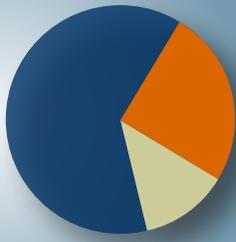


# Washington State Business Employment Dynamics Second Quarter 2015



Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages  
Business Employment Dynamics  
April to June 2015

**Figure 1**

Net change in jobs, seasonally adjusted, U.S. and Washington state, second quarter 1997 through second quarter 2015

**Figure 2**

Gross job gains and losses, seasonally adjusted, Washington state, second quarter 1997 through second quarter 2015

**Figure 3**

Net change in job gains and losses by industry, seasonally adjusted, United States, second quarter 2015

**Figure 4**

Net change in job gains and losses by industry, seasonally adjusted, Washington state, second quarter 2015

**Figure 5**

Net change in jobs by industry, seasonally adjusted, Washington state, second quarter 2014 and second quarter 2015

In second quarter 2015, seasonally adjusted job gains in Washington's private sector totaled 185,623 while job losses from businesses closing or contracting totaled 150,744. The result of these changes was a net gain of 34,879 jobs during the second quarter. These numbers show the key changes in private-sector employment also called Business Employment Dynamics (BED).

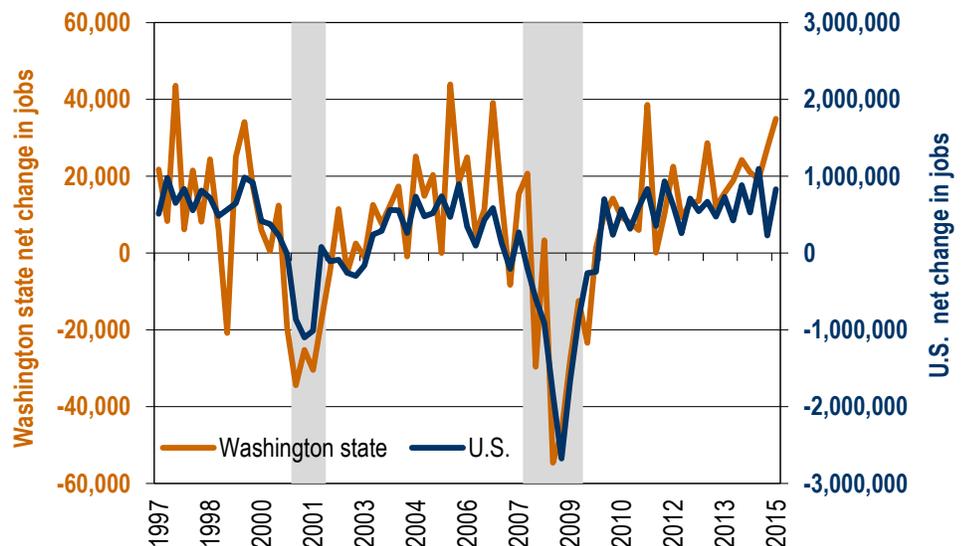
The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Business Employment Dynamics data series highlights the forces driving labor market dynamics at the state and national levels. Job gains and losses at private business establishments are tracked showing employment changes due to establishment openings or closings versus adding or shedding jobs at existing firms. The most recent BED data cover events through second quarter 2015.

## Both state and nation showed increased growth

Nationally, job gains exceeded job losses in 41 states for a net private-sector employment gain of 829,000. This marks the 21st consecutive quarter of employment growth nationally and 22<sup>nd</sup> in Washington state since the recovery in employment began in the aftermath of the nation's last recession. Washington state showed a net employment growth of 34,879 in second quarter 2015.

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, second quarter 1997 through second quarter 2015  
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Business Employment Dynamics data series



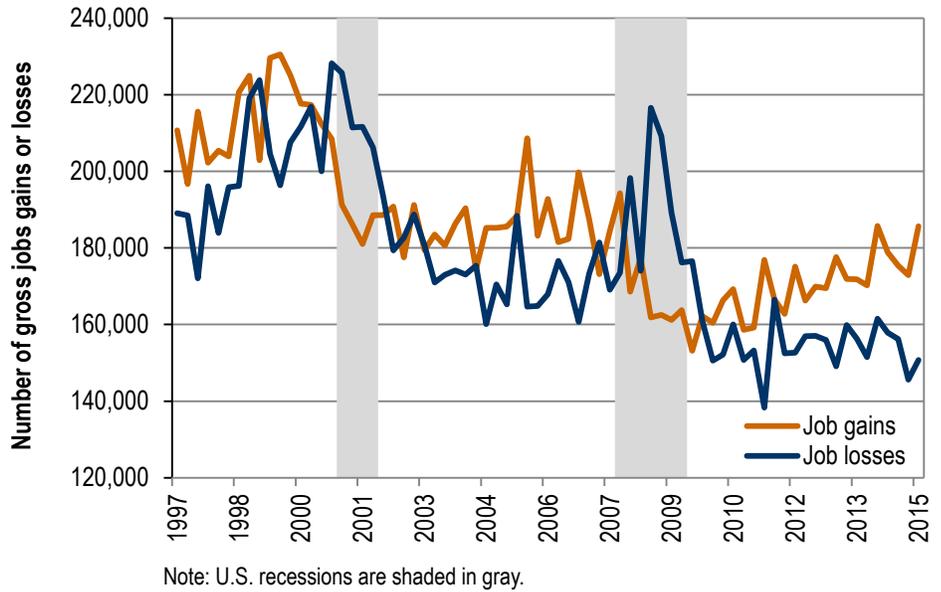
Note: U.S. recessions are shaded in gray.

*Job growth in Washington and in the U.S. increased in second quarter 2015.*

At the national level, gross job gains were 7.6 million at opening and expanding establishments. Closing and contracting establishments lost 6.7 million jobs. Gross job losses were 5.7 percent of private-sector employment. Opening establishments provided 1.3 million jobs. Washington state gained 185,623 jobs from new and expanding private businesses and lost 150,744 jobs from businesses closing or contracting for a net gain of 34,879 jobs in second quarter 2015. This compares to a net gain of 27,278 jobs in first quarter 2015 and a net gain of 24,203 jobs in second quarter 2014.

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, second quarter 1997 through second quarter 2015  
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Business Employment Dynamics data series

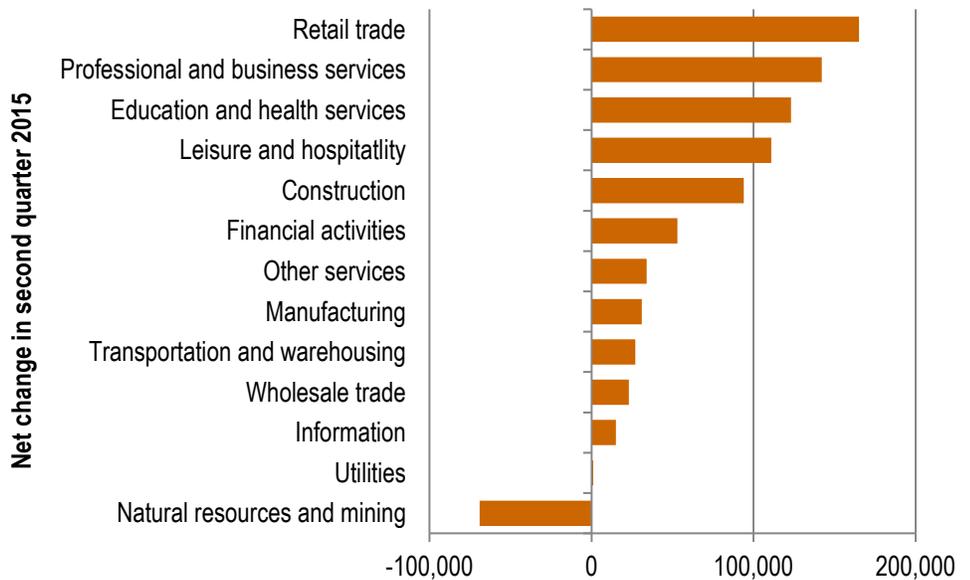


Gross job gains are now growing as job losses decline.

### Nationally, industry gains and losses were mixed

The data in Figure 3 illustrate the net change in industry employment for the U.S. Total private-sector employment grew by 829,000 in second quarter 2015. Service-providing industries had a seasonally adjusted net gain of 773,000 jobs. The goods-producing industries posted a net gain of 56,000 jobs. In second quarter 2015, twelve industry sectors reported job gains compared to eight in first quarter 2015.

**Figure 3.** Net change in job gains and losses by industry, seasonally adjusted  
United States, second quarter 2015  
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Business Employment Dynamics data series

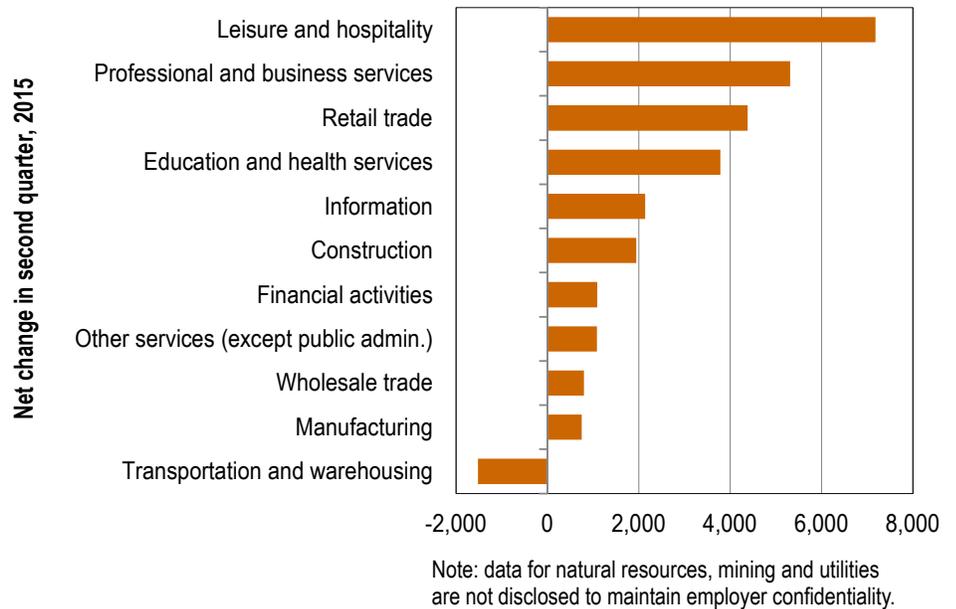


Retail trade reported the most net gains while natural resources and mining reported the most net losses in second quarter 2015.

## 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 34,879. Ten industry sectors reported net job gains in second quarter 2015. Transportation and warehousing was the only industry to report job losses. The top three industry sectors in job gains were leisure and hospitality, with a gain of 7,181, followed by professional and business services (5,313) and retail trade (4,387).

**Figure 4.** Net change in job gains and losses by industry, seasonally adjusted Washington state, second quarter 2015  
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Business Employment Dynamics data series

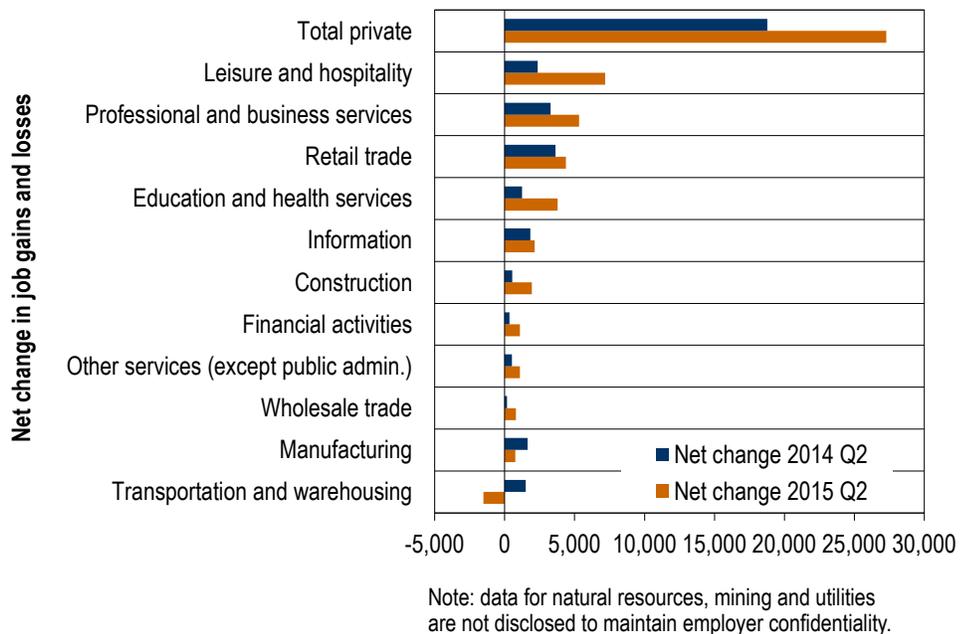


*In Washington state, leisure and hospitality, professional and business services and retail trade had the most job gains in second quarter 2015.*

Comparing second quarter 2015 to second quarter 2014 in Washington state (Figure 5):

- Ten industry sectors had higher net gains in second quarter 2015 compared to second quarter 2014.
- Two industry sectors had lower net gains in second quarter 2015 compared to second quarter 2014. They were manufacturing and transportation and warehousing. Transportation and warehousing had a net loss of jobs in second quarter 2015 after having a net gain in jobs in second quarter 2014.
- Leisure and hospitality had the largest net gain from year to year with a gain of 7,181 jobs in second quarter 2015 compared with a gain of 2,354 in the second quarter 2014.

**Figure 5.** Net change in jobs by industry sector, seasonally adjusted Washington state, second quarter 2014 and second quarter 2015  
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Business Employment Dynamics data series



*Washington had more job gains in every industry in second quarter 2015 than a year ago, except for manufacturing and transportation and warehousing.*

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

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