

# SWEDISH IN SEATTLE

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## 1940 Census figures for Seattle:

Total Population: 368,302  
 Foreign-Born Population: 63,470 (17.2%)

Swedes: 7,670 people. (12.1%)  
 Norwegians: 8,436 people (13.3%)

Percentage of Seattle Swedes in Ballard: 11.7%.  
 Percentage of Seattle Swedes in Fremont and Wallingford: 9.4%.  
 Percentage of Seattle Swedes in the rest of Seattle: 78.9%.

## 2000 Census figures for Seattle:

Total Population: 563,374  
 Foreign Born Population: 94,952 (16.9%)  
 Total persons reporting at least one classifiable ancestry:  
 480,836 (85.3% of total population)

Ancestry:	pop.	% of total pop.
Scandinavian	3,524	(0.63%)
Swedish	19,413	(3.45%)
Norwegian	32,018	(5.68%)
Finnish	3,320	(0.59%)
Danish	7,100	(1.26%)
Icelander	906	(0.16%)

Total population with  
 Scandinavian Ancestry: 66,218 (11.75%)

Residents who speak a *Scandinavian language at home* in Seattle: 1,994

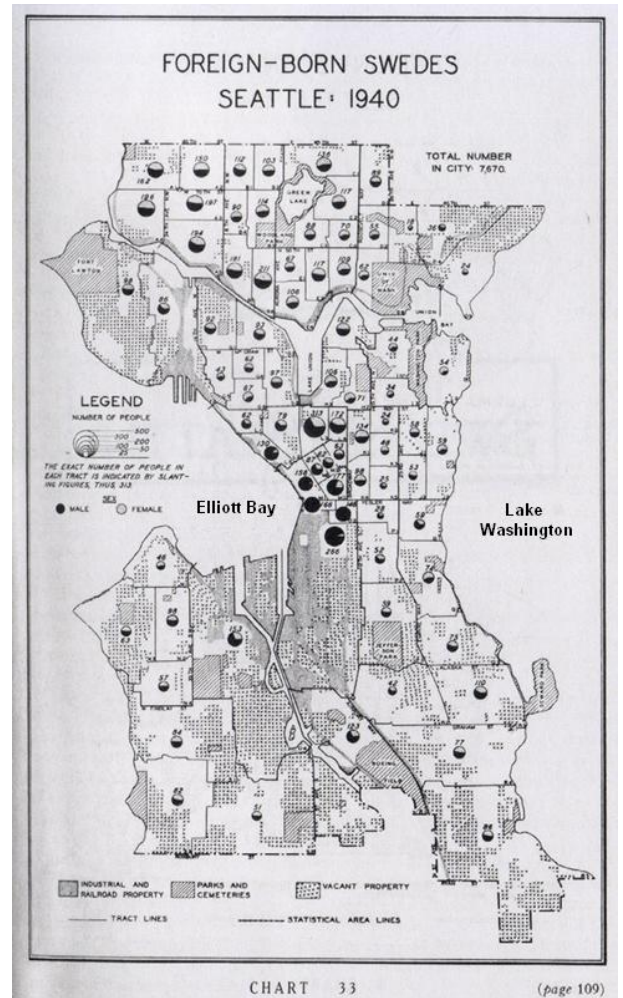
**Percentage of pop. with Scandinavian Heritage that speaks a Scandinavian language: 3.01%**

## Local Swedish Organizations:

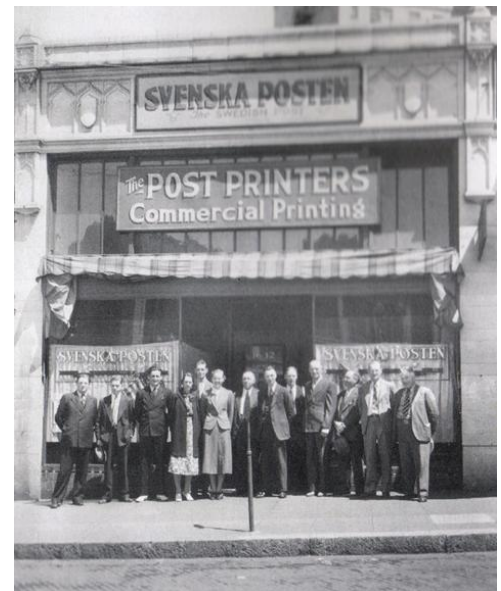
- Department of Scandinavian Studies at the University of Washington
- Department of Scandinavian Studies at Pacific Lutheran University
- Nordic Heritage Museum
- Swedish Cultural Center
- Swedish Cultural Society
- Skandia Folkdance Society
- Swedish Women's Educational Association
- SVEA Male Chorus
- Swedish Women's Chorus
- Scandinavian Language Institute

## Local Swedish Publications:

- "Swedish Center News"
- "Svenska Posten" (1936-1976)
- "Svenska Journalen"
- "Puget Sound Posten"



Norlén



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“Oregon Posten”  
“Svenska Pacific Tribunen”

**Some Local Swedish Places no longer in existence:**

Engstroms Home Bakery  
Skandia Bakery & Café  
The Chalet (restaurant) – Eagleson Hall near UW campus  
Little bit of Sweden (restaurant) – 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Downtown  
Ivan Anderson and Co. (construction) – West Seattle



The Little Bit of Sweden restaurant, which operated on Sixth Avenue in downtown Seattle during the 1940s, featured an authentic Swedish smörgåsbord. (Courtesy Nordic Heritage Museum.)

Norlén

**Local Swedish Businesses:**

IKEA – Home Furnishings  
Ivar’s – Seafood Bars, Fish Bars, and Restaurants  
Nordstrom – Department Store  
Skanska – Construction and Development Company  
Swanson’s - Shoe Repair  
Swedish Hospital