



Monthly Employment Report

for November 2014

On a seasonally adjusted basis, preliminary estimates from the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) indicate nonfarm employment in Washington rose by 6,800 from October 2014 to November 2014.¹ BLS estimates the private sector gained 10,200 jobs during the month and the public sector lost 3,400 jobs.

On a not seasonally adjusted basis, estimates for November 2013 through November 2014 indicate an increase in employment of 82,700 for the state. The private sector added 72,600 jobs while the public sector gained an estimated 10,100 jobs over the year.

Washington's preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for November 2014 is 6.2 percent. The revised estimated October 2014 unemployment rate was at 6.0 percent. The November 2013 unemployment rate was 6.8 percent.

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

October's preliminary estimated gain of 5,600 jobs was revised to a gain of 9,900 jobs.

For more information, call Paul Turek, labor 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, October and November, 2013 and 2014
Source: Employment Security Department/LMPA; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

	November 2014 (Preliminary)	October 2014 (Revised)	November 2013 (Revised)	October 2013 (Revised)
United States				
Unemployment rate <i>Seasonally adjusted</i>	5.8%	5.8%	7.2%	7.2%
Washington				
Unemployment rate	6.2%	6.0%	6.8%	6.8%
Resident labor force	3,502,500	3,489,000	3,451,100	3,453,200
Unemployed	215,500	208,800	233,200	236,500
Seattle/Bellevue/Everett				
Unemployment rate	4.7%	4.8%	5.3%	5.4%
Resident labor force	1,563,900	1,560,200	1,535,600	1,534,400
Unemployed	73,600	74,600	81,900	82,600

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

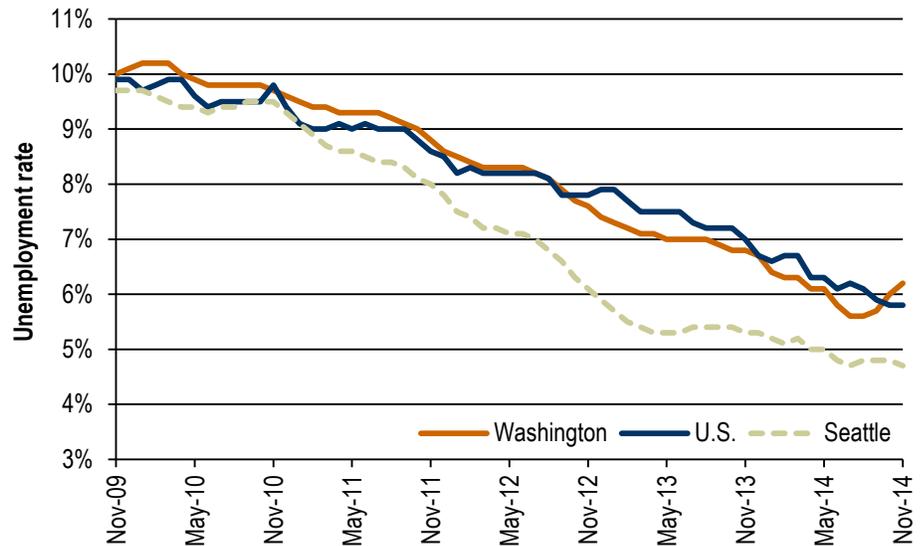
The BLS estimates Washington's preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for November 2014 was 6.2 percent. The revised estimated October 2014 unemployment rate was 6.0 percent.

According to BLS estimates, the number of unemployed people rose by 6,700 in November 2014 compared to October 2014. At the same time, the number of employed people rose by an estimated 6,800. Overall, this amounted to an increase of 13,500 people in the labor force.

The preliminary November 2014 unemployment rate is 0.6 percentage points below the November 2013 rate of 6.8 percent.

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

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



November 2014 preliminary unemployment rates:

U.S. (preliminary) 5.8%
 Washington (preliminary) 6.2%
 Seattle area (preliminary) 4.7%

Employment change and moving average, seasonally adjusted

Based on BLS estimates, Washington state nonfarm employment increased by 6,800 jobs from October 2014 to November 2014.

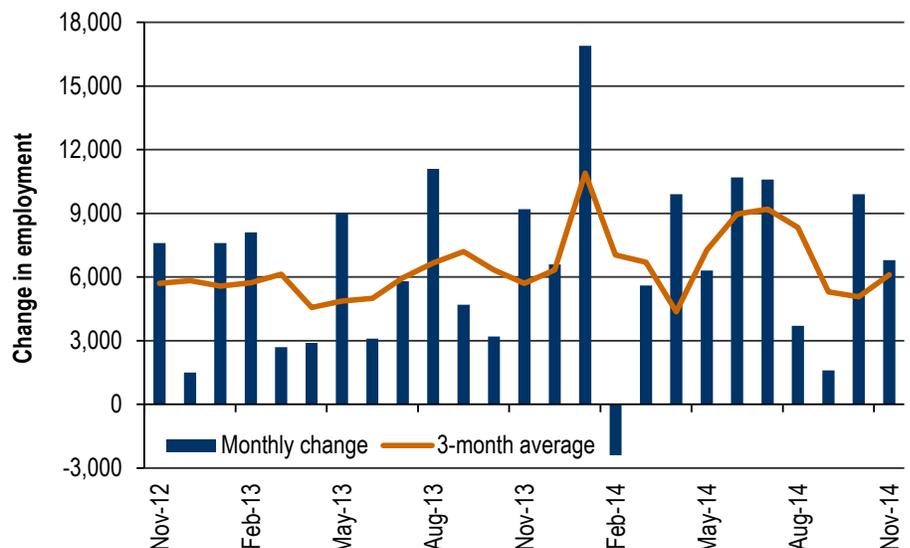
Recent employment change September 2014: up 1,600 jobs (revised)

October 2014: up 9,900 jobs (revised)

November 2014: up 6,800 jobs (preliminary)

Monthly employment change and three-month moving average, seasonally adjusted Washington state, November 2012 through November 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: 3,009,300

Unemployment rate: 4.6%

February 2010

(end of recent employment
recession in Washington)

Nonfarm employment: 2,819,700

Unemployment rate: 10.2%

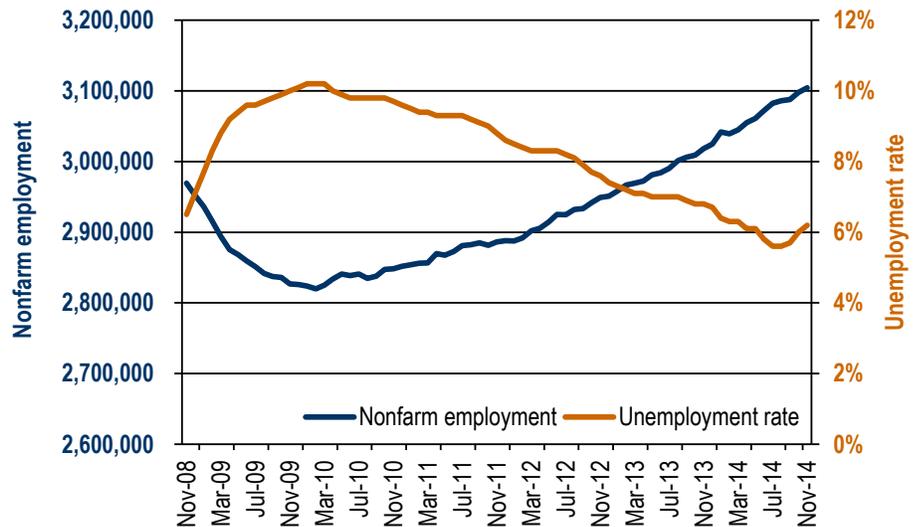
November 2014 (preliminary)

Nonfarm employment: 3,104,500

Unemployment rate: 6.2%

Nonfarm employment and unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted
Washington state, November 2008 through November 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 6,800 jobs, during the month, on a seasonally adjusted basis:

- Overall, eight industries expanded employment in November and five contracted.
- Private-sector employment is estimated to have increased by 10,200 and government employment fell by 3,400.
- Construction employment increased by 3,300, with specialty trade contractors accounting for 2,200 of the increase.
- Employment in education and health services rose by 2,100. Health services and social assistance added 1,900 jobs to that amount.
- The number of people employed in professional and business services rose by 2,000. The increase was led by a 1,700 rise in employment services employment.
- Manufacturing employment fell by a total of 400 with durable and nondurable goods production each losing 200 jobs.
- Leisure and hospitality employment decreased by 600 as the loss of 1,500 jobs in arts, entertainment and recreation outweighed the employment gain of 900 in accommodation and food services.

Estimated one-month employment change by industry, seasonally adjusted
Washington state, October 2014 to November 2014

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

Total nonfarm	6,800
Construction	3,300
Education and health services	2,100
Professional and business services	2,000
Wholesale trade	1,800
Other services	1,500
Financial activities	700
Information	400
Mining and logging	100
Retail trade	-200
Manufacturing	-400
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	-500
Leisure and hospitality	-600
Government	-3,400

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 82,700 jobs from November 2013 to November 2014:

- Overall, 11 major industries expanded, one contracted and one was unchanged.
- Private-sector employment rose 2.9 percent, up an estimated 72,600 jobs.
- Public-sector employment increased 1.8 percent, a net gain of 10,100 jobs.
- Professional and business services employment increased by 13,300, with professional, scientific and technical services also up by 5,300.
- Employment in construction is up 10,400 with the number of employed in the specialty trade contractor sector up 6,600.
- Retailers added 10,300 jobs. Other retail trade, which includes online retail trade, was up by 5,000 jobs.
- Education and health services employment has risen by a total of 9,300 as health services and social assistance added 10,700 jobs while education services employment decreased by 1,400.
- Employment in the leisure and hospitality industry is up by 8,300, as 10,100 jobs were added in food services and drinking places while 1,800 jobs were lost in accommodation services.

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

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

Total nonfarm	82,700
Professional and business services	13,300
Construction	10,400
Retail trade	10,300
Government	10,100
Education and health services	9,300
Leisure and hospitality	8,300
Financial activities	4,700
Wholesale trade	4,500
Other services	4,300
Information	4,200
Manufacturing	3,700
Mining and logging	0
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	-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 falls by 3,000 from October to November. This year the state had an estimated gain of 3,800, amounting to a seasonally adjusted increase of 6,800 jobs.

- The normal seasonal gain in retail trade employment is 10,500 in November. The estimated increase was 10,300 yielding a 200 loss on a seasonally adjusted basis.

Normal seasonal change, estimated change and seasonally adjusted change
Washington state, November 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	-3,000	3,800	6,800
Retail trade	10,500	10,300	-200
Government	4,500	1,100	-3,400
Information	300	700	400
Education and health services	100	2,200	2,100
Financial activities	100	800	700
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	0	-500	-500
Mining and logging	-200	-100	100
Other services	-900	600	1,500
Wholesale trade	-1,500	300	1,800
Manufacturing	-2,600	-3,000	-400
Professional and business services	-3,000	-1,000	2,000
Leisure and hospitality	-3,800	-4,400	-600
Construction	-6,500	-3,200	3,300

- Typically government employment increases by 4,500 in November. On a seasonally adjusted basis government employment decreased by 3,400 as the estimated increase was 1,100.
- The change on a seasonally adjusted basis was an estimated gain of 2,100 jobs in education and health services in November. The normal seasonal increase is 100. It is estimated to have increased by 2,200 this November.
- The estimated employment decrease in professional and business services was 1,000. The normal seasonal decrease is 3,000, so on a seasonally adjusted basis, professional and business services employment rose by 2,000.
- Employment in leisure and hospitality normally falls by 3,800. It is estimated to have decreased by 4,400 this November yielding a loss of 600 on a seasonally adjusted basis.

Contacts

Economists:

Paul Turek, Ph.D.
pturek@esd.wa.gov
360-407-2306

Regional labor economists:

Scott Bailey, *Clark, Cowlitz,
Klickitat, Skamania and
Wahkiakum counties*
scott.bailey@esd.wa.gov
360-735-4995

Doug Tweedy, *Ferry, Lincoln,
Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens
and Whitman counties*
dtweedy@esd.wa.gov
509-532-3188

Don Meseck, *Adams, Chelan,
Douglas, Grant, Kittitas,
Okanogan and Yakima counties*
dmeseck@esd.wa.gov
509-573-4564

Anneliese Vance-Sherman, Ph.D.
*Island, King, San Juan, Skagit,
Snohomish and Whatcom counties*
avancesherman@esd.wa.gov
425-258-6315

Ajsa Suljic, *Asotin, Benton,
Columbia, Franklin, Garfield
and Walla Walla counties*
asuljic@esd.wa.gov
509-734-5928

Jim Vleming, *Clallam, Grays Harbor,
Jefferson, Kitsap, Lewis, Mason, Pacific,
Pierce and Thurston counties*
jvleming@esd.wa.gov
360-570-6945

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., December 23, 2014. The publication schedule for 2014 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. Washington Relay Service: 800-833-6384.