

LIVING ARRANGEMENTS

TYPE OF HOUSEHOLDS

During the 1990's, the living arrangements of Mason County children shifted. The percent of Mason County children living in married couple family households decreased by 8% between 1990-2000. During the same time period, the percent of children living in single parent, other relative, and non-relative households increased. (DS18-19)

About 63% of Mason County's children lived in a "married couple" household compared to 70% across the state in 2000. About 1 in 4 county children lived in a "single parent" household in 2000. Over the 1990-2000 time period, the number of children living with "other relatives" grew at a faster pace within the county (99% increase) compared to the state (56% increase). In 2000, 3 in 4 children who lived with someone described as "other relative" were being cared for by a grandparent. (DS18-19)

Caretakers of Children Age 0-17, Mason County 1990-2000

	# 1990	# 2000	% OF TOTAL 1990	% OF TOTAL 2000	% CHANGE 1990-2000
Married Couple	6,802	7,246	71%	63%	↑ 7%
Single Parent	2,007	2,944	21%	25%	↑ 47%
Other Relative	464	923	5%	8%	↑ 99%
Non-Relative	288	430	3%	4%	↑ 49%
Total+	9,580	11,567	100%	100%	↑ 21%

+ A small number of children live on their own or in group quarters (e.g. juvenile detention). Children living in these situations are not represented in the total.

Caretakers of Children Age 0-17, Washington State 1990-2000

	% OF TOTAL 1990	% OF TOTAL 2000	% CHANGE 1990-2000
Married Couple	73%	70%	↑ 14%
Single Parent	20%	22%	↑ 36%
Other Relative	4%	6%	↑ 56%
Non-Relative	2%	2%	↑ 11%
Total+	100%	100%	↑ 20%

UNMARRIED MOTHERS

Each year, more than 200 births occur to unmarried Mason County mothers. The unmarried birth rate for the county was "significantly higher" than the state for all years between 1997-2001. Mason County had the 5th highest rate of births to unmarried mothers in Washington for the 1997-2001 time period. (D20)

Births to Unmarried Mothers, Mason County & Washington State 1997-2001

	# 1997	# 2001	# PER YEAR 1997-2001	RATE 1997	RATE 2001	5 YEAR RATE 1997-2001
Mason County	187	224	223	36.2	41.3	40.8
WA State	21,200	22,806	22,240	27.2	28.7	28.0

Rate per 100 births

In 1990, 24% of single parents households were headed by a man and 75% by women. In 2000, 30% were headed by a man and 70% by a woman. (DS18-19)

Children living with non-relatives are living with people who are not related to them by blood, marriage, or adoption. This can include children in a foster home or living with friends.

More than 1 in 10 children in Mason County lived with someone other than a parent in 2000. (DS18-19)

The average family size for Mason County and Washington State was 3 in the year 2000. The average size of Hispanic families within the county was 4 in 2000. (DS21)

Single parents may be more likely to experience stressful economic and social circumstances which make it harder for them to achieve self-reliance and family stability. (DS22)

Nearly 68% of births to unmarried mothers occurred among women age 24 or younger over the 1997-2001 time period. (DS20)

Rates can vary slightly from year to year. A rate that is significantly higher is an especially important finding.

MARRIAGE

Approximately 325 marriage ceremonies were performed per year in Mason County over the 1997-2001 time period. In 2001, the marriage rate was slightly higher for the county (7.3) compared to the state (7.0). Rates vary from year to year, however 2001 was the first year during the 1997-2001 time period that the county rate was higher than the state rate. (DS23-27)

Number of Marriages Performed and Marriage Rate by Place of Occurrence, Mason County and Washington State 1997-2001

	# 1997	# 2001	# PER YEAR 1997-2001	RATE 1997	RATE 2001
Mason County	318	362	325	6.7	7.3
WA State	42,470	41,644	41,767	7.5	7.0

Rate per 1,000 population

Not everyone married in Mason County is from the county nor are all persons from Mason County married within the county.

DIVORCE

Approximately 212 divorces were granted per year in Mason County over the 1997-2001 time period. In 2001, the Mason County and Washington State divorce rate was 4.4. Rates vary from year to year, however 2001 was the first year during the 1997-2001 time period that the county rate was equal to the state rate. Typically, the Mason County divorce rate is slightly lower than that of the state's. In 2001, 1 in 2 divorces granted in Mason County involved children from that marriage. (DS28-32)

Number of Divorces and Divorce Rate by Place of Occurrence, Mason County and Washington State 1997-2001

	# 1997	# 2001	# PER YEAR 1997-2001	RATE 1997	RATE 2001
Mason County	207	217	212	4.4	4.4
WA State	28,573	26,451	27,870	5.0	4.4

Rate per 1,000 population

Not everyone divorced in Mason County is from the county nor are all persons from Mason County divorced within the county.

Percent of Divorces Involving Children by Place of Residence, Mason County and Washington State 1997-2001

	% OF TOTAL 1997	% OF TOTAL 2001
Mason County	51%	55%
WA State	51%	52%

Children are counted regardless of age.

Data for divorces involving children is based on residence of the woman(wife), which means that Mason County women are included in this data regardless of where they got divorced.

Nearly 1 in 10 women who were married in Mason County during 2001 were under the age of 20. (DS23)

The most common age range for women and men to marry in Mason County is age 20-24. (DS23)

About 1 in 10 women who were married in the county in 2001 were age 50 or older. (DS23)

Nearly 2 in 10 Mason County women who were divorced in 2001 were under the age of 29. (DS28)

The most common age range for men and women to divorce in Mason County is age 40-44. (DS28)

On average, 132 Mason County women with children are divorced each year (based on data from 1997-2001). (DS28-32)

In 2001, 23% of Mason County divorces involved 1 child. An additional 24% involved 2 children and 8% involved 3 or more children. (DS28)

% = Percent
= Number or count

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Questions about the data can
be directed to
Kim Klint 360.427.9670 x543.

LIVING ARRANGEMENTS

DS18: "Census 2000 Summary File 1". U.S. Census Bureau, Department of Commerce. Relationship by Household Type for the Population Under 18 Years P28. Retrieved March 2003. <<http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/BasicFactsServlet>>

DS19: "Census 1990 Summary Tape File 1". U.S. Census Bureau, Department of Commerce. Household Type and Relationship P021. Retrieved March 2003. <<http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/BasicFactsServlet>>

DS20: "Birth Risk Factors – Birth Certificate Data". Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics. Retrieved March 2003. Derived from the VISTA/PHw health assessment system, developed by Public Health - Seattle & King County, Epidemiology, Planning & Evaluation 2003.

DS21: "Census 2000 Summary File 1". U.S. Census Bureau, Department of Commerce. Average Family Size P33. Retrieved March 2003. <<http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/BasicFactsServlet>>

DS22: "Social Determinants of Health: The Solid Facts". World Health Organization. 1998. Edited by Richard Wilkinson and Michael Marmot.

DS23: "Table 1. Marriages by County of Occurrence and County of Residence, 2001" and "Table 2. Marriages by Woman's Age and County where Ceremony was Performed, 2001". July 2002. Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics. File name: 2001.xls
<<http://www.doh.wa.gov/EHSPHL/CHS/CHS-Data/main.htm>>

DS24: "Table 1. Marriages by County of Occurrence and County of Residence, 2000". July 2002. Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics. File name: 2000.xls
<<http://www.doh.wa.gov/EHSPHL/CHS/CHS-Data/main.htm>>

DS25: "Table 1. Marriages by County of Occurrence and County of Residence, 1999". July 2002. Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics. File name: 1999.xls
<<http://www.doh.wa.gov/EHSPHL/CHS/CHS-Data/main.htm>>

DS26: "Table 1. Marriages by County of Occurrence and County of Residence, 1998". July 2002. Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics. File name: 1998.xls
<<http://www.doh.wa.gov/EHSPHL/CHS/CHS-Data/main.htm>>

DS27: "Table 1. Marriages by County of Occurrence and County of Residence, 1997". July 2002. Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics. File name: 1997.xls
<<http://www.doh.wa.gov/EHSPHL/CHS/CHS-Data/main.htm>>

DS28: "Table 1. Divorces and Annulments by County of Decree and County of Residence, 2001" and "Table 5. Divorces and Annulments by Number of Children¹ and County of Wife's Residence², 2001". July 2002. Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics. File name: 2001.xls
<<http://www.doh.wa.gov/EHSPHL/CHS/CHS-Data/main.htm>>

DS29: "Table 1. Divorces and Annulments by County of Decree and County of Residence, 2000". July 2002. Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics. File name: 2000.xls
<<http://www.doh.wa.gov/EHSPHL/CHS/CHS-Data/main.htm>>

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DS30: "Table 1. Divorces and Annulments by County of Decree and County of Residence, 1999". July 2002. Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics. File name: 1999.xls
<<http://www.doh.wa.gov/EHSPHL/CHS/CHS-Data/main.htm>>

DS31: "Table 1. Divorces and Annulments by County of Decree and County of Residence, 1998". July 2002. Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics. File name: 1998.xls
<<http://www.doh.wa.gov/EHSPHL/CHS/CHS-Data/main.htm>>

DS32: "Table 1. Divorces and Annulments by County of Decree and County of Residence, 1997". July 2002. Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics. File name: 1997.xls
<<http://www.doh.wa.gov/EHSPHL/CHS/CHS-Data/main.htm>>