



workforce
SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON

Workforce System Response to COVID-19 Clark, Cowlitz & Wahkiakum Counties August 4, 2020

Responding to Business Needs

Manufacturing, healthcare, construction, transportation and tech companies with workforce needs or questions about bringing back furloughed workers, improving skills of existing employees and/or filling open jobs can [contact our business services team](#).

Opportunities to grow remote work occupations in SW WA

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, working remotely has become the “new normal” for many. A study by [Chmura Economics & Analytics, JobsEQ](#) leveraged two datasets, American Time Use Survey and Department of Labor’s O*NET, to analyze jobs that can be done remotely.

From these identified occupations (defined at the 6-digit NAICS level) we compiled analytics of what this looks like in the Southwest Washington region. See the tables below.

Jobs in SW WA that can Potentially be Done Remotely			
Occupation	5-Yr Forecast Ann % Growth	Current Employment	Current Avg Ann Wages
Actuaries	3.00%	15	\$110,900
Data Scientists and Mathematical Science Occupations, All Other	2.50%	42	\$81,800
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	2.40%	956	\$71,500
Financial Managers	2.10%	833	\$122,100
Web Developers and Digital Interface Designers	1.90%	406	\$94,400
Software Developers and Software Quality Assurance Analysts and Testers	1.90%	2,125	\$104,300
Computer and Information Research Scientists	1.90%	46	\$136,000
Management Analysts	1.80%	1,118	\$88,300
Computer Systems Analysts	1.70%	742	\$90,500
Computer Occupations, All Other	1.70%	469	\$81,800
Computer and Information Systems Managers	1.60%	525	\$132,400
Architects, Except Landscape and Naval	1.60%	183	\$80,200
Personal Financial Advisors	1.50%	521	\$111,400
Cost Estimators	1.50%	422	\$72,300
Technical Writers	1.40%	60	\$69,400
Project Management Specialists and Business Operations Specialists, All Other	1.40%	2,037	\$72,200
Network and Computer Systems Administrators	1.40%	429	\$83,000
Personal Service Managers; Entertainment & Recreation Managers, Except Gambling	1.30%	1,467	\$100,500
Medical Scientists, Except Epidemiologists	1.30%	219	\$83,100
Loan Officers	1.30%	424	\$71,300
Lawyers	1.30%	727	\$113,100
Financial & Investment Analysts, Financial Risk Specialists, & Financial Specialists	1.30%	605	\$79,700
Human Resources Managers	1.20%	198	\$110,100
Credit Analysts	1.20%	106	\$73,500
Compensation, Benefits, and Job Analysis Specialists	1.20%	95	\$69,700
Accountants and Auditors	1.20%	1,893	\$71,800
Budget Analysts	1.10%	43	\$71,800
Graphic Designers	1.00%	344	\$59,200
Compensation and Benefits Managers	1.00%	18	\$113,100
Bioengineers and Biomedical Engineers	1.00%	32	\$93,600
Sales Engineers	0.90%	45	\$108,500
Purchasing Managers	0.90%	91	\$110,000
Writers and Authors	0.70%	152	\$69,300
Chief Executives	0.30%	280	\$226,700
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	0.30%	2,221	\$43,400
Labor Relations Specialists	-0.40%	114	\$81,900

Source: JobsEQ

Remote Work Occupations Currently Hiring

From the identified “remote” occupations, we wanted to see which currently had job openings. In the last 30 days, the top online job postings in Clark County have been software developers, management analysts, accountants/auditors, and network/computer system administrators.

Top 20 Remote Work Occupations in Clark County by Online Job Ads		
SOC	Occupation	Total Ads
15 1252.00	Software Developers	113
13 1111.00	Management Analysts	70
13 2011.00	Accountants and Auditors	51
15 1244.00	Network and Computer Systems Administrators	41
43 3031.00	Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	41
13 1199.00	Business Operations Specialists, All Other	38
15 1211.00	Computer Systems Analysts	31
11 3031.00	Financial Managers	27
11 9179.02	Spa Managers	25
15 1299.08	Computer Systems Engineers/Architects	20
15 1299.09	Information Technology Project Managers	19
13 1161.01	Search Marketing Strategists	18
13 1161.00	Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	14
13 2072.00	Loan Officers	14
15 1253.00	Software Quality Assurance Analysts and Testers	13
11 3121.00	Human Resources Managers	12
15 1299.02	Geographic Information Systems Technologists and Technicians	12
11 3021.00	Computer and Information Systems Managers	11
13 1051.00	Cost Estimators	11
27 1024.00	Graphic Designers	11

Source: JobsEQ

In Cowlitz County, the top online job postings for remote work occupations in the last 30 days included accountants and auditors, loan officers, and bookkeeping/accounting and auditing clerks.

Top 18 Remote Work Occupations in Cowlitz County by Online Job Ads		
SOC	Occupation	Total Ads
13 2011.00	Accountants and Auditors	10
13 2072.00	Loan Officers	6
43 3031.00	Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	6
11 9179.02	Spa Managers	5
11 9199.08	Loss Prevention Managers	4
11 3031.01	Treasurers and Controllers	3
13 1051.00	Cost Estimators	3
13 1199.00	Business Operations Specialists, All Other	3
11 1011.00	Chief Executives	2
13 2052.00	Personal Financial Advisors	2
11 3031.00	Financial Managers	1
11 3061.00	Purchasing Managers	1
11 9072.00	Entertainment and Recreation Managers, Except Gambling	1
11 9199.00	Managers, All Other	1
13 1161.00	Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	1
13 1199.06	Online Merchants	1
15 1299.09	Information Technology Project Managers	1
41 9031.00	Sales Engineers	1

Source: JobsEQ

[Visit our blog](#) to learn about education requirements, gender difference and unemployment rates around remote working occupations.

Local Strategy

In Cowlitz County, where the [Chmura Remote Work Index](#) is 75.96, well below that of the Portland-Vancouver metro region which is 105.35 (an index of 100 means the region has the exact same remote work mix as the nation), WSW is piloting a virtual training program with CompTIA, a nonprofit trade association, issuing professional certifications for the information technology industry.

CompTIA is considered one of the IT industry's top trade associations. CompTIA A+ Computer User Support Specialist Training is one of America's most successful workforce programs – on average, 88 percent of students graduate and 86 percent of graduates move into paid IT jobs with local companies.

In Cowlitz County, CompTIA's strategy is to move program graduates into home-based computer user support jobs with top companies such as Amazon, TEKsystems, US Bank, BridgeTech, Atmosera, and Cook Security Group. Median earnings for computer user support specialists in the U.S. are \$51,900 annually and in Washington \$62,600 annually.

Additionally, to further promote remote work opportunities for residents of Southwest Washington, WSW is exploring a new partnership with [Career Karma](#), an app that helps match students to coding boot camps, provides career coaching and mentorship and guaranteed placement for graduates. Career Karma partners with training vendors throughout the U.S. and uses Income Share Agreements (ISA's), an alternative to student loans. Students are required to repay a portion of their education upon placement into a living wage job. Careers include software developers, web development, data science, user experience design and digital marketing.

We're also working with local businesses that are investing in enhancing the skills of their workers, especially those in positions facing automation. Companies have a role to play not only in training their employees but in encouraging lifelong learning and making training and education available on the job. Our business services team can help! [Contact them today.](#)

[Click here to read the full article](#)

Services for Adults + Youth

Job search optional until September

[job search requirements](#) for individuals receiving unemployment insurance benefits will remain suspended through Sept. 1. This means the soonest unemployment claimants will be required to actively seek work is Sept. 6.

The requirements were waived in March and the date has been extended several times. [Sign up to get alerts](#) when requirements are updated from the [Employment Security Department](#).

While not required, individuals wanting to look for work can view open jobs at www.WorkSourceWA.com. The WorkSource locations in Vancouver and Kelso are providing services online, through email, virtual meetings and by phone. Get contact information by visiting www.WorkSourceSWWA.com.

Reopening Resources

- The [Employment Security Department](#) has information for businesses and individuals about [returning to work](#) and [refusing to go back to work](#).

Stay Safe Washington

The [Stay Safe, Stay Open Campaign](#) is funded by a coalition of business and industry associations representing tens of thousands of employers and their employees in Washington state. They are uniting behind a [campaign](#) urging the public to wear face masks to save lives and protect jobs.

Download [posters, videos, radio spots and social media assets](#) to encourage the use of masks at your place of business and in your community.



Workforce Southwest Washington (WSW) funds services that help individuals gain skills to find good-paying jobs or advance in their careers and help companies recruit, train and retain workers. Our investments strengthen the region's businesses and contribute to a strong economy. Since 2003, we've invested more than \$100 million in Clark, Cowlitz and Wahkiakum counties. Learn more at www.workforcesw.org.

WSW is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Washington Relay 711.