

- Education** –37 percent of Monroe residents have some college or an associate’s degree - on par with the City of Snohomish and the County, and higher than the Puget Sound region or the State. However, beyond an associate’s degree, residents of Monroe have lower educational attainment than the comparison areas. Only 20 percent have a bachelor’s degree or higher, versus the Puget Sound Region’s 37 percent and statewide averages at 31 percent. This educational data could suggest multiple economic development approaches, including encouraging additional education at Everett Community College or other institutions, and attracting jobs that are relatively high wage but do not require advanced degrees, such as in the health care and manufacturing sectors.

Table 1. Demographics: Monroe and Comparison Geographies

	City of Monroe	City of Snohomish	Snohomish County	Puget Sound Region	Washington State
Population (2013 OFM official estimates)	17,510	9,220	730,500	3,526,900	6,882,400
Median age (2012 estimate)	33.4	38.9	37.2	36.9	37.4
Average household size (2012 estimate)	2.96	2.41	2.63	2.48	2.52
Families as a percent of households (2012 estimate)	71%	61%	67%	62%	64%
Average family size (2012 estimate)	3.44	2.99	3.12	3.07	3.07
Median household income (2012 estimate)	\$59,152	\$55,448	\$62,235	\$62,069	\$55,073
Hispanic Origin (2012 estimate)	18%	8%	9%	9%	12%
Population by age (2012 estimate)					
0 to 24	35%	32%	33%	32%	33%
25 to 34	18%	13%	14%	16%	14%
35 to 44	17%	13%	14%	14%	13%
45 to 54	14%	16%	16%	15%	14%
55 to 64	8%	13%	12%	12%	13%
65+	8%	13%	11%	11%	13%
Housing Tenure (2012 estimate)					
Owner occupied housing	59%	49%	62%	56%	57%
Renter occupied housing	35%	44%	32%	37%	34%
Vacant housing units	6%	8%	7%	7%	9%
Households by Size (2010 Census)					
1 and 2 person households	49%	63%	57%	62%	62%
3 and 4 person households	35%	29%	32%	29%	28%
5+ person households	16%	8%	11%	9%	10%
Education (American Community Survey)					
Less than high school	14%	16%	9%	9%	11%
High school or equivalent	28%	26%	26%	22%	25%
Some college	37%	37%	37%	32%	34%
Bachelor's or higher	20%	22%	28%	37%	31%

Source: ESRI, US Census, Washington State Office of Financial Management, Leland Consulting Group

Growth and Demographic Shifts

The City of Monroe has opted to adopt the ‘high growth’ forecast for its future population growth scenario. Table 2 below shows the projected population for the City of Monroe as 22,102 by 2035 and just under 25,000 within the UGA. This anticipates a total UGA increase of 6,313 persons at a growth rate of approximately 1.25% per year. While City policy may help influence the type of growth Monroe experiences (demographically speaking), regional forces and broad demographic shifts will likely play a larger role in shaping demographics.