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Benchmark #1 Per Capita Income

Per capita income is all Multnomah County income divided by all Multnomah County residents. Income adjusted by U.S. Consumer Price Index-Urban (CPI-U). U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Benchmark #3 Average Annual Pay

Oregon Employment Department collects this data for the state and its local areas through their Covered Employment and Payrolls program. National data comes from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Average annual payroll per covered (by unemployment insurance) worker measures total payroll for all industries divided by annual average employment in all industries. We measure this as a complement to the per capita income benchmark because it helps monitor how each worker is faring, rather than charting personal income (which may include non-wage income). The distinction is important because real per capita incomes have increased, due to an increase in the percentage of the population employed and in spite a flat trend for average wages per worker.

Benchmark #7 Employment

Oregon Employment Department's Covered Employment and Payroll's Program. Projected job growth data are from the 2002 Regional Economic Profile.

Benchmark #8 Unemployment Rate

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics. Former source = Oregon Employment Department. See the article A Look at how Oregon's Unemployment Rate is Calculated for more detail on the methods of producing estimates and definitions of terms (e.g., 'seasonal adjustment').

Benchmark #10 Export Activity of Business

Data are from the U.S Census Bureau. This data are best used as an indicator of international sales activity, only measuring local sales of final goods leaving the country. It does not necessarily represent local production of exported goods. Trend data prepared by the Office of Trade & Economic Analysis, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Benchmark #16 Air Traffic

Benchmark data are from the Port of Portland. Annual air freight and passenger statistics are available on the Port's Web Page. Air freight totals represent international and domestic, and inbound and outbound shipments.

Benchmark #18 Export Container Rates - Discontinued

The Port of Portland is no longer able to provide updated data on Export Container Rates because of the May 1999 deregulation of the shipping industry (Ocean Shipping Regulation Act). The deregulation allows the majority of import and export cargo to move under

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