

Puget Sound Regional Data Trends

September 2025



Puget Sound Regional Council



We are leaders in the region to realize equity for all. Diversity, racial equity and inclusion are integrated into how we carry out all our work.

psrc.org/equity

Topics for Discussion



Population Trends



Housing Trends



Economic Trends



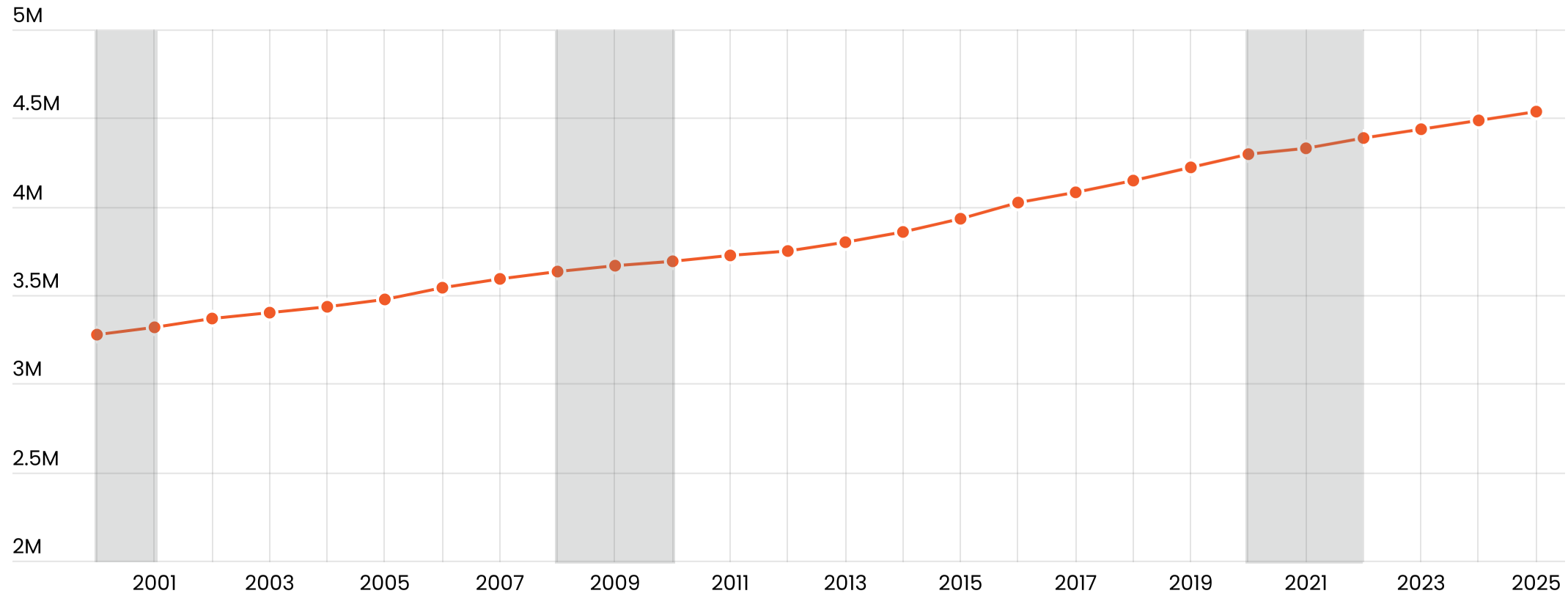
Transportation Trends

Population Trends



Population reached 4.53 million in 2025

Total Population in Central Puget Sound, 2000–2025

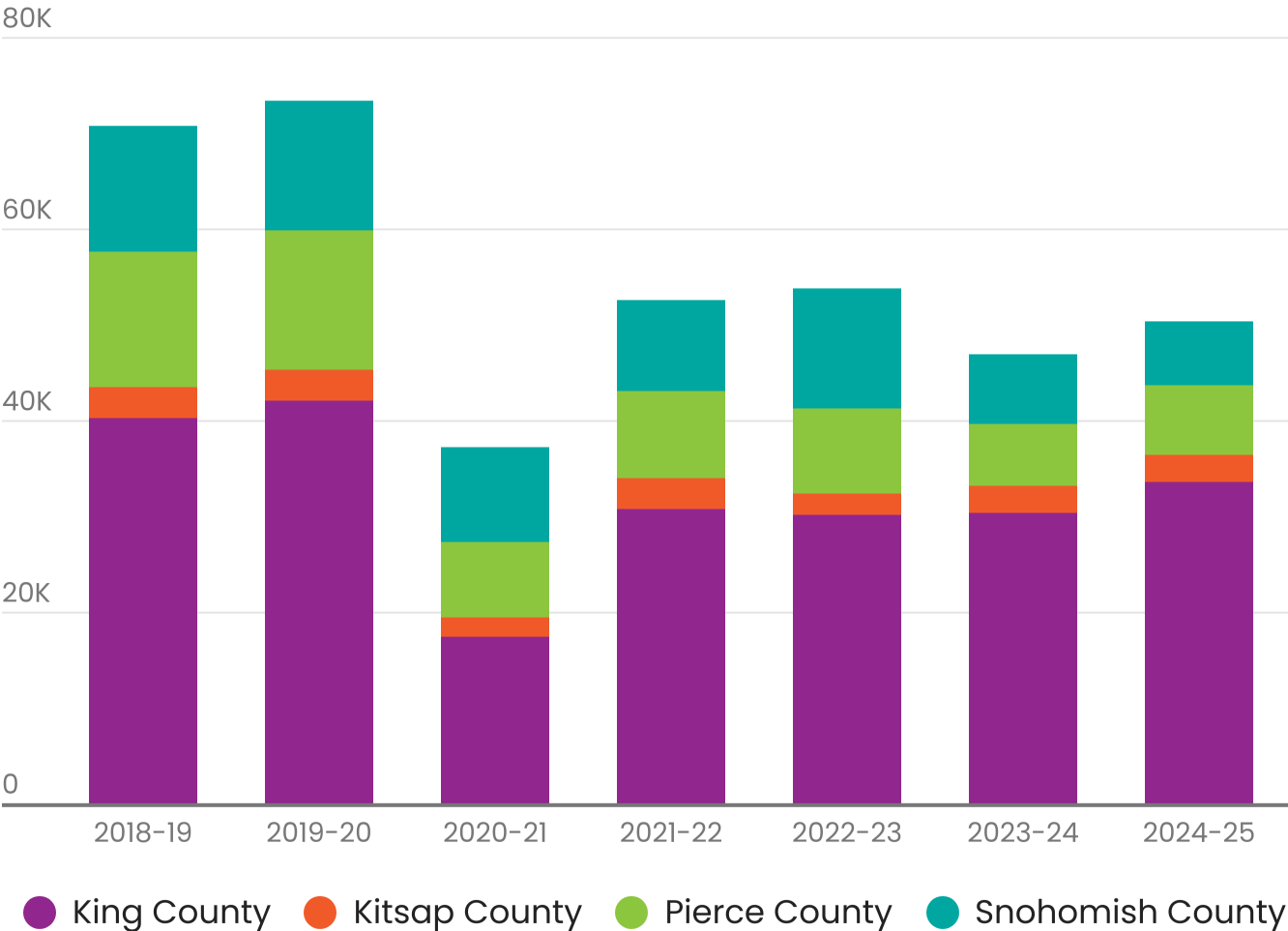


Gray bars indicate U.S. recessions and the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Source: Office of Financial Management, April 1 Official Population, 2025

Population Growth has slowed since the pandemic

Population Change by County, 2018–2025



The region grew by **50,400** people between 2024 and 2025 and **67%** of the growth occurred in King County.

Source: Office of Financial Management, April 1 Official Population, 2025

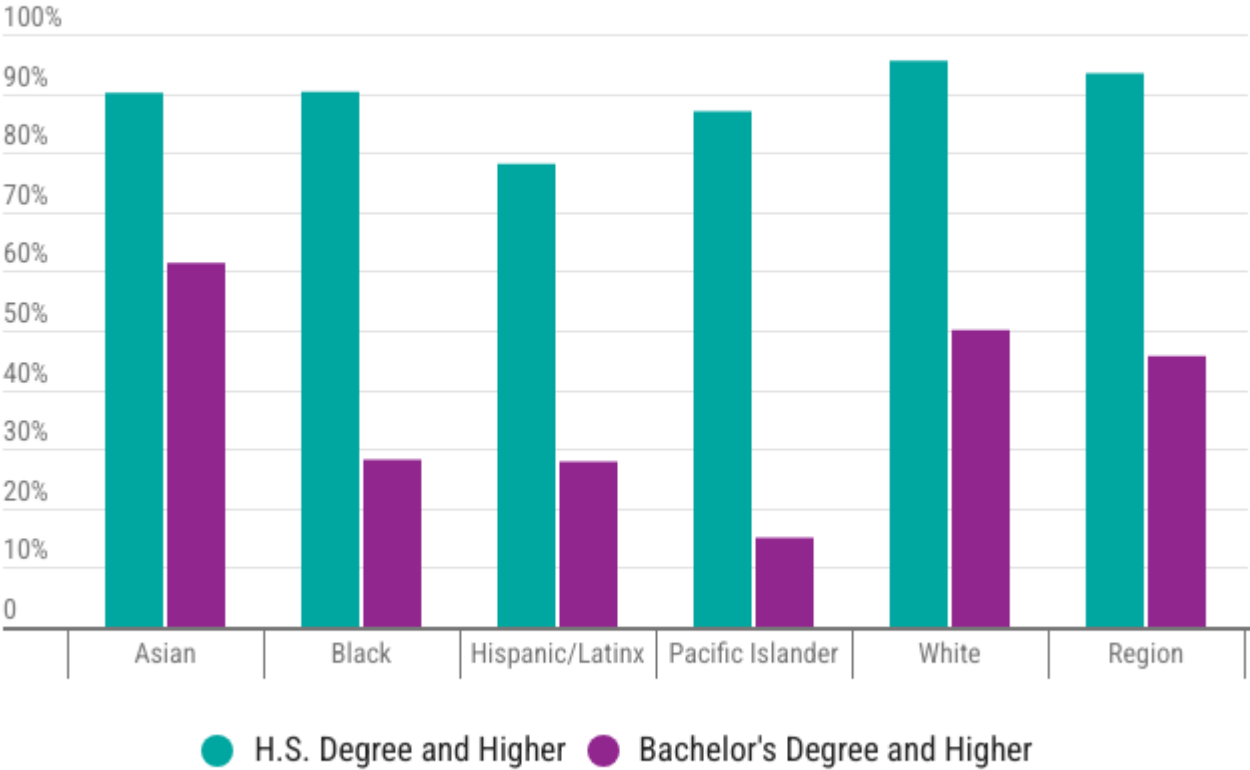
Most Population growth has occurred in cities

Growth by Regional Geography, 2018–2025



The region has a large share of college graduates

High School and College Education Attainment by Race, 2023

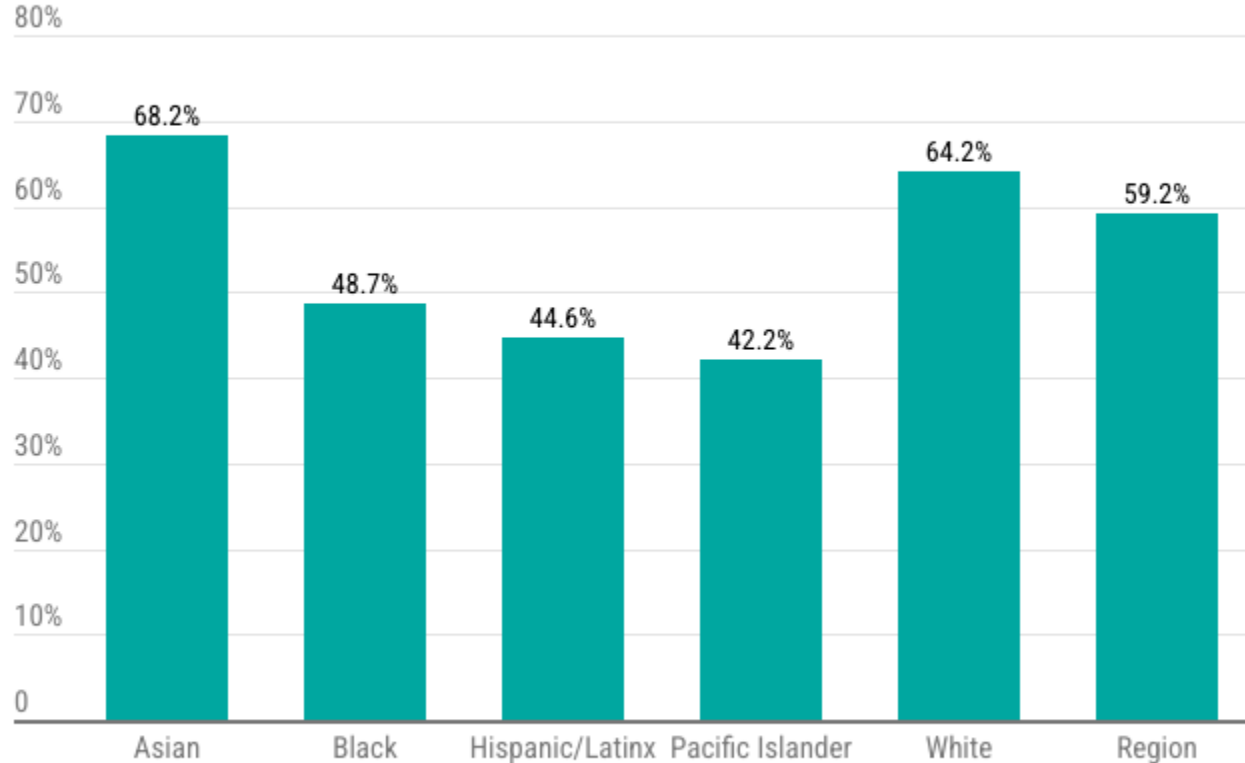


Almost half of all residents have a college degree – in the top 5 for the nation – but disparities by race persist

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019–2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Early learning varies by Race

Kindergarten Readiness, 2023



Source: Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction

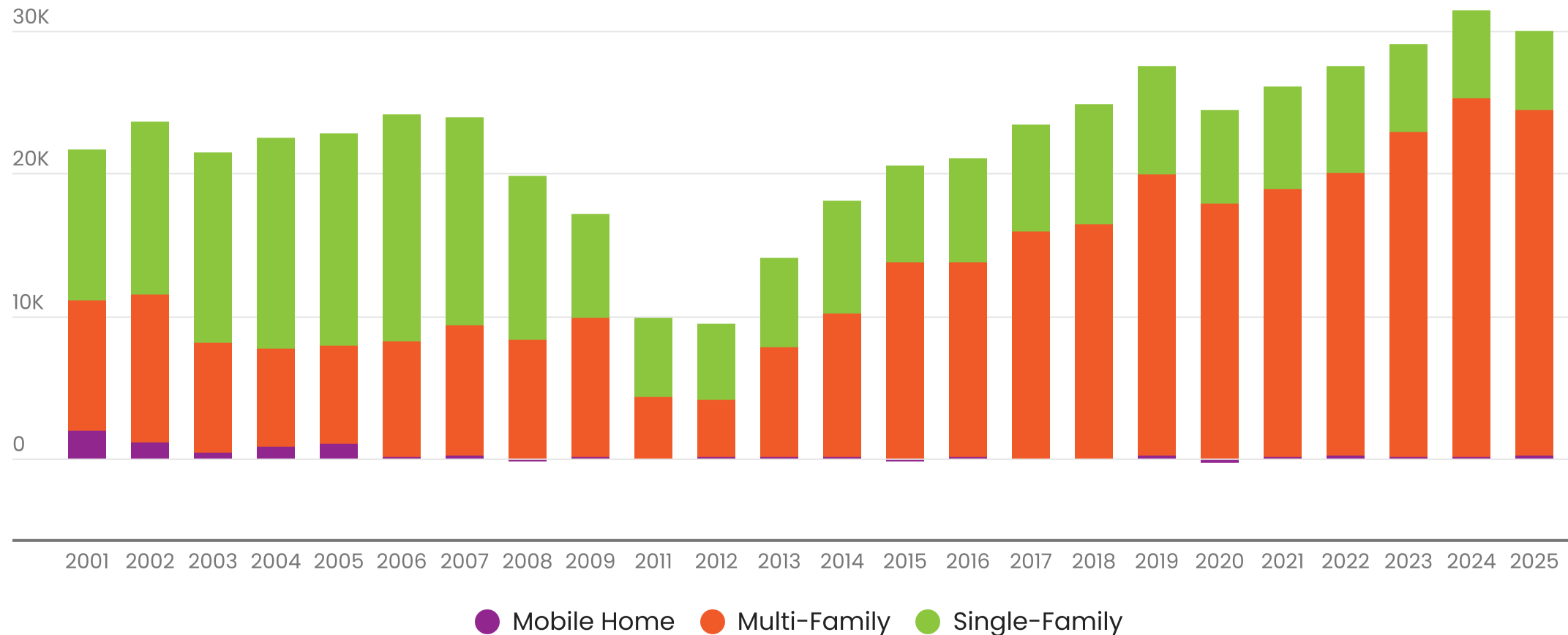
Racial disparities in kindergarten readiness mirror the disparities in college degrees by race

Housing Trends



New Housing Production near 30k units in 2025

Housing Unit Change by Type, 2000–2025

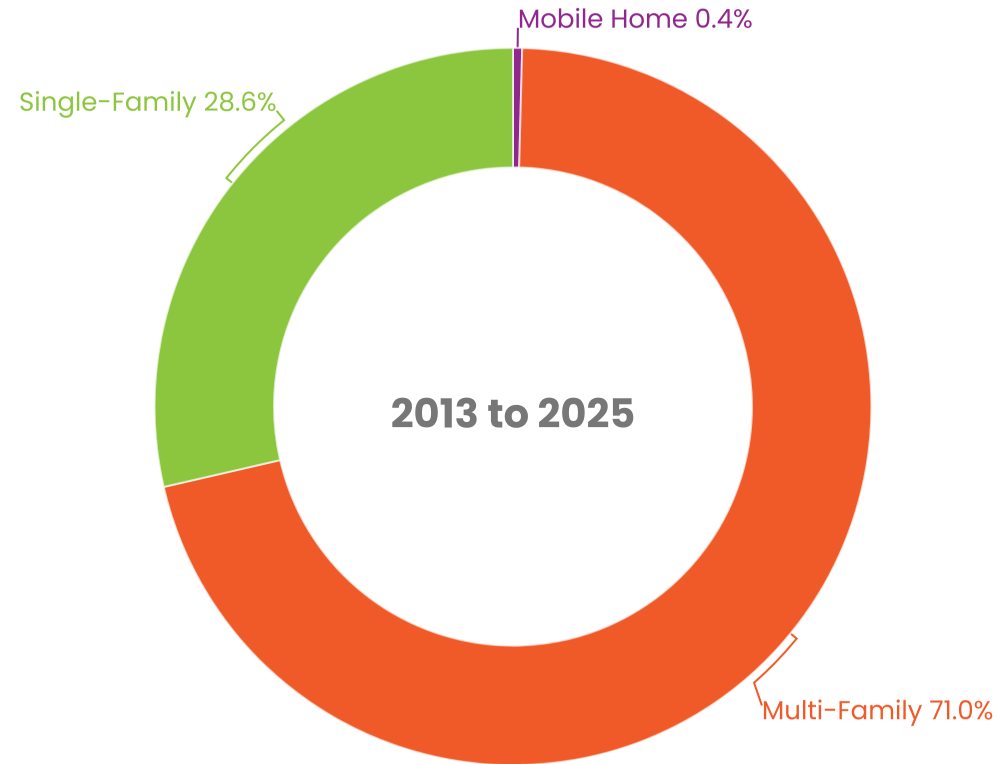
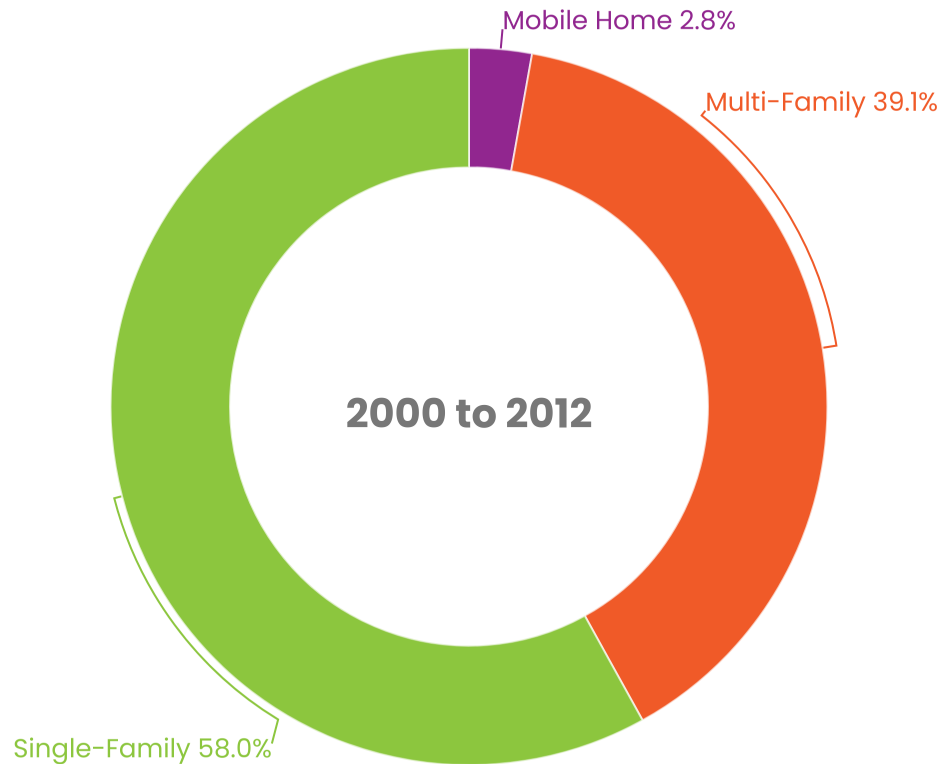


Source: Office of Financial Management, Historical Estimates of April 1 Population and Housing by State, County & Cities



New Housing is predominately multi-family

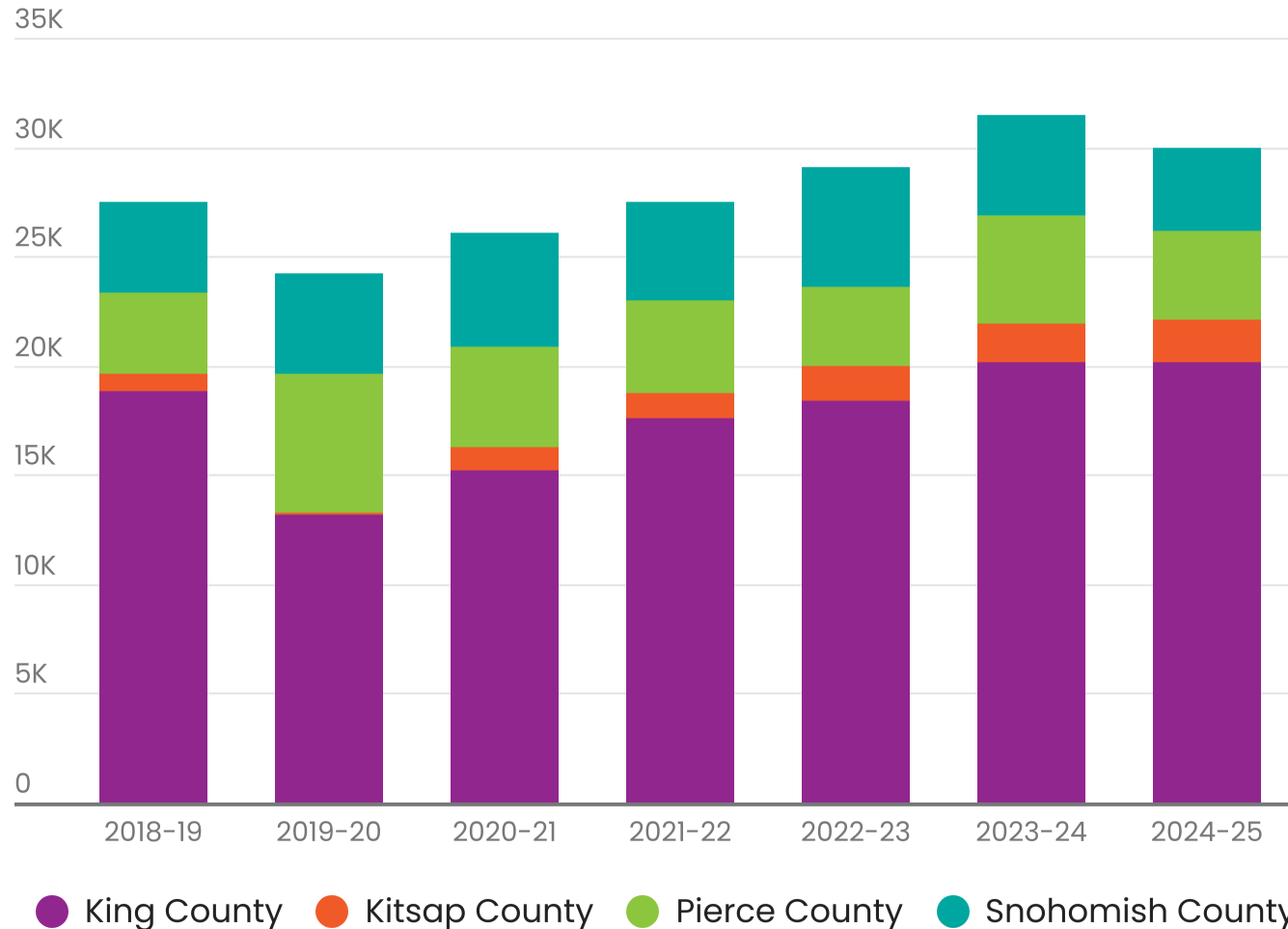
New Housing Units by Type



Source: Office of Financial Management, Historical Housing Estimates, 2025

All Counties are adding Housing

Housing Unit Change by County, 2018–2025

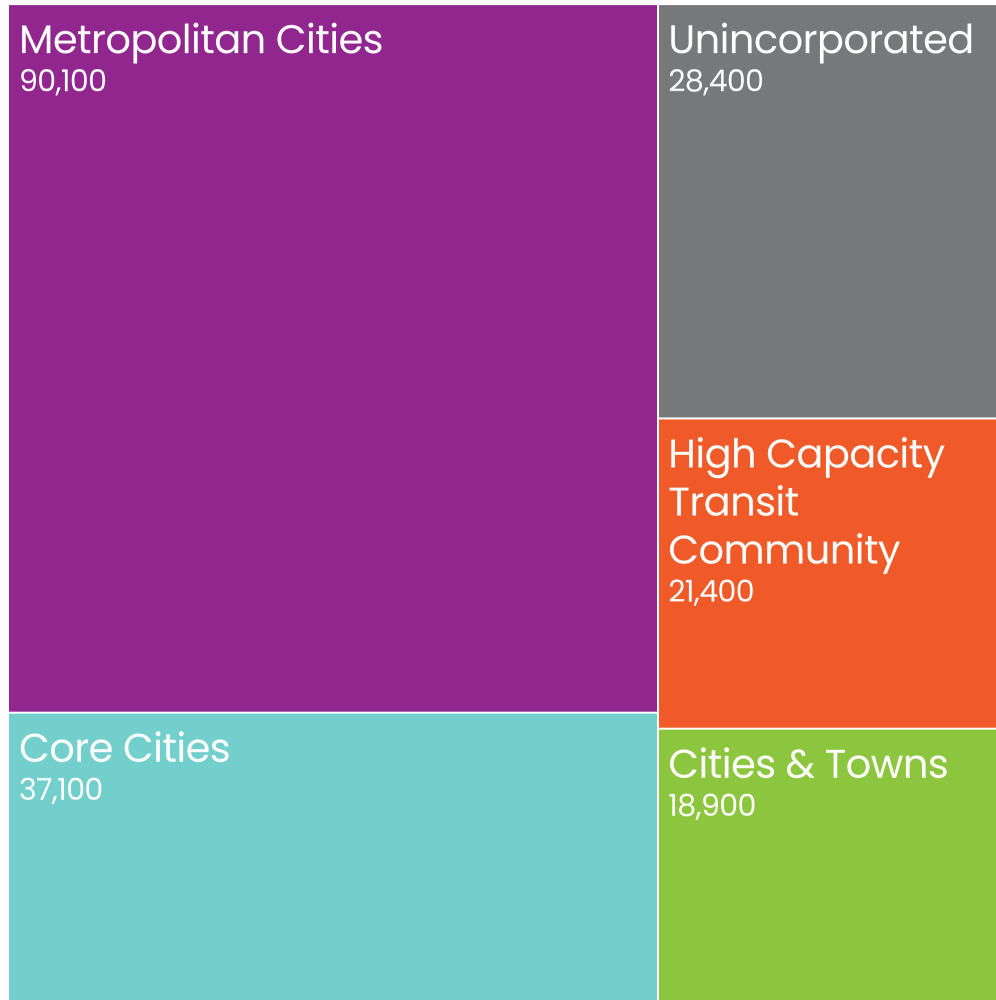


The region added **30,000** housing units between 2024 and 2025 and **67%** of the growth occurred in King County.



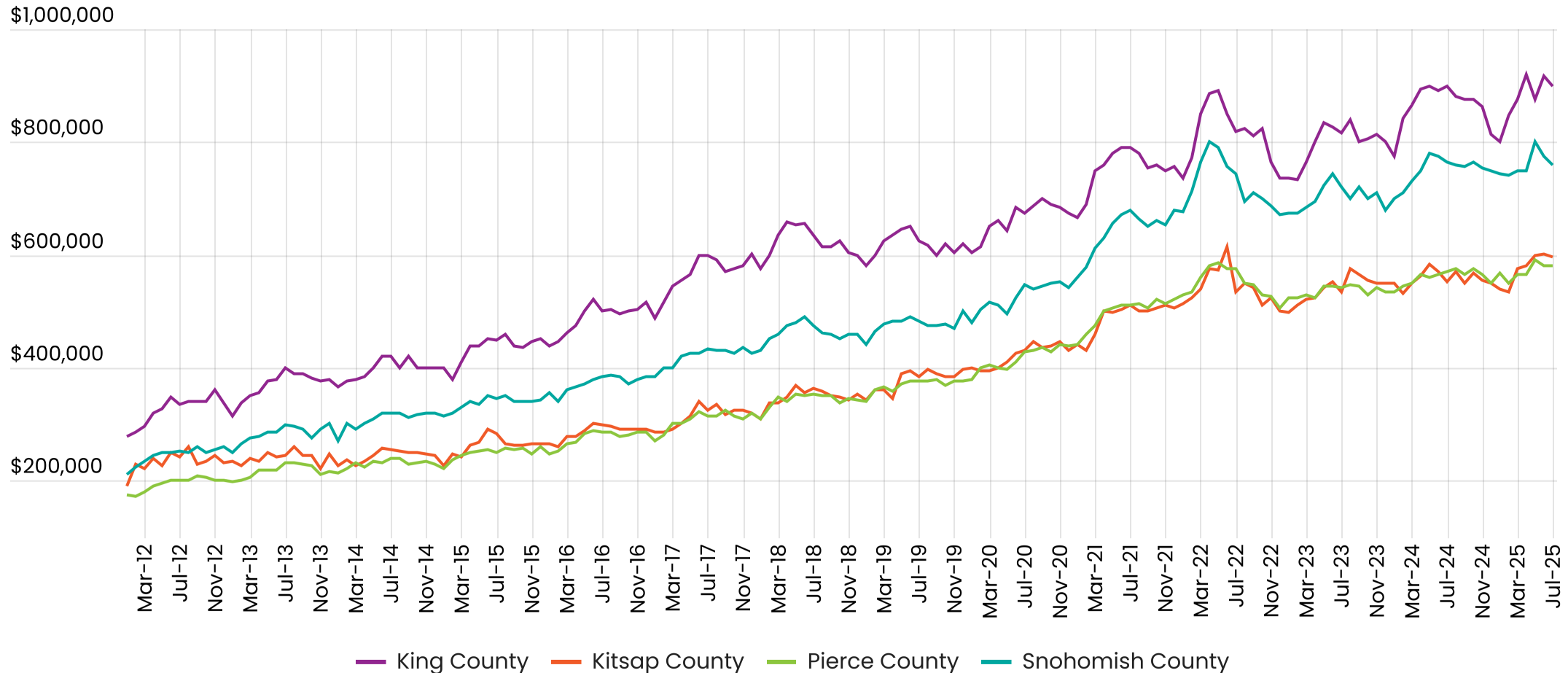
Most housing growth has occurred in cities

Growth by Regional Geography, 2018–2025



Median Sales price are at all-time highs

Median Home Sales Price in Central Puget Sound, 2012–2025

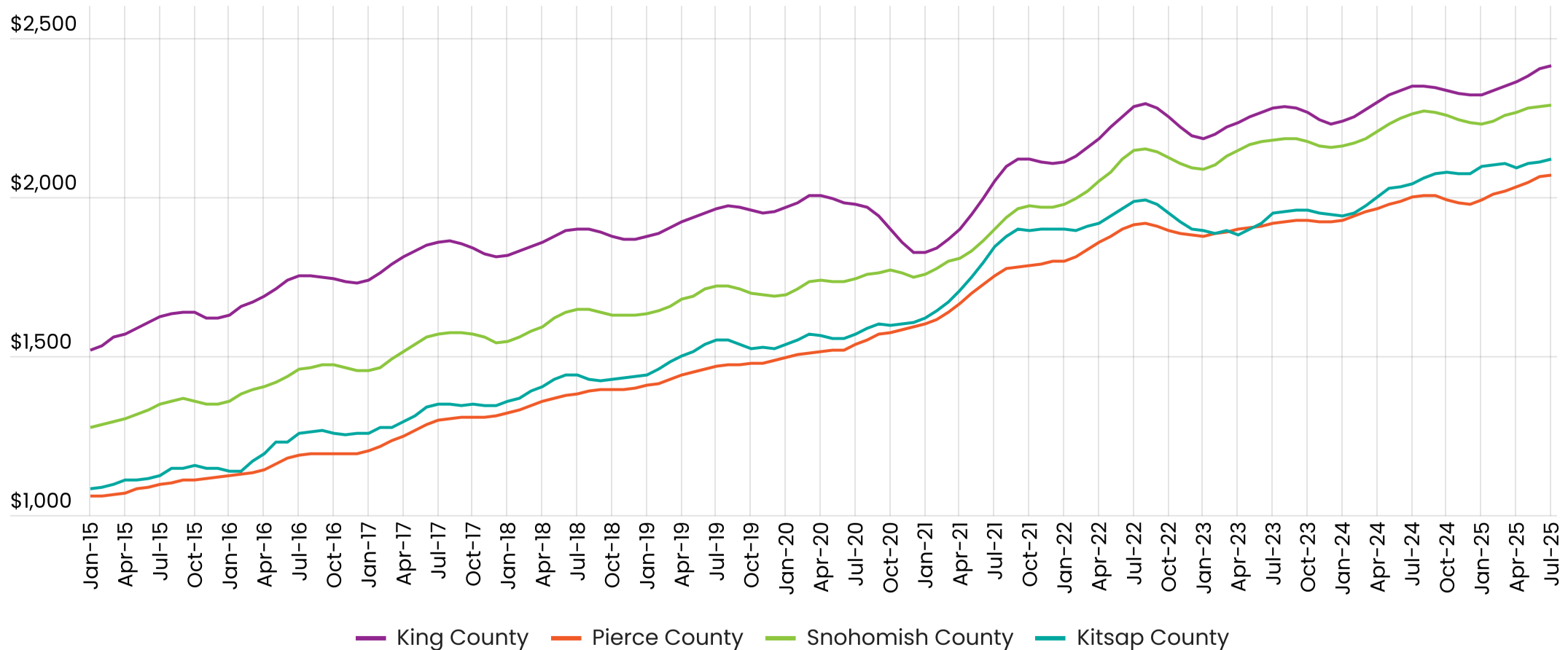


Source: Data provided by Redfin, a national real estate brokerage



Monthly Rents are at all-time highs

Median Monthly Rent in Central Puget Sound, 2015–2025



Source: Housing Data - Zillow Research

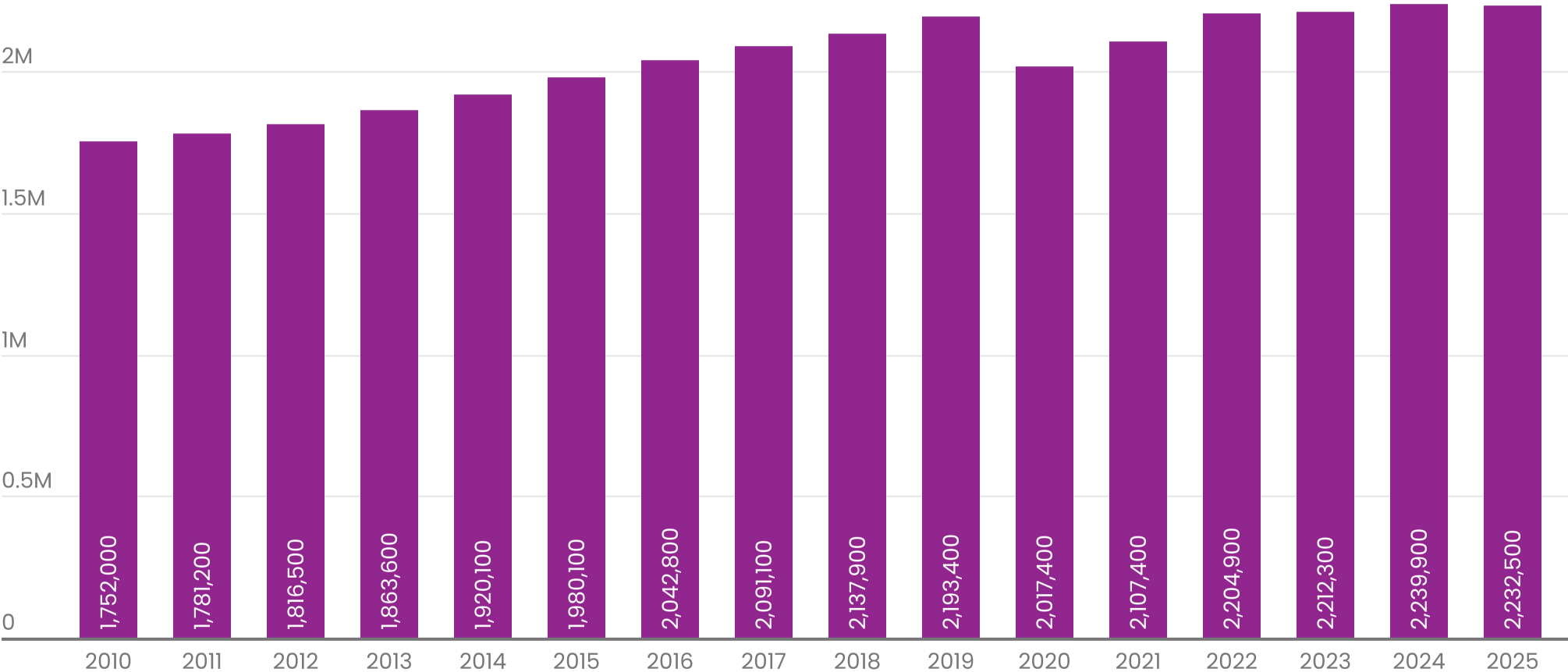


Economic Trends



Jobs are still above pre-pandemic levels

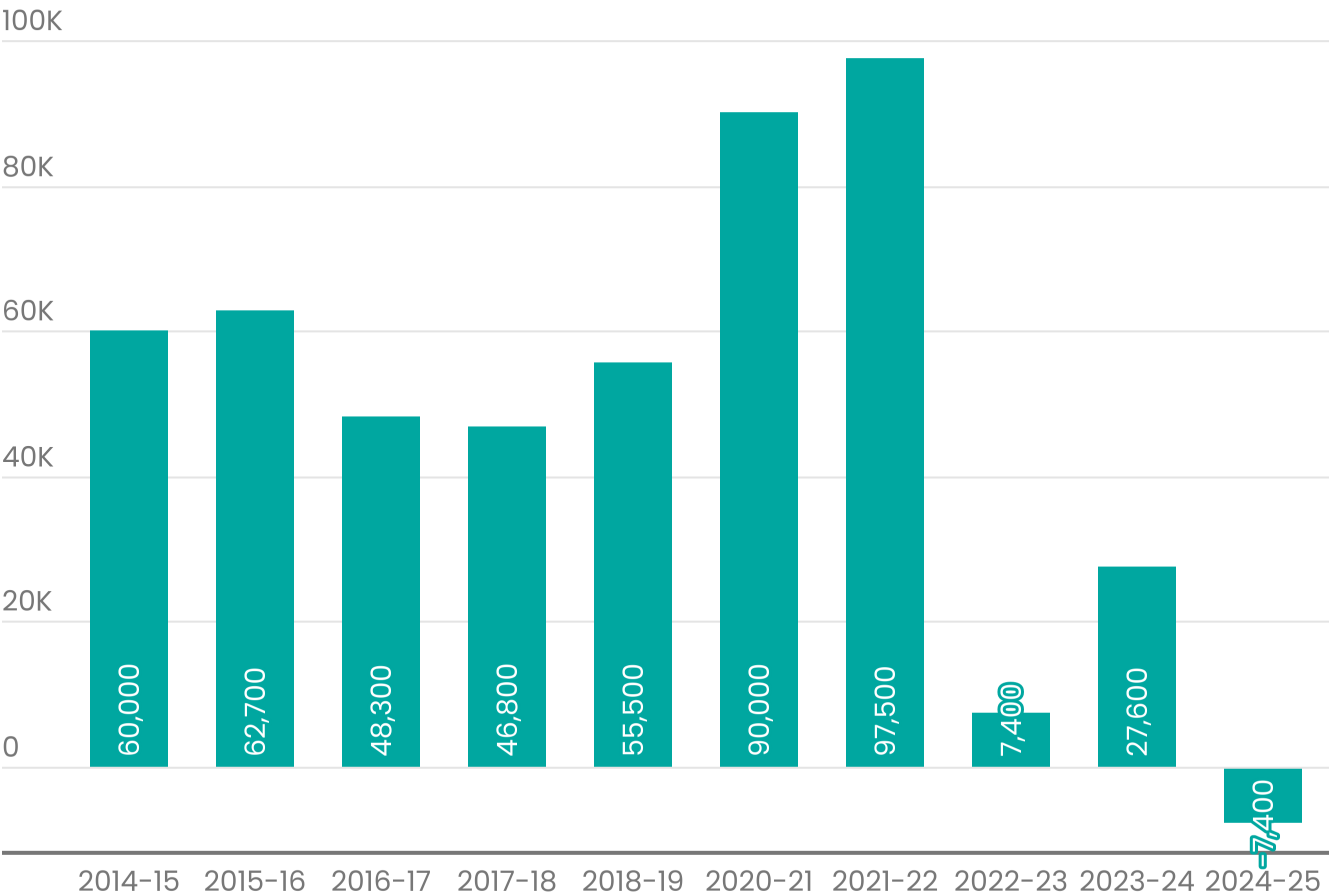
Wage & Salary Jobs in July by Year, 2010–2025



Source: Washington State Employment Securities Department

The region has lost jobs in the past year

Job Change in July by Year, 2015-2025*



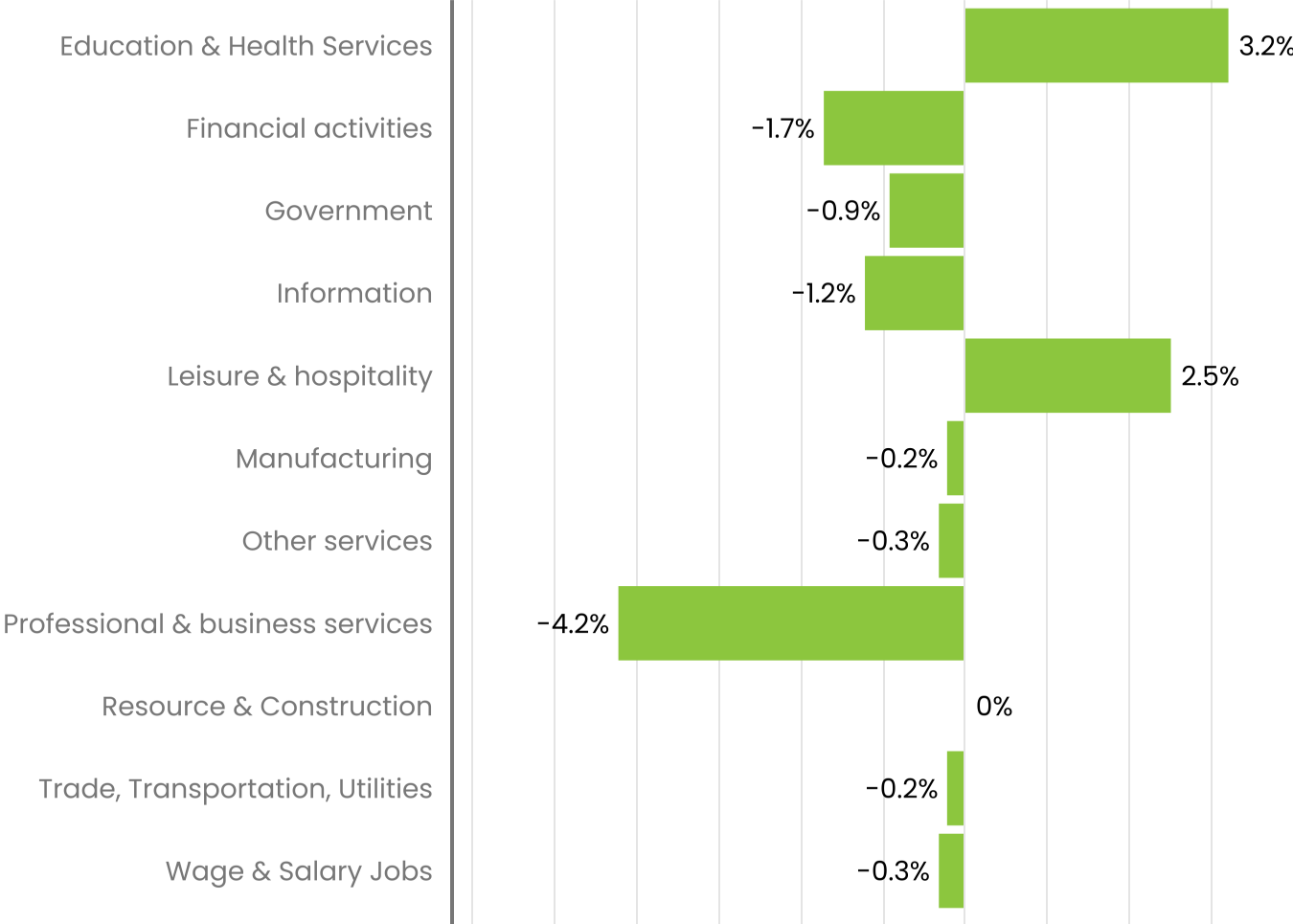
The region lost **-7,400** jobs between July of 2024 and July of 2025. These losses include layoffs announced by large tech companies as well as impacts of economic uncertainty.

* 2020 data was left off chart. Almost 240k jobs were lost in 2020

Source: Washington State Employment Securities Department

Many sectors have lost jobs

% Change in Jobs by Sector, 2025 / 2024

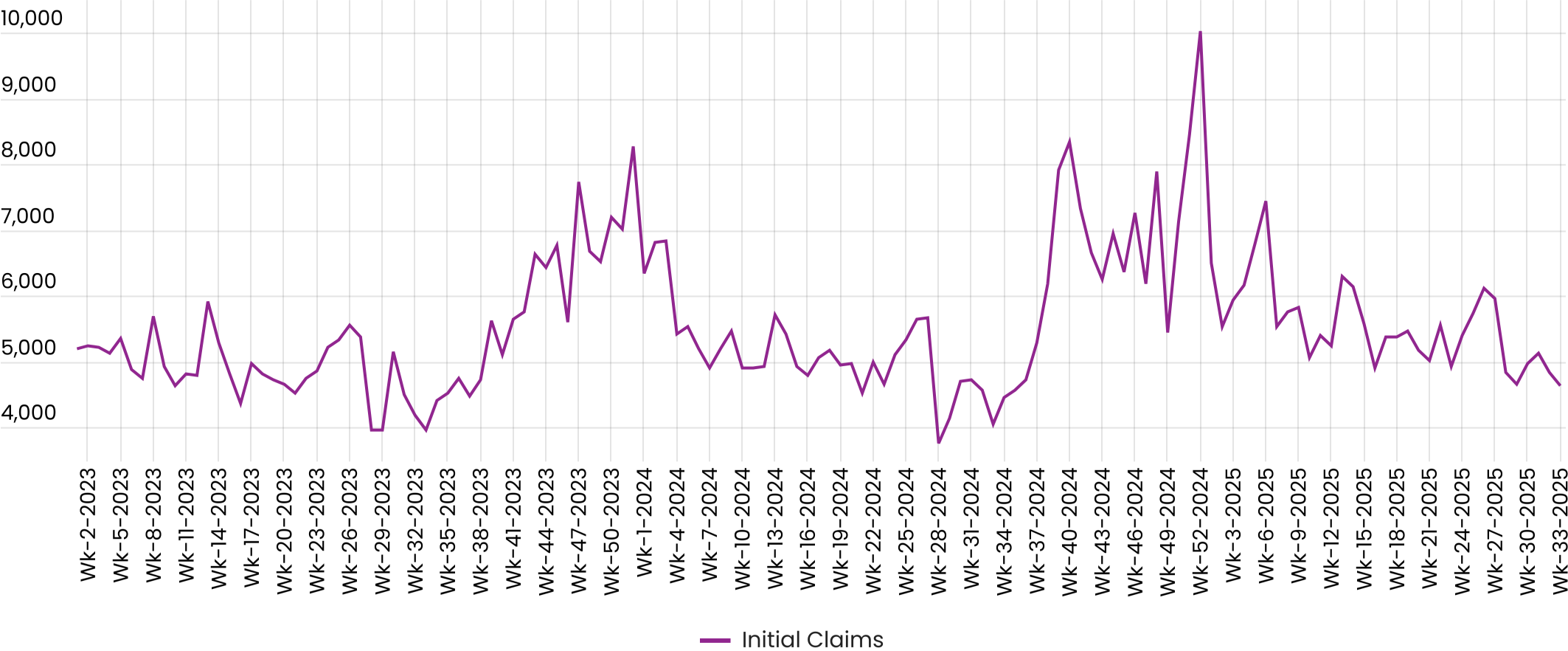


Education & Health Services and Leisure and Hospitality are the only broad sectors that have added jobs in the past year.

Source: Washington State Employment Securities Department

Unemployment Claims are increasing

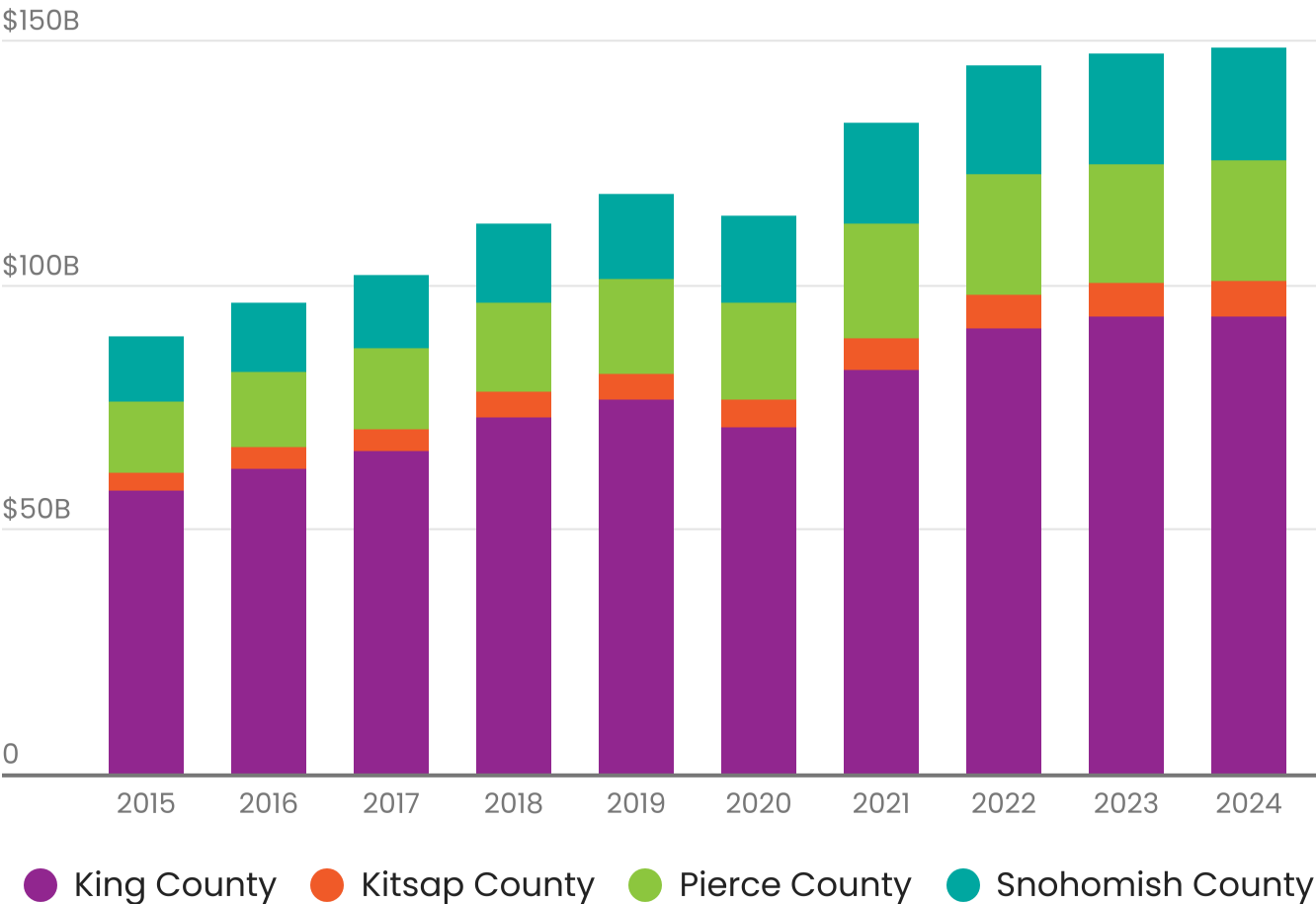
Initial Weekly Unemployment Claims, State of WA, 2023-2025



Source: Washington State Employment Securities Department

Sales & Use Tax growth is slowing

Sales & Use Taxes by County, 2015–2024

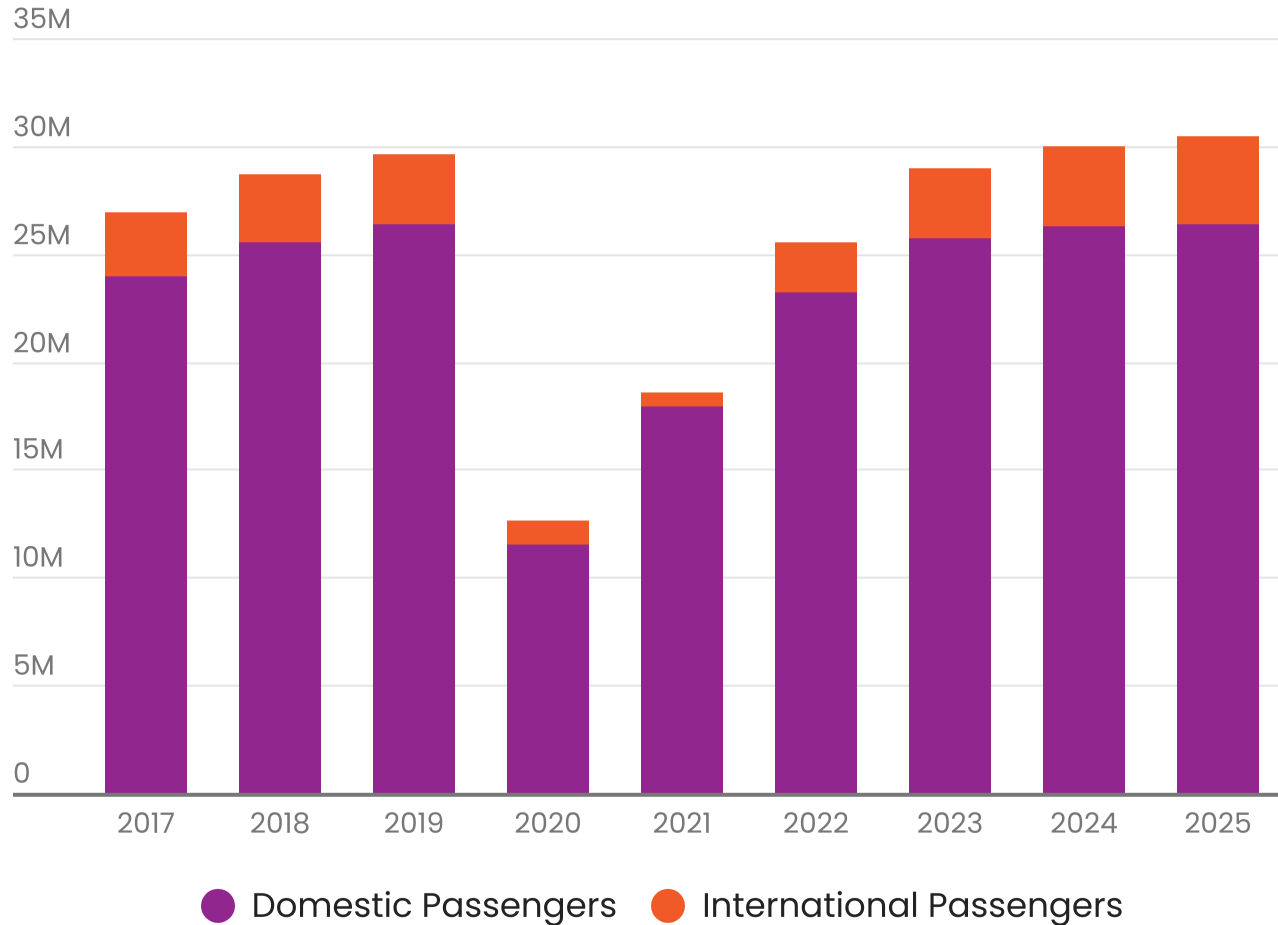


Sales & Use tax collections increased **0.9%** in 2024, the smallest increase outside of 2020 in the past decade.

Source: Washington State Department of Revenue

SEA Passenger volumes are above 2019 levels

Jan–July SEA Passengers by Type, 2017–2025



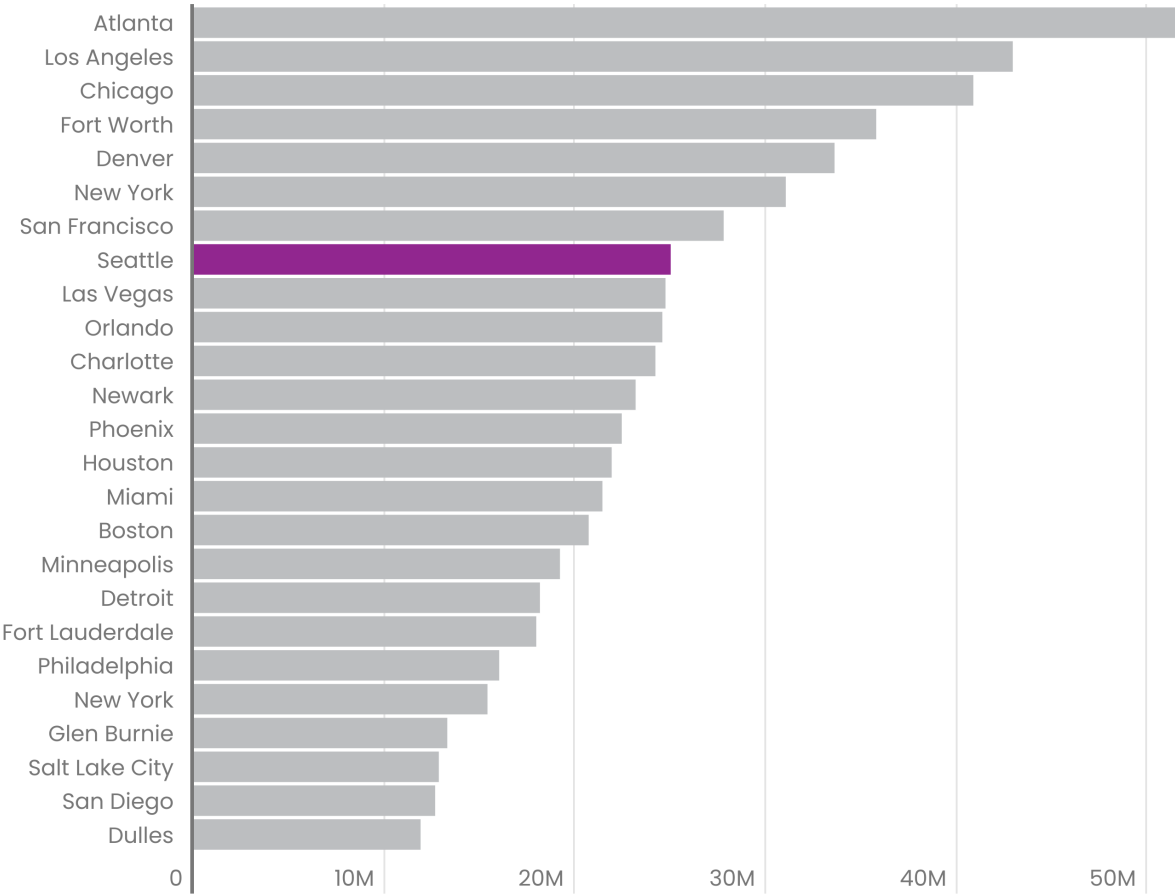
Through July of 2025, more than **30.4 million** passengers passed through SEA

52.6 million passengers passed through SEA in 2024, the most in a single year



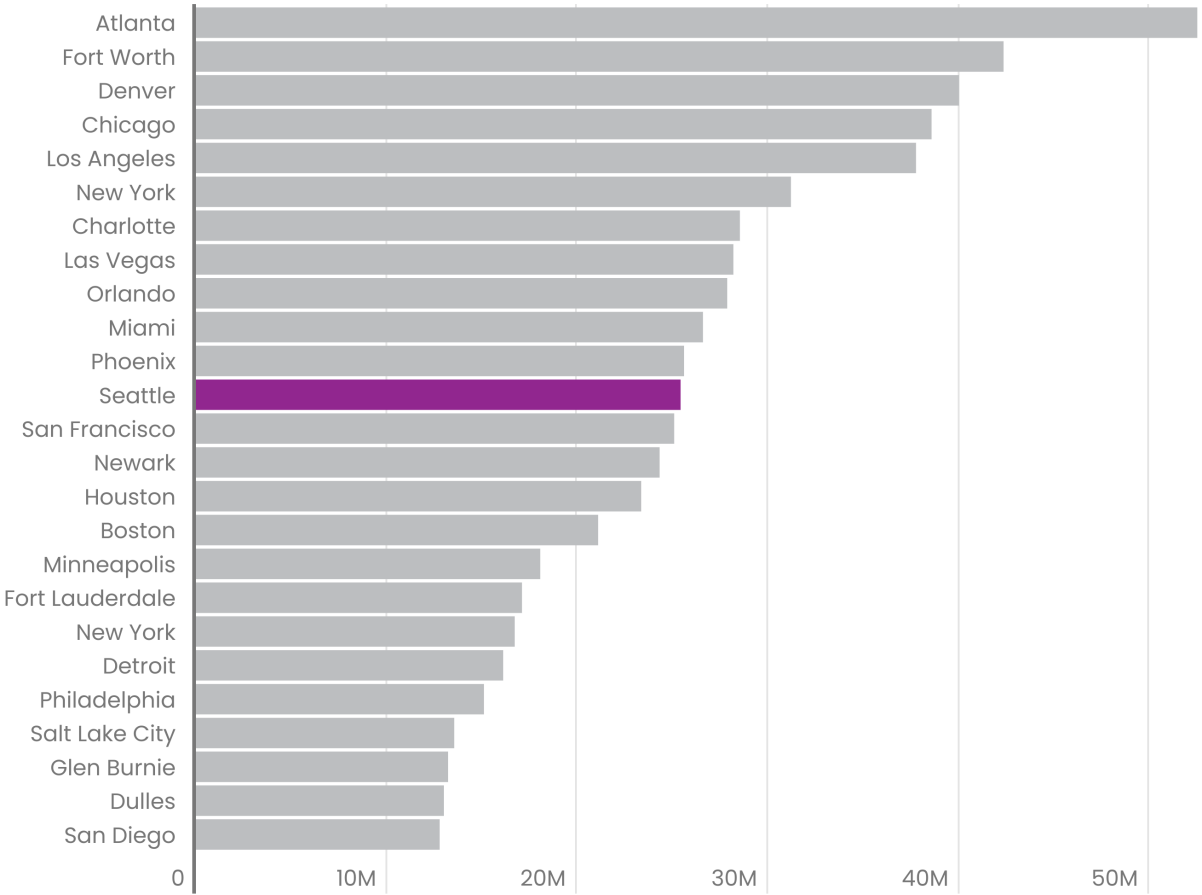
SEA carried the 12th most passengers in 2024

Annual Enplanements: 2019



Source: USDOT Federal Aviation Administration

Annual Enplanements: 2024

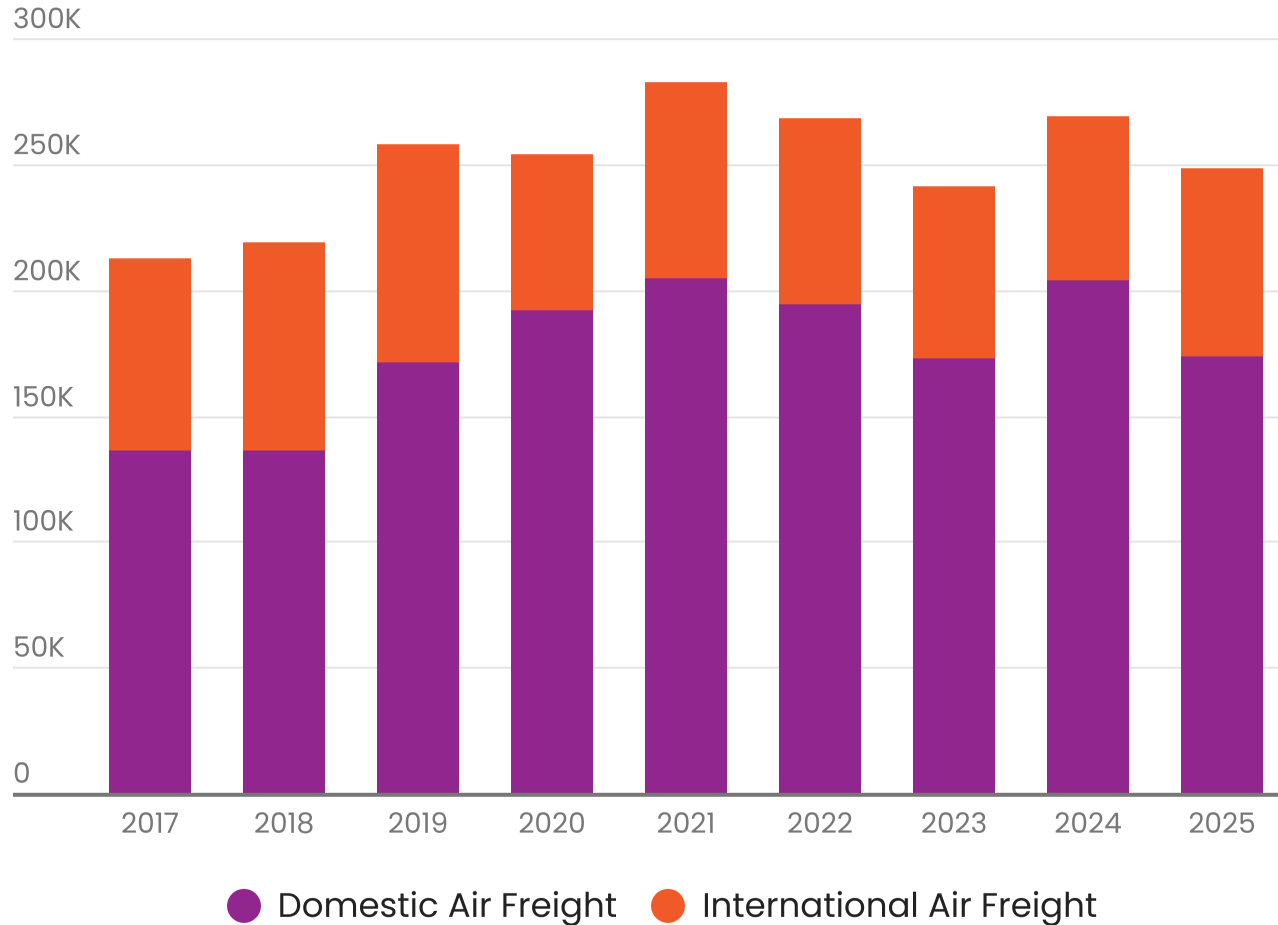


Source: USDOT Federal Aviation Administration



SEA Air Cargo is near 2019 levels

Jan–July SEA Air Freight by Type, 2017–2025



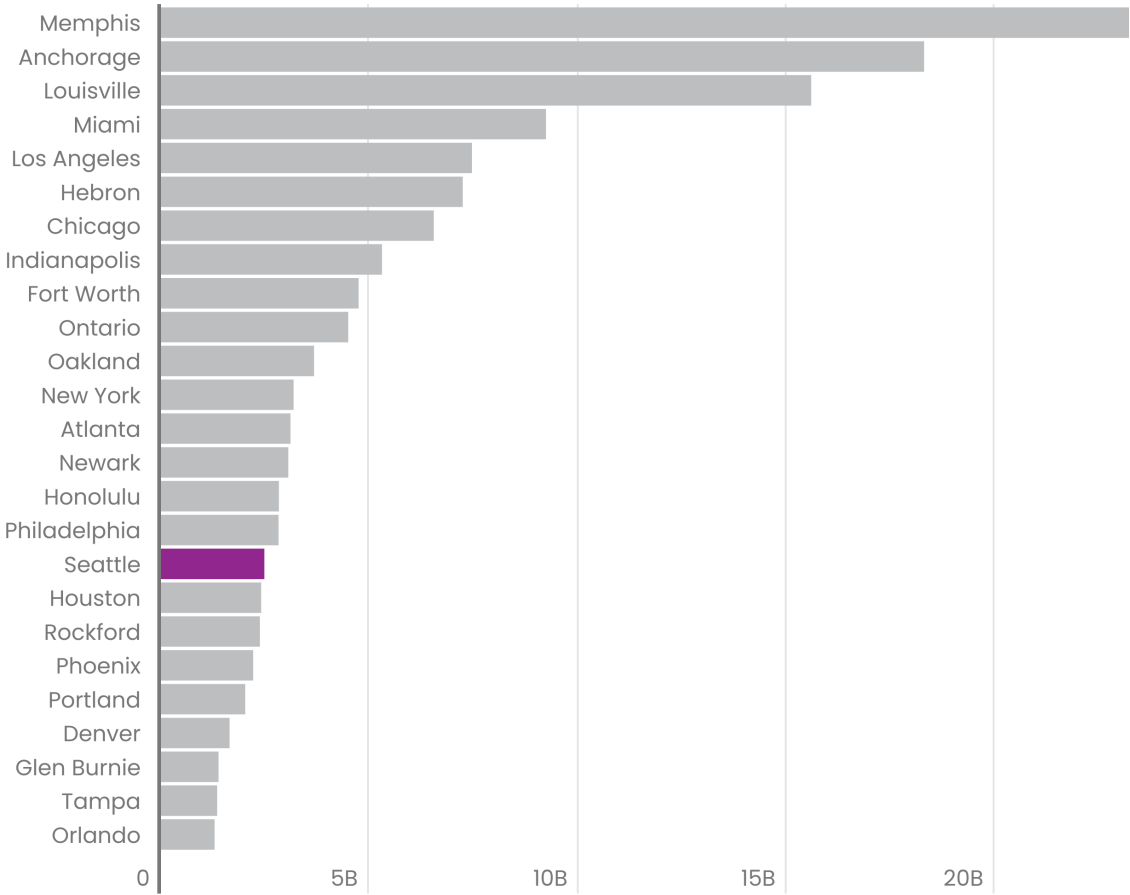
Through July of 2025, more than **248k metric tons** of air cargo passed through SEA

30% of air cargo was international in the first seven months of 2025



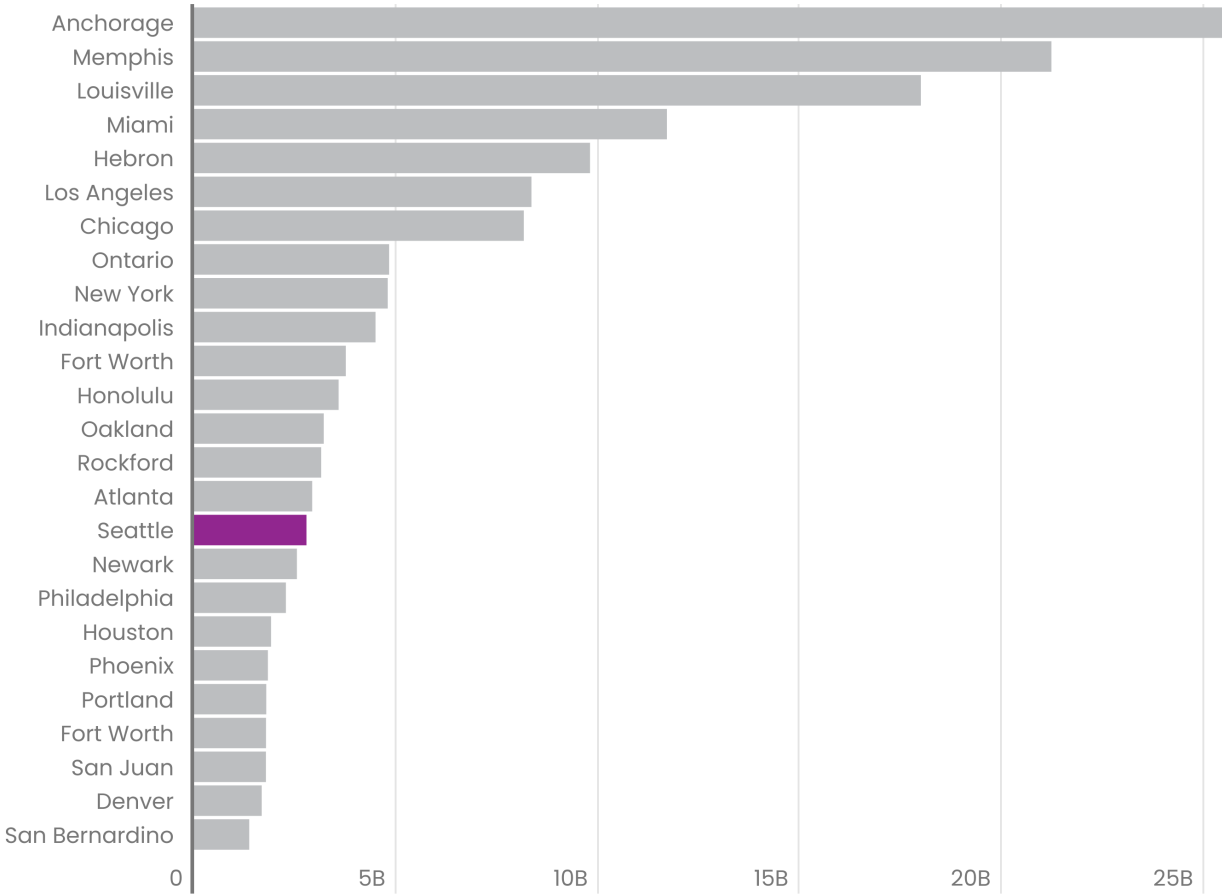
SEA carried the 16th most air cargo in 2024

Annual Air Cargo: 2019



Source: USDOT Federal Aviation Administration

Annual Air Cargo: 2024



Source: USDOT Federal Aviation Administration

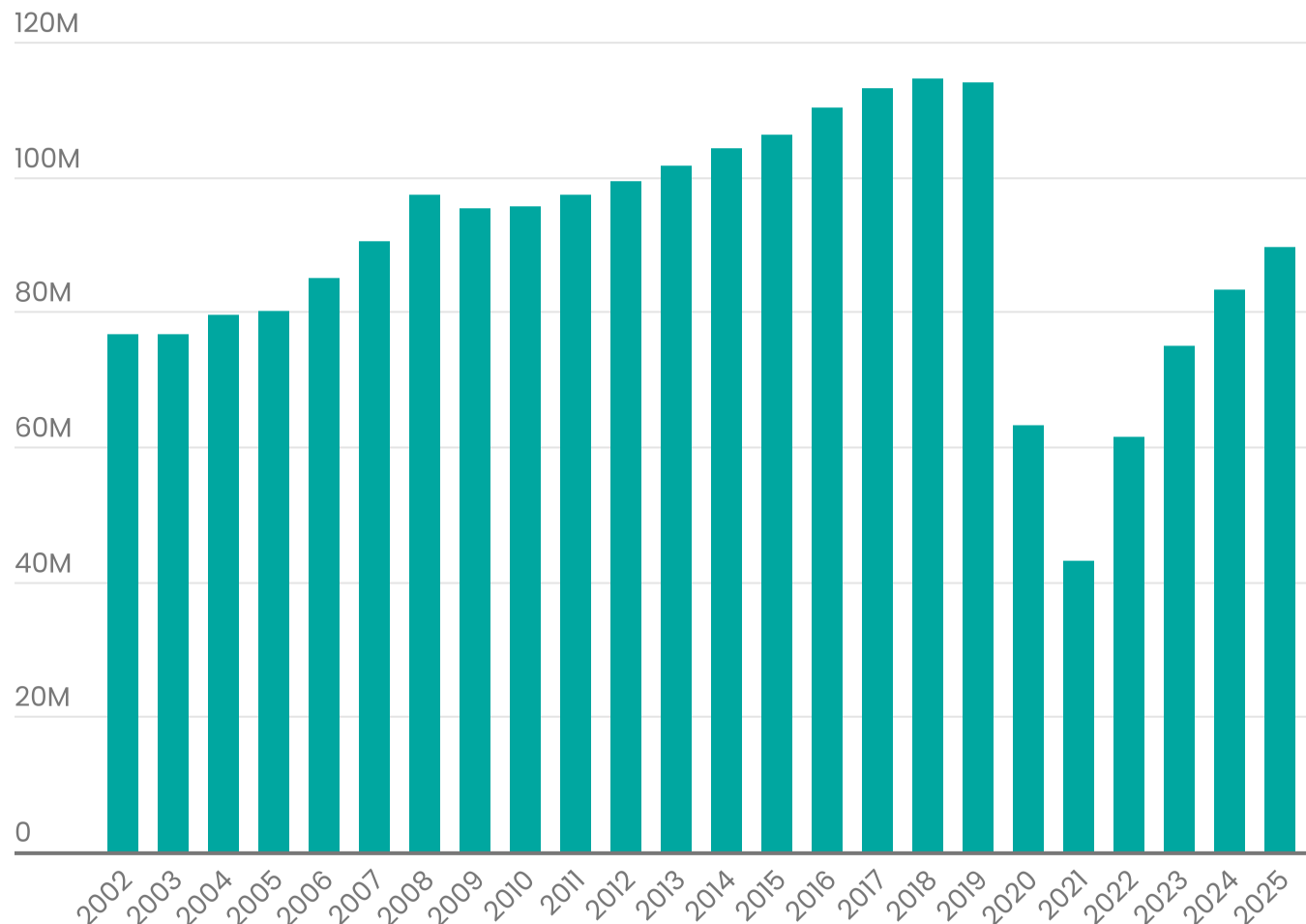


Transportation Trends



Transit Ridership continues to recover

Jan-June Total Boardings, 2002-2025

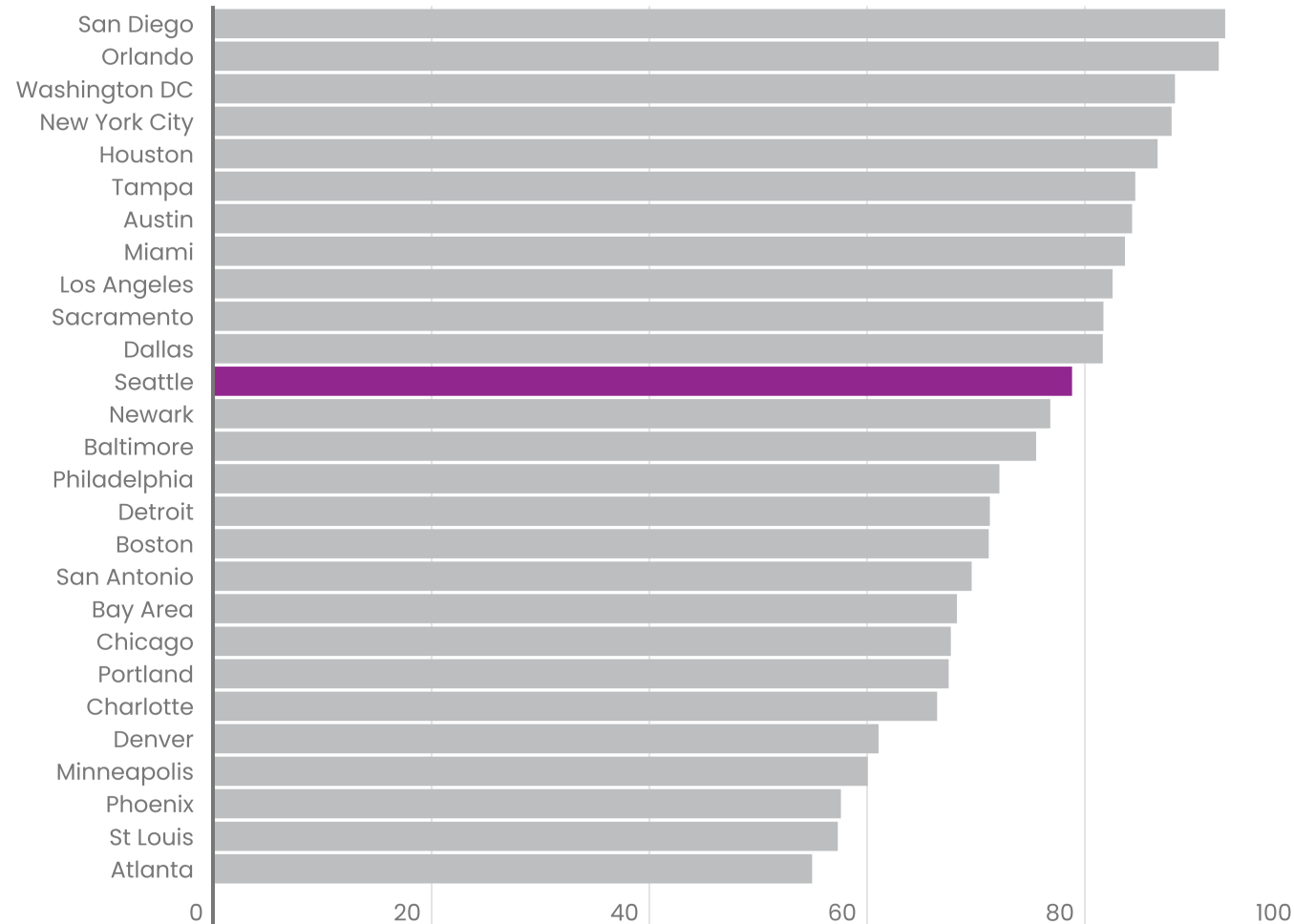


There were approximately **89 million** boardings from January to July 2025 on the Region's transit system (**79%** of 2019 ridership)



Recovery is like other Metro Areas

Ratio of Jan-June Boardings: 2025 / 2019

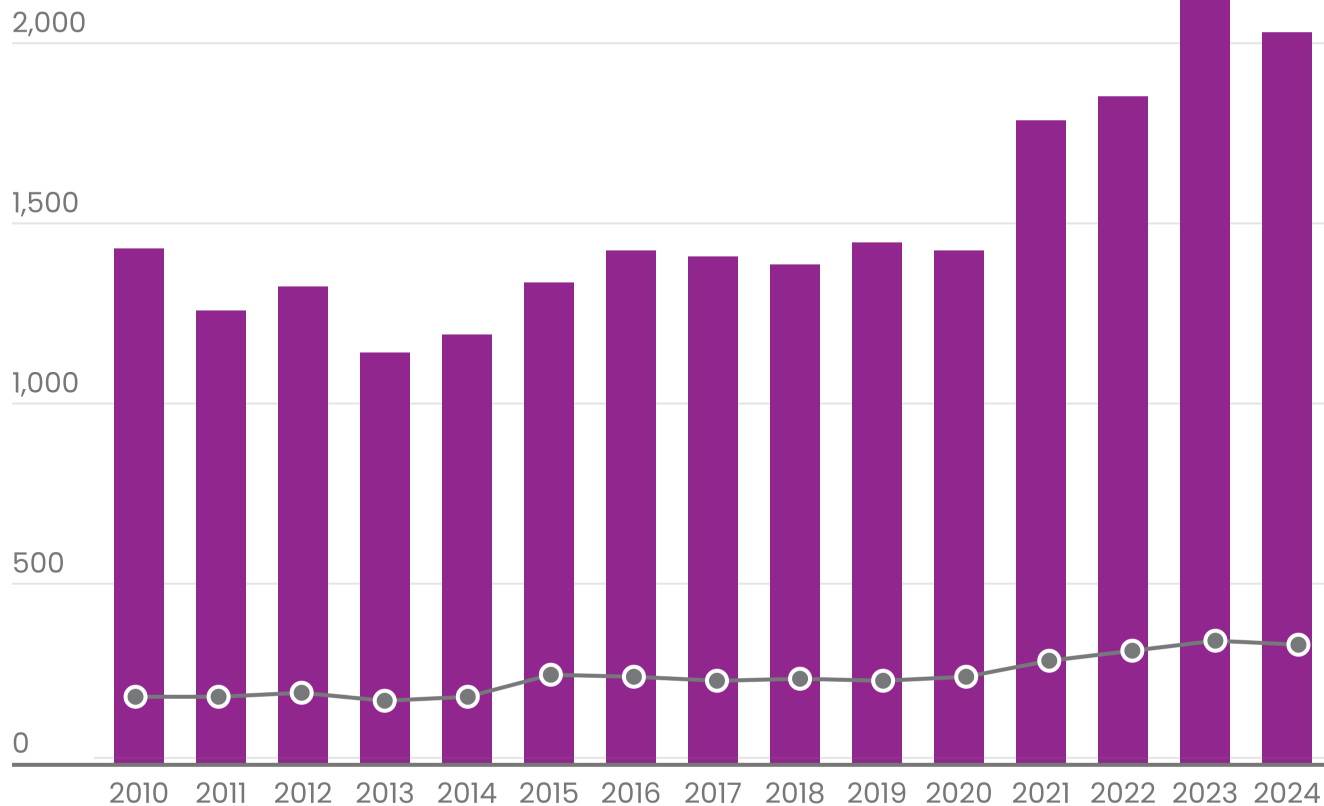


Source: USDOT Federal Transit Administration National Transit Database



Traffic Related Deaths are still at historic levels

Traffic Deaths & Serious Injuries 2010–2024

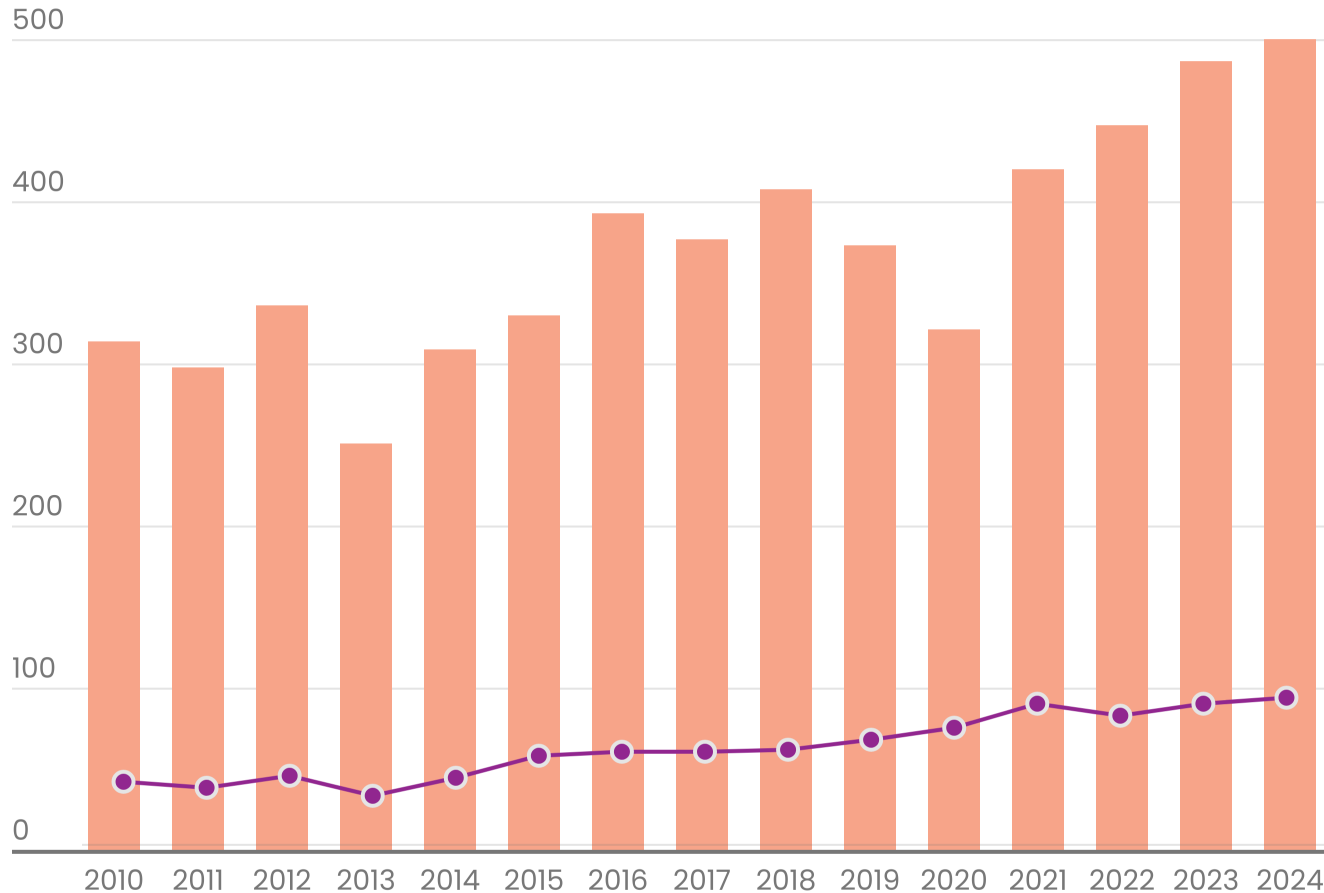


335 people died on the region's roadways in 2024 and **1693** people were seriously injured.



Deaths are increasing for All users

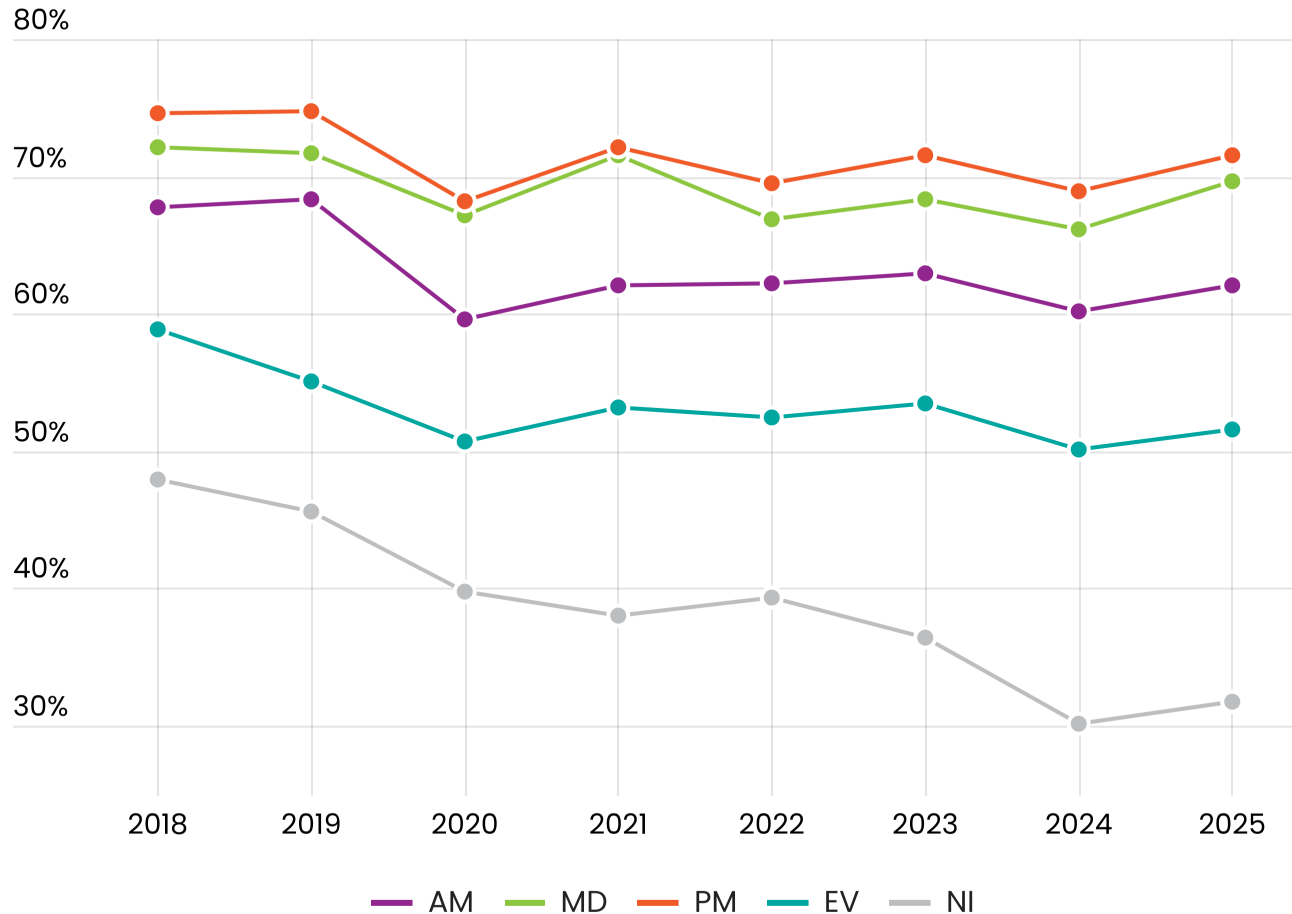
Bike & Ped Deaths & Serious Injuries 2010–2024



522 people biking or walking were killed or seriously injured in 2024. Pedestrians accounted for **78%** of this total.

Congestion is rising – but is still lower than 2019

% Heavy & Severe Congestion, July 2018–2025



AM Peak congestion remains below pre-covid levels. No time periods have more miles of congestion than 2019 but PM Peak is close.

Questions?

Thank You!

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