Located on Puget Sound in Washington State, and covering 2,134 square miles, King County is nearly twice as large as the average county in the United States. With about 2 million people, it also ranks as the 13th most populous county in the nation.

**King County is Your Regional Government**

King County works hard to meet your needs, whether you live in a city or in an unincorporated area of King County.

If you live anywhere in King County:

- **Metro Transit** gets you where you need to go
- **Prosecutor, Public Defense, Superior Court and Corrections** protect communities, homes and businesses
- **Elections** ensures participation in local government
- **Human Services** strengthens communities though mental health, affordable housing and social justice
- **Parks** offers recreation opportunities in open spaces, trails and athletic fields
- **Public Health** manages threats through prevention and healthcare provision
- **Property Assessments** provide fair, equitable, and understandable information
- **Records and Licensing** keeps pets safe and protects property
- **Flood Management** secures homes, businesses, transportation systems and land resources
- **Wastewater Treatment** protects water quality and prevents water pollution
- **Garbage, Recycling and Household Hazardous Waste Management** keeps our homes and businesses safe
- **King County International Airport** increases jobs and economic development

If you live in unincorporated King County or in a city that contracts with King County:

- The **Sheriff, Prosecutor, Public Defense, District Court and Corrections** protect communities, homes and businesses
- **Water and Land Resources** monitors water levels and quality and protects ecosystems and public safety
- **Permitting** helps you build and protects safety
- **Roads** provides arterial and local roadways

**King County’s Changing Demographics**

King County’s population is not only growing, but is becoming more diverse by race and ethnicity. In addition, there are over 170 languages spoken in King County.

King County is committed to working toward fairness and opportunity for all people and communities. Every agency in King County is making commitments annually to advance equity. We recognize that our economy and quality of life depend on the ability of everyone to contribute.
### How We Have Progressed - 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>King County Performance Measures</th>
<th>2011 Actual</th>
<th>2012 Actual</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Context</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>JUSTICE AND SAFETY</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheriff response times to critical emergencies: contract cities &amp; unincorporated King County</td>
<td>3.9 min &amp; 6.7 min</td>
<td>3.4 min &amp; 5.7 min</td>
<td>Improving</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superior Court felony adult criminal cases resolved within time standard</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>Meeting target</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardiac arrest survival rate, all King County</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>Highest survival rate in United States</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HEALTH AND HUMAN POTENTIAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of homeless dental patients completing their treatment within one year</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td></td>
<td>Exceeding federal goal to complete treatment for 35% of patients within one year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Household hazardous waste collected by King County</td>
<td>1,408 tons</td>
<td>1,435 tons</td>
<td>Stable</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumulative number of homeless housing units funded by King County and partners; goal is total of 9,500 in 2015</td>
<td>5,046</td>
<td>5,424</td>
<td>More than halfway to 2015 goal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Former jail inmates with mental health issues who reduce incarcerations after receiving mental health services</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>Improving</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of King County population living near a park or trail</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>Close to 70% target</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ECONOMIC GROWTH AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of people completing King County Job Training Programs</td>
<td>1,528</td>
<td>1,906</td>
<td>Improving</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New residential permit processing time (calendar days)</td>
<td></td>
<td>94</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Determining baseline performance for future target setting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-time Metro bus performance</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>Approaching goal of 80% for weekday routes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of unincorporated roads with pavement condition meeting standards, arterial &amp; local roads</td>
<td>70% &amp; 77%</td>
<td>68% &amp; 75%</td>
<td>Declining due to inadequate funding</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King County residences near transit stops</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>Higher in areas with high proportions of low-income and minority residents</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recycling rates for single family households</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td></td>
<td>2013 target is 61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of renewable energy produced, used, or procured by King County</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>Exceeding 50% target</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New privately-owned rural acres with stewardship plans or enrolled in incentive programs that conserve, protect and manage open space and forest land</td>
<td>720 acres</td>
<td>940 acres</td>
<td>Exceeding annual target for 500 new acres</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HOW WE DELIVER OUR SERVICES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King County Bond Rating at highest rating level</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Meeting target</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of infrastructure projects meeting standards for scope, schedule, and budget</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Targets being set</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of ballots reported on election night for General Elections</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>Improving</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time to process design and construction contracts</td>
<td>152 days average</td>
<td>Nearly at 150 day target</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of small contractor and supplier firms certified to work with King County</td>
<td>1,202</td>
<td>1,414</td>
<td>Improving</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you would like more information on these and other measures of King County performance, please visit [www.kingcounty.gov/AimsHigh](http://www.kingcounty.gov/AimsHigh). The measures reported on this page were included based on the input we received from a group of residents from the community. What would you like to see reported in the future? Please let us know by contacting [michael.jacobson@kingcounty.gov](mailto:michael.jacobson@kingcounty.gov).
Selected Accomplishments

★ Partnered with community groups, individuals, businesses, and U.S. Immigration Services to educate citizens about voter registration and voting processes, resulting in over 30,000 new voter registrations.

★ Metro Transit saw its second highest ridership ever in 2012. Ridership has been on the rise since 2010, following a two-year decline during the economic slump. Metro continues to partner with major institutions, cities, employers, human service agencies, and others to encourage alternatives to driving alone for work and personal travel.

Our Finances - Revenues and Expenditures

King County Governmental Funds Revenue 2012

- Intergovernmental revenues: 33%
- Property taxes: 33%
- Charges for services: 14%
- Retail sales and use taxes: 9%
- Miscellaneous revenues: 5%
- Business and other taxes: 2%
- Licenses and permits: 1%
- Fines and forfeits: 1%
- Interest earnings: 1%
- Penalties and interest-delinquent taxes: 1%

King County Governmental Funds Expenditures 2012

- Law, safety and justice: 31%
- General Government: 11%
- Debt service: 5%
- Capital outlay: 8%
- Mental and physical health: 26%
- Transportation: 5%
- Economic environment: 6%
- Physical environment: 5%
- Culture and recreation: 3%
- Credit and debt service: 1%
- Property and personal property taxes: 1%
- Sales taxes: 1%
- Business and other taxes: 2%
- Licenses and permits: 1%
- Fines and forfeits: 1%
- Interest earnings: 1%
- Penalties and interest-delinquent taxes: 1%

* Revenues received from other governments such as federal or state

This data is from the 2012 Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances for Governmental Funds; including the General Fund, Public Health Fund, and other Governmental Funds. Published in the 2012 King County Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR).

2012 Property Taxes Levied in King County

How the average tax dollar is divided.

Independent audits of King County’s financial statements have been conducted by the Washington State Auditor’s Office, resulting in clean opinions. Complete financial information can be found at www.kingcounty.gov/operations/Finance/FMServices.aspx.
Elected leadership of the justice and safety systems are working collaboratively on strategies for addressing and responding to the challenges and costs of people with mental illness in the criminal justice system. The Crisis Solutions Center, supported by sales tax revenue, will increase the number of jail diversions of people with mental illnesses and co-occurring substance abuse disorders, linking them to cost effective treatment and support.

King County has initiated a countywide effort to make the most of federal healthcare reform. In 2014, 180,000 residents will become eligible for subsidized health insurance or Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act. King County plans to enroll as many of these eligible residents as possible. Healthcare insurance provides a route to good physical and mental health. Maximizing enrollment will help people live healthier and more productive lives. Access to preventive care will save millions of dollars in more complex and expensive health care costs.

A reliable road network and an effective transit system are key to keeping the people and economy of King County moving. Revenues supporting County-owned roads have fallen dramatically, without corresponding reductions in service responsibility. King County is united with city partners on a roads and transit proposal to the Washington State Legislature to preserve these critical services. Without this funding, King County will have to significantly reduce bus service, even after preserving service by boosting efficiency.

King County recently completed a Climate Action Plan. The County committed to reducing countywide greenhouse gas emissions by at least 80% below 2007 levels by 2050. To do this, King County will:
- Reduce the need for driving, increase efficiency of King County vehicles
- Reduce energy use in government operations and by residents and businesses
- Support healthy farms, forests, and other open spaces
- Reduce consumption and improve material management
- Prepare for climate change impacts

Do you like this report? Would you like to see other information? Please let us know by contacting Michael Jacobson at 206-263-9622 or michael.jacobson@kingcounty.gov.

More detailed and comprehensive performance and community indicator data, along with King County’s performance in all of our eight Strategic Plan Goal Areas can be found at www.kingcounty.gov/AimsHigh. For more information on our services, visit our website at www.kingcounty.gov. For more financial information, please see www.kingcounty.gov/operations/Finance/FMServices.aspx.