

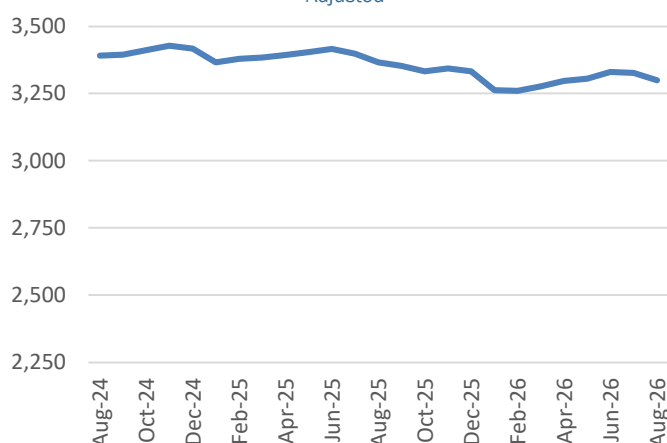
THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC MONITORING SYSTEM (REMS) REPORT – AUGUST 2026 DATA

In August, over-the-year employment decreased by 66,000 jobs or 2.0 percent in the Washington Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), while the national over-the-year employment increased by about 456,000 jobs or 0.3 percent. Locally, the Leisure & Hospitality Sector lost 2,700 jobs, and the Educational & Health Services Sector lost 900 jobs, and the Professional & Business Sector lost 16,700 jobs during the last year. The Federal Government Sector lost 41,600 jobs between August 2025 and August 2026. The number of Federal Government Sector jobs is 311,900 jobs in August. The region's inflation decreased to 4.0 percent in July 2026 from a rate of 4.1 percent in May 2026. During August, the region's unemployment rate decreased to 3.8 percent while the national rate decreased to 4.3 percent. The 2,214 new housing units authorized during August 2026 represent a 0.2 percent increase from August 2025, when 2,210 new units were started. For a list of jurisdictions in the MSA, visit mwcof.org/REMS.

Washington MSA Total Employment

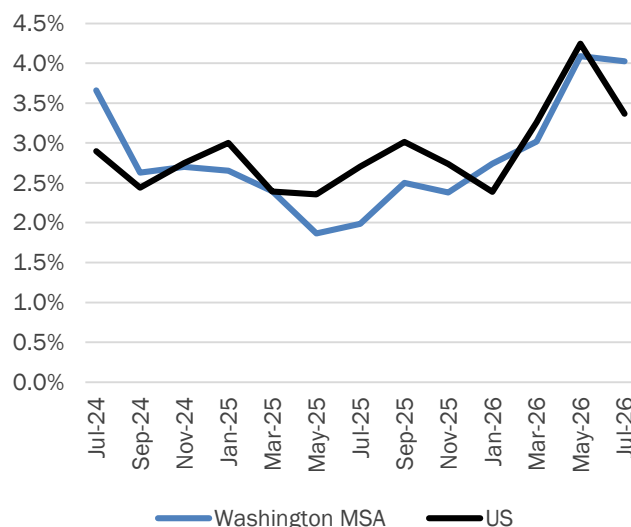
(1,000s of Jobs)

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, CES, Not Seasonally Adjusted



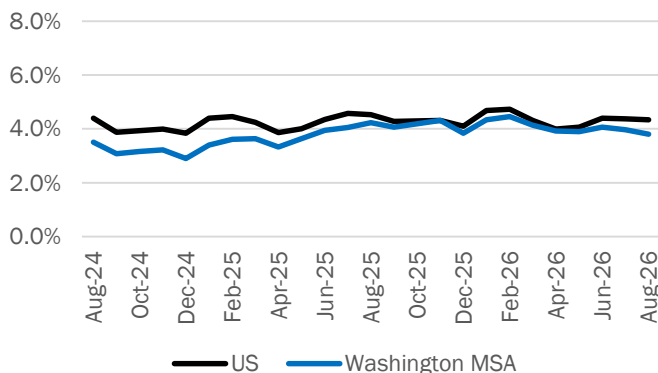
Over-the-Year Inflation Rate Washington MSA and US

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics



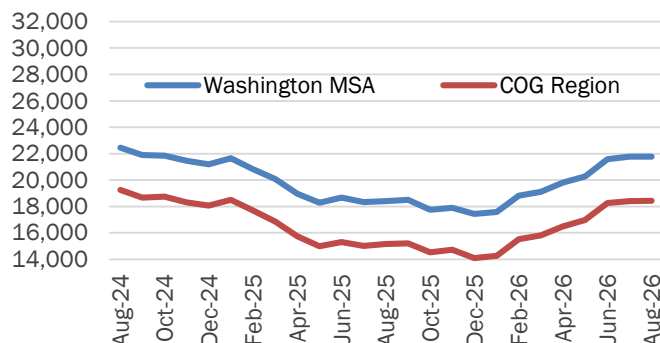
Unemployment Rate Washington MSA and US

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, CPS and LAUS, Not Seasonally Adjusted



New Housing Units Authorized 12-Month Total, Washington MSA and COG Region

Source: U.S. Census Bureau



Metropolitan Washington
Council of Governments

Washington MSA At-Place Employment, by Industry Group* - August 2026

(1,000s of Jobs)

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, CES, Not Seasonally Adjusted

Industry Group	At-Place Employment		Change from Last Year	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Manufacturing	56.0	1.7	-1.0	-1.8
Mining, Logging & Construction	172.3	5.2	-3.1	-1.8
T, T, & U	399.6	12.1	-2.0	-0.5
[Retail]	252.8	7.7	-1.5	-0.6
Information	79.0	2.4	-3.9	-4.7
Financial	152.9	4.6	-2.2	-1.4
Activities	777.7	23.6	-16.7	-2.1
Prof. and Bus. Services	489.2	14.8	-0.9	-0.2
Educ. & Health Services	331.2	10.0	-2.7	-0.8
Leisure & Hospitality	274.1	8.3	-2.2	-0.8
[Accom. and Food Services]	178.4	5.4	-2.9	-1.6
Other Services	663.3	20.1	-30.6	-4.4
Government	311.9	9.5	-41.6	-11.8
[Federal]	83.8	2.5	2.4	2.9
[State]	267.6	8.1	8.6	3.3
[Local]				
Total	3,299.6	100.0	-66.0	-2.0

Sources: Preliminary data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

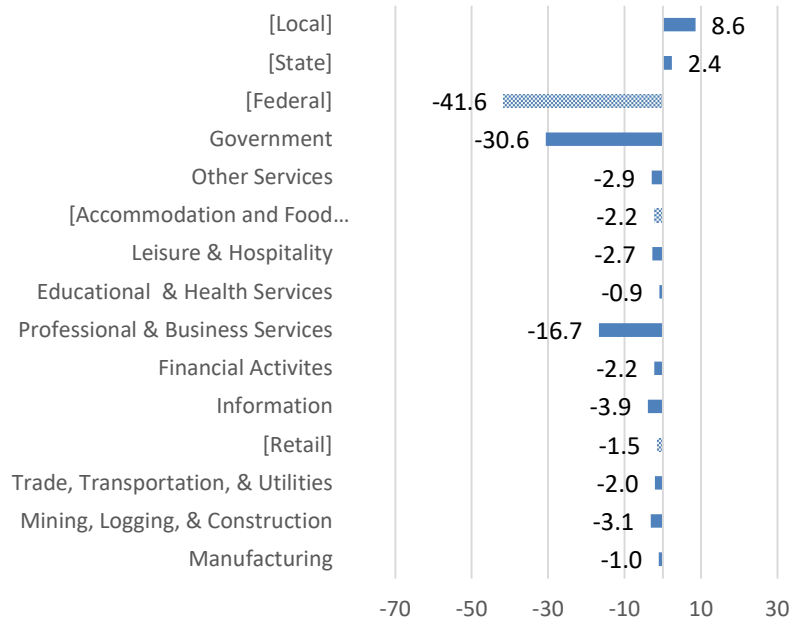
*Industry classification is based on the North American Industry Classification (NAICS). Data reflects inputs, re-estimation, and new statewide controls. Data have been revised to reflect 2026 benchmarks. Data from April 2012 are subject to revision.

T, T, & U stands for Trade, Transportation & Utilities; Prof. and Bus. Services stands for Professional and Business Services; Educ. & Health Services stands for Educational & Health Services; Accom. and Food Services stands for Accommodation and Food Services.

Washington MSA Over-the-Year Employment Change by Industry Group* August 2026

(1,000s of Jobs)

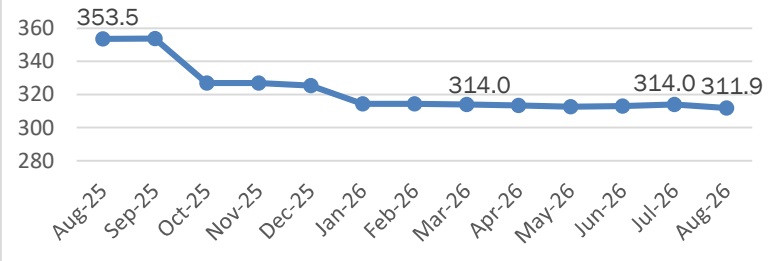
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, CES, Not Seasonally Adjusted



Washington MSA Total Federal Government Employment

(1,000 of Jobs)

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, CES, Not Seasonally Adjusted



Over-the-Year – Compares the present month with same month last year. For example, Over-the-year Percent Job Growth in in December 2023 is the percentage change between December 2022 and December 2023 in the number of jobs.

At-Place Employment – The number of jobs within a given area. Although some employment data include the number of areas residents who have jobs, at-place employment counts the actual number of jobs in an area.

Selected Monthly Indicators Washington MSA				
				Change from Last Year
	Number	Month	Number	Percent
New Homes Auth.	2,214	Aug-26	4	0.2
	Rate (%)	Month	Rate Last Year	
Unemployment Rate¹	3.8	Aug-26	4.2	
Inflation Rate²	4.0	Jul-26	2.0	

Sources: Preliminary data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

New Homes Authorized – U.S. Census Bureau, Building Permits Survey

¹Indicates MSA-level Data

²The regional inflation rate is reported bi-monthly.