



State of Utah

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UTAH'S EMPLOYMENT SUMMARY: SEPTEMBER 2009

Utah's nonfarm wage and salaried job count for September 2009, as generated by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), contracted by 4.1 percent, an improvement over August's 4.5-percent decline. Approximately 51,500 jobs have been removed from the Utah economy over the past year, lowering total wage and salary employment to 1,210,100.

Utah's other primary indicator of current labor market conditions also generated by BLS, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate, increased to 6.2 percent in September. Last September, the state's rate was 3.4 percent, a 2.8-percentage-point increase over the past 12 months. Approximately 84,300 Utahns were considered unemployed in September 2009, compared against 46,700 last September—an increase of 37,600 unemployed workers. The United States unemployment rate climbed one-tenth of a percent to 9.8 percent for September.

The economy moves through phases that, combined, define a business cycle. There are periods of growth, followed by eventual periods of contraction. A business cycle is the full movement through these periods—from a high to a low and then back to a high. The most recent employment high point in Utah was June 2006, with year-over-year employment growth hitting 5.4 percent. Since then, the employment growth rate has trended downward. On a year-over-year basis, Utah has been posting job losses since July of 2008. The question has been where is the bottom of this slide? The current month's employment estimates suggest the bottom was last month—August 2009. Employment losses last month measured -4.5 percent. The year-over losses for September are at -4.1 percent. Utah is still losing jobs, but at a slower rate. This suggests that the Utah economy has just passed through an inflection point within the business cycle—that the low point has been reached and the trend forward will now be back up.

This is not a stand-alone occurrence for Utah, as the United States' employment numbers have also turned a corner. The nation's August job losses were at -4.4 percent. September's reading came in at -4.2 percent.

Most industries are still showing job losses and will continue to do so into early 2010. Although the economy appears to have turned a corner, the road to recovery will be slow and filled with occasional setbacks. Yet the worst of the job losses in Utah appear behind us, and the job hiring picture should ever-so-slowly start to show signs of revival.

Moving forward, the employment numbers will improve, but initially, most of the improvement will just be from the benefit of time. It was this time last year that the economy took its sharp downturn. If that sharp downturn is not repeated again in the next two months (and that is not

Utah Labor Market Indicators

September 2009

Employment % Change: -4.1%
Employment # Change: -51,500
Unemployment Rate: 6.2%

United States

Employment Change: -4.2%
Unemployment Rate: 9.8%

anticipated), then the year-over comparison of employment numbers is destined to improve. So, stabilization within the economy will be the initial reason for the improved employment calculations, but it is anticipated that job gains themselves will start to add to the improving picture sometime in the first half of 2010.

Construction, manufacturing, trade and transportation, and professional and business services remain the areas of largest job loss. Education and health services, and government remain the lone industries with job gains.

With the employment calculation improving this month, several individual industries are beginning to reverse their recent employment slides. These improvements are noted in manufacturing, trade and transportation, and professional and business services. Yes, these are still the industries with the most job losses over the past year, but the summation of the job losses is less this month than calculated last month.

It is anticipated that in the coming months, other industries will also start to improve their employment counts. One with potential is leisure and hospitality. Last year's national economic collapse hit just as Utah's ski season was approaching. The worst of the recession and the sharpest period of economic uncertainty occurred during the ski season. This froze many potential skiing tourists in place, and therefore the Utah ski season was not what it otherwise could have been. This year there are more answers and transparency surrounding the economy, even though the economic times are still sluggish. But with a clearer national understanding of the economy in conjunction with signs that the economy is improving, an improved Utah ski and tourism season is expected this winter which, in turn, should improve this industry's employment count.

Healthcare remains the strongest industry in this downturn. It is driven more by the needs of the local populace versus the national economic environment. With ongoing population growth in Utah, healthcare has been a consistent growth industry in the state. The current recession is slowing the industry's growth just a bit, but it is still an industry with employment opportunities and expansion.

Federal stimulus money is assumed to account for some of the government sector's employment gains. Federal government is showing a 3.3-percent employment increase in Utah over last September. Local governments, which are where most of the K-12 school employment activity is classified, show job gains of 2.3 percent. Utah's growing school-age population drives these employment gains, and federal stimulus money is helping cash-strapped states to keep up with their K-12 education demands. Only the Utah state government is showing employment contractions on the government employment ledger.

*** Utah's October employment information will be released at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, November 19, 2009.**

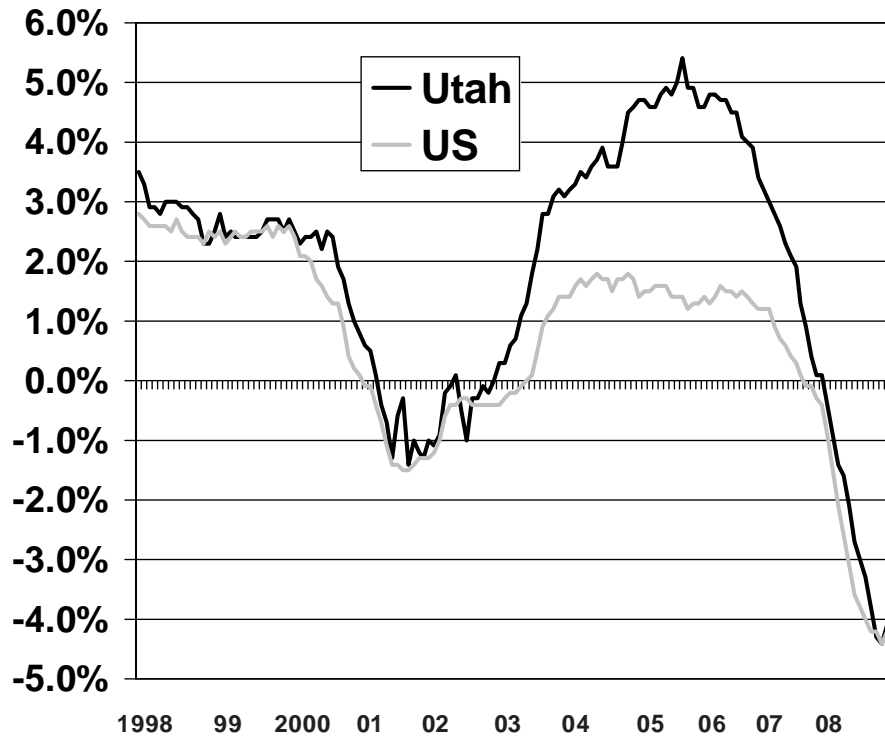
*** Utah's county unemployment rates for September will be posted by October 21 at <http://jobs.utah.gov/opencms/wi/pubs/une/season.pdf>**

Utah Nonagricultural Jobs by Industry and Components of the Labor Force

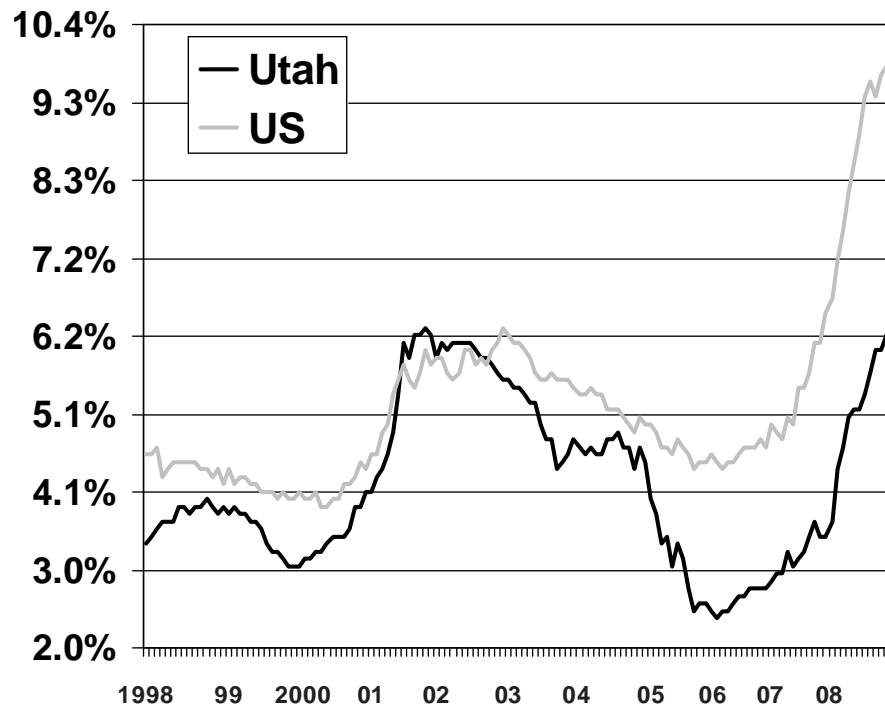
Numbers are in thousands	Sept.(p) 2009	Sept. 2008	Percentage Change	August(r) 2009	August 2008	Percentage Change
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE (seasonally-adjusted)	1,365.3	1,385.5	-1.5	1,369.6	1,385.2	-1.1
Employed	1,281.0	1,338.8	-4.3	1,287.1	1,337.6	-3.8
Unemployed	84.3	46.7	80.5	82.5	47.6	73.3
Unemployment Rate	6.2	3.4		6.0	3.4	
NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT (Thousands)	1,210.1	1,261.6	-4.1	1,195.4	1,252.0	-4.5
Not seasonally-adjusted						
GOODS PRODUCING	203.2	230.5	-11.9	203.5	233.0	-12.7
Natural Resources, and Mining	13.5	13.5	-0.2	13.4	13.3	0.9
Construction	75.8	92.2	-17.7	77.2	94.0	-17.9
Construction of Buildings	14.8	18.1	-18.1	15.2	18.7	-18.9
Heavy and Civil Engineering	10.5	11.0	-4.5	10.5	11.2	
Specialty Trade Contractors	50.0	63.1	-20.8	51.6	64.1	-19.6
Manufacturing	113.9	124.8	-8.8	112.8	125.6	-10.2
Durable Goods	74.1	83.5	-11.3	73.8	84.0	-12.2
Primary and Fabricated Metals	15.5	16.5	-6.0	16.1	16.6	-2.8
Computer and Electronic Products	12.8	13.3	-3.4	13.0	13.3	-2.0
Transportation and Equipment Manufacturing	12.8	14.1	-9.1	13.1	14.2	-7.6
Non-Durable Goods	39.8	41.4	-3.7	39.0	41.6	-6.2
SERVICES PROVIDING	1,006.9	1,031.0	-2.3	991.9	1,019.0	-2.7
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	237.6	247.9	-4.2	238.0	249.0	-4.4
Wholesale Trade	44.0	48.5	-9.3	45.2	48.5	-6.8
Retail Trade	144.3	148.4	-2.8	144.2	149.3	-3.4
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	16.4	18.8	-12.4	18.0	18.8	-4.4
Food and Beverage Stores	23.8	24.6	-3.3	24.5	24.6	-0.6
General Merchandise Stores	28.6	28.6	-0.2	28.5	28.8	-1.0
Transportation and Utilities	48.8	51.1	-4.5	48.6	51.2	-5.1
Utilities	4.1	4.1	0.5	4.0	4.2	-3.2
Transportation & Warehousing	44.8	47.0	-4.8	44.5	47.0	-5.2
Air Transportation	6.2	6.8	-9.0	6.2	6.9	-10.3
Truck Transportation	18.4	19.7	-6.7	18.8	19.7	-4.5
Information	29.4	30.7	-4.2	29.9	31.0	-3.6
Publishing Industries	9.3	9.8	-5.0	9.4	9.9	-4.7
Motion Picture and Sound Recording	3.9	4.1	-5.3	4.0	4.3	-5.6
Telecommunications	5.0	5.3	-5.1	5.1	5.3	-3.5
Internet Service Providers	6.0	5.5	9.7	6.0	5.5	8.0
Financial Activities	70.6	73.5	-4.0	71.7	74.1	-3.3
Finance and Insurance	54.3	55.6	-2.4	55.0	56.1	-1.9
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	16.4	17.8	-8.0	16.7	18.1	-7.7
Professional and Business Services	154.6	164.5	-6.0	153.1	165.8	-7.6
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	67.3	68.6	-1.9	66.6	68.9	-3.5
Architectural, Engineering, and Related	12.5	14.0	-10.4	13.9	14.1	-1.7
Computer Systems Design and Related	15.4	16.0	-3.6	15.9	15.9	-0.1
Management of Companies and Enterprises	20.5	20.6	-0.3	20.6	20.6	0.2
Administration & Support						
& Waste Management & Remediation	66.8	75.4	-11.3	66.0	76.3	-13.5
Employment Services	15.6	22.2	-29.9	17.7	22.2	-20.3
Business Support Services	15.2	16.5	-8.0	15.6	16.5	-5.8
Education and Health Services	153.2	148.9	2.9	148.1	143.4	3.3
Educational Services	33.7	33.5	0.5	29.3	28.5	3.0
Health Services and Social Assistance	119.4	115.4	3.5	118.7	114.9	3.3
Ambulatory Health Care Services	49.4	46.7	5.9	49.2	46.6	5.5
Hospitals	31.3	30.9	1.1	31.1	30.8	0.9
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	22.2	21.5	3.3	22.3	21.5	3.5
Social Assistance	16.4	16.2	1.1	16.2	15.9	1.5
Leisure and Hospitality	110.6	114.9	-3.7	113.0	117.6	-3.9
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	16.7	17.1	-2.4	18.1	18.3	-1.5
Accommodation and Food Services	93.9	97.8	-3.9	95.0	99.2	-4.3
Accommodation	17.7	18.9	-6.4	18.9	19.2	-1.7
Food Services and Drinking Places	76.7	78.8	-2.7	76.1	80.0	-4.9
Other Services	33.5	35.9	-6.5	35.0	37.2	-5.8
Government	217.9	214.8	1.5	203.0	201.0	1.0
Federal Government	36.5	35.3	3.3	35.9	35.7	0.6
Federal Defense	15.6	15.6	0.2	15.6	15.5	0.6
Other Federal Government	20.9	19.8	5.7	20.3	20.2	0.6
State Government	64.9	65.5	-1.0	61.8	61.8	0.0
State Schools	36.6	36.6	-0.2	33.5	33.2	0.8
Other State Government	28.3	28.9	-1.9	28.3	28.6	-1.0
Local Government	116.5	113.9	2.3	105.3	103.5	1.8
Local Education	65.3	63.8	2.3	54.5	52.7	3.3
Other Local Government	51.3	50.1	2.3	50.8	50.8	0.1

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics p = preliminary r = revised October 15, 2009

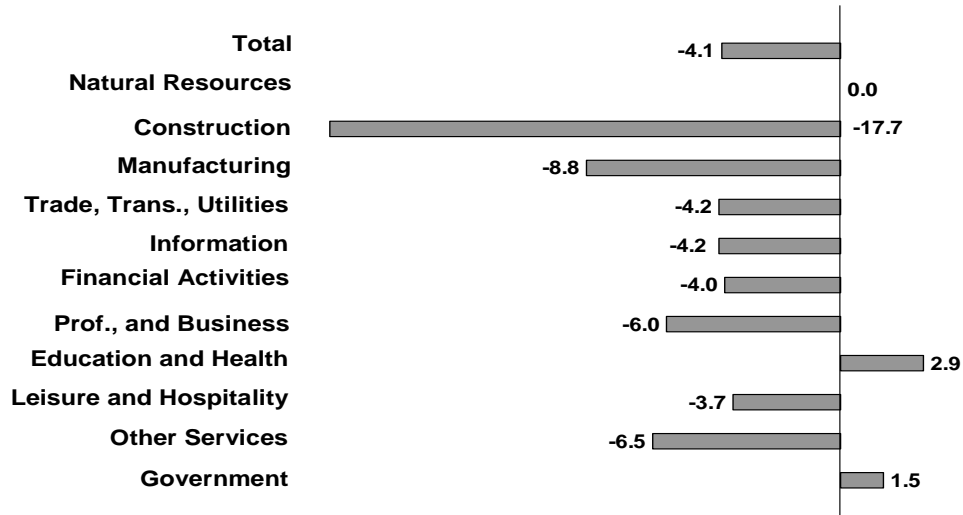
Year-Over Percent Change in Nonfarm Jobs



Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates



Utah Nonfarm Industry Profile (Percent Change) September 2008 – 2009



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Utah Nonfarm Industry Profile (Numeric Change) September 2008 – 2009



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT IN UTAH'S COUNTIES

	September(f) 2009(p)	September 2008	Percent Change	August(f) 2009(r)	July(f) 2009(r)
Bear River	68,190	72,992	-6.6	65,471	64,824
Box Elder	18,465	20,678	-10.7	18,047	18,214
Cache	48,900	51,418	-4.9	46,500	45,700
Rich	825	896	-7.9	925	909
Wasatch Front	788,234	823,200	-4.2	786,855	784,983
North	192,940	201,827	-4.4	193,117	193,164
Davis	100,612	103,907	-3.2	100,803	100,640
Morgan	1,836	1,911	-3.9	1,819	1,801
Weber	90,492	96,009	-5.7	90,496	90,724
South	595,294	621,373	-4.2	593,738	591,819
Salt Lake	580,009	605,759	-4.3	578,486	576,615
Tooele	15,285	15,614	-2.1	15,252	15,205
Mountainland	204,108	215,310	-5.2	197,921	195,637
Summit	18,706	20,879	-10.4	19,086	19,030
Utah	179,420	187,660	-4.4	173,167	170,871
Wasatch	5,982	6,771	-11.7	5,668	5,736
Central	23,907	25,158	-5.0	23,320	23,120
Juab	3,396	3,416	-0.6	3,412	3,363
Millard	3,886	4,041	-3.8	3,914	3,889
Piute	354	382	-7.4	319	324
Sanpete	7,358	7,868	-6.5	6,718	6,591
Sevier	7,777	8,272	-6.0	7,799	7,766
Wayne	1,136	1,179	-3.6	1,157	1,188
Southwestern	72,300	76,674	-5.7	71,006	71,368
Beaver	2,255	2,187	3.1	2,161	2,182
Garfield	2,658	2,846	-6.6	2,725	2,686
Iron	15,408	16,884	-8.7	14,160	14,223
Kane	3,260	3,461	-5.8	3,322	3,317
Washington	48,719	51,296	-5.0	48,638	48,960
Uintah Basin	21,861	25,187	-13.2	21,507	21,162
Daggett	481	470	2.3	490	507
Duchesne	7,803	8,644	-9.7	7,787	7,752
Uintah	13,577	16,073	-15.5	13,229	12,903
Southeastern	22,465	23,083	-2.7	22,347	22,228
Carbon	9,908	9,976	-0.7	9,645	9,378
Emery	3,400	3,666	-7.3	3,405	3,589
Grand	4,864	5,049	-3.7	5,053	5,080
San Juan	4,294	4,392	-2.2	4,245	4,181

f = forecast

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

Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services, Workforce Information, 10/15/09