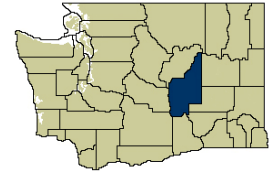




# Grant County

## Labor Area Summary

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## Summary

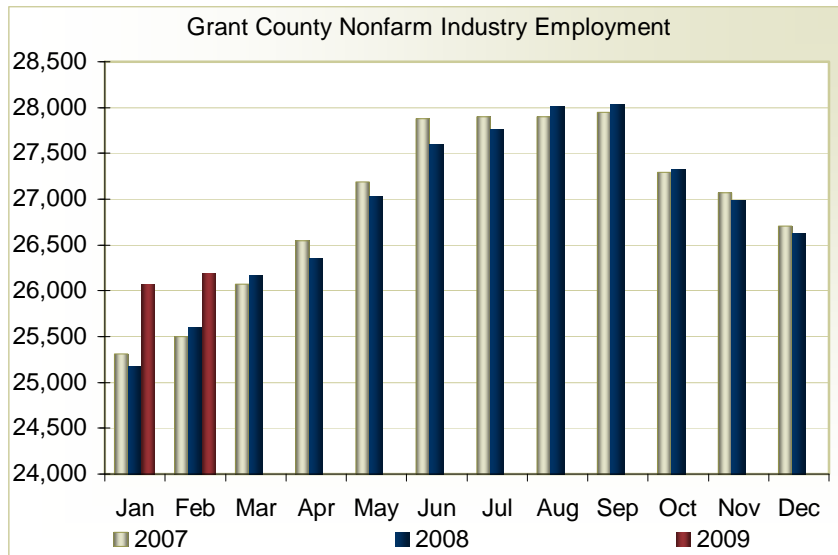
For a second time this year, nonfarm employers in Grant County added jobs at a better-than-expected annual rate. Between February 2008 and February 2009, there was a net gain of 590 jobs. Nonfarm employment increased to 26,190 in February 2009 from 25,600 workers 12-months prior, as the jobless rate jumped to 12.3 percent, and companies in the information and financial activities sectors hired workers at a faster pace than in the previous 12-month period.

## Year-over-year performance by sector

- Grant County employment in government, a services-providing sector that includes federal, state and local government institutions, increased by 200 jobs, or up 2.7 percent after expanding by 160 between February 2007 and February 2008. Government employers across the state added jobs at 0.9 percent rate.
- Jobs in information and financial activities also grew at a faster pace than in the previous 12 months. Between February 2008 and February 2009, businesses in this services-providing sector added 50 employees. Over the previous 12-month period, 10 workers had been hired. Information and financial activities players include newspapers, book and directory publishers, radio and television broadcasting, insurance agencies and depository institutions such as commercial banks and credit unions. Across the state, information employment was down 1.0 percent, while financial activities shrank by 2.7 percent.
- Trade, transportation and utilities, a services-providing sector that includes retail trade, wholesale trade, air transportation, rail transportation, freight trucking, postal services, and taxi and limousine services, gained 180 jobs (up 3.5 percent), following a 240-job gain between February 2007 and February 2008. Statewide, employers in trade, transportation and utilities lost 4.8 percent of their workforce.

## Month-to-month performance

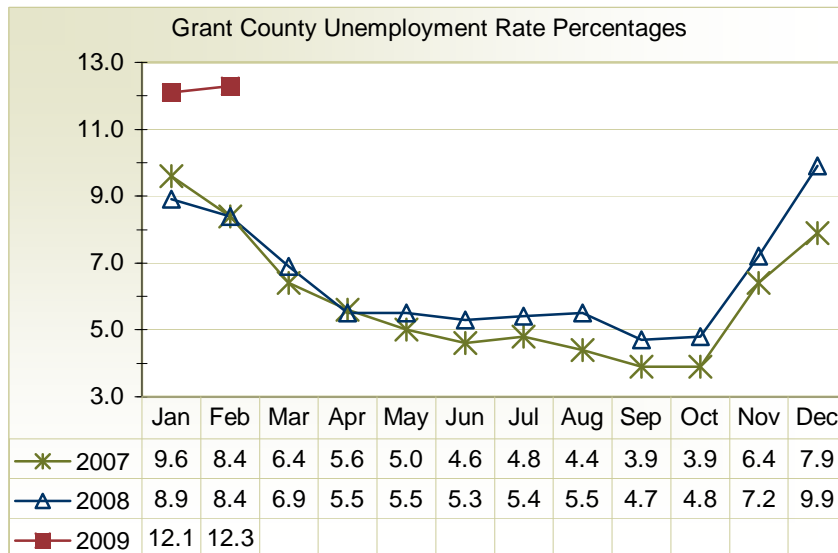
Over the month of February 2009, government employment expanded by 80 jobs, information and financial activities remained unchanged, while trade, transportation and utilities shrank by 40. The goods-producing industry, a group of employers that includes durable goods manufacturers, nondurable goods manufacturers, and businesses in natural resources, mining and construction, expanded by 60 jobs.



## Unemployment

Between February 2008 and February 2009, the number of residents who didn't have a job and actively sought employment in Grant County increased from 3,190 to 5,050, or up 1,860. Employed residents also increased by 940, to a total of 35,910 in February 2009 from 34,970 in February 2008. The labor force, which is the sum of employed and unemployed residents, went up from 38,160 to 40,960. As a result, the jobless rate, which is the ratio of the unemployed divided by the total labor force, jumped by 3.9 percentage points, rising from 8.4 percent to 12.3 percent over the 12-month period. Over the month of February 2009, the unemployment rate rose by two-tenths of a percentage point. Among those who lost their jobs, the number of truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailers filling for unemployment insurance increased from 102 in February 2008 to 165 twelve months later. The claims also increased by 96 for welders, cutters, solderers and braziers and by 10 for cashiers (see unemployment claims table).

The state's jobless rate rose to 9.3 percent in February 2009, or up 4.0 percentage points from 5.3 percent in February 2008. Over the month, the unemployment rate went up 0.7 percentage points.



Top Unemployment Claims by Occupation for Grant County

*SOC	Occupation	Feb-09	Jan-09	Feb-08	Change	
					Yearly	Monthly
519198	Helpers--Production Workers	292	286	91	201	6
533032	Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	165	164	102	63	1
514121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers and Brazers	110	107	14	96	3
452041	Graders and Sorters, Agricultural Products	96	61	64	32	35
472061	Construction Laborers	88	98	62	26	-10
472031	Carpenters	73	86	39	34	-13
472111	Electricians	68	82	15	53	-14
472073	Operating Engineers and Other Construction Equipment Operators	58	67	41	17	-9
519061	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	48	45	11	37	3
373011	Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	47	51	34	13	-4
512099	Assemblers and Fabricators, All Other	41	37	1	40	4
537051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	41	38	23	18	3
519199	Production Workers, All Other	40	39	12	28	1
537064	Packers and Packagers, Hand	39	37	41	-2	2
452093	Farmworkers, Farm and Ranch Animals	38	47	45	-7	-9
499042	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	36	38	26	10	-2
472152	Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	35	43	5	30	-8
372011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	33	65	28	5	-32
537062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	31	30	8	23	1
511011	First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Production and Operating Workers	27	28	12	15	-1
518099	Plant and System Operators, All Other	26	19	4	22	7
412011	Cashiers	24	21	14	10	3

\*SOC = Standard Occupational Classification

## Summary Table

Labor Market Information for Grant County						
Not Seasonally Adjusted/*Updated with ***QCEW Data: September 2008						
				Change		
	Prelim Feb-09	Revised Jan-09	Revised Feb-08	Jan-09 Feb-09	Feb-08 Feb-09	Feb-08 Feb-09%
Employment by Place of Residence						
Civilian Labor Force	40,960	40,170	38,160	790	2,800	7.3%
Resident Employment	35,910	35,300	34,970	610	940	2.7%
Unemployment	5,050	4,870	3,190	180	1,860	58.3%
Unemployment Rate	12.3	12.1	8.4	0.2	3.9	
Employment by Place of Work (**NAICS Industry Titles)						
Total Nonfarm 1/	26,190	26,070	25,600	120	590	2.3%
Total Private	18,470	18,430	18,080	40	390	2.2%
Goods Producing	5,810	5,750	5,750	60	60	1.0%
Services Providing	20,380	20,330	19,850	50	530	2.7%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	5,390	5,430	5,210	-40	180	3.5%
Information and Financial Activities	1,080	1,080	1,030	0	50	4.9%
Government	7,720	7,640	7,520	80	200	2.7%
Workers in Labor/Management Disputes	0	0	0	0	0	0
<p>1/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of the armed services, workers in private households, and agriculture. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month. Columns may not add due to rounding. *Prepared by the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch using a Quarterly Benchmark process. This process uses the most recent quarter from the Unemployment Insurance Tax Reports (currently 3rd quarter 2008) and estimates employment from that point to present.</p> <p>**North American Industry Classification System. ***QCEW = Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages</p>						