



# Monthly Employment Report

## for August 2013

On a seasonally adjusted basis, preliminary estimates from the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) indicate nonfarm employment in Washington rose by 5,300 from July 2013 to August 2013. BLS estimates the private sector gained 2,800 jobs over the month and the public sector gained 2,500 jobs.

On a not seasonally adjusted basis, estimates for August 2012 to August 2013 indicate an increase in employment of 66,800 for the state. Over the year the private sector added 64,600 jobs while the public sector gained an estimated 2,200 jobs.

Washington's preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for August 2013 is 7.0 percent. The revised estimated July 2013 unemployment rate was at 6.9 percent. The August 2012 unemployment rate was 8.2 percent.

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

July 2013 jobs revisions: July's preliminary estimated gain of 8,800 jobs was revised to a gain of 6,800 jobs.

For more information, call Paul Turek, State Economist at 360-407-2306

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.

### 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, July and August, 2012 and 2013  
Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

	August 2013 (Preliminary)	July 2013 (Revised)	August 2012 (Revised)	July 2012 (Revised)
<b>United States</b>				
Unemployment rate <i>Seasonally adjusted</i>	7.3%	7.4%	8.1%	8.2%
<b>Washington</b>				
Unemployment rate	7.0%	6.9%	8.2%	8.3%
Resident labor force	3,481,400	3,490,400	3,476,400	3,480,100
Unemployed	242,500	239,600	284,300	289,300
<b>Seattle/Bellevue/Everett</b>				
Unemployment rate	5.2%	4.8%	7.0%	7.2%
Resident labor force	1,538,100	1,544,500	1,507,600	1,507,500
Unemployed	80,700	74,200	106,200	108,200

## Unemployment, seasonally adjusted

The BLS estimates Washington's preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for August 2013 was 7.0 percent. The revised estimated July 2013 unemployment rate was at 6.9 percent.

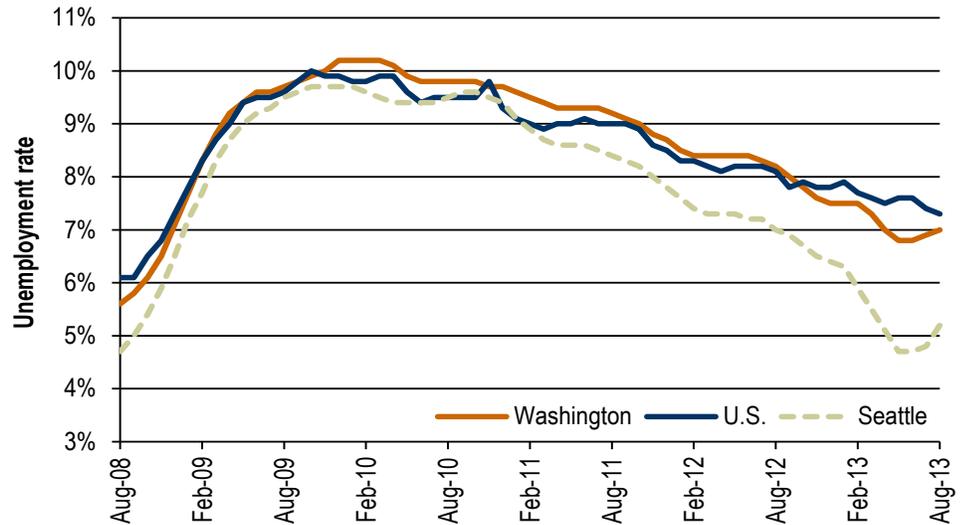
According to BLS estimates, the number of unemployed people rose by 2,900 in August 2013 compared to July 2013. At the same time, the number of employed people declined by an estimated 11,900. Overall, this amounted to a decrease of 9,000 people in the labor force.

The preliminary August 2013 unemployment rate is 1.2 percentage points below the August 2012 rate of 8.2 percent.

### Unemployment rates, seasonally adjusted

U.S., Washington and Seattle, August 2008 through August 2013

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



August 2013 preliminary unemployment rates:

U.S. (preliminary) 7.3%  
 Washington (preliminary) 7.0%  
 Seattle area (preliminary) 5.2%

## Employment change and moving average, seasonally adjusted

Based on BLS estimates, Washington state nonfarm employment increased by 5,300 jobs from July 2013 to August 2013.

### Recent employment change

June 2013: up 10,700 jobs (revised)

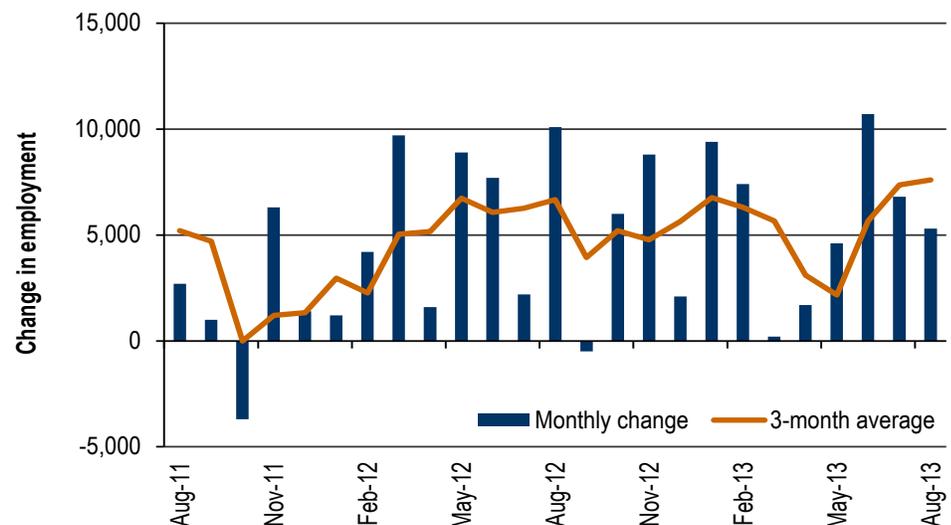
July 2013: up 6,800 jobs (revised)

August 2013: up 5,300 jobs (preliminary)

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

Washington state, August 2011 through August 2013

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



## Employment and the unemployment, seasonally adjusted

February 2008

(start of recent employment  
recession in Washington)

Nonfarm employment: 2,978,900  
Unemployment rate: 4.6%

February 2010

(end of recent employment  
recession in Washington)

Nonfarm employment: 2,773,400  
Unemployment rate: 10.2%

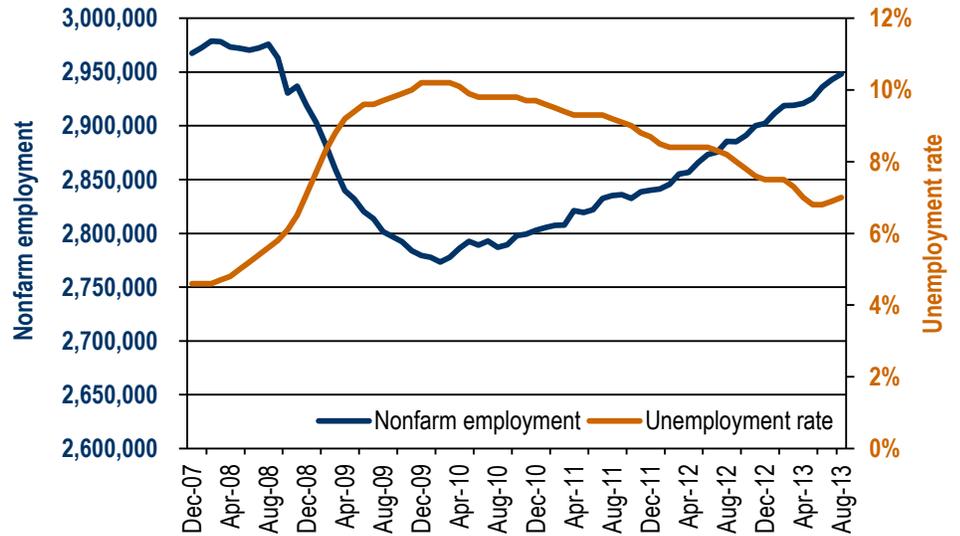
August 2013

(preliminary)

Nonfarm employment: 2,948,200  
Unemployment rate: 7.0%

Nonfarm employment and unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted  
Washington state, December 2007 through August 2013

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



## 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 5,300 jobs, over the month, on a seasonally adjusted basis:

- Overall, nine industries expanded in August and four contracted.
- Private-sector employment is estimated to have increased by 2,800 and government employment rose by 2,500.
- Retail trade added 1,700 jobs with 1,000 of those added by clothing and clothing accessories stores in response to back-to-school sales activity.
- Construction employment rose by 1,200 overall as strong gains in jobs were registered by specialty trade contractors.
- Financial activities services employment fell by 500 jobs overall this month due primarily to less mortgage and real estate lending.
- Government added an estimated 2,500 jobs over the month, with most of the increase due to gains in local government educational services.
- Manufacturing employment fell by 2,200, with 1,400 of the decline occurring in nondurable manufacturing.

Estimated one-month employment change by industry, seasonally adjusted  
Washington state, July 2013 to August 2013

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

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

## Industry employment in Washington, not seasonally adjusted

### Year-over-year change by industry

Based on a BLS survey of businesses and governments, Washington added an estimated 66,800 jobs over the year:

- Overall, all major industries expanded with the exception of mining and logging, which has remained unchanged.
- Private-sector employment rose 2.7 percent, up an estimated 64,600 jobs.
- Public-sector employment increased 0.4 percent, a net gain of 2,200 jobs.
- Employment in the leisure and hospitality industry was up by 13,000, led by a gain of 10,500 in food services and drinking places.
- Retailers added 12,400 jobs with 2,100 of the increase with motor vehicles and parts dealers.
- Employment in financial activities has increased by 2,300, with 1,700 of those jobs being added in real estate, rental and leasing.
- Manufacturing employment is estimated to have grown by 1,700.

Estimated year-over-year employment change by industry, not seasonally adjusted Washington state, August 2012 to August 2013

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

<b>Total nonfarm</b>	<b>66,800</b>
Leisure and hospitality	13,000
Retail trade	12,400
Construction	11,000
Education and health services	8,900
Professional and business services	6,700
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	2,600
Information	2,500
Other services	2,500
Financial activities	2,300
Government	2,200
Manufacturing	1,700
Wholesale trade	1,000
Mining and logging	0

- Durable goods manufacturers added 1,400 jobs with 600 of the increase in aerospace product and parts manufacturing. Nondurable goods manufacturers added 300 jobs.
- Employment in construction was up 11,000 with the number of employed in the specialty trade contractor sector up 7,400.

## 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.

Based on historical patterns, Washington employment typically declines by 13,300 from July to August. This year the state had an estimated loss of 8,000, amounting to a seasonally adjusted increase of 5,300 jobs.

- The normal seasonal gain in leisure and hospitality employment is 1,700 in August. The estimated increase was 1,800 yielding a 100 gain on a seasonally adjusted basis.
- Employment in construction normally rises by 2,600. It is estimated to have increased by 3,800 this August yielding a gain of 1,200 on a seasonally adjusted basis.

Normal seasonal change, estimated change and seasonally adjusted change  
Washington state, August 2013

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

	Normal seasonal change	Estimated change	Seasonally adjusted change
<b>Total nonfarm</b>	<b>-13,300</b>	<b>-8,000</b>	<b>5,300</b>
Construction	2,600	3,800	1,200
Leisure and hospitality	1,700	1,800	100
Manufacturing	1,200	-1,000	-2,200
Information	400	800	400
Financial activities	300	-200	-500
Education and health services	300	600	300
Retail trade	200	1,900	1,700
Mining and logging	100	0	-100
Other services	-200	0	200
Professional and business services	-300	-700	-400
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	-600	0	600
Wholesale trade	-2,100	-600	1,500
Government	-16,900	-14,400	2,500

- The estimated employment decrease in manufacturing was 1,000. The normal seasonal increase is 1,200, so on a seasonally adjusted basis manufacturing employment decreased 2,200.
- The change on a seasonally adjusted basis was an estimated loss of 400 jobs in professional and business services in August. The normal seasonal decrease is 300. It is estimated to have decreased by 700 this August.
- Typically government employment decreases by 16,900 in August. On a seasonally adjusted basis government employment increased by 2,500 as the estimated decrease was 14,400.

## Total agricultural employment summary

Year over year statewide, agricultural employment increased 11.7 percent.

Regionally over the year, total agricultural employment increased in all six of the areas. The largest increase (6,510 jobs) was in the South Central reporting area. The smallest increase (70 jobs) was in the Western 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, August 2013  
Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA

	Aug '13		Jul '13		Change		Percent change	
	Preliminary	Revised	Aug '12	Jul '13-	Aug '12-	Jul '13-	Aug '12-	
			Revised	Aug '13	Aug '13	Aug '13	Aug '13	
State	124,620	151,330	111,560	-26,710	13,060	-17.7%	11.7%	
Western	15,120	15,390	15,050	-270	70	-1.8%	0.5%	
South Central	39,890	47,190	33,380	-7,300	6,510	-15.5%	19.5%	
North Central	30,640	42,970	27,630	-12,330	3,010	-28.7%	10.9%	
Columbia Basin	16,730	19,420	14,230	-2,690	2,500	-13.9%	17.6%	
South Eastern	19,830	24,410	19,060	-4,580	770	-18.8%	4.0%	
Eastern	2,410	1,950	2,210	460	200	23.6%	9.0%	

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

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<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., September 24, 2013. The publication schedule for 2013 can be found at: <https://fortress.wa.gov/esd/employmentdata/reports-publications/economic-reports/monthly-employment-report>.

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