



Office of Economic Development and Competitiveness

Maritime Sector



Governor Inslee's top priority is to create an economic climate where innovation and entrepreneurship can continue to thrive and create good paying jobs in every corner of our state. Washington State's maritime sector comprises a robust and growing set of industries that contribute to achieving the Governor's priority goal.

How do we define Washington's Maritime sector:

Washington's maritime industry is rooted in the historic strength of our natural resources, our strategic location and excellent transportation connections that provide efficient access to global markets. It is a diverse industry that includes:

- **Cargo handling and logistics**—supported by 75 port districts in the state
- **Fishing and seafood processing**
- **Ship and boat building, repair and maintenance**
- **Passenger vessel operations**
- **Recreational boating and sport fishing**
- **Military and federal activities** through the U.S. Navy, U.S. Coast Guard and NOAA
- **Numerous support industries**, including a solid base of maritime education and training programs

Although maritime activity has long been a pillar of the state's economy, it continues to grow (an average of 6.4% a year), utilizes the latest technologies, includes leading global companies, and today provides jobs with substantially better pay than the average for all industries. The average pay for a job in Washington is \$52,000, while maritime workers are paid an average of \$70,800—totaling over \$4 billion in wages in 2012.

Sector impacts on Washington's economy:

The sector contributes \$15 billion in gross business income, and directly employs 57,700 people. Including indirect and induced impacts, the sector is responsible for 146,000 jobs in the state and \$30 billion in economic activity.

What's next?

Top Items to Focus on in 2014

Work with industry stakeholders, and within government, to:

- Market and communicate the importance of the sector to the state's economy
- Promote policies and actions that sustain the current health of the industry and set a strong base for future growth
- Work with existing training and education resources to develop a clear career pathway to jobs in the sector

Agency Contact

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Mission Statement:

Support sector-specific economic development efforts through public-private partnerships, to sustain and grow family-wage jobs in the sector, and to be recognized as a vibrant center for maritime activity and expertise; including the use of the best available technologies, sustainable practices, and excellence in maritime education and training.



Summary of Maritime Impacts, Washington State, 2012

CORE SECTORS	EMPLOYER ESTABLISHMENTS	WAGES (\$ MILLIONS)	JOBS	GROSS BUSINESS INCOME (\$MILLIONS)
Passenger Water Transportation	130	\$262.8	4,500	\$544.5
Boat and Ship Building, Repair, and Maintenance	150	\$1,163.8	16,500	\$1,489.7
Maritime Support Services	300	\$387.7	4,600	\$864.2
Fishing and Seafood Processing	720	\$1,113.4	15,400	\$8,592.6
Maritime logistics and Shipping	800	\$1,156.0	16,700	\$3,722.4
Total	2,100	\$4,083.7	57,700	\$15,213.3

From Washington State Maritime Cluster Economic Impact Report-prepared by Community Attributes-November 2013

Communication and Coordination

Despite the diversity of the sector, many issues are important to all segments of the industry. Improved transportation infrastructure and workforce education and training are good examples. We will work with stakeholders to create coalitions to promote these improvements and to raise awareness of the importance of maritime activity to our economy. For more information on how we can work together, please contact **Steve Sewell at 206.256.6104.**