

**MAY SNAPSHOT:**
**PIERCE COUNTY  
WORKFORCE DATA**

The WorkForce Central Monthly Employment Report for Pierce County (April 2017 to May 2017) shows the unemployment rate holding steady alongside continued job growth.<sup>1</sup>


**UNEMPLOYMENT**  
 Unchanged at 5.2%

**PAYROLL JOBS**  
 Increased by 3,500

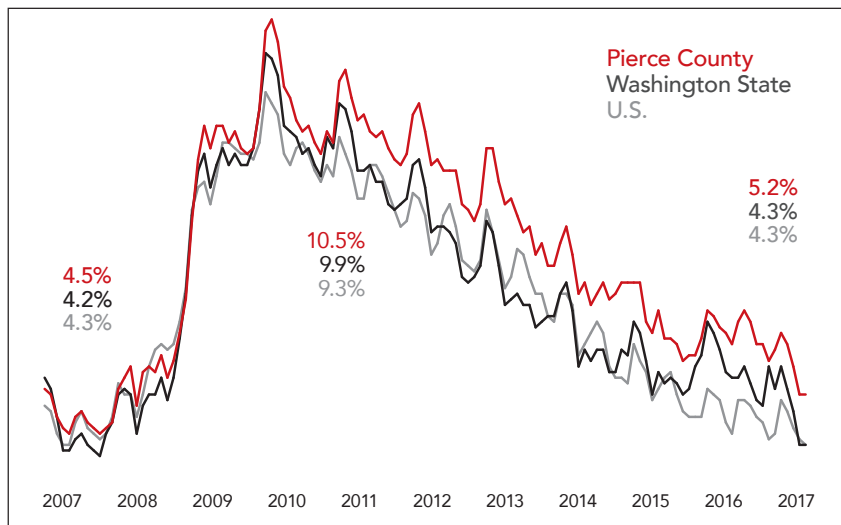
**LARGEST GAIN**  
 Trade, Transportation  
 & Utilities, up 900

**LABOR FORCE**  
 Increased by 409

**EMPLOYMENT**  
 Increased by 289

**LARGEST DECLINE**  
 Educational &  
 Health Services, down 100

Pierce County, Washington State and U.S. Unemployment Rates  
 May 2007 – May 2017


**UNEMPLOYMENT**

WorkForce Central reported no change in Pierce County's unemployment rate in May 2017, from the revised April 2017 rate (5.2 percent), but the rate is 1 percent lower than the year-ago estimate (6.2 percent).

The unemployment rate is 5.3 percent below the highest May unemployment rate (10.5 percent in 2010), but remains 0.7 percent higher than the lowest May unemployment rate experienced in the region over the last 10 years (4.5 percent in 2007).

	May 2016	Apr 2017	May 2017	Change	
	Revised	Revised	Prelim	Month	Year
<b>Civilian Labor Force</b>	402,146	409,995	410,404	409	8,258
<b>Civilian Employment</b>	377,151	388,591	388,880	289	11,729
<b>Civilian Unemployment</b>	24,995	21,404	21,524	120	-3,471

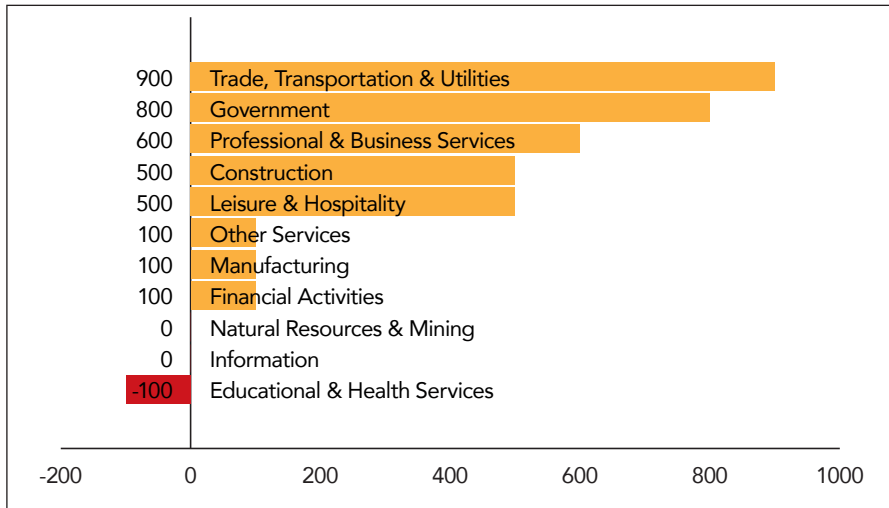
Data  
 Not  
 Seasonally  
 Adjusted



## PIERCE COUNTY WORKFORCE DATA

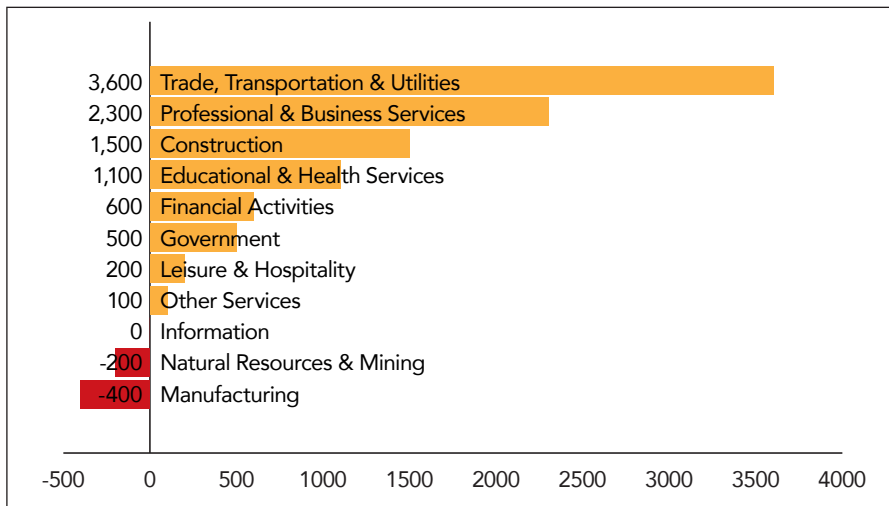
### Pierce County Month-Over Job Gains and Losses

April 2017 – May 2017



### Pierce County Year-Over Job Gains and Losses

May 2016 – 2017



### MONTH-OVER JOB CHANGES<sup>1</sup>

Eight industries experienced month-over employment gains. Trade, Transportation & Utilities experienced the largest month-over gain, adding 900 jobs to the region. Government added 800 jobs, Professional & Business Services added 600 jobs, Construction and Leisure & Hospitality added 500 each, and Other Services, Manufacturing and Financial Activities each grew by 100 jobs.

Two industries (Natural Resources & Mining and Information) showed no change, and one industry (Educational & Health Services) experienced a month-over loss of 100 jobs. Overall, employers in Pierce County have added 3,500 net jobs in the past month.

### YEAR-OVER JOB CHANGES

From May 2016 to May 2017, eight industries experienced job growth. Trade, Transportation & Utilities continued to have the greatest year-over gains, adding 3,600 jobs to the region. The main source of job growth in this sector comes from Retail Trade, adding 3,600 jobs. Professional & Business Services added 2,300 jobs, Construction added 1,500 jobs, followed by Educational & Health Services with 1,100 jobs. Financial Activities, Government, Leisure & Hospitality and Other services also saw job gains.

Information experienced no year-over changes, while two industries showed year-over job losses: Manufacturing (down 400 jobs) and Natural Resources & Mining (down 200 jobs). Overall, employers in Pierce County have added 9,300 net jobs in the past year.

### SUMMARY

Most industry sectors in Pierce County experienced both month- and year-over job gains in May. Pierce County has also gained a net of 3,500 jobs from April 2017 and 9,300 jobs since May 2016. However, Pierce County's unemployment rate of 5.2 percent is 0.9 percent higher than Washington's rate of 4.3 percent.



1. Labor force, employment and unemployment are reported by place of residence, including self-employed individuals, unpaid family workers, household domestic workers & workers on strike.
2. Jobs data is gathered from employers through the Current Employment Statistics (CES) survey, administered monthly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The CES excludes self-employed individuals, unpaid family workers, household domestic workers & workers on strike.
3. A list of industries and industry sub-sectors is accessible through the Bureau of Labor Statistics: [http://www.bls.gov/iag/tgs/iag\\_index\\_naics.htm](http://www.bls.gov/iag/tgs/iag_index_naics.htm)
4. <https://fortress.wa.gov/esd/employmentdata/reports-publications/regional-reports/labor-area-summaries#Unemployment-rates>