# State of the local labor market: Pandemic edition

Island County EDC Virtual meeting April 8, 2021

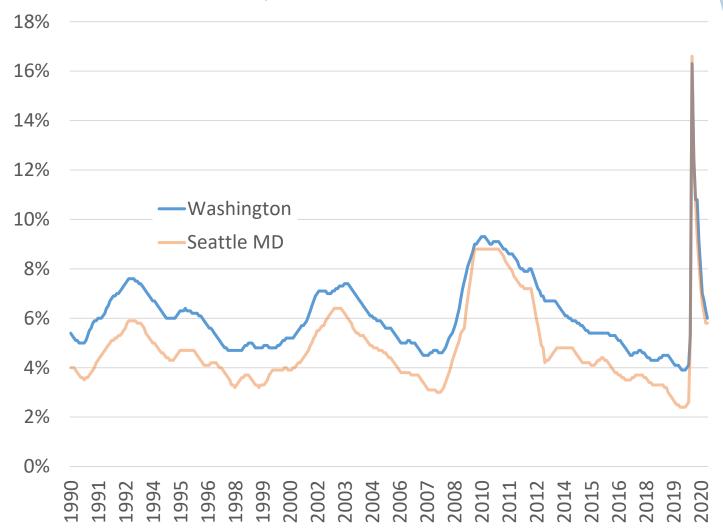
Anneliese Vance-Sherman, Ph.D.
Regional Labor Economist
Washington Employment Security Department
Labor Market and Economic Analysis
avancesherman@esd.wa.gov



# Unemployment and Labor Force

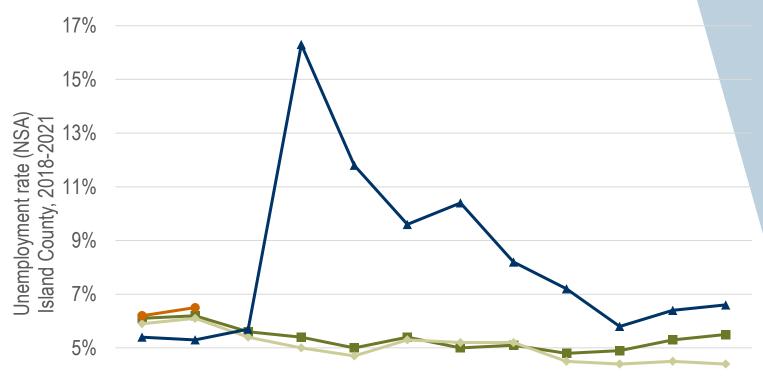


## Washington's unemployment rate was 5.6% in February 2021





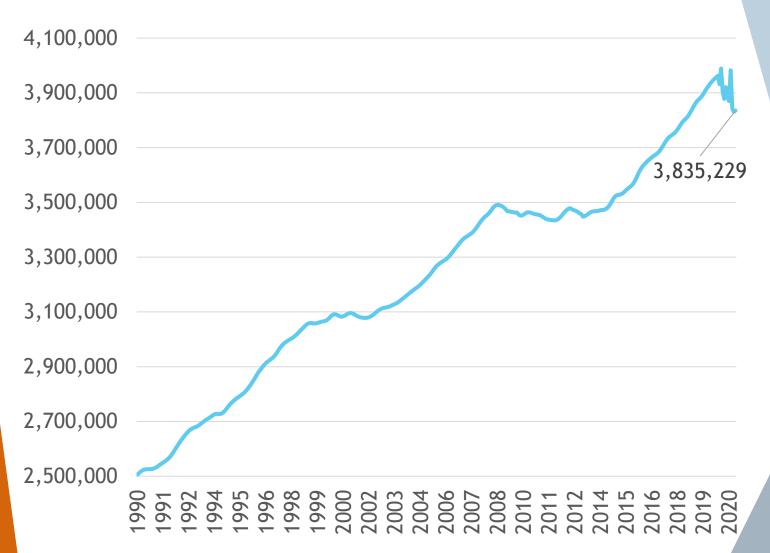
#### **Island County**



30/	JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC											
J /0	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
<del></del> 2018	6.1%	6.2%	5.6%	5.4%	5.0%	5.4%	5.0%	5.1%	4.8%	4.9%	5.3%	5.5%
<del></del> 2019	5.9%	6.1%	5.4%	5.0%	4.7%	5.3%	5.2%	5.2%	4.5%	4.4%	4.5%	4.4%
<del></del> 2020	5.4%	5.3%	5.7%	16.3%	11.8%	9.6%	10.4%	8.2%	7.2%	5.8%	6.4%	6.6%
<del></del> 2021	6.2%	6.5%										



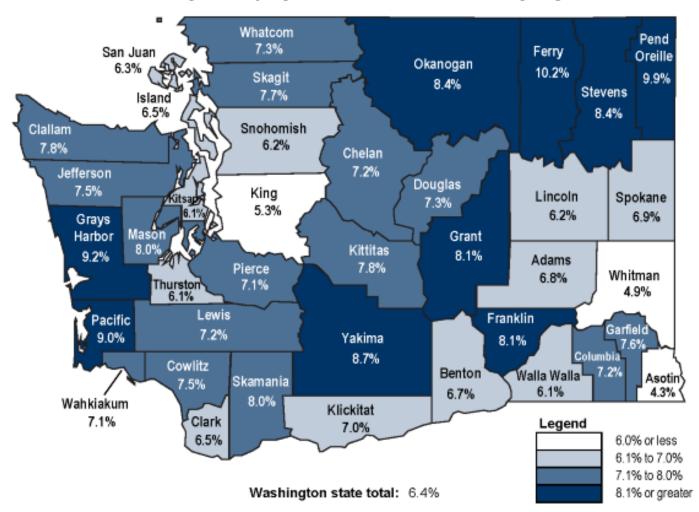
# The size of the statewide labor force dropped with the Covid-19 pandemic





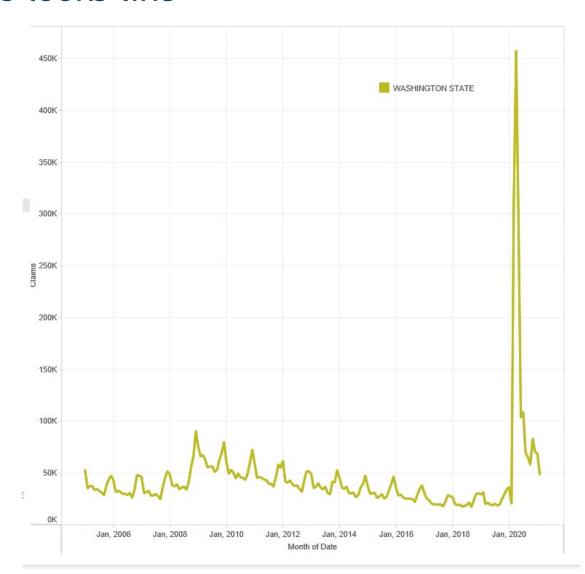
#### How well are people connecting with work?

February 2021
County unemployment rates, not seasonally adjusted



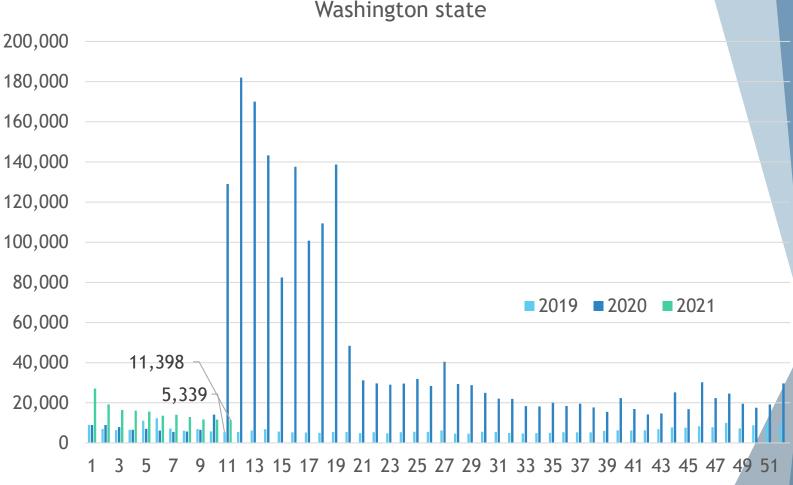


### This is what "unprecedented" Initial UI claims looks like

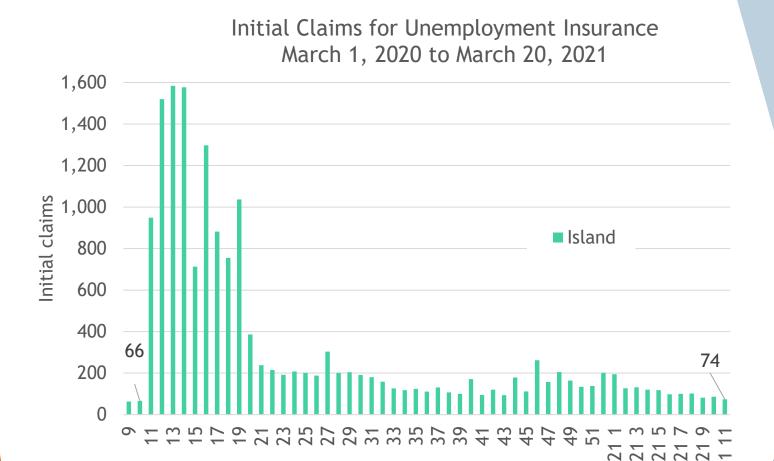




### Weekly Initial Claims are "leveling out" (they are now *only* at "great recession" levels)

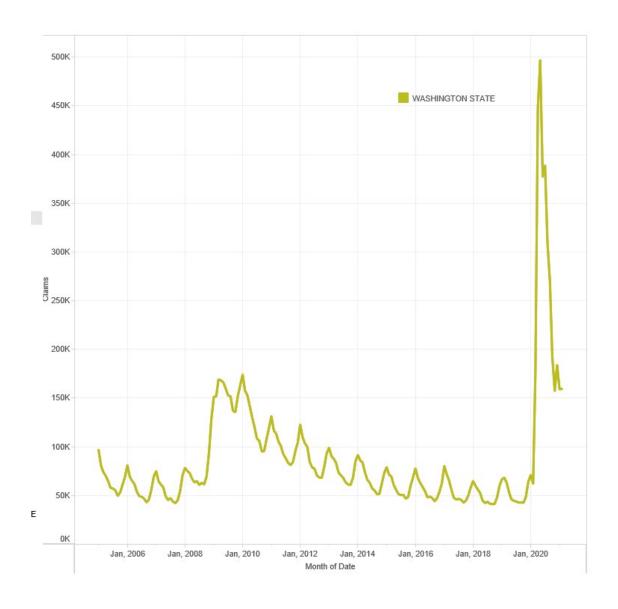


## Island County UI claims has followed a similar pattern





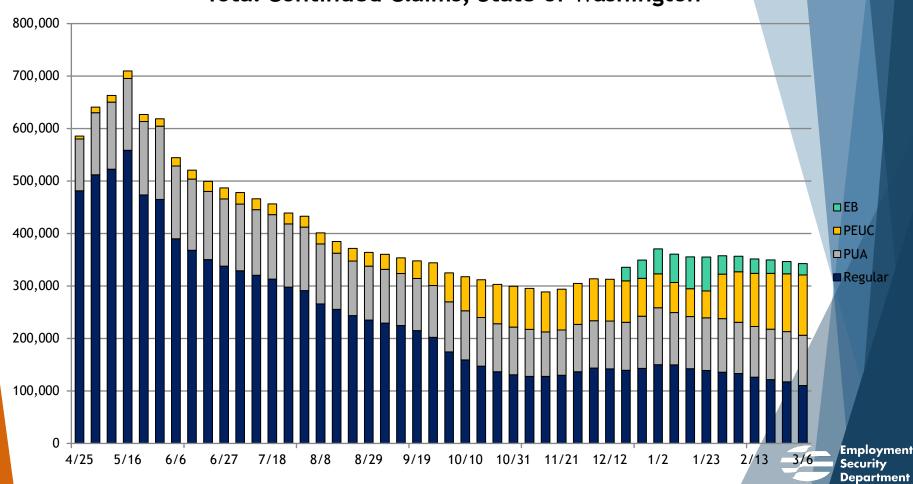
#### **Continued Claims for UI**





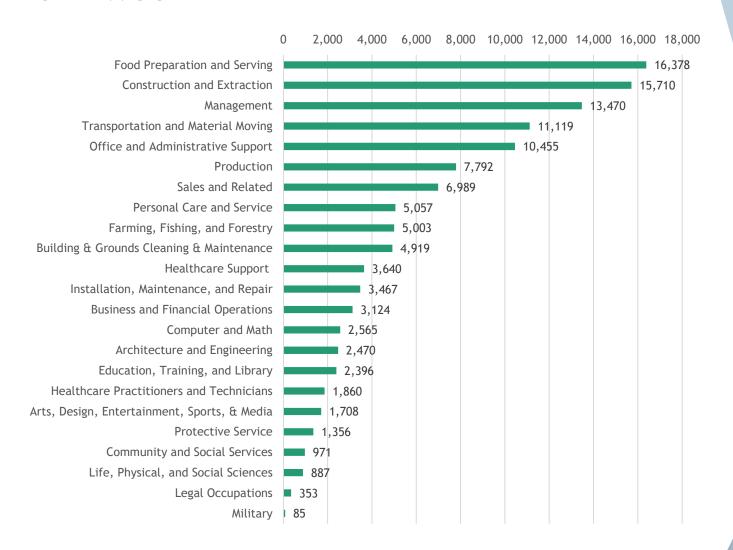
#### Total UI recipients has dropped over the year, but the number of long term unemployed is increasing

#### Total Continued Claims, State of Washington



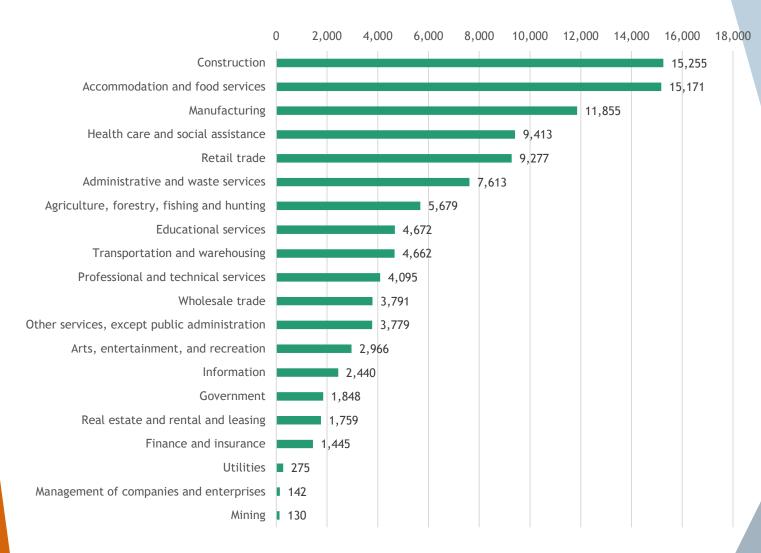
washington state

#### Continued claims by occupation: 2021 week 7



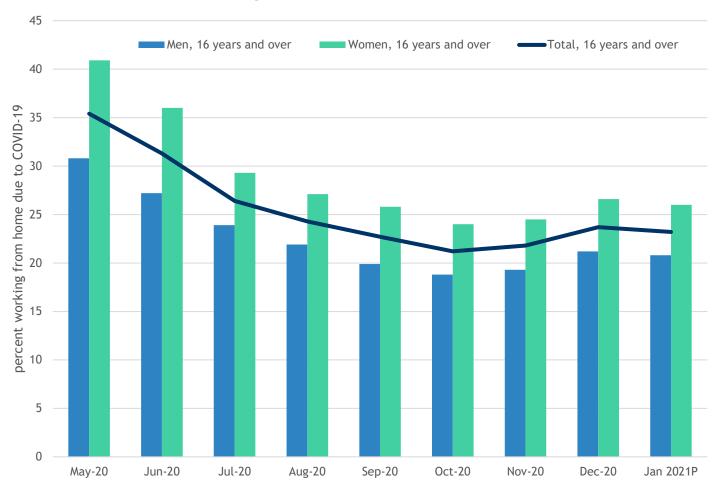


### Continued claims by industry: 2021 week 7



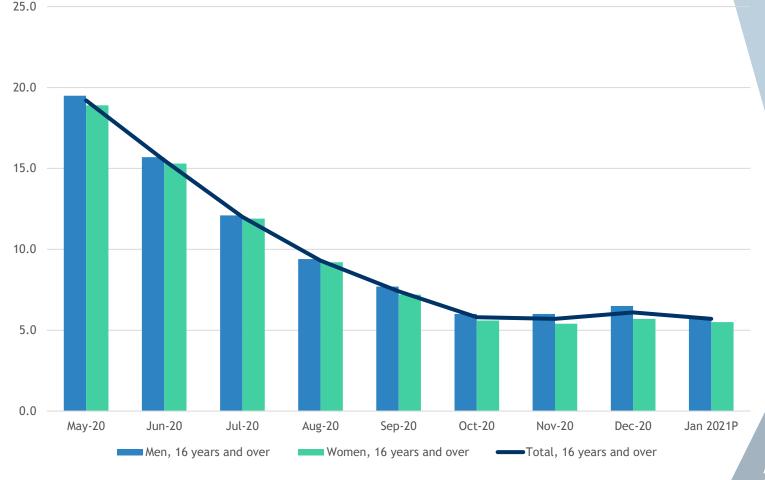


# Nationally, an estimated 23% of workers are still working from home due to Covid-19 shifts in the workplace





# And more than 5% of workers surveyed are currently unable to work due to Covid-19 employer impacts



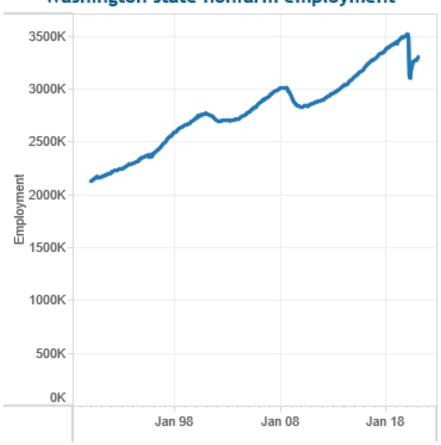


#### Payroll employment

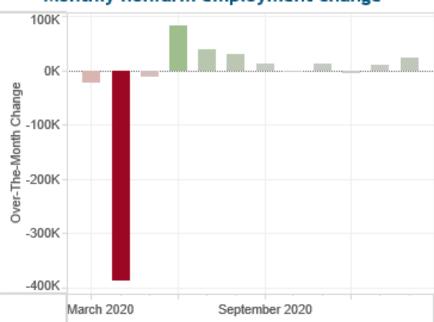


## Total employment has begun to return, but the rate of growth is changing

#### Washington state nonfarm employment



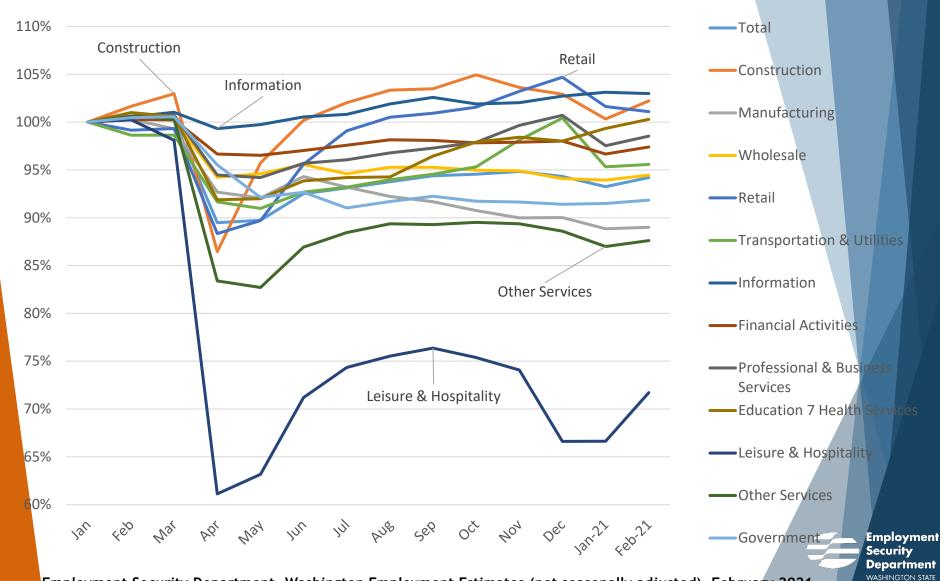
#### Monthly nonfarm employment change\*



\*Due to the COVID-19 outbreak there was a significant decrease in jobs in April 2020 for nonfarm employment that does not lend itself to be graphed with the historical data. Therefore, we have reduced the overthe-month employment change figure to the past few months to



# The Covid-19 economy has affected sectors differently



Washington state	February 2021	Jan 2021 - Feb 2021	Feb 20 - Feb 21	Feb 20 - Feb 21
Total	3,265,000	33,500	-213,800	-6.1%
Construction	217,300	4,000	1,200	0.6%
Manufacturing	257,800	400	-32,700	-11.3%
Wholesale	127,700	700	-7,900	-5.8%
Retail	396,500	-2,100	7,600	2.0%
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	112,300	300	-3,600	-3.1%
Information	151,800	-200	3,600	2.4%
Financial Activities	157,000	1,200	-4,600	-2.8%
Professional & Business Services	427,800	4,300	-9,100	-2.1%
Education & Health Services	508,300	4,900	-3,500	-0.7%
Leisure & Hospitality	241,800	17,100	-96,200	-28.5%
Other Services	114,500	800	-17,000	-12.9%
Government	547,000	2,100	-51,300	-8.6%

Employment Security Department WASHINGTON STATE

#### **Island County**

Nonfarm Employment Estimates, Not Seasonally Adjusted

Oak Harbor Micropolitan Statistical Area (Island County)

Data benchmarked through September 2020

				Change		
	Prelim	Revised	Revised	Jan-21	Feb-20	Feb-20
NAICS Industry Title	Feb-21	Jan-21	Feb-20	Feb-21	Feb-21	Feb-21
Total Nonfarm	16,680	16,830	17,320	-150	-640	-3.7%
Total Private	12,260	12,410	12,530	-150	-270	-2.2%
Goods Producing	1,940	1,940	1,970	0	-30	-1.5%
Mining, Logging, and Construction	1,170	1,170	1,140	0	30	2.6%
Manufacturing	770	770	830	0	-60	-7.2%
Service Providing	14,740	14,890	15,350	-150	-610	-4.0%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	2,590	2,660	2,590	-70	0	0.0%
Retail Trade	2,030	2,100	2,020	-70	10	0.5%
Information and Financial Activities	820	830	840	-10	-20	-2.4%
Professional and Business Services	1,450	1,470	1,400	-20	50	3.6%
Education and Health Services	2,300	2,260	2,440	40	-140	-5.7%
Leisure and Hospitality	2,270	2,330	2,380	-60	-110	-4.6%
Government	4,420	4,420	4,790	0	-370	-7.7%
Federal Government	1,290	1,290	1,310	0	-20	-1.5%
State and Local Government	3,130	3,130	3,480	0	-350	-10.1%
State and Local Government Education	1,310	1,320	1,600	-10	-290	-18.1%



#### Thank you!

