

# **ESD Facts & Figures** May 2022

## **Unemployment rates (04/2022)**

¹Statewide:	04/2022: 4.1%
<sup>1</sup> Statewide:	04/2021: 5.7%
<sup>2</sup> Highest county rate:	04/2022: 8.2% (Ferry)
<sup>2</sup> Lowest county rate:	04/2022: 1.9% (King)
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1 = seasonally adjusted; 2 = not seasonally adjusted

### Jobs (growth/loss 04/2022)

Month/month: Year/year:	<b>12,300 (preliminary)</b> 186,800 or 5.6%
Since recession start (2/20):	-1,300 or -0.04%
Top growth industries:	
Professional and business services	+4,200
Information	+2,600
Education and health services	+1,900
Total jobs (labor force):	4,023,600
Total covered employment:	3,512,700
Job losses during great recession (12/07-6/09)	-147,800
Job losses since recession start (2/20):	-1,300
Unemployed, seeking work: www.esd.wa.gov/labormarketinfo	163,300

### **Unemployment claims (04/2022)**

Claimants (regular benefits), 04/2022: CY16 = 210,554; CY17 = 224,823; CY18 = 187,603; CY19 = 196,545; CY20 = 898,712; CY21 = 341,774	43,451
Continued regular claims:	-53% since 04/2021
<b>Regular benefits paid, 04/2022:</b> CY16 = \$1.0B; CY17 = \$1.0B; CY18 = \$995.4M; CY19 = \$1.0B; CY20=\$5.0B; CY21 = \$1.6B	\$75.7M
Average weekly benefit (regular claims), 04/2022	\$588

CY15 = \$418; CY16 = \$473; CY17 = \$484; CY18 = \$467; CY19 = \$478; CY20 = \$446; CY21 = \$490

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

### Long-term unemployed (LTU)

<b>Definition:</b> unemployed more than 26 weeks	
LTU job seekers in Washington, 05/2021 - 04/2022:	54,900
LTU = of all unemployed job seekers:	28.3%
LTU = of total labor force (3.9M):	1.4%
Male:	61%
Female:	39%

### 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**

\$765.8M Taxes collected, Q1-2022:

CY14 = \$1.52B; CY15 = \$1.33B; CY16 = \$1.18B; CY17 = \$1.12B; CY18 = \$1.09B; CY19 = \$1.09B; CY20 = \$1,20B: CY21=\$1,60B

0.23-6.02%, Avg. = 1.06% Low/high tax rates, 2021:

(\$130-\$3,401 per worker earning = / > \$56,500/year)

Taxable wage base: **2022:** \$62,500; **2021:** \$56,500 \$2.26B Trust fund balance, 04/31/2022:

## WorkSource services (as of 4/30/22)

Total jobs listed on WorkSourceWA.com 1,490,186\* Total employers with job postings 19,846\* Total employers with WorkSourceWA.com accounts: 28,162\* Total job seekers with WorkSourceWA.com accounts: 838,898\* 66,454\*\* WorkSource customers who found jobs:

\*Since WorkSourceWA.com go-live May 2016

# ESD employees (as of 4/30/22)

Number of employees: 2,233 (2,101 perm)

Employee ages <25 = 1.16%; 25-39 = 26.38%;

40-54 = 39.41%: 55+ = 33.05%

Employees of color: 39.4%

#### **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.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Rolling four quarters (CY2020 Q3 through CY2021 Q3)