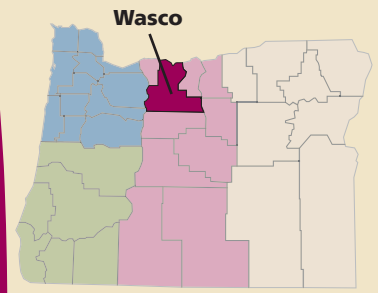




Central Oregon



About **DHS**

The Oregon Department of Human Services employs approximately 9,800 individuals throughout the state, of whom 59 are located in Wasco County.

The department's mission is to make it possible for people to lead lives that are independent, healthy and safe.

The department is organized into five operational divisions and one administrative division:

- Addictions and Mental Health
- Children, Adults and Families
- Medical Assistance Programs (Oregon Health Plan)
- Public Health
- Seniors and People with Disabilities
- Administrative Services

DHS staff strive to provide culturally appropriate services to all of Oregon's diverse communities. The department's goal is to meet the unique needs of individuals of diverse ethnicity, gender, age, disability status and education in every area of the state.

*Demographic data provided by the U.S. Census Bureau and Portland State University.*

Making a difference in...

*Wasco County*

**DHS AND YOU**

The Oregon Department of Human Services touches the life of every resident of Wasco County. From monitoring the purity of water provided through public drinking water systems to certifying food handlers to overseeing hospitals and ambulance services to testing every newborn for a range of metabolic disorders, DHS helps protect the health of everyone in your county.

DHS also provides a range of direct services to many county residents. These include food stamp benefits, child protective services, mental health and addictions treatment, parenting classes, oversight of long-term care and group home facilities, and a range of other assistance designed to help Oregonians remain independent, healthy and safe.

In all, DHS operates more than 300 programs and services either directly or through local partners such as county health departments, tribes, area agencies on aging, group homes and other residential programs, and many other providers and organizations. Approximately 84 percent of DHS's operations budget flows directly to communities to provide the specific range of services needed to meet the unique needs of each community throughout the state.

**ABOUT YOUR COUNTY**

24,125	Total residents
5,894	Children under the age of 18
3,316	Individuals ages 65 - 84
577	Individuals age 85 and older
2,533	Individuals who live in a household where a language other than English is spoken at home
3,402	Individuals who earn less than the federal poverty level

## DURING 2007 IN YOUR COUNTY

- 3,372 Individuals were able to have the security that comes with health insurance thanks to the Oregon Health Plan
- 139 Individuals received health care through the Oregon Health Plan Standard benefits package
- 5,110 Individuals received relief from hunger and food insecurity through food stamp assistance
- 741 Individuals received help with basic expenses thanks to emergency cash from the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program
- 132 Parents were able to hold jobs thanks to the help they received paying their children's daycare expenses
- 285 Seniors and physically disabled individuals were able to live safely and securely thanks to help paying the costs of living in long-term care facilities
- 16 Individuals were able to find employment as a result of receiving rehabilitation services
- NA Pregnant women were safer and healthier thanks to home visits from public health nurses
- NA Women and children were safer and healthier as a result of participating in the Women, Infants and Children Nutrition Program
- 301 Newborns were tested and treated for more than 30 serious health problems thanks to blood screenings by the Public Health Lab
- 121 At-risk children were provided safe haven in foster care
- NA Students received health care through school-based health centers
- NA Children were protected from cavities and serious periodontal diseases thanks to dental sealants
- NA Individuals with developmental disabilities received supportive services
- NA Adults received treatment for mental health, gambling, alcohol and drug problems through DHS-funded programs
- 273 Food handlers were certified and monitored to ensure the safety of the food you eat

## DHS Partners

Working with communities and partners helps DHS achieve the unique solutions that best meet the needs of each community and its residents. This takes effective partnerships, a willingness to listen, and the flexibility to customize services for each community. The full list of our partners is too long to include here. What follows is a very brief list of the many types of partners with whom we work:

- Health care practitioners
- Mental health and substance abuse counselors
- Hospitals and community health care clinics
- County mental health and public health agencies
- Local and tribal governments
- State and federal agencies
- Adult care facilities
- Foster parents
- Schools
- Area agencies on aging and other senior services providers


DHS can succeed in making a positive difference in the lives of Oregonians only if we build strong relationships with these and the many other partners throughout the state who help deliver the services Oregonians need. We thank all of our partners for the important role they play in making it possible for Oregonians to lead lives that are independent, healthy and safe.

*NA = This program is not offered or this information is not available.*

*<5 = Where fewer than five clients receive services, the specific number of clients is not listed to protect client confidentiality.*



**For more information about DHS services and programs in your area, please visit [www.oregon.gov/DHS](http://www.oregon.gov/DHS).**

 **DHS** | Independent. Healthy. Safe.