



Grant County

Labor Area Summary

Volume 2008, Number 4



Tihamiyou Moussa, Regional Labor Economist

215 Bridge Street, Wenatchee, WA 98801

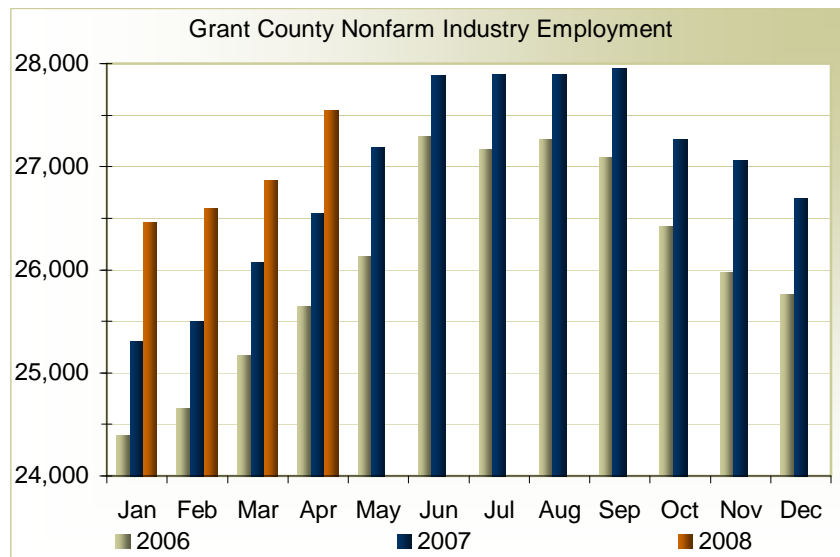
Voice: (509) 665-3737; FAX (509) 665-3743

[bmoussa@esd.wa.gov](mailto:bmousa@esd.wa.gov), www.workforceexplorer.com

Summary

The preliminary report of employment in April 2008 for Grant County showed a healthy and growing economy. The nonfarm wage and salary employment expanded at a 3.8 percent annual rate between April 2007 and April 2008, or three tenths of a percentage point above last April's growth rate, and more than twice the statewide growth rate of 1.6 percent in April 2008.

Total nonfarm employment increased to 27,550, up 1,000 paychecks, as the pace of growth in the goods producing and services providing industries outperformed the statewide numbers. Over the year, the good producing sectors, a category that includes the subsectors of natural resources, mining, construction, and manufacturing added 420 paychecks, up 7.5 percent, while the services providing industries grew by 2.9 percent, or 600 jobs. Statewide, goods producing grew by 1.2 percent and services providing expanded by 1.7 percent.



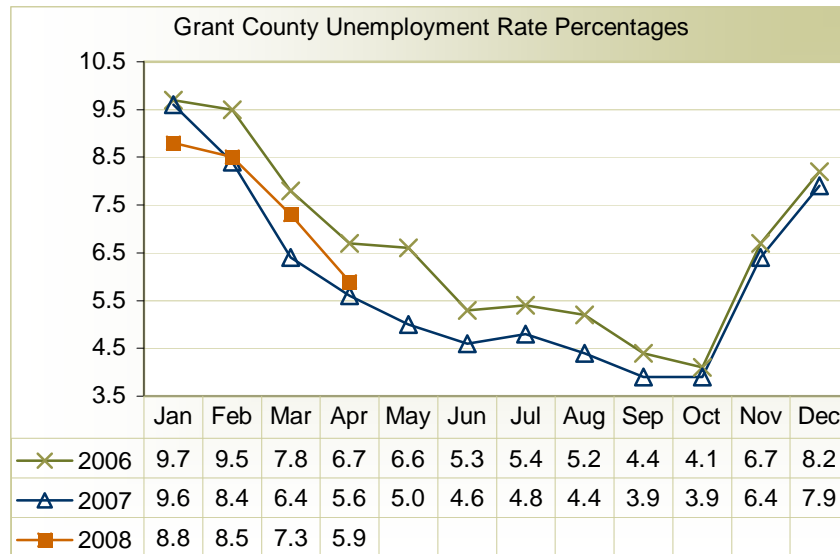
Only winners

- Between April 2007 and April 2008, total private employment rose to 19,880, up 710 jobs from 19,170 in April 2007. The 710-job increase, a 3.7 percent growth rate from a year ago followed a 4.9 percent (890-job) increase in 2007 and a 5.4 percent (940-job) increase in 2006. The state posted a growth rate of 3.4 percent in 2006, 3.1 percent in 2007 and 1.7 percent in 2008.

- The government sector, which includes federal, state and local government institutions, posted a year-over-year increase of 290 paychecks from 7,380 in April 2007, up 3.9 percent. Over the month, employment grew by 0.5 percent (40 jobs) following a 0.8 percent (60-paycheck) increase in March 2008. The state grew by one tenth of a percentage point in both March and April.
- With 130 paychecks added, and a growth rate of 2.5 percent between April 2007 and April 2008, trade, transportation, and utilities has outperformed the state for the second straight year. In April 2007 and April 2008, the state posted a 2.3 and 0.5 percent growth rate respectively. Over the month, county employment in the sector increased by 40 jobs, or up eight tenths of a percentage point.
- Over the last twelve months, employment in information and financial activities posted no change and remained at 1,030 just as April 2007. Between March and April 2008, employment went up by 10 paychecks (1.0 percent). The state employment in the sector has declined since April 2007.

Unemployment

In Grant County, there were 2,350 residents out of work in April 2008 out of a total labor force of 39,900, up 200 from the previous over-the-year unemployed residents of 2,150 in April 2007. The jobless rate rose to 5.9 percent, up three-tenths of a percentage point from 5.6 percent over a year ago. The current 5.9 percent unemployment rate is the second lowest April jobless rate in Grant County since 1990. Between March and April 2008, however, the unemployment rate has declined from the March revised rate of 7.3 percent by one and four tenths percentage points. Statewide, the unemployment rate increased three tenths of a percentage point from 4.3 percent in April 2007.



Summary Table

Labor Market Information for Grant County

Not Seasonally Adjusted/*Updated with ***QCEW Data: December 2007

	Prelim Apr-08	Revised Mar-08	Revised Apr-07	Change		
				Mar-08 Apr-08	Apr-07 Apr-08	Apr-07 Apr-08 %
Employment by Place of Residence						
Civilian Labor Force	39,900	39,590	38,670	310	1,230	3.2%
Resident Employment	37,550	36,690	36,530	860	1,020	2.8%
Unemployment	2,350	2,900	2,150	-550	200	9.3%
Unemployment Rate	5.9	7.3	5.6	-1.4	0.3	
Employment by Place of Work (**NAICS Industry Titles)						
Total Nonfarm 1/	27,550	26,870	26,550	680	1,000	3.8%
Total Private	19,880	19,240	19,170	640	710	3.7%
Goods Producing	5,990	5,840	5,570	150	420	7.5%
Services Providing	21,570	21,040	20,970	530	600	2.9%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	5,330	5,290	5,200	40	130	2.5%
Information and Financial Activities	1,030	1,020	1,030	10	0	0.0%
Government	7,670	7,630	7,380	40	290	3.9%
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 4th quarter 2007) and estimates employment from that point to present.

North American Industry Classification System. *QCEW = Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages