



Oregon's Population



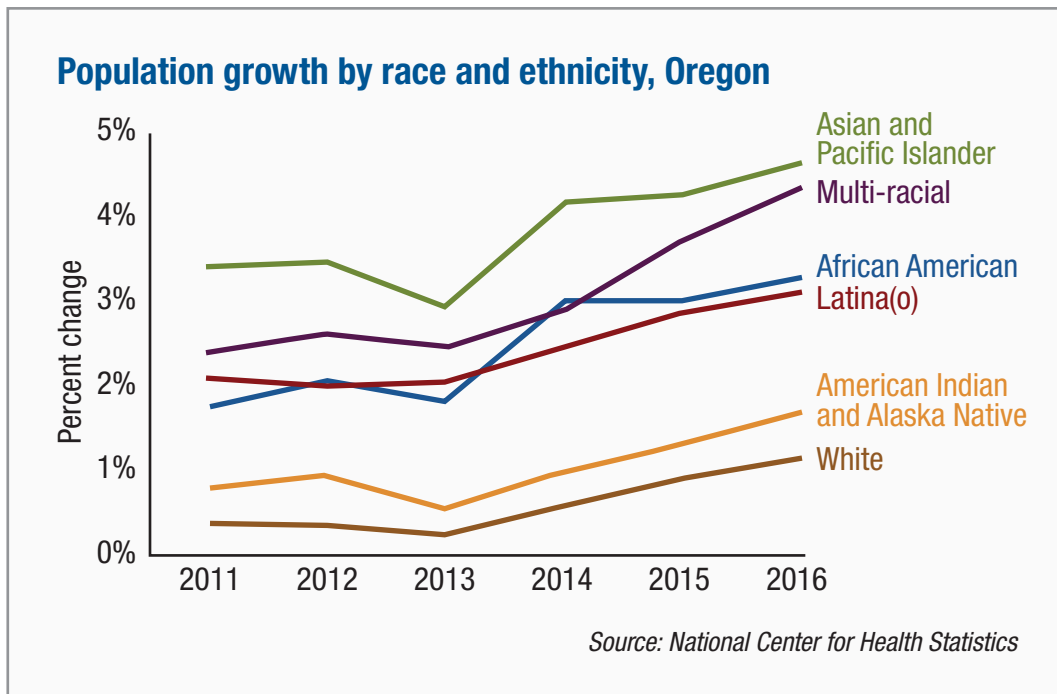
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Understanding demographic changes is important for understanding specific health challenges experienced by different population groups. According to U.S. Census data, 4.1 million people were living in Oregon as of July 2017. This is an 8.1% increase since 2010. Oregon's Office of Economic Analysis (OEA) projects that the population will grow to 4.25 million people by 2020. Population growth has primarily occurred in urban areas such as the Portland metropolitan area and Bend.

Age, Race, and Ethnicity

The proportion of older adults has also increased, with the percentage of residents older than age 65 rising from 13.9% in 2010 to 16.8% in 2016. According to the OEA, older adults could represent 18.5% of Oregon's population by 2020.

Among people living in Oregon in 2016, 76% identified as white, 13% Latina(o), 5% Asian and Pacific Islander, 2% African American, 1% American Indian and Alaska Native, and 3% two or more races. The racial and ethnic distribution varies by age: 80% of adults (>18 years) are white and 10% are Latina(o); by contrast, 64% of children (<18 years) are white and 22% are Latina(o). Every county has become more diverse since 2013, with the largest increase in Asian populations.



Gender and Sexual Orientation

Two surveys provide population health data on people in Oregon who identify as Lesbian, Gay, or Bisexual (LGB): the adult Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) survey, and in youth, the Oregon Healthy Teens (OHT) survey. In 2016 in Oregon, 2% of men and 2% of women identified as lesbian or gay; and 2% of men and 4% of women identified as bisexual. Among 11th graders, 2% of boys and 1% of girls identified as lesbian or gay, and 4% of boys and 10% of girls identified as bisexual.

In 2017, the OHT survey added answer categories for gender including transgender, gender fluid, and other nonbinary answers. About 6% of 11th graders reported nonbinary or multiple gender answers. Among gender non-conforming youth, 64% identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual or questioning.

Demographics	Adult		Grade 11		
	Men	Women	Boys	Girls	Gender Non-Conforming
Heterosexual	95%	92%	92%	85%	36%
Lesbian and Gay	2%	2%	2%	1%	9%
Bisexual	2%	4%	4%	10%	15%
Questioning	NA	NA	2%	3%	40%

Source: Oregon BRFSS, 2013 – 2016 and Oregon Healthy Teens, 2017

Population health data are not available on the percentage of adults who identify as transgender or gender non-conforming in Oregon. However, a 2016 report from the Williams Institute* used BRFSS data from other states to generate national and state estimates for the transgender adult population. The report found that 0.6% of U.S. adults (about 1.4 million individuals) and 0.65% Oregon adults (about 20,000) identify as transgender.

* <https://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/research/how-many-adults-identify-as-transgender-in-the-united-states/>

Disability

Living with a disability or special health care need can significantly affect a person's health. This results from the negative treatment of people with disabilities and their lack of access to conditions that promote health and well-being (e.g., safety, relationships, and health care). In Oregon, 24% of adults and 30% of youth report living with a disability. Furthermore, 19% of Oregon children from the age of birth to 17 years had a special health care need, or a chronic physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional condition, that requires health and related services of a type or amount beyond that required by children generally.

The specific types of disability among adults and among youth in 11th grade are shown in the table below.

Demographics	Adults	Youth
Deaf and hard of hearing	5%	2%
Blind and low vision	3%	5%
Cognitive difficulties	12%	24%
Mobility issues	12%	3%
Difficulty with self-care	3%	1%
Difficulty with independent living	6%	9%
Any disability (one or more)	24%	30%

Source: Oregon Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2016 and Oregon Healthy Teens 2017