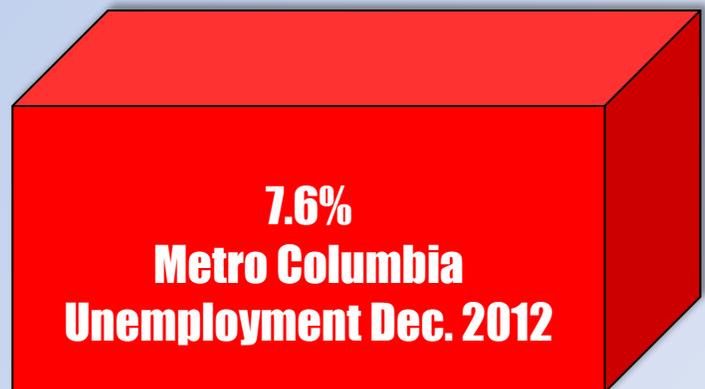
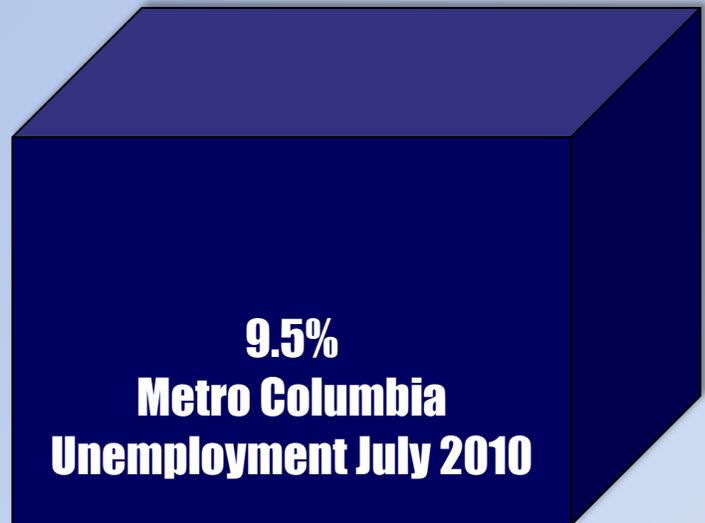


# Job Creation

Our vision is for Columbia to be a world class city, the most talented, educated and entrepreneurial city in America and, thanks to the hard work of so many, we are well on our way to making that vision a reality.

Metro Unemployment is down from 9.5% to 7.6% over the past 30 months outpacing the state and national recovery. Initiatives like our Local Business Enterprise Preference Policy and Mentor/Protégé Program continue to drive millions of dollars in city contracts to local business men and women while our Famously Hot Jobs partnership is connecting our city's unemployed with the nearly 10,000 jobs that are available right now.

We have accomplished great things in this city and we remain confident that the best is yet to come.



	<b>FY 10/11</b>	<b>FY 11/12</b>	<b>% Change</b>
<b>Construction Value</b>	<b>\$200,219,415</b>	<b>\$276,351,259</b>	<b>↑38%</b>
<b>Construction Permits</b>	<b>441</b>	<b>512</b>	<b>↑16%</b>
<b>Permit Fees</b>	<b>\$1,044,107</b>	<b>\$1,391,843</b>	<b>↑33%</b>
<b>Business License Permits</b>	<b>10,447</b>	<b>10,613</b>	<b>↑1.5%</b>