



WASHINGTON

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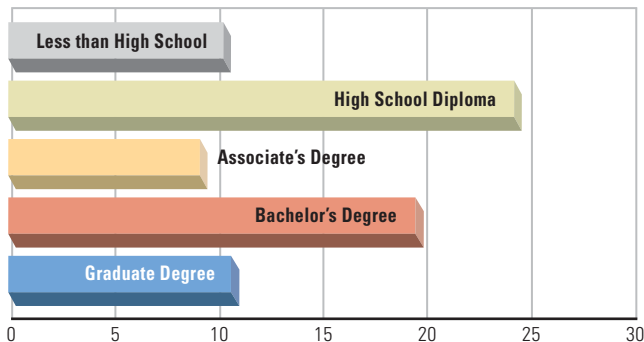
"As Boeing already knows, Washington state's highly skilled work force, its friendly business environment and unmatched quality of life makes our area one where aerospace companies choose to locate and expand."

— Gov. Christine Gregoire, June 14, 2011

Governor: Christine Gregoire (D) **www.commerce.wa.gov**

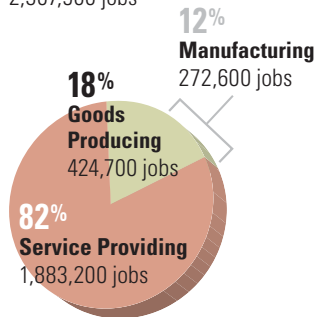
Population 2011: 6,785,989 **Population growth forecast 2011-2015:** 5.93% **Median household income:** \$64,051

Work Force Education by Percentage



Private Sector Employment

2,307,900 jobs



Property tax rank: **19**

Top corporate tax rate: **GRT***

Unemployment insurance burden rank by least percent of taxable wages: **12**

Worker's comp rank by lowest index: **26**

Industrial power prices (per million BTU): **\$12.98**

Ranked by low price: **1**

Median hourly wage for production occupations: **\$16.75**

Right-to-work state? **NO**

Legislative Update

• The state's Labor & Industries and Employment Security Departments announced in early December that payroll tax rates will be lower than expected in 2012. The Association of Washington Business said the news "reflects the value of the [worker's comp and unemployment insurance] reform measures passed in 2011."

- A proposal to make the state's R&D tax credit permanent (it expires in 2015) failed. "Expect this issue back in 2012," said the AWB.
- In November, Gov. Christine Gregoire's budget announcement included a proposed half-cent increase in the state sales tax. Gregoire is also developing a proposal to simplify business taxation, registration and licensing.

*GRT – Gross receipts tax.