

Social Determinants of Health

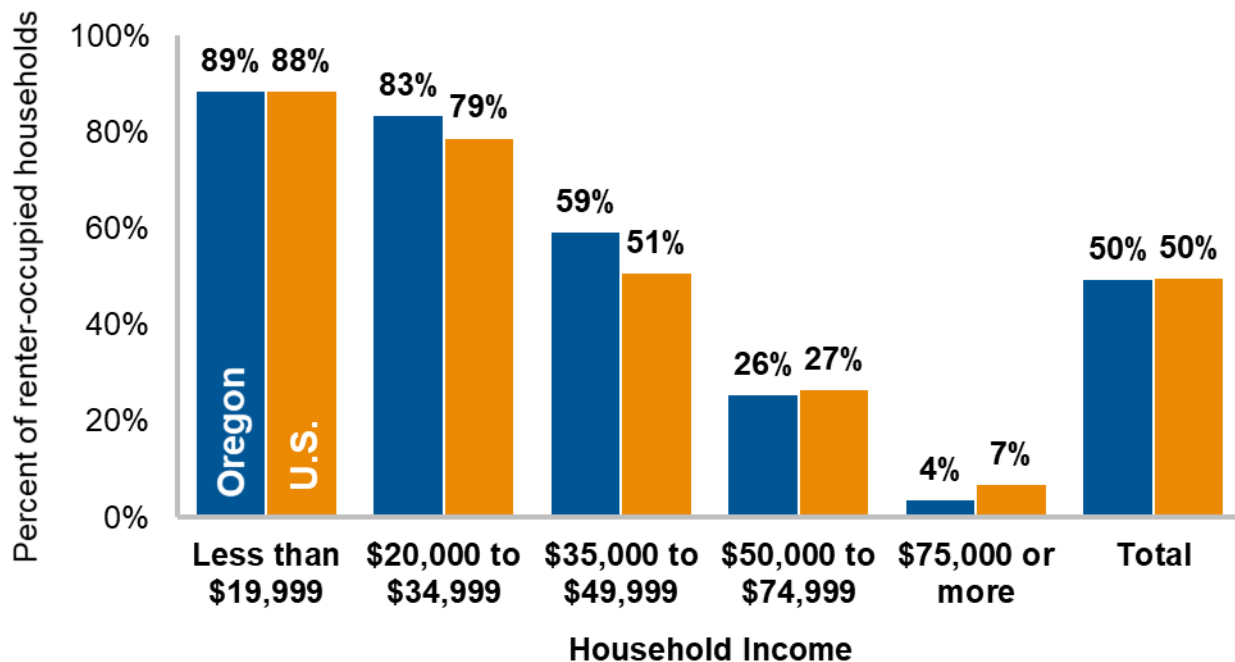
Rent burden

Even people working full-time may have difficulty affording housing in Oregon’s rental market. When affordable rental housing isn’t available, families pay a large proportion of their incomes on housing leaving little for other necessities. Rent-burdened families and individuals are also less likely to have savings to draw from when unexpected expenses – such as health care emergencies – arise. This financial instability may put them at risk for homelessness. Low-income families are more likely than more affluent families to rent than own housing and have fewer resources available to devote to rent.

Half of Oregon renter households (50%) pay more than 30% of their income on rent (Figure 1). In Oregon as in the U.S. as a whole, lower income households are far more likely to be rent burdened than higher income renter households.

FIGURE 1

Households paying 30% or more of income on rent by income group, Oregon & U.S., 2018

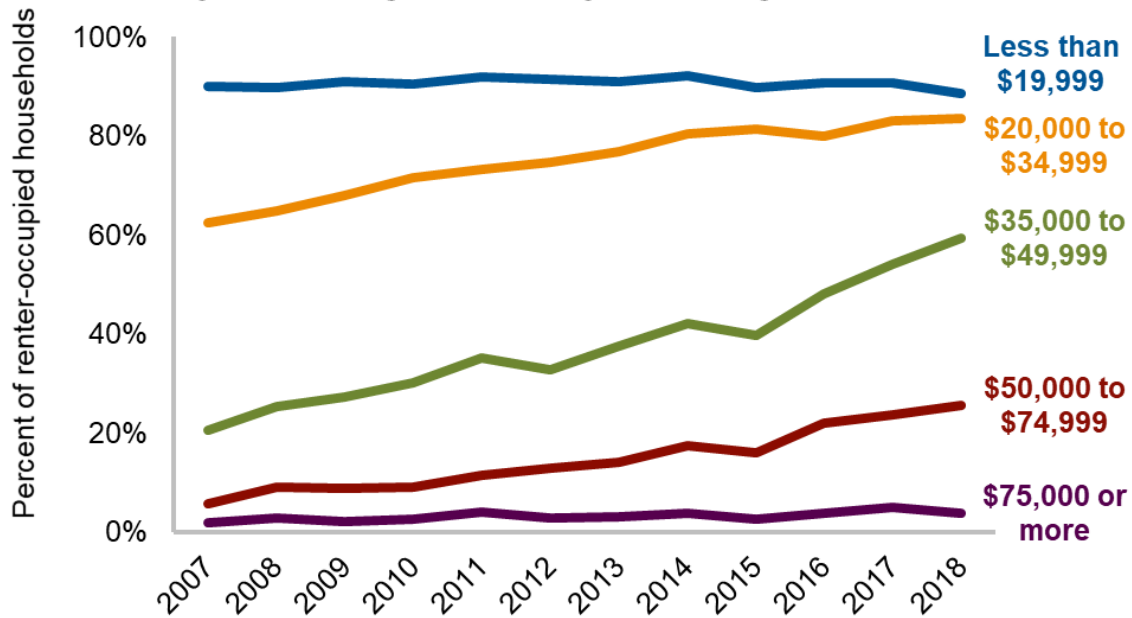


Source: American Community Survey (ACS)

While the percent of rent-burdened households among the lowest and highest income groups has remained fairly stable in Oregon since 2007, rates have risen among all other income groups.

FIGURE 2

Households paying 30% or more of income on rent by income group and year, Oregon



Source: American Community Survey (ACS)

Additional Resources: [U.S. Census Bureau](#)

About the Data: Data source is the American Community Survey (ACS). The ACS is an ongoing Census Bureau survey that samples a percentage of the population every year. Rent burden is defined as paying 30% or more of household income on gross rent in the past 12 months. Only renter-occupied housing units are considered.

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Date Updated: October 24, 2019

[Oregon State Health Profile](#)

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