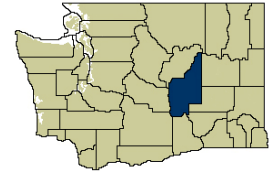




Grant County

Labor Area Summary

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Employment

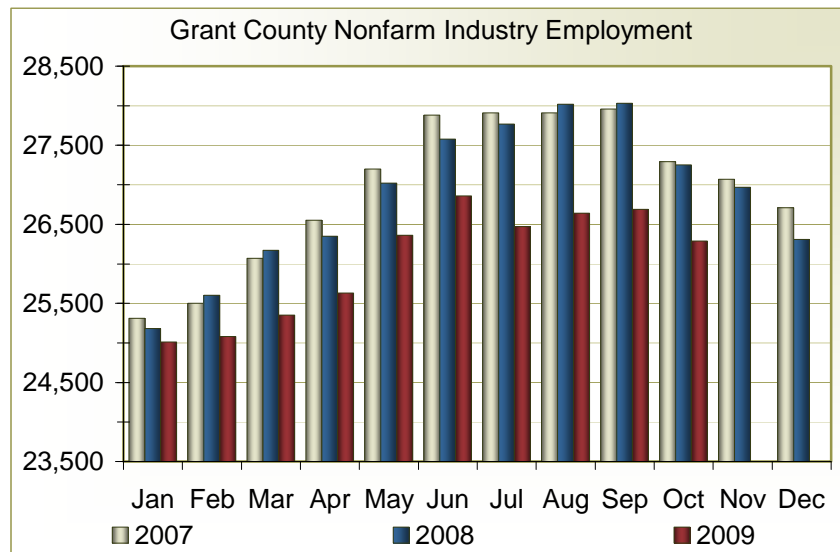
In October 2009, both job seekers and employers in Grant County continued to experience a weak labor market, as the unemployment rate edged up over the year, and the labor force (the sum of employed and unemployed residents) decreased from 42,480 to 40,040 during the 12-month period that began in October 2008. Overall, 960 nonfarm jobs were lost over the year as trade, transportation, and utilities posted modest gains and government employment continued to decline.

October 2008 to October 2009 losses

- Grant County employers in the government sector, a group of employers that includes federal government, state and local government, and state and local government education services, lost 130 employees or 1.7 percent of their workers between October 2008 and October 2009. The latest downturn followed year-over-year declines of 40 and 50 in August and September 2009, respectively. Statewide jobs in the government sector expanded at a 0.2 percent annual rate over the same period.
- The area's employment in the information and financial activities sector, a subsector of the service-providing industry that groups employers in publishing industries, telecommunications, finance and insurance, real estate and rental leasing, was down 30 jobs or 3.0 percent from October 2008 to October 2009. Across the state, employers in the information industry lost 3.7 percent of the workforce, while their counterparts in financial activities shed 4.3 percent of their workers.
- In October 2009, employment in the goods-producing industries, which is the sum of jobs in durable goods manufacturing, nondurable goods manufacturing, natural resources, mining, and construction, declined to 5,890 jobs, after contracting by 610, or 9.4 percent from a year earlier. Across the state, goods producers lost 10.4 percent of their workers over the 12-month period ending in October 2009.
- Grant County service providers had a total of 20,400 employees in October 2009, down 350 (1.7 percent) from a year earlier. The service-providing industries include a wide range of subsectors such as trade, transportation, and utilities, information and financial activities, professional and business services, education and health services, leisure and hospitality, and others. Statewide, service providers lost 2.8 percent of their workers between October 2008 and October 2009.

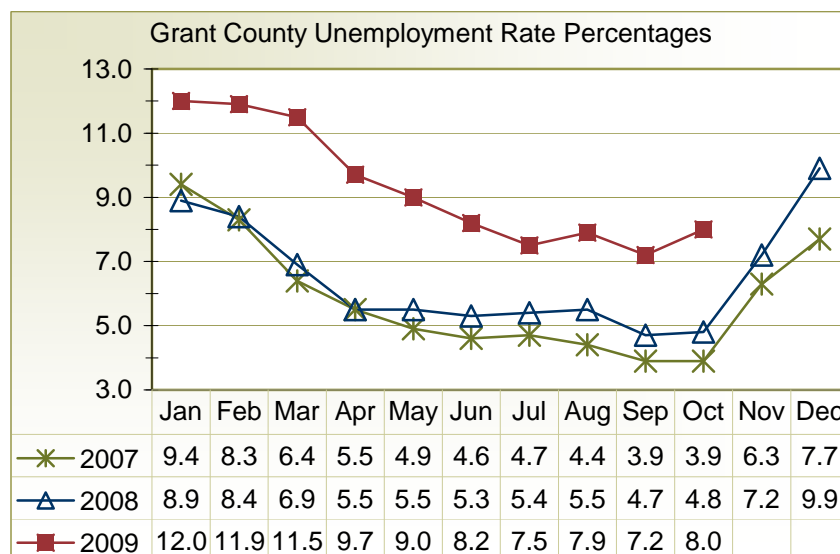
A winner

Employment in the trade, transportation, and utilities industries regained some momentum with 30 jobs added in October 2009 compared to October 2008. Employers in this service-providing subsector lost 200 and 60 employees over the 12-month periods ending in August and September 2009, respectively. Across the state, trade, transportation, and utilities industries were down 5.6 percent.



Unemployment

The jobless rate, a ratio of the unemployed divided by the total civilian labor force, rose to 8.0 percent in October 2009 from 4.8 percent in October 2008, or an increase of 3.2 percentage points over the 12-month period. Over the month of October 2009, the unemployment rate increased 0.8 percentage points from a revised September 2009 rate of 7.2 percent. The state's unemployment rate rose to 8.8 percent in October 2009, or up 3.4 percentage points from a revised 5.4 percent in October 2008. Over the month, the state's unemployment rate increased by 0.2 percentage points. There were 40,040 employed residents (those living and working within Grant County at nonfarm jobs, farm work, and self-employed) in October 2009. That was down 2,440 from 42,480 12 months earlier. Over the same time period, the number of unemployed increased by 1,350 to reach a total of 3,490 in October 2009.



Over the 12-month period that ended in October 2009, the number of people filing for continued unemployment claims benefits in Grant County rose from 1,055 to 1,708. Among those filing for continued claims over the year, the three occupations with the most continued claims were helpers–production workers (down two), followed by welders, cutters, solderers, and brazers whose claims increased by 25, and farmworkers and laborers, crop, nursery, greenhouse, and agricultural equipment operators whose claims increased by 61 (see continued claims table below).

Top Continued Claims for Unemployment by Occupation for Grant County						
*SOC	Occupation	Oct-09	Sep-09	Oct-08	Change	
					Monthly	Yearly
519198	Helpers--Production Workers	121	130	123	-9	-2
514121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Brazers	112	123	87	-11	25
452092	Farmworkers & Laborers, Crop, Nursery, Greenhouse, and Agricultural Equip. Operators	81	69	20	12	61
533032	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	58	48	30	10	28
472061	Construction Laborers	53	49	35	4	18
472111	Electricians	49	47	22	2	27
472031	Carpenters	37	45	32	-8	5
472152	Plumbers, Pipefitters, & Steamfitters	30	27	24	3	6
412011	Cashiers	27	26	15	1	12
537064	Packers & Packagers, Hand	26	29	4	-3	22
537062	Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand	25	27	12	-2	13
399021	Personal & Home Care Aides	25	21	11	4	14
372011	Janitors & Cleaners, Exc. Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	23	13	7	10	16
537051	Industrial Truck & Tractor Operators	22	25	14	-3	8
472073	Operating Engineers & Other Construction Equipment Operators	22	15	9	7	13
412031	Retail Salespersons	20	17	12	3	8
512099	Assemblers & Fabricators, All Other	19	26	28	-7	-9
519199	Production Workers, All Other	18	22	28	-4	-10
Grand Total all Continued Claims in Grant County		1,708	1,601	1,055	107	653
*Standard Occupational Classification code.						

Summary Table

Labor Market Information for Grant County Not Seasonally Adjusted/*Updated with ***QCEW Data: June 2009						
				Change		
	Prelim Oct-09	Revised Sep-09	Revised Oct-08	Sep-09 Oct-09	Oct-08 Oct-09	Oct-08 Oct-09%
Employment by Place of Residence						
Civilian Labor Force	43,530	44,510	44,620	-980	-1,090	-2.4%
Resident Employment	40,040	41,300	42,480	-1,260	-2,440	-5.7%
Unemployment	3,490	3,210	2,140	280	1,350	63.1%
Unemployment Rate	8.0	7.2	4.8	0.8	3.2	
Employment by Place of Work (**NAICS Industry Titles)						
Total Nonfarm ^{1/}	26,290	26,690	27,250	-400	-960	-3.5%
Total Private	18,700	19,250	19,530	-550	-830	-4.2%
Goods Producing	5,890	6,000	6,500	-110	-610	-9.4%
Service Providing	20,400	20,690	20,750	-290	-350	-1.7%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	5,510	5,570	5,480	-60	30	0.5%
Information and Financial Activities	960	970	990	-10	-30	-3.0%
Government	7,590	7,440	7,720	150	-130	-1.7%
Workers in Labor/Management Disputes	0	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 (currently 2nd quarter 2009) and estimates employment from that point to present. **North American Industry Classification System. ***QCEW = Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages						