



***Northwest Construction  
Consumer Council***

***Kris Johnson | Feb. 11, 2021***

## *AWB Mission & Vision*

- **Mission**: AWB is the catalytic leader and unifying voice for economic prosperity throughout Washington state.
- **Vision**: Washington will excel as a globally competitive state built on a solid foundation of innovation, a world class workforce, and a quality of place second to none.

## *Strategies for Achieving Mission & Vision*

- Achieve:** Provide a high-caliber education and workforce development system aligned with the demands of the 21st century.
- Connect:** Create an efficient, multi-modal transportation and infrastructure system that links Washington's employers and communities to each other and to the world.
- Employ:** Encourage and support innovation, entrepreneurship, job retention and creation.
- Compete:** Foster a business environment conducive to creating a resilient and growing, statewide economy.
- Place:** Cultivate actions that enable vibrant communities and environments.





# *Business Climate*

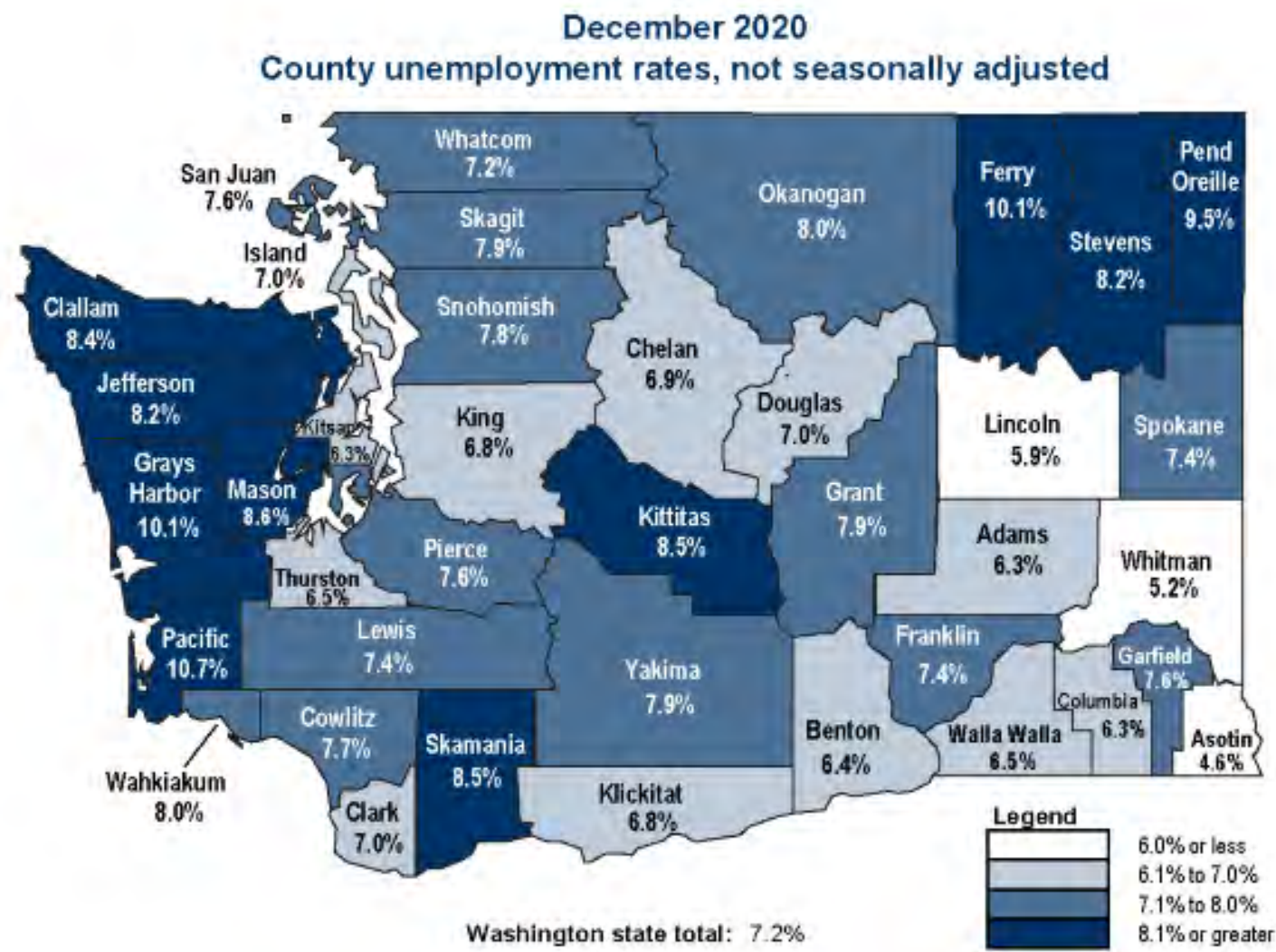
*The state of the economy*



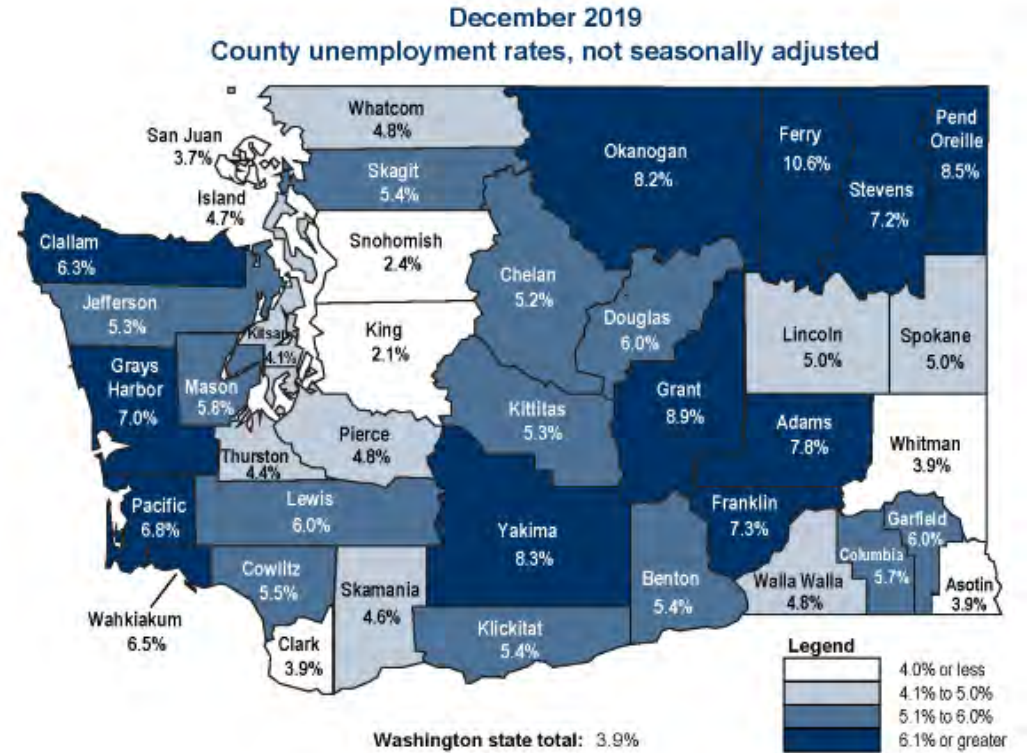
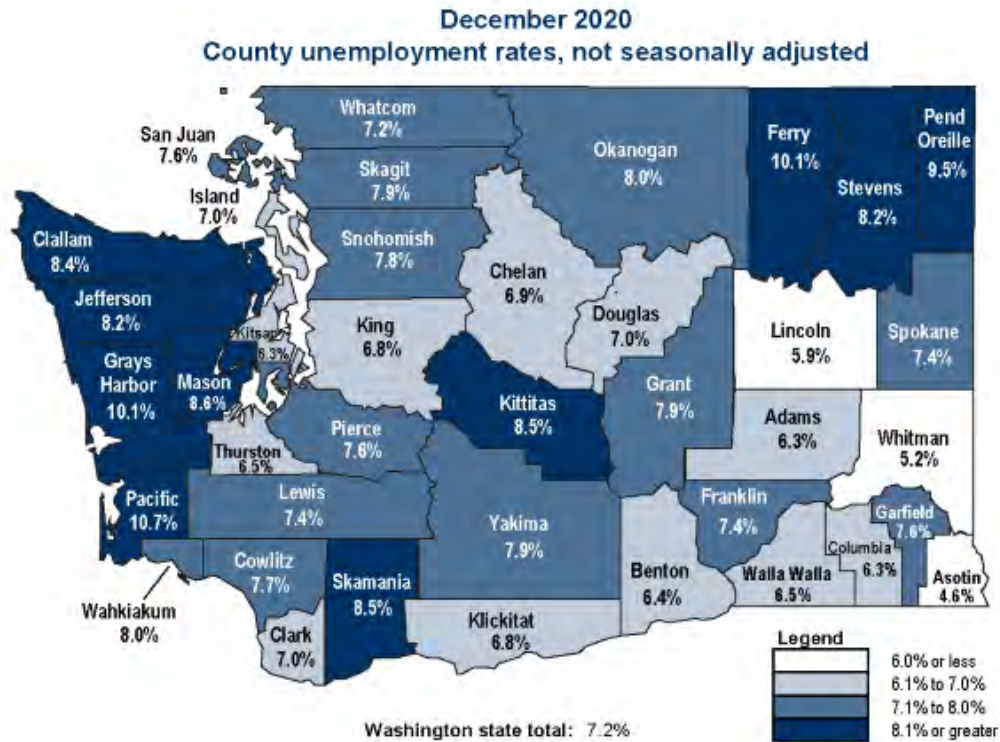
## *US Economy*

- U.S. added 49,000 jobs in January
- Reverses December slide but considered anemic
- Still down 10 million jobs nationwide
- 189,000 fewer Washington jobs in December, year over year

# Washington Unemployment



# Unemployment Still High in Many Counties







*2021 Legislative Session*



## *Session Priorities*

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# Economic Recovery

- Budget & Taxes
- Education & Workforce
- Environment
- Employment Law, Labor & Workplace
- Health Care
- Land Use
- Rural Jobs
- Transportation

## *Session Messaging*



### First Do No Harm

- This is not the time to impose new taxes and regulations on employers already struggling to survive the pandemic
- The state has enough revenue to balance the budget without raising taxes

### Focus on Recovery

- UI solution
- Lawmakers must recognize this is an economic crisis, as well as a public health crisis
- Bring an “everything and the kitchen sink” approach to solving the problem
- Adopt AWB’s Recovery Agenda proposals

The image features a dark blue horizontal header at the top. The main background is a lighter blue color with a pattern of semi-transparent, light blue rectangular bars of varying lengths and orientations, primarily concentrated on the left side. The text 'Pandemic Recovery' is centered on the right side of the page.

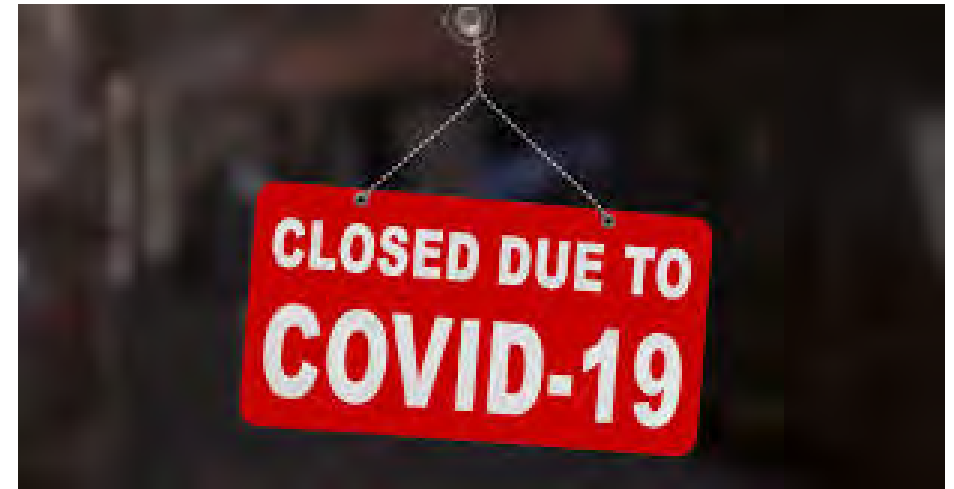
# *Pandemic Recovery*



# *Unprecedented Crisis*

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- More than 332,000 people lost jobs
- Unemployment grew to almost 16%
- Recovery is uneven and incomplete
- Some industries disproportionately affected
  - Restaurants
  - Hospitality
  - Retail
  - Manufacturing



# *Unprecedented Response*

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- Lawmakers at every level must take action to help struggling businesses survive.
- Now is the time to lay the groundwork for a swift recovery.
- Uneven recovery from the last recession
- Opportunity to ensure communities, industries and people left out last time are not left out this time





# *Economic Recovery Priorities*

- Employment Law – Address UI crisis  
Capital Budget – Focus on job-creation
- Transportation – Work toward passing a package
- Tax & Fiscal Policy – TIF, incentivize PPE
- Education & Workforce – Prioritize reopening of schools
- Child Care – Suspend certain regulations that don't address safety and quality
- Health Care – Allow professional licenses from other states



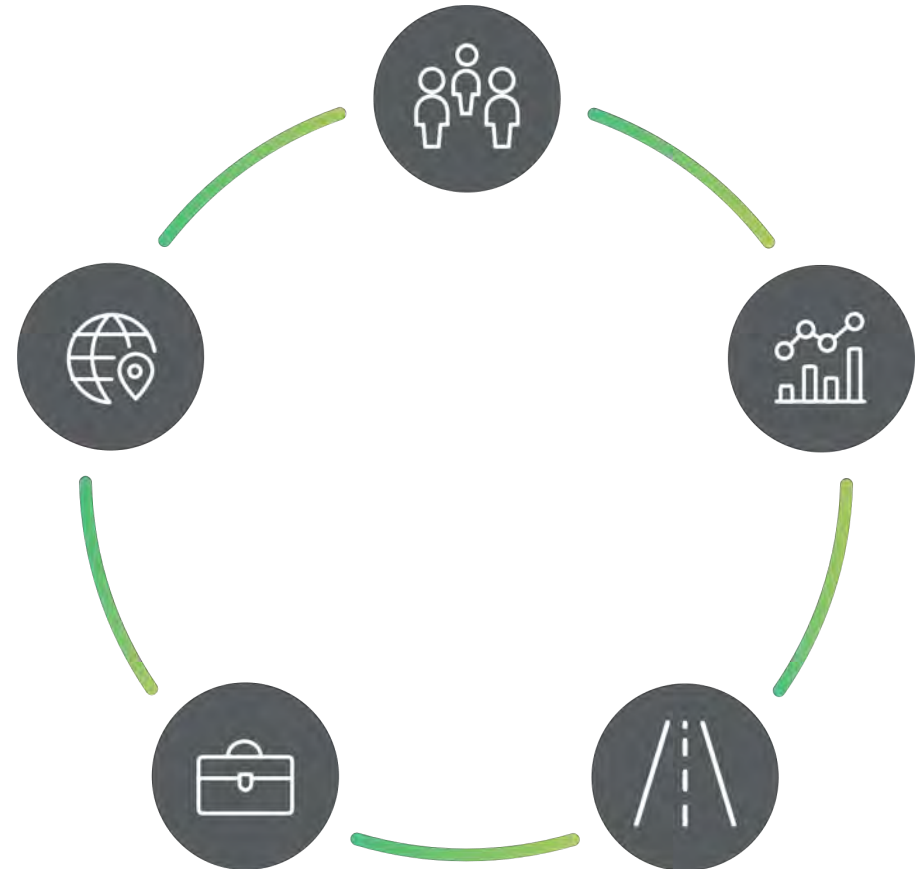


# Washington = the Making™

-  *The Washington legacy – creativity, persistence, courage*
-  *Rebuilding Washington's economy through a new vision*

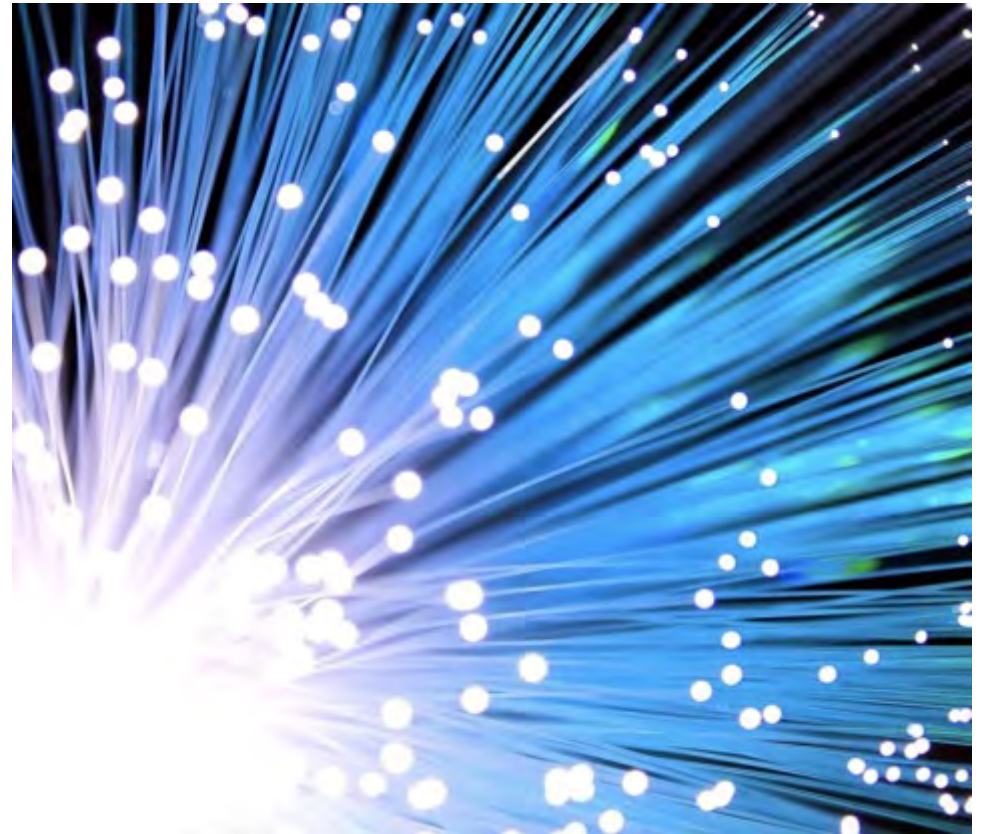
# The Five Key Pillars

- ≡ *Talent & Prepared Workforce*
- ≡ *Business Environment*
- ≡ *Infrastructure & Connectivity*
- ≡ *Entrepreneurship & Innovation*
- ≡ *Quality of Place & Community*



# Projects

- ≡ *Workforce Portal*
- ≡ *Broadband Connection*
- ≡ *Rural Initiative*
- ≡ *How can AWBI support your community initiatives?*

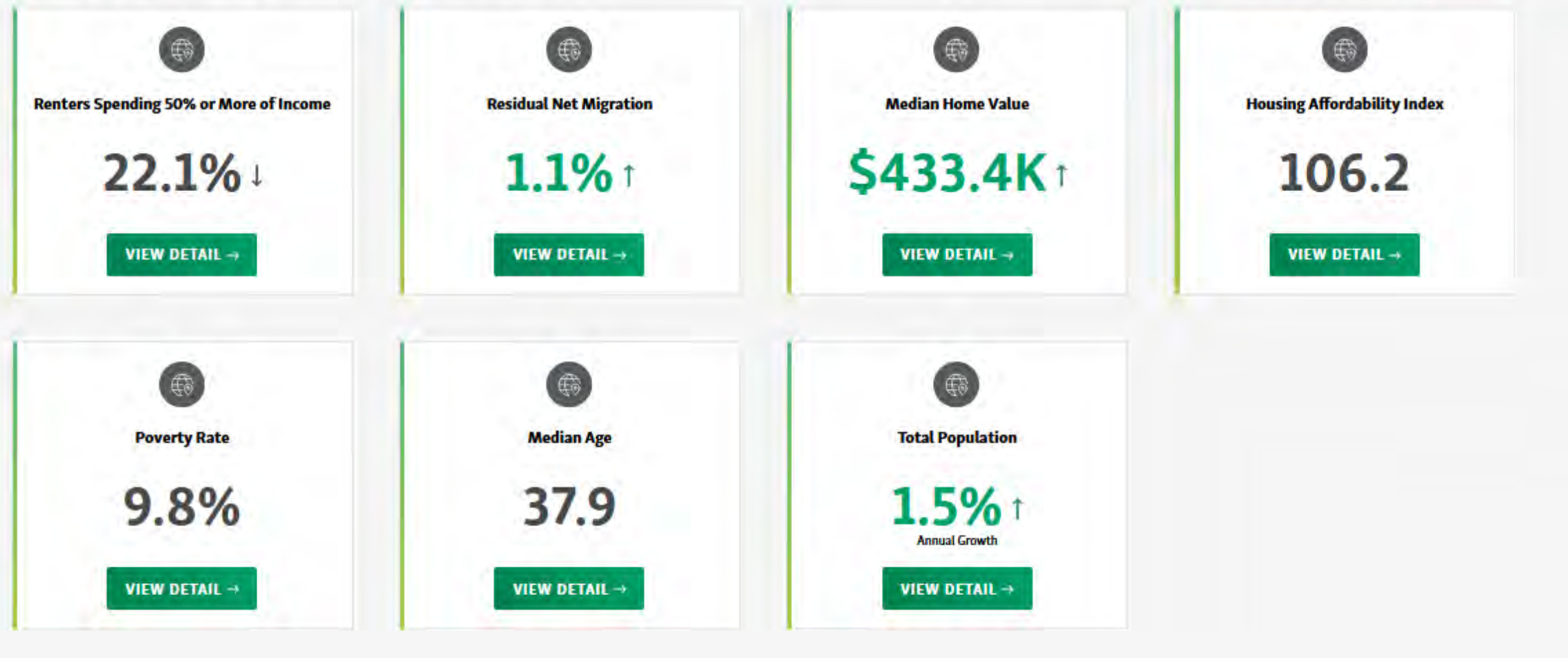




# Economic Vitals

Quality of life in every corner of our state.

● Negative Trend ● Neutral ● Positive Trend

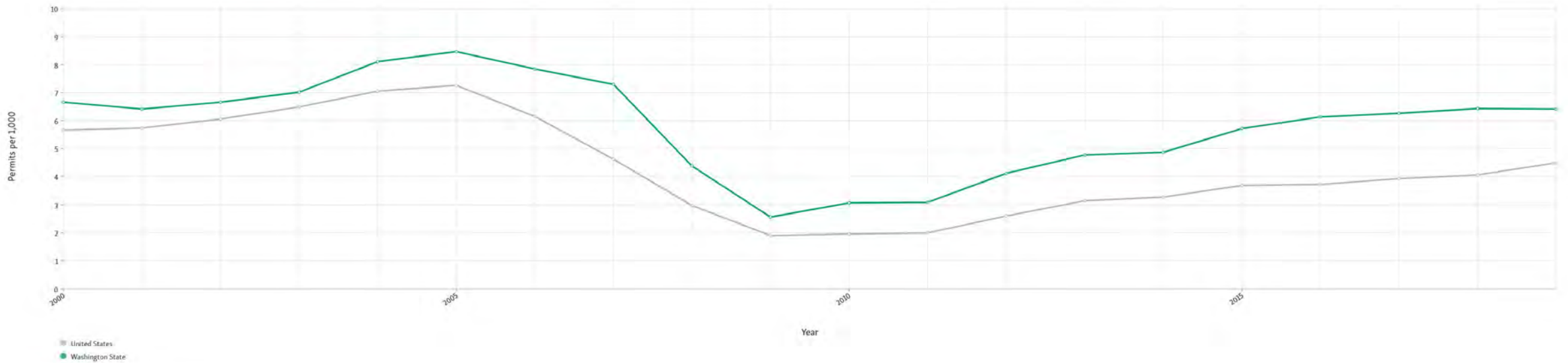


# Economic Vitals

Permits per 1,000 Residents **Washington State**

COMPARE TO REGION: ⓘ

United States

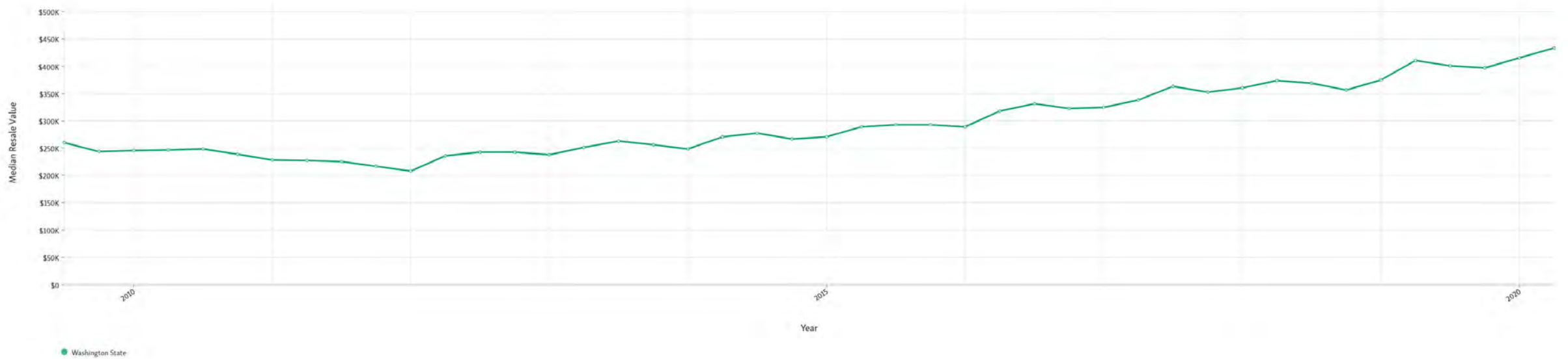


# Economic Vitals

## Median Resale Value Washington State

COMPARE TO REGION: ⓘ

Select a Region



*Thank you*



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