



State of Utah

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**UTAH'S EMPLOYMENT SUMMARY: MARCH 2009**

Utah's nonfarm wage and salaried job count for March 2009, as generated by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), contracted by 2.6 percent. Approximately 32,800 jobs have been removed from the Utah economy over the past year, lowering total wage and salary employment to 1,220,300.

Utah's other primary indicator of current labor market conditions, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate, continued to rise, increasing to 5.2 percent in March. Last March, the state's rate was 3.3 percent, a 1.9 percentage-point increase over the past 12 months. Approximately 71,700 Utahns were considered unemployed in March 2009, compared against 45,800 last March, an increase of 25,900 unemployed workers. Utah's February 2009 unemployment rate was 5.1 percent. The United States unemployment rate continued to rise, reaching 8.5 percent for March.

**Utah Labor Market Indicators  
March 2009**

**Employment % Change: -2.6%**  
**Employment # Change: -32,800**  
**Unemployment Rate: 5.2%**

**United States**

**Employment Change: -3.6%**  
**Unemployment Rate: 8.5%**

Mark Knold, chief economist for the Department of Workforce Services, commented, "The numbers continue to decline, but they are doing what we expected to see them do for this month. There are no surprises. We have several more months of additional falling numbers ahead of us yet, but there are some encouraging signs, or "green shoots", that may be emerging in the national economy. These include a stock market that probably has moved above its low point; national housing sales showing an uptick; and unemployment claims—though still harmfully high—no longer rising. These sprouts signal an approaching bottom, which is the next reference point along the path of this current business cycle."

Even though the economy is very sluggish right now, it does not mean that jobs are not available. The Conference Board does a monthly Help-Wanted Online Data Series™ that is a measurement of help wanted ads posted on Internet job boards. The reading for March 2009 was 34,600 Utah ads posted through these sources. Granted the number was as high as 53,000 as recently as November 2008, so yes the volume of available jobs is lower, but the job market is still functioning. There is much job churning that always occurs within the economy, even when the overall level of jobs in the economy is contracting. Most of the headline news focuses upon the total job contraction, as it tells the tale of the general health of the economy. But it can leave the impression that the job market has completely shut down, and that is not the case.

Most industries continue to shed jobs, and the amount of job shedding continues to accelerate. Only government, education and healthcare, and natural resources are industries showing job gains over the past year.

Construction continues to record the most job losses. The amount of yearly loss is still gaining momentum, having now risen to 16,200. Whereas before it was all residential job losses, now the nonresidential side is adding its weight to the negative slide.

Manufacturing is the other hard-hit industry in this downturn. Almost 12,000 jobs have been eliminated over the past 12 months. Manufacturing areas losing jobs include—but is not limited to—furniture products, sporting goods, cement and glass products, wood products, and transportation equipment.

The leisure and hospitality industry is feeling the negative impact of the economy, recording 5,000 fewer jobs than this time last year. The nation's economic woes translated into a not-so-stellar ski season for Utah's resorts. Bookings are down this year. Even though air travel is relatively cheap, the overall angst within the economy and the continued increasing of the unemployment rate has been too much of a negative counterweight to affordable airfares.

The professional and business services sector is showing nearly 3,000 fewer jobs over the past 12 months. The good news is that those losses are not prevalent within the professional side of this sector's title. The "professional" aspect includes high-paid professionals and technological workers. The rate of job expansion there has nearly slowed to zero, but the job growth slowing is more along the lines of not hiring additional workers than it is shedding workers.

The other aspect of that sector's title—business services—is where the aggressive job losses are occurring. And these are mostly within employment services—temporary help, staffing agencies, and leasing companies. Job losses here are down several thousand, and are a natural place for job losses in a down economy. Businesses use these employment agencies as intermediaries for staffing their business. The use of an intermediary agency offers businesses flexibility with their labor resource in relation to the economy. They can quickly add staff when necessary, and can shed staff as the economy so dictates.

Education seems to play a role in determining who it is that might end up being laid off. Or, maybe another way of saying it is that jobs that are filled by workers with a limited education are more vulnerable to being laid off. Since the beginning of this year, 34 percent of those filing for unemployment insurance claims had less than a high school education. Thirty-nine percent have a high school education or one year beyond. Another 15 percent of filers had 15 to 16 years of education, and the remaining 12 percent had 16 years of education or more.

**\* Utah's April employment information will be released at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 21, 2009.**

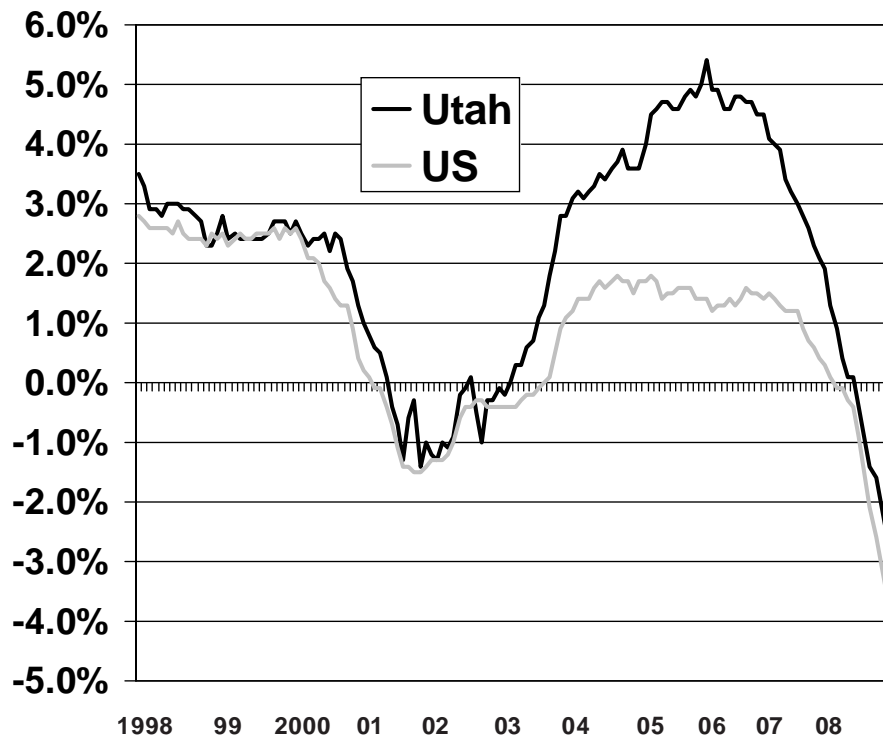
**\* County unemployment rates for March will be posted by April 23 at <http://jobs.utah.gov/opencms/wi/pubs/une/season.pdf>**

## Utah Nonagricultural Jobs by Industry and Components of the Labor Force

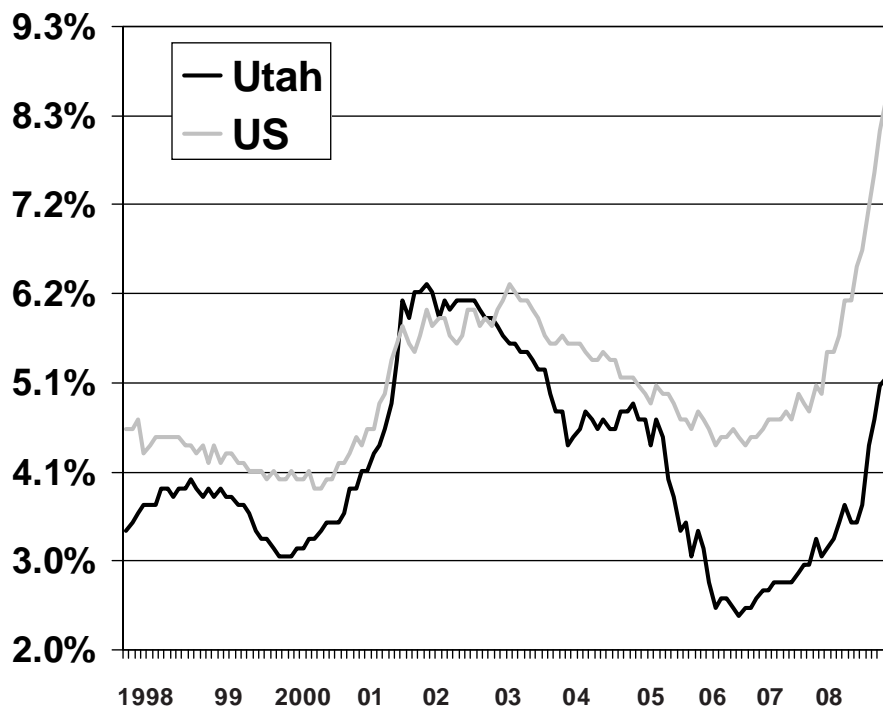
Numbers are in thousands	March(p) 2009	March 2008	Percentage Change	February(r) 2009	February 2008	Percentage Change
<b>CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE (seasonally-adjusted)</b>	<b>1,381.9</b>	<b>1,378.1</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>1,389.1</b>	<b>1,376.4</b>	<b>0.9</b>
Employed	1,310.2	1,332.3	-1.7	1,318.7	1,331.4	-1.0
Unemployed	71.7	45.8	56.6	70.4	45.0	56.4
Unemployment Rate	5.2	3.3		5.1	3.3	
<b>NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT (Thousands)</b>	<b>1,220.3</b>	<b>1,253.1</b>	<b>-2.6</b>	<b>1,221.8</b>	<b>1,247.7</b>	<b>-2.1</b>
Not seasonally-adjusted						
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>203.7</b>	<b>229.8</b>	<b>-11.4</b>	<b>207.0</b>	<b>228.9</b>	<b>-9.6</b>
<b>Natural Resources, and Mining</b>	<b>13.4</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>16.8</b>	<b>13.4</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>18.1</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>74.2</b>	<b>90.4</b>	<b>-17.9</b>	<b>75.6</b>	<b>89.3</b>	<b>-15.3</b>
Construction of Buildings	15.6	19.1	-18.6	16.3	19.3	-15.3
Heavy and Civil Engineering	8.9	9.6	-7.7	8.5	9.4	
Specialty Trade Contractors	49.8	61.6	-19.2	50.7	60.6	-16.3
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>116.1</b>	<b>128.0</b>	<b>-9.3</b>	<b>117.9</b>	<b>128.2</b>	<b>-8.0</b>
<b>Durable Goods</b>	<b>76.0</b>	<b>86.4</b>	<b>-12.0</b>	<b>77.9</b>	<b>86.6</b>	<b>-10.0</b>
Primary and Fabricated Metals	16.4	16.5	-0.9	16.4	16.5	-0.6
Computer and Electronic Products	13.3	13.2	0.7	13.3	13.1	1.3
Transportation and Equipment Manufacturing	13.9	14.3	-3.2	14.0	14.3	-2.6
<b>Non-Durable Goods</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>41.6</b>	<b>-3.7</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>41.6</b>	<b>-3.9</b>
<b>SERVICES PROVIDING</b>	<b>1,016.6</b>	<b>1,023.2</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>1,014.9</b>	<b>1,018.7</b>	<b>-0.4</b>
<b>Trade, Transportation, and Utilities</b>	<b>241.8</b>	<b>246.2</b>	<b>-1.8</b>	<b>241.4</b>	<b>245.5</b>	<b>-1.7</b>
<b>Wholesale Trade</b>	<b>45.1</b>	<b>48.0</b>	<b>-5.9</b>	<b>45.6</b>	<b>47.8</b>	<b>-4.5</b>
<b>Retail Trade</b>	<b>146.2</b>	<b>147.2</b>	<b>-0.7</b>	<b>145.7</b>	<b>146.7</b>	<b>-0.7</b>
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	18.5	19.0	-2.2	18.4	18.8	-1.9
Food and Beverage Stores	24.6	24.5	0.5	24.5	24.3	0.9
General Merchandise Stores	28.8	28.1	2.5	28.6	27.8	2.8
<b>Transportation and Utilities</b>	<b>50.0</b>	<b>51.1</b>	<b>-2.2</b>	<b>50.1</b>	<b>51.0</b>	<b>-1.7</b>
Utilities	4.0	4.2	-3.3	4.0	4.1	-2.4
Transportation & Warehousing	45.9	46.9	-2.1	46.1	46.9	-1.7
Air Transportation	6.6	7.1	-7.5	6.6	7.1	-6.4
Truck Transportation	18.9	19.0	-0.6	18.9	18.9	-0.4
<b>Information</b>	<b>29.2</b>	<b>30.6</b>	<b>-4.6</b>	<b>29.3</b>	<b>30.5</b>	<b>-3.8</b>
Publishing Industries	9.7	10.0	-2.8	9.7	10.0	-2.4
Motion Picture and Sound Recording	3.6	4.2	-15.5	3.6	4.2	-15.6
Telecommunications	5.1	5.1	0.6	5.1	5.0	2.4
Internet Service Providers	5.6	5.2	6.5	5.5	5.2	6.1
<b>Financial Activities</b>	<b>72.6</b>	<b>74.6</b>	<b>-2.6</b>	<b>72.8</b>	<b>74.8</b>	<b>-2.7</b>
Finance and Insurance	55.5	56.3	-1.3	55.6	56.5	-1.6
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	17.1	18.3	-6.6	17.3	18.4	-6.0
<b>Professional and Business Services</b>	<b>157.7</b>	<b>160.6</b>	<b>-1.8</b>	<b>157.9</b>	<b>159.8</b>	<b>-1.2</b>
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	68.1	67.8	0.5	68.2	67.5	1.1
Architectural, Engineering, and Related	13.7	13.2	3.5	13.6	13.1	3.4
Computer Systems Design and Related	16.2	15.7	3.3	16.3	15.5	4.7
Management of Companies and Enterprises	20.6	20.5	0.5	20.5	20.3	0.7
Administration & Support						
& Waste Management & Remediation	69.0	72.3	-4.5	69.2	72.0	-3.8
Employment Services	19.5	21.7	-10.3	19.5	21.9	-11.1
Business Support Services	16.2	17.4	-6.5	16.4	17.8	-8.2
<b>Education and Health Services</b>	<b>150.4</b>	<b>146.7</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>150.2</b>	<b>146.3</b>	<b>2.7</b>
Educational Services	34.4	33.8	1.8	34.2	33.6	2.0
Health Services and Social Assistance	116.1	113.0	2.7	116.0	112.7	2.9
Ambulatory Health Care Services	47.0	45.1	4.2	47.2	45.0	4.9
Hospitals	31.1	30.8	1.1	30.9	30.6	0.8
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	21.6	21.1	2.4	21.6	21.0	2.8
Social Assistance	16.3	16.0	2.0	16.3	16.1	1.3
<b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>	<b>111.3</b>	<b>116.3</b>	<b>-4.3</b>	<b>110.2</b>	<b>114.9</b>	<b>-4.0</b>
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	17.9	18.2	-1.6	17.6	18.0	-1.7
Accommodation and Food Services	93.4	98.1	-4.8	92.6	96.9	-4.4
Accommodation	19.0	20.2	-5.9	18.8	19.9	-5.7
Food Services and Drinking Places	74.4	77.9	-4.5	73.8	77.0	-4.1
<b>Other Services</b>	<b>34.2</b>	<b>35.2</b>	<b>-2.9</b>	<b>34.1</b>	<b>35.0</b>	<b>-2.5</b>
<b>Government</b>	<b>219.9</b>	<b>213.0</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>218.8</b>	<b>212.0</b>	<b>3.2</b>
<b>Federal Government</b>	<b>35.4</b>	<b>35.3</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>35.0</b>	<b>34.9</b>	<b>0.1</b>
Federal Defense	15.8	15.8	0.1	15.8	15.7	0.4
Other Federal Government	19.5	19.5	0.3	19.2	19.2	-0.1
<b>State Government</b>	<b>67.3</b>	<b>65.4</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>67.1</b>	<b>65.3</b>	<b>2.8</b>
State Schools	38.1	37.0	2.9	37.9	36.9	2.9
Other State Government	29.2	28.4	2.8	29.1	28.4	2.7
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>117.2</b>	<b>112.3</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>116.8</b>	<b>111.9</b>	<b>4.4</b>
Local Education	68.8	65.8	4.5	68.7	65.6	4.7
Other Local Government	48.4	46.5	4.1	48.1	46.3	4.0

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics p = preliminary r = revised April 16, 2009

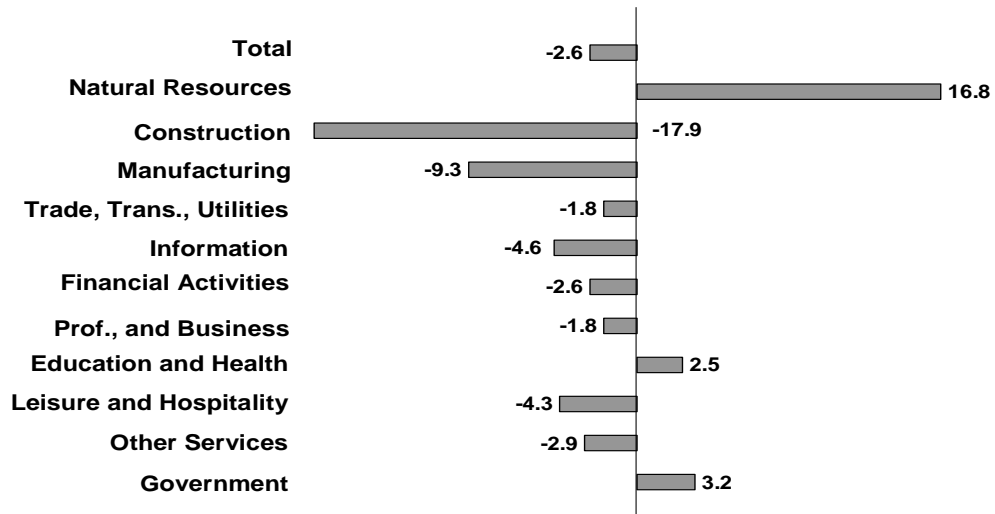
## Year-Over Percent Change in Nonfarm Jobs



## Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

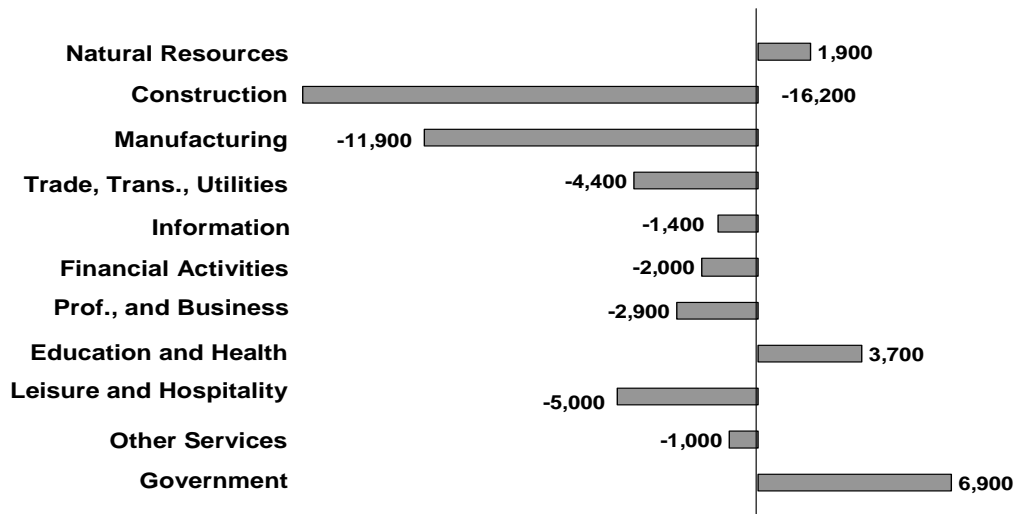


## Utah Nonfarm Industry Profile (Percent Change) March 2008 – 2009



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics; Utah Department of Workforce Services

## Utah Nonfarm Industry Profile (Numeric Change) March 2008 – 2009



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics; Utah Department of Workforce Services

## NONFARM EMPLOYMENT IN UTAH'S COUNTIES

	March 2009(p)	March 2008	Percent Change	February 2009(r)	January 2009(r)
<b>State Total</b>	1,220,262	1,253,094	-2.6	1,221,606	1,224,703
<b>Bear River</b>	70,226	72,521	-3.2	69,865	70,341
Box Elder	19,998	20,786	-3.8	19,548	19,422
Cache	49,600	51,106	-2.9	49,700	50,300
Rich	628	629	-0.1	616	619
<b>Wasatch Front</b>	794,240	817,179	-2.8	796,121	798,794
<b>North</b>	195,315	200,639	-2.7	194,454	194,337
Davis	99,946	102,158	-2.2	99,524	99,629
Morgan	1,817	1,853	-1.9	1,822	1,816
Weber	93,552	96,628	-3.2	93,108	92,892
<b>South</b>	598,925	616,540	-2.9	601,667	604,457
Salt Lake	583,593	601,212	-2.9	586,443	589,352
Tooele	15,332	15,328	0.0	15,224	15,105
<b>Mountainland</b>	210,396	218,029	-3.5	211,769	212,656
Summit	25,485	25,814	-1.3	26,126	25,986
Utah	179,096	185,724	-3.6	179,799	180,828
Wasatch	5,815	6,491	-10.4	5,844	5,843
<b>Central</b>	24,042	24,234	-0.8	23,799	23,670
Juab	3,308	3,292	0.5	3,243	3,204
Millard	3,991	3,939	1.3	3,924	3,908
Piute	337	334	0.9	342	335
Sanpete	7,533	7,669	-1.8	7,492	7,473
Sevier	7,856	8,011	-1.9	7,832	7,784
Wayne	1,017	989	2.8	965	967
<b>Southwestern</b>	73,566	76,341	-3.6	73,252	72,952
Beaver	2,125	2,048	3.8	2,074	2,042
Garfield	1,927	1,951	-1.3	1,865	1,826
Iron	16,636	17,073	-2.6	16,523	16,416
Kane	2,900	2,880	0.7	2,741	2,709
Washington	49,979	52,389	-4.6	50,049	49,960
<b>Uintah Basin</b>	25,285	22,818	10.8	25,130	24,944
Daggett	371	406	-8.6	356	342
Duchesne	9,077	8,021	13.2	9,064	9,012
Uintah	15,837	14,391	10.0	15,710	15,589
<b>Southeastern</b>	22,506	21,972	2.4	21,670	21,345
Carbon	10,389	9,437	10.1	10,329	10,260
Emery	3,523	3,866	-8.9	3,504	3,504
Grand	4,512	4,545	-0.7	3,887	3,697
San Juan	4,083	4,124	-1.0	3,951	3,883

p = preliminary r = revised but not final.

Note: Numbers have been left unrounded for convenience rather than to denote accuracy.

Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services, Workforce Information, 4/16/09