

**Excerpt from:**

Community Health and Airport Operations Related Noise and Air Pollution: Report to the Legislature in Response to Washington State House Bill 1109 (SeaTac Pollution Report)

[https://apps.leg.wa.gov/ReportsToTheLegislature/Home/GetPDF?fileName=Community%20Health%20and%20Airport%20Operations%20Related%20Pollution%20Report\\_c7389ae6-f956-40ef-98a7-f85a4fab1c59.pdf](https://apps.leg.wa.gov/ReportsToTheLegislature/Home/GetPDF?fileName=Community%20Health%20and%20Airport%20Operations%20Related%20Pollution%20Report_c7389ae6-f956-40ef-98a7-f85a4fab1c59.pdf)

**Poverty and Near-Poverty** (page 6 and 7): U.S. poverty thresholds define who is in poverty and are based on household income, the number of children, and family size.<sup>1</sup> A higher percentage of people lived in near poverty or poverty, defined as below 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL), in airport communities compared to Balance of County (Table 3). The percentage of people in near poverty or poverty increased the closer you are to the airport, ranging from 37.2% in Zone A to 16.1% in Balance of County.

**Table 3**

Poverty							
Income <200% of the Federal Poverty Level by Zone, 2014-2018 average <sup>2</sup>							
Age	Zone A: <1 mile from airport		Zone B: 1 to <5 miles from airport		Zone C: 5 to 10 miles from airport		Balance of County
	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Total	37.2%	11,500	31.7%	84,100	24.4%	148,800	16.1%
Under 18	51.1%	3,800	46.7%	27,800	33.5%	44,200	14.6%

<sup>1</sup> In 2020, income for a family of 4 at 200% of the Federal Poverty Level is \$52,400.

Higher than Balance of County  
 Lower than Balance of County  
 Not different from Balance of County

<sup>i</sup> See <https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/income-poverty/historical-poverty-thresholds.html> for thresholds.

**Educational success (children)** (page 7): Children in third grade in Zones A (43.4%), B (39.0%), and C (54.6%) were less likely to have met the third-grade reading standard than their counterparts in Balance of County

**Table 4**

Child educational success				
by Zone, 2018-2019 school year				
Indicator	Zone A: <1 mile from airport	Zone B: 1 to <5 miles from airport	Zone C: 5 to 10 miles from airport	Balance of County
	Rate	Rate	Rate	Rate
Met 3rd grade reading standard	43.4%	39.0%	54.6%	73.3%
High school graduation rate <sup>1</sup>	80.7%	72.3%	81.0%	87.7%

<sup>1</sup> Graduation from high school within 4 years

Higher than Balance of County  
 Lower than Balance of County  
 Not different from Balance of County

Note: Counts were not available for this measure.

(73.3%). The high school graduation rates for students in Zones A (80.7%), B (72.3%), and C (81.0%) were lower than the rate for Balance of County (87.7%).