

## Electronics & Computers - Washington

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### Electronics & Computer Industry Overview

Washington's electronics and computer industry is a broad cluster encompassing companies producing electronics or components of such products. Such a broad definition prompts a wide range of industry products including:

- Electronic computers & components,
- Electrical machinery & components,
- Instruments of all types,
- Communications equipment,
- Search and navigation equipment,
- Plating & polishing,
- Laboratory apparatus,
- Nonferrous Wire Drawing & Insulating
- Magnetic & Optical Recording Media, and
- Office Machines.

Generally, if electronic systems are involved, products are classified within this cluster.

Microelectronics is an emerging industry in Washington. Research institutions such as University of Washington's Washington Technology Center Microfabrication Lab provide the resources necessary to promote continued advancement and new business creation within Washington.

Nanotechnology: An industry focused on a nano (1 billionth of a meter) scale has widespread effects on industries like electronics and biotechnology. University of Washington's Nanotechnology program and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory are pioneers in this important industry.

### Electronics & Computers Highlights

- The Electronics and Computers cluster employs over 34,000 workers at more than 500 establishments in 2000.
- The Spokane Intercollegiate Research & Technology Institute (SIRTI) is an independent State Agency that helps innovative entrepreneurs bring new technologies to market.

### Regional Hotspots

The King and Snohomish county region continues to dominate electronics and computer employment. More recently though, many companies locate themselves in more rural counties capitalizing on excellent telecommunications infrastructure and lower operating costs relative to urban areas.

## Work Force

- The [University of Washington](#) allocated \$1.8 million in permanent enrollment money to double the size of their computer-engineering program.
- [Shoreline Community College's Center for Manufacturing Excellence](#)
- [The Edmonds Community College Materials Science Technology](#)
- [Bellingham Technical College- The Electronics Technology program](#)
- [Centralia College: The Electronics Technology program](#)
- [North Seattle Community College: Electronics](#)

## State Initiatives

To learn more about industry specific [Tax](#), [Incentives](#), and [Financing](#) options, please refer to their individual links.

- [Advanced Technology Initiative \(ATI\)](#)

## Source:

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