



CITY OF BELLEVUE



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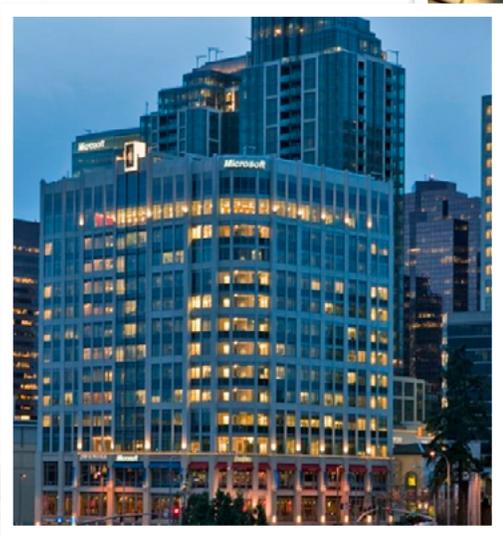
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OVERVIEW

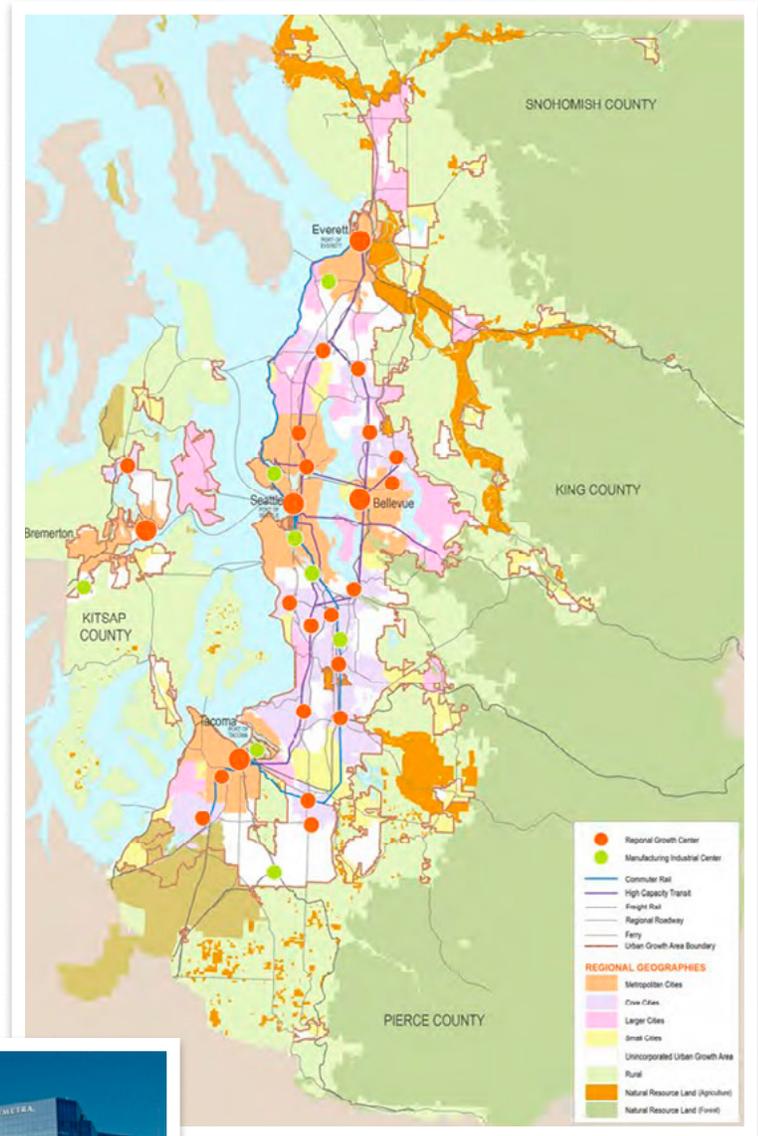
Thank you for considering Bellevue as a future location for your business! Bellevue is located in the heart of the Central Puget Sound Region and is one of five metropolitan centers in a region of 3.6 million people.

Bellevue is a great place for your business and an ideal community in which to live, work and play. Bellevue is well connected to other parts of the region via:

- ➔ Major federal and state highways
- ➔ Bellevue Transit Center
- ➔ Future East Link Light Rail

Bellevue is also less than 30 minutes to Microsoft headquarters, downtown Seattle, and the University of Washington, and less than 45 minutes to Seattle-Tacoma International airport.

Bellevue is an ideal location for your business due to our strong and supportive business climate, well educated and technologically savvy workforce, high quality of life, great schools, nearby colleges and universities and welcoming and supportive neighborhoods. We hope you make Bellevue the next location for your business.



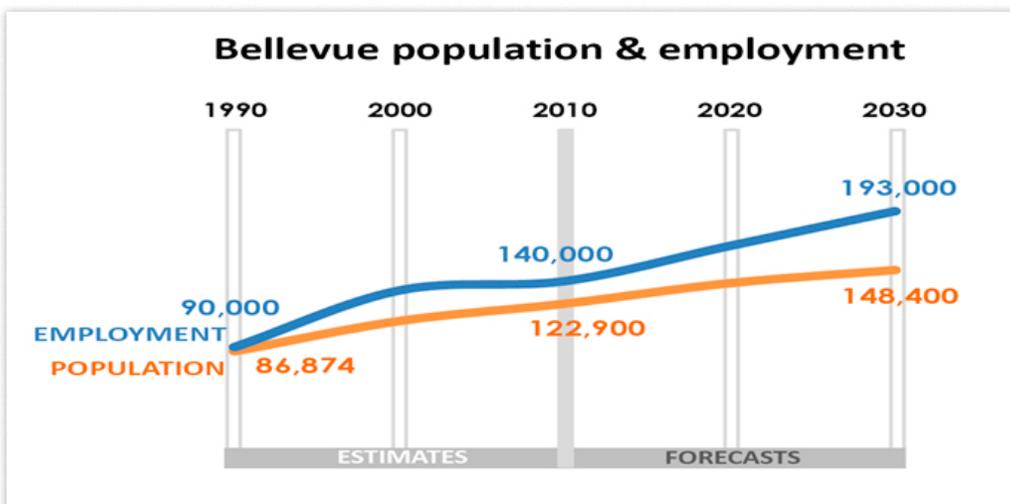
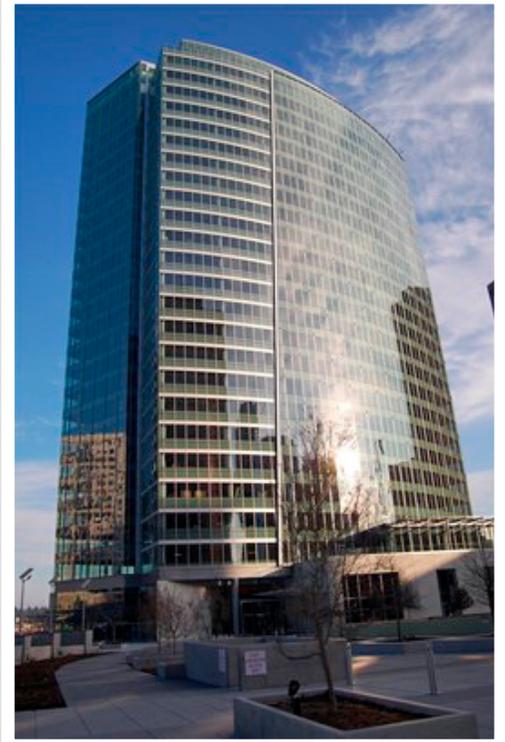
REGIONAL ECONOMIC CENTER

Bellevue is a **major regional employment center** in the Puget Sound region, with workers travelling to the City from throughout the area. Bellevue is also home to forty-five corporate headquarters such as:

- T-Mobile
- PACCAR
- Expedia
- Concur
- Eddie Bauer

Bellevue is **tied to the global market** as businesses are attracted to Bellevue due to the highly educated, well trained and diverse workforce. Many of Bellevue's businesses operate internationally and take advantage of the region's access to the Asia-Pacific market that provides tremendous opportunities for growth.

Bellevue's global engagement **attracts foreign direct investment** from around the world. Bellevue is now home to approximately 70 foreign-owned companies from 15 countries. Some of these companies include Aditi Technologies, SAP, Mitsubishi, and HTC.

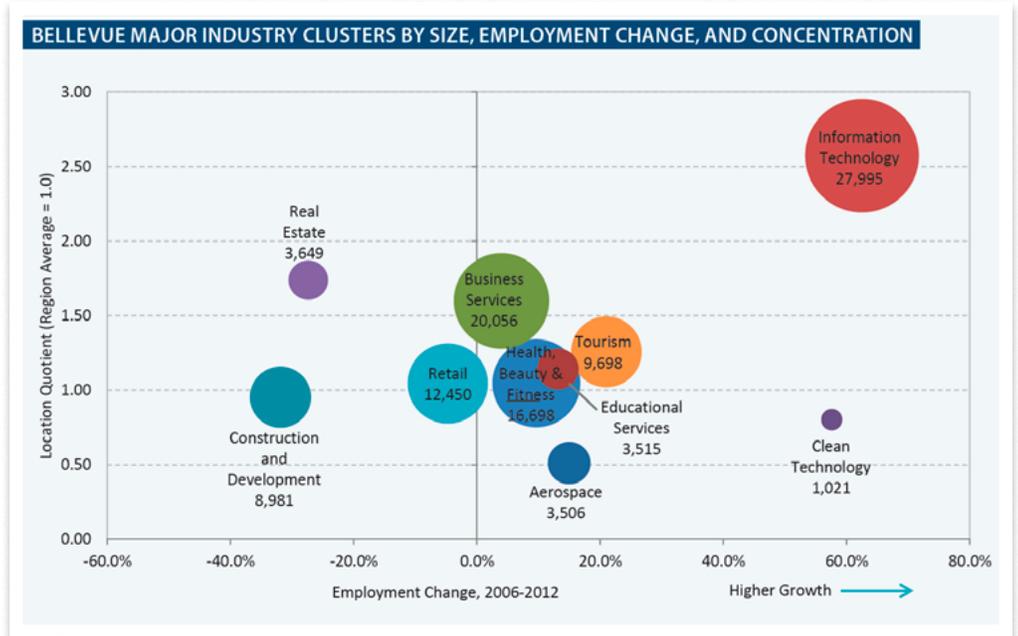


Bellevue's **population and employment have grown significantly** over the years and are projected to continue to grow as businesses and employees see Bellevue as a desirable location to live, work and play.

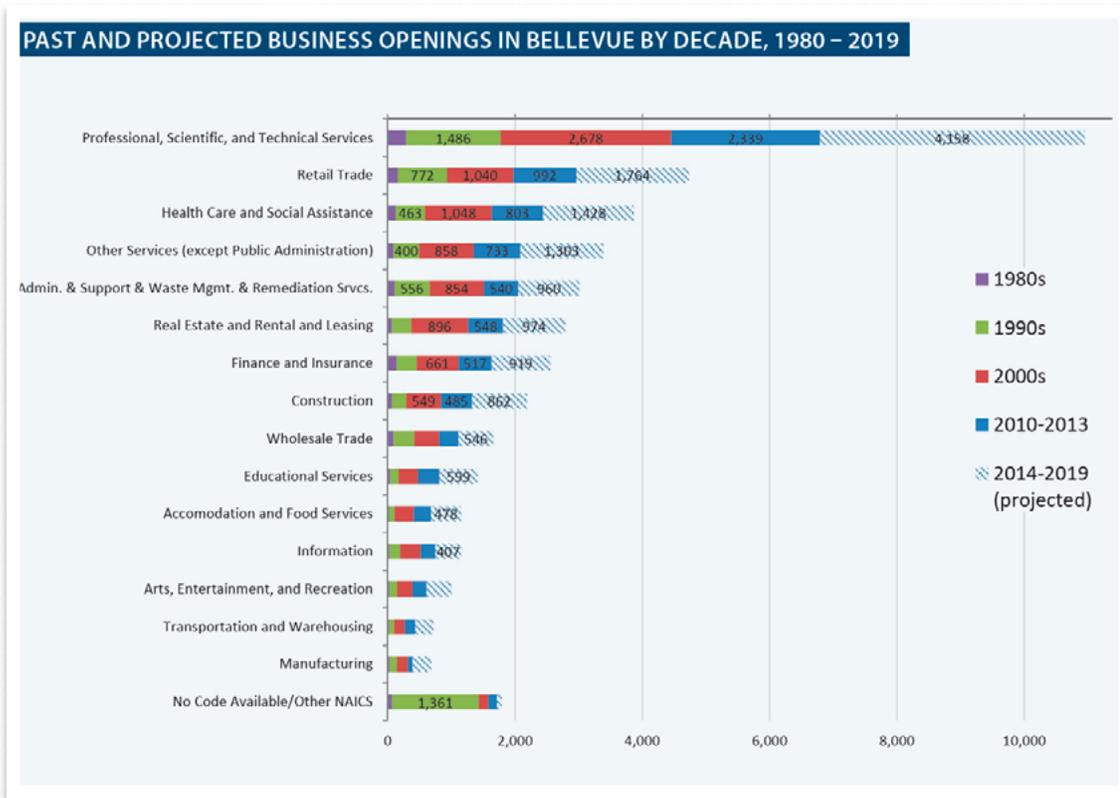
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MAJOR INDUSTRIES

Bellevue is known in the Puget Sound Region as a center for **Information Technology**. Information Technology companies are not only the largest employers in Bellevue, but also the fastest growing, and attract the best talent from the region and throughout the world. Bellevue is also a leader in **Business Services** and **Aerospace** and a growing center for companies in **Clean Technology**. Bellevue's technology sector is forecasted to continue to grow well into the 2010s.



Bellevue's economy is dynamic and growing. Information Technology (Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services), Retail Trade, and Health Care & Social Assistance are the three industries with the most business openings during the 2000s.

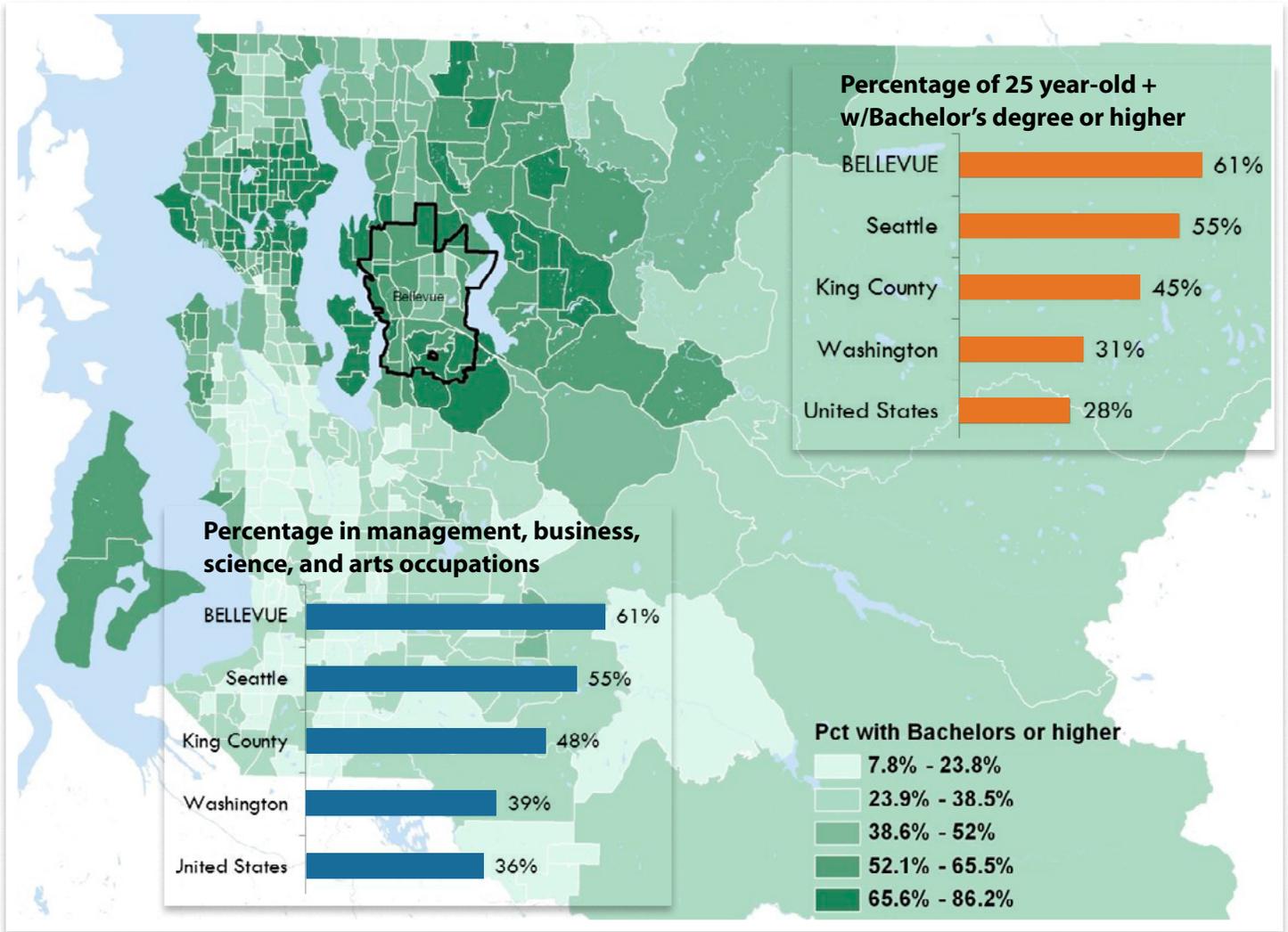


Together, they are projected to experience the most business opening growth during the 2010s.

It is projected there will be nearly 6,500 business openings in Information Technology, two and a half to three times more than Retail Trade and Health Care, in the 2010s.

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WORKFORCE



Bellevue is well-known for having a **highly educated and well trained workforce**. The percentage of Bellevue’s residents 25 years and older with a Bachelor’s degree or higher has continued to increase over the decades; rising from 46 percent in 1990 to 54 percent in 2000 to approximately 61 percent in 2006-2010; one of the highest in the state. Bellevue also leads the region with employees in management, business science and arts occupations.

Bellevue and the Puget Sound region is also home to **world-class teaching and research universities, and colleges** that provide the workforce needed for the region’s advanced economy.

- ➔ The **University of Washington** is one of the world’s preeminent public universities educating more than 54,000 students annually in information technology, biosciences, business and social sciences.
- ➔ **Bellevue College** is the third largest institution of higher learning in Washington, providing education and job training skills to more than 37,000 students each year.

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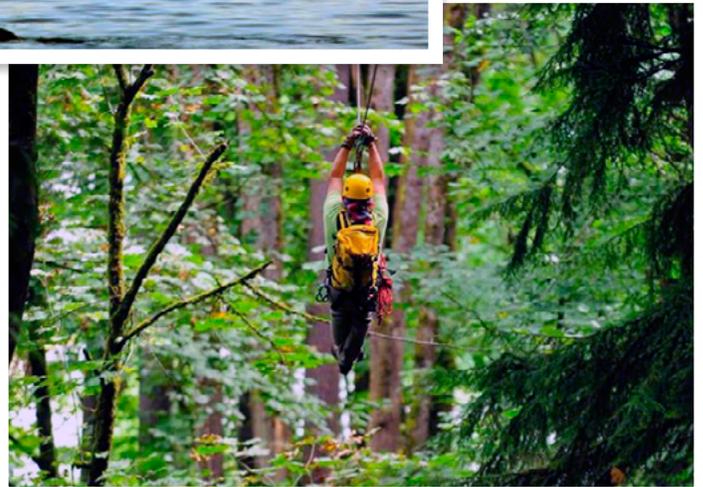
QUALITY OF LIFE

Bellevue is known as the **“City in the Park”**. Situated between the shimmering waters of Lake Washington and Lake Sammamish, and surrounded by mountain views of the Cascade and Olympic mountain ranges and Mount Rainier; Bellevue’s residents have an abundance of natural beauty at their doorstep.



Bellevue has **year-round cultural opportunities** for residents and local businesses.

- ➔ Rich array of culture, arts and entertainment
- ➔ Bellevue’s Art Museum and Arts Fair
- ➔ Wintergrass and Bellevue Jazz Festivals
- ➔ Diverse restaurants and grocery stores
- ➔ High-end shopping



Bellevue is a **growing and diverse community** with residents representing all regions of the world. It is a welcoming and supportive community with strong neighborhoods, world-class schools, vibrant culture, active outdoor lifestyles and world-class amenities. It’s the perfect place for your business, employees and family to live, work and play.



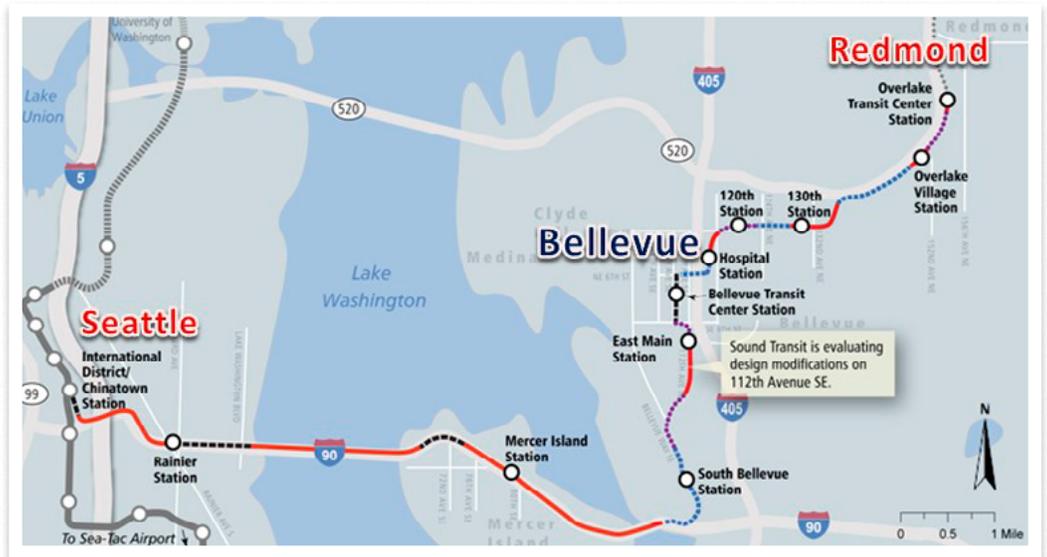
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BELLEVUE'S FUTURE

Bellevue's future continues to look bright. **East Link Light Rail** will provide additional transportation and commuting options to the Central Puget Sound Region and serve as a catalyst for continued economic growth in Bellevue.

East Link will:

- ➔ Connect Bellevue and the Eastside to Seattle with high-quality rail service.
- ➔ Provide six stations in Bellevue's major employment centers.
- ➔ Begin operations in 2022/23.



The development of the **Spring District** is already well underway and will continue the City's focus on developing **innovative livable, walkable communities** that blend a variety of places and shops, with access to public transit such as East Link Light Rail. Spaces are flexible and lend themselves to collaboration. Blocks are short and walkable, and building practices respect the surrounding environment.

SUPPORT FOR BUSINESS



Bellevue, the Puget Sound Region and the State of Washington have a **strong and supportive culture for business**. The City of Bellevue along with our regional economic development partners at the Economic Development Council of King County and Seattle, the Trade and Development Alliance of Greater Seattle, King County Economic Development and State of Washington Department of Commerce work hard to make your location to the Puget Sound region a success.

Washington State offers a range of incentives geared toward attracting and retaining businesses that will create jobs and enhance economic vitality and stability. Most of the incentives are customized to meet the needs of specific industries. If you are interested in growing or expanding your business in the Bellevue, we would be happy to introduce you to the State of Washington Business Development team to help you identify which incentives fit your business model so that you can use the exemptions and deferrals to your advantage, reducing your tax burden in the process.

King County offers an attractive tax structure for many types of businesses. Washington State currently ranks 11th highest on the Small Business Survival Index. The tax system also features a state and local property tax with annual increases subject to statutory limitations and a Business and Occupation Tax based upon gross receipts. Washington State's tax system features:

- ➔ No corporate income tax
- ➔ No unitary tax
- ➔ No inventory tax
- ➔ No personal income tax
- ➔ No tax on interest, dividends or capital gains
- ➔ No sales or use tax on machinery and equipment used in manufacturing operations
- ➔ A state and local property tax with annual increases subject to statutory limitations
- ➔ A business and occupation (B&O) tax which is based on gross receipts



WorkSource of Seattle and King County can help your business meet your hiring requirements and is well equipped to assist you in arranging customized training for your staff—an important resource for increasing the skill level of your workforce, as well as retaining valuable employees.

The City of Bellevue is committed to helping businesses thrive. Whether entrepreneurs, small businesses or medium to large corporations, Bellevue works with local and regional agencies to serve the business community's needs. Bellevue collects general taxes from businesses, primarily the business and occupation (B&O) tax. In addition, the City collects a number of special taxes on specific types of business activity, including the utility tax, gambling tax and admission tax. Businesses can register with the city and state at the same time with a master license. The City of Bellevue will also assist you step-by-step to ensure your permitting process is successful and meets your company's needs and timeline. Finally, through our Business Retention and Expansion program, we will continue to provide your company with the support and services you need to be successful.