

Unemployment rates (05/2022)

¹ Statewide:	05/2022: 3.9%
¹ Statewide:	05/2021: 5.5%
² Highest county rate:	05/2022: 7.8% (Ferry)
² Lowest county rate:	05/2022: 2.2% (King)

¹ = *seasonally adjusted*; ² = *not seasonally adjusted*

Jobs (growth/loss 05/2022)

Month/month:	-2,300 (preliminary)
Year/year:	181,800 or 5.4%
Since recession start (2/20):	1,700 or 0.05%

Top growth industries:

Leisure and hospitality	+2,400
Manufacturing	+1,500
Education and health services	+1,200

Total jobs (labor force):	4,036,300
Total covered employment:	3,515,700
Job losses during great recession (12/07-6/09)	-147,800
Since recession start (2/20):	1,700
Unemployed, seeking work:	158,900

www.esd.wa.gov/labormarketinfo

Unemployment claims (05/2022)

Claimants (regular benefits), 05/2022:	37,548
CY16 = 210,554; CY17 = 224,823; CY18 = 187,603; CY19 = 196,545; CY20 = 898,712; CY21 = 341,774	

Continued regular claims: **-45% since 05/2021**

Regular benefits paid, 05/2022:	\$68.1M
CY16 = \$1.0B; CY17 = \$1.0B; CY18 = \$995.4M; CY19 = \$1.0B; CY20 = \$5.0B; CY21 = \$1.6B	

Average weekly benefit (regular claims), 05/2022	\$587
CY15 = \$418; CY16 = \$473; CY17 = \$484; CY18 = \$467; CY19 = \$478; CY20 = \$446; CY21 = \$490	

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

Long-term unemployed (LTU)

Definition: unemployed more than 26 weeks	
LTU job seekers in Washington, 06/2021 - 05/2022:	52,800
LTU = of all unemployed job seekers:	27.9%
LTU = of total labor force (3.9M):	1.3%
Male:	64%
Female:	36%

Average wage/minimum wage in Washington

Average yearly wage, 2021:	\$82,508 (+7.5% from 2020)
Average weekly wage, 2021:	\$1,586
Minimum wage, 2022:	\$14.49

Unemployment taxes/trust fund

Taxes collected, Q1-2022:	\$765.8M
CY14 = \$1.52B; CY15 = \$1.33B; CY16 = \$1.18B; CY17 = \$1.12B; CY18 = \$1.09B; CY19 = \$1.09B; CY20 = \$1.20B; CY21 = \$1.60B	
Low/high tax rates, 2021:	0.23-6.02%, Avg. = 1.06%
(\$130-\$3,401 per worker earning = / > \$56,500/year)	
Taxable wage base:	2022: \$62,500; 2021: \$56,500
Trust fund balance, 05/31/2022:	\$2.7B

WorkSource services (as of 5/31/22)

Total jobs listed on WorkSourceWA.com	1,516,824*
Total employers with job postings	20,037*
Total employers with WorkSourceWA.com accounts:	28,422*
Total job seekers with WorkSourceWA.com accounts:	844,092*
WorkSource customers who found jobs:	66,463**

*Since WorkSourceWA.com go-live May 2016

**Rolling four quarters (CY2020 Q3 through CY2021 Q3)

ESD employees (as of 5/31/22)

Number of employees:	2,214 (2,092 perm)
Employee ages <25 = 1.1%; 25-39 = 26.2%; 40-54 = 39.2%; 55+ = 33.5%	
Employees of color:	39.5%

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.