



Grant County

Labor Area Summary

Volume 2012, Number 9

Mark A. Berreth, Regional Labor Economist

215 Bridge Street, Wenatchee, WA 98801

Voice: (509) 665-3737 FAX: (509) 665-3743

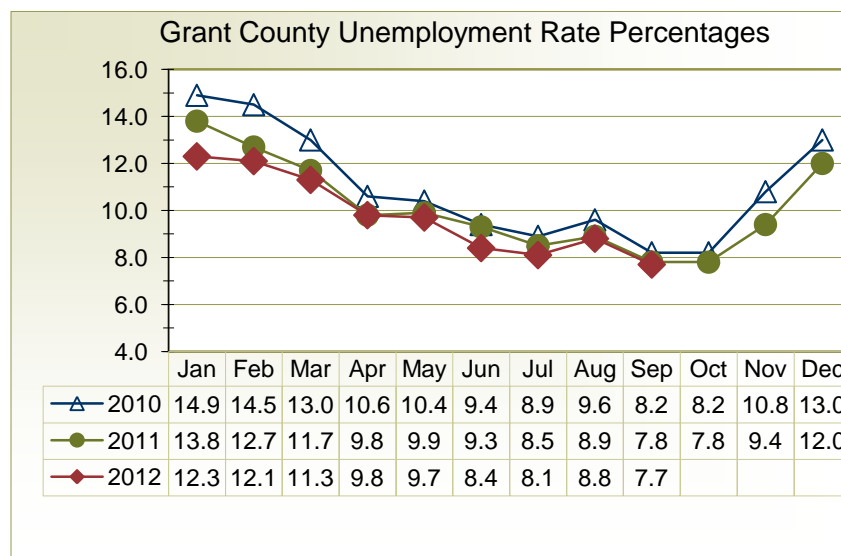
mberreth@esd.wa.gov, <http://www.esd.wa.gov/employmentdata/>

Unemployment

Grant county's preliminary unemployment rate of 7.7percent (not seasonally adjusted) is 1.1 percentage points below August 2012 and 0.1 percentage points below September 2011.

Over-the-month the civilian labor force and total employment grew while total unemployment contracted. Total employment grew at a faster pace than the civilian labor force showing some needed job growth that beats out the growth of individuals looking for work. The growth this month is in line with a normal seasonal pattern.

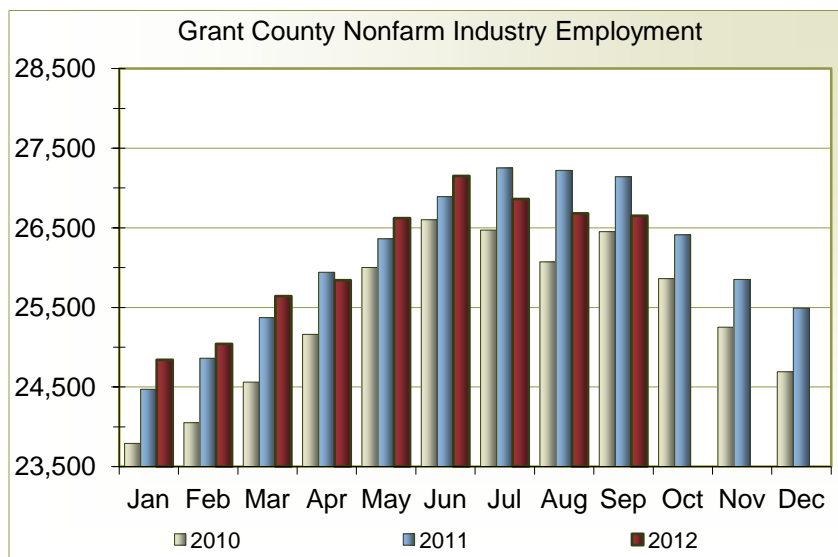
Year-over-year figures show a drop in the both the civilian labor force and total employment. Employment peaked in 2009 for the month of September, dropped in 2010 and posted marginal growth in 2011. Unfortunately this drop shows a struggling labor market. At the start of 2012 the labor force and total employment figures were showing growth, but as the year moved on more and more signs of discouraged workers leaving the labor force have shown.



Washington state's unemployment rate of 7.7 percent (not seasonally adjusted) is 0.8 percentage points below the August 2012 figure and 0.9 percentage points below September 2011. Total employment made a stronger jump than the civilian labor force, which helped lower the number unemployed and the unemployment rate.

Employment

Grant county's growth has trailed off over the last three months. During the initial recovery, Grant county was leading the way, but has started to struggle in 2012. The overall upward trend of total nonfarm employment is still above 2010 figures, but is showing a downward trend leading into the end of the year.



Over-the-month total nonfarm employment posted a loss due to the private sector. Government employment gained jobs due to school employment. The goods-producing sector edged down in manufacturing just like other areas in North Central Washington. The service-providing sector edged up due to government employment, but faced a significant loss in trade and transportation.

Year-over-year total nonfarm and total private employment posted losses. The losses were entirely sustained in the private sector as government employment gained jobs. The goods-producing sector faced a large loss this month. The service-providing sector fell mainly due to information and financial activities. Losses were sustained across the board in the private sector which shows a slight reluctance in the economy.

Washington state's non-seasonally adjusted figures posted gains in total nonfarm employment and total private employment. The goods-producing sector was driven in manufacturing by aerospace. The service-providing sector was driven by professional and business services along with leisure and hospitality. Washington state is starting to show a stronger economy at the end of 2012 that is mainly driven through the larger metropolitan areas on the west side of the state.

Consumer confidence and consumer expectations have both posted large gains this month. They both almost reached peak levels for 2012 and regained a majority of the losses sustained throughout the year. Although this shows a strong positive outlook on the economy, both indicators have had more of a downward trend in 2012.

Industrial production of final products edged up this month due to both consumer goods and business equipment. The indicator is still on an overall upward trend, but does show hesitance in the market currently.

Summary Table

Labor Market Information for Grant County						
Not Seasonally Adjusted/*Updated with ***QCEW Data: December 2011						
				Change		
	Prelim Sep-12	Revised Aug-12	Revised Sep-11	Aug-12 Sep-12	Sep-11 Sep-12	Sep-11 Sep-12 %
Employment by Place of Residence						
Civilian Labor Force	44,640	42,520	45,320	2120	-680	-1.5%
Resident Employment	41,210	38,760	41,790	2450	-580	-1.4%
Unemployment	3,430	3,760	3,530	-330	-100	-2.8%
Unemployment Rate	7.7	8.8	7.8	-1.1	-0.1	
Employment by Place of Work (**NAICS Industry Titles)						
Total Nonfarm 1/	26,650	26,680	27,150	-30	-500	-1.8%
Total Private	18,910	19,130	19,600	-220	-690	-3.5%
Goods Producing	5,890	5,930	6,170	-40	-280	-4.5%
Service Providing	20,760	20,750	20,980	10	-220	-1.0%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	5,570	5,670	5,580	-100	-10	-0.2%
Information and Financial Activities	1,100	1,110	1,250	-10	-150	-12.0%
Government	7,740	7,550	7,550	190	190	2.5%
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>						