



TOOLBOX Resource Sheet

Greener for All: Reimagining Access to Parks

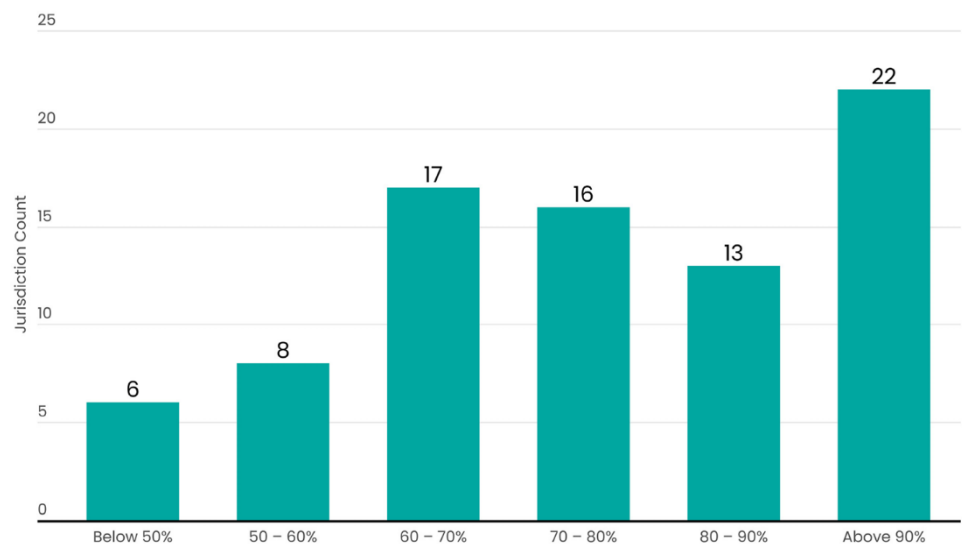
March 20, 2026

Background

Parks and green space provide significant physical and mental health benefits to community members and contribute to a high quality of life. Neighborhood and community parks, passive recreational areas and neighborhood tree canopy help provide these benefits, especially to people living in cities and urban areas.

PSRC's 2024 [Open Space Trends report](#) found that in the central Puget Sound region the percentage of residents in within a 10-minute walk of a park varies widely by jurisdiction. Given the regional goal for all urban residents to live within a 10-minute walk of a park by 2050, the region must continue to add parks in priority areas to improve park access.

Cities by Percentage of Population Within a 10-Minute Walk of a Park



Data source: Trust for Public Land, ParkServe Database, 2016-2018

Figure from PSRC's 2024 Open Space Trends Report, p. 10.

Resources from Session Speakers

Puget Sound Regional Council

- [Regional Open Space Conservation Plan](#): The Regional Open Space Conservation Plan maps the open space network in King, Pierce, Snohomish and Kitsap counties and identifies priority actions needed to sustain and enhance open spaces for the long term.
- [Open Space Trends](#): PSRC developed a report on trends in open space conservation and enhancement to monitor implementation of the Regional Open Space Conservation Plan.
- [Conservation Toolkit](#): The Conservation Toolkit provides a description of open space, rural, and resource land conservation tools to support local jurisdictions and their partners.
- Other resource are provided on PSRC's [Open Space Conservation](#) page.



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- [TPL's Communities of Practice](#): The Park Equity Communities of Practice is a national capacity-building and peer learning network that connects cities across the U.S. to advance equitable accessible to parks. With over 600 city stakeholders, including city officials, planners, and parks professionals, from over 180 communities, this network collaborates to develop policy recommendations, share resources, and drive on-the-ground change in park equity practices.
- [TPL's Park Equity Accelerator](#): The Park Equity Accelerator (PEA) is a technical assistance program that helps cities and communities build the research and evidence base, local capacity, and political will necessary to ensure all residents can enjoy the benefits of high-quality, close-to-home parks.

Parks Tacoma

- [Tacoma Community Schoolyards Program](#): The Trust for Public Land, Parks Tacoma, and Tacoma Public Schools are collaborating with schools and community members to redesign and transform the playgrounds at five schools in the Eastside and South End of Tacoma.
- [Tacoma Parks and Zoo Bond](#): In 2014, voters approved a Neighborhood Parks & Zoo Improvements and Safety Upgrades Bond that has profoundly enhanced public spaces across Tacoma. In April 2026, a [new Parks Tacoma Bond Proposal](#) will be on the ballot for voters to consider.

City of Renton

- [Legacy Square](#): Legacy Square is a visionary project designed to create an inclusive arts and culture hub that will be a lasting amenity providing entertainment, activations, and opportunities for our residents, businesses, community, and visitors for many years to come in Renton's downtown area.

Additional Resources

- [ParkServe](#) | Trust for Public Land
- [Park Planning, Open Space, and Trails](#) | MRSC
- [Planning for Biophilic Cities](#) (2022), PAS Report 602 | American Planning Association
- [From Recreation to Re-Creation](#) (2008), PAS Report 551 | American Planning Association
- [NRPA Research Reports](#) | National Recreation and Park Association

