



Whitman County Economic Development Informational Meeting

March 20, 2024
11:45 am – 1:30 pm
The Center, Colfax

Economic Development Informational Meetings (EDIMs) are updates on the Port's implementation of the ADO's economic development plan. No business or official actions will be taken by the Port Commissioners.

Agenda

1. **Welcome and Introductions** – 12:00 pm
2. **2024 Economic Development Plan**
 - a. **Small Business Development**
 - Washington Small Business Development Center (SBDC)
 - b. **Economic Profiling**
 - Select Economic Indicators (**Exhibit 1**)
 - c. **Existing Business Retention & Expansion**
 - Update on Outreach Plan Efforts
 - Economic Development Tools
 - d. **Business Recruitment/Marketing & Advertising**
 - Update on Recent and/or New Business Leads (**Exhibit 2**)
 - Update on previous Business Leads
 - Business Leads Closed
 - e. **Site & Infrastructure**
 - Downtown Pullman Project, Francis Benjamin, Mayor
 - Pullman Regional Hospital Patient Care Expansion Plan, Matt Forge, CEO
 - f. **Economic Development Advocacy**
 - WSU Pullman Strategic Plan, Hailey James, Campus Chief of Staff
 - Update on Legislative Session, Representative Mary Dye
3. **Future Meeting Topics and Closing**

The next EDIM is scheduled for **May 22, 2024**. Port staff will keep EDIM participants informed if there are any changes to the meeting format.

The Monthly Employment Report

Washington 4.0%

United States 3.7%

Seasonally adjusted

December 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 increased by 7,700 in December 2023.¹ BLS estimates the private sector added 6,600 jobs during the month and the public sector added 1,100 jobs.

On a not seasonally adjusted basis, estimates for December 2022 through December 2023 indicate an increase in employment of 54,200 for the state. The private sector added 34,800 jobs while the public sector gained an estimated 19,400 jobs over the year.

Washington's preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for December 2023 was 4.2%. The revised estimated unemployment rate for November 2023 was 4.0 percent. The December 2022 unemployment rate was 4.5%.

BLS estimates of monthly job gains and losses are based on a survey of businesses. Preliminary estimates are subject to revision. The November 2023 preliminary estimated loss of 2,600 jobs was revised upward to a gain of 7,700 jobs.

For more information, call Chief Labor Economist Anneliese Vance-Sherman at 564-900-0748

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, November and December 2022 and 2023


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

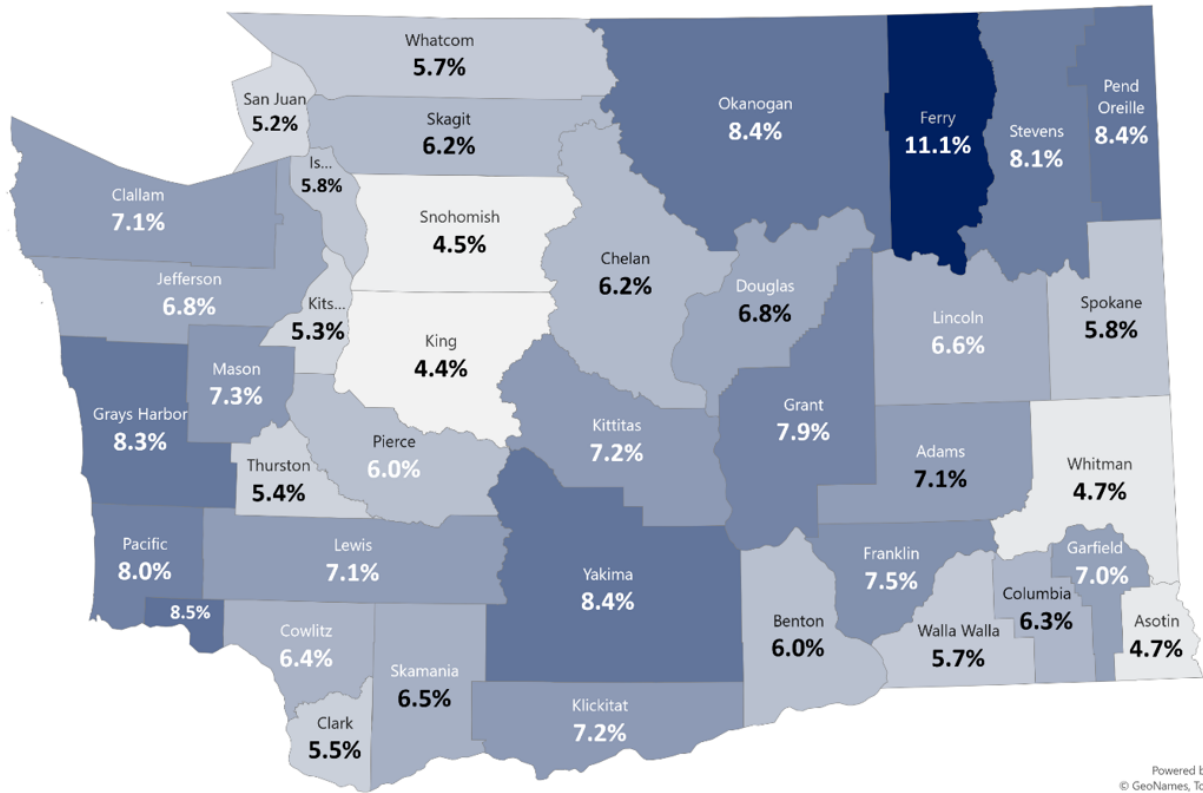
	December 2023 (Preliminary)	November 2023 (Revised)	December 2022 (Revised)	November 2022 (Revised)
United States				
Unemployment rate	3.7%	3.7%	3.5%	3.6%
<i>Seasonally adjusted</i>				
Washington				
Unemployment rate	4.2%	4.0%	4.5%	4.6%
Resident labor force	4,059,627	4,057,720	4,015,286	4,016,453
Unemployed	170,380	161,573	182,517	183,636
Seattle/Bellevue/Everett				
Unemployment rate	3.6%	3.6%	3.2%	3.2%
Resident labor force	1,820,891	1,820,884	1,781,209	1,781,394
Unemployed	66,198	64,745	57,086	57,511

Data Architecture, Transformation and Analytics Division
December 2023

¹Most of the employment numbers discussed in this report refer 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.

January 2024 Unemployment Rates by County

Unemployment Rate  4.4% 11.1%



BUSINESS RECRUITMENT - ACTIVE BUSINESS LEAD REPORT

Project Completed or Permit Phase		New or Re-Activated Business Lead	Still Active Business Lead	Business Lead Cold or on Hold	Business Lead Closed	
#	Date	Lead Source	Type of Business	Criteria	Benefits	Status
1	Jul-23	Private	Project Distribution	Industrial zoned property	15-20 FTE in Yr. 1-2	Funding secured. Engineering underway
2	Jul-23	Private	Project Hydrogen Green energy	Industrial zoned property	~5 FTE	Lease executed. Design and permitting underway
3	Jul-23	Private	Project Promotion Marketing Agency	1,500-2,000 sq. ft. (3 offices)	~5 FTE	Site located and acquired.
4	Jul-23	Private	Project Fresh Food Distribution	6,000-8,000 sq. ft.	15-20 FTE Private investment ~\$3mil	Site identified.
5	Jul-23	Private	Project Pilot Green energy	Seeking location for pilot project Industrial zoned property	FTE unknown, private investment unknown	Closed
6	Jul-23	Private	Project Grow Childcare	Needs larger space	FTE unknown, private investment unknown	Funding not secured. No site identified.
7	Aug-23	Private	Project Bean Food & Beverage Industry	Existing building	Private investment unknown 1-2 FTE	Seeking Whitman County locations for expansion
8	Sept-23	DOC	Project Papillon Monarque Manufacturing	2.9-4 acres industrial zoning Prefer to lease building 52,864 gal water/day	\$20-\$50 mil private investment 50 FTE	No existing sites meeting preferred criteria
9	Oct-23	Site Selector	Project Cyan Manufacturing	50 acres + water access to site	Private investment unknown	No existing sites meeting preferred criteria
10	Oct-23	DOC	Project Molson	50-75 acres w/ rail access 2.9 million gal water/day 230 mil kWh/mo	180 jobs (\$100/hr) 1,000 construction jobs	No existing sites meeting preferred criteria
11	Oct-23	DOC	Project Condor Aerospace & Defense	access to airport/airfield hangar 20- 30K sq. ft. existing or greenfield	10-20 FTE private investment unknown	Company reviewing/conducting virtual site visits with locations of interest through end of 2023. If sites move forward, then an in-person visit will be arranged in Q1 2024.
12	Nov-23	DOC	Project Textile Manufacturing		52 FTE \$6.8 mil private investment	
13	Nov-23	DOC	Project Slag Manufacturing	14 acres site with access to water	25 FTE \$35 mil private investment	No existing sites meeting preferred criteria

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14	Nov-11	Private	Project Evergreen Manufacturing	5 acre site with river access	FTE unknown, private investment unknown	No existing sites meeting preferred criteria
15	Dec-23	DOC	Project Broadbill Clean Technology		100 FTE \$800 mil private investment	No existing sites meeting preferred criteria
16	Dec-23	DOC	Project Marathon Clean Energy	80-100 acres (solar cell) 135-150 acres (solar module) 38-80 MW and 1.8-2 mil gal/day	3,000 FTE \$1.5 bil private investment	No existing sites meeting preferred criteria
17	Dec-23	DOC	Project Illuminate Manufacturing	min. 50 acres; 90+ acres preferred 30.6 kWh/mo 3.5 mil gal/day	1,200 FTE \$800 mil private investment	No existing sites meeting preferred criteria
18	Dec-23	DOC	Project Blue Current Manufacturing	seeking space in Puget Sound region in proximity to maritime sector; 6,000-10,000 sq. ft. building range	25 FTE \$1.5 mil FTE	Site visit timeline is around March 11th.
19	Dec-23	Private	Project Azul	10-100 acres w/ rail access	FTE unknown, private investment unknown	Site search conducted in November. Company reviewing site options.
20	Jan-24	Private	Project Magenta Technology	1 acres site with covered area/shop and existing electrical	FTE unknown, private investment unknown	Company determined it would prefer to locate in Idaho
21	Jan-24	Private	Project Canary Aviation	Airplane Hangar	5 FTE, private investment unknown	Company reviewing site options
22	Jan-24	DOC	Project Organic Farming	500 acre sites conducive to organic farming, consideration for sites exceeding 300 acres. Sites must contain minimal soil / groundwater contamination.	FTE unknown, private investment unknown	No existing sites meeting preferred criteria
23	Jan-24	DOC	Project Dominic Contact Support Center	15,000 – 25,000 sq. ft. 100 – 300 workstations in place Prefer a plug & play or at least office space that is easily occupied	300-400 FTE: 50-100 in first 3-6 months, 10% bilingual Spanish speaking (25-45 at any given time) private investment unknown	No existing sites meeting preferred criteria

BUSINESS RECRUITMENT - ACTIVE BUSINESS LEAD REPORT

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#	Date	Lead Source	Type of Business	Criteria	Benefits	Status
24	Sites & RFI due Feb. 13, 2024	DOC	Project EcoFarm Organic Farming / Agribusiness	400-625 acres land, soil, and groundwater support organic farming Gas: 120,000 Liters / year Gasoline: 105,000 Liters / year Diesel: 115,000 Liters / year Electricity: 4.3 million kWh with peak load of 5-7 MW Irrigation Water: 15 million Liters / year	400+ FTE, farmworkers expected to comprise ½ of FTE private investment unknown	No existing sites meeting preferred criteria
25	RFI due Feb. 9th, 2024	DOC	Project Apollo Solar Manufacturing	30 acres / 100,000 sq. ft. building with 15MW+ power available by April 2025, ability to grow to 25MW AND 200+ acres / 2M sq. ft. building, within reasonable distance from each other	900 FTE, 200+ by Phase 1 \$900 mil private investment	No existing sites meeting preferred criteria
26	Due March 21, 2024	DOC	Project Civil Manufacturing	2 facilities, prefer co-locate but flexible: 350-450,000 sq. ft., 36' clearance height min. First site needs 40MVA total connected load & 100,000 gal/day water. Second site needs 8MVA total connected load with avg. water.	Facility 1: 400 FTE, \$250 mil investment Facility 2: 300 FTE, \$30-50 mil investment	No existing sites meeting preferred criteria