

Unemployment rates (11/2021)

¹ Statewide:	11/2021: 4.7%
¹ Statewide:	11/2020: 6.7%
² Highest county rate:	11/2021: 5.9% (Ferry)
² Lowest county rate:	11/2021: 2.2% (Asotin)

¹ = seasonally adjusted; ² = not seasonally adjusted

Jobs (growth/loss 11/2021)

Month/month:	12,800 (preliminary)
Year/year:	147,200 or 4.5%
Since recession start (2/20):	-28,600 or -0.8%

Top growth industries:

Leisure and hospitality	+4,800
Government	+4,700
Information	+1,900

Total jobs (labor force):	3,936,700
Total covered employment:	3,426,100
Job losses during great recession (12/07-6/09)	-151,400
Job losses since recession start (2/20):	-28,600
Unemployed, seeking work:	184,600

www.esd.wa.gov/labormarketinfo

Unemployment claims (11/2021)

Claimants (regular benefits), 11/2021:	46,554
CY15 = 221,326; CY16 = 210,554; CY17 = 224,823; CY18 = 187,603; CY19 = 196,545; CY20 = 898,712	

Continued regular claims: -70% since 11/2020

Regular benefits paid, 11/2021:	\$77.5M
CY15 = \$1.0B; CY16 = \$1.0B; CY17 = \$1.03B; CY18 = \$995.4M; CY19 = \$1.06B; CY20 = \$5.0B	

Average weekly benefit (regular claims), 11/2021	\$537
CY15 = \$418; CY16 = \$473; CY17 = \$484 CY18 = \$467; CY19 = \$478; CY20 = \$446	

Highest/lowest weekly benefit: \$929 / \$295

Long-term unemployed (LTU)

Definition: unemployed more than 26 weeks	
LTU job seekers in Washington, 12/2020 - 11/2021:	76,200
LTU = of all unemployed job seekers:	33.3%
LTU = of total labor force (3.9M):	1.9%
Male:	59%
Female:	41%

Average wage/minimum wage in Washington

Average yearly wage, 2020:	\$76,741 (+10.1% from 2019)
Average weekly wage, 2020:	\$1,475
Minimum wage, 2020:	\$13.69

Unemployment taxes/trust fund

Taxes collected, Q3-2021:	\$491.6M
CY14 = \$1.52B; CY15 = \$1.33B; CY16 = \$1.18B; CY17 = \$1.12B; CY18 = \$1.09B; CY19 = \$1.09B; CY20 = \$1.20B	
Low/high tax rates, 2021:	0.23-6.02%, Avg. = 1.06%
(\$130-\$3,401 per worker earning = / > \$56,500/year)	
Taxable wage base:	2021: \$56,500; 2020: \$52,700
Trust fund balance, 11/30/2021:	\$1.88B

WorkSource services (as of 11/30/21)

Total jobs listed on WorkSourceWA.com	1,344,296*
Total employers with job postings	18,947*
Total employers with WorkSourceWA.com accounts:	26,992*
Total job seekers with WorkSourceWA.com accounts:	810,901*
WorkSource customers who found jobs:	87,650**

*Since WorkSourceWA.com go-live May 2016

**Rolling four quarters (CY2020 Q1 through CY2020 Q4)

ESD employees (as of 11/30/21)

Number of employees:	2,916 (2,042 perm)
Employee ages <25 = 2.0%; 25-39 = 27.4%; 40-54 = 39.7%; 55+ = 30.9%	
Employees of color:	46.0%

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: 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.