

# Capstone Project Report (Draft)

## Finding Alternative City in the Washington State

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### 1. Introduction

#### 1.1 Background

Washington, formally the State of Washington, is a state in the Pacific Northwest region of the United States. Washington is the eighteenth largest state, with an area of 71,362 square miles (184,827 km<sup>2</sup>), and the thirteenth most populous state, with more than 7.6 million people. Approximately 60 percent of Washington's residents live in the Seattle metropolitan area, the center of transportation, business, and industry along Puget Sound, an inlet of the Pacific Ocean consisting of numerous islands, deep fjords, and bays carved out by glaciers. The Pacific Northwest, often alluded to as Cascadia, is quite possibly the prettiest region of the United States.

#### 1.2 Problem

Seattle is the largest city in both Washington state and North America's Pacific Northwest region. Under the U.S. Census data released in 2019, the population of the Seattle metropolitan area is 3.98 million and ranks 15th-largest in the United States. It was the fastest-growing major city in the United States in July 2013 and remained in the top five in May 2015 with an annual growth rate of 2.1%. In July 2016, Seattle was again the fastest-growing major U.S. city with an annual growth rate of 3.1%. Seattle is the largest city in the north of the United States. So, are there nearby city around Washington state that similar to Seattle to live in?