

Software - Washington

[Software Industry Overview](#)

Washington State is one of the world's leaders in software development and information technology. More than just the State of Microsoft, 4200 software companies call Washington home. This concentration of software companies and related support industries demonstrates Washington's close association with innovation and cultivation of leading technology.

Software Highlights

- Software and Internet industries represent a \$30 billion business statewide.
- 24% of Washington exports are attributed to the software industry.
- According to data from the Washington Employment Security Department, May 2005, employment in the technology industry was 207,080.
- Employment in the software industry for 2005 is 62,600.
- Employment in the software and computer-related sector of Washington State is 15% higher than the national average.
- Seattle has the biggest concentration of game developers in the country along with the Bay area (Other major players are LA, Austin and NYC.)
- 57 companies in Washington do gaming, growing from 37 in October of 2003 (including Microsoft and Nintendo, but not their offshoots). Each company will employ anywhere from a few start up employees to hundreds of people.

Regional Hotspots

- Greater Seattle ranks fifth among U.S. metropolitan areas for number of software jobs as percentage of the total population according to a recent study.

Work Force

- The University of Washington offers 25 different certificate programs in areas such as XML Standards and Technologies, Web Database and E-commerce Programming, Unix Administration and C++ Programming.
- Washington's six public universities all offer four year technology degrees.
- [Shoreline Community College's Center for Manufacturing Excellence](#)
- [The Edmonds Community College Materials Science Technology program](#)
- [Bellevue Community College: The Digital Gaming Program](#)
- [DigiPen Institute of Technology](#), Redmond, WA.

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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