

KITSAP COUNTY TRENDS IN DEMOGRAPHICS & SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

Demographics describe the characteristics of a population while the social determinants of health are conditions in which people are born, live, work, and age. The conditions substantially shape the overall health of individuals and our community and can be influenced by power imbalances, discrimination, and racism. Research demonstrates these influences increase adverse health impacts for some populations relative to others.

INCOME & HOUSING



In 2021, **one in five (19%) of Kitsap residents** were estimated to live below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level. This rate has decreased since 2013.



From 2014 to 2022, the rate of Kitsap residents experiencing homelessness increased. In January 2022, **two in every 1,000 Kitsap residents** were unhoused.



52%

of Kitsap renters spent **more than 30% of their monthly income on housing** in 2021.



49%

of Washington renters spent **more than 30% of their monthly income on housing** in 2021.



HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING FOOD-RELATED ASSISTANCE

In 2021, **about 12% of Kitsap households** received SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits. That figure has declined since 2010. More research is needed to understand whether this trend is driven by a decrease in eligibility or by barriers to accessing SNAP services.

MEETING BASIC NEEDS

In general, Kitsap residents reported during the 2022 Kitsap Community Resources survey that **cost was a primary barrier preventing them from meeting basic needs** for housing, food, reliable transportation, and childcare.

Participants in eight of 10 focus groups spoke of ongoing challenges they face in meeting basic needs for themselves and their families.



DISPARITIES IN DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH



ECONOMIC STABILITY

Subgroups with the most **economic challenges** in 2021:

- Among race/ethnicities: The estimated median household income for **American Indian/Alaskan Native community members** was estimated at \$59,000 in comparison with white community members at \$90,000.
- Among Kitsap regions: Nearly one in three (32%) **Bremerton residents** lived below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level, the highest percentage of any Kitsap region.



EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Subgroups with the **lowest graduation rates** and **highest homelessness rates** during the 2020-21 school year:

- Among all residents: Of the 152 **12th grade students recorded as experiencing homelessness**, only about half (53%) graduated high school within four years compared with 83% of their housed peers.
- Among Kitsap regions: Approximately 64% of **Bremerton public school students** graduated in four years, compared with 94% on Bainbridge Island.



FOOD INSECURITY

Subgroups with the highest percentages of **reported food insecurity** in 2021:

- Among age groups: A higher percentage of **Kitsap youth** (younger than 18 years old) experienced food insecurity (11%) than the general population (8%).
- Among race/ethnicities: **Black/African American residents and Hispanic/Latino residents** were more likely to report food insecurity (18% and 16%, respectively) than white residents (7%).



HOUSING STABILITY

Subgroups with the highest percentages **financially burdened by housing costs** in 2021:

- Among housing types: **Renter households** were more likely to pay more than 30% of their monthly income on housing than owner households. Among renter households, the percentage of households burdened by cost ranged from 33% in Bainbridge Island to 53% in Bremerton.
- Among Kitsap regions: 3.5% of **Bremerton public school students** experienced homelessness, a higher percentage than any other Kitsap County region.

SOURCES

- American Community Survey (ACS), U.S. Census Bureau (2017-2021)
- Washington State Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (2020-2021)
- Feeding America data (2021)
- Point in Time Count Results, Kitsap County Department of Human Services, Washington State Department of Commerce (2022)

LEARN MORE

VIEW THE FULL REPORT

Kitsap Public Health published a detailed Community Health Assessment in 2023. Scan the code with a smartphone camera to view the full report.



HAVE QUESTIONS?

We'd love to provide any answers that we can.

Our office is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. every weekday. Call 360-728-2235.



Reach us via email at epi@kitsappublichealth.org.

