



State of Utah

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# DWS News

For Immediate Release

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## **UTAH'S EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: May 2009**

**Salt Lake City** – Utah's nonfarm wage and salaried job count for May 2009, as generated by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), contracted by 3.3 percent. Approximately 41,800 jobs have been removed from the Utah economy over the past year, lowering total wage and salary employment to 1,214,900.

Utah's other primary indicator of current labor market conditions, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate, rose slightly to 5.4 percent in May. Last May, the state's rate was 3.3 percent, a 2.1 percentage-point increase over the past 12 months. Approximately 74,800 Utahns were considered unemployed in May 2009, compared against 45,400 last May, an increase of 29,400 unemployed workers. The United States unemployment rate continued to rise, reaching 9.4 percent for May.

An in-depth analysis of the monthly report is available on the DWS Website, [jobs.utah.gov](http://jobs.utah.gov). For more information, contact the department's Chief Economist, Mark Knold at 801-526-9458.

**###DWS###**