



2021 Payday Lending Report

The Washington State Department of Financial Institutions

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS 2019 PAYDAY LENDING REPORT

Payday Lender Locations Map 3

What is a Payday Loan? 4

What is Allowed?..... 4

Borrowers’ Right to Installment Plan..... 4

Number of Licensed Payday Lenders..... 5

Payday Loan Historical Data 5

Total Payday Loans Made Chart..... 5

Average Payday Loan Amount 6

Average Payday Loan Fee Amount 6

Average Payday Loan Term 6

Borrower Income..... 6

Borrower Age 6

Borrower Loan Limits 7

Installment Plan Usage 7

Consumer Complaint Summary 7

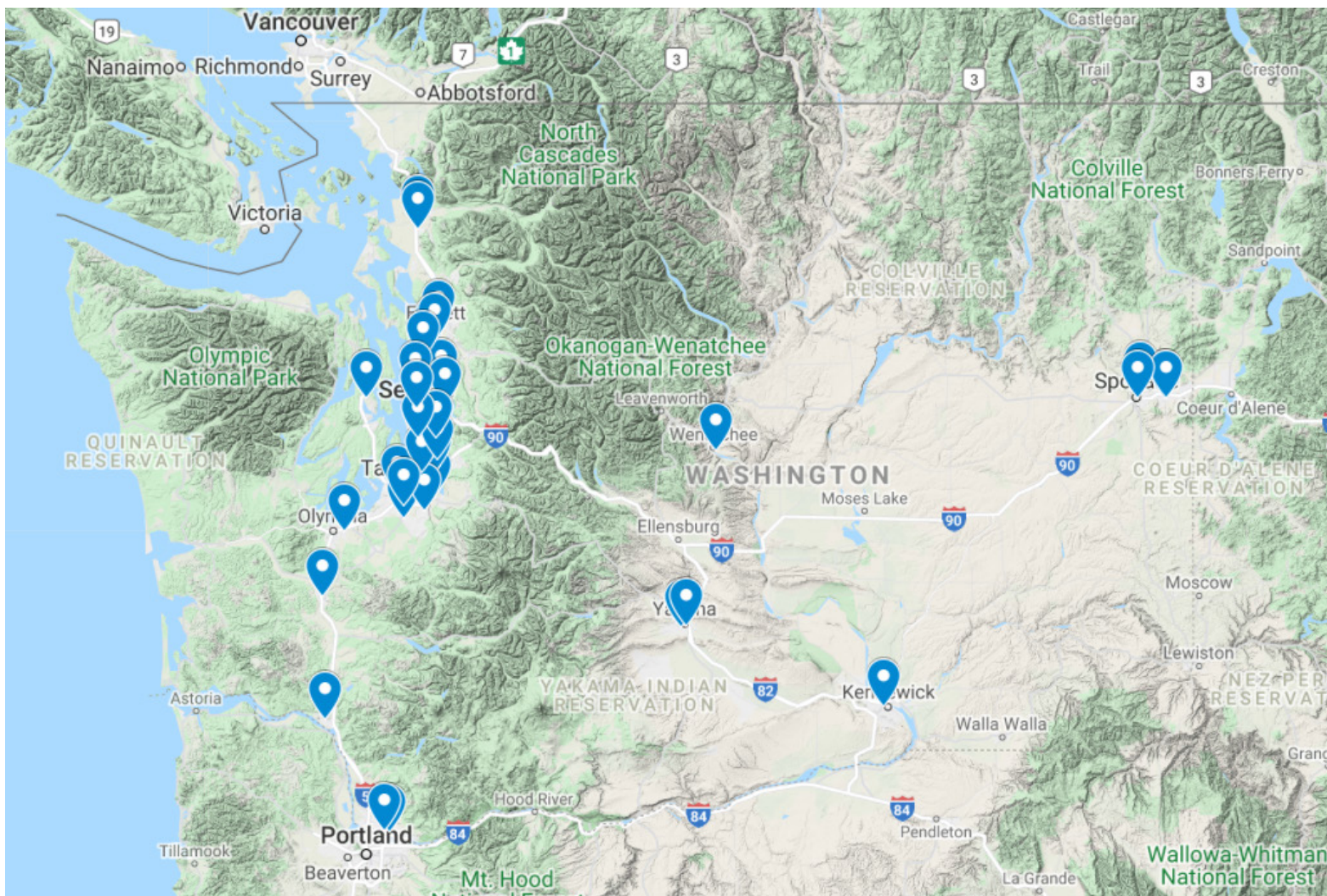
Borrower Frequency Table 8

Borrower Frequency Comparison 8

Borrower Default Information..... 9

Military Borrowers..... 9

WASHINGTON PAYDAY LENDER LOCATIONS MAP



(in-state locations only)

The Department of Financial Institutions (DFI) created this report as an educational tool for policy makers and other interested parties. The statistics presented represent data reported to DFI from payday lending licensees for calendar year 2021 as well as data gathered from the state payday loan reporting system.

The legislature passed Washington’s first payday lending laws in 1995 under the Check Cashers & Sellers Act (RCW 31.45). DFI regulates payday lenders that do business in Washington State by licensing all locations, examining the licensees regularly, investigating complaints and bringing enforcement actions when appropriate.

WHAT IS A PAYDAY LOAN?

A payday loan is a small amount, short-term loan. The consumer typically must either provide the lender direct access to their checking account or write a post-dated check for the loan amount plus a fee based on the original loan amount.

WHAT IS ALLOWED IN WASHINGTON STATE?

Loan Terms and Conditions	Example
<p><i>Minimum Loan Term:</i> a due date on or after the date of the borrower’s next pay date. If a borrower’s next pay date is within seven days of taking out the loan, a licensee must set the due date of a small loan on or after the borrower’s second pay date.</p>	<p>A loan for \$500 + \$75 fee = \$575 repaid</p>
<p><i>Maximum Loan Term:</i> 45 days, unless the term of the loan is extended by agreement of both the borrower and the licensee and no additional fee or interest is charged</p>	<p>A loan for \$700 + \$95 fee = \$795 repaid</p>
<p><i>Maximum Loan Amount:</i> \$700, or thirty percent of gross monthly income of the borrower, whichever is lower</p>	
<p><i>Maximum Fee:</i> 15% on the first \$500 10% on the amount greater than \$500</p>	

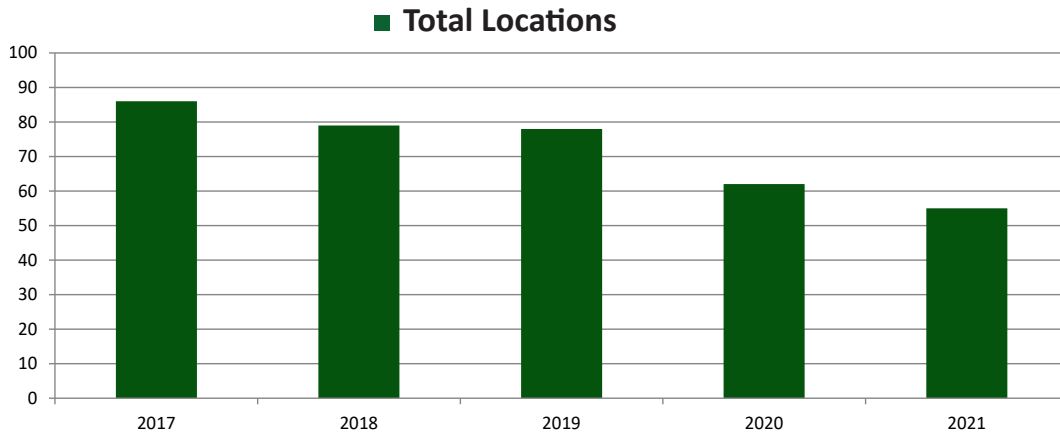
BORROWER RIGHTS TO INSTALLMENT PLANS

Borrowers are entitled to an installment plan at any time prior to default. Borrowers do not have to pay a fee for the installment plan and have from 90 to 180 days (depending on the original loan amount) to repay the loan in a series of installments.

NUMBER OF LICENSED PAYDAY LENDERS

The number of payday lending locations decreased 11.3% from year-end 2020 to year-end 2021. Overall, the number of payday lending locations has decreased 92.6% since its height in 2006.

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Companies	28	23	22	20	16
Branches	58	56	56	42	39
Total Locations	86	79	78	62	55

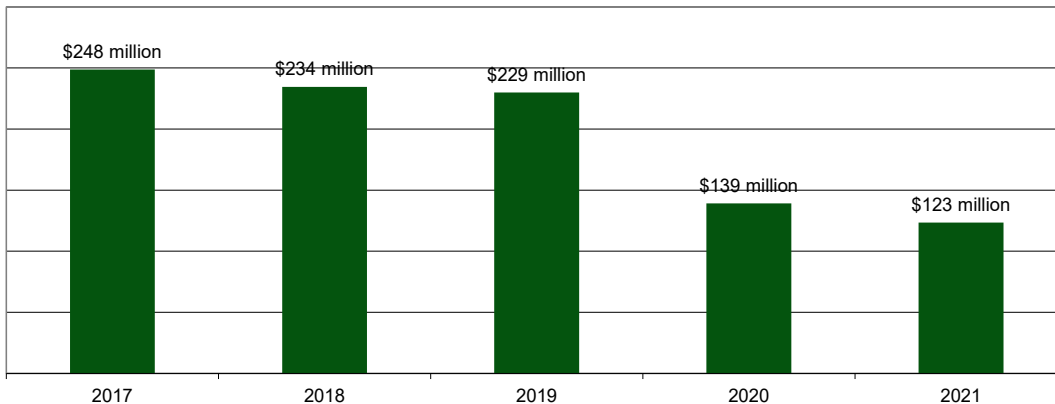


PAYDAY LOAN HISTORICAL DATA

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Small Loans Made	633,882	585,212	577,280	343,355	288,748
Total Amount of Small Loans	\$248,772,165	\$234,490,252	\$229,993,042	\$139,133,264	\$123,374.194

TOTAL PAYDAY LOANS MADE (MEASURED IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS)

The dollar volume of payday loans made decreased 11.3% from 2020 to 2021. Overall, the annual dollar volume of payday loans in Washington has decreased 91% from its peak in 2005.



Payday lending is a \$123 million industry in Washington.

■ Total Payday Loans Made per Year

PAYDAY LOAN ANALYSIS

Washington State Payday Lending Industry	2021
Volume of Payday Loans	\$123,374,194
Number of Payday Loans	288,748
Average Payday Loan Amount	\$427.27

The average payday loan in 2021 was \$427, compared to \$405 in 2020.

PAYDAY LOAN FEE ANALYSIS

Washington State Payday Lending Industry	2021
Total Payday Loan Fees	\$15,889,609
Number of Payday Loans	288,748
Average Payday Loan Fee	\$55.03

The average payday loan fee in 2021 was \$55.03, compared to \$54.91 in 2020.

PAYDAY LOAN TERM ANALYSIS

Washington State Payday Lending Industry	Average Term
Average Payday Loan Term- Agreement date to initial due date	24.01 Days
Average Payday Loan Term- Agreement date to final close date (including loans which went into installment plans)	39.36 Days

The average initial loan term in 2021 was 24 days, compared to 23.3 days in 2020.

BORROWER INCOME

Washington State Payday Lending Industry	Average Monthly Income*
Average Customer Income	\$3,896

The average monthly income in 2021 was \$3,896, compared to \$3,554 in 2020.

* Monthly income for customers is based on the most recent update to customer income in the Veritec database during 2021 and does not necessarily reflect monthly income at the time transactions were opened.

BORROWER AGES

Age Category	% Of Customers	% Of Transactions
18-24	11.5%	9.9%
25-34	26.4%	26.6%
35-44	21.8%	21.5%
45-54	16.3%	17.1%
55-64	13.5%	15.0%
65 or over	8.6%	9.8%
Total	100%	100%

The average age of customers conducting transactions during the period was 41.5 years.

BORROWER LOAN LIMITS

Borrowers are limited to eight loans in any twelve-month period from all lenders. This limit is enforced by an external electronic database to which all licensees are required to report all small loans.

Washington State Payday Lending Industry	2021
Number of Unique Borrowers	92,130
Number of Borrowers that Reached 8-Loan Limit*	15,548
Percentage of Borrowers that Reached their Maximum Number of Loans	16.9%

* Not all customers that reached the 8-loan limit received all loans during the 2021 calendar year, as the limit is over a rolling twelve month period where the limit may have been hit at any time during 2021 when the eighth allowed loan was taken out.

INSTALLMENT PLAN USAGE

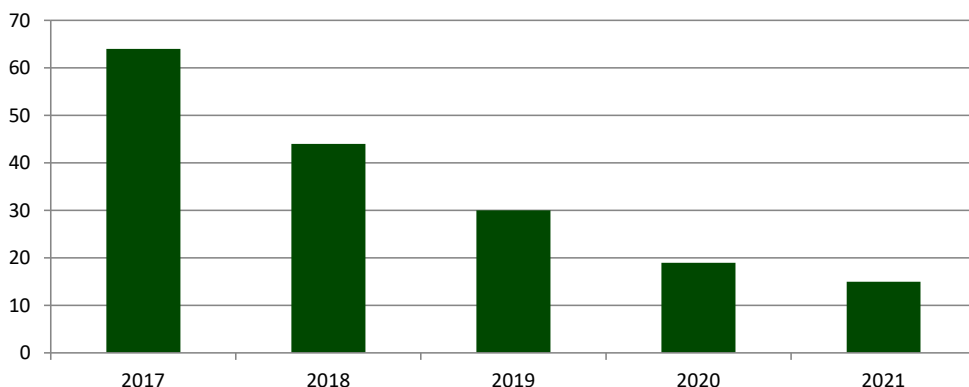
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Washington State Payday Lending Industry	2021
Number of Small Loans Made	288,748
Number of Small Loans Converted into an Installment Plan	26,458
Percentage of Small Loans that were Converted to an Installment Plan	9.2%

CONSUMER COMPLAINT SUMMARY

DFI Investigates complaints from consumers about payday lenders. DFI received the following number of complaints against all payday lenders in Washington State.

Consumer Complaints



- 2017 - 64 Complaints
- 2018 - 44 Complaints
- 2019 - 30 Complaints
- 2020 - 19 Complaints
- 2021 - 15 Complaints

Of the 15 complaints received in 2021, 7 were against online payday lenders*

* Of the 7 complaints related to online payday lenders, none of the complaints was against a licensed online lender. Note, some online complaints may be tracked under the Consumer Loan Act and are not reflected in these numbers.

The tables on this page capture loan frequency data as the number of loans each individual borrowed during calendar year 2021.

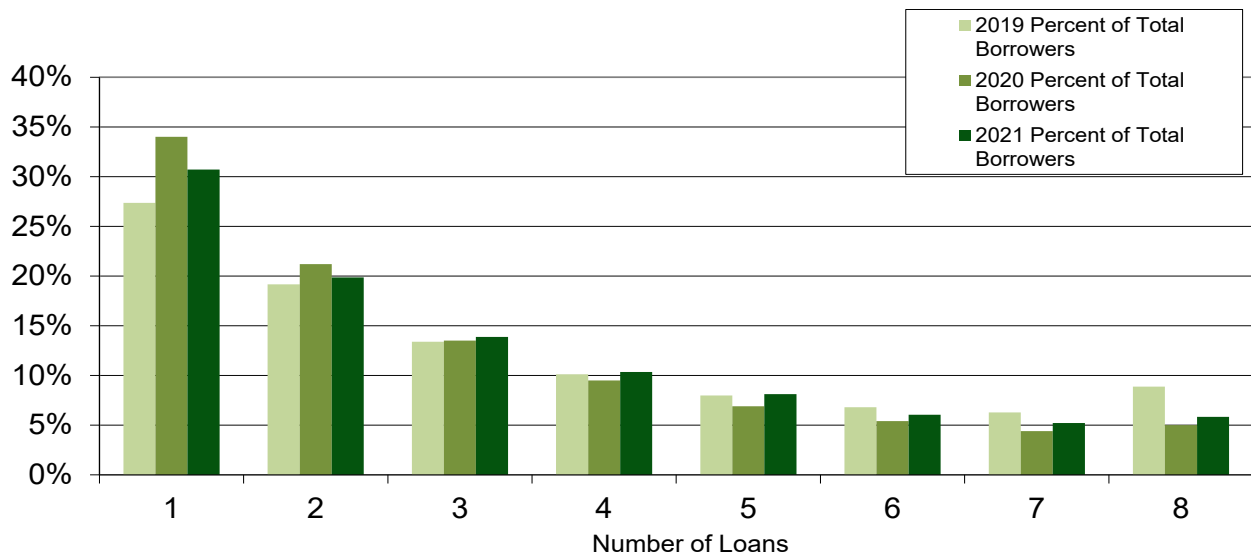
BORROWER LOAN FREQUENCY

Annual Loan Frequency	Total Borrowers	% Total Borrowers	Total Number of Loans	% Of Total Loans
1 Loan	28,302	30.7%	28,302	9.8%
2 Loans	18,295	19.9%	36,590	12.7%
3 Loans	12,787	13.9%	38,361	13.3%
4 Loans	9,531	10.3%	38,124	13.2%
5 Loans	7,474	8.1%	37,370	12.9%
6 Loans	5,568	6.0%	33,408	11.6%
7 Loans	4,796	5.2%	33,572	11.6%
8 Loans*	5,377	5.8%	43,021	14.9%
TOTAL	92,130	100.00%	288,748	100.00%

* Note, this data is limited solely to loans taken out during the 2021 calendar year, which differs from the 15,548 borrowers reported on page 7 that took out an eighth loan over a rolling twelve month basis at some point during 2021.

BORROWING FREQUENCY COMPARISON

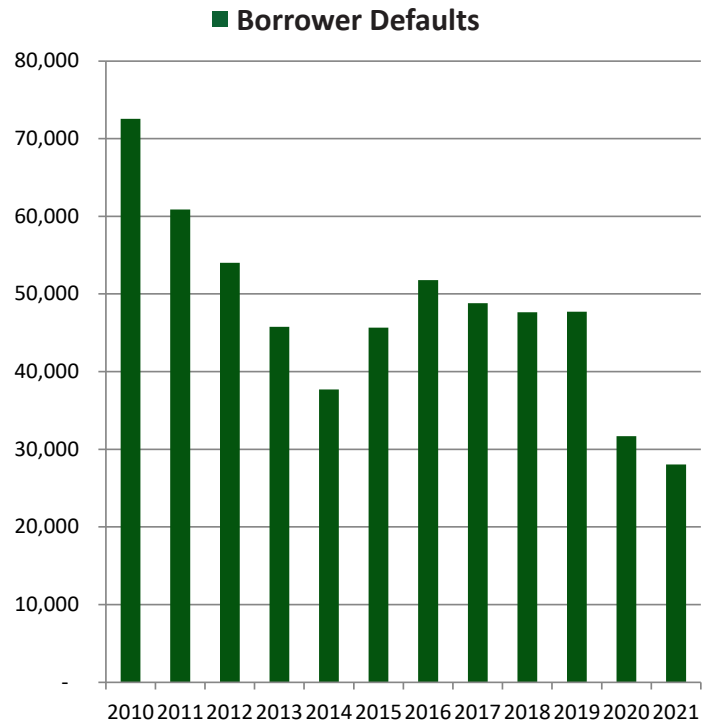
No. Of Loans	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2019 percent of Total Borrowers	27.4%	19.2%	13.4%	10.1%	8.0%	6.8%	6.3%	8.9%
2020 percent of Total Borrowers	34.0%	21.2%	13.5%	9.5%	6.9%	5.4%	4.4%	5.0%
2021 percent of Total Borrowers	30.7%	19.9%	13.9%	10.3%	8.1%	6.0%	5.2%	5.8%



BORROWER DEFAULT INFORMATION

“Default” is the borrower’s failure to repay the small loan in compliance with the terms contained in the agreement or failure to pay an installment plan payment within ten days after the due date.*

Report Period	# Borrowers with a Default
2010	72,563
2011	60,863
2012	54,031
2013	45,756
2014	37,703
2015	45,679
2016	51,792
2017	48,816
2018	47,656
2019	47,716
2020	31,703
2021	28,034
2010 through 2021 Total	572,312

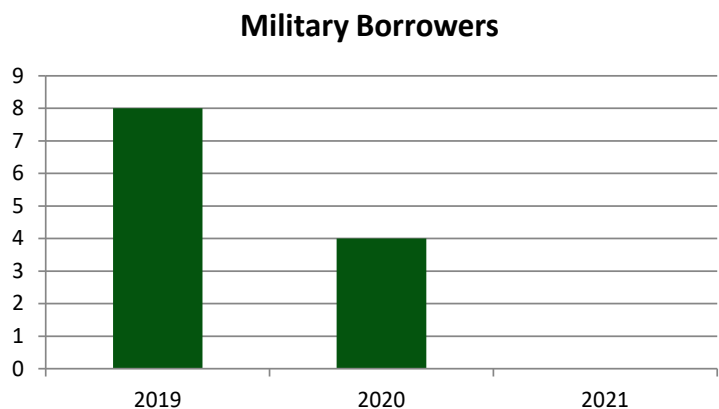


MILITARY BORROWERS

Federal law* caps the annual percentage rate at 36 percent for all loans made to military borrowers. This cap was mandated by the Talent-Nelson Amendment of the John Warner National Defense Authorization Act of 2007 (Public Law 109-364, codified at 10 U.S.C. 987). Due to this cap, most payday lenders in Washington State have ceased lending to military borrowers.

* See RCW 31.45.010.

Military Borrowers	
2019	8
2020	4
2021	0





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