Washington State Employment Security

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Washington Labor Market

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INDICATORS

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

Washington (Seasonally Adjusted)		
April (prel)	2003	7.3%
March (rev)	2003	7.1%
February	2003	6.9%
Annual Average *	2002	7.3%
United States (Seasonally Adjusted)		
April (prel)	2003	5.9%
March (rev)	2003	5.8%
February	2003	5.8%
Annual Average *	2002	5.8%

* *Not Seasonally Adjusted*

MANUFACTURING WORKER AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS

Washington		
April	2003	$17.90
March	2003	$17.99
February	2003	$18.01
April	2002	$18.41

MANUFACTURING WORKER AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS

Washington		
April	2003	38.8
March	2003	39.7
February	2003	39.8
April	2002	39.9

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI)
1982-1984=100
All Urban Consumers

Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton		
April	2003	192.3
Yearly Change	Apr. 2002-Apr. 2003	1.9%
U.S. City Average		
April	2003	183.8
Yearly Change	Apr. 2002-Apr. 2003	2.2%

HIGHLIGHTS

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Feels Like 2002 All Over Again

Unemployment

Washington's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose two-tenths of a percentage point to 7.3 percent in April. The nation's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate also rose two-tenths of a percentage point to 6.0 percent. Washington's non-adjusted unemployment rate declined one-tenth of a percentage point to 7.3 percent.

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate has been inching upwards so far this year. The non-adjusted rate has fallen slightly, but not as far as is normal for this time of year. Chart 1 shows the Washington unemployment rate failing to fall as strongly as is normal over the past two months. This caused the increase in the seasonally adjusted rate.

As will be seen in the discussion of nonagricultural employment below, the lack of a seasonal drop in the unemployment rate is not due to normal seasonal industries, which have been picking up as expected. Rather, the drop is due to continued weakness in the manufacturing sector and new weakness in state government, which has begun to cut employment due to a tight state budget.

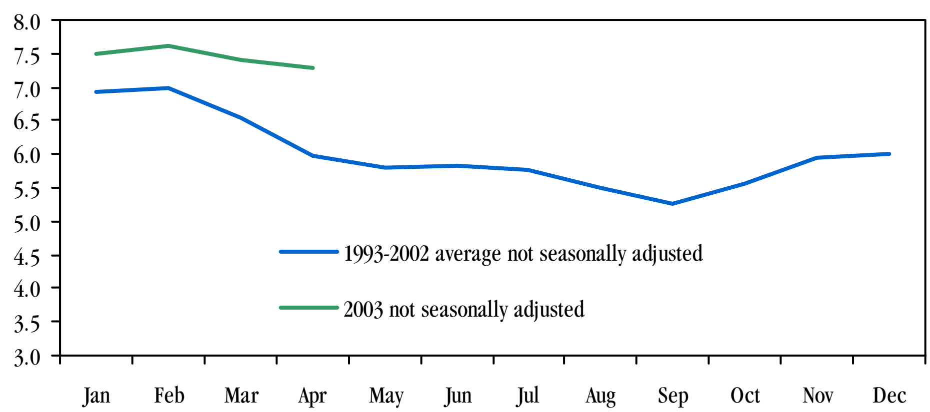
A breakdown of Washington's seasonally adjusted employment numbers show a worsening picture of the job market over the first quarter of 2003. While the labor force has remained rather constant, employment shows a slight decline. Unemployment has been the most volatile component rising at an increasing rate since February 2003.

Most economists agree that this increase in unemployment is unlikely to slow in the near term. On the national level factors working against a quick recovery of the job market include:

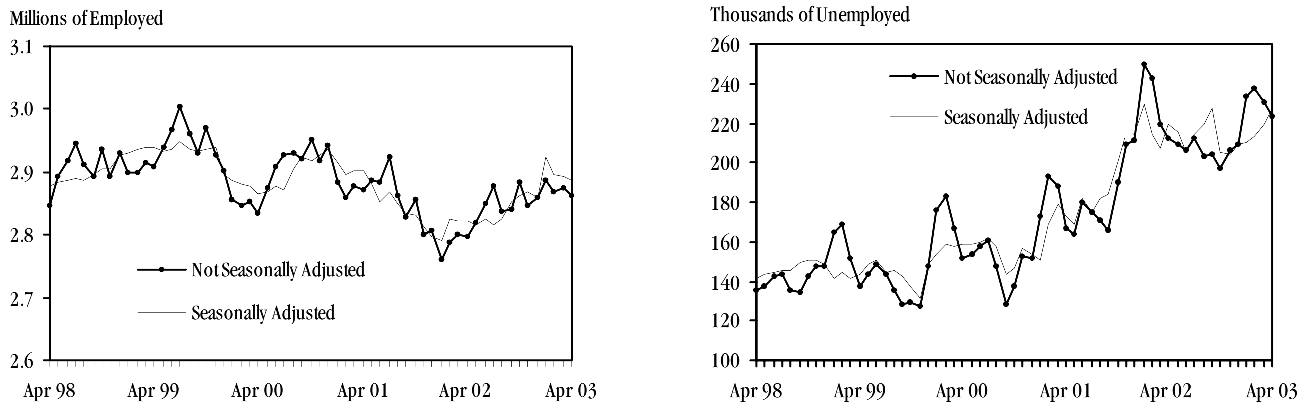
- slack demand in business investment which keeps manufacturing orders low

- Continued on page 2

Seasonal dip in unemployment rate
is missing for April 2003



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



- excess capacity which allows businesses to increase output without increasing labor
- low inflation which squeezes corporate profits and keeps businesses uncertain
- high productivity growth so that businesses can increase output with less labor
- low growth in the rest of the world which depresses demand

With both the state and national unemployment rates up this month, a recovery of the labor market is likely to be slow. Business investment is a key to faster growth and may pick up due to recent gains in the stock market, positive geopolitical signs in the Middle East, and the signing of the Federal tax package. During the summer months, the labor market's performance will be highly dependent on seasonal service industries and agriculture, which traditionally hire over the summer.

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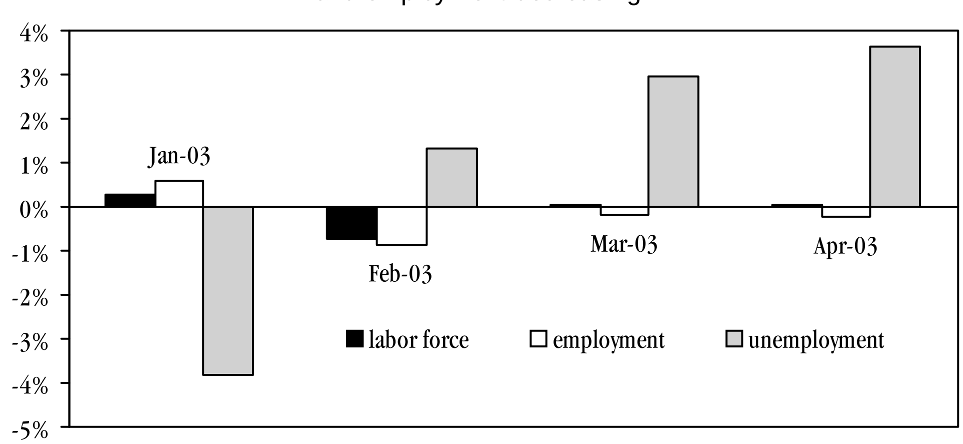
Unemployment Rates by Geographic Areas
State of Washington

Areas	Apr-03	Mar-03	Apr-02	Mar-02
Washington State Total	7.3%	7.4%	7.6%	7.8%
Metropolitan Areas	6.8%	7.0%	7.1%	7.4%
Log & Lumber Areas	9.2%	9.7%	9.7%	10.4%
All Western WA Areas	7.0%	7.1%	7.4%	7.5%
All Eastern WA Areas	8.0%	8.4%	8.3%	9.2%

Source: Employment Security Department

Seasonally adjusted numbers show unemployment increasing
and employment decreasing



Do the official numbers include everyone who is not working?

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, unemployed persons are individuals, 16 years of age or older, who do not have a job but are available for work and actively seeking work during the week including the 12th of the month. (The only exceptions are individuals who are waiting to be recalled from a layoff and individuals waiting to report to a new job within 30 days—these too, are considered unemployed.) Individuals who have given up looking for a job but would take it if it were offered to them are not included in the official count of the unemployed. They are the "discouraged workers" and, by definition, are not included in the estimate of the unemployed.

Labor Force Participation

The labor force participation rate measures the percentage of the population that is either employed or looking for work. There were over-the-year declines in labor force participation of 0.4 percent in both 2001 and 2002. The boom years of 1999 and 2000, however, also had drops in labor force participation albeit at a lower rate of 0.1 percent each year. In fact, labor force participation fell from a high of 67.2 percent of the population in December of 1997 and 1998 to 66.4 percent in December 2002, a decline of 1.2 percent.

Drops in labor force participation rates have occurred periodically over the past twenty years, most often during recessions, but also during expansions. There is no clear evidence that there has been an unusual exodus from the labor force since 2001. The decline in labor force participation during recession years has also varied quite a bit from month to month. For example, over calendar year 2002, labor force participation increased over four months, stayed the same over two months, and declined over the remaining six months, not all contiguous.

The general trend in labor force participation over time, though, has been positive. From 60.4 percent in January 1970, labor force participation grew to 66.4 percent in March 2003, an increase of 9.9 percent. The relative standard deviation of labor force participation over the period is 3.8 percent which is well above the annual declines seen during the recent and past recessions. This general trend of increasing labor force participation, thus, outweighs the smaller fluctuations in labor force participation over business cycles.

Discouraged Workers?

Information specifically on *discouraged workers* is only available beginning with 1994 and only at the national level. There is no clear trend of dramatically increasing numbers of discouraged workers over the most recent recession. In fact, discouraged workers were a larger percent of the labor force back in 1994. The percent of discouraged workers has risen from a low of 0.18 percent in 2000 to 0.31 percent for the first four months of 2003. These numbers are not directly comparable in that they are not seasonally adjusted.

Discouraged Workers as a Share of Total Labor Force, United States 1994-2003 (to date)

1994	0.38%
1995	0.31%
1996	0.30%
1997	0.25%
1998	0.24%
1999	0.20%
2000	0.18%
2001	0.22%
2002	0.25%
2003	0.31%

Discouraged workers (Current Population Survey): Persons not in the labor force who want and are available for a job and who have looked for work some time in the past 12 months (or since the end of their last job if they held one within the past 12 months), but who are not currently looking because they believe there are no jobs available or there are none for which they would qualify.

These small changes in the number of discouraged workers would have a corresponding small impact on changes in the national unemployment rate.

Have people stayed unemployed longer?

There is some evidence that people are unemployed longer than in the past. Certainly, looking at a shorter time period from about 1993 on, the average number of weeks a person stays unemployed increased after 2001. Looking at a longer time period the data is a little harder to interpret. The average number of weeks unemployed increases from 1970 onward.

Decade	Average Weeks Unemployed
1970-1979	11.9 weeks
1980-1989	15.0 weeks
1990-1999	15.9 weeks
2000-2003	15.3 weeks

In fact, during the period from 2000 to 2003, average weeks unemployed is actually lower than during the 1990s, although this is heavily influenced by very low numbers in 2000 and 2001. A longer term trend in average weeks unemployed would be explained by structural rather than cyclical changes in the labor market. The exact reason is beyond the scope of this article but could be due to the changing nature of jobs. For example, the economy has moved more towards services producing occupations and away from goods producing occupations. It might be more difficult to find a new services producing job than a goods producing job, particularly from a comparable skills and pay standpoint.

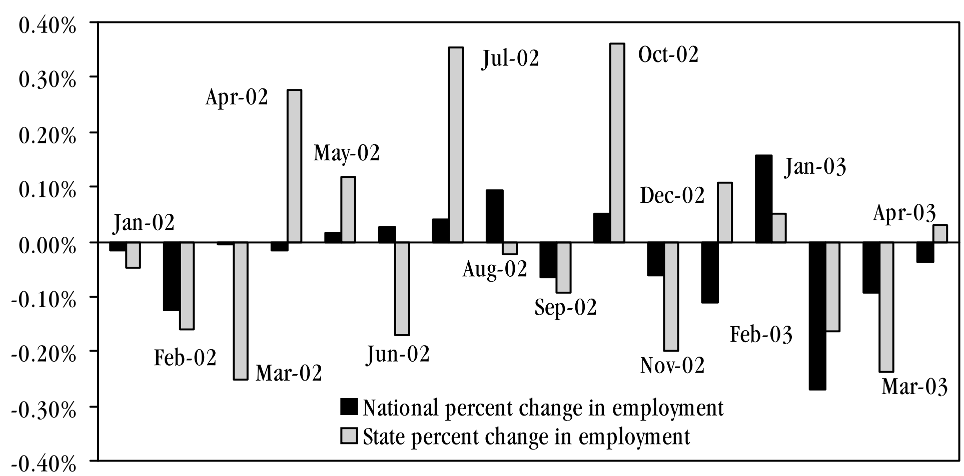
Much work remains to be done on capturing the experience of those on the margins of the labor force. The very slowness of this recovery would indicate that the unemployed must be having a harder time finding new jobs than in previous recoveries. Still, their behavior does not yet seem to be significantly impacting the measures discussed above.

There is some evidence that people are unemployed longer than in the past.

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

Nonagricultural employment change at both the national and state level highlights the weak first quarter of 2003. On the national level, even with a gain of over 200,000 jobs in January 2003, the first four months of 2003 were weaker than they have been since the recession began. State employment change is more volatile, but at least a small employment gain was made in April 2003.

Employment has been weak at the national and state level during 2003



Total Nonagricultural Employment: Washington's nonagricultural employment increased by 13,400 in April—an increase of 0.5 percent. Over the year, Washington's nonagricultural employment is up 6,200 from April 2002—an increase of 0.2 percent.

Construction: There were large over-the-month seasonal gains in construction, which is up 4,400 jobs. Construction is also up by 3,100 from April of 2002—much of this increase is due to the seasonal volatility of the industry rather than a long-term trend.

Hospitality: There were large seasonal gains in hospitality, which is up 4,800 over the month. Hospitality is flat over the year with declines in accommodation employment being offset by gains in jobs at food and drinking establishments.

Retail Trade: Employment in retail trade increased by 1,200 over the month, less than half the increase that occurred during April 2002. Consumers remain uncertain in the face of rising unemployment and the failure of the economy to sustain a turnaround. Retail trade is still down 3,200 jobs over the year from April 2002.

Manufacturing: Manufacturing employment increased by 1,200, which is the first over-the-month increase in manufacturing since the summer of 2002. Layoffs of 500 occurred in aerospace, but the current round of layoffs in Washington may be near an end. Manufacturing still accounts for the vast majority of job loss over the year, down 17,700 from April 2002.

Professional and Business Services: Professional and business services increased by only 1,000 over the month compared to an increase of 2,800 in April 2002. The increase last year was largely accounted for by hiring at temporary help firms which have remained flat in April 2003. The lack of hiring at temporary help firms is a further reflection of excess capacity, weak sales, and high productivity growth.

Transportation and Information: Transportation and information remain weak over the month and over the year. During April only trucking managed a small increase of 100 in the transportation industry. Software publishing also increased by 100, while telecommunications continued its slow slide.

Government: An over-the-month decline in state government of 1,200 was exactly offset by an increase in local government employment by the same amount. Federal employment then accounted for the net loss of 300 jobs over the month. Over the year, government employment is 9,800 higher than it was in April 2002. The increase in government was accounted for by a 2,100 increase at the federal level and an increase of 7,900 at the local level, a third of which was accounted for by increases in local education. State government fell by 200 totally accounted for by a fall in state education employment.

Professional and business services increased by only 1,000 over the month compared to an increase of 2,800 in April 2002.

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. 03	Mar. 03	Apr. 02	Apr. 03	Mar. 03	Apr. 02	Apr. 03	Mar. 03	Apr. 02
Construction	$822.00	$817.17	$792.81	36.1	35.7	35.6	$22.77	$22.89	$22.27
Manufacturing	$694.52	$717.20	$734.56	38.8	39.8	39.9	$17.90	$18.02	$18.41
Wood Products Manufacturing	$582.50	$625.46	$569.20	37.8	40.8	40.0	$15.41	$15.33	$14.23
Transportation Equipment	$905.77	$915.48	$1,018.85	40.4	40.1	41.4	$22.42	$22.83	$24.61
Food Manufacturing	$555.00	$550.06	$557.63	37.0	36.5	37.4	$15.00	$15.07	$14.91
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	$516.96	$528.56	$504.00	34.1	34.3	33.6	$15.16	$15.41	$15.00
Wholesale Trade	$665.47	$671.62	$614.17	38.4	38.4	37.2	$17.33	$17.49	$16.51
Retail Trade	$421.67	$429.76	$419.42	31.8	32.0	31.3	$13.26	$13.43	$13.40

According to the 2001 Covered Employment and Wage (CEW) data, Washington's top ten employment industries make up 44 percent of total state employment.

Industry Focus: Washington's Leading Employers

by Rick Lockhart, Economic Analyst

According to the 2001 Covered Employment and Wage (CEW) data, Washington's top ten employment industries make up 44 percent of total state employment. Leading the pack is educational services, which had an employment level of 227,300. Among the top employers, administrative and support services had the highest 10-year growth at 67.1 percent and Transportation equipment manufacturing paid the highest average wage of $61,687. When looking at the overall wage picture, we find half of the top ten are above the state average wage of $37,456. Finally, nine of the top ten employment industries not only had positive 10-year growth, but each of them either matched or outpaced the state average growth.

It is important to point out that when we are talking about key employment industries, employment and wage data is the source of information. Key employment industry analysis does not take revenue data into consideration. Therefore, those industries that are major revenue generators, but do not have high levels of employment, will not show up in the findings.

One indicator of Washington's key employment industries having room to grow is the prominence of location quotients that were at or below 1.0 attached to eight of the top ten industries. The lone bright spot is transportation equipment manufacturing which has a location quotient of 2.61, pointing out Washington's national prominence in this industry. The location quotient is a comparison of the concentration of a given industry in a state compared to the concentration of the same industry at the national level. If an industry has a location quotient of one, then it has the same relative employment concentration as the rest of the country. Since the top key employment industry, educational services, has a location quotient of 1.01, most of the nation has the same percentage of their total employment in educational services as does Washington.

In conclusion, the 1991-2001 data shows excellent growth and the potential for high wages in the states' key employment industries. The absence of many high location quotients in the top ten may point to high growth potential. Most of these industries are service sector industries, which mainly serve local populations. It would be expected that these industries would gain in share of employment until Washington employment patterns are closer to those of the nation.

Table 1: Top Ten Key Employment Industries for Washington

Industry	2001 Employment	1991 - 2001 Change	2001 Wage	Location Quotient
Educational services	227,300	32.9%	$31,455	1.01
Food services and drinking places*	176,100	25.7%	$12,841	1.02
Professional and technical services	138,700	43.0%	$53,533	0.96
Administrative and support services	108,900	67.1%	$26,069	0.70
Transportation equipment manufacturing	106,000	-22.8%	$61,687	2.61
Ambulatory health care services	101,100	29.9%	$34,627	1.07
Specialty trade contractors	89,300	49.1%	$36,810	1.01
Hospitals	87,700	29.5%	$40,797	0.82
Executive, legislative and general government	81,100	25.0%	$40,259	1.27
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	65,400	31.4%	$50,025	1.01

**Unusually low wage mostly caused by prominence of part-time workers.*

Minimum Wage in Washington State

Excerpts of a report by Kirsta Glenn, Chief Economist

Over 73,000 workers in Washington, or about 3.5 percent of the state's total work force, are paid the minimum wage. Almost all minimum wage workers in Washington either work part time or in temporary or seasonal jobs, and part-time workers are much less likely to be covered for health insurance than full-time workers.

Washington is one of eleven states that has a minimum wage above the national rate. Washington's minimum wage rose eleven cents to $7.01 an hour on January 1, 2003 due to an automatic indexation to inflation.[1] At $5.15 an hour, the federal minimum wage is about 25 percent less than Washington's minimum wage. Alaska's minimum wage is highest at $7.15 an hour, then Washington's at $7.01, then Oregon and Connecticut at $6.90, California and Massachusetts at $6.75, and Hawaii at $6.25.

In a year of slow economic recovery, renewed attention has been focused on the issue of automatic indexation. Supporters of a high state minimum wage usually focus on bringing workers and their families out of poverty. Supporters of a lower minimum wage fear that a higher minimum wage will reduce the demand for labor by causing firms to move out of state, discouraging new firms, or by firms switching to more capital intensive methods of production.

Regional Variation

In Washington, urban workers in the Seattle-Bellevue-Everett metropolitan statistical area account for 51 percent of the state's work force, but only 31 percent of the state's minimum wage workers. The higher cost of living in the Seattle metropolitan area may cause firms to pay their low wage workers some premium above the minimum wage. Alternatively, it could be that there are relatively fewer minimum wage occupations in the Seattle area. This is certainly true of agricultural workers who often make the minimum wage and are concentrated in rural areas. Rural Eastern and Western Washington and Spokane all have a higher percentage of the total minimum wage workers than of all workers. Rural Eastern Washington, for example, has 6.7 percent of all jobs, but 12.8 percent of all minimum wage jobs.

Industries

Minimum wage workers tend to be concentrated in just a few industries, with **accommodation and food services**; **retail sales**; **agriculture, forestry, and fishing**; and **health care and social assistance** at the top of the list. Together these four industries account for 30 percent of all workers but 70 percent of all full-time equivalent (FTE) minimum wage workers.

The **accommodation and food services industry** includes establishments providing customers with lodging and/or preparing meals, snacks, and beverages for immediate consumption. One out of four minimum wage FTE jobs are in food service and drinking establishments. About two-thirds of those jobs are found in limited-service eating places, establishments like fast food restaurants, snack bars, and cafeterias.

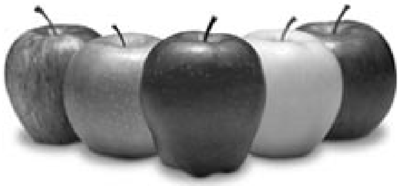
Almost sixty-two percent of all jobs in **agriculture, forestry, and fishing** are in **crop production,** which also accounts for by far the largest number of low-wage jobs in this category (8,800 FTE jobs, or 23.3 percent of the industry-wide total). Because agricultural workers are typically part time or seasonal, many more workers are actually employed in agriculture than displayed by this FTE job count.

Most of workers in **retail trade** work in motor vehicle and parts dealers (35,633), food and beverage stores (42,171), and general merchandise stores (39,981). However, only 2.5 percent of the workers in motor vehicle and parts are minimum wage earners, while 10.4 percent of workers in food and beverage stores and 7.5 percent of those in general merchandise stores earn the minimum. Other sectors with a high percentage of minimum wage workers are clothing and clothing accessories (5.9 percent), gasoline stations (15.5 percent), and sporting goods, hobby, book, and music stores (9.5 percent).

The **health care and social assistance** industry has 4,100 FTE minimum wage workers, representing 2.1 percent of their work force. The majority of these minimum wage jobs are in nursing and residential care facilities (1,300 or 3.4 percent), and in social assistance (2,200 or 7.2 percent). Among the lowest paid workers in nursing and residential care facilities include workers covered earlier in food preparation and serving occupations and building and grounds cleaning services. The social assistance sector includes many part-time workers at youth centers, elderly care centers, and community food services. One of the largest sub-sectors of this industry is the child day care sector, in which 11.2 percent make the minimum wage.

A copy of the minimum wage report can be downloaded from the "Economy" page at: www.workforceexplorer.com.

[1]The state's minimum wage is recalculated each year in September as a result of an initiative approved by voters in 1998, which tied the minimum wage to changes in the federal U.S.Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W). The new wage applies to workers in both agricultural and nonagricultural jobs. Fourteen- and 15-year-olds may be paid 85 percent of the adult minimum wage. More information about Washington's minimum wage is available from the Department of Labor and Industries: www.lni.wa.gov/scs/workstandards/minwage.htm.



After closing its doors in April, the Washington Apple Commission is now slated for resurrection.

Labor Market Briefs Across Washington

Call Centers Hardest Hit by Layoff Notices

According to records filed with the Employment Security Department under the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification (WARN) Act, 871 Washington workers were warned of pending or potential layoffs in May (as of the 28th). The number of employees similarly warned in the first three months of 2003 amounted to 5,889. Two call centers topped layoff notices:

- Spectrum Contract Services, up to 325 workers in Liberty Lake (Spokane County); and
- Spiegel Group TeleServices, Inc., up to 365 workers in Bothell (King and Snohomish counties)

Apple Commission Returns

After closing its doors in April, the Washington Apple Commission is now slated for resurrection. The Commission folded after a federal court ruling found the group's revenue stream was largely unconstitutional, having charged apple growers a mandatory fee of 25 cents per 42-pound box. It will now operate on a scaled back budget based on an assessment worth 3.5 cents per box. The Commission's primary activity is marketing the state's number-one crop.

Aberdeen Mill to Idle

Weyerhaeuser's lumber mill in Aberdeen is one of four North American mills the company will close for a week in June to save money. About 225 of the Aberdeen mill's 250 workers will be sent home during the shutdown, with the option of using paid vacation time or filing for unemployment insurance compensation to make up for lost earnings.

National Notes

Consumer and Producer Prices Take Spring Dip

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) decreased 0.2 percent in April, before seasonal adjustment, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. The April level of 183.8 (1982-84=100) was 2.2 percent higher than in April 2002.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U declined 0.3 percent in April, following an increase of 0.3 percent in March. Energy costs, which rose 4.6 percent in March, declined 4.6 percent in April.

Meanwhile, the more significant of price dips played out on the producer side, as the Producer Price Index for Finished Goods declined 1.9 percent in April after seasonal adjustment, according to a Bureau of Labor Statistics report. This record decrease followed three consecutive increases: 1.7 percent in January, 1.0 percent in February, and 1.5 percent in March.

The majority of the April decline in the Producer Price Index for finished goods was due to prices for finished energy products, which declined 8.6 percent after posting a 5.7 percent increase in March. Excluding prices for energy goods, the finished goods index declined 0.5 percent in April. The April decline in this index was the largest since a 1.2 percent decrease in August 1993 and can be traced to lower prices for passenger cars, light trucks, and cigarettes.

Earnings Down, Too

Real average weekly earnings decreased by 0.3 percent from March to April after seasonal adjustment, according to preliminary data released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. A 0.1 percent increase in average hourly earnings and a 0.5 percent decrease in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) were more than offset by a 0.9 percent decline in average weekly hours.

Earnings data are derived from the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Current Employment Statistics (CES) survey, a monthly establishment survey of employment, payroll, and hours. Data on average weekly earnings are collected from the payroll reports of private nonfarm establishments.

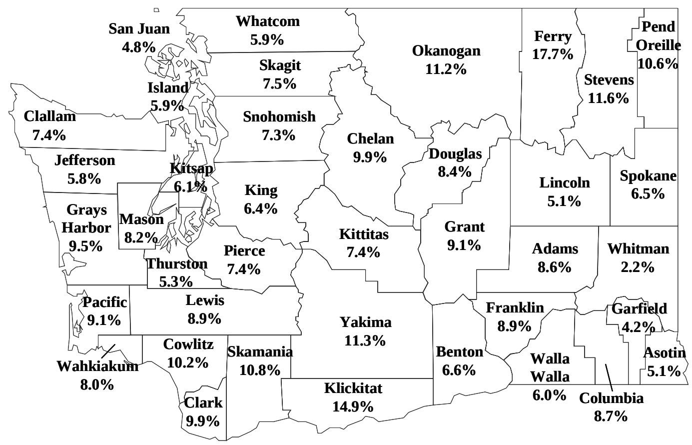
Stats-At-A-Glance

Resident Civilian Labor Force and Employment in Washington State

(In Percentage)	Apr 2003	Mar 2003	Apr 2002	Mar 2002
Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment:	(Prel.)	(Rev.)	(Rev.)	(Rev.)
Washington State	7.3%	7.1%	7.7%	7.5%
United States	6.0%	5.8%	5.9%	5.7%
Not Seasonally Adjusted: (In Thousands)				
Resident Civilian Labor Force	3,085.8	3,105.4	3,060.2	3,062.3
Employment	2,862.0	2,875.2	2,827.7	2,822.8
Unemployment	223.8	230.2	232.5	239.5
Percent of Labor Force	7.3%	7.4%	7.6%	7.8%

Unemployment Rates by County, April 2003

Washington State = 7.3%
United States = 5.8%
Not Seasonally Adjusted



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

Date: 4/22/03
Benchmark: 2002

Not Seasonally Adjusted	April 2003 Preliminary Labor Force	Employ-ment	Unemploy-ment	Unemploy-ment Rate	March 2003 Revised Labor Force	Employ-ment	Unemploy-ment	Unemploy-ment Rate	April 2002 Revised Labor Force	Employ-ment	Unemploy-ment	Unemploy-ment Rate
Washington State Total	3,085,800	2,862,000	223,800	7.3	3,105,400	2,875,200	230,200	7.4	3,060,200	2,827,700	232,500	7.6
Bellingham MSA	89,200	84,000	5,300	5.9	89,400	83,900	5,500	6.2	83,500	77,900	5,500	6.6
Bremerton PMSA	101,600	95,300	6,200	6.1	102,500	95,800	6,600	6.4	98,700	92,500	6,200	6.3
Olympia PMSA	108,400	102,700	5,700	5.3	109,000	102,800	6,100	5.6	103,800	97,700	6,100	5.9
Seattle-Bellevue-Everett PMSA	1,379,700	1,288,300	91,400	6.6	1,394,600	1,301,900	92,700	6.6	1,381,600	1,285,200	96,400	7.0
King County 2/	1,011,500	946,500	65,000	6.4	1,022,000	956,500	65,500	6.4	1,011,500	944,200	67,300	6.7
Snohomish County 2/	340,400	315,700	24,700	7.3	344,500	319,000	25,500	7.4	342,100	314,900	27,200	7.9
Island County 2/	27,800	26,200	1,600	5.9	28,200	26,400	1,800	6.2	27,930	26,110	1,820	6.5
Spokane MSA	212,000	198,300	13,700	6.5	213,800	198,900	14,900	7.0	212,800	198,200	14,700	6.9
Tacoma PMSA	347,000	321,200	25,700	7.4	350,700	324,100	26,600	7.6	340,800	314,400	26,400	7.7
Tri-Cities MSA	101,900	94,600	7,300	7.1	101,000	93,500	7,400	7.4	98,300	92,000	6,300	6.4
Benton County 2/	77,100	72,100	5,100	6.6	76,400	71,300	5,200	6.8	74,400	70,100	4,300	5.8
Franklin County 2/	24,700	22,500	2,200	8.9	24,600	22,300	2,300	9.3	23,900	21,900	2,000	8.3
Yakima MSA	105,900	94,000	11,900	11.3	104,400	92,800	11,600	11.1	105,000	93,400	11,600	11.1
Adams	7,960	7,280	680	8.6	7,440	6,630	810	10.9	8,170	7,110	1,060	13.0
Asotin 2/	12,290	11,660	630	5.1	12,260	11,650	610	4.9	11,920	11,050	860	7.3
Chelan-Douglas LMA	51,380	46,530	4,850	9.4	50,540	46,020	4,520	8.9	50,510	45,880	4,630	9.2
Chelan County 2/	34,520	31,090	3,430	9.9	33,950	30,760	3,190	9.4	34,000	30,660	3,340	9.8
Douglas County 2/	16,860	15,440	1,420	8.4	16,590	15,270	1,320	8.0	16,520	15,220	1,300	7.8
Clallam	24,750	22,900	1,840	7.4	24,920	22,890	2,030	8.2	24,800	22,890	1,910	7.7
Clark 2/	185,400	167,000	18,400	9.9	186,900	168,700	18,100	9.7	186,500	167,800	18,700	10.0
Columbia	1,590	1,460	140	8.7	1,220	1,060	160	13.2	1,650	1,470	180	10.7
Cowlitz	39,270	35,270	3,990	10.2	39,720	35,660	4,060	10.2	40,820	35,810	5,010	12.3
Ferry	2,650	2,180	470	17.7	2,680	2,160	520	19.3	2,430	2,060	370	15.2
Garfield	1,270	1,220	50	4.2	1,220	1,140	80	6.6	1,200	1,140	60	4.8
Grant	36,080	32,790	3,300	9.1	35,680	32,030	3,650	10.2	36,460	32,820	3,640	10.0
Grays Harbor	26,790	24,230	2,560	9.5	26,960	24,200	2,760	10.2	25,660	23,280	2,380	9.3
Jefferson	11,840	11,160	690	5.8	11,720	10,930	780	6.7	11,480	10,720	760	6.6
Kittitas	16,720	15,470	1,240	7.4	16,440	15,130	1,310	8.0	15,970	14,870	1,100	6.9
Klickitat	8,020	6,820	1,190	14.9	8,100	6,790	1,310	16.2	8,600	7,130	1,470	17.1
Lewis	29,700	27,060	2,640	8.9	29,920	27,070	2,850	9.5	29,110	26,430	2,670	9.2
Lincoln	4,770	4,530	250	5.1	4,620	4,340	280	6.0	4,700	4,450	250	5.4
Mason	20,150	18,490	1,650	8.2	20,200	18,410	1,790	8.8	18,900	17,470	1,430	7.6
Okanogan	17,990	15,980	2,010	11.2	17,690	15,460	2,230	12.6	17,380	15,360	2,020	11.6
Pacific	8,170	7,430	740	9.1	8,100	7,290	810	10.0	7,720	6,960	770	9.9
Pend Oreille	4,340	3,880	460	10.6	4,500	3,930	570	12.6	4,400	3,920	480	10.9
San Juan	6,470	6,160	310	4.8	6,250	5,890	360	5.7	6,390	6,080	310	4.9
Skagit	52,900	48,910	3,990	7.5	53,040	48,890	4,150	7.8	51,850	47,690	4,170	8.0
Skamania	3,750	3,340	400	10.8	3,730	3,310	430	11.5	3,820	3,320	500	13.2
Stevens	16,320	14,420	1,900	11.6	16,390	14,470	1,930	11.8	16,750	14,720	2,020	12.1
Wahkiakum	1,690	1,560	140	8.0	1,700	1,560	150	8.6	1,730	1,570	160	9.1
Walla Walla	27,530	25,870	1,660	6.0	27,570	25,640	1,930	7.0	27,220	25,240	1,980	7.3
Whitman	20,510	20,060	450	2.2	20,560	20,000	560	2.7	19,650	19,190	450	2.3

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.

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

In Thousands, Not Seasonally Adjusted	April 2003 (Prel)	March 2003 (Rev)	April 2002 (Rev)	March 2002 (Rev)	Numeric Change Mar. 2003 to Apr. 2003	Numeric Change Apr. 2002 to Apr. 2003
Total Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers	2,647.0	2,633.6	2,640.8	2,623.0	13.4	6.2
Natural Resources and Mining	8.7	8.7	8.9	8.9	0.0	-0.2
Logging	5.7	5.8	5.9	5.9	-0.1	-0.2
Construction	152.0	147.6	148.9	144.6	4.4	3.1
Construction of Buildings	40.3	39.5	40.2	39.8	0.8	0.1
Heavy and Civil Engineering	18.5	17.2	17.5	16.4	1.3	1.0
Specialty Trade Contractors	93.2	90.9	91.2	88.4	2.3	2.0
Manufacturing	268.9	267.7	286.6	287.1	1.2	-17.7
Durable Goods	188.1	187.6	202.4	203.5	0.5	-14.3
Wood Product Manufacturing	17.1	17.1	17.8	17.9	0.0	-0.7
Fabricated Metal Products	16.5	16.5	16.9	17.0	0.0	-0.4
Computer and Electronic Products	24.4	24.7	26.6	27.0	-0.3	-2.2
Transportation Equipment	78.6	79.1	89.2	89.4	-0.5	-10.6
Aerospace Products and Parts	67.9	68.4	77.9	78.7	-0.5	-10.0
Nondurable Goods	80.8	80.1	84.2	83.6	0.7	-3.4
Food Manufacturing	31.6	31.3	33.7	33.0	0.3	-2.1
Wholesale Trade	116.4	116.6	115.4	115.3	-0.2	1.0
Retail Trade	297.6	296.4	300.8	298.3	1.2	-3.2
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	41.5	41.2	41.4	41.0	0.3	0.1
Food and Beverage Stores	60.1	59.9	61.6	61.1	0.2	-1.5
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	23.5	23.5	23.0	22.8	0.0	0.5
General Merchandise Stores	47.2	47.4	47.6	47.4	-0.2	-0.4
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	86.2	86.4	87.0	86.5	-0.2	-0.8
Utilities	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.6	0.1	0.1
Transportation and Warehousing	81.7	82.0	82.6	81.9	-0.3	-0.9
Air Transportation	13.1	13.3	13.4	13.4	-0.2	-0.3
Water Transportation	3.1	3.2	3.0	3.0	-0.1	0.1
Truck Transportation	21.8	21.7	22.3	21.9	0.1	-0.5
Support Activities for Transportation	14.8	15.2	14.9	15.1	-0.4	-0.1
Support Activities for Water Transportation	4.0	4.2	4.1	4.2	-0.2	-0.1
Warehousing and Storage	7.2	7.5	7.4	7.4	-0.3	-0.2
Information	92.6	92.9	93.1	93.5	-0.3	-0.5
Software Publishers	36.5	36.4	35.4	35.3	0.1	1.1
Telecommunications	26.4	26.5	29.5	30.0	-0.1	-3.1
Financial Activities	147.8	147.3	144.5	144.0	0.5	3.3
Finance and Insurance	100.5	100.2	98.4	98.3	0.3	2.1
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	49.2	48.8	47.2	46.6	0.4	2.0
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	39.7	39.6	39.1	39.4	0.1	0.6
Real Estate and Rental Leasing	47.3	47.1	46.1	45.7	0.2	1.2
Professional and Business Services	290.0	289.0	287.4	284.6	1.0	2.6
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	138.8	138.6	139.3	139.2	0.2	-0.5
Legal Services	20.9	20.8	20.4	20.4	0.1	0.5
Architectural, Engineering, and Related Services	31.3	31.2	30.8	30.7	0.1	0.5
Computer Systems Design and Related Services	22.5	22.5	24.0	24.2	0.0	-1.5
Management of Companies and Enterprises	30.0	29.9	29.8	30.1	0.1	0.2
Admin., Suppt. Svcs., Waste Mgmt., and Remediation	121.2	120.5	118.3	115.3	0.7	2.9
Employment Services	40.1	40.1	38.5	37.2	0.0	1.6
Education and Health Services	315.7	315.0	308.2	307.3	0.7	7.5
Educational Services	44.3	44.7	42.5	43.2	-0.4	1.8
Hospitals	62.9	62.9	61.5	61.6	0.0	1.4
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	53.7	53.5	52.6	52.1	0.2	1.1
Social Assistance	46.8	46.1	45.7	44.9	0.7	1.1
Leisure and Hospitality	241.4	236.6	241.4	236.0	4.8	0.0
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	39.7	38.2	40.6	39.4	1.5	-0.9
Accommodation	25.8	25.0	26.6	25.4	0.8	-0.8
Food Services and Drinking Places	175.9	173.4	174.2	171.2	2.5	1.7
Government	531.4	531.7	521.6	521.0	-0.3	9.8
Federal	69.6	69.9	67.5	67.3	-0.3	2.1
State	150.5	151.7	150.7	151.6	-1.2	-0.2
State Educational Services	84.1	85.0	84.4	84.9	-0.9	-0.3
Local	311.3	310.1	303.4	302.1	1.2	7.9
Local Educational Services	156.1	156.0	153.9	153.1	0.1	2.2
Workers in Labor-Management Disputes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

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

Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

What's New?

Occupational Information

The Labor Market and Economic Analysis (LMEA) Branch of the Employment Security Department produces an array of occupational information for Washington and its local labor areas. Standard occupational information products include employment and wages and employment projections. This month's spotlight is on a new **occupational information website** and the newly updated ***Washington State Occupational Outlook 2010***.

Washington State Occupational Outlook 2010

This popular informational brochure has recently been updated with the latest occupational employment projections, wages, and career ladder summaries. Available in a tri-fold brochure format, the ***Washington State Occupational Outlook 2010*** offers fast facts of particular interest to students, career counselors, and workforce development professionals. Regional outlook brochures covering the state's twelve Workforce Development Areas will be available this summer. Copies can be requested by calling (360) 438-4800 or 1-800-215-1617.

Occupations of the Unemployed Website

This new online database provides easy navigation through layers of characteristics of unemployed workers using data collected from Washington's unemployment insurance claims. The purpose of this site is to inform the general public, community leaders, and policy makers about unemployment insurance claimant activity by occupation and industry. The site may be especially useful to economic and workforce development planners who are working to match employment opportunities to a readily available segment of the labor market (the unemployed). The site can be viewed at:

http://www.wilma.org/occinfo/

Welcome to UI Information by Occupation and Industry

The purpose of this page is to inform the general public,community leaders and policy makers about claimant activity by occupation and industry.

Note: The information on this page should be used as a general guide for decision-making. It does not represent official unemployment claimant numbers reported to the Federal Government, nor are these numbers official workload indicators for th UI Division of the Employment Security Department. These numbers are taken from the same benefit reporting database as are all other UI numbers. Inconsistencies may occur over time between different reporting sources depending on such factors as timing, how errors in claimant information are handled, and the exact way in which variables are calculated. All information is handled consistently throughout this page. Refer to the data Glossary for an exact definition of how variables are measured in this page.
Please contact the Occupational Information Center at contact email or call our Labor Market Information Center at 1 800 215-1617 with questions or comments.

Employment Security is an equal opportunity employer and provider of employment and training services. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to persons with disabilities.

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Or visit us on the Web
www.workforceexplorer.com