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# **Snohomish County is Awarded Third Place in National Survey**

Award acknowledges county's significant efforts to improve service and provide effective government operations

**EVERETT, Wash., September 1, 2020** – This month, the Center for Digital Government (CDG) and the National Association for Counties (NACo) announced the winners of the 18<sup>th</sup> annual Digital Counties Survey. Snohomish County won third place in the 500,000-999,999 population category.

"Snohomish County is again ranked one of the top digital counties in the nation. The Center for Digital Government and National Association of Counties 2020 3rd place award recognizes Snohomish County for its best technology practices in areas of open government, transparency, citizen engagement, cyber security and operations. Snohomish County received the award for counties in the 500,000 – 999,999 population category based on its submission to the Digital Counties Survey. In the last three years Snohomish County has ranked in the Top 10 counties for technology achievement including winning 1st place in 2019."

Snohomish County received the award for its innovative solutions to the challenges faced by local government. The county's CIO and director of the Department of Information Technology, Viggo Forde, set out to change the culture of government technology and to utilize a more collaborative approach to addressing the various IT needs. Snohomish County adopted a comprehensive cybersecurity strategy to keep data more secure and protect the continuity of government operations. In addition, the county's annual Information Services Plan and Report is a model for other counties.

**2020** Award Announcement - <a href="https://www.govtech.com/dc/digital-counties/">https://www.govtech.com/dc/digital-counties/</a>

The Digital Counties Survey, conducted by CDG in partnership with NACo, identifies the best technology practices among U.S. counties, including initiatives that streamline delivery of government services, encourage collaboration and shared services, and enhance cybersecurity.

For the full list of winners, please visit: <a href="https://www.govtech.com/dc/digital-counties/Digital-Counties-Survey-2020--Winners-Announced.html">https://www.govtech.com/dc/digital-counties/Digital-Counties-Survey-2020--Winners-Announced.html</a>.



# Digital Counties Survey 2020 – Winners Announced

### www.govtech.com

The 2020 Digital Counties Survey, now in its 18th year, honors leading counties for programs that encourage government innovation and improved services to citizens.

## **About Snohomish County**

Snohomish County is the third largest county in the State of Washington by population and one of the fastest growing counties in the country. Snohomish County is home to the largest manufacturing facility in the world and is one of the top tourist destinations in the region. From the waves of Puget Sound to the ice fields of Glacier Peak, Snohomish County has diverse ecosystems, while also being home to a thriving agriculture industry and dynamic urban centers. Learn more at: www.snohomishcountywa.gov.

### **About The Center for Digital Government**

The <u>Center for Digital Government</u> (CDG) is a national research and advisory institute focused on technology policy and best practices in state and local government. CDG is a division of e. Republic, the nation's only media and research company focused exclusively on state and local government and education.

#### **About The National Association of Counties**

The National Association of Counties (NACo) unites America's 3,069 county governments. Founded in 1935, NACo brings county officials together to advocate with a collective voice on national policy, exchange ideas and build new leadership skills, pursue transformational county solutions, enrich the public's understanding of county government and exercise exemplary leadership in public service.