

**Unemployment rates (08/2020)**

<sup>1</sup> Statewide:	<b>08/2020: 8.5%</b>
<sup>1</sup> Statewide:	08/2019: 4.2%
<sup>2</sup> Highest county rate:	8/2020: 11.5% (Pend Oreille)
<sup>2</sup> Lowest county rate:	8/2020: 5.8% (Asotin)

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

**Jobs (growth/loss 08/2020)**

<b>Month/month:</b>	<b>19,800 (preliminary)</b>
Year/year:	-216,100 or -6.2%
Since recession start (12/07):	251,900 or 8.4%

**Top growth industries:**

Government	+13,100
Retail trade	+4,300

**Declining industries:**

Manufacturing	-3,600
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<b>Total jobs (labor force):</b>	<b>3,955,100</b>
<b>Total covered employment:</b>	<b>3,617,300</b>
Job losses during recession (12/07-6/09)	-150,400
Job gains since recovery (6/09):	392,500
Unemployed, seeking work:	337,800

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

**Unemployment claims (08/2020)**

<b>Claimants (regular benefits), 08/2020:</b>	<b>325,957</b>
CY14 = 249,160; CY15 = 221,326; CY16 = 210,554; CY17 = 224,823; CY18 = 187,603; CY19 = 196,545	

**Continued regular claims:** +532% since 08/2019

<b>Regular benefits paid, 08/2020:</b>	<b>\$417.0M</b>
CY14 = \$1.1B; CY15 = \$1.0B; CY16 = \$1.0B; CY17 = \$1.03B; CY18 = \$995.4M; CY19 = \$1.06B	

**Average weekly benefit (regular claims), 08/2020** **\$417**

CY14 = \$398; CY15 = \$418; CY16 = \$473;  
CY17 = \$484; CY18 = \$467; CY19 = \$478

**Highest/lowest weekly benefit:** **\$844 / \$201**

**Long-term unemployed (LTU)**

**Definition:** unemployed more than 26 weeks

<b>LTU job seekers in Washington, 09/2019 - 08/2020:</b>	<b>38,900</b>
LTU = of all unemployed job seekers:	13.7%
LTU = of total labor force (3.9M):	0.9%
Male:	67%
Female:	33%

**Average wage/minimum wage in Washington**

<b>Average yearly wage, 2019:</b>	<b>\$69,700 (+6.7% from 2018)</b>
Average weekly wage, 2019:	\$1,340
Minimum wage, 2019:	\$12.00

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**Unemployment taxes/trust fund**


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<b>Taxes collected, Q2-2020:</b>	<b>\$381.7M</b>
CY13 = \$1.37B; CY14 = \$1.52B; CY15 = \$1.33B; CY16 = \$1.18B; CY17 = \$1.12B; CY18 = \$1.09B; CY19 = \$1.09B	
<b>Low/high tax rates, 2020:</b>	<b>0.13-5.72%, Avg. = 1.08%</b>
(\$68-\$3,014 per worker earning = / > \$52,700/year)	
<b>Taxable wage base:</b>	<b>2020: \$52,700; 2019: \$49,800</b>
<b>Trust fund balance, 08/30/2020:</b>	<b>\$2.5B</b>

**WorkSource services (as of 8/31/20)**


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<b>Total jobs listed on WorkSourceWA.com</b>	<b>987,758*</b>
<b>Total employers with job postings</b>	<b>15,420*</b>
<b>Total employers with WorkSourceWA.com accounts:</b>	<b>22,038*</b>
<b>Total job seekers with WorkSourceWA.com accounts:</b>	<b>666,613*</b>
<b>WorkSource customers who found jobs:</b>	<b>111,560**</b>

\*Since WorkSourceWA.com go-live May 2016

\*\*Rolling four quarters (CY2018 Q4 through CY2019 Q3)

**ESD employees (as of 8/31/20)**


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<b>Number of employees:</b>	<b>2,351 (1,767 perm)</b>
Employee ages <25 = 2.2%; 25-39 = 25.9%; 40-54 = 38.1%; 55+ = 33.8%	
<b>Employees of color:</b>	<b>29.6%</b>

**Toll-free numbers**


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**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: 833-572-8421
- Benefit and tax fraud: 800-246-9763
- Federal bonding program: 800-669-9271
- Paid Family and Medical Leave: 833-717-2273

**Washington Relay Service**


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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.

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