

# **State of the labor market: Kennewick-Pasco-Richland Metro Area (Benton and Franklin Counties)**

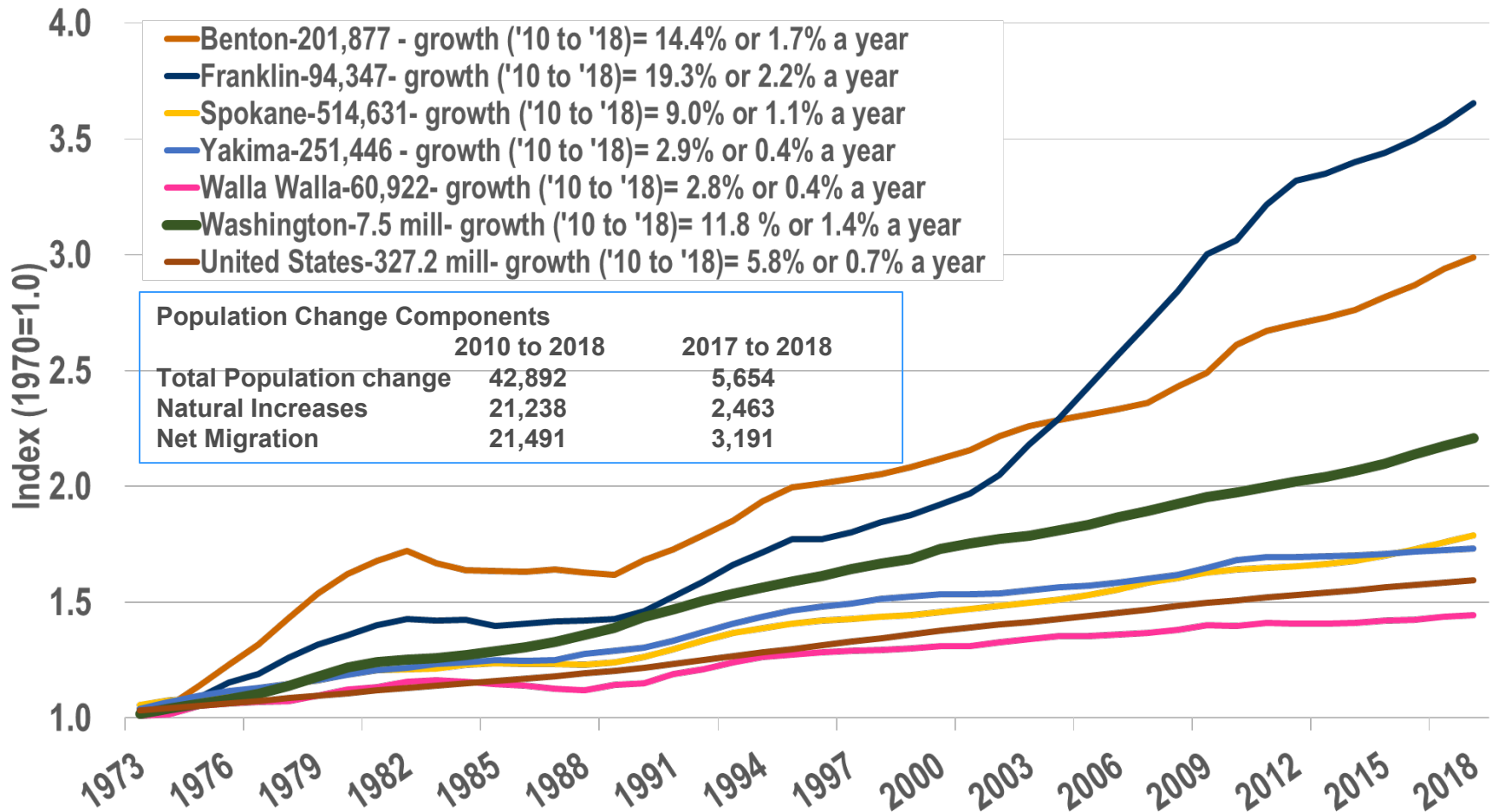
**21st Annual Tri-Cities Regional Economic Outlook  
Tri-City Development Council (TRIDEC)**

**Ajsa Suljic, Regional Labor Economist**



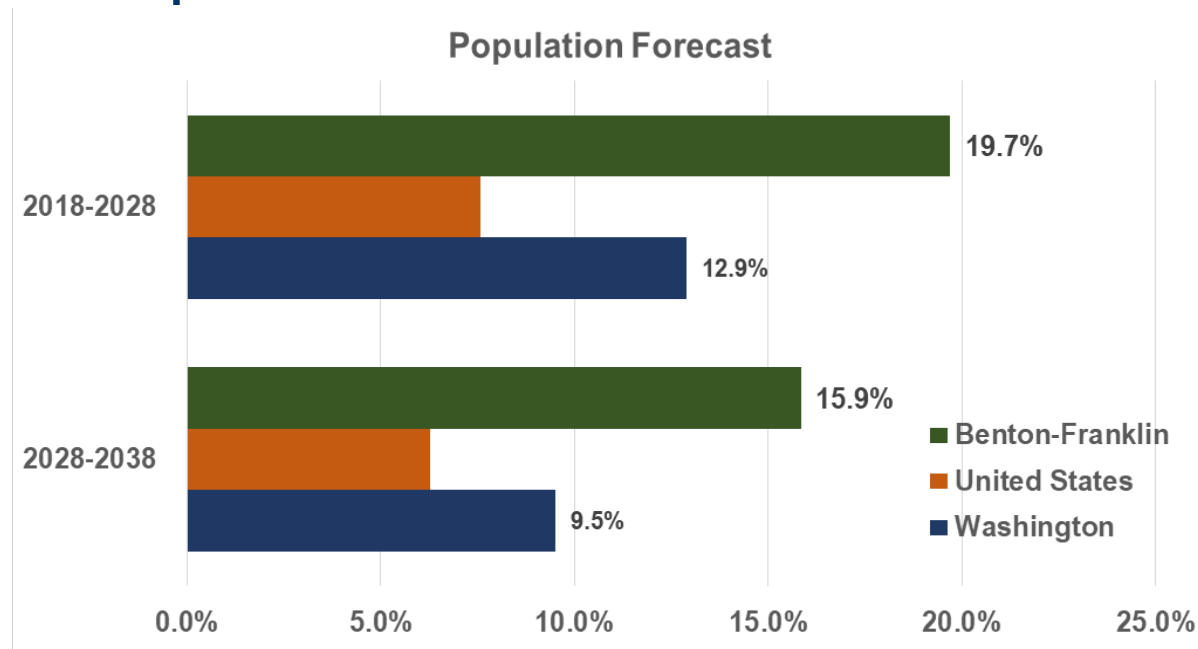
# Population: How many PEOPLE?

## #296,200 in 2018

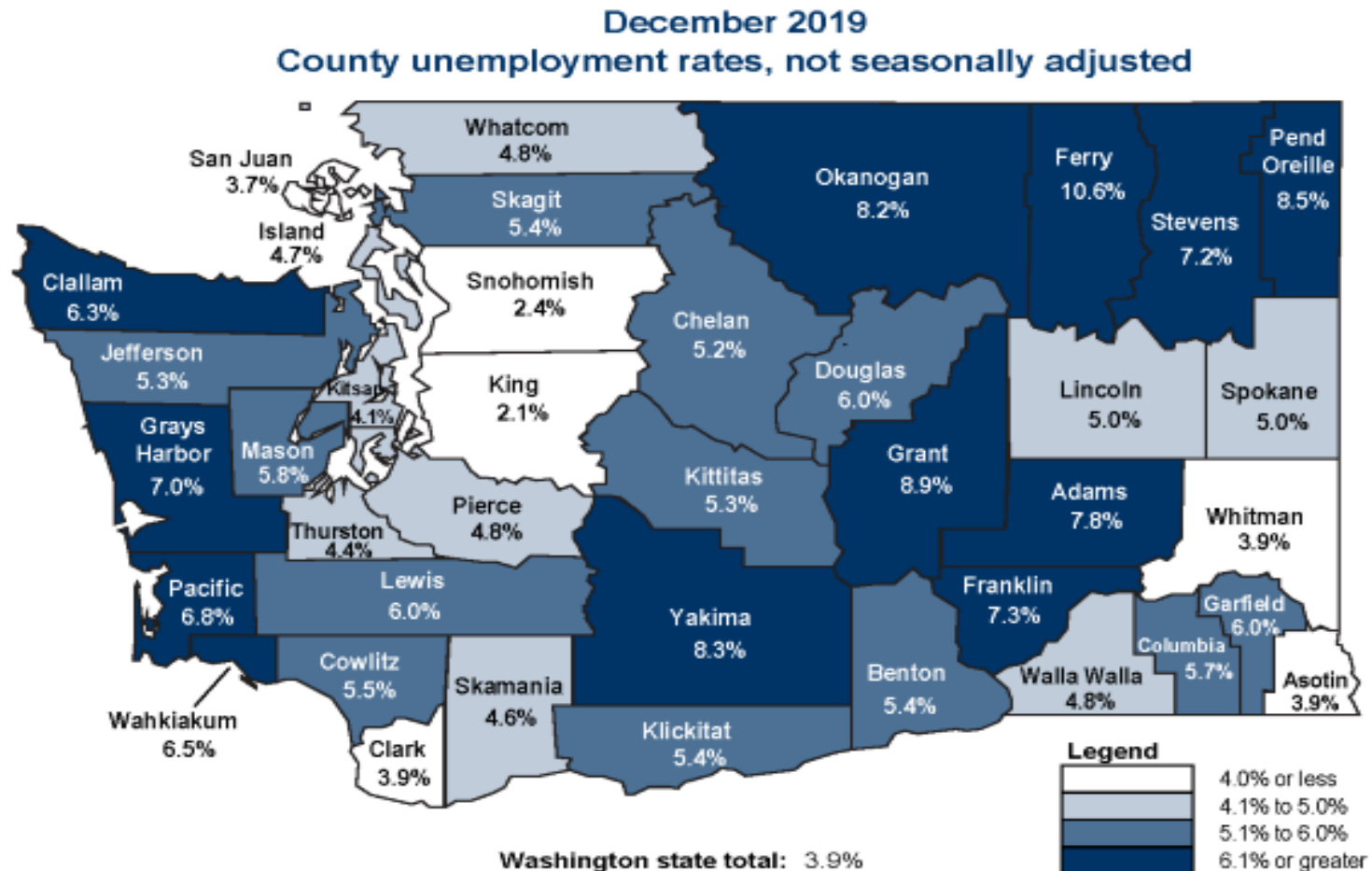


# Future Population

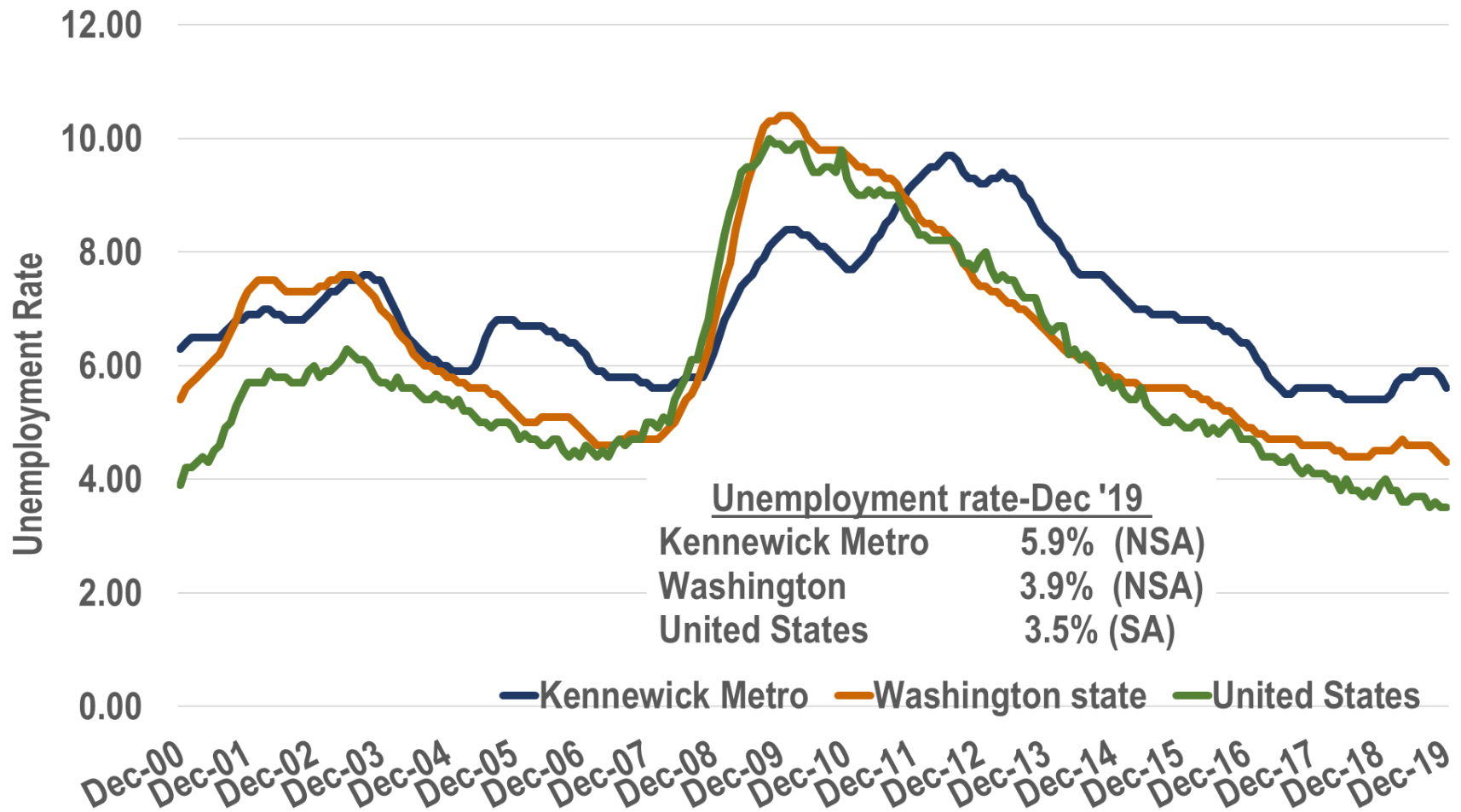
- Benton-Franklin population has forecast to grow at a pace of around 2.0% a year for next 10 years
- By 2028, region is expected to be home to about 350,000 people
- Continuing to be one of the fastest population growing regions in the state



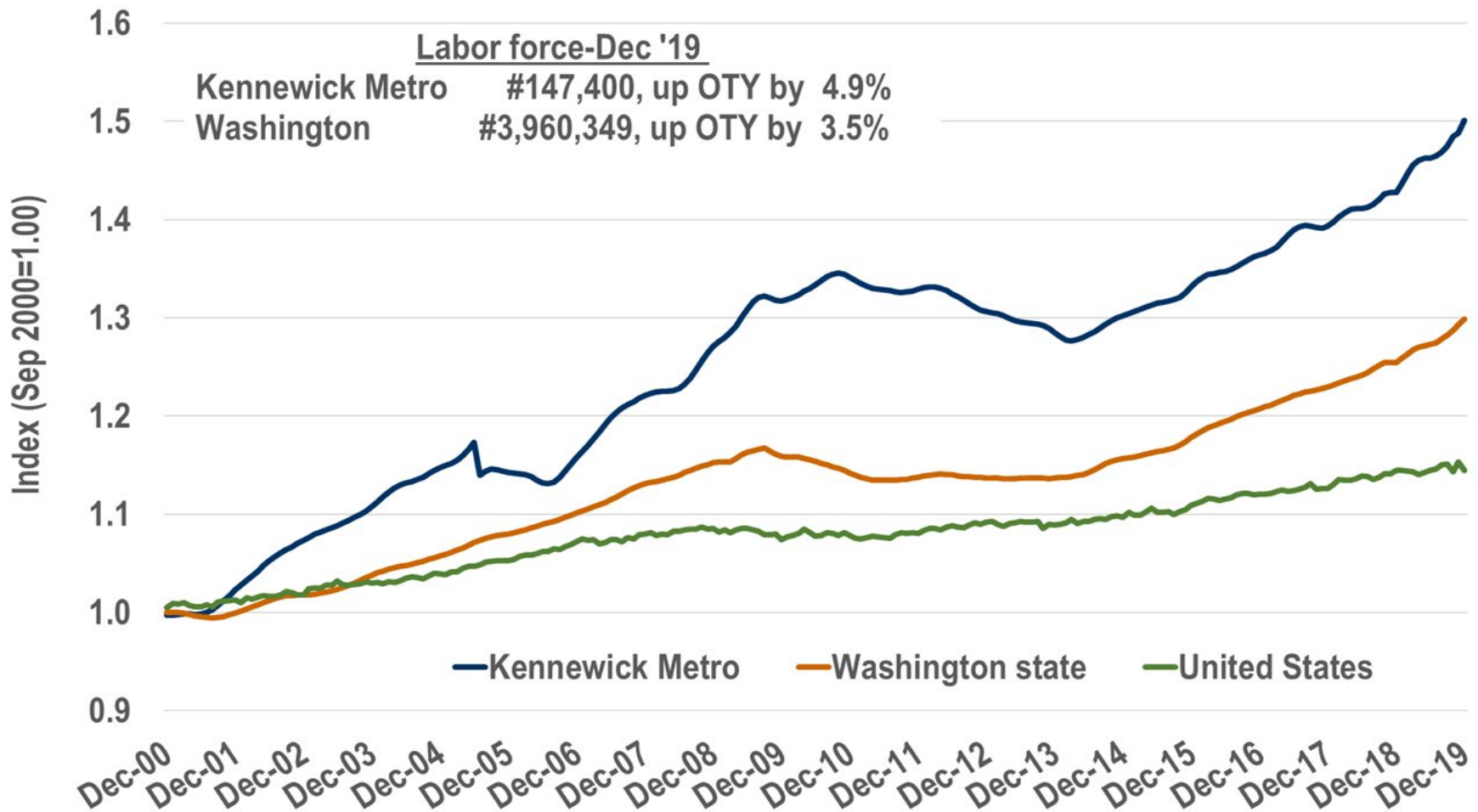
# Unemployment rate



# Unemployment rate



# Labor force



# Jobs: How many JOBS and what KIND of jobs?

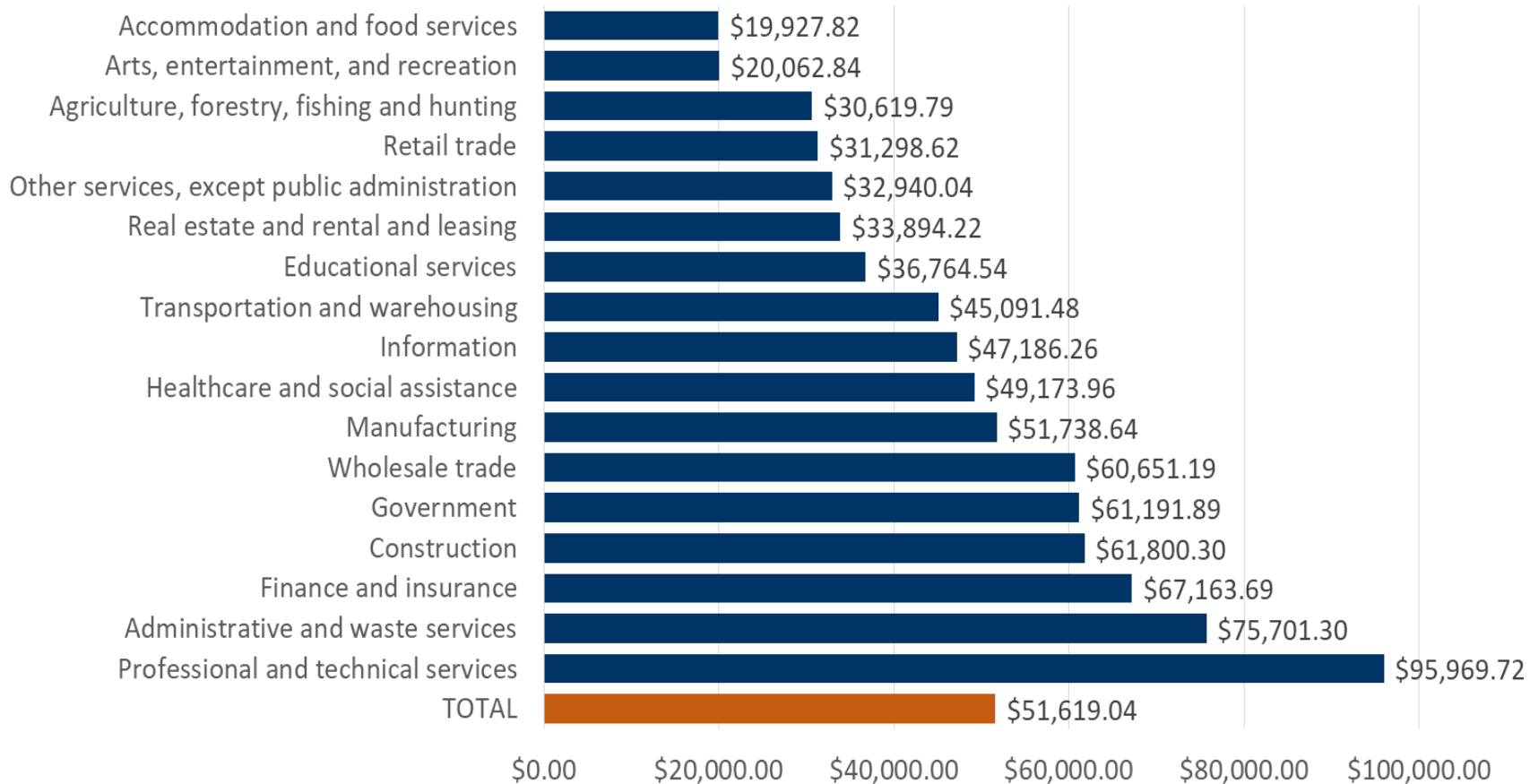
Total covered employment at **124,512** in 2018

## Top employing industries are:

- Government(public education & healthcare) 15.7%
- Healthcare and social assistance (private) 12.2%
- Agriculture 10.7%
- Retail trade 10.6%
- Administrative and waste services 9.0%
- Accommodation and food services 7.9%
- Professional and technical services 7.3%
- Construction 7.1%
- Manufacturing 6.5%

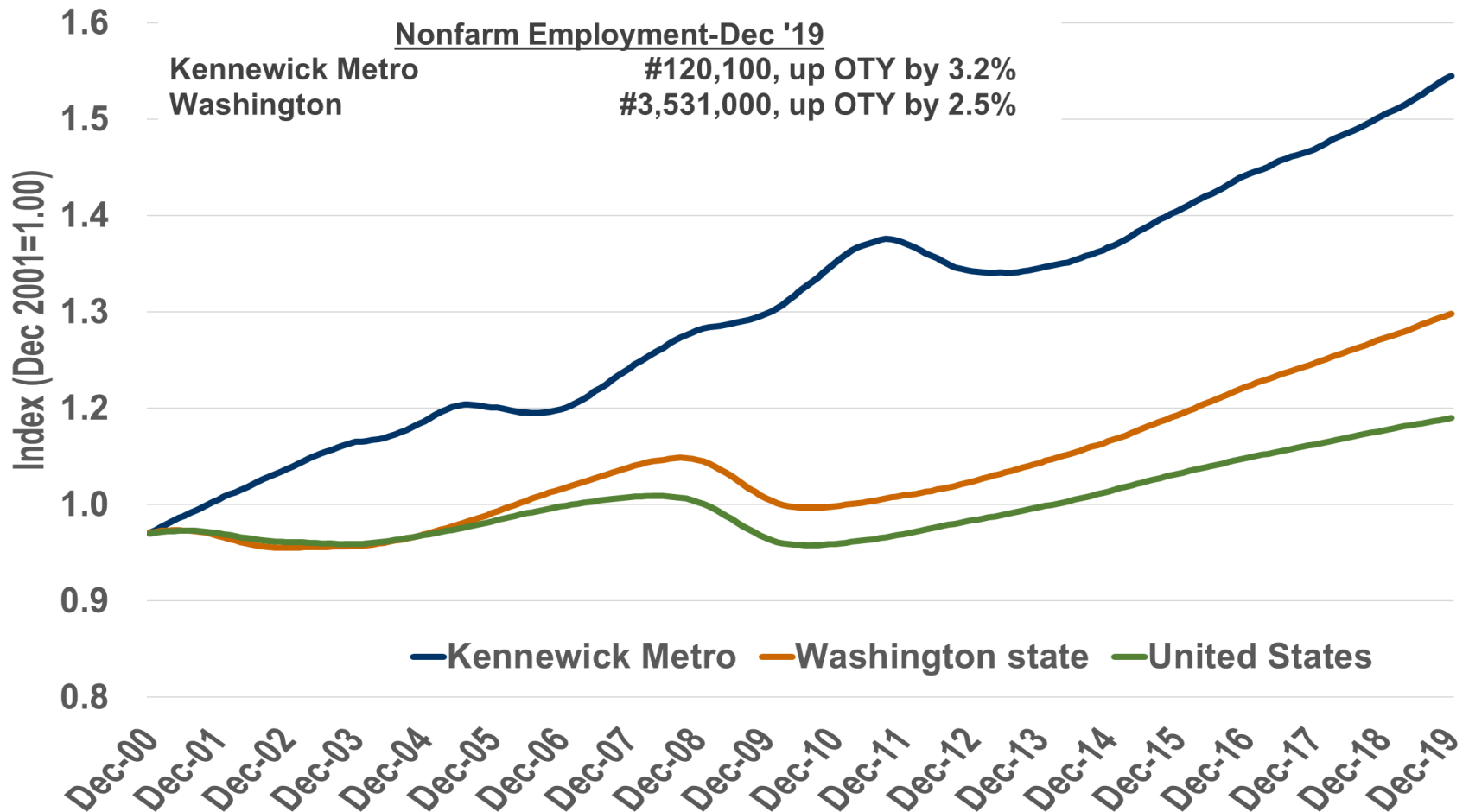
# Wages: What do jobs in the area PAY?

- Total 2018 annual payroll is \$6,427,189,724 (6.1% oty)
  - Average annual pay for all industries is \$51,619 (3.4% oty)

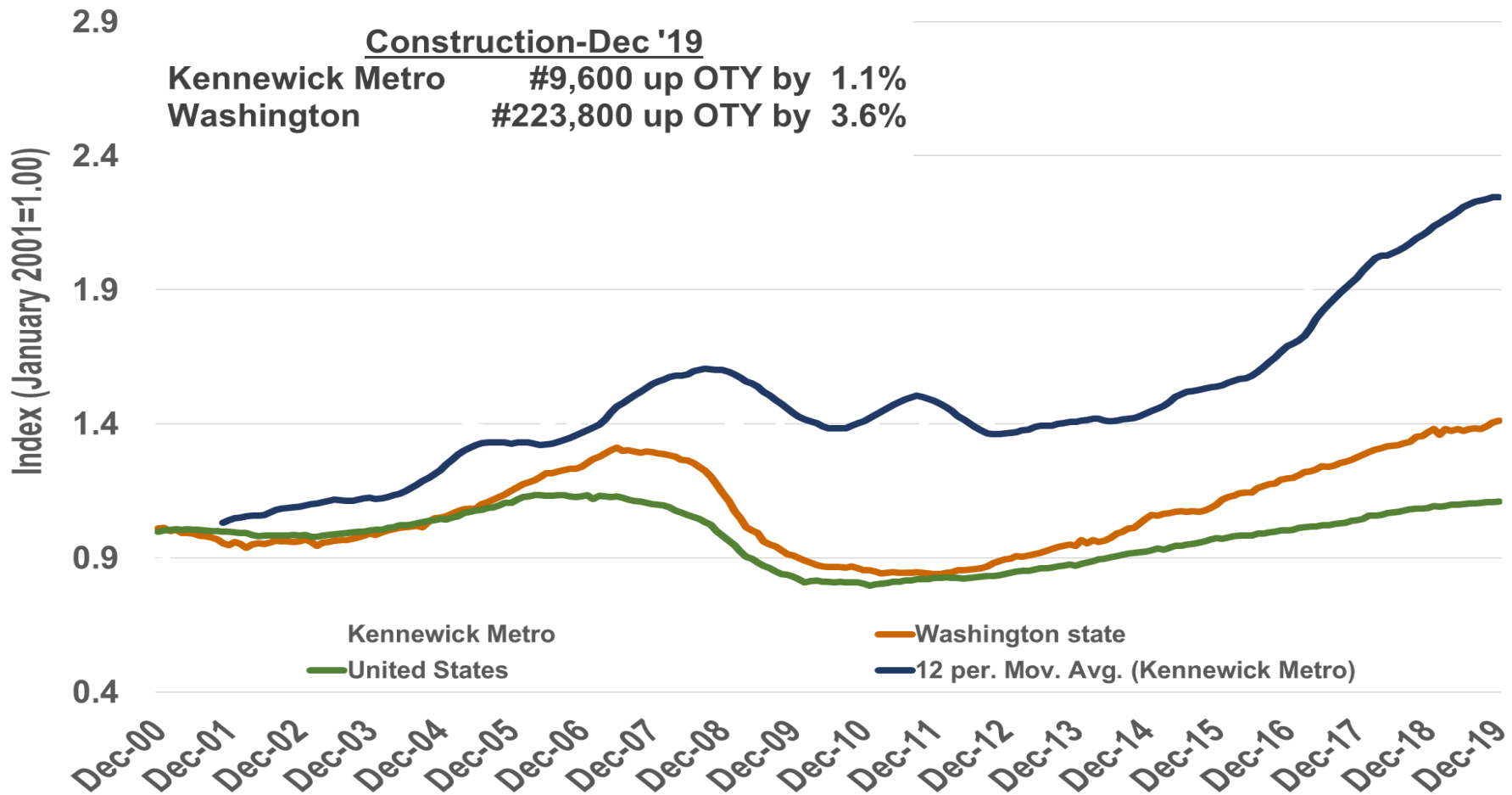




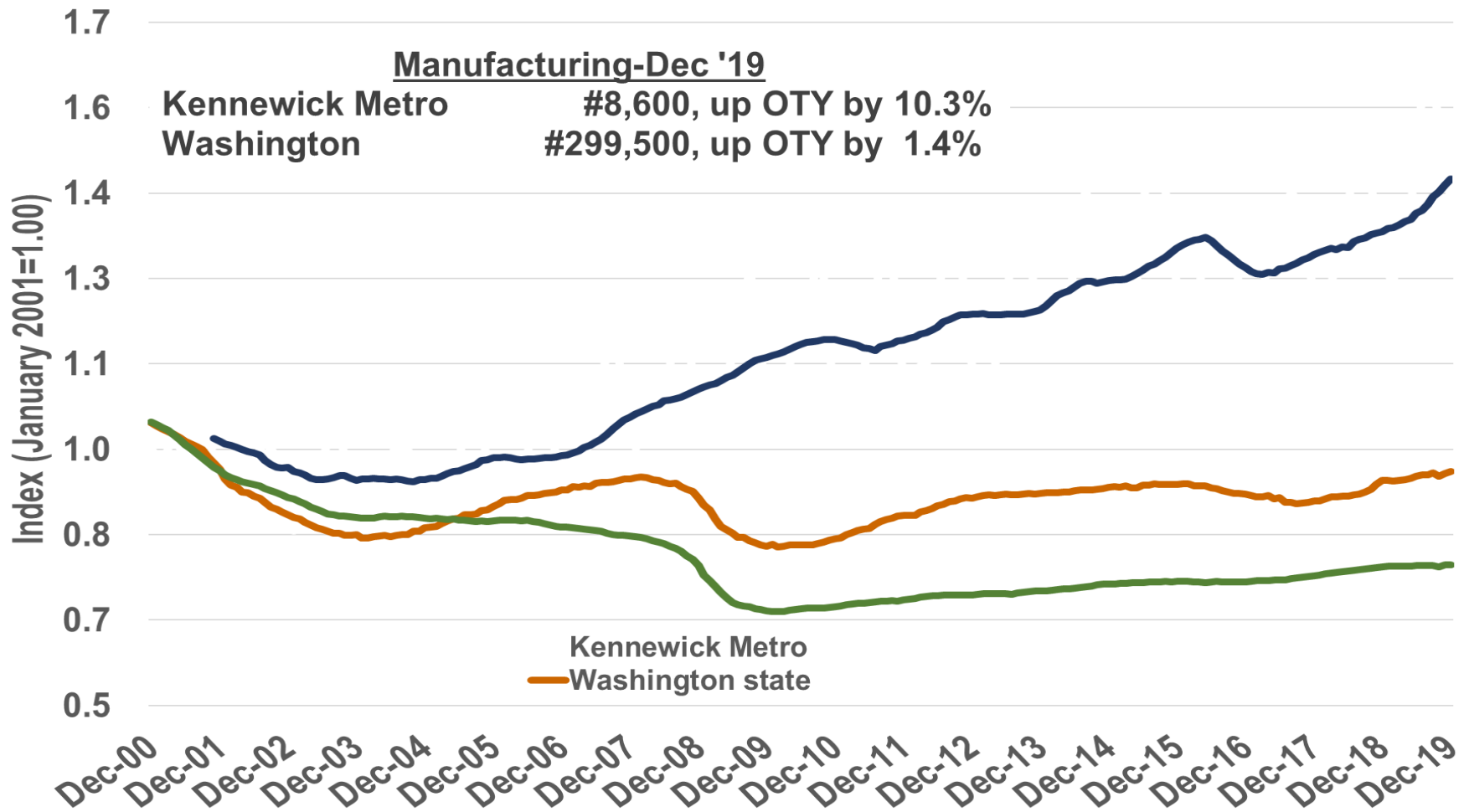
# Nonfarm employment



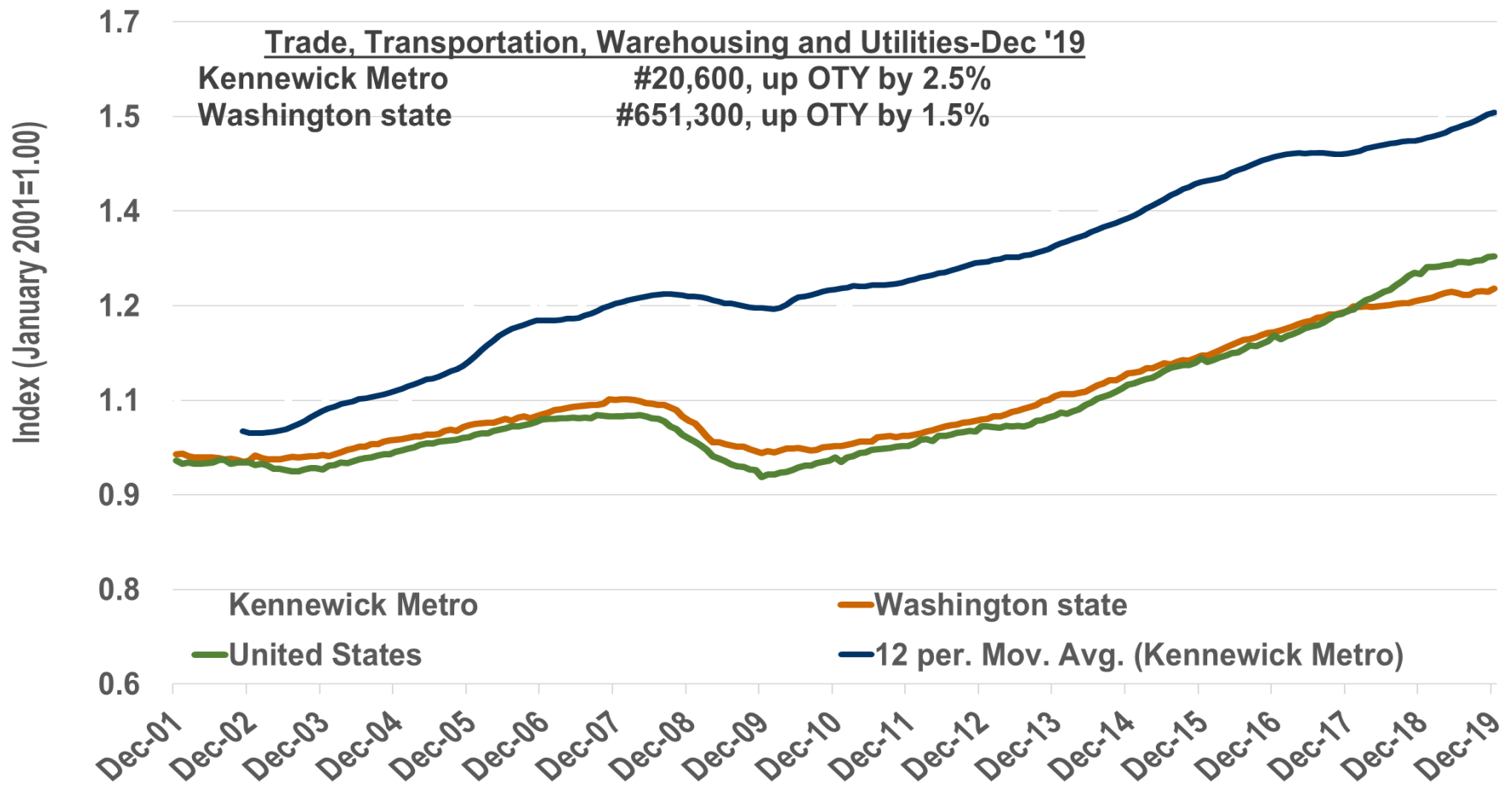
# Construction



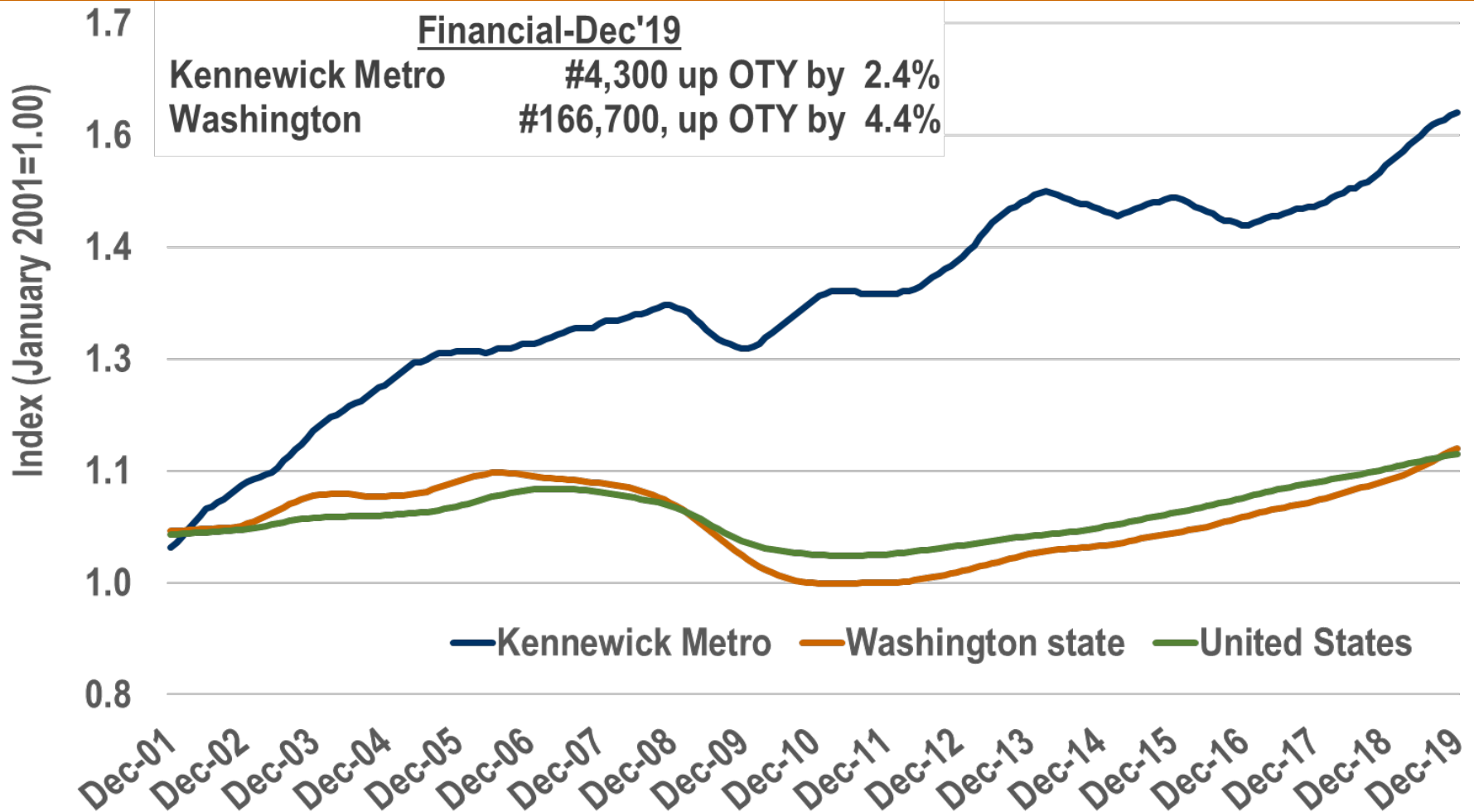
# Manufacturing



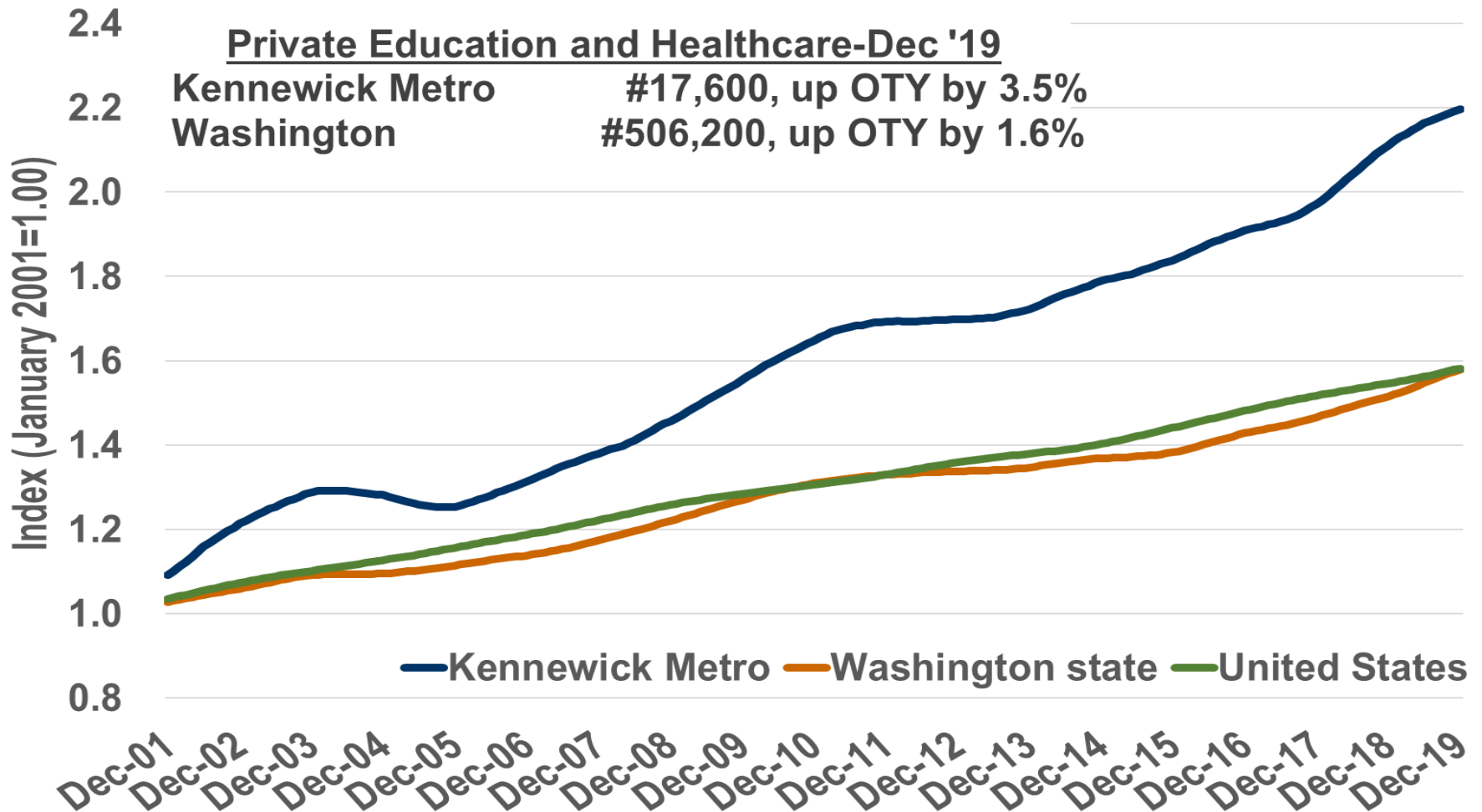
# Trade, Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities



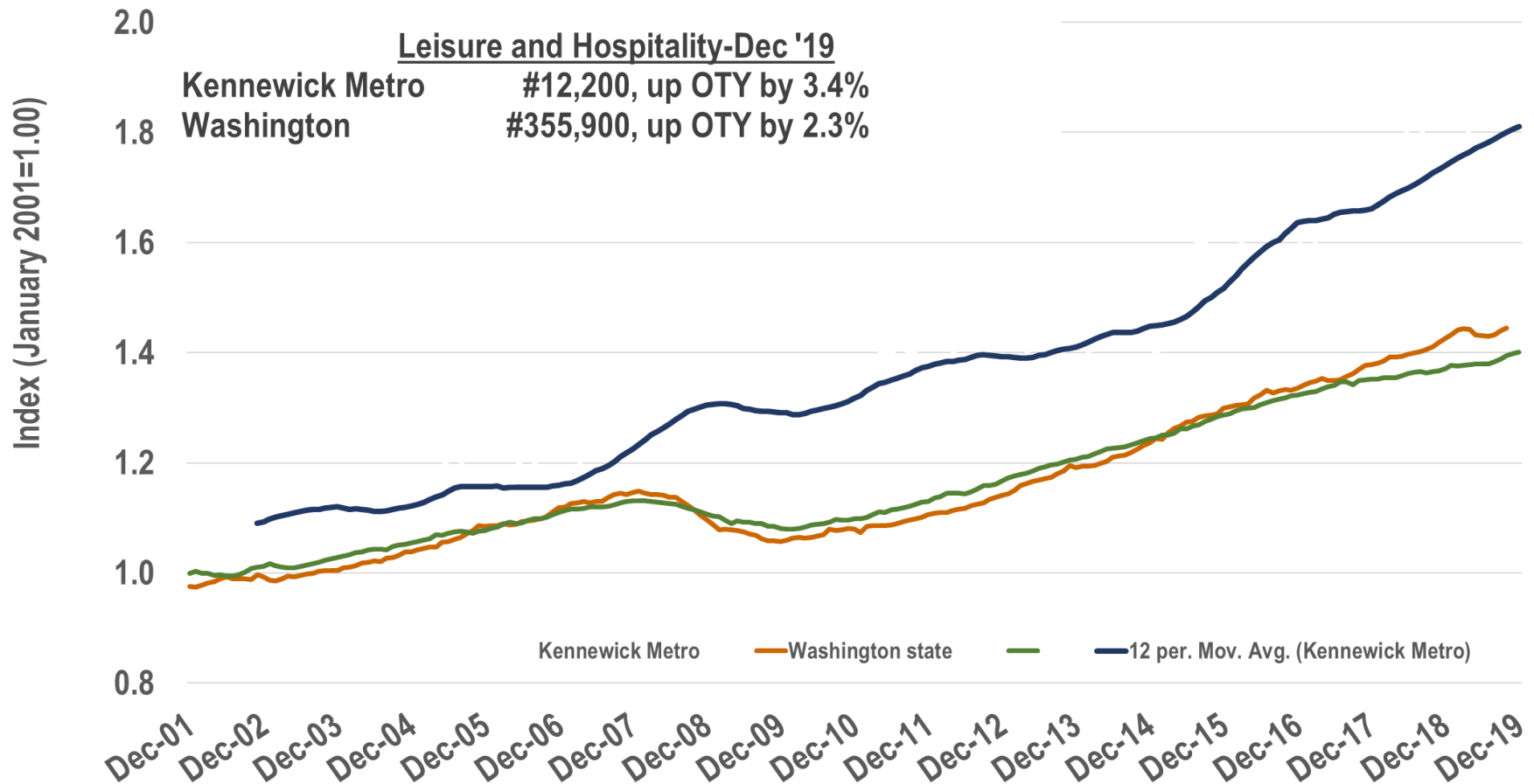
# Financial Activities



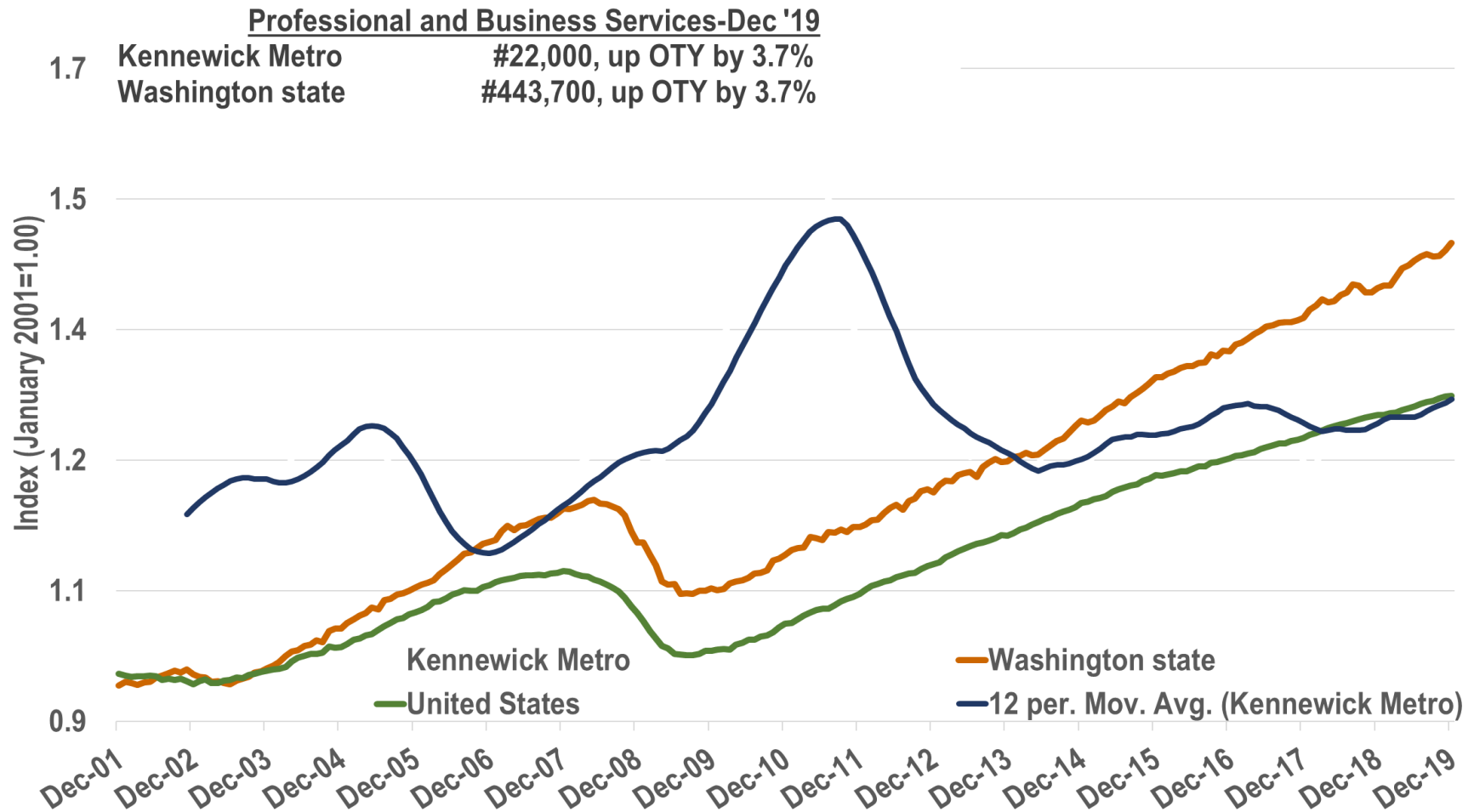
# Private Education and Health Care



# Leisure and Hospitality

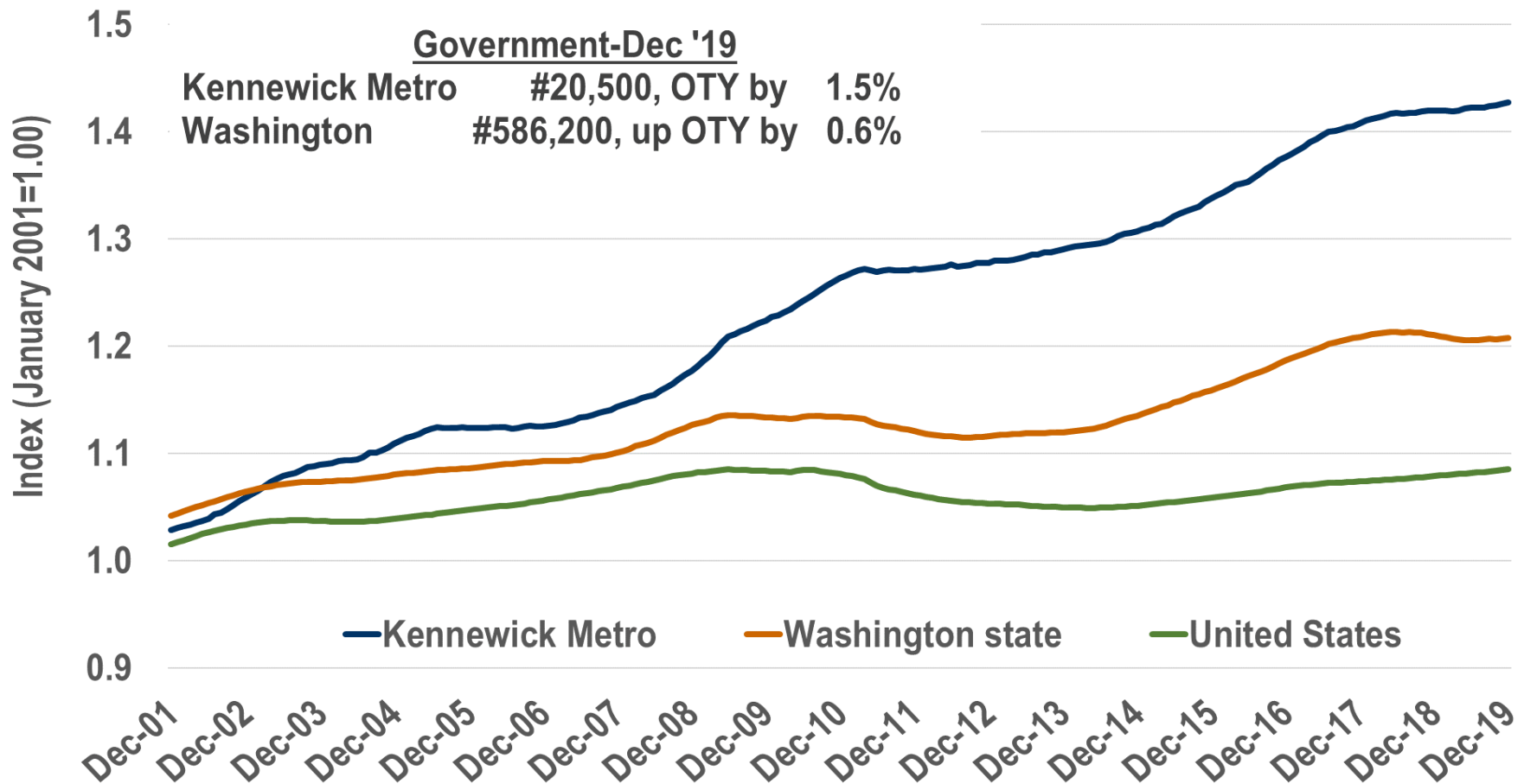


# Professional and Business Services





# Government-local, state and federal



# Outlook 2020....???

- Industry growth and stability
  - Healthcare, Leisure and Hospitality  
Educational Services, and Construction
- Population growth and demand for local products and services to continue
- Workforce Supply and Demand development

Stability ...is most Likely ...

Growth...is very Possible...

Recession...Not in Short Term ... ☺

# Thank you

**Ajša Suljić**  
**Regional Labor Economist**  
**[ASuljic@esd.wa.gov](mailto:ASuljic@esd.wa.gov)**  
**509-734-5928**  
**[esd.wa.gov/employmentdata](http://esd.wa.gov/employmentdata)**