

Quarterly Census of
Employment and Wages
Business Employment Dynamics
October to December 2017

Figure 1

Net change in jobs,
seasonally adjusted
U.S. and Washington state,
fourth quarter 1999 through
fourth quarter 2017.

Figure 2

Gross job gains and losses,
seasonally adjusted,
Washington state,
fourth quarter 1999 through
fourth quarter 2017.

Figure 3

Net change in job gains and
losses by industry sector,
seasonally adjusted,
United States,
fourth quarter 2017.

Figure 4

Net change in job gains and
losses by industry sector,
seasonally adjusted,
Washington state,
fourth quarter 2017.

Figure 5

Net change in jobs by industry
sector, seasonally adjusted,
Washington state,
fourth quarter 2016 and 2017.

**Workforce Information
and Technology Services**

August 2018



**Employment
Security
Department**
WASHINGTON STATE

**Washington State
Business Employment Dynamics
Fourth Quarter 2017**



In fourth quarter 2017, seasonally adjusted job gains in Washington's private sector totaled 188,287 while job losses from businesses closing or contracting totaled 160,099. The result of these changes was a net gain of 28,188 jobs during the fourth quarter. These numbers show the key changes in private sector employment also called Business Employment Dynamics (BED).

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Business Employment Dynamics data series highlights the forces driving labor market dynamics at the state and national levels. Job gains and losses at private business establishments are tracked showing employment changes due to establishment openings or closings versus adding or shedding jobs at existing firms. The most recent BED data cover events through fourth quarter 2017.

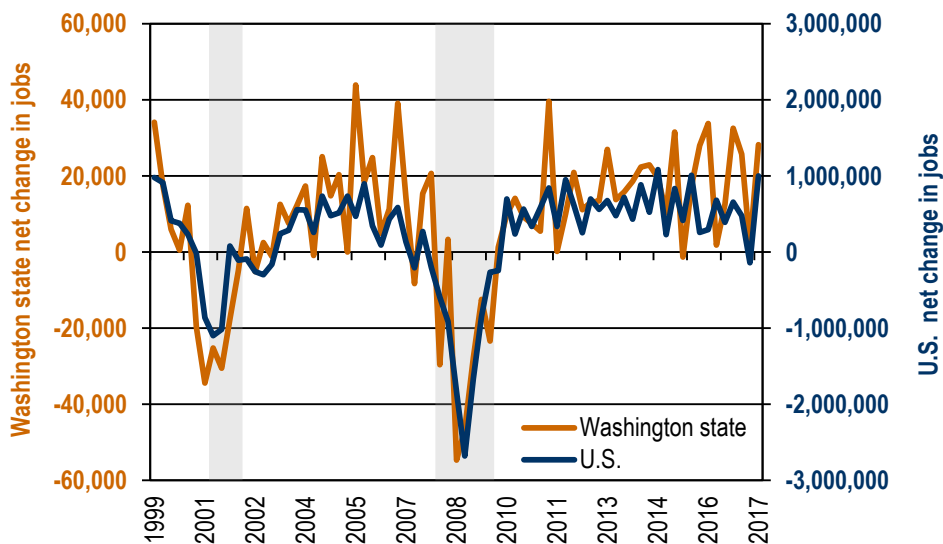
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Washington Relay Service: 711.

Nation and state resume job growth

Nationally, job losses exceeded job gains in 49 states for a net private sector employment gain of 999,000. The jobs gained during the fourth quarter offsets the 140,000 jobs lost during the previous quarter. Washington state has been adding jobs quarterly since third quarter 2015, when the state showed negative employment growth of 1,372.

Figure 1 depicts the changing business employment dynamic and compares Washington state to national trends. On a national and state basis, net job gains and losses are sensitive to the business cycle. During the 2001 recession, net job losses appeared very quickly. Net job growth resumed in 2002 and carried through until the most recent recession beginning in fourth quarter 2007. Job growth began to pick up in 2010 for the state and nation, although Washington experienced negative job growth in third quarter 2015 and the U.S. showed jobs lost in third quarter 2017.

Figure 1. Net change in jobs, seasonally adjusted
United States and Washington state, fourth quarter 1999 through fourth quarter 2017
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Business Employment Dynamics data series



Note: Shaded areas are U.S. recession periods.

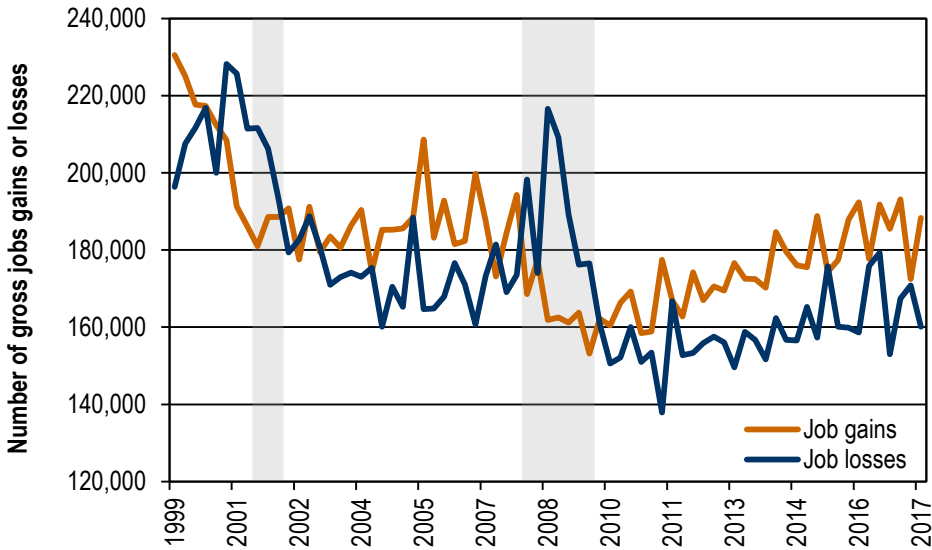
At the national level, gross job gains were 7.8 million at opening and expanding establishments. Closing and contracting establishments lost 6.8 million jobs. Gross job losses were 6.4 percent of private sector employment. Opening establishments provided 1.4 million jobs. Washington state gained 188,287 jobs from new and expanding private businesses and lost 160,099 jobs from businesses closing or contracting for a net gain of 28,188 jobs in fourth quarter 2017. This compares to a net gain of 1,624 jobs in third quarter 2017 and a net gain of 12,523 jobs in fourth quarter 2016.

More labor market information is available at: www.esd.wa.gov/labormarketinfo

For more on the Business Employment Dynamics data series, visit: www.bls.gov/bdm

Figure 2 shows the quarterly pattern of gross job gains and losses in Washington state.

Figure 2. Gross job gains and losses, seasonally adjusted
Washington state, fourth quarter 1999 through fourth quarter 2017
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Business Employment Dynamics data series



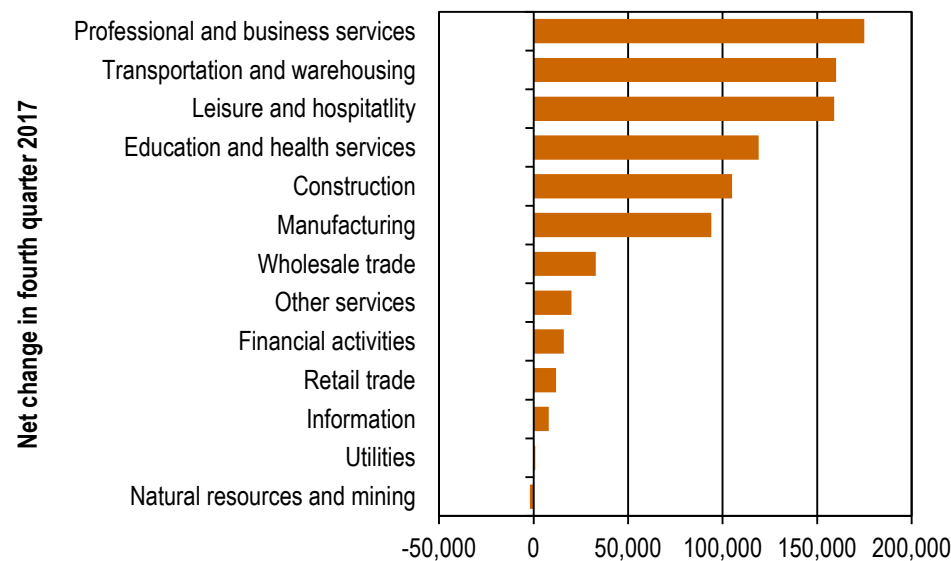
Gross job gains rose while gross job losses fell in fourth quarter 2017..

Note: Shaded areas are U.S. recession periods

Nationally, more industries gained jobs while fewer lost

The data in Figure 3 illustrate the net change in industry employment for the U.S. Total private sector employment rose by 999,000 in fourth quarter 2017. Service-providing industries had a seasonally adjusted net gain of 802,000 jobs. The goods-producing industries posted a net gain of 197,000 jobs. In fourth quarter 2017, twelve industry sectors reported job gains compared to four in third quarter 2017.

Figure 3. Net change in job gains and losses by industry sector, seasonally adjusted
United States, fourth quarter 2017
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Business Employment Dynamics data series



Professional and business services reported the most net gains while natural resources and mining was the only industry to report losses in fourth quarter 2017..

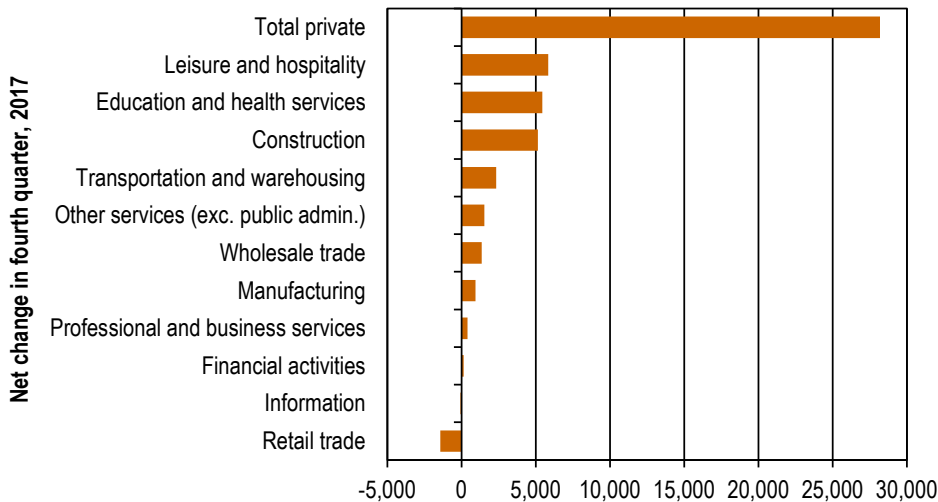
Washington state industry employment

Figure 4 shows net employment changes in Washington state industry sectors. Total private sector employment had a net increase in employment of 28,188. Nine industry sectors reported net job gains in fourth quarter 2017. The top three industry sectors showing job gains were leisure and hospitality with a gain of 5,840, followed by education and health services (5,435) and construction (5,142).

The two industries that experienced job losses were retail trade (1,425) and information (73).

Figure 4. Net change in job gains and losses by industry sector, seasonally adjusted Washington state, fourth quarter 2017

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Business Employment Dynamics data series



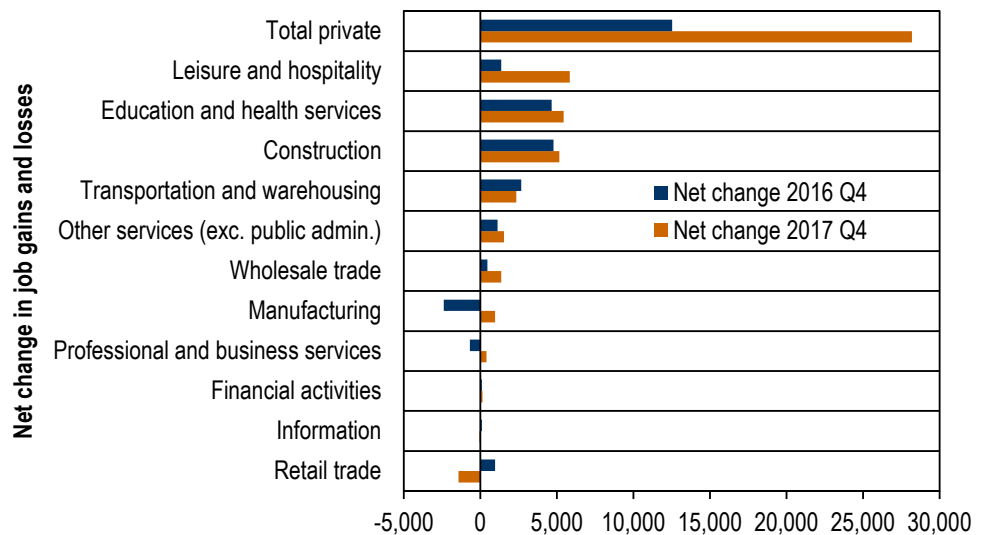
In Washington state, leisure and hospitality, education and health services, and construction had the most job gains in fourth quarter 2017.

Comparing fourth quarter 2017 to fourth quarter 2016 in Washington state (Figure 5):

- Eight of 11 private industry sectors had higher net gains in fourth quarter 2017 compared to fourth quarter 2016.
- Leisure and hospitality had the largest net gain from year to year with a gain of 5,840 jobs in fourth quarter 2017 compared with a gain of 1,359 in fourth quarter 2016.
- Retail trade had the largest net loss from year to year with a loss of 1,425 jobs in fourth quarter 2017 compared with a gain of 954 in fourth quarter 2016.

Figure 5. Net change in jobs by industry sector, seasonally adjusted Washington state, fourth quarter 2016 and 2017

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Business Employment Dynamics data series



Washington had more jobs gained in eight industries and fewer jobs gained in three industries in fourth quarter 2017 than a year ago.

Note: data for natural resources, mining and utilities are not disclosed in order to maintain employer confidentiality.

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Washington State Regional Labor Economist Reporting Areas



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