

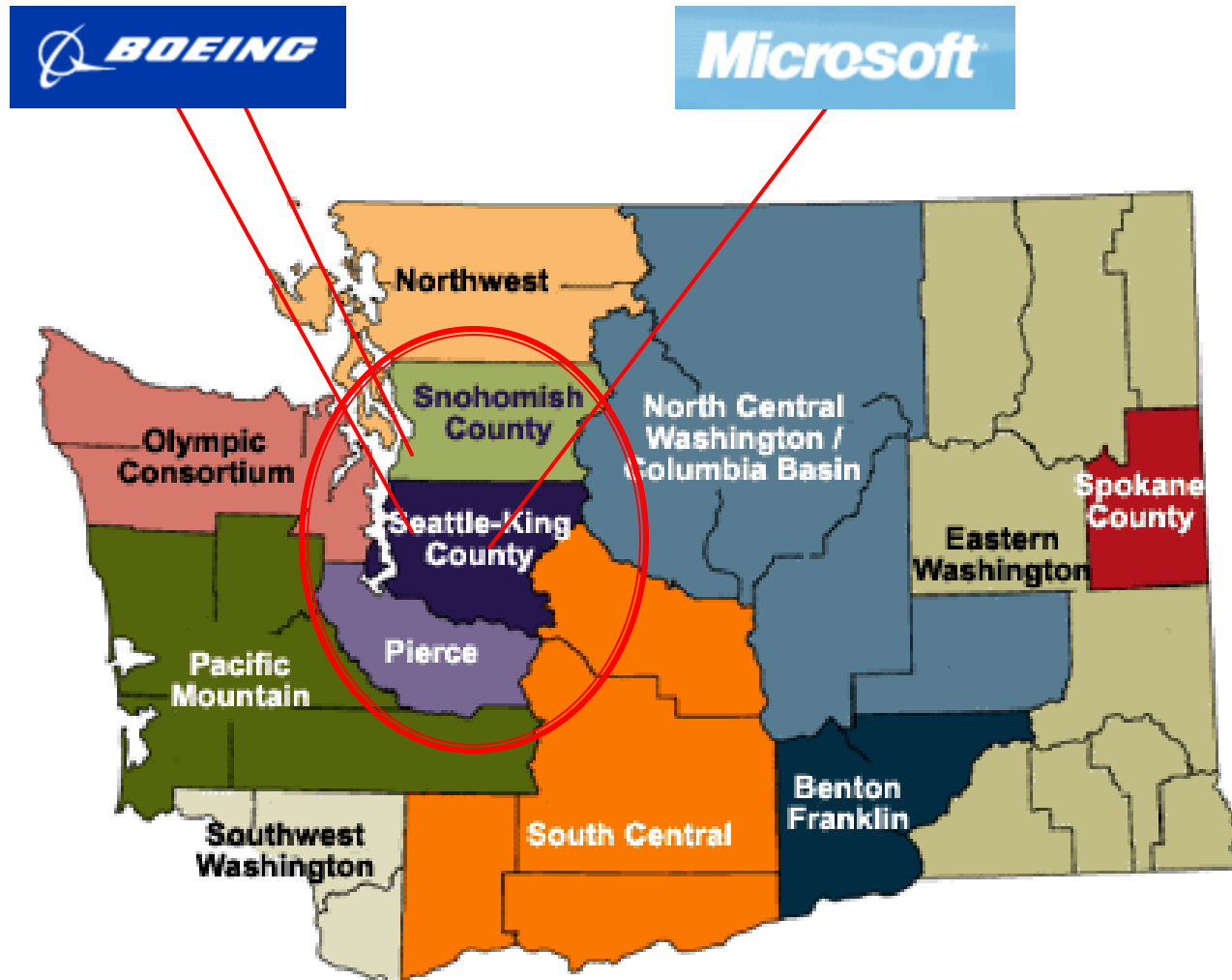
# The Puget Sound STEM Initiative

Carl Fender, Everett Public Schools

Dick Sander, Everett Public Schools

Mark Madison, Edmonds School District

# A Look At Our Region

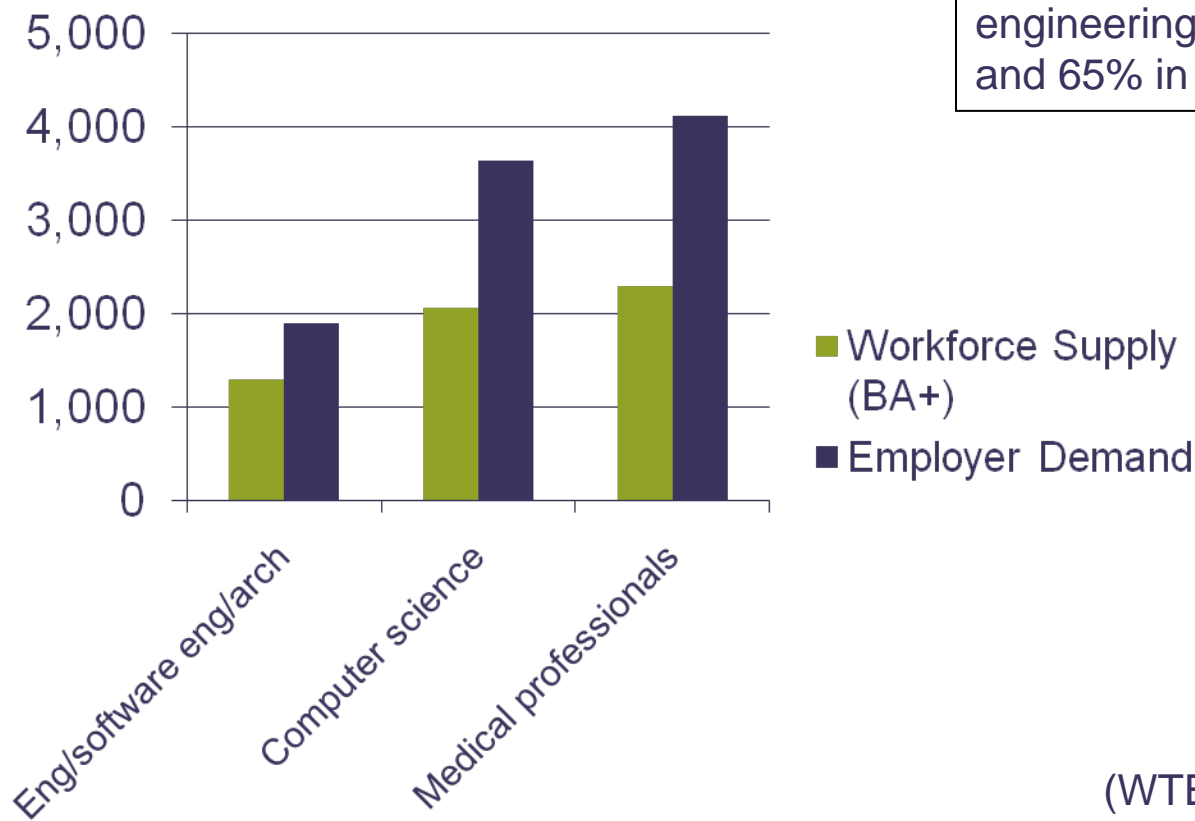


# Washington's Dilemma

- Washington has the 4<sup>th</sup> highest concentration of STEM-based industries in the country –
- but ranks 46<sup>th</sup> for participation in science and engineering graduate programs.

# Demand Outpacing Supply for STEM Workers in WA

**Graduates with BA or higher (2006) vs. Expected Job Openings (2009 – 2014)**



Current degree production meets only 67% of the expected annual job openings from 2009 – 2014 in engineering, 56% in computer science and 65% in the medical profession.

# The Puget Sound STEM Initiative

- **The Purpose**

- STEM Readiness and Implementation

- **The Players**

- Fifteen School Districts representing Puget Sound Region
- Three Regional Teams – Northern, Southern, Eastern

- **The Process**

- Needs Assessment around Key Indicators
- Guided Research around Effective STEM Practices
- STEM Summit

# Guiding Questions for Discussion

## Initial Question:

- What is STEM Education and Its Purpose?

## Additional Questions:

- What does effective STEM Education look like?
- Who is STEM Education for?
- What are the implications of STEM Education for individual departments?

# Shared Team Conclusions

- STEM as a shared, integrated systemic approach, not an isolated program
- STEM education is for ALL students, not a select few
- Effective STEM education involves engaged and coordinated partnerships
- Incentives for STEM pursuits exist at all levels
- Ongoing professional development is critical
- Career guidance and awareness around STEM is key