



Fast Facts about the Washington State Technology Industry

For more than 30 years, software and computer-related industries have been a vital force in the Washington State economy. It began in the late 1970s as a small and promising industry, and has grown to a \$35 billion business that is a major contributor to the state's employment, revenue base and international trade leadership.

The Washington State Economy

- 38 percent of all jobs in Washington State come from technology-based firms, including:
 - Computer software and hardware
 - Telecommunications
 - Aerospace
 - Biotechnology
 - Medical instrumentation
 - Environmental technology
- Technology-based industries directly employed over 313,000 people in Washington State in 2003. (Technology Alliance, 2005)
- 1.19 million jobs in the state are attributable to technology-based industries, meaning this sector accounted for 45% of total state employment. (Technology Alliance, 2005)
- Labor income in technology-based industries averaged \$91,938 in 2003, compared to a state average of \$47,519, making the technology-based industry labor income 93% above the state average. (Technology Alliance, 2005)
- Technology-based industries generated \$57 billion in labor income in 2003. (Technology Alliance, 2005)

How Washington compares to the rest of the nation

- Washington State is a center of technology-based employment and R&D activity. The concentration of employment in these sectors in Washington places it 3rd in the nation (after Massachusetts and Virginia), and 8th in R&D funding. (Technology Alliance, 2005)
- Industry spending in Washington on R&D ranked 7th in the nation.
- Washington is ranked as the 2nd highest recipient of research funds by non-profit FFRDC's. (Technology Alliance, 2005)

Technology-Based Education in Washington

- More than 75 percent of residents have a computer in their home — compared to the national average of 51 percent (City of Seattle Survey).
- Over the past five years, Microsoft has granted more than \$20 million in software and upgrades to the state's community college system.
- Four-year education institutions award more than 4,500 degrees in math and science-related programs every year.
- The University of Washington is the No. 1 provider of software engineers to Microsoft and Intel and the No. 2 provider to IBM.

- The University of Washington, Washington State University and other research institutions have been a catalyst for nearly 400 technology companies in the state—140 were created during the past 20 years from UW-based research and have generated more than \$1 billion in annual revenues.

The Washington Technology Center

- The Washington Technology Center is a 19-year-old state science and technology organization that funds and fosters industry-university collaborations.
- In 2002, the center generated more than \$70 million to partner companies and researchers for every dollar the state invested in WTC.

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

- PNNL is a Department of Energy Office of Science laboratory that performs research and development in energy, national security, the environment and life sciences by advancing the understanding of physics, chemistry, biology and computation.
- PNNL's economic development programs helped more than 50 technology businesses develop products, acquire new customers and contracts, get access to funding sources and strategic partners, and secure specialized facilities and staff.
- In 2004, PNNL's had a \$650 million budget. Customers included the U.S. Department of Energy and other federal, state and local agencies; universities; and industry sponsors.

The Spokane Intercollegiate Research and Technology Institute

- SIRTI focuses on helping new companies from innovations at regional research universities and institutions and accelerating the growth of existing technology companies.
- Since 1995, SIRTI has worked with more than 105 entrepreneurs and early-stage technology-based companies. To date, these companies have enjoyed a private investment of \$ 85,218,662 and government funding of \$34,981,368.

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