

Unemployment rates (08/2019)

¹ Statewide:	08/2019: 4.6%
¹ Statewide:	08/2018: 4.4%
² Highest county rate:	08/2019: 10.8% (Ferry)
² Lowest county rate:	08/2019: 3.0% (King)
¹ = seasonally adjusted; ² = not seasonally adjusted	

Jobs (growth/loss 08/2019)

Month/month:	2,300 (preliminary)
Year/year:	+65,200 or +1.9%
Since recession start (12/07):	+478,700 or +15.9%

Top Growth industries:

Education and health services	+2,800
Wholesale trade	+1,400
Information	+1,200

Declining industries:

Leisure and hospitality	-1,400
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Total jobs (labor force):

	3,895,600
Job losses during recession (12/07-6/09)	-151,300
Job gains since recovery (6/09):	607,300
Unemployed, seeking work:	180,100

www.esd.wa.gov/labormarketinfo

Unemployment claims (8/2019)

Claimants, 8/2019:	46,149 / YTD = 146,886
CY13 = 311,802; CY14 = 249,160; CY15 = 221,326; CY16 = 210,554; CY17 = 224,823; CY18 = 187,603	

Continued regular claims:

+5.0% since 8/2018

Benefits paid, 8/2019:

\$72.4M / YTD: \$709.3M

CY13 = \$1.8B; CY14 = \$1.1B; CY15 = \$1.0B;
CY16 = \$1.0B; CY17 = \$1.03B; CY18 = \$995.4M

Average weekly benefit, 8/2019

\$484

CY13 = \$387; CY14 = \$398; CY15 = \$418;
CY16 = \$473; CY17 = \$484; CY18 = \$467

Highest/lowest weekly benefit:

\$790 / \$188

Average weeks on regular benefits, 9/2018–8/2019:

16.7

CY13 = 16.2; CY14 = 15.6; CY15 = 14.9;
CY16 = 14.8; CY17 = 14.9; CY18 = 15.6

Long-term unemployed (LTU)

Definition: unemployed more than 26 weeks

LTU job seekers in Washington, 9/2018-8/2019:

31,100

LTU = of all unemployed job seekers:

16.9%

LTU = of total labor force (3.8M):

0.8%

Male:

70%

Female:

30%

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, Q2-2019: **\$374.1M**

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: **2019:** \$49,800; **2018:** \$47,300

Trust fund balance, 08/31/2019: **\$4.81B**

WorkSource services (as of 8/31/19)

Total jobs listed on WorkSourceWA.com	772,546*
Total employers with job postings	13,294*
Total employers with WorkSourceWA.com accounts:	18,878*
Total job seekers with WorkSourceWA.com accounts:	476,364*
WorkSource customers who found jobs:	122,695**

*Since WorkSourceWA.com go-live May 2016

**Rolling four quarters (CY2017 Q4 through CY2018 Q3)

ESD employees (as of 8/31/19)

Number of employees:	1,635 (1,606 perm)
Employee ages <25 = 1.2%; 25-39 = 22.8%; 40-54 = 37.8%; 55+ = 38.2%	
Employees of color:	28.4%

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

For job seekers

- Veterans (WorkSource): 877-453-5906
- Veterans (Dept. of Veterans Affairs): 800-562-2308

Other

- 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
- Agricultural services: 509-826-7590
- 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.