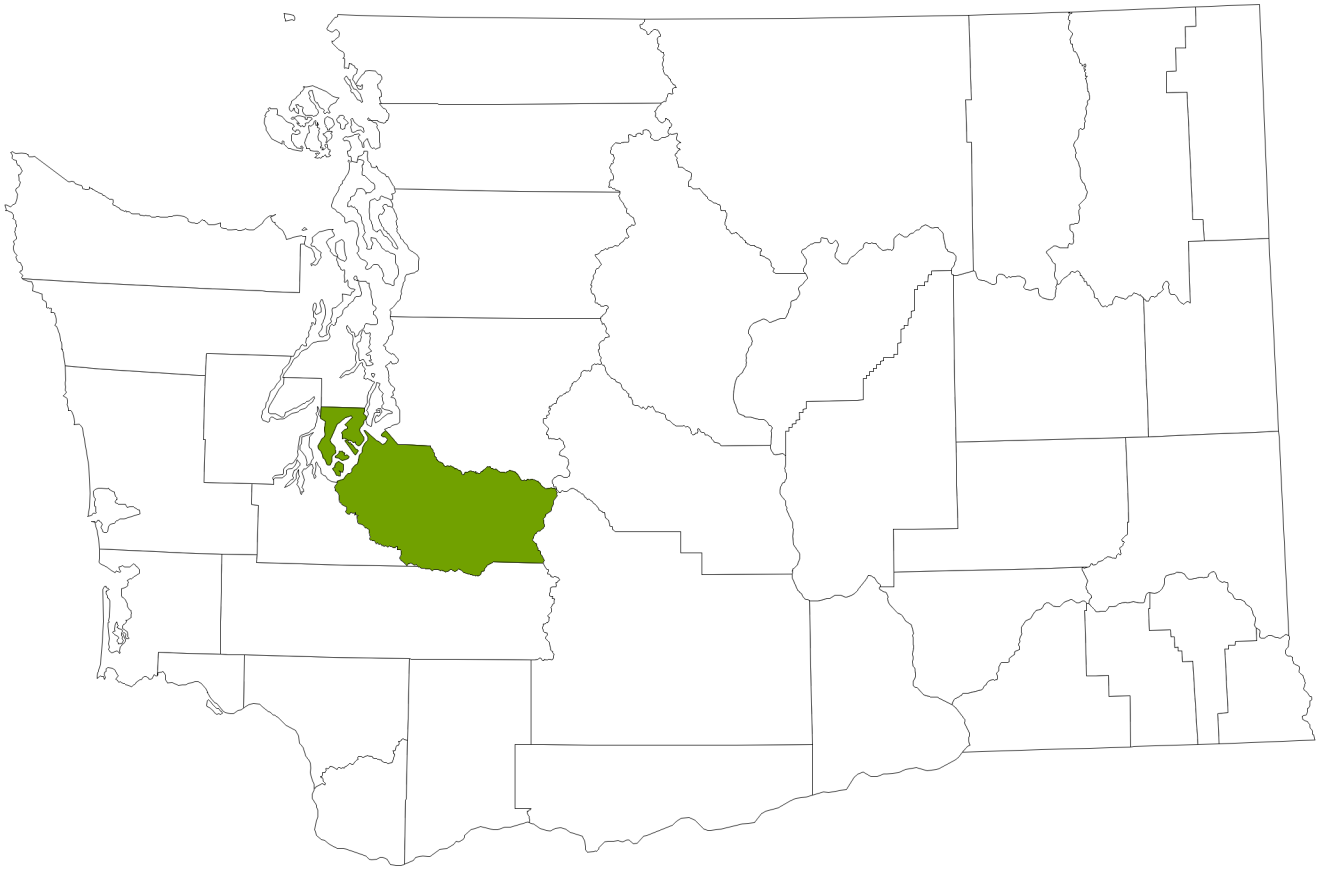
2026 Community Risk Profile Summary

Pierce County

September 2026

Indicators associated with substance use prevention and mental health promotion.
Presented at the State, County, and School District level for use by communities in directing their resources and in seeking additional funding.



CONTRIBUTORS
DSHS Research and Data Analysis Division: Grace Hong, PhD | Aaron Starks, MA | Stephen Leibenguth
In collaboration with the HCA Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery, Substance Use Disorder Prevention and Mental Health Promotion Section:
Kasey Kates, MSW, Policy and Program Supervisor| Sarah Mariani, CPP, Section Manager

DSHS WASHINGTON STATE Department of Social and Health Services

Washington State Health Care Authority

ABOUT THIS REPORT

This summary report has been developed for the Community Prevention and Wellness Initiative (CPWI) to assist coalitions in their prevention strategic planning. We have included data from your county, presented by school district, for the assessment of problems associated with substance use. This report is intended to serve as a starting point for your planning and assessment work. Additional data that can only be collected locally will help with the interpretation of the data and in other ways enhance this assessment process.

The Community Prevention and Wellness Initiative is a project of the Health Care Authority's Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR) in collaboration with the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI). The Department of Social and Health Services' Division of Research and Data Analysis is a key partner that leads the publication of this report and the associated data.

ABOUT THE DATA

The Community Outcome & Risk Evaluation (CORE) data set contains archival indicators (or social indicators) that are highly correlated with adolescent substance use, and the risk factors that predict substance use. There are currently 47 indicators, most of which originate from the Department of Health, Department of Social and Health Services, Uniform Crime Report/National Incident-Based Reporting System, and the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. The data are published twice a year on a public website, and reported at the lowest feasible geography level: state, county, school district/community, and locale (a geography that incorporates more than one school district when the base population of the school district is too low for reliable reporting). See https://www.dshs.wa.gov/ffa/research-and-data-analysis/community-risk-profiles.

The Risk Rankings table(s) and maps have been developed using the data from CORE and Healthy Youth Survey (HYS). School district-level and more detailed HYS data are password protected and require a data sharing agreement with the Department of Health. State and county reports are available to the public at AskHYS.net.

ATTENTION! HYS 2025, 2023 and 2021 were different from past surveys in several ways, so caution should be used when examining the long-term trends before and after the 2021 HYS:

- The COVID-19 pandemic likely influenced student behaviors and responses to the survey.
- There was a three-year gap (2018 to 2021) instead of the usual two-year gap - delaying the survey by a year changed the group/cohort of students being surveyed.
- HYS since 2021 were conducted electronically while previous surveys were conducted using paper and pencil.
- Results from the 2021 HYS showed dramatic changes compared to prepandemic trends, calling for cautious interpretation. The 2023 and 2025 data are beginning to provide a more complete understanding of adolescent health during and after the height of the pandemic.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Questions about this report or the Community Prevention and Wellness Initiative may be directed to the DBHR Training team at PxTraining@hca.wa.gov.

PIERCE COUNTY		RISK RANKING		RISK CATEGORY RANK		CONTEXTUAL INDICATORS	
School District	**Population: Age 10-17***	**Rank for Variable**	**Indicators with Data**	**ATMO Consumption**	**Consequence**	**Economic Deprivation**	**Troubled Family**
Bethel	15,408	58	22	Average	Average	Average	Average
Carbonado	101	.	3	No Data	No Data	Low	Average
Clover Park	8,116	61	22	Average	Average	High	Average
Dieringer	1,516	.	2	No Data	No Data	Very Low	Low
Eatonville	1,404	.	3	No Data	No Data	Average	Average
Fife	2,712	16	22	Low	Low	Average	Average
Franklin Pierce	5,973	76	22	High	Average	High	Average
Orting	2,337	.	3	No Data	No Data	Low	Low
Peninsula	7,200	14	22	Low	Low	Very Low	Very Low
Puyallup	16,536	24	22	Low	Average	Average	Low
Steilacoom Hist.	2,430	.	3	No Data	No Data	Low	Low
Sumner	6,919	.	3	No Data	No Data	Low	Low
University Place	3,524	38	22	Average	Average	Average	Low
White River	3,180	.	3	No Data	No Data	Low	Low

NOTES:

***** This is a 5-year average value.

This risk profile reflects the risk levels of this county as of September 2026. School districts with no high schools are not included in this summary. Please note risk levels and risk rankings may change over time.

The **ATMO Consumption** risk score is calculated from prevalence of Alcohol, Tobacco, Marijuana, and prescription Opioids use. The consequence risk score is calculated from school performance, youth delinquency, and mental health indicators. The overall risk ranking is not computed if either consumption or consequence score is missing.

A Risk Category Rank of "Very High" indicates the referenced School District Risk Score was in the top 10% of School Districts in the risk category.
A Risk Category Rank of "High" indicates the referenced School District Risk Score was in the top 25% of School Districts in the risk category.
A Risk Category Rank of "Average" indicates the referenced School District Risk Score was between 25% and 75% of School Districts in the risk category.
A Risk Category Rank of "Low" indicates the referenced School District Risk Score was in the bottom 25% of School Districts in the risk category.
A Risk Category Rank of "Very Low" indicates the referenced School District Risk Score was in the bottom 10% of School Districts in the risk category.

Review Considerations

1) To get an overall sense of risk severity for both consumption and consequence, examine the "Risk Percentile". It reflects what % of School District had a Risk Score LOWER than the referenced School District.
2) To ensure that the risk score is meaningful, examine the "Indicators with data" column. Risk scores based on few indicators should be interpreted with caution. In total, 22 indicators were used.
3) To consider other contextual information, examine the "Population: Age 10-17", "economic deprivation" indicator, and the "troubled family" indicator. Note the "Population 10-17 year olds" value may be greater than district enrollment as it accounts for kids not in school as well as those in private schools.

ATTENTION! HYS 2025, 2023 and 2021 were different from past surveys in several ways, so caution should be used when examining the long-term trends before and after the 2021 HYS:

- The pandemic has likely influenced student behaviors and responses to the survey.
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TACOMA PUBLIC SCHOOLS		RISK RANKING		RISK CATEGORY RANK		CONTEXTUAL INDICATORS	
School District	**Population: Age 10-17***	**Rank for Variable**	**Indicators with Data**	**ATMO Consumption**	**Consequence**	**Economic Deprivation**	**Troubled Family**
Foss HS	3,794	73	21	Average	High	High	High
Lincoln HS (Tacoma)	5,132	84	12	High	High	Very High	Average
Mount Tahoma HS	4,841	57	21	Average	High	Very High	Average
Stadium HS	5,063	65	21	Average	Average	Average	Average
Wilson HS	2,487	47	21	Average	Average	Average	Average

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A Risk Category Rank of "Very High" indicates the referenced High School Risk Score was in the top 10% of High Schools in the risk Category.
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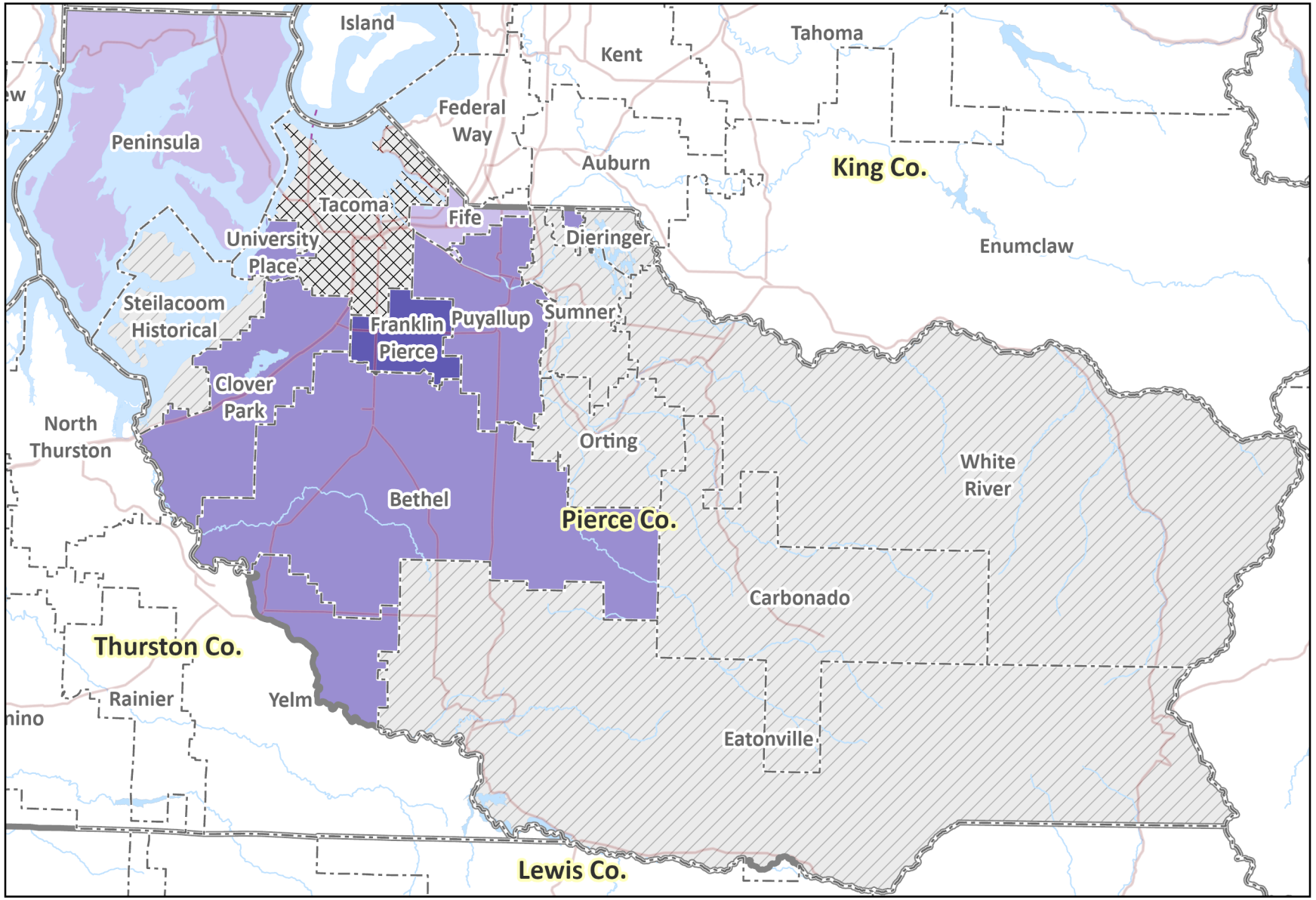
Marijuana Composite Ranking

by School District, Pierce County



Composite Risk Ranking

- Very High 90 - 99
- High 75 - 89
- Average 25 - 74
- Low 10 - 24
- Very Low 0 - 9
- No data
- *See HSAA maps*
- School Districts
- Counties
- Highways and Major Roads
- Water Bodies

DATA NOTES: The percentile of the composite risk scores. The composite risk scores were calculated using standardized indicators in marijuana consumption and consequence. Based on 2025 HYS data. CARTOGRAPHY: Steve Leibenguth.

SOURCE: DSHS Research and Data Analysis, Community Outcome and Risk Evaluation Geographic Information System (COREGIS).

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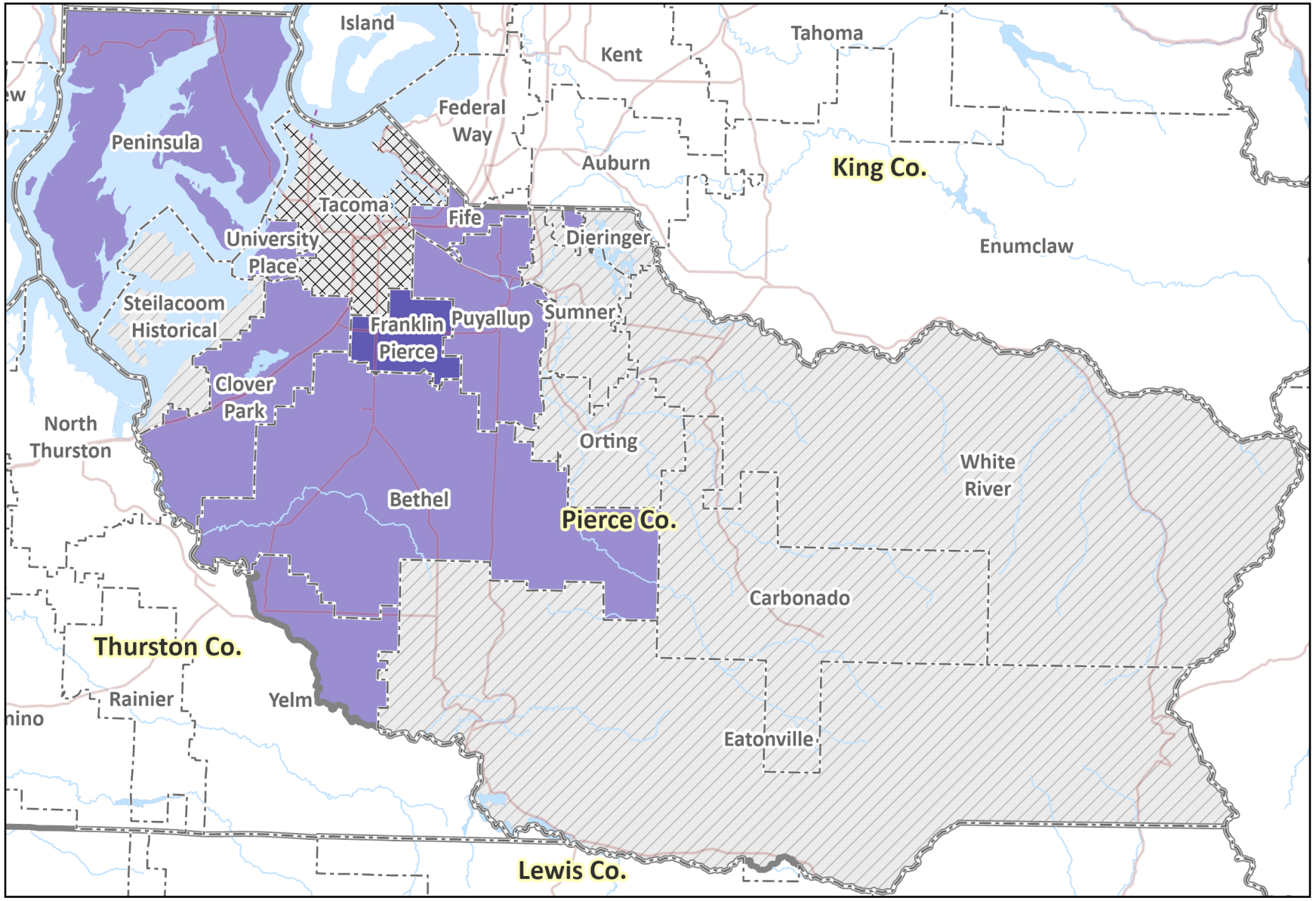

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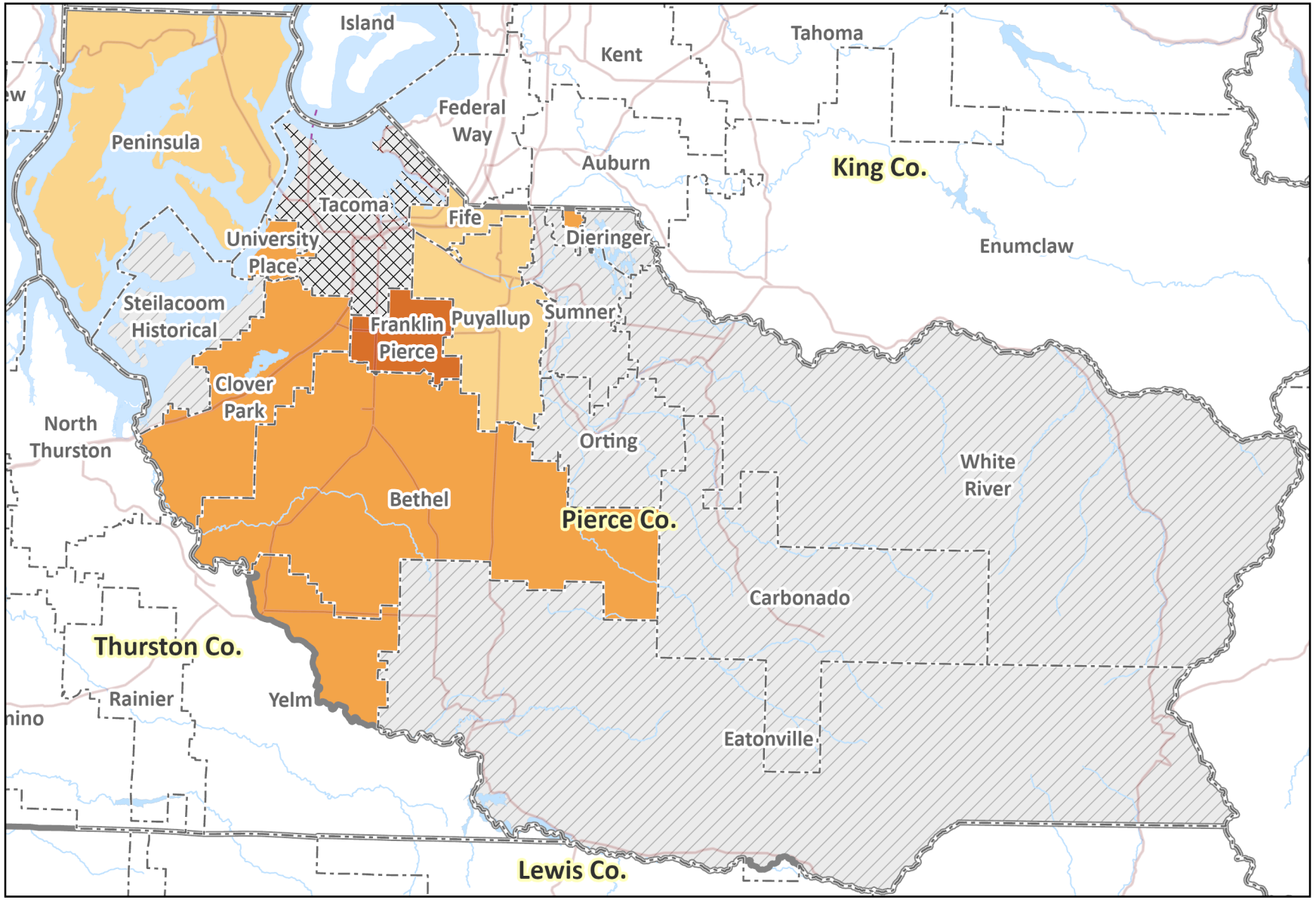
Alcohol, Tobacco, Marijuana and Prescription Opioids Composite Ranking

by School District, Pierce County



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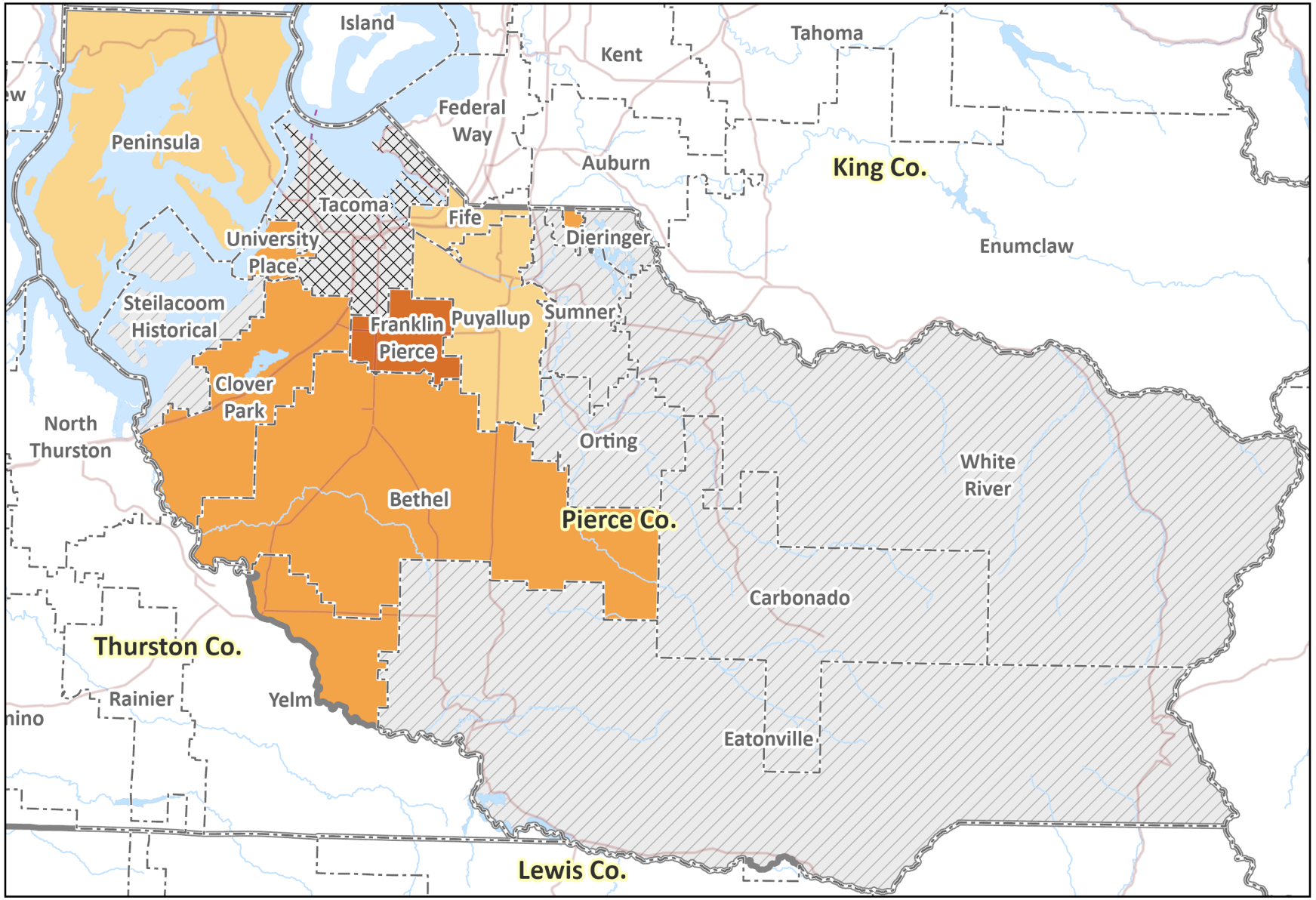

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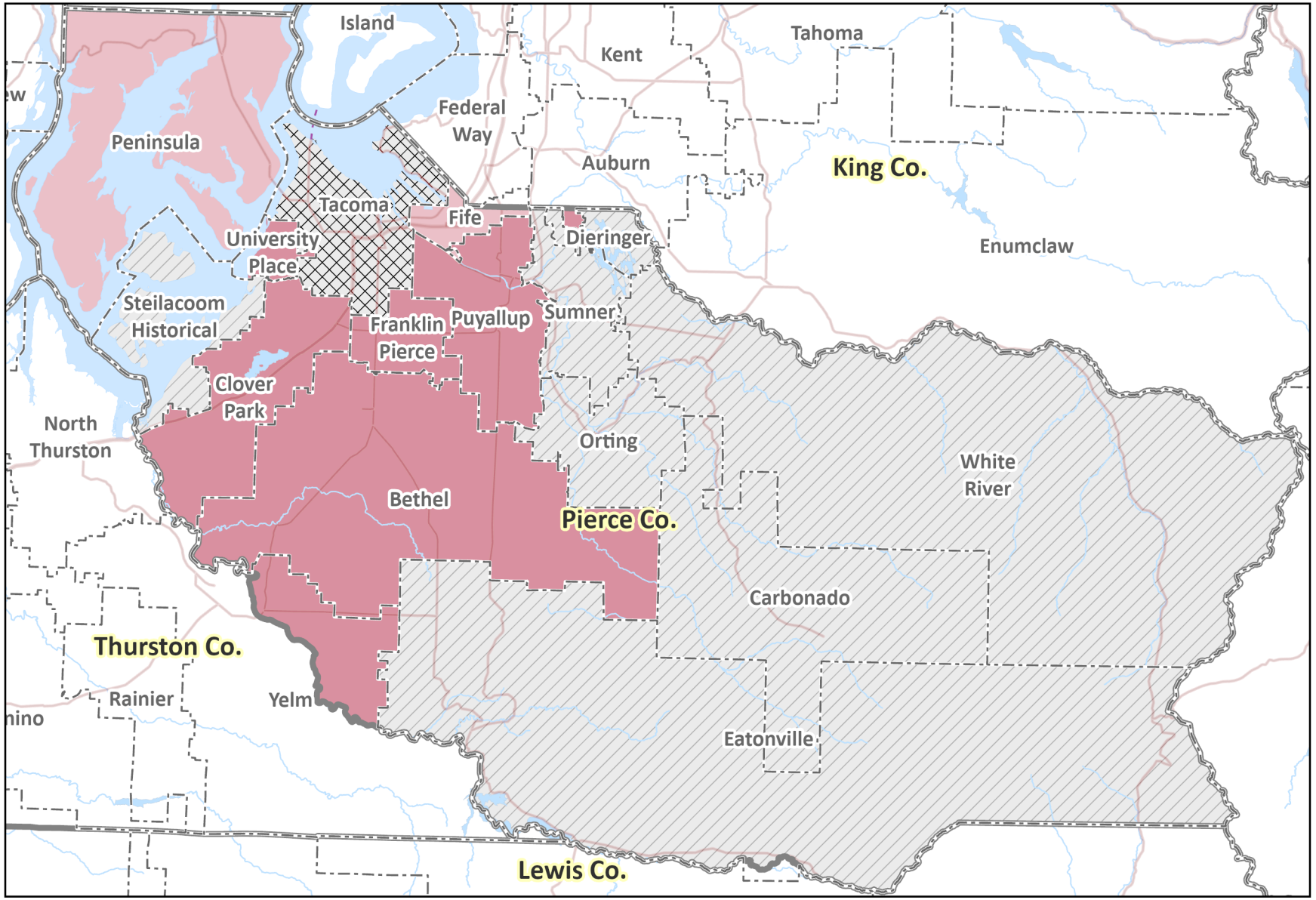

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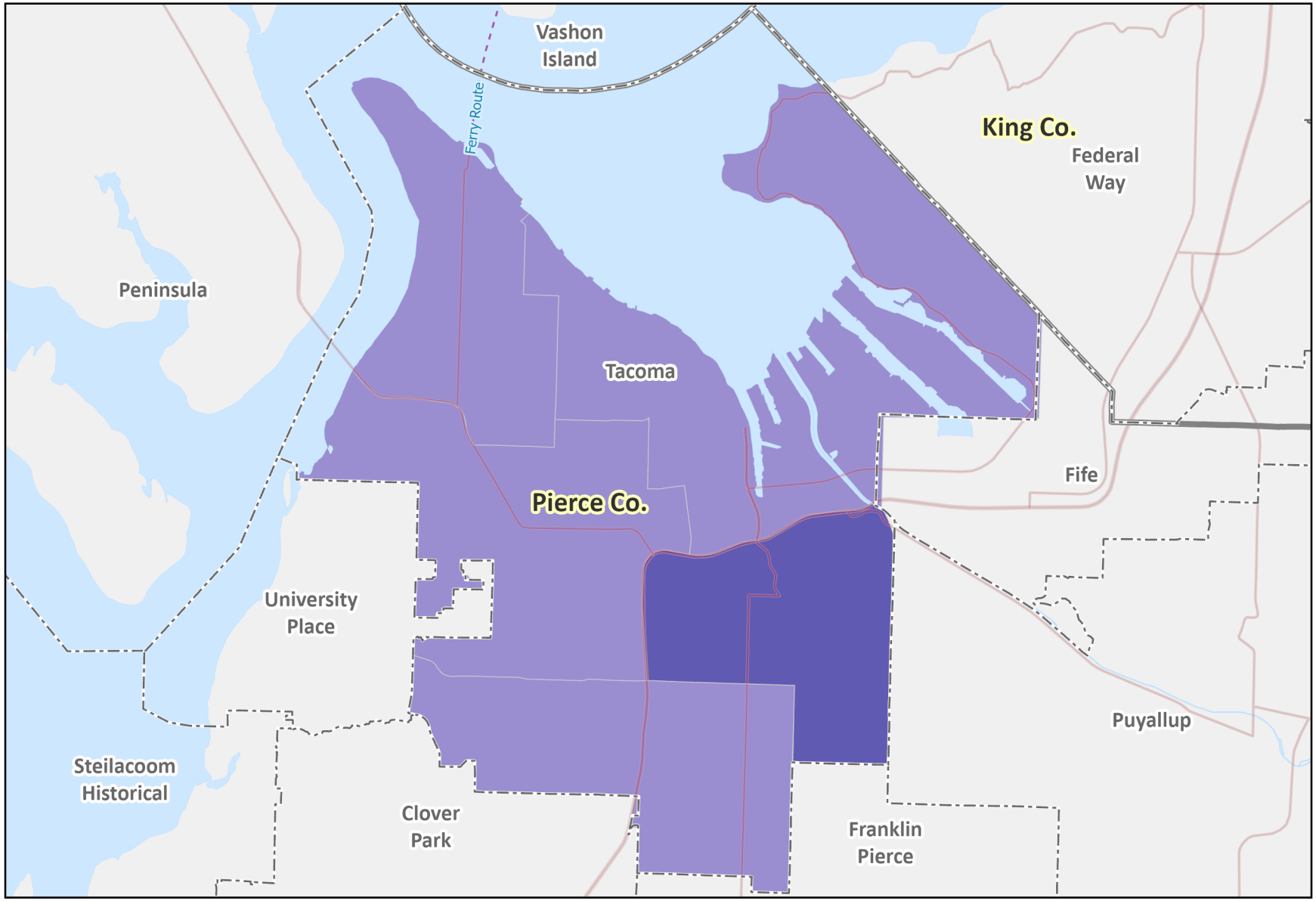

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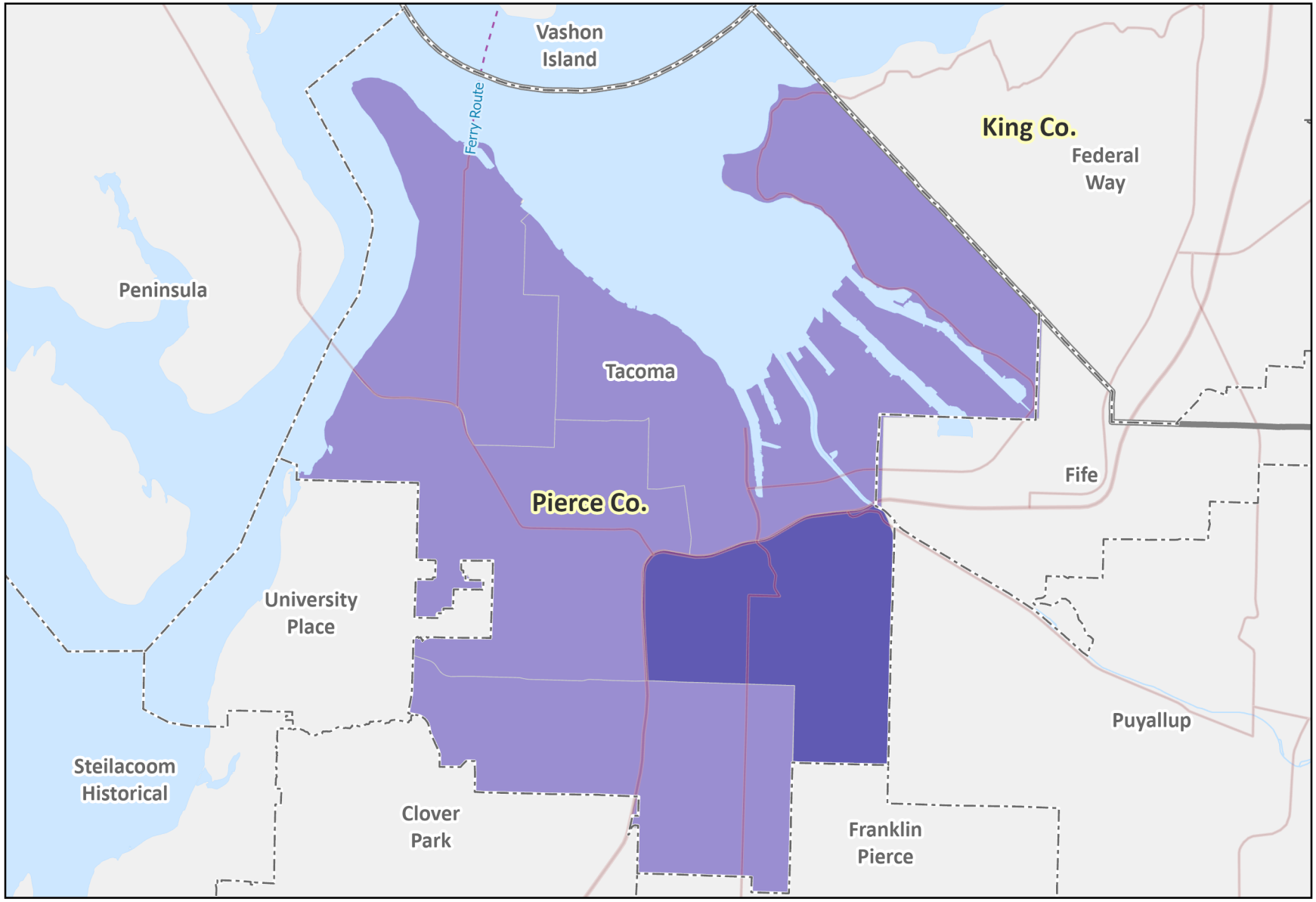

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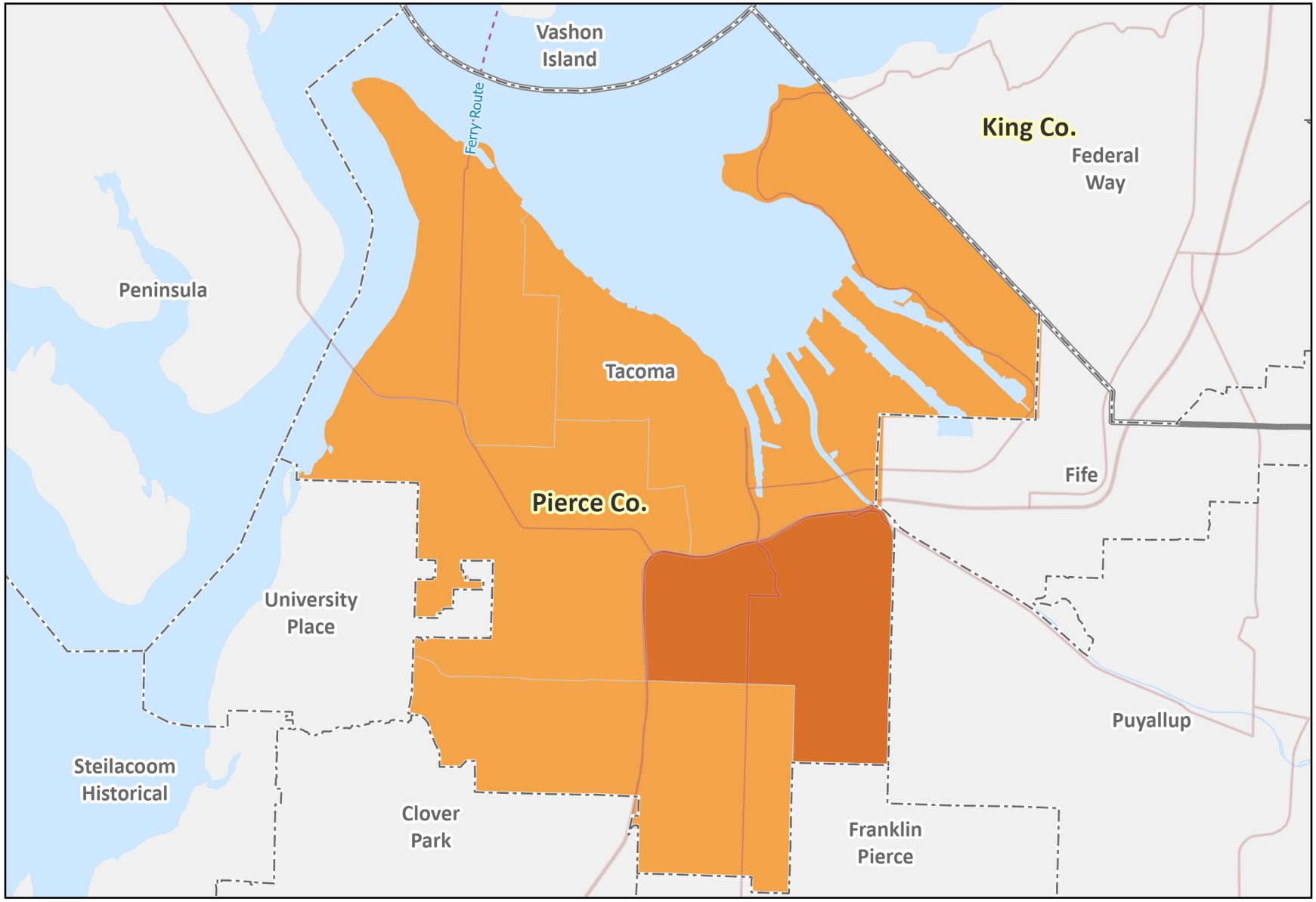

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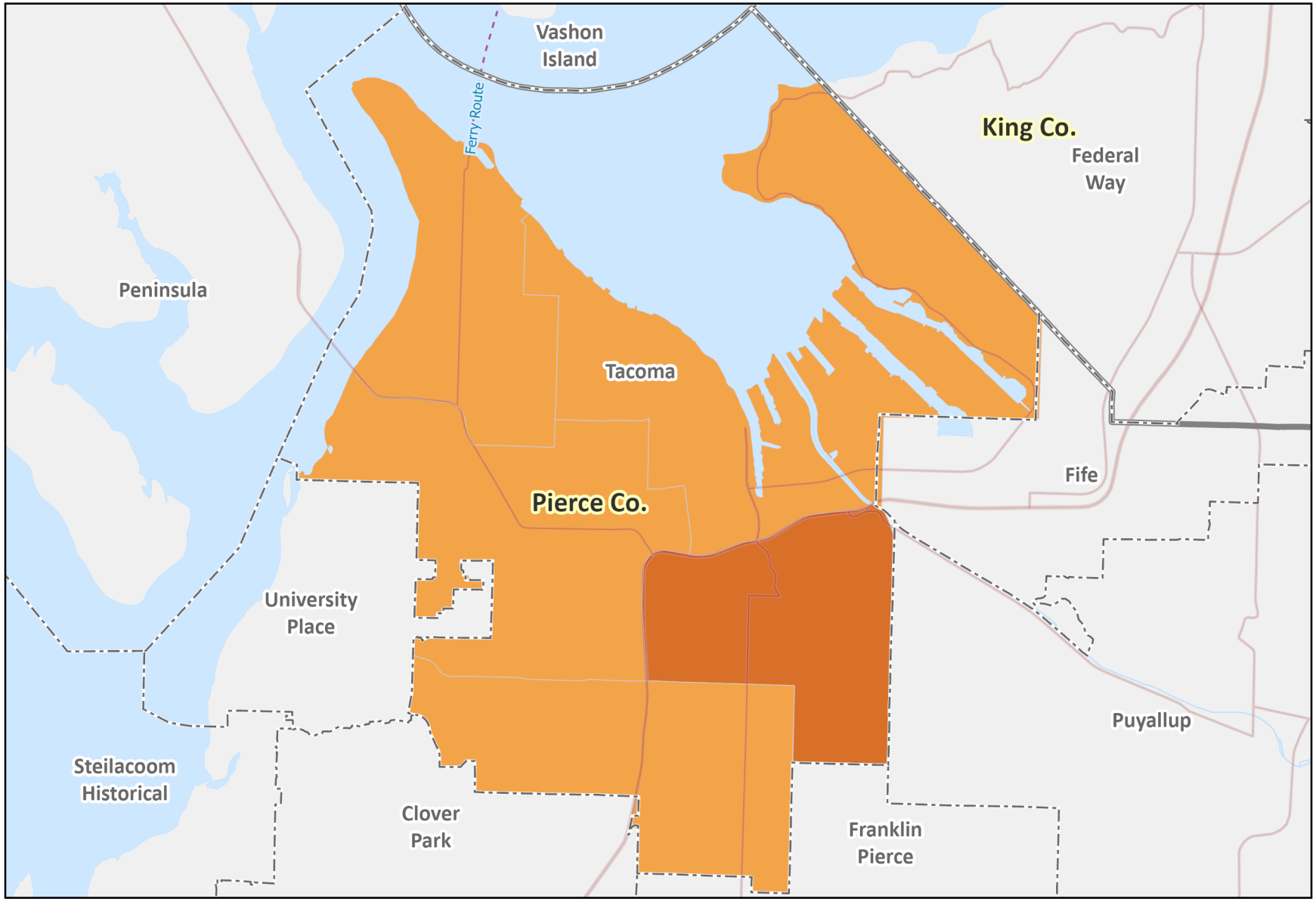

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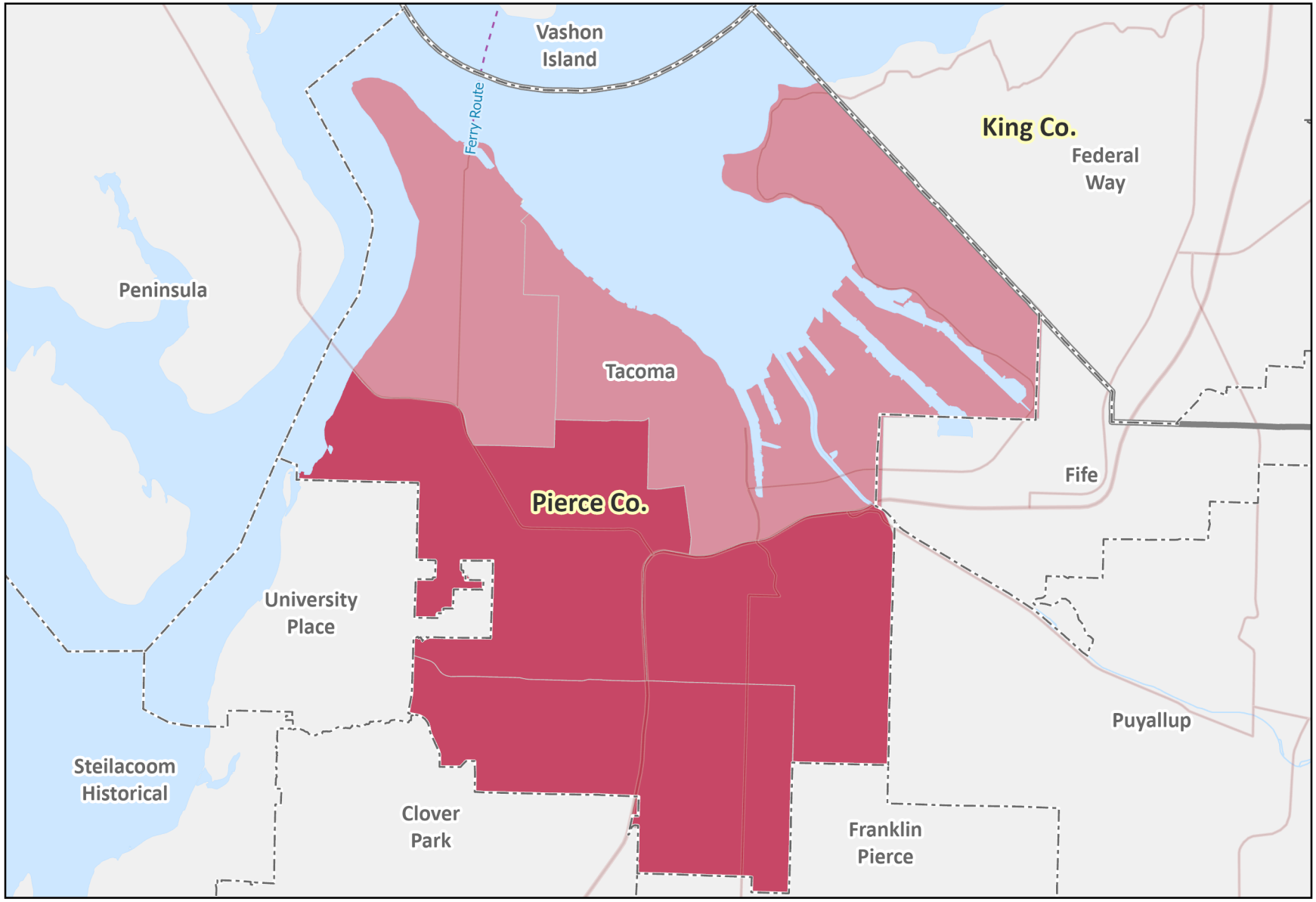

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