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## PREFACE

The Washington State Data Book presents a variety of information on Washington, its people, economy and government in one reference document.

The Data Book comprises 11 major chapters: Population, Economy, State Government Finance, Human Services, Criminal Justice, Education, Natural Resources, Environment, Energy, Transportation and Local Government. These sections represent the types of information most frequently requested by users.

The information is obtained from state and federal agencies as well as private business. It would be impossible to compile and publish the Data Book without the cooperation of these contributing agencies. We thank them and their research staff members. Agency names, addresses, general information and telephone numbers are listed in Contributing Agencies at <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/databook/contributing.asp>.

Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the data presented in the Data Book. Because the Data Book is published every two years, much of the material is subject to updates, and these data might not be the most recent official agency information.

## WASHINGTON STATE HISTORICAL FACTS AND SYMBOLS

State Seal:



State Capital: Olympia  
Governor: Jay Inslee

- 1579 Sir Francis Drake sailed up the Pacific Northwest Coast and named the entire region New Albion.
- 1775 Spain laid claim to the area.
- 1792 Many of our state landmarks named by Capt. George Vancouver. Capt. Robert Gray explored the lower reaches of the Columbia River.
- 1805–06 Lewis and Clark expedition explored the Northwest and reached the Pacific Ocean at the mouth of the Columbia River.
- 1818 Fort Walla Walla built by the North West Company. This enabled the United States to claim joint occupancy of the Oregon Territory with England.
- 1819 Spain gave the United States any and all rights claimed by Spain to the Oregon country.
- 1846 Oregon Territory became a part of the United States when the United States and Great Britain agreed to the 49<sup>th</sup> parallel as the northern U.S. boundary.
- 1848 Oregon Territory was established with Washington as the northern part of the territory.
- 1853 Washington Territory, separate from Oregon, was created. Isaac Stevens was the first territorial governor.
- 1863 Idaho Territory was created from part of the Washington Territory.
- 1889 Washington admitted to the United States on Nov. 11 as the 42<sup>nd</sup> state. Elisha Ferry was the first elected governor of Washington.
- 1941 Grand Coulee Dam completed.
- 1980 Mount St. Helens erupted in May.
- 1989 Washington celebrated 100 years of statehood.

Nickname: The Evergreen State

Fruit: Apple

Motto: Alki, meaning "bye and bye"

Flower: Coast Rhododendron

Ship: "Lady Washington"

Tree: Western Hemlock

Song: "Washington, My Home"  
by Helen Davis

Fossil: Columbian Mammoth of North America

Folk Song: "Roll On Columbia, Roll On"  
by Woody Guthrie

Bird: Willow Goldfinch Fish: Steelhead Trout

Dance: Square Dance

Grass: Bluebunch Wheatgrass

Gem: Petrified Wood

Insect: Common Green Darner Dragonfly

Arboretum: Washington Park Arboretum

Waterfall: Palouse Falls

Colors: Green and Gold

Marine Mammal: Orca

Tartan: *Background*: green, (rich forests) *perpendicular bands*: blue (lakes, rivers and ocean); white (snow-capped mountains); red (apple and cherry crops); yellow (wheat and grain crops); black (eruption of Mt. St. Helens).

Endemic Mammal: Olympic Marmot

Vegetable: Walla Walla Sweet Onion

Amphibian: Pacific Chorus Frog

Oyster: *Ostrea lurida*; aka: Native, Western, Shoalwater, Olympia

## DATA NOTES

Many data series published in the Washington State Data Book are available in separate publications released by the contributing agencies. These source documents generally provide updated data on a more frequent and detailed basis than the Data Book, in addition to data definitions and user information not included in the Data Book.

The contributing agency websites and contact information are provided at <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/databook/contributing.asp>. Please contact the contributing agencies for additional data, explanations or updated information.

Unless otherwise noted, the time periods in this publication are either calendar year or fiscal year. The following types of fiscal year are used in the tables:

State fiscal year – July 1 through the following June 30.

Federal fiscal year — Oct. 1 through the following Sept. 30.

School fiscal year – Sept. 1 through the following Aug. 31.

Biennium – Two-year fiscal period starting July 1 of an odd-numbered year and ending June 30 of the next odd-numbered year.

Real or constant dollars are dollars that have been adjusted to account for the effect of inflation. This adjustment is made in relation to a base year. Statistics from years after the base year are adjusted down by inflation; those before are adjusted up. This allows actual (or real) changes to be observed.

Current or nominal dollars have not been adjusted in any manner.

Financial data are in current dollars unless otherwise noted.