

Washington State Labor Area Summaries



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

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May 2003
Volume 18, Number 5

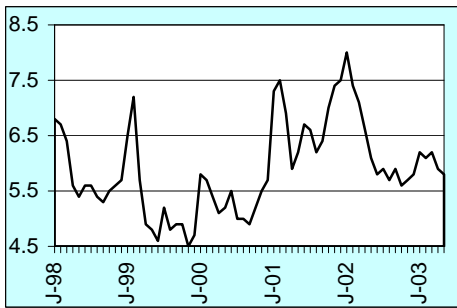
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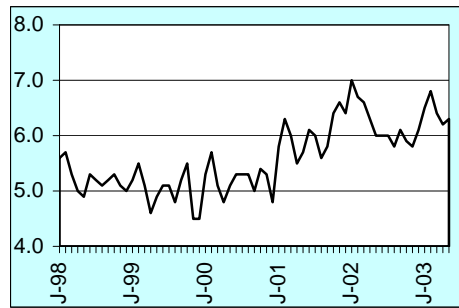
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MSA Jobless Rates 1998-2003

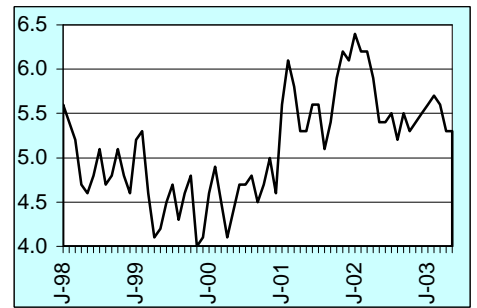
Bellingham MSA



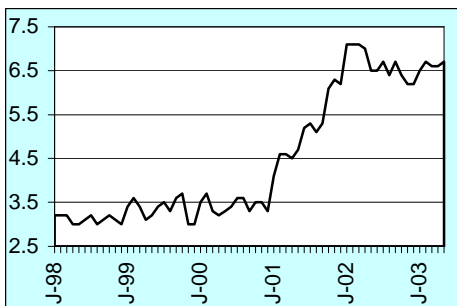
Bremerton PMSA



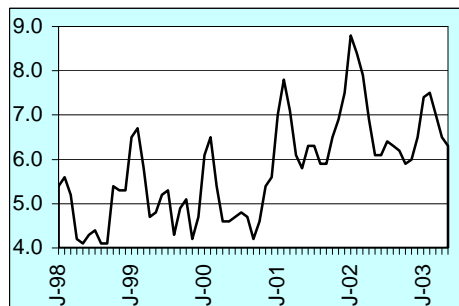
Olympia PMSA



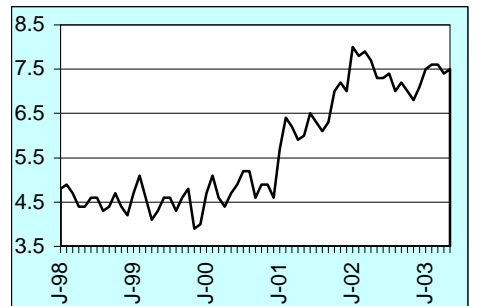
Seattle-Bellevue-Everett PMSA



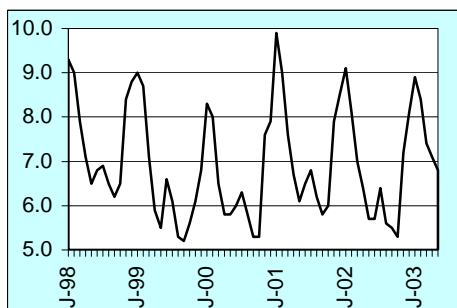
Spokane MSA



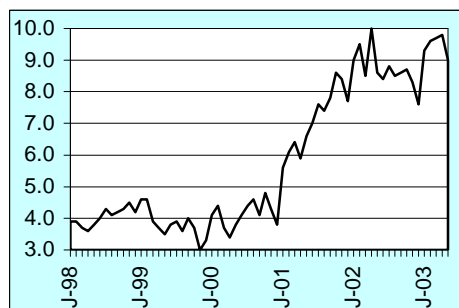
Tacoma PMSA



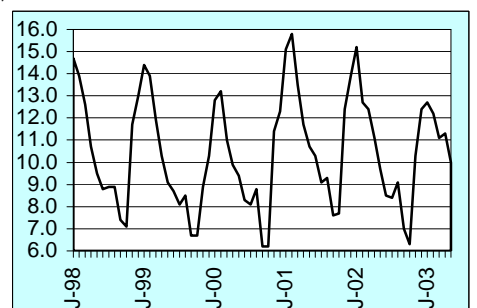
Richland-Kennewick-Pasco MSA



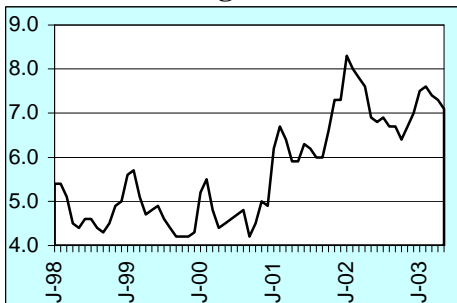
Clark County



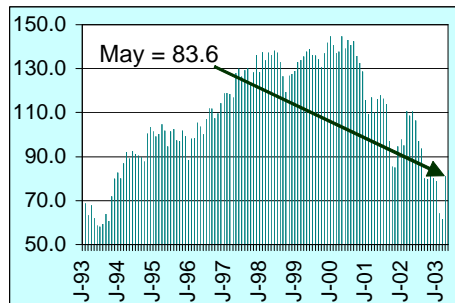
Yakima MSA



Washington State



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

<i>Not seasonally adjusted</i>	May 2003 Preliminary				April 2003 Revised				May 2002 Revised			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemp.	UI Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemp.	UI Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemp.	UI Rate
<i>Washington State Total</i>	3,097,000	2,876,500	220,500	7.1	3,087,000	2,862,000	225,000	7.3	3,086,700	2,863,000	223,700	7.2
<i>Bellingham MSA</i>	89,000	83,900	5,100	5.8	88,800	83,500	5,300	5.9	84,300	79,100	5,200	6.2
<i>Bremerton PMSA</i>	100,800	94,500	6,300	6.3	100,400	94,200	6,300	6.2	99,900	93,800	6,000	6.0
<i>Olympia PMSA</i>	108,800	103,000	5,700	5.3	108,700	103,000	5,800	5.3	104,400	98,400	6,000	5.7
<i>Seattle-Bellevue-Everett PMSA</i>	1,384,600	1,291,700	92,800	6.7	1,380,700	1,289,100	91,600	6.6	1,393,100	1,297,800	95,300	6.8
<i>King County 2/</i>	1,015,600	949,000	66,600	6.6	1,012,300	947,100	65,200	6.4	1,020,300	953,400	66,900	6.6
<i>Snohomish County 2/</i>	341,100	316,500	24,600	7.2	340,600	315,900	24,700	7.3	344,700	318,000	26,700	7.8
<i>Island County 2/</i>	27,900	26,200	1,700	6.1	27,800	26,200	1,600	5.9	28,060	26,360	1,700	6.1
<i>Spokane MSA</i>	213,000	199,500	13,500	6.3	212,500	198,700	13,800	6.5	214,200	200,600	13,600	6.4
<i>Tacoma PMSA</i>	347,500	321,600	25,900	7.5	347,300	321,500	25,800	7.4	343,300	317,000	26,300	7.7
<i>Tri-Cities MSA</i>	103,300	96,300	7,000	6.8	101,900	94,700	7,300	7.1	100,700	94,500	6,100	6.1
<i>Benton County 2/</i>	78,600	73,400	5,200	6.6	77,200	72,100	5,100	6.6	76,500	72,000	4,500	5.9
<i>Franklin County 2/</i>	24,800	22,900	1,800	7.3	24,700	22,500	2,200	8.9	24,200	22,500	1,600	6.8
<i>Yakima MSA</i>	107,600	96,900	10,700	10.0	105,700	93,800	11,900	11.3	106,900	96,000	10,900	10.2
<i>Adams</i>	7,890	7,210	680	8.7	7,860	7,170	690	8.8	7,850	7,200	650	8.2
<i>Asotin 2/</i>	12,160	11,450	710	5.9	12,630	11,680	960	7.6	11,890	11,260	640	5.3
<i>Chelan-Douglas LMA</i>	51,080	46,420	4,660	9.1	51,310	46,440	4,860	9.5	51,420	46,530	4,890	9.5
<i>Chelan County 2/</i>	34,180	31,020	3,160	9.3	34,470	31,030	3,430	10.0	34,490	31,090	3,390	9.8
<i>Douglas County 2/</i>	16,900	15,400	1,500	8.8	16,840	15,410	1,430	8.5	16,940	15,440	1,500	8.9
<i>Clallam</i>	25,080	23,270	1,800	7.2	24,840	22,980	1,870	7.5	25,140	23,420	1,720	6.8
<i>Clark 2/</i>	185,300	168,600	16,600	9.0	185,400	167,100	18,300	9.8	186,100	169,000	17,100	9.2
<i>Columbia</i>	1,820	1,710	110	5.9	1,620	1,480	140	8.7	1,840	1,710	140	7.4
<i>Cowlitz</i>	39,500	35,630	3,860	9.8	39,550	35,470	4,080	10.3	41,200	36,480	4,710	11.4
<i>Ferry</i>	2,790	2,350	440	15.8	2,720	2,250	470	17.4	2,440	2,170	280	11.3
<i>Garfield</i>	1,250	1,200	50	3.8	1,230	1,170	60	4.7	1,230	1,180	50	3.7
<i>Grant</i>	37,520	33,760	3,770	10.0	36,310	33,000	3,310	9.1	37,530	33,460	4,060	10.8
<i>Grays Harbor</i>	26,420	24,030	2,400	9.1	26,460	23,900	2,560	9.7	25,860	23,580	2,280	8.8
<i>Jefferson</i>	12,100	11,460	640	5.3	11,980	11,280	700	5.8	11,680	10,920	760	6.5
<i>Kittitas</i>	16,310	15,200	1,120	6.8	16,690	15,440	1,250	7.5	15,630	14,680	960	6.1
<i>Klickitat</i>	8,410	7,130	1,290	15.3	8,260	7,040	1,210	14.7	8,350	7,190	1,160	13.9
<i>Lewis</i>	29,940	27,430	2,510	8.4	29,820	27,170	2,660	8.9	29,500	26,980	2,510	8.5
<i>Lincoln</i>	4,870	4,640	230	4.7	4,730	4,490	250	5.2	4,820	4,570	250	5.1
<i>Mason</i>	20,280	18,700	1,570	7.8	20,220	18,540	1,670	8.3	19,310	17,920	1,390	7.2
<i>Okanogan</i>	17,870	16,110	1,760	9.9	17,660	15,650	2,010	11.4	17,660	16,010	1,650	9.4
<i>Pacific</i>	8,280	7,570	700	8.5	8,210	7,460	750	9.2	7,870	7,240	630	8.0
<i>Pend Oreille</i>	4,400	4,050	350	7.9	4,420	3,920	490	11.2	4,450	4,080	380	8.4
<i>San Juan</i>	6,890	6,620	260	3.8	6,460	6,150	310	4.9	6,710	6,420	290	4.3
<i>Skagit</i>	52,390	48,410	3,980	7.6	52,210	48,200	4,010	7.7	52,290	48,350	3,950	7.5
<i>Skamania</i>	3,790	3,410	390	10.1	3,790	3,370	420	11.2	3,970	3,510	460	11.6
<i>Stevens</i>	16,620	15,080	1,550	9.3	17,040	15,140	1,910	11.2	16,690	15,110	1,580	9.5
<i>Wahkiakum</i>	1,670	1,560	110	6.6	1,720	1,570	150	8.9	1,720	1,590	130	7.3
<i>Walla Walla</i>	27,910	26,510	1,390	5.0	27,730	25,890	1,840	6.6	27,310	25,980	1,330	4.9
<i>Whitman</i>	19,920	19,490	430	2.1	20,130	19,660	470	2.3	19,670	19,250	420	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.

Washington State Employment Security Department
Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch (LMEA)

Directory of LMEA Economists and Areas Served

Economists	Address/Telephone	Areas Served <i>(MSA Counties are Capitalized)</i>
Kirsta Glenn , <i>Chief Economist</i> 360/438-4812 FAX 438-4846	PO Box 9046, MS 46000 Olympia, WA 98507-9046 kglenne@esd.wa.gov	Statewide
Cummins, Carolyn , <i>Staff Economist</i> 360/438-4814 FAX 438-4846	PO Box 9046, MS: 46000 Olympia, WA 98507-9046 ccummins@esd.wa.gov	Statewide
Wallace, David , <i>Staff Economist</i> 360/438-4818 FAX 438-4846	PO Box 9046, MS: 46000 Olympia, WA 98507-9046 dbwallace@esd.wa.gov	Statewide
Graudins, Ivars , <i>Area LMI Supervisor</i> 360/438-4825 FAX 438-4846	PO Box 9046, MS: 46000 Olympia, WA 98507-9046 igraudins@esd.wa.gov	Statewide
Bailey, Scott , <i>Regional Economist</i> 360/735-5043 FAX 735-5093	5411 E. Mill Plain, Suite B3 Vancouver, WA 98661 scott.bailey@esd.wa.gov	CLARK, Cowlitz, Skamania, Wahkiakum, SPOKANE
Johnson, Chris , <i>Regional Economist</i> 253/593-7336 FAX 593-7377	1313 Tacoma Avenue South Tacoma, WA 98402 chris.johnson@esd.wa.gov	PIERCE, Columbia, Garfield, Lincoln, Whitman
Meseck, Don , <i>Regional Economist</i> 509/963-2606 FAX 963-1992	Central Washington University 400-E 8 th Avenue Ellensburg, WA 98926-7486 dmeseck@esd.wa.gov	Okanogan, Chelan, Adams, Douglas, Grant, YAKIMA, Kittitas, Klickitat*
Pauer, Roberta , <i>Regional Economist</i> 206/720-3394 FAX 720-3393	400 E Pine, Suite 310 Seattle, WA 98122 rpauer@esd.wa.gov	KING Seattle-Bellevue-Everett PMSA
Schau, Dean , <i>Regional Economist</i> 509/547-0511 ext. 2217 FAX 546-0401	Columbia Basin College 2600 N 20 th Avenue Pasco, WA 99301-3379 schaud@cbc2.org	BENTON, FRANKLIN, Walla Walla
Thompson, Donna , <i>Regional Economist</i> 425/339-4954 FAX 425/339-1949	PO Box 870 Everett, WA 98206 dthompson@esd.wa.gov	SNOHOMISH, Ferry, Stevens, Pend Oreille
Turek, Paul , <i>Regional Economist</i> 360/438-4813 FAX 438-4846	PO Box 9046, MS: 46000 Olympia, WA 98507-9046 pturek@esd.wa.gov	Grays Harbor, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, THURSTON
Vleming, Jim , <i>Regional Economist</i> 360/438-4821 FAX 438-4846	PO Box 9046, MS: 46000 Olympia, WA 98507-9046 jvleming@esd.wa.gov	Clallam, Jefferson, KITSAP WHATCOM, ISLAND, San Juan Skagit
Labor Market Information Center 1-800-215-1617 Fax 360/438-4109	PO Box 9046, MS 46000 Olympia WA 98507-9046 dayers@esd.wa.gov	For statewide and area information Asotin**

*For current information on Klickitat County, please contact Scott Bailey at (360) 735-5083.

**For current information on Asotin County, please contact Doug Tweedy, Labor Market Analyst,
Lewiston ID at (208) 799-5000.

Revised 8/03

Washington State Labor Area Summary Bellingham MSA

Prepared by the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch, Jim Vleming, *Regional Labor Economist*
605 Woodland Square Loop SE, Olympia, WA 98507-9046 Phone: (360) 438-4821

Highlights:

The month of May was a little bit up and a little bit down. While the unemployment rate slipped just a notch, nonagricultural wage and salary employment gained. With both series going in positive directions, the month could be counted as success for the local economy.

On the unemployment side, the May preliminary rate fell—not a long fall, mind you—but fell to 5.8 percent of the labor force from 5.9 in April. In May 2002, the Bellingham MSA unemployment rate was 6.2 percent. During the May 2003 data gathering, 83,900 Whatcom county residents were at work as 5,100 sought employment.

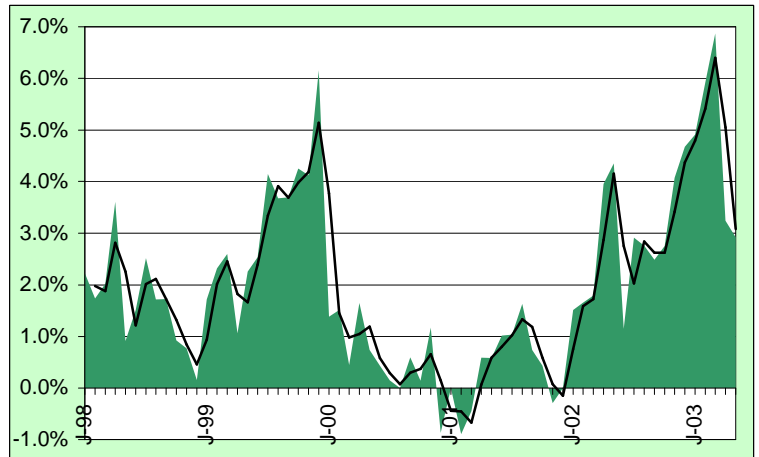
Compared to the state, the MSA is looking pretty good at 5.8 percent, as statewide the May unemployment rate was 7.1 percent, down from the 7.3 of April and the 7.2 of last May.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment peaked in May at 74,000 jobs. The bulk of the employment was in the Service Providing sector (59,400), while Goods Producing provided 14,600 payroll jobs. The total over-the-month gain of 700 jobs was also heavily concentrated in services; 600 of the 700 increase could be found in that sector. Over-the-month activity of note occurred in the Trade sector, up 200, and in Non Durable Goods, which added 100 jobs over the month.

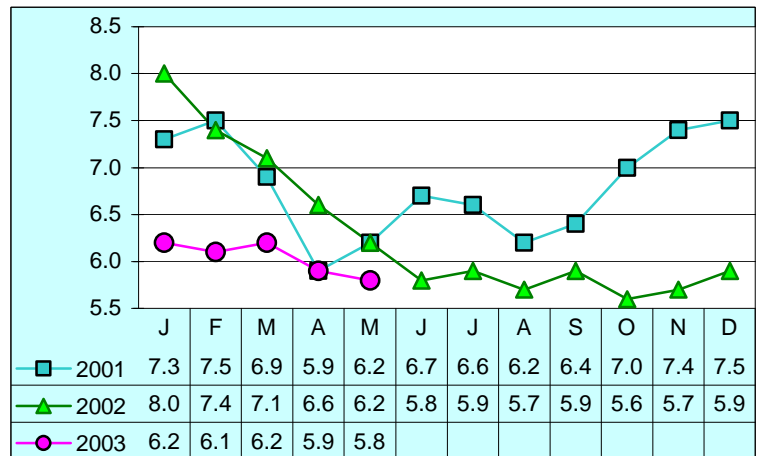
Over the year, nonag employment has expanded by 2.9 percent or 2,100 jobs. The largest gains could be found in Government, which increased by 700, and Manufacturing, which added 300 over the year.

The coming months will see seasonal increases in employment, with the usual seasonal declines in government jobs as schools close

Nonag Employment Over-the-Year % Change, 1998-2003



Unemployment Rates by Month, 2001-2003



for the summer. The unemployment rate will stay steady for the time being, as the local economy continues to perform better than the state average. However, on the horizon remains the Bonneville Power Association's (BPA) rate increases and the continued sluggishness of the state economy as a whole.

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

Benchmark: December 2002

NAICS INDUSTRY TITLE	Prelim May-03	Revised Apr-03	Revised May-02	Change		
				Apr-03 May-03	May-02 May-03	May-02 May-03 %
TOTAL NONFARM 1/	74,000	73,300	71,900	700	2,100	2.9%
TOTAL PRIVATE	57,900	57,200	56,600	700	1,300	2.3%
GOODS PRODUCING	14,600	14,600	14,100	0	500	3.5%
NATURAL RESOURCES and MINING	400	400	400	0	0	0.0%
CONSTRUCTION	5,900	5,900	5,700	0	200	3.5%
MANUFACTURING	8,300	8,200	8,000	100	300	3.8%
Durable Goods	4,700	4,700	4,400	0	300	6.8%
Non Durable Goods	3,600	3,500	3,600	100	0	0.0%
Food Manufacturing	1,600	1,600	1,400	0	200	14.3%
SERVICE PROVIDING	59,400	58,800	57,800	600	1,600	2.8%
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION and UTILITIES	13,700	13,500	13,600	200	100	0.7%
Wholesale Trade	2,800	2,800	2,600	0	200	7.7%
Retail Trade	9,300	9,200	9,000	100	300	3.3%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	1,600	1,600	2,000	0	-400	-20.0%
INFORMATION and FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	4,200	4,200	4,300	0	-100	-2.3%
GOVERNMENT	16,100	16,100	15,400	0	700	4.5%
Federal Government	1,000	1,000	900	0	100	11.1%
State Government	5,900	5,900	5,800	0	100	1.7%
Local Government	9,100	9,200	8,700	-100	400	4.6%
Workers in Labor/Management Disputes	0	0	0	0	0	0

1/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of the armed services, workers in private households, and agriculture. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month. Columns may not add due to rounding.

This and other labor market information can be found at:

www.workforceexplorer.com

Washington State Labor Area Summary Bremerton PMSA

Prepared by the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch, Jim Vleming, *Regional Labor Economist*
605 Woodland Square Loop, Olympia, WA 98507-9046 Phone: (360) 438-4821

Highlights:

Nonagricultural employment in the Bremerton PMSA gained 700 jobs to a May total of 78,600. While better than the April revised numbers, it represents only a half a percentage point growth over the May 2002 total of 78,200.

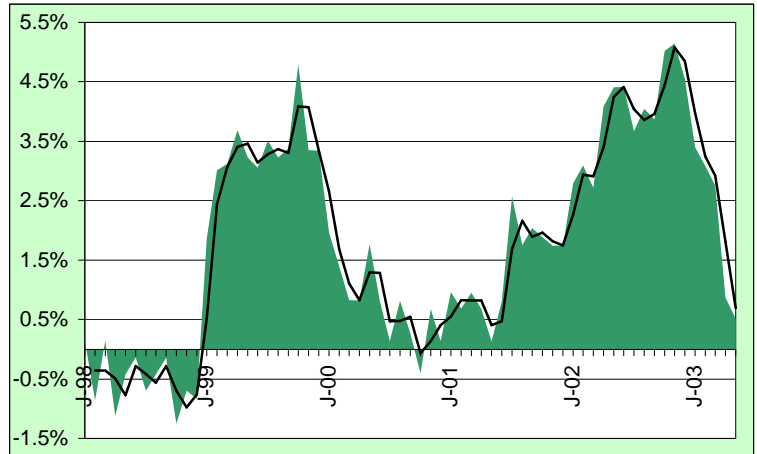
Over the month, Service Providing jobs gained 600 and Goods Producing employment was up 100. The sectors of Trade, Government and Manufacturing generated the most over the month change. Other areas of the economy found May slow going and there was little activity to report.

Over the year, the entire gain was in the Service Providing sector—400 jobs were added to the 72,300 job total. The Information and Financial Activities sector was responsible for 300 of that gain. Once again, the other areas of the economy found job growth elusive.

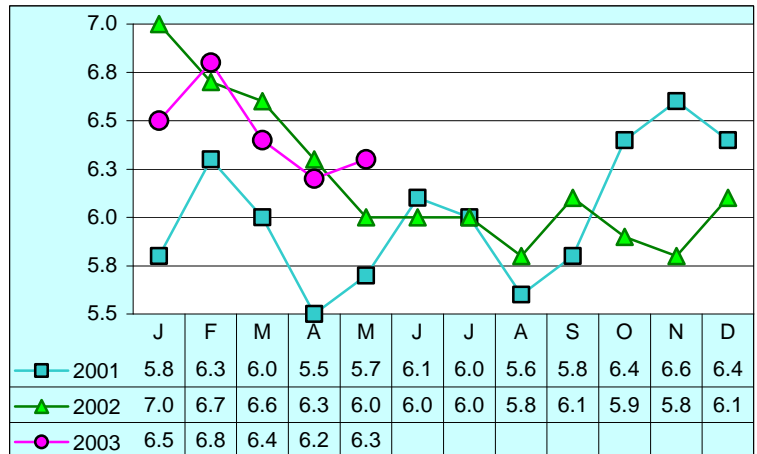
The unemployment rate in May was up just slightly to 6.3 percent from the 6.2 of April. Last May, the PMSA rate of unemployment was 6.0 percent. During the month of May, 94,500 local residents were employed, while 6,300 were actively seeking jobs. Statewide, the May unemployment rate was 7.1 percent.

Overall, the weakness of the Puget Sound economy is weighing heavily on the PMSA. Job growth is minimal and the unemployment rate is above last year's level. With some military deployment coming to an end, the area should see a boost to the economy. The summer travel season should also aid the local area in the Service Providing and Trade cash registers. Look for growth to remain cautious and the unemployment rate to be steady. The good news is that the rate, though above last year's level, remains below the state as a whole. As summer progresses we should see better numbers all the way around.

Nonag Employment Over-the-Year % Change, 1998-2003



Unemployment Rates by Month, 2001-2003



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

Benchmark: December 2002

NAICS INDUSTRY TITLE	Prelim May-03	Revised Apr-03	Revised May-02	Change		
				Apr-03 May-03	May-02 May-03	May-02 May-03 %
TOTAL NONFARM 1/	78,600	77,900	78,200	700	400	0.5%
TOTAL PRIVATE	50,400	49,800	50,300	600	100	0.2%
GOODS PRODUCING	6,300	6,200	6,300	100	0	0.0%
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RESOURCES and MINING	4,500	4,500	4,500	0	0	0.0%
MANUFACTURING	1,800	1,700	1,800	100	0	0.0%
SERVICE PROVIDING	72,300	71,700	71,900	600	400	0.6%
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION and UTILITIES	12,300	12,100	12,300	200	0	0.0%
Wholesale Trade	1,100	1,100	1,100	0	0	0.0%
Retail Trade	10,200	10,000	10,200	200	0	0.0%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0	0.0%
INFORMATION and FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	5,400	5,300	5,100	100	300	5.9%
GOVERNMENT	28,200	28,100	27,900	100	300	1.1%
Federal Government	14,900	14,800	14,800	100	100	0.7%
State and Local Government	13,300	13,300	13,100	0	200	1.5%
Workers in Labor/Management Disputes	0	0	0	0	0	0

1/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of the armed services, workers in private households, and agriculture. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month. Columns may not add due to rounding.

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www.workforceexplorer.com

Washington State Labor Area Summary Olympia PMSA

Prepared by the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch, Paul Turek, *Regional Labor Economist*
605 Woodland Square Loop, Olympia, WA 98507-9046 Phone: (360) 438-4813

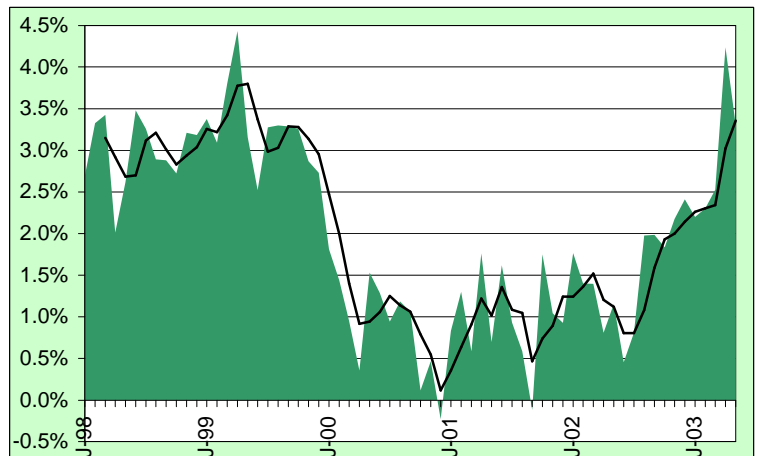
Highlights:

The Olympia PMSA labor economy in May managed to cling to some of the glimmer of its recent past and posted a gain of 600 nonagricultural jobs. A small injection of economic stimulus attributable to gradually improving national economic conditions helped to prop up the local economy. The retail sector continued to be an area of employment opportunity as it accounted for 100 new jobs. Over the year employment in Retail Trade has increased by 900 jobs. Prospects for additional employment continue to surface with the scheduled new store openings by Home Depot and Big 5 sporting goods. Professional and Business Services added 200 more jobs, primarily in healthcare services and social assistance programs. Restaurants and drinking establishments began adding more positions this month, helping to further fuel the business services increase. Other industries that contributed employment gains were Local Government, Natural Resources & Mining, and Information & Financial Activities. Each of these areas gained 100 jobs respectively. Continued strength in the housing market due to attractive interest rates was in evidence as mortgage and banking services added jobs within the financial services division. The positive employment situation helped the area maintain its employment rate at 5.3 percent.

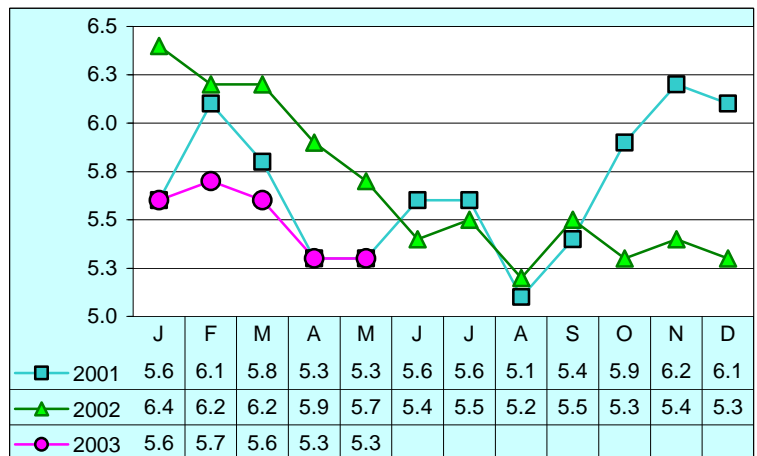
The state budget arguments in Olympia continued during May as the parties wrangled over the means by which the deficit will be addressed. The fiscal budget for 2003-2005 will undoubtedly call for some belt-tightening on the part of State and Local Government entities. Employment in State Government is likely to be impacted, although the severity of the cutbacks can be distributed over a two-year budget cycle through layoffs and attrition. Still, the impact will be felt at some level, particularly since steady government employment has traditionally served as a counter-balance against tough economic times in the area. State Government employment in Olympia declined by 100 jobs for the month.

As the government sector faces a formidable employment challenge, and with no outstanding strength being displayed in any of the remaining industries, the Olympia economy now gets ready to weather the layoff storm brewing at the Tumwater brewery. The brewery is closed as of June 27. It awaits its fate on the open market where it has been put up for sale. The opportunity to have it con-

Nonag Employment Over-the-Year % Change, 1998-2003



Unemployment Rates by Month, 2001-2003



tinue as a brewery for the near future has probably passed. Whether it can be resurrected in some other commercial form remains to be seen. One other possibility is to retire the facility as an historical site so it can be retained as a symbol of community pride. As such, its days as a vital economic component in the PMSA are probably gone and its passing creates a manufacturing void for the locality. Perhaps further development of the services industry will eventually fill that void in

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

Benchmark: September 2002

NAICS INDUSTRY TITLE	Prelim May-03	Revised Apr-03	Revised May-02	Change		
				Apr-03 May-03	May-02 May-03	May-02 May-03 %
TOTAL NONFARM 1/	90,700	90,100	87,800	600	2,900	3.3%
TOTAL PRIVATE	53,800	53,300	51,900	500	1,900	3.7%
GOODS PRODUCING	8,300	8,200	7,900	100	400	5.1%
NATURAL RESOURCES and MINING	600	500	500	100	100	20.0%
CONSTRUCTION	4,200	4,200	4,000	0	200	5.0%
MANUFACTURING	3,500	3,500	3,400	0	100	2.9%
SERVICE PROVIDING	82,400	81,900	79,900	500	2,500	3.1%
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION and UTILITIES	14,000	13,900	12,700	100	1,300	10.2%
Wholesale Trade	1,600	1,600	1,600	0	0	0.0%
Retail Trade	10,800	10,700	9,900	100	900	9.1%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	1,600	1,600	1,200	0	400	33.3%
INFORMATION and FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	4,600	4,500	4,600	100	0	0.0%
PROFESSIONAL BUSINESS SERVICES	26,900	26,700	26,700	200	200	0.7%
GOVERNMENT	36,900	36,800	35,900	100	1,000	2.8%
Federal Government	1,100	1,000	1,000	100	100	10.0%
State Government	24,000	24,100	23,700	-100	300	1.3%
State Government Educational Services	2,300	2,300	2,400	0	-100	-4.2%
Local Government	11,800	11,700	11,200	100	600	5.4%
Local Government Educational Services	7,300	7,300	6,900	0	400	5.8%
Workers in Labor/Management Disputes	0	0	0	0	0	0

1/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of the armed services, workers in private households, and agriculture. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month. Columns may not add due to rounding.

This and other labor market information can be found at:

www.workforceexplorer.com

adequate fashion. Whether services can economically compensate for the loss of the Manufacturing jobs is a contention of debate, however. For now, the near term employment situation will offer a reduced set of opportunities in Government and Manufacturing. As new graduates and youth seeking summer jobs enter the labor force beginning next month, the area unemployment rate is likely to be pushed higher.

Consequently, now would be a great time for our economic recovery to strengthen. With Washington State acting as a weak sister of the nation, and with Olympia starting to lose its state government security blanket, the hope for a stronger recovery increasingly gets placed upon the Federal Government. Monetary stimulus in the form of interest rate reductions continues to be fed into the pipeline by the Federal Reserve without dramatic results. The Federal Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act provides some direct aid to the states and reduces the federal tax burden for households, particularly for parents with young children. The child tax retroactive rebate coupled with reduced tax withholding by employers should stretch consumer wallets and bolster consumer demand. The extra stimulus is being counted upon to nudge employers into expanding production, increasing investment, and creating jobs once more. Although some of the financial manna will be eaten by some of the revenue retrieval tactics and transportation taxes of the state (the nickel per gallon gasoline tax hike) or used to pay down debt, the remainder of the funds could provide the final drops that produce recovery spillover. Even still, it is going to take the labor market more time to recover. But at least this time the anticipation will make the wait more bearable.

Washington State Labor Area Summary Seattle-Bellevue-Everett PMSA

Prepared by the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch, Roberta Pauer, *Regional Labor Economist*
400 East Pine, Suite 310, Seattle, WA 98122 Phone: (206) 720-3394

Highlights:

May's labor market remained weak for the three-county Seattle-Bellevue-Everett PMSA (King, Snohomish, and Island Counties, combined). The second half of the year, however, will show some gains.

Unemployment:

The unemployment rate for the Seattle-Bellevue-Everett area was nearly flat between April and May, up only slightly to 6.7 percent of the labor force. But unemployment remained lower than year-ago levels by 0.1 percentage point, when in May 2002 unemployment was 6.8%. King County, at 6.6 percent unemployment, came in a bit lower than the larger Seattle-Bellevue-Everett region because of the higher jobless rate in Snohomish County, which registered 7.2 percent. That divergence is typical of workforce trends for the two counties within the larger Seattle-Bellevue-Everett PMSA, where King comprises about three-fourths of the total PMSA labor force. Island County, with approximately one percent of the PMSA labor force, registered a jobless rate of 6.1 percent in May.

Industry Employment:

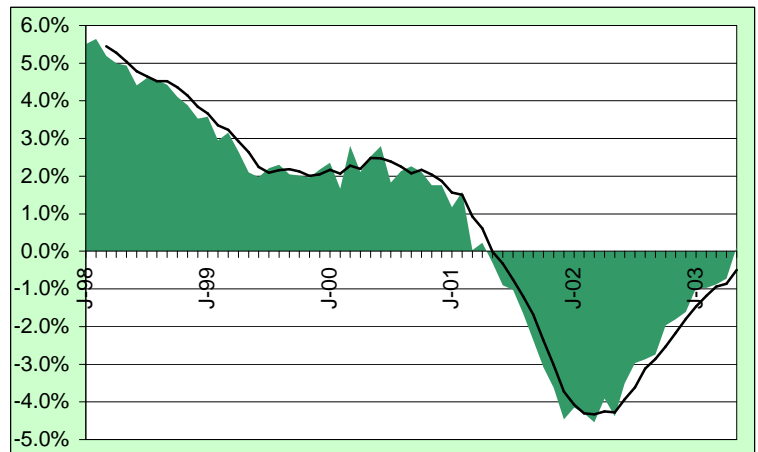
Seasonal hiring in May by area employers resulted in a net over-the-month increase of 11,000 jobs in the Seattle-Bellevue-Everett PMSA.

Construction added 1,300 spots, nondurable manufacturing was flat, but durable-goods manufacturing overall dropped by 1,200 as aerospace products and parts, driven mainly by layoffs at the Boeing Company, accounted for 1,100 job losses.

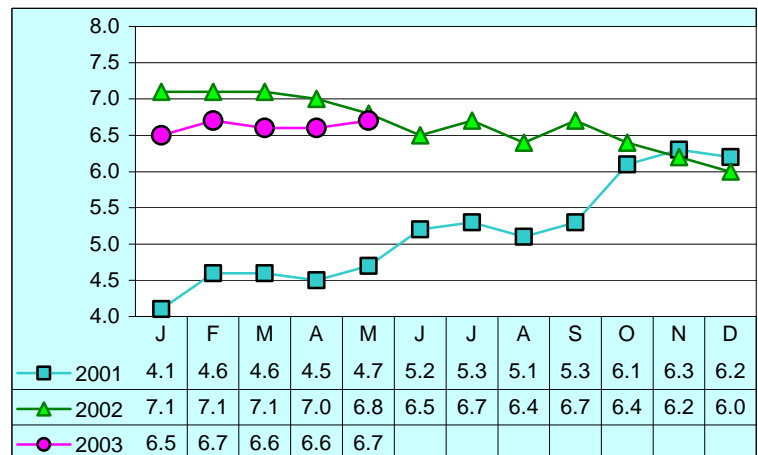
Trade was seasonal, as wholesale trade gained 300 jobs and retail trade added 1,300. Transportation, warehousing and utilities were flat over the month. The remainder of the broad services-producing arena was slightly positive. Jobs were added in small numbers of a few hundred here and there in information, up 200 jobs, financial activities, up 600, professional and business services, up 1,200, and education and health services, up 300. The leisure and hospitality industries hired seasonally in the amount of 3,500 positions.

Over-the-year, net job change in the Seattle-Bellevue-Everett PMSA registered -9,100 in May 2003 relative to May 2002.

Nonag Employment Over-the-Year % Change, 1998-2003



Unemployment Rates by Month, 2001-2003



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

Benchmark: December 2002

NAICS INDUSTRY TITLE (in thousands)	Prelim May-03	Revised Apr-03	Revised May-02	Revised Apr-02	Change			
					Apr-03 May-03	May-02 May-03	Apr-02 May-02	May-02 May-03 %
TOTAL NONFARM 1/	1,350.3	1,339.3	1,359.4	1,348.7	11.0	-9.1	10.7	-0.7%
TOTAL PRIVATE	1,143.3	1,135.1	1,156.6	1,146.8	8.2	-13.3	9.8	-1.1%
GOODS PRODUCING	228.9	228.7	246.6	244.8	0.2	-17.7	1.8	-7.2%
NATURAL RESOURCES and MINING	2.0	1.9	1.6	1.7	0.1	0.4	-0.1	25.0%
CONSTRUCTION	76.1	74.8	77.7	75.7	1.3	-1.6	2.0	-2.1%
Construction of Buildings	18.7	18.4	20.0	19.9	0.3	-1.3	0.1	-6.5%
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	8.5	8.2	8.3	8.0	0.3	0.2	0.3	2.4%
Specialty Trade Contractors	48.9	48.2	49.4	47.8	0.7	-0.5	1.6	-1.0%
MANUFACTURING	150.8	152.0	167.3	167.4	-1.2	-16.5	-0.1	-9.9%
Durable Goods Manufacturing	118.5	119.7	134.3	134.6	-1.2	-15.8	-0.3	-11.8%
Fabricated Metal Product Mfg	8.5	8.5	9.0	9.0	0.0	-0.5	0.0	-5.6%
Computer and Electronic Product Mfg	15.5	15.7	17.0	17.1	-0.2	-1.5	-0.1	-8.8%
Navigation., Measuring, Electromed. & Control	8.9	9.0	9.4	9.4	-0.1	-0.5	0.0	-5.3%
Transportation Equipment Mfg	67.8	68.9	80.3	80.6	-1.1	-12.5	-0.3	-15.6%
Aerospace Product and Parts Mfg	63.0	64.1	74.6	75.2	-1.1	-11.6	-0.6	-15.5%
Non Durable Goods Manufacturing	32.3	32.3	33.0	32.8	0.0	-0.7	0.2	-2.1%
Food Manufacturing	11.6	12.1	11.5	11.4	-0.5	0.1	0.1	0.9%
SERVICE PROVIDING	1,121.4	1,110.6	1,112.8	1,103.9	10.8	8.6	8.9	0.8%
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION and UTILITIES	260.7	259.0	262.8	260.9	1.7	-2.1	1.9	-0.8%
Wholesale Trade	67.9	67.6	69.9	69.8	0.3	-2.0	0.1	-2.9%
Retail Trade	142.8	141.5	142.6	141.6	1.3	0.2	1.0	0.1%
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	17.1	17.1	17.3	17.2	0.0	-0.2	0.1	-1.2%
Food and Beverage Stores	27.5	27.2	28.1	27.7	0.3	-0.6	0.4	-2.1%
Health and Personal Care Stores	7.2	7.1	7.1	7.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	1.4%
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	15.4	15.2	14.1	14.0	0.2	1.3	0.1	9.2%
General Merchandise Stores	18.6	18.5	18.3	18.4	0.1	0.3	-0.1	1.6%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	50.0	49.9	50.3	49.5	0.1	-0.3	0.8	-0.6%
Transportation and Warehousing	47.3	47.2	47.5	46.8	0.1	-0.2	0.7	-0.4%
Air Transportation	12.4	12.3	12.7	12.5	0.1	-0.3	0.2	-2.4%
Water Transportation	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0%
Truck Transportation	7.7	7.6	8.0	7.9	0.1	-0.3	0.1	-3.8%
Support Activities for Transportation	9.9	9.9	10.0	9.8	0.0	-0.1	0.2	-1.0%
Support Activities for Water Transportation	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.3	0.0	0.1	0.2	4.0%
Warehousing and Storage	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0%
INFORMATION	72.9	72.7	73.0	72.7	0.2	-0.1	0.3	-0.1%
Newspaper, Book and Directory Publishers	6.1	6.1	6.2	6.2	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-1.6%
Software Publishers	35.7	35.5	34.6	34.4	0.2	1.1	0.2	3.2%
Broadcasting, except Internet	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.6	0.0	0.1	0.0	3.8%
Telecommunications	19.1	19.1	20.9	21.1	0.0	-1.8	-0.2	-8.6%
Wired Telecommunications Carriers	5.8	5.8	6.8	6.8	0.0	-1.0	0.0	-14.7%
Wireless Telecommunications Carriers	10.2	10.2	10.6	10.8	0.0	-0.4	-0.2	-3.8%
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	90.0	89.4	88.5	88.2	0.6	1.5	0.3	1.7%
Finance and Insurance	62.0	61.9	61.0	60.9	0.1	1.0	0.1	1.6%
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	27.3	27.2	26.3	26.3	0.1	1.0	0.0	3.8%
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	26.6	26.6	26.3	26.1	0.0	0.3	0.2	1.1%
Real Estate and Rental Leasing	28.0	27.5	27.5	27.3	0.5	0.5	0.2	1.8%

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

Benchmark: December 2002

NAICS INDUSTRY TITLE (in thousands)	Prelim May-03	Revised Apr-03	Revised May-02	Revised Apr-02	Change			
					Apr-03 May-03	May-02 May-03	Apr-02 May-02	May-02 May-03 %
PROFESSIONAL and BUSINESS SERVICES	179.5	178.3	179.8	178.7	1.2	-0.3	1.1	-0.2%
Professional, Scientific and Tech Services	89.1	89.5	89.0	89.6	-0.4	0.1	-0.6	0.1%
Legal Services	13.1	13.1	13.0	12.9	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.8%
Accounting, Tax Prep, Bookkpng & Payroll	9.3	10.0	9.5	10.5	-0.7	-0.2	-1.0	-2.1%
Architectural, Engineering and Related	17.8	17.7	18.4	18.2	0.1	-0.6	0.2	-3.3%
Computer Systems Design and Related	17.2	17.2	18.1	18.2	0.0	-0.9	-0.1	-5.0%
MGMT OF COMPANIES and ENTERPRISES	23.1	23.0	22.4	22.2	0.1	0.7	0.2	3.1%
ADMIN, SUPPORT, WASTE MGMT & REMED.	67.3	65.8	68.4	66.9	1.5	-1.1	1.5	-1.6%
Administrative and Support Services	64.2	62.8	65.5	64.1	1.4	-1.3	1.4	-2.0%
Employment Services	25.7	25.4	26.9	26.4	0.3	-1.2	0.5	-4.5%
EDUCATION and HEALTH SERVICES	139.2	138.9	136.4	135.7	0.3	2.8	0.7	2.1%
Educational Services	22.3	22.3	21.7	21.6	0.0	0.6	0.1	2.8%
Ambulatory Health Care Services	48.3	48.2	47.0	46.7	0.1	1.3	0.3	2.8%
Hospitals	27.1	27.1	26.5	26.6	0.0	0.6	-0.1	2.3%
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	20.6	20.5	20.3	20.2	0.1	0.3	0.1	1.5%
Social Assistance	20.9	20.8	20.9	20.6	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.0%
LEISURE and HOSPITALITY	122.8	119.3	120.5	117.3	3.5	2.3	3.2	1.9%
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	23.9	22.6	22.4	21.3	1.3	1.5	1.1	6.7%
Accommodation	13.1	12.8	13.0	12.8	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.8%
Food Services and Drinking Places	85.8	83.9	85.1	83.2	1.9	0.7	1.9	0.8%
OTHER SERVICES	49.3	48.8	49.0	48.5	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.6%
Repair and Maintenance	13.8	13.7	13.9	13.8	0.1	-0.1	0.1	-0.7%
Personal and Laundry Services	13.3	13.2	13.6	13.5	0.1	-0.3	0.1	-2.2%
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Prof. and Similar	22.2	21.9	21.5	21.2	0.3	0.7	0.3	3.3%
GOVERNMENT	207.0	204.2	202.8	201.9	2.8	4.2	0.9	2.1%
Federal Government	26.0	26.0	25.1	25.0	0.0	0.9	0.1	3.6%
Total State Government	60.9	60.7	60.2	60.1	0.2	0.7	0.1	1.2%
State Government Educational Services	44.1	43.9	43.3	43.3	0.2	0.8	0.0	1.8%
Total Local Government	120.1	117.5	117.5	116.8	2.6	2.6	0.7	2.2%
Local Government Educational Services	52.5	52.7	52.3	52.3	-0.2	0.2	0.0	0.4%
Workers in Labor/Management Disputes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

1/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of the armed services, workers in private households, and agriculture. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month. Columns may not add due to rounding. Prepared by the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch using a quarterly benchmark process. This process uses the most recent quarter from the Unemployment Insurance tax reports (currently fourth quarter 2002) and estimates employment from that point until present.

This and other labor market information can be found at:

www.workforceexplorer.com

Washington State Labor Area Summary Snohomish County

Prepared by the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch, Donna Thompson, *Regional Labor Economist*
804 Broadway North, Building-B, Everett, WA 98201 Phone: (425) 339-4354

Highlights:

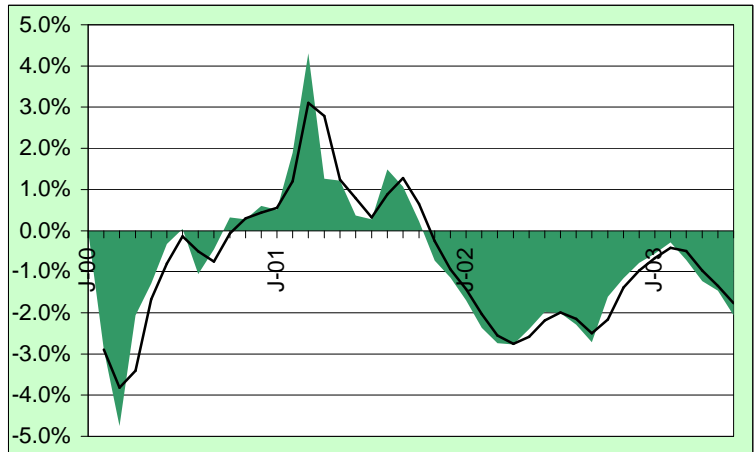
Seasonal increases, special events, including the return of the USS Abraham Lincoln helped add 700 non-farm jobs to the economy during the month of May, bringing the job total to 209,000. Most sectors showed increases or held their own, except for Manufacturing, which is still being hit by monthly Boeing layoffs.

The Unemployment Rate for May fell 0.1 percent to 7.2 percent. This is one tenth of a percentage point higher than the state unadjusted rate which fell to 7.1 percent. Typically, the state rate drops in the summer and fall due to increased activities related to food processing.

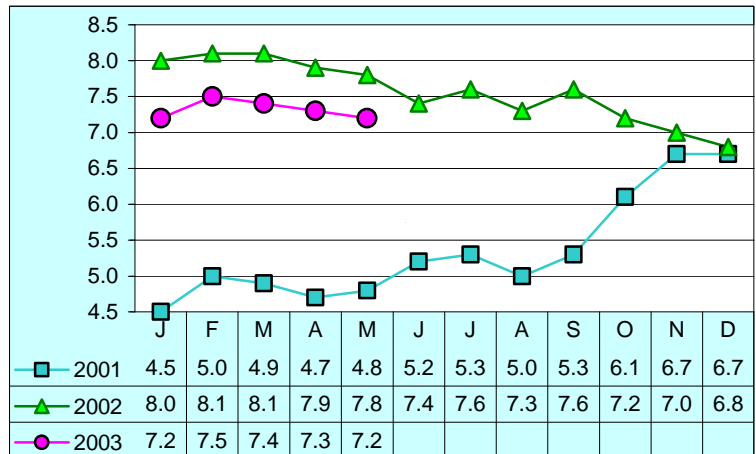
Sectors that added jobs included Construction (+400), Building Material & Garden Supply Stores (+300), Leisure & Hospitality, which includes hotels, restaurants and bars (+500). Employment Services added 200 jobs.

Aerospace Products continued to decline over the month dropping by 500 jobs. Architectural, Engineering, & Related Services, which includes accounting and bookkeeping services, declined by 200, which is typical after the tax-filing season.

Nonag Employment Over-the-Year % Change, 2000-2003



Unemployment Rates by Month, 2001-2003



Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers Employed in Snohomish County

Benchmark: September 2002

NAICS INDUSTRY TITLE (in thousands)	Prelim May-03	Revised Apr-03	Revised May-02	Change		
				Apr-03 May-03	May-02 May-03	May-02 May-03 %
TOTAL NONFARM 1/	209.0	208.3	213.4	0.7	-4.5	-2.1%
TOTAL PRIVATE	173.6	173.0	178.1	0.6	-4.5	-2.5%
GOODS PRODUCING	61.6	61.7	64.4	-0.1	-2.8	-4.3%
SERVICE PROVIDING	147.3	146.6	149.0	0.8	-1.7	-1.1%
CONSTRUCTION	18.6	18.2	18.0	0.4	0.6	3.1%
Construction of Buildings	3.1	3.1	3.1	0.0	0.0	-0.3%
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	2.1	2.0	1.9	0.1	0.2	10.6%
Specialty Trade Contractors	12.8	12.5	12.5	0.3	0.3	2.4%
MANUFACTURING	43.0	43.5	46.4	-0.5	-3.3	-7.2%
Durable Goods	38.4	38.9	41.7	-0.5	-3.3	-7.9%
Wood Product Manufacturing	2.0	1.9	1.9	0.0	0.1	3.4%
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	2.7	2.7	2.7	0.1	0.0	1.4%
Computer and Electronic Product Mfg	5.1	5.1	5.5	0.0	-0.5	-8.4%
Electronic Instrument Manufacturing	3.5	3.5	3.6	0.0	-0.1	-3.1%
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	24.1	24.5	27.7	-0.5	-3.7	-13.3%
Aerospace Product and Parts Mfg	22.4	22.9	26.6	-0.5	-4.2	-16.0%
Non-Durable Goods	4.6	4.6	4.7	0.0	0.0	-1.0%
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION and UTILITIES	34.4	34.0	36.1	0.4	-1.7	-4.6%
Wholesale Trade	5.9	5.8	6.0	0.0	-0.1	-1.8%
Retail Trade	25.7	25.4	27.0	0.3	-1.3	-4.7%
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	4.2	4.2	4.3	0.0	0.0	-1.1%
Building Material and Garden Supply Stores	3.4	3.1	2.8	0.3	0.6	21.9%
Food and Beverage Stores	5.5	5.4	5.7	0.1	-0.2	-3.8%
Health and Personal Care Stores	1.6	1.6	1.7	0.0	-0.1	-7.3%
General Merchandise Stores	3.8	3.7	4.3	0.0	-0.6	-13.0%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	2.8	2.8	3.1	0.0	-0.3	-9.5%
INFORMATION	3.4	3.4	3.7	0.0	-0.3	-7.2%
Telecommunications	1.7	1.7	1.8	0.0	-0.1	-5.4%
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	11.7	11.8	11.1	-0.1	0.6	5.3%
Finance and Insurance	8.6	8.7	8.2	-0.1	0.5	5.8%
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	3.4	3.4	3.2	0.0	0.2	6.1%
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	4.9	4.9	4.5	-0.1	0.3	7.6%
Real Estate, Rental and Leasing	3.2	3.3	2.9	0.0	0.3	11.4%
PROFESSIONAL and BUSINESS SERVICES	16.1	16.0	15.9	0.1	0.2	1.4%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	6.4	6.6	6.9	-0.2	-0.4	-6.4%
Architectural, Engineering and Related Serv	1.4	1.5	1.9	-0.2	-0.5	-25.8%
Admin, Support, Waste Mgmt and Remed	8.0	7.7	7.7	0.4	0.3	4.0%
Employment Services	3.1	2.9	2.4	0.2	0.7	28.7%

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers Employed in Snohomish County

Benchmark: September 2002

NAICS INDUSTRY TITLE (in thousands)	Prelim May-03	Revised Apr-03	Revised May-02	Change		
				Apr-03 May-03	May-02 May-03	May-02 May-03 %
EDUCATIONAL and HEALTH SERVICES	20.3	20.4	20.3	-0.1	0.0	0.2%
Ambulatory Health Care Services	8.6	8.6	8.5	0.0	0.1	0.9%
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	4.5	4.5	4.2	0.0	0.3	6.8%
Social Assistance	3.2	3.2	3.1	0.0	0.0	0.3%
LEISURE and HOSPITALITY	18.2	17.7	18.2	0.5	0.0	0.1%
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	2.7	2.6	2.9	0.1	-0.2	-7.3%
Accommodation and Food Services	15.6	15.2	15.3	0.4	0.3	2.0%
Food Services and Drinking Places	14.8	14.5	14.4	0.3	0.4	2.6%
OTHER SERVICES	7.9	7.9	8.6	0.0	-0.7	-8.3%
Repair and Maintenance	2.0	2.1	2.5	-0.1	-0.4	-16.9%
Personal and Laundry Services	2.0	2.1	2.2	0.0	-0.2	-10.3%
Membership Associations and Organizations	3.9	3.8	3.9	0.1	0.0	1.0%
GOVERNMENT	35.4	35.3	35.3	0.1	0.1	0.2%
Federal Government	2.2	2.2	2.2	0.0	0.0	-1.3%
State Government	5.3	5.3	5.4	0.0	-0.1	-1.0%
State Educational Services	2.3	2.3	2.2	0.0	0.1	2.6%
Local Government	27.9	27.9	27.8	0.1	0.1	0.5%
Local Educational Services	14.8	14.8	14.5	0.0	0.3	2.3%
Workers in Labor/Management Disputes	0	0	0	0	0	0

1/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of the armed services, workers in private households, and agriculture. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month. Columns may not add due to rounding.

This and other labor market information can be found at:

www.workforceexplorer.com

Washington State Labor Area Summary Spokane MSA

Prepared by the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch, Scott Bailey, *Regional Labor Economist*
5411 East Mill Plain Boulevard, Vancouver, WA 98661 Phone: (360) 735-5043

Highlights:

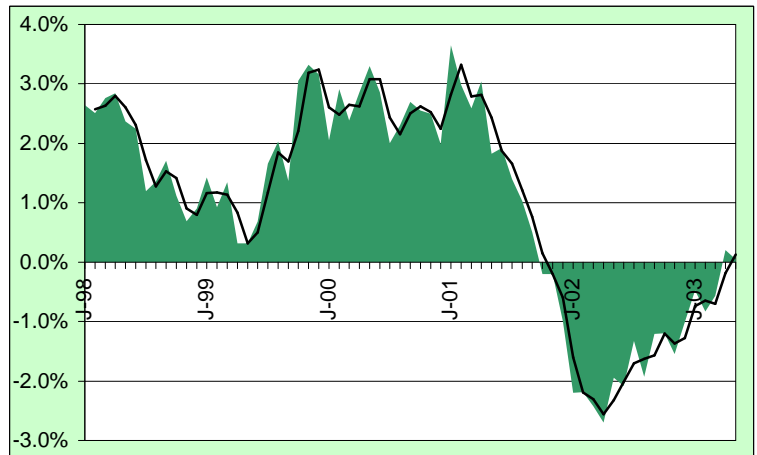
Historically, Spokane's unemployment rate has tended to drop two or three tenths of a point in May, so the current year was right in line with expectations. The May 2003 rate was 6.3 percent, two tenths below April's 6.5 percent, and one tenth better than a year ago. Out of a labor force of 213,000 residents, there were 13,500 unemployed and actively looking for work.

Nonfarm employment rose by 1,900 jobs to 197,100. Hiring was about the same as last May, stronger than May 2001, but weaker than the previous five years. Industries welcoming new employees included Construction (+600), Leisure & Hospitality (+400), Retail Trade (+300), and Professional & Business Services (+300). Manufacturing was the lone sector paring payrolls, with a loss of 400.

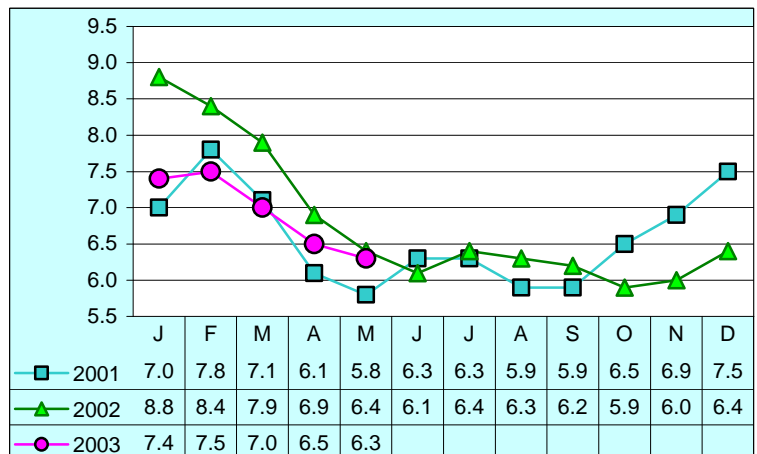
Total employment (see page 2) in the Spokane area is still 1,100 below year-ago levels—200,600 in May 2002 versus 199,500 May 2003—a decline of just under 1.0 percent.

Over the year, Nonfarm Manufacturing alone accounted for -1,300; Leisure & Hospitality lost 200, and Total Local Government trimmed its workforce by 100 jobs, while Construction rose 800, and Financial Activities gained 100.

Nonag Employment Over-the-Year % Change, 1998-2003



Unemployment Rates by Month, 2001-2003



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

Benchmark: December 2002

NAICS INDUSTRY TITLE (in thousands)	Prelim May-03	Revised Apr-03	Revised May-02	Revised Apr-02	Change			
					Apr-03 May-03	May-02 May-03	Apr-02 May-02	May-02 May-03 %
TOTAL NONFARM 1/	197.1	195.2	197.0	194.8	1.9	0.1	2.2	0.1%
TOTAL PRIVATE	162.0	160.3	162.2	160.3	1.7	-0.2	1.9	-0.1%
GOODS PRODUCING	27.7	27.5	28.2	27.5	0.2	-0.5	0.7	-1.8%
NATURAL RESOURCES and CONSTRUCTION	11.3	10.7	10.5	9.8	0.6	0.8	0.7	7.6%
MANUFACTURING	16.4	16.8	17.7	17.7	-0.4	-1.3	0.0	-7.3%
Durable Goods	12.4	12.7	13.6	13.6	-0.3	-1.2	0.0	-8.8%
Computer and Electronic Product Mfg	2.7	2.8	3.1	3.2	-0.1	-0.4	-0.1	-12.9%
SERVICE PROVIDING	169.4	167.7	168.8	167.3	1.7	0.6	1.5	0.4%
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION and UTILITIES	41.0	40.6	40.9	40.6	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.2%
Wholesale Trade	9.8	9.7	9.6	9.6	0.1	0.2	0.0	2.1%
Retail Trade	25.2	24.9	25.2	25.0	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.0%
Food and Beverage Stores	4.9	4.8	5.0	5.0	0.1	-0.1	0.0	-2.0%
General Merchandise Stores	4.1	4.1	4.0	4.1	0.0	0.1	-0.1	2.5%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	6.0	6.0	6.1	6.0	0.0	-0.1	0.1	-1.6%
INFORMATION	2.8	2.7	2.9	2.9	0.1	-0.1	0.0	-3.4%
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	12.0	11.8	11.9	11.8	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.8%
Finance and Insurance	8.9	8.9	8.8	8.7	0.0	0.1	0.1	1.1%
PROFESSIONAL and BUSINESS SERVICES	19.0	18.7	19.1	18.8	0.3	-0.1	0.3	-0.5%
MGMT OF COMPANIES and ENTERPRISES	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.8	0.1	0.1	0.0	3.6%
EDUCATION and HEALTH SERVICES	32.4	32.3	31.9	31.9	0.1	0.5	0.0	1.6%
Health and Social Assistance	28.0	27.9	27.6	27.4	0.1	0.4	0.2	1.4%
Ambulatory Health Care Services	10.4	10.4	10.2	10.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	2.0%
Hospitals	8.0	8.0	8.1	8.1	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-1.2%
LEISURE and HOSPITALITY	18.4	18.0	18.6	18.1	0.4	-0.2	0.5	-1.1%
Food Services and Drinking Places	13.4	13.2	13.5	13.3	0.2	-0.1	0.2	-0.7%
OTHER SERVICES	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
GOVERNMENT	35.1	34.9	34.8	34.5	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.9%
Federal Government	4.7	4.7	4.5	4.4	0.0	0.2	0.1	4.4%
Total State Government	11.1	11.0	10.9	10.9	0.1	0.2	0.0	1.8%
State Government Educational Services	6.0	5.9	5.9	5.9	0.1	0.1	0.0	1.7%
Total Local Government	19.3	19.2	19.4	19.2	0.1	-0.1	0.2	-0.5%
Local Government Educational Services	11.8	11.7	11.7	11.6	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.9%
Workers in Labor/Management Disputes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

1/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of the armed services, workers in private households, and agriculture.

Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

Columns may not add due to rounding. Prepared by the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch using a quarterly benchmark process. This process uses the most recent quarter from the Unemployment Insurance tax reports (currently fourth quarter 2002) and estimates employment from that point until present.

This and other labor market information can be found at:

www.workforceexplorer.com

Washington State Labor Area Summary Tacoma PMSA

Prepared by the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch, Chris Johnson, *Regional Labor Economist*
1313 Tacoma Avenue South, Tacoma, WA 98402 Phone: (253) 593-7336

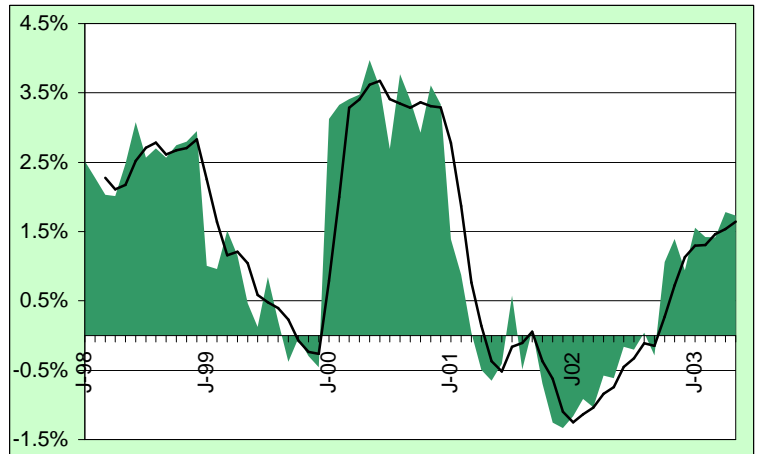
Highlights:

The Tacoma Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area (Tacoma PMSA) unemployment rate is now 0.4 point above the statewide rate of 7.1 percent, coming in for May at 7.5 percent. The county unemployment rate is 1.3 points above the comparable rate for the U.S. of 6.2 percent. The normal seasonal changes expected with the onset of spring have still not arrived as of yet.

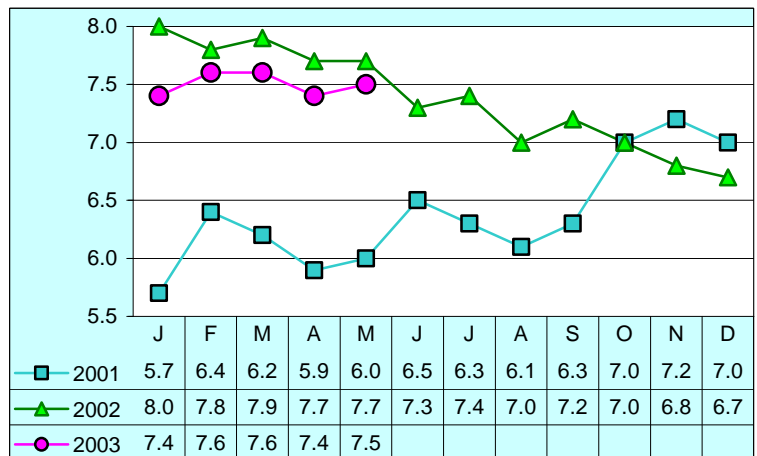
Any improvement in the Tacoma PMSA's place of work employment since January 2002 has stopped for now, although over the year, nonagricultural wage and salary employment is still up substantially. There was a slight gain month-to-month, but the longer term trend is still not comparable to historic levels.

The Tacoma PMSA is composed of all of Pierce County.

Nonag Employment Over-the-Year % Change, 1998-2003



Unemployment Rates by Month, 2001-2003



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

Benchmark: December 2002

NAICS INDUSTRY TITLE (in thousands)	Prelim May-03	Revised Apr-03	Revised May-02	Revised Apr-02	Change			
					Apr-03 May-03	May-02 May-03	Apr-02 May-02	May-02 May-03 %
TOTAL NONFARM 1/	247.2	246.0	243.0	241.7	1.2	4.2	1.3	1.7%
TOTAL PRIVATE	193.4	192.5	190.1	188.9	0.9	3.3	1.2	1.7%
GOODS PRODUCING	35.5	35.5	36.7	36.2	0.0	-1.2	0.5	-3.3%
NATURAL RESOURCES and MINING	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
CONSTRUCTION	16.2	16.0	16.0	15.6	0.2	0.2	0.4	1.3%
Specialty Trade Contractors	10.2	10.0	9.8	9.6	0.2	0.4	0.2	4.1%
MANUFACTURING	18.7	18.9	20.1	20.0	-0.2	-1.4	0.1	-7.0%
Durable Goods	12.1	12.2	12.9	12.8	-0.1	-0.8	0.1	-6.2%
Non-Durable Goods	6.6	6.7	7.2	7.2	-0.1	-0.6	0.0	-8.3%
SERVICE PROVIDING	211.7	210.5	206.3	205.5	1.2	5.4	0.8	2.6%
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION and UTILITIES	47.2	47.0	46.1	45.8	0.2	1.1	0.3	2.4%
Wholesale Trade	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0%
Retail Trade	29.4	29.1	28.5	28.2	0.3	0.9	0.3	3.2%
Food and Beverage Stores	5.6	5.5	5.7	5.6	0.1	-0.1	0.1	-1.8%
General Merchandise Stores	5.7	5.6	5.3	5.3	0.1	0.4	0.0	7.5%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	8.7	8.8	8.5	8.6	-0.1	0.2	-0.1	2.4%
INFORMATION	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.1	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	-3.3%
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	13.0	13.0	12.8	12.8	0.0	0.2	0.0	1.6%
PROFESSIONAL and BUSINESS SERVICES	20.3	20.2	19.4	19.4	0.1	0.9	0.0	4.6%
ADMIN, SUPPORT, WASTE MGMT & REMED.	11.4	11.2	10.9	10.6	0.2	0.5	0.3	4.6%
Administrative and Support Services	10.6	10.4	10.1	9.9	0.2	0.5	0.2	5.0%
EDUCATION and HEALTH SERVICES	38.6	38.5	37.5	37.3	0.1	1.1	0.2	2.9%
Ambulatory Health Care Services	12.4	12.3	12.0	11.8	0.1	0.4	0.2	3.3%
Hospitals	8.2	8.2	7.7	7.7	0.0	0.5	0.0	6.5%
Social Assistance	6.8	6.7	6.8	6.8	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0%
LEISURE and HOSPITALITY	24.4	24.0	23.5	23.3	0.4	0.9	0.2	3.8%
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	4.2	4.2	4.0	4.1	0.0	0.2	-0.1	5.0%
Food Services and Drinking Places	18.6	18.3	18.2	17.9	0.3	0.4	0.3	2.2%
OTHER SERVICES	11.5	11.4	11.1	11.0	0.1	0.4	0.1	3.6%
GOVERNMENT	53.8	53.5	52.9	52.8	0.3	0.9	0.1	1.7%
Federal Government	9.8	9.7	9.6	9.5	0.1	0.2	0.1	2.1%
Total State Government	11.6	11.5	11.4	11.4	0.1	0.2	0.0	1.8%
State Government Educational Services	4.0	4.0	3.8	3.8	0.0	0.2	0.0	5.3%
Total Local Government	32.4	32.3	31.9	31.9	0.1	0.5	0.0	1.6%
Local Government Educational Services	18.8	18.8	18.5	18.6	0.0	0.3	-0.1	1.6%
Workers in Labor/Management Disputes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

1/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of the armed services, workers in private households, and agriculture. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month. Columns may not add due to rounding. Prepared by the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch using a quarterly benchmark process. This process uses the most recent quarter from the Unemployment Insurance tax reports (currently fourth quarter 2002) and estimates employment from that point until present. This and other labor market information can be found at:

www.workforceexplorer.com

Washington State Labor Area Summary Richland-Kennewick-Pasco MSA

Prepared by the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch, Dean Schau, *Regional Labor Economist*
3900 West Court Street, Pasco, WA 99301 Phone: (509) 543-3017

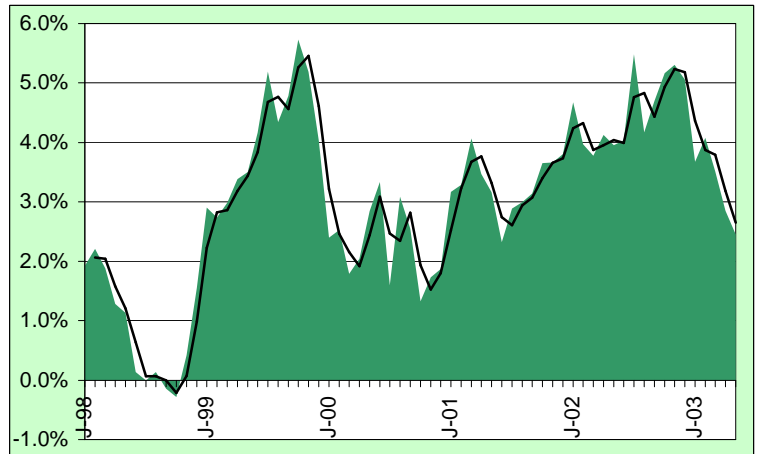
Highlights:

Nonfarm employment in the Tri-Cities advanced by 500 from April to May. Of this five hundred increase, two hundred was in Construction and the remainder was in Services. The rate of new job creation when compared over the year was a respectable 2.5 percent, but this rate certainly pales when compared to previous years.

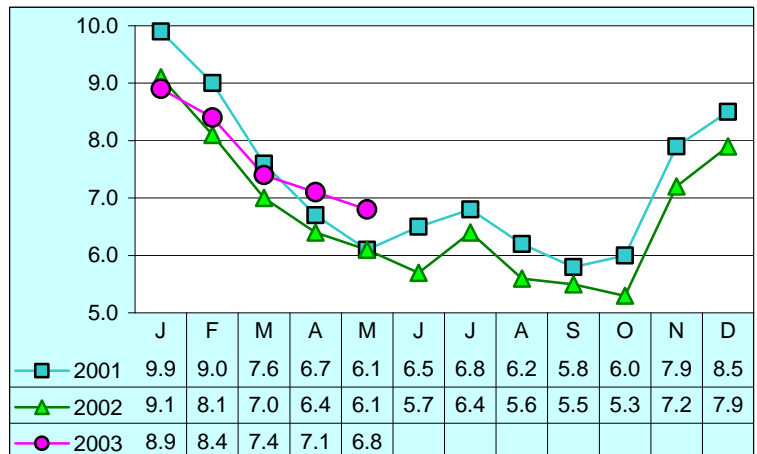
The rate of job growth in the Tri-Cities has gone from spectacular, to torrid, to merely respectable. The key to the boom has been the Vit-plant. For every job created with this important Hanford project, another job is created in the community, and for every job both on and off Hanford, roughly two more additions are made to the population of the Benton-Franklin County region. However, the Vit-plant project has changed of late, and those changes will have an impact on the pace of community growth. The plant was originally projected to become operational in Fiscal Year-2009, with roughly 1,600 workers to be added to the project this fiscal year. Instead, the plant construction phase has been extended two additional years, with an employment peak twenty percent lower than with the original plans. With these changes, there may be little net employment gain this fiscal year, and the bulk of the ramp up is set to begin next fiscal year.

Of course, none of the plans are anchored in concrete, and the Tri-Cities economy goes from fiscal year to fiscal year. Fiduciary flexibility should be an ingredient in any person's or organization's long-term plans. Having the project run longer and having the peak a thousand workers shorter may be very beneficial to the community. Less of a boom means less of a bust.

Nonag Employment Over-the-Year % Change, 1998-2003



Unemployment Rates by Month, 2001-2003



In May, the Vit-plant generated 3,211 jobs for the community; down slightly from 3,263 in April, but up by 761 since May of last year. During the last eight months, over-the-year gain at the project was almost twice the May advance.

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

Benchmark: September 2002

NAICS INDUSTRY TITLE	Prelim May-03	Revised Apr-03	Revised May-02	Change		
				Apr-03 May-03	May-02 May-03	May-02 May-03 %
TOTAL NONFARM 1/	83,500	83,000	81,500	500	2,000	2.5%
TOTAL PRIVATE	67,900	67,400	66,200	500	1,700	2.6%
GOODS PRODUCING	10,900	10,700	10,600	200	300	2.8%
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RESOURCES & MINING	5,400	5,200	5,000	200	400	8.0%
MANUFACTURING	5,500	5,500	5,700	0	-200	-3.5%
Food Manufacturing	3,200	3,200	3,400	0	-200	-5.9%
Chemicals and Allied Products	800	800	800	0	0	0.0%
Primary and Fabricated Metal Products	300	300	400	0	-100	-25.0%
Other Manufacturing	1,100	1,100	1,100	0	0	0.0%
SERVICE PROVIDING	72,600	72,300	70,900	300	1,700	2.4%
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION and UTILITIES	13,600	13,600	13,300	0	300	2.3%
Wholesale Trade	2,000	2,100	2,000	-100	0	0.0%
Retail Trade	10,100	10,000	9,800	100	300	3.1%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	1,500	1,500	1,600	0	-100	-6.3%
INFORMATION	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0	0.0%
FINANCE, INSURANCE and REAL ESTATE	3,000	3,000	3,000	0	0	0.0%
SERVICES	39,400	39,100	38,400	300	1,000	2.6%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	10,300	10,400	9,500	-100	800	8.4%
Health Services	6,500	6,500	6,100	0	400	6.6%
Waste Treatment	9,600	9,600	9,800	0	-200	-2.0%
GOVERNMENT	15,600	15,600	15,300	0	300	2.0%
Federal Government	1,400	1,400	1,400	0	0	0.0%
State and Local Government	14,200	14,200	13,900	0	300	2.2%
Educational Services	7,600	7,600	7,300	0	300	4.1%
Workers in Labor/Management Disputes	0	0	0	0	0	0

1/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of the armed services, workers in private households, and agriculture. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month. Columns may not add due to rounding.

This and other labor market information can be found at:

www.workforceexplorer.com

In Manufacturing, employment was down a bit, with food processing representing the bulk of the negative change. While down over the year, there may be a rebound as the industry speeds up to process this year's harvest. The losses in Chemical and Allied Products, and Metal Products may be of a more permanent nature.

In Services, the increases from April to May were mainly seasonal. Restaurants added the most with an estimated 180 new workers, as May is one of the strongest months for employment gain. Perhaps the increase is due to "wetsiders" coming to this Eastern side of the state to sample the wares of our expanding wineries industry and get out of the rain, for employment with hotels and motels was also up.

The local entertainment industry, which is also tallied in Services, was up by roughly 50 workers over the month. Counted in this category are establishments that operate facilities or provide services that enable patrons to participate in recreational activities or pursue amusement, hobby and leisure-time interests. This industry employed 1,480 during May. Nearly half of all employment gain since May of last year has been in Services.

Washington State Labor Area Summary Clark County

Prepared by the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch, Scott Bailey, *Regional Labor Economist*
5411 East Mill Plain Boulevard, Vancouver, WA 98661 Phone: (360) 735-5043

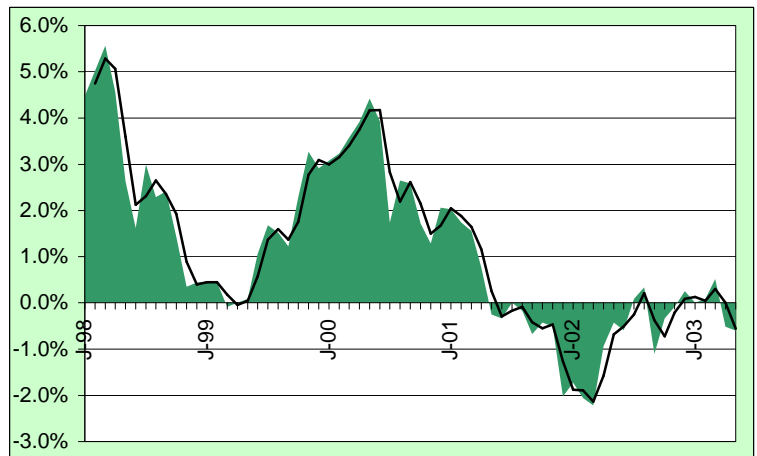
Highlights:

Clark County's May unemployment rate was 9.0 percent, an improvement of eight tenths of a point over April. The rate was essentially the same as the 9.2 percent posted a year ago. An estimated 16,600 county residents were seeking employment.

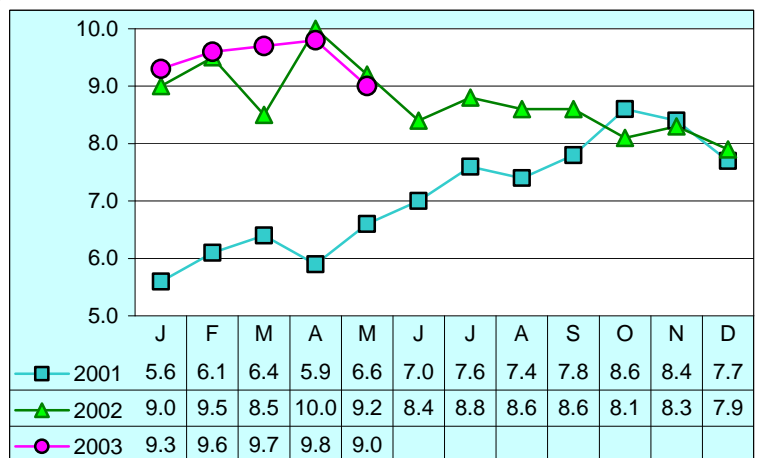
Nonfarm employment rose by 800 jobs over the month, in line with seasonal expectations. Construction, Retail Trade, and Accommodation & Food Services each chipped in 200 jobs, pushing total nonfarm employment to 116,700. For the year, employment is off by 700 jobs, with declines in Construction and Electronic Product Manufacturing outweighing new jobs in Health Care and Social Assistance, Retail Trade, K-12 Education, and Professional Services.

June statistics will include the impact of the new Wells Fargo consumer finance call center, moving from Portland with 120 employees. Another 80 will be hired by the end of summer. However, 125 workers will lose their jobs when the Rose Vista nursing home closes in early August. With Meadow Glade Manor of Battle Ground closing this past spring, the county will face the loss of 25 percent of its nursing home beds this year. Low Medicare reimbursement rates are likely the main contributor to the closures.

Nonag Employment Over-the-Year % Change, 1998-2003



Unemployment Rates by Month, 2001-2003



Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers Employed in Clark County

Benchmark: December 2002

NAICS INDUSTRY TITLE	Prelim May-03	Revised Apr-03	Revised May-02	Change		
				Apr-03 May-03	May-02 May-03	May-02 May-03 %
TOTAL NONFARM 1/	116,700	115,900	117,400	800	-700	-0.6%
CONSTRUCTION, MINING, UTIL. and LOGGING	9,500	9,300	10,500	200	-1,000	-9.5%
Construction, Mining and Utilities	9,400	9,200	10,400	200	-1,000	-9.6%
Logging	100	100	100	0	0	0.0%
MANUFACTURING	13,000	12,900	13,300	100	-300	-2.3%
Food Manufacturing	1,100	1,100	1,100	0	0	0.0%
Wood Product Manufacturing	800	800	700	0	100	14.3%
Paper Manufacturing	2,100	2,100	2,100	0	0	0.0%
Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	800	700	700	100	100	14.3%
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	1,200	1,200	1,100	0	100	9.1%
Machinery Manufacturing	1,200	1,200	1,100	0	100	9.1%
Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing	3,100	3,100	3,500	0	-400	-11.4%
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	500	500	600	0	-100	-16.7%
Other Manufacturing	2,200	2,200	2,400	0	-200	-8.3%
WHOLESALE TRADE	4,100	4,100	4,200	0	-100	-2.4%
RETAIL TRADE	13,400	13,200	13,000	200	400	3.1%
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	1,900	1,900	1,800	0	100	5.6%
Food and Beverage Stores	3,100	3,000	3,000	100	100	3.3%
Health and Personal Care Stores	900	900	900	0	0	0.0%
General Merchandise Stores	2,800	2,700	2,700	100	100	3.7%
Other Retail	4,700	4,700	4,600	0	100	2.2%
TRANSPORTATION and WAREHOUSING	3,200	3,200	3,400	0	-200	-5.9%
INFORMATION	2,800	2,800	3,000	0	-200	-6.7%
FINANCE and INSURANCE	3,300	3,300	3,200	0	100	3.1%
REAL ESTATE, RENTAL and LEASING	2,300	2,300	2,200	0	100	4.5%
PROF., SCIENTIFIC and TECHNICAL SERVICES	6,200	6,300	6,000	-100	200	3.3%
ADMIN., SUPPORT and WASTE MGMT.	5,200	5,100	5,500	100	-300	-5.5%
EDUCATION SERVICES	1,100	1,100	1,100	0	0	0.0%
HEALTH CARE and SOCIAL ASSISTANCE	13,800	13,800	13,100	0	700	5.3%
Social Assistance	2,300	2,300	2,100	0	200	9.5%
Health Services	11,500	11,500	11,000	0	500	4.5%
ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT and RECREATION	2,500	2,400	2,500	100	0	0.0%
ACCOMMODATION and FOOD SERVICES	9,900	9,700	9,900	200	0	0.0%
OTHER SERVICES	4,700	4,700	5,300	0	-600	-11.3%
GOVERNMENT	21,700	21,700	21,200	0	500	2.4%
Federal Government	2,500	2,500	2,700	0	-200	-7.4%
State Government	3,400	3,400	3,400	0	0	0.0%
Local Government	15,800	15,800	15,100	0	700	4.6%
K-12 Education	10,700	10,700	10,100	0	600	5.9%
Other Local Government	5,100	5,100	5,000	0	100	2.0%
Workers in Labor/Management Disputes	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nonfarm Employment without logging	116,600	115,800	117,300	800	-700	-0.6%

1/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of the armed services, workers in private households, and agriculture. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month. Columns may not add due to rounding.

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Washington State Labor Area Summary Yakima MSA

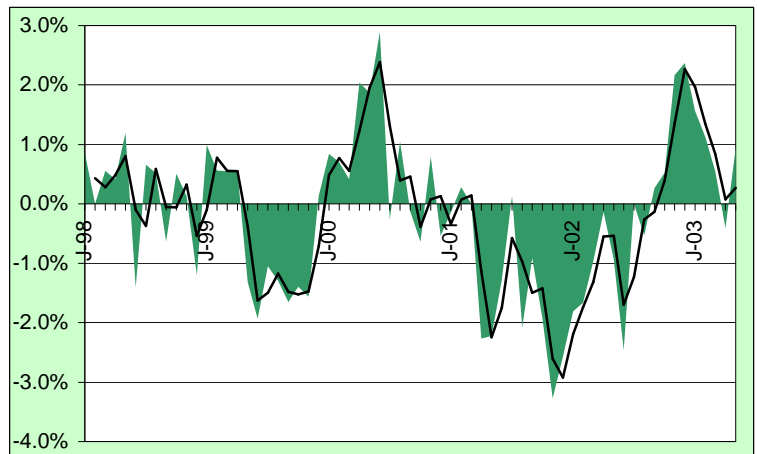
Prepared by the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch, Don Meseck, *Regional Labor Economist*
400-E 8th Avenue, Ellensburg, WA 98926-7486 Phone: (509) 963-2606

Highlights:

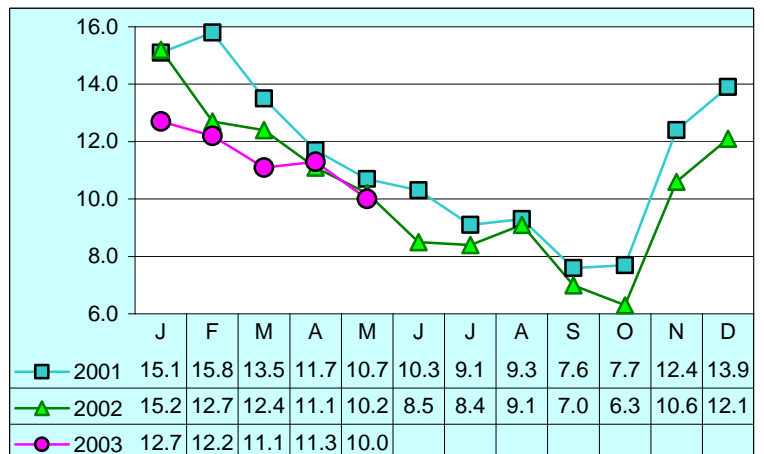
During May 2003, total nonagricultural employment in Yakima County (also called the Yakima Metropolitan Statistical Area or MSA) added 1,800 new jobs, a substantial upturn of 2.5 percent. Most of this over-the-month increase occurred among manufacturers of Non Durable Goods (i.e., food processors). Some laid off workers in April, but recalled them to work in May, which caused a huge drop in industry employment during April, and a corresponding upswing this reporting month. However, the number of people employed in food processing during May 2003 was only slightly above the figure for the corresponding month last year.

Between May 2002 and May 2003, total nonagricultural employment in Yakima County rose by 700 jobs. Local Government accounted for 600 of these jobs, with almost 200 of those new hires in public primary and secondary schools. The balance came from tribal employment or from town, city, and county governments. It would be better news for the local labor market if this job growth were diversified among several industries. Also, as announced in *The Yakima Herald*, 75 workers were permanently laid off from Alexandria Moulding in Moxee on April 23rd. This event is reflected in the May 2003 employment figures and an over-the-year dip of 100 jobs in Durable Goods manufacturing.

Nonag Employment Over-the-Year % Change, 1998-2003



Unemployment Rates by Month, 2001-2003



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

Benchmark: December 2002

NAICS INDUSTRY TITLE	Prelim May-03	Revised Apr-03	Revised May-02	Change		
				Apr-03 May-03	May-02 May-03	May-02 May-03 %
TOTAL NONFARM 1/	74,700	72,900	74,000	1,800	700	0.9%
TOTAL PRIVATE	57,700	55,900	57,600	1,800	100	0.2%
NATURAL RESOURCES, MINING and UTILITIES	400	300	400	100	0	0.0%
CONSTRUCTION	3,000	2,800	3,000	200	0	0.0%
MANUFACTURING	10,100	8,800	10,100	1,300	0	0.0%
Durable Goods	4,300	4,400	4,400	-100	-100	-2.3%
Non-Durable Goods	5,800	4,400	5,700	1,400	100	1.8%
WHOLESALE TRADE	3,800	3,900	3,700	-100	100	2.7%
RETAIL TRADE	9,100	9,000	9,100	100	0	0.0%
TRANSPORTATION and WAREHOUSING	1,900	1,900	2,100	0	-200	-9.5%
INFORMATION	1,300	1,300	1,300	0	0	0.0%
FINANCE, INSURANCE and REAL ESTATE	2,600	2,600	2,600	0	0	0.0%
SERVICES	25,500	25,400	25,300	100	200	0.8%
Professional and Business Services	4,400	4,500	4,500	-100	-100	-2.2%
Health Services and Social Assistance	10,800	10,700	10,900	100	-100	-0.9%
Accommodation and Food Services	5,800	5,700	5,400	100	400	7.4%
GOVERNMENT	17,000	16,900	16,500	100	500	3.0%
Federal Government	1,300	1,300	1,400	0	-100	-7.1%
State Government	3,000	3,000	3,000	0	0	0.0%
Local Government	12,700	12,600	12,100	100	600	5.0%
Workers in Labor Disputes	0	0	0	0	0	0

1/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of the armed services, workers in private households, and agriculture. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month. Columns may not add due to rounding.

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Unemployment

Over the year, the Yakima County unemployment rate edged downwards from 10.2 percent to 10.0 percent. This 0.2-percentage point decrease in the rate since May 2002 is not that significant. In May 2003 the number of “unemployed” dropped to 10,700 people, which was 200 below last May’s level of 10,900. Conversely, the number of “employed” Yakima County residents expanded over the year by 900 (see page 2), to an estimated 96,900 people. However, while nonagricultural employment grew by 700 jobs in this period, agricultural employment estimates stagnated. In summary, there has not been a significant change in Yakima’s County’s unemployment statistics over the year.

Washington State Labor Area Summary Wenatchee LMA (Chelan & Douglas Counties)

Prepared by the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch, Don Meseck, *Regional Labor Economist*
400-E 8th Avenue, Ellensburg, WA 98926-7486 Phone: (509) 963-2606

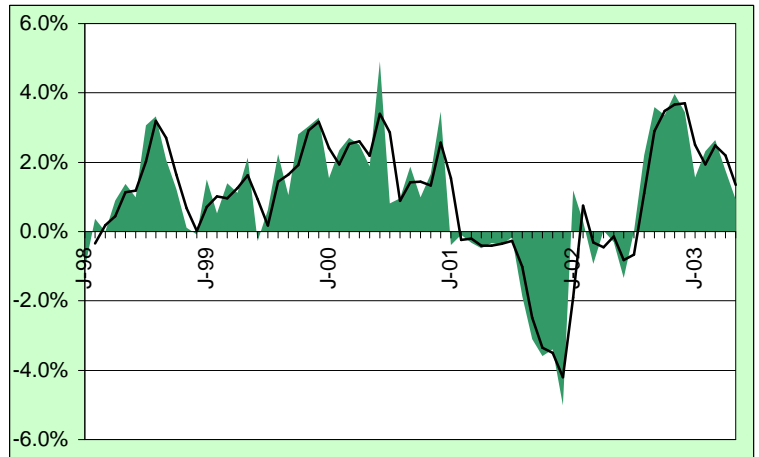
Highlights:

Total nonagricultural employment in Chelan and Douglas counties (also called the Wenatchee Labor Market Area or LMA) expanded by 490 jobs for a 0.9 percent lengthening of payrolls over the month of May 2003. Nonagricultural employment here this May provided 36,220 jobs. Major contributors to this over-the-month advance were the 150-job increase in Accommodation and Food Services, and the 470-job gain in Construction.

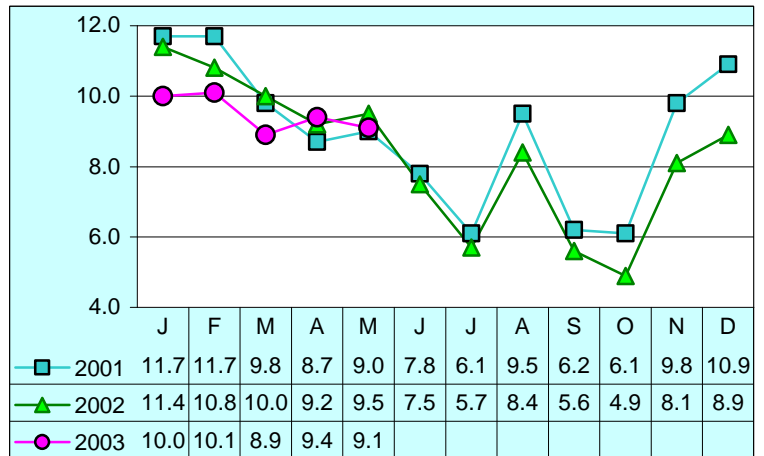
The economy in the Wenatchee LMA began to post positive over-the-year job growth rates in August 2002 and has not let up since. When one compares job growth rates in Washington with corresponding rates in the Wenatchee LMA, the local economy looks pretty good. By May 2003, total nonagricultural employment netted 490 more jobs than in May 2002, an expansion of 0.9 percent. However, Manufacturing was down by 250 jobs and Retail Trade was off by 120. The tapering off of retail employment may simply mean that the local market has started to saturate following recent retail expansions at the Wenatchee Valley Mall in East Wenatchee and the Valley North Mall in Wenatchee. The good economic news is that this May, the local construction industry employed approximately 490 more workers, and hotels and restaurants (i.e. Accommodation and Food Services) employed about 150 more workers, than in May of 2002.

Over the year, the local unemployment declined slightly, from 9.5 percent in May 2002 to the current reading of 9.1 percent. Approximately 230 fewer Chelan and Douglas

Nonag Employment Over-the-Year % Change, 1998-2003



Unemployment Rates by Month, 2001-2003



Counties residents were unemployed this May than in the corresponding month last year—a small step in the right direction. However, the bottom line is that the 9.1 percent unemployment rate this May is unremarkable, or quite typical for this month of the year.

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

Benchmark: December 2002

NAICS INDUSTRY TITLE	Prelim May-03	Revised Apr-03	Revised May-02	Change		
				Apr-03 May-03	May-02 May-03	May-02 May-03 %
TOTAL NONFARM 1/	36,220	35,730	35,890	490	330	0.9%
TOTAL PRIVATE	27,770	27,210	27,400	560	370	1.4%
NATURAL RESOURCES, MINING and UTILITIES	110	90	130	20	-20	-15.4%
CONSTRUCTION	3,030	2,560	2,560	470	470	18.4%
MANUFACTURING	1,950	1,900	2,200	50	-250	-11.4%
Durable Goods	1,330	1,260	1,480	70	-150	-10.1%
Non-Durable Goods	610	640	730	-30	-120	-16.4%
WHOLESALE TRADE	1,470	1,540	1,500	-70	-30	-2.0%
RETAIL TRADE	5,690	5,850	5,810	-160	-120	-2.1%
TRANSPORTATION and WAREHOUSING	1,030	970	980	60	50	5.1%
INFORMATION, FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	2,020	1,960	1,980	60	40	2.0%
SERVICES	31,150	31,200	31,030	-50	120	0.4%
Health Services and Social Assistance	4,840	4,950	4,820	-110	20	0.4%
Accommodation and Food Services	4,030	3,750	3,880	280	150	3.9%
GOVERNMENT	8,450	8,520	8,490	-70	-40	-0.5%
Federal Government	860	910	940	-50	-80	-8.5%
State Government	1,420	1,390	1,400	30	20	1.4%
Local Government	6,170	6,220	6,140	-50	30	0.5%
Workers in Labor/Management Disputes	0	0	0	0	0	0

1/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of the armed services, workers in private households, and agriculture. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month. Columns may not add due to rounding.

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www.workforceexplorer.com

Washington State Labor Area Summary Walla Walla County

Prepared by the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch, Dean Schau, *Regional Labor Economist*
3900 West Court Street, Pasco, WA 99301 Phone: (509) 543-3017

Highlights:

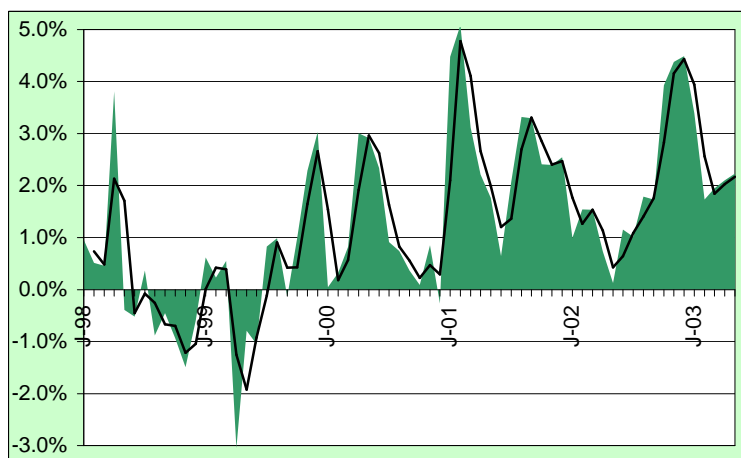
Farm employment rose nicely and seasonally, going from 2,780 in April to 3,050 in May, very close to the 3,060 posted for May 2002.

Directly tied to this agricultural leap, nonagricultural job totals also jumped 500 over the month. The 270 increase in Wholesale Trade was sixty percent of that over-the-month total gain. In Wholesale Trade, firms collect, cull, clean and carry locally grown produce to markets across the state and across the nation. The industry's best month is May, with another up-tick in August.

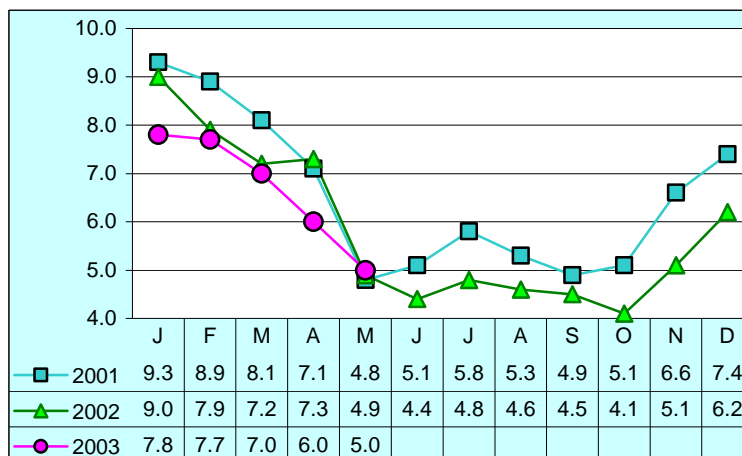
Other industries posting over the month gains were Food Manufacturing, Retail Trade and private Educational Services.

Over the year, the economy of Walla Walla County posted 2.2 percent more jobs this May than last May. There was a broad range of growth among many industries. These included the Wineries, Retail Trade, Services and Government.

Nonag Employment Over-the-Year % Change, 1998-2003



Unemployment Rates by Month, 2001-2003



Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers Employed in Walla Walla County

Benchmark: September 2002

NAICS INDUSTRY TITLE	Prelim May-03	Revised Apr-03	Revised May-02	Change		May-02 May-03 %
				Apr-03 May-03	May-02 May-03	
TOTAL NONFARM 1/	24,260	23,760	23,730	500	530	2.2%
TOTAL PRIVATE	18,960	18,500	18,550	460	410	2.2%
GOODS PRODUCING	4,930	4,810	4,770	120	160	3.4%
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RESOURCES and MINING	980	960	970	20	10	1.0%
MANUFACTURING	3,950	3,860	3,810	90	140	3.7%
Durable Goods	1,650	1,650	1,630	0	20	1.2%
Wineries	240	230	220	10	20	9.1%
Food Manufacturing	2,060	1,980	1,960	80	100	5.1%
SERVICE PROVIDING	19,330	18,930	18,960	400	370	2.0%
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION and UTILITIES	3,980	3,680	3,890	300	90	2.3%
Wholesale Trade	930	660	970	270	-40	-4.1%
Retail Trade	2,550	2,520	2,450	30	100	4.1%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	450	450	430	0	20	4.7%
INFORMATION and FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	1,330	1,340	1,330	-10	0	0.0%
SERVICES	8,720	8,670	8,550	50	170	2.0%
Educational Services	2,000	1,940	1,940	60	60	3.1%
GOVERNMENT	5,300	5,250	5,180	50	120	2.3%
Federal Government	940	940	900	0	40	4.4%
State and Local Government	4,360	4,310	4,280	50	80	1.9%
Educational Services	2,200	2,220	2,160	-20	40	1.9%
Workers in Labor/Management Disputes	0	0	0	0	0	0

1/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of the armed services, workers in private households, and agriculture. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month. Columns may not add due to rounding.

This and other labor market information can be found at:

www.workforceexplorer.com

Washington State Labor Area Summary Cowlitz County

Prepared by the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch, Scott Bailey, *Regional Labor Economist*
5411 East Mill Plain Boulevard, Vancouver, WA 98661 Phone: (360) 735-5043

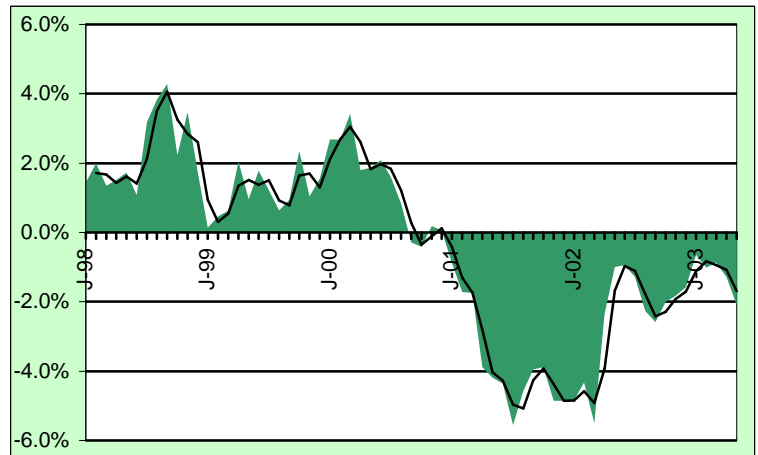
Highlights:

Cowlitz County's jobless rate dropped half a percentage point to 9.8 percent in May. A year ago the rate was 10.9 percent. The number of unemployed county residents was estimated at 3,860.

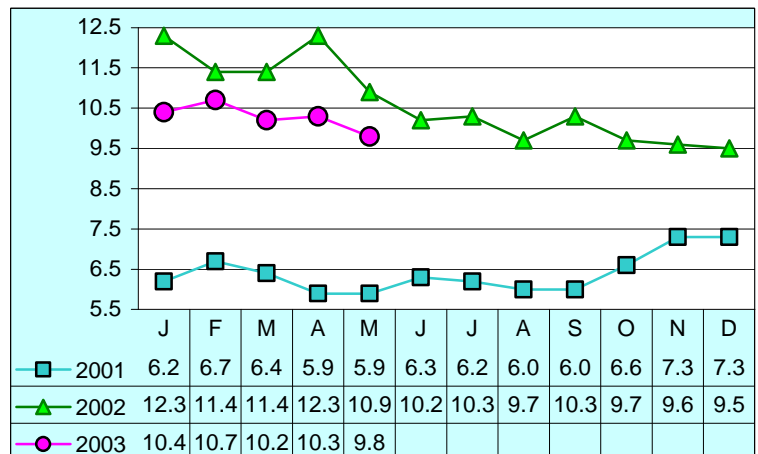
Nonfarm employment rose by 350 jobs to 35,940; while not as large a gain as last May, it was still better than most. Hiring occurred in most sectors, including Construction (+60), Manufacturing (+80), Retail Trade (+60), Accommodations & Food Services (+50), and K-12 Education (+60).

The county is still in a deficit situation over the year, trailing May 2002 by 770 jobs. Losses remain concentrated in Construction, Manufacturing, and Transportation.

Nonag Employment Over-the-Year % Change, 1998-2003



Unemployment Rates by Month, 2001-2003



Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers Employed in Cowlitz County

Benchmark: December 2002

NAICS INDUSTRY TITLE	Prelim May-03	Revised Apr-03	Revised May-02	Change		
				Apr-03 May-03	May-02 May-03	May-02 May-03 %
TOTAL NONFARM 1/	35,940	35,590	36,710	350	-770	-2.1%
CONSTRUCTION, MINING, UTIL. and LOGGING	3,150	3,080	3,360	70	-210	-6.3%
Construction, Mining and Utilities	2,430	2,370	2,600	60	-170	-6.5%
Logging	720	710	760	10	-40	-5.3%
MANUFACTURING	6,830	6,750	7,230	80	-400	-5.5%
Wood Product Manufacturing	1,080	1,050	1,200	30	-120	-10.0%
Paper Manufacturing	2,870	2,850	3,070	20	-200	-6.5%
Other Manufacturing	2,880	2,850	2,960	30	-80	-2.7%
WHOLESALE TRADE	1,050	1,050	1,090	0	-40	-3.7%
RETAIL TRADE	4,310	4,250	4,380	60	-70	-1.6%
Food and Beverage Stores	950	930	980	20	-30	-3.1%
General Merchandise Stores	970	950	990	20	-20	-2.0%
Other Retail	2,390	2,370	2,410	20	-20	-0.8%
TRANSPORTATION and WAREHOUSING	1,140	1,140	1,240	0	-100	-8.1%
FINANCE and INSURANCE	1,020	1,000	970	20	50	5.2%
ADMIN., SUPPORT and WASTE MGMT.	850	830	880	20	-30	-3.4%
HEALTH CARE and SOCIAL ASSISTANCE	4,650	4,660	4,710	-10	-60	-1.3%
ACCOMMODATION and FOOD SERVICES	2,910	2,860	2,960	50	-50	-1.7%
OTHER SERVICES	4,000	3,990	3,920	10	80	2.0%
GOVERNMENT	6,030	5,980	5,970	50	60	1.0%
Federal Government	250	240	260	10	-10	-3.8%
State Government	1,290	1,310	1,270	-20	20	1.6%
Local Government	4,490	4,430	4,440	60	50	1.1%
K-12 Education	2,860	2,800	2,790	60	70	2.5%
Other Local Government	1,630	1,630	1,650	0	-20	-1.2%
Workers in Labor/Management Disputes	10	10	0	0	0	0
Nonfarm Employment without logging	35,220	34,880	35,950	340	-730	-2.0%

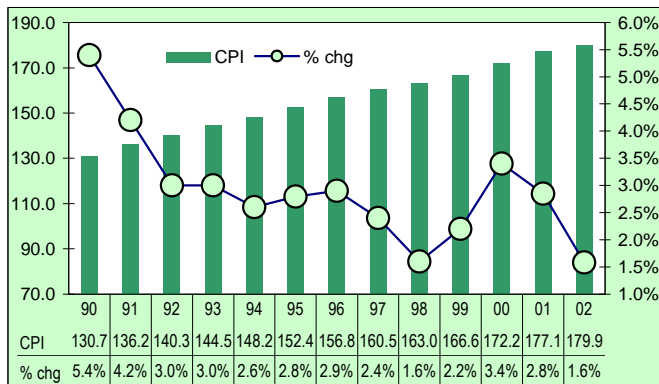
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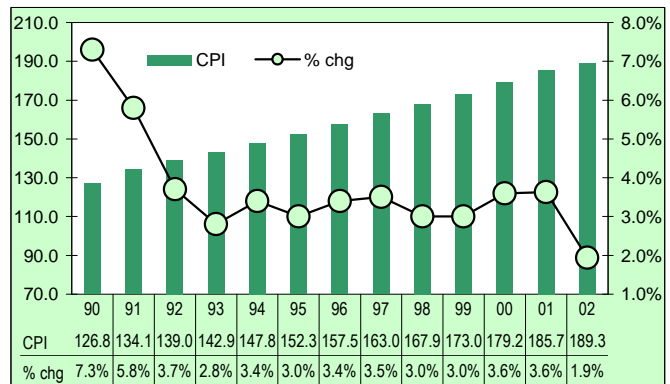
www.workforceexplorer.com

Consumer Price Indexes

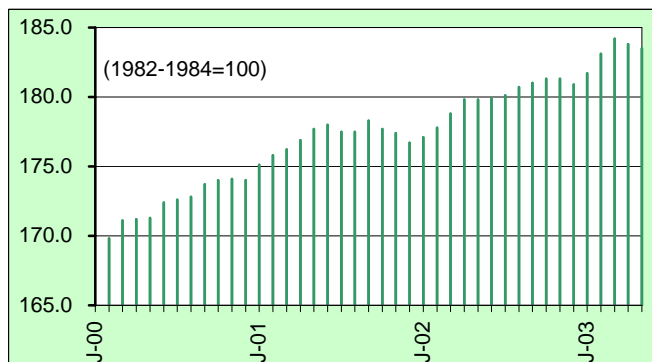
U.S. City Average 1990-2003



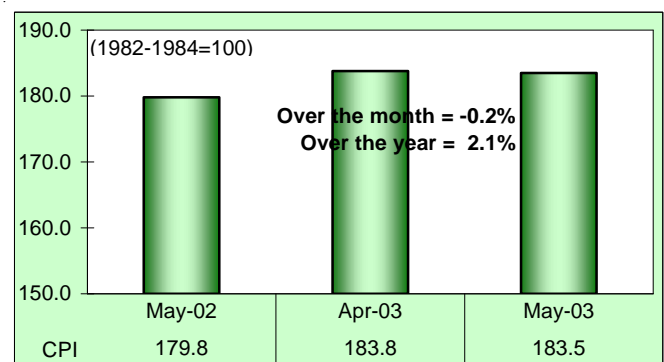
Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton Average 1990-2003



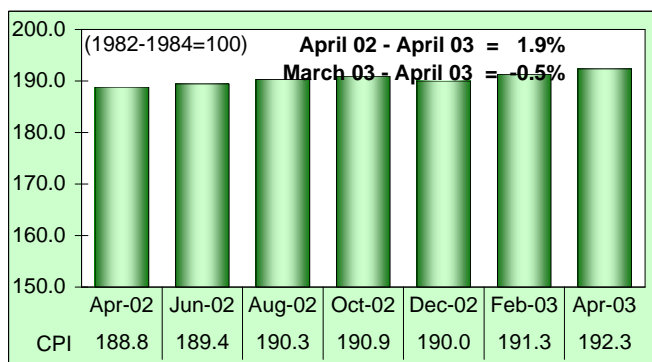
U.S. City Average 2000-2003



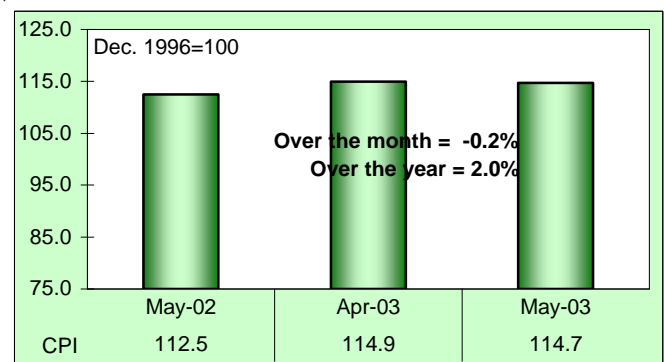
Current U.S. City Average



Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton (bi-monthly)



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 or less. Local area CPI indexes are by-products of the national CIP 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 the use of the national average CXIP 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 North America Industrial Classification System (NAICS), and implemented with the release of January 2003 data. The benchmark for all estimates is September 2002 unless otherwise stated. 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 is not strictly comparable with labor force data, which represents 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.

Use our toll free number **1-800-215-1617** to obtain up-to-date labor market information. Please direct subscription requests or address changes to the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch, Employment Security Department, PO Box 49046, Olympia, Washington 98507-9046, or call (360) 498-3152. Comments, suggestions and requests for information are also welcome at the editor's e-mail address: mcamilon@esd.wa.gov

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The Right Connection for
Labor Market Information

Metropolitan area nonagricultural information is updated with the
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Greg Weeks, Director
Ivars Graudins, Supervisor, Planning and Economic Development Information
Tess Camilon, Editor
L.J. Ojard, Graphic Designer

**WASHINGTON STATE
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT
LABOR MARKET & ECONOMIC ANALYSIS BRANCH
MAIL STOP 46000
PO BOX 9046
OLYMPIA WA 98507-9046**