


Washington County is the economic engine of the state of Oregon. With lower than average unemployment and poverty rates and higher than average median household income, Washington County compares favorably with other areas in most economic indicators. However, a significant and growing number of Washington County residents are struggling to afford their family's basic needs.

Our community is strongest when everyone thrives. Despite our relative good fortune, the population of families and individuals struggling to make ends meet has grown significantly faster than the overall population. As our community continues to grow and change, we have the opportunity to make choices that secure our future by addressing the existing inequities and building systems that ensure access to opportunity for all our community members. In order to more fully understand the challenges before us and how we may work together to address them, Community Action has compiled data from a wide variety of sources to examine the complex and interrelated causes and conditions of poverty in our community.

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## What is poverty?

The word "poverty" is used generally to describe the lack of economic means to meet basic needs such as food, water, sanitation, clothing, housing and health care. Poverty can be described both in objective terms of how it is measured as well as the more subjective terms of how it is experienced by people in different communities.

Poverty is measured by examining household income compared to a standardized level of income inadequacy determined by the federal government. The Federal Poverty Guidelines, established by the US Department of Health and Human Services, are used to determine eligibility for assistance. The Federal Poverty Guidelines are commonly referred to as the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). The FPL is the income level below which a household is considered in poverty and varies by household size. The FPL is based on the cost of the US Department of Agriculture's Economy Food Plan. The level was originally established in 1963 by multiplying the cost of the Economy Food Plan by three because research showed that at that time most households spent about a third of their income on food. Since then, the level has at been updated annually based on the Consumer Price Index. ${ }^{1}$

While the Federal Poverty Guidelines take into account family size, they do not take into account regional differences in costs nor do they consider housing or child care expenses which are the major cost drivers in most household budgets in the modern economy. Thus, many households in Washington County with incomes well above the poverty guidelines still struggle to afford their basic needs and thus experience conditions of poverty.

The Federal Poverty Level provides a measure of income inadequacy - the income level below which a family would not be able to afford basic human needs. Conversely, the Self Sufficiency Standard provides a measure of adequacy - the level at which a family is able to afford all basic needs without assistance in Washington County. The Self Sufficiency Standard was last updated in 2014 and was produced by the Center for Women's Welfare at the University Of Washington in partnership with WorkSystems, Inc. ${ }^{2}$

In 2015, almost 40\% of adults
in poverty were working at
least part-time.

Figure 1 compares the Federal Poverty Level to the Self-Sufficiency Standard for Washington County and various income levels to demonstrate the challenge of income adequacy in our community. As is evident in the chart, families need income well above the Federal Poverty Level and even above the 2015 Median Earnings for Washington County to be self-sufficient. While it seems reasonable to assume that people who are working should be able to afford their family's basic needs, that is simply not the case for many families in our community. Recent increases to the State minimum wage ensure that an individual working full time has income above the poverty guidelines for a family of 3 . However, having a job does not prevent all people from experiencing poverty. Because minimum wage jobs often involve shift work and inconsistant schedules, many households remain underemployed. In fact, in 2015 almost $40 \%$ of adults in poverty were working at least part-time. ${ }^{3}$

Further, as evidenced in Figure 1, an income above the poverty guidelines does not necessarily prevent a household from experiencing conditions of poverty. Even at the 2015 median earnings, a single adult with two children earns 50 to $60 \%$ of the income needed for their family to meet the self-sufficiency standard. The 2017 Fair Market Rent for a two bedroom apartment alone would consume $41 \%$ of the monthly earnings of an individual earning the median. ${ }^{4}$

FIGURE 1
SELFSUFFICIENCY STANDARD VS. INCOME LEVELS


More than 1 in 10 Washington
County residents live with
income below the Federal

## Poverty Level.

## Who experiences poverty?

Washington County has experienced significant growth and change. From 1970 to 2010, the total population more than tripled - growing at a rate more than 4 times faster than that of the United States and nearly three times the rate of the State of Oregon. Over the same time period, the population of individuals living with income below the Federal Poverty Level has grown nearly 500\%, 7 times faster than the United States and more than 3 times faster than Oregon. ${ }^{5}$ According to the 2015 American Community Survey, more than 1 in 10 (11\%) Washington County residents (60,224 individuals) live with income below the Federal Poverty Level. ${ }^{6}$

The burden of poverty is disproportionately shouldered by families with children, people of color, people with disabilities, and adults with less than a high school education. Figure 3 compares the different rates of poverty for various sub groups and household types within the community.

Since 2000, the population of individuals with income below the Federal Poverty level has increased nearly three times as fast as the overall population and children in poverty, more than twice as fast. Over the same time period, the population of people of color in poverty has increased nearly six times faster than the overall population. While older adults represent a relatively small percentage of the overall poverty population, the number of seniors in poverty is also increasing at an accelerated rate. ${ }^{7}$

Members of communities of color experience poverty at twice the rate experienced by individuals that identify as white. The disproportionate impact of poverty is most significantly felt by the Hispanic population and Hispanic children in particular. One in 3 Hispanic children under 18 in Washington County live in poverty compared to one in eighteen of their white classmates. ${ }^{8}$

FIGURE 2
POVERTY RATE BY POPULATION (Individuals)


FIGURE 3
POVERTY RATE BY POPULATION (Families)


FIGURE 4
TRENDS


The population of people of
color in poverty has increased nearly six times faster than the overall population.


FIGURE 6
WASHINGTON COUNTY POPULATION 574,326


FIGURE 7
WASHINGTON COUNTY POVERTY POPULATION 60,224


# Health, happiness and economic stability are intrinsically linked. 

## HEALTH

In Washington County and across the state of Oregon, good physical and mental health is strongly correlated to income. Poverty reduction and improving public health is a two-way relationship: poverty makes people more susceptible to health problems, and poor health is a contributing factor that leads to poverty.

## Chronic Stress

According to the American Psychological Association (APA) chronic stress, a long term form of stress, derives from unending feelings of despair/hopelessness, as a result of factors such as poverty, family dysfunction, feelings of helplessness, and/or traumatic early childhood experience. ${ }^{9}$ Chronic stressors associated with health disparities include perceived discrimination, neighborhood stress, daily stress, family stress, acculturative stress, environmental stress, and maternal stress. ${ }^{10}$ The 2016 Community Health Needs Assessment published by the Healthy Columbia Willamette collaborative identified the three most frequently diagnosed chronic conditions among low-income adults across the metro area were hypertension/high blood pressure, diabetes and depression. All of these conditions are also associated with chronic stress.

## Oral Health

Oral health is essential to general health and well-being. Poor oral health can impact a person's ability to speak and eat, result in infection and pain, lead to adverse pregnancy outcomes and can impact self-esteem and even employability. ${ }^{11}$ According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Oregon adults with income less than \$15,000 per year are less likely to access dental care than adults at all other income levels. Oregon children in low-income families have higher dental disease rates and higher percentages of unmet dental need than their higher-income peers. ${ }^{12}$ In a survey of individuals accessing Community Action services in 2017, access to dental care was the most frequently identified resource need for all populations.

## FIGURE 8

ADULTS AGES 18+ WHO DID NOT VISIT A DENTIST OR DENTAL CLINIC IN THE LAST YEAR


FIGURE 9
ADULTS AGES 65+ WHO HAVE LOST 6 OR MORE TEETH DUE TO TOOTH DECAY/GUM DISEASE


## Obesity

In the United States, childhood obesity has more than doubled in children and tripled in adolescents in the past 30 years. Childhood obesity has immediate and long-term consequences. Obese youth are more likely to have cardiovascular disease risk factors such as high cholesterol or high blood pressure. Obese adolescents are more likely to have prediabetes. Children and adolescents who are obese are at greater risk for bone and joint problems, sleep apnea, and social and psychological problems such as stigmatization and poor self-esteem.

FIGURE 10
OVERWEIGHT AND OBESITY RATES BY HOUSEHOLD INCOME


## Tobacco Use

Studies have shown that economic status is the single greatest predictor of tobacco use. Americans living below the federal poverty line are 40 percent more likely to smoke than those living at or above the federal poverty line. Oregon adults who have lower income or have not finished high school are 1.8 times more likely to smoke than Oregonians whose income is above the poverty line and have higher than a high school education. ${ }^{13}$

## The causes and impacts of poverty can begin to take shape even before birth.

## PRENATAL/BIRTH

The causes and impacts of poverty can begin to take shape even before birth. Adequate prenatal care is essential for healthy pregnancy and birth and can reduce the risk of negative birth outcomes such as premature birth, low birth weight and even infant death. ${ }^{14}$ Premature birth and low birth weight increase risk for immediate and long term health problems. Women who are low-income, unmarried or have less than a high school education are less likely to have had adequate prenatal care.

Maternal stress has a significant impact on long-term health outcomes for babies. Maternal stress has been associated with increased rates of infant mortality, low birth weight and preterm birth, all of which may have long term consequences for health and development throughout childhood to adulthood. ${ }^{15}$

More than one in five babies born in Washington County in goes home to a family with income below the Federal Poverty Level. ${ }^{16}$ Inadequate income can make it more challenging for a family to provide a stimulating, safe and stable environment for their baby. The additional stress of providing for an infant on a very low income, without the support of a partner or when the child has health issues can increase the likelihood of adverse childhood experiences.

FIGURE 11
BIRTHS AND FIVE YEAR OLDS


[^1]
# Our community prospers when our youngest members are well cared for and prepared for school success. 

## EARLY CHILDHOOD

## In an economy in which most

families need more than one
income to meet their basic
needs, many children spend the
bulk of their day being cared
for outside their home or by
someone other than a parent.

Early childhood experiences have long term impacts on children's educational success. A safe, stable, stimulating and nurturing environment is essential to fostering healthy child development. In an economy in which most families need more than one income to meet their basic needs, many children spend the bulk of their day being cared for outside their home or by someone other than a parent. Access to quality child care ensures that children's developmental needs are met while their parents are working. ${ }^{17}$

When a family's income level is the primary determinant of the quality of child care they can afford to provide for their children, the whole community loses. Inequality in early childhood education is where the achievement gap begins. Figure 12 compares the average Kindergarten Readiness Assessment scores for the total population of children entering kindergarten across the county to the scores for students identified as economically disadvantaged. Economically disadvantaged students scored lower on the assessment than the total population in all categories and significantly lower on early math and English letter names and sounds. ${ }^{18}$

FIGURE 12
KINDERGARTEN READINESS


[^2]
## Our community prospers when all our children are well prepared for success in school and in life.

## SCHOOL AGE

Our community prospers when all our children are well prepared for success in school and in life. Children from low-income families have lower rates of achievement than the total population of students. Figure 13 compares the standard assessment scores of economically disadvantaged to the total school population. On all tests, at all ages, economically disadvantaged students meet standards at significantly lower rates than their classmates. Across the County, $37 \%$ of students are considered economically disadvantaged. In 31 of the 81 elementary schools across the county, more than half of the students qualify for free or reduced lunch. ${ }^{19}$ Economically disadvantaged students across the county are more likely to be chronically absent than their peers and are more likely to have changed schools during the school year increasing their risk for negative academic outcomes. ${ }^{20}$

FIGURE 13
MEETING ACADEMIC STANDARDS


## In $\mathbf{3 1}$ of the $\mathbf{8 1}$ elementary <br> schools across the county, more <br> than half of the students qualify <br> for free or reduced lunch.

# Our community is better prepared for the future when our youth and young adults have the tools they need to succeed. 

## TEEN AND YOUNG ADULTS

Young adults of all races and genders experience poverty at a higher rate than the general population. As teens transition out of school and into adulthood, their school experiences and family support structure significantly impact their ability to build a strong foundation for future stability.

High School completion is an important building block for success. Adults without a high school diploma or equivalent are more than three times as likely as adults with a diploma to be living with income below the poverty level. Yet economically disadvantaged students and students with limited English proficiency are less likely to complete high school than their peers. ${ }^{21}$

When young people lack family supports, they are more likely to struggle in early adulthood. Overall, approximately $1 \%$ of the population spends part of their childhood in foster care; however, $12 \%$ of adults accessing Community Connect, the County's Central Intake and Assessment system for homeless and at risk individuals in 2016, were in foster care as minors. Of those, $58 \%$ reported having exited foster care during their teen years. ${ }^{22}$

FIGURE 15
HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION


FIGURE 16
EARN AND LEARN


## People who work in our community should be able to afford to live in our community.

## A DULTHOOD

At its core, poverty is a math problem in which the cost of providing for a family's needs are greater than the resources they have to work with. While Washington County's unemployment rate is among the lowest in the State, $47 \%$ of all jobs available in Washington County ( 128,629 jobs) are in occupations with an annual average median wage that is insufficient to afford housing at the current fair market rate. ${ }^{23}$

Since 2010, median earnings in Washington County have increased $12 \%$ while the median gross rent has increased $25 \% .{ }^{24} \mathrm{We}$ are all impacted by the number of our neighbors who are living paycheck to paycheck on tight budgets that are easily impacted by slight fluctuations in income. In 2016, $55 \%$ of all families seeking emergency rent assistance to prevent an eviction from their housing had experienced a recent job loss or reduction in wages that resulted in their inability to pay rent. ${ }^{25}$ Overall, nearly half of all Washington County renters are paying more than a third of their income toward their housing costs and more than 1 in 5 are using half their income just to remain housed. ${ }^{26}$

Stable housing is the foundation of a healthy, stable life. Without it, it is more difficult to maintain employment, good health, succeed in school and reach one's full potential. Losing housing and becoming homeless is a risk factor for future homelessness. Of households accessing Community Connect, the County's central intake and assessment system for homeless and at risk individuals, $41 \%$ have experienced homelessness before. ${ }^{27}$

FIGURE 17 HOUSING COST BURDEN


[^3]FIGURE 18
RENT AS PERECENTAGE OF MONTHLY EARNINGS


FIGURE 19
MEDIAN EARNINGS BY RACE/ETHNICITY


FIGURE 20
REASONS FOR RENT ASSISTANCE


## Conclusion



There is much more to learn about each of the topics touched on in this report. Volumes of research have been written about each of these topics and there are still many questions to answer. Our hope is that the information compiled in this report will spark interest in exploring these topics more deeply and engaging in finding solutions. We all want a community in which our neighbors are healthy, stable and contributing. Together, we can build a community that offers all our members opportunities to reach their full potential by addressing inequities and preventing conditions of poverty from trapping the next generation in a cycle of crisis and instability.

## Housing \& Homeless Services

Providing emergency shelter and shortterm rent assistance to address housing crisis situations.
Phone: (503) 640-3263

## Energy Assistance

Offering financial support for household energy costs.
Phone: (503) 615-0771
Email: energy@caowash.org
Emergency Rent Assistance
Providing emergency funds to help prevent evictions.
Phone: (503) 615-0770

## Energy Conservation

Helping families in need stay safe and warm.
Phone: (503) 906-6550
Email: weatherization@caowash.org
Head Start \& Early Head Start
Promoting school readiness with programs for children from infancy to age five.
Phone: (503) 693-3262
Email: headstart@caowash.org
Child Care Resource \& Referral
Connecting families with child care providers in Washington County. Phone: (971) 223-6100 or
1-800-624-9516
Email: ccrr@caowash.org

## Early Connections

Supporting parents during pregnancy and after with education and resources. Phone: (503) 726-0879
Email: earlyconnections@caowash.org

## Healthy Families - Prenatal \& Parenting Support

Supporting parents during pregnancy and after with education and resources. Phone: (503) 517-5798
Email: healthyfamilies@caowash.org

## 211 Info - FIND Help Information \& Referral

Offering comprehensive health and human service resources online and by phone.
Phone: 2-1-1 or (866) 698-6155
Email: findcontact@caowash.org

## Family Development

- Supporting families in their efforts to reach their goals.
- Home visiting family advocacy - accessed through Housing and Homeless Services or Early connections.
- Financial Education and Individual Development Accounts - Matched savings program for individuals seeking to further their education, start or expand a child care business or save for move-in costs.
Phone: (503) 726-0823
Email: ida@caowash.org
- Health Careers NW - Job coaching for individuals interested in a career in the health care field.
http://healthcareersnw.org/


# Washington County <br> Issues of Poverty 2017 

Washington County has a total estimated population of 574,326 . Located at the west end of the Portland Metropolitan region, Washington County is home to 13 independent cities, small sections of 3 additional cities, including Portland, and large swaths of unincorporated, but heavily populated areas. Seven independent school districts serve Washington County students. The 2015 American Community Survey estimates that 60,224 individuals or $11 \%$ of the population live in households with income at or below 100\% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. In 2016, Community Action asked individuals accessing services what conditions of poverty they had experienced in the last year and what resources would be most helpful for their family to feel more stable and secure and achieve their goals. Over 3,000 responses were collected. The following charts identify the most commonly experienced conditions of poverty and the resource priorities for all respondents, respondents with children under 5 in the household, seniors and working households.

CONDITIONS OF POVERTY


RESOURCE NEEDS







## Banks

Issues of Poverty 2017

The City of Banks is located on the western end of the county. A small community outside the Urban Growth Boundary, Banks has a total estimated population of 1,775 , of whom approximately $3.3 \%$ have income below the Federal Poverty Level. Banks has not experienced the growth that other Washington County communities have and in fact has seen a small decrease in population since 2010.

Banks has a relatively small rental housing market in which $41 \%$ of renters pay more than $30 \%$ of their income for their housing costs. Twenty three percent of renters pay more than half their income to remain housed. Household median income in Banks has increased $11 \%$ since 2010 as has median gross rent indicating that incomes are keeping pace with housing costs in Banks.

While the poverty rate for children within the City of Banks is quite low, more than 1 in 4 students enrolled in Banks schools is eligible for the Free or Reduced Lunch Program.
Poverty Rate ..... 3\%
Children under 5 in Poverty ..... 0\%
All Children in Poverty. ..... 2\%
Seniors in Poverty ..... 14\%

TOTAL POPULATION BY RACE


| $\square$ |
| :--- |
| $89.8 \%$ - White |
| $6.0 \%$ - Hispanic |
| 3.6\% - Two or more races |
| $\square$ |
| $1.6 \%$ - Asian |
| $\square$ |
| $\square$ |
| $\square$ |
| $0.5 \%$ - Some other race |
| - American Indian/ |
| Alaska Native |

Alaska Native


TOTAL POPULATION BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT Population 25 years and over


[^4]POVERTY POPULATION BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT Population 25 years and over


[^5]



## Beaverton Issues of Poverty 2017

The City of Beaverton is home to over 96,000 people and is the second largest incorporated city in Washington County. Approximately $15 \%$ of Beaverton residents live in households with income below the federal poverty level. A relatively diverse community just west of Portland, the population of Beaverton has increased $7 \%$ since 2010.

Approximately 20,000 of Beaverton households are renters, 49\% of whom pay more than $30 \%$ of their income for their housing costs. One in 4 renting households in Beaverton pays more than half their income to remain housed. Since 2010, the median household income for Beaverton residents has increased $3 \%$ while median gross rent has increased $21 \%$ further straining household budgets.

More than 1 in 5 children within the city of Beaverton live in poverty and $37 \%$ of students enrolled in Beaverton schools are eligible for free or reduced lunch.
Poverty Rate15\%
Children under 5 in Poverty ..... 20\%
All Children in Poverty ..... 22\%
Seniors in Poverty ..... 10\%

TOTAL POPULATION BY RACE


POVERTY POPULATION BY RACE


TOTAL POPULATION BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT
Population 25 years and over


POVERTY POPULATION BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT Population 25 years and over


RESOURCE NEEDS






# Cornelius <br> Issues of Poverty 2017 

The City of Cornelius is home to more than 12,000 people. Located on the western end of the county between the cities of Hillsboro and Forest Grove, the population of Cornelius has increased roughly 6\% since 2010. Approximately $15 \%$ of Cornelius residents live in households with income below the Federal Poverty Level. More than half (52\%) of Cornelius residents identify as Hispanic or Latino.

Just under 1,000 Cornelius households are renters, $57 \%$ of whom pay more than $30 \%$ of their income for their rent while $17 \%$ pay more than half their income to retain housing. While median household income in Cornelius has increased $14 \%$ since 2010, median household earnings have declined $13 \%$ and housing costs have remained steady.

While $14 \%$ of all children living in Cornelius live in poverty, $84 \%$ of children attending Cornelius Elementary School (a Forest Grove School District School) are eligible for free or reduced lunch.

Poverty Rate 13\%
Children under 5 in Poverty ............. $22 \%$
All Children in Poverty......................14\%
Seniors in Poverty .............................. 11\%

TOTAL POPULATION BY RACE


POVERTY POPULATION BY RACE


TOTAL POPULATION BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT Population 25 years and over


■ 34.2\% - Less than H.S.

- 24.9\% - H.S. graduate
$\square$ 29.1\% - Some college/ Associate's
$\square$ 11.8\% - Bachelor's or higher

POVERTY POPULATION BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT Population 25 years and over

49.9\% - Less than H.S.
$\square$ 18.8\% - H.S. graduate
$\square$ 21.6\% - Some college/
Associate's
$\square$ 9.7\% - Bachelor's or higher

RESOURCE NEEDS





## Forest Grove <br> Issues of Poverty 2017

The City of Forest Grove is home to roughly 23,000 people. The Western most City in the Urban Growth Boundary, the population of Forest Grove has increased 11\% since 2010. Approximately $17 \%$ of Forest Grove residents live in households with income below the Federal Poverty Level.

More than 3,300 Forest Grove households are renters, $52 \%$ of whom pay more than $30 \%$ of their income for their housing costs and nearly 1 in 3 renting households pays more than half their income to remain housed. Median gross rent in Forest Grove has increased 6\% since 2010 while median household income has increased $2 \%$.

One in 5 children in Forest Grove live in households with income below the Federal Poverty Level. 57\% of children enrolled in Forest Grove School District schools are eligible for free or reduced lunch.
Poverty Rate ..... 17\%
Children under 5 in Poverty ..... 19\%
All Children in Poverty. ..... 20\%
Seniors in Poverty ..... 14\%

TOTAL POPULATION BY RACE

$\square 69.3 \%$ - White
$\square 23.8 \%$ - Hispanic
$\square 8.8 \%$ - Some other race
$\square 3.8 \%$ - Two or more races
$\square 2.7 \%$ - Asian
$\square 0.7 \%$ - Black/African
$\quad$ American
$\square 0.6 \%$ - American Indian/
Alaska Native
$\square 0.1 \%$ - Pacific Islander

POVERTY POPULATION BY RACE


TOTAL POPULATION BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT
Population 25 years and over


POVERTY POPULATION BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT Population 25 years and over


■ 35.4\% - Less than H.S.
$\square 32.1 \%$ - H.S. graduate
$\square$ 19.1\% - Some college/
Associate's
$\square 13.3 \%$ - Bachelor's or
higher

RESOURCE NEEDS





## Hillsboro

Issues of Poverty 2017

The City of Hillsboro is home to over 100,000 people. The largest incorporated city in Washington County, Hillsboro is also the county seat. Roughly $14 \%$ of the city's population lives in a household with income below the Federal Poverty Level. The City's population has grown approximately $11 \%$ since 2010.

Over 18,000 Hillsboro households are renters of whom 44\% pay more than $30 \%$ of their income towards their housing costs and more than 1 in 5 pay more than half their monthly income to remain housed. Between 2010 and 2015, Hillsboro median earnings increased 14\% while rents increased $29 \%$ further straining household budgets.

One in 5 children in Hillsboro lives in a household with income below the Federal Poverty Level and $45 \%$ of students enrolled in Hillsboro School District schools are eligible for free or reduced lunch.
Poverty Rate ..... 14\%
Children under 5 in Poverty ..... 24\%
All Children in Poverty ..... 20\%
Seniors in Poverty ..... 9\%

TOTAL POPULATION BY RACE

$\square 55.5 \%$ - White
$20.8 \%$ - Hispanic
$\square .3$. - Asian
$6.5 \%$ - Some other race
$\square 5.2 \%$ - Two or more races
$\square 1.1 \%$ - Black/African
$\quad$ American
$\square 0.9 \%$ - American Indian/
Alaska Native
$\square 0.6 \%$ - Pacific Islander

POVERTY POPULATION BY RACE


TOTAL POPULATION BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT Population 25 years and over


POVERTY POPULATION BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT Population 25 years and over


RESOURCE NEEDS






# North Plains <br> Issues of Poverty 2017 

The City of North Plains is home to approximately 2,000 people. The community just north west of Hillsboro is outside of the Urban Growth Boundary and has not experienced the growth that other parts of the county has. North Plains also has a very small population of individuals living with income below the Federal Poverty Level at only $.5 \%$.

There are approximately 150 renter households in North Plains, 58\% of whom pay more than $30 \%$ of their income for their housing costs. Just under 1 in 5 (19\%) of North Plains renters are paying $50 \%$ of their income to retain housing.

While poverty in North Plains appears to affect primarily the senior population, 29\% of students in North Plains Elementary School (a Hillsboro School District School) are eligible for free or reduced lunch.
Poverty Rate ..... 0.5\%
Children under 5 in Poverty .....  $0 \%$
All Children in Poverty ..... 0\%
Seniors in Poverty ..... 2\%

TOTAL POPULATION BY RACE


POVERTY POPULATION BY RACE


TOTAL POPULATION BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT Population 25 years and over

8.3\% - Less than H.S.
$\square 31.1 \%$ - H.S. graduate
$\square 40.3 \%$ - Some college/
Associate's
$\square$ 20.4\% - Bachelor's or
higher

POVERTY POPULATION BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT
Population 25 years and over

33.3\% - Less than H.S.
$\square 66.7 \%$ - Some college/ Associate's


The City of Sherwood is home to just under 20,000 people. Located in the south eastern end of the county and within the Urban Growth Boundary, the city's population has increased approximately $10 \%$ since 2005. Roughly 6\% of Sherwood's residents have income below the Federal Poverty Level.

There are approximately 1,700 renter households in Sherwood, of whom $43 \%$ pay more than $30 \%$ of their income for their housing costs while $15 \%$ pay more than half their income to retain housing.

Poverty in Sherwood affects primarily senior households. In fact, the Sherwood School District has the lowest rate of free and reduced lunch eligibility in the County at $16 \%$.Poverty Rate6\%
Children under 5 in Poverty ..... 4\%
All Children in Poverty ..... 6\%
Seniors in Poverty ..... 10\%

TOTAL POPULATION BY RACE


POVERTY POPULATION BY RACE


TOTAL POPULATION BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT
Population 25 years and over


- $4.2 \%$ - Less than H.S.
$\square 15.7 \%$ - H.S. graduate
$\square$ 36.5\% - Some college/
Associate's
$\square$ 43.7\% - Bachelor's or higher

POVERTY POPULATION BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT Population 25 years and over


- 15.5\% - Less than H.S.
$\square$ 31.3\% - H.S. graduate
$\square$ 45.2\% - Some college/
Associate's
$\square$ 8.1\% - Bachelor's or higher




The City of Tigard is home to over 51,000 people. Located on the eastern edge of the county, south of Beaverton and within the Urban Growth Boundary, Tigard's population has increased $7 \%$ since 2010. Approximately $12 \%$ of Tigard residents live in households with income below the Federal Poverty Level.

There are over 8,000 renter households in Tigard, more than half of whom are paying more than $30 \%$ of their income towards there housing costs. One in 4 Tigard renters uses half their income each month to retain housing. From 2010 to 2015 median household income has remained steady while median rent has increased 18\% further straining household budgets.

Children in Tigard are experiencing poverty at a slightly higher rate than the overall Tigard population. One in three Tigard-Tualatin School District students are eligible for the Free or Reduced Lunch Program.
Poverty Rate

$\qquad$ ..... 12\%
Children under 5 in Poverty ..... 14\%
All Children in Poverty ..... 15\%
Seniors in Poverty .....  $4 \%$

TOTAL POPULATION BY RACE


POVERTY POPULATION BY RACE


TOTAL POPULATION BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT Population 25 years and over


POVERTY POPULATION BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT Population 25 years and over


RESOURCE NEEDS






## Tualatin <br> Issues of Poverty 2017

The City of Tualatin is home to nearly 27,000 people. Located in the south eastern corner of the County and within the Urban Growth Boundary, Tualatin's population has increased roughly $5 \%$ since 2010. Approximately $12 \%$ of Tualatin's residents live in a household with income below the Federal Poverty Level.

There are just under 5,000 renter households in Tualatin, more than half of whom pay more than $30 \%$ of their income for their housing costs and $27 \%$ of whom are dedicating half their monthly income to retaining housing. From 2010 to 2015, median gross rents in Tualatin increased $15 \%$ while median earnings increased $8 \%$ further straining household budgets.

Children in Tualatin experience poverty at a slightly higher rate than the general Tualatin population and the County has a whole. One in three Tigard-Tualatin School District students are eligible for the Free or Reduced Lunch Program.
Poverty Rate ..... 12\%
Children under 5 in Poverty ..... 18\%
All Children in Poverty ..... 17\%
Seniors in Poverty ..... 7\%

## TOTAL POPULATION BY RACE



POVERTY POPULATION BY RACE


TOTAL POPULATION BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT Population 25 years and over


- 7.6\% - Less than H.S.
$\square 16.6 \%$ - H.S. graduate
$\square$ 33.5\% - Some college/ Associate's
$\square$ 42.4\% - Bachelor's or higher

POVERTY POPULATION BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT Population 25 years and over


[^6]

Working


[^0]:    June, 2017
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[^1]:    Serfice on Women's Health, US Department of Health and Human ${ }^{5}$ Services
    March of Dimes: Stress and Pregnancy Issue Brief, January 2015 ${ }^{16}$ American Community Survey 20155 Year Estimates: B13010

[^2]:    ${ }^{7}$ American Community Survey 20151 Year Estimates: B23008-62\% of children under 6 live in households where all adults work outside the home
    ${ }^{18}$ Oregon Department of Education: 2016-17 Oregon Kindergarten Assessment

[^3]:    ${ }^{3}$ Oregon Employment Department, QualityInfo.org: Employment and Wages by Industry (QCEW)

[^4]:    3.8\% - Less than H.S.
    $\square$ 31.8\% - H.S. graduate
    $\square 43.6 \%$ - Some college/
    Associate's
    $\square$ 20.0\% - Bachelor's or
    higher

[^5]:    - 37.2\% - Less than H.S.
    $\square 16.2 \%$ - H.S. graduate
    $\square 30.2 \%$ - Some college/
    Associate's
    $\square 16.3 \%$ - Bachelor's or higher

[^6]:    - 27.0\% - Less than H.S.
    - 26.9\% - H.S. graduate
    $\square \mathbf{2 8 . 9 \%}$ - Some college/
    Associate's
    $\square$ 17.2\% - Bachelor's or higher

