

## PART II

### POPULATION OF PACIFIC COUNTY

Geographically the population of Pacific County is unevenly distributed, and is found chiefly along the Willapa River lowlands and tributary valleys. One-third of the county population lives in the incorporated cities of South Bend and Raymond. Small clusters of population are scattered throughout the length of the North Beach peninsula with minor concentrations at Long Beach and Ilwaco. Other loosely distributed population groupings are found in the Naselle River Valley, along the Columbia River shores and in the North Cove - Grayland district above Willapa Bay. Most of the the county land area is covered by the Willapa hills and is nearly void of inhabitants.

#### Population Growth

The southwestern corner of Washington was one of the first regions north of the Columbia to attract American settlers. Opportunities in lumbering and fishing caught the interest of Oregonians and others who saw quick profits in the California markets. Safe anchorages for ocean and river vessels not only suited the handling of these products but induced pilots and others interested in maritime commerce to settle in the area. By 1851, when county government was established, a few hundred people were engaged in these industries. The 1860 Census counted 420 people in the county. During the 1880's the ocean shores proved attractive to holiday seekers, and resort facilities were developed.

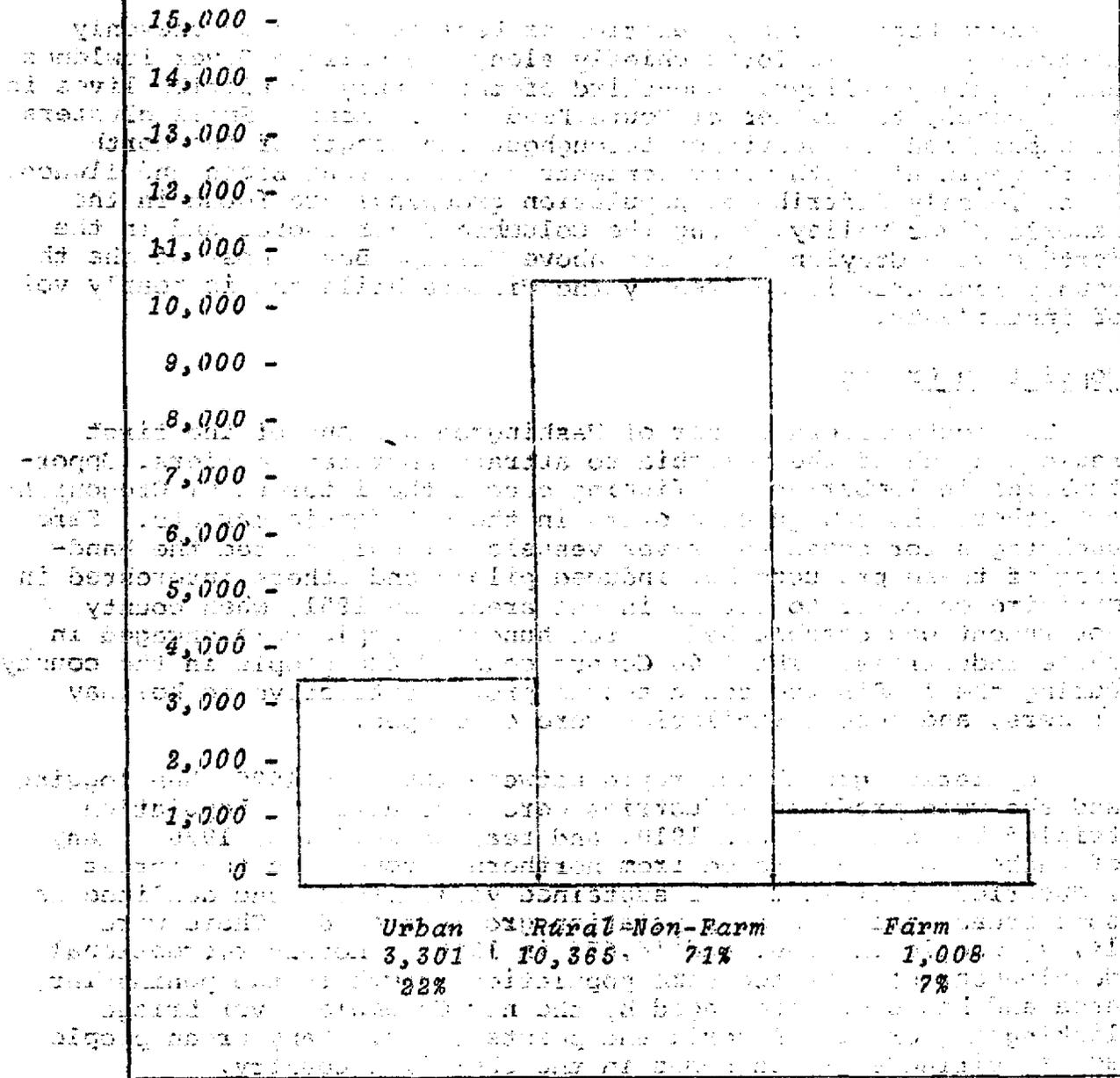
Population growth was rapid between 1890 and 1920 when logging and the wood products industries were most active. Population tripled between 1890 and 1910, and reached 14,891 by 1920. Many of these people emigrated from northern Europe. As the forest industries stabilized to a sustained yield basis, and declined in some areas, the rate of population growth slowed. There were 14,970 people in 1930, and 14,674 in 1960. Modern recreational development has invited some population growth in the peninsular area and has been encouraged by the new Columbia River bridge linking Megler with Astoria and points south. Many urban people are acquiring vacation homes in the shoreline country.

#### Urban, Rural and Farm

From earliest settlement Pacific County has remained typically rural but non-farm. The bays, the ocean, and the forests offered raw materials and a livelihood where natural conditions did not favor agriculture. In 1960 Raymond population 3,301 was the only urban place by the Census definition. Together with South Bend,

**URBAN, RURAL NON-FARM, AND FARM POPULATION,  
PACIFIC COUNTY, 1960**

Total Population: 14,674



Source: Census of Population

Crop and Livestock Reporting Service

TABLE 1: POPULATION OF WASHINGTON, URBAN, RURAL AND FARM, 1850-1960

Year	Total	Urban	Rural	Non-Farm	Farm
1850	1/ 1,201	-	1,201	-	-
1860	2/ 11,594	-	11,594	-	-
1870	23,955	-	23,955	-	-
1880	75,116	7,121	67,995	-	-
1890	357,232	127,178	230,054	-	-
1900	518,103	211,477	306,626	-	-
1910	1,141,990	605,530	536,460	-	-
1920	1,356,621	748,735	607,886	327,864	280,022
1930	1,563,396	884,539	678,857	378,714	300,143
1940	1,736,191	921,969	814,222	478,772	335,450
1950	3/ 2,378,963	1,503,166	875,797	602,026	273,771
1960	2,853,214	1,943,249	909,965	746,723	163,242

Source: Census of Population. 1/ Population of those parts of Oregon Territory taken to form Washington Territory in 1853 and 1859. 2/ Population of Washington Territory then included present States of Washington and Idaho and portions of Montana and Wyoming. 3/ The revised urban definition comprises persons living in urban territory but not necessarily in an urban place - that is, an incorporated or unincorporated place of 2,500 persons or more. Under the old definition only incorporated places of 2,500 persons or more were classed urban (as well as places under special rule of which there were none in Washington). The population of Washington in 1967 was approximately 3,087,000 people.

TABLE 2: POPULATION OF PACIFIC COUNTY, URBAN, RURAL AND FARM, 1860-1960

Year	Total	Urban	Rural	Non-Farm	Farm
1860	420	-	420	-	-
1870	738	-	738	-	-
1880	1,645	-	1,645	-	-
1890	4,358	-	4,358	-	-
1900	5,983	-	5,983	-	-
1910	12,532	-	12,532	-	-
1920	14,891	4,260	10,631	-	-
1930	14,970	3,828	11,142	8,643	2,499
1940	15,928	4,045	11,883	9,190	2,693
1950	16,558	4,110	12,448	10,109	2,339
1960	14,674	3,301	11,373	10,365	1,008

Source: Census of Population

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Long Beach, and Ilwaco these small incorporated places contained nearly 42 percent of the county population.

In recent years the farm population, much of it part-time, has declined rapidly. In 1930 and in 1940, 17 percent of the people were on farms; in 1950, 14 percent; but by 1960 less than 7 percent or 1,008 people comprised the farm population of the county. Pacific County ranked 33rd among Washington's thirty-nine counties in farm population in 1960, but 27th in total population.

TABLE 3: THE TWENTY-FIVE LARGEST CITIES IN WASHINGTON, 1967

Rank	City	Population	Rank	City	Population
1	Seattle	580,000	13	Bellevue	22,000
2	Spokane	187,500	14	Edmonds	21,800
3	Tacoma	156,000	15	Olympia	20,880
4	Everett	52,000	16	Aberdeen	19,300
5	Yakima	45,900	17	Wenatchee	18,400
6	Vancouver	39,000	18	Pullman	17,900
7	Bellingham	36,500	19	Auburn	17,092
8	Bremerton	36,164	20	Mercer Island City	16,500
9	Longview	28,100	21	Pasco	16,400
10	Richland	26,500	22	Port Angeles	15,800
11	Walla Walla	26,300	23	Mountlake Terrace	15,700
12	Renton	23,066	24	Kennewick	15,400
			25	Puyallup	14,200

Source: Washington State Census Board

TABLE 4: POPULATION OF INCORPORATED PLACES, PACIFIC COUNTY, 1910-1967

Place	1910	1920	1930	1940	1950	1960	1967
South Bend	3,023	1,948	1,798	1,771	1,857	1,671	1,690
Raymond	2,450	4,260	3,828	4,045	4,110	3,301	3,200
Long Beach	-	-	396	620	783	665	709
Ilwaco	664	787	750	656	628	518	550

Source: Census of Population and Washington State Census Board

### Incorporated Places

Each of the four incorporated places in Pacific County has been influenced by changing conditions in the fishing, forestry, and recreational industries. Raymond, the primary industrial and commercial center, reached its peak population in 1920 when lumbering was at its height. At that time the population was 4,260 people. The 1960 Census reported a population of 3,301, and in 1967 it was estimated at 3,200. The largest lumber mill in the county is in Raymond. Nearby South Bend, the county seat and a lumber port, reached its population peak in 1910 with 3,023 people. The 1960 Census reported 1,671 people and 1967 estimates indicate roughly the same number. The Port of Willapa lies between Raymond and South Bend, and is a port of call for ships in coastwise and foreign commerce. The fishing and other recreational attractions of Long Beach and Ilwaco have caused population to increase since 1960.

### Population Characteristics

Homesteading and opportunities in fishing and the forestry industries during the late years of the last century drew numerous immigrants to Pacific County. Many north Europeans and Canadians settled there during the peak logging years. In 1890 nearly a third of the population or 1,311 people were of foreign birth: Russians (many from the Tsarist province of Finland), Canadians, Swedes, Norwegians, English, Germans, Irish, Swiss, Scots, and Danes, in that order, represented 80 percent of the total. By 1910 there were 3,185 people of foreign birth living in the county (25 percent of the total), and in 1920 nearly 21 percent or 3,076 people were of foreign birth. The 1920 Census credited Finland with 791 of the total, followed by Sweden (313), Norway (302), Canada (271), Germany (199), Poland (173), England and Scotland (162) USSR (140), Switzerland (133), and Italy (100). Many of these people later became prominent in commercial dairying and cranberry growing.

By 1950 less than 11 percent of the population of the county was foreign born and in 1960 about 6 percent were from foreign lands. Of 942 foreign-born residents the latter year, 119 were on farms - 12 percent of the farm population of the county.

The 1960 Census showed the population of Pacific County to consist of 7,488 men and 7,186 women, a ratio of 104 to 100. In 1930 the ratio was 125 to 100. The median age - men and women - was about 35 years. Nearly 34 percent of the population was under 18 years in 1960, and 14 percent was age 65 and over.

In economy and employment Pacific County remains primarily non-agricultural. Agriculture ranked fourth in total employment in 1960. Wood products manufacturing and seafood canning are the chief

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TABLE 5: POPULATION, EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, PACIFIC COUNTY, 1960

Type of Employment	Total Employment	Type of Employment	Total Employment
Agriculture	332	Utilities and Sanitary Service	89
Forestry and Fisheries	211	Wholesale Trade	70
Mining	9	Retail Trade	667
Construction	301	Service Industries	1,068
Manufacturing	1,779	Public Administration	179
Transportation	220	Not reported	92
Communication	63		<u>5,080</u>

Source: Census of Population

TABLE 6: RURAL-FARM POPULATION, EMPLOYMENT STATUS, PACIFIC COUNTY, 1960

Employment (Male and Female, 14 years and older)	Number
Civilian labor force	
Agriculture	186
Manufacturing	118
Wholesale and Retail Trade	13
Other industries, incl. not reported	90
Unemployed	18
	<u>425</u>
	Labor force:
	Not in labor force:
	<u>301</u>
	Total:
	<u>726</u>

Source: Census of Population

TABLE 7: RURAL-FARM POPULATION, OCCUPATION, PACIFIC COUNTY, 1960

Occupation	Number
Farmers and farm managers	143
Farm labor, paid, except foremen	30
Farm labor, unpaid family	13
Professional, technical and kindred workers	21
Managers, proprietors, except farm	13
Clerical and kindred workers	16
Sales workers	8
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers	9
Operatives and kindred workers	85
Private household workers	8
Service workers, except private household	8
Laborers, except farm and mine	48
Occupation not reported	5
	<u>407</u>
	Total employed, male and female:
	<u>407</u>

Source: Census of Population

Crop and Livestock Reporting Service

sources of income and wages. About 35 percent of the employed population is in manufacturing. Another 21 percent is in the service industries and nearly 15 percent is in the retail and wholesale trades. Agriculture, both employed and self-employed workers, accounted for 6.5 percent of total employment in 1960 compared with 8.6 percent in 1950.

Furthermore, the rural-farm population of the county is engaged largely in non-agricultural occupations. Of 726 employable farm people in 1960, 319 were not in the labor force or were unemployed. Of the 407 that were employed, however, only 46 percent or 186 were employed in agriculture (143 were farm operators), while the remainder were employed in manufacturing, the wholesale and retail trades, and in various other occupations.

TABLE 8: AGE DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION, PACIFIC COUNTY, 1960

Age in Years	Total	Male	Female
Under 5	1,311	688	623
5 - 9	1,550	826	724
10 - 14	1,405	698	707
15 - 19	984	512	472
20 - 24	592	316	276
25 - 29	658	311	347
30 - 34	760	368	392
35 - 39	885	417	468
40 - 44	924	450	474
45 - 49	958	506	452
50 - 54	962	492	470
55 - 59	826	431	395
60 - 64	792	372	420
65 - 69	720	377	343
70 - 74	635	345	290
75 - 79	408	230	178
80 - 84	198	102	96
85 and over	106	47	59
Total:	14,674	7,488	7,186
Under 18:	4,969	2,577	2,392
65 and over:	2,067	1,101	966
Median age:	35.4	35.3	35.6

Source: Census of Population

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TABLE 9: RURAL-FARM POPULATION, FAMILY INCOME, PACIFIC COUNTY, 1960

TABLE 10: RURAL-FARM POPULATION, AGE AND HOUSEHOLD RELATIONSHIP, PACIFIC COUNTY, 1960

Income Group	Families	Subject	Number
Under \$1,000	18	Under 5 years	89
\$1,000 to \$3,999	79	5 - 14 years	202
\$4,000 to \$6,999	129	15 - 19 years	87
\$7,000 to \$9,999	60	20 - 24 years	41
\$10,000 and over	13	25 - 34 years	87
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>289</b>	35 - 44 years	124
<b>Median:</b>	<b>\$5,434</b>	45 - 54 years	143
		55 - 64 years	109
<b>Source: Census of Population</b>		65 - 74 years	105
		75 and over	21

Total number, male and female: 1,008  
 Total number in households: 1,008  
 Heads of households: 321  
 Population per household: 3.14

Source: Census of Population