

Preliminary identified needs include the following:

- Invest in additional community gathering space and public recreation amenities in underserved locations, prioritizing Tier 1 locations identified in the analysis (Parkland and Lakewood, in addition to areas of unincorporated Pierce County).
- Enhance walkability and bikeability to quality-of-life amenities by using Complete Streets design features (sidewalks, crosswalks, street trees, and other pedestrian safety infrastructure) in underserved locations.
- Ensure public transit access to quality-of-life amenities for residents within a mile of the amenities, prioritizing underserved locations identified in the analysis.

2.9 Social Services

The purpose of the Social Services Technical Memo is to assess the current social services opportunities and challenges on- and off-installation. It updates the 2010 Growth Coordination Plan findings and adds new analysis as necessary to address emerging trends. This Technical Memo aligns with the Public Safety, Housing, and Health Care Technical Memos of the JBLM Growth Coordination Plan.

	Pierce County	Thurston County	Washington State
Median Age	36.4 years old	39.6 years old	37.9 years old
Veterans	12.9%	13.0%	8.9%
Median Household Income	\$79,243	\$78,512	\$78.687
Poverty	9.1%	9.2%	9.8%
Median Gross Rent	\$1,362	\$1,255	\$1,359
Homeownership	62.8%	68.7%	63.1%
Disability	12.9%	13.8%	12.7%
Hearing Difficulty	4.0%	4.2%	3.8%
Vision Difficulty	2.2%	2.3%	1.9%
Cognitive Difficulty	5.5%	4.9%	5.5%
Ambulatory Difficulty	6.8%	7.0%	6.4%
Self-care Difficulty	2.7%	2.4%	2.5%
Independent Living Difficulty	6.0%	5.6%	5.7%
Health Insurance (without coverage)	6.5%	5.3%	6.6%
Households With a Computer	93.8%	93.%	93.8%
Households With BroadbandIinternet	87.6%	87.9%	88.3%

Table 2.7 - Overview of Population in Pierce and Thurston Counties as of 2019

Source: U.S. Census Bureau



This analysis resulted in the following key findings. An overview of all needs identified, by resource, given today's conditions is provided in Table 2.8. For information about mental health support services and needs in the region, please refer to the Behavioral Health Technical Memo.

- The consolidation of social services on JBLM under the Directorate of Personnel and Family Readiness (DPFR) helped address many of the concerns mentioned in the 2010 GCP regarding service co-location.
- **Collaborative initiatives and events** that followed publication of the 2010 Growth Coordination Plan are considered **successful in addressing some of the coordination needs** identified in 2010. As new organizations working in the social services space emerge, the SSMCP should engage those groups.

Resource Area		Needs Identified
Department of Defense Services	JBLM	 Create a centrally located, dependent-friendly family service center on JBLM. Continue working to educate family members about services and programs available, especially services in the community for those living off-installation. Improve community awareness about the Special Victims Counsel (SVC) Program, especially the broadened client scope per the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). Determine if the Military & Civilian Summit will become an annual event.
County Services	Low-income Support Services	 Facilitate a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to ensure coordination and routine syncing of Washington 211 with Military OneSource. Develop a transition plan for continuing the Connect Kit Program (transition from SSMCP to community volunteers). Continue promoting the Poverty to Possibilities Summit, including the third annual summit scheduled for late 2021. Determine if broadband internet (equity in access) is a legislative issue that the SSMCP should add to their advocacy portfolio. Support regional initiatives working on addressing military family hunger.
	Shelter	• Ensure that new organizations and initiatives, like the Pierce County Ending Veteran Homeless Exploratory Task Force, are invited to participate in relevant SSMCP Working Groups.
	Family Support Services	No specific needs were identified given current conditions.
	Seniors and Persons with Disabilities	• Determine the extent to which SSMCP would like to incorporate paratransit initiatives in transportation advocacy efforts.

Table 2.8 - Overview of All Needs Identified Given Today's Conditions



ТО:	SSMCP Steering Committee	DATE:	November 12, 2021
FROM:	Jennifer Cristobal, RLA, AICP, Senior Associate Michael Baker International	PROJECT NAME:	JBLM Growth Coordination Plan
SUBJECT:	Social Services Existing Conditions	Report Technical	l Memo

1. Introduction

TECHNICAL MEMO

The purpose of the Social Services Technical Memo of the Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM) Growth Coordination Plan is to assess the current social services opportunities and challenges on- and offinstallation. It updates the 2010 Growth Coordination Plan findings and adds new analysis as necessary to address emerging trends. This Technical Memo aligns with the Public Safety, Housing, and Health Care Technical Memos of the JBLM Growth Coordination Plan.

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Households with a computer	93.8%	93.%	93.8%
Households with broadband internet	87.6%	87.9%	88.3%

Table 1.1 - Overview of Population in Pierce and Thurston Counties as of 2019

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

2. Key Findings

This analysis resulted in the following key findings. An overview of all needs identified, by resource, given today's conditions is provided in Table 2.1. For information about mental health support services and needs in the region, please refer to the Behavioral Health Technical Memo.

- The consolidation of social services on JBLM under the Directorate of Personnel and Family Readiness (DPFR) helped address many of the concerns mentioned in the 2010 GCP regarding service co-location.
- **Collaborative initiatives and events** that followed publication of the 2010 Growth Coordination Plan are considered **successful in addressing some of the coordination needs** identified in 2010 and as new organizations working in the social services space emerge, the SSMCP should engage those groups.

Resource Area		Needs Identified
Department of	JBLM (Section 5)	• Create a centrally located, dependent-friendly family service center on JBLM.
Defense Services (Section 5)		• Continue working to educate family members about services and programs available, especially services in the community for those living off-installation.
		• Improve community awareness about the Special Victims Counsel (SVC) Program, especially the broadened client scope per the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA).
		• Determine if the Military & Civilian Summit will become an annual event.
County Services (Sections 6-10)	Low-income Support Services	• Facilitate a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to ensure coordination and routine alignment of Washington 211 with Military OneSource.
	(Section 6)	• Develop a transition plan for continuing the Connect Kit Program (transition from SSMCP to community volunteers).
		• Continue promoting the Poverty to Possibilities Summit, including the third annual summit scheduled for late 2021.
		• Determine if broadband internet (equity in access) is a legislative issue that the SSMCP should add to their advocacy portfolio.
		• Support regional initiatives working on addressing military family hunger.
	Shelter (Section 7)	• Ensure that new organizations and initiatives, like the Pierce County Ending Veteran Homeless Exploratory Task Force, are invited to participate in relevant SSMCP Working Groups.
	Family Support Services (Section 8)	No specific needs were identified given current conditions.
	Seniors and Persons with Disabilities (Section 9)	• Determine the extent to which SSMCP would like to incorporate paratransit initiatives in transportation advocacy efforts.

Table 2.1 – Overview	of All Needs Identified	Given Today's Conditions
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3. Assessment of 2010 Growth Coordination Plan Strategies

The 2010 Growth Coordination Plan identified four specific strategies for Social Services.

- Strategy 3.01 Establish a Regional Social Services Coordination, Collaboration, and Outreach Office
- Strategy 3.03 Enhance Basic Needs Services in the JBLM Region
- Strategy 5.01 Enhance Domestic Violence Services in the Region
- Strategy 5.05 Identify Improvements for On-Installation Behavioral Health and Social Services Facilities

The following tables provide an overarching report on the current status of each strategy, as well as continued benefits and needs of each strategy as compared to 2010.

Strategy 3.01 - Establish a Regional Social Services Coordination, Collaboration, and Outreach Office

Need in 2010:	High	Need Given Conditions Today:	Medium: The SSMCP's Social Services Working Group was formed following the 2010 Growth Coordination Plan and serves as a space for regional coordination between JBLM and community providers. Coordination, collaboration, and outreach continue to be a priority for providing the region with organized and effective social services.
Status of Action Steps for Strategy 3.01			

Step 1: Establish sustainable funding source for regional office development Not Started

Step 2: Hire three social service provider experts to begin establishing relationships with regional providers. Not Started

Step 3: Hire one outreach coordinator to begin connecting persons in need with the appropriate services. Not Started

Strategy 3.03 - Enhance Basic Needs Services in the JBLM Region

Need in 2010:	Medium	Need Given Conditions Today:	Medium: Periodic events facilitated through the SSMCP's Social Services Working Group, such as the From Poverty to Possibilities Summit, and coordination activities, such as aligning Washington 211 between JBLM and the community, has improved access to basic needs in the region. Providing basic needs is an ongoing need in the region and the SSMCP's Social Services Working Group provides a venue for continued collaboration.
Status of Action	Steps for St	rategy 3.03	
Step 1: Leverage the power of the JBLM Regional Partnership to lobby for increased funding to basic needs organizations. In- progress			

Step 2: Increase the visibility of existing financial counseling services available in the community and on JBLM. In-progress

Step 3: Expand financial counseling services, leveraging the Regional Social Services Coordination, Collaboration, and Outreach Office. In-progress

Step 4: Support increased volunteerism in the region. In-progress

Strategy 5.01 – Enhance Domestic Violence Services in the Region

Need in 2010:	High	Need Given Conditions Today:	Medium: Domestic violence awareness continues to be a focus area for JBLM and the community. The Department of Defense's Special Victims' Counsel (SVC) Program was created in 2013 to help victims in which the offender is a military member understand the military justice and administrative processes and advocate for victims' rights. Notably, the SVC Program is available to victims that are not military personnel or affiliated with military personnel (e.g., a military spouse). JBLM and the community should continue to work closely toward domestic violence awareness initiatives, as well as domestic violence response.
Status of Action	Steps for St	rategy 3.03	

Step 1: Secure sustainable funding for an additional legal advocacy team. Complete

Step 2: Hire an additional legal advocacy team to be located in the Lakewood area. Complete

Step 3: Create a formal relationship between the military and community domestic violence programs, with an emphasis on understanding the services provided by each respective organization. Complete

Strategy 5.05 – Identify Improvements for On-Installation Behavioral Health and Social Services Facilities

Need in 2010:	Medium	Need Given Conditions Today:	Medium: JBLM's Directorate of Personnel & Family Readiness (DPFR) was established in 2017 when the installation consolidated the Army Community Service (ACS), Directorate of Human Resources (DHR), and Airman & Family Readiness Center (A&FRC) into one organization. DPFR ensures that service members and their families, retirees, and Department of Defense civilians are provided with the tools necessary to successfully navigate military life and beyond. Despite this
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		consolidation, there is a need for a centrally located, dependent-friendly family service center on JBLM.
Status of Action	Steps for Strategy 3.03	
Step 1: Identify opportunities for the expansion of treatment and prevention service space at JBLM. Complete		
Step 2: Develop cost estimates for appropriate renovations and expansions. Complete		
Step 3: Identify short-term improvements that are not related to physical space, such as upgrading the emergency notification system. Complete		

4. Methodology

Existing conditions for the Social Services Technical Memo were determined by updating the region's social services conditions since in its publication in the 2010 Growth Coordination Plan.

- Stakeholder engagement provided the basis for this update.
- Stakeholder input was complemented by data collection and review (please refer to the References section).
- A needs assessment was then completed based on the strategies and recommendations in the 2010 Growth Coordination Plan.

5. Department of Defense Social Services: Joint Base Lewis-McChord

5.1. Existing Conditions

5.1.1. Summary of 2010 Conditions

The 2010 Growth Coordination Plan identified that the greatest needs for Army Community Service (ACS) programs included adequate space to provide services and greater education of military families and civilian providers. The plan noted that without sufficient space to provide its services, training courses are often limited in size and one-on-one counseling services are provided in less than optimal office space. The 2010 Growth Coordination Plan also identified that because prevention and treatment services are not co-located, many patients never arrive at their referral destination, resulting in somewhat low utilization rates of prevention and treatment services. On the education side, it was found that there is a need to educate military families and community providers regarding the services available on the installation. Additionally, the 2010 Growth Coordinate services. Finally, the 2010 Growth Coordination Plan noted a desire by both military and community social service providers to better coordinate services. Finally, the 2010 Growth Coordination Plan discussed the need for additional childcare resources to support the Family Advocacy Program.

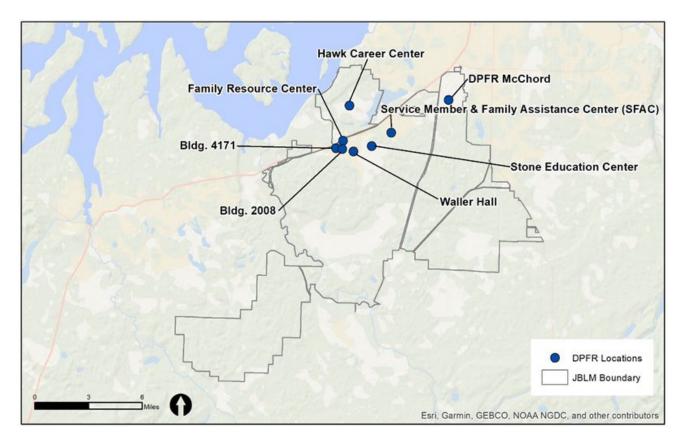
5.1.2. Current Conditions

Service Hubs

JBLM's DPFR was established in 2017 when the installation consolidated the ACS, Directorate of Human Resources (DHR), and Airman & Family Readiness Center (A&FRC) into one organization. DPFR ensures that service members and their families, retirees, and Department of Defense civilians are provided with the tools necessary to successfully navigate military life and beyond. Table 5.1 provides an overview of DPFR's services by location (JBLM 2021).

As shown in the Table 5.1, programs and services were co-located to create service hubs that improve access to programming. While the consolidation into hubs helped to co-locate services, stakeholders indicate that

there is still a need for a dependent-friendly, centrally located family service center. It was also noted that for families living off-installation—who tend to prefer to access services in the community rather than coming on post—there continues to be a need to educate those families about the services available to them in the community. In addition to the programming and services provided by DPFR, all component members of the Armed Forces, their family members, and survivors have access to Military OneSource, a call center and website providing comprehensive information, referrals, and assistance on every aspect of military life 24 hours a day, seven days a week.





Location	Services
Waller Hall	Army Emergency Relief
2140 Liggett Ave., JBLM Main	Casualty Assistance
(Primary DPFR hub on JBLM Main)	Community Information Services
	• Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS)/ID Cards
	In-processing/Out-processing
	Family Advocacy Program
	Financial Readiness Program
	Mobilization, Deployment, & Support Stability Operations (SSO)
	New Parent Support Program
	Outreach Services

Table 5.1 – DPFR Services by Location

Location	Services
	 Risk Reduction Reassignments Relocation Readiness & Lending Closet Retirement Services Separations/Transitions Sexual Harassment & Assault Response Program Special Actions/Passports Survivor Outreach Services
DPFR McChord 100 COL Joe Jackson Blvd., JBLM McChord Field (Primary hub on JBLM McChord Field)	 Air Force Aid Society DEERS/ID Cards Key Spouse Program Military Personnel Flight Transition Assistance Program Community Information Services Financial Readiness Program Lending Closet Retiree Activity Office Sexual Assault Response Program
Family Resource Center 4274 Idaho Ave, JBLM Main (Main training location for DPFR Family programs)	 Armed Forces Family Action Plan Installation Volunteer Corps Armed Forces Family Team Building DPFR Marketing Office
Hawk Career Center 11577 41st Division Dr., JBLM North (One-stop-shop for all things Employment)	 Career Choice Financial Counseling Employment Readiness Program Community Information Services Transition Assistance Program
Service Member & Family Assistance Center (SFAC) 9059 Gardner Loop., JBLM Main (Helps meet the unique needs of wounded, ill, and injured)	 Career Skills Program Exceptional Family Member Program Financial Readiness Program Community Information Services Education Services Military Personnel Services (Human Resources)
Stone Education Center 6242 Colorado Ave., JBLM Main (Education advising services to service members, Families, Department of Defense Civilians, Retirees, and Veterans)	 Army Continuing Education Services Testing Language testing GoArmyEd College support Tuition Assistance and Veteran's Affairs (VA) benefits assistance & employment opportunities
Bldg. 2008 2008-B N. 3rd St., JBLM Main	Employee Assistance Program (EAP)Drug Testing & Deterrence
Bldg. 4171 4171 West Way., JBLM Main	 Records Management Official Mail Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)

Holistic, Lifecycle Approach

JBLM takes a proactive, lifecycle approach to engagement with service members, families, retirees, and Department of Defense civilians and seeks to connect individuals with programs and services early and often. For example, the New Parent Support Program maintains a list of service members with children under the age of four and proactively reaches out to offer services, which stakeholders noted has resulted in an increase in referrals. The program also does daily morning rounds at Madigan Army Medical Center to welcome families, which has also resulted in an increase in referrals.

Stakeholders noted that JBLM takes a holistic approach to mental/behavioral health, which continues to be a priority. Specifically, social service providers understand that there are often factors which exist in an individual's life before a crisis occurs, such as relationship or financial issues. As such, the installation seeks to provide programs, classes, and outreach to address service members' overall wellness before issues become larger problems or crises. Please refer to Appendix A for additional information on the programming and classes offered by JBLM.

Collaboration with Off-Installation Agencies and Supporting Programs

Social service providers at JBLM indicated that the installation maintains close relationships with offinstallation agencies and supporting programs. Stakeholders indicated that referrals to off-installation services and support generally have successful follow-through. DPRF currently holds Memorandums of Agreement/Understanding (MOAs/MOUs) with the City of Puyallup, Crystal Judson Center, Family Renewal Shelter, Korean Women's Association, Pierce and Thurston County Child Protective Services, Safe Place, Thurston County Family Justice Center, and Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA). JBLM also hosts programming off-installation, such as bringing classes and resources to Department of Defense Education Activity (DODEA) schools, including the Clover Park School District which serves JBLM.

Advocates from JBLM routinely attend multidisciplinary meetings in the community with Pierce and Thurston Counties. For example, the JBLM Risk Reduction program (which provides education & early intervention to help commanders and service members reduce lifestyle risk factors to increase healthy outcomes) recently worked with the Lacey Police Department on issues related to gun laws and participated in a Governor's suicide prevention work group.

Domestic Violence Awareness

Domestic Violence Awareness continues to be a focus area for JBLM. The installation works closely with the community domestic violence awareness initiatives, including collaborative programming for Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October and National Child Abuse Prevention Month in April. Figure 5.2 shows a guest speaker, a motivational speaker and life development coach, speaking during a Domestic Violence Awareness month event in 2020 at the Carey Theater on JBLM.

In 2013, the Department of Defense created Special Victims' Counsel (SVC) Programs within each service as a legal support function for victims of sexual assault. This allows victims of sexual assault to confidentially access legal advice and guidance regardless of whether they have made an official report



Figure 5.2 The 2020 JBLM Domestic Violence Event *Source: Wilkes 2020*

(Sexual Assault Prevention and Response [SAPR] 2021). SVCs help victims, in cases where the offender is a military member, understand the military justice and administrative processes and advocate for victims' rights (Bell 2020). Notably, the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 expanded the scope of clients covered by the SVC program. Under the new guidance, victims of domestic violence in cases where the offender is a military member are eligible to receive legal representation from and be a client of an SVC, even if the victim is not a service member, retiree, or family member (i.e., a military ID card holder), (Lacdan 2020). JBLM has a 24/7 Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention (SHARP) hotline for sexual assault reporting. As previously noted, JBLM's collaboration with off-installation agencies and supporting programs includes connecting victims of domestic violence with support services in the community as appropriate. An SVC is generally appointed in the jurisdiction/installation where the case is pending, or where the victim is locally located. In complicated cases, there are sometimes two SVCs assigned; one where the victim is located and one where the jurisdiction is held.

Military and Civilian Services Summit

In April 2021, the South Sound Military and Communities Partnership (SSMCP) hosted the Military and Civilian Services Summit. This event was held to increase military and civilian provider awareness of resources available to active duty, guard, and reserve service members. Speakers at the event included local and State elected officials, social service providers, local school districts, and installation leadership. Topics of discussion focused on health care and behavioral health issues, including suicide prevention. The event was considered successful, and the SSMCP is currently evaluating if the summit will become an annual event to ensure that routine coordination and information sharing continues.

5.2. Needs Assessment

- Create a centrally located, dependent-friendly family service center on JBLM.
- Continue working to educate family members about services and programs available, especially services in the community for those living off-installation.
- Improve community awareness about the SVC Program, especially the broadened client scope per the NDAA.
- Determine if the Military & Civilian Summit will become an annual event.

6. County Social Services: Low-Income Support Services

6.1. Existing Conditions

6.1.1. Summary of 2010 Conditions

The 2010 Growth Coordination Plan found that, on average, Pierce and Thurston Counties are comparative to statewide averages on poverty measures, with 11.3 percent of Pierce County residents and 9.7 percent of Thurston County residents living below the Federal Poverty Level in 2008; however, the Lakewood and Tacoma areas, as well as unincorporated areas of Spanaway, had higher levels of poverty. In general, the rate of use of WA's Basic Food Program was found to be on par with the state use rate, with the exception of communities with high military populations—Lacey, Lakewood, Tacoma, and Yelm—which had higher use rates. The plan also found that overall use rates dramatically increased between 2007 and 2009, likely due to economic challenges and increasing deployments. The plan noted that the Clover Park School District, which serves JBLM, provided free and reduced lunches and breakfasts to 70 percent of the children enrolled in the district, and 85 percent of children enrolled at Hillside Elementary School on JBLM received free and reduced lunch. Regarding emergency food services was increasing, while the resources to provide emergency food were declining, significantly straining the system.

6.1.2. Current Conditions

As shown figure 6.1, Pierce County's 2019 poverty rate was 9.4%, down 2.6% from 2010. Thurston County's 2019 poverty rate was 9.1%, down 2.8% from 2010.

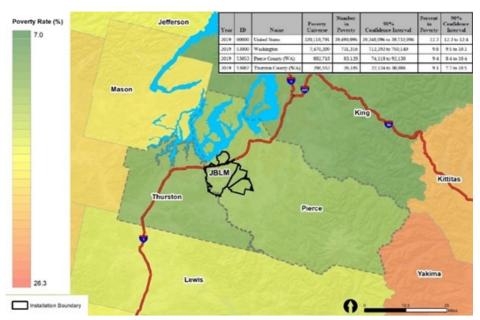


Figure 6.1 Poverty Rates in Pierce and Thurston Counties

Based on the approved 2021 pay rate scales for enlisted members of the military, most junior enlisted service members qualify for Washington State's Basic Food Program (known elsewhere as the Supplemental

Nutrition Assistance Program [SNAP]). For those who have more years of service this assessment may vary. For instance, an E-4 with six or more years of service is entitled to military pay in the amount of \$2,829 per month (DFAS 2021). This same service member would qualify for the Basic Food Program in the State of Washington regardless of household size (e.g., whether they are single or married with children) (WSDSHS 2021).¹

According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, the Washington Basic Food Program reached 825,000 Washington residents in 2019, or roughly one in nine people living in the State (CBPP 2021). Of these, 79% were living at or below the poverty level. CBPP estimates that SNAP kept

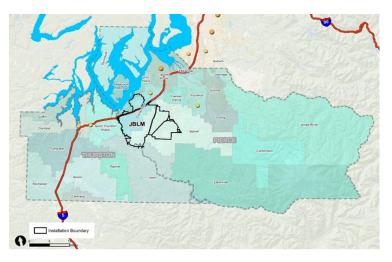


Figure 6.2 School Districts in Pierce and Thurston County

¹ According to Air Force Housing (<u>https://www.housing.af.mil/</u>), military members assigned to JBLM receive Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH), which provides housing allowances to service members based on median housing costs in local civilian markets. The allowance is set based on geographic duty location, pay grade, and dependent status and is adjusted each year.

175,000 people out of poverty annually between 2013 and 2017, including 77,000 children. SNAP is one of the Federal Assistance Programs by which children can be determined eligible for free school meals through the National School Lunch Program. The National School Lunch Program is a federally assisted meal program that provides nutritionally balanced, low-cost or free lunches to children each school day. Table 6.1 summarizes Pierce County and Thurston County's 2020-2021 participation in free and reduced school lunches. Please note that the Bethel and Clover Park School Districts serve JBLM.

County	School District	Enrollment	% Free	% Reduced
Pierce County	Tacoma	27,684	54.0%	8.0%
	Puyallup	22,051	28.4%	8.2%
	Bethel	18,605	39.5%	9.4%
	Clover Park	12,129	57.9%	9.4%
	Sumner-Bonney Lake	9,613	22.5%	6.1%
	Peninsula	7,741	15.1%	2.9%
	Franklin Pierce	7,697	82.4%	0%
	White River	4,022	20.5%	6.2%
	Fife	3,920	31.4%	10.2%
	Steilacoom Historical	3,140	17.6%	5.6%
	Orting	2,761	20.7%	5.6%
	Eatonville	1,786	29.9%	9.6%
	Dieringer	1,395	11.3%	3.9%
	Summit Public Schools - Olympus	200	45.0%	11.5%
	Carbonado	188	14.4%	1.6%
Thurston County	North Thurston	14,690	32.7%	8.8%
	Olympia	9,783	25.8%	3.9%
	Tumwater	5,849	24.7%	7.6%
	Yelm	5,484	34.9%	11.2%
	Rochester	2,164	40.1%	9.9%
	Tenino	1,257	41.8%	7.3%
	Rainier	876	33.0%	7.5%
	Griffin	607	17.5%	3.5%
	WA HE LUT Indian School Agency	133	95.5%	0.0%

 Table 6.1 Enrollment in Free and Reduced National School Lunch Program for 2020-2021

Source: WA Public Instruction 2021

Military Family Hunger

Many active duty service members and their families face food insecurity, which is defined by Feeding America as a lack of consistent access (either temporarily or long-term) to enough food for every person in a household to live an active, healthy life. Food insecurity is linked to adverse mental health impacts; for example, according to a study published by BMC Public Health, food insecurity is associated with a 257% higher risk of anxiety and a 253% higher risk of depression (compared to losing a job during the pandemic, which is associated with a 32% increase in risk for anxiety and a 27% increase in risk for depression).

The COVID-19 pandemic has revealed and exacerbated food insecurity among military families due to financial instability, unexpected lifestyle changes, difficulty accessing healthy food, increased cost of living, and the magnification of pre-pandemic challenges (Military Family 2021). According to the Washington Military Family Hunger advocacy campaign, as many as 20% of military households in the state have faced food insecurity during the pandemic. A survey conducted by the Military Family Advisory Network in the first quarter of 2021 focused on understanding how the pandemic has impacted military and Veteran families' ability to get enough food during the previous 12 months. Of the 1,362 respondents:

- One in five respondents was experiencing food insecurity, as compared to one in eight in fall 2019 before the pandemic,
- 10.5% reported experiencing hunger, as compared to 7.7% in fall 2019,
- 9.1% reported experiencing low food security, as compared to 5% in fall 2019, and
- Most came from enlisted ranks, specifically E4 to E6 (Military Family 2021).

The following factors were identified in respondents as corresponding to a greater likelihood of experiencing food insecurity:

- E1 to E6 rank,
- Household size of four or more,
- Children 18 years old or younger, and
- Low educational attainment (those attaining an associate degree or higher are less likely to experience food insecurity) (Military Family 2021).

The top five means by which respondents accessed food resources included:

- Family (27.9%)
- Community food bank/pantry (non-faith-based) (25.5%)
- Free or reduced meals at school (24.5%)
- Friends (18.8%), and
- Faith-based organizations (14.1%) (Military Family 2019).

These trends are being seen in the JBLM region, where active-duty service members and families are experiencing high rates of food insecurity. This issue was discussed in an October 2021 SSMCP Steering Committee Meeting. In that meeting, a representative from Food Lifeline briefed the following factors causing hunger for military families in the JBLM region:

- **Pay and Employment:** low salaries for enlisted members, high rates of unemployment for military spouses due to the transitory nature of the military employment, high cost of living near many military bases across the country, and high cost of childcare.
- **Military Culture:** the culture of self-sufficiency in the military may serve as a deterrent to service members seeking assistance to which they are entitled.
- **SNAP Eligibility:** SNAP eligibility is treated differently for service members who live off base. The Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) is included when calculating income to determine SNAP eligibility, making some service members ineligible. Notably, rents in the JBLM region are considered an anomaly and, as such, the BAH is very low (with many service members living off base).

As noted during the meeting, food insecurity exacerbates mental health conditions in an area already underserved with mental health providers. SSMCP stakeholders also noted that many service members have low economic literacy, which can contribute to financial issues. Additionally, food banks in the region, while

currently well-funded, experience supply chain issues. Several organizations are working at the local level to address military family hunger in the JBLM region.

- The **Washington Military Family Hunger Advocacy Campaign** aims to unite people and organizations across Washington in support of Veterans and military members, reservists, and their families. The Nourish Pierce County Food Bank and Thurston County Food Bank have joined the campaign's statewide coalition. Organizations who join the coalition work with partners across the state to elevate the issue of food insecurity among military Veterans, military members, and their families, advocate for passage of a military Basic Needs Allowance in the upcoming NDAA, and join the network of organizations (e.g., food banks, food pantries, community groups, associations, etc.) working to support military Veterans, military members, and their families.
- **Food Lifeline** is a non-profit organization that is focused on ending hunger in Western Washington by sourcing nutritious food from a variety of food industry partners and distributing the food through a partnership with 350 food banks, shelters, and meal programs. On average, Food Lifeline provides the equivalent of more than 201,000 meals every single day. The organization is also focused on addressing the root causes of hunger through advocacy efforts to shape local, state, and federal policy by partnering with organizations that are addressing other causes of poverty, and through community engagement and mobilization efforts. In October 2021, Food Lifeline held a drive-thru distribution event sponsored by the Military Family Advisory Network and in Partnership with Nourish Pierce County and Food Lifeline. The event served over 523 active-duty households.

Notably, many of the factors that contribute to hunger, such as unemployment for military spouses, housing allowances, and high cost of childcare, are issue areas in which the SSMCP is already working. The aforementioned study published in BMC Public Health ultimately concluded that food insecurity caused by the pandemic was associated with increased risk of mental illness. The study recommends the following focus areas for addressing food insecurity:

- Focus public health measures on getting direct subsidies of food purchases to poor families, especially families with children, and
- Reduce the stigma and shame that is associated with accepting charitable foods.

Stakeholder discussions noted that military family hunger has been a "hidden" issue and there is a need to bring the issue to the forefront in order to effectively advocate for solutions and conduct outreach to provide service members and their families relief.

Washington 211

In order to connect community members (military and civilian) to the social services available in their area, United Way manages the 211 phone system in most parts of the United States. This phone system, including Washington 211, is designed to be an easy-to-remember phone number to provide referrals to health and human services. It provides quick access to health and human services, encourages prevention, and fosters self-sufficiency (UWTC 2021).

South Sound 211 is operated by the United Way of Pierce County and provides information and services for those living in the Thurston County area as well. United Way of Thurston County provides advocacy and financial support for the local 211 operations. South Sound 211 offers live assistance Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. (UWPC 2021). Recognizing a specific need for connecting residents in the region to basic assistance, South Sound 211 also has specialists focused on transportation, housing, mental health and basic food enrollment services, including:

• **Transportation:** since one of the biggest barriers to employment, medical appointments, or even grocery shopping can be transportation, specialists continually update information, referrals and assessments to help navigate public transportation and transit agencies, medical transportation, rural transportation, and volunteer driving programs for seniors and individuals with disabilities (UWPC 2021).

- **Housing:** provide a single point of contact for various programs that support families and individuals experiencing homelessness or on the verge of becoming unhoused, including emergency housing or shelter, wait lists for housing placement, permanent housing, home maintenance, and eviction and foreclosure prevention (UWPC 2021).
- **Mental Health:** trained specialist provides confidential information about counseling, support groups and other forms of mental health assessment and treatment, including outpatient and inpatient programs, psychiatric assessment resources, recovery support, and group and individual counseling (UWPC 2021).
- **Basic Food Benefits:** the Basic Food Program (or SNAP) offers nutrition assistance to thousands of eligible, low-income individuals and families and specialists will walk residents through eligibility requirements, application and processing, Washington State information, benefits locations for participating stores and other sources, and available food products (UWPC 2021).

The South Sound 211 program includes many community- and faith-based partner organizations who specialize in social service provisions. More information is available on their website at www.uwpc.org/get-help-now-dial-211. Since 2010, partners in the region have worked to ensure that information sources like Washington 211, Military OneSource, and other support hotlines coordinate to provide reliable and consistent information.

Connect Kit Program

Various SSMCP Working Groups (including the Health Care, Education, Transportation, and Social Services Working Groups) identified the need to engage in collaborative efforts to assist community members who need to access various services. In response to regional poverty trends, the SSMCP kicked off a pilot project to assemble and distribute "Connect Kits" to residents in both counties. The kits were distributed to nonprofits that service military personnel and families to increase access to care for military members, Veterans, and their families, foster learning, inspire and provoke conversations that could be useful to someone who wants access to certain services. The SSMCP works with local social service providers to distribute these kits to those in need and to track their efficacy as a tool that has the potential to formalize collaboration between social service organizations, improve access to information and existing services, improve support for military families, and improve regional mobility. In addition, the program is anticipated to alleviate some of the burden on first responders, clinicians, public health, and substance abuse communities (SSCMP 2019).

From Poverty to Possibilities Summit

"From Poverty to Possibilities" is an annual summit supported by a partnership between the United Way of Pierce County and The Greater Tacoma Community Foundation. Over the past few years, it has been attended by hundreds of local participants including direct service organizations, advocacy groups, faith-based organizations, government leaders, academics, and individuals with the lived experience of poverty. At the 2020 Summit, it was announced that United Way of Pierce County has a goal to lift 15,000 householders out of poverty and into financial stability by 2028 (UWPC 2018). This Summit is in line with the Washington State Poverty Reduction Work Group, whose goal is to reduce the number of people in the State who live under 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (WSDOC 2018).

Pierce County Community Health Assessment

In 2018, officials in Pierce County undertook a Community Health Assessment (CHA) to collect and analyze data from the community. The CHA was completed in 2019 and shared with community partners for their input and prioritization. At that time, community partners selected preliminary policy, system, and environmental changes on which to focus (TPCHD 2020a).

The Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department's Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) is an outgrowth of the CHA. It is a community-driven process that seeks to identify resources and partnerships needed to foster policies, systems, and



Figure 6.3 The 2019 Pierce County Community Health Improvement Plan Priorities Source: TPCHD 2020b

environments that promote well-being of the community members. Pierce County's CHIP goals include:

- **Equitable access to resources**, such as parks, hospitals, schools, and other public spaces.
- **Safe, reliable, and affordable housing**, including quality housing stock, appropriate land use patterns, and housing prices/availability.
- **Mobility options**, such as the availability of public transit, safe crosswalks and sidewalks, street lighting, trails, and bike lanes.
- Access to healthy food, including food security, food availability near living and working locations, healthy food education, and access to local products at farmers markers and similar (TPCHD 2020b).

Thurston County Strategic Plan

Thurston County's Strategic Plan (updated for 2019/2020) identifies 18 initiatives that are important to the overall health and success of the county. These initiatives include (but are not limited to): improving community health, wellness, and safety; reducing homelessness; and strengthening emergency medical services (Thurston County 2019).

Thurston County's Public Health and Social Services Department 2020-2024 Strategic Plan was adopted in January 2020 and identifies strategic focus areas, each with specific goals in line with the county's Strategic Plan, including:

- **Protection of Human Health:** monitor, identify, and respond to emerging health threats; reduce incidence of preventable conditions; prevent human health threats caused by contamination and environmental hazards; identify and address environmental health hazards; and improve readiness and response to public health emergencies.
- **Promotion of Healthy Behavior:** support prevention and treatment related to mental health and substance abuse; improve child and family health outcomes; and encourage healthy living.
- **Support for Well-Being:** prevent and reduce homelessness; support and expand services for individuals with developmental disabilities; and provide assistance and support to help meet community needs (Thurston County 2020).

In addition, Thurston County has recently completed a CHA and is developing their CHIP at this time. It is anticipated that this process will continue to refine the goals and initiatives that are most important to the overall health of the county's residents.

Broadband Accessibility

In 2019, Pierce County conducted a countywide broadband access evaluation and found gaps in rural areas and in between some cities. Though broadband is ultimately provided by the private sector, the county identified the following actions that the county could take to improve access. Status updates are also provided.

- Revise road standards, zoning code, and design standards to support deployment of small wireless facilities and wireline broadband (approved via ordinance 2021-9s).
- Require buried conduits to be installed with road projects and other construction in the right-of-way, enabling future providers to more easily install fiber (in-progress).
- Formalize a telecommunications franchise management program within the Planning and Public Works Department (funding secured; operational in 2021).
- Review and update franchise requirements to encourage and support the expansion of broadband (in-progress).
- Evaluate large areas that are unserved by broadband, estimate cost of service, consult with providers, and identify potential partnership opportunities (in-progress).
- Support state funding and changes in state law to increases opportunities for broadband internet service to unserved and underserved communities (in-progress).

In July 2021, the Pierce County Council committed \$15 million in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) money to help with efforts to bridge the broadband gaps across the county (Pierce County 2021).

Though Thurston County does not have a commensurate program, reports indicate that through Comcast's Internet Essentials program, which seeks to provide eligible households with affordable internet, roughly 17,000 low-income people in Thurston County have obtained internet service in their homes (Lopez 2021).

Climate Impact Concerns

The Climate Change Technical Memo details climate concerns in the region. Communities on the front lines of climate change experience the first, and often the worst effects. Frontline communities in the Pacific Northwest include tribes and Indigenous peoples, those most dependent on natural resources for their livelihoods, and the economically disadvantaged. These communities generally prioritize basic needs, such as shelter, food, and transportation; frequently lack economic and political capital; and have fewer resources to prepare for and cope with climate disruptions. The social and cultural cohesion inherent in many of these communities provides a foundation for building community capacity and increasing resilience. Notably, drought and extreme heat can contribute to heat related illnesses, including heat exhaustion and heat stroke. Additionally, isolated communities and those with systems that lack redundancy are the most vulnerable. As climate impacts in the region evolve, additional support services may be needed for vulnerable communities (e.g., need for air conditioning or access to cooling centers related to extreme heat) (May et al. 2018). Please refer to the Climate Change Technical Memo for additional information.

6.2. Needs Assessment

- Facilitate a MOU to ensure coordination and routine alignment of Washington 211 with Military OneSource.
- Develop a transition plan for continuing the Connect Kit Program (transition from SSMCP to community volunteers).

- Continue promoting the Poverty to Possibilities Summit, including the third annual summit scheduled for late 2021.
- Determine if broadband internet (equity in access) is a legislative issue that the SSMCP should add to their advocacy portfolio.
- Support regional initiatives working on addressing military family hunger.

6.3. Potential Strategies

• N/A for September draft; strategies will be discussed with SSMCP

7. County Social Services: Shelter

7.1. Existing Conditions

7.1.1. Summary of 2010 Conditions

The 2010 Growth Coordination Plan defined "shelter" as being related to affordable housing. The report noted that in Pierce County, housing assistance was provided by Pierce County Community Services, Pierce County Housing Authority, and Tacoma Housing Authority, and in Thurston County by the Housing Authority of Thurston County. In addition, Northwest Housing Development provides loans to help low-income families construct their own homes in King, Pierce, and Thurston Counties through funding provided by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development loan program.

In addition, the 2010 Growth Coordination Plan had a separate housing component, as this report does, designed to address significant issues related to housing affordability and proximity to the installation.

7.1.2. Current Conditions

The Washington State Health Assessment reported that, in 2017, one in 346 residents in the State was homeless (WSDOH 2018). During this time period, the homelessness rate in Pierce and Thurston Counties was lower than the State average. This report also noted the need to ensure that people experiencing homelessness were transitioned to adequate shelter, defined as that which does not have lead paint, lead piping, fall hazards, indoor air quality problems, or missing fire and carbon monoxide detectors.

During the COVID-19 global health emergency, federal funding was expanded to provide additional rental assistance to residents nationwide through the Federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. In Washington State, it was distributed as the Eviction Rent Assistance Program (ERAP) and the Treasury Rent Assistance Program (T-RAP) alongside funding from the Washington State Disaster Recovery Fund. All of these are noted in Table 7.1.

counties			
Location	ERAP	WA State Disaster Recovery Funds	T-RAP
Pierce County	\$10,722,687	\$4,873,881	\$32,641,782
Thurston County	\$3,183,179	\$1,446,879	\$10,210,939
Washington State	\$95,701,333	\$43,500,000	\$335,300,373

Table 7.1 – ERAP, T-RAP, and Washington State Disaster Recovery Funds in Pierce and Thurston Counties

Source: WSDOC 2021a. 2021b

In Washington State, the ERAP and State Disaster Recovery funding was distributed based upon factors such as the number of renter households and number of unemployed people. These funds were distributed by the

Washington State Department of Commerce to existing Consolidated Homeless Grant contractors; existing Office of Homeless Youth grantees; and Department of Children, Youth, and Families.

Additionally, the Washington State Department of Commerce recently initiated a Permanent Supportive Housing program study. The study's goal is to identify and investigate the financial operating deficits experienced by PSH providers which may lead to deferred maintenance, understaffed facilities, and other issues contributing to inadequate housing for residents (WSDOC 2021c).

As previously noted in Section 5.1.2, Washington 211 provides referrals to housing resources, including rental assistance, low-cost housing, shelter, and utilities.

Pierce County Comprehensive Plan to End Homelessness

In March 2021, the Pierce County Council created the Comprehensive Plan to End Homelessness Ad Hoc Committee (through Resolution Number R2021-30s). This Committee was established to develop an action plan and create a comprehensive plan to end homelessness, which is due to the County Council in November 2021. Membership was established to include three members of the Pierce County Human Services Department; two members of the Continuum of Care Committee; one member each from the cities of Lakewood, Puyallup, and Tacoma; along with two members from the Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness (Pierce County 2021).

The Ad Hoc Committee has formed two groups to help it carry out this mission:

- **Steering Committee to End Homelessness:** made up of members of the community who are developing the comprehensive plan to include steps, participants, timelines, processes, and resource needs.
- **Shelter Work Group:** made up of homeless service providers, advocates, and city representatives with the ambitious goal of building and implementing a plan to end street homelessness by 1 November 2021.

In addition, as noted in Section 5.1.2, the Tacoma-Pierce CHIP goals include safe, reliable, and affordable housing, including quality housing stock, appropriate land use patterns, and housing prices/availability.

In 2016, the Tacoma Housing Authority launched a coalition of local elected officials to tackle homelessness in the region by developing a set of priorities, such as expanding the Housing First and McCarver Elementary School Housing Programs, and supporting local jurisdictions in creating more affordable housing (Tacoma Housing 2016).

Thurston County Homeless Crisis Response Plan

Thurston County adopted a five-year Homeless Crisis Response Plan in 2019. This plan identified five main objectives to address specific strategies to address and combat homelessness throughout the county.

- **Objective 1:** Quickly identify and engage all people experiencing homelessness under the state definition, and all unaccompanied youth under any federal definition, through outreach and coordination between every system that encounters people experiencing homelessness.
- **Objective 2:** Prioritize housing for people with the greatest need.
- **Objective 3:** Operate an effective and efficient homeless crisis response system that swiftly moves people into stable permanent housing.
- **Objective 4:** Project the impact of the fully implemented local plan on the number of households housed and the number of households left unsheltered, assuming existing resources and state polices.
- **Objective 5:** Address racial disparities among people experiencing homelessness.

This work is staffed by the county's Public Health and Social Services Department's Office of Housing and Homeless Prevention. The Office's purpose includes the creation and preservation of decent affordable housing; the end of homelessness; and the provision of capital investments to improve the viability, livability, and economic stability of the county with a special focus on low- and moderate-income families.

As previously noted in Section 5.1.2, the county's 2020-2024 Strategic Plan (adopted in January 2020) identifies strategic focus areas, which include the prevention and reduction of homelessness throughout the county (Thurston County 2020).

Veterans Support

The Thurston County Veterans Assistance Fund provides eligible Veterans and their families assistance with services and resources, including past due rent or mortgage, first month's rent, referral services, burial or cremation services, limited food, and utility assistance. Pierce County's Veterans Assistance Programs provide emergency assistance to qualified indigent Veterans and family members.

Additional resources in the region include:

- Lacey Veterans Services Hub is a one-stop-shop for the needs of Veterans and their families, providing assistance with benefits, counseling, housing, finance, employment, education, nutrition, health care, and legal services. This support includes van service to and from the American Lake VA Medical Center and free transportation for work-related activities to qualified job seekers in nearby urban areas. The Hub's Veterans Housing Option Group also facilitates weekly informational sessions to connect homeless Veterans with regional support programs (Lacey Veterans 2021).
- **Tacoma Rescue Mission** provides designated shelter space and specially trained staff to support Veterans experiencing homelessness. The shelter supports Veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder and has an on-site center that provides crucial one-on-one assistance, guidance and encouragement (Tacoma Rescue 2021).

Figures 7.1-7.3 illustrate Thurston County's Veteran population, by census tract, from 2011 to 2018. The distribution of Veterans within Thurston County has remained relatively similar from 2011 to 2018, with the majority of Veterans in census tracts adjacent to the western boundary of JBLM. Appendix B provides additional demographic information about the Veteran population in Thurston County and the four largest cities in the county (Lacey, Olympia, Tumwater, and Yelm).

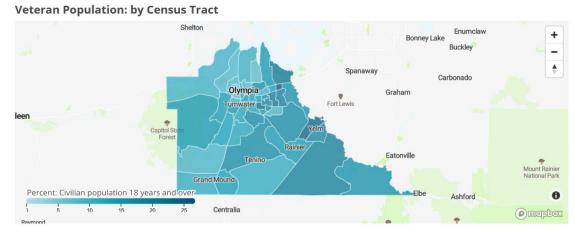


Figure 7.1 Thurston County Veteran Population by Census Tract from 2011-2015 Source: Lacev Veterans Services Hub

Veteran Population: by Census Tract

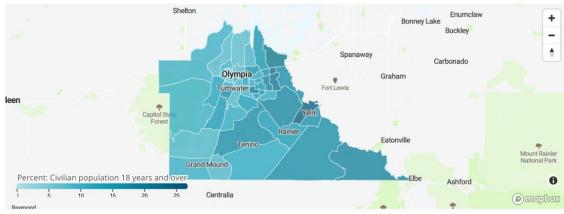


Figure 7.2 Thurston County Veteran Population by Census Tract from 2013-2017

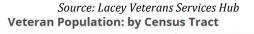




Figure 7.3 Thurston County Veteran Population by Census Tract from 2014-2018 Source: Lacey Veterans Services Hub

In 2019, Pierce County passed Resolution R2019-94, A Resolution of the Pierce County Council Establishing an "Ending Veteran Homelessness Exploratory Task Force" to Report to the County Council on the Feasibility of

Ending Veteran Homelessness in Pierce County after a 2018 Pierce County Behavioral Health study identified fostering coalitions to meet the needs of all Veterans as a primary recommendation. The resolution initiated the Ending Veteran Homelessness Exploratory Task Force. The task force is charged with aiding Pierce County in the evaluation of county programs and policies related to Veteran homelessness aimed at meeting the criteria and benchmarks needed to end Veteran homelessness (Pierce County 2019).

In May 2021, Quixote Communities, an organization that seeks to provide permanent supportive housing for people experiencing homelessness, partnered with the Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs and the Puget Sound Veterans Hope Center to open the Orting Veterans Village in Pierce County. The village encompasses five acres and can



Figure 7.4 Orting Veterans Village Source: Panza 2021.

accommodate up to 35 residents in permanent tiny houses, shown in Figure 7.4.

Additionally, the Thurston County Public Health and Social Services Department's Strategic Plan (2020-2024) lays out numerous priorities and goals, including providing assistance and support to meet community needs, including those of Veterans. In pursuit of this goal, the plan outlines a Veterans Employment Initiative pilot program to identify and support at-risk Veterans, which was to be implemented in mid-2020.

Child Homelessness

In Thurston County, an individual is more likely to be homeless if they are under 18 years old. A 2020 Point-In-Time (i.e., one-day) homelessness survey found that more innovative outreach is needed to effectively connect with students and families experiencing homeless. The survey results, which are summarized in Table 7.2, found that although the Tumwater School District has only 60% of the population of Olympia School District, Tumwater had nearly as many homeless students as Olympia. Rochester and Yelm, which have significantly smaller populations than Olympia, Lacey, and Tumwater, had more than 100 students experiencing homelessness, respectively, and North Thurston School District in Lacey had the most students experiencing homelessness (TCPHSL 2020).

School District	Doubled Up	Hotel/Motel	Sheltered	Unsheltered	Total Homeless
Griffin (Olympia)	<10	0	0	0	13
North Thurston (Lacey)	688	35	35	121	879
Olympia	170	17	47	37	271
Rainier	12	0	0	0	14
Rochester	100	12	<10	<10	125
Tenino	Suppressed	0	<10	<10	38
Tumwater	167	32	23	28	250
Yelm	121	<10	18	<10	146
TOTAL	<1268	<106	<143	<216	1736

Table 7.2 Homeless Students and their Point-In-Time Residence Source: TCPHSL 2020

According to the regional organization Child Care Resources, which works with families, childcare providers, community organizations, and advocacy groups to improve the quality of early childhood care, Pierce County has experienced a 50% increase in homelessness in families. The organization's Child Care Program connects Pierce County Children and families with short-term childcare subsidies and enhanced coordination to other early intervention and basic needs resources to end homelessness. In 2018, the organization supported 1,339 homeless children from 806 families with childcare subsidies and/or service coordination (CCR 2021).

7.2. Needs Assessment

- Ensure that new organizations and initiatives, like the Pierce County Ending Veteran Homeless Exploratory Task Force, are invited to participate in relevant SSMCP Working Groups.
- Please refer to the Land Use and Housing Technical Memos for additional discussion of housing availability and affordability in the region.

8. County Social Services: Family Support Services

8.1. Existing Conditions

8.1.1. Summary of 2010 Conditions

At the time of publication of the 2010 Growth Coordination Plan, Family Support Centers, which play a role in connecting families with needed services, had lost over \$250,000 in funding due to budget cuts. Please refer to the Childcare Technical Memo for additional discussion of child and family services conditions in 2010. The plan found that the use of Child Protective Services was highest in Lacey, Lakewood, Puyallup, Tacoma, and Yelm. The YWCA was noted as the only on-site attorney in Pierce County providing legal services to domestic violence victims. SafePlace in Thurston County provided a legal clinic with attorneys, advocates, and other volunteers twice a month.

8.1.2. Current Conditions

There are a variety of child and family services available to the residents of the South Sound. Some of these are listed below:

- **Pierce County Family Resource Centers:** The Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department has nine Family Resource Centers located throughout the area. At these centers, families can be connected to resources to meet their basic needs, such as basic food benefits, rental and energy assistance programs, counseling services, free diapers and wipes, immunizations, domestic violence intervention, child growth screening and assessments, behavioral health assistance, parenting education programs, career advisory services, and access to local resources that may help with other needs (TPCHD 2021).
- **Family Support Center of South Sound (FSCSS):** The FSCSS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit agency that provides coordinated supportive services to parents, children, and survivors of violence in one centralized location. Services that are available at the FSCSS include a family justice center, family resources services, homeless family services, and parent and child education. In addition, Camp HOPE America-Washington was launched in 2017 to serve children and youth impacted by domestic violence. In addition, the region's largest 24/7 family shelter, Pear Blossom Place, provides shelter for families who are experiencing homelessness, regardless of composition (FSCSS 2021).
- **Mary Bridge Children's Hospital's Child Abuse Intervention Department (CAID)**: Mary Bridge Children's Hospital in Tacoma maintains the CAID to empower families to stop abuse. CAID works in partnership with the Children's Advocacy Center of Pierce County to provide services that include: medical treatments needed following domestic violence and sexual assault, forensic exams, assistance navigating the legal system, assistance accessing community resources, and information and referrals for families (Mary Bridge 2021).
- **SafePlace:** SafePlace is a domestic violence service provider for Thurston County (the only approved provider for the county as designated by WA State DSHS) and the only 24-hour Community Sexual Assault Program for Thurston County, accredited by Washington State. Based on the State of Washington, recognition as a community-based domestic violence/sexual assault organization, distinctive services and programs for survivors are provided, including these 24/7 support services during times of crisis: confidential emergency shelter with basic needs; telephone helpline to connect victims with resources needed during crisis; sexual assault in-person response including hospital accompaniment; and prison sexual assault response. SafePlace also provides community services; education, prevention, and outreach services; housing; and community training (SafePlace 2021).
- **Thurston County Volunteer Legal Services (TCVLS):** TCVLS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that provides free legal advice and information for civil (non-criminal) matters for residents of several area counties, including Thurston County. Volunteer attorneys are available by appointment at free evening legal clinics at numerous locations in the region (TCVLS 2021).
- **Thurston Coalition for Women's Health:** In 2010, The Thurston County Health Department received a planning grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office on Women's Health. This grant provided an opportunity to identify and prioritize health issues impacting women and girls throughout the county. This organization was especially active from 2012-2016 and

developed a variety of flyers related to healthy relationships dealing with issues such as dating violence, emotional abuse, domestic violence, and child abuse. In the 2017 timeframe, this coalition transitioned to coordination with the Family Support Center (Thurston County 2021b).

• **Pierce County Sheriff's Department (PCSD) Domestic Violence Unit:** The PCSD's Domestic Violence Unit is comprised of detectives and deputies whose responsibility is to investigate crimes related to domestic violence, such as assaults, property damage, court order violations, rapes, threats, and custody interference. Unit members serve as liaisons to health care providers, advocacy groups, and social service agencies (PCSD 2021).

A 2018 Washington State Health Assessment found that Pierce County had a higher domestic violence offense rate than Washington State (600/100,000 persons), and Thurston County had a lower domestic violence rate than the state (WA Health 2018). As previously noted, community organizations work closely with JBLM on domestic violence awareness initiatives, including collaborative programming for Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October and National Child Abuse Prevention Month in April, to reduce domestic violence in the region.

The SSMCP has a Social Services Working Group that performs legislative advocacy for childcare issues throughout the State of Washington. A recent success stemming from this advocacy was the passage of Senate Bill 5237 which expanded accessible, affordable childcare and early childhood development programs. This bill's passage has a meaningful impact for service members, especially those who live off-installation (estimated to be 70% of the JBLM service member population), and for those who are transitioning out of the military and may be unprepared for the cost of childcare in facilities that are not supported by federal installations.

Please refer to the Education and Childcare Technical Memo for discussion of current childcare conditions.

Pierce County Priorities

The Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department's 2019 CHIP priorities include equitable access to resources, including the development of family-friendly work policies, parenting education, and on-site childcare. While these priorities are specific to county organizations, open discussion about them can have far-reaching effects.

Thurston County Priorities

The Thurston County Public Health and Social Services Department's Strategic Plan (2020-2024) lays out numerous priorities and goals, including healthy living goals that impact local childcare providers' use, storage, and disposal of household hazardous waste.

8.2. Needs Assessment

• No specific needs were identified given current conditions.

9. County Social Services: Seniors and Persons with Disabilities

9.1. Existing Conditions

9.1.1. Summary of 2010 Conditions

The 2010 Growth Coordination Plan found that seniors and those with disabilities were not facing significant challenges obtaining social services, but noted that the JBLM region is a popular location for military retirees and, consequently, the number of retirees in the region was expected to increase over the next few decades.

9.1.2. Current Conditions

Pierce County Priorities

Numerous goals and priorities outlined in the TPCHD CHIP have a direct impact on those who are elderly or disabled, including:

- Safe, reliable, and affordable housing, including available housing stock and housing security;
- Availability of multi-modal transportation options, including public transit and medical transit;
- Reducing isolation while improving social connection and community vibrancy, including access to social capital; and
- Providing equitable access to resources such as parks, hospitals, churches, and opportunities to be involved in the community (TPCHD 2020a).

Thurston County Priorities

Numerous goals and priorities outlined in the TCPHSS Strategic Plan (2020-2024) have a direct impact on those who are elderly or disabled, including:

- Support for the well-being of those with developmental disabilities, to include the creation of regional partnerships aimed at improving provider capacity, awareness, communications, and needs assessments.
- Encouragement for healthy living including Healthy Relationships classes for individuals with development disabilities (Thurston County 2020).

Mobility Support Services

The Lewis-Mason-Thurston Area Agency on Aging provides funding to local providers in Thurston County for transportation services for adults with disabilities and seniors 60+ to activities, including: medical and health care services, social services, meal programs, senior centers, and shopping and recreational activities (LMTAAA 2021). The Pierce County Coordinated Transportation Coalition's "Need a Ride? Get a Ride" Program works to remove transportation barriers for these seniors and people with disabilities to facilitate access to school. iobs. medical appointments, and social activities by creating a coordinated system

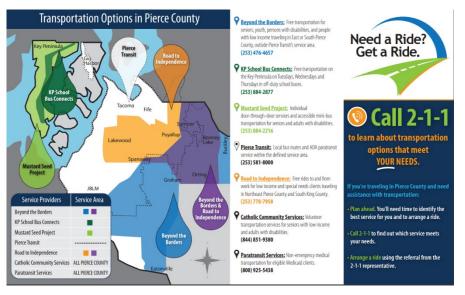


Figure 9.1 Transportation Options in Pierce County *Source: PCCTC 2021.*

where individuals with limited transportation options can access the services they need (PCCTC 2021). Please refer to the Transportation Technical Memo for additional discussion of current transportation conditions.

9.2. Needs Assessment

• Determine the extent to which SSMCP would like to incorporate paratransit initiatives in transportation advocacy efforts.

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Appendices

Appendix A: JBLM Programming



Your Community Navigator

Jul. - Dec. 2021

Anger Control Training

Eight 2-Hour sessions. Must attend all sessions for certificate of completion.

For Men: 9-11 am ·Rm. 102 · Jun. 28, 30, Jul. 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 26 · Aug. 30, Sep.1, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27 · Nov. 1, 3, 8, 10, 15, 17, 22, 24

For Women: 9-11 am · Rm. 102 · Aug. 3, 5, 10, 12, 17, 19, 24, 26 · Nov. 2, 4, 9, 16, 18, 23, 30, Dec. 2

Anger & Stress Management

Oct 4 · 9-10:30 am · Rm. 102 Dec. 6 · 11 :30 am - 1 pm · Rm. 102

Learn the brain science of stress & anger and explore how unmanaged stress and anger can impact relationships

Five Love Languages



Identify your personal love language as well as understand the love language of the important people in your life

<u>for Couples</u> Sep. 21 | Nov. 2 · 2:30 - 4 pm · Rm. 102

<u>for Parents of Teens</u> Jul. 27 · 2:30 - 4 pm· Rm. 102

<u>for Parents</u> Oct. 5 · 11:30 am - 1 pm · Rm. 102 Dec. 7 ·5 - 6:30 pm · Rm. 102



JBLM | Directorate of Personnel & Family Readiness

Family Advocacy Program

Offering prevention & education classes, including workshops to strengthen Family relationships using education, information & referral.

If you or someone you know is experiencing abuse, contact the JBLM Safeline 253-966-SAFE (7233) • 24 Hours / 7 Days a Week

All classes below are located at Bldg. 2013: 2013-A N. 3rd St. (Lewis Main)

#Adulting Four 2-Hour sessions

Aug. 31, Sep 2, 7 & 9 | 12-2 pm·Rm. 102 Covers a variety of topics needed to successfully make yourway through adulthood

Taking Care of Business

Dec. 7, 9 · 9-11 am·Rm. 102 There's no guidebook on how to be an adult. Leam how to manage life's challenges with confidence.

You've Got Personality

Aug. 17 · 12 - 1:30 pm · Rm. 102 Nov. 8 · 5 - 6:30 pm · Rm. 102

Learn to understand different personality types to more easily solve problems and avoid conflict

Expectation Management

Jul. 14 · 9 - 10:30 am · Rm. 101 Oct. 18 · 5 - 6:30 pm · Rm. 101

Lessen the power that unmet expectations can have over a relationship

Detecting Icebergs & Thinking Traps

Sep. 1 · 12 - 2 pm · Rm. 102 Oct. 7 · 9 - 11 am · Rm. 102

Identify your core beliefs and values to gain control over emotions and Treactions

Problem Solving Aug. 3 · 12-1:30 pm · Rm. 102

Nov· 15 · 11:30 am -1 pm · Rm. 102

Learn and practice safe ways of taking and solving problems, big and small, as a team in your relationships

Relationship 101 0ct.5,7 · 5 - 6:30 pm · Rm. 102

This class is designed to bring dating or married couples back to basics.

Register for classes online at JBLMFamilyAdvocacy.timetap.com

Mindfulness Couple's Painting



Dec. 1 · 5-9 pm · Rm. 111

Couples strengthen their bonds through this FREE acrylics painting session. No artisitc ability required. One registration per couple

Recipe for a Healthy Relationship

Aug. 26 | 11:30 am -1 pm · Rm. 101 Oct. 6 | 5 -6:30 pm · Rm. 101

Identify communication danger signs, and gain skills on how to avoid negative conflict

What to Expect Before Marriage Jul. 13 | 11:30 am - 1 pm · Rm. 102

Dating, engaged, or newly married couples learn tips to develop a loving, successful marriage

Intercultural Marriage Dec. 8. 11 am - 1 pm · Rm. 102

Discuss cultural barriers that may arise in an intercultural marriage to work towards finding balance and contentment

Within Our Reach

Four 2-Hour Sessions Nov. 8, 10, 15 & 17 · 2-4 pm · Rm. 102

Build on existing strengths, adding critical life & relationship skills to create safer, more stable unions



Directorate of Personnel & Family Readiness jblmdpfr.com | (253) 967-5901 Your Community Navigator

JBLM DPFR Marketing Jun. 2021



Your Community Navigator

Jul. - Dec. 2021

The Fourth Trimester Aug. 23 | Oct. 25 | Dec. 6 · 1-4 pm·RRC

All your questions about the first three months with your baby...answered!

Baby Boot Camp

Jul. 26 Sep. 27 Nov. 29 · 1-4 pm · Rm. 111 Learn how to take care of a newborn, understand

developmental stages, and care for a sick child in this interactive class

Nutrition for Infants & Toddlers

Aug. 10 · 9-11 am · Rm. 111 Oct. 12 | Dec. 9 · 9-11 am · Rm. 101

Learn basic nutritional needs for children 0-3 and how to establish / continue lifelong healthy eating habits

1-2-3 Magic



Who's in charge at your house? Learn how to discipline without yelling or spanking

For Ages 0-3 : Two 2-Hour Sessions 2-4 pm · Rm. 101 Aug. 30 & Sep. 1 | Nov. 1 & 3

 For Ages 4-10:
 One 2-Hour Session

 Oct. 13 ·9 - 11 am · Rm. 102



JBLM | Directorate of Personnel & Family Readiness

Classes & Support for Parents

Offering prevention & education classes, including workshops to strengthen Family relationships using education, information & referral.

ClassRm 101, 102, & 111:Bldg. 2013: 2013-A N. 3rd St. (Lewis Main)LocationsRRC:Raptor Resiliency Center: 3204 2nd Division Dr. (Lewis Main)

Mindfulness Parenting Two 2-Hour Sessions Aug. 9&11 | Oct. 4&6 · 12 · 2 pm · Rm. 101 Dec.6 &8 · 9 - 11 am · Rm. 101

Learn how to live in the present moment to decrease stress and "mind clutter"

Recipe for Positive Parenting

2-4 pm · Rm. 101 Jul. 8 | Sep. 9 | Nov. 4

Discover the tools needed to be a confident parent based on your child's developmental age and needs

Common Sense Parenting

Two 2-Hour Sessions

1-3 pm · Rm. 101 Aug. 23 & 25 | Oct. 18 & 20 | Dec. 13 & 15

> Tried and true strategies to become a more confident parent

Stepparenting: Keeping it Sane!

Two 2-Hour Sessions Aug. 16 · 2-4 pm · Rm. 102 Nov. 4 · 5-7 pm . Rm. 102

Learn skills to build a successful stepfamily

Ditch the Diaper Nov. 22 · 2:30-4 pm · Rm. 101

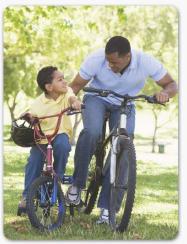
Potty training basics, such as what to expect and how to begin the process.

Real Talk: Talking to Kids About Difficult Topics Sep. 20 · 9 -10 am · Rm. 101

Dec. 1 · 2 -3 pm · Rm. 102

Learn ways to bring up difficult subjects, answer questions, and implement safeguards to streamline conversations





24/7 Dad Two 2-Hour Sessions 10 am - 12pm · RRC Aug. 10 & 17 | Oct. 19 & 26 | Dec. 7 & 14

Calling all Dads! Attend this workshop to increase fatherhood skills

Miscarriage and Infant Loss Jul. 22 | Sep. 16 · 12 - 1:30 pm · Rm. 101 Oct. 7 | Nov. 4 | Dec. 2 · 12 - 1:30 pm · RRC

Learn to make the grieving process more manageable with education, proper support, and healthy coping tools.

Crossroads of Parenting & Divorce

Use the QR Code at the bottom of this page to browse available dates and register. Seminar is taught twice monthly, except in June and December.

Approved by the Superior Court of the State of Washington, this five step seminar provides tools to prevent divorce abuse



Directorate of Personnel & Family Readiness jblmdpfr.com | (253) 967-5901

Your Community Navigator

JBLM DPFR Marketing | Jun. 2021

Community Resources

	_
Military OneSource	1-800-342-9647
www.militaryonesource.mil	
Family Health Hotline	1-800-322-2588
www.parenthelp123.org	
PAVE/STOMP	253-565-2266
Advocacy & support for special www.wapave.org	needs Families
Clover Park School District Special Education Dept.	253-583-5170
www.cloverpark.k12.wa.us	
Washington State DSHS	1-800-737-0617
State assistance and benefits	
www.washingtonconnection.or	'g
Multi Care Health System	253-403-1000
www.multicare.org/tacoma-ge	neral-hospital/
Main Post Chapel	253-967-3816
www.facebook.com/JBLMRelig	iousSupport/
Child Protective Services	1-888-235-7638
www.dcyf.wa.gov/services/child	1-welfare-system-cps
WA POISON CONTRO	
1-800-222-1	1222
www.wapc.c	-
24/7 JBLM DOMESTIC VIO	LENCE SAFELINE
253-967-SAFE	•
For Emergency Respor	nse, Call 911
SUICIDE PREVENTIO	NLIFELINE

1-800-273-TALK (8255) www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

JBLM Resources

Directorate of Personnel & Family Readiness (DPFR)		
Family Advocacy Program	253-967-5901	
DPFR Waller Hall	263-967-7166	
DPFR McChord - A&FRC	253-982-2695	
R2 Prevention	253-967-1414	
Escape Zone (McChord)	253-982-8590	
Military & Family Life Counselors (MFLC)	253-293-2223 253-293-9353	
WIC Program	253-982-0210	
Families OverComing Under Stress (FOCUS)	253-966-6390	
Child & Youth Services (CYS)		
Parent Central (Registration)	253-966-2977	
Teen Zone	253-967-4441	
Raindrops & Rainbows	253-966-4802	
Madigan Army Medical Center		
Emergency Room	253-968-1390	
Information Desk	253-968-1110	
Dahardanal Haalth FAD	252 060 4150	

Information Desk253-968-1110Behavioral Health FAP253-968-4159MAMC EFMP Enrollment253-968-0254MAMC Child & Family253-968-1370Behavioral Health System253-968-4843

New Parent Support Program Office Hours: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm, Mon-Fri

Phone: 253-967-7409



FAMILY ADVOCACY New Parent Support Program

JBLM DPFR



About Us

The New Parent Support Program (NPSP) is a home and community-based parenting support and education program, assisting both expectant parents and Families with children through age three.

Services are confidential and provided free of charge by licensed professionals with extensive knowledge and experience in a wide variety of topics, to include:

Pregnancy

- Pregnancy Health | Childbirth
- Fetal Growth & Development
- Nutrition | WIC Referrals
- Breast/Bottle Feeding
- Prenatal Bonding
- Newborn Care

Childhood

- Infant Massage
- Child Development
- Safety & Childproofing
- Parenting | Discipline
- Infant Communication
- Play & Activities
- Health & Nutrition

Family

- Single Parenting
- Sibling Rivalry | Difficult Behavior
- Deployment | Distance Parenting

NPSP Offers the following Services:

HOME VISITATIONS

We gladly offer ongoing home visitation and community-based support to you and your family by appointment, at your convenience. We will work with you individually or as a family. and provide services anywhere within 50 miles of Joint Base Lewis-McChord.

Are you having trouble with potty training or getting your child on a sleep schedule? These are some of the things we can help address during home visits. Older siblings having a difficult time adjusting to a new baby in the family? We can help with that too.

Call us at 253-967-7409 to request services and a home visitor will contact you soon to schedule an initial visit.





CLASSES

NPSP offers parenting classes free of charge. Free childcare is available for most classes through Clarkmoor & McChord hourly care centers, or through Kids-On-Site. Children must be registered with JBLM CYS to receive care.

For a full list of classes offered, please visit <u>jblmdpfr.timetap.com</u> or contact the DPFR Family Advocacy Program at 253-967-5901.



PLAYGROUPS

This is an ongoing support opportunity for children to interact and play with peers, and for parents to connect with other parents. Weekly play groups are available for different age groups - no registration requred! Call us at 253-967-7409 for more information.

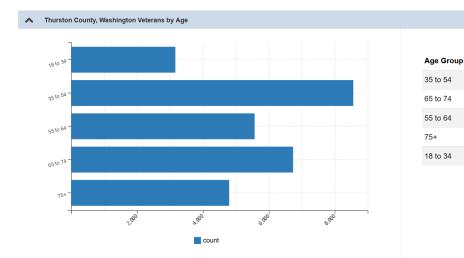
Whether you are a first time parent or a new parent again, the New Parent Support Program is here to assist you

BLM DPFR Marketing | July 2019



Appendix B: Demographic Overview of Veterans in Thurston County (provided by the Lacey Veterans Services Hub)

Thurston County



 Thurston County, Washington Veterans by Education 		Show Sources
Thurston County, Washington Veterans by Education	5.15%	Veteran Poverty Rate
44.1% Veterans by Education 17.1% 36.2%	27.68%	Veteran Disability Rate

📕 Less Than 9th Grade 📕 High School Graduate 📕 Some College 📕 Bachelors or Greater

Show Sources

LCSV LJSON

Veterans -

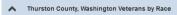
8,563

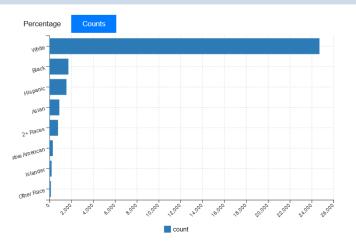
6,736

5,569

4,798

3,164





	<u>*</u>	CSV 🕹 JSON
Name	Veterans 👻	% of Total
White	24,717	13.77%
Black	1,743	26.91%
Hispanic	1,566	9.88%
Asian	913	7.34%
2+ Races	793	8.70%
Native American	317	11.30%
Islander	206	11.46%
Other Race	141	4.48%

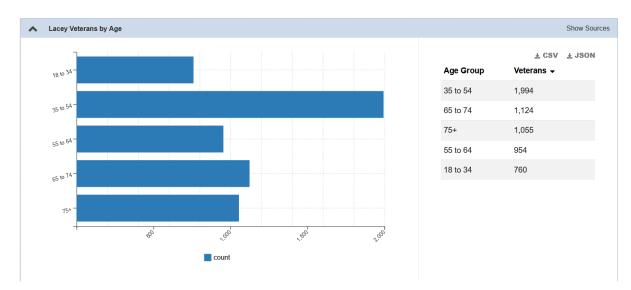
Show Sources

Thurston County, Washington Veterans by War
 28,833
 24,74
 4,087
 4,087
 War
 Veterans by War
 30.6%
 Veterans by War
 Second Gut
 Korea
 World War

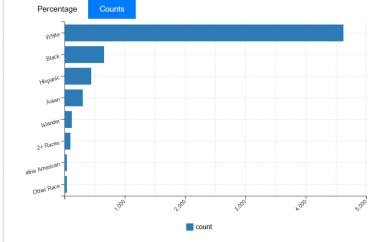
Hide Sources
US Census 2019 ACS 5-Year Survey (Table S2101)

28,830	Number of Veterans
24,743	Male Veterans
4,087	Female Veterans
War	± CSV ± JSON Veterans ↓
War Vietnam	
	Veterans 🗸
Vietnam	Veterans ↓ 9,547
Vietnam First Gulf War	Veterans ↓ 9,547 9,022

City of Lacey



▲ Lacey Veterans by Race



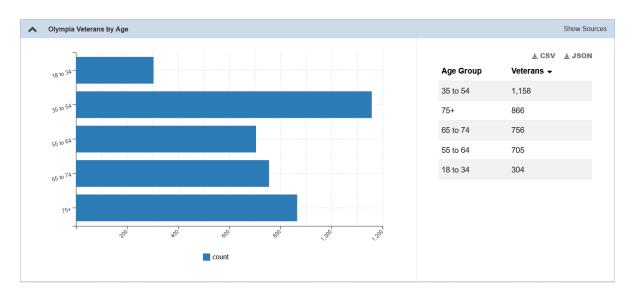
	*	CSV 7 720
Name	Veterans -	% of Total
White	4,625	17.21%
Black	657	27.33%
Hispanic	444	11.54%
Asian	304	9.06%
Islander	122	17.43%
2+ Races	99	5.35%
Other Race	40	3.78%
Native American	40	9.93%

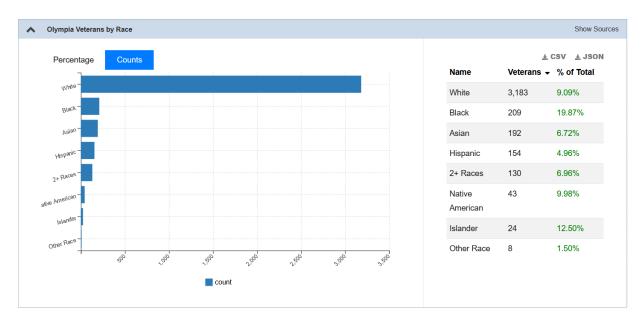
Show Sources

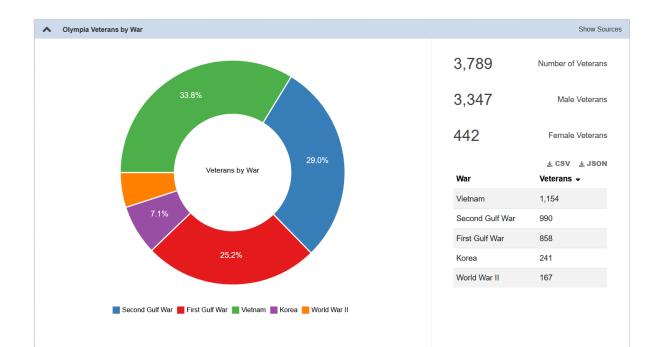
▲ Lacey Veterans by War Show Sources 5,887 Number of Veterans 4,996 Male Veterans 891 Female Veterans ±CSV ±JSON Veterans by War War Veterans -Second Gulf War 2,107 First Gulf War 2,100 Vietnam 1,708 Korea 436 World War II 159

📕 Second Gulf War 📕 First Gulf War 📕 Vietnam 📕 Korea 📕 World War II

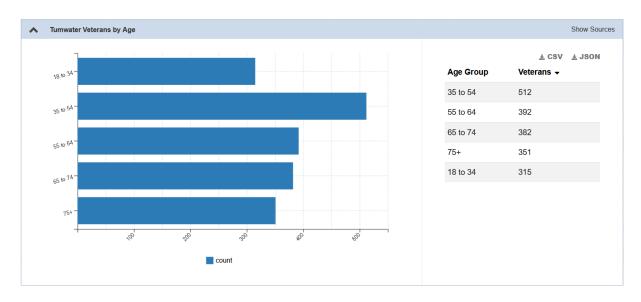
City of Olympia

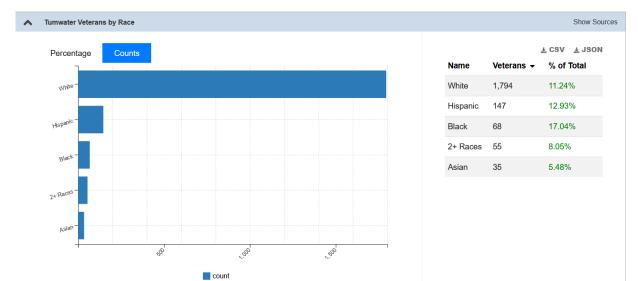


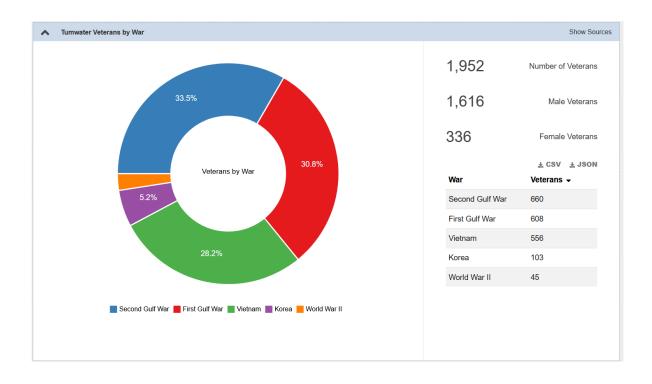




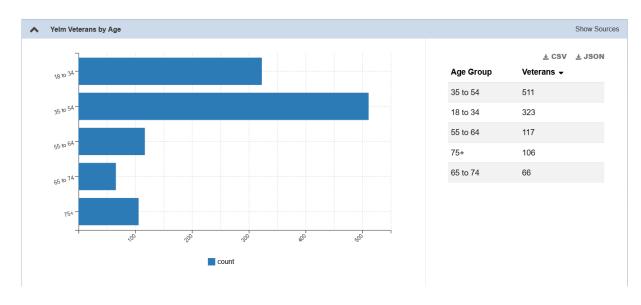
City of Tumwater



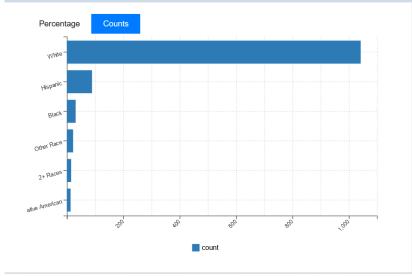




City of Yelm



A Yelm Veterans by Race



Name	Veterans 🗸	% of Total
White	1,042	23.37%
Hispanic	89	20.99%
Black	31	73.81%
Other Race	22	19.82%
2+ Races	15	2.82%
Native American	13	14.61%

Show Sources

Show Sources

Number of Veterans

Male Veterans

Female Veterans

초 CSV 초 JSON

Veterans -

759

456

116

1,123

945

178

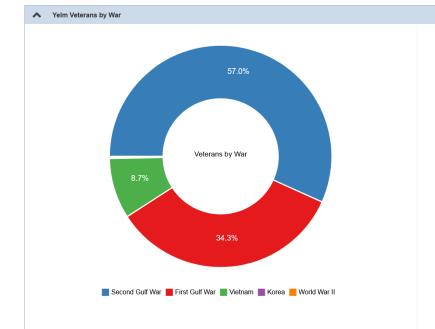
War

Second Gulf War

First Gulf War

World War II Korea

Vietnam



Appendix C: Acronyms and Abbreviations

A&FRC	Airman & Family Readiness Center
ACS	Army Community Service
ARPA	American Rescue Plan Act
CAID	Child Abuse Intervention Department
CARES	Federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act
CBPP	Center on Budget and Policy Priorities
СНА	Community Health Assessment
CHIP	Community Health Improvement Plan
DEERS	Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System
DHR	Directorate of Human Resources
DODEA	Department of Defense Education Activity
DPFR	Directorate of Personnel & Family Readiness
EAP	Employee Assistance Program
ERAP	Eviction Rent Assistance Program
FOIA	Freedom of Information Act
FSCSS	Family Support Center of South Sound
FY	Fiscal Year
JBLM	Joint Base Lewis-McChord
MOA	Memorandums of Agreement
MOU	Memorandums of Understanding
NDAA	National Defense Authorization Act
PCS	Permanent Change of Station
PCSD	Pierce County Sheriff's Department
SAPR	Sexual Assault Prevention and Response
SFAC	Service Member & Family Assistance Center
SHARP	Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention
SNAP	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
SSMCP	South Sound Military and Communities Partnership
SSO	Support Stability Operations
SVC	Special Victims' Counsel
TCVLS	Thurston County Volunteer Legal Services
T-RAP	Treasury Rent Assistance Program
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
UWPC	United Way of Pierce County
UWTC	United Way of Thurston County
VA	Veteran's Affairs
YWCA	Young Women's Christian Association