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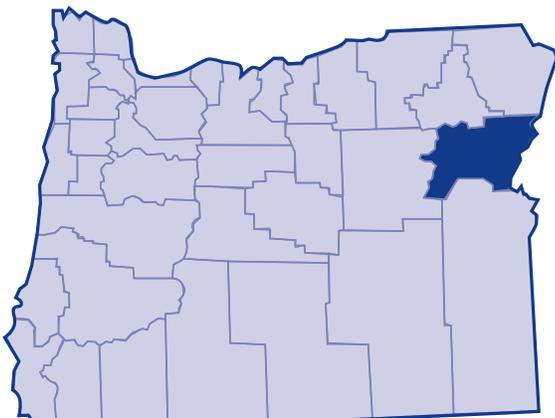
Major findings

Incomes in Baker County in 1999 were lower than the state and national average. By 2003, the rate of unemployment had reached 9.5 percent. As a result, fewer individuals and families in the county could be self-sufficient. Those paying 30 percent or more of their income for rental costs increased from 39.6 percent in 1989 to 48.8 percent 1999. And, the number of poor persons living in Baker County grew 10 percent.

Between 1979 and 1999, the number of Baker County families headed by single women in poverty increased 121.1 percent. Additionally, children 5 and younger experienced the highest rates of poverty in the county.

According to the basic family budget, only one of the four identified Baker County family types (two adults with one child) could afford the basic family budget if both parents worked full-time at Baker County median family income.

In 2003, 26.7 percent of Baker County residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹



Low-income needs

Community Connection of Northeast Oregon (CCNO) prioritized the needs of the low-income population in Baker County as follows.²

- **Energy Assistance**—Assist households in paying winter heating bills and help clients facing shut-off notices.
- **Emergency Assistance**—Rental assistance for at-risk households.
- **Weatherization/Housing Repair**—Eliminate general heat waste in client's homes, completing priority weatherization measures such as insulating, repairing or replacing doors/windows, etc. Continue rehabilitation projects by completing structural, electrical and plumbing repairs to improve and preserve the area's housing stock.
- **Tenant Based Assistance**—Six months assistance with rent while clients move towards self-sufficiency.
- **Food Bank**—Maintain current delivery systems with local food banks and access to resources.
- **Transportation**—Transport senior citizens, people with disabilities, low-income and the public to medical appointments, shopping, mealsites, recreation and field trips.
- **Health Clinics**—Increase client's ability to access health clinics within senior centers.
- **Tax and Legal Assistance**—Continue to refer clients to Legal Aid, and Oregon Law Centers at our senior centers. Trained volunteers to assist clients in preparing their income taxes.
- **Telephone Reassurance**—Call clients to ensure their safety and to make sure they have taken their medication if needed.

Baker County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Baker County's population grew by 9.3 percent, from 1989 to 1999. The US Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 16,382 county residents and found that 14.7 percent (2,407 people) lived below the poverty threshold in 1999. Although the overall percent of the county population living in poverty remained 14.7 percent from 1989 to 1999, the number of people living in poverty increased by 10 percent.

20-year trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Baker County increased from 12.8 percent of the population to 14.7 percent. The number of persons in poverty rose from 2,039 people to 2,407 people. Baker County's poverty rates rose above the state and national poverty rates throughout this period.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined, children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 19.5 percent. Children 18 years old and younger experienced poverty at a slightly lower rate (19.3 percent). People 65 years and over experienced the lowest poverty rate-12.4 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty decreased in only one age category—65 years and over.

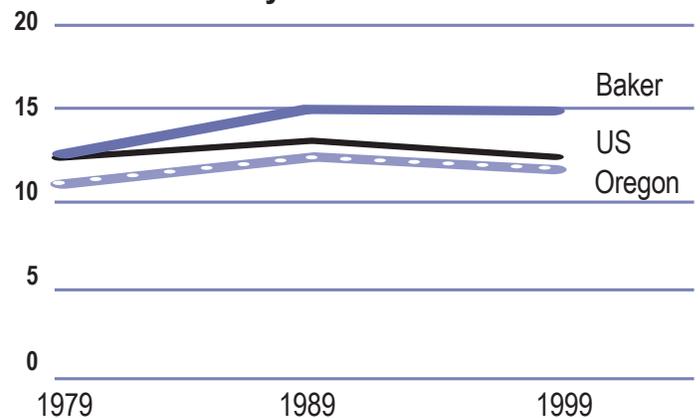
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level
(poverty rate)

	1989	1999	Percent Change (rate difference)
Baker County	2,189 (14.7%)	2,407 (14.7%)	10.0% (0.0%)
Oregon Statewide	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%)

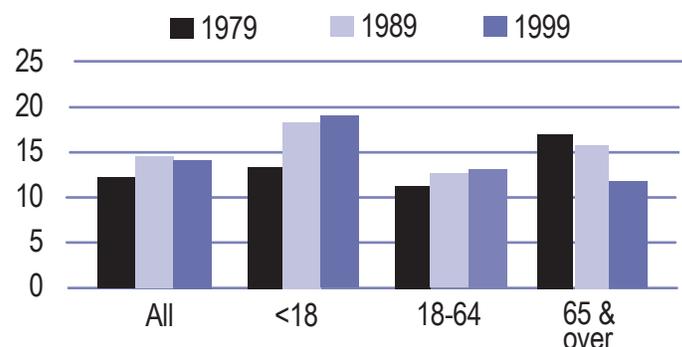
Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Source: U.S. Census.

Rate of Poverty by Age



Source: U.S. Census.

Baker County

Poverty and Baker County Families

In 1999, 473 Baker County families lived in poverty. Of the 473 families in poverty, 55.6 percent (263 families) had a worker. Eighteen percent (85 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

In 1999, the poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child under 18 years of age experienced poverty at a rate of 16.6 percent. Families with a child 5 years or younger experienced poverty at the higher rate of 20.7 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 43.8 percent and the rate was even higher with younger children (less than 5 years) at 51.7 percent.

The poverty rate for married couple families with children under 18 was lower at 9.7 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the number of female-heads of households with children (no husband present) who lived in poverty increased from 27.3 percent to 43.8 percent.

Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups², White residents comprised the majority of people in poverty at 92.4 percent. The poverty rate among White was 14.1 percent. Most minorities experienced disproportionately higher rates of poverty. White, Black and Asian were the only categories with poverty rates below 20 percent. From 1989 to 1999, most racial categories experienced improvements in poverty rates. Poverty rates increased for Other and Hispanic Origin.

Baker County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)	1979			1989		1999		% Change '79-'99 (rate difference)
	1979	1989	1999	1979	1989	1979	1989	
All Families	447 (9.6%)	497 (11.2%)	473 (10.1%)					5.8% (0.5%)
With Children under 18	273 (11.9%)	339 (16.2%)	337 (16.6%)					23.4% (4.7%)
Female-headed with children under 18	76 (27.3%)	186 (63.5%)	168 (43.8%)					121.1% (16.5%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Baker County and Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population (poverty population)	Poverty Rate by Race 1999	Poverty Rate by Race 1989
White	96.0% (15,719)	92.4% (2,223)	14.1%	14.3%
Black	0.3% (41)	0.1% (3)	7.3%	0.0%
American Indian	0.7% (120)	2.0% (48)	40.0%	46.8%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.5%/0.1% (76/9)	0.5%/0.4% (13/9)	17.1%/100.0%	80.0%*
Other	0.8% (124)	1.7% (41)	33.1%	0.0%
2 or More Races	1.8% (293)	2.9% (70)	23.9%	NA
Hispanic Origin	1.9% (317)	3.8% (92)	29.0%	22.6%

*Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 Census.

Baker County

County Income

On a per capita basis, Baker County's personal income was \$21,424 in 2002, about 74 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 69 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Per capita income in Baker County rose 4.3 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 1989 to 1999 trend for per capita income shows average annual growth of 3.6 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$24,110 in Baker County compared to \$33,063 for the state. ³

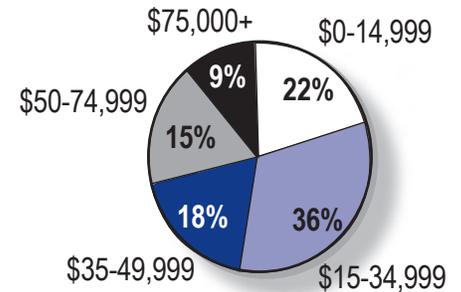
Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting Census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Baker County. The 2000 Census showed that 963 people or 40 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold actually earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or above the poverty level but still need assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and WIC. In 1999, 37.7 percent of Baker County's population, or 6,178 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Public Assistance

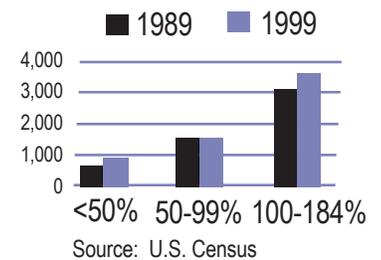
Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure—or indicator—of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 283 households or 4.1 percent of all households in Baker County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$1,748. The 20-year trend showed a decrease in the number of households that reported receiving public assistance income, from 349 households or 5.6 percent of all households in 1979.

1999 Household Income Distribution-Baker County



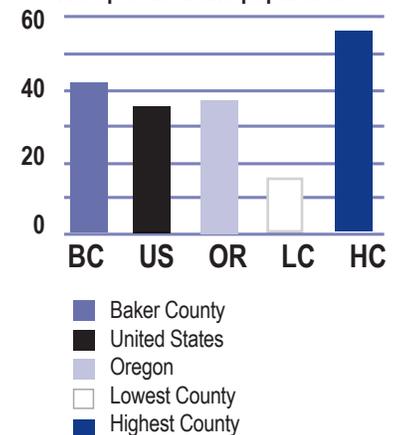
Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Baker County was \$30,367 in 1999 compared to \$22,150 in 1989 (37.1 percent increase).

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles



Source: U.S. Census

Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Source: U.S. Census.

Baker County

Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, 12.6 percent of Oregon households had difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Baker County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses. Using this budget, only one family type (two working adults with one child) could afford basic expenses if both adults worked full-time and earned Baker County's median family income.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

Baker County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$477	\$657	\$477	\$657
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$340	\$765	\$340	\$765
Transportation	\$197	\$197	\$277	\$277
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$219	\$355	\$268	\$404
Taxes	\$256	\$471	\$395	\$543
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$1,964	\$3,179	\$2,438	\$3,586
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$23,569	\$38,149	\$29,260	\$43,026
Median Family Income (Census 2000)	\$18,942	\$18,942	\$39,063	\$39,063
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	80.4%	49.7%	133.5%	90.8%

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families with incomes at the poverty level in Baker County could afford 44.4 percent to 48.7 percent of this basic family budget.

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Baker County in 2003 was \$432.84. Of all sectors, the federal government had the highest weekly average of \$803.36 and retail trade had the lowest weekly average of \$129.79.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Baker County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages. Using the basic family budget, families with one adult who earned Baker County's average wages could not afford the basic family expenses.

Poverty and Baker County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	48.7%	44.4%	45.8%	46.2%

Baker County Wages and the Basic Budget

	1 Worker	1 Worker	2 Workers	2 Workers
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$1,861	\$1,861	\$3,722	\$3,722
	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$1,964	\$3,179	\$2,438	\$3,586
Difference (SSW-AMW)	-\$103	-\$1,318	\$1,284	\$136
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	94.8%	58.5%	152.7%	103.8%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.
** Based on Basic Family Budget for Baker County.

Baker County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	15,317 ¹	16,741 ²	16,654	16,492	16,375
% of People living below poverty level	14.7% ¹	14.7% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$22,150 ¹	\$30,367 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	8.0	7.3	8.8	9.2	9.5
8th Grade Drug Use	15.7% ³	11.1%	NA	16.0%	NA
HS Dropout	3.0% ⁴	3.6%	2.1%	0.8%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	9.2	8.1	7.1	11.7	NA
Prenatal Care	92.4%	82.2%	84.2%	83.3%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	18.4	13.1	10.4	16.3	NA
Homeownership Rate	68.8% ¹	70.1% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	39.6% ¹	48.8% ²	NA	NA	
Baker County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	27	31	34	12	31
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	10	0	32	0	5
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$311,774	\$0	\$814,850	\$400,000	\$256,537
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	4	7	14	6	3
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$219,120	\$460,388	\$890,205	\$373,547	\$208,310
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	660	596	518	476
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	24.0%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	1,099	1,015	1,057	1,126	1,177
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	38.2%	35.9%	39.9%	43.2%	46.6%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	20.0%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	4.0%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	31.9%	33.5%	
	¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989	² 2000 Census data, year is 1999	³ 1998	⁴ 1996	NA=Not Available

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Race/Ethnicity Categories used by the Census.

³ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

⁴ Community Connection of Northeast Oregon's Community Services Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05.

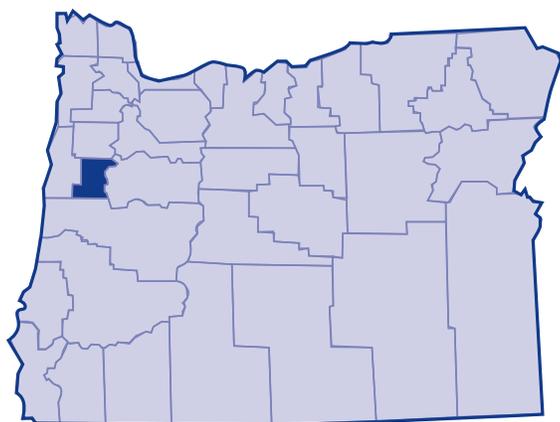
Major findings

Benton County's poverty rates were higher than the state and national average from 1979 to 1999. The large number of college students in Benton County likely contributed to its higher poverty rate. Half of those living below the federal poverty threshold earned 50 percent or less of the threshold for their family type.

According to the 2000 Census, slightly over half of the county population owned their own home. Of all Oregon counties, only Multnomah County residents were less likely to be homeowners. More than 50 percent of Benton County renters spent more than 30 percent of their income on rental costs.

Families with one worker who earned median income in Benton County could not afford the basic family budget.

In 2003, 15.7% percent of Benton County residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹



Low-income needs

Community Services Consortium prioritized the needs of the low-income population in Benton County as follows²:

- Assist households to save energy and improve their living conditions through home weatherization, energy education, house diagnostics, and efficiency testing of appliances
- Provide transitional housing and case management services to help households move toward self-sufficiency
- Provide energy conservation education to enable households to reduce their energy burden and increase resources for other needs
- Improve housing conditions for low- and moderate-income families within the community
- Prevent hunger by soliciting, transporting, storing and distributing food
- Educate homeless households in skills and strategies needed to obtain and maintain housing
- Provide youth education and employment and adult and dislocated worker employment and training
- Continue to integrate, improve and evaluate the delivery of services in our county
- Provide information and referral services for medical, dental, alcohol and drug treatment, and other basic needs
- Aid in transportation costs such as gas, car repairs, and public transportation
- Provide new affordable housing opportunities, community facilities, and grant management services
- Plan for, allocate, and monitor homeless funding to local service providers

Benton County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Benton County grew by 10.4 percent from 1989 to 1999. The US Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 73,237 county residents and found that 14.6 percent (10,665 people) lived below the poverty threshold in 1999. This was an increase of 6.6 percent in the number of people living in poverty (10,005 people) since 1989. The overall percent of Benton County's population in poverty decreased from 1989 to 1999, but the number of people in poverty did not.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Benton County increased from 13.6 percent of the population to 14.6 percent. The number of persons in poverty rose from 8,273 people to 10,665 people. Benton County's poverty rates remained higher than the state and national poverty rates throughout this period.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined, those 18 to 64 years of age experienced the highest rate of poverty at 17.1 percent. People 65 and older experienced the lowest rate at 4.9 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty was consistently lowest for those 65 and older and highest for those aged 18 to 64.

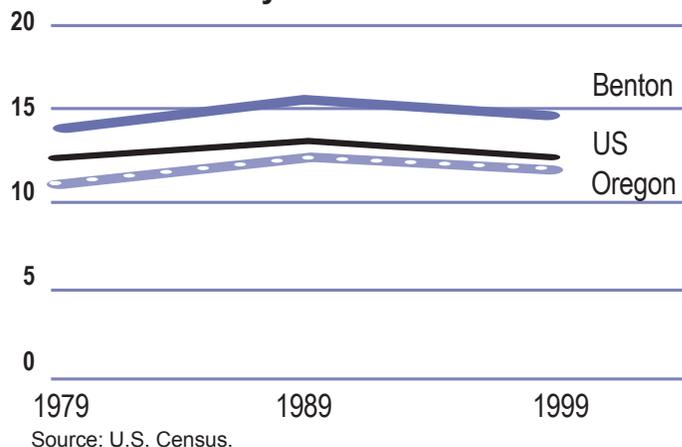
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level
(poverty rate)

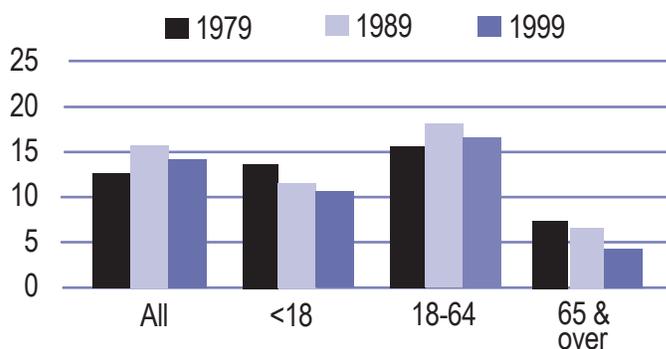
	1989	1999	Percent Change (rate difference)
Benton County	10,005 (15.5%)	10,665 (14.6%)	6.6% (-1.0%)
Oregon Statewide	344,867 (12.4%)	388,740 (11.6%)	12.7% (-0.7%)
United States	31,742,864 (13.1%)	33,899,812 (12.4%)	6.8% (-0.8%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Rate of Poverty by Age



Benton County

Poverty and Benton County Families

In 1999, 1,252 Benton County families lived in poverty (6.8 percent). Of the families in poverty, 75.2 percent (941 families) had a worker and 8.5 percent (106 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child younger than 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 9.9 percent. Families with a child younger than 5 years experienced poverty at the higher rate of 13.5 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 31.3 percent and the rate was even higher for single mothers with younger children (younger than 5 years) at 45.2 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children younger than 18 was lower at 4.8 percent. The number of female-headed households with children (no husband present) who lived in poverty increased from 323 families in 1979 to 483 families in 1999.

Poverty and Race Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White residents comprised the majority of people in poverty at 79.7 percent. The poverty rate among White was 13 percent. Most minorities experienced a disproportionately higher rate of poverty above 20 percent. From 1989 to 1999, all racial and ethnic categories experienced improvements in poverty rates.

Benton County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)	Year			% Change '79-'99 (rate difference)
	1979	1989	1999	
All Families	1,151 (7.5%)	1,311 (7.9%)	1,252 (6.8%)	8.8% (-0.7%)
With Children under 18	817 (10.0%)	970 (11.8%)	887 (9.9%)	8.6% (-0.1%)
Female-headed with children under 18	323 (29.3%)	501 (38.6%)	483 (31.3%)	49.5% (2.0%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Benton County Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population (poverty population)	Poverty Rate by Race 1999	Poverty Rate by Race 1989
White	89.3% (65,377)	79.7% (8,504)	13.0%	13.4%
Black	1.0% (732)	1.6% (173)	23.6%	36.2%
American Indian	0.7% (510)	0.7% (75)	14.7%	28.3%
Asian/Pacific Islander	4.1%/0.1% (2,986/73)	0.5%/0.4% (1,146/8)	38.4%/11.0%	45.5%*
Other	1.8% (1,302)	2.6% (272)	20.9%	34.4%
2 or More Races	3.1% (2,257)	4.6% (487)	21.6%	NA
Hispanic Origin	4.7% (3,408)	8.1% (865)	25.4%	30.1%

*Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 Census.

Benton County

County Income

On a per capita basis, Benton County's personal income was \$30,421 in 2002, about 106 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 98 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Per capita income in Benton County rose 2.1 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, of per capita income shows average annual growth of 5.2 percent. Average earnings per job for 2002 were \$33,446 in Benton County compared to \$33,063 for the state.⁴

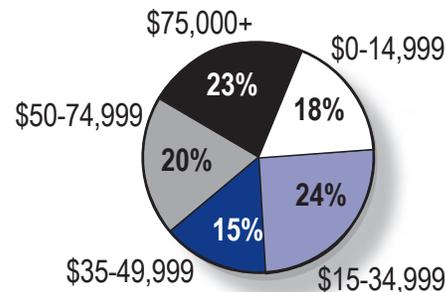
Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Benton County. The 2000 Census showed that 5,387 people or 50.5 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold actually earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or above the poverty level but still needed assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants, and Children program. In 1999, 28.1 percent of Benton County's population or 20,643 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Public Assistance

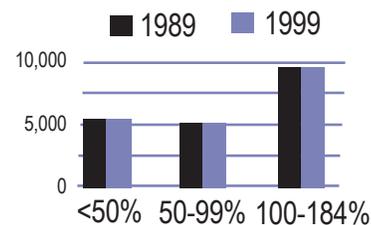
Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 609 households or 2 percent of all households in Benton County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$3,032. The 20-year trend showed a decrease in the number of households that reported receiving public assistance income, from 1,110 households or 4.6 percent of all households in 1979.

1999 Household Income Distribution-Benton County



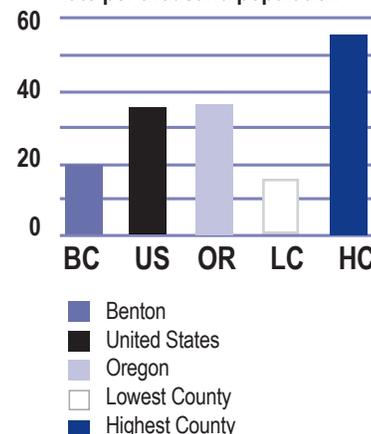
Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Benton County was \$41,897 in 1999 compared to \$27,295 in 1989 (53.5 percent increase).

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles



Source: U.S. Census

Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Source: U.S. Census.

Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregon households had difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Benton County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses. Families in which one adult earned Benton County's median family income could not afford this basic budget. Those with two earners fare better.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families with incomes at the poverty level in Benton County could afford 36.9 to 41.2 percent of this basic family budget.

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Benton County was \$648.07 in 2003. Of all sectors, the federal government had the highest weekly average of \$1,081.77 and retail trade had the lowest weekly average of \$286.31.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Benton County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages.

According to the basic family budget, an adult with three children who worked full-time at Benton County's average wage could not afford the basic family budget.

Benton County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$610	\$918	\$610	\$918
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$413	\$900	\$413	\$900
Transportation	\$158	\$158	\$222	\$222
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$260	\$436	\$309	\$485
Taxes	\$416	\$685	\$477	\$749
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$2,332	\$3,831	\$2,712	\$4,214
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$27,986	\$45,968	\$32,545	\$50,568
Median Family Income (Census 2000)	\$23,287	\$23,287	\$64,005	\$64,005
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	83.2%	50.7%	196.7%	126.6%

Poverty and Benton County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	41.0%	36.9%	41.2%	39.3%

Benton County Wages and the Basic Budget

	1 Worker	1 Worker	2 Workers	2 Workers
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$2,787	\$2,787	\$5,574	\$5,574
	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$2,332	\$3,831	\$2,712	\$4,214
Difference (SSW-AMW)	\$455	-\$1,044	\$2,862	\$1,360
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	119.5%	72.7%	205.5%	132.2%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.

** Based on Basic Family Budget for Benton County.

Benton County

Benton County Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	70,811 ¹	78,153 ²	78,346	78,874	79,335
% of People living below poverty level	15.5% ¹	14.6% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$272,95 ¹	\$418,97 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	2.2	2.4	3	3.7	4.2
8th Grade Drug Use	18.4% ³	14.0%	NA	13.4%	NA
HS Dropout	4.9% ⁴	3.1%	2.4%	2.8	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	10.5	6.3	3.5	7	NA
Prenatal Care	84.1%	86.8%	88.4%	87.7%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	24.7	21.9	21	19.6	NA
Homeownership Rate	55.1% ¹	57.3% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	51.6% ¹	52.7% ²	NA	NA	NA
Benton County Services					
1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	
One Night Shelter Count	96	135	96	115	103
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	54	181	0	0	53
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$2.3 m	\$3.8 m	\$0	\$75,000	\$925,000
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	26	12	6	12	9
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$2.7 m	\$1.2 m	\$688,211	\$1.4 m	\$964,667
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	1,356	1,302	1,310	1,486
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	11.4%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	2,332	2,038	2,289	2,366	2,611
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	23.5%	20.4%	23.3%	24.3%	27.50%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	10.2%	
% of Population receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	1.9%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	15.8%	17.3%	
¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989 ² 2000 Census data, year is 1999 ³ 1998 ⁴ 1996 NA=Not Available					

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Community Services Consortium's Community Services Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

Clackamas County

Major findings

Clackamas County's poverty rates were lower than the state and national average from 1979 to 1999. The county's median income rose to \$52,080 in 1999, exceeded only by Washington County.

Minorities, such as Black and Other, were more likely to experience poverty in Clackamas County in 1999. Of those in poverty in Clackamas County, 45 percent earned half of the federal poverty threshold or less for their family type. Incomes at the federal poverty threshold in Clackamas County were 39.9 to 45 percent of the amount needed to afford the county's basic family budget.

Although more than 70 percent of the population owned their own home in 1999, a quarter of Clackamas County homeowners spent 30 percent or more of their income on housing. Over 40 percent of renters spent 30 percent or more of their income on rental costs.

In 2003, 13.6 percent of Clackamas County residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹



Low-income needs

Clackamas County Social Services prioritized the needs of the low-income population in Clackamas County as follows²:

- Provide safe, permanent, housing affordable to persons and households of low and moderate incomes.
- Develop affordable public transportation services designed to provide access to employment, commercial, civic, and social services.
- Access to food resources, including emergency food pantries, food stamps, and child nutrition resources.
- Enhance Non-English speakers access to services in a culturally sensitive atmosphere.
- A coordinated network of health and social services designed to meet the wide range of needs of low income, elderly, and person with disabilities.
- Develop a proactive strategy within the county to attract family wage jobs that include essential benefits.
- Develop programs and services that assist citizens to remain in their own homes, both through intervention services, as well as on-going supports, including financial management and personal care.
- Make available comprehensive information to the community about available services through a coordinated system of accessible information and referral.
- Create a countywide citizen advisory group to advise the County on affordable housing concerns and needs.
- Develop, maintain, and strengthen opportunities for individuals of all ages to participate in meaningful ways as volunteers within their own communities.

Clackamas County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Clackamas County grew by 21.4 percent, from 1989 to 1999. The US Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 335,122 county residents and found that 6.6 percent (21,969 people) lived below the poverty threshold in 1999. This was an increase of 15 percent in the number of persons living in poverty (19,103 people) in 1989. The overall percent of Clackamas County's population living in poverty decreased from 1989 to 1999, but the number of people living in poverty did not.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Clackamas County increased from 6 percent of the population to 6.6 percent. The number of persons in poverty rose from 14,458 people to 21,969 people. Clackamas County's poverty rates remained lower than the state and national poverty rates throughout this period.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined, children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 10.1 percent. Children under 18 years of age experienced poverty at 8.1 percent. People 65 and older experienced the lowest rate at 5.1 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty decreased for all age categories.

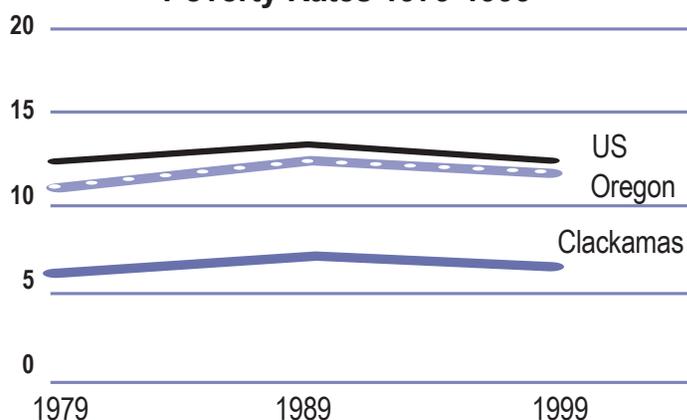
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level
(poverty rate)

	1989	1999	Percent Change (rate difference)
Clackamas County	19,103 (6.7%)	21,967 (6.6%)	15.0% (-0.4%)
Oregon Statewide	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%)

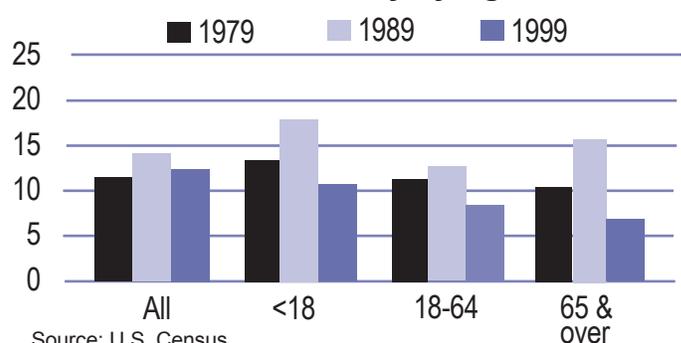
Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Source: U.S. Census.

Rate of Poverty by Age



Source: U.S. Census.

Clackamas County

Poverty & Clackamas County Families

In 1999, 4,279 of Clackamas County's 92,458 families lived in poverty (4.6 percent). Out 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.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child under 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 7.1 percent. Families with a child younger than 5 years experienced poverty at a higher rate of 10.3 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 22.1 percent and the rate was even higher for single mothers with younger children (less than 5 years) at 32.5 percent.

The poverty rate for married couple families with children under 18 was lower at 3.6 percent. From 1979 to 1999, the number of female-headed households with children (no husband present) who lived in poverty increased from 1,045 families in 1979 to 1,674 families in 1999.

Poverty & Race/Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White residents comprised the majority of people in poverty at 81.3 percent. When examining poverty based on race/ethnicity, however, the poverty rate among White was 5.8 percent. Other and Hispanic Origin experienced disproportionately higher rates of poverty. The poverty rate among Other was 25.7 percent, while Hispanic Origin had a rate of 20.7 percent. From 1989 to 1999 poverty improved for most, most racial categories, but not for Other and Hispanic.

Clackamas County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)				% Change '79-'99
	1979	1989	1999	(rate difference)
All Families	3,032 (4.6%)	3,609 (4.7%)	4,279 (4.6%)	41.1% (0.0%)
With Children under 18	2,201 (6.0%)	2,755 (7.0%)	3,325 (7.1%)	51.1% (1.1%)
Female-headed with children under 18	1,045 (23.2%)	1,465 (28.0%)	1,674 (22.1%)	60.2% (-1.1%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Clackamas County and Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population (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.

Clackamas County

County Income

On a per capita basis, Clackamas County's personal income was \$35,543 in 2002, about 123 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 115 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Between 2001 and 2002, per capita income in Clackamas County fell 0.4 percent. From 1992 to 2002, per capita income grew at an average annual rate of 4.7 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$34,194 in Clackamas County compared to \$33,063 for the state.⁴

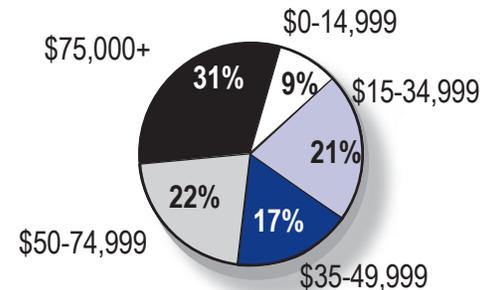
Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting Census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Clackamas County. The 2000 Census showed that 9,881 people or 45 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold were actually earning 50 percent less income than the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or above the poverty level but still needed assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and WIC. In 1999, 16.5 percent of Clackamas County's population, or 55,375 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Public Assistance

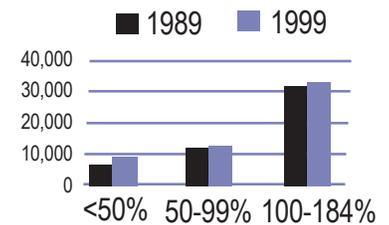
Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 2,797 households or 2.2 percent of all households in Clackamas County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$2,948. The 20-year trend showed a decrease in the number of households that reported receiving public assistance income, from 3,758 households or 4.4 percent of all households in 1979.

1999 Household Income Distribution-Clackamas County



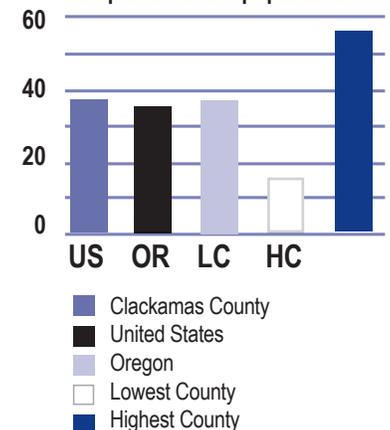
Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Clackamas County was \$52,080 in 1999 compared to \$35,419 in 1989 (55.9 percent increase).

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles



Source: U.S. Census

Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Source: U.S. Census.

Clackamas County

Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregon households have difficulty meeting 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.

Using this basic budget, an adult with three children who earned Clackamas County's median family income could not afford the basic family budget in 1999.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Clackamas County in 1999 was \$600.80. Of all sectors, the federal government had the highest weekly average of \$834.11 and retail trade had the lowest weekly average of \$381.21.

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.

According to the basic family budget, an adult with three children who worked full-time and earned average wages in Clackamas County could not afford basic family expenses.

Poverty and Clackamas County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$645	\$897	\$645	\$897
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$413	\$896	\$413	\$896
Transportation	\$158	\$158	\$222	\$222
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$271	\$430	\$320	\$479
Taxes	\$438	\$671	\$497	\$735
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$2,400	\$3,786	\$2,778	\$4,169
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$28,798	\$45,426	\$33,337	\$50,027
Median Family Income (Census 2000)	\$29,198	\$29,198	\$69,579	\$69,579
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	101.4%	64.3%	208.7%	139.1%

Poverty and Clackamas County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	39.9%	37.3%	40.2%	39.7%

Clackamas County Wages the Basic Family Budget

	1 Worker 1 Child	1 Worker 3 Children	2 Workers 1 Child	2 Workers 3 Children
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$2,583	\$2,583	\$5,166	\$5,166
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$2,400	\$3,786	\$2,778	\$4,169
Difference (SSW-AMW)	\$183	-\$1,203	\$2,388	\$997
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	107.6%	68.2%	186.0%	123.9%

*Based on Basic Family Budget for Clackamas County and Payrolls.
** Based on Basic Family Budget for Baker County.

Clackamas County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	278,850 ¹	338,391 ²	345,276	352,427	357,435
% of People living below poverty level	6.9% ¹	6.6% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$35,419 ¹	\$520,802	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	3.2	3.4	4.8	6.7	7.4
8th Grade Drug Use	18.7% ³	11.9%	NA	14.0%	NA
HS Dropout	5.7% ⁴	3.3%	3.0%	2.9%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	13.9	11.1	8.2	7	NA
Prenatal Care	84.7%	84.6%	84.0%	85.0%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	13.3	17.5	16.5	17	NA
Homeownership Rate	71.7% ¹	71.1% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	37.8% ¹	41.7% ²	NA	NA	NA
Clackamas County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	224	186	203	209	168
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	206	118	501	102	91
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$4.5 m	\$5.4 m	\$20.6 m	\$2.0 m	\$3.0 m
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	62	27	35	34	41
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$6.7 m	\$3.1 m	\$4.2 m	\$4.0 m	\$5.3 m
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	3,899	4,633	4,958	4,860
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	11.80%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	10,880	11,063	11,650	12,914	14,664
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	20.0%	20.2%	21.0%	23.0%	25.9%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	9.0%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	1.6%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	15.0%	16.2%	
¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989 ² 2000 Census data, year is 1999 ³ 1998 ⁴ 1996 NA=Not Available					

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Clackamas County Social Services' Community Services Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05.

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

Major findings

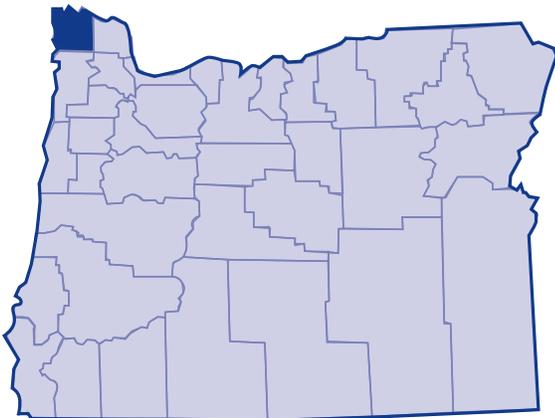
According to the US Census, the poverty rate and the number of those in poverty decreased slightly in Clatsop County from 1989 to 1999. This followed ten years of growing poverty. However, the rate of poverty for Clatsop County remained slightly higher than the state and national averages.

Forty percent of those in poverty in Clatsop County earned 50 percent of the poverty threshold or less for their family type.

Clatsop County's children, families and minorities experienced the highest rates of poverty in 1999. Children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rates of poverty of all age groups. Over 20 percent of families who had children younger than 5 lived in poverty. Over half (60.1 percent) of families headed by single mothers with a child 5 years of age or younger lived in poverty.

More than 45 percent of Black, Other, or Hispanic Origin lived in poverty.

In 2003, 22.6 percent of Clatsop County residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹



Low-income needs

Community Action Team, Inc (CAT), the Community Action Agency for Clatsop County prioritized the needs of the county's low-income population as follows²:

- Develop and implement a Transitional Housing program for homeless youth
- Establish a link between Family Childcare Providers and Food Banks to improve child nutrition
- Maintain five senior center meal programs
- Establish two Family Resource Centers and improve access to services for low-income families
- Increase enrollment in the Even Start Family Literacy program
- Produce and distribute 6,000 Family Resource Directories
- Develop and construct transitional housing for persons released from the Columbia County Corrections Facility
- Complete 15 units of Self Help Housing
- Enroll 600 children in Head Start and prepare them to succeed in school
- Rehabilitate 100 low or moderate income homes
- Weatherize 200 low income homes
- Provide after school child care for 200 children
- Provide emergency energy services to 5,000 low income households

Clatsop County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Clatsop County grew by 7 percent, from 1989 to 1999. Of those county residents for whom poverty status was determined (35,017), 13.2 percent (4,625 people) lived below the poverty threshold in 1999 as defined by the federal government. This is a decrease of 2.2 percent from the number of those living in poverty (4,727 people) in 1989. The overall percent of Clatsop County's population living in poverty decreased from 1989 to 1999, as well as the number of people living in poverty.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Clatsop County increased from 11.6 percent of the population to 13.2 percent. The number of persons in poverty rose from 3,691 to 4,625 people. Although lower than the national poverty rates in 1979, by 1989, poverty in Clatsop County reached a rate slightly higher than state and national averages.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined, Clatsop County children 5 years of age or younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 23.8 percent. Children under 18 years of age experienced poverty at 18.5 percent. People 65 and over experienced the lowest rate at 8 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty improved for people 65 and older.

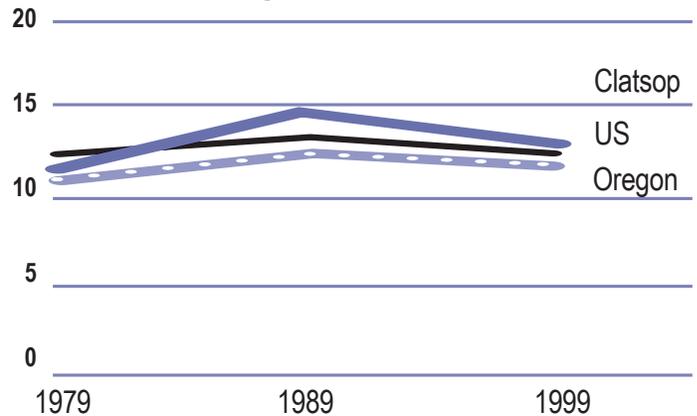
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level
(poverty rate)

	1989	1999	Percent Change (rate difference)
Clatsop	4,727 (14.4%)	4,625 (13.2%)	-2.2% (-1.2%)
Oregon Statewide	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%)

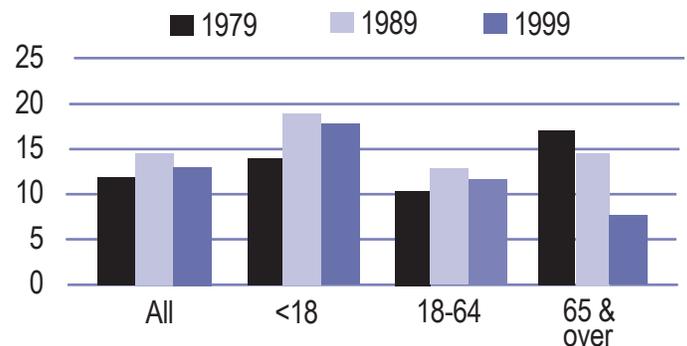
Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Source: U.S. Census.

Rate of Poverty by Age



Source: U.S. Census.

Clatsop County

Poverty and Clatsop County Families

In 1999, 869 Clatsop County families lived in poverty (9.1 percent). Of the families in poverty, 64.3 percent (559 families) had a worker and 15.3 percent (133 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child younger than 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 14.6 percent. Families with a child 5 years and younger experienced poverty at a higher rate of 22.8 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 41.2 percent and the rate was even higher for single mothers with younger children (less than 5 years) at 60.1 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children younger than 18 was lower at 6.2 percent. From 1979 to 1999, the number of female-headed households with children (no husband present) who lived in poverty increased from 286 families in 1979 to 400 families in 1999.

Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White comprised the majority of people in poverty at 84 percent. The poverty rate among White was 12 percent. Other and Hispanic Origin experienced disproportionately higher rates of poverty. The poverty rate among Other was 47.7 percent, while Hispanic Origin had a 45.4 percent rate. Between 1989 and 1999, White and American Indian experienced improvements in poverty rates.

Clatsop County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)	1979			1989		1999		% Change '79-'99 (rate difference)
	1979	1989	1999	1979	1989	1999	1999	
All Families	670 (7.8%)	906 (10.0%)	869 (9.1%)					29.7% (1.3%)
With Children under 18	482 (11.4%)	690 (15.4%)	665 (14.6%)					38.0% (3.2%)
Female-headed with children under 18	286 (39.5%)	323 (43.8%)	400 (41.2%)					39.9% (1.7%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Clatsop County Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population (poverty population)	Poverty Rate by Race 1999	Poverty Rate by Race 1989
White	92.6% (32,419)	84.0% (3,885)	12.0%	14.1%
Black	0.7% (254)	2.8% (131)	51.6%	33.0%
American Indian	0.8% (297)	1.2% (55)	18.5%	29.9%
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.0%/0.2% (341/68)	1.1%/0.3% (52/15)	15.4%/22.1%	13.8%*
Other	1.8% (620)	6.4% (296)	47.7%	20.8%
2 or More Races	2.9% (1,018)	4.1% (191)	18.8%	NA
Hispanic Origin	4.6% (1,618)	15.9% (734)	45.4%	29.0%

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

Clatsop County

County Income

On a per capita basis, Clatsop County's personal income was \$25,196 in 2002, about 88 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 82 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Per capita income in Clatsop County rose 2.9 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, for per capita income shows average annual growth of 3.4 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$26,414 in Clatsop County compared to \$33,063 for the state.⁴

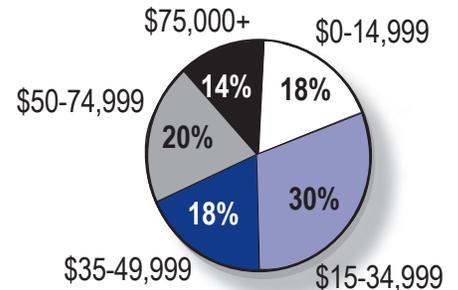
Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Clatsop County. The 2000 Census showed that 1,871 people or 40.5 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold actually earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or above the poverty level but still needed assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants, and Children program. In 1999, 10,427 people in Clatsop County, or 29.8 percent earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Public Assistance

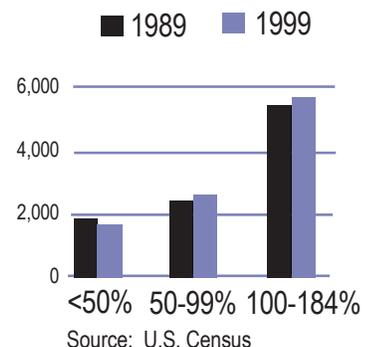
Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 525 households or 3.6 percent of all households in Clatsop County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$2,000. The 20-year trend showed a decrease in the number of households that reported receiving public assistance income, from 850 households or 6.7 percent of all households in 1979.

1999 Household Income Distribution-Clatsop County

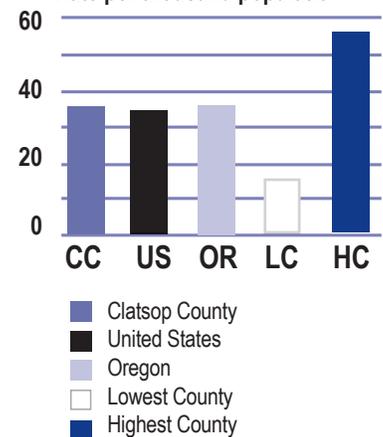


Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Clatsop County was \$36,301 in 1999 compared to \$25,135 in 1989 (44.4 percent increase).

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles



Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregon households had difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Clatsop County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses.

Using this budget, one adult who earned Clatsop County's median family income could not afford basic family expenses.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

Poverty and Clatsop County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$556	\$758	\$556	\$758
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$404	\$880	\$404	\$880
Transportation	\$197	\$197	\$277	\$277
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$244	\$387	\$293	\$436
Taxes	\$399	\$579	\$467	\$673
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$2,275	\$3,535	\$2,678	\$3,964
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$27,294	\$42,421	\$32,142	\$47,567
Median Family Income (Census 2000)	\$21,367	\$21,367	\$51,906	\$51,906
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	78.3%	50.4%	161.5%	109.1%

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families with incomes at the poverty level in Clatsop County could afford 40 to 42.1 percent of this basic family budget.

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Clatsop County was \$467.45. "Non-classifiable" had the highest weekly average of \$770.82 and retail trade had the lowest weekly average of \$298.33.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Clatsop County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages. Families with one adult who worked full-time and earned average wages in Clatsop County could not afford the basic family budget.

Poverty and Clatsop County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	42.1%	40.0%	41.7%	41.8%

Clatsop County Wages the Basic Budget

	1 Worker 1 Child	1 Worker 3 Children	2 Workers 1 Child	2 Workers 3 Children
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$2,010	\$2,010	\$4,020	\$4,020
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$2,275	\$3,535	\$2,678	\$3,964
Difference (SSW-AMW)	-\$265	-\$1,525	\$1,342	\$56
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	88.4%	56.9%	150.1%	101.4%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.

Clatsop County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	33,301 ¹	35,630 ²	35,574	35,654	35,820
% of People living below poverty level	14.4% ¹	13.2% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$25,135 ¹	\$36,301 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	5.00%	4.6%	5.2%	6.5%	7.1%
8th Grade Drug Use	22.4% ³	12.8%	NA	28.2%	NA
HS Dropout	5.2% ⁴	3.9%	3.6%	3.5%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	21.7	13	12	12.4	NA
Prenatal Care	79.0%	82.8%	82.1%	78.9%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	19.7	21.3	19.8	17.3	NA
Homeownership Rate	63.2% ¹	64.2% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	42.3% ¹	47.6% ²	NA	NA	NA
Clatsop County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	72	56	145	177	70
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	209	59	104	107	108
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$2.9 m	\$1.4 m	\$2.7 m	\$2.3 m	\$4.0 m
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	3	9	9	13	2
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$338,756	\$806,504	\$880,082	\$1.3 m	\$232,254
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	914	849	806	617
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	19.7%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	1,648	1,584	1,787	1,921	1,996
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	29.5%	28.5%	31.4%	34.1%	36.2%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	15.2%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	2.3%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	27.8%	28.0%	
¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989 ² 2000 Census data, year is 1999 ³ 1998 ⁴ 1996 NA=Not Available					

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Community Action Team, Inc.'s Community Services Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05.

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

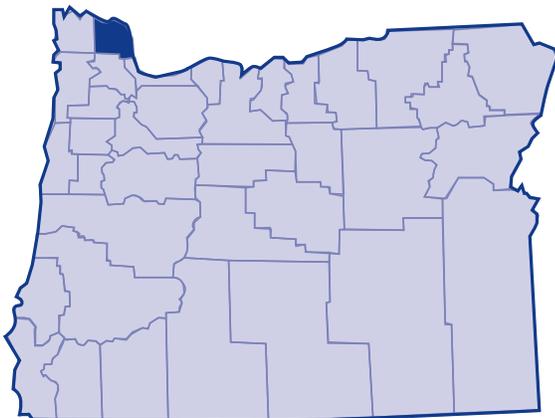
Major findings

Columbia County experienced lower rates of poverty than the state and nation from 1979 to 1999.

Of those living below poverty, 44.3 percent earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold for their family type. More than 20 percent of the county population earned less than 185 percent of the poverty threshold, and was possibly qualified for state and federal programs, such as food stamps.

Children, single mothers, and those of Hispanic Origin all experienced disproportionately high rates of poverty. Since 1979, the number of single women with children living in poverty in Columbia County increased by 51.9 percent. In 2000, 60 percent of single mothers with children 5 years of age and younger experienced poverty. One quarter of the Hispanic population experienced poverty.

By 2003, Columbia County experienced an 11.7 percent unemployment rate. That same year, 21.3 percent of Columbia County residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹



Low-income needs

Community Action Team, Inc., the Community Action Agency for Columbia County, prioritized the needs of the county's low-income population as follows²:

- Develop and implement a Transitional Housing program for homeless youth
- Establish a link between Family Childcare Providers and Food Banks to improve child nutrition
- Maintain five senior center meal programs
- Establish two Family Resource Centers and improve access to services for low-income families
- Increase enrollment in the Even Start Family Literacy program
- Produce and distribute 6,000 Family Resource Directories
- Develop and construct transitional housing for persons released from the Columbia County Corrections Facility
- Complete 15 units of Self Help Housing
- Enroll 600 children in Head Start and prepare them to succeed in school
- Rehabilitate 100 low or moderate income homes
- Weatherize 200 low income homes
- Provide after school child care for 200 children
- Provide emergency energy services to 5,000 low income households

Columbia County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Columbia County grew by 16 percent between 1989 and 1999. The Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 43,202 county residents and found that 9.1 percent (3,910 people) lived below the poverty threshold. This is an increase of 2.5 percent in the number of persons living in poverty (3,813 people) in 1989. The overall percent of Columbia County's population living in poverty decreased from 1989 to 1999, while the number of people living in poverty did not.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Columbia County decreased from 9.3 percent of the population to 9.1 percent. The number of persons in poverty rose from 3,284 people to 3,910 people. Columbia County's poverty rates remained lower than the state and national poverty rates throughout this period.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined, children 5 years of age or younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 15.1 percent. Children younger than 18 years of age experienced poverty at 12.2 percent. People 65 and older experienced the lowest rate at 7 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty improved for people 65 years of age and older.

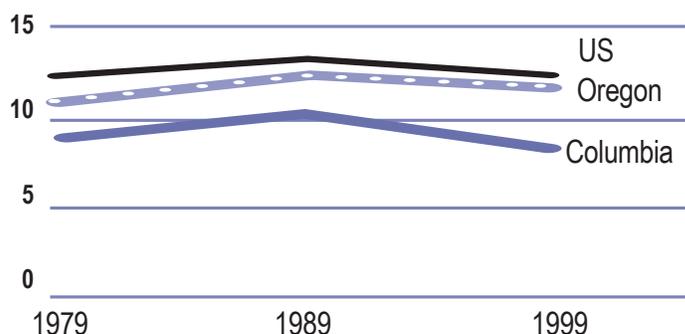
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level
(poverty rate)

	1989	1999	Percent Change
Columbia County	3,813 (10.2%)	3,910 (9.1%)	(rate difference) 2.5% (-1.2%)
Oregon Statewide	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%)

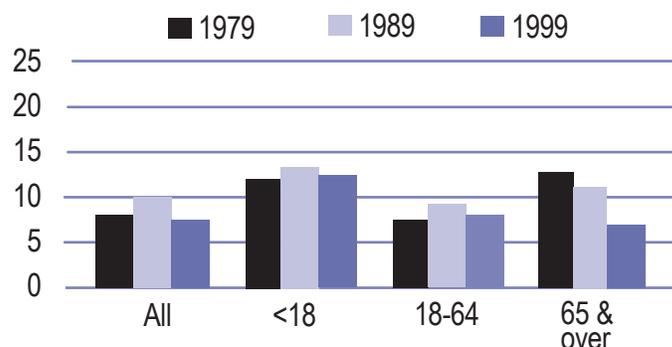
Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Source: U.S. Census.

Rate of Poverty by Age



Source: U.S. Census.

Columbia County

Poverty and Columbia County Families

In 1999, 811 Columbia County families lived in poverty (6.7 percent). Of the 811 families in poverty, 64.2 percent (521 families) had a household member who worked and 14.7 percent (119 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child younger than 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 10.4 percent. Families with a child 5 years and younger experienced poverty at a higher rate of 14.6

percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 39.1 percent and the rate was even higher with younger children (younger than 5 years) at 59.8 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children younger than 18 was lower at 3.6 percent. From 1979 to 1999, the number of female-headed households with children (no husband present) who lived in poverty increased from 268 families in 1979 to 407 families in 1999.

Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White comprised the majority of people in poverty at 88.2 percent. The poverty rate among White was 8.5 percent. Other and Hispanic experienced disproportionately higher rates of poverty. The poverty rate among Other was 34.7 percent, while Hispanic had a 25.7 percent rate. Between 1989 and 1999, poverty rates improved for White and Other.

Columbia County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)	1979			1989		1999		% Change '79-'99 (rate difference)
	1979	1989	1999	1979	1989	1999	1999	
All Families	738 (7.4%)	795 (7.6%)	811 (6.7%)					9.9%
With Children under 18	565 (10.1%)	623 (11.6%)	644 (10.4%)					14.0%
Female-headed with children under 18	268 (41.7%)	282 (41.7%)	407 (39.1%)					51.9%

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Columbia County and Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population (poverty population)	Poverty Rate 1999	Poverty Rate by Race 1989
White	94.3% (40,721)	88.2% (3,450)	8.5%	9.9%
Black	0.3% (116)	0.4% (17)	14.7%	12.9%
American Indian	1.3% (570)	2.5% (99)	17.4%	17.4%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.5%/0.1% (199/39)	0.5%/0.2% (21/6)	10.6%/15.4%	8.0%*
Other	0.9% (389)	3.5% (135)	34.7%	38.5%
2 or More Races	2.7% (1,168)	4.7% (182)	15.6%	NA
Hispanic Origin	2.3% (990)	6.5% (254)	25.7%	25.0%

*Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 Census.

Columbia County

County Income

On a per capita basis, Columbia County's personal income was \$27,234 in 2002, about 95 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 88 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Per capita income in Columbia County fell 0.7 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, of per capita income shows average annual growth of 4.4 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$29,544 in Columbia County compared to \$33,063 for the state.⁴

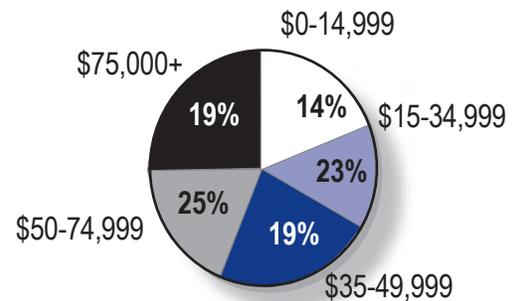
Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Columbia County. The 2000 Census showed that 1,732 people or 44.3 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold actually earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or above the poverty level but still needed assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants, and Children program. In 1999, 21 percent of Columbia County's population, or 9,077 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Public Assistance

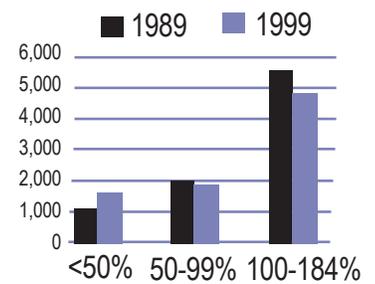
Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 551 households or 3.4 percent of all households in Columbia County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$2,205. The 20-year trend showed a decrease in the number of households that reported receiving public assistance income, from 795 households or 6.2 percent of all households in 1979.

1999 Household Income Distribution-Columbia County



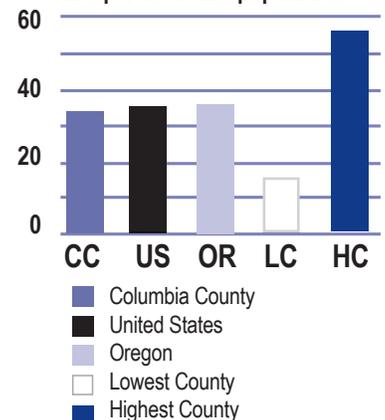
Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Columbia County was \$45,797 in 1999 compared to \$29,507 in 1989 (55.2 percent increase).

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles



Source: U.S. Census

Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Source: U.S. Census.

Columbia County

Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregonian households had difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Columbia County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses.

Families with one adult who earned Columbia County's median family income could not afford this basic budget.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

Columbia County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$645	\$897	\$645	\$897
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$412	\$891	\$412	\$891
Transportation	\$170	\$170	\$240	\$240
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$271	\$430	\$320	\$479
Taxes	\$443	\$675	\$504	\$740
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$2,416	\$3,797	\$2,802	\$4,187
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$28,993	\$45,561	\$33,624	\$50,248
Median Family Income (Census 2000)	\$22,902	\$22,902	\$58,144	\$58,144
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	79.0%	50.3%	172.9%	115.7%

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families at the poverty level in Columbia County could afford 37.2 to 39.9 percent of this basic family budget.

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Columbia County was \$547.07. Of all sectors, transportation, communication and utilities industry had the highest weekly average of \$873.59 and retail trade had the lowest weekly average of \$287.10.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Columbia County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages as well.

Families with one full-time worker earning Columbia County's average wage could not afford the basic family budget.

Poverty and Columbia County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	39.6%	37.2%	39.9%	39.6%

Columbia County Wages and the Basic Budget

	1 Worker 1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Worker 1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Workers 2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Workers 2 Adults/ 3 Children
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$2,352	\$2,352	\$4,705	\$4,705
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$2,416	\$3,797	\$2,802	\$4,187
Difference (SSW-AMW)	-\$64	-\$1,445	\$1,903	\$518
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	97.4%	61.9%	168.0%	112.4%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.
** Based on Basic Family Budget for Columbia County.

Columbia County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	37,557 ¹	43,560 ²	44,310	45,449	46,261
% of People living below poverty level	10.2% ¹	9.1% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$29,507 ¹	\$45,797 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	4.8%	5.5%	8.4%	10.4%	11.7%
8th Grade Drug Use	14.8% ³	13.4%	NA	15.5%	NA
HS Dropout	4.1% ⁴	4.8%	3.5%	2.3%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	13.8	10.9	9.3	610.0%	NA
Prenatal Care	80.3%	85.2%	83.8%	86.8%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	17.1	16.5	16.2	15.2	NA
Homeownership Rate	74.1% ¹	76.1% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	36.4% ¹	42.6% ²	NA	NA	NA
Columbia County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	31	106	62	39	41
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	67	69	6	5	63
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$2.2 m	\$5.1 m	\$1.9 m	\$312,162	\$2.1 m
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	10	5	9	6	9
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$884,109	\$501,315	\$959,301	\$710,461	\$1.1 m
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	1,236	1,149	925	957
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	16.7%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	2,220	2,123	2,227	2,303	2,486
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	25.7%	24.7%	25.8%	27.0%	29.2%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	14.8%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	2.0%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	22.2%	23.3%	
¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989 ² 2000 Census data, year is 1999 ³ 1998 ⁴ 1996 NA=Not Available					

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Community Action Team, Inc. Community Services Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05.

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

Major findings

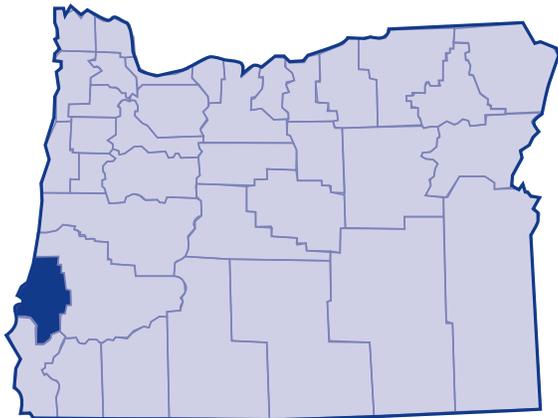
According to the US Census, the poverty rate and the number of those in poverty decreased slightly in Coos County from 1989 to 1999. However, the rate of poverty for Coos County remained slightly higher than the state and national averages due to increases experienced between 1979 to 1989.

Of those Coos County residents in poverty, 40 percent earned 50 percent of the poverty threshold or less.

Children, families, and minorities experienced the highest rates of poverty in 1999. Children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rates of poverty of all age groups. More than 20 percent of families with children under 5 lived in poverty. Poverty affected 60.1 percent of families headed by single mothers with a child 5 years or younger.

Most racial minority categories experienced poverty rates at 20 percent or higher.

In 2003, 29.3 percent of Coos County residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹



Low-income needs

Southwestern Oregon Community Action Committee prioritized the needs of the low-income population in Coos County as follows²:

- **Food, food warehouse**-develop a warehouse in order to take advantage of fresh, frozen and bulk food shipments
- **Affordable housing**-develop additional rental housing units to address the needs of at-risk families, people with disabilities and senior citizens
- **Head Start services**- strengthen South Coast Head Start, a program of SWOCAC, to deliver services to low-income households
- **Emergency medical services**-strengthen and expand support for MedNet (now funded entirely by local Longshoreman's Union payroll deductions) to help uninsured household with medical, dental or prescription costs
- **Energy Assistance**-improve access to the program for low-income households, especially elderly, people with disabilities and families with children younger than 6
- **Services and housing** to homeless teens
- **Emergency food and shelter services**
- **Self-sufficiency programs**-help households achieve housing stability and to follow a plan to increase household self-reliance
- **General homeless programs**-identify additional funding
- **Increased local capacity of service community**
- **Program for seniors**-prepare for the demographic shift, growing elderly population
- **Affordable transportation**-adequate transportation for low-income households
- **Affordable childcare**-affordable child care options for working low-income families

Coos County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Coos County grew 4.2 percent from 1989 to 1999. The Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 61,534 county residents and found that 15 percent (9,257 people) lived below the poverty threshold. This is a decrease of 5 percent in the number of persons living in poverty (9,741 people) in 1989. The overall percent of Coos County's population living in poverty decreased from 1989 to 1999, as did the number of people living in poverty.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Coos County increased from 10.5 percent of the population to 15.0 percent. The number of persons in poverty rose from 6,613 people to 9,257 people. Although lower than state and national averages in 1979, Coos County experienced higher poverty rates than the state and nation between 1989 and 1999.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined, children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 25 percent. Children under 18 years of age experienced poverty at 20.5 percent. People 65 and older experienced the lowest rate at 9.4 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty improved for people 65 and older.

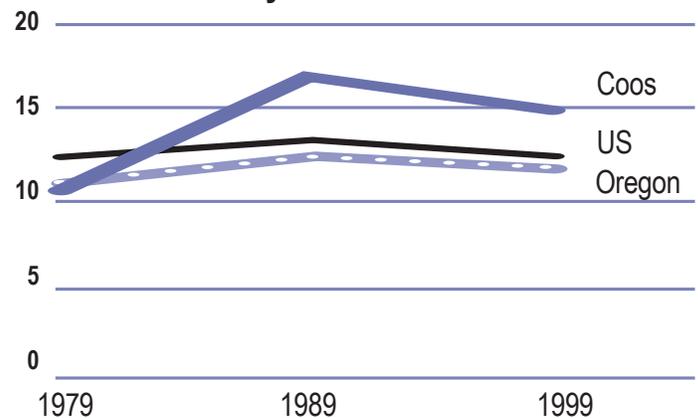
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level
(poverty rate)

	1989	1999	Percent Change (rate difference)
Coos County	9,741 (16.5%)	9,257 (15.0%)	-5.0% (-1.4%)
Oregon Statewide	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%)

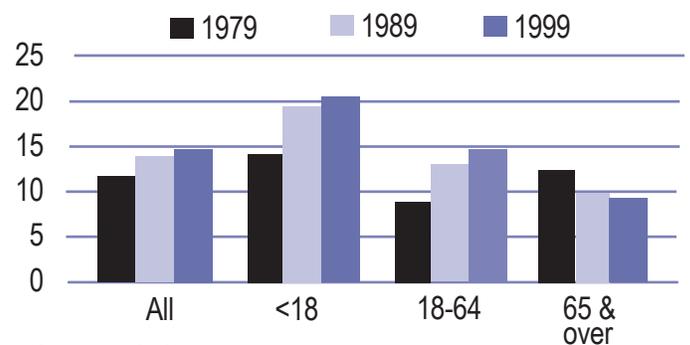
Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Source: U.S. Census.

Rate of Poverty by Age



Source: U.S. Census.

Poverty and Coos County Families

In 1999, 1,948 Coos County families lived in poverty (11.1 percent). Of the families in poverty, 56 percent (1,091 families) had a household member who worked and 9.9 percent (192 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher among families with children. Families with at least one child younger than 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 17.8 percent. Families with children 5 years and younger experienced poverty at a higher rate—24.1 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 38.7 percent and was even higher with younger children (younger than 5 years) at 52.3 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children younger than 18 was lower at 8.5 percent. Between 1979 and 1999, the rate of poverty for families with children increased from 11.9 percent in 1979 to 17.8 percent in 1999.

Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White residents comprised the majority of people in poverty at 88.1 percent. When examining poverty based on race/ethnicity, however, the poverty rate among White was 14.5 percent. Pacific Islander, Black and American Indian experienced disproportionately higher rates of poverty. The poverty rate among Pacific Islander was 39.4 percent, while Black had a 28.6 percent rate and American Indian had a 24.8 percent rate. From 1989 to 1999, poverty rates increased for Black, Asian, Pacific Islander, and Other.

Coos County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)	Poverty Level			% Change '79-'99 (rate difference)
	1979	1989	1999	
All Families	1,463 (8.2%)	2,080 (12.1%)	1,948 (11.1%)	33.2% (2.9%)
With Children under 18	1,108 (11.9%)	1,583 (20.2%)	1,361 (17.8%)	22.8% (5.9%)
Female-headed with children under 18	514 (41.2%)	805 (52.3%)	676 (38.7%)	31.5% (-2.5%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Coos County and Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population (poverty population)	Poverty Rate 1999	Poverty Rate by Race 1989
White	91.5% (56,304)	88.1% (8,151)	14.5%	16.3%
Black	0.2% (98)	0.3% (28)	28.6%	15.0%
American Indian	2.6% (1,602)	4.3% (397)	24.8%	25.1%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.5%/0.1% (337/66)	0.6%/0.3% (57/26)	16.9%/39.4%	12.9%*
Other	1.2% (745)	1.2% (108)	14.5%	12.7%
2 or More Races	3.9% (2,382)	5.3% (490)	20.6%	NA
Hispanic Origin	3.2% (1,965)	4.6% (423)	21.5%	22.5%

*Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 Census.

County Income

On a per capita basis, Coos County's personal income was \$23,937 in 2002, about 83 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 77 percent of the national average of \$30,906. Per capita income in Coos County rose 5 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, of per capita income shows average annual growth of 4 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$26,626 in Coos County compared to \$33,063 for the state.⁴

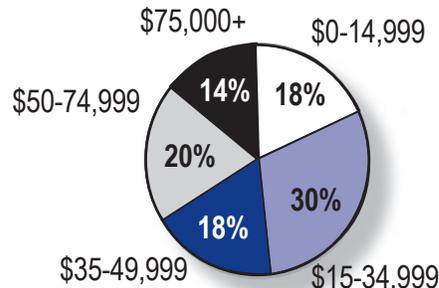
Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Coos County. The 2000 Census showed that 3,775 people or 40.8 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold actually earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or above the poverty level but still needed assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants, and Children program. In 1999, 35.4 percent of Coos County's population, or 21,767 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Public Assistance

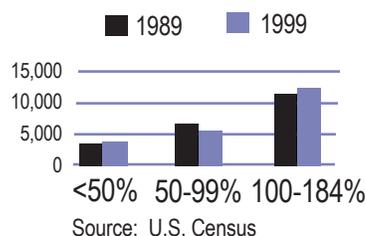
Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 1,388 households or 5.3 percent of all households in Coos County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$2,590. The 20-year trend showed a decrease in households who received public assistance income, from 1,712 households or 7.2 percent of all households in 1979.

1999 Household Income Distribution-Coos County



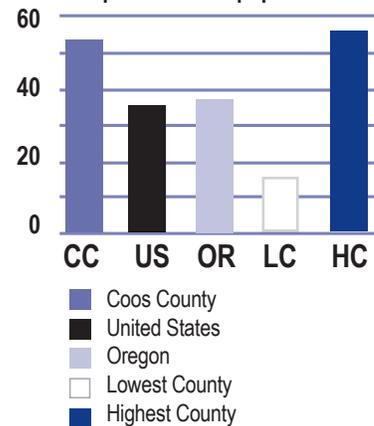
Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Coos County was \$31,542 in 1999 compared to \$22,146 in 1989 (42.4 percent increase).

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles



Source: U.S. Census

Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Source: U.S. Census.

Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregonian households had difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Coos County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses.

Using this budget, families with one adult who earned median family income in Coos County could not afford the basic family budget.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families at the poverty level in Coos County could afford 42.9 to 46.7 percent of this basic family budget.

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Coos County was \$469.06. The federal government had the highest weekly average of \$791.2 and retail trade had the lowest weekly average of \$312.08.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Coos County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages as well.

Using the basic family budget, an adult with three children and who worked full-time at Coos County's average wage could not afford the basic family budget.

Coos County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$503	\$701	\$503	\$701
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$351	\$787	\$351	\$787
Transportation	\$197	\$197	\$277	\$277
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$227	\$369	\$276	\$418
Taxes	\$296	\$506	\$415	\$578
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$2,049	\$3,294	\$2,503	\$3,701
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$24,593	\$39,533	\$30,035	\$44,410
Median Family Income (Census 2000)	\$17,852	\$17,852	\$44,670	\$44,670
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	72.6%	45.2%	148.7%	100.6%

Poverty and Coos County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	46.7%	42.9%	44.6%	44.8%

Coos County Wages and the Basic Budget

	1 Worker 1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Worker 1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Workers 2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Workers 2 Adults/ 3 Children
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$2,017	\$2,017	\$4,034	\$4,034
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$2,049	\$3,294	\$2,503	\$3,701
Difference (SSW-AMW)	-\$32	-\$1,277	\$1,531	\$333
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	98.4%	61.2%	161.2%	109.0%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.
** Based on Basic Family Budget for Coos County.

Coos County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	60,273 ¹	62,779 ²	62,377	62,618	63,019
% of People living below poverty level	16.5% ¹	15.0% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$22,146 ¹	\$31,542 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	7.4	7.4	8.3	8.6	8.8
8th Grade Drug Use	21.0% ³	12.4%	NA	25.5%	NA
HS Dropout	5.9% ⁴	4.5%	3.4%	3.9%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	15.8	13.2	10.3	10.2	NA
Prenatal Care	70.7%	70.9%	74.2%	77.0%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	0	13.3	14.1	13.8	NA
Homeownership Rate	66.5% ¹	68.1% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	43.8% ¹	49.0% ²	NA	NA	NA
Coos County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	104	12	111	0	169
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	66	16	8	4	4
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$1.3 m	\$1.3 m	\$614,136	\$403,648	\$59,200
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	34	43	25	13	11
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$2.4 m	\$3.0 m	\$1.8 m	\$1.0 m	\$883,838
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	2,361	1,964	1,937	1,656
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	22.5%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	4,203	4,109	4,260	4,128	4,244
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	42.9%	43.7%	46.7%	46.4%	48.4%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	21.1%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	3.4%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	33.0%	32.2%	
¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989 ² 2000 Census data, year is 1999 ³ 1998 ⁴ 1996 NA=Not Available					

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Humans Services Integrated Client Database.

² Southwestern Oregon CAC (SWOCAC) Community Services Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

Crook County

Major Findings

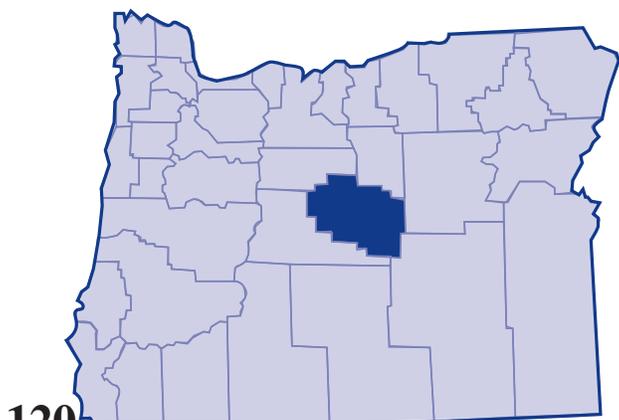
Crook County saw population growth of 38.9 percent from 1989 to 1999. This growth in total population exceeded the growth in the number of people in poverty; the number of people living in poverty increased 38.5 percent, but the poverty rate decreased 0.2 percent.

From 1979 to 1989, Crook County experienced poverty rates at much lower levels than the state and the nation. From 1989 to 1999, however, Crook County saw poverty rates remain relatively constant, even as the state and national averages decreased. By 1999, Crook County's poverty rate matched state and national averages.

Newcomers to poverty were likely to be families with children. Between 1979 and 1999, the number of Crook County families with children living in poverty increased 68.3 percent.

The 2000 Census showed families with children headed by single mothers to be especially vulnerable to poverty at 36.6 percent. More than half of families headed by single mothers who had children under 5 years of age, 59.4 percent, lived in poverty.

In 2003, 23.8 percent of Crook County residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹



Low-income needs

Central Oregon Community Action Agency Network prioritized the needs of the low-income population in Crook County as follows²:

- **Housing**-help paying deposits and first/last months' rent; help addressing housing barriers such as credit problems, past criminal activities, or previous evictions
- **Utilities**-access to utility assistance, especially when rental units are energy inefficient
- **Transportation**-affordable and accessible transportation, including medical transportation; improve the dial-a-ride system and public transportation
- **Employment**-full-time employment with benefits
- **Hunger/Food Stamps**-food pantries, brown bag program, free and reduced lunch, summer feeding programs and especially rural food-assistance programs face particular challenges
- **Health Care**-access to health insurance, health care, prescription medications, and dental care
- **Childcare**-affordable quality childcare
- **Education**-job training and financial assistance for low-income parents seeking to achieve educational goals

Crook County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Crook County grew 35.9 percent between 1989 and 1999. The Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 18,851 county residents and found that 11.3 percent (2,128 people) lived below the poverty threshold. This was an increase of 38.5 percent in the number of persons living in poverty (1,537 people) in 1989. The overall percent of Crook County's population living in poverty remained relatively constant from 1989 to 1999, but the number of people living in poverty increased.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Crook County increased from 10 percent of the population to 11.3 percent. The number of persons in poverty rose from 1,286 people to 2,128 people. Crook County's poverty rates remained lower than the state and national poverty rates throughout this period.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined, children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 18.4 percent. Children younger than 18 years of age experienced poverty at 14.7 percent. People 65 and older experienced the lowest rate at 8.1 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty decreased for those 65 years of age and older and increased for all other age categories.

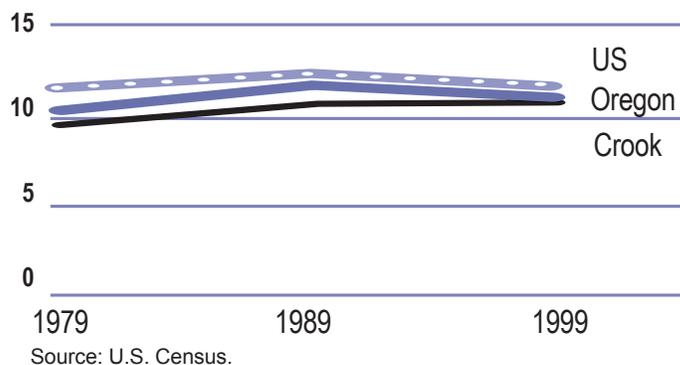
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level
(poverty rate)

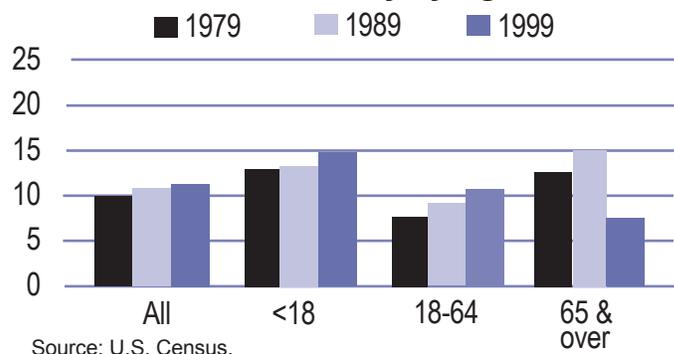
	1989	1999	Percent Change (rate difference)
Crook County	1,537 (11.1%)	2,128 (11.3%)	38.5% (0.2%)
Oregon Statewide	344,867 (12.4%)	388,740 (11.6%)	12.7% (-0.8%)
United States	31,742,864 (13.1%)	33,899,812 (12.4%)	6.8% (-0.7%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Rate of Poverty by Age



Poverty and Crook County Families

In 1999, 439 Crook County families lived in poverty (8.1 percent). Of the families in poverty, 67 percent (294 families) had a worker and 23.9 percent (105 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child younger than 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 14.4 percent. Families with a child 5 years and younger experienced poverty at a higher rate of 19.7 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 36.6 percent and the rate was even higher with younger children (younger than 5 years) at 59.4 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children younger than 18 was lower at 8.9 percent. The number of families with children in poverty increased from 218 families in 1979 to 367 families in 1999.

Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White residents comprised the majority of people in poverty at 81 percent. When examining poverty based on race/ethnicity, however, the poverty rate among White was 9.9 percent. American Indian, Other and Hispanic Origin experienced disproportionately higher rates of poverty. All three of these categories experienced poverty rates in excess of 30 percent. From 1989 to 1999, Hispanic Origin poverty increased.

Crook County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)	1979			1989		1999		% Change '79-'99 (rate difference)
	1979	1989	1999	1979	1989	1999	1999	
All Families	306 (8.0%)	380 (9.3%)	439 (8.1%)					43.5% (0.1%)
With Children under 18	218 (11.4%)	219 (11.2%)	367 (14.4%)					68.3% (3.0%)
Female-headed with children under 18	131 (49.2%)	124 (51.0%)	159 (36.6%)					21.4% (-12.6%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Crook County Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population (poverty population)	Poverty Rate 1999	Poverty Rate by Race 1989
White	92.5% (17,439)	81.0% (1,723)	9.9%	10.2%
Black	0.0% (7)	0.0% (0)	0.0%	0.0%
American Indian	1.7% (322)	4.9% (104)	32.3%	36.9%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.3%/0.0% (53/0)	0.0%/0.0% (0/0)	NA/NA	NA*
Other	4.0% (761)	12.1% (257)	33.9%	46.0%
2 or More Races	1.4% (269)	2.1% (44)	16.4%	NA
Hispanic Origin	5.5% (1,032)	18.0% (382)	37.0%	25.1%

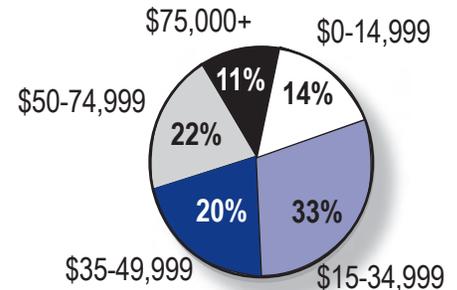
*Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 census.

Crook County

County Income

On a per capita basis, Crook County's personal income was \$21,859 in 2002, about 76 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 71 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Per capita income in Crook County rose 2.3 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, of per capita income shows average annual growth of 3 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$27,596 in Crook County compared to \$33,063 for the state.⁴

1999 Household Income Distribution-Crook County

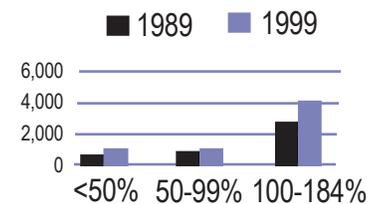


Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Crook County was \$35,186 in 1999 compared to \$24,275 in 1989 (44.9 percent increase).

Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Crook County. The 2000 Census showed that 1,047 people or 49.2 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold actually earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or above the poverty level but still need assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants, and Children program. In 1999, 33 percent of Crook County's population, or 6,218 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles

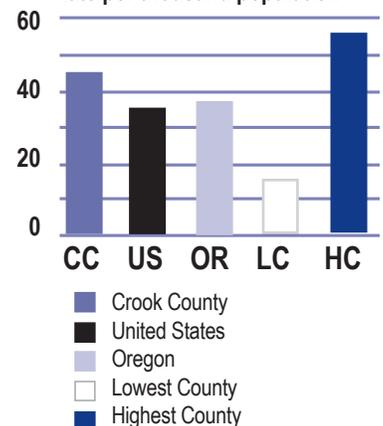


Source: U.S. Census

Public Assistance

Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 335 households or 4.6 percent of all households in Crook County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$3,303. The 20-year trend showed an increase in the number of households receiving public assistance (236 in 1979), but a decrease in the overall percent of the population receiving public assistance (4.8 percent in 1979).

Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Source: U.S. Census.

Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregonian households have difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Crook County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses.

Families with one adult who earned Crook County's median family income could not afford this basic family budget. Those with two earners fare better.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families at the poverty level in Crook County could afford 44 to 48.2 percent of this basic family budget.

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Crook County was \$503.55. The federal government had the highest weekly average of \$759.81 and the agriculture, forestry and fish had the lowest weekly average of \$272.64.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Crook County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages as well.

An adult with three children who worked full-time at Benton County's average wage could not afford this basic family budget.

Crook County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$477	\$657	\$477	\$657
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$352	\$803	\$352	\$789
Transportation	\$197	\$197	\$277	\$277
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$219	\$355	\$268	\$404
Taxes	\$266	\$482	\$401	\$552
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$1,986	\$3,214	\$2,456	\$3,619
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$23,830	\$38,574	\$29,468	\$43,433
Median Family Income (Census 2000)	\$19,888	\$19,888	\$43,877	\$43,877
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	83.5%	51.6%	148.9%	101.0%

Poverty and Crook County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	48.2%	44.0%	45.5%	45.8%

Crook County Wages and the Basic Budget

	1 Worker 1 Child	1 Worker 3 Children	2 Workers 1 Child	2 Workers 3 Children
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$2,165	\$2,165	\$4,331	\$4,331
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$1,986	\$3,214	\$2,456	\$3,619
Difference (SSW-AMW)	\$179	-\$1,049	\$3,047	\$712
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	109.0%	67.4%	176.3%	119.7%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.

** Based on Basic Family Budget for Crook County.

Crook County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	14,111 ¹	19,182 ²	19,918	20,172	20,600
% of People living below poverty level	11.1% ¹	11.3% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$24,275 ¹	\$35,186 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	7.8%	8.4%	9.7%	10.3%	10.8%
8th Grade Drug Use	13.5% ³	17.0%	NA	8.6%	NA
HS Dropout	3.0% ⁴	1.3%	2.9%	5.2%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	17.9	11.4	5.9	7.8	NA
Prenatal Care	71.0%	86.4%	88.8%	89.3%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	14.8	11.4	11.8	10	NA
Homeownership Rate	71.4% ¹	74.3% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	34.1% ¹	39.6% ²	NA	NA	NA
Crook County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	46	19	69	38	66
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	40	0	40	0	0
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$1.2 m	\$0	\$1.6 m	\$400,000	\$0
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	14	12	5	5	5
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$923,938	\$854,366	\$370,721	\$437,534	\$435,616
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	602	515	654	596
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	19.80%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	1,272	1,342	1,345	1,444	1,504
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	39.7%	42.0%	42.6%	46.1%	46.9%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	21.1%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	2.6%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	28.3%	28.7%	
¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989 ² 2000 Census data, year is 1999 ³ 1998 ⁴ 1996 NA=Not Available					

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Central Oregon Community Action Agency Network's Community Services Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05.

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

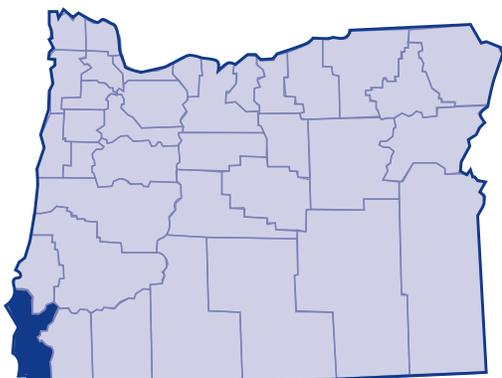
Major findings

From 1979 to 1999, poverty rates in Curry County remained relatively constant. During this time, Curry County's poverty rate was equal to that of the state and nation.

Children under 18 years of age experienced the highest rates of poverty during this 20-year period. Poverty did decrease for this group between 1989 and 1999. Families with children had higher rates of poverty than families without children. This is especially true for families headed by single mothers. In Curry County, 40 percent of families headed by single mothers with a child under 5 years of age experienced poverty in 1999.

According to the basic family budget for Curry County, only one family type (2 adults with 1 child) could afford the basic family expenses if both adults earned Curry County's median family income.

In 2003, 23.5 percent of Curry County residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹



Low-income needs

Southwestern Oregon Community Action Committee prioritized the needs of the low-income population in Curry County as follows²:

- **Food**, food warehouse-develop a warehouse in order to take advantage of fresh, frozen and bulk food shipments
- **Affordable housing**-develop additional rental housing units to address the needs of at-risk families, people with disabilities and senior citizens
- **Head Start services**- strengthen South Coast Head Start, a program of SWOCAC, to deliver services to low-income households
- **Emergency medical services**-strengthen and expand support for MedNet (now funded entirely by local Longshoreman's Union payroll deductions) to help uninsured household with medical, dental or prescription costs
- **Energy Assistance**-improve access to the program for low-income households, especially elderly, people with disabilities and families with children younger than 6
- **Services and housing** to homeless teens
- **Emergency food and shelter services**
- **Self-sufficiency programs**-help households achieve housing stability and to follow a plan to increase household self-reliance
- **General homeless programs**-identify additional funding
- **Increased local capacity** of service community
- **Program for seniors**-prepare for the demographic shift, growing elderly population
- **Affordable transportation**-adequate transportation for low-income households
- **Affordable childcare**-affordable child care options for working low-income families

Curry County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Curry County grew 9.4 percent from 1989 to 1999. The Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 20,868 county residents and found that 12.2 percent (2,554 people) lived below the poverty threshold. This is an increase of 7.8 percent in the number of persons living in poverty (2,369 people) in 1989. The overall percent of Curry County's population living in poverty decreased from 1989 to 1999, but the number of people living in poverty did not.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Curry County remained constant at 12.2 percent of the population. The number of persons in poverty rose from 2,057 people to 2,554 people. Curry County's poverty rate matched state and national poverty rates throughout this period.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined, children younger than 18 years of age experienced the highest rate of poverty at 13.9 percent. People 65 and older experienced the lowest rate at 10.6 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty was consistently highest for children 18 years of age and younger.

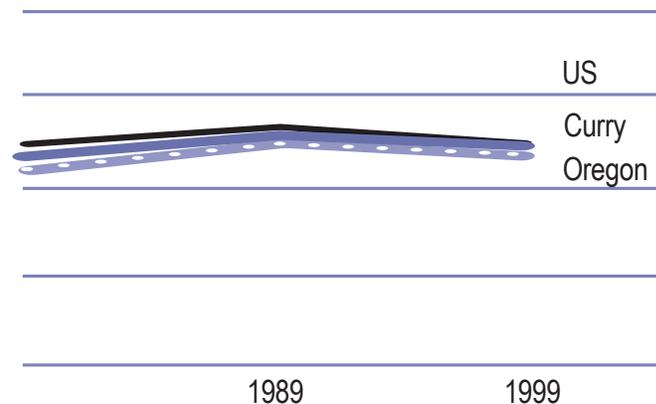
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level (poverty rate)

	1989	1999	Percent Change
Curry County	2,369 (12.4%)	2,554 (12.2%)	7.8% (rate difference) (-0.1%)
Oregon Statewide	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%)

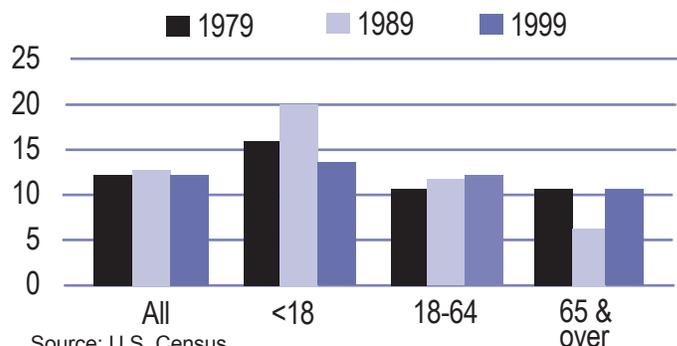
Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Source: U.S. Census.

Rate of Poverty by Age



Source: U.S. Census.

Poverty and Curry County Families

In 1999, 601 Curry County families lived in poverty (9.7 percent). Of the families in poverty, 52.9 percent (318 families) had a household member who worked; 6.8 percent (41 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child younger than 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 13.6 percent. Families with a child 5 years and younger experienced poverty at a higher rate-14 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 40.9 percent and the rate was even higher with younger children (younger than 5 years) at 54.1 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children younger than 18 was lower at 4.6 percent. From 1979 to 1999, the number of female-headed households with children (no husband present) who lived in poverty increased from 112 families in 1979 to 187 families in 1999.

Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White residents comprised the majority of people in poverty at 94.6 percent. When examining poverty based on race/ethnicity, however, the poverty rate among White was 12.4 percent. American Indian had higher rates of poverty at 14.6. From 1989 to 1999, most racial and ethnic categories experienced improvements in poverty rates. White remained relatively constant during the same time period.

Curry County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)	1979			1989		1999		% Change '79-'99 (rate difference)
	1979	1989	1999	1979	1989	1979	1989	
All Families	475 (9.3%)	513 (8.5%)	601 (9.7%)					26.5% (0.4%)
With Children under 18	283 (13.2%)	337 (15.3%)	300 (13.6%)					6.0% (0.4%)
Female-headed with children under 18	112 (42.3%)	151 (45.8%)	187 (40.9%)					67.0% (-1.4%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Curry County and Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population (poverty population)	Poverty Rate by Race 1999	Poverty Rate by Race 1989
White	93.0% (19,405)	94.6% (2,415)	12.4%	12.2%
Black	0.1% (25)	0.0% (0)	0.0%	100.0%
American Indian	2.4% (501)	2.9% (73)	14.6%	16.9%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.8%/0.0% (166/7)	0.1%/0.0% (2/0)	1.2%/NA	10.7%*
Other	1.0% (216)	0.3% (7)	3.2%	13.5%
2 or More Races	2.6% (548)	2.2% (57)	10.4%	NA
Hispanic Origin	3.4% (705)	1.9% (49)	7.0%	31.5%

*Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 Census.

Curry County

County Income

On a per capita basis, Curry County's personal income was \$24,679 in 2002, about 86 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 80 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Per capita income in Curry County rose 2.9 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, of per capita income shows average annual growth of 3.7 percent. In 2001, Curry County's average earnings per job were \$23,511 compared to \$33,063 for the state.⁴

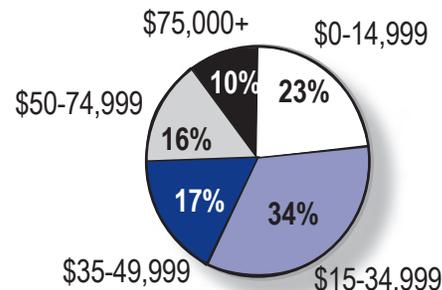
Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Curry County. The 2000 Census showed that 895 people or 35 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold actually earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or above the poverty level but still needed assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants, and Children program. In 1999, 33.6 percent of Curry County's population, or 7,019 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Public Assistance

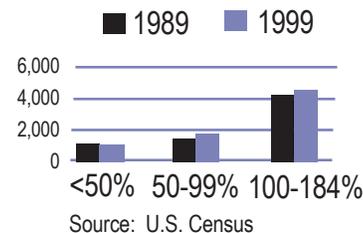
Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 362 households or 3.8 percent of all households in Curry County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$3,111. The 20-year trend showed a decrease in households who received public assistance income, from 400 households or 5.9 percent of all households in 1979.

1999 Household Income Distribution-Curry County



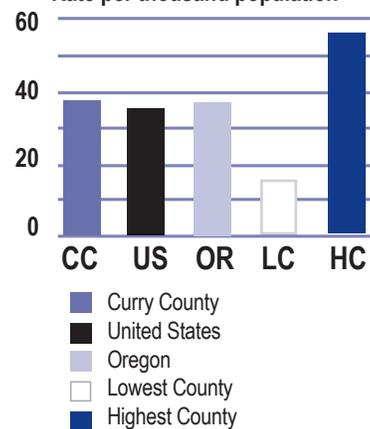
Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Curry County was \$30,117 in 1999 compared to \$22,579 in 1989 (33.4 percent increase).

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles



Source: U.S. Census

Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Source: U.S. Census.

Basic Family Budget

According to U.S. Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregonian households had difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Curry County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet expenses.

Using this budget, only one family type (two adults with one child) could afford the basic family expenses if both adults earned Curry County's median family income.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families at the poverty level in Curry County could afford 41.4 to 43.1 percent of this basic family budget.

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Curry County is \$413.25. The federal government had the highest weekly average of \$664.49 and the services industry had the lowest weekly average of \$295.26.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Curry County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages.

Only families with two full-time workers earning Curry County's average wage and that had one child could afford the basic family budget.

Curry County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$561	\$718	\$561	\$718
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$384	\$847	\$384	\$847
Transportation	\$197	\$197	\$277	\$277
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$245	\$374	\$294	\$423
Taxes	\$393	\$542	\$462	\$636
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$2,255	\$3,412	\$2,659	\$3,841
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$27,060	\$40,943	\$31,910	\$46,089
Median Annual Income (Census 2000)	\$17,934	\$17,934	\$42,772	\$42,772
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	66.3%	43.8%	134.0%	92.8%

Poverty and Curry County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	42.4%	41.4%	42.0%	43.1%

Curry County Wages and the Basic Budget

	1 Worker 1 Child	1 Worker 3 Children	2 Workers 1 Child	2 Workers 3 Children
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$1,777	\$1,777	\$3,554	\$3,554
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$2,255	\$3,412	\$2,659	\$3,841
Difference (SSW-AMW)	-\$478	-\$1,635	\$895	-\$287
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	78.8%	52.1%	133.7%	92.5%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.
** Based on Basic Family Budget for Curry County.

Curry County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	19,327 ¹	21,137 ²	21,127	21,480	21,813
% of People living below poverty level	12.4% ¹	12.2% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$22,579 ¹	\$30,117 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	7.5%	6.3%	6.0%	6.7%	7.3%
8th Grade Drug Use	13.5% ³	18.30%	NA	24.2%	NA
HS Dropout	5.6% ⁴	5.6%	4.5%	3.2%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	14.7	11.2	10.9	8.9	NA
Prenatal Care	71.1%	69.3%	71.6%	74.7%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	0	9.3	13.7	13.2	NA
Homeownership Rate	72.5% ¹	73.0% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	39.1% ¹	47.5% ²	NA	NA	NA
Curry County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	5	49	10	0	19
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	0	24	0	0	0
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$0	\$1.1 m	\$0	\$0	\$0
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	1	0	0	2	0
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$80,650	\$0	\$0	\$163,336	\$0
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	507	452	596	588
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	19.30%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	1,405	1,344	1,317	1,545	1,671
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	44.0%	43.8%	42.9%	51.6%	56.70%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	18.0%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	2.7%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	27.6%	26.9%	
¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989	² 2000 Census data, year is 1999	³ 1998	⁴ 1996	NA=Not Available	

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Southwestern Oregon CAC's Community Services Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

Deschutes County

Major Findings

Deschutes County's poverty rates were lower than the state and national average from 1979 to 1999.

Of those who were poor in Deschutes County, 37.8 percent earned 50 percent or less of the federal poverty threshold. The number of families in poverty headed by single mothers increased 134.2 percent between 1979 and 1999. Deschutes County residents who indicated they were Black, American Indian or Other on the census form had poverty rates above 20 percent in 1999.

County residents living in poverty could afford 38.8 to 41 percent of the basic family budget.

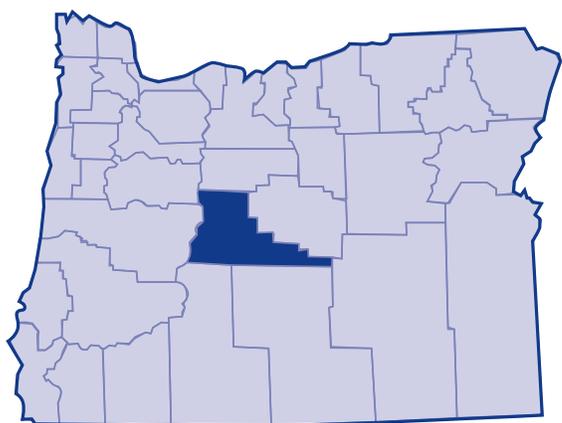
Although over 70 percent of the county's population owned their own home in 1999, over a quarter of homeowners spent 30 percent or more of their income on homeownership costs. Renters fared less well, with 45 percent renters spending 30 percent or more of their income on rental costs.

In 2003, 19.7 percent of Deschutes County residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹

Low-Income needs

Central Oregon Community Action Agency Network) prioritized the needs of the low-income population in Deschutes County as follows²:

- **Housing**-help paying deposits and first/last months' rent; help addressing housing barriers such as credit problems, past criminal activities, or previous evictions
- **Utilities**-access to utility assistance, especially when rental units are energy inefficient
- **Transportation**-affordable and accessible transportation, including medical transportation; improve the dial-a-ride system and public transportation
- **Employment**-full-time employment with benefits
- **Hunger/Food Stamps**-food pantries, brown bag program, free and reduced lunch, summer feeding programs and especially rural food-assistance programs face particular challenges
- **Health Care**-access to health insurance, health care, prescription medications, and dental care
- **Childcare**-affordable quality childcare
- **Education**-job training and financial assistance for low-income parents seeking to achieve educational goals



Deschutes County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Deschutes County grew 53.9 percent between 1989 and 1999. The Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 114,226 county residents and found that 9.3 percent (10,613 people) lived below the poverty threshold. This is an increase of 31 percent in the number of persons living in poverty (8,100 people) in 1989. The overall percent of Deschutes County's population living in poverty decreased from 1989 to 1999, but the number of people living in poverty did not.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Deschutes County remained relatively constant at 9.3 percent of the population. The number of persons in poverty nearly doubled from 5,729 people to 10,613 people. Deschutes County's poverty rates remained lower than the state and national poverty rates throughout this period.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined, children 5 years of age or younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 11.7 percent. Children younger than 18 years of age experienced poverty at 11.1 percent. People 65 and older experienced the lowest rate at 6.1 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty improved for those 65 years of age and older.

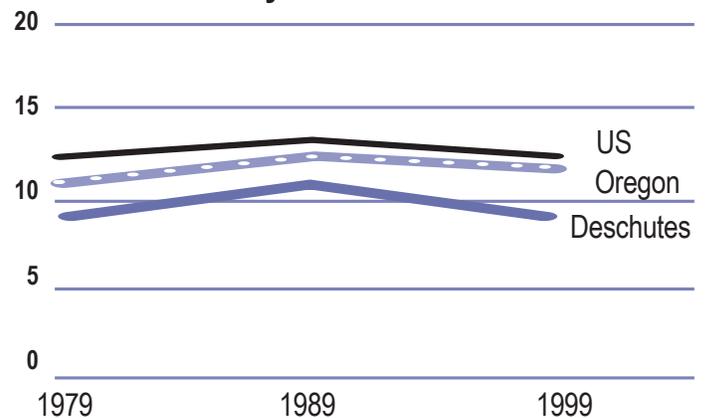
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level
(poverty rate)

	1989	1999	Percent Change (rate difference)
Deschutes County	8,100 (10.9%)	10,613 (9.3%)	31.0% (-1.6%)
Oregon Statewide	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%)

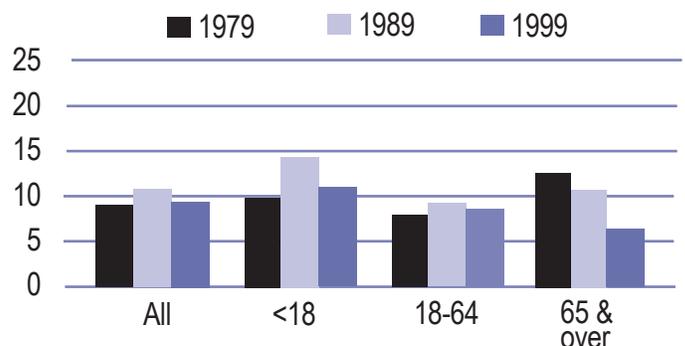
Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Source: U.S. Census.

Rate of Poverty by Age



Source: U.S. Census.

Deschutes County

Poverty and Deschutes County Families

In 1999, 2,046 Deschutes County families lived in poverty (6.3 percent). Of the families in poverty, 64.5 percent (1,319 families) had a worker and 18.9 percent (386 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child younger than 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 9.3 percent. Families with a child 5 years and younger experienced poverty at a higher rate of 11.5 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 28.8 percent and was even higher with younger children (less than 5 years) at 42.9 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children younger than 18 was lower at 4.4 percent. The number of female-headed households with children (no husband present) who lived in poverty increased from 351 families in 1979 to 822 families in 1999.

Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White residents comprised the majority of people in poverty at 90.1 percent. When examining poverty based on race/ethnicity, however, the poverty rate among White was 8.8 percent. Black, American Indian and Other experienced disproportionately higher rates of poverty. The poverty rate among Black was 42.5 percent. American Indian and Other had poverty rates above 20 percent. From 1989 to 1999, only White experienced improvements in poverty rates.

Deschutes County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)				% Change '79-'99
	1979	1989	1999	(rate difference)
All Families	1,342 (7.7%)	1,746 (8.2%)	2,046 (6.3%)	52.5% (-1.4%)
With Children under 18	833 (8.8%)	1,206 (11.8%)	1,451 (9.3%)	74.2% (0.4%)
Female-headed with children under 18	351 (29.0%)	594 (37.5%)	822 (28.8%)	134.2% (-0.2%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Deschutes County Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population (poverty population)	Poverty Rate 1999	Poverty Rate by Race 1989
White	94.8% (108,289)	90.1% (9,563)	8.8%	10.9%
Black	0.2% (266)	1.1% (113)	42.5%	22.2%
American Indian	0.8% (961)	2.3% (249)	25.9%	17.4%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.5%/0.1% (615/87)	0.6%/0.0% (60/0)	9.8/0.0%*	3.6%*
Other	1.5% (1,739)	3.9% (414)	23.8%	13.7%
2 or More Races	2.0% (2,269)	2.0% (214)	9.4%	NA
Hispanic Origin	3.8% (4,335)	8.0% (846)	19.5%	9.2%

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

Deschutes County

County Income

On a per capita basis, Deschutes County's personal income was \$28,193 in 2002, about 98 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 91 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Per capita income in Deschutes County rose 1.1 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, of per capita income shows average annual growth of 3.7 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$27,859 in Deschutes County compared to \$33,063 for the state.⁴

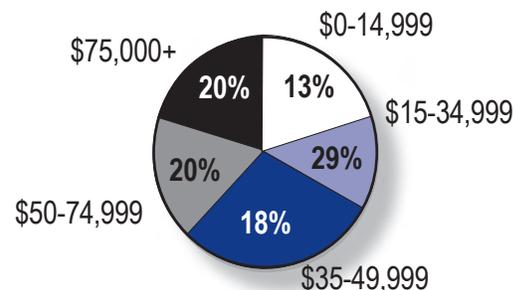
Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Deschutes County. The 2000 Census showed that 4,009 people or 37.8 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold actually earned 50 percent or less income of the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or more than poverty level but still needed assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants, and Children program. In 1999, 21.8 percent of Deschutes County's population, or 24,875 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Public Assistance

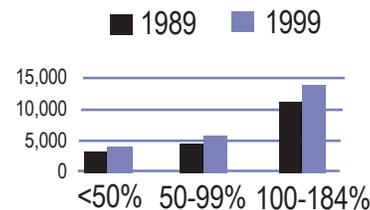
Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 1,286 households or 2.8 percent of all households in Deschutes County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$2,301. The 20-year trend showed an increase in the number of households that received public assistance income (1,143 households in 1979), but a decrease in the percent of all households (5.0 percent in 1979).

1999 Household Income Distribution-Deschutes County



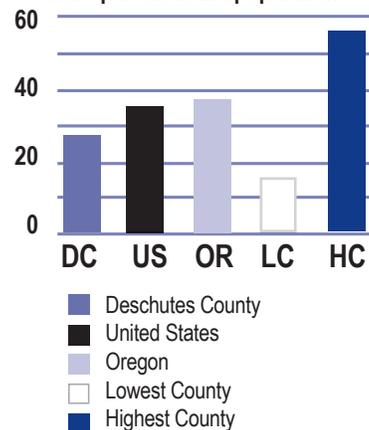
Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Deschutes County was \$41,847 in 1999 compared to \$27,317 in 1989 (53.2 percent increase).

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles



Source: U.S. Census

Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Source: U.S. Census.

Deschutes County

Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregonian households had difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Deschutes County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses.

Families with one working adult who earned Deschutes County's median income could not afford the basic budget.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families at the poverty level in Deschutes County could afford 38.8 to 41 percent of this basic family budget.

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Deschutes County was \$491.20. The federal government had the highest weekly average of \$787.08 and retail trade had the lowest weekly average of \$320.88.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Deschutes County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages.

Using the basic family budget, families with one working adult who earned Deschutes County's average wages could not afford the basic budget.

Deschutes County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$590	\$822	\$590	\$822
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$401	\$871	\$401	\$871
Transportation	\$197	\$197	\$277	\$277
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$254	\$406	\$303	\$455
Taxes	\$416	\$611	\$484	\$705
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$2,333	\$3,641	\$2,736	\$4,070
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$27,999	\$43,694	\$32,833	\$48,838
Median Family Income (Census 2000)	\$22,252	\$22,252	\$54,945	\$54,945
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	79.5%	50.9%	167.3%	112.5%

Poverty and Deschutes County's Basic Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	41.0%	38.8%	40.8%	40.7%

Deschutes County Wages the Basic Budget

	1 Worker 1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Worker 1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Workers 2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Workers 2 Adults/ 3 Children
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$2,112	\$2,112	\$4,224	\$4,224
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$2,333	\$3,641	\$2,736	\$4,070
Difference (SSW-AMW)	-\$221	-\$1,529	\$1,488	\$154
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	90.5%	58.0%	154.4%	103.8%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.
** Based on Basic Family Budget for Deschutes County.

Deschutes County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	74,958 ¹	115,367 ²	120,750	125,566	129,492
% of People living below poverty level	10.9% ¹	9.3% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$27,317 ¹	\$41,847 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	6.5%	5.3%	6.4%	7.7%	7.7%
8th Grade Drug Use	18.30%	13.30%	NA	17.3%	NA
HS Dropout	5.6% ⁴	6.3%	4.3%	3.0%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	16.5	10.7	11.7	8.8	NA
Prenatal Care	82.4%	88.3%	89.7%	91.5%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	24.8	16.9	15.2	16	NA
Homeownership Rate	71.0% ¹	72.3% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	41.6% ¹	45.7% ²	NA	NA	
Deschutes County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	292	288	307	189	330
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	14	56	43	14	106
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$1.7 m	\$1.4 m	\$2.4 m	\$1.7 m	\$427,042
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	25	19	13	20	32
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$1.6m	\$1.3 m	\$1.2 m	\$2.3 m	\$4.0 m
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	2,683	2,213	2,518	2,485
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	19.30%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	5,482	5,834	6,773	6,892	7,541
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	28.0%	29.4%	33.0%	33.0%	35.30%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	15.8%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	1.6%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	21.5%	22.1%	
¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989 ² 2000 Census data, year is 1999 ³ 1998 ⁴ 1996 NA=Not Available					

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Central Oregon Community Action Agency Network Community Services Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05.

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

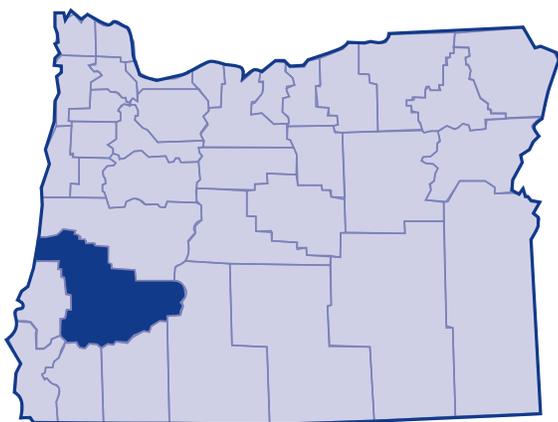
Major findings

According to the US Census, the poverty rate and the number of those in poverty decreased in Douglas County from 1989 to 1999. The median income in Douglas County increased 40.2 percent during the same period.

Thirty percent of Douglas County's population earned less than 185 percent of the poverty threshold, possibly qualifying them for public assistance. Of those who were in poverty, 36.9 percent earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold.

Over 50 percent of the families that lived in poverty in 1999 had a working household member and 15 percent had a full-time year-round worker.

In 2003, 29.2 percent of Douglas County residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹



Low-income needs

Umpqua Community Action Network (UCAN) prioritized the needs of the low-income population in Douglas County as follows²:

- **Maintaining and expanding existing services** especially for emergent basic human needs such as food, clothing, fuel assistance, blankets, heaters, and weatherization
- **Developing additional affordable housing resources**, including fuel assistance, weatherization, rent and rental deposit assistance
- **Improving and expanding UCAN facilities** to enhance the quantity and quality of services
- **Assisting with medical and dental care**, such as co-payments and prescriptions
- **Providing transportation assistance such as fuel**, car repairs car purchases, and public transportation
- **Improving community knowledge** about and access to UCAN services through the development of a 211 information and referral system
- **Creating an Early Head Start program** as funding is available
- **Expanding and enhancing childcare** and preschool services
- **Developing**, expanding and enhancing resources for parents
- **Expanding outreach** and increasing bilingual staff
- **Helping troubled teens**

Douglas County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Douglas County grew 6.1 percent from 1989 to 1999. The Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 98,972 county residents and found that 13.1 percent (12,999 people) lived below the poverty threshold. This is a decrease of 6 percent in the number of persons living in poverty (13,828 people) in 1989. The overall percent of Douglas County's population living in poverty decreased from 1989 to 1999, as did the number of people living in poverty.

20-year trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Douglas County increased from 11.1 percent of the population to 13.1 percent. The number of persons in poverty rose from 10,289 to 12,999 people. From 1979 to 1989, Douglas County's poverty rates increased more rapidly than those of the state and the nation did. By 1999, the rates decreased and were similar to the state and national rates.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined, children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 22.1 percent. Children younger than 18 years of age experienced poverty at 17.3 percent. People 65 and older experienced the lowest rate at 9.2 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty improved for people 65 years of age and older.

Poverty in Selected Communities

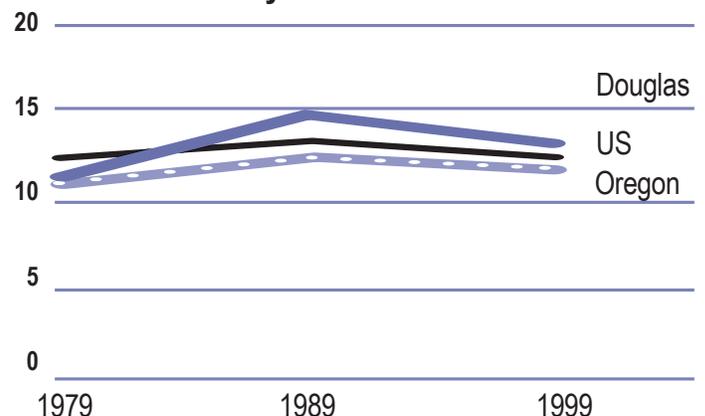
Number of persons below poverty level

(poverty rate)

	1989	1999	Percent Change
Douglas County	13,828 (14.9%)	12,999 (13.1%)	(rate difference) -6.0% (-1.7%)
Oregon Statewide	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%)

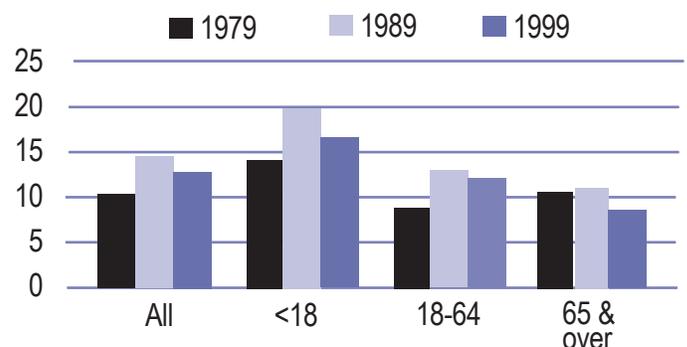
Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Source: U.S. Census.

Rate of Poverty by Age



Source: U.S. Census.

Poverty & Douglas County Families

In 1999, 2,731 Douglas County families lived in poverty (9.6 percent). Of the families in poverty, 55.8 percent (1,524 families) had a householder who worked and 15.2 percent (414 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child younger than 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 15.5 percent. Families with a child 5 years and younger experienced poverty at the higher rate of 21.3 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 43 percent and was even higher with younger children (less than 5 years) at 58.6 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children younger than 18 was lower at 7.6 percent. From 1979 to 1999, the number of female-headed households with children (no husband present) who lived in poverty increased from 853 families in 1979 to 1,116 families in 1999.

Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White comprised 90.4 percent of the population in poverty. When examining poverty based on race/ethnicity, however, the poverty rate among White was 12.7 percent. The category "Other" experienced disproportionately higher rates of poverty. The poverty rate among Other was 31.9 percent. From 1989 to 1999, most categories except Other experienced improvements in poverty rates.

Douglas County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)	Year			% Change '79-'99 (rate difference)
	1979	1989	1999	
All Families	2,250 (8.5%)	3,105 (11.5%)	2,731 (9.6%)	21.4% (1.1%)
With Children under 18	1,816 (12.7%)	2,279 (17.5%)	1,973 (15.5%)	8.6% (2.8%)
Female-headed with children under 18	853 (43.2%)	1,194 (52.0%)	1,116 (43.0%)	30.8% (-0.2%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Douglas County Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population (poverty population)	Poverty Rate 1999 by Race	Poverty Rate 1989 by Race
White	93.7% (92,723)	90.4% (11,750)	12.7%	14.4%
Black	0.2% (189)	0.2% (23)	12.2%	37.9%
American Indian	1.6% (1,568)	2.1% (275)	17.5%	30.3%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.6%/0.0% (593/48)	0.5%/0.1% (68/8)	11.5%/16.7%	24.2**%
Other	0.8% (841)	2.1% (268)	31.9%	27.0%
2 or More Races	3.0% (3,010)	4.7% (607)	20.2%	NA
Hispanic Origin	2.9% (2,892)	6.2% (800)	27.7%	25.9%

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

Douglas County

County Income

On a per capita basis, Douglas County's personal income was \$24,644 in 2002, about 86 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 80 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Per capita income in Douglas County rose 4.7 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, of per capita income shows average annual growth of 4.4 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$27,921 in Douglas County compared to \$33,063 for the state.⁴

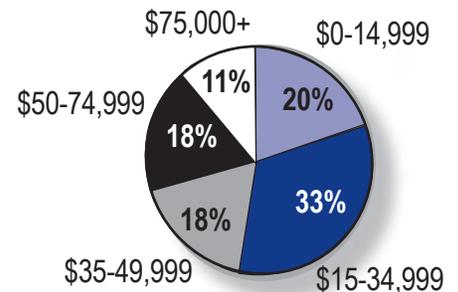
Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Douglas County. The 2000 Census showed that 4,800 people or 36.9 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold actually earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or above the poverty level but still needed of assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants and Children program. In 1999, 31.6 percent of Douglas County's population, or 31,273 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Public Assistance

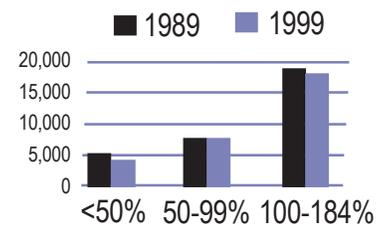
Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 1,732 households or 4.3 percent of all households in Douglas County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$2,770. The 20-year trend showed a decrease in households who received public assistance income, from 2,581 households or 7.7 percent of all households in 1979.

1999 Household Income Distribution-Douglas County



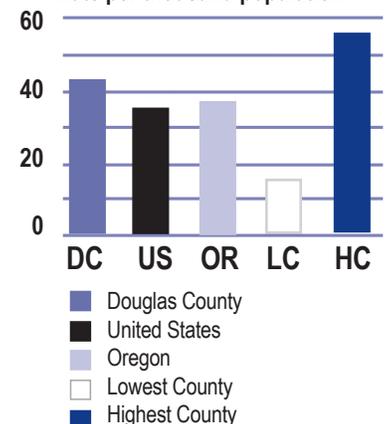
Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Douglas County was \$33,223 in 1999 compared to \$23,693 in 1989 (40.2 percent increase).

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles



Source: U.S. Census

Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Source: U.S. Census.

Douglas County

Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregonian households had difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Douglas County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses.

Families with one working adult earning Douglas County's median family income could not afford the basic family budget.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families at the poverty level in Douglas County could afford 43.7 to 47.6 percent of this basic family budget.

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Douglas County is \$494.40. The average wage differs by industry. The federal government had the highest weekly average of \$829.55 and retail trade had the lowest weekly average of \$281.75.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Douglas County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages.

An adult who had three children and who worked full-time at Douglas County's average wage could not afford the basic family budget.

Douglas County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$477	\$657	\$477	\$657
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$363	\$803	\$363	\$803
Transportation	\$197	\$197	\$277	\$277
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$219	\$355	\$268	\$404
Taxes	\$279	\$489	\$404	\$559
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$2,010	\$3,235	\$2,470	\$3,640
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$24,122	\$38,815	\$29,645	\$43,675
Median Family Income (Census 2000)	\$18,310	\$18,310	\$48,151	\$48,151
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	75.9%	47.1%	162.4%	110.2%

Poverty and Douglas County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	47.6%	43.7%	45.2%	45.5%

Douglas County Wages the Basic Family Budget

	1 Worker 1 Child	1 Worker 3 Children	2 Workers 1 Child	2 Workers 3 Children
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$2,142	\$2,142	\$4,284	\$4,284
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$2,010	\$3,235	\$2,470	\$3,640
Difference (SSW-AMW)	\$132	-\$1,093	\$1,814	\$644
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	106.6%	66.2%	173.4%	117.7%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.
** Based on Basic Family Budget for Douglas County.

Douglas County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	94,649 ¹	100,399 ²	100,307	101,142	102,332
% of People living below poverty level	14.9% ¹	13.1% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$23,693 ¹	\$33,223 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	8	7.8	8.8	8.9	10.1
8th Grade Drug Use	20.1% ³	14.4%	NA	23.40%	NA
HS Dropout	6.4% ⁴	6.4%	5.1%	4.7%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	21.7	13.6	12.8	11.2	NA
Prenatal Care	82.6%	84.6%	85.6%	89.3%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	24.9	17.6	17.3	17.1	NA
Homeownership Rate	68.9% ¹	71.7% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	40.7% ¹	43.6% ²	NA	NA	NA
Douglas County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	419	270	216	238	416
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	77	95	156	41	50
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$2.3 m	\$1.9 m	\$8.1 m	\$2.8 m	\$3.7 m
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	18	26	15	12	7
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$1.3 m	\$2.0 m	\$1.2 m	\$1.1 m	\$653,463
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	3,395	2,849	3,129	2,864
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	22.70%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	7,470	7,299	7,012	7,517	7,690
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	44.3%	43.9%	42.2%	45.5%	49.0%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	14.0%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	4.0%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	31.0%	30.8%	
¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989	² 2000 Census data, year is 1999	³ 1998	⁴ 1996	NA=Not Available	

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Umpqua Community Action Network Community Services Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05.

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

Major findings

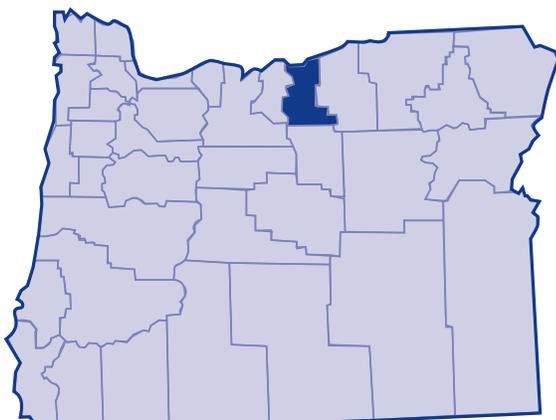
According to the US Census, the poverty rate and the number of those in poverty decreased in Gilliam County from 1989 to 1999. Of those living below the federal poverty threshold, 40 percent earned 50 percent of the poverty threshold or less for their family type.

Of those living below the federal poverty threshold, 36.4 percent earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold for their family type.

Children and minorities experienced the highest rates of poverty in 1999. Children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rates of poverty among all age groups. People 65 and older had the lowest rates of poverty.

Over 35 percent of individuals of Hispanic Origin found themselves living in poverty. More than 45 percent of those identifying themselves as "Other" were in poverty.

In 2003, 16.0 percent of Gilliam County residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹



Low-Income Needs

Community Action Program East Central Oregon prioritized the needs of the low-income population in Gilliam County as follows:²

- Emergency rental/transitional housing opportunities for households who are homeless or at risk of losing housing
- Maintain access to Emergency Food Boxes and promote hunger awareness in the community
- Continue providing access to energy assistance funds during the high-cost winter months
- Increase access to low-cost medical care via the Oregon Health Plan; retain local medical services
- Provide assistance for Emergency Lodging / Emergency Shelter for homeless households
- Continue the programs that promote early childhood education
- Retain and improve transportation programs to serve rural communities
- Provide access to quality childcare and voucher assistance
- Promote the development of low-income housing and create safe housing opportunities for community members
- Job training to help households obtain living wage jobs
- Expand opportunity for area residents to receive weatherization services thus providing safe and healthy living environments
- Assist households in obtaining adequate clothing suitable for the seasonal weather conditions
- Improve and expand counseling/family case management for households in crisis to help them become self-reliant

Gilliam County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Gilliam County grew 11.5 percent from 1989 to 1999. The Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 1,910 county residents and found that 9.1 percent (173 people) lived below the poverty threshold. This is a decrease of 15.2 percent in the number of persons living in poverty (204 people) in 1989. The overall percent of Gilliam County's population living in poverty decreased from 1989 to 1999, as well as the number of people living in poverty.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Gilliam County increased from 7.3 to 9.1 percent of the population. The number of persons in poverty rose from 148 people to 173 people. Gilliam County's poverty rates remained lower than the state and national poverty rates throughout this period.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined, children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 14.6 percent. Children younger than 18 years of age experienced poverty at 11.2 percent. People 65 and older experienced the lowest rate at 6.6 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the poverty rate increased for all age categories.

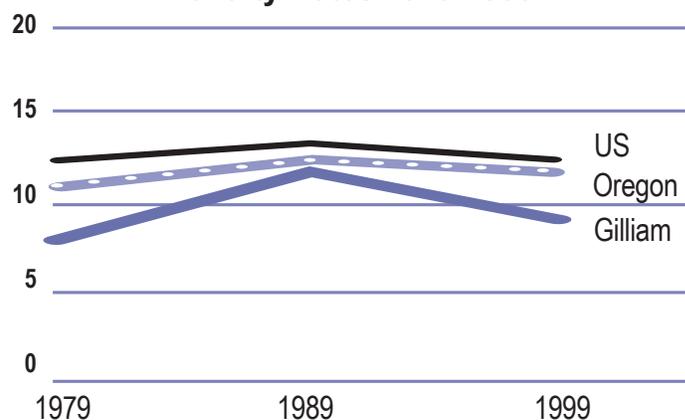
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level (poverty rate)

	1989	1999	Percent Change
Gilliam County	204 (11.9%)	173 (9.1%)	-15.2% (rate difference) (-2.8%)
Oregon Statewide	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% (-0.8%)

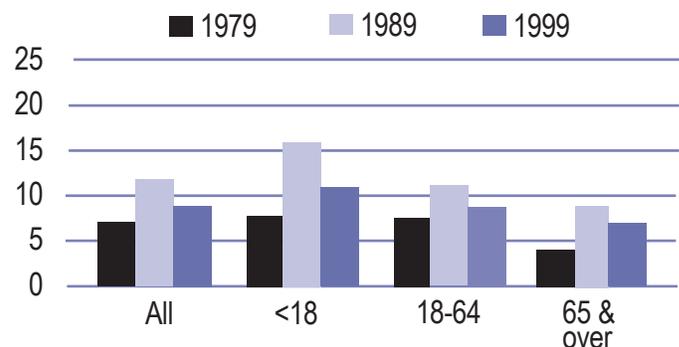
Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Source: U.S. Census.

Rate of Poverty by Age



Source: U.S. Census.

Gilliam County

Poverty and Gilliam County Families

In 1999, 37 Gilliam County families lived in poverty (6.7 percent). Of the families in poverty, 54.1 percent (20 families) had a worker and 27 percent (10 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child younger than 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 10.2 percent. Families with a child 5 years and younger experienced poverty at the higher rate of 12.9 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 37.8 percent and was even higher with younger children (less than 5 years) at 85.7 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children younger than 18 was lower at 4.4 percent. From 1979 to 1999, the number of female-headed households with children (no husband present) who lived in poverty increased from nine families in 1979 to 17 families in 1999.

Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White residents comprised the majority of people in poverty at 94.8 percent. When examining poverty based on race/ethnicity, however, the poverty rate among White was 8.9 percent. Other and Hispanic Origin experienced disproportionately higher rates of poverty. The poverty rate among Other was 47.4 percent and 34.6 for Hispanic Origin. Between 1989 and 1999, poverty rates increased for Other and Hispanic Origin. Poverty for Black and American Indian remained at 0.0 throughout the decade.

Gilliam County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)	1979			1989		1999		% Change '79-'99 (rate difference)
	1979	1989	1999	1979	1989	1999	1999	
All Families	45 (7.2%)	44 (8.8%)	37 (6.7%)					-17.8% (-0.5%)
With Children	28 (9.3%)	31 (14.2%)	26 (10.2%)					-7.1% (0.9%)
Female-headed with children under 18	18 (31.0%)	910 (50.0%)	17 (37.8%)					88.9% (6.8%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Gilliam County Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population (poverty population)	Poverty Rate 1999	Poverty Rate 1989
White	96.8% (1,848)	94.8% (164)	8.9%	11.4%
Black	0.1% (2)	0.0% (0)	NA	NA
American Indian	1.0% (19)	0.0% (0)	NA	NA
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.3%/0.0% (6/0)	0.0%/0.0% (0/0)	0.0%/NA	84.6%*
Other	1.0% (19)	5.2% (9)	47.4%	0.0%
2 or More	0.8% (16)	0.0% (0)	NA	NA
Hispanic	1.4% (26)	5.2% (9)	34.6%	17.5%

*Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 Census.

Gilliam County

County Income

On a per capita basis, Gilliam County's personal income was \$18,416 in 2002, about 64 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 60 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Per capita income in Gilliam County rose 13.8 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, shows no growth in per capita income. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$25,883 in Gilliam County compared to \$33,063 for the state.⁴

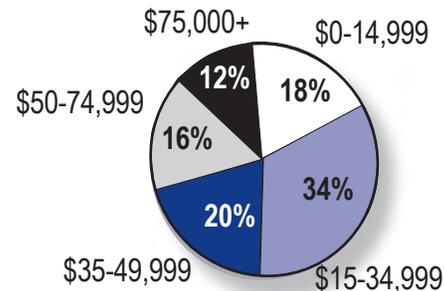
Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Gilliam County. The 2000 Census showed that 63 people or 36.4 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold actually earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or above the poverty level but still needed assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants, and Children program. In 1999, 30.6 percent of Gilliam County's population, or 585 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Public Assistance

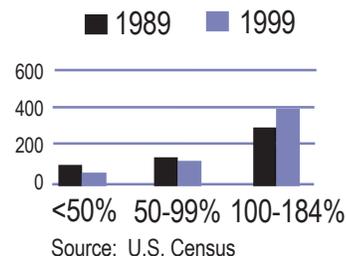
Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 19 households or 2.3 percent of all households in Gilliam County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$5,168. The 20-year trend showed a decrease in households who received public assistance income, from 28 households or 3.6 percent of all households in 1979.

1999 Household Income Distribution-Gilliam County



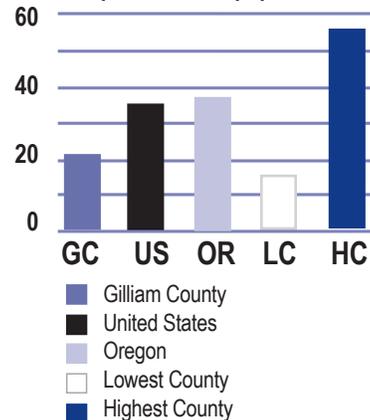
Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Gilliam County was \$33,611 in 1999 compared to \$24,020 in 1989 (39.9 percent increase).

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles



Source: U.S. Census

Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Source: U.S. Census.

Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregonian households had difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Gilliam County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses.

One adult who earned median income in Gilliam County could not afford this basic family budget. Two adults earning median family income for Gilliam County could not afford this basic budget if they had three children. Two workers could support themselves and one child.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families at the poverty level in Gilliam County could afford 42.4 to 46.3 percent of this basic family budget.

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Gilliam County was \$477.66. The transportation, communications and utilities industry had the highest weekly average of \$701.07 and the manufacturing industry had the lowest weekly average of \$143.11.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Gilliam County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages.

One adult working full-time and earning Gilliam County's average wage could not afford the basic family budget for one or more children.

Gilliam County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$477	\$657	\$477	\$657
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$395	\$872	\$395	\$872
Transportation	\$197	\$197	\$277	\$277
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$219	\$355	\$268	\$404
Taxes	\$305	\$518	\$419	\$589
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$2,068	\$3,333	\$2,517	\$3,739
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$24,818	\$39,997	\$30,199	\$44,864
Median Family Income (Census 2000)	\$22,147	\$22,147	\$43,500	\$43,500
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	89.2%	55.4%	144.0%	97.0%

Poverty and Gilliam County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	46.3%	42.4%	44.4%	44.3%

Gilliam County Wages and the Basic Budget

	1 Worker 1 Child	1 Worker 3 Children	2 Workers 1 Child	2 Workers 3 Children
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$2,054	\$2,054	\$4,108	\$4,108
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$2,068	\$3,333	\$2,517	\$3,739
Difference (SSW-AMW)	-\$14	-\$1,279	\$1,591	\$369
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	99.3%	61.6%	163.2%	109.9%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.

** Based on Basic Family Budget for Gilliam County.

Gilliam County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	1,717 ¹	1,915 ²	1,888	1,860	1,778
% of People living below poverty level	11.9% ¹	9.1% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$24,020 ¹	\$33,611 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	3.2	4.7	6	6.4	6.6
8th Grade Drug Use	17.3% ³	14.0%	NA	17.60%	NA
HS Dropout	0.8% ⁴	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	0	0	18.9	9	NA
Prenatal Care	85.7%	82.4%	100.0%	71.4%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	0	6.2	7.5	5.2	NA
Homeownership Rate	66.7% ¹	70.2% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	59.1% ¹	52.3% ²	NA	NA	NA
Gilliam County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	0	0	1	2	4
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	0	0	0	146	0
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$0	\$0	\$200,000	\$1.3 m	\$0
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	1	0	1	0	0
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$57,341	\$0	\$43,000	\$0	\$0
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	59	50	47	37
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	14.10%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	106	121	108	103	113
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	28.1%	34.3%	30.6%	30.3%	35.8%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	20.4%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	0.8%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	25.0%	19.8%	
¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989 ² 2000 Census data, year is 1999 ³ 1998 ⁴ 1996 NA=Not Available					

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Community Action Program East Central Oregon Community Services Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05.

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

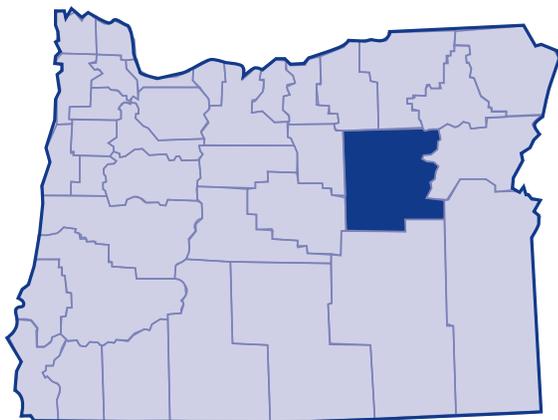
⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

Major Findings

Grant County grew only 1 percent from 1989 to 1999. The number of people living in poverty, however, grew 8.7 percent during the same period. While average poverty rates decreased in Oregon and the nation, Grant County's poverty rate increased. In 1999, Grant County poverty rate was slightly higher than the state and national average.

According to the 2000 Census, incomes in Grant County did not keep pace with statewide levels. In 1999, unemployment reached 11.3 percent and 19 percent of the county's residents earned \$14,999 or less. One-third of the population earned less than 185 percent of the poverty threshold and was possibly qualified for state and federal programs such as food stamps. Of those in the county 5 years of age or younger, 18 percent lived in poverty. Over a quarter of the American Indian population experienced poverty in 1999, while 44.2 percent of those categorized as "Other" experienced poverty.

In 2003, 21.5 percent of Grant County residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹



Low-income needs

Community Connection of Northeast Oregon (CCNO) prioritized the needs of the low-income population in Grant County as follows²:

- **Energy Assistance**—Assist households in paying winter heating bills and those facing shut-off notices
- **Emergency Assistance**—Rental assistance for at-risk households
- **Weatherization/Housing Repair**—Eliminate general heat waste in client's homes, completing priority weatherization measures such as insulating, repairing or replacing doors/windows, etc. Continue rehabilitation projects by completing structural, electrical and plumbing repairs to improve and preserve the area's housing stock.
- **Tenant Based Assistance**—Offer six months assistance with rent while clients move towards self-sufficiency
- **Food Bank**—Maintain current food delivery systems with local food banks and access to hunger resources
- **Transportation**—Transport senior citizens, people with disabilities, low-income and the public to doctor appointments, shopping, mealsites, recreation and field trips
- **Health Clinics**—Increase client's ability to access health clinics within senior centers
- **Tax and Legal Assistance**—Continue to refer clients to Legal Aid and Oregon Law Centers at senior centers; train volunteers to assist clients in preparing their income taxes
- **Telephone Reassurance**—Call clients to ensure their safety and to make sure they have taken needed medication

Grant County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Grant County grew 1 percent from 1989 to 1999. The Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 7,812 county residents and found that 13.7 percent (1,069 people) lived below the poverty threshold. This is an increase of 8.7 percent in the number of persons living in poverty (983 people) in 1989. The overall percent of Grant County's population living in poverty increased from 1989 to 1999, as well as the number of people living in poverty.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Grant County increased from 12.3 percent of the population to 13.7 percent. The number of persons in poverty rose from 993 people to 1,069 people. By 1999, Grant County's poverty rates rose above the state and national poverty rates.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 18 percent. Children younger than 18 years of age experienced poverty at 17.1 percent. People 65 and over experienced the lowest rate at 10.2 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty improved for people 65 and over.

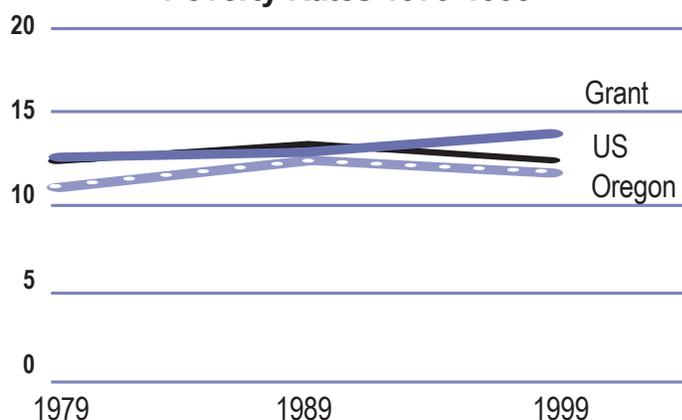
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level (poverty rate)

	1989	1999	Percent Change (rate difference)
Grant County	983 (12.7%)	1,069 (13.7%)	8.7% (1.0%)
Oregon Statewide	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%)

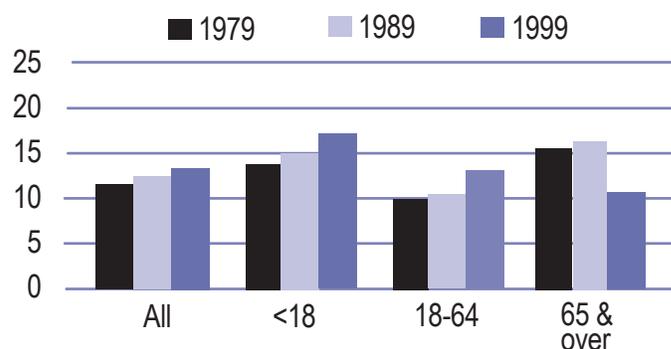
Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Source: U.S. Census.

Rate of Poverty by Age



Source: U.S. Census.

Poverty and Grant County Families

In 1999, 251 Grant County families lived in poverty (11.2 percent). Of the families in poverty, 62.9 percent (158 families) had a worker and 23.1 percent (58 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child younger than 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 16.3 percent. Families with a child 5 years and younger experienced poverty at a higher rate of 21.3 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 38.5 percent and was even higher with younger children (younger than 5 years) at 64.5 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children younger than 18 was lower at 4.9 percent. From 1979 to 1999, families with children (no husband present) who lived in poverty increased from 12.7 percent in 1979 to 16.3 percent in 1999.

Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White residents comprised the majority of people in poverty at 92.6 percent. When examining poverty based on race/ethnicity, however, the poverty rate for White was 13.2 percent. The category "Other" experienced a disproportionately higher rate of poverty at 44.2 percent. American Indian and Hispanic Origin also experienced higher poverty rates, both above 20 percent. Between 1989 to 1999, Other and Hispanic Origin experienced improvements in poverty rates.

Grant County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)	1979	1989	1999	% Change '79-'99
				(rate difference)
All Families	210 (9.0%)	212 (9.4%)	251 (11.2%)	19.5% (2.2%)
With Children under 18	156 (12.7%)	150 (13.6%)	172 (16.3%)	10.3% (3.6%)
Female-headed with children under 18	58 (45.7%)	61 (44.5%)	79 (38.5%)	36.2% (-7.2%)

Source: U.S. Census. Calculations may not add due to rounding.

Grant County Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population by Race (poverty population)	Poverty Rate 1999	Poverty Rate by Race 1989
White	96.1% (7,508)	92.6% (990)	13.2%	12.3%
Black	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	NA	NA
American Indian	1.3% (100)	2.5% (27)	27.0%	15.2%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.1%/0.0% (8/1)	0.0%/0.0% (0/0)	0.0%/NA	NA*
Other	0.7% (52)	2.2% (23)	44.2%	65.1%
2 or More Races	1.8% (143)	2.7% (29)	20.3%	NA
Hispanic Origin	2.4% (189)	4.2% (45)	23.8%	30.5%

*Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 Census.

Grant County

County Income

On a per capita basis, Grant County's personal income was \$24,967 in 2002, about 87 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 81 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Per capita income in Grant County rose 4.8 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, of per capita income shows average annual growth of 4.2 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$25,852 in Grant County compared to \$33,063 for the state.⁴

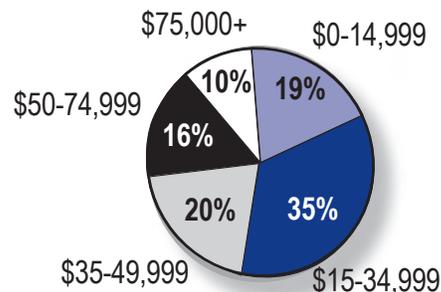
Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Grant County. The 2000 Census showed that 410 people or 38.4 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold actually earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned the poverty level or more but still needed assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants, and Children program. In 1999, 33 percent of Grant County's population, or 2,580 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Public Assistance

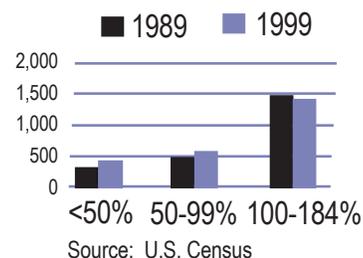
Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 96 households or 3 percent of all households in Grant County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$2,430. The 20-year trend showed a decrease in households who received public assistance income, from 154 households or 5.2 percent of all households in 1979.

1999 Household Income Distribution-Grant County

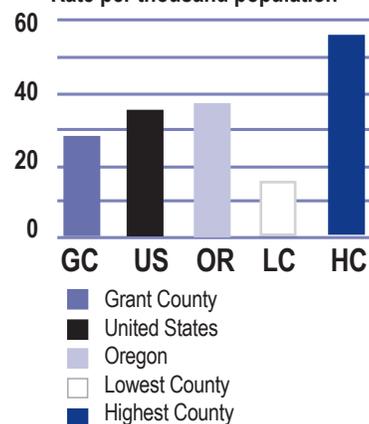


Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Grant County was \$32,560 in 1999 compared to \$26,640 in 1989 (22.2 percent increase).

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles



Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregonian households had difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Grant County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses.

Using this budget, only families comprised of two adults who earned Grant County's median family income and had only one child could afford the basic expenses.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families at the poverty level in Grant County could afford 42.9 to 46.9 percent of this basic family budget.

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Grant County is \$450.81. The federal government had the highest weekly average of \$716.41 and retail trade had the lowest weekly average of \$258.56.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Grant County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages.

An adult who had one child and who worked full-time for average Grant County wages could not afford the basic family budget.

Grant County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$477	\$657	\$477	\$657
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$381	\$845	\$381	\$845
Transportation	\$197	\$197	\$277	\$277
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$219	\$355	\$268	\$404
Taxes	\$292	\$506	\$413	\$578
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$2,041	\$3,294	\$2,497	\$3,701
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$24,496	\$39,533	\$29,965	\$44,410
Median Family Income (Census 2000)	\$21,821	\$21,821	\$43,500	\$43,500
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	89.1%	55.2%	145.2%	98.0%

Poverty and Grant County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	46.9%	42.9%	44.8%	44.8%

Grant County Wages and the Basic Budget

	1 Worker	1 Worker	2 Workers	2 Workers
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$1,938	\$1,938	\$3,877	\$3,877
	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$2,041	\$3,294	\$2,497	\$3,701
Difference (SSW-AMW)	-\$103	-\$1,356	\$1,380	\$176
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	95.0%	58.8%	155.3%	104.8%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.
** Based on Basic Family Budget for Grant County.

Grant County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	7,853 ¹	7,935 ²	7,524	7,437	7,454
% of People living below poverty level	12.7% ¹	13.7% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$26,640 ¹	\$32,560 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	10.2	11.2	10.3	10	11.3
8th Grade Drug Use	23.4% ³	25.0%	NA	23.9%	NA
HS Dropout	2.1% ⁴	1.5%	0.5%	0.4%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	12.1	6.4	2.2	2.1	NA
Prenatal Care	79.6%	79.1%	90.3%	90.3%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	12.3	10.4	12.1	19.1	NA
Homeownership Rate	70.8% ¹	73.5% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	34.2% ¹	38.5% ²	NA	NA	NA
Grant County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	7	0	14	17	3
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	33	30	30	0	0
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$188,607	\$750,060	\$1.2 m	\$0	\$0
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	1	1	1	0	0
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$76,532	\$86,596	\$63,894	\$0	\$0
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	305	234	231	214
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	19.2%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	482	423	460	533	469
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	33.0%	31.3%	34.9%	42.6%	39.8%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	9.6%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	2.5%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	28.4%	28.1%	
¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989 ² 2000 Census data, year is 1999 ³ 1998 ⁴ 1996 NA=Not Available					

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Community Connection of Northeast Oregon's Community Services Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05.

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

Major findings

According to the 2000 Census, median income in Harney County was lower than the state average. The county's unemployment rate rose from 9.5 in 2000 to 11.3 in 2003. Of those earning a paycheck, 20 percent earned less than \$14,999. Of those who rented in Harney County, 51.1 percent paid 30 percent or more of their income on rental costs.

Harney County experienced an increase in the number of persons living in poverty and the overall percent of the population living in poverty. Of those living in poverty in 1999, 42.4 percent earned 50 percent or less of the federal poverty threshold.

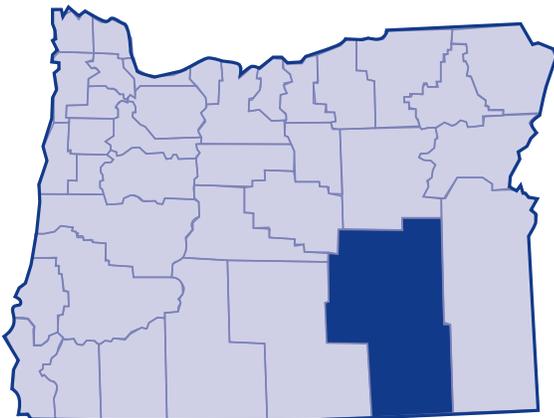
One group most affected by poverty was children. In 1999, 14.6 percent of children 5 years and younger lived in poverty. Over half of the county's families headed by single mothers with children younger than 5 lived in poverty.

In 2003, 26.7 percent of Harney County residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹

Low-income needs

The Harney County Commission and other community partners set the following priorities for the county's low-income population as follows:

- Promote 40 Developmental Assets campaign
- Establish a home visitation plan that is a continuum of support from birth to 18
- Increase the number of preschool programs and registered childcare facilities in Harney County
- To implement a free before-school program for Slater Elementary students in grades 1-3
- Increasing the hours of operation of the Harney County Boys and Girls Club
- Provide intervention to students in the junior high school and high school identified as "high risk" by trained school counselors and teachers
- Reduce the stigmatization of parent education
- Open a local alternative school program
- Open ten detention/treatment beds in local regional detention facility
- Hire a dedicated full time adolescent/family clinician



Harney County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Harney County grew 7.8 percent from 1989 to 1999. The US Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 7,429 county residents and found that 11.8 percent (875 people) lived below the poverty threshold. This is an increase of 18.6 percent in the number of persons living in poverty (738 people) in 1989. The overall percent of Harney County's population living in poverty increased from 1989 to 1999, as well as the number of people living in poverty.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Harney County increased from 8.9 percent of the population to 11.8 percent. The number of persons in poverty rose from 732 people to 875 people. From 1979 to 1999, Harney County's poverty rates increased to equal those of the state and nation.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 14.6 percent. Children younger than 18 years of age experienced poverty at 12.9 percent. People 18 to 64 experienced the lowest rate at 10.8 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty was consistently lowest for people 18 to 64.

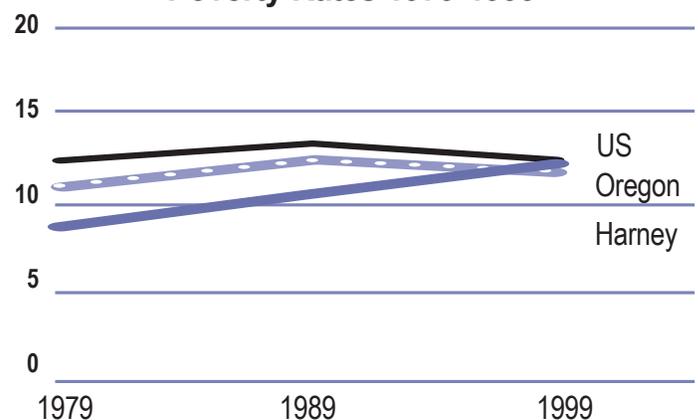
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level
(poverty rate)

	1989	1999	Percent Change (rate difference)
Harney County	738 (10.6%)	875 (11.8%)	18.6% (1.2%)
Oregon Statewide	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%)

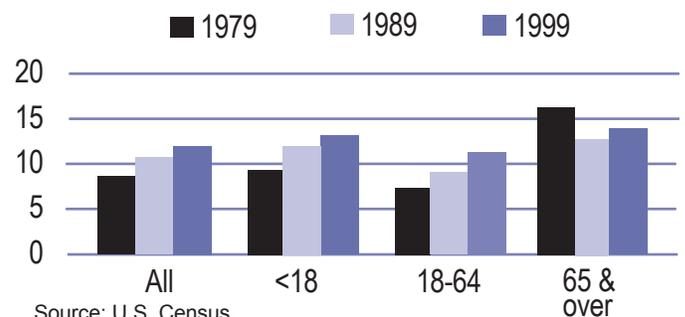
Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Source: U.S. Census.

Rate of Poverty by Age



Source: U.S. Census.

Harney County

Poverty & Harney County Families

In 1999, 180 Harney County families lived in poverty (8.6 percent). Of the families in poverty, 52.2 percent (94 families) had a householder who worked and 19.4 percent (35 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child younger than 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 11 percent. Families with a child 5 years and younger experienced poverty at a higher rate of 14.5 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 28.4 percent and was even higher with younger children (younger than 5 years) at 55.2 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children younger than 18 was lower at 4.9 percent. Although the number of female-headed households with children (no husband present) who lived in poverty increased, the overall percent decreased from 52.1 percent in 1979 to 28.4 percent in 1999.

Poverty and Race/ Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups², White residents comprised the majority of people in poverty at 80.1 percent. When examining poverty based on race/ethnicity, however, the poverty rate among White was 10.4 percent. Pacific Islander and American Indian experienced disproportionately higher rates of poverty: 42.1 percent for Pacific Islander and 36.1 percent for American Indian. From 1989 to 1999, poverty improved for American Indian and Other. Black and Hispanic Origin remained the same.

Harney County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)	1979			1989		1999		% Change '79-'99 (rate difference)
	1979	1989	1999	1979	1989	1979	1989	
All Families	181 (7.8%)	171 (8.3%)	180 (8.6%)					-0.6% (0.8%)
With Children under 18	113 (9.0%)	118 (11.3%)	100 (11.0%)					-11.5% (2.0%)
Female-headed with children under 18	37 (52.1%)	60 (42.6%)	46 (28.4%)					24.3% (-23.7%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Harney County and Race/Ethnicity

Race/ Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population (poverty population)	Poverty Rate by Race 1999	Poverty Rate by Race 1989
White	90.5% (6,724)	80.1% (701)	10.4%	9.1%
Black	0.1% (7)	0.0% (0)	NA	NA
American Indian	3.6% (266)	11.0% (96)	36.1%	38.2%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.7%/0.3% (50/19)	0.6%/0.9% (5/8)	10.0%/42.1%	19.6%*
Other	0.8% (62)	1.7% (15)	24.2%	40.7%
2 or More Races	4.1% (301)	5.7% (50)	16.5%	NA
Hispanic Origin	4.4% (329)	8.1% (71)	21.6%	21.6%

*Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 Census.

Harney County

County Income

On a per capita basis, Harney County's personal income was \$22,382 in 2002, about 78 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 72 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Per capita income in Harney County rose 3.6 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, of per capita income shows average annual growth of 3.2 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$23,680 in Harney County compared to \$33,063 for the state.³

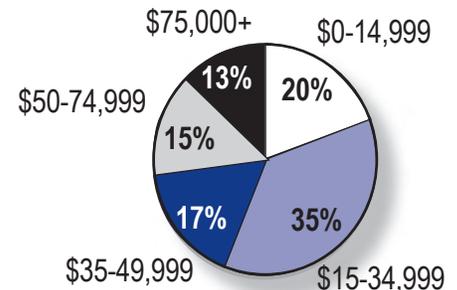
Income Levels and Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Harney County. The 2000 Census showed that 371 people or 42.4 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold actually earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or above the poverty level but still needed assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants, and Children program. In 1999, 33.2 percent of Harney County's population, or 2,470 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Public Assistance

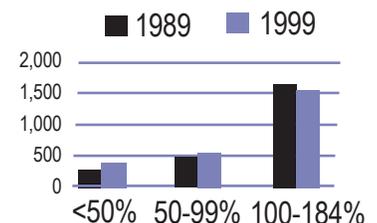
Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 97 households or 3.2 percent of all households in Harney County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$5,649. The 20-year trend showed a decrease in households that reported receiving public assistance income, from 154 households or 5.2 percent of all households in 1979.

1999 Household Income Distribution-Harney County



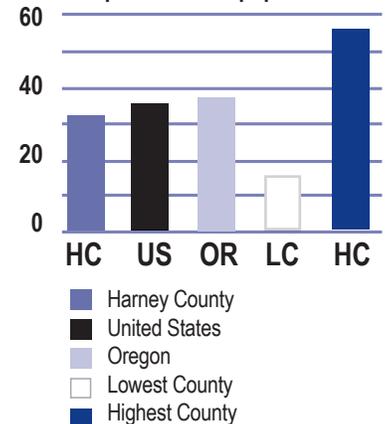
Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Harney County was \$30,957 in 1999 compared to \$22,334 in 1989 (38.6 percent increase).

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles



Source: U.S. Census

Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Source: U.S. Census.

Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregon households have difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Harney County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses.

One adult who earned median family income in Harney County could not afford the basic family expenses for themselves and one child.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families at the poverty level in Harney County could afford 45.4 to 49.8 percent of this basic family budget.

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Harney County is \$432.12. The federal government had the highest weekly average of \$718.95 and wholesale trade had the lowest weekly average of \$267.43.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Harney County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages.

One adult with one child and who worked full-time earning average wages in Harney County could not afford the basic family expenses.

Harney County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$477	\$657	\$477	\$657
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$317	\$720	\$317	\$720
Transportation	\$197	\$197	\$277	\$277
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$219	\$355	\$268	\$404
Taxes	\$237	\$452	\$386	\$522
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$1,922	\$3,115	\$2,406	\$3,520
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$23,069	\$37,375	\$28,867	\$42,244
Median Family Income (Census 2000)	\$22,149	\$22,149	42,802	\$42,802
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	96.0%	59.3%	148.3%	101.3%

Poverty and Harney County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	49.8%	45.4%	46.5%	47.1%

Harney County Wages and the Basic Budget

	1 Worker 1 Child	1 Worker 3 Children	2 Workers 1 Child	2 Workers 3 Children
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$1,858	\$1,858	\$3,716	\$3,716
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$1,941	\$3,115	\$2,406	\$3,520
Difference (SSW-AMW)	-\$83	-\$1,257	\$1,310	\$196
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	95.7%	59.6%	154.4%	105.6%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.
** Based on Basic Family Budget for Harney County.

Harney County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	7,060 ¹	7,609 ²	7,418	7,326	7,184
% of People living below poverty level	10.6% ¹	11.8% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$22,334 ¹	\$30,957 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	11.1	9.5	14.1	9.8	11.3
8th Grade Drug Use	17.3% ³	14.0%	NA	23.9%	NA
HS Dropout	5.4% ⁴	6.9%	2.7%	0.9%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	20.9	15.2	4.4	4.2	NA
Prenatal Care	81.3%	80.4%	89.0%	84.4%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	0	15.3	6.5	9.1	NA
Homeownership Rate	70.3% ¹	72.7% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	35.4% ¹	51.1% ²	NA	NA	NA
Harney County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	15	14	18	15	0
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	0	0	0	0	0
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$105,000	\$0
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	4	3	1	2	5
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$202,591	\$205,733	\$87,288	\$134,500	\$281,031
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	354	486	556	557
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	22.1%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	642	688	708	709	681
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	43.3%	48.3%	50.7%	50.7%	51.1%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	14.3%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	2.7%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	32.6%	31.5%	
¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989 ² 2000 Census data, year is 1999 ³ 1998 ⁴ 1996 NA=Not Available					

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

³ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts

Hood River County

Major Findings

In the past decade, Hood River County's population grew, residents' incomes rose, and the number of rent-burdened families fell. However, the number of people in poverty, families in poverty, and families with children living in poverty all increased.

The median income grew 51.8 percent, but remained slightly lower than the state average. Residents who spent 30 percent or more of their income on rental costs decreased to just under half of those who rent.

Between 1979 and 1999, the number of families in poverty increased 68.5 percent; the number of families with children living in poverty increased 117.3 percent.

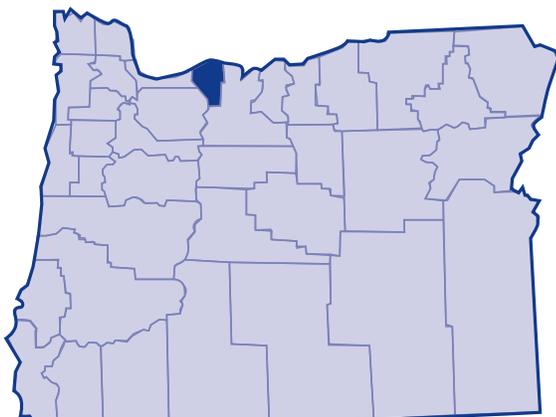
Those of Hispanic Origin and Other faced disproportionately higher rates of poverty. Over a quarter of each of these groups lived in poverty in 1999.

In 2003, 26.7 percent of Hood River County residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹

Low-income needs

Mid-Columbia Community Action Council prioritized the needs of the low-income population in Hood River County as follows²:

- Employment and jobs
- Rent/mortgage assistance
- Case management or follow up for recipients of assistance programs
- Transitional housing, including services for those with mental health issues and those who have been recently released from prison or drug/alcohol treatment centers
- Utility assistance
- Quality child care centers
- Public transportation available to everyone with cost based on a sliding scale (buses, medical vans, etc.)
- Renter education for low income tenants with poor rental history
- Safe homes for victims of domestic violence



Hood River County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Hood River County grew 20.8 percent between 1989 to 1999. The US Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 19,986 county residents and found that 14.2 percent (2,845 people) lived below the poverty threshold. This is an increase of 9 percent in the number of persons living in poverty (2,610 people) in 1989. The overall percent of Hood River County's population living in poverty decreased from 1989 to 1999, but the number of people living in poverty did not.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Hood River County increased from 9.5 percent of the population to 14.2 percent. The number of persons in poverty rose from 1,477 people to 2,845 people. Following a substantial increase in poverty rates from 1979 to 1989, Hood River County's poverty rate, although declining, remained higher than the state and national poverty rates from 1989 to 1999.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 22.1 percent. Children younger than 18 years of age experienced poverty at 18.7 percent. People 65 and older experienced the lowest rate of 7.8 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty improved for people 65 and older; it increased for all other age categories.

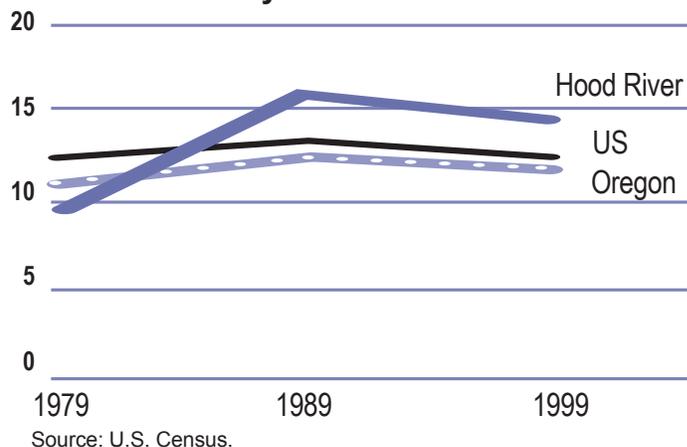
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level (poverty rate)

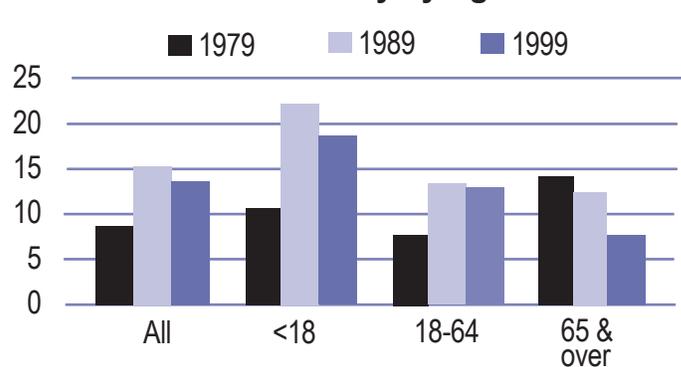
	1989	1999	Percent Change (rate difference)
Hood River County	2,610 (15.7%)	2,845 (14.2%)	9.0% (-1.4%)
Oregon Statewide	344,867 (12.4%)	388,740 (11.6%)	12.7% (-0.8%)
United States	31,742,864 (13.1%)	33,899,812 (12.4%)	6.8% (-0.7%)

Source: US Census. Calculations may not add due to rounding.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Rate of Poverty by Age



Hood River County

Poverty & Hood River County Families

In 1999, 514 Hood River County families lived in poverty (9.8 percent). Of the families in poverty, 75.9 percent (390 families) had a householder who worked and 19.1 percent (98 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child younger than 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 14.1 percent. Families with a child 5 years and younger experienced poverty at a higher rate of 22.1 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 32.4 percent and was even higher with younger children (less than 5 years) at 60.2 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children younger than 18 was lower at 10.3 percent. From 1979 to 1999, the number of families with children younger than 18 who lived in poverty increased from 185 families in 1979 to 402 families in 1999.

Hood River County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)	Year			% Change '79-'99 (rate difference)
	1979	1989	1999	
All Families	305 (6.9%)	491 (10.7%)	514 (9.8%)	68.5% (2.9%)
With Children under 18	185 (8.0%)	383 (16.7%)	402 (14.1%)	117.3% (6.1%)
Female-headed with children under 18	98 (34.1%)	118 (42.0%)	157 (32.4%)	60.2% (-1.7%)

Source: US Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White residents comprised the majority of people in poverty at 64.5 percent. When examining poverty based on race/ethnicity, however, the poverty rate among White was 11.7 percent. Other and Hispanic Origin experienced disproportionately higher rates of poverty. The poverty rate among Other was 27.9 percent, while Hispanic Origin had a 34.0 percent rate. From 1989 to 1999, the poverty rate for American Indian increased.

Hood River County and Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population by Race (poverty population)	Poverty Rate 1999	Poverty Rate by Race 1989
White	78.4% (15,673)	64.5% (1,834)	11.7%	13.7%
Black	0.3% (51)	0.0% (0)	0.0%	16.3%
American Indian	0.9% (179)	0.9% (25)	14.0%	13.9%
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.5%/0.1% (294/13)	0.9%/0.0% (25/0)	8.5%/0.0%	7.0%*
Other	16.3% (3,263)	32.0% (909)	27.9%	51.6%
2 or More Races	2.6% (513)	1.8% (52)	10.1%	NA
Hispanic Origin	24.6% (4,921)	58.8% (1,672)	34.0%	41.4%

*Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 Census.

Hood River County

County Income

On a per capita basis, Hood River County's personal income was \$24,151 in 2002, about 84 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 78 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Per capita income in Hood River County rose 2.7 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, in per capita income shows average annual growth of 3.4 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$23,680 in Hood River County compared to \$33,063 for the state.⁴

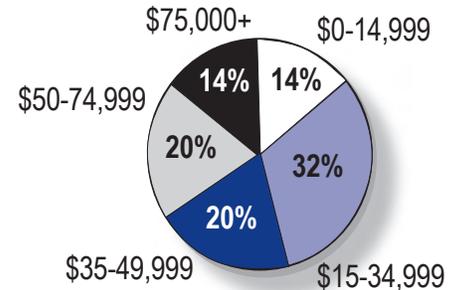
Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Hood River County. The 2000 Census showed that 930 people or 32.7 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold actually earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or above the poverty level but still needed assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants, and Children program. In 1999, 33.7 percent of Hood River County's population, or 6,730 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Public Assistance

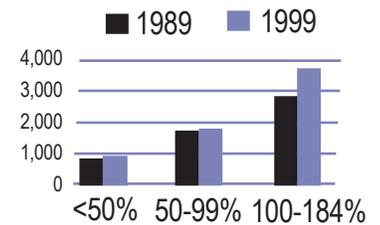
Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 232 households or 3.2 percent of all households in Hood River County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$2,595. The 20-year trend showed a decrease in households that reported receiving public assistance income, from 306 households or 5.1 percent of all households in 1979.

1999 Household Income Distribution-Hood River County



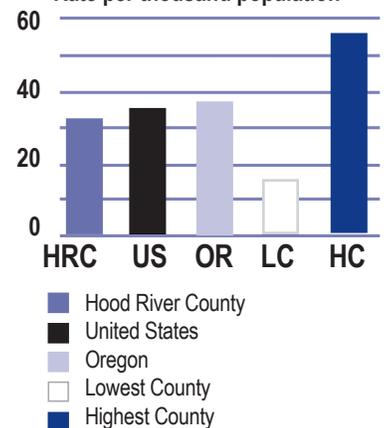
Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Hood River County was \$38,326 in 1999 compared to \$25,242 in 1989 (51.8 percent increase).

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles



Source: U.S. Census

Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Source: U.S. Census.

Hood River County

Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregon households had difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Hood River County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses.

Only one of the family types—two working adults with one child—could afford this basic family budget at Hood River’s median family income.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

Hood River County’s Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$558	\$726	\$558	\$726
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$412	\$891	\$412	\$891
Transportation	\$197	\$197	\$277	\$277
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$244	\$377	\$293	\$426
Taxes	\$403	\$566	\$472	\$660
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$2,289	\$3,491	\$2,693	\$3,920
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$27,466	\$41,891	\$32,312	\$47,035
Median Family Income (Census 2000)	\$23,366	\$23,366	\$41,930	\$41,930
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	85.1%	55.8%	129.8%	89.1%

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families at the poverty level in Hood River County could afford 40.5 to 42.3 percent of this basic family budget.

Poverty and Hood River County’s Basic Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	41.8%	40.5%	41.5%	42.3%

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Hood River County was \$396.98. The federal government had the highest weekly average of \$686.53 and agriculture, forestry and fish had the lowest weekly average of \$287.30.

The following chart illustrates a family’s ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Hood River County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages.

At the average monthly wage, only the family with two working adults and one child could afford this basic family budget.

Hood River County Wages and the Basic Budget

	1 Worker 1 Child	1 Worker 3 Children	2 Workers 1 Child	2 Workers 3 Children
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$1,707	\$1,707	\$3,414	\$3,414
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$2,289	\$3,491	\$2,693	\$3,920
Difference (SSW-AMW)	-\$103	-\$1,318	\$1,284	\$136
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	74.6%	48.9%	126.8%	87.1%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.
** Based on Basic Family Budget for Hood River County.

Hood River County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	16,903 ¹	20,411 ²	20,445	20,645	20,760
% of People living below poverty level	15.7% ¹	14.2% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$25,242 ¹	\$38,326 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	8.3	7.8	9.1	9.4	9.7
8th Grade Drug Use	16.2% ³	10.9%	NA	17.9%	NA
HS Dropout	5.5% ⁴	5.9%	2.1%	2.0%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	13.7	13.8	9.8	6.4	NA
Prenatal Care	75.0%	78.9%	78.6%	84.6%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	19.5	25.5	20	22.5	NA
Homeownership Rate	62.1% ¹	64.9% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	52.6% ¹	47.6% ²	NA	NA	NA
Hood River County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	0	0	7	0	8
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	60	17	10	63	14
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$2.2 m	\$220,000	\$375,000	\$265,730	\$202,469
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	1	2	0	1	0
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$108,560	\$208,693	\$0	\$112,249	\$0
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	546	527	685	573
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	23.0%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	1,673	1,641	1,749	1,831	2,146
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	44.4%	43.5%	45.3%	47.4%	54.4%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	19.1%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	1.3%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	28.7%	29.1%	
¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989 ² 2000 Census data, year is 1999 ³ 1998 ⁴ 1996 NA=Not Available					

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Mid-Columbia Community Action Council Community Service Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05.

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

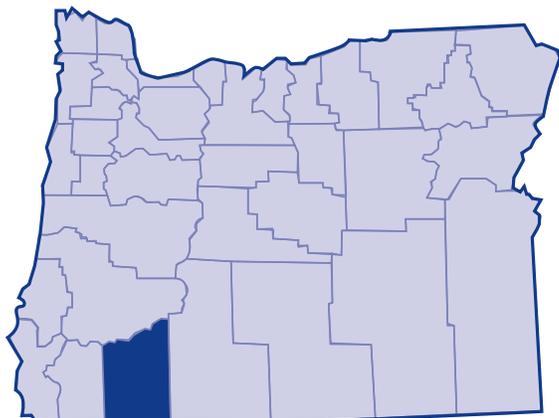
⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

Major findings

Jackson County saw population growth of 23.8 percent between 1989 and 1999. The number of people living in poverty in Jackson County increased by 17.7 percent. Therefore, the number of people living in poverty in Jackson County increased, but the overall percent of the population living in poverty decreased slightly.

Although the median income for Jackson County increased by 45.4 percent, it remained below the state average. Half of Jackson County's renters paid 30 percent or more of their income toward rent. In 1999, more than 20 percent of the county's children under 5 years of age lived in poverty.

In 2003, 25.2 percent of Jackson County's residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹



Low-income needs

ACCESS, Inc, the Community Action Agency for Jackson County prioritized the needs of the low-income population in the county as follows²:

- Support community efforts to increase access to medical care for low-income citizens, seniors, people with disabilities, and people who are homeless
- Increase housing resources and assistance for low-income and special needs populations including permanent affordable housing, rental assistance programs, and housing rehab programs
- Maintain access to energy assistance programs for low-income people especially vulnerable populations including seniors and people with disabilities
- Maintain food and nutrition programs including access to emergency food boxes
- Provide necessary support for seniors and people with disabilities to in their own homes and live independently improving their overall quality of life
- Support community efforts to increase alcohol and drug free housing
- Support increased employment opportunities and livable wage jobs
- Support education/training programs (including life skills training) to provide businesses with a workforce that has the tools to succeed
- Increase the availability of cash assistance for emergencies beyond the client's control and provide information and referral to all other community alternatives and resources available
- Maintain weatherization program and encourage retention of existing housing stock through the promotion and coordination of housing rehabilitation programs
- Support expanded transportation services for people with low incomes, seniors, and people with disabilities

Jackson County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Jackson County grew 23.8 percent between 1989 and 1999. The US Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 177,638 county residents and found that 12.5 percent (22,269 people) lived below the poverty threshold. This represents an increase of 17.7 percent in the number of persons living in poverty (18,925 people) in 1989. The overall percent of Jackson County's population living in poverty decreased from 1989 to 1999, but the number of people living in poverty did not.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Jackson County remained relatively constant, increase from 12 percent of the population to 12.5 percent. The number of persons in poverty rose from 15,508 to 22,269 people. Jackson County's poverty rates remained slightly higher than the state and equal to the national poverty rates throughout this period.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 20.3 percent. Children younger than 18 years of age experienced poverty at 17 percent. People 65 and older experienced the lowest rate at 6.9 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty improved for people 65 and older; it increased for all other age categories.

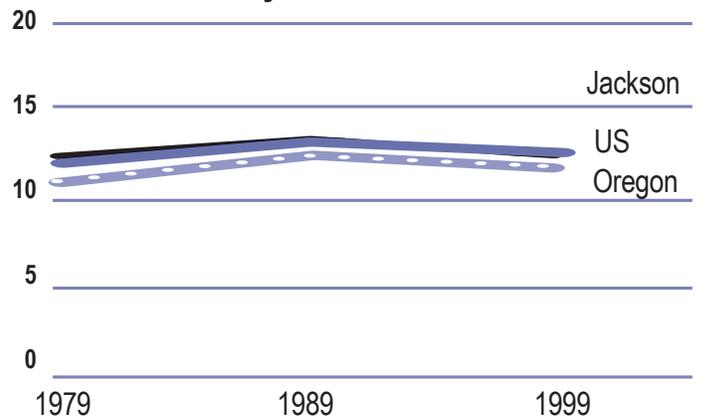
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level (poverty rate)

	1989	1999	Percent Change
Jackson County	18,925 (13.2%)	22,269 (12.5%)	(rate difference) 17.7% (-0.7%)
Oregon Statewide	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%)

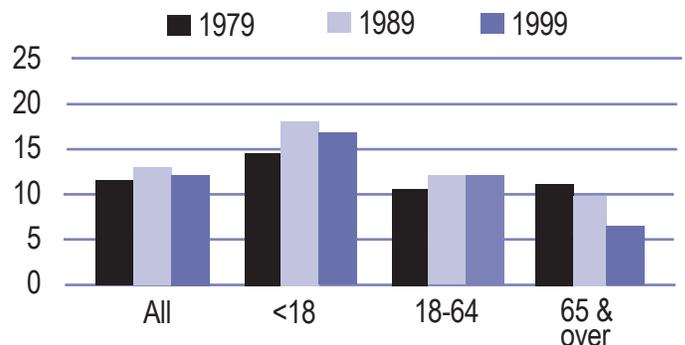
Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Source: U.S. Census.

Rate of Poverty by Age



Source: U.S. Census.

Poverty and Jackson County Families

In 1999, 4,346 Jackson County families lived in poverty (8.9 percent). Of the families in poverty, 63.1 percent (2,742 families) had a worker and 16.7 percent (726 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child younger than 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 14.7 percent. Families with a child 5 years and younger experienced poverty at a higher rate of 20 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 36.8

percent and was even higher with younger children (less than 5 years) at 60.2 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children younger than 18 was lower at 6.6 percent. From 1979 to 1999, the number of female-headed households with children (no husband present) who lived in poverty increased from 1,221 families in 1979 to 1,966 families in 1999.

Jackson County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)	Year			% Change '79-'99 (rate difference)
	1979	1989	1999	
All Families	3,195 (8.8%)	3,937 (9.7%)	4,346 (8.9%)	36.0% (0.1%)
With Children under 18	2,445 (13.0%)	2,999 (15.5%)	3,452 (14.7%)	41.2% (1.7%)
Female-headed with children under 18	1,221 (38.3%)	1,732 (45.5%)	1,966 (36.8%)	61.0% (-1.5%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White residents comprised the majority of people in poverty at 85 percent. When examining poverty based on race/ethnicity, however, the poverty rate among White was 11.6 percent. Black, Other and Hispanic Origin experienced disproportionately higher rates of poverty. The poverty rate among all three categories exceeded 24 percent. From 1989 to 1999, all categories experienced improvements in poverty rates.

Jackson County Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population (poverty population)	Poverty Rate 1999	Poverty Rate by Race 1989
White	91.7% (162,920)	85.0% (18,931)	11.6%	12.4%
Black	0.4% (664)	0.7% (162)	24.4%	41.2%
American Indian	1.0% (2,065)	1.7% (180)	19.8%	29.5%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.7%/0.2% (8,092/599)	1.1%/0.1% (377/93)	17.9%/9.7%	27.3%
Other	2.4% (7,881)	9.2% (2,027)	28.6%	33.1%
2 or More Races	2.6% (8,841)	5.5% (1,217)	20.0%	NA
Hispanic Origin	5.0% (16,852)	15.9% (3,487)	25.6%	26.9%

³Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 Census.

Jackson County

County Income

On a per capita basis, Jackson County's personal income was \$26,477 in 2002, about 92 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 86 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Per capita income in Jackson County rose 2.7 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, in per capita income shows average annual growth of 4.1 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$27,671 in Jackson County compared to \$33,063 for the state.⁴

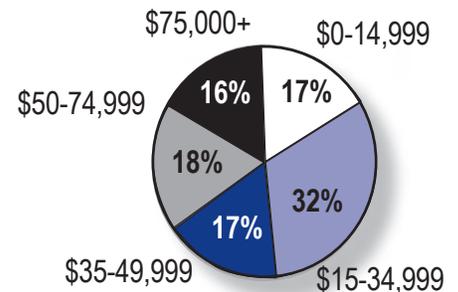
Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Jackson County. The 2000 Census showed that 8,996 people or 40.4 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold actually earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or more than the poverty level but still needed assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants and Children program. In 1999, 30.3 percent of Jackson County's population, or 53,899 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Public Assistance

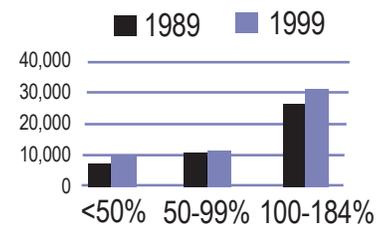
Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 2,704 households or 3.8 percent of all households in Jackson County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$2,453. The 20-year trend showed a decrease in households that reported receiving public assistance income, from 3,518 households or 7.2 percent of all households in 1979.

1999 Household Income Distribution-Jackson County



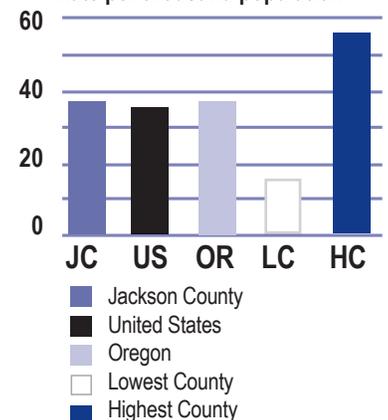
Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Jackson County was \$36,461 in 1999 compared to \$25,069 in 1989 (45.4 percent increase).

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles



Source: U.S. Census

Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Source: U.S. Census.

Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregon households have difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Jackson County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses.

Families with one adult earning Jackson County's median family income could not afford this basic family budget.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

Jackson County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$601	\$835	\$601	\$835
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$395	\$864	\$395	\$864
Transportation	\$158	\$158	\$222	\$222
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$258	\$410	\$307	\$459
Taxes	\$403	\$599	\$466	\$686
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$2,290	\$3,600	\$2,672	\$4,006
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$27,479	\$43,197	\$32,061	\$48,074
Median Annual Income (Census 2000)	\$18,776	\$18,776	\$50,770	\$50,770
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	68.3%	43.5%	158.4%	105.6%

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families at Jackson County's poverty level could afford 39.2 to 41.4 percent of this basic family budget.

Poverty and Jackson County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	41.8%	39.2%	41.8%	41.4%

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Jackson County is \$493.60. The federal government had the highest weekly average of \$777.83 and agriculture, forestry and fish had the lowest weekly average of \$333.80.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Jackson County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages.

Of the family types profiled, families with one adult earning Jackson County's average wage could not afford this basic family budget.

Jackson County Wages and the Basic Budget

	1 Worker	1 Worker	2 Workers	2 Workers
	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$2,122	\$2,122	\$4,244	\$4,244
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$2,399	\$3,748	\$2,785	\$4,162
Difference (SSW-AMW)	-\$277	-\$1,626	\$1,459	\$82
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	88.5%	56.6%	152.4%	102.0%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.

** Based on Basic Family Budget for Jackson County.

Jackson County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	146,389 ¹	181,269 ²	183,851	186,650	190,077
% of People living below poverty level	13.2% ¹	12.5% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$25,069 ¹	\$36,461 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	6.5	5.3	6.3	7.1	7.3
8th Grade Drug Use	23.8% ³	7.4%	NA	16.0%	NA
HS Dropout	7.7% ⁴	7.2%	6.7%	6.9%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	15.9	11.2	12.5	11	NA
Prenatal Care	70.7%	77.9%	78.8%	78.7%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	23.2	21.9	20.8	17.9	NA
Homeownership Rate	66.2% ¹	66.5% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	47.0% ¹	47.6% ²	NA	NA	NA
Jackson County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	232	351	142	228	293
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	121	0	62	113	81
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$2.6 m	\$0	\$1.5 m	\$6.2 m	\$3.3 m
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	81	40	43	43	40
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$7.2 m	\$3.5 m	\$4.0 m	\$4.4 m	\$4.7 m
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	4,501	3,812	4,308	3,908
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	19.2%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	10,822	10,028	11,178	11,213	11,881
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	37.1%	34.4%	38.0%	38.0%	40.6%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	12.1%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	2.1%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	26.1%	27.5%	
	¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989	² 2000 Census data, year is 1999	³ 1998	⁴ 1996	NA=Not Available

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² ACCESS, Inc Community Services Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

Jefferson County

Major findings

According to the US Census, Jefferson County has experienced rapid growth from 1989 to 1999. During this same period, poverty decreased. Due to sharp increases in poverty from 1979 to 1989, Jefferson County's poverty rates in 1999 remained above those of the state and the nation.

Of those living below the federal poverty threshold, 43 percent earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold for their family type. In addition, one-third of Jefferson County residents earned less than 185 percent of the poverty threshold for their family type, and possibly qualified for public assistance programs, such as food stamps.

Children were most likely to be poor. The number of families headed by a single mother increased 182.6 percent between 1979 and 1999.

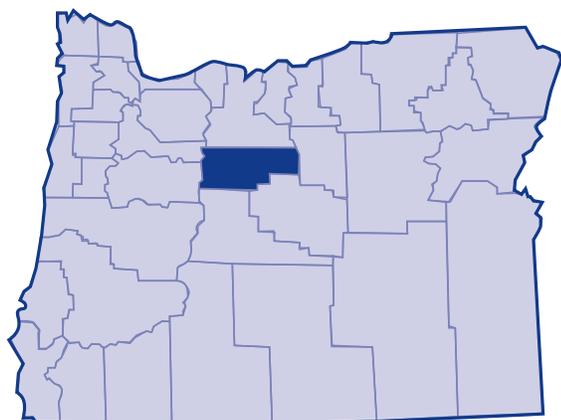
American Indian faced disproportionately a higher poverty rate compared to other racial and ethnic categories-with 32 percent in poverty in 1999.

Among Oregon counties, Jefferson County residents reported one of the highest rates of public assistance in the 2000 Census. In 2003, 36.9 percent of the county's residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹

Low-income needs

Central Oregon Community Action Agency Network prioritized the needs of the low-income population in Jefferson County as follows²:

- **Housing**-help paying deposits and first/last months' rent; help addressing housing barriers such as credit problems, past criminal activities, or previous evictions
- **Utilities**-access to utility assistance, especially when rental units are energy inefficient
- **Transportation**-affordable and accessible transportation, including medical transportation; improve the dial-a-ride system and public transportation
- **Employment**-full-time employment with benefits
- **Hunger/Food Stamps**-food pantries, brown bag program, free and reduced lunch, summer feeding programs and especially rural food-assistance programs face particular challenges
- **Health Care**-access to health insurance, health care, prescription medications, and dental care
- **Childcare**-affordable quality childcare
- **Education**-job training and financial assistance for low-income parents seeking to achieve educational goals



Jefferson County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Jefferson County grew 39 percent between 1989 and 1999. The US Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 18,753 county residents and found that 14.6 percent (2,747 people) lived below the poverty threshold. This is an increase of 9.7 percent from the number of persons living in poverty (2,503 people) in 1989. The overall percent of Jefferson County's population living in poverty decreased from 1989 to 1999, but the number of people living in poverty did not.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Jefferson County increased from 13.3 percent of the population to 14.6 percent. The number of persons in poverty rose from 1,530 people to 2,747 people. Jefferson County's poverty rates remained higher than the state and national poverty rates throughout this period.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 25.9 percent. Children younger than 18 years of age experienced poverty at 22.3 percent. People 65 and older experienced the lowest rate at 5.9 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty was consistently highest for children younger than 18.

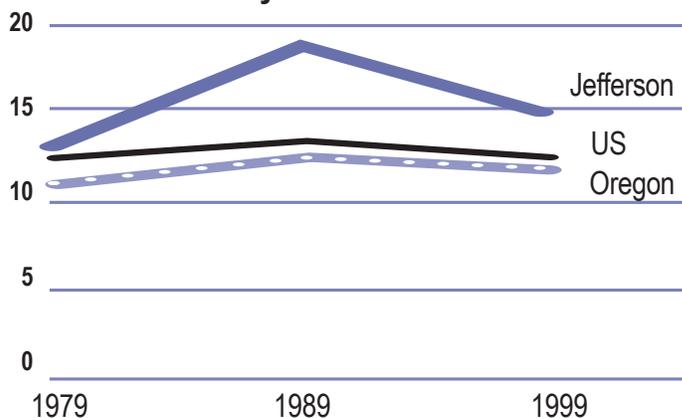
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level (poverty rate)

	1989	1999	Percent Change (rate difference)
Jefferson County	2,503 (18.6%)	2,747 (14.6%)	9.7% (-4.0%)
Oregon Statewide	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%)

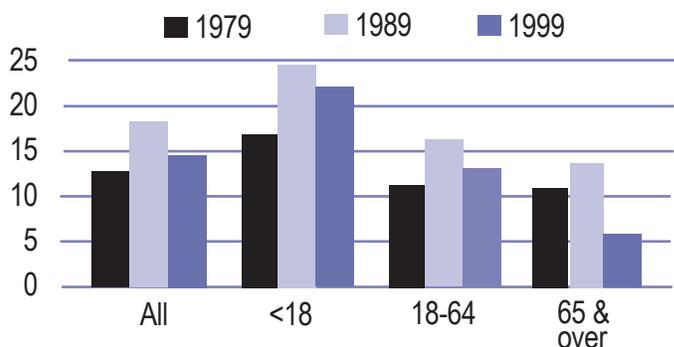
Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Source: U.S. Census.

Rate of Poverty by Age



Source: U.S. Census.

Poverty & Jefferson County Families

In 1999, 541 Jefferson County families lived in poverty (10.4 percent). Of the families in poverty, 71.0 percent (384 families) had a worker and 15.2 percent (82 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child younger than 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 17.4 percent. Families with a child 5 years and younger experienced poverty at a higher rate of 25.6 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 47.3 percent and was even higher with younger children (less than 5 years) at 67 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children younger than 18 was lower at 9.1 percent. From 1979 to 1999, the number of female-headed households with children (no husband present) who lived in poverty increased from 92 families in 1979 to 260 families in 1999.

Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White residents comprised the majority of people in poverty at 46.3 percent. When examining poverty based on race/ethnicity, however, the poverty rate among White was 9.8 percent. American Indian experienced disproportionately higher rates of poverty. The poverty rate among American Indian was 32 percent. From 1989 to 1999, most racial and ethnic categories experienced improvements in poverty rates, except American Indian.

Jefferson County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)	1979	1989	1999	% Change '79-'99
				(rate difference)
All Families	316 (10.1%)	490 (13.3%)	541 (10.4%)	71.2% (-0.3%)
With Children under 18	249 (13.9%)	401 (19.9%)	469 (17.4%)	88.4% (3.5%)
Female-headed with children under 18	92 (32.6%)	176 (47.8%)	260 (47.3%)	182.6% (14.7%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Jefferson County Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population (poverty population)	Poverty Rate 1999	Poverty Rate by Race 1989
White	68.9% (12,920)	46.3% (1,272)	9.8%	14.1%
Black	0.1% (12)	0.0% (0)	0.0%	36.8%
American Indian	15.0% (2,820)	32.8% (901)	32.0%	30.5%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.6%/0.1% (105/16)	0.0%/0.0% (0/0)	10.0%/0.0%	12.7%*
Other	12.1% (2,266)	16.0% (439)	19.4%	39.5%
2 or More Races	3.3% (614)	4.9% (135)	22.0%	NA
Hispanic Origin	17.7% (3,321)	26.2% (719)	21.7%	37.7%

*Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 Census.

Jefferson County

County Income

On a per capita basis, Jefferson County's personal income was \$20,510 in 2002, about 71 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 66 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Per capita income in Jefferson County rose 3.1 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, in per capita income shows average annual growth of 2.3 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$25,501 in Jefferson County compared to \$33,063 for the state.⁴

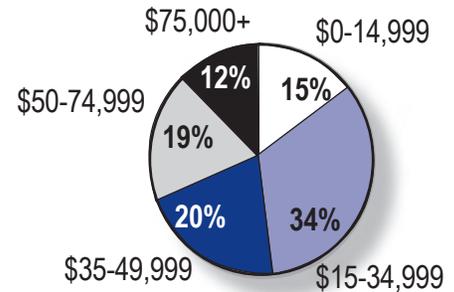
Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Jefferson County. The 2000 Census showed that 1,205 people or 43.9 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold were actually earning 50 percent less income than the poverty threshold. Another segment of the population may earn equal to or above the poverty level but still need assistance due to inadequate incomes for their needs. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants, and Children program. In 1999, 33.7 percent of Jefferson County's population, or 6,329 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Public Assistance

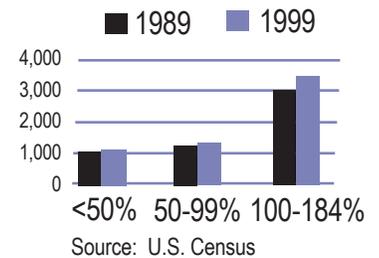
Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 370 households or 5.5 percent of all households in Jefferson County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$2,754. The 20-year trend showed an increase in households that reported receiving public assistance income, from 173 households or 4.3 percent of all households in 1979.

1999 Household Income Distribution-Jefferson County

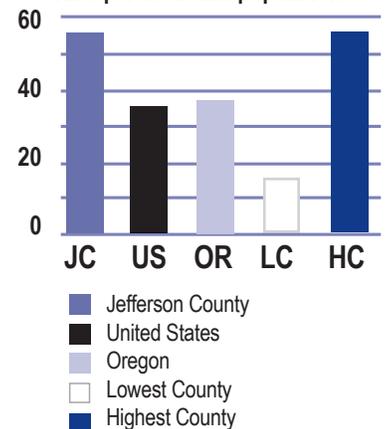


Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Jefferson County was \$35,853 in 1999 compared to \$23,532 in 1989 (52.4 percent increase).

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles



Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Jefferson County

Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregon households had difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Jefferson County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses.

One adult who worked at median family income could not afford this basic family budget for either family size.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families at the poverty level in Jefferson County could afford 43.9 to 48.1 percent of this basic family budget.

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Jefferson County is \$474.47. The federal government had the highest weekly average of \$682.12 and retail trade industry had the lowest weekly average of \$279.10.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Jefferson County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages.

An adult who worked full-time at Jefferson County's average wage could not afford the basic family budget for a family of four.

Jefferson County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$477	\$657	\$477	\$657
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$354	\$792	\$354	\$792
Transportation	\$197	\$197	\$277	\$277
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$219	\$355	\$268	\$404
Taxes	\$268	\$483	\$401	\$554
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$1,990	\$3,218	\$2,458	\$3,624
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$23,874	\$38,611	\$29,494	\$43,490
Median Family Income (Census 2000)	\$19,165	\$19,165	\$44,028	\$44,028
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	80.3%	49.6%	149.3%	101.2%

Poverty and Jefferson County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	48.1%	43.9%	45.5%	45.7%

Jefferson County Wages and the Basic Budget

	1 Worker 1 Child	1 Worker 3 Children	2 Workers 1 Child	2 Workers 3 Children
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$2,040	\$2,040	\$4,080	\$4,080
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$1,990	\$3,218	\$2,458	\$3,624
Difference (SSW-AMW)	\$50	-\$1,178	\$1,622	\$456
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	102.5%	63.4%	166.0%	112.6%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.
** Based on Basic Family Budget for Jefferson County.

Jefferson County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	13,676 ¹	19,009 ²	19,459	19,592	19,667
% of People living below poverty level	18.6% ¹	14.6% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$23,532 ¹	\$35,853 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	6.0	5.7	7.9	7.6	7.9
8th Grade Drug Use	16.8% ³	16.6%	NA	27.8%	NA
HS Dropout	9.8% ⁴	6.5%	5.7%	4.1%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	34.5	26.7	21.7	15.9	NA
Prenatal Care	69.6%	67.3%	64.4%	68.5%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	21.3	21.4	17.4	18.6	NA
Homeownership Rate	64.9% ¹	71.3% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	38.8% ¹	38.9% ²	NA	NA	NA
Jefferson County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	60	24	124	43	41
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	0	0	0	0	40
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$85,000	\$0	\$0	\$366,011	\$50,000
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	6	6	2	5	2
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$346,970	\$461,895	\$161,588	\$429,380	\$187,946
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	656	586	777	631
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	27.1%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	1,797	2,293	2,394	2,459	2,544
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	49.7%	61.7%	65.0%	65.0%	68.4%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	16.8%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	4.6%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	35.6%	35.7%	
¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989 ² 2000 Census data, year is 1999 ³ 1998 ⁴ 1996 NA=Not Available					

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Central Oregon Community Action Agency Network Community Services Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05.

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

Josephine County

Major findings

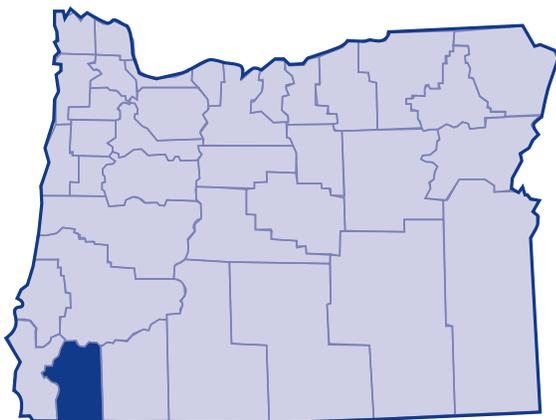
Poverty in Josephine County decreased between 1979 and 1999. However, poverty in Josephine County remains higher than the state average and national average, even after experiencing 20 years of falling poverty rates.

Although minority races saw improvements in poverty rates from 1989 to 1999, some groups continue to have high numbers living in poverty. One quarter of American Indian, Hispanic Origin, and Other lived in poverty in 1999.

Josephine County's children experienced the highest rates of poverty. Families with children who lived in poverty increased by 135.7 percent between 1979 and 1999.

According to the 2000 Census, half of the population spent 30 percent or more of their income on rent.

In 2003, 31.2 percent of Josephine County residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹



Low-income needs

Josephine County Community Services prioritized the needs of the low-income population in Josephine County as follows²:

- **Housing**-Increase and continue collaboration among agencies and partners to address needs and gaps identified by the community to ensure a cohesive, uniform approach to low-income housing challenges.
- **Medical**-Support partners in their efforts to address prohibitive prescription costs, medication management, access to primary care physicians, dental services, medical transportation and reduced costs from pharmacy vendors
- **Living Wage Jobs**-Support community partners in their efforts and provide direct service to address critical unmet needs in this category, including: education and training, social service programs, local barriers and restrictions, transportation and child care.
- **Transportation**-Increase services and continue collaboration with community partners to provide non-medical/social, medical and public transportation.
- **Food**-Maintain and expand existing food resources to provide fresh, perishable and shelf-stable food to hungry families.
- **Children's Advocates**
- **Alcohol and drug abuse treatment**
- **Senior programs**
- **Energy assistance**

Josephine County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Josephine County grew 20.9 percent between 1989 and 1999. The US Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 74,613 county residents and found that 15 percent (11,193 people) lived below the poverty threshold. This is a slight decrease (0.6 percent) in the number of persons living in poverty (11,261 people) in 1989. The overall percent of Josephine County's population living in poverty decreased from 1989 to 1999, as well as the number of people living in poverty.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Josephine County, dropped from 15.6 percent of the population to 15 percent. The number of persons in poverty rose from 9,073 people to 11,193 people. Josephine County's poverty rates remained higher than the state and national poverty rates throughout this period.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined, children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 27.5 percent. Children younger than 18 years of age experienced poverty at 21.8 percent. People 65 and older experienced the lowest rate at 6.8 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty was consistently highest for children younger than 18.

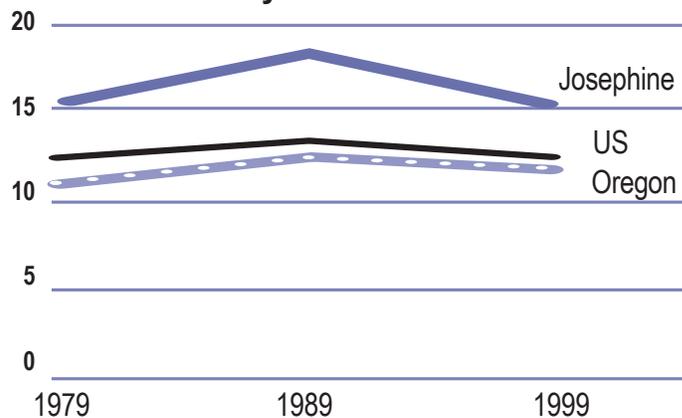
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level (poverty rate)

	1989	1999	Percent Change
Josephine County	11,261 (18.3%)	11,193 (15.0%)	(rate difference) -0.6% (-3.3%)
Oregon Statewide	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%)

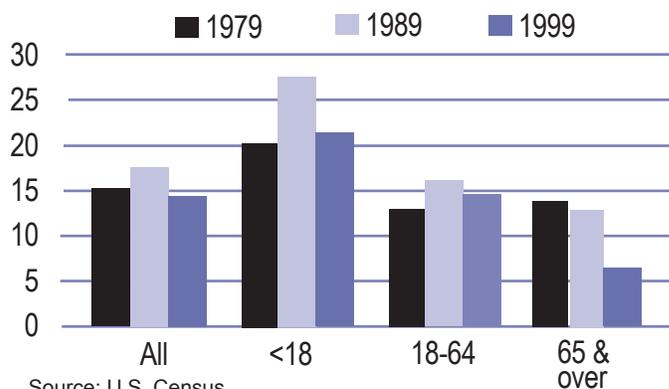
Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Source: U.S. Census.

Rate of Poverty by Age



Source: U.S. Census.

Josephine County

Poverty and Josephine County Families

In 1999, 2,435 Josephine County families lived in poverty (11.3 percent). Of the families in poverty, 51.5 percent (1,253 families) had a worker and 11.5 percent (280 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child younger than 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 19.7 percent. Families with a child 5 years and younger experienced poverty at a higher rate of 27.1 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 45.4 percent and was even higher with younger children (less than 5 years) at 69.9 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children younger than 18 was lower at 11.5 percent. From 1979 to 1999, the number of Josephine County families with a child younger than 18 who lived in poverty increased from 1,454 families in 1979 to 1,791 families in 1999.

Poverty and Race/ Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White residents comprised the majority of people in poverty at 89.7 percent. When examining poverty based on race/ethnicity, however, the poverty rate among White was 14.3 percent. American Indian, Hispanic Origin and Other experienced disproportionately higher rates of poverty. The poverty rate among these racial and ethnic categories was above 24 percent. From 1989 to 1999, all racial and ethnic categories experienced improvements in poverty rates.

Josephine County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)				% Change
	1979	1989	1999	'79-'99 (rate difference)
All Families	2,130 (12.6%)	2,483 (13.8%)	2,435 (11.3%)	14.3% (-1.3%)
With Children under 18	1,454 (17.7%)	1,733 (22.0%)	1,791 (19.7%)	135.7% (2.0%)
Female-headed with children under 18	679 (50.3%)	905 (51.8%)	970 (45.4%)	42.9% (-4.9%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Josephine County Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Race/ Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population (poverty population)	Poverty Rate 1999	Poverty Rate by Race 1989
White	93.8% (69,986)	89.7% (10,042)	14.3%	17.8%
Black	0.2% (119)	0.1% (15)	12.6%	15.1%
American Indian	1.3% (977)	2.2% (249)	25.5%	29.5%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.5%/0.0% (392/32)	0.4%/0.0% (53/4)	13.5%/12.5%	26.3%*
Other	1.3% (7,881)	2.3% (2,027)	26.6%	46.5%
2 or More Races	2.9% (2,136)	5.1% (572)	26.8%	NA
Hispanic Origin	4.2% (3,162)	6.9% (767)	24.3%	36.5%

*Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 Census.

Josephine County

County Income

On a per capita basis, Josephine County's personal income was \$22,791 in 2002, about 79 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 74 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Per capita income in Josephine County rose 2.5 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, in per capita income shows average annual growth of 3.9 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$24,810 in Josephine County compared to \$33,063 for the state.⁴

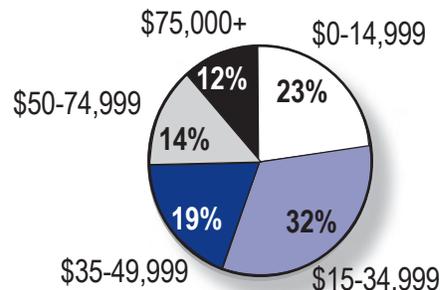
Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Josephine County. The 2000 Census showed that 5,160 people or 46.1 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold actually earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or above the poverty level but still needed assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants, and Children program. In 1999, 36.6 percent of Josephine County's population, or 27,299 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Public Assistance

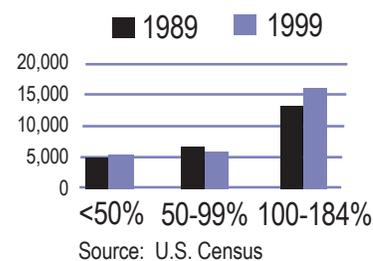
Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 1,622 households or 5.2 percent of all households in Josephine County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$2,459. The 20-year trend showed a decrease in households that reported receiving public assistance income, from 2,043 households or 9.3 percent of all households in 1979.

1999 Household Income Distribution-Josephine County



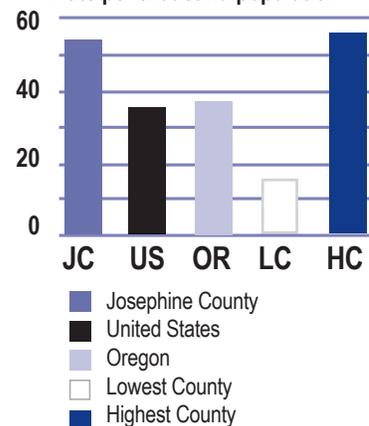
Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Josephine County was \$31,229 in 1999 compared to \$20,936 in 1989 (49.2 percent increase).

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles



Source: U.S. Census

Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Source: U.S. Census.

Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregon households had difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Josephine County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses.

Among the family types profiled, only families with two working adults and one child could afford the basic budget at Josephine County's family median income.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

Josephine County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$485	\$657	\$485	\$657
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$392	\$865	\$392	\$865
Transportation	\$197	\$197	\$277	\$277
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$222	\$355	\$271	\$404
Taxes	\$312	\$515	\$422	\$585
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$2,083	\$3,323	\$2,528	\$3,728
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$24,993	\$39,880	\$30,337	\$44,738
Median Family Income (Census 2000)	\$17,665	\$17,665	\$41,572	\$41,572
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	70.7%	44.3%	137.0%	92.9%

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families living at the poverty level in Josephine County could afford 42.5 to 45.9 percent of this basic family budget.

Poverty and Josephine County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	45.9%	42.5%	44.2%	44.4%

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Josephine County is \$445.30. The federal government had the highest weekly average of \$723.55 and the retail trade industry had the lowest weekly average of \$311.64.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Josephine County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages.

Families with one adult who earned average wages in Josephine County could not afford the basic budget.

Josephine County Wages and the Basic Budget

	1 Worker	1 Worker	2 Workers	2 Workers
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$1,915	\$1,915	\$3,830	\$3,830
	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$2,083	\$3,323	\$2,528	\$3,728
Difference (SSW-AMW)	-\$168	-\$1,408	\$1,302	\$102
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	91.9%	57.6%	151.5%	102.7%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.
** Based on Basic Family Budget for Josephine County.

Josephine County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	62,649 ¹	75,726 ²	76,526	77,820	79,030
% of People living below poverty level	18.3% ¹	15.0% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$20,936 ¹	\$31,229 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	8.4	6.9	8.5	8.6	8.8
8th Grade Drug Use	21.0% ³	12.4%	NA	19.2%	NA
HS Dropout	7.7% ⁴	5.1%	5.1%	5.1%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	15.9	11.9	10.8	7.4	NA
Prenatal Care	72.4%	78.7%	78.9%	87.5%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	18.8	16.5	13.4	13	NA
Homeownership Rate	70.4% ¹	70.1% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	52.0% ¹	50.6% ²	NA	NA	NA
Josephine County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	180	63	335	235	197
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	0	3	43	0	0
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$0	\$180,889	\$1.6 m	\$0	\$0
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	55	31	29	40	36
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$4.6 m	\$2.6 m	\$2.6 m	\$3.9 m	\$4.4 m
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	3,259	2,708	3,123	2,658
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	25.6%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	5,976	5,688	6,047	6,067	6,067
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	51.8%	49.4%	52.4%	52.0%	52.2%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	22.4%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	4.3%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	33.6%	32.9%	
¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989 ² 2000 Census data, year is 1999 ³ 1998 ⁴ 1996 NA=Not Available					

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Josephine County Community Services Community Services Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05.

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

Major findings

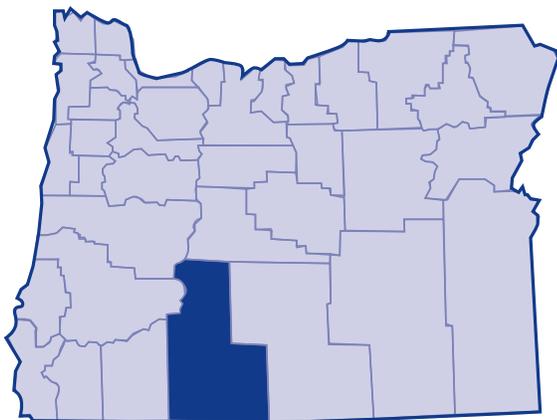
A sharp increase in poverty between 1979 and 1989 put Klamath County poverty rates higher than the state and national average. According to the 2000 Census, county poverty rates remained high through 1999.

In 1999, 40 percent of those who were in poverty in Klamath County earned less than half of the poverty threshold for their family type.

Some groups were more vulnerable to poverty in Klamath County. Families with children, especially families headed by single mothers experienced high poverty rates. Minorities, such as American Indian, Other, and Hispanic Origin have disproportionately high rates of poverty. Poverty among all three of these categories exceeded 32 percent in 1999.

Incomes in Klamath County did not keep pace with those in the rest of the state. In addition, county residents faced high unemployment rates—8.1 in 1999 and 10.2 by 2003.

In 2003, 30.5 percent of Klamath County residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹



Low-income needs

Klamath and Lake Community Action Agency listed the needs of the low-income population in Klamath County as follows²:

- Increase and improve assistance for households including transitional housing, permanent housing, and emergency shelters for low-income consumers
- Freeing up more resources for existing providers and improving communication and coordination of services within the community
- Increase resources for women in domestic violence situations who do not have children and cannot access mainstream resources to assist them in obtaining housing or jobs
- Assistance with transportation, particularly in rural areas of the county in cooperation with Department of Human Services' and Veterans' transportation programs
- Increase job opportunities for low-income moving off public assistance in collaboration with workforce investment partners and other organizations
- Connect clients facing mental health problems or alcohol and drug dependency with the county mental health departments
- Increase availability of affordable after-school childcare, quality childcare, and latchkey programs
- Ensure clients can access food box programs and congregate meal sites
- Help non-English speaking clients find interpreters
- Improve access to dental services

Klamath County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Klamath County grew 10.5 percent from 1989 to 1999. The US Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 62,693 county residents and found that 16.8 percent (10,515 people) lived below the poverty threshold. This is an increase of 10.8 percent in the number of persons living in poverty (9,494 people) since 1989. The overall percent of Klamath County's population living in poverty remained relatively constant from 1989 to 1999, although the number of people living in poverty increased.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Klamath County increased from 12.6 percent of the population to 16.8 percent. The number of persons in poverty rose from 7,302 people to 10,515 people. Klamath County's poverty rates remained higher than the state and national poverty rates throughout this period.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined, children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 26.9 percent. Children younger than 18 years of age experienced poverty at 22.8 percent. People 65 and older experienced the lowest rate: 7.7 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty improved for people 65 and older.

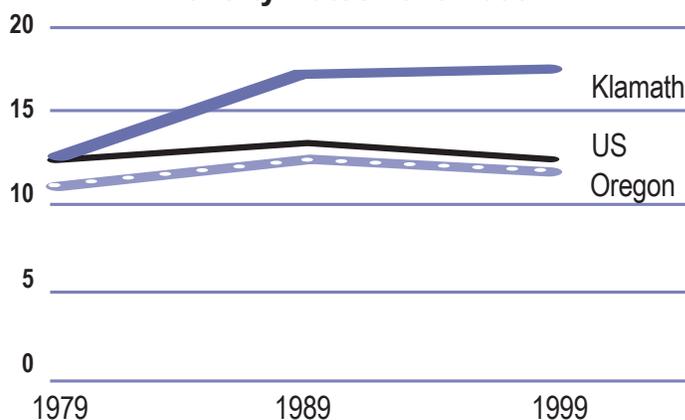
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level
(poverty rate)

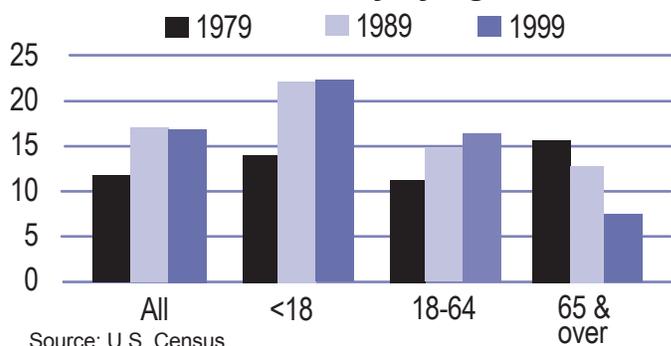
	1989	1999	Percent Change
Klamath County	9,494 (16.7%)	10,515 (16.8%)	10.8% (rate difference) (0.0%)
Oregon Statewide	344,867 (12.4%)	388,740 (11.6%)	12.7% (-0.8%)
United States	31,742,864 (13.1%)	33,899,812 (12.4%)	6.8% (-0.7%)

Source: US Census. Calculations may not add due to rounding.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Rate of Poverty by Age



Poverty and Klamath County Families

In 1999, 2,094 Klamath County families lived in poverty (12 percent). Of the families in poverty, 61.9 percent (1,297 families) had a householder who worked and 14.6 percent (305 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child younger than 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 19.9 percent. Families with a child 5 years and younger experienced poverty at the higher rate of 25.9 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 42.4 percent and was even higher with younger children (less than 5 years) at 55.1 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children younger than 18 was lower at 11.7 percent. From 1979 to 1999, families with children younger than 18 who lived in poverty increased from 12.8 percent to 19.9 percent.

Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White residents comprised the majority of people in poverty at 76.7 percent. When examining poverty based on race/ethnicity, however, the poverty rate among White was 14.7 percent. American Indian, Other and Hispanic Origin experienced disproportionately higher rates of poverty. Poverty exceeded 32 percent for all three categories. Between 1989 and 1999, most categories experienced improvements in poverty rates. American Indian remained at 39 percent.

Klamath County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)	Year			% Change '79-'99 (rate difference)
	1979	1989	1999	
All Families	1,623 (10.0%)	1,952 (12.3%)	2,094 (12.0%)	29.0% (2.0%)
With Children under 18	1,132 (12.8%)	1,515 (19.5%)	1,665 (19.9%)	47.1% (7.1%)
Female-headed with children under 18	573 (47.9%)	703 (51.2%)	772 (42.4%)	34.7% (-5.5%)

Source: US Census. Calculations may not add due to rounding.

Klamath County Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population (poverty population)	Poverty Rate 1999	Poverty Rate 1989
White	87.3% (54,759)	76.7% (8,070)	14.7%	15.0%
Black	0.5% (288)	0.5% (50)	17.4%	36.7%
American Indian	4.2% (2,617)	9.9% (1,044)	39.9%	39.3%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.7%/0.2% (426/109)	0.4%/0.0% (46/3)	10.8%/2.8%	25.9%*
Other	3.6% (2,244)	7.8% (825)	36.8%	44.0%
2 or More Races	3.6% (2,250)	4.5% (477)	21.2%	NA
Hispanic Origin	7.7% (4,802)	14.8% (1,557)	32.4%	34.7%

*Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 Census.

Klamath County

County Income

On a per capita basis, Klamath County's personal income was \$23,002 in 2002, about 80 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 74 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Per capita income in Klamath County rose 5.3 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, in per capita income shows average annual growth of 3.9 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$27,290 in Klamath County compared to \$33,063 for the state.⁴

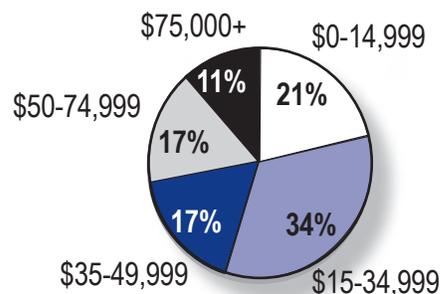
Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Klamath County. The 2000 Census showed that 4,272 people (40.6 percent) of those living below the federal poverty threshold actually earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or above the poverty level but still needed assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants, and Children program. In 1999, 37.2 percent of Klamath County's population, or 23,347 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Public Assistance

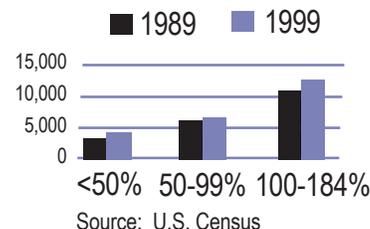
Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 1,177 households or 4.7 percent of all households in Klamath County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$2,579. The 20-year trend showed a decrease in households that reported receiving public assistance income, from 1,297 households or 5.9 percent of all households in 1979.

1999 Household Income Distribution-Klamath County

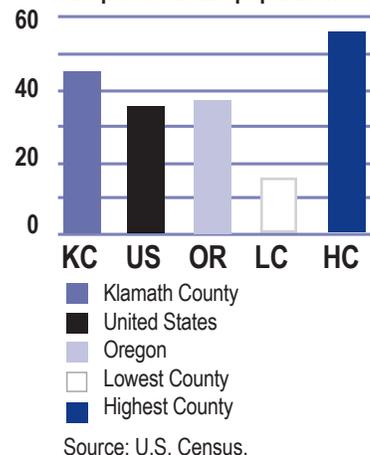


Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Klamath County was \$31,537 in 1999 compared to \$23,054 in 1989 (36.8 percent increase).

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles



Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Klamath County

Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregon households had difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Klamath County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses.

Families with one adult who earned median family income in Klamath County could not afford this basic family budget.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families living at the poverty level in Klamath County could afford 44.1 to 48.4 percent of this basic family budget.

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Klamath County is \$471.93. The federal government had the highest weekly average of \$729.48 and the mining industry had the lowest weekly average of \$225.05.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Klamath County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages.

Families with three children and one adult who earned average wages in Klamath County could not afford the basic expenses.

Klamath County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$477	\$657	\$477	\$657
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$348	\$780	\$348	\$780
Transportation	\$197	\$197	\$277	\$277
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$219	\$355	\$268	\$404
Taxes	\$262	\$478	\$398	\$549
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$1,978	\$3,201	\$2,449	\$3,607
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$23,734	\$38,413	\$29,390	\$43,282
Median Family Income (Census 2000)	\$18,433	\$18,433	\$44,636	\$44,636
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	77.7%	48.0%	151.9%	102.5%

Poverty and Klamath County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	48.4%	44.1%	45.6%	45.9%

Klamath County Wages and the Basic Budget

	1 Worker 1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Worker 1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Workers 2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Workers 2 Adults/ 3 Children
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$2,029	\$2,029	\$4,059	\$4,059
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$1,978	\$3,201	\$2,449	\$3,607
Difference (SSW-AMW)	\$51	-\$1,172	\$1,610	\$452
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	102.6%	63.4%	165.7%	112.5%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.
** Based on Basic Family Budget for Klamath County.

Klamath County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	57,702 ¹	63,775 ²	64,212	64,307	64,769
% of People living below poverty level	16.7% ¹	16.8% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$23,054 ¹	\$31,537 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	7.4	8.1	9.4	9.3	10.2
8th Grade Drug Use	21.5% ³	7.9%	NA	12.1%	NA
HS Dropout	7.8% ⁴	5.7%	3.6%	3.5%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	21.7	15.6	17.7	12.1	NA
Prenatal Care	68.7%	73.5%	76.2%	78.0%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	20	23.7	19.8	16.7	NA
Homeownership Rate	65.2% ¹	68.0% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	42.9% ¹	48.6% ²	NA	NA	NA
Klamath County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	461	183	1,026	352	350
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	0	8	0	64	7
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$25,000	\$175,000	\$100,000	\$1.6 m	\$121,500
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	58	61	46	45	46
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$3.4 m	\$3.5 m	\$3.1 m	\$3.2 m	\$3.3 m
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	2,620	2,814	3,144	3,008
Oregon Health Plan Enrollees	NA	NA	NA	24.4%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	5,594	5,223	5,266	5,951	5,800
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	50.2%	47.3%	48.6%	55.6%	55.0%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	22.0%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	2.3%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	33.2%	33.0%	
¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989 ² 2000 Census data, year is 1999 ³ 1998 ⁴ 1996 NA=Not Available					

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Klamath and Lake Community Action Agency Community Services Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05.

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

Major findings

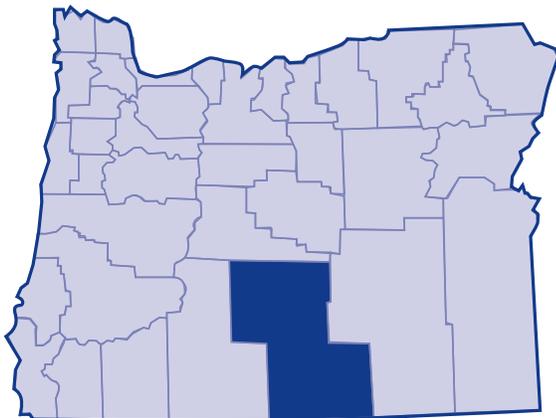
According to the US Census, the poverty rate and the number of those in poverty increased in Lake County from 1989 to 1999. Lake County's poverty rate for this period was higher than the state and national averages.

Of those living in poverty in 1999, 32 percent earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold.

Children, families and minorities experienced the highest rates of poverty in 1999. Children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rates of poverty of all age groups from 1979 to 1999; 20 percent of families who had children under 5 lived in poverty. Families headed by single mothers who lived in poverty rose from 46 families in 1979 to 88 families in 1999.

Looking at poverty by race and ethnicity, 30 percent of individuals who identified themselves as Other or Hispanic found themselves living in poverty.

In 2003, 29.5 percent of Lake county residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹



Low-income needs

Klamath and Lake Community Action Agency listed the needs of the low-income population in Lake County as follows²:

- Increase and improve assistance for households including transitional housing, permanent housing, and emergency shelters for low-income consumers
- Freeing up more resources for existing providers and improving communication and coordination of services within the community
- Increase resources for women in domestic violence situations who do not have children and cannot access mainstream resources to assist them in obtaining housing or jobs
- Assistance with transportation, particularly in rural areas of the county in cooperation with Department of Human Services' and Veterans' transportation programs
- Increase job opportunities for low-income moving off public assistance in collaboration with workforce investment partners and other organizations
- Connect clients facing mental health problems or alcohol and drug dependency with the county mental health departments
- Increase availability of affordable after-school childcare, quality childcare, and latchkey programs
- Ensure clients can access food box programs and congregate meal sites
- Help non-English speaking clients find interpreters
- Improve access to dental services

Lake County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Lake County grew 3.3 percent from 1989 to 1999. The US Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 7,344 county residents and found that 16.1 percent (1,184 people) lived below the poverty threshold. This is an increase of 19.4 percent in the number of persons living in poverty (992 people) in 1989. The overall percent of Lake County's population living in poverty increased from 1989 to 1999, as did the number of people living in poverty.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Lake County increased from 13.3 percent of the population to 16.1 percent. The number of persons in poverty rose from 994 people to 1,184 people. Lake County's poverty rates remained higher than the state and national poverty rates throughout this period.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined, children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 24 percent. Children younger than 18 years of age experienced poverty at 21.1 percent. People 65 and older experienced the lowest rate: 9.5 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, children younger than 18 consistently faced the highest poverty rate.

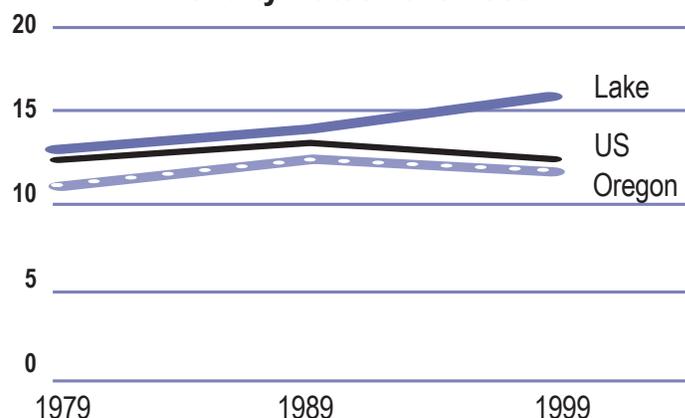
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level (poverty rate)

	1989	1999	Percent Change (rate difference)
Lake County	992 (13.9%)	1,184 (16.1%)	19.4% (2.2%)
Oregon Statewide	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%)

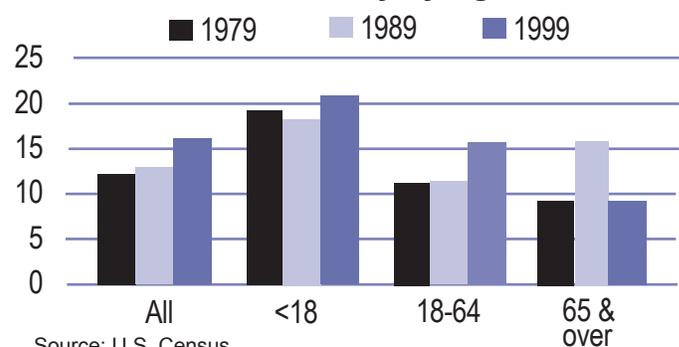
Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Source: U.S. Census.

Rate of Poverty by Age



Source: U.S. Census.

Poverty and Lake County Families

In 1999, 288 Lake County families lived in poverty (13.4 percent). Of the families in poverty, 10.3 percent (168 families) had a worker and 16.7 percent (48 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child younger than 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 19.9 percent. Families with a child 5 years and younger experienced poverty at a higher rate of 20.6 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 45.4 percent and was even higher with younger children (less than 5 years) at 61.3 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children younger than 18 was lower at 9.5 percent. From 1979 to 1999, the number of female-headed households with children (no husband present) who lived in poverty increased from 46 families in 1979 to 88 families in 1999.

Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White residents comprised the majority of people in poverty at 83 percent. When examining poverty based on race/ethnicity, however, the poverty rate among White was 14.8 percent. Other and Hispanic experienced disproportionately higher rates of poverty. The poverty rate among Other was 31.6 percent, while Hispanic Origin had a 30 percent rate. Poverty increased for White between 1989 and 1999.

Lake County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)	1979	1989	1999	% Change '79-'99
				(rate difference)
All Families	225 (10.7%)	195 (9.4%)	288 (13.4%)	28.0% (2.7%)
With Children under 18	161 (15.3%)	134 (13.8%)	189 (19.9%)	17.4% (4.6%)
Female-headed with children under 18	46 (38.3%)	40 (42.6%)	88 (45.4%)	91.3% (7.1%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Lake County Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population (poverty population)	Poverty Rate by Race 1999	Poverty Rate by Race 1989
White	90.4% (6,641)	83.0% (983)	14.8%	12.9%
Black	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	NA	0.0%
American Indian	3.2% (238)	5.7% (67)	28.2%	37.1%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.7%/0.1% (51/8)	0.0%/0.2% (0/2)	0.0%/25.0%	6.5%*
Other	2.8% (206)	5.5% (65)	31.6%	52.3%
Two or More Races	2.7% (200)	5.7% (67)	33.5%	NA
Hispanic Origin	4.9% (360)	9.1% (108)	30.0%	35.0%

*Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 Census.

County Income

On a per capita basis, Lake County's personal income was \$21,854 in 2002, about 76 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 71 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Per capita income in Lake County fell 0.4 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, in per capita income shows average annual growth of 2.9 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$23,449 in Lake County compared to \$33,063 for the state.⁴

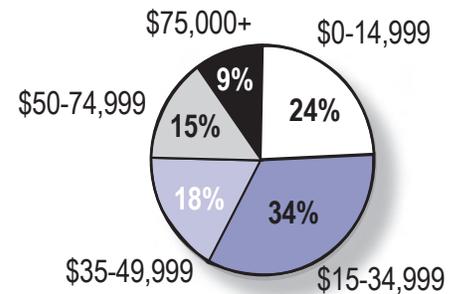
Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Lake County. The 2000 Census showed that 378 people or 31.9 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold actually earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or above the poverty level but still needed assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants, and Children program. In 1999, 37.4 percent of Lake County's population, or 2,749 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Public Assistance

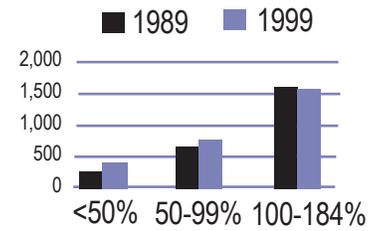
Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 116 households or 3.7 percent of all households in Lake County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$1,809. The 20-year trend showed a decrease in households that reported receiving public assistance income, from 190 households or 6.9 percent of all households in 1979.

1999 Household Income Distribution-Lake County



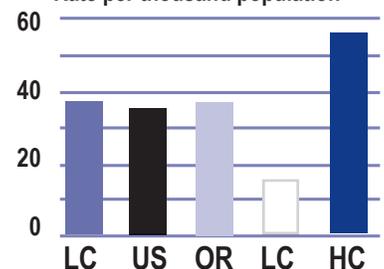
Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Lake County was \$29,506 in 1999 compared to \$24,659 in 1989 (19.7 percent increase).

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles



Source: U.S. Census

Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Legend:
 ■ Lake County
 ■ United States
 ■ Oregon
 □ Lowest County
 ■ Highest County

Source: U.S. Census.

Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregon households have difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Lake County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses.

Two adults who both earned median family income in Lake County could afford the basic expenses of a family if they had one child, but not three children.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families living at the poverty level in Lake County could afford 44.3 to 48.6 percent of this basic family budget.

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Lake County is \$464.05. The federal government had the highest weekly average of \$729.01 and the retail trade industry had the lowest weekly average of \$295.25.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Lake County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages.

An adult who has three children and who worked full-time at Lake County's average wage could not afford the basic family budget.

Lake County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$477	\$657	\$477	\$657
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$344	\$773	\$344	\$773
Transportation	\$197	\$197	\$277	\$277
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$219	\$355	\$268	\$404
Taxes	\$259	\$475	\$397	\$546
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$1,971	\$3,191	\$2,444	\$3,597
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$23,648	\$38,288	\$29,330	\$43,165
Median Family Income (Census 2000)	\$18,273	\$18,273	\$41,786	\$41,786
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	77.3%	47.7%	142.5%	96.8%

Poverty and Lake County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	48.6%	44.3%	45.7%	46.1%

Lake County Wages and the Basic Budget

	1 Worker 1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Worker 1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Workers 2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Workers 2 Adults/ 3 Children
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$1,995	\$1,995	\$3,990	\$3,990
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$1,971	\$3,191	\$2,444	\$3,597
Difference (SSW-AMW)	\$24	-\$1,196	\$1,547	\$394
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	101.2%	62.5%	163.3%	111.0%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.
** Based on Basic Family Budget for Lake County.

Lake County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	7,186 ¹	7,422 ²	7,474	7,421	7,440
% of People living below poverty level	13.9% ¹	16.1% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$24,659 ¹	\$29,506 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	8.5	9.4	10.4	9.3	10.4
8th Grade Drug Use	17.3% ³	14.0%	NA	16.9%	NA
HS Dropout	4.2% ⁴	0.8%	4.2%	2.8%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	17.6	9	2.3	12.6	NA
Prenatal Care	56.4%	86.7%	80.0%	82.2%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	13.9	21.4	17.1	19.4	NA
Homeownership Rate	67.8% ¹	68.9% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	44.5% ¹	38.2% ²	NA	NA	NA
Lake County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	0	0	11	0	0
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	6	0	0	28	16
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$454,634	\$0	\$146,181	\$1.3 m	\$213,836
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	7	4	3	1	3
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$356,660	\$178,600	\$204,000	\$40,000	\$224,500
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	386	544	662	755
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	25.1%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	540	568	602	533	550
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	37.7%	41.1%	45.2%	43.7%	48.2%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	20.2%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	3.9%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	32.4%	33.9%	
¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989 ² 2000 Census data, year is 1999 ³ 1998 ⁴ 1996 NA=Not Available					

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Klamath and Lake Community Action Agency Community Services Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05.

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

Major findings

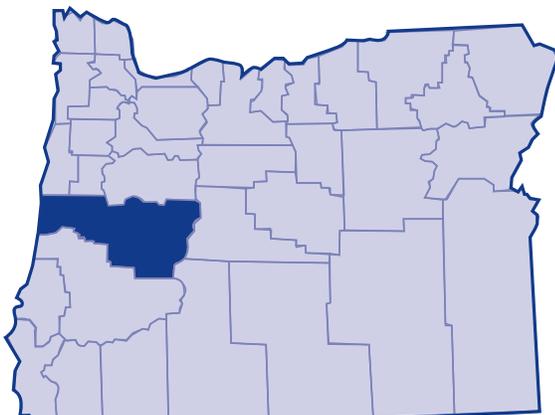
According to the US Census, the poverty rate in Lane County remained relatively constant between 1989 and 1999. However, the rate of poverty for Lane County remained slightly higher than the state and national averages due to increases experienced from 1979 to 1989.

Of the Lane County residents living in poverty, 46 percent earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold for their family type, making them very poor.

Lane County's children, families and minorities experienced the highest rates of poverty in 1999. Children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rates of poverty of all age groups. Over 20 percent of families who had children under 5 lived in poverty. Poverty affected more than half (53.3 percent) of families headed by single mothers who had a child 5 years of age or younger.

Families with one working adult could not afford Lane County's basic family budget.

In 2003, 24.9 percent of Lane county residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹



Low-income needs

Lane County Human Services Commission listed the needs of the low-income population in Lane County as follows²:

- Increased access to health care for low-income uninsured and underinsured residents
- Provide emergency and transitional assistance for households at risk of losing housing or assist with reestablishing housing through reconfiguring a blend of federal and state funding
- Maintain and increase access to crisis intervention services by Latinos and farm workers
- Funding for homeless prevention programs
- Early-intervention programs
- Increase access to emergency and respite childcare and transportation for homeless children to childcare or their school of origin
- Maintain food delivery system for low-income persons and access to available hunger resources.
- Maintain improved energy assistance access for senior and disabled persons
- Increase bilingual/cultural case management support for families who have children with disabilities
- Maintain and expand resources for case management
- Promote the electronic and referral system through www.thelane.net
- Encourage information and referral services in the community (Help Line, Help Book, Warm Line, www.thelane.net, and www.oregonhelp.org) to advertise and promote access to public health benefits

Lane County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Lane County grew 14.2 percent between 1989 and 1999. The US Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 316,016 county residents and found that 14.4 percent (45,423 people) lived below the poverty threshold. This is an increase of 14 percent in the number of persons in poverty (39,838 people) since 1989. The overall percent of Lane County's population living in poverty remained relatively constant from 1989 to 1999, but the number of people living in poverty did not.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Lane County increased from 12.8 percent of the population to 14.4 percent. The number of persons in poverty rose from 34,264 people to 45,423 people. Lane County's poverty rates were higher than the state and national poverty rates by 1999.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined, children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 20.9 percent. Children younger than 18 years of age experienced poverty at 16.8 percent. People 65 and older experienced the lowest rate: 7.5 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty was consistently highest for children younger than 18.

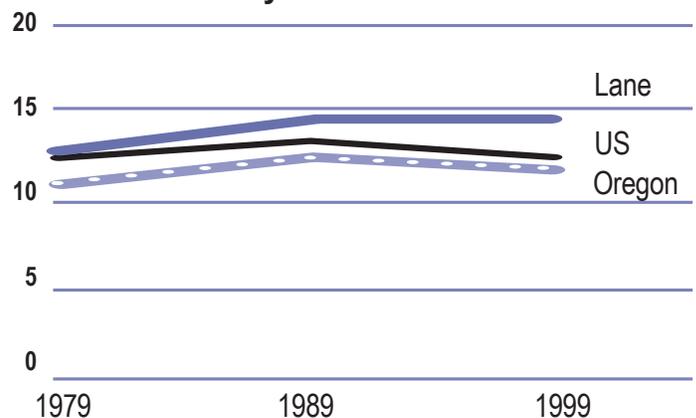
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level (poverty rate)

	1989	1999	Percent Change
Lane County	39,838 (14.5%)	45,423 (14.4%)	14.0% (rate difference) (-0.1%)
Oregon Statewide	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%)

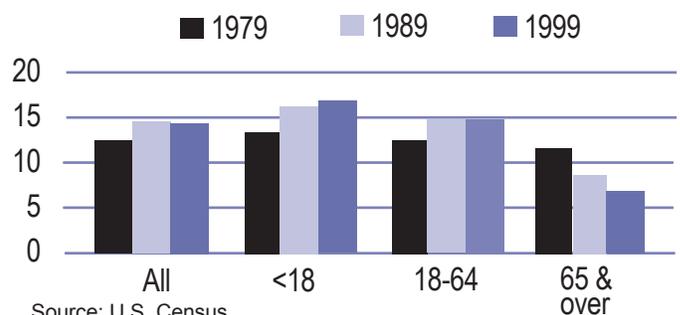
Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Source: U.S. Census.

Rate of Poverty by Age



Source: U.S. Census.

Poverty and Lane County Families

In 1999, 7,478 Lane County families lived in poverty (9.0 percent). Of the families in poverty, 67.5 percent (5,049 families) had a householder who worked and 13.8 percent (1,033 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child younger than 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 14.8 percent. Families with a child 5 years and younger experienced poverty at a higher rate of 20.1 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 39.5 percent and was even higher with younger children (less than 5 years) at 53.3 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children younger than 18 was lower at 6.4 percent. From 1979 to 1999, the number of female-headed households with children (no husband present) who lived in poverty increased from 2,572 families in 1979 to 3,601 families in 1999.

Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White residents comprised the majority of people in poverty at 82.5 percent. When examining poverty based on race/ethnicity, however, the poverty rate among White was 13.1 percent. Asian experienced disproportionately higher rates of poverty. The poverty rate among Asian was 31.1 percent. Other and Hispanic Origin both had poverty rates above 27 percent. From 1989 to 1999, White remained relatively constant. Poverty increased for Other and Hispanic Origin.

Lane County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)	Year			% Change '79-'99 (rate difference)
	1979	1989	1999	
All Families	6,092 (8.5%)	6,946 (9.4%)	7,478 (9.0%)	22.8% (0.5%)
With Children under 18	4,709 (12.3%)	5,362 (14.6%)	6,002 (14.8%)	27.5% (2.5%)
Female-headed with children under 18	2,572 (39.3%)	2,988 (41.9%)	3,601 (39.5%)	40.0% (0.2%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Lane County and Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population by Race (poverty population)	Poverty Rate 1999	Poverty Rate by Race 1989
White	90.6% (286,315)	82.5% (37,485)	13.1%	13.8%
Black	0.7% (2,337)	1.4% (617)	26.4%	28.4%
American Indian	1.1% (3,431)	1.8% (837)	24.4%	26.1%
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.8%/0.2% (5,754/575)	3.9%/0.3% (1,790/149)	31.1%/25.9%	33.4%*
Other	2.0% (406)	3.9% (1,788)	27.9%	25.6%
Two or More Races	3.5% (11,198)	6.1% (2,757)	24.6%	NA
Hispanic Origin	4.5% (14,156)	8.5% (3,859)	27.3%	24.0%

*Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 Census.

County Income

On a per capita basis, Lane County's personal income was \$26,416 in 2002, about 92 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 85 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Per capita income in Lane County rose 1.7 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, in per capita income shows average annual growth of 4.1 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$28,545 in Lane County compared to \$33,063 for the state. ⁴

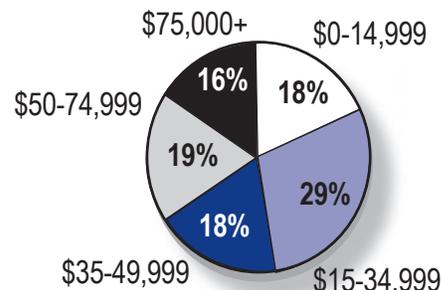
Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Lane County. The 2000 Census showed that 20,906 people or 46 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold actually earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or above the poverty level but still needed assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants, and Children program. In 1999, 30.1 percent of Lane County's population, or 95,176 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Public Assistance

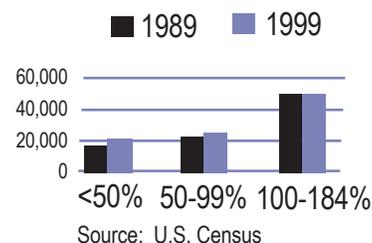
Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure—or indicator—of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 4,625 households or 3.5 percent of all households in Lane County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$2,752. The 20-year trend showed a decrease in households that reported receiving public assistance income, from 7,778 households or 7.5 percent of all households in 1979.

1999 Household Income Distribution-Lane County



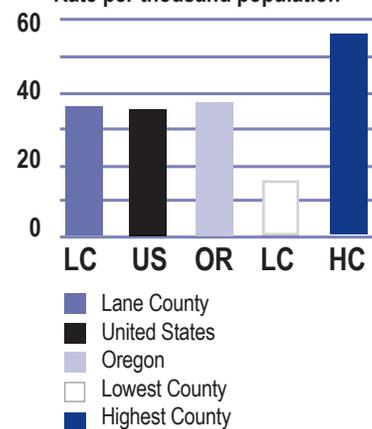
Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Lane County was \$36,942 in 1999 compared to \$25,268 in 1989 (46.2 percent increase).

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles



Source: U.S. Census

Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Source: U.S. Census.

Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregon households had difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Lane County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses.

Families with one adult earning Lane County's median income could not afford the basic expenses.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Income for families at the poverty level in Lane County provides only 38.9 to 41.7 percent of this basic family budget.

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Lane County is \$517.70. The federal government had the highest weekly average of \$788.16 and the retail trade industry had the lowest weekly average of \$335.50.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Lane County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages.

An adult with one child who worked full-time at Lane County's average wage could not afford the basic family budget.

Lane County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$597	\$833	\$597	\$833
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$408	\$886	\$408	\$886
Transportation	\$158	\$158	\$222	\$222
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$256	\$410	\$305	\$459
Taxes	\$407	\$607	\$468	\$695
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$2,301	\$3,628	\$2,681	\$4,035
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$27,613	\$43,542	\$32,175	\$48,419
Median Annual Income (Census 2000)	\$19,784	\$19,784	\$53,353	\$53,353
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	71.6%	45.4%	165.8%	110.2%

Poverty and Lane County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	41.6%	38.9%	41.7%	41.1%

Lane County Wages and the Basic Budget

	1 Worker 1 Child	1 Worker 3 Children	2 Workers 1 Child	2 Workers 3 Children
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$2,226	\$2,226	\$4,452	\$4,452
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$2,301	\$3,628	\$2,681	\$4,035
Difference (SSW-AMW)	-\$75	-\$1,402	\$1,771	\$417
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	96.7%	61.4%	166.1%	110.3%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.
** Based on Basic Family Budget for Lane County.

Lane County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	282,912 ¹	322,959 ²	324,674	327,327	330,527
% of People living below poverty level	14.5% ¹	14.4% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$25,268 ¹	\$36,942 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	5.2	5.1	6.8	6.8	7.8
8th Grade Drug Use	17.4% ³	13.0%	NA	19.1%	NA
HS Dropout	6.8% ⁴	5.4%	3.9%	3.8%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	17.3	12.2	9.8	9.7	NA
Prenatal Care	72.2%	78.3%	80.2%	76.5%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	26.1	25.3	22.7	21.5	NA
Homeownership Rate	60.8% ¹	62.3% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	48.6% ¹	52.2% ²	NA	NA	NA
Lane County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	1,605	1,818	1,606	1,558	1,384
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	44	95	105	142	166
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$1.0 m	\$3.1 m	\$3.0 m	\$5.0 m	\$3.8 m
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	95	82	75	95	80
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$8.2 m	\$6.9 m	\$6.4 m	\$8.7 m	\$7.8 m
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	7,913	5,441	7,062	5,414
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	18.3%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	15,939	15,664	16,864	17,785	18,625
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	32.9%	32.5%	35.1%	36.9%	39.0%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	20.8%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	3.2%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	26.4%	26.9%	
¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989 ² 2000 Census data, year is 1999 ³ 1998 ⁴ 1996 NA=Not Available					

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Lane County Human Services Commission Community Services Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05.

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

Major findings

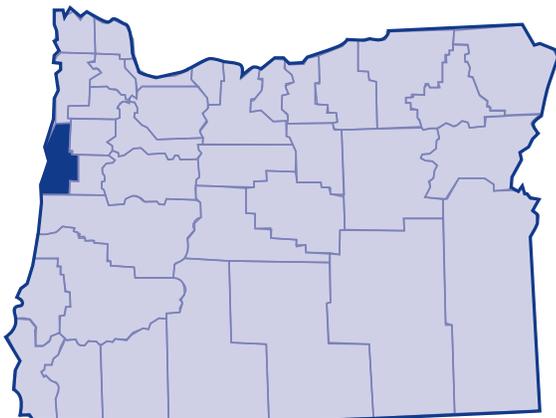
According to the US Census, Lincoln County's poverty rate declined slightly between 1989 and 1999. However, the rate remained slightly higher than the state and national averages due to increases experienced from 1979 to 1989.

Of the county population in poverty, 40 percent earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold.

Children, families and minorities experienced the highest rates of poverty in 1999. Children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rates of poverty of all age groups. More than 20 percent of Lincoln County families who had children under 5 lived in poverty. More than 30 percent of the American Indian and Other populations experienced poverty.

Families with one adult earning median income in Lincoln County could not afford the basic family budget.

In 2003, 42.7 percent of Lincoln county residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹



Low-income needs

Community Services Consortium prioritized the needs of the low-income population in Lincoln County as follows²:

- Assist households to save energy and improve their living conditions through home weatherization, energy education, house diagnostics, and efficiency testing of appliances
- Provide transitional housing and case management services to help households move toward self-sufficiency.
- Provide energy conservation education to enable households to reduce their energy burden and increase resources for other needs
- Improve housing conditions for low- and moderate-income families
- Prevent hunger by soliciting, transporting, storing and distributing food
- Provide homeless families with the skills and strategies to obtain and maintain housing
- Provide youth education and employment and adult and dislocated worker employment and training
- Continue to integrate, improve and evaluate the delivery of services in county
- Provide information and referral services for medical, dental, alcohol and drug treatment, and other basic needs
- Aid in transportation costs such as gas, car repairs, and public transportation
- Provide new affordable housing opportunities, community facilities, and grant management services
- Plan for, allocate, and monitor homeless funding to local service providers
- Provide Head Start services

Lincoln County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Lincoln County grew 14.4 percent between 1989 and 1999. The US Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 43,880 county residents and found that 13.9 percent (6,084 people) lived below the poverty threshold. This was an increase of 10.1 percent in the number of persons living in poverty (5,524 people) since 1989. The overall percent of the county population living in poverty slightly decreased between 1989 and 1999, but the number in poverty did not.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Lincoln County increased from 11.5 percent of the population to 13.9 percent. The number of persons in poverty rose from 4,008 people to 6,084 people. Lincoln County's poverty rates were higher than the state and national poverty rates from 1989 to 1999 due to an increase from 1979 to 1989.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined, children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 23.9 percent. Children younger than 18 years of age experienced poverty at 20.8 percent. People 65 and older experienced the lowest rate: 7.2 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty was consistently highest for people children younger than 18.

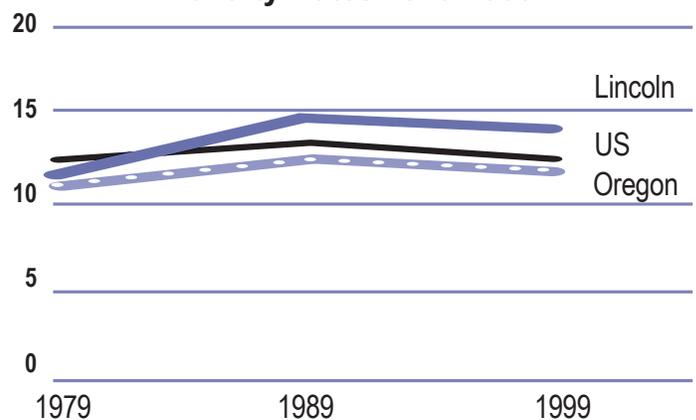
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level
(poverty rate)

	1989	1999	Percent Change (rate difference)
Lincoln County	5,524 (14.4%)	6,084 (13.9%)	10.1% (-0.5%)
Oregon Statewide	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%)

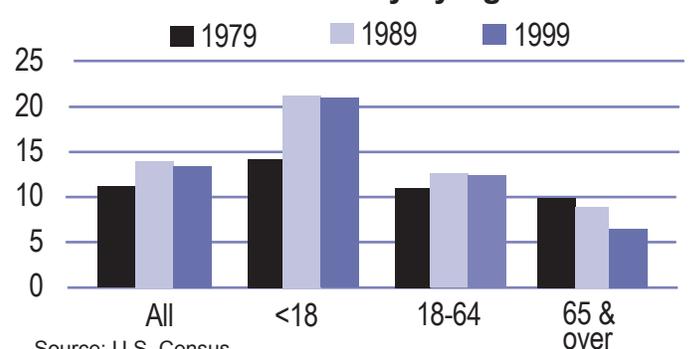
Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Source: U.S. Census.

Rate of Poverty by Age



Source: U.S. Census.

Lincoln County

Poverty and Lincoln County Families

In 1999, 1,216 Lincoln County families lived in poverty (9.8 percent). Of the families in poverty, 66.7 percent (811 families) had a worker and 13 percent (158 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child younger than 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 17.9 percent. Families with a child 5 years and younger experienced poverty at the higher rate of 23.8 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 35.2 percent and was even higher with younger children (less than 5 years) at 48.9 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children younger than 18 was lower at 9.4 percent. From 1979 to 1999, the number of female-headed households with children (no husband present) who lived in poverty increased from 248 families in 1979 to 531 families in 1999.

Poverty & Race/Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White residents comprised the majority of people in poverty at 82.3 percent. When examining poverty based on race/ethnicity, however, the poverty rate among White was 12.6 percent. Other and American Indian experienced disproportionately higher rates of poverty. The poverty rate among Other was 34.7 percent, while American Indian had a 30.3 percent rate. From 1989 to 1999, most categories experienced improvements in poverty rates. Poverty increased for Other and Hispanic Origin.

Lincoln County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)	1979			1989		1999		% Change '79-'99 (rate difference)
	1979	1989	1999	1979	1989	1979	1989	
All Families	838 (8.1%)	1,129 (10.1%)	1,216 (9.8%)					45.1% (1.7%)
With Children under 18	490 (11.1%)	843 (17.8%)	943 (17.9%)					92.4% (6.8%)
Female-headed with children under 18	248 (36.0%)	437 (48.0%)	531 (35.2%)					114.1% (-0.8%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Lincoln County and Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population (poverty population)	Poverty Rate by Race 1999	Poverty Rate by Race 1989
White	90.3% (39,645)	82.3% (5,008)	12.6%	13.7%
Black	0.2% (98)	0.3% (16)	16.3%	71.2%
American Indian	2.7% (1,192)	5.9% (361)	30.3%	35.7%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.7%/0.3% (297/117)	0.6%/0.4% (37/24)	12.5%/20.5%	25.3%*
Other	1.8% (810)	4.6% (281)	34.7%	4.6%
2 or More Races	3.9% (1,721)	5.9% (357)	15.4%	NA
Hispanic Origin	4.7% (2,058)	9.7% (589)	28.6%	16.6%

*Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 Census.

Lincoln County

County Income

On a per capita basis, Lincoln County's personal income was \$26,029 in 2002, about 90 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 84 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Per capita income in Lincoln County rose 2.5 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, in per capita income shows average annual growth of 4.2 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$24,835 in Lincoln County compared to \$33,063 for the state.⁴

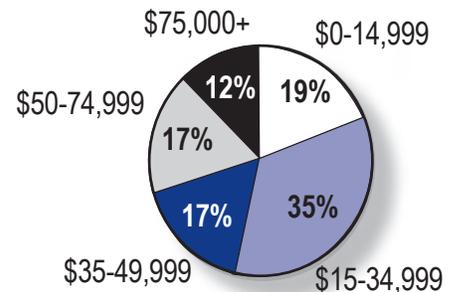
Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Lincoln County. The 2000 Census showed that 2,446 people or 40.2 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold actually earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or above the poverty level but still needed assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants, and Children program. In 1999, 32.7 percent of Lincoln County's population, or 14,332 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Public Assistance

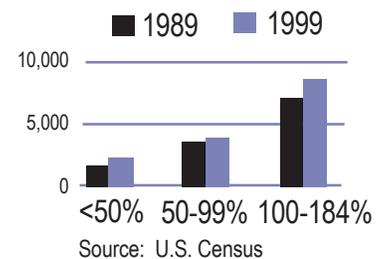
Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 821 households or 4.2 percent of all households in Lincoln County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$2,664. The 20-year trend showed a decrease in households that reported receiving public assistance income, from 844 households or 5.8 percent of all households in 1979.

1999 Household Income Distribution-Lincoln County



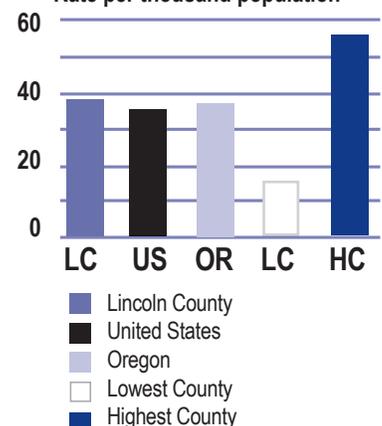
Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Lincoln County was \$32,769 in 1999 compared to \$22,883 in 1989 (43.2 percent increase).

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles



Source: U.S. Census

Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Source: U.S. Census.

Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregon households had difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Lincoln County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses.

Families with one adult earning Lincoln County's median income cannot afford the basic expenses.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families at the poverty level in Lincoln County could afford 41.0 to 44.2 percent of this basic family budget.

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Lincoln County is \$439.68. The manufacturing industry had the highest weekly average of \$723.06 and the retail trade industry had the lowest weekly average of \$286.87.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Lincoln County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages.

Of the family types profiled, only the family with two working adults and one child could afford the basic family budget, if they earned Lincoln County's average wage.

Lincoln County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$510	\$710	\$510	\$710
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$404	\$878	\$404	\$878
Transportation	\$197	\$197	\$277	\$277
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$229	\$372	\$278	\$421
Taxes	\$351	\$552	\$441	\$645
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$2,166	\$3,443	\$2,591	\$3,871
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$25,994	\$41,310	\$31,097	\$46,447
Median Annual Income (Census 2000)	\$18,646	\$18,646	\$50,342	\$50,342
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	71.7%	45.1%	161.9%	108.4%

Poverty and Lincoln County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	44.2%	41.0%	43.1%	42.8%

Lincoln County Wages and the Basic Budget

	1 Worker 1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Worker 1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Workers 2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Workers 2 Adults/ 3 Children
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$1,891	\$1,891	\$3,782	\$3,782
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$2,166	\$3,443	\$2,591	\$3,871
Difference (SSW-AMW)	-\$275	-\$1,552	\$1,191	-\$89
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	87.3%	54.9%	145.9%	97.7%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.
** Based on Basic Family Budget for Lincoln County.

Lincoln County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	38,889 ¹	44,479 ²	44,057	44,494	44,667
% of People living below poverty level	14.4% ¹	13.9% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$22,883 ¹	\$32,769 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	7	6.2	6.9	7.6	8.6
8th Grade Drug Use	28.8% ³	20.2%	NA	20.3%	NA
HS Dropout	8.3% ⁴	8.7%	7.6%	6.0%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	18.7	12.6	18.3	10.8	NA
Prenatal Care	74.9%	82.5%	77.8%	75.6%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	0	18.9	16.3	15.6	NA
Homeownership Rate	66.0% ¹	65.7% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	43.9% ¹	48.5% ²	NA	NA	NA
Lincoln County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	46	47	41	45	58
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	133	0	29	102	38
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$2.1 m	\$0	\$2.1 m	\$3.0 m	\$1.3 m
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	13	6	6	15	12
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$1.1 m	\$507,262	\$614,464	\$1.3 m	\$1.3 m
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	1,702	1,439	1,385	1,580
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	37.5%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	3,032	3,116	2,774	3,025	3,049
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	45.4%	48.0%	43.5%	49.5%	51.1%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	17.3%	
% if Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	4.6%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	32.5%	34.0%	
¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989	² 2000 Census data, year is 1999	³ 1998	⁴ 1996	NA=Not Available	

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Community Services Consortium's Community Services Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

Major findings

According to the US Census, the poverty rate and the number of people in poverty decreased in Linn County between 1989 and 1999.

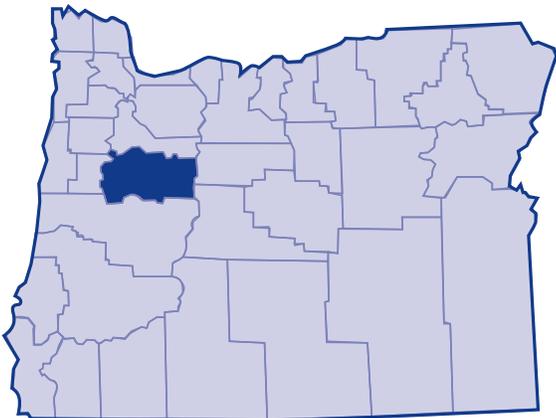
Of Linn County residents in poverty, 40 percent earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold. Children experienced the highest rates of poverty in Linn County during the 20 years between 1979 and 1999.

Families with one adult who earned median income in Linn County could not afford basic family expenses.

Unemployment in Linn County exceeded the state average in 2003, reaching 10.9 percent.

Nearly half (48.8 percent) of Linn County residents who rented reported spending 30 percent or more of their income on rent.

In 2003, 27.1 percent of Linn county residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹



Low-income needs

Community Services Consortium prioritized the needs of the low-income population in Linn County as follows²:

- Assist households to save energy and improve their living conditions through home weatherization, energy education, house diagnostics, and efficiency testing of appliances
- Provide transitional housing and case management services to help households move toward self-sufficiency
- Provide energy conservation education to enable households to reduce their energy burden and increase resources for other needs
- Improve housing conditions for low- and moderate-income families
- Prevent hunger by soliciting, transporting, storing and distributing food
- Provide homeless families with the skills and strategies to obtain and maintain housing.
- Provide youth education and employment and adult and dislocated worker employment and training
- Continue to integrate, improve and evaluate the delivery of services in county
- Provide information and referral services for medical, dental, alcohol and drug treatment, and other basic needs
- Aid in transportation costs such as gas, car repairs, and public transportation
- Provide new affordable housing opportunities, community facilities, and grant management services
- Plan for, allocate, and monitor homeless funding to local service providers

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Linn County grew 13 percent between 1989 and 1999. The US Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 101,855 county residents and found that 11.4 percent (11,618 people) lived below the poverty threshold. This is a decrease of 4.6 percent in the number of persons living in poverty (12,178 people) since 1989. The overall percent of Linn County's population living in poverty decreased from 1989 to 1999, as did the number of people living in poverty.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Linn County decreased from 12.4 percent of the population to 11.4 percent. The number of persons in poverty rose from 11,034 people to 11,618 people. Linn County's poverty rates remained relatively equal to the state and national poverty rates throughout this period.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined, children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 18.5 percent. Children under 18 years of age experienced poverty at 15.6 percent. People 65 and older experienced the lowest rate at 7.1 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty was consistently highest for children.

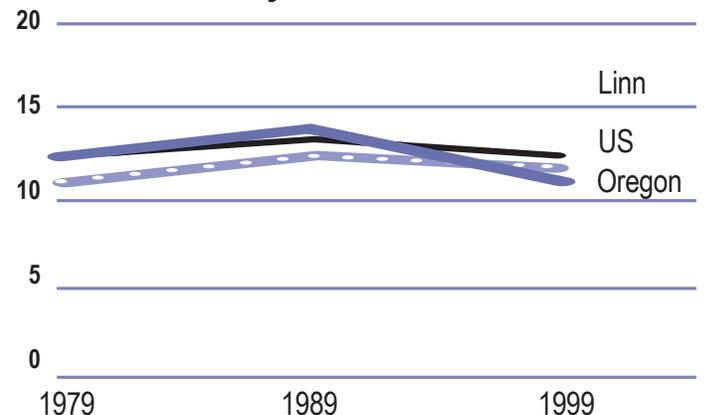
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level (poverty rate)

	1989	1999	Percent Change (rate difference)
Linn County	12,178 (13.5%)	11,618 (11.4%)	-4.6% (-2.1%)
Oregon Statewide	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%)

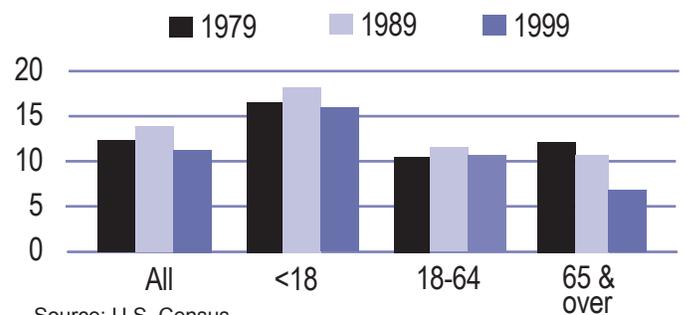
Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Source: U.S. Census.

Rate of Poverty by Age



Source: U.S. Census.

Poverty and Linn County Families

In 1999, 2,533 Linn County families lived in poverty (8.9 percent). Of the families in poverty, 51 percent (1,292 families) had a worker and 10.4 percent (263 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child under 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 13.6 percent. Families with a child 5 years and younger experienced poverty at a higher rate of 16.6 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 40.5 percent and was even higher with younger children (less than 5 years) at 53 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children under 18 was lower at 6.2 percent. From 1979 to 1999, the number of female-headed households with children (no husband present) who lived in poverty increased from 998 families in 1979 to 1,087 families in 1999.

Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White residents comprised the majority of people in poverty at 88.2 percent. When examining poverty based on race/ethnicity, however, the poverty rate among White was 10.8 percent. Other and Hispanic Origin experienced disproportionately higher rates of poverty. The poverty rate among Other was 30.4 percent, while Hispanic Origin had a 26.4 percent rate. From 1989 to 1999, most categories experienced improvements in poverty rates. Poverty increased for Other and Hispanic Origin.

Linn County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)	Linn County Families in Poverty			% Change '79-'99 (rate difference)
	1979	1989	1999	
All Families	2,533 (10.2%)	2,597 (10.1%)	2,533 (8.9%)	0% (-1.3%)
With Children under 18	1,952 (14.5%)	2,000 (16.0%)	1,870 (13.6%)	-4.2 (-0.9%)
Female-headed with children under 18	998 (47.3%)	1,142 (49.6%)	1,087 (40.5%)	8.9% (-6.8%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Linn County and Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population by Race (poverty population)	Poverty Rate 1999	Poverty Rate by Race 1989
White	93.0% (94,741)	88.2% (10,243)	10.8%	13.3%
Black	0.2% (237)	0.4% (45)	19.0%	40.4%
American Indian	1.3% (1,359)	2.3% (273)	20.1%	21.8%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.8%/0.2% (780/160)	0.6%/0.0% (70/4)	9.0%/2.5%	10.2%*
Other	1.8% (1,868)	4.9% (567)	30.4%	23.7%
2 or More Races	2.7% (2,710)	3.6% (416)	23.1%	NA
Hispanic Origin	4.1% (4,181)	9.5% (1,104)	26.4%	22.1%

*Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 Census.

County Income

On a per capita basis, Linn County's personal income was \$24,067 in 2002, about 84 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 78 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Per capita income in Linn County rose 2.3 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, of per capita income shows average annual growth of 3.8 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$29,760 in Linn County compared to \$33,063 for the state.⁴

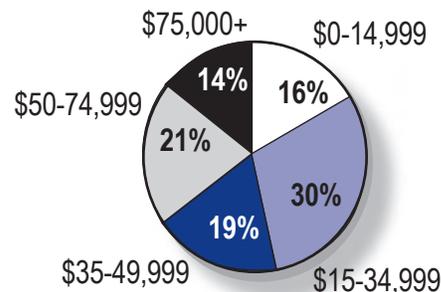
Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Linn County. The 2000 Census showed that 4,968 people or 42.8 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold were actually earning 50 percent or less than the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or more than the poverty level but still needed assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants and Children program. In 1999, 28.5 percent of Linn County's population, or 28,978 people, earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Public Assistance

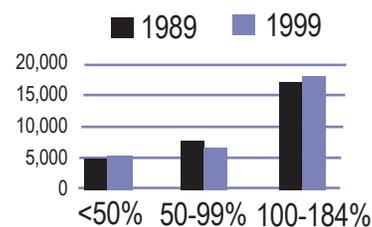
Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 1,533 households or 3.9 percent of all households in Linn County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$3,520. The 20-year trend showed a decrease in households that reported receiving public assistance income, from 2,637 households or 8.1 percent of all households in 1979.

1999 Household Income Distribution-Linn County



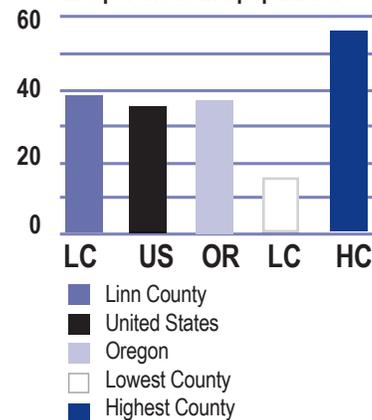
Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Linn County was \$37,518 in 1999 compared to \$25,209 in 1989 (48.8 percent increase).

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles



Source: U.S. Census

Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Source: U.S. Census.

Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregon households had difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Linn County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses.

Families with one adult earning Linn County's median income cannot afford the basic family budget.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families at the poverty level in Linn County could afford 40 percent to 42.1 percent of this basic family budget.

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Linn County is \$534.53. The manufacturing industry had the highest weekly average of \$734.58 and non-classifiable had the lowest weekly average of \$298.14.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Linn County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages.

An adult who has three children and who worked full-time at Linn County's average wage could not afford the basic family budget.

Linn County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$575	\$790	\$575	\$790
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$379	\$836	\$379	\$836
Transportation	\$197	\$197	\$277	\$277
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$250	\$396	\$299	\$445
Taxes	\$399	\$578	\$467	\$672
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$2,275	\$3,531	\$2,678	\$3,960
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$27,294	\$42,375	\$32,142	\$47,519
Median Annual Income (Census 2000)	\$20,907	\$20,907	\$50,611	\$50,611
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	76.6%	49.3%	157.5%	106.5%

Poverty and Linn County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	42.1%	40.0%	41.7%	41.8%

Linn County Wages and the Basic Budget

	1 Worker 1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Worker 1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Workers 2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Workers 2 Adults/ 3 Children
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$2,298	\$2,298	\$4,596	\$4,596
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$2,275	\$3,531	\$2,678	\$3,960
Difference (SSW-AMW)	\$23	-\$1,233	\$1,918	\$636
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	101.0%	65.1%	171.6%	116.1%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.
** Based on Basic Family Budget for Linn County.

Linn County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	91,227 ¹	103,069 ²	103,786	104,898	106,121
% of People living below poverty level	13.5% ¹	11.4% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$25,209 ¹	\$37,518 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	6.1	7.1	8.3	9.7	10.9
8th Grade Drug Use	26.5% ³	14.8%	NA	27.1%	NA
HS Dropout	8.6% ⁴	6.3%	5.9%	6.1%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	17.8	15.2	13.2	12.3	NA
Prenatal Care	75.9%	80.5%	80.1%	79.8%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	19	16.3	15.8	14.9	NA
Homeownership Rate	65.6% ¹	67.9% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	40.2% ¹	48.8% ²	NA	NA	NA
Linn County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	112	80	146	131	150
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	10	12	68	59	74
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$624,061	\$1.3 m	\$4.8 m	\$2.3 m	\$3.8 m
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	34	17	6	3	7
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$2.8 m	\$1.5 m	\$490,543	\$269,260	\$565,630
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	3,723	1,439	1,385	3,652
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	21.9%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	6,613	6,527	6,761	7,709	8,180
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	36.8%	36.7%	38.0%	43.0%	45.4%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	32.9%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	4.2%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	29.7%	30.8%	
¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989	² 2000 Census data, year is 1999	³ 1998	⁴ 1996	NA=Not Available	

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Community Services Consortium's Community Services Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

Malheur County

Major findings

According to the 2000 US Census, the poverty rate in Malheur County exceeded that of the state and the nation between 1979 to 1999.

Children under 18 experienced the highest rate of poverty during this period. Poverty also disproportionately affected the county's minority population. In 1999, Pacific Islander, Black and American Indian populations all experienced a poverty rate higher than 39 percent.

Unemployment reached 9.8 percent in Malheur County in 1999.

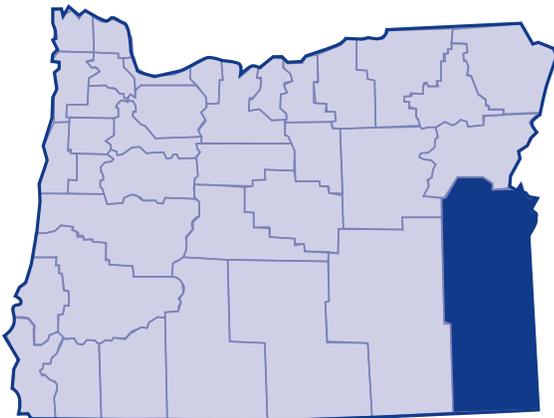
Among Malheur County's renters, 47 percent reported spending 30 percent or more on rental costs in both 1989 and 1999.

In 2003, 30.3 percent of Malheur county residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹

Low-income needs

Malheur County Commission for Children and Families identified the following needs for the county's low-income population.²

- Reduce the incidence of family violence
- Increase prenatal care, as measured by the percentage of babies whose mothers received early care
- Reduce teen substance abuse
- Reduce juvenile arrests
- Maintain Oregon Youth Authority bed use
- Reduce juvenile recidivism
- Focus on healthy, thriving youth as measured by teen pregnancy rate, reported suicide attempts by minors, and/or public high school students drop out rates
- Reduce poverty, as measured by the percentage of individuals residing in Malheur County with incomes below 100 percent of the federal poverty level
- Increase community engagement
- Provide adequate assistance and services to all children and families in Malheur County, including but not limited to minority and ethnic populations, girls and boys, men and women, and individuals with special needs



Malheur County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Malheur County grew 21.4 percent between 1989 and 1999. The US Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 28,235 county residents and found that 18.7 percent (5,265 people) lived below the poverty threshold. This is an increase of 6.5 percent in the number of persons living in poverty (4,945 people) in 1989. The overall percent of Malheur County's population living in poverty decreased slightly between 1989 and 1999, but the number of people living in poverty did not.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Malheur County increased from 17.4 percent of the population to 18.7 percent. The number of persons in poverty rose from 4,582 people to 5,265 people. Malheur County's poverty rates remained higher than the state and national poverty rates throughout this period.

Poverty and Age

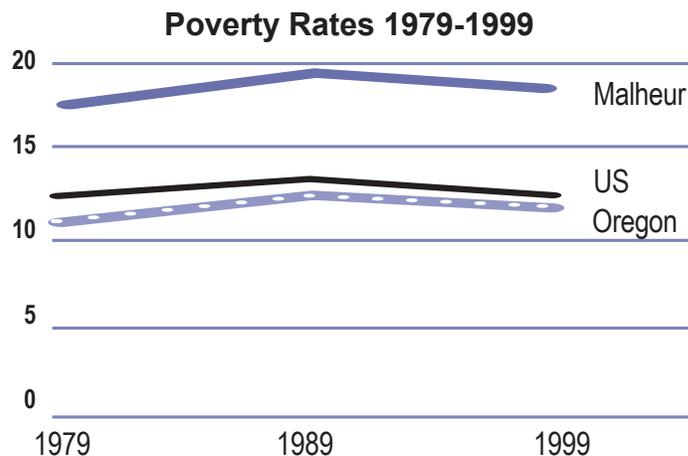
In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined, children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 28.3 percent. Children younger than 18 years of age experienced poverty at 26 percent. People 65 and older experienced the lowest rate: 8 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty was consistently highest for children younger than 18.

Poverty in Selected Communities

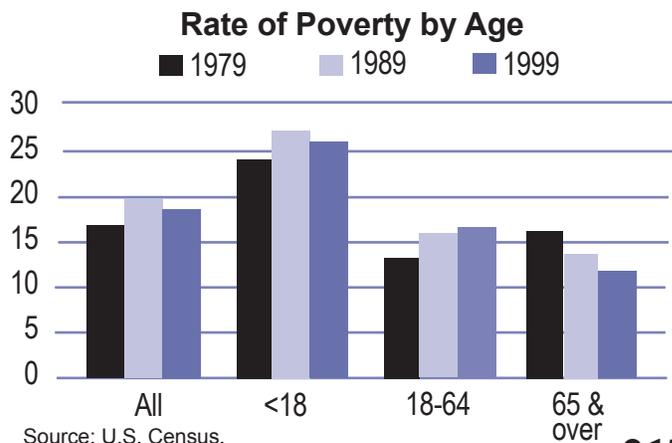
Number of persons below poverty level
(poverty rate)

	1989	1999	Percent Change
Malheur County	4,945 (19.3%)	5,265 (18.7%)	6.5% (rate difference) (-0.7%)
Oregon Statewide	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: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.



Source: U.S. Census.



Source: U.S. Census.

Malheur County

Poverty and Malheur County Families

In 1999, 1,080 Malheur County families lived in poverty (14.6 percent). Of the 1,080 families in poverty, 70.6 percent (762 families) had a worker and 25.6 percent (277 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child under 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 22.1 percent. Families with a child 5 years and younger experienced poverty at a higher rate of 29.4 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 52.7 percent and even higher with younger children (less than 5 years) at 68.7 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children under 18 was lower at 15.5 percent. From 1979 to 1999, the number of female-headed households with children (no husband present) who lived in poverty increased from 243 families in 1979 to 374 families in 1999.

Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White residents comprised the majority of people in poverty at 64.5 percent. When examining poverty based on race/ethnicity, however, the poverty rate among White was 15.8 percent. Pacific Islander, Black and American Indian experienced disproportionately higher rates of poverty. The poverty rate among Pacific Islander was 72 percent, while Black and American Indian exceeded 39 percent rate. From 1989 to 1999, poverty improved for White, Other and Hispanic Origin.

Malheur County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)	Year			% Change '79-'99 (rate difference)
	1979	1989	1999	
All Families	999 (13.9%)	1,060 (15.3%)	1,080 (14.6%)	8.1% (0.7%)
With Children under 18	725 (18.2%)	847 (23.6%)	904 (22.1%)	24.7% (3.9%)
Female-headed with children under 18	243 (43.5%)	349 (64.4%)	374 (52.7%)	53.9% (9.2%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Malheur County and Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population by Race (poverty population)	Poverty Rate 1999	Poverty Rate by Race 1989
White	76.0% (21,445)	64.5% (3,395)	15.8%	16.2%
Black	0.4% (105)	0.9% (49)	46.7%	4.5%
American Indian	0.7% (195)	1.5% (77)	39.5%	35.2%
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.8%/0.1% (501/25)	0.4%/0.3% (21/18)	4.2%/72.0%	8.1%*
Other	18.0% (5,080)	28.5% (1,501)	29.5%	38.3%
2 or More Races	3.1% (884)	3.9% (204)	23.1%	NA
Hispanic Origin	27.1% (7,638)	41.3% (2,176)	28.5%	39.1%

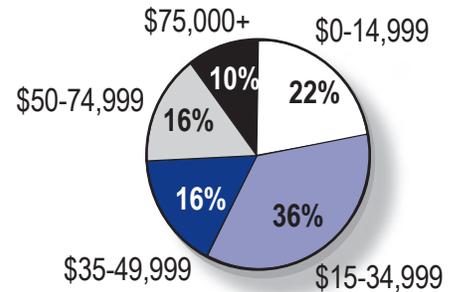
*Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 Census.

Malheur County

County Income

On a per capita basis, Malheur County's personal income was \$18,608 in 2002, about 65 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 60 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Per capita income in Malheur County rose 3.4 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, of per capita income shows average annual growth of 1.9 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$23,440 in Malheur County compared to \$33,063 for the state. ⁴

1999 Household Income Distribution-Malheur County

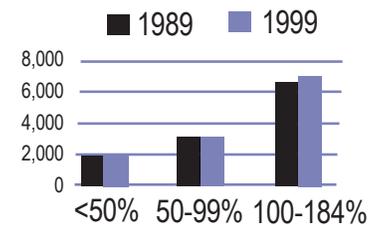


Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Malheur County was \$30,241 in 1999 compared to \$20,242 in 1989 (49.4 percent increase).

Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Malheur County. The 2000 Census showed that 1,995 people or 37.9 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold actually earned 50 percent or less than the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or above the poverty level but still needed assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and WIC. In 1999, 42.1 percent of Malheur County's population, or 11,895 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles

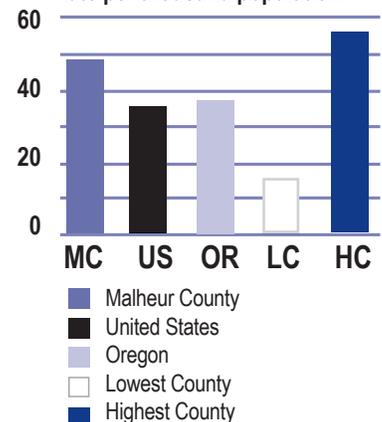


Source: U.S. Census

Public Assistance

Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 505 households or 4.9 percent of all households in Malheur County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$2,363. The 20-year trend showed a decrease in households that reported receiving public assistance income, from 677 households or 7.3 percent of all households in 1979.

Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Source: U.S. Census.

Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregon households have difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Malheur County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses.

Only families with two adults who both earned Malheur County's median income were able to afford the basic family budget, for themselves and one child.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

Malheur County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$477	\$657	\$477	\$657
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$386	\$854	\$386	\$854
Transportation	\$197	\$197	\$277	\$277
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$219	\$355	\$268	\$404
Taxes	\$298	\$510	\$415	\$581
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$2,052	\$3,307	\$2,504	\$3,713
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$24,622	\$39,685	\$30,048	\$44,562
Median Annual Income (Census 2000)	\$18,839	\$18,839	\$38,904	\$38,904
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	76.5%	47.5%	129.5%	87.3%

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families at the poverty level in Malheur County could afford 42.7 percent to 46.6 percent of this basic family budget.

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Malheur County is \$423.80. The federal government had the highest weekly average of \$723.63 and the retail trade industry had the lowest weekly average of \$294.82.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Malheur County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages.

Only families with two adults who both earned Malheur County's average wages could afford the basic expenses for themselves and one child.

Poverty and Malheur County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	46.6%	42.7%	44.6%	44.6%

Malheur County Wages and the Basic Budget

	1 Worker 1 Child	1 Worker 3 Children	2 Workers 1 Child	2 Workers 3 Children
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$1,822	\$1,822	\$3,644	\$3,644
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$2,052	\$3,307	\$2,504	\$3,713
Difference (SSW-AMW)	-\$230	-\$1,485	\$1,140	-\$69
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	88.8%	55.1%	171.7%	98.1%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.
** Based on Basic Family Budget for Malheur County.

Malheur County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	26,038 ¹	31,615 ²	31,453	31,271	31,239
% of People living below poverty level	19.3% ¹	18.6% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$20,242 ¹	\$30,241 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	6.5	7.8	8.4	8.8	9.8
8th Grade Drug Use	16.5% ³	6.3%	NA	19.1%	NA
HS Dropout	5.6% ⁴	3.1%	3.1%	3.2%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	27.7	17.8	14.1	12.1	NA
Prenatal Care	61.1%	73.4%	72.1%	68.8%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	0	14.4	13.4	13.6	NA
Homeownership Rate	64.1% ¹	63.8% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	47.1% ¹	47.0% ²	NA	NA	NA
Malheur County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	21	70	124	62	68
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	90	48	0	0	40
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$1.7 m	\$188,448	\$0	\$0	\$1.9 m
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	3	9	12	7	12
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$214,127	\$503,059	\$797,841	\$365,863	\$826,998
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	1,090	824	763	736
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	25.4%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	3,207	3,423	3,356	3,363	3,472
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	56.5%	61.0%	60.0%	61.2%	64.8%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	20.5%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	2.5%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	32.8%	33.6%	
¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989	² 2000 Census data, year is 1999	³ 1998	⁴ 1996	NA=Not Available	

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Malheur County Commission for Children and Families plan.

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

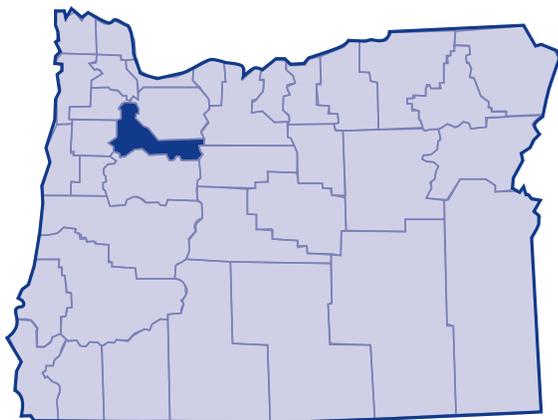
Major findings

According to the 2000 US Census, the poverty rate in Marion County remained relatively constant between 1989 and 1999. This rate slightly exceeded the state and national average due to increases experienced between 1979 and 1989.

Marion County's children, families with children, and minorities experienced the highest rates of poverty. Between 1979 and 1999, children under 18 experienced the highest rates of poverty. The number of families with children who lived in poverty increased 77 percent. Poverty rates for Black and Pacific Islander reached 30 percent in 1999.

The unemployment rate rose from 5.5 in 2000 to 7.9 in 2003.

In 2003, 28.5 percent of Marion county residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹



Low-income needs

Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency prioritized the needs of the low-income population in Marion County as follows²:

- Increase resources to address homeless issues, particularly emergency shelter beds, transitional housing, and case management
- Provide rental assistance to allow homeless families to access permanent housing
- Address food insecurity including as longer-term emergency food assistance
- Increase affordable and low-income housing stock; provide tenant training so homeless families with poor rent histories can access permanent housing, heating assistance, and rental assistance
- Increase the number of shelter beds for runaway and homeless youth, the number of transitional living slots for older homeless youth, mental health and employment services; provide outreach to Salem's disenfranchised street youth
- Improve support for families at risk for child abuse and neglect such as mental health, respite, crisis intervention, and crisis nursery services
- Increase free and low-cost mental health services, including access to medication and medication management
- Increase the number of Head Start slots and establish an Early Head Start program
- Increase the number of free and reduced cost detox and inpatient services
- Increase the number of affordable childcare slots for low-income working parents
- Energy Assistance

Marion County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Marion County grew 24.7 percent between 1989 and 1999. The US Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 274,908 county residents and found that 13.5 percent (37,104 people) lived below the poverty threshold. This is an increase of 29.6 percent in the number of persons living in poverty (28,638 people) in 1989. The overall poverty rate in Marion County remained relatively constant from 1989 to 1999.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Marion County increased from 10.8 percent of the population to 13.5 percent. The number of persons in poverty rose from 21,178 people to 37,104 people. Marion County's poverty rates were higher than the state and national poverty rates from 1989 to 1999 due to increases between 1979 and 1989.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined, children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 22.6 percent. Children younger than 18 years of age experienced poverty at 18.8 percent. People 65 and older experienced the lowest rate: 7.4 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty was consistently highest for children younger than 18.

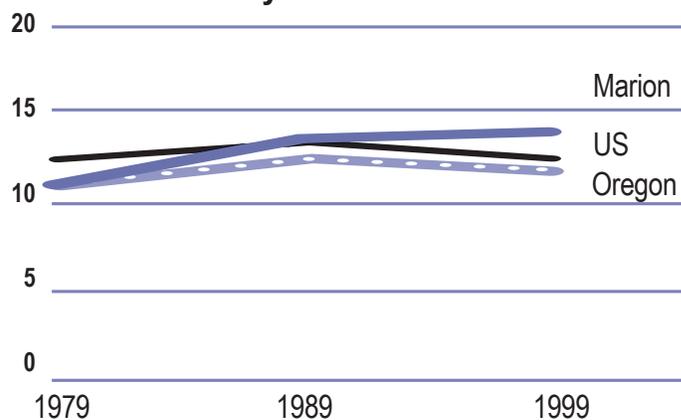
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level (poverty rate)

	1989	1999	Percent Change
Marion County	28,638 (13.2%)	37,104 (13.5%)	(rate difference) 29.6% (0.3%)
Oregon Statewide	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%)

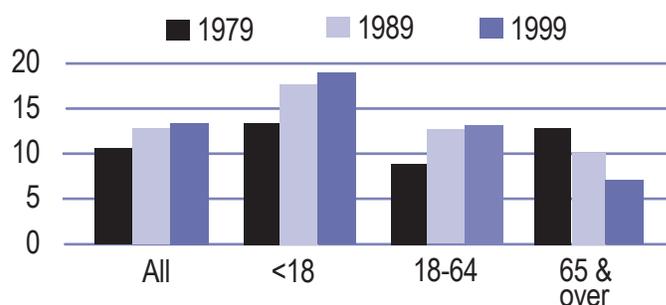
Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Source: U.S. Census.

Rate of Poverty by Age



Source: U.S. Census.

Marion County

Poverty and Marion County Families

In 1999, 6,841 Marion County families lived in poverty (9.6 percent). Of the families in poverty, 64.7 percent (4,425 families) had a worker and 15.5 percent (1,060 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child younger than 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 15.1 percent. Families with a child younger than 5 years old experienced poverty at a higher rate of 21 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 37.4 percent and was even higher with younger children (less than 5 years) at 50.6 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children younger than 18 was lower at 7.9 percent. From 1979 to 1999, the number of families with children who lived in poverty increased from 3,233 families to 5,724 families.

Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White residents comprised the majority of people in poverty at 68.3 percent. When examining poverty based on race/ethnicity, however, the poverty rate among White was 11.3 percent. Black and Pacific Islander experienced disproportionately higher rates of poverty. The poverty rate among Black was 31.1 percent and 29.6 for Pacific Islander. From 1989 to 1999, poverty improved for American Indian, Other and Hispanic Origin. White and Black remained relatively constant.

Marion County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)	1979	1989	1999	% Change '79-'99
				(rate difference)
All Families	4,382 (8.1%)	5,521 (9.4%)	6,841 (9.6%)	56.1% (1.5%)
With Children under 18	3,233 (11.4%)	4,386 (14.7%)	5,724 (15.1%)	5,724 (3.7%)
Female-headed with children under 18	1,731 (35.0%)	2,415 (40.6%)	2,985 (37.4%)	72.4% (2.4%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Marion County and Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population by Race (poverty population)	Poverty Rate 1999	Poverty Rate by Race 1989
White	81.9% (225,052)	68.3% (25,333)	11.3%	11.8%
Black	0.7% (2,016)	1.7% (627)	31.1%	31.6%
American Indian	1.2% (3,418)	1.8% (661)	19.3%	27.5%
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.6%/0.3% (4,497/757)	1.5%/0.6% (568/224)	12.6%/29.6%	18.4%*
Other	10.8% (29,726)	21.5% (7,971)	26.8%	32.9%
2 or More Races	3.4% (9,442)	4.6% (1,720)	18.2%	NA
Hispanic Origin	17.5% (48,023)	34.5% (12,803)	26.7%	32.1%

*Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 Census.

Marion County

County Income

On a per capita basis, Marion County's personal income was \$25,208 in 2002, about 88 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 82 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Per capita income in Marion County rose 1.6 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, of per capita income shows average annual growth of 3.2 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$29,694 in Marion County compared to \$33,063 for the state.⁴

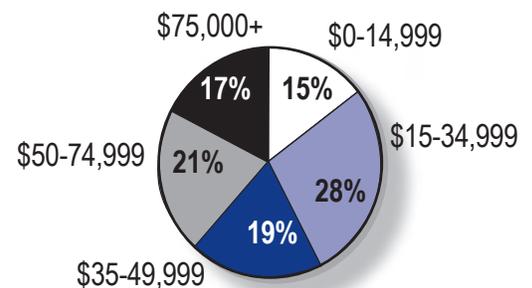
Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Marion County. The 2000 Census showed that 15,434 people or 41.6 percent of those living below the poverty threshold earned 50 percent or less income of the threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or above the poverty level but still needed assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants, and Children program. In 1999, 30.6 percent of Marion County's population, or 84,087 people, earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Public Assistance

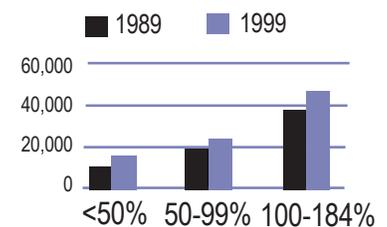
Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 4,414 households or 4.3 percent of all households in Marion County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$2,965. The 20-year trend showed a decrease in households that reported receiving public assistance income, from 5,235 households or 7.0 percent of all households in 1979.

1999 Household Income Distribution-Marion County



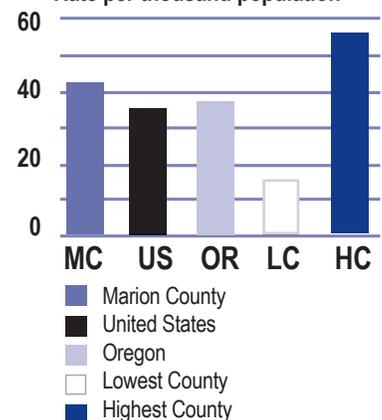
Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Marion County was \$40,314 in 1999 compared to \$26,876 in 1989 (50.0 percent increase).

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles



Source: U.S. Census

Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Source: U.S. Census.

Marion County

Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregon households had difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Marion County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses.

Families with one adult earning Marion County's median income cannot afford the basic family budget.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

Marion County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$568	\$782	\$568	\$782
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$402	\$874	\$402	\$874
Transportation	\$158	\$158	\$222	\$222
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$247	\$394	\$296	\$443
Taxes	\$385	\$573	\$450	\$660
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$2,235	\$3,515	\$2,619	\$3,921
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$26,825	\$42,180	\$31,428	\$47,048
Median Annual Income (Census 2000)	\$21,848	\$21,848	\$51,486	\$51,486
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	81.4%	51.8%	163.8%	109.4%

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families at the poverty level in Marion County could afford 40.2 to 42.8 percent of this basic family budget.

Poverty and Marion County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	42.8%	40.2%	42.7%	42.3%

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Marion County is \$525.41. The mining industry had the highest weekly average of \$834.71 and agriculture, forestry and fishing had the lowest weekly average of \$327.32.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Marion County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages.

An adult who had three children and who worked full-time at Marion County's average wage could not afford the basic family budget.

Marion County Wages and the Basic Budget

	1 Worker 1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Worker 1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Workers 2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Workers 2 Adults/ 3 Children
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$2,259	\$2,259	\$4,518	\$4,518
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$2,235	\$3,515	\$2,619	\$3,921
Difference (SSW-AMW)	\$24	-\$1,256	\$1,899	\$597
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	101.1%	64.3%	172.5%	115.2%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.
** Based on Basic Family Budget for Marion County.

Marion County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	228,483 ¹	284,834 ²	288,690	293,463	296,995
% of People living below poverty level	13.2% ¹	13.5% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$26,876 ¹	\$40,314 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	4.8	5.5	6.4	7.1	7.9
8th Grade Drug Use	18.0% ³	21.1%	NA	20.5%	NA
HS Dropout	9.5% ⁴	8.3%	6.9%	6.5%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	25.3	17.6	16.5	15.6	NA
Prenatal Care	76.4%	74.3%	73.0%	73.7%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	23.6	23.2	19.6	20.6	NA
Homeownership Rate	62.9% ¹	62.9% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	40.8% ¹	43.1% ²	NA	NA	NA
Marion County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	894	836	476	413	671
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	226	132	17	226	92
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$3.8 m	\$6.6 m	\$895,965	\$1.1 m	\$3.5 m
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	139	104	96	78	87
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$12.1 m	\$9.1 m	\$8.9 m	\$7.5 m	\$9.0 m
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	5,778	5,807	6,516	5,429
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	22.1%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	22,322	22,501	23,946	26,528	27,001
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	43.6%	43.1%	44.6%	48.4%	48.5%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	19.7%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	3.6%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	28.7%	30.3%	
	¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989	² 2000 Census data, year is 1999	³ 1998	⁴ 1996	NA=Not Available

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency Community Services Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05.

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

Major findings

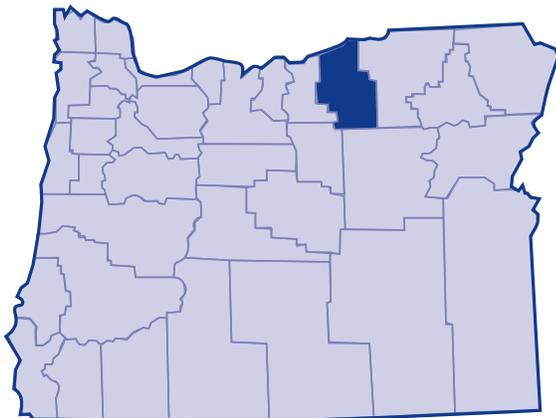
According to the 2000 US Census, overall poverty rates in Morrow County remained relatively constant between 1989 and 1999. The rate remained higher than the state and national average, however, due to increased poverty rates between 1979 and 1989.

Children, families and minorities experienced the highest rates of poverty in Morrow County. Between 1979 and 1999, children younger than 18 faced the highest poverty rate. In 1979, 11.4 percent of families with children lived in poverty. By 1999, 17.2 percent of families with children lived in poverty.

American Indian experienced the highest rate of poverty at 41.2 percent.

The county's unemployment rate was high in 2003, at 10.3, but this was a decrease from 2000's 11.9 unemployment rate.

In 2003, 25.4 percent of Morrow county residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹



Low-income needs

Community Action Program East Central Oregon prioritized the needs of the low-income population in Morrow County as follows:²

- Emergency rental/transitional housing opportunities for households who are homeless or at risk of losing housing.
- Maintain access to Emergency Food Boxes and promote hunger awareness in the community.
- Continue providing access to energy assistance funds during the high-cost winter months.
- Increase access to low-cost medical care via the Oregon Health Plan; retain local medical services.
- Provide assistance for Emergency Lodging / Emergency Shelter for homeless households.
- Continue the programs that promote Early Childhood Education.
- Retain and improve transportation programs to help serve those residing in rural communities.
- Provide access to quality childcare and voucher assistance.
- Promote the development of low-income housing and create safe housing opportunities for community members.
- Access to job training opportunities to help households obtain living wage jobs.
- Expand opportunity for area residents to receive weatherization services thus providing safe and healthy living environments.
- Assist households in obtaining adequate clothing suitable for the seasonal weather conditions.
- Improve and expand counseling/family case management for households in crisis to help them become self-reliant.

Morrow County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Morrow County grew 44.2 percent between 1989 and 1999. The US Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 10,919 county residents and found that 14.8 percent (1,617 people) lived below the poverty threshold. This was an increase of 10.1 percent in the number of persons living in poverty (1,141 people) since 1989. The overall percent of Morrow County's population living in poverty remained relatively constant from 1989 to 1999, but the number of people living in poverty did not.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Morrow County increased from 10.5 percent of the population to 14.8 percent. The number of persons in poverty rose from 782 people to 1,617 people. Morrow County's poverty rates were higher than the state and national poverty rates from 1989 to 1999 due to increases from 1979 to 1989.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined, children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 23.7 percent. Children younger than 18 years of age experienced poverty at 22 percent. People 65 and older experienced the lowest rate: 10.1 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty was consistently highest for children younger than 18.

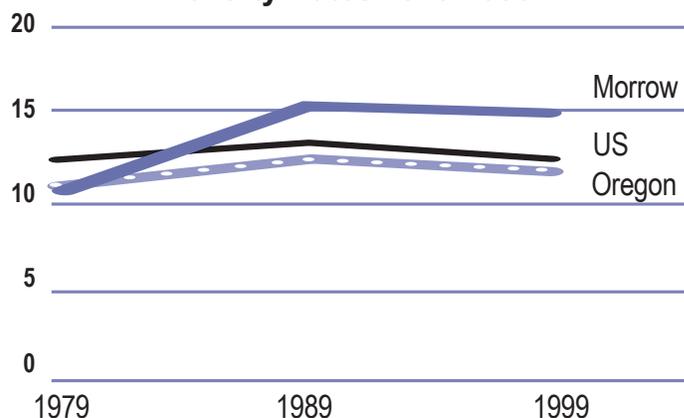
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level
(poverty rate)

	1989	1999	Percent Change (rate difference)
Morrow County	1,141 (15.1%)	1,617 (14.8%)	10.1% (-0.3%)
Oregon Statewide	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%)

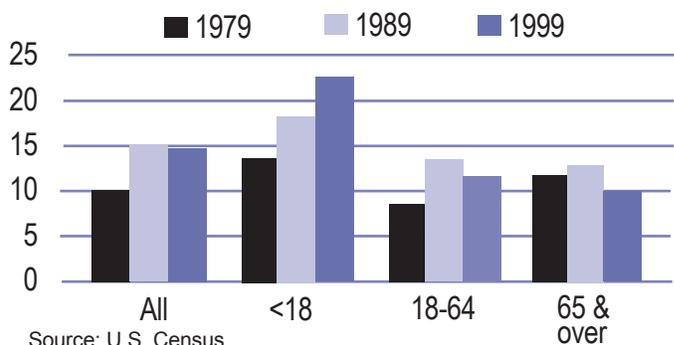
Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Source: U.S. Census.

Rate of Poverty by Age



Source: U.S. Census.

Morrow County

Poverty and Morrow County Families

In 1999, 332 Morrow County families lived in poverty (11.3 percent). Of the families in poverty, 69.6 percent (231 families) had a worker and 24.4 percent (81 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child younger than 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 17.2 percent. Families with a child younger than 5 years old experienced poverty at a higher rate of 21.2 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 35.4 percent and was even higher with younger children (less than 5 years) at 45.4 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children younger than 18 was lower at 13.1 percent. From 1979 to 1999, the number of female-headed households with children (no husband present) who lived in poverty increased from 42 families in 1979 to 92 families in 1999.

Morrow County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)				% Change
	1979	1989	1999	'79-'99 (rate difference)
All Families	167 (8.1%)	249 (11.9%)	332 (11.3%)	98.8% (3.2%)
With Children under 18	135 (11.4%)	182 (16.7%)	276 (17.2%)	104.4% (5.8%)
Female-headed with children under 18	42 (37.5%)	80 (47.9%)	92 (35.4%)	119.0% (-2.1%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White residents comprised the majority of people in poverty at 57.6 percent. When examining poverty based on race/ethnicity, however, the poverty rate among White was 11.4 percent. Black experienced a disproportionately higher rate of poverty at 41.2 percent. From 1989 to 1999, poverty rates improved for most race categories.

Morrow County and Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population by Race (poverty population)	Poverty Rate 1999	Poverty Rate by Race 1989
White	74.9% (8,178)	57.6% (931)	11.4%	12.9%
Black	0.2% (17)	0.4% (7)	41.2%	0.0%
American Indian	1.6% (180)	1.7% (27)	15.0%	16.5%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.5%/0.0% (56/3)	0.7%/0.0% (11/0)	19.6%/NA	30.3%*
Other	20.2% (2,207)	37.2% (601)	27.2%	36.3%
2 or More Races	2.5% (278)	2.5% (40)	14.4%	NA
Hispanic Origin	24.5% (2,672)	45.3% (732)	27.4%	33.3%

*Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 Census.

Morrow County

County Income

On a per capita basis, Morrow County's personal income was \$20,826 in 2002, about 72 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 67 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Per capita income in Morrow County rose 7.6 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, of per capita income shows average annual growth of 4 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$27,943 in Morrow County compared to \$33,063 for the state. ⁴

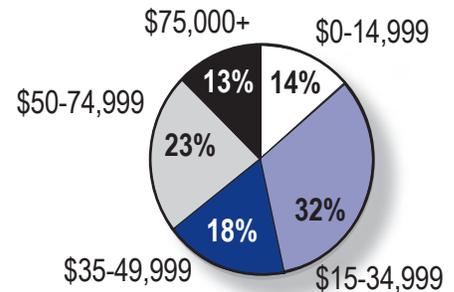
Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Morrow County. The 2000 Census showed that 612 people or 37.8 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold actually earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or above the poverty level but still needed assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants, and Children program. In 1999, 36.3 percent of Morrow County's population, or 3,962 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Public Assistance

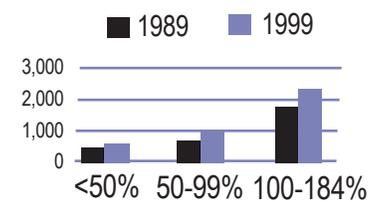
Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 205 households or 5.4 percent of all households in Morrow County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$2,477. The 20-year trend showed an increase in households that reported receiving public assistance income, from 115 households or 4.3 percent of all households in 1979.

1999 Household Income Distribution-Morrow County



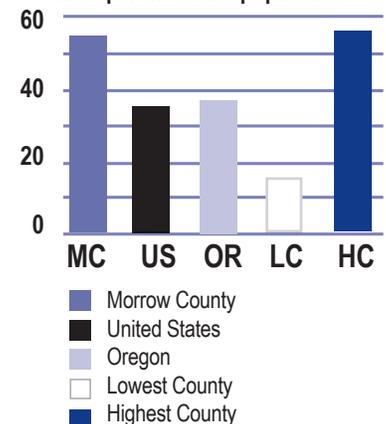
Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Morrow County was \$37,521 in 1999 compared to \$23,969 in 1989 (56.5 percent increase).

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles



Source: U.S. Census

Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Source: U.S. Census.

Morrow County

Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregon households have difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Morrow County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses.

The only family that could afford the basic expenses was one in which two adults worked full-time at Morrow County's median income and had only one child.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

Morrow County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$477	\$657	\$477	\$657
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$363	\$810	\$363	\$810
Transportation	\$197	\$197	\$277	\$277
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$219	\$355	\$268	\$404
Taxes	\$279	\$491	\$404	\$561
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$2,010	\$3,244	\$2,470	\$3,649
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$24,122	\$38,932	\$29,645	\$43,792
Median Annual Income (Census 2000)	\$19,661	\$19,661	\$43,427	\$43,427
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	81.5%	50.5%	146.5%	99.2%

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families at the poverty level in Morrow County could afford 43.5 to 47.6 percent of this basic family budget.

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Morrow County is \$493.08. The transportation, communication and utilities had the highest weekly average of \$1,034.88 and the retail trade industry had the lowest weekly average of \$231.31.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Morrow County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages.

An adult who had three children and who worked full-time at Morrow County's average wage could not afford the basic family budget.

Poverty and Morrow County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	47.6%	43.5%	45.2%	45.4%

Morrow County Wages and the Basic Budget

	1 Worker 1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Worker 1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Workers 2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Workers 2 Adults/ 3 Children
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$2,120	\$2,120	\$4,240	\$4,240
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$2,010	\$3,244	\$2,470	\$3,649
Difference (SSW-AMW)	\$110	-\$1,124	\$1,770	\$591
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	105.5%	65.4%	171.7%	161.2%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.
** Based on Basic Family Budget for Morrow

Morrow County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	7,625 ¹	10,995 ²	11,259	11,605	11,627
% of People living below poverty level	15.1% ¹	14.8% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$23,969 ¹	\$37,521 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	7.4	11.9	10.8	10.1	10.3
8th Grade Drug Use	17.8% ³	14.0%	NA	10.0%	NA
HS Dropout	6.7% ⁴	3.9%	2.8%	2.6%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	25.5	15.5	16.6	8.3	NA
Prenatal Care	60.3%	67.5%	79.4%	70.8%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	7.8	17.1	12	10.5	NA
Homeownership Rate	68.0% ¹	73.1% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	45.6% ¹	36.9% ²	NA	NA	NA
Morrow County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	0	0	0	0	0
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	0	0	0	0	0
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	9	5	5	7	3
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$737,231	\$335,443	\$413,827	\$526,744	\$221,653
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	298	304	334	266
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	23.0%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	1,193	1,105	1,303	1,283	1,429
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	52.8%	49.1%	56.8%	56.5%	60.9%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	17.2%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	3.2%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	28.6%	31.0%	
¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989 ² 2000 Census data, year is 1999 ³ 1998 ⁴ 1996 NA=Not Available					

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Community Action Program East Central Oregon Community Services Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05.

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

Major findings

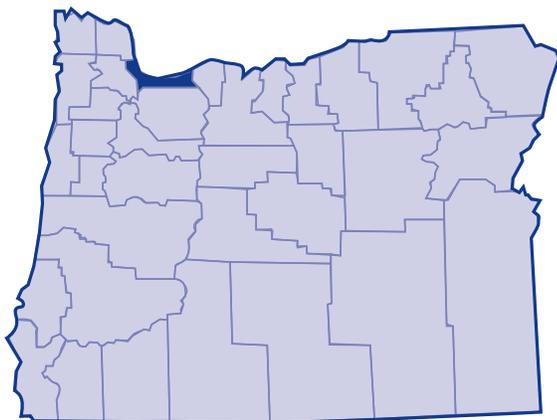
According to the 2000 US Census, the poverty rate in Multnomah County remained relatively constant (0.5 percent decrease) from 1989 to 1999. This rate matched the state and national averages.

Poverty was most prevalent among children between 1979 and 1999. Poverty among families and families with children remained relatively constant. Families headed by single mothers experienced a decreased poverty rate even though the number of these families living in poverty increased.

According to the basic family budget, families with one adult who earned median income in Multnomah County could not afford basic expenses.

Hit hard by recession, Multnomah County unemployment rose from a 4.3 rate in 2000 to 9.0 rate in 2003.

In 2003, 26.6 percent of Multnomah County residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹



Low-income needs

ASDF (MULTCO) prioritized the needs of the low-income population in Multnomah County as follows²:

- **Utilities**-maintain and expand utility assistance availability for low-income residents of Multnomah County
- **Housing**-maintain and improve access to affordable permanent housing for low-income residents of Multnomah County
- **Clothing**-support community based programs to provide clothing to low-income families, particularly those that maintain and improve school attendance and lead to employment opportunities
- **Domestic Violence related**-support existing and developing projects, including those for emerging immigrant/refugee populations in the community
- **Health care**-Efforts include early childhood immunization, improving homeless families' living conditions, Oregon Health Plan enrollment; and health care budget training for low-income families
- **Employment**-related issues-connect clients with resources such as One-Stop centers
- **Food**-support the local food bank and organizations providing "food boxes;" support and improve school attendance and achievement through student nutrition
- **Skill development**-maintain funding and support for client skills development such as family stability, parenting, and tenant roles and responsibilities
- **Counseling/support**-maintain and develop the network of; maintain funding for local program that offers school-based programs.
- **Education/Children/Youth Activities**-maintain and expand programs such as Schools Uniting Neighborhoods (SUN schools) and Student Attendance Initiative.

Multnomah County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Multnomah County grew 13.1 percent between 1989 and 1999. The US Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 645,584 county residents and found that 12.7 percent (81,711 people) lived below the poverty threshold. This was an increase of 9.1 percent in the number of persons living in poverty (74,885 people) since 1989. The overall percent of Multnomah County's population living in poverty remained relatively constant from 1989 to 1999, but the number of people living in poverty did not.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Multnomah County increased from 11.4 percent of the population to 12.7 percent. The number of persons in poverty rose from 62,593 people to 81,711 people. Multnomah County's poverty rates were slightly lower to the state and national poverty rates throughout this period.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined, children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 17.4 percent. Children younger than 18 years of age experienced poverty at 16.2 percent. People 65 and older experienced the lowest rate at 9.8 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty was consistently highest for children younger than 18.

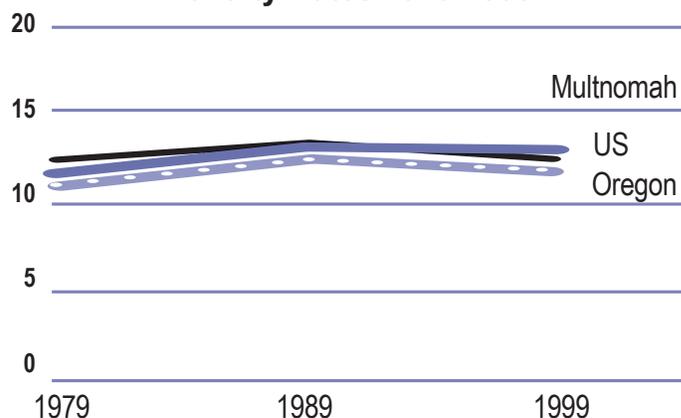
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level (poverty rate)

	1989	1999	Percent Change (rate difference)
Multnomah County	74,885 (13.1%)	81,711 (12.7%)	9.1% (-0.5%)
Oregon Statewide	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%)

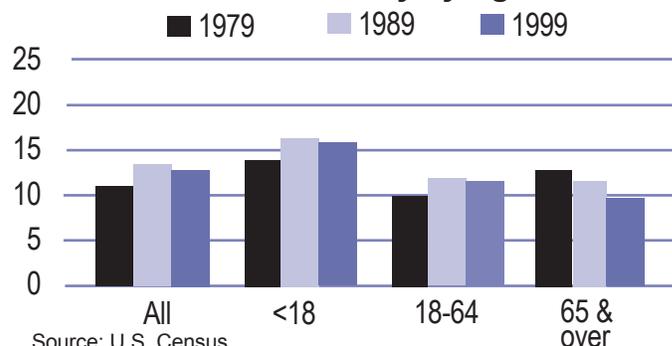
Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Source: U.S. Census.

Rate of Poverty by Age



Source: U.S. Census.

Multnomah County

Poverty and Multnomah County Families

In 1999, 12,593 Multnomah County families lived in poverty (8.2 percent). Of the families in poverty, 57.8 percent (7,278 families) had a worker and 13.8 percent (1,735 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children.

Families with at least one child younger than 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 12.9 percent. Families with a child 5 years and younger experienced poverty at a higher rate of 16.9 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 30.7

percent and was even higher with younger children (less than 5 years) at 43.1 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children under 18 was lower at 6.3 percent. From 1979 to 1999, the number of female-headed households with children (no husband present) who lived in poverty decreased from 33.7 percent in 1979 to 30.7 percent in 1999.

Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White residents comprised the majority of people in poverty at 64.5 percent.

When examining poverty based on race/ethnicity, however, the poverty rate among White was 10.3 percent.

Other, Black and Hispanic Origin experienced disproportionately higher rates of poverty. The poverty rate among Other was 30 percent, while Black and Hispanic Origin both had a 26 percent rate. From 1989 to 1999, most categories experienced improvements in poverty rates, but Other and Hispanic Origin did not.

Multnomah County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)				% Change '79-'99
	1979	1989	1999	(rate difference)
All Families	10,875 (7.7%)	12,838 (8.9%)	12,593 (8.2%)	15.8% (0.5%)
With Children under 18	8,574 (12.2%)	10,184 (14.1%)	10,132 (12.9%)	18.2% (0.7%)
Female-headed with children under 18	5,085 (33.7%)	6,064 (36.5%)	5,821 (30.7%)	14.5% (-3.0%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Multnomah County and Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population by Race (poverty population)	Poverty Rate 1999	Poverty Rate by Race 1989
White	79.0% (510,278)	64.5% (52,688)	10.3%	11.1%
Black	5.3% (34,527)	11.0% (9,006)	26.1%	30.5%
American Indian	1.0% (6,463)	1.7% (1,427)	22.1%	28.1%
Asian/Pacific Islander	5.7%/0.4% (36,622/2,444)	5.6%/0.4% (4,597/339)	12.6%/13.9%	21.0%*
Other	4.1% (26,168)	9.6% (7,863)	30.0%	28.0%
2 or More Races	2.6% (29,082)	5.5% (5,791)	13.8%	NA
Hispanic Origin	7.4% (48,073)	15.3% (12,465)	25.9%	25.5%

*Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 Census.

Multnomah County

County Income

On a per capita basis, Multnomah County's personal income was \$33,840 in 2002, about 118 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 109 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Multnomah County's per capita income rose 0.6 percent from 2001 to 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, of per capita income shows average annual growth of 4.4 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$37,725 in Multnomah County compared to \$33,063 for the state.⁴

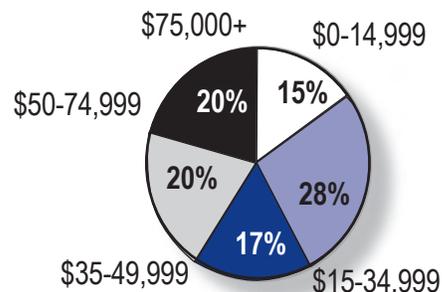
Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Multnomah County. The 2000 Census showed that 37,243 people or 45.6 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold actually earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or above the poverty level but still needed assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants, and Children program. In 1999, 27 percent of Multnomah County's population, or 174,207 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Public Assistance

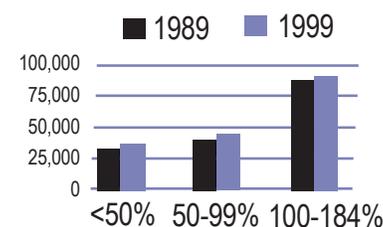
Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 11,478 households or 4.2 percent of all households in Multnomah County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$2,624. The 20-year trend showed a decrease in households that reported receiving public assistance income, from 16,870 households or 7.2 percent of all households in 1979.

1999 Household Income Distribution-Multnomah County



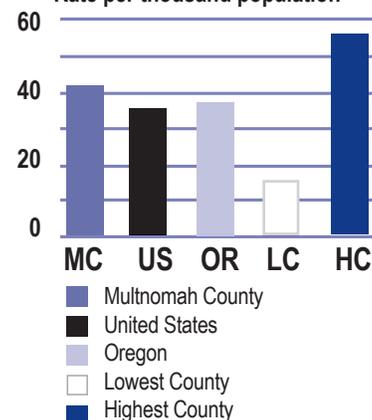
Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Multnomah County was \$41,278 in 1999 compared to \$26,928 in 1989 (53.3 percent increase).

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles



Source: U.S. Census

Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Source: U.S. Census.

Multnomah County

Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregon households have difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Multnomah County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses.

Families with one adult earning Multnomah County's median income could not afford the basic family budget.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

Multnomah County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$645	\$897	\$645	\$897
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$413	\$897	\$413	\$897
Transportation	\$148	\$148	\$208	\$208
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$271	\$430	\$320	\$479
Taxes	\$434	\$644	\$491	\$729
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$2,386	\$3,750	\$2,758	\$4,150
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$28,633	\$44,999	\$33,097	\$49,799
Median Annual Income (Census 2000)	\$23,775	\$23,775	\$59,751	\$59,751
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	83.0%	52.8%	180.5%	120.0%

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families at the poverty level in Multnomah County could afford 37.0 to 40.5 percent of this basic family budget.

Poverty and Multnomah County's Basic Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	40.1%	37.0%	40.5%	39.9%

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Multnomah County was \$666.12. The mining industry had the highest weekly average of \$895.03 and the retail trade industry had the lowest weekly average of \$390.80.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Multnomah County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages.

An adult who had three children and who worked full-time at Multnomah County's average wage could not afford the basic family budget.

Multnomah County Wages and the Basic Budget

	1 Worker 1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Worker 1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Workers 2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Workers 2 Adults/ 3 Children
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$2,864	\$2,864	\$5,728	\$5,728
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$2,386	\$3,750	\$2,758	\$4,150
Difference (SSW-AMW)	\$478	-\$886	\$2,970	\$1,578
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	120.0%	76.4%	207.7%	138.0%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.
** Based on Basic Family Budget for Multnomah County.

Multnomah County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	583,887 ¹	660,486 ²	668,969	675,438	677,813
% of People living below poverty level	13.1% ¹	12.7% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$26,928 ¹	\$41,278 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	4.1	4.3	6.4	8.5	9
8th Grade Drug Use	18.4% ³	10.5%	NA	18.7%	NA
HS Dropout	9.0% ⁴	9.5%	8.6%	7.7%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	26	19.1	16.9	14.3	NA
Prenatal Care	78.1%	79.5%	80.1%	80.6%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	17.3	22.7	20.5	19	NA
Homeownership Rate	55.3% ¹	56.9% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	41.6% ¹	43.1% ²	NA	NA	NA
Multnomah County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	2,846	2,010	2,639	2,455	2,632
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	530	577	1,163	1,735	1,434
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$4.5 m	\$20.9 m	\$32.0 m	\$74.8 m	\$77.3 m
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	392	330	325	253	252
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$40.5 m	\$34.9 m	\$35.0 m	\$29.9 m	\$32.0 m
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	15,425	15,955	12,236	11,485
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	21.2%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	34,571	34,555	38,236	39,548	40,468
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	37.1%	37.0%	40.6%	42.1%	44.3%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	17.7%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	3.6%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	27.9%	28.6%	
¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989 ² 2000 Census data, year is 1999 ³ 1998 ⁴ 1996 NA=Not Available					

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² ASDF (MULTCO) Community Service Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05.

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

Major findings

According to the 2000 US Census, the overall percent of people living in poverty in Polk County decreased although the number of people in poverty did not. The county poverty rate paralleled state and national rates.

The percent of families living in poverty in Polk County decreased, although the number of those living in poverty did not. This was true for all family types, including those headed by a single mother.

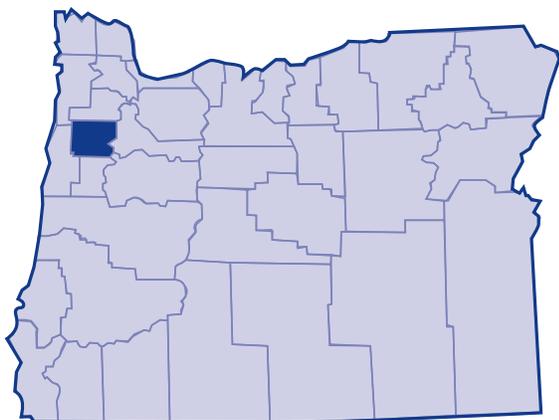
Minorities experienced higher rates of poverty in Polk County, with 31 percent of Black living in poverty.

Among Polk County renters, nearly half reported spending at least 30 percent of their income on rent.

To qualify for public assistance programs, a person's income must be no more than 185 percent of the federal poverty level. Of Polk County residents, 26.6 percent fell below 185 percent of federal poverty threshold.

Of those who were in poverty in 1999, 47.2 percent earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold.

In 2003, 20.9 percent of Polk county residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹



Low-income needs

Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency prioritized the needs of the low-income population in Polk County as follows²:

- Increase resources to address homeless issues, particularly emergency shelter beds, transitional housing, and case management. Also, provide rental assistance to allow homeless families to access permanent housing
- Address food insecurity including longer-term emergency food assistance
- Increase affordable and low-income housing stock; provide tenant training so that homeless families with poor rent histories can access permanent housing, heating assistance, and rental assistance
- Serve youth by establishing after-school programs in Polk County middle schools and a shelter program for runaway and homeless youth
- Improve support for families at risk for child abuse and neglect such as mental health, respite, crisis intervention, and crisis nursery services
- Increase free and low-cost mental health services, including access to medication and medication management
- Increase the number of Head Start slots and establish an Early Head Start program
- Increase the number of free and reduced cost detox and inpatient services
- Increase the number of affordable childcare slots for low-income working parents
- Energy Assistance

Polk County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Polk County grew 25.9 percent between 1989 and 1999. The US Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 60,526 county residents and found that 11.5 percent (6,943 people) lived below the poverty threshold. This is an increase of 7.2 percent in the number of persons living in poverty (6,475 people) in 1989. The overall percent of Polk County's population living in poverty decreased from 1989 to 1999, but the number of people living in poverty did not.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Polk County remained relatively constant from 12 percent of the population to 11.5 percent. The number of persons in poverty rose from 5,267 people to 6,943 people. Polk County's poverty rates were equal to the state and national poverty rates throughout this period.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined, children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 17.1 percent. Children younger than 18 years of age experienced poverty at 13 percent. People 65 and older experienced the lowest rate at 5.5 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty was consistently highest for children younger than 18.

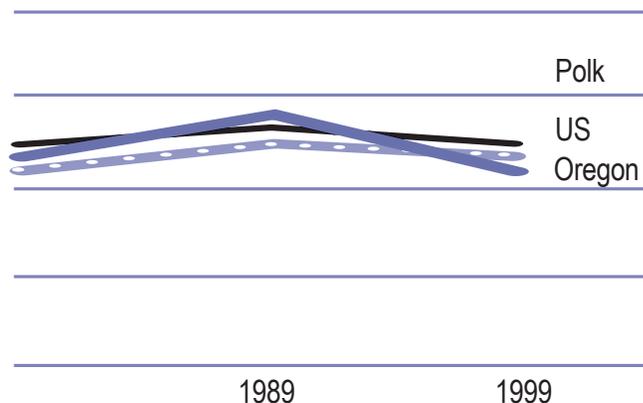
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level (poverty rate)

	1989	1999	Percent Change (rate difference)
Polk County	6,475 (13.6%)	6,943 (11.5%)	7.2% (-2.1%)
Oregon Statewide	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%)

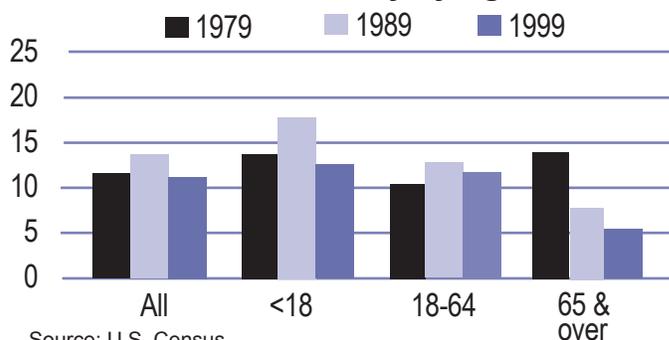
Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Source: U.S. Census.

Rate of Poverty by Age



Source: U.S. Census.

Poverty and Polk County Families

In 1999, 1,028 Polk County families lived in poverty (6.3 percent). Of the families in poverty, 61.9 percent (636 families) had a worker and 13.1 percent (135 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child under 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 11.2 percent. Families with a child 5 years and younger experienced poverty at a higher rate of 15.5 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 35.7 percent and even higher with younger children (less than 5 years) at 63.7 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children under 18 was lower at 5.6 percent. From 1979 to 1999, the number of female-headed households with children (no husband present) who lived in poverty increased from 376 families in 1979 to 487 families in 1999, but the overall percent decreased.

Poverty and Race/ Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White residents comprised the majority of people in poverty at 80.7 percent. When examining poverty based on race/ethnicity, however, the poverty rate among White was 10.4 percent. Black experienced disproportionately higher rates of poverty for a rate of 31 percent. Between 1989 and 1999, poverty improved for most racial/ethnic categories, except American Indian.

Polk County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)	Polk County Families in Poverty			% Change '79-'99 (rate difference)
	1979	1989	1999	
All Families	1,000 (8.2%)	1,093 (8.4%)	1,028 (6.3%)	2.8% (-1.9%)
With Children under 18	723 (11.4%)	864 (13.0%)	881 (11.2%)	21.9% (-0.2%)
Female-headed with children under 18	376 (44.2%)	453 (41.2%)	487 (35.7%)	29.5% (-8.5%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Polk County and Race/Ethnicity

Race/ Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population (poverty population)	Poverty Rate by Race 1999	Poverty Rate by Race 1989
White	89.3% (54,057)	80.7% (5,602)	10.4%	12.3%
Black	0.3% (168)	0.7% (52)	31.0%	53.0%
American Indian	1.6% (958)	3.0% (209)	21.8%	14.8%
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.2%/0.2% (741/136)	1.5%/0.1% (102/6)	13.8%/4.4%	23.0%*
Other	4.6% (2,776)	10.7% (743)	26.8%	38.1%
2 or More Races	2.7% (1,690)	3.3% (229)	13.6%	NA
Hispanic Origin	9.0% (5,421)	22.4% (1,557)	28.7%	36.6%

*Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 Census.

County Income

On a per capita basis, Polk County's personal income was \$25,241 in 2002, about 88 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 82 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Per capita income in Polk County rose 2.6 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, in per capita income shows average annual growth of 4.4 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$24,884 in Polk County compared to \$33,063 for the state.⁴

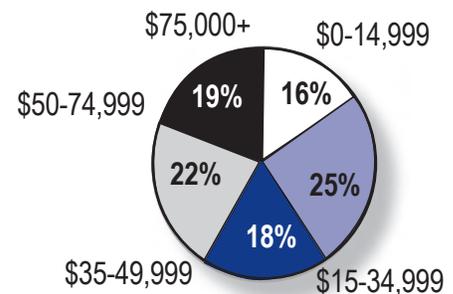
Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Polk County. The 2000 Census showed that 3,279 people or 47.2 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold actually earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or above the poverty level but still needed assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants and Children program. In 1999, 26.6 percent of Polk County's population, or 16,113 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Public Assistance

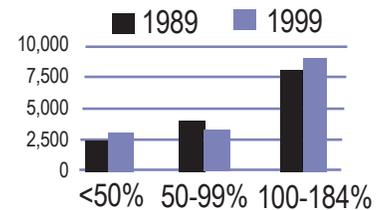
Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 815 households or 3.5 percent of all households in Polk County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$2,580. The 20-year trend showed a decrease in households that reported receiving public assistance income, from 1,072 households or 6.5 percent of all households in 1979.

1999 Household Income Distribution-Polk County



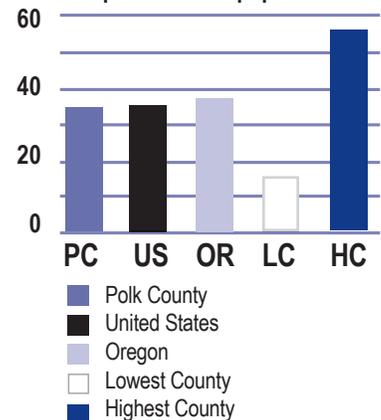
Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Polk County was \$42,311 in 1999 compared to \$26,292 in 1989 (60.9 percent increase).

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles



Source: U.S. Census

Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Source: U.S. Census.

Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregon households had difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Polk County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses.

Families with one adult earning Polk County's median income could not afford the basic family budget.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families at the poverty level in Polk County could afford 40 to 42.4 percent of this basic family budget.

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Polk County is \$458.36. The federal government had the highest weekly average of \$849.99 and the retail trade industry had the lowest weekly average of \$260.45.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Polk County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages.

Only families with two working adults and one child could afford the basic family budget if they earned average Polk County wages.

Polk County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$568	\$782	\$568	\$782
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$405	\$876	\$405	\$876
Transportation	\$170	\$170	\$240	\$240
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$247	\$394	\$296	\$443
Taxes	\$394	\$579	\$458	\$669
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$2,259	\$3,535	\$2,648	\$3,950
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$27,107	\$42,421	\$31,777	\$47,395
Median Annual Income (Census 2000)	\$23,624	\$23,624	\$55,815	\$55,815
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	87.0%	56.0%	176.0%	118.0%

Poverty and Polk County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	42.4%	40.0%	42.2%	41.9%

Polk County Wages and the Basic Budget

	1 Worker 1 Child	1 Worker 3 Children	2 Workers 1 Child	2 Workers 3 Children
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$1,971	\$1,971	\$3,942	\$3,942
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$2,259	\$3,535	\$2,648	\$3,950
Difference (SSW-AMW)	-\$288	-\$1,564	\$1,294	-\$8
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	87.3%	55.8%	148.9%	99.8%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.
** Based on Basic Family Budget for Polk County.

Polk County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	49,541 ¹	62,380 ²	63,715	64,743	65,995
% of People living below poverty level	13.6% ¹	11.5% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$26,292 ¹	\$42,311 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	3.9	4.9	5.9	6.3	6.9
8th Grade Drug Use	23.4% ³	18.9%	NA	23.1%	NA
HS Dropout	6.5% ⁴	5.9%	4.7%	4.7%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	15.5	7.8	11.4	8.5	NA
Prenatal Care	83.7%	81.2%	78.9%	79.5%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	17.5	17	17.2	17.9	NA
Homeownership Rate	66.4% ¹	68.4% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	44.7% ¹	49.3% ²	NA	NA	NA
Polk County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	33	64	68	181	151
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	39	12	40	1	0
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$634,561	\$361,300	\$365,860	\$414,000	\$0
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	23	8	16	14	13
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$2.0 m	\$699,510	\$1.4 m	\$1.3 m	\$1.3 m
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	912	722	817	681
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	17.0%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	2,272	2,428	2,458	2,630	2,789
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	35.0%	37.3%	38.0%	41.6%	43.9%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	16.7%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	2.6%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	21.2%	22.0%	
¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989 ² 2000 Census data, year is 1999 ³ 1998 ⁴ 1996 NA=Not Available					

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency Community Services Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05.

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

Sherman County

Major findings

According to the US Census, the poverty rate and the number of those in poverty increased in Sherman County between 1989 and 1999. Poverty in Sherman County remained slightly higher than state and national averages during this period.

Of Sherman County residents in poverty, 48 percent earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold.

Families headed by a single mother living in poverty rose from six families (30 percent poverty rate) in 1979 to 23 families (51.1 percent poverty rate) in 1999.

Minorities experienced high poverty rates. Those who chose "Other" as a racial category faced a 73 percent poverty rate. More than 39 percent of Sherman County's residents lived in poverty.

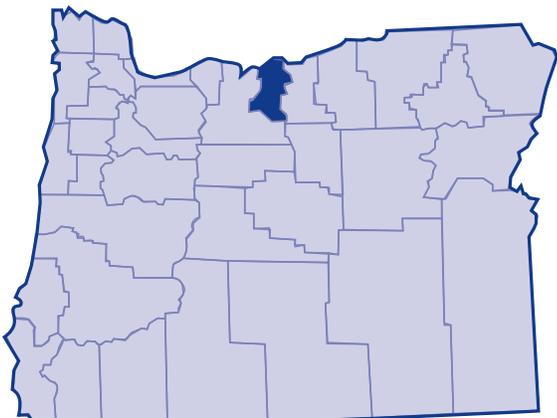
The unemployment rate for Sherman County reached 11.9 by 2003.

In 2003, 19.5 percent of Sherman county residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹

Low-income needs

Mid-Columbia Community Action Council prioritized the needs of the low-income population in Sherman County as follows²:

- Employment and jobs
- Rent/mortgage assistance
- Case Management or follow up for recipients of assistance programs
- Transitional housing including services for those with mental health issues and those who have been recently released from prison or drug/alcohol treatment centers
- Utility assistance
- Quality child care centers
- Public transportation available to everyone with cost based on a sliding scale (buses, medical vans, etc.)
- Renter education for low income tenants with poor rental history
- Safe homes for victims of domestic violence



Sherman County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Sherman County grew 0.8 percent between 1989 and 1999. The US Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 1,922 county residents and found that 14.6 percent (280 people) lived below the poverty threshold. This is an increase of 47.4 percent in the number of persons living in poverty (190 people) in 1989. The overall percent of Sherman County's population living in poverty increased from 1989 to 1999, as did the number of people living in poverty.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Sherman County remained relatively constant from 14.4 percent of the population to 14.6 percent. The number of persons in poverty fell from 312 people to 280 people. Sherman County's poverty rates were higher than the state and national poverty rates in 1979 and 1999. The county's poverty rate fell between 1979 and 1989, but the rate returned to 1979 levels by 1999.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined, children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 20.4 percent. Children younger than 18 years of age experienced poverty at 18.8 percent. People 65 and older experienced the lowest rate at 7.7 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty improved for people 65 and older.

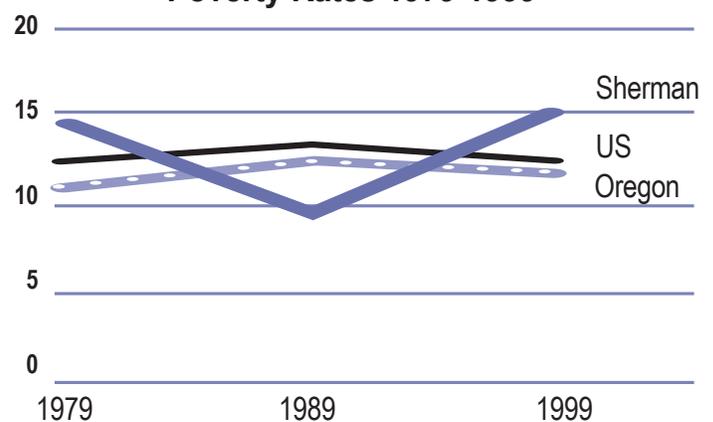
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level (poverty rate)

	1989	1999	Percent Change (rate difference)
Sherman County	190 (9.9%)	280 (14.6%)	47.4% (4.7%)
Oregon Statewide	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%)

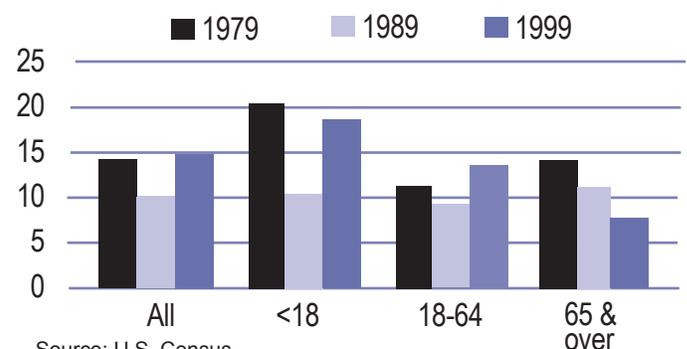
Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Source: U.S. Census.

Rate of Poverty by Age



Source: U.S. Census.

Sherman County

Poverty and Sherman County Families

In 1999, 68 Sherman County families lived in poverty (12.3 percent). Of the families in poverty, 54.4 percent (37 families) had a worker and 26.5 percent (18 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child under 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 17.6 percent. Families with a child 5 years and younger experienced poverty at a higher rate of 18.5 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 51.1 percent and was even higher with younger children (less than 5 years) at 60 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children under 18 was lower at 9.1 percent. From 1979 to 1999, the number of female-headed households with children (no husband present) who lived in poverty increased from 6 families in 1979 to 23 families in 1999.

Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White residents comprised the majority of people in poverty at 85.7 percent. When examining poverty based on race/ethnicity, however, the poverty rate among White was 13.5 percent. Other and Hispanic Origin experienced disproportionately higher rates of poverty. The poverty rate among Other was 73.1 percent, while Hispanic Origin had a 39.3 percent rate. From 1989 to 1999, no category experienced improvements in poverty rates.

Sherman County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)	Year			% Change '79-'99 (rate difference)
	1979	1989	1999	
All Families	71 (11.1%)	43 (7.6%)	68 (12.3%)	-4.2% (1.2%)
With Children under 18	51 (16.4%)	32 (11.4%)	46 (17.6%)	-9.8% (1.2%)
Female-headed with children under 18	6 (30.0%)	22 (59.5%)	23 (51.1%)	283.3% (21.1%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Sherman County and Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population (poverty population)	Poverty Rate by Race 1999	Poverty Rate by Race 1989
White	92.5% (1,777)	85.7% (240)	13.5%	9.6%
Black	0.6% (12)	0.0% (0)	0.0%	NA
American Indian	2.1% (41)	8.9% (8)	19.5%	6.7%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.7%/0.0% (14/0)	1.1%/0.0% (3/0)	21.4%/NA	0.0%*
Other	1.4% (26)	6.8% (19)	73.1%	72.7%
2 or More Races	2.7% (52)	3.6% (10)	19.2%	NA
Hispanic Origin	4.6% (89)	12.5% (35)	39.3%	37.0%

*Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 Census.

Sherman County

County Income

On a per capita basis, Sherman County's personal income was \$17,647 in 2002, about 61 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 57 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Per capita income in Sherman County rose 27.2 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, in per capita income shows average annual growth of 0.2 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$23,497 in Sherman County compared to \$33,063 for the state. ⁴

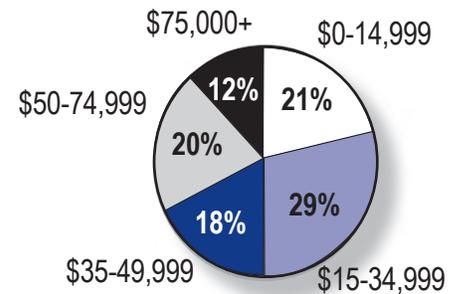
Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Sherman County. The 2000 Census showed that 136 people or 48.6 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold actually earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or above the poverty level but still needed assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants, and Children program. In 1999, 30.2 percent of Sherman County's population, or 581 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Public Assistance

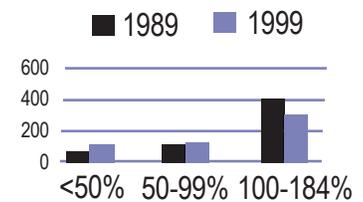
Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 12 households or 1.5 percent of all households in Sherman County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$2,542. The 20-year trend showed a decrease in households that reported receiving public assistance income, from 34 households or 4.1 percent of all households in 1979.

1999 Household Income Distribution-Sherman County



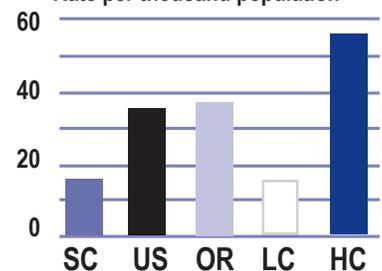
Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Sherman County was \$35,142 in 1999 compared to \$25,030 in 1989 (40.4 percent increase).

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles



Source: U.S. Census

Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Legend:
 ■ Sherman County
 ■ United States
 ■ Oregon
 □ Lowest County
 ■ Highest County

Source: U.S. Census.

Sherman County

Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregon households had difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Sherman County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses.

Families with one adult earning Sherman County's median family income could not afford the basic family budget.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

Sherman County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$477	\$657	\$477	\$657
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$377	\$837	\$377	\$837
Transportation	\$197	\$197	\$277	\$277
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$219	\$355	\$268	\$404
Taxes	\$291	\$503	\$411	\$574
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$2,036	\$3,283	2,491	\$3,689
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$24,427	\$39,396	\$29,897	\$44,263
Median Family Income (Census 2000)	\$15,693	\$15,693	\$49,107	\$49,107
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	64.2%	39.8%	164.3%	110.9%

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families at the poverty level in Sherman County could afford 43 to 47 percent of this basic family budget.

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Sherman County is \$404.32. The federal government had the highest weekly average of \$957.86 and the services industry had the lowest weekly average of \$203.22.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Sherman County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages.

The only family that could afford basic expenses was one in which two adults worked full-time at Sherman County's average wage and only had one child.

Poverty and Sherman County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	47.0%	43.0%	44.9%	44.9%

Sherman County Wages and the Basic Budget

	1 Worker 1 Child	1 Worker 3 Children	2 Workers 1 Child	2 Workers 3 Children
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$1,739	\$1,739	\$3,478	\$3,478
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$2,036	\$3,283	\$2,491	\$3,689
Difference (SSW-AMW)	-\$297	-\$1,544	\$986	-\$212
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	85.4%	53.0%	139.6%	94.3%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.
** Based on Basic Family Budget for Sherman County.

Sherman County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	1,918 ¹	1,934 ²	1,862	1,788	1,754
% of People living below poverty level	9.9% ¹	14.6% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$25,030 ¹	\$35,142 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	7.1	5.9	11.6	10.7	11.9
8th Grade Drug Use	17.8% ³	14.0%	NA	17.6%	NA
HS Dropout	1.6% ⁴	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	9.3	0.0	7.7	0.0	NA
Prenatal Care	72.2%	100.0%	NA%	66.7%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	0.0	9.6	11.0	15.1	NA
Homeownership Rate	66.1% ¹	70.5% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	52.2% ¹	54.0% ²	NA	NA	NA
Sherman County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	0	6	0	0	1
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	0	0	0	0	12
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$873,242
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	1	0	0	0	0
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$70,789	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	72	57	58	48
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	20.0%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	107	108	126	136	118
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	28.2%	29.7%	36.6%	40.4%	40.0%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	13.8%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	2.1%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	23.0%	25.9%	
¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989 ² 2000 Census data, year is 1999 ³ 1998 ⁴ 1996 NA=Not Available					

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Mid-Columbia Community Action Council Community Service Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05.

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

Tillamook County

Major findings

According to the US Census, the poverty rate and the number of those in poverty decreased in Tillamook County between 1989 and 1999. The 1999 poverty rate equaled to the state and national average.

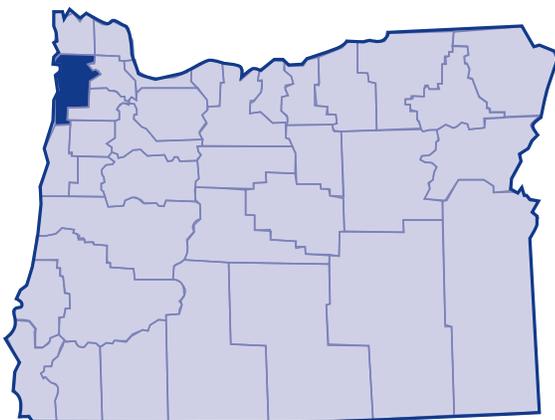
Of Tillamook County residents living in poverty, 43 percent earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold.

Minorities experienced high rates of poverty in Tillamook County, with Black at 77.1 percent. Other and Hispanic Origin both had poverty rates greater than 32 percent.

Families with one adult working full time and either earning median income or average wages for Tillamook County could not afford the basic family budget. Single mothers faced a high risk of poverty: 31 percent for all single mothers, and 49.1 percent if she had a child under 5 years of age.

Unemployment rates increased from 4.4 in 2000 to 9.5 in 2003.

In 2003, 21.8 percent of Tillamook County residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹



Low-income needs

Community Action Team, Inc., the Community Action Agency for Tillamook County prioritized the needs of the county's low-income population as follows²:

- Develop and implement a transitional housing program for homeless youth
- Establish a link between Family Childcare Providers and Food Banks to improve child nutrition
- Maintain five senior center meal programs
- Establish two family resource centers and improve access to services for low-income families
- Increase enrollment in the Even Start Family Literacy program
- Produce and distribute 6,000 Family Resource Directories
- Develop and construct transitional housing for persons released from the Columbia County Corrections Facility
- Complete 15 units of Self Help Housing
- Enroll 600 children in Head Start and prepare them to succeed in school
- Rehabilitate 100 low or moderate income homes
- Weatherize 200 low income homes
- Provide after school child care for 200 children
- Provide emergency energy services to 5,000 low income households

Tillamook County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Tillamook County grew 12.5 percent between 1989 and 1999. The US Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 23,794 county residents and found that 11.4 percent (2,718 people) lived below the poverty threshold. This is a decrease of 14.2 percent in the number of persons living in poverty (3,168 people) in 1989. The overall percent of Tillamook County's population living in poverty decreased from 1989 to 1999, as did the number of people in poverty.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Tillamook County increased from 10.1 percent of the population to 11.4 percent. The number of persons in poverty rose from 2,103 people to 2,178 people. Tillamook County's poverty rates equaled state and national poverty rates with the exception of 1989 when the county's rates were higher.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined, children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 20.6 percent. Children younger than 18 years of age experienced poverty at 15.2 percent. People 65 and older experienced the lowest rate: 8.1 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty was consistently highest for children younger than 18.

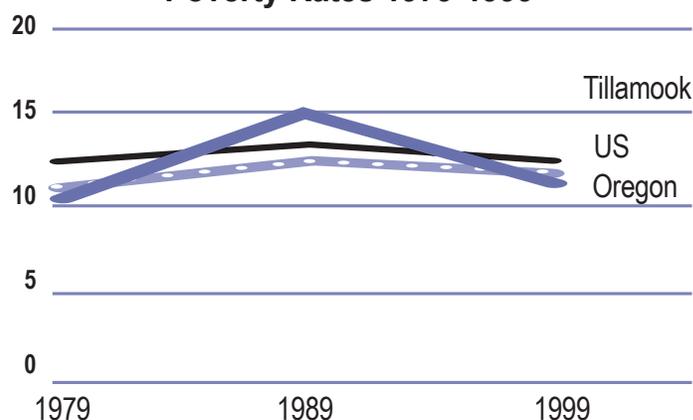
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level
(poverty rate)

	1989	1999	Percent Change (rate difference)
Tillamook County	3,168 (115.0%)	2,718 (11.4%)	-14.2% (-3.6%)
Oregon Statewide	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%)

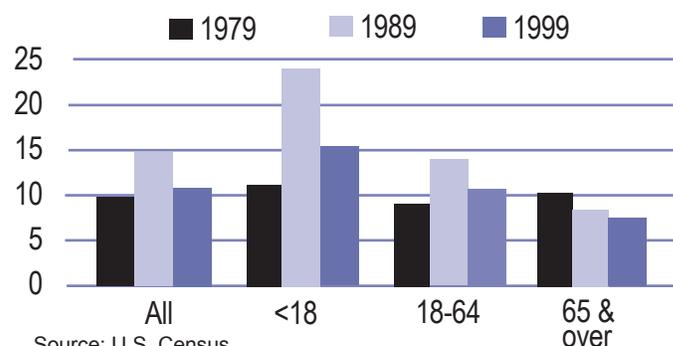
Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Source: U.S. Census.

Rate of Poverty by Age



Source: U.S. Census.

Tillamook County

Poverty and Tillamook County Families

In 1999, 553 of Tillamook County families lived in poverty (8.1 percent). Out of the 553 families in poverty, 65.8 percent (364 families) had a worker and 19.5 percent (108 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child under 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 14.1 percent. Families with a child 5 years and younger experienced poverty at a higher rate of 20.9 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 30.5 percent and was even higher with younger children (less than 5 years) at 49.1 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children under 18 was lower at 10.9 percent. From 1979 to 1999, the number of families with children who lived in poverty increased from 462 families in 1979 to 553 families in 1999.

Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White residents comprised the majority of people in poverty at 89.1 percent. When examining poverty based on race/ethnicity, however, the poverty rate among White was 10.8 percent. Black, Other and Hispanic Origin experienced disproportionately higher rates of poverty. For Black, the poverty rate was 77.1 percent. Poverty exceeded 32 percent for Other and Hispanic Origin. Poverty rates improved for White and American Indian between 1989 and 1999.

Tillamook County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)	Year			% Change '79-'99 (rate difference)
	1979	1989	1999	
All Families	462 (7.6%)	698 (11.4%)	553 (8.1%)	19.7% (0.5%)
With Children under 18	323 (11.5%)	514 (20.3%)	384 (14.1%)	18.9% (2.6%)
Female-headed with children under 18	154 (42.9%)	291 (57.7%)	151 (30.5%)	-1.9% (-12.4%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Tillamook County and Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population by Race (poverty population)	Poverty Rate 1999	Poverty Rate by Race 1989
White	94.4% (22,467)	89.1% (2,422)	10.8%	14.8%
Black	0.1% (35)	1.0% (27)	77.1%	72.1%
American Indian	0.4% (107)	0.5% (14)	13.1%	22.8%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.5%/0.1% (122/27)	0.7%/0.0% (20/0)	16.4%/NA	0.0%*
Other	1.7% (408)	4.9% (132)	32.4%	21.2%
2 or More Races	2.6% (628)	3.8% (103)	16.4%	NA
Hispanic Origin	5.1% (1,203)	17.2% (468)	38.9%	22.3%

*Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 Census.

Tillamook County

County Income

On a per capita basis, Tillamook County's personal income was \$25,734 in 2002, about 89 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 83 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Per capita income in Tillamook County rose 3.8 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, in per capita income shows average annual growth of 4.9 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$25,162 in Tillamook County compared to \$33,063 for the state.⁴

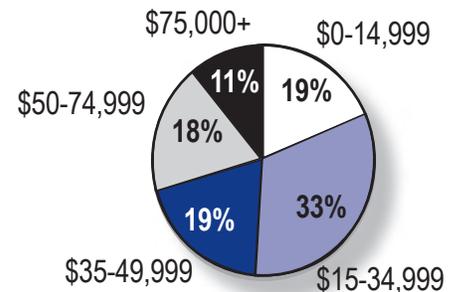
Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Tillamook County. The 2000 Census showed that 1,163 people or 42.8 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or above the poverty level but still needed assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants, and Children program. In 1999, 31.4 percent of Tillamook County's population, or 7,461 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Public Assistance

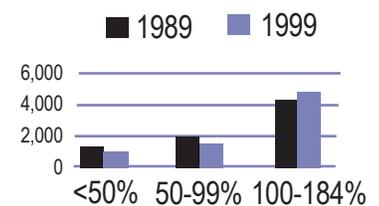
Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 328 households or 3.2 percent of all households in Tillamook County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$2,323. The 20-year trend showed a decrease in households that reported receiving public assistance income, from 487 households or 5.8 percent of all households in 1979.

1999 Household Income Distribution-Tillamook County



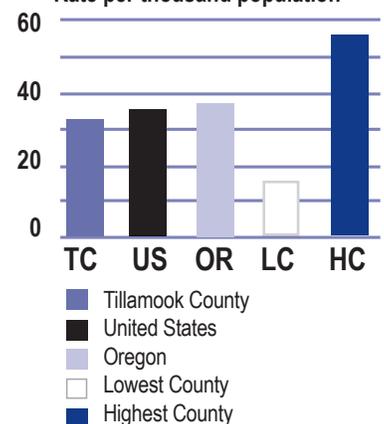
Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Tillamook County was \$34,269 in 1999 compared to \$21,965 in 1989 (56.0 percent increase).

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles



Source: U.S. Census

Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Source: U.S. Census.

Tillamook County

Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregon households had difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Tillamook County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses.

Families with one adult earning Tillamook County's median income could not afford the basic family budget.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

Tillamook County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$477	\$657	\$477	\$657
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$388	\$842	\$388	\$842
Transportation	\$197	\$197	\$277	\$277
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$219	\$355	\$268	\$404
Taxes	\$298	\$505	\$416	\$575
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$2,054	\$3,290	\$2,507	\$3,695
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$24,648	\$39,477	\$30,082	\$44,345
Median Annual Income (Census 2000)	\$22,507	\$22,507	\$46,010	\$46,010
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	91.3%	57.0%	152.9%	103.8%

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families at the poverty level in Tillamook County could afford 42.9 to 46.6 percent of this basic family budget.

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Tillamook County is \$437.47. The federal government had the highest weekly average of \$668.38 and non-classifiable had the lowest weekly average of \$206.22.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Tillamook County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages.

Families with one adult who works full-time at Tillamook County's average wage cannot afford the basic family budget.

Poverty and Tillamook County's Basic Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	46.6%	42.9%	44.6%	44.8%

Tillamook County Wages & the Basic Budget

	1 Worker 1 Child	1 Worker 3 Children	2 Workers 1 Child	2 Workers 3 Children
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$1,881	\$1,881	\$3,762	\$3,762
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$2,054	\$3,290	\$2,507	\$3,695
Difference (SSW-AMW)	-\$173	-\$1,409	\$1,255	\$67
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	91.6%	57.1%	150.1%	101.8%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.
** Based on Basic Family Budget for Tillamook County.

Tillamook County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	21,570 ¹	24,262 ²	24,447	24,494	24,590
% of People living below poverty level	15.0% ¹	11.4% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$21,965 ¹	\$34,269 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	5.0	4.4	5.5	6	9.5
8th Grade Drug Use	23.1% ³	19.3%	NA	9.4%	NA
HS Dropout	5.9% ⁴	3.7%	3.8%	4.6%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	15.7	7.8	8.5	14.4	NA
Prenatal Care	81.8%	87.1%	86.5%	86.4%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	22.7	24.5	15.5	14.9	NA
Homeownership Rate	71.3% ¹	71.8% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	44.9% ¹	46.5% ²	NA	NA	NA
Tillamook County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	508	30	41	44	15
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	30	0	0	66	0
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$1.7 m	\$0	\$0	\$1.2 m	\$0
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	1	0	0	3	1
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$74,624	\$0	\$0	\$336,706	\$60,000
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	689	680	642	408
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	19.2%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	1,455	1,629	1,583	1,701	1,652
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	38.3%	43.3%	42.3%	46.6%	47.5%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	16.9%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA		
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	27.6%	28.9%	
¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989 ² 2000 Census data, year is 1999 ³ 1998 ⁴ 1996 NA=Not Available					

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Community Action Team, Inc.'s Community Services Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05.

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

Umatilla County

Major findings

According to the US Census, the poverty rate and the number of those in poverty decreased in Umatilla County between 1989 and 1999. The poverty rate decreased from 16.5 percent of the population to 12.7 percent. The county's poverty rate matched that of the state and the nation in 1999.

The median income in Umatilla County rose from \$22,791 to \$36,249 from 1989 to 1999.

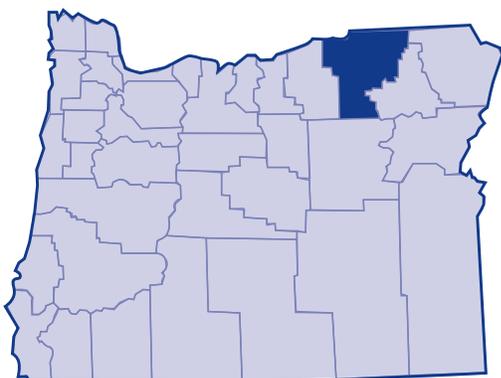
Of Umatilla County residents in poverty, 41 percent earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold.

According to the basic family budget, families with one adult who earned median income for Umatilla County could not afford the basic family budget. Families headed by a single mother who lived in poverty had a 38.7 percent poverty rate, poverty for such families rose to 51.6 percent if it included a child under 5 years of age. The number of families headed by single mothers that lived in poverty rose from 388 families in 1979 to 748 families in 1999.

Poverty for Black, American Indian, Other and Hispanic Origin exceeded 20 percent.

Unemployment rates rose from 6.3 in 2000 to 8.5 in 2003.

In 2003, 27.6 percent of Umatilla county residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹



Low-income needs

Community Action Program East Central Oregon prioritized the needs of the low-income population in Umatilla County as follows:²

- Emergency rental/transitional housing opportunities for households who are homeless or at risk of losing housing
- Maintain access to Emergency Food Boxes and promote hunger awareness in the community
- Continue providing access to energy assistance funds during the high-cost winter months
- Increase access to low-cost medical care via the Oregon Health Plan; retain local medical services
- Provide assistance for Emergency Lodging / Emergency Shelter for homeless households
- Continue the programs that promote Early Childhood Education
- Retain and improve transportation programs to help serve those residing in rural communities
- Provide access to quality childcare and voucher assistance
- Promote the development of low-income housing and create safe housing opportunities for community members
- Access to job training opportunities to help households obtain living wage jobs
- Expand opportunity for area residents to receive weatherization services thus providing safe and healthy living environments
- Assist households in obtaining adequate clothing suitable for the seasonal weather conditions
- Improve and expand counseling/family case management for households in crisis to help them become self-reliant

Umatilla County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Umatilla County grew 19.1 percent between 1989 and 1999. The US Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 67,329 county residents and found that 12.7 percent (8,524 people) lived below the poverty threshold. This is a decrease of 9.5 percent in the number of persons living in poverty (9,419 people) in 1989. The overall percent of Umatilla County's population living in poverty decreased from 1989 to 1999, as did the number of people living in poverty.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Umatilla County increased from 10.8 percent of the population to 12.7 percent. The number of persons in poverty rose from 6,207 people to 8,524 people. The rate fell to match state and national averages by 1999.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined, children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 20.1 percent. Children younger than 18 years of age experienced poverty at 17 percent. People 65 and older experienced the lowest rate at 8.7 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty improved people 65 and older.

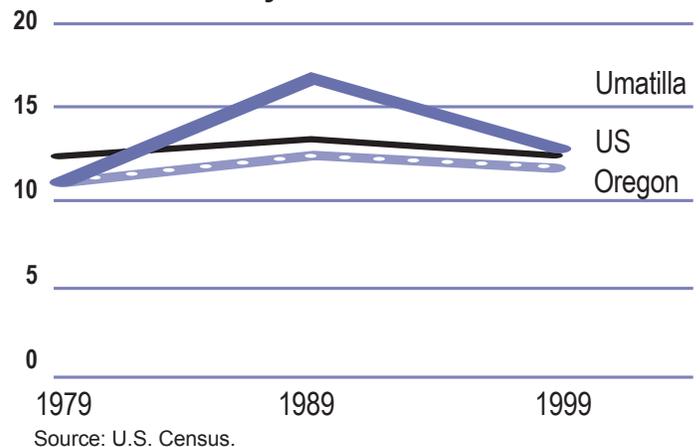
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level (poverty rate)

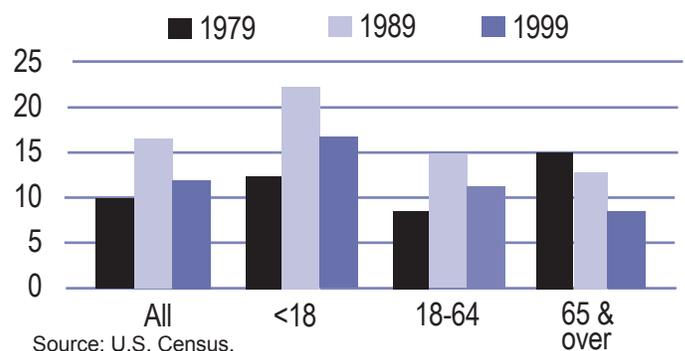
	1989	1999	Percent Change
Umatilla County	9,419 (16.5%)	8,524 (12.7%)	(rate difference) -9.5% (-3.9%)
Oregon Statewide	344,867 (12.4%)	388,740 (11.6%)	12.7% (-0.8%)
United States	31,742,864 (13.1%)	33,899,812 (12.4%)	6.8% (-0.7%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Rate of Poverty by Age



Umatilla County

Poverty & Umatilla County Families

In 1999, 1,756 Umatilla County families lived in poverty (9.8 percent). Of the families in poverty, 65.7 percent (1,154 families) had a worker and 21.5 percent (378 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child younger than 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 14.1 percent. Families with a child 5 years and younger experienced poverty at a higher rate of 18.9 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 38.7 percent and was even higher with younger children (less than 5 years) at 51.6 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children under 18 was lower at 6.9 percent. From 1979 to 1999, the number of female-headed households with children (no husband present) who lived in poverty increased from 388 families in 1979 to 748 families in 1999.

Poverty & Race/Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White residents comprised the majority of people in poverty at 67.7 percent. When examining poverty based on race/ethnicity, however, the poverty rate among White was 10.4 percent.

Black, Other and Hispanic Origin experienced disproportionately higher rates of poverty, with Black at 33 percent and poverty among Other and Hispanic Origin in excess of 23 percent. From 1989 to 1999, most racial categories experienced improved poverty rates.

Umatilla County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)				% Change
	1979	1989	1999	'79-'99 (rate difference)
All Families	1,262 (7.9%)	2,010 (12.8%)	1,756 (9.8%)	39.1% (1.9%)
With Children under 18	884 (10.4%)	1,563 (18.8%)	1,363 (14.1%)	54.2% (3.7%)
Female-headed with children under 18	388 (34.9%)	767 (52.7%)	748 (38.7%)	92.8% (3.8%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Umatilla County and Race/Ethnicity

Race/ Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population (poverty population)	Poverty Rate by Race 1999	Poverty Rate by Race 1989
White	82.4% (55,504)	67.7% (5,769)	10.4%	14.1%
Black	0.5% (361)	1.4% (119)	33.0%	45.9%
American Indian	3.2% (2,138)	5.4% (458)	21.4%	29.4%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.7%/0.1% (477/62)	0.4%/0.2% (31/18)	6.5%/29.0%	17.1%*
Other	10.9% (7,358)	21.7% (1,850)	25.1%	43.7%
2 or More Races	2.1% (1,429)	3.3% (279)	19.5%	NA
Hispanic Origin	16.3% (10,960)	29.9% (2,546)	23.2%	41.2%

*Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 Census.

Umatilla County

County Income

On a per capita basis, Umatilla County's personal income was \$22,789 in 2002, about 79 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 74 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Per capita income in Umatilla County rose 2.2 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, in per capita income shows average annual growth of 3.9 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$27,728 in Umatilla County compared to \$33,063 for the state.⁴

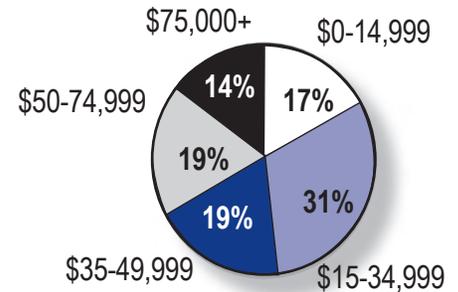
Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Umatilla County. The 2000 Census showed that 3,466 people or 40.7 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold were actually earning 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or above the poverty level but still needed assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants, and Children program. In 1999, 33.1 percent of Umatilla County's population, or 22,289 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Public Assistance

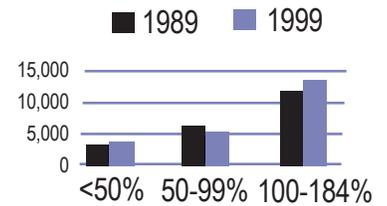
Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and steps taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 863 households or 3.4 percent of all households in Umatilla County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$2,184. The 20-year trend showed a decrease in households that reported receiving public assistance income, from 1,208 households or 5.7 percent of all households in 1979.

1999 Household Income Distribution-Umatilla County



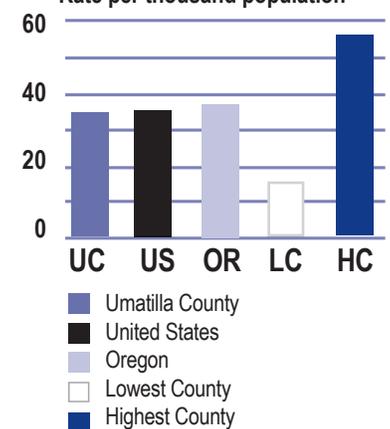
Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Umatilla County was \$36,249 in 1999 compared to \$22,791 in 1989 (59 percent increase).

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles



Source: U.S. Census

Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Source: U.S. Census.

Umatilla County

Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregon households had difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Umatilla County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses.

Families with one adult earning Umatilla County's median income could not afford the basic family budget.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

Umatilla County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$477	\$657	\$477	\$657
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$375	\$833	\$375	\$833
Transportation	\$197	\$197	\$277	\$277
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$219	\$355	\$268	\$404
Taxes	\$288	\$501	\$410	\$572
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$2,031	\$3,277	\$2,488	\$3,683
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$24,374	\$39,325	\$29,861	\$44,195
Median Annual Income (Census 2000)	\$19,457	\$19,457	\$49,194	\$49,194
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	79.8%	49.5%	164.7%	111.3%

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families at the poverty level in Umatilla County could afford 43.1 to 47.1 percent of this basic family budget.

Poverty and Umatilla County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	47.1%	43.1%	44.9%	45.0%

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Umatilla County is \$483.03. The construction industry had the highest weekly average of \$826.83 and the retail trade industry had the lowest weekly average of \$348.06.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Umatilla County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages.

An adult who has three children and who worked full-time at Umatilla County's average wage could not afford the basic budget.

Umatilla County Wages and the Basic Budget

	1 Worker 1 Child	1 Worker 3 Children	2 Workers 1 Child	2 Workers 3 Children
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$2,077	\$2,077	\$4,154	\$4,154
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$2,031	\$3,277	\$2,488	\$3,683
Difference (SSW-AMW)	\$46	-\$1,200	\$1,666	\$471
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	102.3%	63.4%	167.0%	112.8%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.
** Based on Basic Family Budget for Umatilla County.

Umatilla County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	59,249 ¹	70,548 ²	70,621	71,413	72,008
% of People living below poverty level	16.5% ¹	12.7% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$22,791 ¹	\$36,249 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	6.9	6.3	7.2	7.9	8.5
8th Grade Drug Use	15.6% ³	13.8%	NA	12.6%	NA
HS Dropout	6.5% ⁴	7.0%	5.0%	4.3%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	24.5	21.3	14.6	14.5	NA
Prenatal Care	69.3%	74.2%	76.4%	72.8%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	19.0	17.9	15.7	16.4	NA
Homeownership Rate	62.0% ¹	64.9% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	37.3% ¹	38.0% ²	NA	NA	NA
Umatilla County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	203	59	27	195	313
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	30	51	92	210	145
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$1.7 m	\$3.1 m	\$5.3 m	\$4.5 m	\$1.2 m
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	51	34	40	29	20
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$3.4 m	\$2.3 m	\$2.9 m	\$2.2 m	\$1.6 m
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	2,170	1,874	2,161	2,215
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	20.9%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	5,715	5,413	6,024	6,216	6,574
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	43.9%	42.0%	46.2%	47.7%	50.2%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	16.7%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	2.6%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	28.1%	30.1%	
¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989 ² 2000 Census data, year is 1999 ³ 1998 ⁴ 1996 NA=Not Available					

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Community Action Program East Central Oregon Community Services Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05.

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

Union County

Major findings

According to the US Census, the poverty rate and the number of those in poverty decreased in Union County between 1989 and 1999. The 1999 rate matched state and national averages.

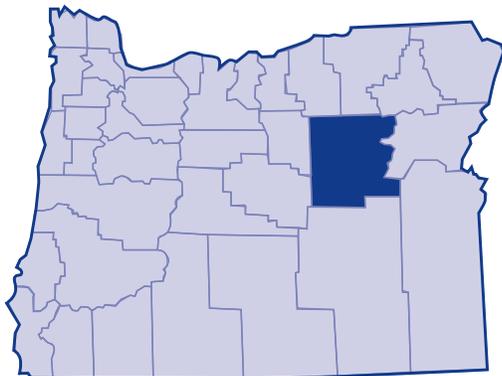
Union County's median income rose from \$22,484 in 1989 to \$33,738 in 1999 for a 50 percent increase.

Poverty rates improved for all racial and ethnic categories during this same period. At 6.5 percent, Union County's unemployment was lower than the state average.

The poverty rate for all families headed by single mothers decreased 49.8 percent to 39.6 percent although the number increased. The picture is significantly different for single mothers with children younger than 5 years of age; poverty for these families exceeded 60 percent.

Families with one adult earning either median income or average wages in Union County could not afford the basic family budget.

In 2003, 25.8 percent of Union County residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹



Low-income needs

Community Connection of Northeast Oregon (CCNO) prioritized the needs of the low-income population in Union County as follows²:

- **Energy Assistance**-Assist households in paying winter heating bills and those facing shut-off notices
- **Emergency Assistance**-Rental assistance for at-risk households
- **Weatherization/Housing Repair**-Eliminate general heat waste in client's homes, completing priority weatherization measures such as insulating, repairing or replacing doors/windows, etc. Continue rehabilitation projects by completing structural, electrical and plumbing repairs to improve and preserve the area's housing stock.
- **Tenant Based Assistance**-Offer six months assistance with rent while clients move towards self-sufficiency
- **Food Bank**-Maintain current food delivery systems with local food banks and access to hunger resources
- **Transportation**-Transport senior citizens, people with disabilities, low-income and the public to doctor appointments, shopping, mealsites, recreation and field trips
- **Kids Club**-Serve the community with safe, affordable quality childcare for children 5 to 12 years of age while their parents work or attend school
- **Health Clinics**-Increase client's ability to access health clinics within senior centers
- **Tax and Legal Assistance**-Continue to refer clients to Legal Aid and Oregon Law Centers at senior centers; train volunteers to assist clients in preparing their income taxes
- **Telephone Reassurance**-Call clients to ensure their safety and to make sure they have taken needed medication

Union County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Union County grew 4 percent between 1989 to 1999. The US Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 23,795 county residents and found that 13.8 percent (3,281 people) lived below the poverty threshold. This is a decrease of 9.5 percent in the number of person's living in poverty (3,627 people) in 1989. The overall percent of Union County's population living in poverty decreased from 1989 to 1999, as did the number of people living in poverty.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Union County increased from 12.7 percent of the population to 13.8 percent. The number of persons in poverty rose from 2,973 people to 3,281 people. Union County's poverty rates were higher than state and national rates through most of this period.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined, children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 19.1 percent. Children under 18 years of age experienced poverty at 14.4 percent. People 65 and older experienced the lowest rate at 9.5 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty improved for people 65 and older.

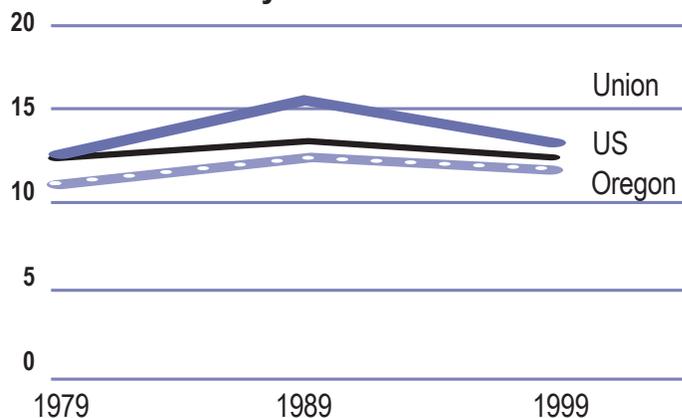
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level (poverty rate)

	1989	1999	Percent Change
Union County	3,627 (15.8%)	3,281 (13.8%)	-9.5% (-2.0%)
Oregon Statewide	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%)

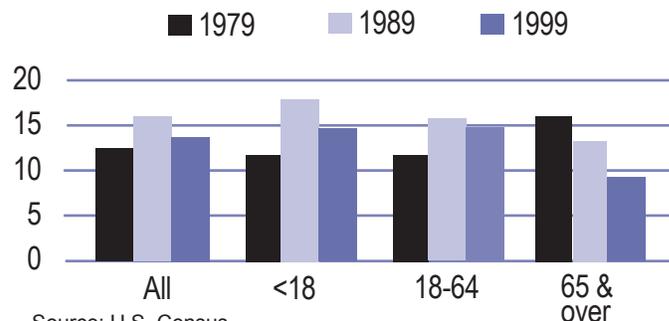
Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Source: U.S. Census.

Rate of Poverty by Age



Source: U.S. Census.

Union County

Poverty and Union County Families

In 1999, 561 Union County families lived in poverty (8.5 percent). Of the families in poverty, 61.3 percent (344 families) had a worker and 21.9 percent (123 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child younger than 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 12.3 percent. Families with a child 5 years or younger experienced poverty at a higher rate of 18.8 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 39.6 percent and was even higher with younger children (younger than 5 years) at 60 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children younger than 18 was lower at 5.9 percent. From 1979 to 1999, the number of female-headed households with children (no husband present) who lived in poverty increased from 166 families in 1979 to 218 families in 1999.

Poverty and Race/ Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White residents comprised the majority of people in poverty at 91.7 percent. When examining poverty based on race/ethnicity, however, the poverty rate among White was 13.3 percent. Pacific Islander experienced disproportionately higher rates of poverty. The poverty rate among Pacific Islander was 35.4 percent. From 1989 to 1999, all racial categories experienced improvements in poverty rates.

Union County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)				% Change
	1979	1989	1999	'79-'99 (rate difference)
All Families	633 (9.8%)	684 (10.7%)	561 (8.5%)	-11.4% (-1.3%)
With Children under 18	384 (10.9%)	475 (14.9%)	382 (12.3%)	-0.5% (1.4%)
Female-headed with children under 18	166 (41.4%)	230 (49.8%)	218 (39.6%)	31.3% (-1.8%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Union County and Race/Ethnicity

Race/ Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population (poverty population)	Poverty Rate by Race 1999	Poverty Rate by Race 1989
White	94.8% (22,556)	91.7% (3,008)	13.3%	14.8%
Black	0.3% (74)	0.5% (18)	24.3%	38.6%
American Indian	0.5% (129)	0.8% (27)	20.9%	32.6%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.9%/0.5% (210/130)	1.0%/1.4% (34/46)	16.2%/35.4%	68.9%*
Other	1.5% (347)	1.9% (61)	17.6%	33.0%
2 or More Races	1.5% (349)	2.7% (87)	24.9%	NA
Hispanic Origin	2.2% (532)	3.9% (129)	24.2%	27.7%

*Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 Census.

Union County

County Income

On a per capita basis, Union County's personal income was \$24,007 in 2002, about 83 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 78 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Per capita income in Union County rose 3.5 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, in per capita income shows average annual growth of 4.2 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$25,903 in Union County compared to \$33,063 for the state.⁴

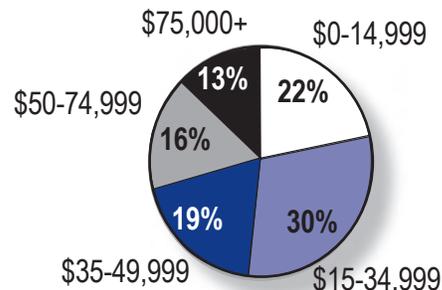
Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting Census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Union County. The 2000 Census showed that 1,415 people or 43.1 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold actually earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or above the poverty level but still needed assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants, and Children program. In 1999, 32.2 percent of Union County's population, or 7,668 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Public Assistance

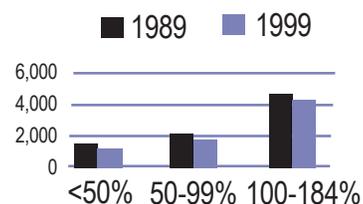
Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 410 households or 4.2 percent of all households in Union County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$2,863. The 20-year trend showed public assistance remained constant in households at 410 households (4.7 percent of all households) in 1979.

1999 Household Income Distribution-Union County



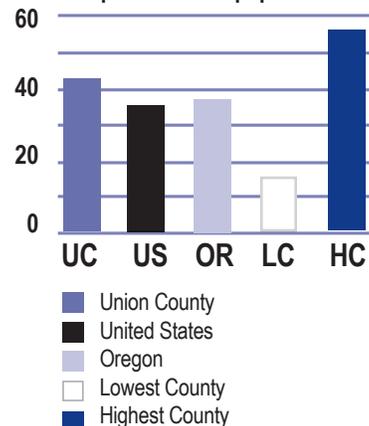
Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Union County was \$33,738 in 1999 compared to \$22,484 in 1989 (50.1 percent increase).

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles



Source: U.S. Census

Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Source: U.S. Census.

Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregon households had difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Union County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses.

Families with one adult who earned Union County's median income could not afford the basic family budget.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families at the poverty level in Union County could afford 44.6 to 48.9 percent of this basic family budget.

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Union County is \$453.25. The federal government had the highest weekly average of \$734.04 and the retail trade industry had the lowest weekly average of \$284.59.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Union County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages.

An adult with three children who worked full-time at Union County's average wage could afford 61.5 percent of the basic family budget.

Union County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$477	\$657	\$477	\$657
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$336	\$758	\$336	\$758
Transportation	\$197	\$197	\$277	\$277
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$219	\$355	\$268	\$404
Taxes	\$452	\$468	\$394	\$540
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$1,956	\$3,169	\$2,433	\$3,576
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$23,467	\$38,033	\$29,192	\$42,910
Median Annual Income (Census 2000)	\$20,305	\$20,305	\$47,246	\$47,246
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	86.5%	53.4%	161.8%	110.1%

Poverty and Union County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	48.9%	44.6%	45.9%	46.3%

Union County Wages and the Basic Budget

	1 Worker 1 Child	1 Worker 3 Children	2 Workers 1 Child	2 Workers 3 Children
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$1,949	\$1,949	\$3,897	\$3,897
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$1,956	\$3,169	\$2,433	\$3,576
Difference (SSW-AMW)	-\$7	-\$1,220	\$1,464	\$321
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	99.6%	61.5%	160.2%	109.0%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.
** Based on Basic Family Budget for Union County.

Union County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	23,598 ¹	24,530 ²	24,318	24,435	24,561
% of People living below poverty level	15.8% ¹	13.8% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$22,484 ¹	\$33,738 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	6.3	5.2	5.8	5.6	6.5
8th Grade Drug Use	23.0% ³	15.3%	NA	15.9%	NA
HS Dropout	4.4% ⁴	3.9%	3.3%	2.5%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	11.1	8.6	8	6.1	NA
Prenatal Care	86.2%	83.7%	84.8%	79.3%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	19.2	14.4	15.9	21	NA
Homeownership Rate	64.4% ¹	66.5% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	42.8% ¹	49.5% ²	NA	NA	NA
Union County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	36	9	20	28	70
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	101	112	0	29	48
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$3.4 m	\$1.1 m	\$0	\$1.4 m	\$2.0 m
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	33	24	17	11	16
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$2.3 m	\$1.4 m	\$1.2 m	\$877,506	\$1.2 m
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	869	602	739	702
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	20.8%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	1,334	1,346	1,410	1,456	1,536
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	30.6%	32.2%	34.8%	36.2%	38.8%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	17.1%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	3.3%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	29.0%	28.2%	
	¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989	² 2000 Census data, year is 1999	³ 1998	⁴ 1996	NA=Not Available

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Community Connection of Northeast Oregon's Community Services Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05.

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

Wallowa County

Major findings

According to the US Census, the poverty rate and the number of people in poverty decreased in Wallowa County between 1989 and 1999. The poverty rate during this period remained above the state and national average due to increases between 1979 and 1989.

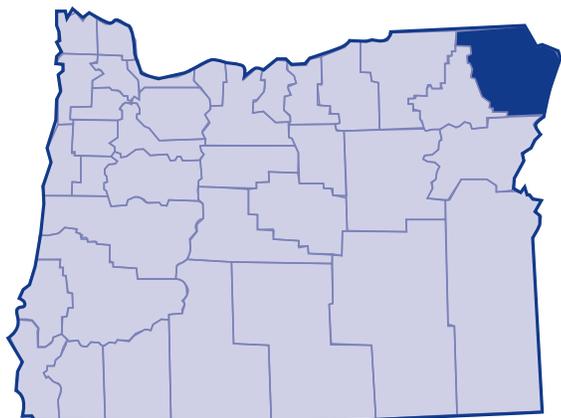
Of those living in poverty, 41 percent earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold.

Wallowa County's children, families and minorities were most likely to experience poverty in 1999.

Families with one adult who earned median income in Wallowa could not afford the basic family budget.

Unemployment rates rose from 8.6 in 2000 to 10.9 in 2003.

In 2003, 18.4 percent of Wallowa county residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹



Low-income needs

Community Connection of Northeast Oregon (CCNO) prioritized the needs of the low-income population in Wallowa County as follows²:

- **Energy Assistance**-Assist households in paying winter heating bills and those facing shut-off notices
- **Emergency Assistance**-Rental assistance for at-risk households
- **Weatherization/Housing Repair**-Eliminate general heat waste in client's homes, completing priority weatherization measures such as insulating, repairing or replacing doors/windows, etc. Continue rehabilitation projects by completing structural, electrical and plumbing repairs to improve and preserve the area's housing stock.
- **Tenant Based Assistance**-Offer six months assistance with rent while clients move towards self-sufficiency
- **Food Bank**-Maintain current food delivery systems with local food banks and access to hunger resources
- **Transportation**-Transport senior citizens, people with disabilities, low-income and the public to doctor appointments, shopping, mealsites, recreation and field trips
- **Health Clinics**-Increase client's ability to access health clinics within senior centers
- **Tax and Legal Assistance**-Continue to refer clients to Legal Aid and Oregon Law Center at senior centers; train volunteers to assist clients in preparing their income taxes
- **Telephone Reassurance**-Call clients to ensure their safety and to make sure they have taken needed medication

Wallowa County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Wallowa County grew 4.6 percent from 1989 to 1999. The US Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 7,161 county residents and found that 14 percent (1,002 people) lived below the poverty threshold. This is a decrease of 7.1 percent in the number of persons living in poverty (1,078 people) in 1989. The overall percent of Wallowa County's population living in poverty also decreased from 1989 to 1999.

20-year trend

In the 20 years since 1979, the poverty rate in Wallowa County increased from 11.2 percent of the population to 14 percent. The number of persons in poverty rose from 807 people to 1,002 people. Wallowa County's poverty rates were higher than the state and national poverty rates due to increases from 1979 to 1989.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined, children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 28.6 percent. Children younger than 18 years of age experienced poverty at 19.6 percent. People 65 and older experienced the lowest rate at 11.4 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty improved for people 65 and older.

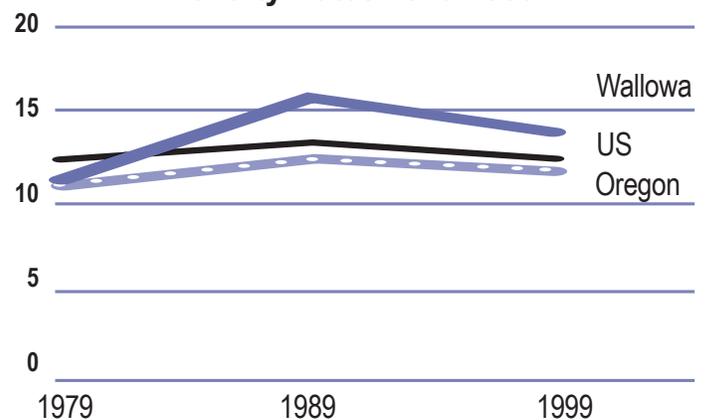
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level (poverty rate)

	1989	1999	Percent Change (rate difference)
Wallowa County	1,078 (15.8%)	1,002 (14.0%)	-7.1% (-1.8%)
Oregon Statewide	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%)

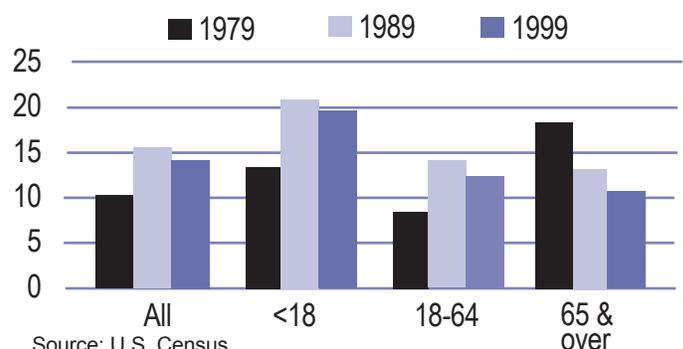
Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Source: U.S. Census.

Rate of Poverty by Age



Source: U.S. Census.

Wallowa County

Poverty and Wallowa County Families

In 1999, 206 Wallowa County families lived in poverty (9.8 percent). Of the families in poverty, 72.8 percent (150 families) had a worker and 20.9 percent (43 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child younger than 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 17.2 percent. Families with a child 5 years and younger experienced poverty at a higher rate of 29 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 44.0 percent and the rate was even higher with younger children (younger than 5 years) at 63.3 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children under 18 was lower at 11 percent. From 1979 to 1999, families with children who lived in poverty increased from 9.6 percent in 1979 to 17.2 percent in 1999.

Wallowa County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)	Year			% Change '79-'99 (rate difference)
	1979	1989	1999	
All Families	151 (7.3%)	238 (11.9%)	206 (9.8%)	36.4% (2.5%)
With Children under 18	95 (9.6%)	167 (17.8%)	158 (17.2%)	66.3% (7.6%)
Female-headed with children under 18	44 (45.4%)	79 (59.0%)	73 (44.0%)	65.9% (-1.4%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White comprised the majority in poverty at 96.6 percent. When examining poverty based on race/ethnicity, however, the poverty rate among White was 13.8 percent. Pacific Islander and Hispanic Origin experienced disproportionately higher rates of poverty. Between 1989 and 1999, poverty for White and American Indian fell.

Wallowa County and Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population (poverty population)	Poverty Rate by Race 1999	Poverty Rate by Race 1989
White	97.8% (7,002)	96.6% (968)	13.8%	15.6%
Black	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	NA	0.0%
American Indian	0.4% (26)	0.4% (4)	15.4%	51.5%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.0%/0.1% (2/4)	0.0%/0.4% (0/4)	NA/100.0%	20.0%*
Other	0.2% (17)	0.0% (0)	NA	0.0%
2 or More Races	1.5% (110)	2.6% (26)	23.6%	NA
Hispanic Origin	0.8% (54)	1.8% (18)	33.3%	24.0%

*Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 Census.

Wallowa County

County Income

On a per capita basis, Wallowa County's personal income was \$25,076 in 2002, about 87 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 81 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Per capita income in Wallowa County rose 11.3 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, in per capita income shows average annual growth of 4.1 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$25,006 in Wallowa County compared to \$33,063 for the state.⁴

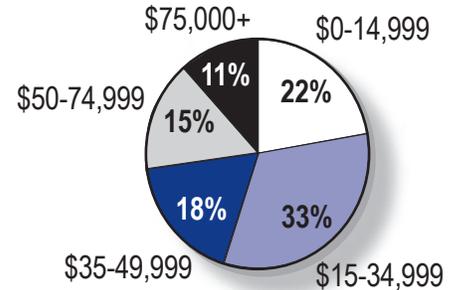
Income Levels and Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Wallowa County. The 2000 Census showed that 409 people or 40.8 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold actually earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or more than the poverty level but still needed assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants, and Children program. In 1999, 33.3 percent of Wallowa County's population, or 2,387 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Public Assistance

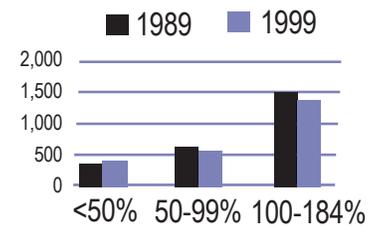
Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 82 households or 2.7 percent of all households in Wallowa County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$2,566. The 20-year trend showed a decrease in households that reported receiving public assistance income, from 132 households or 4.8 percent of all households in 1979.

1999 Household Income Distribution-Wallowa County



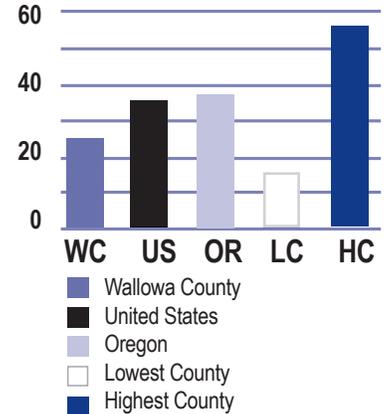
Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Wallowa County was \$32,129 in 1999 compared to \$21,300 in 1989 (50.8 percent increase).

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles



Source: U.S. Census

Public Assistance in Oregon
Rate per thousand population



Source: U.S. Census.

Wallowa County

Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregon households had difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Wallowa County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses.

Families with one worker earning Wallowa County's median income could not afford this basic family budget.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families with incomes at the poverty level could afford 44.3 to 48.6 percent of the Wallowa County basic family budget.

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Wallowa County is \$416.75. The federal government had the highest weekly average of \$669.85 and the retail trade industry had the lowest weekly average of \$267.59.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Wallowa County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages.

Two adults working full-time at Wallowa County's average wage could afford the basic family budget for themselves and one child. Families with two working parents with three children could afford 99.7 percent of the budget.

Wallowa County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$477	\$657	\$477	\$657
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$343	\$771	\$343	\$771
Transportation	\$197	\$197	\$277	\$277
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$219	\$355	\$268	\$404
Taxes	\$259	\$475	\$397	\$545
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$1,970	\$3,189	\$2,443	\$3,594
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$23,635	\$38,262	\$29,317	\$43,131
Median Annual Income (Census 2000)	\$16,417	\$16,417	\$46,283	\$46,283
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	69.5%	42.9%	157.9%	107.3%

Poverty and Wallowa County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	48.6%	44.3%	45.7%	46.1%

Wallowa County Wages & the Basic Budget

	1 Worker 1 Child	1 Worker 3 Children	2 Workers 1 Child	2 Workers 3 Children
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$1,792	\$1,792	\$3,584	\$3,584
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$1,970	\$3,189	\$2,443	\$3,594
Difference (SSW-AMW)	-\$178	-\$1,397	\$1,141	-\$10
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	91.0%	56.2%	146.7%	99.7%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.
** Based on Basic Family Budget for Wallowa County.

Wallowa County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	6,911 ¹	7,226 ²	7,176	7,081	7,082
% of People living below poverty level	15.8% ¹	14.0% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$21,300 ¹	\$32,129 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	10.6	8.6	10.8	9.7	10.9
8th Grade Drug Use	17.3% ³	14.0%	NA	34.3%	NA
HS Dropout	0.8% ⁴	0.0%	0.2%	0.3%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	10.7	4.5	2.3	6.3	NA
Prenatal Care	91.0%	87.1%	85.0%	89.3%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	23.1	12.4	13.5	15	NA
Homeownership Rate	69.2% ¹	71.8% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	32.1% ¹	47.8% ²	NA	NA	NA
Wallowa County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	10	19	12	12	13
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	11	0	0	28	0
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$456,749	\$0	\$0	\$595,949	\$0
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	3	1	1	1	3
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$175,990	\$90,000	\$152,179	\$58,400	\$236,400
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	318	282	278	262
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	14.6%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	678	562	427	423	390
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	53.6%	46.9%	38.6%	41.1%	40.9%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	11.8%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	1.1%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	23.4%	21.1%	
¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989	² 2000 Census data, year is 1999	³ 1998	⁴ 1996	NA=Not Available	

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Community Connection of Northeast Oregon's Community Services Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05.

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

Wasco County

Major findings

According to the US Census, the poverty rate decreased slightly in Wasco County between 1989 and 1999, although the number of people in poverty increased slightly. From 1979 to 1999, Wasco County's poverty rate matched state and national averages.

Between 1989 and 1999, median household income rose in Wasco County from \$24,908 to \$35,959.

In 1999, poverty affected children, families and minorities more than other groups. The poverty rate for families and the number, including families with children, increased between 1989 and 1999. In 1999, more than half of families in poverty had a householder who worked.

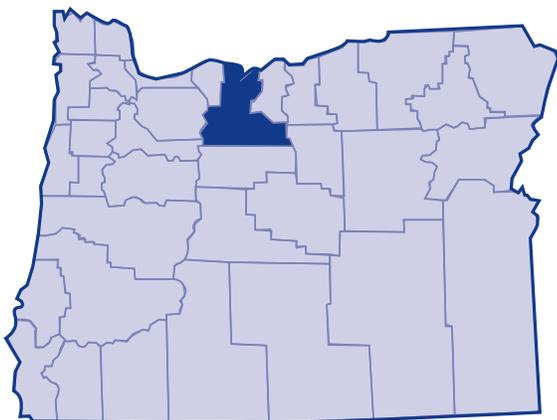
Families with one adult who earned Wasco County's median income or average wage could not afford the basic family budget.

In 2003, 29.5 percent of Wasco County residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹

Low-income needs

Mid-Columbia Community Action Council prioritized the needs of the low-income population in Wasco County as follows²:

- Employment and jobs
- Rent/mortgage assistance
- Case management or follow up for recipients of assistance programs
- Transitional housing, including services for those with mental health issues and those who have been recently released from prison or drug/alcohol treatment centers
- Utility assistance
- Quality child care centers
- Public transportation available to everyone with cost based on a sliding scale (buses, medical vans, etc.)
- Renter education for low income tenants with poor rental history
- Safe homes for victims of domestic violence



Wasco County

20-year Trend

According to the 2000 Census, Wasco County grew 9.7 percent between 1989 and 1999. The US Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 23,369 county residents and found that 12.9 percent (3,023 people) lived below the poverty threshold. This is an increase of 6 percent in the number of persons living in poverty (2,851 people) in 1989. The overall percent of Wasco County's population living in poverty remained relatively constant from 1989 to 1999, but the number of people living in poverty did not.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Wasco County increased from 10.1 percent of the population to 12.9 percent. The number of persons in poverty rose from 2,175 to 3,023 people. Wasco County's poverty rates equaled state and national poverty rates in 1979 but were slightly lower in 1989 and 1999.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined, children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 20.7 percent. Children younger than 18 years of age experienced poverty at 17.8 percent. People 65 and older experienced the lowest rate at 7.3 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty was consistently highest for children younger than 18.

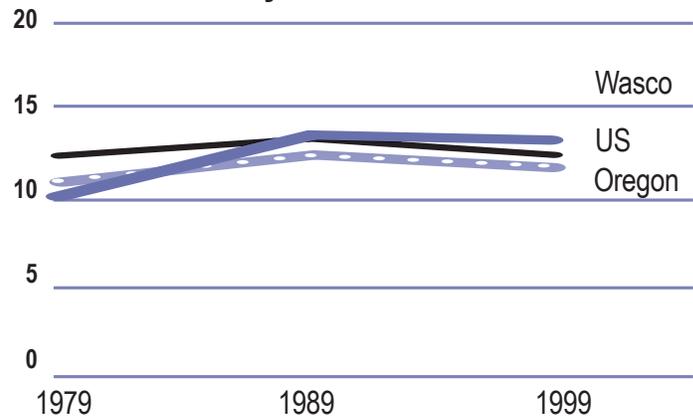
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level (poverty rate)

	1989	1999	Percent Change
Wasco County	2,851 (13.4%)	3,023 (12.9%)	(rate difference) 6.0% (-0.5%)
Oregon Statewide	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%)

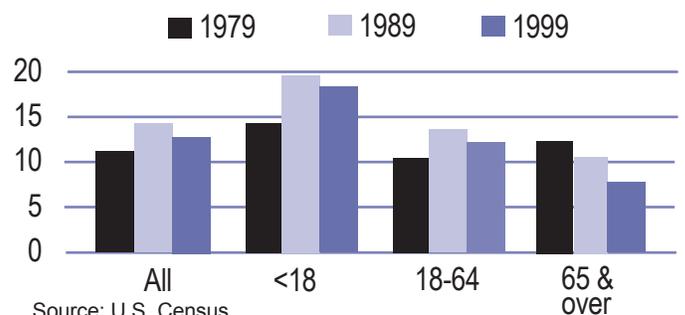
Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Source: U.S. Census.

Rate of Poverty by Age



Source: U.S. Census.

Poverty and Wasco County Families

In 1999, 674 Wasco County families lived in poverty (10.3 percent). Of the families in poverty, 57.4 percent (387 families) had a worker and 13.9 percent (94 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child younger than 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 15.9 percent. Families with a child 5 years and younger experienced poverty at a higher rate of 19.2 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 42.7 percent and was even higher with younger children (less than 5 years) at 46.9 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children under 18 was lower at 6.6 percent. From 1979 to 1999, families with children who lived in poverty increased from 10.5 percent in 1979 to 15.9 percent in 1999.

Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White residents comprised the majority of people in poverty at 74.9 percent. When examining poverty based on race/ethnicity, however, the poverty rate among White was 11.2 percent. Pacific Islander experienced disproportionately higher rates of poverty. The poverty rate among Pacific Islander was 33.3 percent. Poverty among American Indian, Other and Hispanic Origin exceeded 21 percent. From 1989 to 1999, poverty did not improve for Asian and Pacific Islander.

Wasco County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)	Year			% Change '79-'99 (rate difference)
	1979	1989	1999	
All Families	522 (8.4%)	627 (10.3%)	674 (10.3%)	29.1% (1.9%)
With Children under 18	338 (10.5%)	482 (16.1%)	496 (15.9%)	46.7% (5.4%)
Female-headed with children under 18	209 (44.0%)	281 (54.2%)	273 (42.7%)	30.6% (-1.3%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Wasco County and Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population (poverty population)	Poverty Rate by Race 1999	Poverty Rate by Race 1989
White	86.5% (20,211)	74.9% (2,264)	11.2%	11.9%
Black	0.4% (105)	0.3% (9)	8.6%	63.7%
American Indian	3.6% (839)	6.7% (203)	24.2%	27.1%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.8%/0.1% (186/12)	0.7%/0.1% (21/4)	11.3%/33.3%	7.2%*
Other	6.0% (1,394)	9.7% (293)	21.0%	45.6%
2 or More Races	2.7% (622)	7.6% (229)	36.8%	NA
Hispanic Origin	9.3% (2,166)	17.8% (537)	24.8%	43.3%

*Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 Census.

Wasco County

County Income

On a per capita basis, Wasco County's personal income was \$24,008 in 2002, about 83 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 78 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Per capita income in Wasco County rose 2.2 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, in per capita income shows average annual growth of 3.2 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$27,446 in Wasco County compared to \$33,063 for the state.⁴

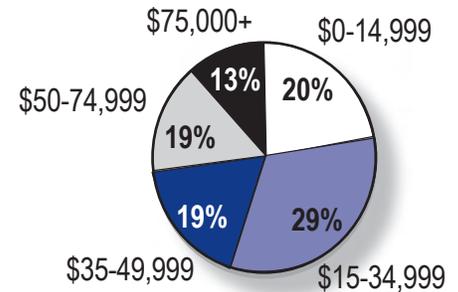
Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Wasco County. The 2000 Census showed that 1,462 people or 48.4 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold actually earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or above the poverty level but still needed assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants, and Children program. In 1999, 31.3 percent of Wasco County's population, or 7,322 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Public Assistance

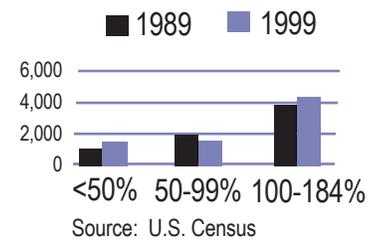
Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 397 households or 4.2 percent of all households in Wasco County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$2,441. The 20-year trend showed a slight decrease in households that reported receiving public assistance income, from 405 households or 4.9 percent of all households in 1979.

1999 Household Income Distribution-Wasco County

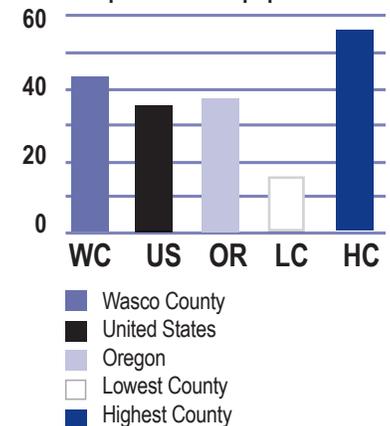


Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Wasco County was \$24,908 in 1999 compared to \$35,959 in 1989 (44.4 percent increase).

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles



Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregon households had difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Wasco County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses.

Families with one adult earning Wasco County's median income could not afford the basic expenses.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families at the poverty level in Wasco County could afford 41.7 to 44.5 percent of this basic family budget.

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Wasco County is \$449.63. The federal government had the highest weekly average of \$898.96 and agriculture, forestry and fish had the lowest weekly average of \$219.29.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Wasco County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages.

Families with one adult who works full-time at Wasco County's average wage cannot afford the basic family budget.

Wasco County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$524	\$714	\$524	\$714
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$377	\$836	\$377	\$836
Transportation	\$197	\$197	\$277	\$277
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$234	\$373	\$283	\$422
Taxes	\$345	\$535	\$439	\$629
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$2,152	\$3,389	\$2,58	\$3,818
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$25,828	\$40,666	\$30,968	\$45,820
Median Annual Income (Census 2000)	\$19,110	\$19,110	\$50,324	\$50,324
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	74.0%	47.0%	162.5%	109.8%

Poverty and Wasco County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	44.5%	41.7%	43.3%	43.4%

Wasco County Wages and the Basic Budget

	1 Worker 1 Child	1 Worker 3 Children	2 Workers 1 Child	2 Workers 3 Children
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$1,933	\$1,933	\$3,867	\$3,867
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$2,152	\$3,389	\$2,581	\$3,818
Difference (SSW-AMW)	-\$219	-\$1,456	\$1,286	\$49
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	89.8%	57.0%	149.8%	101.3%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.
** Based on Basic Family Budget for Wasco County.

Wasco County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	21,683 ¹	23,791 ²	23,714	23,579	23,591
% of People living below poverty level	13.4% ¹	12.9% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$24,908 ¹	\$35,959 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	7	6.6	10	9.8	10.7
8th Grade Drug Use	23.9% ³	16.2%	NA	22.2%	NA
HS Dropout	5.8% ⁴	6.6%	6.5%	3.4%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	16.5	20.8	15.3	7.1	NA
Prenatal Care	78.5%	85.2%	84.5%	85.1%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	10	16.2	19.5	21.4	NA
Homeownership Rate	65.1% ¹	68.4% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	39.3% ¹	47.6% ²	NA	NA	NA
Wasco County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	29	21	29	19	41
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	8	79	24	0	0
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$475,000	\$1.3 m	\$2.0 m	\$400,000	\$0
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	0	1	1	0	0
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$0	\$120,970	\$81,478	\$0	\$0
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	1,127	793	1,142	882
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	22.7%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	1,452	1,549	1,631	1,714	1,930
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	38.0%	42.1%	44.8%	48.5%	55.5%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	18.9%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	2.8%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	29.8%	32.5%	
¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989 ² 2000 Census data, year is 1999 ³ 1998 ⁴ 1996 NA=Not Available					

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Mid-Columbia Community Action Council Community Service Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05.

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

Major findings

According to the US Census, Washington County's population grew 42.9 percent between 1989 and 1999. Both the poverty rate and the number of people in poverty increased during that period. However, the poverty rate in Washington County remained lower than the state and national averages.

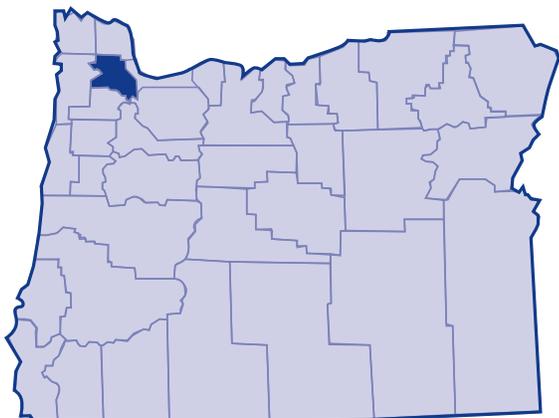
County median household income rose from \$35,554 in 1989 to \$52,122 in 1999. Unemployment rates remained below the state average in 2003.

In 1999, poverty affected Washington County's children, families and minorities more than other groups. The number of all families, including those with children, who lived in poverty increased between 1989 and 1999.

Families with one adult who earned median income Washington County could not afford the basic family budget.

In 1999, 43 percent of Washington County residents in poverty actually earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold.

In 2003, 14.6 percent of Washington county residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹



Low-income needs

Community Action, Inc, the community action agency for Washington County prioritized the needs of the low-income population in the county as follows²:

- Providing low-income families access to quality child care, early childhood development and support services such as affordable child care; assistance finding quality child care, parenting support and comprehensive school readiness (Head Start, Early Head Start).
- Making comprehensive Information and Referral services available to all low-income county residents. Maintain a centralized database of resources available in the community. Promote networking and collaboration among service providers to reduce duplication and improve services.
- Promoting housing stability for homeless, formerly homeless or at-risk households. Providing emergency shelter and support services for homeless families.
- Helping low-income households stay warm and housed through emergency assistance with rent, utility bills, or other basic needs.
- Ensuring healthy births for low-income pregnant women by improving access to prenatal care; linking mothers to needed social services; and providing ongoing education and support throughout pregnancy. Providing ongoing parenting support for high-risk families.
- Improving warmth and safety, and reducing energy cost burden for low-income residents by providing comprehensive weatherization, energy education and energy conservation services.

Washington County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Washington County grew 42.9 percent from 1989 to 1999. The US Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 441,331 county residents and found that 7.4 percent (32,575 people) lived below the poverty threshold. This is an increase of 61.3 percent in the number of persons living in poverty (20,198 people) in 1989. The overall percent of Washington County's population living in poverty slightly increased from 1989 to 1999, as did the number of people living in poverty.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Washington County increased from 6.1 percent of the population to 7.4 percent. The number of persons in poverty rose from 14,757 to 32,575 people. Washington County's poverty rates remained substantially lower than the state and national poverty rates throughout this period.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined, children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 9.8 percent. Children younger than 18 years of age experienced poverty at 8.8 percent. People 65 and older experienced the lowest rate at 5.3 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty improved for people 65 and older.

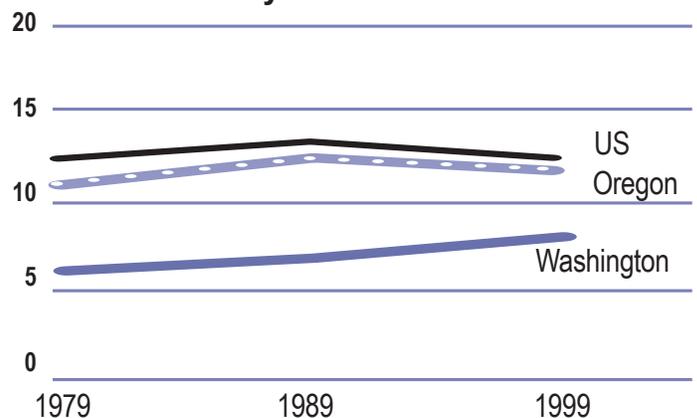
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level
(poverty rate)

	1989	1999	Percent Change
Washington County	20,198 (6.6%)	32,575 (7.4%)	61.3% (0.8%)
Oregon Statewide	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%)

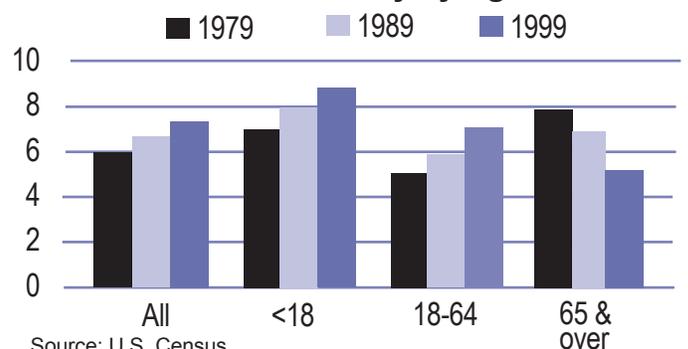
Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Source: U.S. Census.

Rate of Poverty by Age



Source: U.S. Census.

Washington County

Poverty & Washington County Families

In 1999, 5,637 Washington County families lived in poverty (4.9 percent). Of the families in poverty, 70.9 percent (3,997 families) had a worker and 19.7 percent (1,110 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child younger than 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 7.4 percent. Families with a child 5 years and younger experienced poverty at a higher rate of 10.2 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 20.9 percent and the rate was even higher for single mothers with younger children (less than 5 years) at 31.7 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children younger than 18 was lower at 4.3 percent. From 1979 to 1999, the number families with children who lived in poverty increased from 2,263 families in 1979 to 4,713 families in 1999.

Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White residents comprised the majority of people in poverty at 65.7 percent. When examining poverty based on race/ethnicity, however, the poverty rate among White was 5.9 percent. Pacific Islander, Other and Hispanic Origin experienced disproportionately higher rates of poverty. The poverty rate among all three of these categories exceeded 20 percent. From 1989 to 1999, Other and Hispanic Origin experienced improvements in poverty rates.

Washington County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)				% Change '79-'99 (rate difference)
	1979	1989	1999	
All Families	2,851 (4.4%)	3,992 (4.8%)	5,637 (4.9%)	97.7% (0.5%)
With Children under 18	2,263 (6.1%)	3,094 (7.0%)	4,713 (7.4%)	108.3% (1.3%)
Female-headed with children under 18	1,213 (22.5%)	1,687 (24.8%)	2,054 (20.9%)	69.3% (-1.6%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Washington County and Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population (poverty population)	Poverty Rate by Race 1999	Poverty Rate by Race 1989
White	95.2% (362,169)	65.7% (21,390)	5.9%	5.8%
Black	0.1% (4,423)	1.5% (474)	10.7%	8.6%
American Indian	0.5% (2,862)	1.0% (318)	11.1%	11.3%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.0%/0.0% (29,712/1,392)	7.7%/0.9% (2,502/298)	8.4%/21.4%	8.8%*
Other	1.8% (26,248)	19.0% (6,179)	23.5%	28.9%
2 or More Races	3.3% (14,525)	7.6% (1,414)	36.8%	NA
Hispanic Origin	3.4% (48,963)	31.0% (10,098)	20.6%	25.6%

*Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 Census.

Washington County

County Income

On a per capita basis, Washington County's personal income was \$31,578 in 2002, about 110 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 102 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Per capita income in Washington County fell 2 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, for per capita income shows average annual growth of 3.7 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$41,290 in the county compared to \$33,063 for the state.⁴

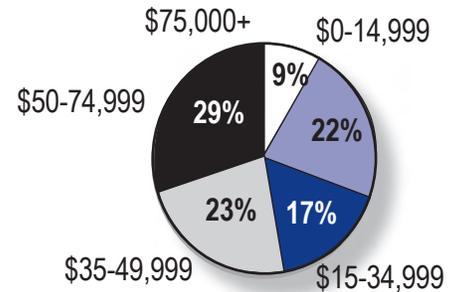
Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Washington County. The 2000 Census showed that 14,100 people or 43.3 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold earned 50 percent or less than the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or above the poverty level but still needed assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants, and Children program. In 1999, 18.8 percent of Washington County's population, or 82,759 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Public Assistance

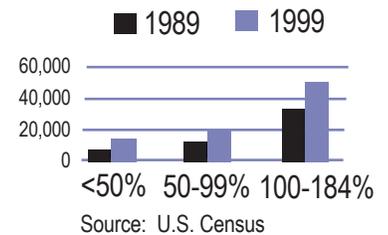
Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 3,822 households or 2.3 percent of all households in Washington County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$2,947. The 20-year trend showed an increase in households that reported receiving public assistance income (3,714 households in 1979) but a decrease in the overall percent of households (4.1 percent in 1979).

1999 Household Income Distribution-Washington County

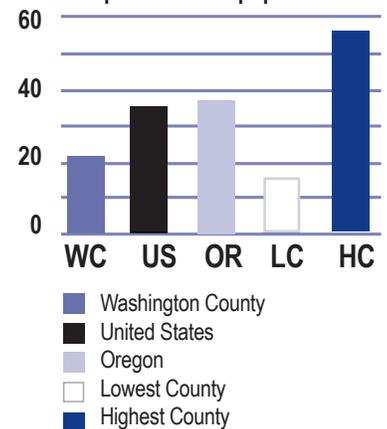


Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Washington County was \$52,122 in 1999 compared to \$35,554 in 1989 (46.6 percent increase).

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles



Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Washington County

Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregon households have difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Washington County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses.

Using this budget, families with one adult earning Washington County's median income could not afford the basic family budget.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

Washington County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$645	\$897	\$645	\$897
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$413	\$897	\$413	\$897
Transportation	\$158	\$158	\$222	\$222
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$271	\$430	\$320	\$479
Taxes	\$438	\$671	\$497	\$735
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$2,400	\$3,787	\$2,778	\$4,170
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$28,798	\$45,439	\$33,337	\$50,040
Median Annual Income (Census 2000)	\$28,323	\$28,323	\$68,678	\$68,678
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	98.4%	62.3%	206.0%	137.2%

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families at the poverty level in Washington County could afford 37.3 to 40.2 percent of this basic family budget.

Poverty and Washington County's Basic Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	39.9%	37.3%	40.2%	39.7%

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Washington County is \$753.80. The wholesale trade industry had the highest weekly average of \$1,198.82 and the retail trade industry had the lowest weekly average of \$392.65.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Washington County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages.

An adult with three children who worked full-time at Washington County's average wage could not afford the basic family budget.

Washington County Wages & the Basic Budget

	1 Worker 1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Worker 1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Workers 2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Workers 2 Adults/ 3 Children
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$3,241	\$3,241	\$6,482	\$6,482
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$2,400	\$3,787	\$2,778	\$4,170
Difference (SSW-AMW)	\$841	-\$546	\$3,704	\$2,312
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	135.0%	85.6%	233.3%	155.4%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.
** Based on Basic Family Budget for Washington County.

Washington County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	311,554 ¹	4,45,342 ²	462,543	471,962	479,496
% of People living below poverty level	6.6% ¹	7.4% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$35,554 ¹	\$52,122 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	3.1	3.1	5.1	6.7	7.3
8th Grade Drug Use	13.4% ³	10.5%	NA	17.1%	NA
HS Dropout	7.3% ⁴	5.9%	4.6%	4.1%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	15.9	13.1	12.2	10.3	NA
Prenatal Care	87.7%	89.6%	89.1%	88.9%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	19.1	21.2	18.6	17.7	NA
Homeownership Rate	60.8% ¹	60.6% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	35.3% ¹	39.8% ²	NA	NA	NA
Washington County Services					
One Night Shelter Counts	293	287	278	181	504
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	211	493	440	534	308
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$2.0 m	\$11.0 m	\$17.8 m	\$28.3 m	\$15.6 m
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	83	75	56	48	68
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$9.1 m	\$7.9 m	\$6.6 m	\$6.0 m	\$9.4 m
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	4,360	5,543	6,556	6,555
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	11.2%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	15,153	15,853	18,699	20,562	23,230
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	21.3%	21.7%	24.8%	26.7%	30.1%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	7.9%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	1.5%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	14.1%	16.6%	
¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989 ² 2000 Census data, year is 1999 ³ 1998 ⁴ 1996 NA=Not Available					

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Community Action (CAO), Inc Community Service Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05.

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

Wheeler County

Major findings

According to the US Census, the poverty rate and the number of those in poverty decreased in Wheeler County between 1989 and 1999, but the rate remained above the state and national average.

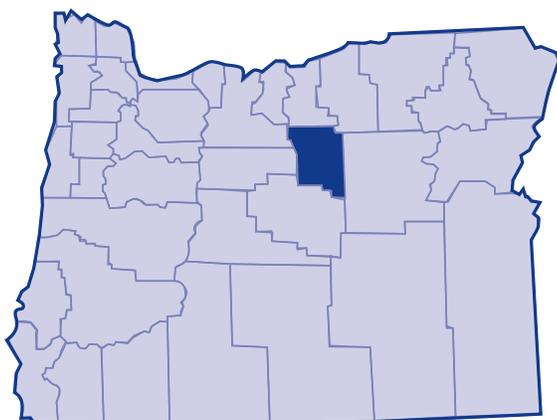
From 1989 to 1999, median household income rose from \$15,224 to \$28,750. The unemployment rate fell from 8.5 in 2000 to 8.3 in 2003.

Poverty rates for families, including families with children, decreased from 1989 to 1999, although the overall percent for families with children living in poverty remained relatively constant. In 1999, 39 percent of families headed by a single mother lived in poverty.

Seventy-nine percent of families living in poverty had a householder who worked. Only families with two working adults and one child could afford the basic family budget.

Over 50 percent of those who identified themselves as Other and/or Hispanic Origin in Wheeler County lived in poverty in 1999.

In 2003, 16.1 percent of Wheeler county residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹



Low-income needs

Community Action Program East Central Oregon prioritized the needs of the low-income population in Wheeler County as follows:²

- Emergency rental/transitional housing opportunities for households who are homeless or at risk of losing housing
- Maintain access to Emergency Food Boxes and promote hunger awareness in the community
- Continue providing access to energy assistance funds during the high-cost winter months
- Increase access to low-cost medical care via the Oregon Health Plan; retain local medical services
- Provide assistance for Emergency Lodging / Emergency Shelter for homeless households
- Continue the programs that promote Early Childhood Education
- Retain and improve transportation programs to help serve those residing in rural communities
- Provide access to quality childcare and voucher assistance
- Promote the development of low-income housing and create safe housing opportunities for community members
- Access to job training opportunities to help households obtain living wage jobs
- Expand opportunity for area residents to receive weatherization services thus providing safe and healthy living environments
- Assist households in obtaining adequate clothing suitable for the seasonal weather conditions
- Improve and expand counseling/family case management for households in crisis to help them become self-reliant

Wheeler County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Wheeler County grew 10.8 percent between 1989 and 1999. The US Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 1,534 county residents and found that 15.6 percent (239 people) lived below the poverty threshold. This is a decrease of 17.9 percent in the number of persons living in poverty (291 people) in 1989. The overall percent of Wheeler County's population living in poverty decreased from 1989 to 1999, as did the number of people living in poverty.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Wheeler County decreased from 18.2 percent of the population to 15.6 percent. The number of persons in poverty fell from 274 people to 239 people. Wheeler County's poverty rates remained higher than the state and national poverty rates throughout this period.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined, children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 25.3 percent. Children younger than 18 years of age experienced poverty at 24.7 percent. People 65 and older experienced the lowest rate at 4.2 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty was consistently highest for children younger than 18.

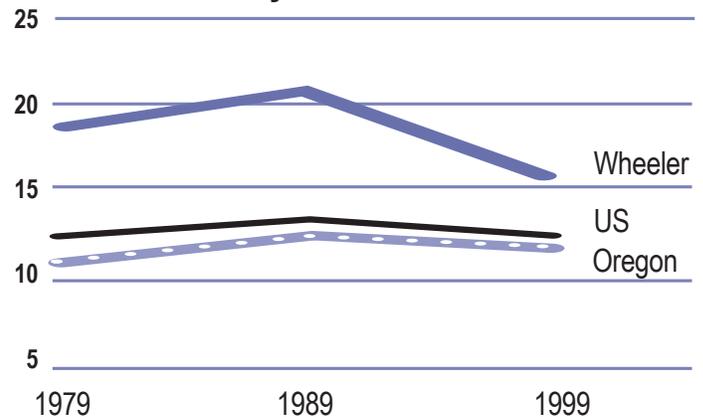
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level
(poverty rate)

	1989	1999	Percent Change (rate difference)
Wheeler County	291 (20.9%)	239 (15.6%)	-17.9% (-5.3%)
Oregon Statewide	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%)

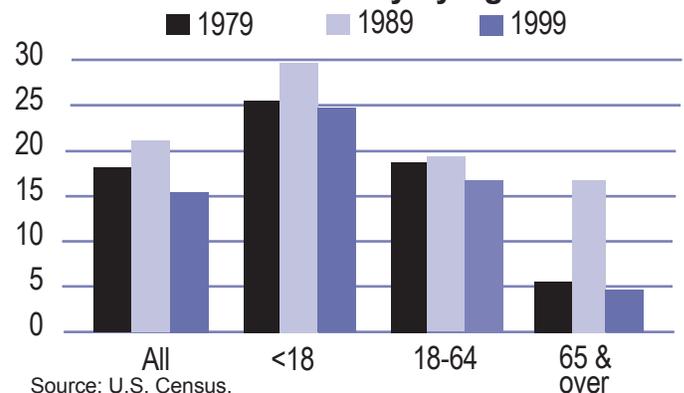
Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Source: U.S. Census.

Rate of Poverty by Age



Source: U.S. Census.

Wheeler County

Poverty & Wheeler County Families

In 1999, 56 Wheeler County families lived in poverty (12.7 percent). Of the families in poverty, 78.6 percent (44 families) had a worker and 13.6 percent (22 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child younger than 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 22.7 percent. Families with a child 5 years and younger experienced poverty at a higher rate of 28.8 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 39.3 percent and was even higher with younger children (less than 5 years) at 81.8 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples with children younger than 18 was lower at 18.1 percent. From 1979 to 1999, the number of families with children who lived in poverty decreased from 46 families (1979) to 35 families (1999), although the percent of families with children living in poverty remained relatively constant (22 percent).

Wheeler County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)	1979			1989		1999		% Change '79-'99 (rate difference)
	1979	1989	1999	1979	1989	1979	1989	
All Families	66 (14.2%)	75 (17.8%)	56 (12.7%)					-15.2% (-1.5%)
With Children under 18	46 (22.4%)	54 (32.5%)	35 (22.7%)					-23.9% (0.3%)
Female-headed with children under 18	10 (43.5%)	17 (70.8%)	11 (39.3%)					10.0% (-4.2%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White residents comprised the majority of people in poverty at 87.9 percent. When examining poverty based on race/ethnicity, however, the poverty rate among White was 14.4 percent. Other and Hispanic Origin experienced disproportionately higher rates of poverty: 55.6 percent for Other and 59.6 for Hispanic Origin. From 1989 to 1999, poverty increased for both groups.

Wheeler County and Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population (poverty population)	Poverty Rate 1999	Poverty Rate by Race 1989
White	95.2% (1,460)	87.9% (210)	14.4%	20.9%
Black	0.1% (2)	0.0% (0)	NA	0.0%
American Indian	0.5% (8)	0.0% (0)	NA	33.3%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.0%/0.0% (0/0)	0.0%/0.0% (0/0)	NA/NA	0.0%*
Other	1.8% (27)	6.3% (15)	55.6%	0.0%
2 or More Races	2.4% (37)	5.9% (14)	37.8%	NA
Hispanic Origin	3.4% (52)	13.0% (31)	59.6%	0.0%

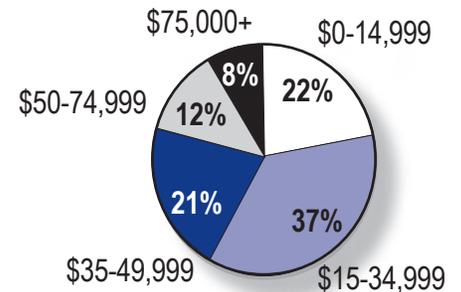
*Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 Census.

Wheeler County

County Income

On a per capita basis, Wheeler County's personal income was \$19,736 in 2002, about 69 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 64 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Per capita income in Wheeler County rose 2.4 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, in per capita income shows average annual growth of 3.3 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$18,098 in Wheeler County compared to \$33,063 for the state. ⁴

1999 Household Income Distribution-Wheeler County

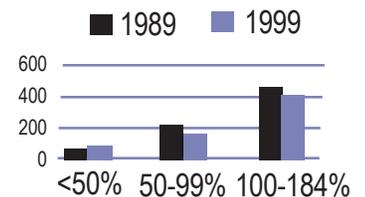


Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Wheeler County was \$28,750 in 1999 compared to \$15,224 in 1989 (88.8 percent increase).

Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Wheeler County. The 2000 Census showed that 80 people or 33.5 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold actually earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or above the poverty level but still needed assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants, and Children program. In 1999, 41.9 percent of Wheeler County's population, or 643 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles

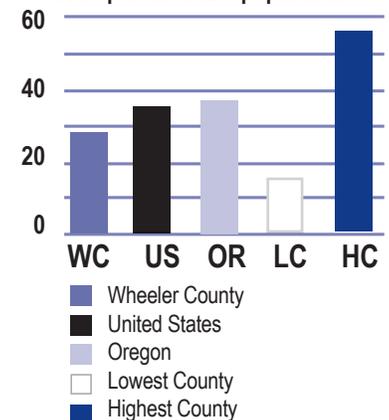


Source: U.S. Census

Public Assistance

Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure-or indicator-of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 18 households or 2.8 percent of all households in Wheeler County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$1,406. The 20-year trend showed a decrease in households that reported receiving public assistance income, from 28 households or 4.6 percent of all households in 1979.

Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Source: U.S. Census.

Wheeler County

Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregon households had difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Wheeler County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses.

Only families with two working adults and one child in which both adults earned Wheeler County's median income could afford the basic family budget.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families at the poverty level in Wheeler County could afford 43.1 to 47.2 percent of this basic family budget.

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Wheeler County is \$375.76. The agriculture, forestry and fish industry had the highest weekly average of \$814.88 and transportation, communications, and utilities had the lowest weekly average of \$167.21.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Wheeler County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages.

Only families with two adults and one child and in which both adults earned the county's average wage could afford the Wheeler County basic family budget.

Wheeler County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$477	\$657	\$477	\$657
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$374	\$831	\$374	\$831
Transportation	\$197	\$197	\$277	\$277
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$219	\$355	\$268	\$404
Taxes	\$287	\$500	\$410	\$571
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$2,029	\$3,274	\$2,487	\$3,680
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$24,344	\$39,292	\$29,840	\$44,159
Median Annual Income (Census 2000)	\$16,250	\$16,250	\$34,375	\$34,375
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	66.8%	41.4%	115.2%	77.8%

Poverty and Wheeler County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	47.2%	43.1%	44.9%	45.0%

Wheeler County Wages and the Basic Budget

	1 Worker 1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Worker 1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Workers 2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Workers 2 Adults/ 3 Children
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$1,616	\$1,616	\$3,232	\$3,232
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$2,029	\$3,274	\$2,487	\$3,680
Difference (SSW-AMW)	-\$413	-\$1,658	\$745	-\$448
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	79.6%	49.4%	130.0%	87.8%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.
** Based on Basic Family Budget for Wheeler County.

Wheeler County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	1,396 ¹	1,547 ²	1,507	1,528	1,505
% of People living below poverty level	20.9% ¹	15.6% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$15,224 ¹	\$28,750 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	7.1	8.5	9.6	8.3	8.3
8th Grade Drug Use	17.3% ³	14.0%	NA	17.6%	NA
HS Dropout	1.8% ⁴	0.9%	0.9%	0.0%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	0.0	11.6	11.4	0.0	NA
Prenatal Care	77.3%	100.0%	70.0%	70.0%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	0	4.8	9.5	8	NA
Homeownership Rate	70.7% ¹	72.1% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	54.0% ¹	55.6% ²	NA	NA	NA
Wheeler County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	0	0	0	0	0
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	0	0	0	0	0
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$179,970	\$0
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	0	0	0	0	0
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	62	57	59	53
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	16.5%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	124	141	111	135	127
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	51.5%	55.3%	46.6%	52.9%	51.2%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	12.2%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	1.7%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	22.0%	21.4%	
¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989	² 2000 Census data, year is 1999	³ 1998	⁴ 1996	NA=Not Available	

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Community Action Program East Central Oregon Community Services Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05.

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

Yamhill County

Major findings

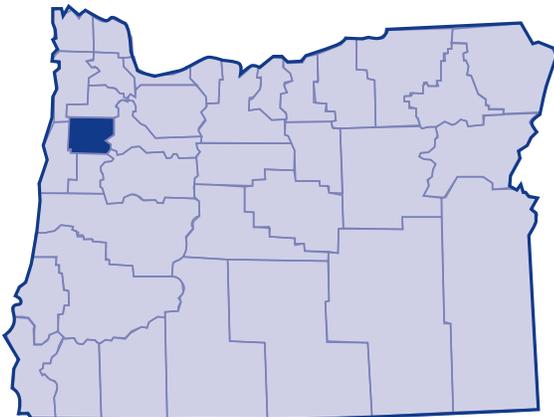
According to the US Census, Yamhill County's poverty rate decreased between 1989 and 1999, but the number in poverty did not. The 1999 poverty rate was less than the state and national average.

Median household income in Yamhill County rose from \$28,303 in 1989 to \$44,111 in 1999. The unemployment rate for Yamhill County rose to 8.4 in 2003 from 4.6 in 2000.

The number of families, including those with children, decreased from 1989 to 1999. Thirty-one percent of families headed by a single mother lived in poverty in 1999.

Families in Yamhill County with one adult who earned the median income or average wages could not afford the basic family budget.

In 2003, 22.1 percent of Yamhill county residents received services from the Department of Human Services.¹



Low-income needs

Community Action Agency of Yamhill County prioritized the needs of the low-income population in Yamhill County as follows²:

- Affordable housing-additional affordable housing appropriately linked to offer people a natural progression to market-rate housing
- Emergency Housing-very-short-stay emergency housing
- Employment-more jobs so low-income people and families can begin their pilgrimage toward self-sufficiency
- Transitional Housing
- Food-a more nutritious mix of food, along with food preparation training so that people will be less dependent on traditional "fast food" options
- Living-Wage Jobs-increase in living-wage jobs to help people on the journey to long-term self-sufficiency
- Teen Homeless Shelter
- Work Transportation-pre-and-post work transportation to support workers and the local economy
- High Heat Cost Assistance-more funding
- Medical Care-improve access to care for Oregon Health Plan enrollees and other low-income residents

Yamhill County

Growth

According to the 2000 Census, Yamhill County grew 29.7 percent from 1989 to 1999. The US Census Bureau determined the poverty status of 79,920 county residents and found that 9.2 percent (7,336 people) lived below the poverty threshold. This is a slight increase of 0.5 percent in the number of persons living in poverty (7,299 people) in 1989. The overall percent of Yamhill County's population living in poverty decreased from 1989 to 1999, but the number of people living in poverty did not.

20-year Trend

In the 20 years after 1979, the poverty rate in Yamhill County decreased from 10 percent of the population to 9.2 percent. The number of persons in poverty rose from 5,356 people to 7,336 people. Yamhill County's poverty rates remained lower than the state and national poverty rates throughout this period.

Poverty and Age

In the 2000 Census, among all age categories examined, children 5 years of age and younger experienced the highest rate of poverty at 12.3 percent. Children younger than 18 years of age experienced poverty at 10.6 percent. People 65 and older experienced the lowest rate at 7.5 percent. Over the 20-year period from 1979 to 1999, the rate of poverty did not improve for people 18 to 64 years.

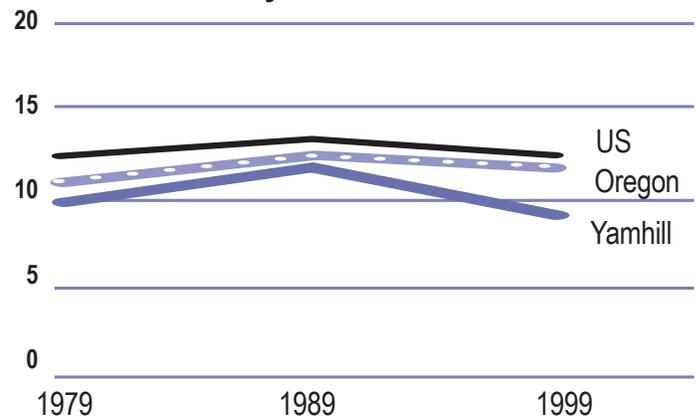
Poverty in Selected Communities

Number of persons below poverty level (poverty rate)

	1989	1999	Percent Change (rate difference)
Yamhill County	7,299 (11.7%)	7,336 (9.2%)	0.5% (-2.5%)
Oregon Statewide	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%)

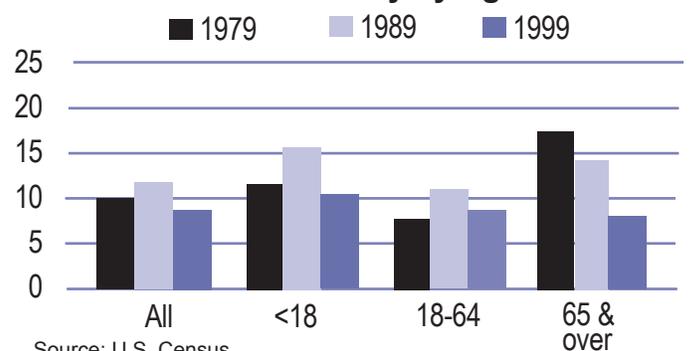
Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty Rates 1979-1999



Source: U.S. Census.

Rate of Poverty by Age



Source: U.S. Census.

Poverty and Yamhill County Families

In 1999, 1,285 Yamhill County families lived in poverty (6 percent). Of the families in poverty, 57.6 percent (740 families) had a worker and 11.4 percent (146 families) had a full-time year-round worker.

The poverty rate was higher for families with children. Families with at least one child under 18 experienced poverty at a rate of 8.9 percent. Families with a child 5 years and younger experienced poverty at a higher rate of 11.4 percent. The rate for families with children headed by single mothers was 30.7 percent and was even higher with younger children (less than 5 years) at 47.1 percent.

The poverty rate for married couples families with children under 18 was lower at 4 percent. From 1979 to 1999, the number of female-headed households with children (no husband present) who lived in poverty increased from 1979 to 1999, although the overall percent decreased during this same period.

Yamhill County Families in Poverty

Number below Poverty Level (Poverty Rate)	Year			% Change '79-'99 (rate difference)
	1979	1989	1999	
All Families	1,164 (7.8%)	1,456 (8.5%)	1,285 (6.0%)	10.4% (-1.7%)
With Children under 18	849 (10.4%)	1,201 (13.3%)	1,046 (8.9%)	23.2% (-1.5%)
Female-headed with children under 18	404 (36.7%)	614 (41.2%)	613 (30.7%)	51.7% (-6.0%)

Source: U.S. Census. County numbers have been rounded and, therefore, may not add exactly to totals.

Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

Among racial/ethnic groups³, White comprised the majority of people in poverty at 80.7 percent. When examining poverty based on race/ethnicity, however, the poverty rate among White was 8.3 percent. Other and Hispanic Origin experienced disproportionately higher rates of poverty-21.2 percent for Other and 20 percent for Hispanic Origin. From 1989 to 1999, the poverty rate increased for Other.

Yamhill County and Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	% Total 1999 Population (population)	% Poverty 1999 Population (poverty population)	Poverty Rate by Race 1999	Poverty Rate by Race 1989
White	89.7% (71,695)	80.7% (5,922)	8.3%	11.1%
Black	0.3% (209)	0.2% (12)	5.7%	17.9%
American Indian	1.1% (872)	0.7% (54)	6.2%	29.0%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.9%/0.1% (685/70)	1.7%/0.0% (125/2)	18.2%/2.9%	25.9%*
Other	5.3% (4,196)	0.0% (889)	21.2%	20.7%
2 or More Races	2.7% (2,193)	4.5% (332)	15.1%	NA
Hispanic Origin	10.8% (8,593)	23.4% (1,720)	20.0%	27.6%

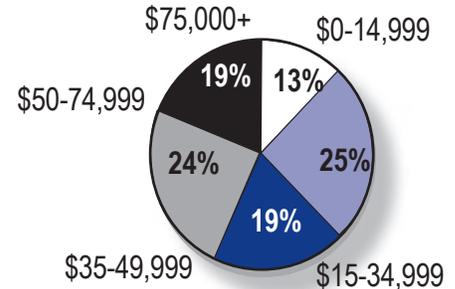
*Asian and Pacific Islander were not separate categories in the 1990 Census.

Yamhill County

County Income

On a per capita basis, Yamhill County's personal income was \$25,088 in 2002, about 87 percent of the state average of \$28,792, and 81 percent of the national average, \$30,906. Yamhill County's per capita income in rose 0.4 percent between 2001 and 2002. The 10-year trend, from 1992 to 2002, in per capita income shows average annual growth of 3.7 percent. Average earnings per job for 2001 were \$28,487 in Yamhill County compared to \$33,063 for the state.⁴

1999 Household Income Distribution-Yamhill County

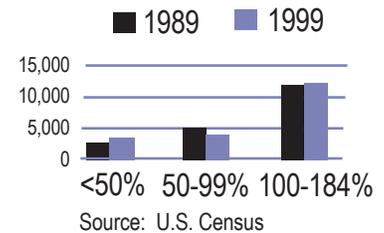


Source: U.S. Census Note: The median household income in Yamhill County was \$44,111 in 1999 compared to \$28,303 in 1989 (55.9 percent increase).

Income Levels and Poverty Thresholds

Segmenting census data by income reveals more detail about the people experiencing poverty in Yamhill County. The 2000 Census showed that 3,183 people or 43.4 percent of those living below the federal poverty threshold earned 50 percent or less of the poverty threshold. Other segments of the population earned equal to or above the poverty level but still needed assistance. In Oregon, 185 percent of the poverty level is the income guideline used for federal food programs such as food stamps, child nutrition, and the Women, Infants, and Children program. In 1999, 23.8 percent of Yamhill County's population, or 18,984 people earned below 185 percent of the poverty threshold.

Number of Persons in Poverty Threshold Percentiles

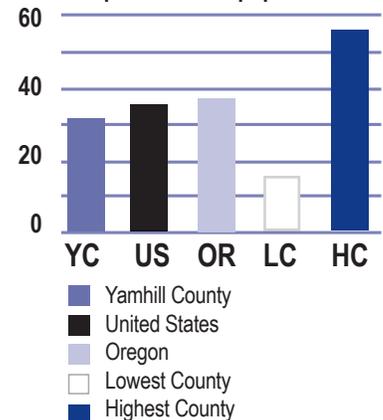


Source: U.S. Census

Public Assistance

Participation in public assistance programs serves as an indirect measure—or indicator—of the extent of poverty and the measures taken to serve the public. According to the 2000 Census, 872 households or 3 percent of all households in Yamhill County reported public assistance income. The average amount of public assistance income for 1999 was \$2,416. The 20-year trend showed a decrease in households that reported receiving public assistance income, from 1,115 households or 5.8 percent of all households since 1979.

Public Assistance in Oregon Rate per thousand population



Source: U.S. Census.

Basic Family Budget

According to US Department of Agriculture statistics released in October 1999, about 12.6 percent of Oregon households had difficulty meeting their basic need for food. The following chart outlines typical expenses for four family types in Yamhill County and the corresponding income those families would need to meet their expenses.

Families with one adult who earned Yamhill County's median income could not afford the basic family budget.

To learn more about this basic family budget, see Methodology and Data References section.

What the Poverty Threshold Buys

Families at the poverty level in Yamhill County could afford 37.7 to 40.1 percent of this basic family budget.

Wages

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average weekly wage in Yamhill County is \$505.44. The federal government had the highest weekly average of \$870.24 and the retail trade industry had the lowest weekly average of \$314.58.

The following chart illustrates a family's ability to be self-sufficient based on earnings of average wages for Yamhill County. The two-worker scenario relies on both workers earning average wages.

Families with one adult who worked full-time at Yamhill County's average wage could not afford the basic budget.

Yamhill County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Housing	\$645	\$897	\$645	\$897
Food	\$230	\$489	\$388	\$647
Child Care	\$400	\$873	\$400	\$873
Transportation	\$170	\$170	\$240	\$240
Health Care	\$245	\$245	\$293	\$293
Other Necessities	\$271	\$430	\$320	\$479
Taxes	\$438	\$644	\$499	\$733
Basic Family Budget Needed/Monthly	\$2,399	\$3,748	\$2,785	\$4,162
Basic Family Budget Total/Annual	\$28,785	\$44,974	\$33,417	\$49,946
Median Annual Income (Census 2000)	\$22,790	\$22,790	\$55,470	\$55,470
Median Family Income as % of Basic Budget	79.2%	50.7%	166.0%	111.1%

Poverty and Yamhill County's Basic Family Budget

Basic Family Budget/Monthly	1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Adults/ 3 Children
Poverty threshold	\$11,483	\$16,954	\$13,410	\$19,882
% of Basic Budget	39.9%	37.7%	40.1%	39.8%

Yamhill County Wages and the Basic Budget

	1 Worker 1 Adult/ 1 Child	1 Worker 1 Adult/ 3 Children	2 Workers 2 Adults/ 1 Child	2 Workers 2 Adults/ 3 Children
Average Monthly Wage (AMW)*	\$2,173	\$2,173	\$4,346	\$4,346
Self Sufficiency Wage (SSW)**	\$2,399	\$3,748	\$2,785	\$4,162
Difference (SSW-AMW)	-\$226	-\$1,575	\$1,561	\$184
Wage as % of Self Sufficiency	90.6%	58.0%	156.1%	104.4%

*Source: 1999 Oregon Covered Employment and Payrolls.

** Based on Basic Family Budget for Yamhill County.

Yamhill County

Poverty Measures	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population	65,551 ¹	84,992 ²	86,392	87,913	89,384
% of People living below poverty level	11.7% ¹	9.2% ²	NA	NA	NA
Median Income	\$28,303 ¹	\$44,111 ²	NA	NA	NA
Unemployment Rate	3.9	4.6	6	7.4	8.4
8th Grade Drug Use	21.4% ³	8.6%	NA	19.9%	NA
HS Dropout	8.4% ⁴	7.3%	6.0%	5.1%	NA
Teen Pregnancy per 1,000 ages 10-17	20.5	11.2	14.6	10.2	NA
Prenatal Care	78.9%	80.2%	79.8%	79.1%	NA
Child Care available per 100 children under 13	15.3	16.9	15.8	17.3	NA
Homeownership Rate	67.6% ¹	69.6% ²	NA	NA	NA
% Renters with 30% or more rental burden	40.1% ¹	43.1% ²	NA	NA	NA
Yamhill County Services	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
One Night Shelter Count	61	225	73	51	0
# of New Units created with OHCS Funding	56	0	64	75	31
OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing	\$1.1 m	\$0	\$1.9 m	\$3.1 m	\$1.5 m
# Home Loans for Low-Income Households	38	29	25	22	11
\$ Home Loans for Low-Income Households	\$4.2 m	\$2.9 m	\$2.6 m	\$2.1 m	\$1.4 m
# Households Receiving Energy Assistance	NA	1,558	1,547	1,482	1,292
% of Population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan	NA	NA	NA	16.2%	
# Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	5,031	5,139	5,799	6,065	6,514
% Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	32.6%	33.2%	36.9%	38.5%	40.9%
% of Population Receiving Food Stamps	NA	NA	NA	15.0%	
% of Population Receiving TANF	NA	NA	NA	1.6%	
% of Population Receiving DHS Services	NA	NA	22.6%	25.0%	
¹ 1990 Census data, year is 1989 ² 2000 Census data, year is 1999 ³ 1998 ⁴ 1996 NA=Not Available					

Endnotes

¹ Oregon Department of Human Services Integrated Client Database.

² Community Action Agency of Yamhill County Community Services Block Grant Work Plan for 2003-05.

³ Please see Methodology and Data References section for information on Census Race/Ethnicity Categories.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis: Regional Economic Accounts.

Housing

Housing costs are based on the Department of Housing and Urban Development's fair market rents (FMRs). FMRs are based on the 40th percentile rents for "privately owned, decent, [structurally] safe, and sanitary rental housing of a modest (non-luxury) nature with suitable amenities" (Federal Register 1994). FMRs are gross rent estimates. They include the shelter rent plus the cost of all utilities, except telephones. Two bedroom apartments were used for families with one to two children, and three bedroom apartments for families with three children, based on HUD guidelines (Department of Housing and Urban Development 1991). Fair market rents are available at www.huduser.org/datasets/fmr.html.

Food

Food costs are based on the Department of Agriculture's "low-cost food plans." The USDA food plans represent the amount families need to spend to achieve nutritionally adequate diets. The age groups used in this analysis are males and females age 20-50 and children age 3-5, 6-8, and 9-10. Food cost estimates are the same for the whole nation (the Bureau of

Labor Statistics found that food costs vary little by region).

Childcare

Childcare costs are the costs at the 50th percentile reported in the 1999 Oregon Childcare Market Rate Study conducted by Portland State University. This study is a result of the mandate that states conduct a survey of childcare market rates every two years as part of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act of 1996. Costs are for 4-year-olds for one-child families, one 4-year-old and one school age child for two-child families, and a 4-year-old and two school age children for three-child families.

Transportation

Transportation costs are based on the costs of owning and operating a car. These costs were derived from the average miles driven per person for the size of the regional area (from the Nationwide Personal Transportation Survey). Thus, transportation costs vary by the size of the metropolitan area (or whether the area is rural). Costs per mile are from the IRS cost-per-mile rate, which includes the cost of gas, insurance, vehicle registration fees, maintenance, and depreciation.



Methodology & Data References

Budget Components and Methodology

The Basic Family Budget included only costs for non-social trips (work, school, church, and errands) for the first adult and costs for work trips for the second adult. According to the National Personal Transportation survey, 28 percent of trips are work related and 41 percent are for other non-social trips.

The formula for deriving transportation costs is:

[.69 (non soc trips 1st adult) * Average Miles/MSA * .325 (IRS cost/mile)] + [.28 (work trips 2nd adult) * Average Miles/MSA * .325 (IRS cost/mile)]

Health care

In calculating health care costs, we took into account the fact that 40 percent of families do not receive health insurance through their employers. The Basic Family Budget assumes that any workers who do not have health insurance through their employers or through Medicaid would purchase health insurance through a non-group plan. Thus, health care costs are based on a weighted average of the costs of employer-provided health insurance and the cost of purchasing a nongroup plan. The Basic Family Budget uses the same cost of health insurance for the whole state, as non-group plans do not vary significantly

within states. Premium costs for a non-group plan were obtained from two online health insurance quote firms, www.ehealthinsurance.com and www.quotesmith.com. Both of these sites provide quotes from major providers for non-group health plans.

Quotes are based on ages of family members and ZIP codes. We assumed parents were 33 and the children were age 4, 8, and 10. The plan closest to a \$500 deductible and a \$20 co-pay was selected. The Basic Family Budget uses a zip code from an urban area in the state; using zip codes for different areas in the state did not change the cost of the plans significantly. For the employee cost for premiums for employer-sponsored insurance, the average employee cost for premiums for family health insurance plans in the state was used. These data were obtained from the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey.

Out-of-pocket costs are from "Hidden From View: The Growing Burden of Health Care Costs" from Consumer's Union (Table 9), inflated to 1999 dollars. To weight for whether families have health insurance through an employer, we use the percentage of families with incomes between \$20,000 and \$30,000 who receive health insurance from their employer,



Budget Components and Methodology

the percentage who have Medicaid, and the percentage that are covered by neither and therefore would have to purchase a non-group plan.

For the weighted average for two-parent families, the formula is:

0.59 * employer-sponsored premium + 0.08 * \$0 (no premium cost for Medicaid) + 0.33 * non-group premium + out-of-pocket costs.

For one-parent families, the formula is:

0.61 * employer-sponsored premium + 0.08 * \$0 (no premium cost for Medicaid) + 0.31 * non-group premium + out-of-pocket costs.

Other necessities

The cost of other necessities includes the cost of telephone, clothing, personal care expenses, household supplies, reading materials, school supplies, union dues, bank fees, television, music, and toys. Bernstein, et al. (2000) derives these costs from the Federal Communications Commission and the Consumer Expenditure Survey, and calculates that these costs are 31 percent of housing and food costs. Thus, the cost of other necessities is derived by taking 31 percent of the housing and food costs for the area and family type.

Taxes

Taxes were computed for the tax year 1999. Taxes include federal personal income taxes, federal Social Security and Medicare payroll taxes (direct worker payments only) equal to 7.65 percent of pretax wages, and state income taxes. Sales and property taxes are not included in the tax category because sales taxes are included in the cost of other necessities and property taxes are included in the cost of housing. Taxes were calculated based on the after-tax incomes necessary to meet basic needs (i.e., after-tax family budget levels). It was accomplished by calculating the pretax incomes necessary for families to achieve this after-tax income.

The taxpayer family types are married couples with one, two, or three children, filing jointly for federal income taxes and single parents with one, two, or three children filing as head of household federally. The Basic Family Budget assumes all income is from wages, none of the adults is elderly, all families are renters, and all couples have two wage earners. For the dependent care tax credit, we assume that (1) all families have the maximum amount of dependent care expenses (\$2,400 for one eligible



Methodology & Data References

Budget Components and Methodology

child; \$4,800 for two or more eligible children), and (2) all children are under 13 years old and thus “eligible” for purposes of the dependent care credit. Taxes are based on the standard deduction for both federal and state income tax purposes. No adjustments were taken in computing adjusted gross income for federal income taxes.

Reference

Bernstein, Jared, Chauna Brocht, and Maggie Spade-Aguilar. 2000. How much is enough? Basic Family Budgets for Working Families. Washington D.C.: Economic Policy Institute.

References/Methodology for the final table in the county pages

Poverty Measures

1. **Total County Population. 2003** *Population Estimates*, US Census Bureau. <http://www.census.gov/popest/estimates.php>

2. **The percent of people who lived below the federal poverty threshold.** *US Census Bureau.* <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty.html>

3. **Median Income.** *US Census Bureau.*

<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/income.html>

4. **Unemployment Rate.** *US Department of Labor. Bureau of Labor Statistics.* <http://data.bls.gov>

5. **Percent of 8th grade students who reported using illicit drugs in the previous 30 days.** *Oregon’s Progress Report, Report to the Legislative Assembly, Oregon Progress Board.* <http://www.lcb.state.or.us/DAS/OPB/docs/CoData/03CoData/copages.xls>

6. **High School drop out rate** (grades 9-12 for the listed school year). *Oregon’s Progress Report, Report to the Legislative Assembly, Oregon Progress Board.* <http://www.lcb.state.or.us/DAS/OPB/docs/CoData/03CoData/copages.xls>

7. **Pregnancy rate per 1,000 females ages 10-17.** *Oregon’s Progress Report, Report to the Legislative Assembly, Oregon Progress Board.* <http://www.lcb.state.or.us/DAS/OPB/docs/CoData/03CoData/copages.xls>

8. **Number of child-care slots available for children under the age of 13.** *Oregon’s Progress Report, Report to the Legislative Assembly, Oregon Progress Board.* <http://www.lcb.state.or.us/DAS/OPB/docs/CoData/03CoData/copages.xls>



9. Percent of babies whose mothers received prenatal care in the first trimester. *Oregon's Progress Report, Report to the Legislative Assembly, Oregon Progress Board.*

<http://www.lcb.state.or.us/DAS/OPB/docs/CoData/03CoData/copages.xls>

10. The percent of households in the given county that owned their home. *US Census Bureau.* <http://www.lcb.state.or.us/DAS/OPB/docs/CoData/03CoData/copages.xls>

11. The percent of the county population who rented and who reported spending 30 percent or more of their income on rental costs. This is referred to as "rent burden". *US Census Bureau.* <http://www.census.gov/popest/housing.html>

County Services

1. One Night Shelter Counts. A one night count of singles and individuals in families seeking emergency shelter or homeless prevention services on the given night of the count. This count includes those receiving shelter and services and those who are turned away. This number represents all individuals separately, including each family member such as children.

OHCS conducts two counts each year, one in March and one in November. The number represented in this report is from the November counts. The ONSC is a point in time snapshot of the homeless and at risk singles and individuals in families. *Oregon Housing and Community Services, Community Services or Information Services.*

2. The number of new housing units created with OHCS funds for affordable housing. This number represents the number of new units supported by funding dollars allocated by OHCS to the county for the specified year. The amounts listed do not represent rolling totals, these units are funded for the specified year only. These could represent units being renovated or under construction. *Oregon Housing and Community Services, Housing Section or Information Services.*

3. OHCS Funding for Subsidized Housing. This dollar amount represents funds allocated by OHCS to each county in the specified year for either new construction or renovation for affordable housing units. This dollar amount represents funding from several programs at OHCS that are implemented to help moderate to low-income families by



Methodology & Data References

developing, financing and preserving locally supported affordable housing. Note: if there is a funding amount but no new unit amount for the same year, the funding went toward construction. *Oregon Housing and Community Services. Housing Section or Information Services.*

4. The number of single-family home loans for low-income households.

This number represents the number of home loans financed through OHCS in conjunction with qualified lenders.

These home loans are for persons who earn less than 80 percent of the state median income. These loans give below market rate home loans and/or down payment and closing cost assistance. *Oregon Housing and Community Services. Single-Family Section or Information Services.*

<http://www.oregonbond.us>

5. Dollar amount given for single-family home loans.

This number represents the dollar amount allocated for single-family home loans for low-income households. *Oregon Housing and Community Services. Single-Family Section or Information Services.*

<http://www.oregonbond.us>

6. The number of households receiving energy assistance from

OCHS from two programs: Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) and Oregon Energy Assistance Program (OEAP).

These numbers represent households who received assistance for home heating costs from July to June of the specified year. Due to funding, some households may receive assistance from both LIEAP and OEAP, however this chart represents an unduplicated count. http://egov.oregon.gov/OHCS/SOS_EUMainPage.shtml

7. The percent of population enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan.

This number is an unduplicated count of the number of Oregon Health Plan enrollees in each county in the specified year. *Department of Human Services, Integrated Client Database Report. 2002 report available on-line at* <http://www.dhs.state.or.us/data/icdb/index.html>

8. The number of students eligible for either free- or reduced price-lunch in the county schools per school year.

In order to represent the most recent data, the school years run as follows: 1999(1999-2000); 2000 (2000-2001); 2001 (2001-2002); 2002 (2002-2003) *Department of Education.* <http://ode.state.or.us/sfda>



9. The percent of students who are eligible for free- or reduced price-lunch in the county schools per school year. *Department of Education.*
<http://ode.state.or.us/sfda>

10. The percent of the county population who received food stamps in the specified year.
These percentages represent an unduplicated client count. *Department of Human Services. Integrated Client Database.* <http://www.dhs.state.or.us/data/icdb/index.html>

11. The percent of county population who received Temporary Assistance to Needy Families in the specified year. These percentages represent an unduplicated client count. *Department of Human Services. Integrated Client Database.* <http://www.dhs.state.or.us/data/icdb/index.html>

12. The percent of the county population that received services from the Department of Human Services in the specified year.
These percentages represent an unduplicated count. *Department of Human Services. Integrated Client Database.* <http://www.dhs.state.or.us/data/icdb/index.html>

Census Race and Ethnicity Questions

The Census includes two questions related to race and ethnicity. From the short form:

7. Is Person 1 Spanish/Hispanic/Latino? Mark the "No" box if **not** Spanish/Hispanic/Latino.

No, not Spanish/Hispanic/Latino Yes, Puerto Rican
 Yes, Mexican, Mexican Am., Chicano Yes, Cuban
 Yes, other Spanish/Hispanic/Latino — *Print group.* ↴

8. What is Person 1's race? Mark **one or more races** to indicate what this person considers himself/herself to be.

White
 Black, African Am., or Negro
 American Indian or Alaska Native — *Print name of enrolled or principal tribe.*

Asian Indian Japanese Native Hawaiian
 Chinese Korean Guamanian or Chamorro
 Filipino Vietnamese Samoan
 Other Asian — *Print race.* ↴ Other Pacific Islander — *Print race.*

Some other race — *Print race.* ↴

