

<b>Title</b>	Southwest Washington Regional Perspectives
<b>Staff lead</b>	Maddy Thompson
<b>Position</b>	Director of Policy and Government Relations
<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:maddyt@wsac.wa.gov">maddyt@wsac.wa.gov</a>
<b>Phone</b>	360.753.7635
<b>Synopsis</b>	<p>The action of local leaders through regional partnerships is essential for Washington to meet its educational attainment goals. Southwest Washington's regional economy presents unique opportunities and challenges.</p> <p>At today's meeting, Council members will learn about the Southwest Washington regional economy; explore educational pathways and partnerships to meet local needs; discuss challenges and opportunities with local leaders; and consider how state-level policies could help support these efforts.</p>
<b>Guiding questions</b>	<p>How can education/training opportunities and career pathways connect students—both traditional age and returning adults—to jobs?</p> <p>What are examples of existing regional partnerships in place to improve the educational attainment and economic vitality of the region?</p>
<b>Possible Council Action</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information/Discussion <input type="checkbox"/> Approve/Adopt <input type="checkbox"/> Other
<b>Documents and Attachments</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Brief/Report <input type="checkbox"/> PowerPoint <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Third-party materials <input type="checkbox"/> Other

# The Age of Uncertainty

*maybe... maybe not*

June 15, 2017

James McCafferty  
Center for Economic and Business Research  
Western Washington University

# About Us

What we do:

- Respond to data and analysis needs
- Answer specific questions
- Create an information platform that drives productive discussions within a community

Who we work (partner) with:

- businesses
- non-profits
- government/quasi-governmental entities

In the end...

we create analyses that inform, engage and encourage innovation

# About Data

Do not seek answers from data....

*Seek better questions*

Ponder how all the things we will talk about today impact households, families and employers.

# How is that Economy?

- It depends....
  - On what lens you use (data points)
    - Use of data at all (anecdotes)
  - How well you accept structural change
    - Versus cyclical change (reversion to mean)

# Economic Outlook

## (January 2017)

### Washington (2017)

- GDP growth: Roughly 0.5% above the US
- Employment (nonfarm): Also about 0.5 percent above the US
- Etc.

### Aerospace

- Airbus opening \$600 m facility in Mobile, AL – but positive outlook for Boeing in 2017
  - XM Bank and Trade Policies are obvious concerns
  - Keep an eye on this sector

### Growth

- Seattle MSA to continue being above State in most indices

# The X factors

- Macro economic factors
- Regional economic factors
- Housing market
- Trade regulations
- Tax policies (Federal and State)
- Immigration policies
- Etc
- Etc
- Twitter



.... Uncertainty

# About that Economy...

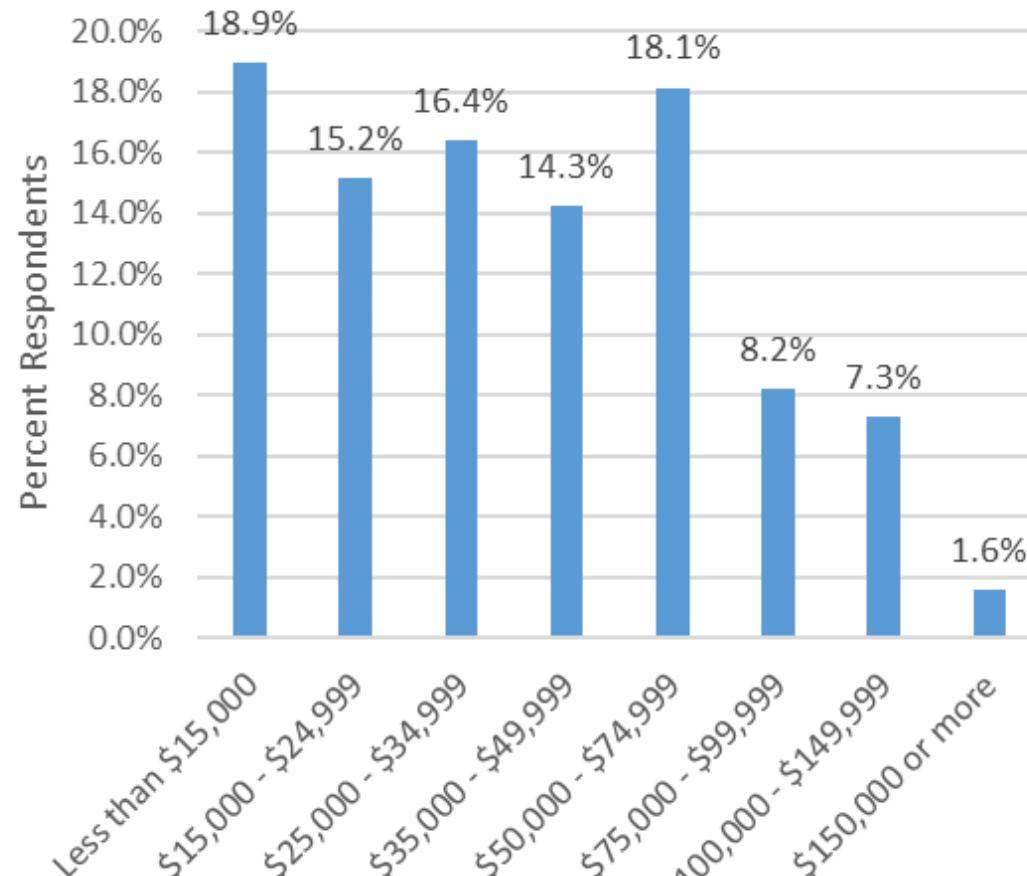
- We will continue to muddle along
  - A lot like beige curtains
- Metro/Non-Metro will be a strong defining factor
  - High growth vs low/no/negative growth
- Wages/Earnings and cost of living
  - Redefine “quality of life” ??
- Housing Issues
  - Supply, pricing, rent increases
- Trade policy
  - Uncertainty
- Aerospace employment continues to decline
  - real and share
- Bigger winners / losers at all levels



# Bigger Winners and Losers

- 46% of households report they would have to borrow money to respond to a \$400 emergency
- Loan delinquencies are rising
- Household income is rising – but is below where it was pre-recession
- Housing market is strong – or is it?

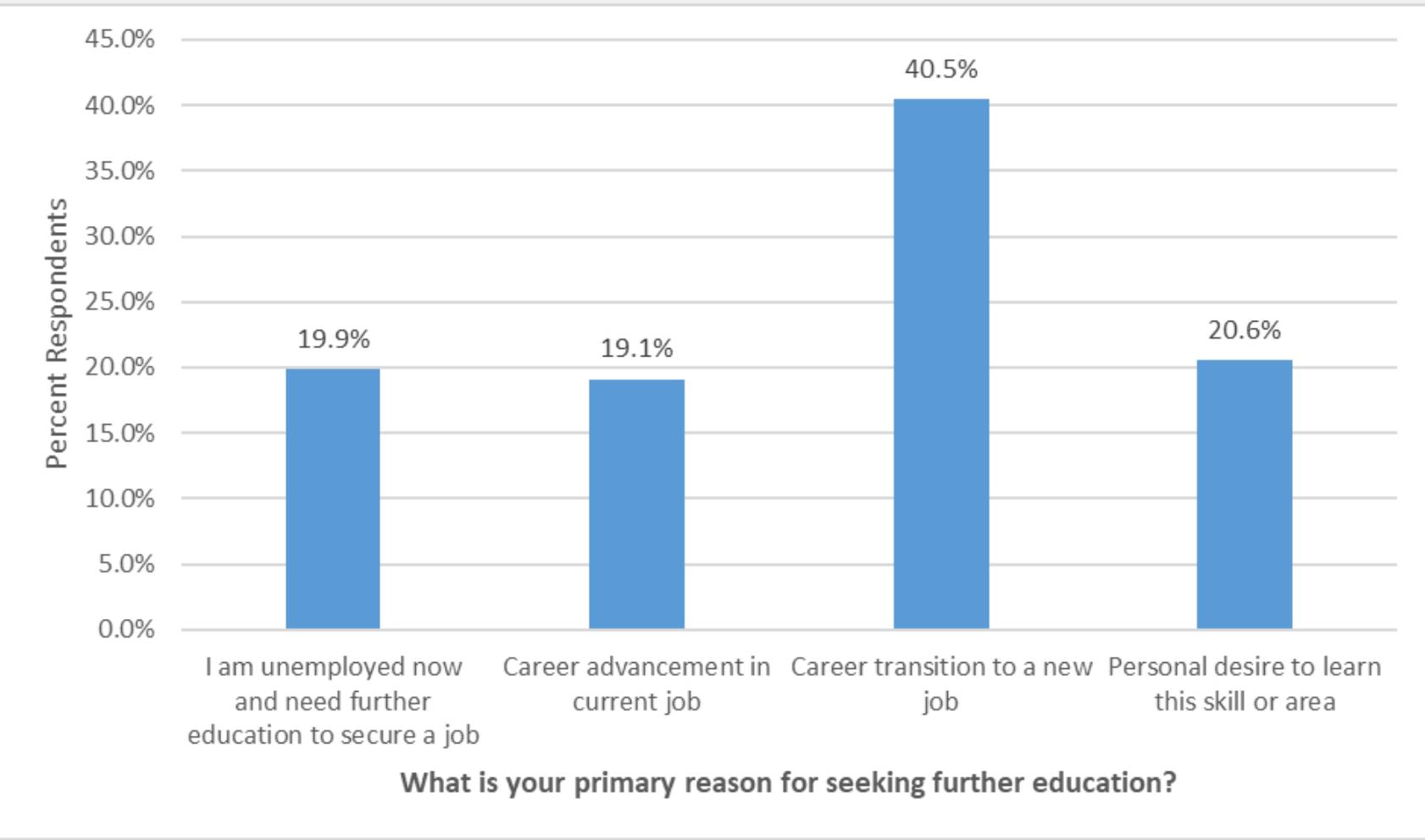
# On Household Income



What is your annual household income before taxes?

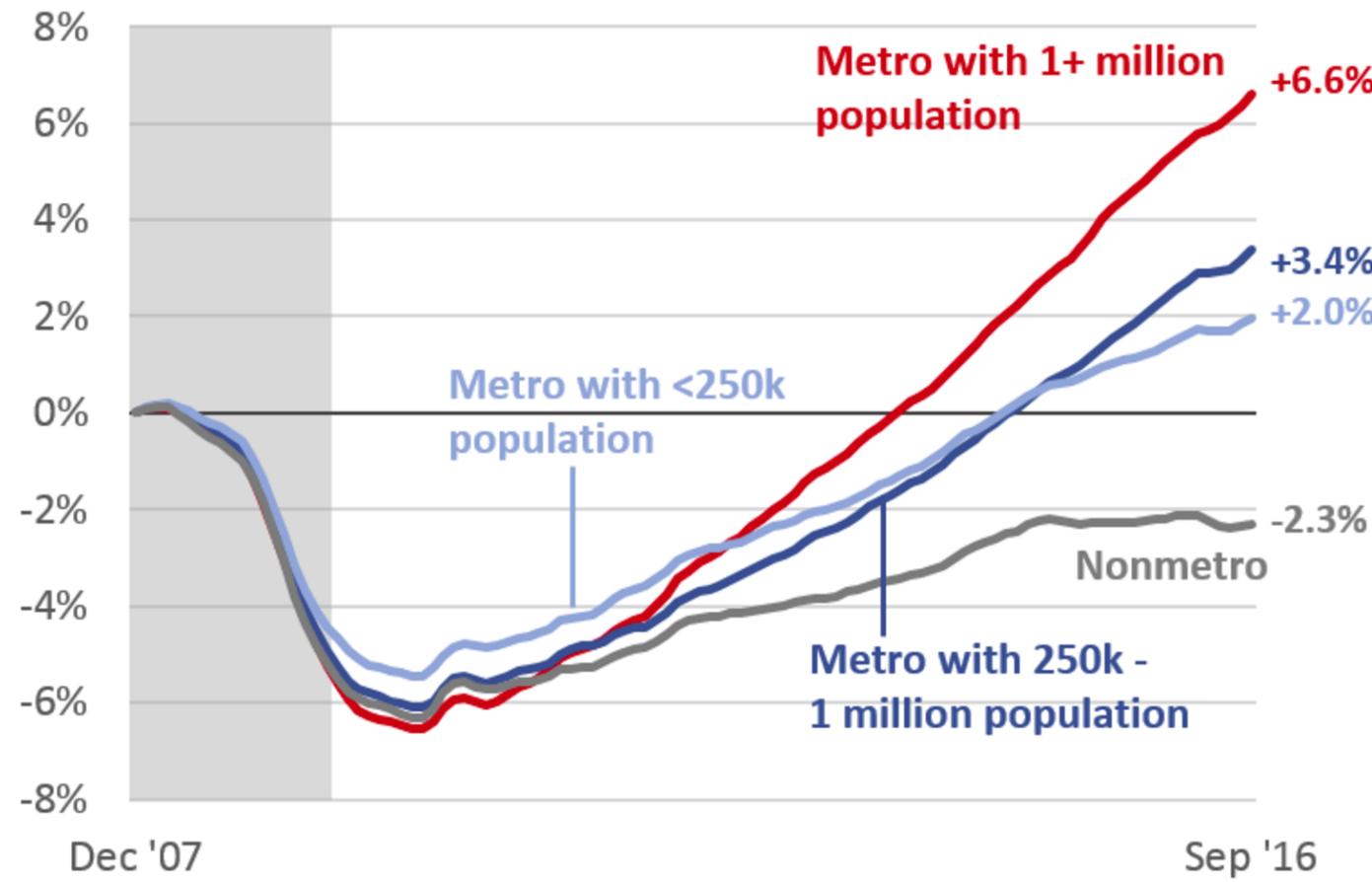
Section 8 maximum income for Clark County: \$37,350

# People See Education as a Path Forward

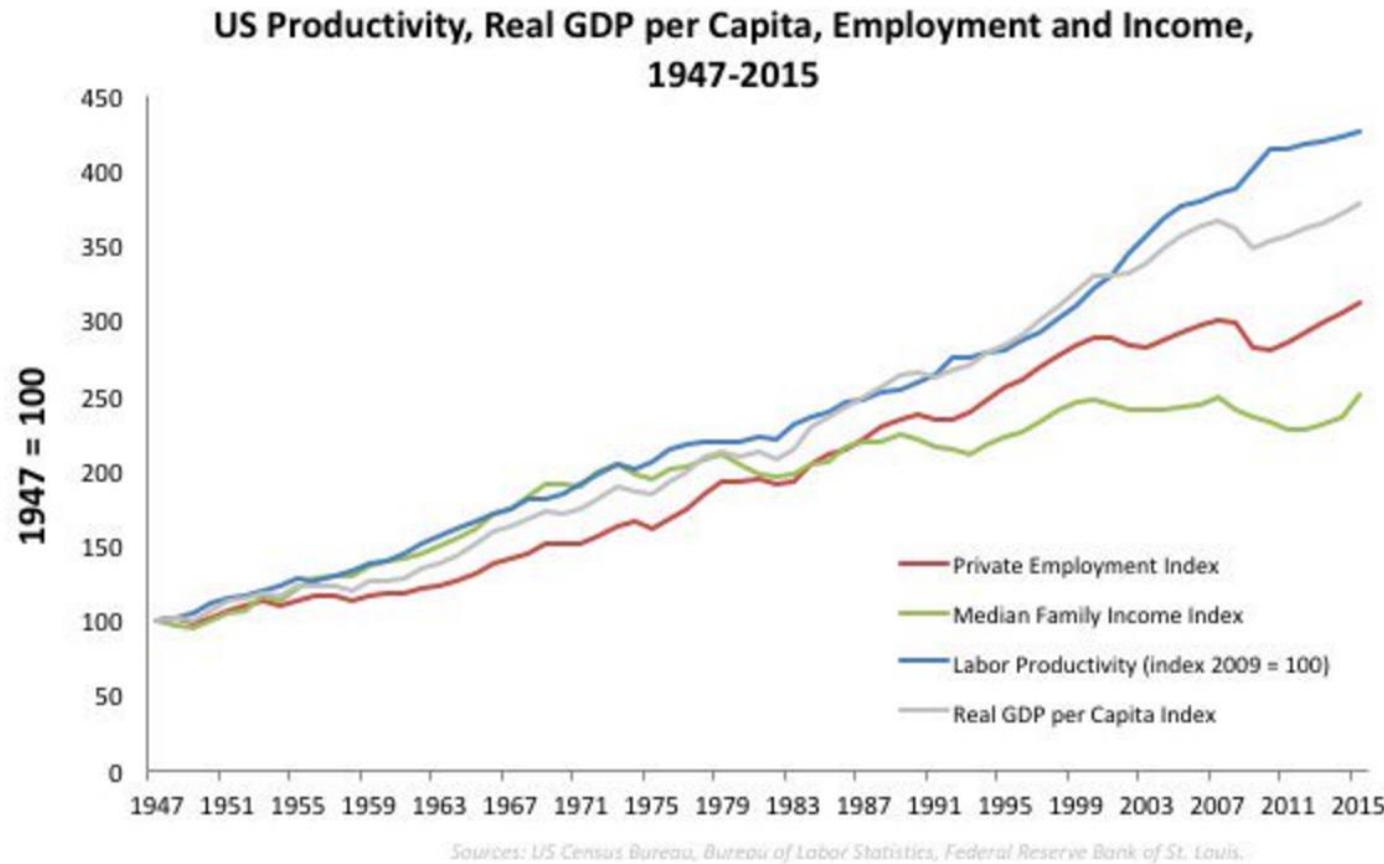


## Metro Size and the Great Recession

Employment Change Since December 2007



Data: QCEW, SA 3 MMA | Sources: BLS, USDA, Oregon Office of Economic Analysis





Looking specifically at

# SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON

# Regional Context

- The SW WDA is comprised of 3 counties
  - Clark
  - Cowlitz
  - Wahkiakum
- Clark county...
  - 5<sup>th</sup> most populous in Washington
  - Part of the Portland MSA
    - More than 1/3 of the workers here commute to Portland (~50,000)
    - About 11,000 commute from Portland to here

# Portland MSA

- 23rd largest in the United States
- Population of 2,226,009 (2010 Census)
  - 1,789,580 live in Oregon (46.7% of the state's population)
  - 436,429 live in Washington (6.7% of state's population)

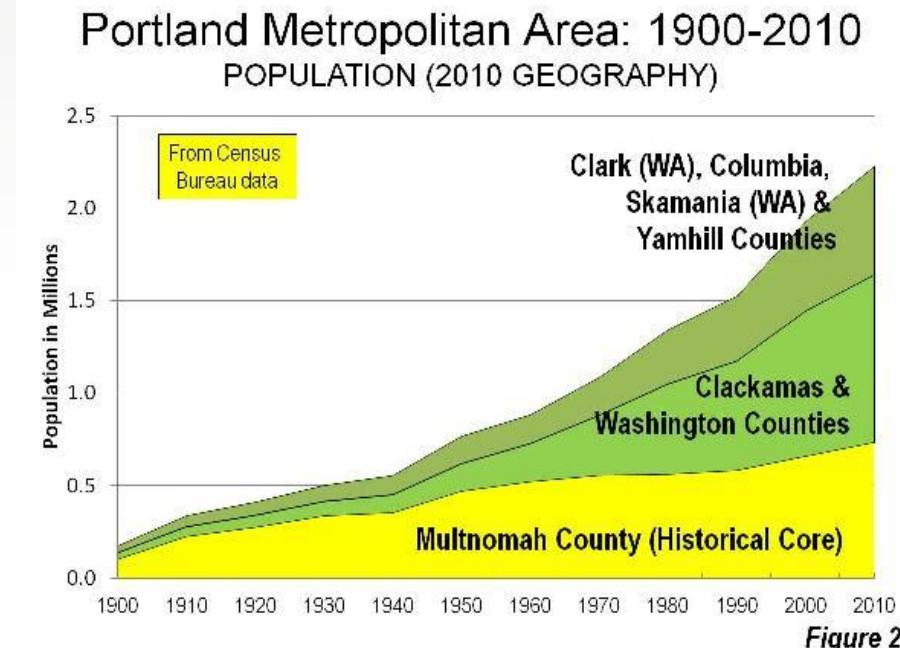


Figure 2

# Regional Context

- Retail leakage is significant
  - Causes less revenue for local governments
  - Creates less retail investment
- Major industry sectors
  - Healthcare and social assistance (23,600 jobs in 2015)
  - Professional & business services (18,100)
  - Retail trade (17,200 jobs)
  - Leisure and hospitality (14,000 jobs)
  - Manufacturing (13,100 jobs)

# General Outlook

- Labor market is growing
  - Up 4% in 2015
  - Manufacturing not seeing this type of growth
- Relocations from Oregon are happening
  - Banfield Pet Hospitals came in Spring 2016
    - 600+ high wage jobs
- Development is happening
  - Planned development along waterfront
    - Apartments, condos, hotels, restaurants and retail

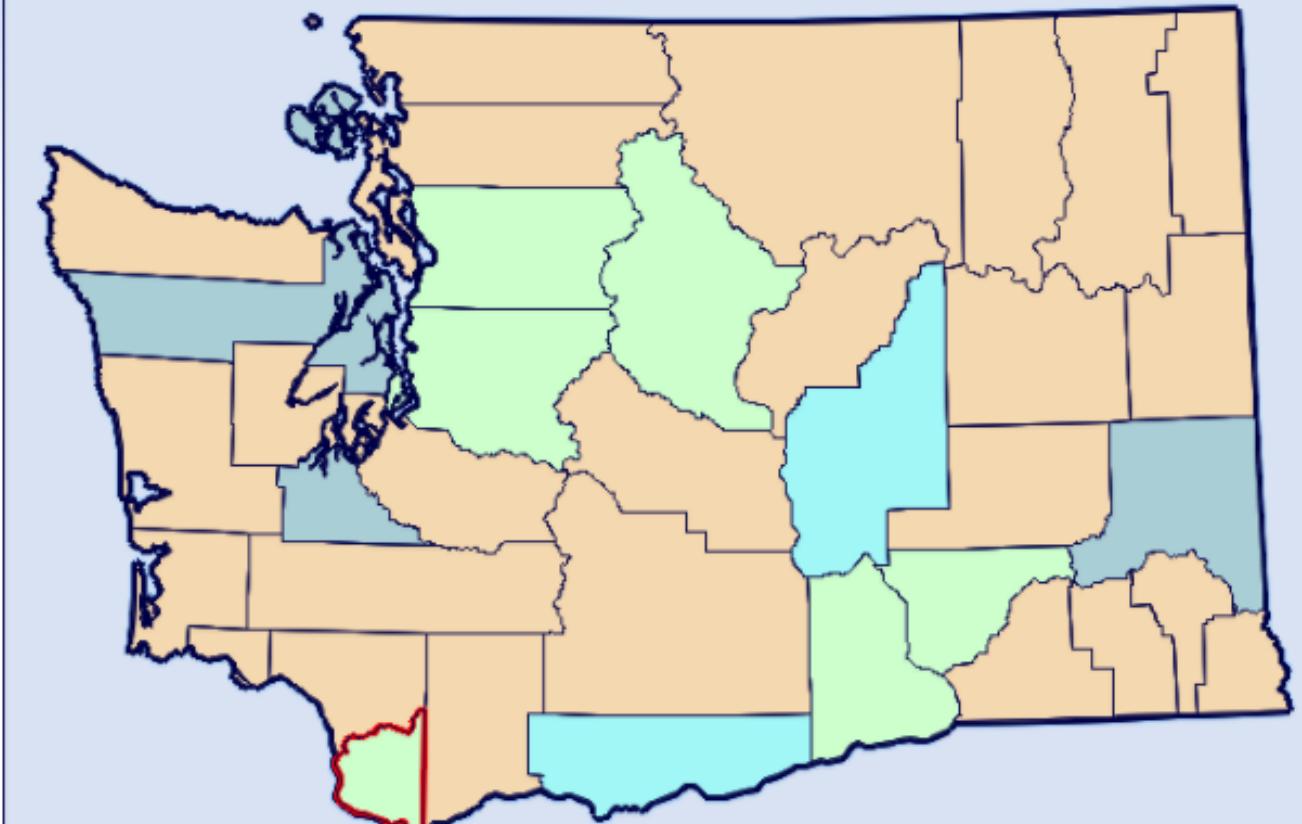
# Relative Perspective

County	Nonfarm jobs August 2016	Job growth Y/Y	Unemployment rate
U.S.	144,747,000 (SA)	1.7%	4.9% (SA)
State	3,234,200 (SA)	3.0%	5.7% (SA)
Clark	156,300	4.4%	6.5%
Cowlitz	39,000	1.0%	7.6%
Wahkiakum	750	1.4%	8.4%

## Employment Growth by County

County vs Statewide Average: 2006-2015 and 2015

Leading   Slipping   Gaining   Lagging



**Clark County:**

2006-2015 = 1.62%  
2015 = 3.56%



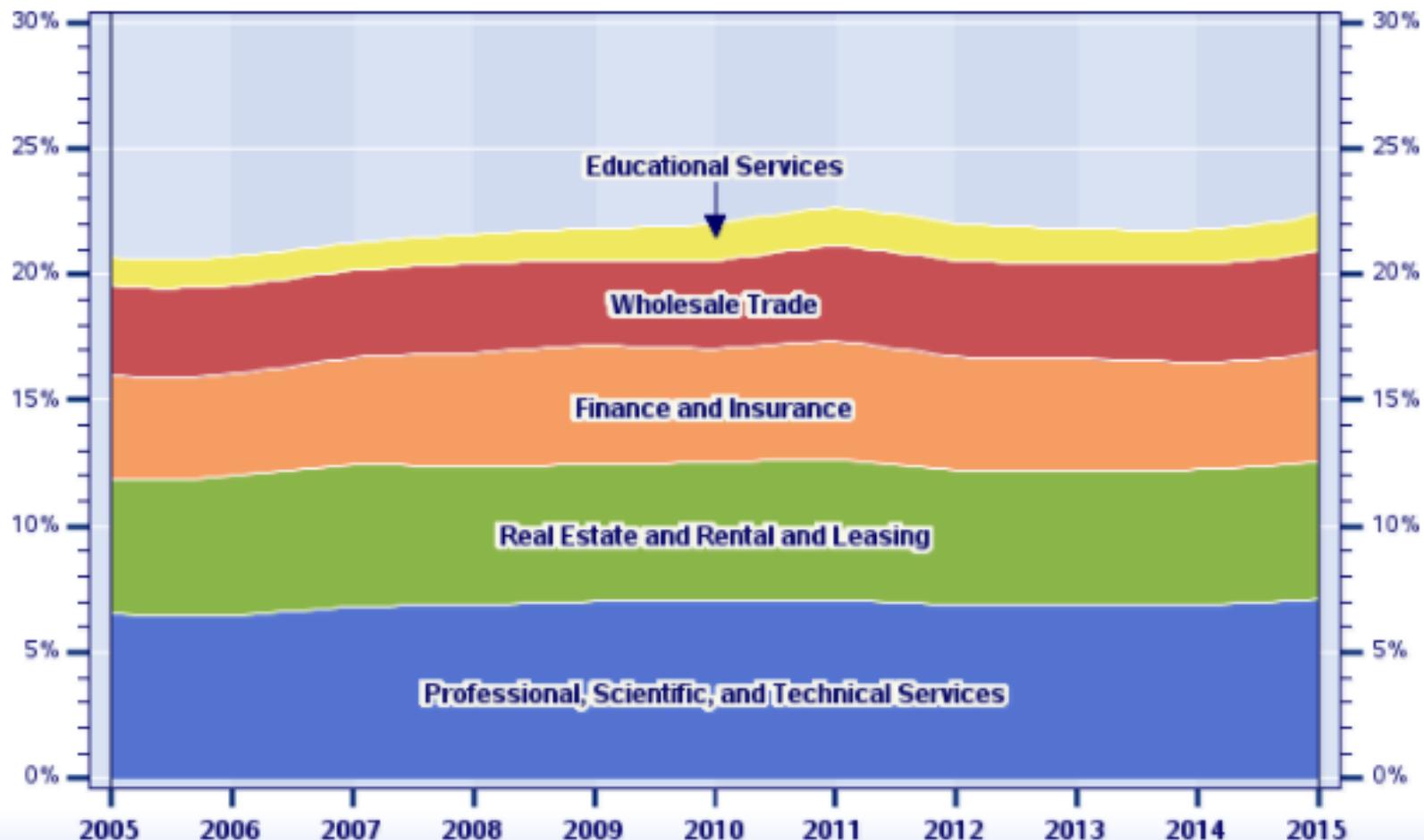
**Washington:**

2006-2015 = 1.31%  
2015 = 2.52%

Source: Washington.REAPProject.org  
Data: Regional Income Division, BEA (11-17-2016)

## Clark County Leading Industries

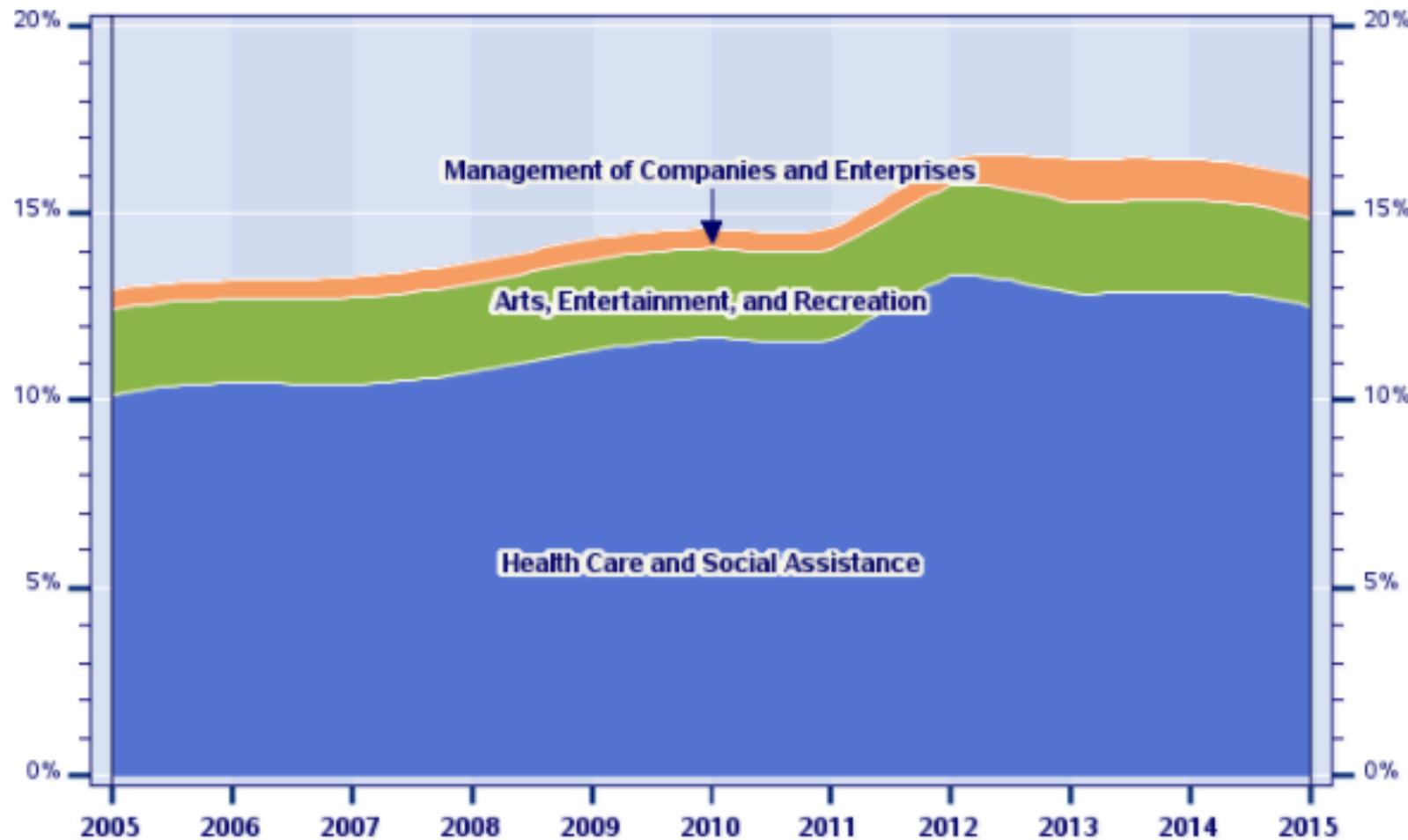
Cumulative Share as a Percent of Total Employment: 2005-2015



Source: Washington.REAPProject.org  
Data: Regional Income Division, BEA (11-17-2016)

## Clark County Slipping Industries

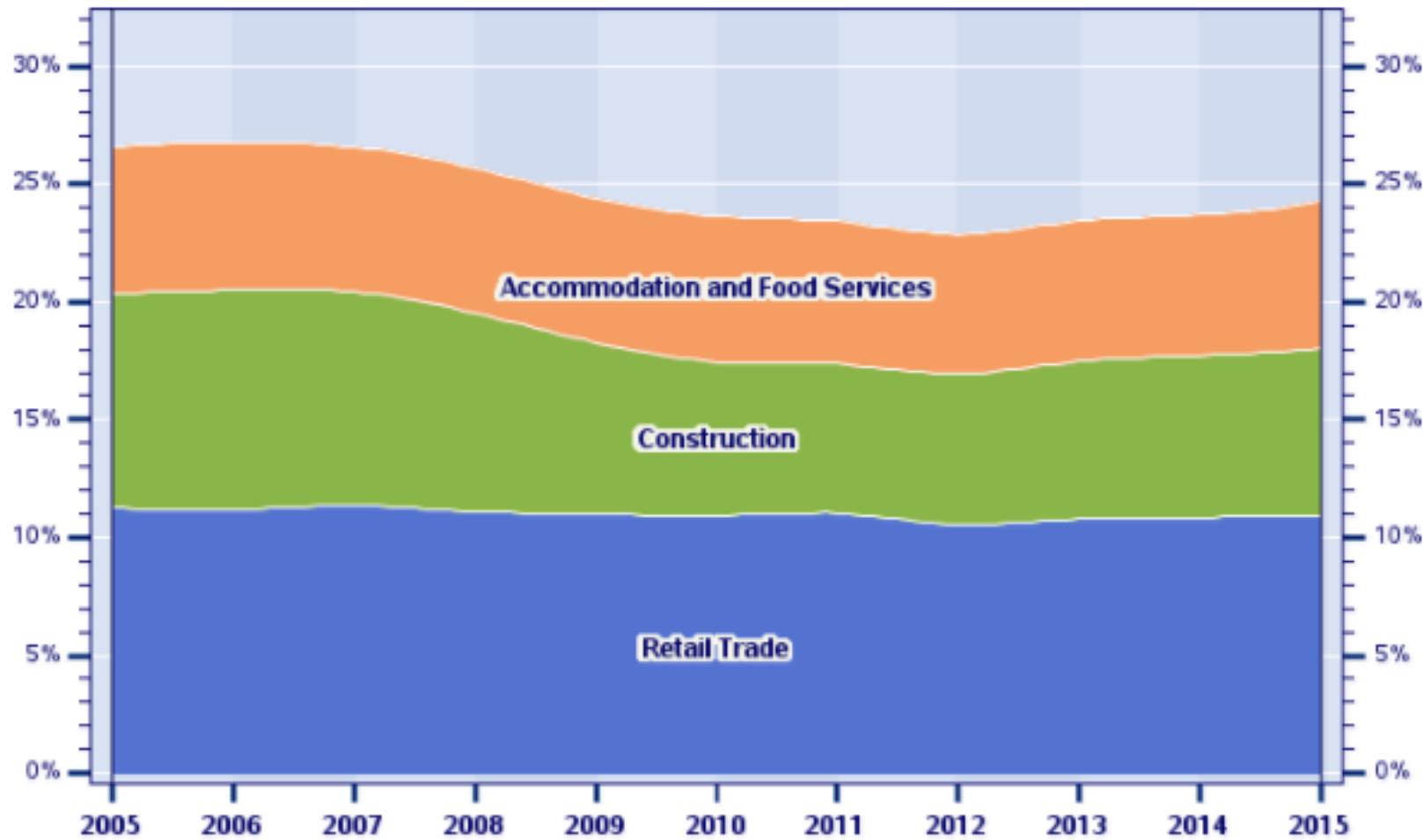
Cumulative Share as a Percent of Total Employment: 2005-2015



Source: Washington.REAPProject.org  
Data: Regional Income Division, BEA (11-17-2016)

## Clark County Gaining Industries

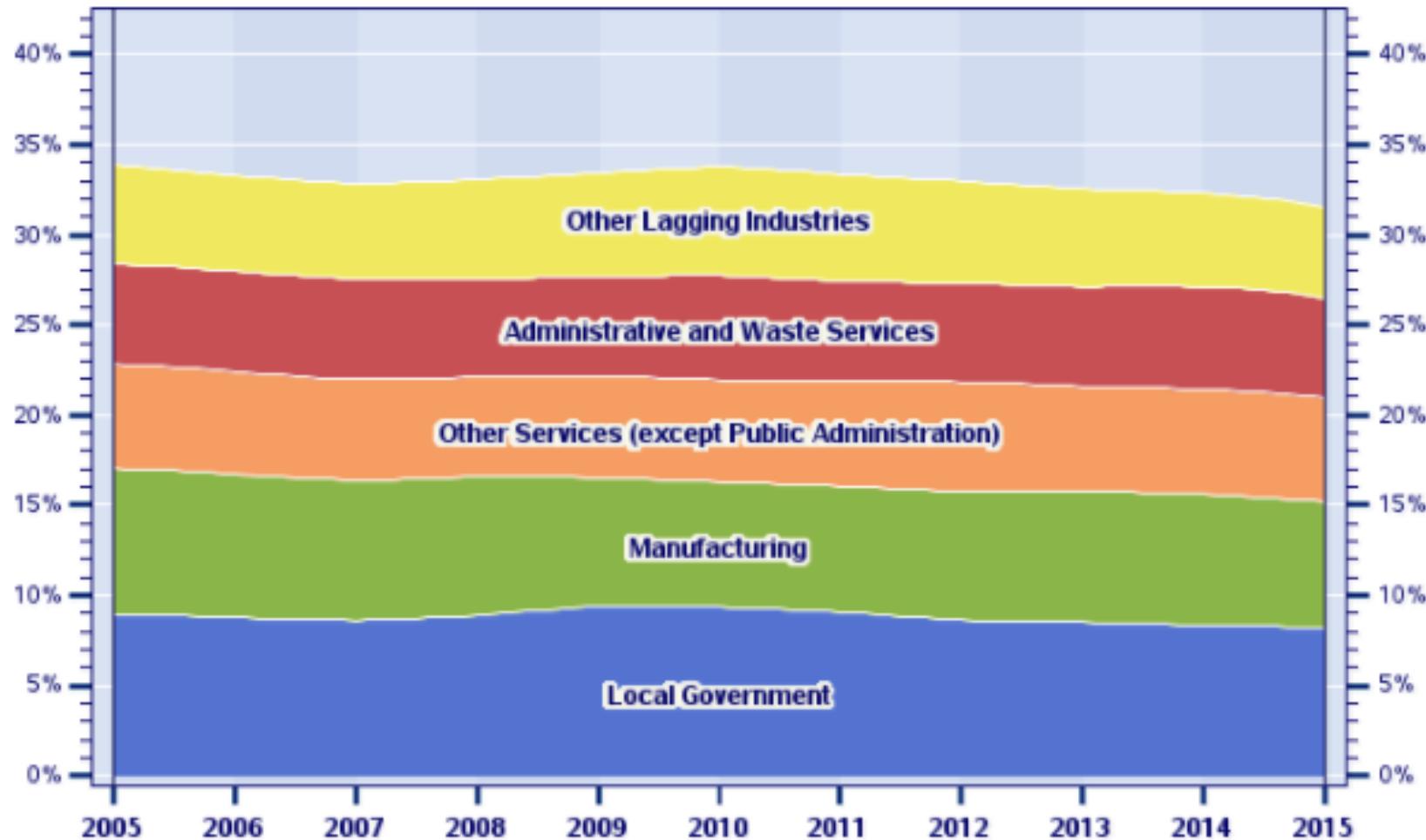
Cumulative Share as a Percent of Total Employment: 2005-2015



Source: Washington.REAPProject.org  
Data: Regional Income Division, BEA (11-17-2016)

## Clark County Lagging Industries

Cumulative Share as a Percent of Total Employment: 2005-2015

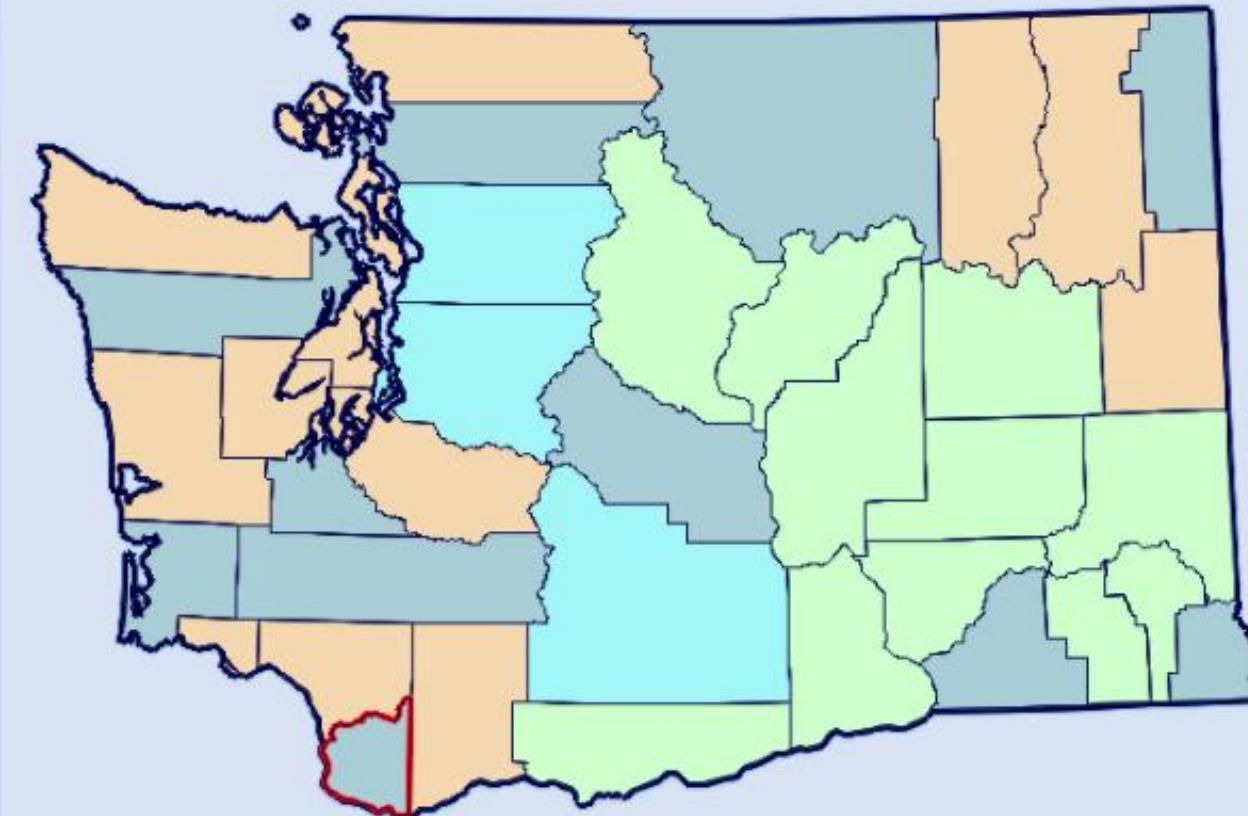


Source: Washington.REAPProject.org  
Data: Regional Income Division, BEA (11-17-2016)

## Real\* Total Industry Earnings Growth by County

County vs Statewide Average: 2006-2015 and 2015

Legend:  Leading  Slipping  Gaining  Lagging



**Clark County:**

2006-2015 = 2.08%  
2015 = 6.72%



**Washington:**

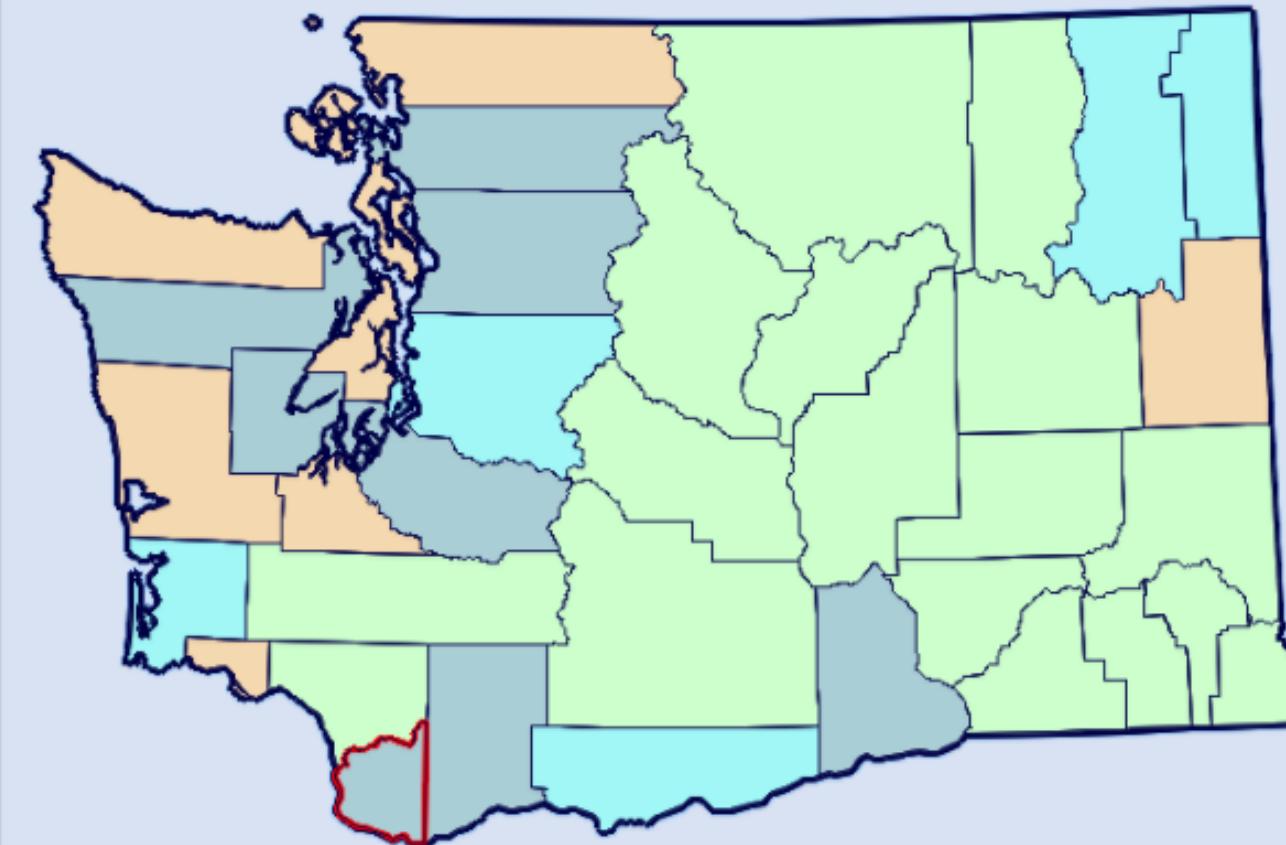
2006-2015 = 2.41%  
2015 = 5.27%

Source: Washington.REAPProject.org  
Data: Regional Income Division, BEA (11-17-2016)

## Real\* Per Capita Income Growth by County

County vs Statewide Average: 2006-2015 and 2015

Legend:  Leading  Slipping  Gaining  Lagging



**Clark County:**

2006-2015 = 1.21%  
2015 = 3.62%

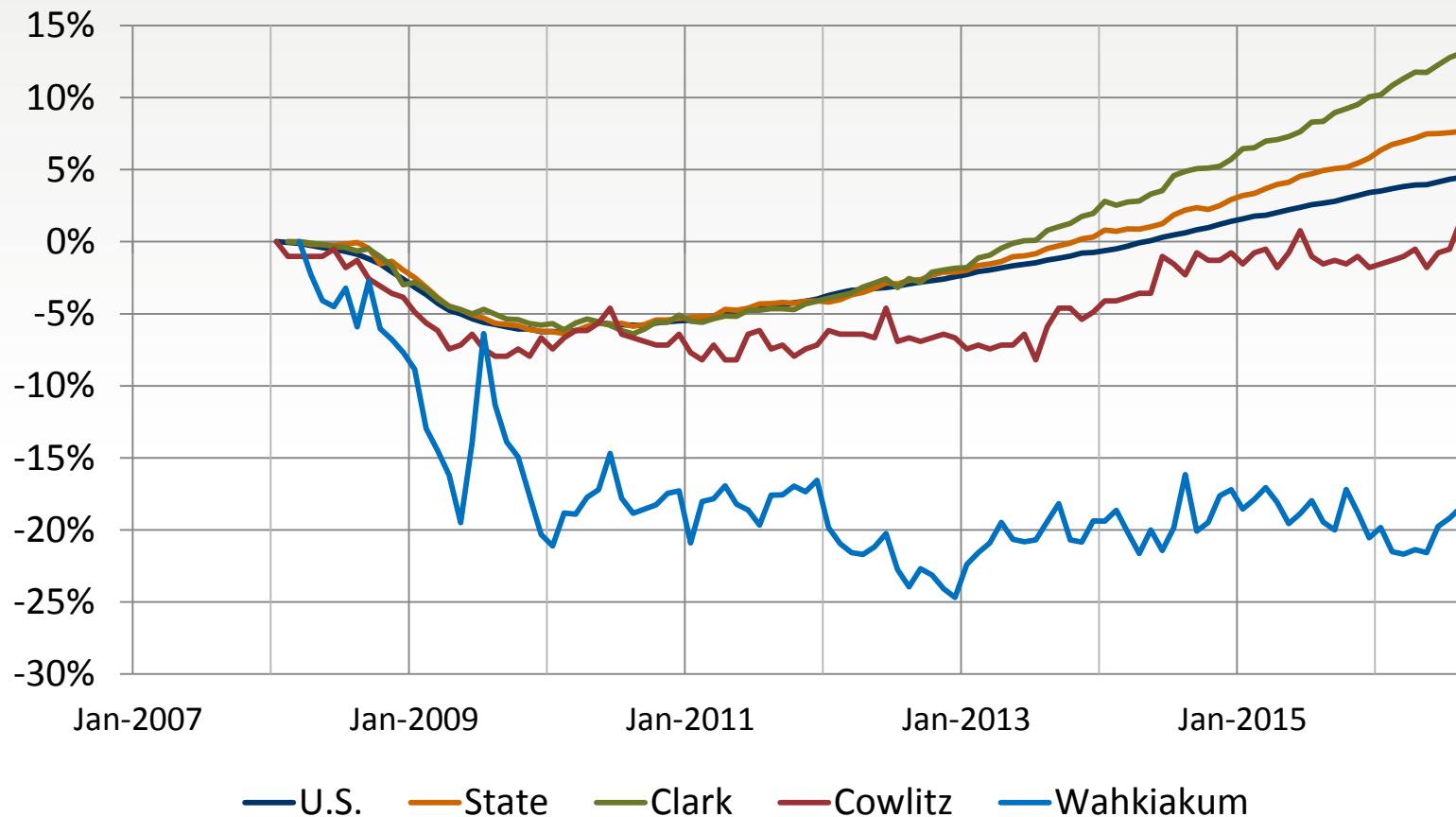


**Washington:**

2006-2015 = 1.53%  
2015 = 2.70%

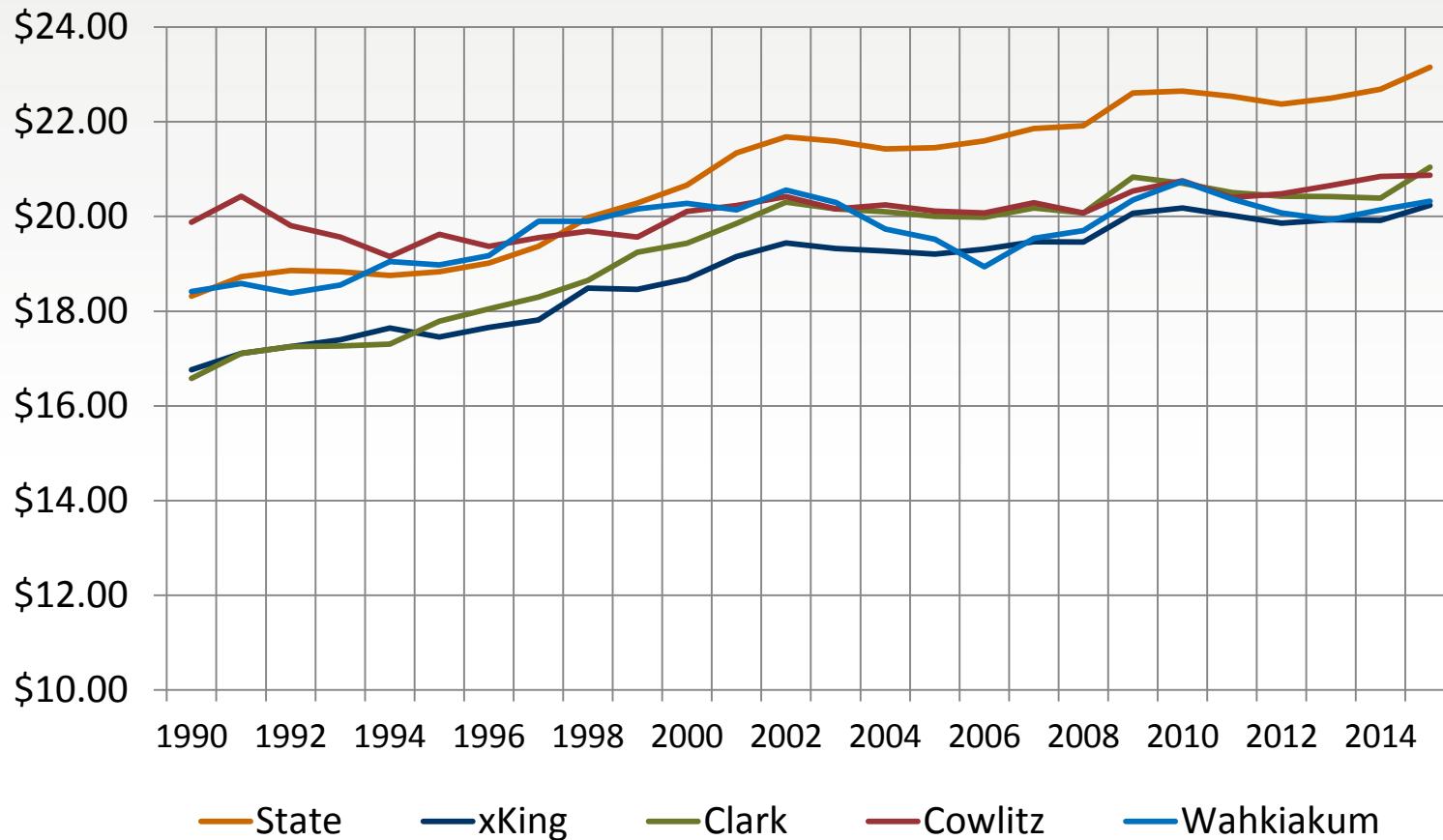
Source: Washington.REAPProject.org  
Data: Regional Income Division, BEA (11-17-2016)

# Percent change in jobs from before the recession



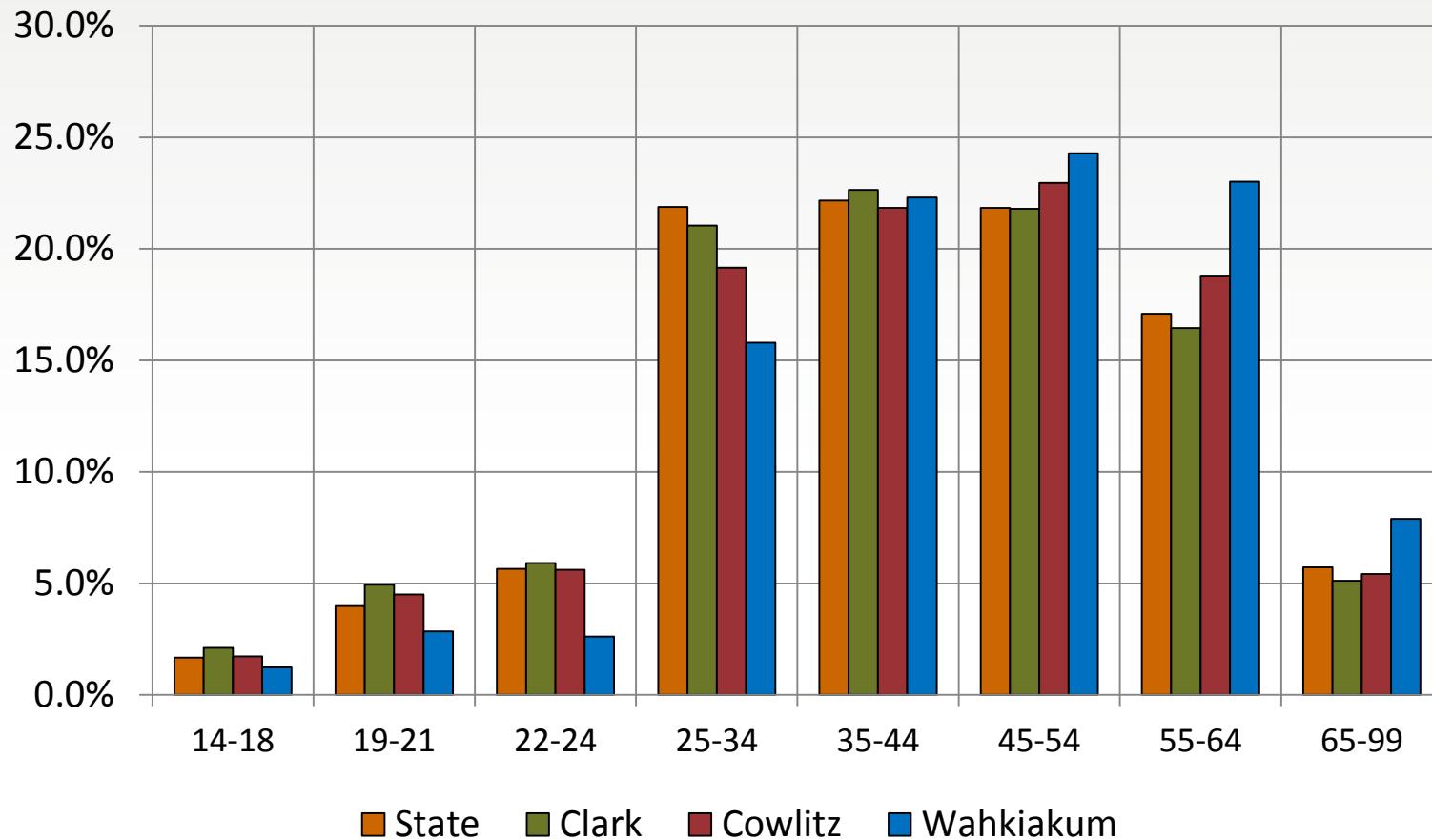
Source: Employment Security Department/LMPA; Bureau of Labor Statistics

# Median hourly wage



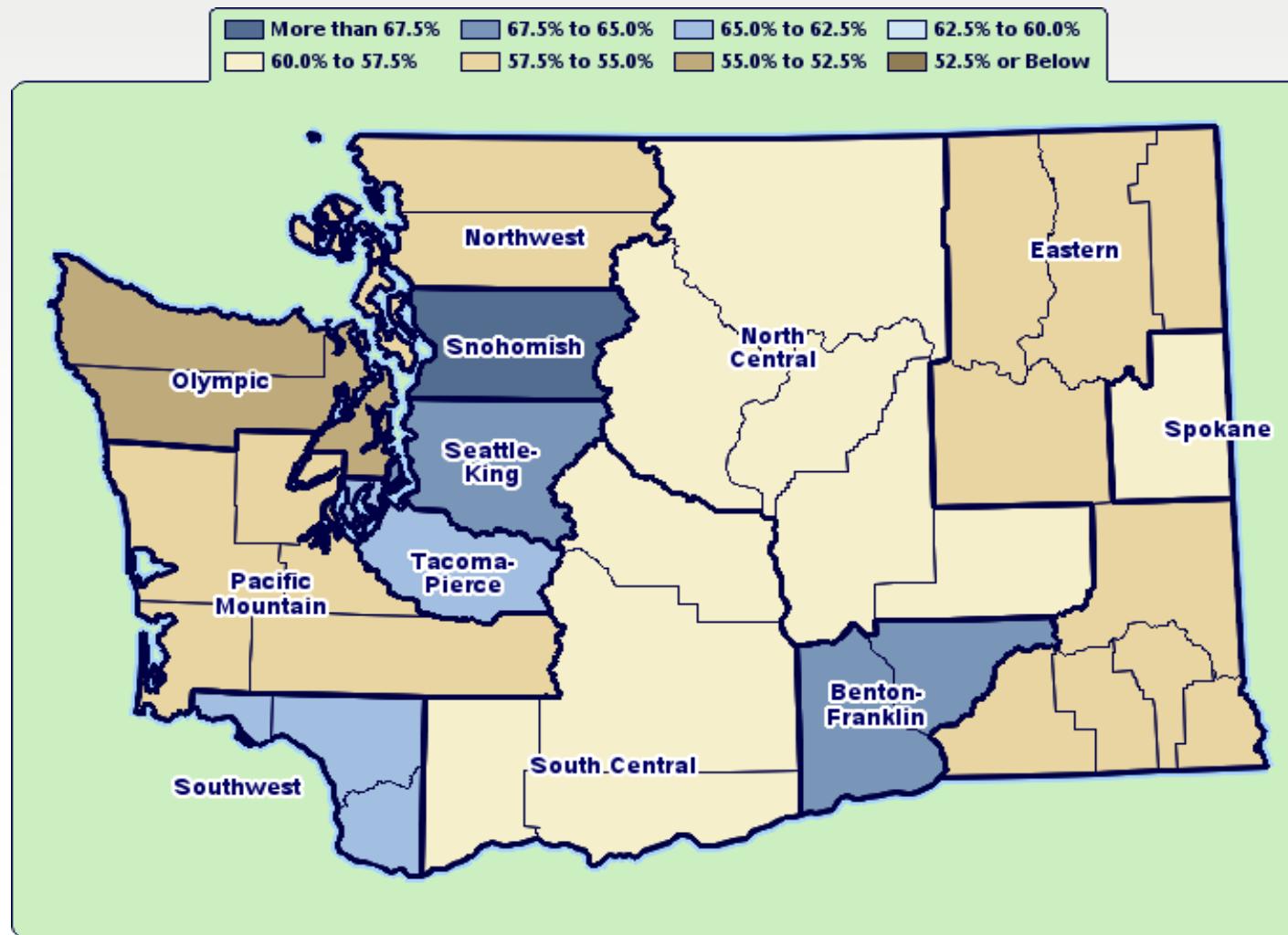
Source: Employment Security Department/LMPA, Wage File

# Age of workforce, 2015



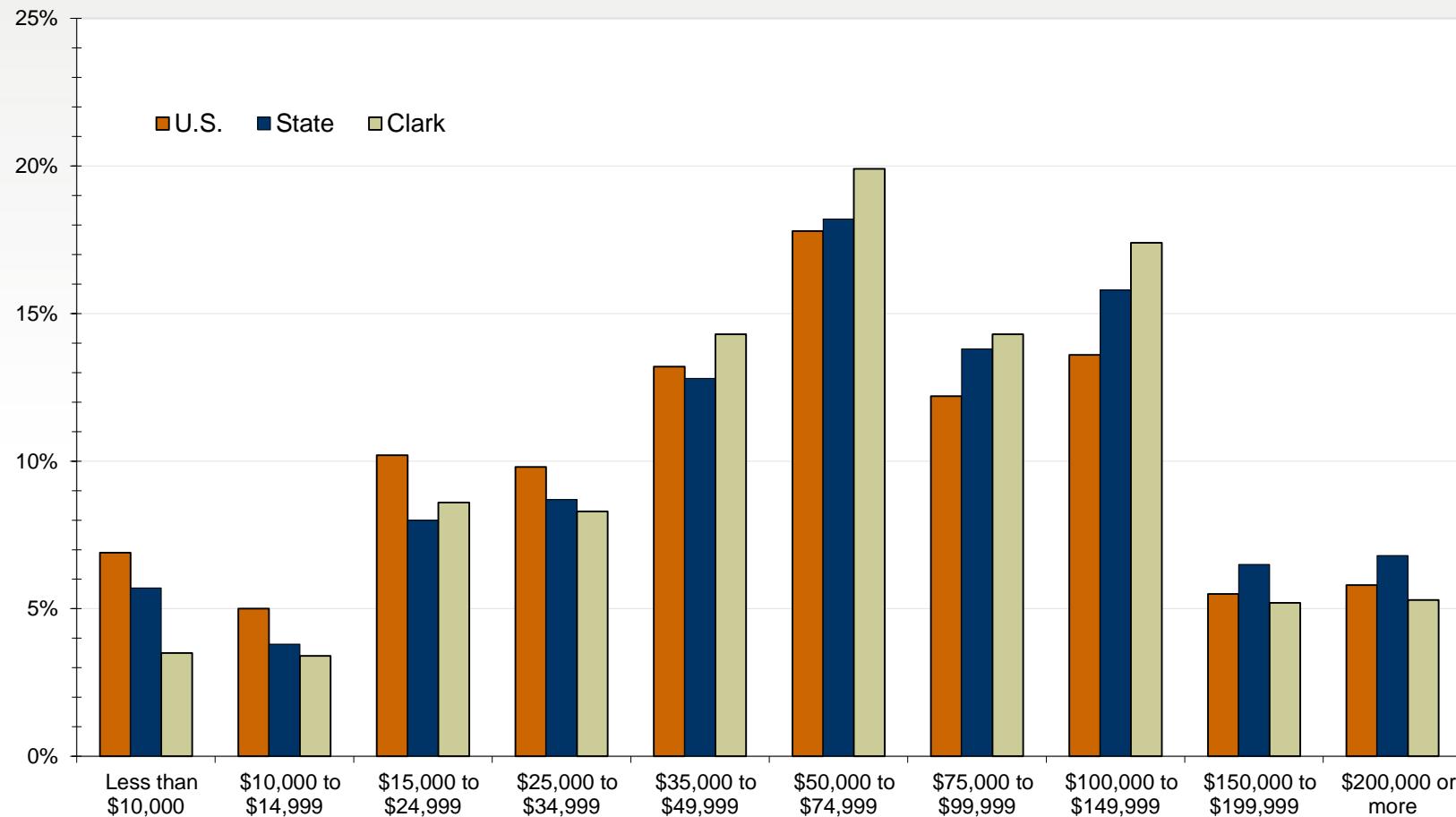
Source: Local Employment Dynamics (LED)

# Earned Income as a Percent of Total Income

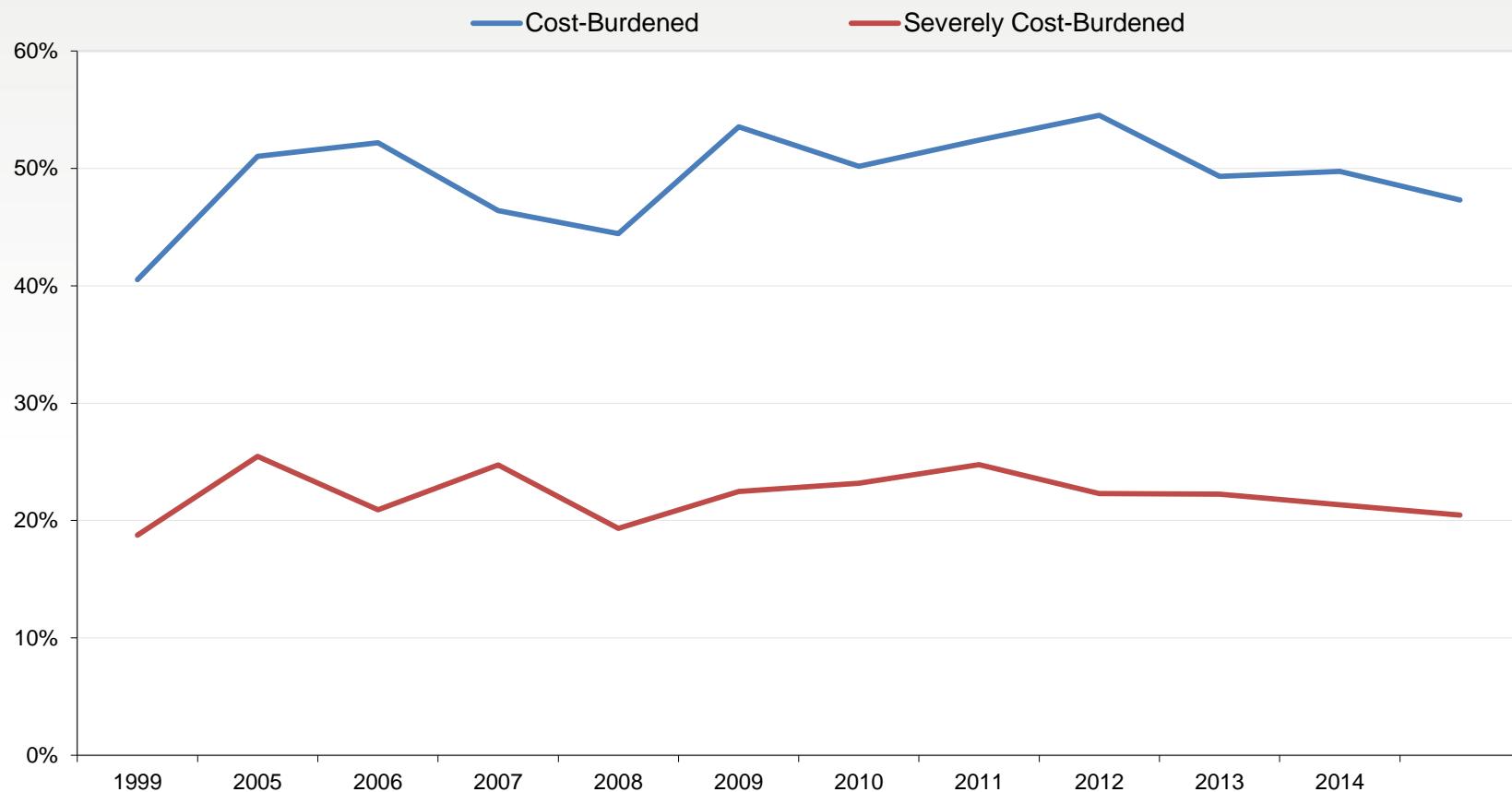


Source: Washington.REAProject.org  
 Data: Regional Income Division, BEA (11-17-2016)

# Percentage of Households by Income Range, 2015



# Cost-Burdened Rental Households

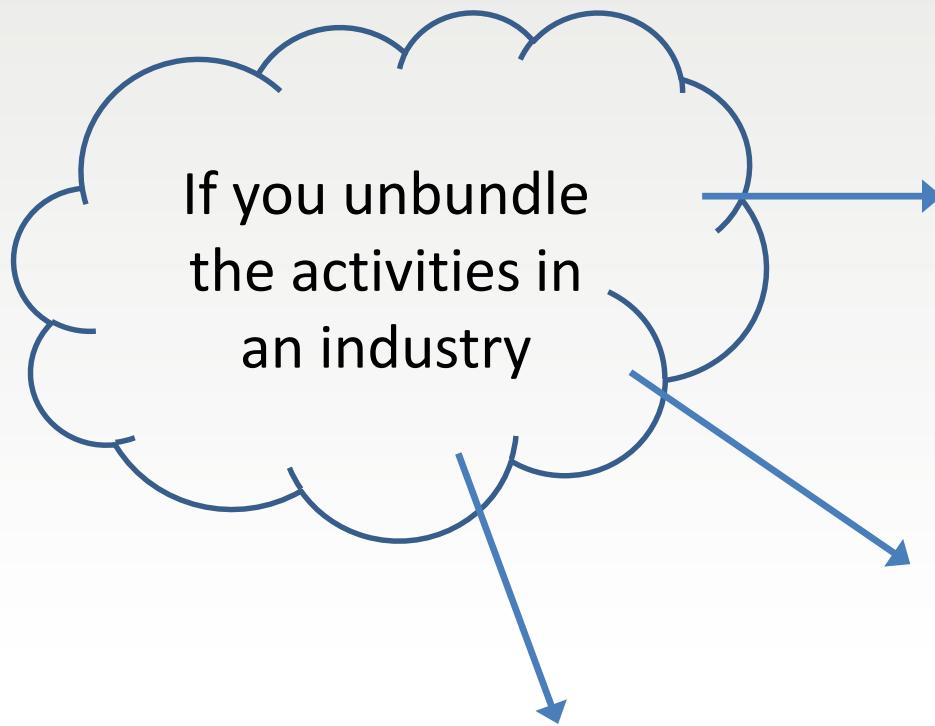


Thinking about

# **STRUCTURAL / CYCLICAL CHANGE & UNBUNDLING EMPLOYMENT**

# Structural Changes

- We have exited / are exiting the “recovery” and are starting to enter expansion
  - But things are not the same
    - Structural change versus reversion to the mean
- Technology currently favors cities
- Trade and innovation favor certain firms and individuals (the gains to trade and innovation are not distributed equally)
  - Some say income inequality is a defining topic...?
- Productivity and efficiency > outsourcing
  - Manufacturing is growing but jobs are not in alignment

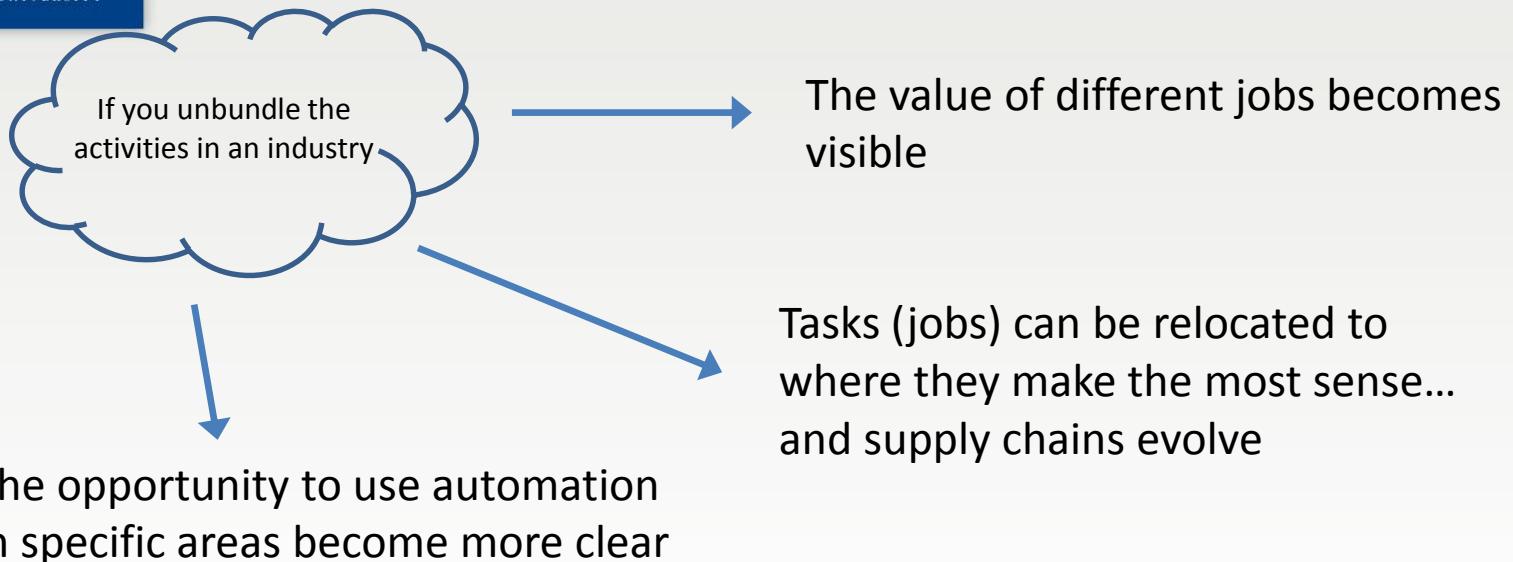


# A Theory

The value of different jobs becomes visible

The opportunity to use automation in specific areas become more clear

**“The World is Flat” ?**



- Some low value jobs are lost due to automation & some get reconfigured and go overseas
  - Things feel tenuous to many workers
- High value jobs may be collocated to take advantage of knowledge spillovers
  - Increasing inequality in economic activity (by place and \$)
- Supply chains become much more complex fitting in between the various (unbundled) segments

# Key Points

- Continued growth (slow but faster than US)
  - May look different in non metro
- Significant factors to watch
  - Local
  - Regional
  - National
  - International
  - *Everything?*
- Question how much of the uncertainty is “priced in”
- The nature of work and compensation will accelerate in its change

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# SW Washington STEM Network



Supporting & Promoting STEM Education throughout SW WA