

# **“It’s All About Jobs”**

**Spokane County Economic Symposium**

**Doug Tweedy, Regional Labor Economist  
Labor Market and Economic Analysis**

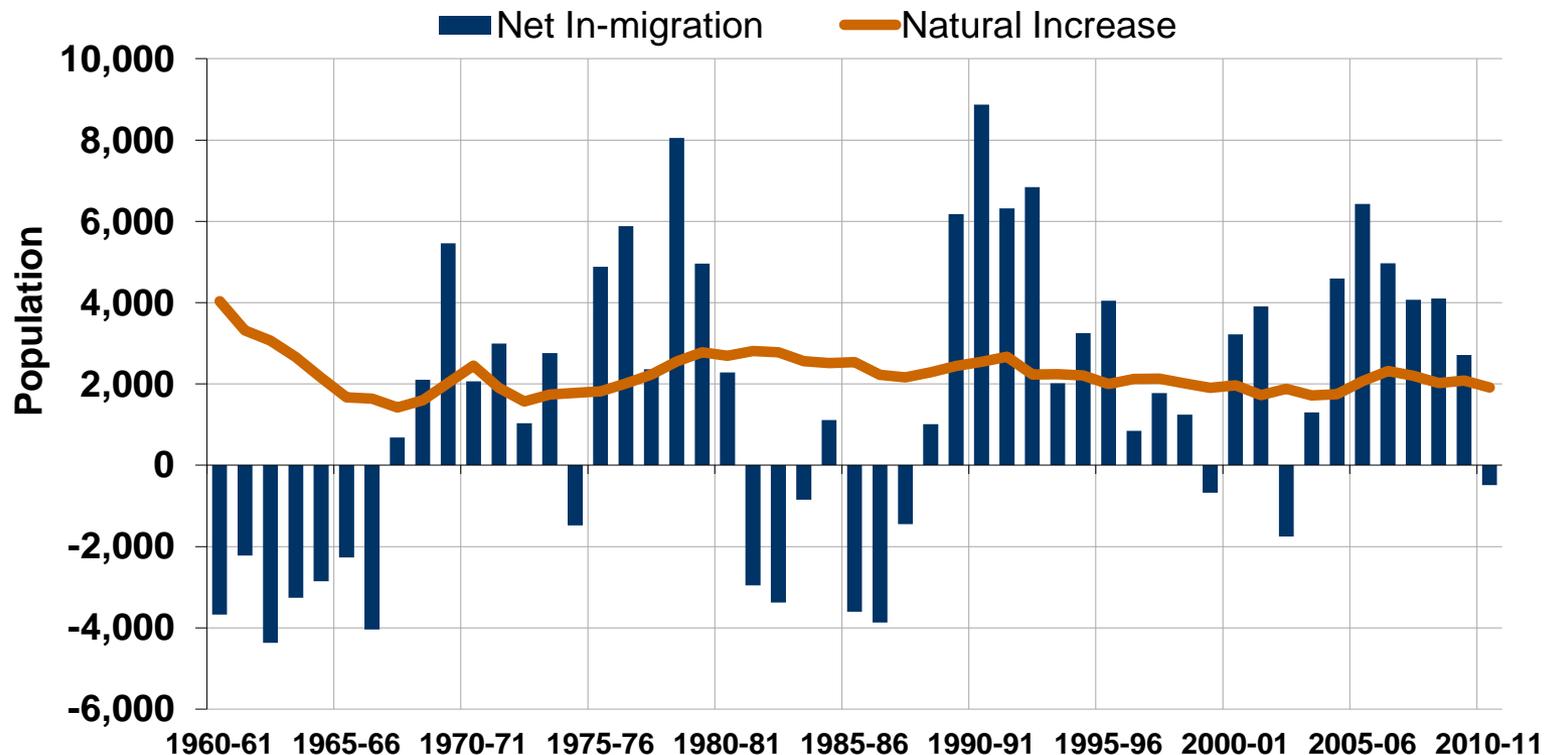
**May 18, 2012**



**Employment  
Security  
Department**  
WASHINGTON STATE

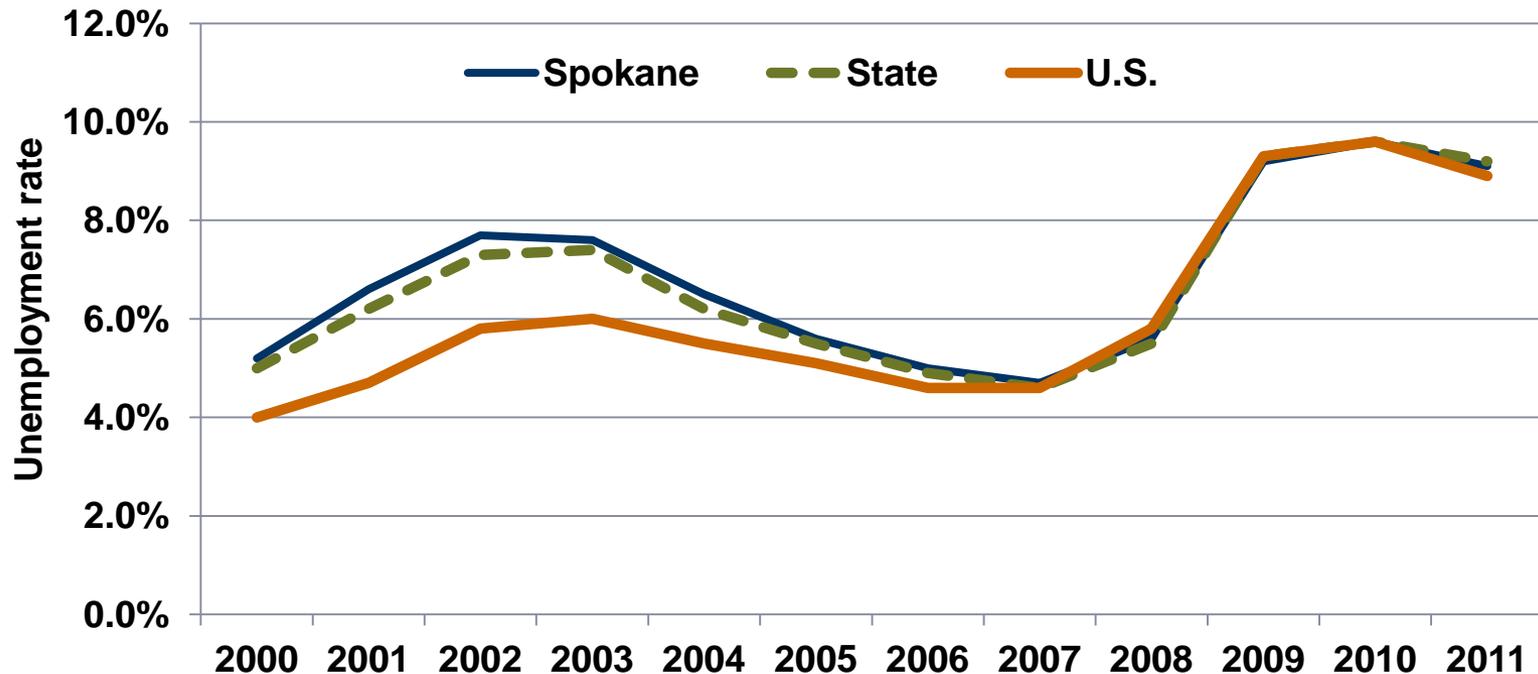
# Annual population change: Natural increase and net in-migration

## Spokane County

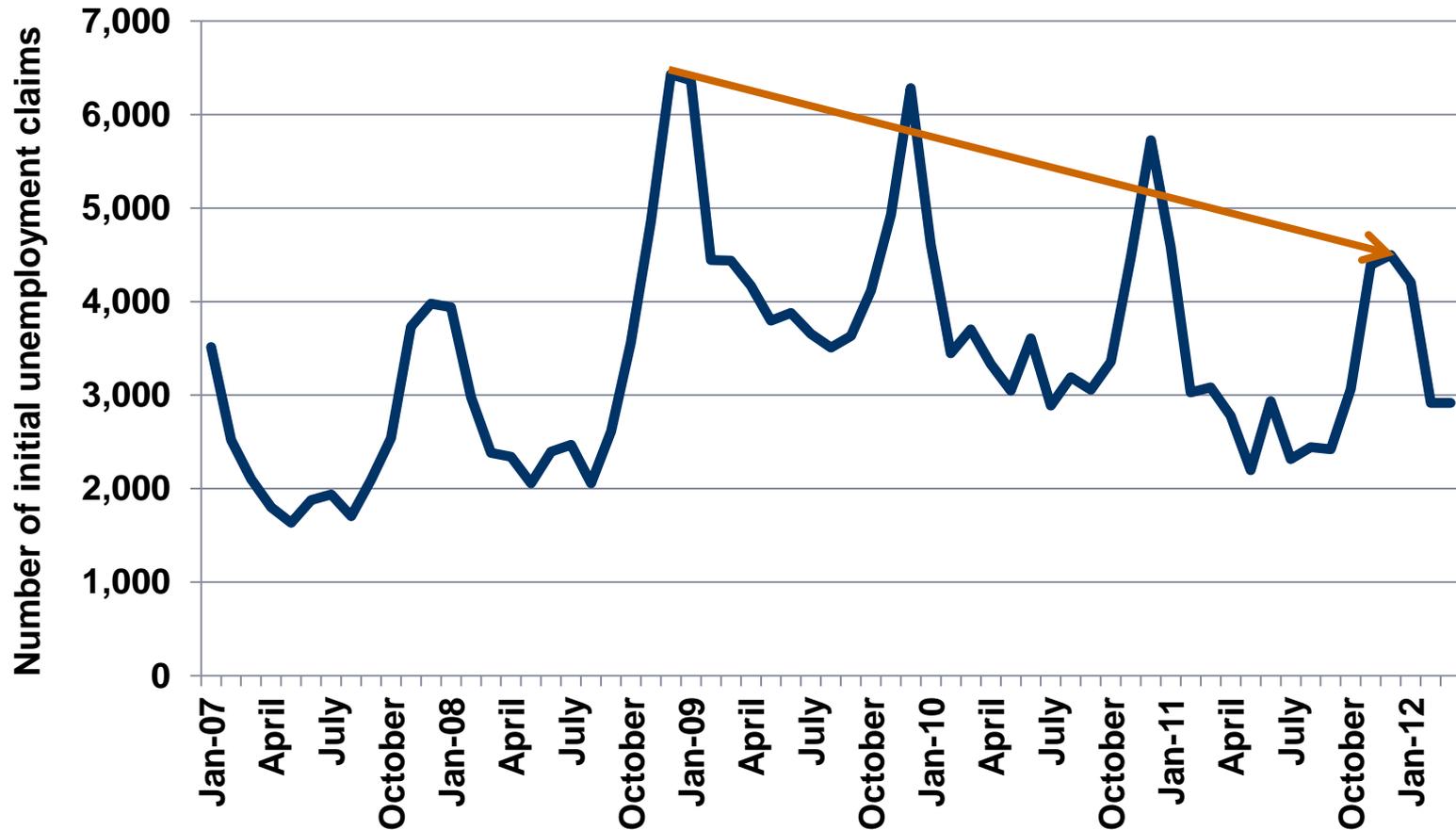


# Unemployment rate still high

## Annual unemployment rates: 2000 to 2011

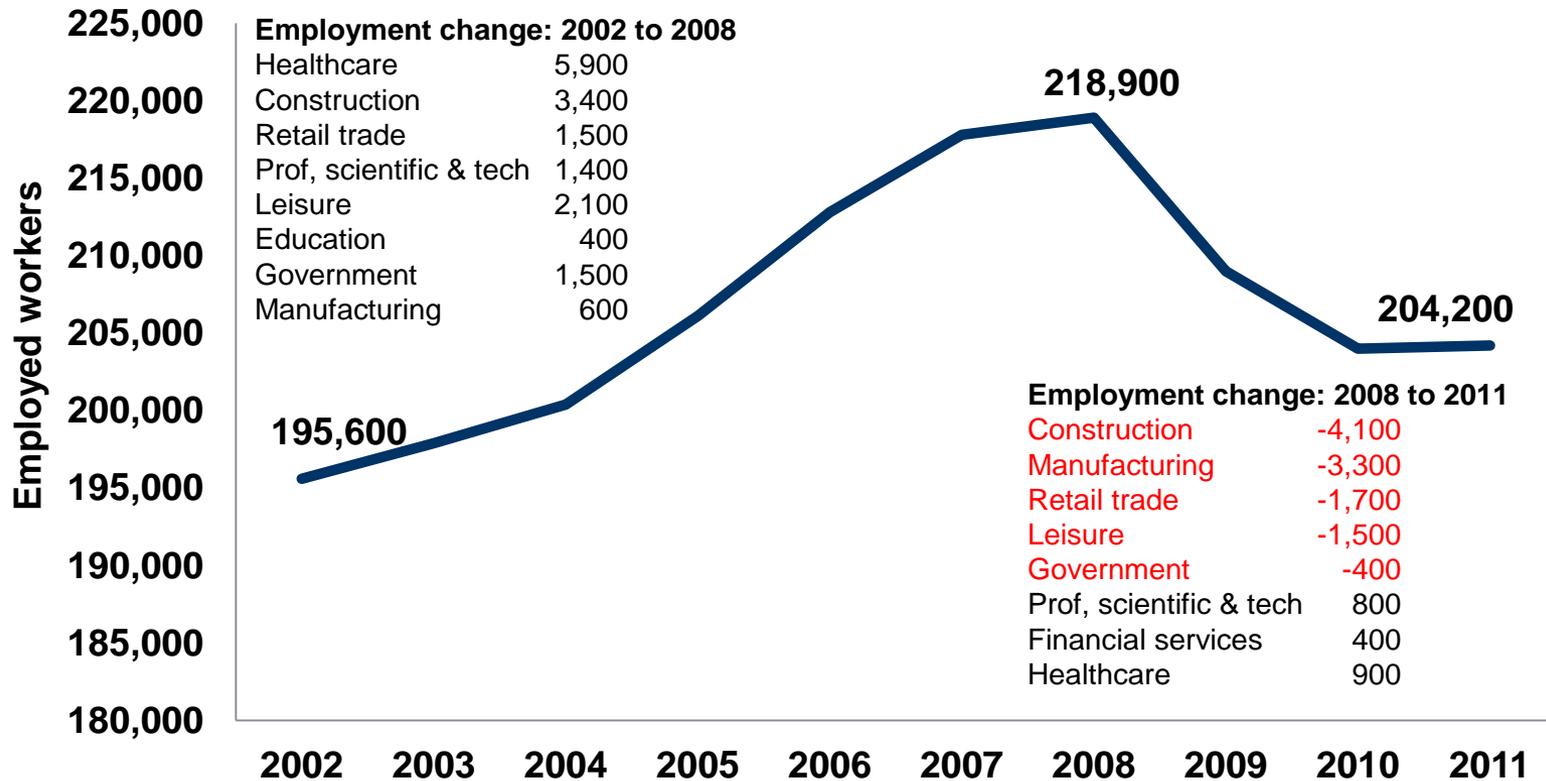


# Initial claims for unemployment benefits trending down in Spokane County



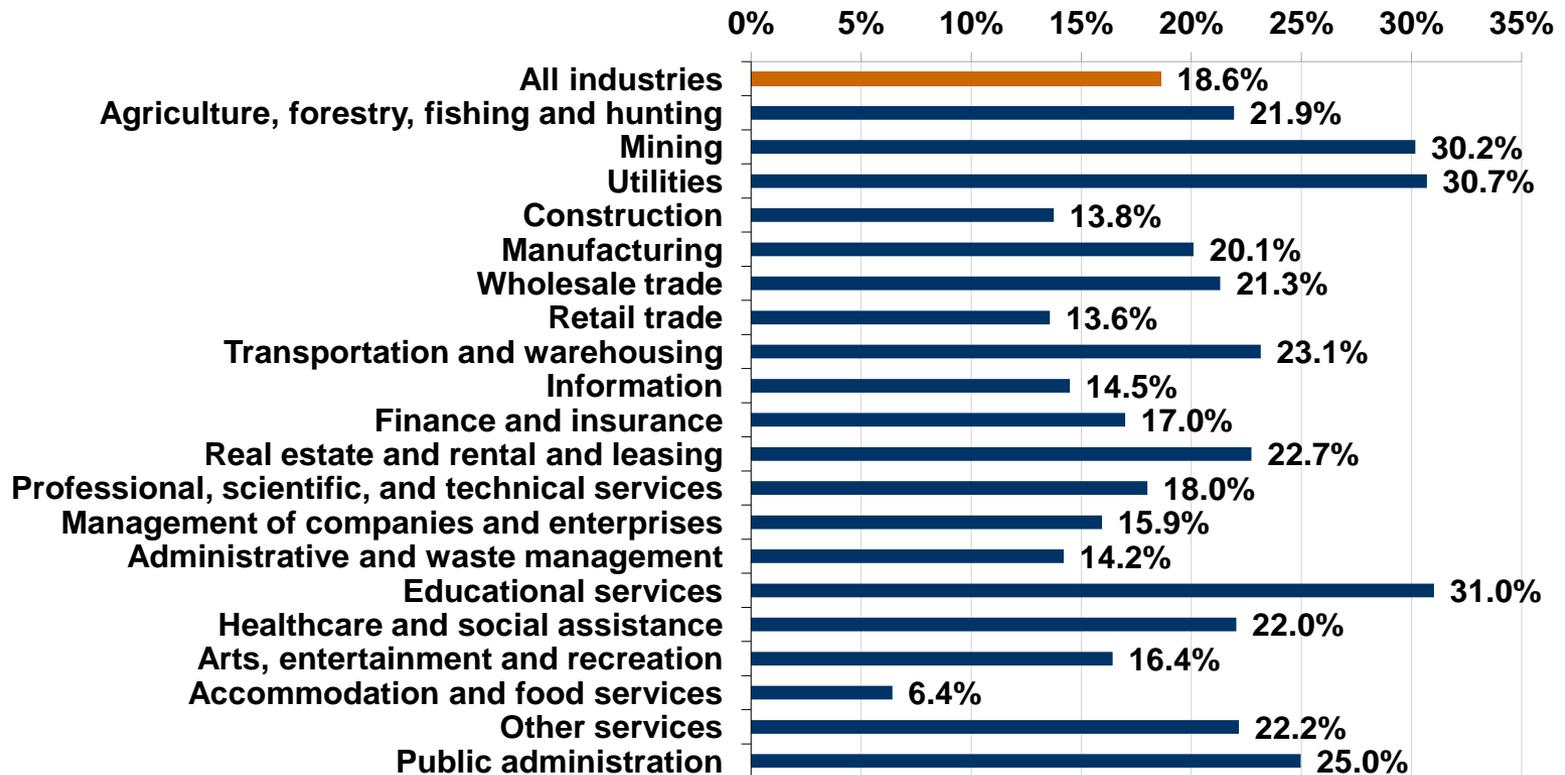
# Employment stabilized and people are finding jobs

## Nonfarm employment in Spokane MSA



# Percent of jobs held by workers age 55 and older

## Spokane County



# Wage mix changing for the better

## Average annual wage 2010

### Industries with job loss

Construction . . . . .	\$44,389
Retail trade . . . . .	\$27,076
Leisure/hospitality . .	\$15,738

### Industries with job gain

Prof, scientific & tech . . . . .	\$48,754
Financial services . . . . .	\$56,150
Manufacturing . . . . .	\$48,601
Healthcare . . . . .	\$42,499

**Subsectors are where the action is!**

# Targeting is the key



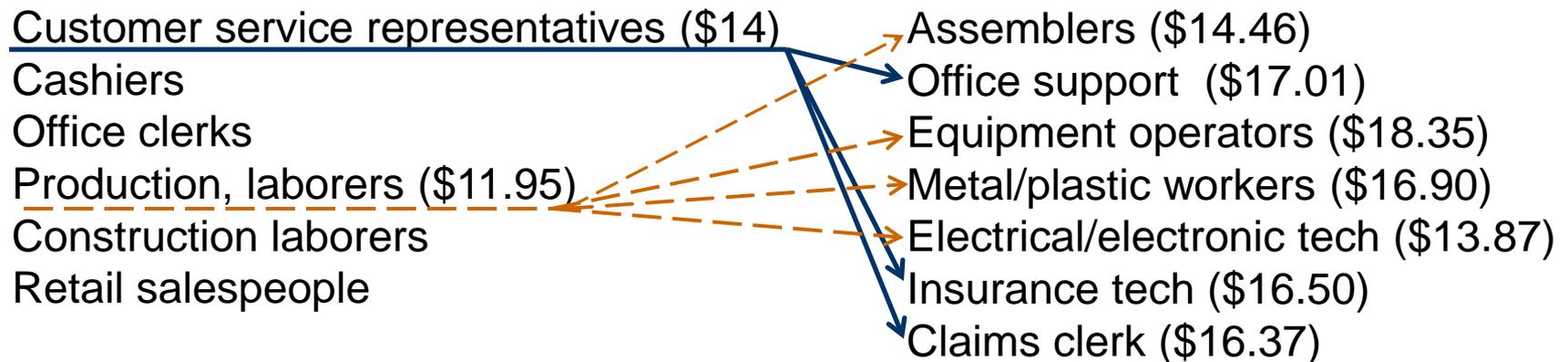
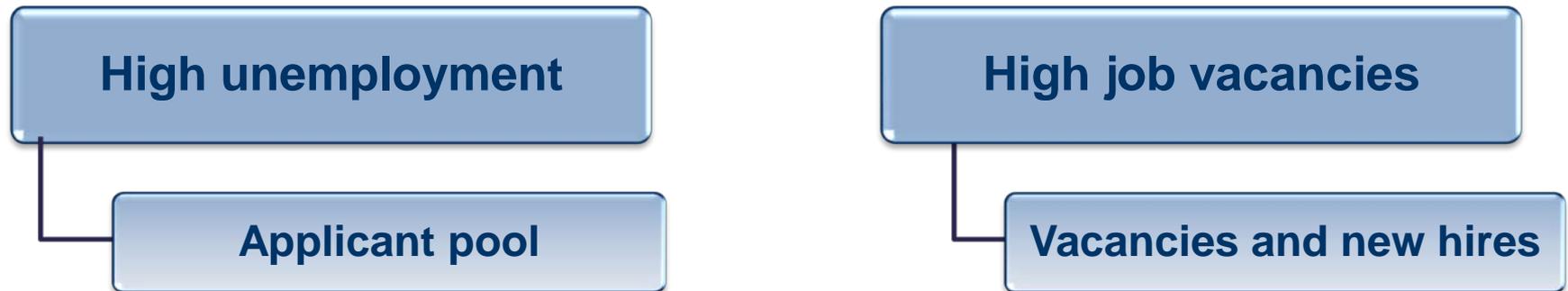
## Growth industries

- Professional, scientific & tech services
- Advanced manufacturing
- Finance/insurance
- Healthcare

## Demand jobs

- Assemblers
- Office support
- Equipment operators
- Metal/plastic workers
- Electrical/electronic tech
- Medical assistant
- Insurance tech
- Claims clerk

# Applicants and vacancies



# What to expect from the job market in 2012 and 2013

**Hiring needed as productivity peaks**

**Slow and steady growth**

**Recovery will continue to be uneven**

**Replacement employment  
accelerating due to retirements**

# Questions?