

# Appendix A: Timeline of Washington history

We aren't certain when humans first lived in Washington. Some think people first came by boat from Asia or islands in the Pacific. Others think the first people crossed a land bridge that, during the last Ice Age, connected Siberia and Alaska. Many Native peoples believe they have always been here.

Native Americans all over North America are devastated by smallpox and other diseases brought by Europeans. Before European settlers ever arrived in Washington, the population of Native tribes had been reduced – possibly by as much as 80%, though no one knows for sure.

1770's



Image courtesy Washington State Historical Society, Tacoma

The Lewis and Clark expedition travels across the country, down the Snake and Columbia Rivers, and reaches the Pacific Ocean.

1805-1806

A treaty leaves the Pacific Northwest in a state of “joint occupancy” by Britain and the United States, and ends Spanish claims to this area.

1819

1579

British explorer Sir Frances Drake explores the Washington coast, beginning a long period of exploration by people from England, France, and Spain.

1792

A Spanish explorer, Salvador Fidalgo, establishes the first European settlement in Washington at Neah Bay. During the same year, American Captain Robert Gray enters the Columbia River, which he names after his ship, and Grays Harbor, which is named after him.

1825



Image courtesy Washington State Historical Society, Tacoma

The Hudson's Bay Company establishes Fort Vancouver as a center of the fur trade. (In 1811, another company, called the Pacific Fur Company, built forts at Astoria and Okanogan.) In 1833, the Hudson's Bay Company also builds Fort Nisqually.



Image courtesy Washington State Historical Society, Tacoma

Marcus and Narcissa Whitman establish a mission near Walla Walla.

1833

Early settlers in Oregon organize a provisional government. (Provisional, in this case, means “not quite official,” since Oregon at that time was still jointly occupied by Britain and the U. S.)

1843

1846

Britain gives up claims to what is now the U. S. part of the Pacific Northwest.

The first settlers arrive in what is now Washington, and settle near Olympia.

The U. S. Congress creates the Oregon Territory.



Image courtesy Washington State Historical Society, Tacoma

1848

1847

The Whitman’s mission is attacked by people from the Cayuse and Umatilla Tribes, and 13 people are killed.

The U. S. Congress passes the Donation Land Claim Act, which promises free land to settlers who come to the Oregon Territory.

1850

1849

The first U. S. census in the Oregon Territory counts 304 non-Native people living north of the Columbia River. Just one year later, this number swells to 1,049.

Governor Stevens and Washington tribes sign treaties that oblige Indians to move to reservations.

1854-1855

1853

U. S. President Millard Fillmore establishes the Washington Territory, and a Territorial Legislature is established. The Territory includes what is now Idaho. The President sends Isaac Stevens to be the first governor of the new Washington Territory.



Image courtesy Washington State Archives

1860 The non-Indian population of Washington Territory is 11,594.

President Lincoln signs a law that creates Idaho Territory.

1863

1864

The first telegraph line reaches Seattle, allowing fast communication across the country.

1870 The non-Indian population of Washington Territory is 23,955.



1872

U. S. President Ulysses Grant creates, by executive order, the Colville Reservation. One month later, a second decree moves the reservation and dramatically reduces its size.

1880 The non-Indian population of Washington Territory is 75,116.

Anti-Chinese riots in Seattle, Tacoma, and elsewhere drive out most Chinese laborers.



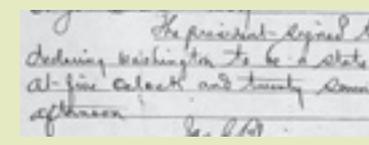
1885

1883

The Northern Pacific Railroad reaches Tacoma, linking Washington to the rest of the country.



Image courtesy Washington State Historical Society, Tacoma



Washington becomes a state.

1889

1887

The Dawes Act breaks up Indian reservations and allows settlers to claim reservation land.

1890 The population of the state is 357,232. (This is the first year in which the census was to include all Indians, but most of the records of this census were lost in a fire in 1921.)

The Washington state legislature passes the Barefoot Schoolboy Act, which provides state funding for local schools.

1895



1900 The population of Washington is 518,103.

The Washington State Highway Department is created.

1905

Washington’s constitution is amended to permit citizen initiatives and referenda.

1912

1910

Women win the right to vote in Washington.



1917

The Boeing Company begins building airplanes in Seattle.

1920 Washington’s population reaches 1,356,621.

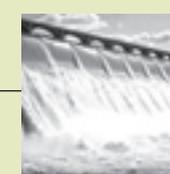
Bertha Landes is elected mayor of Seattle – the first female mayor of an American city.

1926

1924

The U. S. Congress passes The Indian Citizenship Act.

Construction of the Grand Coulee Dam begins. (The Grand Coulee Dam was completed in 1941; the Bonneville Dam was completed in 1937.)



1933

1933

Washington’s unemployment rate peaks at more than 25% during the Great Depression.

1934

The Indian Reorganization Act passes the U. S. Congress, and the Dawes Act is repealed.



Image courtesy Tacoma Public Library

Japanese Americans are forced to leave their homes and live in prison camps during World War II.

1942

1943

Hanford is the site chosen for the top-secret project to produce the first nuclear bomb.



Photo courtesy U.S. Department of Energy

Washington’s first TV station (KING TV in Seattle) goes on the air.

1948

**1950** The population of Washington is 2,378,963.

**1965-1973** During these years, thousands of college students and other citizens hold demonstrations in schools and downtowns throughout the state to call for an end to the war in Vietnam.

**1967** Interstate 5 is completed.

**1968** The Black Student Union is founded at the University of Washington.

**1970** Washington voters legalize abortion.

**1971** The first Starbucks opens in the Pike Place Market in Seattle.

**1972** Voters approve the Shorelines Management Act and the Public Disclosure Act.

**1974** Federal Judge George Boldt rules in favor of Indian fishing rights, consistent with language in the treaties.

**1975** Microsoft is founded to create software for computers.

**1976** Dixy Lee Ray is elected Washington's first female governor.

**1977** Voters approve an initiative removing the sales tax from food.

**1979** The U. S. Supreme Court upholds the Boldt decision on Native American fishing rights.

**1980** On May 18, Mt. St. Helens erupts, riveting the attention of people all over the world.

**1988** Initiative 518 is passed by the voters. It raises the minimum wage, and indexes it to inflation, so that when prices go up, the minimum wage goes up, too.



**1990** The population of Washington is 4,866,700.

**1990** The state legislature passes the Growth Management Act.

**1996** Gary Locke becomes Washington's first Asian American governor.

**1999** Nine salmon runs are listed as endangered species by the U. S. Department of Interior.



**2000** The population of Washington is 5,894,121.

**2004** Chris Gregoire is elected governor in the nation's closest-ever election. After three recounts, she wins by 133 votes.

At the request of the state legislature, a special Historical Court is convened, and it exonerates Leschi, the Nisqually leader who was wrongly convicted of murder and hanged in 1858. (To exonerate means to declare that an accused person was innocent.)



Image courtesy of the Washington State Senate

**2010** The population of Washington is 6,817,770.

**2012** On February 13, 2012, Governor Gregoire signed a law legalizing same-sex marriage; in November, voters upheld the law in a referendum. In the same election, voters also approved an initiative that legalizes and regulates marijuana.

**2012** On January 5, 2012, the State Supreme Court ruled in *McCleary v. Washington* that Washington state is not amply funding basic education, as required by the state constitution, and ordered the legislature to increase school funding.

# Appendix B: A sampling of elected officials, state agencies and departments

For a full listing see: [www.access.wa.gov](http://www.access.wa.gov) and click on "agencies" or "departments"

**Governor**  
 PO Box 40002  
 Olympia, WA 98504-0002  
 360-902-4111  
[www.governor.wa.gov](http://www.governor.wa.gov)

**Lieutenant Governor**  
 PO Box 40400  
 Olympia, WA 98504-0400  
 360-786-7700  
[www.ltgov.wa.gov](http://www.ltgov.wa.gov)

**Secretary of State**  
 PO Box 40220  
 Olympia, WA 98504-0220  
 360-902-4151  
[www.sos.wa.gov](http://www.sos.wa.gov)

**Attorney General**  
 PO Box 40100  
 Olympia, WA 98504-0100  
 360-753-6200  
[www.atg.wa.gov](http://www.atg.wa.gov)

**State Legislature**  
**Representatives:**  
 PO Box 40600  
 Olympia WA, 98504-0600  
[www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)  
**Senators:**  
 PO Box 404 + legislative district #,  
 Olympia WA, 98504-04+legislative district #  
 Hotline: 1-800-562-6000  
[www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**Washington State Department of Agriculture**  
 WSDA serves the people of Washington state by supporting the agricultural community and promoting consumer and environmental protection.  
 P.O. Box 42560  
 Olympia, WA 98504-2560  
 (360) 902-1800 TDD(360) 902-1996  
[www.agr.wa.gov](http://www.agr.wa.gov)

**Washington State Archives**  
 They collect, sort and store statewide historical records dating from 1853 to present. The public may view these documents and have copies made. Also see WA State Digital Archives.  
 PO Box 40238  
 Olympia, WA 98504-0238  
 360-586-1492  
[www.sos.wa.gov/archives](http://www.sos.wa.gov/archives)

**Department of Corrections**  
 As a partner with victims, communities and the criminal justice system, the Department's primary goal is public safety. It administers criminal sanctions of the courts and correctional programs, and provides leadership for the future of corrections in Washington state. The Department employs over 7,000 men and women to administer and supervise over 18,000 offenders housed in 13 institutions and 16 work training and pre-release facilities.  
 7345 Linderson Way SW  
 Olympia, WA 98504-1118  
 360-725-8200  
[www.doc.wa.gov](http://www.doc.wa.gov)

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### **The Administrative Office of the Courts**

This office provides educational resources including Judges in the Classroom, Informational Brochures, Judicial Education, Constitutional Information, Mock Trial Information and Washington State Court History.

P.O. Box 41170  
Olympia, WA 98504-1170  
Office (360) 753-3365  
[www.courts.wa.gov](http://www.courts.wa.gov)

### **Department of Ecology**

Ecology's mission is to protect, preserve and enhance Washington's environment, and promote the wise management of the state's air, land and water for the benefit of current and future generations. The goals are to prevent pollution, clean up pollution when it occurs, provide environmental education and support sustainable communities and natural resources.

P.O. Box 47600  
Olympia, WA 98504-7600  
[www.ecy.wa.gov](http://www.ecy.wa.gov)

### **Employment Security Department WA State**

Employment Security's goal is to help Washington workers and employers succeed in the global economy by delivering superior employment services, timely benefits and a fair and stable unemployment insurance system.

202 Maple Park  
Olympia, WA 98507-9046  
360-902-9500  
[www.esd.wa.gov](http://www.esd.wa.gov)

### **Washington State Office of Financial Management**

Provides information, fiscal services and policy support that the Governor, Legislature and state agencies need to serve the people of Washington state, including development of capital and operating budget policy.

P.O. Box 43113  
Olympia, WA 98504-3113  
360-902-0555  
TTY 360-902-0679  
[www.ofm.wa.gov](http://www.ofm.wa.gov)

### **Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission**

The tribes, who are working toward their own self-sufficiency, share the long-term goals of economic stability, renewable resources and regulatory certainty.

6730 Martin Way E.  
Olympia, WA 98516  
360 438-1180  
[www.nwifc.org](http://www.nwifc.org)

### **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife**

Fish and Wildlife has three major responsibilities: to develop and contribute to quality decision-making; to share responsibility for fish and wildlife through partnerships with public and international entities, tribal leaders, public volunteers and service groups; to forge effective partnerships with landowners and land use decision makers in maintaining and enhancing habitat.

111 Washington St. SE  
Olympia, WA 98501  
Information: 360 902-2200  
[www.wdfw.wa.gov](http://www.wdfw.wa.gov)

### **Washington State Department of Health**

Health services are population-based, focused on improving the health and status of the population, rather than simply treating individuals. This responsibility is shared by the Department of Health and 34 local health jurisdictions serving Washington's 39 counties.

P.O. Box 47890  
Olympia, WA 98504-7890  
Information: 800-525-0127; TTY dial 711  
[www.doh.wa.gov](http://www.doh.wa.gov)

### **Washington State Department of Enterprise Services**

Enterprise Services was established in 2011 by consolidating five agencies. It provides information technology; delivers state mail; maintains state Capitol grounds; manages leases; supervises public works projects; and offers visitor services at the State Capitol.

PO Box 41401  
Olympia WA 98504-1401  
360-407-0990  
[www.des.wa.gov](http://www.des.wa.gov)

### **Washington State Historical Society**

The Society strives to make the study of history in Washington illuminating and inspiring by presenting diverse and compelling educational opportunities including exhibits, programs, and publications that make history relevant and alive; collects and preserves materials that form the fabric of Washington's history; and fosters a sense of identity and community by civic engagement and encourages the heritage activities of others.

History Museum  
1911 Pacific Avenue  
Tacoma, WA 98402  
1-888-238-4373  
Information Line 253-272-9747  
[www.wshs.org](http://www.wshs.org)

### **Commission on African American Affairs**

The Commission encourages the development and implementation of policies, programs, and practices which are specifically intended to improve conditions affecting the cultural, social, economic, political, educational, health and general well-being of African American people at all levels throughout Washington state.

PO Box 40926  
Olympia, WA 98504-0926  
360-725-5664  
[www.caa.wa.gov](http://www.caa.wa.gov)

### **Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs**

The agency's mission is to improve the well-being of Asian Pacific Americans (APAs) by insuring their access to participation in the fields of government, business, education, and other areas.

P.O. Box 40925  
Olympia, WA 98504-0925  
360-725-5667  
[www.capaa.wa.gov](http://www.capaa.wa.gov)

### **Commission on Hispanic Affairs**

The Commission is charged with identifying and defining issues concerning the rights and needs of Washington state's Hispanic community; advising the Governor and state agencies on the development of relevant policies, plans and programs that affect Hispanics; advising the legislature on issues of concern to the state's Hispanic community; and establishing relationships with state agencies, local governments, and members of the private sector.

P.O. Box 40924  
Olympia, WA 98504-0924  
Phone: (800) 443-0294  
(360) 753-3159  
[www.cha.wa.gov](http://www.cha.wa.gov)

### **Governor's Office of Indian Affairs**

Recognizing the importance of sovereignty, the Office affirms the government-to-government relationship and principles identified in the Centennial Accord to promote and enhance tribal self-sufficiency and serves to assist the state in developing policies consistent with those principles.

PO Box 40909  
Olympia, WA 98504-0909  
360-902-8827  
[www.goia.wa.gov](http://www.goia.wa.gov)

### **Office of the Insurance Commissioner**

The office protects consumers by empowering and educating the public about insurance issues and health care access. They oversee Washington insurance industry to make sure companies, agents and brokers follow the rules and protect consumers.

P.O. Box 40255  
Olympia, WA 98504-0255  
(360) 725-7080  
or 1-800-562-6900 (in Washington only)  
TDD (360) 586-0241  
[www.oic.wa.gov](http://www.oic.wa.gov)

### **Washington State Department of Labor and Industries**

L and I has programs to help employers meet safety and health standards and inspects workplaces when alerted to hazards; provides medical and limited wage-replacement coverage to workers who suffer job-related injuries and illness; helps ensure that workers are paid what they are owed; that children's and teens' work hours are limited; and that consumers are protected from unsound building practices.

PO Box 44000  
Olympia, WA 98504-4000  
Main Line: 1-800-547-8367  
360-902-5800  
TDD: 360-902-5797  
[www.lni.wa.gov](http://www.lni.wa.gov) English  
[www.lni.wa.gov/Spanish](http://www.lni.wa.gov/Spanish) Spanish

### **Washington State Library**

Their mission is to collect, preserve and make accessible to Washingtonians materials on government, history culture and natural resources of the state. They provide coordination of services to all libraries in the state.

PO Box 42460  
Olympia, WA 98504-0238  
phone: 360-704-5200  
[www.sos.wa.gov/library](http://www.sos.wa.gov/library)

### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission**

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission acquires, operates, enhances and protects a diverse system of recreational, cultural, historical and natural resources statewide to provide enjoyment and enrichment for all, and a valued legacy to future generations.

P.O. Box 42650  
7150 Cleanwater Lane  
Olympia, WA 98504-2650  
(360) 902-8844  
[www.parks.wa.gov](http://www.parks.wa.gov)

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### **Public Disclosure Commission**

PDC, originally created through initiative, provides timely and meaningful public access to information about the financing of political campaigns, lobbyist expenditures, and the financial affairs of public officials and candidates, and it ensures compliance with disclosure provisions, contribution limits, campaign practices and other campaign finance laws.

PO Box 40908  
Olympia, WA 98504-0908  
(360) 753-1111  
Toll Free - 1-877-601-2828

**[www.pdc.wa.gov](http://www.pdc.wa.gov)**

### **Washington State Department of Natural Resources (Commissioner of Public Lands)**

In partnership with citizens and government they provide innovative leadership and expertise to ensure environmental protection, public safety, perpetual funding for schools and communities and a rich quality of life.

P.O. Box 47000  
Olympia, WA 98504-7001  
Phone: (360) 902-1004

**[www.dnr.wa.gov](http://www.dnr.wa.gov)**

### **Governor's Office of the Family and Children's Ombudsman**

The Office seeks to protect children and parents from harmful agency action or inaction, and to make agency officials and state policy makers aware of system-wide issues in the child protection and child welfare system so they can improve services.

6720 Fort Dent Way, Suite 240  
Mail Stop TT-99  
Tukwila, WA 98188  
(206) 439-3870 • 1-800-571-7321  
(206) 439-3789/TTY

**[www.governor.wa.gov/ofco](http://www.governor.wa.gov/ofco)**

### **Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction**

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, in collaboration with educators, students, families, local communities, business, labor, and government, leads, supports, and oversees K-12 education, ensuring the success of all learners.

PO Box 47200  
Olympia, WA 98504-7200  
(360) 725-6000  
TTY (360) 664-3631

**[www.k12.wa.us](http://www.k12.wa.us)**

### **Washington State Department of Social and Health Services**

DSHS provides programs for children, families and people with special needs and those needing long-term care, in partnerships with families, community groups, private providers, other government agencies, and through foster parents, neighbors, and citizens.

Constituent Services 1-800-737-0617  
**[www.dshs.wa.gov](http://www.dshs.wa.gov)**

### **Washington State Department of Transportation**

The Washington State Department of Transportation keeps people and business moving by operating and improving the state transportation systems vital to our taxpayers and communities.

310 Maple Park Avenue SE  
PO Box 47300  
Olympia WA 98504-7300  
Information 360-705-7000

**[www.wsdot.wa.gov](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov)**

### **Washington State Patrol**

The Washington State Patrol provides public safety services to everyone where they live, work, travel, and play, making a difference every day.

PO Box 42600  
Olympia WA 98504-2600  
(360) 596-4000

**[www.wsp.wa.gov](http://www.wsp.wa.gov)**

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### **Resource book on the Washington State constitution:**

***The Washington State Constitution: A Reference Guide*** by Robert F. Utter and Hugh Spitzer, Greenwood Publishing Group/Pacific Northwest.

This is an easy to read, easy to use reference guide, available at most libraries and from online booksellers.

**For further information, please visit the League of Women Voters of Washington's web site: [www.lwvwa.org](http://www.lwvwa.org)**