

Washington

The Evergreen State



Two climate zones: Western : Mild, rainy, cool; Eastern : Drier, hotter summers, colder winters
Temperature range: ~35°F – 85°F

Snapshot

The “Evergreen State” locates in Pacific Northwest, capital is Olympia. "The Evergreen State" originates from dense forests which cover much of the state. Washington State is tech-savvy and highly educated; strong STEM workforce around Seattle/Redmond fuels innovation and startups.

Metropolitans

Seattle - Tacoma -
Spokane

Population

8 Million

Demographics

White 63% - Hispanic or Latino
15% - African American 4.8% -
Asian 11.5%

Economic Indicators

Gross State Product	\$702 Billion (2024)
Major industries	Washington leads in tech, aerospace, maritime trade, agriculture, and clean energy.
Job sectors with highest growth and pay	A premier global hub for technology, anchored by giants Amazon and Microsoft, which employ over 117,000 people locally.
State Taxes	No PIT, Combined sale tax 8.86%
Median house value	\$519,800
Income/Wage	Average annual pay (\$94,985), Per Capita Income (\$85,187)
Minimum wages	\$16.28
Cost of living	Single adult: \$2,500–\$4,000/month; Family of four: \$4,500–\$7,500/month
Child Care (Center-based)	Infant \$17,568, Toddler \$15,203

Top Colleges and Universities



Photo by William Jacobs: <https://www.pexels.com/photo/spring-day-at-university-of-washington-quad-31297363/>

University of Washington

Washington State University

Seattle University

Whitman College - liberal arts

On average, it costs \$5,000 for in-state tuition and \$11,000 for out-of-state tuition at public institutions, \$32,000 for private not-for-profits, and \$15,000 for private for-profit institutions.

Health Insurance Coverage

Apple Health	For low-income adults & families
Apple Health Expansion	For undocumented immigrants (age 19-64)
Apple Health for Kid	Children under 19 regardless of immigration status
Cascade Care	Subsidized Marketplace Plans for those who are not qualified for Medicaid
Community & Safety-Net Care	Available to everyone

Other things to know about Washington State

Washingtonians drink a lot of coffee. They're also outdoorsy: high participation in hiking, boating, skiing, and weekend trips to mountains, coast, and islands.

The state is very immigrant-friendly. Statewide Keep Washington Working Act limits cooperation with federal immigration enforcement. Washington provides pathways for lawful immigrants and undocumented students to access in-state tuition and state supports (local rules apply).

Top places to visit in Washington:

Mount Rainier National Park: Paradise, Sunrise, hiking and wildflowers.

San Juan Islands: whale watching, kayaking, Orcas Island and Friday Harbor.

Olympic National Park contains temperate rainforests and Pacific coastline—an exceptional range of ecosystems in one park.