

Unemployment rates (02/2022)

¹ Statewide:	02/2022: 4.3%
¹ Statewide:	02/2021: 6.1%
² Highest county rate:	02/2022: 10.5% (Ferry)
² Lowest county rate:	02/2022: 2.9% (King)

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

Jobs (growth/loss 02/2022)

Month/month:	31,700 (preliminary)
Year/year:	191,900 or 5.9%
Since recession start (2/20):	-35,400 or -1.0%

Top growth industries:

Government	+7,300
Education and health services	+6,800
Leisure and hospitality	+5,200

Total jobs (labor force):	3,982,400
Total covered employment:	3,479,200
Job losses during great recession (12/07-6/09)	-147,800
Job losses since recession start (2/20):	-35,400
Unemployed, seeking work:	170,800

www.esd.wa.gov/labormarketinfo

Unemployment claims (02/2022)

Claimants (regular benefits), 02/2022:	53,319
CY16 = 210,554; CY17 = 224,823; CY18 = 187,603; CY19 = 196,545; CY20 = 898,712; CY21 = 341,774	

Continued regular claims: -64% since 02/2021

Regular benefits paid, 02/2022:	\$93.4M
CY16 = \$1.0B; CY17 = \$1.0B; CY18 = \$995.4M; CY19 = \$1.0B; CY20 = \$5.0B; CY21 = \$1.6B	

Average weekly benefit (regular claims), 02/2022	\$564
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, 03/2021 - 02/2022:	69,100
LTU = of all unemployed job seekers:	32.7%
LTU = of total labor force (3.9M):	1.7%
Male:	60%
Female:	40%

Average wage/minimum wage in Washington

Average yearly wage, 2020:	\$76,741 (+10.1% from 2019)
Average weekly wage, 2020:	\$1,475
Minimum wage, 2022:	\$14.49

Unemployment taxes/trust fund

Taxes collected, Q4-2021:	\$324.0M
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, 02/28/2022:	\$2.32B

WorkSource services (as of 2/28/22)

Total jobs listed on WorkSourceWA.com	1,431,502*
Total employers with job postings	19,416*
Total employers with WorkSourceWA.com accounts:	27,618*
Total job seekers with WorkSourceWA.com accounts:	828,472*
WorkSource customers who found jobs:	59,111**

*Since WorkSourceWA.com go-live May 2016

**Rolling four quarters (CY2020 Q3 through CY2021 Q2)

ESD employees (as of 2/28/22)

Number of employees:	2,483 (2,096 perm)
Employee ages <25 = 1.3%; 25-39 = 26.4%; 40-54 = 40.0%; 55+ = 32.3%	
Employees of color:	41.2%

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.