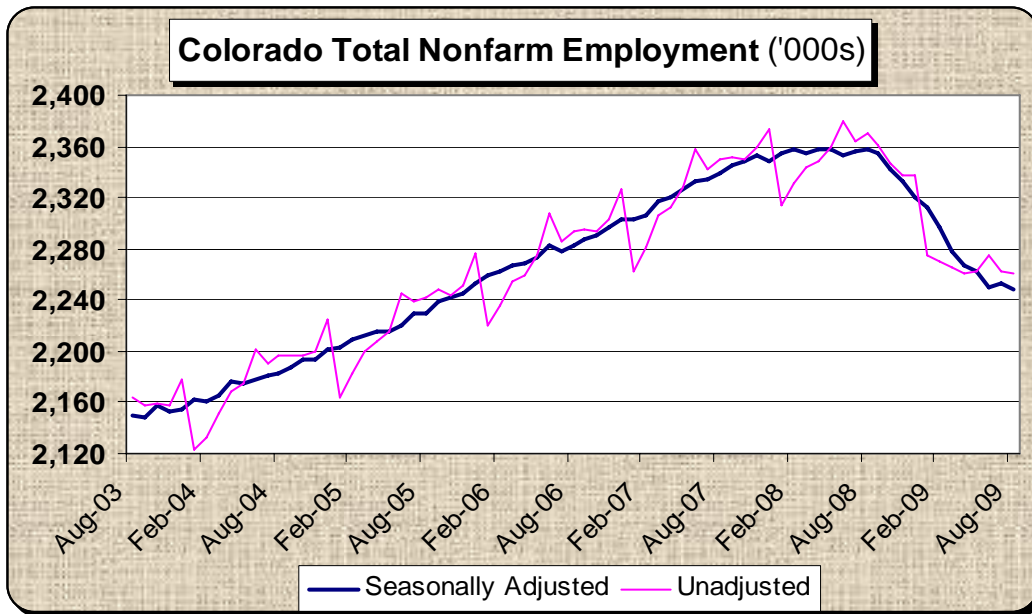


Colorado Preliminary Estimates By: Chris Akers

Total Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment: - 5,300 (0.2%)

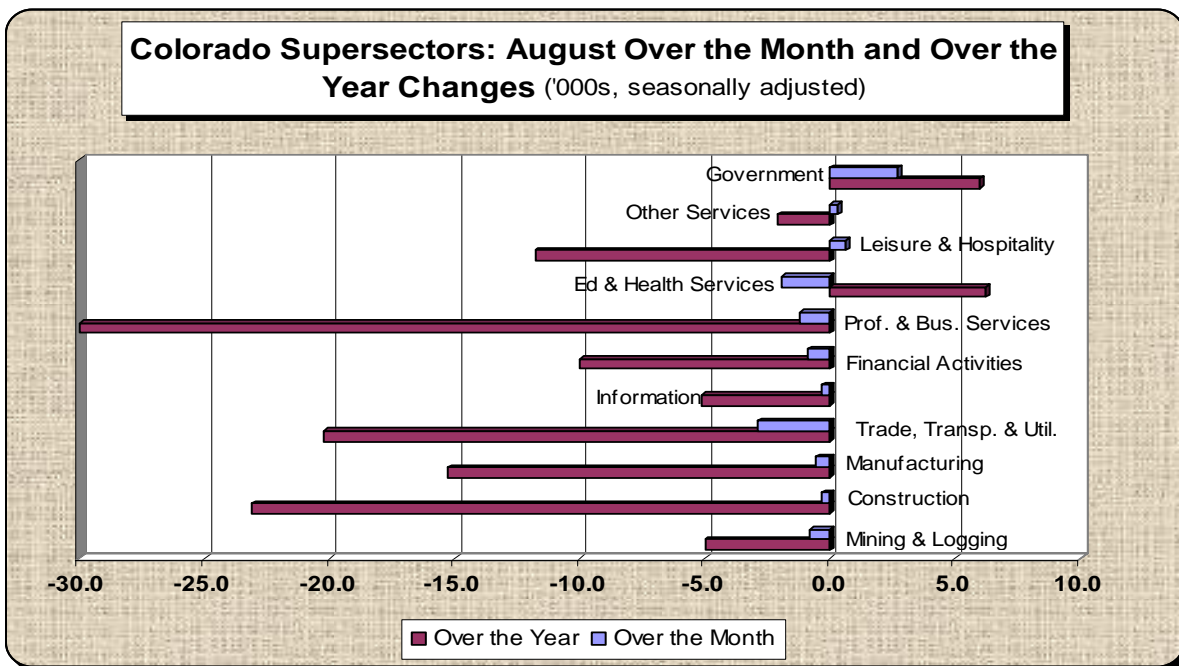
Seasonally adjusted



Total nonfarm payrolls in Colorado fell by 5,300 in August. Trade, transportation & utilities (TTU) experienced the largest loss of all major industries, down 2,900. Education & health services followed with the loss of 1,900 jobs, all of them concentrated in health care & social assistance. Professional & business services pared 1,200, while financial activities and mining & logging saw decreases of 900 and 800, respectively. Manufacturers shed 600; construction and information each experienced drops of 300. With educators returning to work, government employment increased by 2,700. Leisure & hospitality payrolls increased 600 and other services edged up 300.

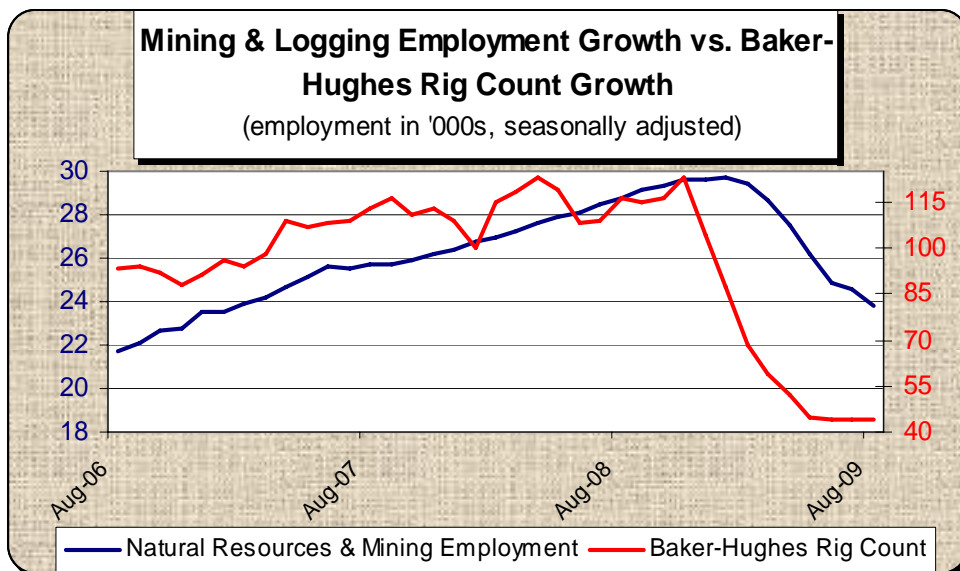
Since this time last year, total nonfarm employment across the state has decreased by 110,600. This 4.7% contraction marks the most virulent year over year decline since 1944. Professional & business services, the top contributor to the state's growth through early 2008, has pared 30,200 positions over the year. Construction payrolls have fallen 23,100 and TTU has lost 20,200 since last August. Manufacturing has declined 15,300, while employment in leisure & hospitality and financial activities has fallen 11,800 and 10,000, respectively. Both mining & logging and information have shed about 5,000, but of all major industries, mining & logging has experienced the fastest rate of decline at 17.4%. Other services has seen a 2,100 position retreat since last August.

Employment gains of 6,200 in education & health services and 6,000 in government slightly offset the losses in the other nine supersectors.



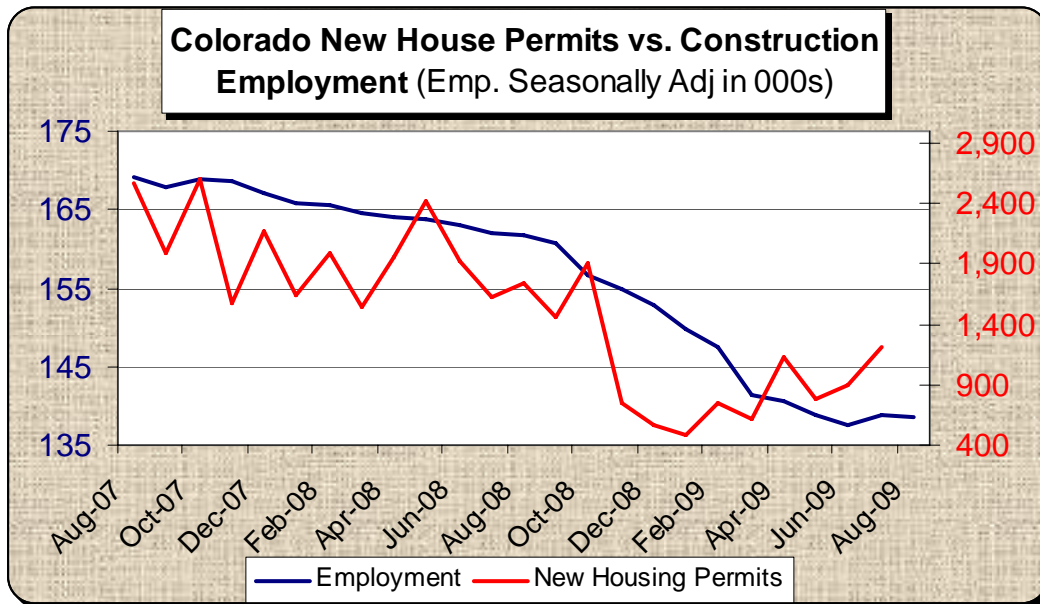
Mining & Logging: - 800 (3.3%)

Employment in mining & logging declined for the seventh consecutive month, falling by 800 in August. This drop is in line with the average monthly decline over the prior six months. Due to large monthly drops since February, industry payrolls are now 5,000 lower than the year ago level. This annual contraction of 17.4% is the most rapid in the nineteen year seasonally adjusted history of this sector, surpassed only by the SIC-based mining declines that occurred in 1986 and 1987. As natural gas prices have fallen rapidly since last summer, so too have the number of Baker-Hughes rigs drilling in the state. The quantity of rigs drilling has dropped by nearly two-thirds from the November 2008 peak to only 44 in August. From 2002 through 2008, support activities for mining was the driving force behind the growth in this industry; in 2009, it likewise bears responsibility for much of the recent decline in this industry. Recently released First Quarter 2009 QCEW data show that year over year employment in this sector went negative in February and was down nearly 10% in March.



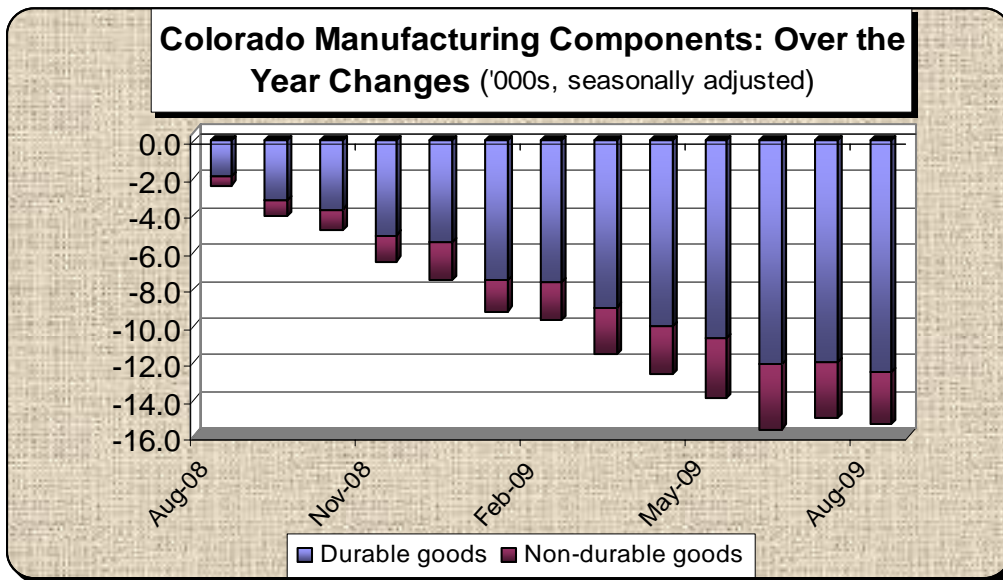
Construction: - 300 (0.2%)

Coming on the heels of the first employment advance since late 2007, construction resumed its downward trend by paring 300 in August. Construction of buildings and specialty trade contractors experienced unadjusted declines of 100 and 1,200, respectively. Presumably buoyed by an increase in stimulus-funded road construction, heavy & civil engineering payrolls rose 500. Over the past twelve months, supersector employment has fallen 23,100. Unchanged from last month, this 14.3% contraction marks a slight improvement from the year over year rate of decline posted in May and June. Since last August, construction of buildings has suffered the most rapid retreat with its employment falling 6,800, or 21.5%. Employment in specialty trade contractors has declined by 14,800, or 13.1%, while heavy & civil engineering has trended down 1,700, or 6.9%.



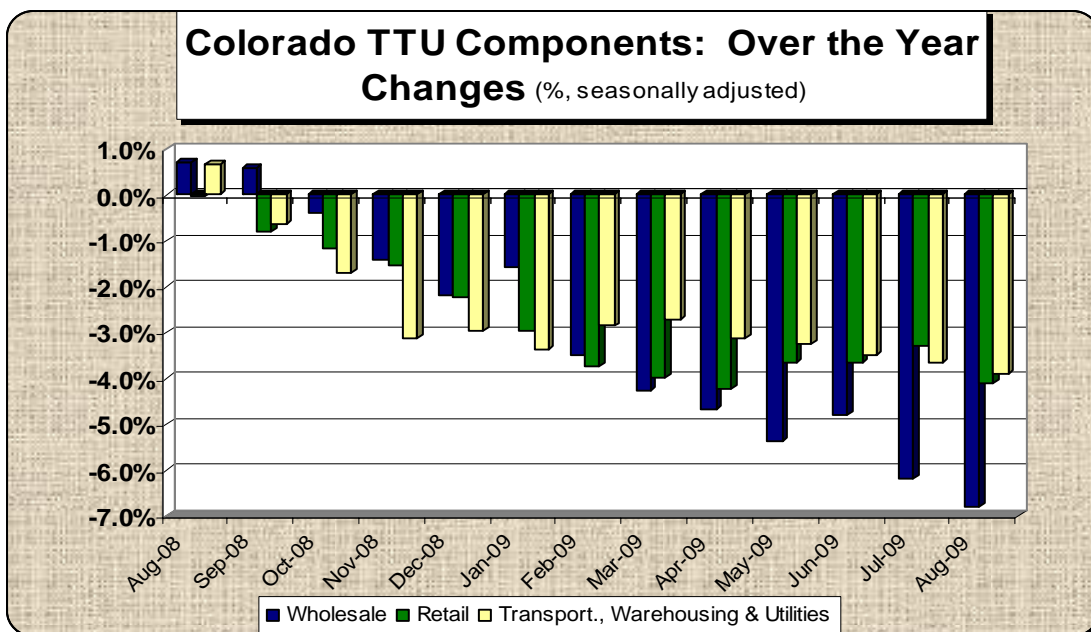
Manufacturing: - 600 (0.5%)

Manufacturing payrolls declined for the nineteenth straight month, falling by 600 in August. Durable goods was singularly responsible for the industry's loss, paring 600 jobs over the month. On an unadjusted basis, computer & electronic product manufacturing shed 400 from its payrolls, while transportation equipment manufacturing trimmed 100. Nondurable goods remained unchanged, marking the second month in a row without losing jobs. Since this time last year, manufacturing employment has declined by 15,300. This 10.6% contraction is nearly two-thirds greater than the prior year trend. Durable goods payrolls are 12,500 below the level recorded in August 2008; this 13.1% contraction is a record pace, marginally faster than the late 2001 deceleration. Computer & electronic product manufacturing, along with fabricated metal producers, continue to inhibit growth in durable goods as these sectors have shed an unadjusted 2,000 and 1,500, respectively in the last twelve months. Transportation equipment manufacturing has trended down 300 in the past year.



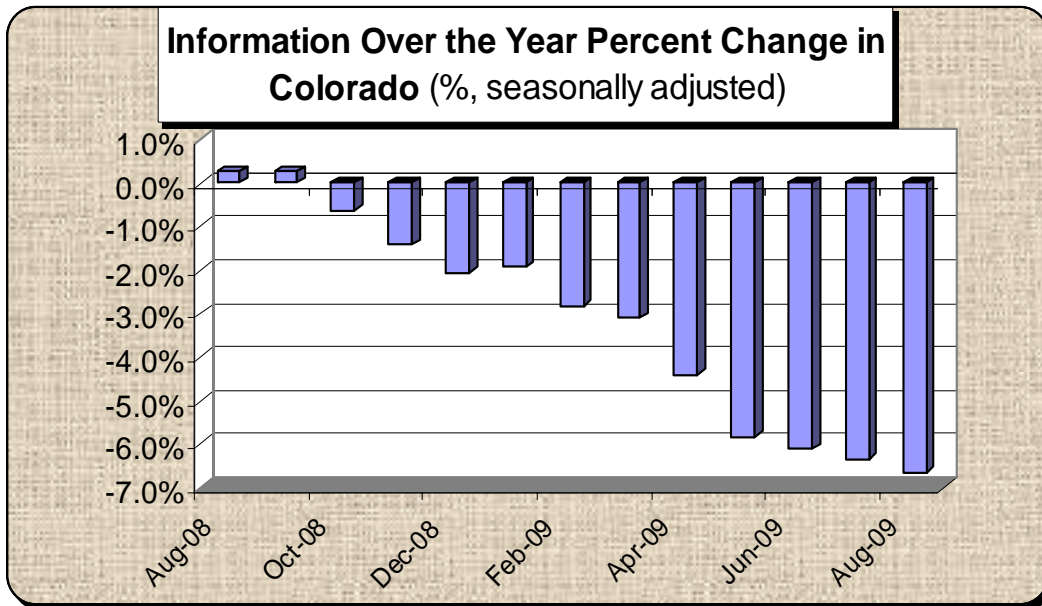
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (TTU): - 2,900 (0.7%)

TTU payrolls experienced their largest drop in the past six months, falling by 2,900 in August. Retail trade and wholesale trade were the culprits behind this decline as these sectors pared 1,800 and 800 positions, respectively. Employment in transportation, warehousing & utilities exhibited a modest decline of 300 over the month. In the last twelve months, supersector employment has fallen by 20,200, or 4.7%. This is the fastest year over year contraction in the industry's nineteen year history and it is 80% greater than the prior twelve-month trend. Of the three components, wholesale trade has experienced the fastest over the year decline at 6.8% (6,800 positions). Retail trade has been impacted by a renewed penchant for thrift and lower consumer spending has caused its payrolls to retreat 10,400 (4.1%) since last August. Transportation, warehousing & utilities has pared 3,000 jobs in the past twelve-months; nearly all of these losses have occurred in transportation & warehousing. Air transportation has accounted for just under half of the unadjusted 2,900 positions shed in this sector.



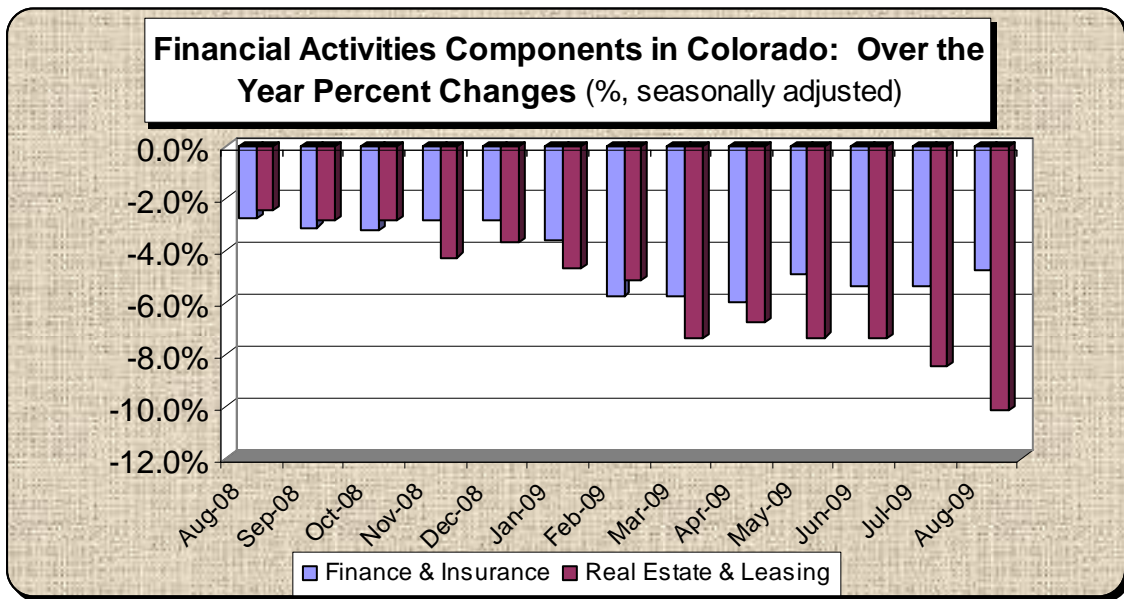
Information: - 300 (0.4%)

Information employment continued to trend down, losing 300 in August. On an unadjusted basis, publishing industries notched down 200, while telecommunications remained unchanged. Since last August, information payrolls have fallen by 5,100. This 6.6% year over year contraction is the fastest since October 2003 and it is 2.4 times faster than the previous twelve-month trend. Publishing industries has pared an unadjusted 1,800 jobs, but this 6.8% decline is only marginally faster than the prior year trend. Telecom employment has fallen by 900 (2.9%), marking this component's largest twelve-month drop in since July 2006.



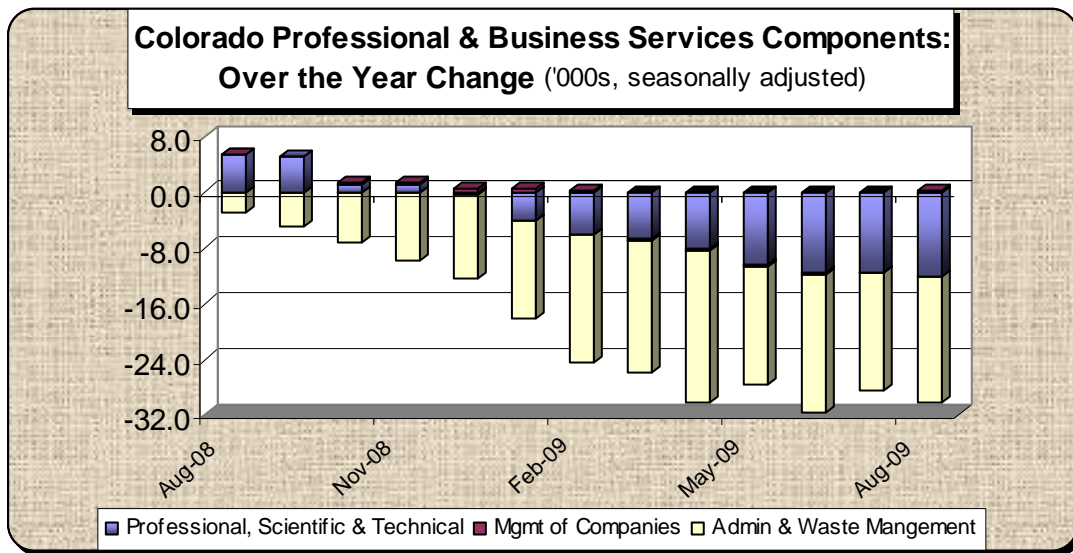
Financial Activities: - 900 (0.6%)

Financial activities pared 900 workers in August. The loss of 1,100 in the real estate, rental & leasing component was partially offset by a 200 position gain in finance & insurance. Since this time last year, supersector payrolls have fallen 10,000; this 6.5% twelve-month contraction marks the fastest pace of decline in the nineteen year seasonally adjust history of this industry. Recent weakness has been concentrated in real estate, rental & leasing; although this sector comprises less than 30% of industry employment, it has accounted for 49% of the positions lost over the past twelve months. Payrolls in real estate, rental & leasing are down 10.2% from last August's level and the real estate component is down an unadjusted 10.3% (3,600 jobs). Employment in finance & insurance has fallen by 5,100 (4.8%) over the past year, with unadjusted declines of 2,000 in credit intermediation and 1,800 in insurance carriers & related.



Professional & Business Services: - 1,200 (0.4%)

Professional & business services relinquished 40% of the positions it had added last month by shedding 1,200 in August. Employment fell by 700 in professional, scientific & technical services; the same number of positions were lost in the catchall administrative, support, waste management & remediation sector. Management of companies trended up 200, but this did little to negate the declines that occurred in the larger sectors. On an unadjusted basis, payrolls fell by 400 in both computer systems & design and architectural services. Conversely, employment services gained 400 positions this month and has now added workers in three of the past four months.

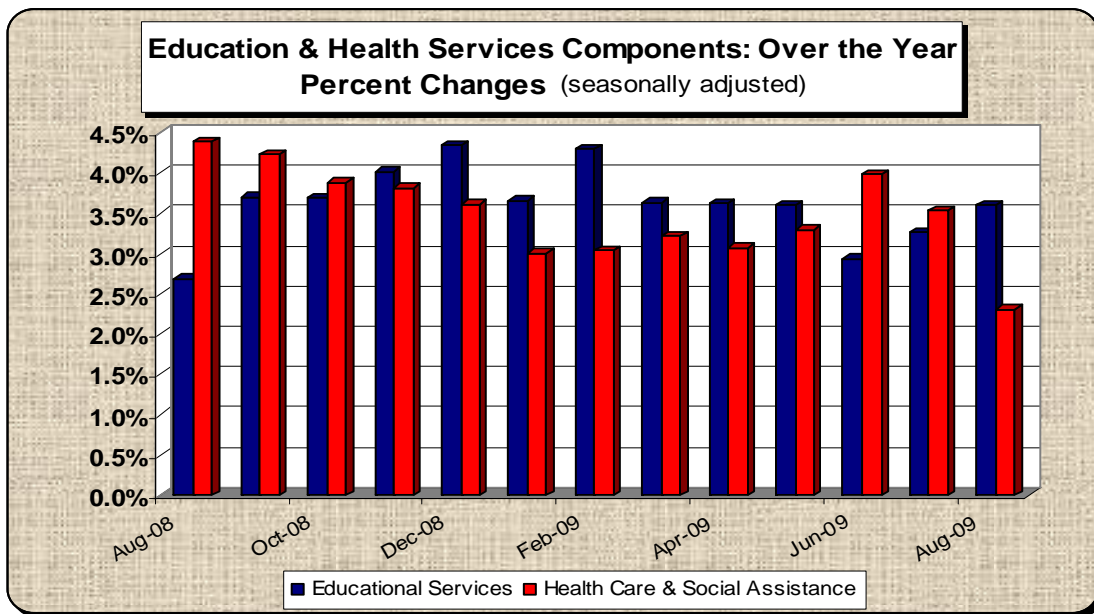


This supersector had been the driving force behind the State’s employment growth from 2004 through 2008, but in 2009, it has been the source of the greatest job losses. Since last August, employment in professional & business services has contracted by 30,200, or 8.6%; this contrasts to a twelve-month growth rate of just under one percent one year ago. The losses have been disproportionately concentrated in the catchall administrative sector as its payrolls have fallen 18,200, or 12.4%. Roughly half of this decline has occurred in employment services, down an unadjusted 9,200 (22.0%)

over the past twelve months, while services to buildings & dwellings has pared 4,100 jobs (9.1%) and business support services has changed little. Professional, scientific & technical services has shed 12,100 positions, a drop of 6.8%. Architectural services has accounted for the lion's share of the decline in this sector, with its employment off an unadjusted 4,800 (10.6%) from a year ago. Management of companies has inched up 100 positions since last August, for anemic growth of 0.3%.

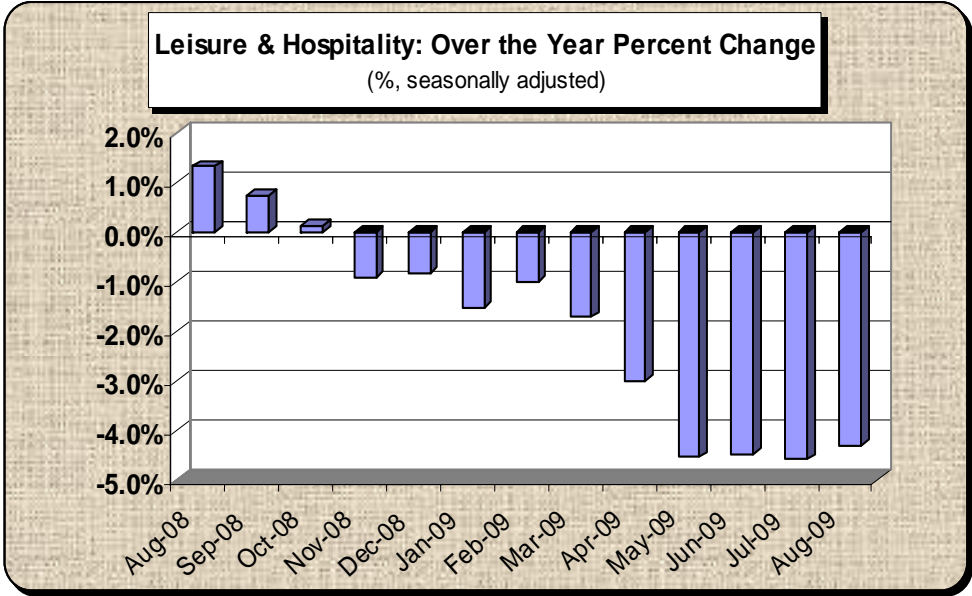
Education & Health Services: - 1,900 (0.7%)

Payrolls in education & health services fell by 1,900 in August. This decrease was concentrated in health care & social assistance as educational services remained unchanged. On an unadjusted basis, ambulatory care shed 800 positions this month, hospitals and nursing & residential care facilities pared 300 and 200, respectively, while social assistance edged down 100. In the last twelve months, employment in education & health services has increased by 6,200. This 2.5% expansion is about one percentage point faster than government, the only other expanding industry. However, the rate of growth in education & health services is slowing; the August year over year rate is roughly two-thirds of the prior year trend. Health care & social assistance has added 5,100 positions in the past year; educational services has contributed 1,100. The fastest expansion occurred in social assistance; this component has grown by 3.1% with an unadjusted 1,200 new hires. The rate of growth in ambulatory care was 2.7% as this component has added 2,500 jobs. Nursing & residential care facilities and hospitals both grew by less than 2.0%, having added 600 and 700, respectively.



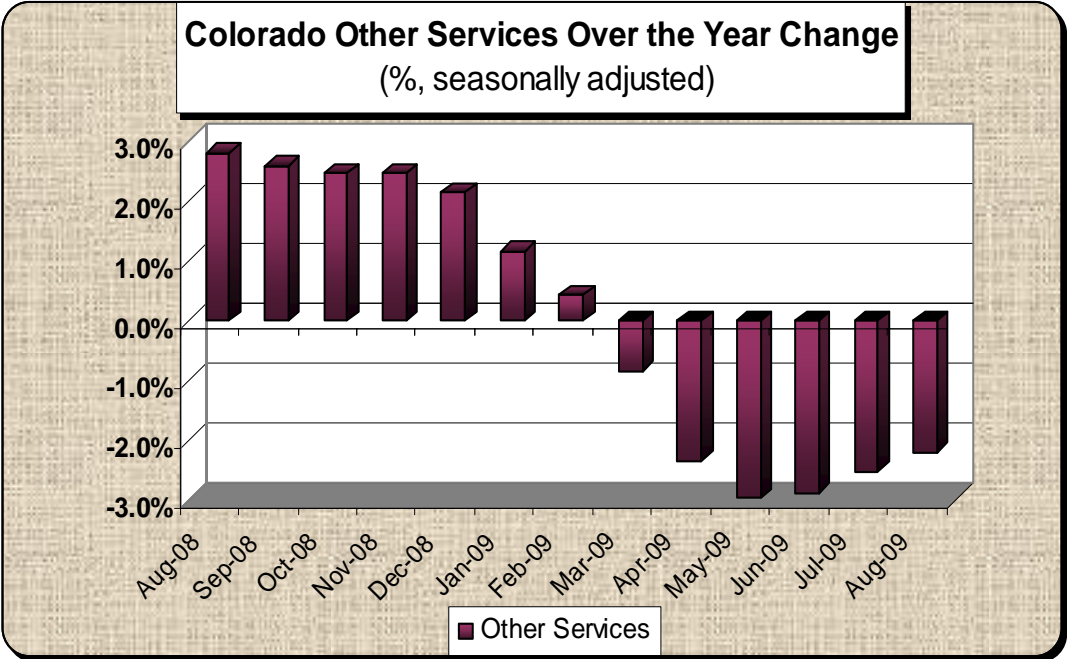
Leisure & Hospitality: + 600 (0.2%)

Leisure & hospitality posted its first employment gain in the past six months, rising 600 in August. Arts, entertainment & recreation was responsible 80% of this increase, as accommodation & food services notched up 100 this month. On an unadjusted basis, accommodation payrolls rose 200 and food services & drinking places gained 1,300, with an increase of 700 in limited service restaurants. There are now 11,800 fewer people working in this industry than one year ago, a contraction of 4.3%. Arts, entertainment & recreation's 8.3% rate of decline was substantially faster than that of the industry on the whole; payrolls in this sector have fallen 3,800. Accommodation & food services has shed 8,000, a decline of 3.5%. On an unadjusted basis, accommodation employment has fallen 3,000 (6.5%) in the past twelve-months. Food service & drinking places has eliminated 5,000 workers, with the bulk of this loss having occurred in full service restaurants, down 3,900.



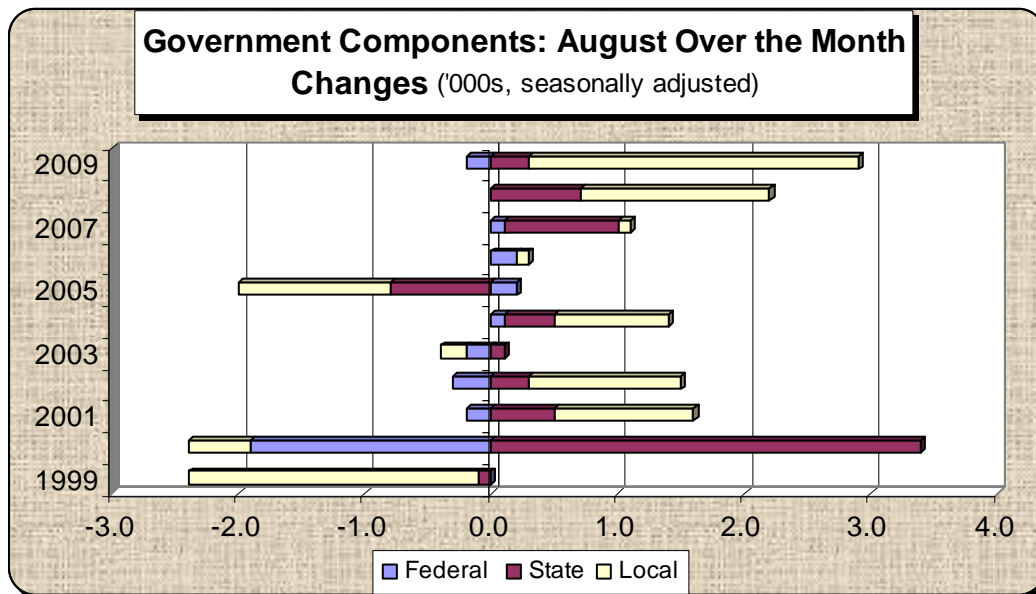
Other Services: + 300 (0.3%)

Employment in other services edged up 300 in August. Repair & maintenance and personal & laundry services saw unadjusted increases of 100 and 200, respectively. These gains were partially offset by the loss of 100 in the catchall religious, grantmaking, civic, professional, & similar organizations. Other services payrolls have retreated 2,100 over the year; this 2.2% contraction is the slowest in the past five months. The repair & maintenance sector comprises about one-quarter of the industry employment but it accounted for over three-quarters of other services' annual drop with an unadjusted 1,500 (6.6%) positions having been trimmed over the last twelve months. Both the catchall organizations sector and personal & laundry services have seen payrolls fall by 0.8% since last August, having lost 400 and 200 workers, respectively.



Government: + 2,700 (0.7%)

After paring jobs in June and July, the public sector added 2,700 in August. Federal government eliminated 200 jobs, while State government countered this loss with the addition of 300 positions. Employment at the local level rose 2,600, buoyed by the return of educators at the start of the school year. Local education payrolls rose an unadjusted 3,600 and State education advanced 1,800 this month. In the last twelve months, the number of people working in the public sector has risen 6,000. After nearly two years of growth in excess of 2.0%, this 1.6% expansion marks the second consecutive month that the year over year growth rate was less than 2.0%. As State and local governments are faced with declining revenues and trim workers to help balance budgets, it is expected that government payrolls will continue to ebb. Federal government payrolls have inched up 600 (1.1%) since last August and are expected to rise well into 2010 with the ramp-up of Census operations. State government realized a 2,500 position expansion for growth of 2.8%. State education was responsible for this increase, hiring an unadjusted 2,400 (5.1%) educators over the past year. Local government accounted for just under half of the supersector's growth, adding 2,900 (1.2%) jobs over the past twelve months, with an unadjusted 1,600 (1.4%) of the new hires coming from its educational component.



Produced By:

State of Colorado: Bill Ritter, Governor

Colorado Department of Labor & Employment: Donald J. Mares, Executive Director

Labor Market Information: Alexandra E. Hall, Director

Current Employment Statistics (CES): Joseph F. Winter, Program Manager

Contact Information:

Visit the CES Home Page: <http://www.coworkforce.com/lmi/CES/ceshome.asp>

Phone: Labor Market Information (303) 318-8850

Email: imi@state.co.us

These Current Employment Statistics data and any accompanying analysis are in the public domain and, with appropriate credit, may be reproduced without permission.

Please reference, Source: "Colorado Department of Labor and Employment, Labor Market Information".