

The Monthly Employment Report

Washington 5.2%

United States 5.9%

Seasonally adjusted

June 2021



Employment Security Department
WASHINGTON STATE



For workers and businesses affected by COVID-19, Employment Security has programs that may help. Please see ESD's website for more information. For labor market information questions, please send your emails to lmea@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 24,100 in June 2021.¹ BLS estimates the private sector gained 20,000 jobs during the month and the public sector gained 4,100 jobs.

On a not seasonally adjusted basis, estimates for June 2020 through June 2021 indicate an increase in employment of 197,000 for the state. The private sector gained 181,600 jobs while the public sector gained an estimated 15,400 jobs over the year.

Washington's preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for June 2021 is 5.2 percent. The revised estimated June 2021 unemployment rate is at 5.2 percent. The June 2020 unemployment rate was 10.8 percent.

BLS estimates of monthly job gains and losses are based on a survey of businesses. Preliminary estimates are subject to revision. The May 2021 preliminary estimated gain of 8,300 jobs was revised to a gain of 9,100 jobs.

For more information, call Paul Turek, labor economist 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, May and June 2020 and 2021

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

	June 2021 (Preliminary)	May 2021 (Revised)	June 2020 (Revised)	May 2020 (Revised)
United States				
Unemployment rate				
Seasonally adjusted	5.9%	5.8%	11.1%	13.3%
Washington				
Unemployment rate	5.2%	5.2%	10.8%	12.5%
Resident labor force	3,889,100	3,873,500	3,877,600	3,904,900
Unemployed	203,000	203,200	420,300	487,300
Seattle/Bellevue/Everett				
Unemployment rate	5.2%	5.1%	10.7%	12.4%
Resident labor force	1,748,100	1,747,800	1,717,700	1,712,300
Unemployed	90,100	89,400	184,000	211,700

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 June 2021 is 5.2 percent. The revised estimated May 2021 unemployment rate is 5.2 percent.

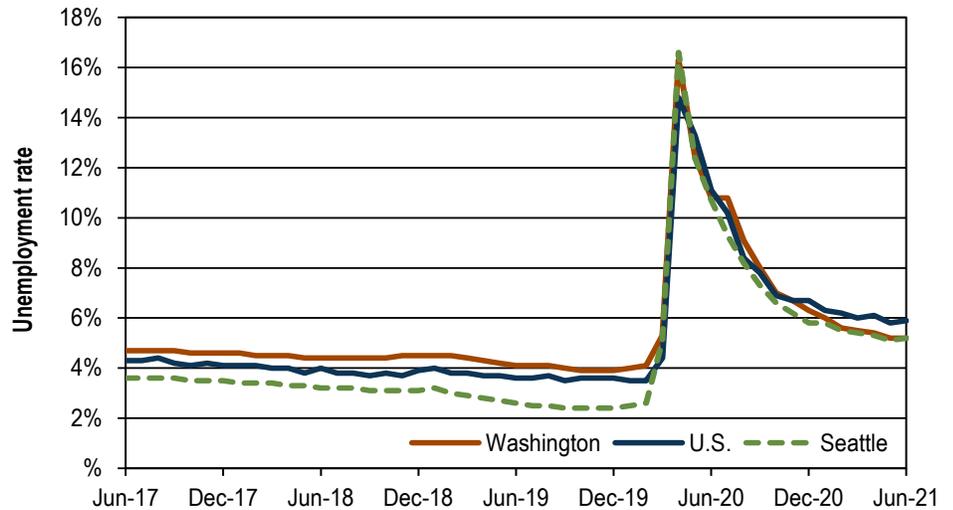
According to BLS estimates, the number of unemployed people fell by 200 in June 2021 compared to May 2021. At the same time, the number of employed people rose by an estimated 15,800. Overall, this amounted to an increase of 15,600 people in the labor force.

The preliminary June 2021 unemployment rate is 5.6 percentage points lower than the June 2020 rate of 10.8 percent.

Unemployment rates, seasonally adjusted

U.S., Washington and Seattle, June 2017 through June 2021

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



June 2021 preliminary unemployment rates:

U.S. (preliminary) 5.9%
 Washington (preliminary) 5.2%
 Seattle area (preliminary) 5.2%

Employment change, seasonally adjusted

Based on BLS estimates, Washington state nonfarm employment increased by 24,100 jobs from May 2021 to June 2021.

Recent employment change:

April 2021: up 13,200 jobs (revised)

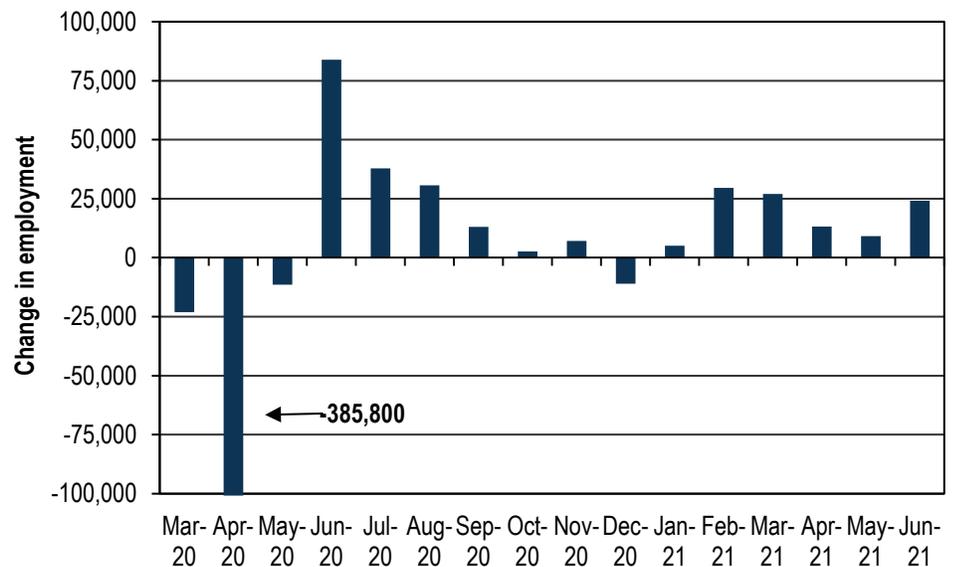
May 2021: up 9,100 jobs (revised)

June 2021: up 24,100 jobs (preliminary)

Monthly employment change, seasonally adjusted

Washington state, March 2020 through June 2021

Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; 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: 3,514,800

Unemployment rate: 4.1%

June 2021 (preliminary)

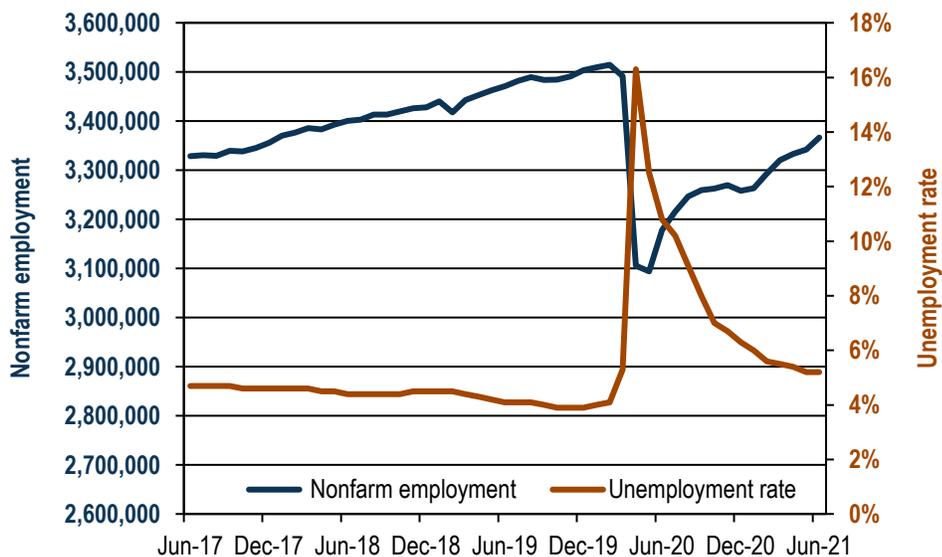
Nonfarm employment: 3,366,600

Unemployment rate: 5.2%

Nonfarm employment and unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted

Washington state, June 2017 through June 2021

Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; 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
- Federal stimulus updates
- Eligibility checker
- COVID-19 rulemaking
- Action alerts and updates

We are all in this together. The COVID-19 pandemic has created an unprecedented demand for services, but we are building capacity, updating technology, 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
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Employer information
Shared work
WorkSource system
Unemployment insurance
Training

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

U-6 unemployment rate

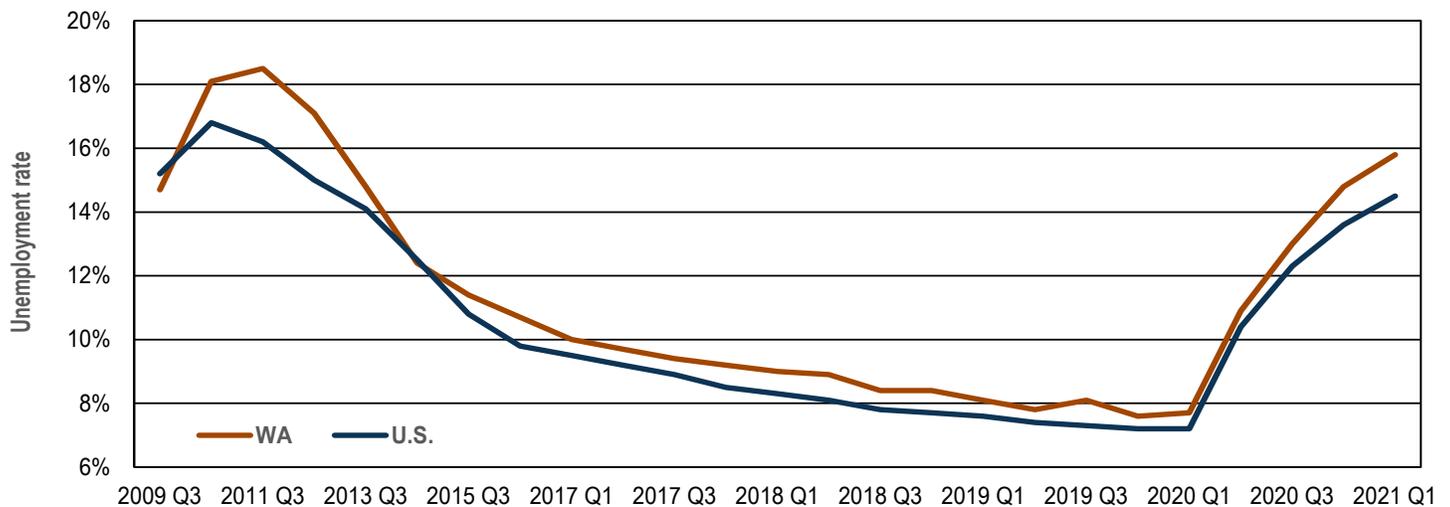
U-6: Broader unemployment measure increased in the four-quarter period ending first quarter 2021

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) recently updated its “alternative measures of labor underutilization” for states to include annual averages for first quarter 2020. 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 second quarter 2020 through the first quarter 2021 for Washington state was 15.8 percent. This was higher compared to the 14.8 percent U-6 unemployment annual 2020 rate. The U.S. U-6 unemployment rate for the second quarter 2020 through the first quarter 2021 was 14.5 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
2021	WA	15.8%			
	U.S.	14.5%			
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%
2015	WA	12.0%	11.7%	11.4%	11.0%
	U.S.	11.6%	11.3%	10.8%	10.4%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics: <https://www.bls.gov/lau/stalt.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 24,100 jobs during the month, on a seasonally adjusted basis:

- Overall, employment increased in nine major industries, decreased in three, and was unchanged in one in June.
- Private sector employment is estimated to have increased by 20,000 and government employment increased by 4,100.
- Education and health services employment rose by 8,200 overall, with 7,200 jobs gained in education services.
- Employment in professional and business services increased by 5,600, with 4,900 jobs gained in professional, scientific and technical services.
- Employment in leisure and hospitality increased by 4,100, led by 3,300 jobs gained in food services and drinking places.
- Retail trade employment rose by 600 overall, led by 1,300 jobs added in motor vehicle and parts dealers.
- The number of jobs in construction increased by 400 overall, with 400 jobs added in nonresidential building construction.

Estimated one-month employment change by industry, seasonally adjusted
Washington state, May 2021 to June 2021

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

Total nonfarm	24,100
Education and health services	8,200
Professional and business services	5,600
Leisure and hospitality	4,100
Government	4,100
Wholesale trade	1,300
Information	800
Retail trade	600
Construction	400
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	300
Mining and logging	0
Other services	-200
Manufacturing	-400
Financial activities	-700

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 lmea@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 197,000 jobs from June 2020 through June 2021.

- Overall, twelve major industries expanded and one contracted.
- Private sector employment rose 6.8 percent, up an estimated 181,600 jobs.
- Public sector employment rose 2.8 percent, up an estimated 15,400 jobs.
- Employment in leisure and hospitality is up by 56,500, with food services and drinking places adding 34,200 jobs.
- Education and health services employment increased by 42,100, with 18,100 jobs added in social assistance.
- Retail trade employment rose 31,000 overall, with 19,100 jobs gained in other retail trade.
- Professional and business services employment increased by 24,100, with 16,000 jobs added in professional, scientific and technical services.
- Employment in manufacturing is down 13,200, led by a decrease of 12,900 in aerospace product and parts manufacturing.

Estimated employment change by industry over the year, not seasonally adjusted
Washington state, June 2020 through June 2021

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

Total nonfarm	197,000
Leisure and hospitality	56,500
Education and health services	42,100
Retail trade	31,000
Professional and business services	24,100
Government	15,400
Construction	13,000
Wholesale trade	10,900
Other services	7,400
Information	6,900
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	2,400
Financial activities	300
Mining and logging	200
Manufacturing	-13,200

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, June 2021

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

	Normal seasonal change	Estimated change	Seasonally adjusted change
Total nonfarm	21,400	45,500	24,100
Leisure and hospitality	9,800	13,900	4,100
Retail trade	3,100	3,700	600
Manufacturing	3,100	2,700	-400
Professional and business services	2,600	8,200	5,600
Construction	2,500	2,900	400
Other services	2,500	2,300	-200
Information	1,900	2,700	800
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	1,700	2,000	300
Wholesale trade	1,400	2,700	1,300
Financial activities	1,000	300	-700
Mining and logging	100	100	0
Government	-2,900	1,200	4,100
Education and health services	-5,400	2,800	8,200

Based on historical patterns, Washington employment typically increases by 21,400 from May to June. This year the state gained an estimated 45,500 jobs, amounting to a seasonally adjusted increase of 24,100 jobs.

- The normal seasonal gain in leisure and hospitality employment is 9,800 in June. The estimated gain was 13,900, so employment increased by 4,100 on a seasonally adjusted basis.
- Employment in retail trade normally rises by 3,100. It is estimated to have increased by 3,700 this June, so it increased by 600 on a seasonally adjusted basis.
- Typically, manufacturing employment increases by 3,100 in June. On a seasonally adjusted basis, manufacturing employment decreased by 400 as the estimated increase was 2,700.
- The employment increase on a seasonally adjusted basis was 5,600 in professional and business services in June. The normal seasonal increase is 2,600. It is estimated to have increased this June by 8,200.
- The estimated employment increase in construction was 2,900. The normal seasonal increase is 2,500, so on a seasonally adjusted basis, construction employment rose by 400.

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 lmea@esd.wa.gov.

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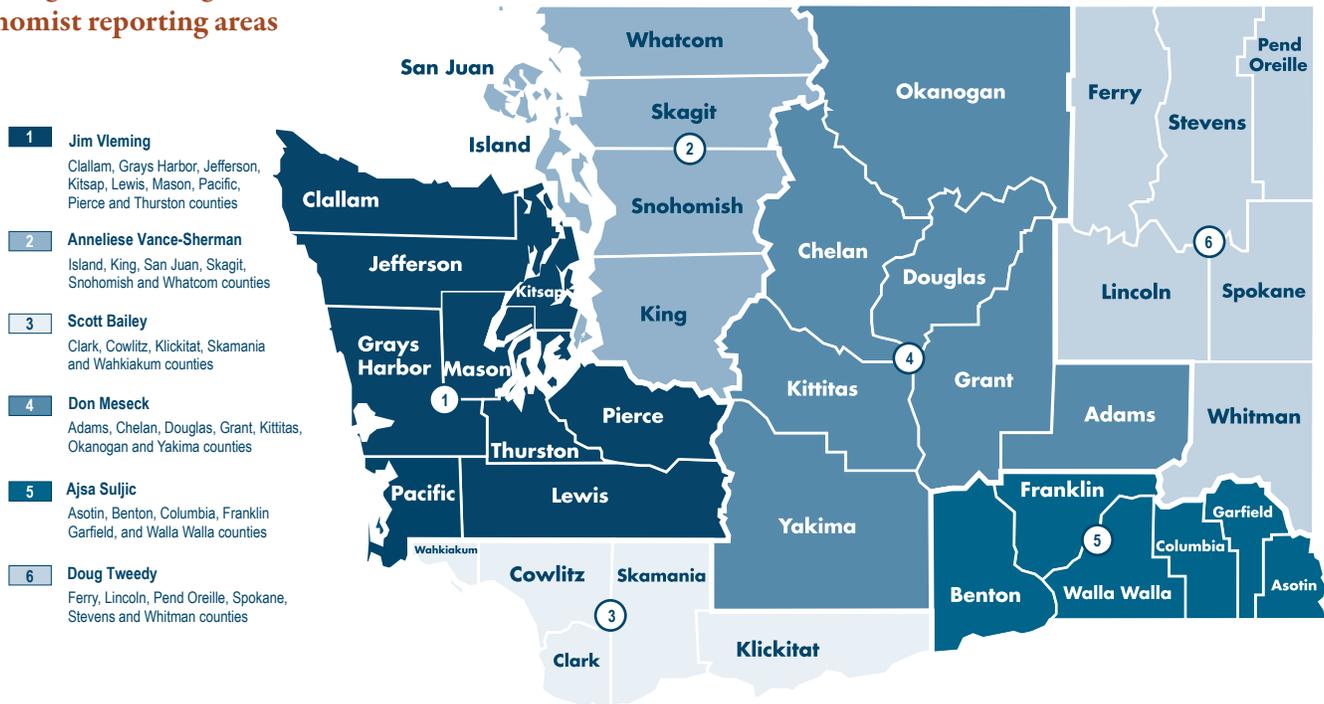
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Washington state regional labor economist reporting areas



The county level information will be available at 10 a.m., July 20, 2021.

The publication schedule for 2021 is posted at: <https://esd.wa.gov/labormarketinfo/monthly-employment-report>.

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