



Grant County

Labor Area Summary

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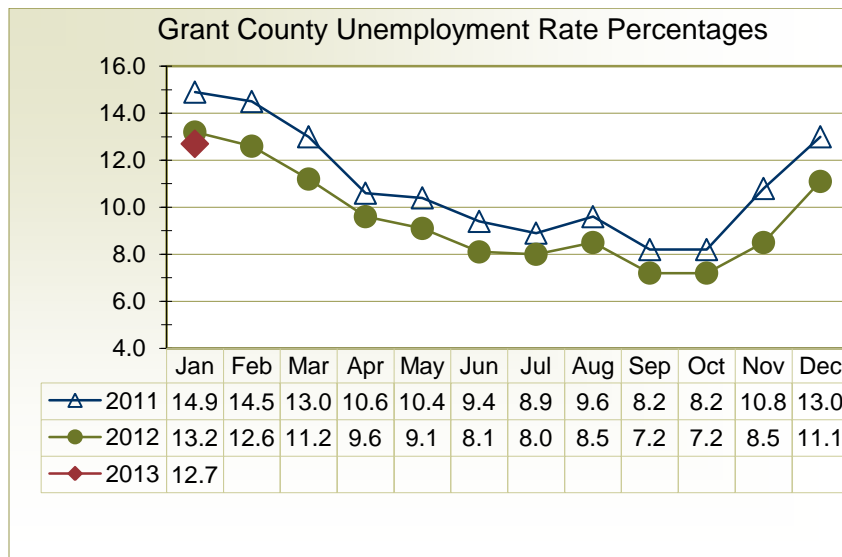
mberreth@esd.wa.gov, fortress.wa.gov/esd/employmentdata/

Unemployment

Grant county’s preliminary unemployment rate of 12.7 percent (not seasonally adjusted) is 1.6 percentage points above December 2012 and 0.5 percentage points below January 2012.

Over-the-month the civilian labor force grew while total employment edged down. The drop in jobs is a normal seasonal pattern. Unfortunately, with the growth in the labor force and the loss of jobs there was naturally an increase in total unemployment. January is normally the low point for the labor market during the year, so there will be growth moving into the summer months.

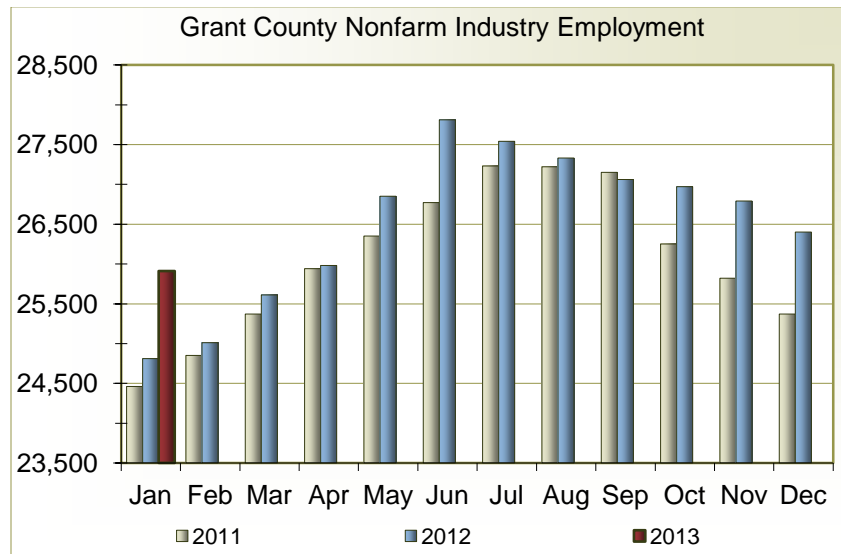
Year-over-year figures posted stronger growth in total employment than the civilian labor force. This growth led to a drop in total unemployment. Posting stronger growth in total employment shows that even as individuals become more confident and enter the labor force, there are even more jobs available. This is the third year in a row that the labor force has grown in year-over-year figures for January. The upward momentum in the county has really been sustaining itself.



Washington state’s unemployment rate of 8.5 percent (not seasonally adjusted) is 0.9 percentage points above the December 2012 figure and 0.8 percentage points below January 2012. The civilian labor force dropped while total employment grew. These two figures helped the unemployment rate drop significantly.

Employment

Total nonfarm employment peaked in 2007 and fell through 2010. Comparing January 2013 to January 2007, the current figure is above peak levels. If the county maintains current growth as it did in 2012, it may surpass peak levels of employment this year. Other counties around the area still showed struggling employment levels in 2012, but Grant county really gained momentum through a strategically strong manufacturing sector that led to growth in the service industry.



Over-the-month total nonfarm employment shed jobs in both the private and public sectors. The loss of employment is a normal seasonal pattern as January tends to be the low-point for employment throughout each year. Losses came across the board, outside of information and financial activities.

Year-over-year total nonfarm employment jumped up due to both the public and private sectors. The goods-producing industry gained jobs, but the majority of the growth came through the service-providing industry. Trade and transportation gained the most jobs. Surprisingly the government sector also gained jobs. Fiscal tightening has still been occurring and most government jobs have shown losses throughout Washington state.

Washington state's non-seasonally adjusted figures posted gains in total nonfarm employment and total private employment. Manufacturing growth was once again being pushed by aerospace manufacturing while construction was being pushed by specialty trade contractors. The service-providing industry posted strong growth within professional and business services along with leisure and hospitality.

Consumer confidence and consumer expectations have made strong jumps in January. Both indicators had been on a downward trend for the last quarter of 2012, but fortunately have come back in a strong positive fashion.

Inflation calmed down the last quarter of 2012 and, on a non-seasonally adjusted basis, has edged up due to food and energy.

Industrial production of business equipment and consumer goods has leveled off this month. The indicator was on an upward trend for the last quarter of 2012, but has leveled off for the start of 2013.

Summary Table

Labor Market Information for Grant County Not Seasonally Adjusted/*Updated with ***QCEW Data: September 2012						
				Change		
	Prelim Jan-13	Revised Dec-12	Revised Jan-12	Dec-12 Jan-13	Jan -12 Jan -13	Jan -12 Jan -13 %
Employment by Place of Residence						
Civilian Labor Force	39,550	38,960	39,280	590	270	0.7%
Resident Employment	34,540	34,630	34,090	-90	450	1.3%
Unemployment	5,010	4,330	5,190	680	-180	-3.5%
Unemployment Rate	12.7	11.1	13.2	1.6	-0.5	
Employment by Place of Work (**NAICS Industry Titles)						
Total Nonfarm 1/	25,910	26,400	24,810	-490	1,100	4.4%
Total Private	17,960	18,420	17,140	-460	820	4.8%
Goods Producing	5,340	5,530	5,190	-190	150	2.9%
Service Providing	20,570	20,870	19,620	-300	950	4.8%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	5,820	5,920	5,440	-100	380	7.0%
Information and Financial Activities	1,120	1,100	980	20	140	14.3%
Government	7,950	7,980	7,670	-30	280	3.7%
Workers in Labor/Management Disputes	0	0	0	0	0	
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 and estimates employment from that point to present.						
**North American Industry Classification System						
***QCEW = Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages						