

## Major findings

Clackamas County's per capita income was 121 percent above the state average and 112 percent above the national average.

Unemployment in 2005 dropped to 5.4 percent, nearing 2001's rate of 5.3 percent, after reaching a high of 7.5 percent in 2003. During this same time period, 2001 to 2005, Clackamas County gained 9,627 positions. State government experienced the largest growth at 140.2 percent, primarily due to the reclassification of home care workers. (See Oregon Summary.)

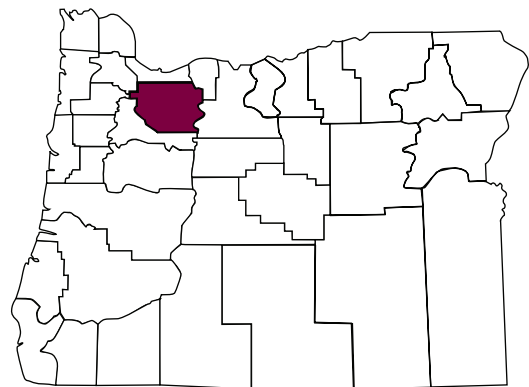
In 2005, families with one worker supporting a child would need to earn \$2,914 a month to afford basic family expenses. Families earning poverty level wages could afford 35.9 percent to 39.1 percent of the basic family expenses.

In 1999, 4,279 families lived in poverty and children younger than 18 had the highest rate of poverty. Twenty-two percent of families headed by single women with children lived in poverty.

## Prioritized low-income needs

Clackamas County Social Services prioritized the needs of the low-income population in Clackamas County as follows:

- Safe, permanent and affordable housing for people with low and moderate incomes
- Affordable public transportation services to employment, commercial, civic and social services
- Food, including emergency food pantries, food stamps and child nutrition resources
- Culturally sensitive access to service for Non-English speakers
- A coordinated health and social services network that meets the needs of people with low incomes, the elderly and persons with disabilities
- Programs and services that assist citizens to remain in their own homes, both through intervention services and on-going supports, including financial management and personal care
- Easily accessed and coordinated information and referral for social services
- Opportunities for individuals of all ages to participate meaningfully as volunteers in their communities



## Clackamas County

### Recent efforts

Clackamas County Social Services coordinated a count of people who were homeless in January 2005. The process began to define the scope of the problem in rural Clackamas County. The county identified 2,484 homeless persons and projected a total of 7,426 unsheltered homeless persons in the county. Families with children represented 78 percent of the people counted.

The county's social service agency will present a new homeless policy and a 10 Year Plan to Address Homelessness to Clackamas County commissioners by the end of 2006.

A new county-wide citizen advisory group, Clackamas Housing Action Network (CHAN), advises the county on affordable housing issues and needs.

Since May 2004, the Homeless Outreach Projects and Evaluations (HOPE) has sought to improve access to Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Income (SSDI) for people with disabilities experiencing homelessness. Through referral and advocacy, the program stabilizes clients and supports them in recovery and achieving independence.

The Catch-A-Ride Program, launched in May 2006, provides essential transportation services to low-income individuals and job training for drivers. It addresses unmet transportation needs of low-income citizens and welfare-to-work clients currently underserved by public transportation.

Clackamas County Social Services' Jackson Place Transitional Housing Program provided a stable housing situation for a 45-year-old woman coming out of shelter with a history of chronic homelessness, incarceration and addiction. Years of drug use left this participant with severe dental issues that required all her teeth to be pulled and for dentures to be made. A previous program helped her access dental care; however they were unable to make dentures that fit properly and did not cause her severe pain. She wound up having no teeth at all for a while. Despite this challenge, she found an employer that would hire her to manage his optical shop if she was able to get dentures that fit. A local dentist was willing to make adjustments that resulted in her being able to have a smile again.

Jackson Place helped her access medications she needed until she was able sign up and get approved for the low-income prescription assistance programs. She was also provided assistance with transportation services so she could maintain employment and affordable housing. The participant was provided with study materials needed to regain certification as an optician so she could increase her wages.

## County income

According to the Bureau of Economic Analysis, Clackamas County's per capita personal income was \$37,094 in 2004, 121 percent of the state average of \$30,561, and 112 percent of the national average, \$33,050. Per capita income in Clackamas County rose 4.3 percent between 2003 and 2004. The 1994 to 2004 trend for per capita income shows average annual growth of 4 percent. Average earnings per job in 2004 were \$36,541 in Clackamas County compared to \$35,005 for the state.

## Basic family budget

According to a US Department of Agriculture report, between 2002 and 2004 11.9 percent of Oregon households struggled to meet their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Clackamas County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses. To learn more about this basic family budget, see Appendix 2.

### 2005 Clackamas County's basic family budget

Basic family budget/month	1 adult and 1 child	1 adult and 3 children	2 adults and 1 child	2 adults and 3 children
Housing	\$717	\$1,044	\$717	\$1,044
Food	\$303	\$580	\$479	\$722
Child care	\$549	\$1,117	\$549	\$1,117
Transportation	\$326	\$326	\$458	\$458
Health care	\$239	\$249	\$324	\$360
Other necessities	\$316	\$503	\$371	\$547
Taxes	\$464	\$670	\$531	\$711
Basic family budget needed/month	\$2,914	\$4,489	\$3,429	\$4,959
Basic family budget total/annual	\$34,968	\$53,868	\$41,148	\$59,508
Hourly wage needed for basic family budget	\$16.81	\$25.90	\$19.78	\$28.61
Poverty threshold	\$12,830	\$19,350	\$16,090	\$22,610
% Of basic budget	36.7%	35.9%	39.1%	38.0%

## What the poverty threshold buys

Families with incomes at the poverty level in Clackamas County could afford 35.9 percent to 39.1 percent of this basic family budget.

## Clackamas County

### Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average monthly earnings in Clackamas County in 2005 were \$3,148. Of all sectors, financial activities paid the highest monthly average of \$4,498; leisure and hospitality paid the lowest monthly average of \$1,197.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Clackamas County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages. Clackamas County's average wage in 2005 could not fund the basic family budget for a single adult with three children.

#### 2005 Clackamas County wages and the basic family budget

	1 worker	1 worker	2 workers	2 workers
	1 adult and 1 child	1 adult and 3 children	2 adults and 1 child	2 adults and 3 children
Average monthly wage (AMW)*	\$3,148	\$3,148	\$6,296	\$6,296
Self sufficiency wage (SSW)**	\$2,914	\$4,489	\$3,429	\$4,959
Difference (AMW-SSW)	\$234	-\$1,341	\$2,867	\$1,337
Wages as % of self sufficiency	108.0%	70.1%	183.6%	127.0%
* Source: Oregon Covered Employment and Wages 2005				
**Based on basic family budget for Clackamas County				

### Employment

According to Oregon's Covered Employment and Wages (CES), Clackamas County gained 9,627 positions from 2001 to 2005.

# Clackamas County

## Largest three industries in Clackamas County 2005

	Number of positions 2005	Number of positions gained/lost	Average annual pay*
Trade, transportation and utilities	33,243	+ 772	\$36,544
Manufacturing	18,001	+ 186	\$46,217
Retail	17,192	+ 456	\$25,894

\*Oregon Covered Employment and Wages 2005

State government saw a large gain—140.2 percent—from 1,095 positions to 2,630, primarily due to a reclassification of home care workers. (See Oregon Summary.) During the same period, the federal government saw the largest decrease—37.4 percent—from 2,005 positions to 1,256.

## 2000 US Census information

### Number of persons below poverty level (poverty rate)

	1989	1999	% Change (rate difference)
Clackamas County	19,103 (6.9%)	21,969 (6.6%)	15.0% (-0.4%)
Oregon	344,867 (12.4%)	388,740 (11.6%)	12.7% (-0.8%)
United States	31,742,864 (13.1%)	33,899,812 (12.4%)	6.8% (-0.7%)

Source: US Census

### Rates of poverty by age (1979-1999)

	All	Children younger than 18	People 18-64	People 65 and older
1979	6.0%	6.9%	5.2%	9.0%
1989	6.9%	8.3%	6.1%	8.2%
1999	6.6%	8.1%	6.2%	5.1%

Source: US Census

Children younger than 18 years of age experienced the highest rates of poverty in 1999.

## Clackamas County

### Clackamas County poverty and race/ethnicity

Race/ethnicity	% Total population 1999 (population)	% Poverty population 1999 (poverty population)	Poverty rate by race 1999	Poverty rate by race 1989
White	91.2% (305,531)	81.3% (17,866)	5.8%	6.6%
Black	0.6% (2,113)	1.0% (209)	9.9%	28.5%
American Indian	0.7% (2,065)	0.8% (180)	8.7%	12.0%
Asian/Pacific Islander	2.4%/0.2% (8,092/599)	1.7%/0.4% (377/93)	4.7%/15.5%	13.3%*
Other	2.4% (7,881)	9.2% (2,027)	25.7%	22.2%
2 or more races	2.6% (8,841)	5.5% (1,217)	13.8%	NA
Hispanic origin	5.0% (16,852)	15.9% (3,487)	20.7%	20.3%

\*Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 census

### Poverty and Clackamas County families

In 1999, 4,279 of Clackamas County's 92,458 families lived in poverty (4.6 percent). Of the 4,279 families in poverty, 57.7 percent (2,468 families) had a worker and 16.1 percent (691 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

### Clackamas County families in poverty

Number below poverty level (poverty rate)	1979	1989	1999	% Change 1979-1999 (rate difference)
All families	3,032 (4.6%)	3,609 (4.7%)	4,279 (4.6%)	41.1% (0.0%)
With children younger than 18	2,201 (6.0%)	2,755 (7.0%)	3,325 (7.1%)	51.1% (1.1%)
Single women with children younger than 18	1,045 (23.2%)	1,465 (28.0%)	1,674 (22.1%)	60.2% (-1.1%)

Source: US Census

## Clackamas County

Poverty Measures	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Population	338,39 <sup>1</sup>	345,347	352,248	357,03 <sup>2</sup>	362,681	368,470
People living below poverty level-%	6.6% <sup>1</sup>	NA	NA	9.2% <sup>2</sup>	8.7% <sup>2</sup>	9.1% <sup>2</sup>
Median income	\$52,080 <sup>1</sup>	NA	\$51,778 <sup>2</sup>	\$52,316 <sup>2</sup>	\$56,419 <sup>2</sup>	\$54,480 <sup>2</sup>
Unemployment rate	4.1	5.3	6.9	7.5	6.6	5.4
8th grade drug use	11.9%	NA	14.0%	18.9%	11.7%	14.4%
HS dropout	3.3%	3.0%	2.9%	2.5%	3.0%	NA
Teen pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	11.1	8.2	7.0	8.5	NA	NA
Prenatal care	84.6%	84.0%	85.0%	83.5%	NA	NA
Child care available per 100 children under 13	17.5	16.5	17.0	NA	15.1	NA
Homeownership rate	71.1% <sup>1</sup>	NA	66.9% <sup>2</sup>	70.0% <sup>2</sup>	69.8% <sup>2</sup>	NA
Renters with 30% or more rental burden-%	41.7% <sup>1</sup>	NA	59.0% <sup>2</sup>	55.8% <sup>2</sup>	54.9% <sup>2</sup>	NA
Clackamas County Services	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
One night shelter counts	186	224	209	168	197*	183
New units created with OHCS funding resources	118	501	102	91	218*	168
OHCS funding for affordable housing	\$5.4 m	\$20.6 m	\$2.0 m	\$3.0 m	\$2.4 m*	\$3.8 m
Home loans for low-income households-#	27	35	34	41	45	41
Home loans for low-income households-\$	\$3.1 m	\$4.2 m	\$4.0 m	\$5.3 m	\$6.2 m	\$6.3 m
Households receiving energy assistance-#	3,899	4,633	4,958	3,741	4,537	NA
Units weatherized-#	NA	NA	NA	82	327	217
Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan-%	NA	NA	11.8%	9.2%	7.0%*	6.5%
Students eligible for free/reduced lunch-#	11,063	11,650	12,914	14,664	15,468	NA
Students eligible free/reduced lunch-%	20.2%	21.0%	23.0%	25.9%	27.1%	NA
Population receiving Food Stamps-%	NA	NA	9.0%	7.6%	6.3%*	6.5%
Population receiving TANF-%	NA	NA	1.6%	1.2%	0.6%*	0.6%
Population receiving DHS services-%	NA	15.0%	16.2%	13.6%	NA	NA
NA = Not Available						
* Cannot be compared to previous years due to changes in data collection.						
<sup>1</sup> 2000 US Census.						
<sup>2</sup> American Community Survey.						