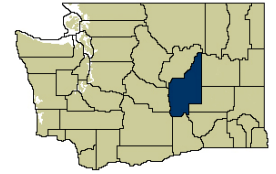




Grant County

Labor Area Summary

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Summary

Grant County's unemployment rate continued a gradual decline that began earlier in the year. From a January rate of 12.0 percent it has dropped to a 9.4 percent rate in May of this year. This follows a normal pattern for the area as employment normally increases as summer activities pick up. Likewise, total nonagricultural wage and salary employment increased by 650 jobs over the month to reach a total of 27,310 in May of 2009. Most industries participated in the increase in employment.

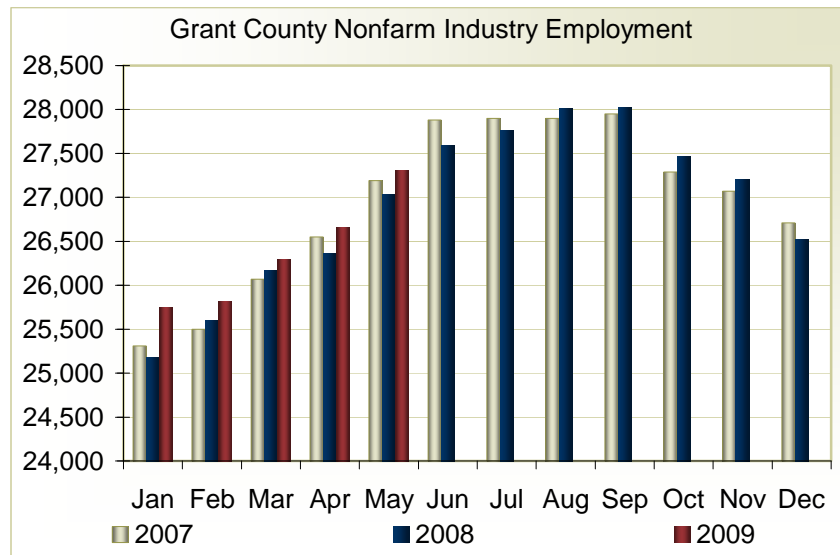
Overall, Grant County's nonfarm employment expanded by 280 jobs (1.0 percent) from May 2008 to May 2009. Most of the gains were in the services-providing industries that increased by 220 jobs (1.1 percent). During the comparable period last year, services providers shed 600 jobs. Across the state, total nonfarm employment declined by 3.9 percent, while services providers shed 2.2 percent of their workforce, and the goods-producing industries contracted by 12.1 percent.

Over-the-Year Change

- Nonfarm employment grew at 280 jobs, or 1.0 percent. This was driven primarily by the government sector, including federal, state and local government employers. They added 220 jobs, increasing their workforce by 2.8 percent. Across the state, government employment grew by 1.7 percent.
- Trade, transportation and utilities employment also grew at a positive year-over-year rate adding 120 jobs, or a 2.2 percent increase from May 2008 to May 2009. During a comparable period last year, trade, transportation and utilities was up 130 jobs. The trade, transportation and utilities industry is a services-providing subsector that includes wholesale trade, retail trade, air transportation, truck transportation, warehousing and storage, and utilities. Statewide, trade, transportation, and utilities employment shrank by 4.2 percent.
- Employers in the information and financial activities sector cut 40 jobs or down 3.9 percent of their workforce across Grant County between May 2008 and May 2009. Different components of the sector include publishing industries, broadcasting, telecommunications, credit intermediation, real estate and rental leasing, and insurance carriers. Across the state, information was down 2.9 percent and the financial activities sector was down by 6.0 percent.
- The goods producers, a group of employers that includes firms in the mining, logging and construction as well as in the manufacturing industry, gained 50 jobs (0.8 percent) this year.

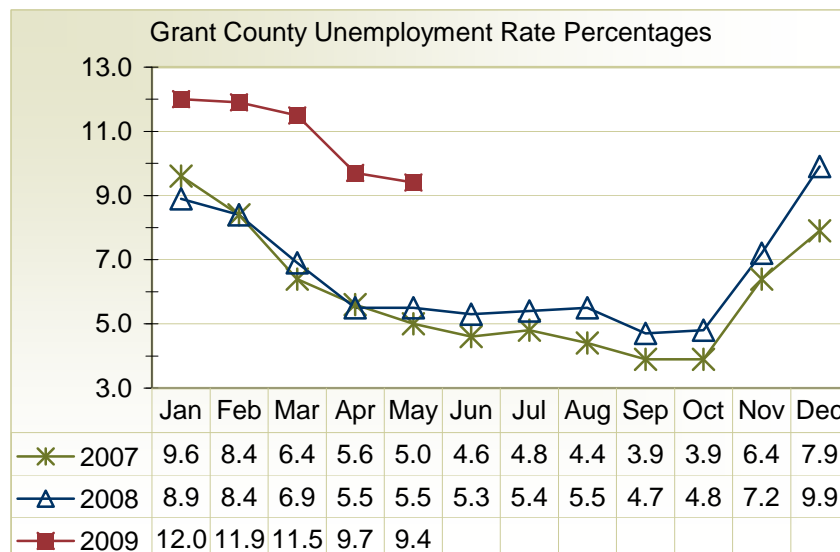
Over-the-Month Change

In May 2009, the trade, transportation and utilities sector was up by 40 jobs, information and financial activities remained flat at 990 jobs, while government employment increased by 250, and goods-producers added 180 workers.



Unemployment

In May 2009, the unemployment rate declined to 9.4 percent from the revised April 2009 rate of 9.7 percent. Over the year, however, the unemployment was up by 3.9 percentage points. Between May 2008 and May 2009, total employment in Grant County rose from 37,340 from 38,030. During the same time period the number of unemployed residents actively seeking work grew from 2,180 to 3,930.



The top five occupations with largest number of unemployed individuals getting unemployment insurance benefits in May 2009 were classified as “helpers-production workers,” “farm-workers and laborers, crop, nursery and greenhouse,” along with “welders, cutters, solderers and braziers,” “truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer”, and “construction laborers.” Claims also increased over the year by 48 for carpenters and 47 for electricians.

Top Unemployment Claims by Occupation for Grant County						
*SOC	Occupation	May-09	Apr-09	May-08	Change	
					Yearly	Monthly
519198	Helpers--Production Workers	245	211	121	124	34
452092	Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse	138	191	1	137	-53
514121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers and Braziers	114	121	5	109	-7
533032	Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	109	109	54	55	0
472061	Construction Laborers	73	75	26	47	-2
372011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	64	27	61	3	37
472031	Carpenters	63	58	15	48	5
472111	Electricians	60	68	13	47	-8
452041	Graders and Sorters, Agricultural Products	49	37	47	2	12
537051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	48	34	22	26	14
537064	Packers and Packagers, Hand	40	44	32	8	-4
519111	Packaging & Filling Machine Operators& Tenders	38	11	42	-4	27
519199	Production Workers, All Other	35	39	11	24	-4
472073	Operating Engineers and Other Construction Equipment Operators	34	41	7	27	-7
519061	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, & Weighers	34	31	11	23	3
499042	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	34	30	7	27	4
537062	Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand	31	25	9	22	6
512099	Assemblers and Fabricators, All Other	23	35	3	20	-12
472152	Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	22	37	5	17	-15
511011	First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Production and Operating Workers	22	32	3	19	-10
435081	Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	22	20	7	15	2
514011	Computer-Controlled Machine Tool Operators, Metal and Plastic	21	24	3	18	-3
518099	Plant and System Operators, All Other	20	26	3	17	-6
452091	Agricultural Equipment Operators	19	23	113	-94	-4
452093	Farmworkers, Farm and Ranch Animals	17	21	15	2	-4
519011	Chemical Equipment Operators and Tenders	15	21	1	14	-6

*SOC = Standard Occupational Classification code.

Summary Table

Labor Market Information for Grant County Not Seasonally Adjusted/*Updated with ***QCEW Data: December 2008						
	Change					
	Prelim May-09	Revised Apr-09	Revised May-08	Apr-09 May-09	May-08 May-09	May-08 May-09%
Employment by Place of Residence						
Civilian Labor Force	41,960	40,800	39,510	1,160	2,450	6.2%
Resident Employment	38,030	36,840	37,340	1,190	690	1.8%
Unemployment	3,930	3,960	2,180	-30	1,750	80.3%
Unemployment Rate	9.4	9.7	5.5	-0.3	3.9	
Employment by Place of Work (**NAICS Industry Titles)						
Total Nonfarm 1/	27,310	26,660	27,030	650	280	1.0%
Total Private	19,320	18,930	19,260	390	60	0.3%
Goods Producing	6,150	5,970	6,100	180	50	0.8%
Services Providing	21,160	20,690	20,940	470	220	1.1%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	5,490	5,450	5,370	40	120	2.2%
Information and Financial Activities	990	990	1,030	0	-40	-3.9%
Government	7,990	7,740	7,770	250	220	2.8%
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 4th 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>						