



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

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December 29, 2025

**TO:** Sarah Bannister, Secretary  
Washington State Senate

Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk  
Washington State House of Representatives

**FROM:** John Ryser, Acting Director *John Ryser*  
Washington State Department of Revenue

**SUBJECT:** Working Families Tax Credit Program Report

[RCW 82.08.02061\(2\)](#) requires the Washington State Department of Revenue (Department) to submit a biennial report to the Legislature, which includes relevant data collected from the administration of the Working Families Tax Credit program, including demographic information.

This report includes Working Families Tax Credit data from tax years 2022 through 2024.

The report is available under “Reports and publications” on our website at [Statistics & Reports](#).

If you have questions about this report, please contact Kathy Oline, Assistant Director of Research and Fiscal Analysis, at 360-534-1534.

Attachment

cc: Members, Senate Ways and Means Committee  
Members, House Finance Committee  
K.D. Chapman-See, Director, Office of Financial Management  
Debbie Driver, Legislative Director, Office of the Governor

# Working Families Tax Credit Program

2025 Report to the Legislature  
Covering Tax Filing Years 2022-2024  
Under RCW 82.08.02061



## Program overview

[Engrossed Substitute House Bill 1297](#), passed during the 2021 legislative session, modified the Working Families Tax Exemption under [RCW 82.08.0206](#), including funding the program. The statute was originally established by [Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 6809](#) (2008). On Feb. 1, 2023, the department launched the program, accepting applications for tax year 2022.

The program provides a refund of retail sales and use taxes, with eligibility based in part on the federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) program. Individuals who qualify for the EITC and live in Washington for 183 or more days during the relevant tax year are eligible. The program also expands eligibility to include individuals who would qualify for the EITC but file taxes using an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) instead of a Social Security Number (SSN).

The public policy objectives of this program are to:

- Stimulate local economic activity.
- Advance racial equity.
- Promote economic stability and well-being for lower-income working people, including ITIN filers.

[Second Substitute House Bill 1477](#) (2023) modified the program name to Working Families Tax Credit (WFTC) and expanded eligibility to include individuals who filed their federal income tax return under the married filing separately status, beginning with tax year 2023. The expansion also allowed eligible individuals to apply for any refunds for which they were eligible but did not claim, for up to three years from the date their federal return was due.

[House Bill 1895](#) (2024) modified the WFTC program by clarifying that the credit is refundable, simplifying and streamlining eligibility verification, and updating self-attestation procedures to improve administrative efficiency.

The number of qualifying children in the household determines the maximum credit amount that can be received. The maximum income aligns with federal EITC guidelines. Credit amounts are reduced based on earned income as it approaches the federal phase-out level. The minimum refund is \$50.

Maximum and minimum refund amounts are adjusted annually for inflation and rounded to the nearest \$5. The maximum credit amounts by number of qualifying children are shown in Table 1.

**Table 1**  
**Maximum credit amount**

Number of qualifying children	2022	2023	2024
0	\$300	\$315	\$325
1	\$600	\$625	\$640
2	\$900	\$940	\$965
3+	\$1,200	\$1,255	\$1,290

## Understanding this publication

- The WFTC program begins accepting refund applications each year on February 1 for the previous IRS federal tax year.
- All references to the year correspond with the IRS federal tax year.
- Applications for refunds may be filed for the current tax filing year and the three immediately preceding tax years, allowing taxpayers to apply for refunds covering a total of four tax years, including the current filing period. This means the data within this report is subject to change.
- All datasets included in this report were collected as of Oct. 15, 2025. Data from applications received after this date are not included.

## Application approvals by filing source

Applicants may submit applications using one of three methods:

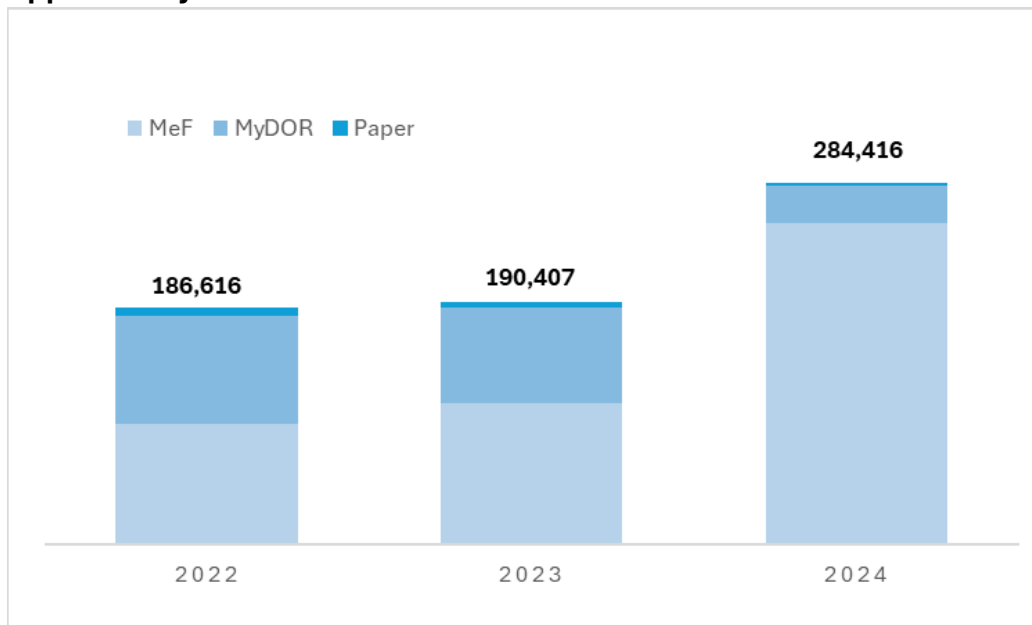
1. Paper application – Paper form submitted directly to the department.
2. MyDOR – Electronic submission completed through the department’s online portal.
3. IRS Modernized e-File (MeF) – Electronic filing submitted through a third-party tax preparation vendor’s software at the same time as the federal filing.

Expansion of vendors offering application support for the program has contributed to a substantial increase in modernized e-file submissions (MeF) in tax year 2024. Table 2 presents the breakdown of application approvals by year, categorized by filing source, along with the total number of applications approved each year.

**Table 2**  
**Total applications approved**

Filing Source	MeF	MyDOR	Paper	Total
2022	94,977	84,674	6,965	186,616
2023	111,158	74,920	4,329	190,407
2024	253,210	28,949	2,257	284,416

**Figure 1**  
**Approvals by source**



## Approvals by household composition

Filing status represents the federal filing status an applicant used when filing their income tax return.

- ‘Single’ includes applicants who filed as Head of Household, Married Filing Separately, Single, or Qualifying Widow(er).
- ‘Joint’ includes applicants who filed as Married Filing Jointly.

Table 3 presents the breakdown of applications approved by filing status, along with the number of qualifying children per year. Table 4 represents the total refunds issued for each filing status and number of qualifying children per year.

**Table 3**  
**Approvals by household composition**

Filing Status	Number of qualifying children	Count			Count %		
		2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
Single	0	30,921	31,913	63,649	16.6%	16.8%	22.4%
	1	53,160	53,404	81,182	28.5%	28.0%	28.5%
	2	36,487	36,882	50,026	19.6%	19.4%	17.6%
	3+	20,235	20,620	25,961	10.8%	10.8%	9.1%
Joint	0	4,195	4,372	6,763	2.2%	2.3%	2.4%
	1	10,703	11,289	16,417	5.7%	5.9%	5.8%
	2	14,259	14,840	19,385	7.6%	7.8%	6.8%
	3+	16,656	17,087	21,033	8.9%	9.0%	7.4%
Total		186,616	190,407	284,416			

**Table 4**  
**Total refunded by household composition**

Filing Status	Number of qualifying children	Total Refund			Refunded %		
		2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
Single	0	\$8,734,449	\$9,525,079	\$19,549,975	6.5%	6.7%	9.5%
	1	\$30,452,650	\$32,005,050	\$49,823,449	22.8%	22.4%	24.2%
	2	\$31,798,857	\$33,713,520	\$46,951,096	23.8%	23.6%	22.8%
	3+	\$23,738,312	\$25,319,324	\$32,799,407	17.8%	17.7%	16.0%
Joint	0	\$1,206,352	\$1,328,285	\$2,120,190	0.9%	0.9%	1.0%
	1	\$6,121,479	\$6,783,643	\$10,075,657	4.6%	4.8%	4.9%
	2	\$12,224,167	\$13,413,426	\$18,001,462	9.2%	9.4%	8.8%
	3+	\$19,149,841	\$20,688,067	\$26,268,265	14.4%	14.5%	12.8%
Total		\$133,426,107	\$142,776,394	\$205,589,501			

## Application approvals by reported race and ethnicity

Race and ethnicity information was collected from an optional section of the application. This section received limited participation. Due to the limited number of applicants choosing to respond, the race and ethnicity data may not fully represent the overall applicant population.

Table 5 presents the reported race data of the primary applicant for each tax year. Applicants were asked to select all of the races that apply to them, so the total represents the number of responses, rather than the number of unique applicants. Figure 2 visualizes this data, excluding applicants who selected “Prefer not to answer” or did not respond.

**Table 5**  
**Primary applicant’s reported race**

Race	Count			Count %		
	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
American Indian/Alaskan Native	756	1,881	732	1.5%	4.0%	3.1%
Asian	4,294	3,721	2,222	8.5%	7.9%	9.3%
Black or African American	5,700	5,406	2,971	11.3%	11.5%	12.5%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	1,609	1,464	549	3.2%	3.1%	2.3%
White	34,866	31,423	16,024	69.0%	67.0%	67.2%
Other Race	3,303	3,023	1,359	6.5%	6.4%	5.7%
Total Responses	50,528	46,918	23,857			
Did not answer	138,861	146,692	261,836			

**Figure 2**  
**Race as reported by the primary applicant**

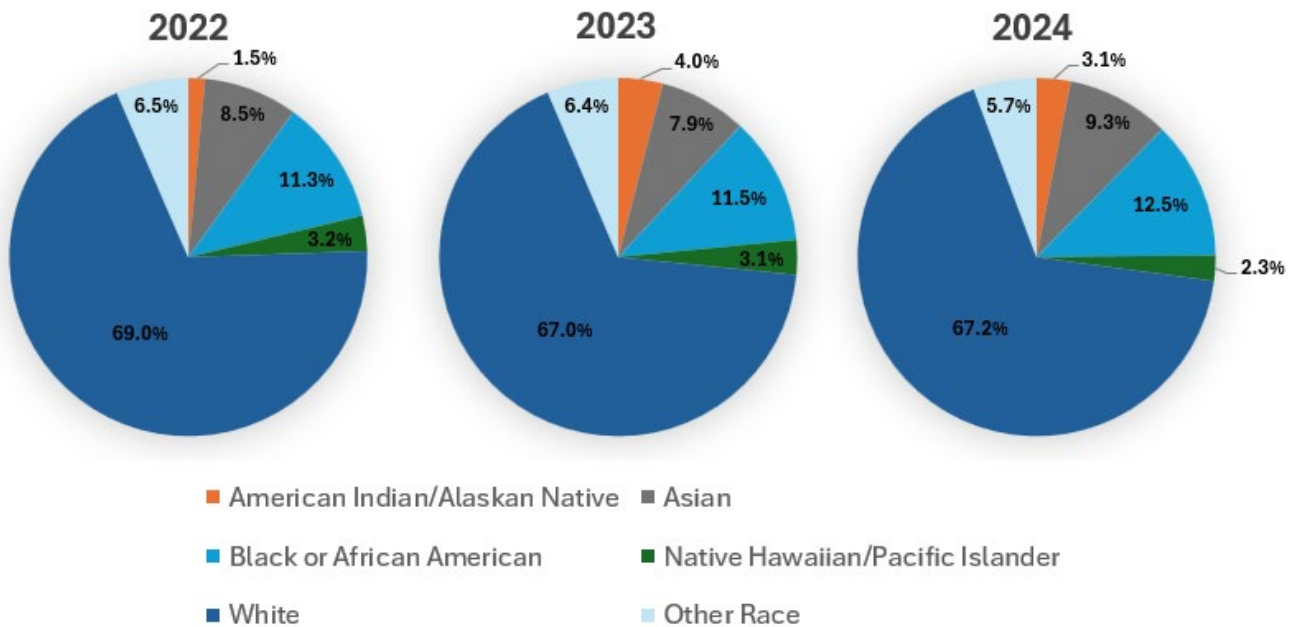
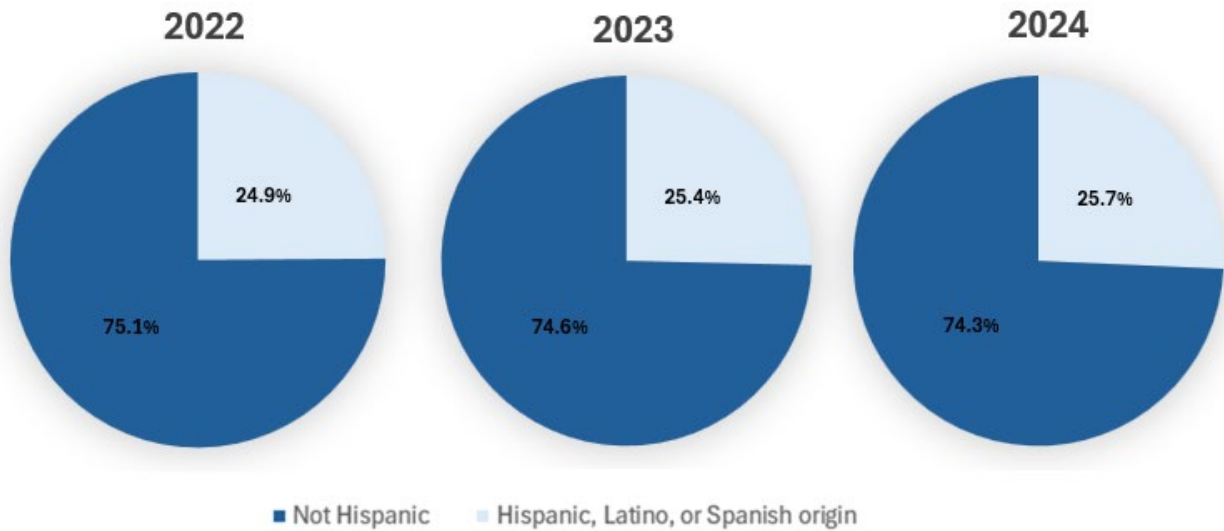


Table 6 shows the number of application approvals by reported ethnicity. Figure 3 compares primary applicants who identified as Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin with those who did not, excluding applicants who selected “Prefer not to answer” or did not respond. While the number of responses has decreased, the percentages remain relatively constant.

**Table 6**  
**Primary applicant’s reported ethnicity**

Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish Origin	Count			Count %		
	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish Origin	10,520	9,481	4,608	24.9%	25.4%	25.7%
Not Hispanic	31,748	27,887	13,330	75.1%	74.6%	74.3%
Total Responses	42,268	37,368	17,938			
Did not answer	144,348	153,039	297,387			

**Figure 3**  
**Percent of primary applicants reporting Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish Origin**



## Application approvals by county

When an applicant submits an application, they are asked for their residential address. Table 7 reports the number of applications approved by county for tax year 2024.

Figure 4 shows the applications approved by county, listed in order from most to least. Figure 5 shows this same information in map format.

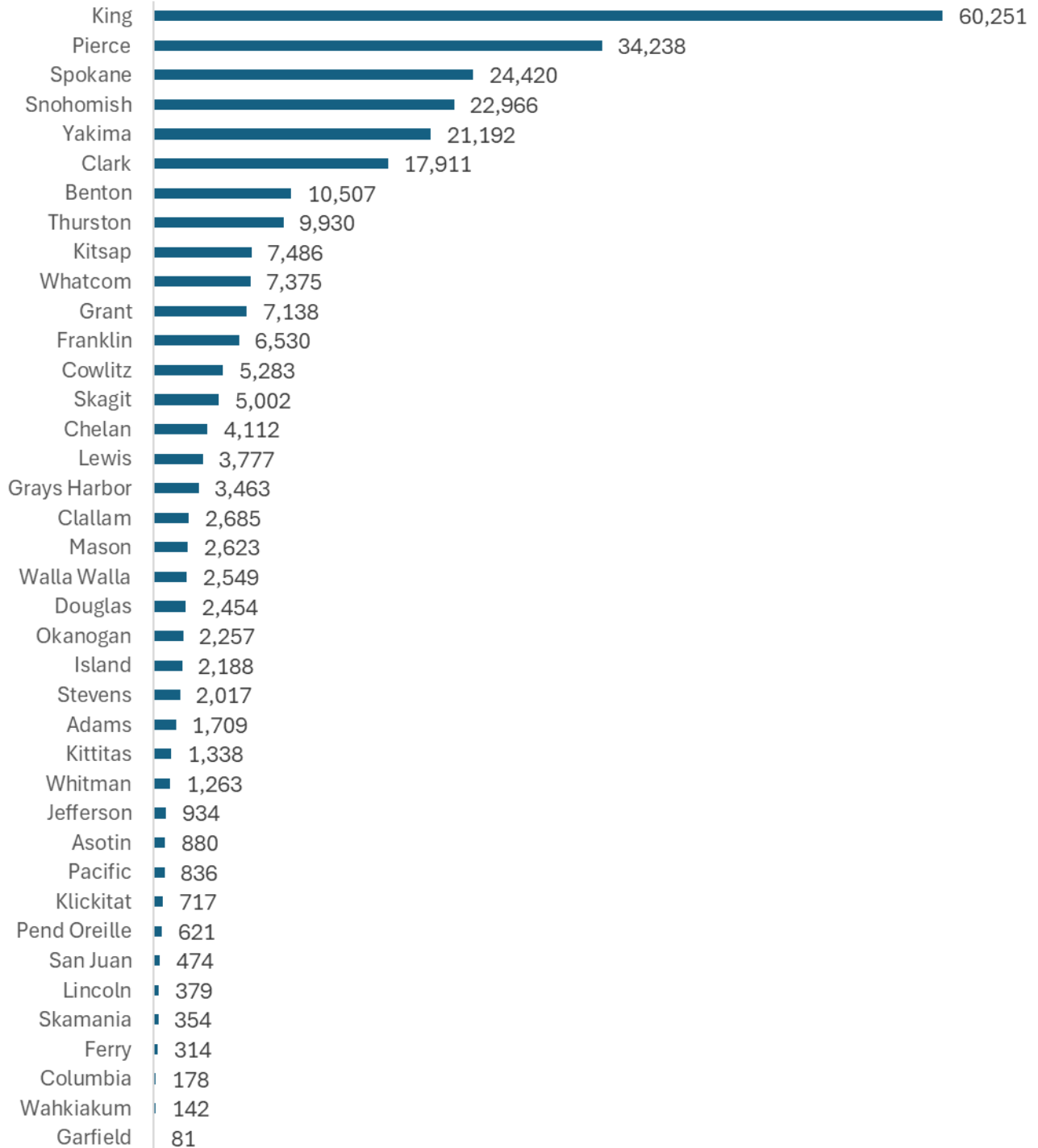
In some cases, applicants submitted an address that is different than the address they lived at during the qualifying tax year. As a result, some applicants were unable to be assigned a county. In most cases, this occurred because the applicant relocated out of state after the tax filing year.

**Table 7**  
**Application approvals by county, 2024**

Approvals by county		
County	Count	Count %
Adams	1,709	0.60%
Asotin	880	0.31%
Benton	10,507	3.69%
Chelan	4,112	1.45%
Clallam	2,685	0.94%
Clark	17,911	6.30%
Columbia	178	0.06%
Cowlitz	5,283	1.86%
Douglas	2,454	0.86%
Ferry	314	0.11%
Franklin	6,530	2.30%
Garfield	81	0.03%
Grant	7,138	2.51%
Grays Harbor	3,463	1.22%
Island	2,188	0.77%
Jefferson	934	0.33%
King	60,251	21.18%
Kitsap	7,486	2.63%
Kittitas	1,338	0.47%
Klickitat	717	0.25%

Approvals by county (continued)		
County	Count	Count %
Lewis	3,777	1.33%
Lincoln	379	0.13%
Mason	2,623	0.92%
Okanogan	2,257	0.79%
Pacific	836	0.29%
Pend Oreille	621	0.22%
Pierce	34,238	12.04%
San Juan	474	0.17%
Skagit	5,002	1.76%
Skamania	354	0.12%
Snohomish	22,966	8.07%
Spokane	24,420	8.59%
Stevens	2,017	0.71%
Thurston	9,930	3.49%
Wahkiakum	142	0.05%
Walla Walla	2,549	0.90%
Whatcom	7,375	2.59%
Whitman	1,263	0.44%
Yakima	21,192	7.45%
No County Assigned	5,842	2.05%
<b>Total</b>	<b>284,416</b>	

**Figure 4**  
**Approvals by county, 2024**



**Figure 5**  
**Map of approvals by county, 2024**

