



Unemployment Insurance Actuarial Study and Financial Handbook 2008

State of Alaska
Department of Labor
and Workforce Development

Sean Parnell, Governor
Click Bishop, Commissioner



**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
& WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

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Preface to the 2008 Edition

The Unemployment Insurance Actuarial study and Financial Handbook 2008 is designed to give detailed information about Alaska's unemployment Insurance (UI) system and its recent trends.

Alaska's Employment Security Act, under Alaska Statute 23.20.022, requires that the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development provide the actuarial study to the governor every two years. The department's Research and Analysis Section publishes the actuarial study, now in its 18th edition, for even-numbered years. It also publishes an "updated tables" edition of the actuarial study for odd-numbered years.

This publication is primarily used by the staff of the Department's Employment Security Division (ESD) to respond to information requests from the Alaska Legislature, other government agencies, and employers. The Research and Analysis Section answers data requests based on the actuarial study, and its sources. Some common questions include the UI claimant characteristics in a particular area, the average length of time claimants receive UI benefits, and the average weekly benefit paid out to claimants.

The Executive Summary presents some highlights of the following chapters:

- **Chapter 1** focuses on employment and wages that are covered by Alaska's UI system. It discusses average monthly employment, total wages, and average earnings per worker. The data tables are largely organized to present information 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 the 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 an explanation of the tax calculations for employers and employees.
- Appendix A describes the data sources used in the publication, and some limitations of the data. Appendix B summarizes the major changes in the UI law since 1937. Appendix C is a glossary.

A limited number of this 2008 edition are printed. The publication is available in electronic form (PDF) from the Research and Analysis Web site – laborstats.alaska.gov. Contact Research and Analysis at (907) 465-4500 for copies of this or earlier editions. All editions of the handbook from 1978 are available as pdf files on request.

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Executive Summary

An overview of some of the most significant findings for 2008:

- Alaska's UI program, in 2008, covered nearly 315,000 workers, 98.0% of wage and salary workers.
- Average monthly employment, total wages, taxable wages, and average earnings, increased during 2008, exceeding all prior year levels.
- Covered wages in Alaska during 2008 was \$13.3 billion, of which \$10.5 billion was reported from employers that pay UI taxes.
- Average weekly earnings of workers in 2008 rose to \$860, approximately 4.7% more than in 2007 (\$822). Top earnings, expectedly, were in the oil and gas industry (\$3,113), while one of the lowest was in the larger Trade sector (\$598).
- Total Wage growth from 2007-2008 was greatest in the three components of the mining industry (total 15.5%), with the oil and gas industry recording 14.9%.
- Roughly \$120 million in unemployment benefits was paid to 45,343 workers during 2008. Regular benefits accounted for the vast majority of this amount.
- The 2008 average weekly benefit payment, for regular benefits, in Alaska was \$202, up \$2.07 from 2007. On average, people claiming regular benefits received 14 weeks of benefits.
- After a two year absence, Extended Benefits (EB) showed a modest comeback in 2008, accounting for \$4 million in benefit payments, or 3% of total payments.
- Alaska ranked 50th in the nation, during 2008, in benefit adequacy, which is the percentage of average weekly earnings replaced by unemployment benefits.
- Alaska was in 8th place nationally for the percentage of unemployed workers who actually received benefits, down from 4th highest in 2007.
- Alaska's UI trust fund had a reserve balance of \$351 million at the end of 2008.
- The average employer tax rate assigned in 2008 was 1.50% of taxable payroll. For 2009, the average employer tax rate is 1.15%.

Chapter 1

Unemployment Insurance Covered Employment and Wages

Ninety-eight percent of Alaska's workers are covered by Unemployment Insurance

State and federal unemployment insurance programs covered 314,814 workers in Alaska in 2008 – 98.0 percent of all nonagricultural wage and salary workers. (See Table 1.1 and Figure 1.1.) State programs covered 92.7 percent of Alaska's workers and federal programs covered 5.3 percent.¹ The total percentage of UI coverage has been roughly 98 percent for the last 10 years.

The 2.0 percent of workers who are typically not covered by UI insurance include full-commission salespeople, elected and appointed officials, and unpaid family workers. Beginning in 2006, estimated real estate employment is included in the non-covered category.

Employers pay UI taxes and nonprofits reimburse the state

In Alaska, employers are assigned tax rates each year and pay taxes each quarter on the “taxable wages” of their employees. Nonprofit organizations, and state and local government agencies, use their option to reimburse the state for the UI benefits paid to their former employees.

Reimbursable employment accounts for a fifth of covered employment – 20.9 percent in 2008. This percentage has declined slowly as the economy matures and reimbursable employment is a smaller part of the work force. During 2008, average monthly employment was 297,925 total, including 62,371 in reimbursable employment. (See Table 1.2.)

Employment and payroll continued growing during 2007 and 2008

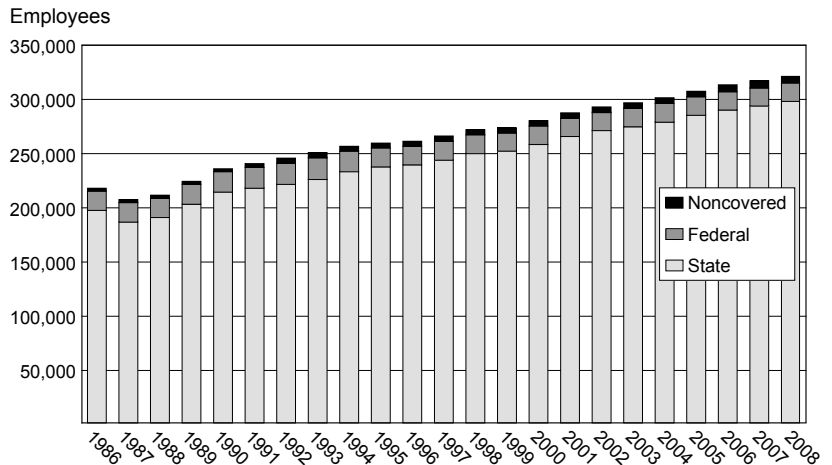
During the past two years, Alaska had 1.3 percent average annual growth in covered employment and 6.4 percent growth in total Wages. Average monthly employment grew 1.3 percent

¹ The state programs include regular unemployment, extended benefits (EB), which has shared funding, and state supplemental benefits (SSB). The standing federal programs include Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE), which is designed to provide temporary unemployment benefits to former federal government employees, and UCX, which is designed to provide temporary unemployment benefits to former military personnel. Emergency Unemployment Compensation 2008 (EUC-08) is a limited time program, enacted by congress, and funded with federal dollars.

in 2007 and 1.3 percent in 2008. (See Tables 1.2 and 1.7.) Total covered payroll – wages covered by the UI system - grew 6.3 percent in 2007 and 6.1 percent in 2008. (See Tables 1.3 and 1.8.)

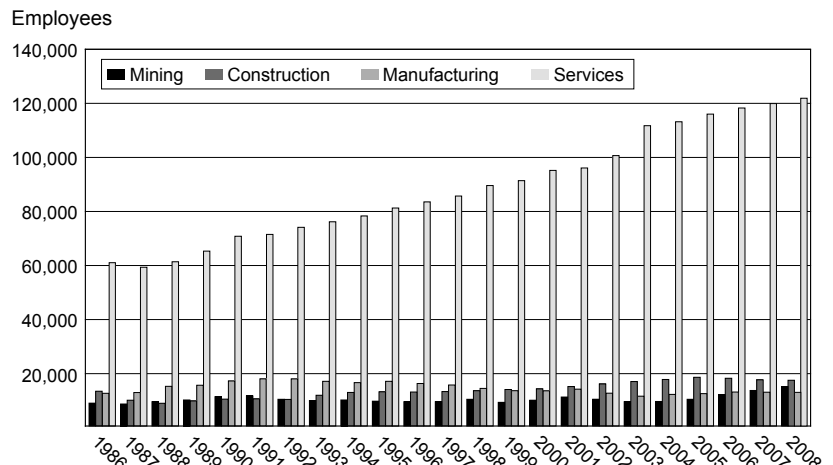
Employment - Average monthly covered employment rose from 294,016 in 2007 to 297,925 in 2008. Many major industries shared in the growth from 2007 to 2008, such as Mining (10.1 percent), Public, health care and social assistance (4.1 percent), accommodation and food services (1.8 percent), Transportation and warehousing (1.4 percent), and Public administration (1.4 percent). Trade was essentially flat in employment change (0.3 percent) during 2008.

Figure 1.1 Employment by Type of UI Coverage 1986-2008



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

Figure 1.2 Average Monthly Covered Employment 1986-2008



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

Construction fell 1.3 percent, and Manufacturing declined 1.2 percent in 2008. (See Table 1.2.)

Wages - Total covered wages grew 58.9 percent in the last 10 years and 12.8 percent from 2006 to 2008. Covered wages now stands at about \$13.3 billion, up from roughly \$8.4 billion in 1999. (See Table 1.8.)

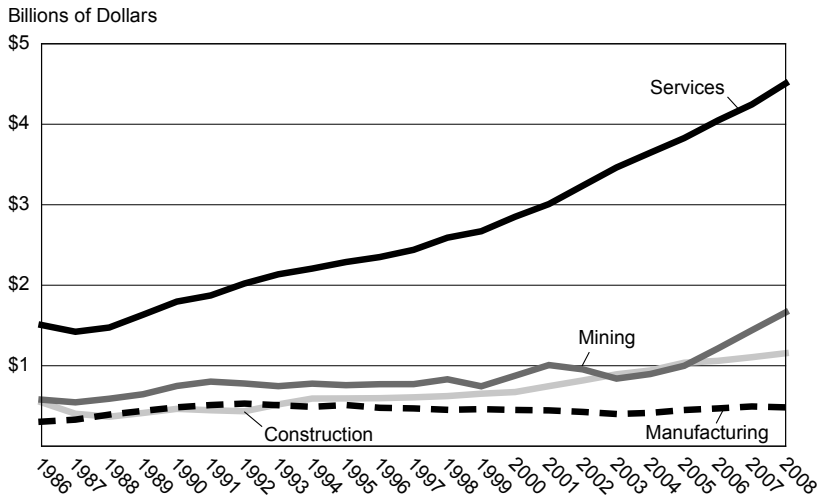
During 2008, the growth in covered wages reached 6.1 percent, which was good news for that time period in the Alaska economy. All of the major industry groups had positive growth in covered payroll this last year, including mining (15.5 percent), construction (0.5 percent), transportation and warehousing (5.4 percent), trade (2.4 percent), as well as health care and social assistance (6.3 percent). (See Table 1.3.) As we present this data, we are mindful that

2009 will be presenting a picture of economic challenge in Alaska, during a national recession.

Service industries are a major part of Alaska's economy

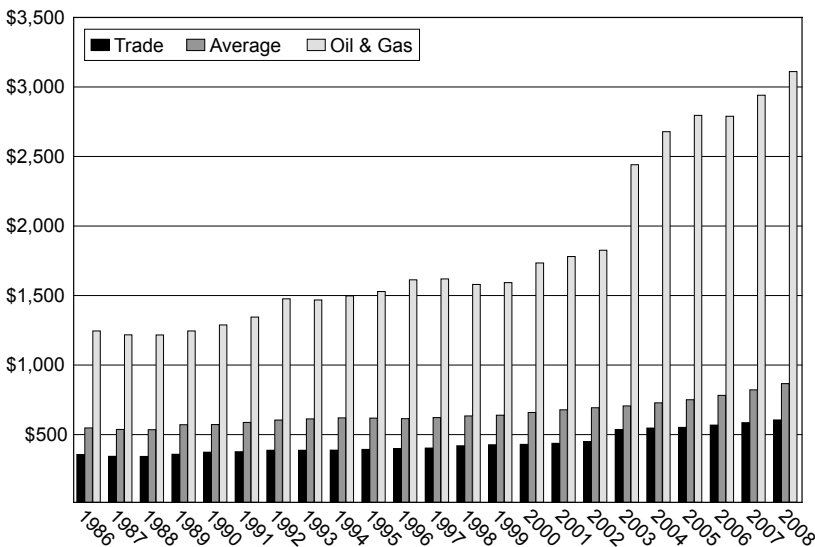
Past issues of this publication, prior to 2003, detailed how Alaska's service industry grew steadily over time, created roughly half of new jobs, and provided about 40 percent of employment. The ability to look at service industries in more detail comes with the NAICS classification system, which creates many more service sector industries. We now have the start of a new comparative series of data (2003-2008) for the service industries. The basic observations about the importance of the services sector, its continuing growth, and contribution of about 40 percent of jobs are the same. (See Figures 1.2 and 1.3.)

Figure 1.3 Total Covered Wages 1986-2008



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

Figure 1.4 Average Weekly Wages 1986-2008



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

Average annual earnings continue to increase

Average annual earnings have grown steadily for the last nine years. (See Tables 1.5 and 1.10.) Overall, average annual earnings rose 10.0 percent the last two years, from \$40,699 in 2006 to \$44,756 in 2008. (See Table 1.10) This earnings increase is slightly more than the 6.9 percent increase in the Anchorage Consumer Price Index (the CPI-U) from 2006 to 2008. Although the growth in the overall average wage has generally been keeping pace with the rise in the cost of living, Alaska's earnings ranking nationally has eroded over time, from top in the nation in the early 1980's, to 19th place in 2007 and slightly rebounding to 16th in 2008 (See Table 2.6).

Alaska's best paying industries continue to be oil and gas extraction, with \$161,890 in annual average earnings, and other mining industries. (See Table 1.5). Alaska's lower wage rate industries are in the trade and service categories. The two lowest in 2006 were "arts, entertainment and recreation", with \$17,518 in average annual earnings, and accommodation and food services, with \$19,684 in average annual earnings.

**Table 1.1
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment,
Covered and Noncovered, 1999-2008**

Year	Total Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment	State UI Taxable and Reimbursable Employment	Percent of Total	Alaska Federal Government Employment	Percent of Total	Non-Covered Employment	Percent of Total
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
2001	287,720	265,945	92.4	16,807	5.8	4,968	1.7
2002	293,117	271,349	92.6	16,757	5.7	5,011	1.7
2003	296,909	274,755	92.5	17,104	5.8	5,050	1.7
2004	301,558	279,161	92.6	17,170	5.7	5,227	1.7
2005	307,537	285,455	92.8	16,974	5.5	5,108	1.7
2006	313,485	290,310	92.6	16,714	5.3	6,461	2.1
2007	317,236	294,016	92.7	16,557	5.2	6,663	2.1
2008	321,232	297,925	92.7	16,889	5.3	6,418	2.0

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

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) report to the U.S. Department of Labor

Table 1.2
Average Monthly Covered Employment¹ by Industry
2005-2008

	Employment				Percent			
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total Taxable and Reimbursable	285,455	290,313	294,016	297,925	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing ² & Hunting	1,062	941	825	765	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3
Mining	10,513	12,247	13,756	15,148	3.7	4.2	4.7	5.1
Oil & Gas Extraction	2,634	2,890	3,244	3,521	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.2
Mining Support	6,343	7,607	8,559	9,515	2.2	2.6	2.9	3.2
Other Mining	1,536	1,750	1,953	2,112	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7
Utilities	1,924	1,923	1,918	1,967	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Construction	18,663	18,296	17,713	17,488	6.5	6.3	6.0	5.9
Manufacturing	12,606	13,203	13,136	12,981	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.4
Food	9,234	9,869	9,641	9,474	3.2	3.4	3.3	3.2
Wood Products	361	343	403	408	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Other Manufacturing	3,011	2,991	3,092	3,100	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.0
Transportation & Warehousing	19,975	20,422	20,525	20,814	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0
Trade	42,169	42,322	42,609	42,730	14.8	14.6	14.5	14.3
Information	6,897	6,936	6,944	7,013	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4
Finance & Insurance	8,636	8,792	8,967	8,998	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	5,318	5,283	5,240	5,038	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.7
Professional & Technical Services	11,606	12,022	12,526	13,202	4.1	4.1	4.3	4.4
Management of Companies	1,204	1,218	1,185	1,202	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Administrative & Waste Services	11,066	11,100	11,440	11,771	3.9	3.8	3.9	4.0
Educational Services	27,976	27,799	28,049	28,169	9.8	9.6	9.5	9.5
Health Care & Social Assistance	35,061	36,487	36,549	37,207	12.3	12.6	12.4	12.5
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	4,214	4,280	4,370	4,539	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Accommodation & Food Services	26,644	27,074	27,613	27,614	9.3	9.3	9.4	9.3
Other Services, except Public Administration	9,292	9,485	9,661	9,895	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3
Public Administration	30,063	29,905	30,332	30,746	10.5	10.3	10.3	10.3
Unclassified	567	580	661	640	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Total Reimbursable Accounts	60,546	60,488	61,636	62,371				
Transportation & Warehousing	895	924	915	845				
Educational Services	26,203	25,627	26,171	26,228				
Health Care & Social Assistance	9,794	9,936	10,127	10,561				
Other Services, except Public Administration	948	842	948	908				
Public Administration	22,535	22,981	23,247	23,613				
Unclassified	171	177	228	217				

¹ Covered Employment and Covered Wages excludes federal government.

² Fishing excludes nearly all commercial fish harvesting employment

Notes: Reimbursable account data are included in the uppermost portion of this table. Percentages may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) report to the U.S. Department of Labor

Table 1.3
Total Covered¹ Wages by Industry
In Thousands, 2005-2008

	Wages				Percent			
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total Taxable and Reimbursable	\$11,148,894	\$11,815,332	\$12,568,882	\$13,333,856	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing ² & Hunting	42,299	35,520	32,383	31,484	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.2
Mining	999,400	1,214,615	1,440,028	1,663,048	9.0	10.3	11.5	12.5
Oil & Gas Extraction	382,916	419,200	496,030	570,056	3.4	3.5	3.9	4.3
Mining Support	495,621	655,588	782,392	903,568	4.4	5.5	6.2	6.8
Other Mining	120,863	139,827	161,606	189,423	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4
Utilities	118,026	118,102	123,532	132,575	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0
Construction	1,037,408	1,060,905	1,105,439	1,155,283	9.3	9.0	8.8	8.7
Manufacturing	450,063	469,647	494,342	483,016	4.0	4.0	3.9	3.6
Food	287,385	303,763	317,240	305,736	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.3
Wood Products	11,944	11,440	14,781	15,513	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Other Manufacturing	150,734	154,444	162,321	161,767	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.2
Transportation & Warehousing	958,428	995,435	1,071,585	1,129,138	8.6	8.4	8.5	8.5
Trade	1,210,417	1,250,882	1,298,584	1,329,282	10.9	10.6	10.3	10.0
Information	334,557	345,874	358,682	380,778	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.9
Finance & Insurance	413,013	450,765	480,128	497,363	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.7
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	168,442	170,993	175,311	181,559	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4
Professional & Technical Services	602,973	652,052	732,689	818,526	5.4	5.5	5.8	6.1
Management of Companies	74,184	88,138	88,097	90,133	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Administrative & Waste Services	365,398	388,876	423,841	454,345	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.4
Educational Services	1,063,961	1,085,164	1,094,538	1,139,779	9.5	9.2	8.7	8.5
Health Care & Social Assistance	1,285,608	1,376,755	1,436,149	1,526,252	11.5	11.7	11.4	11.4
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	66,500	71,594	76,569	79,513	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
Accommodation & Food Services	471,319	496,118	525,457	543,554	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.1
Other Services, except PA	263,736	278,095	292,067	308,787	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.3
Public Administration	1,204,829	1,247,645	1,297,395	1,367,164	10.8	10.6	10.3	10.3
Unclassified	18,331	18,157	22,067	22,277	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Total Reimbursable Accounts	\$2,519,453	\$2,600,402	\$2,691,732	\$2,826,216				
Transportation & Warehousing	48,642	50,226	52,673	51,150				
Educational Services	1,010,692	1,012,423	1,036,625	1,078,438				
Health Care & Social Assistance	415,962	439,691	461,444	493,567				
Other Services, except Public Administration	21,484	20,173	24,151	24,143				
Public Administration	1,016,466	1,071,401	1,109,270	1,170,341				
Unclassified	6,207	6,488	7,553	8,578				

¹ Covered Employment and Covered Wages excludes federal government.

² Fishing excludes nearly all commercial fish harvesting employment

Notes: Reimbursable account data are included in the uppermost portion of this table. Percentages may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) report to the U.S. Department of Labor

Table 1.4
Taxable Covered Wages by Industry
In Thousands, 2005-2008

	Wages				Percent			
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total	\$5,436,868	\$5,720,285	\$6,074,631	\$6,391,729	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing ¹ & Hunting	31,129	27,280	23,895	22,359	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.3
Mining	360,815	445,441	520,783	596,882	6.6	7.8	8.6	9.3
Oil & Gas Extraction	81,715	92,632	109,474	121,809	1.5	1.6	1.8	1.9
Mining Support	227,272	290,506	339,105	395,281	4.2	5.1	5.6	6.2
Other Mining	51,827	62,303	72,204	79,792	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.2
Utilities	54,142	55,282	57,745	62,945	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Construction	666,348	672,887	690,748	706,408	12.3	11.8	11.4	11.1
Manufacturing	338,762	349,422	371,870	365,039	6.2	6.1	6.1	5.7
Food	246,838	256,330	270,137	259,276	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.1
Wood Products	9,074	9,238	11,788	12,075	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Other Manufacturing	82,851	83,853	89,944	93,688	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Transportation & Warehousing	501,254	525,304	554,810	584,872	9.2	9.2	9.1	9.2
Trade	884,561	917,587	957,571	984,329	16.3	16.0	15.8	15.4
Information	178,017	182,979	191,942	203,687	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.2
Finance & Insurance	231,445	244,054	258,707	269,603	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.2
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	121,494	121,548	124,470	126,520	2.2	2.1	2.0	2.0
Professional & Technical	324,526	351,240	383,087	425,844	6.0	6.1	6.3	6.7
Management of Companies	40,452	42,601	43,679	45,811	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Administrative & Waste Services	264,634	276,065	301,945	317,106	4.9	4.8	5.0	5.0
Educational Services	37,115	39,132	41,287	44,548	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Health Care & Social Assistance	589,089	631,609	661,428	701,829	10.8	11.0	10.9	11.0
Art, Entertainment & Recreation	56,991	61,165	64,831	68,934	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1
Accommodation & Food Services	425,338	446,184	473,221	490,148	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.7
Other Service, except Public Administration	176,728	185,963	195,421	210,284	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.3
Public Administration	139,463	130,742	140,220	147,006	2.6	2.3	2.3	2.3
Unclassified	14,567	13,801	16,973	17,576	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3

¹ Fishing excludes nearly all commercial fish harvesting employment

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

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) report to the U.S. Department of Labor

Table 1.5
Average Annual Wages in Covered Employment¹ by Industry
2004-2008

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total Taxable and Reimbursable	\$37,907	\$39,057	\$40,699	\$42,749	\$44,755
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing ² & Hunting	40,189	39,830	37,747	39,252	41,156
Mining	92,531	95,063	99,177	104,684	109,787
Oil & Gas Extraction	139,298	145,374	145,052	152,907	161,890
Mining Support	77,710	78,137	86,182	91,412	94,962
Other Mining	69,136	78,687	79,901	82,748	89,700
Utilities	59,951	61,344	61,415	64,407	67,417
Construction	52,761	55,586	57,986	62,408	66,062
Manufacturing	33,628	35,702	35,571	37,633	37,209
Food	29,253	31,122	30,780	32,905	32,272
Wood Products	30,566	33,086	33,353	36,677	38,069
Other Manufacturing	47,886	50,061	51,636	52,497	52,187
Transportation & Warehousing	47,793	47,981	48,743	52,209	54,249
Trade	28,437	28,704	29,556	30,477	31,109
Information	48,068	48,508	49,866	51,654	54,298
Finance & Insurance	46,043	47,825	51,270	53,544	55,275
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	30,467	31,674	32,367	33,456	36,040
Professional & Technical Services	48,732	51,954	54,238	58,493	62,001
Management of Companies	61,908	61,615	72,363	74,343	74,986
Administrative & Waste Services	31,574	33,020	35,034	37,049	38,599
Educational Services	37,110	38,031	39,036	39,022	40,463
Health Care & Social Assistance	36,174	36,668	37,733	39,294	41,020
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	15,727	15,781	16,728	17,522	17,518
Accommodation & Food Services	17,454	17,689	18,325	19,029	19,684
Other Services, except Public Administration	28,352	28,383	29,319	30,232	31,207
Public Administration	38,576	40,077	41,720	42,773	44,467
Unclassified	38,873	32,330	31,305	33,384	34,592
Total Reimbursable Accounts	\$40,560	\$41,612	\$42,990	\$43,671	\$45,313
Transportation & Warehousing	50,937	54,349	54,357	57,566	60,533
Educational Services	37,614	38,572	39,506	39,610	41,119
Health Care & Social Assistance	41,900	42,471	44,252	45,566	46,736
Other Services, except Public Administration	22,547	22,662	23,958	25,476	26,589
Public Administration	43,405	45,106	46,621	47,717	49,564

¹ Covered Employment and Covered Wages excludes federal government.

² Fishing excludes nearly all commercial fish harvesting employment

Note: Reimbursable account data are included in the upper portion of this table.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) report to the U.S. Department of Labor

Table 1.6
Average Weekly Wages in Covered Employment¹
by Industry, 2004-2008

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total Taxable and Reimbursable	\$728.98	\$751.11	\$782.68	\$822.10	\$860.68
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing ² & Hunting	772.87	765.95	725.91	754.85	791.45
Mining	1,779.44	1,828.14	1,907.24	2,013.15	2,111.28
Oil & Gas Extraction	2,678.81	2,795.66	2,789.46	2,940.52	3,113.27
Mining Support	1,494.42	1,502.63	1,657.35	1,757.92	1,826.20
Other Mining	1,329.53	1,513.21	1,536.56	1,591.30	1,724.99
Utilities	1,152.90	1,179.69	1,181.07	1,238.59	1,296.48
Construction	1,014.63	1,068.97	1,115.11	1,200.16	1,270.43
Manufacturing	646.70	686.58	684.06	723.70	715.57
Food	562.55	598.51	591.91	632.79	620.61
Wood Products	587.80	636.27	641.40	705.33	732.09
Other Manufacturing	920.89	962.71	993.00	1,009.56	1,003.60
Transportation & Warehousing	919.10	922.72	937.37	1,004.01	1,043.25
Trade	546.86	552.00	568.39	586.09	598.25
Information	924.39	932.84	958.97	993.34	1,044.19
Finance & Insurance	885.43	919.70	985.96	1,029.69	1,062.98
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	585.90	609.11	622.44	643.39	693.07
Professional & Technical Services	937.14	999.11	1,043.04	1,124.87	1,192.33
Management of Companies	1,190.54	1,184.90	1,391.59	1,429.68	1,442.04
Administrative & Waste Services	607.20	635.00	673.73	712.48	742.28
Educational Services	713.65	731.37	750.69	750.43	778.13
Health Care & Social Assistance	695.65	705.15	725.63	755.65	788.85
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	302.45	303.48	321.68	336.95	336.88
Accommodation & Food Services	335.66	340.18	352.39	365.95	378.54
Other Services, except Public Administration	545.23	545.83	563.84	581.38	600.14
Public Administration	741.85	770.71	802.31	822.56	855.13
Unclassified	747.55	621.73	602.02	642.01	665.22
Total Reimbursable Accounts	\$780.00	\$800.23	\$826.74	\$839.84	\$871.40
Transportation & Warehousing	979.55	1,045.17	1,045.33	1,107.04	1,164.09
Educational Services	723.34	741.76	759.73	761.72	790.74
Health Care & Social Assistance	805.78	816.75	851.01	876.26	898.77
Other Services, except Public Administration	433.59	435.82	460.74	489.92	511.33
Public Administration	834.71	867.43	896.56	917.63	953.16

¹ Covered Employment and Covered Wages excludes federal government.

² Fishing excludes nearly all commercial fish harvesting employment

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.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) report to the U.S. Department of Labor

Table 1.7
Average Monthly Covered Employment¹ by Ownership
1999-2008

Covered Employment	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total	252,228	258,428	265,945	271,350	274,755	279,161	285,455	290,310	294,016	297,925
State Government	19,950	20,198	20,988	21,830	22,022	21,831	22,077	22,433	22,648	22,929
Local Government	31,305	31,468	35,281	37,353	37,076	36,428	36,906	36,474	37,042	37,425
Private Industry	200,973	206,762	209,676	212,167	215,657	220,902	226,472	231,403	234,326	237,571
Taxable	193,007	198,361	200,825	203,010	205,949	211,161	216,533	221,507	224,318	227,325
Reimbursable	7,966	8,401	8,851	9,157	9,708	9,741	9,939	9,896	10,008	10,246
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	7.9	7.8	7.9	8.0	8.0	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7
Local Government	12.4	12.2	13.3	13.8	13.5	13.0	12.9	12.6	12.6	12.6
Private Industry	79.7	80.0	78.8	78.2	78.5	79.1	79.3	79.7	79.7	79.7
Taxable	76.5	76.8	75.5	74.8	75.0	75.6	75.9	76.3	76.3	76.3
Reimbursable	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.4

¹ Covered Employment and Covered Wages excludes federal government.

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

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) report to the U.S. Department of Labor

Table 1.8
Total Covered Wages¹ by Ownership
In Thousands, 1999-2008

Ownership	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total	\$8,389,193	\$8,862,098	\$9,384,548	\$9,779,538	\$10,093,400	\$10,582,052	\$11,148,894	\$11,815,332	\$12,568,882	\$13,333,856
State Government	766,996	800,004	826,632	879,064	910,098	913,913	976,244	1,011,295	1,060,206	1,116,978
Local Government	1,125,164	1,127,624	1,218,672	1,280,960	1,312,305	1,339,864	1,373,025	1,415,132	1,437,176	1,505,388
Private Industry	6,497,033	6,934,470	7,339,244	7,619,514	7,870,997	8,328,275	8,799,625	9,388,905	10,071,500	10,711,490
Taxable	6,248,464	6,652,396	7,029,444	7,285,303	7,511,133	7,945,879	8,405,074	8,977,580	9,643,328	10,259,762
Reimbursable	248,569	282,074	309,800	334,211	359,864	382,396	394,551	411,325	428,172	451,728
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	9.1	9.0	8.8	9.0	9.0	8.6	8.8	8.6	8.4	8.4
Local Government	13.4	12.7	13.0	13.1	13.0	12.7	12.3	12.0	11.4	11.3
Private Industry	77.4	78.2	78.2	77.9	78.0	78.7	78.9	79.5	80.1	80.3
Taxable	74.5	75.1	74.9	74.5	74.4	75.1	75.4	76.0	76.7	76.9
Reimbursable	3.0	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.4

¹ Covered Employment and Covered Wages excludes federal government.

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

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) report to the U.S. Department of Labor

Table 1.9
Taxable Covered Wages¹ by Ownership
In Thousands, 1999-2008

Taxable Wages	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total	\$4,124,730	\$4,396,916	\$4,556,600	\$4,722,968	\$4,874,371	\$5,130,288	\$5,436,868	\$5,720,285	\$6,074,631	\$6,391,729
State Government	8,933	9,125	9,491	8,877	8,675	8,911	8,965	9,039	8,857	9,637
Local Government	83,215	84,403	133,487	147,575	149,563	154,032	154,521	151,072	161,763	170,253
Private Industry	4,032,582	4,303,388	4,413,622	4,566,516	4,716,133	4,967,345	5,273,382	5,560,174	5,904,011	6,211,839
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	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2
Local Government	2.0	1.9	2.9	3.1	3.1	3.0	2.8	2.6	2.7	2.7
Private Industry	97.8	97.9	96.9	96.7	96.8	96.8	97.0	97.2	97.2	97.2

¹ Covered Employment and Covered Wages excludes federal government.

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

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) report to the U.S. Department of Labor

Table 1.10
Average Annual Wages in Covered Employment¹
by Ownership, 1999-2008

Average Annual Wage	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total	\$33,260	\$34,292	\$35,288	\$36,040	\$36,736	\$37,907	\$39,057	\$40,699	\$42,749	\$44,756
State Government	38,446	39,608	39,386	40,269	41,327	41,863	44,220	45,081	46,812	48,715
Local Government	35,942	35,834	34,542	34,293	35,395	36,781	37,203	38,798	38,799	40,224
Private Industry	32,328	33,538	35,003	35,913	36,498	37,701	38,855	40,574	42,981	45,088
Taxable	32,374	33,537	35,003	35,887	36,471	37,629	38,817	40,530	42,990	45,133
Reimbursable	31,204	33,576	35,002	36,498	37,069	39,256	39,697	41,565	42,783	44,080

¹ Covered Employment and Covered Wages excludes federal government.

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

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) report to the U.S. Department of Labor

Table 1.11
Average Weekly Wages in Covered Employment¹
by Ownership, 1999-2008

Ownership	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total	\$639.62	\$659.47	\$678.62	\$693.08	\$706.46	\$728.98	\$751.09	\$782.69	\$822.11	\$860.69
State Government	739.34	761.69	757.42	774.40	794.75	805.06	850.38	866.94	900.24	936.83
Local Government	691.19	689.12	664.27	659.48	680.67	707.33	715.45	746.12	746.13	773.54
Private Industry	621.69	644.97	673.13	690.63	701.88	725.02	747.22	780.27	826.55	867.08
Taxable	622.58	644.94	673.13	690.13	701.36	723.63	746.47	779.41	826.72	867.94
Reimbursable	600.07	645.70	673.12	701.88	712.86	754.92	763.41	799.32	822.75	847.69

¹ Covered Employment and Covered Wages excludes federal government.

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

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) report to the U.S. Department of Labor

Chapter 2

Unemployment Insurance Benefit Payments

Benefit payments in 2008 were \$120.2 million

Total benefit payments in 2008 were \$120.2 million, while the benefit payments in 2007 were \$103.4 million. (See Table 2.13.)

Alaska's UI system paid \$17.3 million in Regular benefits to out-of-state claimants in 2008, which was 16.8 percent of all regular UI benefit payments. (See Table 2.14.). The total for all programs to out-of-state claimants was \$20.3 million.

Six different UI programs distributed benefits in Alaska in 2008, including two standing federally funded programs: the Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) program, which is designed to provide temporary unemployment benefits to former federal government employees; and the UCX program, which is designed to provide temporary unemployment benefits to former military personnel. Of the money that the UI programs paid to claimants in 2008, the largest portion, 86%, was through the regular UI program. The extended benefits program, inactive in 2006 and 2007, distributed just over \$4 million in 2008. Its companion program, the supplemental state benefits program, is smaller in scale but paid out over \$56,000. The federal benefits program "Emergency Unemployment Compensation 2008" (EUC-08) paid \$10.2 million in 2008 (See Table 2.13.)

Regular benefits – the nation's fundamental UI program

The regular benefits program is the largest part of each state's UI program. Created by the Employment Security Act of 1937, the regular benefits program is loosely modeled after benefit programs in Europe.

In Alaska, eligibility for regular benefits (through 2008) required individuals to earn at least \$1,000 in their "base period," with at least \$100 earned outside the highest earnings quarter in their base period. (See the Glossary, Appendix C.)

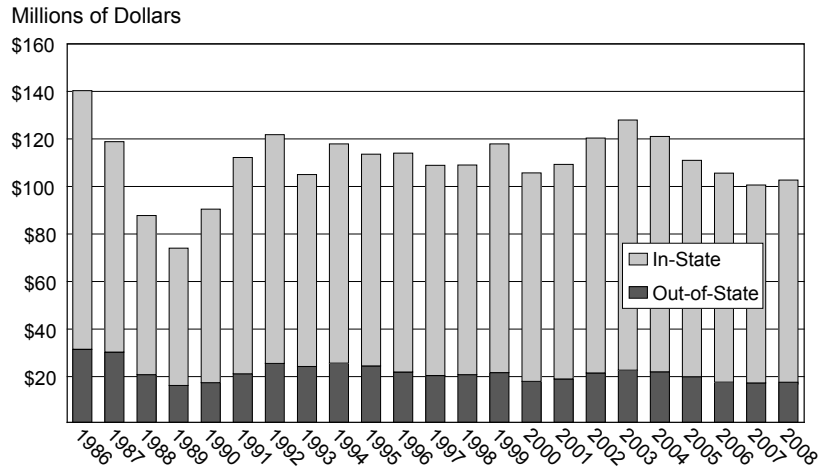
The base period is defined as the first four of the five most recently completed quarters. However, base period earnings are not always a claimant's earnings during the base period. In 1981, the Alaska Legislature enacted AS 23.20.350, which redefined base period wages to better reflect the claimant's attachment to the labor force. For the

purpose of computing benefits payable, base period earnings are determined as follows:

If the insured worker is paid 90 percent or more of his or her earnings in one calendar quarter, the worker's base period earnings are his or her earnings in the three other quarters multiplied by 10; or

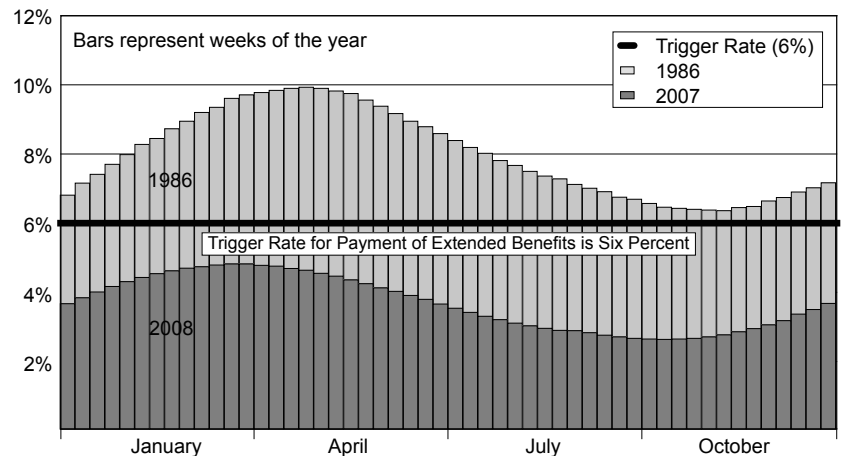
If the insured worker is paid less than 90 percent of his or her earnings in one calendar quarter, the worker's base period earnings are simply his or her earnings during the base period.

Figure 2.1 Amount of UI Payments, Regular Benefits 1986-2008



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

Figure 2.2 Alaska Insured Unemployment Rate 1986 and 2008



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

The amount of benefits a claimant may receive weekly depends upon the base period earnings. The minimum weekly benefit amount (through 2008) is \$44 for \$1,000 in base period earnings. The benefit increases by \$2 increments for each additional \$250 in earnings. (See Table 2.3.) The maximum benefit amount since 1997 has been \$248 a week for base period earnings of \$26,500 or more.

Alaska's \$202.16 in average weekly benefits in 2008 was low when compared to other states and the District of Columbia. Alaska ranked 49th. (See Table 2.6.)

During 2008, 45,343 unemployed people received \$105.8 million in regular UI benefits, including UCFE and UCX. The 45,343 were potentially eligible to receive an average of 20.8 weeks in benefits, but only claimed an average 14.5 weeks. (See Tables 2.5 and 2.13.)

Claimants with children receive an additional allowance

Alaska is one of 13 states that provide additional benefits to UI claimants with dependents. 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 per week. To qualify for dependent benefits, the child must be younger than 18 years old and be an unmarried child or stepchild of the claimant who is

lawfully in the claimant's physical custody at the time the claimant claims the allowance for the dependent or depend on the claimant for more than 50 percent of his or her support. A dependent may also be a legal ward of the claimant of any age who is dependent on the claimant for more than 50 percent of his or her support and is physically or mentally unable to work.

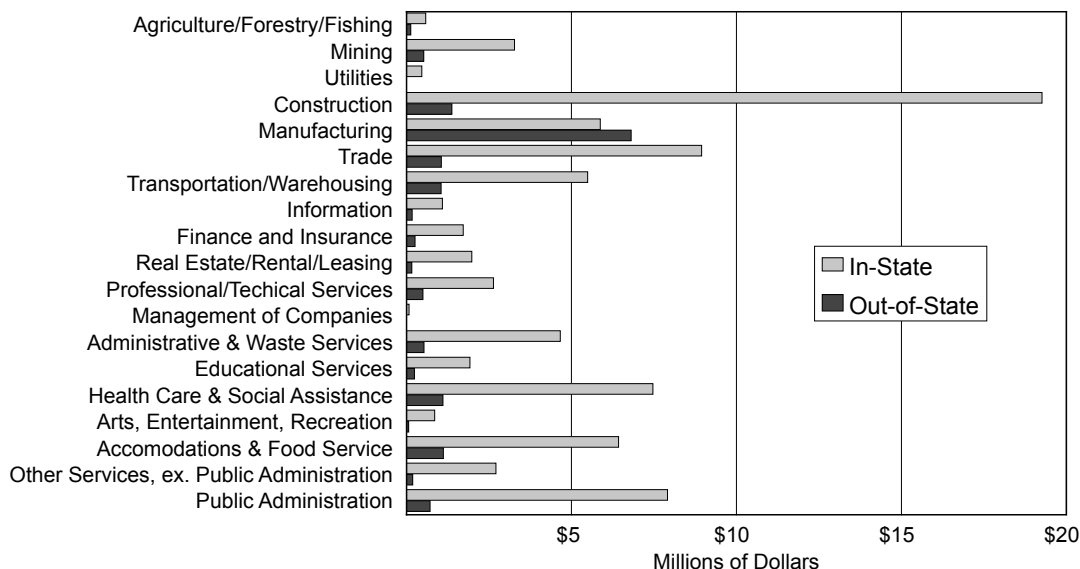
In 2008, the UI program paid \$9.6 million in dependent benefits to 14,706 people receiving regular UI benefits. (See Table 2.15.) Dependent allowance recipients accounted for 39.1 percent of all claimants. (See Table 2.2.) Claimants who received the maximum three-child allowance represented 10.4 percent of all claimants. The total dependent allowances paid in 2008 amounted to 9 percent of the regular UI benefit dollars paid that year.

Duration of benefits depends on work stability

The length of time a claimant may claim benefits varies in each state. In Alaska, it varies with each claimant. Alaska sets the potential duration of benefits, for each claimant, 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 that relates to the duration of employment - the higher the ratio of base period earnings to high quarter earnings, the more stable the earnings, and therefore, the higher the potential duration of benefits.

The potential duration of benefits is defined by 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.

Figure 2.3 UI Regular Benefit Payments by Industry for In-State and Out-of-State Claimants 2008



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

In Alaska's highly seasonal economy, 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 a minimum of 16 weeks of benefits to claimants without a disqualification. These long duration periods take many claimants into December.

Shorter benefits duration for workers who quit work or were fired

All states either disqualify or postpone benefits for claimants who voluntarily quit work without good cause or are discharged for misconduct. Most states have decided to disqualify such claimants.

Forty-six states completely deny benefits to claimants who voluntarily quit work or are discharged for misconduct. To requalify for benefits, claimants in those states must obtain another job, work for a specific period, and then become unemployed again for a non-disqualifying reason.

Alaska and two other states either postpone or reduce benefits, or do both rather than disqualify. Claimants in Alaska who voluntarily quit work or are discharged for misconduct must wait six weeks for their benefits to begin, including the week waiting period for all claimants. Their benefits are also reduced equal to three times their weekly benefit amount.

Alaska's policy is the most lenient in the nation. The primary argument for the short waiting period is that the disqualification should be no longer than it takes the average person to find work. The rationale is that after the six-week waiting period, the workers' continuing unemployment is no longer due to their reasons for leaving work, but to the unavailability of work.

In contrast, the main argument for a longer waiting period or an outright disqualification is that the unemployment doesn't 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. Another similar argument is that the leniency of the disqualification is yet another disincentive to work.

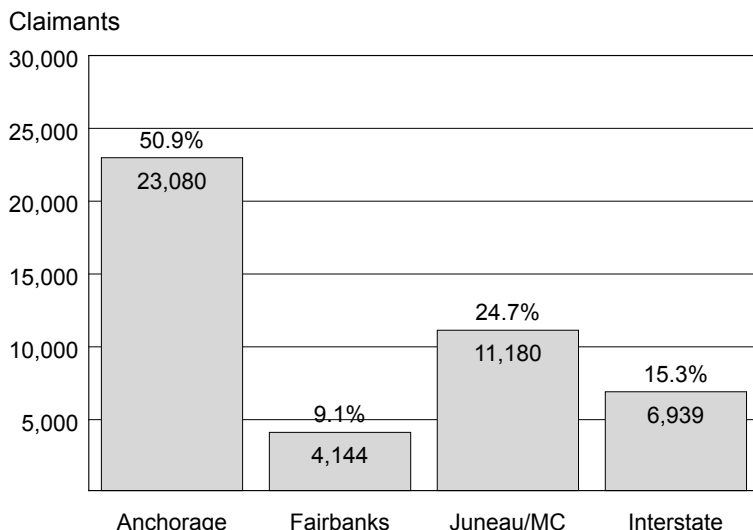
Extended benefits – makes a comeback

Normally, UI claimants throughout the U.S. receive no further benefits once they exhaust their maximum entitlement amount. When certain economic conditions exist in a state to activate the extended benefits program, UI claimants may collect additional payments of up to half their maximum regular benefits.

For extended benefits 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, the "trigger rate." Before 1982, the trigger rate was 5 percent, which meant that in Alaska, extended benefits were continuously available beginning in 1975. Since 1982, the trigger rate has been 6 percent. For Alaska, that has meant extended benefits have generally not been available between May and December and they have been available from January to April.

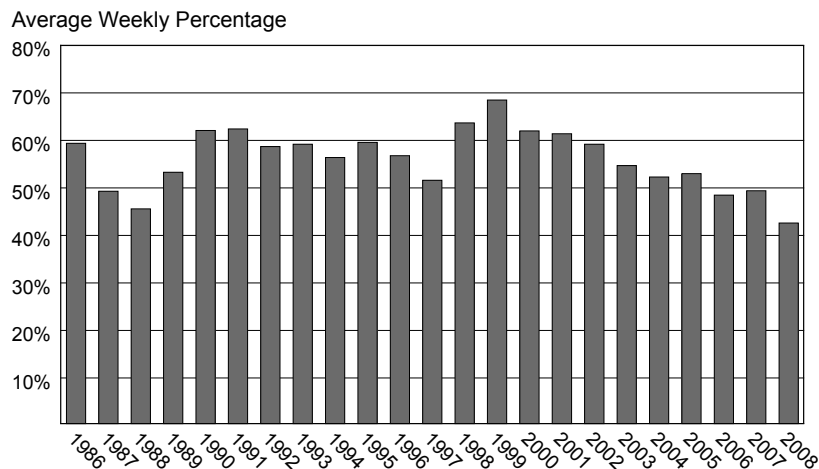
The insured unemployment rate (IUR) is calculated by dividing the average number of weeks of UI claimed for the previous 13 weeks by the average covered employment for the previous four quarters.

Figure 2.4 Claimants by Processing Center 2008



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

Figure 2.5 Percentage of Unemployed receiving UI in Alaska, 1986-2008



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

A second, or alternate, measure can also trigger (on and off) Extended Benefits. This measure is the Total Unemployment Rate (TUR), and was adopted as another EB trigger in 1993. The trigger methodology uses the current three-month average statewide unemployment rate, and compares it to the same three-month period for the prior two years. An EB payment period is effective if the three-month average is at least 6.5% and 10% higher than the same period in either of the prior two years. Prior to 2008, the TUR criteria was met only during the 2002-2004 period, when the base of comparison was unusually low monthly unemployment rates in prior years.

Alaska had been (through 2005) the only state that predictably paid extended benefits each year, primarily for two reasons: Alaska's highly seasonal economy, which drives up unemployment in the winter months, and Alaska's high UI claim reciprocity rate. The seasonal economy and high reciprocity rate – the percentage of the unemployed people each week who received UI benefits - are still significant, but the IUR has not triggered the payment of extended benefits since mid-2005. (Interestingly, the IUR has not even triggered on in 2009)

Alaska has always had one of the highest reciprocity rates in the U.S. standing at 3rd or 4th place during most of the current decade. In 2008, however, the figures put us in 8th place nationally. In Alaska, 42.8 percent of the unemployed received benefits; nationally 32.2 percent received benefits. (See Table 2.16.)

Several factors contribute to Alaska's high reciprocity rate. These include (1) eligibility based on relatively low base period earnings, (2) a high minimum duration of 16 weeks, and (3) a short postponement rather than an absolute disqualification from benefits for those leaving employment or refusing work without good cause. Despite Alaska's economic seasonality and the high reciprocity rate, the Extended Benefits program did not trigger on during 2006 or 2007. Our expectation, two years ago, was the end of extended benefits in Alaska for the foreseeable future. EB made a comeback in 2008.

Contrary to our prior experiences, EB was payable in the summer of 2008, from week 23 (week ending June 7) through week 41 (we Oct 11). On the last week of 2008, another EB period was triggered, with payment to begin early in 2009.

During 2008, a federal extension program was put in place, Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC-08). The first week of benefits was week 28 (we July 12). A second tier of EUC started on week 48 (we November 29). Alaskan's were able to receive additional benefits from EB, or

EUC, or both since June 2008. The EB program, and both EUC programs are continuing into 2009.

Supplemental state benefits assist some claimants with low earnings

Federal law since 1982, and state law that mirrors the federal law, has dictated that claimants who earn low wages – those who don't earn at least 40 times their weekly benefit amount during their base period – aren't eligible for extended benefits when their regular benefits run out. In 1982, more than 1,000 Alaskans fell into this category.

The Alaska Legislature created the Supplemental State Benefits (SSB) program in 1982 to fill the gap and give claimants with low wages a way to get additional benefits when their regular UI benefits run out. Claimants who are ineligible for extended benefits solely because of the "40 times rule" are eligible for SSB whenever extended benefits are triggered on.

SSB, the companion piece to EB, was not paid during 2006 or 2007 but was payable for 19 weeks in 2008.

Alaska sends roughly 17 percent of its regular UI payments outside Alaska

Alaska sent 16.9 percent, or \$17.3 million, of its regular benefit payments to claimants living outside the state in 2008; it sent 17.3 percent of its payments out of state in 2007. (See Table 2.10 and 2.12.) Interstate claimants are people who earned wages in Alaska during their base period but lived out of state when UI benefits were paid. (See Figure 2.1.) More than half of the benefits sent out of state in 2008 went to the West Coast: California (25.4 percent), Washington (20.8 percent) and Oregon (7.6 percent). (See Table 2.14.) Workers in the manufacturing industry received 39.7 percent of the out-of-state payments in 2008. (See Table 2.10.)

Since 1987, the average weekly benefit amount has been higher for those filing from outside Alaska than for those filing in-state. (See Tables 2.9 and 2.10.) The average weekly benefit payment for claimants outside Alaska was \$196.22 in 2008; their claims lasted an average 15.9 weeks. In-state claimants, on the other hand, averaged \$179.25 in weekly payments and their claims lasted an average 14.5 weeks.

Out-of-state claimants with the highest average weekly benefit amounts were from the "mining" industry (\$241.24) and finance and insurance (\$235.18). The lowest average benefit amount, \$165.65, was paid to workers from the accommodation and Food Services industry.

**Table 2.1
Unemployment, 1990-2008**

Year	Total Labor Force¹	Total Unemployment¹	Total Unemployment Rate (TUR) Percent¹	Covered Employment	Insured Unemployment	Insured Unemployment Rate (IUR) Percent	Percent Ratio IUR to TUR
1990	270,040	19,014	7.0	214,644	11,170	5.2	73.9
1991	278,799	23,000	8.2	218,367	13,237	6.1	73.5
1992	288,777	25,797	8.9	221,795	13,880	6.3	70.1
1993	293,758	22,500	7.7	226,475	12,213	5.4	70.4
1994	300,742	22,544	7.5	223,455	13,554	6.1	80.9
1995	303,666	21,568	7.1	237,816	12,885	5.4	76.3
1996	308,573	23,021	7.5	239,746	13,120	5.5	73.4
1997	311,961	21,998	7.1	244,255	12,095	5.0	70.2
1998	313,079	19,140	6.1	250,251	12,140	4.9	80.3
1999	316,507	19,488	6.2	252,228	12,866	5.1	82.3
2000	319,002	19,678	6.2	258,428	12,290	4.8	77.4
2001	321,484	19,790	6.2	265,945	12,224	4.6	74.2
2002	328,385	23,273	7.1	271,349	13,980	5.2	73.2
2003	336,549	25,787	7.7	274,755	14,259	5.2	67.5
2004	339,859	25,106	7.4	279,161	13,471	4.8	64.9
2005	344,379	23,735	6.9	285,455	12,443	4.4	63.8
2006	349,773	22,881	6.5	290,310	11,649	4.0	61.5
2007	351,701	21,636	6.2	294,016	10,503	3.6	58.1
2008	357,136	23,760	6.7	297,925	10,995	3.7	55.2

¹ Labor Force Data are current as of June 2009. Figures from 2004 to present are recent revisions in the data series.

Note: The Total Unemployment Rate (TUR), and the Insured Unemployment Rate (IUR) are presented for comparison. The TUR is the "official" unemployment rate most often cited in the media. It is the percentage derived from 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: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) 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
2008**

Characteristics	Number	Percent of Total	Characteristics	Number	Percent of Total
Total	45,343	100.0	Occupation:		
Gender:			Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing ¹	747	1.6
Male	27,544	60.7	Benchwork	171	0.4
Female	17,799	39.3	Clerical & Sales	6,955	15.3
Age:			Machine Trades	1,035	2.3
Less than 21	763	1.7	Processing	3,920	8.6
21-24	3,955	8.7	Professional, Technical, Managerial	5,333	11.8
25-34	11,730	25.9	Service	6,831	15.1
35-44	10,148	22.4	Structural Work	10,143	22.4
45-54	11,325	25.0	Miscellaneous & Unknown	10,208	22.5
55-64	6,095	13.4	Average Annual Earnings:		
65+	1,327	2.9	\$1,000-\$9,999	9,213	20.3
Number of Dependents:			\$10,000-\$19,999	11,881	26.2
0	27,592	60.9	\$20,000-\$29,999	9,525	21.0
1	7,452	16.4	\$30,000-\$39,999	5,633	12.4
2	5,604	12.4	\$40,000-\$49,999	3,423	7.5
3+	4,695	10.4	\$50,000-\$59,999	2,109	4.7
Ethnic Background:			\$60,000-\$69,999	1,358	3.0
Alaska Native/American Indian	11,882	26.2	\$70,000-\$79,999	814	1.8
Asian and Pacific Islander	4,145	9.1	\$80,000-\$89,999	575	1.3
Black	1,816	4.0	\$90,000+	812	1.8
Hispanic	1,727	3.8	Geographic Location:		
White	25,366	55.9	Aleutians East Borough	167	0.4
Other	389	0.9	Aleutians West Census Area	423	0.9
No Information	18	0.0	Anchorage Borough	11,948	26.4
Industry:			Bethel Census Area	1,741	3.8
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing ¹ & Hunting	369	0.8	Bristol Bay Borough	64	0.1
Mining	1,758	3.9	Denali Borough	197	0.4
Oil and Gas	12	0.0	Dillingham Census Area	297	0.7
Other Mining	1,746	3.9	Fairbanks North Star Borough	4,118	9.1
Utilities	219	0.5	Haines Borough	211	0.5
Construction	7,981	17.6	Juneau Borough	1,288	2.8
Manufacturing	5,809	12.8	Kenai Peninsula Borough	3,498	7.7
Food Products	5,217	11.5	Ketchikan Gateway Borough	824	1.8
Wood Products	105	0.2	Kodiak Island Borough	1,240	2.7
Other Manufacturing	487	1.1	Lake & Peninsula Borough	144	0.3
Trade	4,668	10.3	Matanuska-Susitna Borough	5,237	11.5
Transportation & Warehousing	2,861	6.3	Nome Census Area	818	1.8
Information	474	1.0	North Slope Borough	388	0.9
Finance and Insurance	734	1.6	Northwest Arctic Borough	577	1.3
Real Estate and Rental & Leasing	897	2.0	Prince of Wales-Outer Ketchikan Census Area	606	1.3
Professional & Technical Service	1,143	2.5	Sitka Borough	426	0.9
Management of Companies	28	0.1	Skagway-Hoonah-Angoon Census Area	393	0.9
Administrative & Waste Services	2,140	4.7	Southeast Fairbanks Census Area	529	1.2
Educational Services	1,111	2.5	Valdez-Cordova Census Area	701	1.5
Health Care & Social Assistance	3,827	8.4	Wade Hampton Census Area	1,048	2.3
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	571	1.3	Wrangell-Petersburg Census Area	473	1.0
Accommodation & Food Services	4,021	8.9	Yakutat Borough	57	0.1
Other Services, except PA	1,344	3.0	Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area	729	1.6
Public Administration	4,460	9.8	Alaska Area Unknown	49	0.1
Unclassified/Unknown	928	2.0	Total In-State	38,191	84.2
			Out-of-State	7,152	15.8
			Local Office:		
			Anchorage	23,080	50.9
			Central - Interstate Claims	6,939	15.3
			Fairbanks	4,144	9.1
			Juneau (includes Rural Mail Claims)	11,180	24.7

¹ Fishing excludes nearly all commercial fish harvesting employment

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

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section: UI Claimant Characteristics Files

Table 2.3
Schedule of UI Weekly Benefit Amounts
Through 2008

Base Period Earnings		Weekly Benefit Amount	Base Period Earnings		Weekly Benefit Amount
At Least	But Less Than	Starting Oct. 1, 1990	At Least	But Less Than	Starting Oct. 1, 1990
\$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			
8,500	8,750	104			
8,750	9,000	106			
9,000	9,250	108			
9,250	9,500	110			
9,500	9,750	112			
9,750	10,000	114			
10,000	10,250	116			
10,250	10,500	118			
10,500	10,750	120			
10,750	11,000	122			
11,000	11,250	124			
11,250	11,500	126			
11,500	11,750	128			
11,750	12,000	130			
12,000	12,250	132			
12,250	12,500	134			
12,500	12,750	136			
12,750	13,000	138			
13,000	13,250	140			
13,250	13,500	142			
13,500	13,750	144			
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			

	Amendment effective Jan. 1, 1997	
	22,000	22,250
	22,250	22,500
	22,500	22,750
	22,750	23,000
	23,000	23,250
	23,250	23,500
	23,500	23,750
	23,750	24,000
	24,000	24,250
	24,250	24,500
	24,500	24,750
	24,750	25,000
	25,000	25,250
	25,250	25,500
	25,500	25,750
	25,750	26,000
	26,000	26,250
	26,250	26,500
	26,500	26,750
	26,750	and over

Source: Alaska Statute 23.20.350(d).
This schedule effective through Dec 2008.
A new schedule takes effect in Jan 2009.

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 Statute 23.20.350(e)

Table 2.5
Payment Data for UI Regular Benefits
1999-2008

Year	All Claimants		Claimants Exhausting Benefits		Average Duration (in Weeks)			Average Weekly Benefit Amount (AWBA)		Maximum Weekly Benefit Amount (\$)	
	Number of First Payments	Number of Weeks Paid	Number	Percent of First Payments	Potential	Actual	Actual for Exhausts ²	Amount	Ratio of WBA to Average Weekly Earnings	Benefits Without Dependents	Benefits With Dependents
1999	45,635	679,381	19,252	42.2	20.9	14.9	20.8	\$181.58	0.28	\$248.00	\$320.00
2000	43,557	619,357	16,962	38.9	20.8	14.2	20.7	189.86	0.29	248.00	320.00
2001	44,017	626,241	17,256	39.2	20.8	14.2	20.7	192.99	0.28	248.00	320.00
2002	48,722	696,807	20,353	41.8	20.7	14.3	20.7	193.34	0.28	248.00	320.00
2003	49,493	729,399	21,728	43.9	20.7	14.7	20.7	193.04	0.27	248.00	320.00
2004	46,224	687,388	20,192	43.7	20.7	14.9	20.7	193.71	0.27	248.00	320.00
2005	43,944	630,355	17,847	40.6	20.7	14.3	20.6	193.91	0.26	248.00	320.00
2006	40,859	588,450	16,069	39.3	20.8	14.4	20.6	197.63	0.25	248.00	320.00
2007	38,422	551,470	15,015	39.1	20.9	14.4	20.7	200.09	0.24	248.00	320.00
2008	38,430	556,595	18,983	41.6	20.8	14.5	20.7	202.16	0.23	248.00	320.00

Payment Data is for Taxable and Reimbursable Benefits.

Exhaustion: persons receiving payments for the maximum number of weeks available to them in a particular program.

Dependents Benefit is \$24 per dependent, up to a maximum of three (total maximum \$72).

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

Table 2.6
Average Weekly Benefits as a Percentage of
Average Weekly Wages, 2008

State	Benefit Amount	Rank	Weekly Earnings	Rank	Average Weekly Benefit Amount as Percentage of Earnings	Rank
Alabama	\$196.23	50	\$716.68	34	27.4	47
Alaska	202.16	49	838.21	16	24.1	50
Arizona	217.72	47	800.45	21	27.2	48
Arkansas	264.86	36	659.19	45	40.2	14
California	307.12	14	977.86	6	31.4	40
Colorado	340.72	7	878.38	10	38.8	23
Connecticut	321.97	9	1,114.87	3	28.9	44
Delaware	256.89	38	906.18	8	28.3	45
Dist. of Columbia	290.83	26	1,342.60	1	21.7	51
Florida	238.41	45	765.49	25	31.1	41
Georgia	272.78	32	801.31	20	34.0	34
Hawaii	413.07	1	749.53	28	55.1	1
Idaho	272.18	34	639.47	48	42.6	8
Illinois	312.09	11	923.56	7	33.8	35
Indiana	297.73	23	724.10	33	41.1	10
Iowa	302.14	19	693.74	40	43.6	6
Kansas	316.03	10	714.10	36	44.3	4
Kentucky	299.68	21	702.56	38	42.7	7
Louisiana	209.12	48	746.08	31	28.0	46
Maine	264.78	37	672.66	44	39.4	21
Maryland	304.93	16	905.75	9	33.7	36
Massachusetts	390.69	2	1,077.01	4	36.3	27
Michigan	299.58	22	836.43	17	35.8	29
Minnesota	346.93	6	861.79	14	40.3	13
Mississippi	182.74	51	621.47	49	29.4	42
Missouri	244.10	40	748.46	30	32.6	37
Montana	255.19	39	615.66	50	41.4	9
Nebraska	241.25	42	681.27	43	35.4	31
Nevada	292.32	25	820.19	19	35.6	30
New Hampshire	272.03	35	847.56	15	32.1	39
New Jersey	377.48	3	1,044.54	5	36.1	28
New Mexico	278.07	30	695.87	39	40.0	17
New York	306.54	15	1,149.34	2	26.7	49
North Carolina	287.32	27	748.91	29	38.4	24
North Dakota	286.21	28	644.25	47	44.4	3
Ohio	302.69	18	766.85	24	39.5	19
Oklahoma	272.43	33	686.53	41	39.7	18
Oregon	301.69	20	764.82	26	39.4	20
Pennsylvania	335.40	8	835.76	18	40.1	15
Rhode Island	370.46	4	799.08	22	46.4	2
South Carolina	239.81	43	682.21	42	35.2	32
South Dakota	238.82	44	609.16	51	39.2	22
Tennessee	220.98	46	752.50	27	29.4	43
Texas	302.94	17	866.11	13	35.0	33
Utah	311.60	12	710.71	37	43.8	5
Vermont	293.62	24	714.89	35	41.1	11
Virginia	281.86	29	868.96	12	32.4	38
Washington	355.33	5	872.96	11	40.7	12
West Virginia	241.52	41	652.39	46	37.0	26
Wisconsin	273.11	31	737.58	32	37.0	25
Wyoming	307.52	13	769.18	23	40.0	16
United States	297.09		854.14		34.8	

Benefit Amount is Regular Benefits only. Weekly Earnings is for Total covered Employment.
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 for UI Extended Benefits, 1999-2008

Year	Number of First Payments	Number of Weeks Paid	Number of Claimants Exhausting Benefits	Average Duration in Weeks	Average Weekly Benefit Amount
1999	7,160	41,123	1,970	5.7	168.77
2000	5,368	28,266	1,084	5.3	182.33
2001	5,137	27,065	1,066	5.3	182.24
2002	10,950	59,234	1,757	5.4	255.32
2003	14,527	111,012	8,262	7.6	188.10
2004	7,162	48,341	3,131	6.7	187.26
2005	5,829	30,449	1,199	5.2	181.06
2006	1	4	0	4.0	254.00
2007	0	0	0	0.0	0.00
2008	3,840	22,683	1,172	5.9	192.59

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 2.8
Payment Data for UI State Supplemental Benefits, 1999-2008

Year	Number of First Payments	Number of Weeks Paid	Number of Claimants Exhausting Benefits	Average Duration in Weeks	Average Weekly Benefit Amount¹
1999	250	1,470	128	5.9	92.68
2000	226	1,218	82	5.4	92.68
2001	193	1,096	90	5.7	102.92
2002	307	1,755	139	5.7	102.94
2003	476	3,398	385	7.1	98.47
2004	211	1,347	114	6.4	99.62
2005	193	1,062	73	5.5	101.79
2006	0	0	0	0.0	0.00
2007	0	0	0	0.0	0.00
2008	104	602	52	5.8	98.97

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 Payments¹ by Industry
Intrastate, 2005-2008

Industry	Number of Weeks Paid				Number of First Payments			
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2005	2006	2007	2008
Totals (including unclassified)	537,906	506,046	470,669	476,741	37,741	35,149	32,791	32,853
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing ² & Hunting	4,600	4,880	4,187	3,529	368	364	281	214
Mining	13,035	10,778	13,037	15,074	979	887	1,018	1,110
Utilities	2,913	2,905	2,955	2,806	199	179	207	170
Construction	95,095	95,483	92,647	90,357	7,030	6,963	6,608	6,342
Manufacturing	41,401	39,255	34,539	38,525	2,918	2,723	2,437	2,698
Wholesale Trade	6,912	7,259	6,422	6,686	468	510	452	461
Retail Trade	56,069	52,099	47,994	47,164	3,854	3,499	3,179	3,261
Transportation & Warehousing	36,484	32,926	30,428	31,126	2,637	2,386	2,189	2,309
Information	6,466	6,243	5,081	5,611	455	422	371	356
Finance & Insurance	11,095	10,433	9,270	9,165	751	678	615	589
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	15,148	15,939	12,540	11,478	1,045	1,009	832	714
Professional & Technical Services	11,784	11,794	10,781	13,336	857	826	843	929
Management of Companies	897	1,017	1,164	1,013	55	68	82	55
Administrative & Waste Services	23,077	23,425	23,397	27,309	1,691	1,662	1,731	1,866
Educational Services	15,521	15,706	14,075	12,243	1,033	1,125	954	824
Health Care & Social Assistance	49,234	43,792	42,007	39,692	3,243	2,786	2,678	2,555
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	7,067	7,086	6,270	6,366	486	469	426	450
Accommodation & Food Services	52,104	47,096	43,082	45,081	3,768	3,336	3,066	3,142
Other Services, except Public Administration	24,094	18,788	15,982	15,688	1,703	1,271	1,115	1,106
Public Administration	62,649	54,142	49,228	48,943	4,013	3,511	3,271	3,250
Unclassified	2,261	5,000	5,583	5,549	188	475	436	452

Industry	Amount of Payments				Payment Percent Distribution			
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2005	2006	2007	2008
Totals (including unclassified)	\$91,035,367	\$87,916,562	\$83,227,038	\$85,457,441	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing ² & Hunting	824,071	882,817	788,946	645,608	0.9	1.0	1.0	0.8
Mining	2,802,069	2,296,933	2,853,692	3,338,695	3.1	2.6	3.4	3.9
Utilities	517,428	550,791	551,792	524,516	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.6
Construction	19,494,222	19,931,365	19,589,048	19,324,506	21.4	22.7	23.5	22.6
Manufacturing	5,959,677	5,949,165	5,192,300	5,937,559	6.5	6.8	6.2	7.0
Wholesale Trade	1,236,632	1,337,053	1,220,032	1,300,919	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5
Retail Trade	8,628,490	8,230,738	7,722,039	7,705,681	9.5	9.4	9.3	9.0
Transportation & Warehousing	6,336,147	5,725,196	5,380,511	5,554,152	7.0	6.5	6.5	6.5
Information	1,238,415	1,259,968	1,039,369	1,154,943	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.4
Finance & Insurance	1,989,070	1,979,007	1,763,855	1,782,968	2.2	2.3	2.1	2.1
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	2,468,307	2,732,328	2,096,196	2,042,681	2.7	3.1	2.5	2.4
Professional & Technical Services	2,202,895	2,279,027	2,172,134	2,698,828	2.4	2.6	2.6	3.2
Management of Companies	153,163	161,144	165,563	140,234	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Administrative & Waste Services	3,761,694	3,888,897	3,965,193	4,725,665	4.1	4.4	4.8	5.5
Educational Services	2,353,363	2,488,230	2,321,605	1,984,237	2.6	2.8	2.8	2.3
Health Care & Social Assistance	8,880,715	8,109,385	7,895,993	7,531,095	9.8	9.2	9.5	8.8
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	971,994	1,030,674	898,026	917,640	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.1
Accommodation & Food Services	7,001,727	6,464,627	6,026,108	6,492,048	7.7	7.4	7.2	7.6
Other Services, except Public Administration	3,957,628	3,258,502	2,812,899	2,773,661	4.3	3.7	3.4	3.3
Public Administration	9,896,360	8,558,505	7,829,330	7,973,024	10.9	9.7	9.4	9.3
Unclassified	361,300	802,210	942,407	908,781	0.4	0.9	1.1	1.1

¹ Payment Data includes Taxable and reimbursable

² Fishing excludes nearly all commercial fish harvesting employment

Note: Percentages may not add to 100 percent 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 2.9 (continued)
UI Regular Benefit Payments¹ by Industry
Intrastate, 2005-2008

Industry	Average Weekly Payments				Average Duration in Weeks			
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2005	2006	2007	2008
Totals (including unclassified)	169.24	173.73	176.83	179.25	14.3	14.4	14.4	14.5
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing ² & Hunting	179.15	180.91	188.43	182.94	12.5	13.4	14.9	16.5
Mining	214.97	213.11	218.89	221.49	13.3	12.2	12.8	13.6
Utilities	177.63	189.60	186.73	186.93	14.6	16.2	14.3	16.5
Construction	205.00	208.74	211.44	213.87	13.5	13.7	14.0	14.2
Manufacturing	143.95	151.55	150.33	154.12	14.2	14.4	14.2	14.3
Wholesale Trade	178.91	184.19	189.98	194.57	14.8	14.2	14.2	14.5
Retail Trade	153.89	157.98	160.90	163.38	14.5	14.9	15.1	14.5
Transportation & Warehousing	173.67	173.88	176.83	178.44	13.8	13.8	13.9	13.5
Information	191.53	201.82	204.56	205.84	14.2	14.8	13.7	15.8
Finance & Insurance	179.28	189.69	190.28	194.54	14.8	15.4	15.1	15.6
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	162.95	171.42	167.16	177.96	14.5	15.8	15.1	16.1
Professional & Technical Services	186.94	193.24	201.48	202.37	13.8	14.3	12.8	14.4
Management of Companies	170.75	158.45	142.24	138.43	16.3	15.0	14.2	18.4
Administrative & Waste Services	163.01	166.01	169.47	173.04	13.6	14.1	13.5	14.6
Educational Services	151.62	158.43	164.95	162.07	15.0	14.0	14.8	14.9
Health Care & Social Assistance	180.38	185.18	187.97	189.74	15.2	15.7	15.7	15.5
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	137.54	145.45	143.23	144.15	14.5	15.1	14.7	14.1
Accommodation & Food Services	134.38	137.26	139.88	144.01	13.8	14.1	14.1	14.3
Other Services, except Public Administration	164.26	173.44	176.00	176.80	14.1	14.8	14.3	14.2
Public Administration	157.97	158.08	159.04	162.90	15.6	15.4	15.0	15.1
Unclassified	159.80	160.44	168.80	163.77	12.0	10.5	12.8	12.3

¹ Payment Data includes Taxable and reimbursable

² Fishing excludes nearly all commercial fish harvesting employment

Note: Percentages may not add to 100 percent 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 2.10
UI Regular Benefit Payments¹ by Industry
Interstate, 2005-2008

Industry	Number of Weeks Paid				Number of First Payments			
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2005	2006	2007	2008
Totals (including unclassified)	105,712	92,126	88,791	88,346	6,219	5,700	5,618	5,568
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing ² & Hunting	1,492	1,058	936	947	90	73	65	63
Mining	2,160	1,461	2,365	2,434	117	94	174	165
Utilities	374	355	228	200	20	18	13	10
Construction	7,134	6,381	6,535	6,251	450	390	396	394
Manufacturing	42,789	40,000	37,874	36,870	2,789	2,664	2,548	2,380
Wholesale Trade	1,344	1,208	1,149	746	68	74	56	57
Retail Trade	7,012	5,600	5,895	5,365	385	296	340	341
Transportation & Warehousing	6,227	5,624	5,377	5,642	340	361	327	355
Information	1,087	1,049	914	1,081	53	50	42	57
Finance & Insurance	2,097	1,532	1,551	1,385	111	89	78	85
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	956	843	865	1,025	58	41	54	57
Professional & Technical Services	2,111	1,959	1,422	2,481	123	111	109	163
Management of Companies	95	34	11	54	6	1	1	4
Administrative & Waste Services	3,737	3,112	2,394	2,959	207	178	162	148
Educational Services	2,275	2,071	1,660	1,529	115	114	85	102
Health Care & Social Assistance	7,461	6,162	6,335	5,447	360	332	347	315
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	731	646	701	734	42	48	46	51
Accommodation & Food Services	7,871	6,851	6,499	7,116	455	409	402	448
Other Services, except Public Administration	3,083	1,660	1,495	1,210	164	94	88	67
Public Administration	5,281	3,719	3,422	3,682	242	210	198	226
Unclassified	395	801	1,163	1,188	24	53	87	80

Industry	Amount of Payments				Payment Percent Distribution			
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2005	2006	2007	2008
Totals (including unclassified)	\$19,955,610	\$17,699,605	\$17,359,546	\$17,335,644	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing ² & Hunting	307,931	217,912	189,954	192,059	1.5	1.2	1.1	1.1
Mining	507,456	346,640	560,353	587,166	2.5	2.0	3.2	3.4
Utilities	82,506	78,615	50,353	43,580	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3
Construction	1,578,005	1,432,660	1,473,778	1,441,281	7.9	8.1	8.5	8.3
Manufacturing	7,735,359	7,388,206	7,141,617	6,875,352	38.8	41.7	41.1	39.7
Wholesale Trade	275,991	253,351	236,365	152,911	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.9
Retail Trade	1,252,286	1,021,301	1,084,831	967,455	6.3	5.8	6.3	5.6
Transportation & Warehousing	1,189,930	1,111,470	1,068,955	1,114,043	6.0	6.3	6.2	6.4
Information	235,469	232,444	201,460	237,138	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.4
Finance & Insurance	435,707	349,275	347,166	325,718	2.2	2.0	2.0	1.9
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	168,195	155,567	177,689	223,241	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.3
Professional & Technical Services	437,097	404,436	308,077	561,681	2.2	2.3	1.8	3.2
Management of Companies	19,419	6,907	1,655	12,378	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1
Administrative & Waste Services	719,381	619,836	462,993	594,323	3.6	3.5	2.7	3.4
Educational Services	435,595	414,140	320,073	301,013	2.2	2.3	1.8	1.7
Health Care & Social Assistance	1,557,341	1,306,811	1,372,649	1,169,402	7.8	7.4	7.9	6.8
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	112,160	93,253	115,927	127,195	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.7
Accommodation & Food Services	1,195,486	1,074,466	1,060,588	1,178,786	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.8
Other Services, except Public Administration	533,369	292,205	300,900	249,665	2.7	1.7	1.7	1.4
Public Administration	1,107,423	769,699	711,902	778,095	5.5	4.3	4.1	4.5
Unclassified	69,504	130,411	172,261	203,162	0.3	0.7	1.0	1.2

¹ Payment Data includes Taxable and reimbursable

² Fishing excludes nearly all commercial fish harvesting employment

Note: Percentages may not add to 100 percent 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 2.10 (continued)
UI Regular Benefit Payments¹ by Industry
Interstate, 2005-2008

Industry	Average Weekly Payments				Average Duration in Weeks			
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2005	2006	2007	2008
Totals (including unclassified)	\$188.77	\$192.12	\$195.51	\$196.22	17.0	16.2	15.8	15.9
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing ² & Hunting	206.39	205.97	202.94	202.81	16.6	14.5	14.4	15.0
Mining	234.93	237.26	236.94	241.24	18.5	15.5	13.6	14.8
Utilities	220.60	221.45	220.85	217.90	18.7	19.7	17.5	20.0
Construction	221.19	224.52	225.52	230.57	15.9	16.4	16.5	15.9
Manufacturing	180.78	184.71	188.56	186.48	15.3	15.0	14.9	15.5
Wholesale Trade	205.35	209.73	205.71	204.97	19.8	16.3	20.5	13.1
Retail Trade	178.59	182.38	184.03	180.33	18.2	18.9	17.3	15.7
Transportation & Warehousing	191.09	197.63	198.80	197.46	18.3	15.6	16.4	15.9
Information	216.62	221.59	220.42	219.37	20.5	21.0	21.8	19.0
Finance & Insurance	207.78	227.99	223.83	235.18	18.9	17.2	19.9	16.3
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	175.94	184.54	205.42	217.80	16.5	20.6	16.0	18.0
Professional & Technical Services	207.06	206.45	216.65	226.39	17.2	17.6	13.0	15.2
Management of Companies	204.41	203.15	150.45	229.22	15.8	34.0	11.0	13.5
Administrative & Waste Services	192.50	199.18	193.40	200.85	18.1	17.5	14.8	20.0
Educational Services	191.47	199.97	192.82	196.87	19.8	18.2	19.5	15.0
Health Care & Social Assistance	208.73	212.08	216.68	214.69	20.7	18.6	18.3	17.3
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	153.43	144.35	165.37	173.29	17.4	13.5	15.2	14.4
Accommodation & Food Services	151.88	156.83	163.19	165.65	17.3	16.8	16.2	15.9
Other Services, except Public Administration	173.00	176.03	201.27	206.33	18.8	17.7	17.0	18.1
Public Administration	209.70	206.96	208.04	211.32	21.8	17.7	17.3	16.3
Unclassified	175.96	162.81	148.12	171.01	16.5	15.1	13.4	14.9

¹ Payment data includes taxable and reimbursable

² Fishing excludes nearly all commercial fish harvesting employment

Note: Percentages may not add to 100 percent 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 Benefit Payments¹ by Industry
Intrastate and Interstate Total, 2005-2008

Industry	Number of Weeks Paid				Number of First Payments			
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2005	2006	2007	2008
Totals (including unclassified)	643,618	598,172	559,460	565,087	43,960	40,849	38,409	38,421
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing ² & Hunting	6,092	5,938	5,123	4,476	458	437	346	277
Mining	15,195	12,239	15,402	17,508	1,096	981	1,192	1,275
Utilities	3,287	3,260	3,183	3,006	219	197	220	180
Construction	102,229	101,864	99,182	96,608	7,480	7,353	7,004	6,736
Manufacturing	84,190	79,255	72,413	75,395	5,707	5,387	4,985	5,078
Wholesale Trade	8,256	8,467	7,571	7,432	536	584	508	518
Retail Trade	63,081	57,699	53,889	52,529	4,239	3,795	3,519	3,602
Transportation & Warehousing	42,711	38,550	35,805	36,768	2,977	2,747	2,516	2,664
Information	7,553	7,292	5,995	6,692	508	472	413	413
Finance & Insurance	13,192	11,965	10,821	10,550	862	767	693	674
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	16,104	16,782	13,405	12,503	1,103	1,050	886	771
Professional & Technical Services	13,895	13,753	12,203	15,817	980	937	952	1,092
Management of Companies	992	1,051	1,175	1,067	61	69	83	59
Administrative & Waste Services	26,814	26,537	25,791	30,268	1,898	1,840	1,893	2,014
Educational Services	17,796	17,777	15,735	13,772	1,148	1,239	1,039	926
Health Care & Social Assistance	56,695	49,954	48,342	45,139	3,603	3,118	3,025	2,870
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	7,798	7,732	6,971	7,100	528	517	472	501
Accommodation & Food Services	59,975	53,947	49,581	52,197	4,223	3,745	3,468	3,590
Other Services, except Public Administration	27,177	20,448	17,477	16,898	1,867	1,365	1,203	1,173
Public Administration	67,930	57,861	52,650	52,625	4,255	3,721	3,469	3,476
Unclassified	2,656	5,801	6,746	6,737	212	528	523	532

Industry	Amount of Payments				Payment Percent Distribution			
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2005	2006	2007	2008
Totals (including unclassified)	\$110,990,977	\$105,616,167	\$100,586,584	\$102,793,085	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing ² & Hunting	1,132,002	1,100,729	978,900	837,667	1.0	1.1	1.0	0.8
Mining	3,309,525	2,643,573	3,414,045	3,925,861	3.0	2.4	0.3	3.8
Utilities	599,934	629,406	602,145	568,096	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6
Construction	21,072,227	21,364,025	21,062,826	20,765,787	19.0	18.0	20.9	20.2
Manufacturing	13,695,036	13,337,371	12,333,917	12,812,911	12.3	13.2	12.3	12.5
Wholesale Trade	1,512,623	1,590,404	1,456,397	1,453,830	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4
Retail Trade	9,880,776	9,252,039	8,806,870	8,673,136	8.9	9.3	8.8	8.4
Transportation & Warehousing	7,526,077	6,836,666	6,449,466	6,668,195	6.8	6.7	6.4	6.5
Information	1,473,884	1,492,412	1,240,829	1,392,081	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.4
Finance & Insurance	2,424,777	2,328,282	2,111,021	2,108,686	2.2	1.9	2.1	2.1
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	2,636,502	2,887,895	2,273,885	2,265,922	2.4	2.6	2.3	2.2
Professional & Technical Services	2,639,992	2,683,463	2,480,211	3,260,509	2.4	2.3	2.5	3.2
Management of Companies	172,582	168,051	167,218	152,612	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
Administrative & Waste Services	4,481,075	4,508,733	4,428,186	5,319,988	4.0	4.5	4.4	5.2
Educational Services	2,788,958	2,902,370	2,641,678	2,285,250	2.5	3.0	2.6	2.2
Health Care & Social Assistance	10,438,056	9,416,196	9,268,642	8,700,497	9.4	7.6	9	8.5
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	1,084,154	1,123,927	1,013,953	1,044,835	1.0	1.3	1	1.0
Accommodation & Food Services	8,197,213	7,539,093	7,086,696	7,670,834	7.4	9.2	7	7.5
Other Services, except Public Administration	4,490,997	3,550,707	3,113,799	3,023,326	4.0	3.3	3	2.9
Public Administration	11,003,783	9,328,204	8,541,232	8,751,119	9.9	9.1	8	8.5
Unclassified	430,804	932,621	1,114,668	1,111,943	0.4	1.3	1	1.1

¹ Payment Data includes Taxable and reimbursable

² Fishing excludes nearly all commercial fish harvesting employment

Note: Percentages may not add to 100 percent 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 (continued)
UI Regular Benefit Payments¹ by Industry
Intrastate and Interstate Total, 2005-2008

Industry	Average Weekly Payments				Average Duration in Weeks			
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2005	2006	2007	2008
Totals (including unclassified)	\$172.45	\$176.56	\$179.79	\$181.91	14.6	14.6	14.6	14.7
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing ² & Hunting	185.82	185.37	191.08	187.15	13.3	13.6	14.8	16.2
Mining	217.80	216.00	221.66	224.23	13.9	12.5	12.9	13.7
Utilities	182.52	193.07	189.18	188.99	15.0	16.5	14.5	16.7
Construction	206.13	209.73	212.37	214.95	13.7	13.9	14.2	14.3
Manufacturing	162.67	168.28	170.33	169.94	14.8	14.7	14.5	14.8
Wholesale Trade	183.21	187.84	192.37	195.62	15.4	14.5	14.9	14.3
Retail Trade	156.64	160.35	163.43	165.11	14.9	15.2	15.3	14.6
Transportation & Warehousing	176.21	177.35	180.13	181.36	14.3	14.0	14.2	13.8
Information	195.14	204.66	206.98	208.02	14.9	15.4	14.5	16.2
Finance & Insurance	183.81	194.59	195.09	199.88	15.3	15.6	15.6	15.7
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	163.72	172.08	169.63	181.23	14.6	16.0	15.1	16.2
Professional & Technical Services	190.00	195.12	203.25	206.14	14.2	14.7	12.8	14.5
Management of Companies	173.97	159.90	142.31	143.03	16.3	15.2	14.2	18.1
Administrative & Waste Services	167.12	169.90	171.70	175.76	14.1	14.4	13.6	15.0
Educational Services	156.72	163.27	167.89	165.93	15.5	14.3	15.1	14.9
Health Care & Social Assistance	184.11	188.50	191.73	192.75	15.7	16.0	16.0	15.7
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	139.03	145.36	145.45	147.16	14.8	15.0	14.8	14.2
Accommodation & Food Services	136.68	139.75	142.93	146.96	14.2	14.4	14.3	14.5
Other Services, except Public Administration	165.25	173.65	178.17	178.92	14.6	15.0	14.5	14.4
Public Administration	161.99	161.22	162.23	166.29	16.0	15.5	15.2	15.1
Unclassified	162.20	160.77	165.23	165.05	12.5	11.0	12.9	12.7

¹ Payment data includes taxable and reimbursable

² Fishing excludes nearly all commercial fish harvesting employment

Note: Percentages may not add to 100 percent 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 2.12
UI Regular Benefits Payments¹ by Industry
Interstate as a Percentage of Total, 2005-2008

INDUSTRY	Percentage of Weeks Paid to Interstate				Percentage of First Payments to Interstate				Percentage of Payments to Interstate			
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2005	2006	2007	2008	2005	2006	2007	2008
Totals (including unclassified)	16.4	15.4	15.9	15.6	14.1	14.0	14.6	14.5	18.0	16.8	17.3	16.9
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing ² & Hunting	24.5	17.8	18.3	21.2	19.7	16.7	18.8	22.7	27.2	19.8	19.4	22.9
Mining	14.2	11.9	15.4	13.9	10.7	9.6	14.6	12.9	15.3	13.1	16.4	15.0
Utilities	11.4	10.9	7.2	6.7	9.1	9.1	5.9	5.6	13.8	12.5	8.4	7.7
Construction	7.0	6.3	6.6	6.5	6.0	5.3	5.7	5.8	7.5	6.7	7.0	6.9
Manufacturing	50.8	50.5	52.3	48.9	48.9	49.5	51.1	46.9	56.5	55.4	57.9	53.7
Wholesale Trade	16.3	14.3	15.2	10.0	12.7	12.7	11.0	11.0	18.2	15.9	16.2	10.5
Retail Trade	11.1	9.7	10.9	10.2	9.1	7.8	9.7	9.5	12.7	11.0	12.3	11.2
Transportation & Warehousing	14.6	14.6	15.0	15.3	11.4	13.1	13.0	13.3	15.8	16.3	16.6	16.7
Information	14.4	14.4	15.2	16.2	10.4	10.6	10.2	13.8	16.0	15.6	16.2	17.0
Finance & Insurance	15.9	12.8	14.3	13.1	12.9	11.6	11.3	12.6	18.0	15.0	16.4	15.4
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	5.9	5.0	6.5	8.2	5.3	3.9	6.1	7.4	6.4	5.4	7.8	9.9
Professional & Technical Services	15.2	14.2	11.7	15.7	12.6	11.8	11.4	14.9	16.6	15.1	12.4	17.2
Management of Companies	9.6	3.2	0.9	5.1	9.8	1.4	1.2	6.8	11.3	4.1	1.0	8.1
Administrative & Waste Services	13.9	11.7	9.3	9.8	10.9	9.7	8.6	7.3	16.1	13.7	10.5	11.2
Educational Services	12.8	11.6	10.5	11.1	10.0	9.2	8.2	11.0	15.6	14.3	12.1	13.2
Health Care & Social Assistance	13.2	12.3	13.1	12.1	10.0	10.6	11.5	11.0	14.9	13.9	14.8	13.4
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	9.4	8.4	10.1	10.3	8.0	9.3	9.7	10.2	10.3	8.3	11.4	12.2
Accommodation & Food Services	13.1	12.7	13.1	13.6	10.8	10.9	11.6	12.5	14.6	14.3	15.0	15.4
Other Services, except Public Administration	11.3	8.1	8.6	7.2	8.8	6.9	7.3	5.7	11.9	8.2	9.7	8.3
Public Administration	7.8	6.4	6.5	7.0	5.7	5.6	5.7	6.5	10.1	8.3	8.3	8.9
Unclassified	14.9	13.8	17.2	17.6	11.3	10.0	16.6	15.0	16.1	14.0	15.5	18.3

¹ Data includes both taxable and reimbursable

² Fishing excludes nearly all commercial fish harvesting employment

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100 percent 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 2.13
Amount of UI Benefit Payments by Census Area, 2008

Census Areas	State UI Regular	State UI EB	UCFE Regular	UCFE EB	UCX Regular	UCX EB	EUC 08	SSB	All Programs Total
Aleutians East Borough	\$293,503	\$8,501	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,721	\$0	\$306,725
Aleutians West CA	860,451	19,179	3,458	0	0	0	29,934	0	913,022
Anchorage, Municipality of	26,909,639	1,246,126	278,689	7,060	388,290	28,667	2,837,906	5,852	31,702,229
Bethel CA	3,374,163	225,497	20,914	408	125,026	23,982	403,678	11,577	4,185,245
Bristol Bay Borough	138,427	1,305	6,199	0	0	0	15,161	0	161,092
Denali Borough	379,666	7,626	102,424	0	0	0	34,337	0	524,053
Dillingham CA	588,814	42,567	3,008	0	4,960	0	73,961	2,132	715,442
Fairbanks North Star Borough	9,616,708	313,827	243,965	792	175,684	14,604	657,771	312	11,023,663
Haines Borough	441,311	24,627	6,402	0	0	0	45,208	437	517,985
Juneau Borough	2,778,608	93,017	25,703	0	10,107	0	204,945	0	3,112,380
Kenai Peninsula Borough	7,947,679	318,294	86,672	2,496	43,071	0	705,943	2,508	9,106,663
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	1,691,656	63,565	12,934	0	6,177	0	129,508	960	1,904,800
Kodiak Island Borough	2,381,538	40,879	12,115	0	77	0	69,194	0	2,503,803
Lake & Peninsula Borough	308,462	12,684	2,419	612	0	0	22,356	1,040	347,573
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	12,412,128	506,884	139,369	5,227	108,227	8,349	1,258,866	7,044	14,446,094
Nome CA	1,438,321	68,866	0	0	25,706	6,420	199,483	5,947	1,744,743
North Slope Borough	661,925	23,644	3,472	0	0	0	56,434	1,008	746,483
Northwest Arctic Borough	1,219,441	104,102	5,564	0	3,990	0	193,742	2,996	1,529,835
Prince of Wales-Outer Ketchikan	1,301,051	61,132	22,686	190	0	0	96,250	764	1,482,073
Sitka Borough	841,650	20,570	35,157	4,982	9,207	0	60,123	0	971,689
Skagway-Hoonah-Angoon CA	874,919	22,698	31,874	136	0	0	56,120	0	985,747
Southeast Fairbanks CA	1,215,817	65,658	41,428	2,728	4,270	0	153,146	402	1,483,449
Valdez - Cordova CA	1,669,445	73,489	60,115	254	0	0	156,104	1,426	1,960,833
Wade Hampton CA	1,946,200	143,620	14,939	0	69,172	12,202	262,038	8,828	2,456,999
Wrangell - Petersburg CA	1,124,486	82,137	20,803	0	5,798	0	130,007	0	1,363,231
Yakutat Borough	122,247	2,778	0	0	0	0	11,851	0	136,876
Yukon - Koyukuk CA	1,465,733	117,274	20,935	756	2,007	0	167,518	2,540	1,776,763
Area Unknown	1,453,453	85,939	24,091	0	25,818	8,070	158,842	0	1,756,213
In-State Totals	85,457,441	3,796,485	1,225,335	25,641	1,007,587	102,294	8,195,147	55,773	99,865,703
Interstate Totals	17,335,644	228,374	682,678	5,638	62,808	592	1,989,461	788	20,305,983
Totals All Areas	102,793,085	4,024,859	1,908,013	31,279	1,070,395	102,886	10,184,608	56,561	120,171,686

10-Year Historical Data Series for Census Area Totals

Year	State UI Regular	State UI EB	UCFE Regular	UCFE EB	UCX Regular	UCX EB	TEUC / EUC 08	SSB	All Programs Total
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
2001	109,267,895	4,507,552	2,516,390	108,500	967,571	40,899	0	106,195	117,515,002
2002	120,352,390	9,941,415	2,389,643	194,986	900,034	44,535	21,226,533	161,904	155,211,440
2003	127,960,703	19,105,289	2,458,226	280,639	970,080	113,295	23,715,550	310,673	174,914,455
2004	121,065,387	8,255,371	2,492,908	117,262	938,108	61,346	2,730,934	122,136	135,783,452
2005	110,990,977	5,107,574	2,538,842	78,666	972,607	31,614	11,462	100,054	119,831,796
2006	105,616,167	1,354	2,109,651	0	771,739	0	1,664	0	108,500,575
2007	100,586,636	0	2,097,000	0	734,331	0	0	0	103,417,967
2008	102,793,085	4,024,859	1,908,013	31,279	1,070,395	102,886	10,184,608	56,561	120,171,686

Notes:

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

The TEUC program was effective March, 2002 through April, 2004.

The EUC 08 program began in July 2008. The second tier started the last week of November.

CA = Census Area

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

Table 2.14
UI Regular Benefit Payments to Interstate Claimants
By State, 2007-2008

State	2007		2008	
	Regular Benefits Paid	Percent Distribution	Regular Benefits Paid	Percent Distribution
Alabama	\$142,371	0.8	\$129,871	0.7
Arizona	672,434	3.9	772,872	4.5
Arkansas	161,593	0.9	145,996	0.8
California	4,539,750	26.2	4,395,591	25.4
Colorado	237,402	1.4	282,772	1.6
Connecticut	22,925	0.1	38,899	0.2
Delaware	5,054	0.0	0	0.0
Dist. of Columbia	6,829	0.0	0	0.0
Florida	447,608	2.6	487,209	2.8
Georgia	199,902	1.2	246,416	1.4
Guam	0	0.0	0	0.0
Hawaii	388,923	2.2	363,373	2.1
Idaho	506,446	2.9	560,946	3.2
Illinois	179,529	1.0	147,365	0.9
Indiana	76,354	0.4	106,281	0.6
Iowa	72,980	0.4	93,533	0.5
Kansas	101,166	0.6	53,652	0.3
Kentucky	86,155	0.5	81,536	0.5
Louisiana	112,590	0.6	113,225	0.7
Maine	43,009	0.2	42,780	0.2
Maryland	47,360	0.3	62,648	0.4
Massachusetts	42,677	0.2	44,862	0.3
Michigan	248,276	1.4	239,392	1.4
Minnesota	261,587	1.5	279,735	1.6
Mississippi	82,660	0.5	67,699	0.4
Missouri	178,747	1.0	176,731	1.0
Montana	361,551	2.1	345,861	2.0
Nebraska	93,231	0.5	90,518	0.5
Nevada	363,813	2.1	380,922	2.2
New Hampshire	48,498	0.3	27,152	0.2
New Jersey	61,612	0.4	55,060	0.3
New Mexico	168,571	1.0	194,375	1.1
New York	135,397	0.8	149,039	0.9
North Carolina	189,984	1.1	220,701	1.3
North Dakota	26,265	0.2	34,069	0.2
Ohio	100,585	0.6	105,812	0.6
Oklahoma	126,143	0.7	93,689	0.5
Oregon	1,216,711	7.0	1,322,216	7.6
Pennsylvania	110,512	0.6	93,256	0.5
Puerto Rico	31,917	0.2	39,054	0.2
Rhode Island	17,444	0.1	17,612	0.1
South Carolina	99,006	0.6	90,203	0.5
South Dakota	66,230	0.4	50,545	0.3
Tennessee	151,522	0.9	149,523	0.9
Texas	944,081	5.4	785,035	4.5
Utah	120,223	0.7	115,482	0.7
Vermont	33,730	0.2	28,344	0.2
Virginia	115,063	0.7	135,794	0.8
Virgin Islands	6,436	0.0	6,196	0.0
Washington	3,599,402	20.7	3,604,865	20.8
West Virginia	41,725	0.2	31,819	0.2
Wisconsin	163,562	0.9	142,909	0.8
Wyoming	47,135	0.3	65,318	0.4
Canada	54,870	0.3	23,915	0.1
US Other	0	0.0	2,976	0.0
Total	\$17,359,546	100.0	\$17,335,644	100.0

Note: Data in this table are payments from Alaska to recipients in other states.

Percentages may not add to 100 percent 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 2.15
Payment of Dependents' Benefits, 1999-2008**

Year	Number of First Pays with Dependents	All First Pays	Percent First Pays with Dependents	Weeks Compensated with Dependents	All Weeks Compensated	Percent Weeks Compensated with Dependents	Amount of Dependent Benefits	Average Payment of Dependent Benefits	
								Claimants with Dependents	All Claimants
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
2001	19,099	44,017	43.4	277,275	626,241	44.3	12,523,440	45.17	19.99
2002	20,491	48,722	42.1	298,151	696,807	42.8	13,446,864	45.10	19.30
2003	20,642	49,493	41.7	311,362	729,399	42.7	13,930,008	44.74	19.10
2004	18,839	46,224	40.8	287,121	687,388	41.8	12,871,944	44.83	18.73
2005	17,760	43,944	40.4	261,804	630,355	41.5	11,714,472	44.75	18.58
2006	16,264	40,859	39.8	242,072	588,450	41.1	10,803,264	44.63	18.36
2007	15,155	38,422	39.4	220,117	551,470	39.9	9,738,240	44.24	17.66
2008	14,706	38,430	38.3	217,924	556,595	39.2	9,583,200	43.97	17.22

Notes: Dependent's allowance is \$24.00 per dependent (maximum \$72.00). Data are for the state regular UI program only.

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

Table 2.16
Average Weekly Percentage of Unemployed
Receiving UI Benefits, 2008

State	Average Weekly Unemployed	Average Weeks Compensated	Compensated as Percent of Unemployed	Rank
Alabama	107,725	31,934	29.6	30
Alaska	24,625	10,542	42.8	8
Arizona	159,200	39,132	24.6	44
Arkansas	70,750	26,241	37.1	16
California	1,332,725	442,892	33.2	20
Colorado	139,325	23,597	16.9	51
Connecticut	109,475	46,582	42.6	10
Delaware	20,400	9,735	47.7	6
Dist. of Columbia	23,000	9,494	41.3	12
Florida	559,100	149,027	26.7	36
Georgia	298,800	69,147	23.1	45
Hawaii	26,450	10,485	39.6	13
Idaho	31,650	16,322	51.6	2
Illinois	442,725	143,304	32.4	23
Indiana	190,700	64,202	33.7	19
Iowa	67,475	28,065	41.6	11
Kansas	66,925	19,854	29.7	29
Kentucky	130,725	37,574	28.7	31
Louisiana	92,925	19,864	21.4	46
Maine	38,900	10,659	27.4	34
Maryland	129,825	40,587	31.3	25
Massachusetts	174,925	85,860	49.1	5
Michigan	417,875	147,562	35.3	17
Minnesota	162,425	50,855	31.3	24
Mississippi	92,400	19,126	20.7	47
Missouri	185,175	47,103	25.4	41
Montana	21,200	8,192	38.6	14
Nebraska	33,275	8,485	25.5	40
Nevada	94,450	36,258	38.4	15
New Hampshire	29,700	8,529	28.7	32
New Jersey	249,425	125,779	50.4	3
New Mexico	38,125	11,544	30.3	28
New York	520,600	180,783	34.7	18
North Carolina	290,425	89,499	30.8	26
North Dakota	12,300	3,057	24.9	42
Ohio	395,550	102,462	25.9	37
Oklahoma	67,450	13,873	20.6	48
Oregon	124,275	52,961	42.6	9
Pennsylvania	349,975	173,762	49.6	4
Puerto Rico	157,725	38,831	24.6	43
Rhode Island	44,400	14,587	32.9	21
South Carolina	150,100	40,139	26.7	35
South Dakota	13,400	1,805	13.5	52
Tennessee	194,625	49,738	25.6	39
Texas	568,500	104,332	18.4	50
Utah	47,425	12,247	25.8	38
Vermont	17,450	7,669	44.0	7
Virginia	172,200	35,338	20.5	49
Washington	192,475	58,446	30.4	27
West Virginia	37,925	12,427	32.8	22
Wisconsin	153,975	81,254	52.8	1
Wyoming	9,200	2,588	28.1	33
United States	8,924,250	2,875,124	32.2	

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section: UI Data Summary, Quarters 1-4, 2004, produced by the U.S. Department of Labor

Chapter 3

Unemployment Insurance Benefit Financing System

Unemployment insurance is a self-financing system

Unemployment compensation is, by design, a self-supporting insurance program. In the long run, employer taxes, reimbursements, and, in some states employee taxes, must be roughly equal to the amount of benefits paid out to claimants. Every state has its own financing system designed to achieve that goal. Alaska and New Jersey are the two states that tax employees each year to help pay benefit costs.

The Alaska Legislature revised the unemployment tax structure in 1980 to create a highly reliable, self-adjusting financial system based primarily on UI benefit costs. The tax base assessment automatically adjusts to changes in statewide average earnings, and the tax rate automatically adjusts to changes in benefit costs, payroll, and the trust fund reserve ratio.

Benefit payment costs determine the revenue needs

The basic purpose of a financing system is to cover benefit costs. The benefit cost is expressed as the benefit cost ratio, called the BCR. It's the relationship of benefits paid compared to total statewide payroll. The benefit cost ratio is a measure of the potential funding needed to pay unemployment benefits, as well as a measure of the financial impact of unemployment benefits on a state's economy.

Alaska has a high benefit cost rate compared to other states. However, Alaska's BCR has declined for the last five years, and is now 42% less than in 2003. The benefit cost ratio for taxable employment was 1.1 percent in 2008 and it averaged 1.6 percent for the 10-year period from 1999 to 2008. (See Table 3.1.) In general, the average benefit cost rate in Alaska is higher than in other states due to Alaska's highly seasonal employment and because a larger portion of the unemployed receive UI benefits than in other states.

Alaska's benefit cost rate in reimbursable employment is about one-fourth the rate in taxable employment. The benefit cost rate in reimbursable employment was 0.3 percent in 2008, and the prior two years. These low rates result from generally stable and mainly non-seasonal employment in the major reimbursable employers: state and local government.

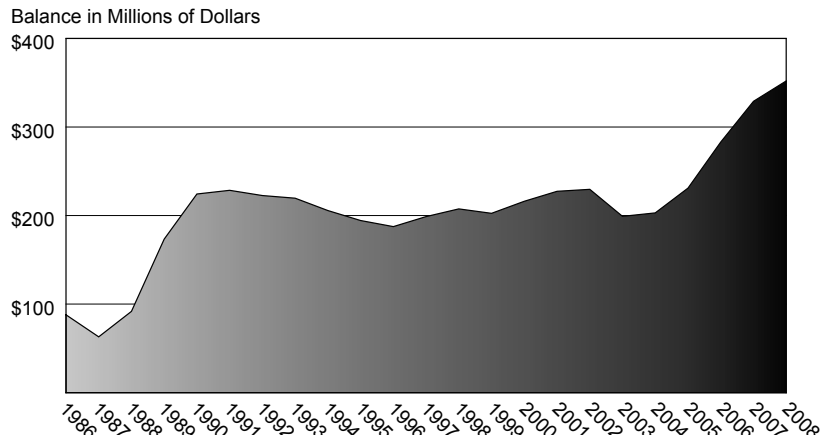
The UI trust fund is a special account for paying benefits and holding reserves

Every state has a UI trust fund to pay unemployment insurance benefits; administrative costs are paid for by a separate grant from the U.S. Department of Labor. Withdrawals are made as needed to make benefit payments, while taxes, reimbursements, interest, and other revenues are deposited into the UI trust fund to finance benefit payments and stabilize reserves.

Maintaining the solvency of the trust fund is one of the most important jobs 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 – essentially bankrupt – the state may borrow from the federal government. Alaska was the first state to borrow money in the late 1950s, but it hasn't had to borrow since 1960. In comparison, dozens of other states have faced insolvency and have had to borrow money, particularly in the 1980s and 1990s; some states have solvency problems today. Looking ahead to 2009, we know several states are paying benefits with borrowed funds.

The overall level of employment, and amount of payroll in the statewide economy, determines the potential amount of benefits that may be needed. But the ability of the trust fund reserves to pay benefits during a recession can't be measured simply by the level of reserves. The better measure is the reserve rate, which is the ratio of reserves to total wages subject to taxation. A trust fund reserve rate of roughly 3.2 percent is generally considered adequate in Alaska.

Figure 3.1 UI Trust Fund End-of-Year Balance 1986-2008



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

The ultimate test of Alaska's UI financing system was during the state's recession in 1986-87. The recession had a serious impact on the state's UI trust fund, but reserves were adequate to maintain solvency. The reserves were drawn down relatively far during the recession and then they were rebuilt in the years afterward. At the end of 2008, the reserve rate was 3.3 percent (highest in last ten years). (See Tables 3.3 and 3.10.) Looking ahead to 2009, Alaska's fund is solvent and healthy (August 2009).

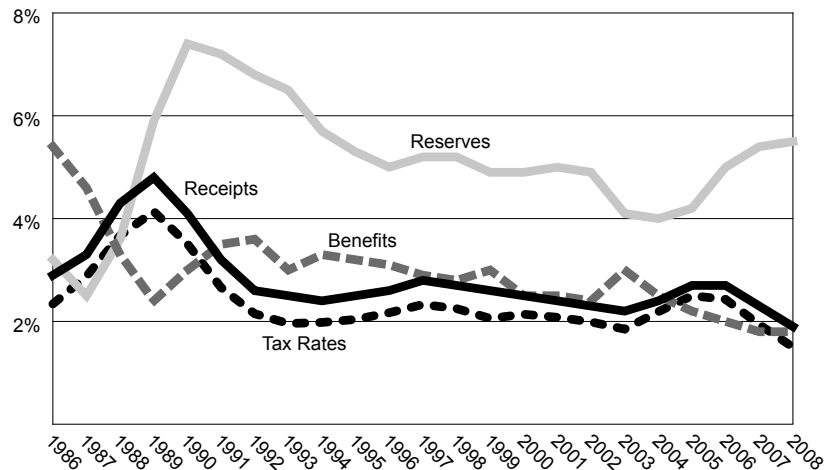
State taxes are the UI trust fund's main income

Alaska's UI taxes from employers and employees are the principal sources of income for the UI trust fund. Tax contributions to the UI trust fund in 2008 were \$123.3 million – 68.6 percent of total revenues – and they were down 13.1 percent from 2007. (See Table 3.3.) During 2008 a minimum solvency tax credit (0.1%) was in effect, to lower tax revenue because the trust fund was slightly over funded. Looking ahead to 2009, the solvency tax credit was increased (0.2%) because the trust fund was more over-funded than in the prior year, further lowering tax payments (fund revenues).

During the early years of this decade, employers experienced lower than average tax rates. The employer tax rate in 2003 was 1.85 percent of the taxable wage base – the lowest in more than 15 years. But it increased to 2.19 percent in 2004, marking a return to a level more common in the late 1990s. During 2003, there was a bump in benefit payments and the year-end balance of the trust fund fell \$30 million from the prior year. Employer tax rates were also up in 2005 and 2006 in response to a continued needed solvency adjustment. (See Table 3.4.) A minimum solvency tax was in effect for 2007.

Following four years of fund shortages, the fund recovered, and in 2008 was slightly overfunded. In 2008 a minimum solvency tax credit (0.1%) was in effect, and

Figure 3.2 Reserves, Receipts, Benefits and Tax Rates as a Percentage of Taxable Wages



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

it was increased to 0.2% (to further lower tax revenue) for 2009. The 2009 employer tax rates (with an average 1.15%) are the lowest on record (last 27 years - current financing system).

Alaska's UI taxes are assessed on wages up to a taxable wage base. The tax base is defined in AS 23.20.175(c) as 75 percent of the average annual earnings in covered employment for the immediately preceding year ending June 30. The state taxable wage base was \$31,300 in 2008, and is \$32,700 for tax year 2009.

How tax rates are calculated

There are three components of employer and employee taxes in Alaska: (1) the average benefit cost rate or ABCR; (2) individual employer experience factors; and (3) the trust fund solvency adjustment or TFSA. Tax rates are calculated in November and apply to the following calendar year. The formulas for calculating tax rates, through 2008, were:

Employer tax rate = (0.8 times the average benefit cost rate times the experience factor) plus the trust fund solvency adjustment

Employee tax rate = 0.2 times the average benefit cost rate

The tax rate calculation formulas above changed in 2009, and change, again, in 2010. The figures are:

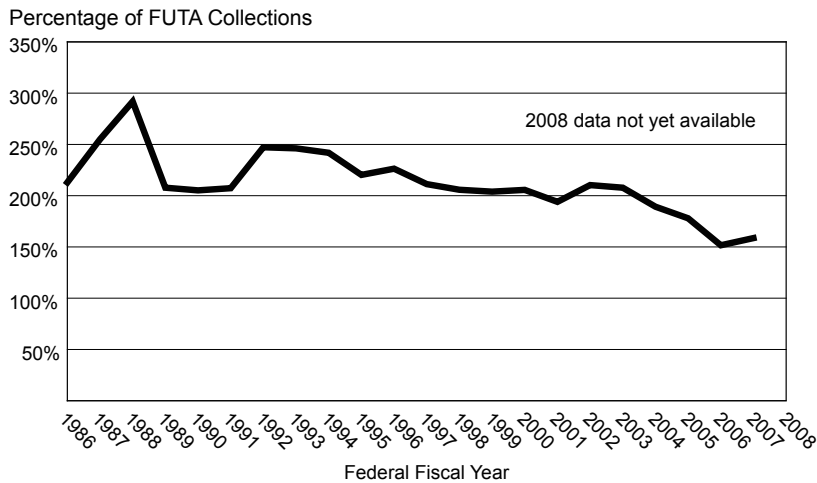
Employer tax rate	Employee tax rate	
0.80	0.20	for 2008
0.76	0.24	for 2009
0.73	0.27	for 2010 and thereafter

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

The average benefit cost rate measures benefit payments that must be replaced by contributions (taxes). Basing tax rate calculations on three-year periods makes the system "counter-cyclical." This makes tax rates rise slowly or even decrease during a recession as the trust fund is drawn down, then increase more rapidly during the economic recovery afterward so the trust fund is replenished. When the average benefit cost rate is low, or when trust fund reserves are high relative to payroll, tax rates decline, acting as a stimulus to the economy.

Employers pay 80 percent (2008) of the average benefit cost rate and employees pay the other 20 percent. Employee rates are the same for every

Figure 3.3 Administrative Grants as a Percentage of FUTA Collections



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

employee. Employer rates vary according to the employer experience rating system and may include a surtax to guarantee the solvency of the trust fund or a credit if it's over-funded.

Experience rating assigns employers to 20 tax rate classes

An employer with a higher incidence of worker lay-offs than other employers will contribute more to unemployment and the payment of UI benefits. Experience rating systems have been established in each state recognizing that such employers should contribute more to the UI trust fund to cover the benefit costs of their former employees.

In Alaska, there are three classes of employers that pay taxes. Most fall into the experience-rating category, called the E-class. They have at least four quarters of wage history prior to June 30 of the year immediately preceding the tax year and qualify for experience rating. The industry-rating category, called the I-class, has employers with fewer than four quarters of wage history; they pay a standard industry tax rate. The penalty-rating category, called the P-class, includes those employers that either failed to report on a timely basis or are delinquent in their payments and are taxed at the maximum rate, which can be no less than 5.4 percent. In 2008, 88.2 percent of all contributing employers were experience-rated, 10.8 percent were industry-rated and 1.0 percent were penalty-rated. (See Table 3.5.)

Alaska uses the payroll decline method of experience rating, which is an indirect measure of experience with unemployment. The logic behind the payroll decline system is that employers with a high payroll decline are likely responsible for more compensable unemployment than are employers with a lower payroll decline. Therefore, it follows that employers with more variation in employment should

contribute more to cover the higher benefit costs of their former employees. The advantages of the payroll decline method are that it's simple, it's less expensive to administer, and it's fair to employers.

In 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 percent of the total statewide payroll is accounted for in each class, with the exception of the 20th and 21st rate classes, which account for 4.99 percent and 0.01 percent, respectively. Class 21 is the penalty class. It was added in 1984 in response to federal legislation requiring a standard tax rate of 5.4 percent from which the state could reduce tax rates in accordance with experience.

In practice, no employer gets into Class 21 by experience rating alone, but by direct assignment under administrative penalty.

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.)

There are several other methods of experience rating used in other states, the majority of which track benefit payments as a direct experience factor. The State of Alaska examined each system in detail in 1980 and determined that the payroll decline method it used was best. Subsequent events, including the recession in the mid- to late-1980s, have validated that decision.

In the end, the simple fact is that UI taxes are assessed in order to cover the cost of benefit payments. This is true of any state's system. If benefit amounts are increased, then taxes will be higher to pay for it. If a state wants to reduce employer taxes, then total benefits paid out must be reduced.

The trust fund solvency adjustment is a tax surcharge or credit

In order 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 percent. A credit is provided to reduce employers' tax rates if the reserve rate equals or exceeds 3.3 percent. The trust fund solvency adjustment, or TFSA, is applied uniformly to all employers at a rate of -0.4 percent to 1.1 percent depending on the trust fund reserve rate, according to a schedule in AS 23.20.290(f). The TFSA may fluctuate by no more than 0.3

percent from one year to the next. In 2006, the TFSA was 0.4 percent, and in 2007 0.1 percent. For 2008, a TFSA credit of -0.1 percent was in effect, which increased to -0.2 percent for 2009. There is some expectation that the trust fund solvency factor will return to zero in 2010.

The administration of the UI program is funded by federal taxes

In addition to state unemployment taxes, employers pay taxes to the federal government to cover administrative costs. The Federal Unemployment Tax Act tax, or FUTA tax, is 6.2 percent of payroll on a base of \$7,000. However, as long as state law conforms to federal law, employers receive a credit of 5.4 percent against their FUTA taxes, making the effective tax rate 0.8 percent. This results in a \$56 tax for each employee earning \$7,000 or more annually. The federal government estimates that in federal fiscal year 2007, employers in Alaska contributed \$16.3 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 and there are no recent changes in federal law that would require state conformity legislation.

The federal government pays for the administration of each 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 2007, Alaska received \$26.7 million in administrative grants, including \$20.6 million for unemployment insurance administrative costs, and \$7.4 million for employment services. In federal fiscal year 2007, Alaska's total administrative grants amounted to 171.8 percent of state FUTA contributions. (See Figure 3.3 and 3.7.)

Trust Fund Revenue includes direct reimbursements

Chapter 2 described the programs through which unemployment benefits were disbursed in 2007 and 2008. Regular benefits, extended benefits and supplemental state benefits are disbursed through the state trust fund, but they differ in the way they are financed. As mentioned earlier, the major source of revenues deposited into the fund is employer taxes. However, revenues also come from a variety of other sources.

The federal government reimburses the trust fund for 100 percent of regular and extended benefits paid to former federal employees through its UCFE program and former military employees through its UCX program, as well as a portion (about 50 percent) of all non-federal extended benefit payments. The federal government also pays interest on the trust fund. In 2007 and 2008, it paid us more than \$30.7 million in interest. (See Table 3.3.)

Nonprofit organizations and state and local government agencies that opt to reimburse the trust fund directly instead of paying taxes reimburse 100 percent of the regular UI benefits and extended benefits paid to their former employees. Through 1988, nonprofit agencies reimbursed only half of the extended benefits. In 1989, however, the Alaska Legislature changed the law. Reimbursable employers paid \$8.5 million to the UI trust fund in 2008. (See Table 3.3.)

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 claimants in such cases 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.

A basic form of subsidy happens across years. One measure of the equity of a system is the ratio of benefits paid in one year to the taxes paid in the prior year. Table 3.9 has such a calculation for the major industry groupings. In the years surrounding the recession – 1985 to 1987 – 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 that time, the difference was being made up by trust fund reserves. Employers in prior years were subsidizing employers during the recession years. After that time, the ratio declined to less than 1.0 and, conversely, employers were subsidizing employers in future recessions. Over time the system seeks to stabilize itself. In 2008, the ratio of benefits to the prior year contributions was 0.6.

One very important subsidy 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. Those industries with higher ratios also tend to have higher benefit cost rates than other industries. (See Tables 3.2 and 3.9.)

Industries that are historically the most subsidized in Alaska 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.

Training Programs receive a share of UI Tax revenue

The Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development administers two employment training programs that are supported by a share of the Unemployment Insurance

Taxes paid by employees. The State Training and Employment Program (STEP) was created in 1989. It was reauthorized six times, and made permanent in 2009. The Training and Vocational Education Program (TVEP) was enacted in 2000. Both programs began with identical funding definitions (AS 23.15.630 and AS 23.15.835, respectively) providing an amount equal to one-tenth of a percent (0.10%) of taxable wages collected in taxes from employees. The funding formula for TVEP was increased (50%) to 0.15% of taxable wages, starting July 2008.

In all but one (2006) of the last eight years, employees have paid the minimum UI tax rate, one-half of one percent (0.50%), and it is expected they should remain at the

minimum tax rate for at least a couple of more years. At this rate, the share of employee taxes allocated for STEP is 20%, and for TVEP is 25%. In total, fifty percent of collected employee tax funds is dedicated to the training programs, and is not deposited into the UI trust fund.

The funds for STEP and TVEP are normally tracked on a state fiscal year basis, so these numbers are not strictly comparable to the calendar year data in all other parts of this report. In state fiscal year 2008, STEP and TVEP received \$12.3 million, and in SFY 2009 they received \$15.8 million in funding. During the last five years, the department has provided over \$60 million in support for the training programs from the UI financing system.

Table 3.1
Benefit Cost Rate, 1999-2008

Year	Taxable Employment			Reimbursable Employment		
	Benefits Paid (In Thousands)	Total Wages (Lagged 1 Yr) (In Thousands)	Benefit Cost Rate (Percent)	Benefits Paid (In Thousands)	Total Wages (Lagged 1 Yr) (In Thousands)	Benefit Cost Rate (Percent)
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
2001	114,259	6,793,721	1.7	9,046	2,068,377	0.4
2002	114,736	7,230,311	1.6	9,862	2,154,236	0.5
2003	145,288	7,501,125	1.9	12,514	2,278,413	0.5
2004	130,269	7,730,837	1.7	11,681	2,362,563	0.5
2005	121,260	8,170,491	1.5	9,890	2,411,561	0.4
2006	113,787	8,629,441	1.3	8,284	2,519,453	0.3
2007	107,410	9,214,930	1.2	7,897	2,600,402	0.3
2008	113,368	9,877,150	1.1	7,826	2,691,732	0.3

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; and Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) report to the U.S. Department of Labor

Table 3.2
Benefit Cost Rates by Industry, 2008

Industry	Benefits Paid 2008	Total Wages 2007	Benefit Cost Rate (Percent) (Lagged 1 Yr)
Taxable Employers			
Total	\$94,656,090	\$9,877,150,147	1.0
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing ¹ & Hunting	837,667	32,382,520	2.6
Mining	3,925,861	1,440,028,076	0.3
Utilities	568,096	122,605,579	0.5
Construction	20,765,787	1,105,439,371	1.9
Manufacturing	12,812,911	494,342,119	2.6
Wholesale Trade	1,453,830	318,584,804	0.5
Retail Trade	8,673,136	979,958,367	0.9
Transportation & Warehousing	6,404,255	1,018,912,892	0.6
Information	1,388,530	358,220,167	0.4
Finance & Insurance	2,108,686	480,127,578	0.4
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	2,265,922	175,310,552	1.3
Professional & Technical Services	3,249,483	728,603,078	0.4
Management of Companies	152,612	87,043,753	0.2
Administrative & Waste Services	5,319,988	423,808,183	1.3
Educational Services	237,494	57,912,712	0.4
Health Care & Social Assistance	6,950,328	974,705,014	0.7
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	1,038,037	75,617,520	1.4
Accommodation & Food Services	7,670,834	525,456,521	1.5
Other Services, except Public Administration	2,901,122	267,916,001	1.1
Public Administration	4,819,568	188,124,678	2.6
Unclassified	1,111,943	22,050,662	5.0
Reimbursable Employers			
Total	\$8,137,810	\$2,691,731,736	0.3
Transportation & Warehousing	263,940	52,672,597	0.5
Information	3,551	462,267	0.8
Educational Services	2,047,756	1,036,625,437	0.2
Professional & Technical Services	11,026	4,085,823	0.3
Health Care & Social Assistance	1,750,169	461,443,510	0.4
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	6,798	951,037	0.7
Other Services, except Public Administration	122,204	24,150,595	0.5
Public Administration	3,931,551	1,109,270,093	0.4
Other	815	2,070,377	0.0

¹ Fishing excludes nearly all commercial fish harvesting employment

Sources: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section: UC-217 report, Benefit Payments by Industry and Area; Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) report to the U.S. Department of Labor

Table 3.3
Trust Fund Deposits and Disbursements, 1999-2008

Deposits									
Year	U.I. Tax Contributions¹	Federal Share Extended Benefits	Amounts Rec'd From Reimb. Employers	Interstate Benefits Wage Combining	Federal Emerg. Comp²	Penalty & Interest³	Other⁴	Trust Fund Interest Earned	Total Revenue Deposited⁵
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
2001	109,083,728	1,960,100	9,190,683	2,015,866	0	9,574,918	5,013,393	14,054,171	150,892,859
2002	107,100,241	3,985,800	9,654,868	17,715,300	23,256,300	9,722,188	4,825,500	14,439,725	190,699,922
2003	105,714,018	8,612,100	11,915,678	1,901,601	26,363,100	10,103,941	5,359,601	12,550,021	182,520,060
2004	123,396,419	3,714,300	12,660,108	2,816,279	4,564,790	10,651,316	4,967,505	10,157,097	172,927,815
2005	145,990,785	1,978,258	10,692,011	1,435,969	235,400	11,120,449	4,703,701	10,050,126	186,206,698
2006	155,630,450	0	9,101,144	1,143,862	0	12,130,828	3,719,601	11,922,978	193,648,864
2007	141,857,022	0	7,769,782	1,381,191	16,900	12,728,892	3,534,700	14,555,870	181,844,357
2008	123,294,511	1,760,900	8,498,168	1,139,703	9,857,900	14,773,157	4,160,400	16,226,742	179,711,481

Disbursements									
Year	Regular Benefits + SSB	Extended Benefit Payments	Reimb. Benefit Payments	Interstate Benefits Wage Combining	Federal Emerg. Comp.²	Training And Building Fund	Other⁴	Total Benefits Disbursed⁵	Reserve Fund Balance⁶
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
2001	104,948,376	3,872,511	9,045,948	9,381,601	(190,514)	7,189,124	5,295,069	139,542,115	227,427,495
2002	115,649,332	8,671,278	9,862,070	12,479,230	23,080,741	12,174,169	6,632,040	188,548,860	229,578,558
2003	125,467,879	17,066,115	12,513,957	13,239,427	26,565,752	10,116,699	7,987,796	212,957,625	199,140,993
2004	116,679,323	6,779,339	11,681,249	13,024,068	3,608,517	10,618,202	6,656,210	169,046,908	203,021,900
2005	108,545,340	4,079,233	9,890,482	12,114,777	(270,168)	11,295,341	12,536,018	158,191,022	230,973,776
2006	102,806,753	(305,756)	8,284,330	12,277,205	(448,030)	12,041,918	6,758,048	141,414,467	283,208,172
2007	95,880,401	(4,260)	7,897,265	12,912,576	31,663	12,628,147	6,678,243	136,024,035	329,028,495
2008	100,630,213	3,464,794	7,825,589	12,949,475	10,835,942	14,756,828	9,626,379	160,089,219	351,909,621

¹ Excludes reimbursements.

² TEUC - Temporary Emergency Unemployment Compensation: March 2002 - April 2004.

³ Net collections of penalties, interest and fines.

⁴ 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.

⁵ Deposits from all sources including federal and all disbursements made to claimants.

⁶ 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, 1999-2008

Year	Wages in Taxable Employment (In Thousands)		Ratio of Taxable to Total Wages (Percent)	Tax Base (In dollars)	Average Employer Tax Rate		Average Employee Tax Rate	
	Total Wages	Taxable Wages			Percent of Taxable Wages	Percent of Total Wages	Percent of Taxable Wages	Percent of Total Wages
1999	6,389,605	4,124,730	64.6	24,500	2.06	1.33	0.56	0.4
2000	6,793,721	4,396,916	64.7	24,800	2.14	1.39	0.54	0.3
2001	7,230,311	4,556,600	63.0	25,500	2.08	1.31	0.54	0.3
2002	7,501,125	4,722,968	63.0	26,000	1.99	1.25	0.52	0.3
2003	7,730,838	4,874,370	63.1	26,700	1.85	1.17	0.50	0.3
2004	8,170,491	5,130,288	62.8	27,100	2.19	1.38	0.50	0.3
2005	8,629,441	5,436,868	63.0	27,900	2.50	1.58	0.50	0.3
2006	9,214,930	5,720,285	62.1	28,700	2.43	1.51	0.51	0.3
2007	9,877,150	6,074,631	61.5	30,100	1.94	1.19	0.50	0.3
2008	10,507,640	6,391,729	60.8	31,300	1.50	0.91	0.50	0.3

Sources: Alaska Statute 23.20.175; Alaska Statute 23.20.290; 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 3.5
Employer Accounts by Rate Type and
Average Tax Rates by Industry**

2008 Employers by Rate Type

Industry	Experience Rated		Industry Rated		Penalty Rated		Total Rated Employers	
	No.	Percent of E-Rated	No.	Percent of I-Rated	No	P-Rated	No.	Grand Total
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing ¹ & Hunting	118	0.7	19	1.3	1	1.2	138	0.8
Mining	145	0.9	21	1.1	0	0.0	166	0.9
Utilities	79	0.5	6	0.2	1	0.0	86	0.5
Construction	2,286	15.1	321	15.5	25	11.6	2,632	15.1
Manufacturing	479	3.0	45	2.8	6	2.3	530	3.0
Wholesale Trade	630	4.2	60	2.2	4	4.1	694	4.0
Retail Trade	1,819	12.0	109	6.2	17	9.9	1,945	11.3
Transportation & Warehousing	790	5.1	76	3.7	11	8.1	877	4.9
Information	224	1.5	31	1.1	2	1.2	257	1.4
Finance & Insurance	504	3.3	56	2.6	4	1.2	564	3.2
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	552	3.5	59	3.0	1	2.9	612	3.5
Professional & Technical Services	1,607	10.2	249	11.3	12	6.4	1,868	10.3
Management of Companies	27	0.2	10	0.7	0	0.0	37	0.2
Administrative & Waste Services	944	5.9	144	8.1	12	8.1	1,100	6.2
Educational Services	185	1.2	31	1.4	1	0.6	217	1.2
Health Care & Social Assistance	1,445	9.1	132	7.6	7	2.9	1,584	8.9
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	449	2.8	49	2.9	12	2.9	510	2.8
Accommodations & Food Services	1,541	10.0	155	7.6	30	19.2	1,726	9.8
Other Services, except Public Administration	1,317	8.3	286	13.3	37	7.6	1,640	8.8
Public Administration	341	2.2	4	0.2	7	6.4	352	2.0
Unclassified	85	0.5	166	7.5	8	3.5	259	1.2
Total	15,567	100.0	2,029	100.0	198	100.0	17,794	100.0
Percent of Grand Total		88.2		10.8		1.0		100.0

Employer Average Tax Rates (Experience Rated firms)

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	
Total	2.86	2.84	2.36	1.91	1.54	Experience-rated firms have at least 4 quarters of reported wages to qualify for experience rating. Experienced employers are assigned to one of 20 rate classes based on their average payroll decline experience (regardless of their industry).
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing ¹ & Hunting	3.43	3.40	2.86	2.26	1.81	
Mining	3.17	3.03	2.46	1.98	1.62	
Utilities	2.42	2.47	1.96	1.65	1.34	
Construction	3.37	3.32	2.76	2.25	1.80	
Manufacturing	3.04	2.96	2.44	1.97	1.60	Industry-rated firms are newer employers with fewer than 4 quarters of reportable wages. They are assigned to the tax class that is closest to their industry average.
Wholesale Trade	2.83	2.80	2.30	1.87	1.49	
Retail Trade	2.76	2.74	2.30	1.84	1.46	
Transportation & Warehousing	3.04	2.83	2.33	1.88	1.52	
Information	2.48	2.52	2.10	1.73	1.37	
Finance & Insurance	2.48	2.48	2.04	1.67	1.39	Penalty-rated firms are those who have failed to submit quarterly reports or pay taxes on schedule.
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	2.65	2.65	2.22	1.78	1.47	
Professional & Technical Services	2.77	2.74	2.26	1.85	1.50	
Management of Companies	2.28	2.50	2.08	1.86	1.54	
Administrative & Waste Services	2.95	2.93	2.43	2.00	1.60	
Educational Services	2.76	2.80	2.38	1.93	1.55	
Health Care & Social Assistance	2.36	2.33	1.93	1.55	1.28	
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	3.12	3.11	2.61	2.12	1.70	
Accommodations & Food Services	2.94	2.93	2.46	1.99	1.58	
Other Services, except Public Administration	2.59	2.57	2.13	1.71	1.39	
Public Administration	2.83	2.80	2.32	1.84	1.44	
Unclassified	3.08	3.11	2.46	2.08	1.71	

¹ Fishing excludes nearly all commercial fish harvesting employment. Percentages may not add to 100 percent 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
2009

Tax Rate Calculations

	SFY 2005	SFY 2006	SFY 2007	SFY 2008	CY 2008
(1) Benefit Cost (Ben-Reimb-Int)		104,176,588	98,017,801	92,677,254	
(2) Total Payroll (taxable employers)	8,370,948,699	8,989,141,045	9,540,702,187	10,163,092,935	
(3) Taxable Payroll				6,269,884,047	
(4) Benefit Cost for 3 Prev SFY					\$294,871,643
(5) Total Payroll, First 3 of Last 4 SFY					\$26,900,791,931
(6) 3-Yr Benefit Cost/Total Payroll (4)/(5)					0.010961
(7) Taxable/Total Payroll, Last SFY					0.616927
(8) Average Benefit Cost Rate (6)/(7)					0.017768
(9) UI Trust Fund Balance, Sep 30					\$346,276,095
(10) Total Payroll, Last SFY					\$10,163,092,935
(11) UI Trust Fund Reserve Rate (9)/(10)					0.034072
(12) Solvency Adjustment					-0.002
(13) Average Employer Tax Rate as a Percent of Taxable Payroll (0.76 x ABCR) + TFSA = (0.76 x #8) + #12					1.15%
(14) Average Employee Tax Rate: (0.24 x ABCR) = (0.24 x #8)					0.50%

Tax Rates for Employees and Experience Rated Employers

Rate Class	Experience Factor	Employee Tax Rate Percent	Employer Tax Rate Percent	Total Tax Rate Percent
1	0.40	0.50	1.00	1.50
2	0.45	0.50	1.00	1.50
3	0.50	0.50	1.00	1.50
4	0.55	0.50	1.00	1.50
5	0.60	0.50	1.00	1.50
6	0.65	0.50	1.00	1.50
7	0.70	0.50	1.00	1.50
8	0.80	0.50	1.00	1.50
9	0.90	0.50	1.02	1.52
10	1.00	0.50	1.15	1.65
11	1.00	0.50	1.15	1.65
12	1.10	0.50	1.29	1.79
13	1.20	0.50	1.42	1.92
14	1.30	0.50	1.56	2.06
15	1.35	0.50	1.62	2.12
16	1.40	0.50	1.69	2.19
17	1.45	0.50	1.76	2.26
18	1.50	0.50	1.83	2.33
19	1.55	0.50	1.89	2.39
20	1.60	0.50	1.96	2.46
21	1.65	0.50	5.40	5.90

Notes:
 Total payroll, taxable payroll, and UI benefits costs are all for employees (current or former) of contributing (taxable) employers only.
 Reimbursable employers are excluded.
 Employee Tax Rate: Statutory minimum tax rate for Employee is 0.50%. Line (14)
 Employer Tax Rate: Statutory minimum tax rate for Employer is 1.00%.

Sources: Alaska Statutes 23.20.290 Alaska Department of Labor & Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section: Quarterly Census Employment and Wages (QCEW) report to the U.S. Department of Labor; Unemployment Insurance Financial Transaction Summary, ETA 2-112 report

**Table 3.7
Administrative Costs
1999-2008**

Federal Fiscal Year ¹	FUTA Collections (in millions)	UI Admin. Grants (in millions)	Employment Security		Total Admin. Grants	
			Admin. Grants (In millions)	Other Grants (In millions)	(In millions)	As a Percent age of FUTA
1999	\$13.2	\$20.0	\$7.8	\$2.3	\$27.8	\$210.6
2000	14.0	19.9	7.8	2.0	27.7	197.9
2001	14.2	20.8	7.9	1.9	28.7	202.1
2002	14.3	22.7	8.2	2.2	30.9	216.1
2003	14.4	22.7	8.1	2.3	30.8	213.9
2004	14.7	21.3	7.8	1.9	29.1	198.0
2005	15.4	21.3	7.7	2.0	29.0	188.3
2006	16.1	19.1	7.6	1.9	26.7	165.8
2007	16.3	20.6	7.4	1.4	28.0	171.8
2008	Data for FFY 2008 was unavailable at the time of this publication					

¹ The federal fiscal year is a 12-month period beginning October 1st of the prior year, ending September 30th of the following year. For example, FFY 2008 would include activity between Oct. 1, 2007 - Sep. 30, 2008. The data table presented here uses a revised data series for 1981 - 2007, issued by USDOL in January 2009.

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

Website: "www.ows.doleta.gov/unemploy/budget.asp" - Select the link: "Esitimated FUTA Receipts vs. Amounts Returned".

**Table 3.8
Collections, UI Regular Benefits Paid
Reimbursable Employment
1999-2008**

Year	Collections			Benefits Paid			Total Collections less Benefits Paid
	Total	Private Nonprofit	Government (State & Local)	Total	Private Nonprofit	Government (State & Local)	
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
2001	9,190,683	911,483	8,279,200	9,045,949	1,616,565	7,429,384	144,734
2002	9,654,868	1,095,234	8,559,634	9,862,070	1,352,348	8,509,722	-207,202
2003	11,915,678	1,270,237	10,645,441	12,513,957	1,113,841	11,400,116	-598,279
2004	12,660,108	1,563,866	11,096,242	11,681,249	1,351,755	10,329,495	978,859
2005	10,692,011	1,385,980	9,306,031	9,890,482	1,118,780	8,771,702	801,529
2006	9,101,144	1,199,128	7,902,016	8,284,330	850,751	7,433,579	816,814
2007	7,769,782	990,146	6,779,635	7,897,265	917,077	6,980,188	-127,484
2008	8,498,168	1,220,277	7,277,891	7,825,589	889,612	6,935,977	672,579
10-Year Total							4,965,357

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, Taxes Assessed, and Ratio of Benefits to Taxes for
Taxable Employment, in Thousands, 2004-2008

Industry	Benefits Paid (Regular + 1/2 EB) from the UC-217 Report					Total Employer and Employee Contributions Assessed from the QCEW Report				
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Totals (including unclassified)	\$113,127	\$103,386	\$97,130	\$92,489	\$96,668	\$137,258	\$162,961	\$168,776	\$151,154	\$135,352
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing ¹ & Hunting	1,723	1,148	1,101	979	865	1,059	1,222	1,055	786	612
Mining	4,760	3,383	2,644	3,414	4,010	8,877	10,544	12,359	11,371	11,018
Utilities	715	612	629	602	581	1,127	1,333	1,351	1,121	1,188
Construction	23,285	21,580	21,364	21,063	21,149	20,378	24,883	24,722	21,192	18,686
Manufacturing	15,119	13,893	13,338	12,334	12,941	10,830	13,043	13,137	11,921	9,776
Wholesale Trade	1,820	1,546	1,590	1,456	1,481	4,160	4,795	5,200	7,934	3,936
Retail Trade	11,020	10,077	9,252	8,807	8,815	15,563	18,482	19,004	13,256	14,733
Transportation & Warehousing	8,018	7,443	6,556	6,259	6,514	12,899	14,703	15,312	13,477	11,965
Information	1,897	1,499	1,492	1,240	1,413	3,627	4,196	4,099	4,089	3,838
Finance & Insurance	2,929	2,488	2,328	2,111	2,157	5,483	6,329	6,382	5,666	5,299
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	2,685	2,710	2,888	2,274	2,322	2,960	3,681	3,530	2,863	2,631
Professional & Technical Services	3,472	2,679	2,669	2,461	3,326	8,017	9,898	10,538	9,594	9,168
Management of Companies	161	179	168	167	156	871	1,047	1,109	1,006	923
Administrative & Waste Services	5,187	4,578	4,509	4,428	5,460	6,658	8,279	8,551	7,848	6,744
Educational Services	103	143	397	425	291	780	936	1,001	893	816
Health Care & Social Assistance	8,294	8,466	7,733	7,444	7,190	12,276	14,486	15,434	13,790	13,133
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	1,171	1,104	1,118	1,005	1,054	1,519	1,850	2,002	1,793	1,683
Accommodation & Food Services	8,988	8,388	7,539	7,087	7,816	11,680	13,764	14,430	13,010	11,267
Other Services, except Public Administration	5,010	4,454	3,450	2,949	2,955	4,420	4,964	5,334	4,679	4,279
Public Administration	6,333	6,571	5,432	4,869	5,046	3,504	3,934	3,678	4,303	3,166
Unclassified	437	448	933	1,115	1,126	569	584	549	563	492
	Ratio Of Benefits To Prior Year Contribution									
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008					
Totals (including unclassified)	1.0	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.6					
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing ¹ & Hunting	1.7	1.1	0.9	0.9	1.1					
Mining	0.7	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4					
Utilities	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5					
Construction	1.3	1.1	0.9	0.9	1.0					
Manufacturing	1.8	1.3	1.0	0.9	1.1					
Wholesale Trade	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.2					
Retail Trade	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.7					
Transportation & Warehousing	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.5					
Information	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3					
Finance & Insurance	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.4					
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	1.1	0.9	0.8	0.6	0.8					
Professional & Technical Services	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3					
Management of Companies	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2					
Administrative & Waste Services	0.9	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.7					
Educational Services	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.3					
Health Care & Social Assistance	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.5					
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.6					
Accommodation & Food Services	0.9	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.6					
Other Services, except Public Administration	1.3	1.0	0.7	0.6	0.6					
Public Administration	2.0	1.9	1.4	1.3	1.2					
Unclassified	3.1	0.8	1.6	2.0	2.0					

¹ Fishing excludes nearly all commercial fish harvesting employment

Percentages may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding. The 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: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) report to the U.S. Department of Labor

Table 3.10
Collections, Benefits Paid, Trust Fund Reserves and
Average Employer Tax Rate as Percentages of Wages 1999-2008

Year	Percent of Total Wages				Percent of Taxable Wages			
	Collections	Benefits Paid	Year-End Reserve	Average Employer Tax Rate	Collections	Benefits Paid	Year-End Reserve	Average Employer Tax Rate
1999	1.6	1.9	3.2	1.33	2.6	3.0	4.9	2.06
2000	1.6	1.6	3.2	1.39	2.5	2.5	4.9	2.14
2001	1.5	1.6	3.1	1.31	2.4	2.5	5.0	2.08
2002	1.4	1.5	3.1	1.25	2.3	2.4	4.9	1.99
2003	1.4	1.9	2.6	1.17	2.2	3.0	4.1	1.85
2004	1.5	1.6	2.5	1.38	2.4	2.5	4.0	2.19
2005	1.7	1.4	2.7	1.58	2.7	2.2	4.2	2.50
2006	1.7	1.2	3.1	1.51	2.7	2.0	5.0	2.43
2007	1.4	1.1	3.3	1.19	2.3	1.8	5.4	1.94
2008	1.2	1.1	3.3	0.91	1.9	1.8	5.5	1.50

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; Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) report to the U.S. Department of Labor

Table 3.11
UI Benefits Paid, Taxes Assessed and Covered Wages
by Industry, 2008

Industry	Amount of Benefits Paid		Employer and Employee Contributions Assessed	Total Wages	Taxable Wages	Percent of Total Wages Taxable
	Regular	Regular Plus 1/2 Extended Benefits				
Total	\$94,656,090	\$96,668,247	\$135,351,955	\$10,507,640,477	\$6,391,729,341	60.8
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing ¹ & Hunting	837,667	865,270	611,847	31,484,218	22,359,240	71.0
Mining	3,925,861	4,010,269	11,018,127	1,663,048,527	596,881,605	35.9
Utilities	568,096	581,364	1,187,556	131,604,518	62,944,745	47.8
Construction	20,765,787	21,149,167	18,686,166	1,155,283,211	706,408,198	61.1
Manufacturing	12,812,911	12,940,751	9,775,681	483,015,585	365,039,313	75.6
Wholesale Trade	1,453,830	1,481,021	3,935,856	327,318,908	192,328,064	58.8
Retail Trade	8,673,136	8,815,041	14,732,830	1,001,922,176	792,000,764	79.0
Transportation & Warehousing	6,404,255	6,513,746	11,965,435	1,077,987,678	584,871,666	54.3
Information	1,388,530	1,413,151	3,837,778	380,325,460	203,687,369	53.6
Finance & Insurance	2,108,686	2,156,904	5,298,662	497,362,957	269,602,730	54.2
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	2,265,922	2,321,589	2,630,972	181,559,072	126,520,309	69.7
Professional & Technical Services	3,249,483	3,326,066	9,168,126	813,939,121	425,843,692	52.3
Management of Companies	152,612	156,138	923,069	88,734,913	45,810,993	51.6
Administrative & Waste Services	5,319,988	5,459,631	6,744,235	454,192,446	317,106,345	69.8
Educational Services	237,494	290,590	816,438	61,341,572	44,548,154	72.6
Health Care & Social Assistance	6,950,328	7,189,693	13,132,594	1,032,685,214	701,828,783	68.0
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	1,038,037	1,054,005	1,682,688	78,536,963	68,933,717	87.8
Accommodation & Food Services	7,670,834	7,816,359	11,266,541	543,553,798	490,147,620	90.2
Other Services, except Public Administration	2,901,122	2,954,861	4,279,206	284,644,338	210,284,051	73.9
Public Administration	4,819,568	5,046,447	3,165,774	196,823,174	147,006,031	74.7
Unclassified	1,111,943	1,126,184	492,374	22,276,628	17,575,952	78.9

¹ Fishing excludes nearly all commercial fish harvesting employment

Notes: Reimbursable account data are excluded from this table. Federally funded programs and federal employment are excluded.

Sources: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) report to the U.S. Department of Labor; UC-217 report, Benefit Payments by Industry and Area

Table 3.12
UI Benefits Paid as a Percent of Taxes Assessed
and Covered Wages by Industry, 2008

Industry	Regular Benefits as a Percentage of:			Regular Benefits plus 1/2 Extended Benefits as a Percentage of:		
	Collections	Total Wages	Taxable Wages	Collections	Total Wages	Taxable Wages
Total	69.9	0.9	1.5	71.4	0.9	1.5
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing ¹ & Hunting	136.9	2.7	3.7	141.4	2.7	3.9
Mining	35.6	0.2	0.7	36.4	0.2	0.7
Utilities	47.8	0.4	0.9	49.0	0.4	0.9
Construction	111.1	1.8	2.9	113.2	1.8	3.0
Manufacturing	131.1	2.7	3.5	132.4	2.7	3.5
Wholesale Trade	36.9	0.4	0.8	37.6	0.5	0.8
Retail Trade	58.9	0.9	1.1	59.8	0.9	1.1
Transportation & Warehousing	53.5	0.6	1.1	54.4	0.6	1.1
Information	36.2	0.4	0.7	36.8	0.4	0.7
Finance & Insurance	39.8	0.4	0.8	40.7	0.4	0.8
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	86.1	1.2	1.8	88.2	1.3	1.8
Professional & Technical Services	35.4	0.4	0.8	36.3	0.4	0.8
Management of Companies	16.5	0.2	0.3	16.9	0.2	0.3
Administrative & Waste Services	78.9	1.2	1.7	81.0	1.2	1.7
Educational Services	29.1	0.4	0.5	35.6	0.5	0.7
Health Care & Social Assistance	52.9	0.7	1.0	54.7	0.7	1.0
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	61.7	1.3	1.5	62.6	1.3	1.5
Accommodation & Food Services	68.1	1.4	1.6	69.4	1.4	1.6
Other Services, except Public Administration	67.8	1.0	1.4	69.1	1.0	1.4
Public Administration	152.2	2.4	3.3	159.4	2.6	3.4
Unclassified	225.8	5.0	6.3	228.7	5.1	6.4

¹ Fishing excludes nearly all commercial fish harvesting employment

Notes: Reimbursable account data are excluded from this table. Federally funded programs and federal employment are excluded.

Sources: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) 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 from several sources, each with its limitations. Much of the data come from printed reports produced from files in the state's mainframe computer. While reports can 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.

Differences also occur when 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 may not add up to 100 % due to rounding when using only one or two digits. Monetary 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 adding the columns.

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) has replaced the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system. The new NAICS interrupts time series data. Two categories, Construction and Mining, remain relatively unchanged in the transition from SIC to NAICS. The majority, however, are either new or include a different mix of industries. Users of the Actuarial Study will notice the change in tables that previously presented 10 years of data.

Chapter 1: UI Covered Employment and Wages

Chapter 1 provides information on employment, wages and earnings. The major source of data is the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages report (QCEW), formerly known as the ES-202 report, a report submitted to the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The information used in QCEW is derived from quarterly wage and employment information submitted to the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DOLWD) by employers in Alaska. The information is also derived from DOLWD estimates for delinquent employers.

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

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. Wages (previously termed Payroll) is the actual total of wages paid during each quarter.

In Chapter 1, industries are presented according to NAICS "sectors". Specific industries, based on three digit NAICS codes, were selected because of their relevance to the Alaska economy. The same sectors are used for benefit payments in Chapters 2 and 3. Employment, wages, and earnings (annual, monthly) information is also broken out by ownership: private, state government, and local government. In all industry and ownership displays, federal government employment is excluded, because federal employees and members of the military are not covered under the state unemployment insurance program.

It is notable that public administration (NAICS codes 921 928) 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 Database 2 System (DB2) and is recorded in the state's mainframe 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 three digit NAICS codes and three digit geographic area codes.

Two reports provide information for the payment data on Tables 2.5-2.8, 2.13 and 2.16. These data are derived from the DOLWD'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 5159), which is taken from the weekly and monthly management reports.

Table 2.1 uses data from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), a DOLWD report produced for the U.S.

Department of Labor. This report estimates the total number of employed and unemployed in the state each month.

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,” and are often referred to as the DOT codes. Ethnic information is based on information voluntarily submitted at the time of initial filing.

Table 2.6 uses payment data from the yearly ETA 5159 report on all states compiled by the U.S. Department of Labor’s Division of Actuarial Services.

Table 2.16 is derived from the “UI Data Summary,” a quarterly publication of key UI information published by the U.S. Department of Labor’s 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 cost. Therefore,

it draws heavily from the DOLWD’s Benefit Payments by Industry and Area (UC 217) report and the QCEW quarterly reports (the U.S. Department of Labor’s Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages 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 2112). This is a monthly accounting report produced by DOLWD. It is the most accurate source of information on financial transactions and cash flow. Its purpose is to track overall fund activity, and it cannot break out data by industry or area. It is used to compute UI tax rates (see 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. (See table 3.4, 3.10, and 3.11.)

Table 3.5 lists experience ratings by industry that 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 DOLWD.

Appendix B

Summary of Major Changes in the Employment Security Act

Part 1: Coverage Provisions of the Alaska Employment Security Act, 1937 - 2009

- April 2, 1937** Alaska Employment Security Law enacted. Employers liable for taxes are those with eight or more employees in 20 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
- March 20, 1947** List of excluded services extended. Additional exclusions include newsboys and students. Any employment liable for a tax under the Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA) will be automatically covered under the state U.I. law. Ch. 48, SLA 1947
- March 17, 1959** Employees in finance, insurance and real estate paid on a commission basis are excluded from coverage. Ch. 46, SLA 1959
- April 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 20 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
- April 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 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
- Sept. 27, 1995** Certain direct sellers of consumer products are excluded. Ch. 97, SLA 1995
- May 28, 2009** Reimbursable financing available, by election, to federally recognized tribes. Ch. 27, SLA 2009

Part 2: Financing Provisions of the Alaska Employment Security Act, 1937 - 2009

- April. 2, 1937** All wages paid to employees covered under the law are assessed a uniform tax of 1.8 percent. Ch. 4, ESLA 1937
- Jan. 1, 1938** Uniform tax increased to 2.7 percent of total covered wages. Ch. 4, ESLA 1937
- March 26, 1941** Taxable wages limited to first \$3,000 of wages paid to an employee. Ch. 40, SLA 1941
- June 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 percent is also assessed. Employer tax credit is eliminated. Ch. 5, ESLA 1955
- April 4, 1957** Tax base increased to first \$4,200 of wages. Ch. 169, SLA 1957

- March 30, 1960** Uniform employer tax increased to 2.9 percent. Uniform employee tax increased to 0.6 percent. 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 percent to 4.0 percent with an average tax rate of 2.9 percent. Employee tax rates range from 0.3 percent to 0.9 percent averaging 0.65 percent. Ch. 60, SLA 1960
- Jan. 1, 1974** Employee tax made uniform and employer tax left variable. The tax base is \$10,000. There are 10 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 percent of the average annual wage for calendar years 1981 and 1982 and will be 75 percent of the average annual wage for future years. Ten alternative tax rate schedules are replaced with 20 “experience factors.” An employer’s yearly rate calculation will be 82 percent 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 percent. Employee tax will be a uniform 18 percent 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 the calculation of average benefit cost rate. Ch. 106, SLA 1984
- Jan. 1, 1985** A new rate class, Class 21, is established and assigned an experience rating of 1.65 and a minimum employer tax rate of 5.4 percent. Solvency adjustments changed to provide a surcharge if the trust fund reserve rate falls below 3.0 percent and a credit if the reserve rate equals or exceeds 3.3 percent. Ch. 106, SLA 1984
- Sept. 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
- July 1, 1989** Training programs pilot project to be funded by transfer of 0.1 percent of taxable wages from amount contributed by employees. Ch. 95, SLA 1989
- June 30, 1993** Training programs pilot project extended until 1996. Ch.17, SLA 1993
- July 1, 1996** Training programs (STEP) extended until June 30, 2002. Ch.116, SLA 1996
- Jan. 1, 1997** Employer’s yearly rate calculation will be 80 percent of the benefit cost rate times the experience factor. (No change in the solvency tax provision). Employee tax will be a uniform 20 percent of the benefit cost rate. Ch.116, SLA 1996
- July 1, 2000** Technical and Vocational Education Program (TVEP) created. Program to be funded by transfer of 0.10 percent of taxable wages from amount contributed by employees. Ch. 132, SLA 2000
- July 1, 2002** Training programs (STEP) extended until June 30, 2003. Ch.86, SLA 2002
- July 1, 2003** Training programs (STEP) extended until June 30, 2004. Ch.49, SLA 2003
- July 1, 2004** Training programs (STEP) extended until June 30, 2008. Ch.89, SLA 2004
- July 1, 2008** Training programs (STEP) extended until June 30, 2010. Ch.46, SLA 2008
- July 1, 2008** Technical and Vocational Education Program (TVEP) expanded. Program to be funded by transfer of 0.15 percent (from 0.10) of taxable wages from amount contributed by employees. Ch. 47, SLA 2008

- Jan. 1, 2009** For 2009, the employer's yearly rate calculation will be 76 percent of the benefit cost rate times the experience factor. (No change in the solvency tax provision). The 2009 employee tax will be a uniform 24 percent of the benefit cost rate. For 2010, and future years, the employer's yearly rate calculation will be 73 percent of the benefit cost rate times the experience factor, and the employee tax will be a uniform 27 percent of the benefit cost rate. Ch.45, SLA 2008
- June 24, 2009** Training programs (STEP) made permanent. Ch 36, SLA 2009
- Part 3: Benefit Provisions of the Alaska Employment Security Act, 1937 - 2009**
- April 2, 1937** Benefits first made payable Jan. 1, 1939. Minimum payment is \$5; maximum is \$15. Weekly Benefit Amount (WBA) set at 50 percent of full-time weekly wage. Total benefit payments not to exceed 16 times the WBA. Ch. 4, ELSA 1937
- Jan. 17, 1939** Minimum payment is \$5; maximum is \$16. WBA set at one-twentieth of high quarter wages. Total benefit payments not to exceed either 16 times the WBA or a third of base year earnings. Ch. 1, SLA 1939
- Oct. 1, 1946** Minimum payment is \$8; maximum is \$25. Maximum reduced to \$20 if the fund balance is less than \$2 million on Jan. 1. Total benefit payments not to exceed either 25 times the WBA or a third of base year earnings. Ch. 32, ELSA 1946
- July 1, 1949** WBA is increased by 20 percent for each dependent of the claimant up to three. Ch. 25, SLA 1949
- July 1, 1951** Minimum payment is \$8; maximum is \$30. Ch. 11, SLA 1951
- July 1, 1953** Minimum payment is \$8; maximum is \$35. WBA now based on total wages in base year. Total benefit payments limited to 26 times the WBA for most claimants. Ch. 99, SLA 1953
- July 3, 1955** Minimum payment is \$10; maximum is \$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, ELSA 1955
- March 30, 1960** Maximum WBA for interstate claimants reduced to \$20. Ch. 60, SLA 1960
- July 1, 1966** Minimum payment is \$10; maximum is \$55. Total benefit payments limited to 28 times the WBA for most claimants. Ch. 112, SLA 1966
- July 1, 1969** Minimum payment is \$18; maximum is \$60. Ch. 106, SLA 1969
- Jan. 29, 1971** 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
- Jan. 1, 1972** Discrimination against nonresident claimants is ended. Ch. 106, SLA 1971
- July 1, 1973** Minimum payment is \$18; maximum is \$90. Dependent allowance set at \$10 per dependent, up to three. Ch. 43, SLA 1973
- Oct. 1, 1980** Minimum payment is \$34; maximum payment is \$150 for 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

- Oct. 31, 1981** 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
- Sept. 26, 1982** Child support obligations may be deducted from weekly benefit checks. Ch. 115, SLA 1982
- Jan. 1, 1983** Minimum payment is \$34; maximum payment is \$156 for basic WBA. Ch. 115, SLA 1982
- Oct. 1, 1984** Minimum payment is \$38; maximum payment is \$188 for basic WBA. Ch. 106, SLA 1984
- Oct. 1, 1990** Minimum payment is \$44; maximum payment is \$212 for basic WBA. Ch. 167, SLA 1990
- Jan. 1, 1997** Minimum payment is \$44; maximum payment is \$248 for basic WBA. Ch. 116, SLA 1996
- Jan. 1, 2009** Minimum payment is \$56; maximum payment is \$370 for basic WBA. Ch. 45, SLA 2008

Part 4: Qualifying Provisions of the Alaska Employment Security Act, 1937 - 2009

- April 2, 1937** 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 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
- Jan. 17, 1939** Total wages in base year must equal or exceed 25 times the WBA. Ch. 1, SLA 1939
- March 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
- July 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
- June 30, 1947** Waiting period reduced to one week. Ch. 74, SLA 1947
- July 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
- July 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 26 weeks. Ch. 5, ESLA 1955
- April 4, 1957** Minimum wage requirement set at \$500 or 1.25 times high quarter wages. Ch. 169, SLA 1957
- April 7, 1962** Claimants are not disqualified while attending a training course to improve their skills. Ch. 63, SLA 1962
- July 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 10 percent earned outside the quarter of highest wages. If a claimant earns more than 90 percent of the base period wages in one quarter, base period wages used for determining benefits will be reduced to 10 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 onto extended benefits are eligible for no more than two weeks of benefits. Ch. 114, SLA 1981
- June 26, 1982** The national "on" and "off" trigger indicators for extended benefits are repealed in conformity with federal law. Ch. 115, SLA 1982
- Sept. 26, 1982** In conformity with federal law, the state "on" indicator for extended benefits is increased to 6-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 times the WBA requirement. All other conditions of extended benefits apply to supplemental state benefits. Ch. 115, SLA 182
- June 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
- July 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. Department of Labor allows the temporary payment of benefits under the Emergency Unemployment Act of 1991 (PL 102-162) in place of extended benefits.
- July 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 set 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, extended benefits are "on" if the state three-month total unemployment rate (TUR) is 6.5 percent, and is 110 percent of the same three-month period in either of the prior two years. Extended benefits are "off" if there is no "on" indicator, or if the state is eligible for the EUC program. Ch. 28, SLA 1993
- Jan. 1, 2009** Minimum wage requirement set (from \$1,000) to \$2,500. Ch. 45, SLA 2008.
- Jan. 1, 2010** Alternative Base Period (last four completed quarters) created for those who fail to qualify for a benefit with the standard base period. Ch. 27 SLA 2009

Appendix C

Glossary of Terms

Alternate Base Period The last four completed calendar quarters immediately preceding the first day of an individual's benefit year. The Alternate Base Period is a secondary examination for qualifying wages (a safety net), and is used only when an individual fails to qualify for a benefit with the traditional base period. Alaska adopted the alternate base period to begin in 2010.

Area Geographic areas within Alaska, recorded by census areas and subareas.

Average Annual Earnings Total wages (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 percent or more of their earnings in any single quarter of the base period, the BPW is defined as earnings in the other three quarters times 10; (b) If the worker was not paid 90 percent or more of their earnings in a single quarter of the base period, the 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 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 a waiting week credit, or benefit for a week of unemployment.

Continued Week Paid Payment for a week of unemployment.

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 people employed during the pay period which includes the 12th of each month, by place of work. Workers who are not covered include agricultural workers, self employed workers, some employed students, most fishermen, full commissioned sales workers, private railroad workers and elected and appointed officials.

Decline Quotient An estimate of an employer's experience with unemployment, determined by dividing the decline in payroll within two consecutive quarters by the payroll of the earlier quarter. An employer's annual quotient is the average of all declines for the last 12 quarters, with a minimum of four quarters wage records required for the calculation.

Dependent Benefits (or Dependents' Allowance, DA) Benefits in addition to the weekly benefit amount paid to claimants with dependents, up to three dependents per claimant.

Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) A federal program funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in which UI benefits are authorized by the president of the United States for individuals unemployed as a result of a major disaster.

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. In general, the U.S. unemployment insurance system seeks a goal of 50%

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. Alaska elected to pay EUC benefits in lieu of EB during this time.

Emergency Unemployment Compensation – 2008 (EUC-08) A federally funded program similar to the 1990's EUC program, paying additional weeks of benefits, beginning July 6, 2008 and ending (twice extended) May 29, 2010. EUC-08 Tier 2 provides a second phase of the program, with benefits beginning November 23, 2008 and ending May 29, 2010.

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

Exhausts People 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. Alaska's employers are ranked by their average quarterly decline quotient and are assigned to one of 21 rate classes, each with a factor between 0.40 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. EB was enacted by Congress in 1970.

Extended Benefits Period A period during which extended benefit payments are allowed, determined by either of two "trigger" mechanisms, using the Insured Unemployment Rate (IUR) or the Total Unemployment Rate (TUR). Section 23.20.408 of the Alaska Employment Security Act defines the conditions under which an extended benefits period exists.

FAC Federal Additional Compensation Part of the 2009 Federal Economic Stimulus programs which provided an additional \$25 to the weekly benefit amount of all recipients. The first Alaska FAC payable was the week ending Feb. 28, 2009. The last Alaska week payable ends July 3, 2010.

Federal Fiscal Year Oct. 1 of the prior year through Sept. 30 of the current year. For example, federal fiscal year 2008 is from Oct. 1, 2007 to Sept. 30, 2008.

Federal Supplemental Benefits (FSB) A federally funded program similar to the Federal Supplemental Compensation (FSC) that was in effect between 1975 and 1978.

Federal Supplemental Compensation (FSC) A federally funded program in effect from October 1982 to April 1985 that 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 entry.)

First Payment The first payment for a week of unemployment claimed under a specific program.

FUTA Federal Unemployment Tax Act. U.S. Employers pay a national FUTA tax, and receive credit (reduction of FUTA tax owed) for UI taxes paid to approved state UI programs

High Quarter The quarter of the base period with the greatest reported earnings.

High Unemployment Period (HUP) A definition in the Trigger for Extended Benefits that increases the maximum number of EB weeks payable from 13 to 20.

Industry Classification of an employer establishment by primary economic activity, according to a government coding system. (See the SIC and NAICS entries.)

Insured Unemployment The number of people filing continued claims for full regular benefits, partial regular benefits or who are in a waiting week status during a given week.

Insured Unemployment Rate (IUR) Ratio of insured unemployed – expressed as a percentage of average covered employment – computed as the average insured unemployment for a 13 week period, divided by average covered employment lagged six months. The IUR is computed weekly.

Interstate Claims, Payments Claims made by, or payments made to, people 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, people 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. Until December 1995, there were 20 offices, including the mail claims and interstate unit. Beginning in late 1996, the local offices were reorganized into three UI Call Centers for UI claims purposes.

Mail Claims Claims filed by mail to the mail claims center by people 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. The first year of NAICS based data in Alaska was 2003.

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment Employment that does not include self employed workers, unpaid family workers, domestics, most fishermen and agricultural workers, by place of work rather than residence.

Ownership Classification of employers according to legal proprietorship (private industry, or federal, state, local government) 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 and nonprofit corporations) can elect to reimburse the state UI 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 when the trust fund balance falls below 3.0 percent of the total payroll, or subtracted when the balance rises above 3.3 percent.

State Fiscal Year July 1 of the prior year through June 30 of the current year. For example, state fiscal year 2008 is from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008.

State Interim Benefits (SIB) A special Alaska program (started in 1984) which pays benefits to certain non-instructional educational employees during periods between sessions.

State Supplemental Benefits (SSB) A special Alaska program (created in 1982) 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. It is calculated (for each tax year) as 75 percent of average annual earnings.

Tax Rate Class Alaska's experience rated employers are assigned to one of 20 tax rate classes, or to a 21st penalty class. New employers are assigned to the rate class closest to the mathematical average tax rate of experience-rated employers in the same industry. Classes 10 and 11 contain the average tax rate for the tax year. There is one tax rate for all employees.

Taxable Wages The portion of total Wages (payroll) of employers within the experience rating system that are subject to state unemployment tax provisions. Since 1983 the taxable wage base is defined as 75 percent of the average annual wage.

Temporary Emergency Unemployment Compensation (TEUC) A federal program enacted by Congress following the "9/11" attacks on Sept. 11, 2001. Benefits were first payable the week ending March 16, 2002. The last week for new claims was the week ending Dec. 27, 2003. The last week the program paid claims for was the week ending April 3, 2004.

Total Labor Force All people age 16 and older residing in a specific geographical area who are either employed, unemployed and seeking employment, or involved in a labor dispute.

Total Unemployment All people age 16 and older who did not work during the survey week, but were available and seeking work, or were waiting to report for work within 30 days.

Total Unemployment Rate (TUR) An expression of the number of unemployed people as a percent of the total civilian labor force. It is defined as the total unemployment divided by the total labor force. The TUR is the "official" quoted rate of unemployment, issued monthly.

Total Wages (payroll) The total of all wages and salaries (taxable and reimbursable) paid by covered employers. It includes bonuses, tips, cash value of meals, lodging, and other gratuities 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 taxed employers, that is used to support training activities and to provide office space.

Trust Fund A state fund (at US Treasury) to receive and disburse unemployment insurance funds.

Trust Fund Reserve Funds in the trust fund, plus balances in the state's clearing account, and benefit payment account, as well as 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, similar to UCFE, designed to provide temporary unemployment compensation for former members of the Armed Forces.

UI Unemployment Insurance.

UI Claims Center (or Call Center) Offices in Anchorage, Fairbanks and Juneau (including mail claims and interstate claims centers) which process UI claims. In-person claims filing was phased out in 1996 and 1997. In-state claims are filed through an internet site, an automated telephone system (VICTOR), and by mail.

Waiting Week The first week of claimed unemployment, for which there is no disqualification. No payment is made for the waiting week, but is made for subsequent qualifying weeks.

Weekly Benefit Amount (WBA) The benefit paid (actual) or entitled to (potential) per week.