

Retail: A Cornerstone of Washington's Success



Washington's retail industry generates significant tax revenue and jobs across every county, city, and legislative district.

Retail is one of the most diverse sectors, offering goods and services from groceries and clothing to housewares and auto maintenance.

A strong retail sector is essential for maintaining a vibrant and robust state economy, supporting communities, and ensuring ongoing growth and stability for the people of Washington.

Vital Economic Engine



- Retail is the **2nd largest private sector employer** in Washington, providing nearly **400,000 jobs** across the state.
- **42% of Washington's total tax revenue** is collected by the retail industry.
- In 2023 the retail sector accounted for **\$221 billion in gross taxable income**, making it the leading generator of tax revenue in the state.

Community Investors



- Retailers contribute hundreds of millions of dollars annually in direct donations and resources to local schools, nonprofits, and other organizations that provide vital community services.
- Some of the many organizations and programs retailers support include:
 - Boys & Girls Club
 - Angel Tree
 - Northwest Harvest
 - Mary's Place



Empowered Workforce

- **Inclusive Opportunities:** Retail jobs offer flexible, accessible entry points with minimal experience requirements, making them ideal for people at every stage of life. From newcomers and military spouses to parents, retirees, and transitioning workers, the retail sector provides opportunities for all.
- **Best Career Springboard:** Retailers offer extensive training and development programs, equipping workers with stackable and transferable skills for other industries.
- **Advancement Parity:** Retail promotes and advances employees from all backgrounds, including POC, women, LGBTQIA+, and other underrepresented communities, ensuring equal and equitable career growth opportunities.

Essential Stakeholders



- Proposed legislation significantly impacts retail, making our inclusion as collaborators and stakeholders critical.
- Strong partnerships ensure retail drives economic growth, supports communities, and provides diverse goods and services statewide.



Scan QR code for more retail facts & data or visit
WashingtonRetail.org