

News Release

Subject: City of Yakima Unemployment Continues at Record Lows Contact: Assistant City Manager Ana Cortez-Steiner – 575-6008

Communications & Public Affairs Director Randy Beehler – 901-1142

Release Date: Tuesday, April 24th, 2018

City of Yakima Unemployment Continues at Record Lows

The city of Yakima's unemployment numbers continue at all-time record lows, according to figures released today, Tuesday, by the State of Washington's Employment Security Department.

"Continued job growth in the city of Yakima is a positive sign for our local economy," said City Council Member and Council Economic Development Committee Chair Jason White. "And the city appreciates the business investment in this community."

The numbers, which are not seasonally adjusted, show an unemployment rate of 6.2 percent in the city of Yakima for the month of March 2018. That's the city's lowest rate for the month of March since the state agency began implementing electronic records back in 1990. The March 2018 figure is down from the 6.4 percent unemployment rate in March 2017.

The city of Yakima's overall average unemployment rate for the first quarter of 2018 (January, February, and March) is 6.7 percent.

And the Employment Security Department's report revised the city's unemployment rate for February 2018. That rate was initially pegged at 6.8 percent, but today's report shows the city of Yakima's unemployment rate was 6.7 percent for February 2018, also an all-time record low for the city.

"It is important to note the March 2018 unemployment rate is a full half percentage point lower than February's," said Assistant City Manager Ana Cortez-Steiner. "This shows incredible gains."

The Employment Security Department will issue its next unemployment update on Tuesday, May 22nd.