

# Lane County Profile

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July 24, 2014

## Demographics

### Population growth

- County population grew by 24% from 1990 to 2010, slightly lower than the 35% increase observed across state overall
- Growth in the county during this period was mostly due to net in-migration (as opposed to natural increase – the excess of births to deaths)

### Change in ethnic composition

- The size of the Latino population roughly tripled between 1990 and 2010, from 2.4% to 7.4%, and represents the largest population of color in the county
- Though in 2010 Lane County had a lower percent Latino (7.4%) than the state overall (11.7%), it experienced about the same percent change (200%) in that population between 1990 and 2010

### Age

- The median age in Lane County is on par with the state overall, and it is aging at roughly the same pace as Oregon

## Employment & Labor

### Unemployment

- Unemployment in Lane County has tended to be only slightly higher than the state since 1990
- Unemployment has increased significantly since 1990 – from about 7% to about 11% in 2008-12, at a pace on par with the state

### Sources of income

- The majority of households (about 70%) get income from wages and salaries, which is slightly lower than state percentage (about 73%)
- About 31% of households get income from social security, followed by 18% that get income from retirement, and only about 3% that receive income from public assistance programs

### Industries employing county residents:

- The Education, Health, and Social Services industry is the industry in which the highest proportion of Lane County residents worked in 1990 and it still was the top industry of employment during the 2008-2012 period
  - Note: Education, Health, and Social Service industry employment includes work in the public and private sectors
- But, the other two industries of employment that were very common in 1990 (manufacturing and retail trade), have declined significantly. In 1990 about 37% of Lane

County resident workers worked in these two industries. Now, on average, between 2008 and 2012 only 23% do.

- Between 1990 and 2008-2012 employment diverged from the secondary concentration in retail and manufacturing – resident workers have become a bit more evenly distributed among a number of industries, including retail trade, manufacturing, professional/science/management/administration, and arts/entertainment/recreation/accommodation.

Local jobs:

- In 2012, the highest proportions of jobs located in the county were in the government and private sector health care and social assistance industries. Twenty-eight percent (28%) of all the full and part time jobs in the county in 2012 were in these industries.
- Between 2001 and 2012, the most significant decline occurred in the proportion of local jobs there were in the manufacturing industry (decline of about 4 percentage points)
- Between 2001 and 2012, the most significant increase occurred in the proportion of local jobs there were in private sector health care and social assistance industry

Commuting patterns:

- Since 1990, there has not been much change in Lane County resident commuters' travel times to work
- The majority (60%) of commuters travel less than 20 minutes to work

## Agriculture

Agricultural Economy:

- In 2012, the county ranked 12<sup>h</sup> in the state for gross farm and ranch sales (\$128,457,000)
- In 2012, crop sales were 2.6 times higher than animal product sales in the county
- In 2012, the biggest agricultural commodity (by sales) was grass & legume seeds
- There was a slight (7%) increase in animal product sales between 2000 and 2012
- There was a 15% decline in crop sales between 2000 and 2012
- At the same time, there was a 5% decline in the number of harvested acres between 2000 and 2012
- Just as the state overall that has seen continued declines over the last 20 years, the county timber harvest in 2012 was about 66% of its 1990 level in 1,000s of board feet

Land use change:

- Between 2000 and 2009, like the state overall, there was not much change in non-federal land use

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

### Challenges

- Higher than average adult arrest rate for behavioral, property, and index crimes
- Lower than average home ownership rate
- Higher than average poverty (at 50%, 100%, and 185% income to poverty line thresholds)

- Higher than average dropout rate for all types of high school students (race, ethnicity, and economic disadvantage)
- Higher than average income inequality
- Lower than average median household income
- Lower than average per capita personal income as a percentage of US per capita personal income
- Lower than average labor force participation among the total population, and particularly among whites and Asians
- Lower than average wages

### Strengths

- ✓ Lower than average housing vacancy rate
- ✓ Lower than average seasonal homeownership
- ✓ Adequate social service system – ratio of people seeking social services (via 211info) to social service providers indicates lower than average ratios
- ✓ Above average minority income as a percentage of white income
- ✓ Relatively stable proportion of land in agriculture