Unemployment rates (04/2020)

- Statewide: 04/2020: 15.4%
- Statewide: 04/2019: 4.4%
- Highest county rate: 4/2020: 20.2% (Snohomish)
- Lowest county rate: 4/2020: 6.6% (Whitman)

1 = seasonally adjusted; 2 = not seasonally adjusted

Jobs (growth/loss 04/2020)

- Month/month: -527,100 (preliminary)
- Year/year: -485,800 or -14.6%
- Since recession start (12/07): -45,700 or -1.5%

Declining industries:
- Leisure and hospitality: -177,700
- Construction: -81,000
- Education and health services: -66,700
- Retail trade: -45,600

Total jobs (labor force): 3,957,300
Total covered employment: 3,346,600
Job losses during recession (12/07-6/09): -150,400
Job gains since recovery (6/09): 104,100
Unemployed, seeking work: 610,721

Unemployment claims (04/2020)

- Claimants (regular benefits), 04/2020: 295,594
  CY14 = 249,160; CY15 = 221,326; CY16 = 210,554;
  CY17 = 224,823; CY18 = 187,603; CY19 = 196,545

- Continued regular claims: +949% since 04/2019

- Regular benefits paid, 04/2020: $433.4M
  CY14 = $1.1B; CY15 = $1.0B; CY16 = $1.0B;
  CY17 = $1.03B; CY18 = $995.4M; CY19 = $1.06B

- Average weekly benefit, 04/2020: $447
  CY14 = $398; CY15 = $418; CY16 = $473;
  CY17 = $484; CY18 = $467; CY19 = $478

- Highest/lowest weekly benefit: $790 / $188

Long-term unemployed (LTU)

- Definition: unemployed more than 26 weeks
- LTU job seekers in Washington, 05/2019 - 04/2020: 33,900
- LTU = of all unemployed job seekers: 16.8%
- LTU = of total labor force (3.9M):
  Male: 65%
  Female: 35%

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, 04/30/2020: $3.9B

WorkSource services (as of 4/30/2020)

- Total jobs listed on WorkSourceWA.com: 925,443*
- Total employers with job postings: 14,672*
- Total employers with WorkSourceWA.com accounts: 20,928*
- Total job seekers with WorkSourceWA.com accounts: 586,392*
- WorkSource customers who found jobs: 114,972**

  *Since WorkSourceWA.com go-live May 2016
  **Rolling four quarters (CY2018 Q3 through CY2019 Q2)

E&S employees (as of 4/30/2020)

- Number of employees: 1,940 (1,713 perm)
  Employee ages <25 = 1.4%; 25-39 = 24.1%;
  40-54 = 38.3%; 55+ = 36.2%
  Employees of color: 28.09%

Toll-free numbers

For UI claimants
- "Regular" claims: 800-318-6022
- Training benefits: 877-600-7701
- General unemployment questions: 833-572-8400
- 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