Software supports jobs all across today’s economy and all across the country—from computer programmers and web designers to teachers, medical assistants, and construction workers. In Washington, the number of jobs created by the software industry has increased 14.3 percent since 2018.

**Total**

610,149 jobs

(includes indirect and induced impacts)

**Direct**

175,796 jobs

**ECONOMIC IMPACT**

Direct Value-Added GDP

$83.5 billion

**R&D**

R&D Investment by Software Companies

$16.8 billion

56.8% of All Domestic Business R&D in Washington

Washington’s economy and workforce benefit from software’s broad investment in new technologies. From deriving new value from data analytics in local industries to pushing next-generation innovations like quantum computing, the software industry’s commitment to R&D ensures continued strong future growth.
Software: Supporting US Through COVID

UNITED STATES

In addition to providing the digital infrastructure that enabled our personal and professional lives during the pandemic, the software industry helped create jobs all across the economy and all across the country. In fact, the software industry supports 12.5 million jobs in industries outside software—jobs in every economic sector. The total number of jobs supported by the software industry has increased nearly 6 percent since 2018. This report, from Software.org: the BSA Foundation and conducted in 2021 by The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU), captures the positive economic impact of the software industry in the United States at the state and national level.

Total
15.8 million jobs
Direct
3.3 million jobs

Software played a crucial role in enabling our lives through the pandemic, allowing us to connect socially with friends and family. At the same time, software helped businesses of all sizes to continue their work, underpinning innovation and driving growth in nearly every economic sector. Overall, software’s contribution to total US value-added GDP has grown more than 17 percent since 2018.

Total Value-Added GDP
$1.9 trillion (includes indirect and induced impacts)

Direct Value-Added GDP
$933 billion

Average Annual Wage for Software Developers
$114,270

R&D Investment by Software Companies
$103 billion

27.4% of All Domestic Business R&D in US

The EIU compiled these data and economic impact assessments using publicly available government data, maintaining full editorial control of the process and using industry standard approaches. Any views or opinions expressed in this document are not necessarily those of The Economist Intelligence Unit.