Households and Families

In 2012 there were 290,000 households in Seattle city, Washington. The average household size was 2.1 people.

Families made up 43 percent of the households in Seattle city, Washington. This figure includes both married-couple families (34 percent) and other families (10 percent). Of other families, 4 percent are female householder families with no husband present and own children under 18 years. Nonfamily households made up 57 percent of all households in Seattle city, Washington. Most of the nonfamily households were people living alone, but some were composed of people living in households in which no one was related to the householder.

In Seattle city, Washington, 20 percent of all households have one or more people under the age of 18; 19 percent of all households have one or more people 65 years and over.

Among persons 15 and older, 40 percent of males and 38 percent of females are currently married.
In Seattle city, Washington, 6,900 grandparents lived with their grandchildren under 18 years old. Of those grandparents, 27 percent of them had financial responsibility for their grandchildren.

**Nativity and Foreign Born**

Eighty-one percent of the people living in Seattle city, Washington in 2012 were native residents of the United States. Thirty-nine percent of these residents were living in the state in which they were born.

Nineteen percent of the people living in Seattle city, Washington in 2012 were foreign born. Of the foreign born population, 52 percent were naturalized U.S. citizens, and 89 percent entered the country before the year 2010. Eleven percent of the foreign born entered the country in 2010 or later.

Foreign born residents of Seattle city, Washington come from different parts of the world.

![Regions of the World](image)

**Language**

Among people at least five years old living in Seattle city, Washington in 2012, 24 percent spoke a language other than English at home. Of those speaking a language other than English at home, 22 percent spoke Spanish and 79 percent spoke some other language; 40 percent reported that they did not speak English "very well."
Geographic Mobility

In 2012, 79 percent of the people at least one year old living in Seattle city, Washington were living in the same residence one year earlier.
**Education**

In 2012, 12 percent of people 25 years and over had a high school diploma or equivalency and 58 percent had a bachelor's degree or higher. Six percent were dropouts; they were not enrolled in school and had not graduated from high school.

The total school enrollment in Seattle city, Washington was 147,000 in 2012. Nursery school and kindergarten enrollment was 15,000 and elementary or high school enrollment was 57,000 children. College or graduate school enrollment was 75,000.
Disability

In Seattle city, Washington, among the civilian noninstitutionalized population in 2012, 9 percent reported a disability. The likelihood of having a disability varied by age - from 2 percent of people under 18 years old, to 7 percent of people 18 to 64 years old, and to 33 percent of those 65 and over.

Employment Status and Type of Employer

In Seattle city, Washington, 68 percent of the population 16 and over were employed; 27 percent were not currently in the labor force.

Seventy-nine percent of the people employed were private wage and salary workers; 14 percent were federal, state, or local government workers; and 7 percent were self-employed in their own (not incorporated) business.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class of worker</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private wage and salary workers</td>
<td>293,833</td>
<td>79.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal, state, or local government workers</td>
<td>51,856</td>
<td>14.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-employed workers in own not incorporated business</td>
<td>25,162</td>
<td>6.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Industries

In 2012, the civilian employed population 16 years and older in Seattle city, Washington worked in the following industries:
Occupations

Occupations for the civilian employed population 16 years and over in Seattle city, Washington in 2012:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Civilian employed population 16 years and over</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Management, business, science, and arts occupations</td>
<td>209,670</td>
<td>56.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service occupations</td>
<td>60,853</td>
<td>16.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales and office occupations</td>
<td>68,666</td>
<td>18.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations</td>
<td>12,624</td>
<td>3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Production, transportation, and material moving occupations</td>
<td>19,492</td>
<td>5.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Commuting to Work

Forty-nine percent of Seattle city, Washington workers drove to work alone in 2012, and 9 percent carpooled. Among those who commuted to work, it took them on average 26 minutes to get to work.
Income

The median income of households in Seattle city, Washington was $64,473. Twelve percent of households had income below $15,000 a year and 15 percent had income over $150,000 or more.
Eighty-three percent of the households received earnings and 12 percent received retirement income other than Social Security. Twenty percent of the households received Social Security. The average income from Social Security was $16,835. These income sources are not mutually exclusive; that is, some households received income from more than one source.
Poverty and Participation in Government Programs

In 2012, 14 percent of people were in poverty. Fifteen percent of related children under 18 were below the poverty level, compared with 12 percent of people 65 years old and over. Seven percent of all families and 22 percent of families with a female householder and no husband present had incomes below the poverty level.
Health Insurance

Among the civilian noninstitutionalized population in Seattle city, Washington in 2012, 89 percent had health insurance coverage and 11 percent did not have health insurance coverage. For those under 18 years of age, 4 percent had no health insurance coverage. The civilian noninstitutionalized population had both private and public health insurance, with 77 percent having private coverage and 21 percent having public coverage.

Population

In 2012, Seattle city, Washington had a total population of 635,000 - 321,000 (51 percent) females and 313,000 (49 percent) males. The median age was 35.9 years. Fifteen percent of the population was under 18 years and 11 percent was 65 years and older.
For people reporting one race alone, 74 percent were White; 8 percent were Black or African American; 1 percent were American Indian and Alaska Native; 16 percent were Asian; less than 0.5 percent were Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, and 2 percent were Some other race. Six percent reported Two or more races. Seven percent of the people in Seattle city, Washington were Hispanic. Sixty-five percent of the people in Seattle city, Washington were White non-Hispanic. People of Hispanic origin may be of any race.

**Housing Characteristics**

In 2012, Seattle city, Washington had a total of 310,000 housing units, 6 percent of which were vacant. Of the total housing units, 49 percent were in single-unit structures, 50 percent were in multi-unit structures, and 1 percent were mobile homes. Twenty-four percent of the housing units were built since 1990.
The median number of rooms in all housing units in Seattle city, Washington is 5. Of these housing units, 38 percent have three or more bedrooms.

**Occupied Housing Unit Characteristics**

In 2012, Seattle city, Washington had 290,000 occupied housing units - 133,000 (46 percent) owner occupied and 157,000 (54 percent) renter occupied. Seventy-seven percent of householders of these units had moved in since 2000. Seventy-four percent of the owner occupied units had a mortgage. Four percent of the households did not have telephone service. Seventeen percent had no vehicles available and another 11 percent had three or more.

Homes in Seattle city, Washington were heated in the following ways:
this category includes utility, bottled, tank, or LP gas

Housing Costs

The median monthly housing costs for mortgaged owners was $2,218, nonmortgaged owners $696, and renters $1,072. Thirty-six percent of owners with mortgages, 16 percent of owners without mortgages, and 46 percent of renters in Seattle city, Washington spent 30 percent or more of household income on housing.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 American Community Survey

Explanation of Symbols:

1. An ‘***’ entry in the margin of error column indicates that either no sample observations or too few sample observations were available to compute a standard error and thus the margin of error. A statistical test is not appropriate.
2. An ‘-’ entry in the estimate column indicates that either no sample observations or too few sample observations were available to compute an estimate, or a ratio of medians cannot be calculated because one or both of the median estimates falls in the lowest interval or upper interval of an open-ended distribution.
3. An ‘-’ following a median estimate means the median falls in the lowest interval of an open-ended distribution.
4. An ‘+’ following a median estimate means the median falls in the upper interval of an open-ended distribution.
5. An ‘*****’ entry in the margin of error column indicates that the median falls in the lowest interval or upper interval of an open-ended distribution. A statistical test is not appropriate.
6. An ‘******’ entry in the margin of error column indicates that the estimate is controlled. A statistical test for sampling variability is not appropriate.
7. An ‘N’ entry in the estimate and margin of error columns indicates that data for this geographic area cannot be displayed because the number of sample cases is too small.
8. An ‘(X)’ means that the estimate is not applicable or not available.