

# Crook & Grant Counties Regional Profile

---

*Lena Etuk, Social Demographer, Oregon State University Extension Service*

July 9, 2015

## Demographics

### Population growth

- Regional population grew by 29% from 1990 to 2010, somewhat lower than the 35% increase observed across the state overall.<sup>1</sup>
- Growth in the region during this period was due significantly more to net migration than to natural increase (natural increase is the excess of births to deaths; net migration is in-migration minus out-migration).<sup>2</sup>

### Change in ethnic composition <sup>1</sup>

- The size of the Latino population grew by about 139% between 1990 and 2010, from 2.5% to 5.9%, and represents the largest population of color in the region.
- Over the last 2 decades, this region has consistently had lesser representation of Latinos than the state, and in 2010 was about six percentage points lower than the state (Latinos were 11.75% of Oregon population in 2010).

### Age <sup>3</sup>

- The region is slightly older than Oregon overall , and is aging a bit more rapidly than the state

## Employment & Labor

### Unemployment <sup>4</sup>

- Since 2006-10, the region has had consistently higher unemployment than the state (by about four percentage points).
- Unemployment has almost doubled since 1990 – from about 9% in 1990 to about 16% in 2009-13, at a pace greater than the state since the 2005-09 period.

### Sources of income <sup>4</sup>

- The majority of households (about 61%) get income from wages and salaries, which is below the state percentage (about 72%).
- About 41% of households get income from social security (higher than state percentage), followed by 25% that get income from retirement (higher than the state percentage), and about 4% that receive income from public assistance programs (on par with the state percentage).

### Industries employing regional residents: <sup>4</sup>

- Between 1990 and the 2009-2013 period, the industry in which the highest proportion of regional residents worked changed. In 1990, the highest proportion of employed residents worked in the Manufacturing industry (25.76%). For 2009-13, the highest proportion of employed residents worked in the Education, Health and Social Services Industry (19.02%).

- Note: Education, Health, and Social Service industry employment includes work in the public and private sectors.
- In 1990, about 57.97% of regional resident workers were employed in the top three industries of 1) Manufacturing, 2) Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, Mining, and 3) Retail Trade. For the 2009-13 period, 42.56% of regional resident workers were employed in the top three industries of 1) Education, Health and Social Services, 2) Retail Trade, and 3) Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, Mining. While employment in Education, Health and Social Services increased, employment in Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, Mining decreased significantly.
- The region has experienced declines in Manufacturing employment from 1990 to the 2009-2013 period; from 25.76% to 9.66% of employed residents. This decline was greater than the decline Oregon overall experienced.
- Between 1990 and the 2009-13 period, the region saw significant increases in the percentages of workers employed in the Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, and Accommodation industry as well as the Professional, Science, Management, & Administration industry and Education, Health and Social Services industry.

#### Local jobs: <sup>5</sup>

- In 2013, the highest proportion of jobs located in the county were in state and local government. About eleven percent (11.22%) of all the full and part time jobs in the region in 2013 were in this industry. Private sector Retail Trade and Manufacturing jobs were next, representing 8.63% and 7.69% of jobs in the region respectively. Together, these three top industries account for 27.54% of the jobs in the region.
- Between 2001 and 2013 the most significant decline occurred in the proportion of local jobs that were in the retail trade sector (decline of about 7 percentage points).
- Between 2001 and 2013, the most significant increase occurred in the proportion of local jobs that were in the private sector Health Care/Social Assistance industry (increased by about 5 percentage points).

#### Commuting patterns: <sup>4</sup>

- Since 1990, there has been some change in resident commuters' travel times to work in this region.
- The vast majority (about 85%) of commuters travel fewer than 30 minutes to work. Additionally, the percentage of commuters traveling between 30 and 60 minutes to work has doubled since 1990.

## Agriculture

#### Agricultural Economy:

- In 2012, Grant County ranked 29<sup>th</sup> and Crook County 30<sup>th</sup> in the state for gross farm and ranch sales (combined sales for the two counties \$100,435,000).<sup>6</sup>
- In 2012, gross crop sales were only slightly higher (by 0.4 times) than gross animal product sales in the region.<sup>6</sup>
- There was a 41% increase in animal product sales between 2000 and 2012, in inflation-adjusted dollars.<sup>6</sup>
- There was a -6% decrease in crop sales between 2000 and 2012, in inflation-adjusted dollars.<sup>6</sup>
- There was also a decrease (-9%) in the number of harvested acres between 2000 and 2012.<sup>6</sup>

- Just as the state overall has seen continued declines over the last 20 years, this region's timber harvest in 2013 was about 5% of its 1990 level in 1,000s of board feet.<sup>7</sup>

Land cover change:<sup>8</sup>

- Between 2000 and 2011, there was little to no change in land cover (developed land, cultivated land, water/wetlands, or other covers).

## Striking Statistics (areas where region stands out from state)

### Challenges

- Higher than average percentage of infants born to mothers using tobacco<sup>9</sup>
- Lower than average percentage of mothers receiving prenatal care in the first trimester<sup>9</sup>
- Above average rate of child abuse<sup>9</sup>
- Higher than average housing vacancy rate<sup>4</sup>
- Higher than average percentage of people with income less than or equal to 185% of the poverty rate<sup>4</sup>
- Higher than average percentage of students eligible for free & reduced lunch programs<sup>10</sup>
- Below average percentage of adults with a 4-year degree or greater<sup>4</sup>
- Higher than average dropout rate for all students, as well as white students, specifically<sup>10</sup>
- Below average 4-year graduation rate for all students, as well as white students, specifically<sup>10</sup>
- Lower than average labor force participation rate among the total population, as well as among whites, specifically<sup>4</sup>
- Lower than average wages (per covered worker)<sup>5</sup>
- Grant County only: Higher than average percentage of adults who smoke cigarettes<sup>11</sup>
- Crook County only: Higher than average percentage of adults who are obese<sup>9</sup>

### Strengths

- ✓ Higher than average prevalence of farmers markets, per 1,000 population<sup>12</sup>
- ✓ Lower than average teen pregnancy rate, per 1,000 females aged 15-17<sup>9</sup>
- ✓ Lower than average incidence of the most common communicable disease (Chlamydia)<sup>9</sup>
- ✓ Lower than average arrest rate for crimes against property (burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft, arson, forgery/counterfeit, fraud, embezzlement, stolen property and vandalism)<sup>13</sup>
- ✓ Higher than average homeownership rate<sup>4</sup>
- ✓ Better than average coverage of the social services system – ratio of people seeking social services (via 211*info*) to social service providers was lower in the region than the state overall, particularly in the housing and utilities sectors<sup>14</sup>
- ✓ Higher than average percentage of adults with a high school education<sup>4</sup>
- ✓ Higher than average percentage of jobs that are proprietorships (Entrepreneurship)<sup>5</sup>
- ✓ Lower income inequality as measured by the Ratio of Mean Annual Income and the Modified Palma Index<sup>4</sup>

## Sources

Data come from a variety of sources, as reported on the Rural Communities Explorer (<http://oe.oregonexplorer.info/rural/CommunitiesReporter/>), including:

- <sup>1</sup> US Census Bureau, Decennial Census
- <sup>2</sup> Population Research Center, Portland State University
- <sup>3</sup> US Census Bureau, American Community Survey & Decennial Census
- <sup>4</sup> US Census Bureau, American Community Survey
- <sup>5</sup> US Bureau of Economic Analysis
- <sup>6</sup> Oregon Agricultural Information Network, Oregon State University Extension Service
- <sup>7</sup> Oregon Department of Forestry
- <sup>8</sup> National Land Cover Database, Multi-Resolution Land Characteristics Consortium US Department of the Interior & US Geologic Survey
- <sup>9</sup> Oregon Department of Human Services
- <sup>10</sup> Oregon Department of Education
- <sup>11</sup> Adult Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), Oregon Health Authority
- <sup>12</sup> Oregon Farmer's Market Association & US Department of Agriculture
- <sup>13</sup> State of Oregon Criminal Justice Commission
- <sup>14</sup> *211info*