



# Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments

Serving Benton, Lincoln, and Linn Counties Since 1975

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**Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments**

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[www.StateoftheRegion.org](http://www.StateoftheRegion.org)

Executive Director: Fred Abousleman

September 2015

## ABOUT THE DATA

The *State of the Region* project was made possible by extensive use of public data. Discover the diversity and unique quality of our region through the numbers:

40

DATABASES

355

DATA TABLES

55

SHAPE FILES / MAP LAYERS

950

HOURS OF ANALYSIS

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Welcome to our seminal *State of the Region* report. Our analysis, project, and editing team took over a year to collect information and data; map and chart it; and present it here as a snapshot of our tri-county region. This document shows many of the opportunities we have before us to grow our economy, provide better services to our citizens, and be able to track, over time, changes in our communities and look for new ideas and new ways of doing business. The data presented does not make assumptions, nor tell us as community leaders, partners, and stakeholders the policy or program paths we should take. It does, however, begin to give us the tools to better analyze and guide our decision-making. It also, for the first time, presents us with a picture of our region as a whole, across time and place, and as communities that have a common future.

I believe you will find this information insightful, a valuable first effort, and one that can be built on in the future to provide even more analysis, and tools we can all use. Visit our website, [www.StateoftheRegion.org](http://www.StateoftheRegion.org), provide comments on how to improve and where to find data, and interact with the Council of Governments, so we can all better focus resources in the most effective and efficient way possible.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

The Honorable Sharon Konopa  
Chair, Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments  
Mayor, City of Albany, Oregon



# THE STATE OF THE REGION

The footprint of Western Oregon's Benton, Lincoln, and Linn Counties spans nearly 4,000 square miles, is home to over 255,000 individuals, and encompasses diverse economic, geographic, and cultural attributes. From the foothills of the Cascades to the Central Oregon Coast, with the fertile Willamette Valley in between, this is a region of exciting opportunities and unique challenges.

Regions are defined by shared characteristics. For example, how residents commute and where they work and play define a region; the flow of economic activity, and shared demographics or affinities, may define a region. For the purposes of the *State of the Region*, we define our region as being bounded by Benton, Lincoln, and Linn Counties. These Counties share a history, a geographic footprint, and a

common economic framework. State Highways 20 and 34; Interstate 5; multiple rail links and trails; and an economic shed that runs both north-south and east-west join these counties together.

***Western Oregon's Benton, Lincoln, and Linn Counties span nearly 4,000 square miles, are home to over 255,000 people, and share a history, a geographic footprint, and a common economic framework.***

This seminal *State of the Region* highlights trends, connections, and indicators related to the people and the economy of our region, including migration, agriculture, business patents, philanthropic investments, and more. Findings are developed and

illustrated through a rigorous data collection process undertaken over the past year by a project team at the Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments.

Our goals for the *State of the Region* are:

1. To capture data related to our region, present it, and make it available in easy-to-use, scalable, and interactive formats. The data are not meant to be comprehensive, but rather to provide a snapshot and encourage future conversations.
2. To build internal and external capacity in data collection, maintenance, and visualization.
3. To provide decision-makers with data to help set the stage for policy and program decisions concerning our collective priorities, investments, and vision.

## OREGON CASCADES WEST COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

The Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments (OCWCOG) has served the region since the 1970s. OCWCOG is a regional planning and service-delivery organization with offices in Albany, Corvallis, and Toledo, and over 160 staff members. OCWCOG conducts projects and provides services on behalf of its members, which include 21 cities, three counties, the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians, and the Port of Newport. OCWCOG's work is diverse and includes senior and disability services, veterans programs, business services, economic development, business lending, and transportation planning.

## OCWCOG MEMBERS

**COUNTIES:** Benton, Lincoln, and Linn

**CITIES:** Adair Village, Albany, Brownsville, Corvallis, Depoe Bay, Halsey, Harrisburg, Lebanon, Lincoln City, Lyons, Millersburg, Monroe, Newport, Philomath, Scio, Siletz, Sweet Home, Tangent, Toledo, Waldport, and Yachats

**SOVEREIGN NATION:** Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians

**PORT:** Port of Newport

Throughout this document, anytime you see the *State of the Region* logo, additional information and interactive mapping is available at [www.StateoftheRegion.org](http://www.StateoftheRegion.org).



## OUR REGION: BY THE NUMBERS

3

counties

26

incorporated cities

1

confederated tribe

3

seaports

255,355

total population  
of the region

7

airports

8,726

miles of roads

4,215

miles of railroad

890

rivers

180

lakes

285

parks

3

lighthouses

11

covered bridges

164

century farms and ranches

16

public libraries

17

museums

23

art galleries

12

school districts

66

fire stations

16

police stations

5

hospitals

76% benton county  
74.6% lincoln county  
72% linn county

voter turnout in 2014 election  
(70% statewide)



## HOW WE COMPARE

Throughout this document we'll explore how we compare to peer regions from outside the State of Oregon. OCWCOG's three peer regions are Southeast Idaho, Brazos Valley Texas, and Northeast Arizona.

These peer regions were chosen based on:

- Their comparable populations;
- The presence of a Council of Governments with somewhat similar services to OCWCOG; and
- The presence of a university

comparable to Oregon State University in enrollment, in relation to the region's population.

**Southeast Idaho:** The Southeast Idaho region is served by the Southeast Idaho Council of Governments (SICOG). The region encompasses seven counties and is home to 166,000 residents. Idaho State University calls Southeast Idaho home.

**Brazos Valley:** The Brazos Valley area

encompasses seven counties and is home to 335,000 people. Texas A&M University is located in the region. It is served by the Brazos Valley Council of Governments (BVCOG).

**Northern Arizona:** The Northern Arizona region encompasses four counties and is home to 536,000 people. It is served by the Northern Arizona Council of Governments (NACOG). Northern Arizona University is located in this region.

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What's next? More information available at [www.StateoftheRegion.org](http://www.StateoftheRegion.org).

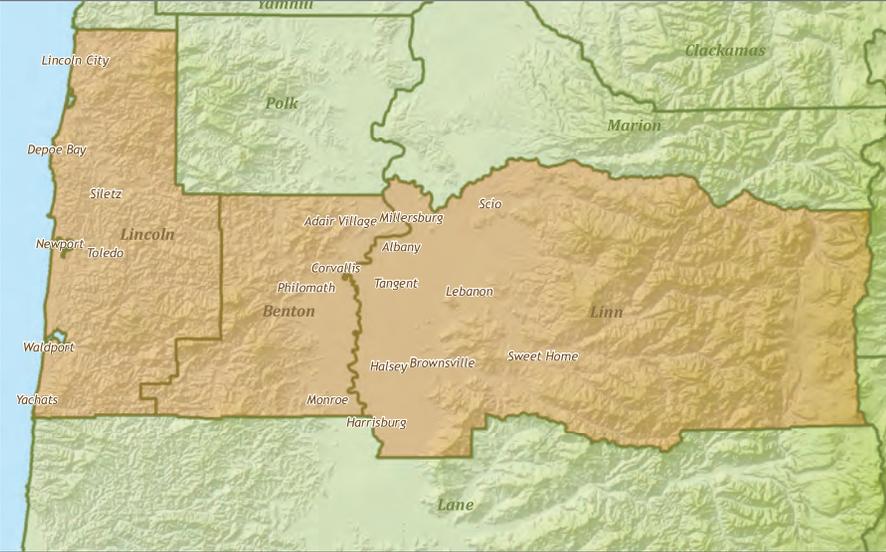
14

## APPENDIX PAGE 80

The miscellaneous items: details about the data; list of citations; list of data sources; and acronym list.

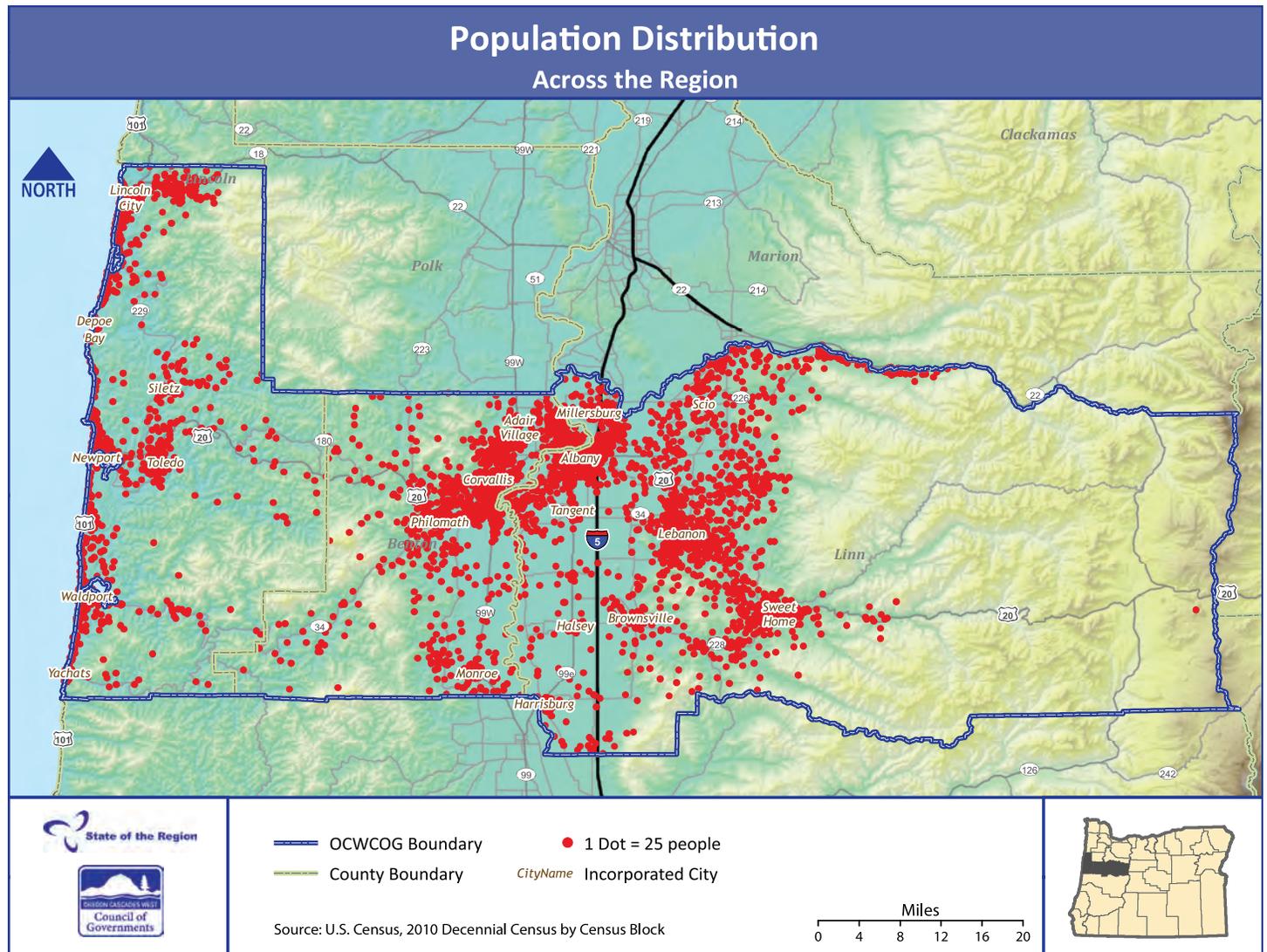
# SECTION 1: WHERE ARE WE

Our region is part of Cascadia, a mega-region that spans from British Columbia to Oregon and encompasses three percent of the United States' gross domestic product and three percent of its population.<sup>1</sup> Cascadia could be defined as an “ecopolis,” known for both natural abundance and business innovation. Much like the rest of Cascadia, our region embraces self-reliance, transformation and diversity. As of 2010, there were over eight million people living within it and connected to a global trade and resource network.



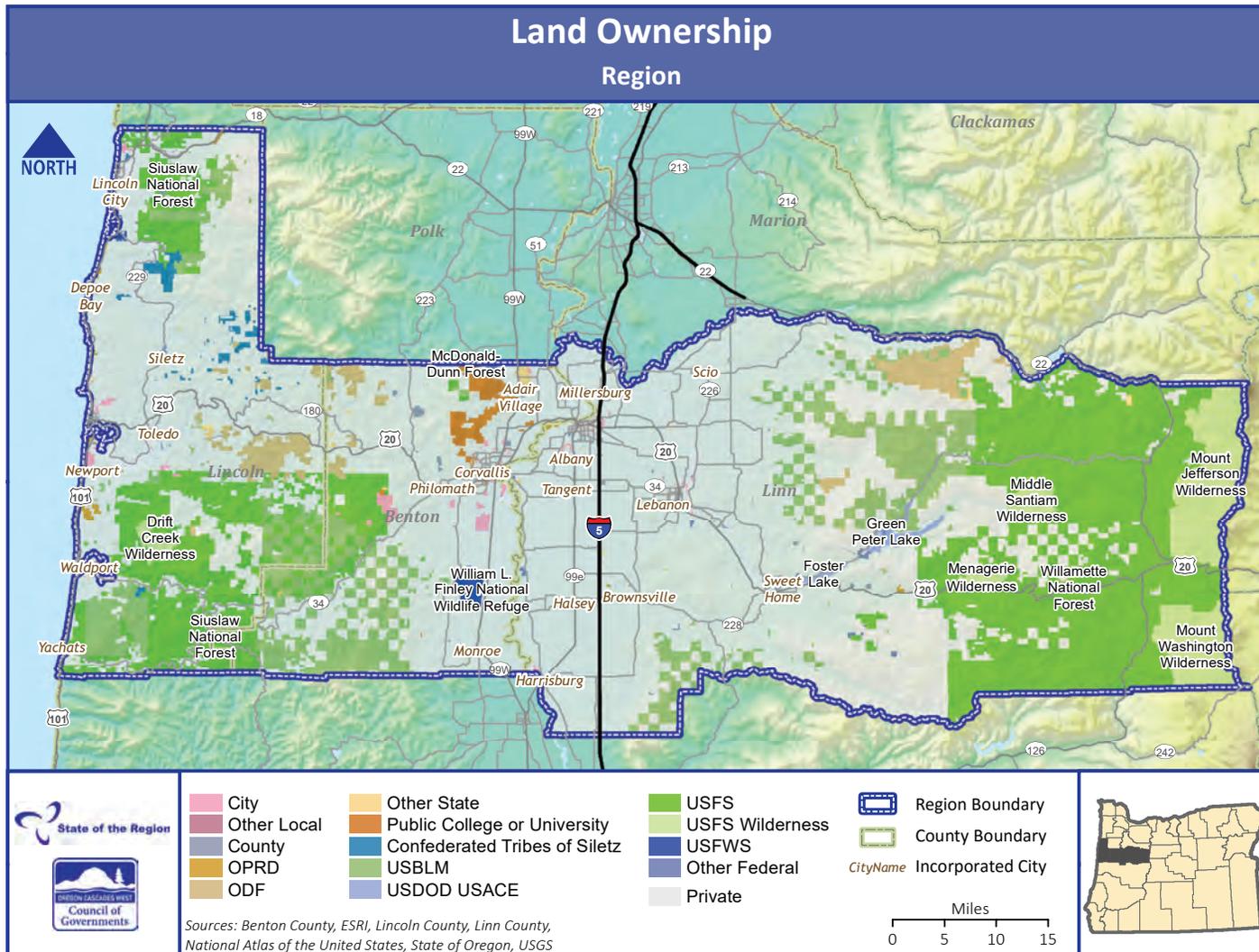
## Population Distribution

Our region's 255,000 residents are concentrated in small and mid-sized towns and cities, while a large and sparsely populated rural expanse of forest and farmland characterizes the non-urban landscape. According to 2011 data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the National Resource Conservation Service, Benton County is 45 percent forest land, Lincoln County is 62 percent forest land, and Linn County is 52 percent forest land.



## Land Ownership

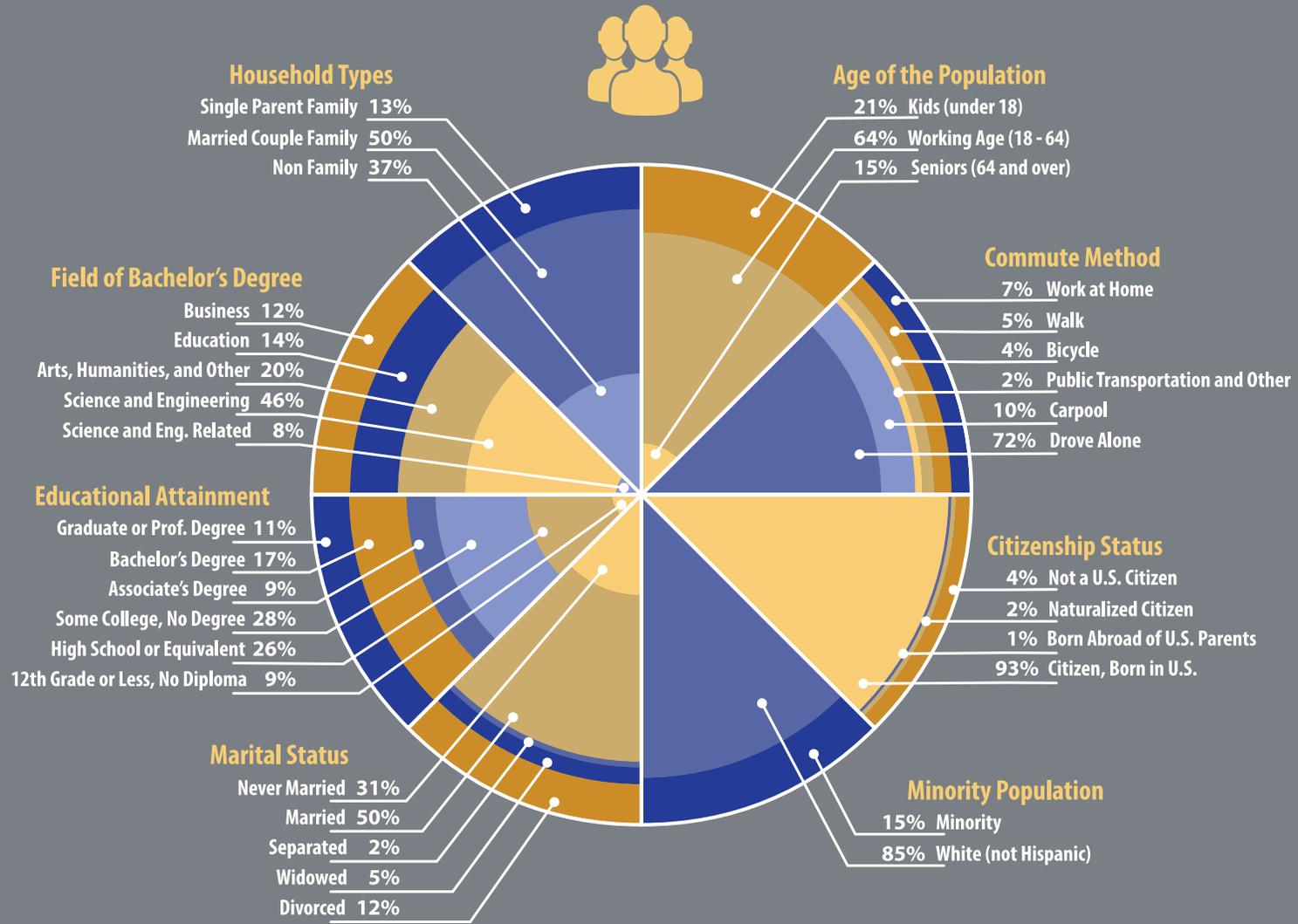
Land in the region is owned by diverse private and public entities, with a broad expanse of Federal and State owned forest. 172,000 acres of the 630,000-acre Siuslaw National Forest are located in Lincoln County. The other major forest in the region is the Willamette National Forest, which spans just over 464,000 acres in Linn County and 1,691,000 total acres. Other large areas of land are attributed to the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, Oregon Department of Forestry, Oregon State University, and others.



# SECTION 2: WHO WE ARE

Our region's residents are as diverse as its landscape. We are students and teachers, mothers and grandfathers, farmers, nurses, and entrepreneurs. In this section, we'll explore indicators about our population's demographics.

## Characteristics of the Region's Population



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

## Jennifer

While our region celebrates diversity, understanding our most common traits is helpful to making long-lasting and impactful decisions that strengthen our communities and the individuals living in them.



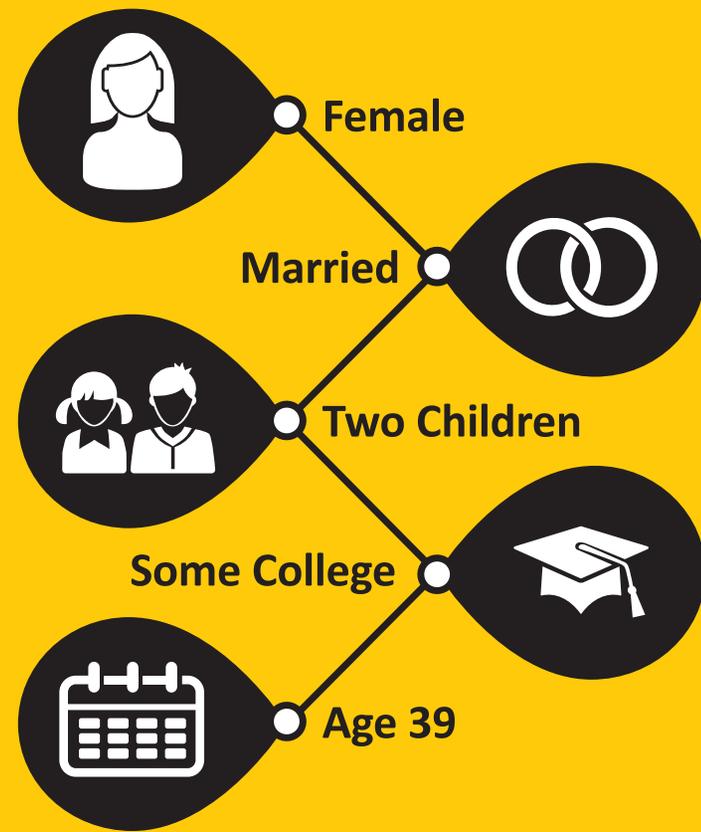
A region's diversity cannot be summed up in any one person, but averages can tell us a story. Our region's *typical* resident is named Jennifer, is 39 years old, is married, has two children, and is a high school graduate with some college education.

### How did we go about determining the traits of this *typical* person?

Data about the economic and demographic makeup of a region can provide a broad overview of the commonalities among our region's residents. Taking several factors into consideration, the profile of an "average" resident emerges. For example, the graphic on the previous page shows us some of these common traits; we know that 50% of our region's residents over the age of 14 are married. We also know from the Social Security Administration that "Jennifer" was the most common name given to females born in Oregon in 1976; since 39 is the average age of residents in our region, 1976 is her birth year. Why a female and not a male? Because there are more women than men in the region, as shown on the age distribution chart on page 14.

### Why is *Jennifer* important?

By understanding similar attributes, local elected officials, business leaders, nonprofit associations, and OCWCOG can use this information and similar data to make decisions in the public and private space, regarding funding priorities, development opportunities, etc. This information assists community leaders in answering questions about its residents.



## Population Growth

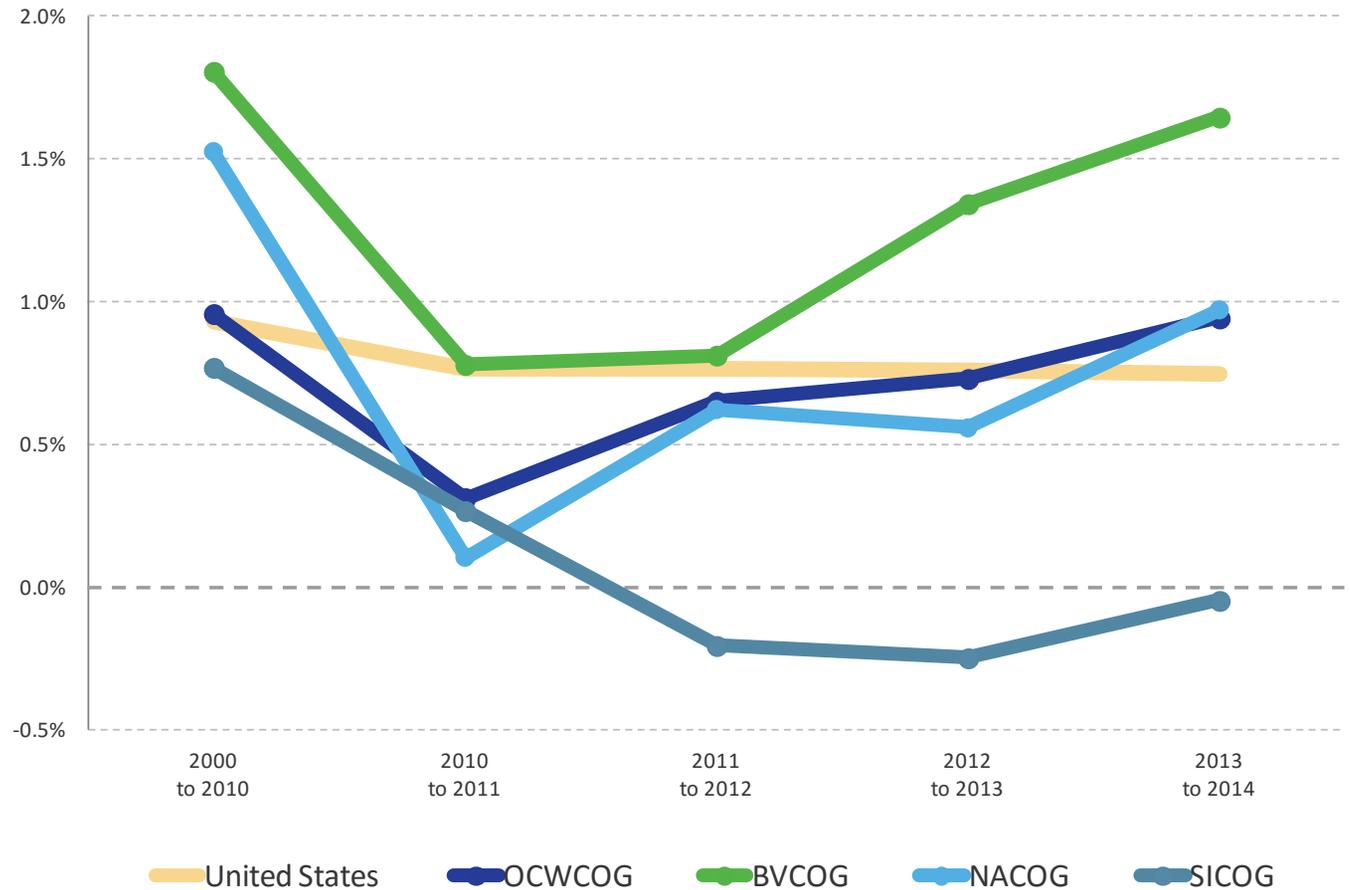
Our region has seen steady population growth over the past several decades. The annual growth from 1960 to 2014 was 1.4 percent, slightly less than the State's 1.5 percent, but above the national rate of 1.1 percent.

Growth in the region has slowed, however, as the 2010 U.S. Census reports. The annual growth rate from 2010-2014 was estimated at just 0.7 percent. This slower growth is projected to continue. According to the State of Oregon's long-term population forecasts, our region is projected to grow at an annual rate of 0.9 percent over the next ten years.

This *Annual Population Growth Rates* chart shows that among OCWCOG and its peer regions, three of the four regions have growth rates that are below the nation's, and all of them have population growth rates that are currently trending up, compared to the nation which is relatively flat. Population growth comes from natural increase (births less deaths) and migration. The majority of growth in our region comes from positive net migration.

For information about the demographics of people who are moving into our region from other places in Oregon, and beyond, see page 18.

**Annual Population Growth Rates**  
United States and Peer Regions

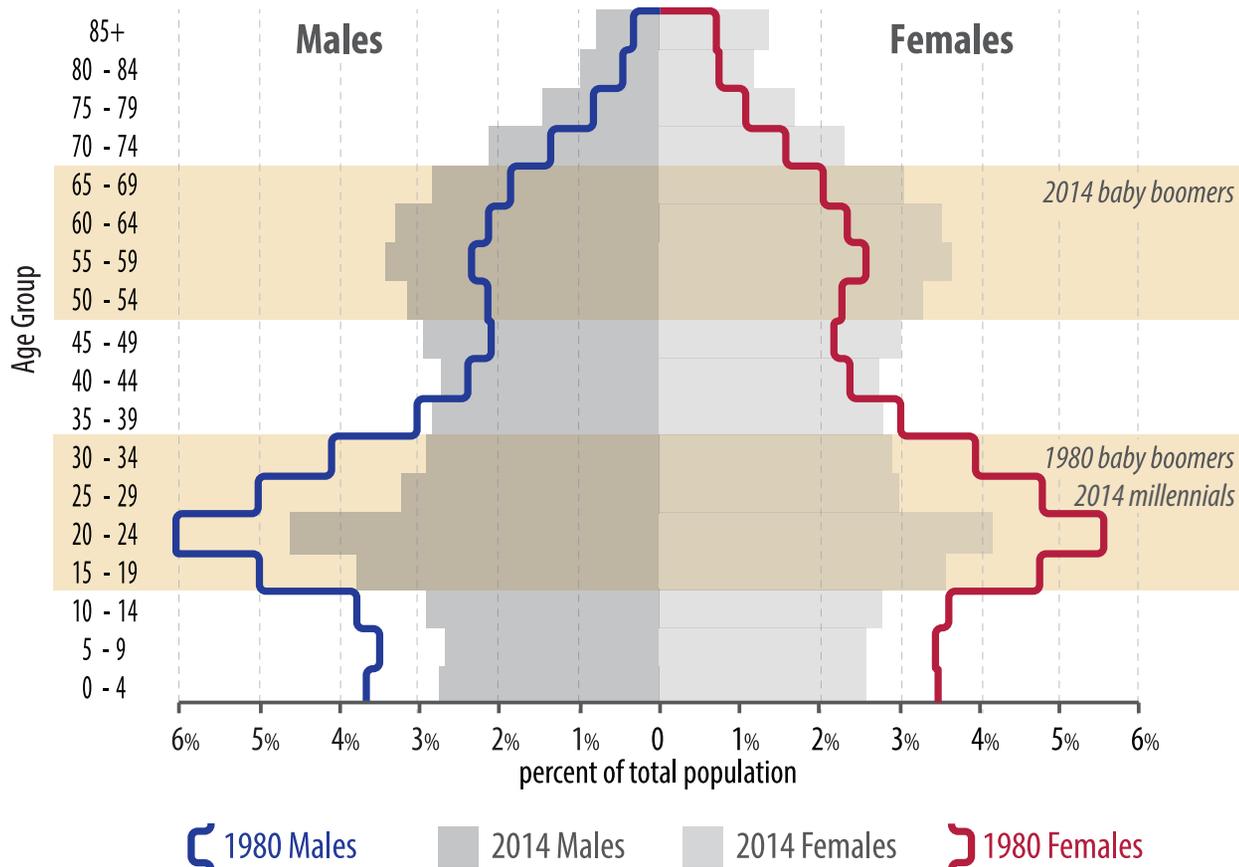


Sources: U.S. Census Bureau 2014 Estimates and Portland State University 2014 Certified Estimates for Oregon Counties

## Age Distribution

The region is experiencing two trends in relation to its population. First, the overall population is aging. This can be attributed in part to the large number of baby boomers (born 1946-1964) reaching their senior years. According to 2014 population estimates, they make up 26 percent of the region's population. This trend is also attributed to an influx of first- and second-wave retirees (those who have recently retired, and those who have been retired for many years).

### Population Distribution: 1980 and 2014 OCWCOG Region



Second, the region attracts a large number of young adults, due in part to those moving here to attend our university and colleges. Members of the millennial generation, who are now in their college years, make up 28 percent of the region's population, according to the 2014 population estimates.

Across the region, the age distribution looks quite different from county to county. As expected, Benton County, home of OSU, has a large college-age population. In Lincoln County, almost the reverse is true, and baby boomers are the largest segment of the population. Linn County, the most populous county in the region, has a fairly balanced age distribution.

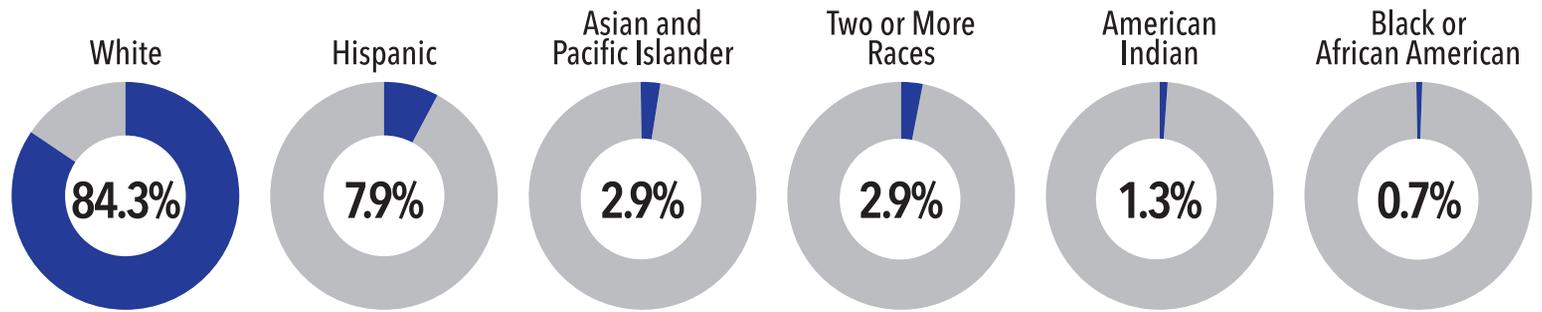
## Gender Distribution

In 2014, the region's population was estimated to be 49.4 percent male and 50.6 percent female. As shown in the population pyramid on the left, the distribution of the population has changed dramatically over the last three decades as the baby boomers went from young adults to near retirement.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau (1980 Census); Portland State University (2014 Estimates)

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that in 2014, 84.3 percent of the region's population identified as non-Hispanic white, compared to 77 percent in the State overall.

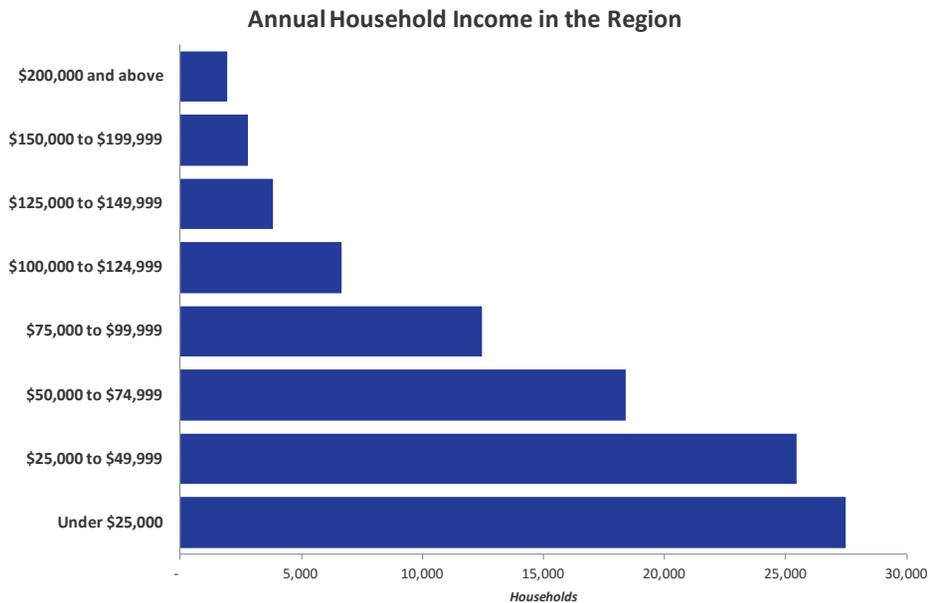
### Race and Hispanic Origin of the Region's Population



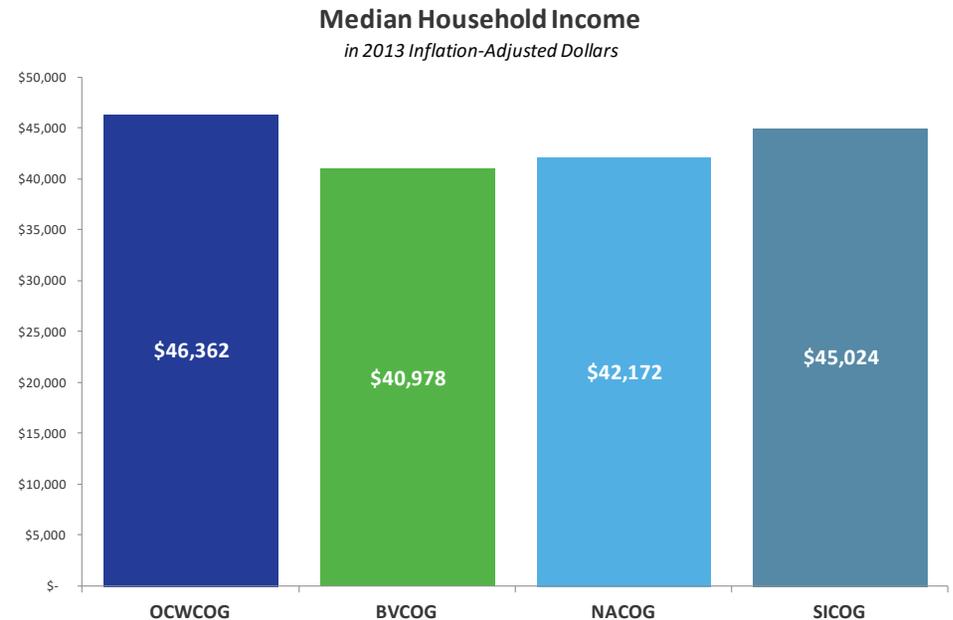
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 County Estimates; Race estimates are for non-Hispanic ethnicity

## Household Income

According to Census Bureau 2013 estimates, the region's median household income is \$46,362, ranking highest among our peers. The region's median income is slightly above Southeast Idaho COG's estimated \$45,024. The peer region with the lowest median income is Brazos Valley COG at \$40,978, while Northern Arizona COG is estimated slightly higher at \$42,172. For information about how much residents in the region spend on housing, see page 69.



Income in 2013 Inflation-adjusted dollars  
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, Table B19001



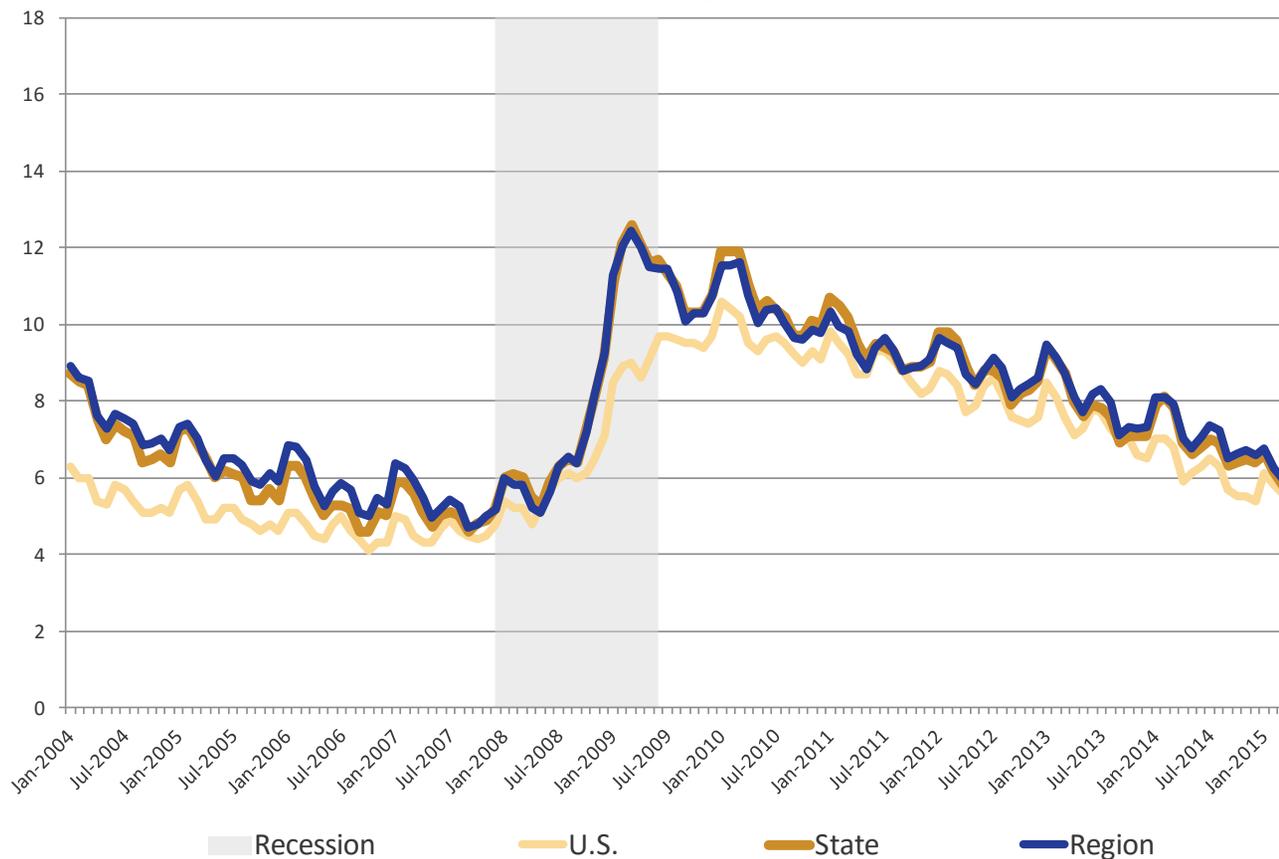
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates  
Median household income calculated from income values in ACS Table B19001

***Compared to our peer regions, as the Median Household Income chart above shows, our region has the highest median household income, slightly above Southeast Idaho.***

## Unemployment Rates

As the economy continues to recover from the recession that began in late 2007, unemployment rates are dropping. Linn County's unemployment peaked in March of 2009, at 15.4 percent. Benton County saw the least impact from the recession, peaking at 8.9 percent in July 2009, mostly due to the strong influence of OSU employment. Lincoln County, with its high employment in tourism-related jobs, had peak unemployment during the recession of 12.4 percent in March 2009. It dropped significantly after that down to 8.8 percent in September of 2009, only to pick up again and peak slightly above the recession number at 12.6 percent in January 2010. It dropped significantly after that down to 8.8 percent in September of 2009, only to pick up again and peak slightly above the recession number at 12.6 percent in January 2010.

**Monthly Unemployment Rate**  
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)



As of April 2015, the most recent month for which data was available as of this printing, the unemployment rates in the region are 3.7 percent for Benton County, 6.4 percent in Lincoln County, and 6.4 percent in Linn County. The three counties combined give the region a 5.4 percent unemployment rate, as compared to 5.2 percent statewide.

For more community indicators, including data on public assistance programs, see page 37.

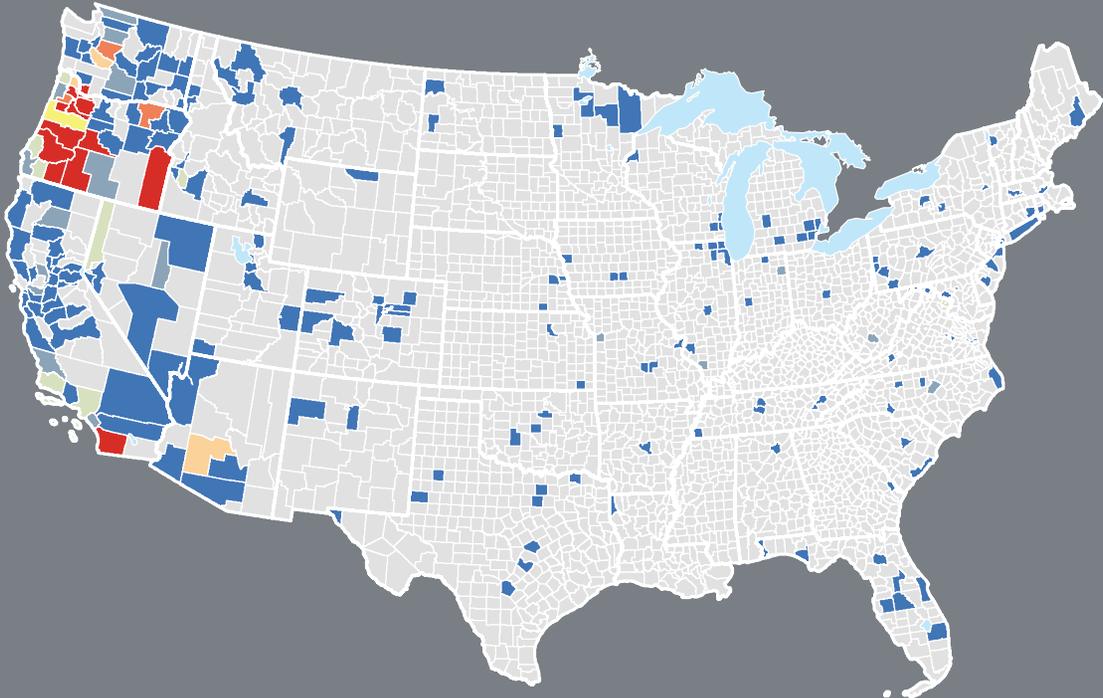
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), and Current Population Survey

# SECTION 3: MIGRATION

New residents bring new cultural and economic contributions to our region. This map shows estimated migration into the region from other counties in Oregon and across the United States.

## In-Migration to the Region by County

Contiguous United States



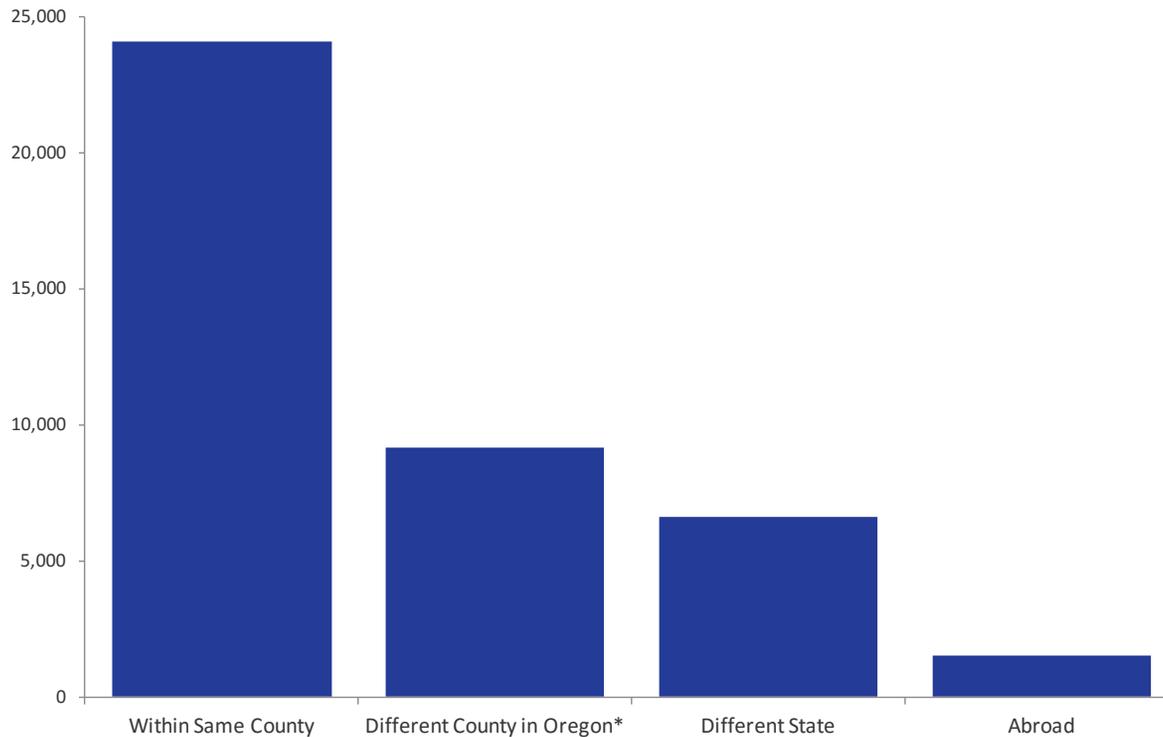
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, County-to-County Migration Flows

<b>Alaska</b> 	<b>Hawaii</b> 	<b>Legend</b> Region      Lakes In-Migrants to the Region 1 to 50 51 to 100 101 to 150 151 to 200 201 to 250 251 or more
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## Migration From Within the Region and State

Taking a closer look at the U.S. Census Bureau's estimates of migration between counties, the majority of movers in the region are people who have moved to a different residence within the same county. Among people who have moved here from outside the region, most (over 9,000) moved from another county within Oregon (see the list below and the map on the previous page). The majority of the movers to the region from within Oregon came from Lane, Marion, and Washington counties. Of the estimated 8,126 people who moved to the region from outside of Oregon, approximately 1,500 moved from outside of the United States. For information about international students at OSU, see the table on the next page. For information about where OSU students are geographically located after they graduate, see page 21.

**Where Movers Into the Region are Moving From  
for Population One Year Old and Over**



\* includes only those counties outside of the region

Source: U.S. Census, 2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

Top 15 Counties that People Moved From Into the Region by total in-migrants		
County Moved From	Movers	Percent
Total In-Migrants to the OCWCOG Region	9,151	100.00%
Lane County	1,397	15.3%
Marion County	1,340	14.6%
Washington County	1,102	12.0%
Multnomah County	957	10.5%
Clackamas County	834	9.1%
Polk County	534	5.8%
Deschutes County	500	5.5%
Klamath County	316	3.5%
Jackson County	294	3.2%
Douglas County	289	3.2%
Malheur County	260	2.7%
Yamhill County	247	2.7%
Umatilla County	227	2.5%
Columbia County	180	2.0%
Josephine County	119	1.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey (ACS) Five-Year Estimates, County-to-County Migration

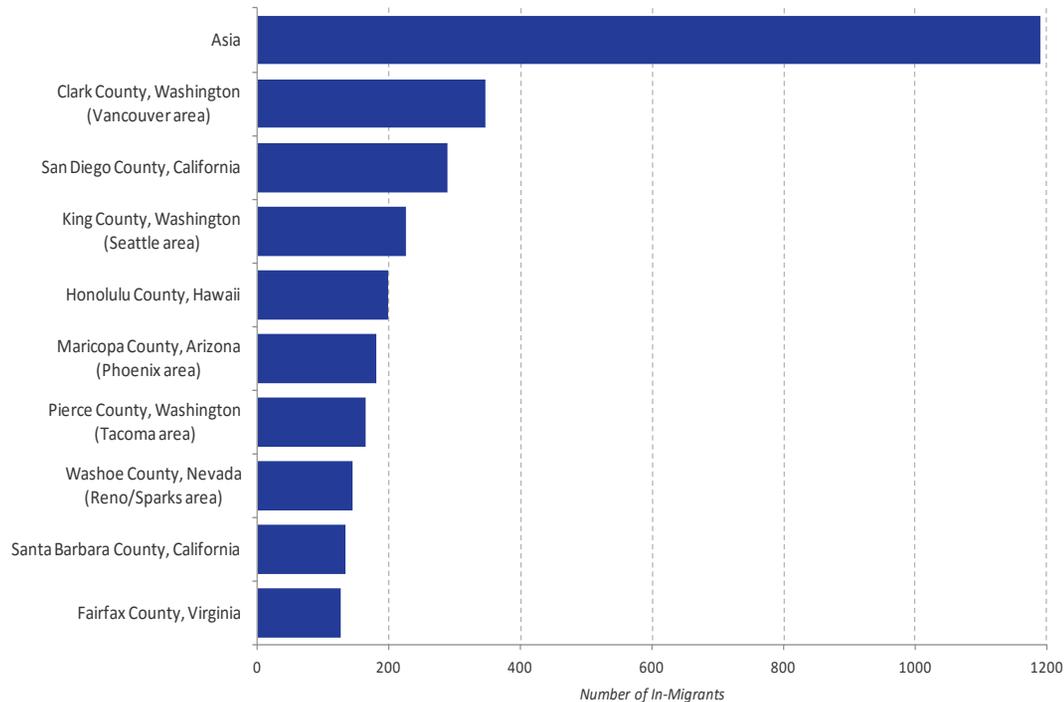
## Moving to Oregon

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2013 County-to-County migration estimates, the largest influx of people moving to the region from outside Oregon – but from within the United States – comes from Clark County, Washington. However, when we consider those from outside the United States, the top place people move from is Asia.

Data on international student enrollment at OSU provide insight into the large proportion of movers coming from Asia. For example, the number of students from China has increased from 141 in 2004 to 1,430 in 2014.

For more information about international students, see the connectivity map on page 79.

**Top 10 Originating Places Outside of Oregon  
for People Moving Into the Region**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, County-to-County Migration, 2013 American Community Survey 5-year estimates

International Student Enrollment: Oregon State University						
Fall 2004 Compared to Fall 2014						
	Fall 2004			Fall 2014		
Country	Enrollment	Percent of Foreign Students	Rank	Enrollment	Percent of Foreign Students	Rank
<b>Total Foreign Enrollment</b>	1,016	-	-	3,247	-	-
China	141	13.9%	1	1,430	44.0%	1
Saudi Arabia	17	1.7%	12	305	9.4%	2
South Korea	86	8.5%	3	130	4.0%	3
India	115	11.3%	2	128	3.9%	4
Iran	3	0.3%	38	97	3.0%	5
Japan	80	7.9%	4	55	1.7%	9
Thailand	58	5.7%	5	40	1.2%	15

Source: Oregon State University Office of Institutional Research

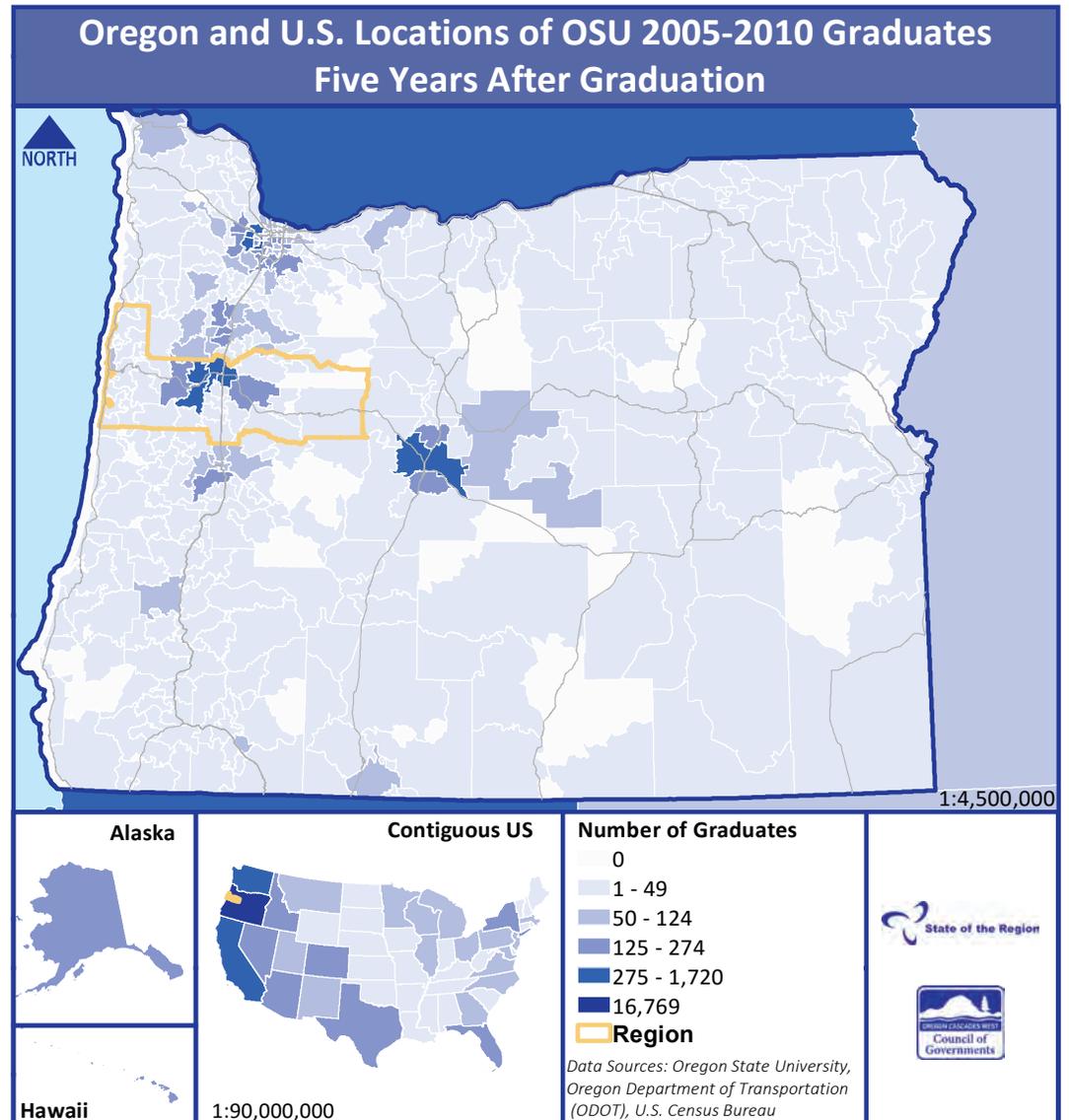


Additional information about the educational attainment of people moving into the region from outside Oregon is available at [www.StateoftheRegion.org](http://www.StateoftheRegion.org).

## Where do Oregon State University students go after graduation?

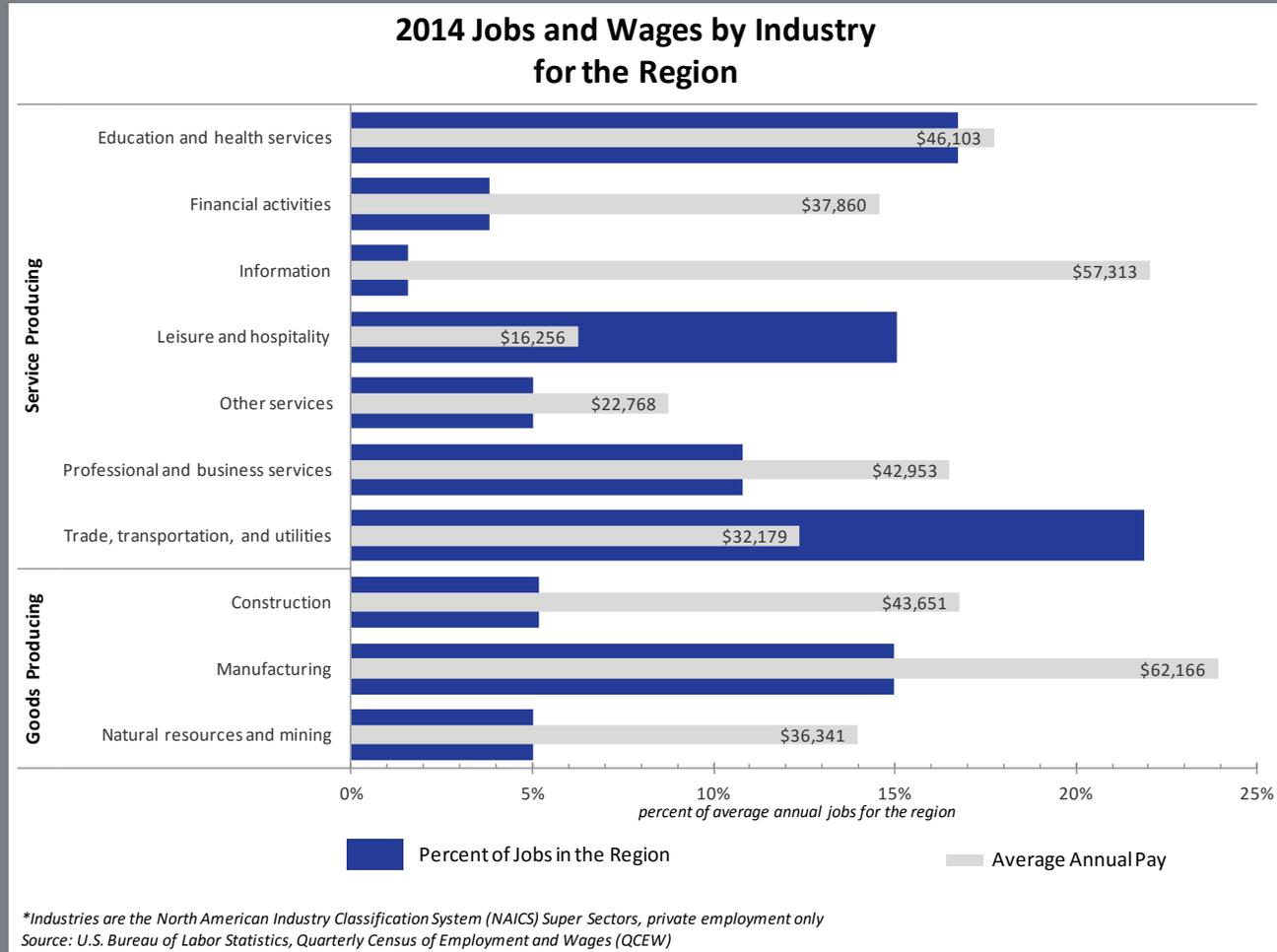
Alumni data from OSU show that five years after graduation, most OSU graduates are still living in Oregon, with California and Washington coming in second and third as places of residence. Within Oregon, 28 percent are still in the region, contributing to our region's communities, economy, and culture.

*Most OSU graduates are still living in Oregon, contributing to our state's communities, economy, and culture.*



## SECTION 4: WORKFORCE, JOBS, AND INDUSTRIES

The region has a complex job and employment base with varied levels of skills and educational attainment that may or may not reflect the needs of current and emerging industries. The types of jobs in the region have changed over the past few decades, with a robust timber industry (see chart on page 57) being replaced with service and professional jobs. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), the highest-paying jobs are in the manufacturing and information sectors.

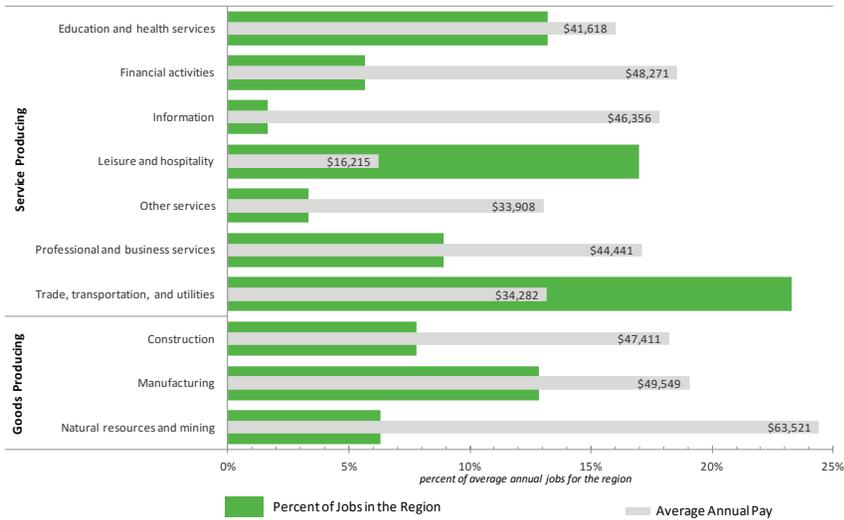


A review of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) top-level private-sector industry data for the region shows that the service-producing industries employ the most people, with an average annual wage of \$33,829. The top category by number of jobs -- Trade, Transportation, and Utilities -- includes all retail trade, wholesale trade, transportation, and warehousing. The highest average annual pay, however, is in manufacturing (\$61,166), which accounts for 7.5 percent of the jobs in the region.

## Peer Regions Jobs and Wages

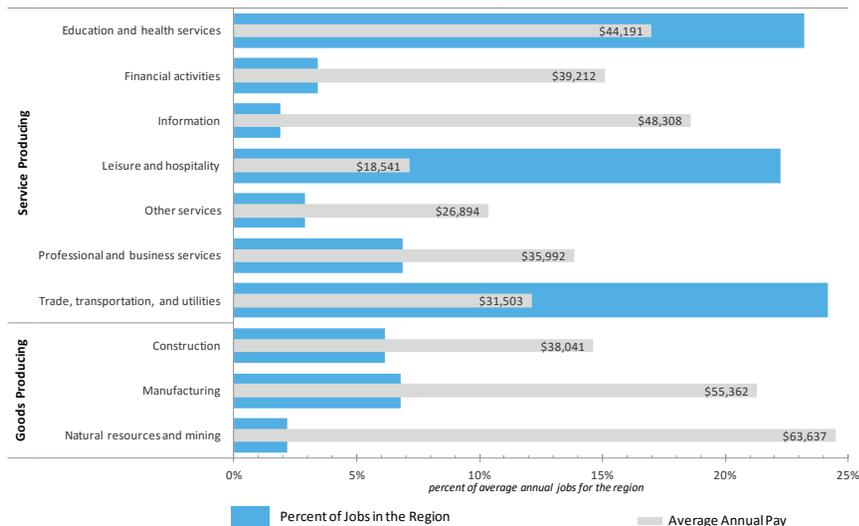
The retail trade industry employs a large number of people, making the Trade, Transportation, and Utilities industry the largest employment category among all regions. However, looking further at the distribution of employment and wages among our peer regions begins to reveal structural differences in employment among our region's peers.

### 2014 Jobs and Wages by Industry for the BVCOG Region



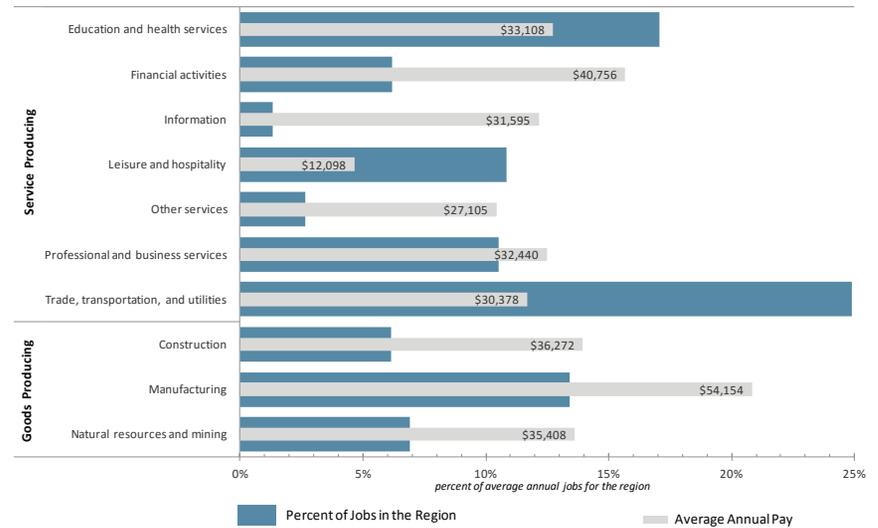
\*Industries are the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Super Sectors, private employment only  
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW)

### 2014 Jobs and Wages by Industry for the NACOG Region



\*Industries are the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Super Sectors, private employment only  
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW)

### 2014 Jobs and Wages by Industry for the SICOG Region



\*Industries are the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Super Sectors, private employment only  
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW)

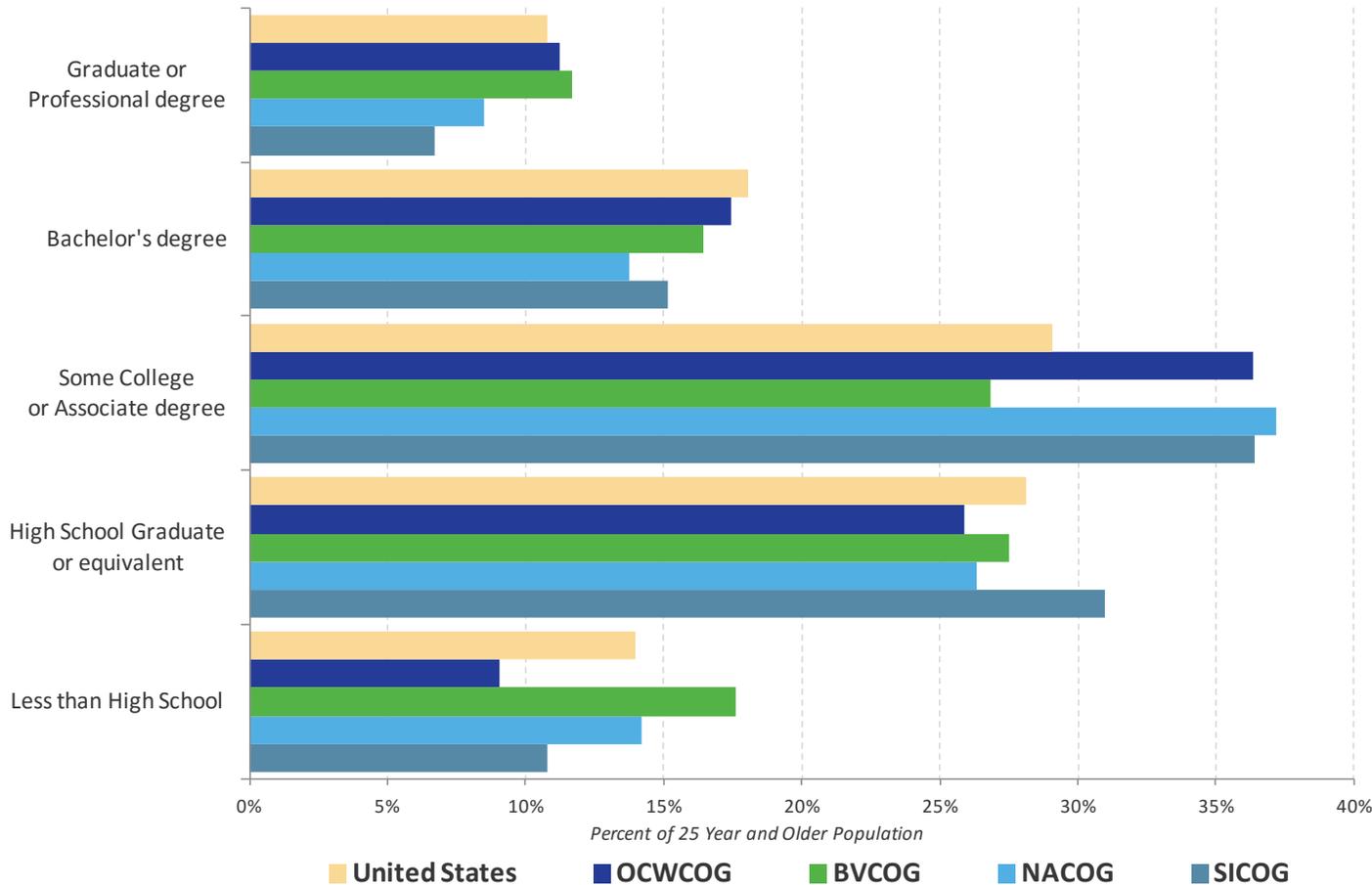


A breakdown of jobs and wages by Industry for each County in the region is available at [www.StateoftheRegion.org](http://www.StateoftheRegion.org).

## Educational Attainment

Our region is ahead of the peer regions and slightly lower than the national average for the percentage of the population age 25 and older that has a Bachelor's degree. We are closely aligned with the nation in terms of the percentage that has a Bachelor's degree or higher at 29 percent.

**Educational Attainment in the United States and Peer Regions**  
for the Population Age 25 and Over



Source: U.S. Census, 2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

Our region, along with Northern Arizona (NACOG) and Southeast Idaho (SICOG), is estimated to have a high proportion of adults, over 35 percent, with some college or an Associate's degree, when compared with the national average.

Refer to page 37 for high school graduation rates in the region.

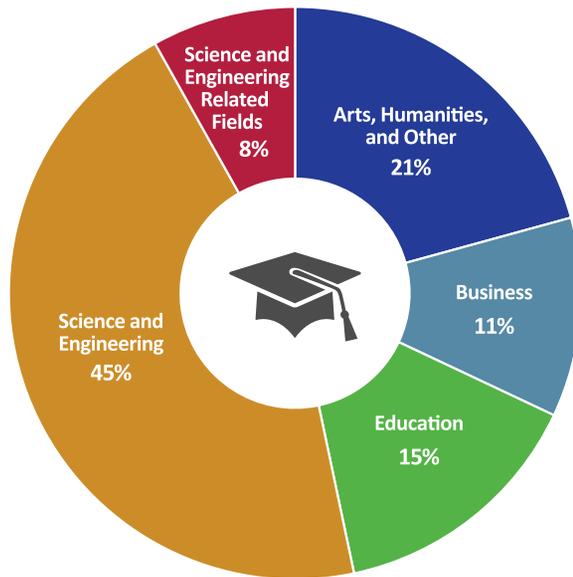


Learn more about the top programs at Linn Benton Community College, Oregon Coast Community College, and Oregon State University by the number of graduates, as well as additional information about the educational attainment of people moving into the region from outside Oregon at [www.StateoftheRegion.org](http://www.StateoftheRegion.org).

## Bachelor's Degree Fields

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that 45 percent of the Bachelor's degrees held by residents of our region are in the Science and Engineering field. When combined with Science and Engineering Related fields, the percentage jumps to over 50 percent.

### Field of Bachelor's Degrees\* for Residents in the Region age 25 and Older



\*Tally of all reported Bachelor's Degrees earned which includes persons with multiple degrees  
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

## Employment by Education Level

The majority of entry level positions in the region, or 63 percent, do not require an education level above a high school diploma. However, when looking at non-entry level jobs, or competitive level jobs, less than half of those have a minimum educational requirement of a high school diploma. Most competitive level jobs require at least some post-secondary education and 30 percent require a Bachelor's degree or higher.

### Employment by Typical Entry-Level Education, 2012 Region

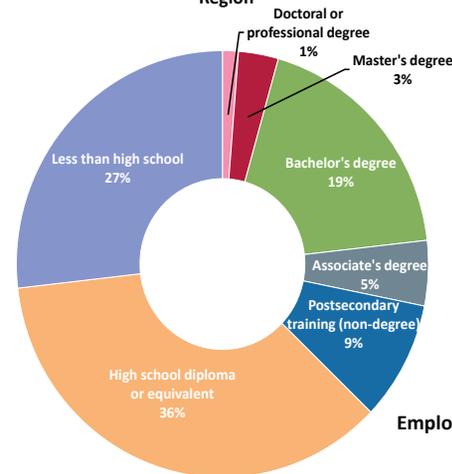


Figure from Oregon Employment Department, Workforce and Economic Research

### Employment by Typical Competitive-Level Education, 2012 Region

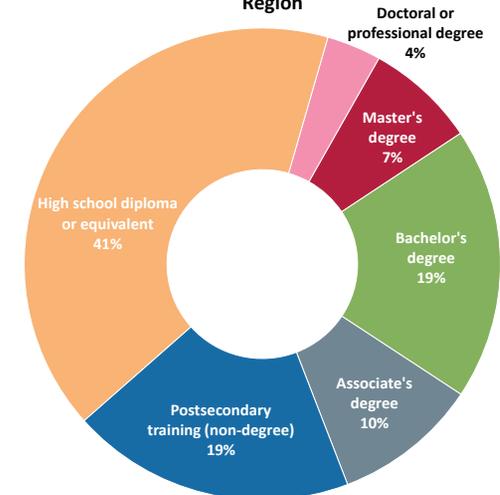


Figure from Oregon Employment Department, Workforce and Economic Research

## Projections for Wages

The Oregon Employment Department has issued projections that predict wage and employment by occupation for residents in our region. The highest wage jobs will grow in the Professional and Related sector. See page 27 for details on expected job openings.

### Employment by Broad Occupational Group, 2012 and 2022 Region

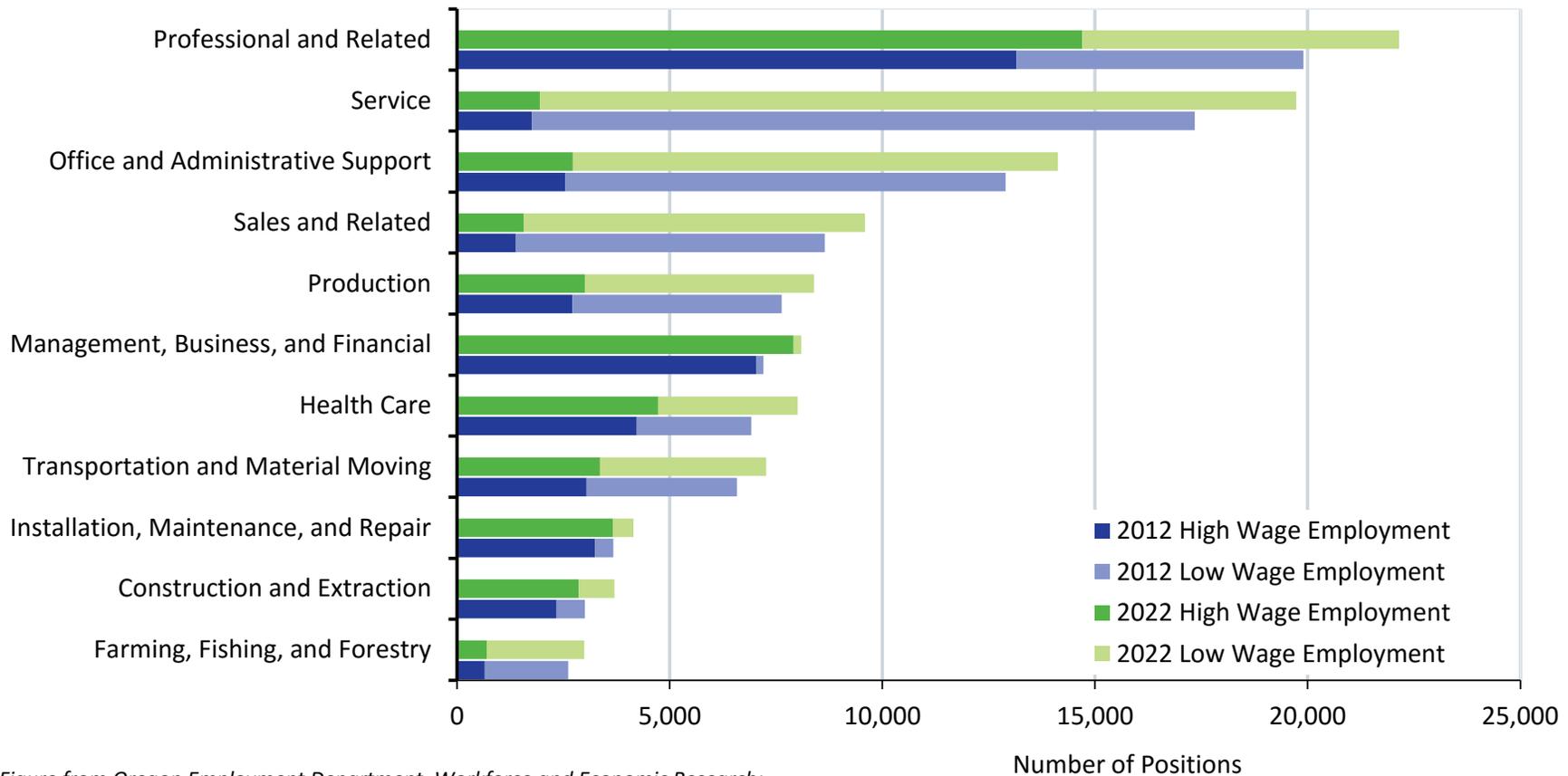


Figure from Oregon Employment Department, Workforce and Economic Research;  
High wage is defined as paying more than the 2013 region median of \$16.45/hr

## Types of Projected Job Openings

Job openings occur from new job creation and people leaving the workforce. The Oregon Employment Department projects that the majority of job openings that will occur from 2012 to 2022 will be in service occupations. These occupations include protective service (firefighters, law enforcement, security guards, construction flaggers, etc.); food preparation and service; building and grounds cleaning and maintenance; and personal care and service (entertainment attendants, funeral service, personal appearance, child care workers, etc.). In the chart below, the dark blue (replacement openings) represents job openings between 2012 and 2022 that are due to people leaving the workforce due to change in occupation, retirement, or other reasons. The light blue (growth openings) represents the new positions expected to emerge during that time.

### Projected Occupational Openings, 2012 - 2022 Region

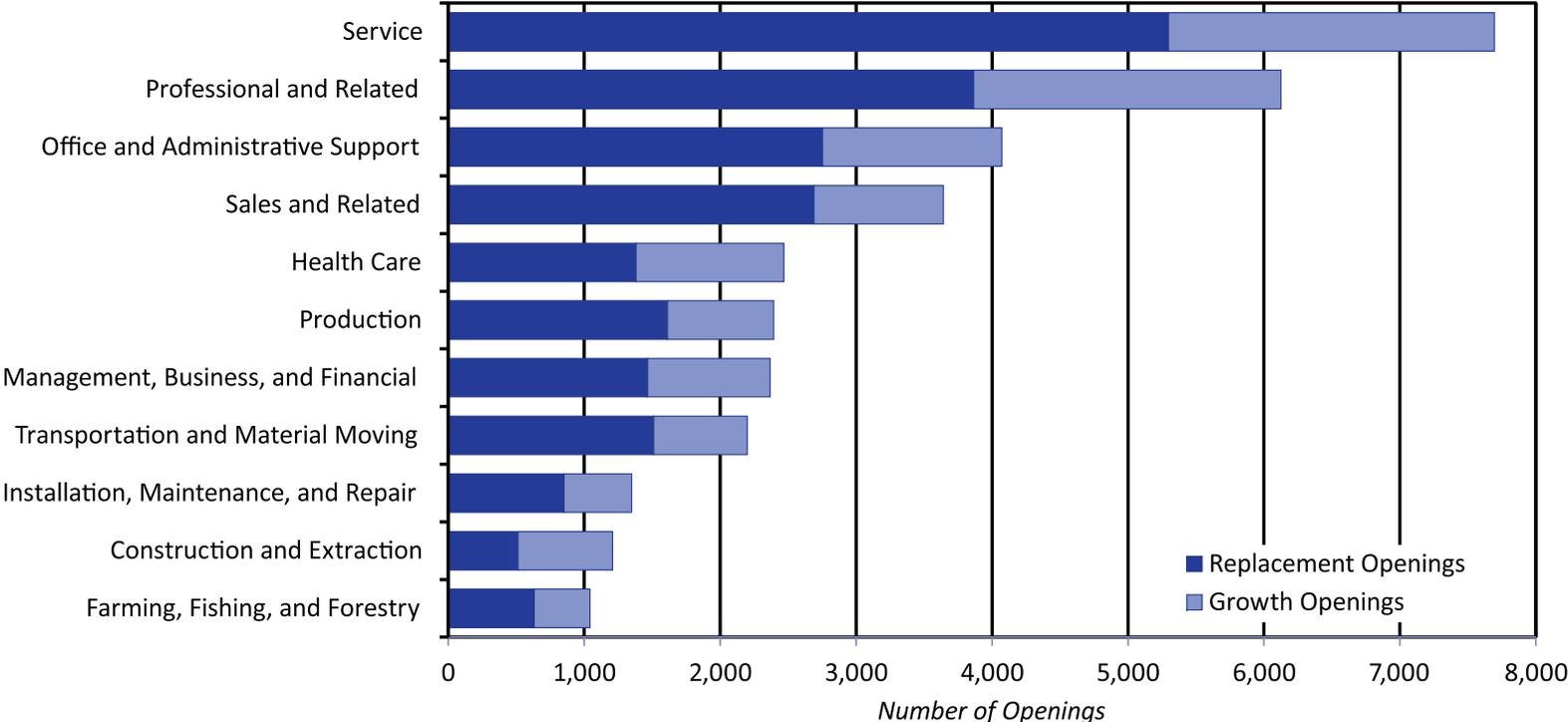
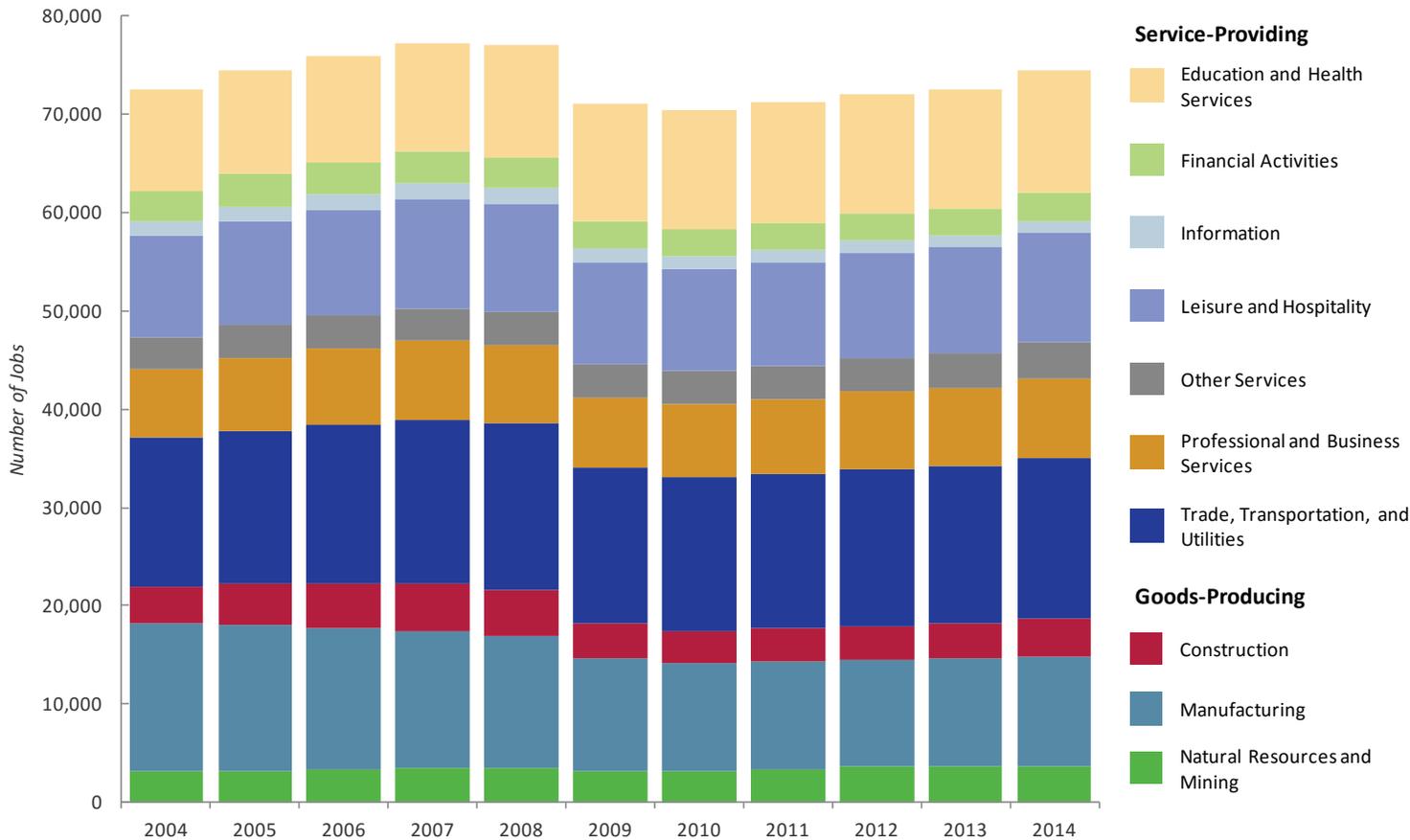


Figure from Employment Department, Workforce and Economic Research;  
Source: Oregon Employment Department, Workforce and Economic Research

## Jobs by Industry

According to data from the U.S. BLS, the number of jobs in the region declined during the recession and is close to recovering to pre-recession levels. In 2007 and 2008, the annual average number of non-government jobs in the region was slightly more than 77,000. In 2014, the average number of jobs was about 74,000. Seventy-five percent of jobs in 2014 were in service-providing industries, with the majority of jobs falling into the Trade, Transportation, and Utilities industry. This includes retail jobs such as those typically found in restaurants and retail centers.

**Number of Jobs by Industry in the Region  
2004 to 2014**



Annual average employment by major private industry

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW)

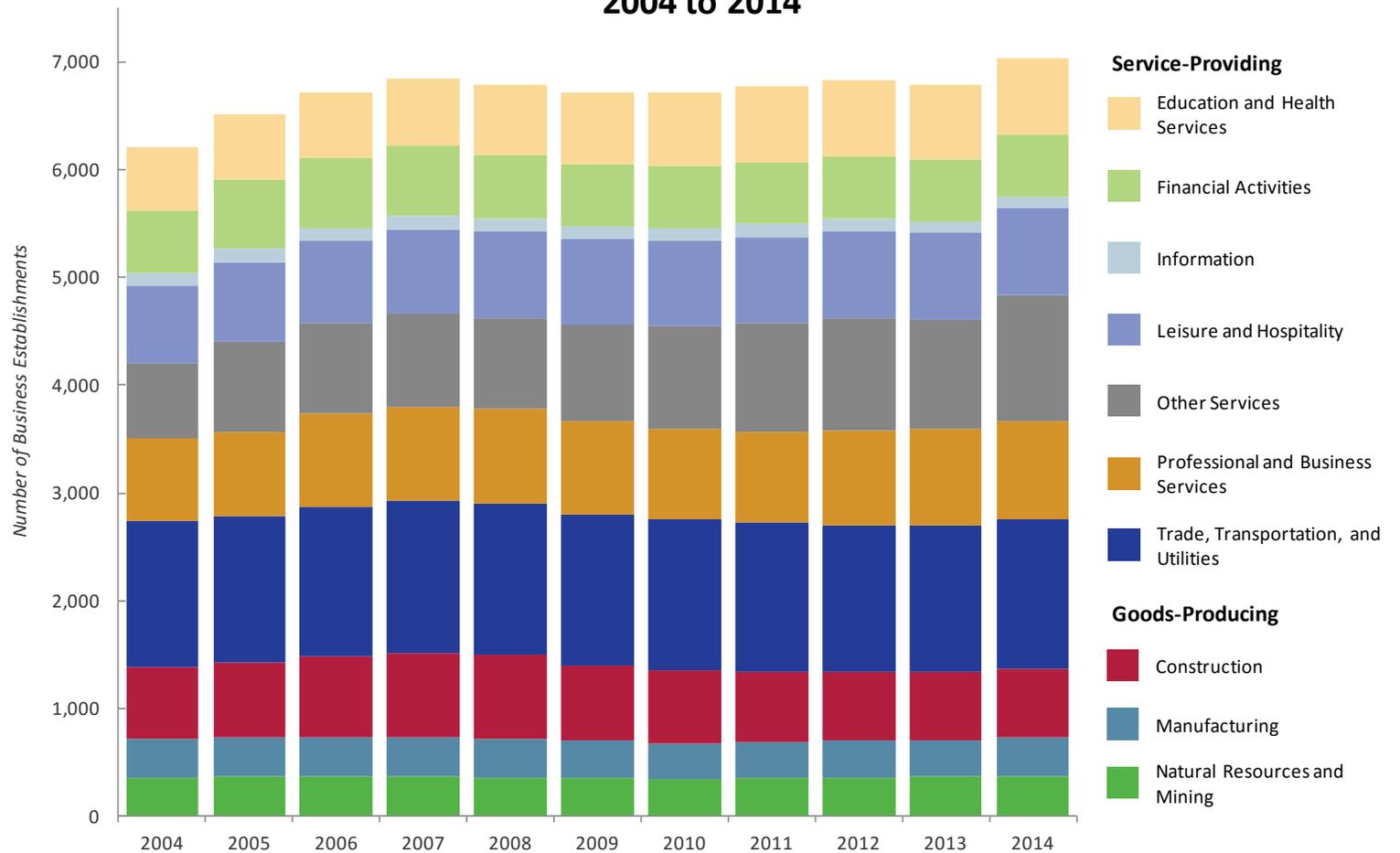
## Healthcare Employment

According to a 2013 Health Workforce Needs Assessment by the Workforce Investment Board, the healthcare industry accounts for 11 percent of the workforce in Benton County, nine percent in Lincoln County, and seven percent in Linn County. According to a 2013 survey of healthcare employers in the region as part of the assessment, respondents expected growth in the next five years in support positions, such as nursing aides, secretaries, and billing personnel. Employers also expected higher demand for registered nurses. The results of the survey mirror predictive data from the OED.

## Business by Industry

Data from the U.S. BLS show that since 2004, the number of business establishments in the region has increased by over 13 percent. There were 7,040 establishments in 2014, more than the highest pre-recession annual average of 6,879 in 2007. Service-providing industries have the most establishments, 80 percent, with the Trade, Transportation, and Utilities industry making up the majority of businesses.

### Number of Businesses by Industry in the Region 2004 to 2014

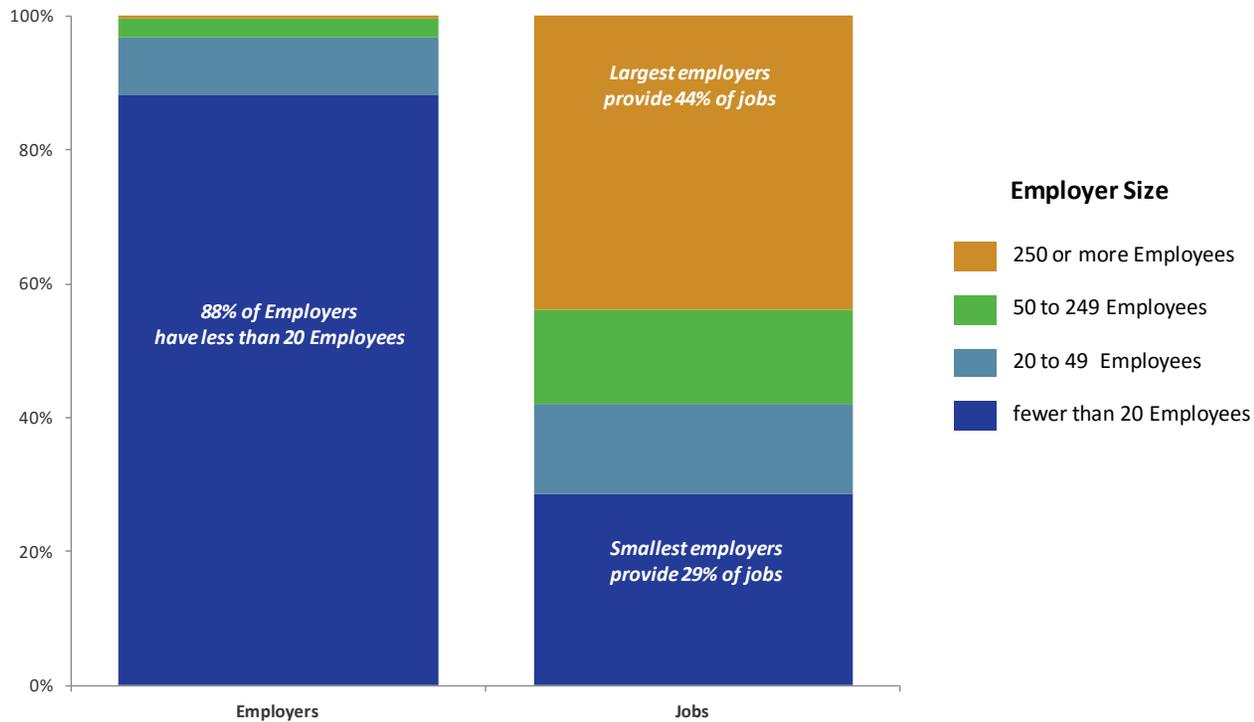


Annual average number of establishments by major private industry  
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW)

## Employer Size

Large employers in the region, those with 250 or more employees, make up less than one percent of all employers. However, these large employers provide 44 percent of the jobs in the region. The smallest employers, those with fewer than 20 employees, represent 88 percent of all employers and provide almost 30 percent of the jobs in the region.

**2013 Total Employers and Jobs by Employment Size for the Region**



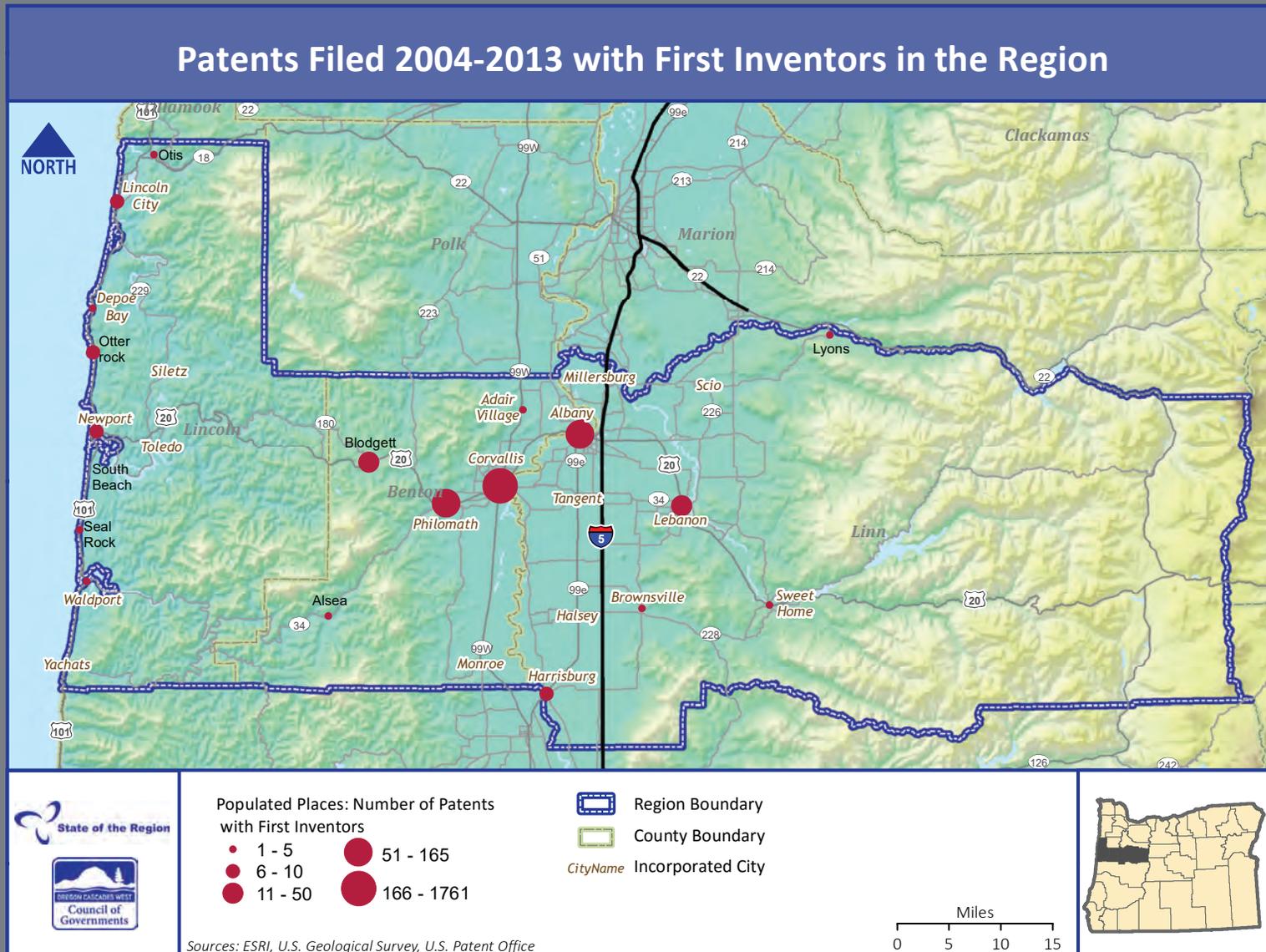
Employer	Employees (Jobs)	County
Oregon State University	10,022	Benton
Samaritan Health Services (formerly Good Samaritan Hospital)	2,697	Benton
Samaritan Health Services	1,600	Linn
Hewlett Packard	1,525	Benton
Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians	1,127	Lincoln
Linn Benton Community College	1,100	Linn
Greater Albany Public Schools	1,080	Linn
Wah Chang	949	Linn
Samaritan Health Services	800	Lincoln
Target	631	Linn

Sources:  
 Albany-Millersburg Economic Development Corp, December 2013  
 Economic Development Alliance of Lincoln County, 2012  
 City of Corvallis, 2014

NOTE: Data include Private Employers only, does not include Government Employers  
 Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 County Business Patterns and 2013 Quarterly Workforce Indicators (QWI) Data, Longitudinal-Employer Household Dynamics Program ([www.vrdc.cornell.edu/qwipu](http://www.vrdc.cornell.edu/qwipu))

# SECTION 5: INNOVATION

How our region supports innovation and the future development of new businesses, technologies, and enterprises is an important indicator of its economic outlook. The number of patents filed in a region is one way to measure innovation.



## Patents

Patents are one indicator of the entrepreneurial capacity and economic activity in the region. Corvallis consistently ranks as having among the highest concentrations of patents per capita in the United States, but our region overall is credited with a broad range of patents in various industries. For more on the geographic location of collaborators on patents, see the connectivity map on page 79.

Top Patent-Holders in the Region, 2004-2013	
Inventor or Assignee	Number of Patents
Hewlett-Packard (HP)	1,331
Forbes, Leonard <sup>1</sup>	518
Micron Technology, Inc. (Micron)	513
Marvell Technology Group (Marvell)	114
Van Brocklin, Andrew L. <sup>2</sup>	73
Oregon State University (OSU)	65
Mardilovich, Peter <sup>2</sup>	63
Chen, Chien-Hua <sup>2</sup>	59
Carlson, Gregory F. <sup>4</sup>	49
Simmons, Asher <sup>4</sup>	49

1 - affiliated with Micron; 2 - affiliated with HP; 3 - affiliated with OSU; 4 - affiliated with Marvell

Types of patents for top patent-holders:

- **HP** – Computer and Peripheral Equipment; Semiconductors and Other Electronic Components; Machinery
- **Micron** – Semiconductors, and Other Electronic Components
- **Marvell** – Computer and Peripheral Equipment, and Communications Equipment
- **OSU** – Largest number in Machinery (mostly liquid purification or separation); Basic Chemicals; Navigational, Measuring, Electromedical, and Control Instruments

## Business Innovation

Business incubators foster economic growth and entrepreneurial capacity in our region. The OSU Advantage Accelerator / RAIN Corvallis (Regional Accelerator and Innovation Network) has produced 15 alumni businesses in 2013-2015. Their focuses range from solar cell technology to robotics, seed germination, regenerative medicine, and the development of snow goggles made from recycled materials. RAIN also is pursuing outreach in other areas of the region.

The Oregon Nanoscience and Microtechnologies Institute (ONAMI) has had 17 grantees in the region in 2010-14, in areas ranging from nanoscale semiconductors to drug discovery technologies and continuous flow chemistries for pharmaceuticals.

The Oregon Built Environment & Sustainable Technologies Center (BEST) program has invested in eight companies in the region – startups that are developing cleantech products including superabsorbent polymers to help the agriculture industry save water; a coating to improve the performance of solar panels; a microbial fuel cell that cleans wastewater while generating electricity; a treatment to extend the life of flow batteries, and more.

The Oregon Translational Research and Development Institute (OTRADI) has built out and manages Oregon's first bioscience-focused business incubator with lab space, shared equipment and specialized mentoring for startup bioscience companies. In 2015, OTRADI opened a new satellite lab location — OTRADI South — in Benton County.



Additional information about these business incubators and a list of participating businesses is available at [www.StateoftheRegion.org](http://www.StateoftheRegion.org).

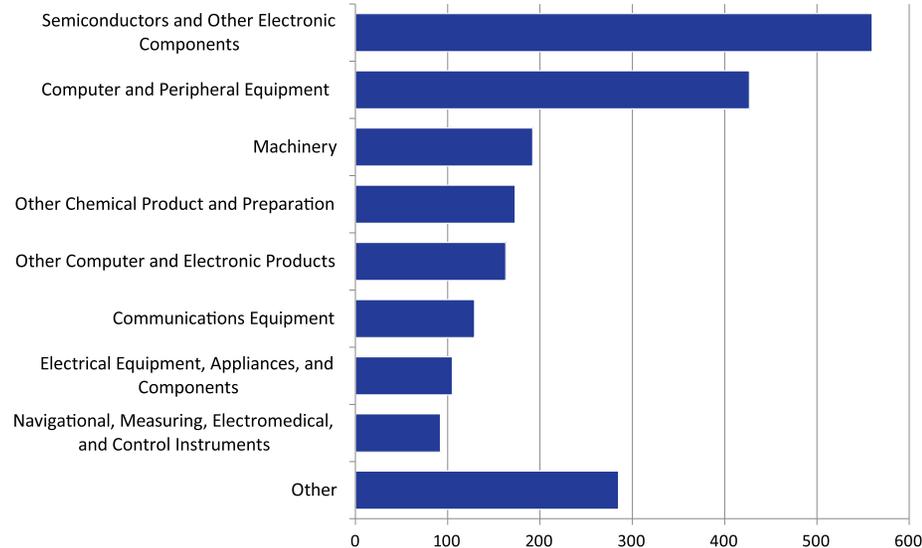
## Types of Patents

The chart below shows that 26 percent of patents over the past 10 years (560 patents) are in the areas of semiconductors and other electronic components, and 20 percent (427 patents) are in computer and peripheral equipment, according to data from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

## Peer Regions' Patents

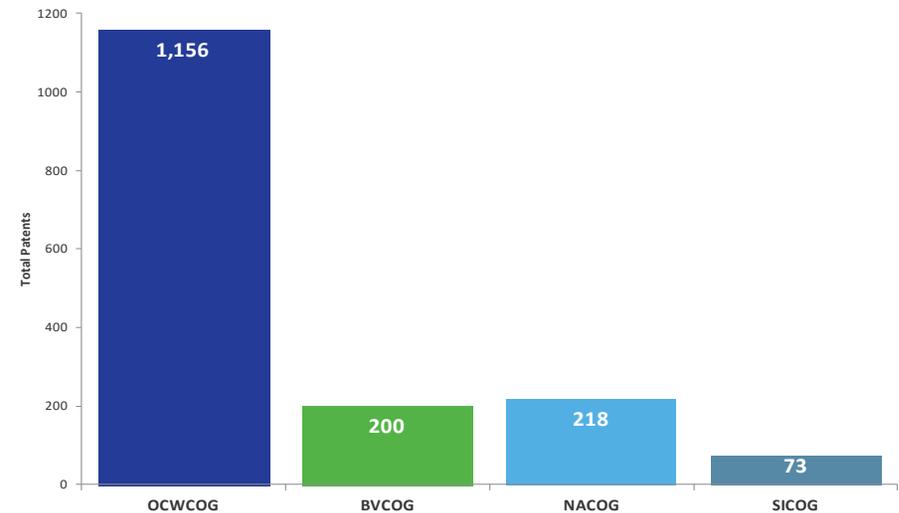
Our region's prevalence of patents is evident when considering the number of patents secured here in comparison to our peer regions. Patent data compiled by Harvard Business School for the period from 2009 to 2013 show that our region received 1,156 patents during the five-year period while the closest among our peer regions, Northern Arizona (NACOG), received only 218.

**Patents Filed 2004-2013 with First Inventors in the Region**



Source: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

**Total Patents 2009 to 2013 by Peer Region**

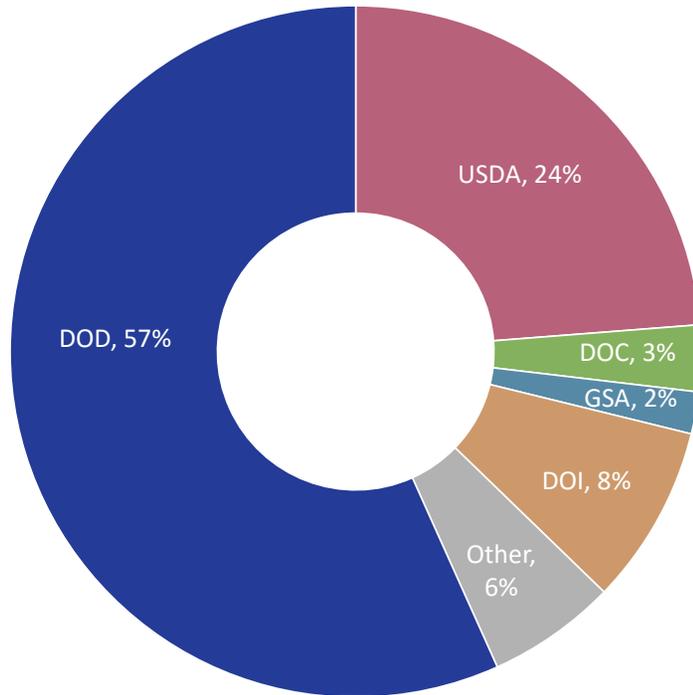


Source: U.S. Cluster Mapping ([www.clustermapping.us](http://www.clustermapping.us)), Institute for Strategy and Competitiveness, Harvard Business School. Copyright ©2014 President and Fellows of Harvard College. All rights reserved. Research funded in part by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration.

## Federal Spending

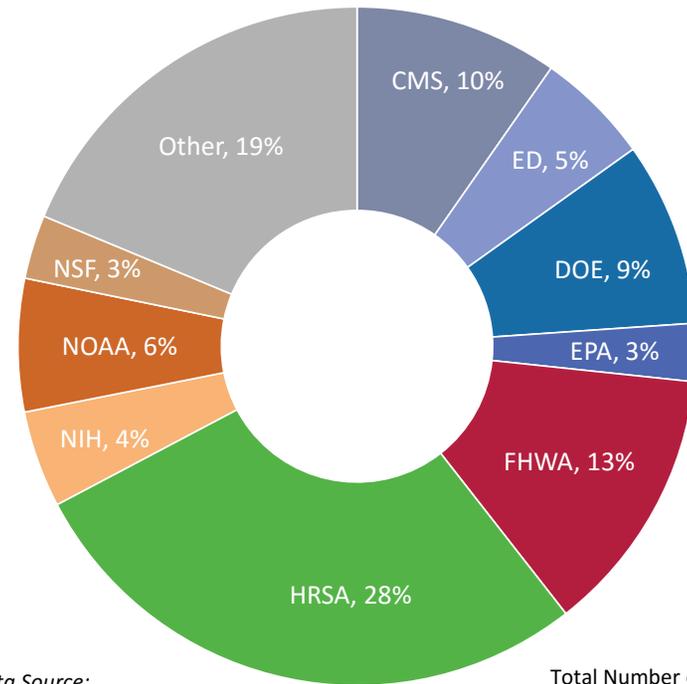
The charts below show funding from Federal agencies in our region. This funding may be for infrastructure; grants and contracts; services to communities and residents; or to promote research and innovation.

Contract Dollars Obligated FY 2004-2014  
by Funding Agency to the  
Region



Data Source: USAspending.gov

Total Primary and Sub-Awards for Grants  
for FY 2004-2014 by Agency to the  
Region



Data Source:  
USAspending.gov

Total Number of  
Agencies: 79

Federal Government Acronyms

CMS - Centers for Medicare and Medicaid  
DOD - Department of Defense  
DOE - Department of Energy  
DOI - Department of the Interior  
ED - Department of Education  
EPA - Environmental Protection Agency

FHWA - Federal Highway Administration  
GSA - General Services Administration  
HRSA - Health Resources and Services Administration  
NIH - National Institutes of Health  
NOAA - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NSF - National Science Foundation  
USDA - Department of Agriculture

## Philanthropic Investments

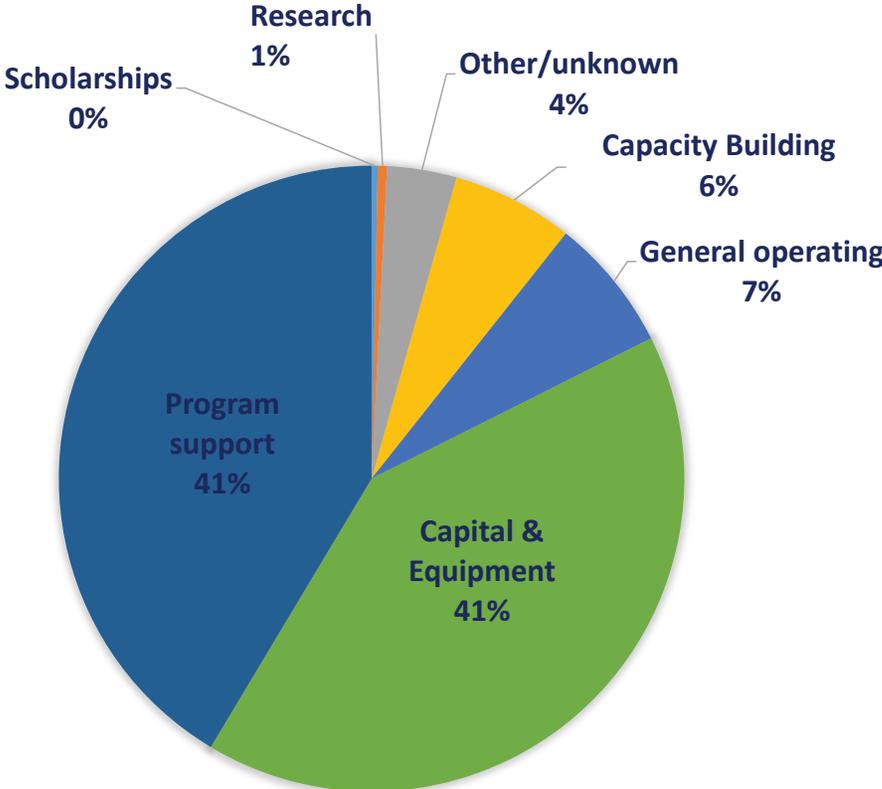
Philanthropic investments are a measure of the region’s opportunities, innovation, and civic engagement. The chart shows the top nine funders by dollar amount in the region from 2012-14, excluding those funds that went directly to OSU, according to data from the *Foundation Directory Online*. The graphic details what the funding is used for when it comes into the region.

Top Funders of Community Organizations, 2012 - 2014	
Funding Organizations	Funding Amount
Meyer Memorial Trust	\$4,450,664
The Oregon Community Foundation	\$1,960,671
M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust	\$1,436,000
The Ford Family Foundation	\$1,217,338
The Collins Foundation	\$766,100
Ann and Bill Swindells Charitable Trust	\$515,000
The Kresge Foundation	\$400,000
Susan G. Komen For the Cure	\$180,000
The McKnight Foundation	\$140,000
All Others	\$406,125

Source: The Foundation Directory Online (The Foundation Center)

Most of the funding to Community Organizations comes from within the State of Oregon.

**Funding to Community Organizations by Type, 2012-14**

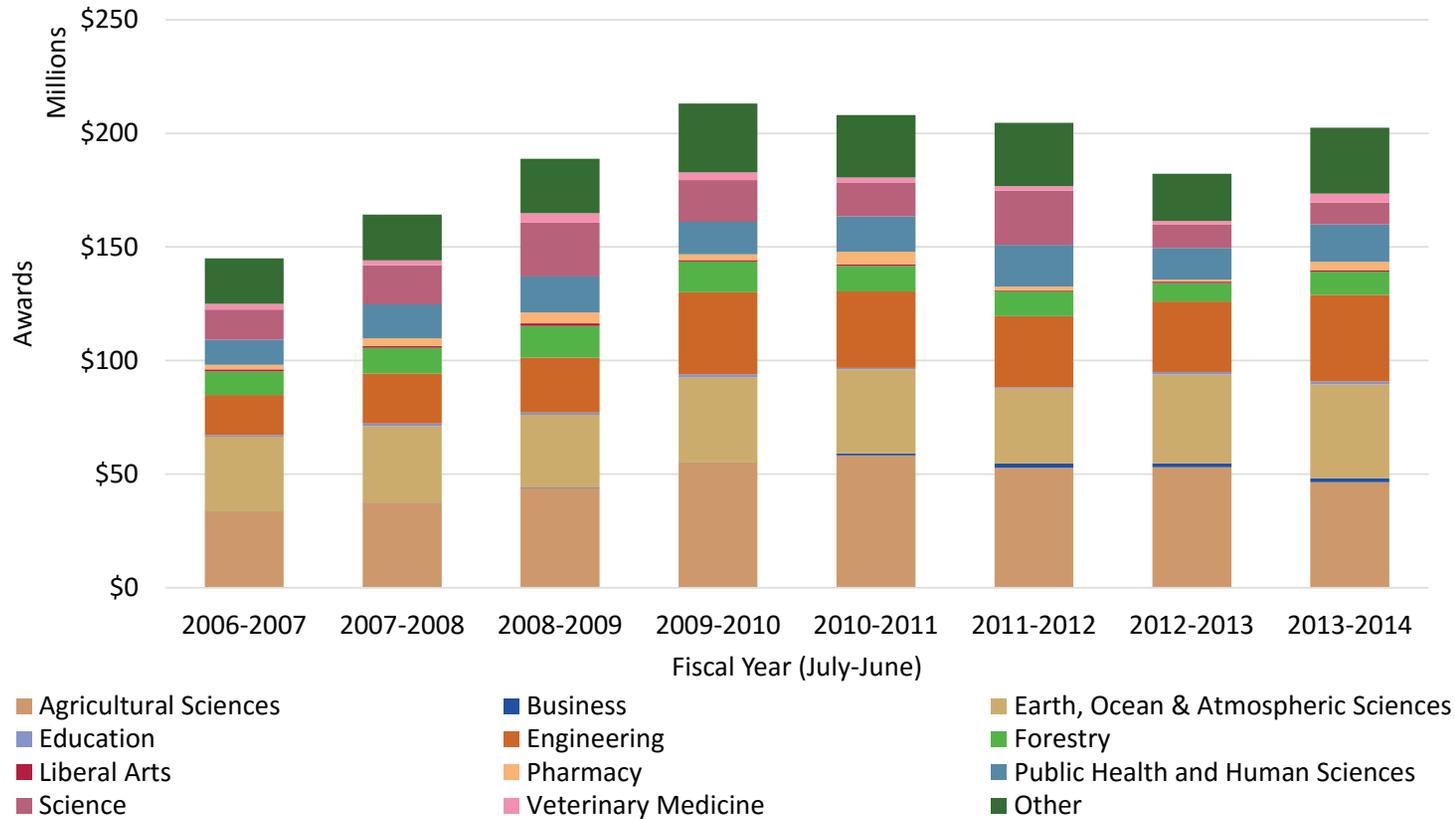


Source: the Foundation Directory Online (Foundation Center)

## Oregon State University Funding

For 2013-2014, 84 percent of external funding for OSU was from federal agencies, four percent was from the State of Oregon, four percent was from industry, and the remaining funding was from OSU-affiliated foundations (three percent), private foundations (two percent), local governments (one percent), foreign government (one percent), and nonprofits (one percent).

### Oregon State University Grant Awards by College

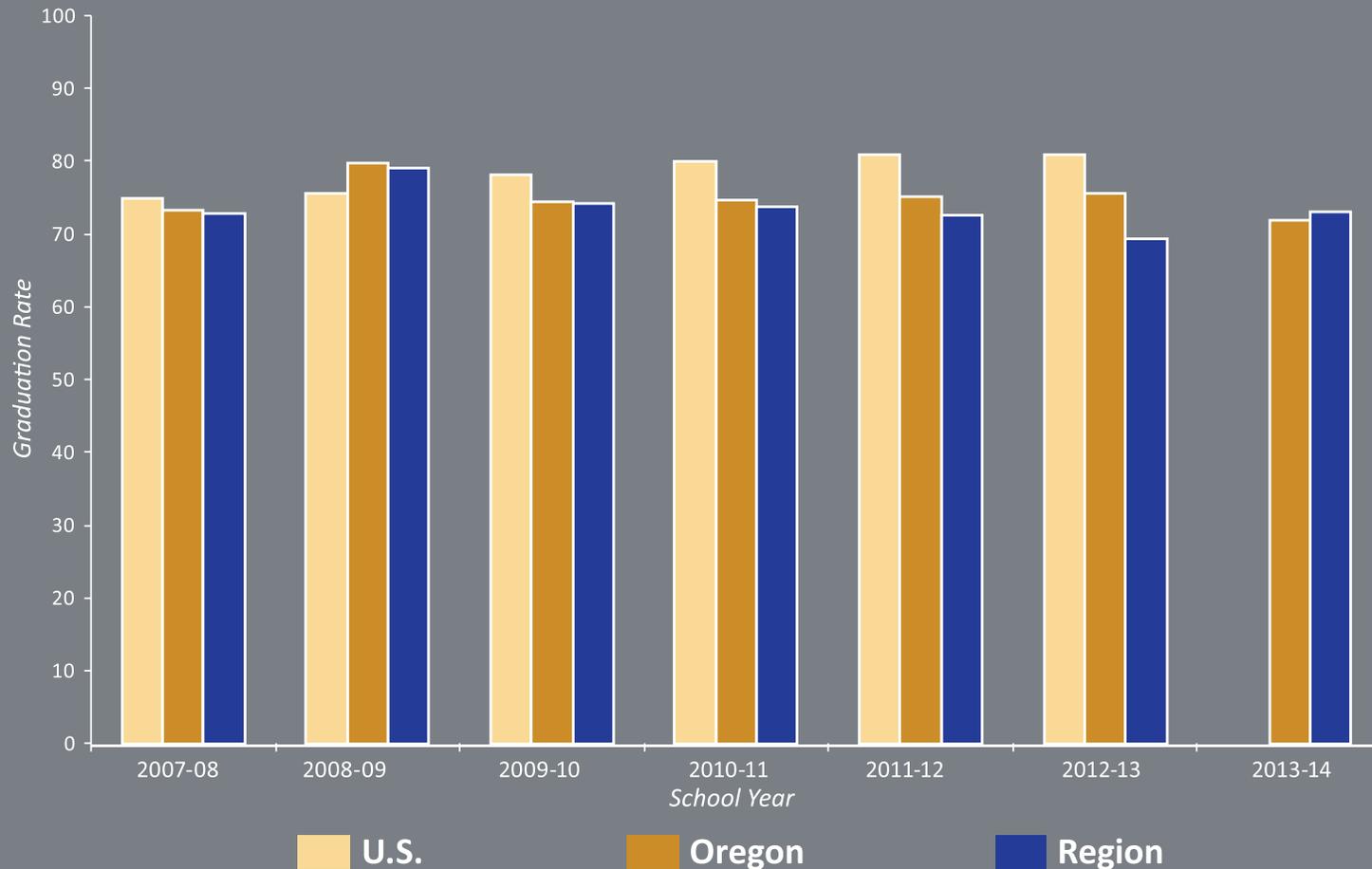


Data Source: Oregon State University Research Office

## SECTION 6: COMMUNITY AND HEALTH INDICATORS

There are many ways to measure a community's health and livability. In this section, we provide a sample of community, health, and education indicators for the region.

### Annual 4-Year Graduation Rates



Sources: Oregon Department of Education; National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)

Includes other completers: Adult Diploma, GED, Modified Diploma, Extended Diploma, and Alternative Certificate

### Graduation Rate

As we explored earlier in this report, educational attainment is a crucial component of economic success and participation in the region's workforce. The Oregon Department of Education (ED) began making graduation rate data available in 2007.

## School Enrollment

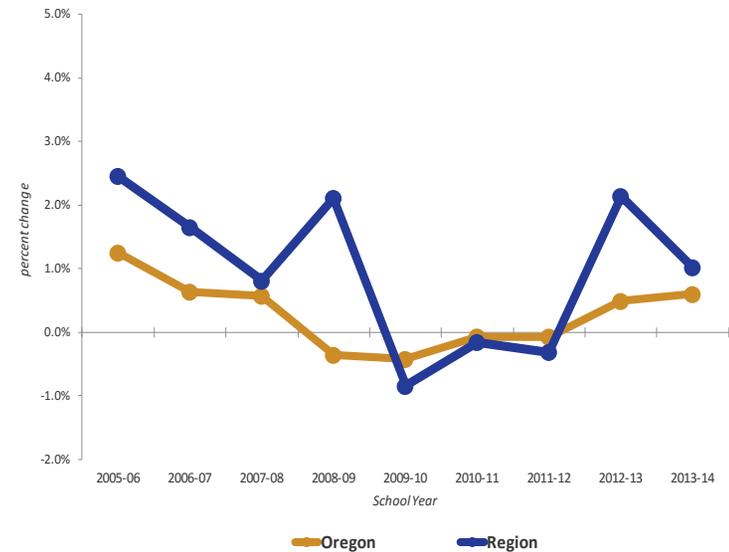
Data from the Oregon Department of Education show that over the past nine school years, region-wide public school enrollment in K-12 had a one percent annual growth rate, compared to just 0.3 percent statewide. However, a closer look at the year-to-year changes in the region shows some fluctuations in enrollment before and after the recession. The growth in the region can be attributed to Linn County, where student enrollment increased 24 percent from 2004 to 2013. Conversely, Benton and Lincoln counties show a drop in K-12 student enrollment from 2004 to 2013 of -6.6 percent and -11.8 percent, respectively.

Linn County's overall population as of 2000 was 103,069, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, and it increased to 119,705 by 2014, a larger increase than the populations of Benton or Lincoln Counties during the same period. This may partially explain the increase in the county's student population.

## Dropout Rate

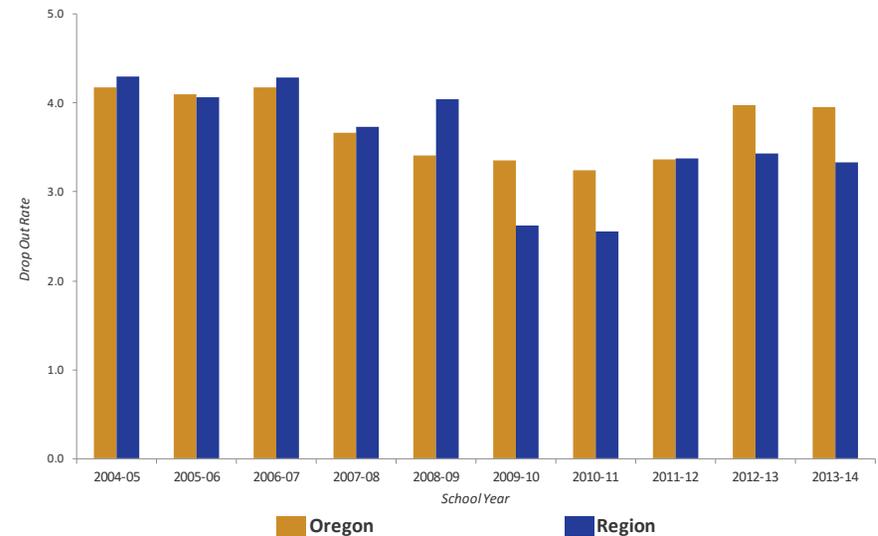
Dropout rate trends are similar to enrollment trends, with a decline in the recession years – when enrollment declined – and higher dropout rates as enrollment increased from 2011 to 2012.

Annual Change in K-12 Student Enrollment



Source: Oregon Department of Education. Enrollment counts are as of October 1.

Annual High School Drop Out Rate

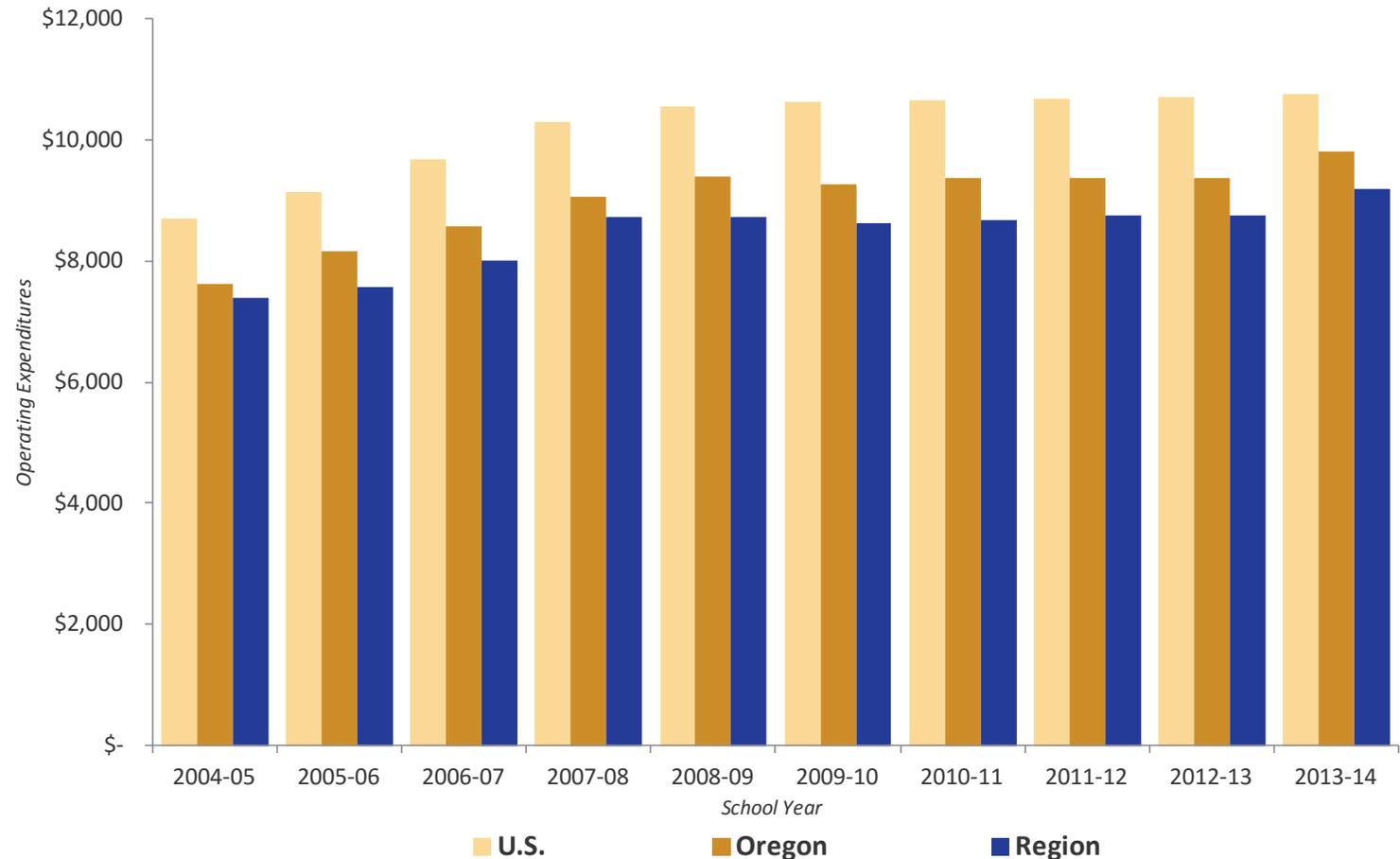


Source: Oregon Department of Education

## Education Spending

Spending per student was on the rise until the recession. The recession contributed to lower operating expenditures per student from the 2008 school year through 2011. In 2012, spending levels increased modestly and were forecasted to increase for 2013-2014 as well.

### K-12 Operating Expenditures per Student per Year



Additional information about capital expenditures is available at [www.StateoftheRegion.org](http://www.StateoftheRegion.org).

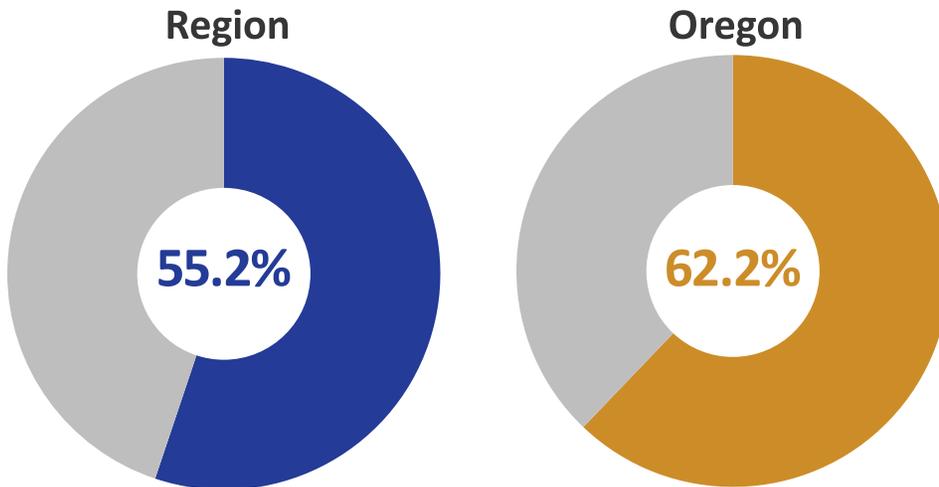
*Actual expenditures for operating funds (General, Special Revenue, Enterprise, and Food Services). Student enrollment counts as of October 1. Sources: State and Region data from the Oregon Department of Education; National data from U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (2004-2012), U.S. Census Bureau (2012-13), and forecasted for 2013-14.*

---

## School Readiness

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that about 1,400 children in the region were eligible for federally funded Head Start programs or state-funded Oregon Pre-Kindergarten programs in the 2013-14 school year. Participation rates vary by county. The Oregon Department of Education reports that 770 children in the region, or 55 percent of those who are eligible, were enrolled in either Head Start or Oregon Pre-Kindergarten programs. Statewide, approximately 21,800 children were eligible, with 62 percent of those enrolled in Head Start or Oregon Pre-Kindergarten.

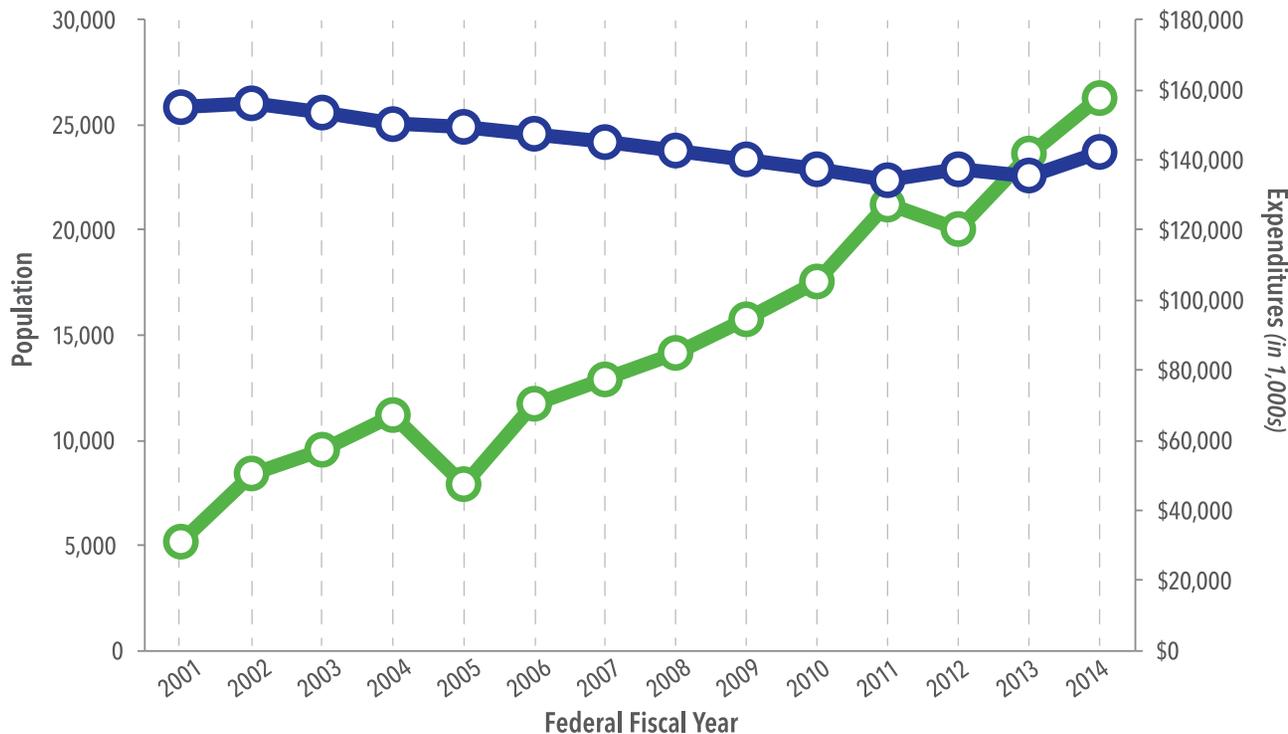
### Percent of Eligible Children Enrolled in Head Start or Pre-Kindergarten Programs School Year 2013-14



Sources: Oregon Department of Education  
U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates

# Veterans in the Region

## Veterans Funding



Veterans are an important demographic in our region. They make up a significant portion of our population, contribute heavily to the economy, and also require significant health care services, as they are a population that is aging and disproportionately disabled. While the number of veterans in the region decreased from 2001-2014, expenditures for veterans services increased 400 percent. This is similar to the 9.7 percent decrease in the number of veterans statewide coupled with a large increase in expenditures, over 200 percent, over the same period.

Expenditures include:

- Compensation and Pension,
- Education and Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment,
- Insurance and Indemnities,
- Construction,
- General Operating Expenses,
- Loan Guaranty, and
- Medical Care.



### Veterans

**-8.2%**

The number of Veterans living in the Region decreased by 8.2% from 2001 to 2014.



### Expenditures

**+400%**

Total Federal Expenditures on Veterans in the region has grown by 4 times the 2001 amount.

Source: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics  
Numbers rounded to the nearest 100; Expenditures expressed in thousands

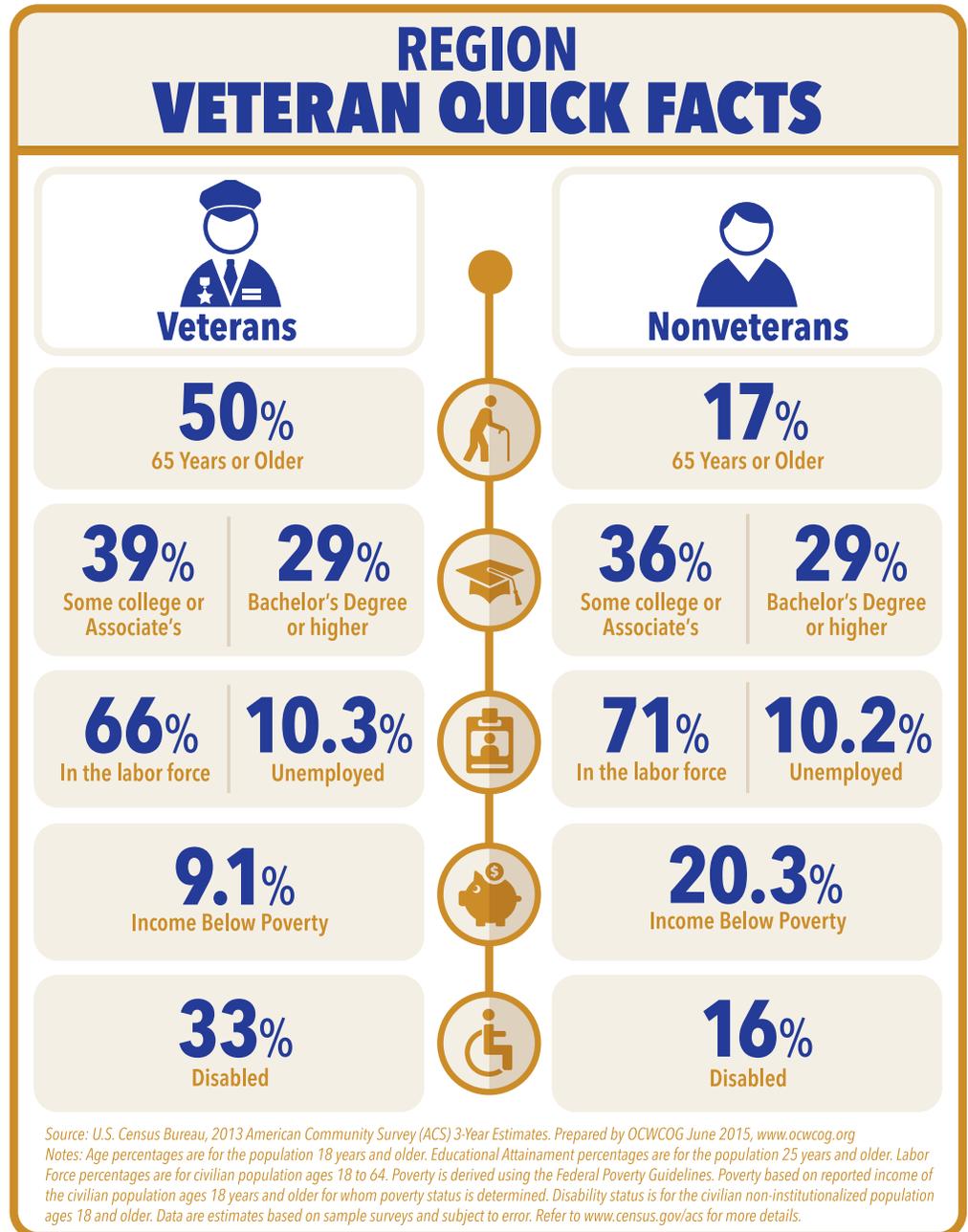
Population and expenditure data from monthly expenditure reports at <http://www.va.gov/vetdata/Expenditures.asp>  
Population estimates methodology changes in 2003, 2006, 2007, 2012, and 2014 may cause inconsistencies in trend analysis.

## Veterans Demographics

While veterans in our region have a lower poverty rate than the general population, they have a higher rate of disability. Over half of veterans in the region are 65 or older.

## Benton County Veterans Service Office

The Benton County Veterans Service Office (VSO) is housed within the OCWCOG. The VSO assists veterans in applying for programs and services for which they are entitled from U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) claims and benefits. In the fourth quarter of Fiscal Year 2015 (April 1 to June 30, 2015), the VSO provided services to approximately 700 of the estimated 6,100 veterans in Benton County (11 percent).

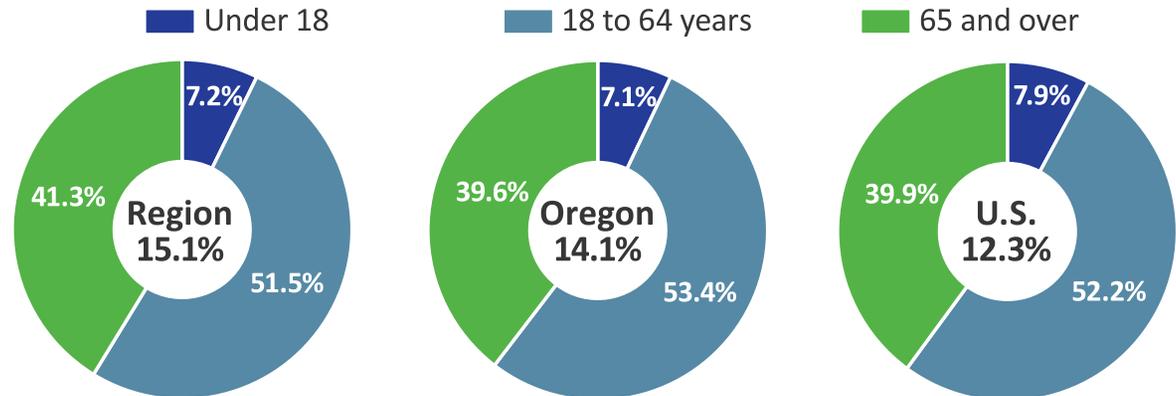


## Disability Status

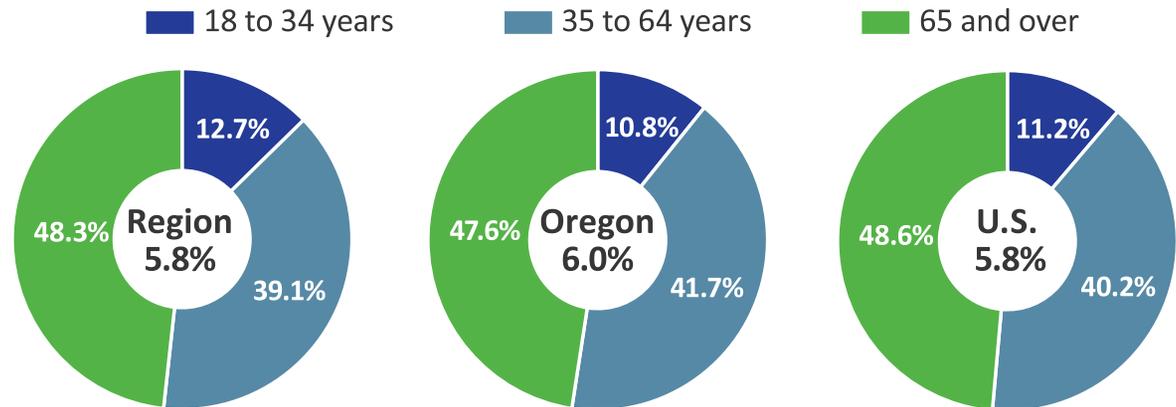
According to U.S. Census Bureau estimates on disability, the region has a higher percentage of total residents with a disability (15.1 percent) than the state (14.1 percent) and the nation overall (12.3 percent). In the region, 51.5 percent of the population that has a disability is age 18-64. The percentage of people in the region, with a disability that affects their ability to live independently (for example, doing errands or attending medical appointments), is 5.8 percent, slightly lower than in the State, but the same percentage as in the nation overall.

**Notes:** Disability is determined for the civilian, non-institutionalized population. The U.S. Census Bureau defines disability as a having one or more of the following difficulties: hearing, vision, cognitive, ambulatory, self-care, or independent living. An independent living difficulty is one which, due to a physical, mental, or emotional condition, an individual has difficulty doing errands alone, such as visiting a doctor's office or shopping. Refer to the U.S. Census Bureau website, [www.census.gov/acs](http://www.census.gov/acs), for additional information on these data.

### Persons with Any Type of Disability



### Adults with an Independent Living Difficulty



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates

## Homelessness

Across the region local agencies annually conduct a *Point In Time* count of the homeless population. For the years in which data are available, 2013 saw the largest number of homeless persons in the region. According to annual *Point in Time* counts, in 2015, the majority of homeless residents in the region were between the ages of 18 and 54.

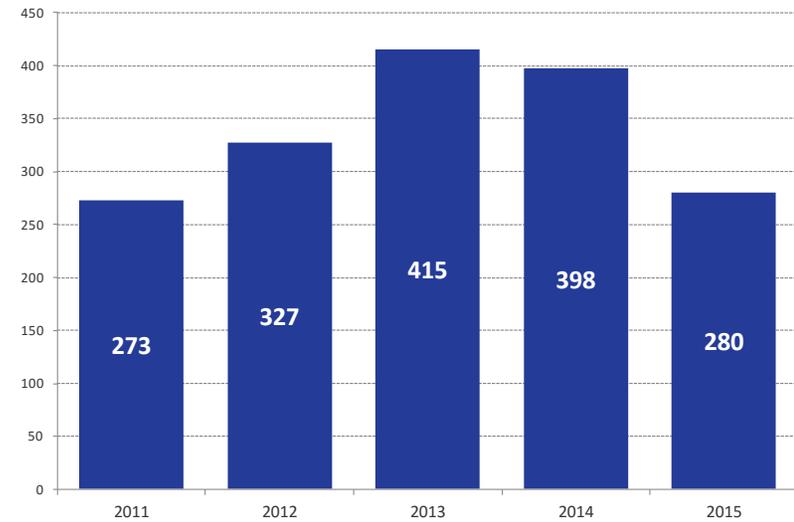
## Gender of the Homeless Population

The majority of homeless people in the region in 2015 were male, according to the *Point in Time* counts.

## Race of the Homeless Population

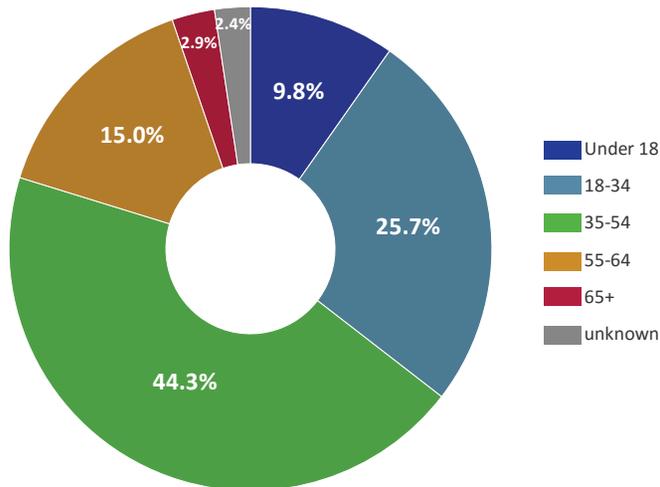
73.3 percent of those counted in 2015 were non-Hispanic white, lower than the region's population in general which the Census Bureau 2014 estimates show to be 84.3 percent white, non-Hispanic.

**Point In Time Sheltered Homeless Count for the Region**



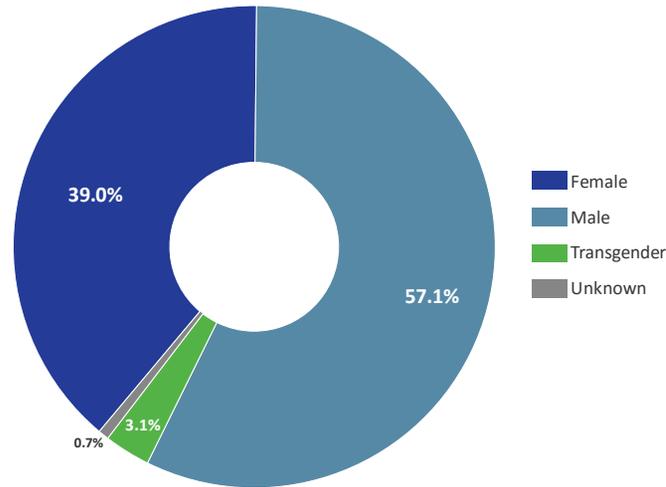
Source: Community Services Consortium. Counts are for one day in January of given year. Does not include persons living on the street (unsheltered).

**Age of the Homeless Population in the Region - 2015**



Source: Community Services Consortium, 2015 Point In Time Counts

**Gender of the Homeless Population in the Region - 2015**



Source: Community Services Consortium, 2015 Point In Time Counts

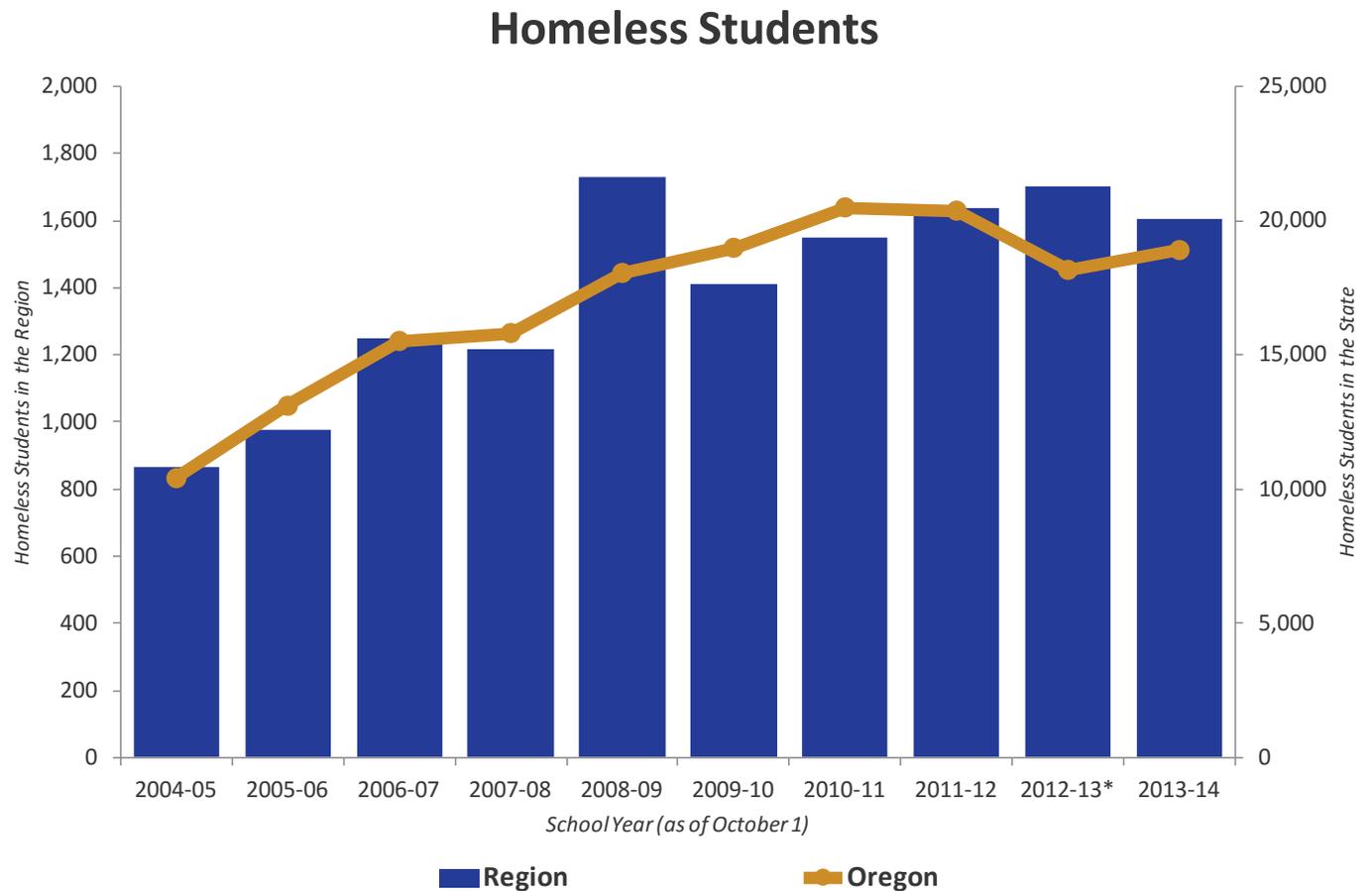


Additional information about the homeless population is available at [www.StateoftheRegion.org](http://www.StateoftheRegion.org).

## Homelessness Among K-12 Public School Students

The Oregon Department of Education (ED) reported that there were 1,606 homeless K-12 grade public school students in the region in 2013. This equates to 4.4 percent of all public school students in the region. Statewide, 3.3 percent of students are homeless. The region saw a dramatic increase in student homelessness from 2007 to 2008, with an increase of slightly more than 500 homeless students. However, that number decreased by 300 the following year.

Homeless students have a variety of living situations, with the majority (79.3 percent in the 2013-14 school year) sharing homes with relatives or friends due to economic hardship (“doubled-up”). According to Oregon ED statistics, over 150 students in the region are classified as “unsheltered,” reportedly living in cars, trailers, parks, public spaces, substandard housing, abandoned buildings, or similar settings that are not designed as regular sleeping accommodations.



A breakdown of the living situations of homeless students by county is available at [www.StateoftheRegion.org](http://www.StateoftheRegion.org).

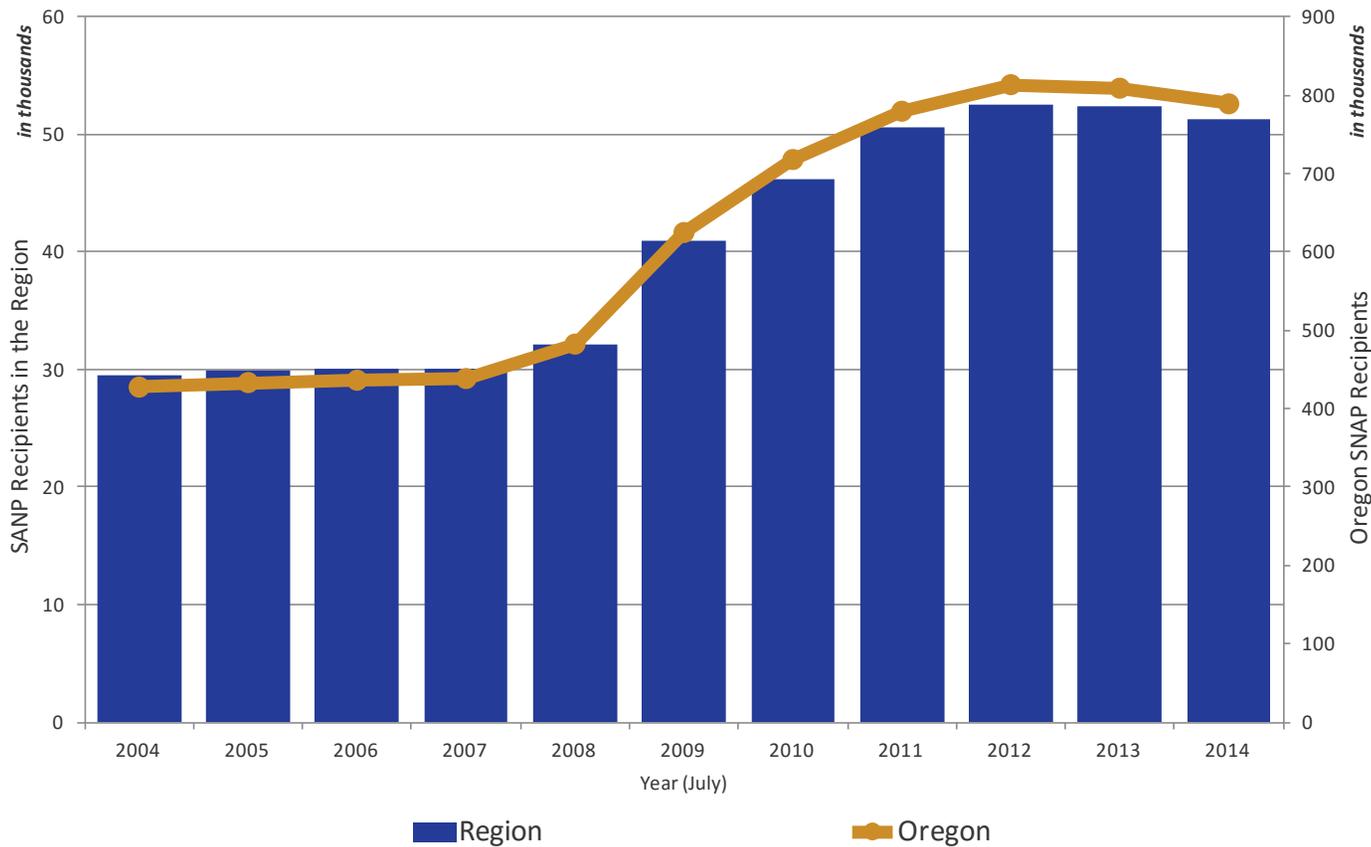
*\*Beginning in 2012, a shift in federal reporting requirements changed how districts tracked and reported homeless students  
Source: Oregon Department of Education, Office of Learning/Federal Systems, Homeless Education Program*

# ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

## SNAP - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's most recent estimates for poverty, 19.8 percent of the region's residents (for whom poverty status is determined) reported income below the federal poverty level in 2013 and 21.4 percent received Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits. The number of participants can be higher than the number of people in poverty, because the program's gross income limits are higher than 100 percent of the federal poverty level. SNAP participation in the region has only recently started to show signs of decreasing after several years of increases.

### Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Recipients



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates; USDA Food and Nutrition Service; Oregon Department of Health Services

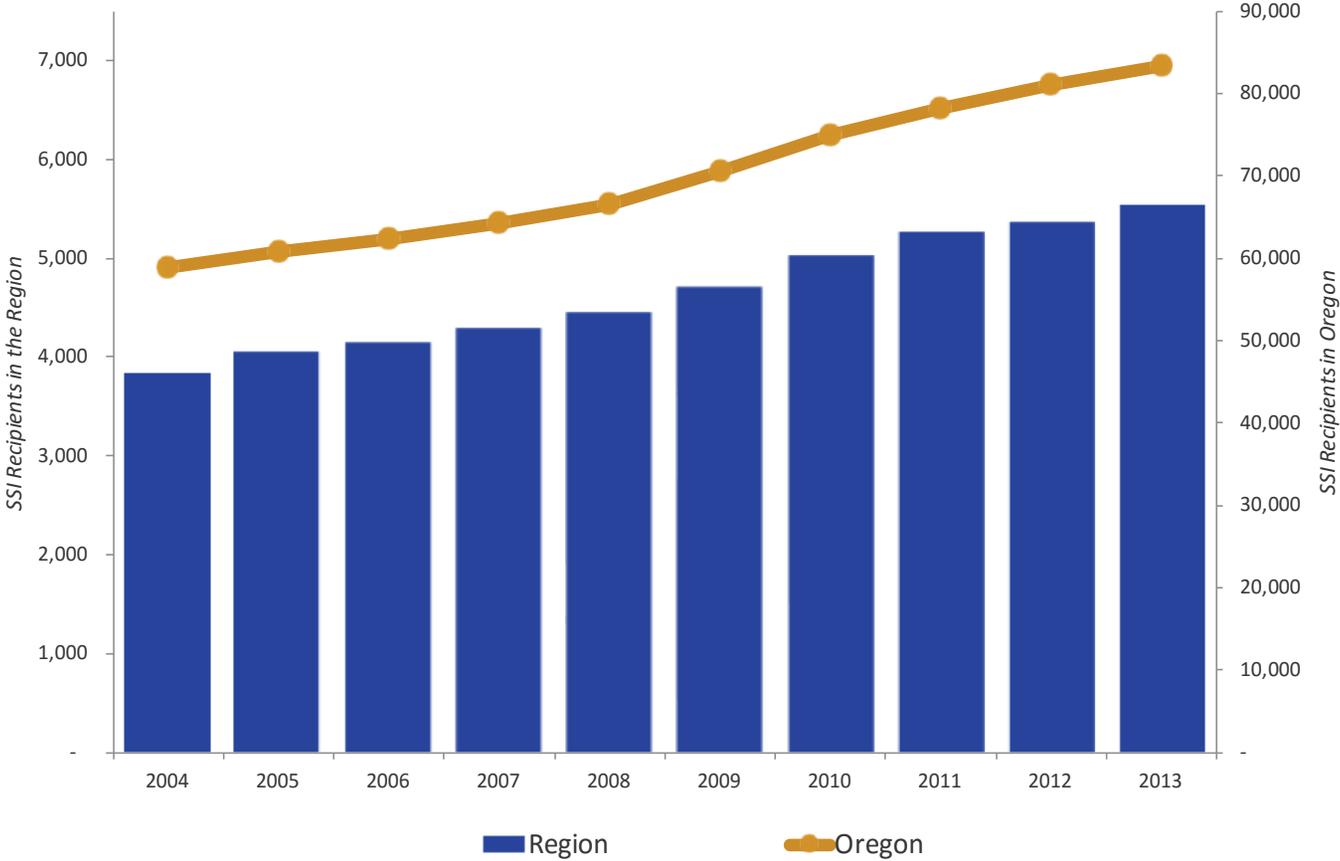


More data about the demographics of the recipients of SNAP benefits is available at [www.StateoftheRegion.org](http://www.StateoftheRegion.org).

# SSI - Supplemental Security Income Program

According to the Social Security Administration’s guidelines, the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program provides monthly cash payments to people who are 65 and older, as well as those who are blind or disabled, whose countable income is less than \$5,808 per year (or is less than a combined income of \$8,712 for a couple with both eligible), as of January 1, 1997. In most cases, ownership of financial assets is limited to \$2,000 for an individual or \$3,000 for a couple. Annual data from the Social Security Administration show that since 2004, the state and the region have experienced an annual growth rate of SSI recipients of slightly more than four percent, at 4.2 percent and 4.5 percent, respectively. In 2013, this amounted to 2.1 percent of the population in the state receiving SSI, closely comparable to the region’s 2.2 percent.

**Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Recipients 2004 to 2013**



More data about the age and disability status of the population receiving SSI benefits is available at [www.StateoftheRegion.org](http://www.StateoftheRegion.org).

Source: U.S. Social Security Administration, 2004 to 2013 SSI Recipients

## Infant Mortality

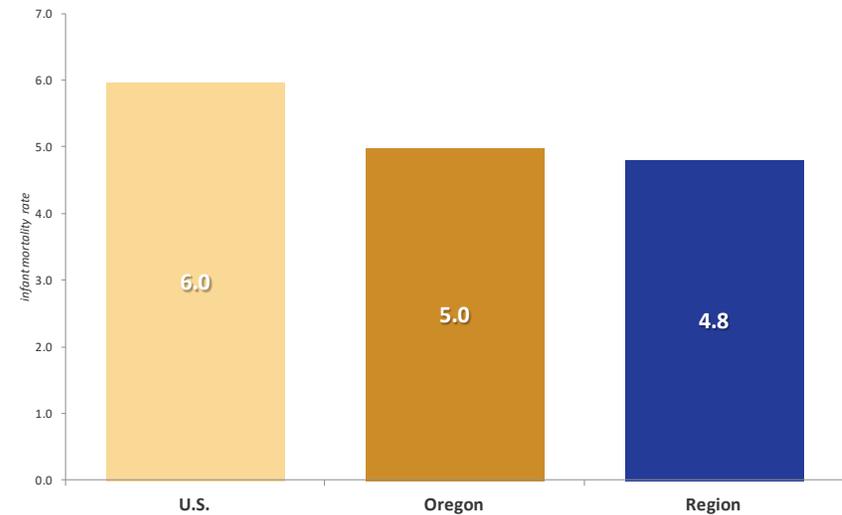
In 2013, the Oregon Health Authority recorded 12 infant deaths out of 2,496 live births in the region. The region's infant mortality rate in 2013 was slightly better than the state rate at 4.8 infant deaths per 1,000 live births, and Oregon had a better infant mortality rate than the United States – For every 1,000 live births in Oregon, there were five deaths of children under one year old, compared to six deaths per 1,000 live births for the nation.

## Obesity

Obesity is defined as a body mass index (BMI) of 30.0 or greater in adults age 20 or older. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the estimated percent of adults who reported a BMI of 30.0 or higher in the region is 27.1 percent, slightly lower than the state (27.3 percent) and the nation (27.7 percent).

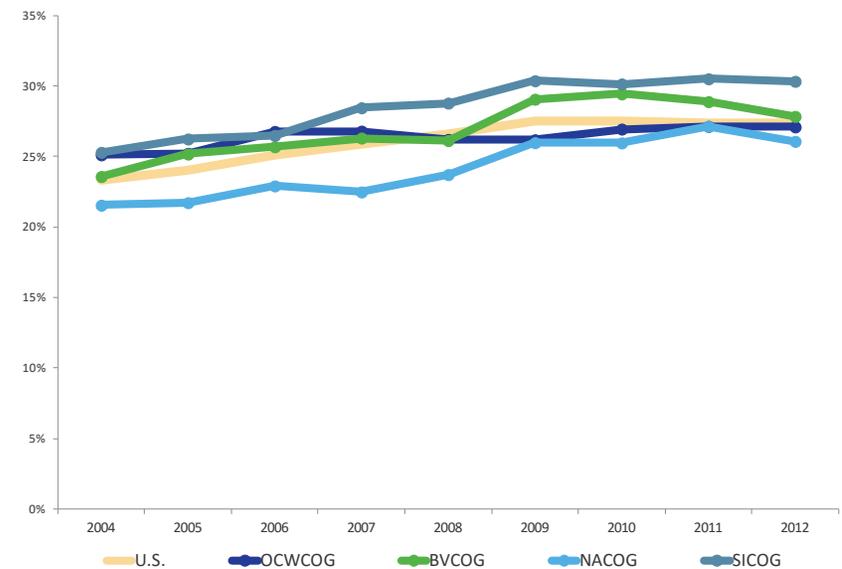
This chart shows that our region's obesity rate aligns closely with the national rates from 2004-2012. Also, our region has a lower overall obesity rate than two of our three peer regions.

2013 Infant Mortality Rates



Source: Oregon Health Authority, Vital Statistics 2013  
Mortality Rate is the number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births

Adult Obesity Rates 2004 to 2012

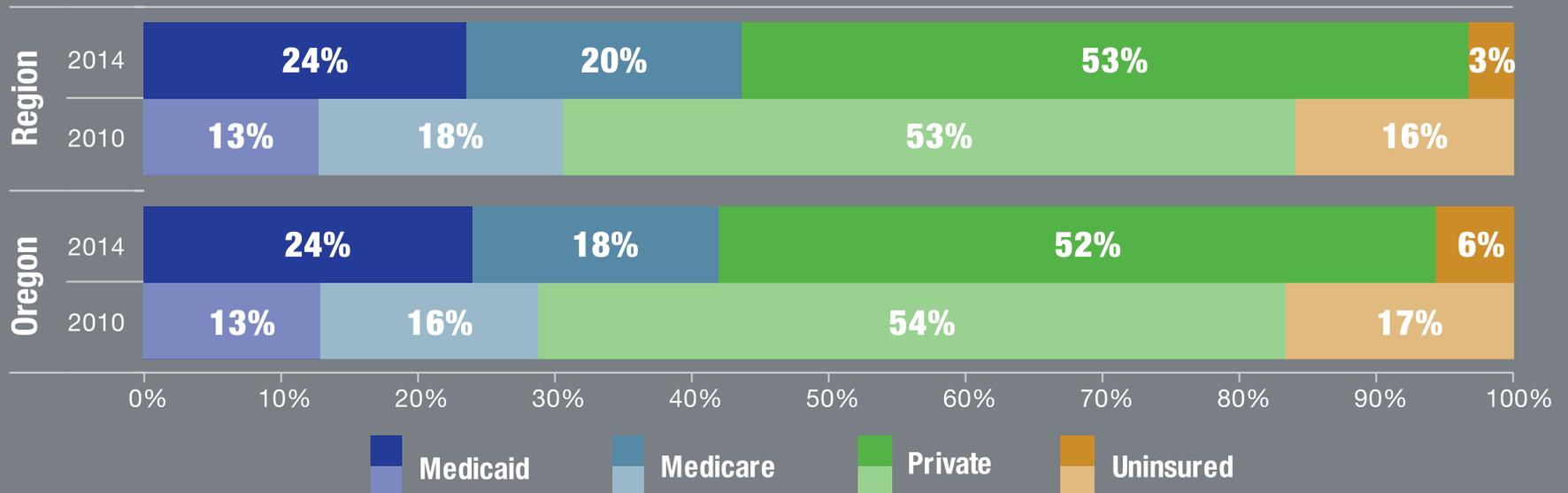


For persons 20 years and older. Sources: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); U.S. Census Bureau Population Estimates

## SECTION 7: MEDICAL AND HEALTH ACCESS

There are many ways to define health access, from cultural and language needs to transportation, provider and service availability, insurance coverage, socioeconomics, community design, and other factors. In this section, we'll provide an overview of a few metrics. We begin with a look at the insured and uninsured population in the region, as seen in the graphic below.

### Insured Population by Type and Uninsured Population 2010 and 2014



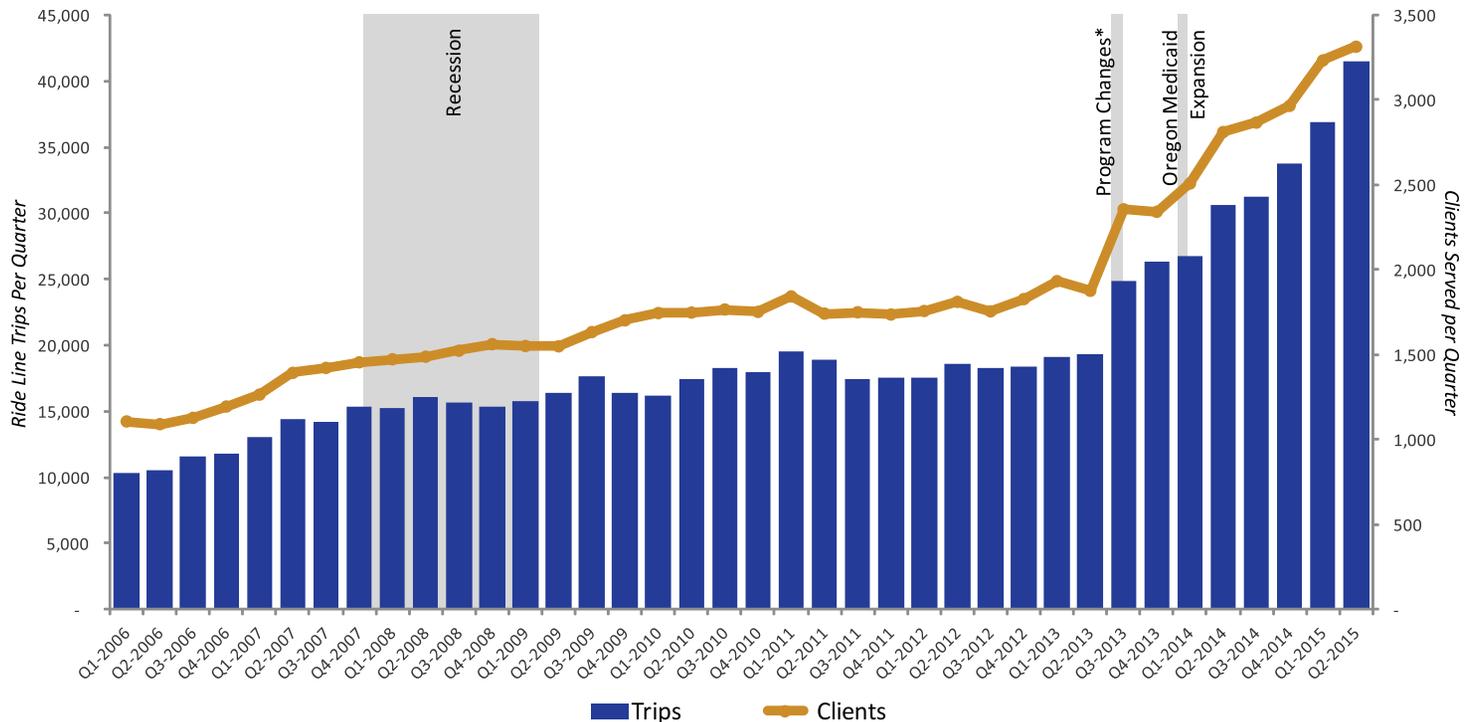
Sources: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; State of Oregon, Oregon Health Plan (OHP) Enrollment Reports; U.S. Census Bureau Small Area Health Insurance Estimates (SAHIE); Portland State University Population Estimates

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) began implementation in late 2010. At that time, an estimated 16.7 percent of Oregonians were without health insurance. In the region, the number was close to 16 percent. According to the data sourced above, the percent of people who were uninsured in Oregon dropped 11 points between 2010 and 2014. The region saw a more dramatic decrease: The number of uninsured dropped 12.6 percentage points. As of 2014, only 3.3 percent of the region's residents are uninsured. This means that over 31,000 more people in the region are estimated to have medical insurance now than did so in 2010.

## Cascades West Ride Line

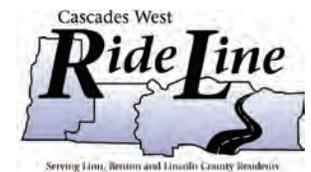
*Cascades West Ride Line*, a program of OCWCOG, coordinates transportation services for eligible Oregon Health Plan and Medicaid clients traveling to and from covered non-emergency medical services. Demand for services spiked in July 2013 when two significant program changes were implemented. One was the addition of a mileage-reimbursement program enabling clients to use their own vehicles and receive reimbursement for qualifying trips. The other change involved contracting with the InterCommunity Health Network Coordinated Care Organization (IHN-CCO) to better coordinate services. Additionally, eligibility expanded under the Affordable Care Act starting in 2014. *Ride Line's* services have increased dramatically since implementation of the Affordable Care Act. The program served 2,300 clients in the third quarter of 2013 and slightly more than 3,300 in the second quarter of 2015, a 41 percent increase. The number of trips provided to these clients more than doubled during that time, from almost 25,000 trips in the third quarter of 2013 to slightly more than 41,500 in the second quarter of 2015.

**Non-Emergent Medical Transportation (NEMT) Clients and Trips in the Region  
Cascades West Ride Line**



\*Ride Line program changes in July 2013 included addition of mileage reimbursement program and enhanced program awareness through contract coordination with InterCommunity Health Network Coordinated Care Organization (IHN-CCO)

Source: Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments (OCWCOG), Cascades West Ride Line



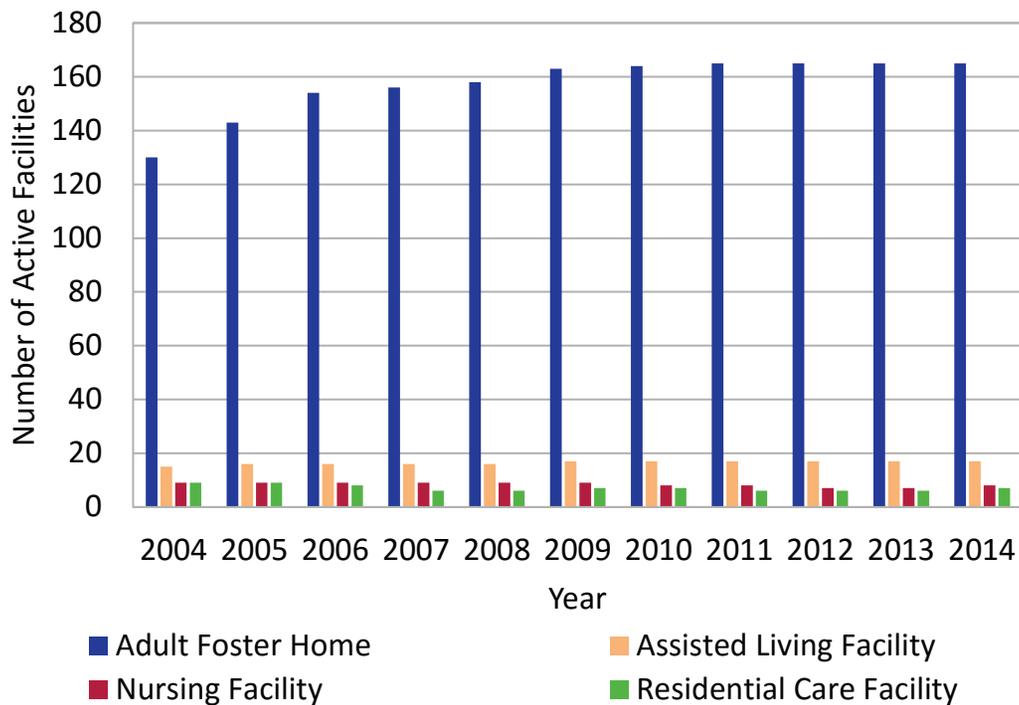
## Adult Care Facilities

This chart shows that the number of adult care facilities in our region has remained fairly steady over the past ten years.

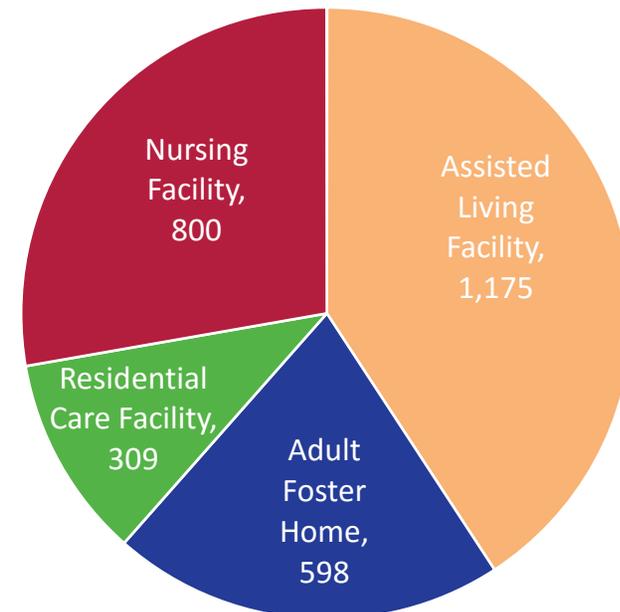
## Bed Counts

There are 598 adult-foster-home beds in the region, 1,175 assisted-living-facility beds, 800 nursing-facility beds, and 309 residential-care-facility beds, according to June 2015 data from the Oregon Department of Human Services. As shown on page 14, our region's population is aging. According to estimates from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 7.2 percent of non-institutionalized people age 65 and older in the U.S. need help from other people for their personal care. The population age 65 and older in the region was 45,700 in 2014, according to the Portland State University Population Research Center, and the number of non-institutionalized people age 65 and older estimated to need help with personal care was 3,300.

Number of Community-Based Care Facilities by Type



Number of Beds in Community-Based Care Facilities by Type in 2015



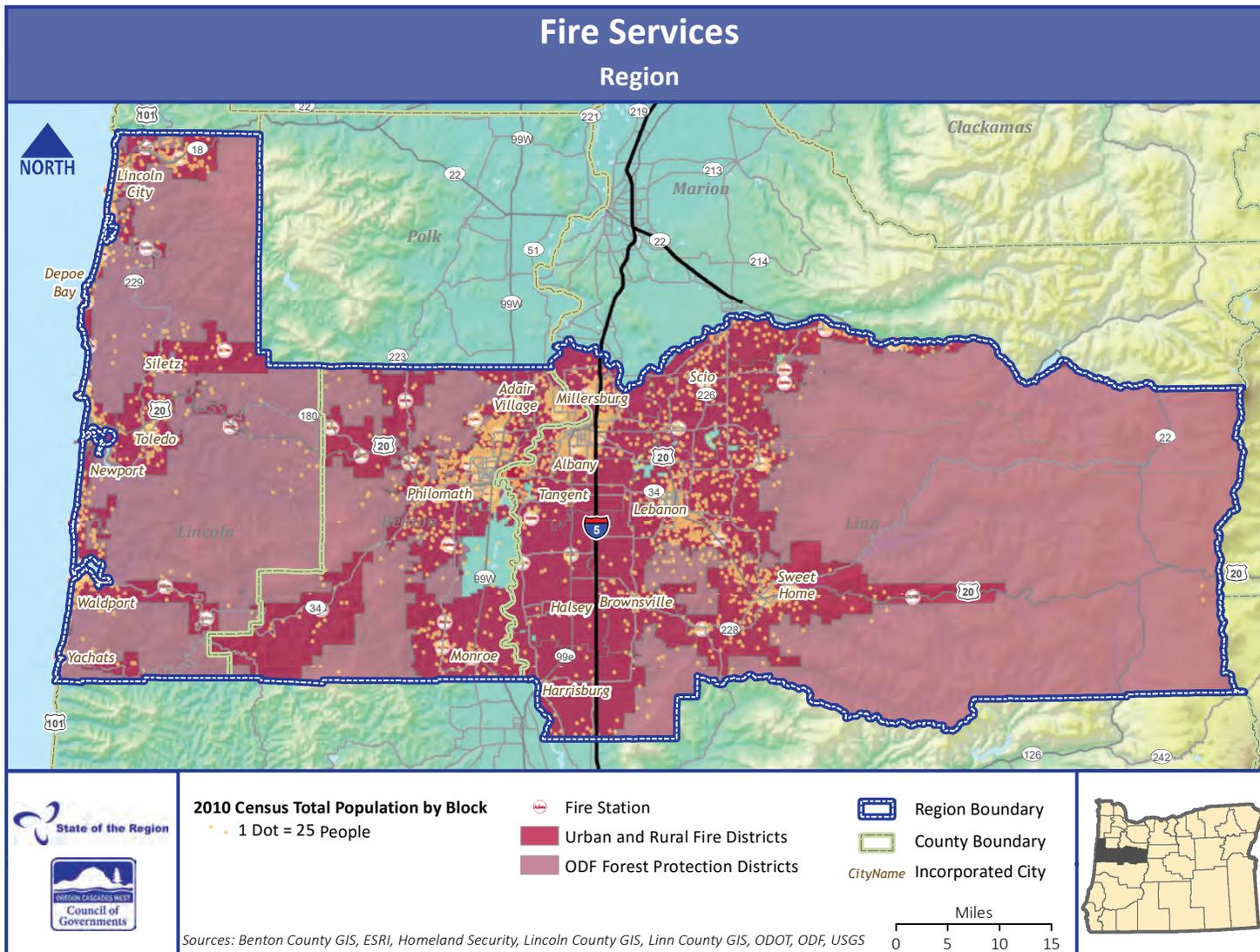
Data Source: Oregon DHS

Data Sources: Oregon DHS

# EMERGENCY SERVICES

## Fire Department Coverage

The population centers of our region are well covered by urban and rural fire districts, while broad swaths of rural areas are covered by Oregon Department of Forestry Protection Districts.

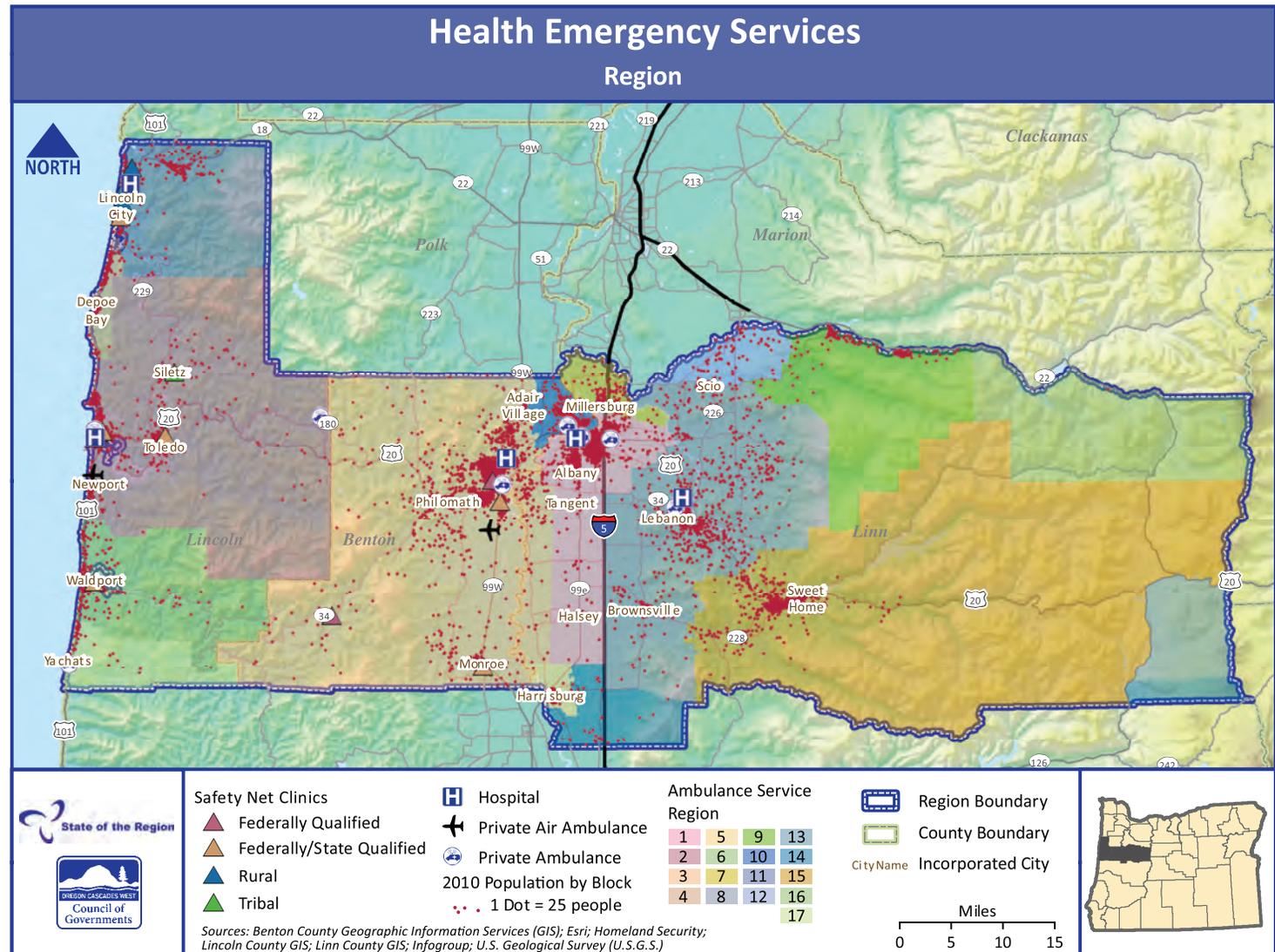


## Ambulance Coverage

As indicated in the map below, population centers and rural areas are all covered by ambulance services. Ambulance response times will vary based on service area size, required travel distances to/from incidents, and modes of transportation (ground or air).

### Ambulance Service Region

- 1 Albany
- 2 Central Lincoln
- 3 Corvallis
- 4 Depoe Bay
- 5 Eugene
- 6 Idanha/Detroit
- 7 Jefferson
- 8 Lebanon
- 9 Lyons
- 10 North Albany
- 11 North Lincoln
- 12 Santiam
- 13 Sisters
- 14 Springfiled
- 15 Sweet Home
- 16 Waldport
- 17 Yachats



## Access to Exercise, Clean Air, and Clean Water

The percentage of people in the region potentially exposed to water exceeding a violation limit for contaminants in the past year is estimated to be three percent, far better than the state overall where an estimated 16 percent are potentially exposed.

The average daily density of fine particulate matter in the air throughout the region is estimated to be 8.6 micrograms per cubic meter, below the state's estimated 8.9 average. Sources of fine particulate matter (also referred to as PM2.5) can include forest fires, power plants, industrial processes, and automobiles. Consequences of ambient air pollution include decreased lung function, chronic bronchitis, and asthma. Particulate counts in the region are declining as of the latest estimates.

The estimated percentage of people in the region who have access to exercise opportunities (82 percent) is slightly lower than the statewide estimate (89 percent).

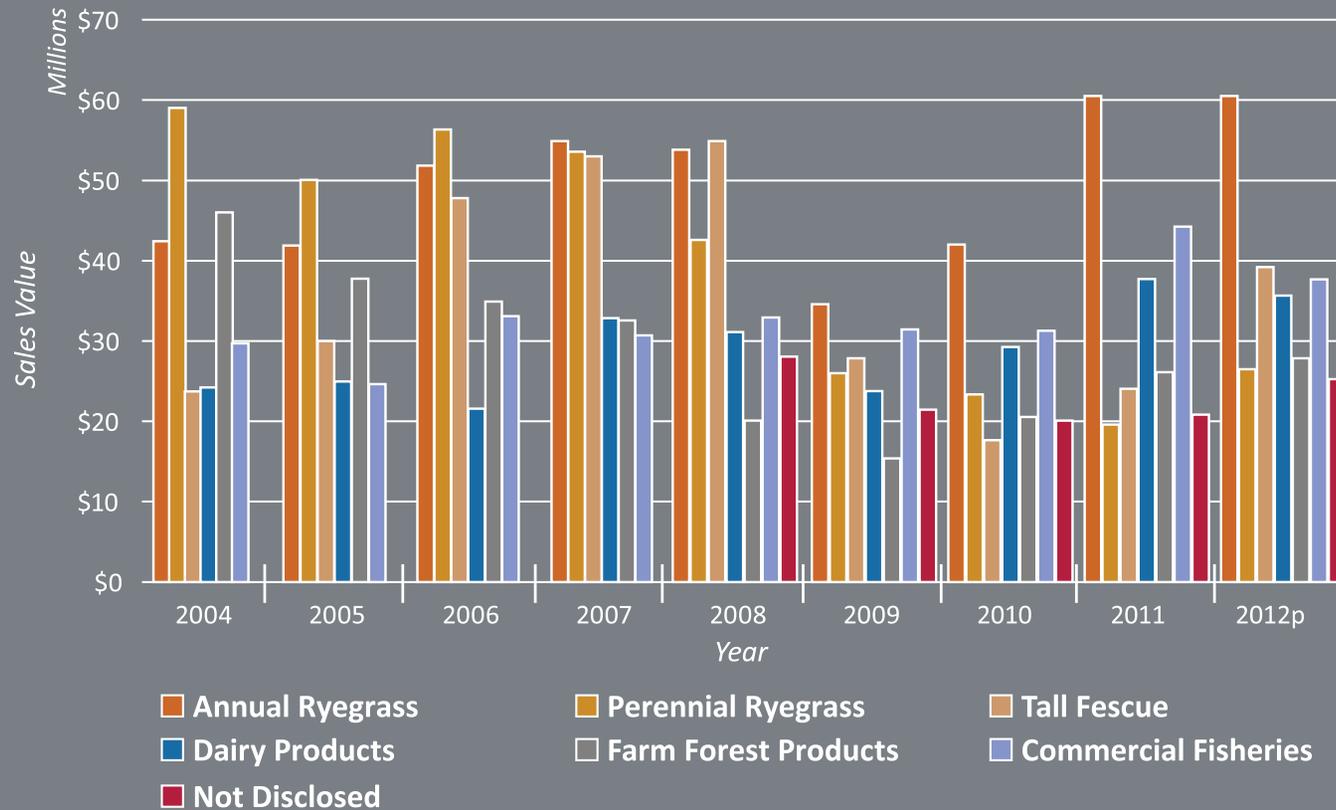
Metric	Description	U.S.	Oregon	Region	Source
Access to Clean Water	percent of population potentially exposed to water exceeding a violation limit during the past year	7%	16%	3%	2013-2014 Safe Drinking Water Information System from <i>2015 County Health Rankings</i> and 2014 Portland State University populations estimates
Access to Clean Air	average daily density of the fine air particulate matter in micrograms per cubic meter (PM2.5)	11.1	8.9	8.6	2011 CDC WONDER Environmental data from <i>2015 County Health Rankings</i>
Access to Exercise Options	percent of population with adequate access to locations for physical activity, including recreational facilities and parks	85%	89%	82%	2010 Census from <i>2015 County Health Rankings &amp; Roadmaps</i>

## SECTION 8: FOOD ACCESS AND AGRICULTURE

Like medical and health access, food access varies across the region. This section addresses types and value of crops, seafood, land cover, meat, dairy and other animal products, and access to food indicators.

### Top Commodities by Total Sales Value 2004-2012

*Linn County is known as the “grass seed capital of the world.”*



Sources: Oregon Agricultural Information Network, Extension Economic Information Office, Oregon State University; Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife: Commercial Fish Landing Statistics

### Top Crops by the Dollar

According to the Oregon Agriculture Information Network, grasses comprise the top three spots overall in sales value (annual ryegrass, perennial ryegrass, and tall fescue). According to the 2012 Agriculture Census from the USDA, Linn County is first in Oregon and in the United States for acres of field and grass seed crops (133,687 acres). It's important to note that due to proprietary information, the value of some crops in some areas is not disclosed.

## Top Crops by Acreage

Data on top crops by acreage confirms that the majority of fields are planted with grasses. In terms of harvested acreage, grasses (annual ryegrass, perennial ryegrass, and tall fescue) dominated from 2004 to 2009 with the top three spots, and since then other hay and wheat have increased to greater acreage than perennial ryegrass and tall fescue.

### Top Commodities by Total Harvested Acreage 2004-2012



Date Source: Oregon Agricultural Information Network, Extension Economic Information Office, Oregon State University

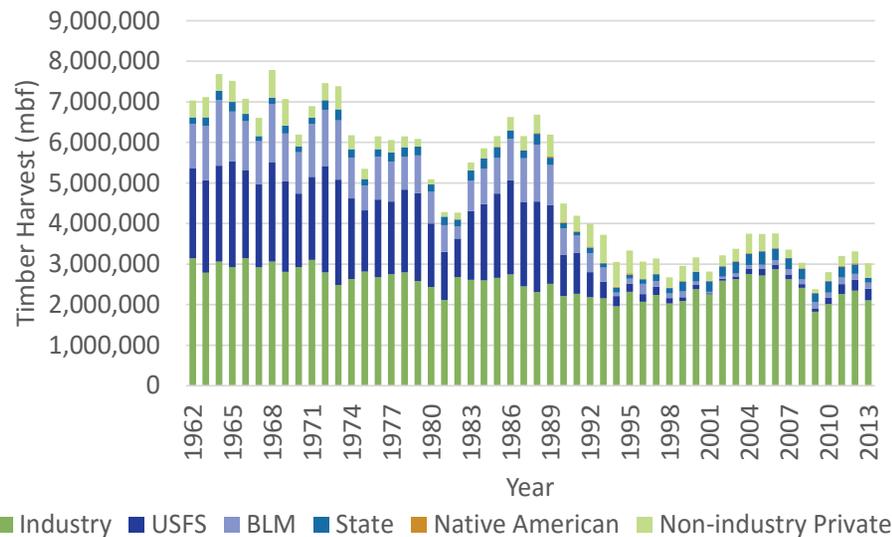
## Fish and Shellfish Landings

In 2014, Lincoln County locations (Depoe Bay, Newport, and Waldport) landed 33 percent of all Dungeness Crab at all ports in Oregon, according to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

## Historical Harvests

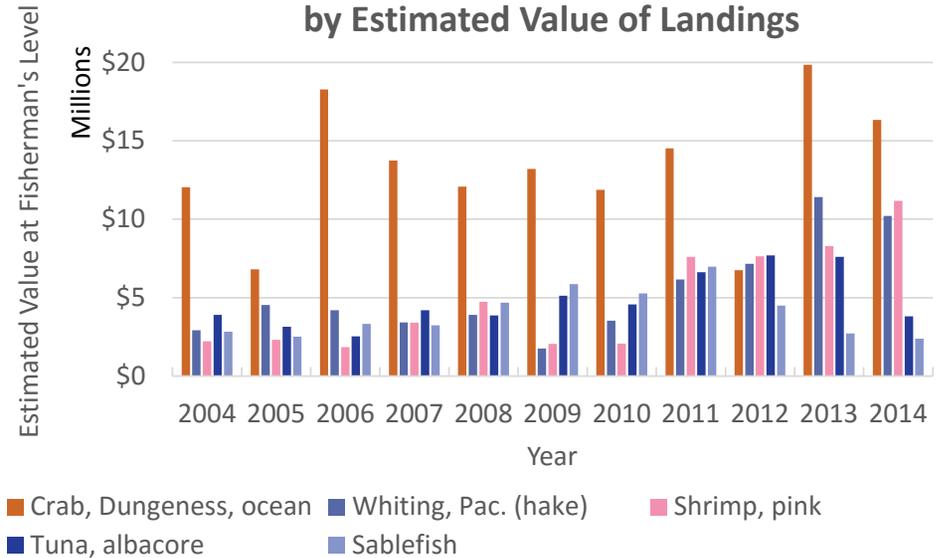
According to the Oregon Department of Forestry, timber was a top agricultural commodity and a top employer in many communities in our region for many decades.

### Timber Harvest by Type of Entity



Data Source: Oregon Department of Forestry

### Top 5 Commercial Species of Fish and Shellfish by Estimated Value of Landings

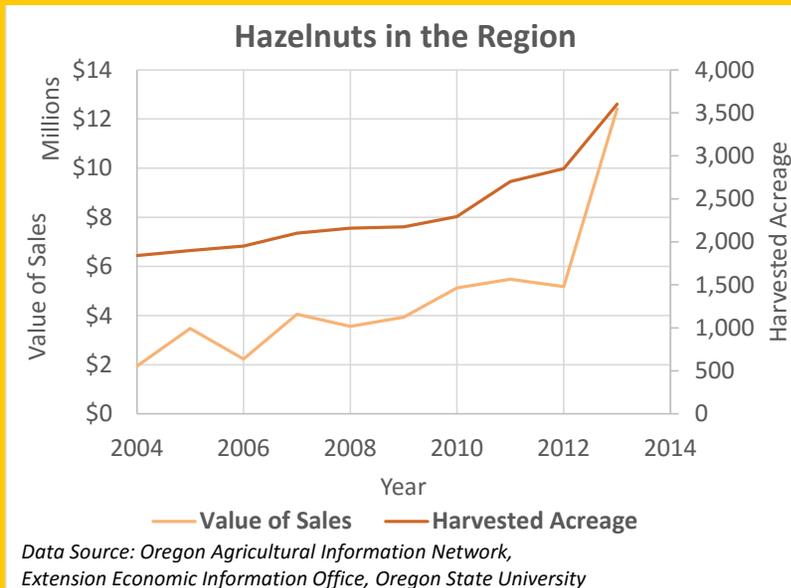


Data Source: Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife: Commercial Fish Landing Statistics

## Future Growth

In 2012, Benton County produced two percent of Oregon's hazelnut crop and Linn County produced 11 percent, which ranked them 8th and 5th, respectively, out of the ten counties that produce hazelnuts in the state. While harvest data for subsequent years is incomplete at the state level, the chart below shows harvested acreage and crop value both are trending up in our region. The price per pound almost doubled from \$0.87 in Benton County and \$0.89 in Linn County in 2012 to an average of \$1.65 in both counties in 2013. Oregon State University has patented several hazelnut varieties. One contributor to the increase in hazelnut production is that hazelnuts can be a substitute for almonds in some cases, since their cultivation requires less water.

For information about wine grapes harvests, see page 65.



**There are 147 pounds of Dungeness Crab harvested per year for every one person in Lincoln County,** according to 2012 data.<sup>4</sup> Lincoln County ranks 4th in the state for aquaculture production overall.<sup>7</sup> By way of Newport, our region has a vast economic reach. Some pink shrimp processed in Newport ultimately is sold in Denmark, while Pacific hake harvested off Oregon makes its way to the Ukraine and elsewhere, processed by major companies such as Pacific Seafoods, Trident Seafoods, and Bornstein Seafoods, all of which operate seafood processing plants in Newport.



**There are 13 harvested Christmas trees for every one person in Benton County,** according to 2012 data.<sup>5</sup> Linn County ranks 6th in the state for cut Christmas trees (with 3.1 harvested Christmas trees for every one person in the County) and similar crops, according to 2012 USDA data. Benton County is first in the state and 2nd in the United States.<sup>7</sup>



**There are two people for every sheep in Linn County,** according to 2012 data.<sup>6</sup> According to the USDA, for 2012, Linn County is first in the state and 11th in the United States in the category of “sheep, goats, wool, mohair, and milk.”<sup>7</sup> For additional information about the inventory of sheep and lambs in the region, as well as sales value of wool, see [www.StateoftheRegion.org](http://www.StateoftheRegion.org).



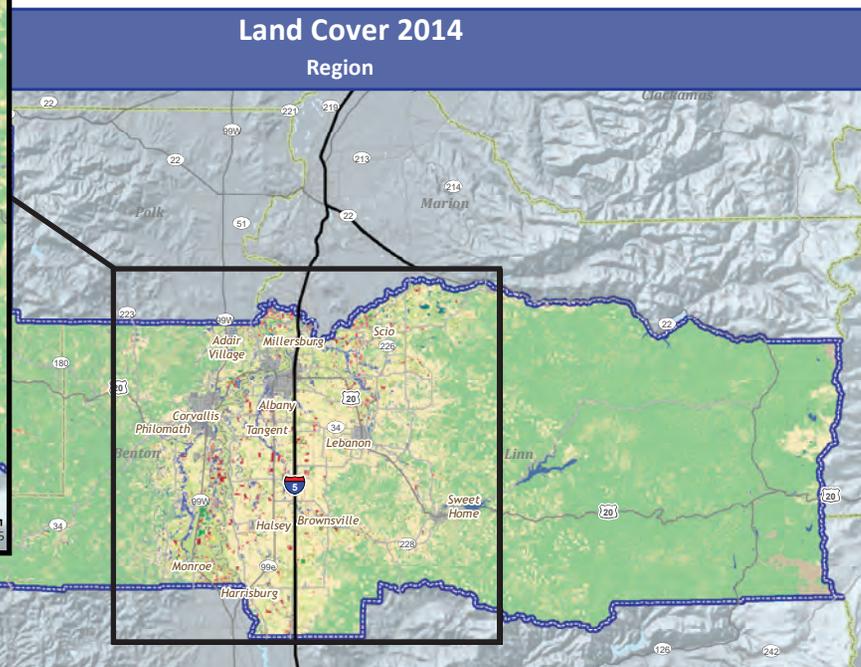
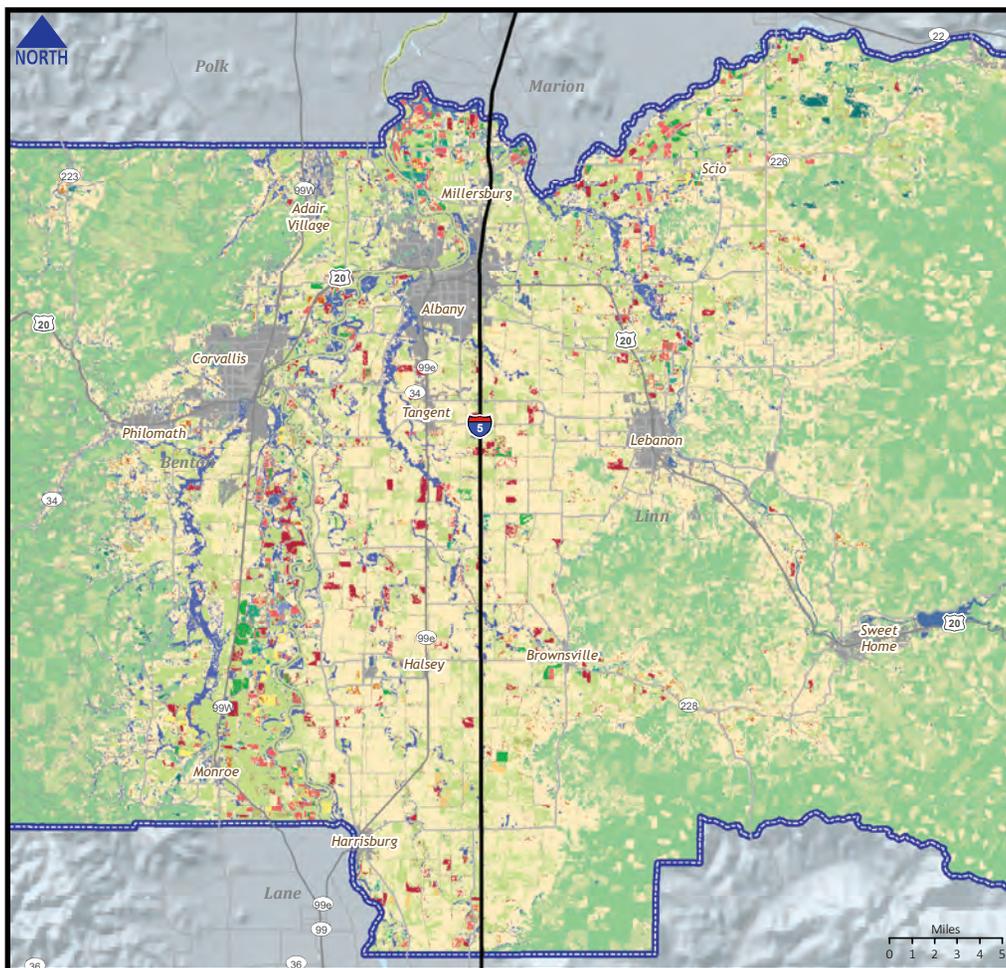
**A note about exports:** According to the Oregon State University Extension Service and Oregon Department of Agriculture, up to 90-95 percent of agricultural products in Oregon are exported, though the percentage may even be higher in our region, according to the Oregon Employment Department.<sup>2</sup>



Additional information about the price and production trends of various agricultural products is available at [www.StateoftheRegion.org](http://www.StateoftheRegion.org).

## Land Cover

As depicted in these maps, the distribution of agricultural products and other land cover varies across the region. It is important to note that the data are obtained via satellite imagery from the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service (USDA NASS), causing under-representation of aquaculture due to the fact that the USDA NASS does not incorporate the ocean in its data.

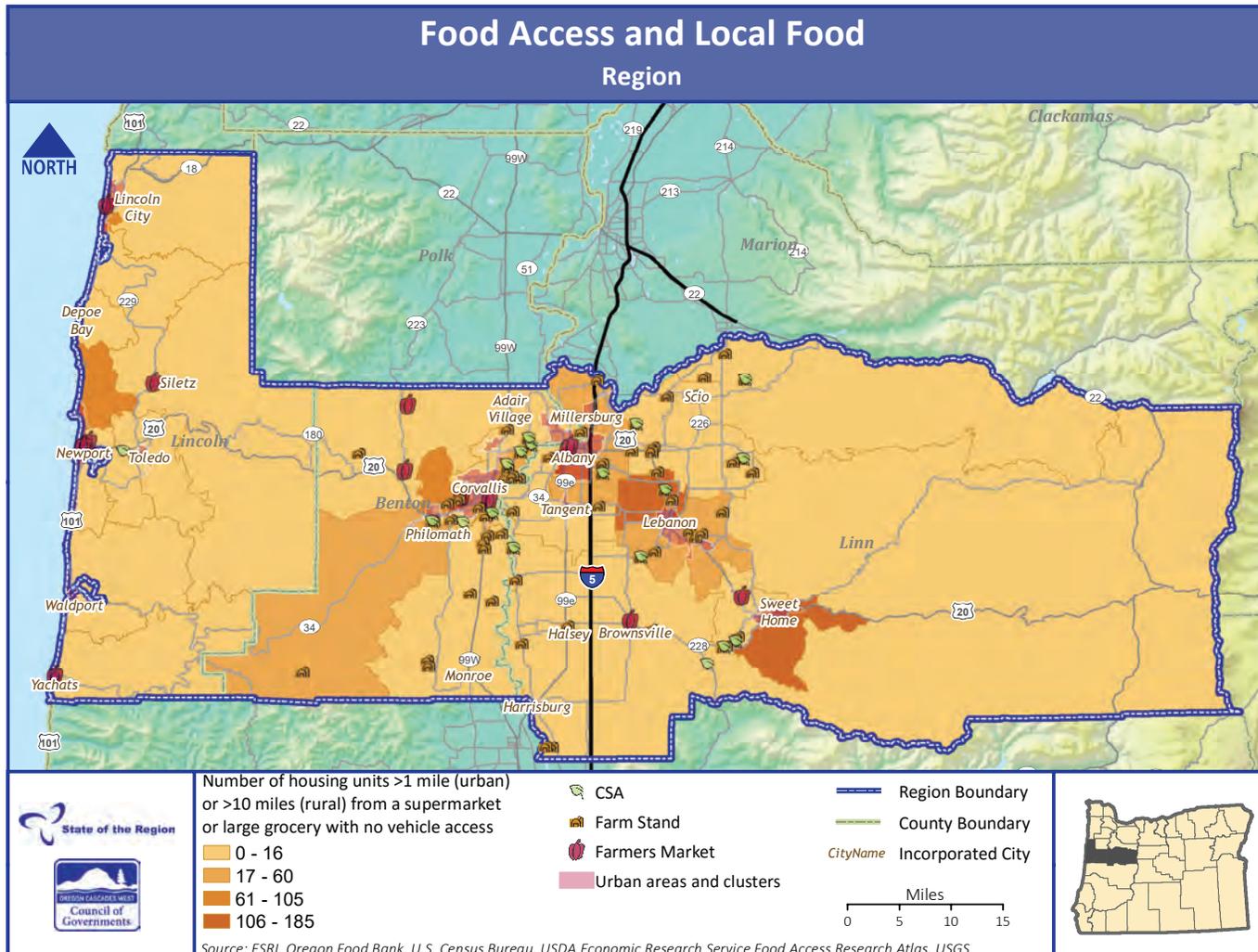


Land Cover Categories 2014			
Hay and Forage	Field Crops	Fallow/Idle Cropland	Region Boundary
Tree Fruit & Nuts	Christmas Trees	Grass & Legumes	County Boundary
Grains	Corn	Open Water	CityName Incorporated City
Barren	Forest	Other Crops	
Small Fruit & Berries	Forest	Shrubland	
Vegetables & Truck Crops	Developed	Sod/Grass Seed	

Data Sources: ESRI, U.S. Census Bureau, USDA NASS

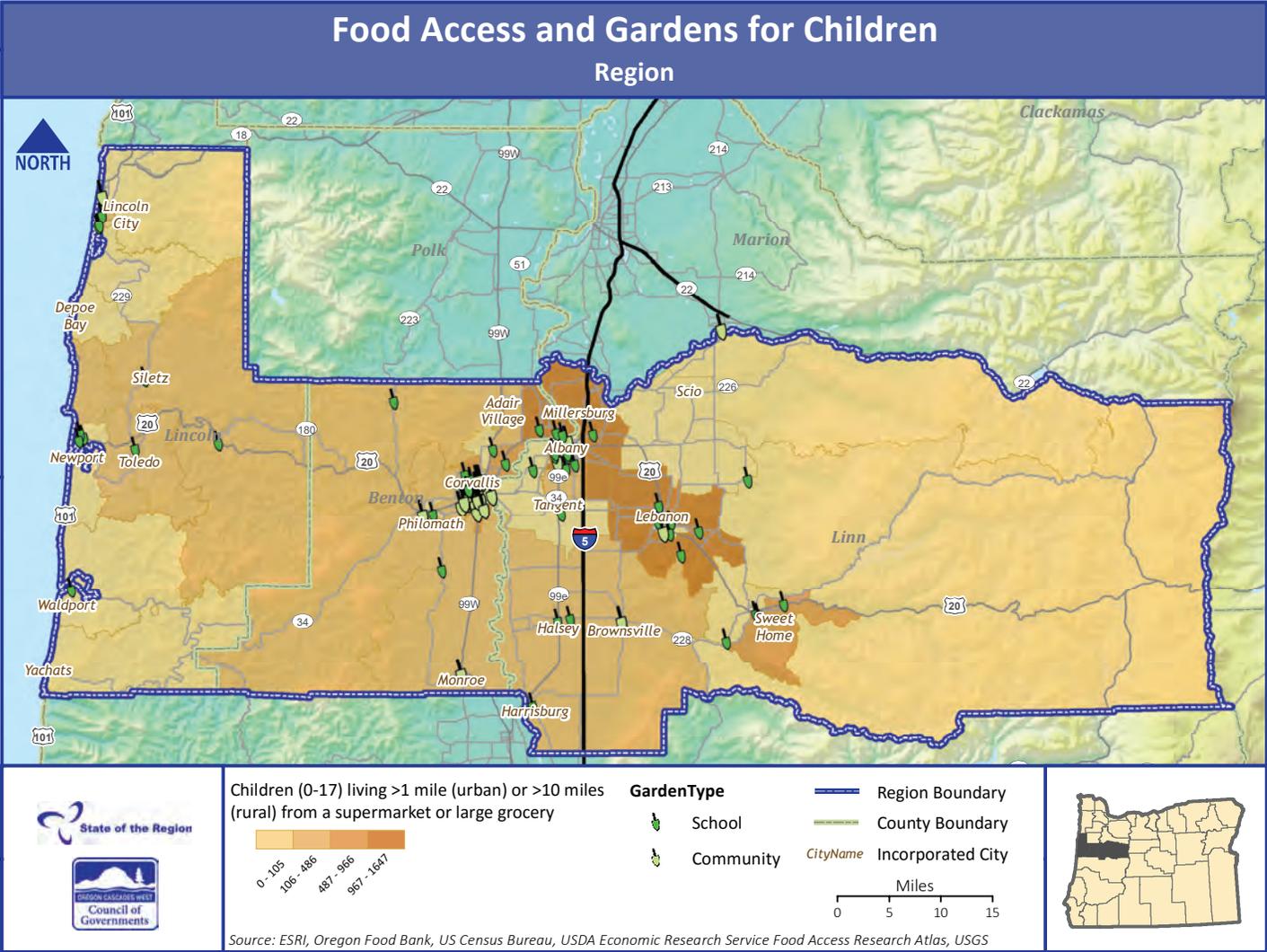
## Food Access

As we saw on page 56, the majority of crops in the region are not edible, but important to the economy. And a majority of the edible crops are exported. This map shows the distribution of households in our region that are more than one mile (urban) or more than ten miles (rural) from a supermarket or large grocery store, and do not have access to a vehicle. The distribution is shown by Census tract, with the darkest areas representing the largest numbers of households. The map also shows the locations of farmers markets, farm stands, and Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) programs. For more information about vehicle access and transportation in the region, see page 74.



# Public Gardens

This map shows the locations of public gardens in the region, including school gardens, along with the number of children living more than one mile (urban) or more than ten miles (rural) from a supermarket or large grocery store.



A list of gardens in our region is available at [www.StateoftheRegion.org](http://www.StateoftheRegion.org).

## Food Deserts

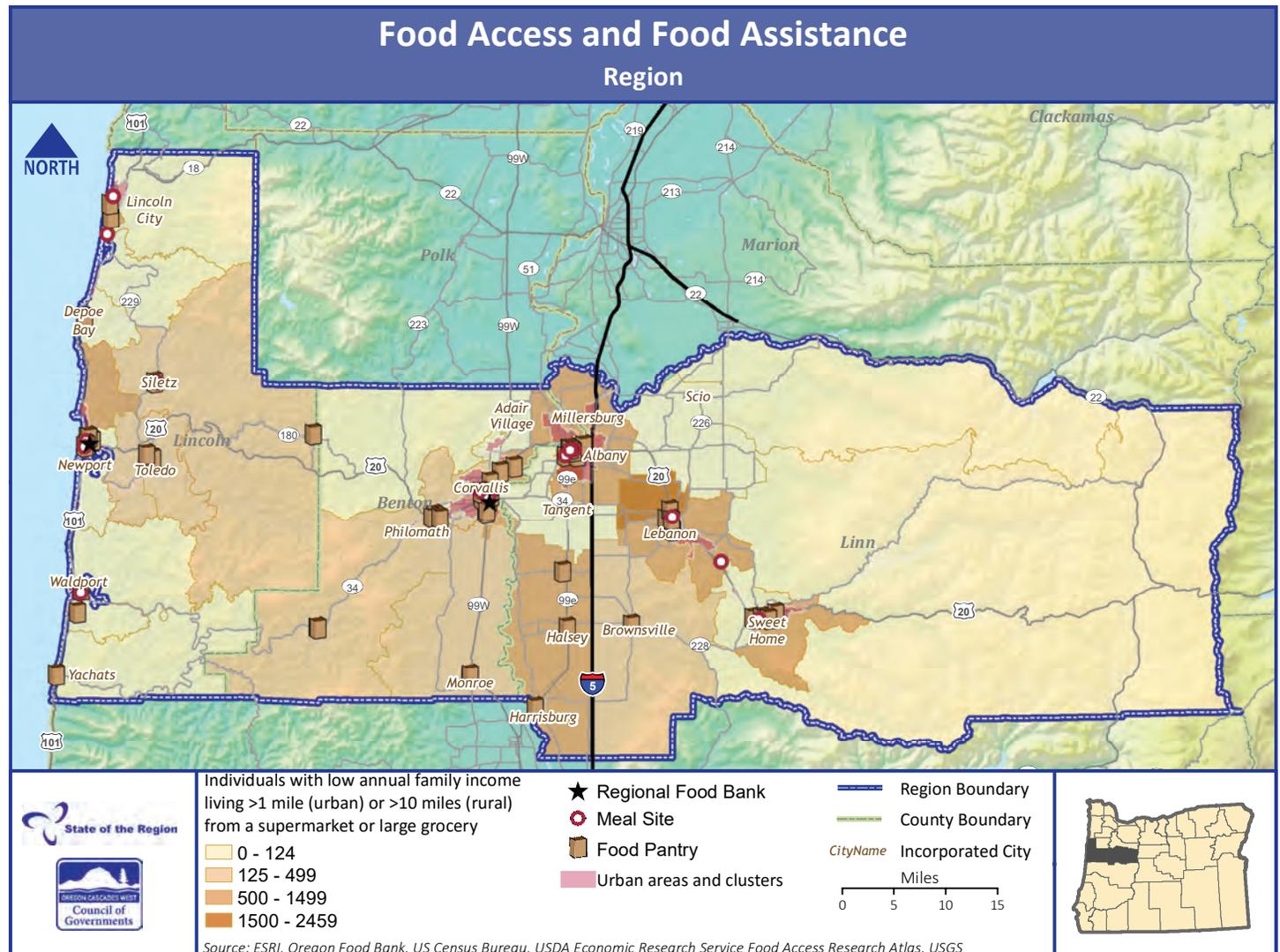
This map shows the locations of public meal sites, food pantries, and food banks in relation to the distribution of low-income residents with limited access to supermarkets or large grocery stores. The two darkest colors on the map show the locations of food deserts in the region. The USDA defines a “food desert” as an area that meets both low-access and low-income thresholds. Low-access communities are Census tracts where at least 500 people, or at least 33 percent of a U.S. Census Bureau tract’s population, are located more than one mile from a supermarket or large grocery store. In rural areas, that distance extends to ten miles. Low-income communities, according to USDA’s definition, are Census tracts that have a poverty rate of 20 percent or higher, or a median family income at or below 80 percent of the area median. According to 2010 data from the USDA, 14 percent the population of Benton County lives in a food desert, 15 percent in Lincoln County, and 13 percent in Linn County.

**Note:** These data do not take into account “the sharing economy,” meaning informal arrangements for sharing food.



More details about what defines ‘urban’ and ‘rural’ for the purposes of the maps in this section; what qualifies as a grocery store according to the USDA; and information about the locations of vendors from area farmers markets and farm-to-school programs are available at

[www.StateoftheRegion.org](http://www.StateoftheRegion.org).



## Senior Meals / Meals on Wheels

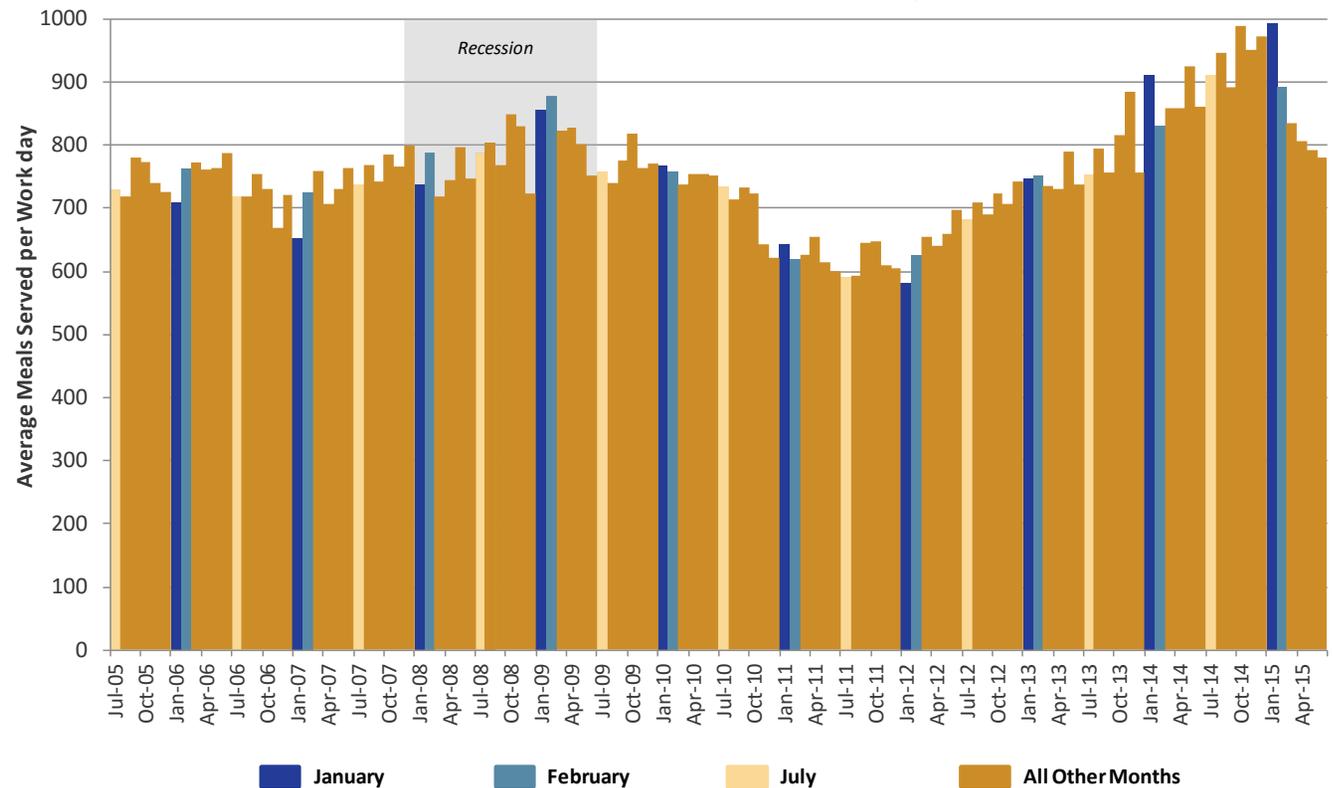
The Senior Meals / *Meals on Wheels* program, administered and staffed by OCWCOG, provides meals to seniors and adults with disabilities. For home delivered meals, or *Meals On Wheels*, volunteers deliver meals to homebound seniors and disabled adults who receive Medicaid and are unable to get to a Senior Meals Dining Room in their community. As indicated in the chart, the average number of meals served per month has fluctuated over the years, dropping significantly in 2011, post-recession, when an average of slightly more than 600 meals per work day were served. A steady rise in demand throughout 2014 led to the highest average meals per day served in January 2015 when close to 1,000 meals per work day were provided. For the first six months of 2015 an average of 850 meals per day were served to Senior Meals clients.

Because the *Meals on Wheels* program serves a subset of Medicaid enrollees, some of the fluctuation in meals served may be attributable to the trend in Medicaid enrollment. According to Medicaid enrollment data from the Oregon Health Plan, enrollment was rising slowly through the recession, from 2007 to 2011. Then from 2011 through 2013 enrollment was fairly steady. Most recently in 2014, with the implementation of Oregon's Medicaid expansion program, enrollment jumped dramatically.

Another key factor to consider when reviewing the data is funding. The program does receive state and federal funding, as well as grant funding, but relies heavily on donations and fundraising efforts. When financial times are difficult, the program often struggles to meet the needs of its clients.

**Average Meals Served per Work Day by Month - July 2005 through June 2015**

*Total Meals Served Includes Meals On Wheels and Dining Room Service*



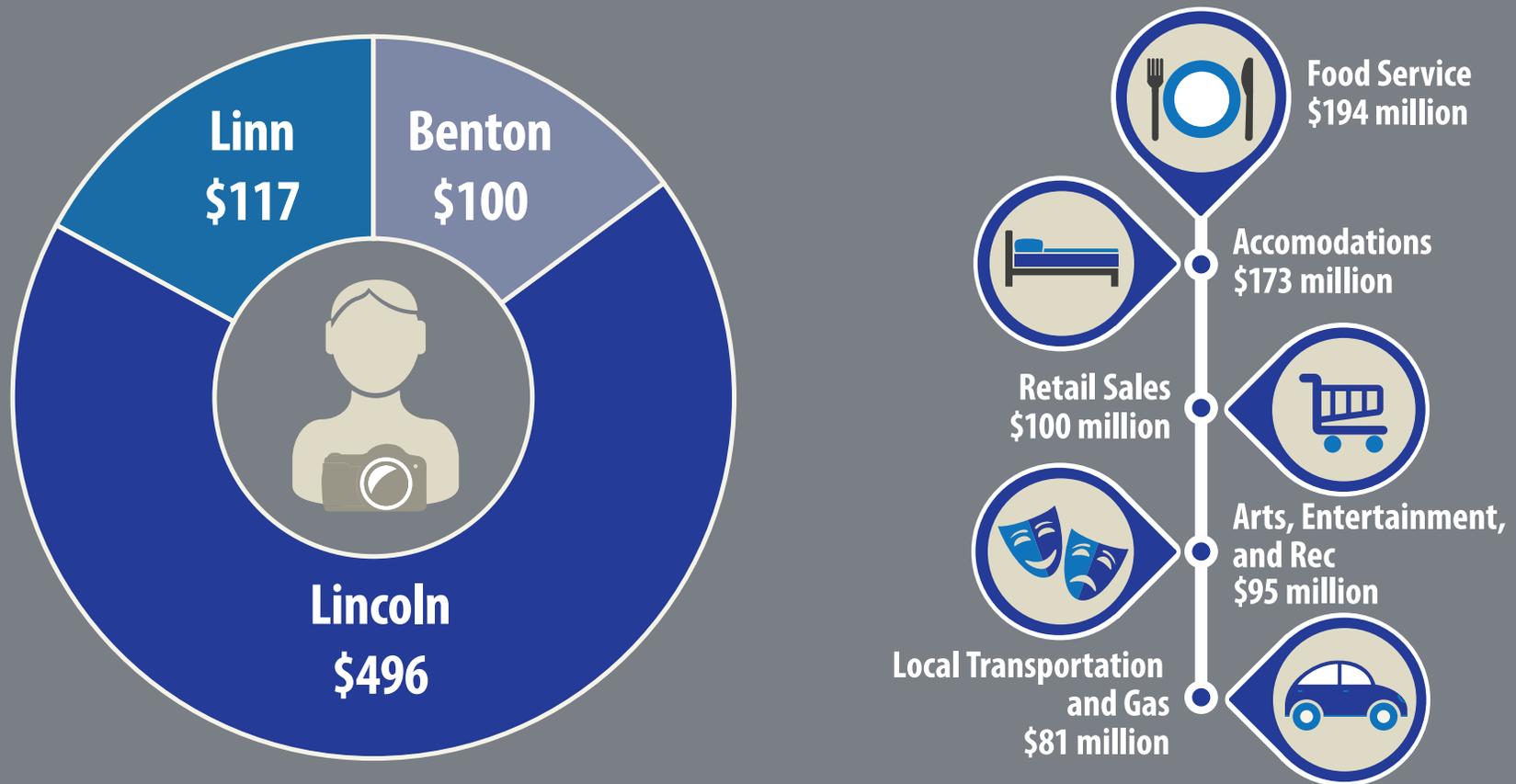
Work days include only those days which provide meal service, typically Monday through Friday, excluding Holidays  
 Source: Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments, Senior and Disability Services Division, Senior Meals Program



## SECTION 9: TOURISM

With attractions ranging from whale watching to wine tasting, and from bicycle tourism to famed country music festivals, Benton, Lincoln, and Linn Counties captured \$713 million in combined tourism revenue in 2014. Food and beverage spending accounts for the largest share at \$194 million in the region.

### 2014 Tourist Spending: \$713 Million



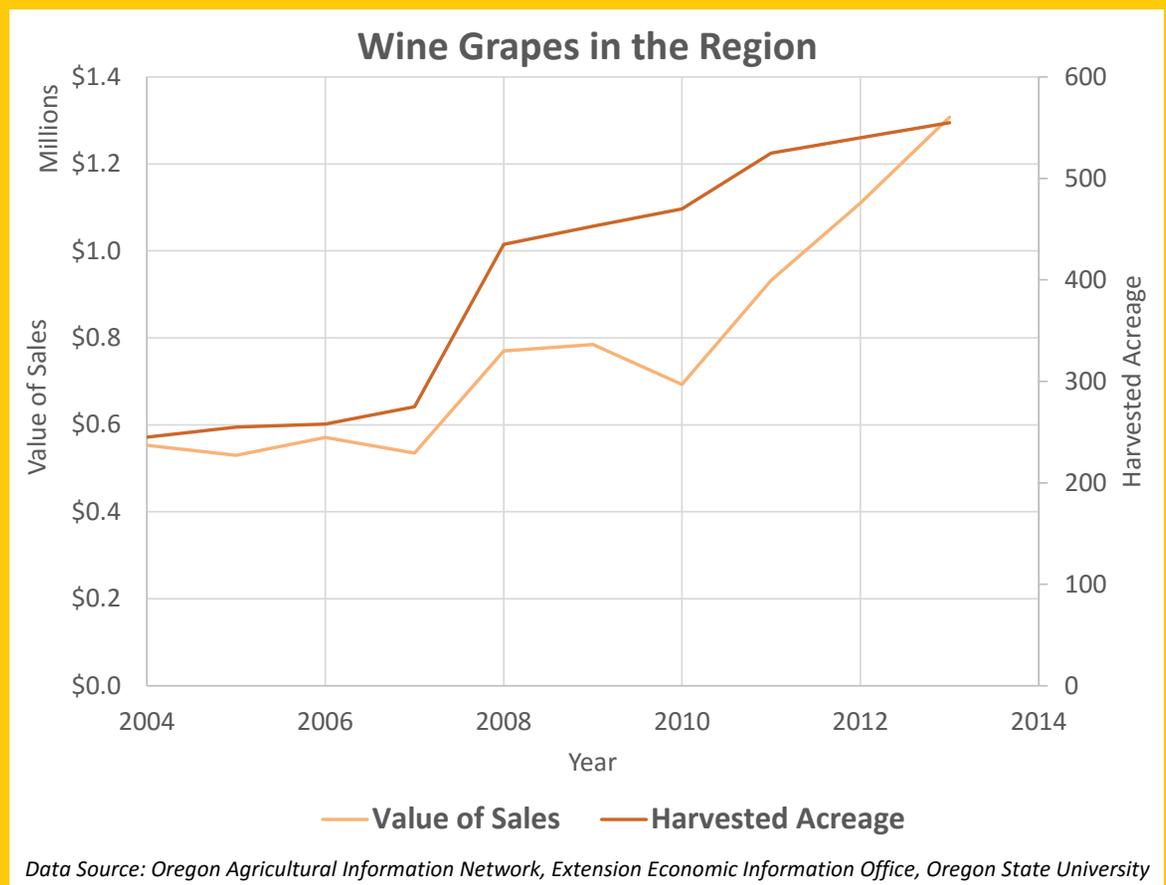
Source: Dean Runyan Associates, 2014 Total Visitor Spending at Destination, in millions of dollars

## Wine and Beer Industry

Wine grape production and acreage in the region has increased over the past decade, as shown in the chart.

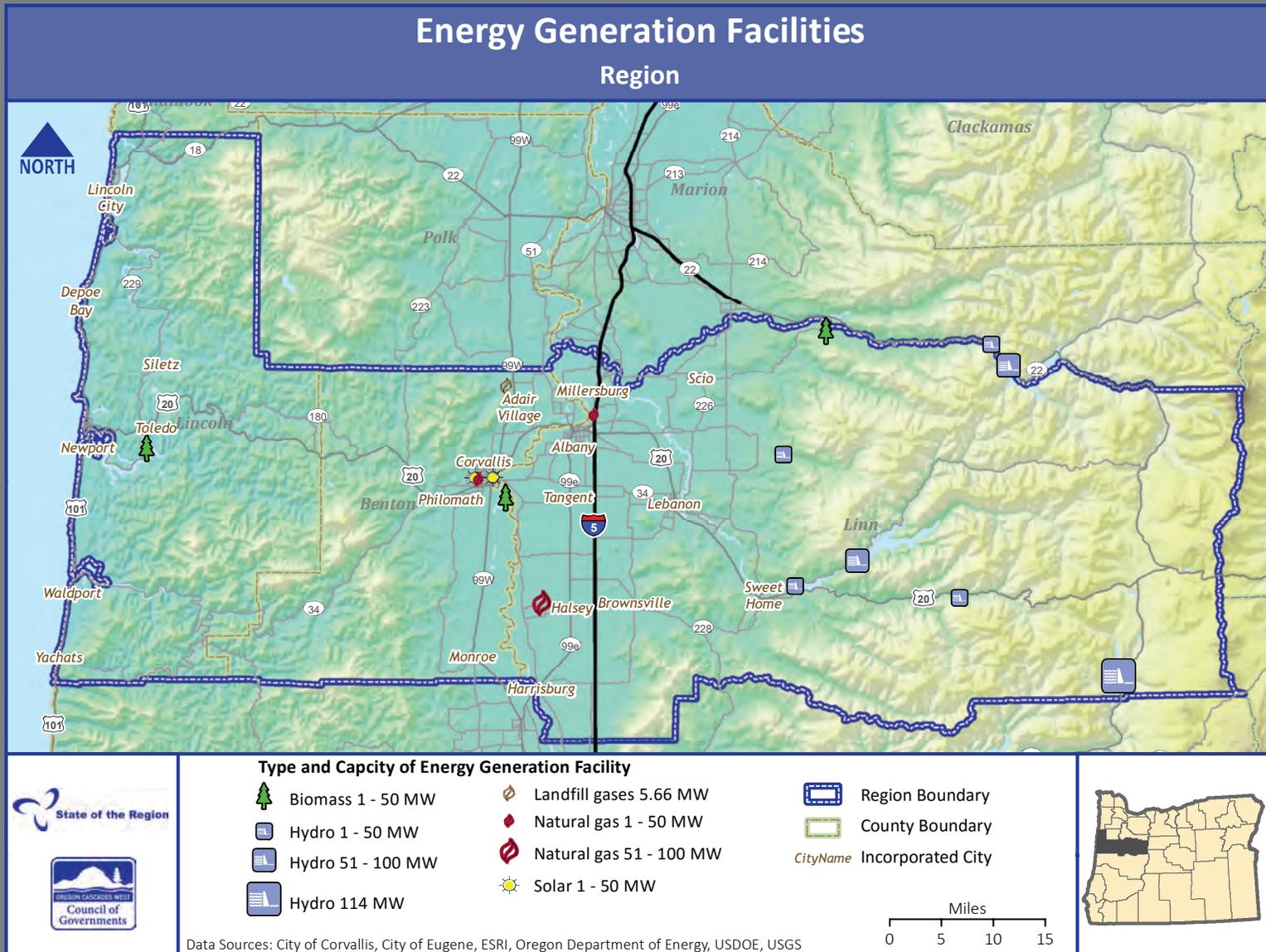
According to the Oregon Wine Board, wholesale/retail revenue from wine in Benton County in 2013 was over \$31 million. Wages attributed to wine were more than \$5.5 million. Wholesale/retail revenue from wine in Lincoln County in 2013 was above \$3 million and wages were almost \$6 million. Linn County saw just above \$23 million in wholesale/retail revenue and almost \$4 million in wages.

According to the Oregon Brewers Guild, breweries in Benton, Lincoln, and Linn Counties produced 125,000 barrels in 2014, of which 19 percent (23,756 barrels) was sold in Oregon. The remaining barrels were exported outside of Oregon; just one brewery in the region – Rogue, which is based in Newport – exports outside the United States. Of the barrels sold in Oregon, 58 percent (13,711 barrels) was draft and the remainder was packaged. There were 550 total employees in the beer brewery industry in the region in 2014. As a comparison, in 2004, 40,241 barrels were produced in the region, of which 22.5 percent (9,098 barrels) was sold in Oregon. There were 97 employees of breweries in the region in 2004.



# SECTION 10: ENERGY

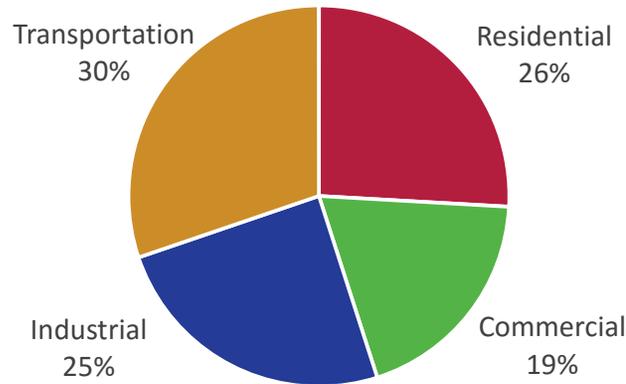
Data tells us that Oregon's immense hydroelectric and other power networks outside the region produce much of what we consume, however, local energy production is a growing industry in our region.



## Energy Consumption by Sector

The largest consumption of energy in the state is for transportation. Data are only available at the state level.

Oregon Energy Consumption by End-Use Sector, 2013

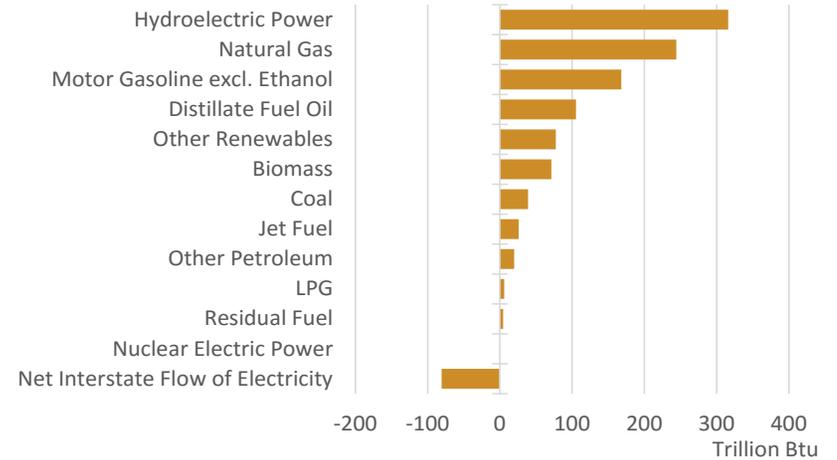


Data Source: Energy Information Administration, State Energy Data System

## Energy Production and Consumption by Source

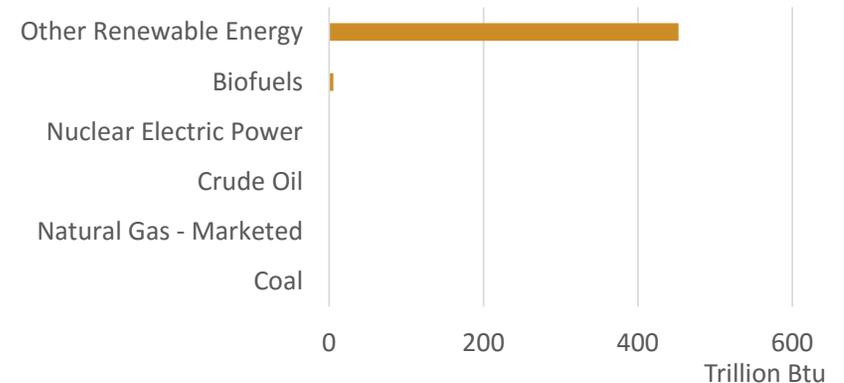
While the graphics show production and consumption statewide, regional data are not available. Historically, the Pacific Northwest has benefitted from an abundant supply of relatively low-cost electrical energy due to hydropower's large contribution to the power base. In terms of production, renewable energy leads in Oregon.

Oregon Energy Consumption Estimates, 2013



Data Source: Energy Information Administration, State Energy Data System

Oregon Energy Production Estimates, 2013

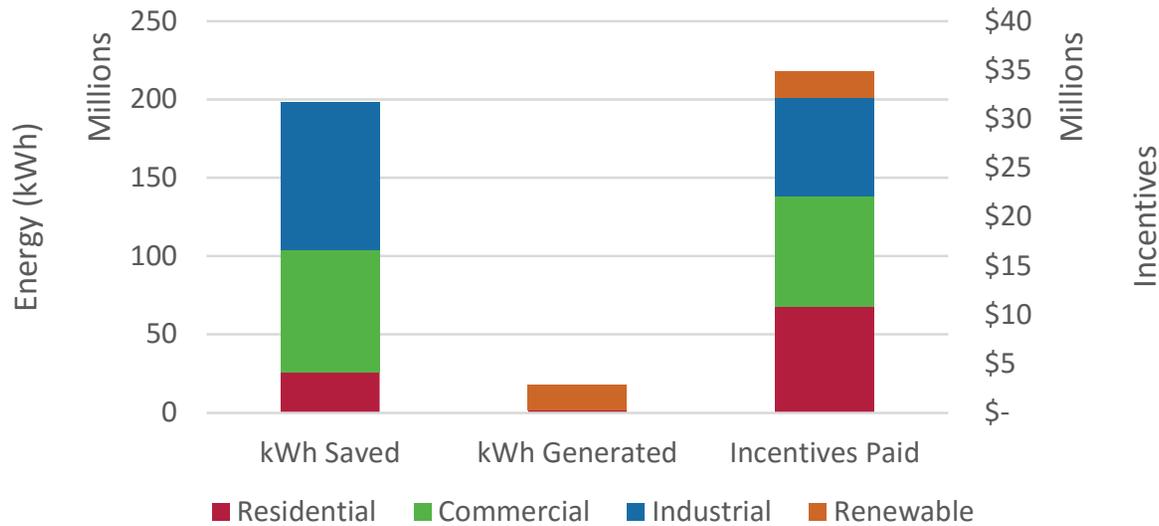


Data Source: Energy Information Administration, State Energy Data System

## Energy Incentives

From 2004-2014, the combination of residential, commercial, and industrial entities in the region have saved almost 200 million kW hours of energy and generated over 16 million kW hours of renewable energy through participation in *Energy Trust* programs. In the same time period, *Energy Trust* has paid almost \$35 million in incentives to residential, commercial, industrial, and renewable entities in the region for energy-efficient upgrades and renewable energy projects.

### Energy and Incentives in the OCWCOG Region 2004-2014 through Energy Trust Programs

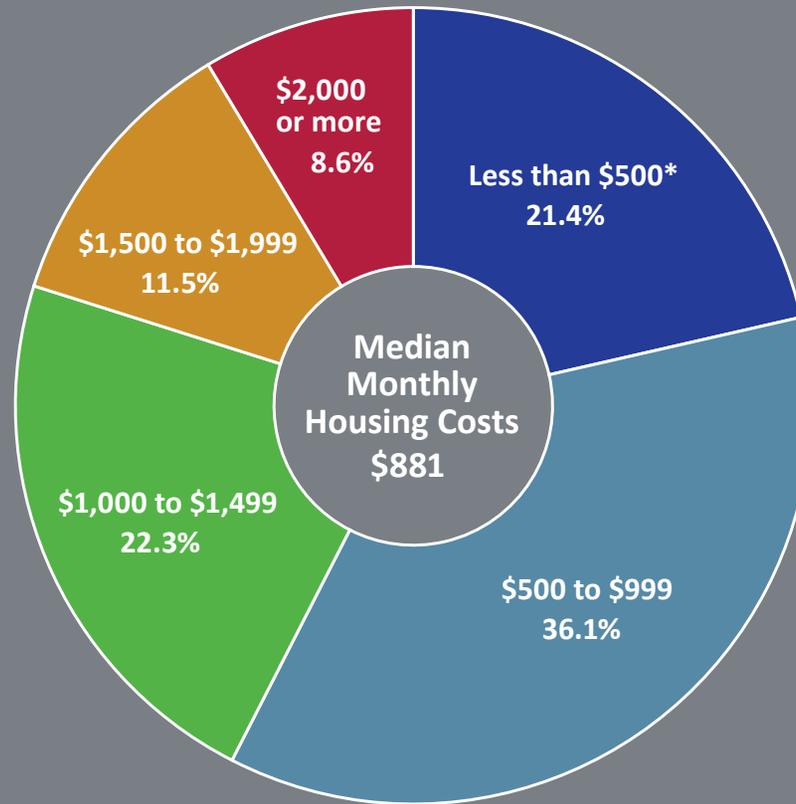


Data Source: Energy Trust of Oregon

# SECTION 11: HOUSING

Housing starts, sales, and renovations; rising home ownership; and a stable rental and leasing market are key indicators of community health.

## Monthly Housing Costs for Households in the Region



*\*includes households with no cash rent*

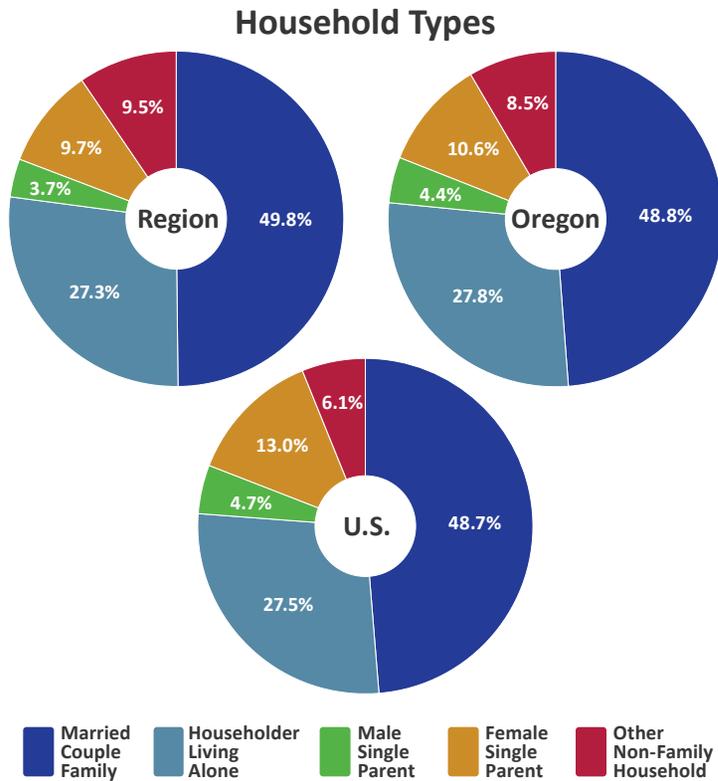
*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates*

*Monthly Housing Costs are the combination of Selected Monthly Owner Costs and Gross Rent*

An estimated 36 percent of households in the region spend \$500-\$999 per month on housing, with median monthly housing costs of \$881, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Statewide, 33 percent of households have monthly housing costs between \$500-\$999, with median monthly housing costs higher than the region at \$1,018. As shown on page 16, the majority of households in the region have annual incomes under \$25,000. Someone paying \$500 per month for housing and earning \$25,000 would be paying 24 percent of his or her annual income toward housing.

## Household Types

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that close to 50 percent of all households in the region are married-couple families, with or without children, while almost 14 percent are single-parent households. The region has more married-couple families and fewer single-parent households when compared with households in the state and nation overall.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

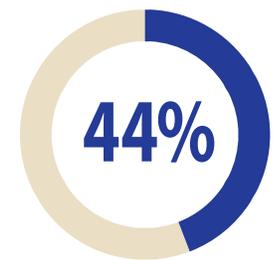


Information about the mortgage status of homes in the region is available at [www.StateoftheRegion.org](http://www.StateoftheRegion.org).

## Grandparents Living with Grandchildren

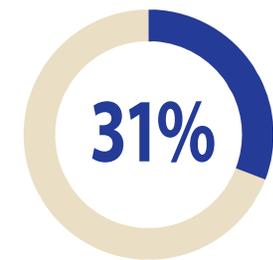
According to the U.S. Census Bureau estimates, there are 3,745 grandparents living with their grandchildren in the region and 44 percent of them are responsible for their grandchildren. Statewide, 37.5 percent of grandparents who live with their grandchildren are responsible for them.

**3,745**  
Grandparents  
living with grandchildren



### Raising Grandchildren

Forty-four percent of Grandparents who live with grandchildren are responsible for them.



### 5 or More Years

Thirty-one percent of Grandparents raising their grandchildren have been doing so for 5 or more years.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

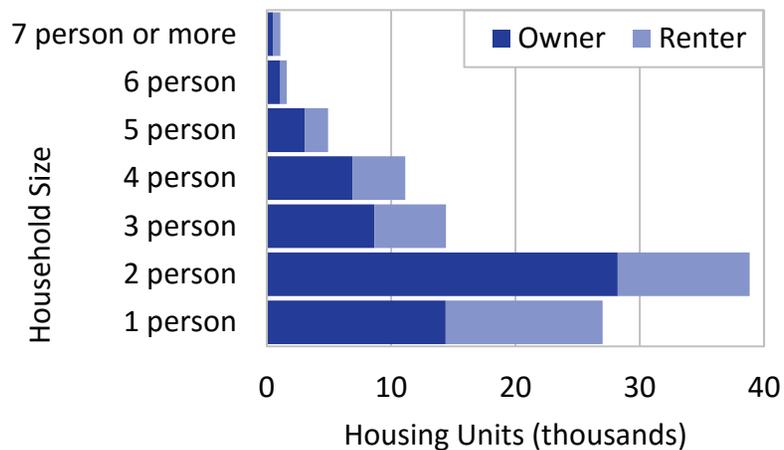
## Household Size

In each of the three counties in the region, the U.S. Census Bureau estimates that over half of the housing units are owner-occupied for all household sizes, and the majority of households include one or two people.

## Home Values

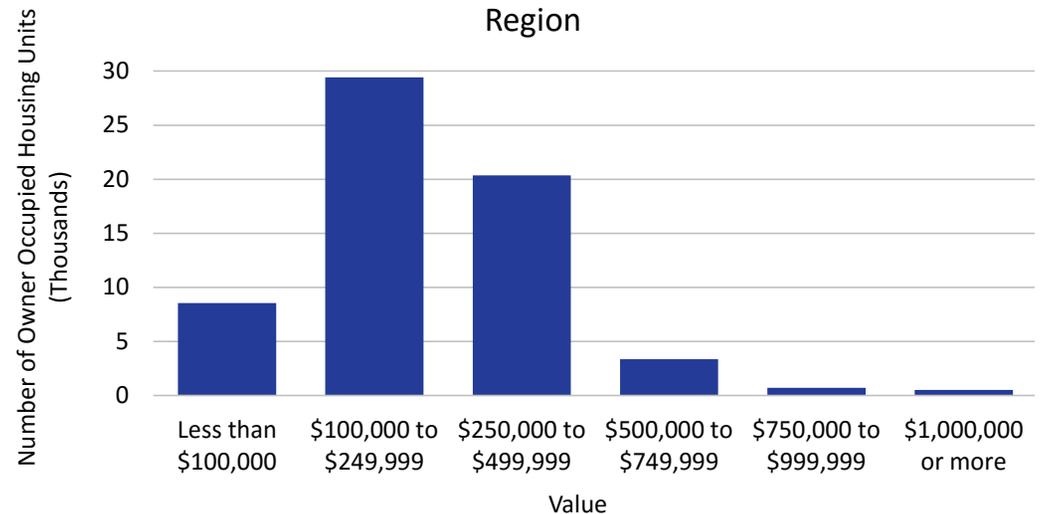
The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that nearly half (47 percent) of the owner-occupied housing units in the region are valued at \$100,000 to \$249,999. More than half of the owner-occupied housing units in Linn County are estimated to have values greater than \$150,000, while in Lincoln County and in the state on average, more than half have a value greater than \$200,000. Benton County is higher than the state average, with more than half of owner-occupied units valued greater than \$250,000.

Household Size by Tenure



Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

Value of Owner Occupied Housing Units  
Region



Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

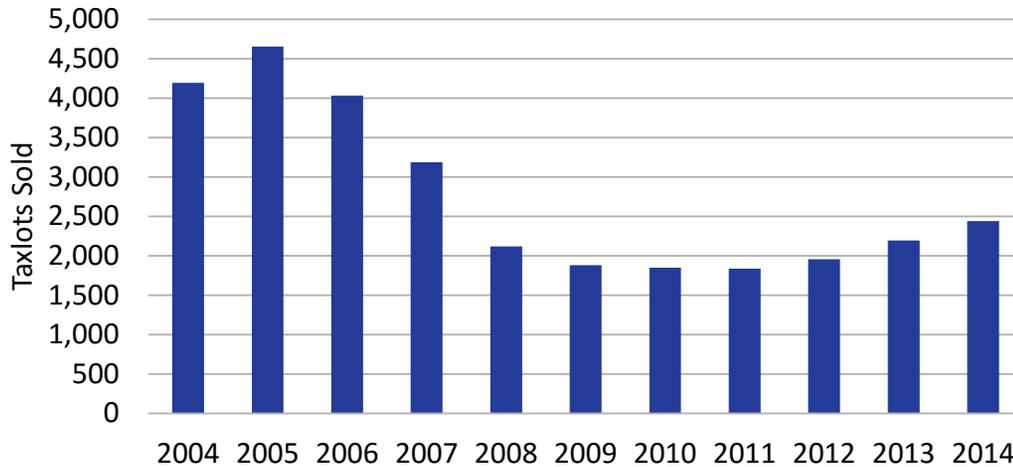
## Residential Property Sales

Residential property sales by taxlot during the past ten years are seen in the graphic below; specifically of note is the decline during the recession beginning in 2007 through 2009. Only one sale per taxlot was included per year and sales which did not represent market values were excluded.

## Property Vacancies

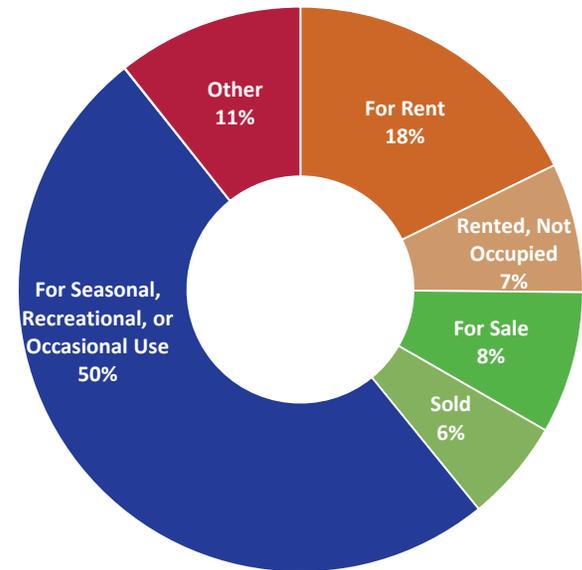
According to 2013 U.S. Census Bureau estimates, half of the vacant housing units in the region are for seasonal, recreational, or occasional use. This likely indicates tourism-related use and second homes. See more tourism information on page 64.

### Residential Property Sales by Taxlot



Residential property is defined as property class 101. Only one sale per taxlot is counted per year.  
Data Sources: Benton County Assessor, Lincoln County Assessor, Linn County Assessor

### Housing Unit Vacancy by Type Region



Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates  
Total Housing Units: 115,873  
Total Vacant Units: 16,764

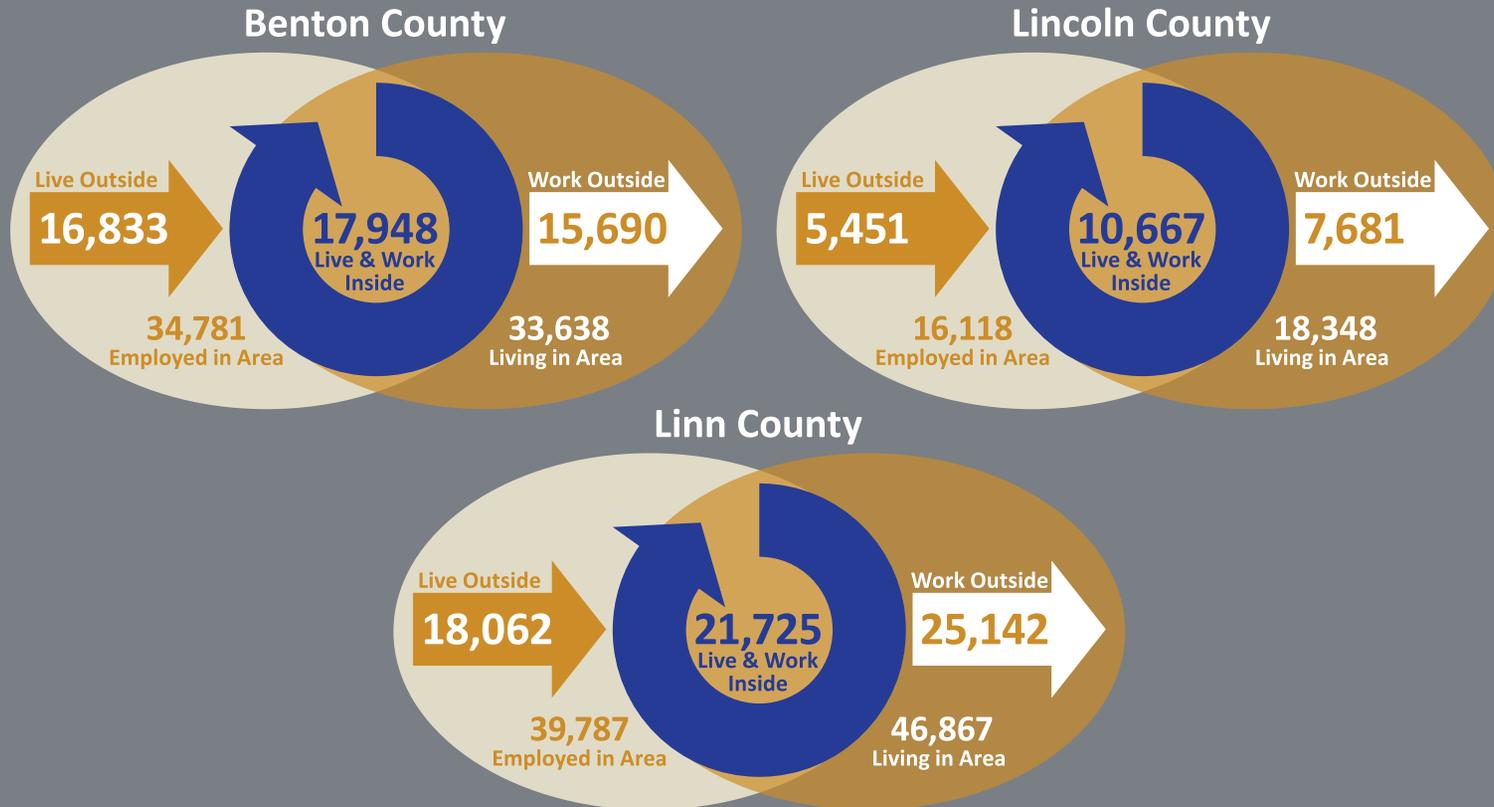


A breakdown of vacancy types is available by county at [www.StateoftheRegion.org](http://www.StateoftheRegion.org).

## SECTION 12: CONNECTIVITY

Our commute patterns, tourism, and commerce link the region together. Transportation in our region is characterized by highways 20 and 34, Interstate 5, multiple rail links, robust trail networks, regional airports, and a commute and economic shed that runs both north-south and east-west.

### 2013 Worker Inflow and Outflow



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) Origin-Destination Employment Statistics (LODES)

### Commuters in the Region

Similar to most regions across the United States, workers in our region often live in different counties than where they work, creating both opportunities and challenges for regional transportation planning efforts. The U.S. Census Bureau's 2013 estimates of commuting flows into and out of each county in the region are depicted in the graphics above.

## Vehicles Per Household

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that the majority of households in the region have one to two cars available. Six percent of households in the region are estimated to have no vehicle available, which is low compared to the state at eight percent and the U.S. at nine percent.

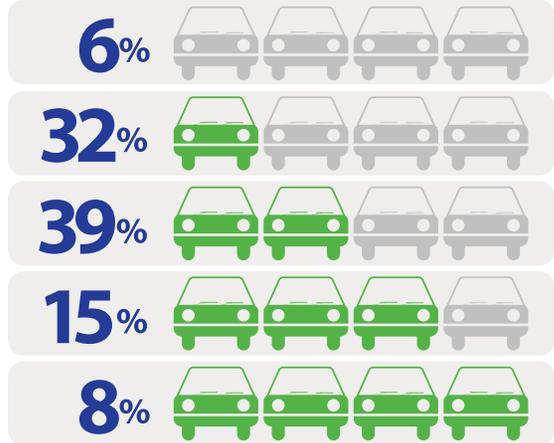
## Commute Times and Modes in the Region

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 76 percent of residents in the region commute to work less than 30 minutes on average, compared to 71 percent statewide with a similar commute. Also, an estimated 72 percent commute by single-occupant vehicle, as do the same percent statewide.

The drive-alone commute rate in our region is lower than in two of the three peer regions, and the same as in the Northern Arizona region.

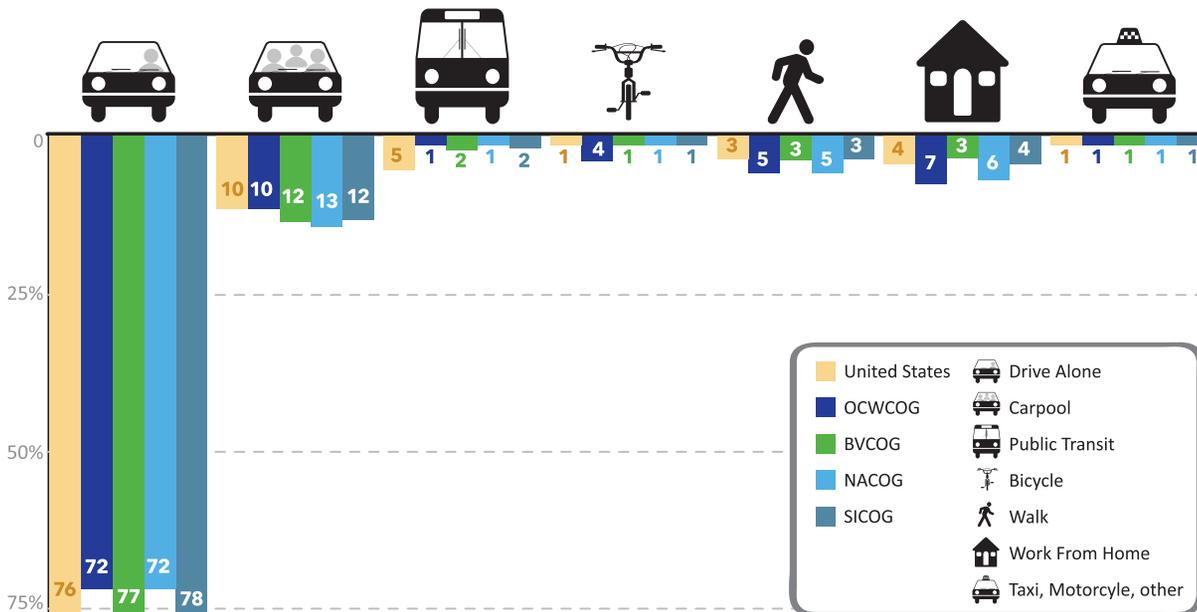
## Vehicles Available for Households in the Region

Percent of Households



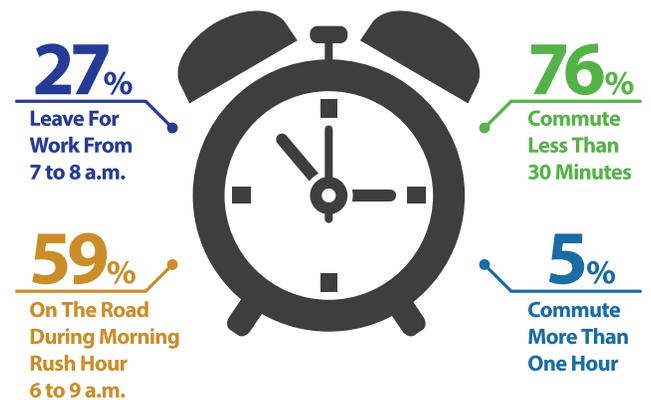
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

## Commute Mode of Workers Percent of Workers in Each Region by Mode of Transportation to Work



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

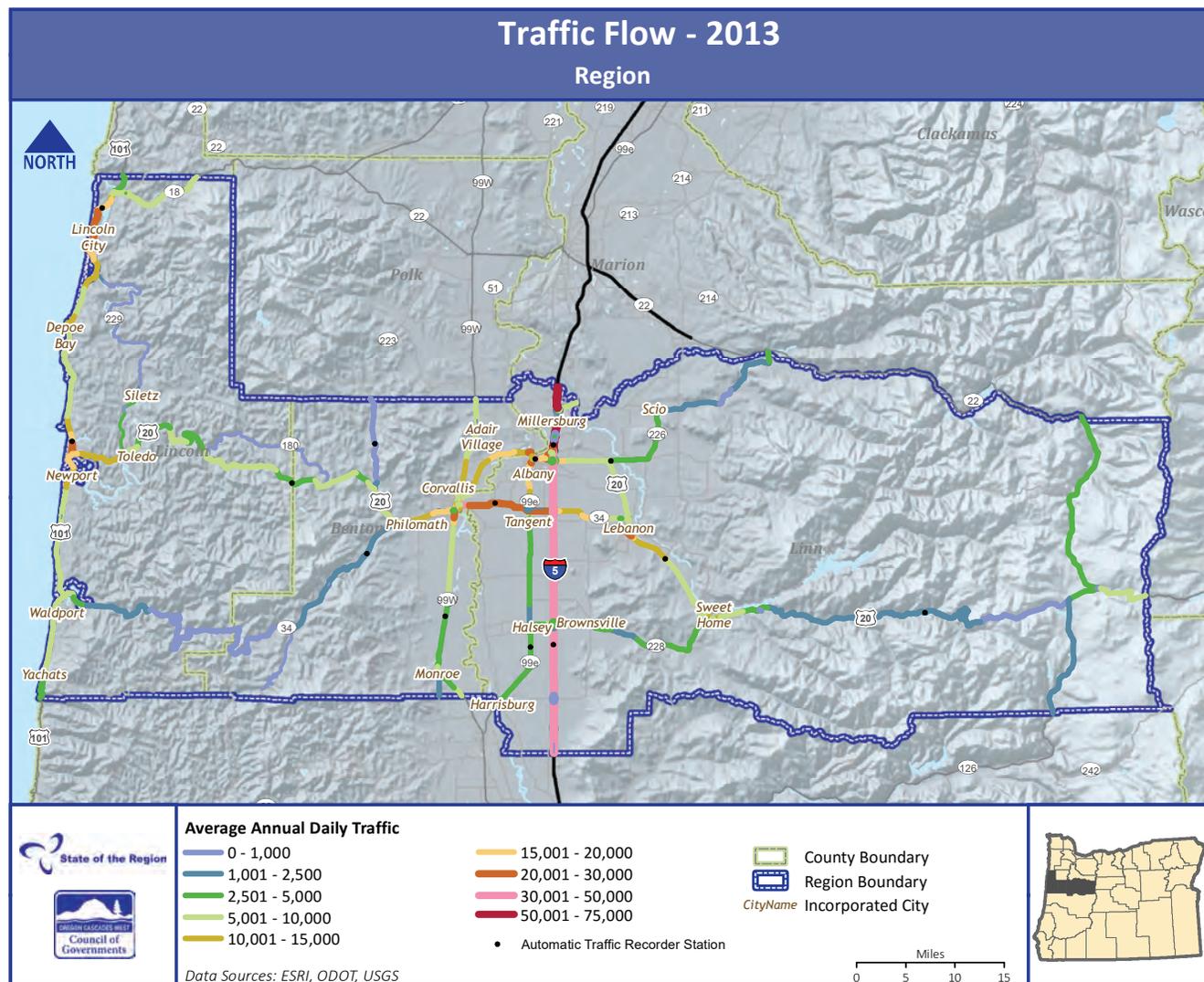
## Time Matters for Workers in the Region



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

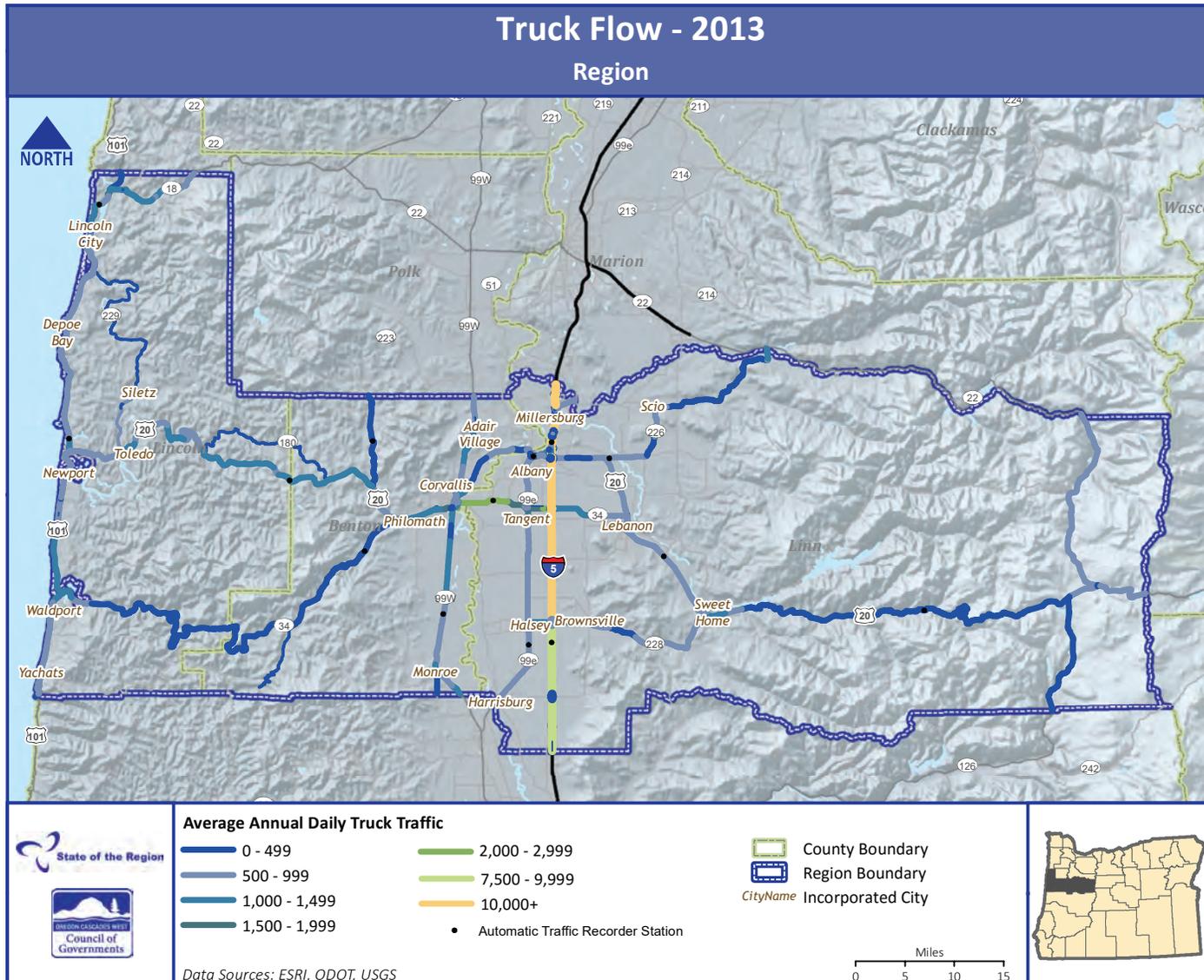
## Traffic Flow

Our region's road network ties together commerce, tourism, and our workforce. According to Oregon Department of Transportation data, in 2013, the largest average daily volume of all vehicle types was on Interstate 5 (I-5), especially north of Albany where there are 50-70,000 vehicles daily. Other high-volume sections were on Highway 34 between Corvallis and I-5; Highway 101 in and around Lincoln City and Newport; Highway 99 in Albany; and Highway 20 in Albany and Lebanon.



## Truck Flow

According to Oregon Department of Transportation, in 2013, the largest average daily annual traffic volume of trucks was on I-5, specifically north of Brownsville where there were more than 10,000 trucks daily. Another high volume section was Highway 34 from Corvallis to I-5.

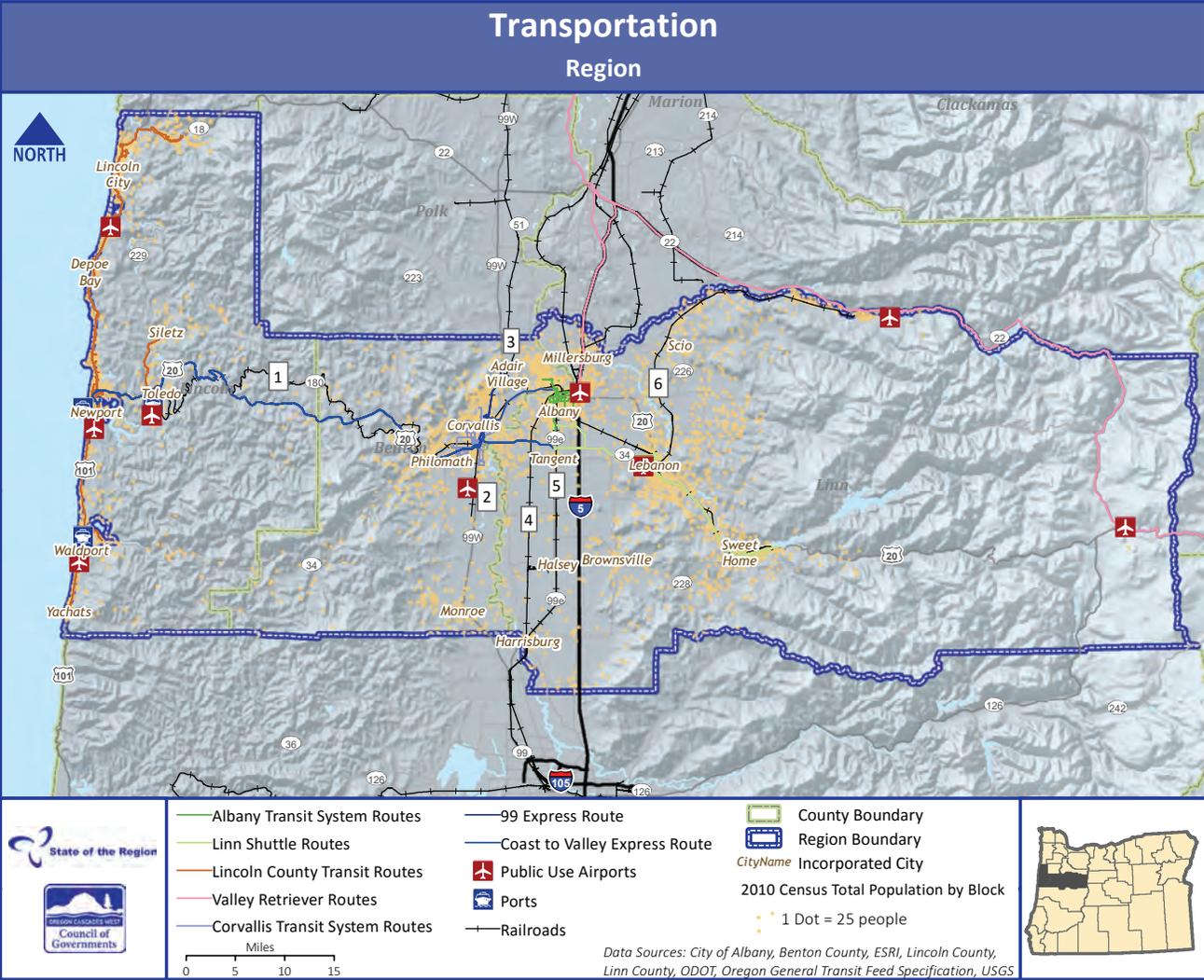


# Transportation Modes in the Region

Transportation services in the region, including transit routes, rail, airports, and seaports are depicted in the map below in relation to population density across the region. It is important to note that the map does not take into account the capacity or frequency of transit services.

### Descriptions of the Rail Lines in the Region<sup>3</sup>

1. *Portland & Western (P&W) Railroad*. 74.7 miles; daily freight service provided; commodities are fiberboard paper, recycled paper, wood chips and dimension lumber.
2. *Albany & Eastern (A&E) Railroad*. Exchanges traffic at Corvallis with P&W Railroad; 5.35 miles; service is provided as necessary; commodities are agricultural products.
3. *P&W Railroad West Side District*. 73.7 miles; Cook (near Tigard) to Corvallis, daily freight service provided; commodities are steel products, ferrous scrap, dimension lumber, newsprint, recycled paper, grain and feed, and fertilizers.
4. *P&W Railroad Oregon Electric District*. 114 miles; Beaverton to Eugene; daily service is provided throughout Linn County and commodities include forest products, cement, aggregates, grain, fertilizer, logs, ethanol and industrial chemicals.
5. *Union Pacific Railroad Brooklyn Subdivision*. 170.1 miles; Portland to Oakridge; integral section of the principal Pacific Coast rail corridor extending from Southern California to Canada; commodities include intermodal (trailers and containers) forest products, automobiles, corn and grain, fertilizers and other chemicals, petroleum products, paper, steel, ferrous scrap, cement, aggregates, and crude oil.
6. *A&E Railroad Main Line*. 49.9 miles; Albany to Lebanon to Mill City; service provided daily between Albany and Lebanon and as necessary to Mill City; commodities include logs, lumber, industrial chemicals and some agricultural products, and ferrous scrap.



## Regional Airports

The table shows the economic impact of airports in the region. Most of our region's residents live over 40 miles or more from the nearest major passenger airport, the Eugene Airport. Airports not only connect people, but also economies.

## Broadband Access and Technology

As of 2014, the region has a higher percentage of the population with higher wired download and upload speeds for all categories of speed when compared to the United States, and most categories of speed when compared to Oregon.

### Economic Contribution to the Oregon Economy by Airport

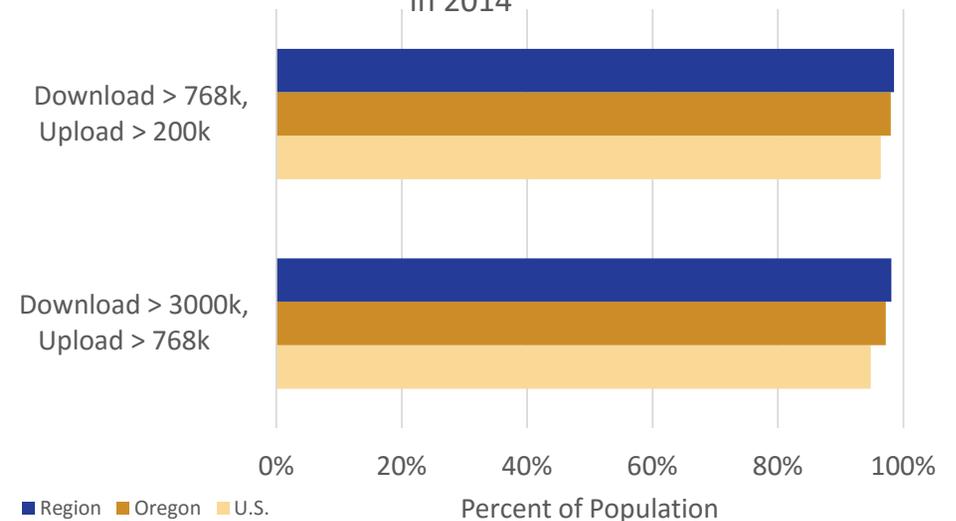
2014 Oregon Aviation Plan Economic Impact Statement for NPIAS Airports (National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems) *including affiliated projects*

Airport Name	Jobs	Payroll	Business Sales
Albany Municipal	44	\$1,729,000	\$6,221,000
Corvallis Municipal	228	\$9,547,000	\$34,854,000
Lebanon State	22	\$926,000	\$2,899,000
Newport Municipal	160	\$8,436,000	\$16,745,000
Siletz Bay State	3	\$66,000	\$213,000

Source: [http://www.oregon.gov/aviation/docs/system\\_plan/2014\\_ODA\\_Economic\\_System\\_Plan\\_Update\\_Final\\_Report.pdf](http://www.oregon.gov/aviation/docs/system_plan/2014_ODA_Economic_System_Plan_Update_Final_Report.pdf)

**99 percent of the population in the region has access to wireless technology, similar to Oregon and the United States.<sup>8</sup>**

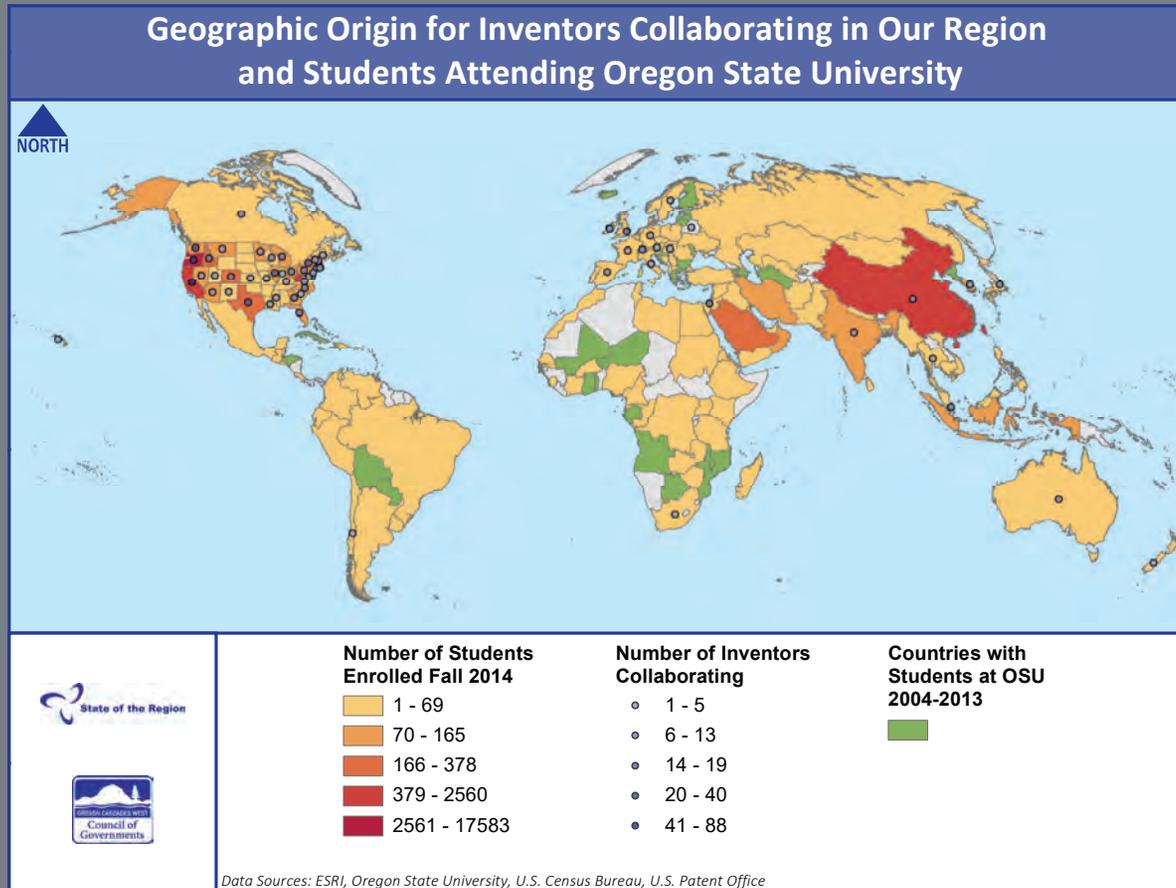
### Availability of Wired Download and Upload Speeds in 2014



Data Source: National Telecommunications and Information Administration, Federal Communications Commission: National Broadband Map

# SECTION 13: LOOKING AHEAD

It is our intention that the data presented in this document and the companion website help lay the groundwork for future conversations about our collective priorities, investments, and vision for the region. The goal of this project is to inform decision-makers in their service to our communities. How will our region grow in the coming decades? How will our land and workforce develop? What challenges are posed by a change in climate? How prepared are we for natural disasters? These questions and countless others can be addressed by research to inform the policies and programs in our region.



## Connections Beyond the Region

Our region's economic activity has a reach far beyond the borders of our counties. Our airports, seaports, and other modes, as shown on page 77, connect us to the state, the greater Northwest, Cascadia, the nation, and the world. For example, some shrimp harvested in Newport makes its way all the way to Denmark, as mentioned on page 58. The map shows the many countries represented in OSU's student body, and also shows the geographic locations of inventors who have collaborated on patents with inventors in our region.

# SECTION 14: APPENDIX

## ABOUT THE DATA

The data in this report come from a variety of sources such as the U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Oregon State University, Oregon Department of Education, and many other federal, state, and local sources. No primary data collection was completed for this document. All data are publicly available from the respective sources; no confidential data were used. Most of the data in this document are based on sample surveys and are subject to sampling variability. Readers are encouraged to refer to the original data sources for details on methodology, including sampling variability, margins of error, and statistical significance. Data in some tables and charts may not add due to rounding (e.g. percentages may add to 99 or 100). The target timeframe for this report is the period from 2004 to 2014, although not all data were available for this reference period. The most recent available data as of July 1, 2015 were used.

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## ACRONYM LIST

A&E	Albany & Eastern Railroad
ACA	Affordable Care Act
ACS	American Community Survey
BEST	Oregon's Built Environment & Sustainable Technologies Center
BLS	U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
BMI	body mass index
btu	British thermal unit
BVCOG	Brazos Valley Council of Governments
CMS	Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
CSA	Community Supported Agriculture
DHS	Department of Human Services
DOC	Department of Commerce
DOE	Department of Energy
DOI	Department of Interior
DOL	Department of Labor
ED	Oregon Department of Education
EPA	Environment Protection Agency
ERS	Economic Research Service
FHWA	Federal Highways Administration
GIS	geographic information system
GSA	Government Services Administration
GTFS	General Transit Feed Specification
HHS	Health and Human Services
I-5	Interstate 5
INH-COO	InterCommunity Health Network Coordinated Care Organization
IHS	Indian Health Services
HRSA	Health Resources and Services Administration
Kwh	kilowatt
LAUS	Local Area Unemployment Statistics
MW	megawatt
NACOG	Northern Arizona Council of Governments
NAICS	North American Industry Classification System
NASA	National Air and Space Administration
NASS	National Agricultural Statistics Service
NEMT	non-emergent medical transportation
NIH	National Institutes of Health
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NPIAS	National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems

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NSF	National Science Foundation
OCWCOG	Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments
ODE	Oregon Department of Energy
ODF	Oregon Department of Forestry
ODOT	Oregon Department of Transportation
OED	Oregon Employment Department
OHP	Oregon Health Plan
ONAMI	Oregon Nanoscience and Microtechnologies Institute
OPRD	Oregon Parks and Recreation Department
OSU	Oregon State University
OTRADI	Oregon Translational Research and Development Institute
P&W	Portland & Western Railroad
PM	particulate matter
PSU	Portland State University
QCEW	Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages
RAIN	Regional Accelerator and Innovation Network
SAHIE	small area health insurance estimates
SICOG	Southeast Idaho Council of Governments
SNAP	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
SSI	Social Security Insurance
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USBLM	United States Bureau of Land Management
USDOD	United States Department of Defense
USFS	United States Forest Service
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	United States Geological Survey
USN	United States Department of the Navy
VA	United States Department of Veterans Affairs
VSO	Veterans Service Office



**State of the Region**