

A scenic view of a river flowing over rocks with a city skyline in the background. The river is in the foreground, flowing over dark, jagged rocks. In the background, a city skyline is visible under a sunset sky. A large, multi-story brick building is prominent on the left. A bridge spans the river in the middle ground. The overall scene is a mix of nature and urban development.

# WORK + LIFE

How artists, businesses, and cultural leaders are creating a vibrant, compassionate, ambitious community in Spokane, Washington.



## LIFE. WE ONLY GET ONE SHOT AT IT.

You, your employees, your kids. We each get our little chunk of space-time, so it's worth considering: *do the moments that make up these lives include enough of the stuff that matters?*

If you could live more deliberately through a change of place, and still succeed wildly, why not at least explore it? And not just in a daydreamy, grass-is-greener sort of way, but through real-life stories and a careful evaluation of place.

That's the hope for this brief report: to take a closer look at the ways people and organizations are making the most of every sane-paced, fulfillment-packed moment in Spokane, Washington.

You might know that we're a mid-sized city and the hub of a region with 30-minute access to everything that makes the Northwest legendary:

lakes, rivers, mountains — incredible, accessible natural beauty. What isn't as well known is that Spokane has spent the last decade transforming itself into an engine of community, culture, ambition, and opportunity.

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# NUMERICALLY SPEAKING

# DOWNTOWN

**13,000**

downtown residents, roughly  
half of whom are 20-44

**200**

downtown retailers and restaurants,  
from major brands to local artisans

**200+**

annual community events, from massive  
athletic events to thriving art shows

**50,000**

downtown employees

**100**

acres just steps from work in the city  
center's newly renovated Riverfront Park



**500,000**

available commercial/office square feet, much  
of it in historic brick buildings, some ready  
to plug and play, some ripe for  
fresh restoration.

## Sources:

State of Downtown 2018, Downtown Spokane Economic Report available at <http://downtownspokane.org/>, Realtor.com, Inrix 2017 traffic scorecard report, Spokane Historic Preservation Office, Spokane Parks & Recreation, Spokane University District, Creative Vitality Index, Spokane County 2014






# NUMERICALLY SPEAKING

## CITY-WIDE

**19** registered historic districts within walkable, distinct neighborhoods

**\$270,000**  
median home price,  
metro Spokane

**86**  
city parks cover 1600  
acres of green space



**12**  
Conservation Areas within  
10 miles of downtown

## 2ND FASTEST COMMUTE

in Washington (2.6 Inrix Congestion Index,  
compared to Seattle's 9.6)



# NUMERICALLY SPEAKING

# WORKFORCE



**7,000**  
creative jobs

**5**  
major  
universities

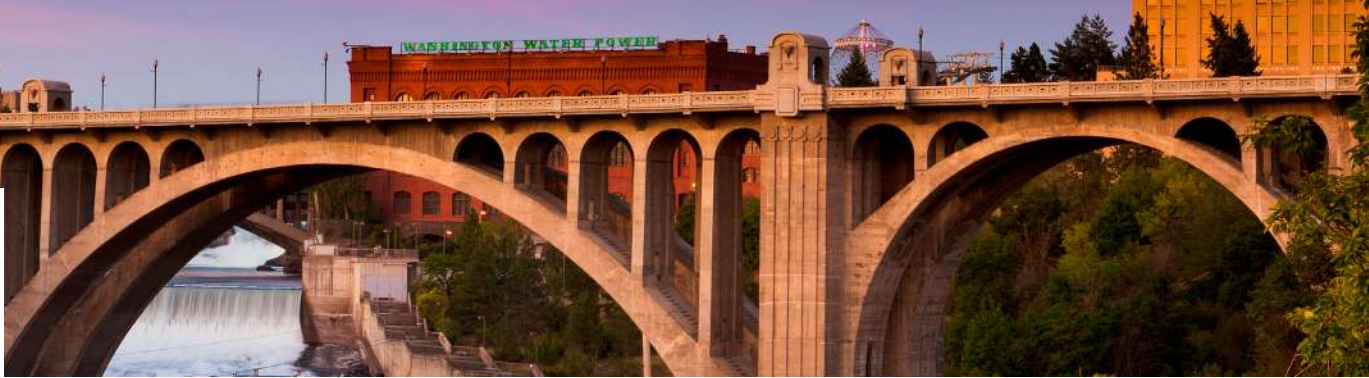
**2** medical  
schools



**43,229**  
area university and college  
students, ready to graduate  
and join the workforce

**COUNTLESS**  
industry & academic connections in  
downtown's University District

# HEADLINING



In the last few years, word about Spokane has been getting out and making its way into the national press, where comparisons to the rolling hills of Italy and the mountainous perfection of Korea run up against discussions of incredible cultural growth and surprising affordability. Whether it's the *Washington Post*, the *LA Times* or *Outside Magazine*, we couldn't have said it better ourselves.

## America's Happy 700 I Get the ideal Korean Altitude in Spokane / Coeur d'Alene

*Washington Post*, Jan 2018



Growing Spokane, Washington  
Sheds its Sleepy City Image

*Los Angeles Times* August 11, 2018

## The Palouse, Tuscany of America

*Wall Street Journal*, May 27 2018



Cost-Conscious Buyers are Flocking to  
These 10 Affordable, Midsize Cities

*(Spokane listed #1) Realtor.com*, March 1, 2018

## Wine & Dine to Your Heart's Content in Horn-of-Plenty Spokane

*Los Angeles Times*, April 8, 2016



## Spokane, Next American Ski Town

*Powder Magazine*, December 2017



Spokane, Outside Best Towns  
*Outside Magazine*, Aug 2013