

### Unemployment rates (08/2021)

<sup>1</sup> Statewide:	08/2021: 5.1%
<sup>1</sup> Statewide:	08/2020: 9.1%
<sup>2</sup> Highest county rate:	08/2021: 8.0% (Ferry)
<sup>2</sup> Lowest county rate:	08/2021: 3.5% (Asotin)

<sup>1</sup> = seasonally adjusted; <sup>2</sup> = not seasonally adjusted

### Jobs (growth/loss 08/2021)

Month/month:	16,800 (preliminary)
Year/year:	174,600 or 5.4%
Since recession start (2/20):	-41,300 or -1.2%

#### Top growth industries:

Leisure and hospitality	+8,500
Government	+3,800
Professional and business services	+3,400

<b>Total jobs (labor force):</b>	<b>3,923,000</b>
<b>Total covered employment:</b>	<b>3,404,800</b>
Job losses during great recession (12/07-6/09)	-151,400
Job losses since recession start (2/20):	-41,300
Unemployed, seeking work:	198,800

[www.esd.wa.gov/labormarketinfo](http://www.esd.wa.gov/labormarketinfo)

### Unemployment claims (8/2021)

<b>Claimants (regular benefits), 8/2021:</b>	<b>68,210</b>
CY15 = 221,326; CY16 = 210,554; CY17 = 224,823; CY18 = 187,603; CY19 = 196,545; CY20 = 898,712	
<b>Continued regular claims:</b>	<b>-79% since 8/2020</b>
<b>Regular benefits paid, 08/2021:</b>	<b>\$88.4M</b>
CY15 = \$1.0B; CY16 = \$1.0B; CY17 = \$1.03B; CY18 = \$995.4M; CY19 = \$1.06B; CY20 = \$5.0B	
<b>Average weekly benefit (regular claims), 8/2021</b>	<b>\$483</b>
CY15 = \$418; CY16 = \$473; CY17 = \$484 CY18 = \$467; CY19 = \$478; CY20 = \$446	
<b>Highest/lowest weekly benefit:</b>	<b>\$929 / \$295</b>

### Long-term unemployed (LTU)

<b>Definition:</b> unemployed more than 26 weeks	
<b>LTU job seekers in Washington, 09/2020 - 08/2021:</b>	<b>78,800</b>
LTU = of all unemployed job seekers:	31.6%
LTU = of total labor force (3.9M):	2.0%
Male:	55%
Female:	45%

### Average wage/minimum wage in Washington

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

### Unemployment taxes/trust fund

<b>Taxes collected, Q2-2021:</b>	<b>\$534.2M</b>
CY14 = \$1.52B; CY15 = \$1.33B; CY16 = \$1.18B; CY17 = \$1.12B; CY18 = \$1.09B; CY19 = \$1.09B; CY20 = \$1.20B	
<b>Low/high tax rates, 2021:</b>	<b>0.23-6.02%, Avg. = 1.06%</b>
(\$130-\$3,401 per worker earning = / > \$56,500/year)	
<b>Taxable wage base:</b>	<b>2021: \$56,500; 2020: \$52,700</b>
<b>Trust fund balance, 8/30/2021:</b>	<b>\$1.92B</b>

### WorkSource services (as of 8/31/21)

<b>Total jobs listed on WorkSourceWA.com</b>	<b>1,259,887*</b>
<b>Total employers with job postings</b>	<b>18,347*</b>
<b>Total employers with WorkSourceWA.com accounts:</b>	<b>26,135*</b>
<b>Total job seekers with WorkSourceWA.com accounts:</b>	<b>791,702*</b>
<b>WorkSource customers who found jobs:</b>	<b>96,690**</b>

\*Since WorkSourceWA.com go-live May 2016

\*\*Rolling four quarters (CY2019 Q4 through CY2020 Q3)

### ESD employees (as of 8/31/21)

<b>Number of employees:</b>	<b>2,852 (1,978 perm)</b>
Employee ages <25 = 2.1%; 25-39 = 27.9%; 40-54 = 39.1%; 55+ = 30.9%	
Employees of color:	43.5%

### 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.