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Douglas County, Washington

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Coordinates: 47.74°N 119.69°W

Douglas County is a county located in the U.S. state of Washington. As of the 2020 census, its population was 42,938.[1] The county seat is Waterville,[2] while its largest settlement is East Wenatchee. The county was created out of Lincoln County on November 28, 1883[3] and is named for American statesman Stephen A. Douglas.

Douglas County is part of the Wenatchee, WA Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Douglas County
County
County Courthouse
Seal
Location within the U.S. state of Washington
Washington's location within the U.S. Coordinates: 47°44′N 119°41′W
Country / **State**	United States / Washington
Founded / **Named for**	November 28, 1883 / Stephen A. Douglas
Seat / **Largest city**	Waterville / East Wenatchee
Area	
• **Total**	1,849 sq mi (4,790 km²)
• **Land**	1,819 sq mi (4,710 km²)
• **Water**	29 sq mi (80 km²) 1.6%
Population (2020)	
• **Total**	42,938
• **Estimate** (2022)	44,192 ▲
• **Density**	22/sq mi (8/km²)
Time zone	UTC−8 (Pacific)
• **Summer** (**DST**)	UTC−7 (PDT)
Congressional district	4th
Website	www.douglascountywa.net

Geography [edit]

According to the United States Census Bureau, the county has a total area of 1,849 square miles (4,790 km²), of which 1,819 square miles (4,710 km²) is land and 29 square miles (75 km²) (1.6%) is water.[4]

Geographic features [edit]

- Columbia River

Major highways [edit]

- U.S. Route 2
- U.S. Route 97

Adjacent counties [edit]

- Okanogan County – north
- Grant County – south
- Kittitas County – southwest
- Chelan County – west

Demographics [edit]

2000 census [edit]

As of the 2000 census, there were 32,603 people, 11,726 households, and 8,876 families living in the county. The population density was 18 people per square mile (6.9 people/km²). There were 12,944 housing units at an average density of 7 units per square mile (2.7 units/km²). The racial makeup of the county was 84.65% White, 0.31% Black or African American, 1.09% Native American, 0.55% Asian, 0.10% Pacific Islander, 10.83% from other races, and 2.48% from two or more races. 19.73% of the population were Hispanic or Latino of any race. 18.0% were of German, 10.0% English, 9.3% United States or American and 7.8% Irish ancestry. 81.5% spoke English, and 17.7% Spanish as their first language.

There were 11,726 households, out of which 38.40% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 61.60% were married couples living together, 9.70% had a female householder with no husband present, and 24.30% were non-families. 20.00% of all households were made up of individuals, and 7.80% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.76 and the average family size was 3.16.

In the county, the population was spread out, with 29.50% under the age of 18, 8.20% from 18 to 24, 27.30% from 25 to 44, 22.40% from 45 to 64, and 12.70% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 36 years. For every 100 females, there were 98.20 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there were 96.00 males.

The median income for a household in the county was $38,464, and the median income for a family was $43,777. Males had a median income of $35,917 versus $24,794 for females. The per capita income for the county was $17,148. About 11.20% of families and 14.40% of the population were below the poverty line, including 21.00% of those under age 18 and 6.90% of those age 65 or over.

2010 census [edit]

As of the 2010 census, there were 38,431 people, 13,894 households, and 10,240 families living in the county.[10] The population density was 21.1 inhabitants per square mile (8.1/km²). There were 16,004 housing units at an average density of 8.8 units per square mile (3.4 units/km²).[11] The racial makeup of the county was 79.6% White, 1.1% American Indian, 0.7% Asian, 0.3% black or African American, 0.1% Pacific islander, 15.6% from other races, and 2.6% from two or more races. Those of Hispanic or Latino origin made up 28.7% of the population.[10] In terms of ancestry, 20.2% were German, 11.2% were English, 9.4% were Irish, 6.0% were Norwegian, and 5.0% were American.[12]

Of the 13,894 households, 37.2% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 57.8% were married couples living together, 10.7% had a female householder with no husband present, 26.3% were non-families, and 20.8% of all households were made up of individuals. The average household size was 2.75 and the average family size was 3.18. The median age was 36.8 years.[10]

The median income for a household in the county was $48,708 and the median income for a family was $55,766. Males had a median income of $39,991 versus $31,706 for females. The per capita income for the county was $22,359. About 10.2% of families and 14.3% of the population were below the poverty line, including 22.0% of those under age 18 and 3.7% of those age 65 or over.[13]

Historical population

Census	Pop.	%±
1890	3,161	—
1900	4,926	55.8%
1910	9,227	87.3%
1920	9,392	1.8%
1930	7,561	−19.5%
1940	8,651	14.4%
1950	10,817	25.0%
1960	14,890	37.7%
1970	16,787	12.7%
1980	22,144	31.9%
1990	26,205	18.3%
2000	32,603	24.4%
2010	38,431	17.9%
2020	42,938	11.7%
2022 (est.)	44,192[5]	2.9%

U.S. Decennial Census[6]
1790–1960[7] 1900–1990[8]
1990–2000[9] 2010–2020[1]

Communities [edit]

Cities [edit]

- Bridgeport
- East Wenatchee
- Rock Island

Towns [edit]

- Coulee Dam (partial)
- Mansfield
- Waterville (county seat)

Unincorporated communities [edit]

- Leahy
- Orondo
- Douglas
- Palisades
- Withrow
- Beebe[a]

Ghost Towns [edit]

- Alstown
- Farmer
- Saint Andrews
- Touhery

Truck driving through Douglas County on Route 2

Politics [edit]

Federally, Douglas County is represented primarily by Dan Newhouse (R) of the 4th while parts of East Wenatchee have been siphoned off into the 8th, represented by Democrat Kim Schrier. It is one of the most strongly Republican counties in the state in presidential elections, and has not voted for a Democratic candidate since 1964, in Lyndon B. Johnson's rout of Barry Goldwater.

United States presidential election results for Douglas County, Washington[15] [hide]

Year	Republican		Democratic		Third party	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
2020	12,955	**60.80%**	7,811	36.66%	542	2.54%
2016	9,603	**60.39%**	4,918	30.93%	1,380	8.68%
2012	9,425	**62.58%**	5,166	34.30%	469	3.11%
2008	9,098	**59.52%**	5,848	38.26%	339	2.22%
2004	8,900	**66.56%**	4,306	32.20%	166	1.24%
2000	8,512	**66.22%**	3,822	29.73%	521	4.05%
1996	5,682	**52.01%**	3,913	35.82%	1,330	12.17%
1992	4,920	**44.53%**	3,731	33.77%	2,397	21.70%
1988	5,378	**58.16%**	3,760	40.66%	109	1.18%
1984	6,443	**66.44%**	3,127	32.24%	128	1.32%
1980	5,171	**59.38%**	2,833	32.53%	705	8.10%
1976	4,547	**53.09%**	3,809	44.48%	208	2.43%
1972	4,512	**60.31%**	2,420	32.35%	549	7.34%
1968	3,234	**48.52%**	2,764	41.47%	667	10.01%
1964	2,643	41.45%	3,728	**58.47%**	5	0.08%
1960	3,241	**51.07%**	3,087	48.64%	18	0.28%
1956	2,602	46.09%	3,034	**53.75%**	9	0.16%
1952	2,954	**55.43%**	2,361	44.30%	14	0.26%
1948	1,703	42.23%	2,251	**55.81%**	79	1.96%
1944	1,809	49.36%	1,832	**49.99%**	24	0.65%
1940	1,959	49.33%	1,972	**49.66%**	40	1.01%
1936	1,025	29.75%	2,290	**66.47%**	130	3.77%
1932	1,179	35.07%	1,941	**57.73%**	242	7.20%
1928	1,760	**66.34%**	862	32.49%	31	1.17%
1924	1,070	**42.19%**	398	15.69%	1,068	42.11%
1920	1,587	**57.86%**	918	33.47%	238	8.68%
1916	1,125	34.95%	1,916	**59.52%**	178	5.53%
1912	642	20.16%	1,357	**42.61%**	1,186	37.24%
1908	1,942	**52.20%**	1,540	41.40%	238	6.40%
1904	1,722	**71.30%**	577	23.89%	116	4.80%
1900	516	44.44%	615	**52.97%**	30	2.58%
1896	334	31.01%	733	**68.06%**	10	0.93%
1892	345	**37.70%**	253	27.65%	317	34.64%

See also [edit]

- National Register of Historic Places listings in Douglas County, Washington
- Mansfield Branch (Great Northern Railway)

Notes [edit]

a. ^ The community was named after James Beebe, a businessperson in the agriculture industry.[14] A post office called Beebe was established in 1912, and remained in operation until 1942.[15]

References [edit]

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2. ^ "Find a County". National Association of Counties. Archived from the original on May 31, 2011. Retrieved June 7, 2011.
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14. ^ Meany, Edmond S. (1923). *Origin of Washington geographic names*. Seattle: University of Washington Press. p. 16.
15. ^ "Post Offices". Jim Forte Postal History. Archived from the original on March 6, 2016. Retrieved July 18, 2016.
16. ^ Leip, David. "Dave Leip's Atlas of U.S. Presidential Elections". *uselectionatlas.org*. Retrieved April 6, 2018.

Further reading [edit]

- *An illustrated history of the Big Bend country : embracing Lincoln, Douglas, Adams, and Franklin counties, state of Washington*. Western Historical Pub. Co. 1904.Available online through the Washington State Library's Classics in Washington History collection

External links [edit]

- Douglas County web site
- Douglas County photos

Wikimedia Commons has media related to *Douglas County, Washington*.

Places adjacent to Douglas County, Washington [show]
v · t · e Municipalities and communities of Douglas County, Washington, United States [show]
v · t · e State of Washington [show]

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Categories: Washington (state) counties | Douglas County, Washington | 1883 establishments in Washington Territory | Populated places established in 1883 | Wenatchee–East Wenatchee metropolitan area | Eastern Washington

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