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Washington Labor Market

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INDICATORS

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

Washington

(Seasonally Adjusted)

June (prel)	2003	7.7%
May (rev)	2003	7.4%
April	2003	7.3%
Annual Average ¹	2002	7.6%

United States

(Seasonally Adjusted)

June	2003	6.4%
May (rev)	2003	6.1%
April	2003	6.0%
Annual Average ¹	2002	6.5%

¹ Not Seasonally Adjusted

MANUFACTURING WORKER AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS

Washington

June	2003	\$17.76
May	2003	\$17.88
April	2003	\$18.06
June	2002	\$18.41

MANUFACTURING WORKER AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS

Washington

June	2003	39.5
May	2003	39.2
April	2003	39.1
June	2002	40.7

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX ALL URBAN CONSUMERS (CPI) 1982-84 = 100

Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton

June	2003	191.7
Yearly Change	June 2002-June 2003	1.2%

U.S. City Average

June	2003	183.7
Yearly Change	May 2002-May 2003	2.1%

HIGHLIGHTS

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State's Unemployment Rate Goes Up Current State Economic Conditions

Washington's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose three-tenths of a percent in June. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate, which rose steadily throughout most of 2001, had been declining in 2002. The year 2003 has seen a resumption of those steady increases of 2001. The three-tenths of a percent increase, though, is the largest jump since November 2001, which occurred on the tail of the September 11 attacks.



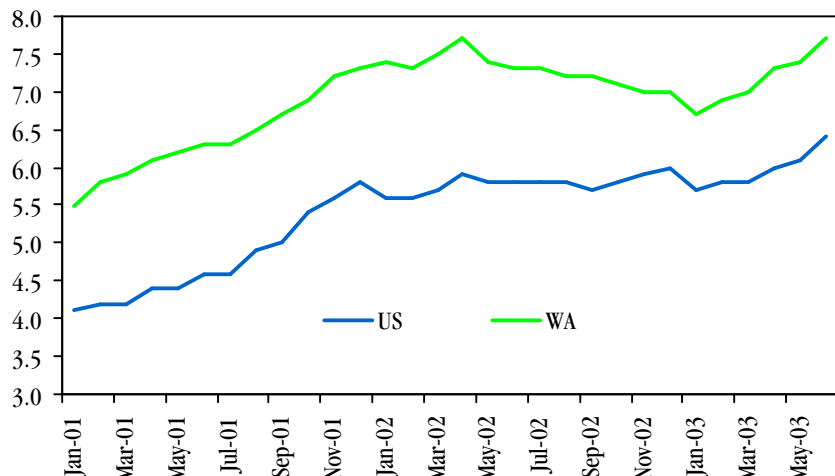
The Washington unemployment rate has remained above the national rate throughout this slowdown. This is a normal pattern when a national recession has been accompanied by layoffs in aerospace. In 2002, however, the unemployment rate in Washington declined while the national rate

remained fairly constant. This relative improvement in the state's jobless rate was due, in part, to the early onset of the downturn in Washington. As some sectors in Washington had stabilized, other states were just beginning to see the impacts of the slowdown reflected in their labor markets. Washington's public sector also had access to some one-time sources of revenue and was able to maintain government employment more than some other states.

In 2003, Washington's jobless rate has climbed more quickly than the national rate, re-establishing a sizable difference between the two rates. The over-the-month increase in Washington's unemployment rate is not

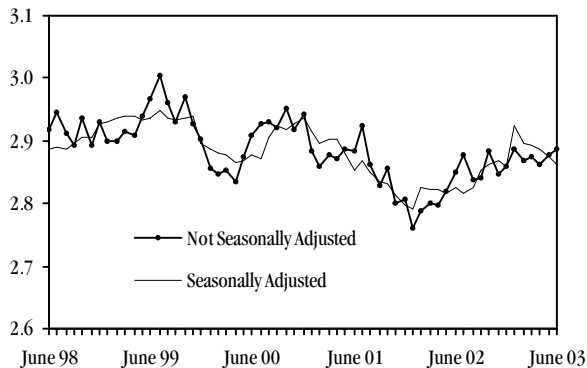
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Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates rise in both the U.S. and in Washington.

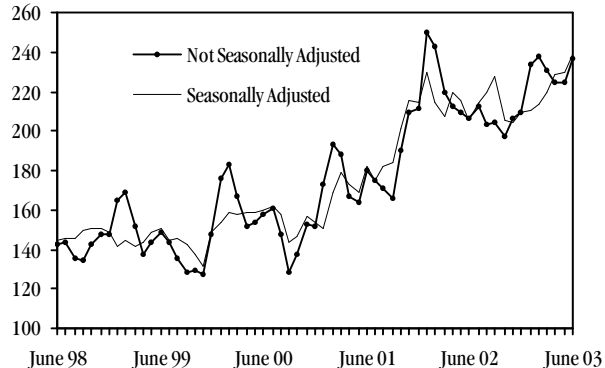


Washington State Total Resident Employment and Unemployment June 1998-June 2003

Millions of Employed



Thousands of Unemployed



Three-quarters of the increase in government employment occurred in state and local education.

due to previously discouraged workers returning to the labor market in hopes of finding a job, as they hear more positive economic news. In fact, the labor force, adjusted for normal seasonal variation, actually declined in June indicating that fewer people were participating in the world of work. The number of unemployed increased, but by less than the decline in the number of employed.

Does the increase in the unemployment rate mean that more people are drawing unemployment insurance?

Not necessarily. The number of people filing a new claim for unemployment insurance increased by 1,256 (2.8 percent) over the month of June. This number is not adjusted for normal seasonal variation. There are currently 112,562 people drawing regular unemployment insurance benefits in Washington and 57,251 drawing on some form of extended unemployment programs such as temporary extended unemployment compensation. Most of the increase in the unemployment rate was encapsulated by the Current Population Survey of all working age adults. This survey captures any unemployed individual who is actively seeking work over the past month irrespective of their eligibility of unemployment insurance. This provides some evidence that the unemployment rate is being driven up, in part, by job market entrants rather than job leavers.

Are there other indicators in the state pointing to economic strength?

Estimates of the unemployment rate and employment levels by industry are the state's most current economic indicators. Estimates of nonagricultural employment are one of the factors taken into account in estimating the unemployment rate. As will be discussed below, the nonagricultural employment estimates show little growth in 2003. Housing permits are projected to remain high throughout 2003, which support commercial construction¹. Employment is expected to be down on net over the year even as real personal income increases².

Nonagricultural Employment

Washington nonagricultural employment is very close to year-ago levels, up by only 300 jobs since June 2002. In January 2003 Washington had 11,500 more jobs than a year earlier. This net increase in year-ago employment levels has been steadily declining with a significant downward shift in June. Most of the increase in jobs over their year-ago levels has been due to the government sector. Three-quarters of the increase in government employment occurred in state and local education. Federal government increased by 500 jobs.

¹Office of the Forecast Council, Preliminary May Economic Forecast - <http://www.wa.gov/ofc/>

²Office of the Forecast Council, Preliminary May Economic Forecast - <http://www.wa.gov/ofc/>

Private sector employment has been right on year-ago levels since January 2003. This indicates that, accounting for normal seasonal variation, private sector employment has been completely stable since the end of 2002. This statement masks, though, an important shift in the employment base between industries. Over-the-year manufacturing has declined significantly and private service sector jobs have been created in their place.

Manufacturing

Manufacturing jobs are up 900 over the month due principally to seasonal increases in food processing. Over the year, manufacturing is still down 20,700. More than one out of every two job losses in manufacturing is in aerospace. Computer and electronic manufacturing jobs are also down significantly from last year.

Trade

Wholesale and retail trade are both up slightly over the month and over the year. The improvement, though, is less than one percent in each of the sectors indicating that consumer spending has changed very little over the year. General merchandise stores show the largest increase.

Education

Over the month, education has seen normal seasonal layoffs particularly in

graduate teaching assistants. Private educational services are down by 3,600 jobs (-8.0 percent) over the month, but are still up by 2,400 (6.1 percent) over last year's level. State education shows a similar pattern down by 3,900 (-4.6 percent) over the month, but up by 400 (0.5 percent) over the year. The over-the-year numbers indicate more hiring strength in private education than in public.

Leisure and Hospitality

Employment in the leisure and hospitality industry is up 6,000 (2.4 percent) over the month and 2,900 (1.1 percent) over the year. Both accommodation and food service are up over the month, but accommodation is down from year-ago levels. The food service sector is quite large and even the over-the-month gains (2,700) and over-the-year gains (2,100) represent less than a one and a half percent increase in employment.

Sectors that Provide Services to Businesses

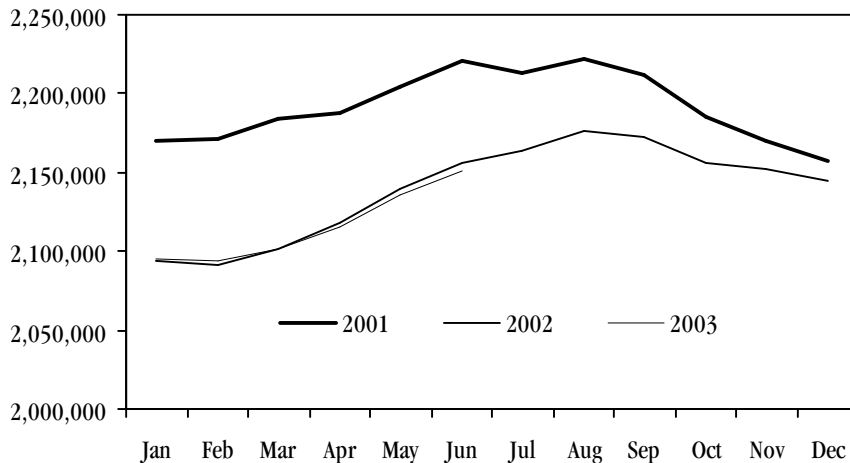
Information, financial activities, and professional and business services are all up over the month and, excluding telecommunications, are up over the year as well. As consumer spending has remained fairly constant over this business cycle, it is a resumption of

business spending that could trigger a turn-around. Overall, gains in service to businesses are modest over the year (less than 2.0 percent), but several specific sectors show more significant signs of improvement. Software publishing employment is up 3.6 percent over the year, credit intermediation is up 5.1 percent, and management is up 2.0 percent. Some specific areas of weakness remain. Telecommunications employment is down 8.3 percent over the year, computer system design is down 4.6 percent, and temporary help services are down 6.0 percent.

Summary

Over-the-year employment shows little sign of improvement. Flat growth in private sector jobs is being joined now by the inability of state and local government to add many jobs. The lack of change in the number of jobs in the Washington economy masks a significant shift at the industry level out of manufacturing jobs. A stabilization in the number of manufacturing jobs in the second half of 2003 would give the service sector the chance to produce some overall increase in employment. Growth in the total number of jobs would create positive demand side effects in such highly cyclical industries as retail trade, leisure and accommodation, and construction.

Total private nonagricultural employment is right on 2002 levels.



Employment in the leisure and hospitality industry is up 6,000 (2.4 percent) over the month ...

Demand and output have to expand faster than productivity to encourage firms to hire new workers. Inflation remains low, which will help keep long-term interest rates down.



National Outlook

At the national level, there are some positive indications in the economy. Real gross domestic product increased at a 1.4 percent rate during the first quarter of 2003 and is expected to increase over the year at a 2.3 percent rate. Still, labor productivity, which in the first quarter of 2003 had grown 3.4 percent, has outpaced GDP growth. Demand and output have to expand faster than productivity to encourage firms to hire new workers. Inflation remains low, which will help keep long-term interest rates down. Low real interest rates would continue to stimulate consumer spending on durable goods, especially in the housing market and, theoretically business investment as well.

In contrast to the state, these positive economic signals may have brought more people into the labor force thereby pushing up the unemployment rate. The seasonally adjusted national labor force rose by 611,000 over the month of June. This followed a slight increase in the labor force in May. Both seasonally adjusted employment and unemployment rose in June. Part of this increase in the labor force is due to teens entering the summer job market. Teen unemployment rose eight-tenths of a percentage point to 19.3 percent in June.

The rise in the seasonally adjusted national unemployment rate to its highest level in nine years underscores the current failure of positive economic news to stimulate hiring. Manufacturing remains the weakest sector declining by 56,000 jobs over the month of June.

Employment in temporary help firms, however, was up by 38,000 following gains of 44,000 in May. These firms often show the first signs of strength at the beginning of a recovery.

Firms' hesitancy to hire is mirrored in their low levels of business investment. Gross investment increased by about one percent in 2002. The first quarter of 2003 shows a decline of 1.4 percent. This decline is due to nonresidential construction, which is the portion of investment accounted for by businesses. Although investment in equipment and software by businesses was up in 2002, it declined by 1.2 percent in the first quarter of 2003.

Labor market conditions pose a significant concern for the current economic outlook. Consumer spending has kept the recession mild and has propped up the slow recovery. Consumer spending has not been able to provide the needed boost to jump start the economy and spur business spending. The danger now is that high unemployment will cause consumers to spend less, leading businesses to layoff more workers, creating a negative cycle. On the positive side, there are forces at work to maintain consumer spending. Interest rates are low, consumers are still cashing out in the mortgage refinancing boom, tax rebates are on their way, and there have been recent improvements in the stock market. If businesses start to hire and invest, consumer spending can be maintained or increased and a positive cycle of employment gains would be created.

Over-the-Month Changes in National Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment

	February	March	April	May	June
Unemployment	1.8%	-0.1%	4.0%	2.4%	4.0%
Labor force	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.4%
Employment	-0.1%	0.0%	0.2%	-0.1%	0.2%

Business Notes

Jubilant Cherries*

When people think of Washington and fruit, apples predictably come to mind. But Washington is also the nation's top sweet cherry producer, with its 2002 crop valued at \$280 million, according to the Washington State Fruit Commission. The Commission expects a bumper sweet cherry crop this year, with 72,000 tons of sweet cherries for the fresh market, less than 2001's record 80,300 tons but up from last year's 63,000 tons. Washington's total sweet cherry crop, including those bound for food processing, is expected to be 96,900 tons this year.

Cherry harvesting is manually intensive work that is done during a very narrow span of time. In 2002, for example, Employment Security Department data from an in-season farm worker survey showed an average of just fewer than 400 workers engaged in mostly cherry tree pruning from January through May. But summer employment in cherry work then jumped to an average of over 9,100 from June through August, topping out at nearly 17,700 in July at peak harvest. From September through December cherry activities employed a mere 60 workers on average.

It took about 33 seasonal workers to produce a ton of cherries in Washington last year (including brined and processed). That estimate is derived from dividing total crop tonnage by the annual average of seasonal workers. Since 1994, Employment Security data show the average worker-per-ton requirement in cherries varying from a low of 21 (1994) to a high of 38 (2000). While labor requirements generally track with variations in total crop production from year to year, they tend to be less pronounced.

**Portions contributed by John Wines, State Agricultural Analyst.*

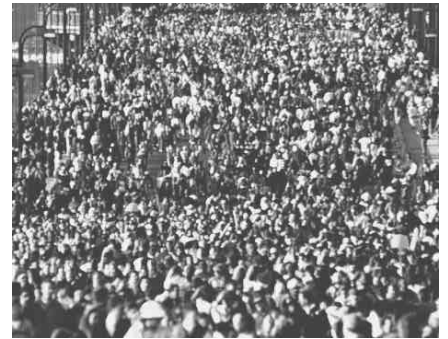
Microsoft Swaps Options for Shares

In an effort to create an even-handed compensation system and bolster employee retention, Microsoft announced in early July that it's scrapping its legendary stock option benefit program. The new plan grants all full-time employees restricted shares of stock that will mature to full value over a five-year vesting period, retaining their full value even if the company's stock price falls.

News accounts of the compensation change report that the Microsoft's work force of 54,000 full-time workers will be involved. According to data from the Employment Security Department in May 2003 software publishing employed some 36,700 people in Washington. This number, of course, includes many other software companies in the state. The question for them is whether Microsoft's move will reduce employee attrition (not a major problem at present, but a lingering concern) such that recruiting becomes trickier for smaller firms.

Taking Population's Pulse

Planners, politicians, and trivia heads alike tune in each June to take the pulse of Washington State's population when the Office of Financial Management (OFM) releases its annual population estimates. The headline this year is that growth continued at a slower pace due largely to overcast economic conditions in our state. Washington's population reached 6,098,300 on April 1, representing an increase this year of 56,600 people. That compares to an increase of 66,800 last year. Population growth is comprised of two components: net migration and natural increase (births minus deaths). Migration has always been driven by economic opportunity, and so, for the short-term, slower growth is expected depending on how the state's economy recovers. Complete information about population estimates is on the web at www.ofm.wa.gov.



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Industry Focus: Construction

By Rick Lockhart, Economic Analyst

Washington's construction industry has proven itself to be rather storm-resistant, posting strong numbers in employment and wage growth for 1990 through 2002. This article will be dealing with the two-digit North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 23, *all construction*. During the '90-'02 time period it was the only non-service sector industry to have positive growth in employment. In addition, it maintained an average industry wage above the state total average wage.

Below are some quick construction industry facts for Washington State, 1990-2002:

- Employment grew by 27 percent.
- The number of firms expanded 35 percent.
- The average real wage increased from a \$31,800 to \$39,479.
- Construction makes up 5 percent of total covered employment in Washington.

The construction industry (NAICS 23) is made up of three sub-sectors including, construction of buildings, heavy and civil engineering construction, and specialty trade contractors. Of Washington's construction employment, 60 percent is

in the specialty trade contractors sub-sector, which serves residential, corporate, and government needs.

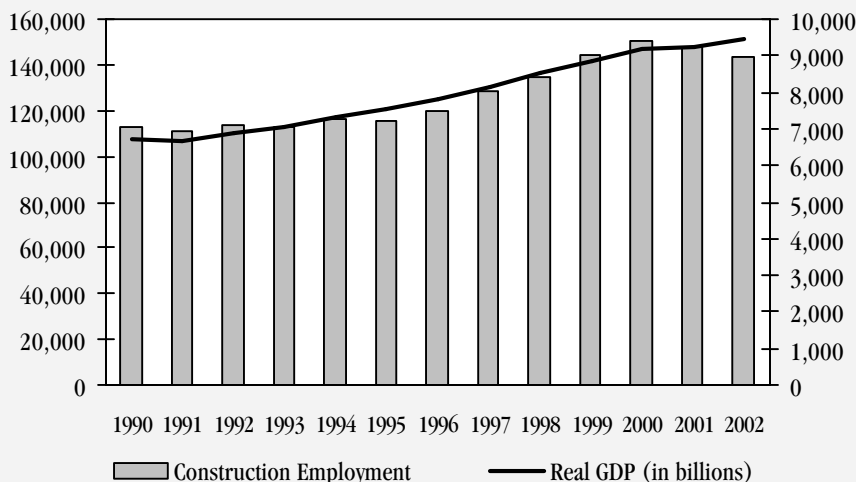
It may seem like the current health of the construction industry is mostly reliant on low interest rates, but the employment and wage data suggest the industry's growth has been more long-term and stable. In fact, the correlation coefficient between interest rates and construction employment comes to 0.18. Finding the correlation between two events gives us an idea of how much one event affects the other. Since a correlation of 1.0 would indicate that two events are directly related, a correlation of 0.18 for construction employment and the federal funds rate suggests the relationship between these two is limited. When the same correlation calculation is done between construction employment and the national gross domestic product (GDP), we find the result to be 0.96, indicating the relationship between the normal business cycle and construction employment is very strong. The chart below illustrates the similarity between the movement of the national business cycle and the construction industry employment level.



Construction is a unique industry as it is alone among its non-service sector peers to qualify as a key growth industry for 1990-2002³. It is considered a key growth industry because it outpaced the total Washington State employment growth by 3.1 percentage points, and posted a higher average wage than the 2002 state average of \$38,249. As a key growth industry, we need to be mindful of the possibility of demand for trained construction workers growing beyond supply. As of 2001, 90 percent of construction jobs require additional post-high school training such as on-the-job skill development, technical school training, and/or a bachelor degree⁴.

While it is encouraging to see this industry post positive growth in recent years, we must be mindful that it is a cyclical industry and, as such, we can not expect it to continue in this growth pattern indefinitely. With that in mind, it will be very interesting to see the construction employment patterns in the next few years as the economy recovers and business investment in capital expenditures increases with the recovery. In the short run it seems poised to continue with its recent growth patterns.

National GDP Related to Washington State Construction Employment, 1990-2002



Source: Washington State Employment Security Department

³ The designation of being a key growth industry is a term to identify industries that are experiencing above average employment growth and have an average wage that is within 85 percent or better of the area average.

⁴ When comparing occupations by industry to the Standard Occupation Code (SOC) "education by occupation" table, using 2001 data.

Occupational Focus: Medical Secretaries

By David Wallace, Economic Analyst

In this time of diminished employment prospects, one of the few fields continuing to expand is health care. Licensed practical nurses, medical assistants, and registered nurses are projected to continue growing in coming years. Fortunately for those of us who are squeamish or lack the skills required to work in these positions, there are medical jobs that don't involve direct patient care, including medical secretaries.

Increasing employment opportunities for medical secretaries should come as no surprise given the changes we've seen in health care, from increasingly complex insurance systems to more managed care facilities. Employment Security Department data show that medical secretaries rank in the top 15 occupations statewide in terms of projected average annual growth for

2000 to 2005. While this growth slows in the 2005 to 2010 period, it should remain well above average. According to an industry spokesperson, the high demand reflects ample promotion opportunities and significant employee turnover.

So what do medical secretaries do? They are responsible for day-to-day medical office operations, including making appointments and greeting patients. A certain amount of record keeping and inventory maintenance is typically required. Most of these positions are found in offices and clinics of medical practitioners. Math, verbal, and writing skills are required to become a medical secretary, as is knowledge of medical terms and computer literacy.



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Projections for Medical Secretaries in Washington

Estimated Employment			Avg. Annual Growth Rate		Avg. Annual Total Openings		2001 Average Wage
2000	2005	2010	2000-2005	2005-2010	2000-2005	2005-2010	
12,446	14,637	16,346	3.30%	2.20%	637	631	\$29,510

Source: Washington State Employment Security Department, February 2003

Across the State

The increase in unemployment over the month was concentrated in metropolitan areas where unemployment rose from 6.9 to 7.3 percent. Eastern Washington, which has a concentration of rural counties, saw a decline in the unemployment rate of one-tenth of a percentage point to 7.6 percent in June. Seasonal

increases in agriculture and food processing jobs are responsible for some of the fall in the eastern Washington rate. Still the unemployment rate is five-tenths of a percentage higher than it was in June of 2002. This increase in the over-the-year rate is due, in part, to an increase in the labor force.

Area	June-03	May-03	June-02	May-02
Washington State Total	7.6%	7.2%	7.2%	7.2%
Metropolitan Areas	7.3%	6.9%	6.9%	6.9%
Timber Dependent Areas	8.7%	8.7%	8.4%	8.8%
All Western Wa Areas	7.5%	0.1%	7.2%	7.2%
All Eastern Wa Areas	7.6%	7.7%	7.1%	7.5%

Special Feature: County-To-County Worker Flows in Washington

By Carolyn Cummins, Staff Economist

Among the data produced by Census 2000 are the newly released County-to-County Commute Flows files. Analyzing commuter patterns at the county level helps us better understand the spatial proximity of residences to places of work.

Eighteen percent of Washington workers left their counties of residence for work in 2000, compared to 27 percent nationwide. Of Washington's 39 counties, 20 of them were providing jobs for 80 percent or more of their residents.

Worker Trade Balances in Washington's Counties

Thinking of a given county as a worker trade area, where some workers are exported to other counties and others imported for local work, provides us an angle by which to examine worker flows.

We start by tallying the number of jobs in the local area. Using census files, this is the count of workers who have jobs in the county, regardless of where they reside. King County, for example, had a job count of 1,073,735 in 2000. Next we look at the number of resident workers who were employed at the same time. In the case of King County, there were 911,677 local residents employed in 2000. Note that although these workers lived in King County, their work locations may have been anywhere. With these two numbers we are equipped to roughly estimate King County's ability to supply resident workers for local jobs. By subtracting 911,677 from 1,073,735 we see that King County imports at least 162,058 workers to fill local jobs.

Snohomish County's worker trade balance provides an interesting contrast to King County. In 2000 it had 234,255 jobs and 299,861 resident workers, giving it a trade balance of -65,606 jobs. Similarly, Pierce County had a trade balance of -52,466. The map

below displays county-level worker trade balances for all counties.

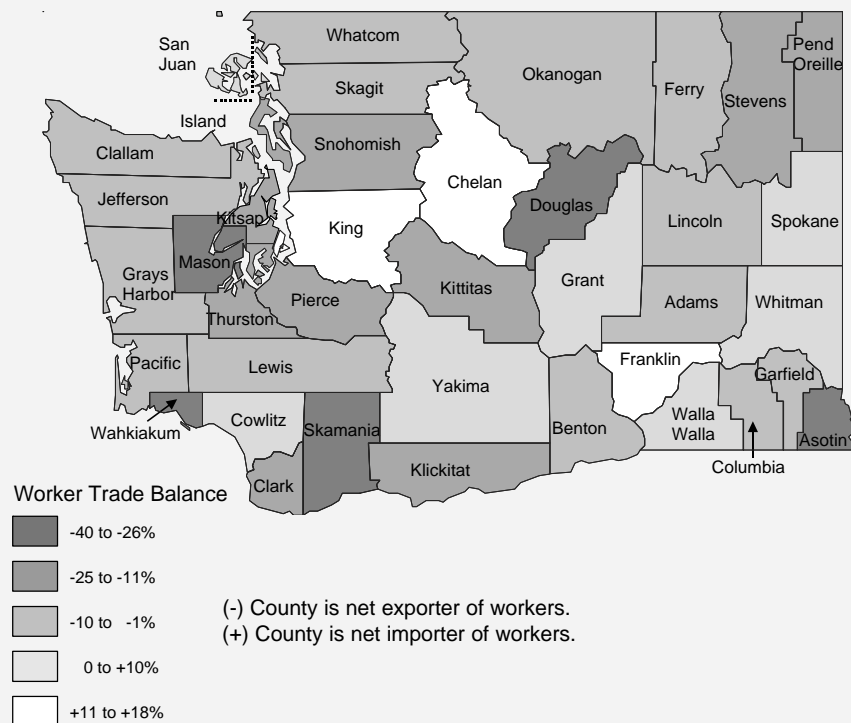
Taken in isolation, imbalanced worker trade numbers may send alarming signals about local self-reliance to labor market economists and workforce development professionals. Taken in a regional context, however, these numbers show a logical interdependence among counties, as we will see below. But it's important to keep in mind that commuter flow numbers provide us with but an overview of what's happening. For instance, the number of workers that actually come from other counties to work in King may be higher, as some portion of employed county residents also leave the county for work. Also, when it comes to a given county's ability to supply resident workers for local jobs, the overall net import value is not a hard and fast number. Underneath it are issues related to job skills and work experience of residents that can only be revealed through further analysis.

Let us return to King County where we saw a job surplus over 162,000 and to

neighboring Snohomish and Pierce counties, which were net exporters of workers. Census data show that 10.0 percent of King County jobs in 2000 were filled by workers who lived in Snohomish County, to the tune of 103,334 jobs—well beyond Snohomish's apparent worker surplus of 65,000. Likewise, Pierce County commuters occupied 8.0 percent of King County jobs in 2000. So, taken in a regional context, an interdependent relationship among King, Pierce, and Snohomish counties is illustrated here.

To be sure, many such relationships exist among other Washington counties and those of neighboring states, and they deserve deeper analysis than is possible to provide here. These relationships serve as a reminder of the wider implications of regional labor markets. Among the issues are transportation linkages, commute time, cost of living, and the coordination of economic development efforts.

Worker Trade Balance, Washington State, 2000



Stats-At-A-Glance

Resident Civilian Labor Force and Employment in Washington State

(In Percentage)	June 2003	May 2003	June 2002	May 2002
Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment:	(Prel.)	(Rev.)	(Rev.)	(Rev.)
Washington State	7.7%	7.4%	7.3%	7.4%
United States	6.4%	6.1%	5.9%	5.9%

Not Seasonally Adjusted: (In Thousands)

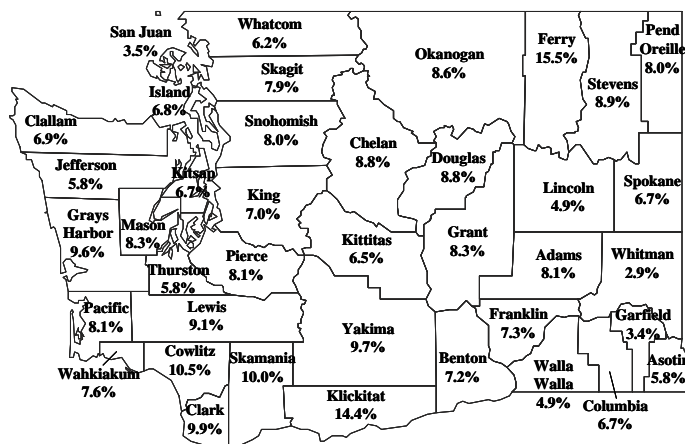
	June 2003	May 2003	June 2002	May 2002
Resident Civilian Labor Force	3,123.6	3,101.5	3,119.6	3,086.7
Employment	2,887.3	2,877.3	2,895.4	2,863.0
Unemployment	236.3	224.2	224.2	223.7
Percent of Labor Force	7.6%	7.2%	7.2%	7.2%

Unemployment Rates by County, June 2003

Washington State = 7.6%

United States = 6.5%

Not Seasonally Adjusted



Washington State
Employment Security Department
Labor Market and Economic Analysis

Resident Labor Force and Employment in Washington State and Labor Market Areas ^{1/}

Date: 7/15/03
Benchmark: 2002

Not Seasonally Adjusted	June 2003 Preliminary				May 2003 Revised				June 2002 Revised			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
Washington State Total	3,123,600	2,887,300	236,300	7.6	3,101,500	2,877,300	224,200	7.2	3,119,600	2,895,400	224,200	7.2
Bellingham MSA	87,800	82,400	5,400	6.2	89,000	83,800	5,200	5.8	84,400	79,400	5,000	6.0
Bremerton PMSA	100,800	94,100	6,700	6.7	101,000	94,500	6,400	6.4	100,400	94,200	6,200	6.2
Olympia PMSA	108,000	101,800	6,200	5.8	108,700	102,900	5,800	5.4	104,600	98,500	6,000	5.8
Seattle-Bellevue-Everett PMSA	1,386,700	1,286,300	100,400	7.2	1,389,100	1,294,700	94,400	6.8	1,397,300	1,300,700	96,600	6.9
King County 2/	1,016,000	945,000	71,000	7.0	1,018,600	951,200	67,500	6.6	1,023,100	955,600	67,500	6.6
Snohomish County 2/	342,700	315,200	27,500	8.0	342,400	317,200	25,100	7.3	346,000	318,700	27,300	7.9
Island County 2/	28,000	26,100	1,900	6.8	28,100	26,300	1,800	6.3	28,210	26,420	1,790	6.3
Spokane MSA	211,400	197,300	14,100	6.7	213,500	199,800	13,700	6.4	213,300	199,600	13,700	6.4
Tacoma PMSA	348,400	320,000	28,400	8.1	348,000	321,500	26,500	7.6	345,300	318,600	26,700	7.7
Tri-Cities MSA	109,800	101,900	7,900	7.2	103,400	96,500	7,000	6.8	105,900	99,300	6,600	6.2
Benton County 2/	83,700	77,700	6,000	7.2	78,700	73,500	5,200	6.6	80,500	75,700	4,800	6.0
Franklin County 2/	26,200	24,300	1,900	7.3	24,800	23,000	1,800	7.3	25,400	23,600	1,800	7.0
Yakima MSA	116,300	105,000	11,300	9.7	106,700	96,000	10,700	10.0	114,700	104,300	10,400	9.1
Adams	8,630	7,930	700	8.1	7,920	7,230	700	8.8	8,470	7,840	640	7.5
Asotin 2/	12,150	11,450	700	5.8	12,590	11,640	950	7.5	11,890	11,210	680	5.7
Chelan-Douglas LMA	56,540	51,570	4,970	8.8	51,180	46,520	4,660	9.1	56,230	51,730	4,490	8.0
Chelan County 2/	37,770	34,460	3,310	8.8	34,260	31,090	3,180	9.3	37,660	34,570	3,090	8.2
Douglas County 2/	18,760	17,110	1,650	8.8	16,920	15,430	1,490	8.8	18,570	17,160	1,400	7.6
Clallam	24,850	23,140	1,710	6.9	25,080	23,220	1,870	7.4	25,240	23,580	1,660	6.6
Clark 2/	183,600	165,500	18,100	9.9	183,400	166,300	17,100	9.3	188,200	171,100	17,100	9.1
Columbia	1,820	1,700	120	6.7	1,830	1,720	110	6.1	1,770	1,640	130	7.1
Cowlitz	40,130	35,930	4,200	10.5	39,590	35,610	3,980	10.1	41,340	36,860	4,480	10.8
Ferry	2,720	2,300	420	15.5	2,710	2,270	440	16.1	2,490	2,260	230	9.3
Garfield	1,260	1,220	40	3.4	1,240	1,190	50	3.9	1,260	1,220	40	3.3
Grant	40,770	37,400	3,370	8.3	37,760	33,990	3,770	10.0	39,810	36,530	3,290	8.3
Grays Harbor	26,920	24,340	2,580	9.6	26,570	24,160	2,410	9.1	26,530	24,250	2,280	8.6
Jefferson	12,130	11,430	700	5.8	12,090	11,420	670	5.5	11,660	10,930	730	6.3
Kitittas	16,430	15,370	1,060	6.5	16,330	15,210	1,120	6.8	15,770	14,870	900	5.7
Klickitat	9,020	7,720	1,300	14.4	8,260	6,970	1,290	15.6	9,000	7,730	1,280	14.2
Lewis	30,390	27,630	2,760	9.1	30,220	27,680	2,540	8.4	29,610	27,110	2,500	8.4
Lincoln	4,940	4,700	240	4.9	4,890	4,650	230	4.8	4,920	4,650	280	5.6
Mason	20,300	18,620	1,680	8.3	20,240	18,640	1,600	7.9	19,290	17,860	1,430	7.4
Okanogan	19,650	17,960	1,690	8.6	17,950	16,170	1,780	9.9	19,330	17,760	1,570	8.1
Pacific	8,320	7,650	670	8.1	8,260	7,540	720	8.7	8,020	7,400	630	7.8
Pend Oreille	4,480	4,120	360	8.0	4,440	4,070	380	8.5	4,590	4,200	390	8.5
San Juan	7,400	7,140	260	3.5	6,900	6,620	270	3.9	7,240	6,970	260	3.6
Skagit	52,460	48,330	4,130	7.9	52,470	48,460	4,010	7.6	52,680	48,630	4,050	7.7
Skamania	4,040	3,640	400	10.0	3,970	3,560	410	10.2	4,110	3,660	440	10.8
Stevens	16,970	15,450	1,520	8.9	16,650	15,100	1,560	9.3	17,090	15,520	1,570	9.2
Wahkiakum	1,780	1,640	140	7.6	1,750	1,630	130	7.4	1,760	1,630	130	7.5
Walla Walla	28,860	27,430	1,430	4.9	27,930	26,550	1,380	4.9	28,130	26,780	1,350	4.8
Whitman	17,580	17,060	520	2.9	19,990	19,540	450	2.3	17,400	16,930	470	2.7

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

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

Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers in Washington State, Place of Work ¹

In Thousands, Not Seasonally Adjusted	Numeric Change					
	June 2003 (Prel)	May 2003 (Rev)	June 2002 (Rev)	May 2002 (Rev)	May 2003 to June 2003	June 2002 to June 2003
Total Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers	2,680.6	2,669.6	2,680.3	2,664.5	11.0	0.3
Natural Resources and Mining	9.9	9.4	9.5	9.3	0.5	0.4
Logging	6.7	6.3	6.3	6.2	0.4	0.4
Construction	159.2	156.0	157.3	154.1	3.2	1.9
Construction of Buildings	41.0	40.2	41.6	40.9	0.8	-0.6
Heavy and Civil Engineering	21.3	20.3	19.7	18.8	1.0	1.6
Specialty Trade Contractors	96.9	95.5	96.0	94.4	1.4	0.9
Manufacturing	267.7	266.8	288.4	287.8	0.9	-20.7
Durable Goods	182.1	182.1	201.5	202.5	0.0	-19.4
Wood Product Manufacturing	17.5	17.4	18.1	18.1	0.1	-0.6
Fabricated Metal Products	16.4	16.3	17.3	17.1	0.1	-0.9
Computer and Electronic Products	23.9	23.8	26.6	26.4	0.1	-2.7
Transportation Equipment	75.2	75.8	87.6	89.1	-0.6	-12.4
Aerospace Products and Parts	64.7	65.4	76.0	77.3	-0.7	-11.3
Nondurable Goods	85.6	84.7	86.9	85.3	0.9	-1.3
Food Manufacturing	35.2	34.6	35.9	34.7	0.6	-0.7
Wholesale Trade	117.0	116.0	116.2	115.8	1.0	0.8
Retail Trade	306.4	304.7	305.4	302.6	1.7	1.0
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	41.4	41.4	41.2	41.2	0.0	0.2
Food and Beverage Stores	61.7	61.1	62.6	62.2	0.6	-0.9
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	24.7	24.7	24.3	23.1	0.0	0.4
General Merchandise Stores	50.4	49.8	47.6	47.5	0.6	2.8
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	86.8	85.8	88.9	87.8	1.0	-2.1
Utilities	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.4	0.0	0.1
Transportation and Warehousing	82.2	81.2	84.4	83.4	1.0	-2.2
Air Transportation	13.1	13.1	13.7	13.6	0.0	-0.6
Water Transportation	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.1	0.0	-0.1
Truck Transportation	22.2	21.7	22.9	22.5	0.5	-0.7
Support Activities for Transportation	15.1	15.0	15.6	15.3	0.1	-0.5
Support Activities for Water Transportation	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.4	0.0	-0.1
Warehousing and Storage	7.1	6.9	7.7	7.1	0.2	-0.6
Information	93.2	92.2	93.7	93.3	1.0	-0.5
Software Publishers	37.3	36.6	36.0	35.6	0.7	1.3
Telecommunications	26.6	26.8	29.0	29.2	-0.2	-2.4
Financial Activities	148.5	147.6	145.8	145.3	0.9	2.7
Finance and Insurance	101.1	100.6	98.8	98.6	0.5	2.3
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	49.8	49.4	47.4	47.2	0.4	2.4
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	39.8	39.7	39.2	39.2	0.1	0.6
Real Estate and Rental Leasing	47.4	47.0	47.0	46.7	0.4	0.4
Professional and Business Services	292.9	291.5	291.1	288.6	1.4	1.8
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	139.4	139.2	137.5	137.6	0.2	1.9
Legal Services	21.0	20.8	20.7	20.5	0.2	0.3
Architectural, Engineering, and Related Services	31.4	31.1	31.4	31.0	0.3	0.0
Computer Systems Design and Related Services	22.7	22.8	23.8	23.9	-0.1	-1.1
Management of Companies and Enterprises	30.7	30.7	30.1	30.0	0.0	0.6
Admin., Suppt. Svcs., Waste Mgmt., and Remediation	122.8	121.6	123.5	121.0	1.2	-0.7
Employment Services	39.1	38.3	41.6	39.5	0.8	-2.5
Education and Health Services	313.9	316.4	306.4	309.5	-2.5	7.5
Educational Services	41.5	45.1	39.1	42.8	-3.6	2.4
Hospitals	63.1	62.6	62.1	61.6	0.5	1.0
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	53.8	53.6	52.5	52.4	0.2	1.3
Social Assistance	45.9	46.1	45.9	46.2	-0.2	0.0
Leisure and Hospitality	256.5	250.5	253.6	248.0	6.0	2.9
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	45.4	43.3	43.9	42.1	2.1	1.5
Accommodation	28.5	27.3	29.2	27.8	1.2	-0.7
Food Services and Drinking Places	182.6	179.9	180.5	178.1	2.7	2.1
Government	529.0	533.9	524.8	524.4	-4.9	4.2
Federal	69.8	69.8	69.3	68.2	0.0	0.5
State	148.3	151.2	147.8	151.0	-2.9	0.5
State Educational Services	80.6	84.5	80.2	84.4	-3.9	0.4
Local	310.9	312.9	307.7	305.2	-2.0	3.2
Local Educational Services	156.4	156.7	153.6	154.0	-0.3	2.8
Workers in Labor-Management Disputes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹Excludes 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. ²Workers excluded because of involvement in labor-management dispute.

What's New?

Annual Claimant Characteristics on the Web

Gathering annual information about unemployment insurance claimants just got easier. The Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch's *Occupations of Unemployed* website now includes annual rollups of claimant information for 2000, 2001, and 2002. Characteristics tracked include claims by age, race and ethnicity, and education level. These counts can be cross-tabulated by occupation group, industry, workforce development area, and county. The website is located at: www.wilma.org/occinfo/.

Occupational Demand-Decline Lists
Washington's unemployment insurance division has a training benefits program for

eligible dislocated workers coming from an occupation in decline and who want to train for an occupation in demand. There is a list of the qualifying occupations at www.wilma.org/wdclists/. This list is, in part, based on information provided by the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch of the Employment Security Department. Each Workforce Development Council maintains the list for their area. The designation of the occupation is based on short- and long-term projected openings, as well as unemployment insurance claims. Information detailed for each occupation includes projected annual job openings, growth rates, unemployment claims, and demand-decline status in other regions.

<http://www.wilma.org/wdclists/>



Local Area Demand/Decline Occupations

I - Olympic Consortium WDA	Clallam, Jefferson, Kitsap
II - The Pacific Mountain WDA	Grays Harbor, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Thurston
III - Northwest Washington WDA	Island, San Juan, Skagit, Whatcom
IV - Snohomish County WDA	Snohomish
V - Seattle-King County WDA	King
VI - Pierce County WDA	Pierce
VII - Southwest Washington WDA	Clark, Cowlitz, Skamania, Wahkiakum
VIII - North Central Washington WDA	Adams, Chelan, Douglas, Grant, Okanogan
IX - Tri-County WDA	Kittitas, Klickitat, Yakima
X - 1 Eastern Washington WDA - SFPOL	Stevens, Ferry, Pend Oreille, Lincoln
X - 2 Eastern Washington WDA - AGW	Asotin, Garfield, Whitman
X - 3 Eastern Washington WDA - WWC	Walla Walla, Columbia
XI - Benton-Franklin WDA	Benton, Franklin
XII - Spokane County WDA	Spokane

The list of local area demand/decline qualifying occupations has been updated to provide a more accurate classification. The classification of decline/demand is now at the independent occupation level for each area. Please forward any comments about this information to [Dave Wallace](#). A more complete explanation of the training benefits program, itself, can be found at: <http://www.wa.gov/esd/ui/gatb.htm>

Frequently Asked Questions...

1. Who maintains this list? Although the lists are hosted by the labor market and economic analysis (LMEA) branch of the Employment Security Department, local workforce development councils (WDCs) are responsible for the development of the lists, as well as, all updates and revisions to the lists

2. How are the classifications determined? The classification of each occupation is determined by local Workforce Development Councils based, in part, on labor market information provided by the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch of the Employment Security Department

3. What is the purpose of this list? The purpose of the training benefits lists is to prioritize those unemployed individuals seeking an extension of UI benefits while they undertake training. Under this program resources are allocated first to individuals whose unemployment is the result of structural changes in the economy and technological advances which have rendered their skills obsolete. This program is not intended for those individuals who already have marketable skills.

[Local Area Maintenance Menu](#) (password required)

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Washington Labor Market



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