6-2015

Coordinated Population Forecast for Curry County, its Urban Growth Boundaries (UGB), and Area Outside UGBs 2015-2065

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Coordinated Population Forecast

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Through

2065

Curry County

Urban Growth Boundaries (UGB) & Area Outside UGBs

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June, 2015

This project is funded by the State of Oregon through the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD). The contents of this document do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the State of Oregon.

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The Population Research Center and project staff wish to acknowledge and express gratitude for support from the Forecast Advisory Committee (DLCD), the hard work of our staff Deborah Loftus and Emily Renfrow, data reviewers, and many people who contributed to the development of these forecasts by answering questions, lending insight, providing data, or giving feedback.

How to Read this Report

This report should be read with reference to the documents listed below—downloadable on the Forecast Program website (http://www.pdx.edu/prc/opfp).

Specifically, the reader should refer to the following documents:

- *Methods and Data for Developing Coordinated Population Forecasts*—Provides a detailed description and discussion of the forecast methods employed. This document also describes the assumptions that feed into these methods and determine the forecast output.
- *Forecast Tables*—Provides complete tables of population forecast numbers by county and all sub-areas within each county for each five-year interval of the forecast period (i.e., 2015-2065). These tables are also located in *Appendix C* of this report.

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Executive Summary

Historical

Different growth patterns occur in different parts of the County and these local trends within the UGBs and the area outside UGBs collectively influence population growth rates for the county as a whole.

Curry County's total population has grown slowly since 2000; with an average annual growth rate of less than one percent between 2000 and 2010 (Figure 1); however some of its sub-areas experienced more rapid population growth during the 2000s. Gold Beach posted the highest average annual growth rate at one percent during the 2000 to 2010 period.

Curry County's positive population growth in the 2000s was the result of sporadic net in-migration. Meanwhile an aging population not only led to an increase in deaths, but also resulted in a smaller proportion of women in their childbearing years. This along with more women choosing to have fewer children and have them at older ages has led to fewer births in recent years. The larger number of deaths relative to births caused natural decrease (more deaths than births) in every year from 2000 to 2014. While periods of net in-migration outweighed natural decrease during the last decade, the gap between these two numbers shrank during the later years—bringing population decline from 2009 to 2012.

Forecast

Total population in Curry County as a whole will likely grow at a faster pace in the first 20 years of the forecast period (2015 to 2035), relative to the last 30 years (Figure 1). The tapering of growth rates is largely driven by an aging population—a demographic trend which is expected to exacerbate natural decrease (more deaths than births). As natural decrease occurs, population growth will become increasingly reliant on net in-migration. For the area outside UGBs this will likely lead to population decline during the last 30 years of the forecast period. The remaining sub-areas are expected to see population increase over this same time period.

Even so, Curry County's total population is forecast to increase by nearly 3,900 over the next 20 years (2015-2035) and by more than 4,700 over the entire 50-year forecast period (2015-2065). Sub-areas that showed strong population growth in the 2000s are expected to experience similar rates of population growth during the forecast period.

Figure 1. Curry County and Sub-Areas—Historical and Forecast Populations, and Average Annual Growth Rates (AAGR)

	Historical			Forecast				
	2000	2010	AAGR (2000-2010)	2015	2035	2065	AAGR (2015-2035)	AAGR (2035-2065)
Curry County	*21,137*	*22,364*	*0.6%*	*22,521*	*26,419*	*27,286*	*0.8%*	*0.1%*
Brookings[1]	10,634	11,199	0.5%	11,414	12,998	14,850	0.7%	0.4%
Gold Beach	2,837	3,141	1.0%	3,261	4,044	5,575	1.1%	1.1%
Port Orford	1,755	1,807	0.3%	1,837	2,052	2,373	0.6%	0.5%
Outside UGBs	5,911	6,217	0.5%	6,009	7,326	4,488	1.0%	-1.6%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 and 2010 Censuses; Forecast by Population Research Center (PRC).

[1] *For simplicity each UGB is referred to by its primary city's name.*

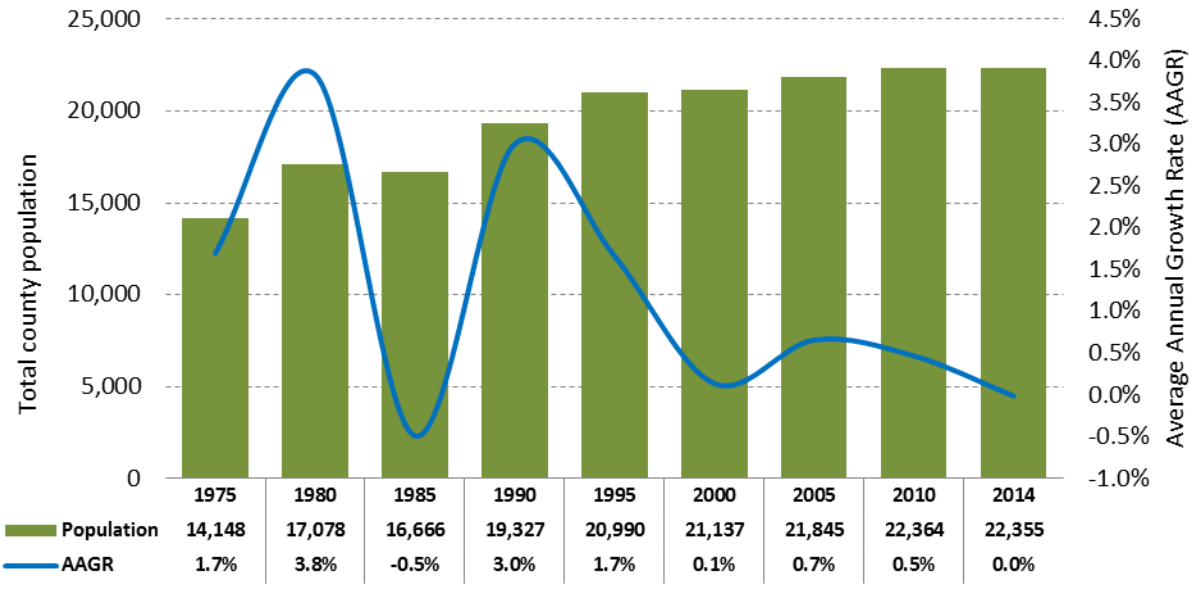
Historical Trends

Different growth patterns occur in different parts of the County. Each of Curry County's sub-areas was examined for any significant demographic characteristics or changes in population or housing growth that might influence their individual forecasts. Factors that were analyzed include age composition of the population, ethnicity and race, births, deaths, migration, and number of *housing units* as well as the *occupancy rate* and *persons per household (PPH)*. It should be noted that population trends of individual sub-areas often differ from those of the county as a whole. However, in general, population growth rates for the county are collectively influenced by local trends within its sub-areas.

Population

Curry County's total population grew by about 58 percent between 1975 and 2014—from roughly 14,000 in 1975 to about 22,000 in 2014 (Figure 2). During this approximately 40-year period, the county realized the highest growth rates during the late 1970s, which coincided with a period of relative economic prosperity. During the early 1980s, challenging economic conditions, both nationally and within the county, led to population decline. Again, during the late 1990s and 2000s, challenging economic conditions yielded sharp declines in population growth. Even so Curry County experienced positive population growth over the last decade (2000 to 2010)—averaging just under one percent per year. However in recent years growth rates were negative, leading to population decline between 2010 and 2014.

Figure 2. Curry County—Total Population by Five-year Intervals (1975-2010 and 2010-2014)



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 1980, 1990, 2000, and 2010 Censuses; Population Research Center (PRC), July 1st Annual Estimates 1975, 1985, 1995, 2005, and 2014.

Curry County's population change is the sum of its parts, in this sense countywide population change is the combined population growth or decline within each sub-area. During the 2000s, Curry County's average annual population growth rate stood at a less than one percent. At the same time Gold Beach,

Curry County's second largest UGB, recorded an average annual growth rate of one percent , while population in the remaining two UGBs, Brookings and Port Orford, increased at rates below that of the county as a whole (Figure 3).

Figure 3. Curry County and Sub-areas—Total Population and Average Annual Growth Rate (AAGR) (2000 and 2010)

	2000	2010	AAGR (2000-2010)	Share of County 2000	Share of County 2010
Curry County	*21,137*	*22,364*	*0.6%*	*100.0%*	*100.0%*
Brookings[1]	10,634	11,199	0.5%	50.3%	50.1%
Gold Beach	2,837	3,141	1.0%	13.4%	14.0%
Port Orford	1,755	1,807	0.3%	8.3%	8.1%
Outside UGBs	5,911	6,217	0.5%	28.0%	27.8%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 and 2010 Censuses

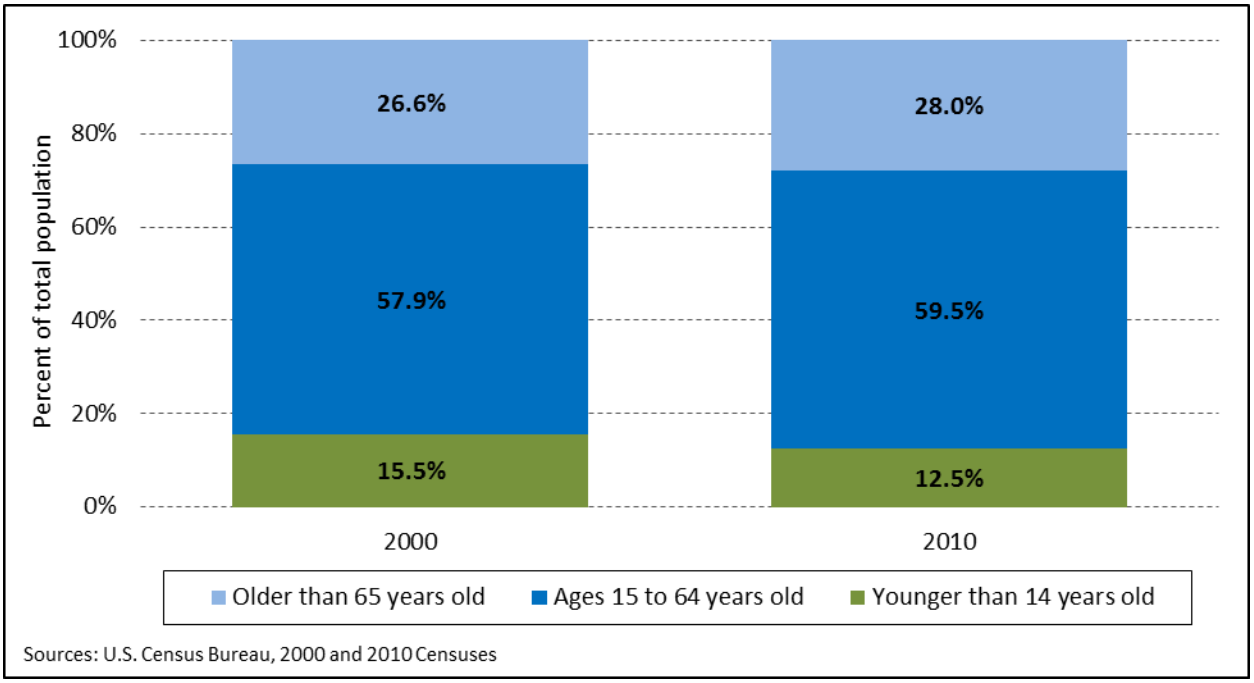
[1] *For simplicity each UGB is referred to by its primary city's name.*

Age Structure of the Population

Similar to most areas across Oregon, Curry County's population is aging. An aging population significantly influences the number of deaths, but also yields a smaller proportion of women in their childbearing years, which may result in a decline in births. This demographic trend underlies some of the population change that has occurred in recent years. From 2000 to 2010 the proportion of county population 65 or older grew from about 27 percent to 28 percent (Figure 4). Further underscoring the countywide trend in aging—the median age went from about 49 in 2000 to 54 in 2010.[1]

[1] Median age is sourced from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2000 and 2010 Censuses

Figure 4. Curry County—Age Structure of the Population (2000 and 2010)



Race and Ethnicity

While the statewide population is aging, another demographic shift is occurring across Oregon—minority populations are growing as a share of total population. A growing minority population affects both the number of births and average household size. The Hispanic population within Curry County increased substantially from 2000 to 2010 (Figure 5), while the White, non-Hispanic population increased by a smaller amount (in relative terms) over the same time period. This increase in the Hispanic population and other minority populations brings with it several implications for future population change. First, both nationally and at the state level, fertility rates among Hispanic and minority women have tended to be higher than among White, non-Hispanic women. Second, Hispanic and minority households tend to be larger relative to White, non-Hispanic households.

Figure 5. Curry County—Hispanic or Latino and Race (2000 and 2010)

Hispanic or Latino and Race	2000		2010		Absolute Change	Relative Change
Total population	*21,137*	*100.0%*	*22,364*	*100.0%*	*1,227*	*5.8%*
Hispanic or Latino	761	3.6%	1,201	5.4%	440	57.8%
Not Hispanic or Latino	20,376	96.4%	21,163	94.6%	787	3.9%
White alone	19,206	90.9%	19,837	88.7%	631	3.3%
Black or African American alone	31	0.1%	62	0.3%	31	100.0%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	408	1.9%	391	1.7%	-17	-4.2%
Asian alone	144	0.7%	157	0.7%	13	9.0%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	21	0.1%	21	0.1%	0	0.0%
Some Other Race alone	29	0.1%	16	0.1%	-13	-44.8%
Two or More Races	537	2.5%	679	3.0%	142	26.4%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 and 2010 Censuses

Births

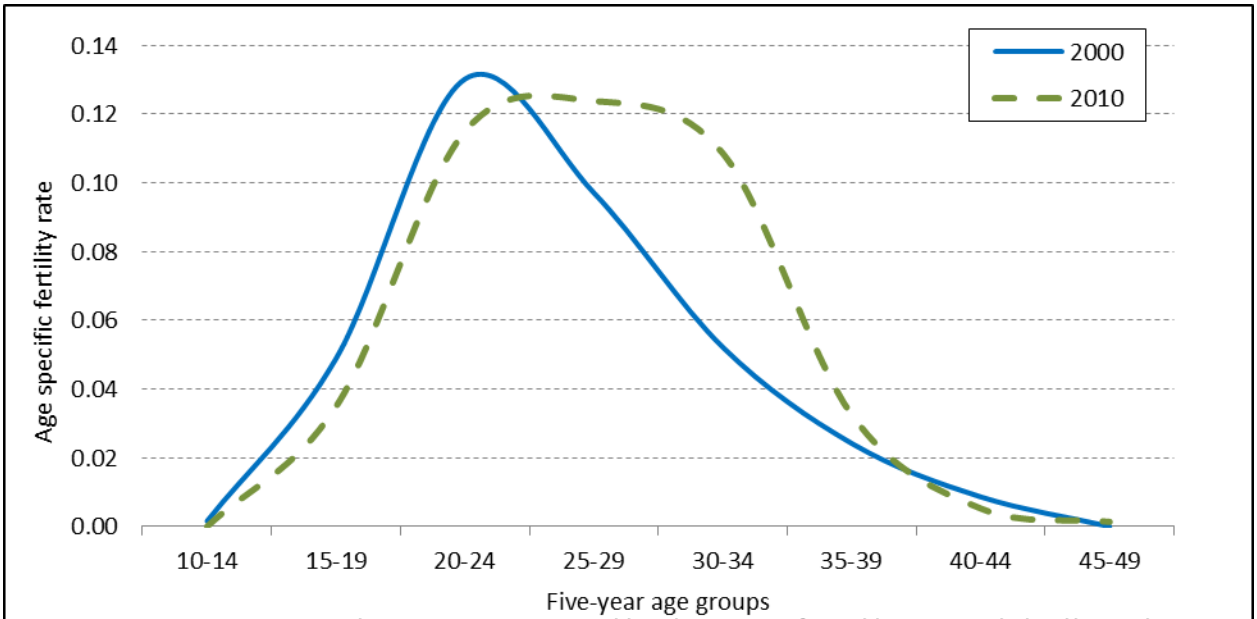
Historical fertility rates for Curry County don't mirror the decline in total fertility observed for Oregon overall (Figure 6). Furthermore, fertility for younger women in Curry County has remained at a much higher level than for younger women statewide (Figure 7 and Figure 8). Even so, as Figure 7 illustrates, fertility rates for younger women in Curry County are higher in 2010 compared to 2000, and women are choosing to have children at older ages. While the decrease in fertility among younger women largely mirrors statewide changes, county fertility changes are distinct from those of the state in two ways. First, while fertility among younger women did decrease within the county, the drop was less pronounced than for younger women statewide. Second, the increase in total fertility in Curry County during the 2000s runs contrary to the statewide decline during this same period. In addition Curry County's total fertility remains above *replacement fertility*.

Figure 6. Curry County and Oregon—Total Fertility Rates (2000 and 2010)

	2000	2010
Curry County	1.81	2.11
Oregon	1.98	1.79

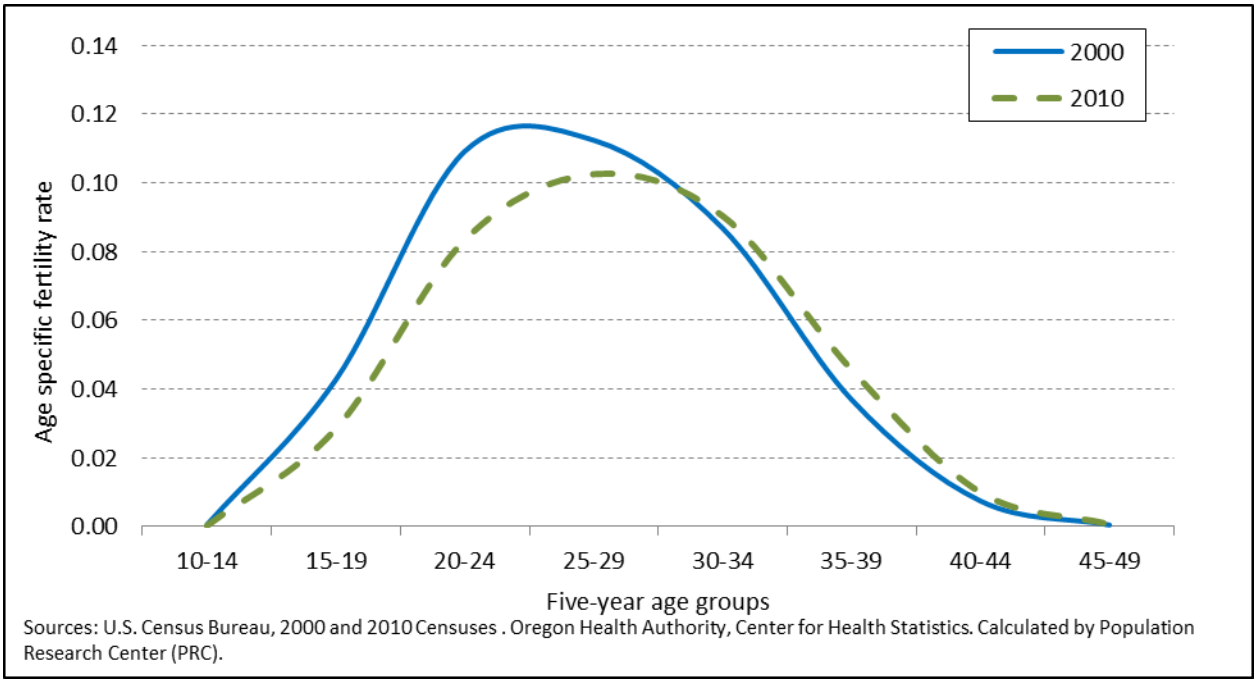
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 and 2010 Censuses.
Oregon Health Authority, Center for Health Statistics.
Calculations by Population Research Center (PRC).

Figure 7. Curry County—Age Specific Fertility Rate (2000 and 2010)



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 and 2010 Censuses . Oregon Health Authority, Center for Health Statistics. Calculated by Population Research Center (PRC).

Figure 8. Oregon—Age Specific Fertility Rate (2000 and 2010)



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 and 2010 Censuses . Oregon Health Authority, Center for Health Statistics. Calculated by Population Research Center (PRC).

Figure 9 shows the number of births by the area in which the mother resides. Please note that the number of births fluctuates from year to year. For example a sub-area with an increase in births between two years could easily show a decrease for a different time period, especially where numbers

are small; however for the 10-year period from 2000 to 2010 the county as a whole saw an increase in births, while the most populous UGB of Brookings recorded a decrease in births (Figure 9).

Figure 9. Curry County and Sub-Areas—Total Births (2000 and 2010)

	2000	2010	Absolute Change	Relative Change	Share of County 2000	Share of County 2010
Curry County	*155*	*180*	*25*	*16.1%*	*100.0%*	*100.0%*
Brookings[1]	85	57	-28	-32.7%	54.7%	31.7%
Smaller UGBs[2]	35	30	-5	-14.6%	22.7%	16.7%
Outside UGBs	35	93	58	164.7%	22.7%	51.7%

Sources: Oregon Health Authority, Center for Health Statistics. Aggregated by Population Research Center (PRC).

[1] For simplicity the Brookings UGB is referred to by its primary city's name.

[2] Smaller UGBs are those with populations less than 8,000 in forecast launch year.

Deaths

While the population in the county as a whole is aging, more people are living longer. For Curry County in 2000, life expectancy for males was 73 years and for females was 81 years.[2] By 2010, life expectancy had increased slightly for both males and females. For both Curry County and Oregon, the survival rates changed little between 2000 and 2010—underscoring the fact that mortality is the most stable component of population change. Even so, the total number of countywide deaths increased (Figure 10).

Figure 10. Curry County—Total Deaths (2000 and 2010)

	2000	2010	Absolute Change	Relative Change
Curry County	*346*	*371*	*25*	*7.2%*

Sources: Oregon Health Authority, Center for Health Statistics. Aggregated by Population Research Center (PRC).

Migration

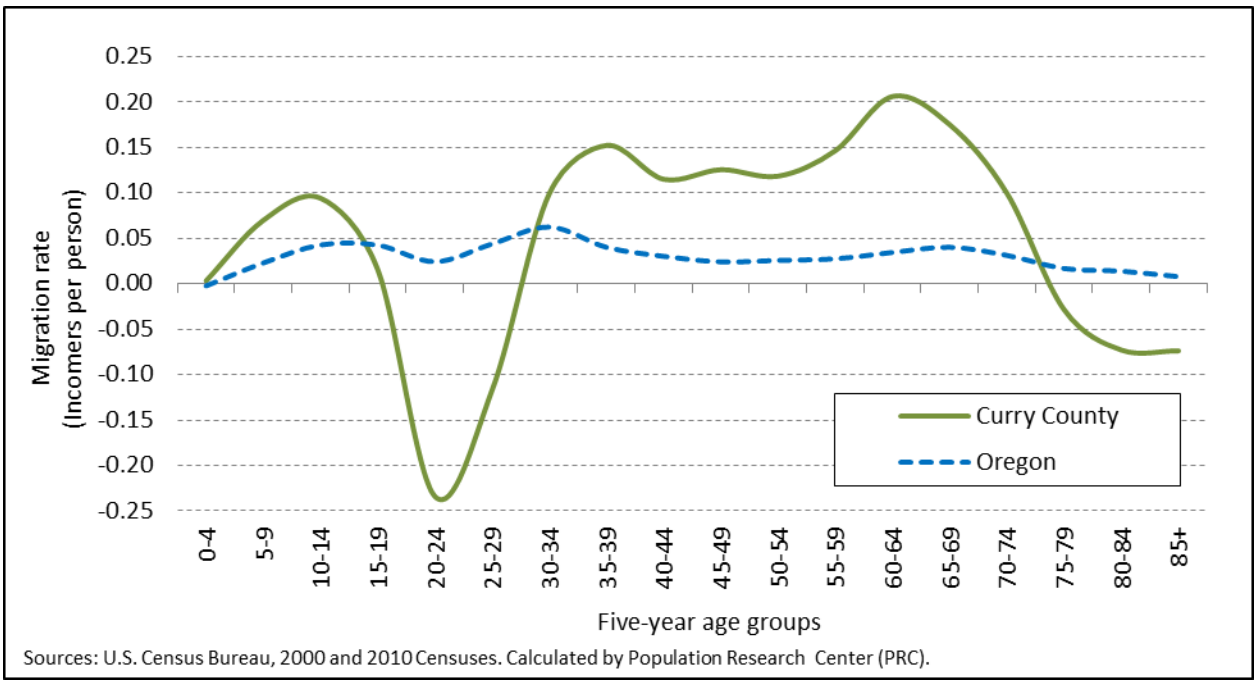
The propensity to migrate is strongly linked to age and stage of life. As such, age-specific migration rates are critically important for assessing these patterns across five-year age cohorts. Figure 11 shows the historical age-specific migration rates by five-year age group, both for Curry County and Oregon. The migration rate is indicated as the number of net migrants per person by age group.

From 2000 to 2010, younger individuals (those in the age groups with the highest mobility levels) moved out of the county in search of employment and education opportunities, as well as military service. At the same time the county attracted a large number of middle-aged to older migrants who likely moved into the county for work-related reasons, moved there to retire, or moved to be closer to family

[2] Life expectancy is derived using life tables and data from 2000 and 2010 Censuses.

members. However, as these individuals age and need access to better medical services, there is marked net out-migration of elderly persons.

Figure 11. Curry County and Oregon—Five-year Migration Rates (2000-2010)

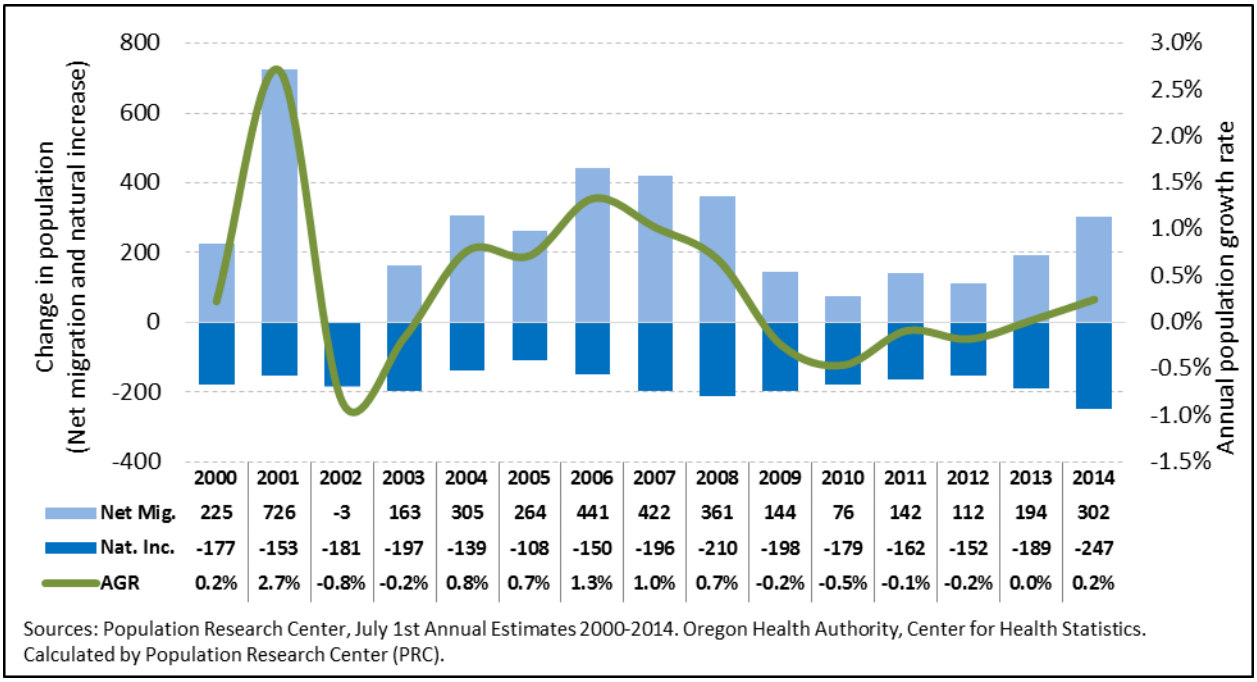


Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 and 2010 Censuses. Calculated by Population Research Center (PRC).

Historical Trends in Components of Population Change

In summary, Curry County's positive population growth in the 2000s was the result of sporadic net in-migration (Figure 12). Meanwhile an aging population not only led to an increase in deaths, but also resulted in a smaller proportion of women in their childbearing years. This along with more women choosing to have fewer children and have them at older ages has led to fewer births in recent years. The larger number of deaths relative to births caused natural decrease (more deaths than births) in every year from 2000 to 2014. While periods of net in-migration outweighed natural decrease during the last decade, the gap between these two numbers shrank during the later years—bringing population decline from 2009 to 2012.

Figure 12. Curry County—Components of Population Change (2000-2014)



	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Net Mig.	225	726	-3	163	305	264	441	422	361	144	76	142	112	194	302
Nat. Inc.	-177	-153	-181	-197	-139	-108	-150	-196	-210	-198	-179	-162	-152	-189	-247
AGR	0.2%	2.7%	-0.8%	-0.2%	0.8%	0.7%	1.3%	1.0%	0.7%	-0.2%	-0.5%	-0.1%	-0.2%	0.0%	0.2%

Sources: Population Research Center, July 1st Annual Estimates 2000-2014. Oregon Health Authority, Center for Health Statistics. Calculated by Population Research Center (PRC).

Housing and Households

The total number of housing units in Curry County increased rapidly during the middle years of the last decade (2000 to 2010), but this growth slowed with the onset of the national recession in 2007. Over the entire 2000 to 2010 period, the total number of housing units increased by about 11 percent countywide; this was more than 1,200 new housing units (Figure 13). Gold Beach captured the largest share of the growth in total housing units, with the area outside UGBs also seeing a large share of the countywide housing growth. In terms of relative housing growth Gold Beach grew the most during the 2000s, its total housing units increased more than 24 percent (374 housing units) by 2010.

The rates of increase in the number of total housing units in the county, UGBs, and area outside UGBs are similar to the growth rates of their corresponding populations. The growth rates for housing may slightly differ than the rates for population because the numbers of total housing units are smaller than the numbers of persons, or the UGB has experienced changes in the average number of persons per household or in occupancy rates. However, the pattern of population and housing change in the county is relatively similar.

Figure 13. Curry County and Sub-Areas—Total Housing Units (2000 and 2010)

	2000	2010	AAGR (2000-2010)	Share of County 2000	Share of County 2010
Curry County	*11,406*	*12,613*	*1.0%*	*100.0%*	*100.0%*
Brookings	5,652	5,938	0.5%	49.6%	47.1%
Gold Beach	1,538	1,912	2.2%	13.5%	15.2%
Port Orford	987	1,168	1.7%	8.7%	9.3%
Outside UGBs	3,229	3,595	1.1%	28.3%	28.5%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 and 2010 Censuses

Occupancy rates fluctuate more than PPH. This is particularly true in smaller UGB areas where fewer housing units allow for larger changes—in relative terms—in occupancy rates. From 2000 to 2010 the occupancy rate in Curry County declined slightly; this was most likely due to slack in demand for housing as individuals experienced the effects of the Great Recession and net-migration slowed. A slight drop in occupancy rates was mostly uniform across all sub-areas, but for Brookings, the most populous UGB, where there was a slight increase in the occupancy rate.

Average household size, or PPH, in Curry County was 2.1 in 2010, down from 2.2 in 2000 (Figure 14). Curry County's PPH in 2010 was lower than for Oregon as a whole, which had a PPH of 2.5. PPH varied across sub-areas, with all of them falling between 1.9 and 2.2 persons per household. In 2010 the highest PPH was in Brookings with 2.2 and the lowest in Port Orford at 1.9.

Figure 14. Curry County and Sub-Areas—Persons per Household (PPH) and Occupancy Rate

	Persons Per Household (PPH)			Occupancy Rate		
	2000	2010	Change 2000-2010	2000	2010	Change 2000-2010
Curry County	*2.2*	*2.1*	*-3.2%*	*83.7%*	*82.6%*	*-1.1%*
Brookings	2.2	2.2	-0.5%	84.7%	85.1%	0.4%
Gold Beach	2.2	2.0	-7.0%	82.7%	80.0%	-2.7%
Port Orford	2.1	1.9	-6.8%	86.5%	80.2%	-6.3%
Outside UGBs	2.2	2.1	-4.6%	81.4%	80.6%	-0.9%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 and 2010 Censuses. Calculated by Population Research Center (PRC)

Assumptions for Future Population Change

Evaluating past demographic trends provides clues about what the forecast for the future will look like, and helps determine the realm of likely possibilities. Past trends explain the dynamics of population growth particular to local areas. Relating recent and historical population change to events that influenced the change serves as a gauge for what might realistically occur in a given area over the long term.

Assumptions about fertility, mortality, and migration were developed for Curry County's population forecast as well as the forecasts for larger sub-areas.[3] The assumptions are derived from observations based on life course events, as well as trends unique to Curry County and its larger sub-areas. Population change in the smaller sub-areas is determined by the change in the number of total housing units and PPH. Assumptions for housing unit growth, as well as for occupancy rates, are derived from observations of historical building patterns and current plans for future housing development. In addition assumptions for PPH are based on observed historical patterns of household demographics—for example the average age of householder. The forecast period is 2015-2065.

Assumptions for the County and Larger Sub-Areas

During the forecast period, as the population in Curry County is expected to continue to age, birth rates will begin to decline in the near term and continue on this path throughout the forecast period. Total fertility in Curry County is also forecast to decrease, but very slightly, from 2.1 children per woman in 2015 to 2.0 children per woman by 2065. Similar patterns of declining total fertility are expected within the county's larger sub-areas.

Changes in mortality and life expectancy are more stable compared to fertility and migration. One influential factor affecting mortality and life expectancy is the advances in medical technology. The county and larger sub-areas are projected to follow the statewide trend of increasing life expectancy throughout the forecast period—progressing from a life expectancy of 77 years in 2010 to 85 years in 2060. However, in spite of increasing life expectancy and the corresponding increase in survival rates, Curry County's aging population and large population cohort reaching later stages of life will increase the overall number of deaths throughout the forecast period. The larger sub-areas within the county will experience a similar increase in deaths as their population ages, as well.

Migration is the most volatile and challenging demographic component to forecast due to the many factors influencing migration patterns. Economic, social, and environmental factors—such as employment, educational opportunities, housing availability, family ties, cultural affinity, climate change, and natural amenities—occurring both inside and outside the study area can affect both the direction of migration and its volume. Net migration rates will change in line with historical trends unique to Curry County. Net out-migration of younger persons and net in-migration of older individuals

[3] County sub-areas with populations greater than 8,000 in the forecast launch year were forecast using the *cohort-component method*. County sub-areas with populations less than 8,000 in forecast launch year were forecast using the *housing-unit method*. See Glossary of Key Terms at the end of this report for a brief description of these methods or refer to the *Methods* document for a more detailed description of these forecasting techniques.

will persist throughout the forecast period. Countywide average annual net migration is expected to increase from 221 net in-migrants in 2015 to 389 net in-migrants in 2035. Over the last 30 years of the forecast period average annual net migration is expected to be steadier, but dropping slightly to 383 net in-migrants by 2065. With natural increase diminishing in its potential to contribute to population growth, net in-migration will become an increasingly important component of population growth.

Assumptions for Smaller Sub-Areas

Rates of population growth for the smaller UGBs are assumed to be determined by corresponding growth in the number of housing units, as well as changes in housing occupancy rates and PPH. The change in housing unit growth is much more variable than change in housing occupancy rates or PPH.

Occupancy rates are assumed to stay relatively stable over the forecast period, while PPH is expected to decline slightly. Smaller household size is associated with an aging population in Curry County and its sub-areas.

In addition, for sub-areas experiencing population growth, we assume a higher growth rate in the near-term, with growth stabilizing over the remainder of the forecast period. If planned housing units were reported in the surveys, then we account for them being constructed over the next 5-15 years. Finally, for county sub-areas where population growth has been flat or declined, and there is no planned housing construction, we hold population growth mostly stable with little to no change.

Supporting Information and Specific Assumptions

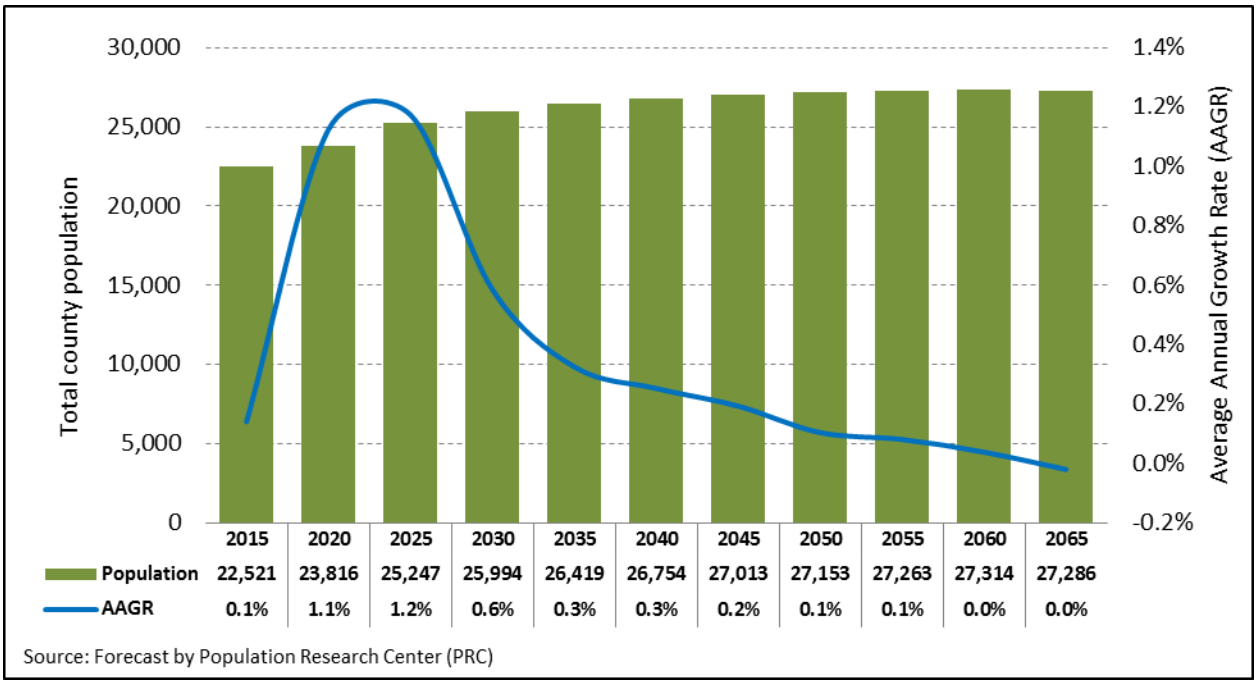
Assumptions used for developing population forecasts are partially derived from surveys and other information provided by local planners and agencies. See *Appendix A* for a summary of all submitted surveys and other information that was directly considered in developing the sub-area forecasts. Also, see *Appendix B* for specific assumptions used in each sub-area forecast.

Forecast Trends

Under the most-likely population growth scenario in Curry County, countywide and sub-area populations are expected to increase through 2055 and decline slightly over the remainder of the forecast period. The countywide population growth rate is forecast to peak in 2025 and then decline throughout the forecast period. Forecasting tapered population growth is largely driven by an aging population, which is expected to contribute to an increase in deaths, as well as a decrease in births—fewer women within childbearing years (ages 10 to 49). The aging population will in turn contribute to growing natural decrease over the forecast period. Net migration is expected to remain relatively steady throughout the forecast period, not fully offsetting the decline in natural increase. The combination of these factors will likely result in a declining population growth rate as time progresses through the forecast period.

Curry County's total population is forecast to grow by about 4,700 persons (21 percent) from 2015 to 2065, which translates into a total countywide population of 27,286 in 2065 (Figure 15). The population is forecast to grow at the highest rate—approximately 1.1 percent per year—in the near-term (2015-2025). This anticipated population growth in the near-term is based on two core assumptions: 1) Curry County's economy will continue to strengthen in the next five years, and; 2) an increasing number of Baby Boomers will retire to the county. The single largest component of growth in this initial period is net in-migration. More than 3,600 net in-migrants are forecast for the 2015 to 2025 period.

Figure 15. Curry County—Total Forecast Population by Five-year Intervals (2015-2065)



Source: Forecast by Population Research Center (PRC)

The Brookings UGB is forecast to increase by nearly 1,600 persons from 2015 to 2035, growing from a total population of 11,414 in 2015 to 12,998 in 2035. Growth is expected to occur more slowly for Brookings during the second part of the forecast period, with total population increasing to 14,850 by

2065. Brookings UGB is expected to grow as a share of total county population over the entire 50-year period.

Population outside UGBs is expected to grow by more than 1,300 people from 2015 to 2035, but is expected to decline in population during the second half of the forecast period, losing more than 2,800 people from 2035 to 2065. The population of the area outside UGBs is forecast to decline as a share of total countywide population over the forecast period, composing 27 percent of the countywide population in 2015 and about 16 percent in 2065.

Figure 16. Curry County and Larger Sub-Areas—Forecast Population and AAGR

	2015	2035	2065	AAGR (2015-2035)	AAGR (2035-2065)	Share of County 2015	Share of County 2035	Share of County 2065
Curry County	*22,521*	*26,419*	*27,286*	*0.8%*	*0.1%*	*100.0%*	*100.0%*	*100.0%*
Brookings[1]	11,414	12,998	14,850	0.7%	0.4%	50.7%	49.2%	54.4%
Smaller UGBs[2]	5,098	6,095	7,949	0.9%	0.9%	22.6%	23.1%	29.1%
Outside UGBs	6,009	7,326	4,488	1.0%	-1.6%	26.7%	27.7%	16.4%

Source: Forecast by Population Research Center (PRC)

[1] For simplicity each UGB is referred to by its primary city's name.

[2] Smaller UGBs are those with populations less than 8,000 in forecast launch year.

Brookings, Curry County's largest UGB, and the area outside UGBs are expected to capture the largest share of total countywide population growth during the initial 20 years of the forecast period (Figure 17); however the area outside UGBs is forecast to lose population during the final 30 years of the forecast period, while Brookings and the smaller UGBs are all expected to increase in population. The increase in population in the county's UGBs is expected to offset the decrease in population outside UGBs.

Figure 17. Curry County and Larger Sub-Areas—Share of Countywide Population Growth

	2015-2035	2035-2065
Curry County	*100.0%*	*100.0%*
Brookings[1]	40.6%	213.7%
Smaller UGBs[2]	25.6%	213.8%
Outside UGBs	33.8%	-327.5%

Source: Forecast by Population Research Center (PRC)

[1] For simplicity each UGB is referred to by its primary city's name.

[2] Smaller UGBs are those with populations less than 8,000 in forecast launch year.

The remaining smaller UGBs are expected to grow by a combined number of nearly 1,000 persons from 2015 to 2035, with a combined average annual growth rate of just under one percent (Figure 16). This growth rate is driven by expectation that Gold Beach will continue to see steady average annual growth of above one percent (Figure 18). Port Orford's population is also forecast to steadily increase over the forecast period, but the average annual rate is expected to be about half of that of Gold Beach. Dissimilar to the larger UGBs and the county as a whole, population growth rates for smaller UGBs are not expected to decline or only decline slightly for the second half of the forecast period (2035 to 2065). The smaller UGBs are expected to collectively add a little more than 1,900 people from 2035 to 2065.

Figure 18. Curry County and Smaller Sub-Areas—Forecast Population and AAGR

	2015	2035	2065	AAGR (2015-2035)	AAGR (2035-2065)	Share of County 2015	Share of County 2035	Share of County 2065
Curry County	*22,521*	*26,419*	*27,286*	*0.8%*	*0.1%*	*100.0%*	*100.0%*	*100.0%*
Gold Beach[1]	3,261	4,044	5,575	1.1%	1.1%	14.5%	15.3%	20.4%
Port Orford	1,837	2,052	2,373	0.6%	0.5%	8.2%	7.8%	8.7%
Larger UGBs[2]	11,414	12,998	14,850	0.7%	0.4%	50.7%	49.2%	54.4%
Outside UGBs	6,009	7,326	4,488	1.0%	-1.6%	26.7%	27.7%	16.4%

Source: Forecast by Population Research Center (PRC)

[1] *For simplicity each UGB is referred to by its primary city's name.*

[2] *Larger UGBs are those with populations greater than 8,000 in forecast launch year.*

Curry County's smaller sub-areas are expected to compose roughly 26 percent of countywide population growth in the first 20 years of the forecast period (Figure 19); however during the final 30 years of the forecast period, as the area outside UGBs experiences population decline, the smaller sub-areas are expected to record population increase, offsetting the population decline in the non-UGB area.

Figure 19. Curry County and Smaller Sub-Areas—Share of Countywide Population Growth

	2015-2035	2035-2065
Curry County	*100.0%*	*100.0%*
Gold Beach[1]	20.1%	176.6%
Port Orford	5.5%	37.1%
Larger UGBs[2]	40.6%	213.7%
Outside UGBs	33.8%	-327.5%

Source: Forecast by Population Research Center (PRC)

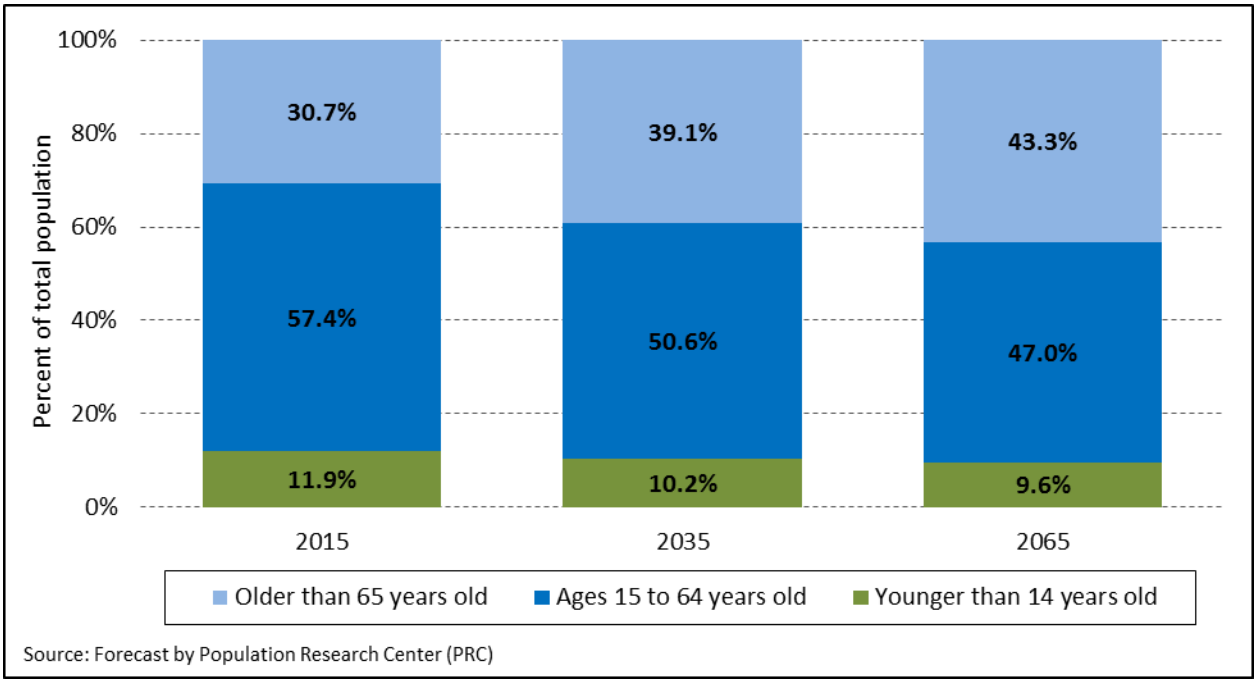
[1] *For simplicity each UGB is referred to by its primary city's name.*

[2] *Larger UGBs are those with populations greater than 8,000 in forecast launch year.*

Forecast Trends in Components of Population Change

As previously discussed, a key factor in both declining births and increasing deaths is Curry County's aging population. From 2015 to 2035 the proportion of county population 65 or older is forecast to grow from about 31 percent to 39 percent. By 2065 about 43 percent of the total population is expected to be 65 or older (Figure 20). For a more detailed look at the age structure of Curry County's population see the final forecast table published to the forecast program website (http://www.pdx.edu/prc/opfp).

Figure 20. Curry County—Age Structure of the Population (2015, 2035, and 2065)

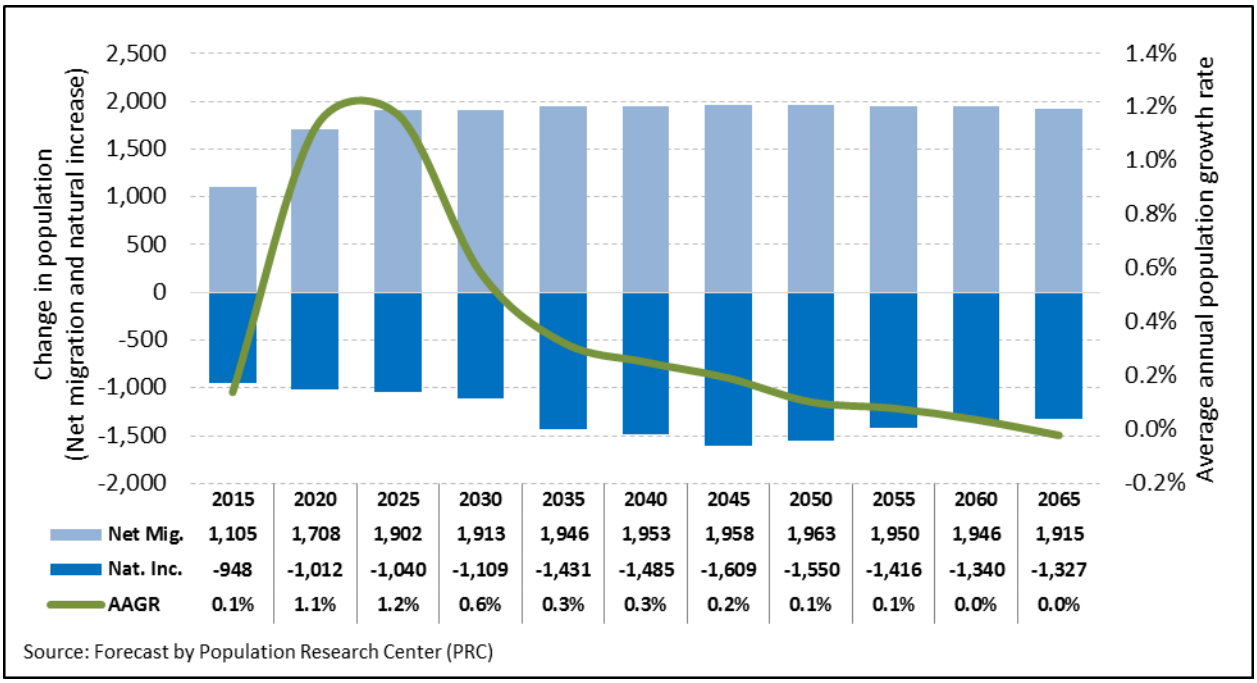


As the countywide population ages—contributing to a slow-growing population of women in their years of peak fertility—and more women choose to have fewer children and have them at an older age, average annual births are expected to remain relatively unchanged over the forecast period; this combined with the rising number of deaths, is expected to cause natural decrease to persist (Figure 21). The total number of deaths countywide are expected to increase more rapidly in the near-term, followed by slower growth during the later years of the forecast period. This pattern of initial growth in the numbers of deaths is explained by the relative size and aging patterns of the Baby Boom and Baby Boom Echo generations. For example, in Curry County, deaths are forecast to begin to increase significantly during the 2025-2035 period as Baby Boomers age out, and peak again in the 2045 as children of Baby Boomers (i.e., the Baby Boom Echo) succumb to the effects of aging.

As the increase in the numbers of deaths outpaces births, population growth in Curry County will become increasingly reliant on net in-migration; and in fact positive net in-migration is expected to persist throughout the forecast period. The majority of these net in-migrants are expected to be middle-aged and older individuals.

In summary, growing natural decrease and steady net in-migration is expected to result in population growth reaching its peak in 2025 and then tapering through the remainder of the forecast period (Figure 21). An aging population will not only lead to an increase in deaths, but a smaller proportion of women in their childbearing years will likely result in a long-term decline in births. Net migration is expected to remain relatively steady throughout the middle years of the forecast period, but will begin to decline slightly during the later years, and therefore is expected to not fully offset the decline in natural increase.

Figure 21. Curry County—Components of Population Change, 2015-2065



	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2055	2060	2065
Net Mig.	1,105	1,708	1,902	1,913	1,946	1,953	1,958	1,963	1,950	1,946	1,915
Nat. Inc.	-948	-1,012	-1,040	-1,109	-1,431	-1,485	-1,609	-1,550	-1,416	-1,340	-1,327
AAGR	0.1%	1.1%	1.2%	0.6%	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%

Source: Forecast by Population Research Center (PRC)

Glossary of Key Terms

Cohort-Component Method: A method used to forecast future populations based on changes in births, deaths, and migration over time.

Coordinated population forecast: A population forecast prepared for the county along with population forecasts for its city urban growth boundary (UGB) areas and non-UGB area.

Housing unit: A house, apartment, mobile home or trailer, group of rooms, or single room that is occupied or is intended for occupancy.

Housing-Unit Method: A method used to forecast future populations based on changes in housing unit counts, vacancy rates, the average numbers of persons per household (PPH), and group quarter population counts.

Occupancy rate: The proportion of total housing units that are occupied by an individual or group of persons.

Persons per household (PPH): The average household size (i.e., the average number of persons per occupied housing unit for a particular geographic area).

Replacement Level Fertility: The average number of children each woman needs to bear in order to replace the population (to replace each male and female) under current mortality conditions in the U.S. This is commonly estimated to be 2.1 children per woman.

Appendix A: Supporting Information

Supporting information is based on planning documents and reports, and from submittals to PRC from city officials and staff, and other stakeholders. The information pertains to characteristics of each city area, and to changes thought to occur in the future. The cities of Gold Beach and Port Orford, as well as Curry County did not submit survey responses.

Brookings—Curry County						
Observations about Population Composition (e.g. about children, the elderly, racial ethnic groups)	**Observations about Housing (including vacancy rates)**	**Planned Housing Development/Est. Year Completion**	**Future Group Quarters Facilities**	**Future Employers**	**Infrastructure**	**Promotions (Promos) and Hindrances (Hinders) to Population and Housing Growth; Other notes**
						Promos: **Hinders:**

Brookings—Curry County	
Highlights or summary of influences on or anticipation of population and housing growth from planning documents and studies	
Other information (e.g. planning documents, email correspondence, housing development survey)	The Smith River Rancheria— federally recognized tribe of Tolowa people—is currently developing 13 manufactured home sites in Brookings. These home sites are targeting low income tribal members. The tribe is planning to develop six more manufactured home sites by 2016.

Appendix B: Specific Assumptions

Brookings

Due to substantial variation in historical total fertility rates (TFR) the average of these rates is assumed for the duration of the forecast period. Survival rates for 2060 are assumed to be a little above those forecast for the county as a whole. Brookings has historically had slightly higher survival rates than observed countywide; this corresponds with a slightly longer life expectancy. Age-specific net migration rates are assumed to generally follow county historical patterns, but at slightly higher rates over the forecast period.

Gold Beach

Annual housing unit growth is assumed to increase in the near-term and then gradually decline over the remainder of the forecast period. Even so the average annual housing unit growth rate is assumed to be a little more than one percent over the forecast period. The occupancy rate is assumed to slightly decline over the forecast period and will average about 80 percent. Average household size is assumed to decline over the forecast period, but only slightly due in part to the larger household size of Gold Beach's growing Hispanic population. Group quarters population is assumed to remain at 58 persons over the forecast period.

Port Orford

Annual housing unit growth is assumed to increase in the near-term and then gradually decline over the remainder of the forecast period. Even so the average annual housing unit growth rate is assumed to be about one percent over the forecast period. The occupancy rate is assumed to slightly decline over the forecast period and will average about 78 percent. Average household size is assumed to decline over the forecast period, but only slightly due in part to the larger household size of Port Orford's growing Hispanic population. Group quarters population is assumed to remain relatively stable, averaging about 20 persons over the forecast period.

Outside UGBs

The forecast for the area outside UGBs in Curry County is determined by the difference between the county and UGB forecasts. Thus the forecast for the area outside UGBs is jointly determined by the forecast assumptions for the county and UGBs.

Appendix C: Detailed Population Forecast Results

Figure 22. Curry County—Population by Five-Year Age Group

Age Group	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2055	2060	2065
00-04	868	876	869	859	849	859	850	853	841	836	825
05-09	857	891	900	892	895	904	909	897	889	875	864
10-14	947	908	945	953	957	981	986	989	964	953	934
15-19	990	925	890	926	948	975	993	995	986	959	945
20-24	842	828	793	750	782	789	807	811	815	808	791
25-29	760	813	807	759	718	740	743	751	756	760	756
30-34	973	891	969	946	890	833	856	849	859	865	869
35-39	895	1,177	1,099	1,176	1,150	1,072	1,001	1,018	1,011	1,023	1,031
40-44	1,008	1,055	1,416	1,300	1,394	1,349	1,254	1,158	1,178	1,171	1,185
45-49	1,235	1,205	1,282	1,691	1,555	1,650	1,592	1,465	1,354	1,378	1,373
50-54	1,705	1,455	1,444	1,511	1,997	1,817	1,925	1,838	1,694	1,567	1,596
55-59	2,075	2,030	1,761	1,720	1,807	2,363	2,149	2,256	2,158	1,992	1,845
60-64	2,455	2,567	2,550	2,178	2,135	2,225	2,907	2,622	2,759	2,643	2,445
65-69	2,378	2,776	2,971	2,903	2,492	2,422	2,524	3,268	2,956	3,120	2,995
70-74	1,912	2,345	2,765	2,919	2,860	2,466	2,405	2,487	3,185	2,883	3,025
75-79	1,311	1,618	2,010	2,332	2,382	2,439	2,042	2,042	2,092	2,679	2,410
80-84	788	965	1,213	1,485	1,732	1,798	1,835	1,526	1,516	1,560	1,983
85+	523	494	563	694	874	1,071	1,236	1,328	1,248	1,240	1,416
Total	*22,521*	*23,816*	*25,247*	*25,994*	*26,419*	*26,754*	*27,013*	*27,153*	*27,263*	*27,314*	*27,286*

Figure 23. Curry County's Sub-Areas—Total Population

	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2055	2060	2065
Brookings UGB	11,414	11,780	12,186	12,616	12,998	13,405	13,704	13,989	14,299	14,601	14,850
Gold Beach UGB	3,261	3,325	3,525	3,823	4,044	4,306	4,563	4,851	5,115	5,352	5,575
Port Orford UGB	1,837	1,891	1,944	1,998	2,052	2,105	2,159	2,213	2,266	2,320	2,373
Outside UGBs	6,009	6,820	7,592	7,557	7,326	6,938	6,587	6,100	5,583	5,041	4,488

Photo Credit: The beach in the evening near Hunter Creek just south of Gold Beach. (Photo No. curD0026) Gary Halvorson, Oregon State Archives.
http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/pages/records/local/county/scenic/curry/8.html