

Group Quarter Relocation Debrief: Processes and Outcomes

March 22, 2022

WA Redistricting Commission

WHAT DOES THE LAW SAY?

[RCW 44.05.140](#)

Residence of certain individuals—Last known place of residence

- (1) After April 1st of each year ending in zero, and by July 1st of each year ending in zero, the department of corrections shall furnish to the redistricting commission the following information regarding the last known place of residence of each inmate incarcerated in a state adult correctional facility:
 - (a) A unique identifier, other than the inmate's department of corrections number; and
 - **(b) Last known place of residence information sufficiently specific to determine the congressional and state legislative districts in which the inmate's last known place of residence is located.**
- (2-3) The same for DSHS and DCYF



WHAT DOES THE LAW SAY?

- (4) The redistricting commission shall:
 - (a) Deem each inmate incarcerated in a state adult correctional facility and person residing or placed in a juvenile justice facility or committed to receive involuntary behavioral health treatment under chapter [71.05](#) RCW as residing at his or her last known place of residence, rather than at the institution of his or her incarceration, residence, or placement;
 - (b) Regardless of the form in which the information is furnished, refrain from publishing any information regarding a specific inmate's or resident's last known place of residence;
 - (c) Deem an **inmate or resident in state custody in Washington whose last known place of residence is outside of Washington or whose last known place of residence cannot be determined to reside at the location of the facility in which the inmate or resident is incarcerated, placed, or committed**; and
 - (d) **Adjust race and ethnicity data in districts, wards, and precincts in a manner that reflects the inclusion of inmates and residents in the population count of the district, ward, or precinct of their last known place of residence.**

WHAT DOES THE LAW SAY?

- (5) For purposes of this section:
- (b) "Last known place of residence" means the **address** at which the inmate or resident was last domiciled prior to his or her placement or current term of incarceration, **as reported by the inmate or resident.**

Conducted Research

- Maryland was able to relocate only 77% of its prison population in 2011.
- New York was able to relocate only 79% of its prison population in 2011-12.
- RDC consulted other states, the departments supplying data, the map tool developer, LEAP, the office of the chief information officer, and the AG's Office.
- Key recommendation to avoid legal trouble:
 - Record our process and decisions – lay some ground rules before beginning
 - Treat each individual case equally.
- Lessons from other states:
 - Relocate to block level
 - No address, inaccurate addresses, and P.O. boxes were not relocated

Protocol adopted based on research applied to WA's law

1-3 (b) Last known place of residence information sufficiently specific to determine the congressional and state legislative districts ([44.05.140](#))

Rule: Since the block level is the smallest level used to draw the district lines, it should serve as the measure for *sufficiently specific*. Addresses that **only** included a city name, zip code, county name or state name are deemed to be incomplete and not sufficiently specific to place in a block.

4 (c) an inmate or resident in state custody in Washington whose last known place of residence is outside of Washington or whose last known place of residence cannot be determined to reside at the location of the facility in which the inmate or resident is incarcerated, placed, or committed. ([44.05.140](#))

Rule: Individuals with prior known addresses that were out of state or could not be accurately geocoded remain located at the state facility where they resided on April 1, 2020.

(d) Adjust race and ethnicity data in districts, wards, and precincts in a manner that reflects the inclusion of inmates and residents in the population count of the district, ward, or precinct of their last known place of residence. ([44.05.140](#))

Rule: This requirement further supports the need for block level relocation.

Special Circumstance of Department of Corrections Data:

While data sets from the three departments (DOC, DSHS, and DCYF) were transmitted to the Secretary of State's office in 2020, the original DOC data set had over 5,000 incomplete entries (just over 30% of the entries) that would not be able to be relocated.

The set also included many other errors, which by our established rules would have deemed them to be insufficiently specific. Staff of the Redistricting Commission (RDC) met with DOC in June 2021 to discuss our needs. DOC explained that the addresses come from the normal intake form that a prisoner fills out when entering the institution, which explains some of the incomplete addresses.

DOC committed to re-canvassing individuals within its institutions to see if the addresses could be improved. RDC asked that they complete the survey and provide a new file by July 2. On **July 6**, DOC provided RDC with a new file that included 94% of the entries filled in.

Relocation Process

- In order to relocate individuals from group quarters, the PL data needed to be adjusted.
- RDC used the Washington Mass Addressing System (WaMAS), a batch geocoder hosted by WaTech. Given that it is a large Washington-based address geocoder, it is smart enough to geocode large amounts of addresses (200,000/hour) that are written in different formats.
- RDC tested the accuracy and limitation of WaMAS prior to beginning the final geocoding.

Relocation Process

- Out-of-state addresses and entries with no address in the DSHS and DCYF files were not relocated: 85 out of a total of 1,087 entries.
- In DOC file, we identified 3,400 entries that would need to be manually verified or corrected.
 - Approximately 1,000 entries = no reported street address
 - Another 300 = insufficient address for geocoding (P.O. Box; homeless without an address; descriptors without an address: “my mom’s house”)
 - 630 were out-of-state addresses.
 - According to [44.05.140](#), 4(c), ~1,900 addresses were left to reside at the facility.

Relocation Process

- **We did not correct an address that could not be geocoded even if there was a suspected typo.** We wanted to keep the process as objective as possible, many typos or incorrect data inputs required too much subjectivity.
- RDC could not “guess” what the entry was supposed to be, and section 5 (b) of the RCW states that the prior known residence is **an ADDRESS AS PROVIDED by the individual.**
- Addresses were found for entries such as “King County Jail” because an address exists and can be verified. Facilities such as the “King County Jail” are not administered by the state and so, according to [44.05.140](#), inmates could be relocated to this type of facility, as well as to locatable parks, chapels, streets, and camps.
- Others were adjusted to remove superfluous information that could confuse the WaMAS system. For example, ‘trailer #2 with his mom at dandleton trailer park, (xxx)-phonenumber’. In this instance, the city and zip were used to find the address of ‘dandleton trailer park,’ and all other info was moved to another cell.

Race and Ethnicity, 2020 PL

Census Code	Field Name	Description	Adjusted
P0010001	TAPERSONS	Total Population	Y
P0010002	TA1RACE	Total:Population of one race	Y
P0010003	TAWHITEALN	Total:White alone	Y
P0010004	TABLACKALN	Total:Black or African American alone	Y
P0010005	TAAMINDALN	Total:American Indian and Alaska Native alone	Y
P0010006	TAASIANALN	Total:Asian alone	Y
P0010007	TANHPOALN	Total:Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	Y
P0010008	TAOTHERALN	Total:Some Other Race alone	Y
P0010009	TA2RACE	Total:Two or More Races	Y
P0020002	TAHISPANIC	Total Hispanic or Latino	Y
P0020003	TNHISPANIC	Total Not Hispanic or Latino	Y
P0020004	TN1RACE	Not Hispanic or Latino: Population of one race	Y
P0020005	TNWHALN	Not Hispanic or Latino: White alone	Y
P0020006	TNBLKALN	Not Hispanic or Latino: Black or African American alone	Y
P0020007	TNAIANALN	Not Hispanic or Latino: American Indian and Alaska Native alone	Y
P0020008	TNASIANALN	Not Hispanic or Latino: Asian alone	Y
P0020009	TNNHPOALN	Not Hispanic or Latino: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	Y
P0020010	TNOTHRALN	Not Hispanic or Latino: Some Other Race alone	Y
P0020011	TN2MRACES	Not Hispanic or Latino: Two or More Races	Y

Race and Ethnicity, 2020 PL

- Values in this data set can be negative in the race and ethnicity detail.

Various factors can contribute to negative values:

- the facility data could be temporally out of sync with the Census.
- the race and ethnicity categories used by these facilities often do not match those used by the Census and were missing in some cases
- The Census also introduced increased Differential Privacy (DP) into this decade's counts. DP introduces random error into the data to protect individual privacy. At the block level, this error can be very large.

Washington Outcome compared to Maryland and New York

Washington									
Department	Received	Relocated	RelRatio %	Out of state	OoS%	insufficient address	iAdd%	Insufficient Geocode	iGeo%
DOC	17,102	14,257	83.4	630	3.7	1,380	8.1	835	4.9
DSHS	652	622	95.4	0	0.0	30	4.6	0	0.0
DCYF	435	380	87.4	4	0.9	51	11.7	0	0.0
Total	18,189	15,259	83.9	634	3.5	1,461	8.0	835	4.6
MD									
Department	Received	Relocated	RelRatio %	Out of state	%	insufficient address	iAdd%	Insufficient Geocode	iGeo%
DOC	22,064	17,140	77.7	1321	6.0	2,037	9.2	1,566	7.1
Total	22,064	17,140	77.7	1321	6.0	2,037	9.2	1,566	7.1
NY									
Department	Received	Relocated	RelRatio %	Out of state	%	insufficient address	iAdd%	Insufficient Geocode	iGeo%
DOCC	58,237	46,003	79.0	2,433	4.2	1,276	2.2	8,525	14.6
Total	58,237	46,003	79.0	2,433	4.2	1,276	2.2	8,525	14.6

Details on Outcomes

Breakdown of results:

- Total Entries Received: 18,189
- Entries Relocated: 15,259
- Relocation Ratio: 84%

Department of Corrections:

- Total Entries: 17,102
- Total Relocated: 14,257
- Relocation Ratio: 83.4%

Entries not relocated:

- Out of State: 630, or 3.7%
- No address provided: 1,061, or 6.2%
- Insufficient accuracy of **entry** to geocode (P.O. Box, county/city only, homeless declared without a location): 319, or 1.9%
- Insufficient accuracy from geocoding **output**: 835, or 4.9%

Details on Outcomes

Department of Social and Human Services:

- Total Entries: 652
- Total Relocated: 622
- Relocation Ratio: 95%

Entries Not Relocated:

- No address provided: 30, or 4.6%

Department of Children, Youth and Families:

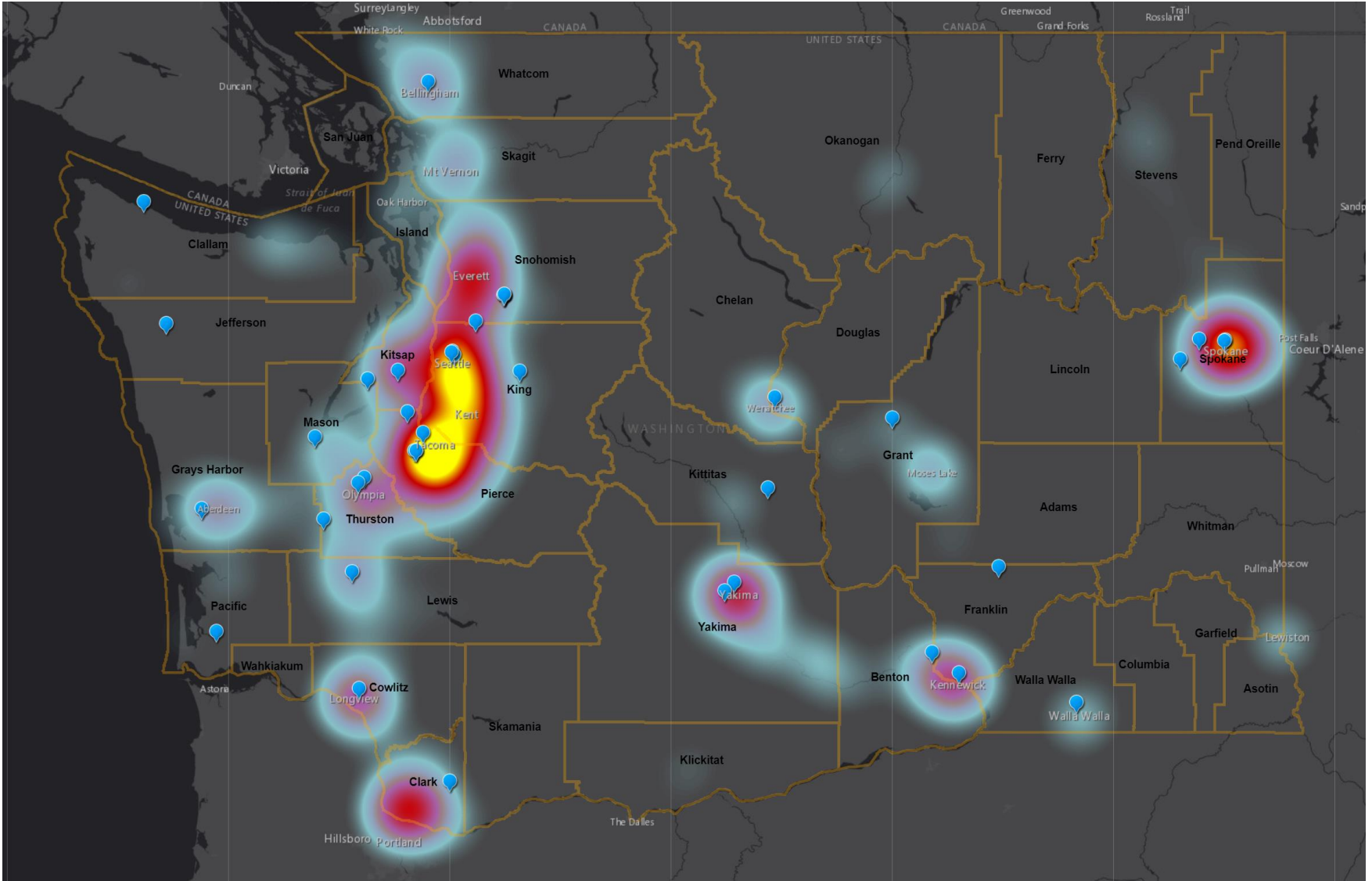
- Total Entries: 435
- Total Relocated: 380
- Relocation Ratio: 87%

Entries Not Relocated:

- No address provided: 51, or 11.7%
- Out of State: 4, or 0.92%

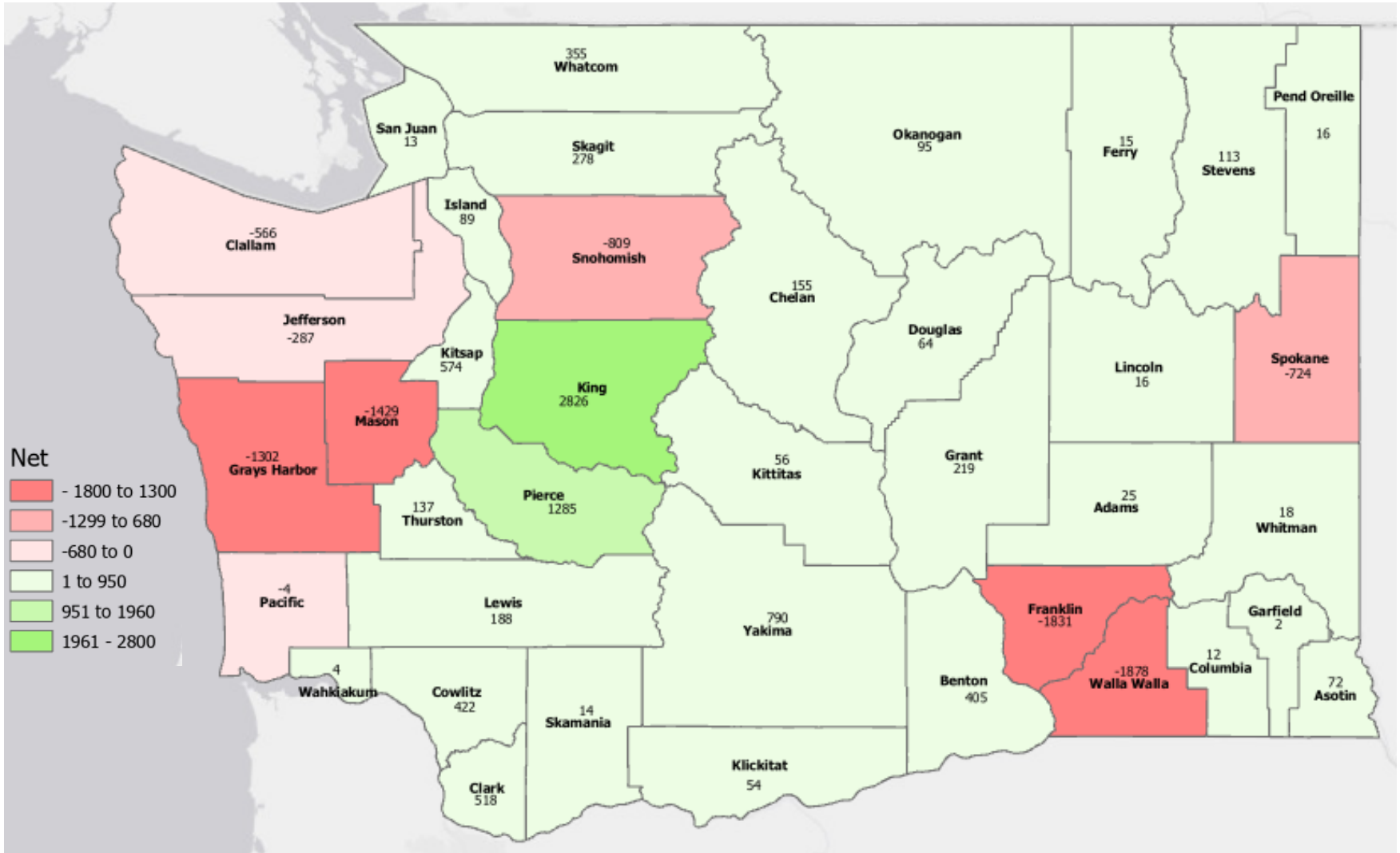
Heat map with relocations represented

(blue balloon is a facility, more intense colors = more people relocated to that area)





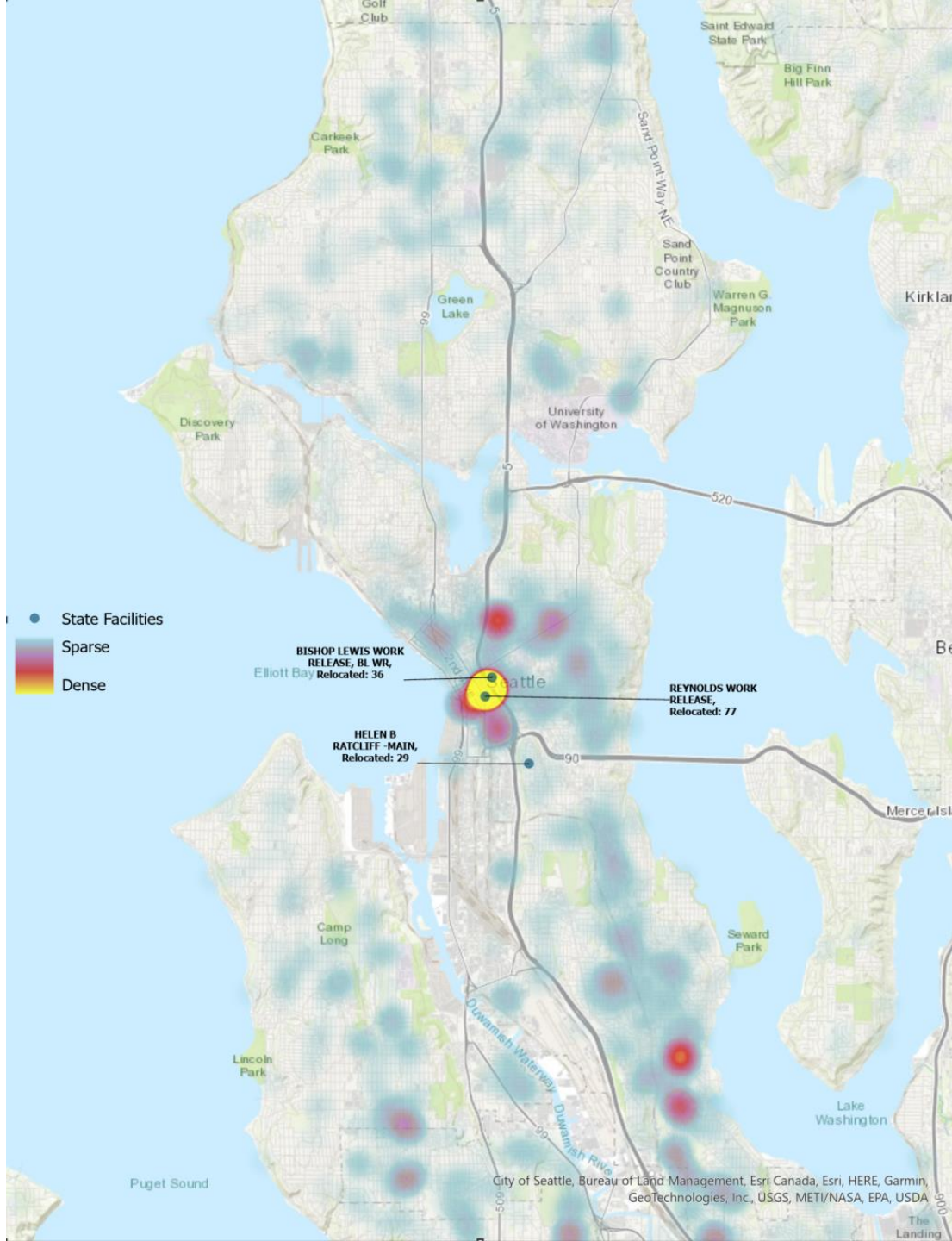
Net Population Change by County



Net Population Change by County

County	To	From	Net
Adams	25	0	25
Asotin	72	0	72
Benton	441	36	405
Chelan	155	0	155
Clallam	139	705	-566
Clark	927	409	518
Columbia	12	0	12
Cowlitz	488	66	422
Douglas	75	11	64
Ferry	15	0	15
Franklin	195	2026	-1831
Garfield	2	0	2
Grant	233	14	219
Grays Harb	354	1656	-1302
Island	89	0	89
Jefferson	31	318	-287
King	3080	254	2826
Kitsap	611	37	574
Kittitas	68	12	56

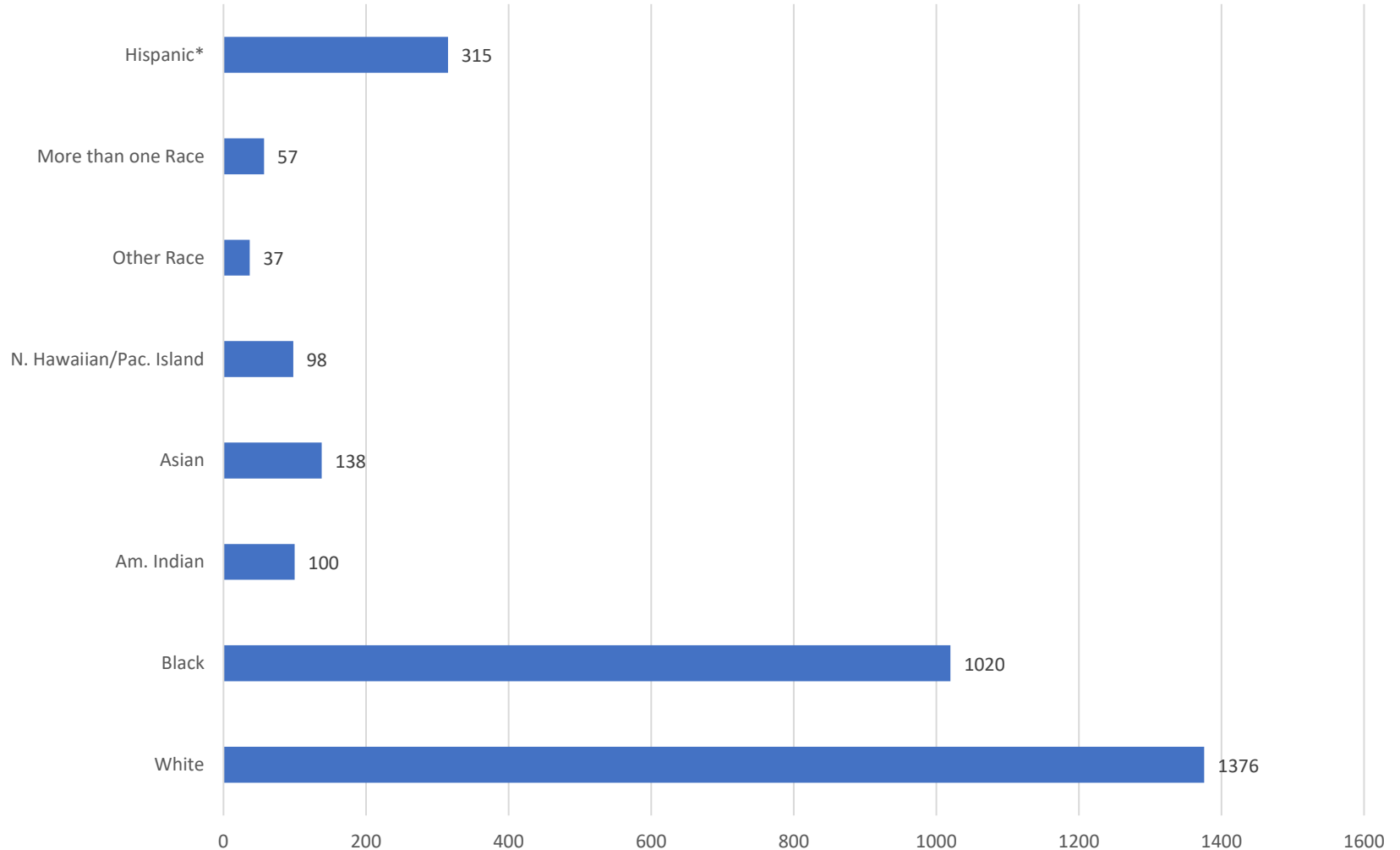
County	To	From	Net
Klickitat	54	0	54
Lewis	303	115	188
Lincoln	16	0	16
Mason	184	1613	-1429
Okanogan	95	0	95
Pacific	67	71	-4
Pend Oreill	16	0	16
Pierce	2582	1297	1285
San Juan	13	0	13
Skagit	278	0	278
Skamania	14	0	14
Snohomish	1299	2108	-809
Spokane	1275	1999	-724
Stevens	113	0	113
Thurston	565	428	137
Wahkiakur	4	0	4
Walla Wall	89	1967	-1878
Whatcom	392	37	355
Whitman	18	0	18
Yakima	870	80	790





Results King County

Net Race/Ethnicity Relocated to King County



Questions?

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Adjusted Data (see bottom of OFM's census data releases PL 94-171 accordion)

<https://ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics/decennial-census/2020-census-everyone-counts/2020-census-what-you-need-know/2020-census-data-releases>