Fire Protection Districts (Unincorporated Parts)

The Washington State Office of Financial Management (OFM) produces annual estimates of total population, household population, group quarter population, total housing units, and occupied housing units for the unincorporated portions of fire protection districts (FPDs) as part of the Small Area Estimate Program (SAEP). The FPD estimates are based on geographic boundaries provided by the Washington Surveying and Rating Bureau (WSRB). The WSRB FPD boundaries are depicted in a series of maps intended to orientate the user with the estimate area. Please report any boundary discrepancies to Washington Surveying and Rating Bureau.

Please note that the FPD estimates do not include population and housing associated with incorporated cities and towns. It is common for FPDs to contract with local jurisdictions to provide services within those jurisdictions. These arrangements are not reflected in the estimates or the maps. If your FPD also includes an incorporated city or town, consider adding the appropriate population and housing values from the OFM April 1 official population estimates program to the SAEP estimates to produce estimates of total population and housing. If your FPD does not include any incorporated areas, then simply use OFM’s April 1 estimates.

Please also note that the WSRB boundaries may differ from the Washington State Department of Revenue (DOR) fire district boundaries used for the computation of property tax. The WSRB boundaries were used for the FPD estimates because they provide a clear demarcation between incorporated and unincorporated areas whereas the DOR boundaries are not as consistent.

For more information about fire districts and the areas covered by them, please see the following websites:

- Washington State Legislature - Title 52 RCW, Fire protection districts
- Washington State Department of Revenue - Tax Code Area Boundaries
- Municipal Research and Services Center of Washington
- Washington Fire Commissioners Association

For more information about the methodology behind SAEP estimates, please see the SAEP User Guide.

If you have any questions about the SAEP FPD estimates, please contact Tom Kimpel at 360.902.0596 or thomas.kimpel@ofm.wa.gov.

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