Unemployment rates (10/2019)

1 Statewide:
  10/2019: 4.5%
1 Statewide:
  10/2018: 4.4%
2 Highest county rate:
  10/2019: 9.6% (Ferry)
2 Lowest county rate:
  10/2019: 2.7% (King)

1 = seasonally adjusted; 2 = not seasonally adjusted

Jobs (growth/loss 10/2019)

Month/month: -1,600 (preliminary)
Year/year: +67,600 or +1.9%
Since recession start (12/07): +494,600 or +16.4%

Top Growth industries:
- Retail trade  +1,300
- Information +800
- Construction +700

Declining industries:
- Other services -1,300

Total jobs (labor force): 3,922,300
Job losses during recession (12/07-6/09): -151,300
Job gains since recovery (6/09): 623,200
Unemployed, seeking work: 178,300

Unemployment claims (10/2019)

Claimants, 10/2019: 45,942 / YTD = 173,926
CY13 = 311,802; CY14 = 249,160; CY15 = 221,326; CY16 = 210,554; CY17 = 224,823; CY18 = 249,160; CY19 = 249,160
Continued regular claims: +6.0% since 10/2018
Benefits paid, 10/2019: $73.1M / YTD: $864.4M

Average weekly benefit, 10/2019: $505
Average weeks on regular benefits, 11/2018-10/2019: 16.7

Long-term unemployed (LTU)

Definition: unemployed more than 26 weeks
LTU = of all unemployed job seekers: 17.3%
LTU = of total labor force (3.9M): 0.8%
Male: 71%
Female: 29%

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

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.