

# How Washington Compares

## 2021 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	7,693,612	↑
Percent change in population (10-year change)	8	14.1%	↓
Personal income per capita	6	\$64,758	↑
GDP per capita by state	6	\$80,050	↑
Annual unemployment rate	8	4.3%	↓
Percent of population living in poverty	42	9.8%	↓
Percent of population under 65 with health insurance	14	91.7%	↓
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	43	4.7	↑
Percent of adults 25+ with at least a high school education	15	91.7%	↑
Percent of adults aged 18+ who have obesity (2019)	42	28.3%	↓
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion per capita (2018)	42	10.89	↑

### Government spending and debt

	RANK	MEASURE	1-YEAR TREND
Federal grants per capita	27	\$2,265	↑
Federal expenditures per capita	31	\$8,716	↑
State expenditures per capita	26	\$6,633	↑
Percentage change in state expenditures per capita (10-year change)	6	3.6%	↓
General fund expenditures per capita	12	\$3,012	↑
State and local debt outstanding per capita	7	\$12,227	↑
State government FTEs per 100 persons	18	1.7	No change
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	18	\$14,428	↑
State per pupil funding, pre-K through K-12	8	\$9,861	↑
Average annual in-state tuition and fees at public 4-year institutions	23	\$10,560	↑
Percent change in in-state tuition and fees at public 4-year institutions (5-year change)	49	(-5.4%)	↑
Higher education appropriations per FTE student	25	\$7,424	↑

### Taxes and Revenue

	RANK	MEASURE	1-YEAR TREND
State revenue per capita	19	\$9,065	↑
Local revenue per capita	6	\$7,359	↑
State & local revenue as a percent of personal income	27	23.1%	↑
State taxes per capita	12	\$3,532	↑
Local taxes per capita	15	\$2,285	↑
State and local taxes per capita	12	\$5,817	↑
State and local taxes as a percent of personal income	29	9.4%	↑

### Public assistance, transportation, and public safety spending

	RANK	MEASURE	1-YEAR TREND
Medicaid expenditures per capita	19	\$1,965	↑
Percentage of total state expenditures for public assistance	41	22.0%	↓
State and local road expenditures per capita	27	\$589	↓
State public safety expenditures per capita	19	\$236	↑

Data sets are the most current national data available, and range from 2015 to 2021.

The complete report is on the JLARC web site: [www.leg.wa.gov/jlarc](http://www.leg.wa.gov/jlarc)

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