

How Washington Compares

2022 JLARC BRIEFING REPORT

This briefing report used national data to show how Washington compares to other states.

Population, economy, health, and environment

	RANK	MEASURE	1-YEAR TREND
Population	13	7,738,692	↑
Percent change in population (10-year change)	7	13.3%	↓
Personal income per capita	6	\$67,126	↑
GDP per capita by state	3	\$78,540	↓
Annual unemployment rate	11	8.4%	↑
Percent of population living in poverty	42	9.8%	↓
Percent of population under 65 with health insurance	14	92.3%	N/A
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	46	4.1	↓
Percent of adults 25+ with at least a high school education	17	91.7%	N/A
Percent of adults aged 18+ who have obesity (2019)	44	28.0%	↓
CO ₂ emissions from fossil fuel combustion per capita (2018)	42	10.89	N/A

Government spending and debt

	RANK	MEASURE	1-YEAR TREND
Federal grants per capita	28	\$2,696	↑
Federal expenditures per capita	39	\$11,309	↑
State expenditures per capita	26	\$7,058	↑
Average annual percentage change in per capita state expenditures (10-year change)	10	2.7%	↑
General fund expenditures per capita	13	\$3,115	↑
State and local debt outstanding per capita	9	\$12,418	↑
State government FTEs per 100 persons	20	1.74	↑
Bond ratings (December 2020)	17	AA+	No change

Key	Measure increased from last year	↑
	Measure decreased from last year	↓

Education costs and spending

	RANK	MEASURE	1-YEAR TREND
State and local per pupil funding, pre-K through K-12	14	\$16,295	↑
State per pupil funding, pre-K through K-12	5	\$11,928	↑
Average annual in-state tuition and fees at public 4-year institutions	23	\$10,900	↑
Percent change in in-state tuition and fees at public 4-year institutions (5-year change)	10	5.0%	↑
Higher education appropriations per FTE student	20	\$8,610	↑

Taxes and Revenue

	RANK	MEASURE	1-YEAR TREND
State revenue per capita	17	\$8,639	↓
Local revenue per capita	5	\$7,821	↑
State & local revenue as a percent of personal income	23	22.4%	↓
State taxes per capita	12	\$3,676	↑
Local taxes per capita	16	\$2,364	↑
State and local taxes per capita	14	\$6,041	↑
State and local taxes as a percent of personal income	25	9.6%	↑

Public assistance, transportation, and public safety spending

	RANK	MEASURE	1-YEAR TREND
Medicaid expenditures per capita	15	\$2,416	↑
Percentage of total state expenditures for public assistance	45	20.4%	↓
State and local road expenditures per capita	25	\$614	↑
State public safety expenditures per capita	22	\$236	No change

Data sets are the most current national data available, and range from 2015 to 2022.