ARCHITECTURE AND THE WASHINGTON STATE ECONOMY

STATEWIDE

EMPLOYMENT

There are 448 fewer architects in Washington today than the profession’s peak in 2009.¹

Each year, hundreds of millions of dollars is transferred away from dedicated public works and into the state general funds.

Diversions like these have been enacted since 2008 with disastrous results:

Architectural & Engineering Employment: 35,000 (11.8% ↓ than high)²
Construction Employment: 141,600 (32.6% ↓ than high)³
Peak Architectural & Engineering Employment: 39,700 - July 2008³
Peak Construction Employment: 210,100 - Aug 2008¹

ARCHITECTURE

Architects’ annual salaries fell $7,691.00 since their peak in 2010 or $3.69/hour in lost wages.

Today, there are fewer architects residing in Washington State, despite more architects licensed than in 2011.³ Out-of-state competition is eroding the practices of Washington architects.

Architects Residing in Washington: 3,866³
Architects Licensed in Washington: 6,180³

ECONOMICS:

Gross revenue at firms in Q1-2 2013 was down 21% when compared to gross earnings in Q1-2 of 2010.⁶

Architects and engineers paid an additional $84.45 million in B&O taxes that sunset in 2013.

In 2013, Washington had 40% fewer building permits for new, privately-owned housing units than the ten-year high in 2005.⁷

Architecture, Engineering, & Related Services Gross Income: $8.8bn (2012 Annual; Subject to B&O)⁷
The Architectural Billings Index (ABI) serves as the leading economic indicator for non-residential construction activity leading by approximately 9-12 months. The Western Region ABI saw billings drop for 55 out of the past 72 months since January 2008.

Architectural Billings Index (West): 53.2 ↑ versus previous month

Number of Months with Fewer Billings than Previous: 55 out of last 72 months

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**REGION**

**Architectural Services Employment**

- US, in thousands

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<th>Year</th>
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**Architectural Billings Index: West Region**

Adjusted to Show Positive/Negative Billings versus Index of 50

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**NATIONAL**

**Architectural Services Employment**

- US, in thousands

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**Architectural Billings Index - National**

Adjusted to Show Positive/Negative Billings versus Index of 50

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