

LOCAL BUSINESSES IN WASHINGTON STATE

Located in the Pacific Northwest, **Washington has a diverse economy**. Productivity improvement, policy changes and technological innovation have heavily influenced employment in **software publishing, healthcare related industries and wholesale electronic markets**. The occupational groups likely to experience the fastest growth rates in the future are **construction and extraction, followed by computer and mathematical, legal and healthcare support occupations**.
(Source: Washington Employment Security Department)

Key Sectors

- Tourism
- Mining
- Agriculture
- Healthcare



Washington is one of a few states without personal or corporate income taxes. **Washington depends more heavily on excise taxes**, including the general sales & use tax, selective sales taxes, and the gross receipts tax (business & occupation tax) than most any other state.

Washington is the fourth **largest exporting state** in the United States, after New York, California, and Texas.

The ports of Washington handle 8% of all American exports and receive 6% of the nation's imports.

Employment by Occupations

The most common job groups, by number of people living in Washington, are:

- **Software developers** (89,235 people)
- **Elementary & middle school teachers** (77,480 people)

The highest paid jobs held by residents of Washington, by average salary, are:

- **Surgeons** (\$401,495)
- **Physicians** (\$249,348)
- **Dentists** (\$227,028)

Employment by Occupations

The most common employment sectors for those who live in Washington, are:

- **Construction** (236,993 people)
- **Restaurants & Food Services** (214,330 people)
- **Elementary & secondary schools** (191,322 people)

The highest paying industries in Washington, by average salary, are:

- **Internet publishing, broadcasting & web search portals**(\$209,984)
- **Software publishing** (\$143,285)
- **Computer Systems Design** (\$140,950)