

## Major Findings

Union County's population grew by 4 percent in the 1990s, but by less than 1 percent since 2000. The number of people with incomes less than the federal poverty level decreased from 1990 to 2000, but grew 18 percent between 2000 and 2007. The number of people with incomes less than the federal poverty level grew 18 percent between 2000 and 2007 to be three points above the state's rate at 15.9 percent. Poverty affected single mothers most dramatically, with a poverty rate of 40 percent.

At 5.6 percent, Union County's unemployment was slightly above the state average. Since 2001, the local economy added 408 jobs.

		Union County	Oregon	United States
<b>2007</b> (3 year avg)	<b>Number in Poverty</b>	<b>3,865</b>	<b>488,896</b>	<b>38,567,903</b>
	<b>Percent in Poverty</b>	15.9%	13.5%	13.3%
<b>2000-2007</b>	<b>Percent change in Number in Poverty</b>	17.8%	25.8%	13.8%
	<b>Percent change in Population</b>	0.9%	7.9%	6.2%
	<b>Number of additional people in Poverty</b>	<b>+ 584</b>	<b>+ 100,156</b>	<b>+ 4,668,091</b>
	<b>Number of additional Population</b>	+ 223	+ 263,630	+ 16,976,436

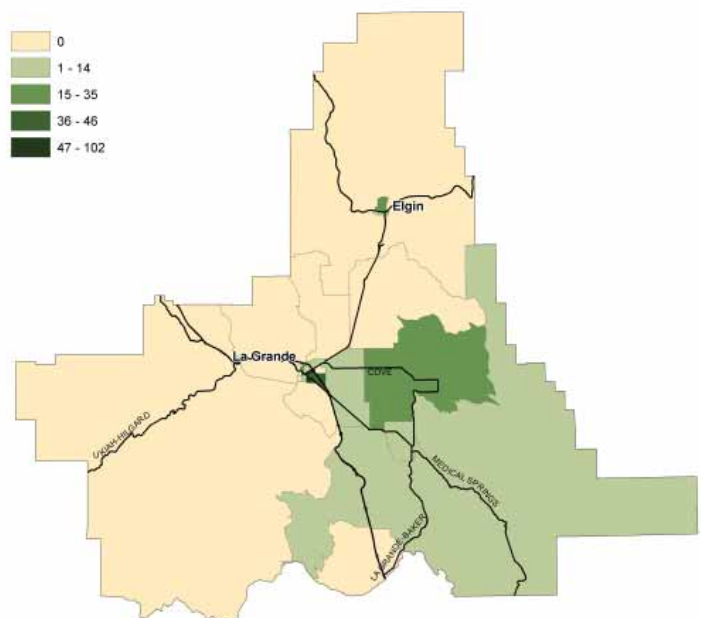
Lower-than-average living costs helped low-income families afford a basic budget, but pay was not adequate. A single mother with one young child needed an annual income \$1,344 less than in other rural areas. However, the \$12.20 an hour she would need to cover all her family's needs was less than most low-skill jobs paid. For instance, a store clerk in Union County averaged \$10.08 in hourly pay.

## Community Action Agency

Community Connection of NE Oregon (CCNO)  
 104 Elm Street  
 LaGrande, OR 97850  
 (541) 963-3186  
[www.ccno.org](http://www.ccno.org)



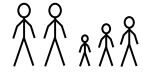
## Affordable Housing Units by Census Block Group



# Union County

## Basic Family Budget, an Alternative to the Federal Poverty Threshold

2007 Union County's  
Basic Family Budget



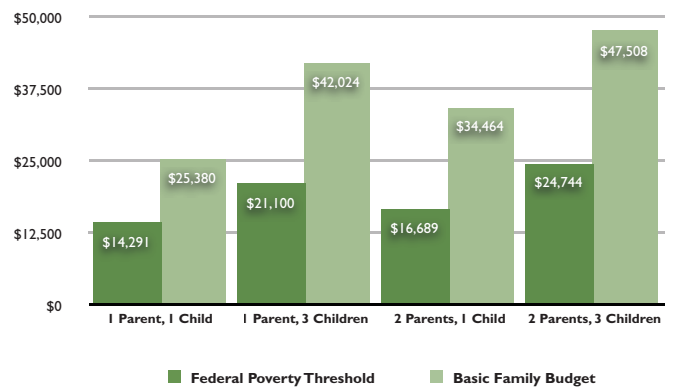
Householder(s)	1 Parent	1 Parent	2 Parents	2 Parents
Children	3-5 yr old	3-5 yr old, 6-8 yr old, and 9-11 yr old	3-5 yr old	3-5 yr old, 6-8 yr old, and 9-11 yr old
Housing	\$583	\$851	\$583	\$851
Food	\$316	\$615	\$512	\$774
Child Care	\$378	\$916	\$378	\$916
Transportation	\$390	\$390	\$524	\$524
Healthcare	\$247	\$308	\$359	\$424
Other Necessities	\$279	\$454	\$339	\$504
Taxes	-\$78	-\$32	\$177	-\$34
Monthly Total	\$2,115	\$3,502	\$2,872	\$3,959
<b>Annual Total</b>	<b>\$25,380</b>	<b>\$42,024</b>	<b>\$34,464</b>	<b>\$47,508</b>
Hourly Wage needed for Basic Family Budget	\$12.20	\$20.20	\$8.28	\$11.42
Federal Poverty Threshold (FPT)	\$14,291	\$21,100	\$16,689	\$24,744
<b>Percent of Basic Family Budget</b>	<b>56.3%</b>	<b>50.2%</b>	<b>48.4%</b>	<b>52.1%</b>

### Low-Income Needs

Community Connection of Northeast Oregon, Inc. identified the following needs of Union County's low-income population:

- Transportation
- Emergency services
- Kids Club
- Housing
- Food Bank
- Energy assistance and weatherization
- Information and referral
- Summer Food Service Program










**Basic Family Budget vs. Federal Poverty Threshold**



## Population and Economy

Union County Employment	2007 Number of Positions	2006-2007 Change in Number of Positions	2007 Percent Gain in Positions	2007 Average Pay Per Position
Industries with the Largest Number of Employees, 2007				
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	1,933	96	5%	\$25,036
Manufacturing	1,551	-6	-0%	\$39,544
Education & Health Services	1,275	36	3%	\$31,585
Greatest Increase in the Number of Positions				
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	1,933	96	5%	\$25,036
Construction	543	81	18%	\$33,107
Education & Health Services	1,275	36	3%	\$31,585
Greatest Decrease in the Number of Positions				
Local Government	1,058	-10	-1%	\$30,043
State Government	958	-8	-1%	\$37,841
Manufacturing	1,551	-6	-0%	\$39,544

## Population Change Since 2000

	2000-2007 % Growth	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
OREGON	 9.0%	3,436,750	3,471,700	3,504,700	3,541,500	3,582,600	3,631,440	3,690,505	3,745,455
UNION	 2.9%	24,550	24,550	24,600	24,650	24,850	24,950	25,110	25,250
Cove	 4.2%	595	590	620	640	620	620	620	620
Elgin	 1.8%	1,655	1,660	1,630	1,650	1,650	1,655	1,670	1,685
Imbler	 3.5%	285	280	290	290	290	290	295	295
Island City	 5.9%	925	920	920	920	920	955	960	980
La Grande	 4.1%	12,340	12,420	12,450	12,500	12,510	12,525	12,540	12,850
North Powder	 2.0%	490	490	490	490	490	490	490	500
Summerville	 4.3%	115	120	120	120	120	120	120	120
Union	 1.6%	1,930	1,960	1,920	1,950	1,950	1,960	1,960	1,960
Unincorporated	 0.4%	6,215	6,110	6,160	6,090	6,300	6,335	6,455	6,240

# Union County

## 2007 Community Action Agency Activities

### Transportation

provided 1,118 people with 63,852 rides to work, shopping, and other activities

### Emergency Services

placed 186 households with 434 people into stable housing or a shelter

### Kids Club

offered a place for parents to take 215 children (unduplicated count) while they worked or attended school at Kids Club, a stable, safe, and structured before- and after-school care center for children five to 12 years of age

### Housing

provided education to lenders, realtors, and local officials regarding affordable housing issues and services

### Food Bank

provided 10,289 food boxes to 3,998 people

### Energy Assistance and Weatherization

provided 1,109 households and 2,495 people with case management and conservation to reduce shut-offs and high energy costs

assisted nine households and 19 people with insulation, window replacement, and pipe and duct wrapping

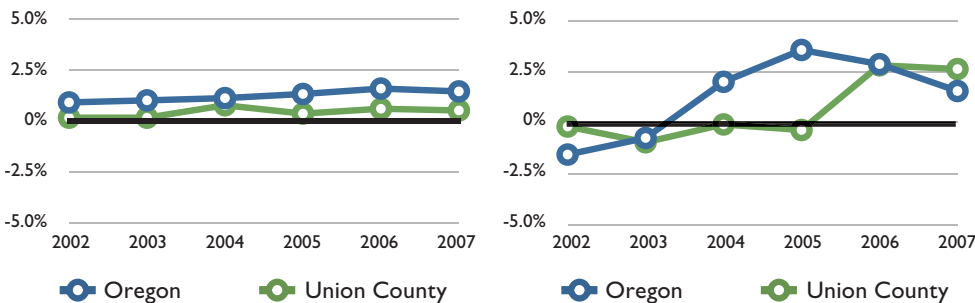
### Information and Referral

responded to 11,750 requests for information or referrals for assistance

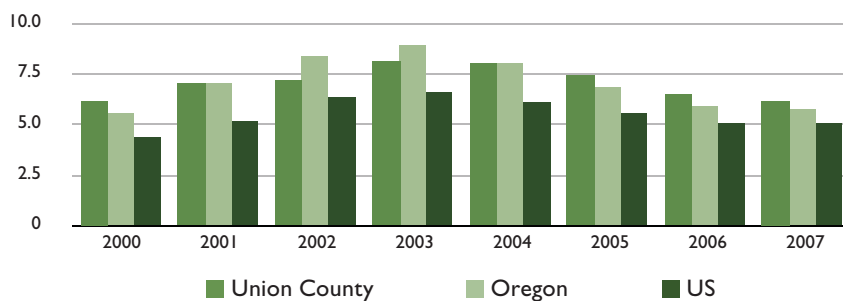
### Summer Food Service Program

served 5,753 meals during the summer months to children one to 18 years of age

## Population Change vs. Employment Change Since 2001



## Unemployment Rates



### Birth Rates

2002-2005, average Birth Rate per 1,000

Union County

12

State of Oregon

13

2002-2005, average Teenage Birth Rate per 1,000 females ages 15-19

Union County

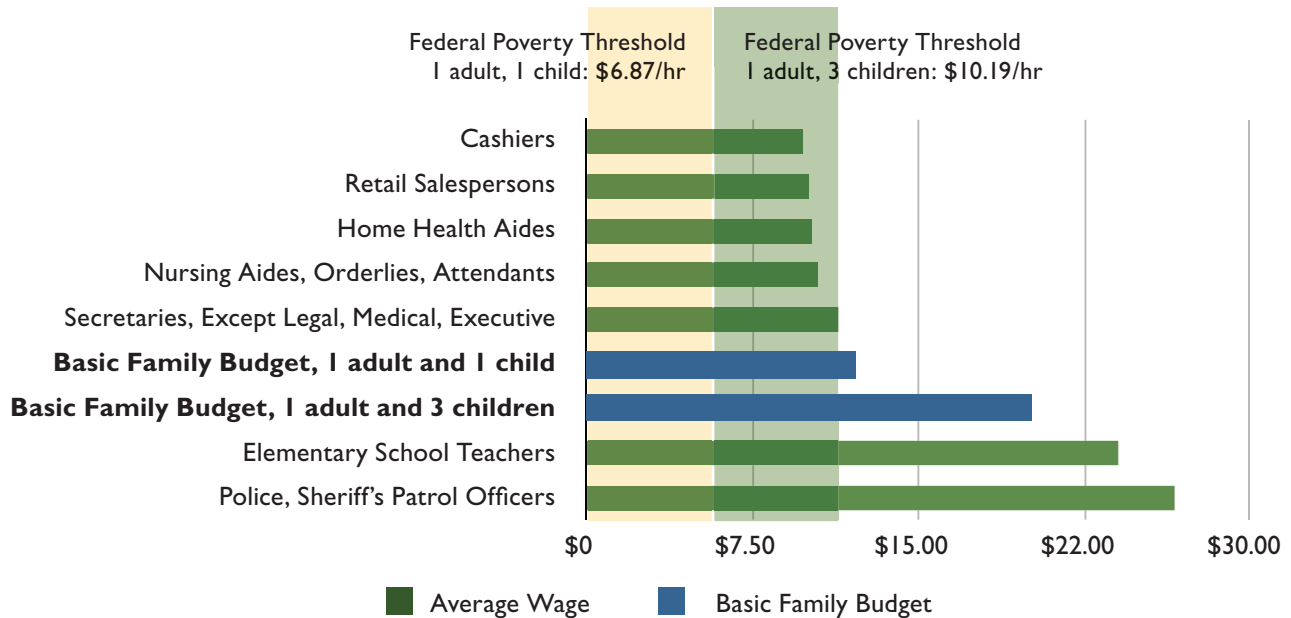
31

State of Oregon

34

## Average Hourly Wages 2007

### Occupational Earnings



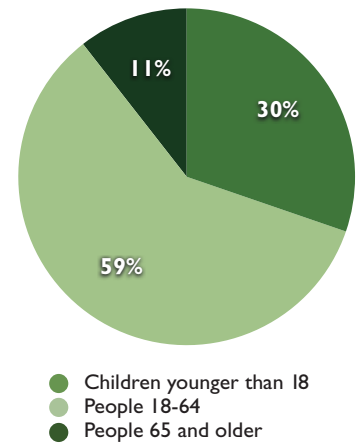
## Poverty Population Characteristics

Poverty Rates by Age & Disability Status - 2005-2007 avg.	% in Poverty	% of People in Poverty	% of all Population
Total Population	16%	-	-
Children younger than 18	22%	30%	22%
People 18-64	15%	59%	62%
People 65 and older	11%	11%	16%
People with a disability	23%	32%	21%

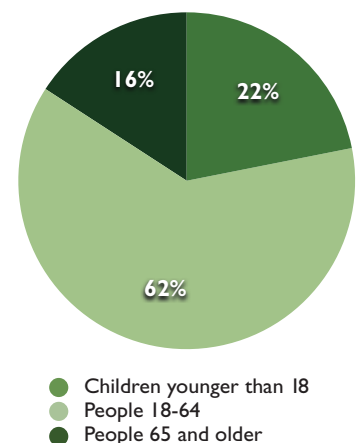
Poverty Rates by Family - 2005-2007 avg.	% in Poverty	% of Families in Poverty	% of all Families
All Families	11%	-	-
Families with children under 18	19%	70%	40%
Single women with children under 18	52%	43%	9%

Poverty Rates by Race/Ethnicity - 2005-2007 avg.	% in Poverty	% of People in Poverty	% of all Population
Total Population	16%	-	-
White	15%	89%	93%
Black	--	--	0%
American Indian	--	--	1%
Asian	--	--	1%
Pacific Islander	--	--	1%
Other	--	--	1%
2 or more races	33%	4%	2%
Hispanic origin	25%	5%	3%

## Poverty by Age – 2007



## Population by Age – 2007



-- indicates data was suppressed due to confidentiality.

# Union County

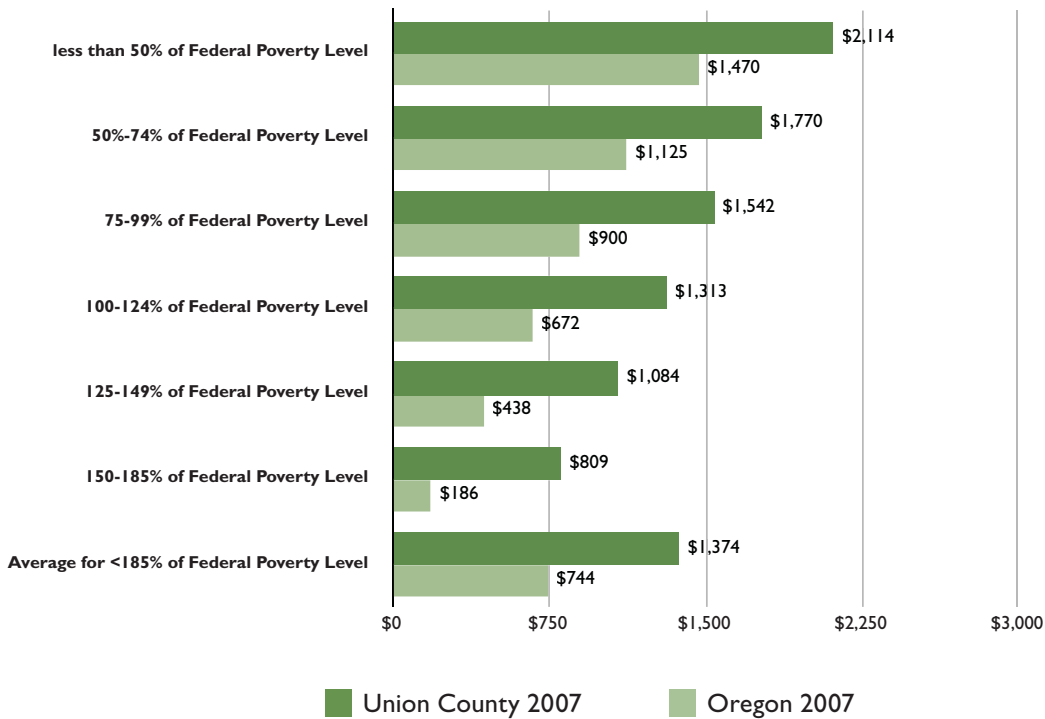
## 2005-2007 Household Incomes

	Union County	Oregon	United States
<b>Median Household Income</b>	<b>\$40,413</b>	<b>\$47,385</b>	<b>\$50,007</b>
Owner Median Household Income	\$51,409	\$60,521	\$62,257
Renter Median Household Income	\$26,606	\$29,072	\$30,473
Total Households	9,782	1,447,409	111,609,629
Renters percent income spent on housing	27%	30%	30%
Owners percent income spent on housing	19%	23%	21%
<b>Extremely Low Income (30% of Median Household Income)</b>	<b>\$12,124</b>	<b>\$14,216</b>	<b>\$15,002</b>
Households earning 0-30% Median Household Income	1,199	181,434	14,381,176
Burdened households earning 0-30% Median Household Income	933	149,466	11,433,225
% Burdened	<b>78%</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>80%</b>
<b>Very Low Income (50% of Median Household Income)</b>	<b>\$20,207</b>	<b>\$23,693</b>	<b>\$25,004</b>
Households earning 31-50% Median Household Income	805	135,298	10,783,159
Burdened households earning 31-50% Median Household Income	614	95,037	7,003,062
% Burdened	<b>76%</b>	<b>70%</b>	<b>65%</b>
<b>Low Income (80% of Median Household Income)</b>	<b>\$32,330</b>	<b>\$37,908</b>	<b>\$40,006</b>
Households earning 51-80% Median Household Income	1,579	231,309	17,296,662
Burdened households earning 51-80% Median Household Income	442	120,261	8,218,676
% Burdened	<b>28%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>48%</b>
<b>Workforce (120% of Median Household Income)</b>	<b>\$48,496</b>	<b>\$56,862</b>	<b>\$60,008</b>
Households earning 81-120% Median Household Income	1,689	257,185	18,942,358
Burdened households earning 81-120% Median Household Income	336	83,365	5,594,941
% Burdened	<b>20%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>30%</b>

Note: Burden is defined as spending more than 30 percent of household income on gross housing costs (includes utilities).

## Energy

### Individual Household Energy Shortfall



## Health Indicators

2006 Percent of Population without Health Insurance (by Region)

Union County	State of Oregon
<b>14%</b>	<b>16%</b>

2007 Number of Primary Care Providers per 100,000

Union County	State of Oregon
<b>96</b>	<b>112</b>

2006 Percentage of 2 year olds who are "adequately" immunized

Union County	State of Oregon
<b>51%</b>	<b>71%</b>

2002-2005, average % of adults who consume at least 5 servings of fruits & vegetables per day

Union County	State of Oregon
<b>22%</b>	<b>26%</b>

2002-2005, average Percent of Adults who Smoke Cigarettes

Union County	State of Oregon
<b>20%</b>	<b>20%</b>



Local farmers and volunteers provide access to fresh vegetables.

# Union County

## How We Help

Union County Services	2000	2004	2005	2006	2007
New units created with OHCS funding resources	43	0	60	40	96
OHCS funding for affordable housing	\$981,000	\$0	\$2,349,886	\$100,000	\$5,714,084
Single Family Loans for low-income households-#	24	6	7	5	21
Single Family Loans for low-income households-\$	\$1,411,681	\$559,542	\$604,858	\$510,977	\$2,412,685
Households receiving energy assistance-#	869	670	754	798	814
Units weatherized-#	--	14	8	11	12
Units weatherized-\$	--	\$41,364	\$35,795	\$39,538	\$57,326
Average per unit weatherized-\$	--	\$2,955	\$4,474	\$3,594	\$4,777
Oregon Health Plan enrollment-%	14%	13%*	13%	13%	12%
Students eligible for free/reduced lunch-#	1,346	1,532	1,685	1,552	1,523
Students eligible free/reduced lunch-%	32%	40%	42%	40%	39%
Population receiving Food Stamps-%	--	19%	19%	19%	19%
Population receiving TANF-%	--	3%	3%	3%	3%

\* indicates that data cannot be compared to previous years due to changes in data collection.  
 -- indicates data is not available.

## Homelessness

### One Night Overview

Union County 2008 One Night Count	
Total Homeless Households	16
<b>Total Homeless Population</b>	<b>56</b>
<i>Total in Emergency Shelter</i>	<b>56</b>
<i>Total in Transitional Housing</i>	<b>0</b>
<i>Total Turnaway &amp; Street Count</i>	<b>0</b>
<b>Chronically Homeless Population</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Unaccompanied Pregnant Youth</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Households with Children</b>	<b>14</b>
Stated Causes of Homelessness:**	
Couldn't afford rent	<b>69%</b>
Unemployed	<b>56%</b>
Pregnancy	<b>38%</b>
Credit	<b>25%</b>
Medical Problem	<b>25%</b>
Poor Rental History	<b>25%</b>
Criminal History	<b>19%</b>
Domestic Violence	<b>19%</b>
Drug/Alcohol (Self)	<b>13%</b>
Child Abuse	<b>6%</b>

\*\*Respondents may give more than one reason

### Risk Factors

2006-2007, school year  
High School Dropout Rate

Union  
County  
**3%**

State of  
Oregon  
**4%**

2005-2006, school year  
Percent of 8th graders who  
reported using illicit drugs in  
the previous 30 days

Union  
County  
**1%**

State of  
Oregon  
**16%**

2006  
Criminal Offenses,  
percent of population

Union  
County  
**10%**

State of  
Oregon  
**12%**