

# Monthly Employment Report

## for June 2012



Employment estimates in this report are generated by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

Due to changes in the method BLS uses to produce these data, we expect increased volatility in the estimates.

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 that Washington added 10,200 jobs from May to June 2012. BLS estimates the private sector added 12,000 jobs over the month and the public sector lost 1,800 jobs.

BLS estimates from June 2011 to June 2012 show a total job gain of 58,400 for the state. Over the year, the private sector added an estimated 64,800 jobs, while the public sector lost an estimated 6,300 jobs.

Washington's preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for June 2012 remained flat at 8.3 percent. The estimated May 2012 unemployment rate of 8.3 percent remained unchanged. The June 2011 rate was 9.3 percent.

BLS estimates of monthly job gains and losses are based on a survey of businesses. Preliminary estimates are subject to revision.

June 2012 jobs revisions: May's preliminary estimated gain of 11,700 jobs was revised to a gain of 11,800 jobs. Sectors with the biggest positive revisions were: government (1,500 jobs higher), other services (700 jobs higher), education and health services (400 jobs higher) and retail trade (300 jobs higher). Sectors with the largest downward revisions were professional and business services (1,000 jobs lower), construction (900 jobs lower) and transportation, warehousing and utilities (700 jobs lower).

For more information, call Mark Berreth at 509-665-3737.

### Resident civilian labor force and unemployment, seasonally adjusted

The **resident civilian labor force** is the total number of people in the work force, 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.

	June 2012 (Preliminary)	May 2012 (Revised)	June 2011 (Revised)	May 2011 (Revised)
<b>United States</b>				
Unemployment rate	8.2%	8.2%	9.1%	9.0%
<b>Washington</b>				
Unemployment rate	8.3%	8.3%	9.3%	9.3%
Resident labor force	3,525,200	3,521,500	3,477,600	3,480,000
Unemployed	293,200	292,900	324,000	324,400
<b>Seattle/Bellevue/Everett</b>				
Unemployment rate	7.2%	7.2%	8.6%	8.6%
Resident labor force	1,506,800	1,499,000	1,487,700	1,485,000
Unemployed	107,800	107,200	127,400	127,600

## Unemployment, seasonally adjusted

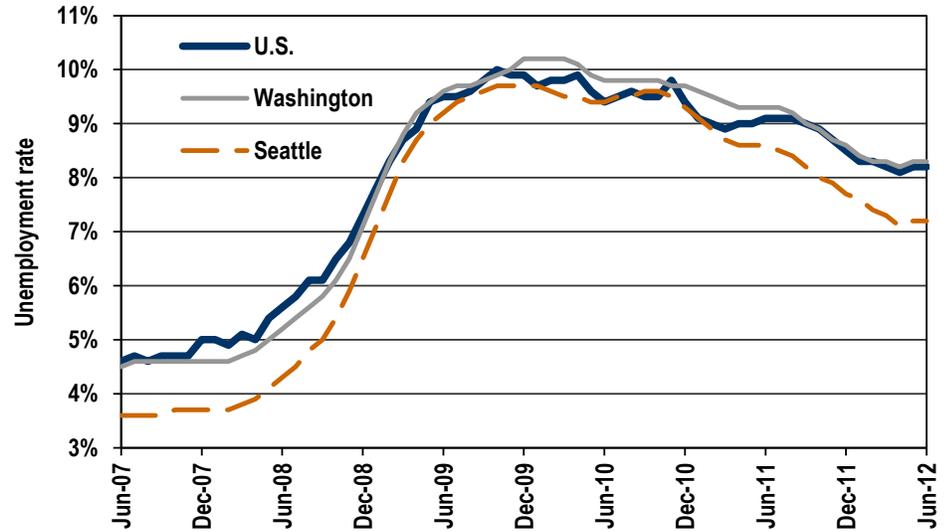
The BLS estimates Washington's preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for June 2012 was 8.3 percent. The preliminary May unemployment rate of 8.3 percent remained unchanged.

According to BLS estimates, the number of jobless people who were actively seeking work increased by about 300. At the same time, the number of employed workers rose by an estimated 3,400. Overall, this amounted to an increase of 3,700 people in the labor force.

The preliminary June 2012 unemployment rate is 1 percentage point below the June 2011 rate of 9.3 percent.

U.S., Washington and Seattle unemployment rates, seasonally adjusted June 2007 through June 2012

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics



June 2012 preliminary unemployment rates:

U.S. (preliminary): 8.2%  
 Washington (preliminary): 8.3%  
 Seattle area (preliminary): 7.2%

## Employment change and moving average, seasonally adjusted

Based on BLS estimates, Washington state gained 10,200 jobs from May 2012 to June 2012 and added 58,500 jobs from June 2011 to June 2012.

### Recent employment change

April 2012:  
Up 500 jobs (revised)

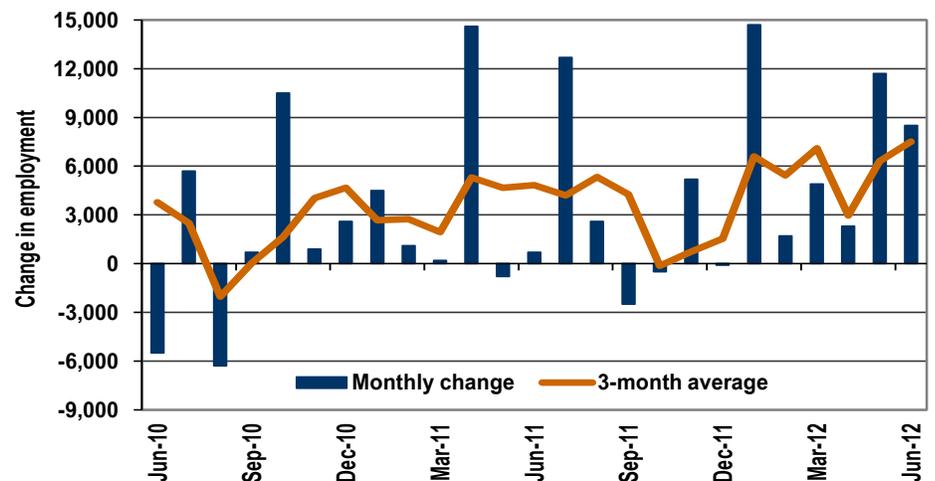
May 2012:  
Up 11,800 jobs (revised)

June 2012:  
Up 10,200 jobs (preliminary)

Monthly employment change and three-month moving average, seasonally adjusted

Washington state, June 2010 through June 2012

Source: Employment Security Dept./LMEA; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics



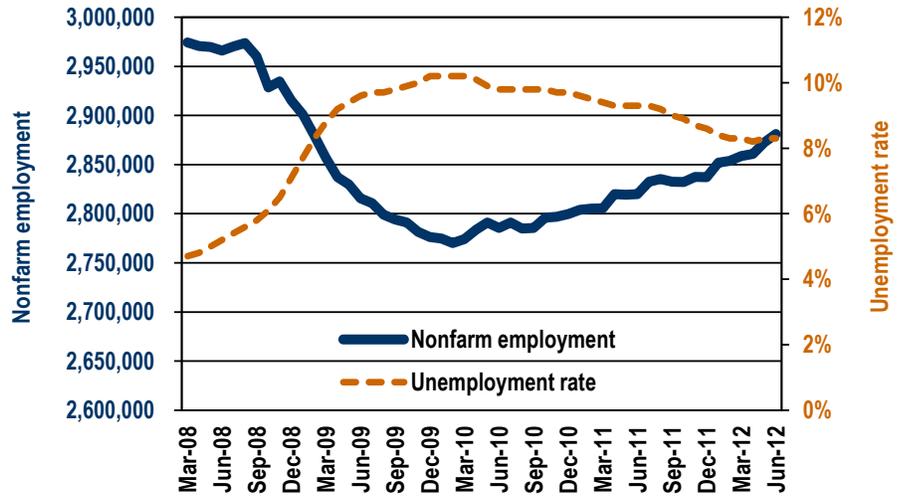
Employment and the unemployment since the start of the recession, seasonally adjusted

February 2008 (start of recent employment recession in Washington state)  
 Nonfarm employment: 2,975,700  
 Unemployment rate: 4.6%

February 2010 (end of recent employment recession in Washington state)  
 Nonfarm employment: 2,769,700  
 Unemployment rate: 10.2%

June 2012 (preliminary)  
 Nonfarm employment: 2,881,100  
 Unemployment rate: 8.3%

Nonfarm employment and unemployment since the start of the recession, seasonally adjusted  
 Washington state, March 2008 through June 2012  
 Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics



## Industry employment in Washington, seasonally adjusted

### One-month employment change by industry

Based on a BLS survey of businesses, Washington gained an estimated 10,200 jobs over the month, on a seasonally adjusted basis:

- Overall, eight sectors expanded in May, while five contracted.
- The private sector was up an estimated 12,000 jobs, while government fell by an estimated 1,800 jobs.
- Washington's workforce in professional and business services expanded more than any other sector in May, gaining an estimated 5,000 jobs. Most of these gains were in legal services, computer systems design, and management of companies and enterprises.
- The manufacturing sector added an estimated 3,600 jobs. Aerospace product and parts manufacturing accounted for 1,500 jobs within manufacturing.
- Retail trade grew by an estimated 1,700 jobs in June. The largest growth within retail trade came from "other" retail trade, which was followed by food and beverage stores.
- Wholesale trade expanded by 1,500 jobs over the month. Merchant wholesalers in nondurable goods accounted for most of the growth, while durable goods wholesalers remained flat.
- Education and health services accounted for the largest loss this month, with an estimated loss of 2,500 jobs. The loss mainly comes from education services (-2,600).
- Government lost an estimated 1,800 jobs over the month. Federal and local government both lost an estimated 500 jobs, while state government lost an estimated 800 jobs.

Estimated one-month employment change by industry, seasonally adjusted  
Washington state, May 2012 to June 2012  
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

<b>Total nonfarm</b>	<b>10,200</b>
Professional and business services	5,000
Manufacturing	3,600
Leisure and hospitality	2,000
Retail trade	1,700
Wholesale trade	1,500
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	800
Information	500
Other services	400
Mining and logging	-100
Construction	-300
Financial activities	-600
Government	-1,800
Education and health services	-2,500

## Industry employment in Washington, seasonally adjusted, continued

### Year-over-year employment change by industry

Based on a BLS survey of businesses, Washington added an estimated 58,500 jobs over the year on a seasonally adjusted basis:

- Overall, 10 sectors grew while three sectors contracted.
- Private-sector employment grew by 2.8 percent, adding an estimated 64,800 jobs, while public-sector employment declined by an estimated 6,300 jobs.
- Professional and business services added an estimated 17,300 jobs over the year. Within the sector, administrative and support services grew by 7,900 jobs over the year, while computer systems design and related services grew by 2,500 jobs, and accounting and bookkeeping services grew by 2,400 jobs.
- Manufacturing added an estimated 13,700 jobs over the year. Durable-goods manufacturing added 11,900 jobs, 8,300 of which were in aerospace product and parts manufacturing, while nondurable goods manufacturing added 1,800 jobs.
- Retail trade grew by an estimated 10,800 jobs. Other retail trade contributed 6,700 jobs to the growth and general merchandise 2,400 jobs.
- Government continues to lead all sectors in annual losses, down an estimated 6,300 jobs. Local government shed 2,300 jobs, state government shed 2,200 jobs, and federal government lost 1,800 jobs.

Estimated year-over-year employment change by industry, seasonally adjusted  
Washington state, June 2011 to June 2012  
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

<b>Total nonfarm</b>	<b>58,500</b>
Professional and business services	17,300
Manufacturing	13,700
Retail trade	10,800
Leisure and hospitality	7,400
Wholesale trade	6,400
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	3,400
Education and health services	2,200
Construction	1,900
Other services	1,400
Financial activities	700
Mining and logging	-100
Information	-300
Government	-6,300

## 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 taking into account the normal seasonal movement.

Normal, estimated and seasonally adjusted employment  
Washington state, June 2012  
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Industry sector	Normal seasonal change	Estimated change	Seasonally adjusted change
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	8,600	18,800	10,200
Total Private	15,800	27,800	12,000
Leisure and hospitality	5,800	7,800	2,000
Construction	3,100	2,800	-300
Retail trade	2,400	4,100	1,700
Professional and business services	2,300	7,300	5,000
Manufacturing	1,600	5,200	3,600
Other services	1,100	1,500	400
Financial activities	1,000	1,500	500
Information	900	300	-600
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	600	1,400	800
Mining and logging	300	200	-100
Wholesale trade	200	1,700	1,500
Education and health services	-3,500	-6,000	-2,500
Government	-7,200	-9,000	-1,800

Based on historical patterns, Washington typically gains 8,600 jobs from May to June. This year, the state had an estimated gain of 18,800 jobs, amounting to a seasonally adjusted increase of 10,200 jobs.

- The leisure and hospitality sector typically adds the most jobs in June, 5,800 jobs. This June, the sector saw an estimated gain of 7,800 jobs, amounting to a seasonally adjusted gain of 2,000 jobs.
- Construction typically experiences growth of 3,100 jobs in June. The unadjusted job gain for this sector was 2,800, meaning there was a seasonally adjusted loss of 300 jobs.
- Professional and business services experienced a larger-than-normal gain in June. The sector normally experiences a gain of 2,300 jobs in June, but in June 2012 added an estimated 7,300 jobs for a seasonally adjusted gain of 5,000 jobs.
- Manufacturing also experienced larger-than-normal gains. Manufacturing normally adds 1,600 jobs, but added an estimated 5,200 jobs over the month this year, for a seasonally adjusted gain of 3,600 jobs.
- Government normally falls by 7,200 jobs in June, but fell by an estimated 9,000 jobs this year, for a seasonally adjusted loss of 1,800 jobs.

## Total agricultural employment summary, not seasonally adjusted

Statewide from May to June, agricultural employment increased 30.8 percent. Year over year statewide, agricultural employment increased 10.5 percent. This was due primarily to a 39.4 percent increase in apple thinning.

Regionally, over the past year, all six areas had increases in total agricultural employment. The largest increase (4,460 jobs) was in the South Central agricultural reporting area.

Agricultural employment estimates are developed by the Labor Market and Economic Analysis branch of the Employment Security Department. Estimates are based on a monthly survey of agricultural producers conducted by Employment Security.

For agricultural reporting, we divide the state into six areas based on geography and types of agricultural activity. View a map of Washington's agricultural reporting areas at: <https://fortress.wa.gov/esd/employmentdata/reports-publications/industry-reports/agricultural-employment-and-wage-report/map-of-washingtons-agricultural-areas>.

### Total agricultural employment Washington state, June 2012 Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA

	June 2012 Preliminary	May 2012 Revised	June 2011 Revised	Change		Percent change	
				May 11 - Jun. 12	June 11 - June 12	May 11 - June 12	June 11 - June 12
Statewide	93,850	71,730	84,950	22,100	8,890	30.8%	10.5%
Western	10,780	10,530	10,390	240	390	2.3%	3.8%
South Central	31,330	23,300	26,860	8,030	4,460	34.5%	16.6%
North Central	19,380	13,820	17,370	5,550	2,010	40.2%	11.6%
Columbia Basin	12,550	9,790	11,590	2,760	960	28.2%	8.3%
South Eastern	18,240	12,760	17,280	5,480	960	42.9%	5.6%
Eastern	1,570	1,530	1,460	40	110	2.6%	7.5%

Totals may not add due to rounding. We report only agricultural employment covered by unemployment insurance, not adjusted for multiple jobholders.

## Contacts

### *Chief Economist:*

Joe Elling  
jelling@esd.wa.gov  
360-407-4560

### *Economists:*

Alex Roubinchtein, Ph.D.  
aroubinchtein@esd.wa.gov  
360-407-4581

Chris Thomas  
cthomas@esd.wa.gov  
360-407-4582

### *Regional labor economists:*

Scott Bailey, *Southwest Washington*  
scott.bailey@esd.wa.gov  
360-735-4995

Mark Berreth, *N. Central Washington*  
mberreth@esd.wa.gov  
509-665-3737

Don Meseck, *S. Central Washington*  
dmeseck@esd.wa.gov  
509-963-2606

Desiree Phair, *King County*  
dphair@esd.wa.gov  
206-448-0474 ext. 3073

Elizabeth Scott, Ph.D.,  
*Olympic Consortium*  
escott@esd.wa.gov  
360-337-4784

Ajsa Suljic, *Benton-Franklin*  
asuljic@esd.wa.gov  
509-734-5928

Paul Turek, Ph.D., *Pierce*  
pturek@esd.wa.gov  
253-593-7336

Doug Tweedy, *Spokane*  
dtweedy@esd.wa.gov  
509-532-3188

Anneliese Vance-Sherman, Ph.D.,  
*Snohomish*  
avancesherman@esd.wa.gov  
425-258-6315

Jim Vleming, *Pacific Mountain*  
jvleming@esd.wa.gov  
360-407-4584

Washington Relay Service: 800-833-6384

---

<sup>1</sup> Most of the employment numbers discussed in this report refer to jobs, not persons. 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.

Note: Due to changes in the processing of the monthly employment data by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the county level information will be available at 10 a.m., July 24, 2012. The publication schedule for 2012 can be found at:

<https://fortress.wa.gov/esd/employmentdata/reports-publications/economic-reports/monthly-employment-report>.

The Employment Security Department is an equal-opportunity employer and provider of programs and services. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to people with disabilities.