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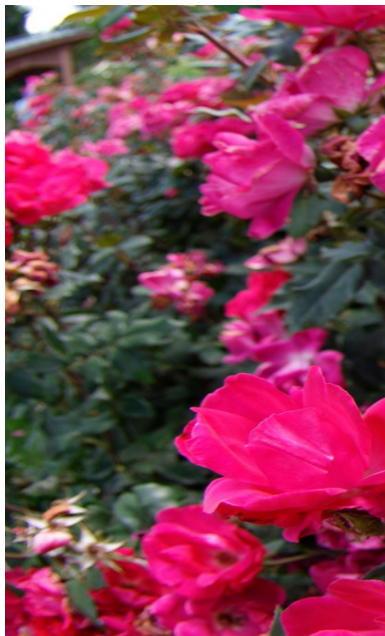
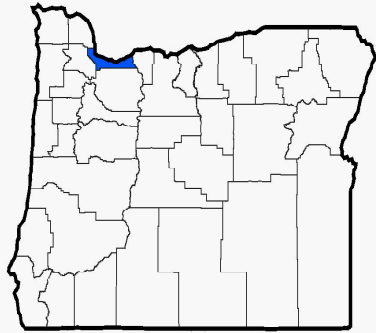


Photo Credit: John Biehler



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Introduction



Multnomah County was named after the Multnomah (or Mulknoman) Indians of the Chinookan Tribe that inhabited Sauvie Island on the Columbia River. The County is located in Northwest Oregon at the confluence of the Columbia and Willamette rivers. It is bordered by Clark County and Skamania County in Washington as well as Hood River County, Clackamas County, Washington County and Columbia County in Oregon.

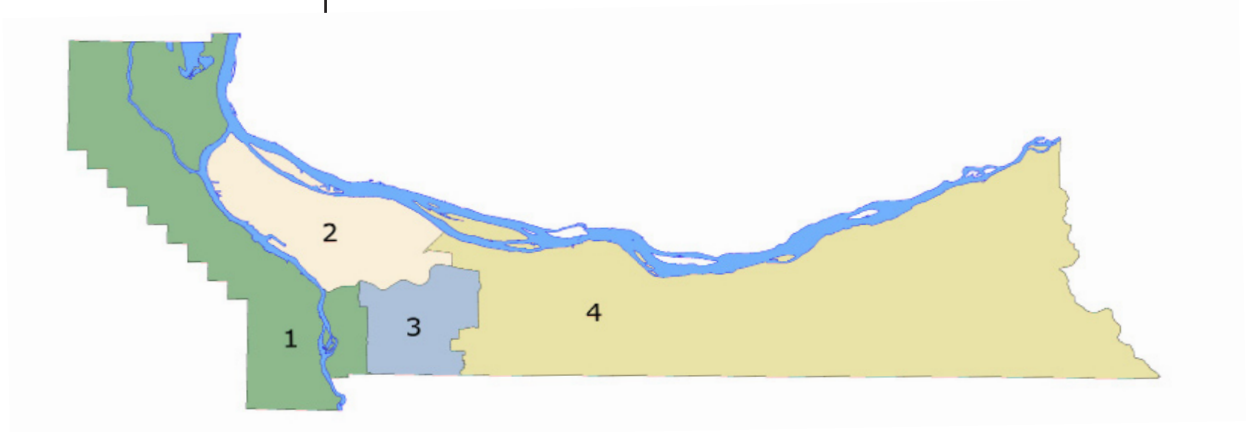
Multnomah County is geographically the smallest county in Oregon but the most populous, making up about 18.9% of the total state population. The County covers 465 square miles, most of which lie in the Willamette Valley, between the Cascade Mountains to the east and the Coast Range to the west. The elevation ranges from 77 feet above sea level in Portland to 322 feet in Gresham and 1,224 feet at Big Bend Mountain in the Cascade foothills.

Some points of interest include the Blue Lake Park, the Columbia River Gorge, Multnomah Falls, the Oregon Convention Center, the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, the Oregon History Center, the Oregon Zoo, Portland city parks, Pittock Mansion and the Portland Art Museum.

Form of County Government

Multnomah County is governed according to its Home Rule Charter which was adopted in 1967. The governing body is composed of four non-partisan County Commissioners elected from geographical districts and the County Chair who is elected from the county at large. The County Chair acts as both the administrator and legislator while the rest of the Commissioners perform legislative duties.

The County has three other independently elected positions, Sheriff, District Attorney and Auditor.



Population

	Multnomah County	Portland Metro Area
2000	662,400	1,935,960
2001	666,350	1,960,500
2002	670,250	1,989,550
2003	677,850	2,019,250
2004	685,950	2,050,650
2005	692,825	2,082,240
2006	701,545	2,121,910
2007	710,025	2,159,720
2008	717,880	2,191,785

Source: Portland State University

Population by Race and Ethnicity

The population as of July 1st, 2008 was 717,880 according to the Portland State University Census. This represents an 8.4% increase since July 1st, 2000. Multnomah County's population density is 1,543 people per square mile. Of the ten counties nationwide with the most comparable population size to Multnomah County, it has above average population density.

Multnomah County is growing at a slightly slower rate than the state of Oregon which has grown 10.3% since July 1st, 2000. Portland and Gresham are the largest cities in Multnomah County. Other cities include: Fairview, Lake Oswego (a small portion, mostly located Clackamas County) Maywood Park, Troutdale, and Wood Village.

Since 2000, the fastest growing race or ethnicity in the County has been the Hispanic population which has grown 51.1% since 2000, followed by the American Indian/Alaskan population at a rate of 21.7%.

Multnomah County	2000	2007	% Change
Black	34,624	38,895	12.3%
White	495,538	518,390	4.6%
Asian and Pacific Islander	39,804	44,686	12.3%
American Indian and Alaskan	3,920	4,770	21.7%
Some other race	1,731	1,288	-25.6%
2 or more races	19,605	20,572	4.9%
Hispanic, any race(s)	48,576	73,385	51.1%
TOTAL	643,798	701,986	9.0%

Source: American Community Survey

According to the American Community Survey (ACS) 14% of people living in Multnomah County from 2005-2007 were foreign born. Of people at least five years old living in the County, 19% spoke a language other than English at home. Of those speaking a language other than English at home, 44% spoke Spanish and 56% spoke some other language.

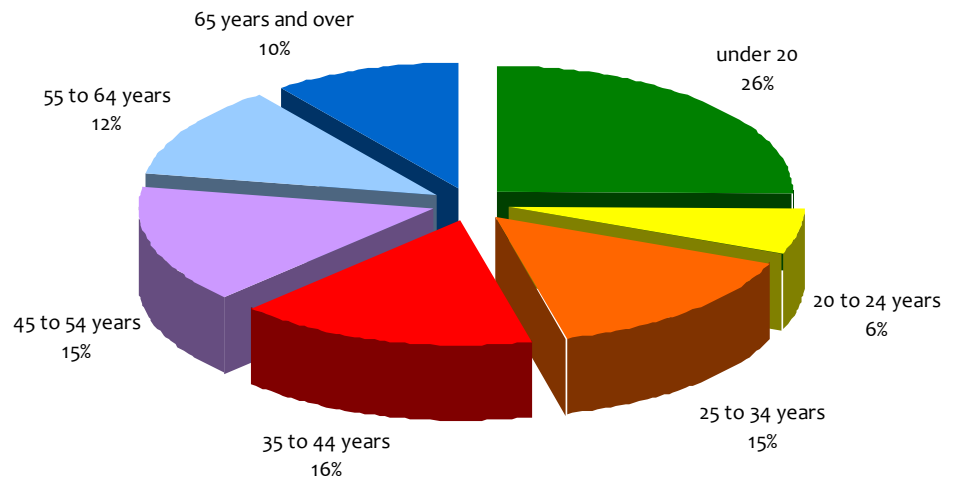
Age Trends

Like the rest of the country, the age trend in Multnomah County is shifting toward older age groups. The proportion of the population age 45 to 54 has grown 3.4% since 2000, and the 55 to 59 age group has grown 55.0%.

All reported age groups under the age of 20 have remained relatively constant, while the proportion of the 20 to 24 age group has experienced

a 21.0% decline since 2000. The 25 to 34 group dropped by 14.0% since 2000. Those 65+ declined by 6.0%.

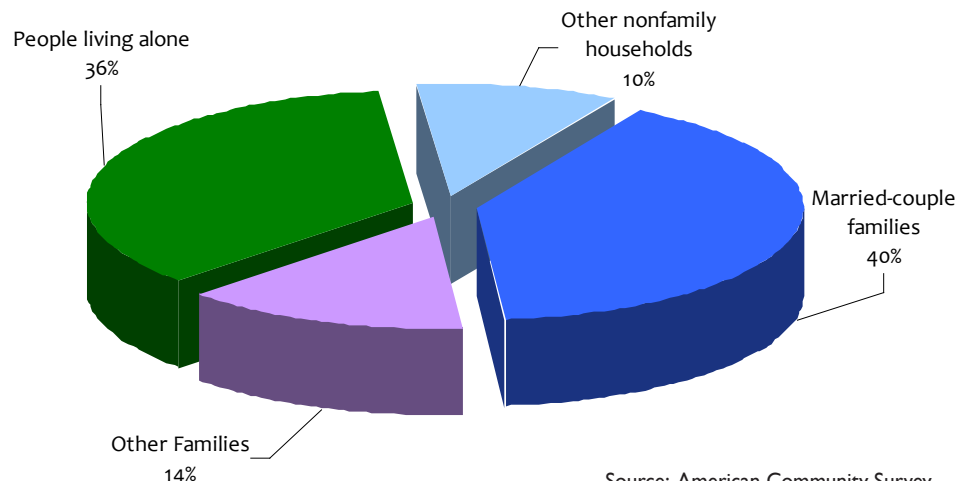
The median age of people living in Multnomah County in 2007 was 36.9 years compared to 34.9 in 2000.



Source: American Community Survey

Households and Families

From 2005-2007 there were 287,000 households in Multnomah County with an average size of 2.3 people. Families made up 55% of those households including married-couple families (40%) and other families (14%). Nonfamily households made up the other 45%. Most of the nonfamily households were people living alone, but some were people living in households where no one was related.



Source: American Community Survey

Employment

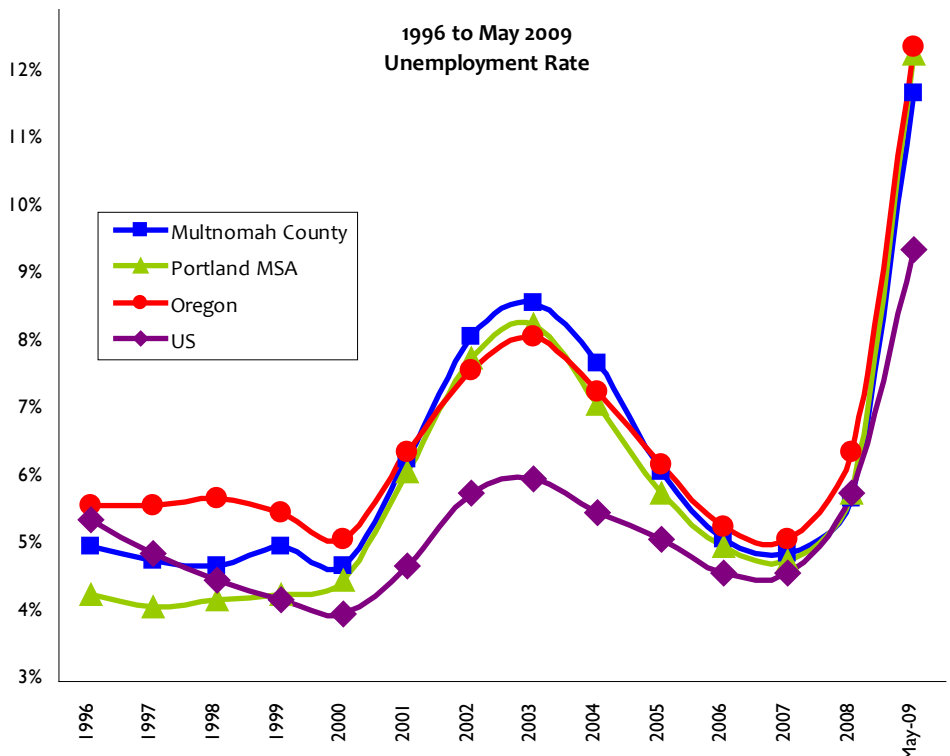
Unemployment Rate

The Multnomah County unemployment rate has closely mirrored the Oregon and Portland Metro Area rates. Like the state and the nation, Multnomah County experienced an increase in the jobless rate from 2001 to 2003 and starting again in late 2008.

Year	United States	Oregon	Portland Metro Area	Multnomah County
2000	4.0%	5.1%	4.5%	4.7%
2001	4.7%	6.4%	6.1%	6.3%
2002	5.8%	7.6%	7.8%	8.1%
2003	6.0%	8.1%	8.3%	8.6%
2004	5.5%	7.3%	7.1%	7.7%
2005	5.1%	6.2%	5.8%	6.2%
2006	4.6%	5.4%	5.1%	5.2%
2007	4.6%	5.2%	4.9%	4.9%
2008	5.8%	6.4%	5.8%	5.7%
May 2009	9.4%	12.4%	12.3%	11.7%

Source: Oregon Labor Market Information System (OLMIS)

Currently, Oregon is experiencing an unemployment rate that is higher than the rest of the nation, and Multnomah County has seen the rate almost double over the past year. Most larger sectors have suffered job losses over the past year. The Oregon Office of Economic Analysis's latest forecast (March 2009) predicts statewide employment will decline by 4.3 percent in 2009, followed by a very weak start in 2010. They do not anticipate any appreciable job growth until the latter half of 2010.

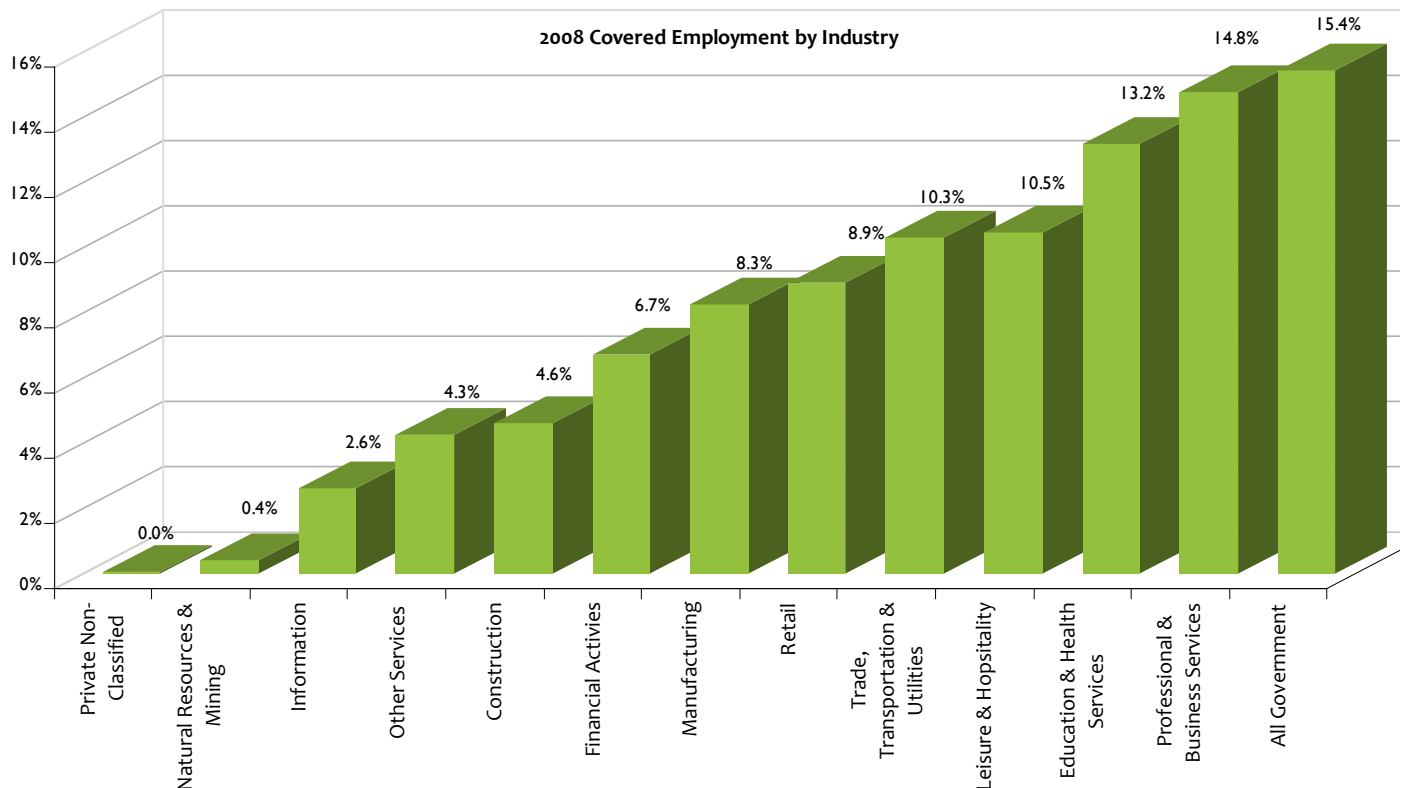


Industries

In 2008, the three most common industries in Multnomah County were government (including federal, state and local) at 15.4%, professional and business services (including scientific and technical services and management companies) at 14.8%, and education and health services at 13.2%.

Industry	Firms	Employees	Average Pay
Private Non-Classified	199	171	\$44,925
Natural Resources & Mining	79	1,825	\$32,151
Information	643	11,721	\$70,519
Other Services	3,511	19,170	\$30,597
Construction	2,160	20,738	\$55,635
Financial Activities	2,885	30,316	\$60,944
Manufacturing	1,214	37,220	\$49,275
Retail	2,846	40,177	\$27,285
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	2,932	39,367	\$50,458
Leisure & Hospitality	2,789	47,068	\$19,948
Education & Health Services	2,944	59,219	\$43,987
Professional & Business Services	5,255	66,481	\$57,906
All Government	527	69,474	\$51,107
TOTAL	27,984	442,947	\$45,992

Source: Oregon Labor Market Information System (OLMIS)



Income

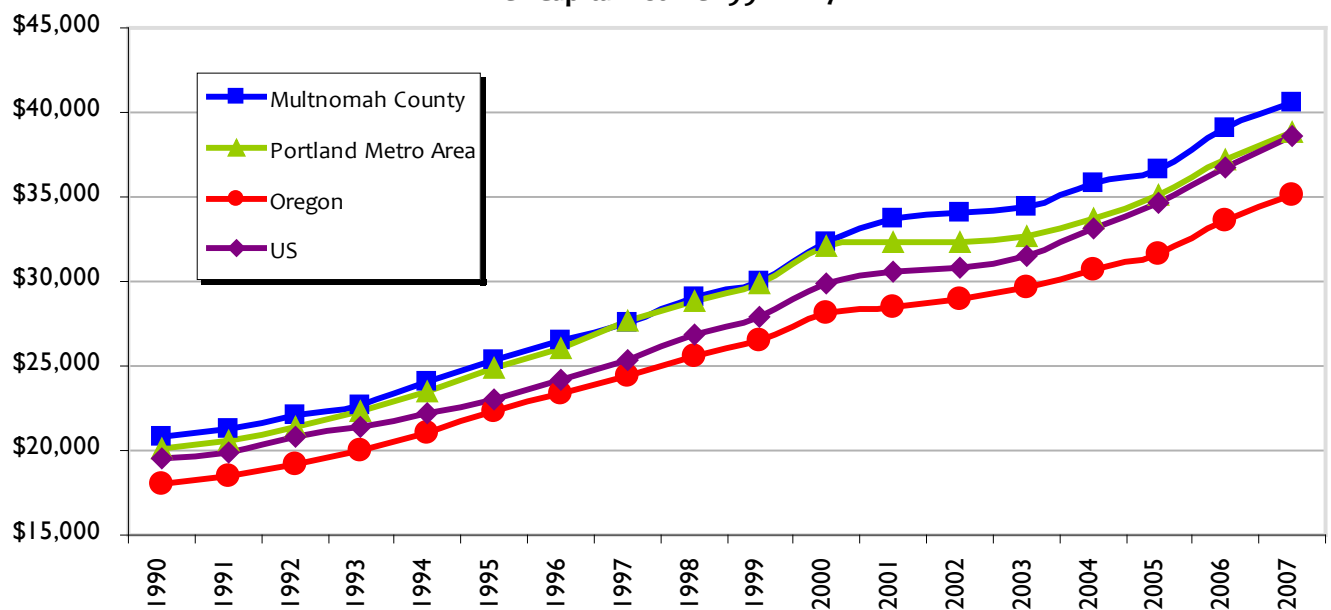
Year	Multnomah County
2000	\$32,314
2001	\$33,728
2002	\$34,100
2003	\$34,436
2004	\$35,757
2005	\$36,650
2006	\$39,017
2007	\$40,598

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

The per capita income grew well below the rate of inflation during the 2002 to 2004 period resulting in a decline in real income. This happened at the same time as higher unemployment rates and a general brief economic recession were occurring. However, from 2005 to 2006, income grew at a higher rate (6.4%), outpacing inflation (2.6%), resulting in an increase in real income. It is expected that real income will experience another decline between 2007 and 2009.

Multnomah County has the 2nd highest per capita income in the state behind Clackamas County. Over the past few years, the County's per capita income has grown at a faster rate than the Portland metro area, the state and the nation; however in 2007 the County lagged the Metro area by almost half a percent and the nation by almost a full percent.

Per Capita Income 1990-2007



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

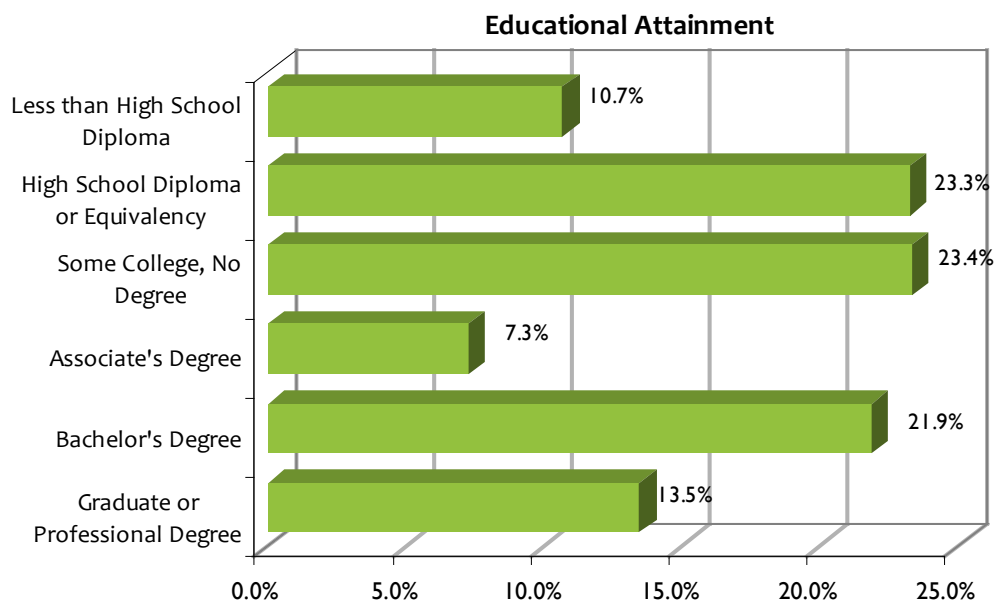
Education

In the Portland metropolitan area, there are several post-secondary educational systems. Portland State University (PSU) is one of the largest located near downtown. PSU is noted for programs specifically designed to meet the needs of the urban center. Oregon State University and the University of Oregon are located outside of the metro area but both have field offices and extension activities in the Portland metropolitan area. Portland is also home to Oregon Health Sciences University (OHSU). Sitting on 116 acres in the hills west of downtown, OHSU is dedicated to the education of health professionals, and is also a leader in biomedical research, receiving \$100 million annually in research grants.

Independent colleges in Multnomah County include Lewis & Clark College, the University of Portland, Reed College, and Marylhurst University, as well as three smaller church-affiliated schools: Warner Pacific College, Concordia University, and Columbia Christian College.

In 2007, the total school enrollment for the County population in school over 3 years old was 173,600, 6% nursery/preschool, 62% K-12 and 32% post-secondary.

Multnomah County residents are the most educated in the state, 88% of people 25 years and over had graduated from high school, and 35% had a bachelor's degree. Twelve percent were not enrolled and had not graduated from high school.



Source: American Community Survey

Transportation and Distribution

Port of Portland

Multnomah County and the Portland metropolitan area form a transportation hub for the Pacific Northwest. This network supports a broad range of industry needs. The region's system provides integrated highway, railroad, and airport facilities, as well as river barges linked to the third-highest volume waterborne exports port on the West Coast. Multnomah County contains seven major highways: Interstates 5, 84, 205, and 405, U.S. Highways 26, 30, and 99.

The Port of Portland is a port district for Multnomah, Clackamas, and Washington counties. It operates a system of four airports, designed to meet the needs of both commercial aviation and smaller personal and business aircraft. Portland International, a full-services international airport, lies just 11 miles from downtown. Passenger airlines and cargo carriers provide services to over 120 cities worldwide. In April 2008, the total number of airline passengers year to date was nearly 4.5 million, a 5.2% increase over the previous year.

Tri-Met and the Regional Light Rail System - MAX

The Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District (Tri-Met), the regional public transit agency, provides 91 bus lines to approximately 600 square miles of the metropolitan area. TriMet operates a comprehensive transit network including a 44-mile, 64-station Metropolitan Area Express (MAX) light rail system. MAX currently has Blue, Red and Yellow lines with Green under construction and Orange in the planning stages. The lines connect Portland, Gresham, Beaverton, Hillsboro and the Portland Airport. Trains run every 5-15 minutes between 5 a.m. and midnight. Since its inception nearly \$6 billion has been invested in new development within walking distance of the MAX stations. According to Tri-Met, ridership is at a current record level of over 96.9 million riders in FY 2007.



Commuting to Work

The percent of commuters over 16 that report they walk to work has grown by nearly 8% since 2000 and those who worked from home has increased by 41%. Those who report that they drive alone increased by 7.9% since 2000.

Commuting to Work	2000	2007	% Change since 2000
Car, truck, or van -- drove alone	65.2%	66.7%	7.9%
Car, truck, or van -- carpooled	12.0%	9.8%	-14.0%
Public transportation (no taxi)	11.9%	10.0%	-10.9%
Walked	3.8%	3.9%	8.3%
Other means	2.8%	4.0%	50.4%
Worked at home	4.2%	5.6%	41.0%
Mean travel time to work (min)	23.7	24.5	3.4%

Source: American Community Survey

Arts, Culture and Entertainment

The Portland metropolitan area is home to major theater, music, and dance companies, and plays host to scores of festivals, concerts, and sporting events every year. Beer, food, and wine festivals occur regularly, from the Oregon Seafood and Wine festival in February, through the Bite of Oregon in August, to the Holiday Ale Festival in December. Popular summer festivals include the Portland Rose Festival, the Waterfront Blues Festival, the Mt. Hood Jazz Festival, and September's Time-Based Art Festival. The Oregon Symphony and Oregon Zoo offer summertime concerts. "First Thursday" art walks through Portland-area art galleries showcase the area's thriving visual arts scene.

Columbia River Gorge



Photo Credit: Frank Kovalchek

The gateway to the Columbia River Gorge is located between Oregon and Washington in Multnomah County about an hour outside of Portland. The Gorge is a spectacular river canyon, 80 miles long and up to 4,000 feet deep, cutting the only sea level route through the Cascade Mountain Range. More than just a natural wonder; the Gorge is a critical transportation corridor and is home to 75,000 people, resource dependent communities, farms and schools.

The Gorge features many locations for hiking, camping, day trips and other outdoor activities. The hiking trails include viewpoints, waterfalls and points of interest. There are over 13 noteworthy waterfall attractions in the Gorge, the largest of which is Multnomah Falls which features a 1.2 mile trail that climbs 600 feet to the top. There is also a lodge, restaurant and visitor center.

Entertainment Districts

There are five major entertainment districts in Portland. Downtown Cultural Districts features art galleries and the Portland Art District including First Thursday, a night of food, wine and art. The Pearl District/ Northwest is home to the Portland Art Dealers Association and the Portland Institute of Contemporary Art. The Old Town/ Chinatown district features the Classic Chinese Garden and the Saturday Market — the largest continuously operated open-air arts and crafts market in the nation. Rain or shine, the market is open Saturday and Sunday from March through Christmas Eve. The North/ Northeast district has prominent sites such as Art on Alberta or “last Thursday” which features local artists and performers and the Kennedy School, a circa 1912 schoolhouse-turned-hotel/restaurant/movie theater/bar/performance space. The fifth is the Southeast district which features many theaters, performances and a large art district.

Sports

The Portland Trail Blazers are a member of the National Basketball Association (NBA) Western Division. They became franchised in 1970 and won the national title in 1977. Also in Multnomah County are the Portland Beavers baseball team which is a member of the Pacific Coast league and the Portland Timbers soccer team, which is a member of the United Soccer Leagues First Division. The Portland Winter Hawks are the professional hockey team and compete in the Western Hockey League. There are a variety of other, smaller sports teams in Portland and the surrounding area.



Photo Credit: Anne Oeldorf

Fun Facts

- Portland was almost named Boston. City founders Asa Lovejoy from Boston, Massachusetts, and Francis Pettygrove of Portland, Maine wanted to name the city after their hometowns. Unable to agree, they flipped a coin, now known as the “Portland Penny”. Pettygrove won.
- There is no sales tax in Oregon.
- There are 37,000 acres (14,973 hectares) of parks in the Portland metro area including both the largest and smallest parks located in urban areas in the nation.
- Many of the characters in The Simpsons are named after streets and locations in Portland. Simpsons’ creator Matt Groening’s hometown.
- The Portland Saturday Market is the largest continuously operating open-air crafts market in the United States.
- Powell’s City of Books, occupying an entire city block, is the world’s largest independent bookstore.
- The Port of Portland is the largest wheat export port in the US.
- Portland’s International Rose Test Garden is the oldest in the nation.
- More Asian elephants (27 to date) have been born in Portland than in any other North American city.
- Portland is the beer capital of the world, with 32 breweries inside the city’s limits — more than any other city in the world. If you count the entire Portland metro area, the number jumps to 38.
- The Oregon Brewers Festival, held on Portland’s waterfront, is the largest gathering of independent brewers in North America.
- Oregon is one of just two states where everyone enjoys the luxury of having their gas pumped for them. It’s the law!



Photo Credit: Trevor Miller