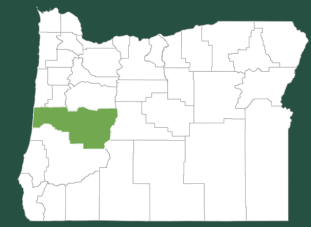




LANE COUNTY

Oregon Voices Data Summary



County Total Population

377,749

About the Summary

Oregon Voices began in summer of 2021 when The Ford Family Foundation invited 18,000 randomly selected households — 500 in each Oregon county — to complete a survey online or by mailing back a paper response. We then reached out to Ford Family friends and partners, encouraging them to participate and invite others to do the same. In total more than 4,300 Oregonians from all walks of life responded to the survey, generously sharing their honest reflections on the question we posed: *What is it like to live in your corner of the state?*

The following report provides a high-level summary of the survey data received from those who responded in Lane County. Here the number of Ford Family respondents outnumbered the random household respondents. For clarity, the two data sets have been combined in the visualizations below, even though the two samples show differences in demographics and response patterns. Please interpret the findings with this in mind. Data have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

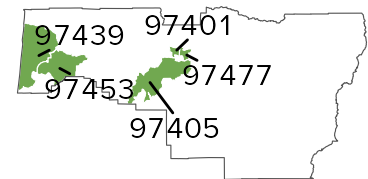
Total number of Lane County respondents: 309

Random household sample: 52, Ford Family sample: 257

Key Highlights

- Lane County is home to the University of Oregon and also The Ford Family Foundation Scholarship Office.
- Nearly 3 in 4 respondents agree that families are having trouble making ends meet and that homelessness is a challenge in their community.
- Respondents love the surrounding natural environment and outdoor recreation opportunities.

All reporting zip codes

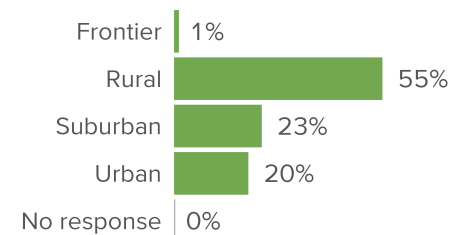


Top 3 reporting zip codes

- 1 97439
- 2 97405
- 3 97401

Rural/Urban

How respondents described their community, the immediate area where they live



Two of the early survey questions asked people to name something they appreciate or that concerns them about where they live. Their open-ended responses were coded into categories. These are the top two results for Lane County.

What respondents **APPRECIATE** most about where they live



Natural Environment

Beauty, recreation, public land, parks, water, disasters, climate



Community, People

Culture, relationships conflict, size, leadership, change

What **CONCERNS** respondents most about where they live



Services/Economy

Housing, infrastructure, healthcare, education, jobs, industry, businesses, shopping, cultural events



Community, People

Culture, relationships conflict, size, leadership, change

"I appreciate how close the town is. We all help each other out when someone is in need."

"I'm concerned by 'groupthink,' especially among parents in the community."

"I love my neighbors and feel like I live in a town full of friends. It is truly a little piece of heaven for my family and my kids. I wouldn't want to live anywhere else."

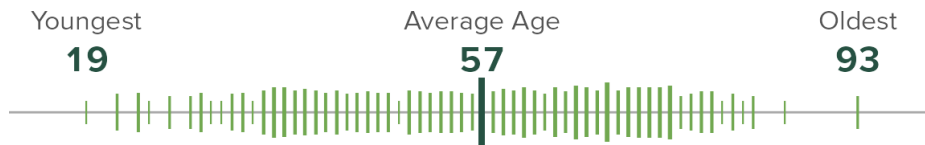
"There's too much emphasis on tourism without taking sufficient care of the residents. Few jobs pay enough to make rent, and very few smaller homes are being built. People who grew up here have to leave to survive economically."

"We face extreme levels of inequality — e.g. professors living in million-dollar homes while my streets are filled with people without homes."

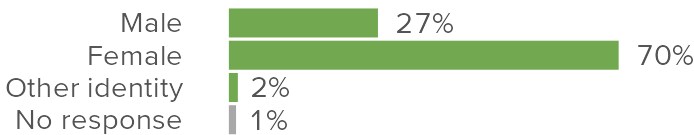
"I appreciate having so many trees, the outdoors, and being close to the dunes and beach."

Respondent Demographics

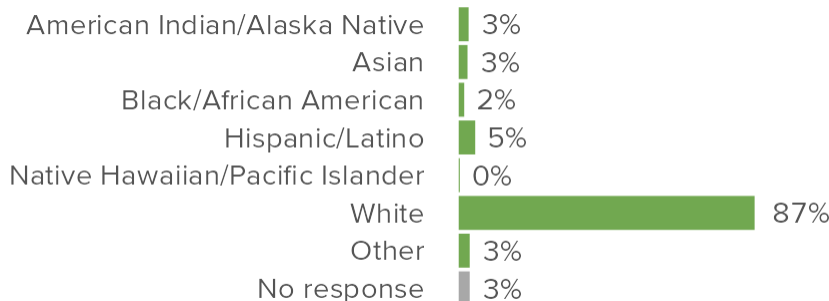
Age of respondents



Gender



Race/Ethnicity



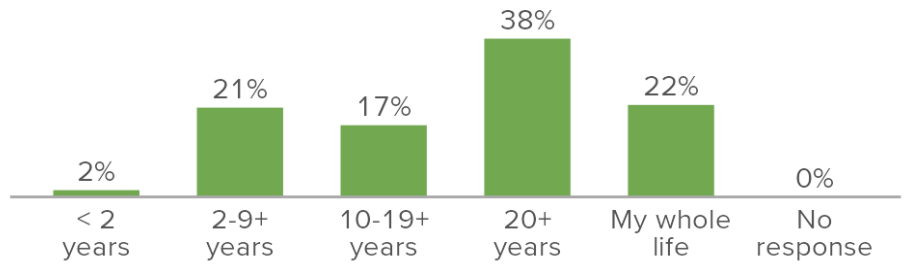
Percentages may sum to more than 100 if respondents selected multiple options.



Years living in Oregon

60%

of all respondents report living in Oregon for their whole life or 20 years or more



Homeownership

8 out of 10

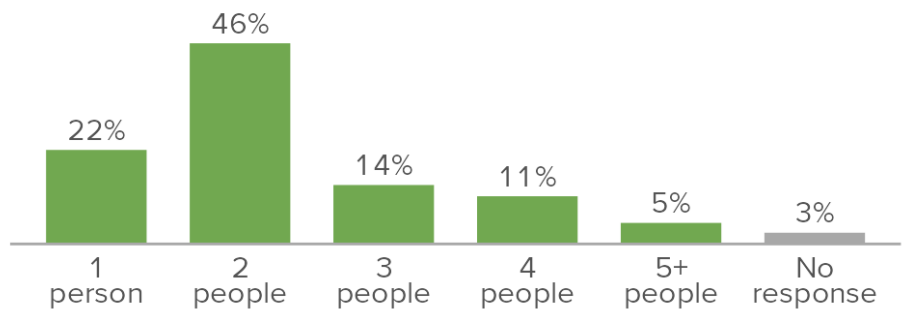
respondents own their home



Household size

2.3

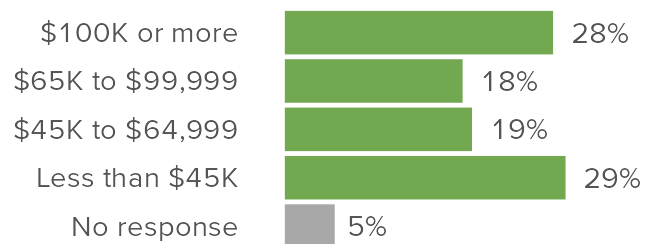
average number of people who live in the respondent's household



Household annual income

29%

of respondents reported household incomes falling under \$65K



Emergency funds

13%

of respondents would find it "difficult" or "very difficult" to get \$1,000 to pay for an emergency

Trouble making ends meet

73%

of respondents "agree" or "strongly agree" that "families are having trouble making ends meet"

Homelessness

81%

of respondents "agree" or "strongly agree" that "homelessness is a problem" in their community



5 out of 10

respondents
LOVE where they live



Community participation

“It is a wonderful community full of people who love our town, work hard to make it the best it can be and look out for each other.”

“I wish we were more supportive of our diverse populations.”

“This community is really great in a lot of ways, and I enjoy living here. It just has some big things to work on, and I think the community is able to take care of these issues on its own. Individuals just have to make the choice to do so. That would be my hope for this area, and I hope to be involved in that.”

“There is a rural-urban divide. Too many people living outside the limits of our town take no interest in town government, services, etc.”

“Our community had become more unified after decades of polarization, but it seems that circumstances in the last few years have greatly polarized our community once again.”

“Females are viewed and treated as second class citizens whose voices are often not even heard.”

Respondents indicated the extent to which they perceive that people where they live participate in their community in the following ways:

Results below 5% are not labeled due to space constraints.

STRONGLY AGREE

STRONGLY DISAGREE

Take care of each other during hard times



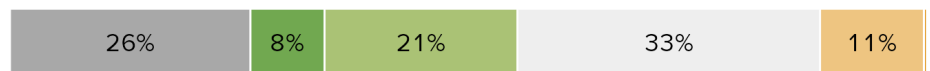
Come together to solve community problems



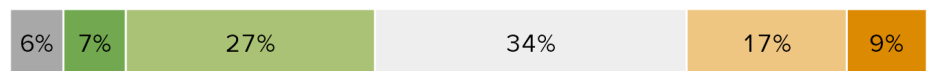
Attend community events



Go to church



Welcome newcomers



Community traditions

60%

of respondents participate in community traditions or annual events

Pride in community

73%

of respondents are “often” or “always” proud to tell others where they live

Voting

87%

of respondents report that they “always” vote

Community service

58%

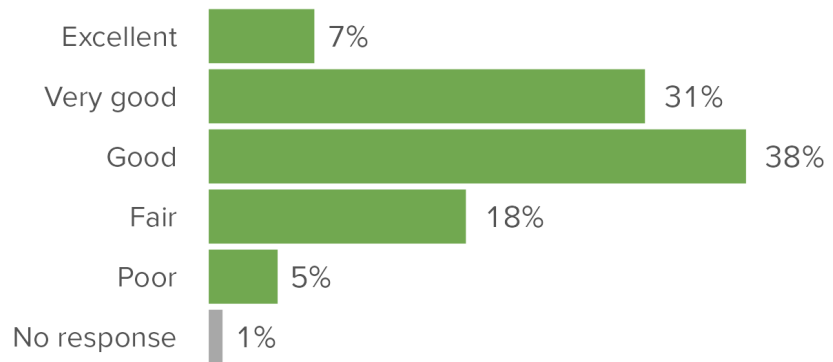
of respondents report that they volunteer at least once a month



Physical health

76%

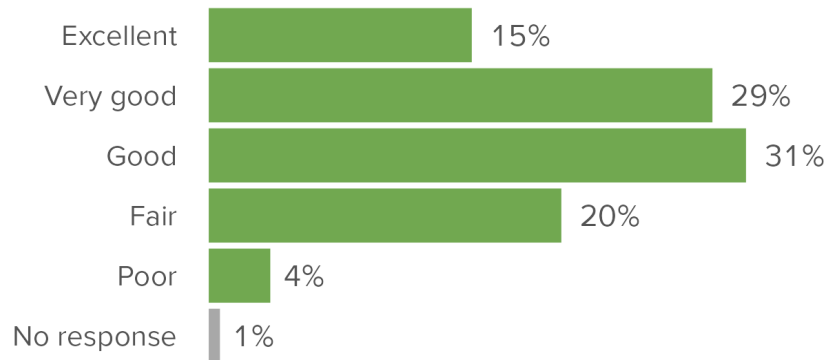
of respondents rated their physical health as “good” or better



Mental health

75%

of respondents rated their mental health as “good” or better



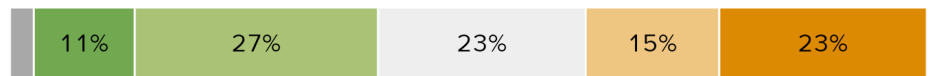
Medical and dental care

38%

of respondents “agree” or “strongly agree” that they have “enough medical and dental providers” in their community

STRONGLY AGREE

STRONGLY DISAGREE



Results below 5% are not labeled due to space constraints.

Child abuse and neglect

42%

of respondents “agree” or “strongly agree” that “child abuse and neglect is a significant problem” in their community”

Substance abuse

65%

of respondents “agree” or “strongly agree” that their community has “many residents struggling with substance abuse”

Mental illness

60%

of respondents “agree” or “strongly agree” that their community has “many residents struggling with mental illness”



Education

79%

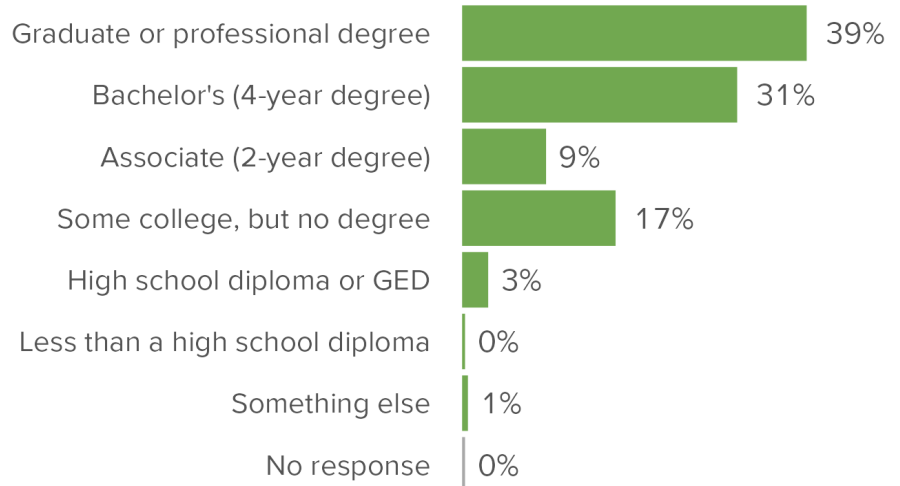
of respondents report having completed an associate degree or above

Students

7%

of respondents identified as a current student

Respondents' highest level of education completed



Employment

Wages

68%

of respondents "agree" or "strongly agree" that "jobs do not pay enough" in their community

Perception of unemployment

40%

of respondents "agree" or "strongly agree" that "a lot of people are unemployed" in their community

Self-employment

22%

of respondents identified as self-employed

Employment status of respondents

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| Employed | 58% |
| Full-time | 42% |
| Part-time | 16% |
| Unemployed | 6% |
| Looking for work | 3% |
| Not looking for work | 1% |
| Unable to work due to disability | 2% |
| Other | 36% |
| Homemaker/manage your home | 2% |
| Retired | 33% |
| Something else | 1% |
| No response | 0% |

Due to rounding, percentages in grouped rows may differ from the sum of the individual rows below it.



Services

“Cell service is a continual challenge. The youth 11-13 and 14-20 REALLY need a place to hang out and be involved in stimulating, creative activities.”

“Our surrounding community could really use some cable upgrades so everyone could receive decent internet without having to drive into town. It is not available to everyone and even cell service is infrequent.”

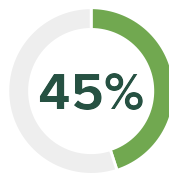
“The availability of rentals is nonexistent, and buying is out of reach due to pricing for many people.”

“Too much emphasis on tourism. Locals struggle to get regular services like shopping, repairs, office supplies, clothing, meeting places, etc.”

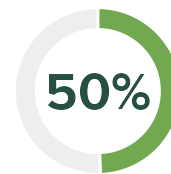
“It’s known as a retirement town, but families are moving in and we need housing. We need activities for our children. We run this town, we keep grocery stores, gas stations, restaurants, etc. open and running. We deserve to live here and be able to afford to live here.”

Respondents who reported they “agree” or “strongly agree” the following services are available where they live:

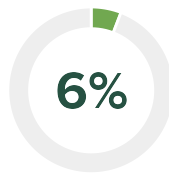
Good schools



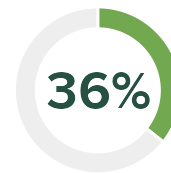
Enough places to shop



Affordable housing



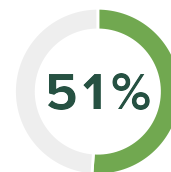
Good streets and roads



Reliable internet



Community-wide cell service



Healthy food

67%

of respondents “agree” or “strongly agree” that they have easy access to healthy foods

Top 3 places respondents get food for weekly meals

- 1 Grocery stores
- 2 Restaurants
- 3 Farmers markets

Lack of child care

64%

of respondents “agree” or “strongly agree” that “child care is hard to find”

Lack of places for youth to hang out

61%

of respondents “agree” or “strongly agree” that “youth do not have places to hang out”



For data summaries for each county in Oregon,
more research and to explore the data on your own, visit

orvoices.org.



Research conducted in partnership with ECONorthwest and
the Regional Research Institute for Human Services at Portland State University



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Oregon Voices. www.orvoices.org.

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