

## JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH ASSESSMENT UPDATE February 20, 2003

**Background.** The first major presentation of assessment-related information was made by Jefferson County Health and Human Services (JCHHS) in May 1996 at Fort Worden. The focus was the mid-decade projections from the 1990 census and fragmentary data from school surveys.

The next public meeting was in January 2001 at the Washington State University Port Hadlock Extension Office. This presentation compared 20 years of birth-related health indicators and mortality rates for Jefferson County residents with those for Washington State and also included preliminary results from the short form of the US Census of 2000<sup>1</sup>. Based on community response at this meeting, a year-long Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)<sup>1</sup> of a randomly selected sample of 600 Jefferson County adult residents age 18+ was conducted.

In March 2002, JCHHS reported summary results from the BRFSS to the Board of Health. BRFSS data have been presented to many governmental and non-governmental organizations and have been utilized in grant applications. Awards to date in grant-related funds total \$280,000.

In fall of 2002, detailed information from the 2000 Census – information coming from the SF3 “long” form, was made available at varying levels of geography including state, county, city, metropolitan areas, census-defined places, American Indian reservations, census divisions, tracts and blocks.

In this report, SF 3 data (Census long form) for six census-defined places are used: Port Townsend, Port Hadlock/Irondale, Port Ludlow, Marrowstone, Brinnon, and Quilcene. Together these six places have 16,084 of the county’s 25,953 residents (62%). The West End, with 593 residents, is included as a census county division. Results of these analyses are set forth in 13 points, which focus on disparities among age compositions and poverty by place because these disparities may be related to disparities in health indicators.

Readers are encouraged to review Appendix I: Technical notes to clarify definitions, descriptions, and terms. Additionally, Appendix II: Jefferson County Maps provides a visual for the Census and ZIP Code geography referenced in this document.

**1. Jefferson County's population is significantly older than Washington State's.  
(Note data source—Census 2000).**

The age composition of a place is an important predictor of its demand for health care services. People age 65+ generally account for 50% of all health care expenditures, and as that age segment becomes 75 and 85, its demand for health care increases.

Jefferson County's *median age*<sup>1</sup> has been steadily increasing in the past 23 years, from 35 years in 1980 to 47.4 years in 2002 (Figure 1). Median age has been increasing in the state as well, but Jefferson County's median age has always been higher than the state's, and the size of that gap has increased over the past 23 years. In 2002, median age for the state was only 35.8 years.

In 2001, 5,474 of the county's *residents*<sup>1</sup> (21.5%) were 65 or older, nearly twice the state rate, 11.2% (Figure 2). Five hundred and eighty people (2.2%) were 85 or older, about 50% higher than the state rate, 1.5% (Figure 3). Most people 85 or older require some assistance with *activities of daily living*<sup>1</sup> if they are to remain in their homes.

Figure 1: Median Age—Jefferson County & Washington State

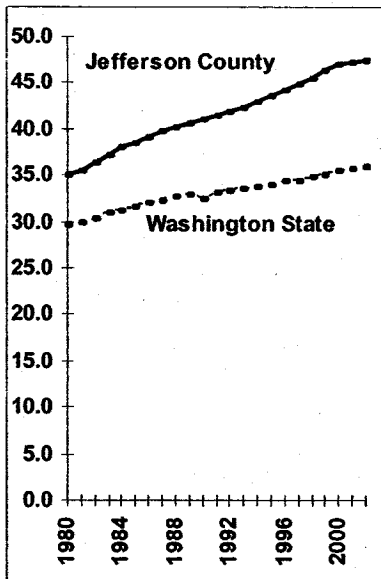


Figure 2: Percent Population 65+ Jefferson County & Washington State

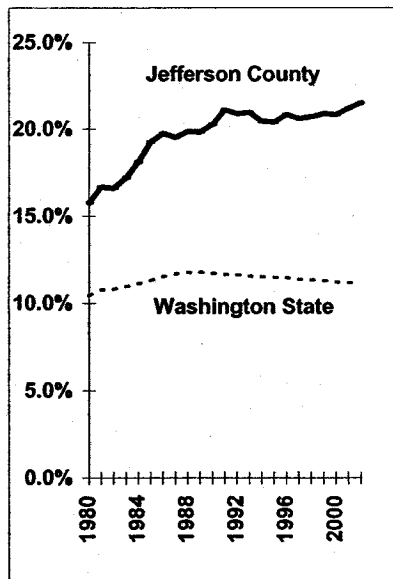
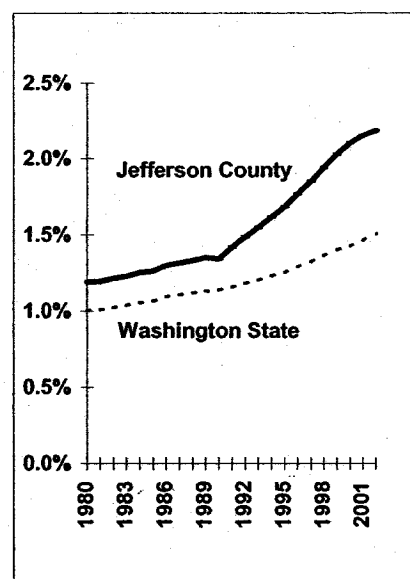


Figure 3: Percent Population 85+ Jefferson County & Washington State

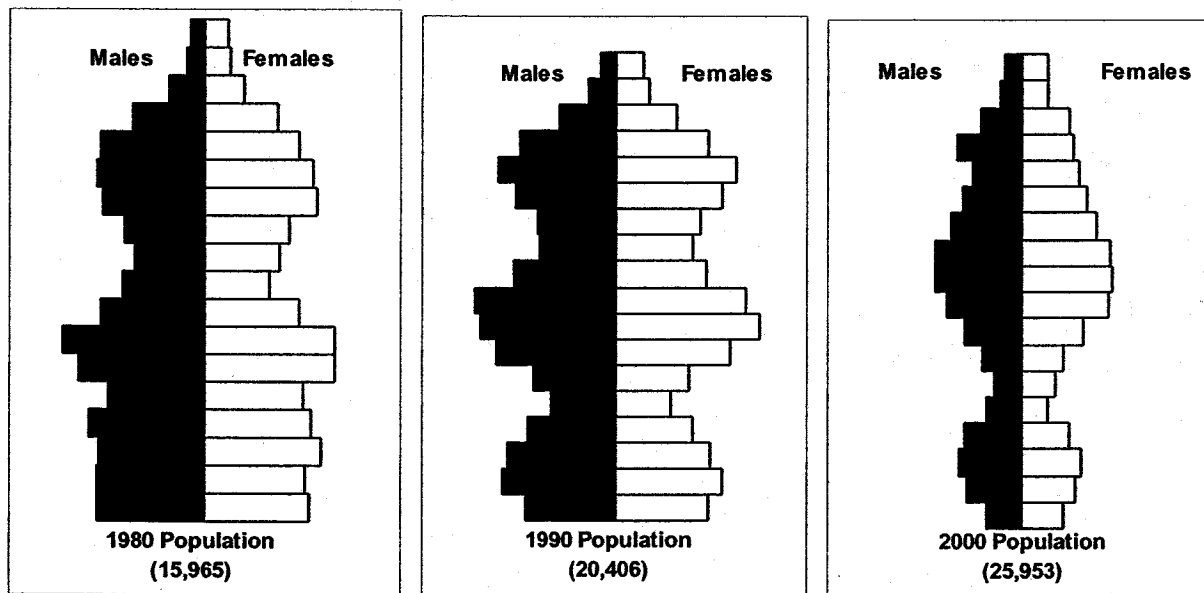


Source: US censuses, 1980, 1990, 2000. OFM intercensal estimates, 1981-89 and 1991-99. All numbers are final. 2001 and later, OFM intercensal projections. Projected numbers are subject to change.

**2. The age compositions of places within the county are different. (Note data source—Census 2000).**

Jefferson County's population in 2000 shows the classic pattern of an aging county with a narrow base, constriction in the ages when people typically seek post-secondary training (about 18-29) and in the early working ages, then expansion through the 50s and 60s, until mortality begins to again constrict the population (Figure 4). In the county overall in 2000, about one in five people was younger than 18 and another one in five was 65+.

Figure 4: Jefferson County Population Profiles, 1980, 1990, and 2000



Source: US Census

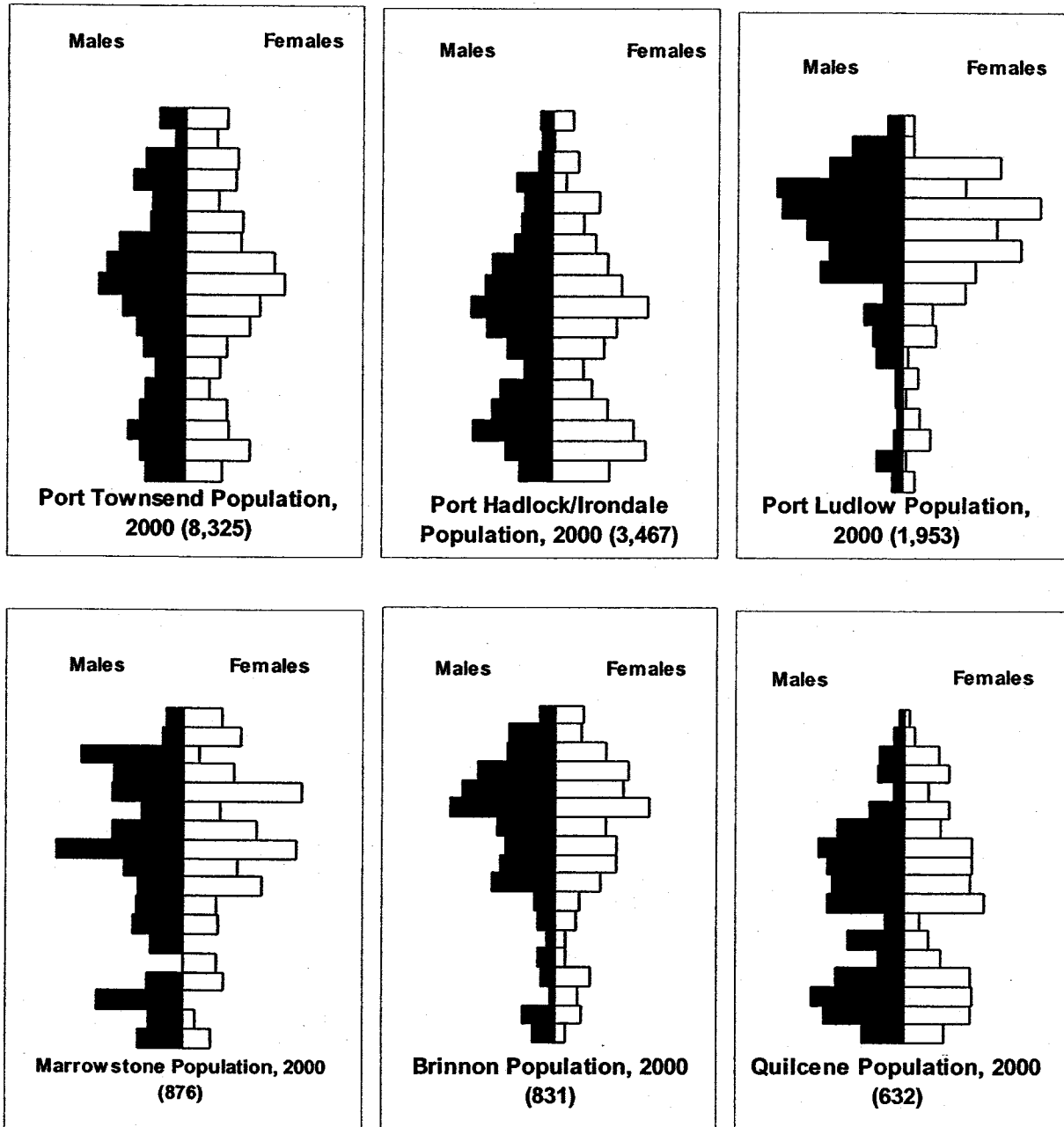
Port Townsend's age composition in 2000 echoes that of the county overall. In contrast, Port Hadlock/Irondale, Quilcene, and the West End have younger age compositions than the county. Port Ludlow, Marrowstone, and Brinnon all have markedly older age compositions than the county (Table 1 and Figure 5).

Table 1: Population by Place

Place	Total Pop.	% <18	% 18-34	% 35-64	% 65+
Jefferson Co.	25,953	19.7%	12.4%	46.8%	21.0%
Port Townsend	8,325	19.7%	13.3%	46.2%	20.8%
Port Hadlock/ Irondale	3,467	25.8%	17.4%	42.2%	12.6%
Port Ludlow	1,953	6.1%	4.8%	45.9%	43.2%
Marrowstone	876	15.1%	9.4%	43.9%	31.6%
Brinnon	831	10.3%	7.2%	46.7%	35.7%
Quilcene	632	29.0%	13.0%	46.4%	11.7%
West End	599	30.5%	17.0%	40.5%	11.8%

Source: US Census 2000

Figure 5: Jefferson County 2000 Population, Census-defined places



Source: US Census

**3. Poverty rates in Jefferson County in 1999 were generally higher than in the state, but rates varied from place to place within the county. (Note data source—Census 2000).**

Poverty<sup>1</sup> is a term used to describe situations when people do not have enough money to meet their basic needs for food, shelter, clothing, and other essentials of life. In estimating the need for publicly funded programs, poverty rates are often used.

Poverty rates are often determined by the household income. In Jefferson County, *median household income*<sup>1</sup> varies markedly from place to place. The 1999 median household income for all 11,649 Jefferson County households was \$37,869, lower than the state average, \$45,776 (Table 2). In fact, for the past two decades, Jefferson County's median household income has been about 80% of the state average.

Table 2: Median Household Income by Place

Place	Total Households	Median Household Income.
Jefferson Co.	11,694	\$37,869
Port Townsend	3,912	\$34,536
Port Hadlock/Irondale	1407	\$27,885
Port Ludlow	943	\$56,938
Marrowstone	394	\$38,182
Quilcene	238	\$40,385
Brinnon	422	\$27,885
West End	71	\$19,931

Source: Census 2000

Like median household income, poverty rates among people in a given place are very different (Table 3). Poverty rates were above the county average in the West End, Quilcene, Port Hadlock/Irondale, Port Townsend, and Brinnon but lower than the county average in Marrowstone and Port Ludlow. However, Port Townsend had the largest *number* of people living in poverty followed by Port Hadlock/Irondale, the West End, Brinnon, Quilcene, Marrowstone and Port Ludlow.

Table 3: People Who Live Below Poverty by Place

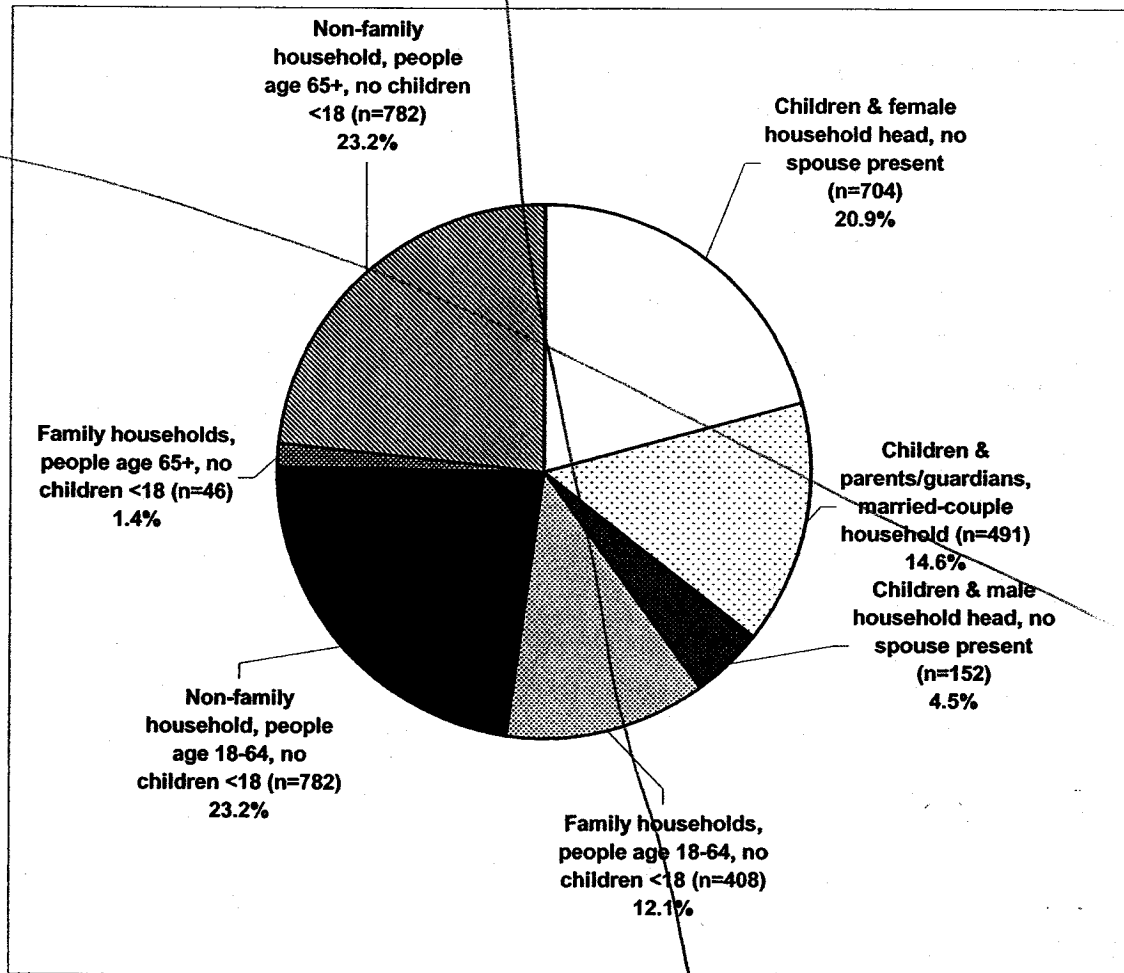
Place	Total Pop.	People < 100 %FPL	% Below 100% FPL
Jefferson Co.	25,953	2,899	11.3%
Port Townsend	8,325	1,160	14.0%
Port Hadlock/Irondale	3,467	496	14.4%
Port Ludlow	1,953	24	1.2%
Marrowstone	876	35	4.0%
Brinnon	831	115	13.8%
Quilcene	632	95	15.2%
West End	593	241	40.6%

Source: Census 2000

**4. The universe of people in poverty consists of three segments; children younger than 18 and their parents or guardians, people age 18-64, and people age 65+. (Note data source—Census 2000).**

The largest single group of people in poverty<sup>1</sup> are children younger than 18 and their parents or guardians who, together, account for nearly half of all people in poverty (Table 4). People age 65+ made up 11% of all Jefferson County residents living in poverty in 1999. People age 18-34 without children account for another 35% of those living in poverty; 23% lived on non-family households, and 12% lived in family households.

Table 4: People who live below 100% FPL by living arrangements



Source: US Census

**5. Poverty rates among children are higher in Jefferson County than in Washington State, and rates differ sharply by place. One in six children younger than 18 in Jefferson County lives below poverty. (Note data source—Census 2000).**

The 2000 census reported that 818 of the county's 4,938 children younger than 18 lived in households with incomes below the poverty rate (16.6%, Table 5). This rate is higher than the state child poverty rate, 13.2%. Within the county, child poverty is concentrated in five places, Port Hadlock/Irondale, the West End, Brinnon, Quilcene, and Port Townsend.

Table 5: Poverty rates of children <18 by place

Place	Children <18	Children < 18 @ 100% FPL	% <100% FPL
Washington State			13.2%
Jefferson Co.	4,938	818	16.6%
Port Townsend	1,549	295	19.0%
Port Hadlock/ Irondale	945	104	20.5%
Port Ludlow	119	0	0%
Marrowstone	132	0	0%
Quilcene	170	34	20.0%
Brinnon	86	20	23.3%
West End	176	104	59.0%

Source: US Census 2000

**6. Jefferson County mothers are significantly more likely to be unmarried and to have their pregnancies and deliveries paid for by Medicaid (the federal-state insurance program for poor women and their children) than in the state. More than half of the births in Jefferson County are paid for by Medicaid. (Note data source: Vital Statistics database by ZIP Code).**

Two risk factors, being unmarried and having a delivery paid for by Medicaid, the federal-state health insurance partnership for low-income women and their infants, are associated with long-term poverty. (To meet Medicaid eligibility the annual household income must be less than 185% of the Federal Poverty Level). Unmarried mothers, as a group, tend to have higher rates of smoking in pregnancy and lower rates of early prenatal care. They also tend to have less income, so that they and their children face all the risks consequent on poverty.

In Jefferson County, roughly 3 out of 10 births occur to unmarried mothers; this same pattern occurs in ZIP Codes 98368 (Port Townsend area) and 98376 (Quilcene area, Table 6). In ZIP Code 98339 (Port Hadlock/Irondale), roughly 3 out of 5 births occur to unmarried mothers. Rates for 98358 (Marrowstone), 98320 (Brinnon area), and the West End are too small to report.

Additionally, over half the births to Jefferson County mothers in 1997-2001 were paid for by Medicaid (Table 6). This is considerably higher than the state rate. With the exception of 98365 (Port Ludlow area), over half the births by ZIP Code were paid for by Medicaid. Rates for 98358 (Marrowstone), 98320 (Brinnon area), and the West End are too small to report

Table 6: 1997-2001 Marital Status and Medicaid paid deliveries of birth mothers for all births, by ZIP Code

Place	% Unmarried	% Medicaid paid deliveries
Washington State	28.7%	35.9%
Jefferson Co.	32.5%	54.7%
98368 (Port Townsend area)	36.4%	54.6%
98339 (Port Hadlock/Irondale area)	58.7%	61.5%
98376 (Quilcene area)	31.5%	61.4%
98365 (Port Ludlow area)	25.5%	41.3%
West End	NR	NR
98358 (Marrowstone)	NR	NR
98320 (Brinnon)	NR	NR

Source: Vital Statistics database

**7. Adults in Jefferson County households which included children younger than 18 reported higher rates of health risk behaviors<sup>1</sup> than did adults in households which did not include children. (Note data source—BRFSS 2001).**

The Jefferson County 2001 BRFSS asked adult respondents whether their household included one or more children younger than 18. This information was used to divide the sample into adults whose households included children and those whose households did not. A quarter of all adults reported specific forms of physical or sexual abuse during their childhoods, but the rate was a third of those whose households included children (Table 7). Nearly 1 in 4 adults in households with children were current smokers and a third were heavy drinkers<sup>1</sup>.

Table 7: Adult Risk Behaviors and reported abuse as children younger than 18

Behavior	All Households	Households w/Children < 18
Smoking	16%	24%
Heavy Drinking	17%	28%
History of Any Abuse	25%	33%
History of Physical Abuse	9%	15%
History of Witnessing Abuse	11%	16%

Source: Jefferson County 2001 BRFSS

**8. Poverty rates are higher among people age 18-34, and may be associated with the lack of advanced education. (Note data source—Census 2000).**

About 1 in 5 of the 18-34 year olds had incomes below the poverty level (Table 8). In the West End, over half of the 18-34 year olds were below poverty. In Brinnon, the rate was 3 in 10. In Port Hadlock/Irondale and Quilcene the rate was about 1 in 4. In the county overall, the rate was 2 out of 5. In Port Ludlow, the rate was 6.5%.

Table 8: Poverty Rates among 18-34 year olds by Place

Place	Total Pop.	People 18-34 Years old	% With incomes < 100% FPL
Washington State	5,894,121	1,400,491	14.4%
Jefferson Co.	25,953	3,224	17.7%
Port Townsend	8,325	1,109	19.0%
Port Hadlock/ Irondale	3,467	604	23.7%
Marrowstone	876	82	0%
Quilcene	632	93	23.2%
Brinnon	831	60	28.3%
Port Ludlow	1,953	93	6.5%
West End	593	104	54.8%

Source: US Census 2000

Among 18-24 year old residents of Jefferson County, roughly a third had not completed high school, a third completed high school or earned a GED, and a third had some post secondary education (Table 9). County 18-24 year olds have less education than in the state.

The pattern of educational attainment among county 25-34 year olds is different than county 18-24 year olds and the state overall. Roughly 2 out of five 25-34 year olds had completed high school or less, and about 1 in 4 had some post secondary, just 2 out of ten had 4 or more years of college compared to 3 out of 10 in the state

Table 9: Education Levels among 18-24 year olds and 25-34 year olds

Place	18-24 year olds				25-34 year olds			
	< High School	High School	Some Post Second- ary	4 or more years of college	< High School	High School	Some Post Second- ary	4 or more years of college
Washington State	24.7%	28.8%	39.5%	7.0%	12.6%	23.2%	35.3%	28.9%
Jefferson Co.	31.5%	36.5%	29.5%	3.4%	11%	33%	35.6%	20.4%

Source: US Census 2000

Educational attainment among people age 18-34 in Jefferson County varied by place (Table 10). In Washington State, almost 6 out of 10 people in this age group have some post secondary education; in the county less than half of the 18-34 year olds reported some post-secondary education. In Port Townsend and Port Ludlow, more

than half the people age 18-34 have some post secondary education. In Port Hadlock/Irondale, the rate is 4 out of 10 and in Marrowstone, Quilcene and Brinnon, the rate is 3 out of 10.

Table 10: Education Levels among 18-34 year olds by Place

Place	Some Post Secondary
Washington State	57.2%
Jefferson Co.	46.8%
Port Townsend	54.0%
Port Hadlock/Irondale	40.4%
Marrowstone	31.7%
Quilcene	26.8%
Brinnon	31.7%
Port Ludlow	51.6%
West End	

Source: US Census 2000

**9. People age 18-34 have lower rates of health care access lower and higher rates of risk behaviors<sup>1</sup> than adults in the county. (Note data source—Census 2000).**

The 2001 Jefferson County BRFSS found that more than 90% county 18-34 year olds rated their health as “excellent”, “very good”, or “good”, significantly higher than the average for all adults (Table 11). However, 18-34 year olds were less likely to have health care coverage, a usual health care provider, and a usual place they received health care. They were also less likely to have had a routine physical or to have seen a dentist in the 12 months before being surveyed. On most access measures, county residents age 18-34 have lower rates than 18-34 year olds in Washington State.

County residents age 18-34 were less likely to be overweight than the average for all adults or to be physically inactive. On the other hand, more 18-34 year olds were current smokers and consumed alcohol in the 30 days before being surveyed.

Table 11: Self-reported health status, Health Care Access, and Risk Behaviors among 18-34 year olds

	All Adults	18-34 Year Olds
Excellent, Very Good, Good Health	84%	93%
Health Care Insurance	91%	74%
Usual Health Care Provider	85%	67%
Usual Place of Care	88%	74%
Routine Physical in past 12 months	74%	64%
Seen dentist in past 12 months	63%	74%
Overweight	29%	16%
Physically Inactive	13%	7%
Current Smoker	16%	28%
Alcohol consumption within past 30 days	68%	73%

Source: Jefferson County 2001 BRFSS

**10. Using federal poverty guidelines, poverty rates<sup>1</sup> among people ages 65-74 and 75 and older in Jefferson County were lower than in the state, and poverty in this age group in the county was concentrated in a few places. (Note data source—Census 2000).**

In 1999, 2.3% of county residents age 65-74 had household incomes below poverty (Table 12). This rate is less than half the state rate for the same age group. Poverty rates were highest in Marrowstone, followed by Brinnon, Port Hadlock/Irondale, and Port Townsend. No residents age 65-74 were living in poverty in either Port Ludlow or Quilcene. Marrowstone also had the largest *number* of people age 65-74 living in poverty followed by Port Townsend, Brinnon, and Port Hadlock/Irondale.

In 1999, 10.3% of Jefferson County residents age 75+ had household incomes below the poverty level. This rate is higher than the state poverty rate among the oldest residents, 8.6%. The poverty rate was highest in Port Townsend, followed closely by Port Hadlock/Irondale, Marrowstone, and Brinnon. No residents age 75+ in the Census-defined places of Port Ludlow or Quilcene were living in poverty. It is noteworthy that the service needs of older adults may not be accurately reflected by poverty rates.

Port Townsend had both the highest rate of poverty among people age 75+ and the largest *number*. In terms of numbers, Port Hadlock/Irondale was next followed by Marrowstone and then Brinnon.

Table 12: Poverty Rates among 65-74 and 75+ year olds by Place

Place	Total Pop.	Pop. 65-74 Years old	% < 100% FPL	Pop. 75+ Years old	% < 100% FPL
Washington State			6.5%		8.6%
Jefferson Co.	25,953	3018	2.3%	2443	10.3%
Port Townsend	8,325	791	1.6%	939	17.4%
Port Hadlock/ Irondale	3,467	262	2.3%	175	17.1%
Port Ludlow	1,953		0		0
Marrowstone	876	152	10.5%	126	15.2%
Brinnon	831	176	5.7%	121	8.3%
Quilcene	632		0	0	0
West End					

Source: US Census 2000

**11. Health care access indicators are better among people age 65+ than the county average, but this group has significant health risk behaviors. (Note data source—BRFSS 2001).**

Only 59% of people age 65+ in Jefferson County rated their health as “excellent”, “very good”, or “good” in the 2001 BRFSS (Table 13). This rate is significantly lower than the rate for all adults, 84%. Relative to other adults in the county, people age 65+ were significantly more likely to have a usual health care provider and a usual place to get care. They were also significantly more likely to have had a routine physical in the 12 months before being surveyed. Rates of health care coverage (insurance) and making a dental visit were higher among people age 65+, but the differences were not statistically significant.

On four behaviors which could be risk behaviors, county residents age 65+ had mixed results. They were more likely to be overweight or physically inactive than other adults, were less likely to smoke and were as likely to consume alcohol. While the alcohol research is unclear on the level at which alcohol consumption becomes a risk factor, in Washington State, the rate of alcohol consumption is only about 45% for adults 65 and older.

Table 13: Self-reported health status, Health Care Access, and Risk Behaviors among 65+ year olds

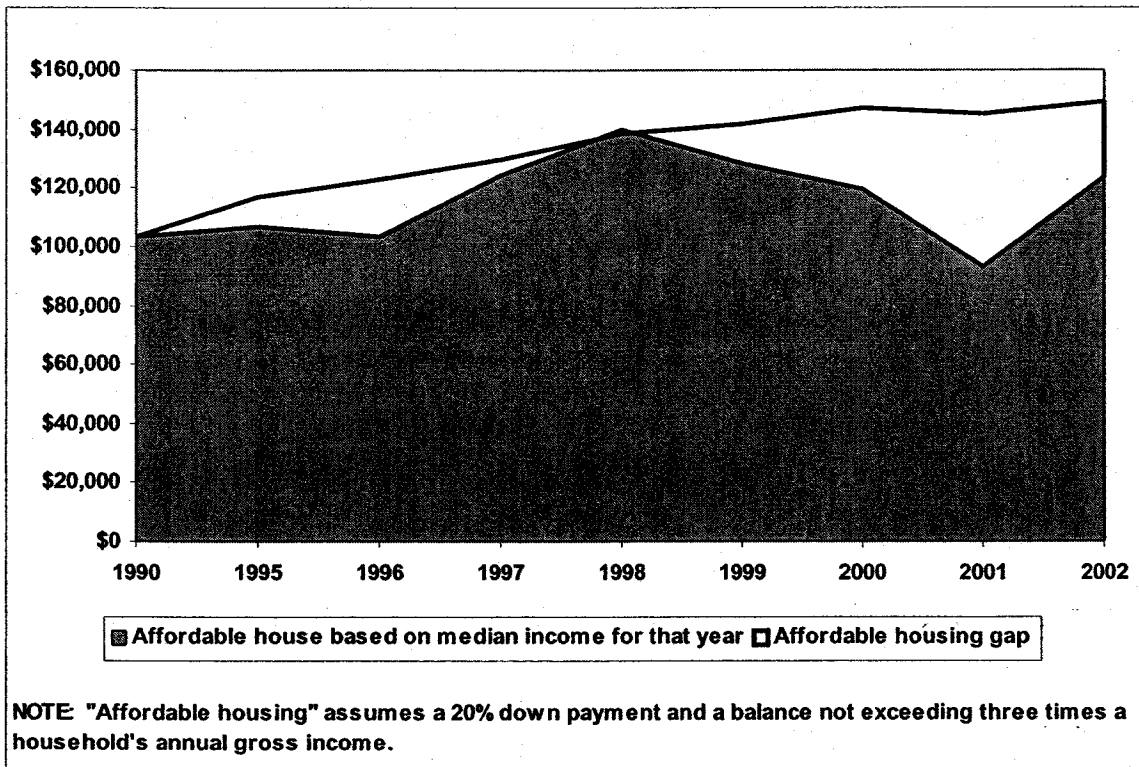
	All Adults	65+ Year Olds
Excellent, Very Good, Good Health	84%	59%
Have any health care coverage	91%	94%
Have a usual health care provider	85%	94%
Have a usual place of care	88%	93%
Routine physical in past 12 months	74%	84%
Dental visit in past 12 months	63%	70%
Overweight	29%	31%
Physically Inactive	13%	16%
Current Smoker	16%	5%
Alcohol consumption within past 30 days	68%	65%

Source: Jefferson County 2001 BRFSS

**12. In Jefferson County, poverty rates probably underestimate those who are low income because, during the 1990s, median housing prices in the county rose more rapidly than did median household income and many people were paying more than a third of their income in housing costs. (Note data source— Census 2000, WSU Center for Real Estate Research).**

In Jefferson County, although median household incomes have been steadily over time, they have remained at about 80% of the state average. But since the early 1990s, the median sales prices of houses have been rising more rapidly than income, so that by the late 1990s, housing sales prices in the county were nearly the same as they were in the state. The result has been the affordability gap shown in Figure 6. Only when housing sales prices become relatively stagnant does the affordability gap narrow. The affordability gap Jefferson County thus worsens the impact of poverty on younger people, particularly young families with children who are the most frequent homebuyers.

Figure 6: Housing Affordability Gap



Source: Census 2000 & WSU Center for Real Estate Research

Another way to assess the cost of housing is to look at who violates the assumption that people will spend about a third of their income on housing<sup>1</sup> (Table 14).

Table 14: Annual Income of 35%+ spent on Housing by Place

Place	Homeowner	Renter
Washington State	18.2%	32.7%
Jefferson Co.	19.4%	37.5%
Port Townsend	20.0%	40.8%
Port Hadlock/ Irondale	26.4%	46.4%
Port Ludlow	17.1%	0.0%
Marrowstone	24.5%	0.0%
Brinnon	20.0%	31.0%
Quilcene	20.0%	29.7%
West End		

Source: US Census 2000

In Jefferson County, three quarters of the people own their own homes and a quarter rent. About one in five county homeowners spends 35%+ of their income on housing, above the state average. In Port Hadlock/Irondale and Marrowstone, the rate is about one in four.

The situation is even worse among those who rent their homes. In 2000, 37.5% of county renters were paying 35%+ of their incomes on housing costs, higher than in the state, 32.7% (Table 14). Nearly half the renters in Port Hadlock/Irondale were spending 35% or more of their incomes on rental housing, as were 40.8% of renters in Port Townsend. Brinnon and Quilcene had about the same rates, 31% and 29.7%, respectively. No renters in Port Ludlow or Marrowstone – which tend to have very few renters anyway – exceeded the 34.9% threshold.

**13. County residents age 65-74 and men age 75+ have lower disability rates than the state average, but women age 75+ have a higher rate. The combination of disability<sup>1</sup> and poverty rates point to a need for increased publicly funded services among people age 65 and older.**

The 2000 census reported that 33.8% of county residents age 65 and older had at least one condition which limited their functioning (Table 15). Disability rates varied by gender and age, but were lower than state rates except among women 75 and older.

Disability rates are higher than the county average in Port Hadlock/Irondale, Quilcene, and Port Townsend (Table 16). In Brinnon and Marrowstone, disability rates among people age 65+ are close to the county average. Only in Port Ludlow were rates substantially below the county average. Turning to the numbers of people affected, Port Townsend had the highest number followed by Port Hadlock/Irondale, Port Ludlow, Brinnon, Marrowstone, and Quilcene.

JCHHS be releasing a detailed analysis of disability data from the 2000 census in the second quarter of 2003. Based on preliminary analyses, it appears that disability rates among county residents age 65+, unlike poverty-based indicators, are relatively uniform.

Table 15: Disability Rates among people age 65+ by gender.

	Jefferson County	Washington State
Total Population age 65+ with at least 1 disability	33.9%	43.7%
Males age 65-74 (n=369)	23.8%	33.4%
Males age 75+ (n=516)	46.8%	50.6%
Females age 65-74 (n=332)	22.6%	29.7%
Females age 75+ (n=637)	47.5%	34.4%

Source: US Census 2000

Table 16: Disability Rates among people 65+ by Place

Place	Total Pop.	Pop. 65+ Years old	% With limited functioning
Washington State			43.7%
Jefferson Co.	25,953	5,450	33.8%
Port Townsend	8,325	1,731	39.4%
Port Hadlock/ Irondale	3,467	437	46.2%
Port Ludlow	1,953	844	13.3%
Marrowstone	876	277	30.7%
Brinnon	831	297	33.7%
Quilcene	632	74	44.6%
West End	593	71	

Source: US Census 2000

## Appendix I: Technical Notes

**Activities of daily living**—This is a general term that encompasses going to school (for the age-eligible population), going to work (for people age 16-64), getting out of bed, performing basic toilet functions, dressing oneself, feeding oneself, sitting without assistance, and walking without assistance. People who are unable to carry out these activities are generally considered to have a disability (see that term for further discussion).

**Averages**—In looking at characteristics of people or communities that include a range of value, the general practice is to capture this range with a single measure of central tendency, or an average. The mean is an average in which all values are added together and divided by the number of people for whom a value is available. Another average is the mode, or the single value which occurs most often within a range. In this report, the median is the most frequently used average. The median is that value which divides a range into two equal halves, 50% on one side of the median and 50% on the other. This report includes the median age, median household income (see further discussion under household income), and median housing sales prices and values (see further discussion under housing). Median values are the recommended averages to use when other averages could be distorted by a small number of cases falling at the extreme end of a range. For example, if Bill Gates were to attend a basketball game, the average income of all those attending would be significantly inflated because his income is so far out at the end of the normal range. But a median income would not be subject to such distortion.

**Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)**—This is an annual survey of a randomly-selected sample of residents age 18+ ("adults") in each state and selected territories in the US. The sample design and modules (groups of related questions) were developed by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) using the best practices as determined by scientists at the CDC. It began in the early 1980s as an effort to determine the risk factors affecting chronic diseases and has since been expanded to look at a wider range of adult behaviors which enhance or can interfere with good health. In Washington State the statewide sample provides an acceptable sample size only for King County, so since 1993 many local health jurisdictions have funded an oversample so that they can assess health behaviors locally. Jefferson County funded such an oversample in 2001. The sample size of 602 is sufficient to determine statistically significant rates at the level of  $\pm 4\%$ .

**Census**—The US Constitution mandates a census of the population be conducted every 10 years. The first one was conducted in 1790, and subsequent censuses have been conducted in years ending with zero. The US 2000 census consisted of two questionnaires, the so-called short form and long form. Questionnaires were sent to addresses, not to individuals. The short form contained one question about the housing

at that address (was it owned with a mortgage, owned without a mortgage, rented for cash rent, occupied without payment of cash rent), six questions about the householder (person who is buying or renting the household or whose name appears first on mortgage papers or rental agreements). These are name, telephone number, gender, age and date of birth, whether or not the person is Spanish/Hispanic/Latino, and the person's race. For all other residents at an address, five questions are asked: that person's relationship to the first-named person, gender, age and date of birth, whether the person is Spanish/Hispanic/Latino, and race. The short form went to five of six households in a town, city, or census-defined place and to five of six households within those parts of a county that were not towns, cities, or census-defined places.

The long form contained 32 questions about people and 21 questions about housing. That form went to one in six households. In reporting data from the long form, responses were weighted to the entire population. For example, in Jefferson County, 25,953 people were enumerated in 2000, and 4,195 were in the one-in-six sample (16.2%). In reporting these data, results reflect the assumption that the sample accurately reflects the entire population and so rates based on information only in the one-in-six sample are reported as if they came from everyone.

**Disabilities**—The term "disability" refers to conditions which limit activities of daily living. In the 2000 US census, two questions on the long form were used to determine a person's disability status.

Question 16 said "Does this person have any of the following long-lasting conditions: (a) blindness, deafness, or a severe vision or hearing impairment? (defined as a "sensory disability" in census reports) (b) a condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities such as walking, climbing stairs, reaching, lifting, or carrying?

Question 17 asked "Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition lasting six months or more, does this person have any difficulty in doing any of the following activities: (a) Learning, remembering, or concentrating? (b) Dressing, bathing, or getting around inside the home? (c) (Answer if this person is 16 years old or over.) Going outside the home alone to shop or visit a doctor's office? (d) (Answer if the is person is 16 years old or over) Working at a job or business?

JCHHS will be issuing a detailed report on people with disabilities based on the 2000 census during the second quarter of 2003. Information in this report is limited to disabilities among people age 65+.

**Heavy Drinking**—Heavy drinking is defined as having 5 or more drinks during one setting within the past 30 days.

**Household income**—This information comes from questions in sections 31 and 32 of the long form of the 2000 census questionnaire. Section 31 asks about specific sources of income in 1999 for each individual in a household, including wages, salary commissions, bonuses or tips; self-employment income from own non-farm businesses or farm businesses, including proprietorships and partnerships; interest, dividends, net rental income, royalty income, or income from estates and trusts; Social Security or Railroad Retirement; Supplemental Social Income (SSI); any public assistance or welfare payments from the state or local welfare office; retirement, survivor, or disability pensions, exclusive of Social Security; and any other sources of income received regularly such as Veterans' (VA) payments, unemployment compensation, child support, or alimony. Respondents are cautioned not to include lump-sum payments such as money from an inheritance or sale of a home. These categories generally follow the organization of the income section of an itemized income tax return except for the inclusion of certain income categories, such as welfare, which are exempted from income tax.

Section 32 of the long form census questionnaire asks for total income in 1999 for each person in the household. Respondents are instructed to calculate each person's total income by adding all entries in Section 31 for that person and subtracting any losses. Total income for each person in a household with income are then added up when these data are tabulated by the US Bureau of the Census to determine household income.

**Housing Affordability**—The annual federal poverty index is built around a set of assumptions that people spend roughly a third of their income on housing, a third of their income on food, and a third of their income on other living expenses. One frequent criticism of this index is that it fails to take into account local variability in these ratios, most often the cost of housing. Jefferson County is one instance of that variability.

In calculating affordable housing, the commonest approach is to assume that prospective home buyers will make a down payment of 20% of a house's sales price and carry a mortgage no more than three times their median household income.

**Housing costs**—This figure is estimated based on questions 33-53 on the long form of the US 2000 census questionnaire. Question 33 asks whether the house, apartment, or mobile home is owned with a mortgage or loan, owned free and clear, rented for cash rent, or occupied without payment or cash rent. Questions 34-44 ask more detailed questions about the housing unit itself, not the costs of operating it.

Question 45 asks "What are the annual costs of utilities and fuels for this house, apartment, or mobile home?" (a) electricity (responses are annual costs in dollars or included in rent or condominium fee or no charge/electricity not used) (b) gas (same responses) (c) water and sewer (same responses), (d) oil, coal, kerosene, wood, etc. (same responses).

Question 46 says "answer only if you pay rent for this house, apartment, or mobile home and then says "what is the monthly rent?" And "Does the monthly rent include any meals?"

Question 47 begins by saying "Answer questions 47a-53 if you or someone in this household owns or is buying this house, apartment or mobile home and then asks (a) Do you have a mortgage, deed of trust, contract to purchase or similar debt on this property? (b) How much is your regular monthly mortgage payment on this property? And instructs people to include payment only on first mortgage or contract to purchase. (c) Does your regular monthly mortgage payment include payments for real estate taxes on this property? (d) Does your regular monthly mortgage payment include payments for fire, hazard, or flood insurance on this property.

Question 48 asks "Do you have a second mortgage or a home equity loan on this property? If yes, it then asks about how much the payments are on all second or junior mortgages and all home equity loans on this property?"

Question 49 asks "What were the real estate taxes on this property last year?"

Question 50 asks "What was the annual payment for fire, hazard, and flood insurance on this property?"

Housing costs then are computed as first, second and junior mortgage annual payments plus utilities plus principal and interest plus taxes plus insurance for home owners or rent plus utilities plus insurance for renters.

**Housing values**—This report uses two approaches to measure the cost of housing relative to income. One is median sales price. This information, taken from the website of the Washington State University's Center for Real Estate Research, reflects the price of houses selling in a given year. The second measure is median value of housing. This information comes from question 51 on the long form of the census questionnaire: "What is the value of this property; that is, how much do you think this house and lot, apartment, or mobile home and lot would see for if it were for sale?" Respondents checked answers in ranges from less than \$10,000 to \$1,000,000 or more.

**Median Age**—The age that divides a population into two numerically equal groups: that is half the people are younger than this age and half are older.

**Median Household Income**— Total income for each person in a household with income are added up. Data are tabulated by the US Bureau of the Census to determine household income. The median divides the household income into two numerically equal groups: that is half the households report under the median income and half report above the median.

**Poverty**—The term “poverty” characterizes people and households which are likely to lack the financial resources to meet the most basic needs for housing, food, and clothing. Programs which use poverty as a criterion for eligibility generally define eligibility based on the annual Federal Poverty Index (FPI). The FPI for 2002, defined as living in poverty one person living alone with income below \$8,860, family households of two people with income below \$11,940, three people with income below \$15,020, or four people with incomes below \$18,100.

However, the US Bureau of the Census – which provided the figures used in this report – has a slightly different method of computing poverty. The two methods yield approximately the same result. Using its measure for 2000, a single-person household was considered poor if the person was younger than 65 and had an income below \$8,959 or was 65+ and had an income below \$8,259. (Unlike the US Department of Health and Human Services – which publishes the official poverty index annually, the Bureau of the Census computes poverty thresholds separately for people younger than 65 and 65+.) The Bureau of the Census poverty threshold in 2000 was \$11,239 for households of two people, \$13,738 for households of three people, and \$17,603 for households of four people. Poverty levels, like household income, are based on experience in the previous year, 1999.

**Risk Behaviors**—The Centers for Disease Control defines risk behaviors as the following:

Smoking: currently smoking

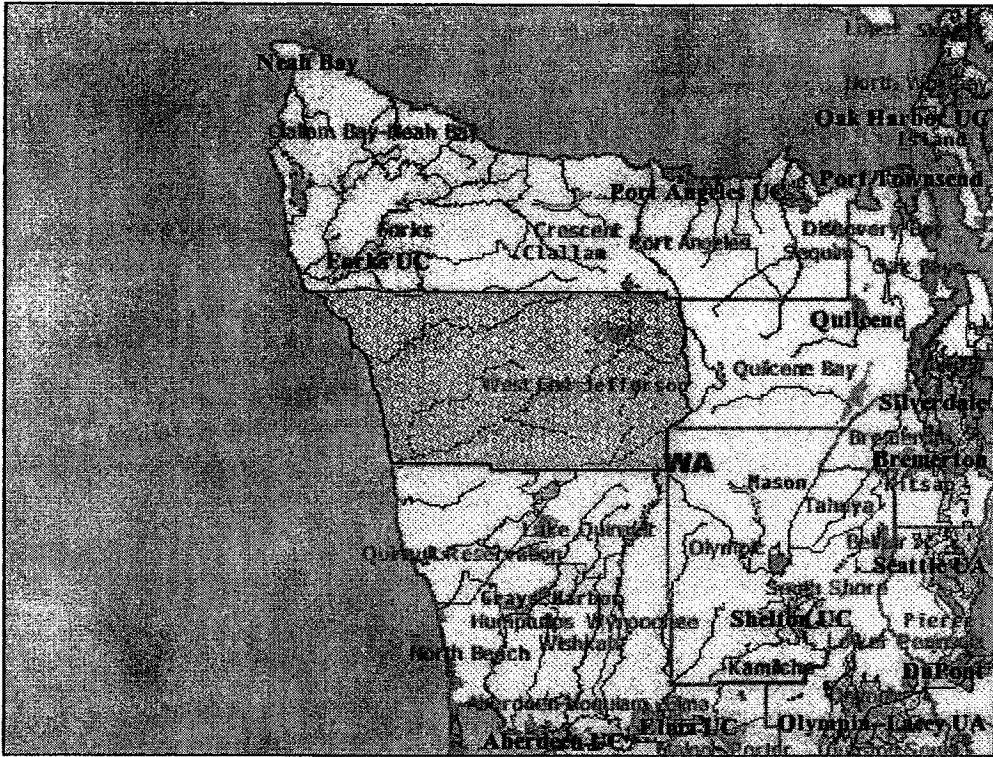
Heavy Drinking: having 5 or more drinks during one setting within the past 30 days.

Physically Inactive: Less than 30 minutes of physical activity 5 times per week

Overweight: Calculated using the HANES BMI index.

**Rate**—The number of persons in a population universe (e.g. people living in poverty, people age <18, 18-34, 65+) for a given period of time.

**Resident**—Census numbers are based only on people living in houses, apartments, or mobile homes and do not include people living in group quarters, such as nursing homes.

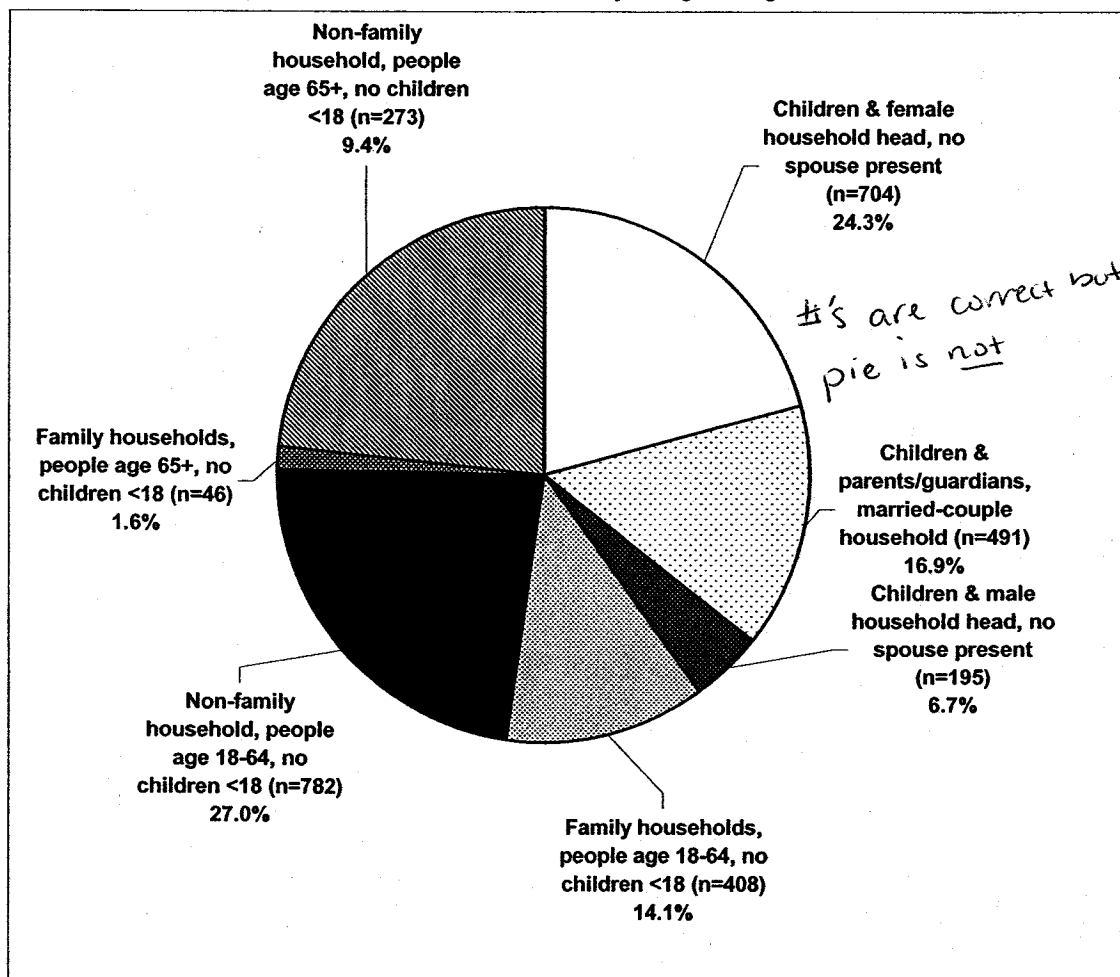




**4. The universe of people in poverty consists of three segments; children younger than 18 and their parents or guardians, people age 18-64, and people age 65+. (Note data source—Census 2000).**

The largest single group of people in poverty<sup>1</sup> are children younger than 18 and their parents or guardians who, together, account for nearly half of all people in poverty (Table 4). People age 65+ made up 11% of all Jefferson County residents living in poverty in 1999. People age 18-34 without children account for another 35% of those living in poverty; 23% lived on non-family households, and 12% lived in family households.

Table 4: People who live below 100% FPL by living arrangements



Corrected 2/20/03  
Source: US Census

**10. Using federal poverty guidelines, poverty rates<sup>1</sup> among people ages 65-74 were lower, and poverty rates among 75 and older in Jefferson County were higher than in the state, and poverty in this age group in the county was concentrated in a few places. (Note data source—Census 2000).**

In 1999, 2.3% of county residents age 65-74 had household incomes below poverty (Table 12). This rate is less than half the state rate for the same age group. Poverty rates were highest in Marrowstone, followed by Brinnon, Port Hadlock/Irondale, and Port Townsend. No residents age 65-74 were living in poverty in either Port Ludlow or Quilcene. Marrowstone also had the largest number of people age 65-74 living in poverty followed by Port Townsend, Brinnon, and Port Hadlock/Irondale.

In 1999, 10.3% of Jefferson County residents age 75+ had household incomes below the poverty level. This rate is higher than the state poverty rate among the oldest residents, 8.6%. The poverty rate was highest in Port Townsend, followed closely by Port Hadlock/Irondale, Marrowstone, and Brinnon. No residents age 75+ in the Census-defined places of Port Ludlow or Quilcene were living in poverty. It is noteworthy that the service needs of older adults may not be accurately reflected by poverty rates.

Port Townsend had both the highest rate of poverty among people age 75+ and the largest number. In terms of numbers, Port Hadlock/Irondale was next followed by Marrowstone and then Brinnon.

Table 12: Poverty Rates among 65-74 and 75+ year olds by Place

Place	Total Pop.	Pop. 65-74 Years old	% < 100% FPL	Pop. 75+ Years old	% < 100% FPL
Washington State			6.5%		8.6%
Jefferson Co.	25,953	3018	2.3%	2443	10.3%
Port Townsend	8,325	791	1.6%	939	17.4%
Port Hadlock/ Irondale	3,467	262	2.3%	175	17.1%
Port Ludlow	1953		0		0
Marrowstone	876	152	10.5%	126	15.2%
Brinnon	831	176	5.7%	121	8.3%
Quilcene	632		0	0	0
West End					

Source: US Census 2000