



American Community Survey

COWLITZ COUNTY

Population and Housing Narrative Profile

2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

While the ACS produces sample-based population group and housing estimates used in this report, the Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program produces and disseminates official estimates of the population for the nation, states, counties, cities and towns, as well as estimates of housing units for states and counties. For more information see: <http://www.census.gov/popest/>

Note that for small geographic areas, the sample used for the Narrative Profile may be small as well. Users are encouraged to examine the detailed tables on [American FactFinder](#) that are associated with the Narrative Profile text. These tables provide additional information on sampling variability associated with the estimates in this report.

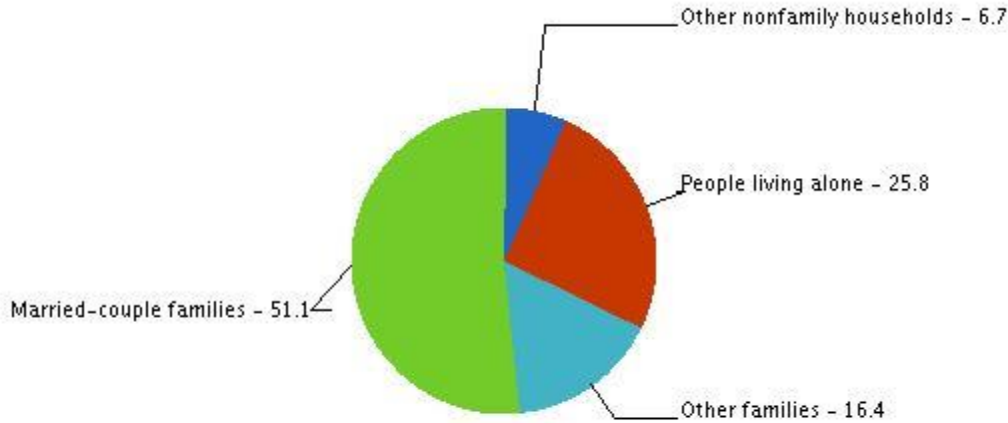
► Households and Families

In 2009-2013 there were 39,600 households in Cowlitz County, Washington. The average household size was 2.6 people.

Families made up 67 percent of the households in Cowlitz County, Washington. This figure includes both married-couple families (51 percent) and other families (16 percent). Of other families, 7 percent are female householder families with no husband present and own children under 18 years. Nonfamily households made up 33 percent of all households in Cowlitz County, Washington. Most of the nonfamily households were people living alone, but some were composed of people living in households in which no one was related to the householder.

In Cowlitz County, Washington, 30 percent of all households have one or more people under the age of 18; 29 percent of all households have one or more people 65 years and over.

Types of Households in Cowlitz County, Washington in 2009-2013



Among persons 15 and older, 53 percent of males and 51 percent of females are currently married.

Population 15 years and over	Males	Females
Never married	29.3	21.9
Now married, except separated	53.4	51.0
Separated	2.4	3.7
Widowed	2.7	9.9
Divorced	12.1	13.5

In Cowlitz County, Washington, 2,500 grandparents lived with their grandchildren under 18 years old. Of those grandparents, 52 percent of them had financial responsibility for their grandchildren.

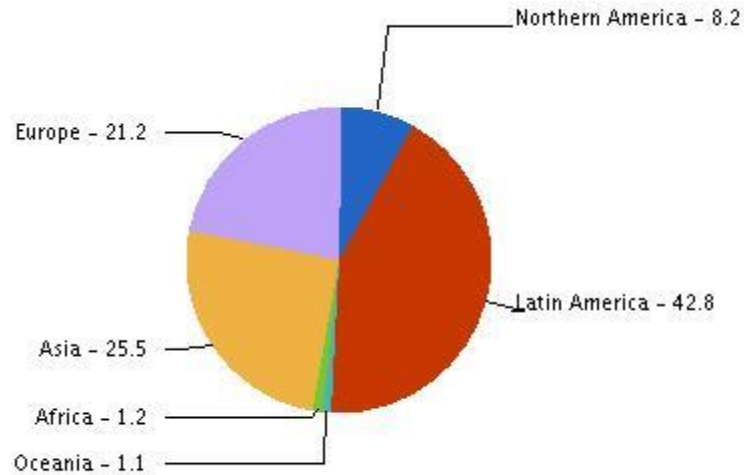
► Nativity and Foreign Born

An estimated 96 percent of the people living in Cowlitz County, Washington in 2009-2013 were native residents of the United States and 55 percent of these residents were living in the state in which they were born.

An estimated 4 percent of the people living in Cowlitz County, Washington in 2009-2013 were foreign born. Of the foreign born population, 42 percent were naturalized U.S. citizens, and 97 percent entered the country before the year 2010. An estimated 3 percent of the foreign born entered the country in 2010 or later.

Foreign born residents of Cowlitz County, Washington come from different parts of the world.

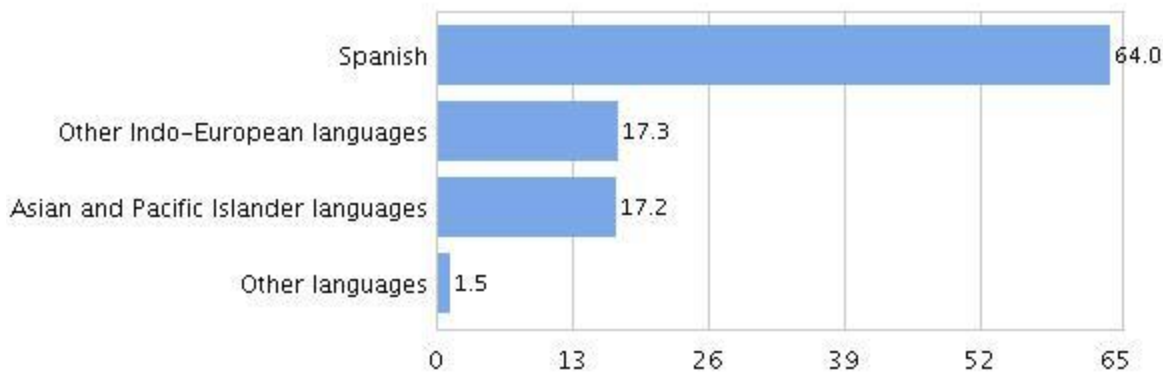
Region of Birth for the Foreign Born Population in Cowlitz County, Washington in 2009-2013



► **Language**

Among people at least five years old living in Cowlitz County, Washington in 2009-2013, 7 percent spoke a language other than English at home. Of those speaking a language other than English at home, 64 percent spoke Spanish and 36 percent spoke some other language; 41 percent reported that they did not speak English "very well."

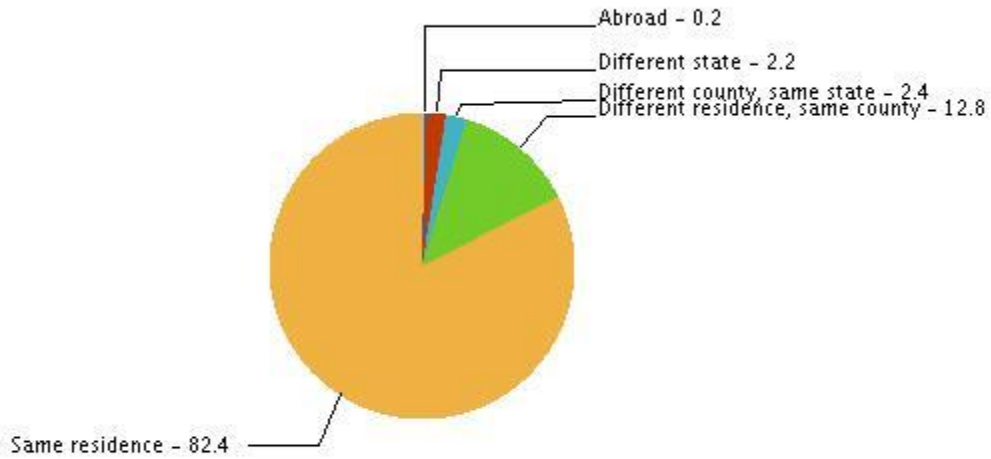
Percent of the Population 5 years and over who Speak a Language other than English in Cowlitz County, Washington in 2009-2013



► **Geographic Mobility**

In 2009-2013, 82 percent of the people at least one year old living in Cowlitz County, Washington were living in the same residence one year earlier.

Geographic Mobility of Residents of Cowlitz County, Washington in 2009-2013

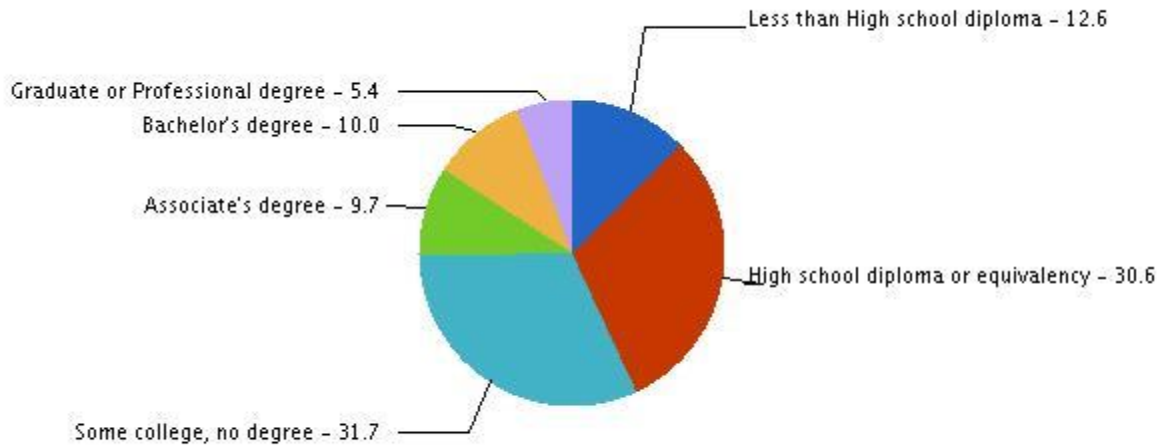


Education

In 2009-2013, 87 percent of people 25 years and over had at least graduated from high school and 15 percent had a bachelor's degree or higher. An estimated 13 percent did not complete high school.

The total school enrollment in Cowlitz County, Washington was 24,000 in 2009-2013. Nursery school and kindergarten enrollment was 2,900 and elementary or high school enrollment was 16,400 children. College or graduate school enrollment was 4,700.

Educational Attainment of People in Cowlitz County, Washington in 2009-2013



► Disability

In Cowlitz County, Washington, among the civilian noninstitutionalized population in 2009-2013, 19 percent reported a disability. The likelihood of having a disability varied by age - from 7 percent of people under 18 years old, to 18 percent of people 18 to 64 years old, and to 43 percent of those 65 and over.

► Employment Status and Type of Employer

In Cowlitz County, Washington, 50 percent of the population 16 and over were employed; 43 percent were not currently in the labor force.

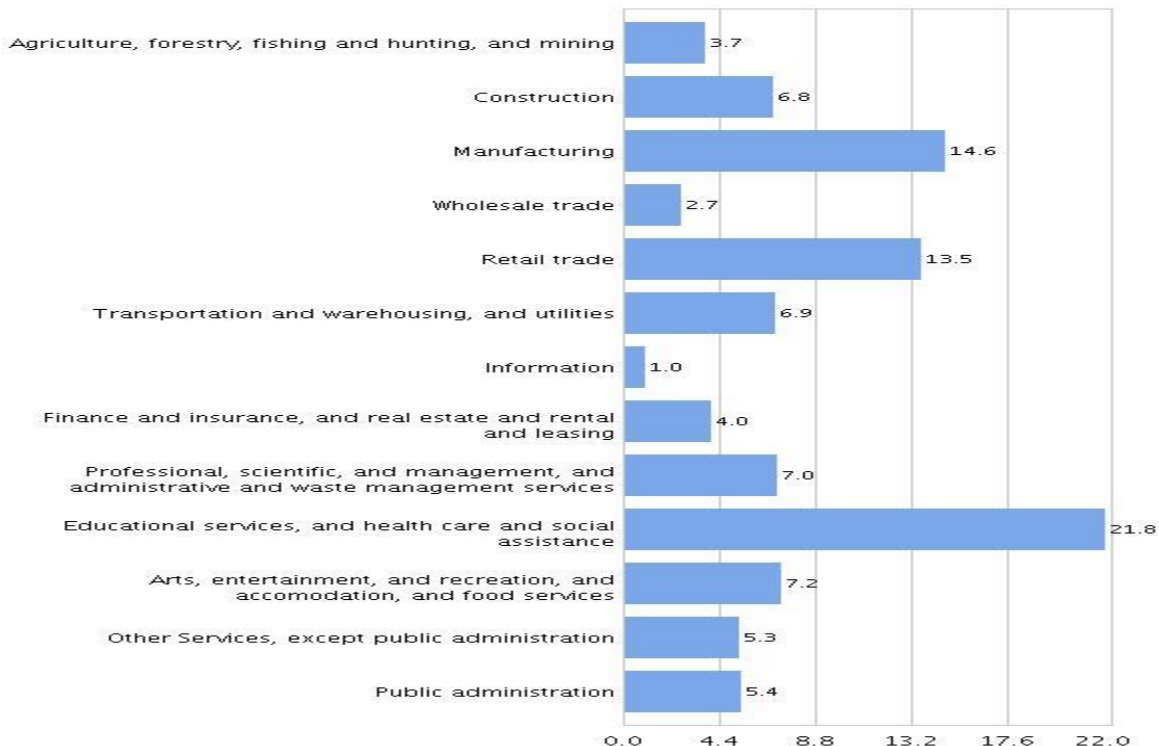
An estimated 79 percent of the people employed were private wage and salary workers; 15 percent were federal, state, or local government workers; and 6 percent were self-employed in their own (not incorporated) business.

Class of worker	Number	Percent
Private wage and salary workers	31,468	78.8
Federal, state, or local government workers	5,876	14.7
Self-employed workers in own not incorporated business	2,529	6.3

► Industries

In 2009-2013, the civilian employed population 16 years and older in Cowlitz County, Washington worked in the following industries:

Percent by Industry in Cowlitz County, Washington in 2009-2013



► Occupations

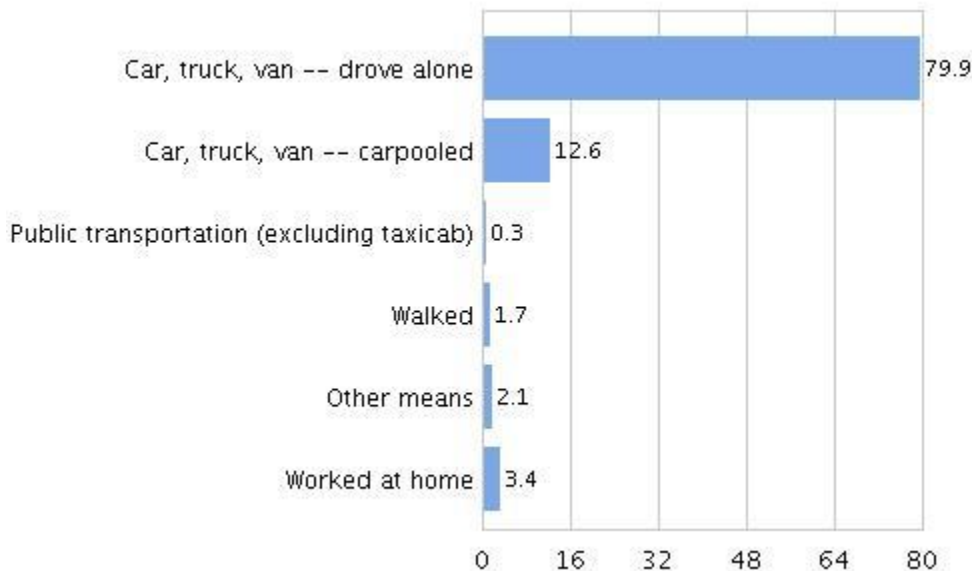
Occupations for the civilian employed population 16 years and over in Cowlitz County, Washington in 2009-2013:

Civilian employed population 16 years and over	Number	Percent
Management, business, sciences, and arts occupations	10,758	26.9
Service occupations	7,923	19.8
Sales and office occupations	9,252	23.2
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	5,209	13.0
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	6,802	17.0

► Commuting to Work

An estimated 80 percent of Cowlitz County, Washington workers drove to work alone in 2009-2013, and 13 percent carpooled. Among those who commuted to work, it took them on average 24 minutes to get to work.

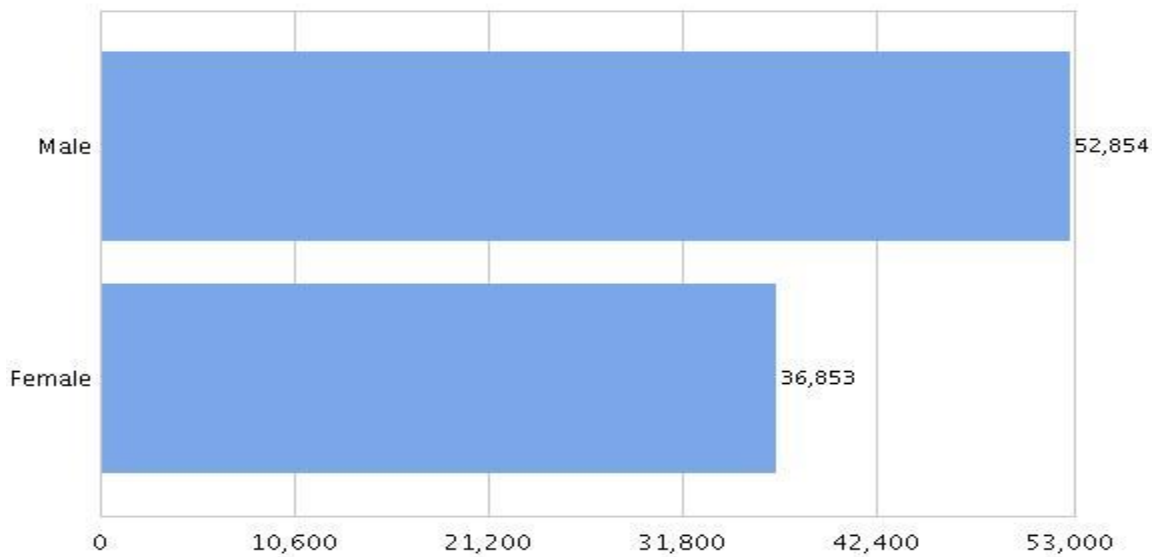
Percent of Workers 16 and over Commuting by Mode in Cowlitz County, Washington in 2009-2013



► Income

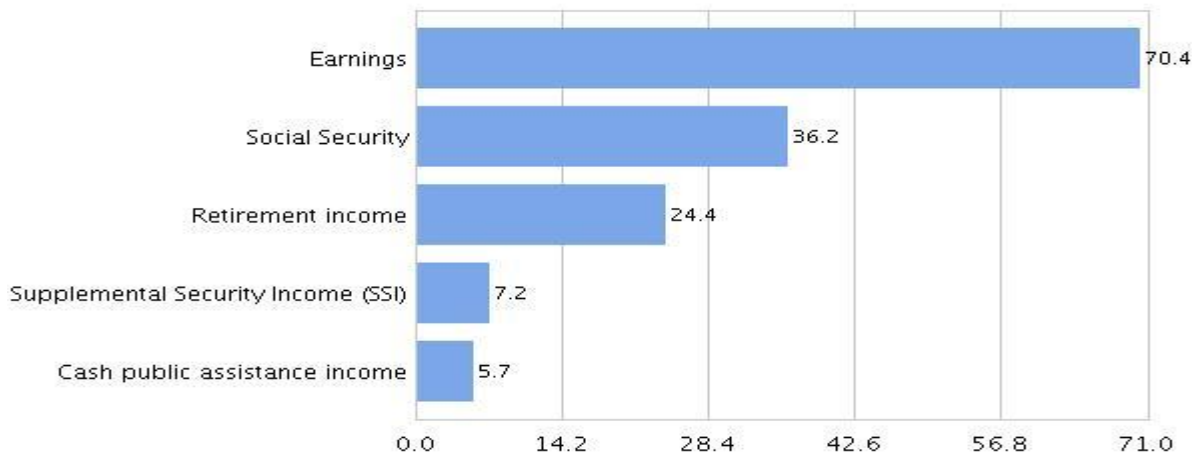
The median income of households in Cowlitz County, Washington was \$47,596. An estimated 14 percent of households had income below \$15,000 a year and 5 percent had income over \$150,000 or more.

Median Earnings for Full-Time Year-Round Workers by Sex in Cowlitz County, Washington in 2009-2013



An estimated 70 percent of the households received earnings and 24 percent received retirement income other than Social Security. An estimated 36 percent of the households received Social Security. The average income from Social Security was \$18,010. These income sources are not mutually exclusive; that is, some households received income from more than one source.

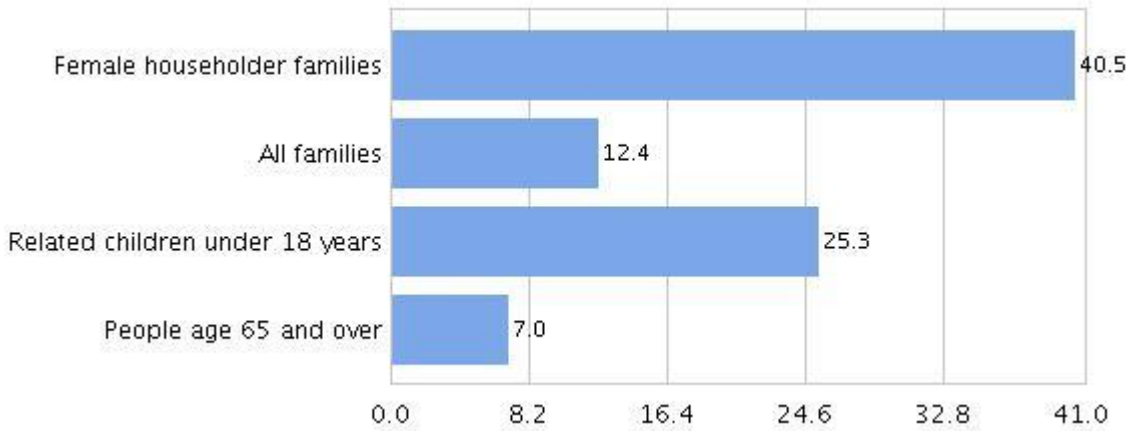
Proportion of Households with Various Income Sources in Cowlitz County, WA in 2009-2013



Poverty and Participation in Government Programs

In 2009-2013, 18 percent of people were in poverty. An estimated 25 percent of related children under 18 were below the poverty level, compared with 7 percent of people 65 years old and over. An estimated 12 percent of all families and 40 percent of families with a female householder and no husband present had incomes below the poverty level.

Poverty Rates in Cowlitz County, Washington in 2009-2013



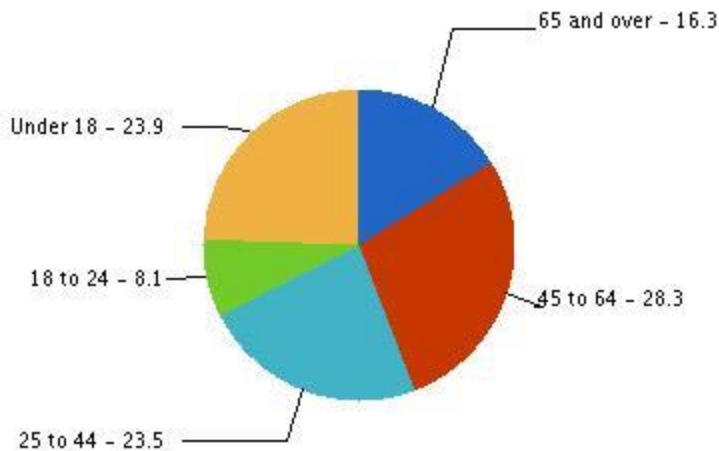
► Health Insurance

Among the civilian noninstitutionalized population in Cowlitz County, Washington in 2009-2013, 86 percent had health insurance coverage and 14 percent did not have health insurance coverage. For those under 18 years of age, 6 percent had no health insurance coverage. The civilian noninstitutionalized population had both private and public health insurance, with 62 percent having private coverage and 40 percent having public coverage.

► Population

In 2009-2013, Cowlitz County, Washington has a total population of 102,100 -- 51,700 (51 percent) females and 50,400 (49 percent) males. The median age was 40.5 years. An estimated 24 percent of the population was under 18 years and 16 percent was 65 years and older.

Age Distribution of People in Cowlitz County, Washington in 2009-2013

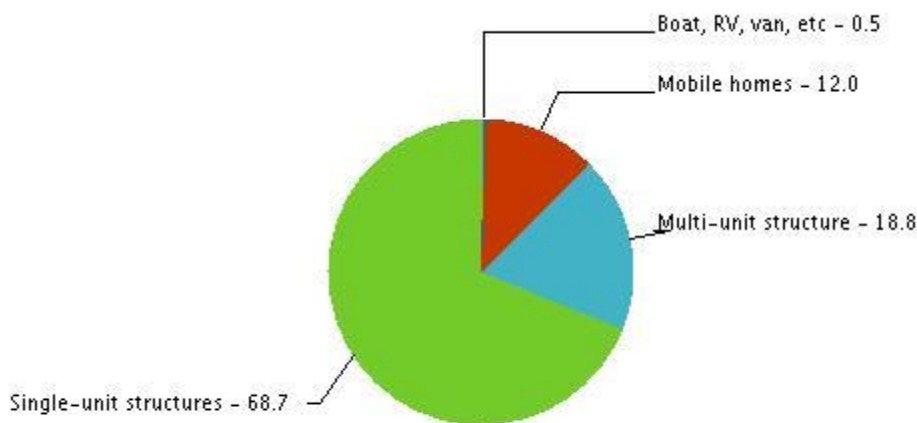


For people reporting one race alone, 95 percent were White; 1 percent were Black or African American; 1 percent were American Indian and Alaska Native; 2 percent were Asian; less than 0.5 percent were Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, and 2 percent were some other race. An estimated 4 percent reported two or more races. An estimated 8 percent of the people in Cowlitz County, Washington were Hispanic. An estimated 85 percent of the people in Cowlitz County, Washington were White non-Hispanic. People of Hispanic origin may be of any race.

▶ Housing Characteristics

In 2009-2013, Cowlitz County, Washington had a total of 43,400 housing units, 9 percent of which were vacant. Of the total housing units, 69 percent were in single-unit structures, 19 percent were in multi-unit structures, and 12 percent were mobile homes. An estimated 30 percent of the housing units were built since 1990.

Types of Housing Units in Cowlitz County, Washington in 2009-2013



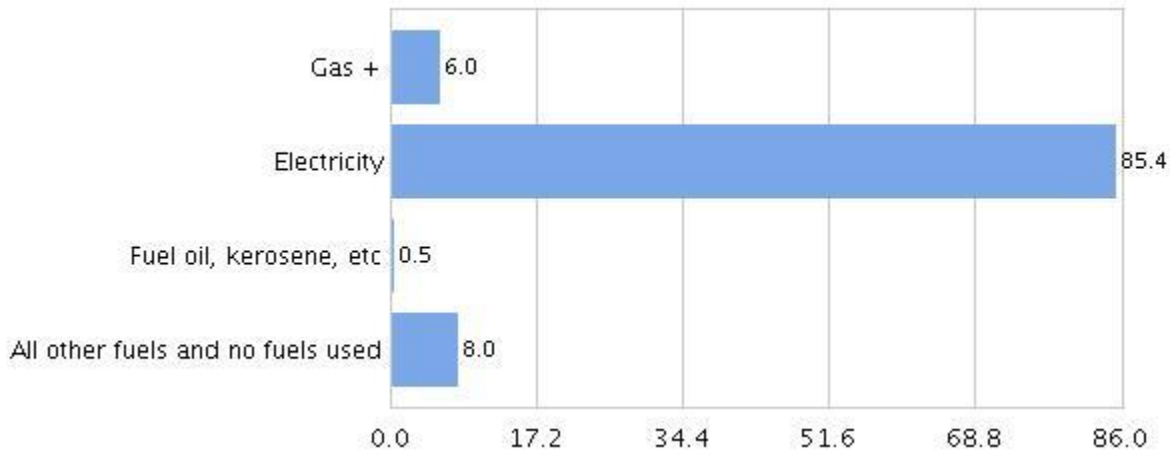
The median number of rooms in all housing units in Cowlitz County, Washington is 6. Of these housing units, 62 percent have three or more bedrooms.

▶ Occupied Housing Unit Characteristics

In 2009-2013, Cowlitz County, Washington had 39,600 occupied housing units - 26,200 (66 percent) owner occupied and 13,400 (34 percent) renter occupied. An estimated 66 percent of householders of these units had moved in since 2000. An estimated 65 percent of the owner occupied units had a mortgage. An estimated 2 percent of the households did not have telephone service. An estimated 7 percent had no vehicles available and another 29 percent had three or more.

Homes in Cowlitz County, Washington were heated in the following ways:

House heating fuel used in Cowlitz County, Washington in 2009-2013

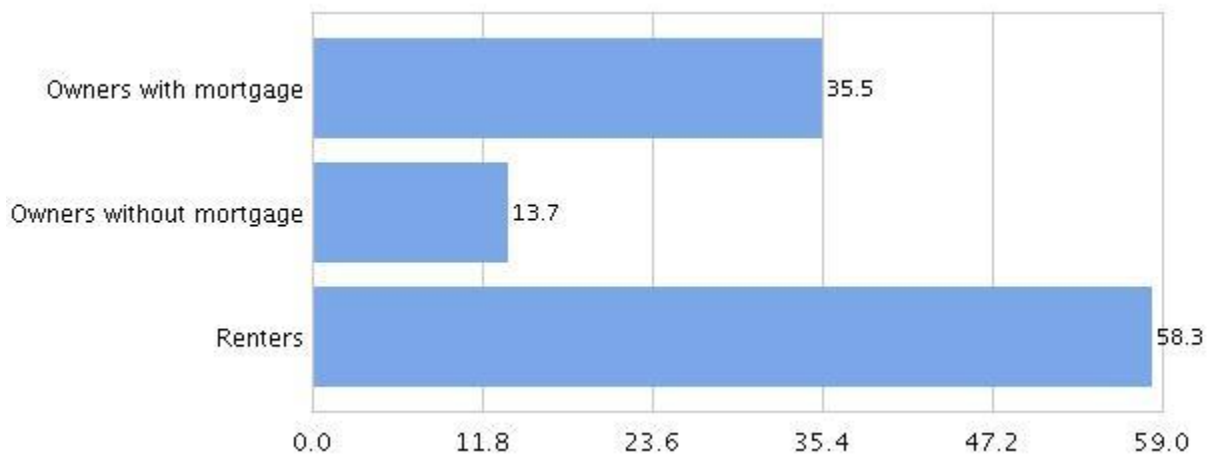


+this category includes utility, bottled, tank, or LP gas

► Housing Costs

The median monthly housing costs for mortgaged owners was \$1,417, nonmortgaged owners \$415, and renters \$747. An estimated 35 percent of owners with mortgages, 14 percent of owners without mortgages, and 58 percent of renters in Cowlitz County, Washington spent 30 percent or more of household income on housing.

Occupants with a Housing Cost Burden in Cowlitz County, Washington in 2009-2013



Explanation of Symbols:

An '-' entry in the estimate column indicates that either no sample observations or too few sample observations were available to compute an estimate, or a ratio of medians cannot be calculated because one or both of the median estimates falls in the lowest interval or upper interval of an open-ended distribution.

An '-' following a median estimate means the median falls in the lowest interval of an open-ended distribution.

An '+' following a median estimate means the median falls in the upper interval of an open-ended distribution.