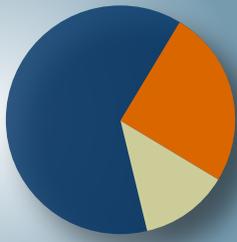


# Washington State Business Employment Dynamics Fourth Quarter 2014



Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages  
Business Employment Dynamics  
October to December 2014

**Figure 1**

Net change in jobs, seasonally adjusted, U.S. and Washington state, fourth quarter 1996 through fourth quarter 2014

**Figure 2**

Gross job gains and losses, seasonally adjusted, Washington state, fourth quarter 1996 through fourth quarter 2014

**Figure 3**

Net change in job gains and losses by industry, seasonally adjusted, United States, fourth quarter 2014

**Figure 4**

Net change in job gains and losses by industry, seasonally adjusted, Washington state, fourth quarter 2014

**Figure 5**

Net change in jobs by industry, seasonally adjusted, Washington state, fourth quarter 2013 and fourth quarter 2014

In fourth quarter 2014, seasonally adjusted job gains in Washington's private sector totaled 181,492 while job losses from businesses closing or contracting totaled 147,867. The result of these changes was a net gain of 33,625 jobs during the fourth quarter. These numbers show the key changes in private-sector employment also called Business Employment Dynamics (BED).

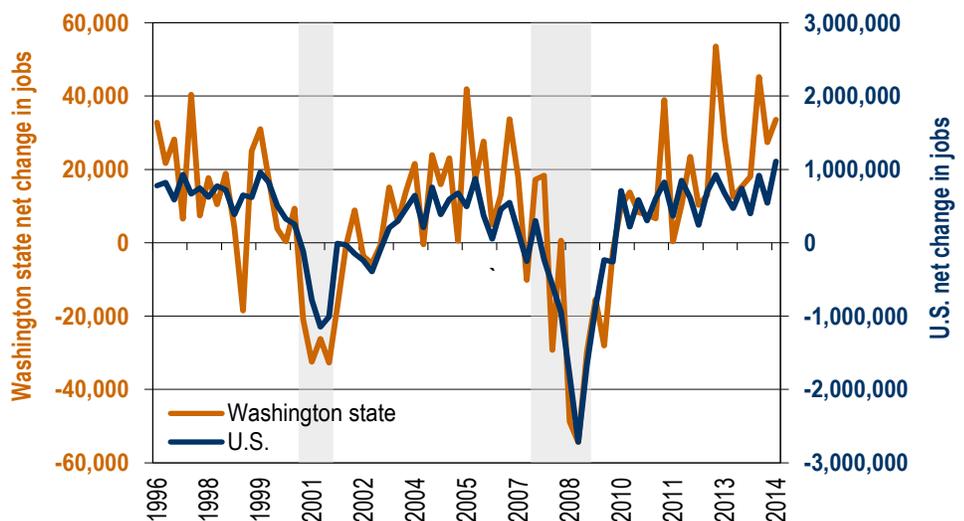
The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Business Employment Dynamics data series highlights the forces driving labor market dynamics at the state and national levels. Job gains and losses at private business establishments are tracked showing employment changes due to establishment openings or closings versus adding or shedding jobs at existing firms. The most recent BED data cover events through fourth quarter 2014.

## Both state and nation showed increased growth

Nationally, job gains exceeded job losses in 49 states for a net private-sector employment gain of 1,109,000. This marks the 19th consecutive quarter of employment growth both nationally and in Washington state since the recovery in employment began in first quarter 2010. Washington state showed a net employment growth of 33,625 in fourth quarter 2014.

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 recent recession beginning in fourth quarter 2007.

**Figure 1.** Net change in jobs, seasonally adjusted United States and Washington state, fourth quarter 1996 through fourth quarter 2014  
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Business Employment Dynamics data series



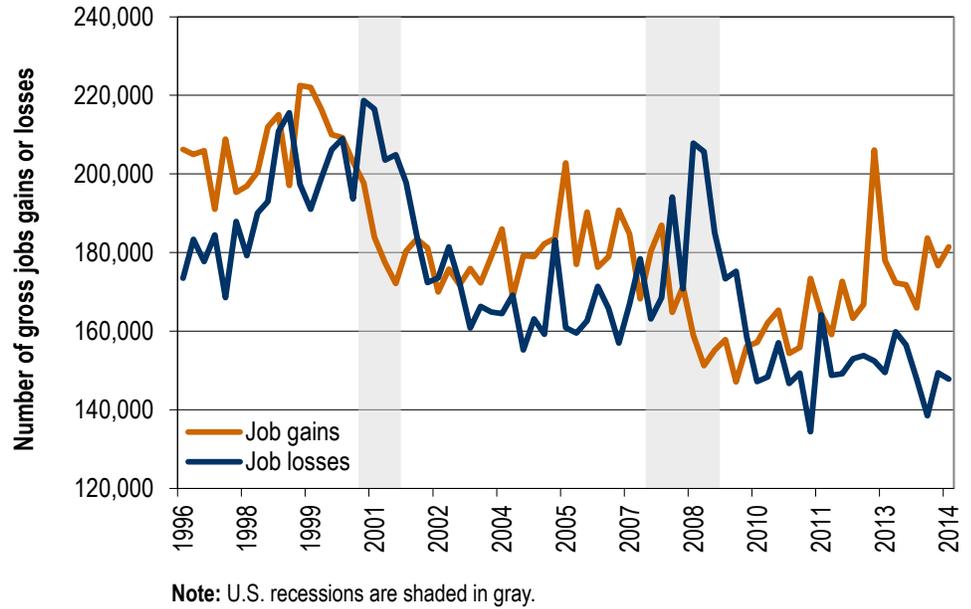
Note: U.S. recessions are shaded in gray.

Job growth in Washington and in the U.S. increased in fourth quarter 2014.

At the national level, gross job gains were 7.6 million at opening and expanding establishments. Closing and contracting establishments lost 6.5 million jobs. Gross job losses represented 5.6 percent of private-sector employment. Opening establishments gained 1.4 million jobs. Washington state gained 181,492 jobs from new and expanding private businesses and lost 147,867 jobs from businesses closing or contracting for a net gain of 33,625 jobs in fourth quarter 2014. This compares to a net gain of 27,323 jobs in third quarter 2014 and a net gain of 15,313 jobs in fourth quarter 2013.

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 1996 through fourth quarter 2014  
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Business Employment Dynamics data series

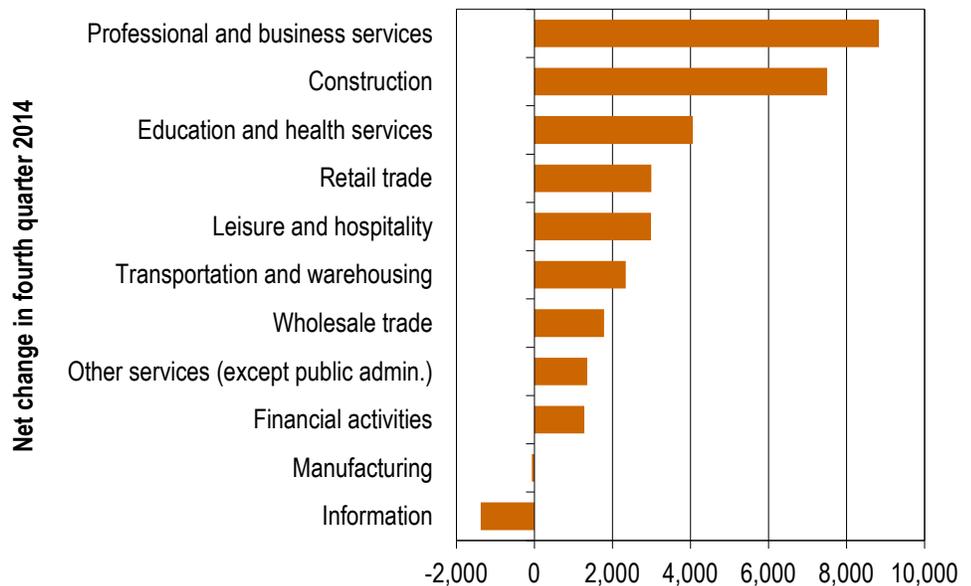


Gross job gains continue to outpace job losses during fourth quarter 2014.

### Nationally, one industry shows job losses

The data in Figure 3 illustrate the net change in industry employment for the U.S. Total private-sector employment grew by 1,109,000 in fourth quarter 2014. Service-providing industries had a seasonally adjusted net gain of 988,000 jobs. The goods-producing industries posted a net gain of 121,000 jobs. In fourth quarter 2014, 12 industry sectors reported job gains compared to 11 in third quarter 2014.

**Figure 3.** Net change in job gains and losses by industry, seasonally adjusted United States, fourth quarter 2014  
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Business Employment Dynamics data series



Professional and business services reported the most gains while natural resources and mining reported the only losses in fourth quarter 2014.

## Washington state industry employment

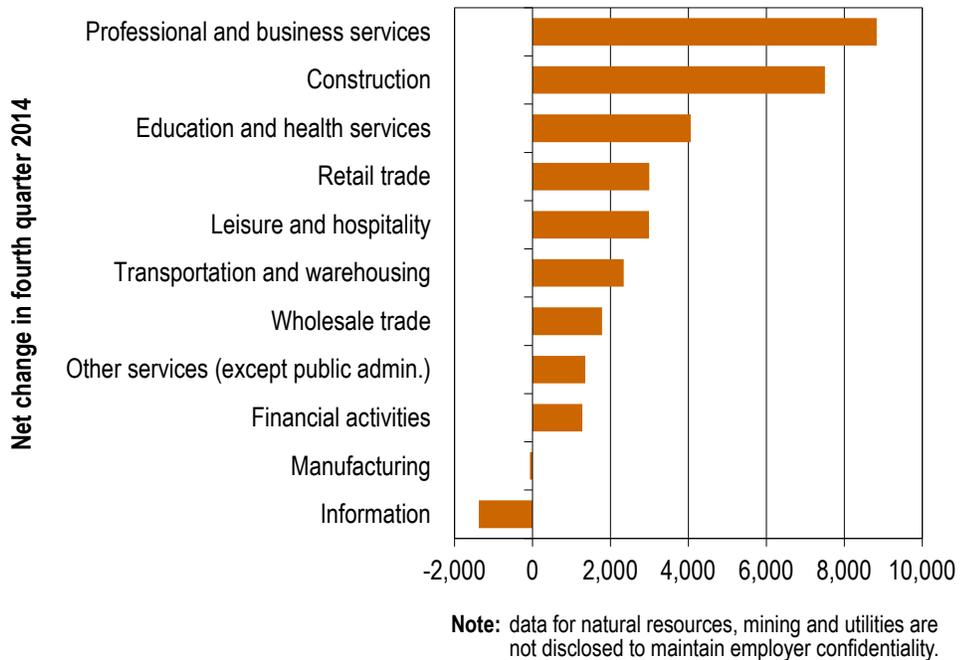
Figure 4 shows net employment changes in Washington state industry sectors. Total private-sector employment had a net increase in employment of 33,625. Nine industry sectors reported net job gains in fourth quarter 2014. The top three industry sectors in job gains were professional and business services, with a gain of 8,832, followed by construction (7,505) and education and health services (4,063).

Comparing fourth quarter 2013 to fourth quarter 2014 in Washington state (Figure 5):

- Seven industry sectors had higher net gains in fourth quarter 2014 compared to fourth quarter 2013. They were professional and business services, construction, leisure and hospitality, transportation and warehousing, wholesale trade, other services, and financial activities. Manufacturing had fewer net jobs lost in fourth quarter 2014 than in fourth quarter 2013.
- Three industries had lower net gains in fourth quarter 2014 compared to the same quarter a year earlier. These were other education and health services, retail trade and information. Information had a net loss of jobs in fourth quarter 2014 after having a net gain in jobs in fourth quarter 2013.
- Professional and business services had the largest net gain from year to year with a gain of 8,832 jobs in fourth quarter 2014 compared to 1,210 in fourth quarter 2013.

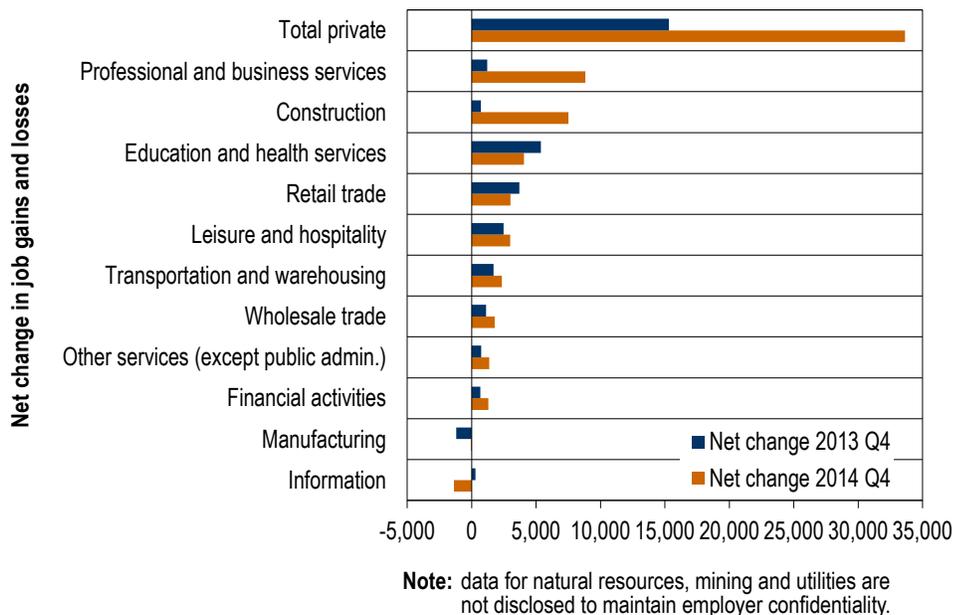
More information on the Business Employment Dynamics data series is available at [www.bls.gov/bdm/](http://www.bls.gov/bdm/).

**Figure 4.** Net change in job gains and losses by industry, seasonally adjusted Washington state, fourth quarter 2014  
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Business Employment Dynamics data series



*In Washington state, professional and business services, construction and education and health services had the most job gains in fourth quarter 2014.*

**Figure 5.** Net change in jobs by industry, seasonally adjusted Washington state, fourth quarter 2013 and fourth quarter 2014  
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Business Employment Dynamics data series



*Washington had more job gains in every industry in fourth quarter 2014 than a year ago, except for education and health services, retail trade and information.*

## BED report contacts

Paul Turek, *Economist*  
*BED Author*  
 pturek@esd.wa.gov  
 360-407-2306

Molly Webster,  
*QCEW Supervisor*  
 mwebster@esd.wa.gov  
 360-407-4569

Michael Moores  
*QCEW Publication*  
 mmoores@esd.wa.gov  
 360-407-4568

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### Statewide labor economist:

Paul Turek, Ph.D.  
 pturek@esd.wa.gov  
 360-407-2306

Ajsa Suljic  
 asuljic@esd.wa.gov  
 509-734-5928

Doug Tweedy  
 dtweedy@esd.wa.gov  
 509-532-3188

### Regional labor economists:

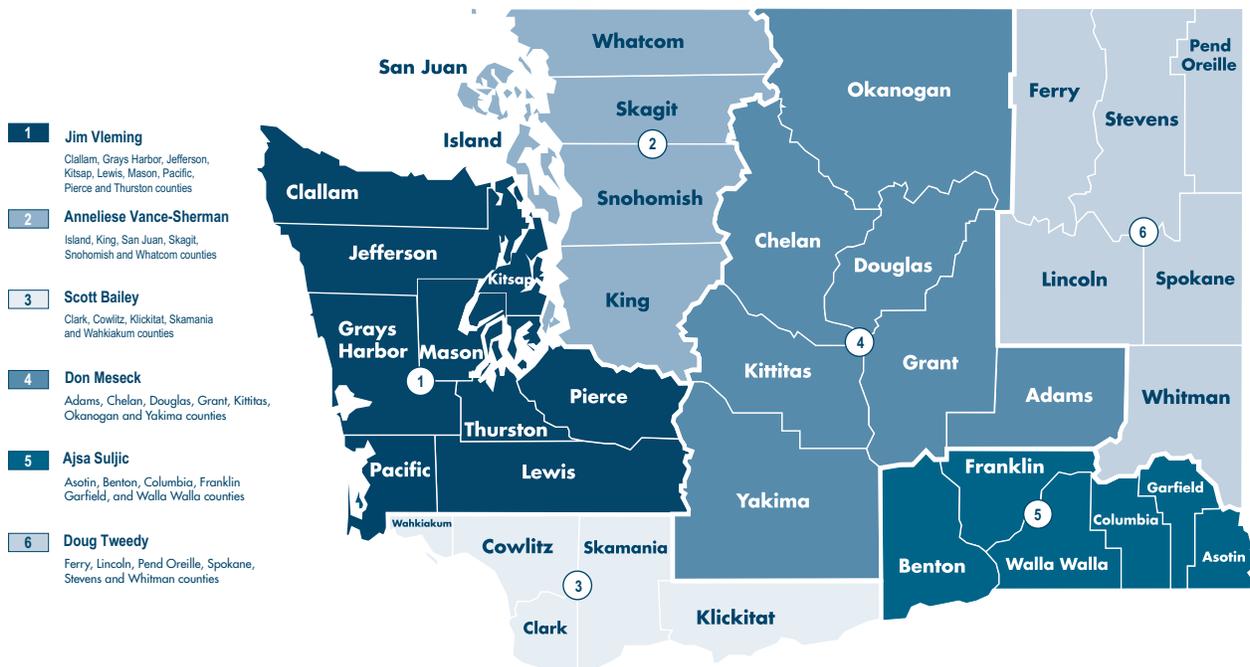
Scott Bailey  
 scott.bailey@esd.wa.gov  
 360-735-4995

Anneliese Vance-Sherman, Ph.D.  
 avancesherman@esd.wa.gov  
 425-258-6315

Don Meseck  
 dmeseck@esd.wa.gov  
 509-573-4564

Jim Vleming  
 jvleming@esd.wa.gov  
 360-570-6945

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