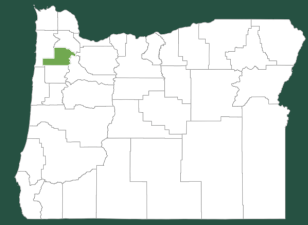# YAMHILL COUNTY

Oregon Voices Data Summary

County Total Population

106,087

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 Yamhill County. Here the number of random household respondents outnumbered the Ford Family 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 Yamhill County respondents: 91
Random household sample: 53, Ford Family sample: 38

Key Highlights

- Yamhill County hosts much of Oregon's wine industry and has the largest area of any Oregon county planted in grapes. It is home to George Fox University and Linfield University.
- Respondents are concerned about the rise of conservativism, alt-right political views, and bigotry within the community
- Respondents think highly of the community they live in and report that community members help each other out.
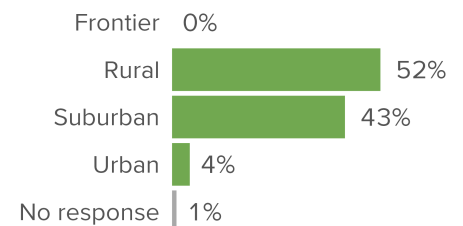
All reporting zip codes

97132
97115
97128
97378
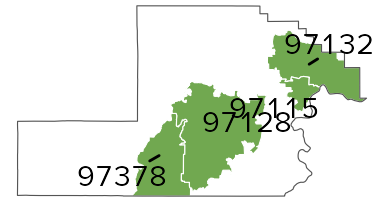
Top 3 reporting zip codes

1. 97128
2. 97132
3. 97378

Rural/Urban

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

Frontier	0%
Rural	52%
Suburban	43%
Urban	4%
No response	1%

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 Yamhill County.

What respondents APPRECIATE most about where they live

Community, People
Culture, relationships conflict, size, leadership, change

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

What CONCERNS respondents most about where they live

Community, People
Culture, relationships conflict, size, leadership, change

Services/Economy
Housing, infrastructure, healthcare, education, jobs, industry, businesses, shopping, cultural events

"I appreciate the views of the countryside and distant view of mountains. I have appreciated the friendship or acquaintance of those who live in my immediate neighborhood."
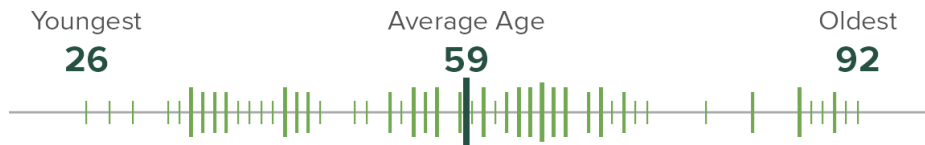
"There seems to be some economic polarity in my community. On the one hand the cost of housing indicates wealth, on the other hand we have a lot of people struggling to get by."

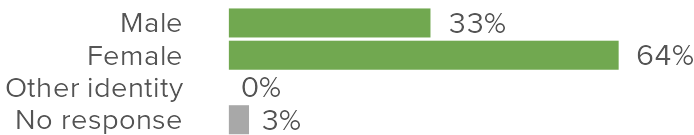*"The divisiveness over race and equity is a concern."*

"There is a political divide and culture wars between conservative and progressive ideologies."
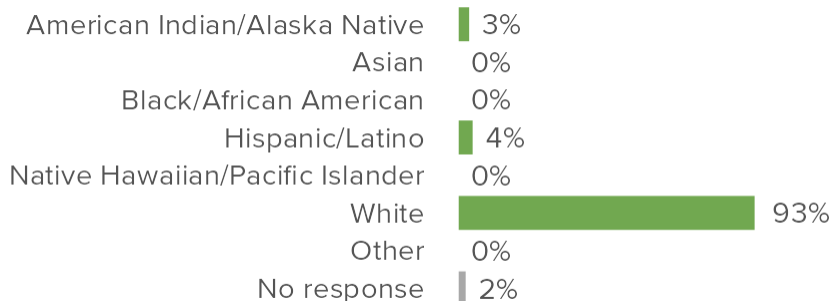
Respondent Demographics

Age of respondents

Youngest	Average Age	Oldest
26	**59**	**92**

Gender

Male	33%
Female	64%
Other identity	0%
No response	3%

Race/Ethnicity

American Indian/Alaska Native	3%
Asian	0%
Black/African American	0%
Hispanic/Latino	4%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0%
White	93%
Other	0%
No response	2%

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

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Years living in Oregon

78%

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

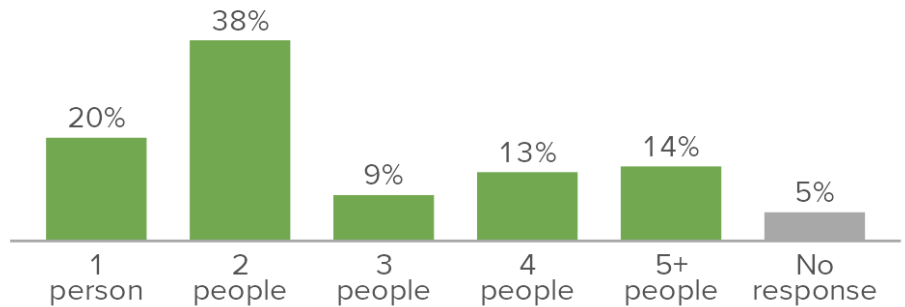| < 2 years	2-9+ years	10-19+ years	20+ years	My whole life	No response
1%	10%	11%	44%	34%	0%
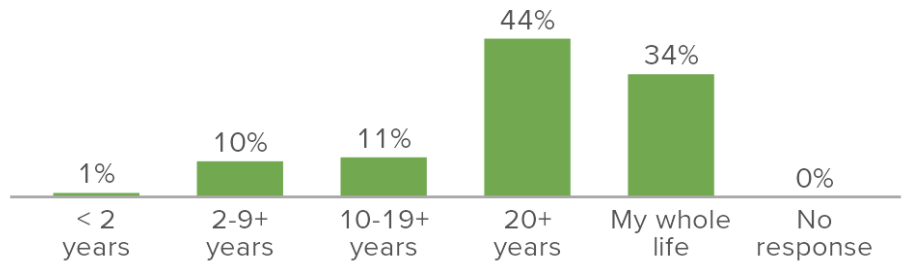
Homeownership

8 out of 10

respondents own their home

Household size

2.8

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

1 person	2 people	3 people	4 people	5+ people	No response
20%	38%	9%	13%	14%	5%

Household annual income

26%

of respondents reported household incomes falling under $65K

$100K or more	35%
$65K to $99,999	19%
$45K to $64,999	11%
Less than $45K	26%
No response	9%
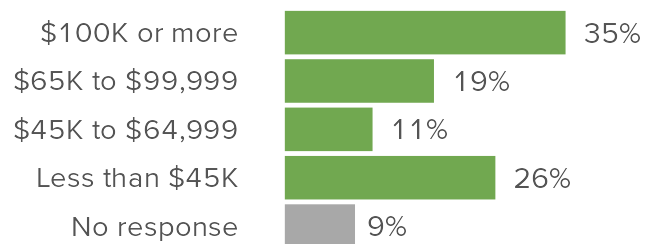
Emergency funds

11%

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

Trouble making ends meet

51%

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

Homelessness

67%

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

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4 out of 10

respondents
LOVE where they live

Community participation

"The community is warm, welcoming and pulls together when things get tough."

"I love the community feel — people taking care of people."

"The community is politically polarized and it shows up in all areas... It is very disheartening."

"Neighbors are connected and support one another."

"I am becoming less comfortable in Yamhill County due to the threatening behavior of those who would identify themselves, or the press would identify, as the far-right."

"If people don't talk about politics or social issues — everyone is ready and happy to help each other."

Respondents indicated the extent to which they perceive that people where they live participate in their community in the following ways:
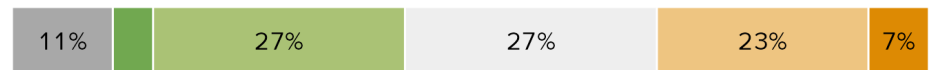Results below 5% are not labeled due to space constraints.

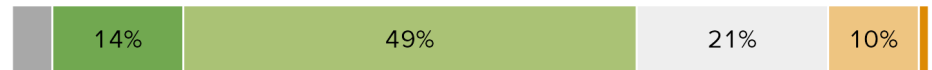**STRONGLY AGREE**   **STRONGLY DISAGREE**
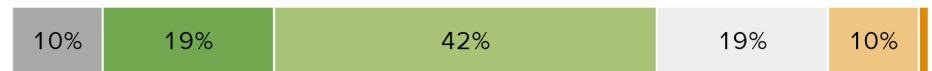
Take care of each other during hard times

| 5% | 13% | 37% | 26% | 15% | |

Come together to solve community problems

| 11% | | 27% | 27% | 23% | 7% |

Attend community events

| | 14% | 49% | 21% | 10% | |

Go to church

| 10% | 19% | 42% | 19% | 10% | |

Welcome newcomers

| 13% | 11% | 22% | 33% | 15% | 5% |
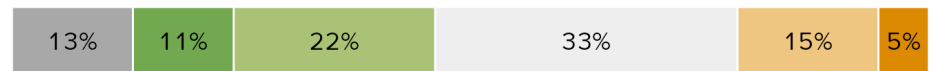
Community traditions

56%

of respondents participate in community traditions or annual events

Pride in community

65%

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

Voting

81%

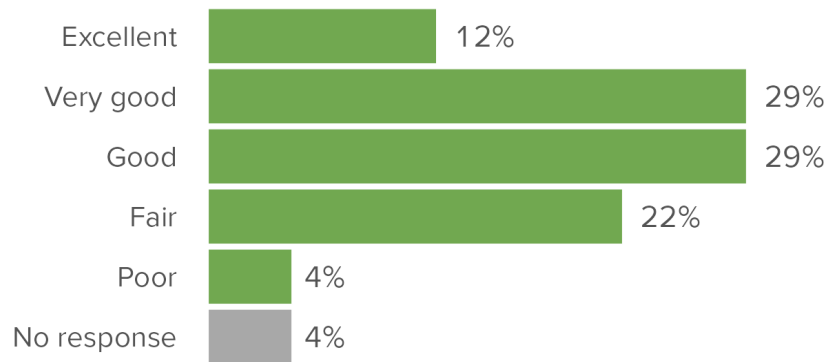of respondents report that they "always" vote

Community service

47%

of respondents report that they volunteer at least once a month

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Physical health

69%

of respondents rated
their physical health
as "good" or better

Excellent	12%
Very good	29%
Good	29%
Fair	22%
Poor	4%
No response	4%

Mental health

77%

of respondents rated
their mental health
as "good" or better

Excellent	11%
Very good	38%
Good	27%
Fair	12%
Poor	7%
No response	4%
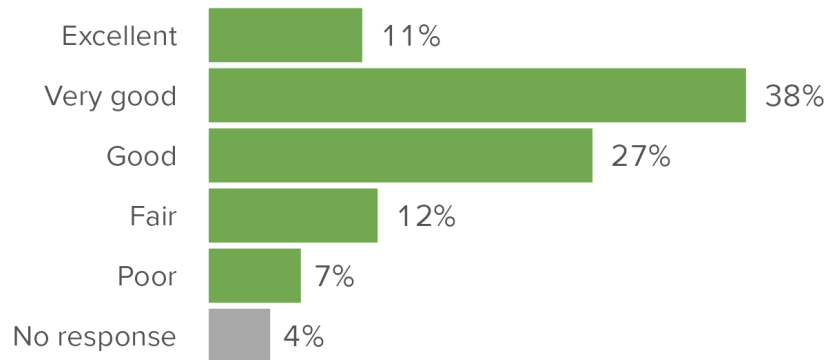
Medical and dental care

56%

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

STRONGLY AGREE   **STRONGLY DISAGREE**

	18%	38%	20%	11%	10%

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

Child abuse and neglect

34%

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

Substance abuse

48%

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

Mental illness

43%

of respondents "agree" or
"strongly agree" that their
community has "many
residents struggling with
mental illness"
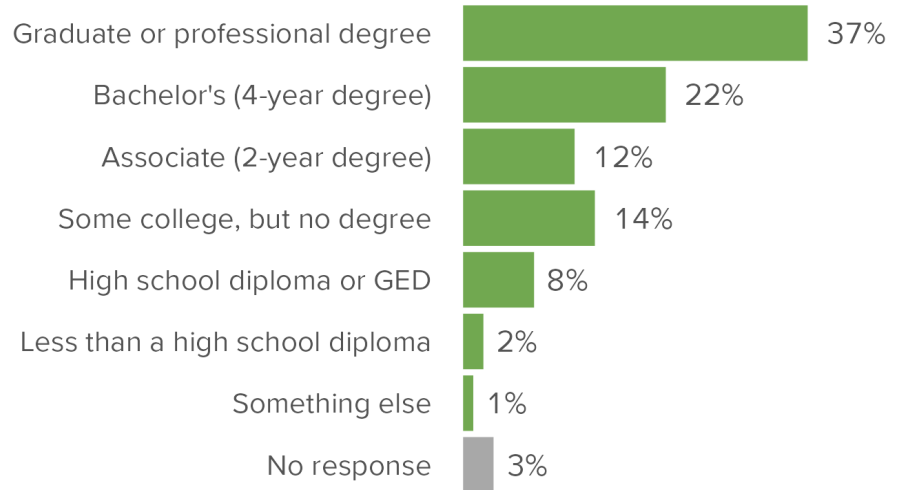
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Education

71%

of respondents report
having completed
an associate degree or above

Students

8%

of respondents identified
as a current student

Respondents' highest level of education completed

Education Level	Percentage
Graduate or professional degree	37%
Bachelor's (4-year degree)	22%
Associate (2-year degree)	12%
Some college, but no degree	14%
High school diploma or GED	8%
Less than a high school diploma	2%
Something else	1%
No response	3%

Employment

Wages

51%

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

Perception of unemployment

23%

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

Self-employment

23%

of respondents identified
as self-employed

Employment status of respondents

Status	Percentage
Employed	**66%**
Full-time	48%
Part-time	18%
Unemployed	**5%**
Looking for work	1%
Not looking for work	0%
Unable to work due to disability	4%
Other	**24%**
Homemaker/manage your home	3%
Retired	19%
Something else	2%
No response	**4%**

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

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Services

"There are plenty of grocery and farm stand options — there's food availability."

"The cost of housing is way out of reach for people of lower incomes. I heard that even professors at George Fox cannot afford to live in Newberg."

"Much of our town lacks sidewalks. It's a drive-thru community to larger towns and people drive incredibly fast."

"I believe housing, child care and homelessness are our biggest issues to solve."

"I'm afraid that we are pricing people out of our community with the insane home prices."

"The homeless population just keeps growing, and resources for help are becoming less and less."

Respondents who reported they "agree" or "strongly agree" the following services are available where they live:
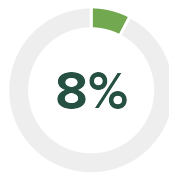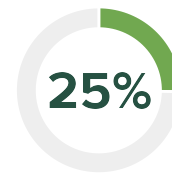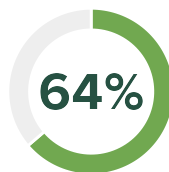
Good schools
47%
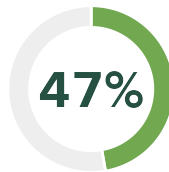
Enough places to shop
47%
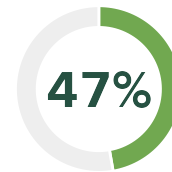
Affordable housing
8%

Good streets and roads
25%

Reliable internet
64%

Community-wide cell service
66%
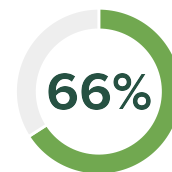
Healthy food

71%

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

41%

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

Lack of places for youth to hang out

53%

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

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

orvoices.org.

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

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