Washington State Economic Climate Study

Economic and Revenue Forecast Council
October 2007
Volume XII

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Prepared by the
Economic and Revenue Forecast Council

October 2007
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Editor's Note

The 1996 Legislature passed Substitute House Bill 2758 creating the Economic Climate Council (ECC). The ECC is responsible for selecting a series of benchmarks that characterize the competitive environment of the state. The benchmarks are indicators of the quality of life, education and skills of the work force, infrastructure, and the costs of doing business.

To ensure public participation, the ECC established an advisory committee of six members to assist in the selection of the benchmarks. The advisory committee, along with staff of the House of Representatives, Senate, Office of Financial Management and other state agencies, including the staff of the Office of the Forecast Council, assisted in the preparation of the first report. The Economic and Revenue Forecast Council continues to function as the ECC. Each year the Office of the Economic and Revenue Forecast Council updates and publishes the Climate Study. This is the twelfth annual Economic Climate Study.

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Executive Summary

This report updates the State of Washington's Economic Climate Study, last published October 2006. The study provides information about Washington's competitive standing in relation to the other U.S. states. It is based on the premise that, while improving productivity is primarily the domain of Washington's business sector, appropriate state and local policies, particularly those relating to education, public safety, infrastructure, cost of doing business, and the environment, are essential to promote higher standards of living.

The benchmarks considered in this study focus on the four themes specified in the Substitute House Bill 2758, RCW 82.33A: quality of life, education and skills of the workforce, infrastructure, and the cost of doing business. In addition, this study also presents economic performance indicators related to income, employment, population, research and development expenditures, and foreign trade. Overall, forty-one indicators are presented.

Recent Performance

In this year's climate study, thirty-nine of the forty-one benchmarks and indicators were updated. Overall, the state's performance was positive. Of the thirty-six updated benchmarks and indicators that include ranks relative to the other states, Washington's rank improved in eighteen cases, regressed in twelve, and stayed the same in six. Of the thirty-seven updated benchmarks and indicators that indicate year-to-year performance, the state improved in twenty-four cases, worsened in nine, stayed the same in two, and showed mixed performance in two. Two indicators were not updated due to the unavailability of updated data at the time of publication.

As in the 2006 study, the area in which the state showed the most improvement in the current study was "Economic Performance." Out of the fourteen indicators in that area, the state improved its performance in twelve and its ranking in nine, with one ranking unchanged. Improvements in performance also outnumbered declines in "Education and Skills of the Workforce" and "Cost of Doing Business", while the state's performance was mixed in "Infrastructure" and "Quality of Life."

The following report is a snapshot of Washington's performance and ranking both compared to other states and itself historically. This analysis begins on page six with a description of each indicator and is then followed by an associated table and chart. Each table ranks the states based on its performance and each chart shows how Washington has fared over history. In each case, the ranking is from best to worst with a rank of one being the best.

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Indicator/Benchmark	Performance	Rank
Economic Performance		
Total Employment Growth Rate	Improved	No Change
Median Household Income	Improved	Improved
Per Capita Personal Income	Improved	Improved
Per Capita Personal Income Growth Rate	Improved	Improved
Growth in High Wage Industries' Share of Total Employment	Improved	Worsened
Annual Earnings Per Job	Improved	Improved
Annual Earnings Per Job Growth Rate	Improved	Improved
Migration Rate	Improved	Improved
Foreign Exports	Improved	Improved
Foreign Exports Excluding Transportation Equipment	Improved	Worsened
Per Capita University Research and Development Spending	Improved	Worsened
Per Capita Industry Research and Development Spending	Worsened	Improved
Per Capita Total Research and Development Spending	Worsened	Worsened
Unemployment Rate	Improved	Improved
Quality of Life		
Homicide	Improved	Improved
Violent Crime	No Change	No Change
Arrest Rates for Violent Crime	Worsened	Worsened
Air Quality	Not Updated	Not Updated
Drinking Water	Improved	Improved
Toxins Released	Worsened	Worsened
State Health Index	Worsened	Worsened
State Parks and Recreation Areas	Worsened	Improved
State Arts	Improved	Improved
Public Library Service	Not Updated	Not Updated
Housing Opportunity Index	N/A	N/A
Education and Skills of the Workforce		
Fourth Grade Reading	Improved	Worsened
Fourth Grade Math	Improved	Worsened
Tenth Grade WASL Scores	Mixed	N/A
Student to Teacher Ratio	Improved	No Change
Education Attainment: Completed Four Years of High School or More	Worsened	No Change
Education Attainment: Completed Bachelor's Degree or More	Improved	Worsened
Total Public Two and Four Year Combined Participation Rate	No Change	Improved
Value Added per Hour of Labor in Manufacturing	Improved	Improved
Infrastructure		
Interstate Miles in Poor Condition	Improved	Improved
Urban Roadway Travel Time Index	Mixed	Worsened
FAA Air Traffic	Worsened	Worsened
Cost of Doing Business		
State and Local Tax Collections Per $1,000 Personal Income	Improved	Improved
Unemployment Insurance Costs	Improved	No Change
Workers' Compensation Premium Costs	Improved	Improved
Electricity Costs	Worsened	No Change
Average Wage by Occupation	N/A	N/A

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Economic Performance

Total Employment Growth Rate

While Washington suffered a greater percent decline in employment than the nation as a whole during the 2001 recession and subsequent "jobless recovery," it has also snapped back from the recovery at a faster rate than that of the nation. The state showed positive annual growth in 2003 while the U.S. showed negative growth, and continued to outpace the national growth rate through 2006. Due to its faster growth, the state regained its pre-recession employment peak in December 2004, two months sooner than the U.S., despite having suffered sharper recessionary losses.

Most of the state's 2006 employment growth was accounted for by construction, manufacturing, trade, professional and business services, education and health services, and leisure and hospitality. Washington's 2006 employment growth rate of 3.0 percent ranked 9th in the nation. The nation's growth rate for the same period was 1.7 percent. While the state was near the bottom of the state rankings during the recession, subsequent growth has brought the state's five-year average rank to 13th, with a growth rate of 1.2 percent versus 0.6 percent for the nation as a whole.

Total Washington Payroll Employment

2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
2,654,100	2,657,500	2,701,000	2,777,100	2,859,400

Chart 1
Total Employment Growth Rate

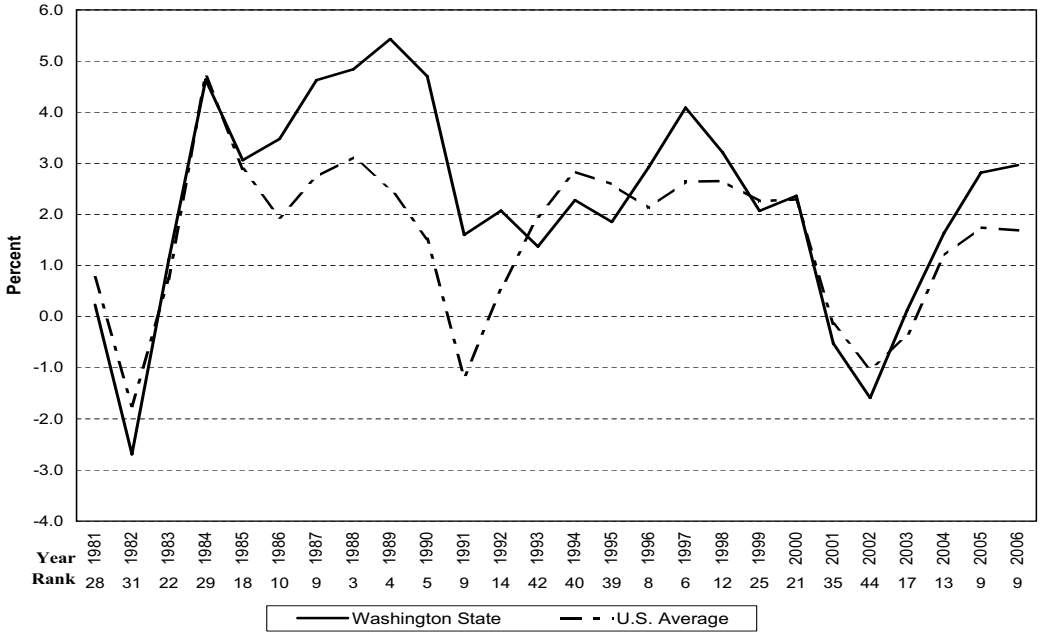


Table 1
Economic Performance
Total Employment Growth Rate
(Percent)

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002-05
Alabama	-1.3	-0.4	1.4	2.3	1.9	0.8
Alaska	2.0	1.5	1.6	1.8	1.7	1.7
Arizona	0.0	1.4	3.7	5.4	5.4	3.2
Arkansas	-0.6	-0.1	1.1	1.7	1.8	0.8
California	-1.0	-0.5	1.0	1.8	1.9	0.6
Colorado	-1.9	-1.4	1.2	2.1	2.4	0.5
Connecticut	-1.0	-1.2	0.3	0.7	1.1	-0.0
Delaware	-1.2	0.0	2.2	1.7	1.2	0.8
Florida	-0.0	1.1	3.4	4.0	2.7	2.2
Georgia	-1.9	-0.6	1.4	2.6	2.1	0.7
Hawaii	0.3	1.9	2.8	3.1	2.5	2.1
Idaho	0.1	0.7	2.8	4.0	4.6	2.4
Illinois	-1.9	-1.2	0.1	0.8	1.2	-0.2
Indiana	-1.1	-0.2	1.2	0.9	0.6	0.3
Iowa	-1.2	-0.5	1.2	1.6	1.5	0.5
Kansas	-0.9	-1.7	0.9	0.6	1.5	0.1
Kentucky	-0.8	-0.3	0.9	1.4	1.1	0.5
Louisiana	-1.1	0.5	0.6	-1.3	-1.9	-0.6
Maine	-0.3	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.5	0.2
Maryland	0.3	0.3	1.2	1.5	1.2	0.9
Massachusetts	-2.0	-1.9	-0.1	0.5	1.0	-0.5
Michigan	-1.5	-1.6	-0.4	-0.1	-1.1	-1.0
Minnesotta	-0.9	-0.2	0.8	1.6	1.4	0.5
Mississippi	-0.6	-0.8	0.9	0.5	1.1	0.2
Missouri	-1.2	-0.7	0.5	1.5	1.4	0.3
Montana	1.1	1.2	2.6	2.3	3.0	2.1
Nebraska	-0.9	0.3	0.9	1.4	1.3	0.6
Nevada	0.1	3.5	5.9	6.1	4.8	4.1
New Hampshire	-1.4	-0.1	1.5	1.4	0.5	0.4
New Jersey	-0.3	-0.1	0.5	1.0	0.9	0.4
New Mexico	1.2	1.2	1.9	2.3	3.0	1.9
New York	-1.6	-0.6	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.1
North Carolina	-1.6	-1.2	1.3	2.1	2.7	0.6
North Dakota	0.0	0.8	1.6	2.0	2.4	1.4
Ohio	-1.8	-0.9	0.2	0.3	0.3	-0.4
Oklahoma	-1.3	-1.9	1.1	2.6	2.6	0.6
Oregon	-0.5	-0.7	2.1	3.0	2.9	1.3
Pennsylvania	-0.7	-0.5	0.6	1.0	0.9	0.3
Rhode Island	0.2	1.0	0.9	0.5	0.5	0.6
South Carolina	-1.1	0.2	1.4	1.8	1.9	0.9
South Dakota	-0.3	0.2	1.4	1.7	2.3	1.1
Tennessee	-0.9	-0.1	1.6	1.4	1.5	0.7
Texas	-1.0	-0.5	1.4	2.6	3.2	1.1
Utah	-0.7	0.1	2.8	4.0	4.8	2.2
Vermont	-0.9	-0.0	1.3	0.8	0.6	0.4
Virginia	-0.6	0.1	2.5	2.3	1.7	1.2
Washington	**-1.6**	**0.1**	**1.6**	**2.8**	**3.0**	**1.2**
West Virginia	-0.3	-0.8	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.6
Wisconsin	-1.1	-0.3	1.1	1.2	0.7	0.3
Wyoming	1.0	0.8	2.2	3.3	4.9	2.4
U.S. Average	-1.0	-0.4	1.2	1.7	1.7	0.6
Washington's Rank	**44**	**17**	**13**	**9**	**9**	**13**

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, August 2007. (www.bls.gov)

Median Household Income

A state's median household income is the level of income (before taxes) at which exactly half of that state's households earn more than that amount and half earn less. While it is related to average or per capita household income, an increase in average household income does not necessarily mean that median household income will increase and vice versa. Median income measures offer the advantage over average measures that they are not upwardly biased by the income levels of the highest-income households. Typically, the average or per capita household income of a state is higher than the median.

Median household income estimates for the states are produced annually by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. These estimates are derived from the Annual Social and Economic Supplements to the annual Current Population Survey. As this survey's primary purpose is to arrive at national income and demographic numbers, estimates for individual states have substantial margins of error. To minimize these errors, the Census Bureau reports and recommends the use of two or three year moving averages for state median household income estimates. The resulting margins of error are reported by the Census Bureau and should be taken into account when making year-to-year or state-to-state comparisons. The 90 percent confidence interval for Washington's 2004-2006 median household income estimate is $1,322.

Washington's 2004-06 median household income of $53,439 was 10.9 percent greater than that of the nation as a whole. The state's median household income increased at a faster rate than the U.S. median, improving the state's rank to 13th. Washington's 5-year average of $49,596 remains well above the national average of $44,918, ranking 14th. Washington's median household income has been higher than that of the nation for all of the years that the Current Population Survey has reported state estimates.

Chart 2
Median Household Income

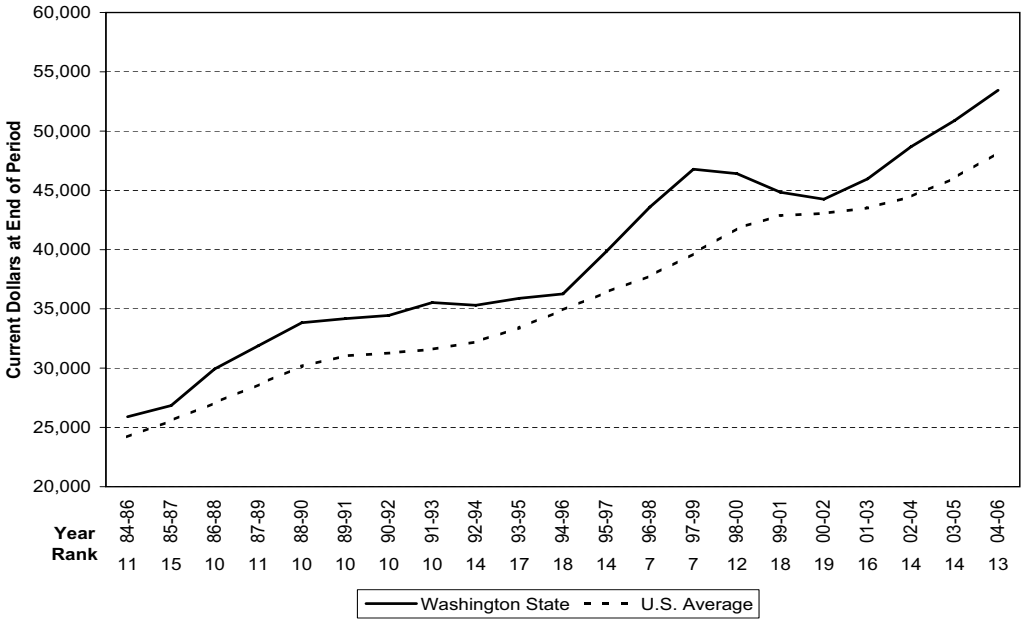


Table 2
Economic Performance
Median Household Income
(Current Dollars at End of Period)

	2000-2002	2001-2003	2002-2004	2003-2005	2004-2006	2002-06*
Alabama	36,771	37,419	38,111	38,180	38,473	37,318
Alaska	55,412	55,143	54,627	55,935	57,639	54,397
Arizona	41,554	42,062	42,590	44,748	46,729	43,330
Arkansas	32,423	33,259	33,948	35,591	37,420	34,618
California	48,113	48,979	49,894	51,647	53,770	50,607
Colorado	49,617	50,224	51,022	52,011	54,039	51,053
Connecticut	53,325	55,004	55,970	57,369	59,972	56,538
Delaware	50,878	50,451	50,152	50,970	52,214	50,078
Florida	38,533	38,572	40,171	42,079	44,448	41,239
Georgia	43,316	43,535	43,217	44,439	46,841	44,326
Hawaii	49,775	49,839	53,123	57,572	60,681	55,087
Idaho	38,613	40,230	42,519	44,994	46,395	42,967
Illinois	45,906	45,607	45,787	47,978	49,280	46,202
Indiana	41,581	42,124	43,003	43,735	44,806	42,729
Iowa	41,827	41,985	43,042	45,086	47,489	44,090
Kansas	42,523	43,622	43,725	43,802	44,264	43,099
Kentucky	37,893	38,161	37,396	37,566	38,466	37,098
Louisiana	33,312	34,307	35,523	36,814	37,943	35,534
Maine	37,654	37,619	39,395	42,006	45,040	40,972
Maryland	55,912	55,213	56,763	58,347	62,372	58,001
Massachusetts	50,587	52,084	52,354	54,617	56,236	52,835
Michigan	45,335	45,176	44,476	45,793	47,064	44,915
Minnesota	54,931	54,480	55,914	56,084	57,363	54,795
Mississippi	32,447	31,887	33,659	34,508	35,261	33,195
Missouri	43,995	43,492	43,988	44,324	44,651	43,248
Montana	33,900	34,375	35,201	36,200	38,629	36,263
Nebraska	43,566	44,357	44,623	46,613	48,126	45,325
Nevada	46,289	46,118	46,984	48,314	50,819	47,567
New Hampshire	53,549	55,166	57,352	58,223	60,489	57,331
New Jersey	53,266	55,221	56,772	59,989	64,169	59,463
New Mexico	35,251	35,265	37,587	39,029	40,827	37,820
New York	42,432	43,160	44,228	46,242	48,201	44,960
North Carolina	38,432	38,096	39,000	41,067	42,061	39,177
North Dakota	36,717	38,212	39,594	41,869	42,162	39,814
Ohio	43,332	43,535	44,160	44,961	45,837	43,872
Oklahoma	35,500	36,733	38,281	38,895	40,001	37,691
Oregon	42,704	42,429	42,617	43,570	45,485	43,137
Pennsylvania	43,577	43,869	44,286	45,814	47,791	44,863
Rhode Island	44,311	45,205	46,199	48,823	52,003	47,657
South Carolina	38,460	38,791	39,326	40,350	40,822	38,966
South Dakota	38,755	39,829	40,518	42,525	44,624	41,416
Tennessee	36,329	37,529	38,550	39,524	40,676	38,545
Texas	40,659	40,934	41,275	41,959	43,425	41,109
Utah	48,537	49,143	50,614	53,226	55,179	51,490
Vermont	41,929	43,212	45,692	48,508	51,622	47,255
Virginia	49,974	52,587	53,275	54,301	55,108	52,918
Washington	**44,252**	**45,960**	**48,688**	**50,885**	**53,439**	**49,596**
West Virginia	30,072	31,210	32,589	35,234	37,227	34,072
Wisconsin	46,351	46,782	47,220	47,004	48,874	46,849
Wyoming	40,499	41,501	43,641	45,598	47,227	43,895
U.S. Average**	43,052	43,527	44,473	46,037	48,200	44,918
Washington's Rank	**19**	**16**	**14**	**14**	**13**	**14**

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.
*Average of yearly estimates in 2006 dollars.
**U.S. average includes the District of Columbia.

Per Capita Personal Income

The Bureau of Economic Analysis defines personal income as the sum of earnings, dividends, interest, rent, and transfer payments. Per capita personal income is derived by dividing the total personal income of a region by its population. In 2006, Washington had a total personal income of $243.5 billion and a population of 6.4 million, for a per capita personal income of $38,067. This level of income ranked 16th among the states and was above the national average of $36,629. Washington has performed well in this measure for the last five years, ranking 14th during that period.

Most of Washington's personal income derives from earnings, which consists mainly of wages and salaries but also includes proprietor's income and other labor income. In 2006, net earnings by place of residence for Washington residents totaled $168.9 billion, which accounted for 69.4 percent of total personal income. Income from transfer payments was $31.9 billion, and income from dividends, interest, and rent was $42.6 billion. These income sources represented 13.1 and 17.5 percent of total personal income respectively.

Chart 3
Per Capita Personal Income

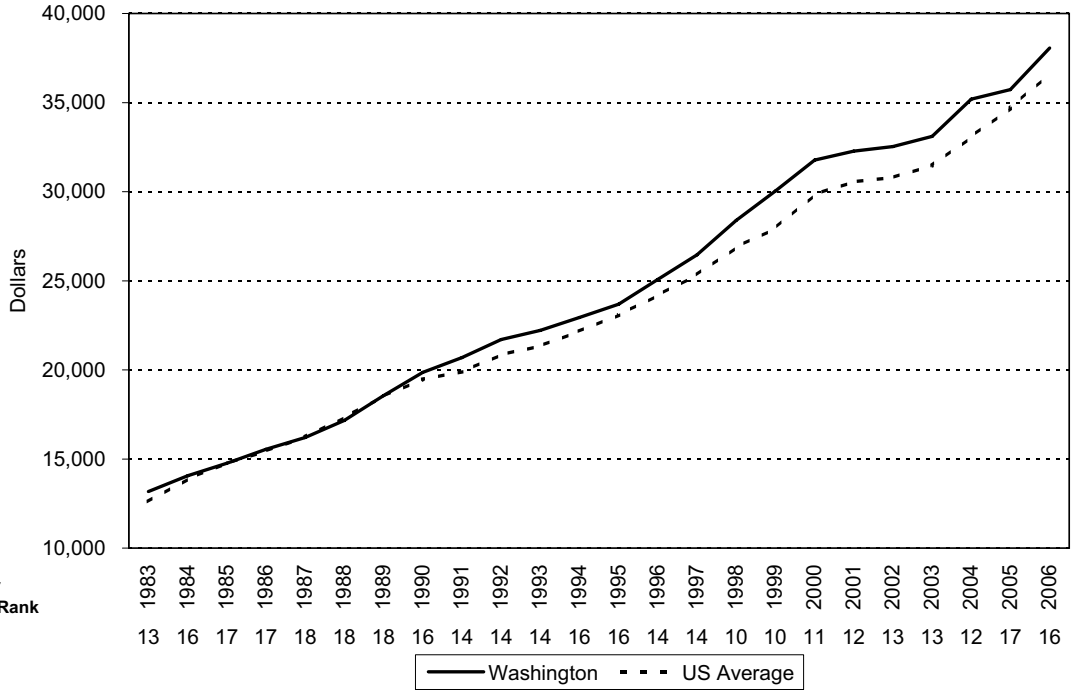


Table 3
Economic Performance
Per Capita Personal Income
(Dollars)

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002-06
Alabama	25,423	26,330	27,955	29,255	30,841	27,961
Alaska	32,351	32,705	34,193	36,636	38,622	34,901
Arizona	26,472	26,975	28,707	30,384	31,949	28,897
Arkansas	23,366	24,407	25,741	26,961	28,444	25,784
California	32,769	33,469	35,313	37,283	39,358	35,638
Colorado	34,014	34,059	35,621	37,702	39,587	36,197
Connecticut	42,510	42,723	45,581	47,701	50,787	45,860
Delaware	32,932	33,537	35,317	37,080	38,984	35,570
Florida	29,702	30,290	32,546	34,712	36,665	32,783
Georgia	28,490	28,663	29,617	31,088	32,025	29,977
Hawaii	29,491	30,376	32,617	34,818	36,826	32,826
Idaho	25,180	25,461	27,337	28,274	29,948	27,240
Illinois	32,847	33,746	35,023	36,361	38,297	35,255
Indiana	28,023	28,857	29,923	30,883	32,226	29,982
Iowa	28,071	28,524	30,645	31,473	33,017	30,346
Kansas	28,955	29,745	30,902	32,666	34,744	31,402
Kentucky	25,401	25,840	26,972	28,352	29,719	27,257
Louisiana	25,219	25,819	27,203	24,781	31,369	26,878
Maine	27,759	28,713	30,071	30,825	31,931	29,860
Maryland	36,539	37,361	39,605	41,587	43,774	39,773
Massachusetts	38,866	39,442	41,457	43,601	46,255	41,924
Michigan	30,231	31,138	31,581	32,719	33,784	31,891
Minnesota	33,230	34,295	36,078	37,164	38,751	35,904
Mississippi	22,346	23,069	24,122	25,454	26,908	24,380
Missouri	28,362	29,082	30,240	31,380	32,793	30,371
Montana	25,066	26,360	27,866	29,220	30,886	27,880
Nebraska	29,177	30,737	31,761	32,833	34,383	31,778
Nevada	30,717	31,762	34,432	37,420	39,015	34,669
New Hampshire	34,061	34,471	36,342	37,480	39,655	36,402
New Jersey	39,290	39,717	41,688	43,318	46,328	42,068
New Mexico	24,247	24,846	26,201	28,042	29,725	26,612
New York	35,352	36,050	38,348	40,916	43,962	38,926
North Carolina	27,508	27,922	29,455	30,785	32,338	29,602
North Dakota	26,423	28,736	29,369	32,053	33,034	29,923
Ohio	29,187	29,826	30,680	31,849	33,217	30,952
Oklahoma	25,850	26,424	28,408	30,054	32,398	28,627
Oregon	28,915	29,530	30,594	31,507	33,252	30,760
Pennsylvania	31,023	31,892	33,440	34,810	36,689	33,571
Rhode Island	31,477	32,631	34,121	35,757	37,261	34,249
South Carolina	25,370	25,880	27,022	28,427	29,688	27,277
South Dakota	27,089	29,304	31,007	31,811	32,405	30,323
Tennessee	27,499	28,350	29,690	31,001	32,305	29,769
Texas	28,793	29,340	30,887	33,160	35,058	31,448
Utah	25,010	25,220	26,270	28,176	29,769	26,889
Vermont	29,292	30,247	31,814	32,654	34,623	31,726
Virginia	33,014	33,976	35,836	37,974	39,564	36,073
Washington	**32,528**	**33,105**	**35,189**	**35,730**	**38,067**	**34,924**
West Virginia	24,007	24,240	25,253	26,435	28,067	25,600
Wisconsin	30,028	30,752	31,778	32,922	34,476	31,991
Wyoming	30,990	32,742	35,130	37,161	40,569	35,318
U.S. Average*	30,795	31,466	33,072	34,685	36,629	33,329
Washington's Rank	**13**	**13**	**12**	**17**	**16**	**14**

*The U.S. Average includes Washington D.C., which makes it higher than the 50 State Average.
Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce, September 20, 2007.

Per Capita Personal Income Growth Rate

The growth rate of per capita personal income is affected by the growth rate of the components of total personal income as well as the growth rate of population. From 2005 to 2006, Washington total personal income grew by 8.3 percent while population grew at 1.7 percent. As a result, per capita personal income grew by 6.5 percent, which ranked 6th among the states. During the same period, U.S. total personal income grew by 6.6 percent while its population grew at 1.0 percent, for a per capita personal income growth rate of 5.6 percent.

It should be noted that the growth rate of Washington's per capita personal income in 2005 was reduced by Microsoft's December 2004 special dividend. Of the approximately $32 billion distributed in the one-time dividend, the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) estimated that $24.9 billion was distributed to individuals in the U.S. as personal income. Due to the presence of several large shareholders in the state, the BEA attributed $5.6 billion of the dividend to Washington residents. This raised the 2004 growth rate and lowered the 2005 rate. Without the special dividend, Washington's per capita personal income growth rate for 2004 would have been 3.6 percent, ranking 44th, and its 2005 rate would have been 4.2 percent, ranking 32nd. U.S. per capita personal income growth would have been 4.8 percent in 2004 and 5.1 percent in 2005 without the dividend.

While Washington's per capita personal income is considerably higher than that of the U.S., its growth rate slowed during the recovery from the 2001 recession. The state's 2002-06 average rate of growth was 3.4 percent, below the national average of 3.7 percent and ranking 38th among the states.

Chart 4
Per Capita Personal Income Growth Rate

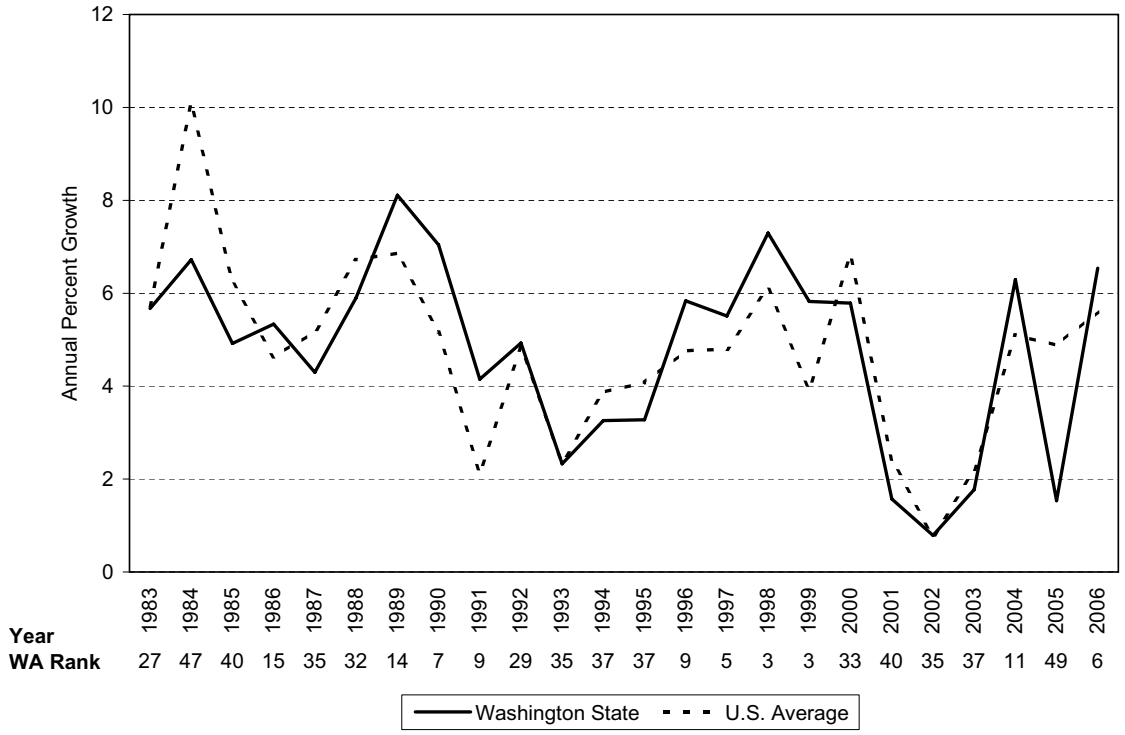


Table 4
Economic Performance
Per Capita Personal Income Growth Rate
(Percent)

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002-06
Alabama	2.8	3.6	6.2	4.7	5.4	4.5
Alaska	2.0	1.1	4.5	7.1	5.4	4.0
Arizona	1.0	1.9	6.4	5.8	5.2	4.1
Arkansas	1.5	4.5	5.5	4.7	5.5	4.3
California	-0.3	2.1	5.5	5.6	5.6	3.7
Colorado	-1.4	0.1	4.6	5.8	5.0	2.8
Connecticut	-1.0	0.5	6.7	4.7	6.5	3.5
Delaware	2.6	1.8	5.3	5.0	5.1	4.0
Florida	1.5	2.0	7.4	6.7	5.6	4.6
Georgia	-0.3	0.6	3.3	5.0	3.0	2.3
Hawaii	2.5	3.0	7.4	6.7	5.8	5.1
Idaho	0.7	1.1	7.4	3.4	5.9	3.7
Illinois	1.0	2.7	3.8	3.8	5.3	3.3
Indiana	2.3	3.0	3.7	3.2	4.3	3.3
Iowa	3.6	1.6	7.4	2.7	4.9	4.0
Kansas	0.9	2.7	3.9	5.7	6.4	3.9
Kentucky	2.0	1.7	4.4	5.1	4.8	3.6
Louisiana	2.1	2.4	5.4	-8.9	26.6	5.5
Maine	1.7	3.4	4.7	2.5	3.6	3.2
Maryland	2.6	2.2	6.0	5.0	5.3	4.2
Massachusetts	-0.0	1.5	5.1	5.2	6.1	3.6
Michigan	1.0	3.0	1.4	3.6	3.3	2.4
Minnesota	1.9	3.2	5.2	3.0	4.3	3.5
Mississippi	1.7	3.2	4.6	5.5	5.7	4.2
Missouri	2.0	2.5	4.0	3.8	4.5	3.4
Montana	1.6	5.2	5.7	4.9	5.7	4.6
Nebraska	1.7	5.3	3.3	3.4	4.7	3.7
Nevada	0.0	3.4	8.4	8.7	4.3	5.0
New Hampshire	0.6	1.2	5.4	3.1	5.8	3.2
New Jersey	0.4	1.1	5.0	3.9	6.9	3.5
New Mexico	0.7	2.5	5.5	7.0	6.0	4.3
New York	-0.7	2.0	6.4	6.7	7.4	4.4
North Carolina	0.1	1.5	5.5	4.5	5.0	3.3
North Dakota	2.1	8.8	2.2	9.1	3.1	5.1
Ohio	2.1	2.2	2.9	3.8	4.3	3.1
Oklahoma	-0.6	2.2	7.5	5.8	7.8	4.5
Oregon	1.4	2.1	3.6	3.0	5.5	3.1
Pennsylvania	2.5	2.8	4.9	4.1	5.4	3.9
Rhode Island	2.6	3.7	4.6	4.8	4.2	4.0
South Carolina	1.5	2.0	4.4	5.2	4.4	3.5
South Dakota	0.5	8.2	5.8	2.6	1.9	3.8
Tennessee	2.3	3.1	4.7	4.4	4.2	3.8
Texas	-0.8	1.9	5.3	7.4	5.7	3.9
Utah	1.1	0.8	4.2	7.3	5.7	3.8
Vermont	1.2	3.3	5.2	2.6	6.0	3.7
Virginia	1.6	2.9	5.5	6.0	4.2	4.0
Washington	**0.8**	**1.8**	**6.3**	**1.5**	**6.5**	**3.4**
West Virginia	3.2	1.0	4.2	4.7	6.2	3.8
Wisconsin	2.1	2.4	3.3	3.6	4.7	3.2
Wyoming	2.3	5.7	7.3	5.8	9.2	6.0
U.S. Average*	0.8	2.2	5.1	4.9	5.6	3.7
Washington's Rank	**35**	**37**	**11**	**49**	**6**	**38**

*The U.S. Average includes Washington D.C.
Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce, September 20, 2007.

Growth in High Wage Industries' Share of Total Employment

As part of its annual release of personal income data, the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) publishes annual earnings and employment statistics by industry for each state and the nation as a whole. Total employment and earnings data is broken down into 94 different industry categories corresponding to various combinations of two-to-four digit North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) categories. By dividing earnings by employment, average earnings per job can be computed for each industry.

This measure defines "high wage jobs" as those in industries that have higher average earnings per job than the national average, which is calculated by dividing total earnings by the total number of jobs. The number of jobs in each state that are in the industries categorized nationally as high wage are divided by the total to determine their share of total jobs. Annual growth in high wage industries share of total employment is calculated as the percent share of jobs that are high wage in a given year minus the percent share of the previous year. It should be noted that the BEA employment statistics that this measure uses are slightly different from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) employment statistics reported elsewhere in this publication.

As measured here, the ratio of high wage jobs to total jobs has been declining since 1998 in both Washington and the U.S. as a whole. The negative values may be due to the use of the U.S. average wage to define high-wage jobs. As the average wage may be skewed higher by the presence of a relatively small number of exceptionally high-paid workers, the presence of such workers will cause the average wage to grow faster than the median wage, resulting in more "low wage" workers for those years. There are, however, no BEA data on median wages to make this comparison.

The percentage of jobs in "high wage" industries in Washington decreased from 51.6 percent in 2005 to 51.3 percent in 2006, a change of -0.3 percent. This was a greater negative change than the U.S. average of -0.2 percent and ranked 41st among the states. While the state's share of high-wage jobs fell in 2006, however, its 2006 share of 51.3 percent still ranked 17th among the states. It should also be noted that the state's 2006 rate was heavily affected by strong growth in non-high-wage industries connected to the state's above-average performance in housing and agriculture during that year, which lowered the relative share of high-wage jobs.

Chart 5
Economic Performance
Change in High Wage Industries' Share of Total Employment

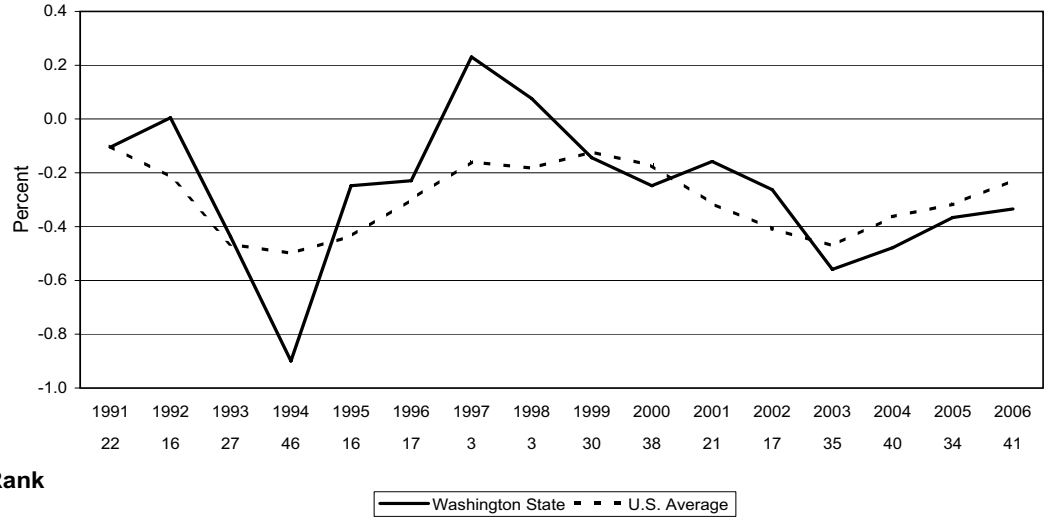


Table 5
Economic Performance
Change in High Wage Industries' Share of Total Employment
(Percent)

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002-06
Alabama	-0.1	-0.3	-0.3	-0.4	0.1	-0.2
Alaska	-0.8	0.5	-0.5	-0.0	0.2	-0.1
Arizona	-0.3	-0.6	-0.3	-0.7	-0.4	-0.5
Arkansas	-0.2	-0.3	-0.4	-0.1	-0.4	-0.3
California	-0.6	-0.7	-0.0	-0.1	-0.2	-0.3
Colorado	-0.4	-0.4	-0.3	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4
Connecticut	-0.6	-0.6	-0.5	-0.5	-0.3	-0.5
Delaware	-0.3	-0.4	-0.8	-0.7	-0.5	-0.5
Florida	-0.3	-0.4	-0.3	-0.4	-0.3	-0.3
Georgia	-0.3	-0.6	-0.4	-0.6	-0.2	-0.4
Hawaii	0.1	-0.6	-0.2	-0.6	-0.1	-0.3
Idaho	-0.4	-0.6	-0.4	-0.4	-0.2	-0.4
Illinois	-0.5	-0.7	-0.7	-0.4	-0.3	-0.5
Indiana	-0.3	-0.2	-0.4	-0.4	-0.3	-0.3
Iowa	-0.3	-0.2	-0.3	-0.3	-0.2	-0.2
Kansas	-0.5	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4	0.1	-0.3
Kentucky	-0.3	-0.2	-0.4	-0.2	-0.1	-0.3
Louisiana	-0.2	-0.2	-0.4	-0.1	-0.5	-0.3
Maine	-0.2	-0.2	-0.4	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3
Maryland	-0.3	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4	-0.2	-0.4
Massachusetts	-0.8	-0.9	-0.6	-0.3	-0.1	-0.5
Michigan	-0.4	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6	-0.5	-0.5
Minnesota	-0.7	-0.6	-0.3	-0.2	-0.2	-0.4
Mississippi	-0.2	-0.1	-0.5	-0.4	-0.2	-0.3
Missouri	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4	-0.3	-0.4
Montana	-0.3	0.0	-0.3	-0.3	-0.1	-0.2
Nebraska	0.8	-0.3	-0.2	-0.3	0.1	0.0
Nevada	0.3	-0.7	-0.3	-0.4	-0.0	-0.2
New Hampshire	-0.8	-0.6	-0.5	-0.1	-0.3	-0.4
New Jersey	-0.8	-0.7	-0.4	-0.3	-0.2	-0.5
New Mexico	-0.4	-0.4	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2
New York	-0.6	-0.6	-0.4	-0.2	-0.2	-0.4
North Carolina	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.1	-0.2
North Dakota	-0.2	0.4	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1	-0.0
Ohio	-0.4	-0.3	-0.5	-0.3	-0.3	-0.4
Oklahoma	-0.2	-0.1	-0.4	0.0	0.0	-0.1
Oregon	-0.4	-0.8	-0.4	-0.2	-0.1	-0.4
Pennsylvania	-0.4	-0.3	-0.5	-0.4	-0.2	-0.4
Rhode Island	-0.7	-0.1	-0.6	-0.1	-0.2	-0.3
South Carolina	-0.1	-0.4	-0.5	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3
South Dakota	-0.3	-0.1	-0.2	-0.3	0.1	-0.2
Tennessee	-0.2	-0.3	-0.5	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3
Texas	-0.3	-0.3	-0.2	-0.2	-0.0	-0.2
Utah	-0.2	-0.3	-0.4	-0.3	-0.4	-0.3
Vermont	-0.8	-0.2	-0.3	-0.4	-0.3	-0.4
Virginia	-0.3	-0.4	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3
Washington	**-0.3**	**-0.6**	**-0.5**	**-0.4**	**-0.3**	**-0.4**
West Virginia	-0.1	-0.2	-0.4	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3
Wisconsin	-0.4	-0.5	-0.4	-0.3	-0.2	-0.4
Wyoming	-0.6	0.3	-0.0	0.2	0.4	0.1
U.S. Average	-0.4	-0.5	-0.4	-0.3	-0.2	-0.4
Washington's Rank	**17**	**35**	**40**	**34**	**41**	**40**

Source: Washington State Office of the Forecast Council based on employment and personal income data provided by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, September 2007.

Annual Earnings Per Job

The Bureau of Economic Analysis defines earnings as salary income, other labor income, and proprietors' income. Historically, Washington has ranked high in annual earnings per job due to the presence in its economy of large firms in both manufacturing and technology sectors. Washington's national rank in this measure has been 12th or higher for the last twelve years. The state's 2006 rank is 11th.

Washington's average annual earnings per job increased to $48,874 in 2006, up $1,918 from 2005 and $1,599 above the national average of $47,275. The state's five-year average of $45,861 ranked 10th in the nation.

2006 Annual Earnings Per Job
Top 10 States

	2005	Rank
New York	$61,590	1
Connecticut	$60,052	2
New Jersey	$57,098	3
Massachusetts	$56,027	4
California	$54,812	5
Delaware	$51,643	6
Illinois	$50,806	7
Maryland	$50,667	8
Texas	$49,808	9
Virginia	$49,580	10

Chart 6
Annual Earnings Per Job

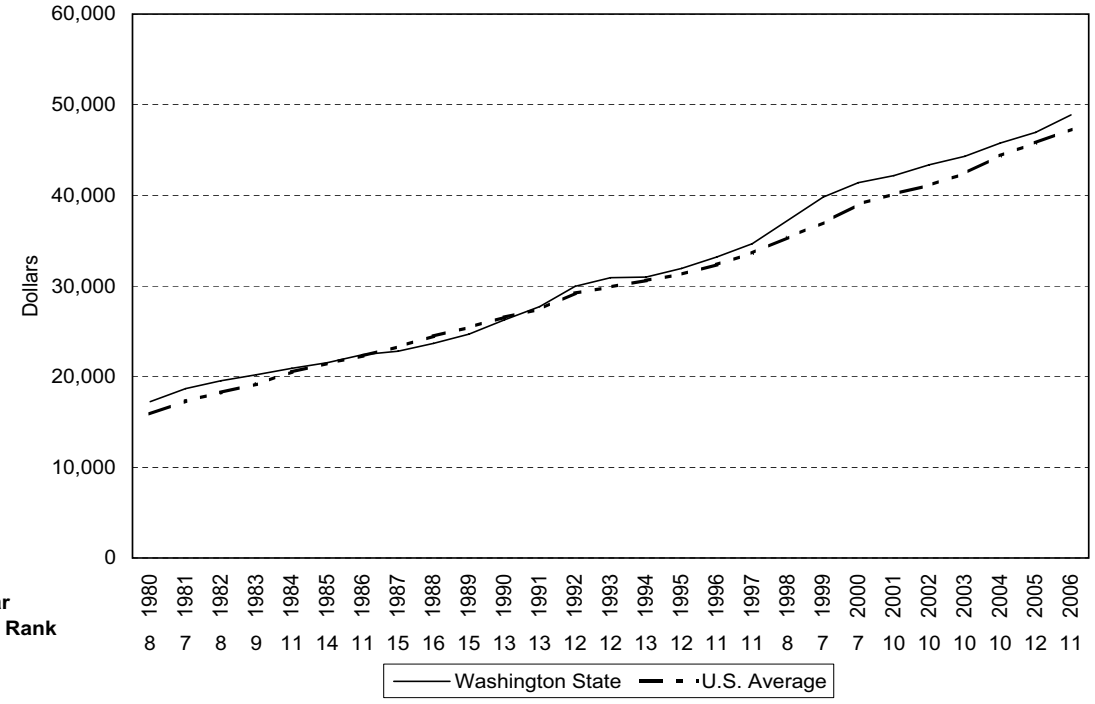


Table 6
Economic Performance
Annual Earnings Per Job
(Dollars)

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002-06
Alabama	34,920	36,349	37,718	38,990	40,167	37,629
Alaska	41,464	43,093	45,206	47,064	48,515	45,068
Arizona	37,834	38,508	40,785	42,733	44,347	40,841
Arkansas	30,814	32,800	34,237	34,774	35,577	33,640
California	46,009	47,550	50,856	53,180	54,812	50,481
Colorado	42,391	43,069	44,897	46,434	47,806	44,919
Connecticut	53,124	54,383	56,919	58,687	60,052	56,633
Delaware	44,882	46,512	48,274	50,329	51,643	48,328
Florida	35,710	36,797	38,376	40,081	41,426	38,478
Georgia	40,268	41,038	42,486	43,830	44,763	42,477
Hawaii	37,141	38,646	40,661	42,294	43,680	40,484
Idaho	31,270	31,579	33,191	34,111	35,425	33,115
Illinois	44,540	46,668	48,479	49,292	50,806	47,957
Indiana	36,437	38,370	39,531	40,175	41,011	39,105
Iowa	31,574	33,029	35,451	35,784	36,458	34,459
Kansas	33,397	35,361	36,868	38,056	39,499	36,636
Kentucky	33,928	35,201	36,588	37,950	38,889	36,511
Louisiana	34,297	35,466	37,004	36,739	40,950	36,891
Maine	31,985	33,268	34,357	34,946	35,683	34,048
Maryland	43,875	45,139	47,549	49,281	50,667	47,302
Massachusetts	49,407	50,527	53,226	54,374	56,027	52,712
Michigan	43,502	45,253	45,462	46,340	46,772	45,466
Minnesota	39,654	41,020	42,953	43,504	44,331	42,292
Mississippi	29,987	31,734	33,058	33,991	35,086	32,771
Missouri	35,912	36,953	38,315	39,229	40,139	38,110
Montana	27,908	29,281	30,699	32,086	32,726	30,540
Nebraska	32,644	35,035	36,332	36,968	37,752	35,746
Nevada	39,119	40,111	42,094	43,905	45,027	42,051
New Hampshire	39,238	40,433	42,201	43,382	44,584	41,968
New Jersey	51,088	52,114	54,021	55,400	57,098	53,944
New Mexico	33,547	34,290	35,770	37,011	38,241	35,772
New York	52,761	53,657	56,501	58,679	61,590	56,638
North Carolina	36,119	37,214	38,549	39,974	41,188	38,609
North Dakota	28,583	32,107	32,179	34,158	33,999	32,205
Ohio	37,960	39,354	40,505	41,297	42,248	40,273
Oklahoma	32,935	34,466	36,803	38,114	40,039	36,471
Oregon	37,237	38,355	38,943	39,650	40,816	39,000
Pennsylvania	40,506	42,119	44,044	45,203	46,514	43,677
Rhode Island	39,475	41,460	42,869	44,094	45,454	42,670
South Carolina	33,766	34,984	36,066	37,264	38,400	36,096
South Dakota	28,355	31,580	33,077	33,366	32,881	31,852
Tennessee	36,638	37,974	39,427	40,632	41,788	39,292
Texas	41,837	42,886	45,656	47,764	49,808	45,590
Utah	34,090	34,544	35,986	37,297	38,878	36,159
Vermont	32,144	33,540	34,826	35,717	36,343	34,514
Virginia	42,359	43,708	46,103	48,078	49,580	45,966
Washington	**43,386**	**44,312**	**45,775**	**46,956**	**48,874**	**45,861**
West Virginia	32,655	33,809	35,442	36,720	37,894	35,304
Wisconsin	36,031	37,330	38,313	39,024	39,984	38,136
Wyoming	32,305	33,755	35,645	37,707	40,409	35,964
U.S. Average	41,116	42,428	44,378	45,803	47,275	44,200
Washington's Rank	**10**	**10**	**10**	**12**	**11**	**10**

Source: US Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (www.bea.gov), September 2007.

Annual Earnings Per Job Growth Rate

The growth rate of Washington earnings per job accelerated in 2006, growing at a rate of 4.1 percent after managing only 2.6 percent growth in 2005. This rate, well above the national average of 3.2 percent, increased the state's rank from 33rd to 7th. While high rates of growth in the past, especially in the late 1990s, have left the level of Washington's annual earnings per job comfortably higher than the U.S. measure, the state's growth rate slowed in the aftermath of the 2001 recession. This is reflected in the 36th-place ranking of Washington's five-year-average growth rate of 3.0 percent.

Chart 7
Annual Earnings Per Job Growth Rate

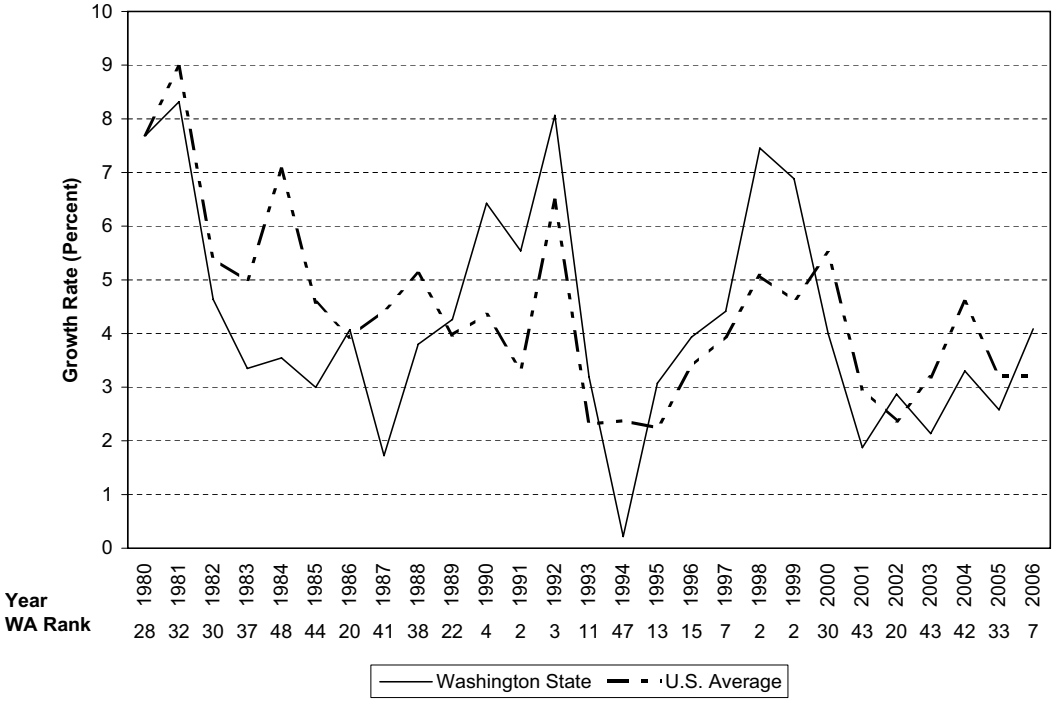


Table 7
Economic Performance
Annual Earnings Per Job Growth Rate
(Dollars)

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002-06
Alabama	3.9	4.1	3.8	3.4	3.0	3.6
Alaska	2.7	3.9	4.9	4.1	3.1	3.7
Arizona	2.9	1.8	5.9	4.8	3.8	3.8
Arkansas	2.1	6.4	4.4	1.6	2.3	3.4
California	1.9	3.3	7.0	4.6	3.1	4.0
Colorado	1.3	1.6	4.2	3.4	3.0	2.7
Connecticut	1.0	2.4	4.7	3.1	2.3	2.7
Delaware	3.9	3.6	3.8	4.3	2.6	3.6
Florida	3.2	3.0	4.3	4.4	3.4	3.7
Georgia	1.8	1.9	3.5	3.2	2.1	2.5
Hawaii	5.7	4.1	5.2	4.0	3.3	4.4
Idaho	1.6	1.0	5.1	2.8	3.9	2.9
Illinois	3.2	4.8	3.9	1.7	3.1	3.3
Indiana	4.2	5.3	3.0	1.6	2.1	3.2
Iowa	3.8	4.6	7.3	0.9	1.9	3.7
Kansas	2.2	5.9	4.3	3.2	3.8	3.9
Kentucky	3.7	3.8	3.9	3.7	2.5	3.5
Louisiana	2.8	3.4	4.3	-0.7	11.5	4.3
Maine	2.6	4.0	3.3	1.7	2.1	2.7
Maryland	3.9	2.9	5.3	3.6	2.8	3.7
Massachusetts	1.5	2.3	5.3	2.2	3.0	2.9
Michigan	3.0	4.0	0.5	1.9	0.9	2.1
Minnesota	3.3	3.4	4.7	1.3	1.9	2.9
Mississippi	1.9	5.8	4.2	2.8	3.2	3.6
Missouri	3.4	2.9	3.7	2.4	2.3	2.9
Montana	1.4	4.9	4.8	4.5	2.0	3.5
Nebraska	2.5	7.3	3.7	1.8	2.1	3.5
Nevada	1.9	2.5	4.9	4.3	2.6	3.2
New Hampshire	2.8	3.0	4.4	2.8	2.8	3.2
New Jersey	2.6	2.0	3.7	2.6	3.1	2.8
New Mexico	2.7	2.2	4.3	3.5	3.3	3.2
New York	0.4	1.7	5.3	3.9	5.0	3.2
North Carolina	1.8	3.0	3.6	3.7	3.0	3.0
North Dakota	1.8	12.3	0.2	6.1	-0.5	4.0
Ohio	3.8	3.7	2.9	2.0	2.3	2.9
Oklahoma	0.5	4.6	6.8	3.6	5.1	4.1
Oregon	3.7	3.0	1.5	1.8	2.9	2.6
Pennsylvania	3.4	4.0	4.6	2.6	2.9	3.5
Rhode Island	3.5	5.0	3.4	2.9	3.1	3.6
South Carolina	2.9	3.6	3.1	3.3	3.0	3.2
South Dakota	-0.2	11.4	4.7	0.9	-1.5	3.1
Tennessee	4.5	3.6	3.8	3.1	2.8	3.6
Texas	0.9	2.5	6.5	4.6	4.3	3.8
Utah	2.6	1.3	4.2	3.6	4.2	3.2
Vermont	2.1	4.3	3.8	2.6	1.8	2.9
Virginia	2.7	3.2	5.5	4.3	3.1	3.8
Washington	**2.9**	**2.1**	**3.3**	**2.6**	**4.1**	**3.0**
West Virginia	2.3	3.5	4.8	3.6	3.2	3.5
Wisconsin	3.7	3.6	2.6	1.9	2.5	2.8
Wyoming	2.3	4.5	5.6	5.8	7.2	5.1
U.S. Average	2.4	3.2	4.6	3.2	3.2	3.3
Washington's rank	**20**	**43**	**42**	**33**	**7**	**36**

Source: US Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (www.bea.gov), September 2007.

Migration Rate

Washington continues to be a popular destination for international and domestic migration, ranking 6th in terms of total migration in 2006. On a per capita basis, the state ranked 10th, with a migration rate of 1.1 percent as compared to the national rate of 0.4 percent.

2006's total population growth for Washington was 1.7 percent, while the national average was 1.0 percent. Natural increase accounted for 32.7 percent of the state's growth while 67.3 percent came from migration. Of the state's immigrants, 37.9 percent were international and 62.1 percent were domestic. In the U.S. as a whole, 58.4 percent of population growth came from natural increase and 41.6 percent from international migration.

The U.S. Census Bureau did not release migration data for the year 2000.

Chart 8
Migration Rate

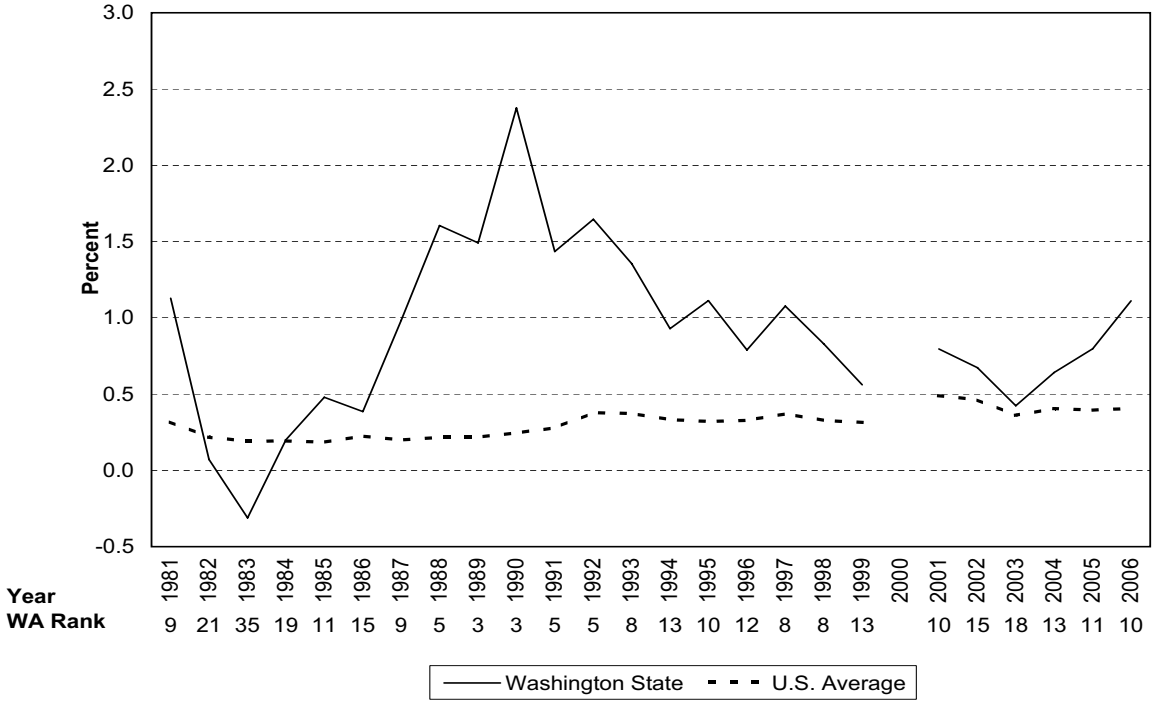


Table 8
Economic Performance
Migration Rate
(Percent)*

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002-06
Alabama	-0.1	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.8	0.3
Alaska	0.2	0.1	0.3	-0.1	-0.0	0.1
Arizona	1.9	1.7	2.1	2.7	2.7	2.2
Arkansas	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.9	0.5
California	0.5	0.4	0.2	-0.0	-0.1	0.2
Colorado	0.7	0.1	0.3	0.5	1.1	0.6
Connecticut	0.4	0.3	-0.0	-0.1	-0.1	0.1
Delaware	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.1	0.9	0.9
Florida	1.8	1.6	2.0	2.0	1.5	1.8
Georgia	1.3	1.0	1.3	1.4	1.7	1.3
Hawaii	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3
Idaho	0.9	0.9	1.1	1.6	1.8	1.3
Illinois	-0.0	-0.2	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1
Indiana	-0.0	0.1	-0.0	0.2	0.3	0.1
Iowa	-0.2	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2	-0.0
Kansas	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	0.0	-0.1
Kentucky	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3
Louisiana	-0.4	-0.3	-0.2	-0.3	-5.4	-1.3
Maine	0.7	0.7	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.4
Maryland	0.6	0.7	0.3	0.1	-0.1	0.3
Massachusetts	0.0	-0.2	-0.4	-0.4	-0.3	-0.3
Michigan	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.3	-0.4	-0.2
Minnesota	0.2	0.1	0.0	-0.0	0.2	0.1
Mississippi	-0.2	-0.1	0.1	0.0	-0.4	-0.1
Missouri	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3
Montana	0.2	0.4	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.5
Nebraska	-0.1	-0.0	-0.1	-0.0	-0.1	-0.1
Nevada	2.8	2.6	3.3	2.7	2.7	2.8
New Hampshire	0.9	0.6	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.5
New Jersey	0.4	0.1	-0.0	-0.2	-0.2	0.0
New Mexico	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.6
New York	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.4	-0.5	-0.3
North Carolina	0.8	0.7	0.8	1.1	1.6	1.0
North Dakota	-0.7	-0.5	0.2	-0.6	-0.2	-0.4
Ohio	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3	-0.3	-0.2
Oklahoma	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.6	0.2
Oregon	1.0	0.6	0.4	1.0	1.3	0.9
Pennsylvania	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1
Rhode Island	0.7	0.3	0.1	-0.8	-0.8	-0.1
South Carolina	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.8	1.3	0.8
South Dakota	-0.2	-0.0	0.3	0.0	0.4	0.1
Tennessee	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.8	1.0	0.6
Texas	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.8	1.5	0.9
Utah	0.1	-0.3	1.2	1.3	1.0	0.7
Vermont	0.3	0.2	0.1	-0.0	0.0	0.1
Virginia	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.6
Washington	**0.7**	**0.4**	**0.6**	**0.8**	**1.1**	**0.7**
West Virginia	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2
Wisconsin	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Wyoming	0.6	-0.0	0.3	0.1	0.7	0.3
U.S. Average*	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Washington's Rank	**15**	**18**	**13**	**11**	**10**	**11**

* The District of Columbia is included in the U.S. average.
Source: Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau, December 2006.

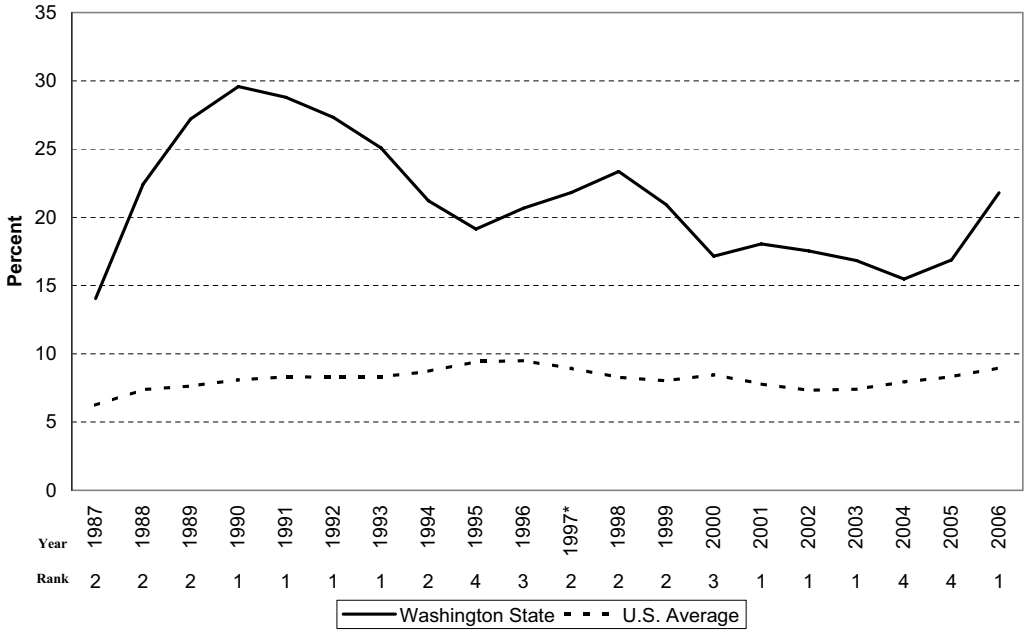
Foreign Exports Inclusive and Exclusive of Transportation Equipment

Washington ranked 1st in exports as a percent of total personal income in 2006 with an export value of 21.80 percent of personal income, well above the national average of 8.97 percent. The state also ranked first in the five-year average of this measure with a value of 17.71 percent.

Washington's perennially strong performance in this category is due mainly to the presence of Boeing and PACCAR, two of the world's leading manufacturers of commercial aircraft and trucks respectively. Exports of transportation equipment from these and other Washington manufacturers regularly account for over half of Washington's exports. Excluding exports of these products, Washington's exports were equivalent to 7.97 percent of personal income, still above the national average of 7.28 percent and ranking 12th among the states. After transportation, agricultural products were 2005's highest value export, followed by computer and electronic products, machinery and food and kindred products.

It must be noted that the trade data used for this indicator, obtained from the U.S. Bureau of the Census, only includes trade in goods, ignoring trades in service exports which are difficult to track and credit to specific states. Software, one of Washington's main exports, is classified as a service and is therefore not included in this data. As software giant Microsoft contributes greatly to state personal income while its exports are not included in the trade data, the measure of Washington exports as a percent of personal income understates the contribution of trade to Washington's economy. This growing understatement is part of the reason that exports excluding transportation products as a percentage of personal income, as shown in Chart 10, begins to decline in 1997, as this year coincides with the period where Microsoft's contribution to personal income began its greatest growth.

Chart 9
Foreign Exports



*Trade data from 1997 to 2006 is coded under the North American Industry Classification System(NAICS).
Prior data is coded under Standard Industrial Classification (SIC)

Table 9
Economic Performance
Foreign Exports
(Percent of State Personal Income)

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002-06
Alabama	7.26	7.05	7.16	8.11	9.78	7.87
Alaska	12.14	12.93	14.06	14.78	15.63	13.91
Arizona	8.24	8.85	8.14	8.27	9.28	8.55
Arkansas	4.43	4.46	4.94	5.16	5.33	4.87
California	8.03	7.92	8.69	8.67	8.90	8.44
Colorado	3.61	3.95	4.06	3.86	4.23	3.94
Connecticut	5.66	5.47	5.37	5.80	6.88	5.84
Delaware	7.55	6.88	7.02	8.09	11.69	8.25
Florida	4.95	4.85	5.13	5.41	5.81	5.23
Georgia	5.88	6.49	7.42	7.25	6.69	6.75
Hawaii	1.41	0.97	0.99	2.32	1.49	1.44
Idaho	5.81	6.02	7.65	8.07	8.47	7.20
Illinois	6.21	6.20	6.79	7.73	8.56	7.10
Indiana	8.65	9.18	10.26	11.10	11.12	10.06
Iowa	5.77	6.24	7.06	7.87	8.54	7.10
Kansas	6.35	5.61	5.83	7.49	8.98	6.85
Kentucky	10.21	10.10	11.63	12.59	13.79	11.66
Louisiana	15.58	15.90	16.29	17.22	17.47	16.49
Maine	5.48	5.83	6.16	5.68	6.22	5.88
Maryland	2.25	2.40	2.61	3.06	3.09	2.68
Massachusetts	6.68	7.35	8.18	7.86	8.08	7.63
Michigan	11.13	10.51	11.18	11.37	11.85	11.21
Minnesota	6.23	6.49	6.90	7.72	8.15	7.10
Mississippi	4.78	3.86	4.56	5.41	5.97	4.92
Missouri	4.22	4.35	5.17	5.75	6.67	5.23
Montana	1.69	1.49	2.19	2.60	3.04	2.20
Nebraska	5.02	5.10	4.17	5.20	5.96	5.09
Nevada	1.77	2.86	3.62	4.36	5.64	3.65
New Hampshire	4.29	4.36	4.85	5.20	5.39	4.82
New Jersey	5.04	4.91	5.31	5.59	6.68	5.51
New Mexico	2.66	4.99	4.11	4.70	4.98	4.29
New York	5.46	5.65	6.00	6.39	6.76	6.05
North Carolina	6.44	6.89	7.21	7.29	7.41	7.05
North Dakota	5.13	4.70	5.40	5.83	7.18	5.65
Ohio	8.32	8.72	8.88	9.53	9.92	9.07
Oklahoma	2.71	2.87	3.18	4.05	3.77	3.32
Oregon	9.90	9.85	10.17	10.80	12.42	10.63
Pennsylvania	4.12	4.14	4.47	5.16	5.77	4.73
Rhode Island	3.33	3.36	3.49	3.30	3.85	3.47
South Carolina	9.28	10.98	11.80	11.55	10.61	10.85
South Dakota	2.90	3.00	3.46	3.82	4.68	3.57
Tennessee	7.30	7.62	9.23	10.33	11.29	9.15
Texas	15.22	15.22	16.86	16.94	18.31	16.51
Utah	7.81	6.93	7.42	8.63	8.96	7.95
Vermont	13.97	14.04	16.62	20.86	17.67	16.63
Virginia	4.49	4.33	4.34	4.25	4.66	4.42
Washington	**17.54**	**16.84**	**15.48**	**16.88**	**21.80**	**17.71**
West Virginia	5.17	5.43	7.13	6.56	6.32	6.12
Wisconsin	6.54	6.85	7.27	8.20	8.96	7.56
Wyoming	3.58	3.54	3.83	3.54	3.97	3.69
U.S. Average	7.32	7.41	7.93	8.32	8.97	7.99
Washington's Rank	**1**	**1**	**4**	**4**	**1**	**1**

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Foreign Trade Division, Bureau of Economic Analysis
Trade data prepared by World Institute for Strategic Economic Research, August 2007.

Chart 10
Foreign Exports (Excluding Transportation Equipment)

*Trade data from 1997 to 2006 is coded under the North American Industry Classification System(NAICS).
Prior data is coded under Standard Industrial Classification (SIC)

Table 10
Economic Performance
Foreign Exports (Excluding Transportation Equipment)
(Percent of State Personal Income)

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002-06
Alabama	5.10	4.91	5.28	5.77	5.96	5.40
Alaska	12.01	12.81	13.97	14.11	15.25	13.63
Arizona	6.67	7.43	6.61	6.89	7.85	7.09
Arkansas	3.46	3.66	3.97	3.81	3.83	3.75
California	7.42	7.19	7.76	7.68	7.96	7.60
Colorado	3.43	3.76	3.89	3.71	4.09	3.77
Connecticut	2.87	3.25	3.38	3.44	3.88	3.36
Delaware	6.70	6.21	5.87	7.03	10.27	7.22
Florida	4.22	4.13	4.28	4.50	4.83	4.39
Georgia	4.85	5.24	5.71	5.50	5.40	5.34
Hawaii	0.74	0.73	0.84	0.78	0.87	0.79
Idaho	5.75	5.97	7.54	7.86	8.26	7.08
Illinois	5.42	5.51	6.08	7.00	7.60	6.32
Indiana	5.88	6.23	6.93	7.56	7.70	6.86
Iowa	5.47	5.92	6.69	7.48	8.05	6.72
Kansas	4.21	4.05	3.90	4.78	5.53	4.49
Kentucky	5.91	6.61	7.29	7.82	8.42	7.21
Louisiana	14.93	15.63	15.88	16.75	16.95	16.03
Maine	5.20	5.39	5.33	5.43	5.93	5.46
Maryland	1.79	1.91	2.18	2.53	2.54	2.19
Massachusetts	6.55	7.20	8.01	7.69	7.89	7.47
Michigan	4.68	4.74	5.37	5.67	5.64	5.22
Minnesota	5.59	5.84	6.25	6.98	7.25	6.38
Mississippi	4.59	3.63	4.19	4.33	4.96	4.34
Missouri	2.79	3.04	3.48	3.80	4.06	3.43
Montana	1.65	1.45	2.15	2.52	2.82	2.12
Nebraska	4.60	4.66	3.79	4.61	5.26	4.58
Nevada	1.71	2.78	3.52	4.26	5.50	3.55
New Hampshire	4.11	4.17	4.65	5.05	5.20	4.64
New Jersey	4.58	4.50	4.92	5.02	6.12	5.03
New Mexico	2.53	4.80	3.94	4.49	4.65	4.08
New York	4.79	5.00	5.36	5.69	6.11	5.39
North Carolina	6.06	6.40	6.67	6.71	6.77	6.52
North Dakota	4.79	4.40	4.98	5.49	6.62	5.26
Ohio	4.95	5.06	5.66	5.92	6.52	5.62
Oklahoma	2.16	2.37	2.66	2.94	3.15	2.66
Oregon	8.95	8.79	8.94	9.36	10.89	9.39
Pennsylvania	3.72	3.69	4.04	4.59	5.13	4.23
Rhode Island	3.27	3.31	3.41	3.19	3.73	3.38
South Carolina	6.63	6.94	7.95	8.16	7.93	7.52
South Dakota	2.78	2.89	3.30	3.51	4.17	3.33
Tennessee	5.56	6.18	7.32	8.01	8.81	7.18
Texas	13.55	13.70	15.05	15.10	16.47	14.77
Utah	6.97	6.14	6.68	7.86	8.15	7.16
Vermont	13.46	13.62	16.11	20.32	17.09	16.12
Virginia	4.02	3.75	3.66	3.63	3.99	3.81
Washington	**5.70**	**6.77**	**7.38**	**7.76**	**7.97**	**7.11**
West Virginia	4.63	4.88	6.13	5.61	5.66	5.38
Wisconsin	5.86	6.03	6.40	7.28	7.75	6.67
Wyoming	3.56	3.51	3.78	3.49	3.94	3.65
U.S. Average	5.88	6.03	6.52	6.78	7.28	6.50
Washington's Rank	**17**	**10**	**10**	**11**	**12**	**13**

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Foreign Trade Division, Bureau of Economic Analysis.
Trade data prepared by World Institute for Strategic Economic Research, August 2007.

Per Capita Spending in Research and Development

· Industrial R&D
· University R&D
· Total Per Capita R&D

The amount of research and development activity occurring within a state relative to the size of its population provides a good indication of that state's capacity for innovation. Industrial research and development brings new products and processes for continued growth. University and government research and development can provide basic research to support local technology hubs and can also attract funding from outside of the state.

The Division of Science Resources Studies (SRS) of the National Science Foundation annually compiles surveys of industries, universities, and other agencies into a report titled *National Patterns of Research and Development Resources*. This report indicates the state in which the research and development activity took place regardless of the state of the sponsoring party. The state spending figures for industrial, university, and total research and development spending can be divided by the state populations to derive per capita spending. The most recent year of state spending available is 2004.

In 2004, Washington ranked 22nd in per capita university research and development with a spending level of $145 per capita, slightly less than the U.S. average of $146. For the period 2000-04 its average rank was also 22nd. In both industry and total 2004 per capita research and development spending, however, the state ranked much higher. Washington's 2004 per capita industrial research and development spending of $1,425 was over twice as high as the national average of $686, ranking 4th among the states. The state's total per capita research and development spending of $1,762 was also much higher than the national average of $967, ranking 5th. Both national and Washington per capita total and industrial spending declined in 2004.

Chart 11
University Research and Development

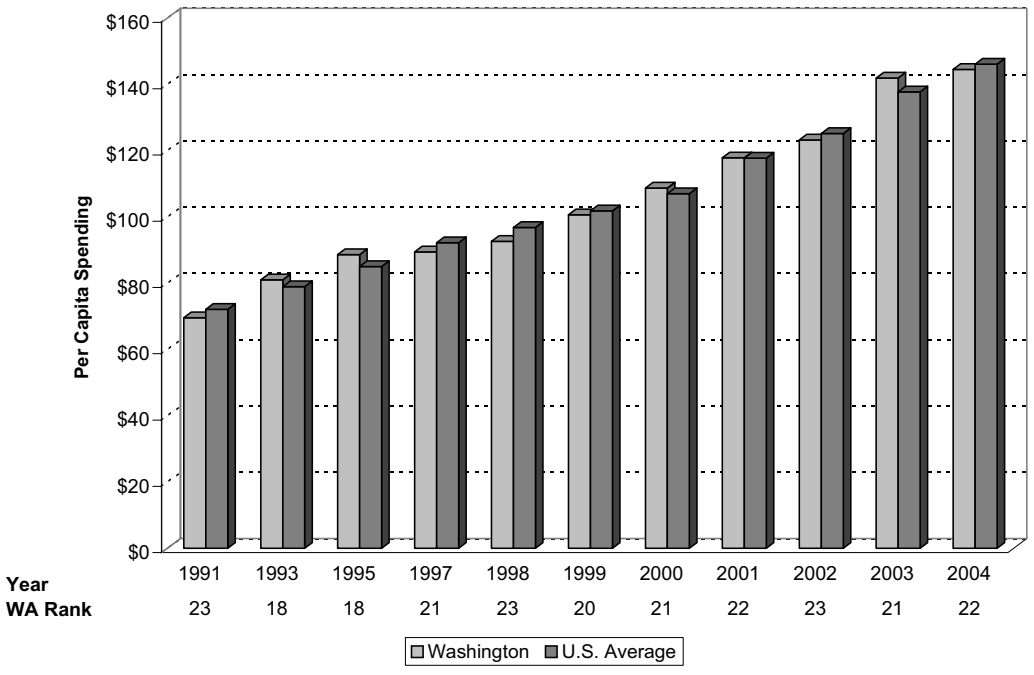


Table 11
University Research and Development
(Dollars Per Capita)

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2000-04
Alabama	96	100	112	124	126	112
Alaska	171	183	201	218	223	199
Arizona	90	94	98	111	113	101
Arkansas	49	52	52	67	67	57
California	119	128	139	151	159	139
Colorado	126	129	143	153	168	144
Connecticut	137	145	156	171	186	159
Delaware	99	101	109	129	138	115
Florida	53	61	65	71	75	65
Georgia	113	117	125	134	137	125
Hawaii	133	129	140	149	192	148
Idaho	57	62	69	77	84	70
Illinois	94	102	114	128	134	115
Indiana	84	95	106	117	135	107
Iowa	143	150	166	170	180	162
Kansas	96	99	111	114	121	108
Kentucky	68	73	81	92	102	83
Louisiana	89	97	108	117	126	107
Maine	45	53	53	57	67	55
Maryland	284	306	346	369	409	342
Massachusetts	234	246	265	283	311	268
Michigan	100	111	123	138	138	122
Minnesota	84	94	100	102	103	97
Mississippi	76	85	100	113	120	99
Missouri	110	120	124	141	146	128
Montana	110	119	134	154	167	137
Nebraska	122	141	155	173	186	155
Nevada	53	55	59	69	70	61
New Hampshire	122	157	173	196	214	172
New Jersey	67	72	80	87	93	80
New Mexico	135	150	158	164	160	153
New York	121	130	145	161	174	146
North Carolina	129	139	154	166	169	151
North Dakota	105	133	167	212	239	171
Ohio	81	87	98	111	115	98
Oklahoma	73	74	81	84	80	78
Oregon	101	105	110	123	141	116
Pennsylvania	126	137	155	163	178	152
Rhode Island	123	135	153	174	178	153
South Carolina	73	89	98	105	109	95
South Dakota	36	42	50	65	74	54
Tennessee	71	74	85	103	112	89
Texas	97	105	116	125	128	114
Utah	137	148	155	163	171	155
Vermont	106	125	146	173	187	147
Virginia	83	85	95	105	114	96
Washington	**109**	**118**	**123**	**142**	**145**	**127**
West Virginia	41	44	54	67	72	55
Wisconsin	123	135	148	161	174	148
Wyoming	87	84	84	120	119	99
U.S. average	107	118	125	138	146	127
Washington's Rank	**21**	**22**	**23**	**21**	**22**	**22**

Source: The National Science Foundation (www.nsf.gov).

Chart 12
Industry Research and Development

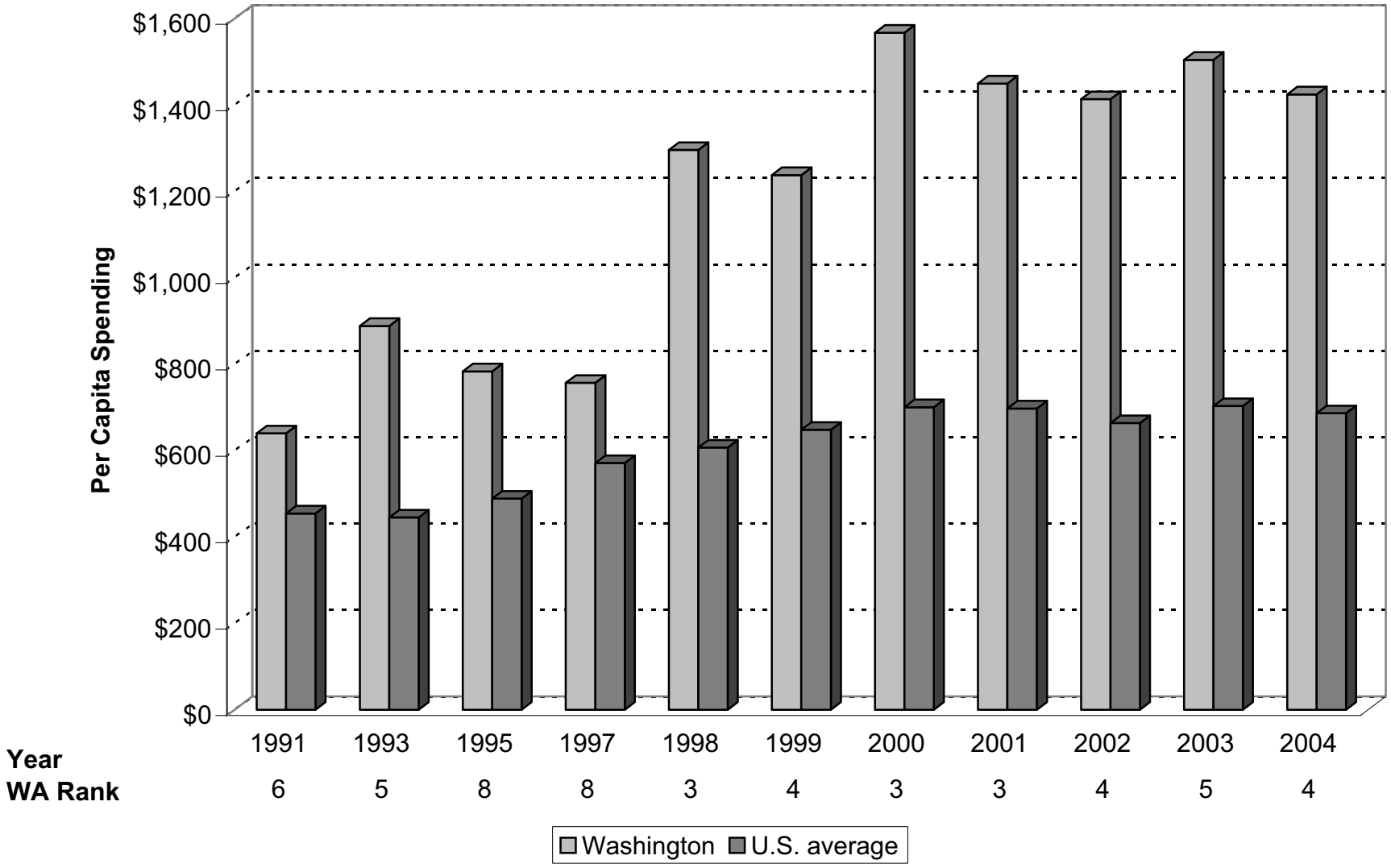


Table 12
Industry Research and Development
(Dollars Per Capita)

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2000-04
Alabama	136	203	189	222	272	204
Alaska	14	108	79	56	53	62
Arizona	473	426	588	467	447	480
Arkansas	102	94	83	99	104	97
California	1,346	1,170	1,132	1,329	1,301	1,256
Colorado	726	696	627	780	872	740
Connecticut	1,281	1,365	1,757	1,675	2,054	1,627
Delaware	1,836	1,549	1,513	1,589	1,278	1,553
Florida	200	230	222	187	201	208
Georgia	192	227	245	241	242	229
Hawaii	36	76	83	107	104	81
Idaho	1,029	669	738	545	488	694
Illinois	857	657	605	658	673	690
Indiana	438	585	580	591	676	574
Iowa	184	279	257	283	326	266
Kansas	423	481	526	614	659	541
Kentucky	144	156	161	146	136	149
Louisiana	28	71	55	66	69	58
Maine	157	194	193	153	162	172
Maryland	383	684	698	726	689	636
Massachusetts	1,550	1,754	1,598	1,723	1,836	1,692
Michigan	1,772	1,428	1,351	1,514	1,503	1,514
Minnesota	754	873	888	989	1,021	905
Mississippi	35	77	78	355	55	120
Missouri	338	318	280	305	374	323
Montana	31	77	73	71	76	65
Nebraska	116	178	198	209	219	184
Nevada	123	138	156	171	179	153
New Hampshire	472	1,064	905	1,049	1,025	903
New Jersey	1,430	1,195	1,348	1,321	1,267	1,312
New Mexico	636	126	178	186	237	273
New York	555	570	482	445	456	501
North Carolina	455	505	414	526	535	487
North Dakota	80	545	242	341	596	361
Ohio	525	588	546	547	481	537
Oklahoma	96	157	118	165	116	130
Oregon	481	1,428	658	835	852	851
Pennsylvania	641	729	573	574	647	633
Rhode Island	1,037	1,071	1,049	1,119	1,223	1,100
South Carolina	194	227	257	236	229	229
South Dakota	58	115	69	98	93	87
Tennessee	213	262	223	258	277	247
Texas	428	461	494	500	488	474
Utah	436	467	480	423	450	451
Vermont	649	553	465	582	681	586
Virginia	383	411	401	563	536	459
Washington	**1,567**	**1,450**	**1,413**	**1,504**	**1,425**	**1,472**
West Virginia	130	117	146	121	112	125
Wisconsin	369	457	487	480	481	455
Wyoming	14	57	42	74	45	46
U.S. average	700	697	664	703	686	690
Washington's Rank	**3**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**4**	**5**

Source: The National Science Foundation (www.nsf.gov).

Chart 13
Per Capita Research and Development

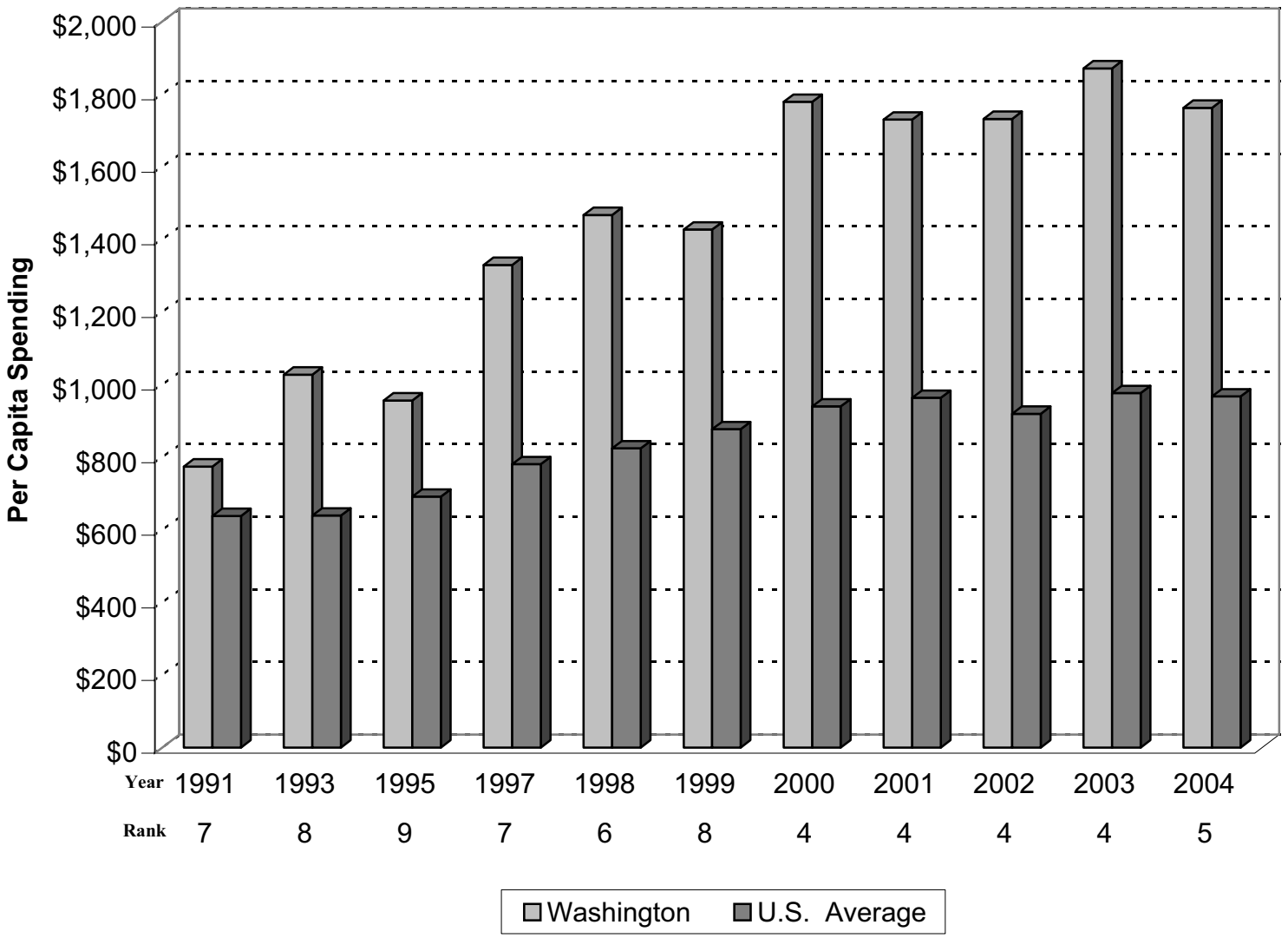


Table 13
Total Research and Development
(Dollars Per Capita)

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2000-04
Alabama	389	504	519	566	611	518
Alaska	313	469	481	496	413	434
Arizona	601	575	752	641	617	637
Arkansas	170	168	158	187	187	174
California	1,620	1,475	1,467	1,682	1,663	1,581
Colorado	977	974	937	1,103	1,195	1,037
Connecticut	1,433	1,547	1,959	1,880	2,256	1,815
Delaware	1,948	1,655	1,637	1,731	1,426	1,679
Florida	291	345	330	305	311	316
Georgia	340	384	458	448	409	408
Hawaii	240	293	369	352	389	329
Idaho	1,103	953	1,020	884	722	936
Illinois	1,026	836	809	873	889	887
Indiana	534	691	703	725	824	695
Iowa	347	451	459	493	550	460
Kansas	527	591	687	742	792	668
Kentucky	214	234	276	246	243	243
Louisiana	140	185	192	213	216	189
Maine	249	302	331	285	293	292
Maryland	1,625	2,115	1,660	1,845	2,582	1,966
Massachusetts	2,044	2,289	2,226	2,428	2,484	2,294
Michigan	1,897	1,553	1,503	1,677	1,657	1,657
Minnesota	871	1,005	1,044	1,155	1,176	1,050
Mississippi	180	228	242	529	225	281
Missouri	461	452	436	478	528	471
Montana	188	264	259	269	318	260
Nebraska	256	337	384	409	423	362
Nevada	187	212	242	258	267	233
New Hampshire	625	1,261	1,126	1,294	1,283	1,118
New Jersey	1,557	1,339	1,518	1,482	1,436	1,467
New Mexico	1,694	2,154	2,527	2,651	2,691	2,343
New York	713	755	697	677	680	704
North Carolina	624	710	618	754	761	693
North Dakota	227	725	465	604	878	580
Ohio	674	772	728	750	682	721
Oklahoma	191	252	227	276	231	235
Oregon	617	1,568	821	1,003	1,021	1,006
Pennsylvania	801	907	792	805	874	836
Rhode Island	1,428	1,492	1,534	1,635	1,706	1,559
South Carolina	280	356	407	390	381	363
South Dakota	112	186	146	195	193	166
Tennessee	361	461	444	514	540	464
Texas	551	596	654	668	634	620
Utah	606	653	676	639	662	647
Vermont	763	690	646	795	879	755
Virginia	714	771	809	1,028	983	861
Washington	**1,779**	**1,730**	**1,732**	**1,871**	**1,762**	**1,775**
West Virginia	253	259	300	297	289	280
Wisconsin	501	601	659	666	668	619
Wyoming	123	167	161	225	193	174
U.S. average	940	963	919	976	967	953
Washington's rank	**4**	**4**	**4**	**4**	**5**	**5**

Source: The National Science Foundation (www.nsf.gov).

Unemployment Rate

After peaking in 2003, the unemployment rates of both Washington and the U.S. decreased through 2006. Since the peak, however, the state's rate has been decreasing faster than the U.S. as a whole, as reflected in its steady improvement of rank from 48th in 2003 to 38th in 2006. Despite the lower-than-average ranking, Washington's 2006 unemployment rate of 5.0 percent was close to the 4.6 percent rate of the U.S. as a whole. The state's five-year average unemployment rate of 6.3 percent, inflated by the state's sharp downturn during and after the 2001 recession, ranked 45th over that period.

Chart 14
Unemployment Rate

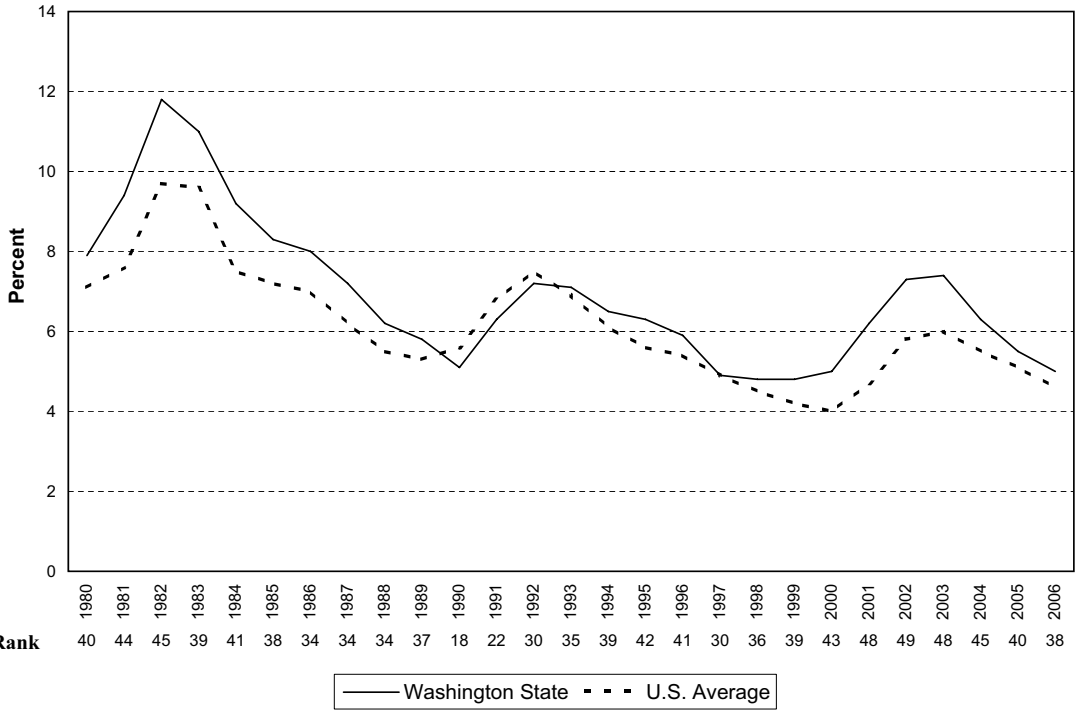


Table 14
Economic Performance
Unemployment Rate

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002-06
Alabama	5.4	5.5	5.1	3.9	3.6	4.7
Alaska	7.1	7.7	7.4	6.9	6.7	7.2
Arizona	6.0	5.7	4.9	4.6	4.1	5.1
Arkansas	5.3	5.8	5.6	5.1	5.3	5.4
California	6.7	6.8	6.2	5.4	4.9	6.0
Colorado	5.7	6.1	5.6	5.1	4.3	5.4
Connecticut	4.4	5.5	4.9	4.9	4.3	4.8
Delaware	4.0	4.2	4.0	4.0	3.6	4.0
Florida	5.7	5.3	4.7	3.8	3.3	4.6
Georgia	4.8	4.8	4.7	5.2	4.6	4.8
Hawaii	4.0	3.9	3.2	2.7	2.4	3.2
Idaho	5.4	5.3	4.7	4.0	3.4	4.6
Illinois	6.5	6.7	6.2	5.7	4.5	5.9
Indiana	5.2	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.0	5.2
Iowa	3.9	4.4	4.7	4.3	3.7	4.2
Kansas	5.1	5.6	5.6	5.1	4.5	5.2
Kentucky	5.7	6.3	5.5	6.0	5.7	5.8
Louisiana	5.9	6.2	5.5	6.7	4.0	5.7
Maine	4.4	5.0	4.6	4.8	4.6	4.7
Maryland	4.5	4.5	4.3	4.2	3.9	4.3
Massachusetts	5.3	5.8	5.2	4.8	5.0	5.2
Michigan	6.2	7.1	7.0	6.8	6.9	6.8
Minnesota	4.5	4.8	4.6	4.1	4.0	4.4
Mississippi	6.7	6.4	6.4	7.8	6.8	6.8
Missouri	5.2	5.6	5.8	5.3	4.8	5.3
Montana	4.5	4.4	4.2	3.9	3.2	4.0
Nebraska	3.7	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.0	3.7
Nevada	5.7	5.3	4.5	4.2	4.2	4.8
New Hampshire	4.5	4.4	3.9	3.6	3.4	4.0
New Jersey	5.8	5.9	4.9	4.5	4.6	5.1
New Mexico	5.5	5.9	5.8	5.3	4.2	5.3
New York	6.2	6.4	5.8	5.0	4.5	5.6
North Carolina	6.6	6.5	5.5	5.2	4.8	5.7
North Dakota	3.5	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.2	3.4
Ohio	5.7	6.2	6.2	5.9	5.5	5.9
Oklahoma	4.8	5.6	5.0	4.4	4.0	4.8
Oregon	7.6	8.1	7.3	6.2	5.4	6.9
Pennsylvania	5.6	5.7	5.4	5.0	4.7	5.3
Rhode Island	5.1	5.4	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.2
South Carolina	5.9	6.7	6.8	6.7	6.5	6.5
South Dakota	3.3	3.5	3.7	3.7	3.2	3.5
Tennessee	5.3	5.7	5.5	5.6	5.2	5.5
Texas	6.4	6.7	6.0	5.4	4.9	5.9
Utah	5.8	5.6	5.0	4.1	2.9	4.7
Vermont	4.0	4.5	3.7	3.4	3.6	3.8
Virginia	4.2	4.1	3.7	3.5	3.0	3.7
Washington	**7.3**	**7.4**	**6.3**	**5.5**	**5.0**	**6.3**
West Virginia	5.9	6.0	5.3	5.0	4.9	5.4
Wisconsin	5.3	5.6	5.0	4.8	4.7	5.1
Wyoming	4.2	4.5	3.9	3.7	3.2	3.9
U.S. Average	5.8	6.0	5.5	5.1	4.6	5.4
Washington's Rank	**49**	**48**	**45**	**40**	**38**	**45**

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. August 2007 (www.bls.gov).

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Quality of Life

Homicide Rate, Violent Crime Rate, Arrest Rate for Violent Crimes

Because of former discrepancies including variable reporting methods, crime definitions, multiple reports for different arrests, charges and convictions for a crime, International Association of Chiefs of Police established the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program. Reported by the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the program's primary objective is to generate a reliable set of criminal statistics by mandating specific reporting requirements and criterion for gathering data that ensures consistency and comparability among states. The UCR program is a nationwide, statistical effort of over 17,000 city, county, and state law enforcement agencies.

In 2006, Washington's homicide rate, as measured per 100,000 people, decreased from 3.3 to 3.0, improving its rank among the reporting states to 17th. The violent crime rate (violent crime includes the offenses of murder, non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault), also measured per 100,000 people, remained at 346 and the state's rank remained at 23rd. Washington's arrest rate for violent crime increased from 143 to 146, lowering the state's rank from 18th to 19th. As in all years since UCR statistics began being reported, Washington continues to rank well below the national average in incidences of all of these categories of crime.

Chart 15
Homicide Rate

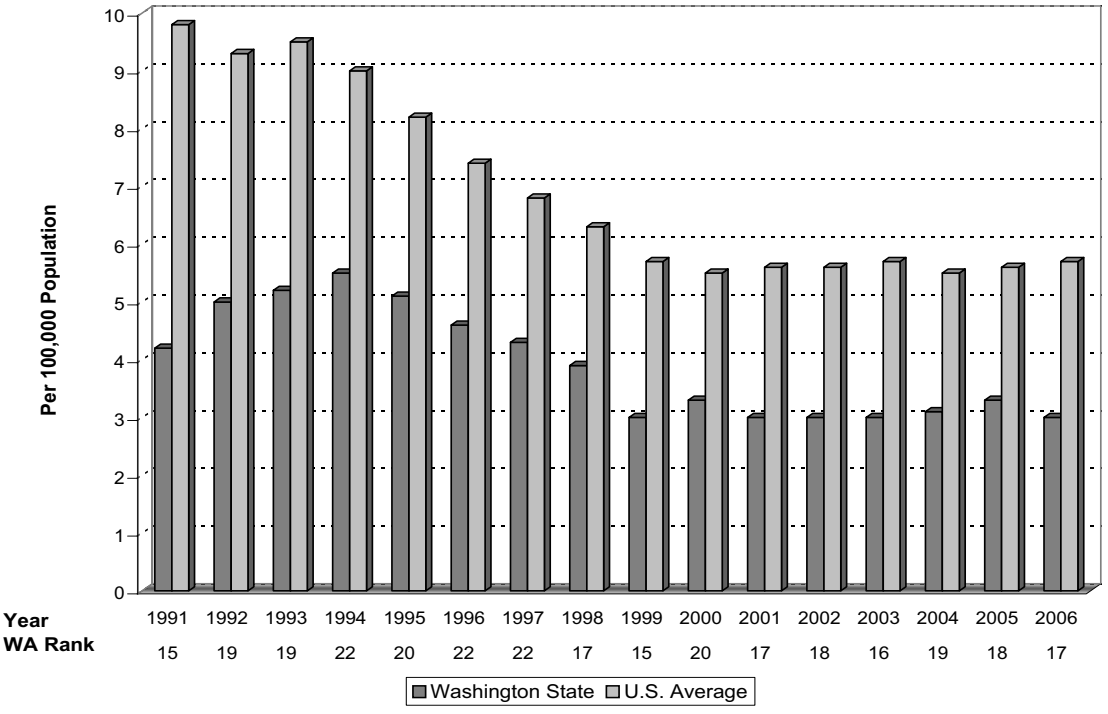

Table 15
Quality of Life
Homicide Rate
(Per 100,000 Population)

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002-06
Alabama	6.8	6.6	5.6	8.2	8.3	7.1
Alaska	5.1	6.0	5.6	4.8	5.4	5.4
Arizona	7.1	7.9	7.2	7.5	7.5	7.4
Arkansas	5.2	6.4	6.4	6.7	7.3	6.4
California	6.8	6.8	6.7	6.9	6.8	6.8
Colorado	4.0	3.9	4.4	3.7	3.3	3.9
Connecticut	2.3	3.0	2.6	2.9	3.1	2.8
Delaware	3.2	2.9	2.0	4.4	4.9	3.5
Florida	5.5	5.4	5.4	5.0	6.2	5.5
Georgia	7.1	7.6	6.9	6.2	6.4	6.8
Hawaii	1.9	1.7	2.6	1.9	1.6	1.9
Idaho	2.7	1.8	2.2	2.4	2.5	2.3
Illinois*	7.5	7.1	6.1	6.0	6.1	6.6
Indiana	5.9	5.5	5.1	5.7	5.8	5.6
Iowa	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.3	1.8	1.6
Kansas	2.9	4.5	4.5	3.7	4.6	4.0
Kentucky	4.5	4.6	5.7	4.6	4.0	4.7
Louisiana	13.2	13.0	12.7	9.9	12.4	12.2
Maine	1.1	1.2	1.4	1.4	1.7	1.4
Maryland	9.4	9.5	9.4	9.9	9.7	9.6
Massachusetts	2.7	2.2	2.6	2.7	2.9	2.6
Michigan	6.7	6.1	6.4	6.1	7.1	6.5
Minnesota	2.2	2.5	2.2	2.2	2.4	2.3
Mississippi	9.2	9.3	7.8	7.3	7.7	8.3
Missouri	5.8	5.0	6.2	6.9	6.3	6.0
Montana	1.8	3.3	3.2	1.9	1.8	2.4
Nebraska	2.8	3.2	2.3	2.5	2.8	2.7
Nevada	8.3	8.8	7.4	8.5	9.0	8.4
New Hampshire	0.9	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.0	1.2
New Jersey	3.9	4.7	4.5	4.8	4.9	4.6
New Mexico	8.2	6.0	8.9	7.4	6.8	7.5
New York	4.7	4.9	4.6	4.5	4.8	4.7
North Carolina	6.6	6.1	6.2	6.7	6.1	6.3
North Dakota	0.8	1.9	1.4	1.1	1.3	1.3
Ohio	4.6	4.6	4.5	5.1	4.7	4.7
Oklahoma	4.7	5.9	5.3	5.3	5.8	5.4
Oregon	2.0	1.9	2.5	2.2	2.3	2.2
Pennsylvania	5.1	5.3	5.2	6.1	5.9	5.5
Rhode Island	3.8	2.3	2.4	3.2	2.6	2.9
South Carolina	7.3	7.2	6.9	7.4	8.3	7.4
South Dakota	1.4	1.3	2.3	2.3	1.2	1.7
Tennessee	7.2	6.8	5.9	7.2	6.8	6.8
Texas	6.0	6.4	6.1	6.2	5.9	6.1
Utah	2.0	2.5	1.9	2.3	1.8	2.1
Vermont	2.1	2.3	2.6	1.3	1.9	2.0
Virginia	5.3	5.6	5.2	6.1	5.2	5.5
Washington	**3.0**	**3.0**	**3.1**	**3.3**	**3.0**	**3.1**
West Virginia	3.2	3.5	3.7	4.4	4.1	3.8
Wisconsin	2.8	3.3	2.8	3.5	3.0	3.1
Wyoming	3.0	2.8	2.2	2.7	1.7	2.5
U.S. Average	5.6	5.7	5.5	5.6	5.7	5.6
Washington's Rank	**18**	**16**	**19**	**18**	**17**	**18**

Source: U.S. Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Crime in the United States-Uniform Crime Reports: 1991-2006. (www.fbi.gov)
*Limited data for 2000-2006 were available for Illinois.

Chart 16
Violent Crime Rate

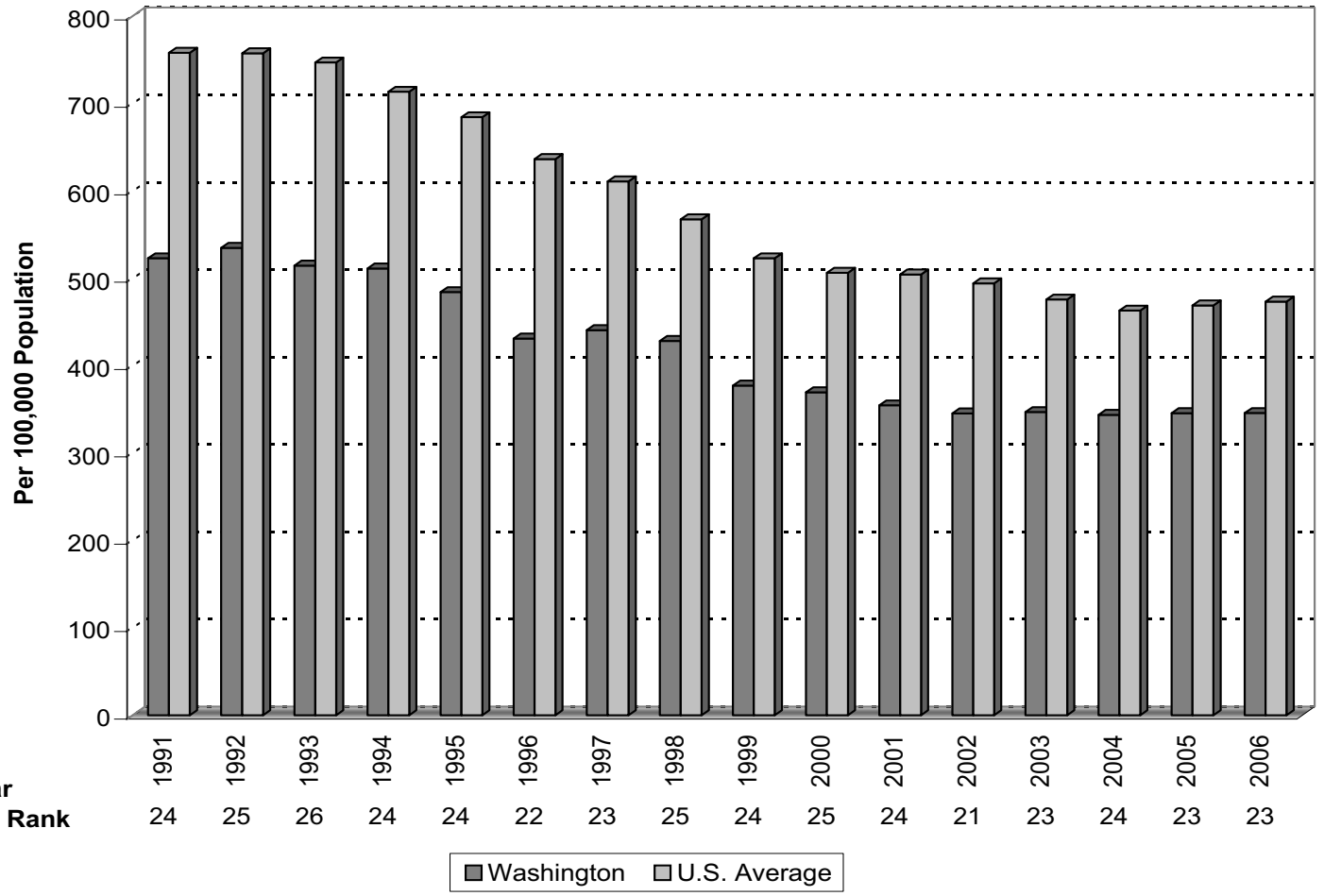

Table 16
Quality of Life
Violent Crime Rate
(Per 100,000 Population)

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002-06
Alabama	444	430	427	432	425	431
Alaska	563	593	635	632	688	622
Arizona	553	513	504	513	501	517
Arkansas	424	456	499	528	552	492
California	593	579	552	526	533	557
Colorado	352	345	374	397	392	372
Connecticut	311	308	286	275	281	292
Delaware	599	658	568	632	682	628
Florida	770	730	711	708	712	726
Georgia	459	454	456	449	471	458
Hawaii	262	270	254	255	281	265
Idaho	255	243	245	257	247	249
Illinois*	621	557	543	552	542	563
Indiana	357	353	325	324	315	335
Iowa	286	272	271	291	284	281
Kansas	377	396	375	387	425	392
Kentucky	279	262	245	267	263	263
Louisiana	662	646	639	594	698	648
Maine	108	109	104	112	116	110
Maryland	770	704	701	703	679	711
Massachusetts	484	469	459	457	447	463
Michigan	540	511	490	552	562	531
Minnesota	268	263	270	297	312	282
Mississippi	343	326	295	278	299	308
Missouri	539	473	491	525	546	515
Montana	352	365	294	282	254	309
Nebraska	314	289	309	287	282	296
Nevada	638	614	616	607	742	643
New Hampshire	161	149	167	132	139	150
New Jersey	375	366	356	355	352	360
New Mexico	740	665	687	702	643	687
New York	496	465	442	446	435	457
North Carolina	470	455	448	468	476	463
North Dakota	78	78	79	98	128	92
Ohio	351	333	342	351	350	346
Oklahoma	503	506	501	509	497	503
Oregon	292	296	298	287	280	291
Pennsylvania	402	398	411	425	439	415
Rhode Island	285	286	247	251	228	259
South Carolina	822	794	784	761	766	785
South Dakota	177	173	172	176	171	174
Tennessee	717	688	695	753	760	723
Texas	579	553	541	530	516	544
Utah	237	249	236	227	224	235
Vermont	107	110	112	120	137	117
Virginia	291	276	276	283	282	282
Washington	**345**	**347**	**344**	**346**	**346**	**346**
West Virginia	234	258	271	273	280	263
Wisconsin	225	221	210	242	284	236
Wyoming	274	262	230	230	240	247
United States	494	476	463	469	474	475
Washington's Rank	**21**	**23**	**24**	**23**	**23**	**24**

Source: U.S. Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Crime in the United States-Uniform Crime Reports: 1991-2006. (www.fbi.gov)
*Limited data for 2000-2006 were available for Illinois.

Chart 17
Arrests Rates for Violent Crime

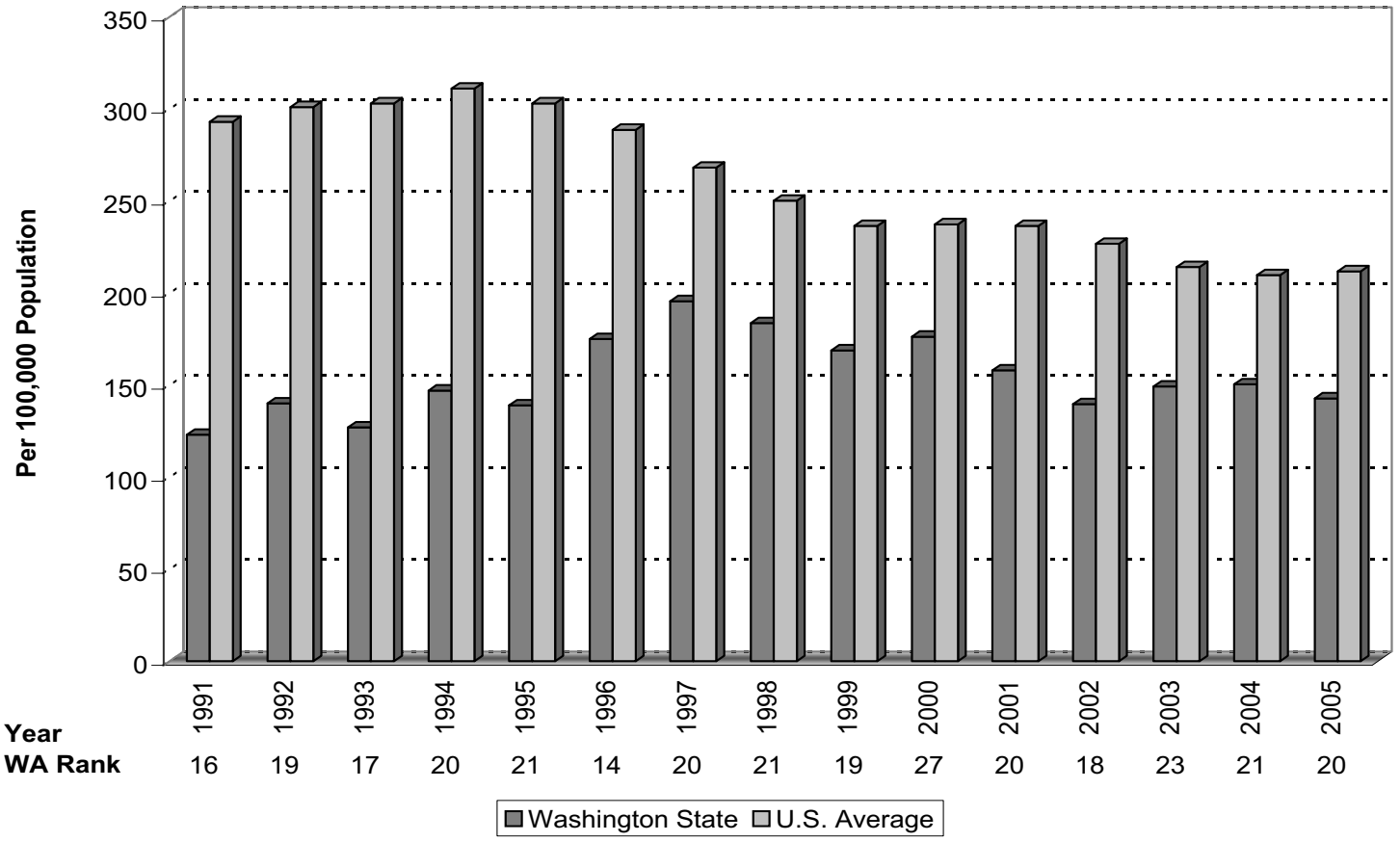

Table 17
Quality of Life
Arrest Rates for Violent Crime
(Per 100,000 Population)

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002-06
Alabama	178	159	152	166	161	163
Alaska	217	225	233	268	255	239
Arizona	175	161	161	158	146	160
Arkansas	207	184**	202**	218	243	211
California	372	366	351	342	341	355
Colorado	160	164	156	147**	157**	157
Connecticut	155	163	170	172	211	174
Delaware	179	304	252	287	300	264
Florida	323	310	292	287	282	299
Georgia	269	250	299	284	323	285
Hawaii	120	108	107	95	106	107
Idaho	104	101	103	102	108	103
Illinois	336	330	330	337	13	270
Indiana	254	232	237	244	149	223
Iowa	158	150	149	166	155	155
Kansas	95	88	106	83	122	99
Kentucky	336	203	175	168	207	218
Louisiana	319	303	305	299	352	316
Maine	61	63	66**	56	56	60
Maryland	173	222	219	214	223	210
Massachusetts	243	154	153	144	211	181
Michigan	188	172	151	151**	148	162
Minnesota	89	80	84	128	NA	95
Mississippi	156	147	151	144	140	148
Missouri	317	265	263	302	276	284
Montana	131	141	NA	100**	NA	124
Nebraska	85	86	96	110	102	96
Nevada	179	NA	235	175	197	197
New Hampshire	63	41**	52	48	57	52
New Jersey	184	179	176	170	169	176
New Mexico	254	218	235	232	221	232
New York	177	150	146	164	170	161
North Carolina	315	293	271	295	276	290
North Dakota	28	33	38	41	48	37
Ohio	147	93	96	108	115	112
Oklahoma	178	172	165	166	163	169
Oregon	95	96	141	127	134	118
Pennsylvania	223	210	220	225	230	222
Rhode Island	120	127	116	85**	73	104
South Carolina	297	55	232	281	266	226
South Dakota	94	77	76	94	42	77
Tennessee	228	243	256	301	273	260
Texas	148	146	150	147	147	148
Utah	80	97	94	84	80	87
Vermont	63	53	56	60	74	61
Virginia	100	88	97	112	117	103
Washington	**140**	**149**	**150**	**143**	**146**	**146**
West Virginia	92	96	96	110	100	99
Wisconsin	207	111	198	112	153	156
Wyoming	127	114	111	116	114	116
Ave. of Reporting States	227	214	210	212	207	214
Washington's Rank	**18**	**22**	**20**	**18**	**19**	**19**

*Violent crimes are offenses of murder, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.
**Data for these years not comparable to prior years due to change in reporting practices.
NA: Complete arrest data were not available.
Source: U.S. Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Crime in the United States- Uniform Crime Reports: 1991-2006 (www.fbi.gov).

Air Quality

(Not updated due to unavailability of data)

The air quality index measures the percentage of a state's population living in areas which are deemed to be in "nonattainment" of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). These standards as defined by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) cover carbon monoxide, lead, nitrogen dioxide, ozone, particulate matter, and sulfur dioxide as "criteria pollutants", all of which have been shown to have adverse effects on the environment and human health. For an area to be reclassified as an "attainment" area, its air must meet the NAAQS standards for three consecutive years. The measure reported is the nonattainment status of metropolitan areas as of September 1st of each year.

Nonattainment areas are defined by metropolitan zones which may cover several states. The population for these areas is based upon 2000 census data and the nonattainment area is wholly designated to the primary state (i.e. the New York metropolitan area nonattainment population is put into New York State, although the city enters parts of New Jersey and Connecticut as well). In some cases where the metropolitan area includes large out-of-state populations this unfortunately results in nonattainment percentages greater than 100 percent. It should also be noted that the large increase in the total nonattainment population in 2004 through 2006 was the result of more stringent ozone standards being phased in 2004.

In 2006, none of Washington's residents lived in nonattainment areas. While the state shared this distinction with fifteen other states, three of those states, Delaware, New Hampshire, and New Jersey, had populations living in metropolitan non-attainment areas that were attributed to bordering states. The state's five-year average value of 6.0 percent ranked 16th among the states. The percent of Washington residents living in nonattainment areas has been well below the national average since 2000.

Chart 18
Air Quality Index

Table 18
Quality of Life
Air Quality
(Percent of State Population)

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002-06
Alabama*	18.1	18.1	18.1	18.2	18.2	18.1
Alaska	49.2	49.2	39.6	33.4	33.4	41.0
Arizona	63.6	63.6	63.5	63.5	63.5	63.5
Arkansas	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
California	93.0	83.5	93.1	93.1	93.1	91.2
Colorado	59.4	3.8	65.8	65.6	65.4	52.0
Connecticut*	74.4	74.4	74.4	45.3	45.3	62.7
Delaware*	20.0	20.0	20.0	0.0	0.0	12.0
Florida	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Georgia*	45.2	45.2	53.5	54.7	54.7	50.7
Hawaii	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Idaho	23.2	23.2	9.0	9.0	3.8	13.6
Illinois*	70.5	70.5	70.5	70.5	70.5	70.5
Indiana*	0.0	0.0	49.7	50.6	45.6	29.2
Iowa	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Kansas	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Kentucky*	0.0	0.0	24.0	24.0	24.0	14.4
Louisiana	14.2	14.2	14.2	14.2	14.2	14.2
Maine	61.3	61.3	62.8	43.1	43.1	54.3
Maryland*	48.6	48.6	53.3	53.3	53.3	51.4
Massachusetts*	105.5	105.5	111.3	111.0	111.0	108.8
Michigan	0.0	0.0	77.9	77.9	77.9	46.7
Minnesota	5.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2
Mississippi	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missouri*	44.5	0.2	44.9	44.8	44.8	35.8
Montana	14.4	14.4	14.4	14.4	14.4	14.4
Nebraska	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Nevada	85.8	85.8	85.8	85.8	85.8	85.8
New Hampshire*	45.1	45.1	15.6	0.0	0.0	21.2
New Jersey*	4.2	4.2	4.2	0.0	0.0	2.5
New Mexico	2.4	2.4	0.7	0.1	0.1	1.2
New York*	115.6	115.6	125.4	126.3	126.3	121.9
North Carolina*	0.0	0.0	59.2	59.2	59.2	35.5
North Dakota	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Ohio*	28.1	28.1	81.4	81.4	81.4	60.1
Oklahoma	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Oregon	9.3	9.3	8.1	8.1	9.3	8.8
Pennsylvania*	85.2	85.2	117.1	115.2	115.2	103.6
Rhode Island	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
South Carolina*	0.0	0.0	32.2	32.2	32.2	19.3
South Dakota	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Tennessee*	0.0	0.0	62.3	63.2	59.6	37.0
Texas	49.5	49.5	59.1	58.6	58.6	55.0
Utah	62.0	62.0	62.0	62.0	62.0	62.0
Vermont	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Virginia*	0.0	0.0	39.3	39.3	39.3	23.6
Washington	**6.6**	**6.6**	**8.5**	**1.9**	**0.0**	**4.7**
West Virginia*	4.4	4.4	41.2	49.7	49.7	29.9
Wisconsin	36.4	36.4	36.7	36.7	38.8	37.0
Wyoming	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2
50 State Average	43.1	40.1	57.1	56.3	56.1	50.5
Washington's Rank	**24**	**26**	**17**	**17**	**1**	**16**

*Due to areas that span more than one state, these states may have more or less non-attainment areas than specified but are not documented to avoid double counting.
Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. National Air Quality and Emissions Trends Report, 1996-2006 data: effective September 1st of each year from the Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards.
Population data relies on information from 2000 Census.

Drinking Water

Public water systems must abide by the standards established by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). These standards are designed to prevent microbial, chemical and radiological contaminants in drinking water and to assure the protection of public health if contamination does occur. The number of contaminants regulated by the EPA has risen from 23 in 1986 to 105 in 2006 and is expected to surpass 130 by 2010.

The EPA annually reports the number of systems whose water has exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for any contaminant and the number of people those systems serve. A MCL, according to the EPA, is the highest permissible level for a contaminant to still be safe. In addition, the EPA also calculates the number of systems that have violated a treatment technique, the requirement to have properly operating treatment facilities in order to remove contaminants. The attached table indicates the percentage of each state's population served by a water system subject to the SDWA that violated either a coliform MCL or a surface water treatment technique.

In 2006, 3.7 percent of Washington residents were served by water systems that exceeded the MCL at some point during the year, compared to the U.S. average of 9.4 percent. This improved Washington's rank to 9th in the country, up from 11th in 2005. The state's average for 2002-06 was 5.9 percent, beating the U.S. average of 8.2 percent and ranking 20th in the country.

Chart 19
Drinking Water

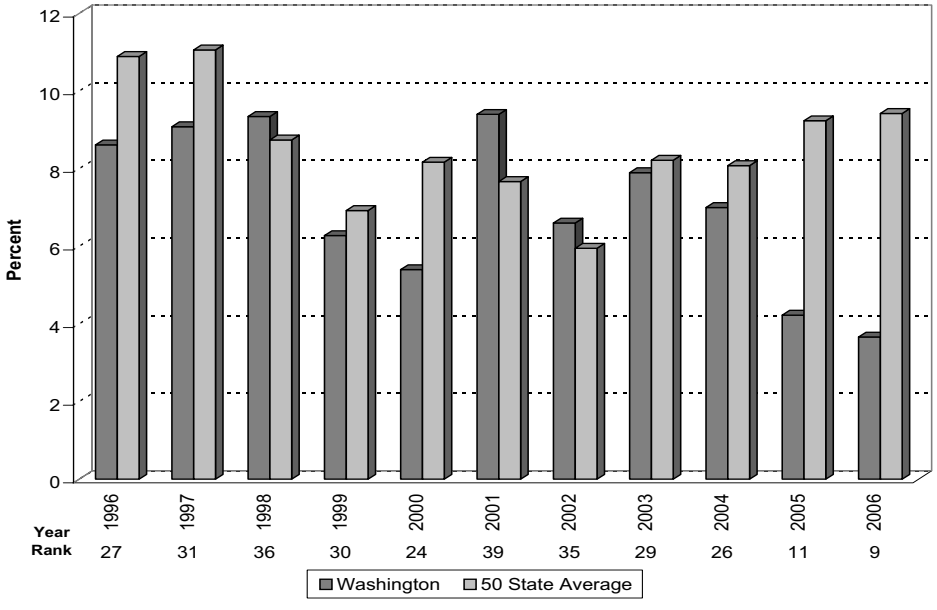

Table 19
Quality of Life
Drinking Water Index
(Percent)*

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002-06
Alabama	2.0	6.0	1.0	1.4	1.6	2.4
Alaska	6.0	8.0	10.0	9.1	12.5	9.1
Arizona	6.0	11.0	31.0	10.6	4.5	12.6
Arkansas	7.0	10.0	9.0	12.4	9.8	9.6
California	0.0	1.0	13.0	5.0	1.0	4.0
Colorado	1.0	11.0	12.0	3.1	2.1	5.8
Connecticut	4.0	2.0	2.0	3.8	4.3	3.2
Delaware	3.0	1.0	20.0	0.4	18.9	8.7
Florida	4.0	9.0	10.0	5.0	4.5	6.5
Georgia	2.0	7.0	2.0	4.9	5.2	4.2
Hawaii	4.0	4.0	1.0	1.9	7.0	3.6
Idaho	8.0	11.0	13.0	6.8	12.2	10.2
Illinois	7.0	7.0	8.0	8.1	7.5	7.5
Indiana	3.0	3.0	5.0	2.7	2.8	3.3
Iowa	2.0	5.0	6.0	9.9	8.1	6.2
Kansas	3.0	11.0	7.0	8.9	13.5	8.7
Kentucky	5.0	5.0	11.0	12.9	9.2	8.6
Louisiana	6.0	10.0	9.0	19.8	15.2	12.0
Maine	13.0	16.0	20.0	17.8	15.2	16.4
Maryland	0.0	2.0	0.0	5.8	1.3	1.8
Massachusetts	15.0	14.0	8.0	7.2	6.5	10.1
Michigan	3.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	1.8	1.8
Minnesota	13.0	2.0	1.0	5.2	5.5	5.3
Mississippi	10.0	5.0	2.0	5.6	3.5	5.2
Missouri	5.0	4.0	5.0	5.9	6.1	5.2
Montana	6.0	7.0	6.0	16.3	7.2	8.5
Nebraska	16.0	19.0	27.0	17.1	10.4	17.9
Nevada	2.0	1.0	3.0	1.3	5.0	2.5
New Hampshire	24.0	9.0	8.0	6.8	14.8	12.5
New Jersey	4.0	12.0	2.0	10.1	5.1	6.7
New Mexico	9.0	6.0	9.0	11.0	12.2	9.4
New York	9.0	52.0	9.0	47.3	47.1	32.9
North Carolina	5.0	5.0	9.0	18.8	7.2	9.0
North Dakota	3.0	10.0	5.0	7.1	8.7	6.8
Ohio	2.0	6.0	2.0	4.9	13.1	5.6
Oklahoma	18.0	30.0	29.0	39.6	25.5	28.4
Oregon	8.0	6.0	4.0	5.8	3.6	5.5
Pennsylvania	3.0	3.0	21.0	2.7	4.3	6.8
Rhode Island	0.0	9.0	2.0	14.1	16.5	8.3
South Carolina	4.0	8.0	6.0	5.6	22.5	9.2
South Dakota	2.0	5.0	2.0	3.6	7.3	4.0
Tennessee	3.0	8.0	4.0	4.8	13.7	6.7
Texas	5.0	3.0	4.0	7.2	10.2	5.9
Utah	5.0	4.0	5.0	5.2	5.6	5.0
Vermont	5.0	7.0	7.0	10.1	15.2	8.9
Virginia	3.0	11.0	11.0	5.4	5.0	7.1
Washington	**6.6**	**7.9**	**7.0**	**4.2**	**3.7**	**5.9**
West Virginia	7.0	5.0	5.0	11.4	8.8	7.4
Wisconsin	16.0	9.0	8.0	15.6	14.8	12.7
Wyoming	0.0	2.0	1.0	10.4	4.0	3.5
50 State Average**	6.0	8.2	8.1	9.2	9.4	8.2
Washington's Rank	**35**	**29**	**26**	**11**	**9**	**20**

*Percent of population served by water supply in violation of EPA standards.
**The 50 state average is an average of indicators listed. It may differ from the U.S. average.
Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Community Public Water Systems Compliance Statistics Safe Drinking Drinking Water Information System. FY 1996-2006. (www.epa.gov)

Toxins Released

The Toxics Release Inventory (TRI), reported by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), provides the public with information concerning the amounts of toxic chemical releases from industrial facilities. Each year, facilities that meet certain thresholds must report their releases and other waste management activities for listed toxic chemicals to the EPA and to the state or tribal entity in whose jurisdiction the facility is located. The TRI list for 2004 included over 650 chemicals in 30 chemical categories.

Before 1998, only facilities in the manufacturing sector were required to report to TRI. Starting in 1994, federal facilities began to report to TRI and in 1998 seven additional industries were added to the required report list. This is the basis for the dramatic increases in the national average for toxins released in 1998 and beyond. States that housed the newly added reporting industries saw a large jump in toxins released beginning in 1998. Washington never saw a noticeable increase in its TRI reports however because many of these added industries, such as metal and coal mining, are not widespread in the state.

In 2005, U.S industries reported a 2.8 percent increase in their total releases of toxics, from 4.2 to 4.3 billion pounds. This figure includes effluent releases directly into the air, water or land, whether it is on-site or of-site landfills, surface impoundments, land treatment facilities or underground injection wells.

Washington industries reported 35.8 million pounds of toxic releases in 2005, an increase of 9.2 percent from 2004. This increased the state's toxin release to 508 pounds per square mile, decreasing its ranking from 14th to 17th. The state's 2005 releases were still well below the national average of 1,165 pounds per square mile. Washington's five-year average per capita release of 394 pounds per square mile was well below the national average of 1,252 pounds and ranked 11th among the states.

Chart 20
Toxins Released

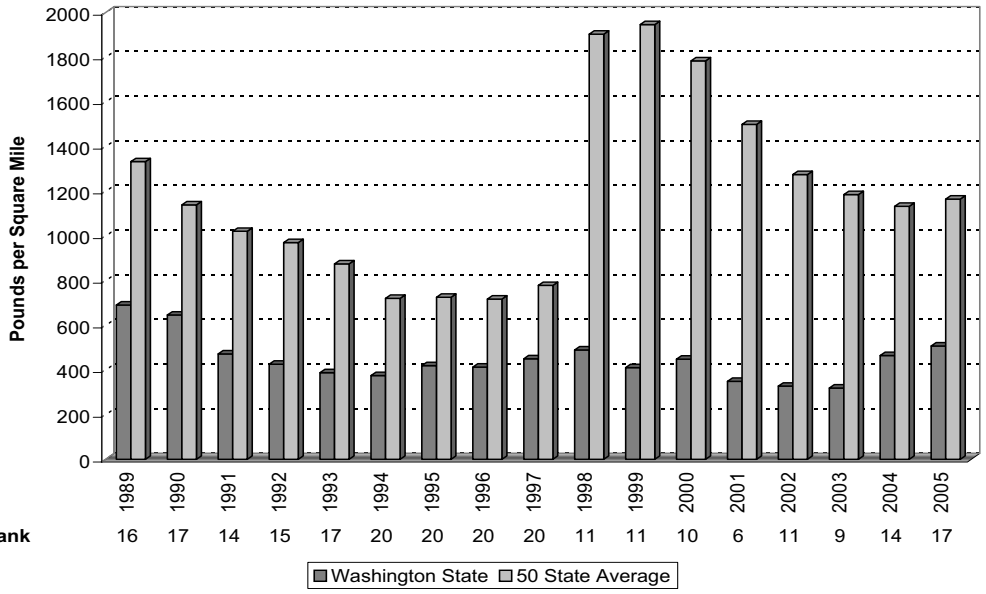

Table 20
Quality of Life
Toxins Released
Pounds per square miles

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2001-05
Alabama	2,626	2,445	2,223	2,349	2,353	2,399
Alaska	848	893	877	831	892	868
Arizona	5,324	2,889	422	497	571	1,941
Arkansas	834	718	761	911	930	831
California	371	314	363	288	275	322
Colorado	396	251	216	235	247	269
Connecticut	1,728	2,130	966	911	865	1,320
Delaware	5,081	5,067	5,655	5,885	5,331	5,404
Florida	2,173	2,310	2,103	2,066	2,165	2,163
Georgia	1,985	2,215	2,129	2,020	2,211	2,112
Hawaii	475	572	490	491	481	502
Idaho	900	756	736	767	790	790
Illinois	2,329	2,316	2,275	2,335	2,112	2,273
Indiana	5,668	5,995	6,406	6,160	6,842	6,214
Iowa	671	644	665	769	713	693
Kansas	383	327	309	314	360	339
Kentucky	2,542	2,401	2,251	2,379	2,546	2,424
Louisiana	2,584	2,559	2,523	2,658	2,523	2,569
Maine	306	285	276	313	341	304
Maryland	3,862	3,680	3,691	3,548	3,477	3,652
Massachusetts	1,124	984	955	955	829	969
Michigan	1,378	1,396	1,078	1,020	1,054	1,185
Minnesota	382	358	359	303	314	343
Mississippi	1,473	1,280	1,381	1,459	1,214	1,361
Missouri	1,690	1,632	1,469	1,749	1,740	1,656
Montana	432	229	311	416	401	358
Nebraska	345	416	536	502	484	457
Nevada	7,084	4,209	3,640	2,436	2,949	4,064
New Hampshire	514	485	626	574	566	553
New Jersey	4,024	2,812	2,778	2,682	2,911	3,041
New Mexico	870	123	147	89	124	271
New York	905	834	811	786	786	825
North Carolina	2,847	2,505	2,499	2,545	2,648	2,609
North Dakota	359	360	330	326	326	340
Ohio	5,728	5,694	5,579	5,757	6,177	5,787
Oklahoma	411	419	427	419	391	413
Oregon	386	267	419	412	246	346
Pennsylvania	4,059	3,700	3,620	3,512	3,423	3,663
Rhode Island	932	835	642	496	473	676
South Carolina	2,643	2,583	2,803	2,526	2,434	2,598
South Dakota	176	155	134	114	103	136
Tennessee	3,475	3,703	3,364	3,747	3,412	3,540
Texas	940	1,005	979	1,013	980	983
Utah	3,014	2,094	2,868	1,977	2,033	2,397
Vermont	35	38	36	39	44	38
Virginia	1,928	1,897	1,718	1,687	1,747	1,796
Washington	**349**	**328**	**319**	**465**	**508**	**394**
West Virginia	3,357	3,871	4,195	3,810	4,006	3,848
Wisconsin	713	690	761	653	696	703
Wyoming	182	188	197	165	160	178
U.S. Average	1,500	1,275	1,185	1,133	1,165	1,252
Washington's Rank	**6**	**11**	**9**	**14**	**17**	**11**

Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics. Toxics Release Inventory Public Data Release Reports: 1989-2006. (www.epa.gov)
U.S. Department of Commerce, Economics and Statistics Administration, Statistical Abstract of the United States, 1995.

State Health Index

The UnitedHealth Group State Health Rankings provide a composite indicator, by state, that measures the relative healthiness of each state and the general health of the population in the United States. Rankings are based on states' performance in four components: personal behavior, community environment, health policies and outcomes. These components are in turn divided into a total of eighteen subcomponents, each contributing to the overall score according to different component weights. To prevent an extreme value from excessively influencing the overall score, the maximum value any state can receive for a component is limited to the national average (which becomes a benchmark of zero) plus or minus two standard deviations. These components are then calculated into the state health index, which is simply the percentage a state is above or below the national average.

Washington's 2006 index value decreased to 10 from 2005's value of 11, moving its ranking among the states from 14th to 15th. The state ranked among the top ten states in four of the eighteen individual measures: low prevalence of smoking, low infant mortality (5.3 per 1,000), low occupational fatalities and low premature death rate. Washington's five-year average index value of 11 ranked 15th among the states.

Chart 21
State Health Index

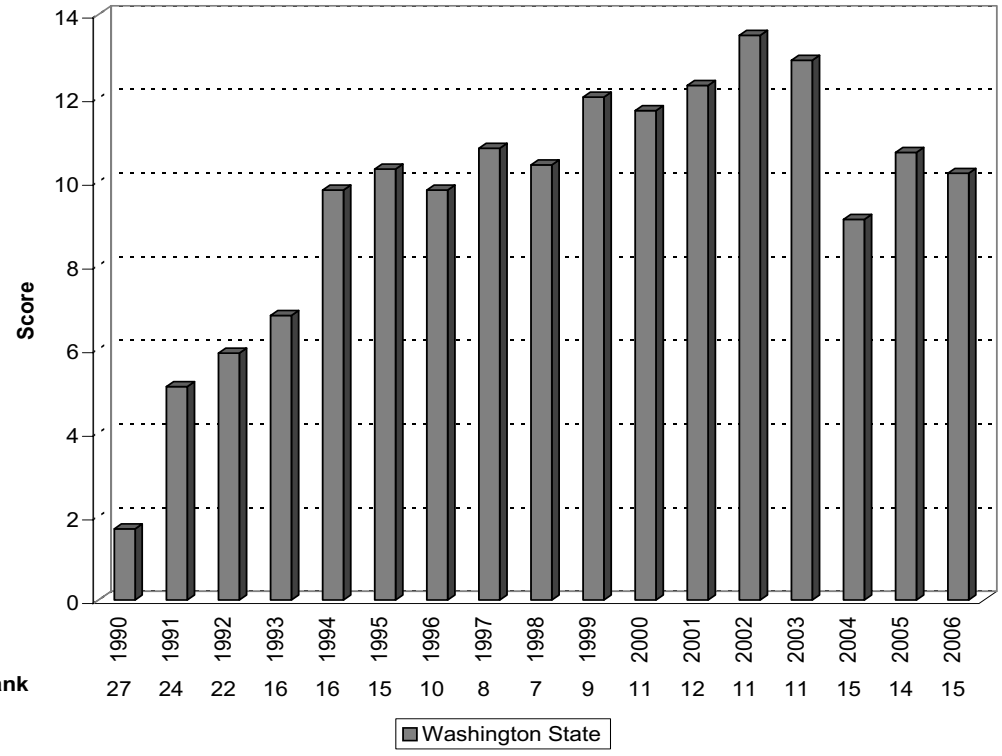

Table 21
Quality of Life
State Health Index
*Score

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002-06
Alabama	-13	-11	-10	-13	-15	-12
Alaska	0	-6	3	-1	-1	-1
Arizona	-4	-2	3	-2	-4	-2
Arkansas	-15	-14	-12	-16	-16	-15
California	4	6	4	6	5	5
Colorado	15	14	12	10	9	12
Connecticut	17	15	15	16	17	16
Delaware	-4	-3	-0	-3	-1	-2
Florida	-12	-11	-8	-9	-11	-10
Georgia	-9	-8	-11	-10	-12	-10
Hawaii	12	13	18	17	18	16
Idaho	8	9	6	10	7	8
Illinois	-1	0	0	1	4	1
Indiana	4	2	-0	-2	-4	0
Iowa	15	15	13	15	13	14
Kansas	7	8	7	6	8	7
Kentucky	-8	-7	-7	-10	-10	-8
Louisiana	-24	-20	-21	-18	-20	-21
Maine	14	14	14	16	14	14
Maryland	1	1	-2	-4	-3	-1
Massachusetts	19	16	17	15	15	17
Michigan	1	2	0	0	2	1
Minnesota	22	24	25	22	21	23
Mississippi	-22	-22	-20	-19	-20	-21
Missouri	-3	-3	-4	-4	-4	-4
Montana	4	3	2	7	5	4
Nebraska	11	10	12	12	12	11
Nevada	-6	-5	-6	-6	-8	-6
New Hampshire	24	24	24	18	19	22
New Jersey	9	9	7	11	11	9
New Mexico	-10	-8	-7	-6	-10	-8
New York	-3	-1	0	1	1	-0
North Carolina	-5	-5	-8	-6	-4	-5
North Dakota	14	13	16	17	15	15
Ohio	2	2	2	1	4	2
Oklahoma	-13	-12	-7	-11	-13	-11
Oregon	9	9	5	8	7	8
Pennsylvania	4	4	3	2	2	3
Rhode Island	12	12	11	12	11	12
South Carolina	-16	-16	-13	-16	-16	-15
South Dakota	10	12	6	7	8	8
Tennessee	-12	-13	-13	-17	-16	-14
Texas	-6	-4	-3	-7	-5	-5
Utah	18	20	18	18	16	18
Vermont	16	19	23	21	21	20
Virginia	9	7	6	6	6	7
Washington	**14**	**13**	**9**	**11**	**10**	**11**
West Virginia	-9	-11	-10	-9	-13	-11
Wisconsin	14	12	14	11	13	13
Wyoming	3	6	2	7	5	4
U.S. Average	0	0	0	0	0	0
Washington's Rank	**11**	**11**	**15**	**14**	**15**	**15**

*Scores reflect the percentage above or below the national average.
Source: UnitedHealth Group, America's Health Rankings: 1990-2006. (www.unitedhealthfoundation.org)

Parks and Recreation Areas

Washington lays claim to one of the largest and busiest state park systems in the United States. With over 250 parks and recreation areas covering more than 250,000 acres, Washington ranks 15th among all 50 states in the number of areas operating and 13th in the amount of acreage managed, but is ranked 6th in terms of total number of visitors, with over 40 million entering last year.

While Washington park and recreation area visits per capita decreased slightly from 6.4 in 2005 to 6.3 in 2006, the state's rank improved from 6th to 4th. The national average number of visits per capita remained at 2.4. The state's five-year average visits per capita of 6.9 ranked 3rd among the states and was well above the national average of 2.5 for that period. Since state park visits per capita began being recorded in 1987, Washington has always placed 6th or higher in the state rankings.

Chart 22
State Parks and Recreation Areas

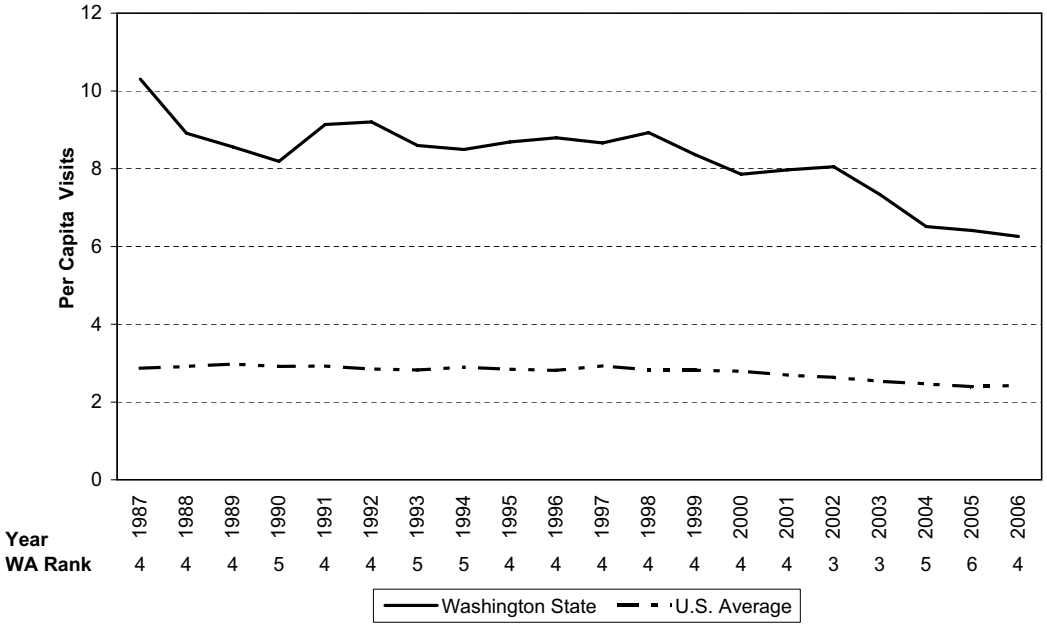

Table 22
Quality of Life
State Parks and Recreational Areas
(Per Capita Park Visits)

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002-06
Alabama	1.2	1.1	1.0	0.6	0.6	0.9
Alaska	6.7	6.6	6.1	6.5	7.0	6.6
Arizona	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Arkansas	3.0	3.7	3.6	3.8	3.5	3.5
California	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.1	2.1	2.3
Colorado	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.4	2.4	2.5
Connecticut	2.6	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.8	2.0
Delaware	4.0	6.8	4.7	4.1	5.3	5.0
Florida	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0
Georgia	1.7	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.4
Hawaii	5.1	3.6	7.3	7.2	NA	5.8
Idaho	1.9	1.8	2.0	1.9	NA	1.9
Illinois	3.5	2.9	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.4
Indiana	2.7	2.4	2.9	2.7	3.1	2.8
Iowa	5.3	4.9	5.0	4.8	4.6	4.9
Kansas	2.9	3.0	2.7	2.8	2.6	2.8
Kentucky	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.8
Louisiana	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4
Maine	2.0	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.7
Maryland	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.1	2.0	1.9
Massachusetts	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.5	5.2	2.3
Michigan	2.5	2.2	2.0	2.0	2.3	2.2
Minnesota	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6
Mississippi	1.5	1.1	1.1	1.0	0.8	1.1
Missouri	3.1	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.9	3.0
Montana	1.3	1.7	1.6	5.6	6.0	3.3
Nebraska	5.7	5.6	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7
Nevada	1.5	1.5	1.8	1.7	1.3	1.6
New Hampshire	5.3	4.3	2.2	0.0	NA	2.9
New Jersey	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.8	1.8	1.8
New Mexico	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.1
New York	3.0	3.0	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.9
North Carolina	1.5	1.6	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4
North Dakota	1.7	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.6
Ohio	5.0	5.0	4.7	4.5	4.4	4.7
Oklahoma	4.0	4.1	4.0	3.6	3.7	3.9
Oregon	11.2	11.0	12.6	12.2	11.5	11.7
Pennsylvania	3.0	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.9
Rhode Island	6.8	6.1	7.0	5.1	5.5	6.1
South Carolina	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.5	1.6	1.7
South Dakota	11.6	11.9	12.0	9.2	9.5	10.8
Tennessee	4.5	4.6	4.8	4.9	4.8	4.7
Texas	0.8	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.6
Utah	2.6	2.5	2.4	1.7	1.8	2.2
Vermont	1.6	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2
Virginia	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.0	0.9
Washington	**8.0**	**7.3**	**6.5**	**6.4**	**6.3**	**6.9**
West Virginia	4.1	4.6	4.3	4.4	4.1	4.3
Wisconsin	2.9	2.9	2.7	2.6	2.7	2.8
Wyoming	5.6	4.4	4.5	6.5	4.1	5.0
U.S. Average	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.5
Washington's Rank	**3**	**3**	**5**	**6**	**4**	**3**

Source: National Association of State Parks Directors. Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission. Annual Information Exchange 1981-2007.

State Arts

The National Assembly of State Arts Agencies compiles annual fiscal year summaries of state art agency revenue. Total state art agency revenue for this study is calculated by using state legislative appropriations, other state funds, federal funds such as the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), and other non-federal funds received. Though arts agencies are the primary source of funding, some states also fund the arts through other agencies, such as arts education through the Department of Education, and this funding is not included.

Washington's per capita arts funding for fiscal 2007 increased to $0.84 from 2006's value of $0.78. This spending level ranked 38th in the nation, up from 39th in 2006, and was below the national average of $1.27. The state's five-year average funding was $0.82, ranking 37th in the nation, while the national average was $1.19 for that period.

Chart 23
State Arts

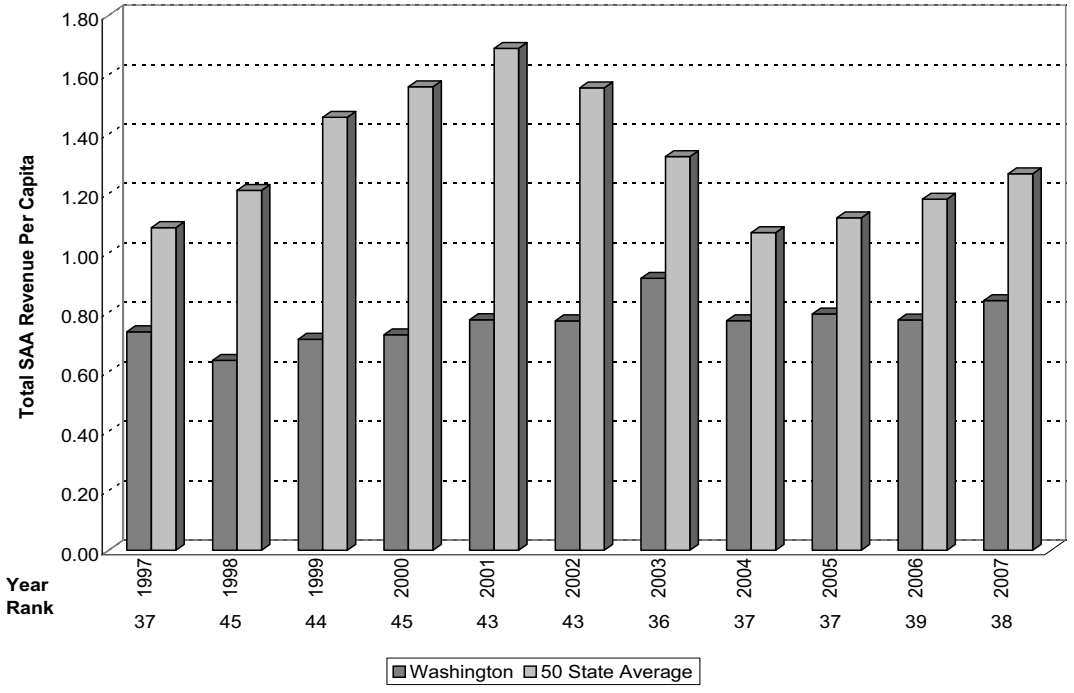

Table 23
Quality of Life
State Arts
Total Per Capita State Arts Agency Revenue*

(Fiscal Years)	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2003-07
Alabama	1.22	1.16	0.85	1.01	1.20	1.09
Alaska	1.70	1.60	1.62	1.75	1.75	1.68
Arizona	0.90	0.77	0.76	0.73	0.82	0.80
Arkansas	0.75	0.75	0.76	0.79	0.78	0.77
California	0.62	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.14	0.20
Colorado	0.44	0.19	0.25	0.28	0.83	0.40
Connecticut	5.39	4.95	4.52	4.36	4.49	4.74
Delaware	2.84	2.78	3.07	2.91	3.27	2.97
Florida	1.84	0.43	0.91	1.69	2.30	1.44
Georgia	0.60	0.59	0.49	0.50	0.51	0.54
Hawaii	5.35	5.29	5.65	6.30	6.47	5.81
Idaho	1.10	1.07	1.10	1.07	1.08	1.08
Illinois	1.48	1.52	1.54	1.61	1.63	1.55
Indiana	0.65	0.68	0.68	0.63	0.68	0.66
Iowa	0.63	0.66	0.59	0.62	0.61	0.62
Kansas	0.76	0.78	0.76	0.75	0.78	0.77
Kentucky	1.30	1.22	1.17	1.14	1.27	1.22
Louisiana	1.25	1.25	1.24	1.28	1.34	1.27
Maine	1.07	1.10	1.22	1.30	1.34	1.20
Maryland	2.40	2.16	2.15	2.17	2.72	2.32
Massachusetts	1.31	1.34	1.54	1.75	2.10	1.61
Michigan	2.30	1.23	1.23	1.10	0.71	1.32
Minnesota	2.65	2.08	1.90	1.87	1.85	2.07
Mississippi	1.87	2.52	1.88	1.73	1.46	1.89
Missouri	0.74	0.70	0.57	0.70	0.94	0.73
Montana	1.87	1.84	1.75	1.88	1.64	1.80
Nebraska	1.08	1.35	1.21	1.27	1.14	1.21
Nevada	0.98	0.96	1.04	0.97	0.98	0.99
New Hampshire	0.98	1.04	1.11	1.12	1.08	1.07
New Jersey	2.63	2.30	3.44	3.53	2.89	2.96
New Mexico	1.25	1.29	1.09	1.31	1.26	1.24
New York	2.73	2.37	2.35	2.39	2.73	2.51
North Carolina	0.80	0.80	0.80	1.00	1.06	0.89
North Dakota	1.72	1.69	1.76	1.71	1.74	1.73
Ohio	1.23	1.20	1.09	1.07	1.07	1.13
Oklahoma	1.41	1.33	1.34	1.41	1.46	1.39
Oregon	0.47	0.38	0.41	0.44	0.41	0.42
Pennsylvania	1.18	1.19	1.23	1.23	1.29	1.22
Rhode Island	2.96	2.70	3.07	3.59	3.49	3.16
South Carolina	1.20	1.05	1.02	1.08	1.46	1.16
South Dakota	1.62	1.49	1.58	1.58	1.59	1.57
Tennessee	0.95	1.02	1.11	1.21	1.25	1.11
Texas	0.30	0.27	0.26	0.22	0.22	0.25
Utah	1.39	1.37	1.39	1.38	1.48	1.40
Vermont	2.15	2.23	2.39	2.43	2.59	2.36
Virginia	0.66	0.48	0.49	0.55	0.72	0.58
Washington	**0.92**	**0.77**	**0.80**	**0.78**	**0.84**	**0.82**
West Virginia	2.85	2.57	3.31	2.04	2.05	2.57
Wisconsin	0.56	0.51	0.78	0.94	0.85	0.73
Wyoming	2.36	2.68	2.46	2.55	2.90	2.59
U.S. Average	1.33	1.07	1.12	1.18	1.27	1.19
Washington's Rank	**36**	**37**	**37**	**39**	**38**	**37**

*Though state arts agencies are the primary source for state funding, some states also fund the arts through other agencies, such as arts education funding through the Department of Education.
Source: National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, August 2007.

Public Library Service

(Not updated due to unavailability of data)

This indicator ranks public library service by measuring the amount of circulation (the checking out of any media such as books, videos, or musical recordings) per capita. These statistics are collected annually by the National Center for Educational Statistics (NCES).

Washington has had excellent performance in this arena, with an average state ranking of 6th from the federal fiscal years 2000 to 2004. During that period, the state had an average per capita circulation of 10.1 compared to the national average of 6.8. Washington's fiscal 2004 state ranking was 5th, with per capita circulation of 10.8 compared to the national average of 7.1.

Chart 24
Public Library Service

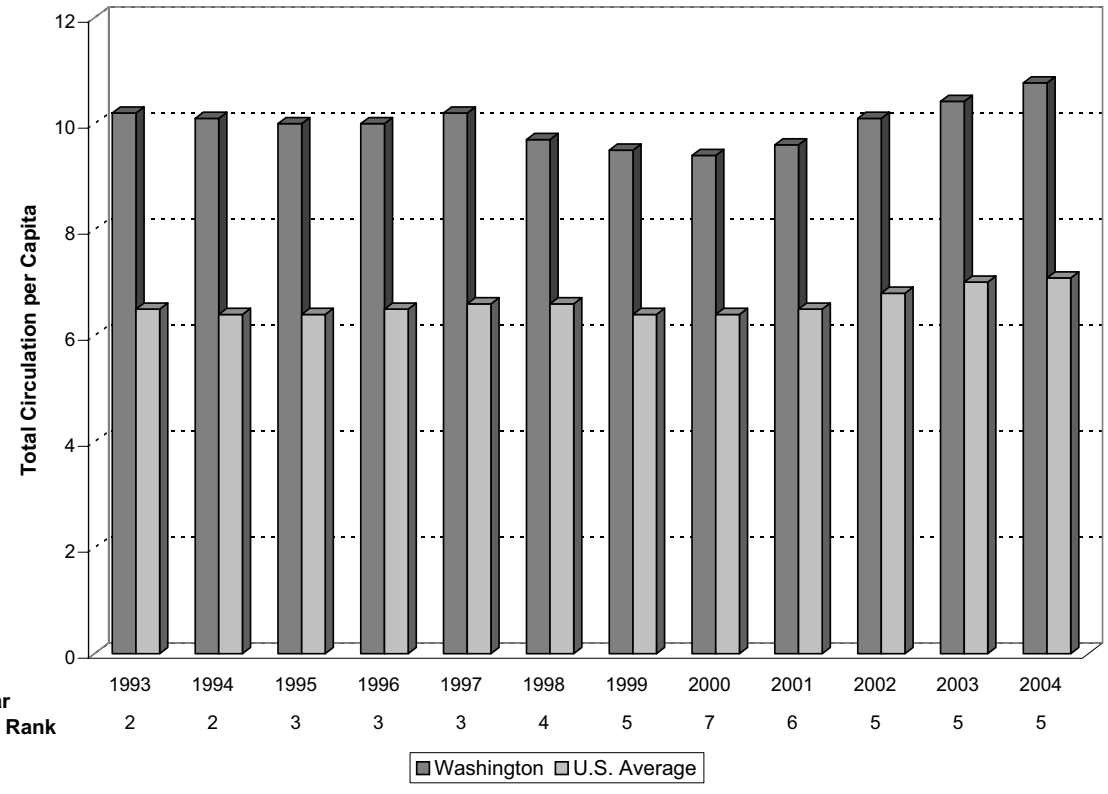

Table 24
Quality of Life
Public Library Service
(Circulation per Capita)

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2000-2004
Alabama	3.5	3.6	3.8	3.9	4.1	3.8
Alaska	5.8	5.8	5.8	6.1	6.3	6.0
Arizona	6.4	6.5	7.0	7.5	7.5	7.0
Arkansas	4.2	4.1	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.3
California	4.8	5.0	5.3	5.6	5.5	5.2
Colorado	9.5	10.4	9.9	10.1	10.6	10.1
Connecticut	8.5	8.4	8.9	9.3	9.2	8.9
Delaware	6.3	5.8	6.2	6.1	6.4	6.2
Florida	4.7	5.0	5.3	5.6	5.4	5.2
Georgia	4.4	4.6	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.7
Hawaii	5.8	5.6	5.8	5.4	5.0	5.5
Idaho	7.4	7.7	7.9	8.3	8.2	7.9
Illinois	7.7	7.4	7.9	8.2	8.3	7.9
Indiana	11.1	11.1	11.7	12.0	11.9	11.6
Iowa	8.6	8.7	9.1	9.2	9.1	8.9
Kansas	9.6	9.6	10.1	10.1	10.7	10.0
Kentucky	5.1	5.2	5.4	5.6	5.7	5.4
Louisiana	4.0	4.1	4.0	4.0	4.3	4.1
Maine	7.0	6.9	7.1	7.2	7.3	7.1
Maryland	8.9	9.0	9.4	9.5	9.4	9.2
Massachusetts	7.4	7.2	7.6	7.7	7.7	7.5
Michigan	5.5	5.2	5.8	6.1	6.3	5.8
Minnesota	8.9	8.9	9.7	9.8	9.9	9.4
Mississippi	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.2
Missouri	8.1	7.6	7.7	8.2	8.7	8.1
Montana	5.5	5.3	5.7	5.8	6.0	5.7
Nebraska	8.0	8.6	8.7	8.8	8.8	8.6
Nevada	4.8	5.1	5.5	5.9	6.2	5.5
New Hampshire	7.2	7.1	7.3	7.5	7.6	7.3
New Jersey	5.5	5.9	6.3	6.3	6.4	6.1
New Mexico	5.2	4.9	4.9	4.8	5.3	5.0
New York	7.3	7.2	6.9	6.9	7.2	7.1
North Carolina	5.6	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.3	5.4
North Dakota	7.2	7.1	7.4	7.6	7.5	7.4
Ohio	12.8	13.8	14.6	14.7	14.8	14.1
Oklahoma	5.9	5.4	5.9	6.1	6.4	5.9
Oregon	11.1	12.2	13.4	14.3	14.5	13.1
Pennsylvania	4.7	4.7	5.1	5.2	5.2	5.0
Rhode Island	6.2	6.3	6.8	6.9	6.7	6.6
South Carolina	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.9	4.9	4.7
South Dakota	7.4	8.0	8.4	8.9	9.0	8.3
Tennessee	3.8	3.9	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.0
Texas	4.3	4.2	4.5	4.5	4.8	4.5
Utah	10.0	11.0	11.7	12.1	12.5	11.5
Vermont	7.2	6.7	6.7	7.1	7.3	7.0
Virginia	7.8	7.9	8.5	8.5	8.4	8.2
Washington	**9.4**	**9.6**	**10.1**	**10.4**	**10.8**	**10.1**
West Virginia	4.6	4.4	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.3
Wisconsin	8.7	9.2	9.7	9.9	10.2	9.5
Wyoming	7.7	7.6	7.8	8.2	8.3	7.9
U.S. Average*	6.4	6.5	6.8	7.0	7.1	6.8
Washington's Rank	**7**	**6**	**5**	**5**	**5**	**6**

Source: U.S. Department of Education. National Center for Education Statistics, Public Libraries in the United States: FY 1996-2004.
*U.S. Average includes Washinton D.C.

Housing Opportunity Index

The Housing Opportunity Index (HOI), created by the National Association of Home Builders, is a measure of the percentage of new and existing homes sold in an area that a family earning the median income in that area can afford to buy. The index for the second quarter of 2007 was based on an analysis of completed home sales in 215 metropolitan area markets nationwide. The average HOI for this period was 43.1, indicating that 43.1 percent of the homes sold in these metropolitan areas would be affordable to someone earning the median income for all of the areas. The NAHB uses the annual median family income estimates for metropolitan areas published by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Seven Washington metropolitan areas are included in the index: Bellingham, Bremerton-Silverdale, Mount Vernon-Anacortes, Olympia, Spokane, Tacoma and the Seattle-Bellevue-Everett area. Vancouver was also included but only as part of the Portland-Vancouver-Beaverton metropolitan area. Of the Washington areas included only Spokane had an HOI above the national average in the second quarter of 2007. Spokane's HOI of 56.8 ranked 86th among the 215 metropolitan areas included in the index, while Seattle-Bellevue-Everett, with the lowest HOI in the state, ranked 177th with an HOI of 21.1.

Table 25
Quality of Life
Housing Opportunity Index
(Second Quarter 2007)

Metropolitan Area	Share of Homes Affordable for Median Income	Family Income (000s)	Median Sales Price (000s)	Affordability Rank
Akron, OH	78.1	60.3	118	36
Albany-Schenectady-Troy, NY	57.8	66.3	183	82
Albuquerque, NM MSA	42.0	55.9	215	125
Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton, PA-NJ	45.0	65.8	225	118
Amarillo, TX	60.9	49.4	128	77
Anchorage, AK	42.3	74.8	261	124
Ann Arbor, MI	73.8	78.3	193	48
Asheville, NC	45.3	50.8	195	117
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta, GA	66.5	67.1	183	58
Atlantic City, NJ	29.3	64.3	262	155
Austin-Round Rock, TX	54.7	69.3	205	92
Bakersfield, CA	17.5	47.8	252	187
Baltimore-Towson, MD	49.0	75.8	261	104
Barnstable Town, MA	18.8	70.4	348	183
Battle Creek, MI	84.4	52.8	88	14
Bay City, MI	90.0	54.4	84	2
Beaumont-Port Arthur, TX	62.7	50.2	122	68
Bellingham, WA	**29.2**	**58.2**	**258**	**156**
Bend, OR	20.0	58.7	300	181
Bethesda-Gaithersburg-Frederick,MD *	37.6	101.1	415	135
Binghamton, NY	80.0	52.8	90	30
Birmingham-Hoover, AL	72.7	55.5	133	53
Boise City-Nampa, ID	29.6	58.5	247	153
Boston-Quincy, MA *	26.5	76.9	353	167
Boulder, CO	48.4	82.5	312	111
Bremerton-Silverdale, WA	**27.3**	**65.7**	**289**	**164**
Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk, CT	26.0	93.4	468	168
Brownsville-Harlingen, TX	38.4	30.0	107	132
Buffalo-Niagara Falls, NY	84.8	59.3	89	13
Burlington-South Burlington, VT	50.9	70.6	220	102
Cambridge-Newton-Framingham, MA *	34.9	88.9	373	142
Camden, NJ *	54.6	76.9	216	93
Canton-Massillon, OH	84.2	53.0	106	16
Cape Coral-Fort Myers, FL	23.2	54.7	257	174
Carson City, NV	27.8	58.8	250	163
Champaign-Urbana, IL	75.7	60.6	138	42
Charleston-North Charleston, SC	41.5	55.4	225	128
Charlotte-Gastonia-Concord, NC-SC	61.5	60.2	175	72
Chattanooga, TN-GA	73.0	53.4	130	50
Chicago-Naperville-Joliet, IL *	44.4	69.7	255	119

* Indicate Metropolitan Divisions. All others are Metropolitan Statistical Areas.
Source: National Association of Home Builders (www.nahb.org), August 2007.

Housing Opportunity Index (cont.)

Metropolitan Area	Share of Homes Affordable for Median Income	Family Income (000s)	Median Sales Price (000s)	Affordability Rank
Chico, CA	30.0	52.0	250	151
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN	76.5	63.6	135	39
Cleveland-Elyria-Mentor, OH	78.7	60.7	122	34
College Station-Bryan, TX	47.7	51.0	159	113
Colorado Springs, CO	61.6	65.5	210	71
Columbia, SC	73.7	58.2	140	49
Columbus, OH	76.4	64.2	140	40
Corpus Christi, TX	40.6	45.8	150	129
Corvallis, OR	37.6	67.4	260	135
Cumberland, MD-WV	85.2	46.6	91	12
Dallas-Plano-Irving, TX *	55.0	63.2	183	91
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	87.4	57.2	90	6
Dayton, OH	83.0	58.7	108	19
Deltona-Daytona Beach-Ormond Beach, FL	37.3	49.9	193	137
Denver-Aurora, CO	53.4	71.4	245	95
Detroit-Livonia-Dearborn, MI *	86.0	53.8	92	10
Dover, DE	61.4	58.7	185	73
Duluth, MN-WI	77.6	55.5	120	37
Durham, NC	57.7	60.1	185	85
Edison, NJ *	29.0	85.6	345	158
El Centro, CA	11.3	42.0	239	195
El Paso, TX	29.1	36.5	143	157
Elizabethtown, KY	79.3	50.6	116	32
Elkhart-Goshen, IN	80.3	56.5	133	26
Erie, PA	80.8	53.9	96	24
Eugene-Springfield, OR	26.6	52.2	237	166
Fairbanks, AK	44.2	69.7	235	120
Fayetteville, NC	66.3	47.5	126	61
Flagstaff, AZ	24.7	53.5	297	171
Flint, MI	80.6	57.2	109	25
Fort Collins-Loveland, CO	61.4	68.2	216	73
Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach-Deerfield Bea	29.6	58.4	260	153
Fort Walton Beach, FL	48.5	62.6	220	109
Fort Worth-Arlington, TX *	64.6	60.5	153	62
Fresno, CA	11.2	48.9	272	198
Gainesville, FL	48.7	54.2	180	108
Gainesville, GA	57.8	56.5	174	82
Grand Rapids-Wyoming, MI	84.3	59.1	121	15
Great Falls, MT	58.2	50.2	153	81
Greeley, CO	60.0	59.8	190	79
Greensboro-High Point, NC	74.4	53.6	136	47
Greenville-Mauldin-Easley, SC	66.5	52.9	150	58
Hagerstown-Martinsburg, MD-WV	41.9	57.9	220	126
Hanford-Corcoran, CA	15.0	46.8	255	189
Harrisburg-Carlisle, PA	80.9	65.6	142	23

* Indicate Metropolitan Divisions. All others are Metropolitan Statistical Areas.
Source: National Association of Home Builders (www.nahb.org), August 2007.

Housing Opportunity Index (cont.)

Metropolitan Area	Share of Homes Affordable for Median Income	Family Income (000s)	Median Sales Price (000s)	Affordability Rank
Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford, CT	60.1	80.3	227	78
Honolulu, HI	29.8	73.5	425	152
Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown, TX	48.8	57.3	173	107
Indianapolis-Carmel, IN	86.8	63.8	122	8
Jacksonville, FL	55.7	59.7	186	90
Kalamazoo-Portage, MI	80.1	58.9	119	28
Kingston, NY	37.8	63.5	224	133
Knoxville, TN	70.3	54.8	142	56
Kokomo, IN	90.9	59.7	96	1
Lake County-Kenosha County, IL-WI *	51.1	80.9	258	100
Lakeland, FL	42.5	46.9	175	123
Lancaster, PA	66.4	64.0	172	60
Lansing-East Lansing, MI	89.8	64.0	109	3
Las Vegas-Paradise, NV	18.6	60.1	290	185
Lima, OH	86.3	51.4	85	9
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Glendale, CA *	3.0	61.7	530	215
Louisville-Jefferson County, KY-IN	74.9	57.5	130	44
Madera, CA	11.3	51.0	295	195
Madison, WI	60.0	73.7	205	79
Manchester-Nashua, NH	45.5	77.3	245	115
Mansfield, OH	87.7	52.1	90	4
Medford, OR	20.5	52.7	260	179
Memphis, TN-MS-AR	64.5	53.2	140	63
Merced, CA	3.8	46.8	296	213
Miami-Miami Beach-Kendall, FL *	10.2	45.2	290	202
Midland, TX	41.8	54.8	180	127
Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis, WI	61.1	65.6	175	76
Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI	61.7	77.6	230	70
Modesto, CA	7.0	56.0	330	206
Monroe, MI	84.1	68.7	144	17
Mount Vernon-Anacortes, WA	**22.1**	**57.9**	**274**	**176**
Napa, CA	6.4	75.8	577	207
Naples-Marco Island, FL	17.9	63.9	351	186
Nassau-Suffolk, NY *	11.7	93.8	440	194
New Haven-Milford, CT	48.9	72.6	230	105
New York-White Plains-Wayne, NY-NJ *	6.3	59.5	510	209
Newark-Union, NJ-PA *	20.7	83.2	389	178
Norwich-New London, CT	47.9	74.6	252	112
Oakland-Fremont-Hayward, CA *	11.3	83.0	546	195
Ocala, FL	43.3	42.7	160	121
Ocean City, NJ	18.8	62.9	415	183
Ogden-Clearfield, UT	49.2	62.6	230	103
Oklahoma City, OK	75.5	53.6	119	43
Olympia, WA	**28.3**	**64.3**	**263**	**161**
Orlando-Kissimmee, FL	27.9	54.9	240	162

* Indicate Metropolitan Divisions. All others are Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

Source: National Association of Home Builders (www.nahb.org), August 2007.

Housing Opportunity Index (cont.)

Metropolitan Area	Share of Homes Affordable for Median Income	Family Income (000s)	Median Sales Price (000s)	Affordability Rank
Oxnard-Thousand Oaks-Ventura, CA	9.0	79.5	554	204
Palm Bay-Melbourne-Titusville, FL	51.1	55.6	184	100
Panama City-Lynn Haven, FL	35.2	51.3	225	141
Peabody, MA *	35.3	77.2	318	140
Pensacola-Ferry Pass-Brent, FL	61.2	52.5	158	75
Peoria, IL	81.6	61.8	118	20
Philadelphia, PA *	39.4	69.2	260	131
Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, AZ	32.4	59.1	251	147
Pittsburgh, PA	74.6	57.9	120	46
Pittsfield, MA	53.9	62.8	195	94
Pocatello, ID	63.7	49.7	148	65
Port St. Lucie, FL	28.5	52.8	230	159
Portland-South Portland-Biddeford, ME	32.1	64.5	257	148
Portland-Vancouver-Beaverton, OR-WA	**25.0**	**63.8**	**280**	**170**
Poughkeepsie-Newburgh-Middletown, NY	34.5	76.4	275	143
Prescott, AZ	25.9	49.1	250	169
Providence-New Bedford-Fall River, RI-MA	31.3	68.3	258	150
Provo-Orem, UT	27.1	55.1	266	165
Pueblo, CO	69.2	48.0	134	57
Punta Gorda, FL	36.0	49.8	212	139
Raleigh-Cary, NC	52.6	69.8	235	97
Redding, CA	22.3	52.7	255	175
Reno-Sparks, NV	20.0	64.0	302	181
Richmond, VA	53.1	68.7	235	96
Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, CA	10.5	59.2	370	200
Roanoke, VA	46.7	56.3	207	114
Rochester, NY	78.2	62.0	116	35
Rockford, IL	79.8	58.6	120	31
Rockingham County-Strafford County, NH *	45.5	75.7	260	115
Sacramento—Arden-Arcade—Roseville, CA	15.0	67.2	355	189
Saginaw-Saginaw Township North, MI	87.5	52.3	89	5
Salem, OR	39.5	54.2	204	130
Salinas, CA	3.7	63.4	556	214
Salisbury, MD	56.4	58.5	189	89
Salt Lake City, UT	31.7	60.1	266	149
San Angelo, TX	76.7	49.1	108	38
San Antonio, TX	48.9	53.7	164	105
San Diego-Carlsbad-San Marcos, CA	9.6	69.4	470	203
San Francisco-San mateo-Redwood City, CA *	5.7	86.5	802	211
San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara, CA	12.8	94.5	670	193
San Luis Obispo-Paso Robles, CA	6.4	64.2	527	207
Sandusky, OH	81.5	55.4	108	21
Santa Ana-Anaheim-Irvine, CA *	4.4	78.7	615	212
Santa Barbara-Santa Maria-Goleta, CA	6.2	67.1	538	210
Santa Cruz-Watsonville, CA	7.1	81.3	680	205

* Indicate Metropolitan Divisions. All others are Metropolitan Statistical Areas.
Source: National Association of Home Builders (www.nahb.org), August 2007.

Housing Opportunity Index (cont.)

Metropolitan Area	Share of Homes Affordable for Median Income	Family Income (000s)	Median Sales Price (000s)	Affordability Rank
Santa Fe, NM	23.4	57.0	317	172
Santa Rosa-Petaluma, CA	10.8	74.5	500	199
Sarasota-Bradenton-Venice, FL	33.0	57.5	250	146
Seattle-Bellevue-Everett, WA *	**21.1**	**75.6**	**384**	**177**
Sebastian-Vero Beach, FL MSA	36.2	54.1	225	138
Sherman-Denison, TX	80.1	52.7	105	28
Spokane, WA	**56.8**	**57.6**	**176**	**86**
Springfield, IL	70.9	63.7	135	55
Springfield, MA	57.8	61.8	185	82
Springfield, OH	87.0	52.5	87	7
St. George, UT	20.3	49.6	281	180
St. Louis, MO-IL	76.1	63.3	132	41
Stockton, CA	10.4	60.3	375	201
Syracuse, NY	81.0	58.7	95	22
Tacoma, WA *	**23.4**	**61.5**	**275**	**172**
Tallahassee, FL	63.3	58.2	165	66
Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL	42.8	53.9	195	122
Toledo, OH	83.1	57.6	111	18
Trenton-Ewing, NJ	51.4	84.9	250	99
Tucson, AZ	33.9	52.4	215	145
Tulsa, OK	72.4	52.5	129	54
Tyler, TX	56.6	50.9	150	87
Utica-Rome, NY	78.8	52.4	82	33
Vallejo-Fairfield, CA	16.4	75.4	405	188
Victoria, TX	62.9	48.8	123	67
Vineland-Millville-Bridgeton, NJ	56.6	55.8	150	87
Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News, VA-NC	48.5	64.1	225	109
Visalia-Porterville, CA	14.3	43.7	240	192
Waco, TX	64.5	50.4	124	63
Warren-Troy-Farmington Hills, MI *	80.2	76.4	155	27
Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-	37.8	92.6	370	133
West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Boynton Beach,	28.4	61.2	285	160
Wichita Falls, TX	72.8	49.2	104	52
Wichita, KS	72.9	56.6	135	51
Wilmington, DE-MD-NJ *	61.8	73.9	232	69
Winston-Salem, NC	74.7	56.1	141	45
Worcester, MA	51.6	72.8	240	98
Youngstown-Warren-Boardman, OH-PA	85.9	51.4	87	11
Yuba City, CA	15.0	51.7	276	189
Yuma, AZ	34.5	40.7	171	143
National	**43.1**	**59.0**	**240**	**NA**

* Indicate Metropolitan Divisions. All others are Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

Source: National Association of Home Builders (www.nahb.org), August 2007.

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Education and Skills of the Workforce

Fourth Grade Reading and Mathematics

The National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP) program, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education, is the only testing program that provides valid uniform educational achievement indicators allowing for state comparisons. The NAEP assesses students in grades 4, 8, and 12 in various academic subjects. These subjects include the arts, geography, reading, science, civics, mathematics, U.S. History, and writing. The Washington State Economic Climate Study tracks the average scale score of fourth grade reading and mathematics by state.

Prior to the 2002-03 school year, participation in the NAEP tests was voluntary, with single-subject tests held every two years, alternating subjects every two years. As such, states that either declined to participate or had an insufficient number of participating schools to create a valid average state score are excluded from the state rankings. Washington did not participate in the inaugural 1992 mathematics and reading tests, and had insufficient voluntary participation in the 2000 mathematics test. As of the 2002-03 school year, however, participation in the NAEP test is mandatory due to the provisions of the "No Child Left Behind Act", which was passed by the Federal Government in 2001. Under the act, the NAEP tests in both reading and mathematics will be given to students in the 4th and 8th grades every two years, starting in the 2002-03 school year.

NAEP scores can be interpreted using the achievement level thresholds and their corresponding definitions outlined below. Reading achievement is measured with exercises that require students to read material for two different purposes, literary experience and knowledge retention. In 2007, Washington's rank among the states declined from 12th to 18th even though its average reading score rose one point to 224. Washington's average since the 1998 test is 222 points, ranking 16th, while the average national score was 217 over the same period.

In the mathematics exam, the skills and content covered include spatial sense, data analysis, statistics, probability, algebra and functions. While Washington's 2007 score increased to 243 from 2005's score of 242, the state slipped in rank, moving from 12th to 18th. Washington's average score for the years 1996-2007 is 237, ranking 13th among the states, while the average national score was 231 over the same period.

Chart 26
Grade 4 Public School Students:
Average Reading Scale Scores

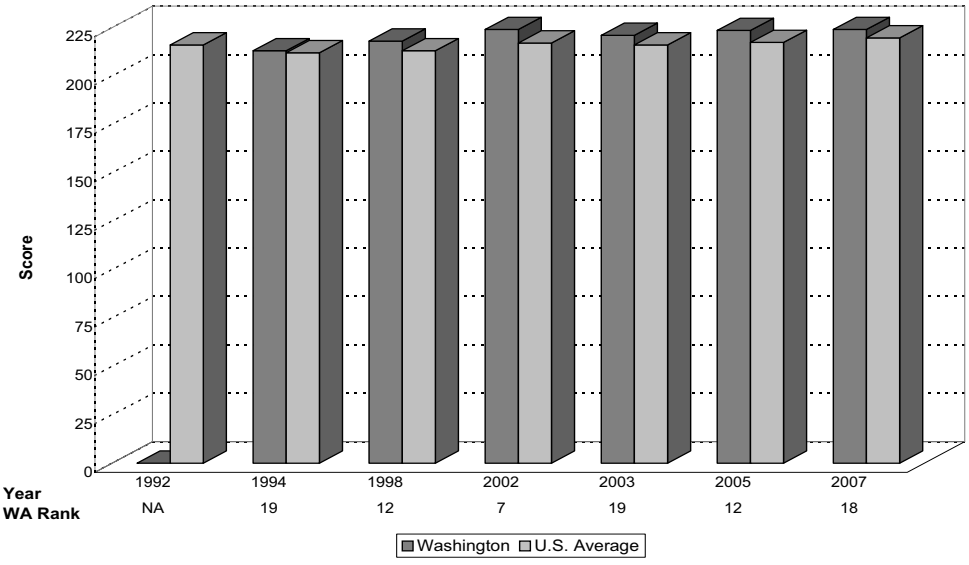


Table 26
Education and Skills of the Workforce
Grade 4 Public School Students:
Average Reading Scale Scores

	1998	2002	2003	2005	2007	1998-2007
Alabama	211	207	207	208	216	210
Alaska	NA	NA	212	211	214	213
Arizona	206	205	209	207	210	207
Arkansas	209	213	214	217	217	214
California	202	206	206	207	209	206
Colorado	220	NA	224	224	224	223
Connecticut	230	229	228	226	227	228
Delaware	207	224	224	226	225	221
Florida	206	214	218	219	224	216
Georgia	209	215	214	214	219	214
Hawaii	200	208	208	210	213	208
Idaho	NA	220	218	222	223	221
Illinois	NA	NA	216	216	219	217
Indiana	NA	222	220	218	222	220
Iowa	220	223	223	221	225	222
Kansas	221	222	220	220	225	222
Kentucky	218	219	219	220	222	220
Louisiana	200	207	205	209	207	206
Maine	225	225	224	225	226	225
Maryland	212	217	219	220	225	219
Massachusetts	223	234	228	231	236	230
Michigan	216	219	219	218	220	218
Minnesota	219	225	223	225	225	223
Mississippi	203	203	205	204	208	205
Missouri	216	220	222	221	221	220
Montana	225	224	223	225	227	225
Nebraska	NA	222	221	221	223	222
Nevada	206	209	207	207	211	208
New Hampshire	226	NA	228	227	229	228
New Jersey	NA	NA	225	223	231	226
New Mexico	205	208	203	207	212	207
New York	215	222	222	223	224	221
North Carolina	213	222	221	217	218	218
North Dakota	NA	224	222	225	226	224
Ohio	NA	222	222	223	226	223
Oklahoma	219	213	214	214	217	215
Oregon	212	220	218	217	215	216
Pennsylvania	NA	221	219	223	226	222
Rhode Island	218	220	216	216	219	218
South Carolina	209	214	215	213	214	213
South Dakota	NA	NA	222	222	223	223
Tennessee	212	214	212	214	216	214
Texas	214	217	215	219	220	217
Utah	216	222	219	221	221	220
Vermont	NA	227	226	227	228	227
Virginia	217	225	223	226	227	224
Washington	**218**	**224**	**221**	**223**	**224**	**222**
West Virginia	216	219	219	215	215	217
Wisconsin	222	NA	221	221	223	222
Wyoming	218	221	222	223	225	222
U.S. Average	213	217	216	217	220	217
Washington's Rank	**12**	**7**	**19**	**12**	**18**	**16**

NA: State did not participate in the NAEP assessment during this year.
Source: National Center for Education Statistics National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) 1992, 1994, 1998, 2002, 2003, 2005, 2007 Reading Assessments.

Grade 4 Reading Achievement Levels

Basic 208

Fourth-grade students performing at the Basic level should demonstrate an understanding of the overall meaning of what they read. When reading text appropriate for fourth graders, they should be able to make relatively obvious connections between the text and their own experiences and extend the ideas in the text by making simple inferences.

Proficient 238

Fourth-grade students performing at the Proficient level should be able to demonstrate an overall understanding of the text, providing inferential as well as literal information. When reading text appropriate to fourth grade, they should be able to extend the ideas in the text by making inferences, drawing conclusions, and making connections to their own experiences. The connection between the text and what the student infers should be clear.

Advanced 268

Fourth-grade students performing at the Advanced level should be able to generalize about topics in the reading selection and demonstrate an awareness of how authors compose and use literary devices. When reading text appropriate to fourth grade, they should be able to judge text critically and, in general, give thorough answers that indicate careful thought.

Grade 4 Mathematics Achievement Levels*

Basic 214

Fourth graders performing at the basic level should be able to estimate and use basic facts to perform simple computations with whole numbers; show some understanding of fractions and decimals; and solve some simple real-world problems in all NAEP content areas. Students at this level should be able to use--though not always accurately--four-function calculators, rulers, and geometric shapes. Their written responses are often minimal and presented without supporting information.

Proficient 249

Fourth graders performing at the proficient level should be able to use whole numbers to estimate, compute, and determine whether results are reasonable. They should have a conceptual understanding of fractions and decimals; be able to solve real-world problems in all NAEP content areas; and use four-function calculators, rulers, and geometric shapes appropriately. Students performing at the proficient level should employ problem-solving strategies such as identifying and using appropriate information. Their written solutions should be organized and presented both with supporting information and explanations of how they were achieved.

Advanced 282

Fourth graders performing at the advanced level should be able to solve complex and nonroutine real-world problems in all NAEP content areas. They should display mastery in the use of four-function calculators, rulers, and geometric shapes. They students are expected to draw logical conclusions and justify answers and solution processes by explaining why, as well as how, they were achieved. They should go beyond the obvious in their interpretations and be able to communicate their thoughts clearly and concisely.

Chart 27
Grade 4 Public School Students:
Average Mathematics Scale Scores

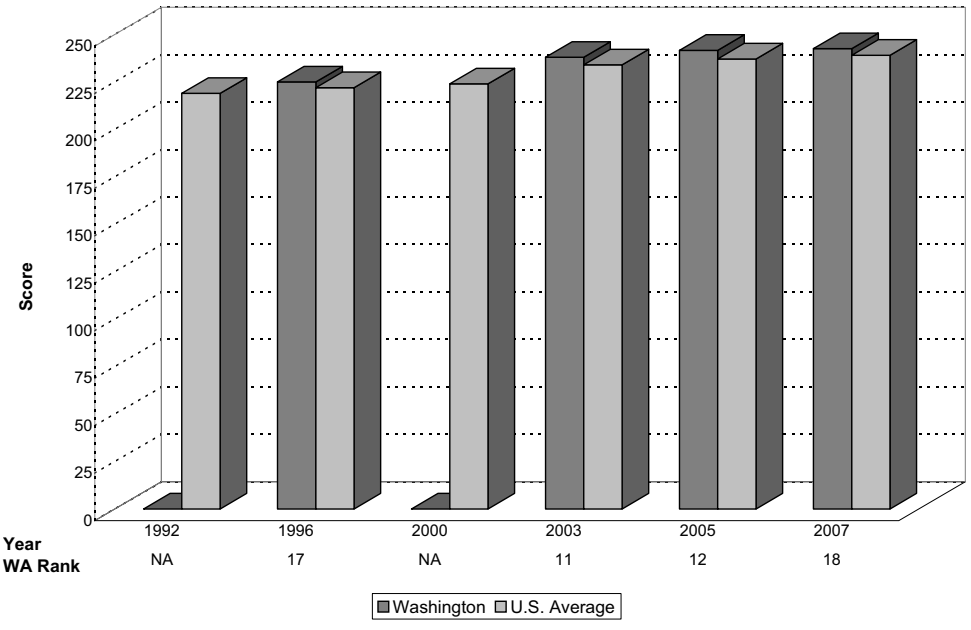


Table 27
Education and Skills of the Workforce
Grade 4 Public School Students:
Average Mathematics Scale Scores

	1996	2000	2003	2005	2007	1996-2007
Alabama	212	217	223	225	229	221
Alaska	224	NA	233	236	237	232
Arizona	218	219	229	230	232	226
Arkansas	216	216	229	236	238	227
California	209	213	227	230	230	222
Colorado	226	NA	235	239	240	235
Connecticut	232	234	241	242	243	238
Delaware	215	NA	236	240	242	233
Florida	216	NA	234	239	242	233
Georgia	215	219	230	234	235	227
Hawaii	215	216	227	230	234	224
Idaho	NA	224	235	242	241	235
Illinois	NA	223	233	233	237	232
Indiana	229	233	238	240	245	237
Iowa	229	231	238	240	243	236
Kansas	NA	232	242	246	248	242
Kentucky	220	219	229	231	235	227
Louisiana	209	218	226	230	230	223
Maine	232	230	238	241	242	237
Maryland	221	222	233	238	240	231
Massachusetts	229	233	242	247	252	241
Michigan	226	229	236	238	238	233
Minnesota	232	234	242	246	247	240
Mississippi	208	211	223	227	228	219
Missouri	225	228	235	235	239	232
Montana	228	228	236	241	244	235
Nebraska	228	225	236	238	238	233
Nevada	218	220	228	230	232	226
New Hampshire	NA	NA	243	246	249	246
New Jersey	227	NA	239	244	249	240
New Mexico	214	213	223	224	228	220
New York	223	225	236	238	243	233
North Carolina	224	230	242	241	242	236
North Dakota	231	230	238	243	245	237
Ohio	NA	230	238	242	245	239
Oklahoma	NA	224	229	234	237	231
Oregon	223	224	236	238	236	231
Pennsylvania	226	NA	236	241	244	237
Rhode Island	220	224	230	233	236	229
South Carolina	213	220	236	238	237	229
South Dakota	NA	NA	237	242	241	240
Tennessee	219	220	228	232	233	226
Texas	229	231	237	242	242	236
Utah	227	227	235	239	239	233
Vermont	225	232	242	244	246	238
Virginia	223	230	239	240	244	235
Washington	**225**	**NA**	**238**	**242**	**243**	**237**
West Virginia	223	223	231	231	236	229
Wisconsin	231	NA	237	241	244	238
Wyoming	223	229	241	243	244	236
U.S. Average	222	224	234	237	239	231
Washington's Rank	**17**	**NA**	**11**	**12**	**18**	**13**

NA: State did not participate in the NAEP assessment during this year.
Source: National Center for Education Statistics. National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP) 1992, 1996, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2007 Mathematics Assessments.

Tenth Grade WASL Scores

The Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL) is a statewide assessment designed to measure critical thinking skills and how well students can apply knowledge. Unlike traditional standardized tests, takers are required to answer a variety of types of questions including multiple choice, short answer and essay.

The test is designed to measure achievement in meeting the state's Essential Academic Learning Requirements in reading and mathematics in grades 3 through 10, writing in grades 4, 7 and 10, and science in grades 5, 8 and 10. The WASL is administered each spring. Beginning in 2008, high school students will be required to meet the standards it sets in reading and writing order to graduate. Beginning in 2013, high school students will also be required to meet the WASL mathematics standards in order to graduate.

As the WASL is unique to Washington, test results cannot be compared to those in other states. The results are included here, however, as they provide an indication of Washington's progress in maximizing the number of students who are able to pass the WASL by the tenth grade.

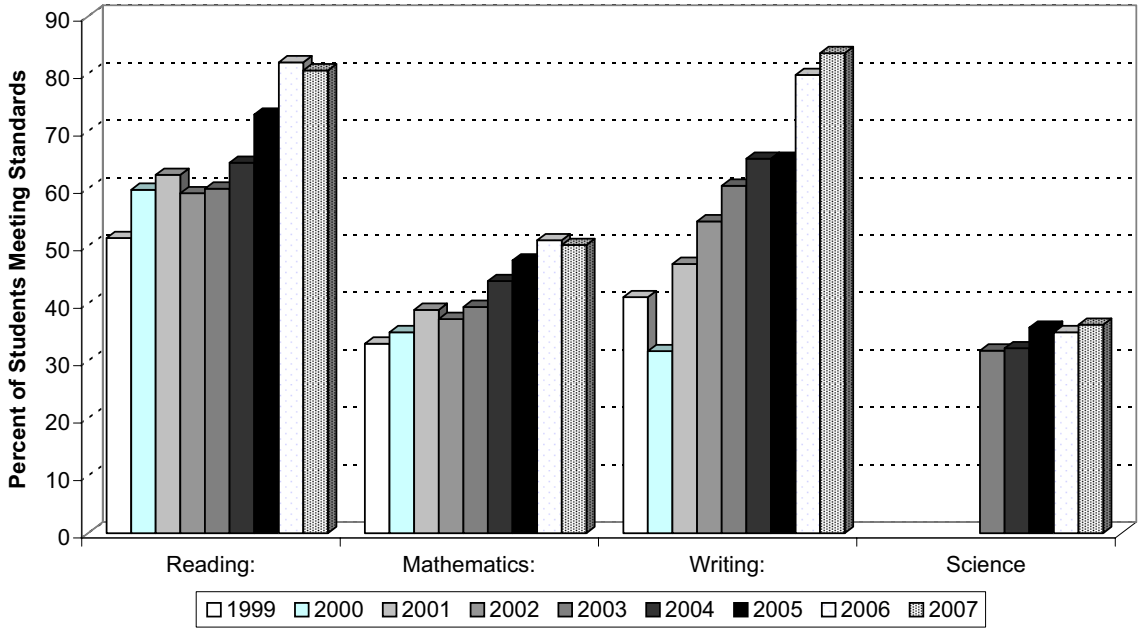
As can be seen in Table 28, tenth-grade WASL scores for 2006 showed an improvement in two of the four categories: science and writing. Of the tenth-graders that took the test, 80.6 percent met the standards in reading, 50.2 percent met the standards in mathematics, 83.6 percent met the standards in writing and 36.3 percent met the standards in science.

Table 28
Education and Skills of the Workforce
Tenth Grade WASL Test Scores

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Reading:	62.4	59.2	60.0	64.5	72.9	82.0	80.6
Mathematics:	38.9	37.3	39.4	43.9	47.5	51.0	50.2
Writing:	46.9	54.3	60.5	65.2	65.2	79.8	83.6
Science	NA	NA	31.8	32.2	35.8	35.0	36.3

Source:Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, September 2007 (http://www.k12.wa.us).

Chart 28
Tenth Grade WASL Scores



Student to Teacher Ratios

Since the early 1990s there has been a nationwide movement to lower the student to teacher ratios in public schools. The success of this movement to date is evident in the steady decline of the national ratio from 17.4 students per teacher in the 1992-93 school year to 15.8 in 2004-05. While Washington has shared in this movement, its progress has been somewhat slower, with a decline from 20.2 to 19.2 over the same period.

Washington's student-teacher ratio decreased slightly from 19.3 in the 2003-04 school year back down to 19.2 in the 2004-05 school year. Its rank remained 46th. The state's five-year value of 19.3 students per teacher also ranked 46th among the states.

Chart 29
Student toTeacher Ratios in Elementary and Secondary Public Schools

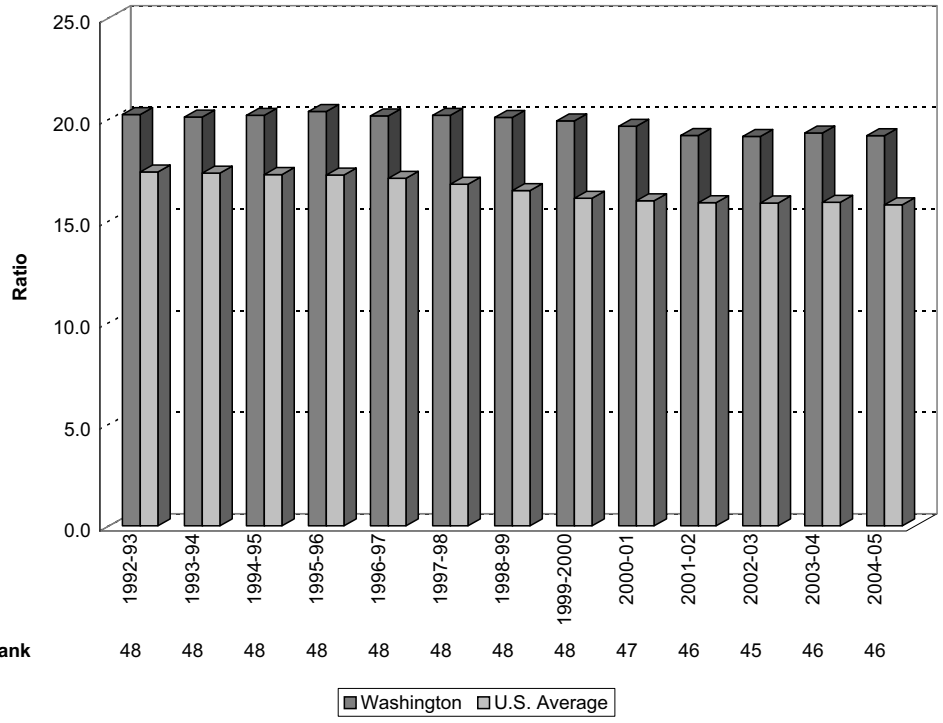


Table 29
Education and Skills of the Workforce
Student to Teacher Ratios in Elementary and Secondary Public Schools

	School Year					
	2000-01	**2001-02**	**2002-03**	**2003-04**	**2004-05**	**2000-2005**
Alabama	15.4	15.8	15.7	12.6	14.2	14.7
Alaska	16.9	16.7	16.6	17.2	17.1	16.9
Arizona	19.8	20.0	19.9	21.3	21.3	20.5
Arkansas	14.1	13.6	14.9	14.7	14.8	14.4
California	20.6	20.5	20.6	21.1	21.1	20.8
Colorado	17.3	16.8	16.6	16.9	17.0	16.9
Connecticut	13.7	13.7	13.5	13.6	14.9	13.9
Delaware	15.4	15.3	15.1	15.2	15.2	15.2
Florida	18.4	18.6	18.4	17.9	17.0	18.0
Georgia	15.9	15.9	15.6	15.7	14.8	15.6
Hawaii	16.9	16.8	16.8	16.5	16.4	16.7
Idaho	17.9	17.8	17.9	17.9	17.9	17.9
Illinois	16.1	16.0	15.9	16.5	16.0	16.1
Indiana	16.7	16.7	16.7	16.9	16.9	16.8
Iowa	14.3	13.9	13.9	13.8	13.8	14.0
Kansas	14.4	14.2	14.4	14.4	14.2	14.3
Kentucky	16.8	16.2	16.3	16.1	16.3	16.3
Louisiana	16.6	16.6	16.6	16.6	16.6	16.6
Maine	12.5	12.3	12.1	11.5	11.9	12.1
Maryland	16.3	16.0	15.7	15.8	15.7	15.9
Massachusetts	14.5	14.1	13.2	13.6	13.3	13.7
Michigan	17.7	17.5	19.9	18.1	17.4	18.1
Minnesota	16.0	16.0	16.0	16.3	16.1	16.1
Mississippi	16.1	15.8	15.6	15.1	15.8	15.7
Missouri	14.1	13.9	13.6	13.9	13.8	13.9
Montana	14.9	14.6	14.5	14.4	14.3	14.5
Nebraska	13.6	13.5	13.6	13.6	13.6	13.6
Nevada	18.6	18.5	18.4	19.0	19.1	18.7
New Hampshire	14.5	14.1	13.9	13.7	13.5	13.9
New Jersey	13.3	12.9	12.8	12.7	12.1	12.7
New Mexico	15.2	14.7	15.1	15.0	15.0	15.0
New York	13.9	13.7	13.7	13.3	13.0	13.5
North Carolina	15.5	15.4	15.2	15.1	15.0	15.2
North Dakota	13.4	13.2	12.9	12.7	12.5	12.9
Ohio	15.5	15.0	14.7	15.2	15.6	15.2
Oklahoma	15.1	14.9	15.4	16.0	15.6	15.4
Oregon	19.4	19.5	20.4	20.6	20.1	20.0
Pennsylvania	15.5	15.4	15.4	15.2	15.1	15.3
Rhode Island	14.8	14.2	14.2	13.4	13.2	14.0
South Carolina	14.9	14.5	14.9	15.3	15.0	14.9
South Dakota	13.7	13.6	14.0	13.6	13.5	13.7
Tennessee	15.9	15.8	15.8	15.7	15.7	15.8
Texas	14.8	14.7	14.8	15.0	15.0	14.8
Utah	21.9	21.8	21.8	22.4	22.6	22.1
Vermont	12.1	11.8	11.7	11.3	11.3	11.7
Virginia	13.2	13.0	11.8	13.2	12.9	12.8
Washington	**19.7**	**19.2**	**19.2**	**19.3**	**19.2**	**19.3**
West Virginia	13.7	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0
Wisconsin	14.6	13.9	14.6	15.1	14.3	14.5
Wyoming	13.3	13.2	13.0	13.3	12.7	13.1
U.S. Average	16.0	15.9	15.9	15.9	15.8	15.9
Washington's Rank	**47**	**46**	**45**	**46**	**46**	**46**

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. Digest of Educational Statistics, 2006 (www.nces.ed.gov).

Education Attainment: Completed Four Years of High School or More

As part of its annual Current Population Survey, the U.S. Bureau of the Census tabulates the percent of the population aged 25 years or older that has completed four years of high school or more. As one indication of the economic relevance of this measure, the 2006 survey found that the average annual wage for a person 18 years of age or older who did not graduate from high school was only $17,299 in 2005 while that of a person with a high school diploma or GED was $26,933.

The 2006 survey reported that 91.1 percent of Washington's population aged 25 years or older completed four or more years of high school, a slight decrease from 2005's value of 91.5 percent. The state's 2006 rank, however, remained constant at 6th. The state's five-year average value of 90.4 percent ranked 8th among the states. Washington has consistently ranked well above the U.S. average in this measure.

Chart 30
Completed Four Years of High School or More

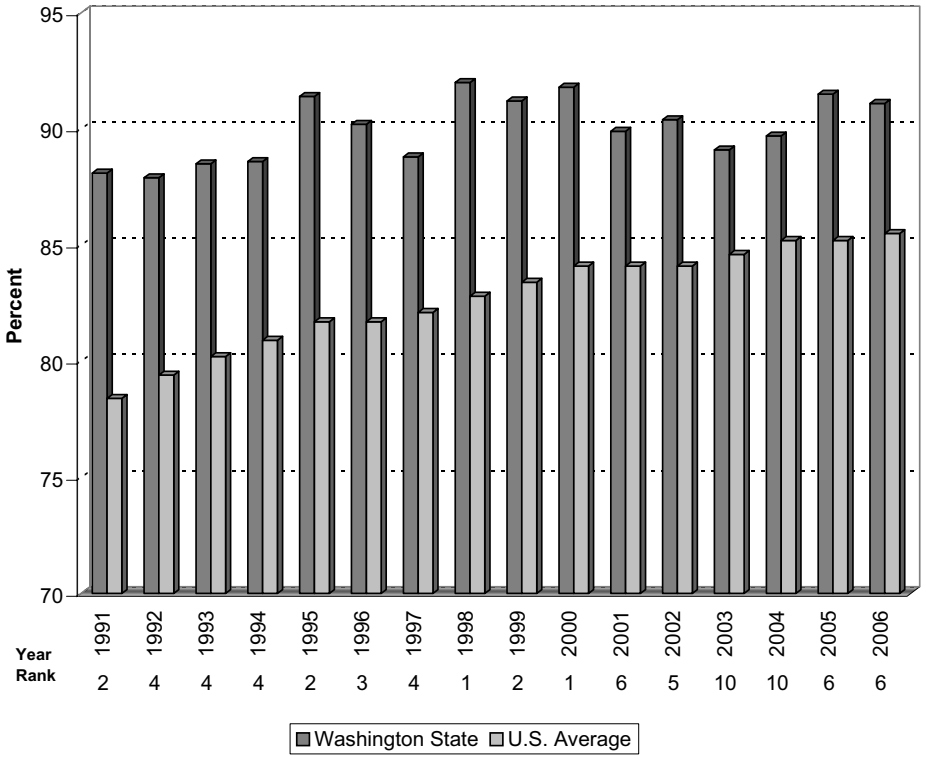


Table 30
Education and Skills of the Workforce
Educational Attainment:
Completed Four Years of High School or More
(Percent)*

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002-06
Alabama	78.9	79.9	82.4	80.9	82.1	80.8
Alaska	92.2	90.6	90.2	91.7	92.0	91.3
Arizona	84.6	83.8	84.4	85.8	83.1	84.3
Arkansas	81.0	80.9	79.2	81.4	82.5	81.0
California	80.2	81.1	81.3	80.4	80.8	80.8
Colorado	87.6	88.7	88.3	89.3	90.0	88.8
Connecticut	88.0	87.5	88.8	90.0	88.4	88.5
Delaware	88.5	88.7	86.5	86.9	86.0	87.3
Florida	83.3	84.7	85.9	86.8	86.7	85.5
Georgia	82.9	85.1	85.2	85.7	84.2	84.6
Hawaii	87.9	88.5	88.0	87.2	88.7	88.1
Idaho	86.8	88.2	87.9	89.1	88.9	88.2
Illinois	85.9	85.9	86.8	87.2	87.6	86.7
Indiana	85.3	86.4	87.2	87.2	88.2	86.9
Iowa	88.3	89.7	89.8	89.8	90.4	89.6
Kansas	87.5	88.6	89.6	91.4	90.2	89.5
Kentucky	80.8	82.8	81.8	78.9	79.9	80.8
Louisiana	78.8	79.8	78.7	80.2	79.7	79.4
Maine	87.4	86.6	87.1	87.2	89.3	87.5
Maryland	87.5	87.6	87.4	86.9	87.2	87.3
Massachusetts	86.5	87.1	86.9	87.5	89.9	87.6
Michigan	86.5	87.6	87.9	88.6	89.7	88.1
Minnesota	92.2	91.6	92.3	92.7	93.0	92.4
Mississippi	79.1	81.2	83.0	79.8	81.1	80.8
Missouri	88.1	88.3	87.9	85.5	87.1	87.4
Montana	89.7	90.1	91.9	92.1	91.4	91.0
Nebraska	89.8	90.8	91.3	89.8	91.0	90.5
Nevada	85.8	85.6	86.3	86.6	85.6	86.0
New Hampshire	90.2	92.1	90.8	91.9	91.6	91.3
New Jersey	85.9	86.2	87.6	86.9	86.7	86.7
New Mexico	81.6	81.7	82.9	81.2	81.8	81.8
New York	83.7	84.2	85.4	85.7	85.1	84.8
North Carolina	80.1	81.4	80.9	84.0	84.2	82.1
North Dakota	89.0	89.7	89.5	90.0	88.7	89.4
Ohio	87.3	87.2	88.1	87.9	88.1	87.7
Oklahoma	85.1	85.7	85.2	85.2	87.5	85.7
Oregon	87.7	86.9	87.4	88.6	89.7	88.1
Pennsylvania	86.1	86.0	86.5	86.3	87.5	86.5
Rhode Island	80.1	81.0	81.1	83.9	84.0	82.0
South Carolina	80.2	80.8	83.6	83.0	83.1	82.1
South Dakota	89.2	88.7	87.5	88.4	89.9	88.7
Tennessee	80.1	81.0	82.9	81.8	80.7	81.3
Texas	78.1	77.2	78.3	78.2	78.7	78.1
Utah	91.0	89.4	91.0	92.5	91.2	91.0
Vermont	87.4	88.9	90.8	90.0	91.0	89.6
Virginia	86.7	87.8	88.4	86.0	86.5	87.1
Washington	**90.4**	**89.1**	**89.7**	**91.5**	**91.1**	**90.4**
West Virginia	78.5	78.7	80.9	82.5	81.5	80.4
Wisconsin	86.8	88.6	88.8	90.4	91.1	89.1
Wyoming	91.6	90.9	91.9	90.9	91.1	91.3
U.S. Average	84.1	84.6	85.2	85.2	85.5	84.9
Washington's Rank	**5**	**10**	**10**	**6**	**6**	**8**

*Percent of persons 25 years or older who have completed 4 years of high school or more.
Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Educational Attainment in the United States: March 1998-2006. (www.census.gov)

Education Attainment: Completed Bachelors Degree or More

As part of its annual Current Population Survey, the U.S. Bureau of the Census tabulates the percent of the population aged 25 years or older that has obtained a bachelor's degree or higher. As one indication of the economic relevance of this measure, the 2006 survey found that the average annual wage for a person 18 years of age or older with only a high school diploma or GED was $26,933 in 2005 while that of a person with a bachelor's degree or higher was $61,098.

In 2006, the percentage of Washington residents of age 25 or older who had achieved a bachelor's degree or more increased from 30.9 percent to 31.4 percent, well above the U.S. average of 28.0 percent. The state's 2006 ranking, however, declined from 9th to 13th. The state's five-year average of 29.9 percent ranked 13th among the states.

Chart 31
Completed Bachelor's Degree or More

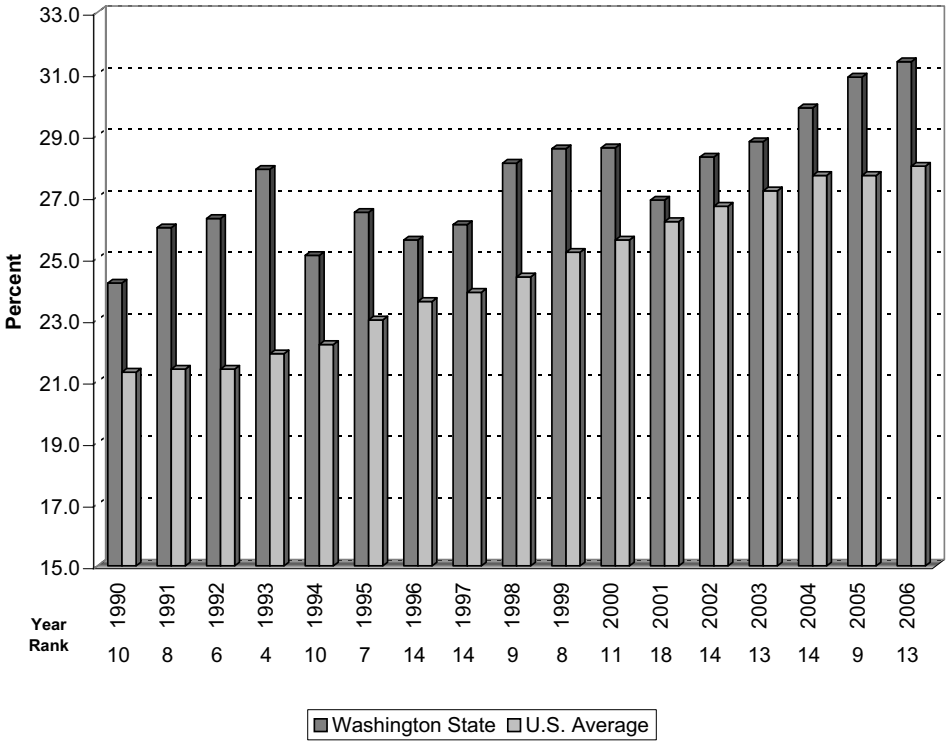


Table 31
Education and Skills of the Workforce
Educational Attainment: Completed Bachelor's Degree or More
(Percent)*

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002-06
Alabama	22.7	22.7	22.3	19.8	20.8	21.7
Alaska	25.6	24.0	25.5	28.6	27.7	26.3
Arizona	26.3	26.0	28.0	28.0	24.5	26.6
Arkansas	18.3	17.4	18.8	17.5	19.0	18.2
California	27.9	29.8	31.7	30.6	29.8	30.0
Colorado	35.7	36.0	35.5	35.5	36.4	35.8
Connecticut	32.6	33.5	34.5	36.8	36.0	34.7
Delaware	29.5	28.1	26.9	25.6	26.2	27.3
Florida	25.7	25.8	26.0	25.4	27.2	26.0
Georgia	25.0	25.0	27.6	27.1	28.1	26.6
Hawaii	26.8	27.0	26.6	30.4	32.3	28.6
Idaho	20.9	22.5	23.8	25.9	25.1	23.6
Illinois	27.3	28.1	27.4	29.6	31.2	28.7
Indiana	23.7	22.2	21.1	22.6	21.9	22.3
Iowa	23.1	24.6	24.3	24.5	24.7	24.2
Kansas	29.1	31.0	30.0	30.4	31.6	30.4
Kentucky	21.6	21.3	21.0	18.9	20.2	20.6
Louisiana	22.1	22.3	22.4	19.6	21.2	21.5
Maine	23.8	23.7	24.2	24.3	26.9	24.6
Maryland	37.6	37.2	35.2	36.3	35.7	36.4
Massachusetts	34.3	37.6	36.7	36.6	40.4	37.1
Michigan	22.5	23.3	24.4	24.6	26.1	24.2
Minnesota	30.5	32.7	32.5	34.2	33.5	32.7
Mississippi	20.9	19.3	20.1	21.8	21.1	20.6
Missouri	26.7	26.6	28.1	25.0	24.3	26.1
Montana	23.6	24.9	25.5	25.4	25.1	24.9
Nebraska	27.1	26.8	24.8	25.4	27.2	26.3
Nevada	22.1	21.2	24.5	23.4	20.8	22.4
New Hampshire	30.1	34.0	35.4	32.8	32.1	32.9
New Jersey	31.4	33.4	34.6	36.3	35.6	34.3
New Mexico	25.4	23.7	25.1	27.4	26.7	25.7
New York	28.8	29.6	30.6	30.4	32.2	30.3
North Carolina	22.4	23.8	23.4	25.3	25.6	24.1
North Dakota	25.3	25.2	25.2	27.2	28.7	26.3
Ohio	24.5	25.0	24.6	23.0	23.3	24.1
Oklahoma	20.4	24.3	22.9	24.0	22.9	22.9
Oregon	27.1	26.4	25.9	29.0	28.3	27.3
Pennsylvania	26.1	24.8	25.3	26.0	26.6	25.8
Rhode Island	30.1	27.6	27.2	29.2	30.9	29.0
South Carolina	23.3	22.3	24.9	24.2	22.6	23.5
South Dakota	23.6	23.9	25.5	25.0	25.3	24.7
Tennessee	21.5	23.5	24.3	21.5	22.0	22.6
Texas	26.2	24.7	24.5	25.5	25.5	25.3
Utah	26.8	28.4	30.8	29.8	27.0	28.6
Vermont	30.8	31.3	34.2	34.4	34.0	32.9
Virginia	34.6	34.2	33.1	30.6	32.1	32.9
Washington	**28.3**	**28.8**	**29.9**	**30.9**	**31.4**	**29.9**
West Virginia	15.9	15.3	15.3	15.1	15.9	15.5
Wisconsin	24.7	24.1	25.6	25.0	24.6	24.8
Wyoming	19.6	20.7	22.5	21.9	20.8	21.1
U.S. Average	26.7	27.2	27.7	27.7	28.0	27.5
Washington's Rank	**14**	**13**	**14**	**9**	**13**	**13**

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. Educational Attainment in the United States: March 1998-2006. (www.census.gov)
* Percent of persons 25 years old and over who have obtained a Bachelor's degree or higher.

Public Two and Four Year College Combined Participation Rate

Washington, more than most states, relies heavily on the community college system to provide the first two years of a college education. As a result of this, Washington and states with a similar policy have higher than average two-year participation rates and lower than average four-year participation rates. Since two- and four-year participation rates presented separately give a skewed view of Washington's overall participation rate, this report combines the two statistics to produce a participation rate inclusive of two and four-year participants. With this adjustment, states that are more reliant on the community college system can be better compared to other states.

In the fall of 2005, Washington had a public two and four year college participation rate of 6.1 percent, the same as fall 2004. Washington's rank, however, improved from 21st to 19th as the U.S. average participation rate declined from 5.8 to 5.7 percent during the same period. Washington's rate for the years 2001 through 2005 was 6.2 percent, ranking Washington 17th among the states, while the national average rate was 5.8 percent for that period.

Chart 32
Total Public Two and Four Year Combined Participation Rate

Table 32
Education and Skills of the Workforce
Total Public Two and Four Year College Combined Participation Rate
(Percent)*

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2001-05
Alabama	6.1	6.3	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.4
Alaska	5.9	6.1	6.3	6.1	5.9	6.1
Arizona	7.5	7.6	7.5	7.4	7.2	7.5
Arkansas	5.3	5.5	5.7	5.9	6.0	5.7
California	8.0	8.1	7.5	7.4	7.5	7.7
Colorado	6.6	6.8	6.9	6.9	6.6	6.8
Connecticut	3.9	4.1	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.0
Delaware	5.9	6.0	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.9
Florida	4.6	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.7
Georgia	4.7	4.9	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.9
Hawaii	4.9	5.0	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.1
Idaho	5.8	5.8	5.9	5.8	5.6	5.8
Illinois	5.7	5.8	5.9	5.8	5.7	5.8
Indiana	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.7	5.6	5.6
Iowa	6.2	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.4	6.4
Kansas	8.0	8.2	8.2	8.1	8.1	8.1
Kentucky	5.7	6.0	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.0
Louisiana	5.8	5.9	6.1	6.1	5.3	5.8
Maine	4.2	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.4
Maryland	5.8	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0
Massachusetts	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.7
Michigan	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5
Minnesota	6.0	6.1	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.1
Mississippi	5.9	6.2	6.2	6.3	6.1	6.1
Missouri	4.8	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.8	4.9
Montana	5.6	5.8	5.9	5.8	5.8	5.8
Nebraska	6.9	7.0	7.0	7.0	6.9	7.0
Nevada	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.5	5.5	5.5
New Hampshire	3.8	4.2	4.1	4.0	4.0	4.0
New Jersey	4.2	4.4	4.5	4.6	4.6	4.5
New Mexico	7.6	8.1	8.3	8.4	8.2	8.1
New York	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.1
North Carolina	5.6	5.8	6.0	6.0	6.0	5.8
North Dakota	7.8	8.3	8.7	8.6	8.4	8.4
Ohio	4.9	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1
Oklahoma	6.2	6.4	6.6	6.6	6.5	6.5
Oregon	6.1	6.4	6.0	5.9	5.8	6.0
Pennsylvania	3.7	3.8	3.9	4.0	3.9	3.9
Rhode Island	4.7	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7
South Carolina	5.1	5.3	5.4	5.3	5.3	5.3
South Dakota	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.4	6.3	6.4
Tennessee	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.3
Texas	6.0	6.3	6.4	6.5	6.4	6.3
Utah	8.4	8.3	8.4	8.5	8.4	8.4
Vermont	4.3	4.4	4.6	4.6	4.8	4.5
Virginia	5.9	6.0	6.0	5.9	6.0	6.0
Washington	**6.1**	**6.3**	**6.3**	**6.1**	**6.1**	**6.2**
West Virginia	5.5	5.6	5.7	5.7	5.8	5.7
Wisconsin	6.2	6.4	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.3
Wyoming	7.8	8.0	8.1	8.0	8.1	8.0
50 State Average	5.7	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.7	5.8
Washington's Rank	**17**	**18**	**17**	**21**	**19**	**17**

*Percent participation: Fall headcount compared to population aged 17 & above.
Source: National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education; Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau.

Value Added Per Hour of Labor in Manufacturing

"Value added" in manufacturing is a measure of the difference between the value of a finished object and the value of the raw materials that went into its production. The total value added of an industry represents the amount of revenue available for payment of wages, rent, taxes, interest, profit, and all other business costs aside from raw materials.

The Annual Survey of Manufactures (ASM), published by the U.S. Census Bureau, provides estimates of worker hours and value added for all manufacturing establishments with one or more paid employee. As it is a sample survey, its estimates possess varying margins of error. To minimize the effects of these errors, the ASM estimates are presented in Table 33 as three-year moving averages. Due to ASM reclassification from the Standard Industrial Code (SIC) to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) in 1997, survey estimates prior to that date are not included due to non-comparability.

The amount of value added per hour of labor varies greatly among different industries. Highly automated industries such as semiconductors have very high value added per hour since one person can operate a machine that puts out a large volume of high-value product, while less automated industries such as furniture manufacturing require more labor per dollar of added value. (Highly automated industries, however, also have much higher equipment costs, so high value added does not necessarily imply high profit.) Within a specific industry, interstate differences in value added per worker hour may be interpreted as differences in worker productivity between states.

The differences in value-added across industries makes a state's average value added per worker hour highly dependent upon its particular industry mix. States with a large percentage of high value added industries (such as semiconductors in New Mexico and Arizona) perform very well in this measure, reported as "Non-Weighted" in Table 33. Washington also performs well in this measure, indicating an industry mix of higher-than-average labor productivity, ranking 7th in the most recent period.

To minimize the effects of industry mix on estimates of state productivity, the "Weighted" values in Table 33 represent value added per worker hour as if each state had an identical mix of industries. In this case, state worker hours in each of the 21 major NAICS manufacturing groups were adjusted to be identical in proportion to the national average. When measured in this way, Washington's average value added per worker hour is lower due to the neutralization of its industry-mix advantage, but the state still ranked well (6th) in the most recent period. This weighting method, however, is still susceptible to error for two main reasons. The first reason is that most states are either totally lacking in several industries or have only one representative of an industry, which makes the data unreportable by the Census due to disclosure laws (though the data is included in the totals). These omissions are treated as an undifferentiated "remainder" industry that can skew a state's average greatly depending upon what the productivity of the hidden industry is and the proportion of total hours the remainder represents. Alaska is a prime example, with all industries except food products hidden by disclosure laws. The second reason is that there is still a large degree of productivity variation within major NAICS categories. For example, NAICS group 334 includes semiconductor manufacturing along with computer, electronic instrument, and other electronics manufacturing industries with much lower labor productivity than semiconductors. When each state is given the same number of hours in group 334, therefore, those states who have a large percentage of semiconductor worker hours in that group will still record higher-than-average productivity in that group. For this reason, both Arizona and New Mexico still perform above average in the weighted results. Nevertheless, by accounting for most of the industry mix variation, the weighted results can still provide a general idea of where each state lies in the labor productivity spectrum.

Chart 33
Value Added Per Hour of Labor in Manufacturing

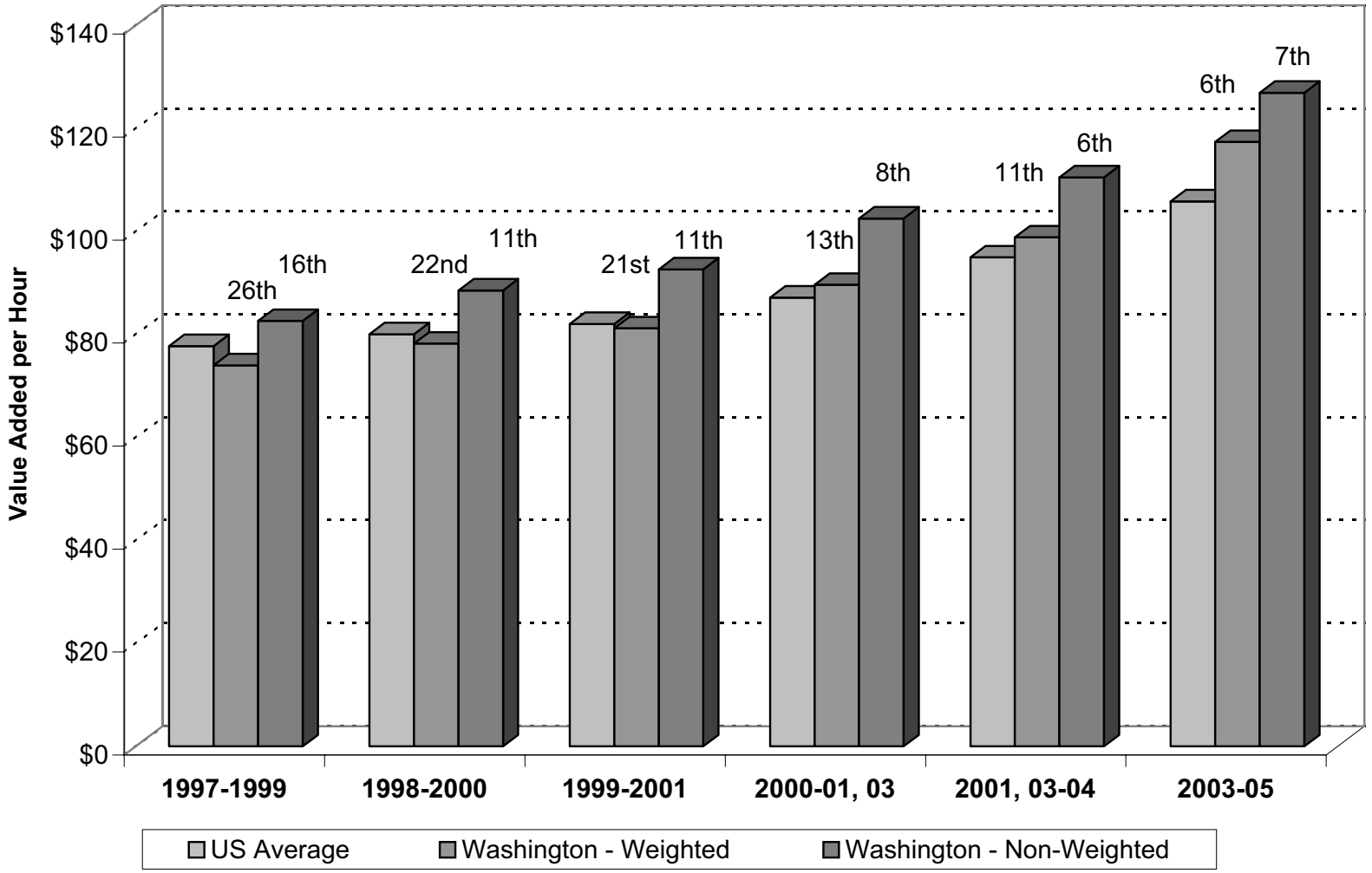


Table 33
Education and Skills of the Workforce
Value Added per Hour of Labor in Manufacturing
(Three Year Average, Dollars)

	Weighted 2000-01, 03*	Weighted 2001, 03-04*	Weighted 2003-05	Non-Weighted 2000-01, 03*	Non-Weighted 2001, 03-04*	Non-Weighted 2003-05
Alabama	65.26	73.11	83.58	62.08	70.94	82.03
Alaska	116.65	153.28	187.58	59.10	70.99	82.53
Arizona	102.51	106.76	108.61	129.76	129.72	125.19
Arkansas	70.69	77.20	88.84	61.04	69.13	80.45
California	89.15	96.19	105.49	98.41	102.77	110.69
Colorado	81.89	82.89	90.16	89.76	90.90	98.91
Connecticut	102.11	111.13	123.23	100.15	109.21	118.37
Delaware	90.22	101.58	199.81	103.65	114.11	161.31
Florida	74.38	80.94	89.41	79.41	86.81	95.14
Georgia	82.11	87.92	93.76	78.85	84.87	91.19
Hawaii	93.04	78.30	102.34	66.40	67.75	84.08
Idaho	45.91	80.51	115.92	75.93	84.67	118.01
Illinois	85.79	93.41	102.41	86.16	93.69	102.37
Indiana	91.25	98.07	108.43	85.14	92.78	102.07
Iowa	98.34	110.46	121.57	88.58	99.97	110.61
Kansas	84.08	86.93	86.41	76.34	82.09	88.89
Kentucky	83.61	95.18	104.65	78.46	86.49	95.53
Louisiana	72.84	84.00	103.19	114.80	143.91	220.27
Maine	75.85	82.47	92.81	74.15	78.37	86.88
Maryland	89.68	96.78	106.07	94.52	102.49	112.53
Massachusetts	93.83	102.31	111.78	103.95	110.29	120.69
Michigan	78.67	86.13	93.55	81.51	87.01	94.46
Minnesota	85.20	91.03	100.25	84.64	89.59	98.48
Mississippi	60.48	67.86	74.17	55.21	61.54	65.99
Missouri	88.73	96.63	101.37	85.45	92.79	101.62
Montana	90.38	102.62	113.20	71.48	82.86	94.52
Nebraska	73.14	78.12	85.49	69.62	74.12	81.25
Nevada	78.86	88.88	105.32	73.68	88.02	105.54
New Hampshire	78.84	82.89	89.12	72.91	79.24	88.69
New Jersey	88.46	91.48	97.80	103.55	110.16	119.16
New Mexico	93.67	108.95	235.38	153.27	183.62	293.70
New York	83.05	89.97	100.35	88.50	97.52	110.22
North Carolina	85.95	93.55	104.43	89.86	98.98	110.75
North Dakota	71.19	75.34	84.67	77.30	82.82	89.28
Ohio	84.95	92.17	101.51	82.06	88.88	98.13
Oklahoma	92.61	99.77	97.28	78.71	85.58	93.30
Oregon	83.51	96.25	110.60	91.16	108.81	127.55
Pennsylvania	89.18	97.38	107.00	85.88	94.05	104.04
Rhode Island	62.82	71.98	80.95	65.76	75.75	86.80
South Carolina	78.84	86.62	94.29	76.70	84.39	91.55
South Dakota	67.98	71.01	79.17	75.87	75.54	78.95
Tennessee	82.23	96.91	112.48	74.76	86.09	98.34
Texas	88.57	99.23	114.00	98.44	113.59	134.33
Utah	80.25	86.85	98.16	81.06	85.00	95.60
Vermont	83.78	89.10	95.51	85.95	91.30	100.62
Virginia	87.81	98.48	105.38	103.95	109.60	111.86
Washington	**89.64**	**98.85**	**117.37**	**102.49**	**110.49**	**126.91**
West Virginia	69.79	76.54	89.40	76.68	81.92	92.82
Wisconsin	88.71	97.19	105.93	82.00	88.53	94.84
Wyoming	76.43	78.19	113.95	92.41	101.39	134.85
U.S.	87.13	94.96	105.83	87.13	94.96	105.83
WA Rank	**13**	**11**	**6**	**8**	**6**	**7**

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Census Bureau, *Annual Survey of Manufactures* (data), Economic and Revenue Forecast Council (calculations).
*Data not available for 2002.

Infrastructure

Interstate Miles in Poor Condition

Since 1990, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has required states to report road roughness according to the International Roughness Index (IRI), a set of standard codes dictated by the Highway Performance Monitoring System Field Manual for the Continuing Analytical and Statistical Database. This information is then collected and published in a consistent format in the FHWA's Highway Statistics. This measure reports the percentage of interstate miles that have an IRI of 171 or greater.

In 2005, Washington's percentage of interstate miles in poor condition decreased from 8.5 percent to 4.2 percent, increasing its rank from 41st to 39th. Washington's five-year average value of 4.0 percent, just slightly above the national average of 3.5 percent, ranked 34th.

Chart 34
Interstate Miles in Poor Condition

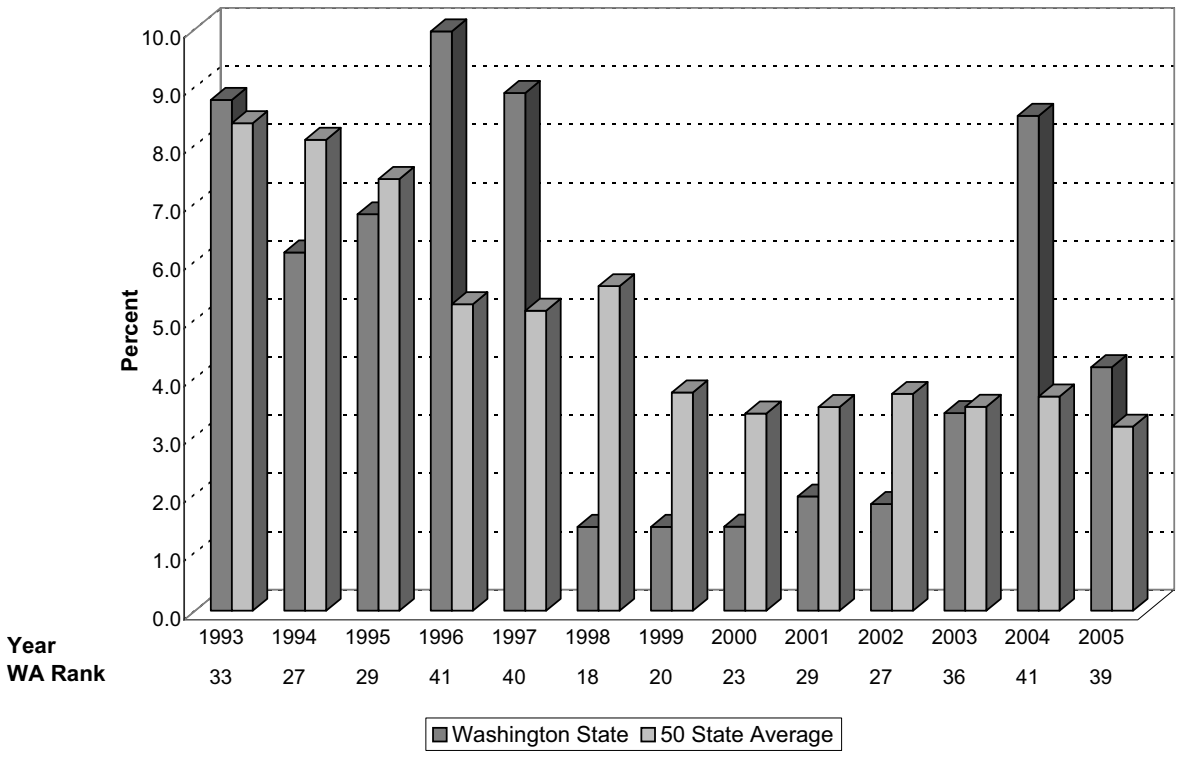


Table 34
Infrastructure
Interstate Miles in Poor Condition
(Percent)

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2001-05
Alabama	0.3	0.3	0.9	14.6	14.8	6.2
Alaska	3.0	0.1	0.1	2.0	4.0	1.8
Arizona	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Arkansas	27.7	15.9	10.2	7.4	3.5	12.9
California	14.2	14.1	18.2	13.3	8.1	13.6
Colorado	0.1	8.7	6.8	3.1	2.8	4.3
Connecticut	4.6	4.9	3.2	4.6	3.5	4.2
Delaware	28.2	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	9.6
Florida	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Georgia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hawaii*	34.5	34.5	18.2	20.4	25.0	26.5
Idaho	2.0	2.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	2.0
Illinois	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.0	2.0	2.2
Indiana	0.4	0.9	0.5	NA	0.5	0.6
Iowa	2.2	4.1	4.6	4.4	5.0	4.1
Kansas	0.2	0.7	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2
Kentucky	1.1	1.1	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.6
Louisiana	5.9	6.4	8.3	5.5	3.9	6.0
Maine	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.3	0.2
Maryland	4.5	4.3	5.3	7.6	4.9	5.3
Massachusetts	1.9	1.9	1.1	1.1	0.7	1.3
Michigan	13.4	14.0	10.2	10.4	10.3	11.7
Minnesota	0.2	0.8	0.8	1.3	0.7	0.7
Mississippi	3.7	5.7	6.1	1.9	2.6	4.0
Missouri	5.6	2.4	2.4	5.8	2.2	3.7
Montana	1.6	1.6	1.2	1.5	1.1	1.4
Nebraska	2.9	0.8	2.3	2.3	3.5	2.4
Nevada	0.4	0.4	0.5	NA	0.4	0.4
New Hampshire	0.0	0.0	1.7	NA	0.0	0.4
New Jersey	16.7	16.5	16.5	16.5	12.3	15.7
New Mexico	0.7	0.7	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.4
New York	10.3	10.3	10.3	14.7	14.7	12.1
North Carolina	3.9	8.7	8.9	5.7	6.5	6.8
North Dakota	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Ohio	0.6	0.5	0.3	1.1	0.8	0.7
Oklahoma	5.9	5.7	6.0	4.3	4.5	5.3
Oregon	0.1	0.7	0.7	0.1	0.0	0.3
Pennsylvania	2.6	2.6	2.3	2.4	1.8	2.3
Rhode Island	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.9
South Carolina	0.1	5.8	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.3
South Dakota	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.7	0.1	0.4
Tennessee	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.4	0.6	0.6
Texas	1.3	1.2	0.7	0.7	0.9	1.0
Utah	4.9	6.7	2.9	2.9	3.2	4.1
Vermont	1.6	1.6	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.9
Virginia	1.0	1.3	1.5	1.1	1.6	1.3
Washington	**2.0**	**1.8**	**3.4**	**8.5**	**4.2**	**4.0**
West Virginia	2.4	2.4	0.5	0.5	2.9	1.7
Wisconsin	0.0	0.4	2.2	2.8	2.8	1.6
Wyoming	0.4	0.5	0.5	3.5	2.4	1.5
U.S. Average	3.5	3.7	3.5	3.7	3.2	3.5
Washington's Rank	**29**	**27**	**36**	**41**	**39**	**34**

Source: Highway Statistics, 2005. Table HM-64, Federal Highway Administration.

FAA Air Traffic Delays

The Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) annual Air Traffic Activity and Delay Report provides air traffic information for the 55 largest airports. Air traffic delays can occur at any phase of the flight and are characterized as delays that exceed 15 minutes. For comparison purposes, the report states the number of delays per 1000 operations.

In 2006, the Seattle-Tacoma airport ranked 32nd among the 55 largest airports with 4.1 delays per 1000 operations, an increase from 2005's value of 2.8 delays, but still well below the largest airports' average of 13.0 delays. The airport's five-year average value of 4.9 delays per 1000 operations was also well below the multiple-airport average value of 12.9 delays and ranked 29th among the 55 largest airports.

Chart 35
FAA Air Traffic Delays

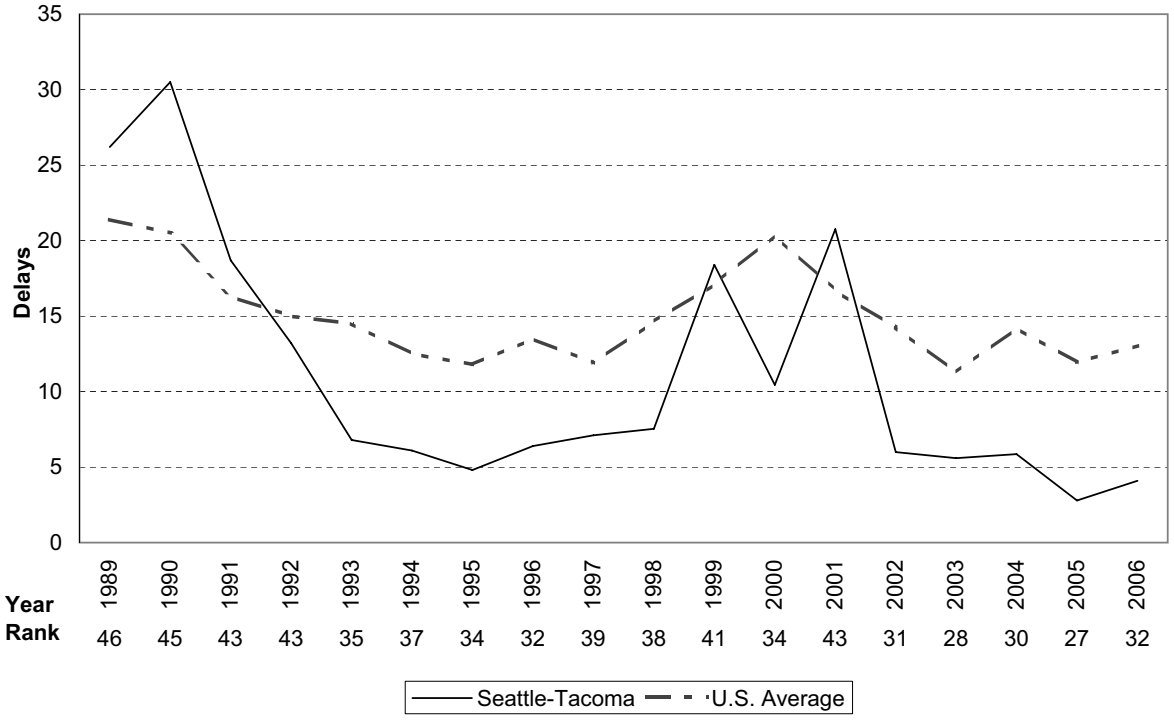


Table 35
Infrastructure
FAA Air Traffic Delays
Delays Per 1000 Operations

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002-06
Albuquerque	0.1	0.2	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.3
Anchorage	0.9	0.7	0.6	1.9	2.4	1.3
Andrews AFB	0.5	2.4	2.0	1.0	0.8	1.4
Atlanta Hartsfield	33.5	41.1	72.2	68.0	51.4	53.2
Baltimore-Washington	4.4	5.8	6.4	3.5	2.1	4.4
Boston Logan	10.7	10.2	17.9	27.7	28.9	19.0
Bradley International	3.0	1.9	1.2	0.9	0.8	1.5
Charlotte Douglas	7.2	7.5	7.2	8.8	13.4	8.8
Chicago Midway	9.8	15.2	19.5	5.9	8.5	11.8
Chicago O'Hare	57.6	74.3	97.1	57.7	68.6	71.0
Cincinnati Tower	13.7	13.8	13.3	5.9	3.0	9.9
Cleveland Hopkins	7.6	5.7	5.1	4.6	5.3	5.6
Dallas/Ft. Worth	24.1	12.1	21.9	6.1	8.8	14.6
Dayton Cox	2.0	2.4	3.4	0.1	0.2	1.6
Denver Stapleton	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.8	2.7
Detroit Metro	12.9	9.8	12.5	7.7	8.6	10.3
Fairbanks	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Ft. Lauderdale	7.0	13.5	19.3	26.6	7.0	14.7
Honolulu	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0
Houston Hobby	2.9	2.3	2.8	3.5	2.1	2.7
Houston Intercontinental	41.4	33.4	36.1	19.5	24.7	31.0
Indianapolis	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4
Kahului/Maui	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Kansas City	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.3
Las Vegas McCarran	7.3	13.1	20.6	14.6	23.9	15.9
Los Angeles	5.3	3.5	3.3	2.5	4.3	3.8
Memphis	3.3	3.9	5.2	3.4	4.1	4.0
Miami	8.6	11.8	5.5	4.0	4.1	6.8
Minneapolis-St. Paul	17.2	14.4	11.9	7.2	3.1	10.8
Nashville	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
New Orleans Moisant	0.3	1.5	0.8	0.8	0.3	0.7
New York Kennedy	25.2	20.9	27.5	39.5	60.5	34.7
New York La Guardia	34.4	47.2	55.9	67.0	91.4	59.2
Newark	33.6	60.0	70.2	87.9	119.8	74.3
Ontario	0.7	1.4	0.6	0.4	1.6	0.9
Orlando	3.3	4.1	4.2	2.5	2.0	3.2
Palm Beach	6.0	9.4	12.4	7.4	5.6	8.2
Philadelphia	35.1	30.6	57.7	50.3	55.6	45.8
Phoenix Sky Harbor	14.7	20.0	18.3	23.7	11.1	17.5
Pittsburgh	2.9	2.0	1.4	0.8	0.7	1.6
Portland	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.3	1.0	0.6
Raleigh-Durham	0.6	1.1	1.1	0.6	0.7	0.8
Salt Lake City	1.3	1.9	6.4	2.1	4.4	3.2
San Antonio	0.3	0.3	0.9	0.0	0.2	0.3
San Diego Lindbergh	3.2	3.8	2.3	3.7	2.5	3.1
San Francisco	35.3	27.8	31.9	25.5	28.7	29.8
San Jose	3.4	1.1	1.2	0.4	0.8	1.4
San Juan	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.1	3.2	0.8
Seattle-Tacoma	**6.0**	**5.6**	**5.9**	**2.8**	**4.1**	**4.9**
St. Louis Lambert	15.4	12.1	1.6	1.1	0.4	6.1
Tampa	2.3	4.8	3.4	1.6	1.4	2.7
Teterboro	21.2	27.6	35.7	26.2	27.3	27.6
Washington Dulles	1.0	16.0	36.0	18.9	5.6	15.5
Washington National	4.7	6.9	6.7	6.2	5.6	6.0
Westchester Co.	6.9	10.4	9.4	2.4	2.7	6.4
U.S. Major Airport Avg.	14.3	11.3	14.2	11.9	13.0	12.9
Seattle-Tacoma Rank*	**31**	**28**	**30**	**27**	**32**	**29**

*Out of the 55 largest airports.
Source: FAA Air Traffic System Management, Air Traffic Activity and Delay Report (http://www.apo.data.faa.gov).

Urban Roadway Congestion

The Travel Time Index (TTI), calculated by the Texas Transportation Institute, is the ratio of travel time during periods of peak commuting activity to travel time in periods with no traffic congestion. For example, a TTI of 1.2 indicates that a trip that takes 20 minutes when there is no congestion takes an average of 24 minutes during peak commuting periods. While the institute reports composite statistics on all 437 urban areas in the United States, it publishes individual indexes for only 85 urban areas selected to represent the major metropolitan areas within each state. The 2007 study reported statistics from 2005.

In 2005, the Seattle-Everett-Tacoma region had a TTI of 1.30, up from a value of 1.28 in 2004. Though this was equal to the 85-area average, it still ranked 70th among the areas. Its five-year average of 1.28 was also identical to the 85-area average, ranking 68th for that period. Spokane, the only other Washington urban area in the survey, fared better with a TTI of 1.04 and a five-year average of 1.05. This ranked the area as the 2nd least congested of the 85 areas both in 2005 and in its five-year average value.

Chart 36
Urban Roadway Travel Time Index

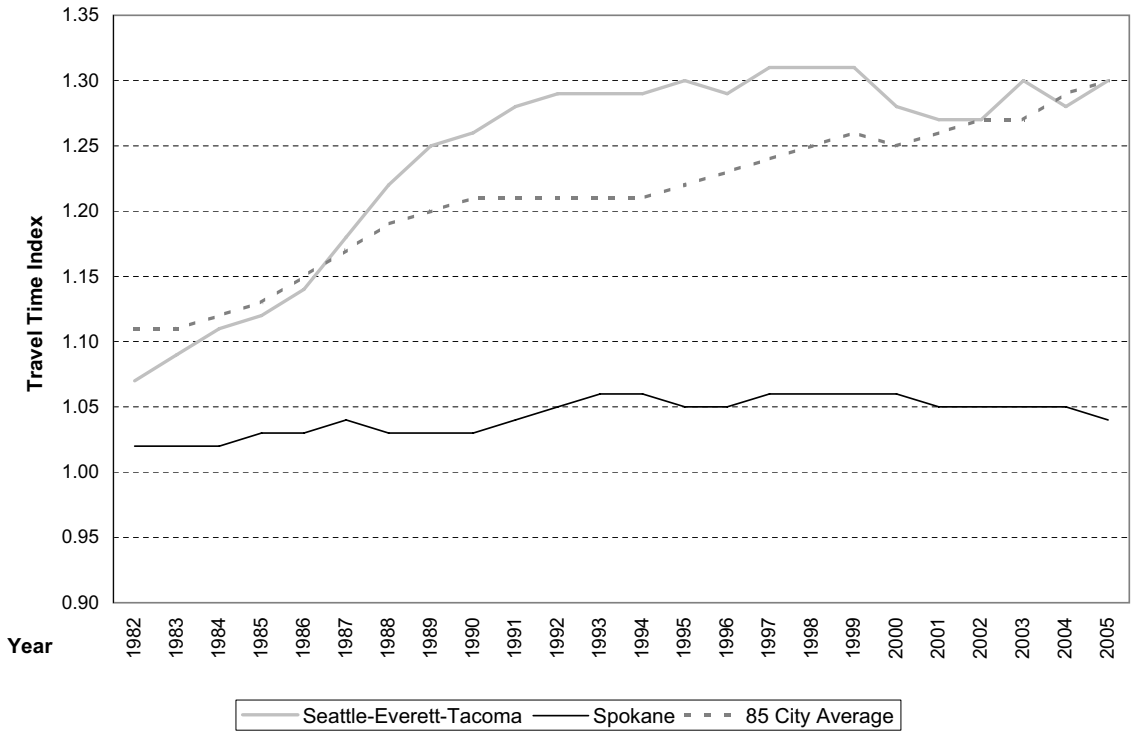


Table 36
Infrastructure
Urban Roadway Travel Time Index
(Values greater than 1 indicate congestion)

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2001-2005
Akron OH	1.08	1.08	1.07	1.08	1.07	1.08
Albany-Schenectady NY	1.06	1.06	1.07	1.08	1.08	1.07
Albuquerque NM	1.16	1.14	1.14	1.16	1.17	1.15
Allentown-Bethlehem PA-NJ	1.15	1.15	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14
Anchorage AK	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.07
Atlanta GA	1.31	1.32	1.32	1.32	1.34	1.32
Austin TX	1.27	1.27	1.28	1.29	1.31	1.28
Bakersfield CA	1.05	1.06	1.07	1.08	1.09	1.07
Baltimore MD	1.24	1.28	1.29	1.29	1.30	1.28
Beaumont TX	1.04	1.05	1.04	1.05	1.05	1.05
Birmingham AL	1.13	1.13	1.14	1.15	1.15	1.14
Boston MA-NH-RI	1.23	1.25	1.24	1.27	1.27	1.25
Boulder CO	1.10	1.09	1.09	1.09	1.10	1.09
Bridgeport-Stamford CT-NY	1.21	1.22	1.22	1.21	1.22	1.22
Brownsville TX	1.07	1.07	1.06	1.07	1.06	1.07
Buffalo NY	1.07	1.07	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.08
Cape Coral FL	1.12	1.12	1.13	1.12	1.12	1.12
Charleston-North Charleston SC	1.16	1.16	1.17	1.18	1.17	1.17
Charlotte NC-SC	1.22	1.24	1.24	1.25	1.23	1.24
Chicago IL-IN	1.35	1.41	1.43	1.44	1.47	1.42
Cincinnati OH-KY-IN	1.18	1.19	1.19	1.18	1.18	1.18
Cleveland OH	1.10	1.09	1.09	1.10	1.09	1.09
Colorado Springs CO	1.15	1.14	1.13	1.12	1.14	1.14
Columbia SC	1.06	1.06	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.07
Columbus OH	1.17	1.17	1.18	1.20	1.19	1.18
Corpus Christi TX	1.05	1.05	1.05	1.05	1.06	1.05
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington TX	1.23	1.25	1.27	1.31	1.35	1.28
Dayton OH	1.11	1.10	1.10	1.11	1.10	1.10
Denver-Aurora CO	1.32	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.33	1.31
Detroit MI	1.29	1.30	1.31	1.30	1.29	1.30
El Paso TX-NM	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.16	1.17	1.15
Eugene OR	1.08	1.08	1.09	1.08	1.10	1.09
Fresno CA	1.13	1.13	1.12	1.12	1.12	1.12
Grand Rapids MI	1.11	1.11	1.11	1.11	1.10	1.11
Hartford CT	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.11	1.11	1.10
Honolulu HI	1.18	1.18	1.19	1.20	1.22	1.19
Houston TX	1.28	1.30	1.30	1.32	1.36	1.31
Indianapolis IN	1.22	1.22	1.23	1.23	1.22	1.22
Jacksonville FL	1.17	1.19	1.21	1.22	1.21	1.20
Kansas City MO-KS	1.09	1.09	1.09	1.08	1.08	1.09
Laredo TX	1.08	1.08	1.10	1.09	1.09	1.09
Las Vegas NV	1.27	1.28	1.30	1.31	1.30	1.29
Little Rock AR	1.07	1.05	1.06	1.07	1.07	1.06
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana CA	1.48	1.47	1.47	1.48	1.50	1.48
Louisville KY-IN	1.19	1.21	1.22	1.23	1.23	1.22
Memphis TN-MS-AR	1.13	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.13	1.14
Miami FL	1.36	1.37	1.38	1.37	1.38	1.37
Milwaukee WI	1.15	1.15	1.14	1.13	1.13	1.14
Minneapolis-St. Paul MN	1.26	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.26	1.25
Nashville-Davidson TN	1.15	1.17	1.17	1.17	1.17	1.17
New Haven CT	1.12	1.11	1.11	1.10	1.11	1.11

Table 35
Infrastructure
Urban Roadway Travel Time Index
(Values greater than 1 indicate congestion)

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2001-2005
New Orleans LA	1.15	1.15	1.15	1.15	1.15	1.15
New York-Newark NY-NJ-CT	1.28	1.30	1.32	1.36	1.39	1.33
Oklahoma City OK	1.10	1.10	1.09	1.09	1.09	1.09
Omaha NE-IA	1.15	1.16	1.16	1.16	1.16	1.16
Orlando FL	1.33	1.32	1.31	1.30	1.30	1.31
Oxnard-Ventura CA	1.18	1.19	1.20	1.22	1.24	1.21
Pensacola FL-AL	1.10	1.10	1.11	1.11	1.11	1.11
Philadelphia PA-NJ-DE-MD	1.26	1.27	1.26	1.27	1.28	1.27
Phoenix AZ	1.28	1.25	1.26	1.27	1.31	1.27
Pittsburgh PA	1.10	1.10	1.09	1.10	1.09	1.10
Portland OR-WA	1.28	1.26	1.27	1.27	1.29	1.27
Providence RI-MA	1.14	1.15	1.16	1.17	1.16	1.16
Raleigh-Durham NC	1.14	1.16	1.16	1.17	1.18	1.16
Richmond VA	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.09	1.09	1.08
Riverside-San Bernardino CA	1.24	1.26	1.29	1.35	1.35	1.30
Rochester NY	1.06	1.06	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.07
Sacramento CA	1.27	1.28	1.31	1.32	1.32	1.30
Salem OR	1.11	1.11	1.09	1.09	1.09	1.10
Salt Lake City UT	1.22	1.24	1.24	1.21	1.19	1.22
San Antonio TX	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.23	1.23	1.21
San Diego CA	1.33	1.36	1.36	1.41	1.40	1.37
San Francisco-Oakland CA	1.35	1.36	1.37	1.38	1.41	1.37
San Jose CA	1.34	1.33	1.33	1.32	1.34	1.33
Sarasota-Bradenton FL	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.19	1.19	1.18
Seattle WA	**1.27**	**1.27**	**1.30**	**1.28**	**1.30**	**1.28**
Spokane WA	**1.05**	**1.05**	**1.05**	**1.05**	**1.04**	**1.05**
Springfield MA-CT	1.06	1.06	1.06	1.06	1.06	1.06
St. Louis MO-IL	1.18	1.18	1.17	1.16	1.16	1.17
Tampa-St. Petersburg FL	1.26	1.27	1.28	1.29	1.28	1.28
Toledo OH-MI	1.10	1.10	1.09	1.10	1.09	1.10
Tucson AZ	1.19	1.20	1.23	1.22	1.23	1.21
Tulsa OK	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.09	1.09	1.10
Virginia Beach VA	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.18
Washington DC-VA-MD	1.35	1.36	1.37	1.37	1.37	1.36
85 City Average	1.26	1.27	1.27	1.29	1.30	1.28
Rank: Spokane	**5**	**5**	**2**	**1**	**2**	**2**
Rank: Seattle-Everett-Tacoma	**76**	**73**	**67**	**66**	**70**	**68**

David Shrank and Tim Lomax, 2007 Urban Mobility Study, Texas Transportation Institute. (http:mobility.tamu.edu)

Cost of Doing Business

State and Local Tax Collections Per $1,000 Personal Income

The relative tax position of Washington is of considerable interest to taxpayers and government officials alike. The Census Bureau of the U.S. Department of Commerce annually collects data in order to compare tax burdens across states. Using this figure, tax burdens are then calculated using several different methods; this report compares tax collections per $1000 personal income. This measure is computed by dividing the total state and local taxes by total state personal income.

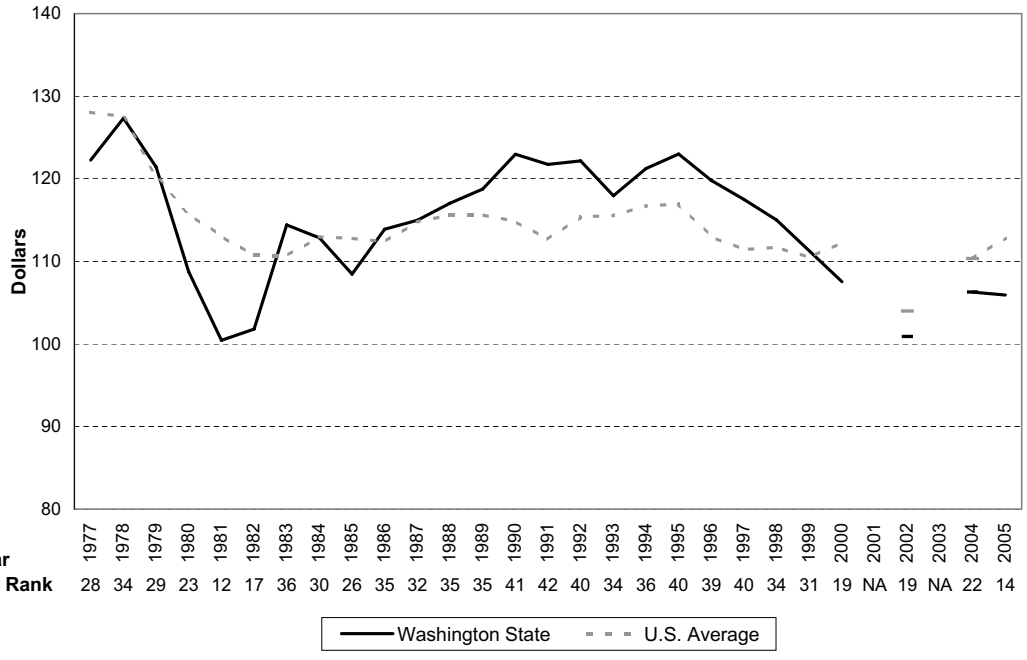
As the Census Bureau did not compile state and local tax data for fiscal years 2001 and 2003, data for those years are unavailable for this report. For fiscal year 2005, Washington collected $23 billion in state and local tax revenues. This corresponds to a state and local tax burden of $105.91 for each $1,000 of personal income. This amount is the 14th lowest in the nation and is $6.93 below the national average. In addition, it is the fourth lowest tax burden in Washington since this measure first began being recorded in the 1960s, the lowest being $100.45 per $1,000 personal income in 1981. A large part of this decline can be attributed to the elimination of the state motor vehicle excise tax in January of 2000. While the elimination of this tax only affected tax receipts for half of fiscal 2000, its full impact can be seen in fiscal 2002.

Initial Incidence of State and local Taxes

The "initial incidence" of a tax refers to the party from whom the tax is collected. Initial incidence does not always indicate who actually bears the tax burden, because taxes initially paid by business may sometimes be recovered in the form of higher prices or lower wages, shifting the tax burden to consumers or workers.

The Washington Department of Revenue estimates that in fiscal year 2006, businesses directly paid 45* percent of major state and local taxes, government paid 4.3* percent and households paid 50.7* percent.

Chart 37
State and Local Tax Collections Per $1,000 Personal Income



*Does not include local Business and Occupation and local Public Utility Tax.

Table 37
Cost of Doing Business
State and Local Tax Collections Per $1,000 Personal Income
(Dollars)

	1999	2000	2002	2004	2005	1999-2005
Alabama	91.11	93.65	87.58	88.89	92.27	90.70
Alaska	102.62	132.18	102.76	110.93	132.40	116.18
Arizona	108.65	111.73	104.47	108.64	111.69	109.04
Arkansas	112.62	106.50	104.00	105.14	113.67	108.39
California	113.58	120.39	106.01	113.06	115.62	113.73
Colorado	102.24	103.53	92.30	92.86	95.22	97.23
Connecticut	121.48	120.23	103.56	115.71	119.17	116.03
Delaware	112.34	115.69	107.24	108.41	111.85	111.11
Florida	100.24	100.06	93.74	105.06	105.95	101.01
Georgia	107.74	109.07	100.36	102.32	103.83	104.66
Hawaii	123.01	126.45	120.62	126.25	134.30	126.13
Idaho	112.63	115.43	99.84	109.82	109.41	109.43
Illinois	104.95	107.50	101.31	105.83	111.09	106.14
Indiana	104.70	105.64	100.39	104.37	113.78	105.78
Iowa	107.95	111.09	103.85	107.30	106.38	107.31
Kansas	107.59	108.72	103.66	114.23	109.75	108.79
Kentucky	110.99	111.62	106.22	107.27	109.60	109.14
Louisiana	108.02	109.57	111.26	112.44	117.44	111.75
Maine	139.08	138.64	130.16	133.65	133.04	134.91
Maryland	104.63	110.01	104.42	108.25	108.34	107.13
Massachusetts	108.53	110.36	95.87	105.77	107.31	105.57
Michigan	113.60	114.17	103.83	105.18	110.21	109.40
Minnesota	123.26	123.87	113.14	112.02	113.76	117.21
Mississippi	110.54	110.75	103.92	105.74	107.86	107.76
Missouri	101.56	99.45	96.06	97.31	100.40	98.96
Montana	108.85	110.53	98.05	101.19	105.57	104.84
Nebraska	107.66	109.44	107.71	118.04	117.97	112.16
Nevada	101.79	104.59	101.20	111.33	113.97	106.58
New Hampshire	88.37	88.18	84.65	91.61	91.43	88.85
New Jersey	113.68	113.46	104.20	115.55	117.19	112.82
New Mexico	121.73	126.74	111.45	116.38	119.69	119.20
New York	140.34	141.18	130.79	146.76	149.70	141.75
North Carolina	105.52	106.60	100.17	106.60	108.25	105.43
North Dakota	114.89	119.48	105.19	104.17	114.62	111.67
Ohio	109.86	112.90	110.96	114.34	118.31	113.27
Oklahoma	104.78	106.67	99.53	101.35	100.70	102.61
Oregon	100.19	105.60	90.93	100.82	99.77	99.46
Pennsylvania	107.18	106.56	100.91	108.75	111.27	106.93
Rhode Island	115.56	118.11	113.63	120.35	122.68	118.07
South Carolina	104.75	104.82	95.82	103.77	103.85	102.60
South Dakota	95.06	94.56	90.37	90.60	87.46	91.61
Tennessee	87.99	89.17	83.89	89.97	91.68	88.54
Texas	96.79	96.87	95.49	99.46	100.12	97.75
Utah	116.78	119.50	108.39	109.81	115.06	113.91
Vermont	121.82	121.53	110.60	122.50	131.91	121.67
Virginia	101.64	102.80	95.18	99.56	103.69	100.57
Washington	**111.25**	**107.53**	**100.90**	**106.27**	**105.91**	**106.37**
West Virginia	116.65	116.33	111.68	111.93	121.14	115.55
Wisconsin	127.08	129.44	117.26	121.83	121.28	123.38
Wyoming	113.41	117.74	121.97	138.58	150.76	128.49
U.S. Average	110.48	112.28	103.98	110.33	112.84	109.98
Washington's Rank	**31**	**19**	**19**	**22**	**14**	**19**

Source: Washington State Department of Revenue. Comparative State and Local Taxes, 2005. (www.dor.wa.gov)

Unemployment Insurance Costs

Unemployment insurance programs are designed to provide economic security against the effects of unemployment by providing temporary compensation to workers who are out of work at no fault of their own.

Unemployment insurance is provided by a combined Federal-State system, primarily financed through a payroll tax on employers. Under this system, the Federal Government sets minimum standards of eligibility and benefits that the states are free to exceed. As a result, there is a wide degree of variation in the eligibility for and benefits paid under the unemployment insurance programs of different states, as well as variation in the number of employers that pay into the programs. This measure indicates the amount that each state collects for unemployment insurance benefits as a percent of the total wages of employees covered by the plans.

In 2006, Washington had the second highest unemployment insurance cost as a percent of total wages of employees covered by unemployment insurance in the country with an average rate of 1.43 percent, down almost 15 percent from the previous year. The national average rate for 2006 was much lower at 0.76 percent, a 7 percent decrease from 2005. While the state and national costs decreased in 2006, they are still at elevated levels due to the increased unemployment insurance payouts during the 2001 recession and subsequent slow job recovery. Washington's five-year average of 1.48 percent also ranked 49th in the nation. Washington, however, has one of the most generous unemployment insurance programs in the country in terms of benefits, eligibility and duration.

Chart 38
Unemployment Insurance Costs

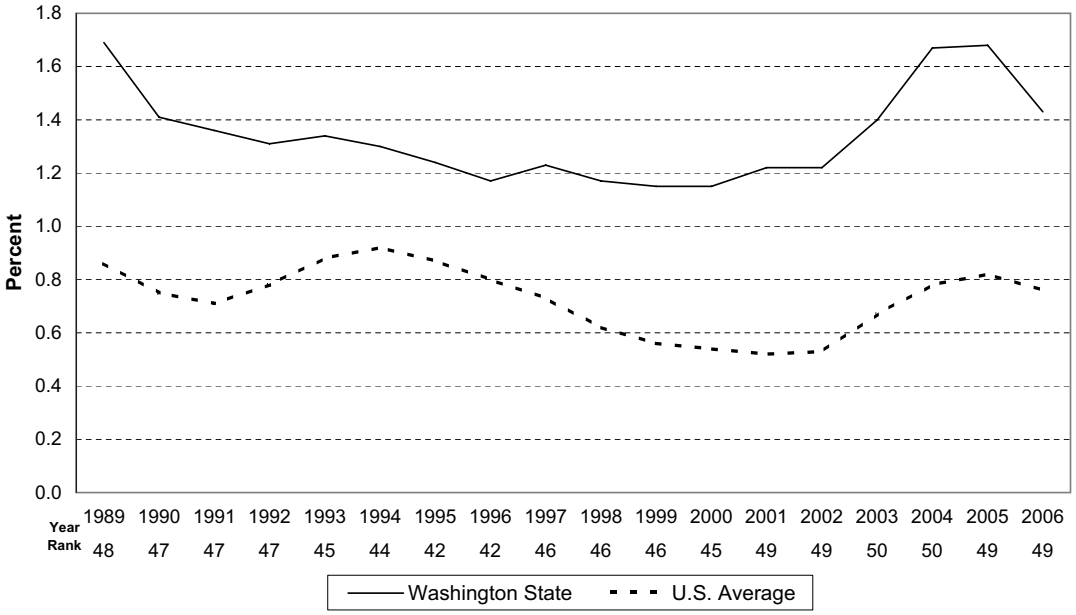


Table 38
Cost of Doing Business
Unemployment Insurance Costs
(Contributions collected as percent of total wages of covered employees)

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002-06
Alabama	0.42	0.50	0.52	0.58	0.45	0.49
Alaska	1.43	1.37	1.51	1.69	1.69	1.54
Arizona	0.22	0.21	0.26	0.33	0.35	0.27
Arkansas	0.67	0.87	0.93	0.93	0.88	0.86
California	0.53	0.60	0.83	0.87	0.82	0.73
Colorado	0.23	0.30	0.52	0.68	0.60	0.47
Connecticut	0.75	0.85	0.90	0.85	0.71	0.81
Delaware	0.40	0.41	0.47	0.50	0.49	0.45
Florida	0.29	0.34	0.45	0.49	0.45	0.40
Georgia	0.12	0.12	0.58	0.56	0.47	0.37
Hawaii	0.82	1.11	0.87	0.86	0.87	0.91
Idaho	0.75	0.81	0.82	0.89	0.81	0.82
Illinois	0.57	0.71	1.00	1.29	1.17	0.95
Indiana	0.30	0.43	0.54	0.70	0.66	0.53
Iowa	0.65	0.79	0.69	0.69	0.75	0.71
Kansas	0.51	0.63	0.79	0.87	0.77	0.71
Kentucky	0.67	0.68	0.71	0.75	0.72	0.71
Louisiana	0.28	0.33	0.34	0.36	0.40	0.34
Maine	0.81	0.63	0.59	0.67	0.68	0.68
Maryland	0.36	0.38	0.64	0.64	0.54	0.51
Massachusetts	0.67	0.71	1.16	1.29	1.19	1.00
Michigan	0.71	0.81	0.95	1.03	1.08	0.92
Minnesota	0.44	0.63	0.85	1.02	1.01	0.79
Mississippi	0.48	0.50	0.64	0.51	0.49	0.52
Missouri	0.37	0.46	0.53	0.69	0.69	0.55
Montana	0.75	0.75	0.80	0.76	0.76	0.76
Nebraska	0.36	0.54	0.47	0.63	0.67	0.53
Nevada	0.74	0.75	0.74	0.79	0.81	0.77
New Hampshire	0.17	0.21	0.42	0.40	0.30	0.30
New Jersey	0.63	0.81	0.89	1.03	0.93	0.86
New Mexico	0.46	0.50	0.42	0.45	0.49	0.46
New York	0.71	0.83	0.82	0.75	0.67	0.76
North Carolina	0.42	0.75	0.99	0.82	0.79	0.75
North Dakota	0.72	0.85	0.87	0.82	0.74	0.80
Ohio	0.45	0.48	0.58	0.61	0.67	0.56
Oklahoma	0.30	0.47	0.80	0.78	0.61	0.59
Oregon	1.14	1.29	1.62	1.55	1.37	1.39
Pennsylvania	0.90	1.01	1.43	1.52	1.30	1.23
Rhode Island	1.08	1.09	1.23	1.37	1.36	1.23
South Carolina	0.43	0.52	0.57	0.57	0.55	0.53
South Dakota	0.19	0.20	0.21	0.22	0.22	0.21
Tennessee	0.48	0.61	0.66	0.56	0.44	0.55
Texas	0.37	1.08	0.52	0.53	0.45	0.59
Utah	0.28	0.36	0.57	0.75	0.74	0.54
Vermont	0.58	0.57	0.57	0.66	0.64	0.60
Virginia	0.15	0.23	0.39	0.44	0.41	0.32
Washington	**1.22**	**1.40**	**1.67**	**1.68**	**1.43**	**1.48**
West Virginia	0.90	0.86	0.87	0.85	0.82	0.86
Wisconsin	0.63	0.71	0.81	0.91	0.86	0.78
Wyoming	0.32	0.30	0.46	0.57	0.69	0.47
U.S. Average	0.53	0.67	0.78	0.82	0.76	0.71
Washington's Rank	**49**	**50**	**50**	**49**	**49**	**49**

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Employment, and Training Administration.

Workers' Compensation Premium Costs

The Oregon Department of Consumer & Business Services produces the workers' compensation premium index every two years in order to make a state-by-state comparison of workers' compensation premiums. The premium index is calculated by selecting Oregon's fifty largest business classes as defined by the workers' compensation costs and computing what those compensation claims would cost in other states.

In 2006, Washington's premium costs for the industries examined by the study were $2.17 per $100 of payroll, ranking 15th among the states. Washington's average rate of $2.00 per $100 of payroll for the period from 1998 through 2006 ranked 13th among the states and was well below that national average of $2.54.

Washington's compensation system is atypical of other states' systems as employees pay a portion of their industrial premiums into a state fund and the Department of Labor and Industries acts as both the insurer and administrator of the workers' compensation system.

Chart 39
Workers' Compensation Premium Cost Index

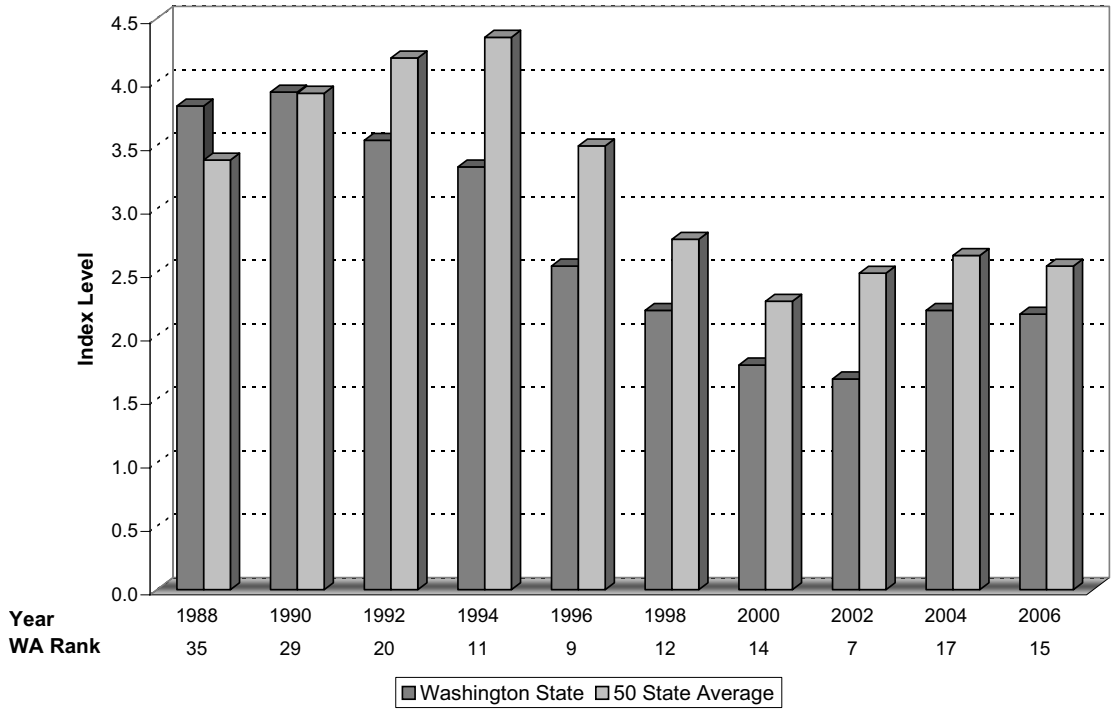


Table 39
Cost of Doing Business
Workers' Compensation Premium Costs
(Dollar amount per $100 of payroll)

	1998	2000	2002	2004	2006	1998-2006
Alabama	3.70	2.56	2.96	2.88	3.17	3.05
Alaska	2.70	2.18	2.87	4.39	5.00	3.43
Arizona	2.60	1.77	1.63	1.49	1.73	1.84
Arkansas	2.29	1.68	1.62	1.57	1.59	1.75
California	4.86	3.34	5.23	6.08	4.13	4.73
Colorado	2.87	2.64	2.73	2.33	2.40	2.59
Connecticut	3.67	2.58	2.90	3.23	2.90	3.06
Delaware	3.20	2.58	3.38	3.44	3.91	3.30
Florida	4.28	4.08	4.47	4.20	3.32	4.07
Georgia	2.95	2.42	2.32	2.14	2.02	2.37
Hawaii	3.24	2.99	3.51	3.73	2.89	3.27
Idaho	2.48	2.11	2.37	2.25	2.29	2.30
Illinois	2.96	2.62	2.74	2.65	2.69	2.73
Indiana	1.55	1.32	1.37	1.24	1.24	1.34
Iowa	1.87	1.66	1.74	1.91	1.75	1.79
Kansas	1.82	1.56	1.84	1.81	1.84	1.77
Kentucky	2.58	2.32	2.87	3.48	3.78	3.01
Louisiana	4.06	3.36	3.19	3.37	3.10	3.42
Maine	2.69	2.52	3.19	3.08	3.21	2.94
Maryland	2.03	1.58	1.84	2.06	2.03	1.91
Massachusetts	3.10	1.77	1.98	1.70	1.70	2.05
Michigan	2.86	2.40	2.25	2.34	2.05	2.38
Minnesota	2.94	2.40	2.60	2.74	2.69	2.67
Mississippi	2.62	2.10	2.21	2.19	2.29	2.28
Missouri	2.65	2.26	2.42	2.67	2.50	2.50
Montana	3.50	2.75	3.05	3.41	3.69	3.28
Nebraska	1.62	1.62	1.93	2.10	2.25	1.90
Nevada	3.86	3.10	3.03	2.58	2.36	2.99
New Hampshire	3.32	2.47	2.85	3.19	2.75	2.92
New Jersey	2.49	2.19	2.25	2.38	2.52	2.37
New Mexico	2.43	1.66	2.01	2.56	2.41	2.21
New York	3.53	3.05	3.14	2.97	3.15	3.17
North Carolina	2.02	1.64	2.24	2.32	2.17	2.08
North Dakota	2.19	1.79	1.24	1.06	1.10	1.48
Ohio	3.12	2.89	2.89	3.59	3.00	3.10
Oklahoma	3.10	2.85	2.82	3.07	2.96	2.96
Oregon	2.27	1.93	2.06	2.05	1.97	2.06
Pennsylvania	2.69	2.31	2.57	2.82	2.80	2.64
Rhode Island	3.74	3.18	3.29	3.01	2.68	3.18
South Carolina	1.47	1.51	1.82	2.08	2.50	1.88
South Dakota	2.31	1.63	1.61	2.05	1.83	1.89
Tennessee	2.79	2.10	2.30	2.62	2.48	2.46
Texas	4.11	3.05	3.30	3.08	2.84	3.28
Utah	1.88	1.58	1.67	1.63	2.06	1.76
Vermont	2.41	1.98	2.45	2.99	3.24	2.61
Virginia	1.74	1.27	1.50	1.57	1.52	1.52
Washington	**2.20**	**1.77**	**1.66**	**2.20**	**2.17**	**2.00**
West Virginia	2.26	2.72	2.54	2.64	2.20	2.47
Wisconsin	2.36	2.01	2.22	2.27	2.18	2.21
Wyoming	2.05	1.75	1.97	2.43	2.40	2.12
50 State Average*	2.76	2.27	2.49	2.63	2.55	2.54
Washington's Rank	**12**	**14**	**7**	**17**	**15**	**13**

Source: Oregon Workers' Compensation Premium Rate Rankings, Calendar Years 1986 - 2006.
Research and Analysis Section of the Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services.
*Unweighted average of state values.

Electricity Prices

While many large industrial and commercial operations make extensive use of other energy sources such as oil and natural gas, electrical power represents the main energy cost for most businesses. This indicator presents the average price of the commercial and industrial electricity purchases made annually in each state, expressed in cents per kilowatt-hour (kW-hr). To facilitate comparisons between states, in each year, each state is assumed to have had the same ratio of commercial to industrial sales as the U.S.

Due to the state's abundant hydrological resources, Washington long enjoyed some of the lowest electricity prices in the country, ranking either 1st or 2nd in lowest electricity prices among the states in the years 1990 though 1999. Drought and problems related to California's energy market, however, caused electricity prices to soar from late 2000 through 2002. Though prices across the nation increased by 10.9 percent on average over that time span, prices on the West Coast increased dramatically more than that, 62.9 percent in California, 34.5 percent in Oregon and 26.5 percent in Washington. As the effects of the disruptions diminished around 2003, however, Washington's costs began to moderate compared to the rest of the nation. After sinking to a ranking of 22nd in 2001, the state's ranking has steadily improved, reaching a ranking of 10th in 2005 with a cost of 5.41 cents per kilowatt-hour. The state's rank remained at 10th in 2006 even though the cost per kilowatt-hour increased to 5.66 cents. The state's 5-year average price of 5.45 cents per kilowatt-hour, well below the national average of 7.06 cents, ranked 11th overall.

Chart 40
Electricity Costs

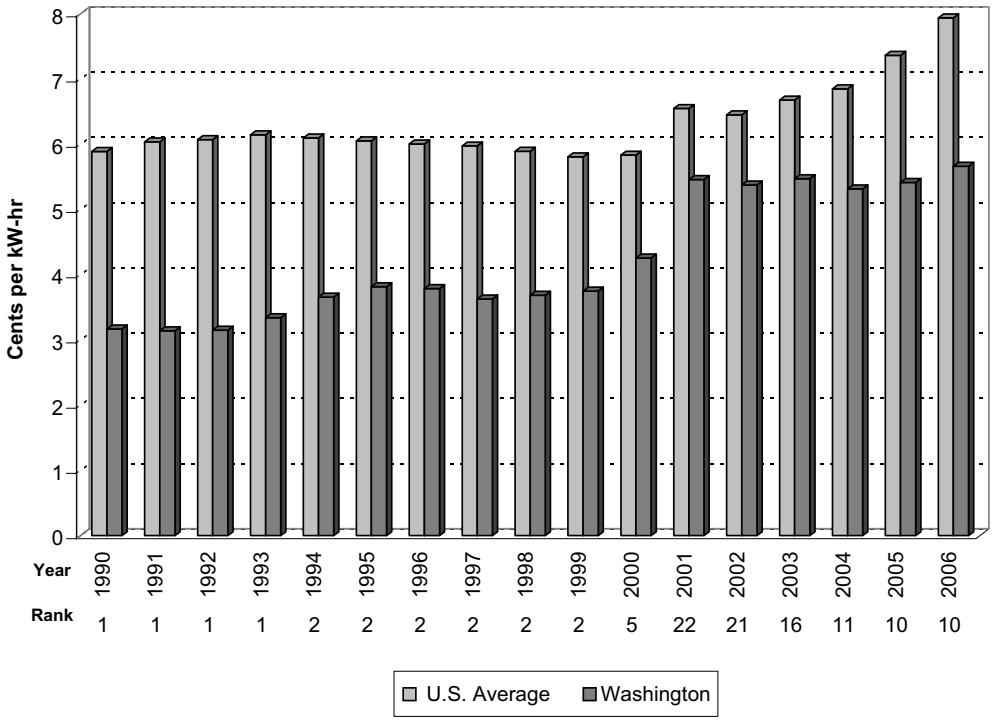


Table 40
Cost of Doing Business
Electricity Prices
(Weighted Average of Industrial and Commercial Rates, Cents per Kilowatt Hour)

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002-06
Alabama	5.30	5.54	5.77	6.18	6.72	5.90
Alaska	8.96	9.35	9.79	10.55	11.83	10.09
Arizona	6.30	6.31	6.41	6.71	6.98	6.54
Arkansas	4.89	4.85	4.97	5.54	6.13	5.28
California	12.09	11.12	10.62	10.87	11.53	11.24
Colorado	5.13	5.92	6.08	6.78	6.81	6.14
Connecticut	8.79	9.04	8.99	10.58	13.01	10.08
Delaware	6.10	6.32	6.82	6.98	8.32	6.91
Florida	5.97	6.35	6.81	7.40	8.89	7.08
Georgia	5.27	5.45	5.77	6.61	6.79	5.98
Hawaii	12.65	13.73	14.90	17.60	19.92	15.76
Idaho	5.06	4.92	4.67	4.75	4.48	4.78
Illinois	6.32	6.16	6.23	6.36	6.56	6.32
Indiana	5.02	5.12	5.32	5.61	6.24	5.46
Iowa	5.38	5.29	5.65	5.89	6.25	5.69
Kansas	5.45	5.59	5.66	5.82	6.15	5.73
Kentucky	4.26	4.38	4.58	4.94	5.45	4.72
Louisiana	5.59	6.57	6.78	7.74	8.07	6.95
Maine	10.83	8.52	8.38	9.14	10.87	9.55
Maryland	5.05	6.01	6.85	8.10	10.38	7.28
Massachusetts	9.52	9.86	9.85	11.00	13.89	10.82
Michigan	6.22	6.37	6.37	6.72	7.66	6.67
Minnesota	5.08	5.31	5.55	5.89	6.25	5.62
Mississippi	5.68	5.98	6.56	7.10	7.68	6.60
Missouri	5.19	5.19	5.27	5.31	5.46	5.28
Montana	5.19	5.68	5.94	6.28	6.38	5.89
Nebraska	4.80	5.06	5.14	5.29	5.46	5.15
Nevada	8.20	8.11	8.25	8.69	9.11	8.47
New Hampshire	9.49	9.96	10.55	11.80	13.08	10.98
New Jersey	8.38	8.43	9.54	10.23	10.75	9.47
New Mexico	5.92	6.25	6.41	6.83	6.73	6.43
New York	9.01	10.28	10.29	11.64	11.43	10.53
North Carolina	5.65	5.80	5.87	6.05	6.33	5.94
North Dakota	4.97	4.87	5.08	5.31	5.40	5.13
Ohio	6.26	6.31	6.45	6.67	7.19	6.58
Oklahoma	4.83	5.56	5.74	6.16	6.45	5.75
Oregon	5.71	5.58	5.53	5.76	5.93	5.70
Pennsylvania	7.10	7.18	7.32	7.52	7.84	7.39
Rhode Island	8.46	9.57	10.01	10.95	12.88	10.37
South Carolina	5.24	5.52	5.65	6.13	6.39	5.79
South Dakota	5.44	5.34	5.46	5.64	5.77	5.53
Tennessee	5.36	5.58	5.88	6.09	6.85	5.95
Texas	5.87	6.66	6.98	8.09	8.88	7.30
Utah	4.77	4.76	5.05	5.26	5.32	5.03
Vermont	9.59	9.81	9.85	9.75	10.24	9.85
Virginia	5.05	5.05	5.15	5.34	5.54	5.23
Washington	**5.38**	**5.47**	**5.32**	**5.41**	**5.66**	**5.45**
West Virginia	4.65	4.70	4.72	4.78	4.76	4.72
Wisconsin	5.54	5.94	6.20	6.66	7.31	6.33
Wyoming	4.69	4.79	5.04	5.20	5.29	5.00
U.S. Average	6.45	6.68	6.85	7.36	7.94	7.06
Washington's Rank	**21**	**16**	**11**	**10**	**10**	**11**

Source:U.S. Energy Information Administration (http://www.eia.doe.gov), March 2007.

Average Wage by Sector

The **Occupational Employment Statistics** (OES) program, produced by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, conducts a yearly mail survey designed to produce estimates of employment and wages for specific occupations in states and metropolitan areas. The OES program collects data on wage and salary workers in nonfarm establishments in order to produce employment and wage estimates for over 800 occupations. Data from self-employed persons are not collected and are not included in the estimates.

Under the OES program, occupations are classified under the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system. This system includes twenty-two major occupational groups, which can be broken down into 821 specific occupations. State wages for the major groups are presented in Table 41, while wages for the 821 specific occupations can be found at the BLS web site (www.bls.gov).

In eighteen of the twenty-two categories, Washington is ranked within the top ten of national wages, reaching a high ranking of 3rd in "Protective Services" and "Production", "Management", "Installation, Maintenance, & Repair", and "Transportation & Material Moving."

While information on average state wage levels alone can be useful in some business decisions, care must be taken in using them to analyze actual business costs. This is because the OES survey does not attempt to account for differences in productivity or industry mix between the states. A higher-than-average wage level may simply indicate a larger concentration of high-productivity jobs within an occupational group, or higher productivity levels in the same occupation due to differences in average state levels of capital or training. For example, Washington's relatively high average wage in Healthcare Practitioners and Technical may be due to a higher-than-average number of higher-paid workers in biotechnology labs rather than having higher paid doctors and nurses. There are also considerable differences in wage levels between different parts of the state, with the highly populated areas affecting the average wage more than more sparsely populated areas that may have lower wages. The specific occupational and metropolitan area data available from the BLS can present a clearer picture of the range of labor costs in the states.

Table 41
Cost of Doing Business
Average Wages, 2006
(Dollars)

	Management SOC 11-0000	Business and Financial Operations SOC 13-0000	Computer and Mathematical SOC 15-0000	Architecture and Engineering SOC 17-0000	Life, Physical and Social Science SOC 19-0000	Community and Social Services SOC 21-0000
Alabama	38.78	27.05	29.69	31.03	24.70	17.15
Alaska	34.32	28.69	29.80	33.26	26.37	19.31
Arizona	39.73	26.29	29.68	30.54	24.85	18.17
Arkansas	34.64	22.62	24.90	25.96	24.14	15.34
California	49.47	31.31	37.42	37.04	32.11	21.75
Colorado	43.87	30.23	34.61	33.70	29.35	18.82
Connecticut	49.15	32.95	35.40	31.92	32.35	21.71
Delaware	47.50	29.63	35.20	32.66	33.09	19.80
Florida	45.50	26.70	29.00	28.36	25.30	17.82
Georgia	42.29	28.67	31.18	28.65	26.85	18.66
Hawaii	39.35	27.02	29.21	31.45	27.60	20.19
Idaho	31.69	24.07	27.29	30.50	22.49	17.04
Illinois	43.18	30.27	33.36	30.61	28.32	19.95
Indiana	38.71	25.05	28.03	28.31	26.86	16.54
Iowa	36.09	23.84	28.15	27.05	23.31	15.81
Kansas	38.54	25.69	29.12	30.00	24.63	16.11
Kentucky	36.73	23.67	26.85	27.00	22.46	16.86
Louisiana	34.80	23.17	25.31	27.66	25.61	17.70
Maine	34.78	24.99	27.21	27.98	23.90	16.17
Maryland	47.21	30.39	36.73	34.69	34.01	20.76
Massachusetts	49.96	32.92	38.32	35.55	32.73	19.64
Michigan	44.09	30.50	31.10	33.28	27.72	20.60
Minnesota	45.82	27.17	33.08	29.58	28.85	18.23
Mississippi	32.95	22.74	24.60	25.30	23.90	16.01
Missouri	42.89	25.89	29.83	29.08	24.33	16.99
Montana	29.64	22.41	26.26	23.50	19.66	15.34
Nebraska	38.28	25.22	28.50	27.97	23.70	15.45
Nevada	41.75	27.80	28.46	29.77	26.23	21.45
New Hampshir	43.70	26.60	33.47	31.31	26.44	17.76
New Jersey	53.82	32.32	37.62	34.55	32.22	21.97
New Mexico	33.74	25.70	30.42	31.32	28.37	16.36
New York	53.57	33.54	35.62	32.69	30.22	19.45
North Carolina	42.45	26.70	32.17	28.08	26.61	16.97
North Dakota	36.39	23.18	22.66	25.48	22.24	17.10
Ohio	43.22	26.60	30.46	29.69	27.51	18.97
Oklahoma	33.01	23.61	25.05	29.63	24.89	15.41
Oregon	40.28	25.70	31.75	28.82	25.45	18.46
Pennsylvania	41.81	27.55	30.85	30.50	26.90	17.04
Rhode Island	45.17	28.92	32.52	33.01	28.63	19.32
South Carolina	37.74	24.23	27.47	28.92	24.34	16.12
South Dakota	35.26	23.17	23.68	23.90	20.34	15.85
Tennessee	35.66	25.86	27.70	28.50	24.28	16.36
Texas	42.48	27.59	32.76	32.57	27.65	17.21
Utah	38.63	25.74	29.42	29.04	22.77	16.01
Vermont	41.28	26.87	28.55	31.88	26.45	17.96
Virginia	49.66	31.56	37.64	33.37	33.77	20.12
Washington	**50.82**	**29.56**	**36.48**	**33.89**	**30.13**	**19.13**
West Virginia	32.63	22.43	25.17	25.49	22.59	13.19
Wisconsin	41.07	25.70	28.81	27.82	26.09	19.37
Wyoming	31.54	23.82	23.02	27.82	21.88	15.65
U.S. Average	44.20	28.85	33.29	31.82	28.68	18.75
Washington's	**3**	**12**	**6**	**5**	**9**	**16**

Source: "Occupational Employment Statistics," US Department of Commerce, Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov), May 2006.

Table 41(cont.)
Cost of Doing Business
Average Wages, 2006
(Dollars)

	Legal SOC 23-0000	Education, Training, and Library SOC 25-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media SOC 27-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical SOC 29-0000	Healthcare Support SOC 31-0000	Protective Service SOC 33-0000
Alabama	38.31	18.11	16.72	24.78	9.77	13.90
Alaska	33.25	22.21	20.66	34.64	14.98	18.32
Arizona	37.18	17.56	19.68	29.28	11.74	17.22
Arkansas	27.97	18.05	16.31	24.53	9.58	13.43
California	48.40	24.61	25.03	35.21	13.49	21.53
Colorado	38.17	21.14	21.14	30.57	13.05	18.94
Connecticut	43.21	25.07	23.33	32.64	14.19	19.49
Delaware	43.64	23.12	19.96	30.95	13.20	17.13
Florida	37.90	21.12	20.40	28.74	11.51	16.70
Georgia	40.72	19.53	21.30	28.55	10.95	15.13
Hawaii	34.95	21.76	21.11	32.80	13.66	16.77
Idaho	NA	19.95	17.29	27.47	10.92	16.83
Illinois	49.17	23.71	21.00	27.89	11.86	18.69
Indiana	31.22	19.51	17.54	26.66	11.72	15.60
Iowa	30.73	17.99	15.12	25.32	11.14	16.09
Kansas	29.67	17.73	16.13	26.60	10.78	16.24
Kentucky	31.03	18.53	16.81	25.82	11.03	14.52
Louisiana	32.43	18.24	16.10	25.06	9.08	13.31
Maine	33.96	18.22	15.47	30.06	11.38	15.09
Maryland	39.93	23.68	23.31	34.34	12.98	19.03
Massachusetts	43.60	24.62	24.91	32.92	13.78	19.61
Michigan	42.47	24.16	22.33	30.87	12.39	18.54
Minnesota	41.76	20.66	22.10	32.39	12.83	17.54
Mississippi	29.52	17.09	16.50	24.98	9.14	12.03
Missouri	35.85	19.36	19.71	26.71	10.62	15.04
Montana	22.84	15.67	14.36	25.24	10.36	15.72
Nebraska	33.74	19.45	16.43	26.57	11.21	15.94
Nevada	41.26	19.21	23.12	32.01	13.60	17.06
New Hampshir	34.98	19.63	20.29	30.08	13.10	17.26
New Jersey	45.14	23.88	23.88	34.86	13.08	22.53
New Mexico	28.86	19.62	17.90	27.91	10.93	14.80
New York	47.33	27.15	28.82	33.17	12.45	19.93
North Carolina	34.73	18.35	19.48	28.57	10.55	15.02
North Dakota	30.69	18.05	15.27	24.35	10.65	16.21
Ohio	35.26	22.77	19.75	29.12	11.50	16.98
Oklahoma	33.91	15.91	16.82	24.61	10.11	14.75
Oregon	35.35	20.26	20.55	33.20	12.62	18.66
Pennsylvania	36.13	22.96	19.22	28.18	11.58	17.55
Rhode Island	36.47	23.62	21.37	31.98	13.10	18.87
South Carolina	33.15	18.41	17.38	27.09	10.61	14.37
South Dakota	25.67	16.34	14.80	25.59	10.56	14.97
Tennessee	34.98	18.14	18.36	26.28	11.04	13.85
Texas	38.97	19.57	19.50	28.24	10.33	16.60
Utah	38.38	18.39	19.05	28.71	10.86	15.77
Vermont	32.53	18.63	18.95	28.11	11.33	16.04
Virginia	39.16	22.71	23.43	29.39	11.53	18.01
Washington	**34.94**	**21.27**	**23.73**	**32.47**	**13.56**	**20.69**
West Virginia	27.52	18.14	14.94	26.29	9.40	13.07
Wisconsin	35.37	20.28	18.81	29.70	12.04	17.18
Wyoming	26.85	17.64	14.64	27.37	11.06	15.76
U.S. Average	41.04	21.79	22.17	29.82	11.83	17.81
Washington's	**29**	**16**	**5**	**10**	**6**	**3**

Source: "Occupational Employment Statistics," US Department of Commerce, Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov), May 2006.

Table 41(cont.)
Cost of Doing Business
Average Wages, 2006
(Dollars)

	Food Preparation and Serving Related SOC 35-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance SOC 37-0000	Personal Care and Service SOC 39-0000	Sales and Related SOC 41-0000	Office and Administrative Support SOC 43-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry SOC 45-0000
Alabama	7.55	9.23	9.06	13.79	12.84	13.01
Alaska	10.80	12.78	13.17	14.89	16.72	16.92
Arizona	8.78	9.84	12.41	15.83	13.96	8.60
Arkansas	7.34	9.01	8.04	12.89	12.07	12.52
California	9.34	11.76	12.23	18.37	16.13	9.01
Colorado	8.98	11.35	11.36	17.67	15.39	10.79
Connecticut	10.61	13.06	12.47	20.42	16.96	13.03
Delaware	9.44	11.18	11.32	16.24	15.40	13.53
Florida	9.14	9.99	10.93	16.69	13.48	9.49
Georgia	8.19	9.89	11.18	15.48	14.02	11.08
Hawaii	10.88	12.27	12.49	14.24	14.95	12.26
Idaho	7.89	10.20	9.94	14.06	12.97	12.56
Illinois	8.94	11.57	12.35	17.76	15.01	13.04
Indiana	8.15	10.62	9.80	15.13	13.59	12.99
Iowa	8.04	10.46	9.45	14.02	13.19	13.36
Kansas	7.85	9.92	9.38	15.33	13.33	13.12
Kentucky	7.80	9.74	10.50	13.89	13.20	10.95
Louisiana	7.72	8.46	9.01	13.09	12.19	13.26
Maine	9.38	10.95	10.12	14.40	13.48	14.22
Maryland	9.29	11.06	11.86	16.48	15.69	11.79
Massachusetts	10.75	13.09	13.42	19.23	16.84	11.36
Michigan	8.68	11.82	11.33	15.99	15.00	12.02
Minnesota	9.40	11.63	11.55	17.63	15.31	13.48
Mississippi	7.56	8.76	8.84	11.97	12.41	12.62
Missouri	8.29	10.13	9.49	15.68	13.69	11.15
Montana	7.88	9.74	9.05	12.25	12.34	13.43
Nebraska	8.01	10.12	9.68	14.54	13.05	12.26
Nevada	9.72	11.45	10.89	14.87	14.52	11.65
New Hampshir	9.55	11.68	10.46	16.21	14.64	12.79
New Jersey	10.30	12.27	13.28	19.65	16.13	12.56
New Mexico	7.65	9.10	8.97	13.07	12.69	7.72
New York	10.31	12.78	12.29	19.49	16.06	11.81
North Carolina	8.20	9.82	10.09	15.11	13.87	11.40
North Dakota	8.06	9.71	9.51	13.05	12.51	11.90
Ohio	8.25	10.99	10.06	15.67	14.13	11.72
Oklahoma	7.51	9.06	8.65	12.94	12.62	10.65
Oregon	9.75	11.04	11.94	16.90	14.66	13.79
Pennsylvania	8.56	10.98	10.32	16.15	14.02	11.79
Rhode Island	9.75	12.35	11.37	16.04	15.25	11.74
South Carolina	8.10	9.41	9.47	13.66	13.29	12.42
South Dakota	7.72	9.38	9.34	14.04	11.84	11.20
Tennessee	8.10	9.64	9.93	14.82	13.59	11.36
Texas	7.84	8.96	8.92	15.71	13.79	9.07
Utah	8.53	9.92	10.77	15.19	12.97	10.64
Vermont	10.09	11.40	11.47	14.97	14.21	12.66
Virginia	8.81	10.31	11.46	16.38	15.01	13.15
Washington	**10.63**	**12.37**	**12.38**	**18.50**	**15.84**	**13.51**
West Virginia	7.58	9.11	8.67	11.91	11.97	10.94
Wisconsin	8.67	11.10	10.16	16.42	14.13	12.92
Wyoming	8.02	9.97	9.84	12.35	12.52	13.37
U.S. Average	8.86	10.86	11.02	16.52	14.60	10.49
Washington's	**4**	**5**	**7**	**5**	**7**	**5**

Source: "Occupational Employment Statistics," US Department of Commerce, Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov), May 2006.

Table 41(cont.)
Cost of Doing Business
Average Wages, 2006
(Dollars)

	Construction and Extraction SOC 47-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair SOC 49-0000	Production SOC 51-0000	Transportation and Material Moving SOC 53-0000
Alabama	14.69	16.85	13.31	12.67
Alaska	25.94	23.62	18.59	20.63
Arizona	16.18	18.14	13.80	14.43
Arkansas	14.71	15.91	12.70	13.27
California	21.67	20.56	14.30	14.12
Colorado	18.22	19.37	15.07	15.05
Connecticut	22.56	20.99	16.63	14.53
Delaware	19.40	19.15	15.44	14.29
Florida	15.71	17.00	13.32	13.09
Georgia	15.83	18.27	13.23	14.09
Hawaii	24.91	20.34	14.61	14.92
Idaho	15.87	17.16	13.58	12.92
Illinois	25.31	20.45	14.62	15.29
Indiana	19.85	18.70	15.40	14.18
Iowa	17.78	17.33	14.13	13.40
Kansas	17.25	17.95	14.41	13.90
Kentucky	16.83	17.13	14.62	13.36
Louisiana	15.85	16.68	16.02	13.43
Maine	16.28	17.42	14.78	13.03
Maryland	18.99	19.55	15.71	14.61
Massachusetts	23.89	21.47	16.09	15.25
Michigan	21.52	20.95	17.46	15.61
Minnesota	22.90	20.28	15.62	15.65
Mississippi	13.90	15.98	12.60	12.58
Missouri	20.26	18.10	14.00	14.20
Montana	17.29	17.13	14.12	13.78
Nebraska	16.49	17.50	13.66	14.93
Nevada	19.96	19.80	14.80	13.73
New Hampshir	17.76	19.05	15.15	14.53
New Jersey	24.52	21.02	15.37	14.58
New Mexico	15.18	16.78	14.70	13.23
New York	24.08	20.29	14.93	16.02
North Carolina	15.14	17.84	13.61	12.93
North Dakota	16.71	17.80	14.47	13.96
Ohio	19.70	18.64	15.50	14.07
Oklahoma	15.45	17.21	13.71	12.82
Oregon	20.02	19.08	15.05	13.98
Pennsylvania	19.65	18.36	15.21	13.95
Rhode Island	20.45	18.91	14.49	13.60
South Carolina	14.91	17.00	14.22	12.41
South Dakota	14.14	16.61	12.37	12.30
Tennessee	15.43	17.21	13.75	13.67
Texas	14.41	17.02	13.74	13.43
Utah	16.31	18.28	13.35	14.95
Vermont	16.97	17.82	14.59	13.78
Virginia	17.40	19.10	14.53	14.27
Washington	**22.14**	**21.08**	**17.21**	**16.03**
West Virginia	17.29	16.40	14.58	12.53
Wisconsin	20.58	18.88	15.31	14.21
Wyoming	18.87	19.18	16.76	16.51
U.S. Average	18.89	18.78	14.65	14.16
Washington's	**9**	**3**	**3**	**3**

Source: "Occupational Employment Statistics," US Department of Commerce, Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov), May 2006.

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