in average earnings, and the tax rate automatically adjusts to changes in benefit costs, payroll, and the trust fund reserve ratio.

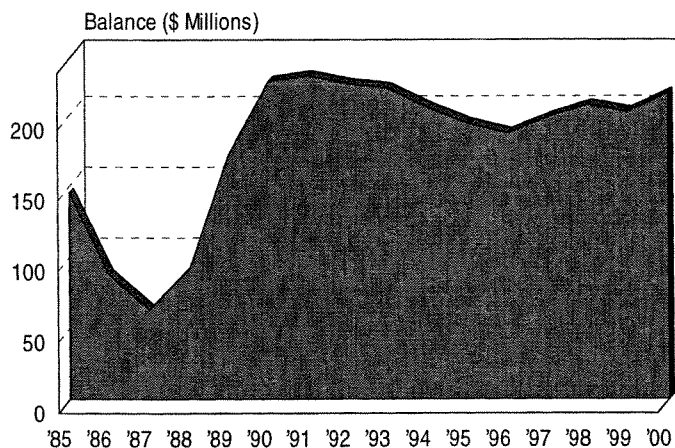
### Benefit costs and benefit cost rate drive the UI system

The primary purpose of any financing system is to cover benefit costs. The cost of benefits is expressed as the ratio of the amount of benefits paid in the current year to the total payroll during the previous year. This ratio is called the benefit cost rate (BCR). The BCR is a measure of the potential funding needed to pay unemployment benefits, and the financial impact of unemployment benefits on the economy of the state.

Alaska's benefit cost rate is high compared to other states. The BCR for taxable employment was 1.7% in 2000, and averaged 2.1% for the 10-year period from 1991 to 2000. (See Table 3.1.) In general, the average benefit cost rate in Alaska is higher than in other states. This is attributable to both the seasonality of employment and the fact that a larger proportion of the unemployed in Alaska receive UI benefits than in any other state.

Benefit cost rates in reimbursable employment tend to be less than one-third the rate in taxable employment.

**Figure 3.1 UI Trust Fund Balance End-of-Year 1985-2000**



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

The benefit cost rate in reimbursable employment was 0.5% in 2000, and averaged about 0.6% over the ten year period from 1991 to 2000. These low benefit cost rates result from the generally stable and non-seasonal employment practices of our major reimbursable employers: state and local government.

### **The UI Trust Fund is a savings account for paying benefits**

Each state has a trust fund for the sole purpose of paying unemployment insurance benefits. Withdrawals are made from reserves as needed to make payments to claimants; taxes, reimbursements, interest, and other sources of contributions are deposited into the fund to build reserves.

Maintaining the solvency of the trust fund is one of the most important tasks of any UI system. Occasionally, a recession may be severe enough that money drawn from the fund to pay benefits exceeds revenues and fund reserves. If a state's fund becomes insolvent, the state may borrow from the federal government.

Between 1955 and 1960, Alaska borrowed \$9 million from the federal government to keep its trust fund solvent. Annual benefit payments from 1952 through 1959 exceeded collections, breaking the fund temporarily in 1955 and then again in 1957. To replenish the fund, the amount of wages subject to taxes was increased, and taxes were levied on employees beginning in 1955. Although many states borrowed to pay benefits in the early 1980's, Alaska has not borrowed to pay UI benefits since 1960.

The level of employment and payroll in the economy has a direct effect on the amount of benefits that will potentially need to be paid. Therefore, the ability of trust fund reserves to pay benefits during recessions cannot be measured simply by the level of reserves. A better measure is the reserve rate, which is the ratio of reserves to total wages subject to contributions. A trust fund reserve rate of approximately 3.2% of wages subject to contributions is generally considered adequate in Alaska.

The recession of 1986-87 had a serious impact on Alaska's UI trust fund, but reserves were adequate to maintain solvency. At the end of 1985, Alaska's trust fund reserves were \$145.4 million, and the reserve rate was 3.3%. By 1987, trust fund reserves had fallen to \$63.0 million with a reserve rate of 1.7%. The fund reserve balance bottomed out in April 1988 at \$45.9 million. By the end of 1990, however, fund reserves had rebuilt to \$224.3 million, with a reserve rate of 4.8%. (See Tables 3.3 and 3.10.) At the end of 2000, the reserve rate was 3.2%, as it was the prior year. (See figure 3.1.)

### **State taxes are principal income source for UI Trust Fund**

State UI tax revenues collected from employers and employees are the principal source of income to the unemployment insurance trust fund. In 2000, tax contributions to the UI trust fund were \$110.9 million, 73.7% of total revenues. (See Table 3.3.) This marks a continuation of the general trend of increasing tax contributions.

Employers are, however, experiencing lower than average tax rates, and have been since 1991. For employers, the 2001 tax year will mark the eighth year in a row when the average employer tax rate (2.08% of the taxable wage base in 2001) will fall below the 10-year average. (See Table 3.4.)

State taxes are assessed on wages up to a set taxable wage base. The tax base is defined in AS 23.20.175(c) as 75% of the average annual earnings in covered employment for the immediately preceding year ending June 30. The state taxable wage base was \$24,800 in 2000, and 25,500 for tax year 2001.



## Tax rates calculated on Benefit Cost Rate and Trust Fund Reserve Rate

There are three essential components of employer and employee taxes in Alaska, the average benefit cost rate (ABCR), individual employer experience factors, and the trust fund solvency adjustment (TFSA). Tax rates are calculated in November and apply to the following calendar year. The formulas for calculating tax rates are as follows:

*Employer tax rate = (.8 times the average benefit cost rate times the experience factor) plus the trust fund solvency adjustment*

*Employee tax rate = .2 times the average benefit cost rate*

For tax rate calculation purposes, the average benefit cost rate (ABCR) is defined as the cost of benefits over the most recent three year period ending June 30 divided by the total payroll of contributing employers over the first three of the last four years ending June 30. (See Table 3.6.)

The ABCR measures benefit outlays which must be replaced by contributions. Basing the calculations on three-year periods makes the system “counter-cyclical.” This means that contribution rates increase slowly or even decrease during recessions as the trust fund is drawn down, then increase more rapidly during periods of economic stability or growth to replenish the fund. When the ABCR is low, or when the trust fund reserves are high relative to payroll, contribution rates decline and act as a stimulus to the economy.

Prior to January 1, 1997, employers paid 82 percent of the ABCR, and employees paid the other 18 percent. Beginning in 1997, these rates shifted to 80 percent and 20 percent. Employee rates are the same for each employee. Employer rates vary according to the employer’s individual

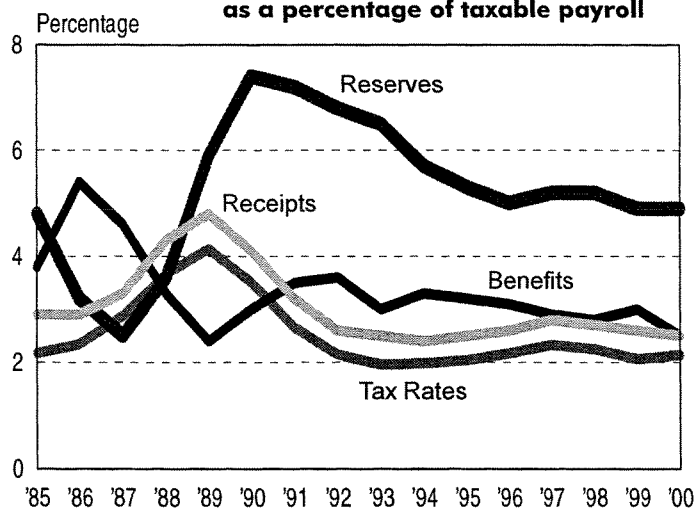
experience with employee turnover and include a surtax to guarantee the solvency of the trust fund.

## Experience rating varies individual employer taxes according to their experience with unemployment

If an individual employer has a tendency to lay off employees at a greater rate than other employers do, or on a regular seasonal basis, they likely contribute more to unemployment and the payment of UI benefits. Experience rating systems have been established in each state in recognition that such employers should contribute more to the trust fund to cover the benefit costs of their former employees.

There are three types of tax rates assigned to employers. A-rated firms are those which have at least four quarters of wage history prior to June 30 of the year immediately preceding the tax year. A-rated firms qualify for experience rating. B-rated firms are those which have fewer than four quarters of wage history; they pay the standard industry tax rate. C-rated firms are those which fail to report on a timely basis or are delinquent in their payments; they are taxed at the maximum rate, which can be no less than 5.4%. In 2000, 87.5% of all contributing firms were A-rated; 10.9% were B-rated; and 1.6% were C-rated. (See Table 3.5.)

**Figure 3.2 Reserves, Receipts, Benefits and Tax Rates as a percentage of taxable payroll**



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

Alaska is the only state that uses the payroll decline quotient method of experience rating. The logic behind Alaska's payroll decline system is that employers with a high payroll decline are likely responsible for more compensable unemployment than are employers with a low payroll decline. Therefore, follows the logic, they should contribute more to cover the higher benefit costs of their former employees.

Under the payroll decline system, each employer's percentage decline in payroll from one quarter to the next is averaged for the prior four to 12 quarters. The resulting decline quotients of all employers are then arrayed in ascending order and divided into 21 rate classes. Employers are assigned to the rate classes so that 5% of the total statewide payroll is accounted for in each class, except for the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> rate classes, which account for 4.99% and 0.01% respectively. (The 21<sup>st</sup> rate class was added in 1984 in response to federal legislation requiring a standard tax rate of 5.4% from which the state could reduce tax rates in accordance with experience.) Experience factors are assigned to each rate class – the higher the rate class the greater the experience factor. Experience factors range from 0.4 to 1.65, according to a schedule in AS 23.20.290(c). (See Table 3.6.)

Other methods of experience rating used in other states are the reserve ratio system (30 states, and Washington DC, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands), the benefit ratio system (17 states), and the benefit-wage ratio system (two states). All of these systems use actual benefit payments, or approximations of benefit payments, as the basis for experience rating – they are called “chargeback” systems. In contrast, the payroll decline quotient system considers only changes in payroll as an approximation of benefit charges, without considering actual benefit payments.

Alaska's payroll decline quotient system has worked well. The system withstood the tremendous shock of the 1986-87 recession, and fully recovered by the end of 1989. The ratio of benefits paid to contributions paid averages around 1.0 for most industries in Alaska, so although there may be individual employers with problems, industry-wide the system functions well.

There is also little doubt that “chargeback” systems are more complex and expensive to administer than a payroll decline quotient system. This is due to the constant policy decisions about individual employer responsibility for charges, the types of benefits to exempt from charging, and the increased staffing needed for the higher level of employer contact prevalent in the administration of “chargeback” systems.

In the end, the simple fact is employer (and employee) taxes partially cover benefit payments. This is true of any state's system. If benefit costs are higher in Alaska than in other states, taxes will be higher. If a state wants to reduce employer taxes, then benefits must be reduced.

### **The Trust Fund solvency adjustment is a uniform tax surcharge**

In order to be able to pay benefits during recessions, the trust fund reserve balance must be maintained at a high enough level. Benefit cost rates are not always sufficient for this purpose. Therefore, a surcharge is added to employers' tax rates if the trust fund reserve rate falls below 3.0%. A credit is provided to reduce employers' tax rates if the reserve rate equals or exceeds 3.3%. The trust fund solvency adjustment (TFSA) is applied uniformly to all employers at a rate of – 0.4% to 1.1 % depending on the trust fund reserve rate, according to a schedule in AS 23.20.290(f). The TFSA may only be increased or decreased by 0.3%, or less, from one year to the next. The TFSA was 0.3% in 1987, 0.6% in 1988, and 0.9% in 1989. In 1996, the TFSA was -0.2%. In 2000, there was no adjustment.

### **Administration of the UI program is funded through federal taxes**

Besides state unemployment taxes, employers also pay taxes to the federal government to cover administrative costs. In 1985, these FUTA (Federal Unemployment Tax Act) taxes were raised to 6.2% of payroll up to a base of \$7,000. How-

ever, as long as state law conforms to federal law, employers receive a credit of 5.4% against their FUTA taxes, making the effective tax rate 0.8%. This is \$56 for each employee earning \$7,000 or more annually. In federal fiscal year 1999, the federal government estimated employers in Alaska contributed \$13.1 million in FUTA tax revenues. (See Table 3.7.)

The FUTA credit is a powerful incentive to keep state programs within federal limits. Conformity to federal law is frequently the reason for adopting new state provisions. Alaska's Employment Security Act currently conforms to federal law. There have been no recent changes in federal law that would require state conformity legislation.

The federal government pays for administration of the state's unemployment program through administrative grants. A portion of FUTA collections, which are kept in a federal account and not in the state trust fund, funds the grants. In federal fiscal year 1999, Alaska received \$29.4 million in administrative grants (\$20.0 million for unemployment insurance administrative costs and \$9.4 million for employment services). In federal fiscal year 1999, Alaska's total administrative grants amounted to 224.4% of state FUTA contributions, a good bargain for workers and employers in the state. (See Figure 3.3)

### Employer tax contributions are supplemented by direct reimbursements

Chapter 2 described the three programs through which unemployment benefits were disbursed in 1999 and 2000. Regular benefits, extended benefits, and supplemental state benefits are disbursed through the state trust fund. These programs differ in the way they are financed. As mentioned earlier, the major source of revenues deposited into the fund is employer taxes. But revenues also come from a variety of other sources.

The federal government reimburses the trust

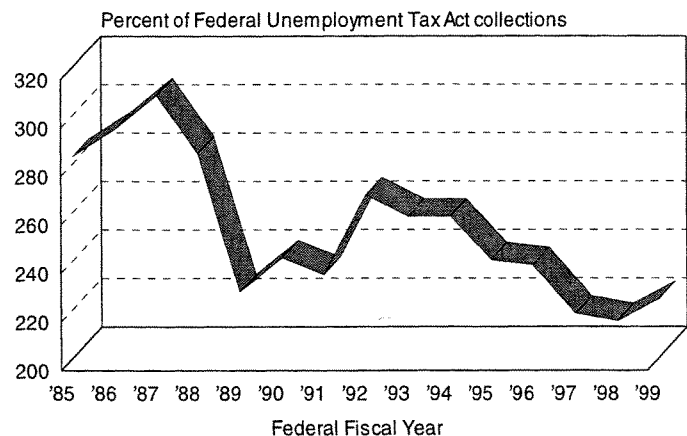
fund for 100% of regular and extended benefits paid to former federal employees (UCFE) and former military employees (UCX), as well as a portion (about 50%) of all non-federal extended benefit (EB) payments. In 1999 and 2000, the federal government reimbursed over \$16.3 million (not including interest) to Alaska's trust fund. The federal share of EB funds amounted to about \$5.1 million. (See Table 3.3.)

Nonprofit organizations and state and local government agencies which choose to reimburse the trust fund directly (instead of paying tax contributions) reimburse 100% of the regular UI benefits and EB paid to their former employees. Through 1988, nonprofit agencies reimbursed only half of EB. In 1989, however, the legislature changed the law. (See Appendix B.) In 2000, reimbursable employers reimbursed \$9.8 million to the UI trust fund.

### Some parts of the UI system subsidize other parts

UI claimants occasionally receive more in benefits than their employer contributed in taxes. The benefits paid to the claimant are subsidized by other employers. The flow of funds is never perfect in any UI system, and every type of experience rating system has problems with subsidies. Some categories of employers tend to be subsidized more than others.

**Figure 3.3 Federal Administrative Grants as Percent of FUTA Collections**  
(State receives more than it pays in)



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

One form of subsidy occurs across years. One way to measure the equity of the system is to measure the ratio of benefits paid in one year to the contribution paid in the prior year. Table 3.9 is such a calculation, broken out by major industry grouping. In the years surrounding the recession (1985-87) the benefit/contribution ratio exceeded 1.0, meaning that benefits paid out in those years were more than tax revenues in the immediately preceding years. During this time, the difference was being made up by trust fund reserves. Employers in prior years were subsidizing employers during the recession years. Starting in 1988, and continuing through 1991, the ratio declined to less than 1.0; employers were now subsidizing employers in future recessions. In 1992 the ratio increased to 1.1, a reflection of the fact that the trust fund was attempting to reduce its level of reserves. This trend held through 1997. In 2000, the ratio of benefits to prior year contributions was 1.0.

One of the most important subsidy categories is cross-industry. Although cross-industry subsidies occur under all economic conditions, the expression of the subsidies is better seen during those years when Alaska is experiencing more stable economic conditions. Under good economic conditions, some industries have historically had ratios higher than 1.0. These industries with higher ratios also tend to have higher benefit cost rates than other industries. (See Tables 3.2 and 3.9.)

Over the past 10 years within taxable employment, those most subsidized industries, in order, are: food products (with a 10 year average ratio of 1.59), lumber and wood (1.48), construction (1.45), and taxable public administration (1.40). On the other hand, the industries which normally pay more than their fair share in contributions are services (0.90), trade (0.91), finance, insurance and real estate (0.93), and oil and gas (0.93).

The industries that are historically the most subsidized in Alaska also have some of the most seasonal employment patterns. The subsidies are partly a reflection of the highly seasonal nature of Alaska's economy. Even after being subsidized, firms in these industries historically pay the highest tax rates in Alaska. (See Table 3.5.) The payroll decline system attempts to recover benefit costs by taxing high-cost employers at higher rates.

## Chapter 3 Tables

### Alaska's UI Benefit Financing System

**Benefit Cost Rate, 1991-2000**

**Table  
3.1**

Year	Taxable Employment			Reimbursable Employment		
	Benefits Paid (\$1,000)	Total Payroll (Lagged 1 Yr) (\$1,000)	Benefit Cost Rate (%)	Benefits Paid (\$1,000)	Total Payroll (Lagged 1 Yr) (\$1,000)	Benefit Cost Rate (%)
1991	112,528	4,694,616	2.4	11,462	1,683,745	0.7
1992	116,833	4,882,126	2.4	11,342	1,784,959	0.6
1993	102,784	5,077,533	2.0	10,632	1,901,857	0.6
1994	119,651	5,273,634	2.3	12,246	1,949,119	0.6
1995	117,353	5,527,255	2.1	10,760	2,002,542	0.5
1996	116,301	5,643,856	2.1	10,747	2,011,599	0.5
1997	113,212	5,721,715	2.0	10,249	1,937,890	0.5
1998	112,764	5,943,917	1.9	10,347	1,960,524	0.5
1999	124,144	6,279,782	2.0	10,207	1,981,410	0.5
2000	111,096	6,389,605	1.7	9,273	1,999,588	0.5

Sources: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section:  
 Unemployment Insurance Financial Transaction Summary, ETA 2-112 report to the U.S. Department of Labor;  
 Employment, Wages, and Contributions/ES-202 report to the U.S. Department of Labor.

**Table**  
**3.2**

**Benefit Cost Rates by Industry**

Industry	Benefits Paid (\$)  2000	Total Payroll (\$)  1999	Benefit Cost Rate (%) (Lagged 1 Yr)
<b>Taxable Employers</b>			
Total	96,283,442	6,389,604,854	1.5
Ag/Forestry/Fish	864,692	39,939,608	2.2
Mining	4,182,894	744,384,286	0.6
Oil and Gas	3,216,260	651,373,082	0.5
Other Mining	966,634	93,011,204	1.0
Construction	20,964,432	652,341,732	3.2
Manufacturing	15,874,854	460,731,493	3.4
Food Products	11,790,761	249,007,730	4.7
Lumber & Wood	2,768,104	68,878,376	4.0
Paper Products	50,241	808,362	6.2
Other Mfg.	1,265,748	142,037,025	0.9
Trans/Comm/Util	8,862,067	1,108,837,794	0.8
Trade	16,795,470	1,272,211,862	1.3
Finance/Insur/R.E.	4,694,517	415,412,681	1.1
Services	20,696,609	1,572,134,367	1.3
Public Admin.	2,857,192	111,590,018	2.6
Unclassified	490,715	12,021,013	4.1
<b>Reimbursable Employers</b>			
Total	9,410,851	1,999,588,234	0.5
Trans/Comm/Util	155,857	32,067,648	0.5
Services	4,411,353	1,098,798,149	0.4
Public Admin.	4,843,641	858,376,022	0.6
Other	0	10,346,415	0.0

Sources: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section:  
UC-217 report, Benefit Payments by Industry and Area;  
Employment, Wages, and Contributions/ES-202 report to the U.S. Department of Labor.

# Trust Fund Deposits and Disbursements, 1991-2000

**Table  
3.3**

## Deposits (\$)

Year	U.I. Tax Contributions (ex. Reimb.)	Federal Share Extended Benefits	Amounts Rec'd From Reimb. Employers	Interstate Benefits Wage Combining	Federal Emerg. Comp. 1/	Penalty & Interest 2/	Other 3/	Trust Fund Interest Earned	Total Revenue Deposited 4/
1991	102,443,803	3,926,000	10,871,942	2,102,229	0	3,634,996	9,300,240	14,834,425	147,113,635
1992	84,063,743	0	11,666,761	2,452,749	48,336,000	4,034,596	10,905,998	23,562,812	185,022,659
1993	83,513,846	0	9,940,970	1,572,065	68,582,000	3,809,622	7,570,305	16,554,512	191,543,321
1994	86,627,444	6,359,000	13,074,629	1,662,708	10,213,200	4,021,879	7,761,625	14,529,694	144,250,178
1995	91,354,148	3,223,200	11,537,794	1,571,217	0	4,074,458	7,151,800	13,798,221	132,710,838
1996	95,809,515	3,076,000	10,847,305	1,521,687	0	4,125,073	5,727,000	13,153,679	134,260,259
1997	108,001,845	2,384,800	10,440,082	1,202,063	0	4,298,297	5,376,077	16,119,266	147,822,431
1998	109,544,374	2,392,600	10,491,200	1,401,321	0	4,555,936	5,689,820	13,410,177	147,485,428
1999	105,253,612	3,131,500	10,317,683	2,732,710	0	4,760,095	5,982,654	13,297,687	145,475,942
2000	110,928,171	2,016,000	9,754,979	2,425,500	0	6,765,671	5,209,934	13,465,280	150,565,535

## Disbursements (\$)

Year	Regular Benefits + SSB	Extended Benefit Payments	Reimburs- able Benefit Payments	Interstate Benefits Wage Combining	Federal Emerg. Comp. 1/	Training and Building Fund	Other 3/	Total Benefits Disbursed 4/	Reserve Fund Balance 5/
1991	101,455,428	8,565,970	11,461,785	8,638,807	2,822,831	3,958,611	6,017,449	142,920,880	228,478,104
1992	108,463,706	163,553	11,342,163	10,609,741	46,414,029	3,696,468	10,176,661	190,866,322	222,634,440
1993	95,057,075	329,604	10,632,482	8,938,721	68,895,999	3,816,169	6,928,597	194,598,645	219,579,116
1994	108,852,719	11,911,904	12,246,477	7,149,765	7,838,127	4,031,097	6,161,042	158,191,131	205,638,163
1995	103,314,489	6,426,203	10,760,456	12,380,540	(155,124)	4,075,596	7,129,544	143,931,704	194,417,297
1996	104,442,247	6,097,233	10,746,992	10,325,627	(188,894)	4,091,045	5,647,092	141,161,342	187,516,215
1997	102,836,147	4,718,468	10,248,935	9,223,653	(230,513)	4,311,808	5,392,125	136,500,623	198,838,022
1998	103,394,074	4,854,224	10,347,429	8,336,648	(54,352)	4,556,761	7,386,723	138,821,506	207,501,944
1999	115,358,617	6,102,710	10,207,166	8,466,554	(214,357)	4,675,030	5,915,499	150,511,220	202,466,665
2000	103,636,278	4,146,009	9,272,649	7,805,675	(263,836)	7,179,296	5,179,377	136,955,449	216,076,750

1/ EUC - Emergency Unemployment Compensation: November 1991 - April 1994.

2/ Net collections of penalties, interest, and fines.

3/ PSE, DUA, TRA, transfer to Training and Building fund, prior year refunds, child support withholding transfers, federal UCFE and UCX benefits and receipts, federal share of regular benefits.

4/ Deposits from all sources including federal and all disbursements made to claimants.

5/ Amount available for benefits in trust fund on December 31.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section:  
Unemployment Insurance Financial Transaction Summary, ETA 2-112 report to the U.S. Department of Labor.

**Table**  
**3.4**

**Tax Base, Average Employer and Employee Tax Rates  
and Ratio of Taxable to Total Wages, 1991-2000**

Year	Payroll in Taxable Employment (\$1,000)		Ratio of Taxable to Total Payroll (%)	Tax Base (\$)	Average Employer Tax Rate		Average Employee Tax Rate	
	Total Payroll	Taxable Payroll			% of Taxable Payroll	% of Total Payroll	% of Taxable Payroll	% of Total Payroll
1991	4,882,126	3,184,860	65.2	22,400	2.66	1.74	0.50	0.3
1992	5,077,533	3,263,435	64.3	22,600	2.15	1.38	0.50	0.3
1993	5,273,634	3,397,312	64.4	23,200	1.96	1.26	0.50	0.3
1994	5,527,255	3,592,202	65.0	23,800	1.98	1.29	0.50	0.3
1995	5,643,856	3,698,894	65.5	23,900	2.04	1.34	0.50	0.3
1996	5,721,715	3,739,737	65.4	24,400	2.17	1.42	0.50	0.3
1997	5,943,917	3,853,741	64.8	24,200	2.33	1.51	0.58	0.4
1998	6,279,782	3,995,639	63.6	24,100	2.25	1.43	0.56	0.4
1999	6,389,605	4,124,730	64.6	24,500	2.06	1.33	0.54	0.3
2000	6,793,721	4,396,916	64.7	24,800	2.14	1.39	0.54	0.3

Sources: Alaska Statutes 23.20.175.

Alaska Statutes 23.20.290.

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

Employment, Wages, and Contributions/ES-202 report to the U.S. Department of Labor;

Unemployment Insurance Financial Transaction Summary, ETA 2-112 report to the U.S. Department of Labor.



# Employer Accounts by Rate Type and Average Tax Rates by Industry

**T**able  
**3.5**

## 2000 Employers by Rate Type

Industry	A-Rated		B-Rated		C-Rated		Total	
	No.	% of A-Rated	No.	% of B-Rated	No.	% of C-Rated	No.	% of Grand Total
Ag/Forestry/Fish	227	1.6	33	1.9	7	2.7	267	1.7
Mining	148	1.1	16	0.9	4	1.5	168	1.0
Contract Construction	1,963	13.9	318	18.1	39	14.9	2,320	14.4
Manufacturing	445	3.2	34	1.9	12	4.6	491	3.1
Trans/Comm/Util	1,025	7.3	103	5.9	22	8.4	1,150	7.1
Trade	3,552	25.2	336	19.1	52	19.8	3,940	24.5
Finance/Insur/R.E.	832	5.9	80	4.6	11	4.2	923	5.7
Services	5,645	40.1	672	38.3	87	33.2	6,404	39.8
Public Administration	130	0.9	0	0.0	12	4.6	142	0.9
Unclassified	110	0.8	163	9.3	16	6.1	289	1.8
Total	14,077	100.0	1,755	100.0	262	100.0	16,094	100.0
Percent of Grand Total		87.5		10.9		1.6		100.0

## Average Employer Tax Rates

	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total	2.54	2.38	2.43	2.51	2.63	2.76	2.67	2.49	2.56	2.47
Ag/Forestry/Fish	2.88	2.72	2.81	2.93	3.03	3.10	3.02	2.81	2.84	2.73
Mining	2.73	2.71	2.76	2.86	2.97	3.12	2.99	2.76	2.89	2.80
Contract Construction	3.19	3.05	3.14	3.21	3.31	3.43	3.31	3.08	3.14	3.03
Manufacturing	2.79	2.68	2.76	2.81	2.89	3.07	2.95	2.74	2.81	2.67
Trans/Comm/Util	2.53	2.35	2.44	2.50	2.61	2.73	2.63	2.47	2.53	2.48
Trade	2.45	2.28	2.33	2.45	2.57	2.70	2.61	2.43	2.49	2.39
Finance/Insur/R.E.	2.23	2.02	2.04	2.05	2.19	2.33	2.31	2.14	2.18	2.12
Services	2.38	2.22	2.28	2.35	2.48	2.61	2.52	2.36	2.43	2.34
Public Administration	2.72	2.50	2.35	2.36	2.45	2.55	2.45	2.32	2.41	2.30
Unclassified	2.77	2.70	2.66	2.80	2.77	3.02	2.89	2.71	2.74	2.62

A-rated firms are those which have been subject to the Employment Security Act for four or more quarters and qualify for a rate determination based on their quarterly payroll experience. Employers are assigned to a rate class based on their payroll decline experience as compared to all other ratable employers. Employers with a low quarterly payroll decline receive more favorable rates than employers with higher declines in quarterly payroll figures.

B-rated firms are those which have been subject to the Employment Security Act for fewer than four quarters immediately preceding the computation date and must pay the standard industry tax rate.

C-rated firms are those which fail to pay contributions or file reports on a timely basis and must pay contributions at the highest rate.

Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section:  
Taxable Wages Within Size of Payroll Code, Report No. BRT 5500 P.

# Table 3.6

## UI Tax Rate Calculations, and Tax Rates by Rate Class for 2001

### Tax Rate Calculations

	SFY 1997	SFY 1998	SFY 1999	SFY 2000
(1) Benefit Cost (Ben-Reimb-Int)	99,378,442		107,359,964	101,268,654
(2) Total Payroll (taxable employers)	5,783,006,707	6,124,912,128	6,309,309,628	6,630,911,665
(3) Taxable Payroll				4,321,741,898
(4) Benefit Cost for 3 Prev SFY				\$308,007,061
(5) Total Payroll, First 3 of Last 4 SFY				\$18,217,228,463
(6) 3-Yr Benefit Cost/Total Payroll (4)/(5)				0.016907
(7) Taxable/Total Payroll, Last SFY				0.651757
(8) Average Benefit Cost Rate (6)/(7)				0.025941
(9) UI Trust Fund Balance, Sep 30				\$211,066,251
(10) Total Payroll, Last SFY				\$6,630,911,665
(11) UI Trust Fund Reserve Rate (9)/(10)				0.031831
(12) Solvency Adjustment				0.000
(13) Average Employer Tax Rate as a Percent of Taxable Payroll				
$(0.80 \times \text{ABCR}) + \text{TFSA} = (0.80 \times \#8) + \#12$				2.08%
(14) Average Employee Tax Rate: $(0.20 \times \text{ABCR}) = (0.20 \times \#8)$				
52.00%				

### Tax Rates for Employees and Experience Rated Employers

Rate Class	Experience Factor	Employee Contribution Rate (%)	Employer Contribution Rate (%)	Total Contribution Rate (%)
1	0.40	0.52	1.00	1.52
2	0.45	0.52	1.00	1.52
3	0.50	0.52	1.04	1.56
4	0.55	0.52	1.14	1.66
5	0.60	0.52	1.25	1.77
6	0.65	0.52	1.35	1.87
7	0.70	0.52	1.45	1.97
8	0.80	0.52	1.66	2.18
9	0.90	0.52	1.87	2.39
10	1.00	0.52	2.08	2.60
11	1.00	0.52	2.08	2.60
12	1.10	0.52	2.28	2.80
13	1.20	0.52	2.49	3.01
14	1.30	0.52	2.70	3.22
15	1.35	0.52	2.80	3.32
16	1.40	0.52	2.91	3.43
17	1.45	0.52	3.01	3.53
18	1.50	0.52	3.11	3.63
19	1.55	0.52	3.22	3.74
20	1.60	0.52	3.32	3.84
21	1.65	0.52	5.40	5.92

Note: Total payroll, taxable payroll, and UI benefits costs are all for employees (current or former) of contributing (taxable) employers only. Reimbursable employers are excluded.

Sources: Alaska Statutes 23.20.290.

Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section:  
Employment, Wages, and Contributions, ES-202 report to the U.S. Dept. of Labor;  
Unemployment Insurance Financial Transaction Summary, ETA 2-112 report.

## Administrative Costs, 1990-1999

**Table  
3.7**

Federal Fiscal Year 1/	F.U.T.A. Collections (\$1,000,000)	UI Admin. Grants (\$1,000,000)	ES Admin. Grants (\$1,000,000)	Total Admin. Grants (\$1,000,000)      % of F.U.T.A.	
1990	9.9	15.6	8.3	23.9	241.4
1991	10.2	15.6	8.3	23.9	234.3
1992	10.2	18.7	8.5	27.2	266.7
1993	10.7	19.0	8.6	27.6	257.9
1994	11.1	19.8	8.8	28.6	257.7
1995	11.4	18.8	8.6	27.4	240.4
1996	11.8	19.4	8.7	28.1	238.1
1997	12.5	19.1	8.1	27.2	217.6
1998	13.1	20.0	8.1	28.1	214.5
1999	13.1	20.0	9.4	29.4	224.4

1/ Federal fiscal years are 12-month periods from October 1 of one year through September 30 of the following year.

Note: In 1995, U.S. Department of Labor estimation methods for FUTA were changed  
Figures in earlier publications of this table will not match these data.

Source: U. S. Department of Labor, Division of Actuarial Services.

## Collections, UI Regular Benefits Paid Reimbursable Employment, 1991-2000

**Table  
3.8**

Year	Collections (\$)			Benefits Paid (\$)			Total Collections less Benefits Paid (\$)
	Total	Private Nonprofit	Government (State & Local)	Total	Private Nonprofit	Government (State & Local)	
1991	10,871,942	906,192	9,965,750	11,461,785	784,303	10,677,482	(589,843)
1992	11,666,761	813,968	10,852,793	11,342,163	860,886	10,481,276	324,598
1993	9,940,970	891,492	9,049,478	10,632,482	954,723	9,677,758	(691,512)
1994	13,074,629	1,220,156	11,854,473	12,246,477	885,469	11,361,008	828,152
1995	11,537,794	1,063,269	10,474,526	10,760,456	1,200,773	9,559,683	777,339
1996	10,847,305	1,063,556	9,783,749	10,746,992	1,632,636	9,114,357	100,313
1997	10,440,082	1,006,860	9,433,222	10,248,935	1,648,463	8,600,472	191,147
1998	10,491,200	913,961	9,577,239	10,347,429	1,648,836	8,698,593	143,771
1999	10,317,683	1,021,259	9,296,424	8,316,206	1,910,398	6,405,809	2,001,477
2000	9,754,979	995,435	8,759,545	9,272,649	1,656,099	7,616,550	482,330
Ten-Year Total							3,567,771

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section:  
Unemployment Insurance Financial Transaction Summary, ETA 2-112 report to the U.S. Department of Labor.

# Table 3.9

## Benefits Paid, Contributions Assessed and Ratio of Benefits to Contributions, Taxable Employment, 1991-2000

INDUSTRY	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
BENEFITS PAID (Regular + 1/2 EB), from UC-217 report (\$1,000)										
Totals (incl. unclass.)	105,145	110,408	94,559	113,472	105,945	107,028	101,833	101,543	111,092	98,644
Ag/Forestry/Fish	830	905	1,061	1,287	922	906	931	878	839	875
Mining	9,199	10,614	7,118	7,229	6,645	7,272	6,238	4,775	11,442	4,390
Oil and Gas	7,742	9,347	5,734	5,870	5,511	6,159	5,320	3,636	10,345	3,396
Other Mining	1,456	1,268	1,385	1,358	1,134	1,113	918	1,139	1,097	994
Construction	20,947	19,392	14,490	20,443	22,203	22,141	21,613	21,834	22,252	21,460
Manufacturing	16,059	17,262	16,444	21,783	17,372	17,808	17,449	17,670	16,670	16,093
Food Products	8,569	10,416	11,145	14,639	11,821	12,355	11,350	11,723	11,784	17,919
Lumber & Wood	4,983	3,865	2,467	2,980	2,317	2,879	2,547	3,333	3,028	2,824
Paper Products	974	784	1,185	2,503	1,826	936	1,918	1,009	89	51
Other Mfg.	1,534	2,198	1,648	1,661	1,409	1,638	1,635	1,606	1,769	1,299
Trans/Comm/Util	11,135	11,137	9,698	11,386	11,959	10,572	9,500	9,876	9,744	9,043
Trade	17,861	20,376	18,295	20,154	18,314	18,672	17,030	17,546	18,983	17,170
Finance/Insur/R.E.	4,193	4,321	3,899	4,610	5,395	4,813	4,359	4,759	5,087	4,785
Services	21,132	22,271	20,000	22,774	20,158	21,617	21,594	20,986	22,993	21,286
Public Admin.	3,279	3,724	3,196	3,426	2,740	2,887	2,766	2,794	2,694	3,043
TOTAL EMPLOYER AND EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS ASSESSED, from ES-202 report (\$1,000)										
Totals (incl. unclass.)	100,150	86,611	86,136	91,740	96,386	100,987	112,177	102,458	101,424	*
Ag/Forestry/Fish	979	887	964	812	874	955	1,035	841	885	
Mining	8,856	6,964	6,735	7,180	7,613	7,279	8,235	7,908	5,425	
Oil and Gas	7,898	6,204	5,987	6,304	6,581	5,870	6,711	6,763	4,403	
Other Mining	958	760	748	876	1,032	1,409	1,524	1,144	1,022	
Construction	12,883	10,702	12,181	14,139	14,598	14,835	15,684	15,678	15,258	
Manufacturing	13,892	12,096	11,351	11,480	12,445	12,233	12,531	8,890	11,009	
Food Products	8,796	8,065	7,570	7,576	8,251	8,057	7,996	5,462	7,323	
Lumber & Wood	2,562	2,015	1,982	2,018	2,168	1,943	2,131	1,321	1,574	
Paper Products	531	455	371	264	272	330	318	92	10	
Other Mfg.	2,003	1,560	1,428	1,623	1,753	1,903	2,086	2,014	2,101	
Trans/Comm/Util	13,528	11,892	11,554	11,782	11,482	12,064	14,770	13,346	12,385	
Trade	20,183	17,657	16,909	18,689	19,714	21,276	23,730	20,515	21,557	
Finance/Insur/R.E.	4,857	4,121	4,236	4,637	4,597	5,068	5,753	5,310	5,389	
Services	22,146	19,774	19,638	20,768	22,631	24,881	27,855	27,520	27,237	
Public Admin.	2,344	2,037	2,048	1,974	2,066	2,234	2,394	2,100	1,939	
RATIO OF BENEFITS TO PRIOR YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS										
Totals (incl. unclass.)	0.7	1.1	1.1	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.0	0.9	1.1	1.0
Ag/Forestry/Fish	0.7	0.9	1.2	1.3	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.8	1.0	1.0
Mining	0.7	1.2	1.0	1.1	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.6	1.4	0.8
Oil and Gas	0.7	1.2	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.5	1.5	0.8
Other Mining	0.8	1.3	1.8	1.8	1.3	1.1	0.7	0.7	1.0	1.0
Construction	1.2	1.5	1.4	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4
Manufacturing	0.9	1.2	1.4	1.9	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.9	1.5
Food Products	0.8	1.2	1.4	1.9	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.5	2.2	2.4
Lumber & Wood	1.2	1.5	1.2	1.5	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.6	2.3	1.8
Paper Products	1.2	1.5	2.6	6.7	6.9	3.4	5.8	3.2	1.0	5.2
Other Mfg.	0.5	1.1	1.1	1.2	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.6
Trans/Comm/Util	0.4	0.8	0.8	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7
Trade	0.6	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.9	0.8
Finance/Insur/R.E.	0.6	0.9	0.9	1.1	1.2	1.0	0.9	0.8	1.0	0.9
Services	0.7	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8
Public Admin.	1.1	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.6

Notes: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

\*Current year data are not used in calculating the ratio of benefits to contributions.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section, UC-217 and ES-202 reports.

**Collections, Benefits Paid, Trust Fund Reserves and  
Average Employer Tax Rate as Percentages  
of Payroll, 1991-2000**

**Table  
3.10**

Percent of Total Payroll					Percent of Taxable Payroll			
Year	Collections	Benefits Paid	Year-End Reserve	Average Employer Tax Rate	Collections	Benefits Paid	Year-End Reserve	Average Employer Tax Rate
1991	2.1	2.3	4.7	1.74	3.2	3.5	7.2	2.66
1992	1.7	2.3	4.4	1.38	2.6	3.6	6.8	2.15
1993	1.6	1.9	4.2	1.26	2.5	3.0	6.5	1.96
1994	1.6	2.2	3.7	1.29	2.4	3.3	5.7	1.98
1995	1.6	2.1	3.4	1.34	2.5	3.2	5.3	2.04
1996	1.7	2.0	3.3	1.42	2.6	3.1	5.0	2.17
1997	1.8	1.9	3.3	1.51	2.8	2.9	5.2	2.33
1998	1.7	1.8	3.3	1.43	2.7	2.8	5.2	2.25
1999	1.6	1.9	3.2	1.29	2.6	3.1	5.1	2.06
2000	1.6	1.6	3.2	1.39	2.5	2.5	4.9	2.14

Note: Net benefits paid by taxable employers include regular unemployment benefits plus all State Supplemental Benefits payments plus Alaska's share of extended benefit payments for taxable employers plus the net of benefits paid minus receipts for interstate wage combining.

Sources: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section: Unemployment Insurance Financial Transaction Summary, ETA 2-112 report to the U.S. Department of Labor; Employment, Wages, and Contributions/ES-202 report to the U.S. Department of Labor.

# Table 3.11

## UI Benefits Paid, Taxes Assessed, and Covered Payroll by Industry, 2000

INDUSTRY	<u>Amount of Benefits Paid (\$)</u>		Employer and Employee	Total Payroll (\$)	Taxable Payroll (\$)	Percent of Total Payroll Taxable
	Regular	Regular Plus 1/2 EB	Contributions Assessed (\$)			
Total	96,283,442	98,644,310	118,594,969	6,793,720,862	4,396,915,921	64.7
Ag/Forestry/Fish	864,692	875,446	986,994	42,258,563	31,476,145	74.5
Mining	4,182,894	4,390,118	10,274,985	875,843,703	389,279,195	44.4
Oil and Gas	3,216,260	3,395,689	9,240,568	780,346,860	347,185,905	44.5
Other Mining	966,634	994,429	1,034,417	95,496,843	42,093,290	44.1
Construction	20,964,432	21,459,710	15,949,300	672,827,733	452,222,036	67.2
Manufacturing	15,874,854	16,092,641	11,737,161	450,541,833	340,363,270	75.5
Food Products	11,790,761	17,918,689	7,613,650	240,938,199	204,848,654	85.0
Lumber & Wood	2,768,104	2,823,947	1,612,079	63,712,770	45,137,289	70.8
Paper Products	50,241	51,372	7,885	452,291	236,764	52.3
Other Mfg.	1,265,748	1,298,633	2,503,547	145,438,573	90,140,563	62.0
Trans/Comm/Util	8,862,067	9,043,093	16,350,724	1,219,009,909	652,568,364	53.5
Trade	16,795,470	17,169,810	24,291,402	1,286,153,035	981,581,690	76.3
Finance/Insur/R.E.	4,694,517	4,785,371	6,053,765	436,283,201	266,252,966	61.0
Services	20,696,609	21,286,041	30,737,626	1,691,628,885	1,203,532,236	71.1
Public Admin.	2,857,192	3,043,065	1,972,026	111,258,482	73,477,418	66.0
Unclassified	490,715	499,015	240,986	7,915,518	6,162,601	77.9

# Table 3.12

## UI Benefits Paid as a Percent of Taxes Assessed and Covered Payroll by Industry, 2000

INDUSTRY	<u>Regular Benefits as a Percentage of:</u>			<u>Regular Benefits plus 1/2 Extended Benefits as a Percentage of:</u>		
	Collections	Total Payroll	Taxable Payroll	Collections	Total Payroll	Taxable Payroll
Total	81.2	1.4	2.2	83.2	1.5	2.2
Ag/Forestry/Fish	87.6	2.0	2.7	88.7	2.1	2.8
Mining	40.7	0.5	1.1	42.7	0.5	1.1
Oil and Gas	34.8	0.4	0.9	36.7	0.4	1.0
Other Mining	93.4	1.0	2.3	96.1	1.0	2.4
Construction	131.4	3.1	4.6	134.5	3.2	4.7
Manufacturing	135.3	3.5	4.7	137.1	3.6	4.7
Food Products	154.9	4.9	5.8	235.3	7.4	8.7
Lumber & Wood	171.7	4.3	6.1	175.2	4.4	6.3
Paper Products 1/	637.2	11.1	21.2	651.5	11.4	21.7
Other Mfg.	50.6	0.9	1.4	51.9	0.9	1.4
Trans/Comm/Util	54.2	0.7	1.4	55.3	0.7	1.4
Trade	69.1	1.3	1.7	70.7	1.3	1.7
Finance/Insur/R.E.	77.5	1.1	1.8	79.0	1.1	1.8
Services	67.3	1.2	1.7	69.3	1.3	1.8
Public Admin.	144.9	2.6	3.9	154.3	2.7	4.1
Unclassified	203.6	6.2	8.0	207.1	6.3	8.1

Notes: Reimbursable account data are excluded.

Federally funded programs and federal employment are excluded.

1/ The Ketchikan pulp mill closed permanently in March 1997.

Sources: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section:  
Employment, Wages, and Contributions/ES-202 report to the U.S. Department of Labor;

UC-217 report, Benefit Payments by Industry and Area.

## APPENDIX A

### DATA SOURCES AND LIMITATIONS

#### Limitations of Data

The data in this publication are derived from a number of different sources, each with its own limitations. Much of the data come from reports that are produced directly from computer files in the state's main-frame computer. While the reports come from the same source, data that appear similar are not necessarily comparable, because the programs that produce the reports are run at different times and using different selection criteria.

Consequently, some of the tables in this publication are not directly comparable. For instance, Table 2.13 reports payment data by local office, while Tables 2.9-2.12 report the same data by industry grouping. The totals are not the same, however, because Table 2.13 comes from the Quarterly Management Report, which scans the file each week, while Tables 2.9-2.12 come from the UC-217 report, which scans the file once each month. Supplemental payments for weeks previously paid, overpayments, and other adjustments made during the month will cause the totals to differ slightly. Similarly, Table 2.13 differs slightly from Table 2.14 for the same reasons, even though both report benefit payments by area.

Differences also will occur whenever two tables are derived from different sources. Each table includes the data source at the bottom of the page. The reader should be cautious about other limitations as well. Percentages occasionally do not sum to 100% due to rounding when using only one or two digits. The data are reported to the full dollar amount whenever possible throughout the publication, but the dollar amounts in some tables are rounded to the nearest \$1,000 because of space limitations. Finally, industry groupings include subcategories for manufacturing and mining; these must be subtracted when summing the columns.

#### CHAPTER 1: UI Covered Employment and Wages

Chapter I provides information on employment, payroll, and earnings. The major source of data is the Employment, Wages, and Contributions report (ES-202), a report submitted to the U.S. Department of Labor, (USDOL) Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The information used in ES-202 is derived from quarterly payroll and employment information submitted to the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development (AKDOL) by employers in Alaska. The information is also derived from AKDOL estimates for delinquent employers.

The ES-202 includes employers covered by Alaska's unemployment insurance system. It also includes all Alaska employers' average monthly employment, total payroll, and taxable payroll. Additionally, ES-202 includes taxable employers' contributions assessed by the state and paid into the UI Trust Fund.

A change in the legal definition of wages for UI tax reporting purposes went into effect July 1, 1995. Employers, however, had the option of waiting to implement the change at the start of the next calendar year. Under the new definition, certain retirement benefits are excluded from the computation of wages paid to employees. The impact of this change will be the lowering of wages reported by employers. This definitional change should be kept in mind when comparing annual time series data (such as Tables 1.3, 1.4, or 1.5 ) after 1994. The full impact of the change would be seen starting in 1996. All data series which use ES-202 wages will be affected.

All data found in the chapters are broken out by industry, area, ownership, and tax status.

"Average monthly employment" is an estimate of employment based on actual employment data covering that pay period which includes the 12th of each month. It is an estimate of the number of jobs filled each month. Caution must be used when deriving annual earnings from these figures, as they represent average annual earnings per job, not per worker. Payroll is the actual total payroll during each quarter.

Throughout Chapter 1, industries are broken out according to categories established in the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Manual. Specific industries, based on 2-digit SIC codes, were selected because of their relevance to the Alaska economy. The same categories are used for benefit payments in Chapters 2 and 3. Employment, payroll, and earnings information is also broken out by ownership—private, state government, and local government. In all industry and ownership categories, federal government employment is excluded, as federal employees and members of the military are not covered under the state unemployment insurance program.

It is noteworthy that public administration (SIC codes 91-97) is not directly comparable with state and local government ownership. While all of public administration employment is included in either state or local government, the opposite is not true; some of the operations included under state or local government ownership are listed under other industries than public administration, particularly construction, transportation, and services.

## CHAPTER 2: UI Benefit Payments

Chapter 2 provides information on benefit payments. Information on unemployment claims is entered into Alaska's Data Base 2 System (DB2) and is recorded in the state's computer. Three of the basic reports from this file form the basis of most benefit payment data used in this publication.

Payments by industry and area, Tables 2.9-2.12 and Tables 2.14-2.15, are derived from the UC-217 report. The UC-217 report is a monthly compilation of data by 2-digit SIC codes and 3-digit geographic area codes. Payment amounts differ from the amounts shown in Table 2.13 due to the omission of supplemental payments for weeks previously paid, penalties and interest, and other adjustments.

Two reports provide information for the payment data in Tables 2.5-2.8, 2.13, and 2.16. These data are derived from AKDOL's Quarterly Management Report, which scans weekly the department's active claimant file. Some of the data are also derived from the U.S. Department of Labor's Claims Activity Report (ETA 5-159), which is taken from the weekly and monthly management reports.

Data in Table 2.2 are derived from the 'Claimant Characteristics' program. This program provides a special compilation of information on all claimants who received unemployment compensation during a specified year. Occupations are listed according to classifications in the Dictionary of Occupational Titles (or DOT codes). Ethnic information is based on information voluntarily submitted at the time of initial filing.

Table 2.1 uses data from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), an AKDOL report produced for the U.S. Department of Labor. This report estimates the total number of employed and unemployed in the state each month.

Table 2.6 uses payment data from the yearly ETA 5-159 report on all states compiled by the U.S. Department of Labor, Division of Actuarial Services.

Table 2.17 is derived from the **UI Data Summary**, a quarterly publication of key UI information published by the U.S. Department of Labor, Division of Actuarial Services.

## CHAPTER 3: Alaska's UI Benefit Financing System

Chapter 3 discusses financial transactions, Alaska's UI Trust Fund, and Alaska's benefit financing structure. One of the major subjects of the chapter is benefit costs. Therefore, it draws heavily from AKDOL's Benefit Payments by Industry and Area (UC 217) report and the ES-202 quarterly reports (the USDOL's Employment, Wages, and Contributions report). In fact, several of the tables directly reproduce data reported in Chapters 1 and 2.

The other major data source for Chapter 3 is the Financial Transactions Summary (ETA 2-112). This is a monthly accounting report produced by AKDOL. It is the most accurate source of information on financial transactions and cash flow. Its major limitation is that it does not break out data by industry or area. It is used to compute UI tax rates (Tables 3.4 and 3.6), benefit costs, and benefit cost rates (Tables 3.1, 3.2 and 3.6). It is also the source for UI Trust Fund balances (Tables 3.3, 3.6 and 3.10), deposits and disbursements for all programs (Table 3.3), as well as interstate wage combining, reimbursable employers (Table 3.8), and collections, benefits and trust fund balance as a percentage of wages (Tables 3.4, 3.10, and 3.11).

Table 3.3 also uses data from the USDOL Contributions Operations (ETA 581) report in order to estimate reimbursable contributions between 1981 and 1984.

Table 3.5 lists experience ratings by industry, which are reported on the Array of Taxable Wages Within Size of Payroll Codes—a yearly listing of employers, their payroll experience, and their quarterly decline quotients. This information is also produced by AKDOL.



## APPENDIX B

### SUMMARY OF MAJOR CHANGES IN THE EMPLOYMENT SECURITY ACT

#### Coverage Provisions of the Alaska Employment Security Act—1937-1996

- Apr. 2, 1937** Alaska Employment Security Law enacted. Employers liable for taxes are those with eight or more employees in twenty weeks of the year. The following types of employment are excluded from coverage: agriculture, domestic service, officers and crews on vessels, service performed by a parent, spouse, or child under 21, government, nonprofit organizations, and those covered under a federal unemployment program. Employers not subject to the Law may elect coverage with permission of the Commission. Ch. 4, ESLA 1937
- July 1, 1945** Coverage extended to employers of one or more persons at any time. Ch.7, SLA 1945
- Mar. 20, 1947** List of excluded services extended. Additional exclusions include newsboys and students. Any employment liable for a tax under the FUTA (Federal Unemployment Tax Act) will be automatically covered under the state U.I. law. Ch. 48, SLA 1947
- Mar. 17, 1959** Employees in finance, insurance, and real estate paid on a commission basis are excluded from coverage. Ch. 46, SLA 1959
- Apr. 17, 1961** Faculty of nonprofit universities excluded. Ch. 108, SLA 1961
- Jan. 1, 1972** Coverage made mandatory for employees of nonprofit organizations, state hospitals, and institutes of higher education employing four or more in twenty weeks of the year. These employers are allowed to elect coverage on a reimbursable basis. Reimbursable financing also made available, by election, to any political subdivision. Ch. 94, SLA 1971
- Jan. 1, 1972** Fishermen covered. Ch. 94, SLA 1971
- Apr. 1, 1977** Fishermen earning wages on a share-basis excluded from coverage. Ch. 122, SLA 1977
- Jan. 1, 1978** Coverage made mandatory for most employees of the state and local governments. Coverage also extended to certain domestic and agricultural workers. Ch. 122, SLA 1977
- July 1, 1984** Executive officers of nongovernmental corporations are excluded. Ch. 106, SLA 1984
- Sep. 27, 1995** Certain direct sellers of consumer products are excluded. Ch. 97, SLA 95

#### Financing Provisions of the Alaska Employment Security Act—1937-1996

- Apr. 2, 1937** All wages paid to employees covered under the law are assessed a uniform tax of 1.8%. Ch. 4, ESLA 1937
- Jan. 1, 1938** Uniform tax raised to 2.7% of total covered wages. Ch. 4, ESLA 1937
- Mar. 26, 1941** Taxable wages limited to first \$3,000 of wages paid to an employee. Ch. 40, SLA 1941
- Jun. 30, 1947** Credits against the tax are available to qualified employers if a fund surplus exists. The credit is based on the individual employer's annual payroll decline. Ch. 74, SLA 1947
- Jan. 1, 1955** Tax base increased to first \$3,600 of wages. An employee tax of 0.5% is also assessed. Employer tax credit is eliminated. Ch. 5, ELSA 1955

- Apr. 4, 1957** Tax base increased to first \$4,200 of wages. Ch. 169, SLA 1957
- Mar. 30, 1960** Uniform employer tax raised to 2.9%. Uniform employee tax raised to 0.6%. Tax base increased to \$7,200. Ch. 60, SLA 1960
- Oct. 1, 1960** Individual employer and employee tax rates made variable depending on quarterly payroll declines of employer. Employer tax rates range from 1.5% to 4.0% with an average tax rate of 2.9%. Employee tax rates range from 0.3% to 0.9% averaging 0.65%. Ch. 60, SLA 1960
- Jan. 1, 1974** Employee tax made uniform and employer tax left variable. Tax base \$10,000. There are ten alternative tax rate schedules with the appropriate schedule determined by the "reserve multiple" which measures the ability of the fund to meet potential benefit payments. Ch. 43, SLA 1973
- Jan. 1, 1981** Tax base will be 60% of the average annual wage for calendar years 1981 and 1982 and will be 75% of the average annual wage for future years. Replaces the ten alternative tax rate schedules with twenty "experience factors." An employer's yearly rate calculation will be 82% of the benefit cost rate times the experience factor. A solvency tax will be added across the board if the "reserve ratio" of the fund is under 3.2%. Employee tax will be a uniform 18% of the benefit cost rate. Ch. 9, SLA 1980
- Oct. 1, 1984** The amount of interest earned on the trust fund balance will be deducted from the amount of benefits in calculation of average benefit cost rate. Ch. 106, SLA 1984
- Jan. 1, 1985** A new rate class 21 is established and assigned an experience rating of 1.65 and a minimum employer tax rate of 5.4%. Solvency adjustments changed to provide a surcharge if the trust fund reserve rate falls below 3.0% and a credit if the reserve rate equals or exceeds 3.3%. Ch. 106, SLA 1984
- Sep. 13, 1987** Interest on funds borrowed from the federal government to cover shortfalls in the trust fund may be paid out of employee contributions. Ch. 82, SLA 1987
- Jul. 1, 1989** Training programs pilot project to be funded by transfer of 0.1% of taxable wages from amount contributed by employees. Ch. 95, SLA 1989
- Jun. 30, 1993** Extension of Training programs pilot project until 1996. Ch. 17, SLA 1993
- Jul. 1, 1996** Extended authorization of training programs (STEP) until 6/30/2002. Ch. 116, SLA 1996
- Jan. 1, 1997** Employer's yearly rate calculation will be 80% of the benefit cost rate times the experience factor. (No change in solvency tax provision). Employee tax will be a uniform 20% of the benefit cost rate. Ch. 116, SLA 1996

#### **Benefit Provisions of the Alaska Employment Security Act—1937-1996**

- Apr. 2, 1937** Benefits first made payable January 1, 1939. Minimum payment \$5; maximum \$15. WBA (Weekly Benefit Amount) set at 50% of full-time weekly wage. Total benefit payments not to exceed 16 x WBA. Ch. 4, ELSA 1937
- Jan. 17, 1939** Minimum payment \$5; maximum \$16. WBA set at 1/20 of high quarter wages. Total benefit payments not to exceed either 16 x WBA or 1/3 of base year earnings. Ch. 1, SLA 1939
- Oct. 1, 1946** Minimum payment \$8; maximum \$25. Maximum reduced to \$20 if the fund balance is less than \$2 million on January 1. Total benefit payments not to exceed either 25 x WBA or 1/3 of

base year earnings. Ch. 32, ESLA 1946

<b>Jul. 1, 1949</b>	WBA is increased by 20% for each dependent of the claimant up to three. Ch. 25, SLA 1949
<b>Jul. 1, 1951</b>	Minimum payment \$8; maximum \$30. Ch. 11, SLA 1951
<b>Jul. 1, 1953</b>	Minimum payment \$8; maximum \$35. WBA now based on total wages in base year. Total benefit payments limited to 26 x WBA for most claimants. Ch. 99, SLA 1953
<b>Jul. 3, 1955</b>	Minimum payment \$10; maximum \$45. Maximum limited to \$25 for claimants residing outside the Territory. WBA is increased by \$5 for each dependent of the claimant up to five. Claimants with dependents residing outside the Territory are disqualified for the dependent allowance. Ch. 5, ESLA 1955
<b>Mar. 30, 1960</b>	Maximum WBA for interstate claimants reduced to \$20. Ch. 60, SLA 1960
<b>Jul. 1, 1966</b>	Minimum payment \$10; maximum \$55. Total benefit payments limited to 28 x WBA for most claimants. Ch. 112, SLA 1966
<b>Jul. 1, 1969</b>	Minimum payment \$18; maximum \$60. Ch. 106, SLA 1969
<b>Jan. 29, 1971</b>	Depending on the level of national and state unemployment rates, benefit payments may be extended. Extended benefit payments not to exceed one half of total benefits available under the regular program. Ch. 106, SLA 1971
<b>Jan. 1, 1972</b>	Discrimination against nonresident claimants is ended. Ch. 106, SLA 1971
<b>Jul. 1, 1973</b>	Minimum payment \$18; maximum \$90. Dependent allowance set at \$10 per dependent up to three. Ch. 43, SLA 1973
<b>Oct. 1, 1980</b>	Minimum payment \$34; maximum payment \$150 basic WBA. Dependent allowance set at \$24 per dependent up to three. Dependent allowance increases if an additional dependent is acquired by birth or adoption. Potential duration of benefits (16 to 26 weeks) is determined by the ratio of total base period wages to high quarter wages. Ch 9, SLA 1980
<b>Oct. 31, 1981</b>	Weekly benefits are reduced dollar for dollar upon receipt of periodic payments based on wages used to establish a benefit year. Ch. 114, SLA 1981
<b>Sep. 26, 1982</b>	Child support obligations may be deducted from weekly benefit checks. Ch. 115, SLA 1982
<b>Jan. 1, 1983</b>	Minimum payment \$34; maximum payment \$156 basic WBA. Ch. 115, SLA 1982
<b>Oct. 1, 1984</b>	Minimum payment \$38; maximum payment \$188 basic WBA. Ch. 106, SLA 1984
<b>Oct. 1, 1990</b>	Minimum payment \$44; maximum payment \$212 basic WBA. Ch. 167, SLA 1990
<b>Jan. 1, 1997</b>	Minimum payment \$44; maximum payment \$248 basic WBA. Ch. 116, SLA 1996

#### **Qualifying Provisions of the Alaska Employment Security Act—1937-1996**

<b>Apr. 2, 1937</b>	To qualify for benefits, a claimant must have: 1) been unemployed in two of the last 13 weeks preceding claim, 2) have wages in the first three of the last four calendar quarters totaling more than 16 times the Weekly Benefit Amount (WBA), and 3) be ready and able to work. The claimant is disqualified for five additional weeks upon quitting the last employment without good cause. Ch. 4, ESLA 1937
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- Jan. 17, 1939** Total wages in base year must equal or exceed twenty-five times the WBA. Ch. 1, SLA 1939
- Mar. 26, 1941** Claimant must have been unemployed for two weeks in the benefit year including the week in which the claim was filed. Ch. 40, SLA 1941
- Jul. 1, 1945** Women are disqualified during the last two months of pregnancy and the month following pregnancy. Ch. 50, SLA 1945
- Oct. 1, 1946** Minimum required wages in base year set at \$150. Ch. 32, SLA 1946
- Jun. 30, 1947** Waiting period reduced to one week. Ch. 74, SLA 1947
- Jul. 1, 1953** Minimum wage requirement set at \$300. Seasonal workers are disqualified for benefits for unemployment not occurring during their regular working season. Ch. 99, SLA 1953
- Jul. 3, 1955** Minimum wage requirement set at \$450 or 1 1/4 times high quarter wages. Women are disqualified until they subsequently earn \$120 if they leave work: 1) to get married; 2) to live with their husband; or 3) due to pregnancy. Any week of unemployment due to a labor dispute is disqualified. A claimant found guilty of fraud is disqualified for twenty-six weeks. Ch. 5, ESLA 1955
- Apr. 4, 1957** Minimum wage requirement set at \$500 or 1 1/4 times high-quarter wages. Ch. 169, SLA 1957
- Apr. 7, 1962** Claimants are not disqualified while attending a training course to improve their skills. Ch. 63, SLA 1962
- Jul. 1, 1969** Minimum wage requirement set at \$750, \$100 of which must have been earned outside the quarter with the highest wages. Ch. 106, SLA 1969
- Jan. 1, 1972** Women no longer disqualified during pregnancy. Ch. 106, SLA 1971
- Oct. 1, 1980** Minimum wage requirement set at \$1,000 with at least ten percent earned outside the quarter of highest wages. If a claimant earns more than 90% of the base period wages in one quarter, base period wages used for determining benefits will be reduced to ten times the wages paid in the base period outside the high quarter. The six week disqualification for voluntary quit and misconduct includes a reduction of potential benefits by three times the basic WBA. The six week disqualification is lifted if the claimant returns to work and earns eight times the WBA. Ch. 9, SLA 1980
- Oct. 31, 1981** A waiting week must be served for each new benefit year. Extended benefit claimants must actively seek work and may not refuse an offer of "suitable" work. Claimants filing for extended benefits from a state not triggered on to extended benefits are eligible for no more than two weeks of benefits. Ch. 114, SLA 1981
- Jun. 26, 1982** The national "on" and "off" trigger indicators for extended benefits are repealed in conformity with federal law. Ch. 115, SLA 1982
- Sep. 26, 1982** In conformity with federal law, the state "on" indicator for extended benefits is increased to six percent insured unemployment rate. In conformity with federal law, a claimant is not eligible for extended benefits unless total base period wages equal or exceed 40 times the weekly benefit entitlement including dependent benefits. Supplemental state benefits are provided for claimants otherwise eligible for extended benefits except for the new 40 x WBA requirement. All other conditions of extended benefits apply to supplemental state benefits. Ch. 115, SLA 182

- Jun. 16, 1984** State interim benefits provided for noncertified teachers of indigenous languages and school employees in other than an instructional, research, or principal capacity. Ch. 106, SLA 1984
- Jul. 2, 1989** An insured worker is ineligible for benefits for one year if discharged for commission of a felony or theft in connection with work. Ch. 100, SLA 1989
- Nov. 15, 1991** An agreement with the U.S. Dept. of Labor allows the temporary payment of benefits under the Emergency Unemployment Act of 1991 (PL 102-162) in place of extended benefits.
- Jul. 1, 1993** The implementation of the Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) program, 26 U.S.C. 3304. Eligibility for supplemental state benefits (SSB) remains in effect during a period in which extended benefits (EB) are triggered "off", but during which EUC benefits are payable. The eligibility for extended benefits (Oct. 3, 1993) requires the claimant meet the existing 40 times WBA requirement, or have a total of 1.5 times the base period high quarter wage.
- The total amount of extended benefits payable is the lowest of (1) 80 percent of total regular benefits, (2) 20 times the WBA, or (3) 46 times the WBA minus total regular benefits paid.
- In addition to the existing extended benefits triggers, EB is "on" if the state 3-month total unemployment rate (TUR) is 6.5%, and is 110% of the same 3-month period in either of the prior two years. EB is "off" if there is no "on" indicator, or if the State is eligible for the EUC program. Ch. 28, SLA 1993

## APPENDIX C

### GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**AREA** Geographic areas within Alaska, recorded by census areas and subareas.

**AVERAGE ANNUAL EARNINGS** Total payroll in covered employment, divided by average monthly covered employment.

**AVERAGE MONTHLY COVERED EMPLOYMENT** The sum of all reported covered employment for a 12-month period, divided by 12.

**AVERAGE WEEKLY BENEFIT AMOUNT (AWBA)** The total benefits paid for full-time unemployment, divided by the number of weeks compensated.

**AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS** Average annual earnings in covered employment, divided by 52.

**BASE PERIOD** The first four of the last five completed calendar quarters immediately preceding the first day of an individual's benefit year.

**BASE PERIOD EARNINGS (BASE PERIOD WAGE)** **a)** If the worker was paid 90% or more of their earnings in any single quarter of the base period, BPW is defined as earnings in the other three quarters times 10; **b)** If the worker was not paid 90% or more of their earnings in a single quarter of the base period, BPW is defined as earnings during the base period.

**BENEFITS** Money payments payable to an individual under AS.23.20.

**BENEFIT COST RATE** The cost of benefits as determined by the ratio of regular benefits paid in the current year, divided by total payroll in the previous year.

**BENEFIT YEAR** A one-year period beginning with the day an insured worker files a request for determination of insured status.

**CLAIMANT** An individual who has filed a request for determination of insured status, a notice of unemployment, a certification for waiting week credit, or a claim for benefits.

**COMBINED WAGES (INTERSTATE WAGE COMBINING)** Earnings during a base period that were paid in more than one state, for purposes of determining the share of liability in each state.

**CONTINUED WEEK CLAIMED** A claim for waiting week credit or payment of benefits for a week.

**CONTINUED WEEK PAID** Payment for a week of unemployment or for a waiting week.

**COVERAGE** The determination by the state whether an employing unit should be considered an employer subject to the state's unemployment insurance laws.

**COVERED EMPLOYMENT** The number of persons employed during the pay period which includes the 12th of each month, by place of work. Workers that are not covered include agricultural workers, self-employed workers, some employed students, most fishers, full-commissioned sales workers, private railroad workers, and elected and appointed officials.

**DATA BASE 2 SYSTEM (DB2)** A transaction driven system which automates all Employment Security Unemployment Insurance benefit functions, including on-line data collection and batch processing for database updating and report generation.

**DECLINE QUOTIENT** An estimate of an employer's experience with unemployment, determined by dividing the decline in payroll from quarter one to quarter two by the payroll in quarter one.

**DEPENDENT BENEFITS** Benefits paid to claimants with dependents, up to three dependents per claimant.

**DURATION** The number of weeks in which payments were received by an individual (actual), or qualified for (potential), for each program. Average duration is defined as the number of weeks paid per program in a 12-month period, divided by the number of first payments received in that program during that period.

**EARNINGS REPLACEMENT** The proportion of average weekly earnings replaced by the UI weekly benefit amount.

**EMERGENCY UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (EUC)** A federally funded program similar to extended benefits, paying additional weeks of benefits, beginning November 17, 1991, and ending April 30, 1994.

**ETA** Employment and Training Administration, a division of the U.S. Department of Labor.

**EXHAUSTS** Persons receiving payments for the maximum number of weeks available to them within a particular benefits program.

**EXPERIENCE RATING** A method of measuring an employer's experience with unemployment, in which employers are ranked by their average quarterly decline quotient, and assigned to one of 21 rate classes, each with a factor between .4 and 1.65.

**EXTENDED BENEFITS (EB)** Additional benefits allowable after regular State UI benefits have been exhausted, but only when an Extended Benefits period is in effect.

**EXTENDED BENEFITS PERIOD** A period during which EB payments are allowed, which is usually defined as a period of 13 weeks or more when the state's Insured Unemployment Rate is 6% or higher. Section 23.20.408 of the Alaska Employment Security Act defines the conditions under which an extended benefits period exists.

**FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR** October 1 of the prior year through September 30 of the current year.

**FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL BENEFITS (FSB)** A federally funded program similar to FSC that was in effect between 1975 and 1978.

**FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL COMPENSATION (FSC)** A federally funded program in effect between October 1982 and April 1985, which provided additional payments after regular benefits had been exhausted, and extended benefits had been exhausted or an extended benefits period was not in effect.

**FINAL PAYMENT** The last payment of a weekly benefits entitlement. (See EXHAUSTS).

**FIRST PAYMENT** The first payment for a week of unemployment claimed under a specific program.

**FUTA** Federal Unemployment Tax Act.

**HIGH QUARTER** The quarter of the base period in which the greatest amount of earnings occurred.

**INDUSTRY** Classification of an employer establishment by primary economic activity according to a government coding system. (See SIC and NAICS).

**INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT** The number of persons filing continued claims for full regular benefits, partial regular benefits, or in waiting week status, during a given week.

**INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE** Ratio of insured unemployed, expressed as a percentage of average covered employment; computed as average insured unemployment over a 13-week period, divided by

average covered employment lagged 6 months.

**INTERSTATE CLAIMS, INTERSTATE PAYMENTS** Claims made by, or payments made to, persons residing in other states who worked in Alaska, and for which Alaska is at least partially liable for unemployment compensation.

**INTRASTATE CLAIMS, PAYMENTS** Claims made by, or payments made to, persons residing within Alaska, including payments from other liable states.

**LAUS** Local Area Unemployment Statistics, a federal/state cooperative statistical program.

**LOCAL OFFICES** Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims centers which take and process UI claims. Until December 1995, there were 20 offices, including the mail claims and interstate unit. Beginning in late 1996, for UI claims purposes, the local offices were reorganized into three UI Call Centers.

**MAIL CLAIMS** Claims filed by mail to the Mail Claims center by persons residing more than 55 miles from the nearest Local Office.

**NAICS** North American Industry Classification System. A national standardized system to classify employers into industries that will soon replace the SIC coding system.

**NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT** Employment that does not include self-employed workers, unpaid family workers, domestics, most fishers, or agricultural workers, by place of work rather than residence.

**OWNERSHIP** Classification of employers according to legal proprietorship (federal, state, local, or private industry) rather than by type of economic activity.

**REGULAR BENEFITS** (See STATE UI PROGRAM)

**REIMBURSABLE** A contribution system whereby certain employers (state and local governments, hospitals, schools, non-profit corporations) can elect to reimburse the state trust fund directly for benefits paid to former employees, rather than pay taxes under the experience rating system.

**SOLVENCY ADJUSTMENT** A surcharge added to employer taxes whenever the trust fund balance falls below 3.0% of the total payroll, or subtracted whenever the balance rises above 3.3%.

**STANDARD INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION (SIC)** A national standardized system to classify employer establishments into industries by 4 digit codes, according to primary economic activity.

**STATE FISCAL YEAR** July 1 of the prior year through June 30 of the current year.

**STATE INTERIM BENEFITS (SIB)** A special Alaska program which pays benefits to certain noninstructional educational employees during periods between sessions.

**STATE SUPPLEMENTAL BENEFITS (SSB)** A special Alaska program which pays benefits to claimants who have been denied Extended Benefits because they do not meet the federal requirement that they earn 40 times their weekly benefit amount in their base period.

**STATE UI (REGULAR) PROGRAM** An insurance program designed to provide temporary compensation for those who are involuntarily unemployed, funded through employer and employee taxes and reimbursements.

**SUPPLEMENTAL PAYMENTS** Payments made to claimants who were paid previously but may have been underpaid for various reasons.

**TAX BASE** The maximum amount of each employee's earnings subject to State Unemployment Insurance taxes. Calculated as 75% of Average Annual Earnings.



**TAXABLE PAYROLL** The portion of total payroll of employers within the experience rating system that are subject to state unemployment tax provisions.

**TOTAL LABOR FORCE** All persons age 16 and over residing in a specific geographical area who are either employed, unemployed and seeking employment, or involved in a labor dispute.

**TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT** All persons age 16 and over who did not work during the survey week, but were available and seeking work, or waiting to report for work within 30 days.

**TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATE** An expression of the number of unemployed persons as a percent of the total civilian labor force. Defined as total unemployment, divided by the total labor force.

**TOTAL PAYROLL** The total of all wages and salaries (taxable and reimbursable) paid by covered employers. Includes bonuses, tips, and the cash value of meals, lodging, and other gratuities when furnished with the job.

**TRA** Trade Readjustment Allowance. An allowance authorized under the federal Trade Act of 1974 for the purpose of providing benefits and training to workers whose employment opportunities have been impacted by adjustments made in federal regulations concerning international trade.

**TRAINING AND BUILDING FUND** A fund (separate from the unemployment compensation fund) based on interest and penalties collected from taxable employers and used to support training activities and to provide office space.

**TRUST FUND** A state fund to receive and disburse unemployment insurance funds.

**TRUST FUND RESERVE** Funds on deposit in the trust fund, plus balances in the state's clearing account and benefit payment account, plus interest credited for the last quarter of the calendar year.

**UCFE** Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees. A federally funded insurance program designed to provide temporary compensation for former employees of the federal government who are involuntarily unemployed.

**UCX** A federally funded insurance program designed to provide temporary unemployment compensation for ex-members of the Armed Forces.

**UI** Unemployment Insurance.

**UI CLAIMS CENTER** Offices in Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Juneau (including Mail Claims and Interstate Claims Centers) which process UI Claims. During 1996-1997, in-person claims filing was phased out. All in-state claims filing is now done by mail.

**WAITING WEEK** The first week for which a claimant files for unemployment and for which there is no disqualification.

**WEEKLY BENEFIT AMOUNT** Amount of benefits paid (actual) or entitled to (potential), per week.





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