

# Seaview

## People and Place

### Location

Seaview is in southwest Washington on the southern end of Long Beach Peninsula, which separates Willapa Bay from the Pacific Ocean. Situated in Pacific County, the community encompasses 0.4 square miles of land. The nearest major U.S. city is Portland, Oregon, a 111-mile drive southeast, while Seattle is a 170-mile drive northeast. Seaview's geographic coordinates are lat 46°20'05"N, long 124°03'12"W.

### Demographic Profile

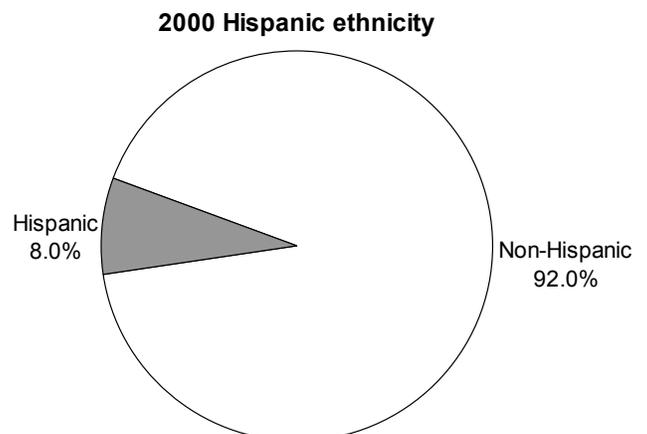
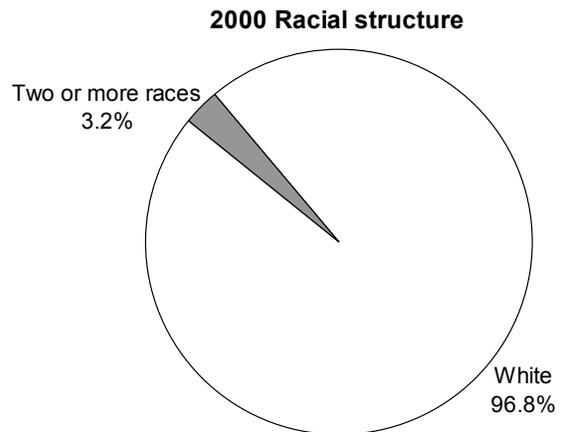
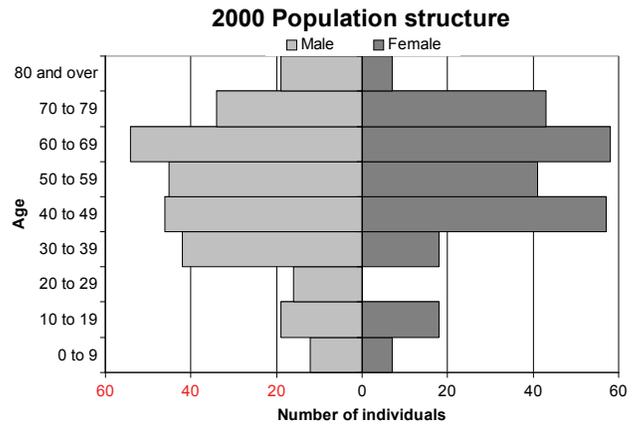
Seaview was not recognized as a place in the 2000 U.S. Census; however basic demographic data are available for Seaview at the zip code level. According to the 2000 U.S. Census, the Seaview zip code (98644) supported a population of 516. The gender composition was 52.1% female and 47.9% male. The median age of 46.4 was more than 11 years older than the national median age of 35.3. The age structure of Seaview in 2000 revealed an older population, with only 23% of residents falling under the age 25 compared to 35.3% nationally. Of the population 18 years of age and older, 75.4% had a high school education (including equivalency) or higher, 5% had earned a bachelor's degree or higher, and 2.6% had attained a graduate or professional degree; the national averages were 79.7%, 22.3%, and 7.8% respectively. The highest level of educational attainment for 34.9% was a high school degree.

The vast majority of Seaview's racial structure in the 2000 U.S. Census was white (96.8%), followed by people who identified with two or more races (3.2%). Ethnicity data indicate that 8.0% were Hispanic. In 2000 6.6 % were foreign-born, all from Mexico.

Seaview's population in 2000 lived in 253 households, with 72.4% of residents living in family households.

### History

Seaview derives its name from its scenic location on Washington's Pacific Coast. The community was formerly founded in 1881 by Jonathan L. Stout, a local entrepreneur who also invested heavily in the development of Ilwaco. Stout purchased 153.5 acres of oceanfront property in 1880 and constructed Seaview as a summer resort for visitors made wealthy by the region's timber and fishing industry. In 1889 regular train service was extended to Stout's resort, and Seaview became one



of Long Beach Peninsula's most popular vacation spots. Stout ran a successful beachside hotel and quickly sold all of his Seaview lots for \$100 a piece to entrepreneurs interested in building businesses and vacation cottages. Stout's hotel burned to the ground in 1892 but his resort community continues to thrive.

Seaview residents remain heavily dependent on tourism, and the community serves as a popular summer retreat for visitors from Portland and other local cities.<sup>1</sup> Cranberry farming has also become an important activity on the Long Beach Peninsula, and numerous Seaview restaurants and tourist services advertise cranberry products and opportunities to tour nearby cranberry farms. Although Seaview does not operate a port or marina, its beach access attracts recreational visitors interested in clam digging and beach combing.

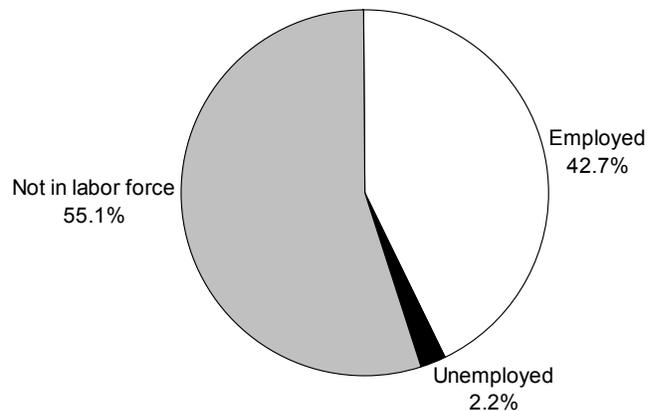
## Infrastructure

### Current Economy

Founded as a resort area, the contemporary community of Seaview continues to depend heavily on revenue and jobs generated by tourism. Jobs in accommodation and food services employ a substantial portion of the population. Seaview is home to Long Beach Peninsula Visitor's Bureau, which provides tourism information to travelers. The Sportsmen's Cannery, a fresh fish retailer located in Seaview, purchases some of its stock from local fishermen and attracts tourists and other recreational visitors traveling along U.S. Highway 101. The Washington State Business Database includes listings for several fly and bait shops, hotels and cottage inns, a logging contractor, marine services providers, and a number of small shops in Seaview. Residents may commute to manufacturing and fish processing jobs in nearby Ilwaco (2 miles) or other neighboring communities with ports or industrial facilities.

At the time of the 2000 U.S. Census, 42.7% of Seaview residents 16 years of age and older were employed, 2.2% were unemployed, and the unemployment rate was 4.8% (calculated by dividing the unemployed population by the labor force). In addition, 55.1% did not participate in the labor force (were not actively seeking work), compared to the national average of 36.1%. The largest employment sectors were manufacturing (25.9%), health care and social assistance (18.1%), local, state, and governments (13.4%), retail trade (12.5%), accommodation and food services and construction (11.1%), other services (9.3%), public administration (5.6%), information and transportation and warehousing (3.2%). No Seaview area residents worked in agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting, but

2000 Employment structure



these data may be somewhat misleading given that many fishermen are self-employed and are underrepresented in this tabulation.

The per capita income in 1999 was \$19,266 and the median household income was \$30,968. In 1999 13.6% lived below the poverty level, slightly higher than the national average of 12.4%. In 2000 there were 398 housing units in Seaview, with 66.4% owner occupied and 35.6% renter occupied. The housing unit vacancy rate was 36.4%, with 82.8% vacant due to seasonal, recreational, or occasional use.

### Governance

Under Washington State law, an area cannot be incorporated as a city unless it houses a minimum of 1,500 residents. Seaview is therefore classified as an unincorporated area governed by Pacific County. Seaview has neither a city council nor its own separate municipal tax structure. Seaview residents elect county officials, whose offices are located in the county seat of South Bend, 31 miles north on U.S. Highway 101. Pacific County, which was organized in 1851, has a 7.8% sales tax and a 9.8% lodging tax.<sup>2,3</sup> 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 is in Seattle. The nearest U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services office is in Portland. The nearest U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services District Office and the nearest meetings of the Pacific Fishery Management and North Pacific Fishery Management councils are in Portland. The nearest Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Regional Office is 72 miles northeast in Montesano. The nearest U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) facility is the USCG Group/Air Station Astoria in Warrenton, Oregon, 21

miles south. The USCG operates the National Motor Lifeboat School in Ilwaco, 3 miles south.

## Facilities

Seaview is accessible by land, air, and water. The community is at the junction of U.S. Highway 101 (north-south) and Washington Highway 103, which runs north-south the length of Long Beach Peninsula. Astoria (Oregon) Regional Airport (18 miles south) is the nearest airport certified for carrier operations and the Port of Ilwaco Airport provides an unattended paved runway that is open to the public. Portland International Airport is the nearest major facility. There are several motels, bed and breakfast inns, campgrounds, and recreational vehicle parks located in Seaview.

Seaview is in the Ocean Beach School District, but there are no public schools located in the community.<sup>4</sup> Students travel by bus to schools in Ilwaco, Ocean Park (11 miles north), and Long Beach (1 mile north). In addition to traditional elementary, middle, and high schools, the district also offers a small alternative high school in Long Beach. Public Utility District No. 2 of Pacific County administers electricity. The City of Long Beach supplies water. The Seaview Sewer District provides sewer service. The Pacific County Sheriff's Office and the Long Beach Fire Department administer public safety. The Ocean Beach Hospital in Ilwaco, the Columbia Memorial Hospital in Astoria, and Willapa Harbor Hospital in South Bend (41 miles north) are the nearest major medical facilities.

Seaview is located along the Pacific Ocean but does not support a marina, port, or other facilities for launching or storing boats. Seaview does offer seasonal beach access with restrooms, restaurants, fuel, and other services aimed at tourists and recreational visitors. The Seaview Beach can be accessed by automobile from Memorial Day to September 15.

## Involvement in West Coast Fisheries

### Commercial Fishing

Because there is no port located in the community, fish caught by Seaview residents are landed and processed elsewhere. No data concerning the weight or value of these landings are available. In 2000 Seaview fisherman involved in the West Coast fisheries owned 16 vessels, including 10 that participated in the federally managed groundfish fishery. The number of vessels owned by Seaview residents that participated in each said fishery by state (WA/OR/CA) was: crab 6/5/0, groundfish 0/0/NA, highly migratory species NA/0/NA,

salmon 6/3/0, shellfish NA/0/NA, shrimp NA/1/0, and other species 1/0/0.<sup>5</sup>

No individuals living in Seaview in 2000 held federal groundfish fishery permits. The number of Seaview residents holding permits in each said fishery by state (WA/OR/CA) was: coastal pelagic 3/0/0, crab 5/4/0, highly migratory species NA/0/0, salmon 4/3/0, shellfish 0/0/NA, shrimp 0/1/0, and other species 1/0/0.<sup>6</sup>

Available data indicate that 15 state permits were registered to Seaview residents in 2000. The number of permits held by these community members in each said fishery by state (WA/OR/CA) was: coastal pelagic 1/0/0, crab 7/4/0, highly migratory species NA/0/0, salmon 6/3/0, shellfish 0/0/NA, shrimp 0/4/0, and other species 1/0/0.<sup>7</sup>

### Sportfishing

According to the WDFW, there is one sport license vendor operating in Seaview. No Seaview residents owned or operated charter boats in 2003 or 2004. The closest Catch Record Card areas to Seaview are Area 1 (Ilwaco) and 1A (Ilwaco–Buoy 10). The 2000–2001 sport catch in these areas was 27,889 (Area 1) and 16,335 (Area 1A). This data include (1/1A) Chinook salmon (1,630/2,972) and coho salmon (26,259/13,363). These figures are based on creel survey estimates. Marine angler made 16,243 (Area 1) and 42,061 (Area 1A) trips in the sport salmon fishery. Sport fishermen caught 106 steelhead in Area 1 (Columbia River–Leadbetter Point). In 2000 the coastal bottomfish catch was 8,388 for Area 1 (Ilwaco) and 631 for the Ilwaco Jetty.

### Subsistence

Subsistence hunting, fishing, and gathering activities are fundamental to the way of life of some coastal community members. Tribal and nontribal individuals participate in subsistence fishing, obtaining fishery resources from the waters surrounding Seaview. Subsistence fishing is not discussed in great detail in this community profile due to the lack of available data.

## Involvement in North Pacific Fisheries

### Commercial Fishing

In 2000 Seaview residents owned two vessels that participated 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): salmon (confidential/confidential/1).

Seaview residents held seven permits for North Pacific fisheries, including two individuals who held

federal permits and two who held state permits (note: it is possible for individuals to hold more than one permit at a time). These community members held one groundfish License Limitation Program permit and three Bering Strait and Aleutian Islands groundfish, one halibut, one salmon, and one shellfish Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission permits. Seaview residents held 1,283 halibut and no sablefish individual fishing quota shares in 2000.

In 2000 seven Seaview residents held crew member licenses for North Pacific fisheries.

## Sportfishing

Seaview residents purchased two Alaska sportfishing licenses in 2000.

## Notes

1. L. J. Weathers. 1989. Place names of Pacific County. The Sou'wester, Pacific County Historical Society, South Bend, WA., Vol. 34, No. 4:19-68. Online at [http://www.pacificcohistory.org/sw1989\\_4.htm#56](http://www.pacificcohistory.org/sw1989_4.htm#56) [accessed 31 January 2007].

2. Washington State Dept. Revenue. 2004. Local sales and use tax rates and changes. Online at [http://dor.wa.gov/Docs/forms/Excstx/LocSalUseTx/LocalSlsUseFlyer\\_Quarterly.pdf](http://dor.wa.gov/Docs/forms/Excstx/LocSalUseTx/LocalSlsUseFlyer_Quarterly.pdf) [accessed 31 January 2007].

3. Washington State Dept. Revenue. 2003. Lodging tax rates by location. Online at [http://dor.wa.gov/docs/forms/excstx/locsalusetx/lodgingrates\\_03\\_a.pdf](http://dor.wa.gov/docs/forms/excstx/locsalusetx/lodgingrates_03_a.pdf) [accessed 31 January 2007].

4. Ocean Beach School District. 2003. Location of OSBD schools. Online at <http://www.ocean.k12.wa.us/location.htm> [accessed 31 January 2007].

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

6. See note 5.

7. See note 5.