



Monthly Employment Report for October 2013

On a seasonally adjusted basis, preliminary estimates from the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) indicate nonfarm employment in Washington fell by 8,100 from September 2013 to October 2013. BLS estimates the private sector lost 8,300 jobs over the month and the public sector gained 200 jobs.

On a not seasonally adjusted basis, estimates for October 2012 to October 2013 indicate an increase in employment of 48,700 for the state. Over the year the private sector added 47,600 jobs while the public sector added an estimated 1,100 jobs.

Washington's preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for October 2013 is 7.0 percent. The revised estimated September 2013 unemployment rate was at 6.9 percent. The October 2012 unemployment rate was 7.8 percent.

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

For more information, call Paul Turek 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.

United States and Washington state, September and October 2012 and 2013
Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

	October 2013 (Preliminary)	September 2013 (Revised)	October 2012 (Revised)	September 2012 (Revised)
United States				
Unemployment rate <i>Seasonally adjusted</i>	7.3%	7.2%	7.9%	7.8%
Washington				
Unemployment rate	7.0%	6.9%	7.8%	8.0%
Resident labor force	3,470,600	3,478,700	3,472,200	3,474,000
Unemployed	241,300	241,000	270,900	277,700
Seattle/Bellevue/Everett				
Unemployment rate	5.7%	5.4%	6.7%	6.9%
Resident labor force	1,526,700	1,534,800	1,507,400	1,507,500
Unemployed	86,500	83,500	100,900	103,600

Unemployment, seasonally adjusted

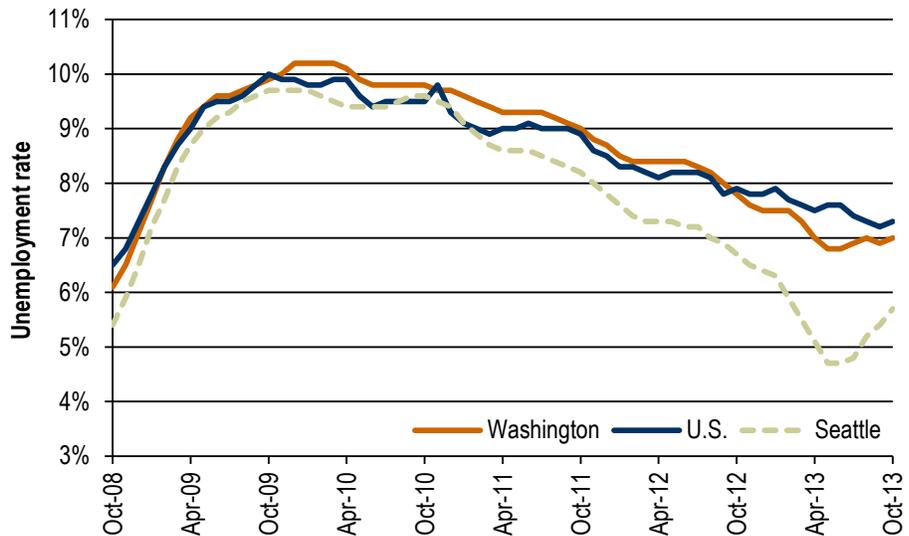
The BLS estimates Washington's preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for October 2013 was 7.0 percent. The revised estimated September 2013 unemployment rate was at 6.9 percent.

According to BLS estimates, the number of unemployed people rose by 300 in October 2013 compared to September 2013. At the same time, the number of employed people declined by an estimated 8,400. Overall, this amounted to a decrease of 8,100 people in the labor force.

The preliminary October 2013 unemployment rate is 0.8 percentage points below the October 2012 rate of 7.8 percent.

U.S., Washington and Seattle unemployment rates, seasonally adjusted October 2008 through October 2013

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



October 2013 preliminary unemployment rates:

U.S. (preliminary) 7.3%
 Washington (preliminary) 7.0%
 Seattle area (preliminary) 5.7%

Employment change and moving average, seasonally adjusted

Based on BLS estimates, Washington state nonfarm employment decreased by 8,100 jobs from September 2013 to October 2013.

Recent employment change

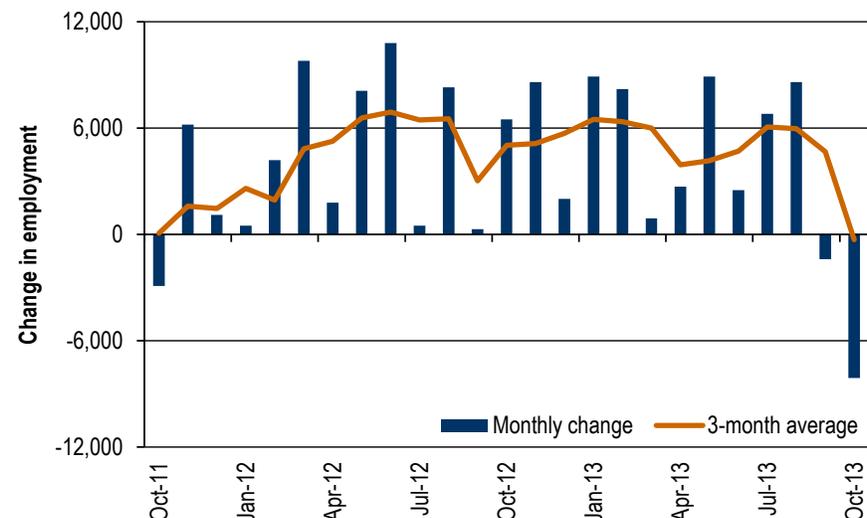
August 2013: up 8,600 jobs (revised)

September 2013: down 1,400 jobs (revised)

October 2013: down 8,100 jobs (preliminary)

Monthly employment change and three-month moving average, seasonally adjusted Washington state, October 2011 through October 2013

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



Employment and the unemployment, seasonally adjusted

February 2008

(start of recent employment
recession in Washington)

Nonfarm employment: 2,978,800

Unemployment rate: 4.6%

February 2010

(end of recent employment
recession in Washington)

Nonfarm employment: 2,772,900

Unemployment rate: 10.2%

October 2013

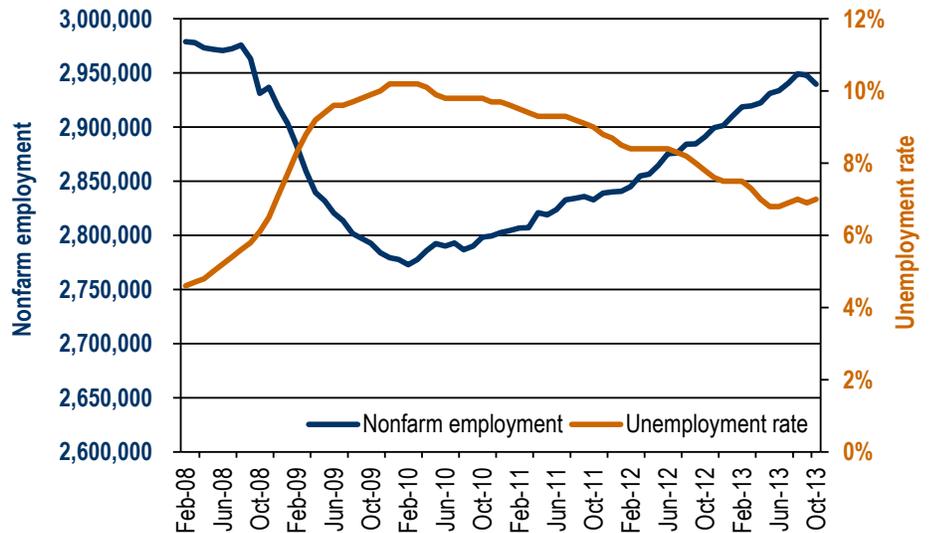
(preliminary)

Nonfarm employment: 2,939,600

Unemployment rate: 7.0%

Nonfarm employment and unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted
Washington state, February 2008 through October 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 lost an estimated 8,100 jobs, over the month, on a seasonally adjusted basis:

- Overall, five industries expanded in October, seven contracted, and one remained unchanged.
- Private-sector employment is estimated to have decreased by 8,300 and government employment rose by 200.
- Education and health services employment declined by 2,800 with private education services accounting for 1,600 of the decline.
- Leisure and hospitality employment decreased overall by 2,700. Of the total jobs lost in this category, 2,500 occurred within accommodation and food services. Losses of 3,300 in food services and drinking places, and 200 in arts, entertainment and recreation were partially offset by a gain of 800 in accommodation.
- Wholesale trade added 1,000 jobs overall as wholesalers of durable goods matched that total.
- Specialty trade contractor employment declined by 1,200 which accounted for most of the 2,800 jobs lost in construction.
- Manufacturing employment fell by a net of 1,300, with 1000 of the decline occurring in aerospace product and parts manufacturing.

Estimated one-month employment change by industry, seasonally adjusted
Washington state, September 2013 to October 2013

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

Total nonfarm	-8,100
Wholesale trade	1,000
Retail trade	400
Other services	300
Government	200
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	100
Mining and logging	0
Information	-100
Financial activities	-100
Professional and business services	-300
Manufacturing	-1,300
Leisure and hospitality	-2,700
Construction	-2,800
Education and health services	-2,800

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 48,700 jobs over the year:

- Overall, all major industries expanded.
- Private-sector employment rose 2 percent, up an estimated 47,600 jobs.
- Public-sector employment increased 0.2 percent, a net gain of 1,100 jobs.
- Construction employment is estimated to have grown by 3,400 with the number employed in the specialty trade contractor category up 4,000.
- Professional and business services employment increased by 5,100 with administration and support and waste management and remediation up 2,100, and professional, scientific and technical services up 1,900.
- Retailers added 9,900 jobs with 2,400 of the increase in building material and garden supply stores. Motor vehicles and parts dealers added another 2,200 jobs.

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

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

Total nonfarm	48,700
Retail trade	9,900
Leisure and hospitality	7,900
Education and health services	7,500
Professional and business services	5,100
Wholesale trade	3,800
Construction	3,400
Information	2,300
Other services	2,300
Financial activities	2,100
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	2,000
Manufacturing	1,200
Government	1,100
Mining and logging	100

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 increases by 15,700 from September to October. This year the state had an estimated gain of 7,600, amounting to a seasonally adjusted decrease of 8,100 jobs.

- The normal seasonal decline in leisure and hospitality employment is 12,200 in October. The estimated decrease was 14,900 yielding a 2,700 decline on a seasonally adjusted basis.
- Employment in construction normally falls by 1,700. It is estimated to have decreased by 4,500 this October yielding a loss of 2,800 on a seasonally adjusted basis.

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

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

	Normal seasonal change	Estimated change	Seasonally adjusted change
Total nonfarm	15,700	7,600	-8,100
Government	23,200	23,400	200
Education and health services	8,700	5,900	-2,800
Retail trade	800	1,200	400
Wholesale trade	500	1,500	1,000
Financial activities	-100	-200	-100
Mining and Logging	-100	-100	0
Other services	-300	0	300
Professional and business services	-500	-800	-300
Information	-700	-800	-100
Manufacturing	-900	-2,200	-1,300
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	-1,000	-900	100
Construction	-1,700	-4,500	-2,800
Leisure and hospitality	-12,200	-14,900	-2,700

- The estimated employment increase in education and health services was 5,900. The normal seasonal increase is 8,700, so on a seasonally adjusted basis education and health services employment decreased 2,800.
- The change on a seasonally adjusted basis was an estimated gain of 1,000 jobs in wholesale trade in October. The normal seasonal increase is 500. It is estimated to have increased by 1,500 this October.

Total agricultural employment summary

Statewide agricultural employment decreased 4.9 percent from September to October.

Year over year statewide, agricultural employment increased 14.1 percent.

Regionally over the year, total agricultural employment increased in all six of the areas. The largest increase (7,080 jobs) was in the South Central reporting area. The smallest increase (70 jobs) was in the Eastern 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, October 2013
Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA

	Oct '13 preliminary	Sept '13 revised	Oct '12 revised	Sept '13- Oct '13	Change Oct '12- Oct '13	Sept '13- Oct '13	Percent Change Oct '12- Oct '13
State	121,750	128,070	106,670	-6,320	15,080	-4.9%	14.1%
Western	12,420	12,790	11,400	-370	1,020	-2.9%	8.9%
South Central	42,960	45,950	35,880	-2,990	7,080	-6.5%	19.7%
North Central	27,720	27,890	23,380	-170	4,340	-0.6%	18.6%
Columbia Basin	17,090	18,620	15,630	-1,530	1,460	-8.2%	9.3%
South Eastern	19,710	20,780	18,600	-1,070	1,110	-5.1%	6.0%
Eastern	1,850	2,040	1,780	-190	70	-9.3%	3.9%

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

Benchmarking highlights

Benchmarking is a process that replaces employment estimates with the actual number of job gains or losses.

Each month, economists estimate monthly job gains and losses based on a survey of employers. Each quarter, economists benchmark the estimates by replacing them with data from employer tax records before applying seasonal adjustments.

Benchmarked employment data are now available through June 2013. Employment estimates for October 2013 presented in this report were based on the new data, plus seasonal adjustments.

Based on benchmarked June 2013 data:

- The largest upward revision was for manufacturing, 3,300.
- Construction had the largest downward revision, 3,000.

Quarterly benchmarked industry employment, seasonally adjusted
Washington state, June 2013

Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

	Revisions through June 2013 employment level
Total nonfarm	-2,400
Manufacturing	3,300
Wholesale trade	900
Financial activities	500
Information	400
Mining and logging	200
Leisure and hospitality	200
Other services	-200
Professional and business services	-300
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	-500
Retail trade	-900
Government	-1,000
Education and health services	-2,000
Construction	-3,000

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¹ 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., November 26, 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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