



WASHINGTON PUBLIC PORTS ASSOCIATION

# THE MANIFEST

## GROWING PAINS:

### OFM'S 2019 REPORT ON WASHINGTON STATE POPULATION CHANGES

Each summer, cities, towns and counties prepare their 2020 budget. One of the resources for this process is the MRSC (Municipal Research and Services Center) compiled report on sales tax allocation, and population increase/decreases.

While this document is not directly applicable to port districts, the population estimates included provide interesting insight on growth trends and changes throughout the state, and also forms the basis for a portion of state shared revenue distribution for cities and counties.

The Office of Financial Management (OFM) determines population estimates for all cities, towns, and counties annually by April 1. The Secretary of State certifies them by July 1, and they are then distributed to state agencies responsible for making revenue allocations to local governments.

Per MRSC's guidance document, OFM's April 1, 2019 population estimates show that the state's total population now exceeds **7.5 million**, an increase of almost **119,000 (1.6%)** over the past year.

Based on OFM numbers, the average population increase over the past decade has been **91,300** people per year, exceeding the previous decade's average of **83,000** per year by **more than 10%**.

Most of this increase (90,000 people) is driven by migration (more people moving into Washington than out). The remaining 29,000 people, is attributed to natural increase (births minus deaths). Natural increase is dropping steadily - 2018's natural increase was 19% lower than 2017, and 31% lower than 2009 (the last peak).

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## UPCOMING EVENTS



**2019 ENVIRONMENTAL SEMINAR**  
SEPTEMBER 26-27, 2019  
CAMPBELL'S RESORT,  
LAKE CHELAN



**2019 SMALL PORTS SEMINAR**  
OCTOBER 24-25, 2019  
ENZIAN INN,  
LEAVENWORTH



**2019 ANNUAL MEETING**  
NOVEMBER 20-22, 2019  
HOTEL MURANO,  
TACOMA

## SPOTLIGHT

**AN INVITATION: MORE WAYS TO GET INVOLVED IN THE WPPA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**



The WPPA is actively engaged in creating our shared agenda and strategy for the 2020 legislative session and it's time to discuss our process and test ideas for legislative action.

For the first time, we'll be offering a teleconference option for our meeting cycle.

We are not abandoning face-to-face communications, but do hope offering wider options will enable more people to participate in the discussion, and enable all of us to hear from more varied voices from our port community.

Please join us, as your input is critical to the development of a legislative program representing our common interests and a unified voice. Our next teleconference will be held on **Thursday, September 5 at 10 AM.**

To participate via web, go to <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/320533669>.

To participate via phone, dial **571-317-3122** and enter participant code, **322-533-669**.

Growth remains concentrated in the five largest metropolitan counties – Clark, King, Pierce, Snohomish, and Spokane. However, OFM notes **“momentum continues to shift to other [smaller] metropolitan and nonmetropolitan counties.”** The five largest counties represent over 65% of Washington State's population, with 20% in other metropolitan counties (100,000–300,000) and the remaining 15% in nonmetropolitan counties (populations less than 100,000).

In total, about **4.91 million people** (65.1%) live in cities and towns, with the remaining **2.64 million** (34.9%) living in unincorporated areas. On a numerical basis, incorporated areas grew by almost **75,000** people last year, compared to almost **45,000** in unincorporated areas.

However, unincorporated areas actually grew more quickly (1.71%) than incorporated areas (1.54%), which is the first time that has happened since 2005.

Washington state's fastest-growing county between 2018 and 2019 was Franklin County - with 2.35% growth.

State-shared revenue distributions made by the Office of the State Treasurer are adjusted quarterly to reflect shifts in population due to annexations. These numbers aren't typically significant... the more significant impact is on core revenues including property and sales taxes, which increase for the cities and towns affected and decrease for affected counties. Visit the WPPA Blog for the breakdown of counties with the highest and lowest sales tax distribution increase over the past ten years.

For further details, visit the [OFM April 1, 2019 population estimate](#), or visit the [MRSC Tax and Population Data](#) site.

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

DIRECTOR, ICT  
INFRASTRUCTURE  
SERVICES | PORT OF  
SEATTLE

SR. ELECTRICAL  
ENGINEER –  
AVIATION FACILITIES  
& INFRASTRUCTURE |  
PORT OF SEATTLE

GROUND  
TRANSPORTATION  
CONTROLLER | PORT  
OF SEATTLE

ADMINISTRATIVE  
ASSISTANT | PORT OF  
SEATTLE

COMMUNICATIONS  
DIRECTOR | PACIFIC  
NORTHWEST  
WATERWAYS  
ASSOCIATION

GOVERNMENT  
RELATIONS  
DIRECTOR | PACIFIC  
NORTHWEST  
WATERWAYS  
ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
| PORT OF BENTON

OFFICE & LEGAL  
MANAGER | PORT OF  
EVERETT

ACCOUNTING  
SUPERVISOR | PORT  
OF BELLINGHAM

SIGNAGE &  
GRAPHICS  
MANAGER | PORT  
OF SEATTLE

ADMINISTRATIVE  
ASSISTANT (FRONT  
DESK) | PORT OF  
TACOMA

ACCOUNTING  
SUPERVISOR | PORT  
OF SEATTLE

LOGISTICS  
SPECIALIST  
– MARINE  
MAINTENANCE |  
PORT OF SEATTLE

SENIOR MANAGER  
RECREATIONAL  
BOATING | PORT OF  
SEATTLE

DESKTOP SUPPORT  
SPECIALIST | PORT  
OF SEATTLE

## GRANT SPOTLIGHT: WSDOT 2020 RAIL PROJECTS

The **Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)** has issued a call for proposals to fund freight rail capital projects through its Freight Rail Assistance Program. Applications must be submitted by October 18, 2019, and Port Districts are eligible.

Grants are directed toward larger projects where the rail location of the project is of strategic importance to the state and local community. Background information and instructions on submitting an application is available on the WSDOT website: [www.wsdot.wa.gov/Freight/Rail/GrantandLoanPrograms.htm](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Freight/Rail/GrantandLoanPrograms.htm).