

Definitions

King County Growth Terms

Annexation - Adding or taking more land into a city's jurisdiction.

Growth Target - Policy statement indicating an approved number of new households and jobs to be accommodated in a jurisdiction during the 20-year Growth Management period.

Incorporated - Within a city, or the city's jurisdiction. King County contains 35 whole incorporated cities and parts of four others.

Rural Areas - Unincorporated areas outside the Urban Designated Area on which little residential or job growth is planned.

Rural Cities - Cities in rural areas. There are six in King County: Carnation, Duvall, Enumclaw, North Bend, Skykomish, and Snoqualmie.

Subareas - Grouping of King County by geographic areas. See subareas map on page 47.

Suburban Cities - The cities in King County excluding Seattle. Includes rural cities.

Transportation Concurrency - requires that transportation facilities must be available to carry the traffic of a proposed development. A certificate of transportation concurrency is issued when a proposed development meets the county's adopted level of service standards. Concurrency is the first step in the permit process and concurrency approvals are an indicator of future development.

Unincorporated - Outside any city and under King County's jurisdiction.

Urban Centers - Areas located in cities which are meant to accommodate concentrations of housing and employment over the next 20 years.

Urban-Designated Areas - Areas designated for urban use under the Growth Management Act with activities supported by urban services and facilities.

Economic Terms

Affordable Housing - Assumes that no more than 25% of a homeowner's income goes to mortgage payments (exclusive of tax and insurance costs), and that no more than 30% of a renter's income goes to rent payments.

Affordability Gap - The difference between the average home sales price or apartment rental price and the affordable price. See pages 80-81.

Covered Employment - Workers covered by unemployment insurance. They make up approximately 90% of total employment. Covered employment excludes military, railroad, and self-employed persons.

Household - An occupied housing unit; can consist of one person, unrelated persons, or a family.

Income - Wage and salary income; self-employment income (farm or non-farm); interest, dividend, and rental income; Social Security income; public assistance; retirement and disability pensions; and other income.

Mean - Same as average. The sum of observations divided by the total number of those observations.

Median Income - The median divides all households into two equal groups, one half above the median income and the other half below.

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment - Includes all full- or part-time jobs listed by place of work. Excludes self-employed, armed services, private household workers and agricultural workers.

Personal Income - An aggregate measure of income received by all residents of an area. It includes earnings, rents, interest and dividends, benefits, and transfer payments such as Social Security.

Per Capita Personal Income - Personal income divided by the total population of an area.

Real Income - An income figure that has been adjusted to account for inflation to represent dollar value in a given year.

Unemployment rate - The percentage of the civilian labor force that is unemployed and actively seeking employment.

Residential Development Terms

Applications/Recorded Applications - Applications refer to the first step in the subdivision process, and recording is the last step before issuing of building permits.

Formal Plat - A subdivision that creates any number of lots, but typically involves a minimum of five lots (ten in some cities), and requires a public hearing and the approval of the King County Council or city council.

Multifamily - Housing structures with more than one unit. Includes duplexes, apartments, and condominiums.

Redevelopable - Parcels are defined as those that have an assessed improvement value of less than 50% of the total assessed land value.

Short Plat - A subdivision that is limited to four lots (nine in some cities), and is approved administratively by King County's Department of Development and Environmental Services or, when jurisdiction resides in an incorporated area, by cities.

Single Family - Individual housing structures including conventional houses and, unless otherwise indicated, mobile homes.

Subdivision - Land that has been divided into legal lots, or the process of dividing land into lots.

Vacant - Land with no structure, and land with little or no improved value.