

### Unemployment rates (08/2020)

<sup>1</sup> Statewide:	08/2020: 8.5%
<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)

Month/month:	19,800 (preliminary)
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
---------------	--------

Total jobs (labor force):	3,955,100
Total covered employment:	3,617,300
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)

Claimants (regular benefits), 08/2020:	325,957
--	---------

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

Regular benefits paid, 08/2020:	\$417.0M
---------------------------------	----------

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	
LTU job seekers in Washington, 09/2019 - 08/2020:	38,900
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

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

### Unemployment taxes/trust fund

Taxes collected, Q2-2020:	\$381.7M
---------------------------	----------

CY13 = \$1.37B; CY14 = \$1.52B; CY15 = \$1.33B;  
CY16 = \$1.18B; CY17 = \$1.12B; CY18 = \$1.09B; CY19 = \$1.09B

Low/high tax rates, 2020:	0.13-5.72%, Avg. = 1.08%
---------------------------	--------------------------

(\$68-\$3,014 per worker earning = / > \$52,700/year)

Taxable wage base:	2020: \$52,700; 2019: \$49,800
Trust fund balance, 08/30/2020:	\$2.5B

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

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

\*Since WorkSourceWA.com go-live May 2016

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

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

Number of employees:	2,351 (1,767 perm)
----------------------	--------------------

Employee ages <25 = 2.2%; 25-39 = 25.9%;  
40-54 = 38.1%; 55+ = 33.8%

Employees of color:	29.6%
---------------------	-------

### 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: 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

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.