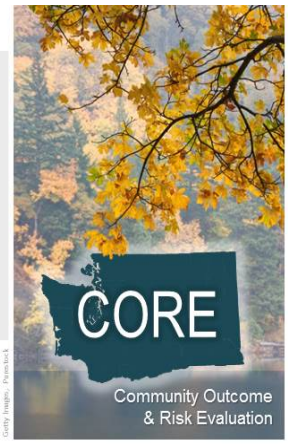
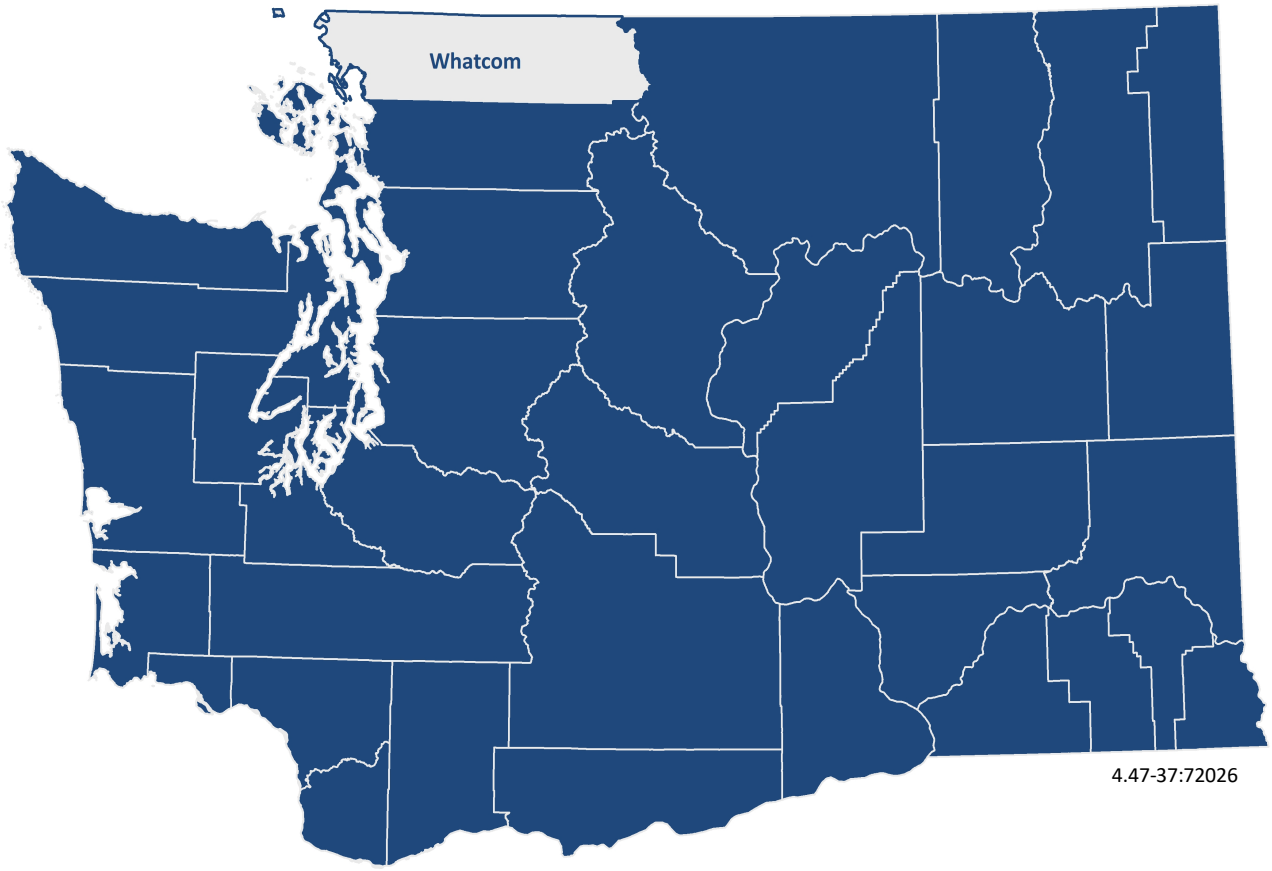


Risk and Protection Profile for Substance Abuse Prevention in **Whatcom County**

July 2026



Aaron Starks, MA, Irina Sharkova, PhD
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In conjunction with the
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Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery
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DSHS
Research and Data Analysis Division

Whatcom County Risk Profile

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About This Report

These tables provide a comprehensive update of data published in previous Profiles. They are among the timeliest data available to planners for understanding the risks of substance abuse among youth in their counties. Community, family, peer, and school-related factors are presented within the Hawkins and Catalano risk and protective factor framework that is used by many substance abuse prevention planners across the country.

Up to twelve years of historical data may be presented for each indicator. Please be aware that the earlier published data may have been updated - or superseded - by the current reports. Additionally, some indicators may have been updated or otherwise changed from earlier published reports, so be sure to read data notes under a chart or a table.

For more information about the data, framework, definitions, and other topics, see the 1997 Profile on Risk and Protection for Substance Abuse Prevention Planning in Washington State, (Report 4.15-40). That report and subsequent years' Profiles are available on the RDA website at: https://www.dshs.wa.gov/ffa/rda/core-profile-archive.

The information system supporting the Community Risk Profiles was recently highlighted in a publication from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) 'Blueprint for a National Prevention Infrastructure for Mental, Emotional, and Behavioral Disorders' as a model for using data for prevention planning and allocation of limited public resources (see sections 'Data to Drive Resource Allocation and Evaluation' and 'Helping Communities Work With Data'). Available at:
https://nap.nationalacademies.org/catalog/28577/blueprint-for-a-national-prevention-infrastructure-for-mental-emotional-and-behavioral-disorders

Suggested Citation

Research and Data Analysis Division, Washington State Department of Social and Health Services (2026). Community Outcomes and Risk Evaluation Information System. [Data file]. Available from https://www.dshs.wa.gov/ffa/research-and-data-analysis/community-risk-profiles/

New This Issue

The outdated indicator label 'Food Stamp Recipients' for indicator code 801 is replaced with the more accurate 'Basic Food Recipients' to reflect the current program title.

High School (Event) Dropouts, indicator code 718, which was removed from the prior report, is added back in.

Unexcused Absences, indicator code 912, was replaced by Regular Attendance, indicator code 970, several years ago but kept in the report until sufficient data had accumulated for the new indicator. It is now removed from the report.

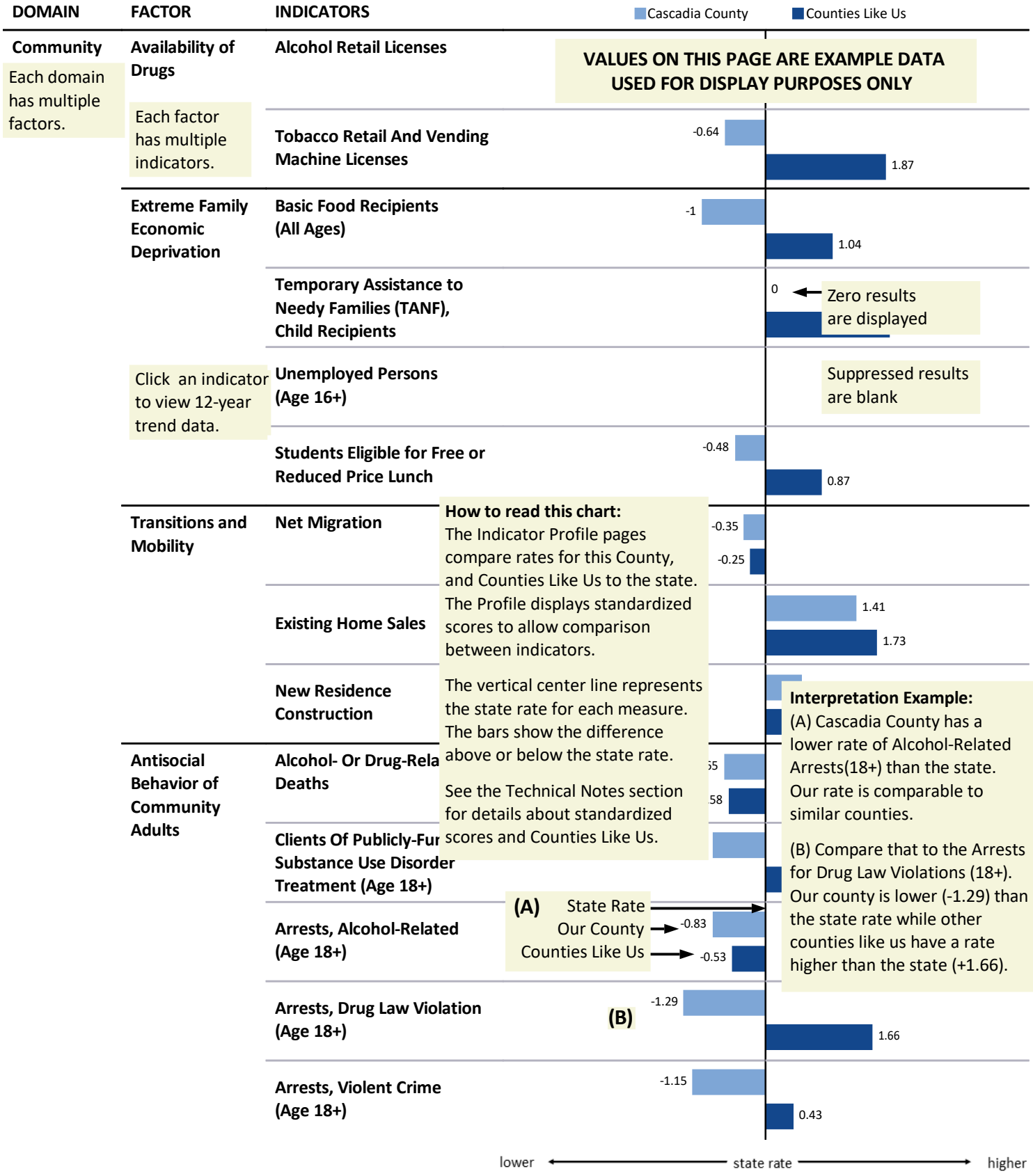
Community Definition

This report consists of charts and tables with the latest data for over 50 indicators of risk and protection for Whatcom County, as well as historical trends for the last 12 years. For each indicator, we present rates, numerators and denominators. To help put this information in a broader context, we also provide statewide (state average) and national rates for the same period. In addition, we compute rates for a group of other counties, which have some characteristics in common with Whatcom County. We call this group 'Counties Like Us.'

The need for this additional community type arises from a substantial diversity of conditions across the urban and rural Washington, as well as the eastern and western parts of the state. The comparison we present is for a group of counties that are similar in characteristics related to prevention planning: population of young people (aged 10-24), the percentage of deaths in the county that are alcohol and drug-related, and a simple geographic division into Eastern and Western Washington. For each indicator the Counties Like Us rate is the average rate across all of the counties in the cluster. The Technical Notes include a more detailed explanation of 'Counties Like Us'.

	Main CLU Criteria			Demographics						
County	Young People (age 10-24)		AOD Death Rate	Total Population	Female	Male	Adult (age 18+)	Youth (age 0-17)	White Not-Hispanic	Any Minority
Whatcom	50,173	21.8%	21.2	239,723	50.9%	49.1%	81.5%	18.5%	78.0%	22.0%
Benton	47,014	21.5%	16.7	218,307	50.3%	49.7%	75.2%	24.8%	66.6%	33.4%
Kitsap	52,876	18.4%	16.4	287,294	49.6%	50.4%	80.4%	19.6%	76.2%	23.8%
Thurston	56,161	18.2%	17.9	308,570	51.4%	48.6%	79.3%	20.7%	73.6%	26.4%
Yakima	59,150	41.7%	18.8	264,601	49.5%	50.5%	74.6%	25.4%	40.1%	59.9%

Interpreting Standardized Five-Year Indicator Profile

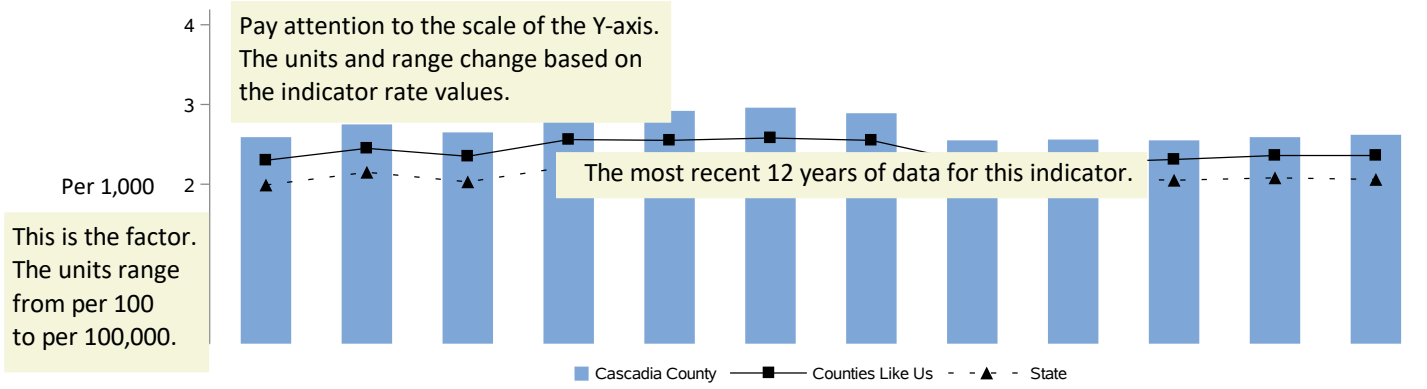


Community: Availability of Drugs

Domain & Risk or Protective Factor

Alcohol Retail Licenses

Indicator displayed on this page



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
National	Comparable National Data Not Available											
State	2.02	2.01	2.16	1.96	2.16	2.14	2.17	2.24	2.04	2.04	2.02	2.11
Counties Like Us	2.3	2.31	2.48	2.45	2.66	2.66	2.68	2.66	2.36	2.38	2.4	2.45
Cascadia County	3.4	3.51	3.53	3.24	3.69	3.74	3.76	3.63	3.15	3.12	2.85	3.01
Licenses	230	Rate Numerator		228	262	269	273	266	234	233	217	233
All Persons	67,661	Rate Denominator		70,362	70,940	71,767	72,553	73,217	74,198	74,867	76,068	77,366

Notes: The alcohol re **Rate Formula**
Rate = (numerator / denominator) x factor
Example: in 2024: (233 / 77,366) x 1,000 = 3.01
Read the rate as 3.01 licenses Per 1,000 people.

ons (all ages). Retail lic such as restaurants, t cery stores, liquor store multiple privileges, su ine privileges, are only military bases and re ore are not included in distributors, distillers, and wineries are not included.

Each indicator graph and table are followed by a description of the elements used in calculating the rate.

This will include relevant notes about legislation, data definition changes or even world events which might explain what is displayed.

Effective March 1, 2012, Initiative 1183 privatized liquor sales in Washington State. Prior to pri 330 liquor stores regulated by the LCB, none of which were included in the data. If conducting may account for minor shifts at smaller geographies as local markets adjusted to those store closures or their conversion to privately-run businesses which were then counted in this report. Adding the sale of spirits to existing licensees who had previously been limited to beer and wine sales would not show up as an increase in the number of licenses.

Policies on licensing distributors, taxing the proceeds, and determining who can sell alcohol vary substantially from state to state. Consequently, there is no consistent comparable source for national data.

Data Source: Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board. Off-Premises and On-Premises Licensees. Numerator data source.
https://lcb.wa.gov/records/frequently-requested-lists

Population Estimate: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division. Denominator data source.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

Data Updated: 02/03/2025 When these data sources were last updated.

Standardized Five-Year Indicator Profile

DOMAIN	FACTOR	INDICATORS	Whatcom County	Counties Like Us
Community	Availability of Drugs	Alcohol Retail Licenses	0.25	-0.25
		Tobacco Retail And Vending Machine Licenses	0.11	-0.03
	Extreme Family Economic Deprivation	Basic Food Recipients (All Ages)	-0.18	0.61
		Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), Child Recipients	-0.33	0.55
		Unemployed Persons (Age 16+)	0.45	0.64
		Students Eligible for Free or Reduced Price Lunch	-0.28	0.64
	Transitions and Mobility	Net Migration	1.24	-0.46
		Existing Home Sales	-0.02	0.52
		New Residence Construction	0.24	0.23
	Antisocial Behavior of Community Adults	Alcohol- Or Drug-Related Deaths	0.7	-0.89
		Clients Of Publicly-Funded Substance Use Disorder Treatment (Age 18+)	0.32	0.59
		Arrests, Alcohol-Related (Age 18+)	-0.66	-0.87
		Arrests, Drug Law Violation (Age 18+)	-0.22	-0.64
		Arrests, Violent Crime (Age 18+)	0.31	0.98

lower ← state rate → higher

Standardized Five-Year Indicator Profile

DOMAIN	FACTOR	INDICATORS	Whatcom County	Counties Like Us
Community *Continued*	**Low Neighborhood Attachment and Community Disorganization**	**Prisoners in State Correctional Systems (Age 18+)**	-0.61	0.91
		Population Not Registered to Vote	-0.73	-0.52
		Registered And Not Voting In The November Election	-1.42	-0.01
Family	**Family Problems**	**Divorce**	-0.78	0.92
		Victims Of Child Abuse And Neglect In Accepted Referrals	0.4	0.55
School	**Academic Achievement**	**Successful Academic Performance in Math, Grades 3-5**	-0.7	-0.5
		Successful Academic Performance in Math, Grades 6-8	0.12	-0.44
		Successful Academic Performance in English Language Arts, Grades 3-5	-0.66	-0.48
		Successful Academic Performance in English Language Arts, Grades 6-8	0.1	-0.41
		High School Cohort (Cumulative) Dropouts	0.14	-0.23
		High School Event (Annual) Dropouts	-0.12	0.25
		High School On-time Graduation *Protective Factors*	0.07	0.14
		High School Extended Graduation *Protective Factors*	0.03	0.22

lower ← state rate → higher

While most rates indicate risk (lower is better), On-time and Extended Graduation, as well as the standardized testing indicators are shown as protective factors. A higher rate indicates a more favorable result.

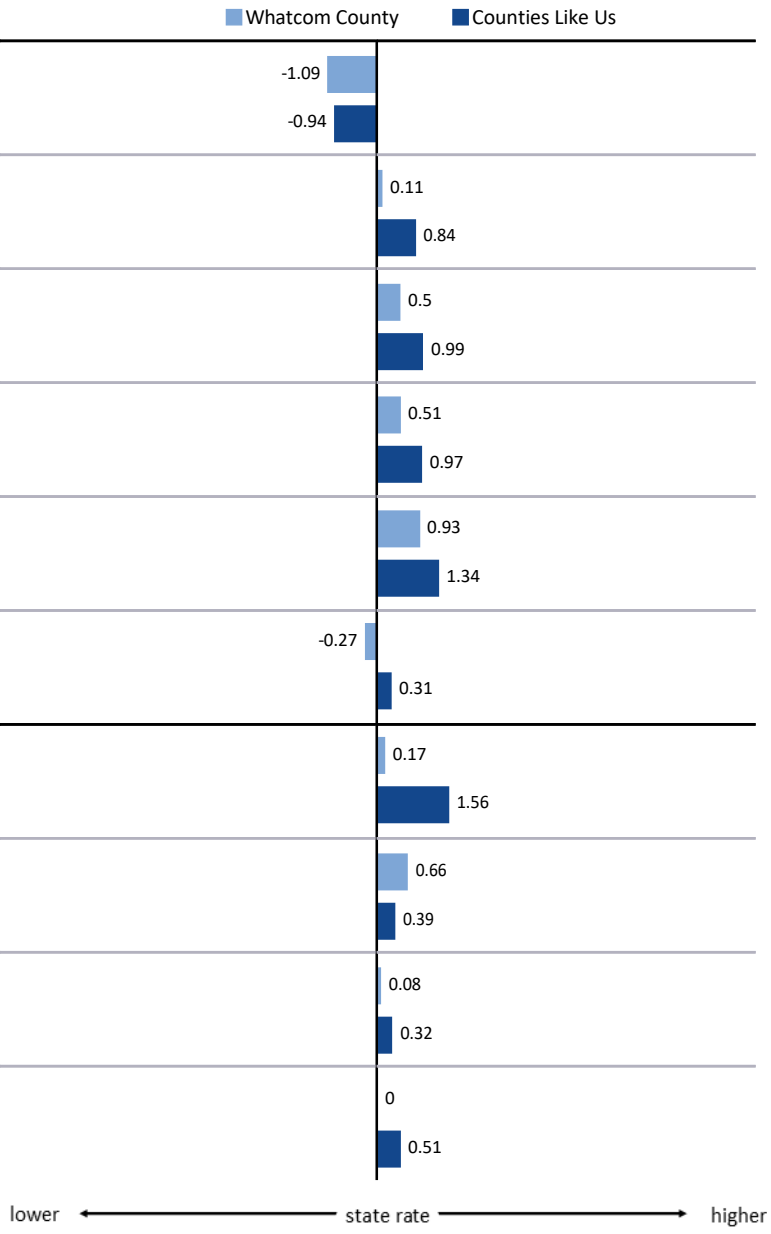
Standardized Five-Year Indicator Profile

DOMAIN	FACTOR	INDICATORS	Whatcom County	Counties Like Us
School *Continued*	**School Climate**	**School Weapons Incidents (All Grades)**	0.26	0.08
		Regular Attendance *Protective Factors*	-0.52	-0.74
Individual/ Peer	**Early Criminal Justice Involvement**	**Arrests, Alcohol- or Drug-Related (Age 10-14)**	0.39	0.46
		Arrests, Vandalism (Age 10-14)	0.11	0.64
		Arrests, Total (Age 10-14)	0.08	0.75
Problem Outcomes	**Child Or Family Health**	**Child Injury and Accident Hospitalizations**	0.39	1.2
		Infant Mortality (Under 1 Year)	-0.61	-0.5
		Child Mortality (Ages 1-17)	-0.24	-0.14
		Births to Mothers Age 10-17	-0.13	0.66
		Sexually Transmitted Disease Cases (Birth-19)	-0.17	1.31
		Suicide and Suicide Attempts (Age 10-17)	-0.28	-0.6
		Low Birthweight Babies	-1.01	-1.08
		Women Injury and Accident Hospitalizations	0.75	-0.64

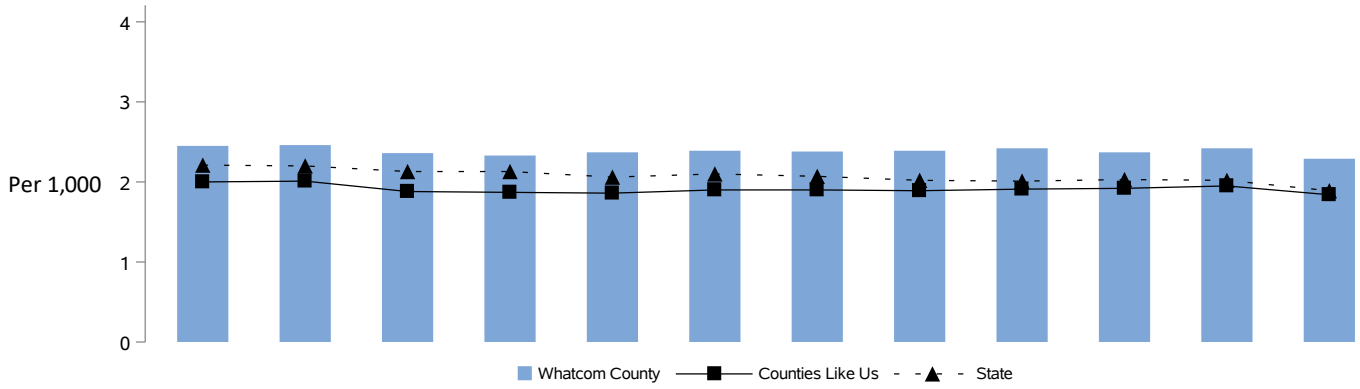
lower ← state rate → higher

Standardized Five-Year Indicator Profile

DOMAIN	FACTOR	INDICATORS
Problem Outcomes *Continued*	**Criminal Justice**	**Offences, Domestic Violence**
		Arrests, Total (Age 10-17)
		Arrests, Property Crime (Age 10-14)
		Arrests, Property Crime (Age 10-17)
		Arrests, Property Crime (Age 18+)
		Arrests, Violent Crime (Age 10-17)
	Substance Use	**Alcohol-Related Traffic Fatalities Per All Traffic Fatalities**
		Arrests, Alcohol Violation (Age 10-17)
		Arrests, Drug Law Violation (Age 10-17)
		Clients Of Publicly-Funded Substance Use Disorder Treatment (Age 10-17)



Alcohol Retail Licenses



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
National	No comparable national data for this rate											
State	2.21	2.20	2.13	2.13	2.06	2.10	2.07	2.02	2.01	2.03	2.02	1.89
Counties Like Us	2.00	2.01	1.88	1.87	1.86	1.90	1.90	1.89	1.91	1.92	1.95	1.84
Whatcom County	2.45	2.46	2.36	2.33	2.37	2.39	2.38	2.39	2.42	2.37	2.42	2.29
Alcohol Licenses	509	516	502	503	521	534	539	540	559	557	574	548
All Persons	207,714	209,931	212,521	216,001	219,984	223,890	226,847	225,999	231,020	235,052	237,235	239,723

Notes: The alcohol retail licenses active during the year, per 1,000 persons (all ages). Retail licenses include on-premises consumption such as restaurants, taverns, bars and off-premises vendors such as grocery stores, liquor stores and deli marts. Retail locations with multiple privileges, such as a grocery store with both spirits and beer/wine privileges, are only counted once. Retail alcohol facilities on military bases and reservations are not licensed by the State and therefore are not included in these data. Non-retail licensees, such as distributors, distillers, and wineries are not included.

Effective March 1, 2012, Initiative 1183 privatized liquor sales in Washington State. Prior to privatization, the sale of spirits was limited to 330 liquor stores regulated by the LCB, none of which were included in the data. If conducting analyses with historic data, this change may account for minor shifts at smaller geographies as local markets adjusted to those store closures or their conversion to privately-run businesses which were then counted in this report. Adding the sale of spirits to existing licensees who had previously been limited to beer and wine sales would not show up as an increase in the number of licenses.

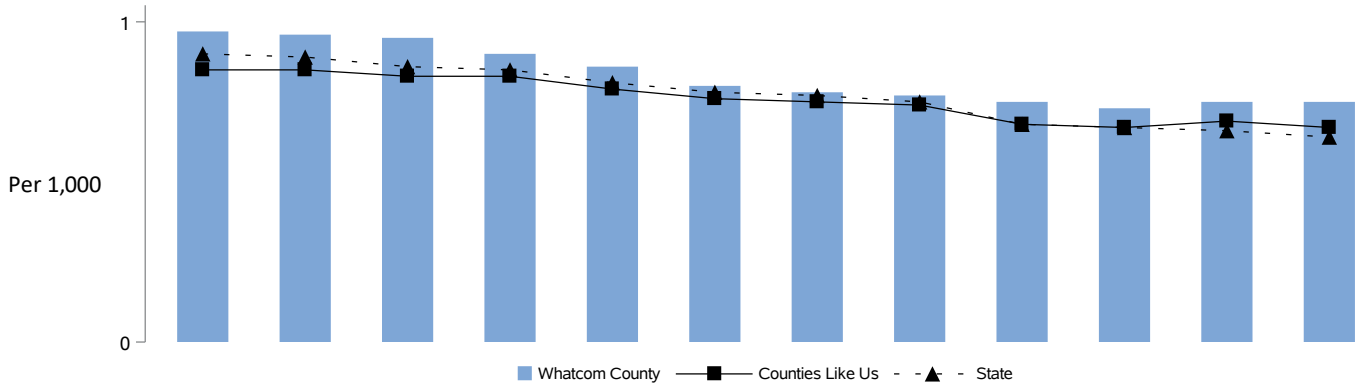
Policies on licensing distributors, taxing the proceeds, and determining who can sell alcohol vary substantially from state to state. Consequently, there is no consistent comparable source for national data.

Numerator Data Source: Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board. Off-Premises and On-Premises Licensees.
https://lcb.wa.gov/records/frequently-requested-lists

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

Data Last Updated: 02/03/2026

Tobacco Retail And Vending Machine Licenses



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
National	No comparable national data for this rate											
State	0.90	0.89	0.86	0.85	0.81	0.78	0.77	0.75	0.68	0.67	0.66	0.64
Counties Like Us	0.85	0.85	0.83	0.83	0.79	0.76	0.75	0.74	0.68	0.67	0.69	0.67
Whatcom County	0.97	0.96	0.95	0.90	0.86	0.80	0.78	0.77	0.75	0.73	0.75	0.75
Tobacco Licenses	201	201	201	195	190	178	178	175	173	172	179	179
All Persons	207,714	209,931	212,521	216,001	219,984	223,890	226,847	225,999	231,020	235,052	237,235	239,723

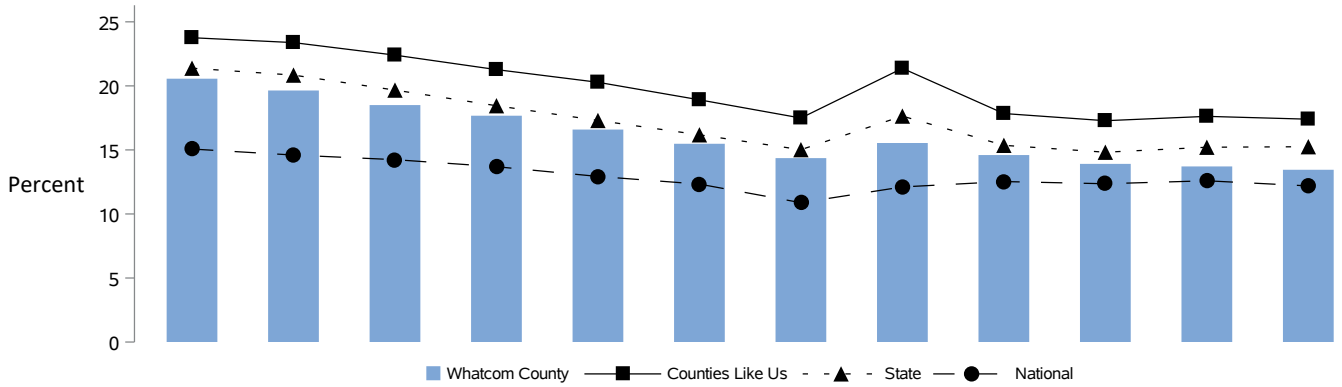
Notes: The tobacco retailer and vending machine licenses active during the year, per 1,000 persons (all ages). Tobacco sales licenses include tobacco retailer licenses (stores that sell tobacco products), vapor retailers, and tobacco vending machines. Tobacco retailers on military bases and reservations are not licensed by the State and therefore are not included in these data. Non-retail licensees, such as tobacco and vapor wholesalers and tobacco and vapor product manufacturers are also excluded. No source of comparable national data was obtained.

Numerator Data Source: Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board. Cigarette, Tobacco, Vapor Licensees.
https://lcb.wa.gov/records/frequently-requested-lists

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

Data Last Updated: 02/13/2026

Basic Food Recipients (All Ages)



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
National	15.07	14.60	14.24	13.69	12.93	12.33	10.88	12.11	12.53	12.36	12.59	12.19
State	21.38	20.84	19.67	18.45	17.30	16.18	15.02	17.64	15.36	14.82	15.21	15.25
Counties Like Us	23.76	23.38	22.40	21.27	20.28	18.91	17.49	21.37	17.84	17.28	17.62	17.40
Whatcom County	20.56	19.64	18.50	17.67	16.59	15.48	14.36	15.54	14.60	13.91	13.71	13.45
Basic Food	42,311	40,793	38,833	37,544	35,824	34,043	32,160	35,256	32,986	32,134	32,222	31,914
All Persons	205,764	207,714	209,931	212,521	216,001	219,984	223,890	226,847	225,999	231,020	235,052	237,235

Notes: The persons (all ages) receiving basic food assistance in the fiscal year, per 100 persons (all ages). The population used is for the calendar year which ends in the fiscal period. National rates use counts of all yearly recipients.

Basic Food assistance in Washington State includes the U.S. Department of Agriculture Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and the Food Assistance Program (FAP), a state-funded program that provides food assistance to legal immigrants who are not eligible for federal food assistance solely because of their immigration status. This program provides food benefits to low-income households to supplement their grocery budget.

Suppression code definitions for yearly rates are explained in Technical Notes.

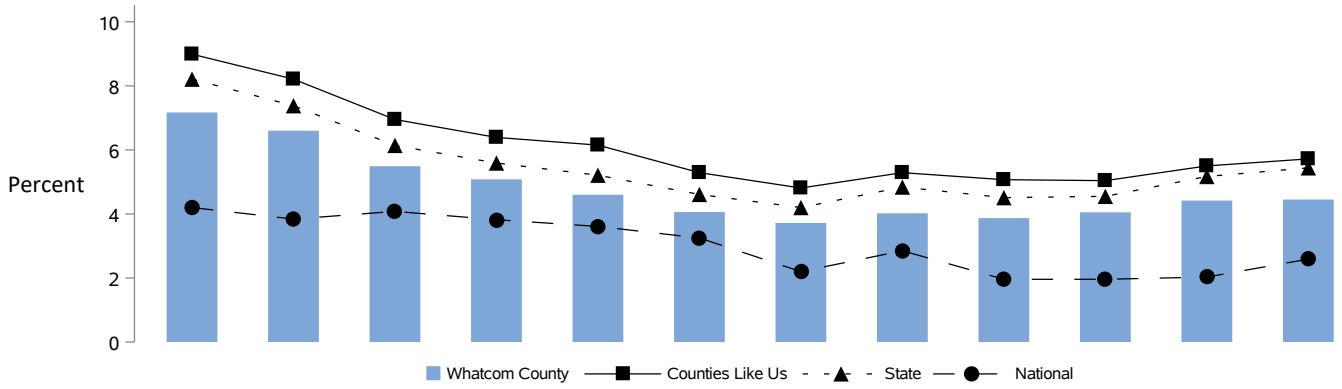
Numerator Data Source: Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, Research and Data Analysis, Automated Client Eligibility System and Warrant Roll.
http://clientdata.rda.dshs.wa.gov/Home/ShowReport?reportMode=0

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

National Data Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Participation.
https://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap

Data Last Updated: 09/24/2025

Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), Child Recipients



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
National	4.20	3.84	4.08	3.82	3.61	3.25	2.20	2.85	1.96	1.96	2.03	2.59
State	8.21	7.38	6.14	5.59	5.21	4.61	4.20	4.84	4.51	4.55	5.17	5.44
Counties Like Us	8.99	8.21	6.95	6.39	6.15	5.29	4.81	5.29	5.07	5.04	5.50	5.72
Whatcom County	7.17	6.60	5.49	5.08	4.60	4.06	3.72	4.02	3.87	4.05	4.42	4.45
TANF Children	3,038	2,804	2,346	2,184	1,995	1,786	1,656	1,801	1,722	1,799	1,976	1,977
Children, birth-17	42,374	42,501	42,697	42,957	43,404	43,953	44,487	44,813	44,520	44,396	44,693	44,441

Notes: The children (age birth-17) participating in Aid to Families (AFDC/TANF) programs in the fiscal year, per 100 children (age birth-17). The population used is for the calendar year which ends the fiscal period. National TANF child recipients are defined as children 0-19 with almost no children of age 19, therefore national denominators are for children 0-18. Suppression code definitions for yearly rates are explained in Technical Notes.

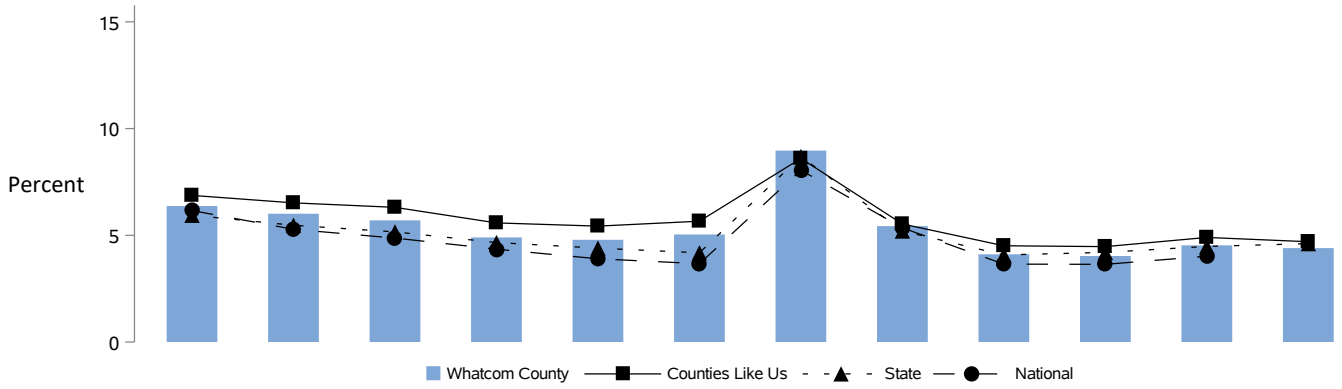
Numerator Data Source: Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, Research and Data Analysis, Automated Client Eligibility System and Warrant Roll.
http://clientdata.rda.dshs.wa.gov/Home/ShowReport?reportMode=0

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

National Data Source: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance. TANF Caseload Data.
https://www.acf.hhs.gov/ofa/programs/tanf/data-reports

Data Last Updated: 09/24/2025

Unemployed Persons (Age 16+)



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
National	6.16	5.28	4.87	4.35	3.90	3.67	8.05	5.35	3.65	3.64	4.02	
State	5.94	5.47	5.16	4.66	4.40	4.18	8.69	5.20	4.08	4.20	4.48	4.61
Counties Like Us	6.87	6.52	6.31	5.58	5.43	5.66	8.60	5.53	4.51	4.47	4.90	4.70
Whatcom County	6.37	6.01	5.70	4.90	4.79	5.04	8.97	5.43	4.11	4.03	4.53	4.40
Unemployed	6,473	6,278	6,257	5,472	5,425	5,970	10,458	6,165	4,693	4,597	5,156	4,466
Labor Force, 16+	101,584	104,502	109,808	111,639	113,306	118,441	116,593	113,436	114,321	114,092	113,797	101,518

Notes: The number of unemployed persons (age 16 and over) per 100 persons in the civilian labor force. Unemployed persons are individuals who are currently available for work, have actively looked for work, and do not have a job. The civilian labor force includes persons who are working or looking for work. The monthly numbers are a snapshot in time done approximately the 12th of each month. A yearly estimate is then produced by averaging the monthly numbers and reported here.

Historical data are updated with each annual update for this report. Comparisons to rates from prior reports may differ slightly. Data for the latest year should be considered preliminary.

For additional information about the underlying data, please follow the source URL below. Suppression code definitions for yearly rates are explained in Technical Notes.

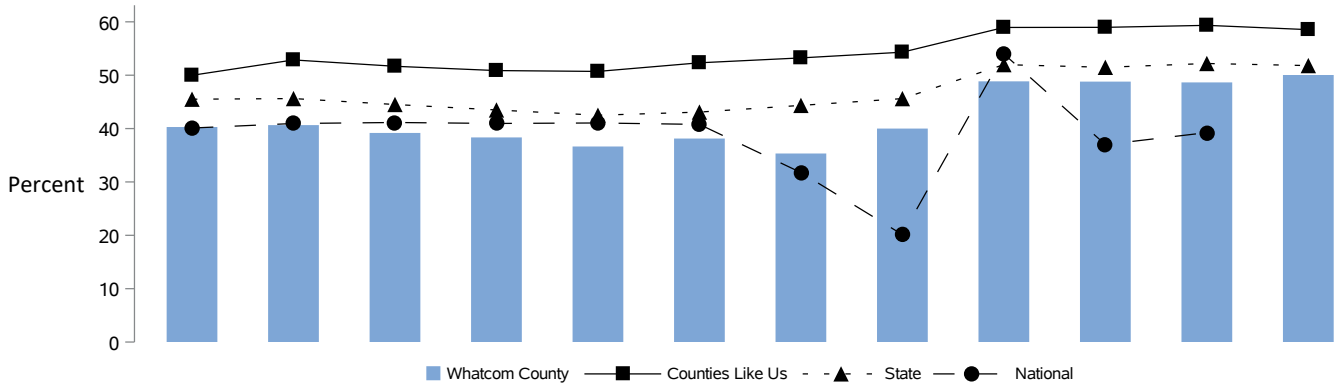
Numerator Data Source: Washington State Employment Security Department, Labor Market and Economic Analysis, County Unemployment File.
https://esd.wa.gov/jobs-and-training/labor-market-information/labor-force-and-unemployment/labor-force-laus

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Employment Security Department, Labor Market and Economic Analysis, County Unemployment File. Civilian Labor Force (age 16 and up).
https://esd.wa.gov/jobs-and-training/labor-market-information/labor-force-and-unemployment/labor-force-laus

National Data Source: U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics. Current Population Survey. Annual average data.
https://www.bls.gov/cps/tables.htm

Data Last Updated: 02/19/2026

Eligible Students for Free/Reduced Price Lunch



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
National	40.10	40.95	41.14	40.96	41.05	40.78	31.76	20.13	53.98	37.00	39.24	
State	45.50	45.62	44.51	43.49	42.50	43.09	44.34	45.61	51.98	51.48	52.19	51.80
Counties Like Us	49.98	52.86	51.67	50.87	50.71	52.32	53.24	54.31	58.95	58.97	59.34	58.54
Whatcom County	40.29	40.65	39.18	38.34	36.64	38.13	35.33	40.00	48.85	48.80	48.65	50.04
Eligible Students	10,618	10,647	10,358	10,331	9,998	10,610	9,381	10,600	13,197	13,197	12,876	13,165
Enrolled Students	26,353	26,191	26,436	26,944	27,285	27,826	26,553	26,499	27,016	27,041	26,467	26,310

Notes: The students eligible for free or reduced price lunch per 100 students enrolled. Eligibility requirements are discussed in Technical Notes.

National data for 2022 includes meals served through the Seamless Summer Option. Data prior to 2022 is a 9-month average excluding summer months.

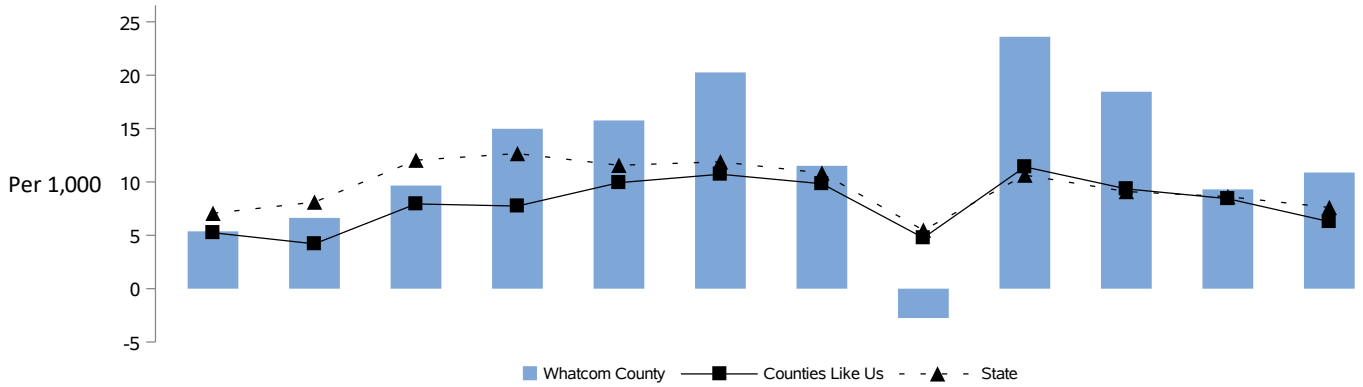
Numerator Data Source: Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Child Nutrition.
http://www.k12.wa.us/ChildNutrition/

Denominator Data Source: Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, October Public School Enrollment, Grades K-12
https://www.k12.wa.us/data-reporting/data-portal

National Data Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Child Nutrition Tables.
https://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/child-nutrition-tables

Data Last Updated: 06/01/2026

Net Migration



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
National	No comparable national data for this rate											
State	7.06	8.11	12.04	12.66	11.56	11.89	10.83	5.48	10.64	9.10	8.62	7.61
Counties Like Us	5.24	4.20	7.94	7.74	9.93	10.72	9.83	4.76	11.41	9.35	8.43	6.28
Whatcom County	5.37	6.63	9.66	14.98	15.76	20.26	11.51	-2.75	23.60	18.45	9.30	10.88
Net Migration	1,116	1,391	2,052	3,236	3,467	4,535	2,611	-621	5,451	4,336	2,207	2,607
All Persons	207,714	209,931	212,521	216,001	219,984	223,890	226,847	225,999	231,020	235,052	237,235	239,723

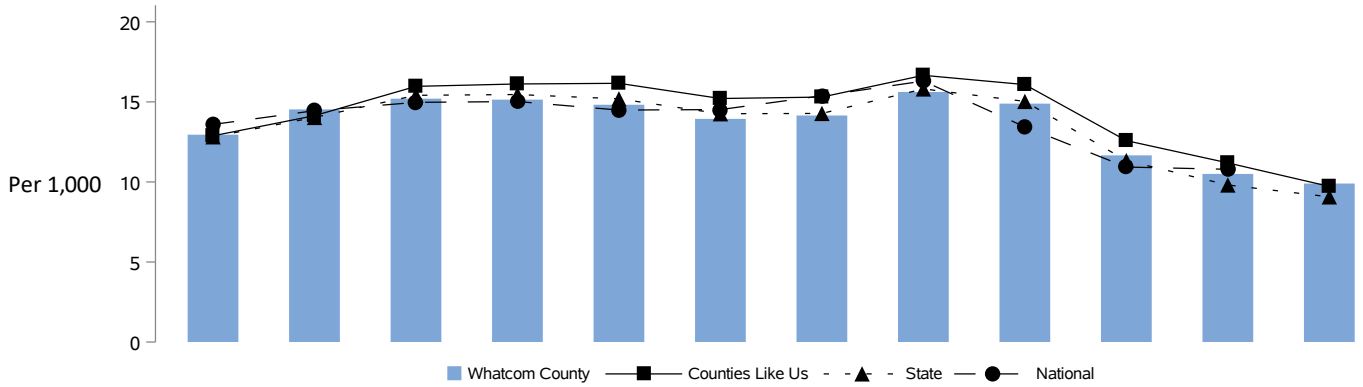
Notes: Net migration is the annual number of new residents that moved into an area minus the number of residents that moved out of an area, per 1,000 persons. The Office of Financial Management estimates annual net migration for twelve months ending on March 31st of a given year. For example, annual net migration in 2023 refers to the period from April 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023. Annual rates, numerators and denominators are based on single-year data.

Numerator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Net Migration Data.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/statewide-data/washington-trends/population-changes/population-change-natural-increase-and-net-migration

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

Data Last Updated: 06/03/2026

Existing Home Sales



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
National	13.59	14.45	14.97	15.02	14.49	14.52	15.38	16.30	13.44	10.93	10.79	
State	12.82	14.03	15.41	15.46	15.19	14.26	14.28	15.81	15.03	11.33	9.81	9.07
Counties Like Us	12.88	14.14	15.97	16.12	16.16	15.21	15.30	16.66	16.08	12.58	11.19	9.72
Whatcom County	12.95	14.53	15.20	15.14	14.82	13.94	14.15	15.62	14.89	11.66	10.50	9.90
Homes Sold	2,690	3,050	3,230	3,270	3,260	3,120	3,210	3,530	3,440	2,740	2,490	2,374
All Persons	207,714	209,931	212,521	216,001	219,984	223,890	226,847	225,999	231,020	235,052	237,235	239,723

Notes: The previously-owned homes sold, per 1,000 persons (all ages). Previously-owned homes sold is rounded to the tens. Existing homes sold are estimated based on data from multiple listing services, firms that monitor deeds, and local Realtors associations. Adjustments were made by the data provider to remove refinanced, rather than sold homes from the counts of sales.

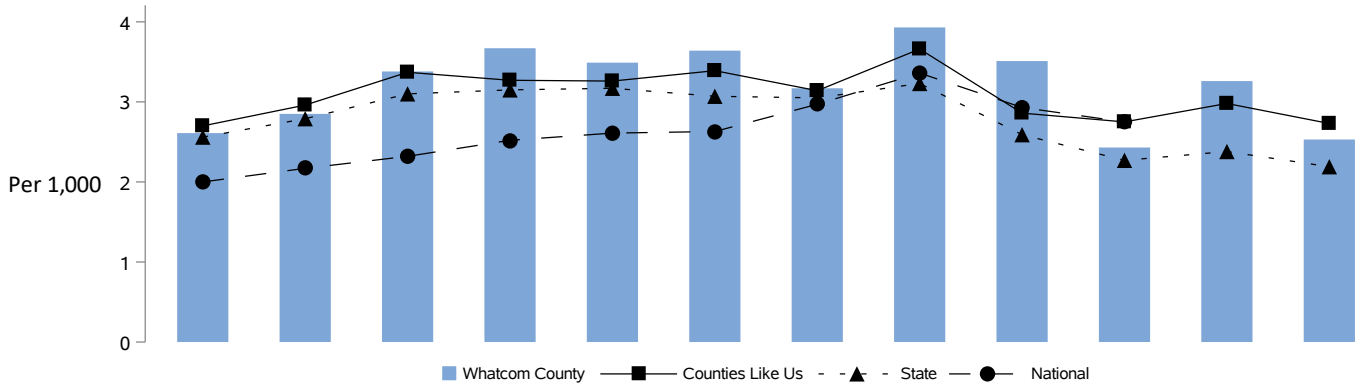
Numerator Data Source: Washington Center for Real Estate Research, University of Washington. Market Summary Report. Existing Home Sales.
http://realestate.washington.edu/research/wcrer/housing-reports/

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

National Data Source: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, Single-Family Existing-Home Sales and Prices.
https://www.nar.realtor/research-and-statistics/housing-statistics/existing-home-sales

Data Last Updated: 06/02/2026

New Residence Construction



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
National	2.00	2.17	2.32	2.52	2.61	2.63	2.97	3.36	2.93	2.75		
State	2.56	2.79	3.10	3.15	3.17	3.07	3.05	3.23	2.59	2.27	2.38	2.19
Counties Like Us	2.70	2.96	3.37	3.27	3.26	3.39	3.14	3.66	2.86	2.75	2.98	2.73
Whatcom County	2.61	2.85	3.38	3.67	3.49	3.64	3.17	3.93	3.51	2.43	3.26	2.53
New Residences	542	599	718	793	767	816	718	888	810	571	773	607
All Persons	207,714	209,931	212,521	216,001	219,984	223,890	226,847	225,999	231,020	235,052	237,235	239,723

Notes: The new building permits issued for single and multi-family dwellings, per 1,000 persons (all ages). Each unit in a multi-family dwelling (for example, each apartment in a building) has a separate building permit.

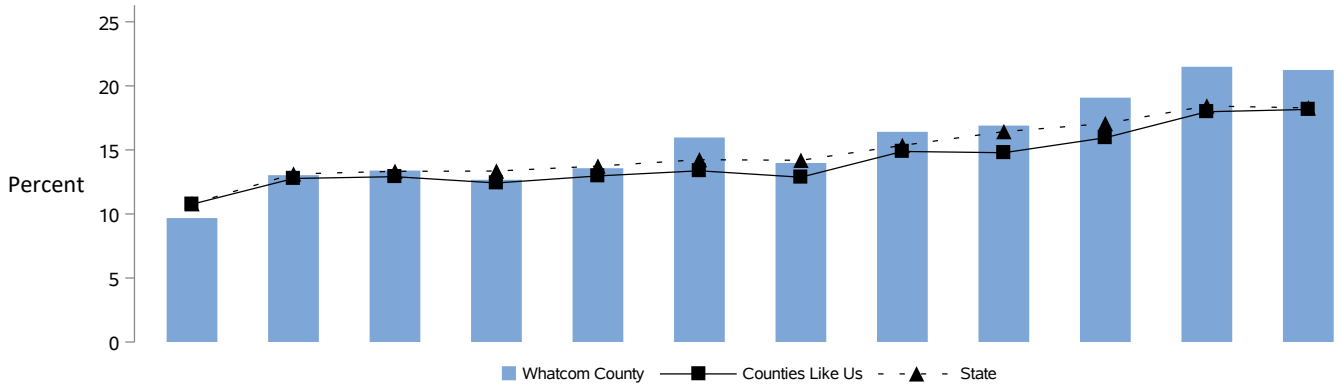
Numerator Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau. Building Permit Survey. Permits by County.
https://www2.census.gov/econ/bps/County/

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

National Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau. Building Permit Survey. Permits by County.
https://www.census.gov/construction/bps/

Data Last Updated: 06/02/2026

Alcohol- Or Drug-Related Deaths



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
National	No comparable national data for this rate											
State	10.80	13.12	13.33	13.35	13.74	14.24	14.19	15.35	16.43	17.06	18.43	18.28
Counties Like Us	10.76	12.77	12.91	12.42	12.97	13.37	12.87	14.88	14.78	15.95	17.98	18.16
Whatcom County	9.68	13.03	13.39	12.67	13.57	15.97	13.98	16.41	16.90	19.08	21.49	21.24
AOD-related	153	194	216	215	227	255	255	314	354	399	438	442
Deaths	1,580	1,489	1,613	1,697	1,673	1,597	1,824	1,914	2,095	2,091	2,038	2,081

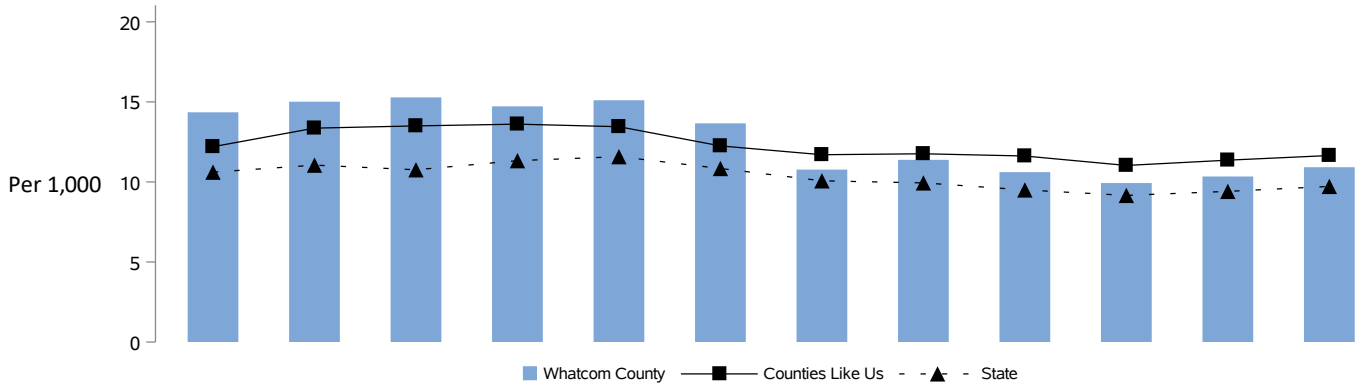
Notes: The deaths, with alcohol- or drug-related causes, per 100 deaths. Evaluation is based on all contributory causes of death for direct and indirect associations with alcohol and drug abuse. For a complete explanation of the codes and methods used please see Technical Notes: Counting Alcohol- or Drug-related Deaths. Suppression code definitions for yearly rates are explained in Technical Notes. Rates are not reported when fewer than 100 deaths occurred in an area.

Numerator Data Source: Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics, Death Certificate Data File.
https://www.doh.wa.gov/DataandStatisticalReports/HealthStatistics/Death

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics, Death Certificate Data File.
https://www.doh.wa.gov/DataandStatisticalReports/HealthStatistics/Death

Data Last Updated: 01/14/2026

Clients Of State-Funded Alcohol or Drug Services (Age 18+)



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
National	No comparable national data for this rate											
State	10.61	11.05	10.76	11.33	11.58	10.84	10.07	9.94	9.50	9.16	9.41	9.72
Counties Like Us	12.20	13.36	13.50	13.61	13.45	12.25	11.70	11.76	11.62	11.03	11.36	11.65
Whatcom County	14.35	15.01	15.28	14.72	15.10	13.66	10.77	11.38	10.61	9.93	10.34	10.92
Patients, 18+	2,370	2,510	2,591	2,540	2,658	2,450	1,961	2,065	1,980	1,891	1,994	2,134
Persons, 18+	165,213	167,234	169,565	172,597	176,031	179,403	182,034	181,479	186,624	190,359	192,795	195,457

Notes: The adults (age 18 and over) receiving state-funded alcohol or drug services, per 1,000 adults. Counts of adults are unduplicated so that those receiving services more than once during the year are only counted once for that year. Client counts are linked to state service records through the Research and Data Analysis Client Services Database. State-funded services include treatment, assessment, and detox. Persons in Department of Corrections treatment programs are not included.

National reporting by the states of this measure ended in 2012. Similar data are available for your review using the national data source URL below.

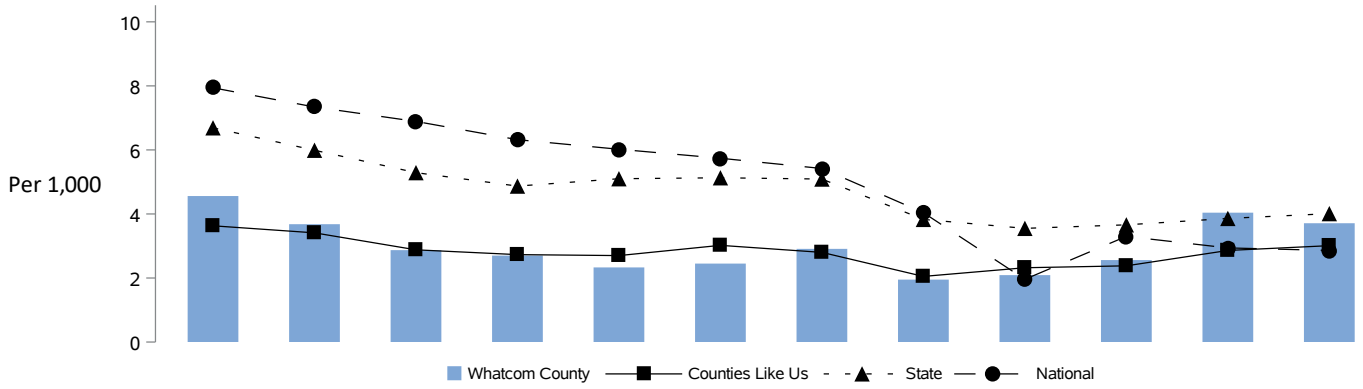
Numerator Data Source: Washington State Health Care Authority, Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery reported to the RDA Integrated Client Databases.
http://clientdata.rda.dshs.wa.gov/Home/ShowReport?reportMode=0

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

National Data Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS).
https://www.samhsa.gov/data/data-we-collect/teds-treatment-episode-data-set

Data Last Updated: 04/27/2026

Arrests, Alcohol-Related (Age 18+)



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
National	7.94	7.34	6.89	6.32	6.02	5.74	5.42	4.04	1.96	3.30	2.94	2.86
State	6.69	5.99	5.29	4.87	5.10	5.13	5.09	3.83	3.55	3.66	3.86	4.01
Counties Like Us	3.63	3.41	2.88	2.73	2.70	3.02	2.80	2.05	2.32	2.38	2.86	3.01
Whatcom County	4.56	3.68	2.87	2.70	2.33	2.45	2.91	1.95	2.09	2.56	4.04	3.71
Arrests, 18+	745	608	480	457	402	432	510	347	380	477	769	716
Adjusted Pop 18+	163,390	165,213	167,234	169,565	172,597	176,031	175,065	177,521	181,479	186,624	190,359	192,795

Notes: The alcohol violations (age 18+), per 1,000 adults (age 18+). Alcohol violations include all crimes involving driving under the influence, liquor law violations, and drunkenness. DUI arrests by the Washington State Patrol are included in the state trend analysis. However, they are not included in the county rankings since WSP arrests are not assigned to counties. Denominators are adjusted by subtracting the population of police agencies that did not report arrests to WASPC. In spite of this population adjustment, when the non-reporting police jurisdiction is where much of the crime occurs, the rate for the county will be lower than it would be if that jurisdiction was included. For more information on the percent subtracted, suppression code definitions and the agencies not reporting, see the Technical Notes and the appendix, Non-Reporting Agencies and Population.

The types of crimes used within this rate have been represented in both Summary UCR and NIBRS systems and are not likely to be substantially impacted by the reporting system changes from 2012 to 2018. Refer to the Technical Notes section for information on UCR and NIBRS.

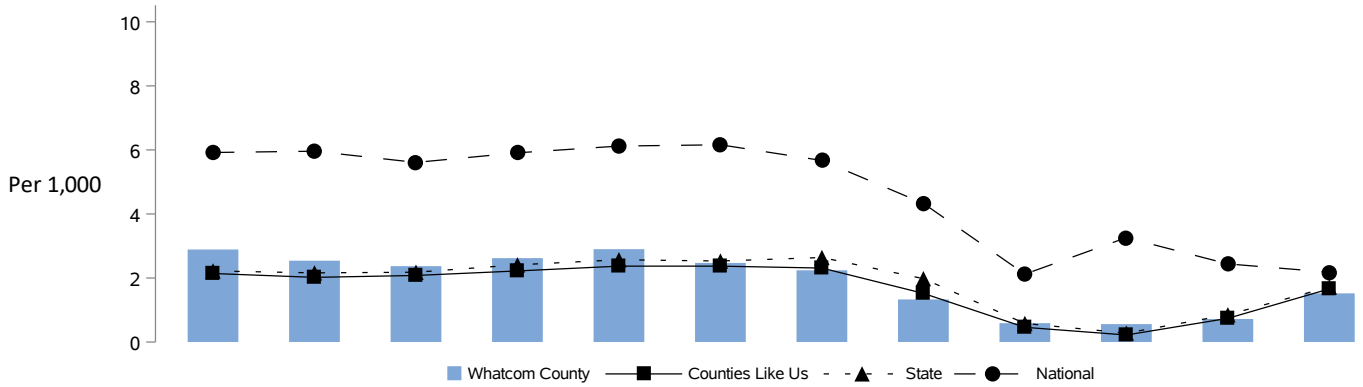
Numerator Data Source: Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC): Uniform Crime Report (UCR).
https://www.waspc.org/crime-statistics-reports

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

National Data Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program.
https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/

Data Last Updated: 09/16/2025

Arrests, Drug Law Violation (Age 18+)



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
National	5.92	5.96	5.61	5.91	6.12	6.16	5.67	4.33	2.12	3.26	2.44	2.18
State	2.22	2.16	2.18	2.41	2.57	2.53	2.64	1.98	0.58	0.28	0.85	1.72
Counties Like Us	2.14	2.02	2.08	2.22	2.37	2.37	2.31	1.52	0.46	0.22	0.74	1.66
Whatcom County	2.89	2.54	2.37	2.62	2.90	2.47	2.24	1.33	0.59	0.56	0.72	1.52
Arrests, 18+	473	420	397	444	500	435	392	236	107	104	137	294
Adjusted Pop 18+	163,390	165,213	167,234	169,565	172,597	176,031	175,065	177,521	181,479	186,624	190,359	192,795

Notes: The arrests of adults (age 18+) for drug law violations, per 1,000 adults (age 18+). Drug law violations include all crimes involving sale, manufacturing, and possession of drugs. Denominators are adjusted by subtracting the population of police agencies that did not report arrests to WASPC. In spite of this population adjustment, when the non-reporting police jurisdiction is where much of the crime occurs, the rate for the county will be lower than it would be if that jurisdiction was included. For more information on the percent subtracted, suppression code definitions and the agencies not reporting, see the Technical Notes and the appendix, Non-Reporting Agencies and Population.

The types of crimes used within this rate have been represented in both Summary UCR and NIBRS systems and are not likely to be substantially impacted by the reporting system changes from 2012 to 2018. Refer to the Technical Notes section for information on UCR and NIBRS.

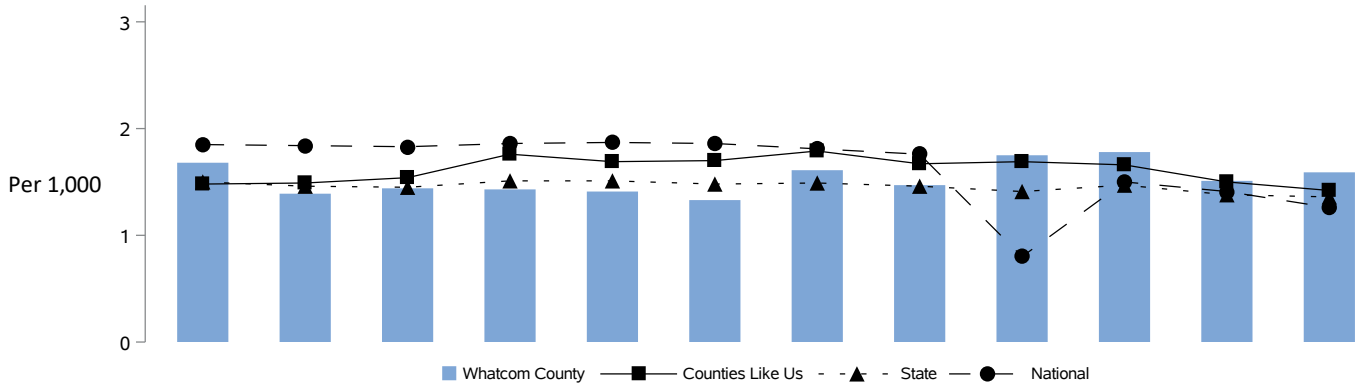
Numerator Data Source: Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC): Uniform Crime Report (UCR).
https://www.waspc.org/crime-statistics-reports

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

National Data Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program.
https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/

Data Last Updated: 09/16/2025

Arrests, Violent Crime (Age 18+)



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
National	1.85	1.84	1.83	1.86	1.87	1.86	1.81	1.76	0.80	1.50	1.41	1.26
State	1.50	1.46	1.45	1.51	1.51	1.48	1.49	1.46	1.41	1.47	1.38	1.36
Counties Like Us	1.48	1.49	1.54	1.76	1.69	1.70	1.79	1.67	1.69	1.66	1.50	1.42
Whatcom County	1.68	1.39	1.44	1.43	1.41	1.33	1.61	1.47	1.75	1.78	1.51	1.59
Arrests, 18+	274	229	240	243	243	235	281	261	318	332	287	307
Adjusted Pop 18+	163,390	165,213	167,234	169,565	172,597	176,031	175,065	177,521	181,479	186,624	190,359	192,795

Notes: The arrests of adults (age 18+) for violent crime per 1,000 adults (age 18+). Violent crimes include all crimes involving criminal homicide, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. Simple assault is not defined as a violent crime. Denominators are adjusted by subtracting the population of police agencies that did not report arrests to WASPC. In spite of this population adjustment, when the non-reporting police jurisdiction is where much of the crime occurs, the rate for the county will be lower than it would be if that jurisdiction was included. For more information on the percent subtracted, suppression code definitions and the agencies not reporting, see the Technical Notes and the appendix, Non-Reporting Agencies and Population.

The types of crimes used within this rate have been represented in both Summary UCR and NIBRS systems and are not likely to be substantially impacted by the reporting system changes from 2012 to 2018. Refer to the Technical Notes section for information on UCR and NIBRS.

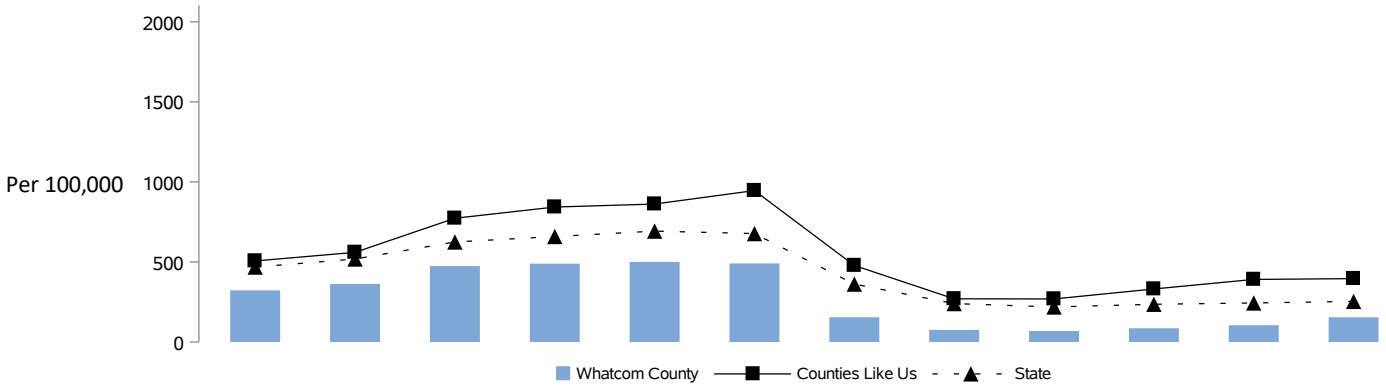
Numerator Data Source: Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC): Uniform Crime Report (UCR).
https://www.waspc.org/crime-statistics-reports

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

National Data Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program.
https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/

Data Last Updated: 09/16/2025

Prisoners in State Correctional Systems (Age 18+)



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
National					No comparable national data for this rate							
State	468.19	518.78	624.89	659.09	692.92	677.49	361.91	240.13	218.99	235.89	244.11	253.92
Counties Like Us	506.60	560.21	773.22	843.18	861.90	946.00	478.17	270.02	269.21	331.41	391.05	396.13
Whatcom County	323.04	362.50	474.78	489.35	500.49	490.87	154.73	75.66	68.83	85.94	104.96	154.34
Admits, 18+	671	761	1,009	1,057	1,101	1,099	351	171	159	202	249	370
All Persons	207,714	209,931	212,521	216,001	219,984	223,890	226,847	225,999	231,020	235,052	237,235	239,723

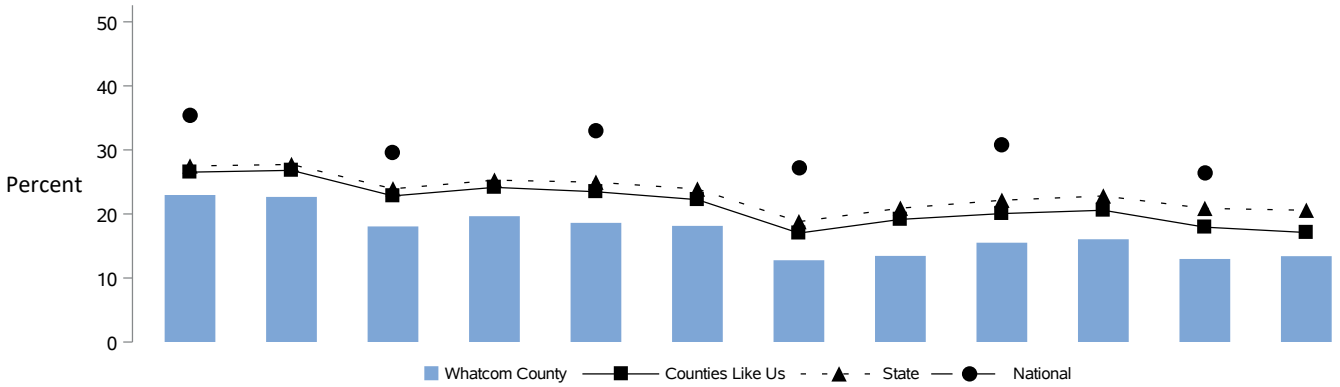
Notes: The adult (age 18 and over) admissions to prison, per 100,000 persons (all ages). Admissions include new admissions, re-admissions, community custody inmate violations, and parole violations. Counts of admissions are duplicated so that individuals admitted to prison more than once in a year are counted each time they are admitted. The admissions are attributed to the county where the conviction occurred. Prisoners being electronically monitored are included in the data. Suppression code definitions for yearly rates are explained in Technical Notes.

Numerator Data Source: Washington State Department of Corrections, Inmates File.
https://www.doc.wa.gov/information/data/default.htm

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

Data Last Updated: 06/02/2026

Population Not Registered to Vote



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
National	35.33		29.70		33.10		27.30		30.90		26.40	
State	27.49	27.73	23.93	25.28	24.96	23.89	18.80	20.90	22.14	22.81	20.87	20.58
Counties Like Us	26.53	26.81	22.82	24.15	23.47	22.23	17.01	19.15	20.06	20.58	17.94	17.10
Whatcom County	22.96	22.66	18.05	19.65	18.61	18.14	12.77	13.45	15.51	16.05	12.97	13.41
Not Registered	37,933	37,889	30,603	33,909	32,766	32,552	23,254	24,416	28,941	30,548	25,005	26,215
Adjusted Pop 18+	165,213	167,234	169,565	172,597	176,031	179,403	182,034	181,479	186,624	190,359	192,795	195,457

Notes: The persons not registered to vote in the November elections, per 100 adults (age 18 and over). As part of the November Current Population Survey (the Voting and Registration Supplement), the Bureau of the Census collects data on voting and registration in years with presidential or congressional elections (i.e. every other year).

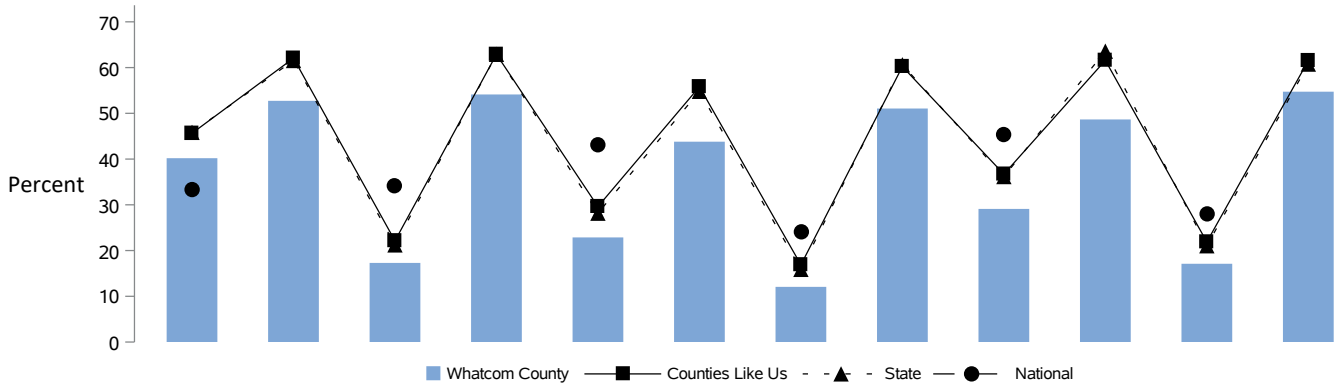
Numerator Data Source: Office of the Washington Secretary of State, Elections Division, Registered Voters.
https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/research/data-and-statistics.aspx

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

National Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Statistical Abstract of the United States: Voting-Age Population, Percent Reporting Registered, and Voted.
https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/tables/p20/580/table01.xlsx

Data Last Updated: 03/20/2025

Registered And Not Voting In The November Election



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
National	33.47		34.18		43.19		24.10		45.27		27.89	
State	45.84	61.55	21.24	62.90	28.17	54.81	15.89	60.61	36.18	63.59	21.05	60.76
Counties Like Us	45.64	62.05	22.13	62.89	29.61	55.81	16.88	60.22	36.70	61.58	21.88	61.52
Whatcom County	40.19	52.73	17.30	54.12	22.87	43.80	12.06	51.05	29.10	48.66	17.11	54.73
Not Voting	51,157	68,209	24,042	75,062	32,761	64,314	19,152	80,187	45,892	77,768	28,710	92,624
Registered to Vote	127,280	129,345	138,962	138,688	143,265	146,851	158,780	157,063	157,683	159,811	167,790	169,242

Notes: The persons registered to vote in the November elections but not voting, per 100 adults (age 18 and over) registered to vote. As part of the November Current Population Survey (the Voting and Registration Supplement), the Bureau of the Census collects data on voting and registration in years with presidential or congressional elections (i.e. every other year).

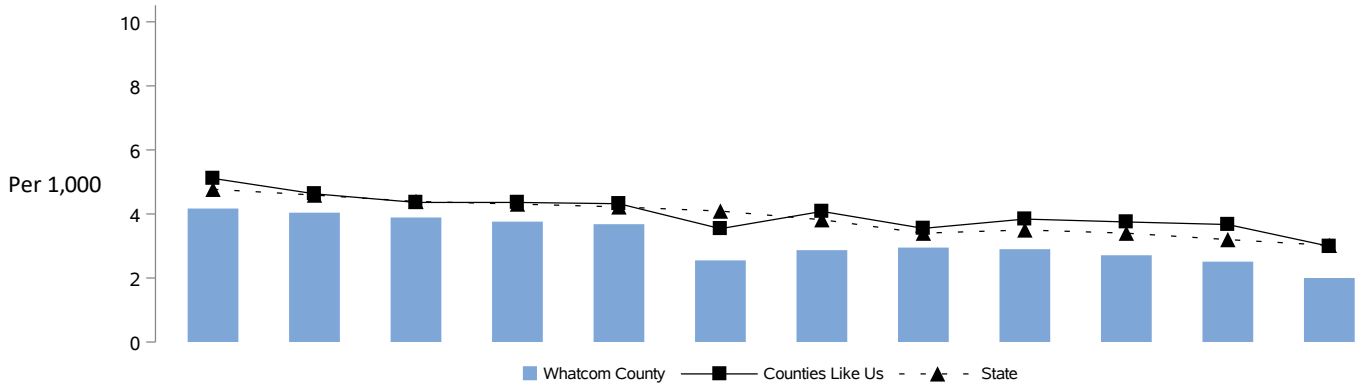
Numerator Data Source: Office of the Washington Secretary of State, Elections Division, Registered Voters.
https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/research/data-and-statistics.aspx

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

National Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Statistical Abstract of the United States: Voting-Age Population, Percent Reporting Registered, and Voted.
https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/tables/p20/580/table01.xlsx

Data Last Updated: 03/09/2026

Divorce



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
National	No comparable national data for this rate											
State	4.77	4.59	4.39	4.31	4.22	4.09	3.82	3.40	3.50	3.40	3.20	3.02
Counties Like Us	5.11	4.63	4.36	4.36	4.32	3.54	4.08	3.55	3.84	3.75	3.67	2.99
Whatcom County	4.17	4.04	3.89	3.76	3.68	2.55	2.87	2.95	2.90	2.71	2.51	2.00
Divorces	713	698	679	666	663	468	538	560	550	528	499	402
All Persons, Age 15+	170,910	172,736	174,771	177,131	180,220	183,730	187,173	189,843	189,342	194,553	198,501	201,044

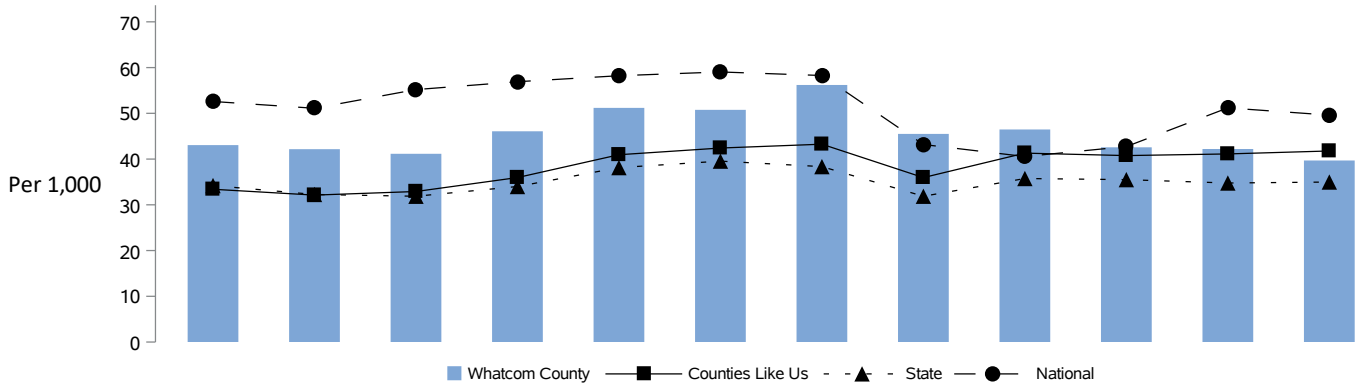
Notes: The divorces per 1,000 persons (age 15 and over). Divorce includes dissolutions, annulments, and unknown decree types; it does not include legal separations. Divorce data on this page is reported by county of residence of Person 1 at the time of decree. If Person 1 lived outside Washington, then the county of residence of Person 2 is used. If neither party to the decree has a reported county of residence in Washington State, the event is not assigned to a county, but is included in the state rate. Data prior to 2018 was recorded as "husband" and "wife", with the county of residence of the wife used first and the husband used second if the county of residence of the wife was not in Washington State. Suppression code definitions for yearly rates are explained in Technical Notes.

Numerator Data Source: Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics, Dissolution and Annulment Data.
https://www.doh.wa.gov/DataandStatisticalReports/HealthStatistics/Divorce

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

Data Last Updated: 02/13/2026

Victims Of Child Abuse And Neglect In Accepted Referrals



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
National	52.59	51.10	55.19	56.91	58.22	59.04	58.27	43.18	40.56	42.73	51.19	49.61
State	34.21	32.26	31.87	34.00	38.13	39.55	38.35	31.87	35.75	35.50	34.76	34.98
Counties Like Us	33.40	32.12	32.91	35.96	40.95	42.41	43.25	35.95	41.30	40.76	41.12	41.77
Whatcom County	43.05	42.16	41.15	46.07	51.19	50.76	56.20	45.50	46.47	42.57	42.20	39.69
Accepted Victims	1,824	1,792	1,757	1,979	2,222	2,231	2,500	2,039	2,069	1,890	1,886	1,764
Persons, birth-17	42,374	42,501	42,697	42,957	43,404	43,953	44,487	44,813	44,520	44,396	44,693	44,441

Notes: The children (age birth-17) identified as victims in reports to Child Protective Services that were accepted for further action, per 1,000 children (age birth-17). A 'referral' is a report of suspected child abuse which may have multiple listed victims. Mandated reporters, such as doctors, nurses, psychologists, pharmacists, teachers, child care providers, and social service counselors, notify Child Protective Services if they suspect a child is in danger of negligent treatment, physical abuse, sexual abuse, or other maltreatment. In addition, other concerned individuals may report suspected child abuse cases. If the information provided meets the sufficiency screen, the referral is accepted for further action. A referral may have one or more children identified as victims. Children are counted more than once if they are reported as a victim more than once during the year. The data in this report are based on the total number of victims reported in Child Protective Services referrals. Child location is derived from the residence at the time of referral. Suppression code definitions for yearly rates are explained in Technical Notes.

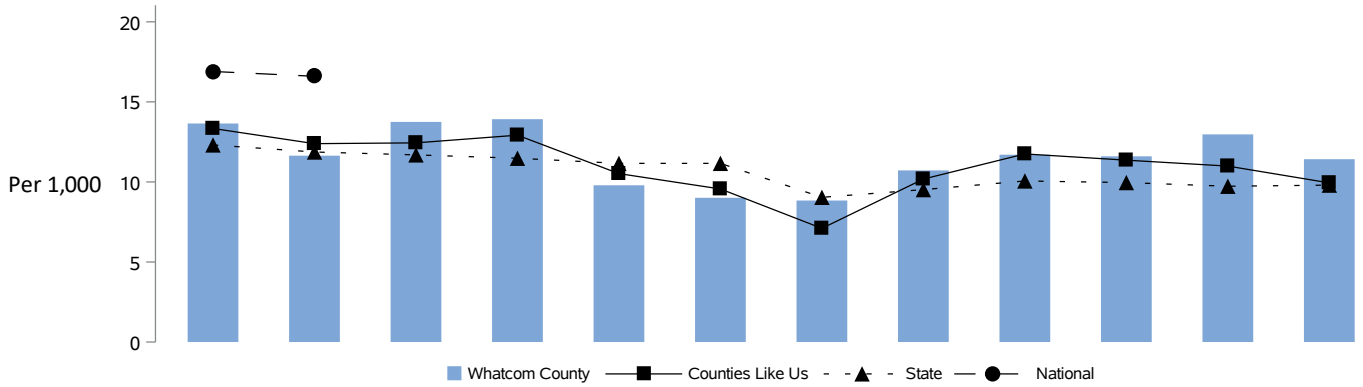
Numerator Data Source: Washington State Department of Children, Youth and Families, FamLink Data Warehouse.

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

National Data Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families, Voluntary Cooperative Information System (VCIS), and estimates from Adoption, Foster Care Analysis Reporting System (AFCARS)

Data Last Updated: 06/16/2025

High School Cohort (Cumulative) Dropouts



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
National	16.9	16.6										
State	12.31	11.87	11.69	11.48	11.16	11.16	9.04	9.52	10.06	9.96	9.73	9.80
Counties Like Us	13.34	12.39	12.44	12.92	10.52	9.56	7.10	10.18	11.75	11.36	10.99	9.94
Whatcom County	13.65	11.64	13.75	13.92	9.79	9.01	8.84	10.72	11.70	11.60	12.97	11.42
Dropouts	285	237	289	302	198	183	171	231	248	260	291	250
Student Cohort	2,088	2,036	2,102	2,170	2,022	2,031	1,935	2,154	2,120	2,242	2,244	2,190

Notes: The percentage of students in the same freshman cohort dropping out prior to graduation divided by the adjusted freshman class cohort of the graduates. The High School Cohort Dropout rate (may also be referred to as the longitudinal, cumulative, or freshmen cohort dropout rate) measures what happens to a single group (or cohort) of students over a period of time. This rate is most useful for seeing the long-term impact on the community.

By contractual agreement with OSPI, any rates above 95% will be listed as >95% or 'Greater than 95%', any rates below 5% will be listed as <5% or 'Less than 5%', and data is suppressed when less than ten students were in the numerator or denominator to avoid individual student identification. For more information on the changes in rate computation and cohort methodology, see the Technical Notes.

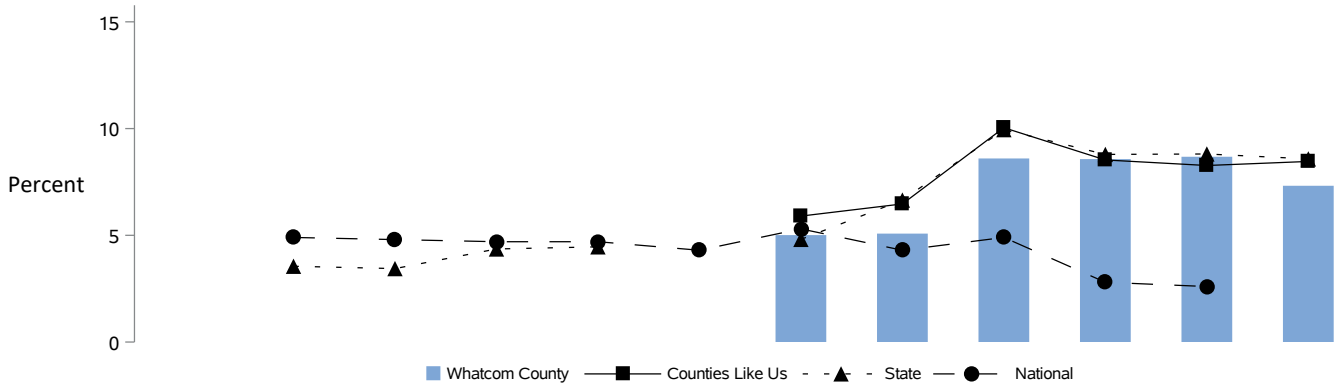
Numerator Data Source: Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Graduation and Dropout Statistics for Washington.
https://www.k12.wa.us/data-reporting/data-portal

Denominator Data Source: Washington Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Graduation and Dropout Statistics for Washington.
https://www.k12.wa.us/data-reporting/data-portal

National Data Source: NCES National Center for Education Statistics. Digest of Education Statistics. Table 219: High School Completers and Dropouts.
https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/current_tables.asp

Data Last Updated: 06/04/2026

High School Event (Annual) Dropouts



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
National		4.90	4.80	4.70	4.70	4.30	5.30	4.30	4.90	2.80	2.60	
State		3.55	3.44	4.36	4.46	NR	4.81	6.65	9.95	8.79	8.81	8.58
Counties Like Us		<5	<5	<5	<5		5.90	6.47	10.04	8.53	8.27	8.46
Whatcom County		<5	<5	<5	<5	SP	5.01	5.08	8.60	8.57	8.68	7.32
Dropouts		SP	SP	SP	SP	0	426	423	736	751	759	653
Students		8,180	8,213	8,322	8,233	0	8,508	8,324	8,559	8,761	8,749	8,918

Notes: The Annual Dropout rate measures the proportion of students enrolled in grades 9-12 who drop out in a single year without completing high school as a percentage of all students in grades 9 through 12 that year. When districts try new policies or projects to keep students in school the impact of those actions will be more immediately visible in this rate. This rate is much more time intensive to compute with the new cohort designations for students as it draws information from four separate cohorts. This indicator has a break in data production for 2013/2014 while data collection transitions to using the adjusted cohort for most other calculations. The formula for this indicator has not changed. By contractual agreement with OSPI, any rates above 95% will be listed as >95% or 'Greater than 95%', any rates below 5% will be listed as <5% or 'Less than 5%', and data is suppressed when less than ten students were in the denominator to avoid individual student identification. For more information on the changes in rate computation and cohort methodology, see the Technical Notes.

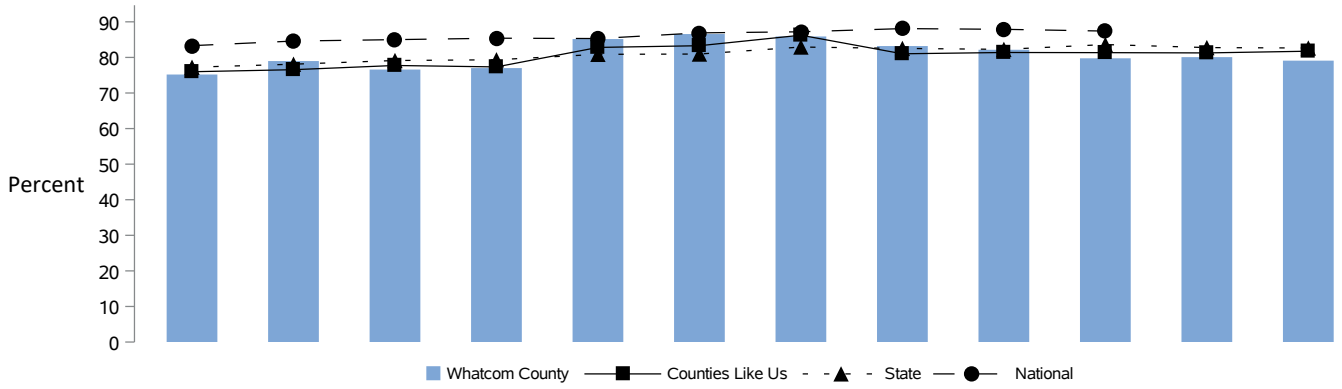
Numerator Data Source: Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Graduation and Dropout Statistics for Washington. http://www.k12.wa.us/DataAdmin/Dropout-Grad.aspx

Denominator Data Source: Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Graduation and Dropout Statistics for Washington. http://www.k12.wa.us/DataAdmin/Dropout-Grad.aspx

National Data Source: NCES National Center for Education Statistics. Digest of Education Statistics. Table 219: High School Completers and Dropouts.
https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/current_tables.asp

Data Last Updated: 06/04/2026

High School On-time Graduation



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
National	83.3	84.6	85.0	85.4	85.3	86.9	87.2	88.1	87.9	87.4		
State	77.24	78.09	79.13	79.34	80.87	80.95	82.92	82.53	82.26	83.62	82.76	82.64
Counties Like Us	75.97	76.55	77.73	77.33	82.81	83.29	86.24	81.02	81.38	81.34	81.26	81.74
Whatcom County	75.19	78.98	76.59	77.00	85.16	86.57	85.89	83.20	82.15	79.75	80.08	79.09
Graduates	1,570	1,608	1,610	1,671	1,704	1,721	1,643	1,763	1,721	1,788	1,797	1,732
Student Cohort	2,088	2,036	2,102	2,170	2,022	2,031	1,935	2,154	2,120	2,242	2,244	2,190

Notes: The percentage of students who graduate in four years by completion of the graduation requirements. The rate divides the number of students in the same freshman cohort graduating in their fourth year by the adjusted freshman cohort for those students. In this method there are no adjustments for students in Special Education or English Language Learners who are expected to take longer. Additionally, students transferring from out of state or other districts who are credit deficient may not be reclassified into a lower grade.

National rates reported in the most recent available Dept. of Education Table 219.10 reflect a substantial change in the number of reported high school graduates when compared to prior reporting. At this time we have not adjusted prior years national rates reported here. 2023 is the only year using the revised data provided in table 219.10.

By contractual agreement with OSPI, any rates above 95% will be listed as >95% or 'Greater than 95%', any rates below 5% will be listed as <5% or 'Less than 5%', and data is suppressed when less than ten students were in the numerator or denominator to avoid individual student identification. For more information on the changes in rate computation and cohort methodology, see the Technical Notes.

Numerator Data Source: Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Graduation and Dropout Statistics for Washington. https://www.k12.wa.us/data-reporting/data-portal

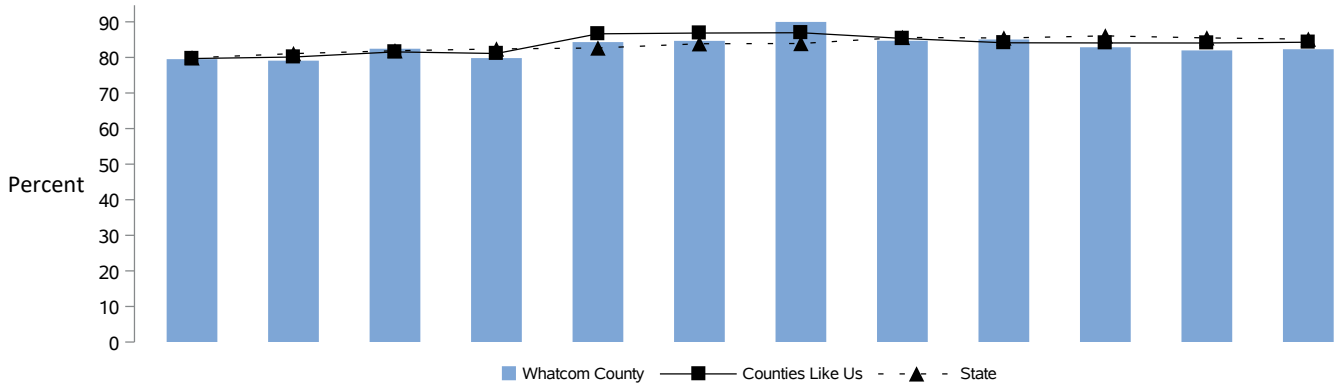
Denominator Data Source: Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Graduation and Dropout Statistics for Washington. https://www.k12.wa.us/data-reporting/data-portal

National Data Source: NCES National Center for Education Statistics. Digest of Education Statistics. Section 219: High School Completers and Dropouts, Table 219.10:High school graduates, by sex and control of school; public high school averaged freshman graduation rate (AFGR); and total graduates as a ratio of 17-year-old population: Selected years, 1869-70 through 2022-23.

At this time, 2022-23 is the most recent year reported in 219.10. Two similarly titled tables (219.20 and 219.30) report the number of graduates in 2023-24 but not the rate or number of students.
https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/current_tables.asp

Data Last Updated: 06/04/2026

High School Extended Graduation



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
National	No comparable national data for this rate											
State	79.88	81.08	81.87	82.38	82.65	83.84	83.91	85.62	85.45	86.05	85.48	85.13
Counties Like Us	79.68	80.11	81.55	81.10	86.63	86.85	86.94	85.34	84.11	84.07	84.05	84.27
Whatcom County	79.51	79.09	82.44	79.81	84.31	84.65	89.97	84.68	85.04	82.85	81.97	82.30
Graduates	1,641	1,660	1,686	1,688	1,730	1,649	1,776	1,724	1,796	1,758	1,841	1,851
Student Cohort	2,064	2,099	2,045	2,115	2,052	1,948	1,974	2,082	2,155	2,122	2,246	2,249

Notes: The percentage of students who graduate, including those students who stay in school and take up to five years to complete their diploma.

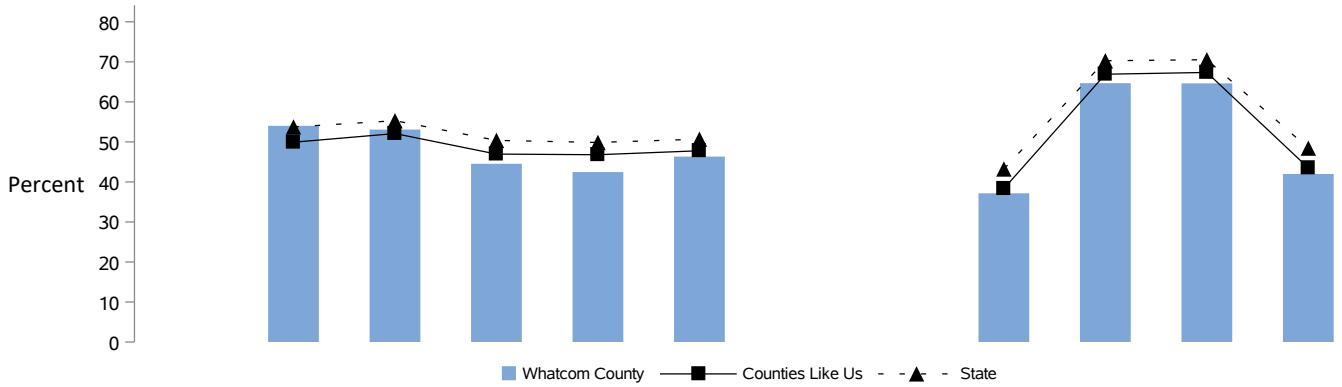
By contractual agreement with OSPI, any rates above 95% will be listed as >95% or 'Greater than 95%', any rates below 5% will be listed as <5% or 'Less than 5%', and data is suppressed when less than ten students are in either the numerator or denominator to avoid individual student identification. For more information on the changes in rate computation and cohort methodology, see the Technical Notes.

Numerator Data Source: Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Graduation and Dropout Statistics for Washington. https://www.k12.wa.us/data-reporting/data-portal

Denominator Data Source: Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Graduation and Dropout Statistics for Washington. https://www.k12.wa.us/data-reporting/data-portal

Data Last Updated: 06/04/2026

Successful Academic Performance in Math, Grades 3-5



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
National					No comparable national data for this rate							
State		53.74	55.30	50.38	49.87	50.69	--	--	43.23	70.27	70.54	48.45
Counties Like Us		49.92	52.09	46.96	46.80	47.79	--	--	38.33	66.91	67.36	43.50
Whatcom County		54.02	53.08	44.53	42.46	46.33	--	--	37.16	64.68	64.63	41.99
Met Standard		3,029	3,064	2,721	2,644	3,817	--	--	2,414	3,760	3,778	2,408
Tested (Grades 3-5)		5,607	5,772	6,110	6,227	8,239	--	--	6,496	5,813	5,846	5,735

Notes: The students tested in grades 3 to 5 who met the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) Math standard as a percent of all students who chose to test in grades 3 to 5. Tests are given in the spring of the year. For example, data for 2024 is for students during the school year 2023/2024.

2020 and 2021 rates reflect the suspension of in-person learning in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

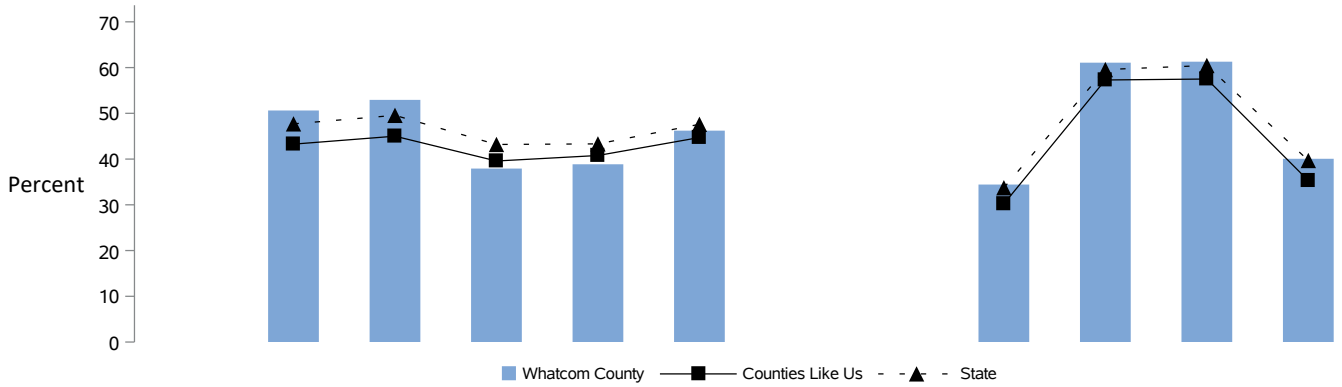
By contractual agreement with OSPI, any rates above 95% will be listed as > 95%, 'Greater than 95%', any rates below 5% will be listed as < 5%, and data is suppressed when less than ten students were tested to avoid individual student identification.

Numerator Data Source: Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Instructional Programs, Curriculum and Assessment, Grades 3-5 Meeting Math Standard, Smarter Balanced Assessment.
http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/summary.aspx

Denominator Data Source: Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Count of students tested in grades 3 to 5.
http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/summary.aspx

Data Last Updated: 03/02/2026

Successful Academic Performance in Math, Grades 6-8



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
National						No comparable national data for this rate						
State		47.70	49.56	43.19	43.32	47.60	--	--	33.73	59.57	60.46	39.69
Counties Like Us		43.26	45.00	39.58	40.78	44.71	--	--	30.21	57.29	57.50	35.29
Whatcom County		50.62	52.94	37.92	38.86	46.21	--	--	34.43	61.07	61.29	40.06
Met Standard		2,831	2,943	2,239	2,355	2,796	--	--	2,491	3,562	3,566	2,258
Tested (Grades 6-8)		5,593	5,559	5,905	6,060	6,050	--	--	7,234	5,833	5,818	5,637

Notes: The students tested in grades 6 to 8 who met the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) Math standard as a percent of all students who chose to test in grades 6 to 8. Tests are given in the spring of the year. For example, data for 2024 is for students during the school year 2023/2024.

2020 and 2021 rates reflect the suspension of in-person learning in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

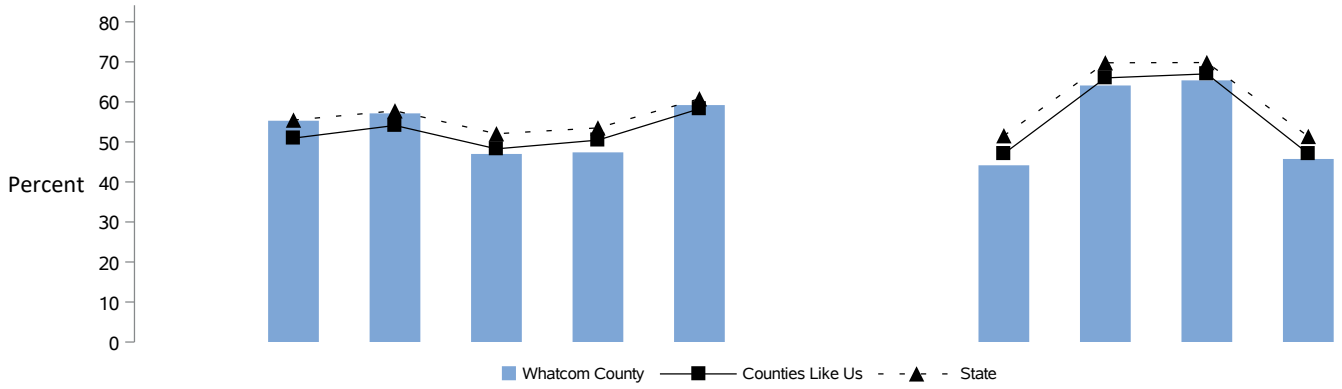
By contractual agreement with OSPI, any rates above 95% will be listed as > 95%, 'Greater than 95%', any rates below 5% will be listed as < 5%, and data is suppressed when less than ten students were tested to avoid individual student identification.

Numerator Data Source: Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Instructional Programs, Curriculum and Assessment, Grades 6-8 Meeting Math Standard, Smarter Balanced Assessment.
http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/summary.aspx

Denominator Data Source: Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Count of students tested in grades 6 to 8.
http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/summary.aspx

Data Last Updated: 03/02/2026

Successful Academic Performance in English Language Arts, Grades 3-5



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
National						No comparable national data for this rate						
State		55.45	57.77	52.04	53.50	60.79	--	--	51.55	69.77	69.83	51.37
Counties Like Us		50.94	54.11	48.26	50.45	58.27	--	--	47.06	65.99	67.00	47.05
Whatcom County		55.29	57.13	46.99	47.39	59.20	--	--	44.16	64.10	65.38	45.74
Met Standard		3,109	3,308	2,875	2,955	4,881	--	--	2,816	3,723	3,820	2,633
Tested (Grades 3-5)		5,623	5,790	6,118	6,235	8,245	--	--	6,377	5,808	5,843	5,756

Notes: The students tested in grades 3 to 5 who met the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) English Language Arts (ELA) standard as a percent of all students who chose to test in grades 3 to 5. Tests are given in the spring of the year. For example, data for 2024 is for students during the school year 2023/2024.

2020 and 2021 rates reflect the suspension of in-person learning in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

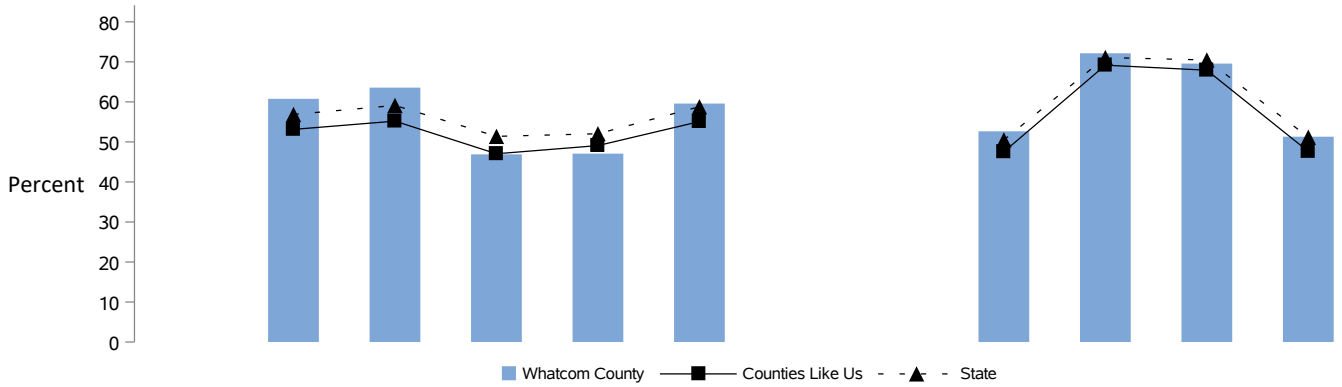
By contractual agreement with OSPI, any rates above 95% will be listed as > 95%, 'Greater than 95%', any rates below 5% will be listed as < 5%, and data is suppressed when less than ten students were tested to avoid individual student identification.

Numerator Data Source: Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Instructional Programs, Curriculum and Assessment, Grades 3-5 Meeting English Language Arts (ELA) Standard, Smarter Balanced Assessment.
http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/summary.aspx

Denominator Data Source: Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Count of students tested in grades 3 to 5.
http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/summary.aspx

Data Last Updated: 03/02/2026

Successful Academic Performance in English Language Arts, Grades 6-8



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
National					No comparable national data for this rate							
State		56.86	59.11	51.39	52.04	58.79	--	--	50.50	71.08	70.47	51.19
Counties Like Us		53.13	55.19	47.04	49.08	55.08	--	--	47.53	69.17	67.92	47.62
Whatcom County		60.77	63.56	46.89	47.07	59.58	--	--	52.65	72.14	69.57	51.30
Met Standard		3,407	3,553	2,770	2,855	3,606	--	--	3,870	4,206	4,045	2,913
Tested (Grades 6-8)		5,606	5,590	5,908	6,065	6,052	--	--	7,350	5,830	5,814	5,678

Notes: The students tested in grades 6 to 8 who met the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) English Language Arts (ELA) standard as a percent of all students who chose to test in grades 6 to 8. Tests are given in the spring of the year. For example, data for 2024 is for students during the school year 2023/2024.

2020 and 2021 rates reflect the suspension of in-person learning in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

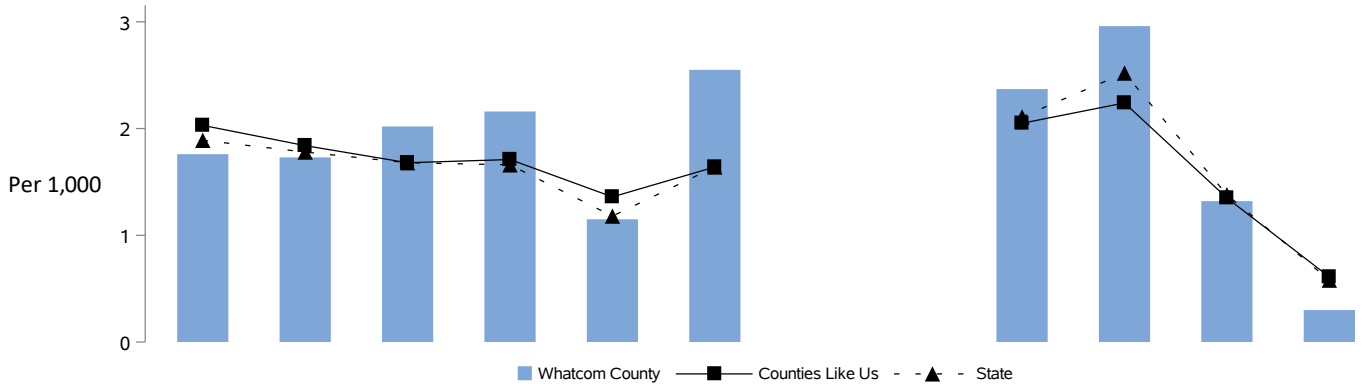
By contractual agreement with OSPI, any rates above 95% will be listed as > 95%, 'Greater than 95%', any rates below 5% will be listed as < 5%, and data is suppressed when less than ten students were tested to avoid individual student identification.

Numerator Data Source: Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Instructional Programs, Curriculum and Assessment, Grades 6-8 Meeting English Language Arts (ELA) Standard, Smarter Balanced Assessment.
http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/summary.aspx

Denominator Data Source: Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Count of students tested in grades 6 to 8.
http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/summary.aspx

Data Last Updated: 03/02/2026

School Weapons Incidents All Grades



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
National	No comparable national data for this rate											
State	1.89	1.78	1.68	1.66	1.18	1.64	--	--	2.11	2.52	1.38	0.58
Counties Like Us	2.03	1.84	1.68	1.71	1.36	1.64	--	--	2.05	2.24	1.35	0.61
Whatcom County	1.76	1.73	2.02	2.16	1.15	2.55	--	--	2.37	2.96	1.32	0.30
Incidents	47	46	54	59	32	71	--	--	64	80	35	<10
Enrollment	26,693	26,526	26,790	27,327	27,813	27,826	--	--	27,016	27,041	26,467	SP

Notes: The reported incidents involving guns, knives, and other weapons at any grade level per 1,000 students enrolled in October of all grades. Refer to RCW 28A.320.130 for information on the collection of data.

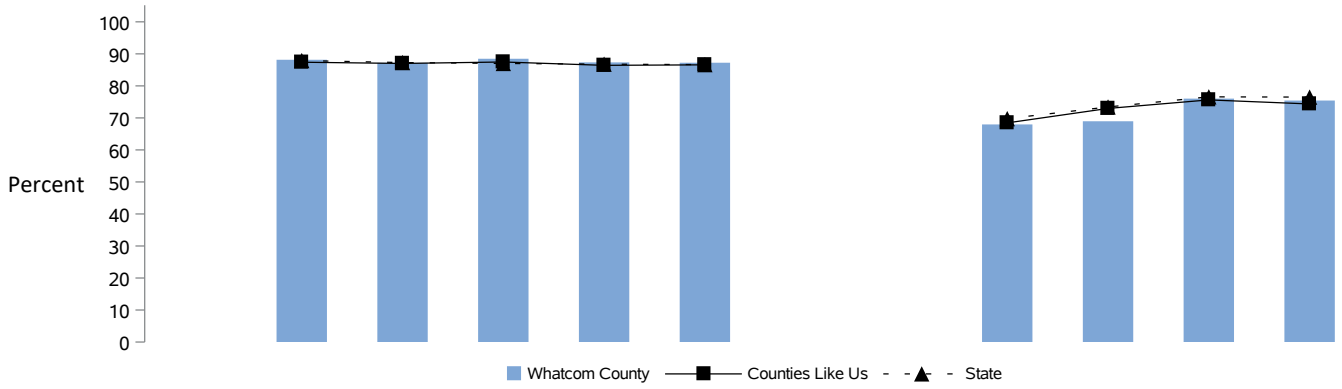
2020 and 2021 rates reflect the suspension of in-person learning in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Numerator Data Source: Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction.
http://www.k12.wa.us/safetycenter/Weapons/default.aspx

Denominator Data Source: Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, October Public School Enrollment, Grades K-12
https://www.k12.wa.us/data-reporting/data-portal

Data Last Updated: 03/02/2026

Regular Attendance



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
National					No comparable national data for this rate							
State		87.91	87.28	87.00	86.78	86.64	--	--	69.77	73.41	76.58	76.49
Counties Like Us		87.39	87.00	87.46	86.41	86.57	--	--	68.44	72.95	75.62	74.35
Whatcom County		88.15	87.19	88.47	87.34	87.23	--	--	67.96	68.95	76.02	75.42
Regular Attendees		14,024	14,101	14,657	14,712	14,960	--	--	11,086	11,286	12,396	11,675
Students		15,909	16,173	16,568	16,845	17,150	--	--	16,312	16,368	16,307	15,480

Notes: The percentage of students who regularly attend school. Regular attendance is defined as having, on average, less than two absences per month. It does not matter if the absences are excused or unexcused. An absence is defined as missing more than half the school day. This measure includes students that were enrolled for at least 90 days at any given school. Unlike risk indicators, a higher value on this protective factor is preferable.

2020 and 2021 rates reflect the suspension of in-person learning in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

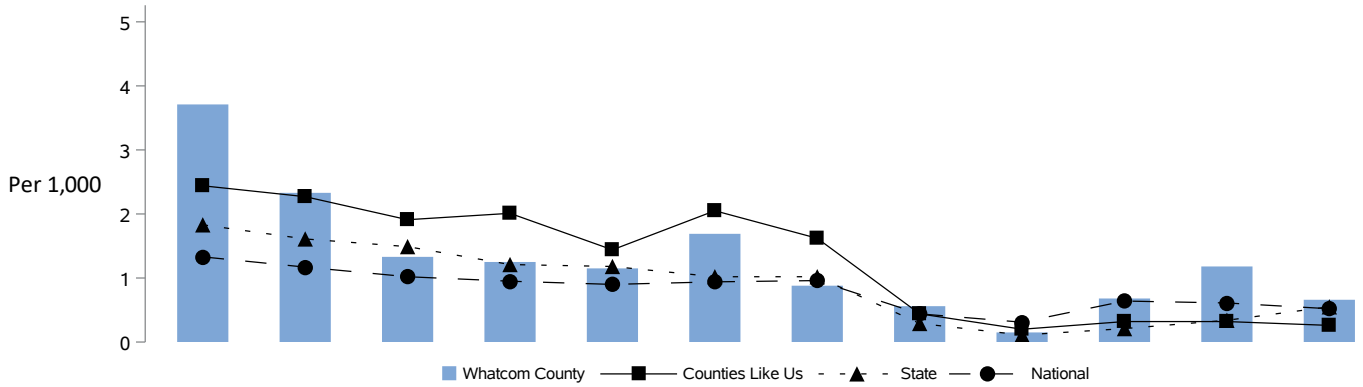
Regular Attendance replaces Unexcused Absences as a School Climate indicator in this report beginning July, 2020. For additional information about Regular Attendance refer to the OSPI web site, www.k12.wa.us. See also RCW 28A.225.

Numerator Data Source: Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Instructional Programs, Curriculum and Assessment. http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/summary.aspx

Denominator Data Source: Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, October Public School Enrollment, Grades K-12 http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/summary.aspx

Data Last Updated: 03/02/2026

Arrests, Alcohol- or Drug-Related (Age 10-14)



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
National	1.33	1.17	1.02	0.95	0.90	0.94	0.96	0.44	0.31	0.64	0.61	0.52
State	1.83	1.61	1.49	1.21	1.18	1.02	1.02	0.29	0.11	0.21	0.34	0.55
Counties Like Us	2.44	2.27	1.91	2.01	1.44	2.05	1.62	0.44	0.20	0.32	0.32	0.26
Whatcom County	3.71	2.33	1.33	1.25	1.15	1.69	0.88	0.56	0.15	0.68	1.18	0.66
Arrests, 10-14	45	28	16	15	14	21	11	<10	<10	<10	16	<10
Adjusted Pop 10-14	12,138	11,994	12,062	12,043	12,172	12,441	12,475	12,578	13,074	13,236	13,593	13,676

Notes: The arrests of younger adolescents (age 10-14) for alcohol and drug law violations, per 1,000 adolescents (age 10-14). Alcohol violations include all crimes involving driving under the influence, liquor law violations, and drunkenness. For children, arrests for liquor law violations are usually arrests for minor in possession. Drug law violations include all crimes involving the sale, manufacturing, and possession of drugs.

1) Denominators are adjusted by subtracting the population of police agencies that did not report arrests. For more information on the percent subtracted, suppression code definitions and the agencies not reporting, see the Technical Notes and the appendix, Non-Reporting Agencies and Population.

2) The DUI portion of this measure is likely understated, because arrests made by the State Patrol are not attributable to counties. State Patrol arrests are included in the state rates.

The types of crimes used within this rate have been represented in both Summary UCR and NIBRS systems and are not likely to be substantially impacted by the reporting system changes from 2012 to 2018. Refer to the Technical Notes section for information on UCR and NIBRS.

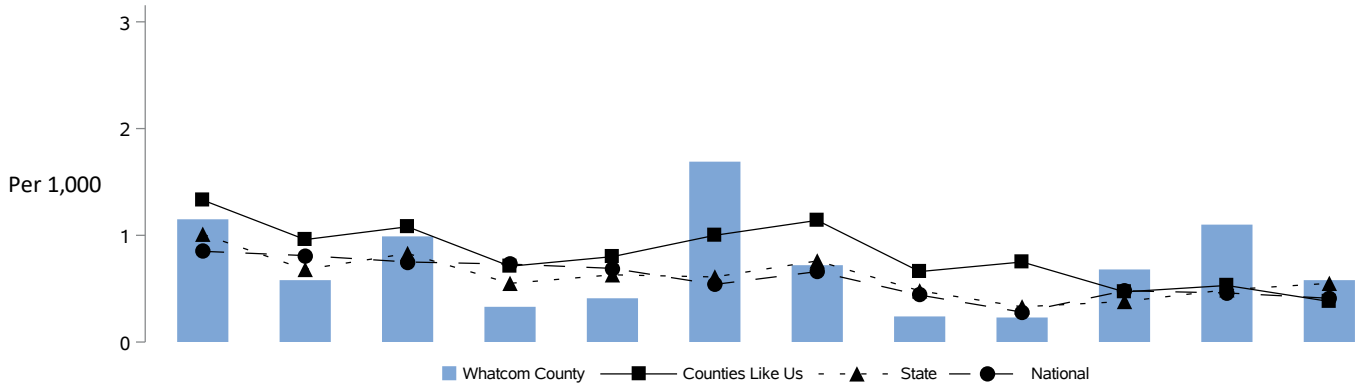
Numerator Data Source: Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC): Uniform Crime Report (UCR).
https://www.waspc.org/crime-statistics-reports

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

National Data Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program.
https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/

Data Last Updated: 09/16/2025

Arrests, Vandalism (Age 10-14)



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
National	0.85	0.81	0.75	0.73	0.69	0.54	0.66	0.44	0.28	0.48	0.46	0.41
State	1.01	0.68	0.83	0.55	0.63	0.61	0.76	0.48	0.33	0.38	0.49	0.55
Counties Like Us	1.33	0.96	1.08	0.71	0.80	1.00	1.14	0.66	0.75	0.47	0.53	0.38
Whatcom County	1.15	0.58	0.99	0.33	0.41	1.69	0.72	0.24	0.23	0.68	1.10	0.58
Arrests, 10-14	14	<10	12	<10	<10	21	<10	<10	<10	<10	15	<10
Adjusted Pop 10-14	12,138	11,994	12,062	12,043	12,172	12,441	12,475	12,578	13,074	13,236	13,593	13,676

Notes: The arrests of younger adolescents (age 10-14) for vandalism (including residence, non-residence, vehicles, venerated objects, police cars, or other) per 1,000 adolescents (age 10-14). Denominators are adjusted by subtracting the population of police agencies that did not report arrests. In spite of this population adjustment, when the non-reporting police jurisdiction is where much of the crime occurs, the rate for the county will be lower than it would be if that jurisdiction was included. For more information on the percent subtracted, suppression code definitions and the agencies not reporting, see the Technical Notes and the appendix, Non-Reporting Agencies and Population.

The types of crimes used within this rate have been represented in both Summary UCR and NIBRS systems and are not likely to be substantially impacted by the reporting system changes from 2012 to 2018. Refer to the Technical Notes section for information on UCR and NIBRS.

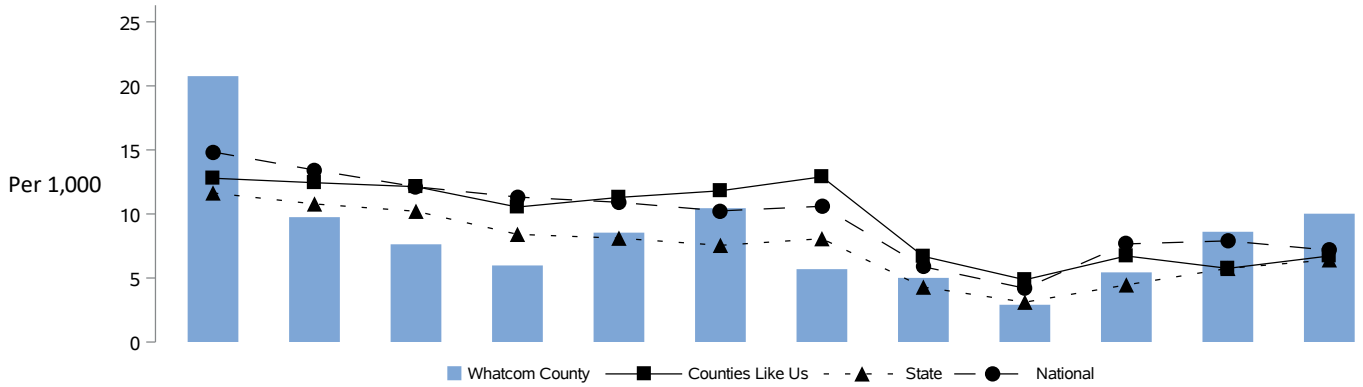
Numerator Data Source: Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC): Uniform Crime Report (UCR).
https://www.waspc.org/crime-statistics-reports

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

National Data Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program.
https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/

Data Last Updated: 09/16/2025

Arrests Total, (Age 10-14)



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
National	14.84	13.43	12.12	11.32	10.91	10.24	10.60	5.88	4.20	7.66	7.90	7.17
State	11.64	10.78	10.21	8.41	8.11	7.55	8.07	4.29	3.11	4.46	5.75	6.42
Counties Like Us	12.79	12.44	12.13	10.54	11.29	11.81	12.90	6.69	4.86	6.72	5.75	6.72
Whatcom County	20.76	9.75	7.63	5.98	8.54	10.45	5.69	5.01	2.91	5.44	8.61	10.02
Arrests, 10-14	252	117	92	72	104	130	71	63	38	72	117	137
Adjusted Pop 10-14	12,138	11,994	12,062	12,043	12,172	12,441	12,475	12,578	13,074	13,236	13,593	13,676

Notes: The arrests of adolescents (age 10-14) for any crime, per 1,000 adolescents (age 10-14).

Washington State transitioned from Summary UCR to the NIBRS system for reporting beginning in 2012, with full adoption by agencies in 2018. Summary UCR collected eight (8) Part One Crime offenses: criminal homicide, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft and arson. NIBRS collects information on twenty-three (23) different offenses, all Part One Crimes plus others including forcible and non-forcible sex offenses, fraud, kidnapping, and drug violations. Care must be taken when interpreting the long-term yearly trend of 'total arrest' rates for an area or comparing these data to older records.

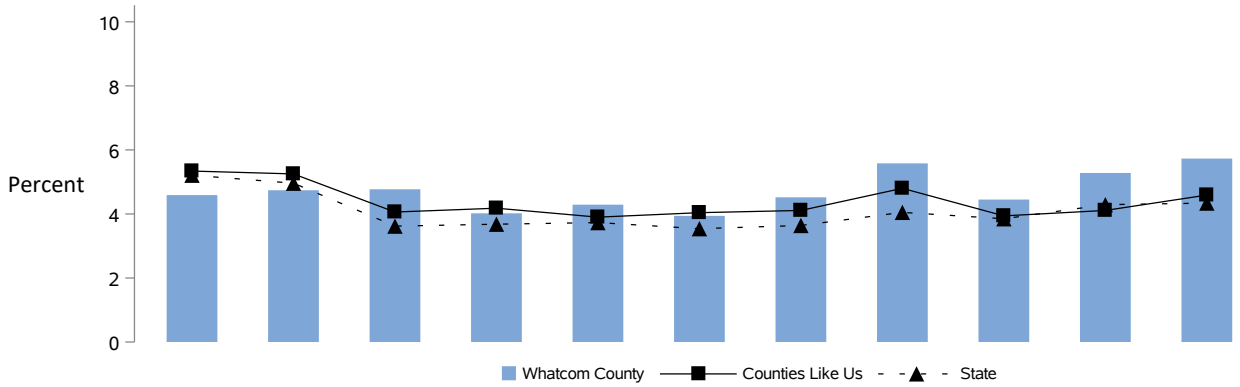
Numerator Data Source: Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC): Uniform Crime Report (UCR).
https://www.waspc.org/crime-statistics-reports

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

National Data Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program.
https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/

Data Last Updated: 09/16/2025

Child Injury and Accident Hospitalizations



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
National	No comparable national data for this rate											
State	5.21	4.96	3.62	3.68	3.73	3.54	3.64	4.05	3.85	4.29	4.34	
Counties Like Us	5.34	5.25	4.06	4.18	3.90	4.04	4.11	4.80	3.94	4.11	4.59	
Whatcom County	4.59	4.74	4.77	4.02	4.29	3.94	4.52	5.58	4.45	5.28	5.73	
Injuries	134	148	145	118	123	109	121	139	125	144	167	
Hospitalizations	2,922	3,125	3,037	2,937	2,870	2,765	2,677	2,492	2,811	2,728	2,912	

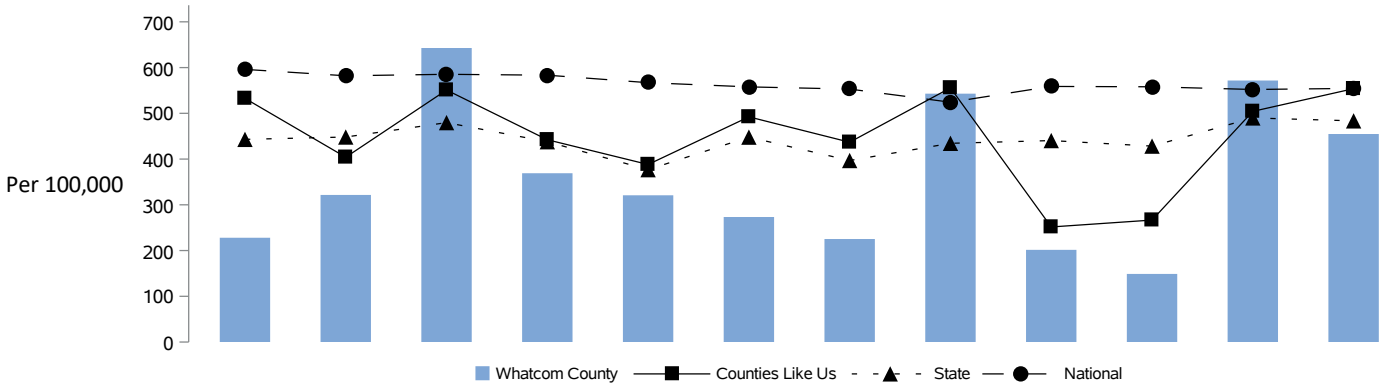
Notes: The child injury or accident hospitalizations as a percent of all hospitalizations for children (age birth-17). Due to contractual agreement data may not be displayed for areas with less than 100 hospitalizations. Beginning on October 1, 2015 diagnosis transitioned to International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision (ICD-10). Data from 2008 forward was revised to include observation and standard hospital stays, as well as supplemental diagnosis and external cause codes. More information on these changes is available in Technical Notes.

Numerator Data Source: Washington State Department of Health, Office of Hospital and Patient Data Systems, Comprehensive Hospital Abstract Reporting System (CHARS).
https://www.doh.wa.gov/ForPublicHealthandHealthcareProviders/HealthcareProfessionsandFacilities/DataReportingandRetrieval/HospitalInpatientDatabaseCHARS

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Department of Health, Office of Hospital and Patient Data Systems, Comprehensive Hospital Abstract Reporting System (CHARS).
https://www.doh.wa.gov/ForPublicHealthandHealthcareProviders/HealthcareProfessionsandFacilities/DataReportingandRetrieval/HospitalInpatientDatabaseCHARS

Data Last Updated: 06/24/2026

Infant Mortality (Under 1 Year)



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
National	596.00	582.10	585.32	583.40	567.00	557.80	553.00	524.30	558.80	558.00	552.10	554.50
State	443.06	448.20	479.66	437.94	376.86	447.94	396.85	434.43	440.43	428.33	489.93	483.51
Counties Like Us	532.68	404.08	550.89	442.23	388.16	492.24	436.80	555.71	251.55	266.67	504.26	553.87
Whatcom County	228.00	321.54	642.79	369.00	320.81	273.35	225.23	542.99	201.51	148.88	571.73	454.78
Deaths, infants	<10	<10	14	<10	<10	<10	<10	12	<10	<10	11	<10
Infants < 1 year	SP	SP	2,178	SP	SP	SP	SP	2,210	SP	SP	1,924	SP

Notes: The deaths, of infants under one year of age, per 100,000 population of infants under one year of age. Suppression code definitions for yearly rates are explained in Technical Notes. Rates are not reported when fewer than 100 deaths for all ages occurred in a geographic area. For this indicator, it is not uncommon for there to be at least 100 deaths in the geographic area, but to have the numerators and denominators suppressed due to small N.

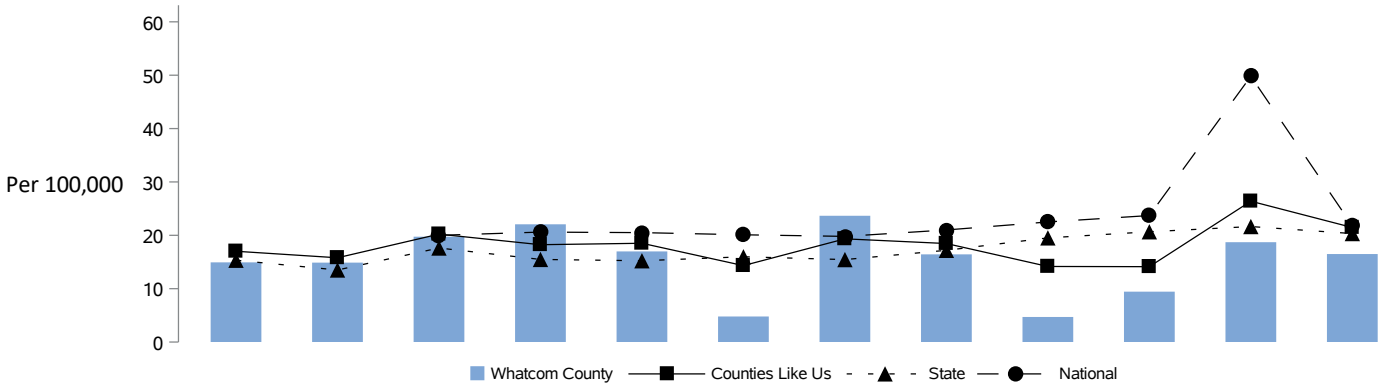
Numerator Data Source: Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics, Death Certificate Data File.
https://www.doh.wa.gov/DataandStatisticalReports/HealthStatistics/Death

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

National Data Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Health Statistics.
https://wonder.cdc.gov/

Data Last Updated: 01/14/2026

Child Mortality (Ages 1-17)



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
National			20.00	20.60	20.50	20.10	19.80	21.00	22.50	23.70	49.80	21.80
State	15.33	13.50	17.62	15.48	15.23	15.98	15.45	17.19	19.52	20.66	21.64	20.33
Counties Like Us	17.01	15.79	20.22	18.24	18.51	14.32	19.34	18.46	14.16	14.12	26.39	21.46
Whatcom County	14.93	14.88	19.74	22.06	16.98	4.79	23.66	16.43	4.70	9.44	18.71	16.49
Child Deaths	By-year numerator values suppressed due to small numbers. Non-zero values ranged between 2 and 10.											
Children (age 1-17)	By-year denominator values suppressed. Secondary suppression activated.											

Notes: The deaths, of children 1 to 17 years of age, per 100,000 population of children 1 to 17 years of age. Suppression code definitions for yearly rates are explained in Technical Notes. Rates are not reported when fewer than 100 deaths occurred in an area.

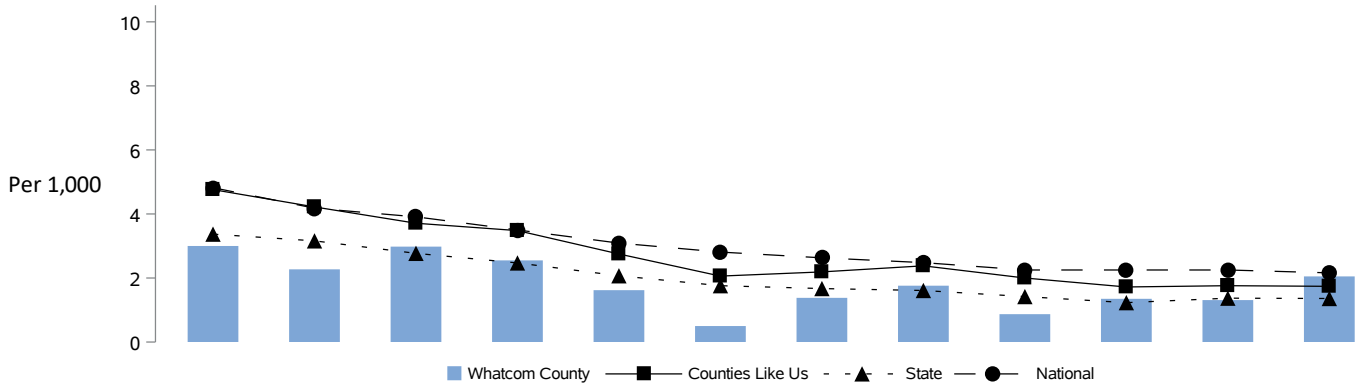
Numerator Data Source: Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics, Death Certificate Data File.
https://www.doh.wa.gov/DataandStatisticalReports/HealthStatistics/Death

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

National Data Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Health Statistics.
https://wonder.cdc.gov/

Data Last Updated: 01/14/2026

Births to Mothers Age 10-17



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
National	4.82	4.18	3.91	3.50	3.09	2.81	2.63	2.48	2.25	2.25	2.25	2.16
State	3.37	3.16	2.77	2.47	2.07	1.76	1.67	1.61	1.42	1.23	1.37	1.36
Counties Like Us	4.76	4.22	3.71	3.48	2.75	2.06	2.19	2.38	2.00	1.72	1.76	1.74
Whatcom County	3.00	2.27	2.98	2.55	1.62	0.50	1.38	1.76	0.87	1.35	1.31	2.05
Birthed, 10-17	29	22	29	25	16	<10	14	18	<10	14	14	22
Females, 10-17	9,666	9,695	9,737	9,799	9,901	SP	10,142	10,218	SP	10,396	10,651	10,718

Notes: The live births to adolescents (age 10-17) per 1,000 females (age 10-17). Rate changes in data result from on-going updates to birth records. Suppression code definitions for yearly rates are explained in Technical Notes. Due to contractual agreement data may not be displayed for areas with less than 100 births.

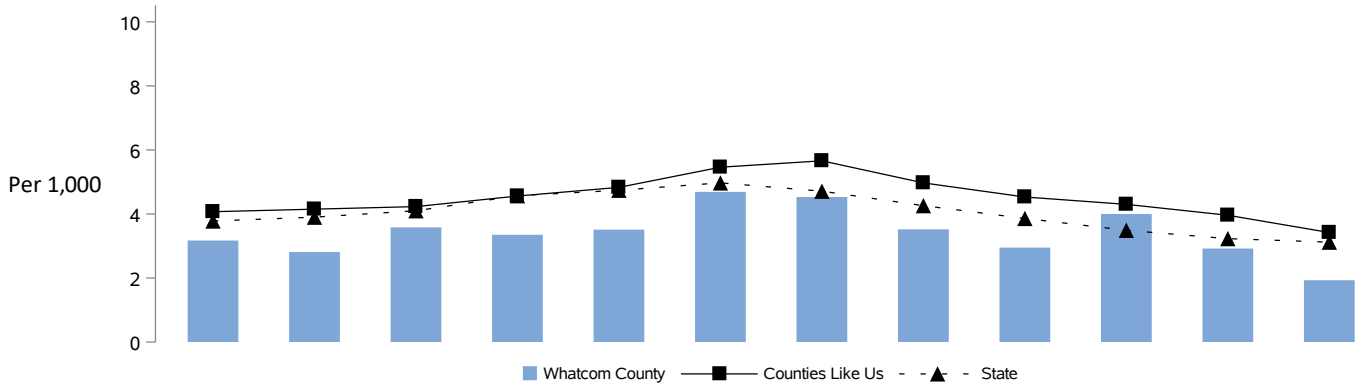
Numerator Data Source: Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics, Birth Certificate Data File.
https://www.doh.wa.gov/DataandStatisticalReports/HealthStatistics/Birth

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

National Data Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Health Statistics.

Data Last Updated: 02/13/2026

Sexually Transmitted Disease Cases (Birth-19)



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
National	No comparable national data for this rate											
State	3.78	3.90	4.10	4.57	4.74	4.97	4.71	4.26	3.86	3.49	3.23	3.12
Counties Like Us	4.07	4.15	4.23	4.56	4.83	5.46	5.66	4.97	4.53	4.30	3.96	3.42
Whatcom County	3.17	2.81	3.58	3.35	3.51	4.69	4.53	3.52	2.95	4.00	2.92	1.93
Cases	160	142	181	170	180	243	237	185	149	207	152	100
Adjusted Pop	50,434	50,480	50,606	50,810	51,235	51,775	52,299	52,580	50,550	51,765	52,128	51,882

Notes: The reported positive cases of gonorrhea, syphilis, or chlamydia (age birth-19) per 1,000 adolescents (age birth-19).

All years include data from the Public Health Issue Management System (PHIMS). Beginning in 2021 for chlamydia and 2022 for gonorrhea, counts include additional positive cases collected through the Washington Electronic Laboratory Reporting System (WELRS).

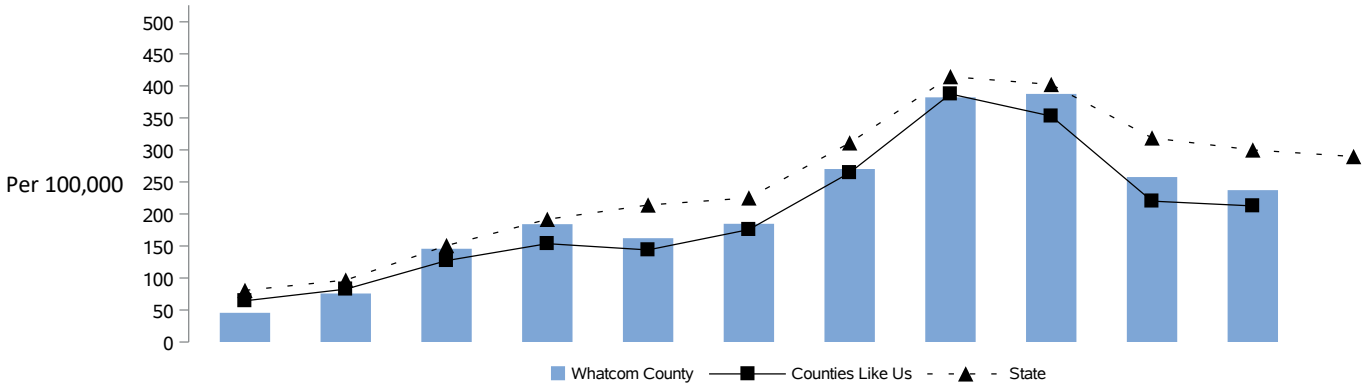
Due to contractual agreement data may not be displayed for populations less than 100. Suppression code definitions for yearly rates are explained in Technical Notes.

Numerator Data Source: Washington State Department of Health, Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI), Public Health Issue Management System (PHIMS-STD), Washington Electronic Laboratory Reporting System (WELRS). Sexually Transmitted Infections Reported Cases. https://doh.wa.gov/you-and-your-family/illness-and-disease-z/sexually-transmitted-infections-sti

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division. https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

Data Last Updated: 06/03/2026

Suicide and Suicide Attempts (Age 10-17)



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
National					No comparable national data for this rate							
State	80.68	96.73	150.64	191.64	214.01	225.06	311.01	414.39	402.19	318.73	299.92	289.64
Counties Like Us	64.39	82.56	127.12	153.61	143.82	175.60	264.36	387.34	352.77	220.05	212.53	
Whatcom County	45.66	75.80	145.66	184.04	162.17	184.63	270.15	382.08	387.45	257.65	237.17	UN
Suicide & Attempt	<10	15	29	37	33	38	56	80	82	56	52	
Persons, 10-17	SP	19,790	19,909	20,104	20,349	20,582	20,729	20,938	21,164	21,735	21,925	

Notes: The adolescents (age 10-17) who committed suicide or were admitted to the hospital for suicide attempts, per 100,000 adolescents (age 10-17). Suicides are based on death certificate information. Suicide attempts are based on hospital admissions, but do not include admissions to federal hospitals. Suppression code definitions for yearly rates are explained in Technical Notes. Due to contractual agreement data may not be displayed for locations with adolescent populations less than 100.

Data from 2008 forward was revised to include observation and standard hospital stays, as well as supplemental diagnosis and external cause codes. More information on these changes is available in Technical Notes.

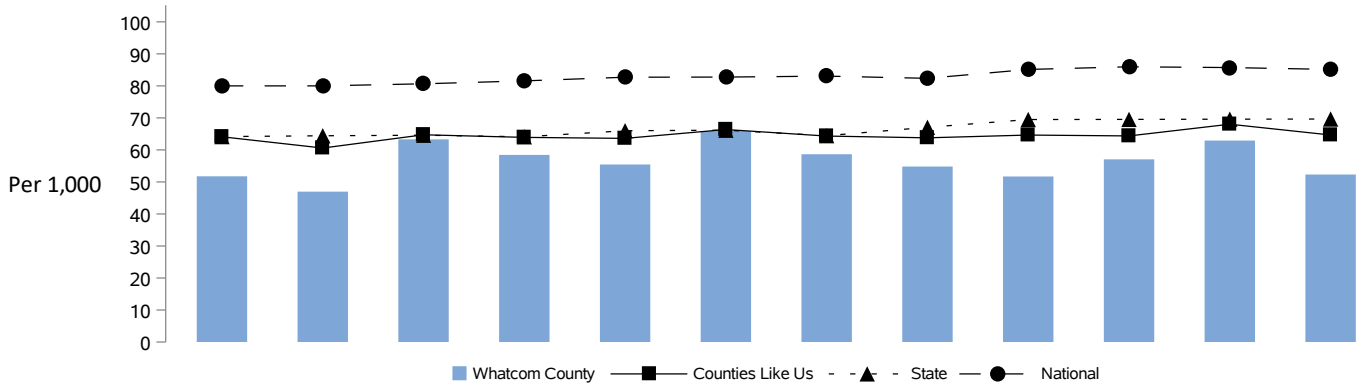
The coding of intent for injuries and poisonings in hospital admissions data underwent a transition from ICD-9 to ICD-10 codes in the fall of 2015. It has affected the 2015 and 2016 data on suicide attempts reported here. Researchers have concluded that “marked changes… almost certainly represent artifacts of coding changes rather than true changes in suicidal behavior.” It appears some cases previously coded as undetermined intent are now being coded as self-harm. For additional information, see: Christine Stewart, Phillip M. Crawford, and Gregory E. Simon (2017). 'Changes in Coding of Suicide Attempts or Self-Harm With Transition From ICD-9 to ICD-10.' Psychiatric Services, 68(3), p. 215. online at https://ps.psychiatryonline.org/doi/10.1176/appi.ps.201600450

Numerator Data Source: Washington State Department of Health, Office of Hospital and Patient Data Systems, Comprehensive Hospital Abstract Reporting System (CHARS) and Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics Death Certificate Data.
https://www.doh.wa.gov/DataandStatisticalReports/HealthStatistics/Death

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

Data Last Updated: 06/24/2026

Low Birthweight Babies



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
National	80.00	80.00	80.65	81.56	82.71	82.75	83.05	82.36	85.13	85.96	85.72	85.14
State	64.16	64.42	64.59	64.10	65.99	66.16	64.45	67.06	69.49	69.53	69.60	69.65
Counties Like Us	64.10	60.59	64.73	63.92	63.60	66.37	64.33	63.78	64.64	64.37	68.02	64.66
Whatcom County	51.76	46.97	63.29	58.44	55.45	65.89	58.65	54.81	51.70	57.06	62.92	52.32
Low-weight Babies	116	107	150	133	120	142	117	110	105	112	122	106
All Births	2,241	2,278	2,370	2,276	2,164	2,155	1,995	2,007	2,031	1,963	1,939	2,026

Notes: The babies born with low birthweight, per 1,000 live births. Low birthweight is less than 2,500 grams. Rate changes in data may result from on-going updates to birth records. No rate is given when the number of live births is less than 100 in the geographic area. Suppression code definitions for yearly rates are explained in Technical Notes.

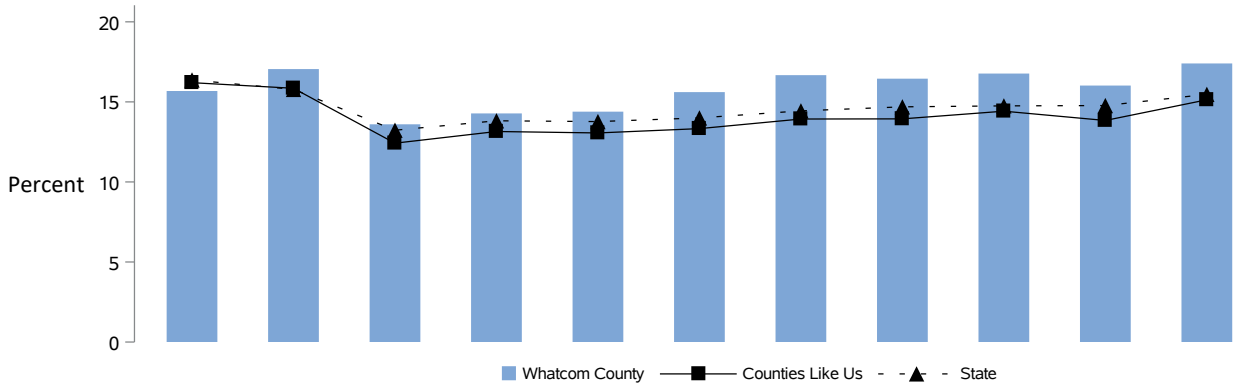
Numerator Data Source: Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics, Birth Certificate Data File.
https://www.doh.wa.gov/DataandStatisticalReports/HealthStatistics/Birth

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics, Birth Certificate Data File.
https://www.doh.wa.gov/DataandStatisticalReports/HealthStatistics/Birth

National Data Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Health Statistics National Center for Health Statistics, Division of Health Services, WONDER Data System.
https://wonder.cdc.gov/

Data Last Updated: 02/13/2026

Women Injury and Accident Hospitalizations



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
National	No comparable national data for this rate											
State	16.37	15.78	13.23	13.82	13.77	14.00	14.44	14.69	14.75	14.77	15.47	
Counties Like Us	16.20	15.85	12.42	13.15	13.06	13.33	13.93	13.94	14.42	13.84	15.13	
Whatcom County	15.68	17.05	13.60	14.28	14.39	15.61	16.67	16.45	16.77	16.02	17.40	
Injuries	1,547	1,801	1,368	1,406	1,522	1,603	1,557	1,550	1,521	1,586	1,831	
Hospitalizations	9,864	10,562	10,060	9,843	10,577	10,269	9,340	9,424	9,069	9,898	10,520	

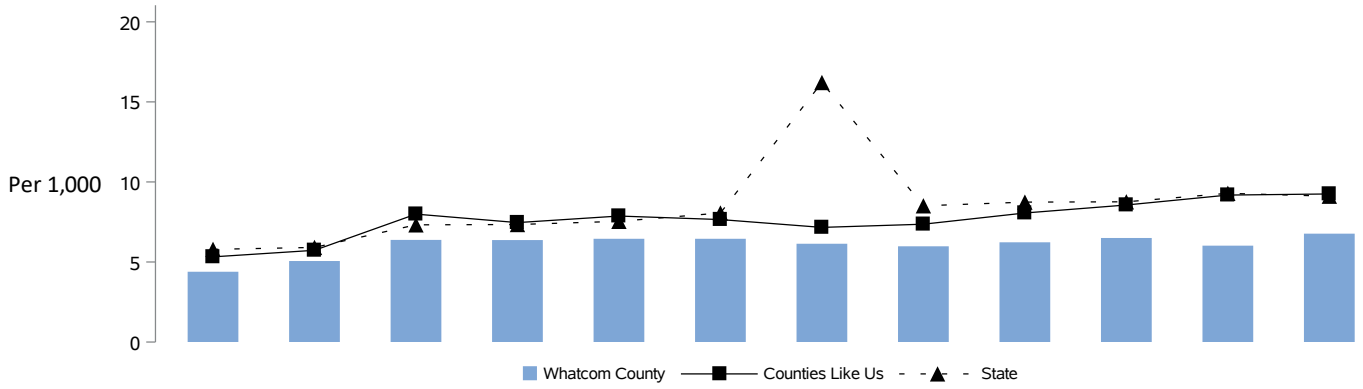
Notes: The injury or accident hospitalizations for women as a percent of all hospitalizations for women (age 18+). Suppression code definitions for yearly rates are explained in Technical Notes. Due to contractual agreement data may not be displayed for areas with less than 100 hospitalizations. Beginning on October 1, 2015 diagnosis transitioned to International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision (ICD-10). Data from 2008 forward was revised to include observation and standard hospital stays, as well as supplemental diagnosis and external cause codes. More information on these changes is available in Technical Notes.

Numerator Data Source: Washington State Department of Health, Office of Hospital and Patient Data Systems, Comprehensive Hospital Abstract Reporting System (CHARS).
https://www.doh.wa.gov/dataandstatisticalreports/injuryviolenceandpoisoning/injurydata

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Department of Health, Office of Hospital and Patient Data Systems, Comprehensive Hospital Abstract Reporting System (CHARS).
https://www.doh.wa.gov/dataandstatisticalreports/injuryviolenceandpoisoning/injurydata

Data Last Updated: 06/24/2026

Offences, Domestic Violence



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
National	No comparable national data for this rate											
State	5.79	5.91	7.32	7.34	7.54	8.06	16.21	8.51	8.74	8.76	9.29	9.11
Counties Like Us	5.32	5.73	7.99	7.46	7.87	7.65	7.16	7.36	8.06	8.56	9.18	9.25
Whatcom County	4.39	5.06	6.38	6.37	6.45	6.45	6.14	5.98	6.23	6.50	6.02	6.77
Offenses	903	1,051	1,340	1,354	1,394	1,418	1,340	1,324	1,407	1,501	1,414	1,606
Persons	205,764	207,714	209,931	212,521	216,001	219,984	218,237	221,389	225,999	231,020	235,052	237,235

Notes: The domestic violence-related offenses, per 1,000 persons. Domestic violence includes any violence of one family member against another family member. Family can include spouses, former spouses, parents who have children in common regardless of marital status, adults who live in the same household, as well as parents and their children. Offenses are incidence reporting. When more than one victim is involved an offence is filed for each victim. Multiple property violations performed at the same incident are counted as one offence. However when both types of events happen, only the victim incidents are reported as offenses. Offenses focus on the nature of the crime, while arrests focus on the apprehended accused perpetrator. Many offenses occur without arresting perpetrators.

Denominators are adjusted by subtracting the population of police agencies that did not report offenses. For suppression code definitions, percent subtracted and the agencies not reporting, see the appendix, Non-Reporting Agencies and Population.

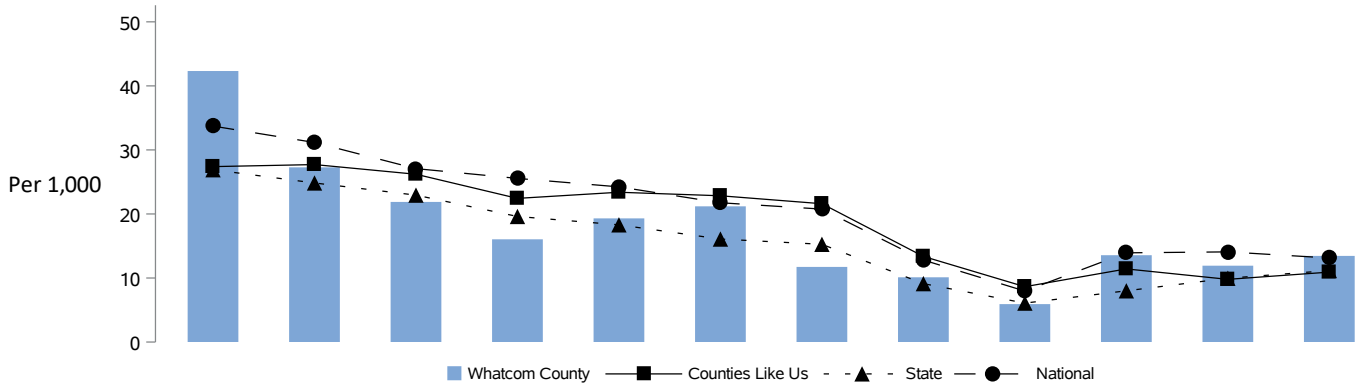
The types of crimes used within this rate have been represented in both Summary UCR and NIBRS systems and are not likely to be substantially impacted by the reporting system changes from 2012 to 2018. Refer to the Technical Notes section for information on UCR and NIBRS.

Numerator Data Source: Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC): Uniform Crime Report (UCR).
https://www.waspc.org/crime-statistics-reports

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

Data Last Updated: 09/16/2025

Arrests Total, (Age 10-17)



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
National	33.72	31.16	27.08	25.55	24.23	21.75	20.76	12.80	7.96	13.93	14.08	13.12
State	26.91	24.84	22.94	19.61	18.30	16.08	15.26	9.12	6.08	8.00	9.96	11.17
Counties Like Us	27.39	27.71	26.20	22.43	23.39	22.84	21.60	13.37	8.64	11.42	9.79	10.92
Whatcom County	42.32	27.28	21.88	16.04	19.31	21.19	11.73	10.11	5.92	13.56	11.92	13.45
Arrests, 10-17	832	529	426	311	378	424	235	204	124	287	259	295
Adjusted Pop 10-17	19,658	19,389	19,468	19,391	19,578	20,009	20,032	20,173	20,938	21,164	21,735	21,925

Notes: The arrests of adolescents (age 10-17) for any crime, per 1,000 adolescents (age 10-17).
Washington State transitioned from Summary UCR to the NIBRS system for reporting beginning in 2012, with full adoption by agencies in 2018. Summary UCR collected eight (8) Part One Crime offenses: criminal homicide, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft and arson. NIBRS collects information on twenty-three (23) different offenses, all Part One Crimes plus others including forcible and non-forcible sex offenses, fraud, kidnapping, and drug violations. Care must be taken when interpreting the long-term yearly trend of 'total arrest' rates for an area or in comparing data to older reports.

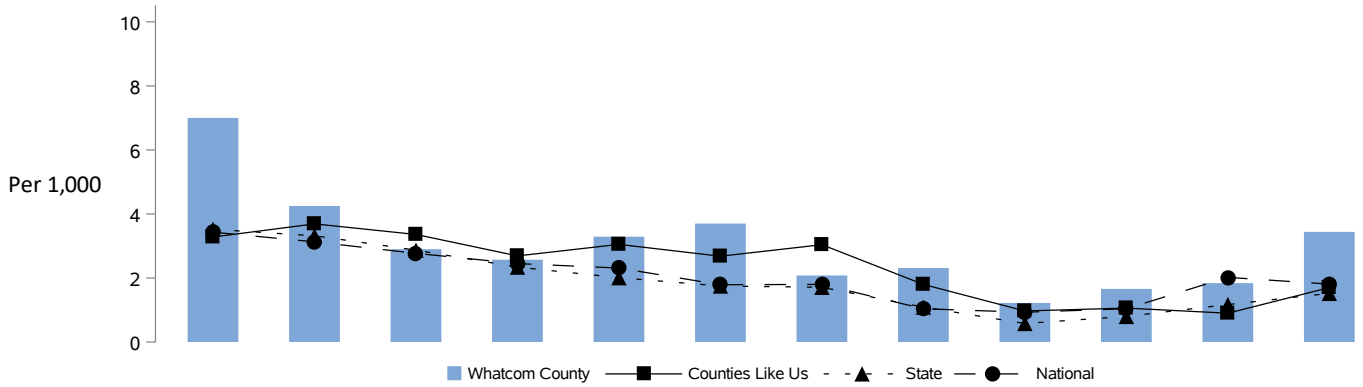
Numerator Data Source: Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC): Uniform Crime Report (UCR).
https://www.waspc.org/crime-statistics-reports

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

National Data Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program.
https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/

Data Last Updated: 09/16/2025

Arrests, Property Crime (Age 10-14)



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
National	3.43	3.13	2.77	2.45	2.31	1.79	1.80	1.04	0.93	1.04	2.02	1.81
State	3.52	3.32	2.87	2.34	2.01	1.75	1.71	1.09	0.58	0.80	1.17	1.52
Counties Like Us	3.28	3.69	3.36	2.69	3.05	2.68	3.04	1.80	0.97	1.06	0.90	1.70
Whatcom County	7.00	4.25	2.90	2.57	3.29	3.70	2.08	2.31	1.22	1.66	1.84	3.44
Arrests, 10-14	85	51	35	31	40	46	26	29	16	22	25	47
Adjusted Pop 10-14	12,138	11,994	12,062	12,043	12,172	12,441	12,475	12,578	13,074	13,236	13,593	13,676

Notes: The arrests of younger adolescents (age 10-14) for property crimes, per 1,000 adolescents (age 10-14). Property crimes include all crimes involving burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. Denominators are adjusted by subtracting the population of police agencies that did not report arrests to UCR/NIBRS. For more information on the percent subtracted, suppression code definitions and the agencies not reporting, see the Technical Notes and the appendix, Non-Reporting Agencies and Population.
The types of crimes used within this rate have been represented in both Summary UCR and NIBRS systems and are not likely to be substantially impacted by the reporting system changes from 2012 to 2018. Refer to the Technical Notes section for information on UCR and NIBRS.

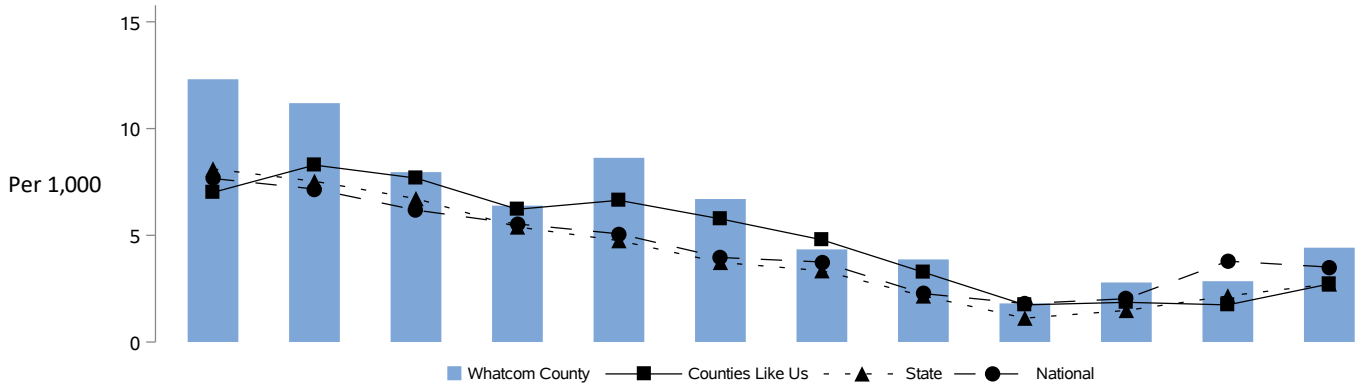
Numerator Data Source: Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC): Uniform Crime Report (UCR).
https://www.waspc.org/crime-statistics-reports

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

National Data Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program.
https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/

Data Last Updated: 09/16/2025

Arrests, Property Crime (Age 10-17)



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
National	7.66	7.17	6.18	5.53	5.07	3.96	3.75	2.27	1.80	2.03	3.79	3.51
State	8.11	7.53	6.72	5.39	4.75	3.73	3.34	2.16	1.12	1.48	2.16	2.72
Counties Like Us	7.01	8.29	7.68	6.22	6.64	5.77	4.79	3.27	1.74	1.86	1.74	2.72
Whatcom County	12.31	11.19	7.96	6.39	8.63	6.70	4.34	3.87	1.81	2.79	2.85	4.42
Arrests, 10-17	242	217	155	124	169	134	87	78	38	59	62	97
Adjusted Pop 10-17	19,658	19,389	19,468	19,391	19,578	20,009	20,032	20,173	20,938	21,164	21,735	21,925

Notes: The arrests of adolescents (age 10-17) for property crimes, per 1,000 adolescents (age 10-17). Property crimes include all crimes involving burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. Denominators are adjusted by subtracting the population of police agencies that did not report arrests. For more information on the percent subtracted, suppression code definitions and the agencies not reporting, see the Technical Notes and the appendix, Non-Reporting Agencies and Population.

The types of crimes used within this rate have been represented in both Summary UCR and NIBRS systems and are not likely to be substantially impacted by the reporting system changes from 2012 to 2018. Refer to the Technical Notes section for information on UCR and NIBRS.

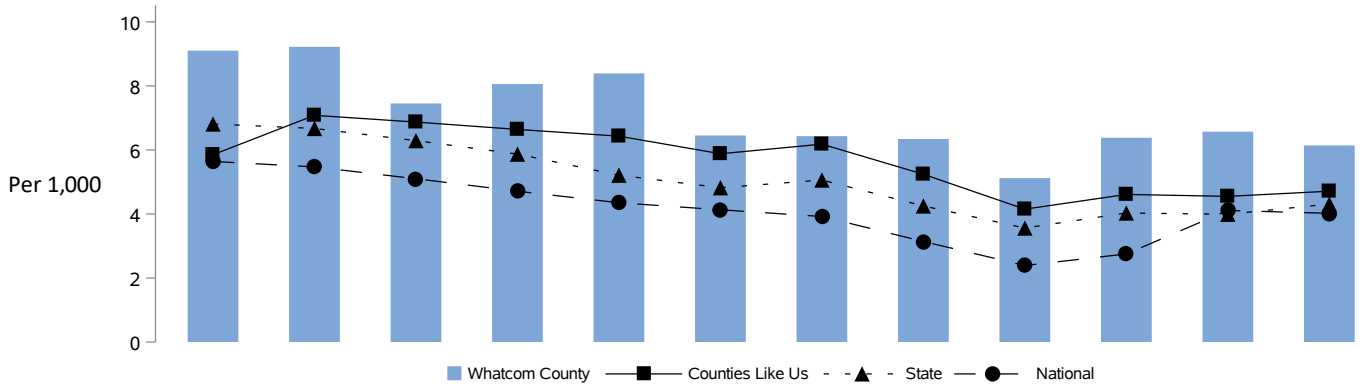
Numerator Data Source: Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC): Uniform Crime Report (UCR).
https://www.waspc.org/crime-statistics-reports

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

National Data Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program.
https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/

Data Last Updated: 09/16/2025

Arrests, Property Crime (Age 18+)



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
National	5.64	5.47	5.10	4.71	4.35	4.13	3.92	3.14	2.39	2.75	4.11	4.02
State	6.81	6.67	6.29	5.87	5.21	4.82	5.06	4.25	3.56	4.03	3.99	4.31
Counties Like Us	5.85	7.08	6.87	6.64	6.43	5.88	6.18	5.24	4.15	4.61	4.55	4.71
Whatcom County	9.10	9.22	7.45	8.06	8.39	6.45	6.43	6.34	5.12	6.38	6.57	6.14
Arrests, 18+	1,487	1,523	1,246	1,367	1,448	1,135	1,125	1,125	929	1,190	1,250	1,183
Adjusted Pop 18+	163,390	165,213	167,234	169,565	172,597	176,031	175,065	177,521	181,479	186,624	190,359	192,795

Notes: The arrests of adults (age 18+) for property crimes, per 1,000 adults (age 18+). Property crimes include all crimes involving burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. Denominators are adjusted by subtracting the population of police agencies that did not report arrests. For more information on the percent subtracted, suppression code definitions and the agencies not reporting, see the Technical Notes and the appendix, Non-Reporting Agencies and Population.

The types of crimes used within this rate have been represented in both Summary UCR and NIBRS systems and are not likely to be substantially impacted by the reporting system changes from 2012 to 2018. Refer to the Technical Notes section for information on UCR and NIBRS.

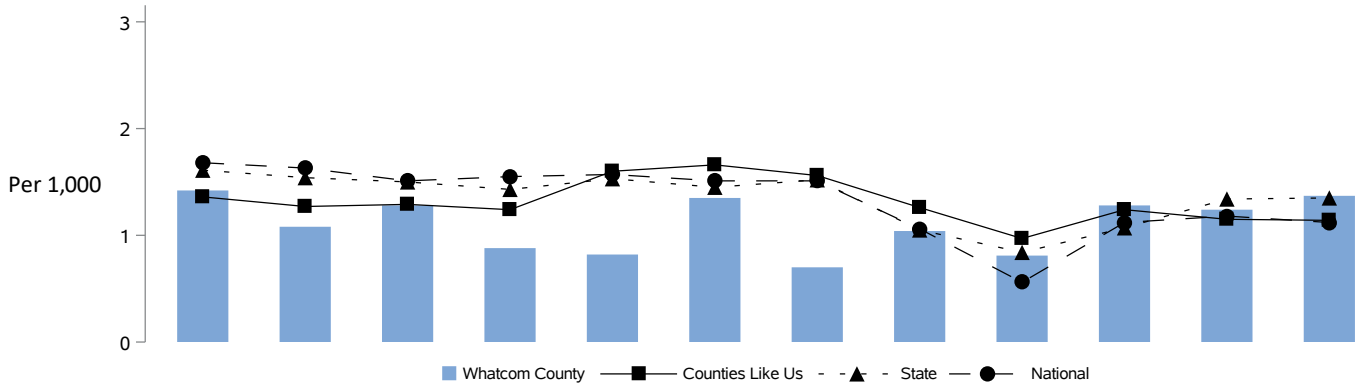
Numerator Data Source: Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC): Uniform Crime Report (UCR).
https://www.waspc.org/crime-statistics-reports

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

National Data Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program.
https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/

Data Last Updated: 09/16/2025

Arrests, Violent Crime (Age 10-17)



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
National	1.68	1.63	1.51	1.55	1.57	1.51	1.51	1.06	0.56	1.12	1.18	1.12
State	1.61	1.54	1.50	1.43	1.53	1.45	1.52	1.05	0.84	1.07	1.34	1.35
Counties Like Us	1.36	1.27	1.29	1.24	1.60	1.66	1.56	1.26	0.97	1.24	1.15	1.14
Whatcom County	1.42	1.08	1.28	0.88	0.82	1.35	0.70	1.04	0.81	1.28	1.24	1.37
Arrests, 10-17	28	21	25	17	16	27	14	21	17	27	27	30
Adjusted Pop 10-17	19,658	19,389	19,468	19,391	19,578	20,009	20,032	20,173	20,938	21,164	21,735	21,925

Notes: The arrests of adolescents (age 10-17) for violent crime per 1,000 adolescents (age 10-17). Violent crimes include all crimes involving criminal homicide, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. Simple assault is not defined as a violent crime. Denominators are adjusted by subtracting the population of police agencies that did not report arrests. In spite of this population adjustment, when the non-reporting police jurisdiction is where much of the crime occurs, the rate for the county will be lower than it would be if that jurisdiction was included. For more information on the percent subtracted, suppression code definitions and the agencies not reporting, see the Technical Notes and the appendix, Non-Reporting Agencies and Population.

The types of crimes used within this rate have been represented in both Summary UCR and NIBRS systems and are not likely to be substantially impacted by the reporting system changes from 2012 to 2018. Refer to the Technical Notes section for information on UCR and NIBRS.

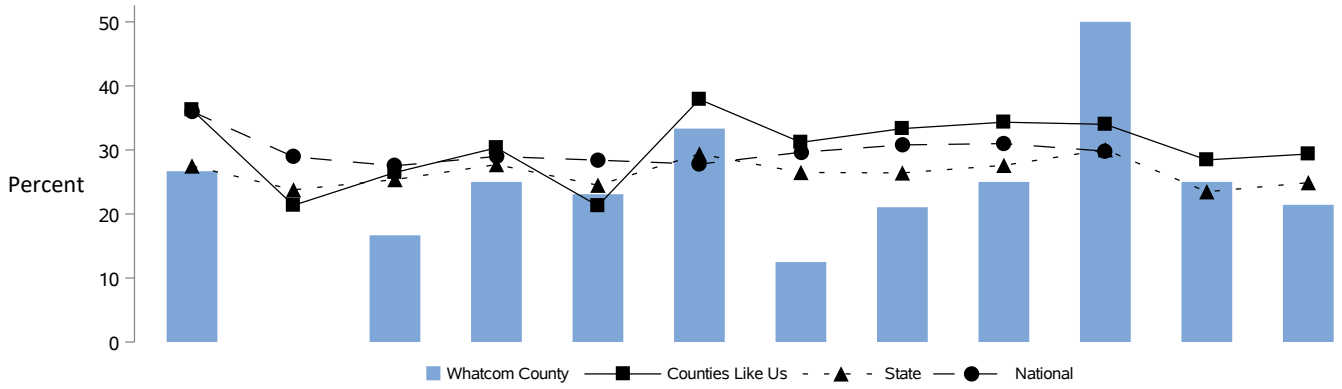
Numerator Data Source: Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC): Uniform Crime Report (UCR).
https://www.waspc.org/crime-statistics-reports

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

National Data Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program.
https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/

Data Last Updated: 09/16/2025

Alcohol-Related Traffic Fatalities Per All Traffic Fatalities



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
National	36.00	28.93	27.52	28.98	28.40	27.78	29.63	30.78	30.99	29.80		
State	27.49	23.77	25.37	27.71	24.49	29.37	26.48	26.41	27.59	30.04	23.47	24.89
Counties Like Us	36.26	21.35	26.47	30.33	21.28	37.89	31.18	33.33	34.33	33.99	28.44	29.36
Whatcom County	26.67	0.00	16.67	25.00	23.08	33.33	12.50	21.05	25.00	50.00	25.00	21.43
Alcohol-Related	By-year numerator values suppressed due to small numbers. Non-zero values ranged between 1 and 10.											
All Fatalities	By-year denominator values suppressed. Secondary suppression activated.											

Notes: The alcohol-related traffic fatalities, per 100 traffic fatalities. 'Alcohol-related' means that the officer on the scene determined that at least one driver involved in the accident 'had been drinking.' Thus, 'Alcohol-related' includes but is not limited to the legal definition of driving under the influence. Care should be taken since small numbers of events can cause unreliable rates in some counties.

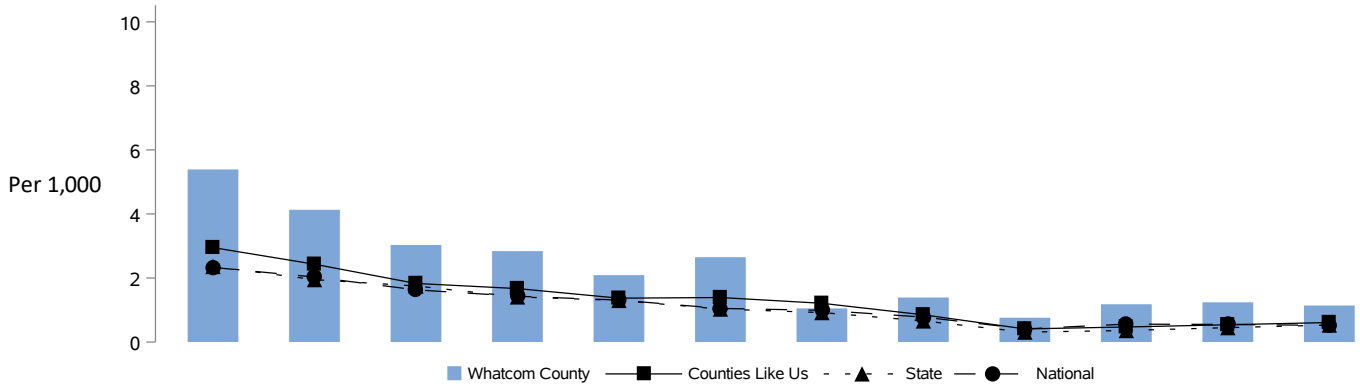
Numerator Data Source: Washington State Traffic Safety Commission, Washington Coded Fata Crash (CFC) data.
http://www.wsp.wa.gov/driver/collision-records/

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Traffic Safety Commission, Washington Coded Fata Crash (CFC) data.
http://www.wsp.wa.gov/driver/collision-records/

National Data Source: National Center for Statistics and Analysis, Fatal Accident Reporting System (FARS).
https://www-fars.nhtsa.dot.gov/Crashes/CrashesAlcohol.aspx

Data Last Updated: 05/14/2026

Arrests, Alcohol Violation (Age 10-17)



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
National	2.33	2.03	1.63	1.43	1.31	1.05	0.99	0.78	0.41	0.56	0.55	0.52
State	2.36	1.95	1.75	1.41	1.30	1.03	0.92	0.66	0.31	0.36	0.45	0.53
Counties Like Us	2.95	2.43	1.83	1.67	1.37	1.39	1.21	0.85	0.41	0.47	0.54	0.61
Whatcom County	5.39	4.13	3.03	2.84	2.09	2.65	1.05	1.39	0.76	1.18	1.24	1.14
Arrests, 10-17	106	80	59	55	41	53	21	28	16	25	27	25
Adjusted Pop 10-17	19,658	19,389	19,468	19,391	19,578	20,009	20,032	20,173	20,938	21,164	21,735	21,925

Notes: The arrests of adolescents (age 10-17) for alcohol violations, per 1,000 adolescents (age 10-17). Alcohol violations include all crimes involving driving under the influence, liquor law violations, and drunkenness. For children, arrests for liquor law violations are usually arrests for minor in possession. DUI arrests by the Washington State Patrol are included in the state trend analysis. However, they are not included in the county rankings since WSP arrests are not assigned to counties. Denominators are adjusted by subtracting the population of police agencies that did not report arrests to WASPC. In spite of this population adjustment, when the non-reporting police jurisdiction is where much of the crime occurs, the rate for the county will be lower than it would be if that jurisdiction was included. For more information on the percent subtracted, suppression code definitions and the agencies not reporting, see the Technical Notes and the appendix, Non-Reporting Agencies and Population.

The types of crimes used within this rate have been represented in both Summary UCR and NIBRS systems and are not likely to be substantially impacted by the reporting system changes from 2012 to 2018. Refer to the Technical Notes section for information on UCR and NIBRS.

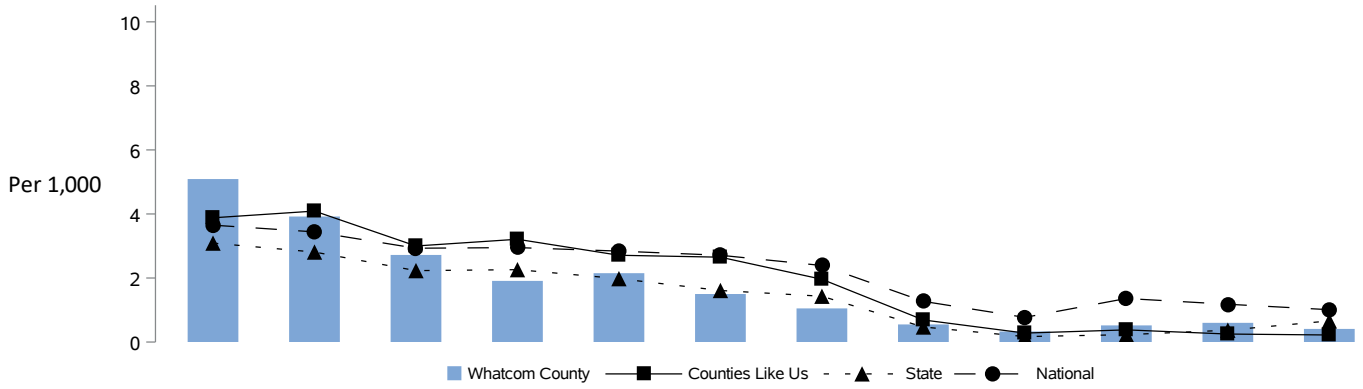
Numerator Data Source: Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC): Uniform Crime Report (UCR).
https://www.waspc.org/crime-statistics-reports

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

National Data Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program.
https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/

Data Last Updated: 09/16/2025

Arrests, Drug Law Violation (Age 10-17)



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
National	3.65	3.44	2.93	2.95	2.84	2.71	2.39	1.27	0.77	1.36	1.18	1.01
State	3.09	2.81	2.23	2.26	1.98	1.61	1.43	0.47	0.17	0.23	0.37	0.66
Counties Like Us	3.88	4.09	3.00	3.21	2.71	2.65	1.96	0.69	0.28	0.38	0.25	0.22
Whatcom County	5.09	3.92	2.72	1.91	2.15	1.50	1.05	0.55	0.33	0.52	0.60	0.41
Arrests, 10-17	100	76	53	37	42	30	21	11	<10	11	13	<10
Adjusted Pop 10-17	19,658	19,389	19,468	19,391	19,578	20,009	20,032	20,173	20,938	21,164	21,735	21,925

Notes: The arrests of adolescents (age 10-17) for drug law violations, per 1,000 adolescents (age 10-17). Drug law violations include all crimes involving sale, manufacturing, and possession of drugs. Denominators are adjusted by subtracting the population of police agencies that did not report arrests to WASPC. In spite of this population adjustment, when the non-reporting police jurisdiction is where much of the crime occurs, the rate for the county will be lower than it would be if that jurisdiction was included. For more information on the percent subtracted, suppression code definitions and the agencies not reporting, see the Technical Notes and the appendix, Non-Reporting Agencies and Population.

The types of crimes used within this rate have been represented in both Summary UCR and NIBRS systems and are not likely to be substantially impacted by the reporting system changes from 2012 to 2018. Refer to the Technical Notes section for information on UCR and NIBRS.

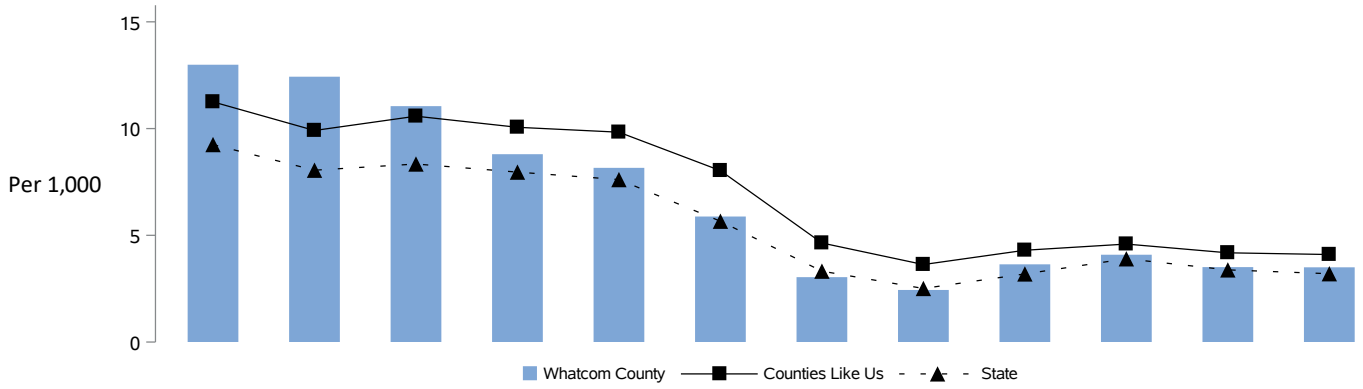
Numerator Data Source: Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC): Uniform Crime Report (UCR).
https://www.waspc.org/crime-statistics-reports

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

National Data Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program.
https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/

Data Last Updated: 09/16/2025

Clients Of State-Funded Alcohol or Drug Services (Age 10-17)



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
National	No comparable national data for this rate											
State	9.25	8.05	8.34	7.96	7.61	5.66	3.32	2.51	3.19	3.90	3.38	3.20
Counties Like Us	11.25	9.91	10.58	10.06	9.83	8.03	4.64	3.63	4.30	4.59	4.18	4.10
Whatcom County	12.99	12.43	11.05	8.80	8.16	5.88	3.04	2.44	3.64	4.09	3.51	3.50
Admits, 10-17	256	246	220	177	166	121	63	51	77	89	77	77
Adjusted Pop 10-17	19,711	19,790	19,909	20,104	20,349	20,582	20,729	20,938	21,164	21,735	21,925	21,972

Notes: The adolescents (age 10-17) receiving state-funded alcohol or drug services, per 1,000 adolescents 10-17. Counts of adolescents are unduplicated so that those receiving services more than once during the year are only counted once for that year. Client counts are linked to state service records through the Research and Data Analysis Client Services Database. State-funded services include treatment, assessment, and detox. Persons in Department of Corrections treatment programs are not included.

National reporting by the states of this measure ended in 2012. Similar data are available for your review using the national data source URL below.

Numerator Data Source: Washington State Health Care Authority, Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery reported to the RDA Integrated Client Databases.
http://clientdata.rda.dshs.wa.gov/Home/ShowReport?reportMode=0

Denominator Data Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division.
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics

National Data Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS).
https://www.datafiles.samhsa.gov/

Data Last Updated: 04/27/2026

Appendix A: Technical Notes

Topics

Population Denominators Used in This Report
Counting Alcohol- or Drug-related Deaths
Counties Like Us
Duplicated and Unduplicated Counts
Transition Summary UCR to National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS)
Uniform Crime Report - Non-Reporting Police Jurisdictions
CORE Conversion Process and Weighted Reliability Index
Rates – Why is Raw Data Converted to Rates?
Standardization of CORE Indicators
Graduation and Dropout Data Methodology Changes
Where are the roadblocks to learning?
Suppression Codes
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Population Denominators Used in This Report

Population is updated as the data become available. The report displays the most recent twelve years of data for each indicator. Rates are not calculated until both the numerator and the denominator data are available. This report is published in January and July in order to provide updates to all indicators within a reasonable time frame.

ATTENTION: POPULATION ESTIMATES

Beginning with the January 2025 report, we have returned to using the Office of Financial Management (OFM) population estimates as the only source of such data for all years and geographic areas. For more information about the Small Area Demographic Estimates (SADE), see https://ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics/population-estimates/estimates-april-1-population-agesex-race-and-hispanic-origin. Please note that the rates utilizing SADE population estimates for denominators may differ from previously published rates in our reports.

Counting Alcohol- or Drug-related Deaths

AOD deaths are identified by matching all the contributory causes of death from death certificate records to a list of causes that are considered AOD-related. The deaths identified as AOD-related then may be summed to provide area totals. Dividing the total AOD-related deaths by all deaths in an area gives the percent of all deaths that are alcohol and drug related. Lists of underlying causes of death that are AOD-related have been developed in several studies. Citations for these studies are listed prior to the AOD attribution tables. AOD-related deaths used in this report are determined using a comprehensive assembly of disease, accident, and injury codes identified in those studies. The codes are based upon the International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision (ICD-9) from 1990 to 1998 or International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision (ICD-10) after 1998.

The identified AOD-related causes of death may be either fully attributable or sometimes attributable to alcohol or drugs. Some contributory causes of death are explicit in their mention of alcohol or drugs. Examples include alcoholic cirrhosis of the liver (ICD-9 code 571.2), alcohol and drug dependence syndromes (ICD-9 codes 303 and 304, respectively), and drug poisonings (ICD-9 codes E850 through E859). All deaths of this sort are fully, or 100%, attributable to alcohol or drug abuse and are considered direct AOD-related deaths.

Other contributory causes of death are related only sometimes to alcohol or drugs. For example, epidemiological studies have shown that, among persons over 35 years of age, 60% of deaths due to chronic pancreatitis (ICD-9 code 577.1) and 75% of malignant neoplasms of the esophagus (ICD-9 code 150) are alcohol-related. For persons of all ages, 42% of motor vehicle traffic and non-traffic deaths (ICD-9 codes E810 through E825) are alcohol-related. The appropriate percentage of such indirectly attributable deaths are also counted toward totals for AOD-related deaths.

The tables on the following pages characterize the different diseases, injuries, and accidents by: name, ICD-9 or ICD-10 code, age of inclusion, and percent attributable to alcohol or drugs. Information sources are listed below.

1. Schultz J, Rice D, & Parker D. 1990. Alcohol-related mortality and years of potential life lost - United States, 1987. Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, 39, 173-178.

2. Rice D, et al. 1990. The Economic Costs of Alcohol and Drug Abuse and Mental Illness: 1985. Report submitted to the Office of Financing and Coverage Policy of the Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and mental health Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. San Francisco, CA: Institute for Health and Aging, University of California.

3. Fox K, Merrill J, Chang H, & Califano J. 1995. Estimating the Costs of Substance Abuse to the Medicaid Hospital Care Program. American Journal of Public Health, 85(1), 48-54.

4. Seattle-King County HIV/AIDS Epidemiology Unit and Washington State Office of HIV/AIDS Epidemiology and Evaluation. 1994. Washington State/Seattle-King County HIV/AIDS Epidemiology Report (2nd Quarter, 1994), p. 4.

Appendix A: Technical Notes

Disease Category	ICD-10 Code	ICD-9 Code	Attrib	Age
Diseases Directly Attributable to Alcohol				
Alcoholic psychoses	F10, F10.3-F10.9	291	100%	>=15
Alcohol dependence syndrome	F10.2	303	100%	>=15
Alcoholic polyneuropathy	G62.1	357.5	100%	>=15
Alcoholic cardiomyopathy	I42.6	425.5	100%	>=15
Alcoholic gastritis	K29.2	535.3	100%	>=15
Alcoholic fatty liver	K70.0	571.0	100%	>=15
Acute alcoholic hepatitis	K70.1, K70.4	571.1	100%	>=15
Alcoholic cirrhosis of the liver	K70.3	571.2	100%	>=15
Alcoholic liver damage, other	K70.2, K70.9, K70	571.3	100%	>=15
Excessive blood level of alcohol, toxic effect of alcohol	R78.0, T51	790.3. 980	100%	>=0
Accidental poisoning by alcohol	X45, Y15	E860	100%	>=0
Nondependent abuse of Alcohol	F10.1	305.0	100%	>=0
Alcohol-induced pseudo-Cushing's syndrome	E24.4	Not Available in ICD-9	100%	>=15
Degeneration of nervous system due to alcohol	G31.2	Not Available in ICD-9	100%	>=15
Alcoholic myopathy	G72.1	Not Available in ICD-9	100%	>=15
Maternal care for (suspected) damage to fetus from alcohol	O35.4	Not Available in ICD-9	100%	>=15
Newborn affected by maternal use of alcohol	P04.3	Not Available in ICD-9	100%	>=0
Fetal alcohol syndrome (dysmorphic)	Q86.0	Not Available in ICD-9	100%	>=0
Suicide attributable to alcohol	X65	Not Available in ICD-9	100%	>=0
Alcoholic Pellagra	E52	265.2	100%	>=0
Diseases Indirectly Attributable to Alcohol				
Neoplasms				
Breast	C50, D05	174.0-174.9, 233.0	13%F	>=35
Esophagus	C15, D00.1	150.1-150.9, 230.1	75%	>=35
Larynx	C32 , D02.0	161.0-.161.9, 231.0	50%M, 40%F	>=35
Lip, oral cavity, pharynx	C00-C14, D00.0	140.1-141.9, 143.0-149.9, 230.0	50%M, 40%F	>=35
Liver	C22, D01.5	155.0-155.2, 230.8	29%	>=35
Cardiovascular				
Cardiomyopathy	I42.0 - I42.2, I42.5, I42.7- I42.9	425.1, 425.4, 425.9	40%M	>=35
Hypertension	I10-113, O10-O14, O16	401.0-404.9, 642.0, 642.2, 642.9	11%	>=35
Digestive System				
Cirrhosis	K71.7, K74.5-K74.6	571.5	74%	>=35
Duodenal Ulcers	K26	532.0-532.9	10%	>=35
Pancreatitis, acute	K85	577.0	47%	>=35
Pancreatitis, chronic	K86.1- K86.3, K86.9	577.1, 577.2, 577.9	72%	>=35
Other Diseases or Conditions				
Epilepsy	G40.3,G40.4,G40.6,G40.9	345.1, 345.3, 345.9	30%	>=15
Seizures	R56	780.3	41%	>=15
Tuberculosis	A16-A19	011-013, 017, 018	25%	>=15
Accident or Injury Causes : Motor vehicle traffic and non-traffic accidents	V02–V04, V09.0, V09.2, V12–V14, V19.0–V19.2, V19.4–V19.6, V20–V79, V80.3– V80.5, V81.0–V81.1, V82.0–V82.1, V83–V86, V87.0–V87.8, V88.0–V88.8, V89.0, V89.2	E810-E825	42%	>=0

Appendix A: Technical Notes

Disease Category	ICD-10 Code	ICD-9 Code	Attrib	Age
Diseases Indirectly Attributable to Alcohol (continued)				
Pedal cycle and other road vehicle accidents	V01, V05–V06, V09.1, V09.3–V09.9, V10–V11, V15–V18, V19.3, V19.8, V19.9, V80.0–V80.2, V80.6–V80.9, V82.2–V82.9, V87.9, V88.9, V89.1, V89.3, V89.9	E826-E829	20%	>=0
Water transport accidents	V90-V94	E830-E838	20%	>=0
Air & space transport accidents	V95-V97	E840-E845	16%	>=0
Accidental falls	W00-W19	E880-E888	35%	>=15
Accidents caused by fire	X00-X09	E890-E899	45%	>=0
Accidental drowning and submersion	W65-W74	E910	38%	>=0
Suicides due to alcohol or drugs are now considered direct AOD-related deaths, other suicides are not apportioned. This brings our definitions into compliance with NCHS definitions.				
Homicide & other purposely inflicted injury	X86–Y09, Y87.1	E960-E962, E962.1-E969	46%	>=15
Other	X31, W79, W50-W52, W20- W34, Y15-Y19	E901, E911, E917-E920, E922	25%	>=15
Other category includes: Excessive cold, Choking on food in airway; Striking against or struck accidentally by objects or persons; Caught accidentally in or between objects; Accidents caused by machinery; Accidents caused by cutting and piercing instruments.				
Diseases Directly Attributable to Drugs				
Drug psychoses	F11-F16, F18-F19	292	100%	>=0
Drug dependence syndrome	F11-F16, F18-F19	304	100%	>=0
Polyneuropathy due to drugs	G62.0	357.6	100%	>=15
Drug dependence during pregnancy	F11-F16, F18-F19	648.3	100%	>=0
Suspected damage to fetus from drugs	O35.5,	655.5	100%	>=0
Noxious influences affecting fetus	P04.4	760.7	100%	>=0
Drug reactions, intox., withdrawal specific to newborn	P96.1	779.4, 779.5	100%	>=0
Selected drug poisonings	R78,R78.1-R78.6, T38 ; excludes Y40-59.9 (therapeutic use)	962, 965, 967-971, 977 excludes E930-949	100%	>=0
Selected accidental drug poisonings	X40-X44	E850-E858	100%	>=0
Accidental Poisonings (magic mushrooms, huffing and other drug use)	X46-X49	E861-E869	100%	>=0
Nondependent abuse of drugs	F11-F16, F18-F19	305.2-305.9	100%	>=0
Assault by poisoning using drugs and medicaments	x85	E962.0	100%	>=0
Drug induced myopathy	G72.0	Not Available in ICD-9	100%	
Poisoning by drugs, accidentally or purposely inflicted	Y10-Y14	E980.0-E980.5	100%	>=0
Suicides attributable to drugs	x60-64	E950.0-E950.5	100%	>=0
Diseases Indirectly Attributable to Drugs				
AIDS (from IV drug use exposure)	B20-B24	042.0-044.9	5%	>=15
Cardiovascular				
Endocarditis	I33.0, I33.9	421.0, 421.9	75%	>=15
Other				
Hepatitis A	B15.9	70.1	12%	>=15
Hepatitis B	B16-B16.9	70.2, 70.3	36%	>=15
Hepatitis C	B17-B19.9	70.5, 70.9	10%	>=15

Appendix A: Technical Notes

Counties Like Us (CLU)

Knowing that your county has a particular rate for one of the indicators does not help you evaluate the importance of that indicator to your risk profile. You do not know if it is higher or lower than you could reasonably expect. It is more useful to compare your county rate to the state rate, which is the average for the whole state, and to other counties, especially counties that have some characteristics in common with your county. This is especially important when urban rates differ substantially from rural rates. The comparison we present is for a group of counties that are similar in characteristics related to prevention planning: population of young people (aged 10-24), the percentage of deaths in the county that are alcohol and drug-related, and a simple geographic division into Eastern and Western Washington. For each indicator the Counties Like Us rate is the average rate across all of the counties in the cluster.

The groupings for "Counties Like Us" are as follows:

Urban A*	King County
Urban B*	Clark**, Pierce, Snohomish, and Spokane
Urban C	Benton, Kitsap, Thurston, Whatcom, and Yakima
Rural A	Ferry, Franklin, Grant, Klickitat, Okanogan, Pend Oreille, and Skamania
Rural B	Adams, Asotin, Chelan, Columbia, Douglas, Garfield, Kittitas, Lincoln, Stevens, Walla Walla, and Whitman
Rural C	Clallam, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Island, Jefferson, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, San Juan, Skagit, and Wahkiakum

** For comparison, King County is compared to Urban B, but average scores for the indicators in Urban B do not include King County.*

*** Clark County was previously included in Urban C, not Urban B. Comparisons to versions of this report produced prior to June 2023 will likely have different values for Urban C and Urban B CLU rates.*

Duplicated and Unduplicated Counts

In an unduplicated person count, each person is counted only once in a year for the specified activity or service type, even if they receive that service multiple times during the year. Examples include Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Child Recipients, Basic Food Recipients, and alcohol or drug treatment. Duplicated counts are made of events such as prison admissions, child victims in accepted referrals, or admission to a hospital for attempted suicide. For instance, for each identified child victim in an accepted referral, that "event" is counted. Therefore, a child identified as a victim in more than one referral during the year is included more than once. Additionally, more than one victim can be identified in a single accepted referral. Both the victims and the referrals are duplicated.

Transitioning from Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) to National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS)

Over 80 years ago, standards were established for the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program so agencies could report their crime and arrest information in the same format and at the same level of detail and accuracy. Under the traditional UCR system agencies reported monthly on the eight (8) "Part One" offenses and values of property stolen, as well as counts of arrests. The FBI Crime Index reports only designated Part One Crimes. These are criminal homicide, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft and arson. This is now referred to as Summary UCR. Most law enforcement agencies report arrest and offense data to the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC), which in turn provides data to the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting Program (UCR).

In 1989, the FBI instituted a new crime-reporting system called the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) to provide a more detailed and comprehensive view of crime in the United States. While Summary UCR collects only counts eight (8) offense types, NIBRS collects information on twenty-three (23) different offenses. Some of the additional offenses in NIBRS are forcible and non-forcible sex offenses, fraud, kidnapping, and drug violations.

Washington State has transitioned to the NIBRS system for reporting. This was a costly staged process which was particularly difficult for smaller communities. Washington State became certified to begin submitting NIBRS data to the FBI in December 2006. Summary reporting was phased out and all reporting agencies began submitting NIBRS data by January 1, 2012. The rates for Part One offenses we previously reported should show no impact of the reporting system change. However, *the rates for total arrests* by age group include all arrests for offenses reported *which now cover the twenty-three offense categories rather than the previous eight categories.* Care must be taken when interpreting the yearly trend of "total arrest" rates for an area. In areas where large amounts of arrests are likely for crimes not previously reported, a substantial increase in total arrests could be expected starting with the 2012 data.

Appendix A: Technical Notes

Non-Reporting Police Jurisdictions in Uniform Crime Reports and National Incident-Based Reporting System

Most law enforcement agencies report arrest and offence data to the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC), which in turn provides data to the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program and National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). This is the source of our data. Some jurisdictions do not report all arrests and offenses, some report partial years, and some withhold certain categories of arrests or offenses. *Reporting is voluntary for arrests and offenses.* Offenses are more likely to be reported since some funding is associated with reporting. Offenses are *incidence*-reporting. When more than one victim is involved, an offence is filed for each victim. Multiple property violations performed at the same incident are counted as one offence.

However, when both types of events happen, only the victim incidents are reported as offenses. Offenses focus on the nature of the crime, while arrests focus on the apprehended accused perpetrator. Many offenses occur without arresting perpetrators. Sometimes charges are dropped and sometimes no perpetrator is ever found. No perpetrator age is available in the offence data, so the entire population is used as the denominator. Prior to 2012, data reported to the WASPC in the NIBRS format, which was not yet compatible with the UCR output reports, was only included in their reports to the FBI. We listed those jurisdictions as non-reporting in the UCR although the WASPC considered them to have reported. Only Part One offenses are reported in the UCR; some agencies have no Part One crimes to report. Those agencies are listed with zero events, not as non-reporting.

Information on the Non-reporting Population and Non-reporting Agencies is available only in the individual county, district, and locale level online reports. Each area/county report shows how and when that area's police jurisdictions reported data to the WASPC. *If your area/county is the one where police jurisdictions have a significant amount of incomplete data, be very careful that you adjust your risk assessment to reflect this.* In other words, the reported arrest rates may not adequately reflect the entire area/county. This will be true especially in those cases where the non-reporting police jurisdictions have either very high or very low arrest rates, compared to the rest of the area/county.

To compensate for missing police reports, we have adjusted the denominator in the rate calculation so that it reflects only the proportion of the area/county for which we do have data. For instance, say, area A, with a population of 40,000, has eight police jurisdictions. Now, if one of the police jurisdictions in the area did not report their arrests, the number of arrests would not be representative of the whole area/county. Therefore, we would not want to use the population of the whole area in the denominator because that would make the rate lower than it should be. The solution used in this report is to subtract the population of that missing police jurisdiction from the area population. We follow the same procedure for police jurisdictions that report partial years: if they report only six months, we use only half of the population to calculate the rate.

Due to the uneven geographic distribution of crime, missing police data can cause spikes or dips in the trend data comparison of multiple consecutive years. We do not run into this problem in the state report (available at https://www.dshs.wa.gov/sites/default/files/rda/riskprofiles/research-4.47-state.pdf) because the county rates there (as opposed to the individual county reports) only report 5-year averages. However, for individual county reports and reports for smaller areas like locales or school districts the trend data can become unstable due to non-reporting. Alternately, the conversion of data from certain police jurisdictions to other areas like locales may not apportion directly causing too much of the data to be apportioned based on population rather than clearly assigned to one area. We use a weighted reliability index (WRI) to determine when the conversion is no longer reliable. An explanation of that process follows. We have tried to compensate for these and other issues by suppressing data which is likely to be affected by an unreliable conversion.

CORE Conversion Process and Weighted Reliability Index

CORE obtains data from many government agency sources. The data are represented as events (e.g. # of teen births, # of crimes, # of clients) occurring within a given geographic unit (area). This geographic unit is generally the smallest that can be obtained from the agency source. For example, data may be available by school district, by zip code, by census tract or by police jurisdictions. CORE calls these geographic units the "source geography."

CORE data is usually reported at the geographic levels of county or community – called in the rest of this section the "destination geography." Therefore, data usually needs to be converted from the "source geographies" to the "destination geography."

The conversion is based on a geospatial overlay process, in which the events occurring in small source geographies that are totally contained within the destination are combined with synthetic estimates of events occurring in source geographies that are partly within and partly outside the destination geography. The synthetic estimation is weighted by the population distribution between the source and destination areas. Therefore, it requires a small-scale count of the population underlying both source and destination geographies.

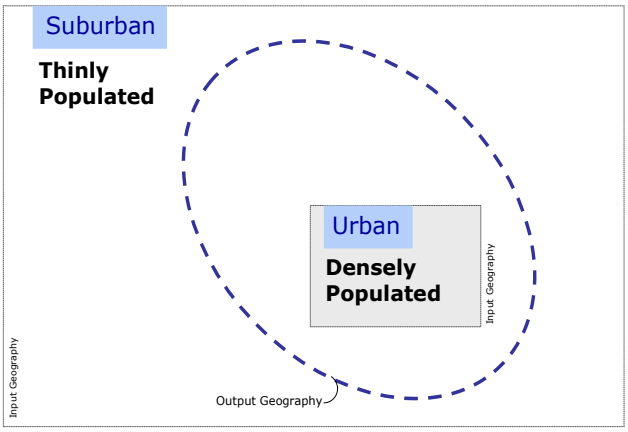
Normally, this small count is provided by Census block-level population estimates. This process is explained below through examples.

Data being converted from a smaller source geography like a school district to a larger geography like a county is usually fairly reliable because most of the smaller pieces fit neatly and wholly into the new geography. (See example 1).

The rectangles represent two possible data source geographies (one densely populated school district – Urban School District -- and one less densely populated school district – Suburban School District -- surrounding it). The large oval represents a report's destination geography such as county or locale.

The following statements refer to example 1:

Example 1



All of the events occurring in the urban school district can be attributed entirely to the destination geography.

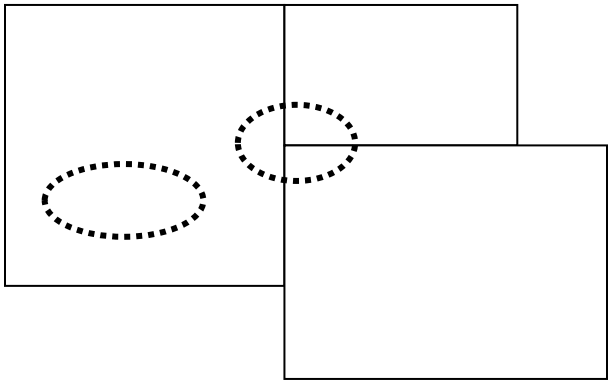
The events occurring in the split source geography (suburban school district, in this example) are distributed to the destination geography in the same proportion as the underlying population is distributed. If 40% of the suburban school district population lies within the destination geography, then 40% of its events are attributed to the destination geography.

These events are split by age, race and gender subgroups whenever possible, as are the populations. So the synthetic estimation is broken down that way also. If 40% of the young White population of the suburban school district lives in the destination geography, then 40% of the events occurring to young White people are attributed there. If, on the other hand, only 10% of the young American Indian population of the suburban school district lives in the destination geography, then only 10% of the events occurring to young American Indian people are attributed there.

While we can develop an algorithm to distribute all source geography populations to all destination geography populations, such a distribution will not always be reliable.

For example, see the situation depicted in Example 2.

Example 2



Here we are trying to estimate the number of events contained in two very small destination geographies (the ovals). Could this synthetic estimate be reliable? Perhaps, if the small area within the ovals really is representative of the whole area -- but more likely not.

A statistic is needed to assist researchers in determining when a destination geography's events cannot be reliably estimated using these processes. For CORE online reports, that statistic is the Weighted Reliability Index (WRI).

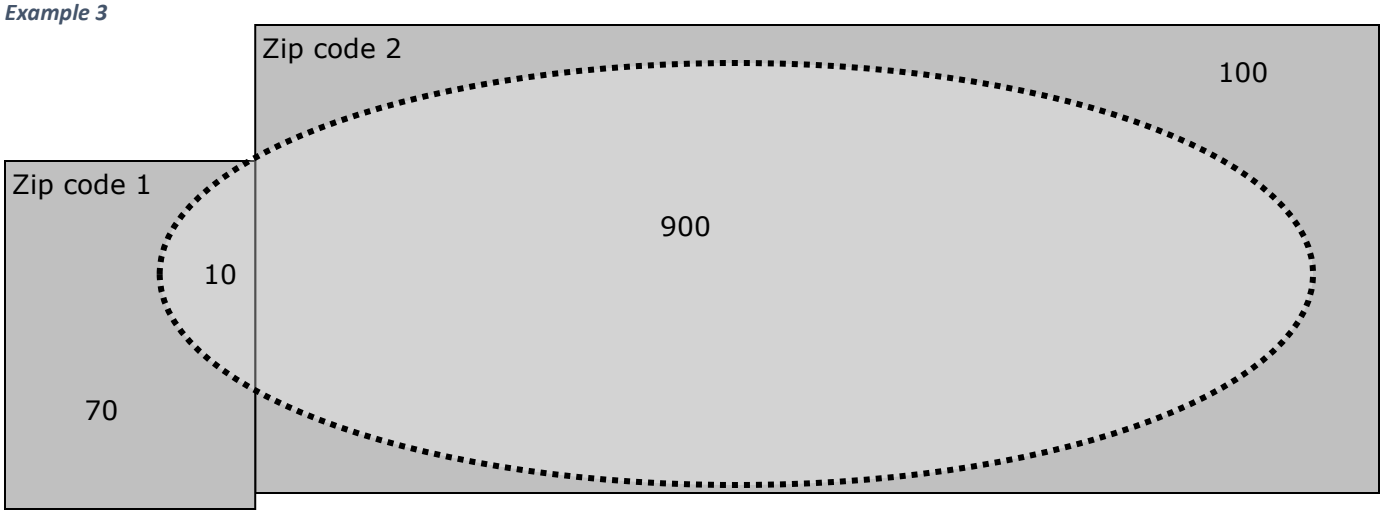
The amount of overlap between source and destination populations can vary from less than 1% to 99% -- only a little of a source population can live in a destination, or almost all of the source population can live in a destination.

The key underlying assumption behind the CORE Weighted Reliability Index is as follows: ***When most of the population for the source geography is also in the destination geography, we can be more certain of the reliability of the estimation process.***

Therefore, the weighting process lets us calculate, for each source-geography/destination-geography combination, the reliability of each destination geography's estimate.

In the figure for Example 3, for zip code 2 the source area population is mostly in the destination oval (encased in the dashed line), but the majority population from the other contributing source area is not.

Example 3



The oval represents the destination geography boundary -- the edge of a destination city. The rectangles represent the source geography boundaries for two zip codes. The numbers are population of people living in each place: 10 people live both in Destination City and in the first source (Zip code 1), and 900 people live both in Destination City and in the second source (Zip code 2).

The formula for Weighted Reliability Index for a single destination is the total weighted destination population as a percent of total population. To understand this formula, see the calculations below.

	Percent of source population attributed to destination	Multiplied by the population attributed to the destination	Amount of destination population imputed
zip code 1	10/80 = 12.5%	* 10	1.25
zip code 2	900/1000 = 90%	* 900	810.00
	Total for Destination	**910**	**811.25**

In the above example, the Weighted Reliability Index for Destination City is 811.25 / 910 = 89%. Basically, 89% of the event locations were directly attributed to the area they occurred. Along with the WRI a cut point for reliable reporting is needed. When half or more of the events have been imputed to the destination geography, rather than directly attributed from the source geography, the data is considered unreliable and rates are suppressed.

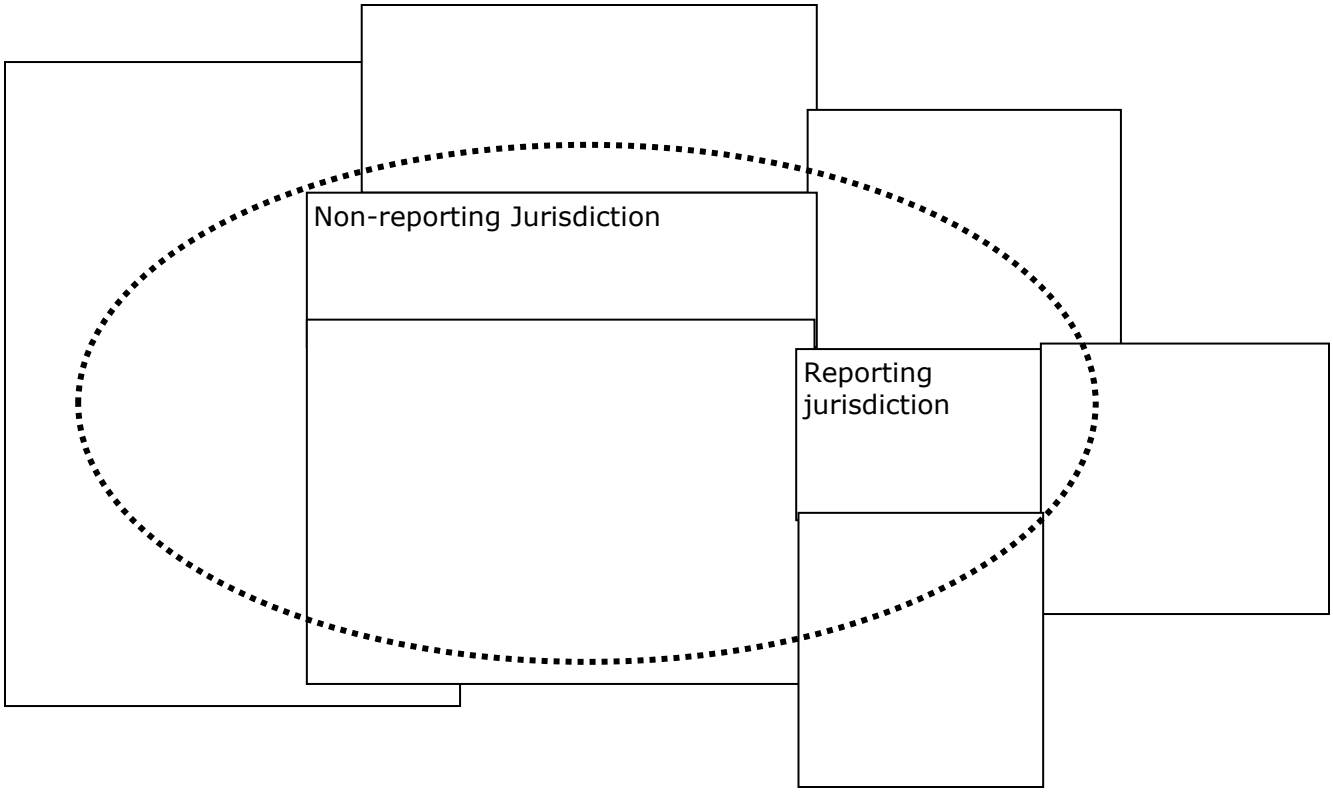
Appendix A: Technical Notes

WRI for Areas with Non-Reporting of Data

There is a second way that data may become unreliable. Some police jurisdictions do not report data to the state sources, use a reporting method which cannot be included in our files, fail to report for either adults or juveniles, or report for only part of a year. This is particularly true for court data – arrests or offenses. In order to accurately evaluate the reliability of data conversions for destination geographies containing those jurisdictions, non-reporting jurisdiction populations were excluded from the calculations for WRI and the non-reporting jurisdiction issue is evaluated separately.

Partial Reporting, part of a year or part of a population, is also taken into consideration when computing the percentage of non-reporting in a destination geography. Adult and juvenile rates are evaluated separately. Some areas may pass for one, but not for the other due to their reporting habits. For partial year reporting the percentage of the year with data reported is used to evaluate each category.

Example 4



The second test of reliability is to determine whether the population for the rate is adequately represented. In this example, allow the numbers inside the oval to represent a population of 100 allocated to the destination geography. Two source jurisdictions are entirely located in the destination geography represented by the oval. Their events when reported would be directly attributed. The non-reporting jurisdiction would have its population of 50 excluded from the calculation for WRI, while the reporting jurisdiction would have its population included in the calculation. In this case the completely contained reporting jurisdiction would represent 30 of the remaining 50 population (60%) in the destination oval. The imputed portion is 40%, allowing the destination geography to pass the first test for WRI.

CORE also requires that the excluded non-reporting jurisdiction population (50 of 100) are less than 50% of the total population for the destination geography. With an exclusion rate of 50%, this destination geography would fail the reliability criteria.

The reliability of arrest rates is calculated each year based on non-reporting. For five-year rates, three out of five data years must be considered reliable by both tests and the average of the yearly WRI for all five years must reach the WRI cut point value.

Appendix A: Technical Notes

Rates: why is "raw data" converted to rates?

In order to make comparisons between counties and the state, and between counties that have different sizes, we use rates to describe an event in terms of a standard size population---either per 100 (percent), per 1,000 or per 100,000. For instance, what does it mean if County A has 42 alcohol retail licenses, and County B has 399? Does it mean that based on this indicator, the risk factor (Availability) is much higher in County B than it is County A? No, not if County B is a much bigger county. If County B is bigger, then the "rate" of liquor licenses per population might be the same or even lower. The only way to compare them is to convert the raw numbers to rates, based on the same population factor.

For instance:

County A: # of licenses – 42, # of persons (all ages) – 14, 297
County B: # of licenses – 399, # of persons (all ages) – 186,185
To calculate the rate per 1,000:
42 / 14,297 = .002937 .002937 X 1,000 = 2.94
399 / 186,185 = .002143 .002143 X 1,000 = 2.14
So the rate of alcohol retail licenses is 2.94 per 1,000 people in County A, and 2.14 per 1,000 people in County B.

Standardization of CORE Indicators

An individual indicator by itself is interesting because you can compare your county (school district, locale) to all other counties (school districts, locales), and to the state. You can also look at how the indicator changes over time. But it is more difficult to compare several indicators to each other, for example, if you want to see which indicator of risk is extremely high and which is just average. For instance, you cannot directly compare the number (or rate) of alcohol retail licenses to the number (or rate) of Basic Food recipients---this would be like comparing apples and oranges and would not be meaningful.

The preferred way to compare different indicators is to find out how much each individual indicator varies from some common point; in CORE reports the point we use is the indicator's value for the state. In more technical terms, we transform the original absolute rates to a common scale: the relative deviation from the state rate. This is called a **standardized score** and is based on the mathematical calculation of the standard deviation. For a particular indicator, the county (school district, locale) with the highest absolute rate will have the highest standardized score. A standardized score of 1.2, for instance, means that the county's rate is 1.2 standard deviations above the state rate, and a –1.2 would be 1.2 standard measures below the state rate. Approximately 95% of all counties (school districts, locales) in the state will fall between +2 and –2 standard deviations from the state rate.

Here is an example. Let's say an indicator for extreme family economic deprivation (Basic Food recipients per 100 people) has a standardized score of 2.5 and an indicator for availability of drugs (alcohol retail licenses per 1,000 people) has a score of 1.2. We can say that, other things being equal, the county (school district, locale) in question has a higher risk for extreme family economic deprivation than for availability of drugs.

CORE indicators are standardized using a formula similar to the calculation of a z-score. A typical z-score for an observation (a county, a locale, a school district) is calculated as a difference between an observation and the mean (average) of all observations, divided by the standard deviation for all observations. A CORE standardized score for a county (school district, locale) is instead calculated using the state rate in place of the mean for all counties (school districts, locales). A standardized CORE indicator avoids the problem of using an unweighted mean of all counties (school districts, locales) that would give counties of very different size equal weight, and therefore provides a more meaningful comparison.

CORE standardized indicators for counties are calculated using the following formula. The same formula is used for locales and for districts, by substituting locale or district rates for county rates in the formula.

$$stdiz_score = \frac{county_{rate} - state_{rate}}{\sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N} (county_{rate,i} - state_{rate})^2}{N}}}$$

Appendix A: Technical Notes

Graduation and Dropout Data Methodology Changes

Beginning with the 2011-2012 school year major changes were made in how to measure dropouts and graduation for students in Washington State. "Graduation Rate Calculations in Washington State", a March 2012 publication by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, does an excellent job of explaining these changes. The following chart is an extract from that document (page 4).

How do the methods differ?

Estimated Cohort (old method) Prior to 2011-2012 school year	Adjusted Cohort (new method) 2011-2012 and beyond
Is a composite cohort. Uses dropout rates for all grades within one school year to determine an estimate of the number of students graduating.	Is an actual cohort; individuals are tracked over 4 years with adjustments made for transfers in/out.
Allows for alternate expected graduation year for students in special education or ELL programs.	Imposes concept of four-year timespan. There are no adjustments for Special Ed or Limited English students who are expected to take longer.
May adjust for deficient credits.	All students are expected to graduate four years after first entering 9th grade. Transfers from out of state or other districts who are credit deficient may not be reclassified into a lower grade.

Roadblocks to learning in our communities.

Academic Achievement, School Climate, and Extreme Family Economic Deprivation.

Academic Achievement:

According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), protective factors are characteristics that decrease an individual's risk for a substance abuse disorder. Among the protective factors are academic competence, high commitment to schooling, education is valued and encouraged, and aspirations or expectations to go to college.

The CORE measures academic achievement using three groups of indicators; two of these groups are protective factors and one group is risk factors:

1. Successful Academic Performance on statewide tests (protective factors);
2. Students who graduate from high school (protective factors);
3. Students who drop out of high school, failing to complete their education (risk factors).

1. Student Assessment

   The indicators for ***Successful Academic Performance*** in CORE online reports are computed for the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) evaluation in Math and in English Language Arts, for two age groupings: grades 3 through 5 and grades 6 through 8. Combining several grades increases the size of the numerator and the denominator in the indicators; this further protects student privacy and produces more stable values. The indicator value is a percentage of students in each grade grouping who met the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) standard in Math or in English Language Arts among students who chose to take each of these tests in these grades. The tests are given in the spring of the year. For example, data for 2024 is for students during the school year 2023/2024.

2. Graduating from High School

   Children who graduate from high school share several protective factors listed above. Two types of high school graduation rates are provided in the CORE reports, On-time Graduation and Extended Graduation.

   For ***On-time Graduation***, a student must graduate within four years by completion of the graduation requirements. The Adjusted Cohort (new method) rate divides the number of students graduating in their fourth year by the adjusted freshman cohort for those students.

The ***Extended Graduation*** requires more resources and dedication from school district staff. It includes those students who stay in school after their senior year and complete the graduation requirements. School districts which have high extended graduation rates may also have higher dropout rates since the students attempting extended graduation are also at highest risk of again dropping out. A large difference in the size of the on-time and extended graduation rates may indicate that a school district or school is working hard to keep students in school or to have dropouts return to school and attempt to graduate. The Adjusted Cohort (new method) rate is the number of students graduating within five years divided by the adjusted cohort for the freshman class of the graduates.

3. Dropping Out of High School

Two types of high school dropout rates are provided in the CORE reports, Annual (Event) Dropouts and High School Cohort (Cumulative) Dropouts.

The ***Annual Dropout*** rate measures the proportion of students enrolled in grades 9-12 who drop out in a single year without completing high school as a percentage of all students in grades 9 through 12 that year. When school districts try new policies or projects to keep students in school the impact of those actions will be more immediately visible in this rate. This rate is more difficult for the data provider (the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, or OSPI) to compute after the transition to the new method of Adjusted Cohort as it draws information from four separate cohorts. The data and charts in the CORE reports reflect this difficulty: the year 2018 was the last year the OSPI produced these custom calculations for us.

The ***High School Cohort Dropout*** rate (may also be referred to as the longitudinal, cumulative, or freshmen cohort dropout rate) measures what happens to a single group (or cohort) of students over a period of time. This rate is most useful for seeing the longer-term impact on the community/your county. The cohort dropout rate is higher than the annual dropout rate for the same community/your county as it measures the cumulative effect of the multiyear loss of students from their freshmen cohort. The Adjusted Cohort (new method) rate is the number of students dropping out prior to graduation divided by the adjusted cohort for the freshman class of the graduates.

School Climate:

Indicators listed under School Climate give an idea of how safe students may feel in their school or how committed they and their fellow students are to learning. The risk indicator is ***Weapons Incidents in School*** (rate per 1,000 students): when weapons incidents are common, the school climate is not conducive to learning. The protective factor, ***Regular Attendance***, which replaced the risk factor Unexcused Absences for Students in Grades 1 to 8, attests to the commitment of the students and their families to learning.

Extreme Family Economic Deprivation:

Hungry students find it difficult to focus their attention long enough to learn. Those with inadequate housing or clothing may find it difficult to interact with their peers. There are three indicators which evaluate levels of poverty in CORE online reports:

1. ***Child Recipients of TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)*** is the rate of children from birth to 17 who receive income assistance. The child must be a citizen or legal alien, and their caregiver must not have exceeded the 60-month maximum length of the program. There is a requirement for the adults to seek work and an income evaluation. Teen parents must attend school.
2. ***Basic Food Recipients*** is the rate of persons of all ages receiving Basic Food Assistance in the fiscal year, per 100 persons of all ages. Basic Food assistance in Washington State includes the U.S. Department of Agriculture Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and the Food Assistance Program (FAP), a state-funded program that provides food assistance to legal immigrants who are not eligible for federal food assistance solely because of their immigration status. This program provides food benefits to low-income households to supplement their grocery budget. The federal SNAP program was formerly called the Food Stamps program; to qualify, the persons must be citizens or legal aliens who seek work and meet the income guidelines, however there is no cutoff time limit for benefits.
3. ***Students Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Lunch*** provides a much broader look at poverty in your area/county. Children of people who are “working poor”, who have exceeded 60 months in TANF benefits, are not legal aliens, or are not seeking work can still receive meals and free milk. The free guidelines are at or below 130 percent of the Federal poverty guidelines and the reduced-price guidelines are between 130 and at or below 185 percent of the Federal poverty guidelines.
   There are other ways to qualify. Many persons earning a gross income up to 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level apply for income assistance because their children are automatically eligible for free school lunch if they meet the adjusted income

guidelines. These are sometimes called $0 grants. Households receiving assistance under SNAP, TANF for their children, Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), or with children who are homeless, fostered, runaway, migrant, or in Head Start Programs are eligible for free benefits. If any child or household member receives benefits under Assistance Programs all children who are members of the household are eligible for free school meals.

Suppression Codes for Yearly Trend Data

UN	Unreliable conversion of events to report geography, failure of weighted reliability index (WRI). The WRI evaluation process is further explained in the section labeled 'CORE Conversion Process and Weighted Reliability Index'.
SP	Suppressed by agreement with data provider when denominator is below agreed level and may compromise a person's rights to confidentiality.
SN	Small Number Sample. Geography has less than 30 events in the denominator. More reliable at 5-year level or for larger area.
NR	Not reliable due to non-reporting of police jurisdictions data. Fifty percent or more of the population is not represented by the data due to non-reporting jurisdictions.
--	Data which are unavailable and not expected to be provided at a later date. Signifies a gap in data collection such as during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Changes in Hospitalization Data

When CHARS was first developed there were basically two types of patients: inpatients and outpatients including emergency department. Since that time, however, a third category of patients has come into being, and has grown. These are known as "observation" patients. Some observation patients may be similar to outpatients in that their lengths of stay at the hospital can be measured in hours. Other observation patients are more like inpatients; their lengths of stay can be a full day – or longer. Up until May 2007 CHARS only collected data on inpatients. Observation patients with lengths of stay exceeding a day or more were previously not reported to CHARS. This situation becomes even more concerning because the designation of a patient as either an inpatient or an observation patient is based upon each patient's payer's criteria. Hence, one patient may be deemed an inpatient by their payer and have their data reported to CHARS, while another patient with exactly the same clinic conditions and treatments – but with a different payer – may be deemed an observation patient and did not have their data reported to CHARS in the past. Revisions have been made which add these observation events to CORE from 2008 forward. This will change the trend data for those years for any rate containing data from CHARS.

In addition to the inclusion of observation admissions, supplemental diagnosis fields and supplemental external cause fields have been added to the analysis of patient data. Previously analysis was limited to the first nine diagnosis and the first external cause code. Both of these changes may increase the rates seen in data trends for 2008 to the present.

Data on hospital stays after October 1, 2015 uses ICD-10 definitions. Both ICD-9 and ICD-10 categories used to define alcohol, drug, suicide and injury accidents are detailed in the section called Counting Alcohol- or Drug-related Deaths. CHARS events use only directly attributable diagnosis definitions.

Appendix B: Adjusted Population for Areas Not Reporting Arrests or Offenses

Whatcom County

Populations subtracted for police agencies not reporting

Police agencies are not required to report arrests or offences to UCR/NIBRS, they do so voluntarily. For a variety of reasons, a jurisdiction may report part or none of the arrests or offences for a year. In these cases, the denominator is the population of the areas that did report. For example, if juvenile arrests for one agency are not reported, the juveniles for that jurisdiction are not included in the population denominator either.

The tables below show the values that comprise the adjustment for the community in this report for each age range we report.

* "% Subtracted" is the percent of the community's population subtracted for non-reporting.
* "Subtracted" is the amount subtracted.
* "Persons" is the population of the entire community.
* "Adjusted Pop" is the denominator used to calculate indicator rates.

We suppress the yearly rates when (1) 50% or more of the population of your community live in areas which did not report to UCR/NIBRS for the year, or (2) more than 40% of the reported events (arrests or offences) have been apportioned, or synthetically estimated, using the CORE Conversion Process described in the Technical Notes section. Note that if most of the crime in a community occurs in an area which did not report, the adjusted yearly rates would be artificially low.

See Uniform Crime Report - Non-Reporting Police Jurisdictions in the Technical Notes section for additional detail on the reason and method of subtracting population for non-reporting.

Indicators using All Arrests for 10-14 year olds as the denominator have 5 year rates which represent 99.5% of the population.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
% Subtracted	0.00	1.59	1.57	2.43	2.48	1.65	2.63	2.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Subtracted, 10-14	0	194	192	300	310	209	337	342	0	0	0	0
Persons, 10-14	12,138	12,188	12,254	12,343	12,481	12,650	12,812	12,920	13,074	13,236	13,593	13,676
Adjusted Pop 10-14	12,138	11,994	12,062	12,043	12,171	12,441	12,475	12,578	13,074	13,236	13,593	13,676

Indicators using All Arrests for 10-17 year olds as the denominator have 5 year rates which represent 99.5% of the population.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
% Subtracted	0.00	1.64	1.63	2.60	2.62	1.67	2.67	2.68	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Subtracted, 10-17	0	323	322	517	526	340	550	556	0	0	0	0
Persons, 10-17	19,658	19,711	19,790	19,909	20,104	20,349	20,582	20,729	20,938	21,164	21,735	21,925
Adjusted Pop 10-17	19,658	19,388	19,468	19,392	19,578	20,009	20,032	20,173	20,938	21,164	21,735	21,925

Indicators using All Arrests for adults as the denominator have 5 year rates which represent 99.5% of the population.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
% Subtracted	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.42	2.48	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Subtracted, 18+	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,338	4,513	0	0	0	0
Persons, 18+	163,390	165,213	167,234	169,565	172,597	176,031	179,403	182,034	181,479	186,624	190,359	192,795
Adjusted Pop 18+	163,390	165,213	167,234	169,565	172,597	176,031	175,065	177,521	181,479	186,624	190,359	192,795

Indicators using All Offenses for persons 18+ as the denominator have 5 year rates which represent 99.5% of the population.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
% Subtracted	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.52	2.41	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Subtracted, 18+	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,653	5,458	0	0	0	0
Persons, 18+	205,764	207,714	209,931	212,521	216,001	219,984	223,890	226,847	225,999	231,020	235,052	237,235
Adjusted Pop 18+	205,764	207,714	209,931	212,521	216,001	219,984	218,237	221,389	225,999	231,020	235,052	237,235

Appendix C: Incomplete or Missing Reporting of Arrests or Offenses by Agency and Year

Whatcom County

Percent of Adult Arrests Not Reported to UCR/NIBRS by Year

Police agency jurisdictions which are located at least partially in this report's geography are listed below. The table shows the percentage of non-reporting by jurisdiction for each year (e.g. 100% means no reporting, blank means full reporting).

Jurisdictions	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Bellingham P.D.												
Blaine P.D.						92%						
Everson P.D.						42%						
Ferndale P.D.												
Lummi Nation Tribal P.D.						33%	100%	100%				
Lynden P.D.												
Nooksak Tribal P.D.						100%	100%	100%	100%		100%	100%
Sumas P.D.								8%				
Whatcom Co. S.O.												

Percent of Juvenile Arrests Not Reported to UCR/NIBRS by Year

Police agency jurisdictions which are located at least partially in this report's geography are listed below. The table shows the percentage of non-reporting by jurisdiction for each year (e.g. 100% means no reporting, blank means full reporting).

Jurisdictions	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Bellingham P.D.												
Blaine P.D.						92%						
Everson P.D.		100%	100%	100%	100%	42%						
Ferndale P.D.												
Lummi Nation Tribal P.D.						33%	100%	100%				
Lynden P.D.												
Nooksak Tribal P.D.						100%	100%	100%	100%		100%	100%
Sumas P.D.				100%	100%			8%				
Whatcom Co. S.O.												

Percent of Offenses Not Reported to UCR/NIBRS by Year

Police agency jurisdictions which are located at least partially in this report's geography are listed below. The table shows the percentage of non-reporting by jurisdiction for each year (e.g. 100% means no reporting, blank means full reporting).

Jurisdictions	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Bellingham P.D.												
Blaine P.D.						92%						
Everson P.D.						42%						
Ferndale P.D.												
Lummi Nation Tribal P.D.						33%	100%	100%				
Lynden P.D.												
Nooksak Tribal P.D.						100%	100%	100%	100%		100%	100%
Sumas P.D.								8%				
Whatcom Co. S.O.												