



Mt. Vernon-Anacortes MSA (Skagit County) Labor Area Summary Volume 2010, Number 6

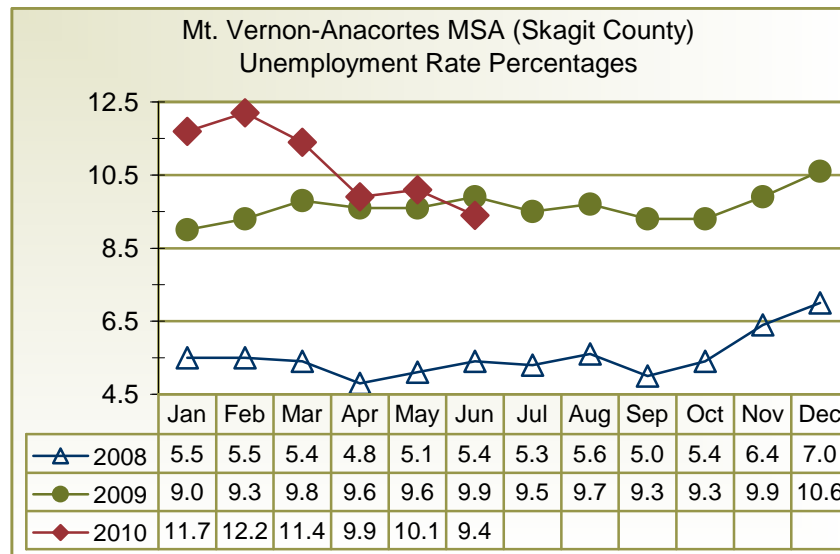


Jim Vleming, Regional Labor Economist
PO Box 9046, Olympia, WA 98507-9046
Voice: (360) 438-4821; FAX: (360) 438-4846
jvleming@esd.wa.gov, www.workforceexplorer.com

Summary

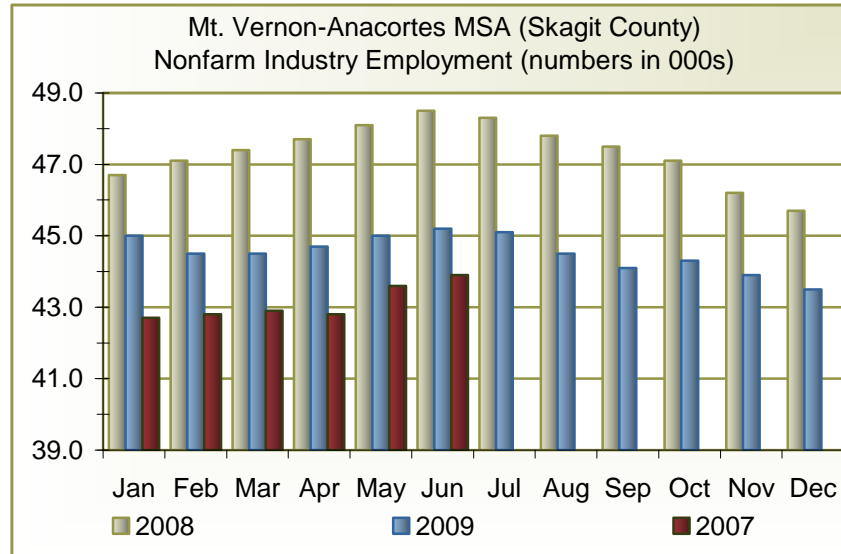
The June data showed improving labor market conditions in the Skagit County economy, as the unemployment rate continued to drop and nonfarm payrolls began to gain ground – even if the numbers were not what they were a year ago.

The June preliminary unemployment rate in the county was 9.4 percent down from 10.1 in May and down half a point from the 9.9 percent of June 2009. The June 2010 preliminary totals counted 5,460 county residents unemployed as 52,540 were on the job. In June 2009, there were 5,800 unemployed as 52,690 worked. The county rate was still above the statewide rate of 8.7 percent this June.



Nonfarm jobs in June totaled 43,900, up by 300 jobs from May, but still off 1,300 jobs from June 2009. The over-the-month figures saw goods-producing employment remaining constant as service-providing jobs were up by 300. There wasn't much movement in the detail. Total government employment dropped by 100, due largely to the Census 2010 project winding down, and federal government dropped by 200. Elsewhere, the leisure and hospitality sector added 100 jobs.

The over-the-year job loss of 1,300 represents a decline of 2.9 percent, which was quite a bit higher than the statewide loss of 0.6 percent this June. In the county, the service-providing side experienced a loss of 800 jobs as goods-producing slid downhill by 500. In goods, manufacturing cut 400 jobs and mining, logging and construction (the majority in construction) fell by 100. In service-providing, government (-200) and leisure and hospitality (-200) both posted losses, and the trade, transportation, warehousing and utilities sector also felt the axe fall to the tune of 100 jobs.



The economy is beginning to warm with the summer sun. The unemployment rate will continue to fall and nonfarm jobs should be helped by better weather and the summer travel season. Unfortunately, the fact remains that there is nothing quick about the road to recovery.

Summary Table

Labor Market Information for the Mount Vernon-Anacortes Metropolitan Statistical Area (Skagit County) Not Seasonally Adjusted/*Updated with ***QCEW Data: December 2009						
				Change		
	Prelim Jun-10	Revised May-10	Revised Jun-09	May-10 Jun-10	Jun-09 Jun-10	Jun-09 Jun-10 %
Employment by Place of Residence						
Civilian Labor Force	58,000	57,520	58,480	480	-480	-0.8%
Resident Employment	52,540	51,720	52,690	820	-150	-0.3%
Unemployment	5,460	5,800	5,800	-340	-340	-5.9%
Unemployment Rate	9.4	10.1	9.9	-0.7	-0.5	
Employment by Place of Work (**NAICS Industry Titles, numbers in thousands)						
Total Nonfarm 1/	43.9	43.6	45.2	0.3	-1.3	-2.9%
Total Private	33.0	32.6	34.1	0.4	-1.1	-3.2%
Goods Producing	7.6	7.6	8.1	0.0	-0.5	-6.2%
Mining, Logging, and Construction	2.9	2.9	3.0	0.0	-0.1	-3.3%
Manufacturing	4.7	4.7	5.1	0.0	-0.4	-7.8%
Service Providing	36.3	36.0	37.1	0.3	-0.8	-2.2%
Private Services Providing	25.4	25.0	26.0	0.4	-0.6	-2.3%
Trade, Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	9.2	9.2	9.3	0.0	-0.1	-1.1%
Retail Trade	6.8	6.8	6.8	0.0	0.0	0.0%
Leisure and Hospitality	4.5	4.4	4.7	0.1	-0.2	-4.3%
Government	10.9	11.0	11.1	-0.1	-0.2	-1.8%
Federal Government	0.5	0.7	0.5	-0.2	0.0	0.0%
State Government	1.6	1.5	1.6	0.1	0.0	0.0%
Local Government	8.8	8.8	9.0	0.0	-0.2	-2.2%
Workers in Labor/Management Disputes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<p>1/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of armed forces, and private household employees. 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 fourth quarter 2009) and estimates employment from that point to present.</p> <p>**North American Industry Classification System. ***QCEW = Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages</p>						