

ADULT EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

Mason County Data Series

ADULT EDUCATION

About 17% of Mason County's adult population did not have a high school diploma or it's equivalency in 2000. The county remained higher than the state in percent of adult population not achieving high school completion in both 1990 and 2000. (DS61-62)

Educational Attainment of Residents Age 25+, Mason County 1990-2000

	# 1990	# 2000	% OF TOTAL 1990	% OF TOTAL 2000	% CHANGE 1990-2000
Less than 9 th Grade	1,698	1,224	7%	4%	↓ 28%
9 th to 12 th , No diploma	3,716	4,300	14%	13%	↑ 16%
High school diploma/GED	8,823	11,017	34%	32%	↑ 25%
Some college or AA degree	8,198	12,114	32%	36%	↑ 48%
BA degree or higher	3,532	5,281	14%	16%	↑ 50%
Total Person Age 25+	25,967	33,936	100%	100%	

Based on highest grade completed for person 25 years of age and older.
Data may not add to total due to rounding.

Educational Attainment of Residents Age 25+, Washington State 1990-2000

	% OF TOTAL 1990	% OF TOTAL 2000	% CHANGE 1990-2000
Less than 9 th Grade	5%	4%	↓ 4%
9 th to 12 th , No diploma	11%	9%	↓ 2%
High school diploma/GED	28%	25%	↑ 9%
Some college or AA degree	33%	34%	↑ 28%
BA degree or higher	23%	28%	↑ 48%
Total Person Age 25+	100%	100%	

Based on highest grade completed for person 25 years of age and older.
Data may not add to total due to rounding.

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

About 19,660 residents were considered part of the Mason County civilian labor force in 2000. In 1990, about 15,820 residents were in the labor force. Nearly 7% of the total labor force was unemployed in 2000. Mason County has consistently been listed as a "distressed area" in Washington State due to high unemployment rates. (DS64-65)

Employment Status, Mason County and Washington State 1990-2000

AREA	Unemployed....		Unemployed....		Employed....	
	# 1990*	# 2000*	% 1990	% 2000	% 1990	% 2000
Mason County	900	1,400	6%	7%	94%	93%
WA State	125,000	158,000	5%	5%	95%	95%

*Based on civilian labor force. Individuals in the armed forces are not included in total.
Civilian labor force is defined as all persons age 16 or older who are working or actively seeking work.

Around 2 in 10 Mason County residents did not have a high school diploma or the equivalency in 1990 and 2000. (DS61-62)

Data for educational attainment among the county's Hispanic population show a more dramatic trend. Nearly 5 in 10 Hispanic residents did not have a high school diploma or the equivalency in 2000. (DS63)

It is important to note that educational attainment can be different for immigrants. Their country of origin may not provide the same educational opportunities as those found in the USA.

Adult educational attainment is an indicator of socio-economic status and is believed to relate closely to upward mobility for individuals. To be hired in today's job market often requires a high school diploma at minimum and to be competitive in today's job market often requires more than a high school education.

Data from Census 2000 show that about 150 Mason County residents were employed in the Armed Forces. (DS66)

PARENTAL EMPLOYMENT BY FAMILY TYPE

Nearly 6 in 10 Mason County children lived in two parent families where both parents worked in 1990 and 2000. A small portion, 3%, of children lived in two parent families where neither parent was working. (DS67-68)

Number of Children 0-17 Living in Two Parent Families by Employment Status, Mason County 1990-2000

	# 1990	# 2000	% OF TOTAL 1990	% OF TOTAL 2000	% CHANGE 1990-2000
Both Working	4,031	4,534	57%	60%	↑ 13%
Father Only	2,537	2,243	36%	30%	↓ 12%
Mother Only	276	496	4%	7%	↑ 80%
Neither Working	202	230	3%	3%	↑ 14%
Total	7,046	7,503	100%	100%	

Data may not add to total due to rounding.

Number of Children 0-17 Living in Two Parent Families by Employment Status, Washington State 1990-2000

	% OF TOTAL 1990	% OF TOTAL 2000	% CHANGE 1990-2000
Both Working	61%	60%	↑ 13%
Father Only	35%	32%	↑ 6%
Mother Only	2%	4%	↑ 109%
Neither Working	2%	4%	↑ 95%
Total	100%	100%	

The number of Mason County single parents that were working grew by 78% over the 1990-2000 time period. About 3 in 4 children lived in a family where their single parent was working in 2000. (DS67-68)

Number of Children 0-17 Living in Single Parent Families by Employment Status, Mason County 1990-2000

	# 1990	# 2000	% OF TOTAL 1990	% OF TOTAL 2000	% CHANGE 1990-2000
Working	1,360	2,414	66%	76%	↑ 78%
Not Working	696	765	34%	24%	↑ 10%
Total	2,056	3,179	100%	100%	

Data may not add to total due to rounding.

Number of Children 0-17 Living in Single Parent Families by Employment Status, Washington State 1990-2000

	% OF TOTAL 1990	% OF TOTAL 2000	% CHANGE 1989-1999
Working	71%	81%	↑ 55%
Not Working	29%	20%	↓ 8%
Total	100%	100%	

Nearly 3 in 10 children lived in “two parent” families where only the father worked in 2000. (DS68)

Nearly 1 in 10 children lived in “two parent” families where only the mother worked in 2000. (DS68)

Children living in families headed by a “single parent” were more likely than children in two parent families to have no parent working in 2000 (3% compared to 24% respectively). (DS68)

In 2000, about 5 in 10 children (age 0-5) lived in a “two parent” family where both parents worked. (DS68)

In 2000, close to 7 in 10 children (age 0-5) who lived only with their mom, had a mom that worked. (DS68)

Close to 8 in 10 children (age 0-5) who lived only with their dad, had a dad that worked in 2000. (DS68)

Close to 8 in 10 children (age 6-17) who lived only with their mom, had a mom that worked in 2000. (DS68)

In 2000, close to 8 in 10 children (age 6-17) who lived only with their dad, had a dad that worked. (DS68)

EMPLOYMENT INDUSTRY

The largest employment industry for Mason County residents was "Government". Nearly 3 in 10 workers were employed by either local, state, or federal government in 2000. The second leading employment industry was "Service" with nearly 2 in 10 workers employed doing activities such as hotel work, auto repair, health, social and other related services. The third leading employment industry was "Retail" with close to 2 in 10 workers employed in places like grocery, clothing, and garden/home supply stores. (DS69)

Average Annual Wage by Employment Sector, Mason County and Washington State 2000

	\$ MASON 2000	\$ STATE 2000	MASON % OF TOTAL 2000	STATE % OF TOTAL 2000
Agriculture	\$16,362	\$18,036	2%	3%
Construction	\$27,140	\$37,509	5%	6%
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	\$23,172	\$44,360	4%	5%
Government	\$32,035	\$36,293	29%	17%
Manufacturing	\$35,480	\$46,988	17%	13%
Mining	\$25,003	\$46,706	0%	0%
Retail Trade	\$15,174	\$20,844	18%	18%
Services	\$18,804	\$40,991	20%	28%
Transportation, Communication, Gas, and Electric	\$27,270	\$47,392	2%	5%
Wholesale	\$25,355	\$43,365	3%	6%
All Sectors	\$25,683	\$37,070	100%	100%

Based on covered employment, that is employment that qualifies for state unemployment insurance. Data may not add to total due to rounding.

LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME

About 94% of Mason County residents spoke English at home in both 1990 and 2000. Of the 6% of the population that spoke a language other than English at home, half of those individuals spoke Spanish (1,574 or 3% of all residents) in 2000. (DS70-71)

Language Spoken at Home, Mason County 1990-2000

	# 1990	# 2000	% OF TOTAL 1990	% OF TOTAL 2000	% CHANGE 1990-2000
English	33,659	43,791	94%	94%	↑ 30%
Other Language	2,199	2,966	6%	6%	↑ 35%

Based on persons age 5 or older

Language Spoken at Home, Washington State 1990-2000

	% OF TOTAL 1990	% OF TOTAL 2000	% CHANGE 1990-2000
English	92%	86%	↑ 15%
Other Language	8%	14%	↑ 111%

Wages for all sectors of employment were on average below those found across the state in 2000. (DS69)

The lowest industry wage in Mason County was found in "Retail Trade". The highest wage was found in "Manufacturing" which includes work related to food, timber, and other forms of manufacturing. (DS69)

The Census asks questions about language spoken at home rather than what language do they speak. Because a resident speaks another language at home does not mean that they cannot speak English.

About 1 in 4 Mason County residents who spoke a language other than English, said they did not speak English well or at all. (DS71)

About 1 in 3 Mason County residents who spoke Spanish at home, did not speak English at all or did not speak it well in 2000. (DS71)

Ability to speak English can impact employment and educational opportunities.

% = Percent
= Number or count
\$ = Dollars

Project funded by the Family Policy Council. Questions about the data can be directed to Kim Klint 360.427.9670 x543.

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DS62: "Census 2000 Summary File 3". U.S. Census Bureau, Department of Commerce. Sex by Educational Attainment for Population 25 Years and Over P37. Retrieved March 2003. <<http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/BasicFactsServlet>>

DS63: "Education Attainment by Sex and Race/Ethnicity for the Population 25 Years and Over, Census 2000 Summary File 3". Office of Financial Management, State of Washington. 2003. File name: educat_c.xls <<http://www.ofm.wa.gov/census2000/sf3/index.htm>>

DS64: "Mason County, Selected Economic Data". Employment Security Department, Labor Market & Economic Analysis Branch. 2003. File name: masosed.xls <<http://www.wa.gov/esd/lmea/labrmrkt/byarea/maso.htm>>

DS65: "Washington State, Selected Economic Data". Employment Security Department, Labor Market & Economic Analysis Branch. 2003. File name: statsed.xls <<http://www.wa.gov/esd/lmea/labrmrkt/byarea/stat.htm>>

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DS68: "Census 2000 Summary File 3". U.S. Census Bureau, Department of Commerce. Age of Own Children under 18 Years in Families and Subfamilies by Living Arrangements by Employment Status of Parents P46. Retrieved March 2003 <<http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/BasicFactsServlet>>

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DS71: "Census 2000 Summary File 3". U.S. Census Bureau, Department of Commerce. Age by Language Spoken at Home by Ability to Speak English for the Population 5 Years and Over P19. Retrieved March 2003. <<http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/BasicFactsServlet>>