Employment Security Department
WASHINGTON STATE

Washington Labor Market Quarterly Review

Volume 30, Number 1 January - March 2006

INDICATORS

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

Washington (Seasonally Adjusted)		
January	2006	4.6%
February	2006	4.8%
March (prel)	2006	4.6%
United States (Seasonally Adjusted)		
January	2006	4.7%
February	2006	4.8%
March (prel)	2006	4.7%
Nonagricultural Employment Washington (Not Seasonally Adjusted) (in thousands)		
January	2006	2,778.1
February	2006	2,798.8
March (prel)	2006	2,823.0
Nonagricultural Employment % Change Washington (over-the-year)		
January	2005-2006	3.3%
February	2005-2006	3.5%
March (prel)	2005-2006	3.4%

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Like a Steamroller

Current State Economic Conditions

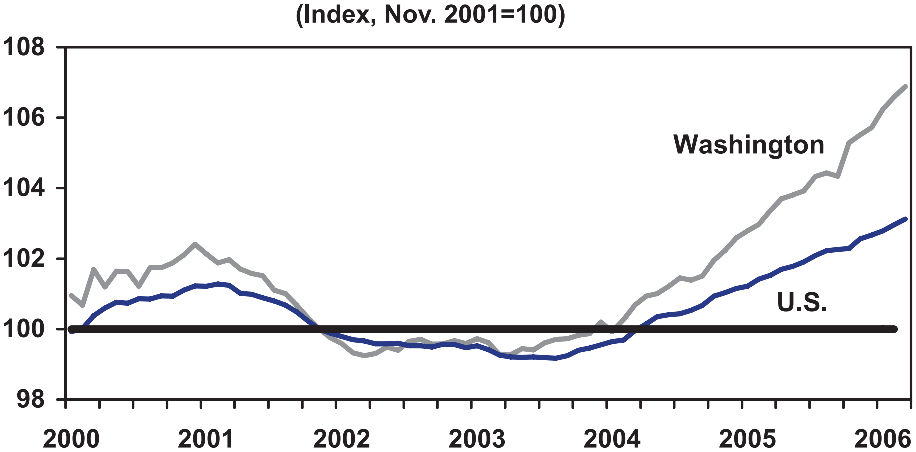
By Scott Bailey, Regional Labor Economist

Washington's employers, not content to rest upon their laurels, continued to hire workers at a frantic pace in March. According to the monthly survey of employers, seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment payrolls rose by 7,900 jobs during the month, following January's gain of 13,900 and February's 9,200 expansion. The quarterly total was the highest since the first quarter of 2000. Job growth over the past twelve months climbed to 94,000, or 3.4 percent.

As has been the pattern, hiring was distributed across a wide array of industries. Seasonally adjusted, construction continued its red-hot pace, with 2,100 new jobs. Retail trade, on a more moderate path, chipped in 1,200 jobs. Other highlights: 1,500 in professional and business services (including 700 at employment agencies), 500 in manufacturing (with 300 in aerospace), and 500 each in information services and wholesale trade.

Double-digit growth occurred in aerospace, wholesale electronic markets, employment services, computer systems design, and construction. Natural resources—logging and mining—was the only major sector in the red, losing 800 jobs over the past twelve months.

Washington and U.S. Employment (Index, Nov. 2001=100)



Source: Washington State Employment Security Department

LABOR MARKET AND ECONOMIC ANALYSIS
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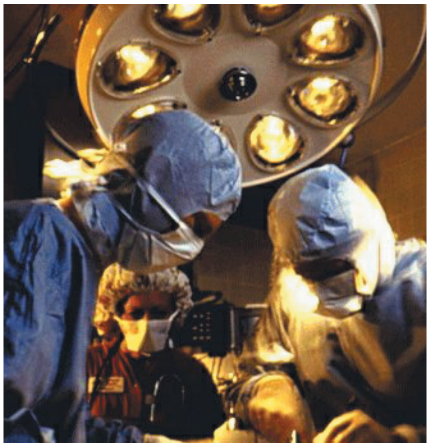
In cooperation with the
Employment and Training Administration
U.S. Department of Labor



Putting the ball in the back of the net this month were construction (+2,100), health care and social assistance (+800), temp agencies (+700), and food services (+700).

Industry Employment, Seasonally Adjusted

In soccer, after scoring a goal, the hero(ine) will sometimes execute a diving slide onto their stomach, while exuberant teammates pile on top. In Washington, a different sort of hog-pile is going on, as employers once again went wild with hiring in March, adding 7,900 jobs on a seasonally adjusted basis. This marked the sixth consecutive month of strong employment gains. Total nonfarm employment now stands at 2,850,600—an increase of 94,000 jobs, or 3.4 percent, over the past twelve months. Growth in the first quarter was an annualized 4.1 percent, slightly below the 4.4 percent for fourth quarter 2005 but still very positive.

Putting the ball in the back of the net this month were construction (+2,100), health care and social assistance (+800), temp agencies (+700), and food services (+700). Give manufacturing an assist, based on 500 new jobs (300 in aerospace), while retailers bicycle-kicked another 1,200 positions (400 in building supply stores). Wholesale trade headed in 500 jobs, as did information services (100 in software publishing). However, yellow cards were handed out to education services, both private (-300) and public (-500).

Incredibly, the 2,100 jobs added in construction qualified as something of a slowdown, following gains of 2,400 jobs in February and 3,600 in January. Annualized growth for the first quarter of the year was a sizzling 16 percent. Growth over the year currently stands at 16,700, or 9.5 percent. Economists are still predicting a slowdown; one of these months we're bound to be right. Eventually.

A similar pattern has occurred in manufacturing; the 500 jobs in March were the lowest since November. Factories have increased payrolls by 10,600 in the past twelve months, including 7,700 in aerospace. This is especially impressive considering the lack of employment growth in manufacturing nationally. Other segments have also been hiring, including ship/boat building, fabricated metals, machinery, nonmetallic minerals (a.k.a. concrete and cement), and plastics. Three industries had layoffs: electronics (-600 over the year), sawmills (-500), and paper products (-400).

Turning to the service sector, trade, transportation, and utilities, which had accelerated hiring in the last quarter of 2005, slowed a bit in the first quarter of the year, from an annualized rate of 4.6 percent down to 3.2. Wholesale trade, retail trade, and transportation all eased up. Retailers did add 1,200 jobs in March, including 400 in building supply stores, 300 in general merchandise, and 200 each in grocery stores and clothing and accessories. The latter has been the fastest-growing segment over the year, at 9.4 percent.

Information employment continued its growth path in March, adding 500 jobs. Quarterly growth was an annualized 1.7 percent, following a small loss in 4th quarter 2005. Reductions in telecommunications employment have plagued the sector in the past year. March brought a welcome respite (no change), after 500 jobs were peeled off in the first two months of the year. Software publishing rose by 100 jobs in March, bringing quarterly growth to a modest 2.2 percent.

Hiring in financial activities slowed in the first quarter of the year, with only 100 jobs added each month for a 1.5 percent annualized growth rate. A small decline in insurance employment was part of the problem.

Professional and business services followed February's 1,900 job gain with 1,500 more in March. The increase included 700 jobs at temporary employment agencies, along with 200 each in engineering services and computer systems design. Employment services have expanded by over 10 percent in the past year.

Education and health services was a step slower than usual in March, held back by a 300 job drop in educational services. Outpatient health services rose by 500 jobs, however, and social assistance another 400. Nursing and residential care facilities dipped by 100 jobs, and has been the slowest-growing segment over the year at 0.6 percent.

March brought 700 more jobs to the leisure and hospitality sector, matching February's addition. Food services payrolls rose by 700 each month. Arts and entertainment, which slid by 100 jobs over the month, has still expanded by more than 7 percent over the year.

Government payrolls continue to lag most other sectors, and lost ground in March—at 200 jobs. K-12 educational services, which have typically tracked population growth, lost 500 jobs over the month and are only 100 jobs higher than a year ago. Federal employment has declined by 100 jobs over the same period, while state government's growth is only 400 jobs, or 0.3 percent.

Labor Force Data, Seasonally Adjusted

Last month, the good news was, the state's unemployment rate went up—because strong job growth still wasn't enough to keep up with the number of optimistic people jumping into the labor market.

This month, the good news is, the unemployment rate went down. Specifically, the drop was two tenths of a point, to 4.6 percent. The labor force participation rate remained at 67.7 percent, but the number of employed persons rose, and the number of unemployed fell. In other words, the large influx of new job seekers in February has largely been absorbed by employers.

Comparisons over the year continue to be positive: more employed residents (+100,100, or 3 percent) and fewer unemployed (-27,600, -15 percent).

March brought 700 more jobs to the leisure and hospitality sector, matching February's addition.

Source: Washington State Employment Security Department

National Outlook

Easing Into a Slowdown

By Scott Bailey, Regional Labor Economist

The most recent report from the Fed's Open Market Committee indicates that the series of interest rate hikes over the past two years may be coming to an end. Inflation outside of energy prices remains reasonably low, and there is some concern that the expansion may slow in the second half of the year as the housing market finally loses steam and consumer debt loads start taking their toll on spending. Interest rates would still be at very low levels by historical standards.

The Fed, of course, walks a tightrope between keeping inflation in check, on the one hand, and stimulating investment, on the other. Currently inflation, even with soaring energy prices, is firmly under control. Wage inflation is nonexistent—employer costs increased less than inflation in the last quarter of 2005.

Inflation from rising input costs may become more of a factor in the coming months, however. Economic growth outside of the U.S. is picking up, which will put increasing pressure on commodity prices. China shows little sign of slowing down, so don't look for any relief in gas prices. Japan and Europe are doing better than expected. That's good news for exporters, but adds a little uncertainty to those trying to keep prices under control.

On the flip side, demand for new homes is falling. Housing starts are still going strong, but in the face of sliding sales, a slowdown is inevitable. While a sharp decline in residential construction is expected, nonresidential construction is on the mend as office vacancy rates drop.

These two forces could put the Fed into a bind in the coming months, if inflation is higher, and the downturn from the housing market and reduced consumer spending is deeper than currently anticipated. A more likely scenario is continued moderate growth, with little change in the labor or capital markets. For the worker bees, this means things may get a little worse, with little real growth in wages, and the continued peeling away of benefits such as pensions and health insurance. For the king and queen bees, corporate profits will be high, and compensation for those at the top could continue to climb.

Labor Market

The nation's labor market continued its modest improvement in March. The unemployment rate was 4.7 percent, essentially the same as the last two months.

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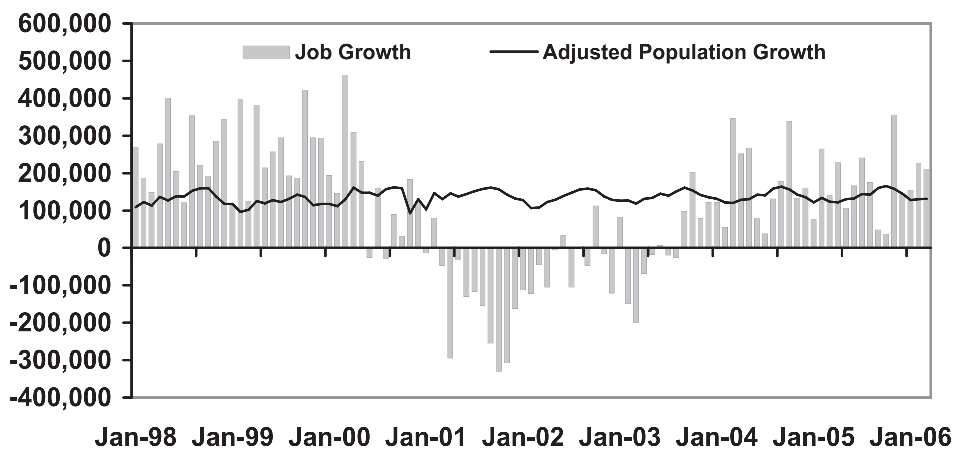
Change in U.S. Job Growth, Compared with Change in Working-Age Population Seeking Nonfarm Jobs, January 1998 through March 2006



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, with calculations by Washington State Employment Security Department

The labor force participation rate was unchanged at 66.1 percent, meaning that the labor market is not attractive enough to entice more would-be workers to jump in. The number of "discouraged" workers has declined by only 100,000 in the past year. On the plus side, the number of long-term unemployed has declined, as has the number of part-time workers seeking full-time work.

Nonfarm employment rose by 211,000, about 80,000 more than is needed to keep up with population growth. Payrolls have expanded by 1.6 percent over the year; the 2 million new jobs were 400,000 more than needed to keep up with population growth. As shown in Figure 2, when compared with the 1991 recession, the current job recovery is going much slower.

Job growth in the first quarter of the year came in mining, construction, wholesale trade, financial services, professional services, outpatient health care, social services, and food services. Manufacturing continued to be a no-show at the hiring gate, as was government, and retail trade, transportation, and information are all growing slower than the average.

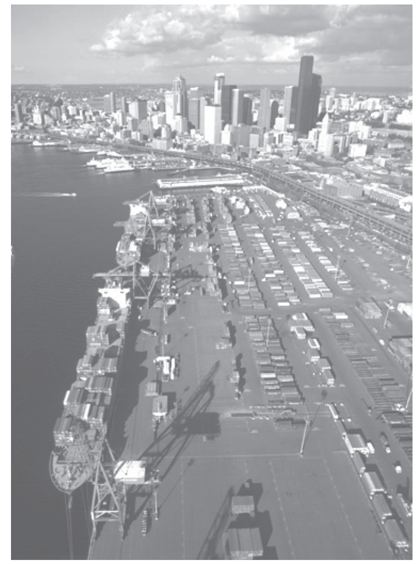
The slackness in the labor market is confirmed by little movement in wages. The employment cost index did not keep up with inflation in the fourth quarter of 2005, as wages sagged and benefit increases were the lowest in five years.

Economic Activity

If these are not the best of times from the viewpoint of worker bees, things look better from the other end of the telescope. Gross Domestic Product (GDP)—the broadest measure of economic activity for a country—slumped in the fourth quarter of 2005, but is expected to bounce back in the first half of 2006. Data will be released in late April for the first quarter. The Federal Reserve Bank's Beige Book, which reviews economic activity around the country, was generally positive—while no region is doing poorly, neither are there many places burning like a house on fire. Instead there was a mix of positives and negatives, with the pluses outweighing the minuses. One of the positives is certainly corporate profits, which reached an all-time high of $1.5 trillion (annualized) in the fourth quarter of 2005. That's a 50 percent increase over the last two-and-a-half years. Profits have risen much faster in this recovery than in the past two recessions. Investment spending has increased at a much more modest rate.

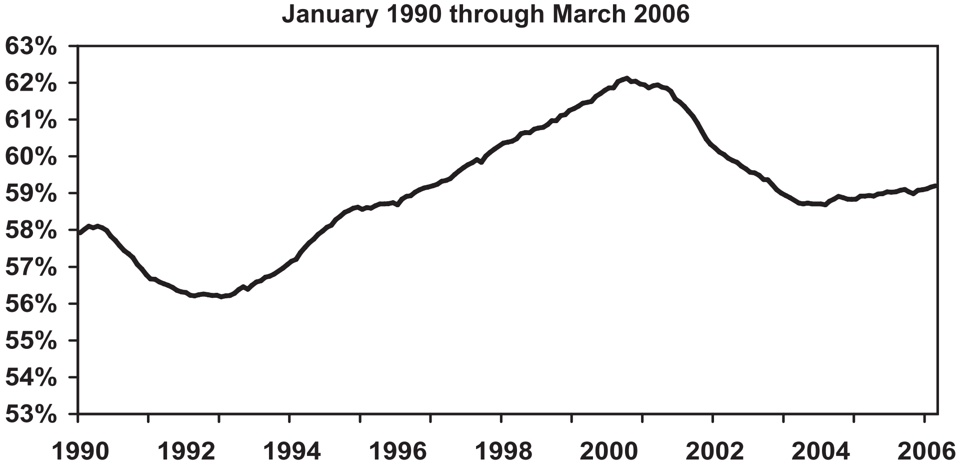
And while wages in the middle and at the lower end aren't moving, they are rising at the top end of the scale—as reported by the New York Times, CEO compensation climbed 27 percent in 2005.[1]

[1] *Eric Dash, "Off to the Races Again, Leaving Many Behind," April 9, 2006.*



Job growth in the first quarter of the year came in mining, construction, wholesale trade, financial services, professional services, outpatient health care, social services, and food services.

Nonfarm Employment as a Percent of Working-Age Population, January 1990 through March 2006



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Business Briefs

Labor Market News from Around the State

Western Washington

- **Comcast** is dipping into the labor market for another 130 technicians and customer service representatives to work in their Fife and Everett offices. Hiring for these positions is a result of the increased demand for internet, cable, and phone services the company provides.
- **Boeing News:**

  Goodrich Corporation will break ground on its new 140,000 square foot building in South Everett, preparing engine cov ers and thrust reversers for the 787 Dreamliner. The new plant will employ about 80 people.

  New Breed Logistics Inc. of High Point, North Carolina is the contractor that will handle the storage and delivery of small parts and tools for the assembly of the Boeing Company's 787. Local hiring by New Breed will be for about 100 warehousing and distribution jobs.
- **The Snoqualmie Tribe** will build a 150,000 square foot casino east of Issaquah. Construction on **Casino Snoqualmie** will commence in June and will provide about 700 jobs when finished.
- **Scot Industries, Inc.**, a manufacturer of products for the hydraulic and pneumatic cylinder markets is planning to build a new plant at the Port of Centralia. It is expected to be completed mid-2006, and will employ a full-time staff of 50.
- **Microsoft** recently announced its plans for the redevelopment of its Redmond campus. The company plans on constructing 1.1 million square feet of new space, and adding 2.0 million square feet of space in the existing Safeco building. This will create space for 7,000 to 15,000 new employees over the next three years.
- **Oil Can Henry's** is coming soon to the South Sound, starting out with two oil garages in Lacey. The company will hire 12 to 15 people, and has plans to build four more stores in the area.
- A 223,000 square-foot **Wal-Mart** complex known as the Federal Way Marketplace will open this year, bringing 400 jobs to the area.
- Considered to be the world's outfitter for fishing and hunting gear, **Cabela's** is looking into building a store in Lacey. Estimated cost for the store is about $40.0 million and it is projected to employ 400 workers.
- **Mervyn's** closed its Bellingham store in March, affecting 17 full-time, and 50 part-time employees. In all, 12 other Washington locations are slated to close by January 2007.

Eastern Washington

- A $30.0 million expansion to its Spokane pharmaceutical plant is in the works by **Hollister-Steir Laboratories, LLC**. The company plans to finish the project in May 2007 and add approximately 150 jobs.
- Well-known as a long time manufacturer in Spokane Valley, **Spokane Industries, Inc.** has recently experienced strong growth. The company's revenues grew by $5.5 million, from $21.0 million in 2004 to $26.5 million for 2005. Ninety workers were hired in 2005, bringing its total number of employees to 250.
- Wenatchee will be home for a **Yahoo** data center. The deal is for ten years, in the amount of $6.23 million. The company will lease 45,000 square feet of space in the Confluence Technology Center. To start off, the company will employ 24 workers.

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Industry Spotlight

Top Five Industries of 2005

By Rick Lockhart and Dave Wallace, Economic Analysts

Construction

Low interest rates and a healthy economy led to large employment gains in the construction industry in 2005. The industry added 13,200 jobs over the year for a total growth rate of 8.0 percent. This was higher than any other industry in both total growth and percent growth. Total employment averaged 177,300 for 2005. Employment Security Department projections have the construction industry growing at an above average rate for the 2002 to 2007 time frame, then slowing down and pacing the rest of the economy's growth rate between 2007 and 2012.

The carpenter occupation is the most common in the construction industry, which employs 56 percent of all carpenters. The outlook for carpenters is good; wages and projected employment gains are both above average. Incidentally, it is estimated that about 35 percent of all carpenters are self-employed. This is higher than most occupations.

Administrative and Waste Services

The administrative and waste services industry has experienced strong growth over the last several years. The industry continued its growth pattern in 2005 with 9,000 new jobs and a growth rate of 6.8 percent. On the administrative side, employment services has been expanding rapidly as businesses have relied more and more on the services of temporary workers. Traditionally, temporary workers filled the gaps for labor shortages in occupations that required little skill. Recently, though, highly skilled professionals in computer support, engineering, human resources, and even medical professions have provided their services through temporary help agencies. This has led to large employment gains (and wage increases) in the employment services industry. For the waste services side of the industry, cleanup at the Hanford nuclear reservation has bolstered employment numbers since the early 1990s. Federal contracts for the main project at Hanford run out in 2011 and we would expect to see employment decline somewhat once construction is finished at the new vitrification plant.

Janitors, laborers, and security guards were the three largest occupations within the administrative and waste services sector; collectively they make up more than a quarter of industry employment. Reflecting the industry growth, all three are projected to expand payrolls on average 2 percent every year until 2012. However, median wages for these occupations are on the low side, ranging from $10.50 to $11.32 per hour.

Professional and Technical Services

Employment growth in the professional and technical services industry has been strong over the last ten years. Leading the pack during that time frame were computer systems design and management/technical consulting, growing at annual rates of 5.8 percent and 5.3 percent, respectively. While the industry didn't make the top of the list in total job growth (+5,500 in 2005), it placed third on our list based on its rate of growth.

The outlook for carpenters is good; wages and projected employment gains are both above average. Incidentally, it is estimated that about 35 percent of all carpenters are self-employed. This is higher than most occupations.

Top Five Industries of 2005 (Ranked by Percent Employment Growth)

Industry Title	2004 Employment	2005 Employment	Total Growth	Percent Growth	2004 Average Annual Wage
Construction	164.1	177.3	13.2	8.0%	$40,192
Administrative and Waste Services	132.4	141.4	9.0	6.8%	$33,482
Professional and Technical Services	136.7	142.2	5.5	4.0%	$58,507
Accommodation and Food Services	210.6	218.6	8.0	3.8%	$14,771
Health Care and Social Assistance	276.7	286.2	9.5	3.4%	$34,939

Source: Washington State Employment Security Department

Recent employment growth in health care and social assistance has been strong, but it is only the tip of the iceberg. The boomers are entering their high health care usage period. With that will come an even greater demand for health services and the occupations that provide them.

For 2005, the professional and technical services industry continued adding jobs at a relatively high rate, increasing in employment by 4.0 percent.

There were more lawyers than any other occupation in professional and technical services, though not by a large margin. It was followed fairly closely by accountants, computer support specialists, and computer software engineers. For the most part these jobs projected strong growth and very good wages—led by lawyers with a median hourly wage of $40.15.

Accommodation and Food Services

The accommodation and food services industry added an estimated 8,000 jobs in 2005, giving it a total growth rate of 3.8 percent for the year. Average employment was at 218,600 with 189,800 of those jobs being in the food services side of the industry. We would expect consumer spending on the services of the accommodation and food services industry to increase during good economic times. Therefore, the large employment gains over the year are really not surprising.

Food preparation and serving workers and waitresses/waiters combined to make up more than 40 percent of the accommodation industry workforce. Cooks, counter attendants and supervisors were also important occupations in the industry. Most industries have occupations that are found in several different industries, but the jobs found in accommodation and food services are largely concentrated within the industry. Overall, projected employment growth for these jobs is close to average whereas wages are well below average.

Health Care and Social Assistance

Recent employment growth in health care and social assistance has been strong, but it is only the tip of the iceberg. The boomers are entering their high health care usage period. With that will come an even greater demand for health services and the occupations that provide them. In 2005 the industry grew by 3.4 percent, adding 9,500 jobs, and it is projected to grow at an above average rate in the years to come.

The standout occupation in healthcare is registered nurses. They comprise over 12 percent of the healthcare workforce and more than 80 percent of all RNs are employed in the sector. Among health care jobs, RN projected growth is only surpassed by medical secretaries and their median wage is one of the highest in the industry at $29.08 per hour.

Regional Update

Local Areas Employment Dynamic

By Alexander Roubinchtein and Jami Mills, Economic Analysts

Employment growth in Washington and the major areas remained strong according to the latest Current Employment Statistics (CES) estimations of total nonfarm jobs in the labor market. Statewide estimations show 91,700 new jobs[1], nearly 3.4 percent in annual growth. This is significantly higher than the long-term trend[2] growth rate of about 1.8 percent.

The employment trends differ significantly between local areas. Relying solely on annual employment changes could produce confusing and unreliable results (especially for small areas). This is due to estimation errors and the possibility of moving seasonality. For example, while Columbia County had the largest growth rate (7.3 percent) for over-the-year changes, the absolute change is a mere 80. Although the growth rate is large, it is close to the relative error. For the last three years (March 2003 to March 2006), the county experienced a small drop in employment. The growth rate trend for the last year (-5.2 percent) would move the county from first to last place.

Using the different combinations of indicators enables a more conclusive

[1]This number represents not seasonally adjusted jobs.

[2]Here and further, we define trend based on Hodrick-Prescott Filter with default power rule of 2. The filter is a smoothing method that is widely used among macroeconomists to obtain a smooth estimate of the long-term trend component of a series. In this case, the Hodrick-Prescott trend growth rate is close to the growth rate for linear trend.

analysis of employment trends for the local areas. For this analysis, we used the average ranking for the following four indicators: employment growth for the last year (March 2005 to March 2006); employment growth for the last 3 years; trend of employment growth for the last year; and change in the number of initial unemployment insurance claims[3] for the last year (in reverse ranking).

The state numbers and top ten areas are presented in Table 1. Average ranking is the same for two sets of counties. The bottom ten areas are presented in Table 2.

Neither list contains any obvious surprises. Snohomish County led the list with construction, aerospace, and retail trade providing a collective contribution of more than 63 percent in employment growth.

Construction contributed more than 17 percent toward statewide employment growth. Combined with retail trade, health services and social assistance, leisure and hospitality, and administrative and support services, the sectors contributed about 64 percent to total employment growth.

Benton-Franklin deserves a more detailed explanation of its employment changes (Table 2). The long run (from January 1990) trend average annual growth rate for this area is more than 2.3 percent. This is significantly higher than the comparable state number, just under 1.8 percent. The trend component of the employment growth for Benton-Franklin counties remained solid in the last year (1.7 percent), but the negative contribution of cyclical components neutralized this growth. As a result, trend cycle components of the series did not show any visible changes over the year; CES estimations for the last month indicate a negative change. This combination, with negative changes in UI claims (growth by 5.9 percent), put the area in the list of the bottom. Professional and business services was the largest declining sector in the area. It is well known that area economic development and employment trends are highly related to the availability of federal funding for projects at Hanford.

[3] *We believe that this non-survey based indicator is an important characteristic of the state for the local labor market.*

Snohomish County led the list with construction, aerospace, and retail trade providing a collective contribution of more than 63 percent in employment growth.

Table 1. Top Counties for Employment Changes

Area	Empl. March 2005	Empl. March 2006	Growth Rate	Annual Avg. Growth Rate for March 03 - March 06	Trend Growth Rate for March 05 - March 06	Change in Initial UI Claims	Average Rank (including State)
State	**2,729,800**	**2,821,500**	**3.4%**	**2.4%**	**2.4%**	**-16.8%**	**17**
Snohomish	222,611	234,888	5.5%	3.6%	4.0%	-21.8%	1
Chelan & Douglas	36,100	38,000	5.3%	3.4%	2.9%	-31.8%	2
Mason	13,030	13,710	5.2%	4.2%	4.6%	-9.4%	3
Whatcom	79,200	82,500	4.2%	3.9%	4.1%	-4.9%	4
Pierce	259,500	269,100	3.7%	3.1%	3.2%	-19.9%	5
Clark	125,700	130,500	3.8%	4.1%	3.8%	-5.4%	6
Skagit	44,800	46,300	3.3%	3.5%	3.2%	-18.3%	7
Skamania	2,000	2,110	5.5%	3.7%	3.1%	10.0%	7
King	1,123,500	1,168,500	4.0%	2.0%	2.0%	-22.3%	9
San Juan	5,150	5,330	3.5%	3.6%	0.4%	-37.1%	9

Table 2. Bottom Counties for Employment Changes

Area	Empl. March 2005	Empl. March 2006	Growth Rate	Annual Avg. Growth Rate for March 03 - March 06	Trend Growth Rate for March 05 - March 06	Change in Initial UI Claims	Average Rank (including State)
Garfield	790	780	-1.3%	-1.2%	-1.8%	0.0%	38
Klickitat	4,810	4,820	0.2%	0.6%	1.2%	15.0%	37
Grant	23,780	24,190	1.7%	0.4%	-0.2%	-5.2%	36
Benton & Franklin	87,400	87,100	-0.3%	2.0%	1.7%	5.9%	35
Pacific	5,930	5,810	-2.0%	1.2%	1.1%	-20.5%	34
Walla Walla	23,400	23,570	0.7%	0.2%	-0.1%	-23.6%	33
Stevens	9,730	10,010	2.9%	1.2%	0.4%	-11.8%	32
Lewis	24,600	25,000	1.6%	2.2%	1.3%	-8.9%	31
Lincoln	2,690	2,740	1.9%	0.3%	-1.7%	-30.0%	29
Wahkiakum	820	810	-1.2%	1.7%	2.0%	-12.9%	29

Special Feature

How China's Transformation is Affecting Washington State

By Dave Wallace, Economic Analyst

I just returned from a four week stint in China and right upon the heels of my return, the president of China made a high profile visit to the Evergreen State. These two events got me to thinking about how the economic emergence of China has affected Washington's economy.

On one hand, Hu Jintao visited Bill Gates with promises to crack down on the software piracy that is widespread in China, and announced a new deal to buy 80 Boeing 737s that are assembled in Washington. Yet, Mr. Hu's country has increased exports of many of the same products our state also exports, and largely the country is perceived here by many as an emerging rival—not partner.

The Chinese President's visit was accompanied by protesters with complaints including China's Taiwan policy, the treatment of Falun Gong followers, and Tibet. Conspicuous was the absence of labor protestors. Presumably this was because Washington State runs a trade surplus with China and thus has had a net positive affect on employment and labor here.

One significant way China has impacted our labor force here is by providing demand for Washington exports. A glance at Washington exports by country (below) shows just how significant this demand has become. Back in 2000 our state exports to China were only 41 percent of the value of those to Japan whereas by 2005 the ratio had risen to 80 percent. The percent of total exports destined for China has risen from 5.9 percent to 13.4 percent during this period. Overall exports have risen to China during this period by 168 percent and have nearly reached a level equal with Canada. In fact, we were the second leading state after California in terms of exports to China in 2005.

A look at the commodities that were sent to China is for the most part intuitive. The top export was aircraft, which rose in value by 118 percent between 2004 and 2005, and it is safe to assume this will continue growing in the near future. Fruits, computers, wood products, and seafood were all hot Washington commodities in China last year.

So, while China might be seen as a negative influence in states that run a deficit with China, trade with that country has in all likelihood had a net positive affect on Washington's labor market.

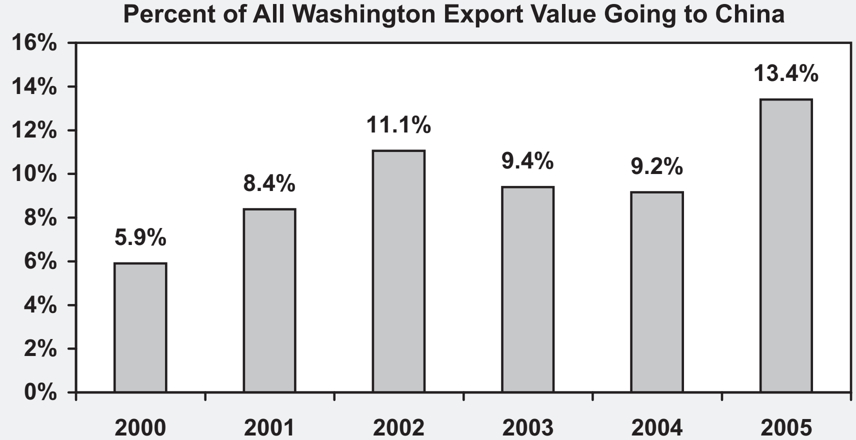
As far as my own experience, I didn't feel as though they perceived the United States particularly as a rival. They seemed to be so involved in upgrading their own lives they did not spend a lot of time thinking beyond that. I also observed quickly rising consumerism and came away with the impression of how our fruit, wine, and coffee (for example) compared very favorably with what was available there. All of this adding up to enhanced export opportunities.

Value of Washington Exports by Country (thousands of current dollars)

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
World Total	*32,214,701*	*34,928,533*	*34,626,549*	*34,172,826*	*33,792,504*	*37,948,361*
Japan	4,594,778	3,383,788	4,349,284	5,428,494	6,311,668	6,369,979
Canada	2,875,863	2,737,288	2,944,195	3,313,881	4,041,144	5,202,160
China	1,900,659	2,928,721	3,830,513	3,211,196	3,094,408	5,085,632
Taiwan	1,451,804	1,594,183	1,047,312	1,958,436	2,138,095	3,117,939

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce

Percent of All Washington Export Value Going to China



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce

Washington Exports to China by Commodity

Commoditiy	2003	2004	2005	% increase 03-04	% increase 04-05
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES	**3,211,196,173**	**3,094,408,292**	**5,085,632,406**	**-3.64%**	**64.35%**
AIRCRAFT, SPACECRAFT, AND PARTS	1,777,796,430	1,439,337,266	3,143,310,976	-19.0%	118.4%
OIL SEEDS ETC.; MISC GRAIN, SEED, FRUIT, PLANT, ETC.	878,344,225	834,778,204	986,104,166	-5.0%	18.1%
IRON AND STEEL	61,642,577	57,171,632	119,121,414	-7.3%	108.4%
OPTIC, PHOTO ETC., MEDIC OR SURGICAL INSTRMENTS, ETC.,	49,831,233	72,959,082	91,185,422	46.4%	25.0%
INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY, INCLUDING COMPUTERS	60,186,859	75,529,914	84,926,205	25.5%	12.4%
PULP OF WOOD ETC.; WASTE ETC. OF PAPER & PAPERBOARD	45,945,035	55,633,514	84,197,427	21.1%	51.3%
ELECTRIC MACHINERY ETC.; SOUND EQUIP.; TV EQUIP.; PTS	26,411,248	58,424,923	61,186,114	121.2%	4.7%
WOOD AND ARTICLES OF WOOD; WOOD CHARCOAL	33,772,260	33,024,118	55,756,890	-2.2%	68.8%
ALUMINUM AND ARTICLES THEREOF	11,998,024	19,854,150	52,275,581	65.5%	163.3%
FISH, CRUSTACEANS AND AQUATIC INVERTEBRATES	40,527,849	45,200,494	46,543,772	11.5%	3.0%

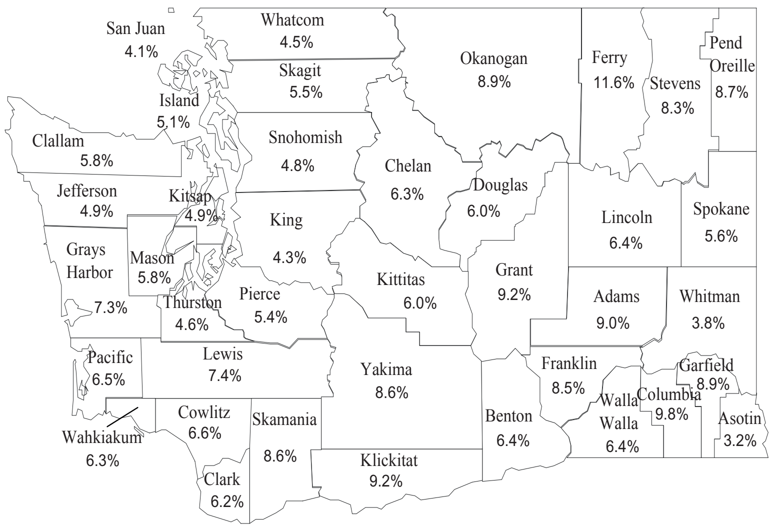
Source: Adjustments to data from the U.S. Customs Bureau, Foreign Trade Division by WISER

First Quarter Stats-At-A-Glance

Monthly Resident Civilian Labor Force and Employment in Washington State

(In Thousands)	January 2006 (Rev)	February 2006 (Rev)	March 2006 (Prel)
Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment:			
Washington State	4.6%	4.8%	4.6%
United States	4.7%	4.8%	4.7%
Not Seasonally Adjusted:			
Resident Civilian Labor Force	3,303.4	3,327.5	3,333.7
Employment	3,127.8	3,139.6	3,167.7
Unemployment	175.6	187.9	166.0
Percent of Labor Force	5.3%	5.6%	5.0%

Average Unemployment Rates by County
January, February, and March, 2006
Washington State = 5.3%
United States = 5.0%
Not Seasonally Adjusted



Washington State
Employment Security Department
Labor Market and Economic Analysis

Civilian Labor Force Estimates for Washington State Counties and MSAs[1]

Date: 04/18/06
Benchmark: March 2005

Not Seasonally Adjusted	January 2006 Revised: Labor Force	Employ-ment	Unemploy-ment	Unemploy-ment Rate	February 2006: Labor Force	Employ-ment	Unemploy-ment	Unemploy-ment Rate	March 2006 Preliminary: Labor Force	Employ-ment	Unemploy-ment	Unemploy-ment Rate
Washington State Total	3,303,400	3,127,800	175,600	5.3	3,327,500	3,139,600	187,900	5.6	3,333,700	3,167,700	166,000	5.0
Bellingham MSA	107,400	102,500	4,800	4.5	105,800	100,700	5,200	4.9	104,900	100,400	4,400	4.2
Bremerton MSA	124,900	119,000	5,900	4.7	124,400	117,800	6,600	5.3	122,700	117,100	5,600	4.6
Kennewick-Richland-Pasco MSA	111,900	103,800	8,100	7.3	113,200	104,800	8,400	7.4	112,400	105,600	6,900	6.1
Benton County 2/	83,900	78,400	5,500	6.6	85,000	79,200	5,800	6.9	84,500	79,700	4,800	5.7
Franklin County 2/	28,000	25,400	2,600	9.3	28,210	25,670	2,540	9.0	27,880	25,850	2,040	7.3
Longview MSA (Cowlitz)	43,760	40,790	2,970	6.8	44,220	41,130	3,100	7.0	43,870	41,280	2,590	5.9
Mt. Vernon-Anacortes MSA (Skagit)	57,790	54,540	3,250	5.6	56,900	53,490	3,420	6.0	56,680	53,850	2,840	5.0
Olympia MSA	126,600	120,800	5,900	4.6	126,200	119,900	6,300	5.0	124,900	119,600	5,300	4.3
Seattle-Bellevue-Everett MD*	1,374,200	1,314,700	59,600	4.3	1,389,500	1,325,800	63,700	4.6	1,411,900	1,350,700	61,200	4.3
King County 2/	1,025,900	982,700	43,200	4.2	1,037,400	991,100	46,300	4.5	1,054,000	1,009,700	44,400	4.2
Snohomish County 2/	348,300	331,900	16,300	4.7	352,200	334,800	17,400	4.9	357,900	341,000	16,800	4.7
Spokane MSA	230,800	217,700	13,000	5.6	233,000	218,800	14,200	6.1	230,800	219,200	11,600	5.0
Tacoma Metropolitan Division	380,000	359,900	20,100	5.3	381,400	359,300	22,100	5.8	376,500	357,600	18,900	5.0
Wenatchee MSA	56,480	52,760	3,720	6.6	57,030	53,240	3,790	6.7	57,070	54,060	3,010	5.3
Chelan County 2/	37,520	35,030	2,500	6.7	37,880	35,340	2,540	6.7	37,950	35,890	2,060	5.4
Douglas County 2/	18,960	17,740	1,220	6.4	19,150	17,900	1,250	6.5	19,130	18,170	950	5.0
Yakima MSA	115,000	104,200	10,800	9.4	115,800	105,500	10,300	8.9	115,500	106,800	8,700	7.5
Aberdeen LMA (Grays Harbor)	31,820	29,400	2,430	7.6	32,120	29,690	2,430	7.6	31,820	29,680	2,150	6.7
Centralia LMA (Lewis)	31,750	29,320	2,420	7.6	31,880	29,370	2,510	7.9	31,480	29,370	2,110	6.7
Ellensburg LMA (Kittitas)	19,260	18,060	1,210	6.3	19,210	17,930	1,280	6.7	19,640	18,640	990	5.1
Moses Lake LMA (Grant)	35,420	31,940	3,480	9.8	35,650	32,090	3,560	10.0	36,080	33,260	2,820	7.8
Oak Harbor LMA (Island County)	32,300	30,700	1,600	5.0	32,500	30,700	1,800	5.5	32,100	30,600	1,500	4.5
Port Angeles LMA (Clallam)	29,670	27,890	1,780	6.0	29,700	27,850	1,850	6.2	29,350	27,810	1,540	5.2
Pullman LMA (Whitman)	20,870	20,070	790	3.8	21,370	20,460	910	4.3	21,180	20,460	720	3.4
Shelton LMA (Mason)	25,120	23,650	1,470	5.9	25,130	23,590	1,540	6.1	24,690	23,360	1,330	5.4
Walla Walla LMA (Walla Walla)	27,830	25,970	1,860	6.7	28,680	26,710	1,970	6.9	28,950	27,280	1,670	5.8
Adams	7,700	6,820	880	11.4	7,700	7,000	700	9.1	7,820	7,320	500	6.3
Asotin 2/	9,970	9,640	330	3.3	9,820	9,480	340	3.5	9,810	9,530	290	2.9
Clark 2/	204,100	192,500	11,600	5.7	206,800	192,800	14,000	6.8	205,100	192,400	12,600	6.2
Columbia	1,530	1,370	160	10.6	1,540	1,370	160	10.7	1,520	1,390	130	8.8
Ferry	3,040	2,700	340	11.1	3,090	2,710	380	12.2	3,020	2,680	340	11.4
Garfield	1,020	950	70	6.5	1,000	1,000	100	6.7	1,000	1,000	100	5.2
Jefferson	13,560	12,890	670	5.0	13,550	12,820	720	5.3	13,430	12,820	610	4.5
Klickitat	9,020	8,160	860	9.5	9,200	8,320	880	9.6	9,060	8,310	760	8.4
Lincoln	4,590	4,280	310	6.8	4,720	4,400	320	6.8	4,760	4,490	270	5.6
Okanogan	18,460	16,750	1,710	9.3	18,770	16,990	1,780	9.5	18,700	17,210	1,490	8.0
Pacific	9,390	8,790	600	6.4	9,240	8,600	640	6.9	9,020	8,470	550	6.1
Pend Oreille	5,110	4,670	430	8.5	5,150	4,670	480	9.3	5,060	4,640	420	8.3
San Juan	7,740	7,390	350	4.5	7,830	7,490	340	4.4	7,870	7,600	270	3.5
Skamania 2/	5,290	4,800	490	9.2	5,280	4,810	470	8.9	5,190	4,800	390	7.5
Stevens	18,390	16,840	1,550	8.4	18,380	16,790	1,590	8.7	18,220	16,780	1,440	7.9
Wahkiakum	1,710	1,600	110	6.4	1,710	1,610	110	6.3	1,690	1,600	100	5.6

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.
*Metropolitan Division

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers in Washington State, Place of Work

Updated with QCEW: September 2005 Seasonally Adjusted In Thousands	February 2006 (Prel.)	January 2006 (Rev.)	February 2005 (Rev.)	January 2005 (Rev.)	Numerical Change Jan. 2006 to Feb. 2006	Numerical Change Feb. 2005 to Feb. 2006
Total Nonfarm	2,843.6	2,833.5	2,746.3	2,741.3	10.1	97.3
Total Private	2,314.6	2,306.0	2,221.8	2,215.8	8.6	92.8
Goods Producing	478.9	475.3	451.1	448.2	3.6	27.8
Natural Resources and Mining	8.4	8.6	9.2	9.2	-0.2	-0.8
Logging	5.2	5.3	5.8	5.9	-0.1	-0.6
Construction	190.1	187.6	173.0	170.6	2.5	17.1
Construction of Buildings	49.7	49.6	45.1	44.9	0.1	4.6
Heavy and Civil Engineering	23.8	23.2	21.3	20.7	0.6	2.5
Speciality Trade Contractors	116.6	114.8	106.6	105.0	1.8	10.0
Manufacturing	280.4	279.1	268.9	268.4	1.3	11.5
Durable Goods	198.7	197.8	187.9	186.9	0.9	10.8
Wood Product Manufacturing	19.6	19.6	19.9	19.8	0.0	-0.3
Sawmills and Wood Preservation	9.0	9.0	9.2	9.2	0.0	-0.2
Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing	10.2	10.1	9.5	9.4	0.1	0.7
Primary Metal Manufacturing	4.9	4.8	5.0	4.9	0.1	-0.1
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	18.9	18.8	17.8	17.6	0.1	1.1
Machinery Manufacturing	14.1	14.0	13.2	13.1	0.1	0.9
Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing	21.4	21.5	22.2	22.1	-0.1	-0.8
Electrical Equipment and Appliance Mfg	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.3	-0.1	-0.2
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	85.2	84.6	76.6	76.3	0.6	8.6
Aerospace Product and Parts Manufacturing	72.1	71.6	64.3	63.9	0.5	7.8
Ship and Boat Building	7.6	7.6	6.7	6.6	0.0	0.9
Other Durable Goods Manufacturing	20.3	20.2	19.4	19.4	0.1	0.9
Non Durable Goods	81.7	81.3	81.0	81.5	0.4	0.7
Food Manufacturing	34.3	34.1	34.0	34.6	0.2	0.3
Fruit and Vegetable Preserving and Specialty	10.7	10.9	10.3	10.8	-0.2	0.4
Other Food Manufacturing	23.6	23.2	23.7	23.8	0.4	-0.1
Petrol & Coal prod Mfg & Plastics & Rubber prod Mfg	12.6	12.6	12.3	12.2	0.0	0.3
Paper Manufacturing	11.9	11.8	12.3	12.4	0.1	-0.4
Printing and Related Support Activities	8.5	8.6	8.5	8.6	-0.1	0.0
Services Providing	2,364.7	2,358.2	2,295.2	2,293.1	6.5	69.5
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	542.4	541.5	526.7	525.4	0.9	15.7
Wholesale Trade	124.6	124.5	121.5	121.2	0.1	3.1
Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	67.2	67.3	64.9	64.8	-0.1	2.3
Merchant Wholesalers, Non Durable Goods	43.9	43.9	44.4	44.4	0.0	-0.5
Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	13.5	13.3	12.2	12.0	0.2	1.3
Retail Trade	325.0	324.3	313.7	313.1	0.7	11.3
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	42.3	42.4	41.7	41.7	-0.1	0.6
Furniture and Home Furnishing Stores	12.0	12.0	11.8	11.8	0.0	0.2
Building Material and Garden Supply Stores	29.5	29.5	27.4	27.0	0.0	2.1
Food and Beverage Stores	62.4	62.4	59.8	59.8	0.0	2.6
Health and Personal Care Stores	15.6	15.6	15.2	15.1	0.0	0.4
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	27.8	27.5	25.9	25.9	0.3	1.9
General Merchandise Stores	59.2	58.8	56.9	57.0	0.4	2.3
Other Retail Trade	76.2	76.1	75.0	74.8	0.1	1.2
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	92.8	92.7	91.5	91.1	0.1	1.3
Utilities	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	0.0	0.0
Transportation and Warehousing	88.4	88.3	87.1	86.7	0.1	1.3
Air Transportation	11.5	11.4	12.2	12.3	0.1	-0.7
Water Transportation	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	0.0	0.0
Truck Transportation	24.8	24.7	24.3	23.9	0.1	0.5
Support Activities for Transportation	18.4	17.9	17.5	17.0	0.5	0.9
Support Activities for Water Transportation	6.1	5.8	6.1	5.8	0.3	0.0
Warehousing and Storage	9.5	9.4	8.9	8.8	0.1	0.6

Continued next page

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

Updated with QCEW: September 2005

Seasonally Adjusted In Thousands	February 2006 (Prel.)	January 2006 (Rev.)	February 2005 (Rev.)	January 2005 (Rev.)	Jan. 2006 to Feb. 2006	Numerical Change Feb. 2005 to Feb. 2006
Information	96.3	96.3	93.9	93.3	0.0	2.4
Newspaper, Book and Directory Publishers	11.2	11.2	11.4	11.4	0.0	-0.2
Software Publishers	42.9	42.5	40.3	40.1	0.4	2.6
Broadcasting, except Internet	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.3	0.0	0.1
Telecommunications	25.0	25.0	25.6	25.7	0.0	-0.6
Wired Telecommunications Carriers	7.4	7.4	7.9	8.0	0.0	-0.5
Wireless Telcommunications Carriers	13.0	13.0	12.6	12.7	0.0	0.4
Financial Activities	157.0	156.9	152.8	152.5	0.1	4.2
Finance and Insurance	106.4	106.3	103.5	103.4	0.1	2.9
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	56.1	55.9	53.8	53.6	0.2	2.3
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	38.8	38.8	38.4	38.4	0.0	0.4
Real Estate and Rental Leasing	50.6	50.6	49.3	49.1	0.0	1.3
Professional and Business Services	326.6	325.2	311.3	309.4	1.4	15.3
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	144.9	144.5	140.0	139.6	0.4	4.9
Legal Services	21.1	21.1	20.9	20.9	0.0	0.2
Accounting and Bookkeeping Services	15.2	15.3	15.3	15.5	-0.1	-0.1
Architectural and Engineering Services	33.5	33.2	33.2	32.9	0.3	0.3
Computer Systems Design and Related Services	22.9	22.9	21.0	20.8	0.0	1.9
Management of Companies and Enterprises	34.3	34.0	32.8	32.9	0.3	1.5
Admin and Support and Waste Mgmt and Remediation	147.4	146.7	138.5	136.9	0.7	8.9
Administrative and Support Services	133.6	132.9	124.6	123.1	0.7	9.0
Employment Services	54.5	54.1	50.0	49.0	0.4	4.5
Other Administrative and Support Services	79.1	78.8	74.6	74.1	0.3	4.5
Waste Management and Remediation Services	13.8	13.8	13.9	13.8	0.0	-0.1
Education and Health Services	338.3	336.6	324.8	324.3	1.7	13.5
Education Services	44.9	44.5	43.0	43.2	0.4	1.9
Health Services and Social Assistance	293.4	292.1	281.8	281.1	1.3	11.6
Ambulatory Health Care Services	120.2	119.5	115.0	114.9	0.7	5.2
Hospitals	64.6	64.5	62.2	62.1	0.1	2.4
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	54.6	54.4	53.6	53.5	0.2	1.0
Social Assistance	54.0	53.7	51.0	50.6	0.3	3.0
Leisure and Hospitality	270.4	269.7	258.8	260.7	0.7	11.6
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	46.3	46.2	42.9	45.3	0.1	3.4
Accommodation and Food Services	224.1	223.5	215.9	215.4	0.6	8.2
Accommodation	29.5	29.6	28.4	28.5	-0.1	1.1
Food Services and Drinking Places	194.6	193.9	187.5	186.9	0.7	7.1
Other Services	104.7	104.5	102.4	102.0	0.2	2.3
Repair and Maintenance	28.6	28.7	28.1	28.0	-0.1	0.5
Personal and Laundry Services	25.5	25.5	25.2	25.1	0.0	0.3
Membership Associations and Organizations	50.6	50.3	49.1	48.9	0.3	1.5
Government	529.0	527.5	524.5	525.5	1.5	4.5
Federal Government	69.6	69.5	69.7	69.4	0.1	-0.1
Total State Government	148.2	148.1	148.1	148.5	0.1	0.1
State Government Educational Services	81.0	80.9	80.2	80.6	0.1	0.8
Total Local Government	311.2	309.9	306.7	307.6	1.3	4.5
Local Government Educational Services	152.1	151.4	151.8	151.1	0.7	0.3
Other Local Government	159.1	158.5	154.9	156.5	0.6	4.2
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, and private household employees. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

Prepared by the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch using a Quarterly Benchmark process.
This process uses the most recent quarter from the Unemployment Insurance Tax Reports (currently 3rd quarter 2005) and estimates employment from that point to present.

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers in Washington State, Place of Work

Updated with QCEW: September 2005

Seasonally Adjusted In Thousands	March 2006 (Prel.)	February 2006 (Rev.)	March 2005 (Rev.)	February 2005 (Rev.)	Feb. 2006 to Mar. 2006	Numerical Change Mar. 2005 to Mar. 2006
Total Nonfarm	2,850.6	2,842.7	2,756.6	2,746.3	7.9	94.0
Total Private	2,321.5	2,313.4	2,231.1	2,221.8	8.1	90.4
Goods Producing	481.0	478.4	454.5	451.1	2.6	26.5
Natural Resources and Mining	8.4	8.4	9.2	9.2	0.0	-0.8
Logging	5.2	5.2	5.8	5.8	0.0	-0.6
Construction	192.1	190.0	175.4	173.0	2.1	16.7
Construction of Buildings	50.7	49.9	45.4	45.1	0.8	5.3
Heavy and Civil Engineering	24.8	24.0	22.2	21.3	0.8	2.6
Speciality Trade Contractors	116.6	116.1	107.8	106.6	0.5	8.8
Manufacturing	280.5	280.0	269.9	268.9	0.5	10.6
Durable Goods	199.1	198.7	188.8	187.9	0.4	10.3
Wood Product Manufacturing	19.6	19.7	19.7	19.9	-0.1	-0.1
Sawmills and Wood Preservation	8.7	8.8	9.2	9.2	-0.1	-0.5
Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing	10.0	10.2	9.5	9.5	-0.2	0.5
Primary Metal Manufacturing	5.0	4.9	5.1	5.0	0.1	-0.1
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	19.1	18.9	17.9	17.8	0.2	1.2
Machinery Manufacturing	14.1	14.1	13.2	13.2	0.0	0.9
Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing	21.5	21.6	22.1	22.2	-0.1	-0.6
Electrical Equipment and Appliance Mfg	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.3	0.0	-0.1
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	85.3	85.0	77.6	76.6	0.3	7.7
Aerospace Product and Parts Manufacturing	72.4	72.1	64.7	64.3	0.3	7.7
Ship and Boat Building	7.7	7.6	7.1	6.7	0.1	0.6
Other Durable Goods Manufacturing	20.4	20.2	19.5	19.4	0.2	0.9
Non Durable Goods	81.4	81.3	81.1	81.0	0.1	0.3
Food Manufacturing	34.1	34.1	34.1	34.0	0.0	0.0
Fruit and Vegetable Preserving and Specialty	10.6	10.6	10.3	10.3	0.0	0.3
Other Food Manufacturing	23.5	23.5	23.8	23.7	0.0	-0.3
Petrol & Coal prod Mfg & Plastics & Rubber prod Mfg	12.7	12.6	12.3	12.3	0.1	0.4
Paper Manufacturing	11.9	11.9	12.3	12.3	0.0	-0.4
Printing and Related Support Activities	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	0.0	0.0
Services Providing	2,369.6	2,364.3	2,302.1	2,295.2	5.3	67.5
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	544.4	542.5	528.1	526.7	1.9	16.3
Wholesale Trade	124.8	124.3	121.7	121.5	0.5	3.1
Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	67.3	67.1	64.9	64.9	0.2	2.4
Merchant Wholesalers, Non Durable Goods	43.9	43.8	44.5	44.4	0.1	-0.6
Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	13.6	13.4	12.3	12.2	0.2	1.3
Retail Trade	326.4	325.2	314.7	313.7	1.2	11.7
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	42.3	42.3	41.9	41.7	0.0	0.4
Furniture and Home Furnishing Stores	12.2	12.1	11.9	11.8	0.1	0.3
Building Material and Garden Supply Stores	29.9	29.5	28.0	27.4	0.4	1.9
Food and Beverage Stores	62.6	62.4	60.0	59.8	0.2	2.6
Health and Personal Care Stores	15.6	15.6	15.2	15.2	0.0	0.4
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	28.0	27.8	25.6	25.9	0.2	2.4
General Merchandise Stores	59.6	59.3	56.9	56.9	0.3	2.7
Other Retail Trade	76.2	76.2	75.2	75.0	0.0	1.0
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	93.2	93.0	91.7	91.5	0.2	1.5
Utilities	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	0.0	0.0
Transportation and Warehousing	88.8	88.6	87.3	87.1	0.2	1.5
Air Transportation	11.4	11.5	12.1	12.2	-0.1	-0.7
Water Transportation	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	0.0	0.0
Truck Transportation	24.9	25.0	24.2	24.3	-0.1	0.7
Support Activities for Transportation	18.4	18.4	17.5	17.5	0.0	0.9
Support Activities for Water Transportation	6.0	6.1	6.0	6.1	-0.1	0.0
Warehousing and Storage	9.5	9.5	8.8	8.9	0.0	0.7

Continued next page

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

Updated with QCEW: September 2005 Seasonally Adjusted In Thousands	March 2006 (Prel.)	February 2006 (Rev.)	March 2005 (Rev.)	February 2005 (Rev.)	Feb. 2006 to Mar. 2006	Numerical Change Mar. 2005 to Mar. 2006
Information	96.3	95.8	94.1	93.9	0.5	2.2
Newspaper, Book and Directory Publishers	11.1	11.1	11.3	11.4	0.0	-0.2
Software Publishers	43.1	43.0	40.6	40.3	0.1	2.5
Broadcasting, except Internet	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.3	0.0	0.0
Telecommunications	24.8	24.8	25.6	25.6	0.0	-0.8
Wired Telecommunications Carriers	7.4	7.3	7.9	7.9	0.1	-0.5
Wireless Telcommunications Carriers	12.9	12.9	12.6	12.6	0.0	0.3
Financial Activities	157.1	157.0	152.6	152.8	0.1	4.5
Finance and Insurance	106.5	106.4	103.4	103.5	0.1	3.1
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	56.3	56.2	53.9	53.8	0.1	2.4
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	38.9	38.8	38.4	38.4	0.1	0.5
Real Estate and Rental Leasing	50.6	50.6	49.2	49.3	0.0	1.4
Professional and Business Services	328.6	327.1	312.4	311.3	1.5	16.2
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	145.2	144.8	140.2	140.0	0.4	5.0
Legal Services	21.1	21.1	20.9	20.9	0.0	0.2
Accounting and Bookkeeping Services	15.1	15.1	15.2	15.3	0.0	-0.1
Architectural and Engineering Services	33.7	33.5	33.3	33.2	0.2	0.4
Computer Systems Design and Related Services	23.2	23.0	21.1	21.0	0.2	2.1
Management of Companies and Enterprises	34.2	34.1	32.9	32.8	0.1	1.3
Admin and Support and Waste Mgmt and Remediation	149.2	148.2	139.3	138.5	1.0	9.9
Administrative and Support Services	135.2	134.3	125.3	124.6	0.9	9.9
Employment Services	55.7	55.0	50.4	50.0	0.7	5.3
Other Administrative and Support Services	79.5	79.3	74.9	74.6	0.2	4.6
Waste Management and Remediation Services	14.0	13.9	14.0	13.9	0.1	0.0
Education and Health Services	338.0	337.5	326.3	324.8	0.5	11.7
Education Services	44.1	44.4	43.3	43.0	-0.3	0.8
Health Services and Social Assistance	293.9	293.1	283.0	281.8	0.8	10.9
Ambulatory Health Care Services	120.6	120.1	115.3	115.0	0.5	5.3
Hospitals	64.6	64.6	62.4	62.2	0.0	2.2
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	54.2	54.3	53.9	53.6	-0.1	0.3
Social Assistance	54.5	54.1	51.4	51.0	0.4	3.1
Leisure and Hospitality	271.1	270.4	260.2	258.8	0.7	10.9
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	46.2	46.3	43.1	42.9	-0.1	3.1
Accommodation and Food Services	224.9	224.1	217.1	215.9	0.8	7.8
Accommodation	29.6	29.5	28.6	28.4	0.1	1.0
Food Services and Drinking Places	195.3	194.6	188.5	187.5	0.7	6.8
Other Services	105.0	104.7	102.9	102.4	0.3	2.1
Repair and Maintenance	28.8	28.7	28.2	28.1	0.1	0.6
Personal and Laundry Services	25.4	25.4	25.3	25.2	0.0	0.1
Membership Associations and Organizations	50.8	50.6	49.4	49.1	0.2	1.4
Government	529.1	529.3	525.5	524.5	-0.2	3.6
Federal Government	69.5	69.6	69.6	69.7	-0.1	-0.1
Total State Government	148.5	148.5	148.1	148.1	0.0	0.4
State Government Educational Services	81.0	81.0	80.3	80.2	0.0	0.7
Total Local Government	311.1	311.2	307.8	306.7	-0.1	3.3
Local Government Educational Services	151.6	152.1	151.5	151.8	-0.5	0.1
Other Local Government	159.5	159.1	156.3	154.9	0.4	3.2
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, and private household employees. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

Prepared by the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch using a Quarterly Benchmark process.
This process uses the most recent quarter from the Unemployment Insurance Tax Reports (currently 3rd quarter 2005) and estimates employment from that point to present.

January

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

In Thousands, Not Seasonally Adjusted	January 2006 (Prel)	December 2005 (Rev)	January 2005 (Rev)	December 2004 (Rev)	Numeric Change Dec. 2005 to Jan. 2006	Numeric Change Jan. 2005 to Jan. 2006
Total Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers	2,776.2	2,834.3	2,688.2	2,749.6	-58.1	88.0
Natural Resources and Mining	8.4	8.5	8.8	9.2	-0.1	-0.4
Logging	5.2	5.3	5.7	5.9	-0.1	-0.5
Construction	174.2	180.4	158.4	166.6	-6.2	15.8
Construction of Buildings	46.9	48.4	42.4	44.1	-1.5	4.5
Heavy and Civil Engineering	19.7	21.5	17.7	19.9	-1.8	2.0
Specialty Trade Contractors	107.6	110.5	98.3	102.6	-2.9	9.3
Manufacturing	274.8	277.2	263.9	266.2	-2.4	10.9
Durable Goods	196.8	197.2	185.2	186.0	-0.4	11.6
Wood Product Manufacturing	19.2	19.6	19.4	19.2	-0.4	-0.2
Fabricated Metal Products	18.5	18.5	17.3	17.8	0.0	1.2
Computer and Electronic Products	21.5	21.6	22.1	22.2	-0.1	-0.6
Transportation Equipment	84.8	84.3	76.3	75.7	0.5	8.5
Aerospace Products and Parts	71.6	71.4	63.9	63.3	0.2	7.7
Nondurable Goods	78.0	80.0	78.7	80.2	-2.0	-0.7
Food Manufacturing	32.4	33.3	32.6	33.5 2/	-0.9	-0.2
Wholesale Trade	122.6	123.6	119.2	121.1	-1.0	3.4
Retail Trade	319.4	337.4	308.7	326.7	-18.0	10.7
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	41.5	42.2	40.8	41.6	-0.7	0.7
Food and Beverage Stores	61.3	62.7	58.7	60.1	-1.4	2.6
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	27.4	30.7	26.1	29.0	-3.3	1.3
General Merchandise Stores	59.7	65.0	57.1	63.5	-5.3	2.6
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	89.9	92.1	89.3	92.8	-2.2	0.6
Utilities	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	0.0	0.0
Transportation and Warehousing	85.5	87.7	84.9	88.4	-2.2	0.6
Air Transportation	11.4	11.3	12.1	12.2	0.1	-0.7
Water Transportation	3.2	3.3	3.2	3.2	-0.1	0.0
Truck Transportation	23.5	24.3	22.9	23.4	-0.8	0.6
Support Activities for Transportation	17.9	18.4	17.0	17.4	-0.5	0.9
Support Activities for Water Transportation	5.8	6.0	5.8	6.0	-0.2	0.0
Warehousing and Storage	9.1	9.5	8.6	9.0	-0.4	0.5
Information	95.5	96.5	92.7	94.2	-1.0	2.8
Software Publishers	42.0	43.0	39.8	39.9	-1.0	2.2
Telecommunications	25.1	25.3	25.7	26.5	-0.2	-0.6
Financial Activities	155.4	157.3	150.5	153.3	-1.9	4.9
Finance and Insurance	106.2	107.2	102.7	104.6	-1.0	3.5
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	55.8	56.1	53.2	54.0	-0.3	2.6
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	39.2	39.6	38.4	39.3	-0.4	0.8
Real Estate and Rental Leasing	49.2	50.1	47.8	48.7	-0.9	1.4
Professional and Business Services	317.5	325.3	300.0	307.4	-7.8	17.5
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	144.2	144.5	139.1	139.3	-0.3	5.1
Legal Services	20.9	21.2	20.7	20.9	-0.3	0.2
Architectural, Engineering, and Related Services	32.6	33.1	32.2	32.6	-0.5	0.4
Computer Systems Design and Related Services	23.0	23.3	20.8	21.3	-0.3	2.2
Management of Companies and Enterprises	34.5	35.1	32.9	33.5	-0.6	1.6
Admin., Suppt. Svcs., Waste Mgmt., and Remediation	138.8	145.7	128.0	134.6	-6.9	10.8
Employment Services	49.5	54.3	44.7	49.5	-4.8	4.8
Education and Health Services	333.2	338.1	322.1	326.0	-4.9	11.1
Educational Services	44.3	46.2	43.3	44.9	-1.9	1.0
Hospitals	64.2	64.7	62.1	62.7	-0.5	2.1
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	54.0	54.4	53.1	53.6	-0.4	0.9
Social Assistance	52.4	52.8	49.8	49.6	-0.4	2.6
Leisure and Hospitality	255.7	262.6	248.1	254.8	-6.9	7.6
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	43.0	43.9	42.5	43.3	-0.9	0.5
Accommodation	26.8	27.9	25.9	27.0	-1.1	0.9
Food Services and Drinking Places	185.9	190.8	179.7	184.5	-4.9	6.2
Government	527.4	532.2	526.3	530.9	-4.8	1.1
Federal	68.1	69.8	68.5	70.2	-1.7	-0.4
State	151.0	150.6	151.7	150.7	0.4	-0.7
State Educational Services	84.1	84.2	84.1	83.6	-0.1	0.0
Local	308.3	311.8	306.1	310.0	-3.5	2.2
Local Educational Services	154.3	156.0	154.1	155.7	-1.7	0.2
Workers in Labor-Management Disputes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	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 Bureau of Labor Statistics

February

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

In Thousands, Not Seasonally Adjusted	February 2006 (Prel)	January 2006 (Rev)	February 2005 (Rev)	January 2005 (Rev)	Numeric Change Jan. 2006 to Feb. 2006	Numeric Change Feb. 2005 to Feb. 2006
Total Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers	2,799.4	2,778.1	2,704.2	2,688.2	21.3	95.2
Natural Resources and Mining	8.2	8.2	8.9	8.8	0.0	-0.7
Logging	5.1	5.1	5.7	5.7	0.0	-0.6
Construction	177.7	174.0	162.0	158.4	3.7	15.7
Construction of Buildings	47.2	46.9	42.9	42.4	0.3	4.3
Heavy and Civil Engineering	20.6	19.7	18.5	17.7	0.9	2.1
Specialty Trade Contractors	109.9	107.4	100.6	98.3	2.5	9.3
Manufacturing	276.0	275.0	264.1	263.9	1.0	11.9
Durable Goods	197.5	196.5	186.3	185.2	1.0	11.2
Wood Product Manufacturing	19.4	19.3	19.6	19.4	0.1	-0.2
Fabricated Metal Products	18.5	18.5	17.5	17.3	0.0	1.0
Computer and Electronic Products	21.4	21.5	22.2	22.1	-0.1	-0.8
Transportation Equipment	85.2	84.6	76.6	76.3	0.6	8.6
Aerospace Products and Parts	72.1	71.6	64.3	63.9	0.5	7.8
Nondurable Goods	78.5	78.5	77.8	78.7	0.0	0.7
Food Manufacturing	32.2	32.3	31.6	32.6	-0.1	0.6
Wholesale Trade	123.1	122.6	119.8	119.2	0.5	3.3
Retail Trade	315.9	319.1	305.5	308.7	-3.2	10.4
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	41.6	41.5	41.0	40.8	0.1	0.6
Food and Beverage Stores	61.3	61.3	58.7	58.7	0.0	2.6
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	26.4	27.5	24.7	26.1	-1.1	1.7
General Merchandise Stores	56.8	58.8	54.6	57.1	-2.0	2.2
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	90.7	90.4	89.9	89.3	0.3	0.8
Utilities	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	0.0	0.0
Transportation and Warehousing	86.3	86.0	85.5	84.9	0.3	0.8
Air Transportation	11.3	11.3	12.0	12.1	0.0	-0.7
Water Transportation	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	0.0	0.0
Truck Transportation	23.8	23.7	23.4	22.9	0.1	0.4
Support Activities for Transportation	18.4	17.9	17.5	17.0	0.5	0.9
Support Activities for Water Transportation	6.1	5.8	6.1	5.8	0.3	0.0
Warehousing and Storage	9.0	9.2	8.5	8.6	-0.2	0.5
Information	95.8	95.6	93.5	92.7	0.2	2.3
Software Publishers	42.5	42.2	39.9	39.8	0.3	2.6
Telecommunications	25.0	25.0	25.6	25.7	0.0	-0.6
Financial Activities	155.8	155.4	151.2	150.5	0.4	4.6
Finance and Insurance	106.4	106.1	103.1	102.7	0.3	3.3
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	55.9	55.6	53.5	53.2	0.3	2.4
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	39.2	39.2	38.4	38.4	0.0	0.8
Real Estate and Rental Leasing	49.4	49.3	48.1	47.8	0.1	1.3
Professional and Business Services	321.4	317.1	304.7	300.0	4.3	16.7
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	146.0	144.0	141.0	139.1	2.0	5.0
Legal Services	20.9	20.9	20.7	20.7	0.0	0.2
Architectural, Engineering, and Related Services	32.9	32.5	32.7	32.2	0.4	0.2
Computer Systems Design and Related Services	22.9	22.9	21.0	20.8	0.0	1.9
Management of Companies and Enterprises	34.7	34.5	32.8	32.9	0.2	1.9
Admin., Suppt. Svcs., Waste Mgmt., and Remediation	140.7	138.6	130.9	128.0	2.1	9.8
Employment Services	50.4	49.4	46.1	44.7	1.0	4.3
Education and Health Services	338.7	334.0	325.5	322.1	4.7	13.2
Educational Services	47.3	44.6	45.3	43.3	2.7	2.0
Hospitals	64.5	64.5	62.2	62.1	0.0	2.3
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	54.4	53.9	53.4	53.1	0.5	1.0
Social Assistance	53.1	52.6	50.4	49.8	0.5	2.7
Leisure and Hospitality	257.7	256.0	247.2	248.1	1.7	10.5
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	43.7	43.1	40.6	42.5	0.6	3.1
Accommodation	27.1	26.9	26.0	25.9	0.2	1.1
Food Services and Drinking Places	186.9	186.0	180.6	179.7	0.9	6.3
Government	535.1	528.1	530.8	526.3	7.0	4.3
Federal	68.2	68.4	68.4	68.5	-0.2	-0.2
State	153.0	151.4	152.9	151.7	1.6	0.1
State Educational Services	86.2	84.5	85.5	84.1	1.7	0.7
Local	313.9	308.3	309.5	306.1	5.6	4.4
Local Educational Services	157.6	154.3	157.3	154.1	3.3	0.3
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 Bureau of Labor Statistics

March

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

In Thousands, Not Seasonally Adjusted	March 2006 (Prel)	February 2006 (Rev)	March 2005 (Rev)	February 2005 (Rev)	Numeric Change Feb. 2006 to Mar. 2006	Numeric Change Mar. 2005 to Mar. 2006
Total Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers	2,823.0	2,798.8	2,729.8	2,704.2	24.2	93.2
Natural Resources and Mining	8.1	8.1	8.8	8.9	0.0	-0.7
Logging	5.0	5.1	5.6	5.7	-0.1	-0.6
Construction	183.0	177.7	167.0	162.0	5.3	16.0
Construction of Buildings	48.6	47.5	43.6	42.9	1.1	5.0
Heavy and Civil Engineering	22.0	20.8	19.6	18.5	1.2	2.4
Specialty Trade Contractors	112.4	109.4	103.8	100.6	3.0	8.6
Manufacturing	277.1	275.6	266.3	264.1	1.5	10.8
Durable Goods	198.4	197.5	187.9	186.3	0.9	10.5
Wood Product Manufacturing	19.4	19.4	19.5	19.6	0.0	-0.1
Fabricated Metal Products	18.8	18.5	17.7	17.5	0.3	1.1
Computer and Electronic Products	21.5	21.6	22.1	22.2	-0.1	-0.6
Transportation Equipment	85.3	85.0	77.6	76.6	0.3	7.7
Aerospace Products and Parts	72.4	72.1	64.7	64.3	0.3	7.7
Nondurable Goods	78.7	78.1	78.4	77.8	0.6	0.3
Food Manufacturing	32.4	32.0	32.0	31.6	0.4	0.4
Wholesale Trade	123.9	122.8	120.6	119.8	1.1	3.3
Retail Trade	318.0	316.1	307.1	305.5	1.9	10.9
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	42.0	41.6	41.5	41.0	0.4	0.5
Food and Beverage Stores	61.5	61.3	58.9	58.7	0.2	2.6
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	26.4	26.4	24.3	24.7	0.0	2.1
General Merchandise Stores	57.1	56.9	54.5	54.6	0.2	2.6
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	91.2	90.9	90.2	89.9	0.3	1.0
Utilities	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	0.0	0.0
Transportation and Warehousing	86.8	86.5	85.8	85.5	0.3	1.0
Air Transportation	11.3	11.3	12.0	12.0	0.0	-0.7
Water Transportation	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	0.0	0.0
Truck Transportation	24.1	24.0	23.5	23.4	0.1	0.6
Support Activities for Transportation	18.4	18.4	17.5	17.5	0.0	0.9
Support Activities for Water Transportation	6.0	6.1	6.0	6.1	-0.1	0.0
Warehousing and Storage	9.1	9.0	8.4	8.5	0.1	0.7
Information	95.6	95.3	93.4	93.5	0.3	2.2
Software Publishers	42.6	42.6	40.2	39.9	0.0	2.4
Telecommunications	24.8	24.8	25.6	25.6	0.0	-0.8
Financial Activities	156.3	155.9	151.4	151.2	0.4	4.9
Finance and Insurance	106.6	106.4	103.1	103.1	0.2	3.5
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	56.0	55.9	53.5	53.5	0.1	2.5
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	39.3	39.2	38.4	38.4	0.1	0.9
Real Estate and Rental Leasing	49.7	49.5	48.3	48.1	0.2	1.4
Professional and Business Services	326.0	321.9	308.3	304.7	4.1	17.7
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	146.8	145.8	141.8	141.0	1.0	5.0
Legal Services	21.0	20.9	20.8	20.7	0.1	0.2
Architectural, Engineering, and Related Services	33.4	32.9	33.0	32.7	0.5	0.4
Computer Systems Design and Related Services	23.2	23.0	21.1	21.0	0.2	2.1
Management of Companies and Enterprises	34.7	34.6	32.9	32.8	0.1	1.8
Admin., Suppt. Svcs., Waste Mgmt., and Remediation	144.5	141.5	133.6	130.9	3.0	10.9
Employment Services	51.8	50.8	46.8	46.1	1.0	5.0
Education and Health Services	339.9	338.0	328.2	325.5	1.9	11.7
Educational Services	47.3	46.8	46.4	45.3	0.5	0.9
Hospitals	64.5	64.5	62.4	62.2	0.0	2.1
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	54.1	54.2	53.7	53.4	-0.1	0.4
Social Assistance	54.0	53.2	51.1	50.4	0.8	2.9
Leisure and Hospitality	262.4	257.8	252.4	247.2	4.6	10.0
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	44.4	43.8	41.5	40.6	0.6	2.9
Accommodation	27.8	27.0	26.9	26.0	0.8	0.9
Food Services and Drinking Places	190.2	187.0	184.0	180.6	3.2	6.2
Government	537.3	535.4	533.9	530.8	1.9	3.4
Federal	68.2	68.2	68.4	68.4	0.0	-0.2
State	154.3	153.3	153.9	152.9	1.0	0.4
State Educational Services	87.0	86.3	86.2	85.5	0.7	0.8
Local	314.8	313.9	311.6	309.5	0.9	3.2
Local Educational Services	158.4	157.6	158.3	157.3	0.8	0.1
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 Bureau of Labor Statistics

What's New?

The Washington State Employee Benefits Survey provides data for estimating the number of private sector firms offering fringe benefits to their workers, providing valuable insights into compensation conditions in our state. The survey was distributed to a sample of 17,702 Washington employers in August 2005 and we received a 57 percent response rate. Each employer was asked if they provide the following benefits to full-time and part-time employees:

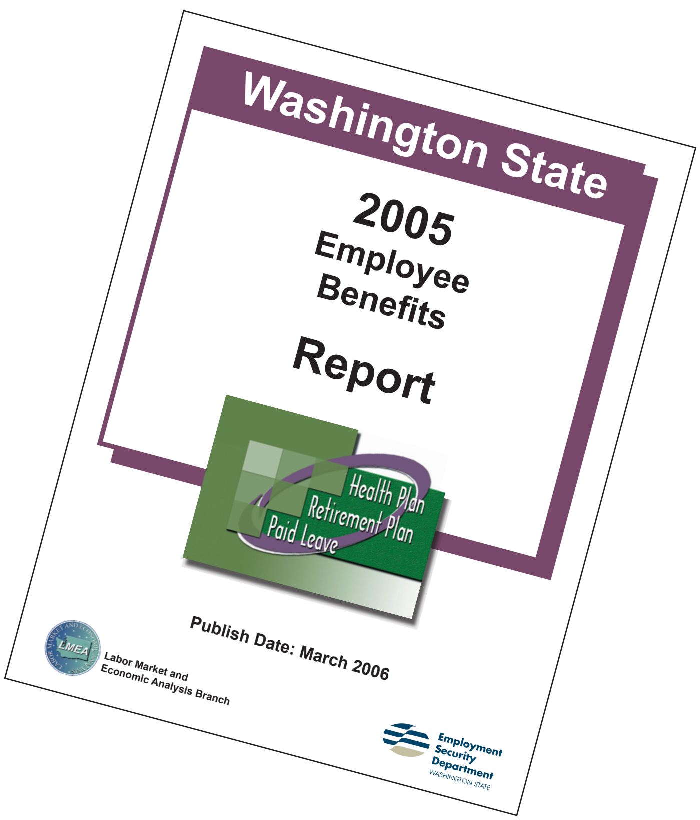
- Health insurance (for employees, dependents, and retirees)
- Retirement benefits
- Paid sick leave, vacation, and holidays

New for 2005

Based on requests from customers we added a few elements to the 2005 survey. In addition to past questions, employers were asked about the cost of health insurance premiums, the percentage of the premium paid by the employer, the number of workers offered and enrolled in health insurance, and if they offered undesignated paid leave to workers.

We also made some changes to the way estimates are derived and how the data are reported. For the 2005 report, many of the data estimates are now available regionally by Workforce Development Area (WDA). In addition to estimates based on firms, much of the data are also presented based on the percentage of employment that is offered the benefit.

Please visit www.workforceexplorer.com for the full report.



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