

Half-yearly job gains highest since 2000

Job growth continues to accelerate in the region. In the first six months of 2016, the region gained 32,800 jobs, with 3,600 new jobs added in June 2016. Jobs have grown at an average of 3.2% since June 2015. All four counties added jobs — King and Snohomish counties continue to be the major contributors to regional job growth.

The region gained 64,000 jobs between June 2015 and June 2016. The regional civilian labor force increased 2.1% since June 2015 and the unemployment rate in June 2016 remained at 5%, a slight reduction from 5.3% in January 2016.

Job growth varied by employment sectors

The services sector, which includes jobs from IT, business services and recreation and food services, continues to experience robust job growth, adding 3,900 more jobs in June 2016. The services sector gained about 34,000 jobs over the past year, 8,000 more than it did between June 2014 and June 2015. The construction sector grew at 7.7%, the fastest annual growth rate between June 2015 and June 2016, while the manufacturing sector experienced slight job declines.

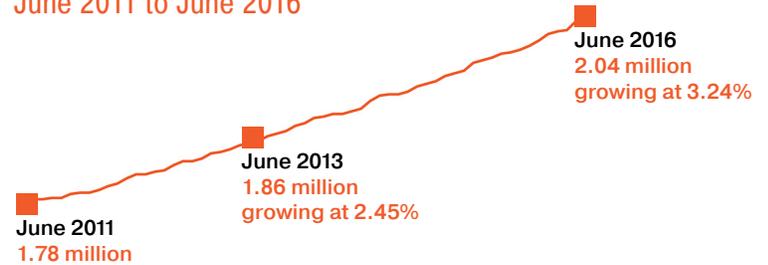
Job growth and VISION 2040

A sustainable economy supports a high quality of life for all people in the region. The multicounty planning policies in VISION 2040 emphasize boosting the region's businesses and employment market through job retention, growth and diversification. Total jobs in the region have now surpassed the 2 million mark and job growth is on pace to meet the region's forecast of nearly 3 million jobs by 2040.

Job data and other economic trends are helping to inform the development of a new regional economic strategy. A draft strategy is expected to be released for public comment in January. For more information, visit: <http://www.psrc.org/econdev/res/>.

Annual Wage and Salary Employment – Seasonally Adjusted

June 2011 to June 2016



Annual Change in Wage and Salary Employment – Seasonally Adjusted

June 2015 to June 2016



DATA SOURCE: Washington Employment Estimates (Seasonally Adjusted), WA Employment Security Department (ESD), July 26, 2016