

Washington State Office of Public Defense

2021 City Status Report

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City of Aberdeen

2019 Population	16,995
Percent Below Poverty Level 2016-2020	21.9%
Estimated Median Household Income 2016-2020	\$42,203
Competitive Grant awarded for use in 2021	\$61,000

Administration of Public Defense Services:

The City of Aberdeen delivers public defense services through a contract system. The City contracts with two firms which provide representation on all non-conflict public defense cases. The remaining cases are assigned to local private attorneys who are paid on a per-case basis.

The City has adopted local public defense standards (Resolution No. 2015-02), and has adopted a case weighting policy for purposes of calculating attorney caseloads.

2019 Statistics

Amount spent on public defense	\$284,003.96
Amount spent per capita	\$16.71
City misdemeanor cases filed	1,637
Total misdemeanors per 1,000 population	96.3
Number of cases assigned to counsel	936

Use of State Funds:

The City of Aberdeen used its RCW 10.101 grant funds in 2021 to provide defense counsel for indigent defendants at preliminary appearance calendars through its primary public defense firm. The City also reported utilizing funds to support social work services to engage public defense clients for connections to services such as treatment and to ensure interpretation services at attorney-client meetings.

City of Airway Heights

2019 Population	10,223
Percent Below Poverty Level 2016-2020	17.8%
Estimated Median Household Income 2016-2020	\$54,690
Competitive Grant awarded for use in 2021	\$14,000

Administration of Public Defense Services:

The City of Airway Heights delivers public defense services through a contract system. The City contracts with two attorneys which provides representation on all public defense cases. Two other attorneys provide representation on an as-needed, appointment basis.

The City has adopted local public defense standards (Chapter 2.33), and has adopted a case weighting policy for purposes of calculating attorney caseloads.

2019 Statistics

Amount spent on public defense	\$87,175.00
Amount spent per capita	\$8.53
City misdemeanor cases filed	944
Total misdemeanors per 1,000 population	92.3
Number of cases assigned to counsel	771

Use of State Funds:

The City of Airway Heights reported utilizing its 2021 RCW 10.101 grant funds to increase contract public defenders, thereby reducing caseloads, and providing interpreter services for confidential attorney-client meetings.

City of Battle Ground

2019 Population	20,481
Percent Below Poverty Level 2016-2020	7.1%
Estimated Median Household Income 2016-2020	\$82,096
Competitive Grant awarded for use in 2021	\$14,000

Administration of Public Defense Services:

Public defense representation in the City of Battle Ground is provided through contracts with four attorneys.

The City has adopted public defense standards by resolution (Resolution No. 23-01) which incorporates by reference the Washington State Bar Association's Standards for Indigent Defense Services and the Standards set forth by the Washington Supreme Court in CrRLJ 3.1 Stds.

2019 Statistics

Amount spent on public defense	\$192,500.00
Amount spent per capita	\$9.40
City misdemeanor cases filed	843
Total misdemeanors per 1,000 population	41.2
Number of cases assigned to counsel	741

Use of State Funds:

The City of Battle Ground used 2021 RCW 10.101 grant funds to increase contract attorney compensation and support defense investigation services.

City of Bellingham

2019 Population	90,035
Percent Below Poverty Level 2016-2020	20.0%
Estimated Median Household Income 2016-2020	\$56,198
Competitive Grant awarded for use in 2021	\$42,000

Administration of Public Defense Services:

Bellingham administers its public defense system through contracts. The City contracts with one private, multi-attorney law firm to deliver public defense services. One other attorney contracts with the City to provide representation in the event a conflict arises.

The City of Bellingham has adopted standards (Chapter 2.16) which adopt the 2007 WSBA Standards for Indigent Defense Services. These Standards include annual training requirements for public defenders.

2019 Statistics

Amount spent on public defense	\$1,018,703.00
Amount spent per capita	\$11.31
City misdemeanor cases filed	2,939
Total misdemeanors per 1,000 population	32.6
Number of cases assigned to counsel	2,426

Use of State Funds:

Bellingham reports having utilized its 2021 RCW 10.101 grant funds by increasing public defense compensation and to support professional services, such as interpreters and defense investigations.

City of Blaine

2019 Population	5,742
Percent Below Poverty Level 2016-2020	9.3%
Estimated Median Household Income 2016-2020	\$72,772
Competitive Grant awarded for use in 2021	\$4,000

Administration of Public Defense Services:

The City of Blaine administers public defense through a contract system. One multi-attorney firm maintains a contract with the City to provide primary public defense services. One other attorney is available on an appointment basis should conflicts arise with the primary firm.

2019 Statistics

Amount spent on public defense	\$66,654.17
Amount spent per capita	\$11.61
City misdemeanor cases filed	290
Total misdemeanors per 1,000 population	50.5
Number of cases assigned to counsel	67

Use of State Funds:

The City of Blaine reported utilizing RCW 10.101 grant funds in 2021 for language training for staff and interpreter services for public defenders.

City of Bremerton

2019 Population	43,526
Percent Below Poverty Level 2016-2020	14.8%
Estimated Median Household Income 2016-2020	\$57,963
Competitive Grant awarded for use in 2021	\$18,000

Administration of Public Defense Services:

The City of Bremerton delivers public defense representation through a contract system. The city contracts with one primary law firm to handle the eligible cases in Bremerton Municipal Court. Conflict attorneys are appointed from a list and are paid a flat fee for each case.

The City has adopted public defense standards by resolution (Resolution No. 3221). Attorneys are required to participate in annual training relating to public defense and report non-public defense attorney hours.

2019 Statistics

Amount spent on public defense	\$301,578.36
Amount spent per capita	\$6.93
City misdemeanor cases filed	1,764
Total misdemeanors per 1,000 population	40.5
Number of cases assigned to counsel	1,211

Use of State Funds:

The City of Bremerton used its 2021 RCW 10.101 grant funds to increase public defense compensation, provide public defense services at preliminary hearings, and to support professional services, including funds for experts and investigators.

City of Chehalis

2019 Population	7,434
Percent Below Poverty Level 2016-2020	14.7%
Estimated Median Household Income 2016-2020	\$45,195
Competitive Grant awarded for use in 2021	\$10,000

Administration of Public Defense Services:

The City of Chehalis delivers public defense services through a contract system with two private attorneys. As all attorneys are not associated with each other, conflicts are addressed by reassigning a case to an attorney without a conflict.

The City has adopted local public defense standards (Resolution 17-2021) stating the City will abide by the Washington State Bar Association Standards for Indigent Defense, which includes public defender training requirements.

2019 Statistics

Amount spent on public defense	\$67,687.50
Amount spent per capita	\$9.11
City misdemeanor cases filed	426
Total misdemeanors per 1,000 population	57.3
Number of cases assigned to counsel	296

Use of State Funds:

The City of Chehalis utilized its 2021 RCW 10.101 grant funds by increasing compensation on a per case basis and to ensure public defender representation at in-custody preliminary hearing calendars.

City of Cheney

2019 Population	12,988
Percent Below Poverty Level 2016-2020	34.0%
Estimated Median Household Income 2016-2020	\$43,567
Competitive Grant awarded for use in 2021	\$16,000

Administration of Public Defense Services:

The City of Cheney delivers public defense representation through a contract system. The city contracts with two attorneys to handle the cases in Cheney Municipal Court. Conflict attorneys are appointed from a list and are paid a flat fee for each case.

The City has adopted an ordinance with local public defense standards (Chapter 2.33). The city has also adopted OPD's Model Public Defense Case Weighting Policy for purposes of weighting public defense caseloads.

2019 Statistics

Amount spent on public defense	\$41,400.00
Amount spent per capita	\$3.19
City misdemeanor cases filed	364
Total misdemeanors per 1,000 population	28.0
Number of cases assigned to counsel	245

Use of State Funds:

The City of Cheney reported using 2021 RCW 10.101 grant funds to increase compensation for public defense attorneys and to provide defense representation at preliminary appearance calendars and hearings with Eastern State Hospital. Furthermore, the City reports that the funds were used for services for public defenders in areas such as interpretation, investigation, and expert witnesses.

City of East Wenatchee

2019 Population	14,092
Percent Below Poverty Level 2016-2020	13.2%
Estimated Median Household Income 2016-2020	\$61,608
Competitive Grant awarded for use in 2021	\$20,000

Administration of Public Defense Services:

The City of East Wenatchee delivers public defense services through a contract model. Two contract attorneys provide primary public defense services, while one other contract attorney provides services in the event a conflict develops.

The City has adopted local public defense standards in accordance with RCW 10.101.030 (Resolution 2012-22). These Standards adopt the Standards for Indigent Defense Services of the Washington State Bar Association (Approved June 3, 2011) and the Standards for Indigent Defense (CrRLJ 3.1 Stds) as approved by the Washington Supreme Court by Order No. 25700-A-1008 on September 7, 2012. In the event of a conflict, the City abides by the Supreme Court Standards. These Standards address caseload limits, attorney qualification, and training requirements.

2019 Statistics

Amount spent on public defense	\$103,408.00
Amount spent per capita	\$7.34
City misdemeanor cases filed	546
Total misdemeanors per 1,000 population	38.7
Number of cases assigned to counsel	68

Use of State Funds:

The City of East Wenatchee utilized its RCW 10.101 grant funds to increase public defender compensation for its two primary public defense contractors.

City of Everett

2019 Population	109,957
Percent Below Poverty Level 2016-2020	12.2%
Estimated Median Household Income 2016-2020	\$66,023
Competitive Grant awarded for use in 2021	\$48,000

Administration of Public Defense Services:

The City of Everett delivers public defense services through a contract model. One multi-attorney firm provides primary public defense services through approximately nine attorneys. Six attorneys provide services in the event a conflict develops on an appointment basis.

The City has adopted an ordinance with local public defense standards (Chapter 2.108.390). These Standards adopt the Standards for Indigent Defense Services set forth by the Washington State Bar Association (June 3, 2011). These Standards, by reference, address caseload limits, attorney qualification, and training requirements.

2019 Statistics

Amount spent on public defense	\$1,523,486.00
Amount spent per capita	\$13.86
City misdemeanor cases filed	3,104
Total misdemeanors per 1,000 population	28.2
Number of cases assigned to counsel	2,849

Use of State Funds:

In 2021, The City of Everett used its RCW 10.101 grant funds fund social work services to assist public defense clients connect with services needed to overcome treatment and societal barriers, and thereby reduce the attorney workload and recidivism.

City of Ferndale

2019 Population	14,705
Percent Below Poverty Level 2016-2020	14.4%
Estimated Median Household Income 2016-2020	\$62,852
Competitive Grant awarded for use in 2021	\$7,000

Administration of Public Defense Services:

The City of Ferndale administers its public defense system through contracts. Ferndale contracts with one primary attorney/firm to handle most cases, preliminary hearing calendars, and in-custody meetings. The City also contracts with two other attorneys/firms to provide representation should a conflict arise between the primary firm and a client.

The City has adopted public defense standards by ordinance (Chapter 2.40). The contract attorneys are required to attend annual training on public defense, and to report hours billed for non-public defense attorney hours.

2019 Statistics

Amount spent on public defense	\$131,538.00
Amount spent per capita	\$8.95
City misdemeanor cases filed	523
Total misdemeanors per 1,000 population	35.6
Number of cases assigned to counsel	no data

Use of State Funds:

The City of Ferndale reported using 2021 RCW 10.101 funds to compensate an additional attorney to meeting with potential public defense clients prior to preliminary hearings.

City of Fife

2019 Population	10,846
Percent Below Poverty Level 2016-2020	10.0%
Estimated Median Household Income 2016-2020	\$75,151
Competitive Grant awarded for use in 2021	\$25,000

Administration of Public Defense Services:

The City of Fife delivers public defense services through a contract model. Three attorneys from one firm provide primary public defense services, while two contract attorneys provide services in the event the primary firm cannot provide representation.

The City has adopted public defense standards by resolution (Resolution No. 1629). Fife's Standards include a case weighting policy as allowed under Standard 3 of the Washington State Supreme Court Standards for Indigent Defense (CrRLJ 3.1 Stds).

2019 Statistics

Amount spent on public defense	\$192,152.85
Amount spent per capita	\$17.72
City misdemeanor cases filed	835
Total misdemeanors per 1,000 population	77.0
Number of cases assigned to counsel	709

Use of State Funds:

The City of Fife used its 2021 RCW 10.101 grant to fund social work services to provide in-custody mental health and chemical dependency assessments. These social work services assist public defense attorneys by connecting clients with other health services and to obtain housing, helping them to overcome societal barriers.

City of Granger

2019 Population	3,614
Percent Below Poverty Level 2016-2020	17.1%
Estimated Median Household Income 2016-2020	\$54,107
Competitive Grant awarded for use in 2021	\$8,000

Administration of Public Defense Services:

The City of Granger delivers public defense representation through a contract system. The City contracts with one primary attorney and one conflict attorney. If a conflict arises, the case will be assigned to a conflict attorney on a per case compensation basis.

The City has adopted an ordinance establishing standards for public defense services (Ordinance No. 1228). The contract attorneys are required to attend annual training on public defense, and to report hours billed for non-public defense attorney hours.

2019 Statistics

Amount spent on public defense	\$28,384.00
Amount spent per capita	\$7.85
City misdemeanor cases filed	88
Total misdemeanors per 1,000 population	24.3
Number of cases assigned to counsel	71

Use of State Funds:

The City of Granger reported using RCW 10.101 funds to improve delivery of public defense services. This includes ensuring a dedicated attorney is contracted with the City to provide public defense services.

City of Hoquiam

2019 Population	8,754
Percent Below Poverty Level 2016-2020	14.4%
Estimated Median Household Income 2016-2020	\$44,191
Competitive Grant awarded for use in 2021	\$25,000

Administration of Public Defense Services:

The City of Hoquiam delivers public defense services through a contract system. The City contracts with two attorneys for public defense representation. One additional attorney is contracted for representation of accused individuals at preliminary appearances.

The City has adopted local public defense standards (Resolution No. 2013-24). These Standards adopt the Washington Supreme Court's caseload limit standards in the Standards for Indigent Defense (CrRLJ 3.1 Stds). Furthermore, the City has adopted training standards requiring public defense attorneys to attend at least seven hours of public defense-related training a year.

2019 Statistics

Amount spent on public defense	\$118,033.00
Amount spent per capita	\$13.48
City misdemeanor cases filed	823
Total misdemeanors per 1,000 population	94.0
Number of cases assigned to counsel	632

Use of State Funds:

The City used funds in 2021 to increase public defender compensation, provide public defense representation at preliminary hearings, providing interpreter services at confidential attorney-client meetings.

City of Kelso

2019 Population	12,563
Percent Below Poverty Level 2016-2020	19.9%
Estimated Median Household Income 2016-2020	\$48,005
Competitive Grant awarded for use in 2021	\$60,000

Administration of Public Defense Services:

The City of Kelso delivers public defense representation through a contract system. The city contracts with one primary law firm to represent indigent defendants. Conflict cases that cannot be handled by the two primary firms are assigned to attorneys who are paid on an hourly basis.

The City has adopted local standards for public defense services (Resolution No. 14-1123) which incorporates by reference the Washington State Bar Association's Standards for Indigent Defense Services. The contract with the primary public defense firm requires attorneys to attend at least seven hours of public defense training annually, and attorneys must report hours billed annually for nonpublic defense legal services. The attorneys are also required to maintain records detailing their caseloads, dispositions, motion practices, and use of investigation services.

2019 Statistics

Amount spent on public defense	\$315,181.19
Amount spent per capita	\$25.09
City misdemeanor cases filed	736
Total misdemeanors per 1,000 population	58.6
Number of cases assigned to counsel	852

Use of State Funds:

In 2021, the City of Kelso reported using RCW 10.101 grant funds to contract with a local firm to provide both public defense coordination and representation. This contract ensures that attorney caseloads stay within caseload standards and representation at

City of Kent

2019 Population	134,799
Percent Below Poverty Level 2016-2020	11.7%
Estimated Median Household Income 2016-2020	\$73,891
Competitive Grant awarded for use in 2021	\$12,000

Administration of Public Defense Services:

Kent administers public defense services in its city through a contract system with one primary law firm, consisting of 10 attorneys providing representation. Four private firms provide representation in conflict cases when the primary firm is unable to provide representation.

The City has adopted local public defense standards (Resolution no. 1903) which establishes requirements of seven hours of criminal defense-oriented continuing legal education per year.

2019 Statistics

Amount spent on public defense	\$430,416.68
Amount spent per capita	\$3.19
City misdemeanor cases filed	4,805
Total misdemeanors per 1,000 population	35.6
Number of cases assigned to counsel	1,365

Use of State Funds:

The City of Kent reported utilizing 2021 RCW 10.101 grant funds by increasing conflict attorney compensation in response to increased time demands in reviewing body worn camera videos.

City of Lake Stevens / Arlington

2019 Population	34,431 / 18,941
Percent Below Poverty Level 2016-2020	5.7% / 5.1%
Estimated Median Household Income 2016-2020	\$93,087 / \$77,023
Competitive Grant awarded for use in 2021	\$22,000

Administration of Public Defense Services:

The Cities of Lake Stevens and Arlington both utilize contract public defense systems. Both cities contract with the same law firm to handle all non-conflict public defense cases. The cities jointly applied for state funds to expand public defense services by adding a social work component to the defense team. The social work advocate assists clients by securing mental, alcohol and drug evaluations, obtaining treatment beds, helping to find housing or safe shelter, and following up with clients to ensure compliance with court-ordered requirements.

The Cities of Lake Stevens and Arlington have adopted local standards for public defense services (Arlington Resolution No. 2014-017, and Lake Stevens Resolution No. 2014-14).

2019 Statistics

Amount spent on public defense	\$146,347.50 / \$281,520.00
Amount spent per capita	\$4.25 / \$14.86
City misdemeanor cases filed	no data / 1
Total misdemeanors per 1,000 population	#VALUE! / .1
Number of cases assigned to counsel	343 / 593

Use of State Funds:

In 2021, the Cities of Lake Stevens and Arlington utilized RCW 10.101 funds to employ a part-time social service advocate. This advocate works with the primary public defense firm and their clients to connect them to outpatient and inpatient treatment providers as well as assisting clients in securing housing.

City of Lakewood

2019 Population	62,798
Percent Below Poverty Level 2016-2020	14.7%
Estimated Median Household Income 2016-2020	\$55,723
Competitive Grant awarded for use in 2021	\$37,000

Administration of Public Defense Services:

The City of Lakewood delivers public defense services through a contract system. The City contracts with one primary firm for public defense cases.

The City has adopted local public defense standards in accordance with RCW 10.101.030 (Resolution 2014-20). The Standards for Indigent Defense (CrRLJ 3.1 Stds) as approved by the Washington Supreme Court by Order No. 25700-A-1008 on September 7, 2012 are adopted by reference with the Washington State Bar Association Standards for Indigent Defense Services (Approved June 3, 2011) to "serve as a guideline in the interpretation and application of these defense standards." These Standards address caseload limits, attorney qualification, and training requirements.

2019 Statistics

Amount spent on public defense	\$587,865.98
Amount spent per capita	\$9.36
City misdemeanor cases filed	2,480
Total misdemeanors per 1,000 population	39.5
Number of cases assigned to counsel	1,764

Use of State Funds:

The City of Lakewood reported having spent RCW 10.101 grant funds in 2021 on social work services for the public defense attorneys and their clients as well as investigation services.

City of Longview

2019 Population	37,615
Percent Below Poverty Level 2016-2020	16.1%
Estimated Median Household Income 2016-2020	\$48,028
Competitive Grant awarded for use in 2021	\$81,500

Administration of Public Defense Services:

The City of Longview delivers public defense representation through a contract system. The City contracts with one primary law firm to represent indigent defendants. The law firm provides the services of approximately five attorneys. Conflict cases are assigned to attorneys who are paid on an hourly basis.

The City has adopted an ordinance establishing standards for public defense services (Chapter 2.19). All attorneys providing public defense services are required to attend at least seven hours of public defense training annually.

2019 Statistics

Amount spent on public defense	\$655,314.97
Amount spent per capita	\$17.42
City misdemeanor cases filed	1,724
Total misdemeanors per 1,000 population	45.8
Number of cases assigned to counsel	1,408

Use of State Funds:

The City of Longview used its allocated RCW 10.101 funds to increase attorney compensation and for expert defense services such as interpreters for attorney-client meetings, investigators, mental health experts, and DNA analysis.

City of Medical Lake

2019 Population	4,846
Percent Below Poverty Level 2016-2020	7.1%
Estimated Median Household Income 2016-2020	\$62,577
Competitive Grant awarded for use in 2021	\$2,500

Administration of Public Defense Services:

The City of Medical Lake contracts with two attorneys to handle its primary public defense services, and conflicts are assigned to a conflict attorney who is paid on a per-case basis. All Medical Lake cases are heard in Cheney Municipal Court.

The City of Medical Lake has adopted Ordinance No. 1054 relating to public defense caseloads

2019 Statistics

Amount spent on public defense	\$14,500.00
Amount spent per capita	\$2.99
City misdemeanor cases filed	no data
Total misdemeanors per 1,000 population	#VALUE!
Number of cases assigned to counsel	9

Use of State Funds:

The City of Medical Lake reported using 2021 RCW 10.101 grant funds to increase compensation for public defense attorneys and to provide defense representation at preliminary appearance calendars and hearings with Eastern State Hospital. Furthermore, the City reports that the funds were used for services for public defenders in areas such as interpretation, investigation, and expert witnesses.

City of Monroe

2019 Population	19,144
Percent Below Poverty Level 2016-2020	7.5%
Estimated Median Household Income 2016-2020	\$88,683
Competitive Grant awarded for use in 2021	\$12,000

Administration of Public Defense Services:

The City of Monroe delivers public defense representation through a contract system. The City contracts with one primary public defense attorney to represent indigent defendants. Conflict cases are assigned to attorneys who are paid on an hourly basis or per case basis. Monroe maintains its own municipal court, and utilizes the county's probation services. If the case is in Monroe Municipal Court, the conflict attorneys are paid on the per case basis. If a case is an alleged probation violation, the attorneys are compensated on an hourly basis.

The City has adopted local public defense standards in accordance with RCW 10.101.030 (Resolution 2012/024). The Standards for Indigent Defense (CrRLJ 3.1 Stds) as approved by the Washington Supreme Court by Order No. 25700-A-1008 on September 7, 2012 are adopted by reference with the Washington State Bar Association Standards for Indigent Defense Services (Approved June 3, 2011) to "serve as a guideline in the interpretation and application of these defense standards." These Standards address caseload limits, attorney qualification, and training requirements.

2019 Statistics

Amount spent on public defense	\$213,400.00
Amount spent per capita	\$11.15
City misdemeanor cases filed	661
Total misdemeanors per 1,000 population	34.5
Number of cases assigned to counsel	362

Use of State Funds:

In 2021, the City of Monroe utilized state grant funds to fund a social work program. This social work services provider assists public defense clients in WSH competency evaluations as well as working with local city and county organizations to connect clients with needed services.

City of Olympia

2019 Population	54,410
Percent Below Poverty Level 2016-2020	14.7%
Estimated Median Household Income 2016-2020	\$63,185
Competitive Grant awarded for use in 2021	\$69,500

Administration of Public Defense Services:

The City of Olympia utilizes a contract system in delivering its public defense responsibilities. The City employs an experienced attorney to act as the Public Defense Coordinator. The Public Defense Coordinator manages contracts, coordinates attorney calendar coverage and caseloads, handles attorney complaints, and coordinates contracted social work services. The City contracts with approximately six attorneys for public defense services with varying caseloads, and one attorney maintains a contract for conflict matters.

The City has adopted public defense standards by resolution (Resolution No. 6590). Attorneys are required to participate in annual training relating to public defense and report non-public defense attorney hours. Case weighting policies in place regarding generally reiterate the Washington Supreme Court Standards on Indigent Defense.

2019 Statistics

Amount spent on public defense	\$504,153.30
Amount spent per capita	\$9.27
City misdemeanor cases filed	1,319
Total misdemeanors per 1,000 population	24.2
Number of cases assigned to counsel	1,268

Use of State Funds:

The City of Olympia utilized RCW 10.101 funds to increase defender compensation, support funding defense experts and investigations, and fund a part-time social services worker to connect public defense clients with organizations to assist them in their needs.

City of Port Orchard

2019 Population	15,064
Percent Below Poverty Level 2016-2020	13.6%
Estimated Median Household Income 2016-2020	\$71,719
Competitive Grant awarded for use in 2021	\$14,000

Administration of Public Defense Services:

The City of Port Orchard contracts with one multi-attorney firm to provide primary public defense services. The primary firm employs approximately four attorneys to provide representation on the majority of the public defense cases. Conflict of interest cases are assigned to additional attorneys who are compensated on an hourly basis.

The City of Port Orchard has adopted a public defense standards ordinance (Chapter 9.09).

2019 Statistics

Amount spent on public defense	\$154,204.95
Amount spent per capita	\$10.24
City misdemeanor cases filed	510
Total misdemeanors per 1,000 population	33.9
Number of cases assigned to counsel	393

Use of State Funds:

Port Orchard reported using its 2021 RCW 10.101 funds to continue funding increases to public defender compensation for both the primary public defense provider as well as conflict attorneys.

City of Shelton

2019 Population	10,211
Percent Below Poverty Level 2016-2020	23.9%
Estimated Median Household Income 2016-2020	\$46,481
Competitive Grant awarded for use in 2021	\$25,000

Administration of Public Defense Services:

The City of Shelton delivers public defense representation by contracting with a multi-attorney law firm. When a case presents a conflict for the firm, the court assigns it to one of several attorneys who are compensated at an hourly rate.

The City of Shelton has adopted a Public Defense Standards Ordinance (Chapter 2.96). The city's public defense attorneys are required to attend approved annual continuing legal education training.

2019 Statistics

Amount spent on public defense	\$114,564.00
Amount spent per capita	\$11.22
City misdemeanor cases filed	773
Total misdemeanors per 1,000 population	75.7
Number of cases assigned to counsel	523

Use of State Funds:

The City of Shelton reported using its 2021 RCW 10.101 grant funds to add conflict public defense attorneys, support investigation services, and support interpreter services for confidential attorney-client meetings.

City of Spokane

2019 Population	227,121
Percent Below Poverty Level 2016-2020	16.5%
Estimated Median Household Income 2016-2020	\$52,600
Competitive Grant awarded for use in 2021	\$96,975

Administration of Public Defense Services:

The City of Spokane delivers public defense representation through a city public defender agency. The City of Spokane Public Defender Office has a director and 19 attorneys.

The City of Spokane has adopted a public defense ordinance (Chapter 03.11.010). The City of Spokane Public Defender Office pays for and requires attorneys to attend at least seven hours of public defense training annually.

2019 Statistics

Amount spent on public defense	\$3,194,340.00
Amount spent per capita	\$14.06
City misdemeanor cases filed	8,605
Total misdemeanors per 1,000 population	37.9
Number of cases assigned to counsel	7,560

Use of State Funds:

The City of Spokane reported using 2021 RCW 10.101 state grant funds to provide a public defender at in-custody first appearance hearings and weekly arraignment calendars. The City also reported utilizing funds to pay for public defender WSBA dues.

City of Spokane Valley

2019 Population	101,618
Percent Below Poverty Level 2016-2020	11.2%
Estimated Median Household Income 2016-2020	\$56,351
Competitive Grant awarded for use in 2021	\$20,300

Administration of Public Defense Services:

The City of Spokane Valley contracts for public defense services exclusively with the Spokane County Public Defender's Office, which employs full-time staff attorneys, investigators, and support staff. Employees are compensated at parity with Spokane County Prosecuting Attorney Office employees.

The City has adopted local public defense standards by resolution (Resolution No. 15-006), and requires that all attorneys assigned to represent defendants in municipal cases to attend at least seven hours of public defense training annually.

2019 Statistics

Amount spent on public defense	\$727,694.00
Amount spent per capita	\$7.16
City misdemeanor cases filed	2,098
Total misdemeanors per 1,000 population	20.6
Number of cases assigned to counsel	1,675

Use of State Funds:

The City of Spokane Valley used 2021 state grant funds to add addition defense attorneys to ensure public defense caseloads are within set standards.

City of Sunnyside

2019 Population	16,289
Percent Below Poverty Level 2016-2020	19.2%
Estimated Median Household Income 2016-2020	\$40,766
Competitive Grant awarded for use in 2021	\$60,000

Administration of Public Defense Services:

The City of Sunnyside administers public defense through a contract system to represent indigent defendants. Four attorneys are contracted with the City to provide these services. Counsel is also provided at all in- and out-of-custody first appearance hearings.

The City has adopted a public defense standards ordinance (Chapter 2.42), which requires attorneys to meet training, supervision, monitoring and evaluation standards set by the Washington State Bar Association and the Washington State Defender Association.

2019 Statistics

Amount spent on public defense	no data
Amount spent per capita	#VALUE!
City misdemeanor cases filed	975
Total misdemeanors per 1,000 population	59.9
Number of cases assigned to counsel	no data

Use of State Funds:

The City of Sunnyside utilized its allocated 2021 RCW 10.101 for reimbursing public defender training, expert evaluations for sentencing purposes, and social work services to assist public defense clients. The City reported that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, its original intent to incorporate a public defense coordinator into its system was reallocated to additional social work services.

City of Tacoma

2019 Population	216,556
Percent Below Poverty Level 2016-2020	13.8%
Estimated Median Household Income 2016-2020	\$64,457
Competitive Grant awarded for use in 2021	\$50,000

Administration of Public Defense Services:

The City of Tacoma delivers public defense representation through an interlocal agreement with the Pierce County Department of Assigned Counsel (DAC), the county government-based public defender agency. DAC employees receive salary and benefits in parity with the Pierce County Prosecuting Attorney Office employees. The agency contracts with outside attorneys for conflict counsel and provides investigative services through a panel of pre-approved investigators.

Pierce County has adopted public defense standards by resolution (Resolution No. 39076) that is followed in DAC's public defense representation in Tacoma Municipal Court. The public defense attorneys are required to attend seven hours of OPD-approved training annually.

2019 Statistics

Amount spent on public defense	\$4,104,018.00
Amount spent per capita	\$18.95
City misdemeanor cases filed	3,986
Total misdemeanors per 1,000 population	18.4
Number of cases assigned to counsel	2,330

Use of State Funds:

Tacoma used its state grant funds in 2021 to help fund staff salaries and benefits for providing indigent defense representation at preliminary appearance calendars.

City of Tukwila

2019 Population	21,292
Percent Below Poverty Level 2016-2020	14.3%
Estimated Median Household Income 2016-2020	\$63,053
Competitive Grant awarded for use in 2021	\$40,000

Administration of Public Defense Services:

The City of Tukwila administers contractual public defense services with one private firm as the primary provider. The firm provides the services of approximately four attorneys.

2019 Statistics

Amount spent on public defense	\$449,862.45
Amount spent per capita	\$21.13
City misdemeanor cases filed	807
Total misdemeanors per 1,000 population	37.9
Number of cases assigned to counsel	693

Use of State Funds:

In 2021, the City used state funds to increase attorney compensation; reimburse training costs; and supporting interpreter and investigation services for public defense. The City also reported utilizing funds to expand technological services to assist attorneys represent their client in virtual hearings due to COVID-19 pandemic precautions.

City of Vancouver

2019 Population	185,963
Percent Below Poverty Level 2016-2020	12.5%
Estimated Median Household Income 2016-2020	\$63,617
Competitive Grant awarded for use in 2021	\$22,500

Administration of Public Defense Services:

Public defense representation for the City of Vancouver is provided through a contract system. The city has one primary defense contract with a multi-attorney law firm, as well as contracts with additional firms to provide representation in conflict cases.

The City of Vancouver has adopted a public defense standards ordinance (M-3927). The city requires attorneys to attend approved annual training and report their non-public defense attorney hours.

2019 Statistics

Amount spent on public defense	\$1,168,482.39
Amount spent per capita	\$6.28
City misdemeanor cases filed	4,684
Total misdemeanors per 1,000 population	25.2
Number of cases assigned to counsel	4,029

Use of State Funds:

In 2021, the City requested a rollover of RCW 10.101 grant funds to the next year due to the COVID-19 pandemic interfering with operations. The City still maintains intentions of conducting a public defense system evaluation by a public defense expert.

City of Walla Walla

2019 Population	33,959
Percent Below Poverty Level 2016-2020	14.2%
Estimated Median Household Income 2016-2020	\$54,412
Competitive Grant awarded for use in 2021	\$12,500

Administration of Public Defense Services:

Walla Walla administers its public defense system through the use of contracts. The City contracts with three primary attorneys/firms to provide public defense services to indigent individuals. One attorney maintains a contract with the City to provide public defense services in the event a conflict arises.

The City of Walla Walla has adopted a public defense standards ordinance. The city requires attorneys to attend approved annual training and report their non-public defense attorney hours.

2019 Statistics

Amount spent on public defense	\$407,950.35
Amount spent per capita	\$12.01
City misdemeanor cases filed	no data
Total misdemeanors per 1,000 population	#VALUE!
Number of cases assigned to counsel	782

Use of State Funds:

In 2021, the City indicated RCW 10.101 grant funds were difficult to expend due to the COVID-19 pandemic interfering with operations. Walla Walla's original intentions were to fund to reimburse attorney training and contract with local social work services for connecting public defense clients to services.

City of Yakima

2019 Population	95,771
Percent Below Poverty Level 2016-2020	19.2%
Estimated Median Household Income 2016-2020	\$48,220
Competitive Grant awarded for use in 2021	\$93,500

Administration of Public Defense Services:

The City of Yakima delivers public defense representation through a contract system. The city contracts with two multi-attorney law firms to represent the majority of public defense clients. The City maintains an appointment list for a conflict attorney, who is compensated on an hourly basis.

The City of Yakima has adopted a public defense standards ordinance (Chapter 1.64). Contracted attorneys are required to attend approved annual training and report their non-public defense attorney hours.

2019 Statistics

Amount spent on public defense	\$1,141,770.00
Amount spent per capita	\$11.92
City misdemeanor cases filed	2,620
Total misdemeanors per 1,000 population	27.4
Number of cases assigned to counsel	2,493

Use of State Funds:

Yakima used its allocated state funds to ensure that public defense attorneys (9.5 FTE equivalent) were appropriately compensated to ensure caseloads comply with the limits established by the Supreme Court's Standards for Indigent Defense. The City additionally used funds to secure two to three attorneys to provide services in conflict situations.

Appendix A: Methodology and Data Reporting for City Reports

In preparing the city data reports, OPD used information submitted as part of each jurisdiction's application for grant funding as well as data from the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) [Caseload Reports](#). OPD contacted the counties and cities to clarify and augment data where necessary. City staff were gracious and generous with their time during this process, and the reports would not have been possible without their help.

Because of the individualized nature of Washington's local public defense systems, making comparisons is challenging. However, city defense contracts along with other data included in the funding applications submitted pursuant to Chapter 10.101 RCW yield important information about actual public defense practice in Washington.

2019 Data in the City Reports: The City Reports reflect public defense data from 2019. The Cities profiled on these pages applied for Chapter 10.101 RCW funds in 2019 in order to receive funds in calendar years 2020 and 2021. They submitted mid-year reports to OPD in June 2020, which reported 2019 data on public defense assignments and expenses.

Counting Cases and Expenses: The processes used for calculating public defense caseloads vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. There is no standard method; systems differ, sometimes even within individual jurisdictions. Some jurisdictions report their case numbers based on "payment points" or weighted "credits" rather than individual cases. This means that a single case may constitute a higher or lower amount of case credits.

Discrepancies in Data: In comparing case filings with public defense appointments, it is important to keep in mind that these figures are reported from different sources, and may have limitations for purposes of identifying public defense appointment rates. All case filings are based on data contained in the Caseload Reports and reflect cases filed in courts in the stated year. However, public defense attorneys may be appointed to cases that were filed in previous years. Public defense appointments may also apply to situations that do not necessarily reflect new case filings, such as representation of a witness, or representing a client who had been on warrant status for an extended period.

The number of filings in District and Municipal Courts may be overrepresentations of the number of actual cases stemming from the same factual basis due to the courts' case management system. In that system, charges are organized by three categories: DUI, other traffic offenses, and non-traffic offenses. Therefore, cases containing charges from more than one category may be counted as multiple filings.

Appendix B: Glossary for City Reports

CITY PROFILE

2019 population: Total city population as reported in the Washington State Office of Financial Management April 1, 2020 - [Population of Cities, Towns, and Counties publication](#).

Percent below poverty level: Percent of city population below the federal poverty level as reported by the [U.S. Census Bureau – S1701](#). (5-year estimate: 2016 - 2020)

Median household income: Median household income as reported by the [U.S. Census Bureau – S1901](#). (5-year estimate: 2016 - 2020)

2021 Competitive Grant Award: The city's grant funding from the state as determined through a competitive application process pursuant to [RCW 10.101.080](#). The cities received distributions in January 2021 and were used during calendar year 2021.

I. 2019 Statistics

1. Amount spent for public defense: The city-reported total dollar amount spent for public defense representation during 2019, including any Chapter 10.101 RCW grant funds.
2. Amount spent per capita: The city-reported total dollar amount spent for public defense representation divided by the total city population. **Caution:** The amount spent per capita is not directly comparable city to city. This per capita amount is influenced by a number of variables, including geography, the number of cases filed, the number of major cases filed, local attorney availability, the number of attorneys practicing in the city, the city's poverty rate and case filing rates.
3. City misdemeanor cases filed: The number of new (non-probation violation) Municipal Court cases filed during 2019 as reported in [Courts of Limited Jurisdiction 2019 Annual Caseload Report](#).
4. Total city misdemeanor cases per 1,000 population: The total number of new misdemeanor cases filed during 2019 divided by the city population as expressed in thousands.
5. Number of cases assigned to counsel by city: The city-reported number of new Municipal Court cases assigned to public defense counsel during 2019.