BEARFACTS 1996 – 2006
Benton , Washington [53005]

Benton is one of 39 counties in Washington. It is part of the Kennewick-Pasco-Richland, WA (MSA). Its 2006 population of 157,549 ranked 10th in the state.

PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME

In 2006 Benton had a per capita personal income (PCPI) of $31,848. This PCPI ranked 11th in the state and was 83 percent of the state average, $38,212, and 87 percent of the national average, $36,714. The 2006 PCPI reflected an increase of 1.7 percent from 2005. The 2005-2006 state change was 6.6 percent and the national change was 5.6 percent. In 1996 the PCPI of Benton was $22,637 and ranked 11th in the state. The 1996-2006 average annual growth rate of PCPI was 3.5 percent. The average annual growth rate for the state was 4.3 percent and for the nation was 4.3 percent.

TOTAL PERSONAL INCOME

In 2006 Benton had a total personal income (TPI) of $5,017,697*. This TPI ranked 10th in the state and accounted for 2.1 percent of the state total. In 1996 the TPI of Benton was $3,074,853* and ranked 10th in the state. The 2006 TPI reflected an increase of 2.5 percent from 2005. The 2005-2006 state change was 8.4 percent and the national change was 6.7 percent. The 1996-2006 average annual growth rate of TPI was 5.0 percent. The average annual growth rate for the state was 5.7 percent and for the nation was 5.4 percent.

COMPONENTS OF TOTAL PERSONAL INCOME

Total personal income includes net earnings by place of residence; dividends, interest, and rent; and personal current transfer receipts received by the residents of Benton. In 2006 net earnings accounted for 72.0 percent of TPI (compared with 71.5 in 1996); dividends, interest, and rent were 12.6 percent (compared with 15.9 in 1996); and personal current transfer receipts were 15.4 percent (compared with 12.6 in 1996). From 2005 to 2006 net earnings increased 0.3 percent; dividends, interest, and rent increased 8.8 percent; and personal current transfer receipts increased 8.3 percent. From 1996 to 2006 net earnings increased on average 5.1 percent each year; dividends, interest, and rent increased on average 2.6 percent; and personal current transfer receipts increased on average 7.2 percent.

EARNINGS BY PLACE OF WORK

Earnings of persons employed in Benton decreased from $4,091,309* in 2005 to $4,076,046* in 2006, a decrease of 0.4 percent. The 2005-2006 state change was 7.7 percent and the national change was 5.7 percent. The average annual growth rate from the 1996 estimate of $2,472,069* to the 2006 estimate was 5.1 percent. The average annual growth rate for the state was 5.9 percent and for the nation was 5.5 percent.

**Note: All income estimates with the exception of PCPI are in thousands of dollars, not adjusted for inflation.*

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