

# Edmonds

## People and Place

### Location

Edmonds is on the east shore of north-central Puget Sound. Situated in Snohomish County, the city encompasses 8.9 square miles of land and 9.5 square miles of water. The nearest major U.S. city is Seattle, a 14-mile drive south. Edmonds' geographic coordinates are lat 47°48'39"N, long 122°22'34"W.

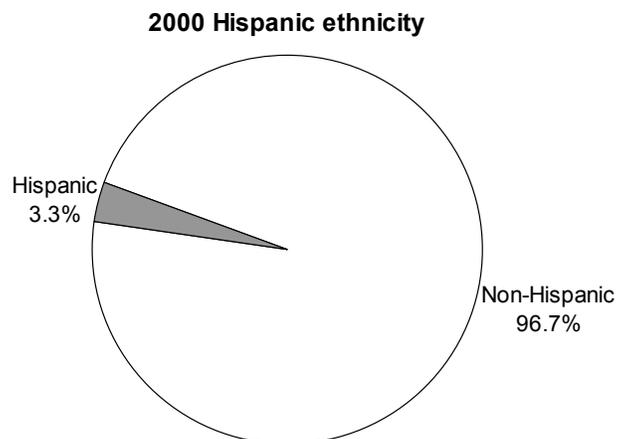
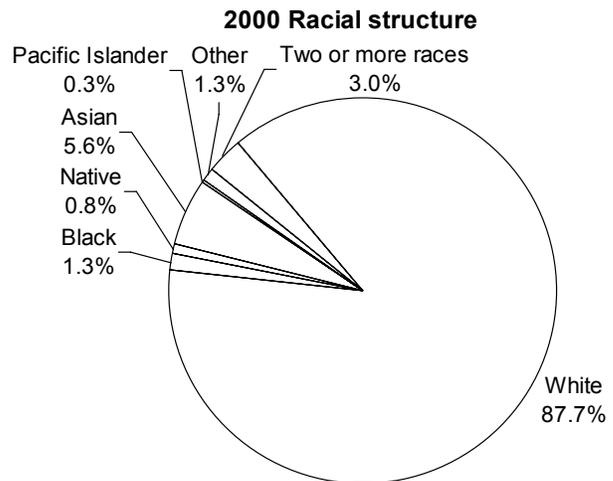
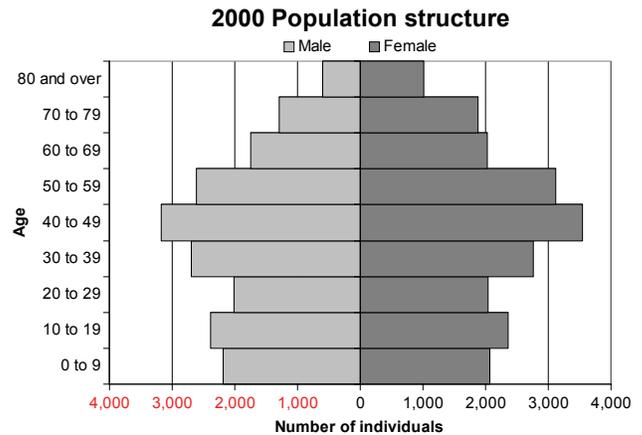
### Demographic Profile

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, Edmonds' population was 39,515, an increase of 22.2% since 1990. The gender composition was 52.7% female and 47.3% male. The median age of 42 was higher than the national median age of 35.3. Of the population age 18 years of age and older, 92.3% had a high school education (including equivalency) or higher, 33.8% had received a bachelor's degree or higher, and 11% had attained a graduate or professional degree. This was ahead of the national averages of 79.7%, 22.3%, and 7.8% respectively.

The vast majority of Edmonds' racial structure recorded by the 2000 U.S. Census was white (87.7%), followed by Asian (5.6%), people who identified as two or more races (3.0%), black (1.3%), people who identified as another race (1.3%), American Indian and Alaska Native (0.8%), and Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander (0.3%). Ethnicity data indicate that 3.3% identified as Hispanic. In 2000 11% were foreign-born, with 38.8% from Asia, 31.1% from Europe, and 25.1% from the Americas. The highest percentage of those reporting ancestry was German (12.6%), followed by English (11%), Irish (7.8%), and Norwegian (7.7%).

### History

The shoreline of Edmonds once served as a fishing ground to the Snohomish Tribe, which harvested fish, clams and oysters.<sup>1</sup> The community, settled more than 100 years ago as a logging camp, was home to numerous shingle mills and a popular destination for steamships carrying timber.<sup>2</sup> In 1876 George Brackett started a logging operation in what later became the City of Edmonds.<sup>3</sup> Edmonds was incorporated in 1890 and Brackett became the community's first mayor.<sup>4</sup> In 1891 the Great Northern Railroad began service in Edmonds and brought further growth to the community.<sup>5</sup> The timber industry remained an important component of the local economy until the 1950s, when the last shingle mill



in Edmonds closed.<sup>6</sup> Today Edmonds is known for its designated marine sanctuaries and an underwater park at Brackett's Landing that attracts divers from around the country.<sup>7</sup>

## Infrastructure

### Current Economy

At the time of the 2000 U.S. Census, 62.1% of Edmond's potential labor force 16 years of age and older were employed, 2.3% were unemployed, and the unemployment rate was 3.6% (calculated by dividing the unemployed population by the labor force). In addition, 35.6% were not in the labor force, comparable to the national average of 36.1%. The major employment sectors were educational, health, and social services (20.5%), local, state, and federal governments (15.5%), retail trade (13.5%), professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services (11.4%), manufacturing (9.8%), professional, scientific, and technical services (7.6%), and construction (7.5%). Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting employed 0.7% but this percentage may be artificially low given that many fishermen are self-employed and are underrepresented in these data.

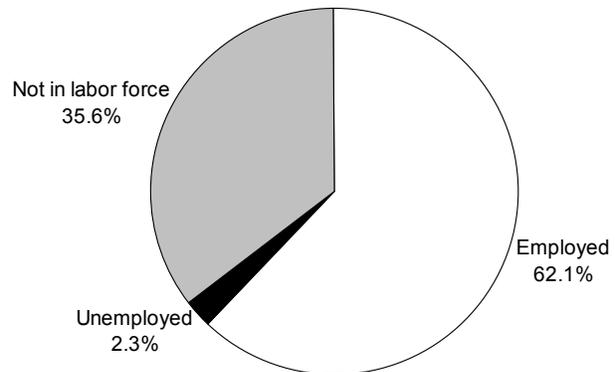
According to the 2000 U.S. Census, the per capita income in 1999 was \$30,076 and the median household income was \$53,522. In 1999 4.6% lived below the poverty level, much lower than the national average of 12.4%. In 2000 there were 17,508 housing units, with 68.1% owner occupied and 31.9% renter occupied. The housing unit vacancy rate was 3.4%.

### Governance

The City of Edmonds, incorporated in 1890, is the oldest city in Snohomish County. The community operates under a mayor-council form of government, comprised of an elected mayor and seven city council members. Edmonds levies an 8.9% sales and use tax. In addition Snohomish County levies a 2% lodging tax. See the Governance subsection (page 43) in the Overview section for a more detailed discussion of taxes affecting fisherman and processors in Washington.

The nearest National Marine Fisheries Service Regional Office and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services District Office are in Seattle. Meetings of the Pacific Fishery Management and North Pacific Fishery Management councils are routinely held in the Seattle-Tacoma area. The nearest Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Regional Office is in Mill Creek (11 miles north). The 13th U.S. Coast Guard District headquarters are in Seattle.

2000 Employment structure



### Facilities

Edmonds is accessible by ground, air, and sea. The community is located along the Interstate 5 corridor (north-south). The nearest major east-west highway is Interstate 90 to Seattle. Amtrak provides national and international rail service. The Washington State Ferries system links Edmonds to Kingston, directly west across Puget Sound on the Kitsap Peninsula. The Seattle-Tacoma International Airport is the nearest major facility.

The Edmonds School District serves the Washington communities of Edmonds, Brier, Lynnwood, Mountlake Terrace, and Woodway. The district has 35 schools, including: 20 elementary schools, 1 home school program, 1 highly capable program, 4 K-8 schools, 4 middle schools, and 5 high schools. There are three private schools located in Edmonds. The Snohomish County Public Utilities District administers electricity. The City of Edmonds provides sewer and water services. The Edmonds Police and Fire departments administer public safety. Stevens Hospital is in Edmonds, and three additional hospitals are located within 10 miles of the community. Visitors to Edmonds can choose between two bed and breakfast establishments and three hotels.

The Port of Edmonds operates the largest covered moorage facility on the West Coast and provides wet or dry storage for 1,200 boats up to 55 feet. Additional services include a public sling launch, fueling facilities, a live bait shop, and overnight moorage.<sup>8</sup> Until recently Edmonds was home to the largest charter fishing fleet in Puget Sound.<sup>9</sup> The port also operates a boat repair facility, permitting vessel owners to work on their vessels or to utilize local vendors.<sup>10</sup>

## Involvement in West Coast Fisheries

### Commercial Fishing

Recorded data indicates that there were no landings delivered to Edmonds in 2000. There were no known processors operating in the community. In 2000 Edmonds residents owned 24 vessels, including 9 that participated in the federally managed groundfish fishery. The number that participated in each said fishery by state (WA/OR/CA) was: coastal pelagic 1/0/1, crab 5/1/0, groundfish 2/0/NA, highly migratory species NA/0/NA, salmon 11/2/2, shellfish NA/0/NA, shrimp NA/0/0, and other species 8/0/0.<sup>11</sup>

In 2000 two Edmonds residents held two federal groundfish fishery permits. The number in each said fishery by state (WA/OR/CA) was: coastal pelagic 1/0/4, crab 4/1/0, highly migratory species NA/0/0, salmon 21/3/1, shellfish 0/0/NA, and other species 8/0/0.<sup>12</sup>

Available data indicate that Edmonds residents held 52 registered permits in 2000. The number in each said fishery by state (WA/OR/CA) was: coastal pelagic 1/0/5, crab 5/1/0, highly migratory species NA/0/0, salmon 24/3/2, shellfish 0/0/NA, and other species 11/0/0.<sup>13</sup>

### Sportfishing

In 2000 there was at least one salmonid charter fishing business operating in Edmonds. The public saltwater fishing pier in Edmonds is open all year and provides marine sportfishing for residents without watercraft. The closest Catch Record Card Area to Edmonds is Area 9 (Admiralty Inlet: all waters inside and south of the Partridge Point–Point Wilson line, south and west of a line from Possession Point 110° true to shipwreck, north of the Hood Canal Bridge, and north of the Apple Cove Point–Edwards Point line). In Area 9 the 2000 sport catch, based on catch record cards, was 12,608 fish, including 4,351 Chinook salmon, 8,253 coho salmon, and 4 chum salmon. Marine anglers made 43,629 trips in the sport salmon fishery. In Area 9 boat-based anglers caught 1,745 bottomfish. The recreational harvest of clams (lbs) and oysters (#) for Area 9 was estimated to be 84,233 and 6,091 respectively; harvest occurred over an estimated 14,151 user trips in 2000. Sport fishermen caught 18 sturgeon during 2000–2001.

### Subsistence

Tribal and nontribal community members may be engaged in subsistence fishing in the area. Subsistence fishing is not discussed in detail in this community profile due to the lack of available data.

## Involvement in North Pacific Fisheries

### Commercial Fishing

In 2000 Edmonds residents owned 97 vessels involved in North Pacific fisheries. In the same year community members landed fish in the following North Pacific fisheries (data shown represent landings in metric tons/value of said landings/number of vessels landing): crab 800 t/\$5,077,160/8; Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI) groundfish 53,249 t/\$18,357,830/12; other finfish 0.9 t/\$240/6; Gulf of Alaska (GOA) groundfish 455 t/\$808,650/5; halibut 203 t/\$1,134,430/4; herring 447 t/\$125,760/6; and salmon 3,853 t/\$2,825,440/46.

Edmonds residents held 224 commercial fishing permits in 2000, including 77 individuals who held federal and 80 who held state permits (note: it is possible for individuals to hold more than one permit at a time). Community members held 26 crab and 44 groundfish License Limitation Program permits in 2000. Edmonds residents held 19 crab, 1 GOA groundfish, 29 BSAI groundfish, 9 halibut, 12 herring, 49 salmon, and 1 shellfish Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission permits. Community members held 5,113,740 halibut and 6,581,698 sablefish individual fishing quota shares.

Edmonds residents held 134 crew member licenses for North Pacific fisheries in 2000.

### Sportfishing

Edmonds residents purchased 422 Alaskan sportfishing licenses in 2000.

## Notes

1. City of Edmonds. 2004. Visitor's guide, Edmonds' past: Character for the future. Online at [http://www.ci.edmonds.wa.us/vg\\_past.stm](http://www.ci.edmonds.wa.us/vg_past.stm) [accessed 31 January 2007].
2. City of Edmonds. 2004. Welcome to the City of Edmonds. Online at <http://www.ci.edmonds.wa.us/> [accessed 31 January 2007].
3. Key to the City. No date. Edmonds. Online at <http://www.usacitiesonline.com/wacountyedmonds.htm> [accessed 31 January 2007].
4. See note 1.
5. See note 3.
6. Edmonds-South Snohomish County Historical Society. No date. About the Edmonds Historical Museum. Online at <http://www.historicedmonds.org/museum/about.html> [accessed 31 January 2007].
7. Snohomish County. No date. Edmonds. Online at [http://www.snohomish.org/index.php?page\\_id=467](http://www.snohomish.org/index.php?page_id=467) [accessed 31 January 2007].
8. Greater Edmonds Chamber of Commerce. 2004. About Edmonds, the waterfront. Online at <http://www.edmondswa.com/Edmonds/Waterfront/index.html> [accessed 31 January 2007].
9. See note 8.
10. See note 8.

11. NA refers to data that were not available, for example, due to few or no recorded permit numbers, or the partially permitted nature of the fishery in 2000.

12. See note 11.

13. See note 11.