

Washington
4.6%

United States
3.7%
Seasonally adjusted

Monthly Employment Report

June 2019

Employment estimates in this report are generated by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

Monthly employment estimates are subject to revision in subsequent months when more sample data become available.

BLS data in this report are rounded to the nearest 100.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, preliminary estimates from the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) indicate nonfarm employment in Washington rose by 6,000 in June 2019; BLS estimates the private sector gained 5,400 jobs during the month and the public sector gained 600 jobs.

On a not seasonally adjusted basis, estimates for June 2018 through June 2019 indicate an increase in employment of 82,700 for the state. The private sector added 82,600 jobs while the public sector gained an estimated 100 jobs over the year.

Washington's preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for June 2019 is 4.6 percent. The revised estimated May 2019 unemployment rate is at 4.6 percent. The June 2018 unemployment rate was 4.4 percent.

BLS estimates of monthly job gains and losses are based on a survey of businesses. Preliminary estimates are subject to revision. May's preliminary estimated gain of 9,600 jobs was revised to a gain of 7,600 jobs.

For more information, call Paul Turek, labor economist at 360-507-9599.

Resident civilian labor force and unemployment, seasonally adjusted

The resident civilian labor force is the total number of people in the workforce, employed and unemployed, ages 16 and up.

The number of unemployed is the estimated number of people who currently do not have a job, are available for work and have actively looked for work in the last four weeks.

The unemployment rate is the ratio of the estimated number of unemployed divided by the civilian labor force.

Resident civilian labor force and unemployment, seasonally adjusted
United States and Washington state, May and June 2018 and 2019
Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

	June 2019 (Preliminary)	May 2019 (Revised)	June 2018 (Revised)	May 2018 (Revised)
United States				
Unemployment rate				
Seasonally adjusted	3.7%	3.6%	4.0%	3.8%
Washington				
Unemployment rate	4.6%	4.6%	4.4%	4.5%
Resident labor force	3,879,200	3,875,900	3,783,200	3,777,200
Unemployed	179,800	180,200	168,100	169,600
Seattle/Bellevue/Everett				
Unemployment rate	3.3%	3.5%	3.4%	3.4%
Resident labor force	1,716,100	1,715,600	1,682,000	1,680,500
Unemployed	57,200	59,600	56,600	57,000



¹Most of the employment numbers discussed in this report refers to jobs, not persons. For example, if a person holds two positions, these positions are counted as two jobs in the employment series. In the section titled "Unemployment," these positions refer to individuals, not jobs. In this case, a person holding two jobs is counted only once.

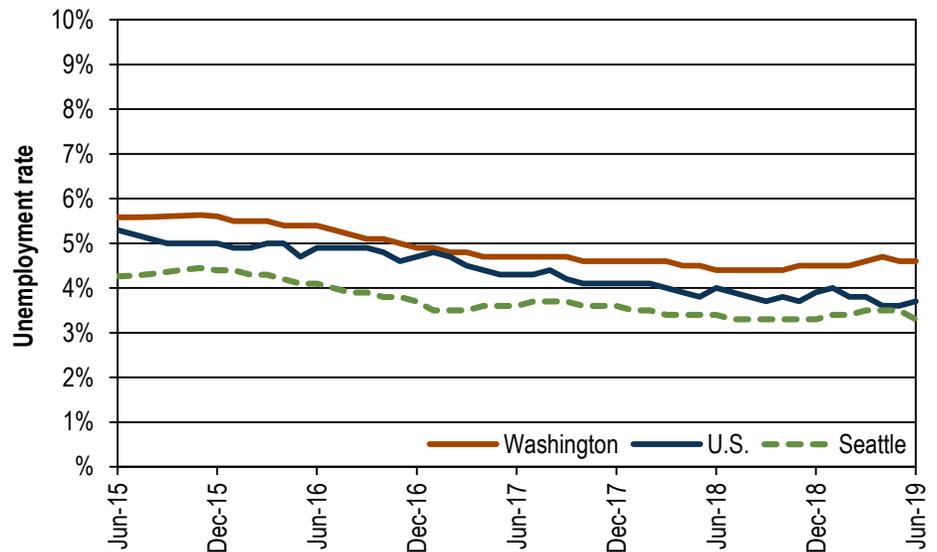
Unemployment, seasonally adjusted

The BLS estimates Washington's preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for June 2019 is 4.6 percent. The revised estimated May 2019 unemployment rate is 4.6 percent.

According to BLS estimates, the number of unemployed people fell by 400 in June 2019 compared to May 2019. At the same time, the number of employed people rose by an estimated 3,700. Overall, this amounted to an increase of 3,300 people in the labor force.

The preliminary June 2019 unemployment rate is a 0.2 percentage point higher than the June 2018 rate of 4.4 percent.

Unemployment rates, seasonally adjusted
U.S., Washington and Seattle, June 2015 through June 2019
Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics



June 2019 preliminary unemployment rates:

U.S. (preliminary) 3.7%
Washington (preliminary) 4.6%
Seattle area (preliminary) 3.3%

Employment change and moving average, seasonally adjusted

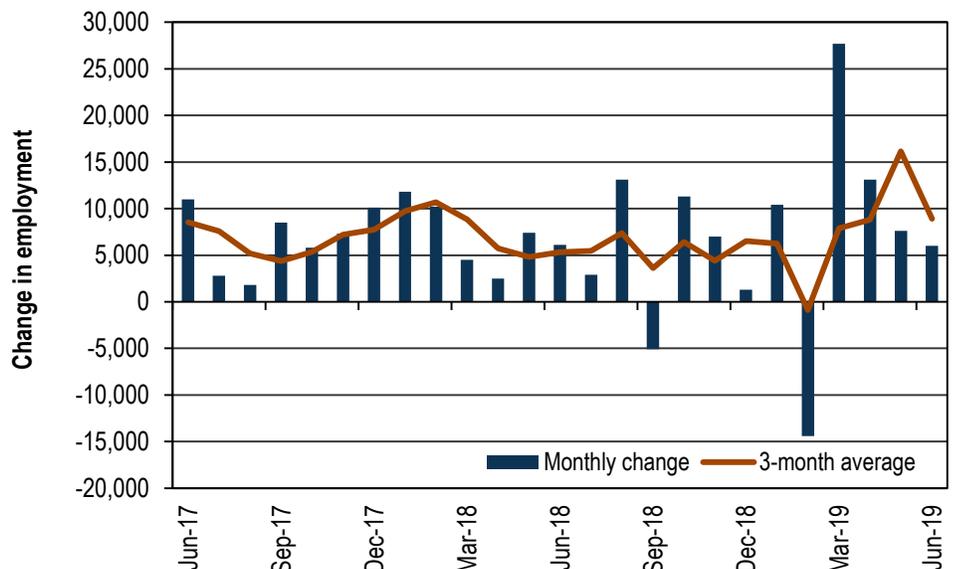
Based on BLS estimates, Washington state nonfarm employment increased by 6,000 jobs from May 2019 to June 2019.

Recent employment change
April 2019: up 13,100 jobs (revised)

May 2019: up 7,600 jobs (revised)

June 2019: up 6,000 jobs (preliminary)

Monthly employment change and three-month moving average, seasonally adjusted
Washington state, June 2017 through June 2019
Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics



Employment and unemployment, seasonally adjusted

March 2008

(start of recent employment recession in Washington)

Nonfarm employment: 3,008,000
Unemployment rate: 4.8%

February 2010

(end of recent employment recession in Washington)

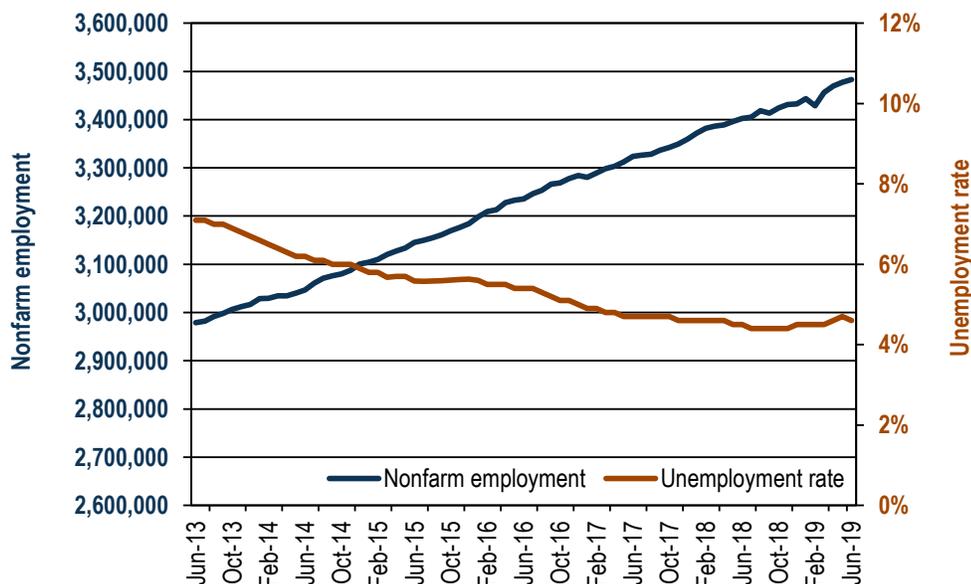
Nonfarm employment: 2,824,000
Unemployment rate: 10.4%

June 2019 (preliminary)

Nonfarm employment: 3,483,200
Unemployment rate: 4.6%

Nonfarm employment and unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted
Washington state, June 2013 through June 2019

Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics



Understanding what seasonally adjusted means

Over the course of a year, the size of the state's labor force and the levels of employment and unemployment undergo sharp fluctuations due to such seasonal events as changes in weather, reduced or expanded production, harvest, major holidays and the opening and closing of schools. The effect of such seasonal variation can be very large; seasonal fluctuations may account for as much as 95 percent of the month-to-month changes in unemployment at the national level.

Because these seasonal events follow a more or less regular pattern each year, their influence on statistical trends can be eliminated by adjusting the statistics from one month to the next. These adjustments make non-seasonal developments, such as declines in economic activity, easier to spot. For example, the large number of youth entering the labor force each June is likely to obscure any other changes that have taken place relative to May, making it

difficult to determine if the level of economic activity has risen or declined. However, because the effect of students finishing school in previous years is known, the statistics for the current year can be adjusted to allow for a comparable change. The adjusted figure provides a more useful tool with which to analyze changes in economic activity.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

U-6 unemployment rate

U-6: Broader unemployment measure declined in the four quarter period ending March 2019

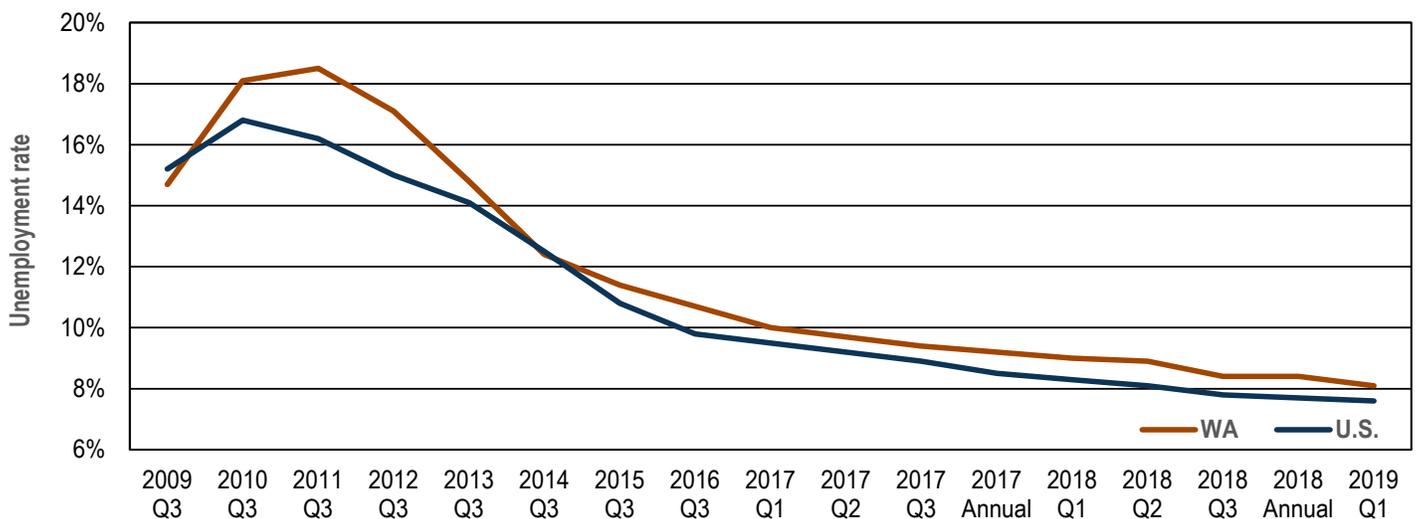
The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) recently updated its “alternative measures of labor underutilization” for states to include the annual average for 2018. One such alternative measure is the U-6 rate, which considers not only the unemployed population in

the official “U-3” unemployment rate, but also marginally attached workers and those employed part time for economic reasons. The U-6 rate is defined by BLS as the “total unemployed, plus all marginally attached workers, plus total employed part time for economic reasons, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus all marginally attached workers.” This U-6 measure measures the

“unemployed, underemployed, and those who are not looking but who want a job.”

The U-6 unemployment rate for the second quarter of 2018 through the first quarter of 2019 for Washington state was 8.1 percent. This was lower compared to the 9.0 percent U-6 unemployment rate one year prior. The U.S. U-6 unemployment rate was 7.6 percent over the same time period.

Alternate measures of labor underutilization, four-quarter moving average
Washington state versus U.S. U-6 unemployment rate



Year	WA/U.S.	Q1	Q2	Q3	Annual average
2019	WA	8.1%			
	U.S.	7.6%			
2018	WA	9.0%	8.9%	8.4%	8.4%
	U.S.	8.3%	8.1%	7.8%	7.7%
2017	WA	10.0%	9.7%	9.4%	9.2%
	U.S.	9.5%	9.2%	8.9%	8.5%
2016	WA	10.9%	10.7%	10.7%	10.3%
	U.S.	10.1%	9.9%	9.8%	9.6%
2015	WA	12.0%	11.7%	11.4%	11.0%
	U.S.	11.6%	11.3%	10.8%	10.4%
2014	WA	13.3%	12.8%	12.4%	12.5%
	U.S.	13.4%	12.9%	12.5%	12.0%
2013	WA	16.4%	15.7%	14.8%	14.0%
	U.S.	14.5%	14.3%	14.1%	13.8%
2012	WA	17.6%	17.0%	17.1%	16.9%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics: <https://www.bls.gov/lau/stalt.htm>.

Industry employment in Washington, seasonally adjusted

One-month employment change by industry

Based on a BLS survey of businesses and governments, Washington gained an estimated 6,000 jobs during the month, on a seasonally adjusted basis:

- Overall, eight industries expanded employment in June, four contracted, and one remained unchanged.
- Private sector employment is estimated to have increased by 5,400 and government employment increased by 600.
- Education and health services employment grew by 2,500, with 2,100 jobs added in health services and social assistance.
- The number of jobs in information increased by 1,600 overall, with 700 jobs added by software publishers.
- Employment in manufacturing increased by 1,300 overall, with 900 jobs added in aerospace product and parts manufacturing.
- Professional and business services employment rose by 600, with professional, scientific and technical services adding 500 jobs.
- Employment in construction decreased by 800 overall, weighted toward the downside by a loss of 1,400 by specialty trade contractors.

Estimated one-month employment change by industry, seasonally adjusted
Washington state, May 2019 to June 2019

Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics

Total nonfarm	6,000
Education and health services	2,500
Information	1,600
Manufacturing	1,300
Professional and business services	600
Government	600
Retail trade	600
Other services	400
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	200
Mining and logging	0
Financial activities	-100
Leisure and hospitality	-300
Wholesale trade	-600
Construction	-800

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Industry employment in Washington, not seasonally adjusted

Change by industry over the year

Based on a BLS survey of businesses and governments, Washington added an estimated 82,700 jobs from June 2018 through June 2019:

- Overall, eleven major industries expanded, one contracted, and one was unchanged.
- Private sector employment rose 2.9 percent, up an estimated 82,600 jobs.
- Public sector employment was little changed, a net gain of 100 jobs.
- Education and health services employment increased by 20,800 with 17,300 of the jobs added in health services and social assistance.
- Professional and business services employment increased by 16,200, led by a 9,800 increase in professional, scientific and technical services.
- Employment in leisure and hospitality is up by 12,100, led by a gain of 9,200 jobs in food services and drinking places.
- Employment in construction is up 9,200 with the number employed as specialty trade contractors up 4,600.
- Manufacturing added 8,100 jobs, with 5,500 jobs added in durable goods production and 2,600 jobs added in nondurable goods production.

Estimated employment change by industry over the year, not seasonally adjusted
Washington state, June 2018 through June 2019

Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics

Total nonfarm	82,700
Education and health services	20,800
Professional and business services	16,200
Leisure and hospitality	12,100
Construction	9,200
Manufacturing	8,100
Retail trade	6,100
Wholesale trade	3,100
Information	4,000
Financial activities	3,200
Other services	2,200
Government	100
Mining and logging	0
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	-2,400

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Monthly employment report
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The Labor Market and Economic Analysis (LMEA) Division is pleased to announce our new Labor Market Information Director, Mr. Steven Ross. Steven presides over the LMEA team and their products, services and publications.

Steven can be reached by phone at: 360-507-9615 and email at: SRoss@esd.wa.gov

Monthly unemployment rates

June 2019

Washington state:
4.6% seasonally adjusted

Nationwide:
3.7% seasonally adjusted

[Labor force by county snapshot](#)
not seasonally adjusted

Seasonally adjusted employment

Seasonally adjusted numbers account for normal seasonal patterns that occur year after year, such as strong seasonal hiring in retail trade around the holidays. Taking into account normal seasonal variations makes it possible to see unusual changes in employment levels.

Normal seasonal change is the expected monthly change in employment based on history.

Estimated change is the employment change over the month based on BLS survey data.

Seasonally adjusted change is change in employment accounting for normal seasonal patterns.

Normal seasonal change, estimated change and seasonally adjusted change
Washington state, June 2019

Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics

	Normal seasonal change	Estimated change	Seasonally adjusted change
Total nonfarm	15,400	21,400	6,000
Leisure and hospitality	7,400	7,100	-300
Professional and business services	3,700	4,300	600
Retail trade	3,000	3,600	600
Manufacturing	2,800	4,100	1,300
Information	2,600	4,200	1,600
Other services	2,000	2,400	400
Financial activities	1,800	1,700	-100
Construction	1,700	900	-800
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	1,000	1,200	200
Wholesale trade	900	300	-600
Mining and logging	100	100	0
Education and health services	-5,300	-2,800	2,500
Government	-6,300	-5,700	600

Based on historical patterns, Washington employment typically increases by 15,400 from May to June. This year the state gained an estimated 21,400 jobs, amounting to a seasonally adjusted increase of 6,000 jobs.

- The normal seasonal gain in leisure and hospitality employment is 7,400 in June. The estimated gain was 7,100, so employment decreased by 300 on a seasonally adjusted basis.
- The employment increase on a seasonally adjusted basis was 4,300 in professional and business services in June. The normal seasonal increase is 3,700. It is estimated to have increased by 600 this June.
- Employment in retail trade normally rises by 3,000. It is estimated to have increased by 3,600 this June, so it increased by 600 on a seasonally adjusted basis.
- Typically, manufacturing increases by 2,800 in June. On a seasonally adjusted basis, manufacturing employment increased by 1,300 as the estimated increase was 4,100.
- The estimated employment increase in construction was 900. The normal seasonal increase is 1,700, so on a seasonally adjusted basis, construction employment fell by 800

Contact an economist

Our statewide economist and six regional economists serve customers in their areas for WorkSource offices, workforce development councils, non-profit organizations, higher education, businesses and the news media. They can help you find and use labor market data, fulfill special data requests and answer questions about the state and local labor markets. Get in touch with your regional economist to get the local information you need.

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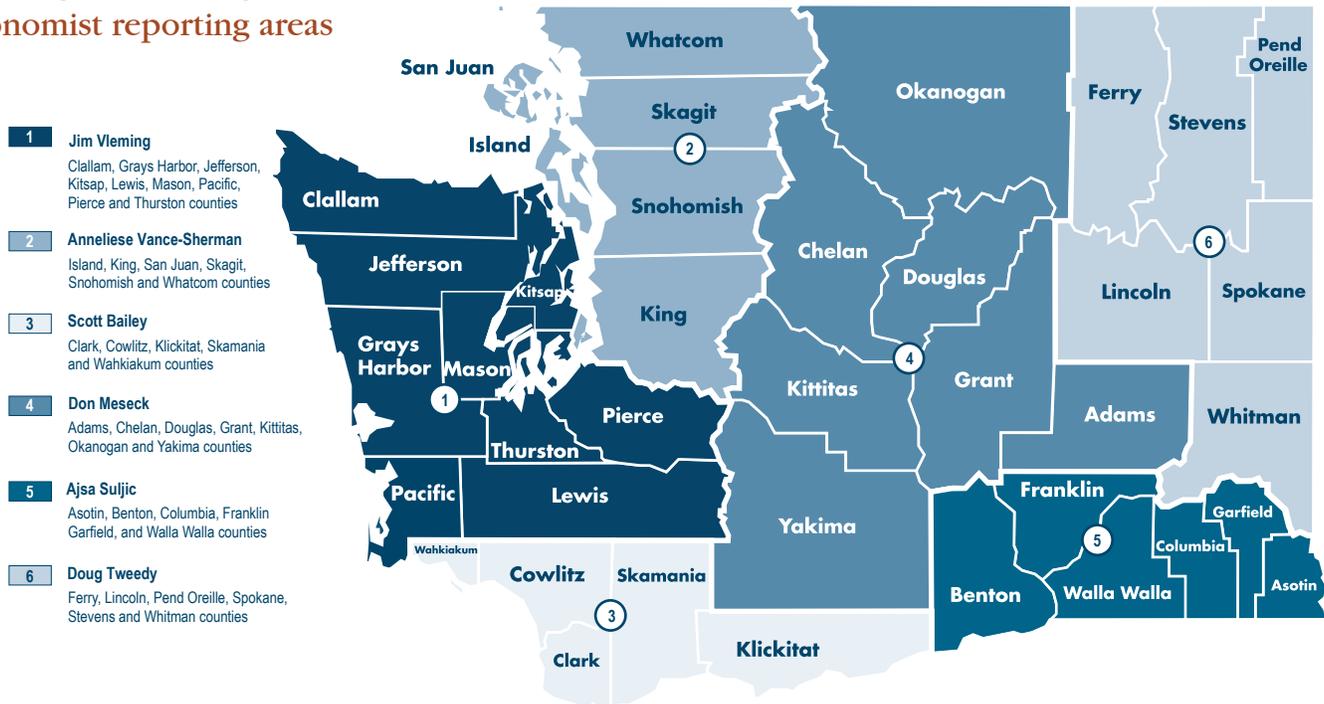
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Washington state regional labor economist reporting areas



The county level information will be available at 10 a.m., July 23, 2019. The publication schedule for 2019 is posted at: <https://esd.wa.gov/labormarketinfo/monthly-employment-report>.

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