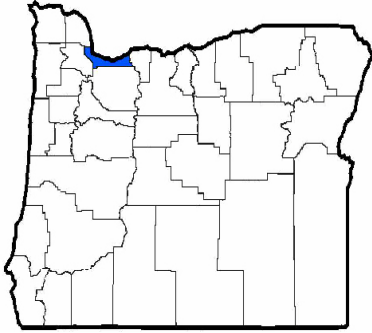


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Introduction



Multnomah County is home to approximately 810,242 residents, making it the most populous county in Oregon. The county is located in Northwestern Oregon where the Columbia and Willamette rivers meet. It is bordered by the State of Washington to the north and is surrounded by Hood River, Clackamas, Washington and Columbia Counties in Oregon. The county seat is Portland, which is also the largest city in Oregon (see page 10 for a detailed map).

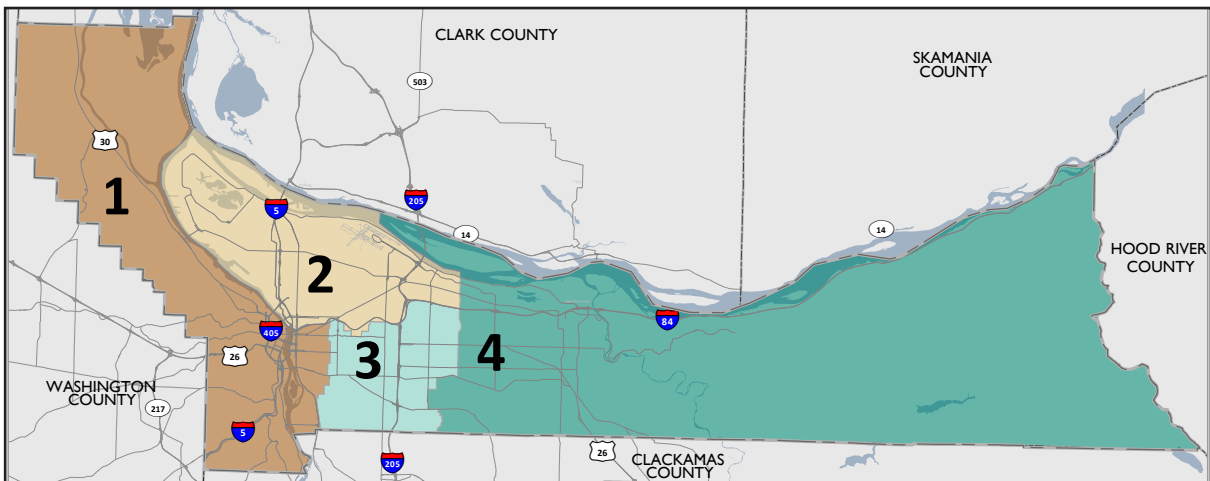
Geographically, Multnomah County is the smallest county in Oregon and includes densely populated urban areas as well as rural land. The county covers 465 square miles, most of which lie in the Willamette Valley between the Cascade Mountains to the east and the Coast Range to the west. The elevation ranges from 77 feet above sea level in Portland to 4,751 feet above sea level at Buck Peak in the Cascade foothills.

Form of County Government

Multnomah County is governed according to its Home Rule Charter. Multnomah County’s legislative body, the Board of County Commissioners, is composed of four non-partisan County Commissioners elected from geographical districts and the County Chair, who is elected at-large and serves as both Chief Administrator and Legislator. The County has three other independently elected positions -- the Sheriff, the District Attorney and the Auditor.

There are 43 governmental taxing districts located wholly or partially inside of Multnomah County. Portland (population 645,316) and Gresham (population 114,833) are the two largest cities in Multnomah County. Other major governmental entities located within Multnomah County include Metro, Portland Public Schools, the Port of Portland, TriMet, and Portland Community College. Overlapping districts share a tax base, infrastructure and services with Multnomah County.

Sources: Portland State University College of Urban and Public Affairs Population Research Center; Tax Supervising & Conservation Commission



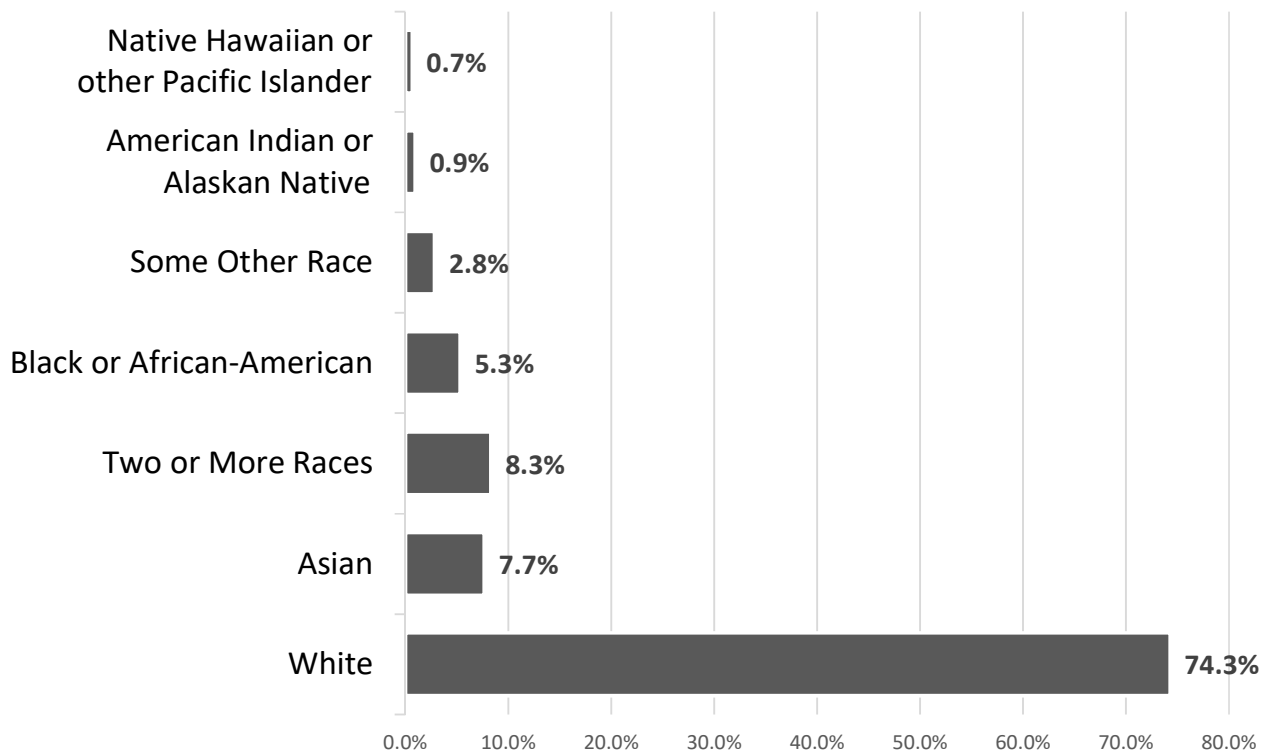
Population

Race and Ethnicity

Multnomah County’s current population is estimated at 810,242 residents, an 11.0% increase since 2010, slightly lower than the 11.8% increase for the state of Oregon as a whole. Multnomah County has a population density of 1,742 people per square mile.

The U.S. Census estimates that in 2021 Multnomah County’s population was 74.3% White, 7.7% Asian, 5.3% Black or African-American, 0.9% American Indian or Alaskan Native, 0.7% Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, 2.8% Other Races, and 8.3% people with two or more races. Approximately 12.1% of the County’s population is Hispanic.

Multnomah County is also home to diverse languages and nationalities. The U.S. Census estimates that 13.5% of residents were born in another country, compared with 9.8% for Oregon as a whole. Almost 20% of county residents over the age of 5 speak a language other than English at home. Of those speaking a language other than English at home, 40.6% speak Spanish.



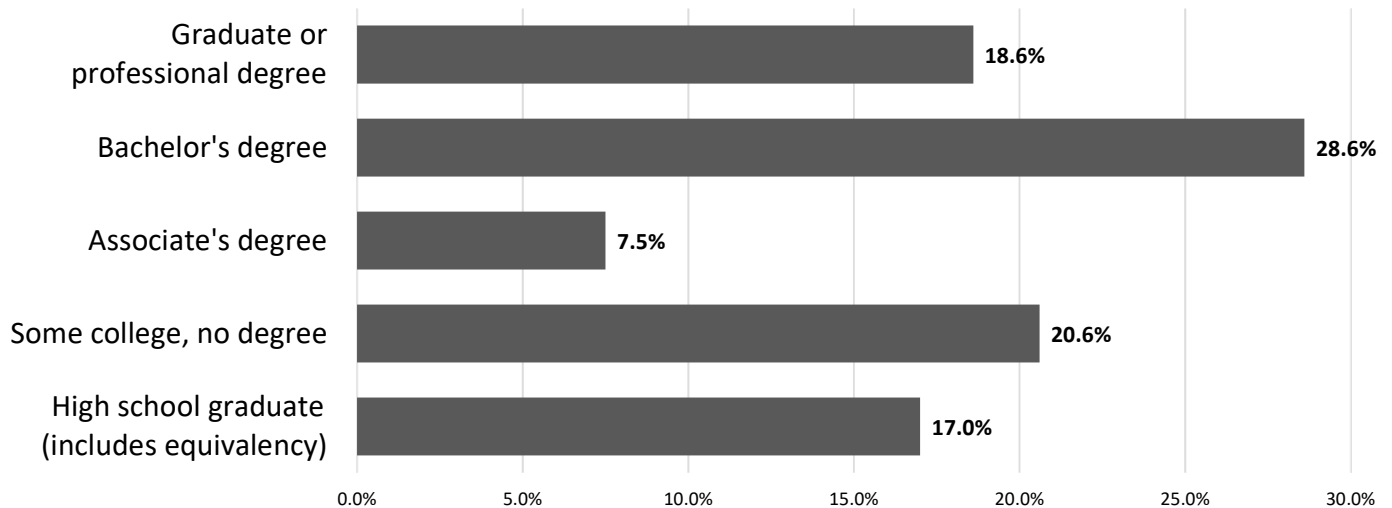
Education

An estimated 88.3% of Multnomah County’s school aged population were enrolled in public schools in 2021. Public school districts in Multnomah County include Portland Public Schools, Parkrose, Reynolds, Gresham-Barlow, Centennial, Corbett, David Douglas, and Riverdale.

There are a number of post-secondary schools in Multnomah County. Portland State University has a total enrollment of 22,014 for the Fall 2022 school year. Multnomah County is also home to Oregon Health Sciences University, which educates health professionals and is a leader in biomedical research. Other colleges include Lewis & Clark College, the University of Portland, and Reed College. Portland Community College and Mount Hood Community College both educate the community and are partially supported by local property taxes.

Multnomah County residents have above average educational achievement for the state of Oregon. In 2021, 47.2% of county residents 25 years or older had achieved a bachelor’s degree or higher compared to 35.0% statewide.

Sources: American Community Survey; Oregon University System; Portland Pulse

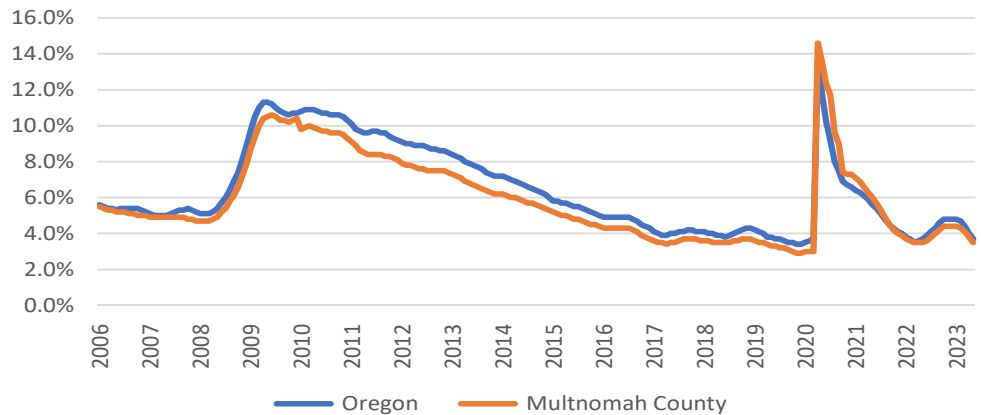


Employment and Industry

Employment

Like the rest of the country, Multnomah County has experienced rapid job growth as industries continue to recover from the pandemic. Total nonfarm employment in the county increased from 456,500 in May 2020 to 511,600 in May 2023 (almost the same as May 2022). The county remains short of the pre-pandemic job count of 538,000. Multnomah County’s unemployment rate remained unchanged at 3.5% in May 2023 as compared to May 2022.

Unemployment Rate



Source: State of Oregon Employment Department

Industry

In 2022, there were 499,801 people employed in Multnomah County. The largest industries are Education and Health Services (121,154 people); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (102,703 people) and Professional and Business Services (89,205 people). Compared to the state of Oregon as a whole, Multnomah County has a high concentration of people working in Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities; as well as Professional and Technical Services.

The Port of Portland operates three airports, four marine terminals, and five business parks. As Oregon’s largest port, it ships over 11 million tons of cargo a year, including grain, minerals, forest products, and autos. Its major trading partners include Japan, South Korea, China, Taiwan and Mexico.

Sources: State of Oregon Employment Department; Port of Portland; World Port Source

Transportation and Infrastructure

Roads and Highways

Portland International Airport

TriMet

Multnomah County is served by an international passenger airport, a local bus and light rail system, and the interstate highway system. According to the 2021 American Community Survey, approximately 55.4% of Multnomah County workers age 16 and older drive alone to work. Approximately 4.0% take public transportation, 6.9% carpool, 27.8% worked from home, 2.1% bike to work, and the remainder get to work by walking or other means of transportation.

Multnomah County is connected to the wider region by seven major highways: Interstates 5, 84, 205, and 405 and U.S. Highways 26, 30, and 99. The County operates and maintains over 275 miles of roads and 24 vehicular bridges, including 6 bridges over the Willamette River.

Portland International Airport is located on the northern border of Multnomah County. Portland International Airport handled 14.2 million domestic and 0.7 million international passengers in 2022. The airport also serves as a regional hub for flights to smaller cities in Oregon and other Western destinations.

The Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District (TriMet) operates approximately 84 bus lines, a light rail system, and a commuter rail system that together connect Multnomah County with neighboring areas. Riders boarded a TriMet bus, MAX train, WES train or LIFT Cab nearly 50.0 million times in FY 2022, up approximately 24.5% from FY 2021.

Sources: American Community Survey; Port of Portland; TriMet



Culture and Recreation

Arts and Entertainment

Recreation

Multnomah County is a regional destination for the visual and performing arts and hosts numerous festivals, concerts, and sporting events every year. The county also has a mild climate and extensive public space for relaxing or exploring.

The county is home to major arts and cultural institutions, including the Lan Su Chinese Garden, Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, the Oregon Symphony, and the Portland Art Museum. Festivals are held year-round in Multnomah County, including the Oregon Seafood and Wine festival, the Portland Rose Festival, the Mt. Hood Jazz Festival, and the Oregon Brewers Festival.

Multnomah County is also home to four professional sports teams: the Portland Trail Blazers (National Basketball Association), the Portland Winterhawks (Western Hockey League), the Portland Thorns (National Women’s Soccer League), and the Portland Timbers (Major League Soccer).

Multnomah County is home to over 37,000 acres of parks and numerous natural areas. The gateway to the scenic Columbia River Gorge is located in eastern Multnomah County. The Gorge is a spectacular river canyon, 80 miles long and up to 4,000 feet deep, with numerous areas for hiking, camping, boating, and day trips. Portland’s Forest Park, the largest urban forested natural area in the nation, covers over 5,000 acres of urban land and has over 80 miles of trails. The county also houses Portland’s International Rose Test Garden, the oldest continually operating public rose test garden in the nation, and Mill Ends Park, one of the world’s smallest public parks at 452 square inches.



Climate

Multnomah County typically has a mild climate that is heavily moderated by the Pacific Ocean. January and February are typically the coldest months with an average low of 36 degrees Fahrenheit. July and August are the hottest months with an average high of 81 degrees Fahrenheit. Multnomah County experiences greater cloud cover and precipitation during winter months – there is an average of 5.49 inches of precipitation in December, while the average for August is 0.67 inches.

Fun Facts

- Portland’s name came from the results of a coin toss by founders Asa Lovejoy from Boston, Massachusetts, and Francis Pettygrove of Portland, Maine who wanted to name the city after their hometowns.
- There is no sales tax in Oregon.
- “The Simpsons” creator Matt Groening’s hometown is Portland and many of the show’s characters are named after Portland streets and locations.
- The Portland Saturday Market is the country’s largest continuously operating open-air crafts market.
- Renowned children’s authors Beverly Cleary and Renée Watson grew up in Multnomah County and set many of their respective novels here.
- Powell’s City of Books, which occupies an entire downtown Portland block, is the world’s largest independent bookstore.
- The sculpture Portlandia, located on the Portland building in downtown Portland, is the second largest hammered copper statue in the country, second only to the Statue of Liberty.

Sources: U.S. Climate Data, Travel Portland, PortlandNeighborhood.com



Meet Multnomah County

fy2024 adopted budget

