

Unemployment rates (02/2020)

¹ Statewide:	02/2020: 3.9%
¹ Statewide:	02/2019: 4.5%
² Highest county rate:	2/2020: 13.4% (Ferry)
² Lowest county rate:	2/2020: 2.5% (King)
¹ = seasonally adjusted; ² = not seasonally adjusted	

Jobs (growth/loss 02/2020)

Month/month:	+3,500 (preliminary)
Year/year:	+100,900 or +2.9%
Since recession start (12/07):	+473,100 or +15.7%

Top Growth industries:

Construction	+2,800
Professional and business services	+2,500
Government	+700

Declining industries:

Leisure and hospitality	-900
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Total jobs (labor force):	3,962,600
Total covered employment:	3,517,900
Job losses during recession (12/07-6/09):	-151,300
Job gains since recovery (6/09):	601,700
Unemployed, seeking work:	151,800

www.esd.wa.gov/labormarketinfo

Unemployment claims (02/2020)

Claimants, 02/2020:	67,681 / YTD = 92,573
CY14 = 249,160; CY15 = 221,326; CY16 = 210,554; CY17 = 224,823; CY18 = 187,603; CY19 = 196,545	

Continued regular claims:	-13.8% since 02/2019
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Benefits paid, 02/2020:	\$102.9M / YTD: \$221.1M
CY14 = \$1.1B; CY15 = \$1.0B; CY16 = \$1.0B; CY17 = \$1.03B; CY18 = \$995.4M; CY19 = \$1.06B	

Average weekly benefit, 02/2020	\$480
CY14 = \$398; CY15 = \$418; CY16 = \$473; CY17 = \$484; CY18 = \$467; CY19 = \$478	

Highest/lowest weekly benefit:	\$790 / \$188
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Average weeks on regular benefits, 03/2019–02/2020:	17.1
CY13 = 16.2; CY14 = 15.6; CY15 = 14.9; CY16 = 14.8; CY17 = 14.9; CY18 = 15.6; CY19 = 16.9	

Long-term unemployed (LTU)

Definition: unemployed more than 26 weeks	
LTU job seekers in Washington, 03/2019 - 02/2020:	34,200
LTU = of all unemployed job seekers:	20.8%
LTU = of total labor force (3.9M):	0.9%
Male:	64%
Female:	36%

Average wage/minimum wage in Washington

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

Unemployment taxes/trust fund

Taxes collected, Q4-2019:	\$234.6M
CY13 = \$1.37B; CY14 = \$1.52B; CY15 = \$1.33B; CY16 = \$1.18B; CY17 = \$1.12B; CY18 = \$1.09B	
Low/high tax rates, 2019:	0.13-5.72%, Avg. = 1.24% (\$61-\$2,706 per worker earning = / > \$47,300/year)
Taxable wage base:	2020: \$52,700; 2019: \$49,800
Trust fund balance, 02/29/2020:	\$4.74B

WorkSource services (as of 2/29/20)

Total jobs listed on WorkSourceWA.com	892,859*
Total employers with job postings	14,379*
Total employers with WorkSourceWA.com accounts:	20,334*
Total job seekers with WorkSourceWA.com accounts:	535,155*
WorkSource customers who found jobs:	116,234**

*Since WorkSourceWA.com go-live May 2016

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

ESD employees (as of 2/29/20)

Number of employees:	1,676 (1,645 perm)
Employee ages <25 = 1.3%; 25-39 = 23.3%; 40-54 = 37.8%; 55+ = 37.6%	
Employees of color:	28.6%

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: 800-669-9271

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: 360-890-3735
- Benefit and tax fraud: 800-246-9763
- Federal bonding program: 800-669-9271
- 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.