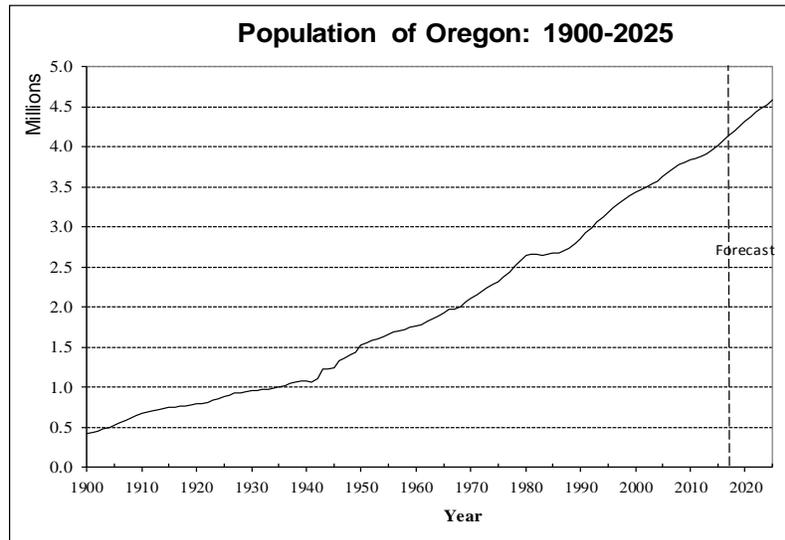


# **OREGON'S DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS**

Office of Economic Analysis  
Department of Administrative Services  
State of Oregon  
December 2017

Contact: [kanhaiya.L.VAIDYA@oregon.gov](mailto:kanhaiya.L.VAIDYA@oregon.gov)

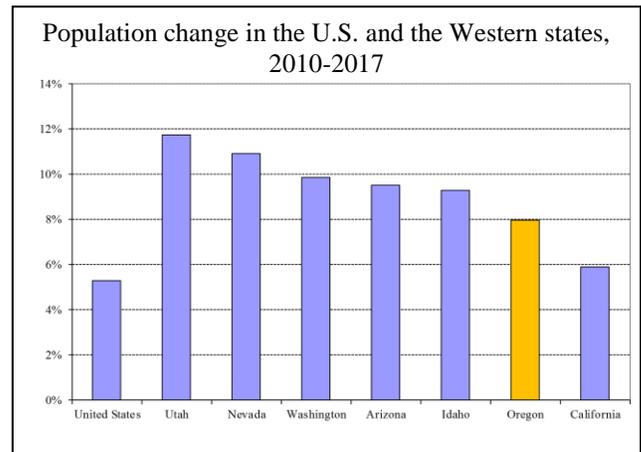
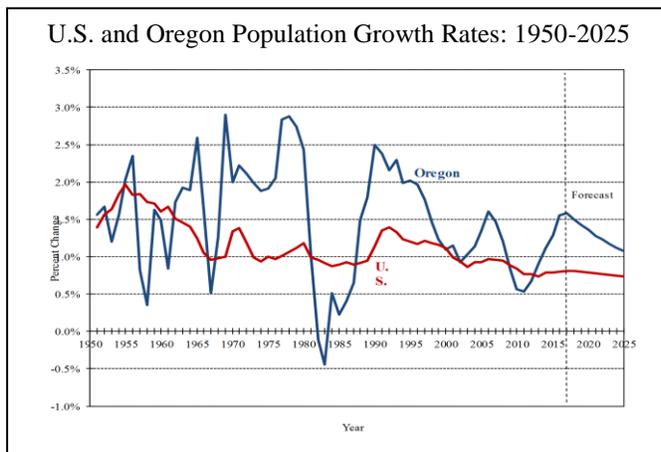
## Oregon's population change



Source: U.S. Bureau of Census; and Oregon Office of Economic Analysis.

- Oregon's estimated population reached 4.14 million on July 1, 2017. This is an increase of 310,026 persons or 8.1 percent since the 2010 Census count. Population growth slowed in the years following the recession of 2009 and slow economic recovery following the recession. However, with the improving economy, population growth has picked up the speed in recent years. During the rapid economic expansion of 1990s, Oregon's population growth rate was 11th highest in the nation. That ranking dropped to 23rd between 2010 and 2013 reflecting the effect of the recent recessions. Oregon's ranking in terms of population growth rate in the nation has recovered tremendously since then. Currently, Oregon's growth rate ranks in the top 10 in the nation.
- Over the long run, Oregon has retained the distinction of being a major destination for migrants in the United States. Since 2010, 74 percent of the population growth was due to net in-migration. Oregon's population growth changes with its economic and employment outlook for the state and relative to other states. Population growth in the near future is expected to continue the path of high growth in sync with the growing economy. Oregon's population is expected to reach 4.6 million in 2025 with an annual rate of growth approaching 1.3 percent.
- The population of Oregon increased by 11.8 percent during the 2000-10 decade, down from 20.0 percent increase during the preceding decade. Annual rate of growth declined from 1.8 percent during 1990s to 1.1 percent between 2000 and 2010 then to 1.1 percent between 2010 and 2017. In the past 25 years, Oregon's population growth slowed down considerably as the state's economy transitioned from boom to bust between 2009 and 2013. In 2017, as the economy recovered, the annual growth rate climbed to 1.6 percent. A rapid growth like this is unsustainable in the long run.

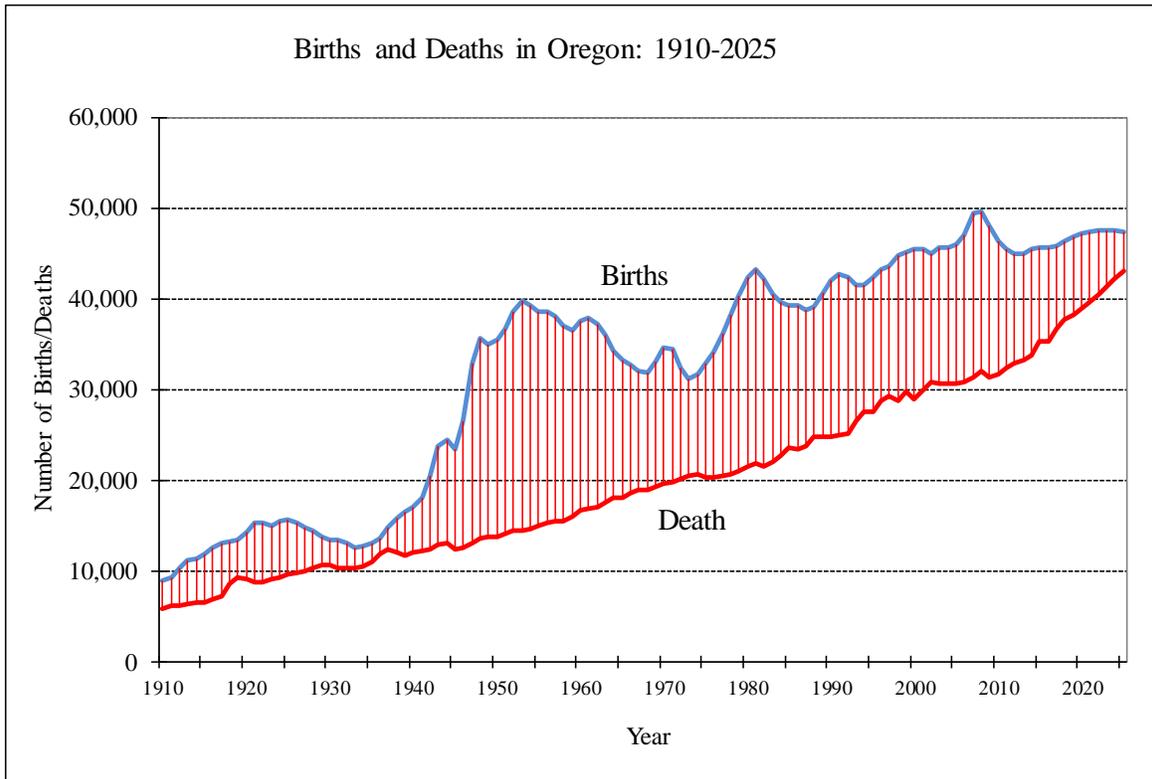
- High population growth rates during the decades of 70s and 90s were accompanied by economic expansion in the state. In general higher population growth is associated with healthy economy characterized by higher employment and overall economic prosperity. Higher population growth facilitates, in general, supply side of the economy by providing much needed labor, and demand side of the economy by adding the consumers inside the state. Additionally, faster population growth also exert long-term effect on greater traffic congestion, expanding urban areas at the cost of diminishing agricultural land, greater demand for affordable housing, childcare services, and increased demand for public services, among others.



Source: U.S. Bureau of Census; and Oregon Office of Economic Analysis.

- The chart above shows that Oregon’s population, in general, has been increasing at a faster pace than the U.S. population as a whole. Between 1950 and 2017, Oregon’s population increased by 170 percent, whereas U.S. population increased by 115 percent.
- Oregon was hit harder by the recent recession than many other states. Since economy and migration are closely related, Oregon’s population slowed down considerably due to the decline in in-migration as employment opportunities diminished and housing market collapsed. More recently, Oregon’s annual growth rate dipped below national average from 2008 through 2012. However, it has recovered to above national average since then.
- Although Oregon’s population growth remains higher than U.S. rate and ranks fairly high in national scale, growth in other western neighboring states, except California, outpaced the growth in Oregon.
- In the long run, Oregon’s growth rate is expected to remain higher than the U.S. rate.

## Components of population change



Source: U.S. Bureau of Census, Oregon Center for Health Statistics, and Oregon Office of Economic Analysis.

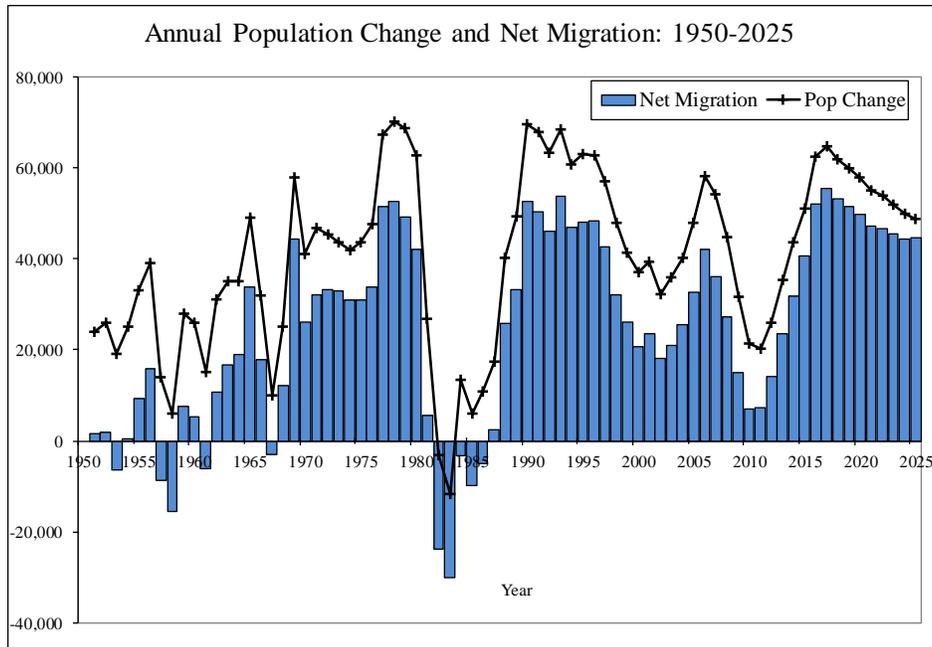
- Annual number of births in the past has fluctuated based on the fertility behavior of women and the number of women in child-bearing ages.
- Currently, about 46,000 children are born each year in Oregon. The annual number of births will approach 47,400 by 2025 as the number of women in child-bearing ages increase, despite the slight slide in fertility rate.
- Since 1950, the life-time average number of children per women (**total fertility rate**) fluctuated from a high of 3.6 in 1960 to 1.7 in 1975. As couples choose to remain childless and women prefer to postpone childbearing to later ages because of lifestyle choices, the TFR is expected to remain slightly below 1.7 births per woman in the near future. The replacement level fertility is 2.1 children per woman – that is what it takes to replace a generation. Therefore, at the current TFR level, Oregon’s population is bound to decline without supplemented by migration.
- Majority of births in Oregon occur to married women. Only about 36 percent mothers to newborn were unmarried in 2016. This out-of-wedlock births has been increasing steadily over time. About 30 percent of the mothers were unmarried in the year 2000. In 2000, 11.3 percent of all births were to teen mothers, compared to 4.4 percent of births in 2016.

- As piece of good news in Oregon’s fertility behavior, the number of births to teen mothers has been declining. In the year 2000, there were 1,722 births to teen mothers. This declined to 996 in 2010 and it further declined to 491 births in 2016.
- Historical knowledge of birth pattern is important and interesting because they shape the current and future age structure of the population. The small number of depression era births and the huge number of births during the baby-boom period, for example, affected different familial, social and economic institutions in two extreme ways. These two extreme birth cohorts are currently responsible for shaping the retirement age and older working-age population of Oregon.
- Although overall health condition has been improving and people are living longer, the number of deaths in Oregon has been increasing as the result of increased number of total as well as number of elderly populations. Currently, the number of deaths totals about 37,000 per year. As the baby boom generation age, the annual number of deaths will increase very rapidly and will exceed 43,000 by the year 2025.

Life Expectancy at Birth, Oregon			
Year	Male	Female	Difference (Female-Male)
1970	68.4	76.2	7.8
1980	71.4	78.8	7.4
1990	73.4	79.8	6.4
2000	75.8	80.3	4.5
2010	77.4	81.8	4.4
2020	78.3	82.5	4.2

Sources: 1970 to 2000: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Center for Health Statistics. 2010 and 2020: Oregon Office of Economic Analysis

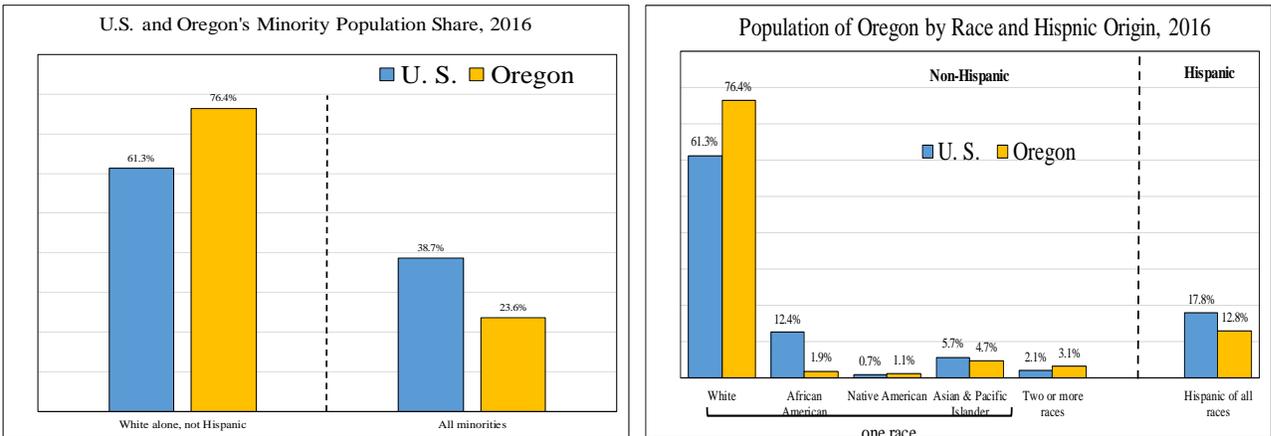
- In the past 40 years, between 1970 and 2010, life expectancy at birth in Oregon improved by 9.0 years for men and 5.6 years for women. Oregon’s life expectancy has remained slightly higher than the U.S. average. In general, women live longer than men. The life expectancies will continue to improve for both men and women. However, the rate of gain for men has been outpacing the gain for women. Consequently, the difference between women’s and men’s life expectancies has and will continue to diminish.



Source: U.S. Bureau of Census; and Oregon Office of Economic Analysis.

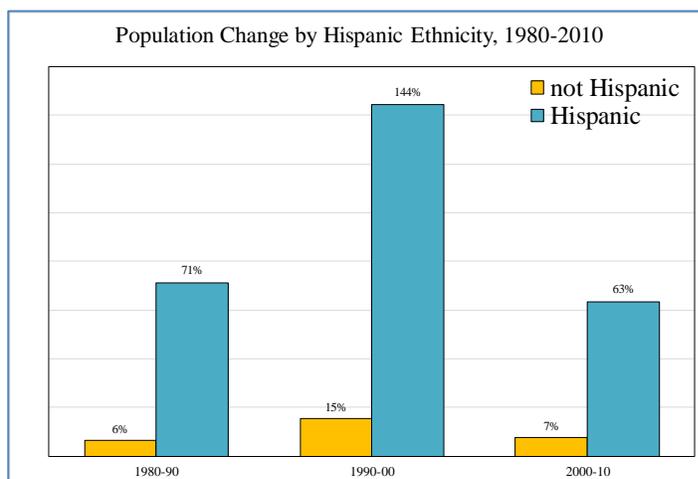
- Oregon's population change is greatly influenced by net migration. Migration in turn is affected by overall economy of the state. Because of the gloomy economic and employment situation in the state, migration flow slowed considerably between 2008 and 2013. Although the net migration did not turned negative, it came very close. Net migration volume since this recent recessionary period has bounced back quite impressively. The net migration of 55,500 in 2017 was the highest in the past 70 years.
- Currently, nearly 86 percent of population growth in Oregon is attributed to net in-migration. This shows the enormous role played by migration in our population growth and economy. For the years with positive population growth, the current ratio of net migration to population change was the highest in over 70 years. When Oregon economy was rapidly expanding during the 1990s, the average annual net migration of 41,500 accounted for nearly three-fourths of the population change. This share declined to 59 percent during the decade of 2000-10 averaging 24,800 annually. The contribution of migration in Oregon's population growth is expected to exceed the current level of 86 percent in the coming decade. The annual net migration since 2010 census averaged 32,200, and this will increase to 47,200 in the coming decade.

## Race and Ethnicity



Source: U.S. Bureau of Census.

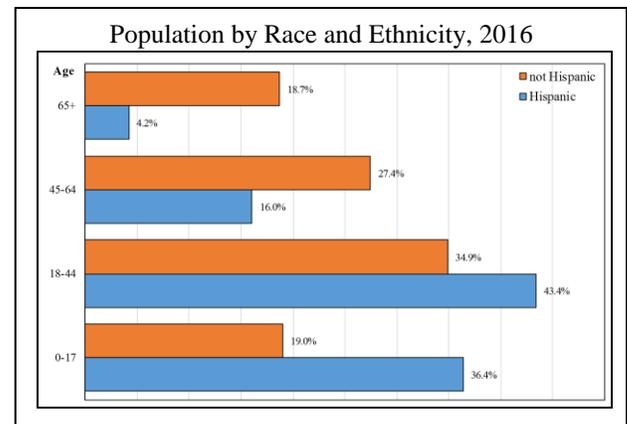
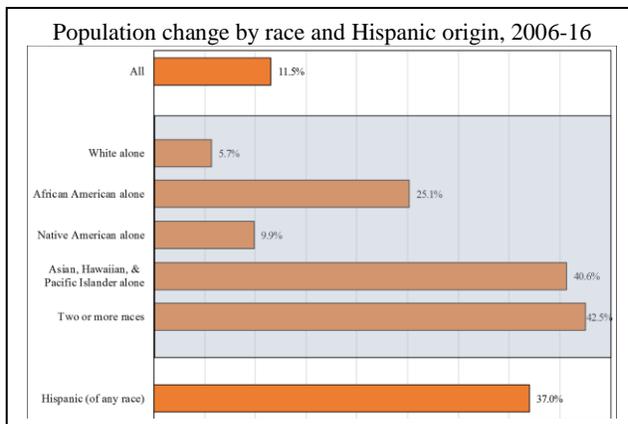
- With increasing population mainly due to in-migration, Oregon's population is getting more diverse in terms of race and ethnicity. Still, it is one of the least diverse state in the country. In 2016, 23.6 percent of Oregonians belonged to a minority race or ethnic group, compared to 38.7 percent in the United States.
- The largest non-Hispanic minority racial group in Oregon is Asian and Pacific Islander accounting for 4.7 percent of the population, whereas largest non-Hispanic minority racial group in the U. S. is African-American accounting for 12.4 percent of the population.
- Hispanics or Latinos make up of the largest minority group in Oregon. In 2016 accounted for 12.8 percent of Oregon's population. This is an increase from 2.5 percent 1980 and 8.0 percent in the year 2000. However, the share of Hispanic population in Oregon is still less than the share nationally. In 2016, nationally 17.8 percent of population were of Hispanic origin.



- The above chart shows Hispanic population growth in Oregon for each of the three preceding decades. As shown, Hispanic population growth was much faster than non-Hispanic population. During the decade of 1990s along, Hispanic population increased by 144 percent,

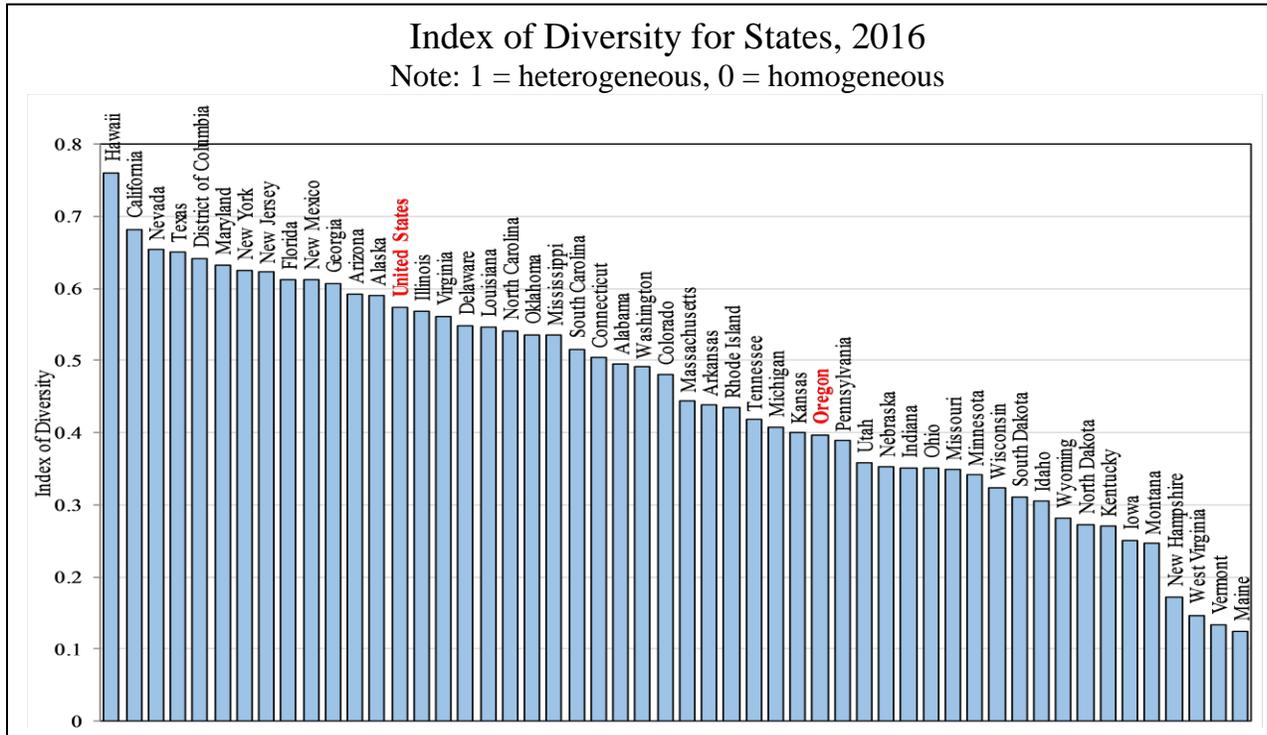
compared to 15 percent increase in the non-Hispanic population. Between 1980 and 2010, Hispanic population in Oregon increased by nearly seven fold, whereas during the same period non-Hispanic population increased by 1.3 times.

- Overall, Hispanic population in Oregon is the largest minority group and growing very rapidly. Hispanic population growth was outpacing all other race/ethnic groups. However since 2010, Asian and Pacific Islander (API) as a group has been growing at fastest pace. During the decade of 2006-16, total Oregon’s population increased by 11.5 percent, compared to 40.6 percent increase in AHPI and 37.0 percent in Hispanic populations. The Hispanic growth was much faster prior to the 2010 census. During the decades of 1980s and 1990s, Hispanic population increased by 71 percent and 144 percent respectively. In the last census decade between 2000 and 2010, the Hispanic population increased by 63 percent, slowest in a three-decade period, but still more than eight times the non-Hispanic population increase.



Source: U.S. Bureau of Census.

- Hispanic population tends to be recent immigrants and is associated with higher fertility and larger family. Consequently, overwhelming proportion of them are children and young adults. Over 36 percent of the Hispanic population, compared to 19 percent of the non-Hispanic population, were under 18 years of age in 2016. Nearly 80 percent of the Hispanic in 2016 were under age of 45, compared to 54 percent of non-Hispanic population.
- Although minority population is increasing rapidly in Oregon adding to its diversity, the State still remains one of the least diverse in the country in terms of race and ethnicity, as shown in the following Index of Diversity chart.

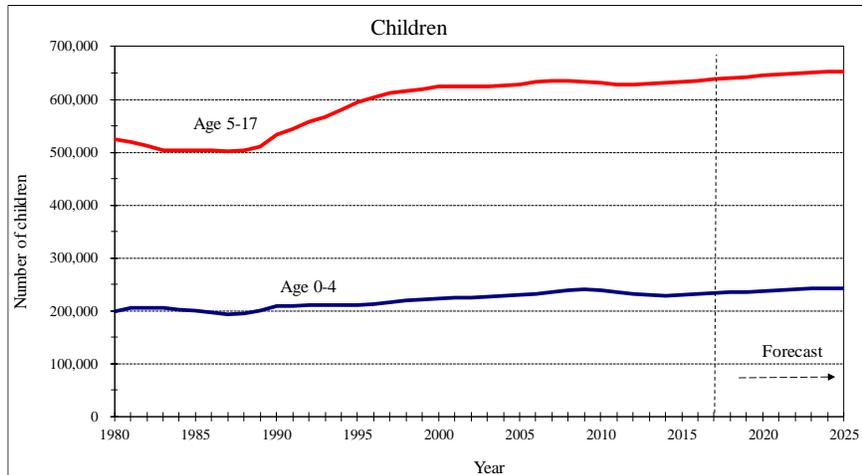


Source: U.S. Bureau of Census.

## Population by Age

### Children

- Rate of growth of the population of children in Oregon has been tracking well below the overall population growth rate. Main reasons for the slower growth are declining fertility rate and slower growth in the women in prime childbearing ages characterized by baby-bust generation. The school-age population aged 5-17 increased rapidly during the 1990s as the women of baby boom generation were becoming mothers and fertility rate recovered from the low of late 1960s and 1970s. The total number of children in Oregon has changed very little in recent years, and will retain the same pattern in the near future.
- The number of children under age five in 2017 was 5.6 percent of the total population, down from 7.6 percent in 1980 and 6.5 percent in 2000. The number of school-age 5-17 year old children was 15.4 percent of the population in 2017, down from 19.9 percent in 1980 and 18.2 percent in the year 2000. The percentage of children in Oregon's population has declined precipitously over the decades. This share will gradually decline over time to 5.3 percent for under age five children and to 14.2 percent for the school-age children by 2025.

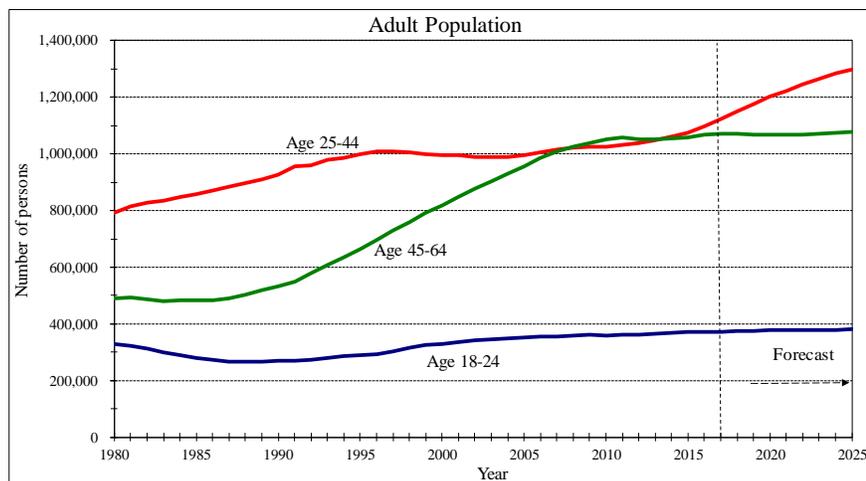


Source: U.S. Bureau of Census; and Oregon Office of Economic Analysis.

- The number of children in the population is affected and affected by social and economic behaviors of the adults. Also, the number affects budgetary, policy, and service delivery decisions. The number of children under 5 years of age requires affordable and quality daycare and Head Start services.
- In 2016, total K-12 enrollments accounted for about 96 percent of the school-age population who are enrolled in private or public schools. Of those who were enrolled, nearly 89 percent were enrolled in Oregon's public schools. The distribution of students in public, private, and home schools depends upon Oregon's economy and perception of the relative quality, value, and service of each school type.

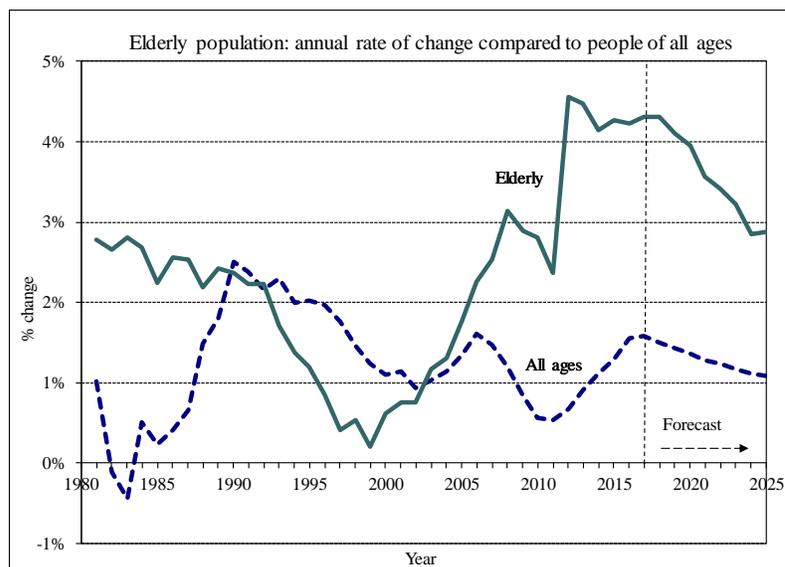
## Adults

- Adult population in age group 18-64 accounts for nearly 62.0 percent of the total population, up from 60.3 percent in 1990. Since the older baby-boomers are leaving this age cohort of working-age population and entering the retirement age, this share has been declining in recent years and will continue to decline in the forecast horizon.



- Adults 18-64 year olds will grow at a slower pace than the overall population, thereby signaling possible labor shortage in the future. For example, between 2017 and 2025, overall population will grow by 10.6 percent, whereas working-age adult population will increase by 7.4 percent.
- Population in age group 18-24, generally known as college-age population, had fast paced growth during the 1990s and early 2000s mainly because of the children of baby-boomers entering this age group. However, growth has since tapered off and will even see negative or close to no growth at times in the future. Regardless of the growth trend of the young adult population, college enrollment typically goes up during the period of high unemployment. People continue their education or go back to college to better position themselves in the job market or there is no better alternative.
- Population in age group 25-44 has been in a growing mode after over a couple of decades of slow or even negative growth because of the exiting baby-boomers from this cohort. The younger adults in this age group are in early stage of career and family formation. Hence, they require good entry level jobs, affordable housing, and family friendly environment.
- Population in age group 45-64 was increasing very rapidly before the 2010 Census due to the impact of baby-boomers entering this age cohort. However, the slow and negative growth of 25-44 age group has transferred to this 45-64 age group as the baby-bust cohort enter this age group and the baby-boomers mature into the retirement age. This cohort has been experiencing very slow and negative growth and the trend will continue.

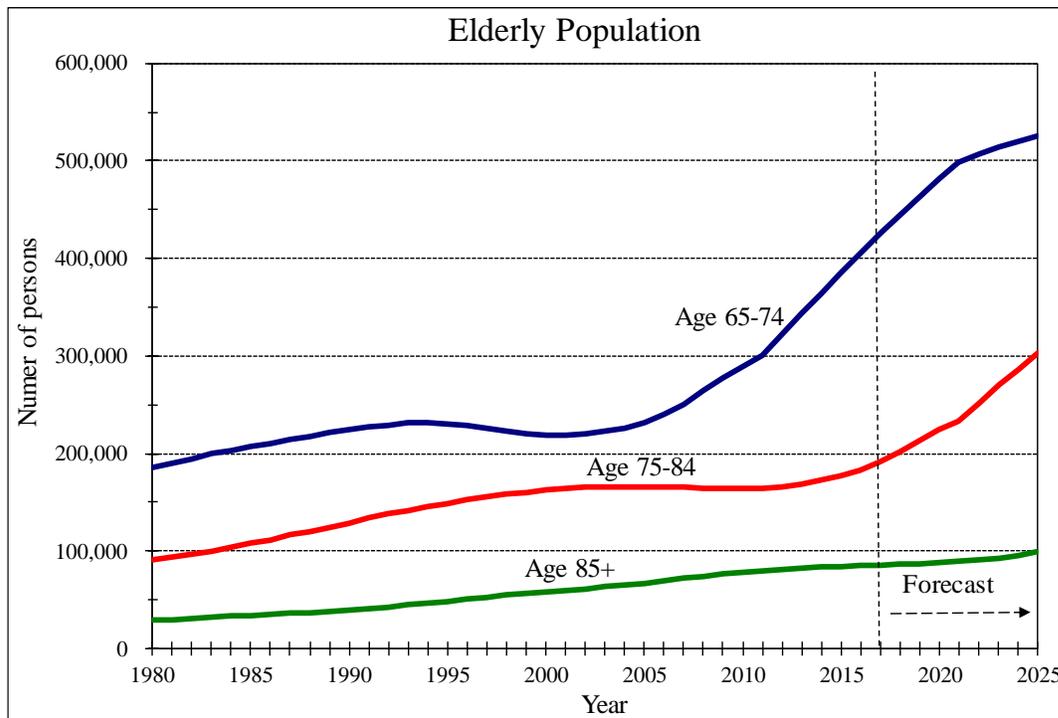
## Elderly



Source: U.S. Bureau of Census; and Oregon Office of Economic Analysis.

- Generally slow growth of elderly population that began in 1995 lasted until 2003. Since then the elderly population growth is outpacing the overall population growth rate due to the cohort change and the cumulative effect of net migration.

- The population in this age group will continue a dramatic increase as baby-boomers continue to enter the retirement age and the exit of smaller cohort born during the depression era. Beginning in 2011, the elderly population growth rate has exceeded 4 percent annually. There will be 32 percent more elderly in 2025 than in 2017.
- In the year 2000, 12.8 percent of the population were elderly age 65 and over. This percentage has increased to 17.0 percent in 2017. In 2025, 20.2 percent of the population will be 65 years of age and older.



- During the late 1990s, the youngest elderly population aged 65-74 actually declined despite a continued high net migration of people of all ages. The main reason was the depression era small birth cohort entering the retirement age. In the recent years, however, the youngest elderly population has been increasing rapidly. The depression era birth cohort matures into older age group and at the same time baby-boom cohort enters the retirement age. At its peak in 2012, the youngest elderly grew by over 7.3 percent in one year. Between 2017 and 2025, this population will increase by 23 percent, whereas overall population will grow by 11 percent. Growth rates will taper off as the baby-boom cohort exit this cohort.
- The elderly in age group 75-84 was declining or growing at a very low rate during the 2000-2012 period due to the effect of entering depression era birth cohort. However, this age group will also see a rapid growth in the future as fast growing younger elderly of baby-boom generation matures into this age group. Between 2017 and 2025, this population will increase by 59 percent as the smaller cohort of people born during the depression era exit this age group and large baby-boom birth cohort continue to enter this age group.

- The oldest elderly population aged 85 and over is small but was growing at a very rapid pace during the past several decades. Currently, the growth rate has been slow and below the state’s overall population growth. However, this group will also see an increasingly fast growth as the baby-boom population enter this age group in the near future and at the same time people continue to live longer.
- As women live longer than men on average, sex-ratio at older age become very disproportionate. The females account for 54 percent of all the elderly population 65 years of age and older. However, among the oldest elderly 85 years of age and older, 63 percent are females. In other words, there are 82 men for every 100 women for elderly aged 65 and older, compared to 58 men for 100 women for 85 and older population.
- Oregon’s population is graying. Median age of the population has increased from 30.3 years in 1980 to 39.2 years in 2017. This will increase further to 40.3 years by the year 2025. As the women live longer than men and there are disproportionate number of females at older ages, median age for women is higher than for the men.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
1980	29.5	31.0	30.3
1990	33.4	35.4	34.4
2000	35.2	37.6	36.4
2010	37.2	39.4	38.3
2017	38.3	40.2	39.2
2020	38.7	40.4	39.6
2025	39.6	41.1	40.3

Source: U.S. Bureau of Census; and Oregon Office of Economic Analysis.