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CONDITIONS

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA, INSTITUTE OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC AND GOVERNMENT RESEARCH

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Alaska's Financial Position

The earthquake which struck Alaska on March 27, 1964 has imposed a great financial burden on the citizens of Alaska. In addition to the tragic loss of life, hundreds of Alaskans saw their homes and other property destroyed and many lost their businesses or jobs. Their mortgages and debts remained intact, however.

The revenue of the state government and that of numerous municipalities in Alaska has been adversely affected by the disaster. In some areas such as Valdez, Seward and Kodiak, among others, much of the assessed property from which property taxes were derived, has been destroyed, and many of the business transactions which generated sales tax revenues, no longer take place. Thus the state tax base is seriously impaired just at a time when heavy additional financial outlays must be made by the state government and by the various municipal governmental units throughout Alaska.

Shortly after the March 27 earthquake the Legislature of the State of Alaska voted authorization of a \$50 million bond issue. The funds from this proposed bond issue were to be used in rehabilitation in the disaster areas. However there are indications that marketing this issue under the conditions of economic stress currently existing in Alaska, could create serious financial complications for the state.

At the present time Alaska and its various political subdivisions have over \$125 million worth of general obligation bonds issued and outstanding. See Table I. If the \$35,289,000 worth of state, school and municipal general obligation bonds authorized before the earthquake but presently unissued are sold, the total would reach \$160,501,000. Issuing the \$50 million dollars of "earthquake bonds" would increase the aggregate of Alaska governmental indebtedness to over \$210 million dollars.

This is a high level of debt when it is related to the

population and the total personal income received by the citizens of the state.

Bond specialists report that Alaska would have to pay an interest rate substantially above the 3.5619 percent rate carried by the most recent issue of Alaska state bonds sold, if it were to try to market new bonds at this time. The high rate of interest which the state would be required to pay could impose a burden too heavy for the state to sustain.

Individual Financial Burdens

Many individual Alaskans have been placed in a financially untenable position by the earthquake. Numerous families are paying high rents in order to have a place to live while at the same time they find themselves forced to make monthly mortgage payments on houses that have been reduced to uninhabitable rubbish.

TABLE I

**AUTHORIZED ALASKAN MUNICIPAL BONDS
May 1964**

General Obligation Bonds	Amount
Outstanding	\$125,212,000
Authorized But Not Yet Sold	\$ 35,289,000
Authorized After Earthquake	\$ 50,000,000
TOTAL	\$210,501,000

* Includes all territorial, state, school, and other municipal bonds issued and currently outstanding.

Bankruptcy is one possible solution to this financial dilemma, however, few Alaskans have chosen this route as yet.

An alternative course of action to bankruptcy has been offered to some Alaskan families by the Federal and State Governments. For example, on all homes in Alaska affected by the disaster on which they hold the mortgage, the Federal National Mortgage Association and the Veterans Administration will release the borrower from all personal liability on his indebtedness covering the property destroyed, for a token payment of \$1,000. The State

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of Alaska has approved similar provisions for relief to veterans who received loans from the state.

Additional help has been provided through the Small Business Administration which has agreed to make thirty year, 3 percent loans to finance the purchase of a new lot, the construction of a new home and the \$1,000 required to obtain release from previous indebtedness.

Homeowners whose mortgages are held by private lenders can receive the same terms if the private lenders agree to make settlement for the token \$1,000 payment. Unfortunately, with few exceptions, settlements have not been made, and in many cases private institutions have been slow to work out reasonable solutions for those cases over which they have control.

Amendment to Alaska Omnibus Act

The Alaska Omnibus Act, Public Law 86-70, was enacted following Alaska's admission to statehood. The Act's purpose was to help Alaska perform certain functions which previously had been borne by the Federal Government. A total of \$28,500,000 of "transitional" grants were authorized to help Alaska assume its responsibilities as a state. The amount granted was based primarily on the sum that the Federal Government would have spent on required programs had they not been assumed by Alaska. Since attaining statehood in 1959, Alaska has taken over the state and local governmental responsibilities previously administered by the Federal Government during territorial days.

The \$28,500,000 transitional grants authorized shortly after statehood will have all been extended by June 30, 1964.

Until the disastrous earthquake of March 27 the Federal Government felt there was no need for an extension of these grants, and it did not propose making any additional transitional monies available. The extreme destruction wrought by the earthquake, however, prompted President Johnson to recommend the Amendment to the Alaska Omnibus Act to provide for a continuation of the transitional grants to Alaska until June 30, 1966, and an authorization of \$22,500,000 for such grants.

Since the area affected by the earthquake was the source of approximately half of the State's \$55 million annual revenue from State and local sources, it was felt

that there would be a temporary loss of sizeable portions of revenues. Any decline in taxes will, in turn, impair Alaska's ability to match certain necessary Federal grant-in-aid funds and to finance capital projects and other programs through the sale of State and local obligations. At the same time, the State and various local governmental units are bearing extraordinary expenses in connection with relief and reconstruction. The President felt that the amendment to the Omnibus Act was necessary to ensure the continuance of effective State and local government in Alaska during the emergency reconstruction period.

The earthquake has, in effect, delayed the day when Alaska can be expected to complete an orderly transition to full statehood responsibilities. The disaster will reduce Alaska's revenues below the level required to finance its increased functions as a state.

The \$22,500,000 in additional grants are based on an estimate of the amounts by which State and local revenues will fall short of expectations because of the earthquake, together with certain funds required to meet extraordinary operating expenses. The calculations used to determine the additional grants were as follows:

- 1.—State loss of an estimated \$4.8 million in income taxes because of tax write-offs of casualty losses suffered by individuals and corporations.
- 2.—State loss of an estimated \$4.4 million in taxes and revenues because of unemployment and temporary business decline.
- 3.—Local governmental loss of an estimated \$3.75 million in property and other taxes.
- 4.—Additional state expenditures of an estimated \$9.55 million to cover the extraordinary expenditures brought on by the disaster and to continue FAA operation of certain intermediate airports.
- 5.—After the above estimates were made, it was determined that the Anchorage Independent School District would lose an estimated \$1 million in revenues due to the earthquake, and this amount was added to the \$22.5 million requested by the President.

The Act authorizing the additional \$23.5 million in transitional grants for Alaska was signed by President Johnson on May 27, 1964.

In addition to providing additional transitional grants, the amendment to the Alaska Omnibus Act extends until June 30, 1966, the following other features of the original transition program:

- 1.—The period during which the Governor could request a Federal agency to provide interim services and facilities in Alaska. (It is expected that this authority will continue to be used for Federal Aviation Agency operation of certain intermediate airports in Alaska. That operation would be financed, as it has been in the past, out of the transitional grant funds.)

- 2.—The period during which Federal agencies may contract with the State to perform certain services they formally performed in Alaska.
- 3.—The period during which the President has authority to transfer to Alaska the Federal property used in connection with functions assumed by the State under the Statehood and Omnibus Acts.

Economic Volumes on Alaska Available

The Institute of Business, Economic and Government Research of the University of Alaska has available for sale a two volume study entitled **Alaska's Population and Economy**. These works were written by George W. Rogers, Research Professor of Economics, who is a member of the Institute Staff, and Richard A. Cooley, a research economist.

The two volumes contain much economic and statistical information about Alaska which has not been available heretofore. The authors have been successful in bringing together several statistical series which permit the reader to make comparisons between Alaska and other regions of the United States with respect to the growth of population, expansion of employment, changes in income, developments in the utilization of natural resources, increases in manufacturing activities and other major economic variations. Data presented here for the first time permits an economic analysis and comparison of the several regions of Alaska.

The price of the two volume set is \$7.50. Either volume can be obtained separately for \$3.75. They can be ordered through the Institute of Business, Economic and Government Research, University of Alaska, College, Alaska.

Personal Income in 1963

Total personal income in Alaska rose to a record \$699 million in 1963 according to the Office of Business Economics of the U.S. Department of Commerce. This was an increase of \$43 million, or 7 percent, above the previous high set in 1962. See Table III.

Only three of the fifty states enjoyed larger percentage gains in personal income in 1963 than did Alaska. These states were, Nevada with a 13 percent increase, and Mississippi and Arkansas with gains of 9 and 8 percent respectively. In addition to Alaska, four other states had 7 percent increases in their personal incomes in 1963. These states were California, Florida, Georgia and Maryland.

Total individual income rose in every state last year except for Nebraska and North and South Dakota. Nationally, personal income totaled \$461 billion in 1963, an increase of \$21 billion, or 5 percent, over the previous year.

The 7 percent growth in Alaska's total personal income, which took place in 1963, resulted from increased

activity in a variety of occupational areas. Personal income received by individuals working for units of the local, state or Federal Government increased 12 percent last year. Employees of finance, insurance and real estate companies received 13 percent additional income, while earnings of persons engaged in manufacturing in Alaska were up 9 percent in 1963. Contract construction workers received 8 percent more in total wages during this same period. Also during 1963, income increased in the service occupational area by 4 percent and in the wholesale and retail trade area by 6 percent. The total amount of income received by individuals employed in agriculture, mining, transportation, communication, and the public utility industries remained approximately unchanged.

Alaska's Per Capita Income

Table II shows the per capita income in Alaska and the average per capita income for the United States as a whole for the years 1950 through 1963. Alaska had the highest per capita income of any State or Territory in 1950, 1951, and 1952. It averaged about 150 percent of the national average in those three years.

Alaska's per capita income increased by \$588 or 26 percent from 1950 to 1963. During this same period the average per capita income for the United States, (that is,

TABLE II

PER CAPITA INCOME IN ALASKA AND THE
AVERAGE FOR THE UNITED STATES
1950-1963

Date	Alaska	United States	Alaska As Percent of U.S.	Alaska's Rank
1950	\$2,231	\$1,491	150	1
1951	2,629	1,649	159	1
1952	2,487	1,727	144	1
1953	2,387	1,788	134	3
1954	2,272	1,770	128	4
1955	2,283	1,866	122	6
1956	2,491	1,975	126	3
1957	2,397	2,048	117	8
1958	2,469	2,064	120	7
1959	2,523	2,163	117	8
1960	2,760	2,217	124	4
1961	2,661	2,267	117	8
1962	2,711	2,366	115	9
1963	2,819	2,443	115	9

the average amount of income for each man, woman, and child in the country) increased by \$952 or 64 percent.

Since 1950 Alaska's per capita income has gradually declined in relation to the other states. For the past two years Alaska's per capita income has been only 15 percent above the average for the United States as a whole. Alaska is now ranked ninth highest in the nation in per capita income.

Alaska's Personal Income

The United States Department of Commerce compiles and presents an annual series of personal income by states. Personal income data relating to Alaska for the years 1950 through 1962 are contained in Table III.

Personal income is generally considered the most comprehensive economic measure available on a geographic basis. It covers the income received by residents of a state from business establishments, federal, state and local governments, households and institutions and

foreign countries. All forms of income flowing to persons from these sources are included.

An examination of the data in Table III clearly indicates the relative importance of each industry and employment area as a source of income to the citizens of Alaska.

Personal income data compiled by the U. S. Department of Commerce for Alaska tends to be somewhat understated. This is because income earned in Alaska by nonresidents is excluded from the data. This nonresident earned income is estimated to be about 10 percent of income received by residents. Nevertheless these data

TABLE III

PERSONAL INCOME IN ALASKA BY MAJOR SOURCES 1950-1962													
(millions of dollars)													
	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
PERSONAL INCOME	319	439	485	506	493	500	548	537	526	555	632	628	656
WAGE AND SALARY DISBURSEMENT	264	368	406	425	409	416	457	446	434	458	528	516	538
Farms	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Mining	10	10	11	11	9	8	8	9	8	9	8	10	10
Bituminous and other soft coal	2	2	3	4	3	2	3	3	2	3	2	2	2
Crude petroleum and natural gas	4	4	3	2	*	1	1	1	1	3	3	4	5
Mining and quarrying, except fuel	5	4	5	5	6	5	5	6	4	4	4	3	3
Contract construction	35	78	70	65	56	50	74	55	47	48	49	34	35
Manufacturing	12	12	14	16	14	16	20	20	18	21	27	28	25
Wholesale and retail trade	20	30	34	35	34	34	38	41	39	46	64	56	57
Finance, insurance, and real estate	2	2	3	4	5	5	5	6	7	8	9	10	12
Banking and other finances	1	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	5	6
Insurance and real estate	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	4	5	5
Transportation	11	17	20	22	21	21	25	24	26	29	31	29	30
Railroads	*	*	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Highway freight and warehousing	2	3	4	5	5	6	7	6	7	6	6	7	7
Other transportation	9	13	15	16	15	14	18	18	18	22	24	22	22
Communications and public utilities	1	1	2	2	3	3	4	6	13	12	19	31	29
Telephone, telegraph, and other comm.	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	4	10	10	16	27	25
Electric, gas and other public utilities	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	4
Services	9	17	17	14	13	14	17	19	21	25	31	32	36
Hotels and other lodging places	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	3	4	4	4
Personal services and private households ..	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	5	4	4
Business and repair services	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	4	6	8	9	12
Amusement and recreation	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Professional, social, and related services ..	4	11	9	6	5	7	8	8	9	10	13	14	14
Government	159	195	230	252	250	260	260	262	252	255	283	279	297
Federal, civilian	64	70	78	87	85	90	92	92	102	108	102	105	108
Federal, military	84	112	137	148	147	149	143	143	120	113	138	120	121
State and local	11	14	15	17	18	21	26	27	30	34	44	54	68
Other industries	4	5	5	4	5	4	6	5	5	5	5	6	6
OTHER LABOR INCOME	2	3	4	5	5	6	8	9	10	11	13	15	15
PROPRIETORS' INCOME	33	46	46	42	42	39	42	39	38	42	46	47	51
Farm	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Non-farm	32	45	45	41	40	38	40	37	36	40	44	45	49
PROPERTY INCOME	16	19	23	26	27	29	31	32	32	34	38	39	41
TRANSFER PAYMENTS	10	9	12	14	16	18	18	20	23	22	23	28	28
LESS: PERSONAL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR SOCIAL INSURANCE	6	7	6	6	6	7	8	9	11	12	16	16	17

*Less than \$500,000

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Office of Business Economics

provide the most valuable indicators available of the trends and composition of income by sources and form of payment in Alaska.

Other indicators of income in Alaska are available, such as Alaska income tax and business license tax data. However, these are much less reliable, consequently, data will be used in the Review as produced by the U.S. Department of Commerce.

The Office of Business Economics of the U.S. Department of Commerce is reportedly working on a program that will permit publication of personal income by state on a quarterly basis. They hope to begin issuing reports for 1964, but the final decision depends upon appropriations. When and if these data are available, they will be included in the Review.

The Port of Anchorage

The Port of Anchorage is a modern municipally owned dock facility located on the Cook Inlet in the City of Anchorage, Alaska. The first vessel to utilize this facility docked on April 14, 1961, and the first commercial cargoes were accepted April 21, 1961.

During 1961, its first year of operation, the Port of Anchorage handled 38,259 short tons of cargo. See Table IV. In 1962, total cargo handled through the port

TABLE IV

PORT OF ANCHORAGE FREIGHT TRAFFIC BY MONTH (Short Tons)				
	1961	1962	1963	1964
January	0	0	814	0
February	0	936	1,354	0
March	0	2,936	2,002	0
April	662	3,982	5,791	28,224
May	3,250	6,098	25,615	82,222
June	1,104	5,995	18,158	
July	4,207	5,114	36,731	
August	3,415	6,145	17,831	
September	3,847	23,097	31,456	
October	11,235	40,128	38,894	
November	7,418	2,654	14,554	
December	3,121	401	0	
Annual Total	38,259	97,486	193,200	

increased by 155 percent and reached a total of 97,486 short tons. Port activity during 1963 continued to expand at a very rapid rate and by the end of the year had totaled 193,200 short tons which was 98 percent above the total for the previous year.

During the first three months of 1964 no freight came through the Port of Anchorage. This was due to

the fact that alternate ports, without ice, were available to service the Anchorage area. However, the March 27 earthquake and its subsequent tidal waves seriously damaged or destroyed these alternate port facilities in Seward, Valdez and Whittier. The Port of Anchorage was the only major south-central port facility substantially operational after the disaster, and the extent of its unused capacity became a matter of prime importance to the economy of Alaska.

An examination of the data in Table IV shows how well the Port of Anchorage has served Alaska since the earthquake.

During April, the first month following the quake, 28,224 short tons of freight came through the Port. This was a 387 percent increase over the 5791 short tons which came through the Port in April of 1963.

The May tonnage this year exceeded last year's May tonnage by 56,607 tons or 221 percent. Perhaps most startling, is the realization that the cargo handled through the Port of Anchorage during the past two months exceeds by over 10 percent the total tonnage handled through the port during all of 1962.

A temporary POL facility to handle unloading of petroleum oil and lubricants from vessels docking at the Port of Anchorage is currently under construction. The \$500,000 installation, which is expected to be operational by mid July 1964, will serve the municipal terminal until a permanent oil unloading facility can be constructed. The city has requested federal funds to build the permanent POL which will require approximately 5 months to construct.

Agriculture and Living Costs

An estimated \$380,000 in damage was sustained by the agricultural segment of the Alaskan economy due to the March 27 earthquake. Kodiak Island, the hardest hit rural area in Alaska, sustained agricultural damage estimated at \$281,000. Losses included the destruction of 35 miles of fences, the death of 200 head of livestock and the ruin of 370 acres of cropland.

The Alaska Division of Agriculture has estimated that apart from Kodiak, personal property losses on farms amounted to \$31,190 and rural real property losses were put at \$70,130.

Egg production dropped off sharply in April, following the loss of 10,000 of the 27,000 hens in the laying flocks of Alaska. The poultry losses occurred primarily in two large plants which were severely damaged. The two plant operators, one at Seward and the other at Anchorage, have applied to the Small Business Administration for loans to rebuild.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor has issued a report covering living costs in the areas affected by the earthquake. The report, which

covers the period from the time of the earthquake to May 18, indicates that a distinct rise in food prices took place in Seward. Forty food items were priced during the study, and of these forty, 23 advanced in price. Eleven advanced by 10 percent or more, seven went up from 7 to 9 percent and five by 6 percent or less. Food prices in Anchorage and Kodiak appeared to have risen only slightly or not at all since the earthquake.

Prices for key commodities such as gasoline were stable in all three communities. In addition, rents appeared to be unaffected in the earthquake damaged areas.

Alaska Employment Trends

There were an estimated 68,700 civilians employed in Alaska in mid-April according to the Employment Security Division of the Alaska Department of Labor. This was an increase of 1800 or 3 percent over the mid-March figure and 2,900 or 4 percent above the figure for April 1963. See Table V. Normal seasonal factors would have pushed the April employment total even higher if

TABLE V

INDUSTRY	April 1964	PERCENT CHANGE FROM	
		March 1964	April 1963
CIVILIAN WORKFORCE	76,500	+ 1	+ 3
INVOLVED IN WORK STOPPAGES ..	0	0	0
TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT	7,800	-13	-10
Percent of Workforce	10.2	—	—
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT	68,700	+ 3	+ 4
Non Agricultural Wage & Salary ..	59,900	+ 2	+ 4
Mining	1,100	0	- 8
Construction	3,900	+70	+70
Manufacturing	4,300	0	0
Food Processing	1,200	-20	-20
Logging, Lumber and Pulp	2,300	+15	+10
Other Manufacturing	800	0	+14
Transportation, Communication and Utilities	6,000	- 5	- 9
Trucking and Warehousing	700	-13	-13
Water Transportation	800	-20	-20
Air Transportation	1,700	0	0
Other Transportation, Communication and Utilities ...	2,800	0	-10
Trade	8,000	- 4	- 2
Wholesale Trade	1,500	0	0
Retail Trade	6,500	- 4	- 3
General Merchandise Apparel ...	1,700	- 6	- 6
Food Stores	1,100	0	+10
Eating and Drinking Places	1,600	- 6	- 6
Other Retail Trade	2,100	- 5	- 5
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	1,900	0	+ 6
Service and Miscellaneous	6,500	- 3	+ 2
Government	28,200	+ 2	+ 6
Federal	17,500	+ 3	+ 7
State	6,100	+ 2	+ 3
Local	4,600	0	+ 5

the March 27 earthquake had not caused a heavy loss of jobs. Among the industries hardest hit by the earthquake were wholesale and retail trade, especially in the City of Anchorage, water transportation and warehousing in Seward and Valdez, and food processing on Kodiak Island. From March to April this year total employment in trade dropped by 300, compared to a 200 job increase last year during the same period. A parallel movement occurred in transportation where the job total also decreased by 300 from March to April this year rather than increasing by 200 as in 1963. Similarly, food processing employment dropped sharply instead of moving upward seasonally. In addition, small losses occurred in services and mining.

Due to demolition and reconstruction activities necessitated by the earthquake, employment in the construction industry was 1,100 or 70 percent above the level anticipated for April. In addition, 200 Federal employees were hired as a direct result of the disaster. These unexpected job openings offset approximately two-thirds of the employment losses in other sectors of the economy.

Over the twelve month period since April of 1963, employment in contract construction increased by 1,600. During the same period, Federal employment moved up 1,100. Smaller gains were recorded in the employment areas of logging-lumber and pulp, state and local government, services, and finance-insurance and real estate.

Year-to-year employment decreases were greatest in transportation-communication and utilities, partially as a result of earthquake damage to dock and warehousing facilities, and partially due to defense communication cutbacks during the summer of 1963. Employment totals in trade, food processing, and mining were also down from last year because of the earthquake.

In mid-April, the estimated number of jobless persons looking for work was 7,800. This was 1,200 below the preceding month and was down 900 from the 1963 figure. The unemployment rate, or percent of the workforce unemployed, declined to 10.2 in April from the March figure of 11.9. In April of last year the rate was 11.7 percent.

Due to post-earthquake reconstruction work, the greatest month-to-month drop in unemployment occurred in contract construction. Compared to a year ago, the April unemployment count in this employment area was down 700. Unemployment decreased by varying amounts in every other industry except two. These were the finance-insurance and real estate areas which remained unchanged from the previous month, and the trade employment area, where joblessness increased by 100 due to the destruction of stores, restaurants and bars.

KETCHIKAN, ALASKA			
Population in City Limits 6,900	March 1964 Population in Trade Area 10,500	Number of Occupied Dwelling Units 2,450	
EMPLOYMENT TRENDS			
		Percent change from	
		March 1964	February 1964
		March 1964	March 1963
Mining	0	0	-100
Contract Construction	120	0	- 8
Manufacturing	850	+ 9	- 11
Transportation, Communication and Public Utilities	510	+ 6	+11
Trade	490	+ 4	+ 4
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	90	0	+13
Service and Miscellaneous	310	+ 3	+ 3
Government	760	+ 4	+ 7
Other	480	+ 7	+ 2
Total Employment	3,610	+ 6	+ 1
Total Unemployment	540	-29	+23
Total Civilian Workforce	4,150	0	+ 3
Percent Unemployed	13.0		
SELECTED BUSINESS DATA			
Postal Receipts, February	\$13,145		
Telephones in Service	3,680		
Lighting and Power Customers	3,261		
Municipal Water Customers	2,259		
Kilowatt Hours Produced 1962	42,327,800		

Ketchikan

Total employment in the Ketchikan labor market area was estimated at 3,610 in mid-March according to the Employment Security Division of the Alaska Department of Labor. This was 190 above February's total employment figure. The largest change occurred in manufacturing employment which was up to 850 in March compared to 780 the month before. The number of jobs also increased seasonally in transportation-communications and utilities, trade, services and government, while the other industries remained unchanged.

Estimated total unemployment dropped from 760 in February to 540 in March. The unemployment rate, or percent of the workforce unemployed, declined from 18.2 to 13.0 for March. The rate of unemployment for March 1963 was 10.9 percent.

Some longshoring and cold storage work, plus spring preparations in the fish canneries provided temporary employment for some workers during March but most seasonal activity was hampered by unusually prolonged bad weather in contrast to 1963.

During April and May, increased employment opportunities in longshoring, fish processing, lumbering and construction brought about a steady decline in the unemployment totals. By the end of April, 243 were unemployed compared to 540 for March, while the May jobless total dropped to 176.

Here, as in Juneau, the earthquake has not materially affected the employment picture.

JUNEAU, ALASKA			
Population in City Limits 7,500	March 1964 Population in Trade Area 12,000	Number of Occupied Dwelling Units 1960 2,286	
EMPLOYMENT TRENDS			
		Percent change from	
		March 1964	February 1964
		March 1964	March 1963
Mining	10	0	0
Contract Construction	170	+ 6	+ 6
Manufacturing	120	+ 9	-20
Transportation, Communication and Public Utilities	420	0	+ 5
Trade	560	0	+ 4
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	120	0	0
Service and Miscellaneous	440	0	- 2
Government	2,920	+ 2	+ 8
Other	530	+ 8	+ 4
Total Employment	5,290	+ 2	+ 5
Total Unemployment	320	-14	-14
Total Civilian Workforce	5,610	+ 1	+ 3
Percent Unemployed	5.7		
SELECTED BUSINESS DATA			
Postal Receipts, February	\$30,448		
Telephones in Service	4,533		
Lighting and Power Customers	7,581		
Municipal Water Customers	1,142		
Kilowatt Hours Produced 1962	34,457,737		

Juneau

Total employment in the Juneau labor market area moved to 5,290 in mid-March from 5,180 during the previous month, according to the Employment Security Division of the Alaska Department of Labor. There was no pronounced month-to-month change in the job total for any industry category, although government employment did increase by 50. Government was also the only category in which any appreciable year-to-year increase occurred, with 200 new jobs in State government being filled during the 12 month period ending in March.

Total unemployment in mid-March was estimated at 320, down 50 from the preceding month. The rate of unemployment, or percent of the workforce unemployed, dropped from a February figure of 6.7 to 5.7 in March. These changes in the jobless figures were attributed entirely to seasonal factors.

Compared to a year ago, estimated total unemployment declined from 370 to 320. This change is reflected in the smaller number and total amount of unemployed insurance payments made during March of this year than during March of 1963.

Hiring in construction service and manufacturing caused the jobless total to drop to 233 by the end of April. During May additional hiring in lumbering, commercial fishing and fish processing, and government reduced the jobless total to 112. The earthquake of March 27 has had no noticeable effect to date on employment or unemployment in Juneau.

FAIRBANKS, ALASKA			
	March 1964		
Population in City Limits	Population in Trade Area	Number of Occupied Dwelling Units	
15,051	39,927	4,964	
EMPLOYMENT TRENDS			
	Percent change from		
	March 1964	February 1964	March 1963
Mining	110	+83	- 8
Contract Construction	520	+ 6	+21
Manufacturing	210	0	+ 5
Transportation, Communication and Public Utilities	780	+ 1	+ 1
Trade	1,430	+ 2	+ 4
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	390	- 3	0
Service and Miscellaneous	1,090	+ 9	-13
Government	4,890	+ 1	- 4
Other	1,040	+11	0
Total Employment	10,460	+ 3	+ 2
Total Unemployment	1,200	+ 5	- 4
Total Civilian Workforce	11,660	+ 4	+ 1
Percent Unemployed	10.3		
SELECTED BUSINESS DATA			
Postal Receipts	\$60,851	-23	+29
Telephones in Service	5,489	0	+ 2
Lighting and power Customers	9,257	- 1	+ 8
Municipal Water Customers	1,969	0	+25
Kilowatt Hours Sales	7,358,447	- 7	+19

Fairbanks

Estimated total employment in the Fairbanks area swung seasonally upward from 10,110 in February to 10,460 in mid-March according to the Employment Security Division of the Alaska Department of Labor. There were no outstanding increases in any industry category. All industries shared in the month-to-month advance except for manufacturing and finance-insurance and real estate, which remained virtually unchanged. Compared to the year-ago figure there was an over-all employment increase of an estimated 170 jobs, in spite of a substantial drop in employment in the service industry caused by one large firm going out of business.

Estimated total unemployment edged upward to 1200 in mid-March from 1,140 in the previous month. Compared to year-ago figures both the amount and rate of unemployment registered a slight decline. This improvement was due to an increase in the amount of winter construction activity and is reflected in fewer unemployment insurance benefit checks being issued during March of 1964 than during the same month last year.

Increased seasonal hiring in the construction, trades, and services employment areas helped reduce unemployment to an estimated 1,032 in April, and additional job opportunities in the mining and government areas decreased unemployment to an estimated 906 in May. The estimated rates of unemployment in April and May were 14.7 and 12.9 percent respectively, compared to 16.8 and 14.1 percent for the same months last year.

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA			
	March 1964		
Population in City Limits	Population in Trade Area	Number of Occupied Dwelling Units	
49,700	102,100	14,311	
EMPLOYMENT TRENDS			
	Percent change from		
	March 1964	February 1964	March 1963
Mining	470	+12	+ 2
Contract Construction	1,100	0	+28
Manufacturing	510	+ 2	+ 6
Transportation, Communication and Public Utilities	2,050	- 1	-10
Trade	4,240	- 1	+ 1
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	980	0	+ 7
Service and Miscellaneous	3,100	+ 1	+ 2
Government	11,910	0	0
Other	2,590	+ 3	+ 4
Total Employment	26,950	0	+ 1
Total Unemployment	2,620	- 2	+ 3
Total Civilian Workforce	29,570	0	+ 1
Percent Unemployed	8.9		
SELECTED BUSINESS DATA			
Postal Receipts	\$149,900	+16	+23
Telephones in Service	12,879		
Lighting and Power Customers	17,062		
Municipal Water Customers	7,560		
Total 1963 Kilowatt Hours Sales	218,365,464		

Anchorage

Estimated total employment moved upward to 26,950 in mid-March from the February figure of 26,840. The unemployment rate, or the percent of the workforce unemployed, in mid-March was 8.9 percent, virtually unchanged from February.

The employment picture in Anchorage has been a mixed one, since the earthquake of March 27. Increased hiring for reconstruction in the Anchorage area and increased employment opportunities in government and manufacturing have contributed significantly to over-all reduced unemployment. In fact, the average weekly rate of unemployment in Anchorage during both April and May of this year were substantially lower than the rates for the same months in recent years. However, unemployment in certain industries, such as the trades and services, is extremely high. The situation is particularly chronic among female workers. A report from the Governor's office indicates 157 commercial buildings were destroyed in Anchorage by the earthquake, and although some businesses have been re-established in other locations, a great many jobs were lost. The Hotel, Restaurant and Retail Clerks Unions alone report a loss of more than 450 jobs in early May.

The average weekly rate of unemployment in May in Anchorage was 11.7 percent compared to 14.6 percent for 1963 and 13.4 percent for 1962. The weekly average number of unemployed persons for May this year was 2,185, compared to 2,677 for 1963 and 2,415 for 1962.