

The Monthly Employment Report

Washington 4.0% United States 3.7%

Seasonally adjusted

November 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 13,100 in November 2022.¹ BLS estimates the private sector gained 11,000 jobs during the month and the public sector gained 2,100 jobs.

On a not seasonally adjusted basis, estimates for November 2021 through November 2022 indicate an increase in employment of 130,900 for the state. The private sector gained 118,700 jobs while the public sector gained an estimated 12,200 jobs over the year.

Washington's preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for November 2022 is 4.0 percent. The revised estimated October 2022 unemployment rate is at 3.8 percent. The November 2021 unemployment rate was 4.5 percent.

BLS estimates of monthly job gains and losses are based on a survey of businesses. Preliminary estimates are subject to revision. The October 2022 preliminary estimated gain of 5,400 jobs was revised to a gain of 6,000 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.



Employment Security Department

WASHINGTON STATE

Data Architecture, Transformation and Analytics Division
December 2022

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

	November 2022 (Preliminary)	October 2022 (Revised)	November 2021 (Revised)	October 2021 (Revised)
United States				
Unemployment rate	3.7%	3.7%	4.2%	4.6%
<i>Seasonally adjusted</i>				
Washington				
Unemployment rate	4.0%	3.8%	4.5%	4.6%
Resident labor force	4,003,400	4,007,900	3,946,200	3,947,600
Unemployed	161,100	153,500	178,400	182,200
Seattle/Bellevue/Everett				
Unemployment rate	2.9%	2.8%	3.6%	3.7%
Resident labor force	1,772,200	1,776,600	1,726,700	1,725,700
Unemployed	51,600	49,300	62,500	63,500

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.

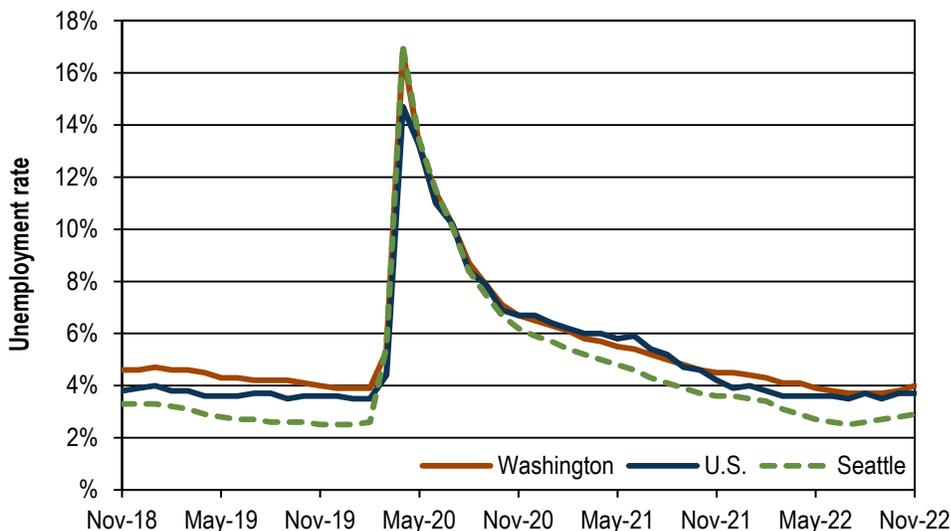
Unemployment, seasonally adjusted

The BLS estimates Washington's preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for November 2022 is 4.0 percent. The revised estimated October 2022 unemployment rate is 3.8 percent.

According to BLS estimates, the number of unemployed people rose by 7,600 in November 2022 compared to October 2022. At the same time, the number of employed people fell by an estimated 12,100. Overall, this amounted to a decrease of 4,500 people in the labor force.

The preliminary November 2022 unemployment rate is 0.5 percentage points lower than the November 2021 rate of 4.5 percent.

Unemployment rates, seasonally adjusted
U.S., Washington and Seattle, November 2018 through November 2022
Source: Employment Security Department/DATA; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics



November 2022 preliminary unemployment rates:
 U.S. (preliminary) 3.7%
 Washington (preliminary) 4.0%
 Seattle area (preliminary) 2.9%

Employment change, seasonally adjusted

Based on BLS estimates, Washington state nonfarm employment increased by 13,100 jobs from October 2022 to November 2022.

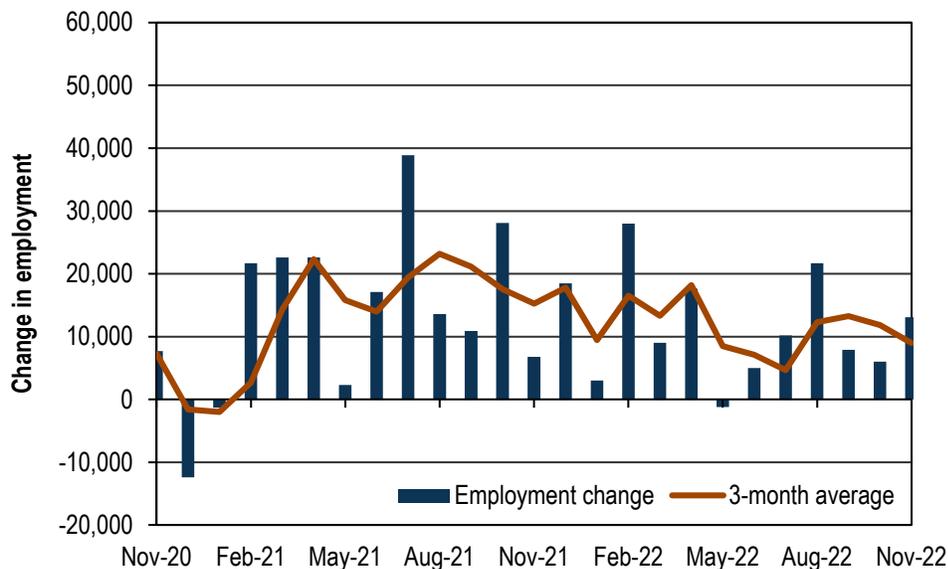
Recent employment change:

September 2022: up 7,900 jobs (revised)

October 2022: up 6,000 jobs (revised)

November 2022: up 13,100 jobs (preliminary)

Monthly employment change, seasonally adjusted
Washington state, November 2020 through November 2022
Source: Employment Security Department/DATA; 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: 3,514,000

Unemployment rate: 3.9%

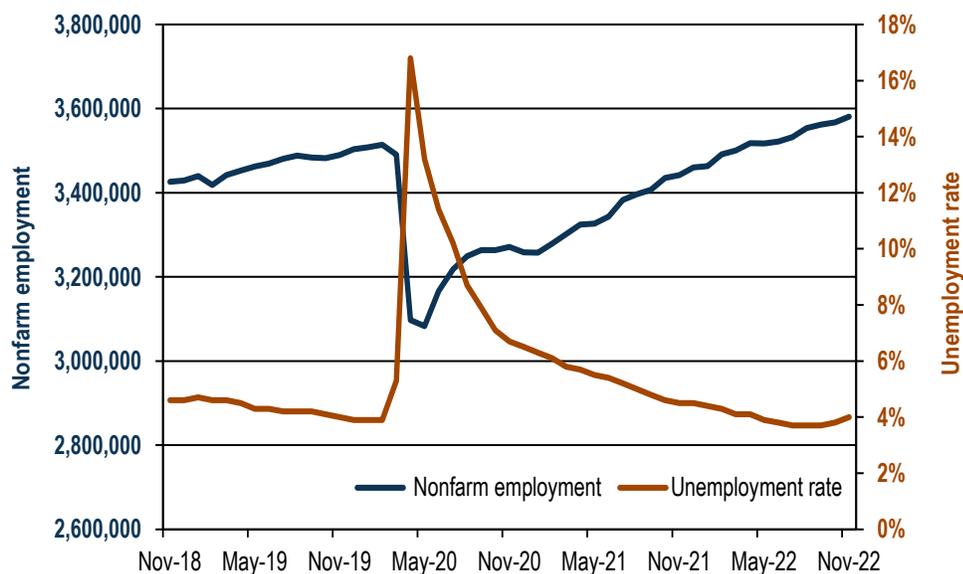
November 2022 (preliminary)

Nonfarm employment: 3,580,700

Unemployment rate: 4.0%

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

Source: Employment Security Department/DATA; 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

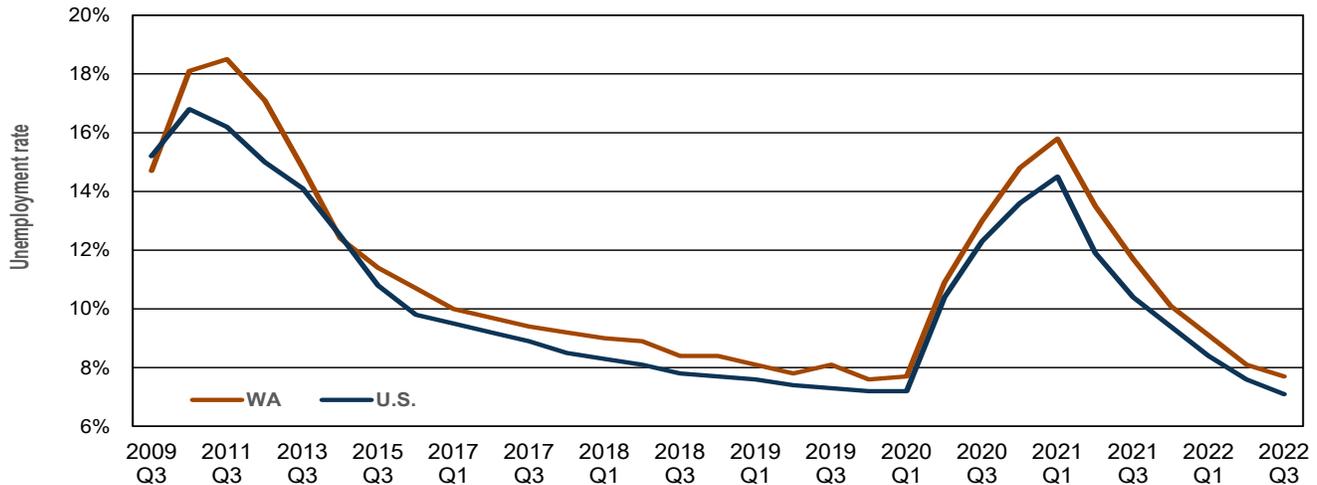
U-6: Broader unemployment measure decreased in the four-quarter period from fourth quarter 2021 through third quarter 2022

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) recently updated its “alternative measures of labor underutilization” for states to include four-quarter rates for fourth quarter 2021 through third 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 fourth quarter 2021 through third quarter 2022 for Washington state was 7.7 percent. This was lower compared to the 8.1 percent U-6 unemployment rate for the third quarter 2021 through second quarter 2022 period. The U.S. U-6 unemployment rate for the four-quarter period from fourth quarter 2021 through third quarter 2022 was 7.1 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%	7.7%	
	U.S.	8.4%	7.6%	7.1%	
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 13,100 jobs during the month, on a seasonally adjusted basis:

- Overall, employment increased in nine major industries, decreased in two and was unchanged in two in November.
- Private sector employment is estimated to have increased by 11,000 and government employment increased by 2,100.
- Professional and business services employment increased by 2,200, with 1,100 jobs gained in administrative and support services.
- Manufacturing employment rose by 1,200, led by 800 jobs gained in aerospace product and parts manufacturing.
- Leisure and hospitality employment increased by 1,100 overall, as 2,100 jobs were gained in food services and drinking places.
- Employment in information increased by 1,000, with 700 jobs added by software publishers.
- The number of jobs in construction decreased by 500 overall, with 1,100 jobs lost from specialty trade contractors.

Estimated one-month employment change by industry, seasonally adjusted
Washington state, October 2022 to November 2022

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

Total nonfarm	13,100
Education and health services	4,800
Professional and business services	2,200
Government	2,100
Manufacturing	1,200
Leisure and hospitality	1,100
Information	1,000
Financial activities	900
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	400
Wholesale trade	200
Mining and logging	0
Other services	0
Retail trade	-300
Construction	-500

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 130,900 jobs from November 2021 through November 2022.

- Overall, eleven major industries expanded and two contracted.
- Private sector employment rose 4.1 percent, up an estimated 118,700 jobs.
- Public sector employment rose 2.2 percent, up an estimated 12,200 jobs.
- Employment in leisure and hospitality is up by 28,100, with food services and drinking places adding 23,400 jobs.
- Professional and business services employment increased by 25,300, with 11,400 jobs added in administrative and support services.
- Education and health services employment rose 22,200 overall, with 19,400 jobs added in health services and social assistance.
- Employment in manufacturing is up 11,500 overall, led by an increase of 4,900 in aerospace products and parts manufacturing.
- Retail trade employment decreased by 5,500, with 4,400 jobs lost by general merchandise stores.

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

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

Total nonfarm	130,900
Leisure and hospitality	28,100
Professional and business services	25,300
Education and health services	22,200
Government	12,200
Manufacturing	11,500
Construction	10,100
Information	9,600
Wholesale trade	7,900
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	5,000
Other services	3,300
Financial activities	1,400
Mining and logging	-200
Retail trade	-5,500

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, November 2022

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

	Normal seasonal change	Estimated change	Seasonally adjusted change
Total nonfarm	-1,200	11,900	13,100
Retail trade	6,200	5,900	-300
Government	1,800	3,900	2,100
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	1,500	1,900	400
Professional and business services	1,000	3,200	2,200
Information	1,000	2,000	1,000
Education and health services	100	4,900	4,800
Mining and logging	0	0	0
Other services	-800	-800	0
Financial activities	-900	0	900
Manufacturing	-1,400	-200	1,200
Wholesale trade	-1,400	-1,200	200
Construction	-3,200	-3,700	-500
Leisure and hospitality	-5,100	-4,000	1,100

Based on historical patterns, Washington employment typically decreases by 1,200 from October to November. This year the state gained an estimated 11,900 jobs, amounting to a seasonally adjusted increase of 13,100 jobs.

- Employment in retail trade normally increases by 6,200. It is estimated to have increased by 5,900 this November so it decreased by 300 on a seasonally adjusted basis.
- The employment increase on a seasonally adjusted basis was 2,200 in professional and business services in November. The normal seasonal increase is 1,000. It is estimated to have increased this November by 3,200.
- The estimated employment decrease in construction was 3,700. The normal seasonal decrease is 3,200, so on a seasonally adjusted basis, construction employment decreased by 500.
- Typically, manufacturing employment decreases by 1,400 in November. On a seasonally adjusted basis, manufacturing employment increased by 1,200 as the estimated decrease was 200.
- The normal seasonal loss in leisure and hospitality employment is 5,100 in November. The estimated loss was 4,000, so employment increased by 1,100 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.

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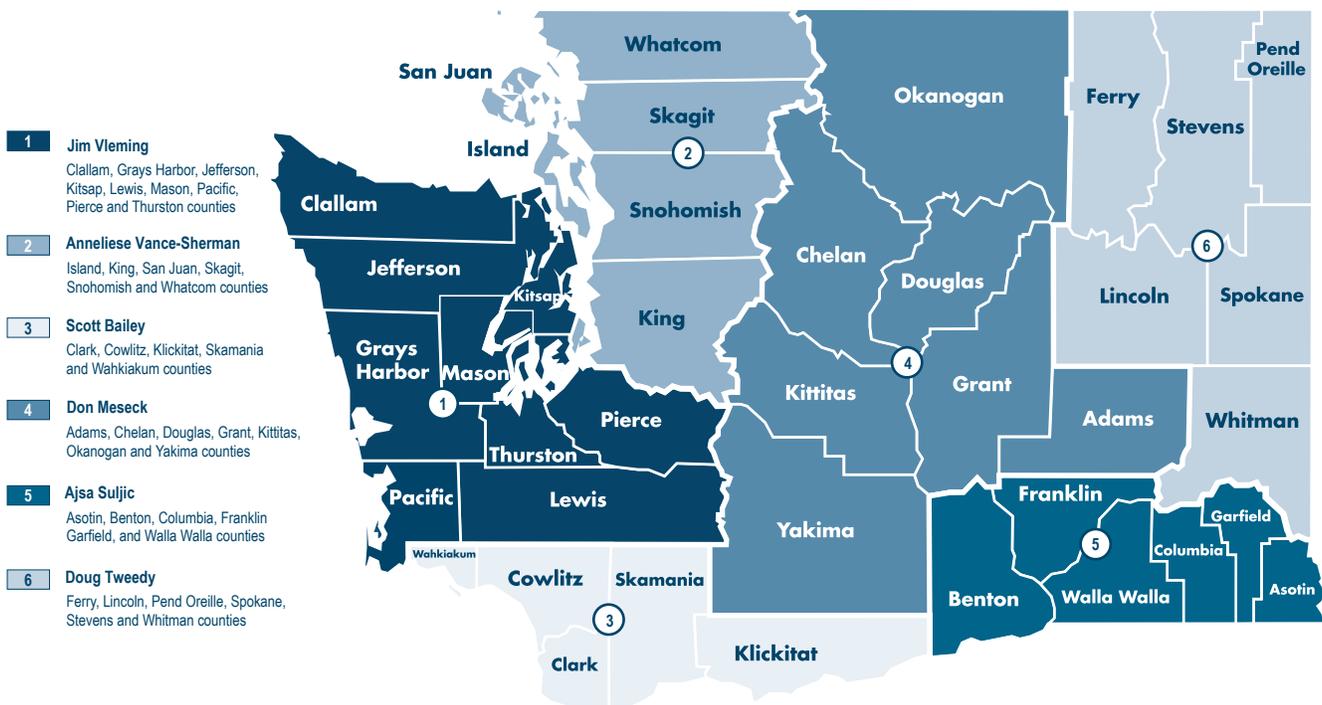
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Washington state regional labor economist reporting areas



The county level information will be available at 10 a.m., December 20, 2022. The publication schedule for 2022 is posted at: <https://esd.wa.gov/labormarketinfo/monthly-employment-report>.

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