



Monthly Employment Report

for May 2013

On a seasonally adjusted basis, preliminary estimates from the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) indicate nonfarm employment in Washington rose by 4,100 from April 2013 to May 2013. BLS estimates the private sector gained 900 jobs over the month and the public sector gained 3,200 jobs.

On a not seasonally adjusted basis, estimates for May 2012 to May 2013 indicate an increase in employment of 60,800 for the state. Over the year the private sector added 59,500 jobs while the public sector gained an estimated 1,300 jobs.

Washington's preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for May 2013 is 6.8 percent. The revised estimated April 2013 unemployment rate was at 7.0 percent. The May 2012 unemployment rate was 8.4 percent.

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

April 2013 jobs revisions: March's preliminary estimated gain of 3,800 jobs was revised to a gain of 1,700 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, April and May, 2012 and 2013
Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

	May 2013 (Preliminary)	April 2013 (Revised)	May 2012 (Revised)	April 2012 (Revised)
United States				
Unemployment rate <i>Seasonally adjusted</i>	7.6%	7.5%	8.2%	8.1%
Washington				
Unemployment rate	6.8%	7.0%	8.4%	8.4%
Resident labor force	3,494,700	3,483,300	3,489,500	3,492,500
Unemployed	236,900	243,600	292,900	292,700
Seattle/Bellevue/Everett				
Unemployment rate	4.7%	5.1%	7.3%	7.3%
Resident labor force	1,530,100	1,519,200	1,505,700	1,504,100
Unemployed	71,800	77,300	109,300	109,200

Unemployment, seasonally adjusted

The BLS estimates Washington's preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for May 2013 was 6.8 percent. The revised estimated April 2013 unemployment rate was at 7.0 percent.

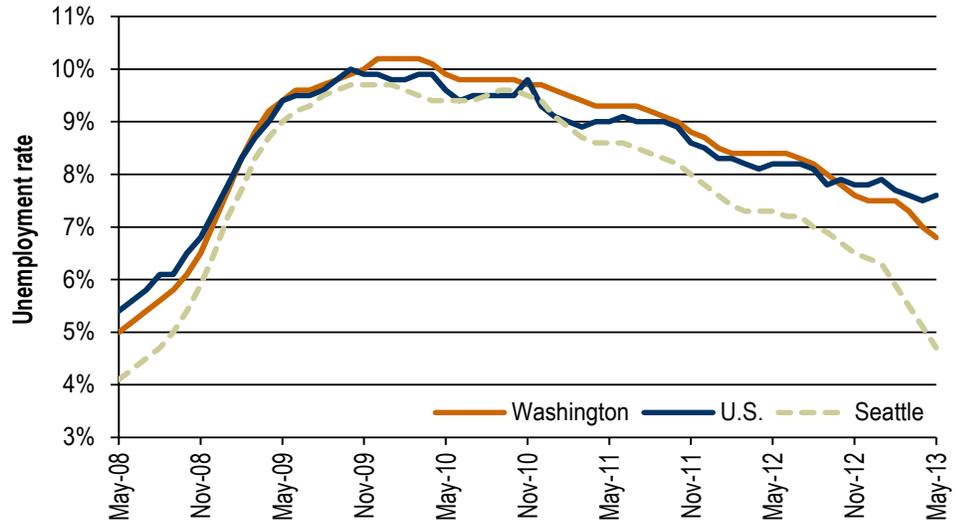
According to BLS estimates, the number of unemployed people declined by 6,700 in May 2013 compared to April 2013. At the same time, the number of employed people rose by an estimated 18,100. Overall, this amounted to an increase of 11,400 people in the labor force.

The preliminary May 2013 unemployment rate is 1.6 percentage points below the May 2012 rate of 8.4 percent.

Unemployment rates, seasonally adjusted

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

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



May 2013 preliminary unemployment rates:

U.S. (preliminary) 7.6%
 Washington (preliminary) 6.8%
 Seattle area (preliminary) 4.7%

Employment change and moving average, seasonally adjusted

Based on BLS estimates, Washington state nonfarm employment increased by 4,100 jobs from April 2013 to May 2013.

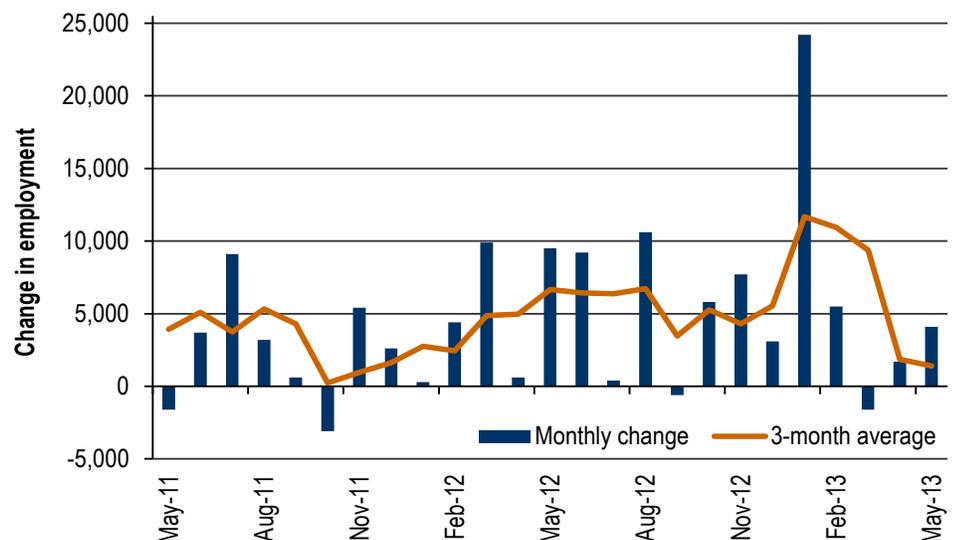
Recent employment change
 March 2013: down 1,600 jobs (revised)

April 2013: up 1,700 jobs (revised)

May 2013: up 4,100 jobs (preliminary)

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

Washington state, May 2011 through May 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: 2,979,000

Unemployment rate: 4.6%

February 2010

(end of recent employment
recession in Washington)

Nonfarm employment: 2,773,400

Unemployment rate: 10.2%

May 2013

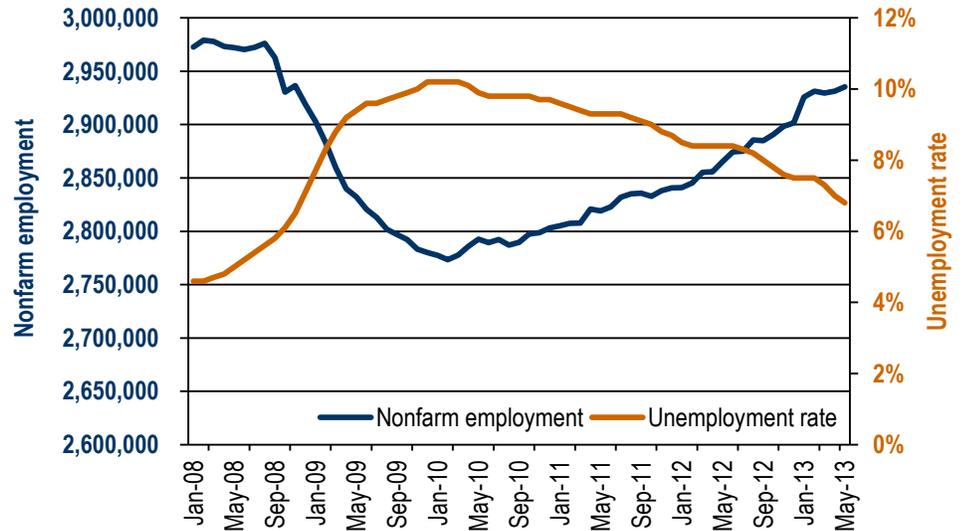
(preliminary)

Nonfarm employment: 2,935,500

Unemployment rate: 6.8%

Nonfarm employment and unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted
Washington state, January 2008 through May 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 4,100 jobs, over the month, on a seasonally adjusted basis:

- Overall, five industries expanded in May, and eight contracted.
- Private-sector employment is estimated to have increased by 900 and government employment rose by 3,200.
- The number of jobs in education and health services was up by 2,500. Health services and social assistance accounted for 2,100 of the increase.
- Leisure and hospitality increased by 1,500, led by a gain of 1,300 jobs in food services and drinking places.
- Transportation, warehousing and utilities was up 600. Transportation and warehousing accounted for the entire gain.
- The decline of 1,400 jobs in other services was driven by declines of 700 in repair and maintenance services and 600 in personal and laundry services.
- Manufacturing employment fell by 600, with nondurable goods declining by 900.

Estimated one-month employment change by industry, seasonally adjusted
Washington state, April 2013 to May 2013

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

Total nonfarm	4,100
Government	3,200
Education and health services	2,500
Leisure and hospitality	1,500
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	600
Retail trade	300
Mining and logging	-100
Information	-200
Financial activities	-300
Wholesale trade	-400
Construction	-500
Professional and business services	-500
Manufacturing	-600
Other services	-1,400

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 60,800 jobs over the year:

- Overall, all major industries expanded.
- Private-sector employment rose 2.6 percent, up an estimated 59,500 jobs.
- Public-sector employment increased 0.2 percent, a net gain of 1,300 jobs.
- Manufacturing employment is estimated to have grown by 8,300.
- Durable goods manufacturers added 6,900 jobs with 2,900 of the increase in aerospace product and parts manufacturing. Nondurable goods manufacturers added 1,400 jobs.
- Professional and business services employment increased by 8,600 with professional, scientific and technical services up 4,800 and administration and support and waste management and remediation up 2,800.
- Retailers added 13,000 jobs with 5,000 of the increase in general merchandise stores. Other retail trade, which includes online retail trade, was up by 6,100 jobs.
- Employment in the leisure and hospitality industry was up by 9,900, led by a gain of 8,500 in food services and drinking places.
- Employment in construction was up 5,200 with the number of employed in the specialty trade contractor sector up 3,700.

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

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

Total Nonfarm	60,800
Retail trade	13,000
Leisure and hospitality	9,900
Professional and business services	8,600
Manufacturing	8,300
Education and health services	6,200
Construction	5,200
Wholesale trade	2,600
Financial activities	1,800
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	1,300
Information	1,300
Government	1,300
Other services	900
Mining and logging	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 rises by 19,500 from April to May. This year the state had an estimated gain of 23,600, amounting to a seasonally adjusted increase of 4,100 jobs.

- The normal seasonal gain in leisure and hospitality employment is 5,800 in May. The estimated increase was 7,300 yielding a 1,500 gain on a seasonally adjusted basis.
- Employment in construction normally rises by 3,800. It is estimated to have increased by 3,300 this May yielding a loss of 500 on a seasonally adjusted basis.

Normal seasonal change, estimated change and seasonally adjusted change
Washington state, May 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	19,500	23,600	4,100
Leisure and hospitality	5,800	7,300	1,500
Construction	3,800	3,300	-500
Professional and business services	2,800	2,300	-500
Retail trade	2,500	2,800	300
Other services	1,600	200	-1,400
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	1,500	2,100	600
Manufacturing	1,400	800	-600
Wholesale trade	1,200	800	-400
Financial activities	1,000	700	-300
Information	600	400	-200
Mining and logging	300	200	-100
Education and health services	-100	2,400	2,500
Government	-2,900	300	3,200

- The estimated employment increase in professional and business services industry was 2,300. The normal seasonal increase is 2,800, so on a seasonally adjusted basis, professional and business services industry employment decreased 500.
- The change on a seasonally adjusted basis was an estimated gain of 2,500 jobs in education and health services in May. The normal seasonal decrease is 100. It is estimated to have increased by 2,400 this April.
- Typically government employment decreases by 2,900 in April. On a seasonally adjusted basis government employment rose by 3,200 as the estimated increase was 300.

Total agricultural employment summary

Statewide from April to May, agricultural employment increased 4.2 percent.

Year over year statewide, agricultural employment increased 8.7 percent.

Regionally over the year, total agricultural employment increased in all six of the areas. The largest increase (1,850 jobs) was in the South Central reporting area. The smallest increase (20 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, May 2013
Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA

	May '13 Preliminary	Apr. '13 Revised	May '12 Revised	Change		Percent change	
				Apr. '13 - May '13	May '12 - May '13	Apr. '13 - May '13	May '12 - May '13
State	81,190	77,890	74,690	3,300	6,500	4.2%	8.7%
Western	10,930	10,490	10,470	440	460	4.2%	4.4%
South Central	25,670	24,800	23,820	870	1,850	3.5%	7.8%
North Central	14,000	14,160	13,490	-160	510	-1.1%	3.8%
Columbia Basin	12,610	12,130	10,770	480	1,840	4.0%	17.1%
South Eastern	16,400	14,770	14,580	1,630	1,820	11.0%	12.5%
Eastern	1,580	1,540	1,560	40	20	2.6%	1.3%

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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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., June 25, 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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