



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.

Monthly Employment Report

for May 2014

On a seasonally adjusted basis, preliminary estimates from the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) indicate nonfarm employment in Washington rose by 4,000 from April 2014 to May 2014.¹ BLS estimates the private sector gained 5,200 jobs during the month and the public sector lost 1,200 jobs.

On a not seasonally adjusted basis, estimates for May 2013 through May 2014 indicate an increase in employment of 73,900 for the state. The private sector added 72,100 jobs while the public sector gained an estimated 1,800 jobs over the year.

Washington's preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for May 2014 is 6.1 percent. The revised estimated April 2014 unemployment rate was also at 6.1 percent. The May 2013 unemployment rate was 7.0 percent.

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

April's preliminary estimated gain of 7,700 jobs was revised to a gain of 8,900 jobs.

For more information, call Paul Turek, labor economist at 360-407-2306.

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, April and May, 2013 and 2014
Source: Employment Security Department/LMPA; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

	May 2014 (Preliminary)	April 2014 (Revised)	May 2013 (Revised)	April 2013 (Revised)
United States				
Unemployment rate				
<i>Seasonally adjusted</i>	6.3%	6.3%	7.5%	7.5%
Washington				
Unemployment rate	6.1%	6.1%	7.0%	7.1%
Resident labor force	3,479,700	3,473,200	3,467,900	3,468,600
Unemployed	211,800	210,200	244,100	245,000
Seattle/Bellevue/Everett				
Unemployment rate	5.0%	5.0%	5.3%	5.3%
Resident labor force	1,562,300	1,561,000	1,529,600	1,526,600
Unemployed	77,900	78,500	80,800	80,700

¹Most of the employment numbers discussed in this report refers 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.

Unemployment, seasonally adjusted

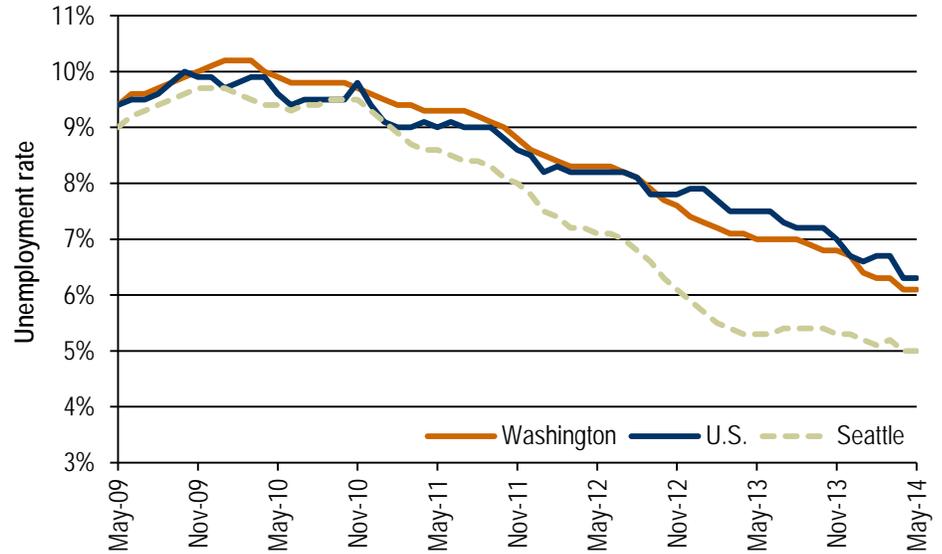
The BLS estimates Washington's preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for May 2014 was 6.1 percent. The revised estimated April 2014 unemployment rate was also 6.1 percent.

According to BLS estimates, the number of unemployed people rose by 1,600 in May 2014 compared to April 2014. At the same time, the number of employed people rose by an estimated 4,900. Overall, this amounted to an increase of 6,500 people in the labor force.

The preliminary May 2014 unemployment rate is 0.9 percentage point below the May 2013 rate of 7.0 percent.

U.S., Washington and Seattle unemployment rates, seasonally adjusted
May 2009 through May 2014

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



May 2014 preliminary unemployment rates:
U.S. (preliminary) 6.3%

Washington (preliminary) 6.1%
Seattle area (preliminary) 5.0%

Employment change and moving average, seasonally adjusted

Based on BLS estimates, Washington state nonfarm employment increased by 4,000 jobs from April 2014 to May 2014.

Recent employment change

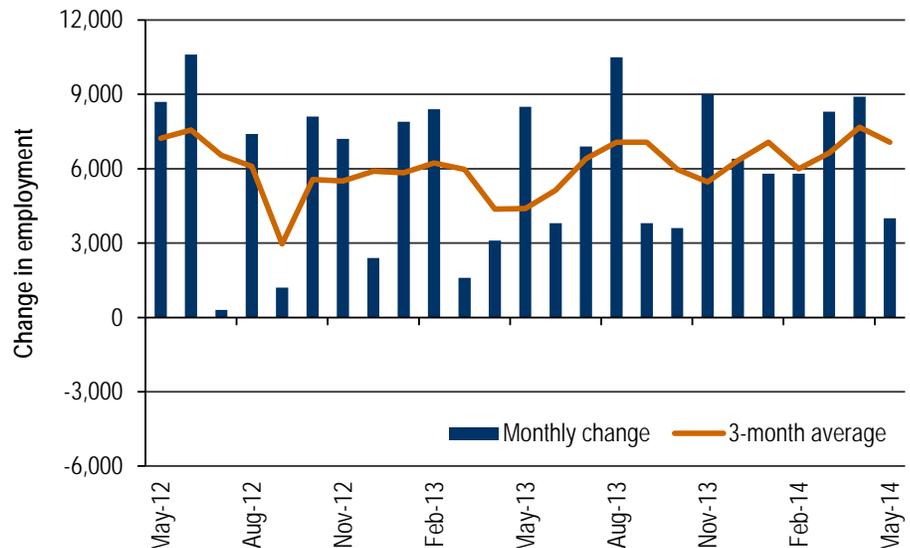
March 2014: up 8,300 jobs (revised)

April 2014: up 8,900 jobs (revised)

May 2014: up 4,000 jobs (preliminary)

Monthly employment change and three-month moving average, seasonally adjusted
Washington state, May 2012 through May 2014

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



Employment and unemployment, seasonally adjusted

February 2008

(start of recent employment
recession in Washington)

Nonfarm employment: 3,010,000

Unemployment rate: 4.6%

February 2010

(end of recent employment
recession in Washington)

Nonfarm employment: 2,820,800

Unemployment rate: 10.2%

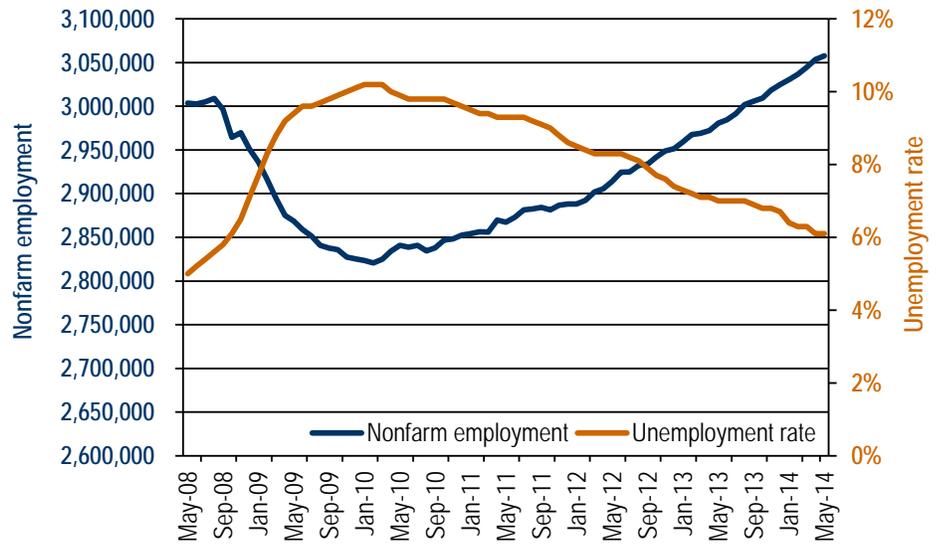
May 2014 (preliminary)

Nonfarm employment: 3,057,600

Unemployment rate: 6.1%

Nonfarm employment and unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted
Washington state, May 2008 through May 2014

Source: Employment Security Department/LMPA; 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 4,000 jobs, during the month, on a seasonally adjusted basis:

- Overall, five industries expanded employment in May and eight contracted.
- Private-sector employment is estimated to have increased by 5,200 and government employment fell by 1,200.
- Leisure and hospitality employment increased by 3,300, led by a gain of 1,600 jobs in accommodation services.
- Retail trade employment rose by 2,100. General merchandise stores accounted for 800 of the increase.
- Construction employment increased by 1,800, led by a gain of 1,200 jobs by specialty trade contractors.
- Financial activities employment rose by 800.
- Manufacturing employment fell by 500 on balance, with the 700 decrease in nondurable goods employment outweighing the 200 increase in durable goods.
- The number of jobs in professional and business services was down by 1,200. Employment gains of 600 in professional, scientific and technical services and 300 in management of companies and enterprises were offset by a loss of 2,100 jobs in administrative and support services.

Estimated one-month employment change by industry, seasonally adjusted
Washington state, April 2014 to May 2014

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

Total nonfarm	4,000
Leisure and hospitality	3,300
Retail trade	2,100
Construction	1,800
Financial activities	800
Information	200
Mining and Logging	-100
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	-100
Wholesale trade	-300
Education and health services	-400
Other services	-400
Manufacturing	-500
Professional and business services	-1,200
Government	-1,200

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 73,900 jobs from May 2013 to May 2014:

- Overall, all major industries expanded.
- Private-sector employment rose 3.0 percent, up an estimated 72,100 jobs.
- Public-sector employment increased 0.3 percent, a net gain of 1,800 jobs.
- Retailers added 12,200 jobs. Other retail trade, which includes online retail trade, was up by 8,800 jobs.
- Employment in construction was up 11,800.
- Education and health services employment has risen by a total of 10,800 as health services and social assistance added 11,300 jobs while education services employment declined by 500.
- Manufacturing employment is estimated to have increased by 2,500. Durable goods manufacturers added 2,300 jobs out of the total 2,500.
- Professional and business services employment increased by 10,300 with administration and support services up 4,900 and professional, scientific and technical services also up by 4,900.

Estimated employment change by industry over the year, not seasonally adjusted Washington state, May 2013 to May 2014

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

Total Nonfarm	73,900
Retail trade	12,200
Leisure and hospitality	12,000
Construction	11,800
Education and health services	10,800
Professional and business services	10,300
Information	4,400
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	3,600
Financial activities	2,800
Manufacturing	2,500
Government	1,800
Wholesale trade	1,200
Other services	300
Mining and logging	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.

Based on historical patterns, Washington employment typically rises by 20,600 from April to May. This year the state had an estimated gain of 24,600, amounting to a seasonally adjusted increase of 4,000 jobs.

- Employment in leisure and hospitality normally rises by 6,500. It is estimated to have increased by 9,800 this May yielding a gain of 3,300 on a seasonally adjusted basis.
- The estimated employment increase in professional and business services was 500. The normal seasonal increase is 1,700, so on a seasonally adjusted basis, professional and business services employment decreased by 1,200.

Normal seasonal change, estimated change and seasonally adjusted change
Washington state, May 2014

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

	Normal seasonal change	Estimated change	Seasonally adjusted change
Total nonfarm	20,600	24,600	4,000
Leisure and hospitality	6,500	9,800	3,300
Construction	3,100	4,900	1,800
Professional and business services	1,700	500	-1,200
Retail trade	1,700	3,800	2,100
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	1,400	1,300	-100
Education and health services	1,200	800	-400
Government	1,100	-100	-1,200
Manufacturing	1,100	600	-500
Wholesale trade	800	500	-300
Financial activities	700	1,500	800
Information	600	800	200
Other services	400	0	-400
Mining and logging	300	200	-100

- The normal seasonal gain in retail trade employment is 1,700 in May. The estimated increase was 3,800 yielding a 2,100 gain on a seasonally adjusted basis.
- The change on a seasonally adjusted basis was an estimated loss of 400 jobs in education and health services in May. The normal seasonal increase is 1,200. It is estimated to have increased by 800 this May.
- Typically government employment increases by 1,100 in May. On a seasonally adjusted basis government employment decreased by 1,200 as the estimated decrease was 100.

Total agricultural employment summary

Agricultural employment estimates will no longer be provided beginning with the May 2014 monthly report due to a decline in funding.

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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., June 24, 2014. The publication schedule for 2014 can be found at: <https://fortress.wa.gov/esd/employmentdata/reports-publications/economic-reports/monthly-employment-report>.

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