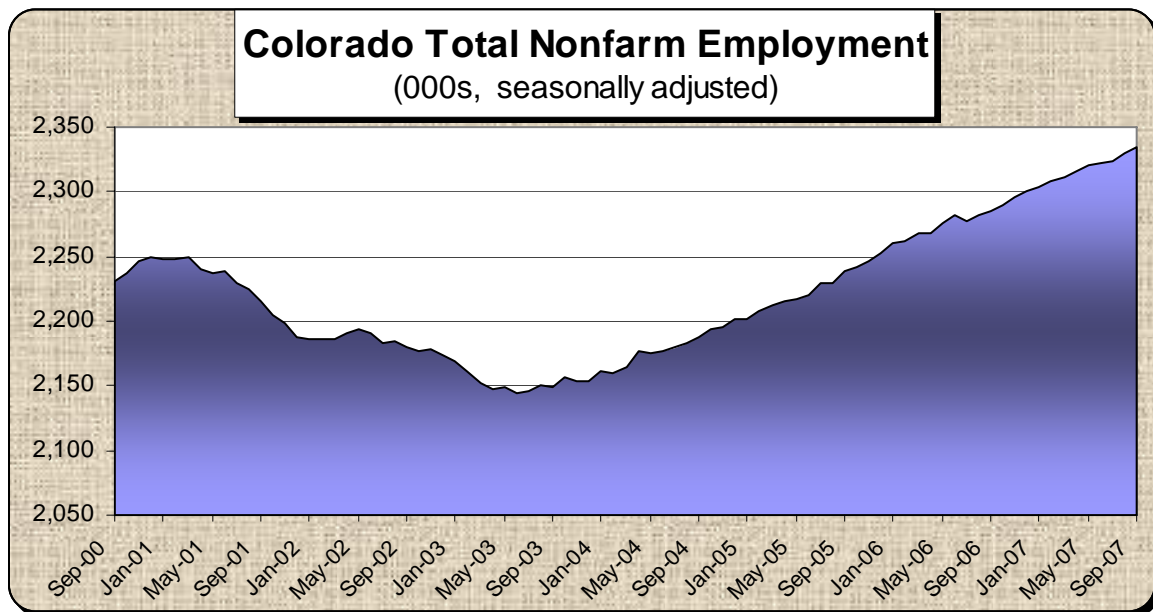


Colorado Final Estimates By: Shannon Kerr

Total Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment: + 4,200 (0.2%)

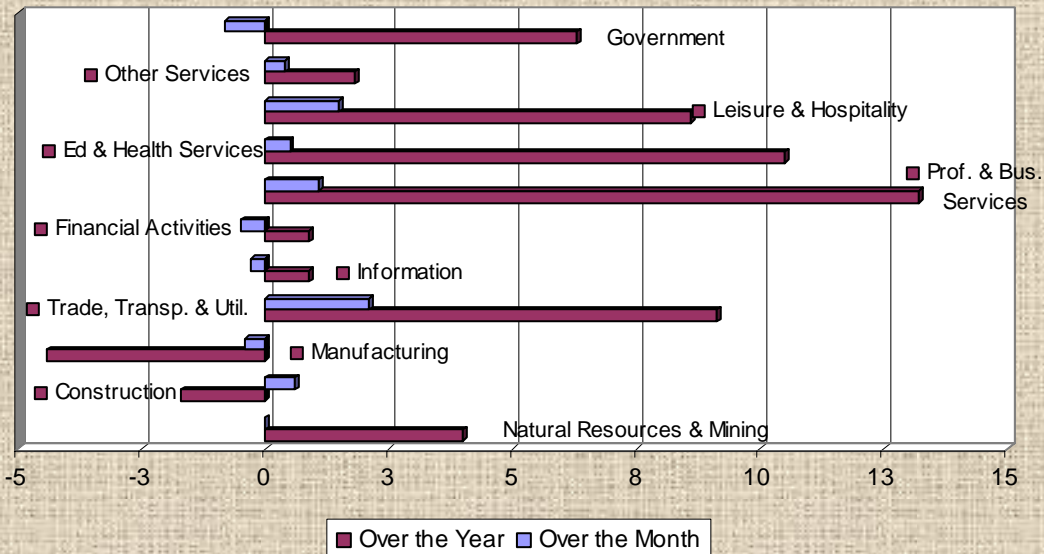
Seasonally adjusted



The growth in Colorado's payrolls continued in September, with total nonfarm employment rising 4,200. This increase is marginally larger than the prior twelve-month trend, and it is 45% greater than last September's advance. Employment changes in the supersectors were generally small and mixed, with six industries growing, four contracting and one remaining unchanged. Trade, transportation & utilities enjoyed the biggest monthly expansion by adding 2,100 positions, while leisure & hospitality and professional & business services added 1,500 and 1,100, respectively. Construction gained 600 jobs, while other services added 400 positions after declining during the prior two-month period. The start of the school year allowed for 500 jobs to be added in education & health services, although government payrolls declined by 800 jobs overall. Financial activities experienced a loss of 500 positions. A moderate drop in both the durable and non-durable sectors caused manufacturing payrolls to fall by 400. Similarly, decreases in information employment led to a 300 position decline, while natural resources & mining remained unchanged.

Over the year employment has grown by 49,200. This 2.2% expansion is the strongest twelve-month growth rate since last December. Four supersectors accounted for over five-sixths of this growth: professional & business services contributed 13,200 jobs to this increase; education & health services added 10,500; trade, transportation & utilities supplied 9,100; and leisure & hospitality added 8,600 new positions. With 4,000 new hires, natural resources & mining experienced the fastest growth of all industries at 18.7%. Government gained 6,300 workers and other services experienced further payroll growth of 1,800. Financial activities and information each managed to add 900 jobs to round out the over the year gainers. Manufacturing and construction; however, continued to slide, having lost 4,400 and 1,700 jobs, respectively since September 2006.

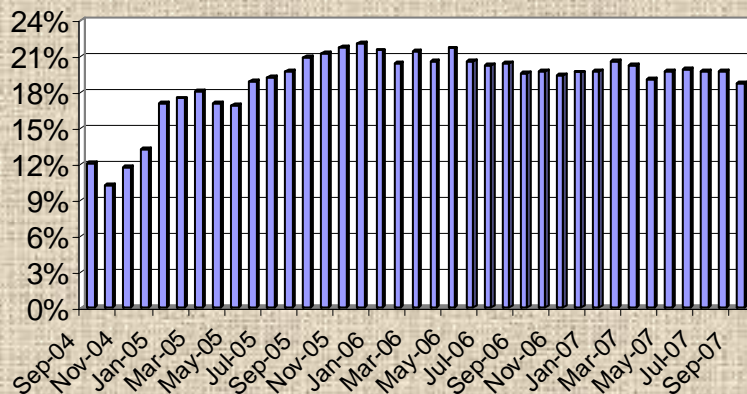
Colorado Supersectors: September Over the Month and Over the Year Changes ('000s, seasonally adjusted)



Natural Resources and Mining: Unchanged

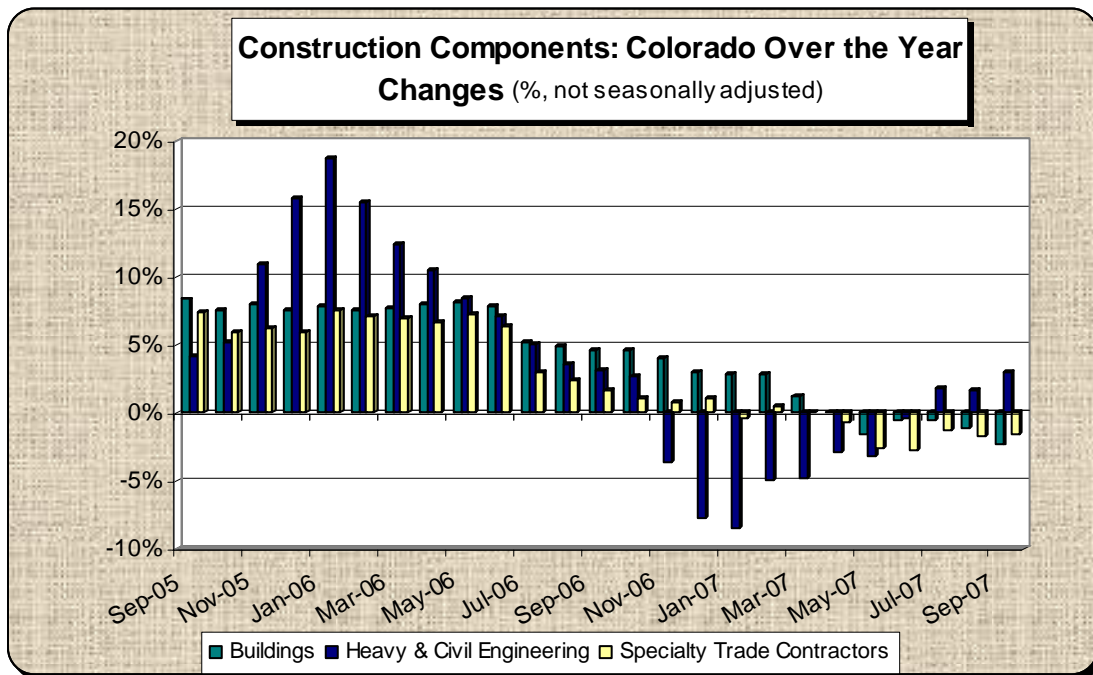
Natural resources & mining added no new jobs in September, this being only the second time since January 2004 this supersector did not show gains in employment. Since October 2003, this component has exhibited the fastest annual growth of all industries, with industry payrolls expanding by 4,000 in the last twelve months. Annual growth of 18.7% is 4.5 times greater than the next fastest expanding industry, professional & business services. This rate, however, is slower than the annual rate of 19.6% seen in September of last year.

Colorado Natural Resources & Mining: Over the Year Changes (% , seasonally adjusted)



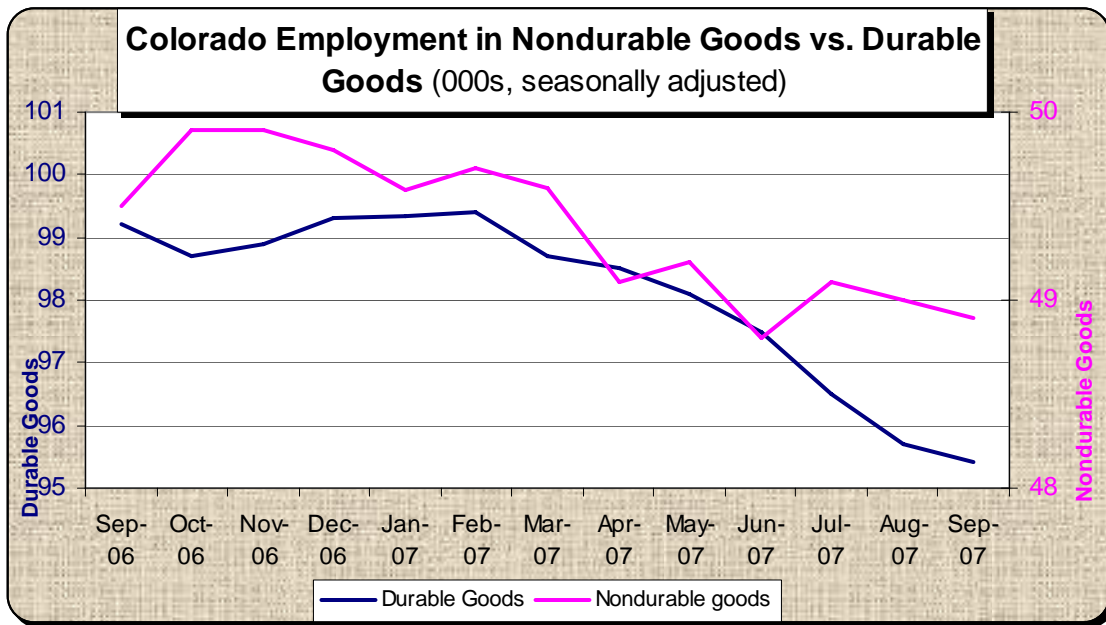
Construction: + 600 (0.4%)

Following a loss of 400 jobs last month, construction grew by 600 in September. This rise is attributable to gains in heavy and civil engineering construction, which saw an unexpected increase of 200. While the unadjusted decrease of 1,200 positions in specialty trade contractors was within the 10-year average for a September decline, the 800 jobs lost in the construction of buildings represents the largest decline since September 2003. Over the year 1,700 jobs have been lost in construction, a decline of 1.0%. The specialty trade contractors sector, which comprises over two-thirds of industry employment, is a bellwether of supersector trends. It lost a total of 1,800 jobs over the last twelve months. Construction of buildings also bears responsibility for this supersector's decline with an unadjusted 800 (2.4%) fewer people working in this sector than one year ago. Heavy & civil engineering construction exhibited relative strength by being the only construction component to exhibit over the year job gains, with 700 new workers added since September 2006.



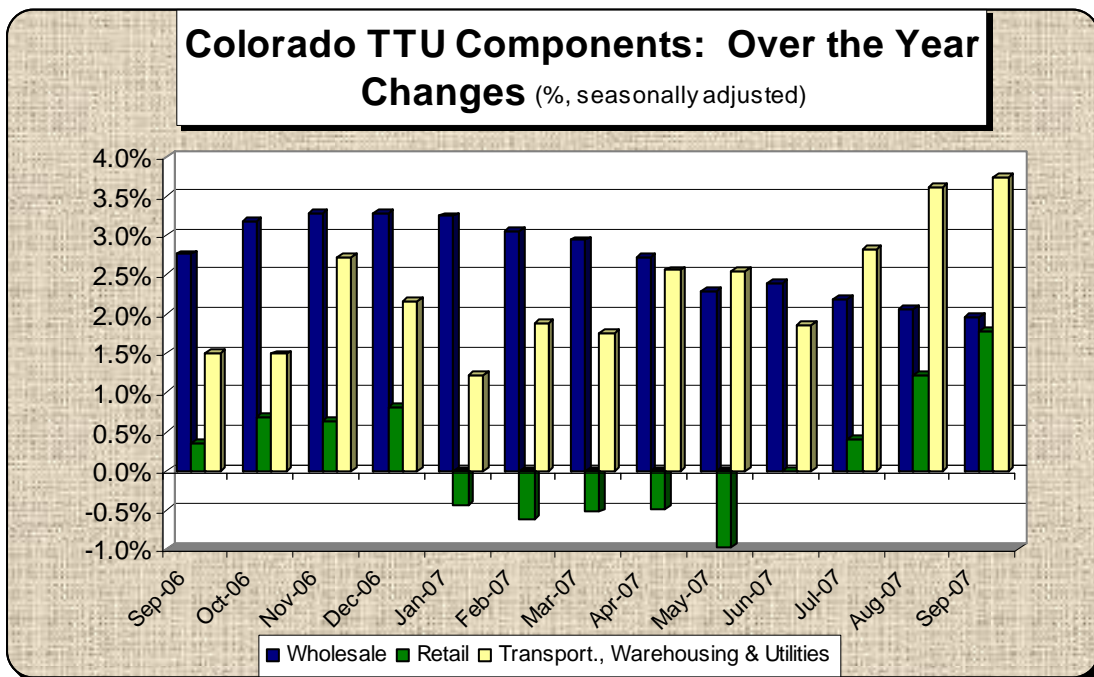
Manufacturing: - 400 (0.3%)

Continuing the previous 6-month decline in employment, manufacturing shed 400 positions in September. A 300 position drop in durable goods accounted for most of this loss, while non-durable goods shed 100 jobs. Over the year, manufacturing payrolls have declined by 4,400. This 3.0% annual decline is the greatest experienced by the sector for the last three and a half years. The majority of the eliminated positions came from the larger durable goods sector, where employment is down 3,800 or 3.3% over the year. Durable goods job losses in the past twelve months have occurred mostly in computer & electronic product manufacturing, which has shed 2,300 since September 2006. Non-durable goods fared slightly better, declining by 1.2%, a total of 600 jobs.



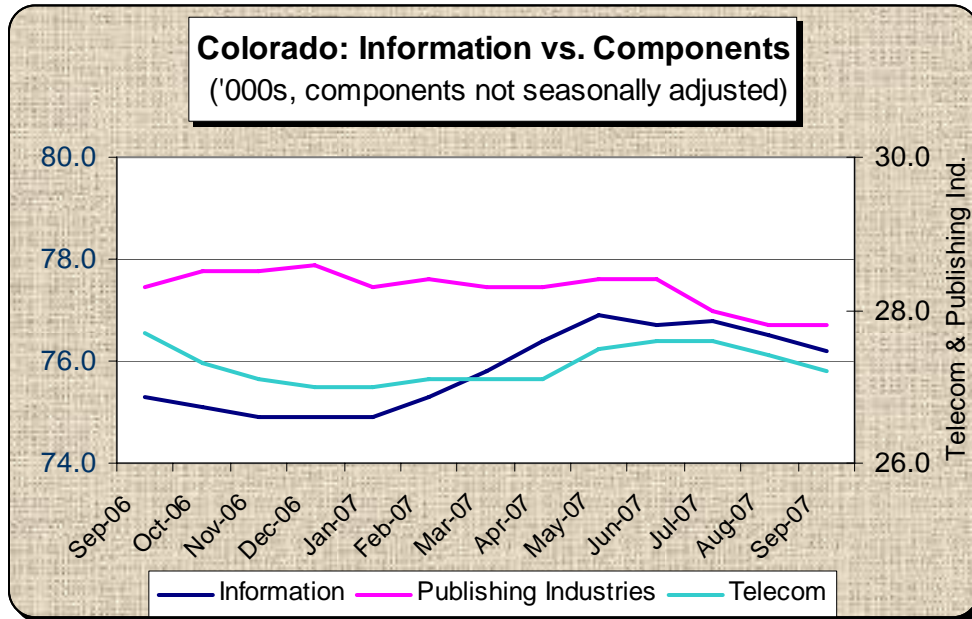
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (TTU): + 2,100 (0.5%)

Growth for this supersector continued in September when employment expanded by 2,100. Retail trade added 1,900 jobs in addition to a 200 job gain in transportation, warehousing & utilities; wholesale trade remained unchanged over the month. Since September 2006, TTU payrolls have expanded by 9,100 (2.2%), a 36% increase over the previous year. This is the greatest twelve-month expansion since January 2006. Retail trade drove this advance by adding 4,400 positions and TWU gained 2,800 new hires over the year. General merchandise saw unadjusted over the year gains of 1,700. Wholesale trade gained 1,900 positions since last September.



Information: - 300 (0.4%)

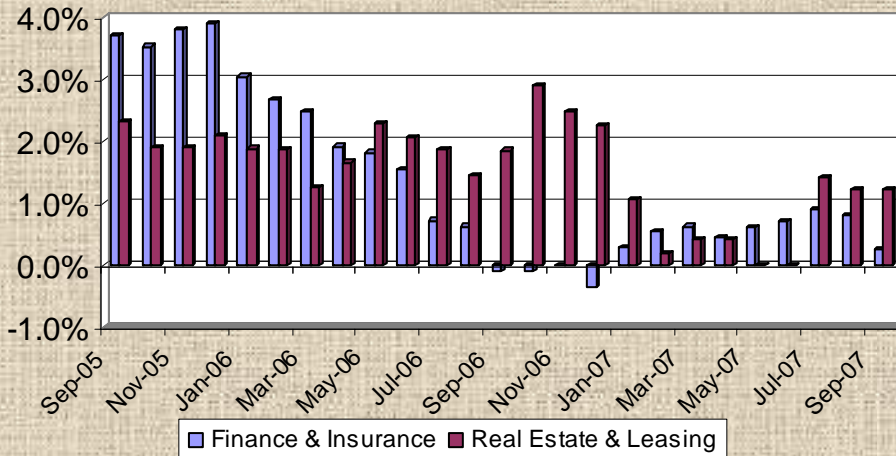
Information employment continued to trend downward, falling 300 in September. Publishing industries and telecommunications each shaved an unadjusted 200 jobs, marking the fourth consecutive month without significant growth. There are now approximately 28,000 people working in each of these industries and together they comprise 74% of information employment. Six years ago, there were 25% more people working in telecommunications than in publishing industries. The protracted declines in these sectors have translated into continued contraction in supersector employment. While 900 information jobs have been added since September 2006, a 1.2% increase, there are 14,000 fewer information workers than there were five years ago.



Financial Activities: - 500 (0.3%)

Financial activities experienced a greater than normal decline in September, dropping 500 jobs. The 0.3% over the month decline is this industry's largest drop since November 2003, with only the securities subsector having added jobs in September. Finance & insurance shed 700 positions, the largest monthly decline since May 1999. Insurance carriers pared an unadjusted 600 jobs and credit intermediaries trended down 500. Real estate, rental & leasing partially compensated by adding 200 workers over the month. In the last twelve months, only 900 positions have been added to industry payrolls. Finance & insurance added 300 workers with the securities component adding an unadjusted 700 jobs (0.9%) since last September, compared with over the year growth of only 100 positions in September 2006. Credit intermediation's unadjusted reduction of 300 jobs (-0.6%) is also 200 less than over the year growth this time last year. Real estate rental & leasing trended up 600 positions since last September, with an unadjusted 500 coming from the real estate component.

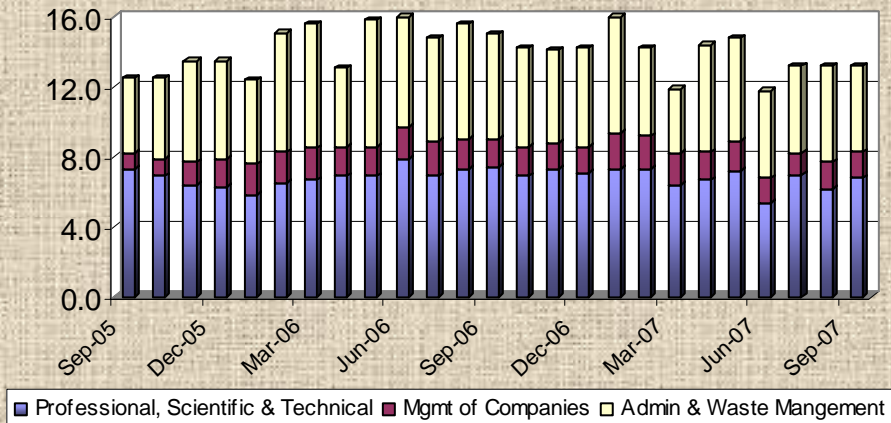
Financial Activities: Colorado Percent Over the Year Changes (% , seasonally adjusted)



Professional and Business Services: + 1,100 (0.3%)

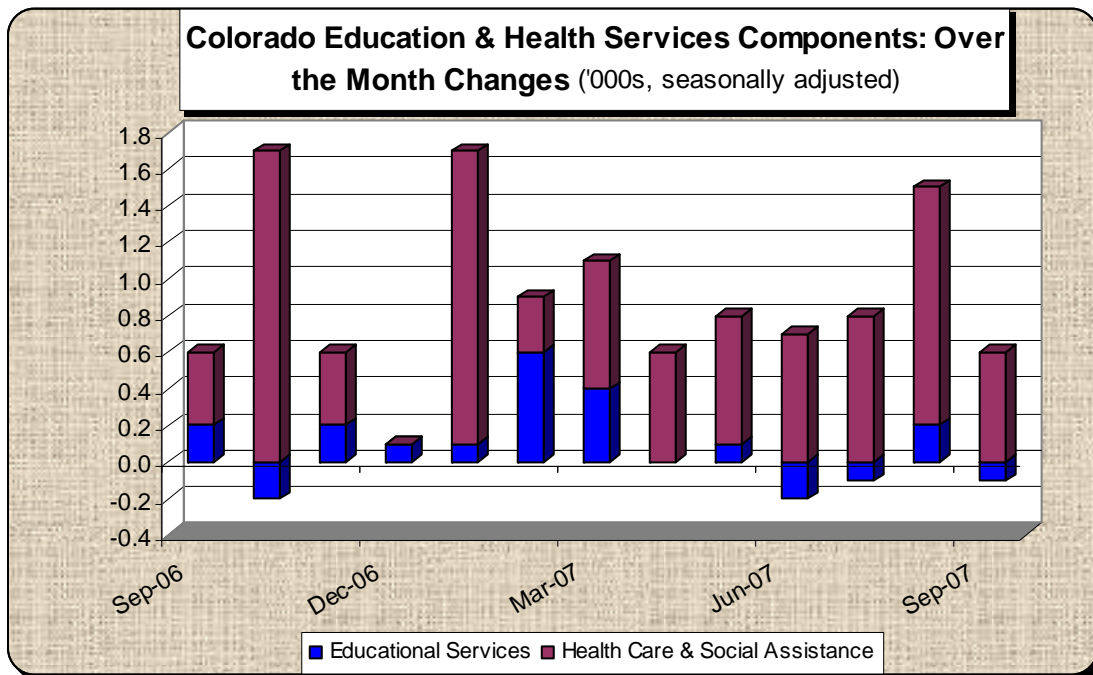
Employment professional & business services grew by a seasonally adjusted 1,100 in September. This increase was in line with the average monthly increase over the prior year, and equal to the number of jobs that were added in this category in September of last year. The gain in September is occurred entirely in professional, scientific and technical services as this sector saw its payrolls rise by 1,300. The catchall administrative, support, waste management & remediation sector partially offset this gain by paring 200 workers. The services to buildings & dwellings component eliminated an unadjusted 1,600 jobs, while employer services lost 600 positions. The management of companies sector remained unchanged over the month. Since last September, 13,200 new positions have been added to professional & business services, giving it the largest growth of all supersectors. It is also the second fastest expanding industry and its 4.1% annual increase is nearly double that of the State's. However, this rate has slowed since September 2006 when it was 4.7%.

Colorado Professional & Business Services Components: Over the Year Change ('000s, seasonally adjusted)



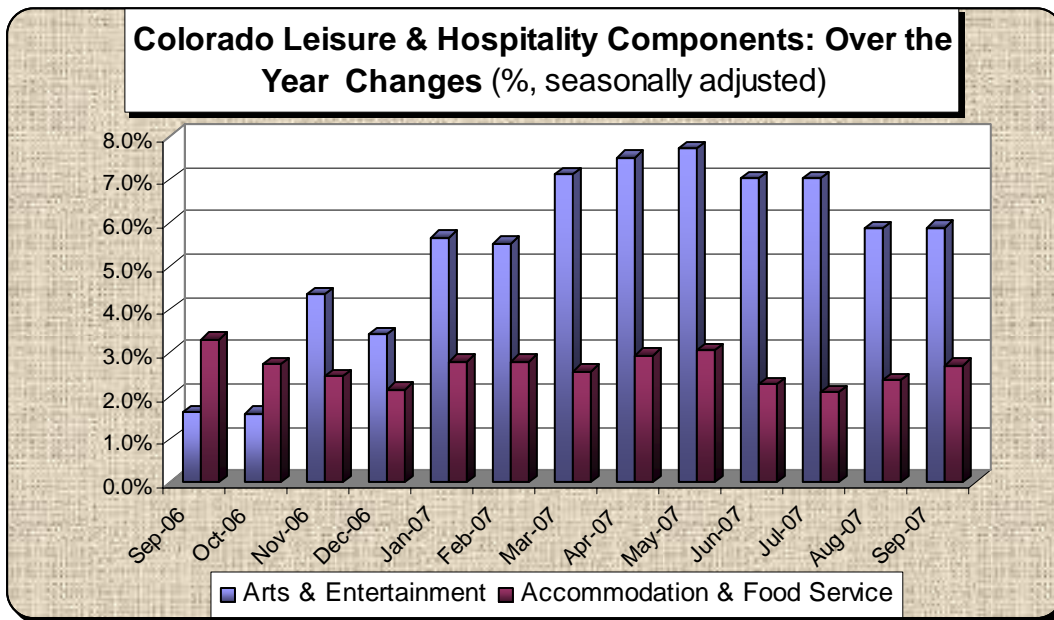
Education and Health Services: + 500 (0.2%)

Employment in education & health services grew by 500 in September. Educational services pared 100 positions and health care & social assistance added 600 jobs. Social assistance payrolls rose an unadjusted 400, nursing & residential cares gained 300, ambulatory care added 200, and there was a loss of 200 in hospitals. Since this time last year, education & health services has gained 10,500 employees (4.5%). The vast majority of these new hires came from health care & social assistance, which gained 9,400 positions (4.6%) over the year. Educational services' grew at slightly slower pace, having added 1,100 jobs in the last twelve months for growth of 3.8%.



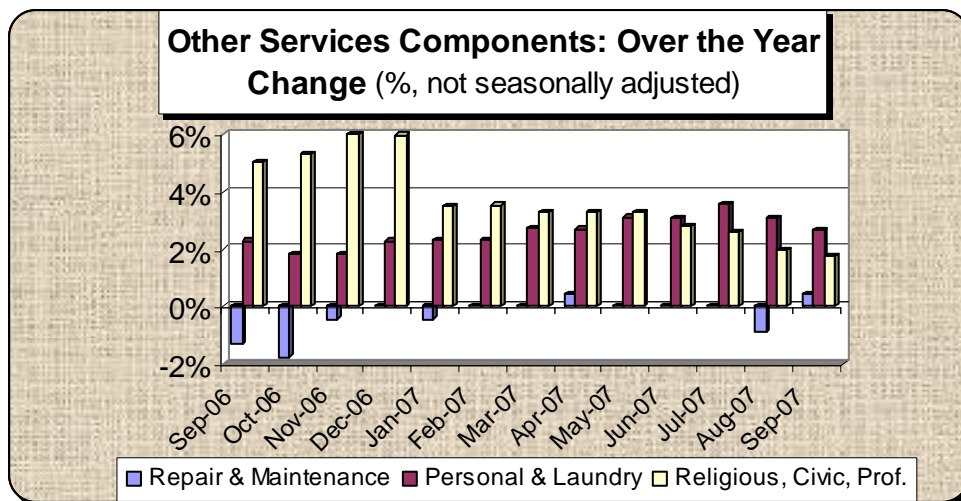
Leisure and Hospitality: + 1,500 (0.5%)

Leisure & hospitality enjoyed its largest September gain in eight years and was the second largest contributor to the state's increase by adding 1,500 jobs. Arts, entertainment & recreation shed 200 positions, while accommodation & food services negated these losses with 1,700 new hires. This industry tends to suffer heavy unadjusted employment declines in September and October, coinciding with the end of the summer tourist season. The unadjusted component industries followed historical patterns, with accommodation paring 2,200 workers, full service restaurants trimming 2,000 and limited service restaurants experiencing a smaller loss of 700 over the month. Since September 2006, leisure & hospitality employment has grown by 8,600, or 3.2%. The majority of this gain can be attributed to accommodation and food services experience employment growth of 6,000 (2.7%). Arts, entertainment & recreation payrolls have risen 2,600 (5.9%) since last September.



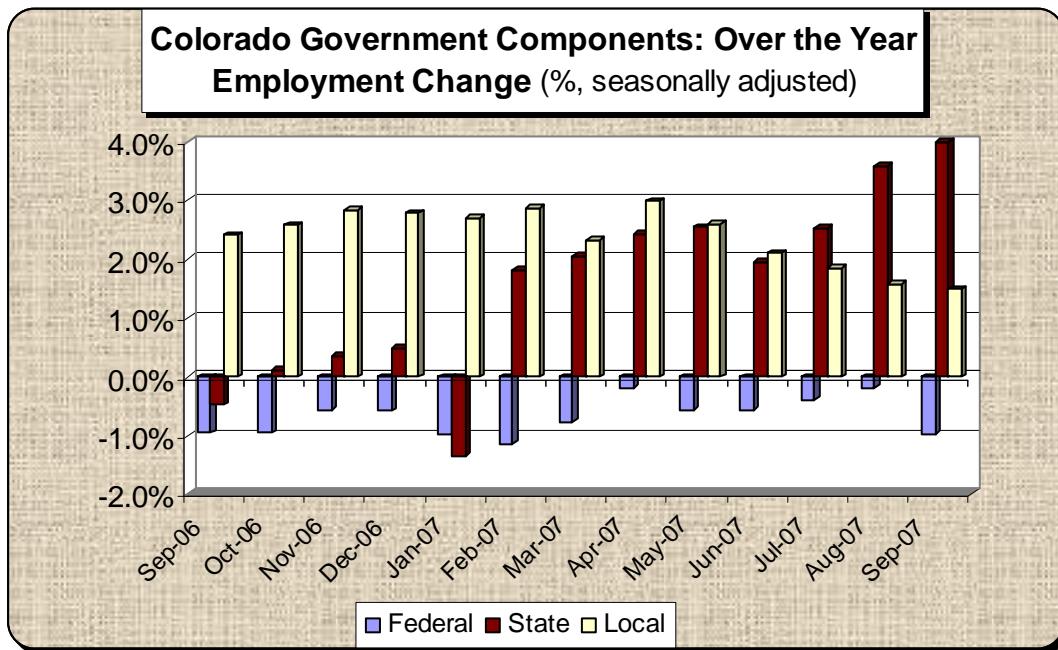
Other Services: + 400 (0.4%)

Payroll growth of 400 in other services marks the largest September advance since 2004, and reverses the negative trend of the prior 2-month period. Both religious, grantmaking, civic, professional & similar organizations and repair & maintenance performed better than expected, with the former only losing an unadjusted 500 jobs, and the latter remaining unchanged. The 400 positions shed in personal & laundry services were 33% more than normal for the month. Since last September, other services employment has advanced by 1,800, an annual growth rate of 2.0%. The catch all organizations sector added an unadjusted 800 workers over the year and personal & laundry services gained 600 jobs over the year.



Government: - 800 (0.2%)

With its largest loss noted since August 2005, government declined by 800 jobs in September. State government employment fell 700, despite the unadjusted increase of 10,500 educators returning to work for the fall semester. Federal government employment lost 600 positions. Local government partially offset these losses as its payrolls, buoyed by the unadjusted return of 13,200 local educators, rose 500. Over the year, government employment has expanded by 6,300 (1.7%). Local and State government were the driving forces behind this annual growth with gains of 3,500 and 3,300 positions, respectively. Federal government employment has continued to fall, recording an over the year loss of 500.



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