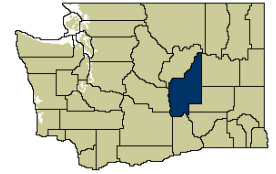




# Grant County

## Labor Area Summary

### Volume 2008, Number 11



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## Summary

The latest snapshot of labor market indicators in November 2008 for Grant County indicated a weakening job market. Overall, nonfarm employment was down 0.9 percent, shrinking by 250 workers between November 2007 and November 2008. The year-over-year growth rate in goods-producing industries expanded at a slower rate, while trade, transportation and utilities showed a modest gain.

### Goods-producing

With the revised October 2008 figures, the number of employees in goods-producing industries (manufacturing and natural resources, mining and construction) fell for the third time after the month-to-month gains in July. Over the month of November, 280 jobs were lost for a 4.4 percent downturn. In October, 190 jobs were lost as well. Between November 2007 and November 2008, Grant County goods-producing employment expanded by 2.2 percent (130 jobs). The current year-over-year gains followed 430 and 370-job gains in November 2006 and November 2007, respectively. The statewide good-producing sector posted a year-over-year decline of 5.6 percent and a monthly upturn of 2.2 percent.

### Services-providing

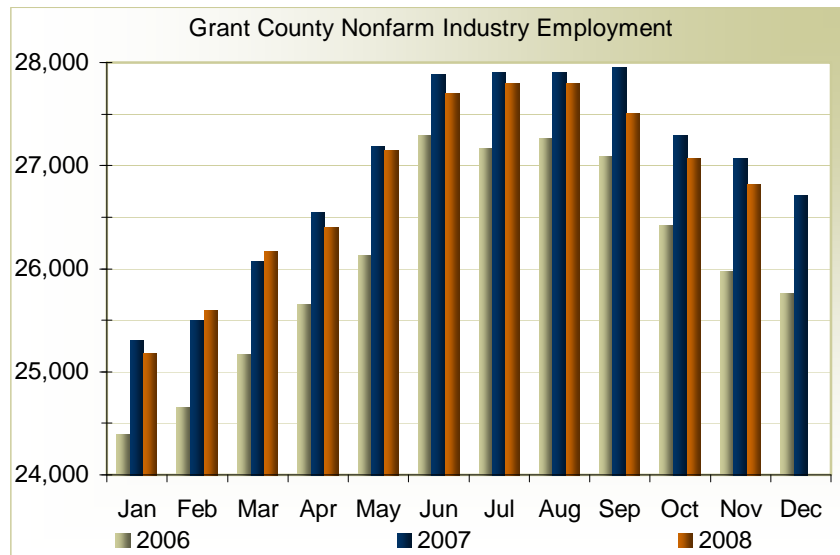
Nonfarm employment in the services-providing sector (private services providing, trade, transportation, warehousing and utilities, education and health services, leisure and hospitality and government) shrank by 1.8 percent compared to November 2007, for a 370-job loss. Last year, services providers in Grant County added 730 jobs. Over the month, employers added 40 employees (or 0.2 percent) after the revised month-to-month losses of 280 employees in September and 250 in October. Statewide, services-providing employment was up 0.3 percent compared to a year ago totals, and up 0.2 percent over the month.

### November 2007 to November 2008 performance by subsector.

- The government sector posted the highest gain, though a decelerating growth rate compared to last year. Government jobs expanded at 1.9 percent (140 jobs) over the last 12 month. Statewide, government employment was up 1.9 percent as well.
- Trade, transportation and utilities had some gains, increasing at a slower pace compared to last year. Jobs grew by 1.8 percent, or 100 employees. Across the state; trade, transportation and utilities shrank by 1.9 percent.
- Employers in the information and financial activities industries created 10 jobs. Last year, 40 employees were added. Statewide, information, listed separately from financial activities, was up 3.7 percent over the last 12 months and increased by 0.3 percent over the month. Statewide, financial activities employment declined by 2.7 percent over the year and by 0.3 percent over the month.

## Month-over-month performance by subsector

- Over the month of November, the government sector was up 160 employees.
- Trade, transportation and utilities gained 50 jobs.
- Information and financial activities was flat.



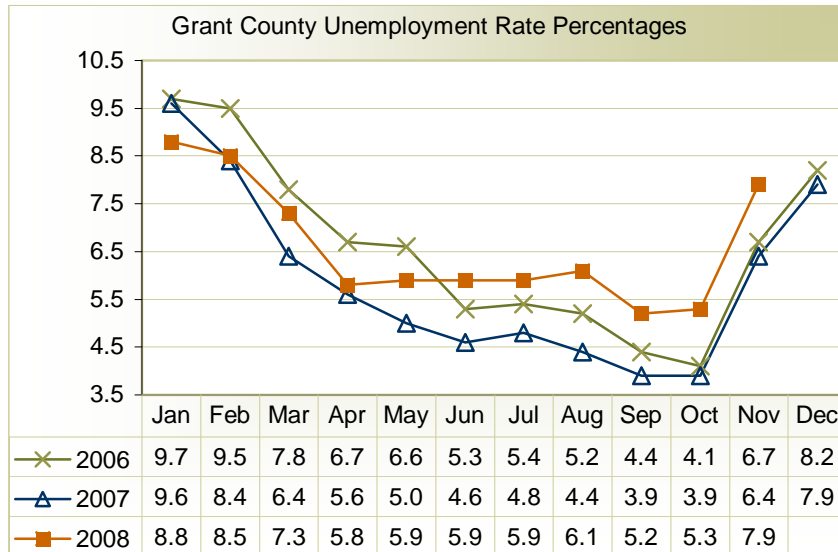
## Unemployment

Between November 2007 and November 2008, the number of welders, cutters, solderers and braziers filing for the unemployment insurance claims increased from 8 to 91 (see table), while the claims increased by 162 for farm workers and laborers, crop, nursery and greenhouse, by 18 for carpenters, but declined by 197 for agricultural equipment operators.

Top Unemployment Claims by Occupation for Grant County						Changes	
*SOC	Occupation	Nov-08	Oct-08	Nov-07	Yearly	Monthly	
452092	Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse	166	13	4	162	153	
519198	Helpers--Production Workers	143	120	63	80	23	
514121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers and Brazers	91	87	8	83	4	
533032	Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	67	30	66	1	37	
452041	Graders and Sorters, Agricultural Products	45	9	39	6	36	
472031	Carpenters	39	33	21	18	6	
472061	Construction Laborers	39	34	27	12	5	
452091	Agricultural Equipment Operators	35	7	232	-197	28	
512099	Assemblers and Fabricators, All Other	33	28	3	30	5	
452093	Farmworkers, Farm and Ranch Animals	29	5	28	1	24	
472111	Electricians	27	21	10	17	6	
373011	Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	26	11	19	7	15	
499042	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	24	17	15	9	7	
472152	Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	22	13	3	19	9	
519199	Production Workers, All Other	21	28	9	12	-7	
372011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	20	7	13	7	13	
452099	Agricultural Workers, All Other	20	3	25	-5	17	

472073	Operating Engineers and Other Construction Equipment Operators	17	8	21	-4	9
439199	Office and Administrative Support Workers, All Other	16	11	6	10	5
537062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	16	12	5	11	4
412031	Retail Salespersons	15	12	6	9	3
537064	Packers and Packagers, Hand	15	4	24	-9	11
511011	First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Production and Operating Workers	14	11	6	8	3
519061	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	14	7	10	4	7
431011	First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Office and Administrative Support Workers	13	10	7	6	3
435061	Production, Planning, and Expediting Clerks	12	18	1	11	-6
514011	Computer-Controlled Machine Tool Operators, Metal and Plastic	12	11	0	12	1
413099	Sales Representatives, Services, All Other	10	10	4	6	0
439061	Office Clerks, General	10	7	9	1	3
*Standard Occupational Classification						

The over-the-year increase in unemployment claims reflects, to some extent, the increase in the unemployment rate over time. Over the last 12 months, the jobless rate was up one and five-tenths percentage points, rising from 6.4 percent in November 2007 to 7.9 percent in November 2008. Over the month, the unemployment rate rose two and six-tenths percentage points from a revised October 2008 rate of 5.3 percent. Meanwhile, the number of residents out of work and actively seeking employment increased from 2,510 in November 2007 to 3,120 in November 2008, up 610 out of a total labor force of 39,720. In November 2008, the number of residents who had a job declined to 36,600 from 36,840 one year earlier. The state's not-seasonally-adjusted jobless rate reached 6.3 percent, up one and eight-tenths percentage points compared to November 2007 rate of 4.5 percent and up six tenths of a percentage point over the month of October.



## Summary Table

Labor Market Information for Grant County Not Seasonally Adjusted/*Updated with ***QCEW Data: June 2008						
				Change		
	Prelim Nov-08	Revised Oct-08	Revised Nov-07	Oct-08 Nov-08	Nov-07 Nov-08	Nov-07 Nov-08%
Employment by Place of Residence						
Civilian Labor Force	39,720	43,450	39,350	-3,730	370	0.9%
Resident Employment	36,600	41,150	36,840	-4,550	-240	-0.7%
Unemployment	3,120	2,300	2,510	820	610	24.3%
Unemployment Rate	7.9	5.3	6.4	2.6	1.5	
Employment by Place of Work (**NAICS Industry Titles)						
Total Nonfarm 1/	26,820	27,070	27,070	-250	-250	-0.9%
Total Private	19,140	19,550	19,520	-410	-380	-1.9%
Goods Producing	6,070	6,350	5,940	-280	130	2.2%
Services Providing	20,760	20,720	21,130	40	-370	-1.8%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	5,520	5,470	5,420	50	100	1.8%
Information and Financial Activities	1,020	1,020	1,010	0	10	1.0%
Government	7,690	7,530	7,550	160	140	1.9%
Workers in Labor/Management Disputes	0	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 2nd 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>						