

The Monthly Employment Report

Washington 3.7% United States 3.5%

Seasonally adjusted

July 2022

 **Employment Security Department**
WASHINGTON STATE



For workers and businesses affected by COVID-19, Employment Security has updated information on the website at esd.wa.gov. For labor market information questions, please send your emails to data@esd.wa.gov.

Employment estimates in this report are generated by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Monthly employment estimates are subject to revision in subsequent months when more sample data become available. BLS data in this report are rounded to the nearest 100.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, preliminary estimates from the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) indicate nonfarm employment in Washington rose by 6,600 in July 2022.¹ BLS estimates the private sector gained 3,400 jobs during the month and the public sector gained 3,200 jobs.

On a not seasonally adjusted basis, estimates for July 2021 through July 2022 indicate an increase in employment of 161,700 for the state. The private sector gained 157,100 jobs while the public sector gained an estimated 4,600 jobs over the year.

Washington's preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for July 2022 is 3.7 percent. The revised estimated June 2022 unemployment rate is at 3.8 percent. The July 2021 unemployment rate was 5.2 percent.

BLS estimates of monthly job gains and losses are based on a survey of businesses. Preliminary estimates are subject to revision. The June 2022 preliminary estimated gain of 2,500 jobs was revised to a gain of 5,000 jobs.

For more information, call Paul Turek at 360-706-3044.

Resident civilian labor force and unemployment, seasonally adjusted

The **resident civilian labor force** is the total number of people in the workforce, employed and unemployed, ages 16 and up.

The number of **unemployed** is the estimated number of people who currently do not have a job, are available for work and have actively looked for work in the last four weeks.

The **unemployment rate** is the ratio of the estimated number of unemployed divided by the civilian labor force.

Resident civilian labor force and unemployment, seasonally adjusted
United States and Washington state, June and July 2021 and 2022
Source: Employment Security Department/DATA Division; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

	July 2022 (Preliminary)	June 2022 (Revised)	July 2021 (Revised)	June 2021 (Revised)
United States				
Unemployment rate	3.5%	3.6%	5.4%	5.9%
<i>Seasonally adjusted</i>				
Washington				
Unemployment rate	3.7%	3.8%	5.2%	5.4%
Resident labor force	4,030,800	4,038,900	3,916,800	3,906,100
Unemployed	149,300	155,400	203,800	209,600
Seattle/Bellevue/Everett				
Unemployment rate	2.5%	2.6%	4.3%	4.6%
Resident labor force	1,783,300	1,782,200	1,713,200	1,711,000
Unemployed	45,100	46,400	74,400	79,000

Data Architecture, Transformation
and Analytics Division
August 2022

¹Most of the employment numbers discussed in this report refers to jobs, not people. For example, if a person holds two positions, these positions are counted as two jobs in the employment series. In the section titled "Unemployment," these positions refer to individuals, not jobs. In this case, a person holding two jobs is counted only once.

Unemployment, seasonally adjusted

The BLS estimates Washington's preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for July 2022 is 3.7 percent. The revised estimated June 2022 unemployment rate is 3.8 percent.

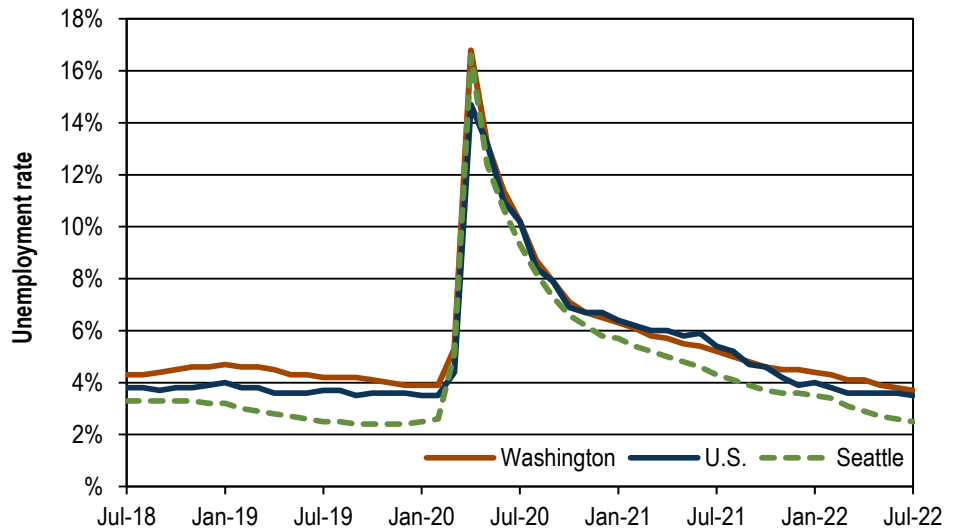
According to BLS estimates, the number of unemployed people fell by 6,100 in July 2022 compared to June 2022. At the same time, the number of employed people fell by an estimated 2,000. Overall, this amounted to a decrease of 8,100 people in the labor force.

The preliminary July 2022 unemployment rate is 1.5 percentage points lower than the June 2021 rate of 5.2 percent.

Unemployment rates, seasonally adjusted

U.S., Washington and Seattle, July 2018 through July 2022

Source: Employment Security Department/DATA Division; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics



July 2022 preliminary unemployment rates: U.S. (preliminary) 3.5%
Washington (preliminary) 3.7%
Seattle area (preliminary) 2.5%

Employment change, seasonally adjusted

Based on BLS estimates, Washington state nonfarm employment increased by 6,600 jobs from June 2022 to July 2022.

Recent employment change:

May 2022: down 1,200 jobs (revised)

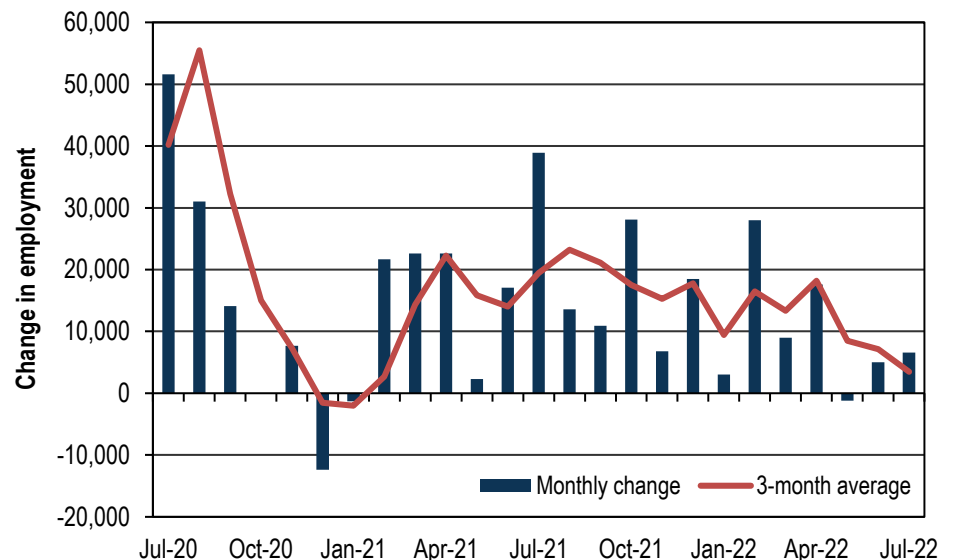
June 2022: up 5,000 jobs (revised)

July 2022: up 6,600 jobs (preliminary)

Monthly employment change, seasonally adjusted

Washington state, July 2020 through July 2022

Source: Employment Security Department/DATA Division; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics



Employment and unemployment, seasonally adjusted

February 2020

(Start of 2020 employment recession in Washington)

Nonfarm employment: 3,514,600

Unemployment rate: 3.9%

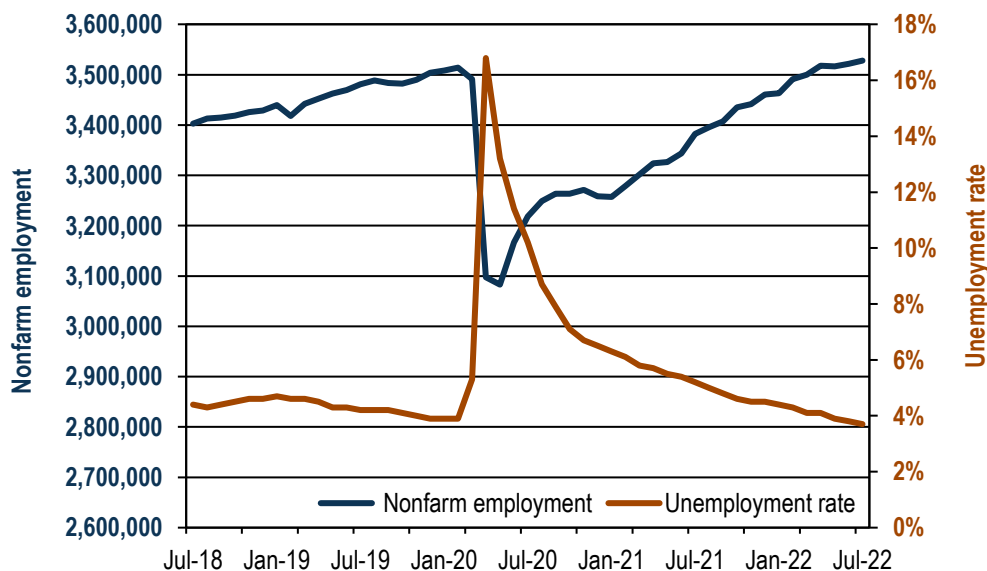
July 2022 (preliminary)

Nonfarm employment: 3,528,400

Unemployment rate: 3.7%

Nonfarm employment and unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted
Washington state, July 2018 through July 2022

Source: Employment Security Department/DATA Division; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics



Workers and businesses affected by COVID-19

Employment Security's COVID-19 online information page covers topics for businesses and workers impacted by COVID-19. Topics include:

- Subscribing for updates
- Frequently asked questions
- Workers Q&A
- Business Q&A
- CARES ACT
- COVID-19 rulemaking
- COVID-19 resources
- Action alerts and updates

We are all in this together. The COVID-19 pandemic has created an unprecedented demand for services, and we thank you for your patience while we work to serve you better.

Did you know that you can subscribe for email updates on a number of Employment Security Department topics all at once?

Go to esd.wa.gov/labormarketinfo and select the email icon at the top of the page.



Enter your email address and subscribe by checking the boxes for topics such as:

- COVID-19
- Labor market information
- News releases
- Employer news and resources
- Paid Family and Medical Leave
- Employer information
- SharedWork program
- WorkSource system
- Unemployment insurance
- Training

Many more to come, so sign up today for your email updates!

U-6 unemployment rate

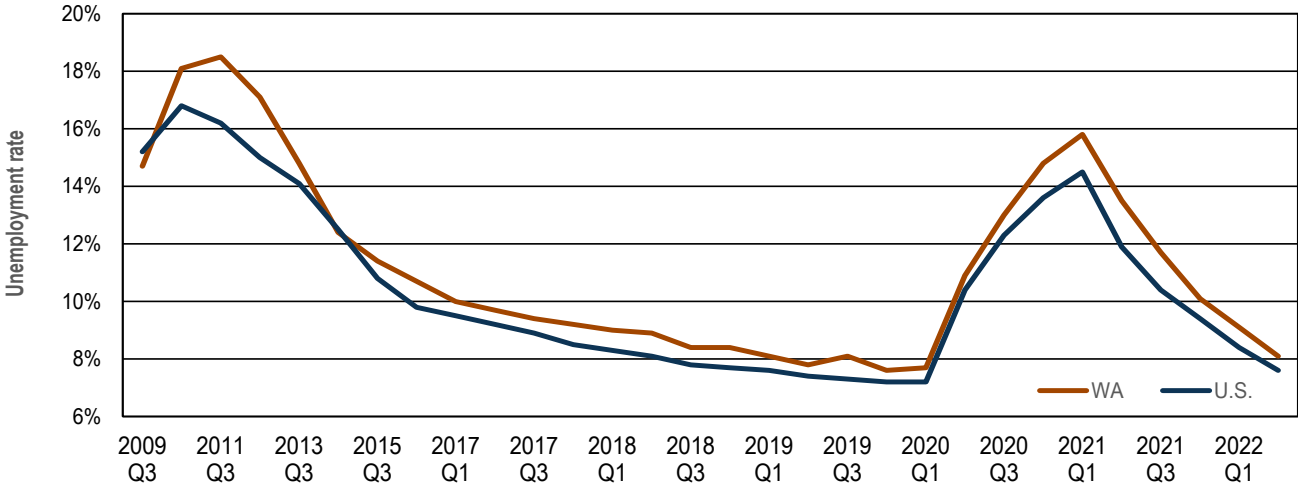
U-6: Broader unemployment measure decreased in the four-quarter period from third quarter 2021 through second quarter 2022

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) recently updated its “alternative measures of labor underutilization” for states to include four-quarter rates for third quarter 2021 through second quarter 2022. One such alternative measure is the U-6 rate, which considers not only the

unemployed population in the official “U-3” unemployment rate, but also marginally attached workers and those employed part time for economic reasons. The U-6 rate is defined by BLS as the “total unemployed, plus all marginally attached workers, plus total employed part time for economic reasons, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus all marginally attached workers.” This U-6 measure measures the “unemployed, underemployed, and those who are not looking but who want a job.”

The U-6 unemployment rate for the four-quarter period from third quarter 2021 through second quarter 2022 for Washington state was 8.1 percent. This was lower compared to the 9.1 percent U-6 unemployment rate for second quarter 2021 through the first quarter period. The U.S. U-6 unemployment rate for the four-quarter period from third quarter 2021 through second quarter 2022 was 7.6 percent

**Alternate measures of labor underutilization, four-quarter moving average
Washington state versus U.S. U-6 unemployment rate**



Year	WA/U.S.	Q1	Q2	Q3	Annual average
2022	WA	9.1%	8.1%		
	U.S.	8.4%	7.6%		
2021	WA	15.8%	13.5%	11.7%	10.1%
	U.S.	14.5%	11.9%	10.4%	9.4%
2020	WA	8.1%	10.9%	13.0%	14.8%
	U.S.	7.7%	10.4%	12.3%	13.6%
2019	WA	8.1%	7.8%	8.1%	7.6%
	U.S.	7.6%	7.4%	7.3%	7.2%
2018	WA	9.0%	8.9%	8.4%	8.4%
	U.S.	8.3%	8.1%	7.8%	7.7%
2017	WA	10.0%	9.7%	9.4%	9.2%
	U.S.	9.5%	9.2%	8.9%	8.5%
2016	WA	10.9%	10.7%	10.7%	10.3%
	U.S.	10.1%	9.9%	9.8%	9.6%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics: <https://www.bls.gov/lau/stait.htm>.

Industry employment in Washington, seasonally adjusted

One-month employment change by industry

Based on a BLS survey of businesses and governments, Washington gained an estimated 6,600 jobs during the month, on a seasonally adjusted basis:

- Overall, employment increased in six major industries, decreased in five and was unchanged in two in July.
- Private sector employment is estimated to have increased by 3,400 and government employment increased by 3,200.
- Employment in leisure and hospitality rose by 4,800 overall, led by 4,800 jobs added in food services and drinking places.
- The number of jobs in construction increased by 1,600, led by 1,100 jobs added in nonresidential building construction.
- Employment in manufacturing increased by 500 overall, with 300 jobs added in durable goods manufacturing and 200 jobs added in nondurable goods manufacturing.
- Professional and business services employment decreased by 1,100 overall, with 1,200 jobs lost in employment services.
- Financial activities employment fell by 3,000, with 2,900 jobs lost in real estate, rental and leasing.

Estimated one-month employment change by industry, seasonally adjusted
Washington state, June 2022 to July 2022

Source: Employment Security Department/DATA Division; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics

Total nonfarm	6,600
Leisure and hospitality	4,800
Government	3,200
Construction	1,600
Information	1,600
Manufacturing	500
Wholesale trade	200
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	0
Mining and logging	0
Education and health services	-300
Other services	-400
Retail trade	-500
Professional and business services	-1,100
Financial activities	-3,000

As we navigate the COVID-19 developments in Washington state and beyond, we know Washington state businesses, nonprofits, city and county municipalities, educational institutions, as well as economic and workforce development professionals, are looking for sound data about the short and long term economic and workforce impacts to their individual businesses, industries and regions.

If you have specific questions regarding labor market information, please send your emails to data@esd.wa.gov.

Industry employment in Washington, not seasonally adjusted

Change by industry over the year

Based on a BLS survey of businesses and governments, Washington gained an estimated 161,700 jobs from July 2021 through July 2022.

- Overall, twelve major industries expanded and one contracted.
- Private sector employment rose 5.5 percent, up an estimated 157,100 jobs.
- Public sector employment rose 0.8 percent, up an estimated 4,600 jobs.
- Employment in leisure and hospitality is up by 39,000, with food services and drinking places adding 28,900 jobs.
- Professional and business services employment increased by 31,200, with 13,600 jobs added in administrative and support services.
- Education and health services employment rose 22,200 overall, with 13,600 jobs added in health services and social assistance.
- Information employment increased by 16,000, with 5,200 jobs added by software publishers.
- Employment in manufacturing is up 13,300 overall, led by an increase of 6,400 in transportation equipment manufacturing.

Estimated employment change by industry over the year, not seasonally adjusted
Washington state, July 2021 through July 2022

Source: Employment Security Department/DATA Division; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics

Total nonfarm	161,700
Leisure and hospitality	39,000
Professional and business services	31,200
Education and health services	22,200
Information	16,000
Manufacturing	13,300
Construction	11,800
Wholesale trade	9,600
Other services	6,400
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	5,800
Government	4,600
Financial activities	1,900
Retail trade	300
Mining and logging	-400

Seasonally adjusted employment

Seasonally adjusted numbers account for normal seasonal patterns that occur year after year, such as strong seasonal hiring in retail trade around the holidays. Taking into account normal seasonal variations makes it possible to see unusual changes in employment levels.

Normal seasonal change is the expected monthly change in employment based on history.

Estimated change is the employment change over the month based on BLS survey data.

Seasonally adjusted change is change in employment accounting for normal seasonal patterns.

Normal seasonal change, estimated change and seasonally adjusted change
Washington state, July 2022

Source: Employment Security Department/DATA Division; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics

	Normal seasonal change	Estimated change	Seasonally adjusted change
Total nonfarm	-2,900	37,000	6,600
Leisure and hospitality	2,600	7,400	4,800
Professional and business services	2,400	1,300	-1,100
Manufacturing	1,900	2,400	500
Construction	1,800	3,400	1,600
Financial activities	1,500	-1,500	-3,000
Information	1,300	2,900	1,600
Retail trade	1,200	700	-500
Other services	900	500	-400
Wholesale trade	600	800	200
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	400	400	0
Mining and logging	0	0	0
Education and health services	-5,400	-5,700	-300
Government	-12,100	-8,900	3,200

Based on historical patterns, Washington employment typically decreases by 2,900 from June to July. This year the state gained an estimated 3,700 jobs, amounting to a seasonally adjusted increase of 6,600 jobs.

- The normal seasonal gain in leisure and hospitality employment is 2,600 in July. The estimated gain was 7,400, so employment increased by 4,800 on a seasonally adjusted basis.
- The employment decrease on a seasonally adjusted basis was 1,100 in professional and business services in July. The normal seasonal increase is 2,400. It is estimated to have increased this July by 1,300.
- Typically, manufacturing employment increases by 1,900 in July. On a seasonally adjusted basis, manufacturing employment increased by 500 as the estimated increase was 2,400.
- The estimated employment increase in construction was 3,400. The normal seasonal increase is 1,800, so on a seasonally adjusted basis, construction employment increased by 1,600.
- Employment in retail trade normally increases by 1,200. It is estimated to have increased by 700 this July so it decreased by 500 on a seasonally adjusted basis.

Media inquiries and contact information

Due to the high volume of requests for information, please send your emails to media@esd.wa.gov so that we can forward your requests to the appropriate staff.

For labor market information questions, please send your emails to data@esd.wa.gov.

Statewide labor economist:

Paul Turek, Ph.D.
Paul.turek@esd.wa.gov
 360-706-3044

Regional labor economists:

Scott Bailey
Scott.bailey@esd.wa.gov
 360-810-0048

Don Meseck
Don.meseck@esd.wa.gov
 509-574-0176

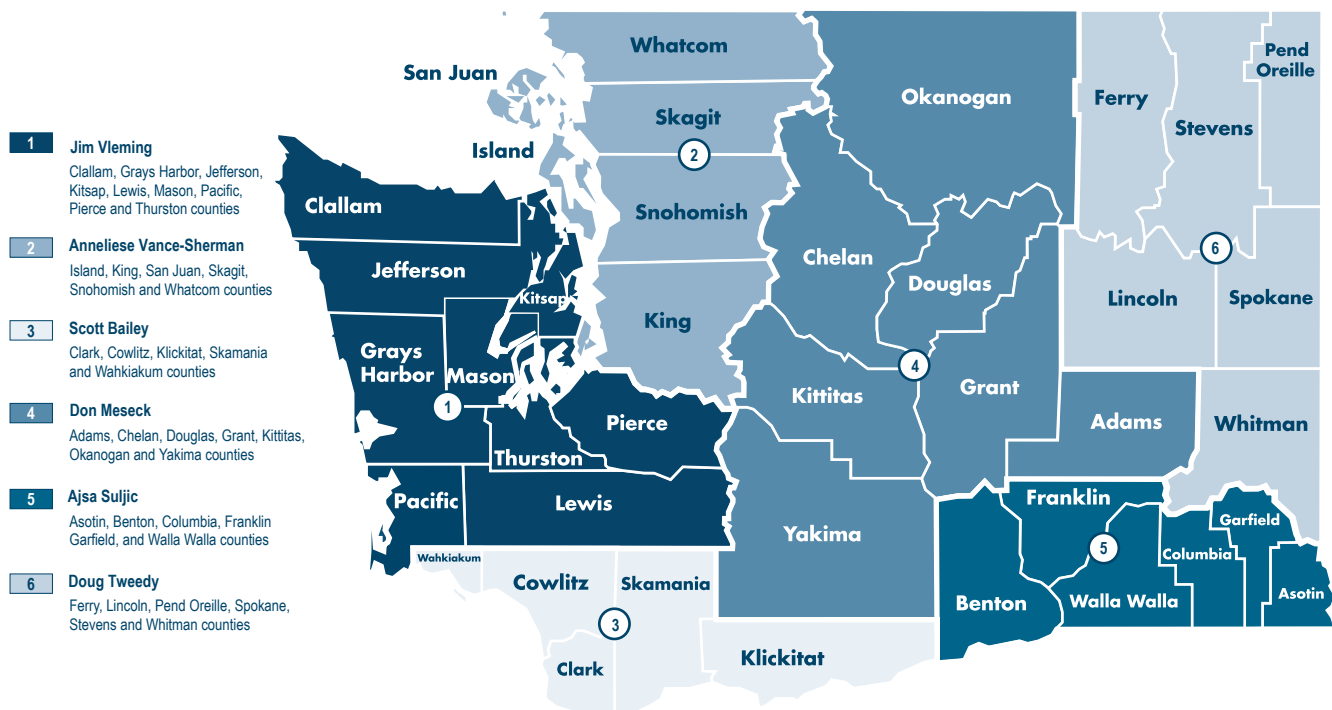
Ajsa Suljic
Ajsa.suljic@esd.wa.gov
 509-734-5928

Doug Tweedy
Doug.tweedy@esd.wa.gov
 509-434-5278

Anneliese Vance-Sherman, Ph.D.
Anneliese.vancesherman@esd.wa.gov
 425-258-6315

Jim Vleming
Jim.vleming@esd.wa.gov
 360-819-3427

Washington state regional labor economist reporting areas



The county level information will be available at 10 a.m., August 23, 2022. The publication schedule for 2022 is posted at: <https://esd.wa.gov/labormarketinfo/monthly-employment-report>.

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