

APRIL SNAPSHOT: PIERCE COUNTY WORKFORCE DATA

The WorkForce Central Monthly Employment Report for Pierce County (March 2018 to April 2018) shows a dip in the unemployment rate to 5.4% largely due to a decline in the labor force. Employment is holding steady while the unemployment rate hovers above its year-ago estimate of 5.2%.¹



UNEMPLOYMENT
Down 0.4%, to 5.4%



PAYROLL JOBS
Increased by 3,800



LARGEST GAIN
Professional & Business Services, up 1,200



LABOR FORCE
Decreased by 1,973

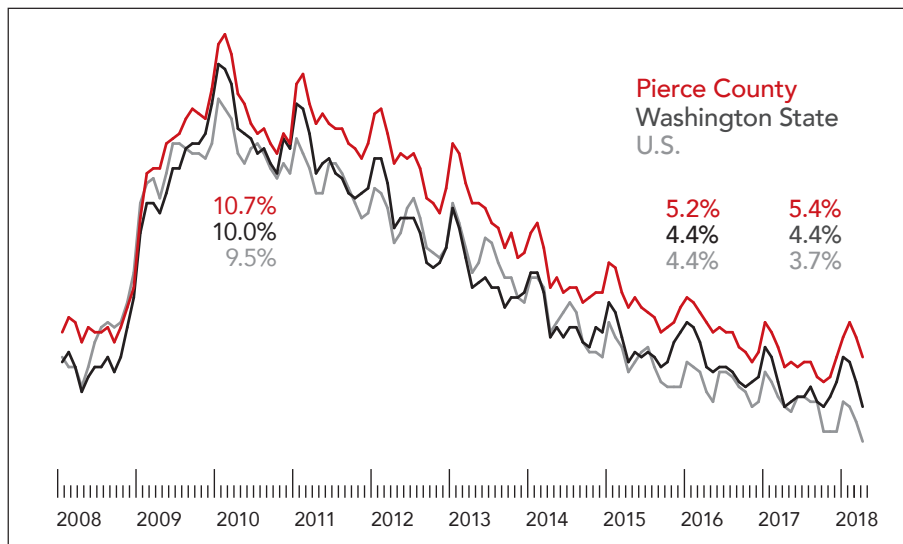


EMPLOYMENT
Decreased by 563



LARGEST DECLINE
None

Pierce County, Washington State and U.S. Unemployment Rates
January 2008 – April 2018



UNEMPLOYMENT

WorkForce Central reported a decrease in Pierce County's unemployment rate, from the revised March 2018 rate of 5.8 percent to 5.4 percent in April 2018. This is 0.2 percent higher than the year-ago estimate of 5.2 percent.

The unemployment rate is 5.3 percent below the highest April unemployment rate experienced in the region over the last 10 years (10.7 percent in 2010) but remains above the lowest (5.2 percent in 2017).

	Apr 2017	Mar 2018	Apr 2018	Change	
	Revised	Revised	Prelim	Month	Year
Civilian Labor Force	412,177	420,593	418,620	-1,973	6,443
Civilian Employment	390,602	396,383	395,820	-563	5,218
Civilian Unemployment	21,575	24,210	22,800	-1,410	1,225

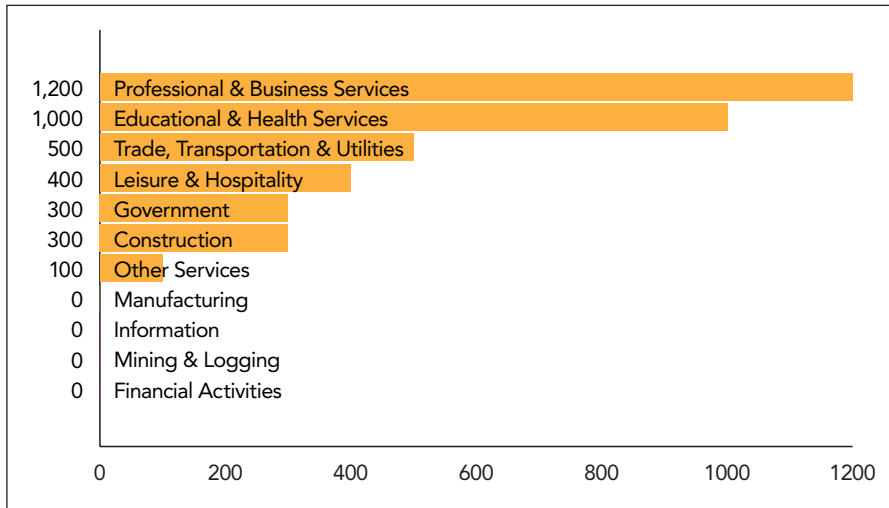
Data
Not
Seasonally
Adjusted



PIERCE COUNTY WORKFORCE DATA

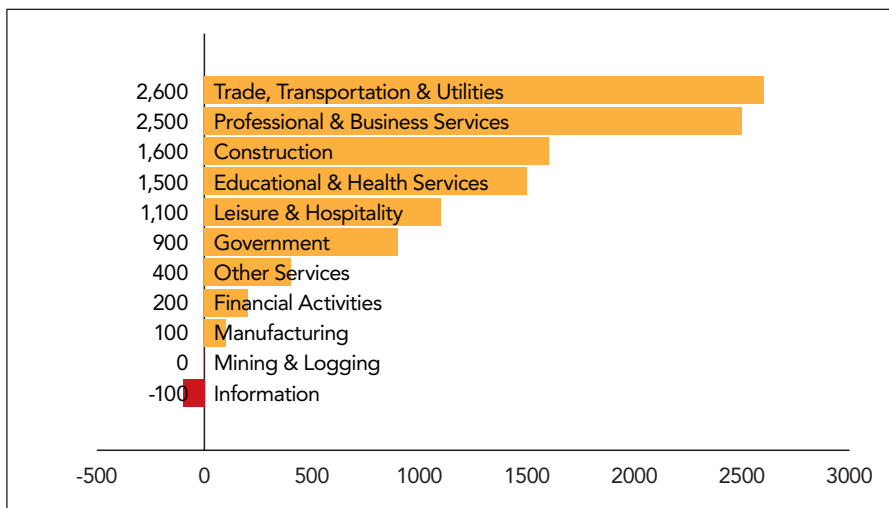
Pierce County Month-Over Job Gains and Losses

March 2018 – April 2018



Pierce County Year-Over Job Gains and Losses

April 2017 – April 2018



MONTH-OVER JOB CHANGES²

Seven industries experienced month-over employment gains. Professional & Business Services experienced the largest month-over job gain with 1,200 jobs. Educational & Health Services added 1,000 jobs, while Trade, Transportation & Utilities, Leisure & Hospitality, Government, Construction and Other Services also experienced job gains.

No industry experienced month-over job losses, while four industries³ (Manufacturing, Information, Mining & Logging and Financial Activities) showed no change. Overall, nonfarm employers in Pierce County gained 3,800 net jobs in the past month.

YEAR-OVER JOB CHANGES

From April 2017 to April 2018, nine industries experienced job growth. Trade, Transportation & Utilities continues to experience the greatest year-over gains, adding 2,600 jobs to the region. Professional & Business Services added 2,500 jobs, while Construction added 1,600 jobs, Educational & Health Services added 1,500 jobs and Leisure & Hospitality added 1,100 jobs. There also was growth in Government (900 jobs), Other Services (400 jobs), Financial Activities (200 jobs) and Manufacturing (100 jobs).

Mining & Logging experienced no year-over changes, while Information experienced the only year-over job loss of 100 jobs. Overall, nonfarm employers in Pierce County have added 10,800 net jobs in the past year.

SUMMARY

Seven industries experienced month-over job gains and nine industries experienced year-over job gains in Pierce County. Pierce County added a net of 3,800 nonfarm payroll jobs from March 2018 and 10,800 since April 2017. Pierce County's unemployment rate of 5.4 percent is 1 percent higher than Washington's rate of 4.4 percent.⁴

- Labor force, employment and unemployment are reported by place of residence, including self-employed individuals, unpaid family workers, household domestic workers & workers on strike.
- 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>

