



State of Utah

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### UTAH'S EMPLOYMENT SUMMARY: OCTOBER 2009

Utah's nonfarm wage and salaried job count for October 2009, as generated by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), contracted by 3.3 percent, an improvement over September's revised 4.0 percent decline. Approximately 40,900 jobs have been removed from the Utah economy over the past year, lowering total wage and salary employment to 1,214,200.

Utah's other primary indicator of current labor market conditions also generated by BLS, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate, increased to 6.5 percent in October. Last October, the state's rate was 3.5 percent, a 3.0 percentage-point increase over the past 12 months. September's rate remained unchanged at 6.2 percent. Approximately 88,900 Utahns were considered unemployed in October 2009, compared against 48,300 last October, an increase of 40,600 unemployed workers. The United States unemployment rate climbed four-tenths to 10.2 percent for October.

Construction, manufacturing, trade and transportation, professional and business services, and leisure and hospitality remain the areas of most year-over job losses. Education, healthcare, and government remain the lone areas of job gains.

Construction still shows the most year-over losses of 14,100. Indications are that the job losses in the residential are bottoming out, but that nonresidential job losses will continue to add their negative influence across the next year.

Year-over job losses are still substantial in the professional and business services category, but there are some encouraging signs within. Temporary help employment seems to have bottomed out and turned a corner, with tepid job gains now being recorded, and more anecdotally, job orders on the rise.

Trade employment is beginning its normal late season rise, as retailers prepare for the upcoming holiday season. Last season was lethargic for Utah retailers, dealing not only with a falling economy, but also enhanced psychological uncertainty. This year, the economy remains weak, but the psychological uncertainty seems to be gone. The rise in the October retail numbers may suggest as such.

Although most other industries remain with job losses, their losses are tempering. Not so with leisure and hospitality. Its loss percentage continues to increase. A strong start to Utah's ski season would be a welcome boost for this industry.

#### Utah Labor Market Indicators

##### October 2009

**Employment % Change: -3.3%**  
**Employment # Change: -40,900**  
**Unemployment Rate: 6.5%**

##### United States

**Employment Change: -4.2%**  
**Unemployment Rate: 10.2%**

The rise in the unemployment rate was the big story on the national profile, with the rate rising above the psychological barrier of 10 percent. The U.S. rate took a sharp four-tenths of a percent increase for the month. State rates are influenced by the movement in the national rate, so Utah's three-tenths unemployment rate rise was expected.

Utah's unemployment rate stands 3.7 percentage points below the national average. This gap is historically wide, as the Utah rate generally does not diverge this far from the national rate. For example, the most recent low point for Utah's unemployment rate was February 2007, with a rate of 2.4 percent. The U.S. rate then stood at 4.5 percent, the difference being 2.1 percentage points. That difference was understandable given Utah's much higher rate of employment growth at that time in relation to the national average. But Utah's recent employment losses mirror the national losses on a percentage basis in both depth and duration, so the gap between the Utah and U.S. unemployment rates that has increased since the middle of 2008 presents itself as somewhat of an anomaly. Because of this sizable gap, it is anticipated that upcoming revisions to Utah's 2009 unemployment rates, scheduled for early next year, should raise Utah's unemployment rate and somewhat narrow this gap. Even with these anticipated revisions, Utah's unemployment rates should still be lower than the national average, probably by several percentage points.

One factor as a partial explanation of this remaining gap is a falling employment-to-population ratio in Utah. As of January 2008 (just as Utah and the nation were entering into this economic downturn), 69.1 percent of Utah's 16-year-and-older population was active in the labor force (that was higher than the national average). Yet as the economic downturn progressed and deepened, that percentage has deteriorated to 63.6 percent—a 5.5 percentage-point decline in the labor force participation rate. In other words, people are falling out of active participation in the labor force, and now lower than the national average. Across the same time period, the United States' participation rate has fallen by only 1.0 percentage point (66.1 to 65.1).

Utah, with its much younger labor force, probably has more flexibility in terms of being able to absorb a larger portion of its labor force-age population becoming inactive. Returning to school, or leaning upon other family resources are possibilities. Utah's younger workforce may not carry the same proportional weight of responsibilities as the nation's baby boomer-dominated labor force—a cohort that may be faced with mortgage, car, and college-fund payments that force them to remain active in the labor force (i.e., looking for work).

**\* Utah's November employment information will be released at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 17, 2009.**

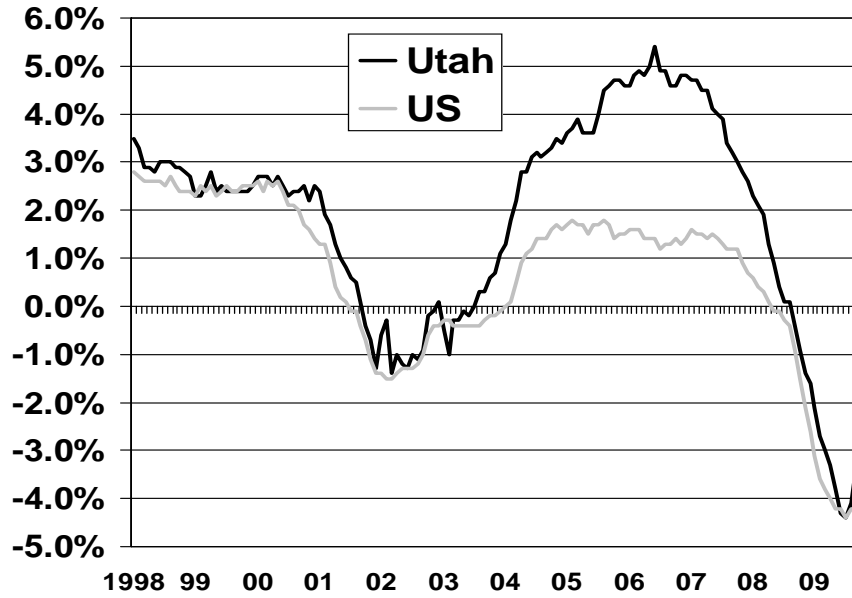
**\* County unemployment rates for October will be posted by November 30 at <http://jobs.utah.gov/opencms/wi/pubs/une/season.pdf>**

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

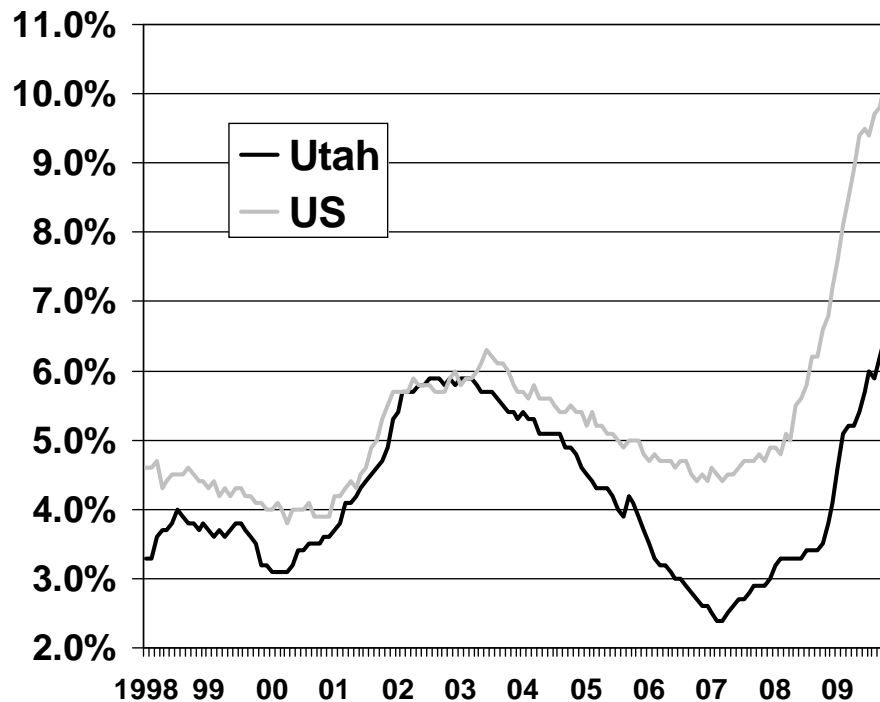
Numbers are in thousands	Oct.(p) 2009	Oct. 2008	Percentage Change	Sept.(r) 2009	Sept. 2008	Percentage Change
<b>CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE (seasonally-adjusted)</b>	<b>1,361.3</b>	<b>1,388.3</b>	<b>-1.9</b>	<b>1,365.5</b>	<b>1,385.5</b>	<b>-1.4</b>
Employed	1,272.4	1,340.0	-5.0	1,281.1	1,338.8	-4.3
Unemployed	88.9	48.3	84.1	84.4	46.7	80.7
Unemployment Rate	6.5	3.5		6.2	3.4	
<b>NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT (Thousands)</b>	<b>1,214.2</b>	<b>1,255.1</b>	<b>-3.3</b>	<b>1,211.1</b>	<b>1,261.5</b>	<b>-4.0</b>
Not seasonally-adjusted						
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>201.2</b>	<b>226.7</b>	<b>-11.3</b>	<b>203.1</b>	<b>230.5</b>	<b>-11.9</b>
<b>Natural Resources, and Mining</b>	<b>13.4</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>-0.2</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>75.2</b>	<b>89.3</b>	<b>-15.8</b>	<b>75.9</b>	<b>92.2</b>	<b>-17.7</b>
Construction of Buildings	14.7	17.6	-16.6	15.1	18.1	-16.4
Heavy and Civil Engineering	10.4	10.5	-1.3	10.4	11.0	
Specialty Trade Contractors	50.3	61.2	-17.9	50.3	63.1	-20.3
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>112.5</b>	<b>123.9</b>	<b>-9.2</b>	<b>113.8</b>	<b>124.8</b>	<b>-8.9</b>
<b>Durable Goods</b>	<b>72.9</b>	<b>82.5</b>	<b>-11.7</b>	<b>74.0</b>	<b>83.5</b>	<b>-11.3</b>
Primary and Fabricated Metals	16.0	16.3	-1.9	16.1	16.5	-2.3
Computer and Electronic Products	13.0	13.4	-2.7	13.0	13.3	-2.2
Transportation and Equipment Manufacturing	13.0	14.0	-7.0	13.1	14.1	-7.2
<b>Non-Durable Goods</b>	<b>39.7</b>	<b>41.4</b>	<b>-4.2</b>	<b>39.7</b>	<b>41.4</b>	<b>-3.9</b>
<b>SERVICES PROVIDING</b>	<b>1,013.1</b>	<b>1,028.4</b>	<b>-1.5</b>	<b>1,008.0</b>	<b>1,031.0</b>	<b>-2.2</b>
<b>Trade, Transportation, and Utilities</b>	<b>239.1</b>	<b>247.5</b>	<b>-3.4</b>	<b>236.7</b>	<b>247.9</b>	<b>-4.5</b>
<b>Wholesale Trade</b>	<b>43.7</b>	<b>48.2</b>	<b>-9.2</b>	<b>43.7</b>	<b>48.5</b>	<b>-9.9</b>
<b>Retail Trade</b>	<b>146.0</b>	<b>148.3</b>	<b>-1.5</b>	<b>144.1</b>	<b>148.4</b>	<b>-2.9</b>
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	17.8	18.1	-2.1	18.0	18.8	-4.0
Food and Beverage Stores	24.5	24.6	-0.4	24.5	24.6	-0.6
General Merchandise Stores	28.6	29.0	-1.4	28.6	28.6	-0.2
<b>Transportation and Utilities</b>	<b>48.8</b>	<b>51.1</b>	<b>-4.5</b>	<b>49.0</b>	<b>51.1</b>	<b>-4.2</b>
Utilities	4.0	4.2	-2.7	4.0	4.1	-2.3
Transportation & Warehousing	45.1	46.9	-4.0	44.9	47.0	-4.4
Air Transportation	6.2	6.7	-7.5	6.2	6.8	-8.9
Truck Transportation	18.9	19.8	-4.6	18.9	19.7	-4.0
<b>Information</b>	<b>31.0</b>	<b>30.4</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>30.3</b>	<b>30.7</b>	<b>-1.3</b>
Publishing Industries	9.5	9.8	-3.5	9.4	9.8	-3.9
Motion Picture and Sound Recording	4.2	3.8	8.9	4.1	4.1	0.9
Telecommunications	5.1	5.3	-4.2	5.1	5.3	-3.6
Internet Service Providers	6.0	5.4	10.3	6.0	5.5	9.2
<b>Financial Activities</b>	<b>71.4</b>	<b>73.3</b>	<b>-2.6</b>	<b>70.4</b>	<b>73.5</b>	<b>-4.2</b>
Finance and Insurance	54.8	55.6	-1.4	54.6	55.6	-1.9
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	16.8	17.7	-5.2	15.8	17.8	-11.2
<b>Professional and Business Services</b>	<b>154.8</b>	<b>162.6</b>	<b>-4.8</b>	<b>153.9</b>	<b>164.5</b>	<b>-6.5</b>
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	67.4	68.5	-1.6	66.9	68.6	-2.5
Architectural, Engineering, and Related	13.7	13.8	-0.9	13.8	14.0	-1.5
Computer Systems Design and Related	16.0	16.0	-0.1	16.0	16.0	0.1
Management of Companies and Enterprises	20.4	20.5	-0.5	20.4	20.6	-0.7
Administration & Support						
& Waste Management & Remediation	66.9	73.6	-9.0	66.5	75.4	-11.7
Employment Services	18.2	21.9	-16.8	18.0	22.2	-18.9
Business Support Services	15.9	16.3	-2.4	15.6	16.5	-5.1
<b>Education and Health Services</b>	<b>156.5</b>	<b>150.5</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>154.4</b>	<b>148.9</b>	<b>3.7</b>
Educational Services	35.3	34.2	3.2	34.9	33.5	4.1
Health Services and Social Assistance	121.2	116.3	4.3	119.5	115.4	3.6
Ambulatory Health Care Services	50.0	47.2	5.9	49.9	46.7	6.9
Hospitals	31.4	31.2	0.9	31.1	30.9	0.7
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	22.2	21.5	3.3	22.2	21.5	2.8
Social Assistance	16.5	16.4	0.8	16.3	16.2	0.7
<b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>	<b>106.8</b>	<b>112.1</b>	<b>-4.7</b>	<b>110.6</b>	<b>114.9</b>	<b>-3.7</b>
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	15.7	16.2	-3.3	16.7	17.1	-2.2
Accommodation and Food Services	91.1	95.8	-4.9	93.9	97.8	-4.0
Accommodation	17.8	18.0	-1.5	18.6	18.9	-1.9
Food Services and Drinking Places	75.3	77.8	-3.2	75.3	78.8	-4.4
<b>Other Services</b>	<b>33.8</b>	<b>35.1</b>	<b>-3.7</b>	<b>33.8</b>	<b>35.9</b>	<b>-5.9</b>
<b>Government</b>	<b>220.3</b>	<b>216.9</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>217.9</b>	<b>214.8</b>	<b>1.5</b>
<b>Federal Government</b>	<b>35.8</b>	<b>35.1</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>36.5</b>	<b>35.3</b>	<b>3.3</b>
Federal Defense	15.8	15.6	1.1	15.8	15.6	1.8
Other Federal Government	20.1	19.5	2.7	20.6	19.8	4.5
<b>State Government</b>	<b>66.2</b>	<b>66.2</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>64.9</b>	<b>65.5</b>	<b>-1.0</b>
State Schools	37.4	37.2	0.4	36.6	36.6	-0.2
Other State Government	28.8	28.9	-0.6	28.3	28.9	-1.9
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>118.3</b>	<b>115.6</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>116.5</b>	<b>113.9</b>	<b>2.3</b>
Local Education	67.6	66.1	2.2	65.1	63.8	2.1
Other Local Government	50.7	49.5	2.5	51.4	50.1	2.6

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics p = preliminary r = revised November 19, 2009

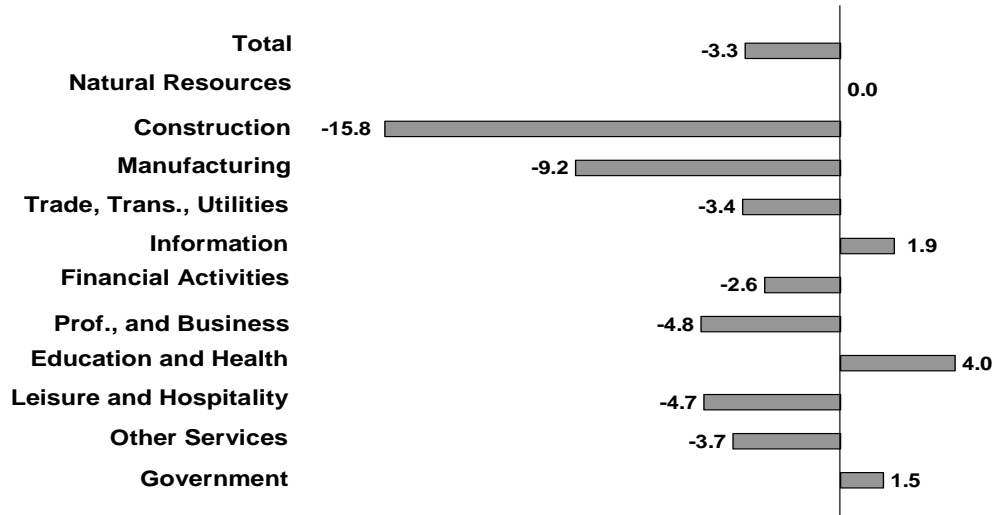
## Year-Over Percent Change in Nonfarm Jobs



## Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

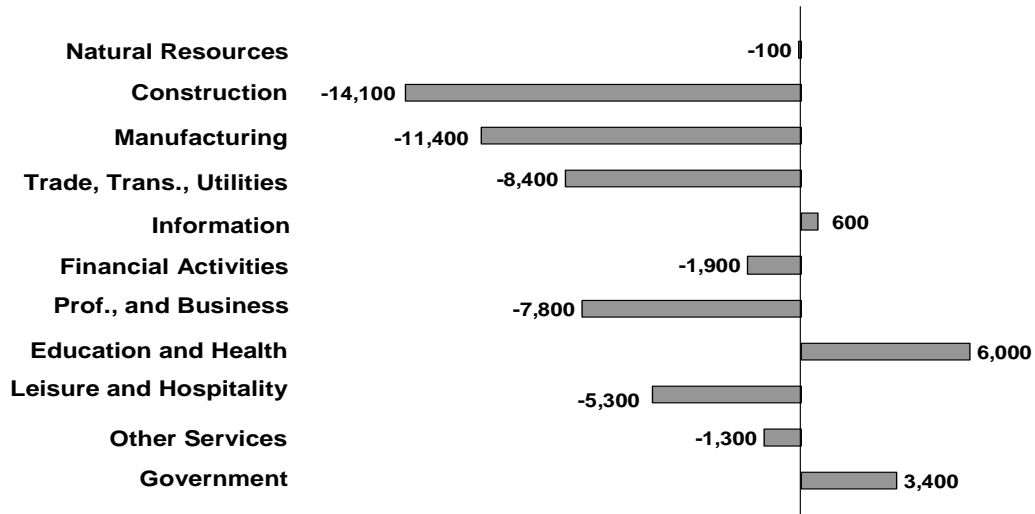


## Utah Nonfarm Industry Profile (Percent Change) October 2008 – 2009



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

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



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

## NONFARM EMPLOYMENT IN UTAH'S COUNTIES

	October(f) 2009(p)	October 2008	Percent Change	Sept.(f) 2009(r)	Aug.(f) 2009(r)
<b>Bear River</b>	68,014	72,391	-6.0	68,294	65,471
Box Elder	18,078	20,208	-10.5	18,493	18,047
Cache	49,270	51,461	-4.3	48,975	46,500
Rich	666	722	-7.8	826	925
<b>Wasatch Front</b>	789,816	820,209	-3.7	787,784	786,855
<b>North</b>	192,577	201,059	-4.2	192,705	193,117
Davis	100,460	103,578	-3.0	100,374	100,803
Morgan	1,819	1,890	-3.7	1,839	1,819
Weber	90,298	95,591	-5.5	90,492	90,496
<b>South</b>	597,239	619,150	-3.5	595,079	593,738
Salt Lake	582,010	603,623	-3.6	579,770	578,486
Tooele	15,228	15,527	-1.9	15,309	15,252
<b>Mountainland</b>	204,001	213,604	-4.5	204,239	197,921
Summit	18,359	20,455	-10.2	18,734	19,086
Utah	179,811	186,561	-3.6	179,514	173,167
Wasatch	5,831	6,588	-11.5	5,991	5,668
<b>Central</b>	23,816	25,018	-4.8	23,943	23,320
Juab	3,392	3,406	-0.4	3,401	3,412
Millard	3,854	4,000	-3.7	3,892	3,914
Piute	344	371	-7.2	354	319
Sanpete	7,420	7,919	-6.3	7,369	6,718
Sevier	7,704	8,179	-5.8	7,789	7,799
Wayne	1,103	1,143	-3.5	1,138	1,157
<b>Southwestern</b>	71,788	75,868	-5.4	72,411	71,006
Beaver	2,195	2,125	3.3	2,258	2,161
Garfield	2,431	2,599	-6.4	2,662	2,725
Iron	15,463	16,913	-8.6	15,432	14,160
Kane	3,045	3,226	-5.6	3,265	3,322
Washington	48,654	51,005	-4.6	48,794	48,638
<b>Uintah Basin</b>	21,961	25,260	-13.1	21,894	21,507
Daggett	436	425	2.5	482	490
Duchesne	7,909	8,745	-9.6	7,815	7,787
Uintah	13,616	16,090	-15.4	13,598	13,229
<b>Southeastern</b>	22,340	22,902	-2.5	22,500	22,347
Carbon	10,110	10,161	-0.5	9,923	9,645
Emery	3,331	3,585	-7.1	3,405	3,405
Grand	4,643	4,811	-3.5	4,871	5,053
San Juan	4,256	4,345	-2.1	4,301	4,245

f = forecast

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

Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services, Workforce Information, 11/19/09