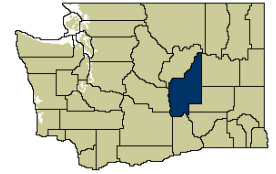




# Grant County

## Labor Area Summary

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T. Baba Moussa, Regional Labor Economist  
215 Bridge Street, Wenatchee, WA 98801  
Voice: (509) 665-3737; FAX (509) 665-3743  
[bmoussa@esd.wa.gov](mailto:bmoussa@esd.wa.gov), [www.workforceexplorer.com](http://www.workforceexplorer.com)

## Summary

The preliminary report of nonfarm employment in July 2008 for Grant County showed an annual gain of 130 jobs. The nonfarm wage and salary employment was up 0.5 percent, rising from 27,900 jobs in July 2007 to 28,030 in July 2008. Statewide, nonfarm employment grew at 1.0 percent over the last 12 months.

Between July 2007 and July 2008, the goods-producing industries outperformed the statewide numbers and the services-providing sectors shrank. Over the year, the goods-producing industries – a category that includes the subsectors of natural resources, mining, construction and manufacturing – added 670 paychecks, up 10.6 percent, while the services-providing industries lost 520 jobs declining by 2.4 percent. Across the state, goods-producing remained flat over the last 12 months, while services-providing expanded by 1.3 percent.

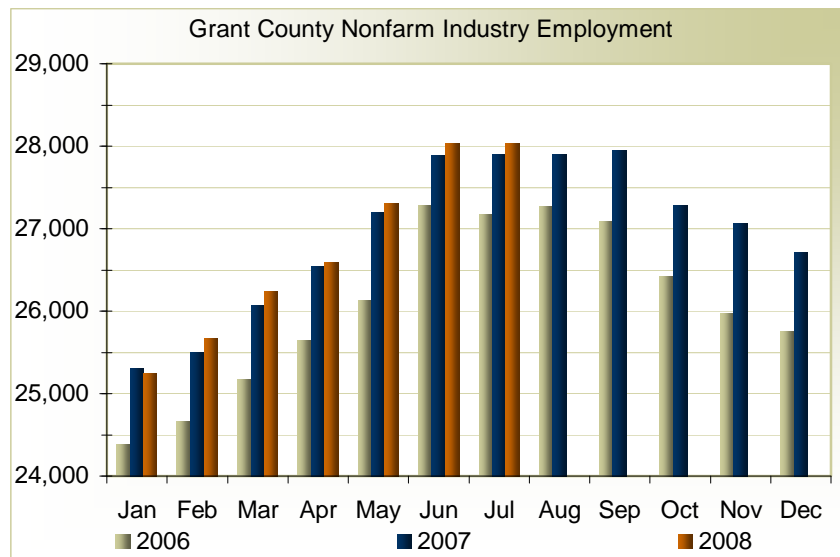
## Year-over-year performance by subsector

From July 2007 to July 2008, some sectors have gained jobs, while others have lost them.

- Trade, transportation and utilities was up 0.9 percent, or 50 paychecks. The state increased by 0.7 percent.
- Information and financial activities gained 30 jobs, for a 2.9 percent increase. Information and financial activities in the state was down 0.1 percent.
- Employment in the government sector was down 70 jobs, declining by 0.9 percent. Statewide, government jobs rose by 0.5 percent over the last 12 months.

## Month-over-month performance

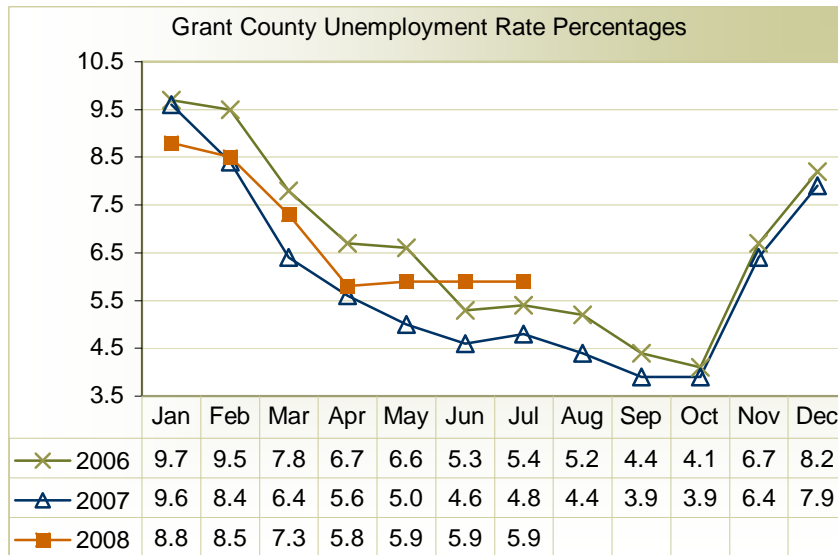
- Over the month of July 2008, trade, transportation and utilities declined 60 jobs, after increasing 140 paychecks in June.
- Information and financial activities remained unchanged and closed the month with 1,050 paychecks, just as in June 2008.
- Employers in the government sector cut 420 jobs over the last month, after losing 90 jobs in the month of June.



## Unemployment

In the Moses Lake Micropolitan Statistical Area (Grant County), the number of residents who were out of work and actively seeking employment increased to 2,550 in July 2008, from a total of 2,080 in July 2007, or up 470 out of a total labor force of 43,080. At the same time, the jobless rate rose 1.1 percent to reach 5.9 percent in July 2008 from 4.8 percent a year ago. Over the last month, the unemployment rate remained unchanged from the revised June 2008 unemployment rate of 5.9 percent. The state unemployment rate remained unchanged compared to the revised June 2008 rate of 5.4 percent, but was up 1.0 percent from 4.4 percent in July 2007.

The unemployment rate is the ratio of the unemployed (individuals who are actively looking for work) divided by the total labor force (which consists of the employed plus the unemployed). It can be affected by changes in the labor force participation rate (which is a ratio of the total labor force divided by the population age 16 and older). Over time, the makeup of the labor force also changes. New graduates are joining the labor force for the first time, while some currently employed are retiring. At other times, some job seekers may be in or out of the labor force depending on the state of the economy and their hope of finding a job. All these factors suggest that the unemployment rate does not and should not be expected to respond one-for-one to changes in employment. When employment expands, not all the added jobs are filled by the previously unemployed. Some of the openings may be filled by residents who just joined the labor force, while others are taken by previously discouraged workers who previously were not counted as part of the labor force.



## Summary Table

Labor Market Information for Grant County						
Not Seasonally Adjusted/*Updated with ***QCEW Data: March 2008						
				Change		
	Prelim	Revised	Revised	Jun-08	Jul-07	Jul-07
Employment by Place of Residence	Jul-08	Jun-08	Jul-07	Jul-08	Jul-08	Jul-08%
Civilian Labor Force	43,080	42,300	43,230	780	-150	-0.3%
Resident Employment	40,540	39,800	41,150	740	-610	-1.5%
Unemployment	2,550	2,500	2,080	50	470	22.6%
Unemployment Rate	5.9	5.9	4.8	0.0	1.1	
Employment by Place of Work (**NAICS Industry Titles)						
Total Nonfarm <sup>1/</sup>	28,030	28,030	27,900	0	130	0.5%
Total Private	20,620	20,200	20,410	420	210	1.0%
Goods Producing	7,010	6,640	6,340	370	670	10.6%
Services Providing	21,030	21,390	21,550	-360	-520	-2.4%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	5,340	5,400	5,290	-60	50	0.9%
Information and Financial Activities	1,050	1,050	1,020	0	30	2.9%
Government	7,410	7,830	7,480	-420	-70	-0.9%
Workers in Labor/Management Disputes	0	0	0	0	0	0
<sup>1/</sup> 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 2008) and estimates employment from that point to present.						
**North American Industry Classification System. ***QCEW = Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages						