

MARCH SNAPSHOT:
**PIERCE COUNTY
WORKFORCE DATA**

The WorkForce Central Monthly Employment Report for Pierce County (February 2017 to March 2017) shows a growing civilian labor force and decreasing unemployment rate. Significantly, no industry declined during this one-month time frame.


UNEMPLOYMENT
 Down 0.2% to 5.8%

NONFARM JOBS
 Increased by 2,200

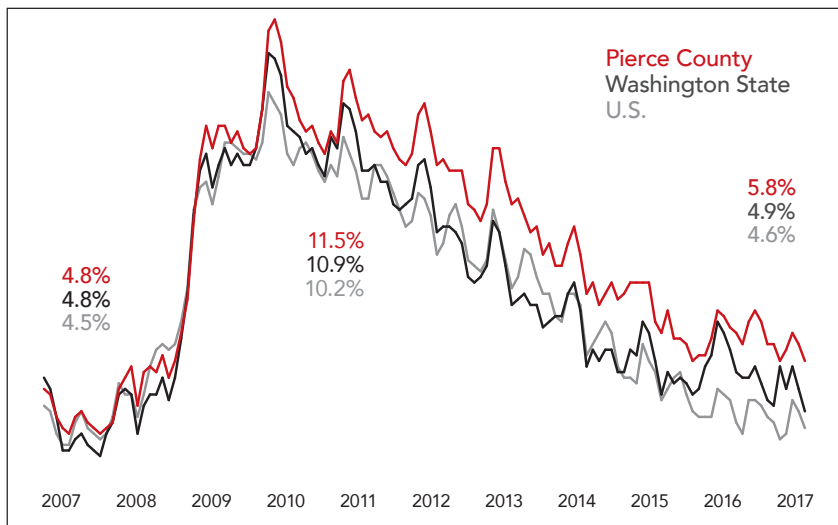
LARGEST GAIN
 Educational & Health Services, up 700

LABOR FORCE
 Increased by 883

EMPLOYMENT
 Increased by 1,876

LARGEST DECLINE
 No industry declined

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


UNEMPLOYMENT

WorkForce Central reported a decrease in Pierce County's unemployment rate in March 2017, 0.2 percent lower than the revised February 2017 rate (6.0 percent) and 0.7 percent lower than the year-ago estimate (6.5 percent).

The unemployment rate is 5.7 percent below the highest March unemployment rate (11.5 percent in 2010) but remains 1 percent higher than the lowest January unemployment rate experienced in the region over the last 10 years (4.8 percent in 2007).

	Mar 2017	Feb 2016	Mar 2017	Change	
	Revised	Revised	Prelim	Month	Year
Civilian Labor Force	404,328	411,301	412,184	883	7,856
Civilian Employment	378,009	386,427	388,303	1,876	10,294
Civilian Unemployment	26,319	24,874	23,881	-993	-2,438

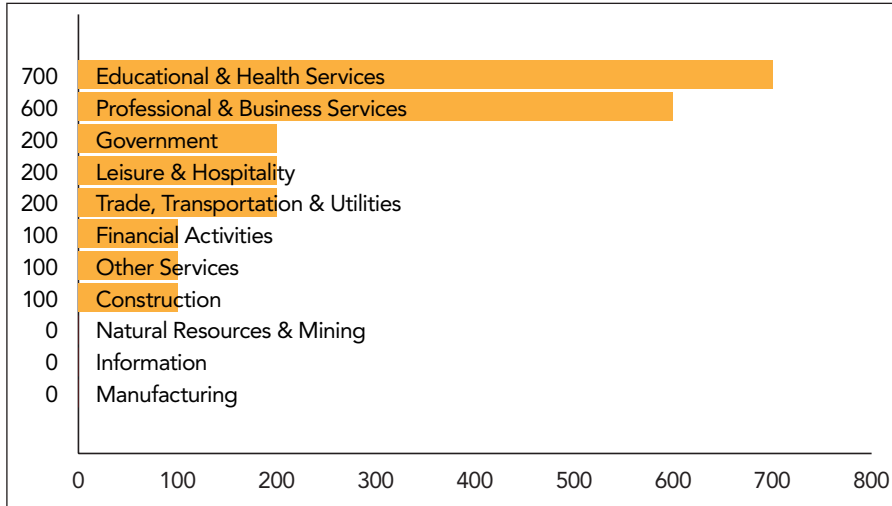
Data
 Not
 Seasonally
 Adjusted



PIERCE COUNTY WORKFORCE DATA

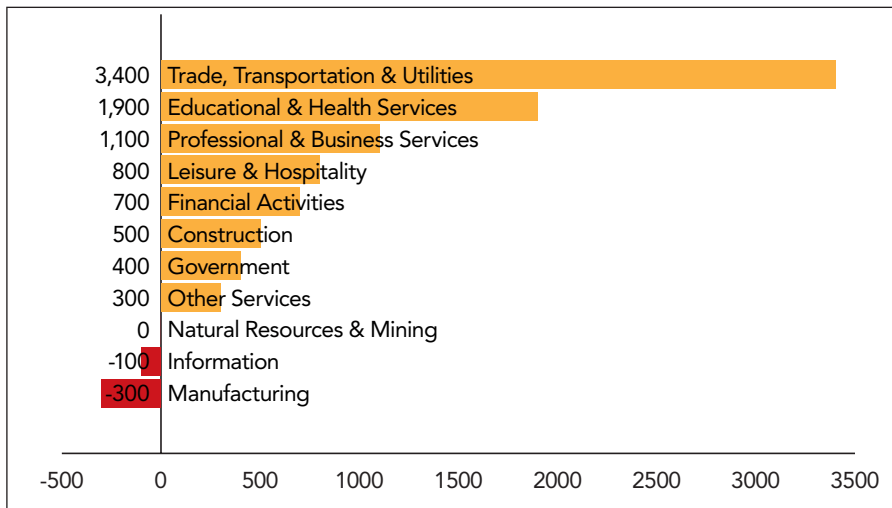
Pierce County Month-Over Job Gains and Losses

February 2017 – March 2017



Pierce County Year-Over Job Gains and Losses

March 2016 – 2017



MONTH-OVER JOB CHANGES¹

Eight industries experienced month-over employment gains. Educational & Health Services experienced the largest month-over gain, adding 700 jobs. Professional & Business Services added 600 jobs, Government, Leisure & Hospitality, Trade, Transportation & Utilities added 200 jobs each, and Financial Activities, Other Services and Construction added 100 jobs each.

Three industries (Natural Resources & Mining, Information and Manufacturing) showed no change, and no industry experienced month-over job losses. Overall, employers in Pierce County have added 2,200 jobs in the past month.

YEAR-OVER JOB CHANGES

From March 2016 to March 2017, eight industries experienced job growth. Trade, Transportation & Utilities continues to have the greatest year-over gains, adding 3,400 jobs to the region. The main source of job growth in this sector comes from Retail Trade, adding 3,100 jobs. Education & Health Services added 1,900 jobs, followed by Professional & Business Services (1,100 jobs). Leisure & Hospitality, Financial Activities, Construction, Government and Other services also saw gains.

Natural Resources & Mining experienced no year-over changes, while two industries showed year-over job losses: Manufacturing (down 300 jobs) and Information (down 100 jobs). Overall, employers in Pierce County have added 8,700 net jobs in the past year.

SUMMARY

Most industry sectors in Pierce County experienced both month- and year-over job gains in March, with eight sectors showing job growth over each time frame. Pierce County has also gained a net of 2,200 jobs from February 2017 and 8,700 jobs since March 2016. However, Pierce County's unemployment rate of 5.8 percent is 0.9 percent higher than Washington's rate (4.9 percent).

- 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.
- 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
- <https://fortress.wa.gov/esd/employmentdata/reports-publications/regional-reports/labor-area-summaries#Unemployment-rates>

