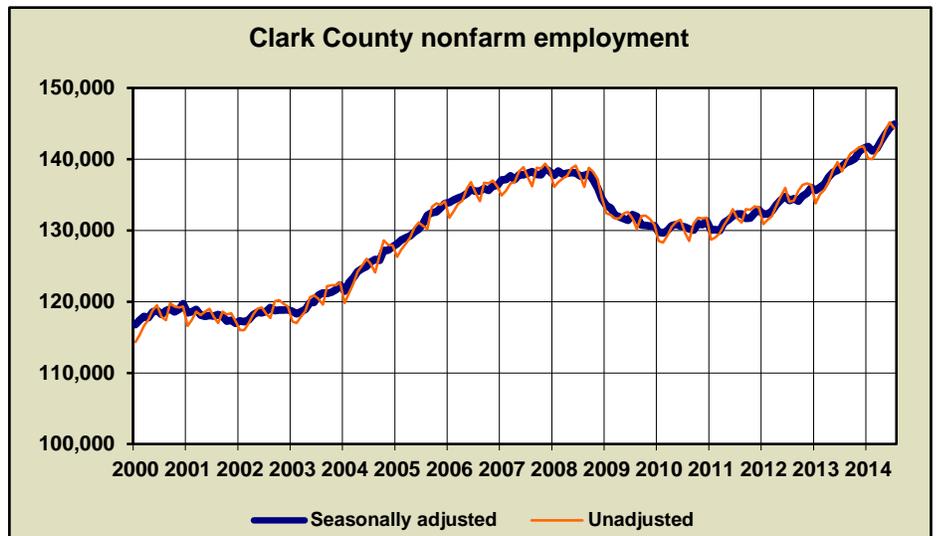


Clark County

Clark County nonfarm employment has been revised through the first quarter of 2014, and re-estimated for the months following March. Preliminary estimates turned out to be very accurate—June was revised by only -200 jobs, confirming the county's hot growth rate.

Preliminary estimates for July continue that trend, with seasonally-adjusted employment increasing by 400 jobs.

Unadjusted employment fell by 800 jobs during the month. Seasonal layoffs due to the end of the school year totaled 2,200 jobs. Construction rose by 300 jobs, manufacturing by 200, retail trade by 200, and financial services by 200.



Over the year:

- Job growth over the year was 6,100, or 4.4 percent. Comparison rates: U.S., 1.9 percent; state of Washington, 2.8 percent; state of Oregon, 2.4 percent, Portland Metro, 3.1 percent.
- The big three: trade, transportation & utilities (+1,500 jobs), professional & business services (+1,200 jobs), and construction (+1,100 jobs).
- Best revision: manufacturing from -100 over the year to +500 jobs.
- Every major sector was up over the year.

The preliminary June unemployment rate of 6.4 percent was revised upward by 0.6 points to 7.0 percent. The July preliminary rate of 6.3 percent will likely be revised upward as well by about the same amount.

Initial unemployment claims and continued unemployment claims continue to be at low levels.

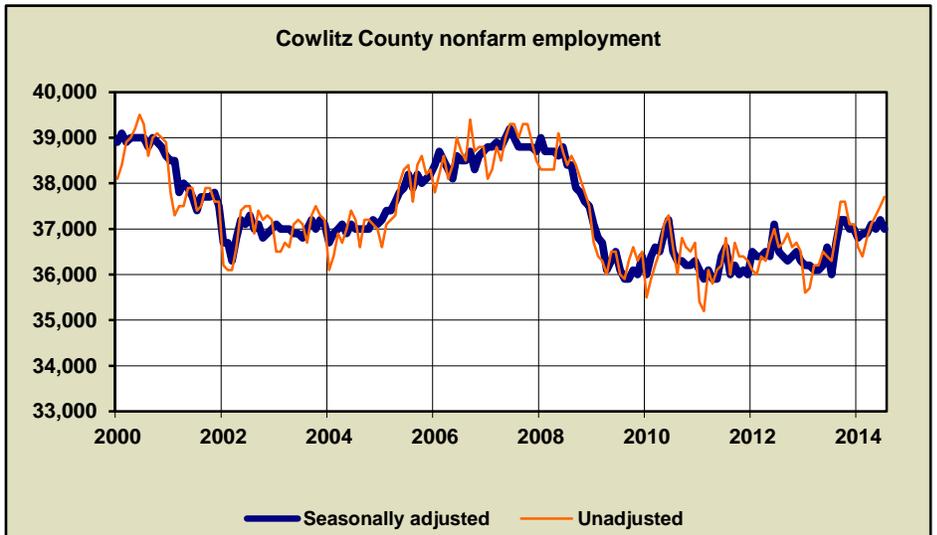
Cowlitz County

Cowlitz County nonfarm employment was revised for the first quarter of the year, with little change to the preliminary estimates.

According to the latest estimates prepared by the federal government, employment rose by 200 jobs in July to 37,700. Manufacturing was up 200, while construction and leisure & hospitality each added 100 jobs. Meanwhile local government shed 200 jobs, due to summer layoffs at school districts.

Over the year, employment rose by 1,600 jobs, including 300 each in four major sectors: construction, manufacturing, trade, transportation & utilities, and leisure & hospitality.

The county unemployment rate was estimated at 7.0 percent, little changed from June but a drop of three points from last July. The decline is mostly good news (more people with jobs) and still a bit of negative trend as well (a decline in the labor force). The number of unemployment claims filed by county residents continued to drop. Both initial and continued claims are at very low levels.



Wahkiakum County

Wahkiakum County nonfarm employment was revised upward a bit in the first quarter. July employment was estimated at 770 jobs, 40 more than a year earlier. County employment appears to be slowly climbing out of the hole dating back to late 2012.

The official unemployment rate was 7.4 percent, the same as in June and two and a half points lower than last July. Both initial and continued unemployment claims have trended slightly downward over the year. Only 21 county residents filed a continued claim in July.

