



#### Updated July 11, 2023

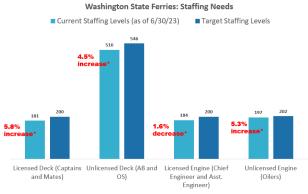
## **Overview**

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:

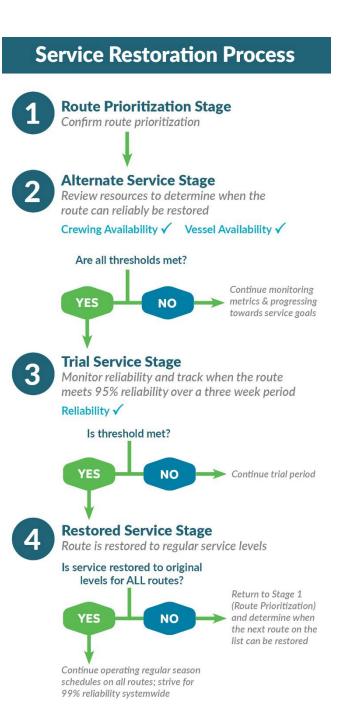
- Ridership levels and accommodating the seasonal increase in summer peak season ridership.
- The ability of WSF to recruit, hire and train new employees to fill key positions.
- The rate of retirements and other separations that contribute to overall staffing levels.
- Lack of vessels due to unanticipated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



\* Percent change since January 2023

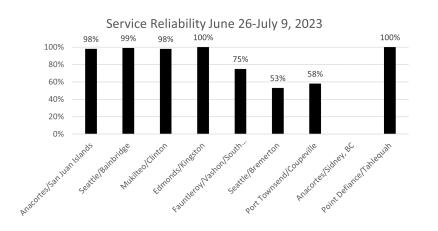


# **Ferry Service Restoration**

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**

- WSF estimates vessel and crew availability will allow us to restore full three-boat service on the Fauntleroy/Vashon/Southworth route in early-2024. Triangle Route customers should plan to remain on the two-boat schedule until then. When crewing and a vessel are available, WSF is operating a third, unscheduled vessel on the route to help keep the other two vessels on schedule.
- The Seattle/Bremerton route will continue the current one-boat schedule until the Triangle 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 7/9/23)



