

# INTRODUCTION AND VISION

# SECTION

# A



# CONTENTS

<b>INTRODUCTION</b> .....	<b>1</b>
County Context.....	1
<b>2045 VISION</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>FRAMEWORK</b> .....	<b>10</b>
Public Involvement.....	10
What is the Comprehensive Plan?.....	12
Plan Contents.....	13
Implementation .....	13
<b>COUNTY PROFILE</b> .....	<b>14</b>
Population .....	14
<b>PLACE</b> .....	<b>18</b>
<b>KEY CHALLENGES</b> .....	<b>19</b>
<b>CLIMATE ELEMENT</b> .....	<b>21</b>
<b>DEFINITIONS</b> .....	<b>22</b>
Scope .....	22
Interpretations.....	22
<b>ATTACHMENTS</b> .....	<b>23</b>

## TABLE

Table 1 Number of permanent residents in San Juan County by Island, 2020 & Projected 2045 ..... 15

## FIGURES

Figure 1 Population in San Juan County and Washington State, 2023 ..... 14  
Figure 2 Age Breakdown in San Juan County and Washington State, 2023..... 15  
Figure 3 Race and Hispanic Origin in San Juan County and Washington State, 2023 ..... 17

## ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 GMA Planning Goals ..... 23  
Attachment 2 Map of San Juan County, 2020 ..... 25

# INTRODUCTION

The San Juan County Comprehensive Plan (Plan) is the County's principal planning document, guiding future growth and development while preserving the unique character of the islands. Prepared to comply with the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA), the Plan addresses key challenges and opportunities related to land use, housing, transportation, economic development, natural resources, and environmental stewardship. It serves as a roadmap for making informed decisions that maintain the quality of life for residents and visitors alike.

The Plan's goals and policies establish a framework for guiding development regulations, programs, and related plans over a 20-year planning period. At its core is the 2045 Vision, developed collaboratively by the community, which guides the Plan elements and helps shape a sustainable future for San Juan County.

This Introduction section provides an overview of the Comprehensive Plan's purpose and organization, summarizing key themes and how they inform the Plan's content. It includes the Vision, planning framework, components of the Comprehensive Plan, County profile, key challenges, and information about the new Climate Element. Readers will gain an understanding of why the Plan is necessary, how it was developed, and how it will be used to shape the future of the County.

## County Context

San Juan County is part of an archipelago in northwest Washington State, situated in the Salish Sea. The County's population is approximately 18,000 permanent residents, but the number significantly increases during the spring and summer due to seasonal residents and visitors. Access to the islands is primarily by Washington State Ferries, private boats, and air travel. The ferries serve the four most populated islands: San Juan, Orcas, Lopez, and Shaw. The County's only incorporated town is Friday Harbor, with additional population centers in the two urban growth areas, Eastsound and Lopez Village, as well as rural hamlets, activity centers, and master-planned resorts. Residents and visitors are drawn to the County's rural charm, scenic landscapes, and abundant recreational opportunities, including beaches, forests, and marine wildlife viewing.

## 2045 VISION

The San Juan County Vision portrays the near future as the community aspires for it to be. The Vision is a statement of values that guide the goals and policies of each *Plan* element.

Through extensive workshopping and deliberation, the community collectively shaped the Vision by identifying the nature of essential aspects of life in the San Juan Islands. The world is not the same today as it was in 1999 when the San Juan Islands community and the County created the first Vision statement. The original Vision remains largely true to the San Juan Islands' spirit and character, thanks to the hard work and countless hours the community invested in creating the document. However, when reflecting on this original Vision in 2017, the community realized that life has adjusted course as new factors have entered into the conversation. We know more about the effects of human action on climate change. We are more aware of our limited resources. We recognize that there are underrepresented voices in the community that need to be amplified. Technology ever increases the speed of and capacity for communication. Participants noticed where the Vision excluded some members of the community and took steps to adjust the language to better represent the true make-up of the Islands.

The County and community revised the Vision over a 10-month process between August 2017 and May 2018, nearly 20 years since the last revision. The outcome of this process is a 2045 Vision based on the original statement that reflects the community's goals, desires, and needs.

## 2045 VISION

### **PREAMBLE**

WE THE PEOPLE, citizens of San Juan County, value our healthy natural environment, vibrant and diverse community, self-sufficiency, interdependence, privacy, personal freedom, independence, and stewardship of our common resources. These rural islands are an extraordinary treasure: as a community bound together by these shared values, we declare our commitment to work towards this vision of the San Juan Islands.



Photo: Barbara Marrett

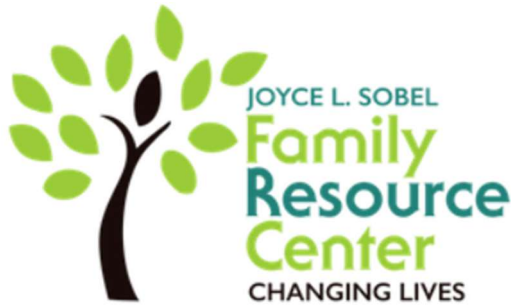


Photo: Deborah Hoskinson

## COMMUNITY

We envision a community that is primarily rural, made up of islands of varying character, each with its own unique qualities. The islands are places of peace and mutual tolerance, where people of differing backgrounds and beliefs respect each other's dignity, privacy, and freedoms.

We communicate effectively and openly and work together toward goals identified as being for the common good. We foster a sense of neighborliness, of self-sufficiency, and community pride that has long been a part of our island character.



### ***BASIC HUMAN NEEDS***

Our islands are places where people are safe, day and night. The drinking water supply is clean, adequate, and conserved as a vital resource. Health care and help in time of need are accessible and affordable. Making a life here is not limited by lack of access to basic human needs.



### ***GOVERNANCE***

We are self-governed by informed citizens. We are represented by elected officials who conduct the activities of government in an ethical, fair, impartial, responsive and open manner that recognizes the independent, self-reliant nature of its people. Our elected officials and government institutions lead, communicate and collaborate with regional partners in areas of mutual interest.



Our government institutions balance responsibility with resources and costs, consolidate services where practical, manage prudently, provide reliable data, are service-oriented, and perform in a timely manner.

Photo: San Juan County Visitors Bureau



### ***HOUSING***

Adequate, safe, affordable and stable housing helps our community thrive. There are diverse housing types and we use innovative strategies to meet the various housing needs of our community.



Photo: Slater Moore

### ***EDUCATION***

Learning is a continuing lifelong process that is encouraged and aided by the community. A partnership of families and community creates a supportive and challenging educational environment founded on academic excellence and artistic expression. This environment produces ethical, self-directed, compassionate, responsible world citizens, alive with the love of learning.



Photo: Jim Maya



Photo: Thomas Noland



Photo: The Exchange

### ***NATURAL ENVIRONMENT***

Our islands and marine waters have exceptional natural beauty and healthy, diverse ecosystems that are pollution-free. The air is fresh and clean, the water quality is excellent, and the soil is uncontaminated. As careful stewards of these islands and waters, we conserve resources, preserve open space, and take appropriate action to assure healthy land and marine environments.

We recognize the integral role that forests play in the stewardship of our air, soils and water resources. The natural environment is central to the ecological health, quality of life, and the economy in the islands. Native plants, animals, and marine life of the islands thrive, and are identified, appreciated and conserved.

### ***ENERGY AND RESOURCES***

Our community strives for energy independence and zero waste. We use renewable energy, materials, and natural resources on a sustainable basis. Solid waste and sewage treatment are managed in an environmentally sound manner.



Photo: Monica Bennett



Photo: Thomas Noland



Image: San Juan County Economic Development Council

### **CLIMATE CHANGE**

Our community sets an example with its response to climate change. We prepare to address the negative effects in advance before they become crises.

Our community encourages voluntary efforts and enacts incentives and regulations if necessary to reduce our carbon footprint.

### **ECONOMY**

We support a diverse, resilient, and sustainable economy while respecting the natural world. This economy serves the needs of our community, and recognizes the rural, residential, quiet, agricultural, marine and isolated nature of the islands. Our economy comprises a wide spectrum of stable, year-round activities that provide wages that allow islanders to live, work, and thrive locally. We encourage new ideas and new technology for improving the quality and profitability of our goods and services. Communication systems support our economy.



Photo: Steve Horn

## ***AGRICULTURE***

The San Juan Islands have a rich agricultural heritage that remains culturally and economically significant. We invest resources to ensure that agricultural lands are preserved and to maintain and enhance agricultural viability. We recognize the integral role that agriculture plays in the stewardship of our soils and water resources. Diverse agricultural activities are essential to the health and well-being of our community, contributing to the social, economic and environmental fabric of our islands.



## ***TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION***

We have water, land, and air transportation systems commensurate with our island culture. Transportation plans carefully consider multimodal transportation and rural character. Expansion or construction of transportation systems, infrastructure, and facilities occurs only based on demonstrated local public need. Advanced communication infrastructure is encouraged.



Photo: Thomas Noland



Photo: Anchor QEA



Photo: National Park Service

### **ARTS, CULTURE AND RECREATION**

Our community nurtures the expression of its creative talents and supports diverse cultural and entertainment activities. Our cultural facilities such as libraries, museums, and theaters are focal points of activity and community support. Well-managed parks, trails, and shoreline access, where appropriate, provide islanders with recreation with due regard for both the rights of private property owners and the natural limitations of each site.

### **HERITAGE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

Our community is enriched by a strong sense of identity, tradition, legacy, and continuity, where past and present freely mingle. We recognize the contributions to our rural and maritime heritage made by indigenous peoples, explorers, and island pioneers. We encourage preservation of our heritage, historic sites, structures, and traditions for the enjoyment of all.

***OUR COMMITMENT: AS FORTUNATE CITIZENS OF THE SAN JUAN ISLANDS, WE COMMIT ourselves individually and communally to a future for ourselves and our children that reflects this vision.***

## FRAMEWORK

The County has the responsibility of planning for growth management. That is, the County must plan in order to meet the everyday needs of the anticipated future population. The goals and policies in this *Plan* directly influence development regulations, programs, and other plans that shape everyday life.

The *Plan* and its 11 Elements are key to maintaining life sustainably in San Juan County. All residents (and visitors) have need for housing, utilities and transportation infrastructure, capital facilities and services, and clean water and other natural resources. All are affected by economic development programs and land use regulations. Many human activities impact critical environments, such as shorelines and wetlands, which provide ecosystem services and habitat for wildlife. Many appreciate the islands' natural beauty and history, and therefore, have reason to value their protection and preservation.

Past trends show that population growth will occur in San Juan County at a similar rate as Washington State. The islands have limited resources and house unique and fragile natural ecosystems. The effects of climate change may be exacerbated by population growth, as growth requires new development and leads to greater greenhouse gas emissions. Planning for growth has never before been so imperative.

The County is required to comprehensively review and update the Plan as needed every 10 years per the GMA (chapter 36.70A RCW). It is essential to update the Plan periodically to integrate the state's forecasted population and employment growth, and any changes to state law.

### Public Involvement

The public played a key role in developing and updating this *Plan*. It was shaped by early and continuous public involvement. It is important to create an engagement process that is open, inviting, and transparent. The goal was to provide community engagement opportunities that were equitable, inclusive, and low barrier including both in-person and online engagement opportunities.

The public was involved in the development of the *Plan* Vision. The original 1992 Vision was revised in 2017-18 by members of the public who participated in pop-up studios, workshops, an online survey, and public hearings. The public engagement for the Vision informed additional 2018 workshops, in which the public helped established focus areas

for the *Plan* update. While revising the Elements and appendices, the Department of Community Development released multiple drafts of each for public comment.

Throughout the Plan update process, the County also hosted an online survey and a series of in-person engagement events to engage the public and gather general input. To increase accessibility, the online survey and the information-handout provided at in-person events were both made available in Spanish.

An online survey was launched on October 4, 2024 to gather initial feedback on a few high-level questions related to the comprehensive planning process. The survey consisted of seven questions, covering topics such as housing, economic development, transportation, and Urban Growth Areas. The survey was distributed through several channels, including a county-wide postcard mailing, the county website, a county press release, and social media.

The County along with the Otak consultant team held a series of public engagement events on Orcas Island, Lopez Island, and San Juan Island to help gather input for the initial steps of updating the *Plan*. These meetings took place from Tuesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> to Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024. A public tabling event and a public open house were held on each of the islands to provide residents multiple opportunities to learn about and give feedback related to the comprehensive planning process and the new Climate Element.

Across all six events on the three islands, a few key themes emerged. Residents want to see:

- **Affordable and Diverse Housing:** Community demand for various housing types to serve young families, seniors, and local workers.
- **Sustainability:** Preference for preserving natural resources and promoting eco-friendly materials, sustainable designs, and minimal environmental impact.
- **Long-Term Housing Focus:** Emphasis on year-round housing over short-term rentals to support residents.
- **Balanced Growth:** Desire to preserve natural spaces and provide more housing and job opportunities.

*The public played a key role in developing and updating this Plan. It was shaped by early and continuous public involvement.*

## What is the Comprehensive Plan?

The *Plan* aims to accomplish the 15 planning goals (Attachment 1) set by the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA). Local goals, policies, and land use maps based on the community's vision for the future and on assessments of current and predicted conditions are oriented toward the GMA planning goals. In addition to goals and policies, the *Plan* contains other documents such as technical appendices, official maps, subarea plans, and the plans of jurisdictions and organizations whose work coincides with the County's. New regulations, programs, and other plans should align with the *Plan*.

## Plan Contents

The *Plan* is organized into three sections, plus appendices and subarea plans.

- **Section A:** Introduction to the *Plan*, orients readers, provides the community's Vision.
- **Section B:** *Plan* elements, each of which contain an introduction and overview of each topic, and goals and policies. The *Plan* elements are:
  - Governance
  - Land Use
  - Shoreline Master Program
  - Water Resources
  - Housing
  - Transportation
  - Capital Facilities
  - Utilities
  - Historic and Archaeological Preservation
  - Economic Vitality
  - Climate
- **Section C:** Administration
- **Section D -Appendices:** Technical information supplemental to the *Plan* elements. This information includes budgets, relevant data, inventories, and analyses that inform the corresponding goals and policies in Section B.
- **Subarea Plans** to guide development in the unincorporated Urban Growth Areas and in certain communities that require planning tailored to their specific contexts.

## Implementation

The *Plan* is implemented by various parties throughout the County. It is used by the Department of Community Development to guide land use decisions and amend the development code. The Capital Facilities Plan includes many budgets used countywide for allocating funding for County facilities and services. Public Works uses the Transportation Element to plan for the development and maintenance of transportation infrastructure. The Housing Element informs and guides housing programs run by the County and in partnership with local organizations.

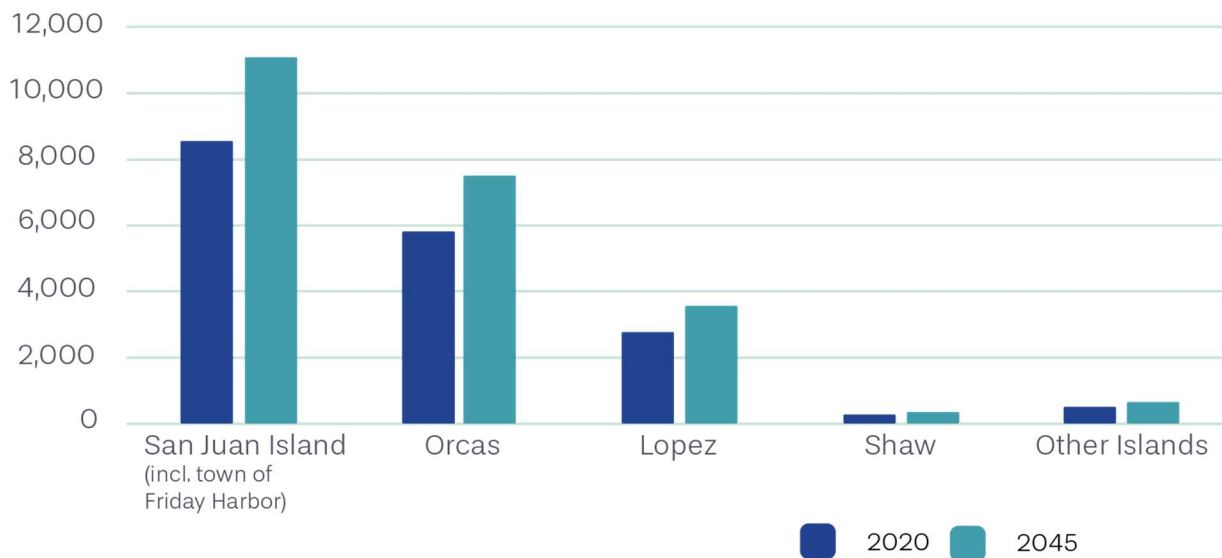
# COUNTY PROFILE

By identifying the County population and the location-based characteristics of the Islands, San Juan County creates and implements the *Plan* with appropriate context. San Juan County intends for the *Plan* to foster and maintain people’s wellbeing, and sense of community and place in the Islands.

## Population

In 2020, San Juan County was home to 17,788 residents. By 2023, the population had increased to 18,266, a 478 person increase. The four most populated islands are San Juan, Orcas, Lopez and Shaw. The islands are said to each have their own unique ‘feel’ shaped by the communities and the landscapes. According to the 2019 San Juan Islands Visitors Study, both residents and visitors are attracted to the friendliness of the locals.

**Figure 1**  
**Population in San Juan County and Washington State, 2023**



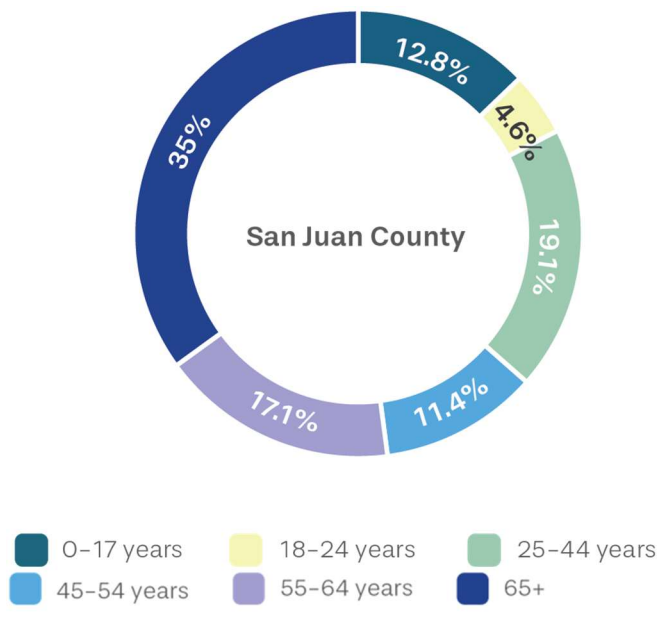
**Table 1**  
**Number of permanent residents in San Juan County by island, 2020 & projected 2045**

Island	2020	2045
San Juan (incl. Town of Friday Harbor)	8,541	11,051
Orcas	5,772	7,468
Lopez	2,737	3,541
Shaw	253	327
Other Islands	485	627
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,788</b>	<b>23,014</b>

Source: San Juan County Plan Appendix 6, Housing Needs Assessment.

San Juan County is a popular place to retire, and the population is skewed older than the rest of the state. Whereas the state median age is 38 years, the median age in San Juan County is just over 56 years. The median age in the County has been increasing over time, meaning that the population is aging. An aging population has economic implications, such as workforce availability, and affects the needs for schools, housing, and various services.

**Figure 2**  
**Age Breakdown in San Juan County and Washington State, 2023**

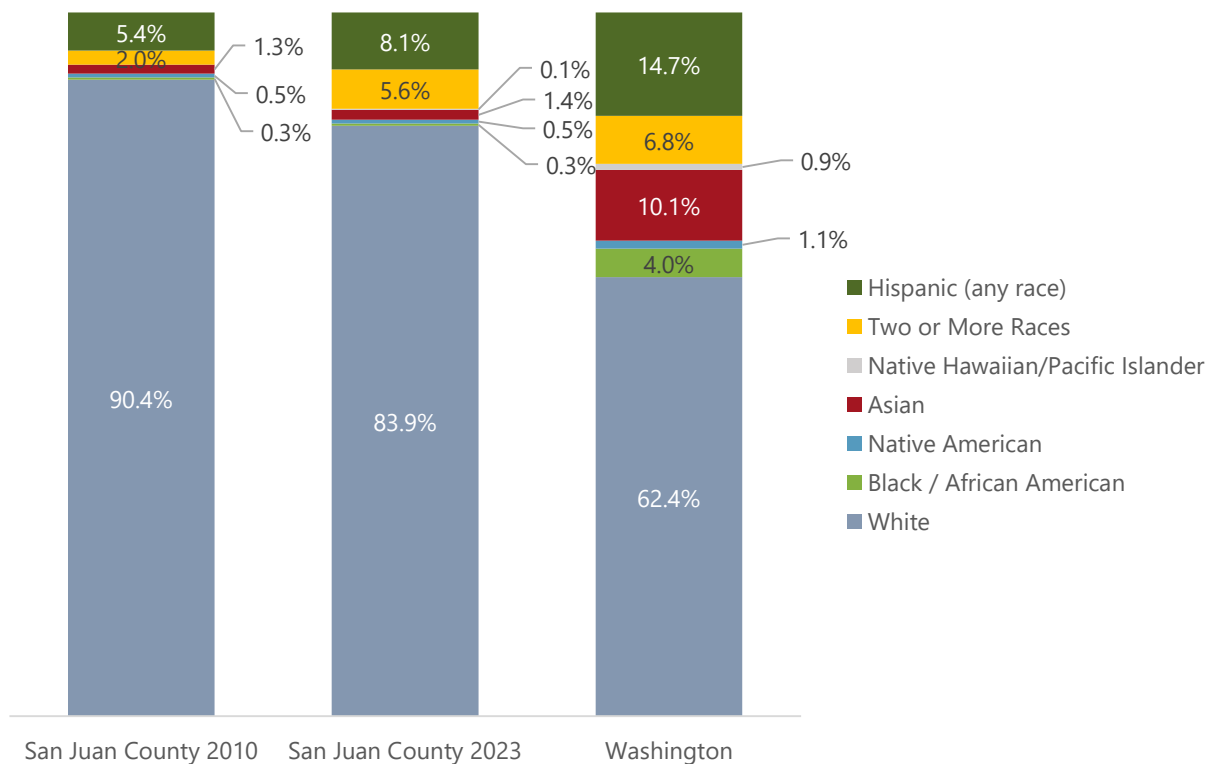


Source: US Census 2023: ACS 5-Year Estimates Table S0601

Every year, San Juan County receives a significant number of visitors, including tourists, service providers, second homeowners, and seasonal workers, artists and scientific researchers. The majority of visitors come during the warmer months of May through September. When San Juan County plans to accommodate growth, it not only plans for an increase in residents, but also anticipates more visitors.

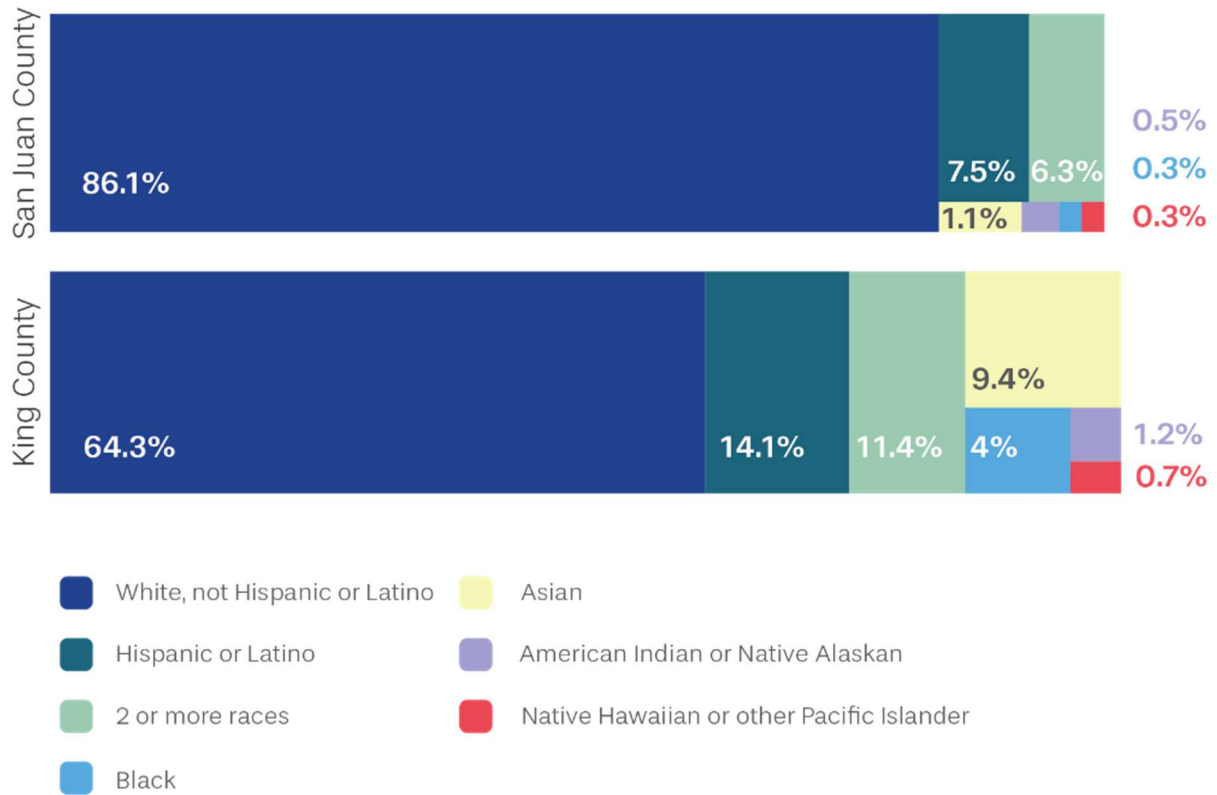
Racial diversity in San Juan County is limited when compared to other counties. San Juan County's population is 83.9 percent white. It has smaller percentages of all other racial and ethnic categories when compared to the state. Racial diversity increased slightly between 2010 and 2023. The Hispanic/Latino population is the racial group that grew the most between 2010 and 2023, with an increase of 2.5%. In 2010 the Hispanic/Latino population made up 5.4% of the County total and in 2023 it made up 8.1% of the total population. Other non-white racial groups have increased by tenths of a percent in the last decade.

**Figure 3.**  
**Race and Ethnicity in San Juan County, 2010-2023**



Source: WA Office of Financial Management April 1 Population Estimates

**Figure 4**  
**Race and Hispanic Origin in San Juan County and Washington State, 2023**



## PLACE

At 173.91 square miles of land, San Juan County is the smallest in Washington by landmass, though it has the greatest amount of marine shoreline with 410 miles. Seventy-two percent of the County's 621 square miles of total area are marine waters. It is only accessible by ferry, private boat, and aircraft. The County has ports of entry between the United States and Canada on San Juan Island.

San Juan County is known for its scenic landscapes and marine environment. Among them: rocky shorelines, sandy beaches, dense forests, sweeping prairie, arable farmland, and delightful villages and hamlets.



Spencer Spit State Park  
Photo: Barbara Marrett



Moran State Park  
Photo: Mark Gardner



San Juan Island Farm  
Photo: Barbara Marrett



Eastsound Urban Growth Area  
Photo: San Juan Islands Visitors Bureau

The climate in San Juan County is astoundingly varied. The surrounding landmasses and bodies of water affect the weather and lead to microclimates throughout the San Juan Islands. Some places receive many inches of rain annually, and feature dense, lush forest with fungi, mosses, ferns and big trees. Other areas are quite dry, scrubby and rocky, with small trees and even cacti. The Islands are teeming with marine and terrestrial life, with a variety of mammals, fish, birds, arthropods, plants, fungi, and algae.

## KEY CHALLENGES

This *Plan* addresses all GMA requirements. During the public participation process, the following key challenges arose as most important to consider during the 2045 planning period.

**Housing:** Stable housing people can afford is a foundational aspect of a strong community. In San Juan County there is a low stock of housing units for purchase or long-term rental, and many people struggle to find available housing that suits their needs. Housing affordability is another issue, particularly for those who rely on wage incomes. The median earned income in San Juan County is significantly *lower* than the state average; however, the median home price in the County is significantly *higher* than the state average. The cost of living is high in the San Juan Islands. San Juan County needs a variety of housing types that suit the needs of households of various income levels and life stages.

**Economic Diversification:** Rapid, unexpected changes such as a natural disaster, pandemic, or recession shake the foundation of the County's economy; as do long-term changes, such as industry shifts and climate change. Currently, the County economy rests heavily on tourism, and largely sources labor and skills from outside the County. San Juan County will be more resilient to natural and economic disruptions with a broad and diverse economy that utilizes the local workforce and attracts a variety of business types.

**Tourism Management:** Communities around the world are learning to manage tourism in order to promote balanced economies, high quality of life for residents, and protection of the natural environment from degradation. Tourism management strategies are needed to protect the quality of life and natural resources on the Islands. This *Plan* considers the San Juan Islands' seasonal population in most elements; however, other documents, such as the 2019 San Juan Islands Visitor Study, engage with the topic of tourism in more depth. A Tourism Master Plan is being developed. San Juan County also partners with other organizations to better understand and manage the effects of tourism, and to provide

outreach and education to visitors about stewarding the natural environment. It is the only County that has officially adopted the Leave No Trace principles. Visitors are actively educated in stewardship principles.

**Preserving Rural Character:** Growth and rural character can seem like contradictory concepts. Rural character is defined, in part, as a place where open space, the natural landscape, and vegetation predominate over the built environment. The County's full definition of Rural Character is listed in Element 2, Land Use. Growth, on the other hand, is linked to development as members of the County population need places to live, work, go to school, recreate, and carry out other life activities. With mindful planning, the County can face the challenge of preserving natural beauty, open space, natural resources, wildlife habitat, rural lifestyles and quality of living while accommodating the necessary development that comes with population growth. The most intense new development will occur strategically in the urban growth areas on San Juan, Orcas, and Lopez.



**Climate Resiliency:** Our community faces growing challenges as the global climate continues to change at an unprecedented pace. These changes raise serious concerns for human well-being, the health of the marine ecosystem, sustainability, and economic prosperity everywhere. We are at an inflection point in history and must make critical choices to build resilience and self-reliance amid cascading changes. In the decades ahead the social, economic and environmental reverberations amplified by climate change will not only impose challenges but also create unanticipated opportunities for our County. This updated plan prioritizes a diversified economy, systems resiliency, adaptation planning, and goals that remediate, sequester, and reduce carbon emissions.

*Throughout this Plan, key statements related to climate resiliency are marked with this icon:*



## CLIMATE ELEMENT

A Climate Element is now required by the Growth Management Act under Washington House Bill 1181, directing cities and counties to integrate climate mitigation and/or resilience policies into their periodic comprehensive plan updates. A new Climate Element has been created for San Juan County's Comprehensive Plan as part of the 2025 update process. The development of the Climate Element was led by the County's Department of Environmental Stewardship, in conjunction with the Climate and Sustainability Advisory Committee, an internal Climate Policy Working Group, and a consultant team. It is the result of a robust process of engagement and thoughtful input from these co-creators, as well as many community members, partners, and stakeholders. The process included a climate policy audit, climate vulnerability assessment, and several community engagement activities and touchpoints. A Climate Action Plan is subsequently being created to provide implementation strategies and actions to carry out the goals and policies of the Climate Element.

The Climate Element contains goals and policies that support Washington Department of Commerce requirements and reflects the Islands' climate action priorities. Goals and policies are organized into three categories: Overarching, focusing on integrating climate into county processes and engagement; Climate Resiliency, focusing on enhancing natural areas, vital habitats, and community resilience while addressing climate hazards; and GHG Emission Reduction, focusing on reducing emissions and per capita vehicle miles traveled locally without shifting emissions elsewhere, prioritizing benefits for overburdened communities. In addition, blue boxes at the beginning of the Climate Resiliency and GHG Emission Reduction sub-elements describe where additional climate policy can be found in other elements. All goals and policies stated in each Element of the Comprehensive Plan, and all codes and regulations adopted to implement these goals and policies, shall be interpreted and implemented in a manner to give greatest effect to avoid increasing climate change, and to best protect existing and future development and infrastructure from the impacts of climate change.

# DEFINITIONS

## Scope

See Chapter 18.20 San Juan County Code (SJCC) for the definitions of technical and procedural terms used throughout the Comprehensive Plan and SJCC.

## Interpretations

1. For the purpose of this Plan, all words shall have their normal and customary meanings, unless specifically defined otherwise in Chapter 18.20 SJCC. In general, words used in the present tense shall include the future; the singular shall include the plural; and the plural the singular.
2. All definitions which reference the Revised Code of Washington (RCW), Washington Administrative Code (WAC), and Uniform Building Code (UBC) are intended to mirror the definitions in these codes at the effective date of the Comprehensive Plan and SJCC or as amended. If the definition in this Code conflicts with a definition under state law or regulation, the state definition shall control over this definition.
3. These definitions are not intended to establish regulations.

# ATTACHMENTS

Comprehensive Plans are guided by the goals set forth by Washington State’s Growth Management Act. The following table lists the GMA planning goals in RCW 36.70A.020.

## Attachment 1 GMA Planning Goals

GMA Planning Goals	Description
Urban Growth	Encourage development in urban areas where adequate public facilities and services exist or can be provided in an efficient manner.
Reduce Sprawl	Reduce the inappropriate conversion of undeveloped land into sprawling, low-density development.
Transportation	Encourage efficient multimodal transportation systems that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and per capita vehicle miles traveled and are based on regional priorities and coordinated with county and city comprehensive plans.
Housing	Plan for and accommodate housing affordable to all economic segments of the population of this state, promote a variety of residential densities and housing types, and encourage preservation of existing housing stock.
Economic Development	Encourage economic development throughout the state that is consistent with adopted comprehensive plans, promote economic opportunity for all citizens of this state, especially for unemployed and for disadvantaged persons, promote the retention and expansion of existing businesses and recruitment of new businesses, recognize regional differences impacting economic development opportunities, and encourage growth in areas experiencing insufficient economic growth, all within the capacities of the state's natural resources, public services, and public facilities.
Property Rights	Private property shall not be taken for public use without just compensation having been made. The property rights of landowners shall be protected from arbitrary and discriminatory actions.
Permits	Applications for both state and local government permits should be processed in a timely and fair manner to ensure predictability.

GMA Planning Goals	Description
Natural Resource Industries	Maintain and enhance natural resource-based industries, including productive timber, agricultural, and fisheries industries. Encourage the conservation of productive forestlands and productive agricultural lands, and discourage incompatible uses.
Open Space and Recreation	Retain open space and green space, enhance recreational opportunities, enhance fish and wildlife habitat, increase access to natural resource lands and water, and develop parks and recreation facilities.
Environment	Protect and enhance the environment and enhance the state's high quality of life, including air and water quality, and the availability of water.
Citizen Participation and Coordination	Encourage the involvement of citizens in the planning process, including the participation of vulnerable populations and overburdened communities, and ensure coordination between communities and jurisdictions to reconcile conflicts.
Public Facilities and Services	Ensure that those public facilities and services necessary to support development shall be adequate to serve the development at the time the development is available for occupancy and use without decreasing current service levels below locally established minimum standards.
Historic Preservation	Identify and encourage the preservation of lands, sites, and structures that have historical or archaeological significance.
Climate Change and Resiliency	Ensure that comprehensive plans, development regulations, and regional policies, plans, and strategies under RCW <a href="#">36.70A.210</a> and chapter <a href="#">47.80</a> RCW adapt to and mitigate the effects of a changing climate; support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and per capita vehicle miles traveled; prepare for climate impact scenarios; foster resiliency to climate impacts and natural hazards; protect and enhance environmental, economic, and human health and safety; and advance environmental justice.
Protect Shorelines	For shorelines of the state, the goals and policies of the shoreline management act as set forth in RCW <a href="#">90.58.020</a> shall be considered an element of the county's or city's comprehensive plan.

**Attachment 2**

**Map of San Juan County, 2020**

