



Demographics

Overall Health and Well-being

Since 2010, there has been a national effort called the *County Health Rankings* that helps counties understand how well they are doing in creating a 'culture of health' in their communities. The annual rankings based upon Health Outcomes data help a community understand its current health status and Health Factors help inform the future health status of the community. (1)

Selected Mason County Health Outcomes Rankings (1)

Health Outcome	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	WA State 2017
Overall Health Outcome Ranking	33rd	31st	33rd	29th	28th	-
Premature death rate**	7,114	7,114	7,619	7,600	7,500	5,500
Premature death rate ranking	28th	28th	32th	33rd	31st	-
Percent of population reporting poor/fair health	19%	18%	18%	15%*	16%*	14%
Quality of life ranking	37th	33rd	32nd	24th	27th	-

NOTE: * Data should not be compared to prior years due to a method/definition change.

** Premature Death represents years of potential life lost (YPLL) before age 75 per 100,000 population (age-adjusted). Age-adjusting is done to remove the effect of differently aged populations as a risk factor for premature death.

Population

Mason County is largely a rural community. With an area of 961.1 square miles, the population density is 65.75 individuals per square mile. The majority of the population lives in the unincorporated areas of the county. Mason County has experienced minimal population growth since 2010. (2)

Population by County and School District Boundaries (2)

Area	# in 2012	# in 2017	% of Total 2017	% Change 2012-17
Mason County Total	61,450	63,190	-	↑3%
Grapeview SD	2,618	2,753	4%	↑5%
Hood Canal SD	6,014	6,296	10%	↑5%
Mary M. Knight SD	1,414	1,436	2%	↑2%
North Mason SD	15,032	15,594	25%	↑4%
Pioneer School SD	10,196	10,479	17%	↑3%
Shelton SD	23,942	24,379	38%	↑2%
Southside SD	2,251	2,275	4%	↑1%

The fastest growing subpopulations are seniors and adults in the 20-24 year age range. There have been small decreases in a few sub-populations, namely teens 15-19 years, as well as adults 25-54 years of age.

Population by Age (2)

Age Group	# in 2012	# in 2017	% of Total 2017	% Change 2012-2017
0-4	3,177	3,226	5%	↑ 2%
5-9	3,375	3,414	5%	↑1%
10-14	3,529	3,539	5%	↑<1%
15-19	3,436	3,342	5%	↓ 3%
20-24	3,480	3,617	6%	↑4%
25-34	7,046	6,974	11%	↓<1%
35-44	6,940	6,849	11%	↓<1%
45-54	8,589	7,798	12%	↓9%
55-64	9,829	9,852	16%	↑ <1%
65-74	7,162	8,719	14%	↑22%
75-84	3,640	4,142	7%	↑14%
85+	1,247	1,718	3%	↑38%
Total	61,450	63,190	-	↑3%

Population by Race and Ethnicity

Although Mason County is still a predominately white population, individuals who identify as Hispanic of any race represent a slightly larger percent of the population, when compared to 2012 census data. (2)

Population by Race and Ethnicity, 2012 and 2017 (2)

Race/Ethnicity	# in 2012	% of Total 2012	# in 2017	% of Total 2017	% Change 2012-2017
American Indian/Alaskan Native	2,632	4%	2,766	4%	↑5%
Asian	776	1%	873	1%	↑13%
Black	705	1%	731	1%	↑4%
Pacific Islanders/Native Hawaiian	248	<1%	287	<1%	↑16%
White	54,689	89%	55,647	88%	↑2%
2 or more races	2,400	4%	2,886	5%	↑20%
Total	61,450	-	63,190	-	↑ 3%
Hispanic	5,148	8%	6,005	10%	↑17%

Select Subpopulation by Age for Hispanic Community (2)

Age Group	# in 2012	% of Total 2012	# in 2017	% of Total 2017
0-4	700	14%	807	13%
5-9	597	12%	693	12%
10-14	493	10%	571	10%
15-19	438	9%	494	8%
20-24	523	10%	622	10%
25-34	1,005	19%	1,148	19%
35-44	627	12%	733	12%
45-54	369	7%	408	7%
55-64	221	4%	269	4%
65-74	122	2%	182	3%
75-84	43	1%	61	1%
85+	10	<1%	16	<1%
Total	5,148	-	6,005	-

Family Structure

The majority of Mason County households are defined as families. Families may be related by marriage, blood or adoption and may or may not include the presence of children. (3)

Mason County Household (HH) Types (3)

Type of Households	# HH in 2012	# HH in 2016
Total Households	23,274	22,454
Households with one or more children under 18	6,168	5,726
Subtotal of Non-family HH	7,693	7,562
Subtotal of Family HH	15,581	14,892
Male householder, no wife present	1,104	1,228
Female householder, no husband present	1,947	2,183

Selected Households by Type (4)

Population by Type of Arrangement	% of HH in 2012	% of HH in 2016
HH with 1+ people under 18 years	27%	26%
HH with 1+ people 60 years +	43%	49%
HH living alone	26%	27%
HH living alone, over 65 years	10%	12%

Selected Characteristics of Multi-generation Households, 2012-2016 (5)

Characteristics	% of HH in 2016
Grandparents living with grandchildren under 18 yr	1,575
% of these grandparents in the workforce	56%
% of these grandparents with any disability	11%
% of these grandparents living in poverty	13%
% of these grandparents who are responsible for grandchildren	11%

Income

The economic picture at the household level can be understood from a variety of perspectives. Median household income describes the point where half the households make more than the amount and half make less. Per capita income is calculated by totaling all income and dividing by the total population size, regardless if the individuals are earning any income.

Per Capita Income 2010 and 2014 (6)

Area	2010	2014	% increase
Mason County	\$30,636	\$35,732	17%
Washington State	\$42,112	\$49,610	18%

Median Household Income 2010 and 2016 (7)

Area	2010	2016 (projection)	% increase
Mason County	\$47,273	\$53,633	13%
Washington State	\$54,888	\$65,500	19%

Mason County households rely more heavily on Social Security, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), and SNAP benefits as sources of income when compared to the state in general. On the flip side, the number of Mason County households who rely on earnings as a source of income is less than the state average. (8)

Household (HH) Income and Benefits Sources, 2012-16. (8)

Type of Household	Mason	% of HH	WA
Total # of Households	22,454	-	
HHs with earnings	14,103	63%	79%
HHs with social security	9,924	44%	29%
HHs with retirement income	7,872	35%	19%
HHs with SSI	1,404	6%	5%
HHs with SNAP benefits	4,051	18%	14%

Poverty

Poverty data helps a community partially understand the scope of residents experiencing economic distress.

Federal Poverty Rates for Select Populations, 2012-2016 (9)

Population	Mason 2012	Mason 2016	WA 2016
Total population in poverty	17.4%	17.0%	15.1%
Children under 18 years	26.8%	27.4%	21.2%
Children under 18 in extreme poverty*	13.8%	11.4%	9.4%

NOTE: *Extreme Poverty is defined as families with incomes less than 50 percent of the federal poverty level, as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget.

Federal Poverty Level 2017 (10)

Household Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Net Monthly Income	\$1005	\$1,353	\$1,702	\$2,050	\$2,398	\$2,747	\$3,095	\$3,443

Another example of households experiencing economic distress in our county are known as ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained and Employed), more familiarly known as the 'working poor.' (11)

Distribution of Poverty and ALICE Households (HH) in Mason County, 2013 (11)

Area	# of HH	% ALICE and Poverty
Allyn CDP*	806	16%
Belfair CDP	1,236	49%
Grapeview CDP	496	31%
Hoodsport CDP	359	52%
Shelton City	3453	49%
Skokomish CDP	178	59%
Union CDP	259	29%

NOTE: CPD - Congressional District.

A variety of public assistance programs are available to the poor and the near poor, or ALICE households. These programs include SNAP and Free and Reduced Meal Programs where the income eligibility is 130% of federal poverty level and 185% of federal poverty level, respectively.

Participation Rates in Public Assistance Program – Basic Food SNAP (12)

Population	Mason 2012	Mason 2016	WA 2016
Total	25%	25%	19%
Children under 18 years	46%	44%	30%
Adults 19-64 years	24%	25%	17%
Seniors 65+ years	5%	6%	10%

Participation Rates in Free and Reduced Meal Programs (13)

School District	2012-13	2016-17
Grapeview School District	46%	45%
Hood Canal School District	77%	79%
Mary M. Knight School District	58%	29%
North Mason School District	49%	52%
Pioneer School District	63%	67%
Shelton School District	66%	65%
Southside School District	42%	37%
County-average	57%	53%
Washington State	46%	43%

The Washington Self-sufficiency Calculator allows individuals to identify basic survival budget based upon family size, structure (age of children), and geographic location. It is a helpful tool to determine required hourly wages needed to support a family.

Mason County Household Survival Monthly Budget, 2018 (14)

Expense	Single Adult	Family – 2 adults, 1 infant, 1 toddler
Housing	\$720	\$957
Child Care	-	\$1,300
Food	\$266	\$760
Transportation	\$238	\$470
Health Care	\$131	\$552
Miscellaneous	\$135	\$404
Taxes	\$232	\$700
Monthly Expense TOTAL	\$1,723	\$5,144
Tax Credits		-\$267
TOTAL MONTHLY EXPENSES	\$1,723	\$4,877
Hourly Wage/working adult	\$9.79	\$13.85

Distressed County Index

In 2017, the Economic Innovation Group published the Distressed Communities Index report. One of the purposes of this report is to help identify opportunities across the nation that could benefit from private investments and how this can revitalize distressed communities. Scores are based on a 0 to 100 scale, with 0 being the least distressed and 100 being the most distressed. (15)

Distress Community Index for Various Mason County Zip Codes, 2017 (15)

Area	Distressed Index
Allyn (98524)	22.8
Belfair (98528)	82.1
Elma (98541)	62.1
Grapeview (98546)	26.3
Hoodsport (98548)	85.6
Lilliwaup (98555)	N/A
Matlock (98560)	N/A
Shelton (98584)	68.0
Tahuya (98588)	36.1
Union (98592)	30.5

Key Health Indicators, based upon County Health Rankings

The County Health Rankings Initiative identifies select health indicators to help a community understand its current and future health status, and to use this information to develop strategic action plans to address critical health challenges.

Selected County Health Rankings Data, 2017 (1)

Indicator	Mason 2017	Mason Trend*	WA State 2017
HEALTH OUTCOMES			
Premature death	7,500	Improving	5,500
Population reporting poor or fair health days	16%		14%
Poor physical health days	4.2		3.6
Poor mental health days	3.8		3.7
HEALTH FACTORS			
Adult obesity rate	31%	Worsening	27%
Physical Inactivity	22%	No Change	17%
Sexually Transmitted Infections	327.3	Worsening	381.2
Uninsured population	13%	No Change	14%
Preventable hospital stay days	37	Improving	33
Diabetic monitoring	83%	No Change	86%
High school graduation rate	74%	Improving	81%
Unemployment	7.7%	No Change	5.7%
Children in poverty	27%	Worsening	16%
Violent crime rate	231	Improving	290

NOTES: * Mason Trend is based on County Health Ranking Trend Data were methodology did not change and can be compared over time. Not all measures are able to be trended over time due to changes in methodology.

Premature Death represents years of potential life lost (YPLL) before age 75 per 100,000 population (age-adjusted). Age-adjusting is done to remove the effect of differently aged populations as a risk factor for premature death.

Poor or fair health is based on percentage of adults reporting fair or poor health (age-adjusted)

Poor physical health is based on the average number of unhealthy days reported in the past 30 days (age-adjusted)

Poor mental health is based on average number of mentally unhealthy days in past 30 days (age-adjusted)

Adult Obesity is based on the percentage of people with a body mass index (BMI) greater than or equal to 30 kg/m2 calculated base on their reported height and weight during survey.

Physical Inactivity is based on the percentage of people reporting no leisure-time physical activity in the past 30 days. Examples include running, walking, gardening, golfing and others for exercise.

Sexually Transmitted Infections is the rate of newly diagnosed Chlamydia cases per 100,000 population. Chlamydia rates are used to estimate STI infections because it is a reportable disease.

Uninsured is based on the percentage of the population under age 65 without health insurance.

Preventable hospital stays is the number of hospital stays for ambulatory-care sensitive conditions per 1,000 Medicare enrollees. It measures the hospital discharge rate from the hospital for conditions that, with appropriate care, can normally be treated without the need for a hospital stay. Examples of conditions include: convulsions, COPD, bacterial pneumonia, asthma, congestive heart failure, hypertension, angina, cellulitis, diabetes, gastroenteritis, kidney/urinary infection, and dehydration.

Diabetic monitoring is based on the percentage of diabetic Medicare enrollees ages 65-75 that receive HbA1c monitoring.

High School Graduation is the percentage of the ninth-grade cohort that graduates from high school in four years.

Unemployment is based on the percentage of the population ages 16 and older that are unemployed but seeking work.

Children in Poverty is based on the percentage of children under the age of 18 living in poverty. Poverty status is defined by family size and income, and is measured at the household level. For more information on how poverty threshold is calculated please see the Census poverty page: <https://www.census.gov/topics/income-poverty/poverty/guidance/poverty-measures.html>

Violent crime is the number of reported violent crime offenses per 100,000.

- (1) County Health Rankings, University of Wisconsin, <http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/washington/2015/rankings/mason/county/outcomes/overall/snapshot>
- (2) Estimates of April 1 populations by age, sex, race and Hispanic origin. Office of Financial Management, WA State. <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/pop/asr/default.asp>
- (3) Household Type by Relationship. B09019. 2012-2016. American Fact Finder, US Census Bureau. <https://factfinder.census.gov>
- (4) Households and Families. S1101. 2012-2016. American Fact Finder, US Census Bureau. <https://factfinder.census.gov>
- (5) Grandparents. S1002. 2012-2016. American Fact Finder, US Census Bureau. <https://factfinder.census.gov>
- (6) Washington Indicators- Economic Well-being. <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/>
- (7) Median Household Income Estimates by County: 1989 to 2015 and Projection for 2016. Office of Financial Management, WA State. <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/economy/hhinc/default.asp>
- (8) Selected Economic Characteristics. DP03. 2012-2016 American Fact Finder, US Census Bureau. <http://factfinder.census.gov>
- (9) Selected Characteristics of people at Specified Levels of Poverty. S1703 2012-2016 American Fact Finder, US Census Bureau. <http://factfinder.census.gov>
- (10) Annual Update of the HHS Poverty Guidelines. 01/31/2017. Federal Register <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2017/01/31/2017-02076/annual-update-of-the-hhs-poverty-guidelines>
- (11) ALICE. Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed. Study of Financial Hardship. United Ways of the Pacific Northwest. <https://www.unitedwayalice.org/in-the-us>
- (12) Client Counts and Service Costs. Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, RDA. <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/sesa/research-and-data-analysis/client-data>
- (13) Washington State Report Card. Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction. <http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us>
- (14) Self-Sufficiency Calculator. <http://thecalculator.org/>
- (15) Distressed County Index. Economic Innovation Group, 2017. <http://eig.org/2017-dci-map-national-zip-code-map>

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