

# 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



September 2003  
Volume 18, Number 9

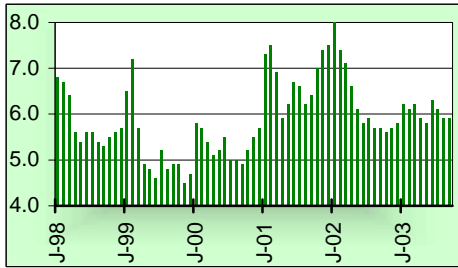
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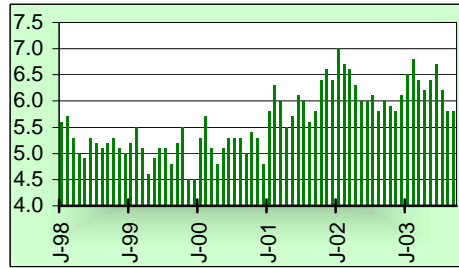
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# MSA Jobless Rates 1998-2003

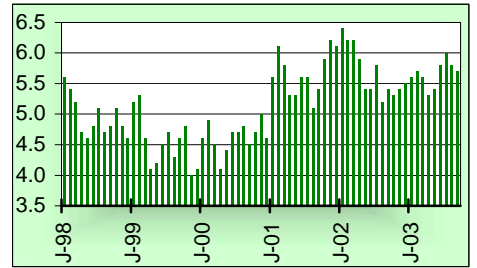
**Bellingham MSA**



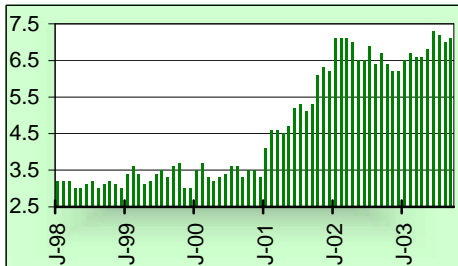
**Bremerton PMSA**



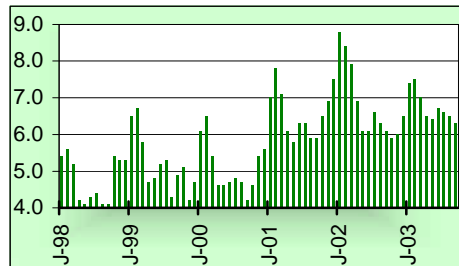
**Olympia PMSA**



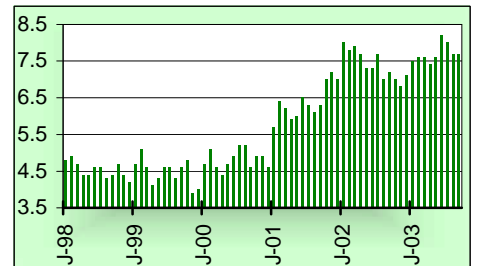
**Seattle-Bellevue-Everett PMSA**



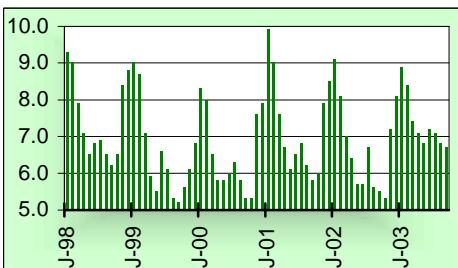
**Spokane MSA**



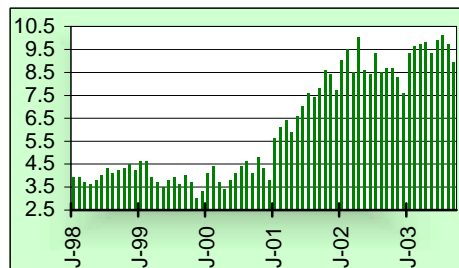
**Tacoma PMSA**



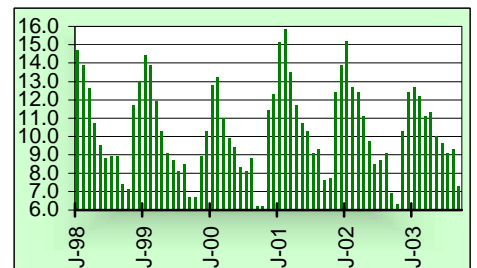
**Richland-Kennewick-Pasco MSA**



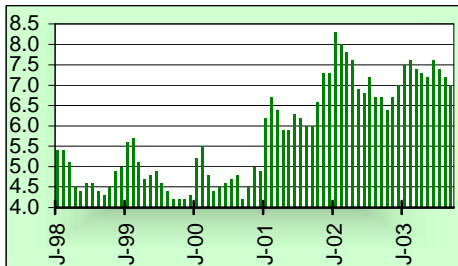
**Clark County**



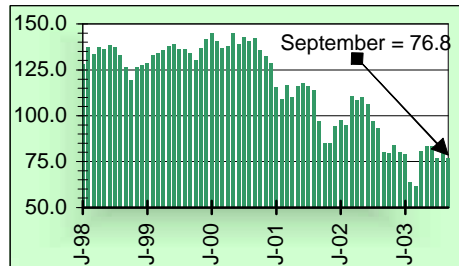
**Yakima MSA**



**Washington State**



**Index of Consumer Confidence 1993-2003**



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

Not Seasonally Adjusted/ Benchmark: December 2002

	September 2003 Preliminary			August 2003 Revised			September 2002 Revised					
	Labor Force	Employment	UI Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemp.	UI Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemp.	UI Rate	
Washington State Total	3,083,900	2,866,800	217,100	7.0	3,111,800	2,886,700	225,100	7.2	3,097,000	2,890,200	206,800	6.7
Bellingham MSA	84,200	79,200	5,000	5.9	88,100	83,000	5,200	5.9	83,800	79,000	4,800	5.7
Bremerton PMSA	99,300	93,500	5,800	5.8	101,300	95,400	5,900	5.8	99,300	93,400	5,900	6.0
Olympia PMSA	103,800	97,700	6,100	5.9	106,000	99,800	6,100	5.8	102,800	97,200	5,600	5.4
Seattle-Bellevue-Everett PMSA	1,370,300	1,273,400	96,900	7.1	1,389,300	1,292,000	97,300	7.0	1,384,800	1,292,500	92,300	6.7
King County 2/	1,001,400	935,500	65,900	6.6	1,016,200	949,200	67,000	6.6	1,014,400	949,600	64,800	6.4
Snohomish County 2/	341,100	312,000	29,100	8.5	344,900	316,600	28,300	8.2	342,500	316,700	25,800	7.5
Island County 2/	27,700	25,900	1,800	6.6	28,200	26,200	1,900	6.9	27,960	26,260	1,700	6.1
Spokane MSA	206,800	193,700	13,100	6.3	209,000	195,400	13,600	6.5	211,400	198,600	12,900	6.1
Tacoma PMSA	345,800	319,300	26,500	7.7	347,300	320,600	26,700	7.7	344,300	319,400	24,900	7.2
Tri-Cities MSA	104,700	97,700	7,000	6.7	104,100	97,000	7,100	6.8	102,900	97,300	5,600	5.5
Benton County 2/	79,700	74,400	5,300	6.7	79,300	73,900	5,400	6.8	78,400	74,100	4,300	5.4
Franklin County 2/	25,000	23,300	1,700	6.9	24,800	23,100	1,700	6.8	24,500	23,200	1,400	5.6
Yakima MSA	119,300	110,600	8,700	7.3	114,200	103,600	10,700	9.3	115,600	107,600	8,000	6.9
Adams	8,690	8,220	470	5.4	9,030	8,480	550	6.1	8,840	8,360	480	5.5
Asotin 2/	12,050	11,390	660	5.5	12,140	11,460	670	5.6	11,780	11,140	640	5.4
Chelan-Douglas LMA	56,980	53,370	3,610	6.3	54,360	49,630	4,730	8.7	58,970	55,700	3,280	5.6
Chelan County 2/	38,070	35,660	2,410	6.3	36,490	33,160	3,320	9.1	39,480	37,220	2,270	5.7
Douglas County 2/	18,910	17,710	1,200	6.3	17,870	16,460	1,410	7.9	19,490	18,480	1,010	5.2
Ciallam	25,270	23,700	1,570	6.2	25,880	24,170	1,710	6.6	24,950	23,410	1,540	6.2
Clark 2/	182,600	166,400	16,200	8.9	182,900	165,100	17,800	9.7	183,600	167,600	16,000	8.7
Columbia	1,160	1,050	110	9.3	1,200	1,090	110	9.3	1,200	1,060	130	11.0
Cowlitz	38,910	35,240	3,670	9.4	39,530	35,680	3,850	9.7	40,500	36,380	4,120	10.2
Ferry	2,410	2,130	280	11.6	2,510	2,170	340	13.4	2,520	2,330	200	7.8
Garfield	1,180	1,150	30	2.7	1,280	1,250	30	2.5	1,200	1,150	50	4.1
Grant	41,570	38,830	2,740	6.6	41,300	38,230	3,070	7.4	40,420	37,970	2,450	6.1
Grays Harbor	26,240	24,020	2,220	8.5	26,590	24,310	2,280	8.6	26,080	23,870	2,210	8.5
Jefferson	11,910	11,280	630	5.2	12,070	11,430	640	5.3	11,730	11,060	680	5.8
Kititas	15,940	15,070	870	5.5	15,440	14,550	880	5.7	16,000	15,260	750	4.7
Klickitat	9,250	8,170	1,080	11.6	9,020	7,790	1,240	13.7	8,280	7,390	890	10.7
Lewis	28,450	26,040	2,410	8.5	29,030	26,530	2,500	8.6	28,820	26,540	2,280	7.9
Lincoln	4,940	4,700	240	4.8	5,190	4,950	240	4.6	4,880	4,660	230	4.7
Mason	19,650	18,090	1,560	7.9	19,890	18,360	1,530	7.7	19,240	17,880	1,370	7.1
Okanogan	20,370	18,970	1,400	6.9	19,500	17,880	1,610	8.3	21,650	20,260	1,390	6.4
Pacific	8,040	7,440	600	7.4	8,280	7,650	630	7.6	7,920	7,340	570	7.2
Pend Oreille	4,240	3,880	360	8.5	4,300	3,910	390	9.0	4,340	4,050	290	6.7
San Juan	7,350	7,140	210	2.8	8,060	7,850	210	2.6	7,170	6,950	220	3.1
Skagit	53,500	49,760	3,740	7.0	55,380	51,500	3,870	7.0	53,360	49,600	3,760	7.0
Skamania	3,750	3,420	330	8.8	4,000	3,630	380	9.4	3,930	3,580	350	9.0
Stevens	16,370	15,170	1,200	7.3	16,760	15,420	1,340	8.0	16,610	15,380	1,230	7.4
Wahkiakum	1,670	1,560	110	6.8	1,760	1,620	140	8.2	1,740	1,640	110	6.1
Walla Walla	27,130	25,900	1,230	4.5	27,740	26,450	1,290	4.6	26,550	25,380	1,180	4.4
Whitman	19,960	19,530	430	2.1	19,440	18,970	470	2.4	19,830	19,450	380	1.9

1/ Official U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics data. 2/ Estimates are determined by using the Population/Claims Share disaggregation methodology. 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

<b>Economists</b>	<b>Address/Telephone</b>	<b>Areas Served</b> <i>(MSA Counties are Capitalized)</i>
<b>Kirsta Glenn, Chief Economist</b> 360/438-4812 FAX 438-4846	PO Box 9046, MS 46000 Olympia, WA 98507-9046 kglenn@esd.wa.gov	Statewide
<b>Cummins, Carolyn, Staff Economist</b> 360/438-4814 FAX 438-4846	PO Box 9046, MS: 46000 Olympia, WA 98507-9046 ccummins@esd.wa.gov	Statewide
<b>Wallace, David, Staff Economist</b> 360/438-4818 FAX 438-4846	PO Box 9046, MS: 46000 Olympia, WA 98507-9046 dbwallace@esd.wa.gov	Statewide
<b>Graudins, Ivars, Area LMI Supervisor</b> 360/438-4825 FAX 438-4846	PO Box 9046, MS: 46000 Olympia, WA 98507-9046 igraudins@esd.wa.gov	Statewide
<b>Bailey, Scott, Regional Economist</b> 360/735-5043 FAX 735-5093	5411 East Mill Plain Blvd., Suite B3 Vancouver, WA 98661 scott.bailey@esd.wa.gov	CLARK, Cowlitz, Skamania, Wahkiakum
<b>Dillingham, William, Regional Economist</b> 509/532-3188 FAX 532-3035	130 South Arthur Spokane, WA 99202-2259 wdillingham@esd.wa.gov	SPOKANE, Columbia, Ferry, Garfield, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Stevens, Whitman
<b>Johnson, Chris, Regional Economist</b> 253/593-7336 FAX 593-7377	1313 Tacoma Avenue South Tacoma, WA 98402 chris.johnson@esd.wa.gov	PIERCE
<b>Meseck, Don, Regional Economist</b> 509/963-2606 FAX 963-1992	Central Washington University 400 East 8 <sup>th</sup> Avenue Ellensburg, WA 98926-7486 dmeseck@esd.wa.gov	YAKIMA, Okanogan, Chelan, Adams, Douglas, Grant, Kittitas, Klickitat*
<b>Pauer, Roberta, Regional Economist</b> 206/720-3394 FAX 720-3393	400 East Pine, Suite 310 Seattle, WA 98122 rpauer@esd.wa.gov	KING Seattle-Bellevue-Everett PMSA
<b>Schau, Dean, Regional Economist</b> 509/547-0511 ext. 2217 FAX 546-0401	Columbia Basin College 2600 North 20 <sup>th</sup> Avenue Pasco, WA 99301-3379 schaud@cbc2.org	BENTON, FRANKLIN, Walla Walla
<b>Thompson, Donna, Regional Economist</b> 425/339-4954 FAX 425/339-1949	PO Box 870 Everett, WA 98206 dthompson@esd.wa.gov	SNOHOMISH
<b>Turek, Paul, Regional Economist</b> 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
<b>Vleming, Jim, Regional Economist</b> 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
<b>Labor Market Information Center</b> 1-800-215-1617 Fax 360/438-4109	PO Box 9046, MS 46000 Olympia WA 98507-9046	For statewide and area information Asotin**

\*For current information on Klickitat County, please contact Scott Bailey at (360) 735-5043.

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

Revised 11/12/03

Washington State  
**Labor Area Summary**  
**Bellingham MSA**  
**Whatcom County**

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:**

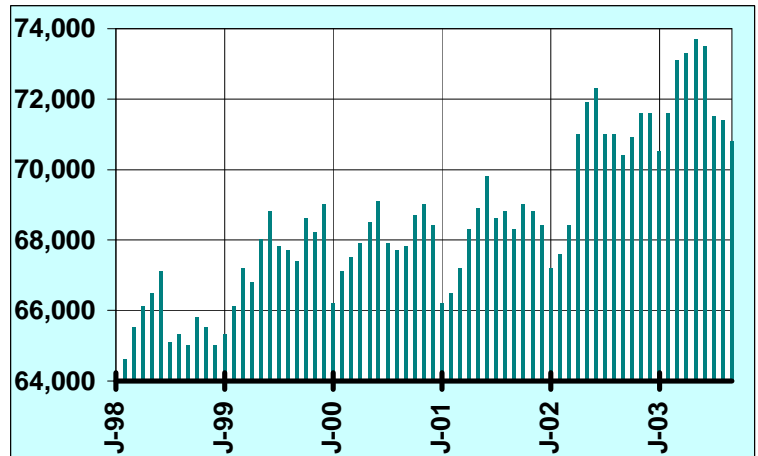
**Unemployment** in Bellingham MSA remained steady in September at 5.9 percent. The September 2003 rate was two-tenths above last September's rate of 5.7 percent. The good news is that, when compared to the larger areas of the state, only the Bremerton PMSA has a lower rate at 5.8 percent. In the MSA, there were 79,200 counted as employed as 5,000 sought work. Statewide, the rate of unemployment dropped over the month to 7.0 percent from 7.2 in August, but up over last September's 6.7 percent rate.

**Nonag employment** fell over the month to 70,800, a drop of 600 jobs. The over-the-month loss was concentrated in Services Providing positions, where 500 jobs were lost between August and September. The losses were scattered among Trade (-100), Information (-100), and State Government (-400). Employment in Food Manufacturing went against the tide and increased payroll by 100 over the month.

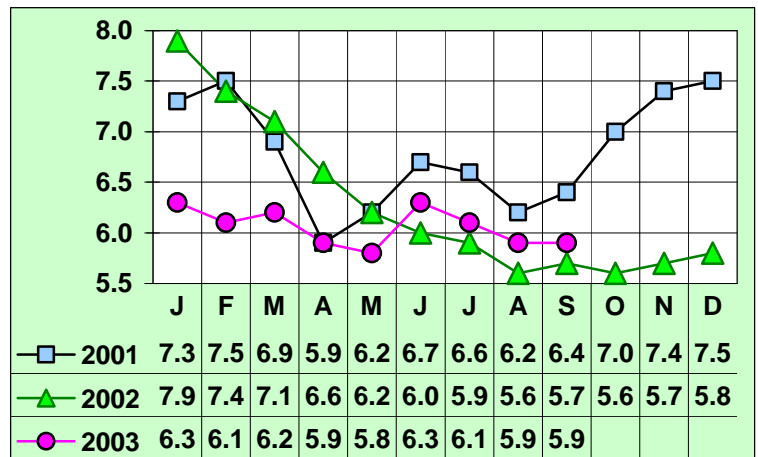
**Over the year**, the MSA squeezed a gain of 400 out of the figures. The increase equates to a little more than half of one-percent job growth. Once again, not much excitement, but it is positive ground. Services Providing jobs added 1,000 over the year, with Trade and Government contributing to the growth. On the downside, seasonal losses and the end of some projects cut into Construction (-500), and Manufacturing felt the pinch as 200 jobs were cut from payrolls.

**The coming months** should bring better news as seasonal gains in Education will add paychecks and expand employment numbers around the MSA. The unemployment rate should fall slightly, and the coming holidays should bode well for some steady over-the-year growth. The growth should look especially good when compared to other areas of the state and the state as a whole, as economic struggles continue to make news in many areas of Washington.

**Nonag Industry Employment, 1998-2003**



**Unemployment Rates by Month, 2001-2003**



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

Preliminary Quarterly Benchmark: March 2003

NAICS INDUSTRY TITLE	Prelim Sep-03	Revised Aug-03	Revised Sep-02	Change		
				Aug-03 Sep-03	Sep-02 Sep-03	Sep-02 Sep-03 %
<b>TOTAL NONFARM 1/</b>	<b>70,800</b>	<b>71,400</b>	<b>70,400</b>	<b>-600</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>0.6%</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>57,900</b>	<b>58,500</b>	<b>57,700</b>	<b>-600</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>0.3%</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>14,700</b>	<b>14,800</b>	<b>15,300</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>-600</b>	<b>-3.9%</b>
<b>NATURAL RESOURCES and MINING</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>6,100</b>	<b>6,500</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>-500</b>	<b>-7.7%</b>
<b>MANUFACTURING</b>	<b>8,200</b>	<b>8,300</b>	<b>8,400</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>-200</b>	<b>-2.4%</b>
Durable Goods	4,600	4,600	4,600	0	0	0.0%
Non Durable Goods	3,700	3,700	3,800	0	-100	-2.6%
Food Manufacturing	1,600	1,500	1,700	100	-100	-5.9%
<b>SERVICES PROVIDING</b>	<b>56,100</b>	<b>56,600</b>	<b>55,100</b>	<b>-500</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1.8%</b>
<b>TRADE, TRANSPORTATION and UTILITIES</b>	<b>13,900</b>	<b>14,000</b>	<b>13,700</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>1.5%</b>
Wholesale Trade	2,700	2,800	2,600	-100	100	3.8%
Retail Trade	9,300	9,300	9,200	0	100	1.1%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	2,000	2,000	1,900	0	100	5.3%
<b>INFORMATION and FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>4,200</b>	<b>4,300</b>	<b>4,300</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>-2.3%</b>
<b>GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>12,800</b>	<b>13,000</b>	<b>12,700</b>	<b>-200</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>0.8%</b>
Federal Government	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0	0.0%
State Government	3,400	3,800	3,400	-400	0	0.0%
Local Government	8,400	8,200	8,300	200	100	1.2%
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. Prepared by the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch using a quarterly benchmark process. This process used the most recent quarter from the Unemployment Insurance Tax Report (currently the first quarter 2003) and estimates employment from that point until present.

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Washington State  
**Labor Area Summary**  
**Bremerton PMSA**  
**Kitsap County**

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:**

**The Bremerton PMSA** continues to boast a steady yet unspectacular economy. The unemployment rate remained unchanged over the month and nonag jobs showed little movement in a month that could be described as a yawn.

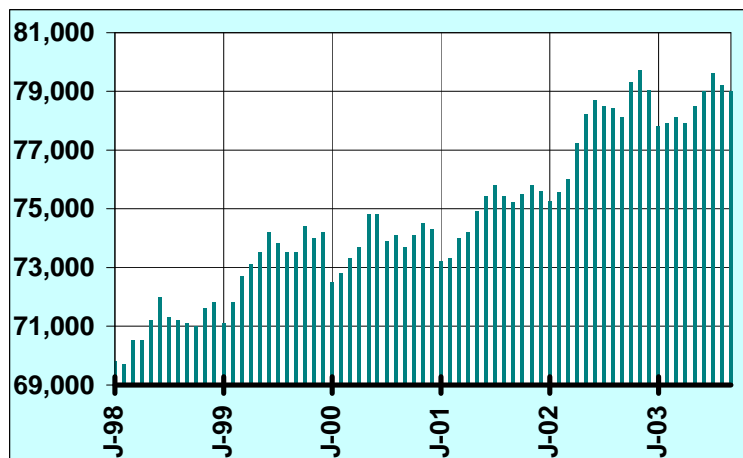
**Nonag jobs** fell by 200 over the month to a total of 79,000. The loss of 300 service providing jobs was the culprit. Trade (+100) was up slightly during this time span but government payroll loss of 100 jobs erased any benefit of that gain. Goods producing jobs in the PMSA remained flat at 6,500 jobs.

**Over the year**, the news is better as jobs increased by a little over one percentage point. Once again, Services Providing employment led the way with an over the year gain of 800. This 800 was partially accounted for in Trade (+200), Government (+200) and Information, which added 100 jobs between September's. The negative side spotlighted Federal Government, which lost 100 jobs, and Manufacturing, which also dropped 100 positions from payroll.

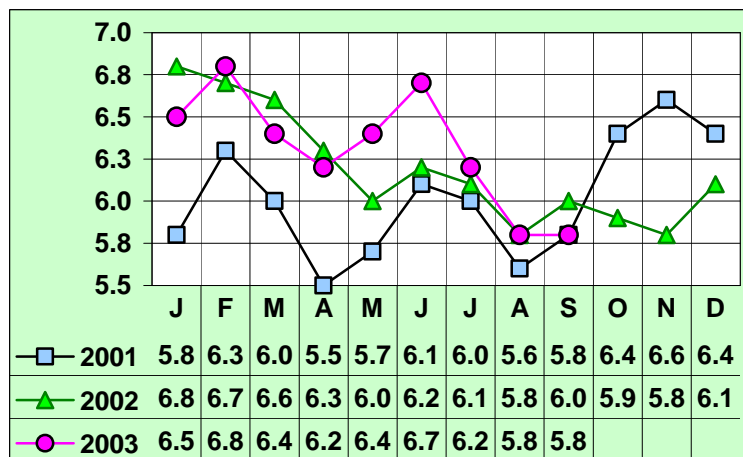
**The unemployment rate** in September was identical to August's 5.8 percent. The rate last September was 6.0 percent. The current September rate is the lowest of all the major areas in the state; 93,500 PMSA residents were at work as 5,800 looked for employment. When compared to the state, the PMSA shines, as statewide the rate of unemployment was 7.0 percent, down from 7.2 in August, but up from the 6.7 rate posted September 2002.

**The coming months** should bring more good news, as seasonal gains in Education will be a shot in the arm for the local economy. The unemployment rate will remain low and will continue to be the highlight of a stable economy. Further down the road, holiday hiring will begin, and the sector of Trade, especially, should see a mild upswing as cash registers begin to ring in the season.

**Nonag Industry Employment, 1998-2003**



**Unemployment Rates by Month, 2001-2003**





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

Preliminary Quarterly Benchmark: March 2003

NAICS INDUSTRY TITLE	Prelim Sep-03	Revised Aug-03	Revised Sep-02	Change		
				Aug-03 Sep-03	Sep-02 Sep-03	Sep-02 Sep-03 %
<b>TOTAL NONFARM 1/</b>	<b>79,000</b>	<b>79,200</b>	<b>78,100</b>	<b>-200</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>1.2%</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>51,800</b>	<b>51,900</b>	<b>51,200</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>1.2%</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>6,500</b>	<b>6,500</b>	<b>6,600</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>-1.5%</b>
<b>CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RESOURCES and MINING</b>	<b>4,800</b>	<b>4,800</b>	<b>4,800</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>MANUFACTURING</b>	<b>1,700</b>	<b>1,700</b>	<b>1,800</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>-5.6%</b>
<b>SERVICES PROVIDING</b>	<b>72,400</b>	<b>72,700</b>	<b>71,600</b>	<b>-300</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>1.1%</b>
<b>TRADE, TRANSPORTATION and UTILITIES</b>	<b>12,800</b>	<b>12,700</b>	<b>12,600</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>1.6%</b>
Wholesale Trade	1,200	1,100	1,100	100	100	9.1%
Retail Trade	10,600	10,600	10,500	0	100	1.0%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0	0.0%
<b>INFORMATION and FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>5,300</b>	<b>5,300</b>	<b>5,200</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1.9%</b>
<b>GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>27,200</b>	<b>27,300</b>	<b>27,000</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>0.7%</b>
Federal Government	14,900	14,900	15,000	0	-100	-0.7%
State and Local Government	12,300	12,400	12,000	-100	300	2.5%
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. Prepared by the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch using a quarterly benchmark process. This process used the most recent quarter from the Unemployment Insurance Tax Report (currently the first quarter 2003) and estimates employment from that point to present.

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Washington State  
**Labor Area Summary**  
**Olympia PMSA**  
**Thurston County**

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:**

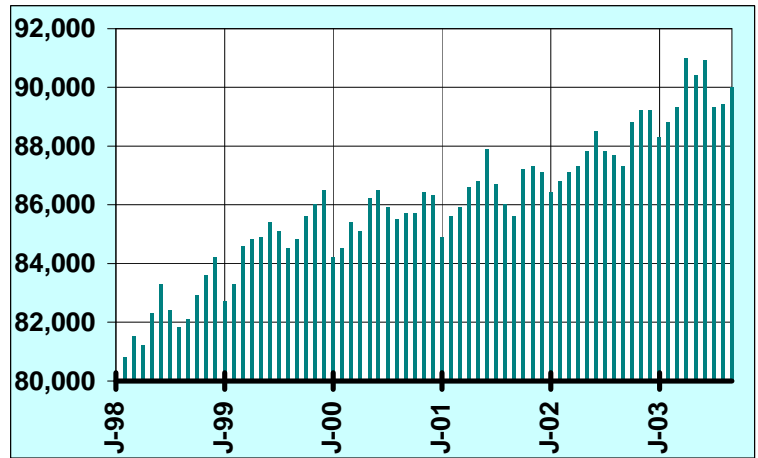
**The Olympia PMSA** labor market moved to offset the job losses resulting from the closure of the Tumwater brewery. The county added 600 jobs in September amidst signs of an emerging recovery in the local labor market. Over-the-year gains in employment strengthened to 2,700 jobs, and are being led by the Professional and Business Services (800), Retail Trade (700), and Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities (600) categories. The recent firming in the Business Services sector is a welcome sign that businesses could be ready to shake their lethargy surrounding spending and investment activity. This category contributed 300 additional jobs to the PMSA for the month.

**Stronger business spending** goes hand-in-hand with a rebound in hiring. If evidence continues to show that growth is taking place, temporary employment service firms, in particular, stand to benefit. The use of temporary workers has been rising locally and nationally in recent months. Increasing demand will motivate businesses to use temporary help until they hire permanent workers.

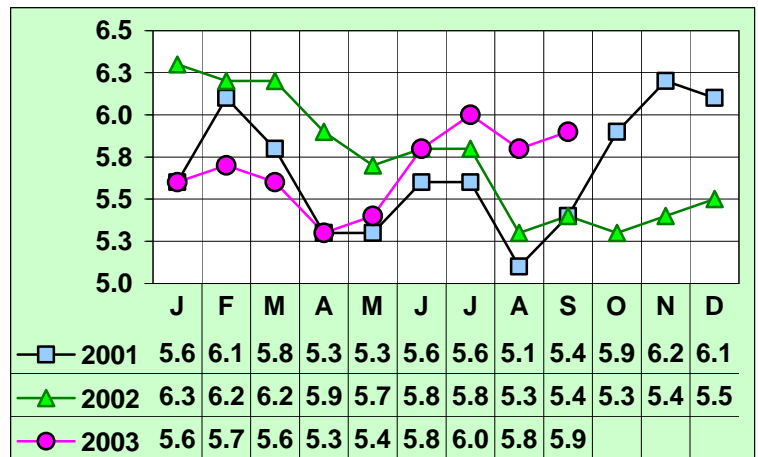
**The Retail Trade sector** continued its surge in local hiring due to increased consumer spending. This category gained 100 jobs this month, as did the warehouse sector that supplies goods to retail outlets. Strong back-to-school sales, along with sustained demand for home furnishings, supplied the impetus. Overall third-quarter retail sales jumped by 5.8 percent nationally, proof that consumers have been spending the bulk of the recent tax cuts. Consumer spending patterns have shifted as they have learned to “cheap out,” and focus on value and convenience. Consequently, local “big box” stores like Costco, Wal-Mart, and Target have been reaping gains.

**The encouraging** local economic performance overshadowed the remainder of the state. Washington as a whole gained 10,800 jobs for the month, although it is still down 8,100 jobs for the year. The national employment picture brightened as well, as businesses added jobs for the first time in eight months. Earning reports for business firms continue to improve, and are having sweeping effects upon companies with strong local presences (like Heritage Financial Corporation) and near-local presences (like Intel). This has added significance, since roughly one quarter of Thurston County’s labor force commutes to jobs outside the county. Increased earnings

**Nonag Industry Employment, 1998-2003**



**Unemployment Rates by Month, 2001-2003**



will allow firms to increase their spending and investment activity, and expand production. Both the national new orders index (Institute of Supply Management) and local new orders index (Western Washington chapter of the National Association of Purchasing Managers) have been on the upswing, suggesting the demand for manufactured goods is firming. Spending and production ultimately lead to income and employment. The wheels of the economy are beginning to turn.

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

Preliminary Quarterly Benchmark: December 2002

NAICS INDUSTRY TITLE	Prelim Sep-03	Revised Aug-03	Revised Sep-02	Change		
				Aug-03 Sep-03	Sep-02 Sep-03	Sep-02 Sep-03 %
<b>TOTAL NONFARM 1/</b>	<b>90,000</b>	<b>89,400</b>	<b>87,300</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>2,700</b>	<b>3.1%</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	55,600	55,100	53,000	500	2,600	4.9%
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>8,400</b>	<b>8,400</b>	<b>8,200</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>2.4%</b>
<b>NATURAL RESOURCES and MINING</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>	<b>4,700</b>	<b>4,700</b>	<b>4,300</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>9.3%</b>
<b>MANUFACTURING</b>	<b>3,300</b>	<b>3,300</b>	<b>3,500</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-200</b>	<b>-5.7%</b>
<b>SERVICES PROVIDING</b>	<b>81,600</b>	<b>81,000</b>	<b>79,100</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>3.2%</b>
<b>TRADE, TRANSPORTATION and UTILITIES</b>	<b>14,700</b>	<b>14,500</b>	<b>13,300</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>1,400</b>	<b>10.5%</b>
Wholesale Trade	1,700	1,700	1,600	0	100	6.3%
Retail Trade	11,100	11,000	10,400	100	700	6.7%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	1,900	1,800	1,300	100	600	46.2%
<b>INFORMATION and FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>4,800</b>	<b>4,800</b>	<b>4,600</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>4.3%</b>
<b>PROFESSIONAL and BUSINESS SERVICES</b>	<b>27,700</b>	<b>27,400</b>	<b>26,900</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>3.0%</b>
<b>GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>34,400</b>	<b>34,300</b>	<b>34,300</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>0.3%</b>
Federal Government	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0	0.0%
State Government	22,700	22,700	22,800	0	-100	-0.4%
State Government Educational Services	1,700	1,600	1,600	100	100	6.3%
Local Government	10,700	10,600	10,500	100	200	1.9%
Local Government Educational Services	5,900	5,700	6,000	200	-100	-1.7%
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. Prepared by the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch using a Quarterly Benchmark process. This process used the most recent quarter from the Unemployment Insurance Tax Reports (currently the fourth quarter 2002) and estimates employment from that point to present.

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Washington State  
**Labor Area Summary**  
**Seattle-Bellevue-Everett PMSA**  
**King, Island and Snohomish Counties**

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:**

September's labor market remained flat for the three-county Seattle-Bellevue-Everett PMSA. The latter part of the year, however, will show some slight gains.

This labor market comprises King, Snohomish, and Island Counties, a U.S. Department of Labor-designated single labor market, based on high home to-work commuting across county lines. PMSA stands for Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area.

**Unemployment:**

The unemployment rate for the Seattle-Bellevue-Everett area was nearly flat between September and August, rising to 7.1 percent from August's 7.0 percent of the labor force. That improvement is typical for the season, and represents no real decline in the underlying labor market. But unemployment remained higher than year-ago levels by 0.4 percentage points, when in September 2002, unemployment was 6.7percent. King County, at 6.6 percent unemployment in September, came in a bit lower than the larger Seattle-Bellevue-Everett PMSA, because of the higher jobless rate in Snohomish County, which registered 8.5 percent. That divergence is typical of workforce trends for the two counties within the larger three-county labor market, 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 6.6 percent in September.

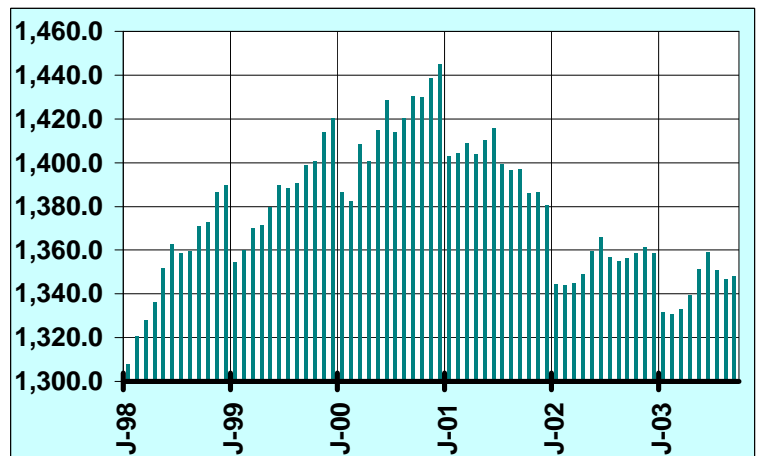
**Industry Employment:**

Seasonal hiring in September by area employers resulted in a the number of jobs being sufficient to maintain the unemployment rate at a level approximately unchanged.

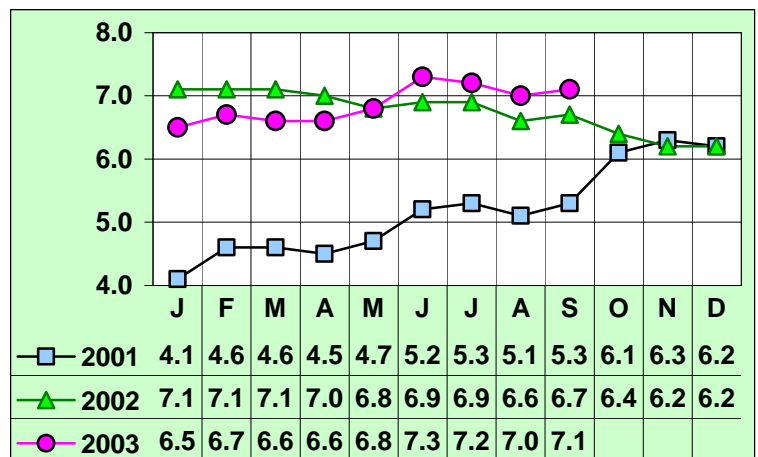
Construction, trade, recreation and travel services, warehousing, transportation and a variety of other service industries offered some seasonal opportunities to job seekers, but the weakness in manufacturing continued to operate as a drag on the economy.

Over the year, the total number of jobs in the PMSA's labor market remained in the loss column.

**Nonag Industry Employment, 1998-2003**



**Unemployment Rates by Month, 2001-2003**



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

Not Seasonally Adjusted/Preliminary Quarterly Benchmark: March 2003

NAICS INDUSTRY TITLE (in thousands)	Prelim Sep-03	Revised Aug-03	Revised Sep-02	Revised Aug-02	Change			
					Aug-03 Sep-03	Sep-02 Sep-03	Aug-02 Sep-02	Sep-02 Sep-03 %
<b>TOTAL NONFARM 1/</b>	<b>1,348.2</b>	<b>1,346.6</b>	<b>1,356.6</b>	<b>1,355.0</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>-8.4</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>-0.6%</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>1,151.3</b>	<b>1,155.8</b>	<b>1,158.8</b>	<b>1,166.7</b>	<b>-4.5</b>	<b>-7.5</b>	<b>-7.9</b>	<b>-0.6%</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>229.3</b>	<b>231.4</b>	<b>244.8</b>	<b>248.0</b>	<b>-2.1</b>	<b>-15.5</b>	<b>-3.2</b>	<b>-6.3%</b>
<b>NATURAL RESOURCES and MINING</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>17.6%</b>
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>	<b>79.0</b>	<b>79.6</b>	<b>81.6</b>	<b>82.6</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>-2.6</b>	<b>-1.0</b>	<b>-3.2%</b>
Construction of Buildings	20.5	20.6	20.5	21.0	-0.1	0.0	-0.5	0.0%
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	8.7	8.5	9.2	9.2	0.2	-0.5	0.0	-5.4%
Specialty Trade Contractors	49.8	50.5	51.9	52.4	-0.7	-2.1	-0.5	-4.0%
<b>MANUFACTURING</b>	<b>148.3</b>	<b>149.8</b>	<b>161.5</b>	<b>163.8</b>	<b>-1.5</b>	<b>-13.2</b>	<b>-2.3</b>	<b>-8.2%</b>
Durable Goods Manufacturing	116.0	117.2	128.5	130.2	-1.2	-12.5	-1.7	-9.7%
Fabricated Metal Product Mfg	8.4	8.5	9.0	9.0	-0.1	-0.6	0.0	-6.7%
Computer and Electronic Product Mfg	15.0	15.1	16.6	16.8	-0.1	-1.6	-0.2	-9.6%
Navigation., Msrng, Electromed. & Control	8.6	8.7	9.4	9.5	-0.1	-0.8	-0.1	-8.5%
Transportation Equipment Mfg	65.4	66.3	75.5	76.7	-0.9	-10.1	-1.2	-13.4%
Aerospace Product and Parts Mfg	59.9	60.9	70.3	71.2	-1.0	-10.4	-0.9	-14.8%
Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing	32.3	32.6	33.0	33.6	-0.3	-0.7	-0.6	-2.1%
Food Manufacturing	11.6 <sup>2/</sup>	11.7	11.7	12.3	-0.1	-0.1	-0.6	-0.9%
<b>SERVICES PROVIDING</b>	<b>1,118.9</b>	<b>1,115.2</b>	<b>1,111.8</b>	<b>1,107.0</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>0.6%</b>
<b>TRADE, TRANSPORTATION and UTILITIES</b>	<b>260.3</b>	<b>261.3</b>	<b>264.3</b>	<b>265.4</b>	<b>-1.0</b>	<b>-4.0</b>	<b>-1.1</b>	<b>-1.5%</b>
Wholesale Trade	68.3	68.6	69.1	69.6	-0.3	-0.8	-0.5	-1.2%
Retail Trade	142.5	143.0	143.8	144.2	-0.5	-1.3	-0.4	-0.9%
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	17.0	17.2	17.3	17.4	-0.2	-0.3	-0.1	-1.7%
Food and Beverage Stores	27.2	27.3	28.0	28.1	-0.1	-0.8	-0.1	-2.9%
Health and Personal Care Stores	6.9	7.0	7.0	7.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-1.4%
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	13.5	14.3	14.7	15.2	-0.8	-1.2	-0.5	-8.2%
General Merchandise Stores	20.3	20.2	18.9	18.7	0.1	1.4	0.2	7.4%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	49.5	49.7	51.4	51.6	-0.2	-1.9	-0.2	-3.7%
Transportation and Warehousing	46.7	47.0	48.8	48.9	-0.3	-2.1	-0.1	-4.3%
Air Transportation	11.9	12.0	13.0	13.1	-0.1	-1.1	-0.1	-8.5%
Water Transportation	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.9	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-3.4%
Truck Transportation	7.7	7.7	8.1	8.2	0.0	-0.4	-0.1	-4.9%
Support Activities for Transportation	10.4	10.6	10.4	10.4	-0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0%
Support Activities for Water Transportation	2.7	2.8	2.6	2.5	-0.1	0.1	0.1	3.8%
Warehousing and Storage	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.3	-0.1	-0.2	0.0	-6.1%
<b>INFORMATION</b>	<b>73.0</b>	<b>73.2</b>	<b>72.8</b>	<b>73.6</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>-0.8</b>	<b>0.3%</b>
Newspaper, Book and Directory Publishers	5.6	5.7	6.3	6.3	-0.1	-0.7	0.0	-11.1%
Software Publishers	37.0	37.1	35.2	35.6	-0.1	1.8	-0.4	5.1%
Broadcasting, except Internet	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.7	0.1	0.2	-0.1	7.7%
Telecommunications	19.3	18.9	20.6	20.8	0.4	-1.3	-0.2	-6.3%
Wired Telecommunications Carriers	5.9	5.8	6.4	6.5	0.1	-0.5	-0.1	-7.8%
Wireless Telecommunications Carriers	10.5	10.3	10.5	10.6	0.2	0.0	-0.1	0.0%
<b>FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>91.5</b>	<b>92.0</b>	<b>88.2</b>	<b>88.3</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>3.7%</b>
Finance and Insurance	62.9	63.2	60.1	60.2	-0.3	2.8	-0.1	4.7%
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	29.2	29.3	26.4	26.4	-0.1	2.8	0.0	10.6%
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	25.9	26.1	25.4	25.5	-0.2	0.5	-0.1	2.0%
Real Estate and Rental Leasing	28.6	28.8	28.1	28.1	-0.2	0.5	0.0	1.8%

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

Not Seasonally Adjusted/Preliminary Quarterly Benchmark: March 2003

NAICS INDUSTRY TITLE (in thousands)	Prelim Sep-03	Revised Aug-03	Revised Sep-02	Revised Aug-02	Change			
					Aug-03 Sep-03	Sep-02 Sep-03	Aug-02 Sep-02	Sep-02 Sep-03 %
<b>PROFESSIONAL and BUSINESS SERVICES</b>	<b>183.9</b>	<b>183.4</b>	<b>182.9</b>	<b>183.6</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>-0.7</b>	<b>0.5%</b>
Professional, Scientific and Tech Services	87.8	87.6	87.7	88.3	0.2	0.1	-0.6	0.1%
Legal Services	13.3	13.5	13.0	13.2	-0.2	0.3	-0.2	2.3%
Accounting, Tax Prep, Bookkpng & Payroll	9.6	9.6	9.0	9.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	6.7%
Architectural, Engineering and Related	17.9	17.8	18.5	18.4	0.1	-0.6	0.1	-3.2%
Computer Systems Design and Related	15.6	15.5	17.5	17.7	0.1	-1.9	-0.2	-10.9%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	24.9	25.0	22.7	22.8	-0.1	2.2	-0.1	9.7%
Admin, Support, Waste Mgmt & Remediation	71.2	70.8	72.5	72.5	0.4	-1.3	0.0	-1.8%
Administrative and Support Services	68.3	67.8	69.7	69.6	0.5	-1.4	0.1	-2.0%
Employment Services	29.2	28.7	30.0	29.4	0.5	-0.8	0.6	-2.7%
<b>EDUCATION and HEALTH SERVICES</b>	<b>136.6</b>	<b>134.7</b>	<b>134.2</b>	<b>132.7</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.8%</b>
Educational Services	20.6	19.1	19.3	17.9	1.5	1.3	1.4	6.7%
Ambulatory Health Care Services	48.3	48.4	47.4	47.6	-0.1	0.9	-0.2	1.9%
Hospitals	26.7	26.6	26.6	26.7	0.1	0.1	-0.1	0.4%
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	20.7	20.6	20.5	20.4	0.1	0.2	0.1	1.0%
Social Assistance	20.3	20.0	20.4	20.1	0.3	-0.1	0.3	-0.5%
<b>LEISURE and HOSPITALITY</b>	<b>126.9</b>	<b>129.4</b>	<b>122.1</b>	<b>124.9</b>	<b>-2.5</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>-2.8</b>	<b>3.9%</b>
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	25.4	26.2	22.3	23.6	-0.8	3.1	-1.3	13.9%
Accommodation	14.1	14.2	13.4	13.6	-0.1	0.7	-0.2	5.2%
Food Services and Drinking Places	87.4	89.0	86.4	87.7	-1.6	1.0	-1.3	1.2%
<b>OTHER SERVICES</b>	<b>49.8</b>	<b>50.4</b>	<b>49.5</b>	<b>50.2</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>-0.7</b>	<b>0.6%</b>
Repair and Maintenance	13.4	13.5	14.1	14.2	-0.1	-0.7	-0.1	-5.0%
Personal and Laundry Services	13.6	13.7	13.5	13.6	-0.1	0.1	-0.1	0.7%
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Prof. & Similar	22.8	23.2	21.9	22.4	-0.4	0.9	-0.5	4.1%
<b>GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>196.9</b>	<b>190.8</b>	<b>197.8</b>	<b>188.3</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>-0.9</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>-0.5%</b>
Federal Government	25.7	25.8	25.2	25.3	-0.1	0.5	-0.1	2.0%
Total State Government	56.4	53.7	55.3	52.9	2.7	1.1	2.4	2.0%
State Government Educational Services	39.4	36.7	38.3	36.1	2.7	1.1	2.2	2.9%
Total Local Government	114.8	111.3	117.3	110.1	3.5	-2.5	7.2	-2.1%
Local Government Educational Services	45.1	44.1	47.0	42.9	1.0	-1.9	4.1	-4.0%
Workers in Labor/Management Disputes	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	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 first quarter 2003) and estimates employment from that point to present.

2/ Workers excluded because of involvement in labor/management dispute.

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# 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:

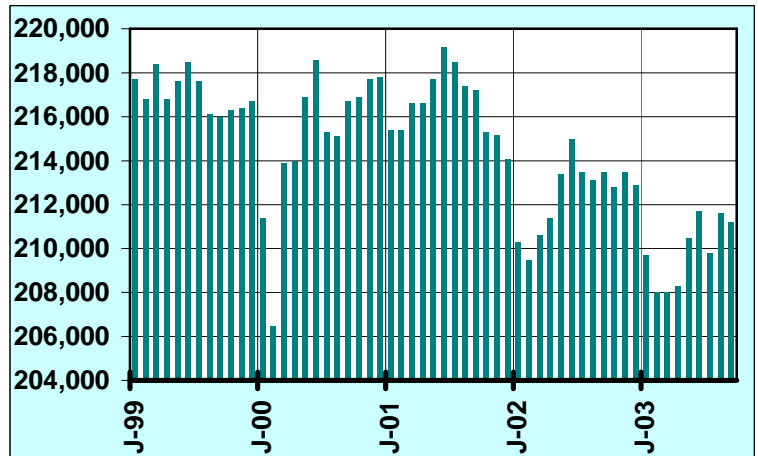
The national “Jobless Recovery” has yet to trickle down to Snohomish County. Not only are there no signs of a recovery, the county continues to lose jobs.

The **Jobless Rate** climbed to a 19-year high of 8.5 percent in September. This is a full percentage point over the year-ago rate of 7.5 percent, and one and a half percentage points over the September (not Seasonally Adjusted) state rate of 7.0 percent. Continuing Boeing layoffs helped drive down the total non-farm job number by 400.

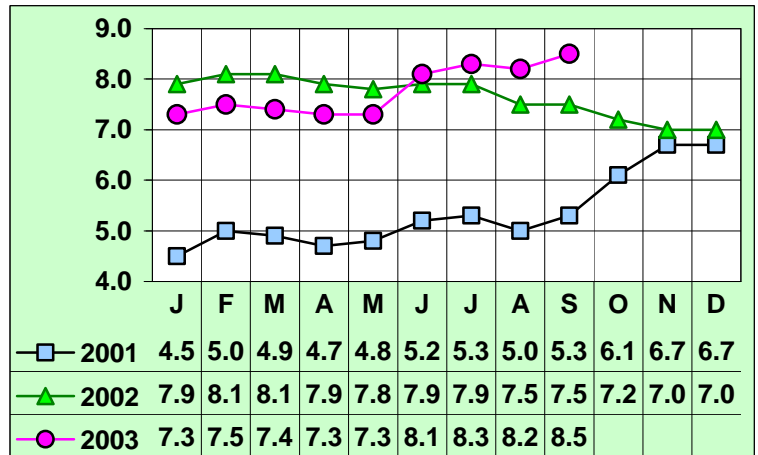
**Manufacturing** declined by 500 jobs with Aerospace declining by 400. Non-Durable Goods dropped by 200 jobs as food processing wound down for the year. Wholesale Trade dropped 300 jobs. The Retail Sector stayed even over the month. Back-to-school shopping helped General Merchandise Stores post an increase of 100 jobs. This was offset by a loss of 100 jobs in Food & Beverage Stores.

There was very little movement in the rest of the economy. Local Education posted a gain of 200 over the month as the school year got under way. This total remains down by 800 over the year partially due to the ripple effects of the Marysville teacher strike. This loss does not include the striking teachers, as the Bureau of Labor Statistics counts them in the job total due to the way their salaries are spread out over the whole year.

### Nonag Industry Employment, 1999-2003



### Unemployment Rates by Month, 2001-2003





## Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers Employed in Snohomish County

Preliminary Quarterly Benchmark: March 2003

NAICS INDUSTRY TITLE (in thousands)	Prelim Sep-03	Revised Aug-03	Revised Sep-02	Change		
				Aug-03 Sep-03	Sep-02 Sep-03	Sep-02 Sep-03 %
<b>TOTAL NONFARM 1/</b>	<b>211.2</b>	<b>211.6</b>	<b>213.5</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-2.3</b>	<b>-1.1%</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>177.6</b>	<b>178.5</b>	<b>179.5</b>	<b>-0.9</b>	<b>-2.0</b>	<b>-1.1%</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>61.1</b>	<b>61.7</b>	<b>64.0</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>-2.9</b>	<b>-4.5%</b>
<b>SERVICES PROVIDING</b>	<b>150.1</b>	<b>149.9</b>	<b>149.5</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.4%</b>
<b>CONSTRUCTION and NATURAL RESOURCES</b>	<b>18.8</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>-0.7%</b>
Construction of Buildings	3.3	3.2	3.6	0.1	-0.3	-7.0%
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	2.1	2.1	2.3	0.0	-0.2	-8.2%
Specialty Trade Contractors	12.8	13.1	13.1	-0.3	-0.3	-2.0%
<b>MANUFACTURING</b>	<b>42.3</b>	<b>42.8</b>	<b>44.5</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	<b>-2.2</b>	<b>-5.0%</b>
Durable Goods	37.8	38.1	39.7	-0.3	-1.9	-4.9%
Wood Product Manufacturing	1.9	1.9	1.8	0.0	0.1	5.0%
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	2.7	2.6	2.6	0.1	0.0	1.8%
Computer and Electronic Product Mfg	5.4	5.4	5.3	0.0	0.0	0.6%
Electronic Instrument Manufacturing	3.7	3.8	3.6	0.0	0.2	4.3%
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	22.9	23.2	26.1	-0.3	-3.2	-12.3%
Aerospace Product and Parts Mfg	21.2	21.6	24.9	-0.4	-3.7	-14.7%
Non-Durable Goods	4.5	4.8	4.8	-0.2	-0.3	-5.5%
<b>TRADE, TRANSPORTATION and UTILITIES</b>	<b>36.1</b>	<b>36.5</b>	<b>36.6</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-1.2%</b>
Wholesale Trade	5.9	6.1	6.2	-0.3	-0.3	-5.2%
Retail Trade	27.1	27.1	27.2	0.0	0.0	-0.2%
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	4.6	4.6	4.3	0.0	0.3	6.7%
Building Material and Garden Supply Stores	2.9	2.9	2.8	0.0	0.1	2.0%
Food and Beverage Stores	5.3	5.3	5.6	-0.1	-0.4	-6.7%
Health and Personal Care Stores	1.2	1.2	1.7	0.0	-0.4	-26.7%
General Merchandise Stores	4.8	4.7	4.5	0.1	0.3	6.8%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	3.1	3.3	3.2	-0.2	-0.1	-2.5%
<b>INFORMATION</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>-2.5%</b>
Telecommunications	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.0	-0.1	-4.5%
<b>FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>5.4%</b>
Finance and Insurance	9.1	9.1	8.4	0.0	0.7	7.9%
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	3.7	3.7	3.3	0.0	0.4	11.9%
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	5.1	5.1	4.6	0.0	0.5	10.6%
Real Estate, Rental and Leasing	3.1	3.1	3.0	0.0	0.1	2.6%
<b>PROFESSIONAL and BUSINESS SERVICES</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>16.4</b>	<b>16.9</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>-2.0%</b>
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	7.3	7.0	7.0	0.3	0.3	4.9%
Architectural, Engineering and Related Serv	1.4	1.4	2.1	0.0	-0.7	-33.1%
Admin, Support, Waste Mgmt & Remediation Serv	7.9	8.0	8.6	-0.1	-0.7	-8.2%
Employment Services	2.5	2.4	3.2	0.1	-0.7	-21.5%
<b>EDUCATIONAL and HEALTH SERVICES</b>	<b>20.9</b>	<b>20.9</b>	<b>20.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>1.8%</b>
Ambulatory Health Care Services	9.1	8.9	8.6	0.2	0.5	5.6%
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	4.4	4.3	4.2	0.1	0.1	3.5%
Social Assistance	2.8	2.9	3.2	-0.1	-0.4	-12.9%



## Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers Employed in Snohomish County

Preliminary Quarterly Benchmark: March 2003

NAICS INDUSTRY TITLE (in thousands)	Prelim Sep-03	Revised Aug-03	Revised Sep-02	Change		
				Aug-03 Sep-03	Sep-02 Sep-03	Sep-02 Sep-03 %
<b>LEISURE and HOSPITALITY</b>	<b>19.3</b>	<b>19.2</b>	<b>18.0</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>6.9%</b>
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	2.8	2.8	2.8	0.0	0.0	0.9%
Accommodation and Food Services	16.5	16.4	15.2	0.1	1.2	8.2%
Food Services and Drinking Places	15.8	15.7	14.4	0.1	1.5	10.1%
<b>OTHER SERVICES</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	<b>-5.7%</b>
Repair and Maintenance	2.2	2.3	2.5	-0.1	-0.3	-11.5%
Personal and Laundry Services	2.1	2.1	2.2	0.0	-0.1	-6.4%
Membership Associations and Organizations	3.6	3.8	3.8	-0.2	-0.2	-5.2%
<b>GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>33.7</b>	<b>33.2</b>	<b>34.0</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>-0.8%</b>
Federal Government	2.1	2.1	2.2	0.1	-0.1	-4.2%
State Government	4.9	4.7	5.0	0.2	-0.2	-3.3%
State Educational Services	1.8	1.6	1.8	0.2	0.0	-0.3%
Local Government	26.7	26.4	27.0	0.3	-0.3	-1.2%
Local Educational Services	12.2	12.0	13.0	0.2	-0.8	-6.0%
<b>Workers in Labor/Management Disputes 2/</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

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 used the most recent quarter from the Unemployment Insurance Tax Report (currently the first quarter 2003) and estimates employment from that point to present.

2/ Because of an arcane ruling by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the fact that teachers' salaries are spread out over 12 months precludes the approximately 700 striking Marysville teachers from being included in the Labor/Management Disputes numbers.

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# Washington State Labor Area Summary Spokane MSA Spokane County

Prepared by the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch, William Dillingham, *Regional Labor Economist*  
130 South Arthur, Spokane WA 99202-2259 Phone: (509) 532-3188

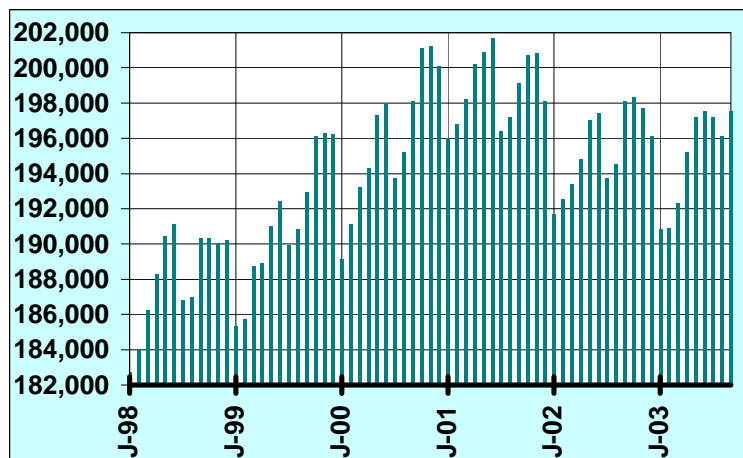
## Highlights:

Spokane County's unemployment rate fell two tenths of a point in September to 6.3 percent. The seasonally-adjusted rate inched up a tenth of a point to 7.2 percent; the adjusted rate has been essentially unchanged for the past five months.

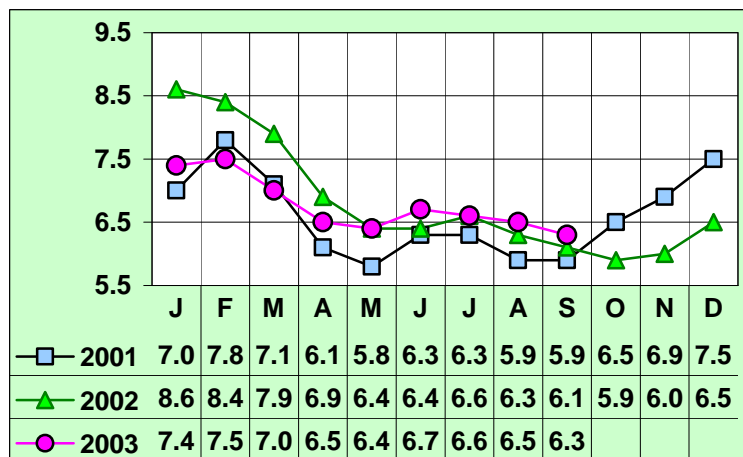
**Nonfarm employment** totaled 197,500, up 1,400 jobs over the month. Seasonal hiring in education accounted for an increase of 2,100 jobs. Government employment outside of Education fell by 900 jobs. Manufacturing dropped by 400 jobs. Construction added 200 as it reached its seasonal peak. Other industries showed little change.

**Over the past twelve months**, nonfarm employment has declined by 600 jobs, or 0.3 percent. Local Government payrolls have fallen by 1,100 jobs, including 500 in K-12 Education. In the private sector, the results varied widely by industry. On the plus side, Construction has added 700 jobs, and Finance another 600, due to the strong housing market. Manufacturing payrolls are smaller by 1,000 jobs, however, including -400 in electronics. In addition, private education is down 700, and Leisure & Hospitality has lost 400 jobs.

### Nonag Industry Employment, 1998-2003



### Unemployment Rates by Month, 2001-2003



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

Not Seasonally Adjusted/Preliminary Quarterly Benchmark: March 2003

NAICS INDUSTRY TITLE (in thousands)	Prelim Sep-03	Revised Aug-03	Revised Sep-02	Revised Aug-02	Change			
					Aug-03 Sep-03	Sep-02 Sep-03	Aug-02 Sep-02	Sep-02 Sep-03 %
<b>TOTAL NONFARM 1/</b>	<b>197.5</b>	<b>196.1</b>	<b>198.1</b>	<b>194.5</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>-0.3%</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>166.1</b>	<b>165.9</b>	<b>165.7</b>	<b>164.5</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>0.2%</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>29.2</b>	<b>29.4</b>	<b>29.5</b>	<b>29.4</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>-1.0%</b>
<b>NATURAL RESOURCES and CONSTRUCTION</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>11.8</b>	<b>11.6</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>5.9%</b>
<b>MANUFACTURING</b>	<b>16.7</b>	<b>17.1</b>	<b>17.7</b>	<b>17.8</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-1.0</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>-5.6%</b>
Durable Goods	12.7	13.0	13.5	13.6	-0.3	-0.8	-0.1	-5.9%
Computer and Electronic Product Mfg	2.6	2.6	3.0	3.1	0.0	-0.4	-0.1	-13.3%
<b>SERVICES PROVIDING</b>	<b>168.3</b>	<b>166.7</b>	<b>168.6</b>	<b>165.1</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>-0.2%</b>
<b>TRADE, TRANSPORTATION and UTILITIES</b>	<b>41.8</b>	<b>41.6</b>	<b>41.0</b>	<b>40.8</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>2.0%</b>
Wholesale Trade	9.9	9.8	9.6	9.6	0.1	0.3	0.0	3.1%
Retail Trade	25.6	25.6	25.3	25.2	0.0	0.3	0.1	1.2%
Food and Beverage Stores	4.8	4.8	5.1	5.0	0.0	-0.3	0.1	-5.9%
General Merchandise Stores	4.5	4.4	4.0	3.9	0.1	0.5	0.1	12.5%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	6.3	6.2	6.1	6.0	0.1	0.2	0.1	3.3%
<b>INFORMATION</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>3.6%</b>
<b>FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>13.6</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>4.6%</b>
Finance and Insurance	10.5	10.4	9.8	9.8	0.1	0.7	0.0	7.1%
<b>PROFESSIONAL and BUSINESS SERVICES</b>	<b>19.7</b>	<b>19.7</b>	<b>19.7</b>	<b>19.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>MGMT OF COMPANIES and ENTERPRISES</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>-3.4%</b>
<b>EDUCATION and HEALTH SERVICES</b>	<b>31.4</b>	<b>31.3</b>	<b>32.0</b>	<b>31.2</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>-1.9%</b>
Health and Social Assistance	27.9	27.9	27.8	27.7	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.4%
Ambulatory Health Care Services	10.3	10.4	10.4	10.4	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	-1.0%
Hospitals	8.1	8.1	8.2	8.2	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-1.2%
<b>LEISURE and HOSPITALITY</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-2.1%</b>
Food Services and Drinking Places	13.3	13.3	13.5	13.5	0.0	-0.2	0.0	-1.5%
<b>OTHER SERVICES</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>2.3%</b>
<b>GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>31.4</b>	<b>30.2</b>	<b>32.4</b>	<b>30.0</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>-1.0</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>-3.1%</b>
Federal Government	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.6	0.0	0.1	0.0	2.2%
Total State Government	9.5	8.7	9.5	8.7	0.8	0.0	0.8	0.0%
State Government Educational Services	4.5	3.6	4.5	3.6	0.9	0.0	0.9	0.0%
Total Local Government	17.2	16.8	18.3	16.7	0.4	-1.1	1.6	-6.0%
Local Government Educational Services	10.1	9.0	10.6	8.8	1.1	-0.5	1.8	-4.7%
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 first quarter 2003) and estimates employment from that point to present.

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# Washington State Labor Area Summary Tacoma PMSA Pierce County

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

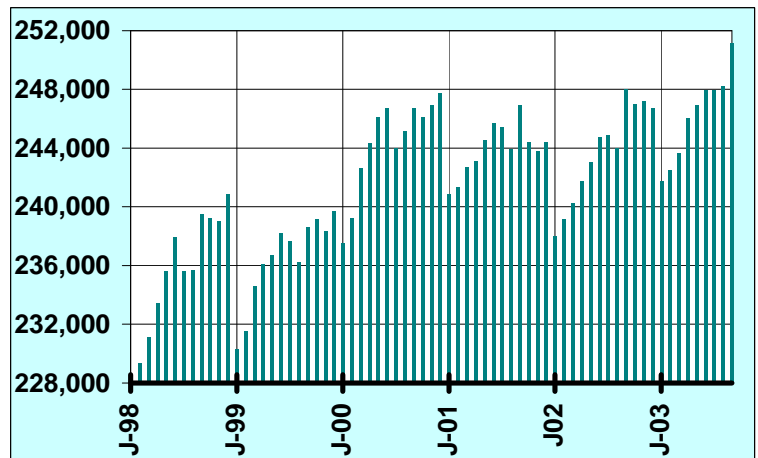
## Highlights:

The Tacoma metropolitan area (Pierce County) unemployment rate, although unchanged over the month, has now reached a level of 0.7 point above the statewide rate of 7.0 percent. Tacoma's rate of 7.7 percent is also 1.9 points above the comparable rate for the United States. Pierce County is also identified as the Tacoma Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area (Tacoma PMSA). Metropolitan statistical areas, except in New England, are composed of one or more counties. The Tacoma PMSA is a component of the larger Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Area (CMSA), which is also composed of the Olympia (Thurston County), Bremerton (Kitsap County), and Seattle-Bellevue-Everett (King, Island and Snohomish Counties) Primary Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

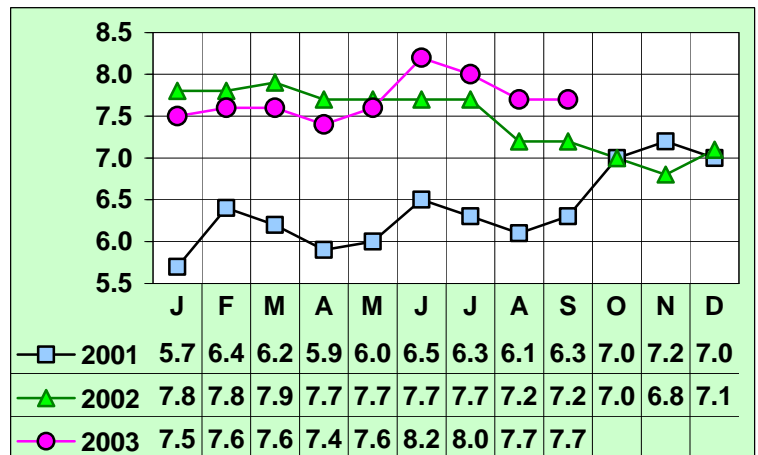
**Place-of-work employment** in the greater Tacoma area is gaining again over the previous year after some weakness in the first half. The annual Western Washington Fair in Puyallup usually gives a seasonal boost to the local labor economy during September, and 2003 should not be an exception.

**Services Providing employment** grew over the year, offsetting the continuing weakness of the Manufacturing sector. Government employment (which includes local public schools, state colleges and Tribal business establishments, such as casinos) fluctuated downward over the year. (Much of Government is local public education and state college employment, with a strong seasonal component, and as a result, changes over the year may be a result of shifting seasonality.)

### Nonag Industry Employment, 1998-2003



### Unemployment Rates by Month, 2001-2003



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

Not Seasonally Adjusted/Preliminary Quarterly Benchmark: March 2003

NAICS INDUSTRY TITLE (in thousands)	Prelim Sep-03	Revised Aug-03	Revised Sep-02	Revised Aug-02	Change			
					Aug-03 Sep-03	Sep-02 Sep-03	Aug-02 Sep-02	Sep-02 Sep-03 %
<b>TOTAL NONFARM 1/</b>	<b>251.1</b>	<b>248.2</b>	<b>248.0</b>	<b>244.0</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>1.3%</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>200.7</b>	<b>198.9</b>	<b>196.9</b>	<b>194.4</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>1.9%</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>37.5</b>	<b>37.6</b>	<b>37.9</b>	<b>38.1</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-1.1%</b>
<b>NATURAL RESOURCES and MINING</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>	<b>17.9</b>	<b>18.0</b>	<b>17.4</b>	<b>17.4</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>2.9%</b>
Specialty Trade Contractors	10.5	10.7	10.3	10.4	-0.2	0.2	-0.1	1.9%
<b>MANUFACTURING</b>	<b>19.0</b>	<b>19.0</b>	<b>19.9</b>	<b>20.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-0.9</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-4.5%</b>
Durable Goods	12.1	12.1	12.7	12.8	0.0	-0.6	-0.1	-4.7%
Non-Durable Goods	6.9	6.9	7.2	7.3	0.0	-0.3	-0.1	-4.2%
<b>SERVICES PROVIDING</b>	<b>213.6</b>	<b>210.6</b>	<b>210.1</b>	<b>205.9</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>1.7%</b>
<b>TRADE, TRANSPORTATION and UTILITIES</b>	<b>47.9</b>	<b>47.7</b>	<b>47.3</b>	<b>47.1</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>1.3%</b>
Wholesale Trade	9.2	9.2	9.2	9.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
Retail Trade	29.5	29.4	29.5	29.3	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.0%
Food and Beverage Stores	5.0	5.0	5.8	5.8	0.0	-0.8	0.0	-13.8%
General Merchandise Stores	5.9	5.9	5.7	5.4	0.0	0.2	0.3	3.5%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	9.2	9.1	8.6	8.6	0.1	0.6	0.0	7.0%
<b>INFORMATION</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-3.3%</b>
<b>FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>13.6</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>4.7%</b>
<b>PROFESSIONAL and BUSINESS SERVICES</b>	<b>21.1</b>	<b>21.1</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>2.9%</b>
<b>ADMIN, SUPPORT, WASTE MGMT &amp; REMED.</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>11.8</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>2.5%</b>
Administrative and Support Services	11.2	11.1	10.9	10.9	0.1	0.3	0.0	2.8%
<b>EDUCATION and HEALTH SERVICES</b>	<b>37.7</b>	<b>37.5</b>	<b>37.1</b>	<b>36.4</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>1.6%</b>
Ambulatory Health Care Services	12.4	12.5	12.2	12.2	-0.1	0.2	0.0	1.6%
Hospitals	8.2	8.2	8.1	8.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	1.2%
Social Assistance	7.1	7.0	6.7	6.7	0.1	0.4	0.0	6.0%
<b>LEISURE and HOSPITALITY</b>	<b>28.0</b>	<b>26.3</b>	<b>26.6</b>	<b>24.6</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>5.3%</b>
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	5.5	4.5	5.9	4.2	1.0	-0.4	1.7	-6.8%
Food Services and Drinking Places	20.4	20.4	19.2	18.9	0.0	1.2	0.3	6.3%
<b>OTHER SERVICES</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>11.6</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>4.3%</b>
<b>GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>50.4</b>	<b>49.3</b>	<b>51.1</b>	<b>49.6</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>-0.7</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>-1.4%</b>
Federal Government	9.7	9.7	10.0	10.0	0.0	-0.3	0.0	-3.0%
Total State Government	11.0	10.4	11.2	10.3	0.6	-0.2	0.9	-1.8%
State Government Educational Services	3.5	2.9	3.6	2.8	0.6	-0.1	0.8	-2.8%
Total Local Government	29.7	29.2	29.9	29.3	0.5	-0.2	0.6	-0.7%
Local Government Educational Services	16.2	15.7	16.1	15.1	0.5	0.1	1.0	0.6%
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 first quarter 2003) and estimates employment from that point to present.

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Washington State  
**Labor Area Summary**  
**Richland-Kennewick-Pasco MSA**  
**Benton and Franklin Counties**

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:**

*Musical Chairs Anyone?*

**Slowing, slowing,** and when do we stop growing? The economy of the Tri-Cities continues to grow, albeit at a much slower rate than experienced over the past several years. It was certainly a marvelous time for developers and some farmers who made good money helping to grow new homes instead of potatoes.

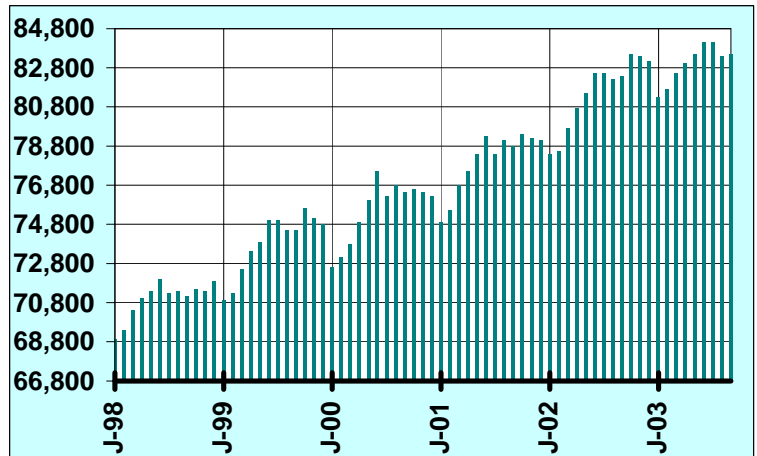
**Hanford:** While employment with the Vitrification (Vit) Project seemed calm, other areas of Hanford were not so serene. The research side of Hanford (Battelle NWL et. al.), the River Protection side, is down since the beginning of the year by 300, and since September of last year, by 610. Estimates of employment activity in this very important side of the local economy are clouded by the musical chair employment environment, where projects and workers are moved from one Department of Energy (DOE) contractor to another. The state does attempt to maintain a one hundred percent sample size for this very important segment of the state's economy, and periodically, jobs are measured and traced to hard tax records for these companies and government agencies.

**With these job reductions,** the number of persons drawing unemployment under regular entitlement in Benton County went from 1,894 at the end of September of last year, to 2,454 for September of this year. This was a gain of nearly 30.0 percent. In Franklin County, the increase was from 619 to 848, an increase of nearly 37.0 percent.

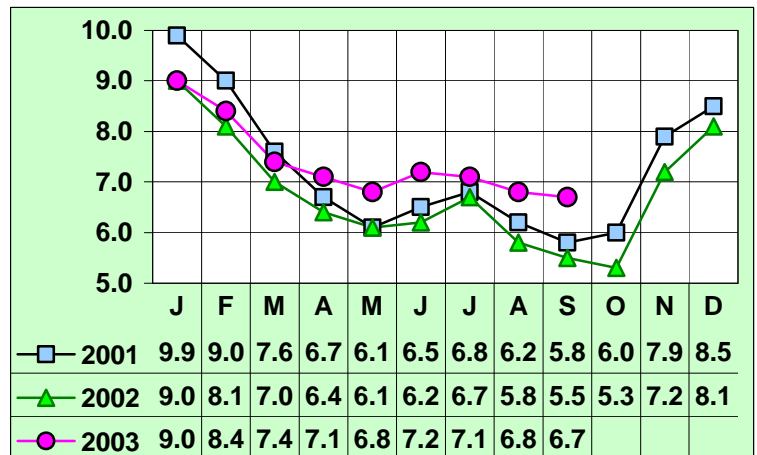
**In the two county region,** some occupations were impacted greater than others. In Management, the total went from 218 persons at the end of September 2002, to 580 for this September. Business and Financial Activities operators went from 59 to 90. Engineering went from 62 to a whopping 244, a four fold increase. Clerical workers grew from 320 to 400. Scientists grew from 28 to 46.

**This is a terrible time to be searching for work;** many workers, local and statewide, have exhausted their regular 26 weeks of unemployment, and gone on to extended benefits. Unless there are additional dollars and projects for Hanford, many of these technical workers will be forced to leave the community and search for work somewhere else. The 'somewhere else' is difficult to discern in these unsettling times.

**Nonag Industry Employment, 1998-2003**



**Unemployment Rates by Month, 2001-2003**



**Construction:** Employment was down over the month by 200, but positive over the year by 390, for a growth rate of 7.5 percent. This makes the construction industry the fastest growing in the Tri-Cities. How these numbers are going to be maintained in a slowing economy is difficult to see.

**Manufacturing:** Employment was calm over the month and only a tad bit stormy over the year, with chemicals and metals showing some weakness.

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

Preliminary Quarterly Benchmark: December 2002

NAICS INDUSTRY TITLE	Prelim Sep-03	Revised Aug-03	Revised Sep-02	Change		Sep-02 Sep-03 %
				Aug-03 Sep-03	Sep-02 Sep-03	
<b>TOTAL NONFARM 1/</b>	<b>83,500</b>	<b>83,400</b>	<b>82,370</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1,130</b>	<b>1.4%</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>68,600</b>	<b>68,900</b>	<b>67,770</b>	<b>-300</b>	<b>830</b>	<b>1.2%</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>11,600</b>	<b>11,800</b>	<b>11,130</b>	<b>-200</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>4.2%</b>
<b>CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RESOURCES and MINING</b>	<b>5,600</b>	<b>5,800</b>	<b>5,210</b>	<b>-200</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>7.5%</b>
<b>MANUFACTURING</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>5,920</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>1.4%</b>
Food Manufacturing	3,700	3,700	3,600	0	100	2.8%
Chemicals and Allied Products	800	800	830	0	-30	-3.6%
Primary and Fabricated Metal Products	300	300	370	0	-70	-18.9%
Other Manufacturing	1,100	1,100	1,120	0	-20	-1.8%
<b>SERVICES PROVIDING</b>	<b>71,900</b>	<b>71,700</b>	<b>71,240</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>660</b>	<b>0.9%</b>
<b>TRADE, TRANSPORTATION and UTILITIES</b>	<b>13,800</b>	<b>13,800</b>	<b>13,470</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>2.4%</b>
Wholesale Trade	2,100	2,100	2,090	0	10	0.5%
Retail Trade	10,100	10,200	9,840	-100	260	2.6%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	1,600	1,600	1,550	0	50	3.2%
<b>INFORMATION</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>950</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>5.3%</b>
<b>FINANCE, INSURANCE and REAL ESTATE</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>2,930</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>2.4%</b>
<b>SERVICES</b>	<b>39,100</b>	<b>39,200</b>	<b>39,290</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>-190</b>	<b>-0.5%</b>
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	10,200	10,300	10,150	-100	50	0.5%
Health Services	6,600	6,600	6,280	0	320	5.1%
Waste Treatment	9,400	9,400	10,010	0	-610	-6.1%
<b>GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>14,600</b>	<b>14,600</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>2.7%</b>
Federal Government	1,400	1,400	1,370	0	30	2.2%
State and Local Government	13,600	13,100	13,230	500	370	2.8%
Educational Services	6,800	6,100	6,520	700	280	4.3%
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. Prepared by the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch using a quarterly benchmark process. This process used the most recent quarter from the Unemployment Insurance Tax Report (currently the fourth quarter 2002) and estimates employment from that point to present.

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**Trade:** Employment was flat during September, but Retail has added on 260 jobs since last year. Job growth was with food stores, auto, clothes, but mainly the large merchandise stores.

**Services:** Employment in this large segment of the labor market was down over the month and down slightly over the year. The decline was mainly with DOE contractor firms at Hanford. Offsetting this were 320 added jobs in Health Services.

**Government:** Employment in the public sector was up over the month, as job gains in public education counterbalanced job destruction in municipal government. Employment with Local Government went from 4,130 in August to 3,960 in September. This loss is a seasonal event as the local governments winterize their summer recreational programs.

**Down on the Farm:** Employment fell seasonally from 11,200 in August to 13,000 in September, which compared favorably with September of last year when the count was 12,200.

**Labor Force Numbers:** From August to September, numbers fell slightly in unemployment, from 7,000 to 7,100. Compared to August of last year, the count of local unemployment has risen by 1,400. Some of this is through local layoffs. Some of it may be due to in migration, where spouses follow wives and husbands to new jobs in the Tri-Cities. Last year at this time, the Tri-Cities rate of unemployment was 1.2 percent below Washington's. Now, it is only 0.3 percent removed from the state's rate.



# 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:

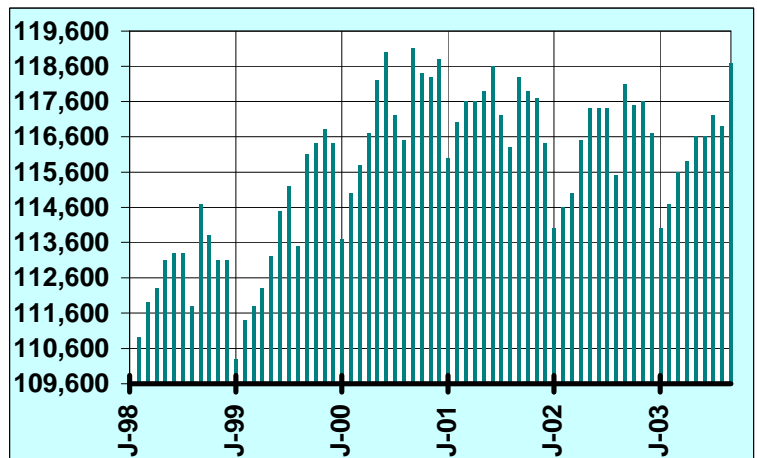
Clark County's unemployment rate fell eight tenths of a point from an upwardly-revised 9.7 percent down to 8.9 percent. That 8.9 figure may be revised upward next month, if the pattern holds. In comparison, the rate from a year earlier was 8.7 percent. These are still the highest percentages for this time of year since 1983. The number of unemployed county residents fell by 1,600 to 16,200.

**Nonfarm employment** rose by 1,800 jobs over the month. Most of the gain came in seasonal hiring in education (+1,100) and food processing (+300). Outside of those industries, there was little change.

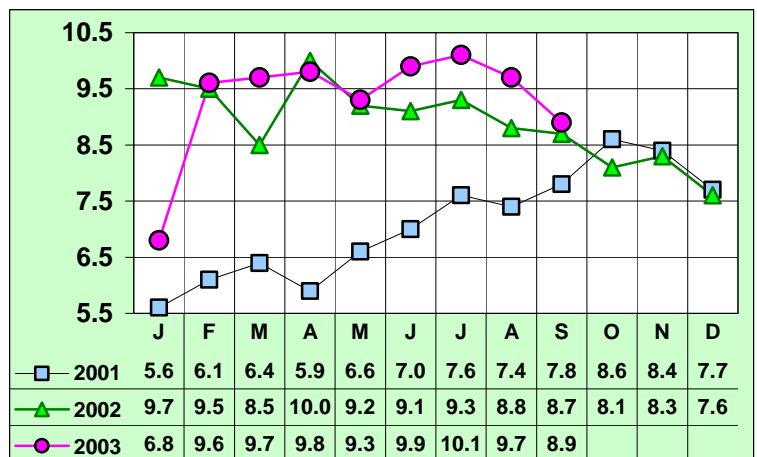
**Total nonfarm employment** ended up at 118,700, showing a gain of 600 jobs (0.5 percent) over the past twelve months. Retail Trade, financial services, Health Care, and Government continue to provide the bulk of new jobs. Manufacturing and Construction have declined over the year, as have Other Services, which includes corporate headquarters.

**The proverbial** good news/bad news hit the county this past week. On the same day that a California designer of prosthetics announced it was moving to Vancouver, bringing along 50 jobs, Century Telecom revealed that 60 jobs would be transferred to other sites around the country.

### Nonag Industry Employment, 1998-2003



### Unemployment Rates by Month, 2001-2003





# Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers Employed in Clark County

Preliminary Quarterly Benchmark: December 2002

NAICS INDUSTRY TITLE	Prelim Sep-03	Revised Aug-03	Revised Sep-02	Change		
				Aug-03 Sep-03	Sep-02 Sep-03	Sep-02 Sep-03 %
<b>TOTAL NONFARM 1/</b>	<b>118,700</b>	<b>116,900</b>	<b>118,100</b>	<b>1,800</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>0.5%</b>
<b>CONSTRUCTION, MINING, UTIL. and LOGGING</b>	<b>10,600</b>	<b>10,500</b>	<b>10,900</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>-300</b>	<b>-2.8%</b>
Construction, Mining and Utilities	10,500	10,400	10,800	100	-300	-2.8%
Logging	100	100	100	0	0	0.0%
<b>MANUFACTURING</b>	<b>13,600</b>	<b>13,300</b>	<b>14,100</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>-500</b>	<b>-3.5%</b>
Food Manufacturing	1,600	1,300	1,600	300	0	0.0%
Wood Product Manufacturing	700	700	700	0	0	0.0%
Paper Manufacturing	2,100	2,100	2,200	0	-100	-4.5%
Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	700	700	700	0	0	0.0%
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	1,200	1,200	1,200	0	0	0.0%
Machinery Manufacturing	1,200	1,200	1,200	0	0	0.0%
Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing	3,000	3,000	3,300	0	-300	-9.1%
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	500	500	600	0	-100	-16.7%
Other Manufacturing	2,600	2,600	2,600	0	0	0.0%
<b>WHOLESALE TRADE</b>	<b>4,200</b>	<b>4,300</b>	<b>4,200</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>RETAIL TRADE</b>	<b>14,000</b>	<b>14,000</b>	<b>13,200</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>6.1%</b>
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	2,000	2,000	1,800	0	200	11.1%
Food and Beverage Stores	3,000	3,000	2,900	0	100	3.4%
Health and Personal Care Stores	800	800	900	0	-100	-11.1%
General Merchandise Stores	3,400	3,300	2,900	100	500	17.2%
Other Retail	4,800	4,900	4,700	-100	100	2.1%
<b>TRANSPORTATION and WAREHOUSING</b>	<b>3,400</b>	<b>3,200</b>	<b>3,400</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>INFORMATION</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>2,900</b>	<b>2,900</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>3.4%</b>
<b>FINANCE and INSURANCE</b>	<b>3,400</b>	<b>3,400</b>	<b>3,100</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>9.7%</b>
<b>REAL ESTATE, RENTAL and LEASING</b>	<b>2,200</b>	<b>2,300</b>	<b>2,200</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>PROF., SCIENTIFIC and TECHNICAL SERVICES</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>5,900</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1.7%</b>
<b>ADMIN., SUPPORT and WASTE MGMT.</b>	<b>5,600</b>	<b>5,600</b>	<b>5,600</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>EDUCATION SERVICES</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>HEALTH CARE and SOCIAL ASSISTANCE</b>	<b>13,500</b>	<b>13,600</b>	<b>13,200</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>2.3%</b>
Social Assistance	2,100	2,000	2,000	100	100	5.0%
Health Services	11,400	11,600	11,200	-200	200	1.8%
<b>ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT and RECREATION</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>2,900</b>	<b>3,200</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>-200</b>	<b>-6.3%</b>
<b>ACCOMMODATION and FOOD SERVICES</b>	<b>9,500</b>	<b>9,600</b>	<b>9,600</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>-1.0%</b>
<b>OTHER SERVICES</b>	<b>4,700</b>	<b>4,700</b>	<b>5,200</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-500</b>	<b>-9.6%</b>
<b>GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>21,000</b>	<b>19,700</b>	<b>20,400</b>	<b>1,300</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>2.9%</b>
Federal Government	2,800	2,800	2,800	0	0	0.0%
State Government	3,300	3,100	3,200	200	100	3.1%
Local Government	14,900	13,800	14,400	1,100	500	3.5%
K-12 Education	9,400	8,300	9,200	1,100	200	2.2%
Other Local Government	5,500	5,500	5,200	0	300	5.8%
Workers in Labor/Management Disputes	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Nonfarm Employment without logging</b>	<b>118,600</b>	<b>116,800</b>	<b>118,000</b>	<b>1,800</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>0.5%</b>

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 used the most recent quarter from the Unemployment Insurance Tax Report (currently the fourth quarter 2002) and estimates employment from that point to present.

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Washington State  
**Labor Area Summary**  
**Yakima MSA**  
**Yakima County**

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

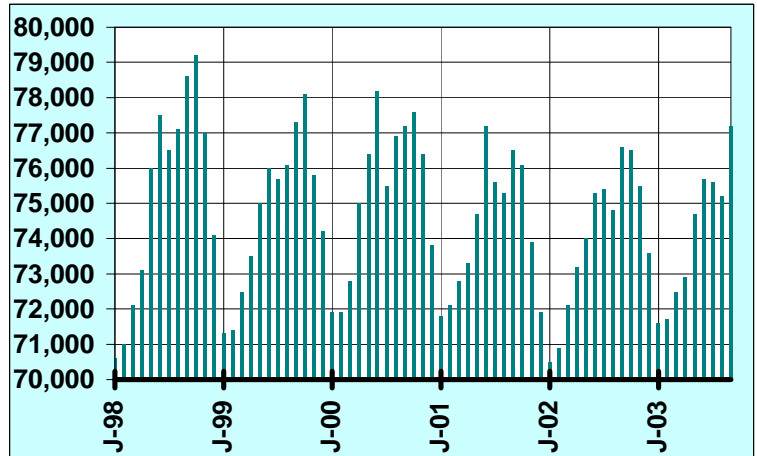
**Highlights:**

**Total nonagricultural employment** in Yakima County (also called the Yakima Metropolitan Statistical Area or MSA) jumped 2.7 percent in September 2003. Yakima County's businesses and government provided approximately 77,200 jobs in September, up from the 75,200 figure one-month prior. However, an employment jump between August and September is the rule rather than the exception in Yakima County. The major sources of this over-the-month expansion were a 1,000-job increase in Non-Durable Goods; a 600-job upturn in Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities; and a 400-job advance in Wholesale Trade. This September's 2.7 percent jump was agriculture related, as local food processing plants, trucking firms, and fresh fruit packing-houses hired workers to sort, process, package, and transport produce to market. Also, Local Government payrolls lengthened by 500, as local public schools hired non-teaching staff for the new school year.

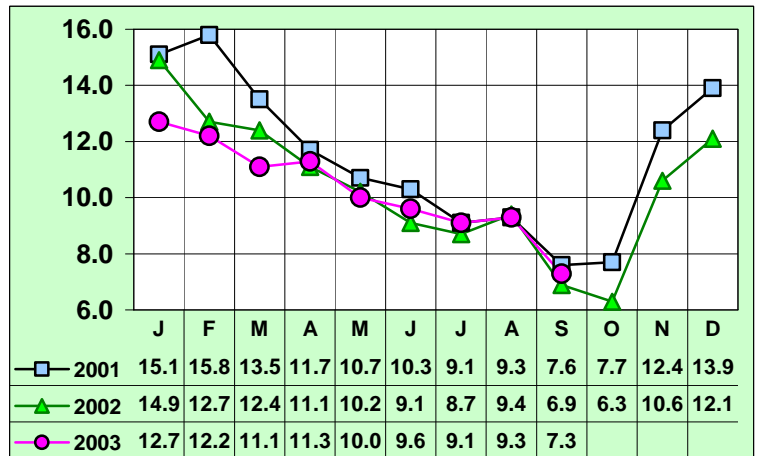
**Over-the-year rates** of change in Washington's nonagricultural employment show that, although job growth was positive during the first two quarters of 2003, the labor market stagnated in the third quarter. This September there were 0.3-percent fewer jobs across Washington than in September 2002, the largest over-the-year decline since October 2002. Yakima County's over-the-year job growth was robust in the first quarter of 2003 (in the 1.7 to 2.1 percent range), a little less dynamic in the second quarter (1.0 to 1.5 percent), and was fairly subdued in the third quarter (0.3 to 0.8 percent).

**Total nonagricultural employment** over the year elevated by approximately 600 jobs countywide. About 300 of the new jobs have been generated in Retail Trade, and another 300 in Local Government (primarily in local public schools). However, Wholesale Trade (i.e., fresh fruit packinghouses) and Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities (i.e. trucking companies) employment dipped over the year. Washington's apple harvest this year will be smaller than the 2002 crop that yielded 88.8 million 42-pound fresh-packed boxes. According to an article in the October 23rd edition of *The Yakima Herald Republic*, the 2003 harvest is estimated to produce between 76 and 80 million boxes, which will likely mean fewer jobs at processing plants, trucking firms, and fresh fruit packinghouses this October and November than last.

**Nonag Industry Employment, 1998-2003**



**Unemployment Rates by Month, 2001-2003**



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

Preliminary Quarterly Benchmark: December 2002

NAICS INDUSTRY TITLE	Prelim Sep-03	Revised Aug-03	Revised Sep-02	Change		
				Aug-03 Sep-03	Sep-02 Sep-03	Sep-02 Sep-03 %
<b>TOTAL NONFARM 1/</b>	<b>77,200</b>	<b>75,200</b>	<b>76,600</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>0.8%</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>61,200</b>	<b>59,600</b>	<b>60,700</b>	<b>1,600</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>0.8%</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>14,400</b>	<b>13,600</b>	<b>14,300</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>0.7%</b>
<b>NAT. RESOURCES, MINING and CONSTRUCTION</b>	<b>3,500</b>	<b>3,500</b>	<b>3,400</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2.9%</b>
<b>MANUFACTURING</b>	<b>10,900</b>	<b>10,100</b>	<b>10,900</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
Durable Goods	4,200	4,400	4,400	-200	-200	-4.5%
Non-Durable Goods	6,700	5,700	6,500	1,000	200	3.1%
<b>SERVICES PROVIDING</b>	<b>62,800</b>	<b>61,600</b>	<b>62,300</b>	<b>1,200</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>0.8%</b>
<b>WHOLESALE TRADE</b>	<b>4,100</b>	<b>3,700</b>	<b>4,200</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>-2.4%</b>
<b>RETAIL TRADE</b>	<b>9,800</b>	<b>9,900</b>	<b>9,500</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>3.2%</b>
<b>TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING &amp; UTILITIES</b>	<b>3,100</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>3,300</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>-200</b>	<b>-6.1%</b>
<b>INFORMATION</b>	<b>1,300</b>	<b>1,400</b>	<b>1,300</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>2,700</b>	<b>2,700</b>	<b>2,600</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>3.8%</b>
<b>ALL OTHER SERVICES</b>	<b>23,100</b>	<b>23,200</b>	<b>23,100</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
Professional and Business Services	4,800	4,800	4,700	0	100	2.1%
Health Services and Social Assistance	10,900	10,900	10,700	0	200	1.9%
Accommodation and Food Services	5,600	5,700	5,500	-100	100	1.8%
<b>GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>16,100</b>	<b>15,700</b>	<b>15,900</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>1.3%</b>
Federal Government	1,300	1,300	1,400	0	-100	-7.1%
State Government	2,700	2,700	2,700	0	0	0.0%
Local Government	12,100	11,600	11,800	500	300	2.5%
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. Prepared by the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch using a quarterly benchmark process. This process used the most recent quarter from the Unemployment Insurance Tax Report (currently the fourth quarter 2002) and estimates employment from that point to present.

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**Between September 2002 and September 2003**, Yakima County's unemployment rate rose 0.4 percent of one point, while Washington's edged upward 0.3 percent of a point. Although both the state and the county saw over-the-year increases in the numbers of people unemployed and in unemployment rates, the underlying dynamics of the respective labor forces differ. Across Washington, the number of employed residents fell since September 2002, indicating that some Washingtonians left the state to seek work. Conversely, the number of employed Yakima County residents grew by 3,000, albeit not as quickly as the number of unemployed residents. The good news is that more residents were working this September than last. The bad news is that a slow statewide economy is forcing more people who commute to work outside Yakima County onto the unemployment rolls.

# 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:

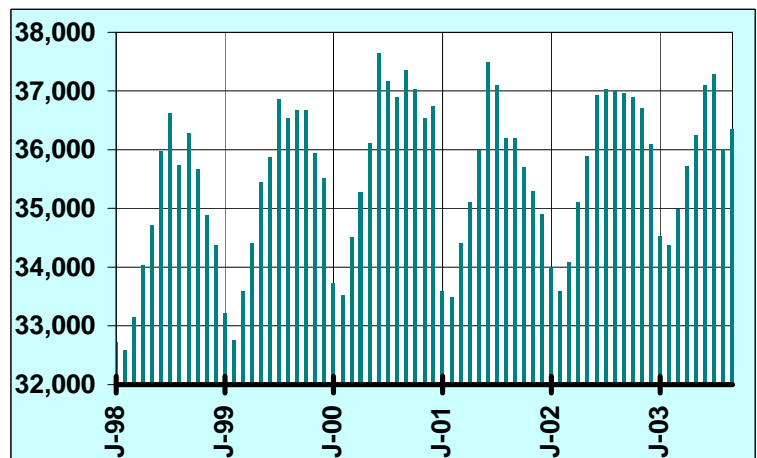
**Total nonagricultural employment** in Chelan and Douglas counties (also called the Wenatchee Labor Market Area or LMA) expanded by 350 jobs for a 1.6 percent increase of payrolls over the month of September 2003, or 36,360 jobs. Wholesale Trade businesses, primarily fresh fruit packinghouses, took on 260 workers as this year's apple crop began. Retail Trade rose by 180. Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities employment also advanced over the month, primarily due to agriculturally related hiring at local trucking firms.

**Over-the-year rates** of change in Washington's nonagricultural employment show that, although job growth was positive during the first two quarters of 2003, it stagnated in the third quarter. This September there were 0.3 percent fewer jobs across Washington than in September 2002, the largest over-the-year decline since October 2002. Over-the-year rates of change have not exceeded 0.6 percent since February 2003, and job growth rates actually slipped backward during the third quarter of this year.

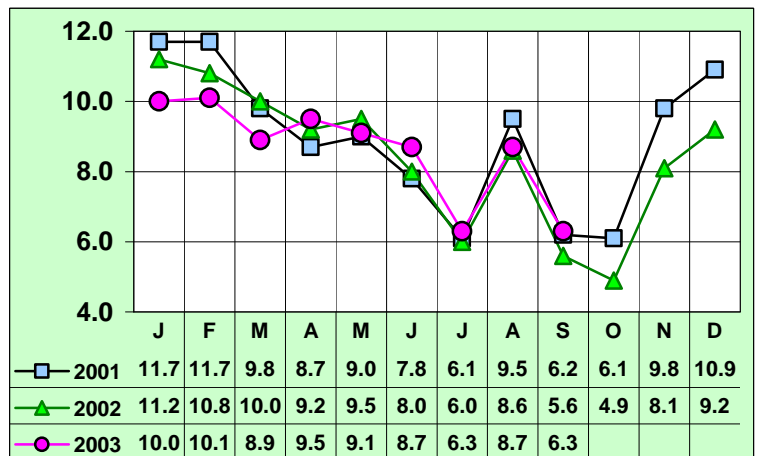
**When one compares** over-the-year job growth rates in the Wenatchee LMA from August and September 2003 with corresponding months in 2002, it appears that the local economy is running out of steam. The job growth pace in this two-county area slipped 1.4 percent in August and declined 1.6 percent in September. Local job growth rates were much healthier in the fourth quarter of 2002, and even during the first two quarters of this year, than during the most recent quarter. Total nonagricultural employment in the LMA netted 610 fewer jobs this September than in the corresponding month last year. Wholesale Trade (i.e., fresh fruit packinghouses) and Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities (i.e. trucking companies) have been particularly hard hit. Washington's apple harvest this year was smaller than the 2002 crop, which yielded 88.8 million 42-pound fresh-packed boxes. According to an article in the November 7th edition of *The Wenatchee World*, while the 2003 harvest is estimated to have produced only 75.5 million fresh-packed boxes.

**One of the few** bright spots in the local labor market occurred in Construction, Natural Resources, and Mining, which provided approximately 370 more positions in September 2003 than in September 2002.

**Nonag Industry Employment, 1998-2003**



**Unemployment Rates by Month, 2001-2003**



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

Preliminary Quarterly Benchmark: December 2002

NAICS INDUSTRY TITLE	Prelim Sep-03	Revised Aug-03	Revised Sep-02	Change		
				Aug-03 Sep-03	Sep-02 Sep-03	Sep-02 Sep-03 %
<b>TOTAL NONFARM 1/</b>	<b>36,360</b>	<b>36,010</b>	<b>36,970</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>-610</b>	<b>-1.6%</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>28,400</b>	<b>28,010</b>	<b>28,830</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>-430</b>	<b>-1.5%</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>5,420</b>	<b>5,410</b>	<b>5,300</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>2.3%</b>
<b>NAT. RESOURCES, MINING and CONSTRUCTION</b>	<b>3,380</b>	<b>3,450</b>	<b>3,010</b>	<b>-70</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>12.3%</b>
<b>MANUFACTURING</b>	<b>2,050</b>	<b>1,960</b>	<b>2,290</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>-240</b>	<b>-10.5%</b>
Durable Goods	1,270	1,240	1,480	30	-210	-14.2%
Non-Durable Goods	780	720	810	60	-30	-3.7%
<b>SERVICES PROVIDING</b>	<b>30,930</b>	<b>30,600</b>	<b>31,670</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>-740</b>	<b>-2.3%</b>
<b>WHOLESALE TRADE</b>	<b>1,480</b>	<b>1,220</b>	<b>1,820</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>-340</b>	<b>-18.7%</b>
<b>RETAIL TRADE</b>	<b>5,360</b>	<b>5,180</b>	<b>5,530</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>-170</b>	<b>-3.1%</b>
<b>TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING &amp; UTILITIES</b>	<b>1,110</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>1,280</b>	<b>1,030</b>	<b>-170</b>	<b>-13.3%</b>
<b>INFORMATION and FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>2,130</b>	<b>2,170</b>	<b>2,100</b>	<b>-40</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1.4%</b>
<b>ALL OTHER SERVICES</b>	<b>12,900</b>	<b>13,050</b>	<b>12,820</b>	<b>-150</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>0.6%</b>
Health Services and Social Assistance	4,930	<b>4,840</b>	<b>4,840</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>1.9%</b>
Accommodation and Food Services	4,160	4,320	4,180	-160	-20	-0.5%
<b>GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>7,950</b>	<b>8,010</b>	<b>8,130</b>	<b>-60</b>	<b>-180</b>	<b>-2.2%</b>
Federal Government	1,010	1,020	1,100	-10	-90	-8.2%
State Government	1,150	1,210	1,200	-60	-50	-4.2%
Local Government	5,790	5,780	5,840	10	-50	-0.9%
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. Prepared by the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch using a quarterly benchmark process. This process used the most recent quarter from the Unemployment Insurance Tax Report (currently the fourth quarter 2002) and estimates employment from that point to present.

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**The unemployment rate** in Chelan and Douglas Counties rose from 5.6 percent in September 2002 to the September 2003 reading of 6.3 percent. Approximately 330 more local residents were unemployed this September than last, while the number of employed residents in the labor force declined by 2,330. This equates to a 4.2 percent drop in labor force employment (by place of residence), versus a 1.6-percent dip in nonagricultural employment (by place of work). This likely reflects the fact that a sluggish statewide economy is doubly affecting residents who commute to jobs outside the LMA.

# 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:

*Say Goodbye for the Summer...*

**Highlights:** A good manufacturing base, three colleges, three major government institutions, a burgeoning wine and tourist industry have all boded well for the Walla Walla economy: an over-the-year nonfarm employment growth of 2.5 percent, and the second lowest unemployment rate in the state during September.

**Manufacturing:** Job totals were down slightly over the month, but up by 3.6 percent when compared to September of last year.

**Trade Employment:** Total employment was down a trace, due to some seasonal reduction in food packing, but up over the year in both Wholesale and Retail Trades.

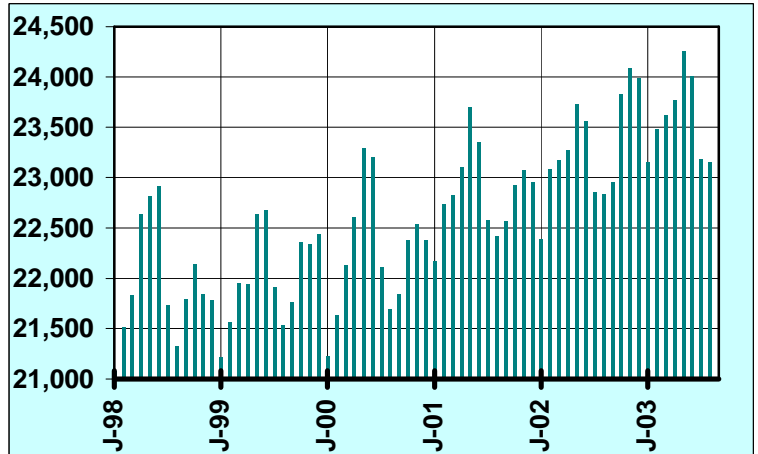
**Services:** Employment was up strongly over the month, due to 280 more workers in private education, as the two large colleges gear up for the new academic year. Much of the over the year growth was split between educational services and medical.

**Government:** Seasonal gains in public education and municipal government pushed this sector's employment from 4,840 to 5,100. Most of the gain in public sector employment over the past twelve months has been in education.

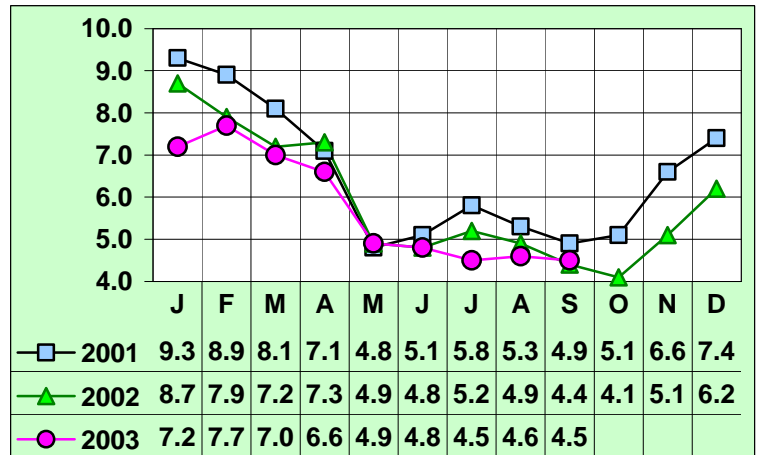
Recent headlines detailing plans to close the local V.A. hospital do not bode well for the Walla Walla economy. In the long-run, it may be offset by expansions within the Department of Correction, but bear in mind that the added state jobs would not pay nearly as well as the federal medical jobs.

**Down on the Farm:** Farm employment fell seasonally from 4,140 in August to 3,590 in September. This compared favorably with September of last year when the count was 3,380.

**Nonag Industry Employment, 1998-2003**



**Unemployment Rates by Month, 2001-2003**





## Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers Employed in Walla Walla County

Preliminary Quarterly Benchmark: December 2002

NAICS INDUSTRY TITLE	Prelim Sep-03	Revised Aug-03	Revised Sep-02	Change		
				Aug-03 Sep-03	Sep-02 Sep-03	Sep-02 Sep-03 %
<b>TOTAL NONFARM 1/</b>	<b>23,550</b>	<b>23,150</b>	<b>22,970</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>2.5%</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>18,450</b>	<b>18,310</b>	<b>18,040</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>2.3%</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>5,020</b>	<b>5,090</b>	<b>4,910</b>	<b>-70</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>2.2%</b>
<b>CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RESOURCES and MINING</b>	<b>970</b>	<b>1,010</b>	<b>1,010</b>	<b>-40</b>	<b>-40</b>	<b>-4.0%</b>
<b>MANUFACTURING</b>	<b>4,050</b>	<b>4,080</b>	<b>3,910</b>	<b>-30</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>3.6%</b>
Durable Goods	1,610	1,640	1,650	-30	-40	-2.4%
Wineries	260	230	250	30	10	4.0%
Food Manufacturing	2,180	2,210	2,010	-30	170	8.5%
<b>SERVICES PROVIDING</b>	<b>18,520</b>	<b>18,060</b>	<b>18,040</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>2.7%</b>
<b>TRADE, TRANSPORTATION and UTILITIES</b>	<b>3,810</b>	<b>3,830</b>	<b>3,710</b>	<b>-20</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2.7%</b>
Wholesale Trade	750	790	690	-40	60	8.7%
Retail Trade	2,540	2,520	2,490	20	50	2.0%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	470	470	490	0	-20	-4.1%
<b>INFORMATION and FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>1,340</b>	<b>1,340</b>	<b>1,340</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>SERVICES</b>	<b>8,280</b>	<b>8,050</b>	<b>8,080</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>2.5%</b>
Educational Services	1,620	1,340	1,530	280	90	5.9%
<b>GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>5,100</b>	<b>4,840</b>	<b>4,920</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>3.7%</b>
Federal Government	950	960	950	-10	0	0.0%
State and Local Government	4,150	3,880	3,970	270	180	4.5%
Educational Services	1,820	1,670	1,680	150	140	8.3%
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. Prepared by the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch using a quarterly benchmark process. This process used the most recent quarter from the Unemployment Insurance Tax Report (currently the fourth quarter 2002) and estimates employment from that point to present.

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# Washington State Labor Area Summary Cowlitz County

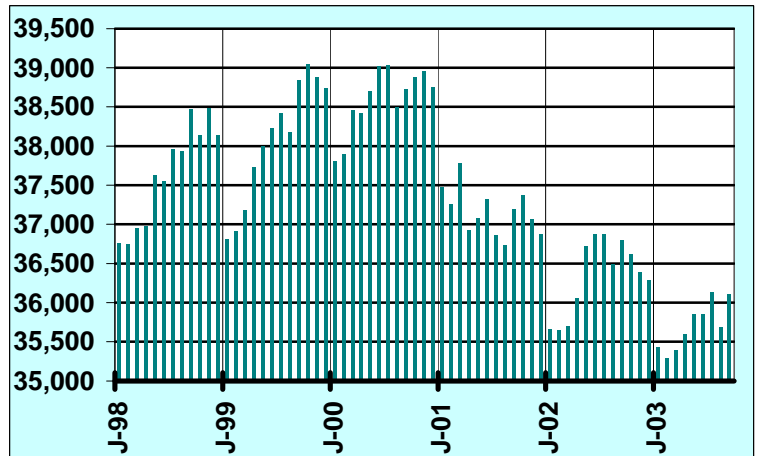
Prepared by the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch, Scott Bailey, *Regional Labor Economist*  
5411 East Mill Plain Boulevard, Vancouver, WA 98661 Phone: (360) 735-5043

## Highlights

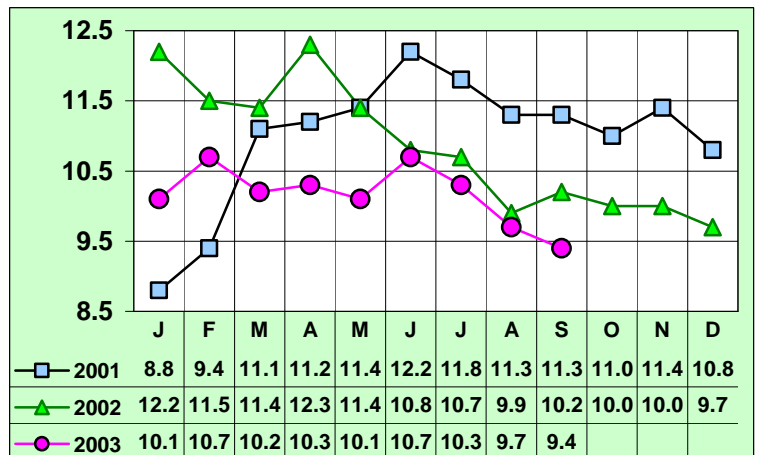
Cowlitz County's jobless rate fell three tenths of a point to 9.4 percent in September. This was almost a point better than a year ago, but the "improvement" has come about due to discouraged workers leaving the labor force.

Nonfarm employment rose by 430 jobs over the month due to seasonal hiring in education (+530) and Construction (+60). Most other sectors suffered small declines. Total nonfarm employment, at 36,110, is down 680 jobs or 1.8 percent since September 2002. Manufacturing, Accommodations & Food Services, and K-12 Education have all lost ground over the year.

### Nonag Industry Employment, 1998-2003



### Unemployment Rates by Month, 2001-2003





## Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers Employed in Cowlitz County

Preliminary Quarterly Benchmark: December 2002

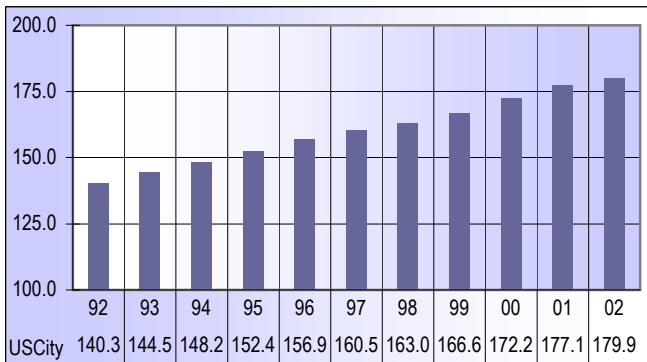
NAICS INDUSTRY TITLE	Prelim Sep-03	Revised Aug-03	Revised Sep-02	Change		
				Aug-03 Sep-03	Sep-02 Sep-03	Sep-02 Sep-03 %
<b>TOTAL NONFARM 1/</b>	<b>36,110</b>	<b>35,680</b>	<b>36,790</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>-680</b>	<b>-1.8%</b>
<b>CONSTRUCTION, MINING, UTIL. and LOGGING</b>	<b>3,530</b>	<b>3,470</b>	<b>3,550</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>-20</b>	<b>-0.6%</b>
Construction, Mining and Utilities	2,750	2,700	2,780	50	-30	-1.1%
Logging	780	770	770	10	10	1.3%
<b>MANUFACTURING</b>	<b>6,980</b>	<b>7,020</b>	<b>7,100</b>	<b>-40</b>	<b>-120</b>	<b>-1.7%</b>
Wood Product Manufacturing	1,160	1,150	1,200	10	-40	-3.3%
Paper Manufacturing	2,980	3,000	3,070	-20	-90	-2.9%
Other Manufacturing	2,840	2,870	2,830	-30	10	0.4%
<b>WHOLESALE TRADE</b>	<b>1,060</b>	<b>1,080</b>	<b>1,110</b>	<b>-20</b>	<b>-50</b>	<b>-4.5%</b>
<b>RETAIL TRADE</b>	<b>4,440</b>	<b>4,480</b>	<b>4,460</b>	<b>-40</b>	<b>-20</b>	<b>-0.4%</b>
Food and Beverage Stores	990	1,000	1,050	-10	-60	-5.7%
General Merchandise Stores	1,130	1,140	990	-10	140	14.1%
Other Retail	2,320	2,340	2,420	-20	-100	-4.1%
<b>TRANSPORTATION and WAREHOUSING</b>	<b>1,240</b>	<b>1,260</b>	<b>1,260</b>	<b>-20</b>	<b>-20</b>	<b>-1.6%</b>
<b>FINANCE and INSURANCE</b>	<b>990</b>	<b>960</b>	<b>920</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>7.6%</b>
<b>ADMIN., SUPPORT and WASTE MGMT.</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>950</b>	<b>950</b>	<b>-50</b>	<b>-50</b>	<b>-5.3%</b>
<b>HEALTH CARE and SOCIAL ASSISTANCE</b>	<b>4,640</b>	<b>4,700</b>	<b>4,730</b>	<b>-60</b>	<b>-90</b>	<b>-1.9%</b>
<b>ACCOMMODATION and FOOD SERVICES</b>	<b>2,930</b>	<b>2,930</b>	<b>3,110</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-180</b>	<b>-5.8%</b>
<b>OTHER SERVICES</b>	<b>3,830</b>	<b>3,790</b>	<b>3,930</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>-2.5%</b>
<b>GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>5,570</b>	<b>5,040</b>	<b>5,670</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>-1.8%</b>
Federal Government	270	280	270	-10	0	0.0%
State Government	1,250	1,030	1,210	220	40	3.3%
Local Government	4,050	3,730	4,190	320	-140	-3.3%
K-12 Education	2,470	2,080	2,480	390	-10	-0.4%
Other Local Government	1,580	1,650	1,710	-70	-130	-7.6%
Workers in Labor/Management Disputes	0	0	10	0	0	0
<b>Nonfarm Employment without logging</b>	<b>35,330</b>	<b>34,910</b>	<b>36,020</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>-690</b>	<b>-1.9%</b>

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 used the most recent quarter from the Unemployment Insurance Tax Report (currently the fourth quarter 2002) and estimates employment from that point to present.

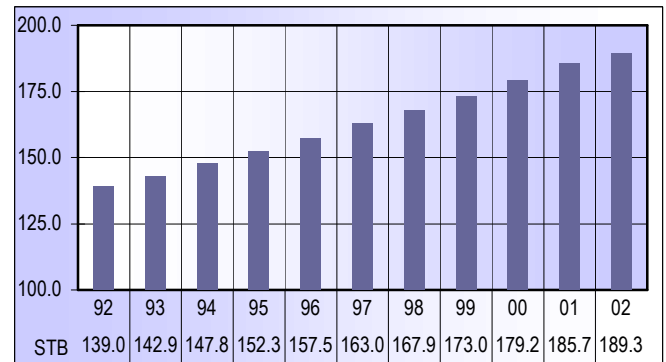
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# Consumer Price Indexes

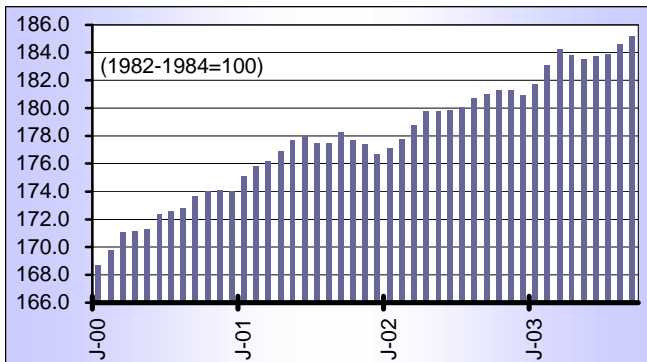
U.S. City Average 1992-2002



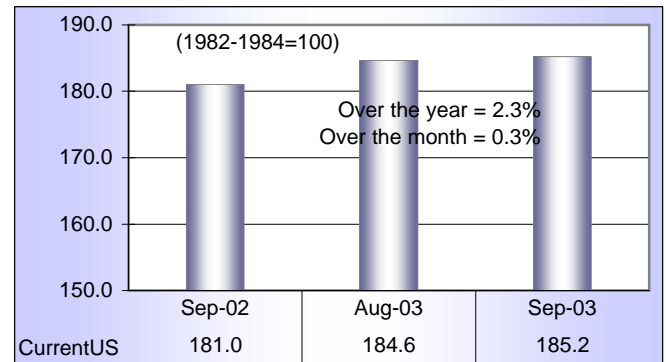
Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton Average 1992-2002



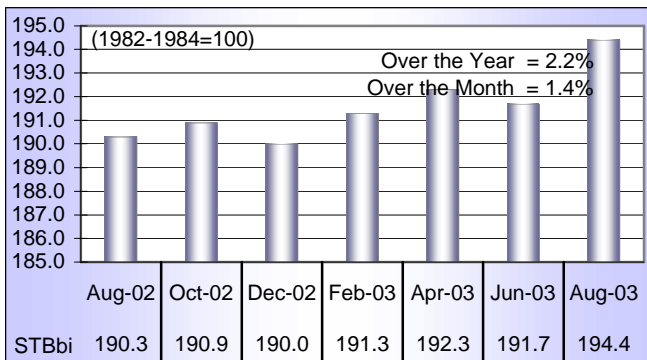
U.S. City Average 2000-2003



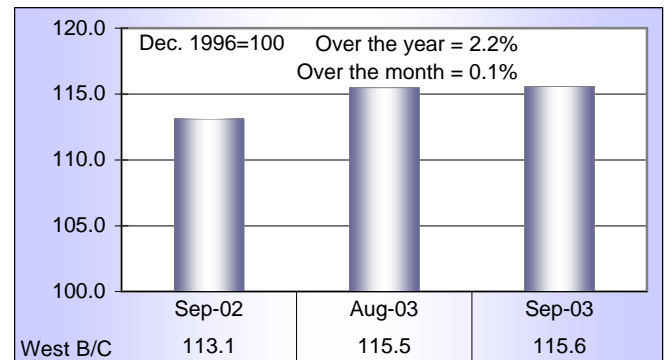
Current U.S. City Average



Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton (bi-monthly)



Current West B/C Average



**Note:** Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton is published bi-monthly on even months. Class "West-B/C" index covers less than 1,500,000 populations. Local area CPI indexes are by-products of the national CPI program. Each local index has a smaller sample size than the national index and, as a result, show greater volatility than the national index, but long-term trends are similar. **The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) urges the use of the national average CPI for use in escalator clauses.** The Consumer Price Index (for the above tables, Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers or CPI-U data) is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed listing 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. Data is prepared using a quarterly benchmark process, which uses the most recent quarter from the Unemployment Insurance tax reports (currently March 2003 unless otherwise stated), and estimates employment from that point until present. 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) 438-4800. Comments, suggestions and requests for information are also welcome at the editor's e-mail address: [mcamilon@esd.wa.gov](mailto:mcamilon@esd.wa.gov)

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Metropolitan area nonagricultural information is updated with the  
Commissioner's Press Release  
each month.

*Washington State Labor Area Summaries* are published monthly by the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch:

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**