

**CENSUS 2000
POVERTY AND ECONOMIC SECURITY**

The federal poverty level is a national threshold income limit that varies according to family size and composition and is adjusted each year. In 1999, a person who worked full time for a year would have to earn \$9.92 per hour to earn an amount equal to \$17,029, the official poverty level for a family of four.

In 1999 there were 3,614 individuals in Shoreline living in poverty, or 6.9 percent of the population. The poverty rate in Shoreline is lower than King County's overall rate of 8.4 percent. The county poverty rate rose slightly during the past decade, increasing by only 0.4 percent whereas the poverty rate in Shoreline increased from 5.8 percent to 6.9 percent, an 18 percent increase. Shoreline's poverty rate places it 14th (see chart on page 5) among the 39 King County cities and is higher than the 5.1 percent median poverty rate for all cities in King County.

Ratio of Income in 1999 to poverty level, Census Bureau, Census 2000, Summary File 3-Sample Data, Table P88

Ratio	Number of Residents
Under .50	1670
50-.74	903
75-.99	1,041
1.00-1.24	1,271
1.25-1.49	1,619
1.50-1.74	1,713
1.75-1.84	744
1.85-1.99	849
2.00 and over	42,464

Forty-six percent of those living in poverty have incomes less than half the poverty standard, or 361 dollars or less per month to live on for one person. Another quarter have incomes between 50 and 74 percent of the poverty level and a quarter have incomes between 75 and 99 percent of the poverty level.

Of the 13,650 families in Shoreline, 599 or 4.4 percent had incomes below the poverty threshold. Families living in poverty with children under 18 make up 5.6 percent of all families and 63 percent of families living in poverty. Families living in poverty with children under 5 years make up 8.9 percent of all families with children and one-third of the 599 families living in poverty.

**Poverty Status by Family Type
Percent of Families Below Poverty Level by Category
Census Bureau, Census 2000, Table DP-3**

	All Families	With Related Children Under 18	Female Headed Household	Female With Related Children Under 18	Female With Related Children Under 5
Shoreline	4.4	5.6	12.5	19.1	33.9
King Co.	5.3	8.0	17.4	23.4	36.7

Poverty rates increase in families with a female householder and no husband present. In 1999 there were 258 female-headed households living in poverty or 12.5 percent of female headed households. Among female headed households with children under 18 years, 19.1 percent live in poverty. Female-headed households with children under 5 have the highest poverty rate at 33.9 percent.

The extent of poverty by age groups is shown in the table below. The two groups most vulnerable to the effects of poverty are the young and the old. The highest poverty rates are for children under 5 and adults 75 and older. One quarter

Poverty Status in 1999, By Age, Census 2000, Summary File 3

Age Groups	Below Poverty	Above Poverty	Percent Below
Under 5 years	246	2,484	9.0
5 years	21	495	4.1
6-11 years	272	3,704	6.8
12-17 years	247	4,248	5.5
18-64 years	2,308	31,135	6.9
65-74 years	235	3,291	6.7
75 years +	285	3,303	7.9
Total	3,614	48,660	6.9%

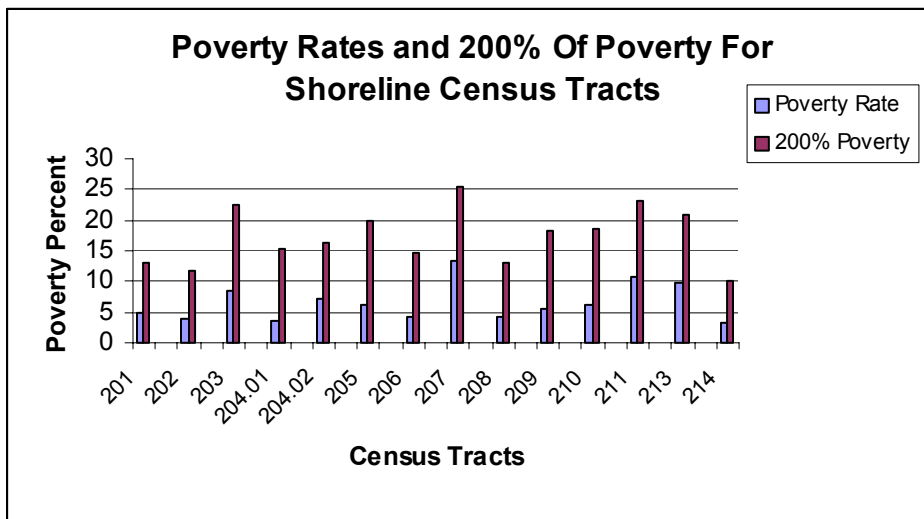
of all people living in poverty are children under 18. There are one-third more poor children than adults 65 and older living in poverty.

Poverty rates also vary by race and ethnic origin with whites having the lowest rate and African Americans the highest rate.

Poverty by Race and Ethnic Origin, Census 2000, Summary File 3, sample data, Tables P 159 A- E,H,I.

Race/Ethnicity	Number in Group	Number in Poverty	% in Poverty
Asian	6,598	721	10.9
African American	1,433	220	15.3
Am. Indian & Ak. Native	533	64	12.0
Hispanic	1,958	243	12.4
Hawaiian & Pacific Is.	203	18	8.9
White	39,316	2,131	5.0

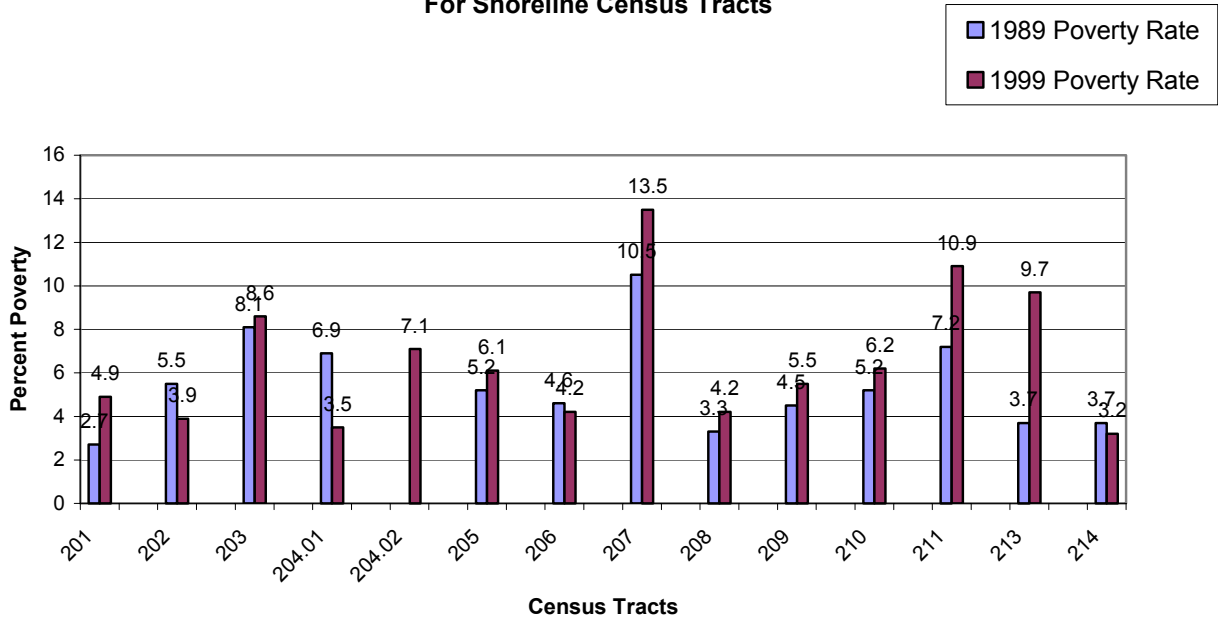
A poverty income does not provide enough money to meet basic needs. *Communities Count*, a collaborative program of major public and private organizations in King County, uses a living wage income, which is twice the



poverty level, to define an income sufficient to pay for the basic necessities of living. For a family of four, the living wage income in 1999 was \$34,100. Using this measure, about one in five Shoreline residents lives on less than twice the poverty threshold.

Census tract 207 (Richmond Highlands) has the highest rate of poverty at 13.5 percent followed by census tract 211 (Ridgecrest) at 10.9% and census tract 213 (Briarcrest) at 9.7% and census tract 203 (Echo Lake) at 8.6%. Almost one quarter of the residents in the before mentioned census tracts have incomes of 200% of poverty or less. Between 15 and 20 percent of residents of census tracts 204.01 and 204.02 (Echo Lake and Ballinger), 205 (North City), 206 (Meridian Park), 209 (Highland Terrace and Westminister Triangle) and 210 (Parkwood) have incomes of 200% of poverty or less.

**Poverty Rates 1989 and 1999
For Shoreline Census Tracts**



Comparing the poverty rates between the 1990 and 2000 census' is complicated by the fact that census tract 212 was merged into census tract 211 and census tract 204 was split into two parts for the 2000 census. Poverty rates declined in four census tracts: 202 (East Richmond Beach/Hillwood); 204.01 (East part of Echo Lake/North part of North City); 206 (Meridian Park) and 214 (North City). Poverty rates increased in the other ten census tracts from 0.4 of percent in census tract 203 (West part of Echo Lake) to 6 percent in census tract 213 (Briarcrest). Census tract 207 (Richmond Highlands) had the highest rate of poverty but the number of people living in the tract declined by 1% between 1990 and 2000. Census tract 213 (Briarcrest) had the greatest increase in poverty rates during the past decade and the largest percent of population increase.

The census tracts with the highest percent of people living in poverty generally were also the census tracts with the highest absolute number of people living in poverty, as shown in the chart below. The number living in poverty in the other census tracts ranged from 122 to 210.

**Census Tracts With Highest Number of People in Poverty, 1999,
Characteristics of Poverty, Summary File 3, Census 2000**

Census Tract	Neighborhood	# in Poverty
203	Echo Lake	525
207	Rich.Highlands	447
211	Ridgecrest	438
213	Briarcrest	391
205	Northcity	382
210	Pkwood/Merid.	354

Poverty Rates For King County Cities

