

Facts

Concerning

Yakima, Washington

and

The Yakima Valley

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**COMMERCIAL, FINANCIAL
AND CULTURAL RESOURCES**

AUGUST 1, 1955

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YAKIMA, WASHINGTON

DONNELLY HOTEL

LOCATION:

Yakima is in Central Washington, 149 miles southeast of Seattle, 220 miles southwest of Spokane, 193 miles northeast of Portland and 165 miles southwest of Grand Coulee Dam. It is 60 air miles from the heart of the million-acre Columbia Basin project, 80 miles north of the Oregon-Washington boundary and 200 miles south of the Canadian border. County seat of Yakima County.

POPULATION:

(1955) Within corporate city limits: 43,000 (1940 population, 27,221). County population, 146,000 (1955). Figures of Washington State Census Board.

TRANSPORTATION:

Main line of Northern Pacific Railway and branch line of Union Pacific Railroad; U. S. Highways 410 and 97; Northwest Greyhound Bus Lines; Northwest Airlines (Transcontinental, Hawaii, Alaska and Orient); West Coast-Empire Airlines, serving 44 cities in Washington, Idaho and Oregon, and connecting with United, Western and Northwest Airlines. City-wide and suburban bus service. Eight scheduled motor freight lines with Yakima terminals. Unscheduled common carrier and contract service available.

CLIMATE:

Relatively mild and dry, with summer temperatures as high as 100 degrees occurring only 3 to 4 days per year. Night summer temperatures are cool with a rapid temperature drop after sunset. Mean annual temperature, 51.3 degrees. Normal annual rainfall, 7.22 inches. Days of sunshine, yearly average, 302. Wind velocity, 18-year average, 5.6 mph. (From U. S. Weather Bureau).

ALTITUDE:

1065 feet.

AREA OF CITY:

8.269 square miles.

TRADE AREA:

Radius of 90 miles with a population of over 262,700. (Yakima, Benton, Kittitas, Klickitat and Franklin counties). (1954 population estimates, Washington State Census Board).

MUNICIPAL AIRPORT:

The Yakima Municipal Airport has three paved runways, 5,000, 4,300 and 4,200 feet long. (Land purchases have been made to extend one runway to 7,500 feet). Two scheduled Airlines: West Coast and Northwest Orient Airlines; 48 combined airline operations daily. Airport has latest scientific equipment; U. S. Department of Commerce weather station and Civil Aeronautics Authority offices. Instrument landing facilities, approved by the CAA, in operation. Base operators offer flight instruction, aircraft and engine repair, crop dusting and spraying, hangar service, and charter service.

PARKS:

Sixteen parks, under the jurisdiction of the Metropolitan Park District, total 92.54 acres. Yakima Sportsmen's State Park near the Yakima River has 60 of its 200 acres developed.

CITY GOVERNMENT:

Incorporated in 1886 and now city of the first class. Commission form with mayor and two commissioners.

CITY STATISTICS:

Street mileage 154; sewer mileage 146.4; water storage capacity, 24,000,000 gallons with 1,250,000 gallons under construction; 21 cubic feet per second supply flow. Municipal water system valued at \$4,012,940.35. Paid fire department of 80 men; paid police department of 74. Health department headed by full-time Health officer.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS:

Three banks (Four offices) with trust departments in connection. 1954 bank debits \$675,509,485. (\$429,258,848 in 1945). Deposits as of December 31, 1954, were \$69,020,647. Three savings and loan associations with savings accounts as of December 31, 1954, \$31,329,326.

ASSESSED VALUATION OF MUNICIPALITY:

\$33,320,113 (50% of real value). (\$14,357,685 in 1945). 1954 levies on city property average, 44 mills.

BONDED DEBT:

City general obligation bonds outstanding, \$108,000. Water department revenue bonds outstanding, \$126,000 as of December 31, 1954. (Figures from City Finance Commissioner).

INDUSTRY AND BUSINESS:

Per capita income City of Yakima \$1,703. Per capita income Yakima County \$1,362. There are 937 retail stores, 260 wholesale firms, and 170 industrial plants covering 50 separate industries in Yakima County with concentration on:

Assembling fruits for fresh fruit markets.

Manufacture of farm and hop ranch machinery and diversified metals processing.

Canning or freezing of fruits and vegetables; manufacture of growers' and processors' supplies and finished lumber.

Processing of meat, poultry, dairy products, animal by-products, and seeds.

Retail sales, City of Yakima \$95,111,000. County of Yakima \$158,469,000. Value of farm products Yakima County in 1954 was \$121,574,100. Payrolls in Yakima County \$64,987,215. (Excludes agricultural, government, and railroad employees).

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION: (1954)

Number of permits new building 470—value \$3,880,535; of these 264 new homes at \$2,868,675; Number permits building repair 647—value, \$631,828.81. Total \$4,512,363.81.

POSTAL RECEIPTS:

For calendar year ending December 31, 1954, \$705,297. (\$398,637 in 1945). Out of 40,000 U. S. Postoffices Yakima ranks 325th in size.

UTILITIES:

Gas (artificial)—Cascade Natural Gas Corp. Several firms also distribute bottled gas. Natural gas (pipeline being laid) service expected July, 1956.

Power and light—Pacific Power & Light Co.

Telephones—Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Co. with 25,619 telephones in service in 1955—(12,616 in 1945).

AUTOMOBILE REGISTRATIONS: (Yakima County)

Passenger cars, 46,100; trucks, 12,800; trailers, 4,700 licensed. (July 1, 1955, figure).

HOTELS AND MOTOR COURTS:

Twenty hotels and 42 motor courts furnish ample accommodations of all types and price ranges. Camp sites available at Sportsmen's Park.

NEWSPAPERS:

Yakima Morning Herald (daily except Sunday and Monday). Circulation 16,410.

Yakima Daily Republic (evening except Sunday). Circulation 19,157.

Yakima Sunday Herald (Sunday only). Circulation 32,328.

RADIO AND TELEVISION STATIONS:

Four radio stations affiliated with four major networks.

KIMA (CBS)—1460 kc—maximum power, 5000 watts.

KIT (NBC and ABC)—1280 kc—maximum power 5000 watts.

KYAK (MBS)—1390 kc—maximum power 1000 watts.

KUTI (Independent)—900 kc—maximum power 1000 watts.

KIMA-TV—Channel 29 (CBS, NBC, ABC, and DuMont). 15,000 watts, UHF. (Will be increased to 195,000 watts ERP).

One education channel assigned by FCC.

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES:

Yakima Public School system consists of 13 grade schools, including Hoover school for handicapped children, two junior high schools, a senior high school and a junior college. There are six parochial schools, two of them being high schools; two business colleges, and one trade school. Public school enrollment for 1954-55 term—11,385. Parochial schools—

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES (Continued):

2,045. Public school faculty 400 and parochial schools 60. Value of public school property \$7,710,330. J. M. Perry Institute of Trades, Industries and Agriculture, privately endowed, capacity 500 enrollees, 30 instructors. Also St. Elizabeth hospital school of nursing. Four dancing schools. Adventist and Lutheran and two Catholic grade schools. There are four schools of instrumental music. Wilson School of Music offers vocal instruction in addition.

HOSPITALS:

Three with a total of 394 beds. Includes St. Elizabeth, Yakima Valley Memorial, New Valley Osteopathic. The Central Washington Tuberculosis Hospital in Selah, 10 minutes from Yakima, serves six counties.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES:

Concert artists of national and international renown are presented by three organizations: The Community Concert Association, Greater Artist Series, and Friends of Music. The Ladies Musical Club offers programs by young Northwest talent.

The Capitol Theatre offers excellent facilities for road shows. Choral activity is supplied by the Camerata Club, the Yakima Valley Philharmonic Chorus, the Bel Canto Chorus and numerous barber shop groups as well as groups at the Junior College. The Yakima Valley Art Association offers art classes, and its affiliate, the Little Theatre Group, produces three excellent plays each season.

Excellent instruction in private schools, public schools, and adult night classes is available for dancing, voice, instrumental music, dramatics, painting, and ceramics. A number of clubs enable participation in almost any intellectual hobby. They include:

Yakima Camera Club
Pioneer Association
Yakima Association
Amateur Astronomers Club
Yakima Valley Movie Club
Yakima Valley Stamp Club
Yakima Rock and Mineral Club
Valley Historical Society

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:

Central Washington Architectural Society
Graduate Nurse Association
Music Teachers Association
United Marketers
Yakima Bank Unit; A. I. B. Chapter
Yakima Clearing House Association
Yakima Chamber of Commerce, Inc.
Yakima County Dental Association
Yakima County Medical Society
Yakima County Ministerial Association
Yakima County Osteopathic Society
Yakima Credit Bureau
Yakima Engineers Club
Yakima Junior Chamber of Commerce
Yakima Realty Board
Yakima Valley Bar Association
Yakima Valley Traffic Association
Credit Managers Association
Yakima Ass'n of Licensed Public Accountants
National Office Managers Association
Yakima Automobile Dealers Association
Yakima County Insurance Association, Inc.

WELFARE ORGANIZATIONS:

American Red Cross
Yakima Cancer Unit
Yakima County Welfare Department
Yakima Infantile Paralysis Chapter
Yakima Spastic Chapter
Soldiers and Sailors Relief
St. Vincent De Paul
Good Will Industries
Mental Health Society

Yakima United Good Neighbor Fund, includes the following:

Dental Clinic
Salvation Army

WELFARE ORGANIZATIONS (Continued):

Visiting Nurses
 Washington Children's Home, Branch Office
 Yakima Catholic Children's Bureau
 Yakima Day Nursery
 Yakima County Humane Society
 Boy Scouts of America
 Camp Fire Girls
 Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A.
 Red Cross

PUBLIC OFFICES:

City Government
 County Government

State Offices:

Apple Commission
 Fruit Commission
 Board of Prison Terms and Paroles
 Board for Vocational Education
 Department of Agriculture, Horticulture and
 Hops Division of Marketing and Marketing In-
 formation
 Division of Weed Control
 Division of Seed Inspection
 Department of Game and Fisheries—Two Trout
 Hatcheries
 Department of Labor and Industries
 Commission of Public Service
 Employment Security Department
 Highway Department
 Highway Patrol
 Insurance Commissioner, deputy
 Liquor Control Board
 National Guard
 Tax Commission, State
 Yakima County Extension Service
 State Fire Marshal

United States Government:

Army, Air Force, Marine Corps and Navy
 Recruiting Service
 Civil Defense Corps
 Civil Air Patrol

Department of Agriculture:

Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine
 Farm Home Administration
 Production and Marketing Administration
 Soil Conservation Service

Department of Game and Fisheries
 Department of Health Education and Welfare
 Federal Bureau of Investigation
 Department of Commerce, Weather Bureau
 Department of Justice, Lands Division
 Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation
 Department of Labor, Apprentice Training Service
 Internal Revenue Office
 Postoffice Inspector
 Social Security Administration
 Veterans Administration
 Selective Service
 District Attorney and Court

AMUSEMENTS:

Largest Auditorium (Armory) seats 3,000 people
 Four theatres with total seating capacity of 4,361; all
 equipped for Cinemascope, two with Stereophonic
 sound
 Two drive-in theatres operating and another
 proposed
 High School auditorium seats 1,625
 Two golf courses near city
 Central Washington Fair Grandstand seats 5,500
 Davis Field (High School athletic field) seats 4,200
 Parker Field (Junior College athletic field and
 professional baseball Class B) seating capacity
 4,000 persons
 Two public outdoor swimming pools; many small
 private pools.
 Tennis courts
 Riding stable
 Three bowling alleys
 One ice arena (Winter months only)
 One roller rink

AMUSEMENTS (Continued):

Automobile racing at Central Washington Fair-
 grounds during summer
 Central Washington Fair held annually (September).

YAKIMA VALLEY REGIONAL LIBRARY:

Circulation, 1954 of regional library was 723,807. Has
 12 community branches and three book mobiles
 making 134 scheduled stops.

CURCHES:

All leading denominations represented.

HOMES:

13,787, approximately 70 per cent owned by occupants

SERVICE CLUBS:

Rotary, Lions, Kiwanis, Exchange, Gyro, Active,
 Business and Professional Women's Club, Altrusa,
 Soroptimist, Optimist and Zonta

VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS:

American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Catholic
 War Veterans, Disabled American Veterans, and
 United Spanish American War Veterans

STORAGE CAPACITY:

With 17,000 car cold storage capacity, Yakima's
 "Produce Row" is third largest in U. S. Only New
 York and Chicago are larger.

IRRIGABLE AREA,**YAKIMA RECLAMATION PROJECTS:**

Kittitas Division	56,783 acres
Tieton Division	27,353 acres
Sunnyside Division	103,679 acres
Roza Division	72,185 acres
Kennewick Division	19,171 acres
Indian Service Project	137,703 acres
All others combined	46,415 acres

TOTAL 463,289 acres

PROPOSED PROJECTS:

Klickitat 45,000 acres

GRAND TOTAL 508,289 acres

**YAKIMA VALLEY AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION
VALUE 1954:**

(Farm Value of Production)	Total Crop Production
Apples	\$ 33,554,700
Livestock, Meat and By-Products	17,889,100
Hops	11,308,400
Potatoes	2,853,700
Hay	3,294,600
Mint	2,472,500
Seed (Alfalfa and Red Clover)	4,748,900
Peaches	2,054,700
Bartlett Pears	6,993,900
All other pears	1,690,000
Grapes, All	1,701,200
Apricots	1,483,400
Sweet Cherries	3,731,100
Prunes	1,330,000
Asparagus	2,321,000
Grain	4,112,300
Sugar Beets	6,208,407
Dairying and Dairy Products	6,413,900
Poultry, Eggs and Turkeys	3,256,200
Other Fruits and Vegetables	5,594,600

TOTAL \$123,012,607

**YAKIMA COUNTY, of the 3,072 counties in the United
States, ranks:**

1st in the production of apples, pears, and hops.
 5th in the production of cherries.
 5th in total agriculture production.
 6th in production of all fruits and nuts.
 8th in production of peaches.
 9th in production of plums and prunes.
 (Agricultural Census)