



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Tri-Cities, WA Leads the Nation in Year-Over-Year Employment Growth**

Tri-Cities, WA -- The Tri-Cities, Kennewick-Pasco-Richland, MSA, is one of three U.S. metros that has experienced six months of year-over-year employment growth from July-December 2009, according to a March 2010 Garner Economics Article, "Job Growth in U.S. Metros."

The Tri-Cities tops the nation in job growth for the second half of 2009 and continues to show growth in the first quarter of 2010. The Tri-Cities averaged 3.4% monthly job growth July-December 2009 in year-over-year employment growth according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Trailing the Tri-Cities is McAllen-Edinburg-Mission, TX-MSA (avg. monthly growth 1.28%), and Sandusky, OH (avg. monthly growth 2.38%).

Garner Economics previously released a report on year-over-year job growth for January-June 2009 showing the Tri-Cities as one of nine U.S. metros with positive growth in each of those six months. Garner Economics reports show that the Tri-Cities experienced increased job growth each month throughout 2009.

"The March 2010 Garner study is further evidence that the Tri-Cities economy is the bright spot in Washington and is among the top performing economies in the U.S. Of course we have to recognize that a portion of the growth we have experienced occurred because of stimulus funding received by Hanford contractors, but we believe health care and our food processing industry were also important contributors to the positive ranking," TRIDEC President and CEO Carl Adrian commented.

The Tri-City Development Council (TRIDEC) is the lead economic development organization for Benton and Franklin Counties. TRIDEC offers businesses interested in locating or expanding to the Tri-Cities the most confidential & business-specific assistance available in the region.

For more information, visit [www.tridec.org](http://www.tridec.org).

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