



# Washington Employment Report

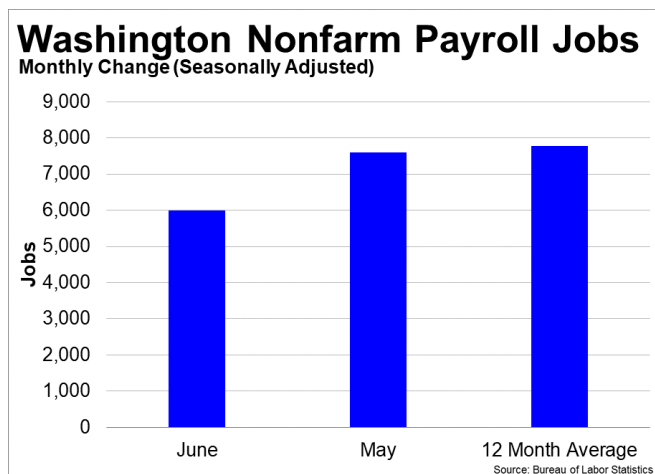
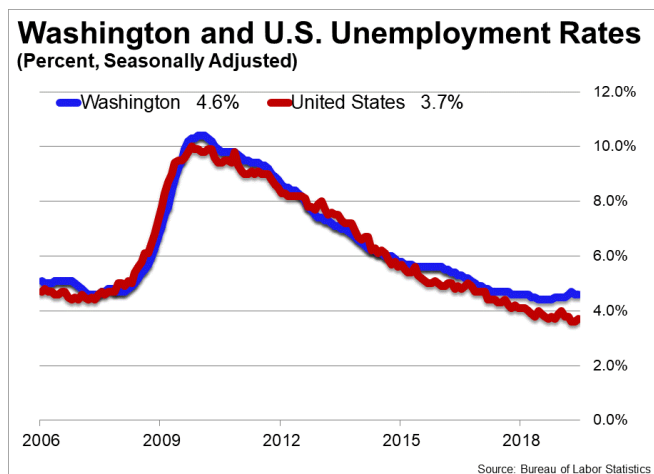
## Joint Economic Committee

Senator Mike Lee, Chairman

July 19, 2019

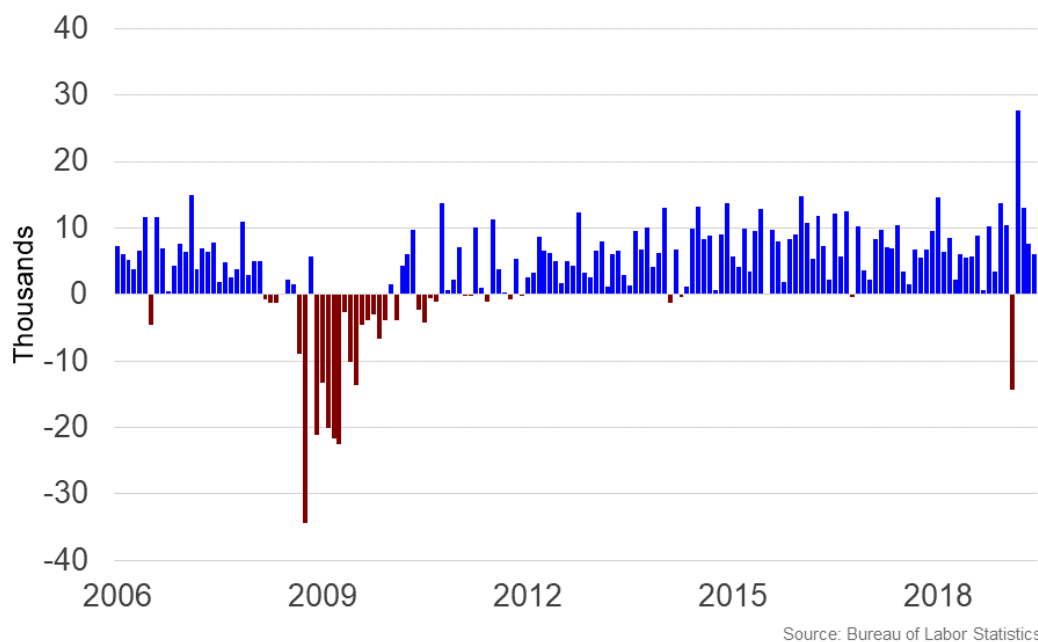
### Summary

- **Washington added 6,000 jobs and the unemployment rate was unchanged at 4.6 percent in June** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, Washington added 93,200 jobs** and the unemployment rate rose by 0.2 percentage point from 4.4 percent.
- **In June, Washington's private sector added 5,400 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 96,000 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed Washingtonians fell by 399 in June**, and over the past year 84,289 Washingtonians found jobs.
- Washington's **labor force participation rate remains unchanged** from 64.3 percent in June. Since last year, the labor force participation rate rose 0.6 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **rose by 0.1 percentage point to 3.7 percent in June**. State employment and unemployment data for July is scheduled for release on August 16, 2019. The national employment situation report for July will be released on Friday, August 2, 2019.



# Washington Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Monthly Change (Thousands, Seasonally Adjusted)



## Washington Payroll Employment

Washington added 6,000 jobs, or 0.17 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during June. In the prior month, Washington added 7,600 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in Washington increased by 93,200, or 2.74 percent. Washington nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 11 of the past 12 months.

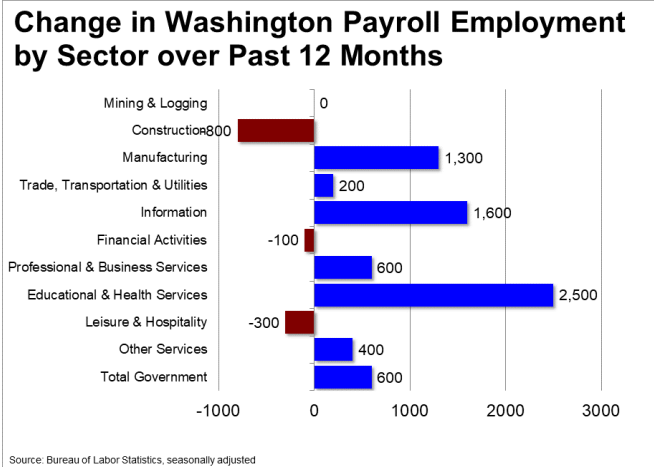
Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 224,000 jobs in June, or 0.15 percent. Over the 12-month period ending June 2019, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,301,000 jobs, or 1.54 percent. Washington posted the third highest percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment among the 50 states and the District of Columbia over the past 12 months.

During June, Washington's private-sector added 5,400 jobs, or 0.19 percent. The private-sector in Washington added 6,300 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in Washington increased by 96,000, or 3.41 percent. Washington private-sector payroll employment has increased in 11 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 191,000 jobs in June, or 0.15 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,201,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.74 percent. Washington posted the second highest percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment among the 50 states and the District of Columbia over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during June were Educational & Health Services (+2,500) and Information (+1,600). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Construction (-800) and Leisure & Hospitality (-300).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Educational & Health Services (+25,600) and Manufacturing (+11,800). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Total Government (-2,800) and Mining & Logging (-100).



## Washington Labor Force Statistics

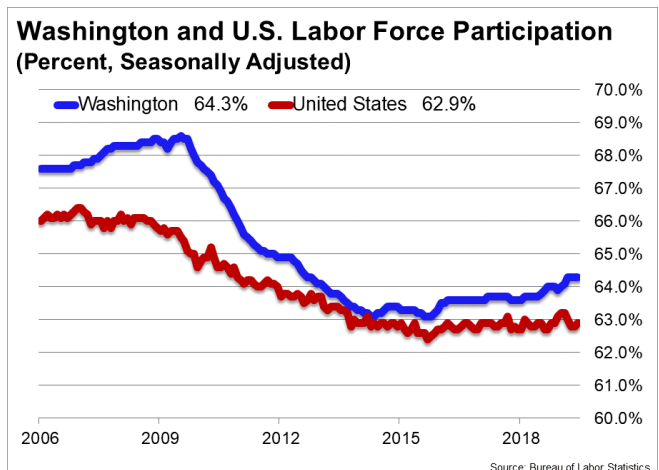
### *Labor Force Participation*

The labor force participation rate in Washington was unchanged at 64.3 percent in June. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 20 have a higher labor force participation rate than Washington. The labor force participation rate in Washington is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Washington was 68.6 percent in July 2009. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Washington occurred in December 1998 when the labor force participation rate hit 70.5 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 63.1 percent in October 2015. The series low for the labor force participation rate occurred in April 1976 when the labor force participation rate hit 60.6 percent. The national labor force participation rate rose by 0.1 percentage point to 62.9 percent in June, but remains near its 41-year low of 62.4 percent.

### *Employment-to-Population Ratio*

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Washington civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, was unchanged at 61.3 percent in June. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 22 have higher



employment-to-population ratios than Washington. The employment-to-population ratio in Washington is 0.4 percentage point higher than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Washington was 62.0 percent in July 2009. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Washington occurred in February 1999 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 67.0 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 59.1 percent in January 2014. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in January 1900 when the employment-to-population ratio was 56.0 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio held steady at 60.6 percent in June. That rate was 0.2 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

