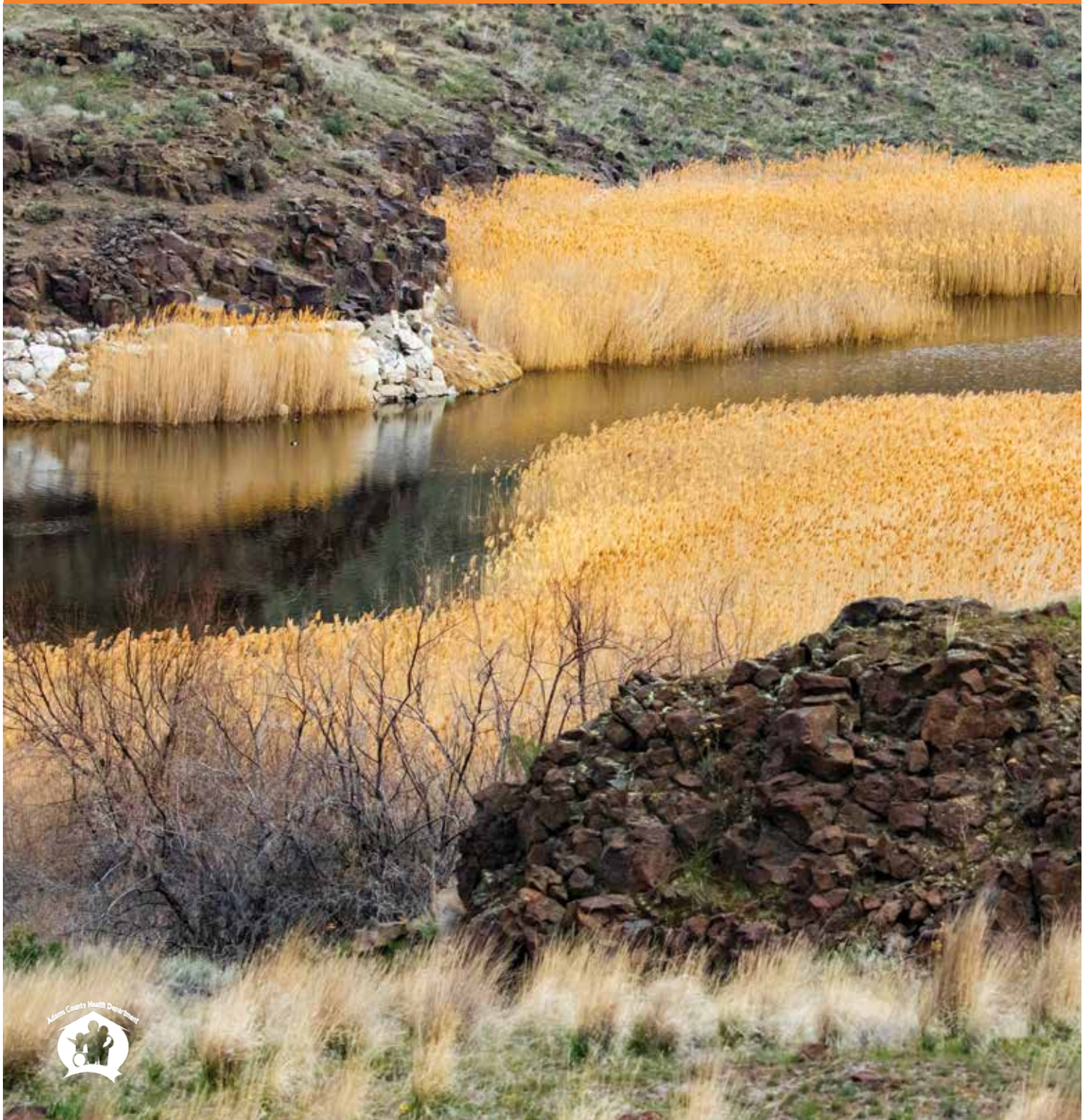


DEMOGRAPHICS & SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Adams County, WA

2022





Data Center

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October 2022

POPULATION

Adams County is located in the central portion of eastern Washington State. In 2021, Adams County was the thirty-first most populous county in the state with 21,100 individuals. This accounted for less than 1% of the state’s population.

The largest city in Adams County is Othello with a population of 8,920, or 42.3% of the county’s total population. Ritzville is the second largest city with a population of 1,780. Of the 39 counties in Washington State, Adams County had the eighth lowest population density with a density of 10.86 individuals per square mile. The Washington State density for all counties was 116.88 individuals per square mile.¹

In 2021, seniors 65+ made up the smallest proportion of Adams County’s population. Adams County had larger proportions of children ages 0-19 and smaller proportions of seniors ages 65 years or older than Washington State.

Population by Age Group, 2021

	Adams County	WA State
0-19 years	36.2%	24.0%
20-34 years	20.1%	20.5%
35-64 years	30.3%	38.0%
65+ years	13.1%	17.3%

Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management – April 1, 2021 Official Population Estimates

According to 2021 data, Adams County was not racially diverse. Among county residents, 32.6% were white, 1.2% were of two or more races, while all other groups made up less than 1% of the population. Hispanics comprised 64.6% of the population, much higher than the statewide population with 14.2% identifying as Hispanic. Hispanics are included in all race categories.

Population by Race Alone, 2021

	Adams County	WA State
White	32.6%	72.8%
Black or African American	0.1%	4.3%
American Indian and Alaska Native	0.3%	1.9%
Asian	0.6%	9.9%
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	0%	0.9%
Two or more races	1.7%	10.2%

Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management – April 1, 2021 Official Population Estimates

Population 15 Years of Age and Older by Marital Status, 2016-2020

	Adams County		WA State
Total	13,710	100%	100%
Married	7,021	51.2%	51.0%
Widowed	514	3.7%	4.8%
Divorced	1,155	8.4%	11.5%
Separated	439	3.2%	1.4%
Never Married	4,581	33.4%	31.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2016-2020. Table S1201

Population by Nativity and Citizenship Status, 2016-2020

	Adams County		WA State
U.S. citizen, born in the U.S.	14,802	75.1%	83.7%
U.S. citizen, born in Puerto Rico or U.S. island areas	0	0.0%	0.3%
U.S. citizen, born abroad of American parent(s)	99	0.5%	1.5%
U.S. citizen by naturalization	1,044	5.3%	7.0%
Not a U.S. citizen	3,757	19.1%	7.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2016-2020. Table B05001

Geographical Mobility in Past Year for Current Residence, 2016-2020

	Count	Percent
Same house 1 year ago	16,950	87.2%
Moved within same county	1,004	5.2%
Moved from different county within same state	961	4.9%
Moved from different state	155	0.8%
Moved from abroad	361	1.9%

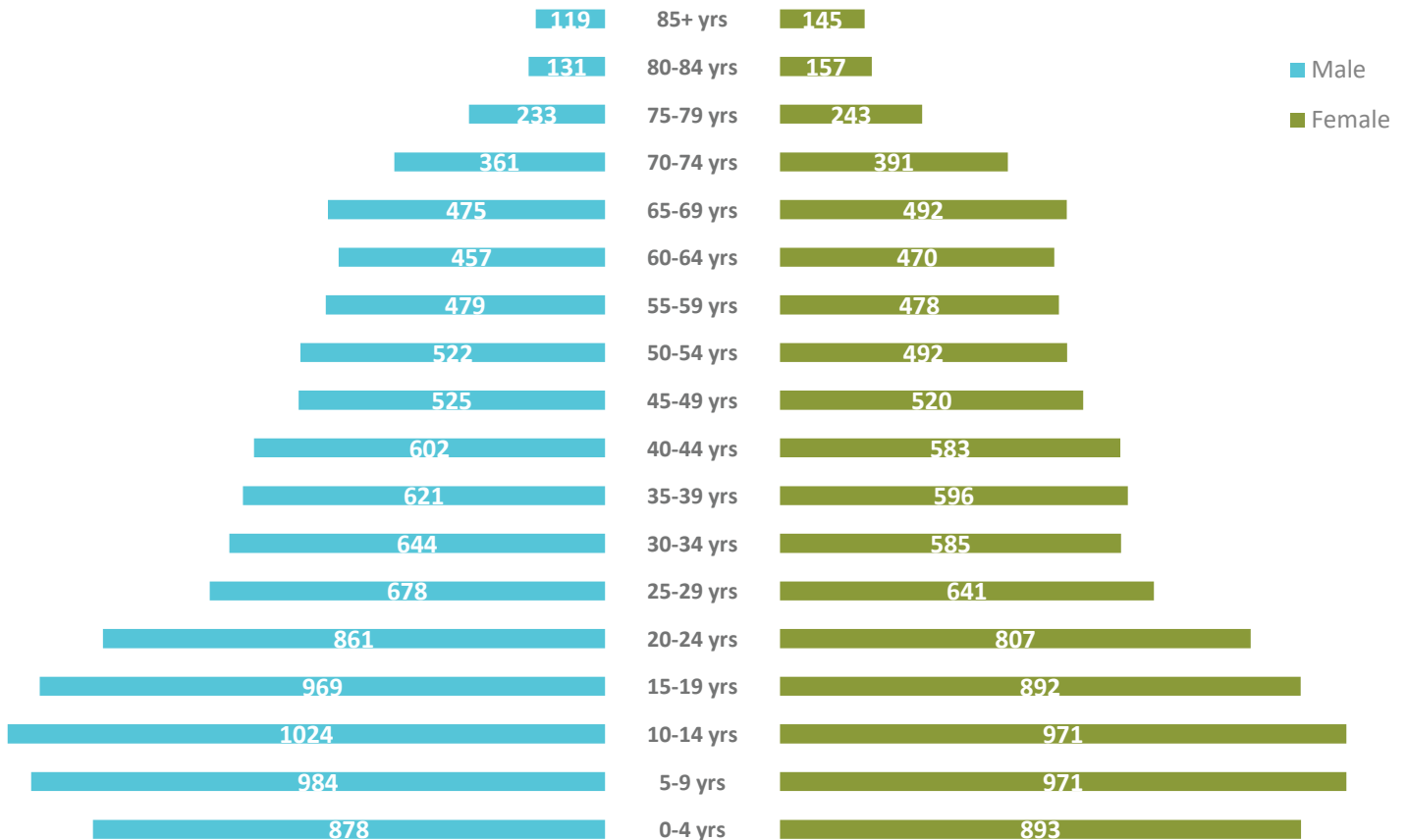
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2016-2020. Table B07001

Language Spoken at Home by Ability 2016-2020

	Adams County	WA State
Total Population 5 years and over	17,673	100%
English only	7,951	45.0%
Language other than English	9,722	55.0%
Speak English less than "very well"	5,117	29.0%
Spanish	8,945	50.6%
Other Indo-European languages	192	1.1%
Asian and Pacific Islander languages	68	0.4%
Other languages	517	2.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2016-2020. Table DP02

Distribution of Population by Age and Sex, Adams County, 2021



Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management – April 1, 2021 Population Estimates

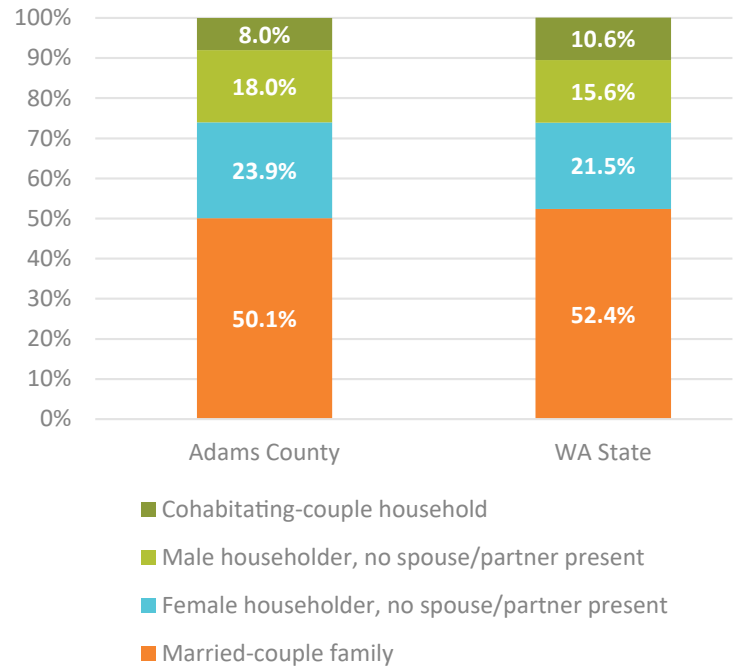
FAMILY STRUCTURE

Households by Type, Adams County, 2016-2020

Total Households	6,035	100%
Married-couple family	3,160	50.1%
Cohabiting couple household	637	8.0%
Male householder, no spouse/ partner present	941	18.0%
Householder living alone	675	12.4%
65 years and over	234	3.5%
Female householder, no spouse/ partner present	1,297	23.9%
Householder living alone	477	14.3%
65 years and over	251	6.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2016-2020. Table DP02

Families with Children Younger than 18 Years of Age by Household Type, 2016-2020



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2016-2020. Table DP02

EDUCATION

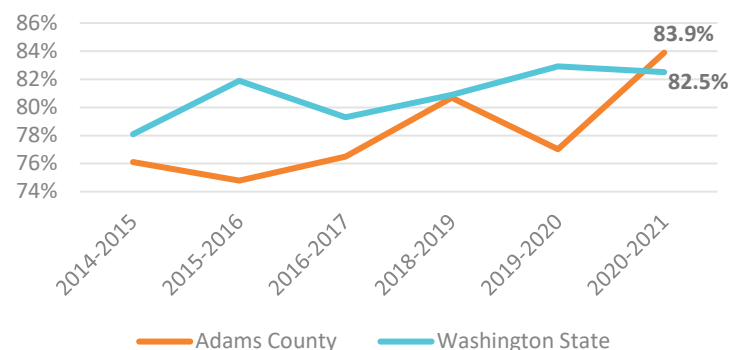
Educational Attainment among Adults 25 Years of Age or Older, 2016-2020

	Adams County		WA State
Population 25 years of age or older	10,777	100%	100%
Less than ninth grade	2,372	22.0%	3.5%
Ninth-12th grade, no diploma	979	9.1%	4.8%
High school graduate/ GED	3,415	31.7%	21.8%
Some college, no degree	1,873	17.4%	23.1%
Associate's degree	649	6.0%	10.1%
Bachelor's degree	900	8.4%	22.8%
Graduate or professional degree	589	5.5%	13.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2016-2020. Table S1501

Among students who began ninth grade, 83.9% graduated from high school on time during the 2020/2021 school year. Another 7% continued high school beyond the traditional graduation date. Statewide, 82.5% of students graduated on time.

On-Time High School Graduation Rate



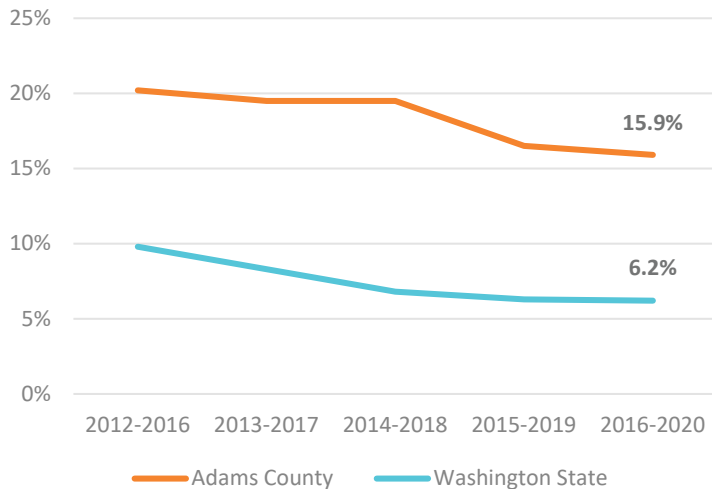
Source: Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction – Data and Reports, 2021

HEALTH INSURANCE AND DISABILITY

For the 2016-2020 American Community Survey (ACS) estimate period, approximately 15.9% of Adams County's population was uninsured. Those who were 19 to 64 years of age, male, and American Indian and Alaskan Native alone had the highest proportion of being uninsured in their respective demographic categories. The uninsured rate in Adams County was higher than Washington State.

In Adams County for the 2016-2020 ACS estimate period, 11.8% of the population had a disability. Disability includes those with hearing, vision, cognitive, ambulatory, self-care, or independent living difficulties. Among those with a disability, 56.1% were 75 years of age or older. Overall, Adams County had lower disability rates than the state.

Uninsured Rate Over Time



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2016-2020. Table S2701

Percent of Uninsured, 2016-2020

BY AGE

	Adams County	WA State
0-19 years	1.7%	2.8%
19-64 years	28.2%	8.9%
65+ years	3.5%	0.7%
Total	15.9%	6.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2016-2020. Table S2701

BY SEX

	Adams County	WA State
Male	16.8%	7.1%
Female	15.0%	5.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2016-2020. Table S2701

BY RACE

	Adams County	WA State
White alone	8.8%	5.1%
Black or African American	7.7%	7.6%
American Indian/ Alaska Native	47.0%	13.6%
Asian	16.8%	4.8%
Native Hawaiian & other Pacific Islander	0%	10.6%
Some other race	21.9%	16.4%
Two or more races	4.7%	4.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2016-2020. Table S2701

Percent of Population with a Disability by Age, 2016-2020

	Adams County	WA State
Under 5 years	0%	0.7%
5-17 years	4.2%	5.6%
18-34 years	8.3%	7.2%
35-64 years	16.2%	12.4%
65-74 years	25.3%	24.6%
75 years+	56.1%	50.2%
Total	11.8%	12.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2016-2020. Table S1810

INCOME AND POVERTY

Estimates of median household income were based on the U.S. Census Bureau’s American Community Survey (ACS) estimates for 2016-2020 and the Washington State Office of Financial Management from 2021.

The projected median household income in Adams County for 2021 was \$59,463, compared to \$81,998 statewide. The median household income has been increasing since 2017. For 2016 to 2020, approximately 26.3% of individuals in the county lived below 125% federal poverty level (FPL), and 47.6% lived below 200% FPL. The proportion of Adams County residents living in poverty (below 200% FPL) was significantly higher than the statewide proportion (24.1%).

Median Household Income Estimates

	Adams County	WA State
2010	\$40,656	\$54,888
2011	\$41,068	\$55,500
2012	\$42,354	\$56,444
2013	\$43,541	\$57,284
2014	\$45,712	\$60,153
2015	\$47,646	\$63,439
2016	\$49,501	\$65,500
2017	\$48,849	\$69,288
2018	\$52,870	\$72,297
2019	\$53,535	\$78,674
2020 Preliminary estimate	\$56,421	\$80,319
2021 Projection	\$59,463	\$81,998

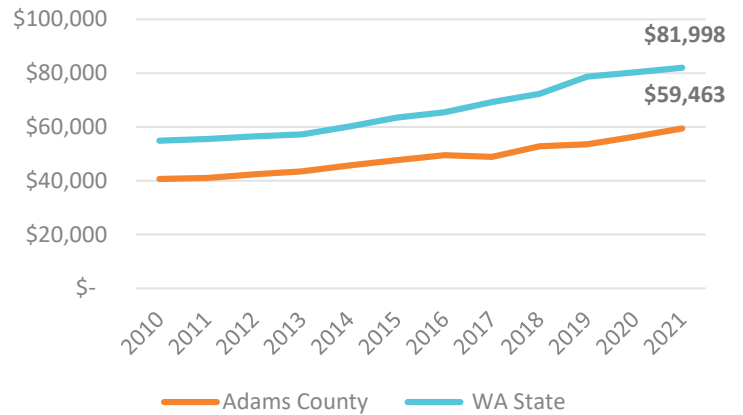
Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management – Median Household Estimates by County, April 2021

Families with Children Living at or Below 100% FPL, 2016-2020

	Adams County	WA State
All Families	17.6%	6.5%
Married Couple Families	10.5%	3.3%
Single Mothers	44.2%	21.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2016-2020. Table S1702

Median Household Income Over Time



Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management – Median Household Estimates by County, April 2021

Individuals Living at or Below 100% FPL by Age Group, 2016-2020

	Adams County	WA State
<18	33.3%	12.6%
18-64 Years	19.1%	10.0%
65+ Years	12.8%	7.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2016-2020. Table S1701

Population Living at or Below Various FPL, 2016-2020

	Adams County	WA State
50% FPL	11.3%	4.7%
125% FPL	26.3%	13.4%
150% FPL	34.5%	16.7%
185% FPL	44.6%	21.8%
200% FPL	47.6%	24.1%
300% FPL	67.5%	39.3%

Disclaimer: Percentages do not add up to 100% because categories may overlap. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2016-2020. Table S1701

Individuals Within Race and Hispanic Ethnicity Categories Living at or Below 100% FPL, 2016-2020

	Adams County	WA State
White	18.7%	8.9%
Black or African American	36.3%	17.5%
American Indian and Alaskan Native	64.8%	22.0%
Asian	22.1%	9.2%
Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander	0.0%	12.6%
Some other race	28.9%	18.6%
Two or more races	14.4%	12.7%
Hispanic ethnicity	29.9%	16.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2016-2020. Table S1701



EMPLOYMENT

Of the estimated 9,524 individuals in the civilian labor force in Adams County in 2021, there were 8,993 individuals employed. The average unemployment rate in Adams in 2021 was 5.6%, compared to 5.2% in Washington State.²

Occupation of the Civilian-Employed Population 16 Years of Age or Older, 2016-2020

	Adams County		WA State
Total	7,780	100%	100%
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	2,189	28.1%	9.4%
Management, business, science, and arts occupations	1,676	21.5%	42.7%
Production, transportation, and materials moving occupations	1,614	20.7%	11.9%
Sales and office occupations	1,098	14.1%	19.5%
Service occupations	1,203	15.5%	16.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2016-2020. Table S2401

Compared to Washington State, Adams County had a higher proportion of workers in natural resources, construction and maintenance occupations and production, transportation, and materials moving occupations. Adams County had a lower proportion of workers in sales and office occupations.

Industry of the Civilian-Employed Population 16 Years of Age or Older, 2016-2020

	Adams County		WA State
Total civilian employed population 16 years and over	7,780	100%	100%
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	2,292	29.5%	2.5%
Construction	381	4.9%	7.0%
Manufacturing	981	12.6%	9.5%
Wholesale trade	337	4.3%	2.7%
Retail trade	514	6.6%	11.6%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	466	6.0%	5.5%
Information	49	0.6%	2.2%
Finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing	102	1.3%	5.3%
Professional, scientific, and management, and administrative and waste management services	276	3.5%	13.6%
Educational services, and health care and social assistance	1,587	20.4%	21.6%
Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and food services	329	4.2%	9.0%
Other services except public administration	187	2.4%	4.5%
Public administration	279	3.6%	5.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2016-2020. Table S2403

HOUSING

For the 2016 to 2020 American Community Survey (ACS) estimate period, there were an estimated 6,684 housing units in Adams County. Of those, 9.7% were vacant. The majority of occupied housing were owner-occupied (61%) while the remaining housing units (39%) were renter-occupied. The homeowner vacancy rate was 2.6%, while the rental vacancy rate was 5.5% during this period.

The proportion of occupied housing lacking complete kitchen facilities was slightly higher in Adams County compared to Washington State. In Adams County, 0.3% of occupied housing lacked complete plumbing facilities and 1.2% lacked complete kitchen facilities. This is compared to 0.4% of occupied housing in Washington State lacking complete plumbing facilities and 1.1% of occupied housing lacking complete kitchen facilities.³

In 2022 Quarter 1, the median price of homes in Adams County was \$263,900, compared to \$563,600 in Washington State. Estimates of median home prices vary greatly in smaller areas. The median price of home sales in Adams County varied between \$183,300 to \$295,800 between

2020 and 2022. Housing affordability slightly increased in Adams County and decreased in Washington State. Housing affordability was estimated based on the National Association of Realtors' Housing Affordability Index, defined as the ability of a middle-income family to carry the mortgage payments on a median price home. Housing was consistently more affordable in Adams County than Washington State.⁴



Year Housing Units were Built, 2016-2020

	Adams County		WA State
Total Housing Units	6,684	100%	100%
Built 2014 or later	127	1.9%	4.8%
Built 2010 to 2013	199	3.0%	3.6%
Built 2000 to 2009	580	8.7%	15.0%
Built 1990 to 1999	955	14.3%	16.7%
Built 1980 to 1989	559	8.4%	12.9%
Built 1970 to 1979	1,565	23.4%	15.5%
Built 1960 to 1969	600	9.0%	9.3%
Built 1950 to 1959	933	14.0%	7.3%
Built 1940 to 1949	185	2.8%	4.7%
Built 1939 or earlier	981	14.7%	10.0%

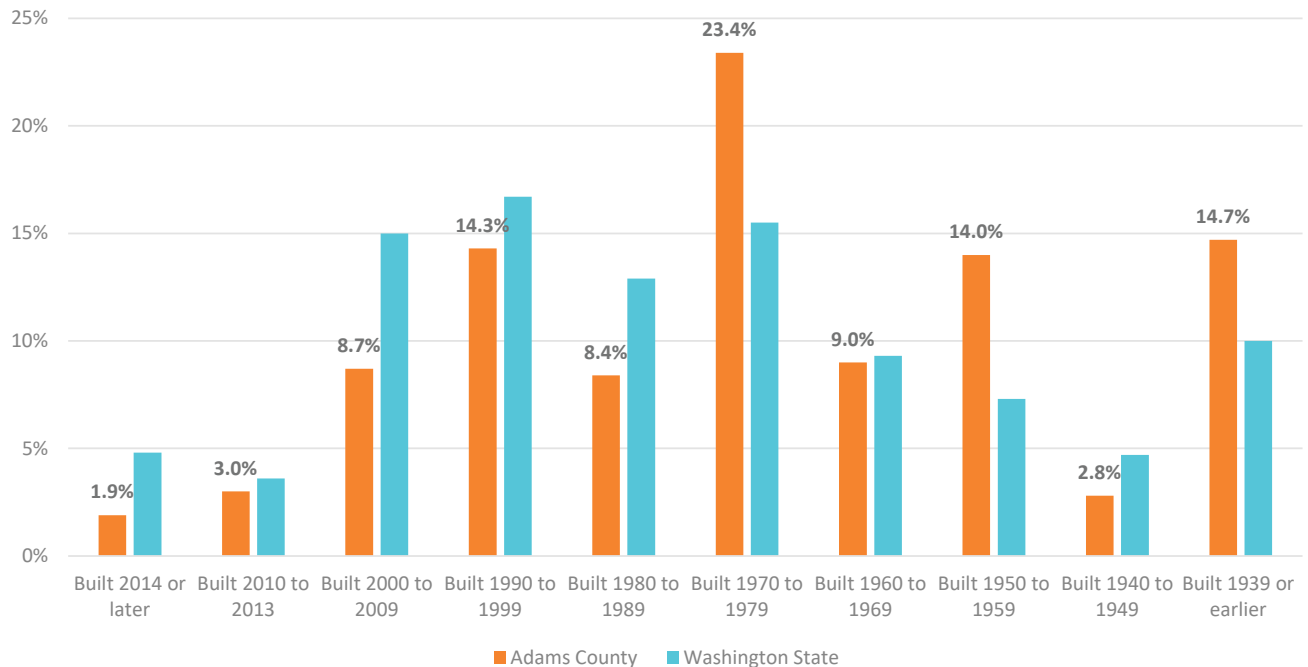
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2016-2020. Table DP04

House Heating Fuel in Occupied Housing, 2016-2020

	Adams County		WA State
Total occupied housing units	6,035	100%	100%
Utility gas	1,494	24.8%	34.2%
Bottled, tank, or LP gas	95	1.6%	3.1%
Electricity	4,112	68.1%	56.2%
Fuel oil, kerosene, etc.	82	1.4%	1.7%
Coal or coke	3	0%	0%
Wood	162	2.7%	3.9%
Solar energy	0	0%	0.1%
Other fuel	63	1.0%	0.5%
No fuel used	24	0.4%	0.5%

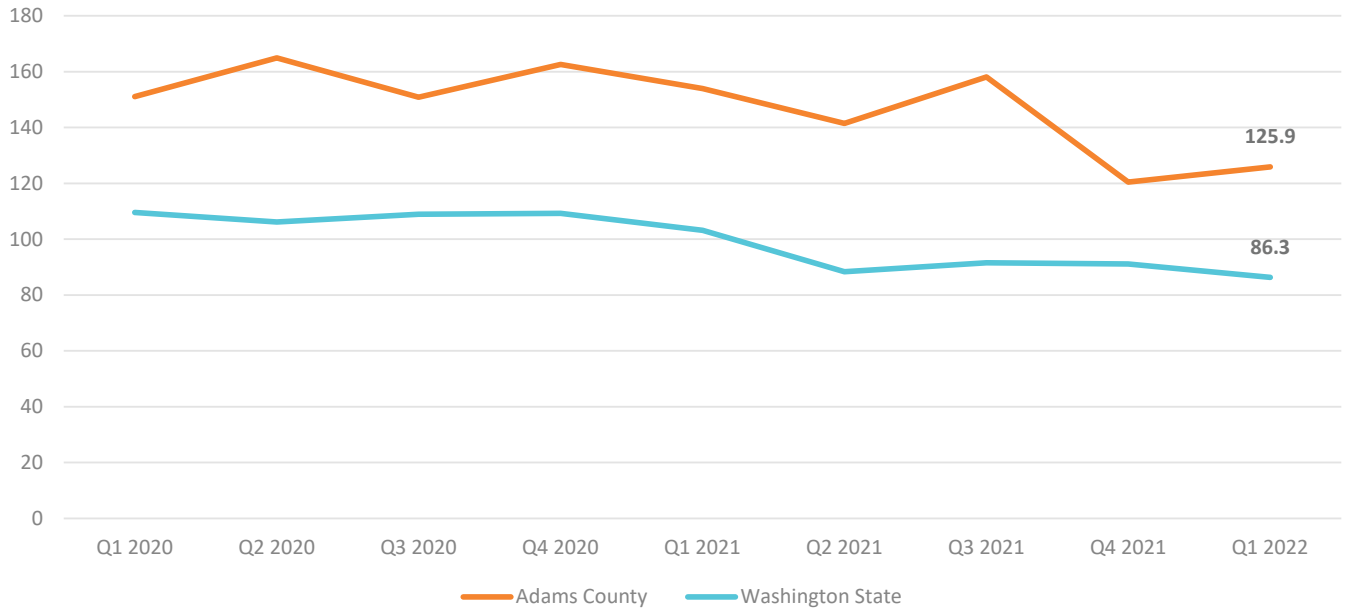
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2016-2020. Table S2403

Age of Housing Stock



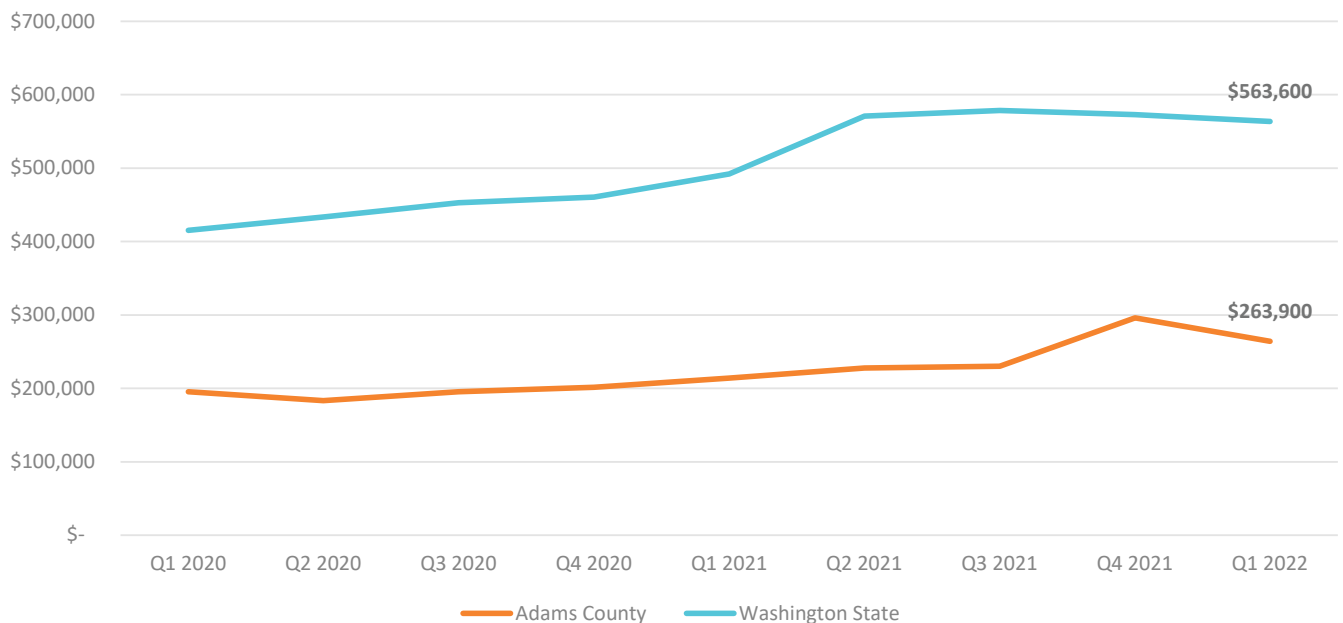
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2016-2020. Table DP04

Housing Affordability Index



Source: Runstad Center for Real Estate Studies, University of Washington. 2022 Q1

Median Home Prices



Source: Runstad Center for Real Estate Studies, University of Washington. 2022 Q1

Endnotes

1. Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management – Estimates of April 1, 2021 Population Density and Land Area by County
2. Source: Washington State Employment Security Department: Local Area Unemployment Statistics, accessed August 10, 2022.
3. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2016-2020. Table DP04
4. Source: Runstad Center for Real Estate Studies, University of Washington. 2022 Q1



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Typical landscape in Potholes State park located in part of the channeled scablands of central Washington state*

