

Unemployment rates (04/2021)

¹ Statewide:	04/2021: 5.5%
¹ Statewide:	04/2020: 16.3%
² Highest county rate:	04/2021: 9.8% (Ferry)
² Lowest county rate:	04/2021: 4.1% (Asotin)

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

Jobs (growth/loss 04/2021)

Month/month:	11,200 (preliminary)
Year/year:	230,700 or 7.4%
Since recession start (2/20):	-134,000 or -3.8%

Top growth industries:

Leisure and hospitality	+8,100
Government	+3,600
Wholesale trade	+1,900

Total jobs (labor force):	3,864,900
Total covered employment:	3,651,800
Job losses during great recession (12/07-6/09)	-151,400
Job losses since recession start (2/20):	-134,000
Unemployed, seeking work:	213,100

www.esd.wa.gov/labormarketinfo

Unemployment claims (4/2021)

Claimants (regular benefits), 4/2021:	85,116
CY15 = 221,326; CY16 = 210,554; CY17 = 224,823; CY18 = 187,603; CY19 = 196,545; CY20 = 898,712	
Continued regular claims:	-89% since 4/2020
Regular benefits paid, 04/2021:	\$122.3M
CY15 = \$1.0B; CY16 = \$1.0B; CY17 = \$1.03B; CY18 = \$995.4M; CY19 = \$1.06B; CY20=\$5.0B	
Average weekly benefit (regular claims), 4/2021	\$474
CY15 = \$418; CY16 = \$473; CY17 = \$484 CY18 = \$467; CY19 = \$478; CY20 = \$446	
Highest/lowest weekly benefit:	\$844 / \$201

Long-term unemployed (LTU)

Definition: unemployed more than 26 weeks	
LTU job seekers in Washington, 05/2020 - 04/2021:	73,300
LTU = of all unemployed job seekers:	23.4%
LTU = of total labor force (3.9M):	1.9%
Male:	59%
Female:	41%

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, Q1-2021:	\$206.5M
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, 4/30/2021:	\$1.56B

WorkSource services (as of 4/30/21)

Total jobs listed on WorkSourceWA.com	1,148,970*
Total employers with job postings	17,136*
Total employers with WorkSourceWA.com accounts:	24,427*
Total job seekers with WorkSourceWA.com accounts:	733,536*
WorkSource customers who found jobs:	103,252**

*Since WorkSourceWA.com go-live May 2016

**Rolling four quarters (CY2019 Q3 through CY2020 Q2)

ESD employees (as of 4/30/21)

Number of employees:	2,368 (1,825 perm)
Employee ages <25 = 1.3%; 25-39 = 26.4%; 40-54 = 38.8%; 55+ = 33.5%	
Employees of color:	31.9%

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.