CONSTRUCTION IN WASHINGTON STATE

Construction's Tax Contributions

- Construction businesses paid 20% ($4.5 billion) of all state sales and B&O taxes in 2024.
- Construction businesses paid more than $3.8 billion in state sales taxes—25% of the state total—a greater share than manufacturing (2%), services (25%), transportation/information/utilities (5%) and wholesale trade (6%).
- Construction businesses paid more than $676.1 million in state B&O taxes—10% of the state's total.
- Construction firms paid more than $1.8 billion in local sales taxes.
- In 2024, construction generated over $70.7 billion in sales in Washington State, which is 8% of total sales (second only to retail).

Sources: *University of Washington, Employment Security Department, Census Bureau, Bureau of Labor Statistics, AGC of America survey*

Great Jobs; Excellent Wages: More Opportunities

- Just under 302,000 people—10% of the private-sector workforce—were employed in construction (including services and suppliers) in 2024. Construction employment in Washington State decreased by 2.3% in 2024.
- Construction-worker pay averages $82,526 (carpenters average $79,912; electricians $96,598; construction managers $147,648; plumbers $89,928; equipment operators $88,384; laborers $62,155).
- Total construction payroll in 2024 was almost $26.3 billion—9% of total payroll for all industries in Washington. Total construction payroll increased by 3.6% in 2024.
- 85% of Washington's construction firms report difficulty in attracting craft workers, and 86% are having difficulty filling salaried positions.

Construction's Positive-Multiplier Effect

- For each $1 invested in new construction, an additional $2.09 in economic activity is generated for the state economy.
- For each $1 invested in new construction, earnings increase by 58 cents for *all* households—not just those employed in construction.

About Associated General Contractors

AGC of Washington and Inland Northwest AGC are committed to enhancing the performance of our members, representing their interests, and building a better climate for construction. We represent firms engaged in commercial construction, including general contractors, specialty contractors, suppliers and service firms.

AGC's Legislative Office: 360.352.5000

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