

#### Updated May 9, 2023

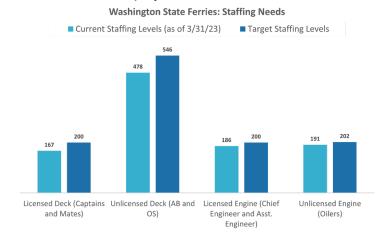
#### **Overview**

Washington State Ferries is incrementally adding service to meet increasing demand as the ferry system recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic and responds to ongoing crew and vessel availability challenges. A return to full capacity of the system is dependent on several variables, including:

- Ridership levels and accommodating the seasonal increase in summer peak season ridership.
- The ability of WSF to recruit, hire and train new employees to fill key positions.
- The rate of retirements and other separations that contribute to overall staffing levels.
- Lack of vessels due to unanticipated breakdowns and an aging fleet.

# **Progress toward reaching targeted staffing levels**

In 2022, WSF hired 233 new employees, 202 of whom are fleet personnel. However, 141 employees left the agency due to retirement or other reasons, resulting in a net gain of 61 new fleet employees.



### **Service Restoration Process**

Route Prioritization Stage
Confirm route prioritization

Alternate Service Stage
Review resources to determine when the route can reliably be restored

Crewing Availability ✓ Vessel Availability ✓



Trial Service Stage

Monitor reliability and track when the route meets 95% reliability over a three week period

Reliability ✓



Restored Service Stage
Route is restored to regular service levels

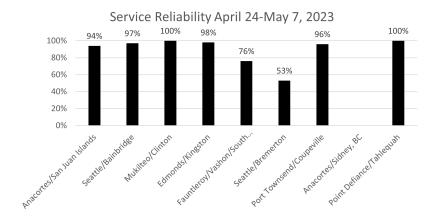


# **Ferry Service Restoration**

WSF has prioritized ferry routes based on ridership, service performance, availability and directness of travel alternatives, and vessel and crew availability.

### **Service Reliability**

During the trial stage, WSF's target is 95% reliability over three weeks before considering a route fully restored. This chart illustrates current reliability for all routes based on a regular schedule.



## **Upcoming Service Changes**

- While WSF had previously estimated restoring service on the Fauntleroy/Vashon/Southworth route in spring 2023, due to attrition and continued crewing and vessel availability constraints, this is no longer possible. Triangle Route customers should plan to remain on the two-boat schedule for the foreseeable future.
- The Seattle/Bremerton route will continue the current one-boat schedule until the Fauntleroy/Vashon/Southworth route is fully restored and WSF has crew and a vessel available to operate two boat service.
- WSF anticipates beginning a trial of full, two-boat service on the Port Townsend/Coupeville route in spring 2024.
- WSF does not anticipate being able to restore international service on the Anacortes/Sidney, B.C. route any sooner than spring 2030, although we continue to explore options to do it sooner.

## Systemwide Ridership

Total 2023 ridership compared to previous years (data updated as of 5/14/23)

