

# Economic Resilience

## 2022 Regional Profiles

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Mid-Columbia Economic Development District



# Acknowledgements

This report was prepared by:

Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD)

Resource Assistance for Rural Environments (RARE) AmeriCorps Program

Natasha Blaircobb, Economic Resilience Project Coordinator

With special thanks to:

Washington Employment Security Department

Scott Bailey, Regional Economist

Oregon Employment Department (OED)

Dallas Fridley, Regional Economist

Institute for Policy Research and Engagement (IPRE)

Bob Parker, Director of Strategy

Josh Bruce, Operations Director

Kim Thompson, Economic Development Analyst

Titus Tomlinson, RARE AmeriCorps Program Director

*IPRE developed the methodology used in this report for assessing baseline regional economic resilience; the methodology was built under the direction of the Cascade West Economic Development District (CWEDD). This report uses direct text excerpts and modified text from [their original report](#)*

# Project Background

In 2019, University of Oregon's Institute for Policy Research & Engagement (IPRE) performed a baseline assessment of the region's economic resilience at the direction of Cascades West Economic Development District.

After a review of the literature on resilience metrics and assessments, IPRE found no user-friendly guidelines that practitioners could implement to conduct a baseline and ongoing assessment of economic resilience. Measuring resilience can be quite challenging. In a complex, integrated system, it is difficult to tease out different factors that may impact resilience, and more difficult still to find reliable data to measure these resilience factors.

Because no standard way of measuring resilience exists, IPRE undertook the development of a framework that economic developers could use to assess economic resilience. They relied on two guiding principles while developing the framework:

- **Holistic lens** – economies are built on communities. An economy is more than just firms and workers. Its resilience stems from underlying factors that influence the health, safety, and happiness of the community. Therefore, economic resilience encompasses more than just the diversity and productive capacity of firms. It must also consider factors that support happy and healthy communities of people.
- **Accessibility** – measuring resilience must be straightforward. Economic development practitioners have limited time and resources to dedicate towards assessing economic resilience. Any measurement framework should rely on data that is easily accessible and analysis that is relatively simple to complete.

With these two principles in mind, IPRE developed the Eight Questions Framework for measuring economic resilience. The Eight Questions are based on research and information presented by [Restore Your Economy](#), a website that provides up-to-date economic resilience guidance, [the Stockholm Resilience Centre](#), a trailblazer for resilience research, and case studies highlighted by *100 Resilient Cities*, an initiative which investigated community-level resilience strategies. Pulling from these resources, IPRE built a straightforward framework for measuring economic resilience that can be adopted and adapted by economic developers and partners. **In this report, Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD) has utilized this framework to assess economic resilience for our five-county region.**

## Who should use this report?

**MCEDD, local partners and other regional economic development entities.** This report can help organizations focus and prioritize their work plans, serve as helpful data and provide supportive documentation for grant applications. Most directly, MCEDD should use the results of this resilience assessment to inform prioritization of projects outlined in the CEDS.

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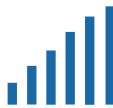
Gauging Resilience: Signal Strength Measures



Area of concern for a resilient economy. Data signals limited strength.



Area for improvement to support a resilient economy. Data signals opportunity for added resilient measures.



Area contributes to economic resilience for the community. Data signals a resilient position.

This profile measures resilience in a county using the data detailed in the **Eight Questions Framework Introduction**. Some data help answer more than one question, and most questions are answered using a combination of datasets. Measuring economic resilience is challenging because many factors impact a community’s ability to recover from a shock. The elements that contribute to a more resilient community are varied, and often independently managed. It is entirely possible for a community to demonstrate economic strengths and vulnerabilities at the same time.

This framework measures the “signal strength” associated with each dataset. Within every question, the datasets with the weaker signals should be noted and further investigated. Communities should aim to have full-power resilience signals for most datasets and may want to concentrate efforts where there is limited signal strength.

Terms Used in Measuring Resilience

Term	Defined as
Age Dependency Ratio	Determined by measuring the number of dependents (young and old) in a population divided by the number of working-age people. This data point describes the level of pressure on an economy from supporting populations that are typically less active in the labor market.
Average Wages	Average of the wages earned in a particular job or industry occupation. Wages include tips, commissions, bonuses, vacation, and holiday pay, but do not include benefits.
Complete Kitchen / Complete Plumbing	Homes that have a sink with faucet, a stove or range, and a refrigerator meet the criteria for having complete kitchen facilities. Homes that have hot and cold running water, a flush toilet and a bathtub or shower meet the criteria for having complete plumbing facilities.
Cost-Burdened / Severe Cost-Burdened Households	Households that pay more than 30% of their income for housing are considered cost-burdened. Households that pay more than 50% of their income for housing are considered severely cost-burdened.
Fastest Growing Industries (& Wages)	Private industries with the highest percentage of total employment, as measured by the state’s employment department.
Jobs to Homes Ratio	Used to examine the proportions of residents, jobs, and services in urban areas. The ratio is measured by dividing the total employment by total occupied housing units.
Median Household Income	Median of households’ income earned in the past 12 months within a geography. Income includes the income of the householder and all other individuals 15 years and over in the household (whether or not they are related to householder).
Population Growth Rate	This rate expresses the percent change in population over a given time period.
Vacancy Rate	The proportion of housing units that are not seasonal or for sale that are not occupied.

What Indicates Resilience?		
1	<b>Does the economy have diverse and well-paid jobs?</b>	<p>Diversified economies are more resilient.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ A distribution of jobs in higher-wage industries indicates more economic resilience</li> <li>■ A concentration of jobs in a single industry indicates less economic resilience</li> </ul>
2	<b>What is the projected future of major employment industries in the region and nationally?</b>	<p>Industries that are less subject to volatility are more resilient.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ A distribution of employment across industries that will likely remain stable indicates greater economic resilience</li> <li>■ A concentration of employment in industries that are regulated, taxed, or that rely on natural resources introduces more risk for economic resilience</li> </ul>
3	<b>What is the age breakdown of residents?</b>	<p>A mix of young, working, and older populations is indicative of a more resilient economy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ Populations that are active in the labor force promote economic resilience</li> <li>■ An aging population threatens economic resilience</li> </ul>
4	<b>Do people live and work in the community?</b>	<p>In communities where people live and work, the local economy is more active and independent, and therefore more resilient.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ Mix of housing types and costs indicates greater economic resilience</li> <li>■ Limited affordable housing options and major commuter outflows indicates less economic resilience</li> </ul>
5	<b>How has the population grown in the last decade and what is predicted for the next 30 years?</b>	<p>Growing populations indicate economic opportunities and resilience.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ Steady and continuous growth indicates greater economic resilience</li> <li>■ Sharp inclines and declines in populations indicate less economic resilience</li> </ul>
6	<b>Are residential homes able to withstand a natural hazard or weather incident?</b>	<p>Newer homes are more likely to have been constructed to withstand natural hazards and weather incidents. Older homes and manufactured homes may be more vulnerable to damages and/or more difficult to repair.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ A sufficient supply of newer housing stock (built after 1970) indicates economic resilience</li> <li>■ Limited newer housing stock and a decline in homebuilding over the last decade indicates less economic resilience</li> </ul>
7	<b>What level of education attainment and earnings are residents reaching?</b>	<p>Residents with advanced or specialized degrees have higher earning potential. Regions that have choices for advanced education (trade schools, community colleges, four-year colleges, and universities) are better positioned to support the training of local residents.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ Higher percentage of residents with advanced or specialized degrees indicates greater economic resilience</li> <li>■ Lower percentage of residents with advanced or specialized degrees indicates less economic resilience</li> </ul>
8	<b>Do residents have access to health and wellness facilities?</b>	<p>Communities with health and wellness facilities are more resilient than communities that lack these facilities. People with health insurance contribute to a more resilient economy by reserving scarce public health resources for those most in need.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ Populations that are mostly insured and mostly located near health care facilities indicates greater economic resilience</li> <li>■ Populations that have lower insurance rates and that are located farther from health care facilities indicates less economic resilience</li> </ul>

Hood River County is the western most Oregon County in the MCEDD service area and sits in the middle of Oregon’s Columbia River Gorge Scenic area. Bordered by the Columbia River to the north, Wasco county to the east, and the northern slopes of Mt Hood to the Southwest. Hood River County is the 2nd smallest county in Oregon at just 533 square miles.

Quick Facts

Population

23,888

% of State Population

0.56%

Economic Diversity Score

0.297 (/1.0) 23<sup>rd</sup> Highest of 36 Oregon Counties

(Hachman Index)

Top 3 Industries by % of total employment

(Average Annual Wage)

#1 22.4%

Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (\$31,302)

#2 17.7%

Manufacturing (\$51,554)

#3 13.5%

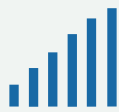
Health Care and Social Assistance (\$55,441)

Average Annual Wages in Hood River County

\$47,538

(all industries/ownerships)

Stronger Signals of Resilience

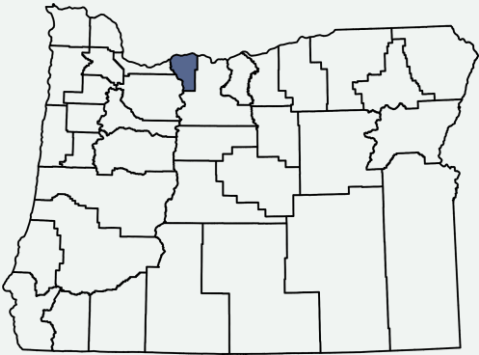


- The Job to Homes ratio in Hood River County is 1.01
- The median age for Hood River County residents is 39.3
- Hood River County accounts for 0.6% of the state’s population and has increased by 7.2% between 2010-2020
- In Hood River County people earn a median household income that is higher than both the state and us averages.
- Only 37.91% of homes in Hood River County were built before 1970.

Weaker Signals of Resilience



- 34.5% of Hood River County residents who rent and 24.0% of all county residents are cost-burdened.
- 26% of Hood River County’s total population are over 55 years old and currently working
- Just over 8.4% of Hood River County residents are uninsured



	US	State	County
Median Household Income (2021 \$)	\$60,293	\$62,818	\$65,679
Median Age	37.9	39.3	39.3
% of Residents with at least High School Degree	87.6%	90.7%	81.35%
% of Renters spending 30% or more of income on housing	47%	47.5%	34.5%




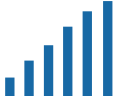
City	Population
Outside UGBs	14,231
Hood River	8,259
Cascade Locks	1,398





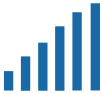
1.

Does the economy have diverse and well-paid jobs?

Resilient economies are not predominated by low-wage industries.

Data to Answer the Question				Results
Employment Data	<b>Average Annual Wages 2021</b>			
	Oregon	\$67,880		
	Hood River County	\$57,690		
Source: QCEW + Oregon Employment Department (OED)	<b>Industry with Highest Employment</b>	<b>Wages</b>	<b>% of Total Emp.</b>	
	1. Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	\$31,302	22.4%	
	2. Manufacturing	\$51,554	17.7%	
	3. Health Care and Social Assistance	\$55,441	16.8%	
Hachman Index	<i>The Hachman Index is a measure of economic diversity.</i>			
Source: Oregon Employment Department (OED)	<b>Hood River County 0.297</b> 23 <sup>rd</sup> highest of Oregon’s Counties (2021)			
Income Earned	Do people earn an equivalent income in Hood River County compared to other parts of our service area?			
Source: ACS (2020) and Oregon Employment Department (OED)	<b><u>Median Household Income</u>   <u>% of State Median Household Income</u></b>			
	<b>Hood River County (OR)</b>	<b>\$65,679</b>	<b>104.6%</b>	
	<b>Oregon</b>	<b>\$62,818</b>		
	<b>Washington</b>	<b>\$73,775</b>		
	Wasco County (OR)	\$53,105	84.5%	
	Sherman County (OR)	\$51,071	81.3%	
	Klickitat County (WA)	\$55,773	75.6%	
	Skamania County (WA)	\$65,181	88.4%	

People with jobs in the top industry, **Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting**, are earning approximately 45.7% less than the County's Average Annual Wages . People who work in the 2nd largest industry **Manufacturing**, are earning 10.6% less than the county's Average Wages . The top two industries in the county make up 40.1% of the total county employment. Hood River County is building employment diversity but there is still some vulnerability for an industry-specific disruption.

Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Employment Data	Of the 3 fastest growing industries, how many account for 20% or more of total area employment?	3	1-2	0
Economic Diversity	The Hachman Index is a measure of economic diversity. Using indicators such as gross domestic product (GDP) or employment, the index measures the mix of industries present in a particular region relative to a (well-diversified) reference region.	0-0.33	0.34-0.66	0.67-1.0
Income Earned	Median household income in the county as a percentage of state median income.	Less than 60%	60%-80%	More than 80%



2.

What is the projected future of major employment industries in the region and nationally?

Diversified economies are more resilient. Regions that have a concentration of jobs in fewer industries are less resilient.

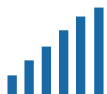


Data to Answer the Question		Results
<div>Employment Data</div> <div>Source: QCEW + Oregon Employment Department (OED)</div>	<div>From <b>2011-2021</b>, Hood River County has seen growth in several industries including <b>Educational Services, Construction, and Manufacturing</b>. All these industry sectors have annual wages that are significantly below the county average (\$57,690). In the same period, several industries including <b>Management of companies and enterprises, Information, and Administrative and support and waste management</b> have all seen significant decreases in employment numbers.</div> <div><b>Fastest Growing</b> 1. Educational Services 2. Construction 3. Manufacturing</div> <div><b>Wages</b> \$21,555 \$51,182 \$51,554</div>	
<div>Current Events and National Trends</div> <div>Source: Various</div>	<div>In Hood River County, the employment sectors are growing in diversity and there is growth in industries with higher-than-average wages such as <b>Professional, scientific, and technical services</b>.</div>	



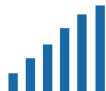
Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Employment Data	Of the 3 fastest growing industries, how many offer wages above, or equivalent to, average wages in the county?	0	1-2	3
Current Events and National Trends	Articles that discuss growing and shrinking industries in Oregon may offer insights into potential economic and employment related risk.	News and Trends suggest industries will not prosper in the future	Nothing Noteworthy	News and Trends suggest industries are growing (regionally, nationally, globally)

3.

What is the age breakdown of residents?

Communities that are resilient have a mix of younger and older populations, and a growing number of working-age residents. Higher concentrations of older or younger populations require more services from the public, particularly during an economic disruption.

Data to Answer the Question		Results
Population characteristics Source: ACS (2020)	The median age for Hood River County residents is 39.3 consistent with the state (39.2) and national (37.2) averages.	
Workers over 55 stats Source: Oregon Employment Department (OED) and ACS (2020)	26% of Hood River County's total population are over 55 years old and currently working (compared to 23% at the state level).	
Age dependency ratio Source: ACS (2020)	The age dependency ratio for Hood River County is 65.7, suggesting slightly more economic pressure compared to the State's ratio of 61.8.	

Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Population characteristics	Median Age	Over 50	40-50	Under 40
Workers over 55 stats	Percentage of population of people over 55 and employed full-time  When the workforce is relying on an aging population it may be less sustainable.	More than 30%	15%-30%	Less than 15%
Age dependency ratio	The dependency ratio is the number of dependents in a population (under-18 and over-65) divided by the number of working-age (18-64) people, multiplied by 100. This data point describes the level of pressure on an economy from supporting the portions of the population least likely to be working.	More than 65.0	50.0-65.0	Less than 50.0

4.

Do people live and work in the community?

If people live close to where they work, productive time is not wasted on commuting and employment is more accessible during infrastructure disruptions. Communities that provide housing and employment options to residents of all income-levels are more resilient during a shock to the economic landscape.

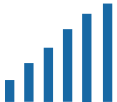
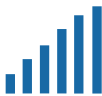
Data to Answer the Question		Results
Housing Data  Source: ACS (2020)	<p>The housing inventory in Hood River County includes a mix of single-family, multi-unit complexes, and mobile homes. The Job to Homes ratio in Hood River County is 1.01 compared to the state ratio of 0.89</p> <p>The rental vacancy rate in Hood River County is 2.8%, a bit lower than at the state level of 3.7%.</p>	
Cost of Living vs Median Household Income  Source: ACS (2020)	<p>In Hood River County, 34.5% of residents who rent and 24.0% of all residents are cost-burdened. In comparison, almost 48% of renters and 34% of all residents in the state are cost-burdened.</p>	
Commuting Patterns  Source: ACS (2020), On the Map (2019)	<p>In Hood River County, 56% of people live and work within the county; less people drive to work than the state average (76.2% v. 81.5%), and more people walk to work (7.3% v. 3.7%) and less bicycle than state average (1.1% v. 2.1%). 14% work from home.</p> <p>The average commute time in Hood River County is 19 minutes.</p>	



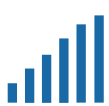
Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Housing and Employment Data	Jobs to Homes Ratio	Less than 0.75	More than 1.5	0.75-1.5
Cost of Living	Rental Vacancy Rate	Less than 2.25%, More than 7%	2.25%-4.49%	4.5%-7%
	Percentage of households spending more than 30% of their income on housing (known as cost-burdened)	More than 25%	20-25%	Less than 20%
Commuting Patterns	Average commuting time	More than 26 min	20 min - 26 min	Less than 20 min
	Percentage of population that commute via walking, bicycling, or public transportation	Less than 5%	5%-10%	More than 10%
	Percentage of population that live and work in the county.	Less than 50%	50-75%	More than 75%

5.

How has the population grown in the last decade and what is predicted for the next 30 years?

Populations in decline signal a weaker (less resilient) economy. People often move to seek better employment or housing opportunities. A declining population is indicative of changing development/ settlement patterns and loss of potential workforce.

Data to Answer the Question		Results
Population Growth Rate  Source: PSU and ACS (2020)	Hood River County accounts for 0.6% of the state’s population and has increased by 7.2% between 2010-2020. This increase in population is positive but lower than the state’s population growth over the same time period (10.6%).	
Population Forecasts  Source: PSU and ACS (2020)	Over the next 20 years Hood River County’s total population is forecasted to Increase by 20% (2020-2040), which is comparable to the State’s forecasted population increase (20%).	

Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Past Population Data	Percentage change in population in the past 10 years	Less than 1.5%	1.5-3%	More than 3%
Population Forecasts	Forecasts for population trends and net migration over the next 30 years relate to the economic drivers that attract and/or retain a growing population.	Declining	No significant Growth or Decline	Growing

6.

Are residential homes able to withstand a natural hazard or weather incident?

Newer homes are more likely to have been constructed to withstand natural hazards and weather incidents. Older homes and manufactured homes may be more vulnerable to damages and/or more difficult to repair. Homes without plumbing, electricity or phone services are at a greater risk during an emergency. The capacity to recover quickly from a shock is greater when people (the workforce) are not displaced.




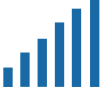
Data to Answer the Question		Results
<div>Housing Data</div> <div>Source: ACS (2020)</div>	<div>About 4% of the houses in Hood River County were built in 2010 or later. between 2010 -2020 Hood River County has saw a decline in housing construction.</div> <div>Mobile homes make up a large portion of the housing stock when compared to the state average (13.7% v. 8%).</div> <div>Approximately 37.91% of homes in Hood River County were built before 1970.</div>	
<div>Utility &amp; Services</div> <div>Source: ACS (2020)</div>	<div>In Hood River County residents use less gas heating options and slightly less electricity heating when compared to the state average (approximately 26.5% gas, 45.0% electricity v. 36% gas, 46% electricity).</div> <div>4.2% of housing or less lack plumbing, kitchen, or telephone services (0.5% lack complete plumbing facilities, 3.2% lack complete kitchen facilities, and 0.5% have no telephone service available).</div>	



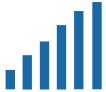
Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Housing Data	Percentage of homes built in the last decade	Less than 4%	4-15%	More than 15%
	Percentage of homes built before 1970	More than 60%	40%-60%	Less than 40%
	Percentage of housing stock that is classified as mobile homes	More than 10%	5-10%	Less than 5%
Utility & Services	Percentage of homes without complete plumbing	More than 2%	1-2%	Less than 1%
	Percentage of homes without complete kitchens	More than 3%	1-3%	Less than 1%

7.

What level of educational attainment and earnings are residents reaching?

People who attain higher education and/or have specialized skills are more likely to be employed and earn higher wages and less likely to primarily depend on public services. Regions that have educational opportunities can provide essential resources and training for residents preparing to join the workforce. In addition, if economic conditions change and the local employment sectors shift, educational opportunities can be an asset for the community by offering community members new or additional training.

Data to Answer the Question		Results
Local resources for training and education  Source: Hood River County, CGCC	<b>Closest Physical Higher Education Location:</b> <u>Columbia Gorge Community College – Hood River Campus</u> (Online courses available) Columbia Gorge Community College is a public technical college that offers six Associate degrees, seven Associate of Applied Science degrees, and 14 certificates. The annexed Hood River Campus provides education to 26% of CGCC’s total enrolment and serves as the only institution of higher education in Hood River County.  CGCC offers a bridge to four-year universities across Oregon. Bend/Corvallis (OSU), Portland (PSU), and Eugene (U of O) are the closest four-year university options.  <i>*Online education options have increased regional access to education*</i>	 
Educational attainment of populations  Source: ACS (2020)	Approximately 81% of people in Hood River County have attained a minimum of a high-school degree, and 32% of people have earned a bachelor’s degree or higher. In Hood River County, a slightly smaller proportion of residents have attained higher-education than the state averages (33%).  People with only a high-school degree in Hood River County have median earnings that are 109% of the state median for those with only a high school degree.	 



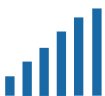
Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Educational attainment and earnings	Percentage of population (25 years+) with Bachelor's Degree or higher	Less than 25%	25%-35%	More than 35%
	Median earnings of high school graduates (or equivalency) in the county as a percentage of median earnings of high school graduates in state	Less than 75%	75%-105%	More than 105%

8.

Do residents have access to health and wellness facilities?

A resilient economy can consistently provide residents with basic needs, including shelter, safety, and food. Hospitals, clinics, and grocery stores are vital for preparing for, responding to, and recovering from a major disruption. High levels of baseline community health are important for resilience because communities with healthy residents are better able to absorb the impacts of, and recover from, disasters. Health insurance coverage is a positive indicator of community resilience.

Data to Answer the Question		Results
Insurance Coverage  Source: ACS (2020)	Just over 8.4% of Hood River County residents are uninsured, Only a slightly higher rate than the State (6.7%) but still low enough to be an indicator for moderate economic resilience.	

Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Insurance Coverage	Percentage of uninsured (non-incarcerated) population	More than 11%	7-11%	Less than 7%



Sherman County is nestled in north central Oregon between the Columbia River to the north, the John Day River to the east and the Deschutes River to the west. Sherman County is the easternmost Oregon County in the MCEDD service area. Traditionally, the local economy has centered around the production of wheat, barley, and cattle while employment is tied closely to retail trade and tourism.

Quick Facts

Population

1,908

% of State Population

0.04%

Economic Diversity Score

0.046 (/1.0) 35<sup>th</sup> Highest of 36 Oregon Counties

(Hachman Index)

Top 3 Industries by % of total employment

(Average Annual Wage)

#1 33.7%

Transportation and Warehousing (\$52,171)

#2 28.5%

Retail Trade (\$27,664)

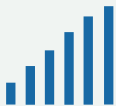
#3 13.1%

Construction (\$85,294)

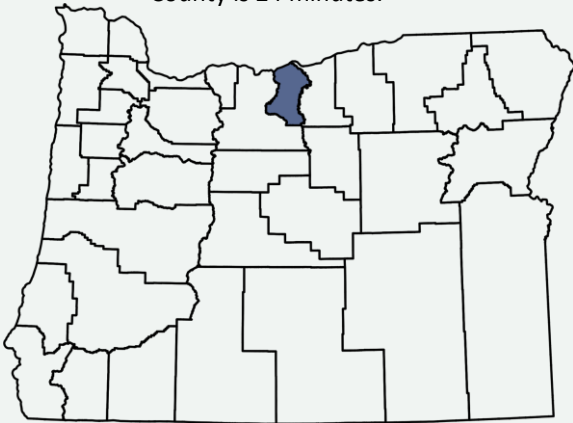
Average Annual Wages in Sherman County

\$46,965 (all industries/ownerships)

Stronger Signals of Resilience



- Sherman County is seeing growth in several employment sectors with high wages, including Construction.
- The average commute time in Sherman County is 24 minutes.



Weaker Signals of Resilience



- 26% of Sherman County’s total population are over 55 years old and currently working.
- The age dependency ratio for Sherman County is 75.2, suggesting more economic pressure.
- 33.6% of Sherman County residents who rent and 21.7% of all County residents are cost-burdened.
- Approximately 64.6% of homes in Sherman County were built before 1970.
- 27.8% of Sherman County residents still use fuel oil/Kerosene and Cole, Coke or Wood as a heat source.

\*Due to the small population count in Sherman County some of the data included in this report has high margins of error.



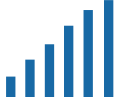
	US	State	County
Median Household Income (2021 \$)	\$60,293	\$62,818	\$51,071
Median Age	37.9	39.3	51.4
% of Residents with at least High School Degree	87.6%	90.7%	89.29%
% of Renters spending 30% or more of income on housing	47%	47.5%	33.6%

City	Population
Outside UGBs	686
Wasco	424
Moro (County Seat)	374
Rufus	273
Grass Valley	151



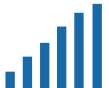
1.

Does the economy have diverse and well-paid jobs?

Resilient economies are not predominated by low-wage industries.

Data to Answer the Question			Results
Employment Data  Source: QCEW + Oregon Employment Department (OED)	<b>Average Annual Wages 2021</b> Oregon \$67,880 Sherman County \$46,965		
	<b>Industry with Highest Employment</b>	<b>Wages</b> <b>% of Total Emp.</b>	
	1. Transportation and Warehousing	\$52,171      33.7%	
	2. Retail Trade	\$27,664      28.5%	
	3. Construction	\$85,294      13.1%	
Hachman Index  Source: Oregon Employment Department (OED)	<i>The Hachman Index is a measure of economic diversity.</i>  <b>Sherman County 0.046</b> 35 <sup>th</sup> highest of Oregon's Counties (2021)		
Income Earned  Source: ACS (2020)	Do people earn an equivalent income in Sherman County compared to other parts of our service area?  <b>Median Household Income   % of State Median Household Income</b> <b>Sherman County (OR)</b> <b>\$51,071</b> <b>81.3%</b> <b>Oregon</b> <b>\$61,818</b> <b>Washington</b> <b>\$73,775</b> Wasco County (OR)      \$53,105      84.5% Hood River County (OR)      \$65,679      104.6% Klickitat County (WA)      \$55,773      75.6% Skamania County (WA)      \$65,181      88.4%		

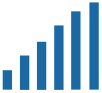

People with jobs in the top industry, **Transportation and Warehousing**, are earning approximately 11% more than the County's Average Annual Wages . People who work in the 2nd largest industry **Retail Trade**, are earning 59% less than the County's Average Wages . The 3<sup>rd</sup> largest industry, **Construction**, is currently growing and provides jobs with wages that greatly exceed the County and State Average Annual Wages. The top two industries in the County make up 62% of the total County employment. Sherman County has high vulnerability for an industry-specific disruption.


Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Employment Data	Of the 3 fastest growing industries, how many account for 20% or more of total area employment?	3	1-2	0
Economic Diversity	The Hachman Index is a measure of economic diversity. Using indicators such as gross domestic product (GDP) or employment, the index measures the mix of industries present in a particular region relative to a (well-diversified) reference region.	0-0.33	0.34-0.66	0.67-1.0
Income Earned	Median household income in the county as a percentage of state median income.	Less than 60%	60%-80%	More than 80%

2.

What is the projected future of major employment industries in the region and nationally?

Diversified economies are more resilient. Regions that have a concentration of jobs in fewer industries are less resilient.




Data to Answer the Question		Results
<div>Employment Data</div> <div>Source: QCEW + Oregon Employment Department (OED)</div>	<div>From <b>2011-2021</b>, Sherman County has seen growth in higher-wage jobs in <b>Construction, Natural resources and mining, and Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting</b>. Construction offers Jobs that have annual wages that significantly exceed the county average (82%). In the same period, several industries including <b>Wholesale trade, Leisure and hospitality</b> have all seen significant decreases in employment numbers.</div> <div><div><b>Fastest Growing</b></div><div><div><div>1. Construction</div><div>2. Natural resources and mining</div><div>3. Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting</div></div><div><div><b>Wages</b></div><div><div>\$85,294</div><div>\$49,433</div><div>\$49,433</div></div></div></div></div>	
<div>Current Events and National Trends</div> <div>Source: Various</div>	<div>Sherman County is seeing growth in several employment sectors with high wages including <b>Construction</b>.</div>	


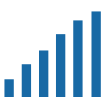
Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Employment Data	Of the 3 fastest growing industries, how many offer wages above, or equivalent to, average wages in the county?	0	1-2	3
Current Events and National Trends	Articles that discuss growing and shrinking industries in Oregon may offer insights into potential economic and employment related risk.	News and Trends suggest industries will not prosper in the future	Nothing Noteworthy	News and Trends suggest industries are growing (regionally, nationally, globally)

3.

What is the age breakdown of residents?

Communities that are resilient have a mix of younger and older populations, and a growing number of working-age residents. Higher concentrations of older or younger populations require more services from the public, particularly during an economic disruption.




Data to Answer the Question		Results
Population characteristics Source: ACS (2020)	The median age for Sherman County residents is 51.4, significantly higher than the state (39.2) and national (37.2) averages.	
Workers over 55 stats Source: Oregon Employment Department (OED)	26% of Sherman County's total population are over 55 years old and currently working (compared to 23% at the state level).	
Age dependency ratio Source: ACS (2020)	The age dependency ratio for Sherman County is 75.2 suggesting more economic pressure compared to the State's ratio of 61.8.	



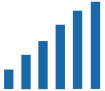
Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Population characteristics	Median Age	Over 50	40-50	Under 40
Workers over 55 stats	Percentage of population of people over 55 and employed full-time  When the workforce is relying on an aging population it may be less sustainable.	More than 30%	15%-30%	Less than 15%
Age dependency ratio	The dependency ratio is the number of dependents in a population (under-18 and over-65) divided by the number of working-age (18-64) people, multiplied by 100. This data point describes the level of pressure on an economy from supporting the portions of the population least likely to be working.	More than 65.0	50.0-65.0	Less than 50.0

4

Do people live and work in the community?

If people live close to where they work, productive time is not wasted on commuting and employment is more accessible during infrastructure disruptions. Communities that provide housing and employment options to residents of all income-levels are more resilient during a shock to the economic landscape.

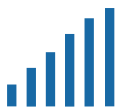

Data to Answer the Question		Results
Housing Data  Source: ACS (2020)	The housing inventory in Sherman County includes a mix of single-family, multi-unit complexes, and mobile homes. The Job to Homes ratio in Sherman County is 0.47 which is significantly less than the state ratio of 0.89  The rental vacancy rate in Sherman County is 2.2%, lower than at the state level of 3.7%.	
Cost of Living vs Median Household Income  Source: ACS (2020)	33.6% of Sherman County residents who rent and 21.7% of all residents are cost-burdened. In comparison, almost 48% of renters and 34% of all residents in the state are cost-burdened.	
Commuting Patterns  Source: ACS (2020), On the Map (2019)	In Sherman County, 38.3% of people live and work within the county; less people drive to work than the state average (78.2% v. 81.5%), and more people walk to work (7.2% v. 3.7%) and less bicycle than state average (0.7% v. 2.1%). 11.4% work from home.  The average commute time in Sherman County is 24 minutes.	



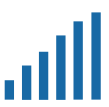
Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Housing and Employment Data	Jobs to Homes Ratio	Less than 0.75	More than 1.5	0.75-1.5
Cost of Living	Rental Vacancy Rate	Less than 2.25%, More than 7%	2.25%-4.49%	4.5%-7%
	Percentage of households spending more than 30% of their income on housing (known as cost-burdened)	More than 25%	20-25%	Less than 20%
Commuting Patterns	Average commuting time	More than 26 min	20 min - 26 min	Less than 20 min
	Percentage of population that commute via walking, bicycling, or public transportation	Less than 5%	5%-10%	More than 10%
	Percentage of population that live and work in the county.	Less than 50%	50-75%	More than 75%

5.

How has the population grown in the last decade and what is predicted for the next 30 years?

Populations in decline signal a weaker (less resilient) economy. People often move to seek better employment or housing opportunities. A declining population is indicative of changing development/ settlement patterns and loss of potential workforce.

Data to Answer the Question		Results
Population Growth Rate Source: PSU and ACS (2020)	Sherman County accounts for 0.04% of the state’s population and has increased by 6.2% between 2010-2020. This population increase is positive but lower than the state’s population growth over the same time period (10.6%).	
Population Forecasts Source: PSU and ACS (2020)	Over the next 20 years Sherman County’s total population is forecasted to decrease by 13% (2020-2040) unless significant changes are seen in employment sector diversity and workforce retention.	

Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Past Population Data	Percentage change in population in the past 10 years	Less than 1.5%	1.5-3%	More than 3%
Population Forecasts	Forecasts for population trends and net migration over the next 30 years relate to the economic drivers that attract and/or retain a growing population.	Declining	No significant Growth or Decline	Growing

6.

Are residential homes able to withstand a natural hazard or weather incident?

Newer homes are more likely to have been constructed to withstand natural hazards and weather incidents. Older homes and manufactured homes may be more vulnerable to damages and/or more difficult to repair. Homes without plumbing, electricity or phone services are at a greater risk during an emergency. The capacity to recover quickly from a shock is greater when people (the workforce) are not displaced.

Data to Answer the Question		Results
Housing Data  Source: ACS (2020)	About 2.07% of the houses in Sherman County were built in 2010 or later. In the period following the last economic recession, Sherman County saw a decline in housing construction.	
	Approximately 64.6% of homes in Sherman County were built before 1970.	
	Mobile homes make up a significant portion of the housing stock when compared to the state average (21.13% v. 8%).	
Utility & Services  Source: ACS (2020)	Sherman County residents use significantly less gas heating options and slightly less electricity heating when compared to the state average (approximately 4.2% gas, 46.3% electricity v. 36% gas, 46.4% electricity). A large portion of Sherman County residents still use <b>fuel oil/Kerosene and Cole, Coke or Wood</b> (27.8% combined).  15% of housing or less lack plumbing, kitchen, or telephone services (5% lack complete plumbing facilities, 6% lack complete kitchen facilities, and 4% have no telephone service available).	





Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Housing Data	Percentage of homes built in the last decade	Less than 4%	4-15%	More than 15%
	Percentage of homes built before 1970	More than 60%	40%-60%	Less than 40%
	Percentage of housing stock that is classified as mobile homes	More than 10%	5-10%	Less than 5%
Utility & Services	Percentage of homes without complete plumbing	More than 2%	1-2%	Less than 1%
	Percentage of homes without complete kitchens	More than 3%	1-3%	Less than 1%



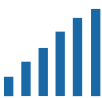


7.

What level of educational attainment and earnings are residents reaching?

People who attain higher education and/or have specialized skills are more likely to be employed and earn higher wages and less likely to primarily depend on public services. Regions that have educational opportunities can provide essential resources and training for residents preparing to join the workforce. In addition, if economic conditions change and the local employment sectors shift, educational opportunities can be an asset for the community by offering community members new or additional training.


Data to Answer the Question		Results
Local resources for training and education  Source: Sherman County, CGCC	<i>*No physical higher education locations present in Sherman County*</i>  <b>Closest Physical Higher Education Location:</b> <u>Columbia Gorge Community College – The Dalles Campus</u> (Located in neighboring Wasco County - Online courses available)  Columbia Gorge Community College is a public technical college that offers six Associate degrees, seven Associate of Applied Science degrees, and 14 certificates.  CGCC offers a bridge to four-year universities across Oregon. Bend/Corvallis (OSU), Portland (PSU), and Eugene (U of O) are the closest four-year university options.	  
	<i>*Online education options have increased regional access to education*</i>  Approximately 89% of people in Sherman County have attained a minimum of a high-school degree, and 17% of people have earned a bachelor's degree or higher. In Sherman County, a significantly smaller proportion of residents have attained higher-education than the state averages (33%).  People with only a high-school degree in Sherman County have median earnings that are 98% of the state median for those with only a high school degree.	  



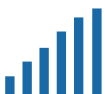
Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Educational attainment and earnings	Percentage of population (25 years+) with Bachelor's Degree or higher	Less than 25%	25%-35%	More than 35%
	Median earnings of high school graduates (or equivalency) in the county as a percentage of median earnings of high school graduates in state	Less than 75%	75%-105%	More than 105%

8.

Do residents have access to health and wellness facilities?

A resilient economy can consistently provide residents with basic needs, including shelter, safety, and food. Hospitals, clinics, and grocery stores are vital for preparing for, responding to, and recovering from a major disruption. High levels of baseline community health are important for resilience because communities with healthy residents are better able to absorb the impacts of, and recover from, disasters. Health insurance coverage is a positive indicator of community resilience.

Data to Answer the Question		Results
Insurance Coverage  Source: ACS (2020)	Just over 9% of Sherman County residents are uninsured, a slightly higher rate than the State as a whole (6.7%) but still low enough to be an indicator for moderate economic resilience.	

Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Insurance Coverage	Percentage of uninsured (non-incarcerated) population	More than 11%	7-11%	Less than 7%

Wasco County is located at the east end of Oregon’s Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and spans over almost 2400 square miles. Wasco County is bordered by the Columbia River to the north, Mt. Hood to the west, and the Deschutes River to the East. The Dalles is the largest city within the county, serves as the county seat and houses 60% of the County’s total population.

Quick Facts

Population

26,581

% of State Population

0.6%

Economic Diversity Score  
(Hachman Index)

0.388 (/1.0) 17<sup>th</sup> Highest of 36 Oregon Counties

Top 3 Industries by % of total employment  
(Average Annual Wage)

#1 28.7%  
Health Care & Social Assistance  
(\$52,286)

#2 20.7%  
Retail Trade  
(\$34,629)

#3 13.5%  
Accommodation and Food Services  
(\$24,371)

Average Annual Wages in Wasco County

\$50,389  
(all industries/ownerships)

Stronger Signals of Resilience

- Wasco County employment sectors are growing in diversity and there is consistent growth in industries with higher-than-average wages.
- Average median household income is high, sitting at 84.5% of the state median income.

Weaker Signals of Resilience

- The age dependency ratio for Wasco County is 74.3, suggesting more economic pressure compared to the State’s ratio of 61.8.
- In Wasco County, 33% of residents who rent and 26% of all residents are cost-burdened.
- The rental vacancy rate in Wasco County is 2.3%, lower than at the state level of 3.7%.
- Only 19.5% of people in Wasco County have earned a bachelor’s degree or higher.
- 27% of Wasco County’s total population are over 55 years old and currently working.

	US	State	County
Median Household Income (2021 \$)	\$60,293	\$62,818	\$53,105
Median Age	37.9	39.3	40.8
% of Residents with at least High School Degree	87.6%	90.7%	86.4%
% of Renters spending 30% or more of income on housing	47%	47.5%	32.8%

City	Population
The Dalles	16,048
Outside UGBs	8,964
Dufur	608
Mosier	468
Maupin	427



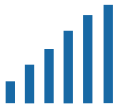
Source: US Census 5-year ACS 2018-2020

Source: PSU 2020-2021



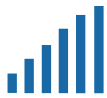
1.

Does the economy have diverse and well-paid jobs?

Resilient economies are not predominated by low-wage industries.

Data to Answer the Question			Results
Employment Data  Source: QCEW + Oregon Employment Department (OED)	<b>Average Annual Wages 2021</b> Oregon \$67,880 Wasco County \$50,389		
	<b>Industry with Highest Employment</b>	<b>Wages</b> <b>% of Total Emp.</b>	
	1. Health Care and Social Assistance	\$52,286      28.7%	
	2. Retail Trade	\$34,629      20.7%	
	3. Accommodation and Food Services	\$24,371      13.5%	
Hachman Index  Source: Oregon Employment Department (OED)	<i>The Hachman Index is a measure of economic diversity.</i>  <b>Wasco County 0.388</b> 17 <sup>th</sup> highest of Oregon's Counties (2021)		
Income Earned  Source: ACS (2020)	Do people earn an equivalent income in Wasco County compared to other parts of our service area?  <b>Median Household Income   % of State Median Household Income</b> <b>Wasco County (OR)</b> \$53,105 84.5% <b>Oregon</b> \$62,818 <b>Washington</b> \$73,775 Hood River County (OR) \$65,679 104.6% Sherman County (OR) \$51,071 81.3% Klickitat County (WA) \$55,773 75.6% Skamania County (WA) \$65,181 88.4%		


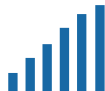
People with jobs in the top industry, **Heath Care and Social Assistance**, are earning approximately 4% more than the County's median wage at \$52,286. People who work in the 2nd largest industry **Retail Trade** are earning only 31% of the state's median income at \$34,629 annually. The top two industries in the County make up 28.7% and 20.7% of the total employment, respectively. A concentration of jobs in a single industry indicates less economic resilience, Wasco County is building employment diversity but there is still significant vulnerability for an industry-specific disruption.



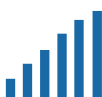
Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Employment Data	Of the 3 fastest growing industries, how many account for 20% or more of total area employment?	3	1-2	0
Economic Diversity	The Hachman Index is a measure of economic diversity. Using indicators such as gross domestic product (GDP) or employment, the index measures the mix of industries present in a particular region relative to a (well-diversified) reference region.	0-0.33	0.34-0.66	0.67-1.0
Income Earned	Median household income in the county as a percentage of state median income.	Less than 60%	60%-80%	More than 80%

2.

What is the projected future of major employment industries in the region and nationally?

Diversified economies are more resilient. Regions that have a concentration of jobs in fewer industries are less resilient.




Data to Answer the Question		Results
<div>Employment Data</div> <div>Source: QCEW + Oregon Employment Department (OED)</div>	<div>From <b>2011-2021</b>, Wasco County has seen significant growth in higher-wage jobs in <b>Information, Management of companies and enterprises, and Transportation, warehousing &amp; utilities</b>. Jobs in these industry sectors have annual wages that significantly exceed the county average, and the fastest growing industry, <b>Information</b>, has wages that exceed the state average by 388%. In the same period, several industries including <b>Finance and insurance, Financial activities, and Professional, scientific, and technical services</b> have all seen significant decreases in employment numbers.</div> <div><div><b>Fastest Growing</b></div><div><div>1. Information</div><div>2. Management of companies and enterprises</div><div>3. Transportation, warehousing &amp; utilities</div></div><div><div><b>Wages</b></div><div><div>\$263,631</div><div>\$91,092</div><div>\$61,414</div></div></div></div>	
<div>Current Events and National Trends</div> <div>Source: Various</div>	<div>In Wasco County, the employment sectors are growing in diversity and there is consistent growth in industries with high average wages such as <b>Information and Management of companies and enterprises</b>. Specifically, tech-based industries are growing steadily in The Dalles and greater Wasco County.</div>	



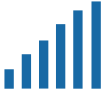
Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Employment Data	Of the 3 fastest growing industries, how many offer wages above, or equivalent to, average wages in the county?	0	1-2	3
Current Events and National Trends	Articles that discuss growing and shrinking industries in Oregon may offer insights into potential economic and employment related risk.	News and Trends suggest industries will not prosper in the future	Nothing Noteworthy	News and Trends suggest industries are growing (regionally, nationally, globally)

3.

What is the age breakdown of residents?

Communities that are resilient have a mix of younger and older populations, and a growing number of working-age residents. Higher concentrations of older or younger populations require more services from the public, particularly during an economic disruption.




Data to Answer the Question		Results
Population characteristics Source: ACS (2020)	The median age for Wasco County residents is 40.8, higher than the state (39.3) and national (37.2) averages. The age breakdown in Wasco County skews older, with 24% of the population between the ages of 40-60 and 27% over the age of 60.	
Workers over 55 stats Source: Oregon Employment Department (OED)	27% of Wasco County's total population are over 55 years old and currently working (compared to 23% at the state level).	
Age dependency ratio Source: ACS (2020)	The age dependency ratio for Wasco County is 74.3, suggesting more economic pressure compared to the State's ratio of 61.8.	



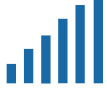
Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Population characteristics	Median Age	Over 50	40-50	Under 40
Workers over 55 stats	Percentage of population of people over 55 and employed full-time  When the workforce is relying on an aging population it may be less sustainable.	More than 30%	15%-30%	Less than 15%
Age dependency ratio	The dependency ratio is the number of dependents in a population (under-18 and over-65) divided by the number of working-age (18-64) people, multiplied by 100. This data point describes the level of pressure on an economy from supporting the portions of the population least likely to be working.	More than 65.0	50.0-65.0	Less than 50.0

4

Do people live and work in the community?

If people live close to where they work, productive time is not wasted on commuting and employment is more accessible during infrastructure disruptions. Communities that provide housing and employment options to residents of all income-levels are more resilient during a shock to the economic landscape.

Data to Answer the Question		Results
Housing Data  Source: ACS (2020)	<p>The housing inventory in Wasco County includes a mix of single-family, multi-unit complexes, and mobile homes. Mobile homes make up 16.8% of the county's housing inventory.</p> <p>The Job to Homes ratio in Wasco County is 0.66 compared to the state ratio of 0.89</p>	
Cost of Living vs Median Household Income  Source: ACS (2020)	<p>The rental vacancy rate in Wasco County is 2.3%, a bit lower than at the state level of 3.7%.</p> <p>In Wasco County, 33% of residents who rent and 26% of all residents are cost-burdened. In comparison, almost 48% of renters and 34% of all residents in the state are cost-burdened.</p>	
Commuting Patterns  Source: ACS (2020), On the Map (2019)	<p>In Wasco County, 60% of people live and work within the county; more people drive to work than the state average (86.1% v. 81.5%), and more people walk to work (4.5% v. 3.7%) and less bicycle than state average (0.5% v. 2.1%). 7.7% work from home.</p> <p>The average commute time in Wasco County is 18 minutes.</p>	

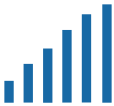

Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Housing and Employment Data	Jobs to Homes Ratio	Less than 0.75	More than 1.5	0.75-1.5
Cost of Living	Vacancy Rate	Less than 2.25%, More than 7%	2.25%-4.49%	4.5%-7%
	Percentage of households spending more than 30% of their income on housing (known as cost-burdened)	More than 25%	20-25%	Less than 20%
Commuting Patterns	Average commuting time	More than 26 min	20 min - 26 min	Less than 20 min
	Percentage of population that commute via walking, bicycling, or public transportation	Less than 5%	5%-10%	More than 10%
	Percentage of population that live and work in the county.	Less than 50%	50-75%	More than 75%



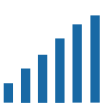


5.

How has the population grown in the last decade and what is predicted for the next 30 years?

Populations in decline signal a weaker (less resilient) economy. People often move to seek better employment or housing opportunities. A declining population is indicative of changing development/ settlement patterns and loss of potential workforce.





Data to Answer the Question		Results
Population Growth Rate Source: PSU and ACS (2020)	Wasco County accounts for 0.6% of the state’s population and has increased by 5.7% between 2010-2020. This population increase is positive but significantly lower, than the state’s population growth over the same time period (10.6%).	
Population Forecasts Source: PSU and ACS (2020)	Over the next 20 years Wasco County’s total population is forecasted to increase by 9% (2020-2040). This will be an increase of approximately 2,455 people. The population growth expected in Wasco County is steady, however, significantly slower than the state’s population growth over the same time period (20%).	



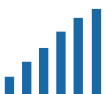
Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Past Population Data	Percentage change in population in the past 10 years	Less than 1.5%	1.5-3%	More than 3%
Population Forecasts	Forecasts for population trends and net migration over the next 30 years relate to the economic drivers that attract and/or retain a growing population.	Declining	No significant Growth or Decline	Growing

6.

Are residential homes able to withstand a natural hazard or weather incident?

Newer homes are more likely to have been constructed to withstand natural hazards and weather incidents. Older homes and manufactured homes may be more vulnerable to damages and/or more difficult to repair. Homes without plumbing, electricity or phone services are at a greater risk during an emergency. The capacity to recover quickly from a shock is greater when people (the workforce) are not displaced.





Data to Answer the Question		Results
Housing Data  Source: ACS (2020)	About 4% of the houses in Wasco County were built in 2010 or later. In the period following the last economic recession, Wasco County saw a decline in housing construction.	
	Approximately 48.6% of homes in Wasco County were built before 1970.	
	Mobile homes make up a large portion of the housing stock when compared to the state average (16.8% v. 8%).	
Utility & Services  Source: ACS (2020)	In Wasco County residents use significantly less gas heating options and more electricity heating when compared to the state average (approximately 12% gas, 65% electricity v. 36% gas, 46% electricity).	
	3% of housing or less lack plumbing, kitchen, or telephone services (1.4% lack complete plumbing facilities, 3.1% lack complete kitchen facilities, and 1.5% have no telephone service available).	



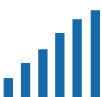
Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Housing Data	Percentage of homes built in the last decade	Less than 4%	4-15%	More than 15%
	Percentage of homes built before 1970	More than 60%	40%-60%	Less than 40%
	Percentage of housing stock that is classified as mobile homes	More than 10%	5-10%	Less than 5%
Utility & Services	Percentage of homes without complete plumbing	More than 2%	1-2%	Less than 1%
	Percentage of homes without complete kitchens	More than 3%	1-3%	Less than 1%

7.

What level of educational attainment and earnings are residents reaching?

People who attain higher education and/or have specialized skills are more likely to be employed and earn higher wages and less likely to primarily depend on public services. Regions that have educational opportunities can provide essential resources and training for residents preparing to join the workforce. In addition, if economic conditions change and the local employment sectors shift, educational opportunities can be an asset for the community by offering community members new or additional training.


Data to Answer the Question		Results
Local resources for training and education  Source: Wasco County, CGCC	<p><b>Closest Physical Higher Education Location:</b> <u>Columbia Gorge Community College – The Dalles Campus</u> <u>(Online courses available)</u></p> <p>Columbia Gorge Community College is a public technical college that offers six Associate degrees, seven Associate of Applied Science degrees, and 14 certificates. The college is the only institution of higher education in Wasco County and serves approximately 4339 regional students.</p> <p>CGCC offers a bridge to four-year universities across Oregon. Bend/Corvallis (OSU), Portland (PSU), and Eugene (U of O) are the closest four-year university options.</p> <p><i>*Online education options have increased regional access to education*</i></p>	 
Educational attainment of populations  Source: ACS (2020)	<p>Approximately 86% of people in Wasco County have attained a minimum of a high-school degree, and 19.5% of people have earned a bachelor’s degree or higher. In Wasco County, a smaller proportion of residents have attained higher-education than the state averages (33%).</p> <p>People with only a high-school degree in Wasco County have higher median earnings that are 104% of the state median for those with only a high school degree.</p>	 



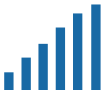
Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Educational attainment and earnings	Percentage of population (25 years+) with Bachelor's Degree or higher	Less than 25%	25%-35%	More than 35%
	Median earnings of high school graduates (or equivalency) in the county as a percentage of median earnings of high school graduates in state	Less than 75%	75%-105%	More than 105%

8.

Do residents have access to health and wellness facilities?

A resilient economy can consistently provide residents with basic needs, including shelter, safety, and food. Hospitals, clinics, and grocery stores are vital for preparing for, responding to, and recovering from a major disruption. High levels of baseline community health are important for resilience because communities with healthy residents are better able to absorb the impacts of, and recover from, disasters. Health insurance coverage is a positive indicator of community resilience.

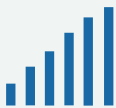
Data to Answer the Question		Results
Insurance Coverage  Source: ACS (2020)	Just over 7.8% of Wasco County residents are uninsured. This is a slightly higher rate than the State (6.7%) but still low enough to be a positive indicator for moderate economic resilience.	

Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Insurance Coverage	Percentage of uninsured (non-incarcerated) population	More than 11%	7-11%	Less than 7%

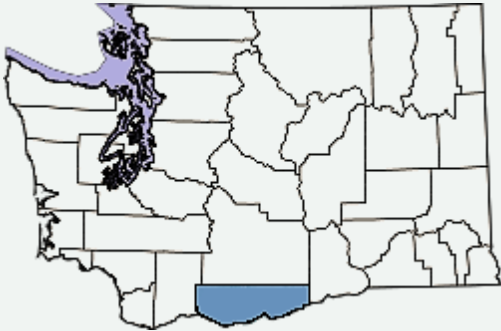
Klickitat County is in south central Washington with the Columbia River forming the southern border. The Mount Adams Recreation area runs along most of the western border while the lands of the Yakama Indian Reservation span the northern border. Klickitat County is the easternmost Washington county in the MCEDD service area and extends over 1,871 Square Miles.

Quick Facts			
Population	23,000		
% of State Population (WA)	0.3%		
Economic Diversity Score (Hachman Index)	*Washington State does not use this qualifier*		
Top 3 Industries by % of total employment (Average Annual Wage)	#1 33.7% Manufacturing (\$80,868)	#2 28.5% Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting (\$40,434)	#3 13.1% Retail trade (\$28,520)
Average Annual Wages in Klickitat County	\$54,895 (all industries/ownerships)		

Stronger Signals of Resilience



- In Klickitat County, employment sectors are seeing steady growth in industries with higher-than-average wages, specifically in Manufacturing.
- The average commute time in Klickitat County is 22 minutes.
- Klickitat County population increased by 10.4% between 2010-2020.



Weaker Signals of Resilience



- The age dependency ratio for Klickitat County is 75.6 suggesting heavy economic pressure compared to the State’s ratio.
- As low as 6.9% of Klickitat County residents are uninsured, an indicator for strong economic resilience.
- 45.5% of Klickitat County residents who rent and 28.2% of all residents are cost-burdened.
- The County’s population is aging with 32% of the total population over 60 years old.
- The Job to Homes ratio in Klickitat County is 0.66.

	US	State	County
Median Household Income (2021 \$)	\$60,293	\$73,775	\$55,773
Median Age	37.9	37.7	46.9
% of Residents with at least High School Degree	87.6%	84.48%	88.00%
% of Renters spending 30% or more of income on housing	47%	27.2%	45.5%



City	Population
Outside UGBs	16,019
Goldendale	3,453
White Salmon	2,485
Bingen	778

Source: US Census 5-year ACS 2018-2020




Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management and ACS (2020)

1.

Does the economy have diverse and well-paid jobs?

Data to Answer the Question		Results																					
Employment Data  Source: Washington Employment Security Department	<p>Resilient economies are not predominated by low-wage industries.</p> <p><b>Average Annual Wages 2021</b></p> <table><tr><td>Washington</td><td>\$76,801</td></tr><tr><td>Klickitat County</td><td>\$54,895</td></tr></table> <p><b>Industry with Highest Employment</b></p> <table><tr><td></td><td><b>Wages</b></td><td><b>% of Total Emp.</b></td></tr><tr><td>1. Manufacturing</td><td>\$80,868</td><td>20.3%</td></tr><tr><td>2. Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting</td><td>\$40,434</td><td>18.9%</td></tr><tr><td>3. Retail trade</td><td>\$28,520</td><td>5.7%</td></tr></table>	Washington	\$76,801	Klickitat County	\$54,895		<b>Wages</b>	<b>% of Total Emp.</b>	1. Manufacturing	\$80,868	20.3%	2. Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	\$40,434	18.9%	3. Retail trade	\$28,520	5.7%						
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Hachman Index	<p><i>The Hachman Index is a measure of economic diversity.</i></p> <p><b>*Washington State does not use this qualifier*</b></p>																						
Income Earned  Source: Washington Employment Security Department	<p>Do people earn an equivalent income in Klickitat County compared to other parts of our service area?</p> <p><b><u>Median Household Income</u>   <u>% of State Median Household Income</u></b></p> <table><tr><td><b>Klickitat County (WA)</b></td><td><b>\$55,773</b></td><td><b>75.6%</b></td></tr><tr><td><b>Washington</b></td><td><b>\$73,775</b></td><td></td></tr><tr><td><b>Oregon</b></td><td><b>\$61,818</b></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Wasco County (OR)</td><td>\$53,105</td><td>84.5%</td></tr><tr><td>Hood River County (OR)</td><td>\$65,679</td><td>104.6%</td></tr><tr><td>Sherman County (OR)</td><td>\$51,071</td><td>81.3%</td></tr><tr><td>Skamania County</td><td>\$65,181</td><td>88.4%</td></tr></table>	<b>Klickitat County (WA)</b>	<b>\$55,773</b>	<b>75.6%</b>	<b>Washington</b>	<b>\$73,775</b>		<b>Oregon</b>	<b>\$61,818</b>		Wasco County (OR)	\$53,105	84.5%	Hood River County (OR)	\$65,679	104.6%	Sherman County (OR)	\$51,071	81.3%	Skamania County	\$65,181	88.4%	
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The top industry, **Manufacturing**, is currently growing and earning significantly more than the County’s average annual wages at \$80,868. People who work in the 2nd largest industry **Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting**, are earning 26% less than the county’s average wages . The 3<sup>rd</sup> largest industry, **Retail trade**, has average wages that are significantly below the county average annual wages. The top two industries in the county make up 39% of the total county employment. Klickitat County economic diversity is growing but still has vulnerability for an industry-specific disruption.

Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Employment Data	Of the 3 fastest growing industries, how many account for 20% or more of total area employment?	3	1-2	0
Economic Diversity	The Hachman Index is a measure of economic diversity. Using indicators such as gross domestic product (GDP) or employment, the index measures the mix of industries present in a particular region relative to a (well-diversified) reference region.	0-0.33	0.34-0.66	0.67-1.0
Income Earned	Median household income in the County as a percentage of state median income.	Less than 60%	60%-80%	More than 80%

2.

What is the projected future of major employment industries in the region and nationally?

Diversified economies are more resilient. Regions that have a concentration of jobs in fewer industries are less resilient.

Data to Answer the Question		Results
<div>Employment Data</div> <div>Source: Washington Employment Security Department</div>	<div>From <b>2011-2021</b>, Klickitat County has seen job growth in <b>Manufacturing, Educational services, and Transportation and warehousing</b>. Manufacturing, offers jobs that have annual wages that significantly exceed the county average (47%). In the same period, several industries including <b>Professional and technical services, Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and Arts, entertainment, and recreation</b> have all seen significant decreases in employment numbers.</div> <div><div><b>Fastest Growing</b></div><div><div><div>1. Manufacturing</div><div>2. Educational services</div><div>3. Transportation and warehousing</div></div><div><div><b>Wages</b></div><div><div>\$80,868</div><div>\$29,774</div><div>\$57,265</div></div></div></div></div>	
<div>Current Events and National Trends</div> <div>Source: Various</div>	<div>In Klickitat County, the employment sectors are seeing steady growth in industries with higher-than-average wages, specifically in <b>Manufacturing</b>.</div>	



Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Employment Data	Of the 3 fastest growing industries, how many offer wages above, or equivalent to, average wages in the county?	0	1-2	3
Current Events and National Trends	Articles that discuss growing and shrinking industries in Oregon may offer insights into potential economic and employment related risk.	News and Trends suggest industries will not prosper in the future	Nothing Noteworthy	News and Trends suggest industries are growing (regionally, nationally, globally)



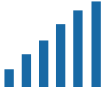


3.

What is the age breakdown of residents?

Communities that are resilient have a mix of younger and older populations, and a growing number of working-age residents. Higher concentrations of older or younger populations require more services from the public, particularly during an economic disruption.




Data to Answer the Question		Results
Population characteristics Source: ACS (2020)	The median age for Klickitat County residents is 46.9, higher than the state (39.2) and national (37.2) averages.	
Workers over 55 stats	<b>*This data is unavailable for Klickitat County*</b>	
Age dependency ratio Source: ACS (2020)	The age dependency ratio for Klickitat County is 75.6 suggesting heavy economic pressure compared to the State's ratio of 59.5.	



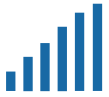
Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Population characteristics	Median Age	Over 50	40-50	Under 40
Workers over 55 stats	Percentage of population of people over 55 and employed full-time  When the workforce is relying on an aging population it may be less sustainable.	More than 30%	15%-30%	Less than 15%
Age dependency ratio	The dependency ratio is the number of dependents in a population (under-18 and over-65) divided by the number of working-age (18-64) people, multiplied by 100. This data point describes the level of pressure on an economy from supporting the portions of the population least likely to be working.	More than 65.0	50.0-65.0	Less than 50.0

4

Do people live and work in the community?

If people live close to where they work, productive time is not wasted on commuting and employment is more accessible during infrastructure disruptions. Communities that provide housing and employment options to residents of all income-levels are more resilient during a shock to the economic landscape.

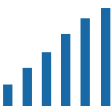
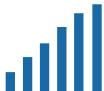
Data to Answer the Question		Results
Housing Data  Source: ACS (2020)	The housing inventory in Klickitat County includes a mix of single-family, multi-unit complexes, and mobile homes. The Job to Homes ratio in Klickitat County is 0.66 which is slightly less than the state ratio of 0.60  The rental vacancy rate in Klickitat County is 3.9%, slightly higher than the state level of 3.6%.	
Cost of Living vs Median Household Income  Source: ACS (2020)	45.5% of Klickitat County residents who rent and 28.2% of all residents are cost-burdened. In comparison, almost 45.2% of renters and 31.7% of all residents in the state are cost-burdened.	
Commuting Patterns  Source: ACS (2020), On the Map (2019)	In Klickitat County, 48% of people live and work within the county; less people drive to work than the state average (74.5% v. 86.1%), and more people walk to work (7.2% v. 3.8%) and less bicycle than state average (01.5% v. 2.2%). 15% work from home.  The average commute time in Klickitat County is 21.9 minutes.	



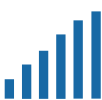
Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Housing and Employment Data	Jobs to Homes Ratio	Less than 0.75	More than 1.5	0.75-1.5
Cost of Living	Rental Vacancy Rate	Less than 2.25%, More than 7%	2.25%-4.49%	4.5%-7%
	Percentage of households spending more than 30% of their income on housing (known as cost-burdened)	More than 25%	20-25%	Less than 20%
Commuting Patterns	Average commuting time	More than 26 min	20 min - 26 min	Less than 20 min
	Percentage of population that commute via walking, bicycling, or public transportation	Less than 5%	5%-10%	More than 10%
	Percentage of population that live and work in the county.	Less than 50%	50-75%	More than 75%

5.

How has the population grown in the last decade and what is predicted for the next 30 years?

Populations in decline signal a weaker (less resilient) economy. People often move to seek better employment or housing opportunities. A declining population is indicative of changing development/ settlement patterns and loss of potential workforce.

Data to Answer the Question		Results
<div>Population Growth Rate</div> <div>Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management and ACS (2020)</div>	Klickitat County accounts for 0.3% of Washington state’s population and has increased by 10.4% between 2010-2020. This increase in population is slightly lower than the state’s population growth over the same time period (10.6%).	
<div>Population Forecasts</div> <div>Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management and ACS (2020)</div>	Over the next 20 years Klickitat County’s total population is forecasted to increase by 2%(2020-2040).	

Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Past Population Data	Percentage change in population in the past 10 years	Less than 1.5%	1.5-3%	More than 3%
Population Forecasts	Forecasts for population trends and net migration over the next 30 years relate to the economic drivers that attract and/or retain a growing population.	Declining	No significant Growth or Decline	Growing

6.

**Are residential homes able to withstand a natural hazard or weather incident?**

Newer homes are more likely to have been constructed to withstand natural hazards and weather incidents. Older homes and manufactured homes may be more vulnerable to damages and/or more difficult to repair. Homes without plumbing, electricity or phone services are at a greater risk during an emergency. The capacity to recover quickly from a shock is greater when people (the workforce) are not displaced.



Data to Answer the Question		Results
<div>Housing Data</div> <div>Source: ACS (2020)</div>	<p>About 5.36% of the houses in Klickitat County were built in 2010 or later. In the period following the last economic recession, Klickitat County saw a slight decline in housing construction.</p> <p>Approximately 31.62% of homes in Klickitat County were built before 1970.</p> <p>Mobile homes make up a significant portion of the housing stock when compared to the state average (14.75% v. 8%).</p>	
<div>Utility &amp; Services</div> <div>Source: ACS (2020)</div>	<p>In Klickitat County residents use significantly less gas heating options and slightly less Electricity when compared to the state average (approximately 20.8% gas, 46.1% electricity v. 34.4% gas, 51.1% electricity). A large portion of Klickitat County residents still use <b>fuel oil/Kerosene and Cole, Coke or Wood</b> (17.7% combined).</p> <p>Approximately 7% of housing or less lack plumbing, kitchen, or telephone services. (2.5% lack complete plumbing facilities, 3.4% lacking complete kitchen facilities, and 1.7% have no telephone service available)</p>	



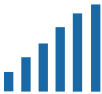
Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Housing Data	Percentage of homes built in the last decade (2010-2020)	Less than 4%	4-15%	More than 15%
	Percentage of homes built before 1970	More than 60%	40%-60%	Less than 40%
	Percentage of housing stock that is classified as mobile homes	More than 10%	5-10%	Less than 5%
Utility & Services	Percentage of homes without complete plumbing	More than 2%	1-2%	Less than 1%
	Percentage of homes without complete kitchens	More than 3%	1-3%	Less than 1%

7.

What level of educational attainment and earnings are residents reaching?

People who attain higher education and/or have specialized skills are more likely to be employed and earn higher wages and less likely to primarily depend on public services. Regions that have educational opportunities can provide essential resources and training for residents preparing to join the workforce. In addition, if economic conditions change and the local employment sectors shift, educational opportunities can be an asset for the community by offering community members new or additional training.

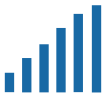
Data to Answer the Question		Results
Local resources for training and education  Source: Klickitat County, CGCC, CCE, and YVC	<p><i>*No physical higher education locations present in Klickitat County*</i></p> <p><b>Closest Physical Higher Education Location:</b> <u>Columbia Gorge Community College – The Dalles Campus</u> (Located in neighboring Wasco County - Online courses available)</p> <p><b>Other Regional Education Options:</b> Clark College Community and Continuing Education (CCE) – Vancouver WA Yakima Valley College - Yakima, WA</p> <p>Local community colleges offer a bridge to four-year universities across the region. Yakima (CWU), Vancouver (WSU), and Seattle /Tacoma (The UW) are the closest four-year university options.</p> <p><i>*Online education options have increased regional access to education*</i></p>	
Educational attainment of populations  Source: ACS (2020)	<p>Approximately 88% of people in Klickitat County have attained a minimum of a high-school degree, and 31% of people have earned a bachelor’s degree or higher. In Klickitat County, a slightly smaller proportion of residents have attained higher-education than the state averages (33%).</p> <p>People with only a high-school degree in Klickitat County have median earnings that are 92% of the state median for those with only a high school degree.</p>	



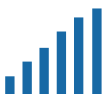
Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Educational attainment and earnings	Percentage of population (25 years+) with Bachelor's Degree or higher	Less than 25%	25%-35%	More than 35%
	Median earnings of high school graduates (or equivalency) in the county as a percentage of median earnings of high school graduates in state	Less than 75%	75%-105%	More than 105%

8.

Do residents have access to health and wellness facilities?

A resilient economy can consistently provide residents with basic needs, including shelter, safety, and food. Hospitals, clinics, and grocery stores are vital for preparing for, responding to, and recovering from a major disruption. High levels of baseline community health are important for resilience because communities with healthy residents are better able to absorb the impacts of, and recover from, disasters. Health insurance coverage is a positive indicator of community resilience.

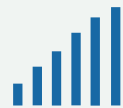
Data to Answer the Question		Results
Insurance Coverage  Source: ACS (2020)	6.9% of Klickitat County residents are uninsured, a slightly higher rate than the State as a whole(6.3%) but still low enough to be an indicator for strong economic resilience.	

Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Insurance Coverage	Percentage of uninsured (non-incarcerated) population	More than 11%	7-11%	Less than 7%

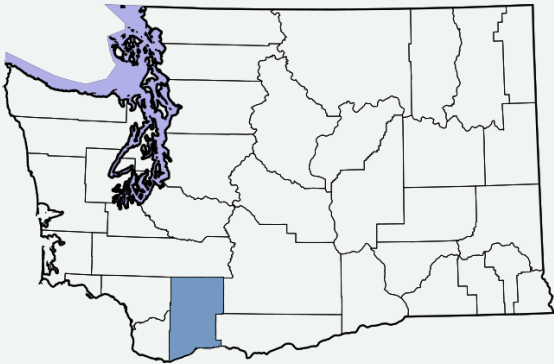
Skamania County is approximately 40 miles east of the Portland/Vancouver Metro area and located in in South central Washington with the Columbia River forming the southern boarder. A large majority of Skamania county is forest within the Gifford Pinchot National Forest and the Mount Adams Recreation area. Skamania County spans approximately 1,655 square miles.

Quick Facts			
Population	11,750		
% of State Population (WA)	0.2%		
Economic Diversity Score (Hachman Index)	*Washington State dose not use this qualifier*		
Top 3 Industries by % of total employment (Average Annual Wage)	#1 18.6% Accommodation and food services (\$25,430)	#2 15.3% Manufacturing (\$47,795)	#3 7.7% Healthcare and social assistance (\$24,914)
Average Annual Wages in Skamania County	\$43,307 (all industries/ownerships)		

Stronger Signals of Resilience



- In Skamania County, employment sectors are seeing steady growth in industries with higher-than-average wages, specifically in Manufacturing
- Skamania County population increased by 9% between 2010-2020



Weaker Signals of Resilience



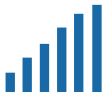
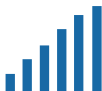
- A large portion of Skamania County residents still use fuel oil/Kerosene and Cole, Coke or Wood (19.6% combined).
- The Job to Homes ratio in Skamania County is 0.33
- The average commute time in Skamania County is 29 minutes
- The population in Skamania County is aging with an age dependency ratio of 63.9 and 30% of the county population are over 60 years old
- 42.0% of Skamania County residents who rent and 27.8% of all residents are cost-burdened

	US	State	County
Median Household Income (2021 \$)	\$60,293	\$73,775	\$65,181
Median Age	37.9	37.7	46.6
% of Residents with at least High School Degree	87.6%	84.48%	91.63%
% of Renters spending 30% or more of income on housing	47%	27.2%	42.0%




City	Population
Outside UGBs	9,148
Carson	2,800
Stevenson	1,491
North Bonneville	965

1.

Does the economy have diverse and well-paid jobs?

Data to Answer the Question			Results																					
Employment Data  Source: Washington Employment Security Department	<p>Resilient economies are not predominated by low-wage industries.</p> <p><b>Average Annual Wages 2021</b></p> <table><tr><td>Washington</td><td>\$76,801</td></tr><tr><td>Skamania County</td><td>\$43,307</td></tr></table> <p><b>Industry with Highest Employment</b></p> <table><tr><td></td><td><b>Wages</b></td><td><b>% of Total Emp.</b></td></tr><tr><td>1. Accommodation and food services</td><td>\$25,430</td><td>18.6%</td></tr><tr><td>2. Manufacturing</td><td>\$47,795</td><td>15.3%</td></tr><tr><td>3. Healthcare and social assistance</td><td>\$24,914</td><td>7.7%</td></tr></table>		Washington	\$76,801	Skamania County	\$43,307		<b>Wages</b>	<b>% of Total Emp.</b>	1. Accommodation and food services	\$25,430	18.6%	2. Manufacturing	\$47,795	15.3%	3. Healthcare and social assistance	\$24,914	7.7%						
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2. Manufacturing	\$47,795	15.3%																						
3. Healthcare and social assistance	\$24,914	7.7%																						
Hachman Index	<p><i>The Hachman Index is a measure of economic diversity.</i></p> <p><b>*Washington State dose not use this qualifier*</b></p>																							
Income Earned  Source: Washington Employment Security Department	<p>Do people earn an equivalent income in Skamania County compared to other parts of our service area?</p> <p><b><u>Median Household Income</u>   <u>% of State Median Household Income</u></b></p> <table><tr><td><b>Skamania County (WA)</b></td><td><b>\$65,181</b></td><td><b>88.4%</b></td></tr><tr><td><b>Washington</b></td><td><b>\$73,775</b></td><td></td></tr><tr><td><b>Oregon</b></td><td><b>\$61,818</b></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Wasco County (OR)</td><td>\$53,105</td><td>84.5%</td></tr><tr><td>Hood River County (OR)</td><td>\$65,679</td><td>104.6%</td></tr><tr><td>Sherman County (OR)</td><td>\$51,071</td><td>81.3%</td></tr><tr><td>Klickitat County</td><td>\$55,773</td><td>75.6%</td></tr></table>		<b>Skamania County (WA)</b>	<b>\$65,181</b>	<b>88.4%</b>	<b>Washington</b>	<b>\$73,775</b>		<b>Oregon</b>	<b>\$61,818</b>		Wasco County (OR)	\$53,105	84.5%	Hood River County (OR)	\$65,679	104.6%	Sherman County (OR)	\$51,071	81.3%	Klickitat County	\$55,773	75.6%	
<b>Skamania County (WA)</b>	<b>\$65,181</b>	<b>88.4%</b>																						
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The top industry, **Accommodation and food services**, is earning significantly less than the County’s average annual wages at \$25,430. People who work in the 2nd largest industry **Manufacturing**, are seeing growth and earning slightly more than the county’s average wages . The 3<sup>rd</sup> largest industry, **Healthcare and social assistance**, is growing and has wages that are significantly below the county average annual wages. The top two industries in the county make up 33% of the total county employment. Skamania County economic diversity is growing, and they have significantly less vulnerability for an industry-specific disruption.



Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Employment Data	Of the 3 fastest growing industries, how many account for 20% or more of total area employment?	3	1-2	0
Economic Diversity	The Hachman Index is a measure of economic diversity. Using indicators such as gross domestic product (GDP) or employment, the index measures the mix of industries present in a particular region relative to a (well-diversified) reference region.	0-0.33	0.34-0.66	0.67-1.0
Income Earned	Median household income in the County as a percentage of state median income.	Less than 60%	60%-80%	More than 80%



2.

What is the projected future of major employment industries in the region and nationally?

Diversified economies are more resilient. Regions that have a concentration of jobs in fewer industries are less resilient.



Data to Answer the Question		Results								
<div>Employment Data</div> <div>Source: Washington Employment Security Department</div>	<p>From <b>2011-2021</b>,Skamania County has seen job growth in <b>Administrative and waste services, Manufacturing, Health care and social assistance</b>. Administrative and waste services positions have wages that are slightly above the County average. Manufacturing, offers Jobs that have annual wages that significantly exceed the county average (87%). In the same period, several industries including <b>Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, Other services except public administration, and Professional and technical services</b> have all seen significant decreases in employment numbers.</p> <table><tr><th>Fastest Growing</th><th>Wages</th></tr><tr><td>1. Administrative and waste services</td><td>\$56,176</td></tr><tr><td>2. Manufacturing</td><td>\$80,868</td></tr><tr><td>3. Health care and social assistance</td><td>\$37,147</td></tr></table>	Fastest Growing	Wages	1. Administrative and waste services	\$56,176	2. Manufacturing	\$80,868	3. Health care and social assistance	\$37,147	
Fastest Growing	Wages									
1. Administrative and waste services	\$56,176									
2. Manufacturing	\$80,868									
3. Health care and social assistance	\$37,147									
<div>Current Events and National Trends</div> <div>Source: Various</div>	<p>In Skamania County, the employment sectors are seeing steady growth in industries with higher-than-average wages, specifically in <b>Manufacturing and Administrative and waste services</b>.</p>									



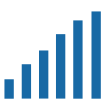
Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Employment Data	Of the 3 fastest growing industries, how many offer wages above, or equivalent to, average wages in the county?	0	1-2	3
Current Events and National Trends	Articles that discuss growing and shrinking industries in Oregon may offer insights into potential economic and employment related risk.	News and Trends suggest industries will not prosper in the future	Nothing Noteworthy	News and Trends suggest industries are growing (regionally, nationally, globally)

3.

What is the age breakdown of residents?

Communities that are resilient have a mix of younger and older populations, and a growing number of working-age residents. Higher concentrations of older or younger populations require more services from the public, particularly during an economic disruption.




Data to Answer the Question		Results
Population characteristics Source: ACS (2020)	The median age for Skamania County residents is 46.6, higher than the state (37.7) and national (37.2) averages.	
Workers over 55 stats	<b>*This data is unavailable for Skamania County*</b>	
Age dependency ratio Source: ACS (2020)	The age dependency ratio for Skamania County is 63.9 suggesting heavy economic pressure compared to the State's ratio of 59.5.	



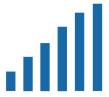
Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Population characteristics	Median Age	Over 50	40-50	Under 40
Workers over 55 stats	Percentage of population of people over 55 and employed full-time  When the workforce is relying on an aging population it may be less sustainable.	More than 30%	15%-30%	Less than 15%
Age dependency ratio	The dependency ratio is the number of dependents in a population (under-18 and over-65) divided by the number of working-age (18-64) people, multiplied by 100. This data point describes the level of pressure on an economy from supporting the portions of the population least likely to be working.	More than 65.0	50.0-65.0	Less than 50.0

4

Do people live and work in the community?

If people live close to where they work, productive time is not wasted on commuting and employment is more accessible during infrastructure disruptions. Communities that provide housing and employment options to residents of all income-levels are more resilient during a shock to the economic landscape.

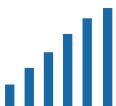
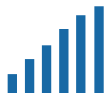
Data to Answer the Question		Results
Housing Data  Source: ACS (2020)	The housing inventory in Skamania County includes a mix of single-family, multi-unit complexes, and mobile homes. The Job to Homes ratio in Skamania County is 0.33 which is significantly less than the state ratio of 0.60  The rental vacancy rate in Skamania County is 4.2%, slightly higher than the state level of 3.6%.	
Cost of Living vs Median Household Income  Source: ACS (2020)	42.0% of Skamania County residents who rent and 27.8% of all residents are cost-burdened. In comparison, almost 45.2% of renters and 31.7% of all residents in the state are cost-burdened.	
Commuting Patterns  Source: ACS (2020), On the Map (2019)	In Skamania County, 57% of people live and work within the county; more people drive to work than the state average (87.2% v. 86.1%), less people walk to work (3.3% v. 3.8%) and less bicycle than state average (0.5% v. 2.2%). 9.1% work from home.  The average commute time in Skamania County is 29.4 minutes.	



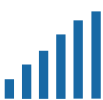
Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Housing and Employment Data	Jobs to Homes Ratio	Less than 0.75	More than 1.5	0.75-1.5
Cost of Living	Rental Vacancy Rate	Less than 2.25%, More than 7%	2.25%-4.49%	4.5%-7%
	Percentage of households spending more than 30% of their income on housing (known as cost-burdened)	More than 25%	20-25%	Less than 20%
Commuting Patterns	Average commuting time	More than 26 min	20 min - 26 min	Less than 20 min
	Percentage of population that commute via walking, bicycling, or public transportation	Less than 5%	5%-10%	More than 10%
	Percentage of population that live and work in the county.	Less than 50%	50-75%	More than 75%

5.

How has the population grown in the last decade and what is predicted for the next 30 years?

Populations in decline signal a weaker (less resilient) economy. People often move to seek better employment or housing opportunities. A declining population is indicative of changing development/ settlement patterns and loss of potential workforce.

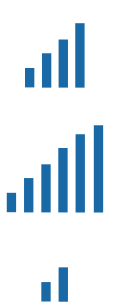

Data to Answer the Question		Results
<div>Population Growth Rate</div> <div>Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management and ACS (2020)</div>	Skamania County accounts for 0.2% of Washington state’s population and has increased by 9.2% between 2010-2020. This increase in population is slightly lower than the state’s population growth over the same time period (10.6%).	
<div>Population Forecasts</div> <div>Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management and ACS (2020)</div>	Over the next 20 years Skamania County’s total population is forecasted to increase by 13% (2020-2040).	



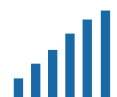
Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Past Population Data	Percentage change in population in the past 10 years	Less than 1.5%	1.5-3%	More than 3%
Population Forecasts	Forecasts for population trends and net migration over the next 30 years relate to the economic drivers that attract and/or retain a growing population.	Declining	No significant Growth or Decline	Growing

6.

Are residential homes able to withstand a natural hazard or weather incident?

Newer homes are more likely to have been constructed to withstand natural hazards and weather incidents. Older homes and manufactured homes may be more vulnerable to damages and/or more difficult to repair. Homes without plumbing, electricity or phone services are at a greater risk during an emergency. The capacity to recover quickly from a shock is greater when people (the workforce) are not displaced.



Data to Answer the Question		Results
Housing Data  Source: QCEW	<p>About 4.04% of the houses in Skamania County were built in 2010 or later. In the period following the last economic recession, Skamania County saw a slight incline in housing construction.</p> <p>Approximately 22.11% of homes in Skamania County were built before 1970.</p> <p>Mobile homes make up a significant portion of the housing stock when compared to the state average (18.2% v. 8%).</p>	
Utility & Services  Source: Oregon Employment Department (OED)	<p>In Skamania county residents use significantly less gas heating options and slightly less Electricity when compared to the state average (approximately 14.3% gas, 46.9% electricity v. 34.4% gas, 51.1% electricity). A large portion of Skamania County residents still use <b>fuel oil/Kerosene and Cole, Coke or Wood</b> (19.6% combined).</p> <p>Approximately 19% of housing or less lack plumbing, kitchen, or telephone services. (1.5% lack complete plumbing facilities, 2% lacking complete kitchen facilities, and 15.9% have no telephone service available)</p>	



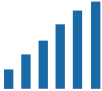
Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Housing Data	Percentage of homes built in the last decade	Less than 4%	4-15%	More than 15%
	Percentage of homes built before 1970	More than 60%	40%-60%	Less than 40%
	Percentage of housing stock that is classified as mobile homes	More than 10%	5-10%	Less than 5%
Utility & Services	Percentage of homes without complete plumbing	More than 2%	1-2%	Less than 1%
	Percentage of homes without complete kitchens	More than 3%	1-3%	Less than 1%

7.

What level of educational attainment and earnings are residents reaching?

People who attain higher education and/or have specialized skills are more likely to be employed and earn higher wages and less likely to primarily depend on public services. Regions that have educational opportunities can provide essential resources and training for residents preparing to join the workforce. In addition, if economic conditions change and the local employment sectors shift, educational opportunities can be an asset for the community by offering community members new or additional training.

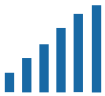
Data to Answer the Question		Results
Local resources for training and education  Source: Skamania County, CGCC, CCE, and YVC	<p><i>*No physical higher education locations present in Skamania County*</i></p> <p><b>Closest Physical Higher Education Location:</b> <u>Columbia Gorge Community College – Hood River Campus</u> (Located in neighboring Hood River County - Online courses available)</p> <p><b>Other Regional Education Options:</b> Clark College Community and Continuing Education (CCE) – Vancouver WA Yakima Valley College - Yakima, WA</p> <p>Local community colleges offer a bridge to four-year universities across the region. Yakima (CWU), Vancouver (WSU), and Seattle /Tacoma (The UW) are the closest four-year university options.</p> <p><i>*Online education options have increased regional access to education*</i></p>	
Educational attainment of populations  Source: ACS (2020)	<p>Approximately 91.63% of people in Skamania County have attained a minimum of a high-school degree, and 24.45% of people have earned a bachelor's degree or higher. In Skamania County, a significantly smaller proportion of residents have attained higher-education than the state averages (61%).</p> <p>People with only a high-school degree in Skamania County have median earnings that are 102% of the state median for those with only a high school degree.</p>	



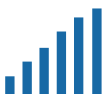
Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Educational attainment and earnings	Percentage of population (25 years+) with Bachelor's Degree or higher	Less than 25%	25%-35%	More than 35%
	Median earnings of high school graduates (or equivalency) in the county as a percentage of median earnings of high school graduates in state	Less than 75%	75%-105%	More than 105%

8.

Do residents have access to health and wellness facilities?

A resilient economy can consistently provide residents with basic needs, including shelter, safety, and food. Hospitals, clinics, and grocery stores are vital for preparing for, responding to, and recovering from a major disruption. High levels of baseline community health are important for resilience because communities with healthy residents are better able to absorb the impacts of, and recover from, disasters. Health insurance coverage is a positive indicator of community resilience.

Data to Answer the Question		Results
Insurance Coverage  Source: ACS (2020)	4% of Skamania County residents are uninsured, a lower rate than the State as a whole(6.3%) and low enough to be an indicator for strong economic resilience.	

Data Definitions & Thresholds				
Insurance Coverage	Percentage of uninsured (non-incarcerated) population	More than 11%	7-11%	Less than 7%

# 2022 REGIONAL ECONOMIC RESILIENCE PROFILE



Mid-Columbia Economic Development District  
802 Chenoweth Loop Road, The Dalles, OR 97058  
[MCEDD.org](http://MCEDD.org)