

Demographic and Socioeconomic Characteristics

Factors presented in this summary include population characteristics, health care coverage, income, poverty, and English language proficiency.

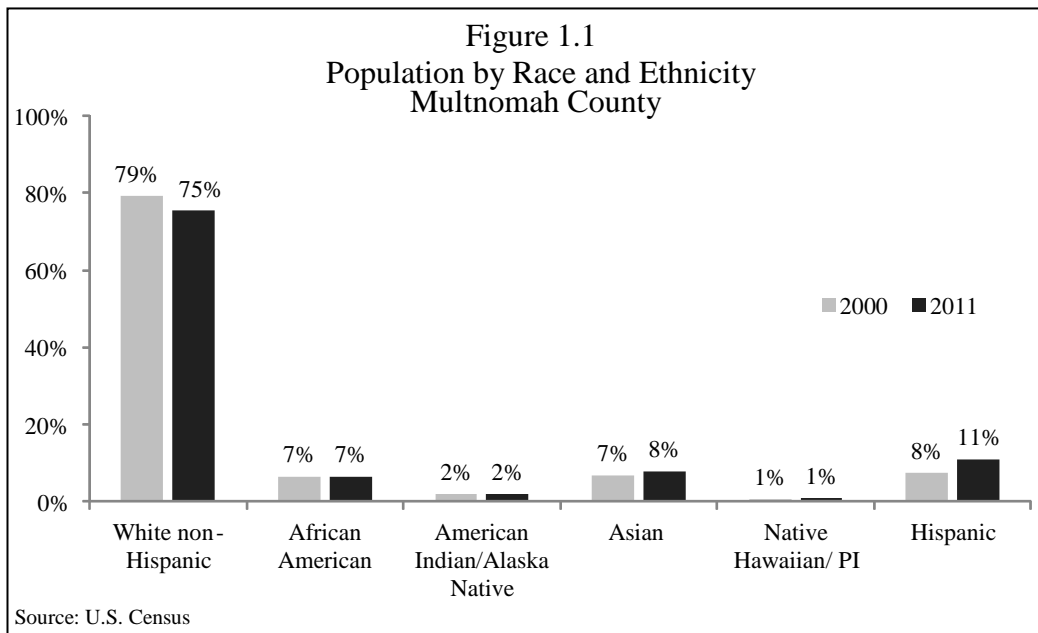
Population Growth and Change in Racial/Ethnic Composition

Multnomah County is the most populous county in Oregon, with 19% of the State’s population. The populations of Multnomah County and Oregon have both increased 13% since 2000.

Population	2000	2011	% change
Multnomah County	660,486	748,031	+13%
Oregon	3,429,708	3,871,859	+13%
% of Oregon’s Population	19.3%	19.3%	

Source: U.S. Census

The Hispanic population in Multnomah County experienced the largest growth from 2000 to 2011, while the White non-Hispanic population declined and the African American, Asian/Pacific Islander, and American Indian/Alaska Native populations remained approximately the same (Figure 1.1).

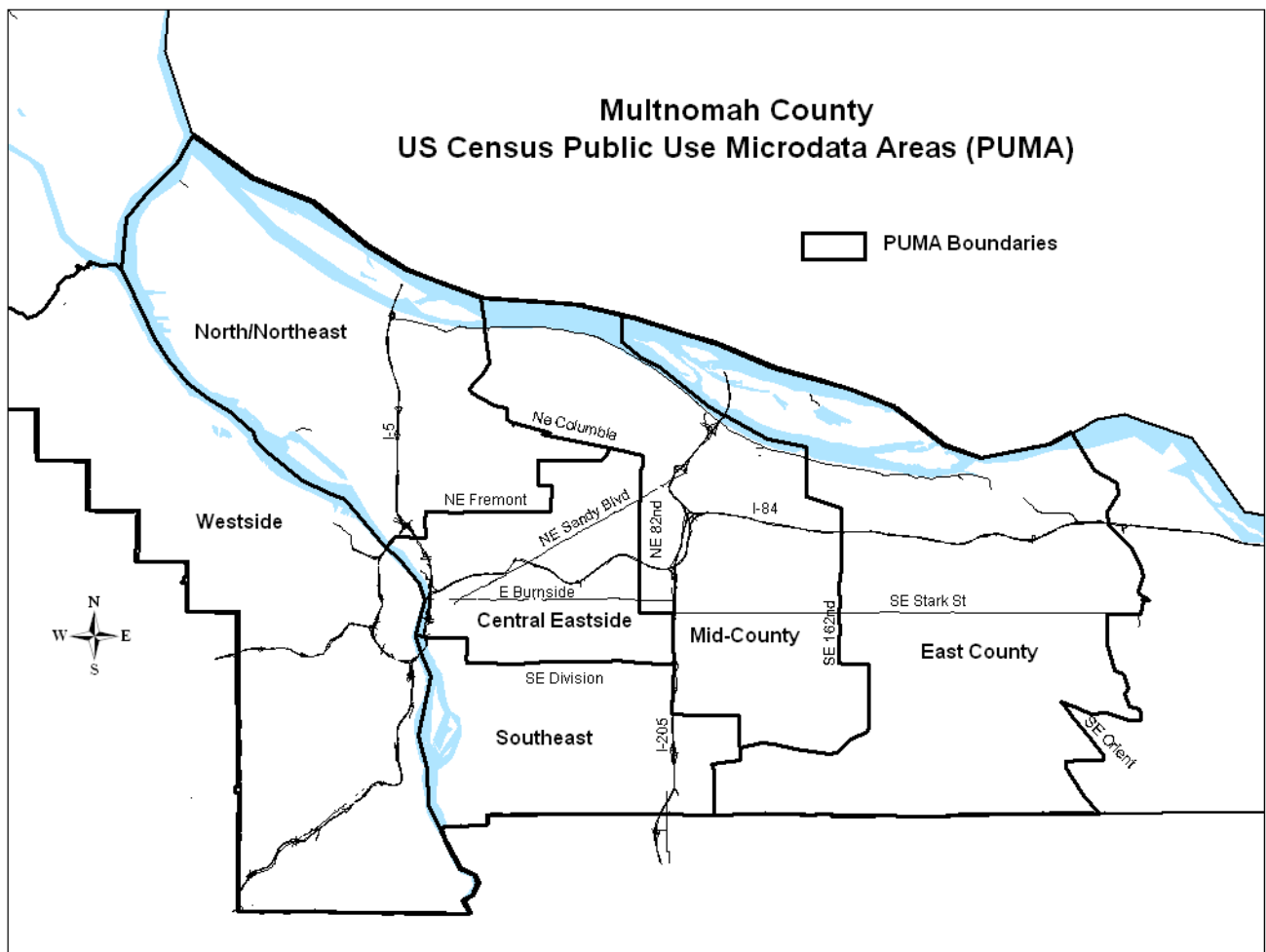


The Health of Multnomah County: Demographic and Socioeconomic Characteristics

In 2011, the White non-Hispanic population of Multnomah County was the oldest, with a median age of 42 years, followed by Asians (35), African Americans (32), American Indian/ Alaska Natives (31), and Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islanders (29). Hispanics were substantially younger, with a median age of 27 years. Individuals who selected some other race had a median age of 27, and individuals who selected more than one race had the youngest median age of 19 years (data not shown).

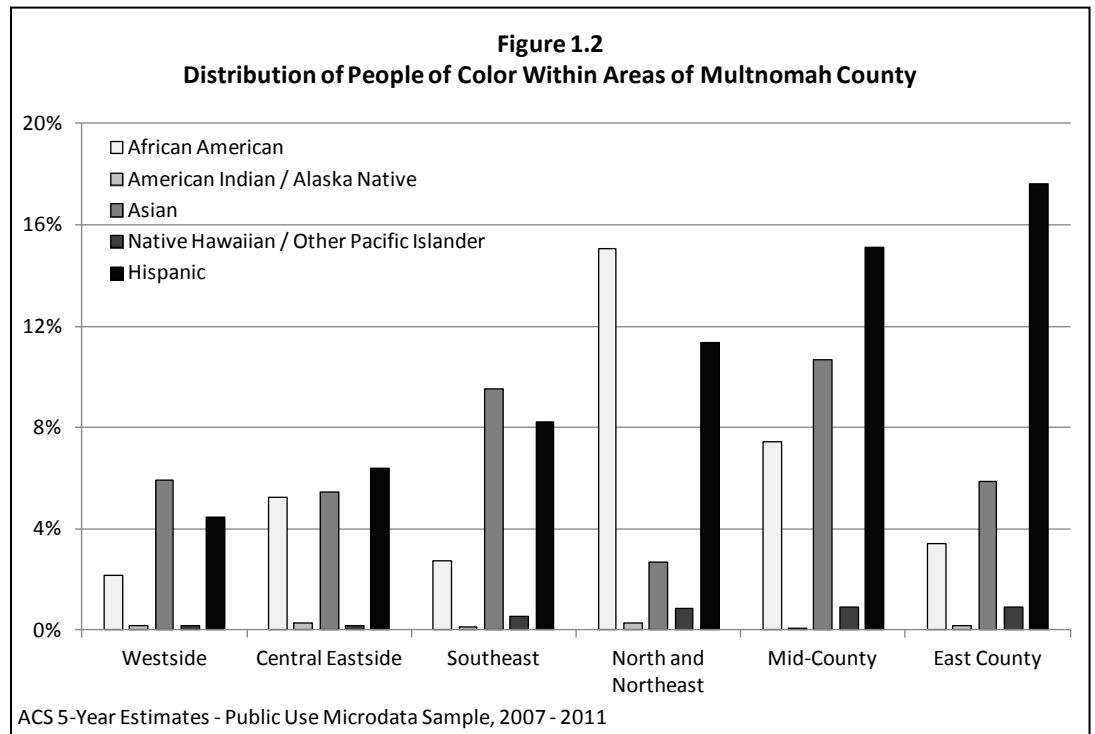
Geographic Distribution by Race, Ethnicity, and Language

The U.S. Census Bureau divides Multnomah County into geographic areas known as Public Use Microdata Area (PUMA) based on census tracts. While census tracts do not cross county lines, PUMAs can. The map below shows six of the eight PUMAs which encompass Multnomah County. These six PUMAs fall completely within the County boundary. The other two PUMAs, one in the north of the County and one in the east of the County, include a substantial portion of Clackamas and Washington counties and will therefore not be included in the geographic information presented in this report.



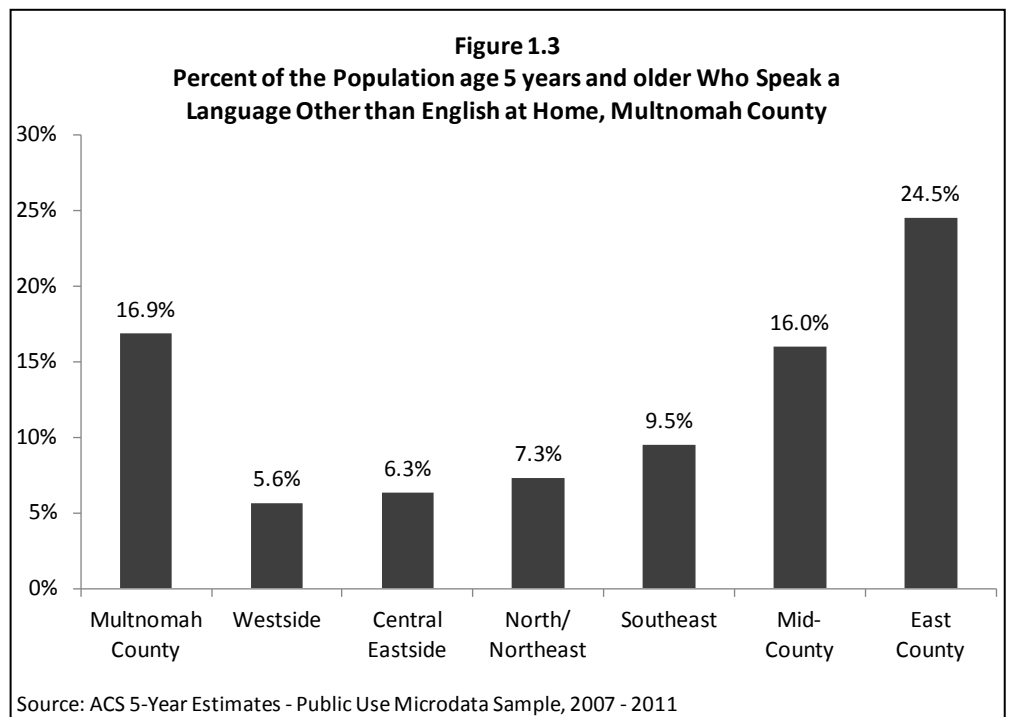
Communities of Color

Figure 1.2 shows the distribution of people of color in Multnomah County. The largest population in East County and Mid-County was the Hispanic population. African Americans were the largest community of color in the North and Northeast while Asians were the largest group in Southeast. American Indian/ Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians accounted for only a small portion of the population in each region.



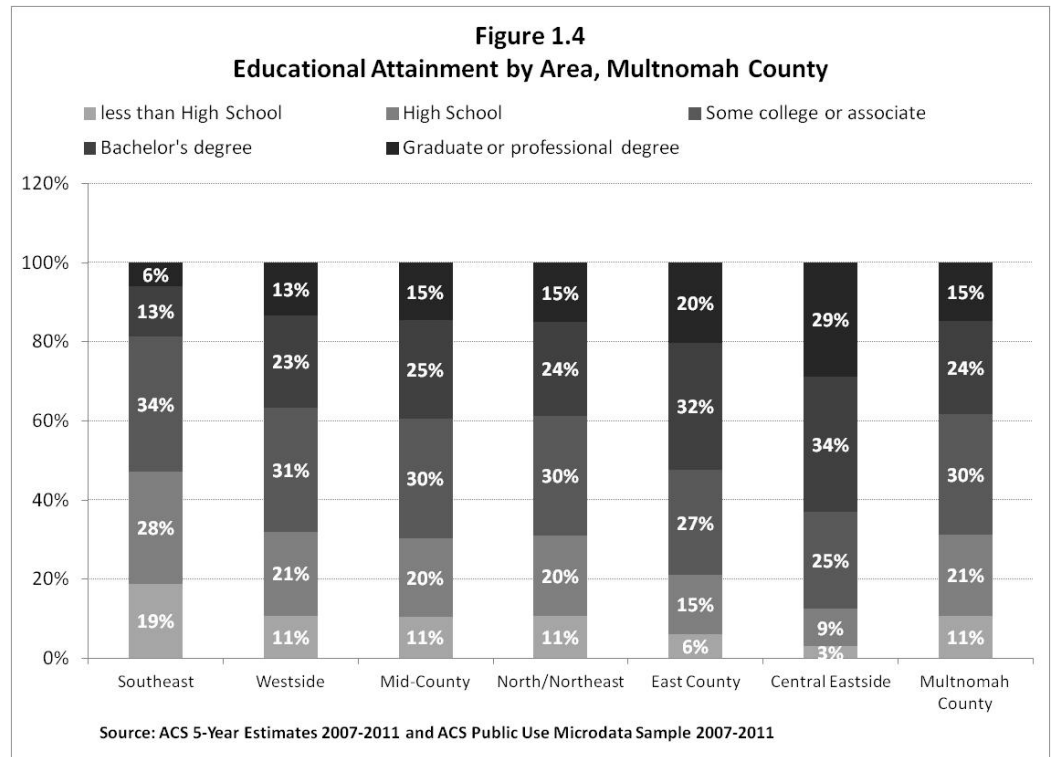
Language Spoken at Home

16.9% of Multnomah County residents, age 5 and over, speak a language other than English at home (Figure 1.3). However, some regions are more linguistically diverse than others. In East County, 24.5% (nearly 1 in 4) speak a language other than English at home, while the Westside and Central Eastside areas have far fewer individuals speaking other languages (5.6% and 6.3%, respectively).



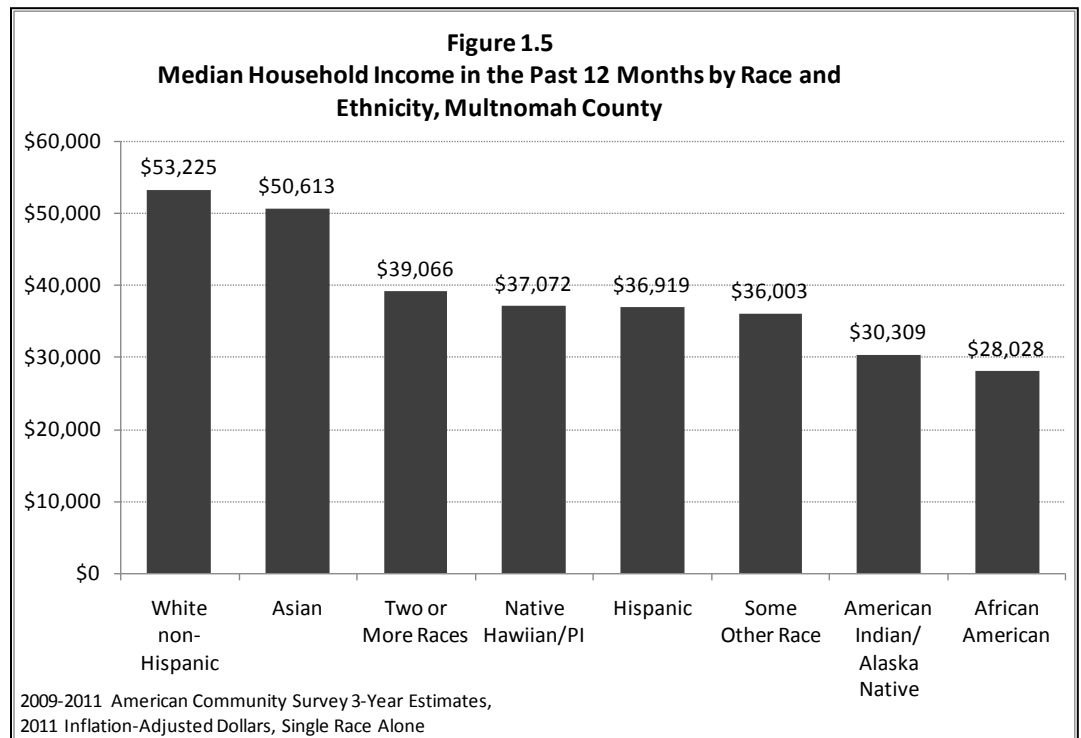
Educational Attainment

In Multnomah County, 89% of the population age 25 and older had a high school or post secondary degree. The Central Eastside had the highest percentage of the population with a Bachelor's degree or higher, and the Southeast had the lowest percentage (Figure 1.4).



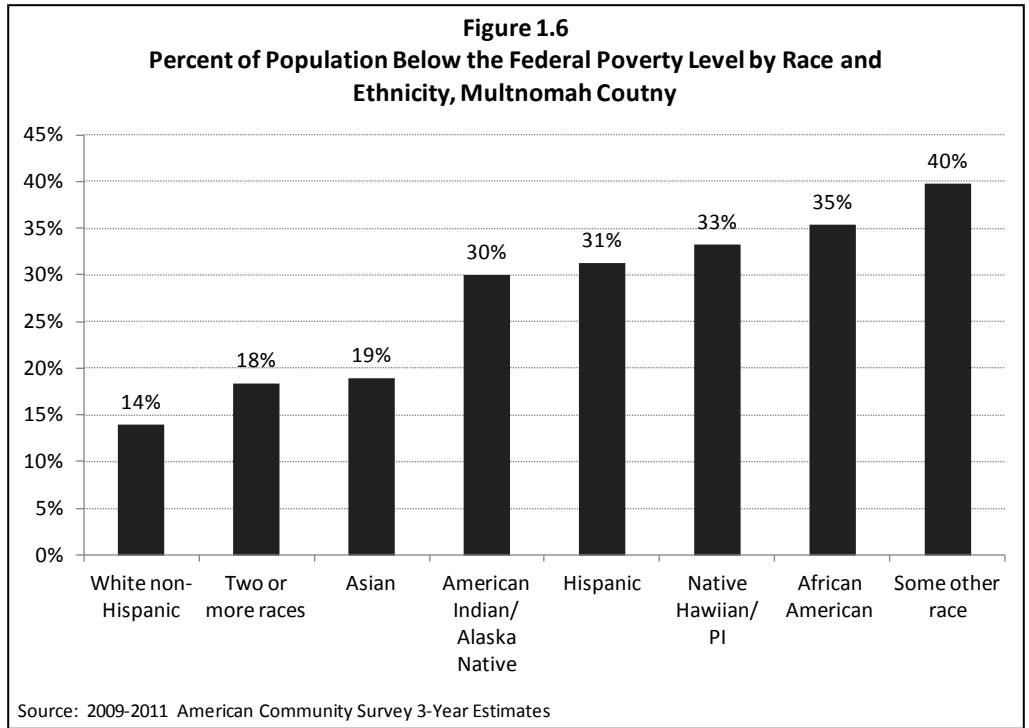
Household Income

The median household income for Multnomah County was \$49,942 (data not shown). White non-Hispanic and Asian households had higher median household incomes, while the household income for all other racial and ethnic groups was below the county median. (Figure 1.5).



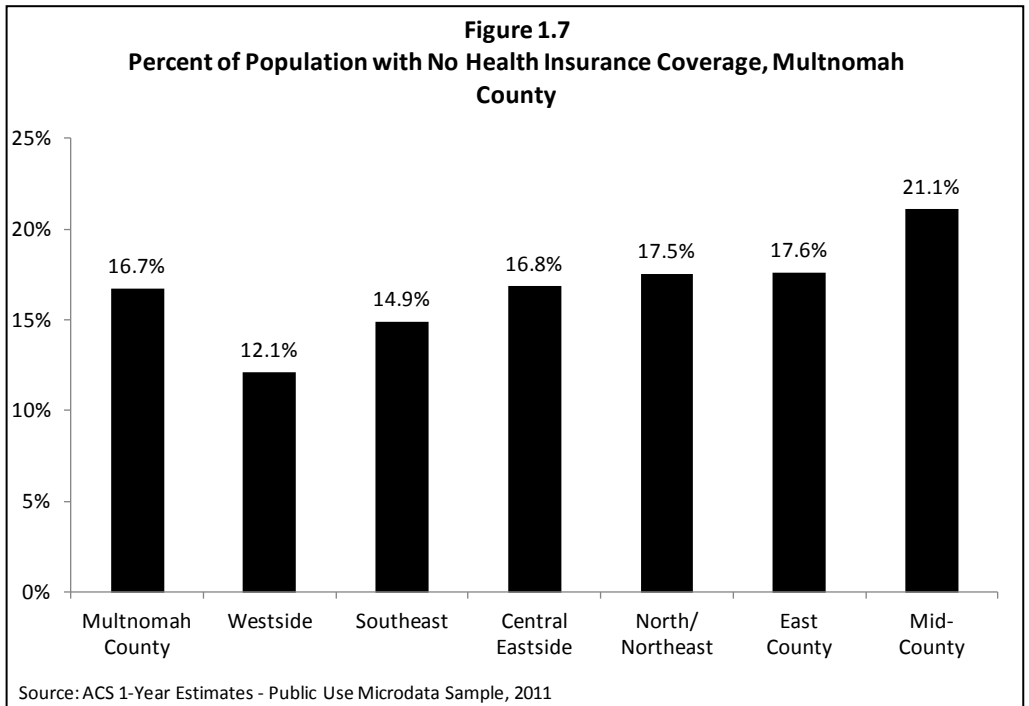
Poverty

In 2011, about 1 in 5 Multnomah County residents (18%) lived below the poverty level (data not shown). Poverty rates vary substantially by race/ethnicity. About 1 in 7 White non-Hispanics were living in poverty, while about 1 in 3 residents who identify as American Indian/Alaska Native, Hispanic, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, African American, or ‘Some other race’ were living in poverty (Figure 1.6).



Health Insurance

In 2011, about 17% of Multnomah County was uninsured. The lowest coverage was in the Westside region (12%) while the highest coverage was in Mid-County (21%) (Figure 1.7).



Data Sources

Demographic data are from the United States Census Bureau and include the 2000 Decennial Census, 2011 American Community Survey, 2007-2011 American Community Survey, and 2007-2011 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample.

