



STRENGTHENING RURAL FAMILIES

Rural Benton County Fact Sheet

Quick Facts:

- **Benton County is among the top 5% of counties with the highest income inequality in the United States**
- **70% of Monroe K-3 students and 67% of Alsea 4th and 5th graders are economically disadvantaged**
- **30.2% of individuals of Hispanic or Latino origin fall below poverty level**
- **Over 16% of Benton County residents live in households that are food insecure**

❖ POPULATION

- Benton County*: 95,184
 - Monroe*: 647
 - Corvallis*: 59,922
 - Philomath*: 5,350
 - Adair Village*: 994
 - North Albany****: 7,258
 - Bellfountain*: 74
 - Alpine*: 164
 - Summit*: 72
 - Blodgett*: 42
 - Alsea*: 165
 - Population 18 Years and Younger*: 16.1%
 - Unincorporated Communities, Farms, and Rural Residences***: 25,076
 - Living below federal poverty line: 15.8% *****
 - Living in rural areas: 19% *****

*U.S. Census Bureau 2020

** U.S. Census Bureau 2018 yr. Estimate

*** U.S. Census Bureau 2013

****The Health of Benton County: Community Health Assessment 2012

***** Regional Health Assessment, 2015

❖ RACE AND ETHNICITY*

- White alone, 88.5%
- Hispanic or Latino, 17.1%
- Asian alone, 4.2%
- Black or African American, 2.1%
- Two or more races, 2.7%

*U.S. Census Bureau 2020

❖ **CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT**

Benton County Sheriff Department 2017:

- DHS Reports (Discussion Only—No Action Taken): 382
- Cases of domestic violence where children were present: Not tracked by BCSD
- Juvenile Arrests: 155
- 31 Child Welfare Cases

Corvallis Police Department 2017:

- Total Complaints of Child Abuse: 535
 - 147 offenses
- Cases of domestic violence where children were present: 5
- Juvenile Arrests: 156
- 99 cases of child abuse investigated
- Benton County abuse and neglect rates: 11.3/1,000; Oregon abuse rates: 13.7/1,000*

Benton County Sheriff's Office (Jaimi Glass, 2017)

Corvallis Police Department (Crime Analyst, 2017)

**Children First for Oregon, 2017*

❖ **ENROLLMENT IN HEAD START PRE-K PROGRAM**

- 40 in Corvallis at Lincoln and Mountain View Elementary
- 20 at Philomath KidCo Head Start
- 17 at Harrisburg KidCo Head Start (serving Monroe and Bellfountain)

❖ **STUDENTS ELIGIBLE FOR FREE/REDUCED LUNCH**

- Benton County: 40%
 - Corvallis: 33 %**
 - Mountain View: 43.3 % *
 - Wilson: 55.8 % *
 - Lincoln: 47.61 % *
 - Garfield: 58.04 % *
 - Philomath: 34 %**
 - Kings Valley Charter School: 33.12 % *
 - Philomath Elementary: 41.19 % *
 - Alsea: 78.66 %
 - Elementary: 76.7 % *
 - High: 59.7 % *
 - Monroe: 41 %
 - Grade School: 42.06 % *
 - High: 33.06 % *

**Oregon Department of Education, 2020-2021*

***Oregon Department of Education, 2018-2019*

❖ **STUDENT HOMELESSNESS IN BENTON COUNTY**

- Benton County Homeless Students: 241 total****
- Alsea School District: 22 students (15.71% of student enrollment)
 - Sheltered: 0
 - Unsheltered: **
 - Doubled up: 19
 - Hotel/Motel: 0
 - Unaccompanied Minor: 6
- Corvallis School District: 200 students total**** (4.81% of student enrollment)
 - Sheltered: 33****
 - Unsheltered: 10****
 - Doubled up: 154****
 - Hotel/Motel: 3****
 - Unaccompanied Minor: 14
- Monroe School District: 11
 - Sheltered: 0
 - Unsheltered: 0
 - Doubled Up: **
 - Hotel/Motel: **
 - Unaccompanied Minor: 0
- Philomath School District, 4 students
 - Sheltered: 4
 - Unsheltered: 0
 - Doubled Up: 4
 - Hotel/Motel: 0
 - Unaccompanied Minor: 3

*Oregon Department of Education, 2016-2017

**Oregon Department of Education, 2017-2018

*** District count suppressed for counts of 1-5 students to protect confidentiality

*** League of Women Voters of Corvallis Housing Committee 2020

❖ **STUDENTS WITH IEPs 2017-18**

- Corvallis: *
- Philomath: 190
- Monroe: 56
- Alsea: *

❖ **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES 2016-17***

City	Grades K-3	Grades 4-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12
Corvallis	9%	14%	12%	11%
Alsea	20%	**	**	*
Philomath	12%	18%	13%	12%
Monroe	15%	27%	16%	11%

*Oregon Department of Education, 2016-2017

** Data unavailable due to student confidentiality

❖ **PARTICIPATION IN HEALTHY FAMILIES, DECEMBER 2014**

- 10-20 families are screened each month.
 - 6 families are served from rural Benton county, plus 2 pending.
 - 23% of families served are from rural Benton County
- *According to Medora Tuck, Healthy Start Program Manager, Corvallis*

❖ **JACKSON STREET YOUTH SHELTER, 2016-2017**

- 1,036 youth were helped across all programs
- 807 youth received help on streets, in schools and through community partners
- 138 youth were served for a total of 6,073 bed nights
- 11 youth accessed long-term housing and support to achieve their goals

❖ **PARTICIPATION IN OLD MILL RELIEF NURSERY**

- 2014: 21 rural family participants (33% of total families)
 - 2015: 28 rural family participants (28% of total families)
 - 2016: 32 rural family participants (28% of total families)
 - 2017: 30 rural family participants (25% of total families)
- *According to Cindy Bond, Old Mill Relief Nursery Program*

❖ **PARTICIPATION IN WIC PROGRAM, AUGUST 2016**

- Alsea: 11 families/17 clients
 - Blodgett: 5 families/ 7 clients
 - Corvallis: 635 families/ 992 clients
 - Philomath: 109 families/168 clients
 - North Albany: 27 families, 44 clients
 - Monroe: 31 families/ 50 clients
- *Julie Reeder, Senior Research Analyst, Oregon WIC Program*

❖ **INEQUALITY AND HOUSING COSTS**

- Highest income inequality in the state; among highest 2% of all counties in the US
 - 80th income percentile is 4.7 times the 20th income percentile
- Living below federal poverty line: 22%
- Median household income: \$62,077**
- Median cost of childcare (2014) as a percentage of annual income (2011-2015): 25%
- Homeless count 2017: 287
 - Sheltered count: 139
 - Unsheltered count: 148
- Pregnant women served by WIC: 32%

**2017 Benton County Community Health Assessment*

***U.S. Census Bureau 2019*

❖ **POVERTY***

- 14.0% of children under 18 years of age below poverty level
 - 36.0% of single parent-mother families fall below poverty
 - 30.2% of individuals of Hispanic or Latino origin below poverty level*
- *US Census Bureau: American Community Survey 2012-2016*

❖ **FOOD SECURITY**

- Over 16% (14,000) of Benton County residents live in households that meet the definition of being food insecure*
- Children eligible for free and reduced lunch: 38.0%*
- 4,476 receive SNAP benefits*
 - 13% of households
 - 37% with children under 18
- 9% of low-income population lives more than a mile from nearest grocery store
 - Residents of North, South, and West Benton County report traveling 30 minutes or more to a grocery store**

* *Regional Health Assessment: Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties, Oregon 2017*

***According to Benton County Community Health Improvement Plan 2013-2018*

❖ **LINN-BENTON FOOD SHARE, 2015 - 2016**

- Distributed 5.4 million pounds to their 74 member agencies in 2016
- Provided enough meals to feed nearly 2,500 people three meals a day for the whole year
- Emergency food pantries in Linn and Benton counties distributed 47,000 food boxes from July 2015- June 2016
- Soup kitchens and shelters served 272,000 meals in Linn and Benton Counties during the fiscal year of 2015/2016

❖ **COMMUNITY HEALTH**

- **Insurance*:**
 - 7.3 % of 18-64 year olds are uninsured
 - 1.8 % of youth under the age of 18 are uninsured
- **Immunizations*:**
 - 65.0% of two-year olds meet immunization requirements
- **Obesity*:**
 - 8th graders: 14% overweight; 7% obese
 - 11th graders: 9% overweight; 7% obese
 - Adults: 32% overweight; 22% obese

*2017 Benton County Community Health Assessment

❖ **EMPLOYMENT**

- Oregon unemployment rate: 4.1% as of December 2017**
- Benton County unemployment rate: 3.1% as of December 2017**
- Linn County unemployment rate: 4.4 % as of December 2017**
- Benton County manufacturing employment in decline since Great Recession (2.3% loss in 2015)
 - More than 3 out of 10 manufacturing jobs have disappeared since 2007

**According to State of Oregon Employment Department: Benton/Linn Counties Labor Trends*

***According to State of Oregon Employment Department: Local Area Unemployment Statistics*

❖ **CARDV BENTON/LINN COUNTY 2015-2016**

- Responded to 5,686 calls to our 24-hour hotline
- Sheltered 102 adults and 88 children for 3,037 bed nights
- Helped 1,182 adults and 13 teens help navigate the legal system
- Provided on-site hospital advocacy to 147 adults and 24 teens

Strengthening Rural Families, P.O. Box 1528, Philomath, OR 97370

DRAFT MAY 2022

- Logged over 35,500 miles responding and transporting survivors

**According to Center Against Rape and Domestic Violence 2015-16 Annual Report*

❖ **RATES OF DRUG LAW OFFENSES 2014-2015**

- 200 arrests at City of Corvallis Police Department*

- 122 arrests at Benton County Sheriff's Office**

** According to the 2016-2017 City of Corvallis Police Department Annual Report*

*** According to the 2015 Benton County Sheriff's Office Annual Report*

❖ **MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**

- In Benton County, 40% of adolescents insured through the Oregon Health Plan receive treatment for a mental health condition*

- There are about 23 deaths by suicide per 100,000 community members over the age of 45 each year*

- Attempted Suicide Rates**:

- Grade 8: 7.8%

- Grade 11: 5%

- Depression**:

- 8th graders: 26%

- 11th graders: 23.2%

**Benton County Community Health Improvement Plan, 2018-2022*

*** 2017 Oregon Healthy Teens Survey: Benton County*

❖ **LISTED ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP SITES, 2018**

- Corvallis: 58

- Adair Village: 3

- Alsea: 1

- Philomath: 7

- Monroe: 4

**Oregon Department of Environmental Quality: Environmental Cleanup*

❖ **LATINO SPECIFIC RATES**

- 7.5% of Benton County population**

- Acculturation:

- Less Acculturated: 87%

- More Acculturated: 13%

- Experienced Discrimination: 67%

- Participated in:

- ESL: 44%

- Job Training: 29%

- GED: 29%

- Citizenship Classes: 12%

- Free/Reduced price school meals: 52%

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: 24%

- Medicaid/Oregon Health Plan: 55%

- Women, Infants, and Children: 40%

- Other services (including TANF): 24%

**Casa Latinos Unidos de Benton County Community Needs Assessment 2013*

***Early Learning Hub 2019*