

## How to Determine Pre- & Post-Judgment Interest Rates

1. Is there a contract that sets the interest rate?  
If yes, the interest rate is what the contract says. If no, go to #2.
2. Is there a statute other than AS 09.30.070 that sets the interest rate?<sup>1</sup>  
If yes, use the interest rate required by the statute. If no, go to #3.
3. When was the judgment entered?<sup>2</sup>

Both pre- and post-judgment interest rates<sup>3</sup> will be the rate for the year in which the judgment is entered (see list below).<sup>4</sup> **For judgments entered in 2024, this rate is 8.5%.** The rates for prior years were:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Pre- and Post-Judgment Interest Rate for Judgments Entered that Year</u>
1997 (on or after August 7 <sup>th</sup> )	8%
1998	8%
1999	7.5%
2000	8%
2001	9%
2002	4.25%
2003	3.75%
2004	5%
2005	6.25%
2006	8.25%
2007	9.25%
2008	7.75%
2009-2010	3.5%
2011-2015	3.75%
2016	4%
2017	4.25%
2018	5%
2019	6%
2020	5.25%
2021-2022	3.25%
2023	7.5%

**Note:** The interest rate on a particular judgment does not change, even though it may take several years for the debtor to pay it in full. For example: The interest rate on a judgment entered in 2019 is 6%, and it will stay 6% until the judgment is paid. It is not affected by the fact that new judgments entered in later years will have a different interest rate.

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<sup>1</sup> Examples of other statutes that set interest rates:

- AS 25.27.025 – child support arrearages
- AS 06.05.473(h) – claims upon liquidation of a state bank
- AS 09.55.440(a) – compensation for property taken in eminent domain proceeding
- AS 13.16.475(d) – claims against decedent’s estate

<sup>2</sup> Between July 1, 1980 and August 7, 1997, rates were 10.5% (as long as the complaint was filed within that window of time). See §§ 18 and 55 ch 26 SLA 1997. If the complaint was filed before July 1, 1980, a different rate applies.

<sup>3</sup> Pre-judgment interest starts (or “accrues”) when you could first sue a person about it. Examples include the date you notified someone that they injured you or the date a contract was first breached. Post-judgment interest starts on the date the judge signs the judgment.

<sup>4</sup> This rate is defined in AS 09.30.070(a) as “three percentage points above the 12<sup>th</sup> Federal Reserve District discount rate in effect on January 2 of the year in which the judgment or decree is entered.” Rate information is available at <http://www.frbsf.org/banking/discount-window/discount-rate/>