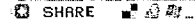


Oregon Labor Market Information System



Eastern Oregon 2010 Population: Some Up, Some Down

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The six easternmost counties of Oregon showed mixed trends in the latest annual population estimates put forth by Portland State University's Population Research Center (PRC).

According to PRC's preliminary numbers, Harney, Malheur, and Union counties had a few more residents as of July 1, 2010, than they did as of July 1, 2009. Malheur County saw a net increase of 145 people, Union County had a net increase of 25, and Harney County had a net increase of five.

Baker, Grant, and Wallowa counties experienced the opposite trend. According to PRC, Grant and Wallowa counties had 15 fewer residents in 2010, compared with 2009, while Baker County had 10 fewer residents.

These numbers come from the university's routine annual population estimates program. But we're just a few short weeks away from our first look at the complete population counts generated by the 2010 Census effort.

If PRC's annual estimates are any clue as to what the census results might show, then Eastern Oregon's counties will split the same way from 2000 to 2010 as they did from 2009 to 2010. In other words, Harney, Malheur, and Union counties could show some population growth from 2000 to 2010, while Baker, Grant, and Wallowa counties might show population losses from 2000 to 2010. We'll find out soon enough.

At the city level, La Grande remained this region's largest municipality (Table 1), though its population, at 13,085, was unchanged over the year. Based on the PRC estimates, La Grande also added the most net new residents - 758 - since the last official census tally in 2000.

In percentage terms, the fastest-growing regional city from 2000 to 2010 wasn't La Grande; it was Dayville. Dayville's 2010 preliminary population estimate of 185 was 34 percent higher than its 2000 Census count of 138.

Based on PRC's numbers, Burns (-49) lost the most population from 2000 to 2010 in this region, while Unity (-12%) suffered the largest percentage population loss.

Once again, we'll get confirmation (or denial) of these 10-year population changes when the Census Bureau issues its initial 2010 population reports for Oregon in the near future.

Table 1
Population of Eastern Oregon Cities
July 1, 2010

<u>City</u>	<u>Population Estimate</u>
Adrian	185
Baker City	10,160
Burns	3,015
Canyon City	685
Cove	640

Dayville	185
Elgin	1,705
Enterprise	1,975
Granite	30
Greenhorn	2
Haines	435
Halfway	355
Hines	1,865
Huntington	590
Imbler	295
Island City	1,065
John Day	1,885
Jordan Valley	240
Joseph	1,125
La Grande	13,085
Long Creek	220
Lostine	250
Monument	135
Mt. Vernon	600
North Powder	520
Nyssa	3,210
Ontario	11,440
Prairie City	1,110
Richland	150
Seneca	230
Summerville	120
Sumpter	170
Union	1,960
Unity	115
Vale	2,080
Wallowa	890

Source: Population Research Center, Portland State University