

**OCTOBER
SNAPSHOT:**
**PIERCE COUNTY
WORKFORCE DATA**

The WorkForce Central Monthly Employment Report for Pierce County (September 2018 to October 2018) shows increases in the civilian labor force and employment, and an increase in the unemployment rate.¹



UNEMPLOYMENT
Up 0.2 percentage points, to 4.6%



PAYROLL JOBS
Increased by 1,700



LARGEST GAIN
Government, up 2,100



LABOR FORCE
Increased by 9,641

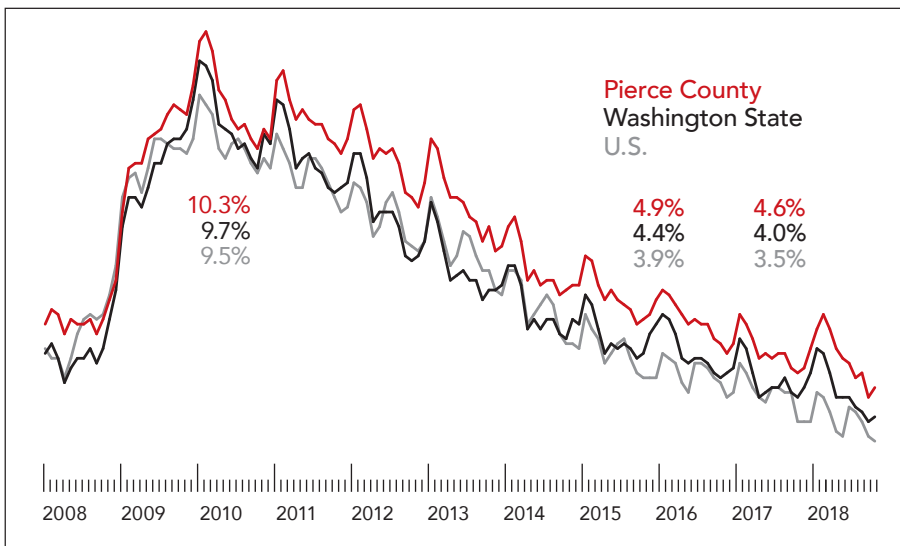


EMPLOYMENT
Increased by 8,352



LARGEST DECLINE
Leisure & Hospitality, down 1,000

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


UNEMPLOYMENT

WorkForce Central reported an increase in Pierce County's preliminary unemployment rate, from the September 2018 rate of 4.4 percent to 4.6 percent in October 2018. This is 0.3 percentage points lower than the year-ago estimate of 4.9 percent.²

This is the lowest October unemployment rate experienced in the region over the last 10 years, while the highest in this time frame was 10.3 percent in October 2009.

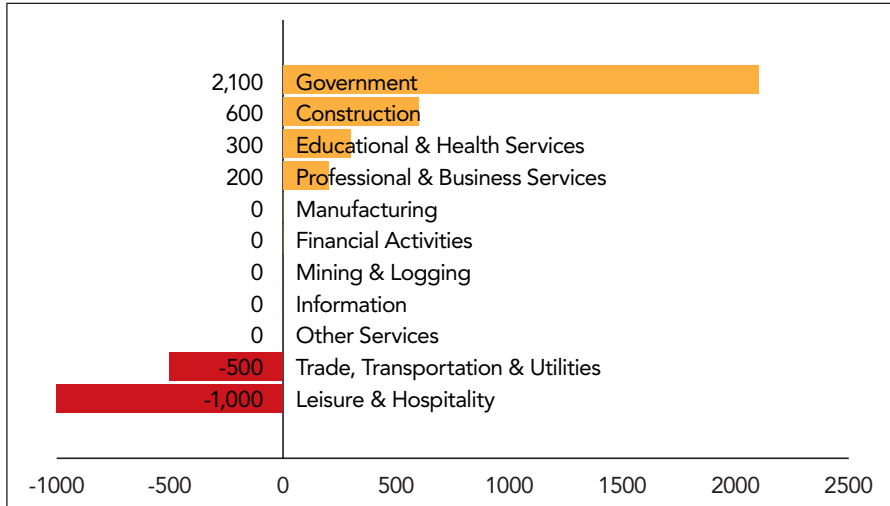
	Oct 2017	Sept 2018	Oct 2018	Change	
	Revised	Revised	Prelim	Month	Year
Civilian Labor Force	421,179	421,130	430,771	9,641	9,592
Civilian Employment	400,540	402,669	411,021	8,352	10,481
Civilian Unemployment	20,639	18,461	19,750	1,289	-889

Data
Not
Seasonally
Adjusted

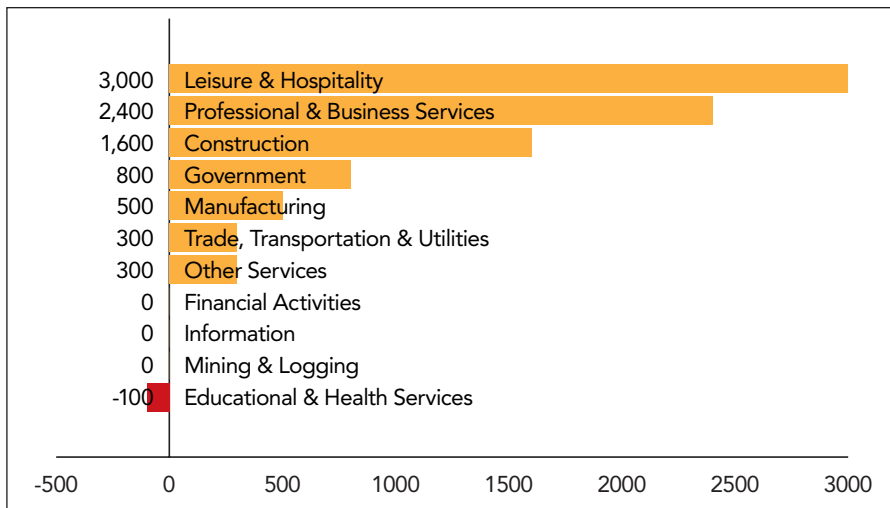


PIERCE COUNTY WORKFORCE DATA

Pierce County Month-Over Job Gains and Losses September 2018 – October 2018



Pierce County Year-Over Job Gains and Losses October 2017 – October 2018



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. <https://www.esd.wa.gov/labormarketinfo/labor-area-summaries>
3. 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.
4. 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
5. <https://fortress.wa.gov/esd/employmentdata/reports-publications/regional-reports/labor-area-summaries#Unemployment-rates>

MONTH-OVER JOB CHANGES³

Four industries⁴ experienced month-over employment gains. Government experienced the largest month-over job gain with 2,100 jobs added. This is typical for October, as government agencies start hiring in response to budget allocations arriving on October 1. Construction followed with a gain of 600 jobs, followed by Education & Health Services (up 300 jobs) and Professional & Business Services (up 200 jobs).

Two industries experienced month-over job losses, led by Leisure & Hospitality (down 1,000 jobs), and followed by Trade, Transportation & Utilities (down 500 jobs). The remaining five experienced no month-over changes. Overall, nonfarm employers in Pierce County added 1,700 net jobs to the economy in the past month.

YEAR-OVER JOB CHANGES

From October 2017 to October 2018, seven industries experienced job growth, with the largest gains showing in Leisure & Hospitality (up 3,000 jobs), Professional & Business Services (up 2,400 jobs), and Construction (up 1,600 jobs). Government, Manufacturing, Trade, Transportation & Utilities, and Other Services added several hundred jobs each.

Education & Health Services lost 100 jobs over the year, while the remaining three industries showed no year-over changes. Overall, nonfarm employers in Pierce County have added 8,800 net jobs to the economy in the past year.

SUMMARY

Four industries experienced month-over job gains and seven industries experienced year-over job gains in October. Pierce County added a net of 1,700 nonfarm payroll jobs from September 2018 and 8,800 since September 2017. Pierce County's preliminary October 2018 unemployment rate of 4.6 percent is 0.6 percentage points higher than Washington's rate of 4 percent.⁵

