



United States Congress

Joint Economic Committee

Est. 1946

Republicans

Representative David Schweikert, *Chairman*



Washington Employment Update



April 2025 | Released May 21, 2025

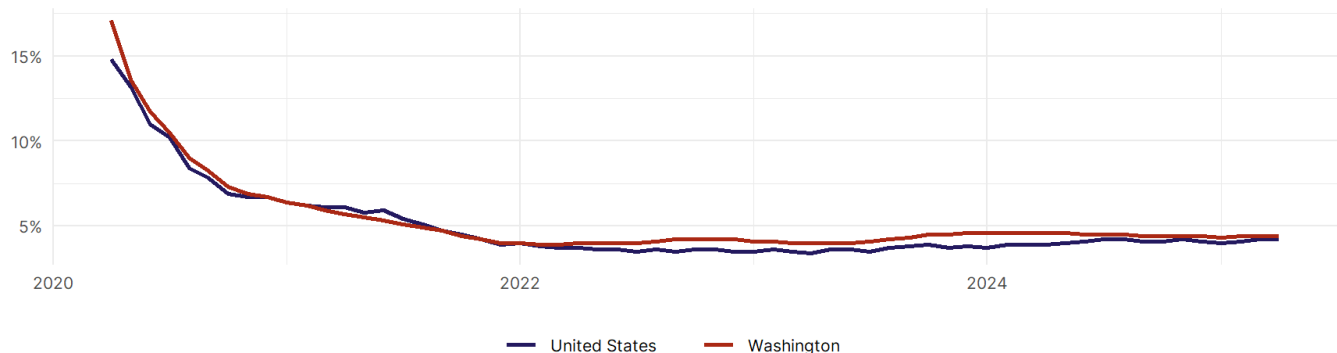
United States Employment Snapshot

- In April, among the 50 states and the District of Columbia **unemployment fell in 5, rose in 20, and remained unchanged in 26.**
- The highest unemployment rate was 5.8 percent in **District of Columbia**, and the lowest was 1.8 percent in **South Dakota**. Nationally, the unemployment rate remained unchanged in April.
- In April, **payroll jobs rose in 40 states and fell in 11.** The largest payroll job percent increase was 0.4 percent in **Mississippi**. The largest payroll job percent decline was 0.2 percent in **Vermont**.

Washington Employment Snapshot

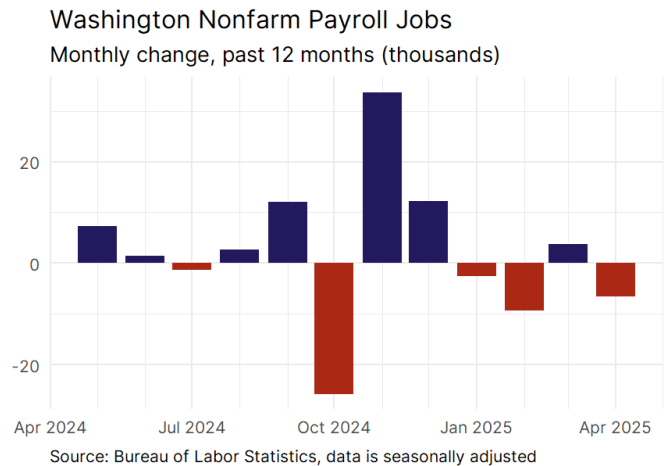
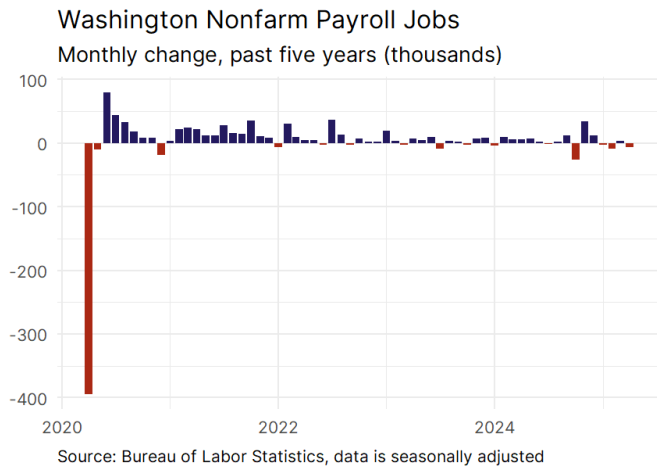
- In April, **Washington lost 6,500 net payroll jobs** and the **unemployment rate remained unchanged at 4.4 percent.** In the prior month, Washington added 3,800 net payroll jobs.
- Over the past 12 months, **Washington added 27,900 net payroll jobs** and the **unemployment rate fell by 0.2 percentage points from 4.6 percent.**
- Nationally, nonfarm payrolls **rose by 177,000 in April, or 0.1 percent.** Washington **is tied for 27th** in the nation for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.
- In April, **Washington's private sector lost 5,300 net private payroll jobs**, and over the past 12 months it added 21,200 private payroll jobs. In the prior month, Washington added 5,200 net private payroll jobs.
- In April, employment in Washington **fell by 7,766**, and over the past 12 months it fell by 1,016.
- **Washington's labor force participation rate fell to 62.7 percent** in April from 62.9 percent and **is tied for 26th** in the nation. In the past 12 months, the labor force participation rate has fallen by 1 percentage point.

Washington
Unemployment Rate

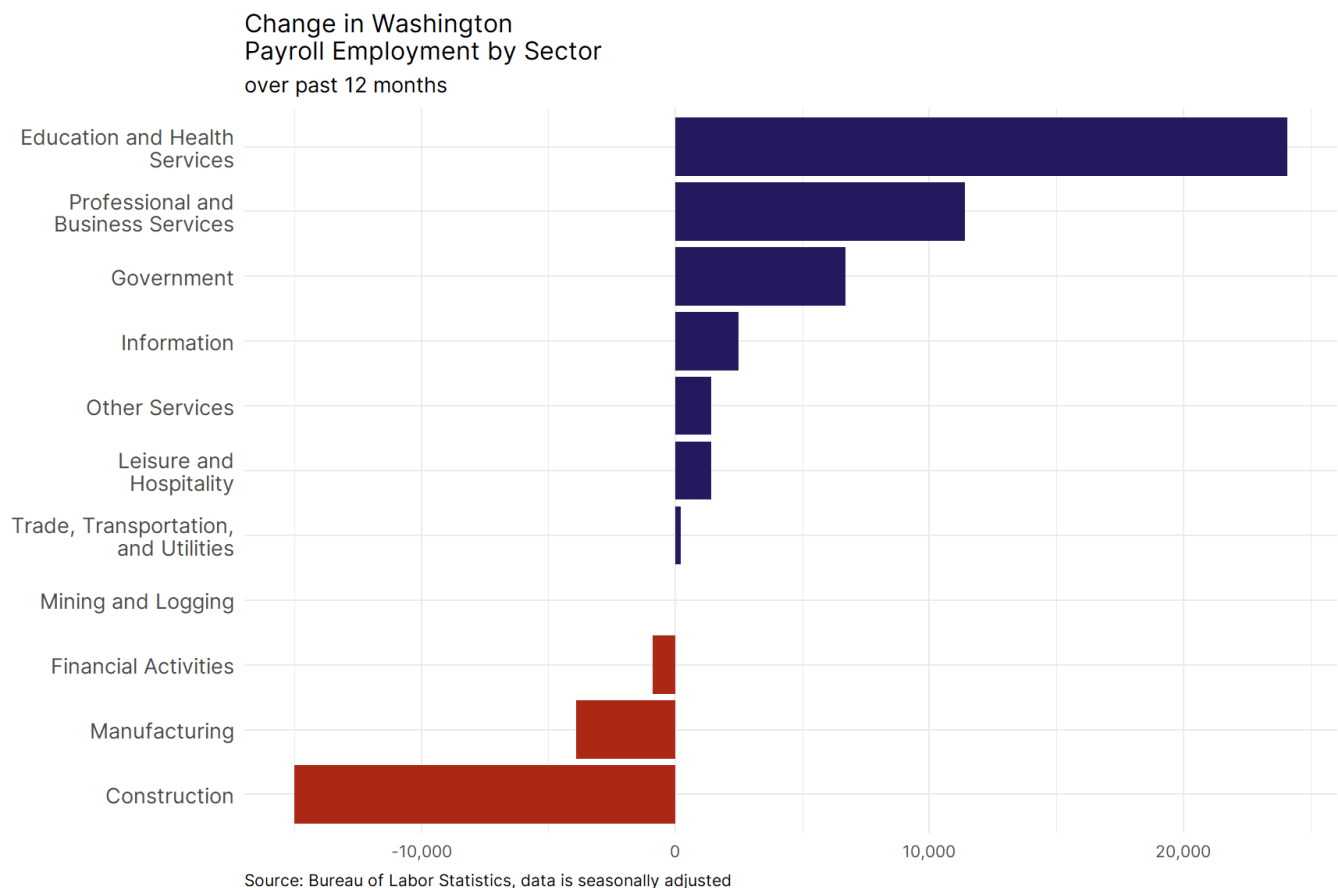


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, data is seasonally adjusted

Washington Payroll Employment



- **Washington lost 6,500 net payroll jobs, or -0.2 percent,** on a seasonally adjusted basis during April. In the prior month, Washington added 3,800 jobs. Washington nonfarm payroll employment has increased in **7 of the past 12 months**.
- Nationally, nonfarm payrolls **rose by 177,000 in April, or 0.1 percent**. Washington is tied for 27th in the nation for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.
- **Washington lost 5,300 private sector jobs, or -0.2 percent,** on a seasonally adjusted basis during April. In the prior month, Washington added 5,200 jobs. Washington private sector payroll employment has increased in **7 of the past 12 months**.
- Nationally, private sector payroll jobs **rose by 167,000 jobs in April, or 0.1 percent**. Washington is tied for 30th in the nation for percentage gain in private sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

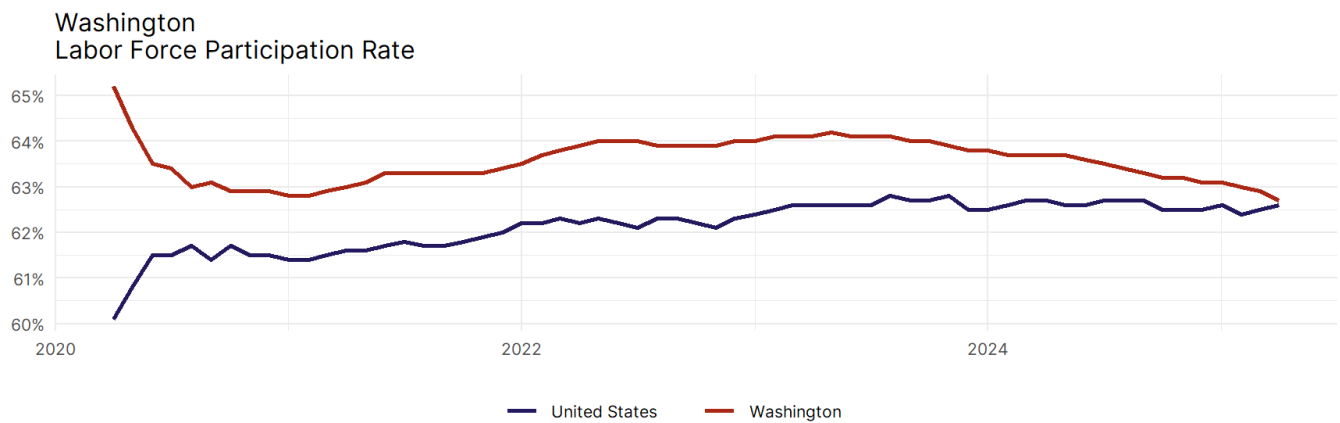


- The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during April were **Professional and Business Services (2,700)** and **Education and Health Services (1,100)**.
- The poorest performing sectors during the month were **Financial Activities (-3,100)** and **Construction (-3,300)**.
- The best performing sectors during the last 12 months were **Education and Health Services (24,100)** and **Professional and Business Services (11,400)**.
- The poorest performing sectors during the last 12 months were **Manufacturing (-3,900)** and **Construction (-15,000)**.

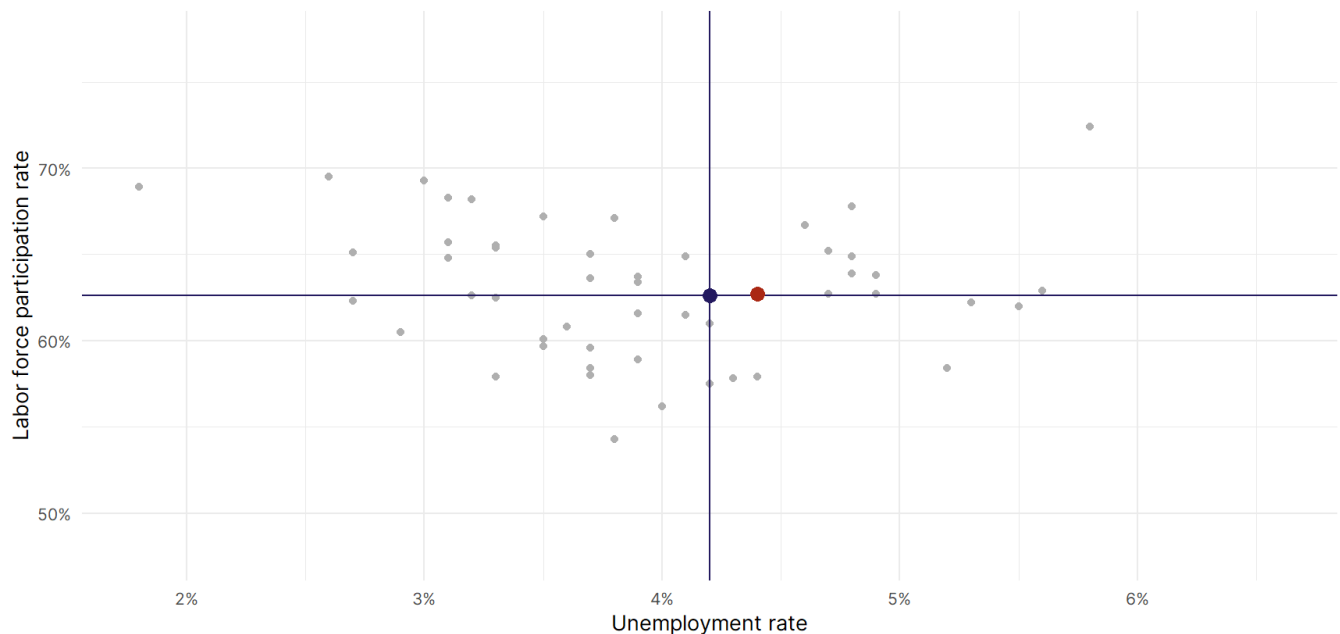
Washington Labor Force

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 labor force participation rate in **Washington fell to 62.7 percent in April from 62.9 percent in the prior month.**
- **Washington is tied for 26th** in the nation.
- The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Washington was **65.9 percent** in November 2019, and the 10-year low was **62.7 percent** in April 2025.
- The national labor force participation rate **rose by 0.1 percentage points to 62.6 percent** in April.



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, data is seasonally adjusted



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