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### SPORTS, B1

Aldridge says he's leaving;  
Blazers trade pick on draft night

### CLARK COUNTY, C1

5 do's and 5 don'ts  
to beat the heat



## STATE POPULATION ESTIMATES

# County No. 2 in growth rate

State figures list Vancouver  
2nd in net population gain

By **PATY HASTINGS**  
*Columbian staff writer*

We're No. 2! We're No. 2! Clark County is the second-fastest-growing county in the state, and Vancouver takes second place for net population gain. Clark County also continues to be second in terms of population density.

The county grew by 9,020 people between April 1, 2014, and April 1, 2015, an increase of 2.04 percent, according to estimates released Thursday by

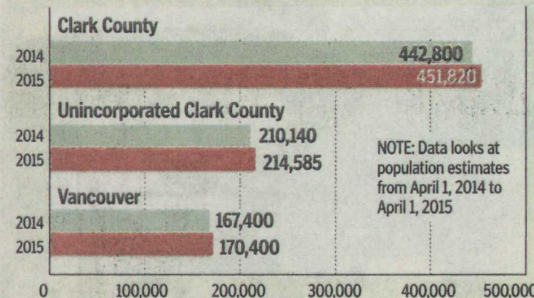
the state's Office of Financial Management. This is the county's biggest population boost in at least five years.

Vancouver gained an estimated 3,000 people over the last year.

So, what locales bumped us from the top spot? Washington's major metropolis, Seattle, accounted for almost one-quarter of the state's growth, gaining a whopping 21,900 people in the last year. Seattle is within King County, where the population density is estimated at 970.3 people per square mile, compared with Clark County's

POPULATION, Page A2

Clark County population growth, 2014-2015



NOTE: Data looks at population estimates from April 1, 2014 to April 1, 2015

SOURCE: State Office of Financial Management

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# Supreme Court rules for health law

Boehner says Obamacare battle isn't over yet

By **MARKSHERMAN**  
*Associated Press*

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court sent a clear message Thursday that President Barack Obama's health care overhaul is

# Population

From Page A1

718.3 people per square mile. Snohomish County, in Northwest Washington, had the fastest population growth rate.

Overall, Washington experienced its largest annual population increase since 2008. Clark County's growth rate of 2.04 percent outpaced the state's overall rate of 1.34 percent.

The increase is largely driven by more people moving to the state than leaving it. Migration into the state has been on the rise for the last two years, according to the Office of Financial Management, which uses population data for state planning and budgeting.

Population growth is dynamic, with people coming and going all the time.

The data show that people

## Did You Know?

- Washington's population is estimated at 7,061,400.
- The state grew by 93,200 people from April 1, 2014, to April 1, 2015.
- Clark County accounted for nearly 10 percent of that growth.
- Clark County makes up 6.4 percent of the state's total population.

are more attracted to metropolitan areas — which are centers of economic activity. Local growth is inevitably attached to our neighbor city to the south.

"When Oregon, especially Portland, is doing well, we expect Clark County to do well," said Mike Mohrman, the department's senior forecast analyst.

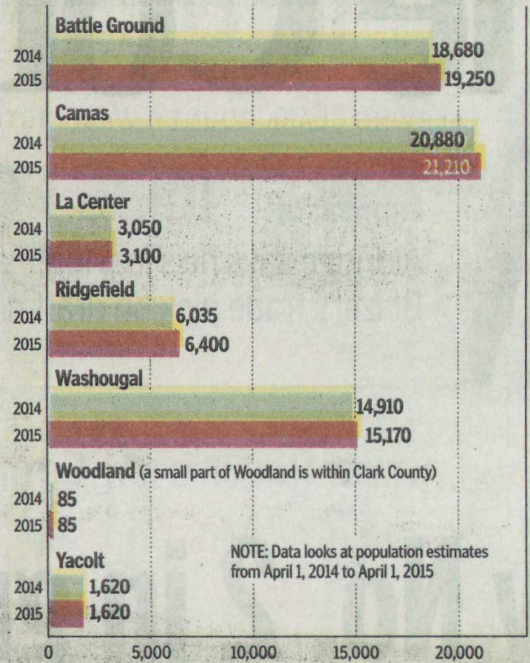
Every city in Clark County experienced growth, according to the estimates, except for Yacolt and the small part of Woodland that's within county boundaries; both of those areas' populations stayed the same.

Ridgefield continues to be the county's fastest-growing city in terms of the percentage of population growth, evident to anyone who's passed by the throngs of new construction there. The small city grew by an estimated 365 people, but that's a 6.05 percent gain.

Battle Ground also experienced a healthy influx of 570 new residents — a population increase of 3.05 percent.

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## Growth of Clark County's small cities, 2014-2015



SOURCE: State Office of Financial Management

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# Legislature

From Page A1

contingency."

House Democrats released their latest budget proposal Monday. The plan doesn't include any new taxes but looks for about \$350 million in additional revenue through closing or limiting several tax exemptions, a compromise encouraged by Democratic Gov. Jay Inslee.

Hill, meanwhile, introduced a bill late Wednesday looking to close two exemptions that would bring the state an additional \$125 million over the next two years.

The new Senate plan increases the amount it spends from its previous offer by \$367 million, with the largest amount — an additional \$157 million — going toward a one-time lump payment to teachers on top of legally required cost of living increase, along with additional money for early learning, child care and mental health programs.

Hill said the latest budget offer is a true compromise.

The Democratic-controlled House and Republican-controlled Senate have been locked in budget negotiations that have driven them into a second overtime legislative session. If they haven't passed a budget by mid-

# Mural

From Page A1

By the time hostilities ended three years later, about 36,000 American troops were killed or missing in action, and 103,700 were wounded, Keesee said.

"The reward was the



Commander James Mead, left, presents awards to Jerry Keesee, center, and Harold Olson for their work with the Richard L. Quatier Chapter of the Korean War Veterans