OAR 660, Division 32

POPULATION FORECASTS

OAR 660-032-0000

Purpose and Applicability

The rules in this division provide standards and procedures to implement ORS 195.033 to 195.036 and statewide planning Goals regarding population forecasts for land use planning purposes.

660-032-0010

Definitions

(1) For purposes of this division, the definitions in ORS 197.015 and the Statewide Land Use Planning Goals (OAR chapter 660, division 15) apply, except as provided in sections (4) and (7) of this rule.

(2) “Final Forecast” means the final population forecast issued by the Portland State University Population Research Center (PRC) for land use purposes as required by ORS 195.033 and as provided in OAR 577-050-0030 to 577-050-0060.

(3) "Initiates" means that the local government either:

(a) Issues a public notice specified in OAR 660-018-0020, including a notice to the department, for a proposed plan amendment that concerns a subject described in OAR 660-032-0040(2); or

(b) Receives LCDC approval of a periodic review work program that includes a work task concerning a subject described in OAR 660-032-0040(2).

(4) “Local Government” means a city, county or Metro.

(5) “Metro” means a metropolitan service district organized under ORS chapter 268.

(6) "Metro boundary" means the boundary of a metropolitan service district.

(7) “Special district” means any unit of local government, other than a city, county or metropolitan service district formed under ORS chapter 268, authorized and regulated by statute and includes but is not limited to water control districts, domestic water associations and water cooperatives, irrigation districts, port districts, regional air quality control authorities, fire districts, school districts, hospital districts, mass transit districts and sanitary districts.

(8) "Urban area" means the land within an urban growth boundary.

(9) “Urban Growth Boundary” shall have the meaning provided in ORS 197.295(7).
660-032-0020
Population Forecasts for Land Use Planning

(1) A local government with land use jurisdiction over land that is outside the Metro boundary shall apply the final forecast issued by the Portland State University Population Research Center (PRC) when changing a comprehensive plan or land use regulation that concerns such land when the change is based on or requires the use of a population forecast, except that a local government may apply an interim forecast as provided in OAR 660-032-0040.

(2) A local government within the Metro boundary shall apply the Metro forecast described in OAR 660-0032-0030 when changing a regional framework plan, comprehensive plan or land use regulation of the local government, when the change is based on or requires the use of a population forecast.

(3) When a state agency or special district adopts or amends a plan or takes an action which, under Statewide Planning Goal 2 or other law, must be consistent with the comprehensive plan or regional framework plan of a local government, and which is based on or requires the use of a population forecast, and if the local government has not adopted the most recent PRC final forecast as part of the plan, the most recent PRC final forecast shall be considered to be the long range forecast in the comprehensive plan or regional framework plan, except as provided in OAR 660-032-0040.

(4) When applying a PRC forecast for a particular planning period, the local government shall use the annual increments provided in the applicable forecast, and shall not adjust the forecast for the start-year or for other years of the planning period except as provided in PRC’s interpolation template described in OAR 577-050-0040.

660-032-0030
Metro Area Population Forecasts

(1) Metro, in coordination with local governments within its boundary, shall issue a coordinated population forecast for the entire area within its boundary, to be applied by Metro and local governments within the boundary as the basis for a change to a regional framework plan, comprehensive plan or land use regulation when such change must be based on or requires the use of a population forecast.

(2) Metro shall allocate the forecast to the cities and portions of counties within the Metro boundary for land use planning purposes.

(3) In adopting its coordinated forecast, Metro must follow applicable procedures and requirements in this rule and ORS 197.610 to 197.650, and must provide notice to state agencies and all local governments in the Metro area. The forecast must be adopted as part of the applicable regional or local plan.
(4) The Metro forecast must be developed using commonly accepted practices and standards for population forecasting used by professional practitioners in the field of demography or economics. The forecast must be based on current, reliable and objective sources and verifiable factual information, and must take into account documented long-term demographic trends as well as recent events that have a reasonable likelihood of changing historical trends. Metro must coordinate with the Portland State University Population Research Center in the development and allocation of its forecast.

(5) The population forecast developed under the provisions of this rule is a prediction which, although based on the best available information and methodology, should not be held to an unreasonably high level of precision. For a forecast used as a basis for a decision adopting or amending the Metro regional urban growth boundary submitted to the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) under ORS 197.626, the director of DLCD or the Land Conservation and Development Commission may approve the forecast provided it finds that any failure to meet a particular requirement of this rule is insignificant and is unlikely to have a significant effect on the determination of long term needs for the Metro urban area under OAR 660-024-0040.

660-032-0040

Interim Forecasts

(1) If a local government outside the Metro boundary initiates a periodic review or any other legislative review of its comprehensive plan that concerns an urban growth boundary or other matter authorized by section (2) of this rule, before the date the Portland State University Population Research Center issues a final population forecast for the local government in the first forecasting cycle described in OAR 577-050-0040(7), the local government may continue its review using a population forecast that was acknowledged before the review was initiated, provided the forecast was:

(a) Adopted by the local government not more than 10 years before the date of initiation, as a part of the comprehensive plan consistent with the requirements of ORS 195.034 and 195.036 as those sections were in effect immediately before July 1, 2013, and

(b) Acknowledged as provided in ORS 197.251 or 197.625 prior to the effective date of this rule.

(2) The authorization to use the forecast described in section (1) applies only to a periodic review or a legislative review of the comprehensive plan that concerns:

(a) An urban growth boundary review or amendment as provided in Goal 14 and OAR 660, div 24;
(b) Economic development (Goal 9)
(c) Housing needs (Goal 10);
(d) Public facilities (Goal 11); or
(e) Transportation (Goal 12).

(3) For purposes of section (1) of this rule, if the acknowledged forecast was adopted by the applicable county and if the forecast allocated population forecasts to the urban areas in the county, but was not adopted by a city in that county, the city may apply the allocated forecast as necessary for the purposes described in section (2) of this rule.

(4) If the forecast is consistent with sections (1)(a) and (1)(b) of this rule but does not provide a forecast for the applicable planning period for the purposes described in section (2), the local government may apply an extended forecast for such purpose. The extended forecast shall be developed by applying the long term growth trend that was assumed in the acknowledged forecast, for the particular planning area, to the current population of the planning area.

(5) If no forecast that meets the requirements of sections (1)(a) and (1)(b) of this rule has been adopted and acknowledged, the local government may adopt an interim forecast for purposes described in section (2) of this rule. The interim forecast must be based on the average annual (annualized) growth rate for the planning period provided in the most recent population forecast for the county issued by the Oregon Office of Economic Analysis (OEA), consistent with section (6) of this rule. The local government shall adopt the interim forecast following the procedures and requirements in ORS 197.610 to 197.650 and shall provide notice to all local governments in the county.

(6) The interim forecast described in section (5) must be developed by applying the annualized growth rate, for the planning area for the nearest applicable planning period published in the most recent OEA forecast, to the current population of the planning area.

(7) For purposes of this rule:

(a) “Annualized growth rate” means the forecasted average annual (annualized) growth rate published in the most recent OEA forecast.

(b) “Current population of the planning area” for a county means the estimated population of the county issued by PRC for the year that the review described in section (1) of this rule is initiated.

(c) “Current population of the planning area” for an urban area means the PRC estimate of population of the city at the time the review is initiated plus the population for the area between the urban growth boundary and the city limits as determined by the most recent Decennial Census published by the U.S. Census Bureau.