



# How Washington Compares: 2024

This briefing report used national data to show how Washington compares to other states. Each indicator uses the most current data available. Details and sources are in the report on our website: <https://leg.wa.gov/JLARC>.

**Rank** – The position Washington is in compared to other states.

**Measure** – Actual number, dollar amount, or percentage for that category.

**1-year trend** – Whether the measure has increased or decreased from the previous year.

↑ indicates increase    ↓ indicates decrease

## Population, Economy, Health, and Environment

Measure	Rank	Measure	1-year trend
Population	13	7,812,880	↑
Percent change in population (10-year change)	7	12.2%	↓
Personal income per capita	7	\$75,332	↑
Gross domestic product per capita	3	\$94,801	↑
Annual unemployment rate	6	4.2%	↓
Percentage of population living in poverty in past 12 months	42	10.0%	↑
Percentage of population under age 65 with health insurance	17	92.8%	↑
Infant mortality rate	40	4.4	↓
Percentage of adults age 25+ with at least a bachelor's degree	11	39.5%	↑
Percentage of adults aged 18 and older who have obesity	37	31.7%	↑
CO2 emissions from fossil fuel combustion per capita	44	9.5	↑

## Government Spending and Debt

Measure	Rank	Measure	1-year trend
Federal grants per capita	25	\$3,279	↓
Federal expenditures per capita	36	\$10,181	↓
State expenditures per capita	28	\$8,540	↑
Average annual percentage change in state expenditures per capita (10-year change)	6	4.4%	↑
General fund expenditures per capita	12	\$3,592	↑
State and local debt outstanding per capita	11	\$11,665	↓
State government FTEs per 100 persons	20	1.70	↑
Bond ratings (December 2023)	13	9.3	Unchanged

## How Washington Compares (cont'd)

### Education Costs and Spending

Measure	Rank	Measure	1-year trend
State and local per pupil funding, pre-K through 12	14	\$17,423	↑
State per pupil funding, pre-K through 12	3	\$12,835	↑
Average salary of K-12 teachers in public school	4	\$81,510	↑
Average annual in-state tuition and fees at public 4-year institutions	22	\$11,510	↑
Percentage change to in-state tuition and fees at public 4-year institutions (5-year change)	10	-4.0%	↓
Higher education appropriations per FTE student	16	\$10,154	↓

### Taxes and Revenue

Measure	Rank	Measure	1-year trend
State revenue per capita	17	\$13,290	↑
Local revenue per capita	6	\$8,343	↑
State and local revenue as percentage of personal income	24	25.8%	↑
State taxes per capita	12	\$4,213	↑
Local taxes per capita	16	\$2,449	↑
State and local taxes per capita	14	\$6,663	↑
State and local taxes as percentage of personal income	30	9.0%	↓
State motor fuel taxes	5	52.8¢	↑

### Public Assistance, Transportation, and Public Safety Spending

Measure	Rank	Measure	1-year trend
Medicaid expenditures per capita	15	\$2,836	↑
Percentage of total state expenditures for public assistance	42	20.3%	↑
State and local road expenditures per capita	25	\$638	↓
State public safety expenditures per capita	19	\$271	↑