

The Population of Snohomish County

Because 2010 US Census Bureau data were not available at the time of this report, data were considered from a variety of sources. As such, some data points are based on projections and there may be variation amongst these estimates. All data sources are referenced.

Snohomish County is located on Puget Sound, between Skagit County to the north and King County (and Seattle) to the south. Covering 2,089 square miles, it is the 13th largest county in total land area in Washington. Sixty-eight percent of the county land area is forest land, 18% is rural, 9% is urban/city and 5% is agricultural.¹ While Snohomish County is the seventh most population-dense county within the state,² its 2010 estimated population of 725,693³ is the third largest. The county has twenty incorporated cities, the largest of which is Everett. The proportion of residents residing in unincorporated areas in 2010 was estimated at 42.3%, down from 46.6% in 2009.⁴

In 2009, approximately one-fifth of the population of Snohomish County was non-white. Asian Americans accounted for 8.5% of the population while American Indians/Alaska Natives constituted 1.5% and African Americans 2.6%.⁵

Between 2005 and 2010, the largest percent change in population in Snohomish County was for those age 60 to 64 and those age 65 to 69 (increases of 44.5% and 42.5% respectively.) Those age 85 and older increased by 17.2% for the same time period. It is projected that there will be an increase of 42.8% between 2010 and 2015 for those age 65 to 69 and an increase of 43.1% for those age 70 to 74. Currently, those age 60+ comprise 15.7% of the Snohomish County population; by 2025, it is anticipated that 24.8% of the population (almost quarter of a million people: 223,453) will consist of those in this age group.³



By 2025, it is anticipated that 24.8% of the population will be 60+

In 2009, for those Snohomish County residents older than 65 years, over half (56.0%) were female. More than half (54.8%) had at least some college education. About one half (54.3%) were married and about one quarter (27.4%) were widowed. A small proportion (4.5%) lived with their grandchildren. A very small proportion (0.5%) had no telephone service available. Over one-third (38.4%) had a disability. One-tenth (10.8%) spoke a language other than English in their homes. In 2009, there were 4,079 residents over the age of 65 who reported that they spoke English “less than very well.” This is an increase of 190.9% from those indicating such in the 2000 US Census.⁶



In 2009, one tenth of residents 65+ spoke a language other than English at home

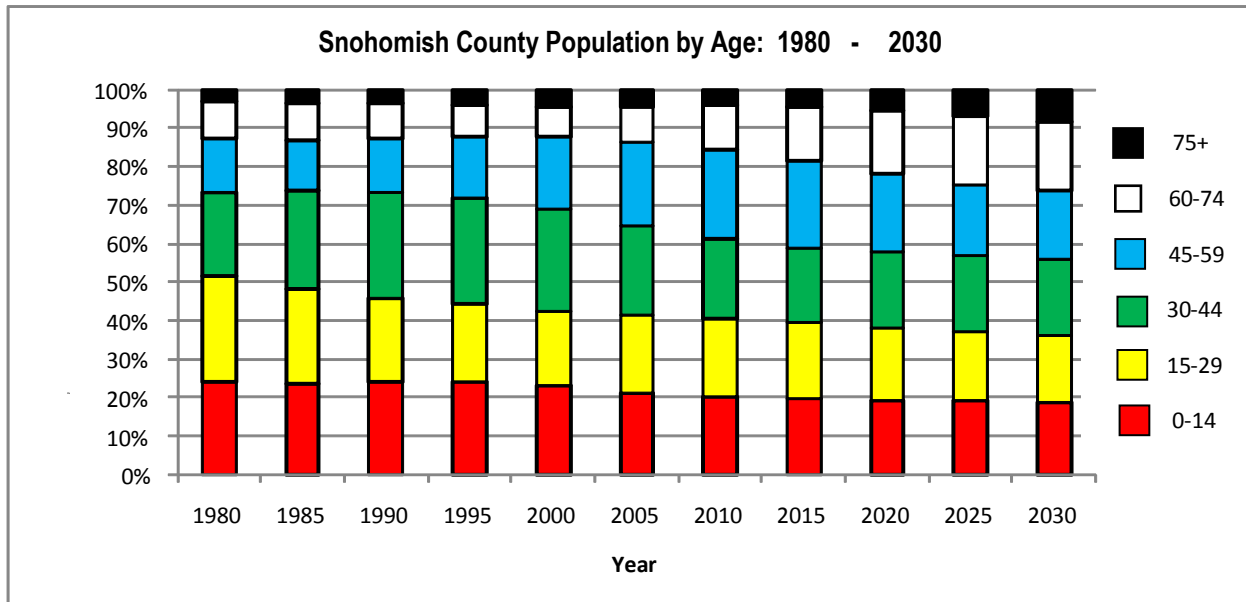
In 2000, tribal residents constituted 1.5% of the Snohomish County population. It was estimated that a comparable proportion (1.4%) was present within the 2010 County population.⁷ Within the Tulalip Tribe, approximately 15.0% of the residents were at least 60 years old in 2000; figures for the Sauk-Suiattle and Stillaguamish reservations were not estimated due to the small population of each. All three tribal groups have Title VI programs. The Sauk-Suiattle tribe receives AAA services through the Northwest Regional Council.

American Indian Population in Snohomish County—2000

	Total Population	# Age 60+	% Age 60+
Snohomish County	606,024 ³	74,550 ³	12.3% ³
Sauk-Suiattle Reservation	45 ¹⁰	X	X
Stillaguamish Reservation	102 ¹⁰	X	X
Tulalip Reservation	9246 ¹⁰	1388	15.0%

X=information not available due to the small number of individuals involved

Snohomish County Population^{3, 8}



1980-2005 Censal & Intercensal Estimates

2010-2030 Projected

Number of Persons											
Age	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030
0-14	81,520	90,089	112,318	127,664	138,793	140,522	146,838	153,974	163,571	172,759	179,399
15-29	91,956	93,400	101,165	105,429	119,696	129,773	146,981	155,591	158,356	159,164	164,778
30-44	74,339	96,933	127,598	144,949	158,921	153,266	150,081	154,045	165,859	180,391	189,281
45-59	47,570	50,742	64,903	84,716	114,064	143,732	168,339	176,479	171,138	162,948	166,034
60-74	31,260	36,600	42,128	43,810	47,896	59,857	83,396	112,100	141,089	161,952	168,882
75+	11,075	13,331	17,530	21,082	26,654	28,650	30,328	34,287	44,528	61,501	81,692
TOTAL	337,720	381,095	465,642	527,650	606,024	655,800	725,963	786,476	844,541	898,715	950,066
Percent Change over Previous Five Years											
Age	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030
0-14	9.5%	10.5%	24.7%	13.7%	8.7%	1.2%	4.5%	4.9%	6.2%	5.6%	3.8%
15-29	30.8%	1.6%	8.3%	4.2%	13.5%	8.4%	13.3%	5.9%	1.8%	0.5%	3.5%
30-44	38.9%	30.4%	31.6%	13.6%	9.6%	-3.6%	-2.1%	2.6%	7.7%	8.8%	4.9%
45-59	15.0%	6.7%	27.9%	30.5%	34.6%	26.0%	17.1%	4.8%	-3.0%	-4.8%	1.9%
60-74	26.8%	17.1%	15.1%	4.0%	9.3%	25.0%	39.3%	34.4%	25.9%	14.8%	4.3%
75+	21.2%	20.4%	31.5%	20.3%	26.4%	7.5%	5.9%	13.1%	29.9%	38.1%	32.8%
TOTAL	23.5%	12.8%	22.2%	13.3%	14.9%	8.2%	10.7%	8.3%	7.4%	6.4%	5.7%
Proportion of Total Population											
Age	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030
0-14	24.1%	23.6%	24.1%	24.2%	22.9%	21.4%	20.2%	19.6%	19.4%	19.2%	18.9%
15-29	27.2%	24.5%	21.7%	20.0%	19.8%	19.8%	20.3%	19.8%	18.8%	17.7%	17.3%
30-44	22.0%	25.4%	27.4%	27.5%	26.2%	23.4%	20.7%	19.6%	19.6%	20.1%	19.9%
45-59	14.1%	13.3%	13.9%	16.1%	18.8%	21.9%	23.2%	22.4%	20.3%	18.1%	17.5%
60-74	9.3%	9.6%	9.0%	8.3%	7.9%	9.1%	11.5%	14.3%	16.7%	18.0%	17.8%
75+	3.3%	3.5%	3.8%	4.0%	4.4%	4.4%	4.2%	4.4%	5.3%	6.8%	8.6%
TOTAL	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Estimated Population by Age and Race: Snohomish County, 2010⁴

Age	Grand Total			White			Black			Asian			API			Two or More		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
0-4	50,682	25,897	24,785	40,428	20,691	19,737	1,344	674	670	934	441	493	3,881	2,032	1,849	4,093	2,058	2,035
5-9	49,954	25,729	24,225	40,880	21,078	19,802	1,155	581	574	908	467	441	3,854	2,010	1,844	3,157	1,593	1,564
10-14	49,260	25,207	24,053	40,939	20,978	19,961	1,047	547	500	973	499	474	3,755	1,947	1,808	2,544	1,235	1,309
15-19	48,534	24,792	23,742	39,886	20,370	19,516	1,195	676	519	981	506	475	4,353	2,213	2,140	2,120	1,028	1,092
20-24	46,203	24,068	22,135	37,532	19,486	18,046	1,616	1,032	584	925	467	458	4,432	2,265	2,167	1,697	818	879
25-29	51,030	25,771	25,259	41,983	21,250	20,733	1,448	920	528	903	450	453	5,222	2,423	2,799	1,473	728	745
30-34	50,279	25,638	24,641	42,121	21,545	20,576	1,347	870	477	779	390	389	4,840	2,238	2,602	1,192	596	596
35-39	53,023	27,388	25,635	45,236	23,520	21,716	1,286	799	487	811	403	408	4,621	2,135	2,486	1,070	531	539
40-44	53,772	27,742	26,030	46,624	24,198	22,426	1,114	701	413	779	384	395	4,261	1,967	2,294	995	493	502
45-49	54,462	27,554	26,908	47,486	24,117	23,369	964	620	344	773	390	383	4,323	1,963	2,340	915	443	472
50-54	51,341	25,550	25,791	45,549	22,764	22,785	714	429	285	645	299	346	3,753	1,705	2,048	679	352	327
55-59	45,052	22,261	22,791	40,279	19,920	20,359	529	327	202	594	289	305	3,095	1,457	1,638	556	269	287
60-64	35,793	17,483	18,310	31,647	15,526	16,121	407	210	197	499	262	237	2,720	1,209	1,511	518	275	243
65-69	24,039	11,330	12,709	21,666	10,293	11,373	226	126	100	236	106	130	1,648	672	976	264	133	131
70-74	15,975	7,385	8,590	14,709	6,839	7,870	103	53	50	122	61	61	881	351	530	161	82	79
75-79	12,099	5,286	6,813	11,456	5,002	6,454	67	31	36	63	27	36	435	187	248	78	39	39
80-84	8,938	3,575	5,363	8,551	3,431	5,120	34	15	19	32	8	24	265	101	164	58	21	37
85+	10,664	3,411	7,253	10,319	3,270	7,049	33	6	27	34	13	21	200	86	114	76	35	41
Total	711,100	356,070	355,030	607,291	304,278	303,013	14,629	8,617	6,012	10,991	5,462	5,529	56,539	26,981	29,558	21,647	10,730	10,917

Language Spoken At Home and Ability To Speak English by Age: Snohomish County ^{9,10}

Persons	1990				2000			
	All 5+	5-17	18-64	65+	All 5+	5-17	18-64	65+
Total	426446	89882	292284	44280	562924	122471	385205	55248
Speak Only English At Home	398227	84710	272228	41289	494203	109471	334212	50520
All Who Do Not Speak English At Home	28219	5172	20056	2991	68721	13000	50993	4728
Speak Engl Not Well or Not At All	4458	732	3062	664	13512	1570	10379	1563
Speak Spanish At Home	5900	1209	4390	301	19053	3369	15123	561
Speak Engl Not Well or Not At All	939	199	671	69	4130	397	3640	93
Speak Asian or Pacific Islander At Home	10524	2326	7737	461	26603	5018	19921	1664
Speak Engl Not Well or Not At All	2155	305	1545	305	5515	631	3969	915
Speak Other Language At Home	11795	1637	7929	2229	23065	4613	15949	2503
Speak Engl Not Well or Not At All	1364	228	846	290	3867	542	2770	555
Other Indo-European Language	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	20031	4083	13579	2369
Speak Engl Not Well or Not At All	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	3594	506	2572	516
Some Other Language	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	3034	530	2370	134
Speak Engl Not Well or Not At All	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	273	36	198	39

Percent Distribution	All 5+	5-17	18-64	65+	All 5+	5-17	18-64	65+
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Speak Only English At Home	93.4%	94.2%	93.1%	93.2%	87.8%	89.4%	86.8%	91.4%
All Who Do Not Speak English At Home	6.6%	5.8%	6.9%	6.8%	12.2%	10.6%	13.2%	8.6%
Speak Engl Not Well or Not At All	1.0%	0.8%	1.0%	1.5%	2.4%	1.3%	2.7%	2.8%
Speak Spanish At Home	1.4%	1.3%	1.5%	0.7%	3.4%	2.8%	3.9%	1.0%
Speak Engl Not Well or Not At All	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.7%	0.3%	0.9%	0.2%
Speak Asian or Pacific Islander At Home	2.5%	2.6%	2.6%	1.0%	4.7%	4.1%	5.2%	3.0%
Speak Engl Not Well or Not At All	0.5%	0.3%	0.5%	0.7%	1.0%	0.5%	1.0%	1.7%
Speak Other Language At Home	2.8%	1.8%	2.7%	5.0%	4.1%	3.8%	4.1%	4.5%
Speak Engl Not Well or Not At All	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.7%	0.7%	0.4%	0.7%	1.0%
Other Indo-European Language	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	3.6%	3.3%	3.5%	4.3%
Speak Engl Not Well or Not At All	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.6%	0.4%	0.7%	0.9%
Some Other Language	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.5%	0.4%	0.6%	0.2%
Speak Engl Not Well or Not At All	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%

Percent Change 1990-2000

	All 5+	5-17	18-64	65+
Total	32.0%	36.3%	31.8%	24.8%
Speak Only English At Home	24.1%	29.2%	22.8%	22.4%
All Who Do Not Speak English At Home	143.5%	151.4%	154.3%	58.1%
Speak Engl Not Well or Not At All	203.1%	114.5%	239.0%	135.4%
Speak Spanish At Home	222.9%	178.7%	244.5%	86.4%
Speak Engl Not Well or Not At All	339.8%	99.5%	442.5%	34.8%
Speak Asian or Pacific Islander At Home	152.8%	115.7%	157.5%	261.0%
Speak Engl Not Well or Not At All	155.9%	106.9%	156.9%	200.0%
Speak Other Language At Home	95.5%	181.8%	101.1%	12.3%
Speak Engl Not Well or Not At All	183.5%	137.7%	227.4%	91.4%

Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Snohomish County 2010

The Elder Economic Security Index for Elders⁶ was created through a partnership between the Washington Association of Area Agencies on Aging and Wider Opportunities for Women. This index allows for a quick snapshot of the costs that older adults in Snohomish County face. The Index provides a benchmark for the minimum income older adults will require to make ends meet and live in their own homes.

Monthly Expenses for Selected Household Types

Expenses/Monthly	Elder Person (age 65+)			Elder Couple (both age 65+)		
	Owner w/o mortgage	Renter, one bedroom	Owner w/mortgage	Owner w/o mortgage	Renter, one bedroom	Owner w/mortgage
Housing (including utilities, taxes, services)	\$539	\$885	\$1,574	\$539	\$885	\$1,574
Food	\$232	\$232	\$232	\$425	\$425	\$425
Transportation*	\$197	\$197	\$197	\$309	\$309	\$309
Health Care (good health)	\$299	\$299	\$299	\$598	\$598	\$598
Miscellaneous	\$253	\$253	\$253	\$374	\$374	\$374
Elder Index Per Month	\$1,520	\$1,866	\$2,555	\$2,245	\$2,591	\$3,280
Elder Index Per Year	\$18,240	\$22,392	\$30,660	\$26,940	\$31,092	\$39,360

Adding Home- and Community-Based Long-Term Care Costs to the Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Elders in Poor Health							
Annual Expenses							
	LTC Cost Per Year	Elder Economic Security Standard Index plus Cost of Long-Term Care					
		Elder Person (age 65+)			Elder Couple (both age 65+)		
Need for Long-Term Care (hours/week)		Owner w/o mortgage	Renter, one bedroom	Owner w/mortgage	Owner w/o mortgage	Renter, one bedroom	Owner w/mortgage
Low (6 hrs)	\$8,856	\$29,040	\$33,192	\$41,460	\$37,740	\$41,892	\$50,160
Medium (16 hrs)	\$23,504	\$43,688	\$47,840	\$56,108	\$52,388	\$56,540	\$64,808
High w/ADC (36 hrs)	\$38,640	\$58,824	\$62,976	\$71,244	\$67,524	\$71,676	\$79,944
High w/o ADC (36 hrs)	\$48,624	\$68,808	\$72,960	\$81,228	\$77,508	\$81,660	\$89,928

The 2009 American Community Survey⁶ indicates that approximately one-third (38.2%) of Snohomish County households of those over age 65 have income related to earnings. Almost all (93.4%) of these households receive Social Security Income with the average annual amount being \$17,548.00. About half

(52.6%) receive an average annual retirement income of \$22,946.00. Only 3.6% receive Supplemental Security Income of an average of \$8,161.00 per year. Even fewer (3.2%) receive cash public assistance and those who do, receive on average \$7,090.00 annually. Almost one-tenth (8.2%) of seniors age 65+ years was at or below 100% of the poverty level in the past 12 months.

In 2009, it was estimated that of Snohomish County residents over age 65 years, one-quarter (25.4%) were in renter-occupied housing units. Additionally, over half of the households (53.5%) paid 30% or more of their household income on rent. The median gross rent was \$864.00 while the median monthly owner costs with a mortgage was \$1,543.00 and without a mortgage was \$555.00.⁶

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

Historically, extended family members have often provided a safety net for children whose parents have been unable to care for them. In recent years, grandparents are more likely to have taken on this responsibility. In recognition of this trend, in 2002 the US Census Bureau began collecting information on grandparents raising grandchildren.

In Washington State, 35,761 children live in households headed by grandparents or other relatives without either parent present.¹² The 2009 American Community Survey reports that in Snohomish County, 10,330 residents live with their grandchildren under the age of 18 years. Of those, 13.9% (1,435) are responsible for their grandchildren with no parent present. Almost one-third (29.8%) of the total grandparents living with grandchildren have some disability. Almost one-tenth (8.9%) of these households were below the poverty level in the past 12 months and the majority (65.9%) of these households are headed by women.¹³



At least 1,435 grandparents are solely responsible for raising their grandchildren

Older Adults Living in Rural Areas

While there are many benefits to living in rural areas, older adults residing in these communities often experience challenges in maintaining their homes and accessing services due to their geographic isolation. The 2000 reauthorization of the federal Older Americans Act recognized the unique needs of the rural elderly and called upon the Area Agencies on Aging to ensure access to services in rural areas.

Nationwide, approximately 26 percent of older adults, age 65 and over, live in non-metropolitan areas. The status of these older persons is often different than their counterparts in more urbanized areas. Nationally, rural elders experience higher rates of poverty, substandard housing and a lack of employment opportunities. They are also more likely to be living in homes with high maintenance costs and low resale values. The availability of public transportation is often limited in rural communities and these areas frequently lack a strong local system of social services. In addition, rural areas often have larger proportions of elderly persons because younger persons tend to move to urbanized areas for employment opportunities.

National reports indicate most older adults in rural areas live in single-family homes they own. They feel a strong attachment to their homes and communities, and prefer to “age in place” even when health and physical limitations make it difficult for them to remain in their own homes. The challenges to remaining in the community are compounded by the fact there are few other housing options such as apartments, adult family homes, or assisted living facilities available in most rural communities.

Older adults in rural communities often rely on family and other informal networks for support and assistance. Kinship ties are considered to be especially close in rural communities and help make up for the lack of more formal support services.



Kinship ties are considered to be especially close in rural communities and help make up for the lack of more formal support services.

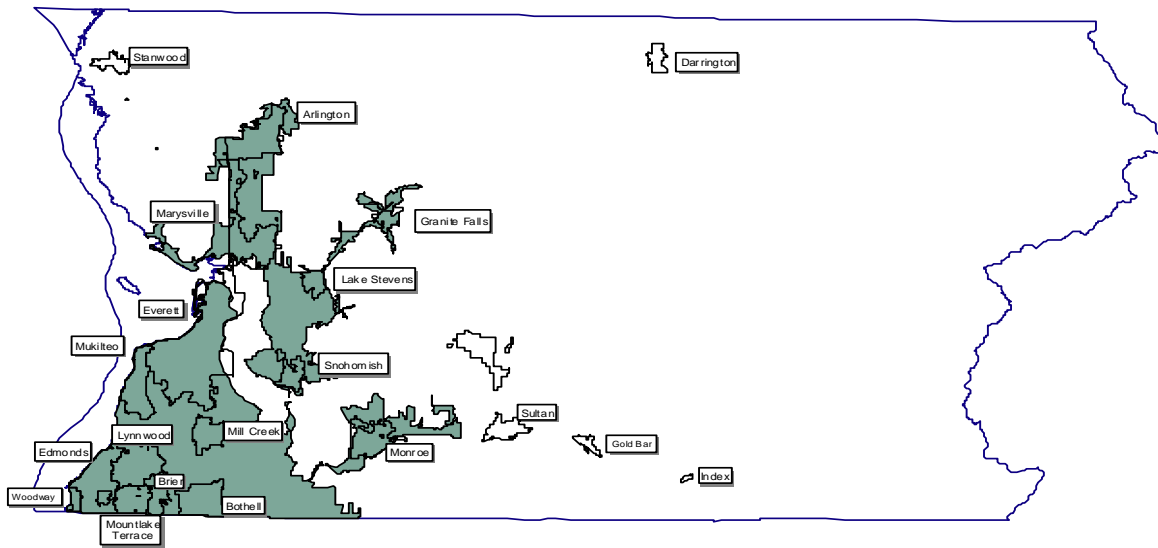
In Washington State, the Aging and Disability Services Administration defines rural areas as:

Any area that is not defined as urban. Urban areas comprise (1) urbanized areas (a central place and its adjacent densely settled territories with a combined minimum population of

50,000) and (2) an incorporated place or a census designated place with 20,000 or more inhabitants.

To arrive at that definition for Snohomish County, the city of Granite Falls is separated from the Marysville Urbanized Area defined by the Census (see following map) and is included with the other rural communities.

Snohomish County Cities and Urbanized Areas: 2000 Census



Profile of Selected Rural Cities in Snohomish County

	Snohomish County	Darrington	Gold Bar	Granite Falls	Index	Stanwood	Sultan
2010 Total Population ¹⁴	711,100	1,505	2,175	3,375	165	5,705	4,570
2000 Population: All Ages ⁸	606,024	1,136	2,014	2,347	157	3,923	3,344
Age 60+ Years ⁸	74,550	233	185	210	20	747	389
% Age 60+ Years	12.30%	20.50%	9.20%	8.90%	12.70%	19.00%	11.60%
Facilities¹⁵							
Licensed Adult Family Homes	432	3	0	0	0	3	1
Licensed Boarding Homes	39	0	0	0	0	3	0
Nursing Homes	19	0	0	0	0	2	0
Resources¹⁶							
Senior Center	17	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Family Support Center	7	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Congregate Meal Site	13	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No

1. "Snohomish County Profile." Snohomish County Tourism Bureau, Everett, WA. http://www.snohomish.org/index.php?page_id=394 (accessed 1 April 2011.)
2. "Population Density and Land Area by County". State of Washington Office of Financial Management, Olympia, WA. <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/pop/popden/default.asp> (accessed 30 March 2011.)
3. "Snohomish County Population Projection: Medium Series." State of Washington Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division, Olympia, WA. <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/pop/gma/projections07.asp> (accessed 14 March 2011.)
4. "April 1 2010 Populations of Cities, Towns and Counties Used for Allocation of Selected State Revenues." State of Washington Office of Financial Management, Olympia, WA. <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/pop/april1/default.asp> (access 1 April 2011.)
5. 2009 American Community Survey Table T3-2009. United States Census Bureau. <http://factfinder.census.gov> (accessed 1 April 2011.)
6. 2009 American Community Survey Table S0103. United States Census Bureau. <http://factfinder.census.gov> (accessed 1 April 2011.)
7. "Estimates of Total Population for American Indian Reservations and TDSA." Washington State Office of Financial Management Small Area Estimate Program (SAEP.) <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/pop/smallarea/default.asp> (accessed 7 April 2011.)
8. "Intercensal and Postcensal Estimates of County Population by Age and Sex: 1980-2006." State of Washington Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division. <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/pop.coagemf/default.asp> (accessed 7 April 2011.)
9. 1990 Census of Population & Housing, Summary Tape File 3A: Washington, Table P28, CDROM #CD90-3A-58. United States Census Bureau.
10. 2000 Census of Population & Housing, Summary Tape File 3A: Washington, Table P19. United States Census Bureau.
11. "The Elder Economic Security Initiative: The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Washington." (2011.) The Gerontology Institute, University of Massachusetts, Boston.
12. "GrandFacts: A State Factsheet for Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children" (2007.) <http://www.grandfactsheets.org/doc/Washington%2007%20New%20Template.pdf> (accessed 6 April 2011.)
13. 2009 American Community Survey Table S1002. United States Census Bureau. <http://factfinder.census.gov> (accessed 1 April 2011.)
14. "2010 Population Trends." (October 2010.) State of Washington Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division. Olympia, WA.

15. "Assisted Living Options." Aging and Disability Services Administration, Washington State Department of Social and Health Services. <http://www.aasa.dshs.wa.gov/pubinfo/housing/other/> (accessed 7 April 2011.)
16. Snohomish County Department of Human Services Long Term Care and Aging: Programs/Services. http://www1.co.snohomish.wa.us/Departments/Human_Services/Divisions/LongTermCareAging/ProgramsServices (accessed 8 April 2011.)