

## INDICATORS

### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

#### Washington

##### (Seasonally Adjusted)

July	2006	5.3%
August	2006	5.2%
September (prel)	2006	5.3%

#### United States

##### (Seasonally Adjusted)

July	2006	4.8%
August	2006	4.7%
September (prel)	2006	4.6%

#### Nonagricultural Employment

##### Washington (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(in thousands)

July	2006	2,876.2
August	2006	2,873.3
September (prel)	2006	2,896.2

#### Nonagricultural Employment % Change

##### Washington

(over-the-year)

July	2005-2006	3.1%
August	2005-2006	3.0%
September (prel)	2005-2006	3.4%

## State and U.S. Economic Conditions

### Moving in the Same Direction but at a Different Pace

By *Evelina Tainer, Ph.D., Chief Economist*

Washington's nonfarm payroll employment growth accelerated slightly in the third quarter, gaining 14,000 jobs, almost twice as strong as the second quarter pace when 7,900 jobs were cre-



ated. U.S. nonfarm payrolls increased by 362,000 in the third quarter, not very different from the second quarter's pace and much slower than the first quarter's employment gain of 529,000. In the third quarter, Washington nonfarm payrolls rose 0.5 percent relative to the second quarter, while U.S. payrolls increased a more moderate 0.3 percent over the quarter. Notice that

the state's pattern of growth is choppy than for the nation,

but on the whole, the state's employment growth has been stronger since the end of the U.S. recession in 2001. More recently, one of the factors that caused the saw tooth

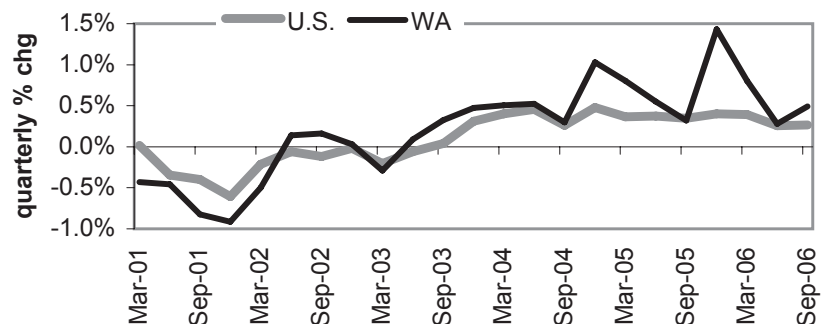
pattern in nonfarm payrolls was the labor dispute for Boeing machinists in the third quarter of 2005. The strike took place in September and was over by October 2005. This held down the third quarter payroll growth last year but artificially boosted the fourth quarter pace. All figures are seasonally adjusted.

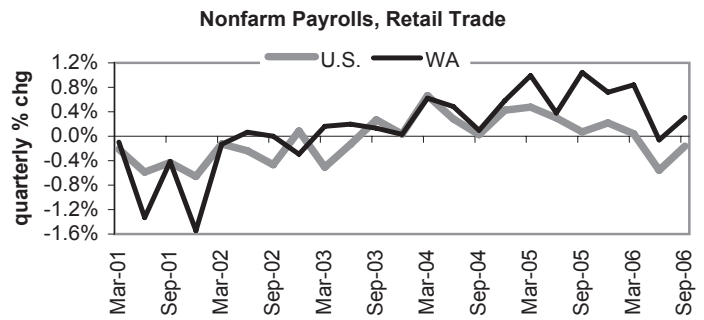
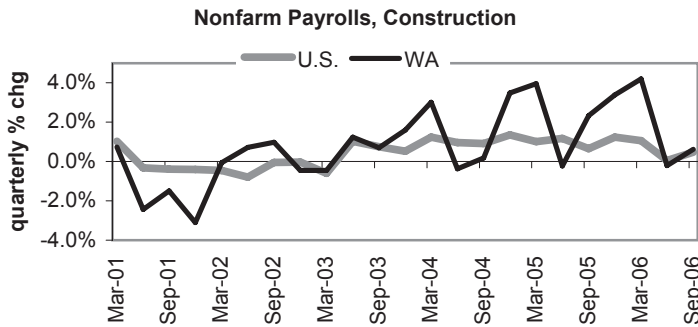
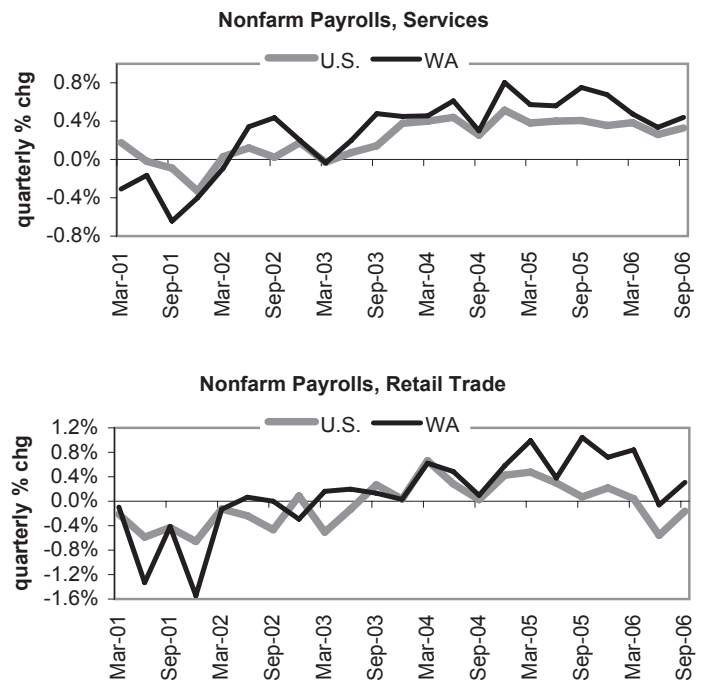
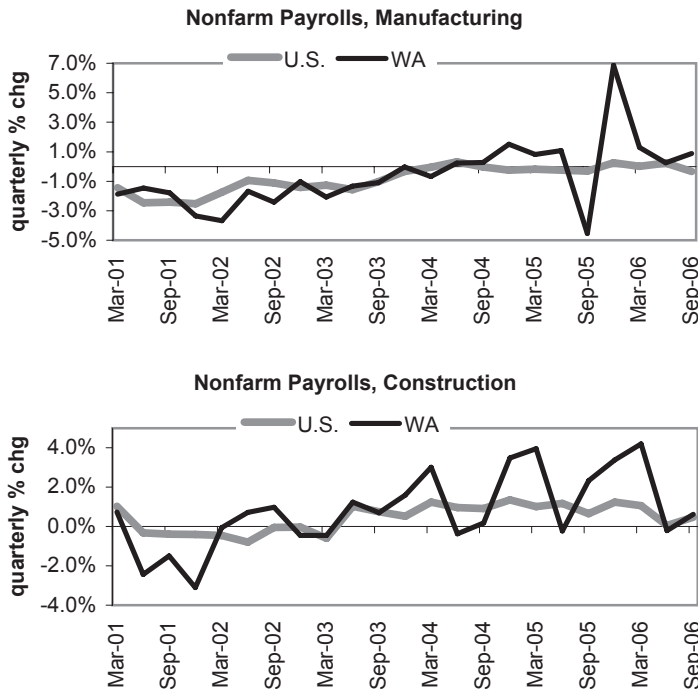
The impact of the Boeing machinists' strike is more pronounced on the manufacturing

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Nonfarm Payrolls





Source: Haver Analytics, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, LMEA



***Construction employment fell more sharply in Washington than in the nation during the 2001 recession, but activity has been more robust since then.***

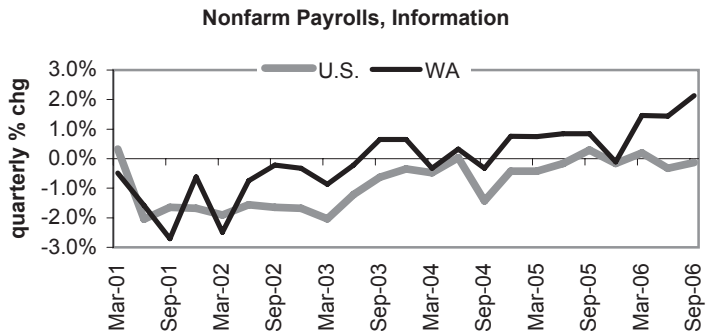
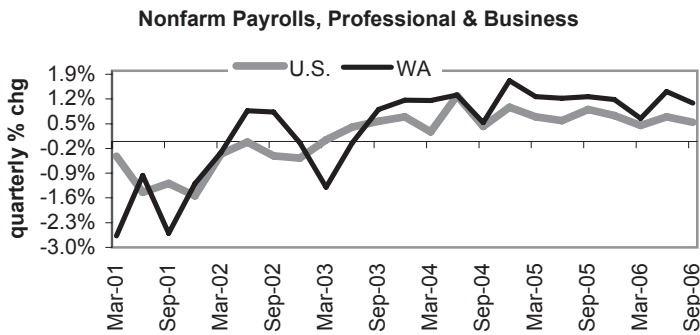
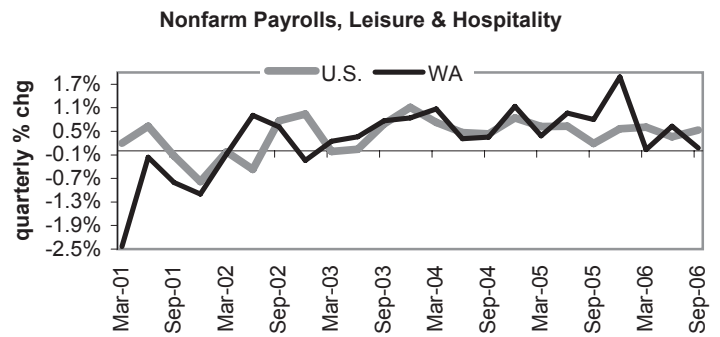
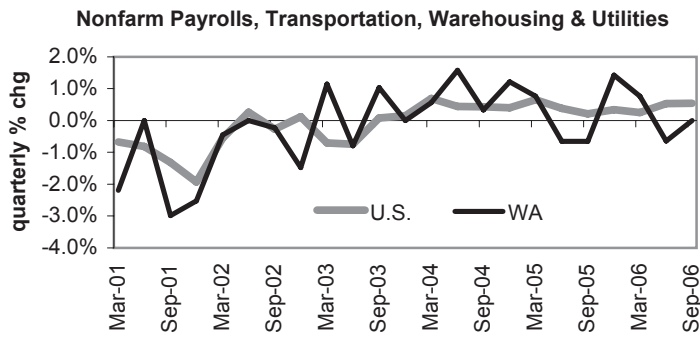
payroll data. It took a little longer to jumpstart manufacturing activity in Washington in 2002, but the state trend is more positive than for the nation. In fact, factory payrolls declined -0.3 percent in the third quarter 2006, whereas factory payrolls in the state grew by 0.9 percent during this period. Adjusting for the Boeing strike in the third quarter of 2005, factory payrolls have not declined in Washington on a quarterly basis since the first quarter of 2004. The national picture is not as positive since manufacturing payrolls are more likely to decline than increase in any given month.

Construction employment fell more sharply in Washington than in the nation during the 2001 recession, but activity has been more robust since then. It is only recently that construction payroll growth has moderated. In the third quarter, Washington construction pay-

rolls grew 0.6 percent; national construction payrolls increased 0.5 percent during the period. Rising interest rates dampened housing starts and home sales in the first half of 2006. Mortgage rates peaked in July and have since decreased slightly; this may alleviate the housing declines in coming months.

Washington service-sector payrolls declined more sharply than U.S. service-sector payrolls during the 2001 recession, but gains since the recession have been more dramatic in the state than the nation. Even in recent months, as growth in service-sector payrolls have moderated, the state is still growing faster than the nation. In the third quarter, service-providing nonfarm payrolls increased 0.4 percent in the state and increased 0.3 percent in the nation.

Retail trade tends to get a lot of attention because the consumer is so important to the overall health



Source: Haver Analytics, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, LMEA

of the economy. Retail trade payrolls did not begin to recover until 2004 in the state or the nation. Retail trade employment in Washington was relatively strong in 2005 and the beginning of 2006, but has since moderated. In the U.S., retail trade employment began to weaken in 2005 with significantly slower growth, and in fact declined in 2006.

Transportation, warehousing, and utilities show a contrasting trend in the state and the nation. Here, national employment growth was stronger than state employment growth, although activity in this sector is clearly less stable from one quarter to the next in the state than in the nation. Washington payrolls in this sector have moderated dramatically in 2005 and have grown less rapidly than for the nation, consistently throughout 2006.

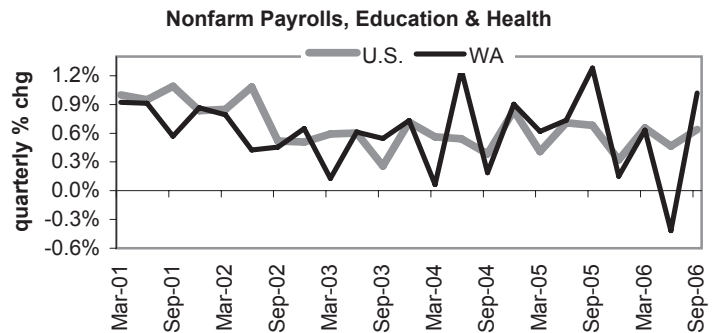
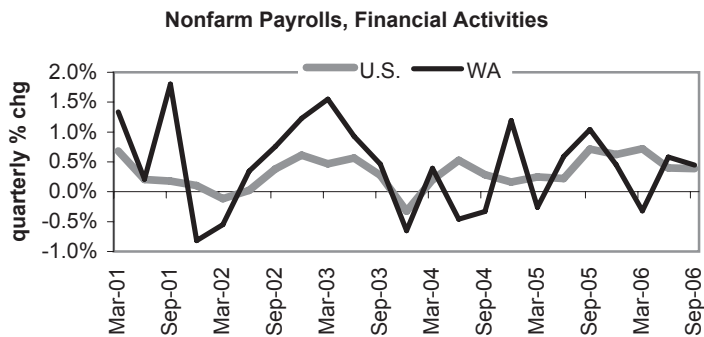
Professional and business services payrolls took a long time to recover after the U.S. recession

in 2001, both nationally and in Washington. Since mid 2003, Washington payrolls have posted stronger growth than the nation in this sector. This sector includes a variety of industry sectors – including legal and accounting services, architectural services and waste management and remediation. One sector, called employment services, captures temporary help agencies, where workers are hired by the temp agency but can actually be employed in any sector of the economy – from manufacturing to health services. Similarly, employment services also include professional employment organizations. Employee leasing companies enter a co-employment relationship with the client business – which could be any industry from accountants to manufacturers to retailers. Employment services tend to be highly sensitive to the business cycle, rising more rapidly than

other sectors when the economy is expanding and more slowly than others when the economy is contracting. One problem with this category, however, is that we don't really know what industry is experiencing employment growth since it is in this catch-all category.

On the whole, leisure and hospitality payrolls have grown at nearly the same rate since 2002, with only minor exceptions. More recently, leisure and hospitality payroll growth has been stronger in the nation than within Washington.

In contrast, information services payrolls have grown decidedly more rapidly in Washington than in the U.S. State employment in this sector is dominated, but not limited to Microsoft. After the high tech bubble burst in 2000, it took several years for employment trends to return to previous highs. In Washington, information services payrolls reached



Source: Haver Analytics, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, LMEA

*A few months ago, economists were predicting slower economic activity based on higher oil prices and rising interest rates. Oil prices and interest rates have both come down from their peaks.*



the April 2001 level in September 2006. This is only 1,500 jobs off the peak reached in both September 2000 and January 2001. Nationally, information services payrolls were roughly 660,000 below their March 2001 peak in September 2006. Today's information services payrolls for the nation are roughly running at early 1997 levels. Local trends are clearly stronger in this sector. While software publishing is a major business here, information services also include telecommunications, cable and other subscription broadcasting, internet service providers, and web portals.

Financial activities include banking, real estate, and insurance. Growth in this sector tends to fluctuate a lot – more so in the state than in the nation. Employment growth in this broad sector was mostly reflecting growing demand in the real estate and banking sectors. Insurance payrolls have grown more moderately in the state.

Mostly, education services payrolls grow at a moderate rate, while gains in the health care industry are more robust. On the whole, it appears that payroll gains in the state are not all that far off from gains in the nation.

Some of the volatile nature of the state growth is due to problems with seasonally adjusting education services.

All in all, U.S. and Washington state employment growth was solid in the third quarter. Washington state nonfarm payrolls generally grew more rapidly in the third quarter than in the second quarter, although the same cannot be said for the nation.

A few months ago, economists were predicting slower economic activity in the second half of 2006 based on higher oil prices and rising interest rates. Oil prices and interest rates have both come down from their peaks.

In fact, mortgage rates averaged 6.4 percent in September, down from 7.76 percent at their peak in July. Similarly, U.S. average gasoline pump prices peaked in July at \$2.98, but were down \$0.43 to \$2.55 in September. Anyone who pumped gas in October saw further declines in gas prices. While this won't lead to an economic boom in the fourth quarter of 2006 or the first half of 2007, it has led economists to reconsider their economic forecasts. Lower interest rates and lower gas prices will leave more discretionary income in the hands of consumers.

# Industry Spotlight

## Government Payroll Growth Concentrated in Local Areas

By Dave Wallace, Economist

For the past several years there has been much discussion about the “jobs recovery” in Washington since the 2001 recession.

While some industries have flourished, others have remained stagnant. What we haven’t talked much about are the movements of government employment.

From September 2001 to September 2006, total government increased by 25,200 jobs at a rate of 0.9 percent per year. That is slightly below the total Washington employment growth rate of 1.3 percent per year. Of those jobs, 19,900 were in local government, 4,000 were in state government, and 1,300 were in federal government. In this article, we are going to take a look at common government occupations and what is expected for growth in the coming years.

A discussion of the “Government Industry” is a little confusing yet interesting for the same reason. It is not as straight forward as one might initially assume. There is an industry group which is essentially government – public administration. According to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), the sector is made up of establishments that oversee public programs and have executive, legislative, or judicial authority over other institutions in a given area. However, it is not as simple as that since there is also government employment scattered throughout many industry sectors.

While most sectors have minimal government employment, there are three (in addition to public administration) that have at least a third of overall employment coming from government. Forty-four percent of transportation and warehousing employment is derived from the public sector, mostly postal workers and nearly exclusively federal. Three-quarters of workers in utilities are government workers, mostly at the local level. Eighty-eight percent of educational service workers get their paycheck from a government entity, most commonly local (63 percent).

The top five occupations in education services are teachers or teaching assistants. Most occupations in the transportation and warehousing industry involve driving, handling, or processing of materials, with the top one being laborers and material movers. Electrical power line installers and repairers, meter readers, and customer service representatives are the most common occupation in the utility industry.

### Government Occupations by Branch

The table on page six shows the top five occupations for the federal, state, and local branches of government in public administration. The variables displayed are estimated branch employment in 2004<sup>1</sup>, combined employment in any government branch, projected growth, and percent of the occupation working in government.



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<sup>1</sup> 2004 is the base period currently in use for occupational estimates and projections as stipulated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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Clerks of various forms are common in all levels of government, and general clerks were the top state government occupation. Correctional officers, jailers, and counseling rehabilitation occupations (rehabilitation counselors and mental health and substance abuse workers) were also very prevalent among Washington government employees at the state level.

Local government employment is perhaps the most intuitive – police, bus drivers, firefighters, etc., being top occupations. Outside of federal postal workers, local government occupations have the highest levels of employment of the three branches.

It is worth noting that gaming workers have been one of the fastest growing sources of employment in local government. Since there are many different gaming related occupations, none of them cracked the top five in terms of employment. However, if added up, gaming related occupations would rank as the 5th largest local government occupations, ahead of firefighters and just behind recreation workers. Gaming occupations almost all have above average projected growth rates as well.

For the most part growth occupations in government are those that have significant representation in the private sector (registered nurses, office clerks, and civil engineers for example).

#### Top Five Government Occupations by Branch, Washington, 2004

Occupational Title	2004 Employment by Govt. Branch	All Govt. Employment 2004	10-yr Projected Annual Growth	% in Govt.
<b><u>Federal Government</u></b>				
Postal Service Mail Carriers	7,090	7,090	0.1%	99%
Postal Service Mail Sorters, & Proc. Machine Operators	4,289	4,289	0.1%	99%
Business Operations Specialists, All Other	3,114	8,058	1.4%	33%
Information and Record Clerks, All Other	3,088	3,103	0.8%	58%
Protective Service Workers, All Other	1,788	3,037	1.0%	60%
<b><u>State Government</u></b>				
Office Clerks, General	3,443	7,078	1.7%	12%
Correctional Officers and Jailers	3,289	6,784	1.0%	99%
Rehabilitation Counselors	3,112	3,302	1.7%	31%
Business Operations Specialists, All Other	2,916	8,058	1.4%	33%
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers	2,481	3,063	1.3%	66%
<b><u>Local Government</u></b>				
Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers	6,998	8,468	1.1%	99%
Bus Drivers, Transit and Intercity	6,713	6,713	1.1%	84%
Court, Municipal, and License Clerks	5,799	6,167	1.1%	93%
Recreation Workers	5,022	5,127	1.2%	66%
Fire Fighters	4,231	4,518	1.1%	97%

Source: Employment Security Department

# Regional Update

## Local Employment Trends: Short and Long Run

By Alex Roubinchtein, Ph.D., and Jami Mills, Economists

Employment growth in the different areas is subject to significant fluctuations, which is related to the different stages of economic development in the long run. At the same time, for the short run analysis the stationary and non-stationary seasonality as well as business cycles in specific industries could significantly contribute to employment changes. For example, the aerospace business cycle significantly contributes more to total nonfarm employment changes in Snohomish County than any other area.

There are few indicators that can be used to characterize short and long run local employment trends and absolute and relative contributions to the statewide employment picture.

The table on the next page combines the different indicators for state and all local areas.

We use trend-cycle<sup>1</sup> of total nonfarm employment series for such analysis as they eliminate the regular seasonality and irregular fluctuations from the employment time series.

Just three counties (Clark, Mason, and Snohomish) had higher than state average growth rates for all time periods. At the same time, as many as 14 areas for all three periods had lower than state average growth rates. Among them were large areas such as Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, King, Kitsap, Walla Walla, and Yakima.

By splitting the trend-cycle series into two<sup>2</sup>, trend and cycle, we can identify the levels of cyclical variations for the different areas.

The relative absolute share of the cyclical component is not large. For only 11 small areas, it is more than one percent. The largest share of the cyclical component for Columbia is 3.7 percent; the smallest for Thurston County is 0.3 percent. It could be speculated, that due to the large share of employment directly or indirectly related to general government, area employment growth is largely defined by the trend.

However, if we consider the relative contributions of the cyclical component in over the month employment changes, they are much more significant. Thurston County remains less cyclical with a relative contribution of 25.7 percent. This is the only area, which has a cyclical contribution for the local series less than for the total state.

**To simplify the picture of local contributions to the employment variance we can use the principal component analysis<sup>3</sup>.** The purpose of this tool is to derive a small number of independent linear combinations (vectors of principal components) of a set of variables that retain the major initial information. To identify principal components for time series for the 37 local areas we use the matrix of covariance.

The first vector (principal component) can explain 97.3 percent of total variance. We used the first four vectors, which explained more than 99.9 percent of total employment variance. The larger areas normally would have larger contributions to the total variance. To make this a relative measure, we divided the share of contribution by share of employment.

<sup>1</sup> We used Census 12 seasonal adjustment model to define trend-cycle series.

<sup>2</sup> We used Hodrick-Prescott Filter to separate trend and cycle components from trend-cycle series.

<sup>3</sup> The basic tutorial on Principal component analysis could be found at [http://csnet.otago.ac.nz/cosc453/student\\_tutorials/principal\\_components.pdf#search=principal%20component%20analysis](http://csnet.otago.ac.nz/cosc453/student_tutorials/principal_components.pdf#search=principal%20component%20analysis)



*The aerospace business cycle significantly contributes more to total nonfarm employment changes in Snohomish County than any other area.*

The absolute largest share of contribution obviously belongs to King County (41.2 percent), but the largest relative contributions come from Clark and Jefferson counties.

Ferry County is unique when compared to other counties. It has the largest contribution of cyclical component to employment changes (85.9 percent) and a negative correlation of this area's employment series with almost all other areas. In other words, larger employment in any other area is associated with smaller employment in Ferry County.

The Employment-based Local Economic Index (see: [http://www.workforceexplorer.com/admin/uploadedPublications/6615\\_indapr06.pdf](http://www.workforceexplorer.com/admin/uploadedPublications/6615_indapr06.pdf)) is another tool to assess local economic development. The latest updated indexes from January 1997 to August 2006 for state and all local areas with graphs are available for download at [https://www.workforceexplorer.com/admin/uploadedPublications/6614\\_indgraph.xls](https://www.workforceexplorer.com/admin/uploadedPublications/6614_indgraph.xls).

The Index is the one-month lagged actual monthly estimation divided by the average estimated employment for each of the 12 months. If growth were stable, there would be a continuously growing series, with the average of monthly indexes at one. A large index predicts a better employment outcome for the following month. The index is seasonally adjusted, which allows for monthly comparisons. Between January 2006 and August 2006, the index declined

for the majority of areas with the exception of six: Clark, King, Klickitat, Lewis, Stevens, and Whitman. In addition, only these areas have experienced a growing trend in the 2006 indexes. This indicates expectation of slower employment growth for other areas. The last available month index, however, decreased for five of six areas with a positive change in 2006. Only Whitman experienced a positive change over January and in August. Most likely, it is not enough to make a confident

conclusion about expectations of slowing growth in the other five areas, but the warning signs are in place.

In spite of the increase in index and trend-cycle employment in the last few years, King County still has both indicators at a level below the end of 2000 and the beginning of 2001. Speculation regarding the opportunity of restoring pre recession employment levels by the end of 2006 (from the year 2000) are still alive, but at this point it seems improbable.

### Employment Indicators for Washington State and Local Areas (based on preliminary employment estimates up to September 2006)

Area	Average annualized growth rates for Trend-cycle of employment series			Absolute contributions of the cyclical component		Contribution to variance based on principal components		Change in employment based economic index for Jan06 - Aug06
	Jan90 - Sept06	Last 3 years	Last year	Share in trend-cycle empl.	Contribution to employment changes	Absolute percentage	Relative to average employment shares	
State	1.8%	2.6%	2.7%	0.4%	30.3%	N/A	N/A	-0.14%
Adams	1.3%	0.6%	-0.6%	1.7%	81.6%	0.1%	0.33	-3.48%
Asotin	2.5%	1.0%	0.9%	1.0%	56.4%	0.3%	1.38	-2.09%
Benton & Franklin	2.1%	1.2%	0.3%	0.8%	47.6%	2.9%	0.82	-1.17%
Chelan & Douglas	1.8%	2.8%	1.4%	0.6%	49.7%	1.2%	0.82	-0.66%
Clallam	1.5%	3.2%	0.9%	0.5%	50.4%	0.6%	0.68	-1.95%
Clark	3.3%	4.2%	3.4%	0.6%	33.4%	7.1%	1.61	0.64%
Columbia	-0.6%	-3.9%	-7.6%	3.7%	83.5%	0.0%	0.29	-9.26%
Cowlitz	0.5%	1.4%	0.7%	0.7%	58.6%	0.5%	0.39	-2.02%
Ferry	-0.7%	0.3%	-7.5%	1.5%	85.9%	0.0%	0.36	-1.21%
Garfield	0.7%	-2.8%	-6.6%	1.6%	72.0%	0.0%	1.08	-1.03%
Grant	2.9%	1.1%	2.6%	0.9%	52.4%	1.2%	1.36	-1.68%
Grays Harbor	0.4%	2.0%	0.2%	0.9%	74.1%	0.1%	0.13	-1.31%
Island	2.2%	1.6%	2.0%	0.6%	51.7%	0.6%	0.95	-1.10%
Jefferson	3.0%	1.4%	0.2%	1.0%	47.1%	0.5%	1.59	-3.27%
King	1.4%	2.1%	2.5%	0.6%	38.7%	41.2%	1.04	0.06%
Kitsap	1.7%	2.2%	1.0%	0.4%	42.5%	2.4%	0.71	-0.80%
Kittitas	1.9%	1.1%	0.2%	0.9%	63.1%	0.5%	0.9	-1.77%
Klickitat	0.5%	2.7%	1.4%	1.2%	73.0%	0.0%	0.22	1.37%
Lewis	1.3%	2.3%	4.3%	0.7%	56.1%	0.6%	0.58	0.85%
Lincoln	1.0%	-1.8%	-4.6%	0.9%	62.4%	0.1%	0.75	-0.97%
Mason	2.5%	4.6%	3.9%	0.8%	52.8%	0.6%	1.13	-1.95%
Okanogan	0.7%	0.9%	-2.6%	1.1%	56.4%	0.1%	0.15	-5.29%
Pacific	0.7%	0.4%	-4.9%	0.9%	78.0%	0.1%	0.27	-0.50%
Pend Oreille	2.3%	1.9%	0.7%	1.4%	63.6%	0.1%	1.25	-0.92%
Pierce	2.1%	2.9%	2.4%	0.4%	37.1%	9.9%	1.03	-0.66%
San Juan	2.7%	1.3%	0.5%	1.2%	59.4%	0.3%	1.48	-3.07%
Skagit	2.7%	2.2%	0.3%	0.8%	46.7%	2.3%	1.47	-2.28%
Skamania	0.7%	4.9%	4.5%	2.1%	74.2%	0.0%	0.2	-3.29%
Snohomish	2.3%	4.0%	3.9%	0.9%	46.0%	8.9%	1.09	-0.34%
Spokane	2.1%	2.4%	2.9%	0.4%	38.4%	7.4%	0.96	-0.66%
Stevens	1.7%	1.0%	2.0%	0.8%	59.5%	0.3%	0.82	0.25%
Thurston	2.6%	2.8%	2.6%	0.3%	25.7%	4.1%	1.19	-0.33%
Wahkiakum	2.0%	2.8%	2.1%	1.5%	65.6%	0.0%	1.22	-2.01%
Walla Walla	0.9%	-0.3%	0.7%	0.6%	62.0%	0.5%	0.51	-1.17%
Whatcom	2.7%	2.9%	0.0%	0.6%	40.5%	3.3%	1.13	-0.79%
Whitman	1.5%	0.8%	0.0%	0.7%	61.5%	0.6%	0.81	0.95%
Yakima	1.1%	1.0%	1.8%	0.5%	57.0%	1.5%	0.46	-2.92%



# Special Feature

## Manufacturing Focus Group Summary

By Rick Lockhart, Economist

To help policy makers connect with manufacturers, the Labor Market and Economic Analysis branch of the Employment Security Department held a series of focus group discussions with labor and business. The representatives at these discussions were from four industries within the manufacturing sector: wood products, aerospace, high tech, and food processing. This write-up is a summary of three key topics that came up in all of the industry discussions with both business and labor. Of course, there were many more topics brought up in addition to these three. The full report can be found on [Workforceexplorer.com](http://Workforceexplorer.com) – Publications and Reports, Washington Manufacturing Research Project 2006.

### Three Key Themes

1. **Government attitude** toward business and how that effects the application of rules and processes
2. **Education** level of the labor force
3. Rising cost of **health insurance**

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Note: The issues discussed in this article are the opinions of participants in the focus group research. The Department was not an active participant in the discussions. The Department served as the moderator and then as the compiler/distributor of the information. The statements in this article are not to be taken as representing the Employment Security Department.

### Government Attitude

*Common issues mentioned relating to “government attitude:”*

- There is a need for a comprehensive, long-term plan to encourage growth in the number of manufacturing businesses and jobs.
- Federal, state, and local government need consistent, streamlined processes for applying rules and codes.
- Too much paperwork from multiple agencies, as well as too many codes
- Infighting among government entities
- Unstable regulations that make capital investment difficult

The lack of a long-term plan was the most frequently mentioned issue by employers and workers. Executives suggested the state make a plan for what manufacturing businesses it would like to retain/attract and lay out guidelines for employer incentives. They also noted that government investment into manufacturing, particularly for innovation, is critical for the industries’ success. This investment from the state would come in the form of infrastructure improvements (primarily transportation) and changes to the tax structure that would level the playing field for Washington employers and make the state more competitive with other states. Employers and workers both mentioned the need for the state to remove tax

incentives from businesses that offshore jobs.

Consistency and stability in government processes were also very important to business executives. One suggestion for solving this problem was to implement a one-stop permitting process with one set of guidelines. Executives discussed land use permits as one example of a process that involves several different government entities and a significant amount of inconsistency across agencies.

Many employers mentioned the costs involved with planning business improvements and investments under one set of regulations, then having new laws prevent them from gaining returns on the investment. This was an especially hot topic with employers/workers in the timber industry, who want to be able to make long-term harvesting plans.

### Education

*Common issues mentioned relating to education:*

- Need for continuous on-the-job training
- K-12 and post secondary education focusing more resources to technical and vocational training
- Aging of the manufacturing workforce
- Basic work ethic, math, and reading skills for new workers



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*Workers expressed the need for continuous on-the-job training to not only keep up with technological advances in their field, but to also prepare them for the job market in case of structural layoffs in their industry.*

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Workers expressed the need for continuous on-the-job training to not only keep up with technological advances in their field, but to also prepare them for the job market in case of structural layoffs in their industry. They felt that continual training would make workers more able to adapt to the ever changing needs of the modern job market.

Employers stressed the need for the high school and community college systems to offer more educational opportunities to prepare students for manufacturing careers. There was concern that preparation for vocational and technical jobs was disappearing and that high schools have become “a college prep track.”

Both workers and employers discussed the aging of the manufacturing workforce and the challenges the industry is having in attracting younger workers. Some proposed solutions were apprenticeships and on-the-job training programs that involve career ladders for students to follow.

#### **Rising Cost of Health Insurance**

*Common issues mentioned relating to health insurance:*

- Increasing costs are interfering with profitability and increases in workers’ total compensation.
- Companies providing health insurance subsidizing those that don’t
- Prescription drug costs and regulations preventing purchases of them from other countries

Employers cautioned that as these costs continue to rise they may have to either reduce the number of full-time workers or discontinue offering health insurance benefits. They proposed changing the requirements for self-insurance to allow lower cost coverage for firms based on significantly lower administrative costs. Additionally, employers suggested more options for health savings accounts, opportunities for volume purchasing, and better managing of prescription costs.

Workers expressed many of the same issues. However, in addition to what employers said, workers were concerned that they as insured workers were subsidizing uninsured workers, just as companies that provide health insurance subsidize those that do not. Some mentioned a national health plan as a way to distribute the costs of health insurance evenly among employers and workers. They also expressed concern about the cost of prescription medications, the inability to buy them from Canada, and that U.S. tax dollars subsidize pharmaceutical companies that sell prescription medications in other countries for less. Finally, workers stressed that they want objective doctors making the final decisions on their health care, not insurance companies.

# Third Quarter Stats-At-A-Glance

**Average Unemployment Rates by County**  
**July, August, and September 2006**  
**Washington State = 4.9%**  
**United States = 4.7%**  
 Not Seasonally Adjusted

## Monthly Resident Civilian Labor Force and Employment in Washington State

(In Thousands)

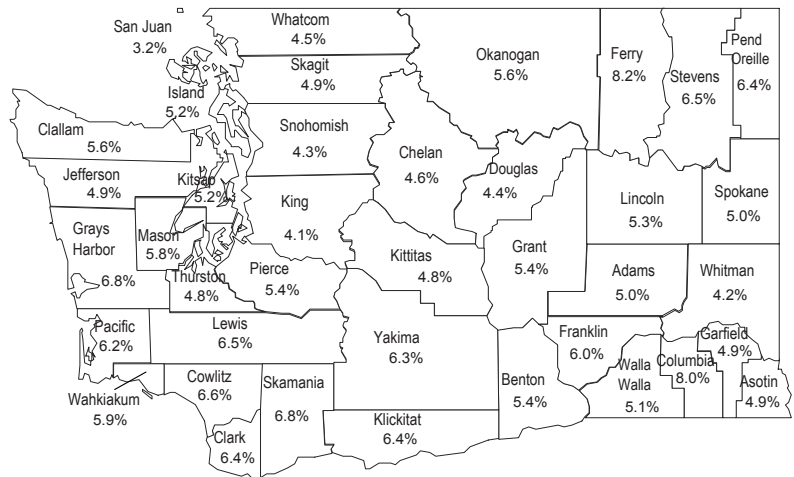
	July 2006 (Rev)	August 2006 (Rev)	Sept. 2006 (Prel)
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### Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment:

Washington State	5.3%	5.2%	5.3%
United States	4.6%	4.7%	4.8%

### Not Seasonally Adjusted:

Resident Civilian Labor Force	3,371.1	3,337.2	3,325.9
Employment	3,204.4	3,172.7	3,165.4
Unemployment	166.7	164.5	160.5
Percent of Labor Force	4.9%	4.9%	4.8%



Washington State  
 Employment Security Department  
 Labor Market and Economic Analysis

## Civilian Labor Force Estimates for Washington State Counties and MSAs<sup>1</sup>

Date: 10/17/06  
 Benchmark: March 2005

	July 2006 Revised				August Revised 2006				September 2006 Preliminary			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
<b>Not Seasonally Adjusted</b>												
Washington State Total	3,371,100	3,204,400	166,700	4.9	3,337,200	3,172,700	164,500	4.9	3,325,900	3,165,400	160,500	4.8
Bellingham MSA	104,100	99,200	4,800	4.6	102,100	97,400	4,700	4.6	100,200	95,800	4,300	4.3
Bremerton PMSA	122,700	116,100	6,600	5.4	123,200	116,700	6,400	5.2	120,300	114,300	6,000	5.0
Richland-Kennewick-Pasco MSA	115,900	109,100	6,800	5.9	114,000	107,700	6,400	5.6	112,400	106,500	5,800	5.2
Benton County 2/	87,300	82,400	4,900	5.6	86,100	81,300	4,700	5.5	84,700	80,400	4,300	5.1
Franklin County 2/	28,640	26,720	1,920	6.7	28,000	26,370	1,630	5.8	27,620	26,090	1,540	5.6
Longview MSA (Cowlitz)	44,170	41,180	3,000	6.8	43,950	41,030	2,910	6.6	43,420	40,710	2,710	6.2
Mt. Vernon-Anacortes MSA (Skagit)	58,620	55,650	2,970	5.1	57,990	55,060	2,930	5.1	56,610	53,940	2,660	4.7
Olympia PMSA	123,400	117,400	6,100	4.9	123,200	117,300	5,900	4.8	121,700	116,100	5,600	4.6
Seattle-Bellevue-Everett MD*	1,419,400	1,361,700	57,700	4.1	1,411,600	1,356,200	55,400	3.9	1,402,500	1,340,300	62,200	4.4
King County 2/	1,060,300	1,017,900	42,400	4.0	1,054,400	1,013,800	40,600	3.9	1,047,900	1,001,900	46,000	4.4
Snohomish County 2/	359,100	343,800	15,200	4.2	357,200	342,400	14,800	4.1	354,600	338,400	16,200	4.6
Spokane MSA	226,600	214,900	11,800	5.2	223,600	212,100	11,600	5.2	228,000	217,400	10,600	4.7
Tacoma Metropolitan Division	374,800	353,800	21,100	5.6	372,700	352,200	20,500	5.5	372,600	353,500	19,100	5.1
Wenatchee MSA	68,560	65,760	2,810	4.1	62,010	58,490	3,510	5.7	64,880	62,300	2,580	4.0
Chelan County 2/	45,510	43,650	1,860	4.1	41,220	38,830	2,400	5.8	43,110	41,360	1,760	4.1
Douglas County 2/	23,060	22,110	950	4.1	20,780	19,660	1,120	5.4	21,770	20,940	830	3.8
Yakima MSA	124,700	116,900	7,900	6.3	121,300	112,500	8,800	7.3	124,300	117,600	6,800	5.4
<b>Aberdeen LMA (Grays Harbor)</b>	31,890	29,700	2,190	6.9	31,400	29,240	2,160	6.9	31,110	29,080	2,030	6.5
<b>Centralia LMA (Lewis)</b>	32,290	30,100	2,200	6.8	32,040	29,940	2,090	6.5	31,640	29,670	1,970	6.2
<b>Ellensburg LMA (Kittitas)</b>	18,530	17,600	930	5.0	18,230	17,330	900	4.9	18,350	17,540	810	4.4
<b>Moses Lake LMA (Grant)</b>	40,760	38,370	2,390	5.9	40,010	37,750	2,260	5.6	40,990	39,010	1,980	4.8
<b>Oak Harbor LMA (Island County)</b>	32,000	30,300	1,700	5.4	31,900	30,200	1,700	5.3	31,700	30,100	1,600	5.0
<b>Port Angeles LMA (Clallam)</b>	29,710	27,970	1,740	5.8	29,560	27,880	1,690	5.7	29,210	27,680	1,530	5.2
<b>Pullman LMA (Whitman)</b>	18,090	17,260	830	4.6	20,010	19,160	850	4.2	20,520	19,710	810	3.9
<b>Shelton LMA (Mason)</b>	24,950	23,500	1,450	5.8	24,810	23,340	1,480	6.0	24,510	23,160	1,350	5.5
<b>Walla Walla LMA (Walla Walla)</b>	29,280	27,730	1,550	5.3	28,070	26,580	1,500	5.3	28,160	26,820	1,340	4.8
<b>Adams</b>	9,080	8,590	490	5.4	8,500	8,070	430	5.0	8,670	8,280	390	4.4
<b>Asotin 2/</b>	9,890	9,390	510	5.1	9,820	9,320	500	5.1	9,770	9,350	430	4.3
<b>Clark 2/</b>	202,400	189,500	12,900	6.4	202,600	189,100	13,500	6.7	201,300	188,900	12,400	6.1
<b>Columbia</b>	1,500	1,390	110	7.5	1,470	1,350	130	8.5	1,420	1,310	110	7.8
<b>Ferry</b>	2,940	2,690	250	8.6	2,940	2,680	260	8.8	2,870	2,670	210	7.1
<b>Garfield</b>	1,130	1,080	50	4.7	1,130	1,070	60	4.9	1,030	990	50	4.6
<b>Jefferson</b>	13,520	12,850	680	5.0	13,580	12,920	670	4.9	13,450	12,830	620	4.6
<b>Klickitat</b>	10,120	9,460	650	6.5	9,600	8,900	700	7.3	9,640	9,120	520	5.4
<b>Lincoln</b>	4,810	4,540	270	5.6	4,880	4,620	250	5.2	4,620	4,380	240	5.3
<b>Okanogan</b>	26,180	24,800	1,380	5.3	22,000	20,560	1,440	6.5	22,610	21,440	1,170	5.2
<b>Pacific</b>	9,480	8,870	610	6.5	9,400	8,810	590	6.3	9,170	8,610	550	6.0
<b>Pend Oreille</b>	5,130	4,780	350	6.8	5,200	4,860	340	6.5	5,080	4,780	300	5.9
<b>San Juan</b>	9,160	8,850	310	3.4	9,380	9,080	300	3.2	8,660	8,380	270	3.2
<b>Skamania 2/</b>	5,060	4,730	340	6.7	5,070	4,720	360	7.0	5,060	4,710	340	6.8
<b>Stevens</b>	18,480	17,200	1,280	6.9	18,180	16,950	1,230	6.8	17,940	16,880	1,060	5.9
<b>Wahkiakum</b>	1,710	1,610	100	5.8	1,710	1,610	100	5.9	1,670	1,580	100	5.8

1/ Official U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics data.  
 2/ Estimates are determined by using the Population/Claims Share disaggregation methodology.  
 Note: Detail may not add due to rounding.  
 \*Metropolitan Division

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

Quarterly Benchmark: March 2006

Seasonally Adjusted	August 2006 (Prel.)	July 2006 (Rev.)	August 2005 (Rev.)	July 2005 (Rev.)	Jul. 2006 to Aug. 2006	Numerical Change Aug. 2005 to Aug. 2006
<b>In Thousands</b>						
Total Nonfarm	2,861.3	2,858.9	2,786.9	2,781.7	2.4	74.4
Total Private	2,327.9	2,326.4	2,259.8	2,252.9	1.5	68.1
Goods Producing	486.1	486.6	460.8	460.1	-0.5	25.3
Natural Resources and Mining	8.5	8.6	8.8	8.9	-0.1	-0.3
Logging	5.1	5.2	5.4	5.5	-0.1	-0.3
Construction	193.2	193.7	177.5	176.5	-0.5	15.7
Construction of Buildings	51.5	51.6	46.9	46.4	-0.1	4.6
Heavy and Civil Engineering	22.0	22.2	21.2	21.0	-0.2	0.8
Specialty Trade Contractors	119.7 2/	119.9	109.4	109.1	-0.2	10.3
Manufacturing	284.4	284.3	274.5	274.7	0.1	9.9
Durable Goods	203.6	203.2	194.0	193.6	0.4	9.6
Wood Product Manufacturing	20.4	20.4	20.1	20.1	0.0	0.3
Sawmills and Wood Preservation	9.0	9.0	9.2	9.3	0.0	-0.2
Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing	10.3	10.2	9.7	9.7	0.1	0.6
Primary Metal Manufacturing	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.1	0.0	0.1
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	19.1	19.1	18.2	18.1	0.0	0.9
Machinery Manufacturing	14.6	14.7	13.6	13.6	-0.1	1.0
Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing	22.4	22.5	22.3	22.2	-0.1	0.1
Electrical Equipment and Appliance Mfg	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.3	0.0	0.0
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	87.4	86.9	81.0	80.9	0.5	6.4
Aerospace Product and Parts Manufacturing	73.5	73.0	68.0	67.8	0.5	5.5
Ship and Boat Building	7.9	7.8	7.0	7.3	0.1	0.9
Other Durable Goods Manufacturing	19.9	19.9	19.7	19.6	0.0	0.2
Non Durable Goods	80.8	81.1	80.5	81.1	-0.3	0.3
Food Manufacturing	33.4	33.9	32.9	33.8	-0.5	0.5
Fruit and Vegetable Preserving and Specialty	10.4	10.2	9.3	10.1	0.2	1.1
Other Food Manufacturing	23.0	23.7	23.6	23.7	-0.7	-0.6
Petrol & Coal prod Mfg & Plastics & Rubber prod Mfg	12.4	12.4	12.5	12.4	0.0	-0.1
Paper Manufacturing	12.0	12.1	12.2	12.3	-0.1	-0.2
Printing and Related Support Activities	8.3	8.4	8.7	8.7	-0.1	-0.4
Services Providing	2,375.2	2,372.3	2,326.1	2,321.6	2.9	49.1
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	543.6	542.2	532.8	529.9	1.4	10.8
Wholesale Trade	125.9	124.9	122.9	122.3	1.0	3.0
Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	68.1	67.4	65.8	65.7	0.7	2.3
Merchant Wholesalers, Non Durable Goods	44.3	44.2	44.1	43.9	0.1	0.2
Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	13.5	13.3	13.0	12.7	0.2	0.5
Retail Trade	324.9	324.4	319.0	316.9	0.5	5.9
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	42.0	42.3	42.3	42.3	-0.3	-0.3
Furniture and Home Furnishing Stores	12.1	12.4	12.0	11.9	-0.3	0.1
Building Material and Garden Supply Stores	29.3	29.2	27.7	27.6	0.1	1.6
Food and Beverage Stores	61.5	61.2	61.1	60.8	0.3	0.4
Health and Personal Care Stores	15.5	15.5	15.4	15.4	0.0	0.1
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	27.4	27.7	27.6	26.7	-0.3	-0.2
General Merchandise Stores	60.9	59.7	57.4	57.0	1.2	3.5
Other Retail Trade	76.2	76.4	75.5	75.2	-0.2	0.7
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	92.8	92.9	90.9	90.7	-0.1	1.9
Utilities	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.5	0.0	0.1
Transportation and Warehousing	88.2	88.3	86.4	86.2	-0.1	1.8
Air Transportation	11.0	10.8	11.1	11.5	0.2	-0.1
Water Transportation	3.4	3.4	3.2	3.3	0.0	0.2
Truck Transportation	24.9	24.4	24.1	24.1	0.5	0.8
Support Activities for Transportation	18.9	18.7	18.1	17.9	0.2	0.8
Support Activities for Water Transportation	6.2	6.3	5.6	5.6	-0.1	0.6
Warehousing and Storage	9.9	10.0	8.9	8.6	-0.1	1.0

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

Quarterly Benchmark: March 2006

Seasonally Adjusted	August 2006 (Prel.)	July 2006 (Rev.)	August 2005 (Rev.)	July 2005 (Rev.)	Jul. 2006 to Aug. 2006	Numerical Change Aug. 2005 to Aug. 2006
<b>In Thousands</b>						
Information	99.1	99.0	95.7	95.4	0.1	3.4
Newspaper, Book and Directory Publishers	10.7	10.9	11.2	11.2	-0.2	-0.5
Software Publishers	45.2	45.2	41.6	41.5	0.0	3.6
Broadcasting, except Internet	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.4	0.0	-0.1
Telecommunications	25.2	24.9	25.8	25.5	0.3	-0.6
Wired Telecommunications Carriers	7.2	7.2	7.6	7.7	0.0	-0.4
Wireless Telecommunications Carriers	13.2	13.0	13.1	12.8	0.2	0.1
Financial Activities	155.5	155.7	154.9	154.3	-0.2	0.6
Finance and Insurance	105.5	105.3	105.2	104.7	0.2	0.3
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	55.5	55.2	55.2	54.8	0.3	0.3
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	38.5	38.8	38.9	38.8	-0.3	-0.4
Real Estate and Rental Leasing	50.0	50.4	49.7	49.6	-0.4	0.3
Professional and Business Services	333.1	333.5	318.0	317.7	-0.4	15.1
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	146.7	147.3	142.9	142.8	-0.6	3.8
Legal Services	20.4	20.5	20.9	20.9	-0.1	-0.5
Accounting and Bookkeeping Services	17.6	17.4	15.3	15.4	0.2	2.3
Architectural and Engineering Services	33.6	33.5	33.1	33.1	0.1	0.5
Computer Systems Design and Related Services	25.1	24.8	22.7	22.3	0.3	2.4
Management of Companies and Enterprises	36.1	36.1	34.1	33.8	0.0	2.0
Admin and Support and Waste Mgmt and Remediation	150.3	150.1	141.0	141.1	0.2	9.3
Administrative and Support Services	137.0	136.8	127.2	127.2	0.2	9.8
Employment Services	57.1	57.5	51.0	51.0	-0.4	6.1
Other Administrative and Support Services	79.9	79.3	76.2	76.2	0.6	3.7
Waste Management and Remediation Services	13.3	13.3	13.8	13.9	0.0	-0.5
Education and Health Services	335.2	334.1	330.3	329.0	1.1	4.9
Education Services	43.3	43.0	43.4	43.3	0.3	-0.1
Health Services and Social Assistance	291.9	291.1	286.9	285.7	0.8	5.0
Ambulatory Health Care Services	118.5	117.3	117.2	117.0	1.2	1.3
Hospitals	65.8	65.5	63.9	63.2	0.3	1.9
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	54.4	55.1	53.8	53.7	-0.7	0.6
Social Assistance	53.2	53.2	52.0	51.8	0.0	1.2
Leisure and Hospitality	271.6	271.3	264.3	263.7	0.3	7.3
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	44.6	44.6	45.3	45.2	0.0	-0.7
Accommodation and Food Services	227.0	226.7	219.0	218.5	0.3	8.0
Accommodation	29.5	29.4	28.9	28.8	0.1	0.6
Food Services and Drinking Places	197.5	197.3	190.1	189.7	0.2	7.4
Other Services	103.7	104.0	103.0	102.8	-0.3	0.7
Repair and Maintenance	28.1	28.3	28.3	28.2	-0.2	-0.2
Personal and Laundry Services	25.5	25.6	25.2	25.1	-0.1	0.3
Membership Associations and Organizations	50.1	50.1	49.5	49.5	0.0	0.6
Government	533.4	532.5	527.1	528.8	0.9	6.3
Federal Government	69.1	69.5	69.6	69.5	-0.4	-0.5
Total State Government	147.3	147.1	148.8	148.2	0.2	-1.5
State Government Educational Services	80.9	80.5	81.5	81.0	0.4	-0.6
Total Local Government	317.0	315.9	308.7	311.1	1.1	8.3
Local Government Educational Services	157.0	155.9	152.0	154.6	1.1	5.0
Other Local Government	160.0	160.0	156.7	156.5	0.0	3.3
Workers in Labor-Management Disputes	0.1	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.

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

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 1st quarter 2006) and estimates employment from that point to present.

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

Quarterly Benchmark: March 2006

						Numerical Change
Seasonally Adjusted	September	August	September	August	Aug. 2006	Sep. 2005
In Thousands	2006	2006	2005	2005	to	to
	(Prel.)	(Rev.)	(Rev.)	(Rev.)	Sep. 2006	Sep. 2006
Total Nonfarm	2,865.7	2,861.6	2,781.3	2,786.9	4.1	84.4
Total Private	2,335.1	2,328.9	2,253.4	2,259.8	6.2	81.7
Goods Producing	488.0	486.4	448.9	460.8	1.6	39.1
Natural Resources and Mining	8.5	8.6	8.8	8.8	-0.1	-0.3
Logging	5.1	5.1	5.5	5.4	0.0	-0.4
Construction	194.5	193.0	179.8	177.5	1.5	14.7
Construction of Buildings	52.3	51.4	47.6	46.9	0.9	4.7
Heavy and Civil Engineering	22.3	22.0	21.4	21.2	0.3	0.9
Specialty Trade Contractors	119.9	119.6 2/	110.8	109.4	0.3	9.1
Manufacturing	285.0	284.8	260.3	274.5	0.2	24.7
Durable Goods	204.8	204.0	179.4	194.0	0.8	25.4
Wood Product Manufacturing	20.4	20.3	20.2	20.1	0.1	0.2
Sawmills and Wood Preservation	9.1	9.0	9.3	9.2	0.1	-0.2
Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing	10.4	10.4	9.7	9.7	0.0	0.7
Primary Metal Manufacturing	5.3	5.2	5.1	5.1	0.1	0.2
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	19.3	19.2	18.4	18.2	0.1	0.9
Machinery Manufacturing	14.8	14.7	13.7	13.6	0.1	1.1
Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing	22.3	22.5	22.2	22.3	-0.2	0.1
Electrical Equipment and Appliance Mfg	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.3	0.0	0.0
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	88.1	87.5	65.9	81.0	0.6	22.2
Aerospace Product and Parts Manufacturing	74.0	73.6	53.0	68.0	0.4	21.0
Ship and Boat Building	8.0	7.9	7.1	7.0	0.1	0.9
Other Durable Goods Manufacturing	19.9	19.9	19.9	19.7	0.0	0.0
Non Durable Goods	80.2	80.8	80.9	80.5	-0.6	-0.7
Food Manufacturing	33.6	33.5	34.2	32.9	0.1	-0.6
Fruit and Vegetable Preserving and Specialty	9.8	10.1	10.0	9.3	-0.3	-0.2
Other Food Manufacturing	23.8	23.4	24.2	23.6	0.4	-0.4
Petrol & Coal prod Mfg & Plastics & Rubber prod Mfg	12.4	12.3	12.5	12.5	0.1	-0.1
Paper Manufacturing	11.8	12.0	12.0	12.2	-0.2	-0.2
Printing and Related Support Activities	8.4	8.3	8.7	8.7	0.1	-0.3
Services Providing	2,377.7	2,375.2	2,332.4	2,326.1	2.5	45.3
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	542.7	542.9	533.2	532.8	-0.2	9.5
Wholesale Trade	125.4	125.3	123.1	122.9	0.1	2.3
Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	68.0	67.7	66.0	65.8	0.3	2.0
Merchant Wholesalers, Non Durable Goods	44.0	44.3	44.0	44.1	-0.3	0.0
Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	13.4	13.3	13.1	13.0	0.1	0.3
Retail Trade	325.0	324.8	319.2	319.0	0.2	5.8
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	41.9	42.2	42.2	42.3	-0.3	-0.3
Furniture and Home Furnishing Stores	12.4	12.4	12.0	12.0	0.0	0.4
Building Material and Garden Supply Stores	29.3	29.2	27.9	27.7	0.1	1.4
Food and Beverage Stores	61.5	61.6	61.4	61.1	-0.1	0.1
Health and Personal Care Stores	15.8	15.6	15.5	15.4	0.2	0.3
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	27.9	27.5	27.1	27.6	0.4	0.8
General Merchandise Stores	59.5	59.6	57.3	57.4	-0.1	2.2
Other Retail Trade	76.7	76.7	75.8	75.5	0.0	0.9
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	92.3	92.8	90.9	90.9	-0.5	1.4
Utilities	4.6	4.7	4.5	4.5	-0.1	0.1
Transportation and Warehousing	87.7	88.1	86.4	86.4	-0.4	1.3
Air Transportation	10.7	10.8	11.1 2/	11.1	-0.1	-0.4
Water Transportation	3.3	3.4	3.2	3.2	-0.1	0.1
Truck Transportation	24.7	24.5	24.3	24.1	0.2	0.4
Support Activities for Transportation	18.8	18.7	18.1	18.1	0.1	0.7
Support Activities for Water Transportation	6.2	6.2	5.7	5.6	0.0	0.5
Warehousing and Storage	9.4	10.0	8.6	8.9	-0.6	0.8

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

Quarterly Benchmark: March 2006

						Numerical Change
Seasonally Adjusted	September	August	September	August	Aug. 2006	Sep. 2005
In Thousands	2006 (Prel.)	2006 (Rev.)	2005 (Rev.)	2005 (Rev.)	to Sep. 2006	to Sep. 2006
Information	100.5	99.8	95.7	95.7	0.7	4.8
Newspaper, Book and Directory Publishers	11.1	11.0	11.1	11.2	0.1	0.0
Software Publishers	45.8	45.6	41.9	41.6	0.2	3.9
Broadcasting, except Internet	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.4	-0.1	-0.1
Telecommunications	25.3	25.0	25.3	25.8	0.3	0.0
Wired Telecommunications Carriers	7.1	7.1	7.5	7.6	0.0	-0.4
Wireless Telecommunications Carriers	13.5	13.2	12.8	13.1	0.3	0.7
Financial Activities	157.0	155.5	155.2	154.9	1.5	1.8
Finance and Insurance	106.5	104.9	105.6	105.2	1.6	0.9
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	55.5	54.9	55.5	55.2	0.6	0.0
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	38.8	38.7	38.8	38.9	0.1	0.0
Real Estate and Rental Leasing	50.5	50.6	49.6	49.7	-0.1	0.9
Professional and Business Services	334.1	333.3	320.0	318.0	0.8	14.1
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	148.3	148.3	143.5	142.9	0.0	4.8
Legal Services	20.5	20.4	20.9	20.9	0.1	-0.4
Accounting and Bookkeeping Services	17.2	17.5	15.5	15.3	-0.3	1.7
Architectural and Engineering Services	34.1	33.6	33.0	33.1	0.5	1.1
Computer Systems Design and Related Services	24.4	24.2	22.9	22.7	0.2	1.5
Management of Companies and Enterprises	36.2	36.2	33.9	34.1	0.0	2.3
Admin and Support and Waste Mgmt and Remediation	149.6	148.8	142.6	141.0	0.8	7.0
Administrative and Support Services	136.2	135.5	128.9	127.2	0.7	7.3
Employment Services	58.4	57.4	52.3	51.0	1.0	6.1
Other Administrative and Support Services	77.8	78.1	76.6	76.2	-0.3	1.2
Waste Management and Remediation Services	13.4	13.3	13.7	13.8	0.1	-0.3
Education and Health Services	337.2	335.2	332.6	330.3	2.0	4.6
Education Services	43.6	43.4	43.7	43.4	0.2	-0.1
Health Services and Social Assistance	293.6	291.8	288.9	286.9	1.8	4.7
Ambulatory Health Care Services	118.9	117.8	118.1	117.2	1.1	0.8
Hospitals	65.7	65.7	64.2	63.9	0.0	1.5
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	55.3	54.9	53.9	53.8	0.4	1.4
Social Assistance	53.7	53.4	52.7	52.0	0.3	1.0
Leisure and Hospitality	271.7	272.0	264.7	264.3	-0.3	7.0
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	44.4	44.4	44.7	45.3	0.0	-0.3
Accommodation and Food Services	227.3	227.6	220.0	219.0	-0.3	7.3
Accommodation	29.6	29.5	29.0	28.9	0.1	0.6
Food Services and Drinking Places	197.7	198.1	191.0	190.1	-0.4	6.7
Other Services	103.9	103.8	103.1	103.0	0.1	0.8
Repair and Maintenance	28.3	28.2	28.4	28.3	0.1	-0.1
Personal and Laundry Services	25.6	25.5	25.1	25.2	0.1	0.5
Membership Associations and Organizations	50.0	50.1	49.6	49.5	-0.1	0.4
Government	530.6	532.7	527.9	527.1	-2.1	2.7
Federal Government	68.9	69.1	69.6	69.6	-0.2	-0.7
Total State Government	147.7	147.2	149.6	148.8	0.5	-1.9
State Government Educational Services	80.8	80.8	81.6	81.5	0.0	-0.8
Total Local Government	314.0	316.4	308.7	308.7	-2.4	5.3
Local Government Educational Services	153.4	156.4	151.5	152.0	-3.0	1.9
Other Local Government	160.6	160.0	157.2	156.7	0.6	3.4
Workers in Labor-Management Disputes	0.0	0.1	16.1	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.

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

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 1st quarter 2006) and estimates employment from that point to present.

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

<i>In Thousands, Not Seasonally Adjusted</i>	July 2006 (Prel)	June 2006 (Rev)	July 2005 (Rev)	June 2005 (Rev)	Numeric Change	
					June 2006 to July 2006	July 2005 to July 2006
<b>Total Nonagricultural Wage &amp; Salary Workers</b>	2,877.3	2,891.0	2,789.2	2,800.8	-13.7	88.1
Natural Resources and Mining	8.4	8.3	9.2	9.2	0.1	-0.8
Logging	5.1	5.1	5.7	5.7	0.0	-0.6
<b>Construction</b>	200.9	195.8	184.3	178.8	5.1	16.6
Construction of Buildings	52.8	51.2	48.0	46.6	1.6	4.8
Heavy and Civil Engineering	25.3	24.6	23.0	22.0	0.7	2.3
Specialty Trade Contractors	122.8	120.0	113.3	110.2	2.8	9.5
<b>Manufacturing</b>	286.6	283.4	278.1	274.1	3.2	8.5
Durable Goods	203.5	202.2	194.7	192.8	1.3	8.8
Wood Product Manufacturing	20.2	20.1	20.4	20.1	0.1	-0.2
Fabricated Metal Products	19.4	19.2	18.4	18.2	0.2	1.0
Computer and Electronic Products	21.7	21.6	22.2	22.2	0.1	-0.5
Transportation Equipment	87.4	86.9	81.0	80.0	0.5	6.4
Aerospace Products and Parts	74.0	73.5	67.8	66.6	0.5	6.2
Nondurable Goods	83.1	81.2	83.4	81.3	1.9	-0.3
Food Manufacturing	35.6	34.1	35.3	33.7	1.5	0.3
<b>Wholesale Trade</b>	125.7	126.0	124.0	123.5	-0.3	1.7
<b>Retail Trade</b>	326.1	325.9	317.8	315.5	0.2	8.3
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	43.0	42.9	42.8	42.6	0.1	0.2
Food and Beverage Stores	63.1	63.1	61.8	61.4	0.0	1.3
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	27.9	27.5	27.0	25.9	0.4	0.9
General Merchandise Stores	57.9	57.7	55.6	55.1	0.2	2.3
<b>Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities</b>	94.1	93.2	91.8	92.1	0.9	2.3
Utilities	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	0.0	0.0
Transportation and Warehousing	89.6	88.7	87.3	87.6	0.9	2.3
Air Transportation	11.3	11.2	11.7	11.8	0.1	-0.4
Water Transportation	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.4	0.1	0.2
Truck Transportation	25.3	24.8	24.9	24.5	0.5	0.4
Support Activities for Transportation	19.4	18.9	18.3	18.2	0.5	1.1
Support Activities for Water Transportation	6.6	6.2	6.1	6.0	0.4	0.5
Warehousing and Storage	9.7	9.4	8.6	8.8	0.3	1.1
<b>Information</b>	98.4	98.2	96.0	95.0	0.2	2.4
Software Publishers	45.5	44.7	42.3	41.0	0.8	3.2
Telecommunications	24.9	25.1	25.5	25.6	-0.2	-0.6
<b>Financial Activities</b>	159.2	158.6	155.8	154.2	0.6	3.4
Finance and Insurance	106.8	106.9	105.1	104.1	-0.1	1.7
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	55.7	55.8	54.9	54.2	-0.1	0.8
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	39.6	39.5	38.9	38.7	0.1	0.7
Real Estate and Rental Leasing	52.4	51.7	50.7	50.1	0.7	1.7
<b>Professional and Business Services</b>	341.6	337.4	322.3	317.7	4.2	19.3
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	146.2	145.8	142.5	141.5	0.4	3.7
Legal Services	21.0	20.9	21.2	21.1	0.1	-0.2
Architectural, Engineering, and Related Services	34.6	34.1	33.5	33.3	0.5	1.1
Computer Systems Design and Related Services	23.6	23.6	22.3	21.9	0.0	1.3
Management of Companies and Enterprises	37.2	36.5	34.1	33.4	0.7	3.1
Admin., Suppt. Svcs., Waste Mgmt., Remediation	158.2	155.1	145.7	142.8	3.1	12.5
Employment Services	58.5	55.9	53.0	50.4	2.6	5.5
<b>Education and Health Services</b>	332.5	335.7	322.8	328.0	-3.2	9.7
Educational Services	36.8	39.5	36.7	42.0	-2.7	0.1
Hospitals	65.2	65.1	63.1	62.9	0.1	2.1
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	55.1	55.0	53.9	54.2	0.1	1.2
Social Assistance	54.1	55.1	51.6	52.2	-1.0	2.5
<b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>	283.2	280.9	274.2	271.0	2.3	9.0
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	50.2	49.7	48.1	47.3	0.5	2.1
Accommodation	32.4	31.1	31.7	30.1	1.3	0.7
Food Services and Drinking Places	200.6	200.1	194.4	193.6	0.5	6.2
<b>Government</b>	513.8	540.9	508.6	537.5	-27.1	5.2
Federal	70.4	69.8	70.6	70.1	0.6	-0.2
State	133.2	151.1	132.4	150.1	-17.9	0.8
State Educational Services	64.0	81.9	64.3	81.8	-17.9	-0.3
Local	310.2	320.0	305.6	317.3	-9.8	4.6
Local Educational Services	145.3	158.4	144.4	158.2	-13.1	0.9
<b>Workers in Labor-Management Disputes</b>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

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



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

<i>In Thousands, Not Seasonally Adjusted</i>	August 2006 (Prel)	July 2006 (Rev)	August 2005 (Rev)	July 2005 (Rev)	Numeric Change	
					Jul. 2006 to Aug. 2006	Aug. 2005 to Aug. 2006
<b>Total Nonagricultural Wage &amp; Salary Workers</b>	2,874.3	2,876.2	2,789.5	2,789.2	-1.9	84.8
Natural Resources and Mining	8.3	8.4	9.1	9.2	-0.1	-0.8
Logging	5.1	5.1	5.6	5.7	0.0	-0.5
<b>Construction</b>	204.0	201.6	188.0	184.3	2.4	16.0
Construction of Buildings	53.9	53.2	49.3	48.0	0.7	4.6
Heavy and Civil Engineering	25.9	25.5	23.9	23.0	0.4	2.0
Specialty Trade Contractors	124.2 2/	122.9	114.8	113.3	1.3	9.4
<b>Manufacturing</b>	287.6	287.1	278.1	278.1	0.5	9.5
Durable Goods	204.5	203.8	195.1	194.7	0.7	9.4
Wood Product Manufacturing	20.2	20.2	20.5	20.4	0.0	-0.3
Fabricated Metal Products	19.4	19.3	18.5	18.4	0.1	0.9
Computer and Electronic Products	21.8	21.8	22.3	22.2	0.0	-0.5
Transportation Equipment	88.2	87.7	81.0	81.0	0.5	7.2
Aerospace Products and Parts	74.5	74.0	68.0	67.8	0.5	6.5
Nondurable Goods	83.1	83.3	83.0	83.4	-0.2	0.1
Food Manufacturing	36.2	35.9	35.0	35.3	0.3	1.2
<b>Wholesale Trade</b>	126.3	125.5	124.4	124.0	0.8	1.9
<b>Retail Trade</b>	329.2	326.9	320.7	317.8	2.3	8.5
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	43.1	43.3	42.9	42.8	-0.2	0.2
Food and Beverage Stores	63.6	63.0	62.3	61.8	0.6	1.3
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	28.4	28.4	28.1	27.0	0.0	0.3
General Merchandise Stores	59.9	58.1	56.7	55.6	1.8	3.2
<b>Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities</b>	93.8	93.9	92.1	91.8	-0.1	1.7
Utilities	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	0.0	0.0
Transportation and Warehousing	89.3	89.4	87.6	87.3	-0.1	1.7
Air Transportation	11.5	11.2	11.3	11.7	0.3	0.2
Water Transportation	3.6	3.7	3.3	3.4	-0.1	0.3
Truck Transportation	25.7	25.2	25.0	24.9	0.5	0.7
Support Activities for Transportation	19.4	19.2	18.5	18.3	0.2	0.9
Support Activities for Water Transportation	6.5	6.6	6.1	6.1	-0.1	0.4
Warehousing and Storage	9.8	9.8	9.0	8.6	0.0	0.8
<b>Information</b>	99.7	99.2	96.7	96.0	0.5	3.0
Software Publishers	45.7	45.6	42.6	42.3	0.1	3.1
Telecommunications	25.1	24.8	25.8	25.5	0.3	-0.7
<b>Financial Activities</b>	159.2	159.0	157.2	155.8	0.2	2.0
Finance and Insurance	106.8	106.4	106.0	105.1	0.4	0.8
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	56.1	55.7	55.5	54.9	0.4	0.6
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	39.0	39.2	39.1	38.9	-0.2	-0.1
Real Estate and Rental Leasing	52.4	52.6	51.2	50.7	-0.2	1.2
<b>Professional and Business Services</b>	345.0	343.4	324.7	322.3	1.6	20.3
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	146.6	147.0	143.0	142.5	-0.4	3.6
Legal Services	20.7	20.9	21.2	21.2	-0.2	-0.5
Architectural, Engineering, and Related Services	35.0	34.8	33.6	33.5	0.2	1.4
Computer Systems Design and Related Services	24.1	23.8	22.7	22.3	0.3	1.4
Management of Companies and Enterprises	36.9	36.9	34.6	34.1	0.0	2.3
Admin., Suppt. Svcs., Waste Mgmt., Remediation	161.5	159.5	147.1	145.7	2.0	14.4
Employment Services	60.1	58.4	54.7	53.0	1.7	5.4
<b>Education and Health Services</b>	330.2	329.7	323.5	322.8	0.5	6.7
Educational Services	35.7	36.5	35.7	36.7	-0.8	0.0
Hospitals	65.5	65.2	63.8	63.1	0.3	1.7
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	54.9	55.4	54.1	53.9	-0.5	0.8
Social Assistance	53.3	53.5	51.7	51.6	-0.2	1.6
<b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>	284.8	282.8	276.1	274.2	2.0	8.7
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	49.8	49.7	48.2	48.1	0.1	1.6
Accommodation	32.8	32.1	32.3	31.7	0.7	0.5
Food Services and Drinking Places	202.2	201.0	195.6	194.4	1.2	6.6
<b>Government</b>	500.3	512.2	494.6	508.6	-11.9	5.7
Federal	70.0	70.4	70.6	70.6	-0.4	-0.6
State	133.5	131.5	134.7	132.4	2.0	-1.2
State Educational Services	66.1	63.9	66.4	64.3	2.2	-0.3
Local	296.8	310.3	289.3	305.6	-13.5	7.5
Local Educational Services	131.8	145.2	128.0	144.4	-13.4	3.8
<b>Workers in Labor-Management Disputes</b>	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1

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

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics

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

<i>In Thousands, Not Seasonally Adjusted</i>	Sept.	August	Sept.	August	Numeric Change	
	2006 (Prel)	2006 (Rev)	2005 (Rev)	2005 (Rev)	Aug. 2006 to Sept. 2006	Sept. 2005 to Sept. 2006
<b>Total Nonagricultural Wage &amp; Salary Workers</b>	2,896.2	2,873.3	2,802.0	2,789.5	22.9	94.2
Natural Resources and Mining	8.3	8.4	9.1	9.1	-0.1	-0.8
Logging	5.0	5.0	5.6	5.6	0.0	-0.6
<b>Construction</b>	203.9	203.8	189.1	188.0	0.1	14.8
Construction of Buildings	54.1	53.7	49.3	49.3	0.4	4.8
Heavy and Civil Engineering	26.0	26.0	24.0	23.9	0.0	2.0
Specialty Trade Contractors	123.8	124.1 2/	115.8	114.8	-0.3	8.0
<b>Manufacturing</b>	289.0	287.9	264.7	278.1	1.1	24.3
Durable Goods	205.4	204.8	180.3	195.1	0.6	25.1
Wood Product Manufacturing	20.1	20.2	20.4	20.5	-0.1	-0.3
Fabricated Metal Products	19.5	19.5	18.5	18.5	0.0	1.0
Computer and Electronic Products	21.7	21.8	22.2	22.3	-0.1	-0.5
Transportation Equipment	88.8	88.2	66.0	81.0	0.6	22.8
Aerospace Products and Parts	75.0	74.5	53.0 2/	68.0	0.5	22.0
Nondurable Goods	83.6	83.1	84.4	83.0	0.5	-0.8
Food Manufacturing	36.5	36.2	36.7	35.0	0.3	-0.2
<b>Wholesale Trade</b>	125.7	125.8	124.4	124.4	-0.1	1.3
<b>Retail Trade</b>	327.8	328.6	320.1	320.7	-0.8	7.7
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	42.9	43.3	42.7	42.9	-0.4	0.2
Food and Beverage Stores	63.2	63.6	62.3	62.3	-0.4	0.9
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	28.3	28.6	27.1	28.1	-0.3	1.2
General Merchandise Stores	58.8	58.6	56.8	56.7	0.2	2.0
<b>Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities</b>	94.5	93.7	93.1	92.1	0.8	1.4
Utilities	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	0.0	0.0
Transportation and Warehousing	90.0	89.2	88.6	87.6	0.8	1.4
Air Transportation	11.1	11.2	11.3 2/	11.3	-0.1	-0.2
Water Transportation	3.6	3.6	3.3	3.3	0.0	0.3
Truck Transportation	25.3	25.4	24.9	25.0	-0.1	0.4
Support Activities for Transportation	19.3	19.2	18.5	18.5	0.1	0.8
Support Activities for Water Transportation	6.5	6.5	6.1	6.1	0.0	0.4
Warehousing and Storage	9.9	9.8	9.3	9.0	0.1	0.6
<b>Information</b>	100.2	100.4	96.0	96.7	-0.2	4.2
Software Publishers	46.0	46.1	42.7	42.6	-0.1	3.3
Telecommunications	25.1	24.9	25.3	25.8	0.2	-0.2
<b>Financial Activities</b>	159.8	159.2	156.8	157.2	0.6	3.0
Finance and Insurance	107.4	106.2	106.2	106.0	1.2	1.2
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	56.0	55.5	55.7	55.5	0.5	0.3
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	39.2	39.1	39.2	39.1	0.1	0.0
Real Estate and Rental Leasing	52.4	53.0	50.6	51.2	-0.6	1.8
<b>Professional and Business Services</b>	345.6	344.5	326.2	324.7	1.1	19.4
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	147.6	148.3	142.7	143.0	-0.7	4.9
Legal Services	20.7	20.7	21.1	21.2	0.0	-0.4
Architectural, Engineering, and Related Services	35.2	34.9	33.2	33.6	0.3	2.0
Computer Systems Design and Related Services	23.4	23.2	22.9	22.7	0.2	0.5
Management of Companies and Enterprises	37.1	37.1	34.3	34.6	0.0	2.8
Admin., Suppt. Svcs., Waste Mgmt., Remediation	160.9	159.1	149.2	147.1	1.8	11.7
Employment Services	62.2	60.4	56.8	54.7	1.8	5.4
<b>Education and Health Services</b>	337.3	330.3	330.7	323.5	7.0	6.6
Educational Services	41.4	35.8	41.5	35.7	5.6	-0.1
Hospitals	65.4	65.4	64.1	63.8	0.0	1.3
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	55.7	55.4	54.1	54.1	0.3	1.6
Social Assistance	54.3	53.6	52.5	51.7	0.7	1.8
<b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>	282.4	285.1	274.2	276.1	-2.7	8.2
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	50.1	49.6	48.1	48.2	0.5	2.0
Accommodation	31.4	32.7	30.9	32.3	-1.3	0.5
Food Services and Drinking Places	200.9	202.8	195.2	195.6	-1.9	5.7
<b>Government</b>	516.5	499.7	514.0	494.6	16.8	2.5
Federal	69.5	70.0	70.3	70.6	-0.5	-0.8
State	140.3	133.4	142.1	134.7	6.9	-1.8
State Educational Services	73.9	66.0	74.5	66.4	7.9	-0.6
Local	306.7	296.3	301.6	289.3	10.4	5.1
Local Educational Services	140.2	131.3	139.0	128.0	8.9	1.2
<b>Workers in Labor-Management Disputes</b>	0.0	0.1	16.1	0.0	-0.1	-16.1

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

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics

# What's New?

## National Awards

The National Association of State Workforce Agencies recently announced that the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch received national recognition for two of its products. The *2005 Agricultural Workforce in Washington State: Report and Highlights*, and the *Career Clusters* career information internet tool, both won 1st place in the 2006 NASWA Labor Market Information Communication/Publication Awards competition.

Washington was the winner for Innovative Labor Market Information research and for the Product or Service Disseminating Industry and/or Occupational Employment Projections to Customers categories. The 2005 Agricultural Workforce Report provides information on the agricultural labor market in Washington state and is used by employers, industry associations, and state agencies to inform agricultural policy. The Career Clusters internet tool provides detailed occupational wages and demand information based on the U.S. Department of Education career clusters taxonomy. Both of the winning products can be found at [www.workforceexplorer.com](http://www.workforceexplorer.com).



We are pleased to announce the initiation of our periodic newsletter, Workforce Explorer Updates.

In it you will find the most recent labor market information:

- Employment and unemployment figures
- Analysis of national and statewide data and its relevance to Washington state's labor market
- Special feature articles
- Analysis of specific industries and related occupations
- Links to excel files you can download
- Metro area updates
- Business openings and closures

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