

The Monthly Employment Report

Washington 3.8%

United States 3.6%

Seasonally adjusted

June 2023



Employment Security Department
WASHINGTON STATE



For workers and businesses affected by COVID-19, Employment Security has updated information on the website at esd.wa.gov. For labor market information questions, please send your emails to data@esd.wa.gov.

Employment estimates in this report are generated by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Monthly employment estimates are subject to revision in subsequent months when more sample data become available. BLS data in this report are rounded to the nearest 100.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, preliminary estimates from the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) indicate nonfarm employment in Washington rose by 11,900 in June 2023.1 BLS estimates the private sector gained 8,800 jobs during the month and the public sector added 3,100 jobs.

On a not seasonally adjusted basis, estimates for June 2022 through June 2023 indicate an increase in employment of 117,900 for the state. The private sector gained 92,300 jobs while the public sector gained an estimated 25,600 jobs over the year.

Washington's preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for June 2023 is 3.8 percent. The revised estimated June 2023 unemployment rate is at 4.1 percent. The June 2022 unemployment rate was 3.9 percent.

BLS estimates of monthly job gains and losses are based on a survey of businesses. Preliminary estimates are subject to revision. The May 2023 preliminary estimated gain of 2,900 jobs was revised to a gain of 4,700 jobs.

For more information, call Paul Turek at 360-706-3044

Resident civilian labor force and unemployment, seasonally adjusted

The resident civilian labor force is the total number of people in the workforce, employed and unemployed, ages 16 and up.

The number of unemployed is the estimated number of people who currently do not have a job, are available for work and have actively looked for work in the last four weeks.

The unemployment rate is the ratio of the estimated number of unemployed divided by the civilian labor force.

Resident civilian labor force and unemployment, seasonally adjusted
United States and Washington state, May and June 2022 and 2023

Source: Employment Security Department/DATA Division; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

	June 2023 (Preliminary)	May 2023 (Revised)	June 2022 (Revised)	May 2022 (Revised)
United States				
Unemployment rate	3.6%	3.7%	3.6%	3.6%
<i>Seasonally adjusted</i>				
Washington				
Unemployment rate	3.8%	4.1%	3.9%	3.9%
Resident labor force	4,068,100	4,065,200	3,982,923	3,989,296
Unemployed	154,500	165,000	155,078	157,492
Seattle/Bellevue/Everett				
Unemployment rate	3.0%	3.0%	2.6%	2.7%
Resident labor force	1,810,900	1,802,900	1,782,200	1,776,100
Unemployed	54,900	54,100	46,400	48,300

Data Architecture, Transformation
and Analytics Division
June 2023

¹Most of the employment numbers discussed in this report refers to jobs, not people. For example, if a person holds two positions, these positions are counted as two jobs in the employment series. In the section titled "Unemployment," these positions refer to individuals, not jobs. In this case, a person holding two jobs is counted only once.

Unemployment, seasonally adjusted

The BLS estimates Washington's preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for June 2023 is 3.8 percent. The revised estimated May 2023 unemployment rate is 4.1 percent.

According to BLS estimates, the number of unemployed people fell by 10,500 in June 2023 compared to May 2023. At the same time, the number of employed people rose by an estimated 13,400. Overall, this amounted to an increase of 2,900 people in the labor force.

The preliminary June 2023 unemployment rate is 0.1 percentage points lower than the June 2022 rate of 3.9 percent.

June 2023 preliminary unemployment rates:

U.S. (preliminary) 3.6%

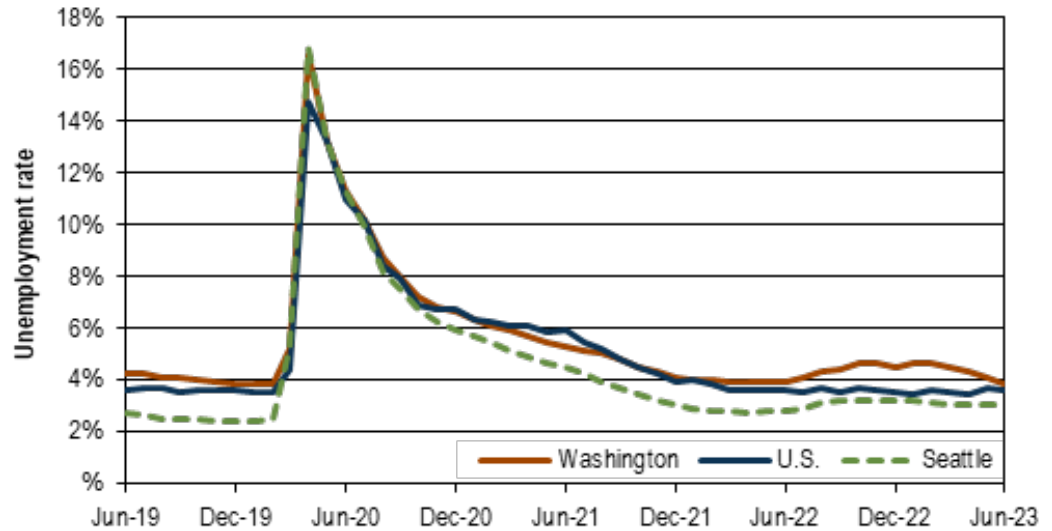
Washington (preliminary) 3.8%

Seattle area (preliminary) 3.0%

Unemployment rates, seasonally adjusted

U.S., Washington and Seattle, June 2019 through June 2023

Source: Employment Security Department/DATA Division; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics



Employment change, seasonally adjusted

Based on BLS estimates, Washington state nonfarm employment increased by 11,900 jobs from May 2023 to June 2023.

Recent employment change

April 2023: up 5,600 jobs (revised)

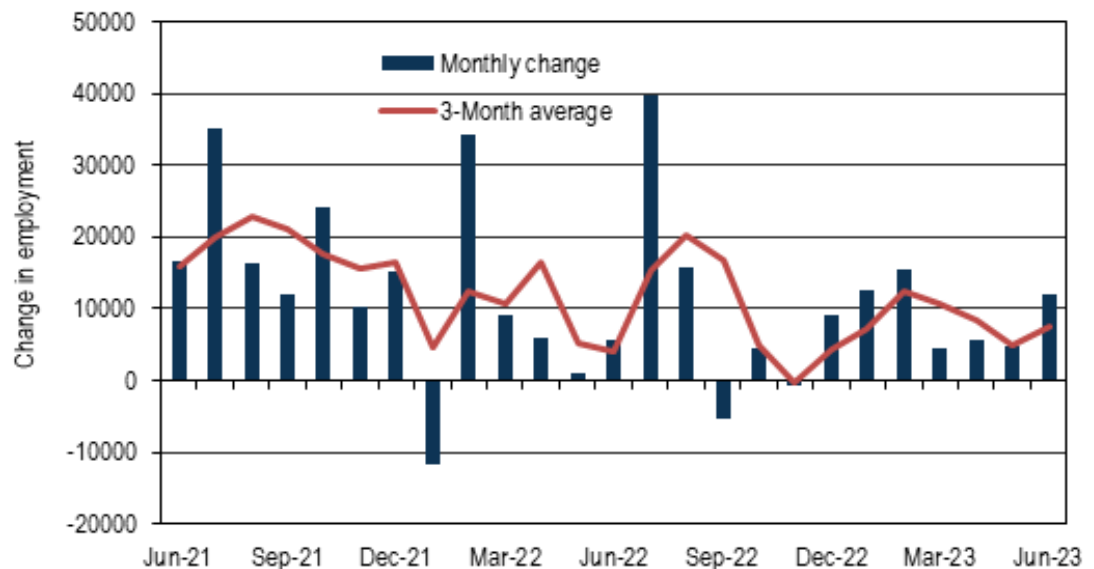
May 2023: up 4,700 jobs (revised)

June 2023: up 11,900 jobs (preliminary)

Monthly employment change, seasonally adjusted

Washington state, June 2021 through June 2023

Source: Employment Security Department/DATA; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics



Employment and unemployment, seasonally adjusted

February 2020 (start of 2020 employment recession in Washington)

Nonfarm employment: 3,512,700

Unemployment rate: 3.8%

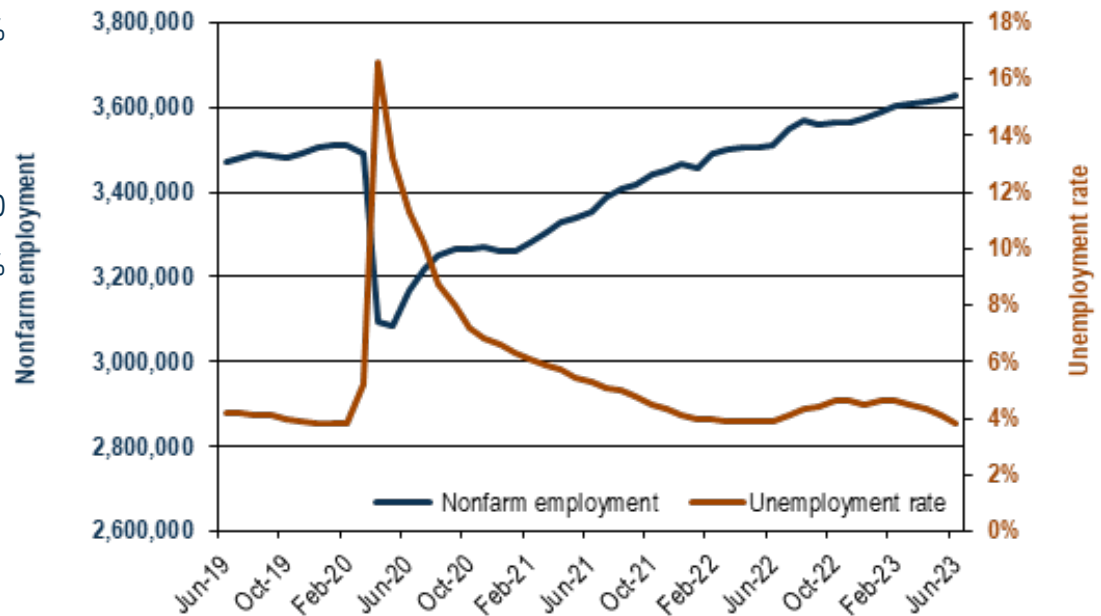
June 2023 (preliminary)

Nonfarm employment: 3,629,200

Unemployment rate: 3.8%

Nonfarm employment and unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted
Washington state, June 2019 through June 2023

Source: Employment Security Department/DATA; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics



Workers and businesses affected by COVID-19

Employment Security's COVID-19 online information page covers topics for businesses and workers impacted by COVID-19. Topics include:

- Subscribing for updates
- Frequently asked questions
- Workers Q&A
- Business Q&A
- CARES ACT
- COVID-19 rulemaking
- COVID-19 resources
- Action alerts and updates

We are all in this together. The COVID-19 pandemic has created an unprecedented demand for services, but we are building capacity, updating technology, and we thank you for your patience while we work to serve you better.

Did you know that you can subscribe for email updates on a number of Employment Security Department topics all at once?

Go to esd.wa.gov/labormarketinfo and select the email icon at the top of the page.



Enter your email address and subscribe by checking the boxes for topics such as:

- COVID-19
- Labor market information
- News releases
- Employer news and resources
- Paid Family and Medical Leave
- Employer information
- SharedWork program
- WorkSource system
- Unemployment insurance
- Training

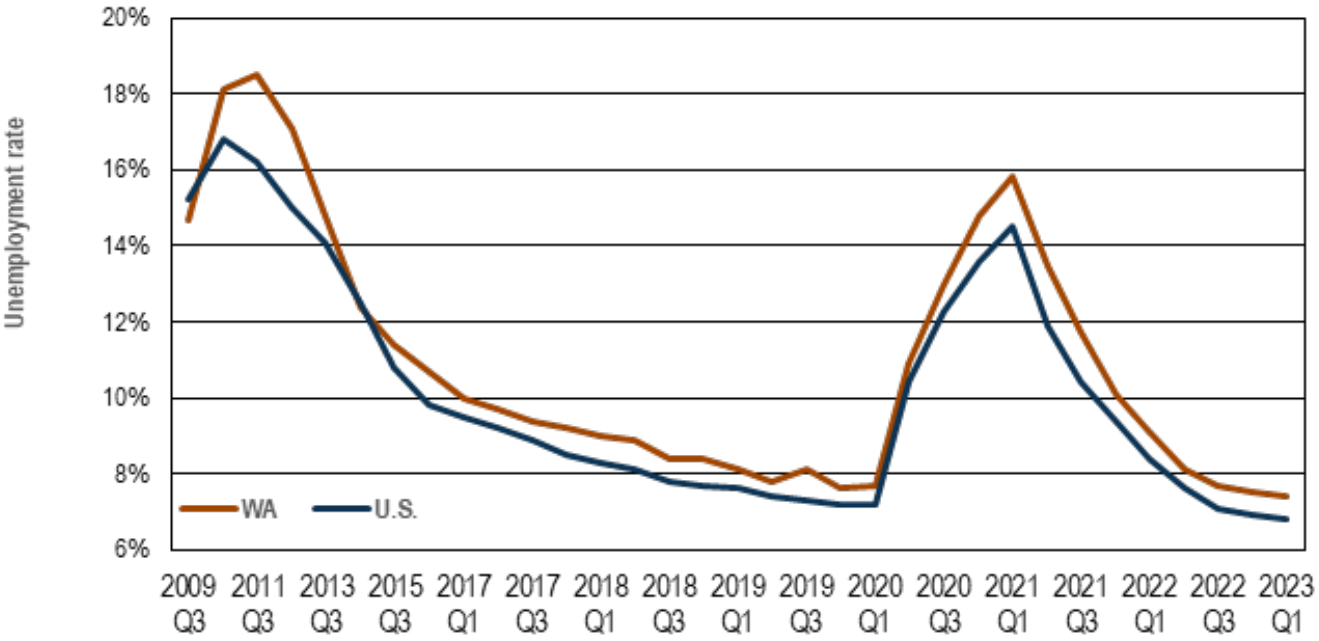
Many more to come, so sign up today for your email updates!

U-6: Broader annual average unemployment measure decreased in the four-quarter period through first quarter 2023

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) recently updated its “alternative measures of labor underutilization” for states to include four-quarter rates through first quarter 2023. One such alternative measure is the U-6 rate, which considers not only the unemployed population in the official “U-3” unemployment rate, but also marginally attached workers and those employed part time for economic

reasons. The U-6 rate is defined by BLS as the “total unemployed, plus all marginally attached workers, plus total employed part time for economic reasons, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus all marginally attached workers.” This U-6 measure measures the “unemployed, underemployed, and those who are not looking but who want a job.”

The U-6 annual average unemployment rate for the four-quarter period through first quarter 2023 for Washington state was 7.4 percent. This was lower compared to the 9.1 percent four-quarter period through first quarter 2022. The U.S. U-6 average annual unemployment rate for 2022 was 6.9 percent.



Year	WA/U.S.	Q1	Q2	Q3	Annual average
2023	WA	7.4%			
	U.S.	6.8%			
2022	WA	9.1%	8.1%	7.7%	7.5%
	U.S.	8.4%	7.6%	7.1%	6.9%
2021	WA	15.8%	13.5%	11.7%	10.1%
	U.S.	14.5%	11.9%	10.4%	9.4%
2020	WA	8.1%	10.9%	13.0%	14.8%
	U.S.	7.7%	10.4%	12.3%	13.6%
2019	WA	8.1%	7.8%	8.1%	7.6%
	U.S.	7.6%	7.4%	7.3%	7.2%
2018	WA	9.0%	8.9%	8.4%	8.4%
	U.S.	8.3%	8.1%	7.8%	7.7%
2017	WA	10.0%	9.7%	9.4%	9.2%
	U.S.	9.5%	9.2%	8.9%	8.5%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics: <https://www.bls.gov/lau/stalt.htm>.

Industry employment in Washington, seasonally adjusted

One-month employment change by industry

Based on a BLS survey of businesses and governments, Washington gained an estimated 11,900 jobs during the month, on a seasonally adjusted basis:

- Overall, employment increased in seven major industries and decreased in six in June.
- Private sector employment is estimated to have increased by 8,800 and government employment increased by 3,100.
- Leisure and hospitality employment increased by 8,900 overall, with 5,200 jobs added in food services and drinking places.
- The number of jobs in education and health services increased by 4,600 overall, with 3,100 jobs gained in social assistance.
- Professional and business services employment increased by 500 overall, with 800 jobs gained in professional, scientific and technical services.
- Manufacturing employment fell by 2,500, led by 1,700 jobs lost in food manufacturing.
- Retail trade employment decreased by 2,800 overall, with 900 jobs lost by food and beverage stores.

Estimated one-month employment change by industry, seasonally adjusted
Washington state, May 2023 to June 2023

Source: Employment Security Department/DATA; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics

Total nonfarm	11,900
Leisure and hospitality	8,900
Education and health services	4,600
Government	3,100
Construction	1,700
Financial activities	1,000
Professional and business services	500
Other services	400
Mining and logging	-100
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	-500
Information	-1,100
Wholesale trade	-1,300
Manufacturing	-2,500
Retail trade	-2,800

Industry employment in Washington, not seasonally adjusted

Change by industry over the year

Based on a BLS survey of businesses and governments, Washington gained an estimated 117,900 jobs from June 2022 through June 2023.

- Overall, twelve major industries expanded and one decreased.
- Private sector employment rose 3.1 percent, up an estimated 92,300 jobs.
- Public sector employment rose 4.5 percent, up an estimated 25,600 jobs.
- Education and health services employment rose by 32,700 overall, with 24,700 jobs added in health services and social assistance.
- Employment in leisure and hospitality is up by 25,200, with food services and drinking places adding 17,200 jobs.
- Manufacturing employment increased by 10,700, with 7,000 jobs gained in aerospace product and parts manufacturing.
- Professional and business services employment increased by 8,300, with 3,200 jobs added in computer systems design and related services.
- Employment in construction is up 7,400 overall, led by an increase of 4,900 by specialty trade contractors.

Estimated employment change by industry over the year, not seasonally adjusted
Washington state, June 2022 through June 2023

Source: Employment Security Department/DATA; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics

Total nonfarm	117,900
Education and health services	32,700
Government	25,600
Leisure and hospitality	25,200
Manufacturing	10,700
Professional and business services	8,300
Construction	7,400
Other services	4,400
Retail trade	4,300
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	3,200
Wholesale trade	900
Financial activities	600
Mining and logging	100
Information	-5,500

Seasonally adjusted employment

Seasonally adjusted numbers account for normal seasonal patterns that occur year after year, such as strong seasonal hiring in retail trade around the holidays. Taking into account normal seasonal variations makes it possible to see unusual changes in employment levels.

Normal seasonal change is the expected monthly change in employment based on history.

Estimated change is the employment change over the month based on BLS survey data.

Seasonally adjusted change is change in employment accounting for normal seasonal patterns.

Normal seasonal change, estimated change and seasonally adjusted change
Washington state, June 2023

Source: Employment Security Department/DATA; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics

	Normal seasonal change	Estimated change	Seasonally adjusted change
Total nonfarm	17,100	29,000	11,900
Leisure and hospitality	6800	15700	8900
Construction	3800	5500	1700
Manufacturing	3300	800	-2500
Professional and business services	3100	3600	500
Information	2200	1100	-1100
Retail trade	2000	-800	-2800
Other services	1600	2000	400
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	800	300	-500
Financial activities	400	1400	1000
Wholesale trade	400	-900	-1300
Mining and logging	100	0	-100
Education and health services	-3700	900	4600
Government	-3700	-600	3100

Based on historical patterns, Washington employment typically increases by 17,100 from May to June. This year the state gained an estimated 29,000 jobs, amounting to a seasonally adjusted increase of 11,900 jobs.

- The normal seasonal gain in leisure and hospitality employment is 6,800 in June. The estimated gain was 15,700, so employment increased by 8,900 on a seasonally adjusted basis.
- The estimated employment increase in construction was 5,500. The normal seasonal increase is 3,800, so on a seasonally adjusted basis, construction employment increased by 1,700.
- Typically, manufacturing employment increases by 3,300 in June. On a seasonally adjusted basis, manufacturing employment decreased by 2,500 as the estimated increase was 800.
- The employment increase on a seasonally adjusted basis was 500 in professional and business services in June. The normal seasonal increase is 3,100. It is estimated to have increased this June by 3,600.
- Employment in retail trade normally increases by 2,000. It is estimated to have decreased by 800 this June so it decreased by 2,800 on a seasonally adjusted basis.

Media inquiries and contact information

Due to the high volume of requests for information, please send your emails to media@esd.wa.gov so that we can forward your requests to the appropriate staff.

For labor market information questions, please send your emails to data@esd.wa.gov.

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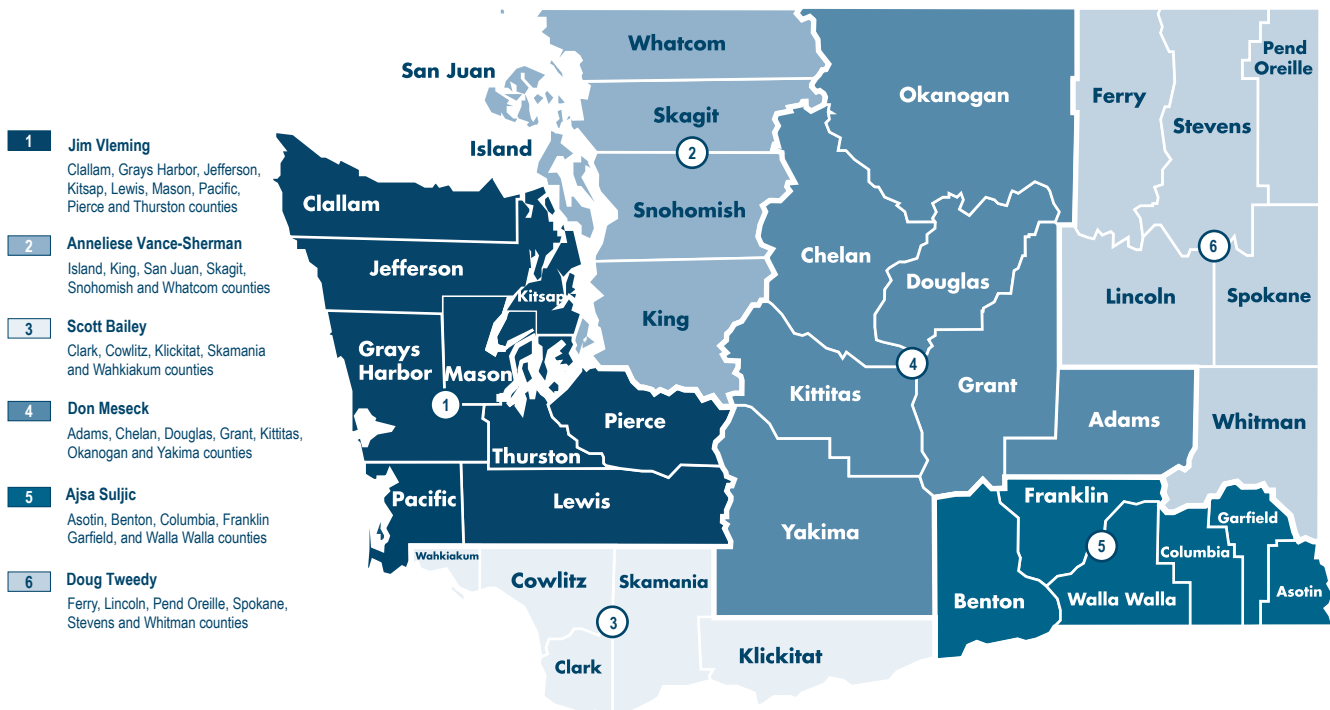
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Washington state regional labor economist reporting areas



The county level information will be available at 10 a.m., July 19, 2023. The publication schedule for 2023 can be found at: <https://esd.wa.gov/labormarketinfo/monthly-employment-report>

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