

SEPTEMBER SNAPSHOT: PIERCE COUNTY WORKFORCE DATA

The WorkForce Central Monthly Employment Report for Pierce County (August 2017 to September 2017) shows a drop in the unemployment rate to 4.8%. When combined with a revised August rate of 4.9%, this marks the first time Pierce County has experienced unemployment rates under 5.0% since 2007.



UNEMPLOYMENT
Down 0.1%, to 4.8%



PAYROLL JOBS
Increased by 800



LARGEST GAIN
Government, up 900



LABOR FORCE
Increased by 2,601

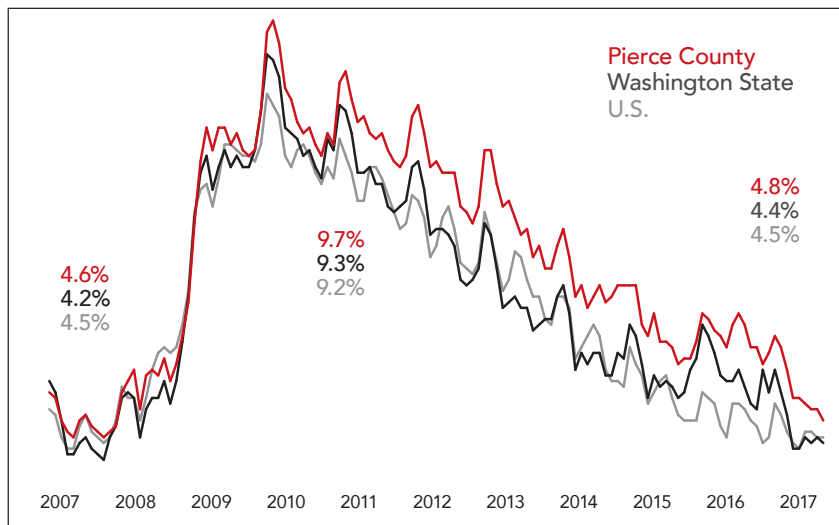


EMPLOYMENT
Increased by 3,133



LARGEST DECLINE
Trade, Transportation & Utilities, down 900

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



UNEMPLOYMENT

WorkForce Central reported a decrease in Pierce County's unemployment rate in September 2017, from the revised August 2017 rate (4.9 percent). This is 1.2 percent lower than the year-ago estimate (6.0 percent).

The unemployment rate is 4.9 percent below the highest September unemployment rate experienced in the region over the last 10 years (9.7 percent in 2010) and remains 0.2 percent higher than the lowest (4.6 percent in 2007).

	Sept 2016	August 2017	Sept 2017	Change	
	Revised	Revised	Prelim	Month	Year
Civilian Labor Force	405,090	421,068	423,669	2,601	18,579
Civilian Employment	380,793	400,228	403,361	3,133	22,568
Civilian Unemployment	24,297	20,840	20,308	-532	-3,989

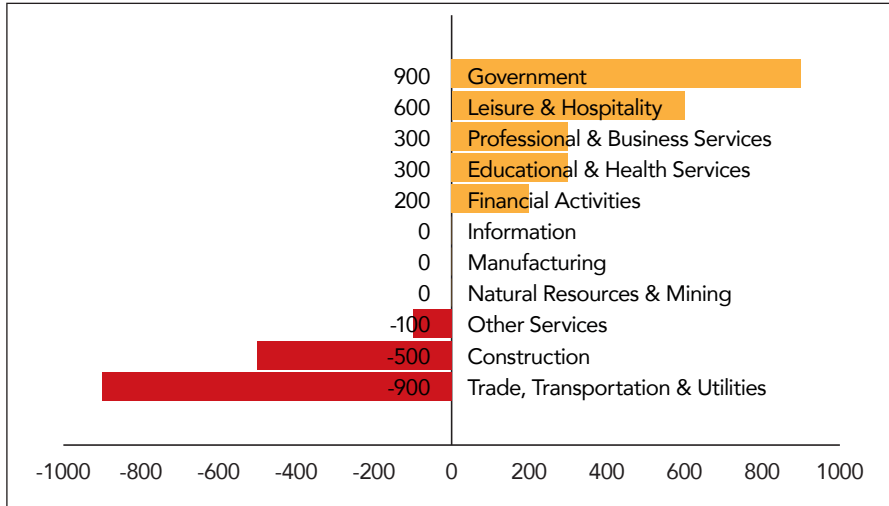
Data
Not
Seasonally
Adjusted



PIERCE COUNTY WORKFORCE DATA

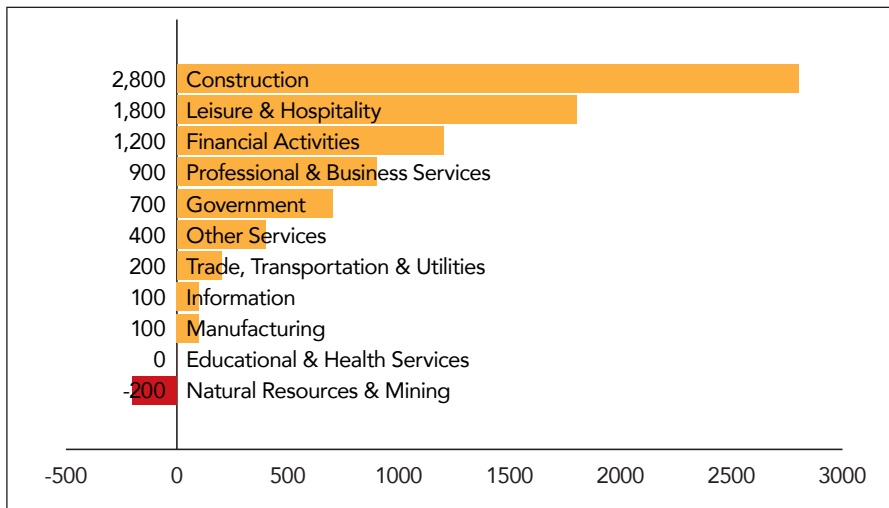
Pierce County Month-Over Job Gains and Losses

August 2017 – September 2017



Pierce County Year-Over Job Gains and Losses

September 2016 – 2017



MONTH-OVER JOB CHANGES¹

Five industries experienced month-over employment gains. Government experienced the largest month-over gain, adding 900 jobs to the region. Leisure & Hospitality added 600 jobs, Professional & Business Services and Educational & Health Services added 300 jobs each and Financial Activities added 200 jobs.

Three industries² (Information, Manufacturing and Natural Resources & Mining) showed no change. Three industries experienced month-over job losses. Trade, Transportation & Utilities reported the greatest loss with 900 jobs, followed by Construction (down 500) and Other Services (down 100). Overall, employers in Pierce County have added 800 net jobs in the past month.

YEAR-OVER JOB CHANGES

From September 2016 to September 2017, nine industries experienced year-over job growth. Construction continues to have the greatest year-over gains, adding 2,800 jobs to the region. Leisure & Hospitality added 1,800 jobs, Financial Activities added 1,200, and Professional & Business Services added 900 jobs each. There was also growth in Government (700 jobs), Other Services (400 jobs), Trade, Transportation & Utilities (200 jobs), Information (100 jobs) and Manufacturing (100 jobs).

Educational & Health Services experienced no year-over change, while Natural Resources & Mining experienced another year-over job loss of 200. Overall, employers in Pierce County have added 8,000 net jobs in the past year.

SUMMARY

Five industry sectors in Pierce County experienced month-over job gains in September, while nine sectors grew over the past year. Pierce County has gained a net of 800 jobs from August 2017 and 8,000 jobs since September 2016. However, Pierce County's unemployment rate of 4.8 percent is 0.4 percent higher than Washington's rate of 4.4 percent.³

1. 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.
2. 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
3. <https://fortress.wa.gov/esd/employmentdata/reports-publications/regional-reports/labor-area-summaries#Unemployment-rates>

