Moses Lake "Where rural living improves your quality of life"

2015 Grant County Health District Assessment Moses Lake Summary

In 2012 the Grant County Health District began the collaborative process of a Community Health Assessment. The assessment team recognized the need to describe each population in their community context using more than just numbers. An advisory group from Moses Lake, consisting of leaders from different sectors, was assembled to guide the data collection process and provide perspective on the findings. Further community input was accumulated through community forums and key informant interviews.

The Community Health Assessment Report is currently available on the Grant County Health District's website at granthealth.org.

Community Strengths

During the key informant interviews, residents were asked what are the best things about life in Moses Lake. Residents are proud that Moses Lake:

- Is a small town where you know your neighbors
- Is a community based on agriculture
- Has nice weather with a lot of sun
- Has a variety of recreational opportunities

Community Concerns

Interview respondents were also asked what are the major health problems of Moses Lake residents. The main problems identified are:

- Obesity
- Crime and gang activity
- STDs and Teen Pregnancy
- Access to medical care

GCHD GRANT COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT



Moses Lake Demographics

Population: 20,950

Age:

Median Age: 32

<5 years: 9.4% 5-17 years: 20.2% 18-64 years: 58% >65 years: 12%

Race/Ethnicity:

Non-Hispanic: 80% Hispanic/Latino: 20% Foreign Born: 10%

Language other than English at

home: 20%

Income:

Median Household Income:

\$47 535

Persons below FPL: 15%

Household Composition:

Average Household Size: 2.59

Educational Attainment:

Less than High School: 25% High School: 29% Some College: 22% Associates: 8%

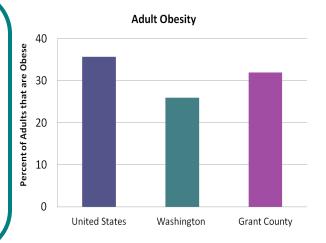
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Obesity

Obesity increases the risk of heart disease, high blood pressure, stroke, and type 2 diabetes.

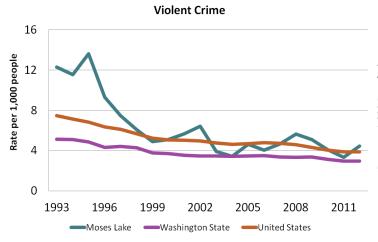
The adult and child obesity rate is higher in Grant County than in Washington State.

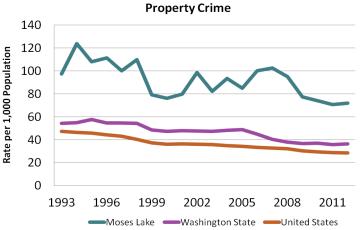
The City of Moses Lake and residents participate in a wide variety of activities to reduce obesity in the community. These include an adopting a complete streets ordinance, participating in community gardens, maintaining bike lanes and sharrows on city streets, planning and expanding the trails system, and investing in Parks & Recreation.



Crime and Safety

Crime and safety was a concern raised by community members. Though many residents said that they felt the crime was an issue in Moses Lake, they also felt that there is less crime now than there has been in the past. As the graphs below show, both property and violent crime have been decreasing in Moses Lake for the past ten years.





Sexually Transmitted Infections and Teenage Pregnancy

Grant County has high rates of STI's and teen pregnancy. Chlamydia has been increasing and is at the highest rate it has been in the past ten years. The Grant County Health Officer declared a Gonorrhea Outbreak in 2014 when cases reached an all time high.

In recent years Grant County has had the 3rd highest teen pregnancy rate in Washington State. During this period, births to teenagers was double the rate in Washington state.

To counter these trends the Health District leads the SHAPE (Sexual Health and Prevention Education) Coalition. This coalition meets quarterly at Grant County Health District.

