

SECTION THREE
DEMOGRAPHICS AND PROFILE OF OREGON



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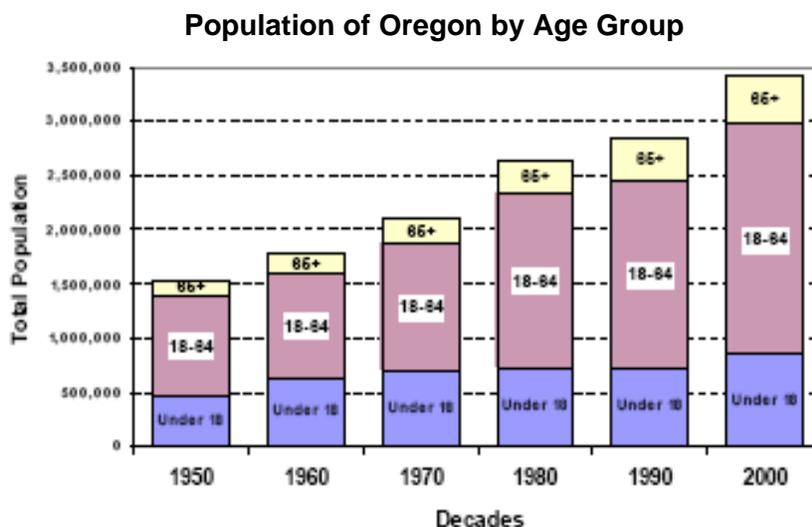
DEMOGRAPHICS AND PROFILE OF OREGON

Population

The 2000 U.S. Census enumerated 3,421,399 persons in Oregon. Using the 2000 U.S. Census figures the Center for Population Research and Census at Portland State University has estimated there are 617,424 Oregonians aged 60 and older in 2001. Older Oregonians (60+ years old) make up approximately 18% of the population. This population is projected to increase by 16% in the next six years, with 85+ years increasing by 31% in the same period.

Age Changes

Oregon ranks as the 11th fastest growing state in the country.² Oregon's population is aging and Oregon places 25 among all 50 states in percentage of population age 65 and over with³ the baby boom generation expected to be the major factor continually pushing up Oregon's median age. The baby boom generation refers to the surge in births occurring after World War II during the period of 1946 to 1964. Oregon's 45 to 54-year age group, which includes the oldest baby boomers, grew by 71 percent between the census years of 1990 and 2000 and was the fastest growing age group in Oregon during the 1990s.⁴



In relation to size in 1990, significant gains to Oregon's population aged 55-64 and 75 years and older was realized. Not all older groups increased. Relatively few births in Oregon during the 1930s caused one recent population decline: there were fewer

Oregonians aged 65-74 years in 2000 than in 1990. For example, although the 65+ age group grew 12 percent, this rate was lower than for the population of those under 65, which increased 22 percent.

Overall increases in the state's older population reflect relatively slow growth

proportions of 60 years and older, while some counties experiencing heavy in-migration of younger people, have fairly young populations and a relatively low proportion of older residents.⁹

The 20 Largest State-to-State Migration Flows: 1995 to 2000

(Data based on a sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/st3.pdf)

State of origin	State of destination	Migration flow	Reverse flow	Gross migration ¹	Net migration ²
New York	Florida	308,230	70,218	378,448	238,012
New York	New Jersey	206,979	97,584	304,563	109,395
California	Nevada	199,125	60,488	259,613	138,637
California	Arizona	198,151	92,452	278,603	93,699
California	Texas	182,789	115,929	298,718	66,860
Florida	Georgia	157,423	99,225	256,648	58,198
California	Washington	155,577	95,469	251,046	60,108
California	Oregon	131,836	67,642	199,478	64,194
New Jersey	Florida	118,905	34,896	153,801	84,009
Texas	California	115,929	182,789	298,718	-66,860
New York	Pennsylvania	112,214	67,213	179,427	45,001
California	Colorado	111,322	56,050	167,372	55,272
New Jersey	Pennsylvania	110,436	88,202	198,638	22,234
New York	North Carolina	100,727	20,262	120,989	80,465
Georgia	Florida	99,225	157,423	256,648	-58,198
New Jersey	New York	97,584	206,979	304,563	-109,395
Florida	North Carolina	96,255	57,564	153,819	38,691
New York	California	95,952	65,160	161,112	30,792
Washington	California	95,469	155,577	251,046	-60,108
California	Florida	94,265	65,211	159,476	29,054

Counties face different social and economic challenges because of differences in age composition. Counties with a large, increasing elderly population will likely face higher demand for special transportation by those who no longer have use of private automobiles. Continuing to be a pressing issue equaling the needs of an increasing number of 60 years of age and older, including the single and special needs households - is the need for social services to assist the growing number of older Oregonians who need health services and creative housing.

Rural Characteristics of Oregon

According to the Center for Population Research and Census, Oregon ranks 13th in the nation by percentage of elderly persons in the population. It also ranks as the 10th most rural state nationally. The average number of persons per square mile for Oregon is 32; this is less than one half the figure for the United States (74). Fourteen counties are considered “frontier” counties, having fewer than 5 persons per square mile. All of these counties are east of the Cascade Range.

The ten counties with the highest percentage of elderly are all rural and located either east of the Cascade Range or along the Oregon coast. The high percentage of elderly in coastal communities is likely the result of in-migration. For communities in eastern Oregon, the high percentages are likely the result of the

elderly aging in place, while younger people move to areas with more economic opportunities.

Counties with the lowest area median incomes by family (including individuals living alone), ranging from \$25,100 to \$35,000, are also rural counties. These incomes are markedly lower than the area median income of \$53,700 for the three counties that make up what is referred to as the Portland metropolitan area.

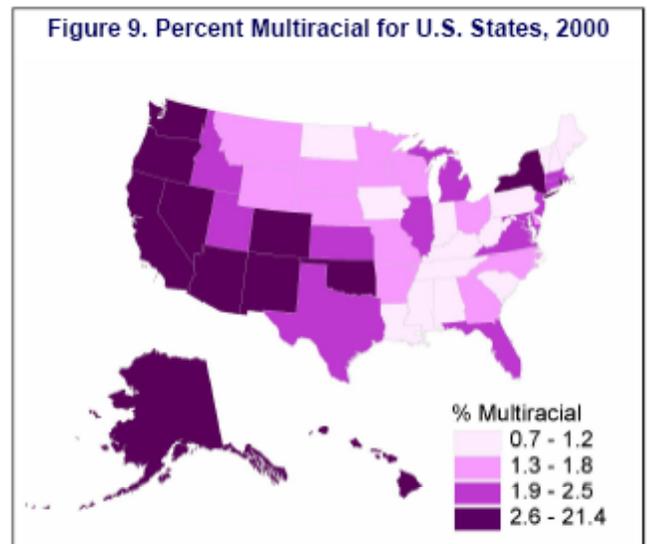
Cultural Diversity

Oregon has not been a highly ethnically diverse state, and trends indicate little increase of ethnic in-migrating expected, with the exception of the arrival of elderly Latino immigrants joining family members. Far above the national average, 86.56% of Oregonians reported themselves as white. Oregon was historically a destination for Chinese and Japanese men in the early 19th century as Chinese men came to eastern Oregonian counties to become railroad workers and miners; and Japanese men came to fish along the Oregon coast. Subsequently, the largest ethnic minority group in Oregon is the Asian race. While Black or African American counts for 12.3 percent in the U.S. population, in Oregon it is 2.96 percent. Hispanic or Latino account for 8 percent of the total population, a number below the national level of 12.5 percent.

Likely because of proximity to the state, Oregon reports 1.32 percent as American Indian or Alaskan Native and .23 percent Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander, both figures above the national average of .09 and .1 percent respectively. Nine federally recognized tribes call Oregon their home; seven of these receive Title VI grant funds.

Alaska experienced an out-migration of 126,000, with the net of 30,000 concentrated in the western states of Arizona, Oregon, and Washington.¹⁰

Racial composition varies considerably across Oregon's counties. Gilliam, Wallowa, Grant, and Baker all rural counties, and not considered predominantly agricultural regions, report 95 percent White, with only a fraction of non-white races. In contrast, metropolitan Multnomah County, is the most racially diverse county in the state. Geographical distribution of each race is uneven, with heavy concentration of multiple races in metropolitan counties such as Washington,



Multnomah, Clackamas, Benton and Lane counties. The highest total population percentage of American Indian and Alaska Natives reside in Jefferson County (15.8 percent), followed by Klamath County (4.19 percent) and Harney County (3.97 percent). Malheur County, however, reports the highest percentage of resident Hispanic origin in the state at 25.6 percent, followed by Hood River County at 25 percent.

Ethnic Minority Populations in Oregon

While the absolute number of ethnic minority persons in Oregon is relatively small, with white, non-Hispanic persons making up 84% of the population, the ethnic minority population in Oregon has increased at a significantly higher rate than previously projected. In 1990 white, non-Hispanic persons made up 91% of the population. The most significant increase has been in the Hispanic population, which has increased by over 141% since 1990 and now makes up 8% of the population. Census data on the age make-up of Oregon's Hispanic population are currently not available.

Oregon has nine federally recognized Tribes. Coquille Indian Tribe; Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Suislaw Indians; Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribes of Indians; Confederated Tribes of Grande Ronde; The Klamath Tribe; The Siletz Indian Tribe; Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation; The Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon; and Burns Paiute Tribe are all federally recognized tribes in Oregon with seven of the tribes being OAA Title VI fund grantees. According to the 2000 Census, there were 40,130 non-Hispanic American Indian or Alaska natives living in Oregon.

Ethnic groups present in Oregon not adequately represented in the U.S. Census data are Eastern European and Latino immigrants. In the last decade there has been a significant increase in these ethnic populations. Frequently, both are often multi-generational families with grandparents and other family members following after the initial arrival. Social service providers working with older Eastern Europeans report that many individuals are suffering significant chronic health problems resulting from a lack of health care.