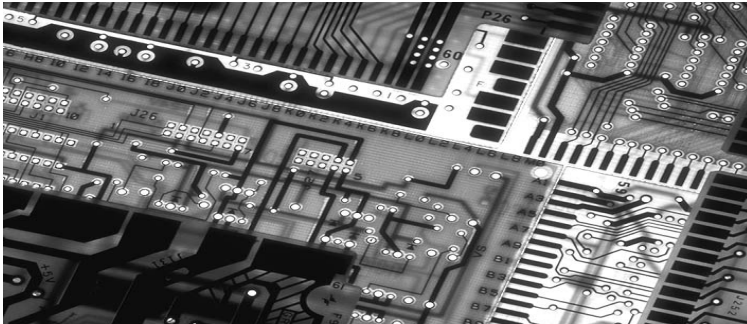


Washington State Labor Area Summaries



Prepared by the
Labor Market and
Economic Analysis Branch
(360) 438-4800
Greg Weeks, Director



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 **Washington State
Employment Security**

May 2002—Volume 17, Number 5

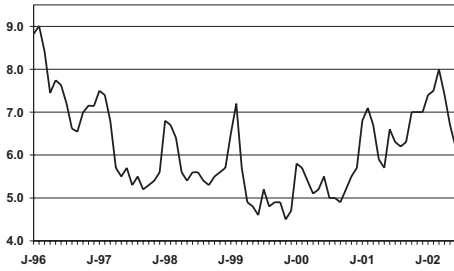
Resident Labor Force and Employment in Washington State and Labor Market Areas 1/

Not seasonally adjusted	April 2002 Preliminary				March 2002 Revised				April 2001 Revised			
	Labor Force	Employed	Unemploy.	Rate	Labor Force	Employed	Unemploy.	Rate	Labor Force	Employed	Unemploy.	Rate
United States (in 1,000s)	141,886	133,740	8,146	5.7	142,092	133,433	8,659	6.1	141,073	135,122	5,951	4.2
Washington State Total	3,005,000	2,795,600	209,400	7.0	3,021,000	2,801,500	219,500	7.3	2,978,500	2,803,600	174,900	5.9
Bellingham MSA	80,400	75,400	5,000	6.2	80,700	75,200	5,400	6.7	79,800	75,000	4,700	5.9
Bremerton PMSA	94,200	88,700	5,500	5.9	95,200	89,300	5,900	6.2	91,700	86,700	5,000	5.5
Olympia PMSA	101,600	96,100	5,500	5.4	101,900	96,100	5,900	5.7	98,700	93,400	5,300	5.3
Seattle-Bellevue-Everett PMSA	1,359,500	1,271,200	88,200	6.5	1,374,900	1,285,100	89,800	6.5	1,360,100	1,299,100	61,000	4.5
King County 2/	994,500	932,700	61,700	6.2	1,005,500	942,900	62,600	6.2	997,300	953,200	44,100	4.4
Snohomish County 2/	336,600	311,700	24,900	7.4	340,700	315,100	25,500	7.5	334,300	318,600	15,800	4.7
Island County 2/	28,400	26,800	1,600	5.6	28,700	27,000	1,600	5.7	28,510	27,340	1,170	4.1
Spokane MSA	206,800	193,400	13,400	6.5	208,700	193,200	15,500	7.4	208,800	196,200	12,600	6.1
Tacoma PMSA	335,600	311,500	24,100	7.2	337,300	312,700	24,600	7.3	327,400	308,100	19,300	5.9
Tri-Cities MSA	98,800	93,100	5,800	5.8	96,300	90,100	6,200	6.4	92,800	86,600	6,300	6.7
Benton County 2/	75,200	71,300	3,900	5.2	73,200	69,000	4,200	5.7	70,500	66,300	4,100	5.9
Franklin County 2/	23,600	21,700	1,800	7.8	23,100	21,100	2,000	8.8	22,400	20,200	2,100	9.5
Yakima MSA	102,600	92,000	10,600	10.4	102,200	90,500	11,700	11.4	104,000	91,900	12,200	11.7
Adams	8,040	7,090	940	11.7	7,540	6,750	790	10.5	7,510	6,800	710	9.5
Asotin 2/	11,640	11,060	580	5.0	11,680	11,100	590	5.0	11,460	10,940	520	4.5
Chelan-Douglas LMA	49,440	45,190	4,250	8.6	49,250	44,700	4,550	9.2	49,840	45,510	4,330	8.7
Chelan County 2/	31,880	28,810	3,060	9.6	31,720	28,500	3,220	10.1	32,060	29,020	3,040	9.5
Douglas County 2/	17,560	16,370	1,190	6.7	17,530	16,200	1,330	7.6	17,780	16,490	1,290	7.2
Clallam	23,870	22,160	1,710	7.2	24,060	22,100	1,960	8.1	23,770	22,040	1,730	7.3
Clark 2/	181,900	166,600	15,300	8.4	182,700	167,100	15,600	8.5	177,900	167,400	10,500	5.9
Columbia	1,770	1,620	150	8.6	1,220	1,060	160	12.9	1,830	1,660	170	9.4
Cowlitz	40,130	35,650	4,480	11.2	39,880	35,670	4,210	10.6	40,900	36,390	4,510	11.0
Ferry	2,530	2,200	340	13.2	2,550	2,160	390	15.3	2,440	1,990	450	18.5
Garfield	1,180	1,140	50	3.9	1,170	1,110	60	4.9	1,130	1,090	40	3.8
Grant	36,910	33,530	3,380	9.2	35,830	32,140	3,690	10.3	35,140	31,490	3,650	10.4
Grays Harbor	25,840	23,680	2,160	8.3	26,120	23,620	2,500	9.6	25,530	22,730	2,810	11.0
Jefferson	11,140	10,470	670	6.0	11,110	10,380	730	6.6	10,810	10,210	600	5.5
Kittitas	15,640	14,630	1,010	6.5	15,770	14,600	1,180	7.5	15,280	14,220	1,060	6.9
Klickitat	7,710	6,650	1,050	13.6	7,800	6,590	1,220	15.6	8,160	6,750	1,410	17.3
Lewis	28,830	26,420	2,410	8.3	28,810	26,150	2,650	9.2	27,580	24,910	2,670	9.7
Lincoln	4,690	4,460	230	4.9	4,610	4,330	280	6.1	4,530	4,320	210	4.7
Mason	19,450	18,170	1,290	6.6	19,500	18,010	1,490	7.6	18,030	16,660	1,370	7.6
Okanogan	17,790	15,950	1,840	10.3	17,610	15,460	2,150	12.2	19,020	16,840	2,180	11.5
Pacific	7,850	7,240	610	7.7	7,790	7,110	680	8.7	7,410	6,690	730	9.8
Pend Oreille	4,330	3,900	430	10.0	4,410	3,910	510	11.5	4,090	3,610	480	11.7
San Juan	6,290	6,010	280	4.4	6,120	5,790	330	5.3	6,030	5,790	250	4.1
Skagit	51,810	47,970	3,830	7.4	51,210	47,250	3,960	7.7	50,700	47,340	3,360	6.6
Skamania	3,780	3,370	410	10.8	3,840	3,370	470	12.2	3,640	3,230	410	11.3
Stevens	16,000	14,180	1,820	11.4	16,130	14,010	2,120	13.1	16,050	14,050	2,000	12.5
Wahkiakum	1,690	1,560	130	7.4	1,720	1,570	150	8.8	1,720	1,580	140	8.2
Walla Walla	25,980	24,420	1,560	6.0	26,150	24,380	1,770	6.8	25,760	23,930	1,830	7.1
Whitman	19,250	18,860	390	2.0	19,340	18,880	460	2.4	18,940	18,530	400	2.1

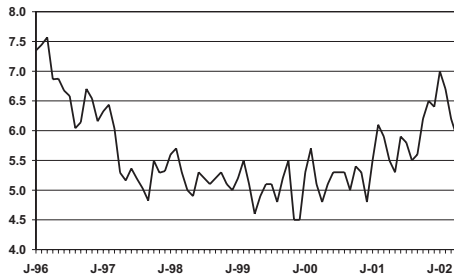
1/ Official U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics data. 2/ Estimates are determined by using the Population/Claims Share disaggregation methodology.
 Note: Detail may not add due to rounding.

MSA Jobless Rates 1996-2002

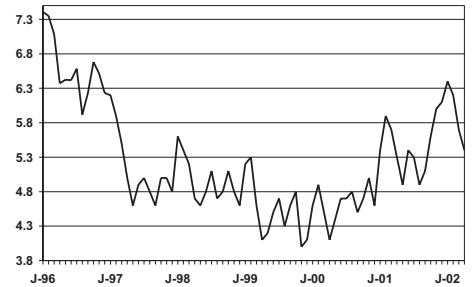
Bellingham MSA



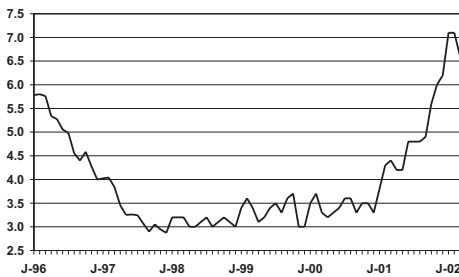
Bremerton PMSA



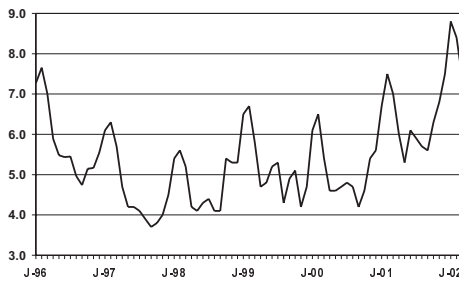
Olympia PMSA



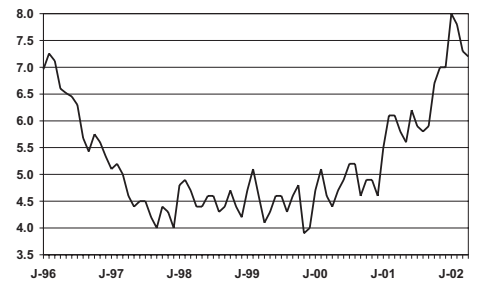
Seattle-Bellevue-Everett PMSA



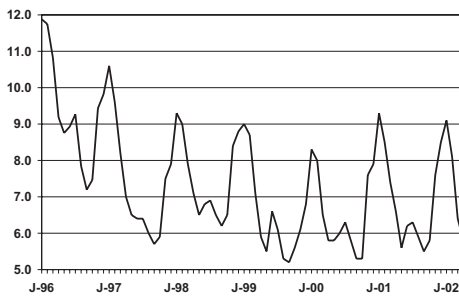
Spokane MSA



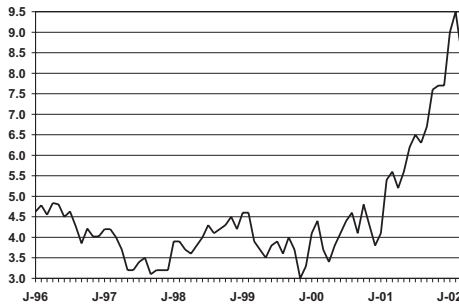
Tacoma PMSA



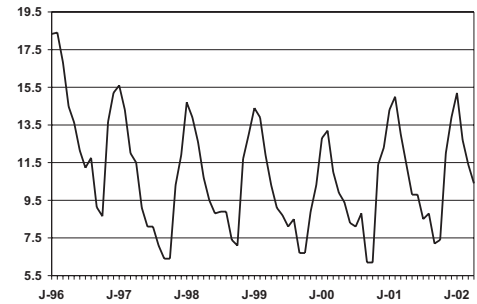
Richland-Kennewick-Pasco MSA



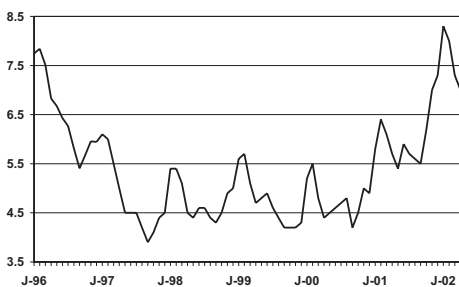
Clark County



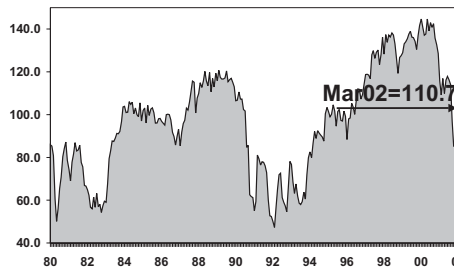
Yakima MSA



Washington State



**Index of Consumer Confidence
1980-2002**



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- MSA Econ. Profiles p. 35*

Across the MSA

Latest pop & reader trends

The 2002 population figures recently released by the Office of Financial Management bring to light some significant demographic changes throughout the state.



Despite 8,624 births offset by 3,532 deaths, Yakima County gained only 2,419 people in the last two years: this was not due to bad math, but to negative net migration: an estimated 2,672 more people moved out than moved in, voting with their feet in response to fewer employment opportunities. Many of those outmigrating may have been workers who were left jobless because of a decline in agricultural or food processing jobs.

Kitsap County's net migration of only 13 people was the lowest in many years. By comparison, Kitsap's net migration totaled 22,605 from 1990 to 2000. Meanwhile, Thurston County (which is only slightly smaller) had net migration of 2,924 from 2000 to 2002.

Retirement havens such as Clallam, Jefferson, Pacific and San Juan counties had more deaths than births (or negative natural increase). This also happened to the big farm counties such as Columbia, Garfield and Lincoln which have large segments of persons 65 and older. In all these counties such senior cohorts constitute 19 to over 22 percent of the population compared to 11 percent statewide and therefore help inflate the median age to as high as 43 to 47 years compared to the state median of 35.

Decelerating somewhat from the pace of previous years, Washington's total head count reached 6,041,700 in 2002, according to OFM estimates (using 2000 Census data as the benchmark). Theresa Lowe, chief demographer, noted that "slower population growth is consistent with the downturn in the economy."

LAS readers have their own trends

The LAS reader survey conducted in March has uncovered many readers' preferences and proclivities.

Old habits persist: even though 43 percent of the 321 respondents said they accessed labor market information from LMEA's

Population and Components of Population Change 2000-2002

	Census 2000	Estimate 2001	Estimate 2002	Change 00-02	% Change 00-02	Births 00-02	Deaths 00-02	Nat. Increase 00-02	Net Migration 00-02	Rank By % Chg.	Rank By Pop.
Washington	5,894,121	5,974,900	6,041,700	147,579	2.5	162,717	89,577	73,140	74,439		
Adams	16,428	16,600	16,600	172	1.05	705	223	482	-310	24	31
Asotin	20,551	20,700	20,700	149	0.73	536	471	65	84	29	29
Benton	142,475	144,800	147,600	5,125	3.6	4,351	1,712	2,639	2,486	6	10
Chelan	66,616	67,100	67,600	984	1.48	2,005	1,091	914	70	19	17
Clallam	64,179	65,454	64,900	721	1.12	1,247	1,644	-397	1,118	22	18
Clark	345,238	352,600	363,400	18,162	5.26	10,584	4,657	5,927	12,235	1	5
Columbia	4,064	4,100	4,100	36	0.89	43	115	-72	108	25	37
Cowlitz	92,948	93,900	94,400	1,452	1.56	2,588	1,876	712	740	17	12
Douglas	32,603	32,800	33,100	497	1.52	962	487	474	23	18	26
Ferry	7,260	7,300	7,300	40	0.55	149	141	7	33	32	36
Franklin	49,347	50,400	51,300	1,953	3.96	2,221	592	1,629	324	3	20
Garfield	2,397	2,400	2,400	3	0.13	55	59	-4	7	36	39
Grant	74,698	75,900	76,400	1,702	2.28	2,902	1,126	1,775	-73	11	13
Grays Harbor	67,194	68,500	68,400	1,206	1.79	1,679	1,589	90	1,116	16	16
Island	71,558	72,400	73,100	1,542	2.15	1,899	1,028	871	671	12	14
Jefferson	26,299	26,446	26,600	301	1.14	442	571	-129	430	21	27
King	1,737,034	1,758,300	1,774,300	37,266	2.15	45,011	24,334	20,677	16,589	13	1
Kitsap	231,969	233,400	234,700	2,731	1.18	6,140	3,422	2,718	13	20	6
Kittitas	33,362	34,000	34,800	1,438	4.31	740	465	275	1,163	2	25
Klickitat	19,161	19,300	19,300	139	0.73	481	387	94	45	28	30
Lewis	68,600	69,500	70,200	1,600	2.33	1,899	1,542	357	1,243	10	15
Lincoln	10,184	10,200	10,200	16	0.16	224	246	-22	38	35	34
Mason	49,405	49,600	49,800	395	0.8	1,153	1,018	136	259	27	21
Okanogan	39,564	39,700	39,800	236	0.6	1,159	735	424	-188	30	24
Pacific	20,984	21,000	21,000	16	0.08	346	571	-225	241	37	28
Pend Oreille	11,732	11,800	11,800	68	0.58	267	195	72	-4	31	33
Pierce	700,820	713,400	725,000	24,180	3.45	20,257	10,429	9,827	14,353	7	2
San Juan	14,077	14,400	14,600	523	3.72	175	223	-48	571	4	32
Skagit	102,979	104,100	105,100	2,121	2.06	2,712	1,907	806	1,315	14	11
Skamania	9,872	9,900	9,900	28	0.28	253	160	93	-65	34	35
Snohomish	606,024	618,600	628,000	21,976	3.63	17,282	7,831	9,451	12,525	5	3
Spokane	417,939	422,400	425,600	7,661	1.83	11,275	7,436	3,839	3,822	15	4
Stevens	40,066	40,300	40,400	334	0.83	966	711	255	79	26	23
Thurston	207,355	210,200	212,300	4,945	2.38	5,084	3,064	2,021	2,924	9	8
Wahkiakum	3,824	3,800	3,800	-24	-0.63	75	88	-13	-11	39	38
Walla Walla	55,180	55,200	55,400	220	0.4	1,363	1,091	272	-52	33	19
Whatcom	166,814	170,600	172,200	5,386	3.23	3,982	2,345	1,637	3,749	8	9
Whitman	40,740	40,300	40,600	-140	-0.34	882	463	420	-560	38	22
Yakima	222,581	224,500	225,000	2,419	1.09	8,624	3,532	5,091	-2,672	23	7

Note: Actual vital events through December 2000. Detail may not add due to rounding. Unrounded numbers do not imply precision. Rankings done on unrounded numbers. OFM Forecasting, State of Washington June 28, 2002

home page, 52 percent indicated they still wanted a printed copy of the *Labor Area Summaries*.

The bias for paper also showed up in other responses: 60 percent of respondents said they passed around the print version of the LAS to coworkers in their organization or business. And a striking 72 percent said they archived each month's LAS for future reference.

Telephone access not so popular: only 16 percent had used the LMI toll-free number (800-215-1617). Unfortunately, the LAS questionnaire did not clearly differentiate regular from one-time or occasional use. In summary: it's paper, paper, paper.

By Jack Schillinger

Washington State LABOR AREA SUMMARY



Bellingham MSA



HIGHLIGHTS

Joblessness for April in the Bellingham MSA followed the state trendline and fell over the month to 6.2 percent of the civilian labor force. This number compared auspiciously to 6.7 in March but unfavorably to the rosy 5.9 rate posted last April. Spelled out, the 6.2 percent rate meant 75,400 residents at work and 5,000 unemployed. A year ago 75,000 were working while 4,700 sought employment.

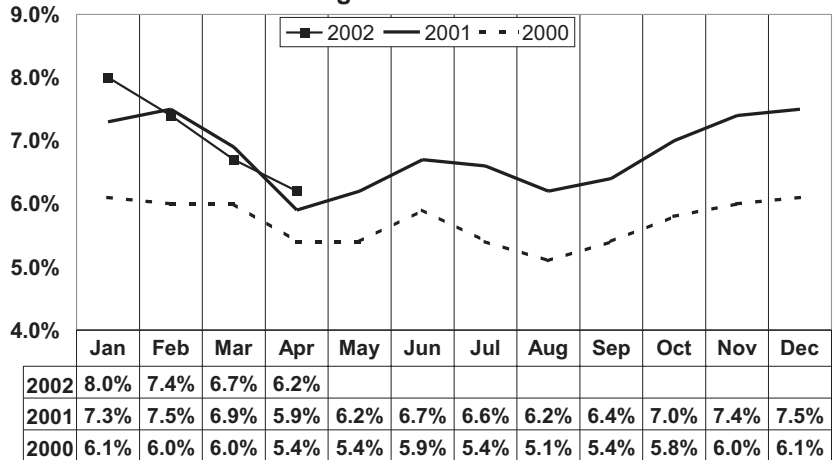
Washington state, still in the trough, saw its rate dip from 7.3 to 7.0 percent in April, up dramatically from the 5.9 rate of April 2001. Sloughing off recession, the U.S rate dipped over the month from 6.1 to 5.7 percent, up from the revised 4.2 of April 2001.

Nonag jobs in the MSA got a boost as springtime inspired growth over the month. Nonag employment totaled 66,800 in April, up 700 from March. But in the give and take of all things economic, national, state and local forces conspired to take away 1,200 jobs over the year.

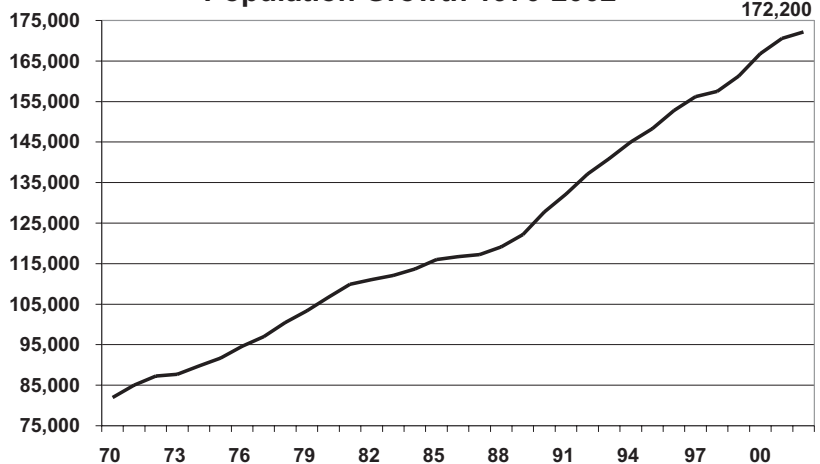
The over the year calculus showed MFG off by 900, construction down 400, and trade and government nicked by 200 each. But like last month, services was the knight in resplendent armor, providing succor to 300 over last April.

But, despite hard times, the local population did fairly swell (see chart), with many folk in-migrating.

Unemployment Rates by Month
Bellingham MSA 2000-2002



Bellingham MSA
Population Growth 1970-2002



Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers Employed in the Bellingham MSA (Whatcom County)



	<i>Change</i>					
	Apr. 2002 1/	Mar. 2002	Apr. 2001	Mar-02 Apr-02	Apr-01 Apr-02	Yr-Yr %
TOTAL 2/	66,800	66,100	68,400	700	-1,600	-2.3%
MANUFACTURING	8,700	8,700	9,600	0	-900	-9.4%
Lumber & Wood Products	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	0	0.0%
Food Processing	1,400	1,400	1,500	0	-100	-6.7%
MINING & MISC	500	500	600	0	-100	-16.7%
CONSTRUCTION	5,200	5,100	5,600	100	-400	-7.1%
TRANSPORTATION & UTILITIES	3,300	3,300	3,300	0	0	0.0%
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	17,000	16,900	17,200	100	-200	-1.2%
FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE	2,400	2,400	2,500	0	-100	-4.0%
SERVICES	17,300	17,200	17,000	100	300	1.8%
GOVERNMENT	12,400	12,000	12,600	400	-200	-1.6%
Federal	900	800	800	100	100	12.5%
State	3,500	3,400	3,600	100	-100	-2.8%
Local	8,000	7,800	8,200	200	-200	-2.4%
Labor-Management Disputes	0	0	0	xxx	xxx	

Continued...

1/Preliminary. Totals may not add due to rounding. 2/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of the armed services, unpaid family, workers in private households and agricultural workers. Includes full- and part-time workers who received pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month, by place of work. This information is also available on the Internet at:

<http://www.wa.gov/esd/lmea>

Washington State LABOR AREA SUMMARY



Bremerton PMSA

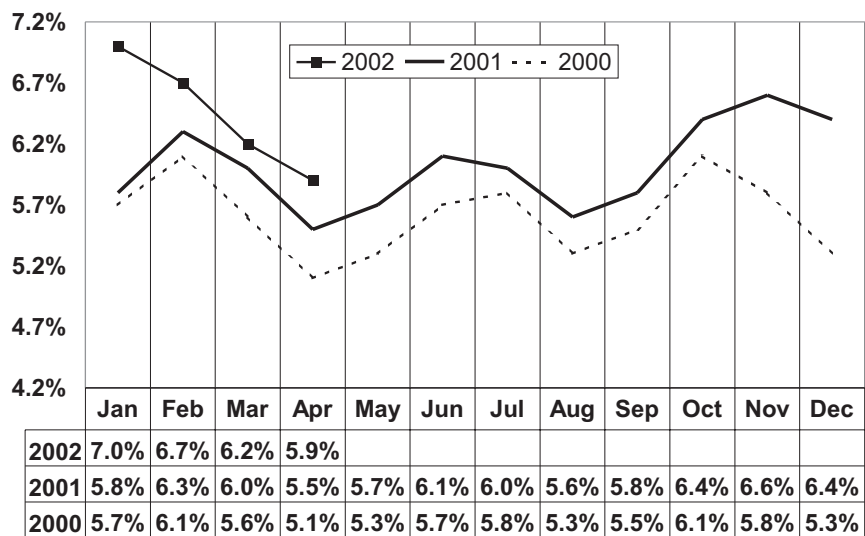
HIGHLIGHTS

The Bremerton PMSA continued in its jerky up and down movement in April, but the overall growth trend still maintained a fractional edge over year-ago numbers (see table and chart next page). Total nonag reached 74,400 in April, down 200 over the same month last year, but up by 300 from March due to a spring-time surge in trade.

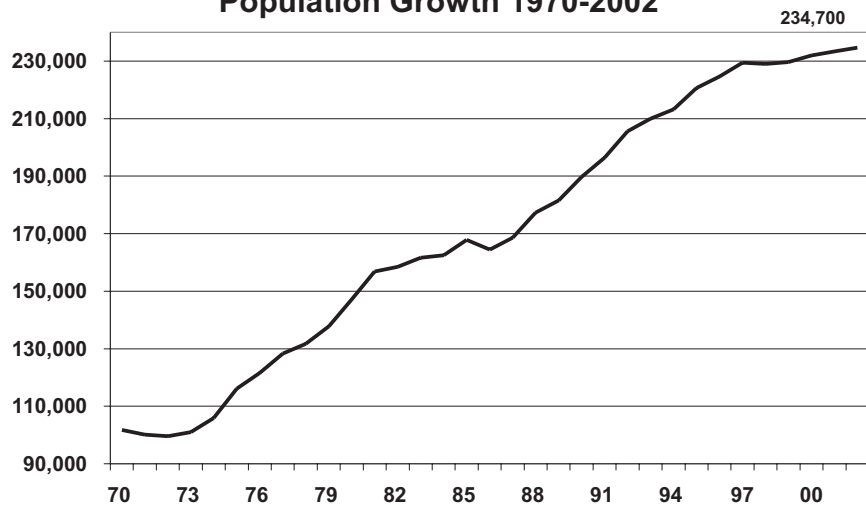
Unemployment on the peninsula continued to decline, dropping from 6.2 in March to 5.9 in April. By the way, this 5.9 figure adds another footnote or exclamation mark to Kitsap's historical record relative to its mega neighbor to the east: for once in a year of Sundays (11 years) the Bremerton PMSA has posted a jobless rate below that of the Seattle-Bellevue-Everett PMSA, which was 6.5 percent in April. The last time Kitsap had a lower rate was in April 1991 when the area registered 4.6 percent versus S-B-E's 4.8 percent. And this was just coming off the mall building boom of 1990 when Kitsap's annual average stood at 3.9 percent.

Recently released population data for 2002 show that the number of total inhabitants increased by 2,731 from the 2000 Census. What is remarkable is that natural increase (births minus deaths) accounted for 2,718 of the growth, leaving a mere 13 people to tip the balance to the net migration side (in-migration less out-migration). Anybody know these people?

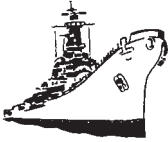
Unemployment Rates by Month
Bremerton PMSA 2000-2002



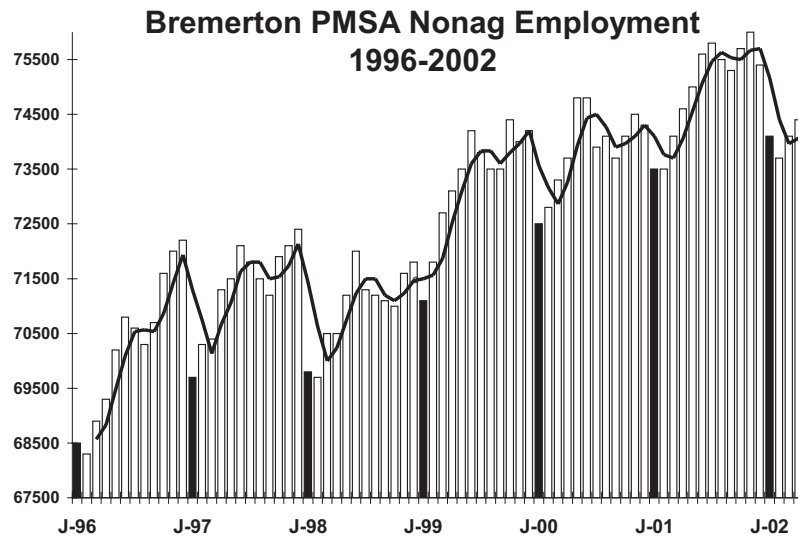
Bremerton PMSA
Population Growth 1970-2002



Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers Employed in the Bremerton PMSA (Kitsap County)



	<i>Change</i>					Yr-Yr %
	Apr. 2002 1/	Mar. 2002	Apr. 2001	Mar-02 Apr-02	Apr-01 Apr-02	
TOTAL 2/	74,400	74,100	74,600	300	-200	-0.3%
MANUFACTURING	2,400	2,300	2,300	100	100	4.3%
MINING AND MISCELLANEOUS	700	700	800	0	-100	-12.5%
CONSTRUCTION	4,000	4,000	4,300	0	-300	-7.0%
TRANSPORT., AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	2,100	2,100	2,200	0	-100	-4.5%
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	16,900	16,700	16,700	200	200	1.2%
FINANCE, INSUR. AND REAL ESTATE	2,700	2,700	2,600	0	100	3.8%
SERVICES	19,300	19,300	19,300	0	0	0.0%
GOVERNMENT	26,300	26,300	26,400	0	-100	-0.4%
Labor-Management Disputes	0	0	0	xx	xx	



1/Preliminary. Totals may not add due to rounding. 2/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of the armed services, unpaid family, workers in private households and agricultural workers. Includes full- and part-time workers who received during the pay period including the 12th of the month, by place of work. This information is also available on the Internet at:

<http://www.wa.gov/lesdllmea>

Prepared by the
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Washington State
Employment Security 

Washington State LABOR AREA SUMMARY

Olympia PMSA

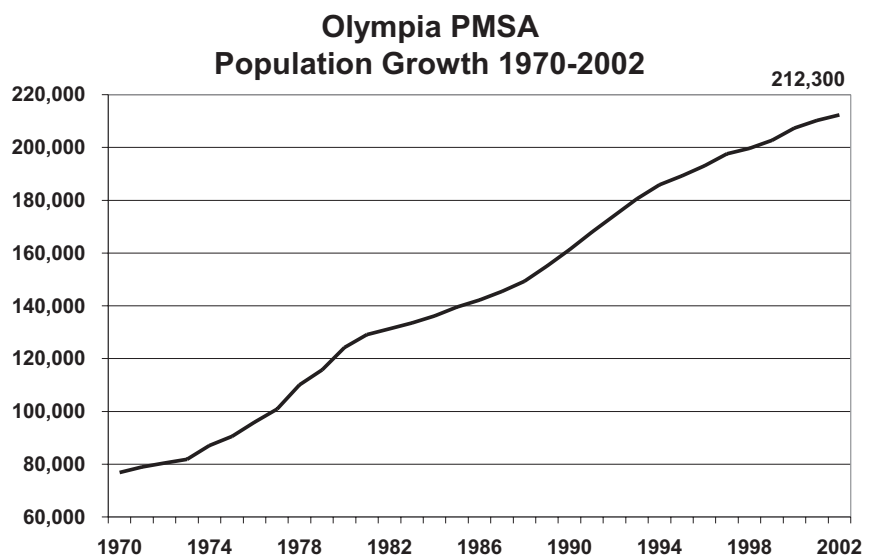


HIGHLIGHTS

Employment conditions in the Olympia labor market were somewhat mixed in April. Overall nonag employment in the PMSA increased by 500 jobs as seasonal factors served to bolster the construction and trade industries. Each area posted a gain of 100 jobs. Growth in business service employment, particularly in help supply services, helped to propel employment in the services producing sector forward by 200 jobs. Government employment was weaker as reductions in state sector areas began showing up. Federal government increased by a modest 100 jobs probably due to expanding defense-related opportunities.

The service sector continues to lead the way toward a local recovery with employment in this area 400 jobs higher than this same time last year. Residential employment remained flat, however. The unemployment rate experienced a three-tenths drop to 5.4 percent as potential job seekers chose to remain more on the sidelines until the market improved.

The statewide employment picture remained weak even as the unadjusted unemployment rate declined from 7.3 to 7 percent. This decline amounts to roughly half of what is normally expected for this time of year. Consequently, when the seasonal adjustment is applied, the unemployment rate rises to 7.1 percent from last month's adjusted 6.8 percent. The



weaker employment prospects perceived by job seekers statewide again acts as a deterrent from entering the labor force and accounts for the north-south feel of the unemployment rates.

Nationally, a somewhat different picture of the economy has emerged. A final goodbye to the recession was given by the report on first quarter Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth. The early reading showed the economy grew at a 5.8 percent clip, outdistancing all expectations. Most of the accumulated business inventories had been reduced to such an extent that major replenishment was required. April business inventories in fact fell by two-tenths of a percent,

continuing the strong sales trend of recent months. Inventories are down 6 percent since the recession began, and are now at 1999 levels. Industrial production has continued its upward climb, and capacity utilization rose to 75.5 percent this month. This is the highest that the capacity utilization rate has reached since last September. The implication is that the deep contraction in manufacturing is finally at an end. The impact this is having on the labor market is gradually being felt. It is even harder to see unless one looks hard. The national economy created 43,000 jobs in April. However, this month marks the second straight month that the previous month's gains were revised from positive to negative.

Continued next page

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers Employed in the Olympia PMSA (Thurston County)



	Change					
	Apr. 2002 1/	Mar. 2002	Apr. 2001	Mar-02 Apr-02	Apr-01 Apr-02	Yr-Yr %
TOTAL 2/	87,200	86,700	86,650	500	550	0.6%
GOODS PRODUCING	7,400	7,300	7,750	100	-350	-4.5%
MINING	100	100	50	0	50	100.0%
CONSTRUCTION	3,700	3,600	3,900	100	-200	-5.1%
MANUFACTURING	3,600	3,600	3,800	0	-200	-5.3%
SERVICES PRODUCING	79,800	79,400	78,900	400	900	1.1%
TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS, UTILITIES	2,300	2,300	2,300	0	0	0.0%
TRADE	16,800	16,700	16,800	100	0	0.0%
FINANCE, INSURANCE, REAL-ESTATE	3,400	3,400	3,200	0	200	6.3%
SERVICES	20,800	20,600	20,400	200	400	2.0%
GOVERNMENT	36,500	36,400	36,200	100	300	0.8%
FEDERAL	1,200	1,100	1,100	100	100	9.1%
U.S. Postal Service	500	500	500	0	0	0.0%
Other Federal	700	600	600	100	100	16.7%
STATE 3/	23,900	24,100	23,800	-200	100	0.4%
Education Services	2,500	2,500	2,500	0	0	0.0%
Non-Education	21,400	21,600	21,300	-200	100	0.5%
LOCAL	11,400	11,200	11,300	200	100	0.9%
Education Services	6,700	6,600	7,300	100	-600	-8.2%
Non-Education	4,700	4,600	4,000	100	700	17.5%
<i>Cities and Towns</i>	3,100	3,100	2,500	0	600	24.0%
<i>Other Local Non-Education</i>	1,600	1,500	1,500	100	100	6.7%
LABOR DISPUTES	0	0	0	xxx	xxx	

Continued...

Although the unemployment rate surged to 6 percent, it contained some good news. The labor force grew by 565,000 in April after shrinking by 206,000 in March. People are back looking for employment, as prospects appear to be brightening. Initial jobless claims also fell during the month and appeared headed toward the key 400,000 mark that generally defines

struggling or soft labor market conditions. Sustained growth will be necessary in order to create continual improvement in the labor market. Right now it appears the economy is knocking on that door.

1/Preliminary. Totals may not add due to rounding. 2/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of the armed services, unpaid family, workers in private households and agricultural workers. Includes full- and part-time workers who received pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month, by place of work. 3/ State government employment estimates are for jobs, not for full-time equivalent (FTE) positions, and therefore may differ from data available from other state agencies. This information is also available on the Internet at:

<http://www.wa.gov/lesdllmea>

Washington State LABOR AREA SUMMARY



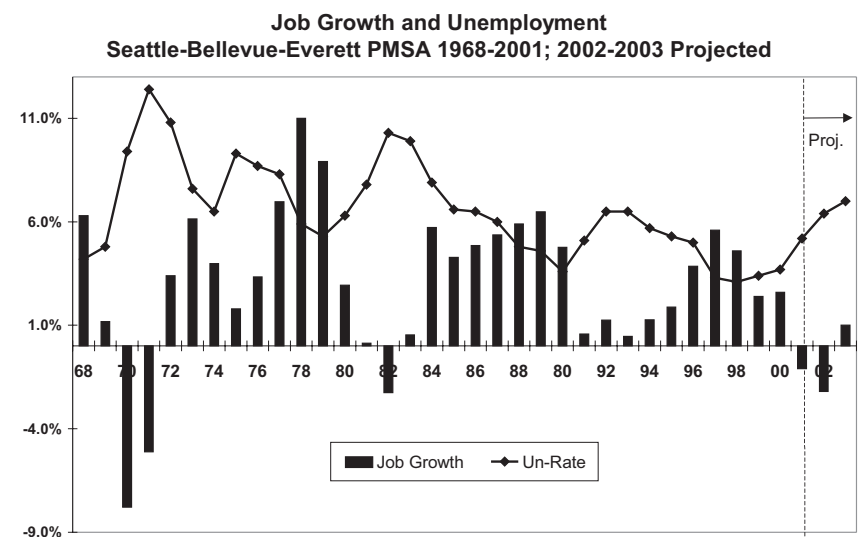
Seattle/Bellevue/Everett PMSA

HIGHLIGHTS

May unemployment rates in Washington and metropolitan Seattle remained nearly unchanged despite another month of weakness in the job supply. The reason for the relative stability in unemployment was a labor force which shrank statewide by 12,000 persons, relative to what is typical for the season, as unemployed workers stayed out of the still unfavorable local and statewide labor markets. Statewide the unemployment rate was nearly constant at 7.1 percent in May, down very slightly from April's 7.2 percent (seasonally adjusted). (April was itself revised upward to 7.2 percent from the preliminary 7.1 percent, a jump from March's 6.8 percent, statewide, seasonally adjusted. Revisions of .1 percentage points are common between the preliminary and revised unemployment rate figures.)

Unemployment rates in the core Puget Sound counties of Snohomish, King and Pierce also remained flat; between April and May, there is typically much fluctuation based on weather patterns. And so flat unemployment figures, despite not being seasonally adjusted, are reflecting the purely seasonal aspects of the labor market.

Statewide, the May job supply was flat (i.e. the apparent gain of 18,000 jobs was purely seasonal—no real job growth). Over-the-year, i.e. May to May, job losses reached minus



–68,500 (using data revised in collaboration between Employment Security & the State Office of the Forecast Council).

Seattle job losses continued in May across many industries, on a seasonally adjusted basis—despite apparent over-the-month gains due to purely seasonal hiring. The job supply fell by –1,500 jobs, following a 2,600 job loss the previous month, and so it is unfortunately premature to pronounce the recession over in the metropolitan Seattle area (King & Snohomish Counties). But certainly the trend-line of job declines has tapered off significantly;

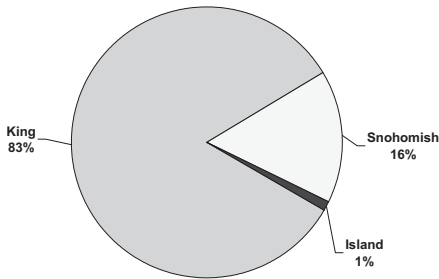
we appear to be in the flat part of the trough of the cycle. And that's good news. Most manufacturing sectors outside of aircraft and parts, home to the Boeing Company, have leveled off. Construction still shows declines, as does communications. But trade and services are no longer showing sharp downward numbers, and may even be starting upward in hiring patterns. May to May decline in the job supply was minus –50,100 jobs, which represents almost three-fourths of statewide job loss over the last 12 months.

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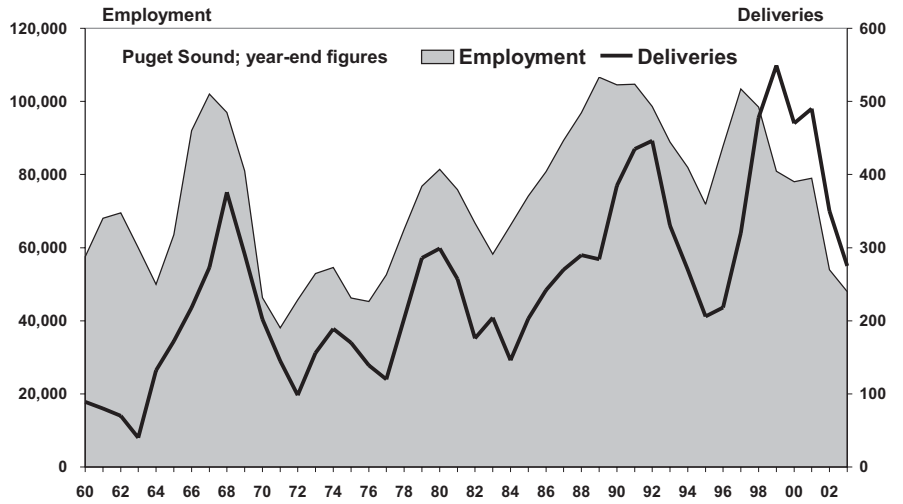
■ **Tech Notes**

The term "Metropolitan Seattle" is the informal title of a statistical labor market designated by the U.S. Dept. of Labor since 1958 to comprise King, Snohomish and Island Counties, combined, and is labeled "Seattle-Bellevue-Everett" in our tables. This labor market accounts for 50 percent of the state's nonfarm employment base.

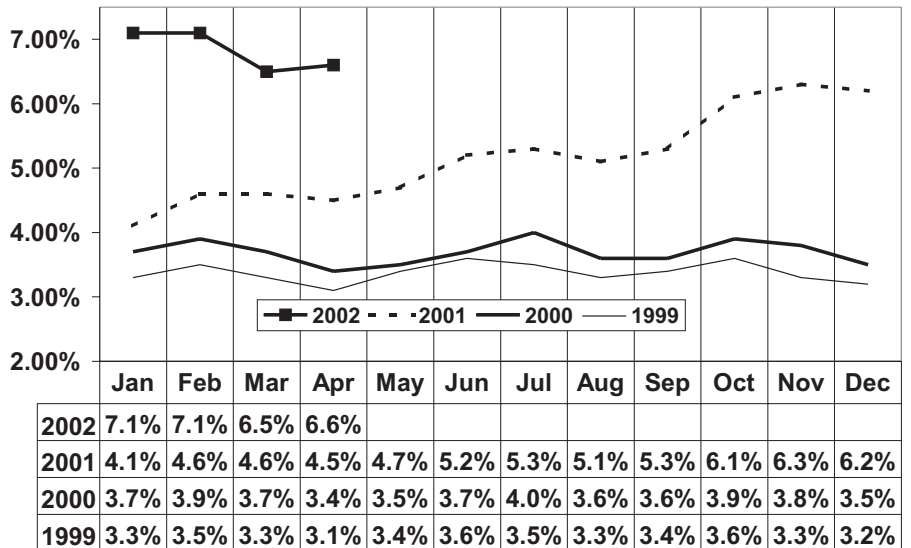
Seattle Jobs 2001
King vs. Snohomish vs. Island



Boeing Cycles: Plane Deliveries & Employment
1960-2001; 2002 & 2003 Projected



Unemployment Rates by Month
Seattle-Bellevue-Everett PMSA 1999-2002



**Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers
Employed in the Seattle-Bellevue-Everett PMSA
(King, Snohomish and Island Counties)**



INDUSTRY 1/ 2/	Change					
	Preliminary Apr-02	Revised Mar-02	Revised Apr-01	Mar-02 Apr-02	Apr-01 Apr-02	Yr-Yr %
TOTAL in 1,000s	1,352.5	1,353.9	1,405.0	-1.4	-52.5	-3.7%
MANUFACTURING	180.4	181.9	197.0	-1.5	-16.6	-8.4%
Durable Goods	140.7	141.7	154.8	-1.0	-14.1	-9.1%
Lumber & Wood Products	8.4	8.3	8.7	0.1	-0.3	-3.4%
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	3.4	3.5	3.7	-0.1	-0.3	-8.1%
Primary Metal Industries	1.3	1.3	1.4	0.0	-0.1	-7.1%
Fabricated Metal Products	6.9	7.0	7.5	-0.1	-0.6	-8.0%
Industrial Machinery & Equip.	10.4	10.5	12.2	-0.1	-1.8	-14.8%
Electronic & Other Elec. Equip.	9.1	9.2	10.2	-0.1	-1.1	-10.8%
Transportation Equipment	81.5	82.3	90.5	-0.8	-9.0	-9.9%
Aircraft & Parts	74.6	75.8	83.5	-1.2	-8.9	-10.7%
Ship & Boat Build/Repair	3.9	3.5	3.7	0.4	0.2	5.4%
Instruments & Related Prods.	11.1	11.1	11.6	0.0	-0.5	-4.3%
Nondurable Goods	39.7	40.2	42.2	-0.5	-2.5	-5.9%
Food & Kindred Products	13.1	13.3	14.5	-0.2	-1.4	-9.7%
Textiles, Apparel & Leather	3.7	3.7	4.1	0.0	-0.4	-9.8%
Paper & Allied Products	3.1	3.1	3.3	0.0	-0.2	-6.1%
Printing and Publishing	13.0	13.2	13.8	-0.2	-0.8	-5.8%
Chemicals & Allied Products	3.0	3.1	2.8	-0.1	0.2	7.1%
Petroleum, Coal; Plastics	3.8	3.8	3.7	0.0	0.1	2.7%
MINING & QUARRYING	1.0	1.0	1.1	0.0	-0.1	-9.1%
CONSTRUCTION	72.9	72.3	78.8	0.6	-5.9	-7.5%
Building Construction	20.2	20.2	20.8	0.0	-0.6	-2.9%
Heavy Construction	6.7	6.6	7.1	0.1	-0.4	-5.6%
Special Trade Contractors	46.0	45.5	50.9	0.5	-4.9	-9.6%
TRANSPOR., COMM. & PUBL. UTIL.	81.1	81.0	88.0	0.1	-6.9	-7.8%
Transportation	53.5	53.3	57.7	0.2	-4.2	-7.3%
Water Transportation	5.7	5.8	6.0	-0.1	-0.3	-5.0%
Transportation by Air	20.1	19.9	22.4	0.2	-2.3	-10.3%
Communications	23.4	23.5	25.9	-0.1	-2.5	-9.7%
Gas, Electric & Sanit. Services	4.2	4.2	4.4	0.0	-0.2	-4.5%
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	312.2	311.9	324.0	0.3	-11.8	-3.6%
Wholesale Trade	82.3	82.7	86.1	-0.4	-3.8	-4.4%
Durable Goods	52.0	52.4	54.1	-0.4	-2.1	-3.9%
Nondurable Goods	30.3	30.3	32.0	0.0	-1.7	-5.3%
Retail Trade	229.9	229.2	237.9	0.7	-8.0	-3.4%
Building Materials & Garden	9.1	9.0	10.4	0.1	-1.3	-12.5%
General Merchandise	21.5	21.4	21.6	0.1	-0.1	-0.5%
Food Stores	30.6	30.5	31.0	0.1	-0.4	-1.3%
Apparel & Accessory	15.2	15.3	16.3	-0.1	-1.1	-6.7%
Furniture & Homefurnishings	12.4	12.6	12.7	-0.2	-0.3	-2.4%
Eating & Drinking Places	86.6	85.8	88.5	0.8	-1.9	-2.1%

-Continued next page-

**Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers
Employed in the Seattle-Bellevue-Everett PMSA
(King, Snohomish and Island Counties)**



INDUSTRY 1/ 2/	Preliminary Apr-02	Revised Mar-02	Revised Apr-01	Mar-02 Apr-02	Apr-01 Apr-02	Yr-Yr %
FINANCE, INSUR. & REAL ESTATE	87.7	88.5	86.0	-0.8	1.7	2.0%
Finance	37.7	38.7	36.3	-1.0	1.4	3.9%
Insurance	29.0	29.0	28.6	0.0	0.4	1.4%
Real Estate	21.0	20.8	21.1	0.2	-0.1	-0.5%
SERVICES	414.9	415.3	433.5	-0.4	-18.6	-4.3%
Hotels	13.2	13.1	14.3	0.1	-1.1	-7.7%
Business Services	118.4	119.8	135.2	-1.4	-16.8	-12.4%
Computer & Data Processing	57.2	57.7	63.8	-0.5	-6.6	-10.3%
Health Services	87.5	87.3	84.9	0.2	2.6	3.1%
Nursing & Personal Care	14.3	14.3	13.8	0.0	0.5	3.6%
Hospitals	26.4	26.4	25.9	0.0	0.5	1.9%
Legal Services	12.5	12.6	12.6	-0.1	-0.1	-0.8%
Educational Services	20.7	20.7	19.7	0.0	1.0	5.1%
Social Services	28.6	28.5	28.4	0.1	0.2	0.7%
Engineering & Management	46.3	46.8	47.8	-0.5	-1.5	-3.1%
GOVERNMENT	202.3	202.0	196.6	0.3	5.7	2.9%
Federal	24.0	24.0	24.2	0.0	-0.2	-0.8%
U.S. Postal Service	8.2	8.2	8.5	0.0	-0.3	-3.5%
State	59.8	60.3	58.6	-0.5	1.2	2.0%
State Education	43.1	43.7	42.2	-0.6	0.9	2.1%
Local	118.5	117.7	113.8	0.8	4.7	4.1%
Local Education	56.2	55.7	53.2	0.5	3.0	5.6%
IN LABOR-MANAGEMENT DISPUTES	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
GOODS PRODUCING	254.3	255.2	276.9	-0.9	-22.6	-8.2%
SERVICES PRODUCING	1098.2	1098.7	1128.1	-0.5	-29.9	-2.7%

1/Preliminary. Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. 2/Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of the armed services, unpaid family, workers in private households and agricultural workers. Includes all full- and part-time workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month (by place of work). 5/Employment affected by labor management disputes. Prepared by the Current Employment Statistics Unit (CES). This information is also available on the Internet at <http://www.wa.gov/esd/lmea>

Washington State LABOR AREA SUMMARY



Snohomish County

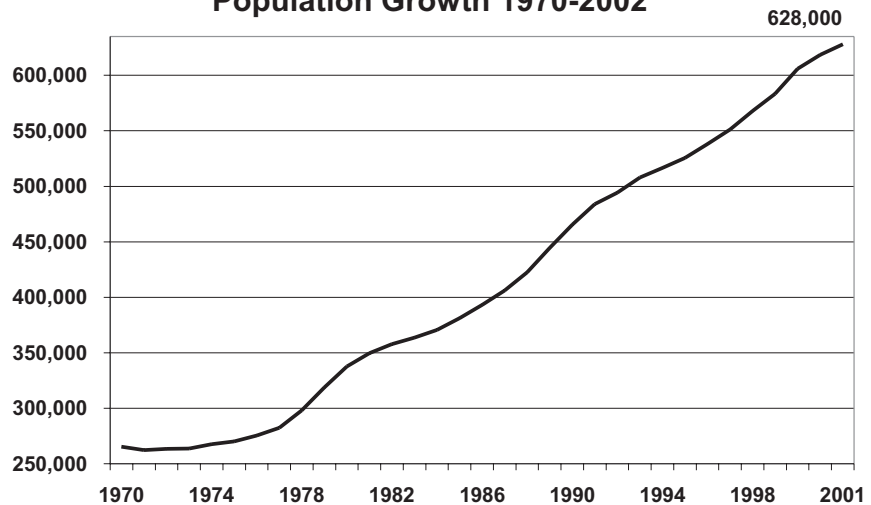
HIGHLIGHTS

The unemployment rate in April eased down by one tenth of a percentage point to 7.4 percent. This was still up by 2.7 percentage points from April of last year when it was 4.7 percent. Once again we are seeing a contraction in the labor force. The number of employed fell by 3,400 to 311,700 and the number of unemployed fell by 600 down to 24,900.

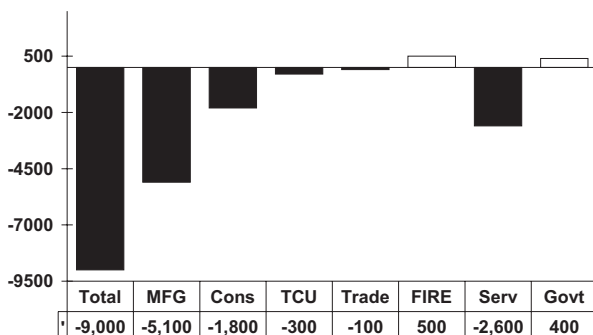
Non-farm jobs fell by 200, bringing the total down to 206,400 for a loss of 9,000 jobs from the year-ago figure. Aircraft and parts dropped by 400 over the month and the sector is down by 3,600 over the year. Construction stayed even over the month with an increase of 200 jobs in general building contractors offset by a 200 decline in special trade contractors. Construction remained down by 1,800 over the year. Retail posted a mod-

est decline of 100 with eating and drinking establishments losing 200 jobs. Finance increased by 200 jobs while insurance and real estate remained level with last months estimates. Services also remained flat over the month but is down by 2,600 over the year. Personnel supply accounted for 1,200 of that yearly decline. Local Government rose by 200 with a 100 increase in local education and another 100 increase in other local government. Due

Snohomish County
Population Growth 1970-2002



Job Gains/Losses by Industry
Snohomish County: Apr-01/Apr-02



to a coding change initiated in 2001 by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, tribal government and tribally owned businesses are now included in this sector.

While there are glimmers of recovery in the national economy, the outlook remains one of continuing weakness for Snohomish County. The primary cause is the ongoing monthly lay-offs in aircraft and parts. To date, Boeing has announced 12,631 layoffs in the Puget Sound Region covering both King and Snohomish Counties. These layoff announcements are expected to continue over the summer.

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers Employed in Snohomish County

	Prelim.1/ Apr-02	Revised Mar-02	Revised Apr-01	Mar-02 Apr-02	Apr-01 Apr-02	Yr-Yr %
TOTAL 2/	206,400	206,600	215,400	(200)	(9,000)	-4.2%
MANUFACTURING	48,200	48,700	53,300	(500)	(5,100)	-9.6%
Durable Goods	42,200	42,800	47,500	(600)	(5,300)	-11.2%
Lumber & Wood Products	2,700	2,700	3,000	0	(300)	-10.0%
Fabricated Metal Products	1,400	1,400	1,800	0	(400)	-22.2%
Industrial Machinery & Equip.	2,400	2,500	2,800	(100)	(400)	-14.3%
Electronic & Other Elec. Equip.	2,000	2,000	2,400	0	(400)	-16.7%
Transportation Equipment	27,700	28,200	31,500	(500)	(3,800)	-12.1%
Aircraft & Parts	26,600	27,100	30,200	(500)	(3,600)	-11.9%
Other Transp. Equip.	1,100	1,100	1,300	0	(200)	-15.4%
Instruments & Related Prods.	4,400	4,400	4,200	0	200	4.8%
Nondurable Goods	6,000	5,900	5,800	100	200	3.4%
Food & Kindred Products	1,400	1,400	1,200	0	200	16.7%
Printing and Publishing	2,000	2,000	2,100	0	(100)	-4.8%
Petroleum, Coal; Plastics	800	700	700	100	100	14.3%
MINING & QUARRYING	500	500	500	0	0	0.0%
CONSTRUCTION	13,900	13,900	15,700	0	(1,800)	-11.5%
General Building Contractors	3,100	2,900	3,200	200	(100)	-3.1%
Heavy Construction	1,700	1,700	1,800	0	(100)	-5.6%
Special Trade Contractors	9,100	9,300	10,700	(200)	(1,600)	-15.0%
TRANSPOR., COMM. & PUBL. UTILITIES	5,500	5,500	5,800	0	(300)	-5.2%
Transportation	3,300	3,300	3,600	0	(300)	-8.3%
Communications	2,000	2,000	2,000	0	0	0.0%
Gas, Electric & Sanit. Services	200	200	200	0	0	0.0%
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	48,500	48,600	48,600	(100)	(100)	-0.2%
Wholesale Trade	7,200	7,200	7,700	0	(500)	-6.5%
Durable Goods	4,800	4,800	4,800	0	0	0.0%
Nondurable Goods	2,400	2,400	2,900	0	(500)	-17.2%
Retail Trade	41,300	41,400	40,900	(100)	400	1.0%
Building Materials & Garden	2,100	2,100	2,200	0	(100)	-4.5%
General Merchandise	4,400	4,400	4,500	0	(100)	-2.2%
Food Stores	6,500	6,400	6,600	100	(100)	-1.5%
Apparel & Accessory	1,300	1,300	1,400	0	(100)	-7.1%
Furniture & Homefurnishings	1,700	1,700	1,700	0	0	0.0%
Eating & Drinking Places	15,100	15,300	14,500	(200)	600	4.1%
FINANCE, INSUR. & REAL ESTATE	10,200	10,000	9,700	200	500	5.2%
Finance	3,800	3,600	3,400	200	400	11.8%
Insurance	4,200	4,200	4,200	0	0	0.0%
Real Estate	2,200	2,200	2,100	0	100	4.8%
SERVICES	44,900	44,900	47,500	0	(2,600)	-5.5%
Hotels & Lodging	800	800	800	0	0	0.0%
Business Services	6,700	6,800	8,100	(100)	(1,400)	-17.3%
Personnel Supply	2,000	2,000	3,200	0	(1,200)	-37.5%
Computer & Data Processing	800	800	900	0	(100)	-11.1%
Other Business Services	3,900	4,000	4,000	(100)	(100)	-2.5%
Health Services	14,300	14,300	13,800	0	500	3.6%
Nursing & Personal Care	2,800	2,800	2,700	0	100	3.7%
Hospitals	3,000	3,000	2,800	0	200	7.1%
Other Health Services	8,500	8,500	8,300	0	200	2.4%
Educational Services	1,200	1,200	1,300	0	(100)	-7.7%
Social Services	4,100	4,100	4,500	0	(400)	-8.9%
Engineering & Management	3,600	3,700	3,800	(100)	(200)	-5.3%
GOVERNMENT	34,700	34,500	34,300	200	400	1.2%
Federal	2,000	2,000	2,300	0	(300)	-13.0%
U.S. Postal Service	1,000	1,000	1,300	0	(300)	-23.1%
State	5,200	5,200	5,200	0	0	0.0%
State Education	2,200	2,200	2,200	0	0	0.0%
Local	27,500	27,300	26,800	200	700	2.6%
Local Education	15,300	15,200	14,500	100	800	5.5%
Workers in labor-management disputes	0	0	0	xxx	xxx	

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of the armed services, unpaid family, workers in private households and agricultural workers. Includes all full- and part-time workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month (by place of work).

3/ Employment affected by labor management disputes.

Washington State LABOR AREA SUMMARY



Spokane MSA

HIGHLIGHTS

The 0.6 percent upward movement in April's non-agricultural wage and salary employment was closer to 2000's seasonal shift of +0.7 percent than 2001's seasonal shift of +1.1 percent. It's 3.3 percent over-the-year decline was quite a reversal from the +2.9 percent over-the-year gains of the last couple of years. An honest reflection of the current economic blahs!

Construction continued its spring buildup with a 5.8 percent surge in employment, which still left it 10.3 percent below its year-ago April figure.

Manufacturing held even over the month holding its employment to a level 14.8 percent below that of a year ago.

Transportation, communications and utilities picked up 1.2 percent for

the month (compared to +2.7 percent last year and +1.3 percent for 2000), but at a level 9.6 percent below that of a year ago.

Wholesale trade held even for the month, but was off 4.2 percent over the year. **Retail trade** gained 0.7 percent over-the-month but lost 2.1 percent over the year. The activity for both time periods was pretty well distributed throughout the various sectors.

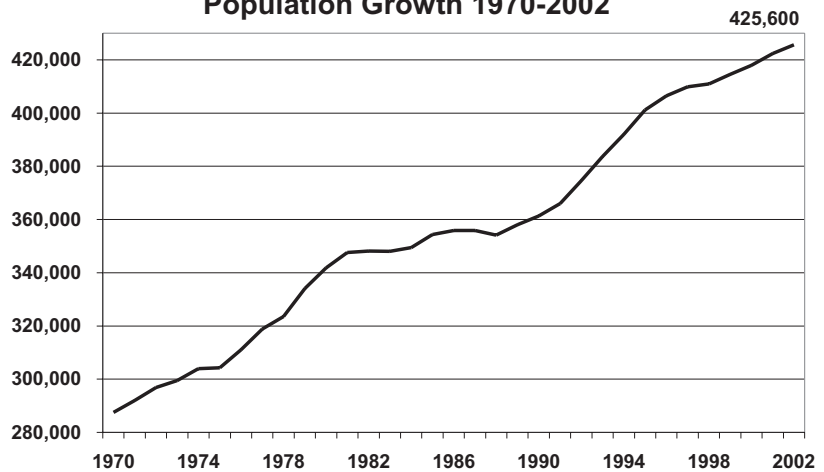
Finance also held even for the month but gained 3.2 percent

over the year. Insurance and real estate was up 0.5 percent over the month and down 1.5 percent over the year.

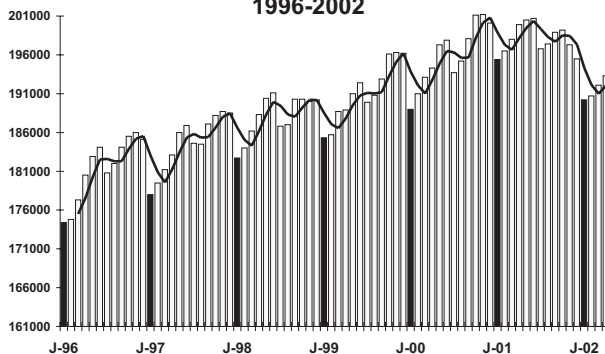
Services as a whole inched upward 0.3 percent in April, even weaker than the +1.1 percent of the previous April. Over the year it slipped backward 0.1 percent, mostly in business services and private education.

The government sectors, as a whole, held even over the month. Over the year federal civilian employment grew 2.2 percent; state education (public colleges and universities) slipped back 0.8 percent and state agencies rose 5.4 percent; local education (school districts) lost 3.1 percent and local noneducational governmental entities fell 4.5 percent.

Spokane County
Population Growth 1970-2002



Spokane MSA Nonag Employment
1996-2002



Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers Employed in the Spokane MSA (Spokane County)



	<i>Change</i>					
	Apr. 2002 1/	Mar. 2002	Apr. 2001	Mar-02 Apr-02	Apr-01 Apr-02	Yr-Yr %
TOTAL 2/	193,300	192,100	199,900	1,200	-6,600	-3.3%
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	9,800	9,200	10,900	600	-1,100	-10.1%
MANUFACTURING	18,300	18,300	21,500	0	-3,200	-14.9%
TRANSP., COMM. & UTILITIES	7,600	7,500	8,400	100	-800	-9.5%
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	47,900	47,600	49,200	300	-1,300	-2.6%
Wholesale Trade	11,800	11,800	12,400	0	-600	-4.8%
Retail Trade	36,100	35,800	36,800	300	-700	-1.9%
General Merchandise & Apparel	5,900	5,900	6,000	0	-100	-1.7%
Food Stores	5,600	5,600	5,500	0	100	1.8%
Eating & Drinking Establishments	12,400	12,200	13,000	200	-600	-4.6%
FINANCE, INSUR. & REAL ESTATE	11,300	11,300	11,000	0	300	2.7%
Finance	5,700	5,700	5,500	0	200	3.6%
SERVICES	64,400	64,200	64,500	200	-100	-0.2%
Business Services	8,800	8,900	9,100	-100	-300	-3.3%
Health Services	23,000	23,100	22,300	-100	700	3.1%
Educational Services	4,700	4,800	4,800	-100	-100	-2.1%
GOVERNMENT	34,000	34,000	34,400	0	-400	-1.2%
Federal	4,500	4,500	4,400	0	100	2.3%
State	11,000	11,100	10,800	-100	200	1.9%
State Education	5,900	6,000	6,000	-100	-100	-1.7%
Local	18,500	18,400	19,200	100	-700	-3.6%
Local Education	11,800	11,800	12,200	0	-400	-3.3%
Labor-Management Disputes	-	-	-	xxx	xxx	

1/Preliminary. Totals may not add due to rounding. 2/Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of the armed services, unpaid family, workers in private households and agricultural workers. Includes full- and part-time workers who received during the pay period including the 12th of the month, by place of work. 3/Labor-management dispute. Produced in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. This information is also available on the Internet at:

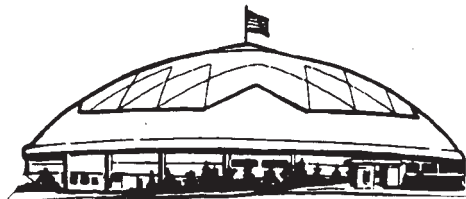
<http://www.wa.gov/esd/lmea>

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Washington State LABOR AREA SUMMARY

Washington State
Employment Security 

Tacoma PMSA

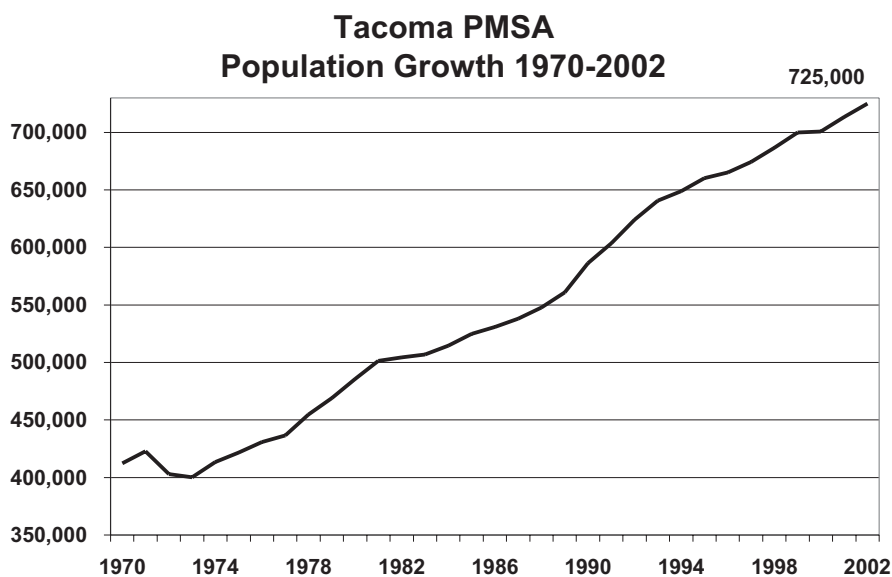


HIGHLIGHTS

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment was still off from last year in the Tacoma metropolitan area. Losses are now apparent in manufacturing, wholesale and retail trade and transportation, communications and utilities.

In the April preliminary estimate of nonagricultural jobs, services producing employment was up by 1,200 jobs over the month, but down by 1,600 jobs over the year. At 21,200 jobs in April, manufacturing on the other hand remains flat over the month, although still off by 1,200 jobs from April of last year. Machinery, computers, electronic and electrical equipment employment and jobs in the residual "other durable manufacturing" category were both off by 300 jobs over the year; other year-to-year losses were 200 or less. All of the manufacturing sectors are either flat, or only down by tick, except for other transportation equipment, which posted an uptick, and stone, clay, glass and concrete products showed 200 more jobs this month than a year ago.

In nonmanufacturing, construction employment was up by 1,200 over the year and by 600 jobs from March. Wholesale trade was off by 700 over the year, but up slightly over the month. Retail trade employment was off by



2,000 jobs over the year, with the weakness centered in eating and drinking establishments (down 600) and in other retail trade (down 700).

U.S. Department of Defense civilian employment stood at 7,500 jobs, up by a tick from March and by 500 jobs from last April. U.S. Postal Service employment, at 1,700, was unchanged over the month and also from last year.

State government employment was up over the year. In local government, public schools were down by 400

jobs from last year, but unchanged from last month.

The Tacoma PMSA unemployment rate for April was 7.2 per cent, 0.2 point above the statewide rate, and 1.5 points above the comparable rate for the U.S.

The population in Pierce County, second largest in Washington, grew to 725,000 as of April 2002, according to estimates by OFM. Of a two-year gain of 24,180, net migration accounted for 14,353 or 60 percent.

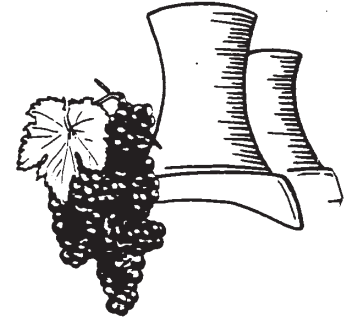
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers Employed in the Tacoma PMSA (Pierce County)



	Change					
	Apr. 2002 1/	Mar. 2002	Apr. 2001	Mar-02 Apr-02	Apr-01 Apr-02	Yr-Yr %
TOTAL 2/	243,000	241,100	244,500	1,900	-1,500	-0.6%
GOODS PRODUCING 3/	38,500	37,800	38,400	700	100	0.3%
MINING	300	200	200	100	100	50.0%
CONSTRUCTION	17,000	16,400	15,800	600	1,200	7.6%
Buildings and Heavy Construction	6,300	6,200	6,600	100	-300	-4.5%
Special Trade Contractors	10,700	10,200	9,200	500	1,500	16.3%
MANUFACTURING	21,200	21,200	22,400	0	-1,200	-5.4%
Nondurable Products	8,100	8,200	8,800	-100	-700	-8.0%
Food and Kindred Products	1,500	1,500	1,600	0	-100	-6.3%
Textiles, Apparel and Leather	900	900	1,100	0	-200	-18.2%
Paper and Allied Products	1,100	1,200	1,200	-100	-100	-8.3%
Printing, Publishing and Allied	2,100	2,100	2,300	0	-200	-8.7%
Chemicals, Petroleum and Allied Products	900	900	900	0	0	0.0%
Rubber and Misc. Plastics Products	1,600	1,600	1,700	0	-100	-5.9%
Durable Products	13,100	13,000	13,600	100	-500	-3.7%
Lumber and Wood Products	3,700	3,700	3,500	0	200	5.7%
Stone, Clay, Glass and Concrete Products	1,600	1,700	1,600	-100	0	0.0%
Metals, Primary and Fabricated 3/	1,700	1,800	2,000	-100	-300	-15.0%
Mach., Comput., Electronic & Elect. Equip.	2,600	2,600	2,700	0	-100	-3.7%
Transportation Equipment	2,300	2,100	2,300	200	0	0.0%
Aircraft, Guided Missiles, Space Veh. & Parts	1,500	1,500	1,600	0	-100	-6.3%
SERVICES PRODUCING 4/	204,500	203,300	206,100	1,200	-1,600	-0.8%
TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATIONS and PUBLIC UTILITIES	10,500	10,400	10,800	100	-300	-2.8%
Transportation	7,900	7,800	8,000	100	-100	-1.3%
Water Transportation	1,200	1,300	1,200	-100	0	0.0%
Communications and Utilities	2,600	2,600	2,800	0	-200	-7.1%
TRADE	56,500	56,100	59,200	400	-2,700	-4.6%
Wholesale Trade	10,900	10,700	11,600	200	-700	-6.0%
Retail Trade	45,600	45,400	47,600	200	-2,000	-4.2%
Food Stores	6,500	6,500	6,700	0	-200	-3.0%
Automotive Dealers and Service Stations	5,300	5,300	5,500	0	-200	-3.6%
Department, Apparel and Accessory Stores	6,300	6,200	6,600	100	-300	-4.5%
Eating and Drinking Places	18,500	18,300	19,100	200	-600	-3.1%
FINANCE, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE	13,100	13,100	13,100	0	0	0.0%
SERVICES 1/5	70,800	70,400	70,400	400	400	0.6%
Hotels, Rooming Houses, Camps & Other Lodging	1,300	1,300	1,400	0	-100	-7.1%
Business Services	8,400	8,600	8,900	-200	-500	-5.6%
Health Services	23,500	22,900	22,200	600	1,300	5.9%
Nursing and Pers. Care Facilities	3,100	3,100	2,800	0	300	10.7%
Hospitals	7,800	7,800	7,600	0	200	2.6%
Educational Services (private)	7,100	7,100	6,600	0	500	7.6%
GOVERNMENT 1/5	53,600	53,300	52,600	300	1,000	1.9%
FEDERAL	10,700	10,600	10,200	100	500	4.9%
United States Postal Service	1,700	1,700	1,700	0	0	0.0%
Department of Defense	7,500	7,400	7,000	100	500	7.1%
STATE	11,600	11,600	11,300	0	300	2.7%
Educational Services	3,800	3,900	3,700	-100	100	2.7%
LOCAL	31,300	31,100	31,100	200	200	0.6%
Educational Services (Public Schools)	18,100	18,000	18,500	100	-400	-2.2%
Labor-Management Disputes	0	0	0	xxx	xxx	

1/Preliminary. Totals may not add due to rounding. 2/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of the armed services, unpaid family, workers in private households and agricultural workers. Includes full- and part-time workers who received during the pay period including the 12th of the month, by place of work. Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. 3/ Includes mining, construction and manufacturing. 4/ Includes TCU, trade, FIRE, services and government. 5/ Effective Jan. 2001, tribal establishments are in local government; over 1,500 affected by this change compared to Dec. 2000. This information also available on the Internet at <http://www.wa.gov/esdlmea>

Washington State LABOR AREA SUMMARY



Richland/Kennewick/Pasco MSA

HIGHLIGHTS

Having studied the Tri-Cities economy for the past 274 months or so, I find my most dominant memories have been dealing with lots of change, both positive and negative, but always with an unemployment rate higher than the state average. During the early boom years of nuclear plant construction, the rate remained stubbornly high: for every 10 new jobs the local economy created, it seemed that 11 people would enter the labor market to compete for them, and the rate stayed high even during periods of rapid growth. During the post-nuclear plant construction, rates of unemployment remained double digit for many years and peaked at over 16 percent. In the intervening years, the economy would grow but the rate would generally be around 35 to 40 percent higher than the state average unemployment rate. During April of this year, however, the local rate of 5.8 percent was not only lower than the poor state average but it is now one of the lowest in the state and lower than most of the other metropolitan regions in the state. If the more agricultural Franklin County is separated out, Benton County has the sixth lowest unemployment rate (5.2 percent) in the state.

From March to April, total non-farm employment in the Tri-Cities in-

creased by 900. Industries accounting for the increase included construction, trade, and services. The gain in construction jobs was partially due to subcontractors at the vitrification site but mainly to the torrid pace of the Tri-Cities housing market. The total number of year to date building permits through to March was 266 in the bi-county region. This compared to 322 in Spokane and 81 for Yakima. Last year for the TCs the count though March was 222; In 2000, 210 and the previous year 174. The total value of construction through March this year was \$40,372,000 and last year was \$31,935,000.

The average price this year was \$151,774 and last year it was \$143,851. In the year 2000, 700 individual construction firms were listed with the state as operating in the Tri-

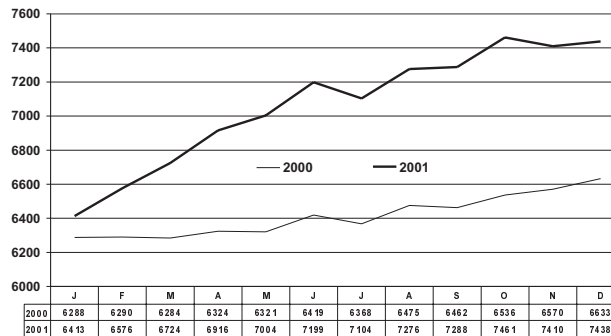
Cities along with an unknown number not listed with the state.

In trade, a variety of industries added to the overall positive net change. Wholesale trade, non-durable goods gained some workers in anticipation of moving the asparagus harvest from the fields and onto the grocery shelf. Restaurant employment posted the largest gain in retail, going from 5,260 to 5,410. Everything else in trade looked basically hunky-dory.

In services, the largest over the month gain was in the area of amusement and recreation where the number of jobs increased seasonally from 1,280 to 1,450. This eclectic category includes motion picture theaters, stand alone videotape rentals, bowling centers, professional sports clubs, physical fitness facilities, golf courses, etc., all the way down to private yoga instruction. The second largest gainer in services was engineering and research services. Some of this gain was with Bechtel National but Battelle contributed some new jobs as well.

All was not rosy with the Tri-Cities economy from March to April. Employment with the Fluor Daniel Hanford side of Hanford posted some

Engineering and Management Services
Tri-Cities 2000-2001



Continued next page

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers Employed in the Richland-Kennewick-Pasco MSA (Benton and Franklin Counties)



	Change					
	Apr. 2002 1/	Mar. 2002	Apr. 2001	Mar-02 Apr-02	Apr-01 Apr-02	Yr-Yr %
TOTAL 2/	82,400	81,500	77,900	900	4,500	5.8%
MANUFACTURING	6,100	6,200	6,200	-100	-100	-1.6%
Food and Kindred Products	3,500	3,500	3,400	0	100	2.9%
Printing and Publishing	400	400	400	0	0	0.0%
Chemicals and Allied Products	900	900	1,000	0	-100	-10.0%
Primary & Fab. Metal Products	300	400	400	-100	-100	-25.0%
Other Manufacturing	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0	0.0%
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	5,000	4,800	4,400	200	600	13.6%
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	9,500	9,600	9,200	-100	300	3.3%
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	18,400	18,100	17,400	300	1,000	5.7%
FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE	2,400	2,400	2,300	0	100	4.3%
SERVICES	25,800	25,200	23,700	600	2,100	8.9%
Business Services	3,500	3,500	3,400	0	100	2.9%
Research Services	8,300	8,200	7,000	100	1,300	18.6%
GOVERNMENT	15,200	15,200	14,700	0	500	3.4%
Federal	1,320	1,320	1,310	0	10	0.8%
State and Local	13,880	13,880	13,390	0	490	3.7%
Public Education	7,600	7,600	7,300	0	300	4.1%
Workers in Labor-Management Disputes	0	0	0	xxx	xxx	

Continued...

negative adjustments. Metals also experienced some payroll declines into the month. Employment in chemicals had been soft over the past several months but even from March to April.

Pushed upwards by the impact of the vitrification project, total nonfarm employment for the Tri-Cities advanced by 5.8 percent over the year. This is a total gain of 4,500 new jobs. Compared to April of 2000, the community has created 7,500 more jobs for a gain of 10 percent. Since April of last year, the fastest growing local industries included engineering and research services (Bechtel National), construction, trade, and public education. Printing and publishing along with federal employment have been flat over the twelve-month period.

But apart from the good brought about by Bechtel and its work on the Vitrification Project, other area of the Tri-Cities economic base seem a bit woebegone. Farm employment has been flat after growing several years ago, farm proprietary income has been very flat, chemicals and allied products has been shedding some workers and so has primary and fabricated metal products. The losses don't compare with the relative gains due to the new federal project, but these are what the community needs to survive with when the project is over. **Down on the farm**, employment rose seasonally, going from 7,500 in March to 10,000 for April. This compared equally with April of last year when the total was 10,000 but somewhat unfavorably to April of 2000 when the count was 10,450.

1/Preliminary. Totals may not add due to rounding. 2/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of the armed services, unpaid family, workers in private households and agricultural workers. Includes full- and part-time workers who received during the pay period including the 12th of the month, by place of work. This information is also available on the Internet at:

<http://www.wa.gov/lesdllmea>

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Washington State LABOR AREA SUMMARY

Washington State
Employment Security 

Clark County



HIGHLIGHTS

The unemployment rate is usually a straightforward measure. If it drops, the labor market has in most cases improved, and if it rises, things have generally gotten worse. There are times, however, when the rate is a perverse barometer. When the unemployed give up on their job-finding quest, and drop out of the labor force, then the unemployment rate will misread their despair and register a decline. This happened in the first few months of the year, both nationally and statewide. Conversely, when those same workers sniff out some hope of finding a job, they will jump back into the labor market, and the rate will worsen.

This appears to be what happened in April in the U.S. The number of employed individuals rose by 80,000, while the number of unemployed climbed by over 400,000. Hopefully, their optimism will be rewarded in May. Perhaps it was the rosy GDP numbers for first quarter that got jobseekers back into the hunt. The early-bird estimate put growth at 5.8 percent; if it holds, this would be the highest rate in two years. More than half the gain was due to businesses rebuilding inventories, however. Productivity—output per hour of labor—also recorded a big increase in the first quarter, as the numerator (output) shot up, and the denominator (hours worked) shrank.

So the table is set for a national labor market recovery. Unfortunately, dinner hasn't finished cooking yet.

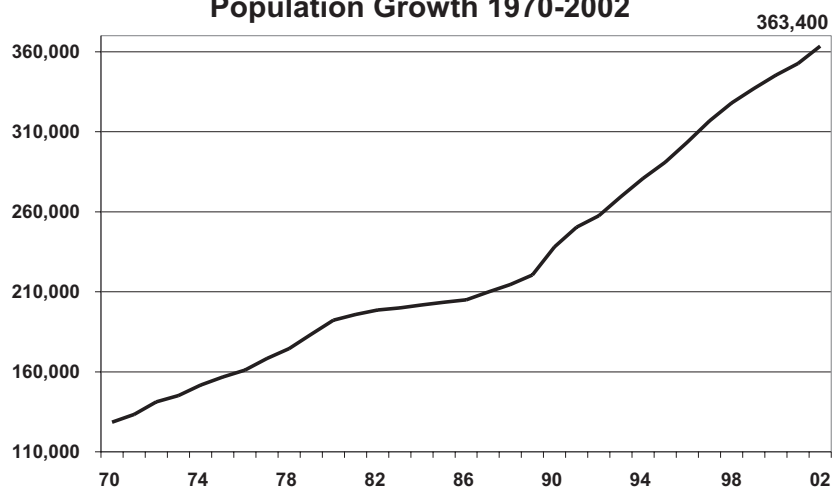
The state of Washington, like the nation, saw its unemployment rate jump three tenths of a percent. Unfortunately, there was no good news hidden in this bad news. Hiring was weak during the month, below seasonal expectations. Layoffs continued in aircraft (-1,200) and software & data processing (-600). Oregon's unemployment rate fell four tenths of a point, with employment gains typical for this time of year. The two states had the highest unemployment in the nation in March, and will likely lead the list again in April.

In Clark County, the April unemployment rate registered at 8.4 per-

cent, essentially unchanged from March's 8.5 percent. The number of employed and unemployed workers both dropped, indicating a withdrawal of workers from the labor force.

Seasonally-adjusted nonfarm employment rose by 300 jobs, including 100 in manufacturing and 200 in retail trade. Unadjusted employment also rose by 300 jobs, to a total of 118,000, down 900 or 0.7 percent from its peak, thirteen months ago. New jobs have come in government (+1,300), finance (+400), transportation & utilities (+300), and services (+200). The rogue's gallery includes losses of 2,700 jobs in manufacturing (1,700 in electronics), 200 in construction, and 200 in retail trade.

Clark County
Population Growth 1970-2002



Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers Employed in Clark County



	Change					
	Apr. 2002 1/	Mar. 2002 2/	Apr. 2001	Mar-02 Apr-02	Apr-01 Apr-02	Yr-Yr %
TOTAL 3/	118,000	117,700	118,100	300	-100	-0.1%
TOTAL MANUFACTURING	16,300	16,200	18,300	100	-2,000	-10.9%
DURABLE GOODS	10,400	10,200	12,000	200	-1,600	-13.3%
Lumber & Wood Products	1,000	1,000	900	0	100	11.1%
Metals & Metal Products	900	800	1,000	100	-100	-10.0%
Machinery & Computers	3,200	3,200	3,400	0	-200	-5.9%
Electronics & Instruments	4,000	4,000	5,300	0	-1,300	-24.5%
Other Durable Goods	1,300	1,200	1,400	100	-100	-7.1%
NONDURABLE GOODS	5,900	6,000	6,300	-100	-400	-6.3%
Food Processing	1,100	1,100	1,000	0	100	10.0%
Textiles & Apparel	600	600	700	0	-100	-14.3%
Paper Products	2,300	2,400	2,600	-100	-300	-11.5%
Plastics	900	900	1,000	0	-100	-10.0%
Other Nondurable Goods	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0	0.0%
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	9,500	9,300	9,300	200	200	2.2%
TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	7,300	7,400	7,400	-100	-100	-1.4%
Transportation	5,100	5,100	5,000	0	100	2.0%
Communication & Utilities	2,200	2,300	2,400	-100	-200	-8.3%
WHOLESALE TRADE	4,900	4,900	4,900	0	0	0.0%
RETAIL TRADE	22,200	22,100	22,500	100	-300	-1.3%
General Merchandise	2,700	2,700	2,800	0	-100	-3.6%
Grocery Stores	3,400	3,400	3,500	0	-100	-2.9%
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	2,400	2,400	2,300	0	100	4.3%
Other Retail Trade	13,700	13,600	13,900	100	-200	-1.4%
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	4,800	4,800	4,500	0	300	6.7%
SERVICES	31,200	31,100	30,800	100	400	1.3%
Business Services	5,900	5,900	6,100	0	-200	-3.3%
Health Care	9,500	9,500	8,900	0	600	6.7%
Social Services	3,500	3,400	3,400	100	100	2.9%
Other Services	12,300	12,300	12,400	0	-100	-0.8%
GOVERNMENT	21,800	21,900	20,400	-100	1,400	6.9%
Federal Government	3,100	3,100	2,700	0	400	14.8%
State Government	3,400	3,400	3,300	0	100	3.0%
Local Government	15,300	15,400	14,400	-100	900	6.3%
Primary & Secondary Education	10,500	10,600	9,800	-100	700	7.1%
Other Local Government	4,800	4,800	4,600	0	200	4.3%
Labor-Management Disputes	0	0	0			

1/Preliminary. Totals may not add due to rounding. 2/ Revised. 3/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of the armed services, unpaid family, workers in private households and agricultural workers. Includes full- and part-time workers who received during the pay period including the 12th of the month, by place of work. This information is also available on the Internet at:

<http://www.wa.gov/esdllmea>

Washington State LABOR AREA SUMMARY

Yakima MSA



HIGHLIGHTS

From March to April nonag employment in Yakima County expanded by 1,100 jobs, a 1.5-percent advance. During this same period, nonag employment across Washington gained 8,800 jobs, a 0.3-percent upturn. In the Yakima MSA, April saw advances in services, construction, retail trade, and state and local government.

Services led the way by adding almost 300 people to local payrolls. Over 100 of these jobs were in the personal and business services category, which includes everything from tax preparation services to temporary help agencies, computer-related services, and security firms. Landscaping businesses and private social services, classified under other local services, also picked up some more workers over the month.

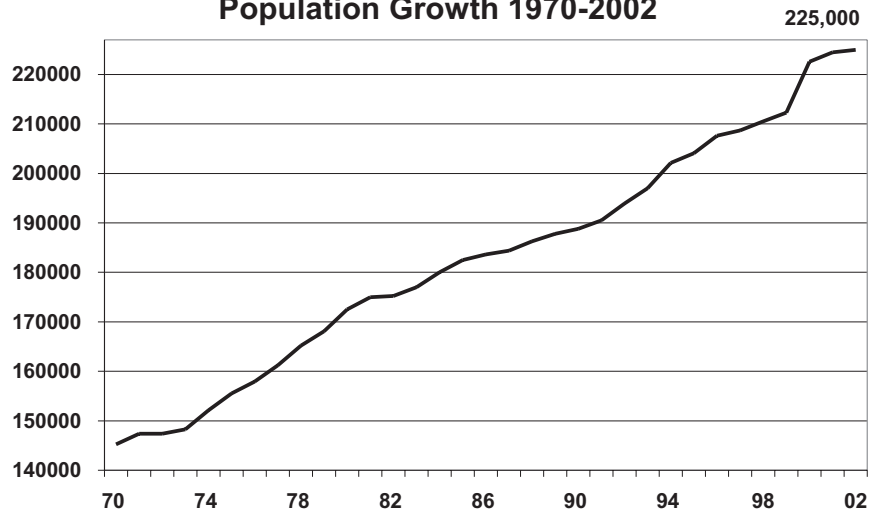
Nonag employment change rates in Yakima County and in Washington for each of the last six months show that statewide the job growth pace slowed 2.4 percent compared with last April, a 63,700-job contraction. Aircraft and parts manufacturers alone laid off 9,800 workers since April 2001. Washington's labor market has been losing jobs since May 2001 and its job growth-rates were slowing long before that. However, Yakima County has not been shedding jobs as quickly as Washington and in April local

nonag employment began to stabilize. Barring unforeseen economic events, the local labor market should resume a positive job growth rate in May 2002. The local labor market has pulled even to the employment level of April year-ago. It looks like this trend may continue for at least the next couple of months. Current employment now stands at about 73,500 jobs.

An encouraging sign within the local economy is the gradual rebounding of retail trade employment, which showed a 100-job gain over the year. General merchandise and apparel employment, primarily at big-box stores,

expanded by 200. However, restaurant employment was virtually flat while food stores netted an over-the-year loss of roughly 60 jobs. When one compares retail trade employment and taxable retail sales between 2000 and 2001 it is apparent that over-the-year differences in employment and taxable retail sales narrowed later in 2001. The taxable retail sales divergence between the 2nd quarter of 2000 and the 2nd quarter of 2001 was \$16.5 million, but this disparity moderated between the 4th Quarters of 2000 and 2001 to only \$1.0 million. This was also the trend in retail trade employ-

Yakima County
Population Growth 1970-2002



Continued next page

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers Employed in the Yakima MSA (Yakima County)



	Change					
	Apr. 2002 1/	Mar. 2002 2/	Apr. 2001	Mar-02 Apr-02	Apr-01 Apr-02	Yr-Yr %
TOTAL	73,500	72,400	73,500	1,100	0	0.0%
MANUFACTURING	10,500	10,200	10,800	300	-300	-2.8%
Food & Kindred Products	3,300	3,100	3,600	200	-300	-8.3%
Canned, Frozen, & Preserved Foods	1,900	1,700	2,300	200	-400	-17.4%
Lumber and Wood Products	1,400	1,400	1,500	0	-100	-6.7%
Paper and Allied Products	700	700	800	0	-100	-12.5%
Printing and Publishing	500	500	500	0	0	0.0%
Machinery, excluding Electrical	800	800	800	0	0	0.0%
Transportation Equipment	900	900	1,000	0	-100	-10.0%
NONMANUFACTURING	63,000	62,200	62,700	800	300	0.5%
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	2,800	2,600	2,900	200	-100	-3.4%
TRANSP, COMM., & UTILITIES	2,900	2,900	2,700	0	200	7.4%
Motor Freight Transportation	1,600	1,600	1,400	0	200	14.3%
WHOLESALE TRADE	4,800	4,800	5,400	0	-600	-11.1%
Fresh Fruit and Vegetables	1,900	1,900	2,300	0	-400	-17.4%
RETAIL TRADE	13,200	13,000	13,100	200	100	0.8%
General Merchandise and Apparel	2,400	2,300	2,200	100	200	9.1%
FINANCE, INSUR., & REAL ESTATE	2,400	2,400	2,300	0	100	4.3%
SERVICES & MISCELLANEOUS	20,700	20,400	20,400	300	300	1.5%
Business and Personnel Services	3,100	3,000	3,000	100	100	3.3%
Health Services	8,600	8,600	8,400	0	200	2.4%
GOVERNMENT	16,200	16,100	15,900	100	300	1.9%
Federal Government	1,400	1,400	1,400	0	0	0.0%
State and Local Governments	14,800	14,700	14,500	100	300	2.1%
Continued...						
Workers in Labor Disputes	0	0	0	XXX	XXX	

ment, and it has continued into the first four months of this year.

The unemployment rate declined by a full percentage point from 11.4 percent in March to 10.4 percent in April. The number of residents who were unemployed decreased over the month from 11,700 to 10,600, a drop of 1,100. Nonag employment rose by 1,100 while the estimated number of agricultural jobs advanced by almost 900.

Over the year, the rate fell from 11.7 percent. This April the number of "unemployed" was 1,600 below the April 2001 level of 12,200. However, the number of "employed" in the resident labor force inched upward only minutely, and the size of the labor force dwindled by 1,400 over the year. Nonag

employment was unchanged and estimated agricultural employment dipped about 150 jobs lower than last April. These are indicators that some unemployed workers have retreated to the sidelines to wait for the economy to recover rather than actively seek work. It is also possible that we are seeing some people moving out of Yakima County to find employment. Thus, this drop in the rate should be tempered by the fact that the labor force has shrunk.

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Revised. 3/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of the armed services, unpaid family, workers in private households and agricultural workers. Includes full- and part-time workers who received during the pay period including the 12th of the month, by place of work. Totals may not add due to rounding. 4/ Employment estimates affected by labor management disputes. This information is also available on the Internet at:

<http://www.wa.gov/lesdllmea>

Washington State LABOR AREA SUMMARY



Wenatchee Labor Market

HIGHLIGHTS

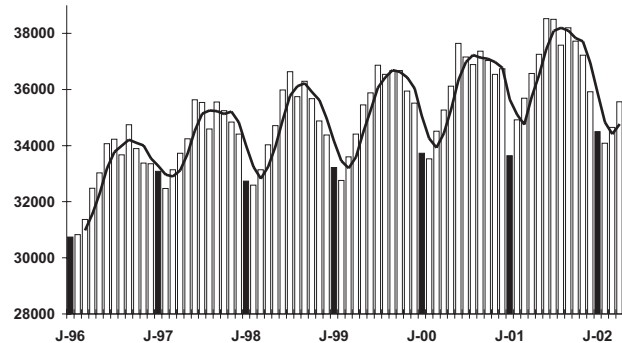
Nonagricultural employment in Chelan and Douglas counties expanded by 910 jobs or 2.6-percent over the month, reaching 35,560 jobs in April. Substantial hiring occurred in the construction and mining and in the services employment groups. Construction and mining added 290 jobs for an over-the-month surge of 16.4 percent. Services businesses augmented their numbers by 240, a modest 2.6-percent upturn. In contrast, the transportation, communications, and private utilities employment group and the food processing industry lost 20 jobs each. Washington's employment rolls edged upward 0.3 percent, by adding 8,800 nonagricultural wage and salary jobs – a weak increase compared to past Aprils.

Over-the-year, the local economy continues to make some improvement, showing a 1.2-percent upturn, a 410-job gain, compared to the negative 2.4-percent statewide contraction, a 63,700-job loss. Aircraft and parts manufacturers alone have laid off 9,800 workers in Washington versus April of last year. Statewide, the nonag sector has been consistently losing jobs since May 2001. If one puts over-the-year employment change rates for the Wenatchee LMA and Washington State side by side, the local labor market actually looks pretty good. This is not to imply that the local economy has been booming. In fact, in November of 2001 job-growth rate in the LMA was in the negative column. But, relative to the State, local nonag employment has moved in a positive direction since December.

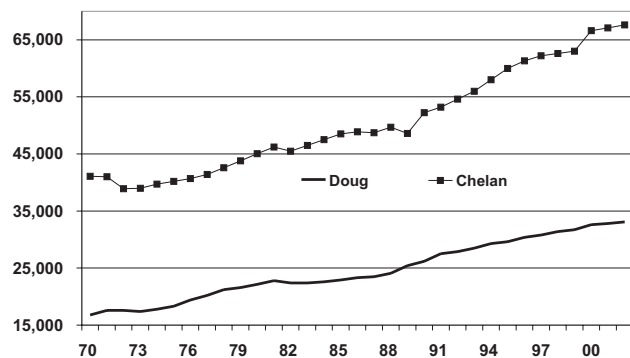
For each of the first four months of 2002 total nonagricultural employment in the Wenatchee LMA moved marginally ahead of employment in the corresponding months of 2001. Projections for the next two months indicate that this slightly positive job growth rate should continue.

The unemployment rate dipped from 9.2 percent in March to 8.6 percent in April. Over the month the number of

Chelan-Douglas Nonag Employment
1996-2002



Chelan-Douglas
Population Growth 1970-2002



people unemployed in the LMA fell by 300, from 4,550 to 4,250 individuals. Nonagricultural employment increased 910 jobs, which easily offset an estimated agricultural employment decline of approximately 180.

Over the year, the rate edged downward one-tenth of a point to 8.6 percent. Approximately 410 more people were

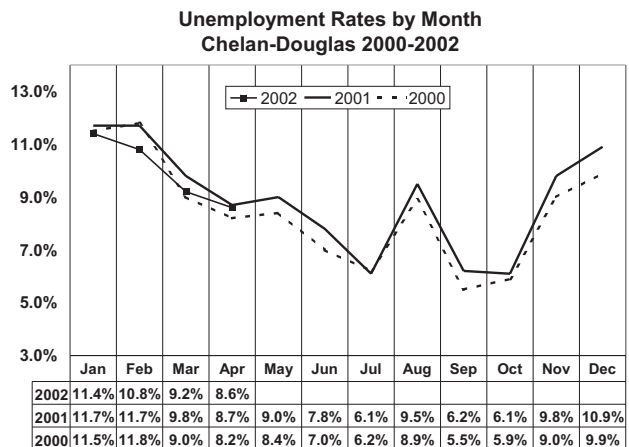
Continued next page

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers Employed in the Wenatchee LMA (Chelan and Douglas Counties)

	<i>Change 3/</i>					
	Apr. 2002 1/	Mar. 2002	Apr. 2001	Mar-02 Apr-02	Apr-01 Apr-02	% Chg
TOTAL 2/	35,560	34,650	35,150	910	410	1.2%
MANUFACTURING	2,570	2,570	2,780	0	-210	-7.6%
Food & Kindred Products	380	400	390	-20	-10	-2.6%
Lumber & Wood Products	250	250	250	0	0	0.0%
Primary Metals	640	630	820	10	-180	-22.0%
Other Manufacturing	1,300	1,290	1,320	10	-20	-1.5%
NONMANUFACTURING	32,990	32,080	32,370	910	620	1.9%
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	2,060	1,770	2,160	290	-100	-4.6%
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTIL	1,390	1,410	1,340	-20	50	3.7%
WHOLESALE TRADE	2,150	2,140	2,350	10	-200	-8.5%
RETAIL TRADE	8,120	7,920	7,940	200	180	2.3%
FINANCE, INS., & REAL ESTATE	1,280	1,250	1,290	30	-10	-0.8%
SERVICES & MISCELLANEOUS	9,390	9,150	8,830	240	560	6.3%
Health	3,880	3,880	3,740	0	140	3.7%
GOVERNMENT	8,600	8,440	8,460	160	140	1.7%
Federal	920	870	820	50	100	12.2%
State & Local	7,680	7,570	7,640	110	40	0.5%
Labor-Management Disputes	0	0	0	xxx	xxx	

Continued...

working at nonagricultural jobs this April and there were 80 fewer residents unemployed. Since there were also roughly 120 fewer jobs in agriculture, over-the-year gains in the nonagricultural sector offset job losses in the agricultural sector. But another factor at play here is the decline in the size of the resident labor force: the labor force dropped from 49,840 in April 2001 to the present figure of 49,440. This indicates that some unemployed workers have retreated to the sidelines to wait for the economy to recover rather than actively seek work. It is also possible that we are seeing some people moving out of Chelan and Douglas counties to find employment. Thus, this slight unemployment rate decline should be tempered by the fact that the labor force is shrinking.

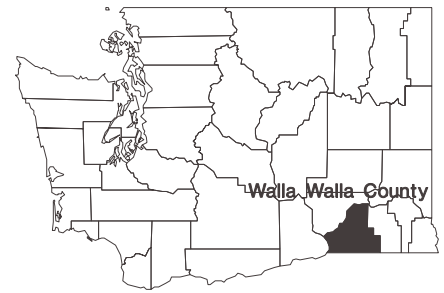


1/Preliminary. Totals may not add due to rounding. 2/Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of the armed services, unpaid family, workers in private households and agricultural workers. Includes full- and part-time workers who received pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month, by place of work. 3/Differences in industry employment of 10 or less may not be significant due to rounding. This information is also available on the Internet at:

<http://www.wa.gov/esdllmea>

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Washington State LABOR AREA SUMMARY



Washington State
Employment Security

Walla Walla County

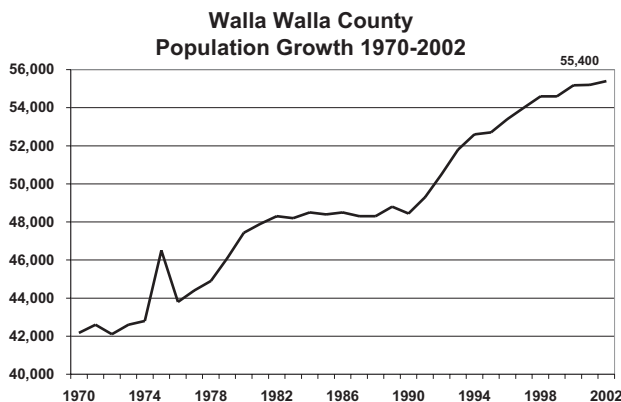
HIGHLIGHTS

Calm and consistent might be the best way to describe the overall Walla Walla County labor market over the past year. Some ups and downs by individual industries but overall a net gain of 30 nonfarm jobs when compared to April of last year.

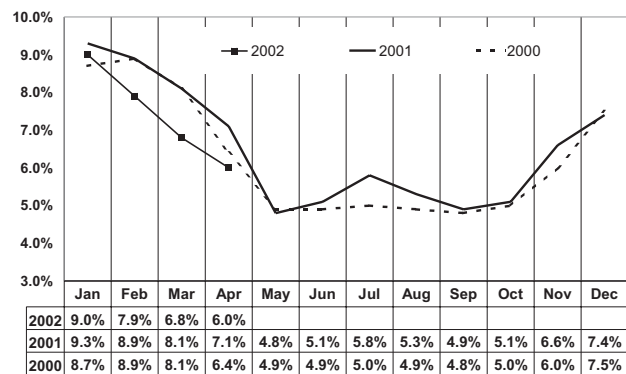
But such terms fail to describe much of the rest of the state. While the national recession might be over, most parts of Washington State await recovery. On an annual average basis, the count of nonfarm jobs in the state went from 2,711,200 in 2000 to 2,697,800 in 2001. Walla Walla County over this same period actually gained jobs, going from 22,580 in 2000 to 22,870 in 2001.

The unemployment rate for the county dropped seasonally from 6.8 percent in March to 6.0 percent for April. This compared favorably with April of last year when the rate was 7.1 percent.

Some very good news has come to the county in the form of a new food processor. The new firm to the region is scheduled to occupy an existing food processing facility. The Port of Walla Walla has helped bring Cliffstar Corporation, the nation's largest independent private label juice processor, into the old AgriFrozen plant which closed operation some time ago.



**Unemployment Rates by Month
Walla Walla County 2000-2002**



The fall opening is expected to create 20 full-time jobs and that may grow to over 100 over the next two years. These jobs will be tallied in manufacturing and they will add to the already strong presence that food processing has in the county. In the year 2000, manufacturing added \$142 million in wage and salary income to the community. Food processing that year brought in \$56 million.

An estimated 130 jobs were added to county nonfarm payrolls from March to April. The majority was in trade as nondurable wholesalers begin to gear up to help move produce from fields to retail shelves. During 2001, wholesale groceries went from 220 jobs in the beginning of the year to 340 in April and peaked at 720 during May. This local industry is not very consistent from year to year and its creation of seasonal jobs is dependent upon weather, plantings, and supply and demand.

Walla Walla farm employment rose modestly and seasonally from 2,480 in March to 2,530 for April. This was identical to last April when the count was also 2,530 but down from 2000 when the count was a higher 2,850. This trend was not isolated to Walla Walla County but has been pervasive across the state.

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers Employed in Walla Walla County

	<i>Change</i>					
	Apr. 2002 1/	Mar. 2002	Apr. 2001	Mar-02 Apr-02	Apr-01 Apr-02	% Chg
TOTAL	23,140	23,010	23,110	130	30	0.1%
TOTAL MANUFACTURING	4,050	4,020	4,080	30	-30	-0.7%
Food and Kindred Products	2,140	2,110	2,210	30	-70	-3.2%
Other Manufacturing	1,910	1,910	1,870	0	40	2.1%
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	880	890	880	-10	0	0.0%
TRANSPORT. & PUBLIC UTILITIES	540	550	580	-10	-40	-6.9%
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	4,820	4,650	4,850	170	-30	-0.6%
FINANCE, INSUR. & REAL ESTATE	780	790	750	-10	30	4.0%
SERVICES	6,980	6,980	6,870	0	110	1.6%
Private Education	1,720	1,760	1,700	-40	20	1.2%
GOVERNMENT	5,090	5,130	5,100	-40	-10	-0.2%
Federal	900	890	890	10	10	1.1%
State	1,800	1,830	1,790	-30	10	0.6%
Public Education (State & Local)	2,150	2,160	2,080	-10	70	3.4%
Labor-Management Disputes	0	0	0	xxx	xxx	

Continued...

1/Preliminary. Totals may not add due to rounding. 2/Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of the armed services, unpaid family, workers in private households and agricultural workers. Includes full- and part-time workers who received pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month, by place of work. 3/Differences in industry employment of 10 or less may not be significant due to rounding. This information is also available on the Internet at:

Washington State LABOR AREA SUMMARY



Cowlitz County



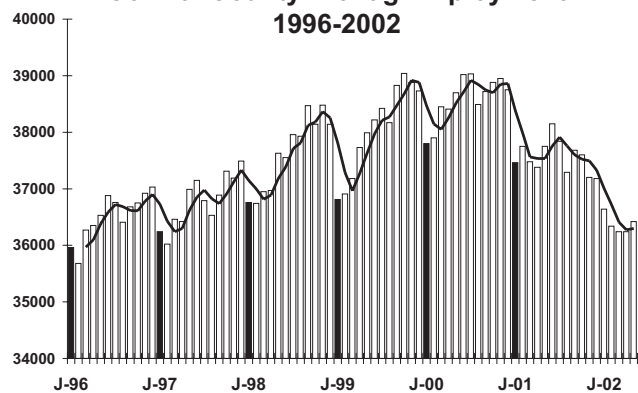
HIGHLIGHTS

Cowlitz County's jobless rate jumped six tenths of a point to 11.2 percent in April. The estimated number of unemployed residents climbed by 270 to 4,480.

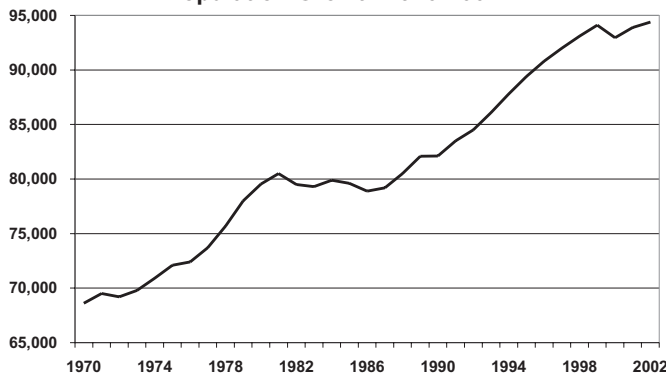
Seasonally-adjusted nonfarm employment fell by 50 jobs over the month, falling more than 2,200 below the county's peak employment back in March of 2000. The loss was concentrated in retail trade.

The unadjusted job count rose by 180 to 36,420, due to hiring in transportation, retail, services, and government.

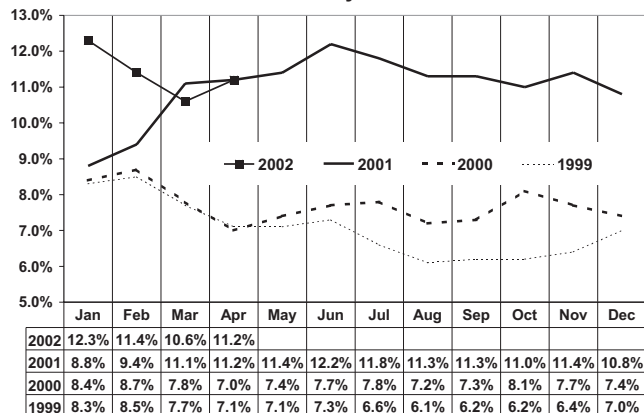
Cowlitz County Nonag Employment
 1996-2002



Cowlitz County
 Population Growth 1970-2002



Unemployment Rates by Month
 Cowlitz County 1999-2002



Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers Employed in Cowlitz County

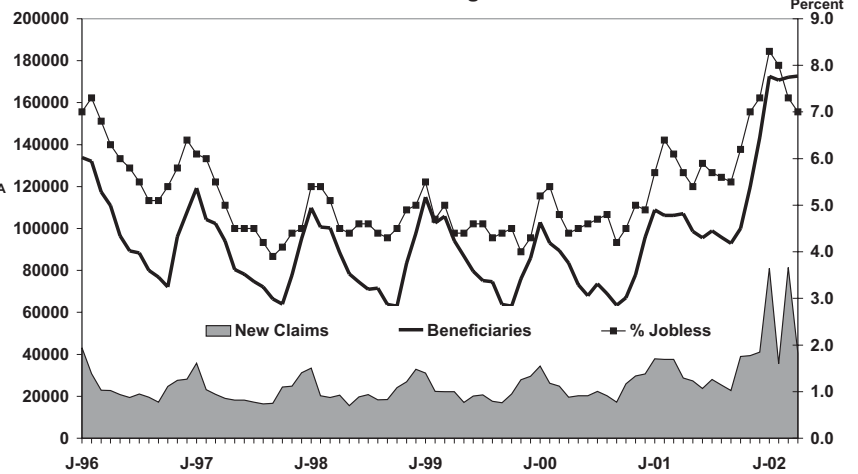
	<i>Change</i>					
	Apr. 2002 1/	Mar. 2002 2/	Apr. 2001	Mar-02 Apr-02	Apr-01 Apr-02	Yr-Yr %
TOTAL 3/	36,420	36,240	36,900	180	-480	-1.3%
MANUFACTURING	7,850	7,840	8,570	10	-720	-8.4%
Lumber & Wood Products	1,980	1,970	2,030	10	-50	-2.5%
Other Durables	1,420	1,420	1,700	0	-280	-16.5%
Paper Products	2,820	2,840	3,150	-20	-330	-10.5%
Other Nondurables	1,630	1,610	1,690	20	-60	-3.6%
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	2,390	2,440	2,360	-50	30	1.3%
TRANSPORTATION & UTILITIES	1,510	1,470	1,660	40	-150	-9.0%
WHOLESALE TRADE	1,250	1,240	1,300	10	-50	-3.8%
RETAIL TRADE	7,070	7,010	6,990	60	80	1.1%
General Merchandise	970	970	960	0	10	1.0%
Grocery Stores	1,190	1,200	1,300	-10	-110	-8.5%
Other Retail Trade	4,910	4,840	4,730	70	180	3.8%
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	1,230	1,230	1,200	0	30	2.5%
SERVICES	9,310	9,250	8,960	60	350	3.9%
Health Care	3,700	3,720	3,670	-20	30	0.8%
Other Services	5,610	5,530	5,290	80	320	6.0%
GOVERNMENT	5,810	5,760	5,860	50	-50	-0.9%
State & Federal Government	1,480	1,480	1,530	0	-50	-3.3%
Local Government	4,330	4,280	4,330	50	0	0.0%
Primary & Secondary Education	2,730	2,700	2,660	30	70	2.6%
Other Local Government	1,600	1,580	1,670	20	-70	-4.2%
Labor-Management Disputes	0	0	0			

1/Preliminary. 2/ Revised. 3/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of the armed services, unpaid family, workers in private households and agricultural workers. Includes full- and part-time workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month, by place of work. Columns may not add due to rounding. This information is also available on the Internet at:

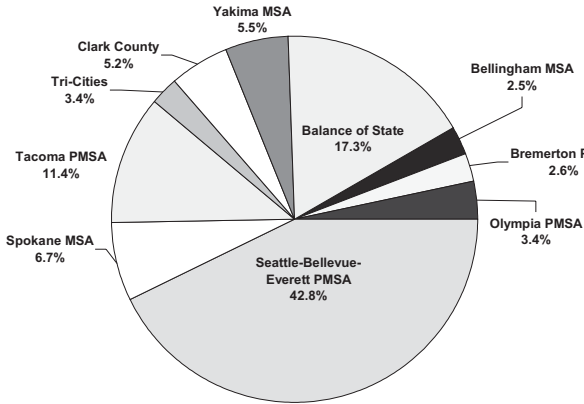
<http://www.wa.gov/lesd/llmea>

UI Claims Data

Jobless Rates, UI Beneficiaries, New Claims
1996-2002 Washington State



Beneficiaries by MSA/PMSA April 2002



UI Beneficiaries & New Claims by MSA

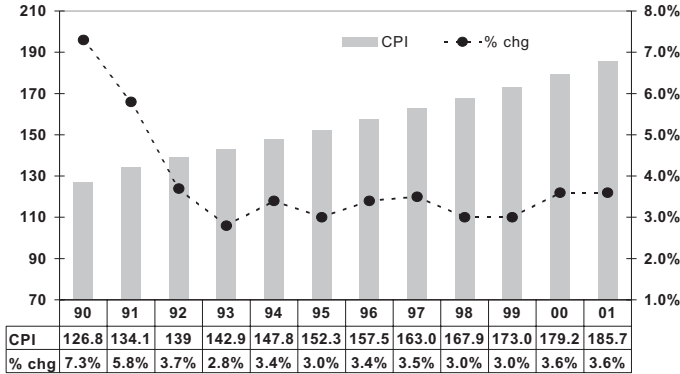
LABOR MARKET AREAS	Number of Beneficiaries 1/			New Claims/Regular Entitlement		
	This Month 2/	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Bellingham MSA	4,354	4,466	3,101	1,033	2,277	706
Bremerton PMSA	4,412	4,358	2,819	1,208	2,219	812
Olympia PMSA	5,788	5,814	4,202	1,480	2,906	971
Seattle-Bellevue-Everett PMSA	73,858	72,058	37,641	17,074	35,359	11,669
Island County	1,321	1,490	696	278	614	197
King County	51,602	10,530	26,683	12,044	25,505	8,470
Snohomish County	20,935	20,766	10,262	4,752	9,240	3,002
Spokane MSA	11,626	12,547	8,144	2,791	5,585	2,023
Tacoma PMSA	19,652	19,066	11,375	4,978	9,681	3,324
Richland-Kennewick-Pasco MSA	4,609	4,712	3,550	1,106	2,112	783
Benton County	3,017	3,033	2,198	759	1,419	572
Franklin County	1,592	1,679	1,352	347	693	211
Clark County	9,023	8,642	4,956	1,964	4,388	1,909
Yakima MSA	9,426	9,526	7,962	2,273	3,742	1,610
Balance of State	29,923	30,981	23,298	6,639	13,212	4,930
WASHINGTON STATE	172,671	172,170	107,049	40,546	81,451	28,737

Note: 1/ Data do not include internet data, which are unavailable.
2/ Unduplicated count, all entitlements.

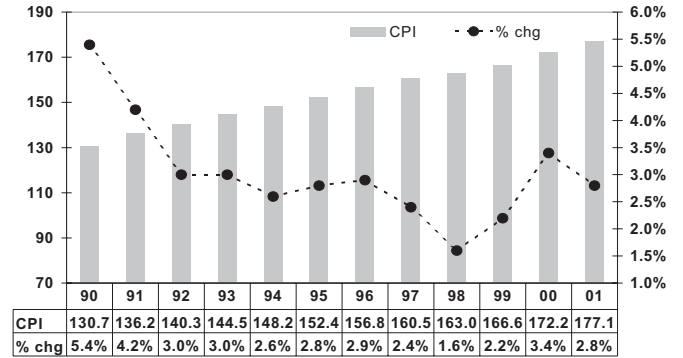
Consumer Price Indexes



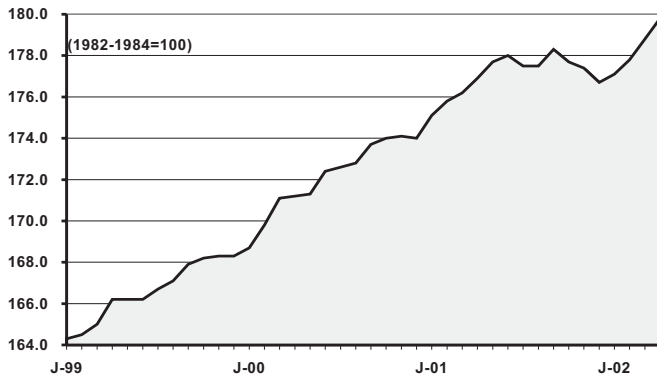
Seattle-Tacoma Average 1990-2001



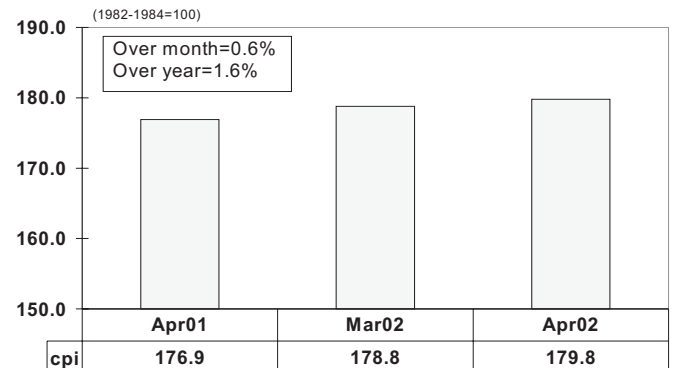
U.S. City Average 1990-2001



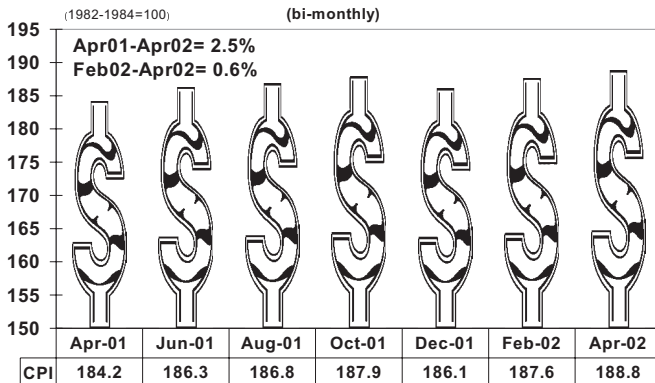
U.S. City Monthly 1999-2002



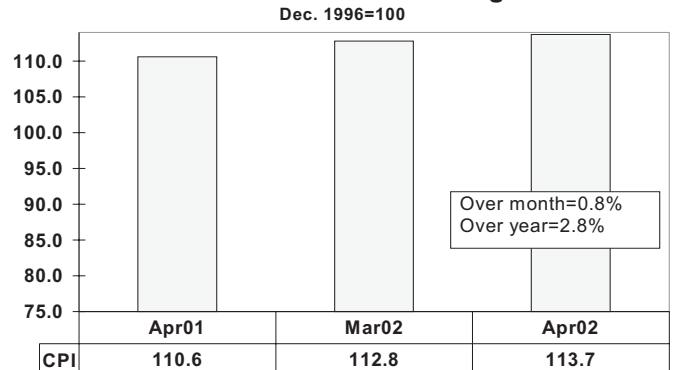
Current U.S. City Average



Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton



Current West-B/C Average



Note: Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton now published bi-monthly on even months. Class "West-B/C" index covers populations 1,500,000 and less. Local area CPI indexes are by-products of the national CPI program. Each index has a smaller sample size than the national index and is subject to more error. Local indexes show greater volatility than the national index but long-term trends are similar. **The Bureau of Labor Statistics urges use of the national average CPI in escalator clauses.** The Consumer Price Index is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services, such as food, clothing, shelter, transportation, medical care, and other goods and services that people buy for day-to-day living.

Technical Notes

This release is prepared in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. The current month's estimates are preliminary while all previous months are subject to revisions. Industries are classified in accord with the *Standard Industrial Classification Manual, 1987*. **The benchmark for all estimates is March 2001.** Material in this publication may be reproduced without special permission (but credit is welcome).

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment estimates include all full- and part-time wage and salary employees who worked during or received pay for the pay period through the twelfth of each month. Estimates measure the number of jobs by industry and reflect **employment by place of work**. The data are not strictly comparable with labor force data which represent persons by place of residence.

Excluded from wage and salary estimates are proprietors, self-employed workers, private household employees, and unpaid family workers. A small percentage of wage and salary workers cannot be assigned to specific counties because of the nature of their jobs. Therefore county data will not necessarily sum to state totals.

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The Right Connection for:

Labor Market Information

metro area nonag information updated
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Washington State
Labor Area Summaries

Published monthly by the Labor Market and
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Jack Schillinger, Editor;
Linda Ojard, Editorial Assistant.

Economic/Demographic Profile of Metropolitan Areas

MSA/ County Data Year	Resident L. Force 2001	Resident Employ. 2001	Un. Rate 2001	Nonag Employ. 2001	Average Wage 2000	Popul- ation 2002	Per Cap. Income 2000
Bellingham MSA	80,300	74,800	6.8	68,300	\$26,295	172,200	\$23,133
Bremerton PMSA	92,400	86,900	6.0	75,000	\$30,527	234,700	\$25,443
Olympia PMSA	98,900	93,200	5.7	86,200	\$31,753	212,300	\$26,460
S-B-Everett PMSA	1,396,500	1,292,600	5.2	1,401,500	\$45,171	2,475,400	\$40,686
King	999,600	948,500	5.1	1,173,300	\$47,241	1,774,300	\$45,536
Snohomish	334,900	317,000	5.4	215,600	\$35,072	628,000	\$28,394
Island	28,500	27,200	4.7	14,850	\$23,949	73,100	\$27,609
Spokane MSA	207,100	193,500	6.6	198,000	\$29,743	425,600	\$25,550
Tacoma PMSA	328,400	307,500	6.4	244,400	\$30,162	725,000	\$25,587
R-K-Pasco MSA	94,400	87,600	7.2	78,500	\$31,533	198,900	\$23,872
Benton	71,800	67,100	6.5	n/a	\$34,183	147,600	\$25,624
Franklin	22,600	20,500	9.4	n/a	\$23,866	51,300	\$18,813
Clark County	179,200	166,500	7.1	118,400	\$32,157	363,400	\$29,085
Yakima MSA	108,000	95,800	11.3	74,600	\$23,252	225,000	\$22,022
Washington	2,995,700	2,804,100	6.4	2,697,800	\$37,038	6,041,700	\$31,230

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OFFICIAL BUSINESS
Penalty For Private Use \$300