

FAST FACTS



Tacoma + Pierce County, Wash. is a place for people unafraid to trek through the woods of Mount Rainier in the rain, fearless of breaking a sweat in the heat of the hot shop while blowing glass and resiliently tilling the soil that grows some of the world's best rhubarb.

PIERCE COUNTY - 1,679 SQ. MI. [pop. 843,954]

Second most populous county in Washington state

Geography

From Puget Sound in the west and the southeastern flank of Kitsap Peninsula [including Gig Harbor and Key Peninsula], through Mount Rainier National Park in the east, with the White River forming much of the northern boundary and the Nisqually River forming much of the southern border.

Altitude

- Sea level to 440 ft. in the Tacoma metro area
- 14,411 ft. at the summit of Mount Rainier

Average Rainfall

- 39 inches [less than New York, Boston, Houston
- and Miami], 75 percent of which falls October
- through March
- Driest month: July
- Wettest month: December

AVERAGE TEMPERATURE

- Summer [70-80 f, 21-26 c]
- Winter [40-50 f, 4-10 c]
- Spring/Fall [55-65 f, 13-18 c]

LARGEST COMMUNITIES

Tacoma [pop. 211,277]

World-class museums, Chihuly Bridge of Glass, arts and collector vehicles

Lakewood [pop. 60,665]

Beautiful lakes, gardens, golf and the 340-acre Fort Steilacoom Park

Puyallup [pop. 40,640]

Washington State Fair, Daffodil Festival, Arts Downtown Outdoor Gallery

DISTANCE FROM TACOMA TO:

Seattle-Tacoma International Airport

- 18 miles [29 km]

Seattle, Wash.

- 36 miles [58 km]

Portland, Ore.

- 142 miles [228 km]

Vancouver, B.C.

- 174 miles [280 km]

ACCOMMODATIONS

- Approximately 5,700 rooms at premier business class hotels and quality motels
- More than 25 bed + breakfast inns and 300+ Airbnb hosted lodgings

2016 VISITOR STATS

- 6.3 million visitors (a new record)
- \$1.13 billion in spending (a new record)

data source: Dean Runyan Associates, 2016

A LOOK AT THE AVERAGE VISITOR

- Group size: 2.1
- Length of stay [nights]: 2.9
- Spends: \$522

FAST FACTS



MOVIES FILMED HERE

- 10 Things I Hate About You
- Say Anything
- The Fugitive
- The Hand That Rocked The Cradle
- I Love You To Death
- Sweet Revenge
- Get Carter
- Born To Be Wild
- Prefontaine

ENTERTAINERS BORN HERE

- Bing Crosby [singer]
- Vicci Martinez [singer]
- Bruce Bennett [actor]
- Dyan Canon [actress]
- Jerry Cantrell [guitarist]
- Nathan Gamble [actor]
- Bobby Hutchins [actor]
- Dave Krusen [drummer, Pearl Jam]
- Pamela Reed [actress, Parks + Recreation]

AUTHORS AND ARTISTS BORN HERE

- Dale Chihuly [glass artist]
- Gary Larsen [cartoonist, The Far Side]
- Frank Herbert [author, Dune]
- Richard Brautigan [author]
- Scott Cairns [poet]
- Howard Bretheron [film director]

ATHLETES BORN HERE

- Brothers Desmond, Isaiah and Marcus and Trufont [football, Seattle Seahawks]
- Ben Archibald [football]
- Lee Artoe [football]
- Steve DeOssie [football]
- Fred Forsberg [football]
- Austin Seferian-Jenkins [football]
- Mark Peterson [soccer, Seattle Sounders]
- Jon Lester [baseball]
- Isaiah Thomas [basketball]
- Avery Bradley [basketball]
- Alex Montgomery [women's basketball]
- Kyle Stanley [golf]
- Andrew Putnam [golf]

FAMOUS STATESMEN AND POLITICIANS

- Booth Gardner [former Governor of Wash.]
- Al Swift [former Governor of Wash.]
- Brad Owen [Lt. Governor of Wash.]
- David F. Musto [Presidential adviser on drug policy under Nixon, Ford and Carter]
- Addison Foster [Senator from Wash.]
- John Ehrlichman [Assistant to the President under Nixon]

CURRENT POLITICIANS

Governor

- Jay Inslee [D]

U.S. Senators

- Patty Murray [D]
- Maria Cantwell [D]

U.S. Representatives

- Suzan DelBene [D – 1st District]
- Rick Larsen [D – 2nd District]
- Jaime Herrera Beutler [R – 3rd District]
- Dan Newhouse [R – 4th District]
- Cathy McMorris Rodgers [R – 5th District]
- Derek Kilmer [D – 6th District*]
- Pramila Jayapal [D – 7th District]
- David Reichert [R – 8th District*]
- Adam Smith [D – 9th District*]
- Denny Heck [D – 10th District*]

* Indicates district includes part of Pierce County

MAJOR UNIVERSITIES

- Pacific Lutheran University
- University of Puget Sound
- University of Washington –Tacoma