

What Businesses Say About Doing Business in Kitsap County

Strengths Comments

| 2003 | | 2005-2006 | |
|---|------------|---|------------|
| Workforce/Labor Pool | 38% | Quality of Life | 38% |
| “high caliber labor pool” | | “quality of life” (several times) | |
| “well trained workforce in certain sectors, including electronics” | | “High quality of life. People who care about their community” | |
| “retired shipyard workers who want PT work” | | “We live here” | |
| “good ex-military workforce from PSNS and young machinists from the Navy” | | “Parks, recreation, low traffic, quality of life, affordable housing” | |
| “employees who are loyal” | | “nice place to live” | |
| “strong, stable, talented workforce” | | “Lifestyle” | |
| | | “country living, family environment” | |
| | | “water, trees, etc.; growing amenities” | |
| | | “nice place to live” | |
| | | “location and quality of life” | |
| | | “small town quality, lower cost of living” | |
| | | Surrounded by water, best county to have this business in” | |
| | | “choose to do business here solely because of quality of life” | |
| | | “family friendly; doesn’t feel urban” | |
| | | “It’s the Northwest pitch. Location and available activities” | |
| Quality of Life | 34% | Workforce/Labor Pool | 23% |
| “good standard of living and lifestyle” | | “talented employees” | |
| “tight knit community” | | “strong talent base” | |
| “quality of life” | | “creative people on Bainbridge Island” | |
| “business could be anywhere, so QOL is important” | | “good pool of talented craftsman to draw from” | |
| “overall atmosphere; quality of life; more rural, less hectic than Seattle” | | “employee base better in Bremerton – not having to utilize hiring agencies” | |
| “small town environment” | | “quality workforce; willingness to give back to community” | |
| “nice place to live” | | “good workforce” | |
| “outdoor opportunities, schools, small town feel” | | “employees are happy here – owners have been here a long time” | |
| | | “military workforce” | |
| Economy/Community Stable | 16% | Business Climate Positive | 16% |
| “fairly affluent community” | | “positively identified as a high tech center” | |
| “diverse income levels; stable – not leaving” | | “ federal tax advantages; streamlined permitting process” (county) | |
| “stable economy” | | “good people, good atmosphere” | |
| “economy strong” | | “military presence good for business” | |

Industries Represented

| <i>Industry</i> | 2003 | 2006 |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| Advanced manufacturing | 9% | 11% |
| Aeronautics and defense | 28% | 7% |
| Building and construction | 3% | 3% |
| Communications | 3% | 8% |
| Consumer services producer | 6% | 3% |
| Convention and tourism | 0% | 1% |
| Durable goods producer | 22% | 11% |
| Energy and energy utilities | 0 % | 1% |
| Finance, insurance and real estate | 0% | 1% |
| Government | 0% | 1% |
| Healthcare and pharmaceuticals | 0% | 3% |
| High end business services | 6% | 11% |
| Industrial goods | 0% | 1% |
| Other | 0% | 7% |
| Retail related operations (includes back office) | 3% | 15% |
| Technology/information | 19% | 9% |
| Telecommunications | 0% | 0% |
| Transportation | 0% | 1% |