



Grant County

Labor Area Summary

Volume 2013, Number 3

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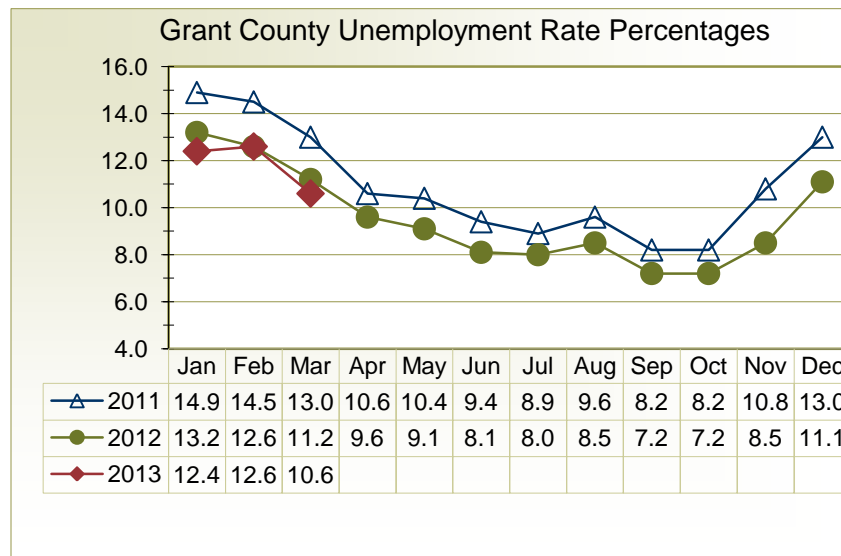
mberreth@esd.wa.gov, fortress.wa.gov/esd/employmentdata/

Unemployment

Grant county's preliminary unemployment rate of 10.6 percent (not seasonally adjusted) is 2 percentage points below February and 0.6 percentage points below March 2012.

Over-the-month the civilian labor force jumped up along with total employment. Total employment's gain this month grew by a much larger amount than the civilian labor force, which helped total unemployment drop.

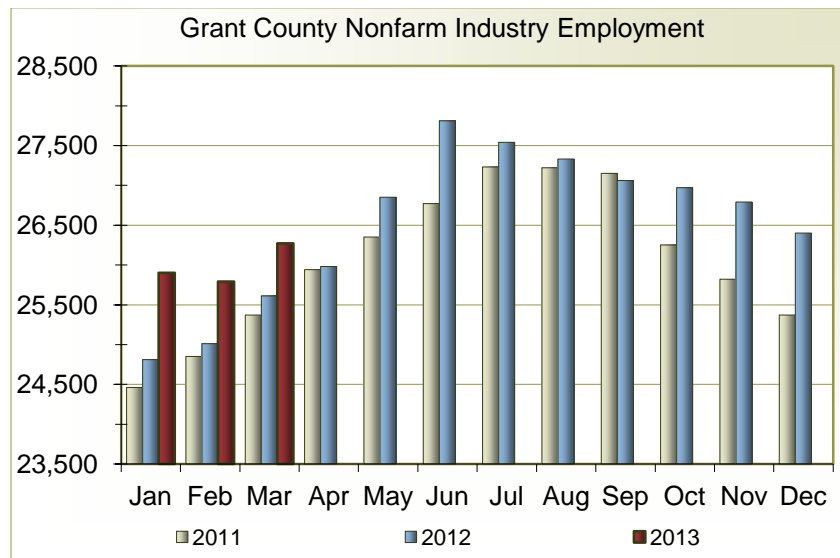
Year-over-year figures are showing much more of a struggle. The civilian labor force edged down along with total employment. Unfortunately, total unemployment jumped up as total employment dropped by a larger amount than the civilian labor force. The positive aspects to these figures are the marginal movements. Unfortunately, they show signs of discouraged workers leaving the labor force. Given these are marginal movements this month this is most likely a short-run issue.



Washington state's unemployment rate of 7.5 percent (not seasonally adjusted) is 0.7 percentage points below the February figure and 1.4 percentage points below March 2012. The civilian labor force dropped while total employment grew. These two figures helped the unemployment rate drop significantly.

Employment

Total nonfarm employment has shown relatively steady growth since September 2010. Grant county was one of the few counties leading the way towards recovery due to a well diversified local economy. As the value of the dollar declined against various other currencies, manufacturing helped drive growth. As the recovery gained momentum, the service-providing sector started to show employment gains as well. The value of the dollar is still low against foreign currencies, so manufacturing will continue to show improvement along with the service-providing sector.



Over-the-month total nonfarm employment posted a strong gain mainly due to the service-providing sector. The goods-producing sector showed improvement due to construction and manufacturing. Ancillary services posted the strongest growth which includes retail trade. The across-the-board gains are showing strong momentum heading into peak summer employment.

Year-over-year total nonfarm employment jumped up due to both the public and private sectors. The goods-producing sector edged down. The service-providing sector contained all of the growth across-the-board. Surprisingly, government employment jumped up even as fiscal tightening continues to force layoffs within government. The overall picture is quite positive this month.

Washington state's non-seasonally adjusted figures posted gains in total nonfarm employment and total private employment in year-over-year figures. Aerospace manufacturing and specialty trade contractors helped drive the goods-producing sector. The service-providing sector was once again driven by retail trade, health care, professional and business services, and leisure and hospitality.

Consumer confidence and consumer expectations both showed signs of struggle this month as both leading indicators posted a large drop. These two leading indicators are showing high volatility in 2013 with various political and economic issues at the forefront.

Industrial production of final goods, a national leading indicator, has jumped up this month due to both consumer goods and business equipment.

Summary Table

| Labor Market Information for Grant County | | | | | | |
|---|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Not Seasonally Adjusted/*Updated with ***QCEW Data: September 2012 | | | | | | |
| | | | | Change | | |
| | Prelim Mar-13 | Revised Feb-13 | Revised Mar -12 | Mar -13 Mar -13 | Mar -12 Mar -13 | Mar -12 Mar -13 % |
| Employment by Place of Residence | | | | | | |
| Civilian Labor Force | 40,830 | 39,890 | 40,550 | 940 | 280 | 0.7% |
| Resident Employment | 36,500 | 34,860 | 36,020 | 1640 | 480 | 1.3% |
| Unemployment | 4,330 | 5,030 | 4,530 | -700 | -200 | -4.4% |
| Unemployment Rate | 10.6 | 12.6 | 11.2 | -2.0 | -0.6 | |
| Employment by Place of Work (**NAICS Industry Titles) | | | | | | |
| Total Nonfarm ^{1/} | 26,270 | 25,790 | 25,610 | 480 | 660 | 2.6% |
| Total Private | 18,180 | 17,730 | 17,710 | 450 | 470 | 2.7% |
| Goods Producing | 5,330 | 5,180 | 5,400 | 150 | -70 | -1.3% |
| Service Providing | 20,940 | 20,610 | 20,210 | 330 | 730 | 3.6% |
| Trade, Transportation, and Utilities | 5,860 | 5,810 | 5,560 | 50 | 300 | 5.4% |
| Information and Financial Activities | 1,140 | 1,120 | 990 | 20 | 150 | 15.2% |
| Government | 8,090 | 8,060 | 7,900 | 30 | 190 | 2.4% |
| Workers in Labor/Management Disputes | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| <i>^{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.</i> | | | | | | |
| <i>*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.</i> | | | | | | |
| <i>**North American Industry Classification System</i> | | | | | | |
| <i>***QCEW = Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages</i> | | | | | | |