

Marion, Polk, & Yamhill Counties Regional Profile

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Demographics

Population growth

- Regional population grew by 43% from 1990 to 2010, higher than the 35% increase observed across the state overall.¹
- Growth in the region during this period was overwhelmingly due to net in-migration rather than to natural increase (natural increase is the excess of births to deaths; net migration is in-migration minus out-migration).²

Change in ethnic composition ¹

- The size of the Latino population grew by about 180% between 1990 and 2010, from 7.32% to 20.47%, and represents the largest population of color in the region.
- Over the last 2 decades, this region has consistently had a greater representation of Latinos than the state overall, and in 2010 was about nine percentage points higher than the state (Latinos were 11.75% of Oregon population in 2010).

Age ³

- The region is slightly younger than Oregon overall, and is aging at about the same rate as the state.

Employment & Labor

Unemployment ⁴

- Since 2000, the region has had consistently higher unemployment than the state (by an average of one percentage point).
- Unemployment has doubled since 1990 – from about 6% in 1990 to about 12% in 2009-13, at a pace similar to the state.

Sources of income ⁴

- The majority of households (about 74%) get income from wages and salaries, which is slightly above the state percentage (about 72%).
- About 31% of households get income from social security (close to the state percentage), followed by 20% that get income from retirement (close to the state percentage), and about 4% that receive income from public assistance programs (on par with the state percentage).

Industries employing regional residents: ⁴

- Between 1990 and the 2009-2013 period, the industry in which the highest proportion of regional residents worked did not change. At both times, the highest proportion of employed

residents worked in the Education, Health, and Social Services industry (19.78% in 1990; 23.08% in 2009-13).

- Note: Education, Health, and Social Service industry employment includes work in the public and private sectors.
- In 1990, about 52.15% of regional resident workers were employed in the top three industries of 1) Education, Health, and Social Services, 2) Retail Trade, and 3) Manufacturing. In 2009-13 that fell to 45.47% of regional resident workers, and the top three industries were the same. This decline was due to a combination of decreases in Retail Trade and Manufacturing.
- The region has experienced declines in Manufacturing employment from 1990 to the 2009-13 period; from 15.75% to 11.05% of employed residents. This decline was less than the decline Oregon overall experienced.
- Between 1990 and the 2009-13 period, the region saw significant increases in the percentage of workers employed in the Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, and Accommodation industry as well as the Professional, Science, Management, & Administration industry.

Local jobs: ⁵

- In 2013, the highest proportion of jobs located in the three county region were in state and local government. About sixteen percent (16.55%) of all the full and part time jobs in the region in 2013 were in this industry. Private sector Health Care/Social Assistance and Retail Trade jobs were next, representing 12.33% and 10.45% of jobs in the region respectively. Together, these three top industries accounted for 39.33% 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 government sector (decline of about 2 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 2 percentage points).

Commuting patterns: ⁴

- Since 1990, there have been slight shifts in resident commuters' travel times to work in the region, with a decrease in those traveling fewer than 20 minutes and an increase in those traveling between 20 and 45 minutes.
- That said, the majority (about 71%) of commuters still travel fewer than 30 minutes to work.

Agriculture

Agricultural Economy:

- In 2012, Marion county ranked 1st in the state for gross farm and ranch sales (\$639,326,000). Meanwhile, Yamhill ranked 9th and Polk ranked 10th in the state and the three county region had combined gross farm and ranch sales totaling \$1,071,957,000. ⁶
- In 2012, gross crop sales were higher (by 3.1 times) than gross animal product sales in the region. ⁶
- There was a 49% increase in animal product sales between 2000 and 2012, in inflation-adjusted dollars. ⁶
- There was a -7% decrease in crop sales between 2000 and 2012, in inflation-adjusted dollars. ⁶
- At the same time, there was an increase (5%) in the number of harvested acres between 2000 and 2012. ⁶
- While the state overall has seen continued declines over the last 23 years, this region's timber harvest in 2013 rose, and was about 120% of its 1990 level in 1,000s of board feet. ⁷

Land cover change: ⁸

- Between 2000 and 2011, there a 4.3% decrease in forest land cover with a 4% increase in shrubland land cover and a .5% increase in herbaceous land cover.

Striking Statistics (areas where region stands out from state)

Challenges

- Lower than average prevalence of retail food stores, per 1,000 population ⁹
- Higher than average teen pregnancy rate, per 1,000 females aged 15-17 ⁹
- Higher than average incidence of chlamydia, the most common communicable disease ⁹
- Higher than average child poverty rate ⁴
- Higher than average percentage of students eligible for free or reduced lunch ¹⁰
- Lower than average percentage of 3-4 year olds enrolled in pre-kindergarten ⁴
- Higher than average percentage of adults with less than a high school education ⁴
- Lower than average percentage of adults with a 4-year degree or greater ⁴

Strengths

- ✓ Lower than average incidence of gonorrhea ⁹
- ✓ Lower than average child abuse rate ⁹
- ✓ Lower than average housing vacancy rate ⁴
- ✓ Better than average coverage of the social services system – ratio of people seeking social services (via *211info*) to social service providers was lower in the region than the state overall, particularly in the housing sector ¹¹
- ✓ Higher than average four-year graduation rate for Latino students ¹⁰

Sources

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

¹ US Census Bureau, Decennial Census

² Population Research Center, Portland State University

³ US Census Bureau, American Community Survey & Decennial Census

⁴ US Census Bureau, American Community Survey

⁵ US Bureau of Economic Analysis

⁶ Oregon Agricultural Information Network, Oregon State University Extension Service

⁷ Oregon Department of Forestry

⁸ National Land Cover Database, Multi-Resolution Land Characteristics Consortium US Department of the Interior & US Geologic Survey

⁹ Oregon Department of Human Services

¹⁰ Oregon Department of Education

¹¹ *211info*