[Template:About](/wiki/Template:About" \o "Template:About) [Template:Pp-move-indef](/wiki/Template:Pp-move-indef) [Template:Use mdy dates](/wiki/Template:Use_mdy_dates) [Template:Infobox U.S. state](/wiki/Template:Infobox_U.S._state) [Template:Infobox U.S. state symbols](/wiki/Template:Infobox_U.S._state_symbols) [thumb|375px|A map of Oregon](/wiki/File:Map_of_Oregon_NA.png)[[1]](#cite_note-1) **Oregon** ([Template:IPAc-en](/wiki/Template:IPAc-en) [Template:Respell](/wiki/Template:Respell))<ref name=traveloregon/> is a [state](/wiki/U.S._state) in the [Pacific Northwest](/wiki/Pacific_Northwest) region of the [United States](/wiki/United_States). Oregon is bordered on the west by the [Pacific Ocean](/wiki/Pacific_Ocean), on the north by [Washington](/wiki/Washington_(state)), on the south by [California](/wiki/California), on the east by [Idaho](/wiki/Idaho), and on the southeast by [Nevada](/wiki/Nevada). The [Columbia River](/wiki/Columbia_River) delineates much of Oregon's northern boundary, and the [Snake River](/wiki/Snake_River) delineates much of the eastern boundary. The parallel 42° north delineates the southern boundary with California and Nevada. It is one of only three states of the [contiguous United States](/wiki/Contiguous_United_States) to have a coastline on the [Pacific Ocean](/wiki/Pacific_Ocean), and the proximity to the ocean heavily influences the state's mild winter climate, despite the latitude.

Oregon was inhabited by many indigenous tribes before Western traders, explorers, and settlers arrived. An autonomous government was formed in the [Oregon Country](/wiki/Oregon_Country) in 1843, the [Oregon Territory](/wiki/Oregon_Territory) was created in 1848, and Oregon became the 33rd state on February 14, 1859. Today, at 98,000 square miles, Oregon is the [ninth largest](/wiki/List_of_U.S._states_and_territories_by_area) and, with a population of 4 million, [26th most populous](/wiki/List_of_U.S._states_and_territories_by_population) U.S. state. The capital of Oregon is [Salem](/wiki/Salem,_Oregon), the second most populous of its cities, with 160,614 residents (2013 estimate). With 609,456 residents (2013 estimate), [Portland](/wiki/Portland,_Oregon) is the largest city in Oregon and ranks 29th in the U.S. Its metro population of 2,314,554 (2013 estimate) is 24th. The [Willamette Valley](/wiki/Willamette_Valley) in western Oregon is the state's most densely populated area, home to eight of the ten most populous cities.

Oregon's landscape is diverse, with a windswept [Pacific coastline](/wiki/Oregon_Coast); a volcano-studded [Cascade Range](/wiki/Cascade_Range); abundant bodies of water in and west of the Cascades; dense [evergreen](/wiki/Temperate_rainforest), [mixed](/wiki/Temperate_broadleaf_and_mixed_forest), and [deciduous](/wiki/Deciduous) forests at lower elevations; and a [high desert](/wiki/High_Desert_(Oregon)) sprawling across much of its east all the way to the [Great Basin](/wiki/Great_Basin). The tall [conifers](/wiki/Pinophyta), mainly [Douglas fir](/wiki/Douglas_fir), along Oregon's rainy west coast contrast with the lighter-timbered and fire-prone [pine](/wiki/Pine) and [juniper](/wiki/Juniperus_occidentalis) forests covering portions to the east. Abundant [alders](/wiki/Alder) in the west [fix nitrogen](/wiki/Nitrogen_fixing) for the conifers. Stretching east from central Oregon are semi-arid [shrublands](/wiki/Shrubland), [prairies](/wiki/Prairie), [deserts](/wiki/Desert), [steppes](/wiki/Steppe), and meadows. At [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert), [Mount Hood](/wiki/Mount_Hood) is the state's highest point, and [Crater Lake National Park](/wiki/Crater_Lake_National_Park) is Oregon's only national park.

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## Etymology[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=1)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) [thumb|250px|Oregon](/wiki/File:Oregon_welcome_sign.JPG) [welcome sign](/wiki/Welcome_sign) at [Hells Canyon](/wiki/Hells_Canyon) near the border with [Idaho](/wiki/Idaho)

The earliest evidence of the name Oregon has Spanish origins. The term "orejón" comes from the historical chronicle *Relación de la Alta y Baja California* (1598)[[2]](#cite_note-2) written by the new Spaniard Rodrigo Motezuma and made reference to the Columbia river when the Spanish explorers penetrated into the actual north american territory that became part of the [Viceroyalty of New Spain](/wiki/Viceroyalty_of_New_Spain). This chronicle is the first topographical and linguistic source with respect to the place name Oregon. There are also two other sources with Spanish origins such as the name [Oregano](/wiki/Oregano) which grows in the southern part of the region. It is most probable that the American territory was named by the Spaniards as there are some populations in Spain such as "Arroyo del Oregón" which is situated in the province of [Ciudad Real](/wiki/Ciudad_Real), also considering that the individualization in Spanish language "El Orejón" with the mutation of the letter "g" instead of "j".[[3]](#cite_note-3) Another early use of the name, spelled *Ouragon*, was in a 1765 petition by Major [Robert Rogers](/wiki/Robert_Rogers_(soldier)) to the [Kingdom of Great Britain](/wiki/Kingdom_of_Great_Britain). The term referred to the then-mythical River of the West (the Columbia River). By 1778 the spelling had shifted to *Oregon*.[[4]](#cite_note-4) In his 1765 petition, Rogers wrote:

The rout[Template:Sic](/wiki/Template:Sic)...is from the Great Lakes towards the Head of the Mississippi, and from thence to the River called by the Indians Ouragon...[[5]](#cite_note-5)

One theory is the name comes from the French word *ouragan* ("windstorm" or "hurricane"), which was applied to the River of the West based on Native American tales of powerful [Chinook winds](/wiki/Chinook_wind) of the lower Columbia River, or perhaps from firsthand French experience with the Chinook winds of the [Great Plains](/wiki/Great_Plains). At the time, the River of the West was thought to rise in western Minnesota and flow west through the Great Plains.[[6]](#cite_note-6) [Joaquin Miller](/wiki/Joaquin_Miller) explained in [*Sunset* magazine](/wiki/Sunset_(magazine)), in 1904, how Oregon's name was derived:

The name, Oregon, is rounded down phonetically, from *Aure il agua*—Oragua, Or-a-gon, Oregon—given probably by the same Portuguese navigator that named the Farallones after his first officer, and it literally, in a large way, means cascades: 'Hear the waters.' You should steam up the Columbia and hear and feel the waters falling out of the clouds of Mount Hood to understand entirely the full meaning of the name *Aure il agua*, Oregon.[[7]](#cite_note-7)

Another account, endorsed as the "most plausible explanation" in the book [*Oregon Geographic Names*](/wiki/Oregon_Geographic_Names), was advanced by [George R. Stewart](/wiki/George_R._Stewart) in a 1944 article in [*American Speech*](/wiki/American_Speech). According to Stewart, the name came from an engraver's error in a French map published in the early 18th century, on which the [Ouisiconsink (Wisconsin) River](/wiki/Wisconsin_River) was spelled "Ouaricon-sint," broken on two lines with the -sint below, so there appeared to be a river flowing to the west named "Ouaricon."

According to the [Oregon Tourism Commission](/wiki/Oregon_Tourism_Commission) (doing business as Travel Oregon), present-day Oregonians [Template:IPAc-en](/wiki/Template:IPAc-en)[[8]](#cite_note-8) pronounce the state's name as "or-uh-gun, never or-ee-gone."<ref name=traveloregon>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref>

After being drafted by the [Detroit Lions](/wiki/Detroit_Lions) in 2002, former [Oregon Ducks](/wiki/Oregon_Ducks) quarterback [Joey Harrington](/wiki/Joey_Harrington) distributed "Orygun" stickers to members of the media as a reminder of how to pronounce the name of his home state.[[9]](#cite_note-9)[[10]](#cite_note-10) The stickers are sold by the University of Oregon Bookstore.[[11]](#cite_note-11)

## History[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=2)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) Humans have inhabited the area that is now Oregon for at least 15,000 years. In recorded history, mentions of the land date to as early as the 16th century. During the 18th and 19th centuries, European powers – and later the United States – quarreled over possession of the region until 1846, when the U.S. and Great Britain finalized division of the region. Oregon became a state in 1859 and is now home to over 3.8 million residents.

### Earliest inhabitants[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=3)]

[Template:Expand section](/wiki/Template:Expand_section) [Human habitation](/wiki/Paleo-Indians) of the [Pacific Northwest](/wiki/Pacific_Northwest) began at least 15,000 years ago[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed), with the oldest evidence of habitation in Oregon found at [Fort Rock Cave](/wiki/Fort_Rock_Cave) and the [Paisley Caves](/wiki/Paisley_Caves) in [Lake County](/wiki/Lake_County,_Oregon). Archaeologist [Luther Cressman](/wiki/Luther_Cressman) dated material from Fort Rock to 13,200 years ago.[[12]](#cite_note-12) By 8000 BC there were settlements throughout the state, with populations concentrated along the lower Columbia River, in the western valleys, and around coastal estuaries.

By the 16th century, Oregon was home to many Native American groups, including the [Coquille](/wiki/Coquille_people) ([Ko-Kwell](/wiki/Ko-Kwell)), [Bannock](/wiki/Bannock_(tribe)), [Chasta](/wiki/Shasta_(tribe)), [Chinook](/wiki/Chinook_people), [Kalapuya](/wiki/Kalapuya_people), [Klamath](/wiki/Klamath_people), [Molalla](/wiki/Molala_people), [Nez Perce](/wiki/Nez_Perce_tribe), [Takelma](/wiki/Takelma_people), [Tillamook](/wiki/Tillamook_(tribe)) and [Umpqua](/wiki/Umpqua_(tribe)).[[13]](#cite_note-13)[[14]](#cite_note-14)[[15]](#cite_note-15)[[16]](#cite_note-16)

### European exploration[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=4)]

[thumb|250px|The Oregon coastline looking south from](/wiki/File:OregonCoastEcola.jpg) [Ecola State Park](/wiki/Lewis_and_Clark_National_and_State_Historical_Parks#Ecola_State_Park), with [Haystack Rock](/wiki/Haystack_Rock) in the distance The first Europeans to visit Oregon were Spanish explorers led by [Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo](/wiki/Juan_Rodríguez_Cabrillo) who sighted southern Oregon off the Pacific Coast in 1543.[[17]](#cite_note-17) Francis Drake made his way to Nehalem Bay in 1579 and spent 5 weeks in the middle of summer repairing his ship and claimed the land between 38-48 degrees N latitude as a Symbolic Sovereign Act for England.[[18]](#cite_note-18) Exploration was retaken routinely in 1774, starting with the expedition of the frigate *Santiago* by [Juan José Pérez Hernández](/wiki/Juan_José_Pérez_Hernández) (see [Spanish expeditions to the Pacific Northwest](/wiki/Spanish_expeditions_to_the_Pacific_Northwest)), and the coast of Oregon became a valuable trading route to Asia. In 1778, British captain [James Cook](/wiki/James_Cook) also explored the coast.[[19]](#cite_note-19) French Canadian and métis trappers and missionaries arrived in the eastern part of the state in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, many having travelled as members of Lewis and Clark and the 1811 Astor expeditions. Some stayed permanently, including Étienne Lussier, believed to be the first European farmer in the state of Oregon. The evidence of this French Canadian presence can be found in the numerous names of French origin in that part of the state, including [Malheur Lake](/wiki/Malheur_Lake) and the [Malheur River](/wiki/Malheur_River), the [Grande Ronde](/wiki/Grande_Ronde_River) and [Deschutes](/wiki/Deschutes_River_(Oregon)) rivers, and the city of [La Grande](/wiki/La_Grande,_Oregon).

### During U.S. westward expansion[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=5)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also) The [Lewis and Clark Expedition](/wiki/Lewis_and_Clark_Expedition) traveled through northern Oregon also in search of the Northwest Passage. They built their winter fort in 1805–06 at [Fort Clatsop](/wiki/Fort_Clatsop), near the mouth of the Columbia River.

British explorer [David Thompson](/wiki/David_Thompson_(explorer)) also conducted overland exploration. In 1811, while working for the [North West Company](/wiki/North_West_Company), Thompson became the first European to navigate the entire Columbia River. Stopping on the way, at the junction of the Snake River, he posted a claim to the region for Great Britain and the North West Company. Upon returning to [Montreal](/wiki/Montreal), he publicized the abundance of fur-bearing animals in the area.

Also in 1811, New Yorker [John Jacob Astor](/wiki/John_Jacob_Astor) financed the establishment of [Fort Astoria](/wiki/Fort_Astoria) at the mouth of the Columbia River as a western outpost to his [Pacific Fur Company](/wiki/Pacific_Fur_Company);[[20]](#cite_note-20) this was the first permanent European settlement in Oregon.

[thumb|350px|Map of Oregon Country](/wiki/File:Oregoncountry2.png)

In the [War of 1812](/wiki/War_of_1812), the [British](/wiki/United_Kingdom_of_Great_Britain_and_Ireland) gained control of all Pacific Fur Company posts. The [Treaty of 1818](/wiki/Treaty_of_1818) established joint British and American occupancy of the region west of the [Rocky Mountains](/wiki/Rocky_Mountains) to the Pacific Ocean. By the 1820s and 1830s, the [Hudson's Bay Company](/wiki/Hudson's_Bay_Company) dominated the Pacific Northwest from its [Columbia District](/wiki/Columbia_District) headquarters at [Fort Vancouver](/wiki/Fort_Vancouver) (built in 1825 by the district's chief factor, [John McLoughlin](/wiki/John_McLoughlin), across the Columbia from present-day Portland).

In 1841, the expert trapper and entrepreneur [Ewing Young](/wiki/Ewing_Young) died leaving considerable wealth and no apparent heir, and no system to [probate](/wiki/Probate) his estate. A meeting followed Young's funeral at which a probate government was proposed. Doctor [Ira Babcock](/wiki/Ira_Babcock) of [Jason Lee's](/wiki/Jason_Lee_(missionary)) [Methodist Mission](/wiki/Methodist_Mission) was elected supreme judge. Babcock chaired two meetings in 1842 at [Champoeg](/wiki/Champoeg,_Oregon), (half way between Lee's mission and [Oregon City](/wiki/Oregon_City,_Oregon)), to discuss [wolves](/wiki/Gray_wolf) and other animals of contemporary concern. These meetings were precursors to an [all-citizen meeting](/wiki/Champoeg_Meetings) in 1843, which instituted a provisional government headed by an [executive committee](/wiki/Executive_Committee_(Oregon_Country)) made up of [David Hill](/wiki/David_Hill_(Oregon_politician)), [Alanson Beers](/wiki/Alanson_Beers), and [Joseph Gale](/wiki/Joseph_Gale). This government was the first acting public government of the [Oregon Country](/wiki/Oregon_Country) before annexation by the government of the United States.

Also in 1841, [Sir George Simpson](/wiki/George_Simpson_(administrator)), governor of the Hudson's Bay Company, reversed the Hudson's Bay Company's long-standing policy of discouraging settlement because it interfered with the lucrative fur trade. He directed that some 200 [Red River Colony](/wiki/Red_River_Colony) settlers be relocated to HBC farms near Fort Vancouver, (the [James Sinclair](/wiki/James_Sinclair_(fur_trapper)) expedition), in an attempt to hold Columbia District.

Starting in 1842–1843, the [Oregon Trail](/wiki/Oregon_Trail) brought many new American settlers to Oregon Country. For some time, it seemed that Britain and the United States would go to war for a third time in 75 years (see [Oregon boundary dispute](/wiki/Oregon_boundary_dispute)), but the border was defined peacefully in 1846 by the [Oregon Treaty](/wiki/Oregon_Treaty). The border between the United States and [British North America](/wiki/British_North_America) was set at the [49th parallel](/wiki/49th_parallel_north). The [Oregon Territory](/wiki/Oregon_Territory) was officially organized in 1848.

Settlement increased with the [Donation Land Claim Act](/wiki/Donation_Land_Claim_Act) of 1850 and the [forced relocation](/wiki/Population_transfer) of the native population to [Indian reservations in Oregon](/wiki/List_of_Indian_reservations_in_Oregon).

### After statehood[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=6)]

[thumb|250px|Panorama of Portland, Oregon, in 1890Oregon](/wiki/File:Panorama_of_Portland,_Oregon,_in_1890,_1890_-_NARA_-_530891.jpg) was admitted to the Union on February 14, 1859. Founded as a refuge from disputes over slavery, Oregon had a "whites only" clause in its original state Constitution.[[21]](#cite_note-21) At the outbreak of the [American Civil War](/wiki/American_Civil_War), regular U.S. troops were withdrawn and sent east. Volunteer cavalry recruited in California were sent north to Oregon to keep peace and protect the populace. The [First Oregon Cavalry](/wiki/1st_Oregon_Cavalry) served until June 1865.

Beginning in the 1880s, the growth of railroads expanded the state's [lumber](/wiki/Lumber), wheat, and other agricultural markets, and the rapid growth of its cities.<ref name=engemanohs>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref>

### 20th and 21st centuries[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=7)]

[Template:Expand section](/wiki/Template:Expand_section) In 1902, Oregon introduced [direct legislation](/wiki/Direct_Legislation_League) by the state's citizens through [initiatives](/wiki/Initiatives) and [referenda](/wiki/Referenda), known as the [Oregon System](/wiki/Direct_Legislation_League).

On May 5, 1945, six people were killed by a Japanese bomb that exploded on Gearhart Mountain near [Bly](/wiki/Bly,_Oregon).[[22]](#cite_note-22) Oregon's mean elevation is [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert). [Crater Lake National Park](/wiki/Crater_Lake_National_Park) is the state's only national park and the site of [Crater Lake](/wiki/Crater_Lake), the deepest lake in the U.S. at [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert).[[29]](#cite_note-29) Oregon claims the [D River](/wiki/D_River) as the shortest river in the world,[[30]](#cite_note-30) though the state of [Montana](/wiki/Montana) makes the same claim of its [Roe River](/wiki/Roe_River).[[31]](#cite_note-31) Oregon is also home to [Mill Ends Park](/wiki/Mill_Ends_Park) (in Portland),[[32]](#cite_note-32) the smallest park in the world at [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert).

Oregon's [geographical center](/wiki/Centroid) is farther west than that of any of the other 48 contiguous states (although the westernmost point of the lower 48 states is in Washington). Its [antipodes](/wiki/Antipodes), diametrically opposite its geographical center on the Earth's surface, is at [Template:Coord](/wiki/Template:Coord) in the Indian Ocean northwest of [Port-aux-Français](/wiki/Port-aux-Français) in the [French Southern and Antarctic Lands](/wiki/French_Southern_and_Antarctic_Lands). Oregon lies in two [time zones](/wiki/Time_zone). Most of [Malheur County](/wiki/Malheur_County,_Oregon) is in the [Mountain Time Zone](/wiki/Mountain_Time_Zone) while the rest of the state lies in the [Pacific Time Zone](/wiki/Pacific_Time_Zone).

Oregon is home to what is considered the largest single organism in the world, an [*Armillaria solidipes*](/wiki/Armillaria_solidipes) fungus beneath the [Malheur National Forest](/wiki/Malheur_National_Forest) of [eastern Oregon](/wiki/Eastern_Oregon).[[33]](#cite_note-33)

<gallery caption="Images of Oregon" widths="200px" perrow="5"> File:Trilliumlake.jpg|[Mount Hood](/wiki/Mount_Hood), with [Trillium Lake](/wiki/Trillium_Lake) in the foreground File:Crater lake oregon.jpg|An aerial view of [Crater Lake](/wiki/Crater_Lake) File:Oregon High Desert.jpg|The [High Desert](/wiki/High_Desert_(Oregon)) region of Oregon File:Kalmiopsis.jpg|[Kalmiopsis Wilderness](/wiki/Kalmiopsis_Wilderness) File:Portland panorama3.jpg|[Portland](/wiki/Portland,_Oregon) File:Eugene skyline crop.jpg|Downtown [Eugene](/wiki/Eugene,_Oregon) as seen from Skinner Butte in North Eugene File:Roxy Ann Peak 2.jpg|Roxy Ann Peak, seen from [Medford](/wiki/Medford,_Oregon) File:Oregon population map 2000.png|Map of Oregon's population density File:Public-Lands-Western-US.png|Nearly half of Oregon's land is held by the [U.S. Forest Service](/wiki/United_States_Forest_Service) and the [Bureau of Land Management](/wiki/Bureau_of_Land_Management)[[34]](#cite_note-34)File:Wpdms\_shdrlfi020l\_willamette\_valley.jpg|[Willamette Valley](/wiki/Willamette_Valley) [basin](/wiki/Drainage_basin) map </gallery>

### Major cities[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=10)]

[Template:Largest cities](/wiki/Template:Largest_cities)

[Template:Further](/wiki/Template:Further) Oregon's population is largely concentrated in the [Willamette Valley](/wiki/Willamette_Valley), which stretches from [Eugene](/wiki/Eugene,_Oregon) in the south (home of the [University of Oregon](/wiki/University_of_Oregon)) through [Corvallis](/wiki/Corvallis,_Oregon) (home of [Oregon State University](/wiki/Oregon_State_University)) and [Salem](/wiki/Salem,_Oregon) (the capital) to [Portland](/wiki/Portland,_Oregon) (Oregon's largest city).[[35]](#cite_note-35) [Astoria](/wiki/Astoria,_Oregon), at the mouth of the Columbia River, was the first permanent English-speaking settlement west of the [Rockies](/wiki/Rocky_Mountains) in what is now the United States. [Oregon City](/wiki/Oregon_City,_Oregon), at the end of the [Oregon Trail](/wiki/Oregon_Trail), was the [Oregon Territory's](/wiki/Oregon_Territory) first incorporated city, and was its first capital from 1848 until 1852, when the capital was moved to Salem. [Bend](/wiki/Bend,_Oregon), near the geographic center of the state, is one of the ten fastest-growing metropolitan areas in the United States.[[36]](#cite_note-36) In the southern part of the state, [Medford](/wiki/Medford,_Oregon) is a rapidly growing metro area, which is home to The [Rogue Valley International-Medford Airport](/wiki/Rogue_Valley_International-Medford_Airport), the third-busiest airport in the state. To the south, near the California-Oregon border, is the community of [Ashland](/wiki/Ashland,_Oregon), home of the [Tony Award](/wiki/Tony_Award)-winning [Oregon Shakespeare Festival](/wiki/Oregon_Shakespeare_Festival).

### Climate[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=11)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) [thumb|300px|Oregon map of Köppen climate classification.](/wiki/File:Oregan_map_of_Köppen_climate_classification.svg) Oregon's climate is generally mild. The state has an [oceanic climate](/wiki/Oceanic_climate) west of the [Cascade mountain range](/wiki/Cascade_range). The climate varies with dense [evergreen](/wiki/Temperate_rainforest) mixed forests spreading across much of the west, and a high [desert](/wiki/Semi-arid) sprawling to the east. The southwestern portion of the state, particularly the [Rogue Valley](/wiki/Rogue_Valley), has a [Mediterranean climate](/wiki/Mediterranean_climate) with drier and sunnier winters and hotter summers, similar to [Northern California](/wiki/Northern_California).

The northeastern portion of Oregon has a [steppe climate](/wiki/Steppe_climate), and the high terrain regions have a [subarctic climate](/wiki/Subarctic_climate). Like [Western Europe](/wiki/Western_Europe), Oregon, and the [Pacific Northwest](/wiki/Pacific_Northwest) in general, is considered warm for its latitude, and the state has far milder winters for the given elevation than the comparable latitude parts of North America, such as the [Upper Midwest](/wiki/Upper_Midwest), [Ontario](/wiki/Ontario), [Quebec](/wiki/Quebec) and [New England](/wiki/New_England).

Western Oregon's climate is heavily influenced by the Pacific Ocean. The western third of Oregon is very wet in the winter, moderately to very wet during the spring and fall, and dry during the summer. The [relative humidity](/wiki/Relative_humidity) of Western Oregon is high except during summer days, which are semi-dry to semi-humid; Eastern Oregon typically sees low humidity year-round.

The eastern two thirds of Oregon have cold, snowy winters and very dry summers; much of it is semiarid to arid like the rest of the [Great Basin](/wiki/Great_Basin), though the [Blue Mountains](/wiki/Blue_Mountains_(Pacific_Northwest)) are wet enough to support extensive forests.

Most of the state does get significant snowfall, but 70 percent of Oregon's population lives in the [Willamette Valley](/wiki/Willamette_Valley),[[37]](#cite_note-37) which has exceptionally mild winters for its latitude and typically only sees a few light snows each year. This gives Oregon a reputation of being relatively "snowless".

Oregon's highest recorded temperature is [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) at [Pendleton](/wiki/Pendleton,_Oregon) on August 10, 1898, and the lowest recorded temperature is [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) at [Seneca](/wiki/Seneca,_Oregon) on February 10, 1933.[[38]](#cite_note-38) The table below lists the averages for selected areas of Oregon, including the largest cities and largest coastal city Astoria.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Average daily maximum and minimum temperatures for selected cities in Oregon[[39]](#cite_note-39) | | | | |
| **Location** | **August (°F)** | **August (°C)** | **December (°F)** | **December (°C)** |
| [Portland](/wiki/Portland,_Oregon) | 81/58 | 27/13 | 45/35 | 7/2 |
| [Salem](/wiki/Salem,_Oregon) | 82/53 | 28/11 | 46/34 | 8/1 |
| [Eugene](/wiki/Eugene,_Oregon) | 83/51 | 28/10 | 45/34 | 7/1 |
| [Bend](/wiki/Bend,_Oregon) | 81/46 | 27/8 | 39/22 | 4/–5 |
| [Medford](/wiki/Medford,_Oregon) | 91/56 | 32/14 | 46/30 | 8/–1 |
| [Astoria](/wiki/Astoria,_Oregon) | 68/53 | 20/11 | 48/36 | 9/2 |

## Flora and fauna[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=12)]

[thumb|225x225px|Tallest Ponderosa Pine in Oregon-](/wiki/File:Oregon_Ponderosa_Pine.JPG) [La Pine State Park](/wiki/La_Pine_State_Park), [Deschutes County, Oregon](/wiki/Deschutes_County,_Oregon) Typical of a western state, Oregon is home to a unique and diverse array of wildlife. About 46% of the state is covered in forest, mostly west of the [Cascades](/wiki/Cascade_Range) where up to 80% of the land is forest. Sixty percent of the forests in Oregon are within federal land. Oregon remains the top timber producer of the lower 48 states.[[40]](#cite_note-40)[[41]](#cite_note-41)\* Typical tree species include the [Douglas fir](/wiki/Douglas_fir), the state tree, as well as [redwood](/wiki/Sequoia_(genus)), [ponderosa pine](/wiki/Ponderosa_pine) (generally east of the Cascades), [western red cedar](/wiki/Western_red_cedar), [hemlock](/wiki/Tsuga), and ferns.[[42]](#cite_note-42) Ponderosa pine are more common in the Blue Mountains in the eastern part of the state and firs are more common in the west.

* There are many species of mammals that live in the state, which include, but are not limited to, [opossums](/wiki/Virginia_opossum), [shrews](/wiki/Shrew), [moles](/wiki/Mole_(animal)), little pocket mice, great basin pocket mice, dark kangaroo mouse, California kangaroo rat, chisel-toothed kangaroo rat, ord's kangaroo rat,[[43]](#cite_note-43)[bats](/wiki/Bat), [rabbits](/wiki/Rabbit), [pikas](/wiki/American_pika), [mountain beavers](/wiki/Mountain_beaver), [chipmunks](/wiki/Chipmunks), [western gray squirrels](/wiki/Western_gray_squirrel), [yellow-bellied marmots](/wiki/Yellow-bellied_marmot), [beavers](/wiki/North_American_beaver), [porcupines](/wiki/North_American_porcupine), [coyotes](/wiki/Coyote), [wolves](/wiki/Gray_wolf), [red foxes](/wiki/Red_fox), common grey fox, kit fox,[[44]](#cite_note-44)[black bears](/wiki/American_black_bear), [raccoons](/wiki/Raccoon), [badgers](/wiki/American_badger), [skunks](/wiki/Skunk), [cougars](/wiki/Cougar), [bobcats](/wiki/Bobcat), [lynxes](/wiki/Canada_lynx), [deer](/wiki/Mule_deer), [elk](/wiki/Elk), and [moose](/wiki/Moose).
* Marine mammals include [seals](/wiki/Harbor_seal), [sea lions](/wiki/California_sea_lion), [humpback](/wiki/Humpback_whale), [killer](/wiki/Killer_whale) whales, gray whales, blue whales, sperm whale, pacific whitesided dolphin, and bottlenose dolphin.[[45]](#cite_note-45)\* Notable birds include [American widgeons](/wiki/American_widgeon), [mallard ducks](/wiki/Mallard_duck), [great blue herons](/wiki/Great_blue_heron), [bald eagles](/wiki/Bald_eagle), [golden eagles](/wiki/Golden_eagle), [western meadowlarks](/wiki/Western_meadowlark) (the [state bird](/wiki/List_of_Oregon_state_symbols)), [barn owls](/wiki/Barn_owl), [great horned owls](/wiki/Great_horned_owl), [rufous hummingbirds](/wiki/Rufous_hummingbird), [pileated woodpeckers](/wiki/Pileated_woodpecker), [wrens](/wiki/Wren), [towhees](/wiki/Towhee), [sparrows](/wiki/Sparrow), and [buntings](/wiki/Bunting_(bird)).[[46]](#cite_note-46)[thumb|193x193px|Sea Lion-](/wiki/File:Sea_Lion_(Lincoln_County,_Oregon_scenic_images)_(lincD0025).jpg) [Lincoln County, Oregon](/wiki/Lincoln_County,_Oregon)|left

[Moose](/wiki/Moose) have not always inhabited the state but came to Oregon in the 1960s; the [Wallowa Valley](/wiki/Wallowa_Valley) herd now numbers about 60.[[47]](#cite_note-47) [Gray wolves](/wiki/Gray_wolves) were extirpated from Oregon around 1930 but have since found their way back; there are now two packs living in the south-central part of the state.[[48]](#cite_note-48) Although their existence in Oregon is unconfirmed, reports of [grizzly bears](/wiki/Grizzly_bear) still turn up the state and it is probable that some still move into eastern Oregon from Idaho.[[49]](#cite_note-49)There are some areas in Oregon where humans find themselves living in the same area as wildlife. This is bound to happen more as the human population grows. When wildlife resources dwindle (food, water and shelter) they will often look for food and shelter in homes and garages.[[50]](#cite_note-50) Oregon has three national park sites: [Crater Lake National Park](/wiki/Crater_Lake_National_Park) in the southern part of the Cascades, [John Day Fossil Beds National Monument](/wiki/John_Day_Fossil_Beds_National_Monument), and [Lewis and Clark National and State Historical Parks](/wiki/Lewis_and_Clark_National_and_State_Historical_Parks).[[51]](#cite_note-51)[[52]](#cite_note-52)

## Governance[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=13)]

[thumb|250px|The flags of the](/wiki/File:Flags-of-usa-and-oregon.jpg) [United States](/wiki/Flag_of_the_United_States) and [Oregon](/wiki/Flag_of_Oregon) flown side-by-side in [downtown Portland](/wiki/Downtown_Portland) A writer in the [Oregon Country](/wiki/Oregon_Country) book *A Pacific Republic*, written in 1839, predicted the territory was to become an independent republic. Four years later, in 1843, settlers of the Willamette Valley voted in majority for a republic government.[[53]](#cite_note-53) The Oregon Country functioned in this way until August 13, 1848, when Oregon was annexed by the United States and a territorial government was established. Oregon maintained a territorial government until February 14, 1859, when it was granted [statehood](/wiki/U.S._state).[[54]](#cite_note-54)

### State[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=14)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also) [left|thumb|200px|](/wiki/File:Oregon_Secretary_of_State_Kate_Brown,_cropped.jpg)[Kate Brown](/wiki/Kate_Brown), the 38th and current [Governor of Oregon](/wiki/Governor_of_Oregon) Oregon state government has a [separation of powers](/wiki/Separation_of_powers) similar to the [federal government](/wiki/Federal_government_of_the_United_States). It has three branches:

* a [legislative branch](/wiki/Legislature) (the [bicameral](/wiki/Bicameral) [Oregon Legislative Assembly](/wiki/Oregon_Legislative_Assembly)),
* an [executive branch](/wiki/Executive_(government)) which includes an "administrative department" and [Oregon's governor](/wiki/Governor_of_Oregon) serving as chief executive, and
* a [judicial branch](/wiki/Judiciary), headed by the Chief Justice of the [Oregon Supreme Court](/wiki/Oregon_Supreme_Court).

Governors in Oregon serve four-year terms and are limited to two consecutive terms, but an unlimited number of total terms. Oregon has no [lieutenant governor](/wiki/Lieutenant_governor_(United_States)); in the event that the office of governor is vacated, Article V, Section 8a of the [Oregon Constitution](/wiki/Oregon_Constitution) specifies that the [Secretary of State](/wiki/Oregon_Secretary_of_State) is first in line for succession.<ref name=articlev>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> The other statewide officers are [Treasurer](/wiki/Oregon_State_Treasurer), [Attorney General](/wiki/Oregon_Attorney_General), [Superintendent](/wiki/Oregon_Superintendent_of_Public_Instruction), and [Labor Commissioner](/wiki/Oregon_Bureau_of_Labor_and_Industries). The [biennial](/wiki/Wikt:Biennial) Oregon Legislative Assembly consists of a thirty-member [Senate](/wiki/Oregon_State_Senate) and a sixty-member [House](/wiki/Oregon_House_of_Representatives). The state supreme court has seven elected justices, currently including the only two openly gay state supreme court justices in the nation. They choose one of their own to serve a six-year term as Chief Justice. The only court that may reverse or modify a decision of the Oregon Supreme Court is the [Supreme Court of the United States](/wiki/Supreme_Court_of_the_United_States).

The debate over whether to move to annual sessions is a long-standing battle in Oregon politics, but the voters have resisted the move from citizen legislators to professional lawmakers. Because Oregon's state budget is written in two-year increments and, having no sales tax, its revenue is based largely on income taxes, it is often significantly over- or under-budget. Recent legislatures have had to be called into special session repeatedly to address revenue shortfalls resulting from economic downturns, bringing to a head the need for more frequent legislative sessions. Oregon Initiative 71, passed in 2010, mandates the Legislature to begin meeting every year, for 160 days in odd-numbered years, and 35 days in even-numbered years.

[thumb|250px|](/wiki/File:Oregon_State_Capitol_1.jpg)[Oregon State Capitol](/wiki/Oregon_State_Capitol) [thumb|250px|Party registration in Oregon, 1950–2006](/wiki/File:Oregon_voter_reg_1950-2006.png) [Template:Legend](/wiki/Template:Legend) [Template:Legend](/wiki/Template:Legend) [Template:Legend](/wiki/Template:Legend) [Template:Legend](/wiki/Template:Legend) The state maintains formal relationships with the nine [federally recognized tribes](/wiki/Federally_recognized_tribes) in Oregon:

* [Burns Paiute Tribe](/wiki/Burns_Paiute_Tribe)
* [Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians](/wiki/Confederated_Tribes_of_Coos,_Lower_Umpqua_and_Siuslaw_Indians)
* [Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde](/wiki/Confederated_Tribes_of_Grand_Ronde)
* [Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians](/wiki/Confederated_Tribes_of_Siletz_Indians)
* [Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs](/wiki/Confederated_Tribes_of_Warm_Springs)
* [Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation](/wiki/Confederated_Tribes_of_the_Umatilla_Indian_Reservation)
* [Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians](/wiki/Cow_Creek_Band_of_Umpqua_Tribe_of_Indians)
* [Klamath Tribes](/wiki/Klamath_Tribes)
* [Coquille Indian Tribe](/wiki/Coquille_Indian_Tribe)

Oregonians have voted for the [Democratic](/wiki/Democratic_Party_(United_States)) Presidential candidate in every election since 1988. In 2004 and 2006, Democrats won control of the state Senate and then the House. Since the late 1990s, Oregon has been represented by four Democrats and one [Republican](/wiki/Republican_Party_(United_States)) in the U.S. House of Representatives. Since 2009, the state has had two Democratic Senators, [Ron Wyden](/wiki/Ron_Wyden) and [Jeff Merkley](/wiki/Jeff_Merkley). Oregon voters have elected Democratic governors in every election since 1986, most recently electing [John Kitzhaber](/wiki/John_Kitzhaber) over Republican [Dennis Richardson](/wiki/Dennis_Richardson_(politician)) in 2014.

The base of Democratic support is largely concentrated in the urban centers of the [Willamette Valley](/wiki/Willamette_Valley). The eastern two-thirds of the state beyond the Cascade Mountains typically votes Republican; in 2000 and 2004, [George W. Bush](/wiki/George_W._Bush) carried every county east of the Cascades. However, the region's sparse population means that the more populous counties in the Willamette Valley usually outweigh the eastern counties in statewide elections.

Oregon's politics are largely similar to those of neighboring [Washington](/wiki/Washington_(state)) – for instance, in the contrast between urban and rural issues.

In the 2002 general election, Oregon voters approved a [ballot measure](/wiki/Oregon_Ballot_Measure_25_(2002)) to increase the state minimum wage automatically each year according to inflationary changes, which are measured by the [consumer price index](/wiki/Consumer_price_index) (CPI).[[55]](#cite_note-55) In the 2004 general election, Oregon voters passed ballot measures [banning same-sex marriage](/wiki/Oregon_Ballot_Measure_36_(2004)),[[56]](#cite_note-56) and [restricting land use regulation](/wiki/Oregon_Ballot_Measure_37_(2004)).[[57]](#cite_note-57) In the [2006 general election](/wiki/Oregon's_statewide_elections,_2006), voters restricted the use of [eminent domain](/wiki/Oregon_Ballot_Measure_39_(2006)) and extended the state's discount prescription drug coverage.[[58]](#cite_note-58) The distribution, sales, and consumption of [alcoholic beverages are regulated in the state](/wiki/Alcoholic_beverages_in_Oregon) by the [Oregon Liquor Control Commission](/wiki/Oregon_Liquor_Control_Commission). Thus, Oregon is an [Alcoholic beverage control state](/wiki/Alcoholic_beverage_control_state). While wine and beer are available in most grocery stores, few stores sell hard liquor.

### Federal[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=15)]

Like all US states, Oregon is represented by two [U.S. Senators](/wiki/United_States_Senate). Since the [1980 census](/wiki/1980_United_States_Census), Oregon has had five [Congressional districts](/wiki/Oregon's_congressional_districts).

After Oregon was admitted to the Union, it began with a single member in the House of Representatives ([La Fayette Grover](/wiki/La_Fayette_Grover), who served in the [35th United States Congress](/wiki/35th_United_States_Congress) for less than a month). [Congressional apportionment](/wiki/United_States_congressional_apportionment) increased the size of the delegation following the censuses of [1890](/wiki/1890_United_States_Census), [1910](/wiki/1910_United_States_Census), [1940](/wiki/1940_United_States_Census), and 1980. A [detailed list of the past and present Congressional delegations from Oregon](/wiki/United_States_congressional_delegations_from_Oregon) is available.

The [United States District Court for the District of Oregon](/wiki/United_States_District_Court_for_the_District_of_Oregon) hears federal cases in the state. The court has courthouses in [Portland](/wiki/Mark_O._Hatfield_United_States_Courthouse), [Eugene](/wiki/Wayne_L._Morse_United_States_Courthouse), Medford, and Pendleton. Also in Portland is the federal bankruptcy court, with a second branch in Eugene.[[59]](#cite_note-59) Oregon (among other western states and territories) is in the [9th Court of Appeals](/wiki/United_States_Court_of_Appeals_for_the_Ninth_Circuit). One of the court's meeting places is at the [Pioneer Courthouse](/wiki/Pioneer_Courthouse) in downtown Portland, a National Historic Landmark built in 1869.

### Politics[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=16)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) [Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Presidential elections results**[[60]](#cite_note-60) | | |
| **Year** | [**Republican**](/wiki/Republican_Party_(United_States)) | [**Democratic**](/wiki/Democratic_Party_(United_States)) |
| [2012](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_2012) | 42.18% *754,095* | **54.27%** *970,343* |
| [2008](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_2008) | 40.40% *738,475* | **56.75%** *1,037,291* |
| [2004](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_2004) | 47.19% *866,831* | **51.35%** *943,163* |
| [2000](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_2000) | 46.46% *713,577* | **47.01%** *720,342* |
| [1996](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1996) | 39.06% *538,152* | **47.15%** *649,641* |
| [1992](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1992) | 32.53% *475,757* | **42.48%** *621,314* |
| [1988](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1988) | 46.61% *560,126* | **51.28%** *616,206* |
| [1984](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1984) | **55.91%** *685,700* | 43.74% *536,479* |
| [1980](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1980) | **48.33%** *571,044* | 38.67% *456,890* |
| [1976](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1976) | **47.78%** *492,120* | 47.62% *490,407* |
| [1972](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1972) | **52.45%** *486,686* | 42.33% *392,760* |
| [1968](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1968) | **49.83%** *408,433* | 43.78% *358,866* |
| [1964](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1964) | 35.96% *282,779* | **63.72%** *501,017* |
| [1960](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1960) | **52.56%** *408,060* | 47.32% *367,402* |
| [1956](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1956) | **55.25%** *406,393* | 44.75% *329,204* |
| [1952](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1952) | **60.54%** *420,815* | 38.93% *270,579* |

The state has been thought of as politically split by the [Cascade Range](/wiki/Cascade_Range), with western Oregon being [liberal](/wiki/Modern_liberalism_in_the_United_States) and [Eastern Oregon](/wiki/Eastern_Oregon) being [conservative](/wiki/Conservatism_in_the_United_States). In a 2008 analysis of the [2004 presidential election](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_2004), a political analyst found that according to the application of a [Likert scale](/wiki/Likert_scale), Oregon boasted both the most liberal Kerry voters and the most conservative Bush voters, making it the most politically polarized state in the country.[[61]](#cite_note-61) While Republicans typically win more counties by running up huge margins in the east, the Democratic tilt of the more populated west is usually enough to swing the entire state Democratic. In 2008, for instance, Republican Senate incumbent [Gordon H. Smith](/wiki/Gordon_H._Smith) lost his bid for a third term even though he carried all but six counties. His Democratic challenger, [Jeff Merkley](/wiki/Jeff_Merkley), won Multnomah County by 142,000 votes, more than double the overall margin of victory.

During Oregon's history it has adopted many electoral reforms proposed during the [Progressive Era](/wiki/Progressive_Era), through the efforts of [William S. U'Ren](/wiki/William_Simon_U'Ren) and his [Direct Legislation League](/wiki/Direct_Legislation_League). Under his leadership, the state overwhelmingly approved a ballot measure in 1902 that created the [initiative](/wiki/Initiative) and [referendum](/wiki/Referendum) for citizens to introduce or approve proposed laws or amendments to the state constitution directly, making Oregon the first state to adopt such a system. Today, roughly half of U.S. states do so.[[62]](#cite_note-62) In following years, the [primary election](/wiki/Primary_election) to select party candidates was adopted in 1904, and in 1908 the [Oregon Constitution](/wiki/Oregon_Constitution) was amended to include recall of public officials. More recent amendments include the nation's first [doctor-assisted suicide](/wiki/Assisted_suicide) law,[[63]](#cite_note-63) called the [Death with Dignity Act](/wiki/Oregon_Death_with_Dignity_Act) (which was challenged, unsuccessfully, in 2005 by the [Bush administration](/wiki/Presidency_of_George_W._Bush) in a case heard by the [U.S. Supreme Court](/wiki/Supreme_Court_of_the_United_States)), [legalization](/wiki/Oregon_Medical_Marijuana_Act) of [medical cannabis](/wiki/Medical_cannabis), and among the nation's strongest [anti-urban sprawl](/wiki/Smart_growth) and pro-environment laws. More recently, [2004's Measure 37](/wiki/Oregon_Ballot_Measure_37_(2004)) reflects a backlash against such land-use laws. However, a further ballot measure in 2007, [Measure 49](/wiki/Oregon_Ballot_Measure_37_(2004)#Measure_49), curtailed many of the provisions of 37.

Of the [measures placed on the ballot](/wiki/List_of_Oregon_ballot_measures) since 1902, the people have passed 99 of the 288 initiatives and 25 of the 61 referendums on the ballot, though not all of them survived challenges in courts (see [*Pierce v. Society of Sisters*](/wiki/Pierce_v._Society_of_Sisters), for an example). During the same period, the legislature has referred 363 measures to the people, of which 206 have passed.

Oregon pioneered the American use of [postal voting](/wiki/Postal_voting), beginning with experimentation approved by the [Oregon Legislative Assembly](/wiki/Oregon_Legislative_Assembly) in 1981 and culminating with a [1998 ballot measure](/wiki/Oregon_Ballot_Measure_60_(1998)) mandating that all counties conduct elections by mail. It remains the only state, with the exception of [Washington](/wiki/Washington_(state)), where [voting by mail](/wiki/Absentee_ballot) is the only method of voting.[[64]](#cite_note-64) In 1994, Oregon adopted the [Oregon Health Plan](/wiki/Oregon_Health_Plan), which made health care available to most of its citizens without private health insurance.[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed)

In the [U.S. Electoral College](/wiki/Electoral_College_(United_States)), Oregon casts seven votes. Oregon has supported Democratic candidates in the last seven elections. Democratic incumbent [Barack Obama](/wiki/Barack_Obama) won the state by a margin of twelve percentage points, with over 54% of the popular vote in 2012.

## Economy[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=17)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) [Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also) [thumb|A](/wiki/File:Grass_seed_warehouse.jpg) [grain elevator](/wiki/Grain_elevator) in [Halsey](/wiki/Halsey,_Oregon) storing grass seed, one of the state's largest crops [thumb|right|Mentor Graphics headquarters](/wiki/File:Mentor_Graphics_entrance.JPG) The gross domestic product (GDP) of Oregon in 2013 was $219.6 billion, a 2.7% increase from 2012; Oregon is the 25th wealthiest state by GDP. In 2003, Oregon was 28th in the U.S. by GDP. The state's per capita personal income (PCPI) in 2013 was $39,848, a 1.5% increase from 2012. Oregon ranks 33rd in the U.S. by PCPI, compared to 31st in 2003. The national PCPI in 2013 was $44,765.[[65]](#cite_note-65) Oregon's unemployment rate was 6.7% in December 2014,[[66]](#cite_note-66) while the U.S. unemployment rate was 5.6% that month.[[67]](#cite_note-67) Oregon has the third largest amount of food stamp users in the nation (21% of the population).[[68]](#cite_note-68)

### Agriculture[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=18)]

Land in the Willamette Valley owes its fertility to the [Missoula Floods](/wiki/Missoula_Floods), which deposited lake sediment from [Glacial Lake Missoula](/wiki/Glacial_Lake_Missoula) in western Montana onto the valley floor.<ref name=chapter24>McNab, W. Henry; Avers, Peter E (July 1994). [*Ecological Subregions of the United States.* Chapter 24.](http://www.fs.fed.us/land/pubs/ecoregions/) U.S. Forest Service and Dept. of Agriculture.</ref>

Oregon is also one of four major world [hazelnut](/wiki/Corylus_avellana) growing regions, and produces 95% of the domestic hazelnuts in the United States. While the history of the wine production in Oregon can be traced to before [Prohibition](/wiki/Prohibition), it became a [significant industry](/wiki/Oregon_wine) beginning in the 1970s. In 2005, Oregon ranked third among U.S. states with 303 wineries.[[69]](#cite_note-69) Due to regional similarities in climate and soil, the grapes planted in Oregon are often the same varieties found in the French regions of [Alsace](/wiki/Alsace_wine) and [Burgundy](/wiki/Burgundy_wine). In 2014, 71 wineries opened in the state. The total is currently 676, which represents growth of 12% over 2013.[[70]](#cite_note-70) operates four large facilities, with Ronler Acres, Jones Farm and Hawthorn Farm all located in [Hillsboro](/wiki/Hillsboro,_Oregon).[[77]](#cite_note-77) The spinoffs and startups that were produced by these two companies led to the establishment in that area of the so-called [Silicon Forest](/wiki/Silicon_Forest). The recession and [dot-com bust of 2001](/wiki/Dot-com_bubble) hit the region hard; many high technology employers reduced the number of their employees or went out of business. [Open Source Development Labs](/wiki/Open_Source_Development_Labs) made news in 2004 when they hired [Linus Torvalds](/wiki/Linus_Torvalds), developer of the [Linux kernel](/wiki/Linux_kernel). In 2010, [biotechnology](/wiki/Biotechnology) giant [Genentech](/wiki/Genentech) opened a $400-million facility in Hillsboro to expand its production capabilities.[[78]](#cite_note-78) Oregon is home to several large datacenters that take advantage of cheap power and a climate in Central Oregon conducive to reducing cooling costs. Google has a large datacenter in The Dalles and Facebook has built a large datacenter in [Prineville](/wiki/Prineville,_Oregon). In 2011, Amazon began operating a datacenter in northeastern Oregon near [Boardman](/wiki/Boardman,_Oregon).[[79]](#cite_note-79)

### Corporate headquarters[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=22)]

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Largest [Public Corporations](/wiki/Public_company) Headquartered in Oregon[[80]](#cite_note-80) | |
| **| Headquarters** | [**Market cap**](/wiki/Market_capitalization) |
| 1. [Nike](/wiki/Nike,_Inc.) | [Beaverton](/wiki/Beaverton,_Oregon) | $32,039,000 |
| 2. [Precision Castparts Corp.](/wiki/Precision_Castparts_Corp.) | [Portland](/wiki/Portland,_Oregon) | $16,158,000 |
| 3. [FLIR Systems](/wiki/FLIR_Systems) | [Wilsonville](/wiki/Wilsonville,_Oregon) | $4,250,000 |
| 4. [StanCorp Financial Group](/wiki/StanCorp_Financial_Group) | Portland | $2,495,000 |
| 5. [Schnitzer Steel Industries](/wiki/Schnitzer_Steel_Industries) | Portland | $1,974,000 |
| 6. [Portland General Electric](/wiki/Portland_General_Electric) | Portland | $1,737,000 |
| 7. [Columbia Sportswear](/wiki/Columbia_Sportswear) | near Beaverton | $1,593,000 |
| 8. [Northwest Natural Gas](/wiki/NW_Natural) | Portland | $1,287,000 |
| 9. [Mentor Graphics](/wiki/Mentor_Graphics) | Wilsonville | $976,000 |
| 10. [TriQuint Semiconductor](/wiki/TriQuint_Semiconductor) | [Hillsboro](/wiki/Hillsboro,_Oregon) | $938,000 |

Oregon is also the home of large corporations in other industries. The world headquarters of [Nike](/wiki/Nike,_Inc.) are located near [Beaverton](/wiki/Beaverton,_Oregon). [Medford](/wiki/Medford,_Oregon) is home to [Harry and David](/wiki/Harry_and_David), which sells gift items under several brands. Medford is also home to the national headquarters of the [Fortune 1000](/wiki/Fortune_1000) company, [Lithia Motors](/wiki/Lithia_Motors). Portland is home to one of the West's largest trade book publishing houses, [Graphic Arts Center Publishing](/wiki/Graphic_Arts_Center_Publishing). Oregon is also home to [Mentor Graphics](/wiki/Mentor_Graphics) Corporation, a world leader in [electronic design automation](/wiki/Electronic_design_automation) located in [Wilsonville](/wiki/Wilsonville,_Oregon) and employs roughly 4,500 people worldwide.

Adidas Corporations American Headquarters is located in Portland and employs roughly 900 full-time workers at its Portland campus. Adidas competes with Beaverton based Nike as "the other sports giant in town". The main Adidas campus has been ranked as one of the best places to work in Portland.[[81]](#cite_note-81) Nike, located just outside Portland in nearby Beaverton employs roughly 5,000 full-time employees at its [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) campus. Nike's Beaverton campus is continuously ranked as a top employer in the Portland area-along with competitor Adidas.[[82]](#cite_note-82) Intel Corporation employs 18,600 in Oregon<ref name=oreg-2015aug8/> with the majority of these employees located at the company's Hillsboro campus located about 30 minutes west of Portland. Intel has been a top employer in Oregon since 1974.[[83]](#cite_note-83) The U.S. Federal Government and Providence Health systems are respective contenders for top employers in Oregon with roughly 12,000 federal workers and 14,000 Providence Health workers.

### Employment[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=23)]

As of December 2014, the state's official unemployment rate was 6.7%.[[84]](#cite_note-84) Oregon's largest for-profit employer is [Intel](/wiki/Intel_Corporation),<ref name=oreg-2015aug8/> located in the [Silicon Forest](/wiki/Silicon_Forest) area on Portland's west side. Intel was the largest employer in Oregon until 2008. As of January 2009, the largest employer in Oregon is [Providence Health & Services](/wiki/Providence_Health_&_Services), a non-profit.[[85]](#cite_note-85) Nike and Adidas also have their North American headquarters in the Portland area.

### Taxes and budgets[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=24)]

Oregon's [biennial](/wiki/Wikt:Biennial) state budget, $42.4 billion as of 2007, comprises General Funds, Federal Funds, Lottery Funds, and Other Funds. Personal [income taxes](/wiki/Income_tax) account for 88% of the General Fund's projected funds.[[86]](#cite_note-86) The Lottery Fund, which has grown steadily since the lottery was approved in 1984, exceeded expectations in the 2007 fiscal years, at $604 million.[[87]](#cite_note-87) Oregon is one of [only five states](/wiki/Sales_taxes_in_the_United_States) that have no [sales tax](/wiki/Sales_tax).[[88]](#cite_note-88) Oregon voters have been resolute in their opposition to a sales tax, voting proposals down each of the nine times they have been presented.[[89]](#cite_note-89) The last vote, for 1993's Measure 1, was defeated by a 75–25% margin.[[90]](#cite_note-90) The state also has a minimum corporate tax of only $10 a year, amounting to 5.6% of the General Fund in the 2005–7 biennium; data about which businesses pay the minimum is not available to the public.[[91]](#cite_note-91) As a result, the state relies on [property](/wiki/Property_tax) and income taxes for its revenue. Oregon has the fifth highest personal income tax in the nation. According to the [U.S. Census Bureau](/wiki/U.S._Census_Bureau), Oregon ranked 41st out of the 50 states in taxes per capita in 2005 with an average amount paid of 1,791.45.<ref name=percapita>[Template:Cite news](/wiki/Template:Cite_news)</ref>

A few local governments levy sales taxes on services: the city of [Ashland](/wiki/Ashland,_Oregon), for example, collects a 5% sales tax on prepared food.[[92]](#cite_note-92) Oregon is one of six states with a revenue limit.[[93]](#cite_note-93) The "[kicker law](/wiki/Kicker_(Oregon_tax_rebate))" stipulates that when income tax collections exceed state economists' estimates by 2% or more, any excess must be returned to taxpayers.[[94]](#cite_note-94) Since the enactment of the law in 1979, refunds have been issued for seven of the eleven biennia.[[95]](#cite_note-95) In 2000, Ballot Measure 86 converted the "kicker" law from statute to the [Oregon Constitution](/wiki/Oregon_Constitution), and changed some of its provisions.

Federal payments to county governments, which were granted to replace timber revenue when logging in National Forests was restricted in the 1990s, have been under threat of suspension for several years. This issue dominates the future revenue of rural counties, which have come to rely on the payments in providing essential services.[[96]](#cite_note-96) Fifty-five percent of state revenues are spent on public education, 23% on human services (child protective services, Medicaid, and senior services), 17% on public safety, and 5% on other services.[[97]](#cite_note-97)

## Demographics[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=25)]

### Population[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=26)]

[Template:US Census population](/wiki/Template:US_Census_population) [thumb|268px|Graph of Oregon's population growth from 1850–2010](/wiki/File:Oregon_population_growth.png)[[98]](#cite_note-98)

[thumb|Oregon population by county using 2012 estimates](/wiki/File:OregonPop12.jpg)[[99]](#cite_note-99) [thumb|County population cartogram of Oregon](/wiki/File:Oregoncartogram.png)

The United States Census Bureau estimates that the population of Oregon was 4,028,977 on July 1, 2015, a 5.17% increase over the [2010 United States Census](/wiki/2010_United_States_Census).<ref name=PopEstUS>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref>

Oregon was the U.S.'s "Top Moving Destination" in 2014 with two families moving into the state for every one moving out of state (66.4% to 33.6%).[[100]](#cite_note-100) Oregon was also the top moving destination in 2013,[[101]](#cite_note-101) and second most popular destination in 2010 through 2012.[[102]](#cite_note-102)[[103]](#cite_note-103) As of the census of 2010,[[104]](#cite_note-104) Oregon had a population of 3,831,074, which is an increase of 409,675, or 12%, since the year 2000. The population density was [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert). There were 1,675,562 housing units, a 15.3% increase over 2000. Among them, 90.7% were occupied.

In 2010, 78.5% of the population was [white](/wiki/Non-Hispanic_Whites) alone (meaning of no other race and non-Hispanic), 1.7% was [black](/wiki/African_American) or African American alone, 1.1% was Native American or Alaska native alone, 3.6% was Asian alone, 0.3% was Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander alone, 0.1% was another race alone, and 2.9% was multiracial. [Hispanics](/wiki/Hispanic_and_Latino_Americans) or Latinos made up 11.7% of the total population.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Oregon Racial Breakdown of Population** | | | | |
| **Racial composition** | **1970**[**[105]**](#cite_note-105) | **1990**[**[105]**](#cite_note-105) | **2000**[**[106]**](#cite_note-106) | **2010**[**[107]**](#cite_note-107) |
| [White](/wiki/White_American) | 97.2% | 92.8% | 86.6% | 83.6% |
| [Asian](/wiki/Asian_American) | 0.7% | 2.4% | 3.0% | 3.7% |
| [Black](/wiki/African_American) | 1.3% | 1.6% | 1.6% | 1.8% |
| [Native](/wiki/Native_Americans_in_the_United_States) | 0.6% | 1.4% | 1.3% | 1.4% |
| [Native Hawaiian](/wiki/Native_Hawaiian) and  [other Pacific Islander](/wiki/Pacific_Islander) | – | – | 0.2% | 0.4% |
| [Other race](/wiki/Race_and_ethnicity_in_the_United_States_Census) | 0.2% | 1.8% | 4.2% | 5.3% |
| [Two or more races](/wiki/Multiracial_American) | – | – | 3.1% | 3.8% |

The state's most populous ethnic group, [non-Hispanic white](/wiki/Non-Hispanic_Whites), has declined from 95.8% in 1970 to 77.8% in 2012.[[108]](#cite_note-108)[[109]](#cite_note-109) As of 2011, 38.7% of Oregon's children under one year of age belonged to [minority groups](/wiki/Race_and_ethnicity_in_the_United_States), meaning they had at least one parent who was not a non-Hispanic white.[[110]](#cite_note-110) Of the state's total population, 22.6% was under the age 18, and 77.4% were 18 or older.

The [center of population](/wiki/Center_of_population) of Oregon is located in [Linn County](/wiki/Linn_County,_Oregon), in the city of [Lyons](/wiki/Lyons,_Oregon).[[111]](#cite_note-111) More than 46% of the state's population lives in the Oregon portion of the [Portland metropolitan area](/wiki/Portland_metropolitan_area).[[112]](#cite_note-112) [thumb|right|](/wiki/File:Portland_Skyline-02.jpg)[Portland](/wiki/Portland,_Oregon). As of 2004, Oregon's population included 309,700 foreign-born residents (accounting for 8.7% of the state population). [thumb|Population Growth by County, 2000–2007. Green counties grew faster than the national average, while purple counties grew more slowly or, in a few cases, lost population.](/wiki/File:Oregon_Population_Growth_by_County.png)

The largest ancestry groups in the state are:[[113]](#cite_note-113)\* 22.5% [German](/wiki/German-American)

* 14.0% [English](/wiki/English_American)
* 13.2% [Irish](/wiki/Irish_American)
* 8.4% [Scandinavian](/wiki/Scandinavian_Americans): (4.1% [Norwegian American](/wiki/Norwegian_American), 3.1% [Swedish](/wiki/Swedish_American), & 1.2% [Danish](/wiki/Danish_American))
* 5.0% American
* 3.9% [French](/wiki/French-American)
* 3.7% [Italian](/wiki/Italian-American)
* 3.6% [Scottish](/wiki/Scottish-American)
* 2.7% [Scots-Irish](/wiki/Scotch-Irish_American)
* 2.6% [Dutch](/wiki/Dutch-American)
* 1.9% [Polish](/wiki/Polish-American)
* 1.4% [Russian](/wiki/Russian-American)
* 1.1% [Welsh](/wiki/Welsh-American)

[thumb|left|180px|Percentage of population identifying as](/wiki/File:Oregon_Hispanic_population_percentage_by_county.svg) [Hispanic or Latino](/wiki/Hispanic_and_Latino_American) by county.[Template:Legend](/wiki/Template:Legend) [Template:Legend](/wiki/Template:Legend) [Template:Legend](/wiki/Template:Legend) [Template:Legend](/wiki/Template:Legend) The largest reported ancestry groups in Oregon are: German (22.5%), English (14.0%), Irish (13.2%), Scandinavian (8.4%) and American (5.0%). Approximately 62% of Oregon residents are wholly or partly of English, Welsh, Irish or Scottish ancestry. Most Oregon counties are inhabited principally by residents of Northwestern-European ancestry. Concentrations of [Mexican-Americans](/wiki/Mexican-American) are highest in [Malheur](/wiki/Malheur_County,_Oregon) and [Jefferson](/wiki/Jefferson_County,_Oregon) counties. But despite the fact that Russians account for only 1.4% of the population, [Russian](/wiki/Russian_language) is the third most spoken language in Oregon after [English](/wiki/English_language) and [Spanish](/wiki/Spanish_language).[[114]](#cite_note-114) There were 197 public school districts at that time, served by 20 [education service districts](/wiki/Education_service_district_(Oregon)).<ref name=facts/> The five largest school districts as of 2007 were: [Portland Public Schools](/wiki/Portland_Public_Schools_(Oregon)) (46,262 students); [Salem-Keizer School District](/wiki/Salem-Keizer_School_District) (40,106); [Beaverton School District](/wiki/Beaverton_School_District) (37,821); [Hillsboro School District](/wiki/Hillsboro_School_District) (20,401); and [Eugene School District](/wiki/Eugene_School_District) (18,025).[[125]](#cite_note-125)

### Colleges and universities[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=31)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also) [thumb|Lillis Complex (University of Oregon)](/wiki/File:Lillis_Complex_(University_of_Oregon).jpg) [thumb|The Memorial Union at OSU](/wiki/File:Memorial_Union_at_Oregon_State_University.jpg)

#### Public[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=32)]

Oregon supports seven public universities and one affiliate in the state. It is home to three public research universities: The [University of Oregon](/wiki/University_of_Oregon) (UO) in Eugene and [Oregon State University](/wiki/Oregon_State_University) (OSU) in Corvallis, both [classified](/wiki/Carnegie_Classification_of_Institutions_of_Higher_Education) as research universities with very high research activity, and [Portland State University](/wiki/Portland_State_University) which is classified as a research university with high research activity.[[126]](#cite_note-126) UO is the state's most selective university by percentage of students admitted[[127]](#cite_note-127) and highest nationally ranked university by [*U.S. News & World Report*](/wiki/U.S._News_&_World_Report) and [*Forbes*](/wiki/Forbes_Magazine's_List_of_America's_Best_Colleges).[[128]](#cite_note-128) OSU is the state's only land-grant university, has the state's largest enrollment for fall 2014,[[129]](#cite_note-129) and is the state's highest ranking university according to [*Academic Ranking of World Universities*](/wiki/Academic_Ranking_of_World_Universities), [*Washington Monthly*](/wiki/Washington_Monthly), and [*QS World University Rankings*](/wiki/QS_World_University_Rankings).[[130]](#cite_note-130) OSU receives more annual funding for research than all other public higher education institutions in Oregon combined.[[131]](#cite_note-131) The state's urban [Portland State University](/wiki/Portland_State_University) has Oregon's second largest enrollment.

The state has three regional universities: [Western Oregon University](/wiki/Western_Oregon_University) in Monmouth, [Southern Oregon University](/wiki/Southern_Oregon_University) in Ashland, and [Eastern Oregon University](/wiki/Eastern_Oregon_University) in La Grande. The [Oregon Institute of Technology](/wiki/Oregon_Institute_of_Technology) has its campus in Klamath Falls. The quasi-public [Oregon Health & Science University](/wiki/Oregon_Health_&_Science_University) (OHSU) includes medical, dental, and nursing schools, and graduate programs in biomedical sciences in Portland and a science and engineering school in Hillsboro. It rated 2nd among US best [medical schools](/wiki/Medical_schools) for primary care based on research by The Med School 100.[[132]](#cite_note-132) Especially since the 1990 passage of Measure 5, which set limits on property tax levels, Oregon has struggled to fund higher education. Since then, Oregon has cut its higher education budget and now ranks 46th in the country in state spending per student. However, 2007 legislation forced tuition increases to cap at 3% per year, and funded the university system far beyond the governor's requested budget.[[133]](#cite_note-133) The state also supports [17 community colleges](/wiki/List_of_community_colleges_in_Oregon).

#### Private[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=33)]

Oregon is home to a wide variety of private colleges. The [University of Portland](/wiki/University_of_Portland) and [Marylhurst University](/wiki/Marylhurst_University) are Catholic institutions in the Portland area. [Reed College](/wiki/Reed_College); [Concordia University](/wiki/Concordia_University_(Portland,_Oregon)); [Lewis & Clark College](/wiki/Lewis_&_Clark_College); [Multnomah Bible College](/wiki/Multnomah_University); [Portland Bible College](/wiki/Portland_Bible_College); [Warner Pacific College](/wiki/Warner_Pacific_College); [Cascade College](/wiki/Cascade_College); the [National University of Natural Medicine](/wiki/National_University_of_Natural_Medicine); and [Western Seminary](/wiki/Western_Seminary), a theological graduate school; are also in Portland. [Pacific University](/wiki/Pacific_University) is in the Portland suburb of [Forest Grove](/wiki/Forest_Grove,_Oregon).

There are also private colleges farther south in the Willamette Valley. McMinnville has [Linfield College](/wiki/Linfield_College), while nearby Newberg is home to [George Fox University](/wiki/George_Fox_University). Salem is home to two private schools: [Willamette University](/wiki/Willamette_University) (the state's oldest, established during the provisional period) and [Corban University](/wiki/Corban_University). Also located near Salem is [Mount Angel Seminary](/wiki/Mount_Angel_Abbey), one of America's largest Roman Catholic seminaries. The state's second medical school, the [College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific, Northwest](/wiki/College_of_Osteopathic_Medicine_of_the_Pacific,_Northwest), is located in Lebanon. Eugene is home to three private colleges: [Northwest Christian University](/wiki/Northwest_Christian_University), [New Hope Christian College](/wiki/New_Hope_Christian_College), and [Gutenberg College](/wiki/Gutenberg_College).

## Sports[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=34)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also) [thumb|The](/wiki/File:RoseGardenArenaInterior3.jpg) [Rose Garden](/wiki/Rose_Garden_(arena)) during a [Portland Trail Blazers](/wiki/Portland_Trail_Blazers) game [thumb|Providence Park, Home of the Portland Timbers](/wiki/File:Timbers.jpg) Oregon is home to three major professional sports teams: the [Portland Trail Blazers](/wiki/Portland_Trail_Blazers) of the [NBA](/wiki/National_Basketball_Association), the [Portland Thorns](/wiki/Portland_Thorns) of the [NWSL](/wiki/National_Women's_Soccer_League) and the [Portland Timbers](/wiki/Portland_Timbers) of [MLS](/wiki/Major_League_Soccer).<ref name = timbers>["MLS awards team to Portland for 2011."](http://portlandtimbers.com/newsroom/headlines/index.html?article_id=1108) Portland Timbers, March 20, 2009.</ref>

Until 2011, the only major professional sports team in Oregon was the Portland Trail Blazers of the National Basketball Association. From the 1970s to the 1990s, the Blazers were one of the most successful teams in the NBA in terms of both win-loss record and attendance.[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed) In the early 21st century, the team's popularity declined due to personnel and financial issues, but revived after the departure of controversial players and the acquisition of new players such as [Brandon Roy](/wiki/Brandon_Roy), [LaMarcus Aldridge](/wiki/LaMarcus_Aldridge), and [Damian Lillard](/wiki/Damian_Lillard).<ref name= samsmith>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref><ref name=mejia>[Template:Cite news](/wiki/Template:Cite_news)</ref> The Blazers play in the [Moda Center](/wiki/Moda_Center) in Portland's Lloyd District, which also is home to the [Portland Winterhawks](/wiki/Portland_Winterhawks) of the [junior](/wiki/Junior_hockey) [Western Hockey League](/wiki/Western_Hockey_League)<ref name= rosequarter>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> and the [Arena Football League's](/wiki/Arena_Football_League) [Portland Steel](/wiki/Portland_Steel).

The Portland Timbers play at [Providence Park](/wiki/Providence_Park), just west of downtown Portland. The Timbers have a strong following, with the team regularly selling out its games.[[134]](#cite_note-134) The Timbers repurposed the formerly multi-use stadium into a [soccer-specific stadium](/wiki/Soccer-specific_stadium) in fall 2010, increasing the seating in the process.<ref name=pgepark>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> The Timbers operate Portland Thorns FC, a women's soccer team that has played in the National Women's Soccer League since the league's first season in 2013. The Thorns, who also play at Providence Park, won the league's [first championship](/wiki/2013_National_Women's_Soccer_League_season), and have been by far the NWSL's attendance leader in all three of its seasons to date.

Eugene, Salem and Hillsboro have minor-league baseball teams. The [Eugene Emeralds](/wiki/Eugene_Emeralds) the [Salem-Keizer Volcanoes](/wiki/Salem-Keizer_Volcanoes) and the [Hillsboro Hops](/wiki/Hillsboro_Hops) all play in the Single-A [Northwest League](/wiki/Northwest_League).<ref name= nwl>["Northwest League."](http://web.minorleaguebaseball.com/index.jsp?sid=l126) Minor League Baseball. Retrieved January 15, 2008.</ref> Portland has had minor-league baseball teams in the past, including the [Portland Beavers](/wiki/Portland_Beavers) and [Portland Rockies](/wiki/Portland_Rockies), who played most recently at Providence Park when it was known as PGE Park.

Oregon also has four teams in the fledgling [International Basketball League](/wiki/International_Basketball_League): the [Portland Chinooks](/wiki/Portland_Chinooks), [Central Oregon Hotshots](/wiki/Central_Oregon_Hotshots), [Salem Stampede](/wiki/Salem_Stampede), and the [Eugene Chargers](/wiki/Eugene_Chargers).<ref name= ibl>["International Basketball League."](http://www.iblhoopsonline.com/) International Basketball League. Retrieved January 15, 2008.</ref>

The [Oregon State Beavers](/wiki/Oregon_State_Beavers) and the University of [Oregon Ducks](/wiki/Oregon_Ducks) football teams of the [Pac-12 Conference](/wiki/Pac-12_Conference) meet annually in the [Civil War](/wiki/Civil_War_(college_football_game)). Both schools have had recent success in other sports as well: Oregon State won back-to-back [college baseball championships](/wiki/College_World_Series) in 2006 and 2007,[[135]](#cite_note-135) and the University of Oregon won back-to-back [NCAA men's cross country championships](/wiki/NCAA_Men's_Cross_Country_Championship) in 2007 and 2008.[[136]](#cite_note-136)

## Sister states[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=35)]

* [Template:PRC](/wiki/Template:PRC), [Fujian Province](/wiki/Fujian) – 1984<ref name=legbrief>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref>
* [Template:ROC](/wiki/Template:ROC) (Taiwan), [Taiwan Province](/wiki/Taiwan_Province_(Republic_of_China)) – 1985[[137]](#cite_note-137)\* [Template:JPN](/wiki/Template:JPN), [Toyama Prefecture](/wiki/Toyama_Prefecture) – 1991<ref name=legbrief/><ref name=sisters>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref>
* [Template:ROK](/wiki/Template:ROK) (South Korea), [Jeollanam-do Province](/wiki/Jeollanam-do) – 1996<ref name=legbrief/><ref name=sisters/>
* [Template:IRQ](/wiki/Template:IRQ), [Iraqi Kurdistan](/wiki/Iraqi_Kurdistan) – 2005[[138]](#cite_note-138)

## See also[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=36)]

[Template:Portal](/wiki/Template:Portal)

* [Outline of Oregon](/wiki/Outline_of_Oregon) – organized list of topics about Oregon
* [Index of Oregon-related articles](/wiki/Index_of_Oregon-related_articles)
* [List of companies based in Oregon](/wiki/List_of_companies_based_in_Oregon)
* [List of Oregon state symbols](/wiki/List_of_Oregon_state_symbols)
* [List of films shot in Oregon](/wiki/List_of_films_shot_in_Oregon)

[Template:Clear](/wiki/Template:Clear)

## References[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=37)]

[Template:Reflist](/wiki/Template:Reflist)

## Further reading[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=38)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also) [Template:Refbegin](/wiki/Template:Refbegin)

* [Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)
* [*New map of Texas, Oregon and California with the regions adjoining, compiled from the more recent authorities* by Samuel Augustus Mitchell](http://www.secstate.wa.gov/history/maps_detail.aspx?m=14)
* [*Accompaniment to Mitchell's New map of Texas, Oregon, and California, with the regions adjoining* by Samuel Augustus Mitchell](http://www.secstate.wa.gov/history/publications%5Fdetail.aspx?p=26)
* O'Hara, E. (1911). [Oregon](http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/11288a.htm). In the *Catholic Encyclopedia*. New York: Robert Appleton Company. Retrieved July 25, 2009, from New Advent.

[Template:Refend](/wiki/Template:Refend)

## External links[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=39)]

[Template:Sister project links](/wiki/Template:Sister_project_links)

* [State of Oregon](http://www.oregon.gov/) (official website)
* [Oregon Blue Book](http://bluebook.state.or.us/), the online version of the [state's official directory and fact book](/wiki/Oregon_Blue_Book)
* [TravelOregon.com](http://www.TravelOregon.com/) an official website of the [Oregon Tourism Commission](/wiki/Oregon_Tourism_Commission)
* [Oregon Historical Society](http://www.ohs.org/)
* [Oregon State Databases](http://wikis.ala.org/godort/index.php/Oregon), an annotated list, in wiki form, of searchable databases produced by Oregon state agencies and compiled by the Government Documents Roundtable of the [American Library Association](/wiki/American_Library_Association)
* [Real-time, geographic, and other scientific resources of Oregon](http://www.usgs.gov/state/state.asp?State=OR) from the [United States Geological Survey](/wiki/United_States_Geological_Survey)
* [Oregon Quickfacts](http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/41000.html) from the U.S. Census Bureau
* [Oregon State Facts](http://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/state-fact-sheets/state-data.aspx?StateFIPS=41&StateName=Oregon#.U8BOUvldUeo) from the [United States Department of Agriculture](/wiki/United_States_Department_of_Agriculture)
* [Template:Dmoz](/wiki/Template:Dmoz)
* [Template:Osmrelation-inline](/wiki/Template:Osmrelation-inline)

[Template:Clear](/wiki/Template:Clear)

[Template:Navboxes](/wiki/Template:Navboxes)

[Template:Geographic Location (8-way)](/wiki/Template:Geographic_Location_(8-way))

[Template:S-start](/wiki/Template:S-start) [Template:S-bef](/wiki/Template:S-bef) [Template:S-ttl](/wiki/Template:S-ttl) [Template:S-aft](/wiki/Template:S-aft) [Template:S-end](/wiki/Template:S-end)

[Template:Coord](/wiki/Template:Coord)

[Template:Authority control](/wiki/Template:Authority_control)

[Category:Oregon](/wiki/Category:Oregon) [Category:Pacific Northwest](/wiki/Category:Pacific_Northwest) [Category:States of the United States](/wiki/Category:States_of_the_United_States) [Category:States and territories established in 1859](/wiki/Category:States_and_territories_established_in_1859) [Category:States of the West Coast of the United States](/wiki/Category:States_of_the_West_Coast_of_the_United_States) [Category:U.S. states with multiple time zones](/wiki/Category:U.S._states_with_multiple_time_zones) [Category:1859 establishments in the United States](/wiki/Category:1859_establishments_in_the_United_States)