

### Unemployment rates (12/2019)

<sup>1</sup> Statewide:	12/2019: 4.3%
<sup>1</sup> Statewide:	12/2018: 4.5%
<sup>2</sup> Highest county rate:	12/2019: 10.6% (Ferry)
<sup>2</sup> Lowest county rate:	12/2019: 2.1% (King)

<sup>1</sup> = seasonally adjusted; <sup>2</sup> = not seasonally adjusted

### Jobs (growth/loss 12/2019)

Month/month:	+10,900 (preliminary)
Year/year:	+77,800 or +2.2%
Since recession start (12/07):	+503,600 or +16.7%

#### Top Growth industries:

Retail trade	+3,300
Professional and business services	+2,600
Other services	+1,600

#### Declining industries:

Wholesale trade	-700
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<b>Total jobs (labor force):</b>	<b>3,956,800</b>
<b>Total covered employment:</b>	<b>3,506,100</b>
Job losses during recession (12/07-6/09)	-151,300
Job gains since recovery (6/09):	632,200
Unemployed, seeking work:	169,000

[www.esd.wa.gov/labormarketinfo](http://www.esd.wa.gov/labormarketinfo)

### Unemployment claims (12/2019)

<b>Claimants, 12/2019:</b>	<b>69,944 / YTD = 196,545</b>
CY13 = 311,802; CY14 = 249,160; CY15 = 221,326; CY16 = 210,554; CY17 = 224,823; CY18 = 187,603	

**Continued regular claims:** +4.6% since 12/2018

<b>Benefits paid, 12/2019:</b>	<b>\$122.0M / YTD: \$1.06B</b>
CY13 = \$1.8B; CY14 = \$1.1B; CY15 = \$1.0B; CY16 = \$1.0B; CY17 = \$1.03B; CY18 = \$995.4M	

<b>Average weekly benefit, 12/2019</b>	<b>\$484</b>
CY13 = \$387; CY14 = \$398; CY15 = \$418; CY16 = \$473; CY17 = \$484; CY18 = \$467	

**Highest/lowest weekly benefit:** \$790 / \$188

<b>Average weeks on regular benefits, 01/2019–12/2019:</b>	<b>16.9</b>
CY13 = 16.2; CY14 = 15.6; CY15 = 14.9; CY16 = 14.8; CY17 = 14.9; CY18 = 15.6	

### Long-term unemployed (LTU)

<b>Definition:</b> unemployed more than 26 weeks	
<b>LTU job seekers in Washington, 1/2019 - 12/2019:</b>	<b>31,000</b>
LTU = of all unemployed job seekers:	18.0%
LTU = of total labor force (3.9M):	0.8%
Male:	69%
Female:	31%

### Average wage/minimum wage in Washington

<b>Average yearly wage, 2018:</b>	<b>\$65,301 (+5.5% from 2017)</b>
Average weekly wage, 2018:	\$1,255
Minimum wage, 2019:	\$12.00

### Unemployment taxes/trust fund

<b>Taxes collected, Q4-2019:</b>	<b>\$234.6M</b>
CY13 = \$1.37B; CY14 = \$1.52B; CY15 = \$1.33B; CY16 = \$1.18B; CY17 = \$1.12B; CY18 = \$1.09B	
<b>Low/high tax rates, 2019:</b>	0.13-5.72%, Avg. = 1.24%
(\$61-\$2,706 per worker earning = / > \$47,300/year)	
<b>Taxable wage base:</b>	<b>2020: \$52,700; 2019: \$49,800</b>
<b>Trust fund balance, 12/30/2019:</b>	<b>\$4.77B</b>

### WorkSource services (as of 12/31/19)

<b>Total jobs listed on WorkSourceWA.com</b>	<b>853,495*</b>
<b>Total employers with job postings</b>	<b>14,047*</b>
<b>Total employers with WorkSourceWA.com accounts:</b>	<b>19,857*</b>
<b>Total job seekers with WorkSourceWA.com accounts:</b>	<b>514,539*</b>
<b>WorkSource customers who found jobs:</b>	<b>114,317**</b>

\*Since WorkSourceWA.com go-live May 2016

\*\*Rolling four quarters (CY2018 Q2 through CY2019 Q1)

### ESD employees (as of 12/31/19)

<b>Number of employees:</b>	<b>1,669 (1,636 perm)</b>
Employee ages <25 = 1.2%; 25-39 = 22.7%; 40-54 = 37.8%; 55+ = 38.3%	
Employees of color:	28.7%

### Toll-free numbers

#### For UI claimants

- "Regular" claims: 800-318-6022
- Training benefits: 877-600-7701
- Debt collection unit (overpayments): 866-697-4831
- Trade Act: 888-317-0480
- Assistance with eServices sign-in: 855-682-0785

#### For employers

- UI benefits questions: 877-504-5607
- Web tax filing help and employer tax questions: 855-829-9243 (855-TAX-WAGE)
- SharedWork help line: 800-752-2500
- Work Opportunity Tax Credit: 360-902-9326

#### Other

- Veterans (Dept. of Veterans Affairs): 800-562-2308
- WorkSourceWA.com sign-in assistance: 888-316-5627
- Washington Service Corps: 888-713-6080
- Labor market information: 360-507-9621
- Benefit and tax fraud: 800-246-9763
- Federal bonding program: 360-902-9691
- Paid Family and Medical Leave: 833-717-2273

### Washington Relay Service

Employment Security Department is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Language assistance services for limited English proficient individuals are available free of charge. Washington Relay Service: 711.