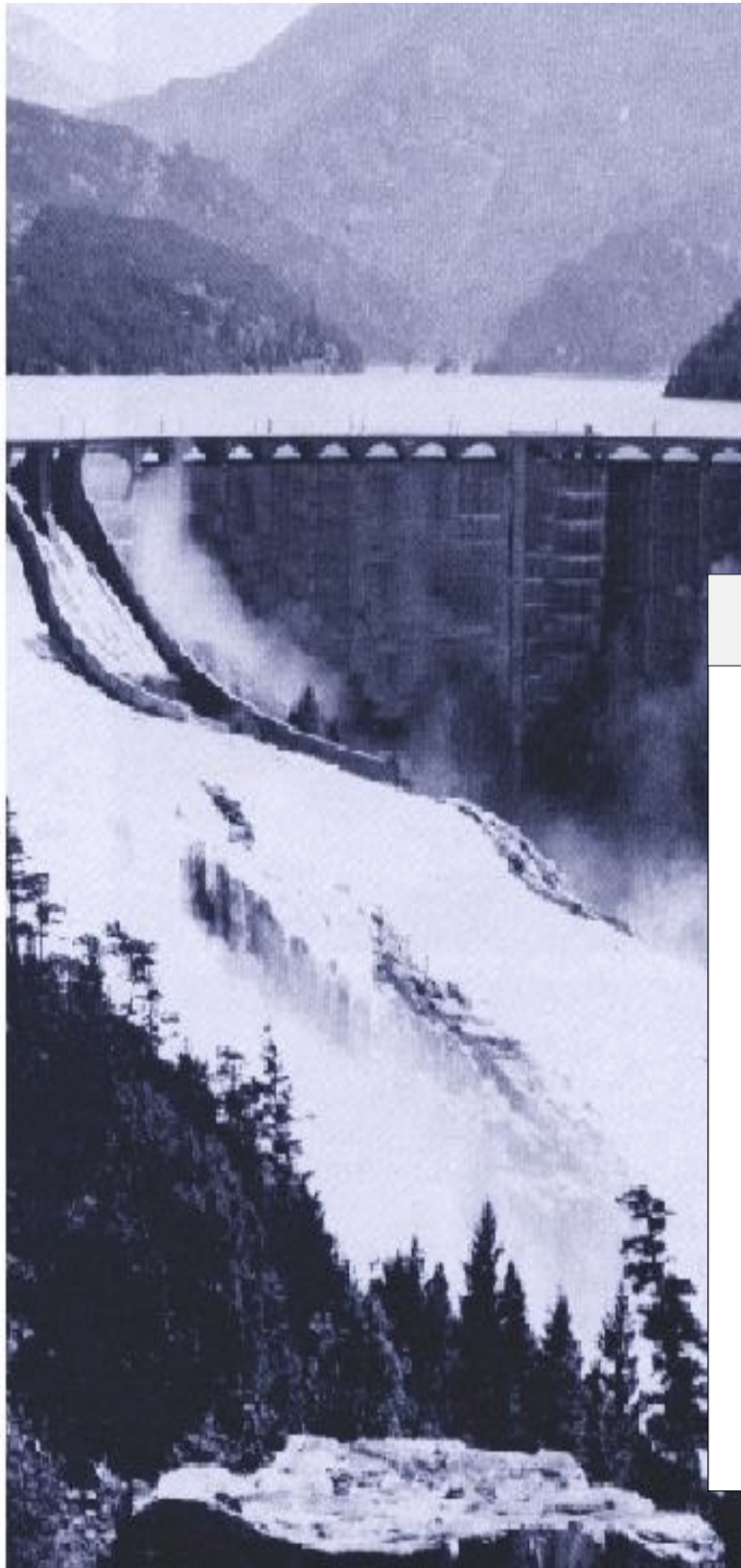


# Washington Labor Market



Prepared by the  
Labor Market and  
Economic Analysis Branch  
(360) 438-4800  
*Greg Weeks, Director*

May 2001



In cooperation with the  
Employment and Training  
Administration  
U.S. Department of Labor

## Highlights

STATE ECONOMY STILL GROWING .....	2
LABOR FORCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT .....	3
INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS .....	4
<i>Over the Month</i> .....	4
<i>Year-Over-Year</i> .....	5
AREA TRENDS .....	6
INDUSTRY NOTES .....	7
<i>Intalco Joins Inactive List</i> .....	7
<i>Not So Rosy in Roza</i> .....	7
<i>Kent Can't Keep Grocer Warehouse</i> .....	8
<i>Target Targets Lacey</i> .....	9
<i>Per Capita Income Increased</i> .....	9
NATIONAL INDICATORS .....	10
<i>Preliminary Estimate Pulled Back</i> .....	10
<i>Seattle Inflation Falls in Line</i> .....	10
<i>Fed Rates Fall Further</i> .....	10
<i>Consumers Carry On</i> .....	11

## STATE ECONOMY STILL GROWING

Looking at the relatively modest gain of 0.8 percent or 22,700 net new jobs in Washington's nonagricultural wage and salary employment base from April 2000 to April 2001, it may appear that the state's economy is losing steam. However, recently released annual average estimates of nonfarm employment growth in Washington show that the state added 68,100 net new jobs in 2000, which translates into 2.6 percent growth over the year. This was actually higher in both nominal and percentage terms than in 1999, which saw the addition of 54,000 net new jobs and a growth rate of 2.1 percent. To be sure, the numbers were notably shy of those posted in 1997 and 1998, but they nevertheless represent the 18th consecutive year of non-farm employment growth in Washington.

The 2000 nonfarm data do confirm, however, that some regional softening occurred. Among the state's metropolitan counties, Thurston County actually saw a net loss of 200 jobs or -0.2 percent over the year, while counties such as Wahkiakum (-3.5 percent), Cowlitz (-1.1 percent), Lewis (-0.6 percent), Okanogan (-0.4 percent), and Asotin (-0.2 percent) also experienced net job losses. All told, these counties experienced a combined loss of 450 jobs. Clearly, though, the rule of thumb remained net positive job growth. In absolute terms, the Seattle-Bellevue-Everett PMSA led the way with 35,800 net new jobs and a 2.6 percent year-over-year growth rate that effectively anchored the statewide growth rate. Pierce and Spokane counties added 4,400 and 4,100 net new jobs, respectively, though their overall growth rates were closer to 2 percent. The Tri-Cities (Benton and Franklin counties) and Clark County added fewer jobs—2,300 and 3,200, respectively—but at annual rates of 3.1 percent and 2.8 percent, respectively, both of which surpassed the statewide average. Among nonmetropolitan areas, Skagit County (2,360 net new jobs or 6.0 percent), Whitman County (1,220 net new jobs or 6.7 percent), and Wenatchee Labor Market Area (1,050 net new jobs or 3.0 percent) also posted impressive numbers.

## LABOR FORCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT

Washington's seasonal unemployment rate fell half a percentage point to 5.6 percent in April. The easing was typical for this time of year as weather-sensitive activities got underway. This April's jobless rate, however, was a full percentage point higher than in April 1998-99, the lowest over what is now the 19th year of the state's economic expansion. In seasonally adjusted terms, the state's unemployment rate remained unchanged in April at 5.8 percent, which is the typical pattern for this time of year. The seasonally adjusted national unemployment rate, however, rose two-tenths of a percentage point to 4.5 percent.

Over the month in April, all of Washington's counties experienced a seasonal easing in unemployment rates except for Cowlitz County, which saw its jobless rate rise two-tenths of a percentage point thanks to the combined impact of aluminum and forest products dislocation. Adams County saw its jobless rate fall the furthest over the month, nearly four percentage points, with other central Washington and northeast Washington counties joining it in the group of counties that saw their unemployment rates fall at least two percentage points over the month. For the most part, Washington's metropolitan counties saw their jobless rates fall one percentage point or less over the month.

Although the state unemployment rate rose five-tenths of a percentage point from April 2000 to April 2001, about a third of Washington's counties saw their jobless rates fall over the same period. Adams led the pack in this regard as its jobless rate fell more than a percentage point. For the most part, other eastern Washington counties accounted for the balance of those with jobless rates that declined over the year. On the flip side, several counties experienced extraordinary jumps in their year-over-year unemployment rates. Klickitat County's unemployment rate rose more than five percentage points, while Columbia County's rose nearly five percentage points and Cowlitz County's rose three and a half percentage points. The jobless situations in Klickitat and Cowlitz counties were most affected by the aluminum and forest products dislocation while that in Columbia County was most impacted by a late start to the processing season. Having increased nearly one and a half percentage points over the year, Clark County revealed the greatest increase in unemployment rates among

the state's metropolitan areas. Conversely, Island County had the greatest decrease as its jobless rate fell six-tenths of a percentage point. The Tri-Cities and Kitsap County jobless rates also fell over the year, though only by two-tenths and one-tenth of a percentage point, respectively.

In absolute terms, Whitman County again occupied the top position with the lowest unemployment rate among Washington counties in April at 2.0 percent. The state's other wheat counties, Garfield, Asotin, and Lincoln, were also all below the 5.0 percent state average. Western Washington metropolitan areas were all below 6.0 percent, while eastern Washington metropolitan areas ranged from Spokane and Tri-Cities at 6.0 percent and 6.6 percent to Yakima at more than 11.3 percent. On the opposite end of the jobless rate spectrum, Ferry County had the highest jobless rate in the state in April at a sobering 17.4 percent, followed by Klickitat County at 16.3 percent and Columbia County at 14.4 percent. Eleven counties, a little less than a fourth of the state total, had jobless rates in double-digits. All were rural and had resource-dependent economies like forest products, agriculture, or aluminum. Indeed, every county with a jobless rate of more than 6.0 percent in April was rural and resource-dependent.

## INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

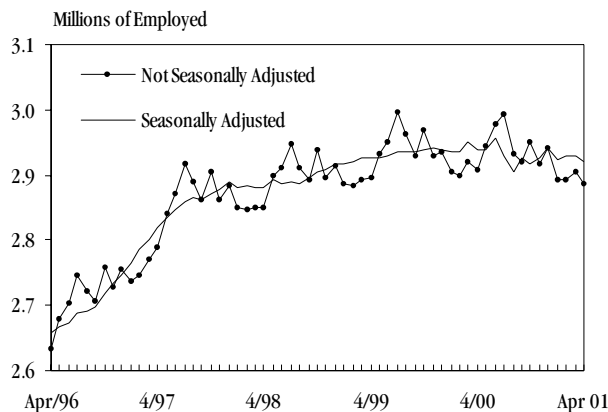
### *Over the Month*

From March to April, Washington's nonagricultural wage and salary employment rose 10,500 or 0.4 percent. Services led the way with 4,800 new jobs, particularly due to the seasonal pickup in hotels and lodging places (+1,000) and amusement and recreation services (+800). Computer and data processing ended its three-month decline by adding 500. Retail trade added 3,500 with eating and drinking places (+1,800), building material and garden supply stores (+700), food stores (+500), and automotive dealers and service stations (+600) posting seasonal gains. Construction was up 2,300 over the month. Manufacturing was down 1,800 with electronics (-700), pulp and paper (-400), lumber and wood (-300), food processing (-200), and industrial machinery (-200) posting the biggest losses. Government (+600) grew modestly over the month, as did finance, insurance, and real estate (+300) and transportation and public utilities (+200).

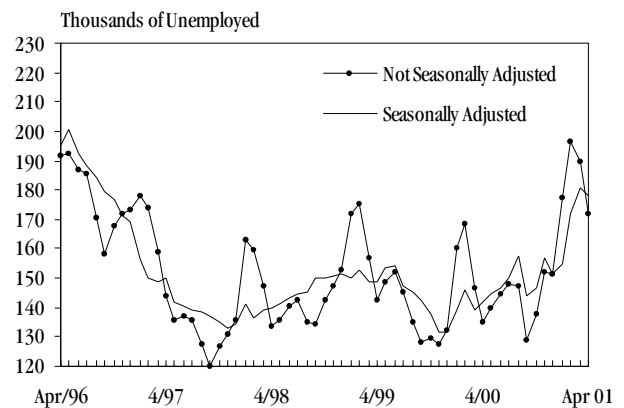
## Year-Over-Year

Over the year, services led all sectors with a net gain of 29,600. Business services (+10,600) accounted for a third of that gain, due in large measure to gains in computer and data processing (+8,300). Retail trade added 6,900, mostly on the strength of eating and drinking places (+6,400), despite contraction in building material and garden supply stores (-800), general merchandise stores (-700), and apparel and accessory stores (-100). Among other sectors, government was up 6,300, followed by construction with 4,700, transportation and public utilities with 4,000 and finance, insurance and real estate with 1,800. Manufacturing was down 13,600 over the year with losses spread across the industry. Aluminum-dominated primary metals (-1,700), shipbuilding (-1,100), and food processing (-2,300) experienced the greatest proportionate losses. Lumber and wood (-1,800), textiles (-800), aircraft and parts (-700), pulp and paper (-700), and electronics (-500) also saw notable losses. Only two sectors, chemicals (+100) and fabricated metals (+100), showed year-over-year gains and they were modest. Over the year, total nonfarm wage and salary employment adjusted in collaboration with the Office of the Forecast Council was up 22,700 or 0.8 percent.

## Washington State Total Resident Employment and Unemployment April 1996 - April 2001



Source: Employment Security Department



Source: Employment Security Department

## AREA TRENDS

Washington's unemployment rate eased five-tenths of one percentage point in April in typical seasonal fashion. This seasonal easing in the statewide unemployment rate carried through the state's metropolitan, timber-dependent, western, and eastern regions to varying degrees. Eastern Washington, however, led the way as its jobless rate fell nearly one-and-a-half percentage points over the month from 9.2 percent to 7.8 percent. Timber-dependent areas followed close behind with their combined jobless rate declining more than a percentage point over the month from 10.4 percent to 9.2 percent. This was indicative of the headlong jump into spring buildup in activity. The unemployment rates for the state's metropolitan and western Washington regions, which are much less seasonal than those in the timber-dependent and eastern Washington regions, eased four-tenths and three-tenths of a percentage point, respectively.

From April 2000 to April 2001, unemployment rates in the state's metropolitan and western regions rose more or less in concert with the five-tenths of a percentage point increase statewide. Eastern Washington's jobless rate rose only two-tenths of a percentage point. The increase was much more pronounced in the state's timber-dependent region, however, as the ongoing challenges in that sector caused the region's jobless rate to climb nine-tenths of a percentage point over the year.

In absolute terms, however, the jobless rate in the state's timber dependent region remained well above the 5.6 percent statewide average by roughly three-and-a-half percentage points. The jobless rate in eastern Washington was also comparatively high at more than two percentage points above the state average. The state's metropolitan and western regions, by contrast, were both about a half percentage point below the statewide average.

## Unemployment Rates by Geographic Areas State of Washington

Areas	Apr. 2001	Mar. 2001	Apr. 2000
Washington State Total	5.6%	6.1%	5.1%
Metropolitan Areas	5.1%	5.5%	4.7%
Log & Lumber Areas	9.2%	10.4%	8.3%
All Western WA Areas	5.0%	5.3%	4.4%
All Eastern WA Areas	7.8%	9.2%	7.6%

*Source: Employment Security Department*

### INDUSTRY NOTES

#### *Intalco Joins Inactive List*

Citing the high cost of energy (which accounts for about 20 percent of smelter costs), Alcoa has moved to idle its Ferndale-based Intalco Works aluminum smelting facility for up to two years. The decision also included an agreement for the company to sell its allocation of Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) power back to BPA, something most smelters in the region are doing since electricity is currently worth more than aluminum. Like many smelters, Alcoa will also take some of the profits from the power resale and pay full wages and benefits to its workers while the facility is down. The employees will be assigned other primarily maintenance related jobs within the plant. Roughly 100 of the smelter's approximately 900 workers, however, will lose their jobs. The Intalco facility was the last major smelter of the seven major smelters still operating in Washington. Those Washington smelters employed roughly 6,100 workers before the power crunch hit.

#### *Not So Rosy in Roza*

The theoretical impact of this year's drought situation became real for central Washington's farm sector as the Roza Irrigation District, which services 1,700-1,800 farmer/irrigators and 72,000 acres of farmland in Yakima and Benton counties, became the first one to announce mandatory cutbacks. Even though it was formed in 1941, the district is a junior water right holder, which means the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation can ration the district's water supply in favor of water users with senior rights. The current drought has compelled the Bureau of Reclamation to impose such restrictions. As a result, the Roza Irrigation District announced that it would temporarily stop delivery of

water to farmers for three weeks in order to save the bulk of its allotment for the hot, summer month of August when orchards and vineyards are most in need of irrigation. This is only the second time in its history that the district has had to take such a step. Even when the irrigation flow is restored, it will return at less than 30 percent of normal. Many of the farmer/irrigators plan to supplement their water needs through groundwater wells, but that means more stress on the underground aquifer, not to mention the cost of running the electric pumps necessary to draw the water to the surface. The Yakima River Basin is home to apples, cherries, pears, hops, wine grapes, asparagus, hay, wheat, and various other crops.

### *Kent Can't Keep Grocer Warehouses*

When it comes to grocer warehouses, Kent can't seem to win. In the last week of May, Kent was hit by not so good news on the part of Webvan and Associated Grocers, both related to grocery warehouses. Webvan, the on-line grocery retailer, abandoned plans to occupy a 350,000 square foot distribution center in Kent that it leased two years ago as it prepared to compete head on with Homegrocer.com in this region. In fact, it has spent millions of dollars over those two years readying the warehouse for occupation. Now, however, the company has decided to keep the 100,000 square foot Renton warehouse it acquired from Homegrocer.com. That means the Kent site will not realize what was once estimated to be approximately 900 warehouse workers. Meanwhile, Associated Grocers, the retailer-owned cooperative that provides goods and services to its members, announced that it would close its 350,000 square foot Kent warehouse and lay off about 100 of the current 125-130 workers with 25-30 being transferred to the main South Seattle warehouse. Webvan and Associated Grocers are both seeking for buyers for their respective 350,000 square foot warehouses.

### *Target Targets Lacey*

Minneapolis-based Target Corporation has its sights set squarely on the city of Lacey, just north of Olympia. Already a presence in the greater Olympia area with one store near Westfield Shoppingtown Capital Mall, it is steadily moving toward a July 29 grand opening of a 200-employee, 125,400 square foot store that will anchor South Sound Center in Lacey. The company has also submitted a preliminary site plan to the City of Lacey for a 1.5 million square foot import distribution center set on 142 acres in the Hawks Prairie industrial park. The preliminary site plan includes a 460-car employee parking lot and a 500-vehicle commercial truck lot, which gives some indication as to the work force and distribution activity anticipated for the site. Not yet known is whether Target will actually implement the plan even if it receives municipal approval since there are two other sites under consideration.

### *Per Capita Income Increased*

Personal income data for 1999 were recently released by the Bureau of Economic Analysis within the U.S. Department of Commerce. Those data show that Washington's per capita income rose 6.3 percent and 4.4 percent in current and constant terms, respectively, to \$30,380 in 1999. This gave Washington the 13th highest per capita income among U.S. states (including the District of Columbia) in 1999 as well as the nation's 13th fastest growing per capita income.

Among Washington counties, 1999 per capita income levels ranged from a high of \$44,719 in King County to \$16,305 in Ferry County. In terms of year-over-year change, King County had, by far, the fastest growing per capita income at 10.4 percent in current terms and 8.4 percent in constant terms. Its influence on the state average was obvious as only one other county (Island County) had per capita income growth in excess of the state average. Conversely, nearly a quarter of the state's counties experienced real declines in per capita income, with those counties concentrated in central and southeast Washington. Garfield County saw the greatest real decline at more than 11 percent.

## NATIONAL INDICATORS

### *Preliminary Estimate Pulled Back*

The U.S. Commerce Department reported in April that the first quarter 2001 advance estimate of real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) revealed annual growth of 2.0 percent. The preliminary estimate for first quarter 2001 released on May 25, however, was revised downward to 1.3 percent. This was a worrisome development not only because it came on the heels of weak 1.0 percent growth in the fourth quarter of 2000, but also because it was lower than 1.4 percent, the lowest expected range of revision. Still to come is the final estimate for first quarter 2001, which will be released in late June. At the same time, and on a positive note, real GDP remained in a net positive growth mode.

### *Seattle Inflation Falls in Line*

The April data issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics showed inflation to be virtually nonexistent in the Puget Sound region from February to April 2001 as the Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (Seattle CPI-U) increased a mere 0.1 percent in not seasonally adjusted terms. By comparison, the U.S. CPI-U climbed 0.6 percent over the same two-month period and 0.4 percent from March to April. From April 2000 to April 2001, the Seattle CPI was up 3.6 percent, which was on par with the 3.3 percent increase seen nationally over the same period. The Seattle CPI-U data were welcome news following the torrid bi-monthly escalation of 1.4 percent from December-February and the 4.5 percent increase from February 2000 to February 2001.

### *Fed Rates Fall Further*

At its regularly scheduled May 15 meeting, the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) lowered the federal funds rate by another half a percentage point to 4.0 percent with the Federal Reserve Board of Governors approving a half percentage point reduction in the discount rate to 3.5 percent. This was the fifth time in as many months that the FOMC lowered short-term interest rates. Moreover, Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan has made it clear that the governing body would not hesitate to lower short-term interest rates yet again at its meeting at the end of June if the economy failed to show signs of measurable improvement. Indeed, the FOMC decided to cut short-term interest rates under the assumption that real GDP was growing at an annual rate of only 2.0

percent. The fact that the estimate was downwardly revised by seven-tenths of a percentage point (see Preliminary Estimate Pulled Back) may be looming large in the minds of Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan and the Board of Governors. That, however, must be weighed against the fact that inflation nationally is clearly still present and successive lowering of interest rates without the hindsight of knowing what the impact of earlier rate cuts will be on the economy could well unleash inflationary forces (see Seattle Inflation Falls in Line).

### *Consumers Carry On*

Personal Consumption Expenditures (PCE) were up 0.4 percent in April 2001, continuing a pattern of rising consumer spending that has seen the PCE growth rate double each month since February. That does not compare with the 1.1 percent posted in January 2001, but it is indicative of continued consumer activity. Also, the Conference Board's consumer confidence index rose in May after having declined in April. These are yet again two more pieces of information the Federal Reserve Board of Governors will have to ponder as they consider further cuts in short-term interest rates. A key question is whether consumers, who never truly reined in their spending even as the economy softened, will respond with renewed zeal to the Fed's rapid series of rate cuts, go on a spending binge, and stoke inflation.

### Consumer Price Index (All Items, Urban Consumers, 1982-84 = 100, Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	Indexes			% Change From	
	Apr-01	Mar-01	Apr-00	Mar-01	Apr-00
U.S. City Average	176.9	176.2	171.3	0.4%	3.3%
Seattle *	Apr-01	Feb-01	Apr-00	Feb-01	Apr-00
	184.2	184.0	177.8	0.1%	3.6%

*\* The index for Seattle reflects prices in King, Pierce, Snohomish, Kitsap, Island, and Thurston counties.*

*Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics*

*Prepared by Gary Kamimura, Senior Economic Analyst*

# Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers in Washington State, Place of Work <sup>1</sup>

In Thousands, Not Seasonally Adjusted	Numeric Change					
	April 2001 (Prel)	March 2001 (Rev)	April 2000 (Rev)	March 2000 (Rev)	Mar. 2001 to Apr. 2001	Apr. 2000 to Apr. 2001
<b>Total Nonagricultural Wage &amp; Salary Workers ...</b>	2,731.1	2,720.6	2,690.6	2,683.9	10.5	40.5
<b>Manufacturing .....</b>	337.5	339.3	351.1	351.3	-1.8	-13.6
Durable Goods .....	235.6	237.1	243.3 <sup>2</sup>	246.0 <sup>2</sup>	-1.5	-7.7
Lumber & Wood Products .....	31.2	31.5	33.0 <sup>2</sup>	33.2	-0.3	-1.8
Logging .....	6.4	6.5	6.7	6.9	-0.1	-0.3
Sawmills & Plywood .....	21.6	21.8	22.8	22.7	-0.2	-1.2
Furniture & Fixtures .....	4.8	4.8	4.9	4.8	0.0	-0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass .....	9.0	8.9	9.1	9.0	0.1	-0.1
Primary Metals .....	9.5	9.6	11.2	11.3	-0.1	-1.7
Aluminum .....	5.6	5.6	7.0 <sup>2</sup>	7.1 <sup>2</sup>	0.0	-1.4
Fabricated Metals .....	14.8	14.9	14.7	14.8	-0.1	0.1
Industrial Machinery & Equipment .....	25.3	25.5	25.4	25.4	-0.2	-0.1
Computer & Office Equipment .....	6.1	6.1	6.2	6.1	0.0	-0.1
Electronic & Other Electrical Equipment .....	19.0	19.7	19.5	19.4	-0.7	-0.5
Transportation Equipment .....	99.7	99.7	102.5	104.7	0.0	-2.8
Aircraft & Parts .....	86.0	85.9	86.7	88.5	0.1	-0.7
Ship & Boat Building .....	6.8	6.9	7.9	7.8	-0.1	-1.1
Instruments & Related .....	14.0	14.1	14.4	14.5	-0.1	-0.4
Miscellaneous Manufacturing .....	8.3	8.4	8.6	8.9	-0.1	-0.3
Nondurable Goods .....	101.9	102.2	107.8	105.3	-0.3	-5.9
Food & Kindred Products .....	37.4	37.6	41.2	38.5	-0.2	-3.8
Preserved Fruits & Vegetables .....	11.1	11.3	13.4	11.5	-0.2	-2.3
Textiles, Apparel & Leather .....	7.6	7.5	8.4	8.2	0.1	-0.8
Paper & Allied Products .....	14.7	15.1	15.4	15.5	-0.4	-0.7
Printing & Publishing .....	23.9	23.8	24.3	24.4	0.1	-0.4
Chemicals & Allied Products .....	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.2	0.0	0.1
Petroleum, Coal, Plastics .....	12.0	11.9	12.3	12.5	0.1	-0.3
<b>Mining &amp; Quarrying .....</b>	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.4	0.0	0.1
<b>Construction .....</b>	161.0	158.7	156.3	153.3	2.3	4.7
General Building Contractors .....	44.3	44.1	43.0	42.4	0.2	1.3
Heavy Construction, except Building .....	17.7	16.9	17.8	16.5	0.8	-0.1
Special Trade Contractors .....	99.0	97.7	95.5	94.4	1.3	3.5
<b>Transportation, Communications &amp; Utilities ...</b>	147.8	147.6	143.8	143.2	0.2	4.0
Transportation .....	95.8	95.4	92.7	92.0	0.4	3.1
Trucking & Warehousing .....	33.9	33.7	33.1	32.8	0.2	0.8
Water Transportation .....	9.0	9.0	8.4	8.7	0.0	0.6
Transportation by Air .....	27.6	27.6	26.9	26.6	0.0	0.7
Communications .....	35.8	35.9	35.0	35.0	-0.1	0.8
Electric, Gas & Sanitary Services .....	16.2	16.3	16.1	16.2	-0.1	0.1
<b>Wholesale &amp; Retail Trade .....</b>	649.3	645.2	641.7	638.1	4.1	7.6
Wholesale Trade .....	155.0	154.4	154.3	153.4	0.6	0.7
Durable Goods .....	89.2	89.0	89.0	88.9	0.2	0.2
Nondurable Goods .....	65.8	65.4	65.3	64.5	0.4	0.5
Retail Trade .....	494.3	490.8	487.4	484.7	3.5	6.9
Building Materials/Garden Supplies .....	22.6	21.9	23.4	22.5	0.7	-0.8
General Merchandise .....	48.4	48.3	49.1	48.8	0.1	-0.7
Food Stores .....	70.5	70.0	70.0	69.9	0.5	0.5
Automobile Dealers & Service Stations .....	51.6	51.0	50.8	50.7	0.6	0.8
Apparel & Accessory Stores .....	24.0	24.1	24.1	24.4	-0.1	-0.1
Eating & Drinking Establishments .....	186.7	184.9	180.3	179.0	1.8	6.4
<b>Finance, Insurance &amp; Real Estate .....</b>	138.3	138.0	136.5	136.9	0.3	1.8
Finance .....	62.3	62.0	61.3	61.1	0.3	1.0
Insurance .....	40.7	40.8	40.5	40.8	-0.1	0.2
Real Estate .....	35.3	35.2	34.7	35.0	0.1	0.6
<b>Services .....</b>	798.0	793.2	768.4	768.1	4.8	29.6
Hotels & Lodging .....	29.3	28.3	28.0	26.8	1.0	1.3
Personal Services .....	23.8	23.7	23.2	23.8	0.1	0.6
Business Services .....	190.4	190.0	179.8	180.1	0.4	10.6
Computer & Data Processing Services .....	73.8	73.3	65.5	64.1	0.5	8.3
Amusement & Recreational Services .....	45.7	44.9	44.3	43.5	0.8	1.4
Health Services .....	192.8	192.3	188.6	191.2	0.5	4.2
Nursing & Personal Care .....	31.9	31.8	32.2	32.1	0.1	-0.3
Hospitals .....	59.9	59.8	58.9	59.6	0.1	1.0
Legal Services .....	20.5	20.5	19.6	19.6	0.0	0.9
Educational Services .....	40.5	40.8	40.0	40.4	-0.3	0.5
Social Services .....	66.4	65.9	63.5	63.1	0.5	2.9
Engineering & Management Services .....	74.8	74.1	70.0	69.5	0.7	4.8
<b>Government .....</b>	495.6	495.0	489.3	489.6	0.6	6.3
Federal .....	66.6	66.5	69.5	67.1	0.1	-2.9
State .....	147.8	148.5	145.9	146.3	-0.7	1.9
State Education .....	82.1	82.8	80.9	81.6	-0.7	1.2
Local .....	281.2	280.0	273.9	276.2	1.2	7.3
Local Education .....	155.5	155.1	150.8	151.3	0.4	4.7
<b>Workers in Labor-Management Disputes .....</b>	0.0	0.0	2.2	2.2	0.0	-2.2

<sup>1</sup> Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of armed forces, & private household employees. Includes all full- & part-time wage & salary workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month. <sup>2</sup> Workers excluded because of involvement in labor-management dispute. Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

# Resident Labor Force and Employment in Washington State and Labor Market Areas 1/

Date: 5/15/01  
Benchmark: 2000

## April 2001 Preliminary

## March 2001 Revised

## April 2000 Revised

Not Seasonally Adjusted	Labor Force	Employ- ment	Unemploy- ment	Unemploy- ment Rate	Labor Force	Employ- ment	Unemploy- ment	Unemploy- ment Rate	Labor Force	Employ- ment	Unemploy- ment	Unemploy- ment Rate
Washington State Total . . . . .	3,057,900	2,886,300	171,600	5.6	3,093,400	2,903,700	189,700	6.1	2,986,600	2,834,500	152,100	5.1
Bellingham MSA . . . . .	79,700	75,100	4,600	5.8	81,700	76,200	5,500	6.7	81,400	76,700	4,600	5.7
Bremerton PMSA . . . . .	91,800	86,900	4,900	5.4	93,600	88,100	5,500	5.9	92,500	87,500	5,000	5.5
Olympia PMSA . . . . .	99,200	94,100	5,200	5.2	100,800	95,100	5,700	5.7	99,000	94,400	4,600	4.6
Seattle-Bellevue-Everett PMSA . .	1,417,100	1,357,000	60,100	4.2	1,434,600	1,371,600	63,000	4.4	1,366,500	1,316,300	50,300	3.7
King County 2/ . . . . .	1,039,100	995,700	43,400	4.2	1,051,500	1,006,400	45,100	4.3	1,000,300	965,800	34,500	3.5
Snohomish County 2/ . . . . .	348,300	332,800	15,600	4.5	353,000	336,300	16,700	4.7	337,200	322,800	14,500	4.3
Island County 2/ . . . . .	29,700	28,600	1,100	3.8	30,100	28,900	1,200	4.0	29,000	27,700	1,300	4.4
Spokane MSA . . . . .	209,100	196,600	12,500	6.0	213,000	198,200	14,800	7.0	206,100	195,200	11,000	5.3
Tacoma PMSA . . . . .	333,100	314,200	19,000	5.7	336,300	316,000	20,400	6.1	329,300	312,500	16,800	5.1
Tri-Cities MSA . . . . .	95,000	88,700	6,200	6.6	94,000	87,000	6,900	7.4	91,800	85,600	6,200	6.8
Benton County 2/ . . . . .	72,100	68,000	4,100	5.7	71,200	66,700	4,500	6.4	69,900	65,600	4,300	6.1
Franklin County 2/ . . . . .	22,900	20,700	2,100	9.3	22,700	20,300	2,400	10.5	21,900	20,000	1,900	8.8
Yakima MSA . . . . .	107,300	95,200	12,100	11.3	108,000	93,900	14,100	13.0	104,300	92,400	11,800	11.3
Adams . . . . .	8,210	7,470	740	9.0	7,840	6,850	990	12.7	7,900	7,090	810	10.3
Asotin 2/ . . . . .	11,610	11,040	570	4.9	11,790	11,170	620	5.3	11,980	11,510	480	4.0
Chelan-Douglas LMA . . . . .	51,850	47,560	4,290	8.3	51,640	46,760	4,880	9.5	50,030	45,660	4,370	8.7
Chelan County 2/ . . . . .	33,350	30,330	3,030	9.1	33,260	29,820	3,450	10.4	32,110	29,120	2,990	9.3
Douglas County 2/ . . . . .	18,500	17,230	1,270	6.8	18,380	16,940	1,440	7.8	17,920	16,540	1,380	7.7
Clallam . . . . .	23,870	22,170	1,700	7.1	24,280	22,190	2,100	8.6	23,470	21,680	1,790	7.6
Clark 2/ . . . . .	180,500	171,000	9,500	5.2	182,700	172,600	10,100	5.6	174,100	167,400	6,700	3.8
Columbia . . . . .	1,250	1,070	180	14.4	1,260	1,060	200	15.6	1,970	1,780	190	9.6
Cowlitz . . . . .	41,050	36,590	4,460	10.9	41,690	37,240	4,450	10.7	40,340	37,330	3,000	7.4
Ferry . . . . .	2,560	2,120	450	17.4	2,680	2,140	540	20.3	2,650	2,170	490	18.3
Garfield . . . . .	1,230	1,180	40	3.4	1,220	1,160	60	4.6	1,130	1,090	50	4.0
Grant . . . . .	35,290	31,680	3,620	10.2	35,370	30,840	4,530	12.8	35,660	31,770	3,890	10.9
Grays Harbor . . . . .	26,990	24,210	2,780	10.3	27,000	23,990	3,010	11.2	25,190	22,910	2,280	9.1
Jefferson . . . . .	9,980	9,400	570	5.7	9,900	9,260	640	6.5	10,140	9,570	570	5.6
Kittitas . . . . .	15,560	14,510	1,060	6.8	16,080	14,860	1,220	7.6	15,000	14,020	980	6.6
Klickitat . . . . .	8,380	7,020	1,360	16.3	8,420	6,790	1,640	19.4	8,330	7,410	920	11.1
Lewis . . . . .	28,830	26,190	2,630	9.1	29,170	26,090	3,080	10.6	29,720	27,210	2,510	8.4
Lincoln . . . . .	4,630	4,430	210	4.4	4,560	4,290	270	5.9	4,500	4,310	190	4.2
Mason . . . . .	18,230	16,890	1,350	7.4	18,740	17,180	1,560	8.3	18,700	17,490	1,210	6.5
Okanogan . . . . .	19,170	17,010	2,150	11.2	19,460	16,690	2,780	14.3	19,020	16,910	2,110	11.1
Pacific . . . . .	7,230	6,540	700	9.6	7,210	6,430	780	10.8	7,590	6,970	620	8.2
Pend Oreille . . . . .	4,350	3,880	470	10.8	4,470	3,900	570	12.8	4,040	3,580	460	11.3
San Juan . . . . .	5,540	5,300	240	4.4	5,530	5,220	310	5.6	5,700	5,460	240	4.1
Skagit . . . . .	50,060	46,750	3,310	6.6	50,500	46,580	3,920	7.8	51,000	47,400	3,600	7.1
Skamania . . . . .	3,870	3,470	400	10.3	3,870	3,410	460	11.9	3,990	3,610	380	9.4
Stevens . . . . .	16,700	14,720	1,980	11.8	17,150	14,820	2,330	13.6	16,380	14,640	1,740	10.6
Wahkiakum . . . . .	1,830	1,700	130	7.0	1,850	1,700	150	8.2	1,770	1,680	100	5.5
Walla Walla . . . . .	25,760	24,020	1,740	6.8	25,950	23,850	2,100	8.1	25,820	24,060	1,760	6.8
Whitman . . . . .	20,910	20,500	410	2.0	21,110	20,660	440	2.1	19,670	19,310	360	1.8

1/ Official U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics data.

2/ Estimates are determined by using the Population/Claims Share disaggregation methodology.

Note: Detail may not add due to rounding.

## Resident Civilian Labor Force and Employment in Washington State

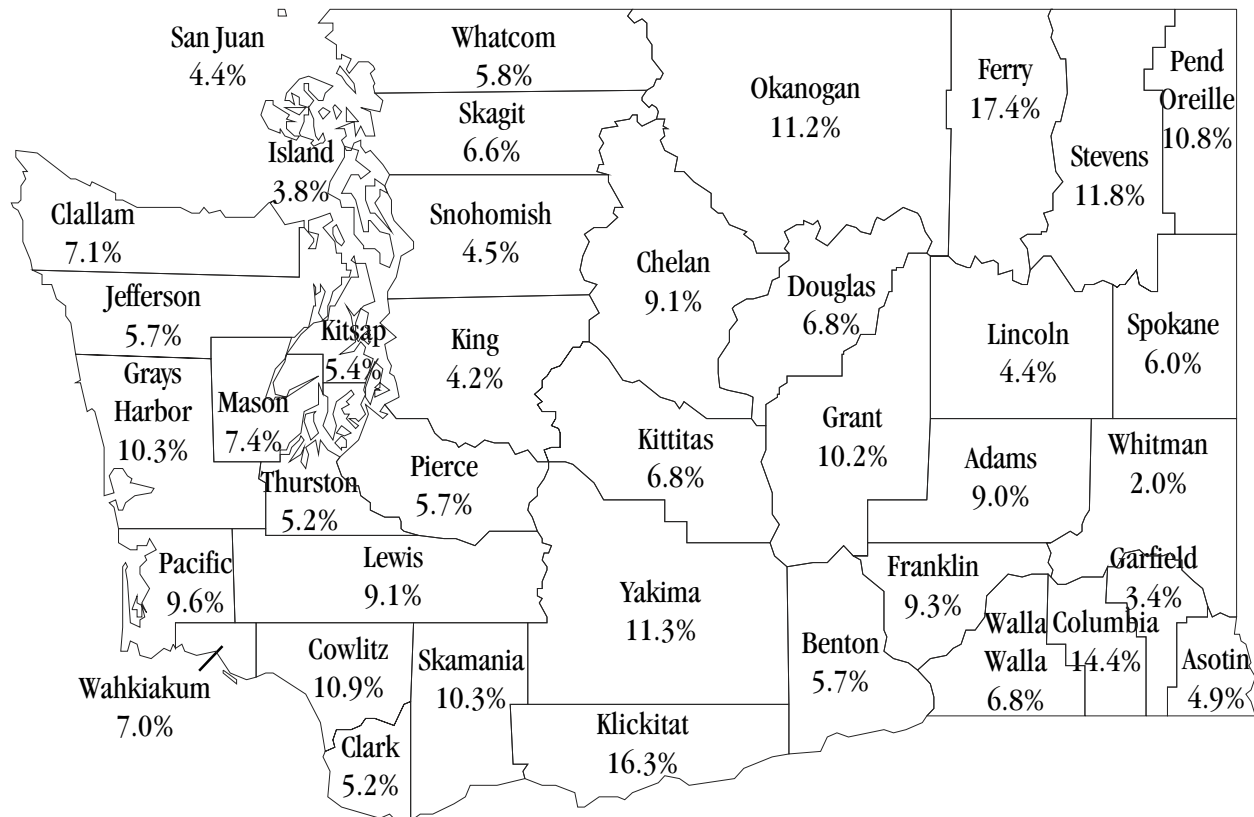
<i>(In Thousands)</i>	April 2001 (Prel)	March 2001 (Rev)	April 2000 (Rev)	March 2000 (Rev)
<i>Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment:</i>				
Washington State	5.8%	5.8%	5.2%	5.2%
United States	4.5%	4.3%	4.0%	4.0%
<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted:</i>				
Resident Civilian Labor Force	3,057.9	3,093.4	2,986.6	3,019.1
Employment	2,886.3	2,903.7	2,834.5	2,852.0
Unemployment	171.6	189.7	152.1	167.1
Percent of Labor Force	5.6%	6.1%	5.1%	5.5%

### Unemployment Rates by County, April 2001

**Washington State = 5.6%**

**United States = 4.2%**

***Not Seasonally Adjusted***



## Estimated Average Hours and Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing and of Nonsupervisory Workers in Nonmanufacturing Activities, Washington State

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Apr 01	Mar 01	Apr 00	Apr 01	Mar 01	Apr 00	Apr 01	Mar 01	Apr 00
TOTAL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	\$697.60	\$704.30	\$674.42	40.0	40.2	40.8	\$17.44	\$17.52	\$16.53
SELECTED MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES									
Lumber and Wood Products	\$630.50	\$598.59	\$619.19	41.7	40.5	43.3	\$15.12	\$14.78	\$14.30
Primary Metal Industries	\$778.72	\$742.26	\$746.81	44.6	41.7	44.4	\$17.46	\$17.80	\$16.82
Transportation Equipment	\$969.14	\$1,013.22	\$901.68	41.1	42.2	40.8	\$23.58	\$24.01	\$22.10
Food and Kindred Products	\$535.74	\$526.91	\$477.66	40.1	40.5	37.7	\$13.36	\$13.01	\$12.67
Chemicals and Allied Products	\$947.52	\$923.52	\$1,021.70	42.0	41.1	42.5	\$22.56	\$22.47	\$24.04
SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES									
Construction	\$853.42	\$864.46	\$851.03	37.3	37.7	38.3	\$22.88	\$22.93	\$22.22
Wholesale and Retail Trade (Includes eating and drinking establishments)	\$401.60	\$391.84	\$398.26	32.0	31.6	32.3	\$12.55	\$12.40	\$12.33



## ***Washington*** **Labor Market**

Published monthly by the Labor Market and  
Economic Analysis Branch:

**Gary Kamimura**, Senior Economic Analyst

**Bonnie Dalebout**, Graphic Designer

**Karen Thorson**, Graphic Designer

For additional labor market information, contact our

- ◆ *homepage at [www.wa.gov/esd/lmea](http://www.wa.gov/esd/lmea)*
- ◆ *Labor Market Information Center (LMIC) at  
1-800-215-1617*