

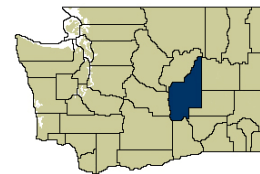


September 2009

# Grant County

## Labor Area Summary

### Volume 2009, Number 9



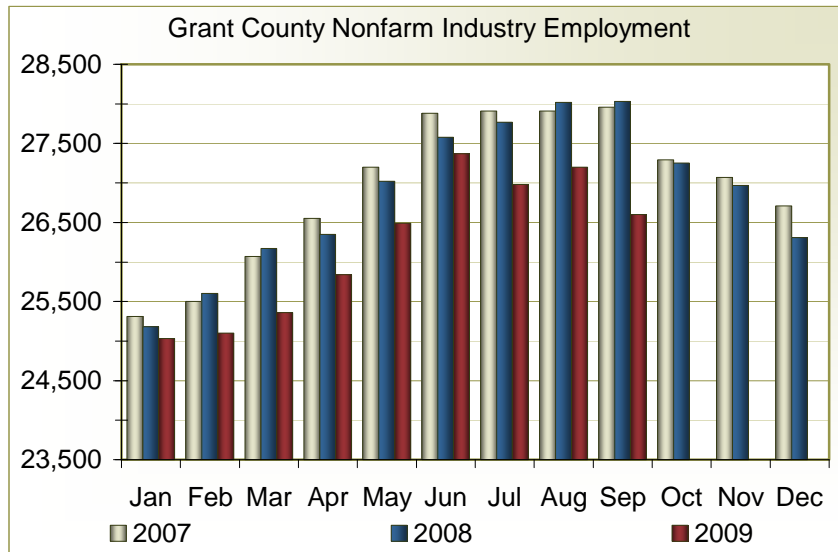
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## Summary

A summary of the main labor market indicators for Grant County in September 2009 showed a soft job market, with nonfarm employers across many industrial sectors losing workers at a higher pace than the state. At the end of the third quarter, the area had a total of 26,600 people employed in different nonfarm industries, or down 1,430 jobs from a year earlier. As a result, nonfarm employers in Grant County lost 5.1 percent of their workforce, while their counterparts across the state shed 4.5 percent of their workers between September 2008 and September 2009.

### September 2008 to September 2009 losses

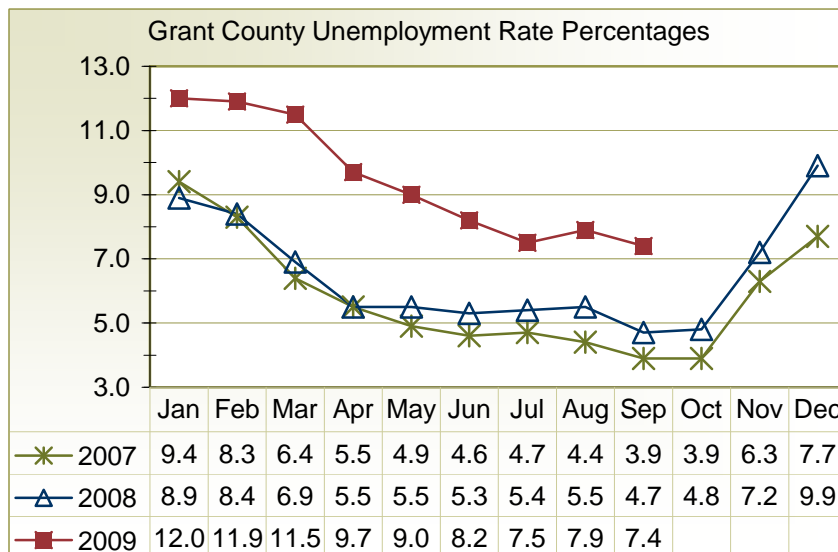
- Over the 12-month period that ended in September 2009, Grant County employers in manufacturing industries as well as in natural resources, mining, and construction sectors lost 390 workers, or 5.8 percent of their workforce. Huge losses in goods-producing sectors are typical during a recessionary period. With mounting job losses and a rising jobless rate, cautious consumers will hold onto their wallets and reduce their discretionary spending. As the demand for manufactured goods continues to shrink, manufacturers are compelled to reduce their labor need in order to keep making profits. Across the state, goods producers cut 14.0 percent of their workers over the year.
- The area's service providers had a total of 20,270 employees in September 2009, down 1,050 (4.9 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 2.5 percent of their workers between September 2008 and September 2009.
- Jobs in the trade, transportation and utilities industries, the second largest service provider in Grant County, dropped to 5,320 workers in September 2009, from 5,630 in September 2008. As a result, the area's employers in trade, transportation, and utilities lost 310 jobs, or 5.5 percent of their workers. Across the state, trade, transportation and utilities was down 4.3 percent over the year.
- Information and financial activities was down 4.0 percent or 40 jobs. Statewide, jobs in the information sector shrank at a 4.6 percent annual rate, while employers in the financial activities industry shed 4.8 percent of their workforce.
- The number of people employed by different government institutions across the county was down 120 jobs or 1.6 percent between September 2008 and September 2009. Statewide, employers in the government sector lost 0.6 percent of their workers.



## Unemployment

The jobless rate, a ratio of the unemployed divided by the total civilian labor force, rose to 7.4 percent in September 2009 from 4.7 percent in September 2008, or an increase of 2.7 percentage points over the 12-month period. Over the month of September 2009, the unemployment rate declined 0.5 percentage points from a revised August 2009 rate of 7.9 percent. The state's unemployment rate rose to 8.8 percent in September 2009, or up 3.8 percentage points from a revised 5.0 percent in September 2008. Over the month, the state's unemployment rate remained unchanged.

There were 41,570 employed residents (those living and working within Grant County at nonfarm jobs, farm work, and self-employed) in September 2009. That was down 1,220 from 42,790 12 months earlier. Over the same time period, the number of unemployed increased 1,230 to reach a total of 3,320 in September 2009.



Over the 12-month period that ended in September 2009, the number of people filing for continued unemployment claims benefits in Grant County more than doubled, rising from 695 in September 2008 to 1,601 this September. Among those filing for continued claims, over the year, the three occupations with the most continued claims were helpers–production workers (84), followed by welders, cutters, solderers and brazers whose claims increased by 109, and farmworkers and laborers, crop, nursery, greenhouse, and agricultural machine operators by 49 (see continued claims table).

Top Continued Claims for Unemployment by Occupation for Grant County						
*SOC	Occupation Title	Sep-09	Aug-09	Sep-08	Change	
					Monthly	Yearly
519198	Helpers--Production Workers	130	182	46	-52	84
514121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	123	93	14	30	109
452092	Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, Greenhouse, and Agricultural Equip. Operators	69	114	20	-45	49
472061	Construction Laborers	49	59	28	-10	21
533032	Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	48	77	24	-29	24
472111	Electricians	47	54	10	-7	37
472031	Carpenters	45	48	32	-3	13
537064	Packers and Packers, Hand	29	59	14	-30	15
537062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	27	30	9	-3	18
472152	Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	27	27	15	0	12
412011	Cashiers	26	21	12	5	14
512099	Assemblers and Fabricators, All Other	26	20	6	6	20
537051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	25	35	13	-10	12
519199	Production Workers, All Other	22	20	4	2	18
399021	Personal and Home Care Aides	21	24	12	-3	9
452041	Graders and Sorters, Agricultural Products	18	58	25	-40	-7
412031	Retail Salespersons	17	21	7	-4	10
111021	General and Operations Managers	17	21	7	-4	10
519061	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	15	28	7	-13	8
372011	Janitors and Cleaners, Exc. Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	13	33	6	-20	7
519111	Packaging and Filling Machine Operators and Tenders	7	32	4	-25	3
Grand Total All Continued Claims in Grant County		1,601	1,867	695	-266	906
*SOC = Standard Occupational Classification code						

## Summary Table

Labor Market Information for Grant County Not Seasonally Adjusted/*Updated with ***QCEW Data: March 2009						
				Change		
	Prelim Sep-09	Revised Aug-09	Revised Sep-08	Aug-09 Sep-09	Sep-08 Sep-09	Sep-08 Sep-09 %
Employment by Place of Residence						
Civilian Labor Force	44,900	44,080	44,880	820	20	0.0%
Resident Employment	41,570	40,590	42,790	980	-1,220	-2.9%
Unemployment	3,320	3,490	2,090	-170	1,230	58.9%
Unemployment Rate	7.4	7.9	4.7	-0.5	2.7	
Employment by Place of Work (**NAICS Industry Titles)						
Total Nonfarm 1/	26,600	27,200	28,030	-600	-1,430	-5.1%
Total Private	19,230	19,670	20,550	-440	-1,320	-6.4%
Goods Producing	6,330	6,720	6,720	-390	-390	-5.8%
Service Providing	20,270	20,480	21,320	-210	-1,050	-4.9%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	5,320	5,270	5,630	50	-310	-5.5%
Information and Financial Activities	960	970	1,000	-10	-40	-4.0%
Government	7,370	7,530	7,490	-160	-120	-1.6%
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 1st quarter 2009) and estimates employment from that point to present. **North American Industry Classification System. ***QCEW = Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages</p>						