Bothell

People and Place

Location

Bothell is on the Sammamish River northeast of Lake Washington in the central Puget Sound region. Situated in King and Snohomish counties, the city encompasses 12.1 square miles of land. The nearest major U.S. city is Seattle, a 20-mile drive southwest. Bothell’s geographic coordinates are lat 47°45'45"N, long 122°12'15"W.

Demographic Profile

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, Bothell’s population was 30,150, an increase of 244% from 12,345 in 1990. This particularly large increase in population size was due to the annexation of Canyon Park and Thrasher’s Corner, virtually doubling Bothell’s population. The gender composition was 51% female and 49% male. The median age of 36 was comparable to the national median age of 35.3. Of the population 18 years of age and older, 91.7% had a high school education (including equivalency) or higher, 35.8% had earned a bachelor’s degree or higher, and 8.4% had attained a graduate or professional degree; the national averages were 79.7%, 22.3%, and 7.8% respectively.

The vast majority of Bothell’s racial structure recorded by the 2000 U.S. Census was white (87.3%), followed by Asian (6.0%), people who identified as two or more races (3%), people who identified as another race (1.8%), black (1.2%), American Indian and Alaska Native (0.6%), and Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander (0.2%). Ethnicity data indicate that 4.4% identified as Hispanic. In 2000 11.2% were foreign-born, with 44.3% from Asia (20.9% east Asia, 16.1% southeast Asia, and 5.7% south-central Asia), 28% from the Americas outside of the United States, and 24.4% from Europe. The highest percentage of people denoting ancestry was German (15.6%), followed by English (11.2%), Irish (9.5%), and Norwegian (7.4%).

History

Prior to the arrival of white settlers, the area historically was inhabited by the Simump Tribe of the Duwamish; the Simump referred to the region as the “Squak,” meaning a swampy lowland for the heavily forested, swampy nature of the area. White settlers came to the area in the 1870s and the community of Bothell began its transformation into a logging camp and popular steamboat stop on the Squak Slough, now known
as the Sammamish River or the Sammamish Slough. In 1884 the first merchant set up a business in the community and other businesses soon followed. The first school was built in 1885 and a church was established shortly thereafter. In 1889 David C. and Mary Ann Bothell filed the first plat of what today is called Bothell. In 1903 a newspaper was founded and five years later the first community bank opened. In 1908 a major fire in the community destroyed five buildings.

In 1909 Bothell was incorporated with a population of about 600 people. It is reported that the first postmaster said: “There are so many Bothells in town, let’s call it Bothell.” The first mayor and elected council were Bothell family members; George Bothell and A. F. Bothell, respectively. In 1911 another fire occurred in the community, destroying all 11 of the buildings on Main Street. The early days in Bothell were fed by the production of lumber and shingles; the Bothell Company mill produced 125,000 shingles per day in its height. Various other mills were located in the area, but as the timber was harvested the lumbermen gradually were replaced by farmers. By 1950 the population was 1,000. Since then Bothell has developed into a “suburban bedroom community and, within the last decade, a regional employment center.”

### Infrastructure

#### Current Economy

At the time of the 2000 U.S. Census, 70.5% of Bothell’s potential labor force 16 years of age and older were employed, 2.8% were unemployed, and the unemployment rate was 3.9% (calculated by dividing the unemployed population by the labor force). In addition, 26.6% were not in the labor force, compared to the national average of 36.1%. The largest employment sectors were educational, health, and social services (16.7%), local, state, and federal governments (16%), manufacturing (13.2%), retail trade (11.7%), and professional, scientific, and technical services (9%). Natural resources jobs including agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting employed 0.4%, but this percentage may be artificially low given that many fishermen are self-employed and are underrepresented in these data.

The top employers in Bothell in 2002 were AT&T Wireless (2,562), ATL Ultrasound (1,290), Washington Mutual (960), Matsushita (480), Seattle Times (447), ICOS (429), Puget Sound Energy (366), Allstate (337), Philips Electric (312), and Home Depot #4712 (285). According to the 2000 U.S. Census, the per capita income in 1999 was $26,483 and the median household income was $59,264. In 1999 5.1% lived below the poverty level, much lower than the national average of 12.4%. In 2000 there were 12,303 housing units in Bothell, with 68% owner occupied and 32% renter occupied. The housing unit vacancy rate was 3.1%.

#### Governance

The City of Bothell has a council-manager form of government, with a seven-member city council comprised of a mayor, a deputy mayor, and five council members. The council hires a city manager who runs the city’s daily operations. The council-manager government has an optional municipal code. Because the City of Bothell is situated in two counties, there are two separate sales tax rates; the sales and use tax rates levied by King and Snohomish counties are 8.8% and 8.9% respectively. Additionally, a lodging tax is levied by King (1%) and Snohomish (2%) counties. See the Governance subsection (page 43) in the Overview section for a more detailed discussion of taxes affecting fisherman and processors in Washington.

The nearest National Marine Fisheries Service Regional Office and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services District Office are in Seattle. Meetings of the Pacific Fishery Management and North Pacific Fishery Management councils are routinely held in the Seattle-Tacoma area. The nearest Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Regional Office is 7 miles north in Mill Creek. The 13th U.S. Coast Guard District headquarters are in Seattle.

#### Facilities

Bothell is accessible by ground and air. It is located off U.S. Highway 405, Washington Highway 522, and Washington Highway 527, the Bothell-Everett Highway. Seattle-Tacoma International Airport is the nearest major facility. Bothell is in the Northshore School and the Everett School districts. There are 23 public schools listed in the
community, including 15 elementary schools, 6 secondary schools, and 2 alternative schools. In addition there are five private schools located in the city. Bothell is home to four colleges or universities: Cascadia Community College, ITT Technical Institute, the Mars Hill Graduate School, and the University of Washington Bothell Campus.

The Snohomish County Public Utility District Number 1 and Puget Sound Energy (PSE), administer electrical service in the area. PSE also provides natural gas for customers in both counties. Alderwood Water District, Woodinville Sewer and Water District, the City of Bothell Sewer, and the Northshore Utility District supply water and sewer utility services to Bothell residents, depending on their location. The City of Bothell Police and Fire departments and Emergency Medical Services administer public safety. Evergreen Hospital and Medical Center, n Kirkland, 4 miles south, is the nearest hospital. There are at least seven hotels, motels, or inns serving the tourism industry within the community.

Historically the Sammamish River has played an important role in marine transportation. However currently there are no marine facilities located in Bothell. Today the Sammamish River is well known for its parks and the Sammamish River Trail.

Involvement in West Coast Fisheries

Commercial Fishing

In 2000 recorded data indicate that there were zero landings delivered to Bothell and there were no known processors operating in the community. In 2000 Bothell residents owned six vessels, including one that participated in the federally managed groundfish fishery. The number that participated in each said fishery by state (WA/OR/CA) was: crab 1/0/0, groundfish 0/0/NA, highly migratory species NA/0/NA, salmon 3/0/0, shellfish NA/0/NA, shrimp NA/0/0, and other species 1/0/0.

In 2000 the number of Bothell residents holding permits in each said fishery by state (WA/OR/CA) was: crab 2/0/0, highly migratory species NA/0/0, salmon 8/0/0, and shellfish 0/0/0.

Bothell residents held nine registered state permits in 2000. The number in each said fishery by state (WA/OR/CA) was: crab 1/0/0, highly migratory species NA/0/0, salmon 8/0/0, and shellfish 0/0/0.

Sportfishing

In 2000 there was at least one salmonid charter fishing business located in Bothell. There were two licensed vendors selling fishing permits. In 2003 there were 5,215 sportfishing license transactions in Bothell valued at $9,014.

The closest Catch Record Card Area to Bothell is Area 10, Seattle-Bremerton (south from the Apple Cove Point-Edwards Point line to a line projected true east-west through the north tip of Vashon Island). The 2000 sport catch, based on catch record cards in Area 10, was 15,681 fish, including 4,042 Chinook salmon, 11,568 coho salmon, 58 chum salmon, and 13 sockeye salmon. Marine anglers made 49,865 trips in the sport salmon fishery. Boat-based anglers caught 7,022 bottomfish in Area 10. The recreational harvest of clams (lbs) and oysters (#) in Area 10 was estimated to be 6,936 and 26,200 respectively; harvest occurred over an estimated 2,745 user trips in 2000.

The Sammamish River provides a link between Lake Sammamish and Lake Washington for anadromous fish such as salmon and steelhead. The river also offers fishing for trout and other game fish.

Subsistence

Tribal and nontribal community members may be engaged in subsistence fishing in the area. Subsistence fishing is not discussed in detail in this community profile due to the lack of available data.

Involvement in North Pacific Fisheries

Commercial Fishing

In 2000 Bothell residents owned nine vessels that were involved in North Pacific fisheries. Community members landed fish in the following North Pacific fisheries (data shown represent landings in metric tons/value of said landings/number of vessels landing): herring confidential/confidential/1 and salmon 225 t/$280,480/7.

In 2000 Bothell residents held 73 permits, including 13 residents who held federal commercial fishing permits and 28 who held state permits (note: it is possible for individuals to hold more than one permit at a time). Community members held two crab and five groundfish License Limitation Program permits. Residents held 22 crab, 1 Gulf of Alaska groundfish, 20 Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands groundfish, 2 halibut, 2 herring, and 11 salmon Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission permits. Residents also held 46,010 halibut and 280,751 sablefish individual fishing quota shares.

In 2000 Bothell residents held 49 crew member licenses for North Pacific fisheries.
Sportfishing

Bothell residents purchased 390 Alaskan sportfishing licenses in 2000. There was one sportfishing business in Bothell involved in Alaskan fisheries that year.

Notes

3. See note 1.
4. See note 2.
5. See note 2.
7. See note 2.
10. NA refers to data that were not available, for example, due to few or no recorded permit numbers, or the partially permitted nature of the fishery in 2000.