

CONNECT! Summer 2018



Welcome to **CONNECT!** This is Pacific Mountain Workforce Development Council's quarterly newsletter for business and community partners. We invite you to connect with us, check out our data on current industry trends within the region, hear about new program partnerships, impact stories, and employers connecting with job seekers at your local WorkSource site.



We have been busy throughout the region already this year! Discussions have been initiated about many things, including employer outreach, sector revitalization, and reaching non-traditional workers. This last quarter set the pace for the rest of the year. Find out more about our programs for employers, partners, and job seekers at www.pacmtn.org. Be sure to connect with us and let us know how we are doing!

A Word from a Board Member:



As a PacMtn Board Member and past Chair of the Washington State Apprenticeship Coordinators Association, the work PacMtn has done in connecting transitioning Service members to Apprenticeship opportunities within our community has been very gratifying. Specifically, PacMtn sponsored a, first ever, Construction Career Day event on a military installation. Work has been done to sponsor apprenticeship-oriented hiring events, apprenticeship-oriented outreach materials, established partnerships with organizations to support pre-apprenticeship training before transition, and most recently, have partnered with the Washington State Department of Veteran Affairs (WDVA) Apprenticeship Initiative to connect more transitioning servicemembers and their families to opportunities. There is still plenty of work to do, including enhancing connections among transitioning servicemembers and their families with apprenticeship opportunities on the local, state, and national levels. PacMtn will continue to make our military community a priority, and registered apprenticeship a focus of these efforts.

Does an Apprenticeship Career Opportunity with good wages and benefits spark an interest in you? Then please check out the apprenticeship resources available at [WDVA](#), [WA Labor & Industries](#), and/or watch [this video](#) - Veteran Careers: Apprenticeship Overview.

Peter Lahmann

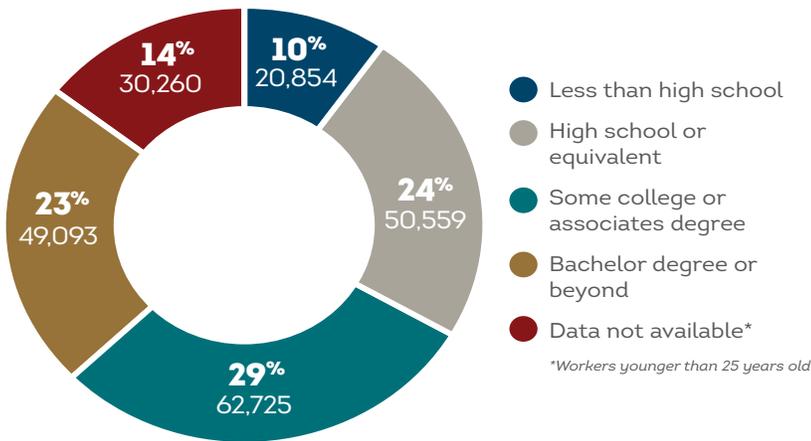
REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT SNAPSHOT

PacMtn 5-County Region

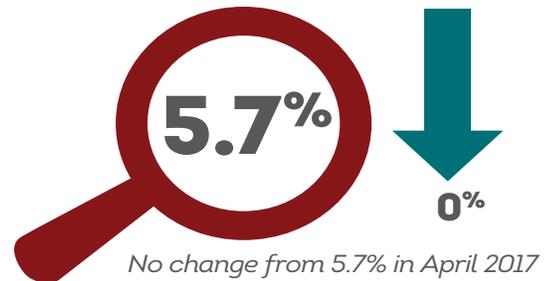


SERVING OVER **7,000** SQUARE MILES

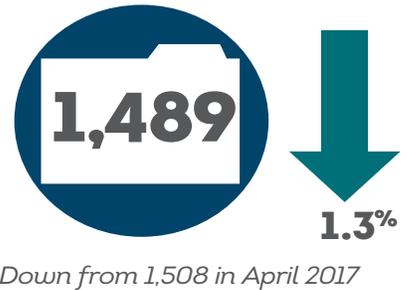
Educational Attainment of the Employed Workforce April-June 2017



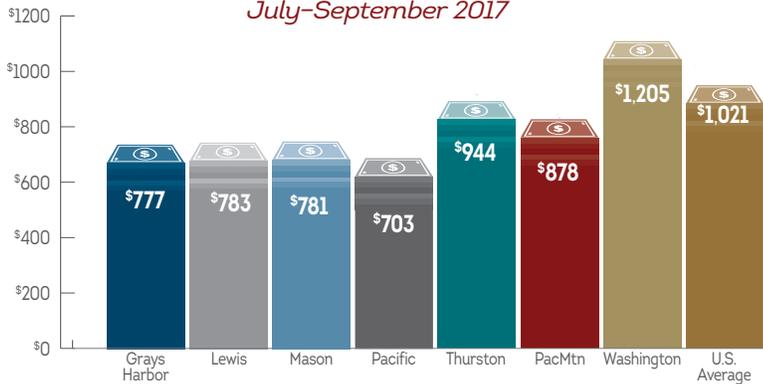
Unemployment Rate April 2018



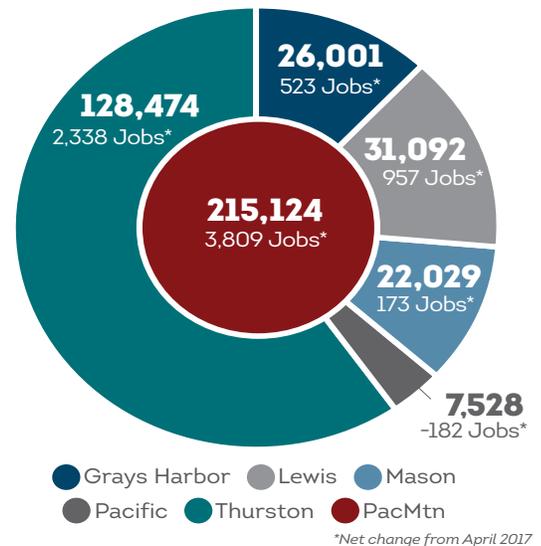
New Unemployment Claims April 2018



Average Weekly Wage July-September 2017



Total Employment Net Change in April 2018



New Hires and Educational Attainment: U.S. Census Bureau, Center for Economic Studies, LEHD
 Total Employment, Unemployment Rate, New Unemployment Claims data: PMWDC analysis of Washington Employment Security Department data
 Average Weekly Wage data: PMWDC analysis of Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages data-U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

PacMtn Impact: Thank You Camo2Commerce!



"Both the Veterans-In-Piping (VIP) and Camo2Commerce (C2C) made my transition seamless and very smooth. On the VIP side, I was guaranteed a job with living wages and benefits in a growing career field. And on the C2C side, they helped with expenses that I struggled with as it was getting closer to my time getting out.

I honestly don't know how difficult it would have been without these two programs. I definitely recommend looking into both programs as you start planning your transition out of the military. I would like to give a big thanks to the folks in C2C, especially

Diana for making sure I was taken care of. I also would like to thank the United Association's VIP program, especially my instructor Dave, for being such a great mentor and teacher. Without these individuals and programs, I would not be where I am today."

- Phillip Bonpua, transitioned Servicemember

Raul Armendariz, an active duty spouse, first connected with the Camo2Commerce program in February 2018 after transferring to Washington from their home state of Texas. Raul has an impressive professional background and a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Science from the University of Texas. He was looking for career opportunities that would further his desire to work as a data analyst, data engineer, or an energy analyst. Raul made the most of his networking opportunities from the beginning of his time in the C2C program, and was eventually selected by Amazon for an 8-week WorkEx internship as a Research Analyst at their Seattle headquarters. After a significant amount of time and dedication, the managers within his unit recognized his talent and the value he brought to the team. Raul has since been offered and accepted a full-time job with Amazon.

