

# Roseburg

## People and Place

### Location

Roseburg is in Douglas County on the Umpqua River along Interstate 5, approximately 179 miles south of Portland and 134 miles south of the capitol, Salem. It encompasses 9.22 square miles of land and 0.2 square miles of water. The geographic coordinates of Roseburg are lat 43°13'00"N, long 123°20'26"W.

### Demographic Profile

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, the population of Roseburg was 20,017, a 17.5% increase from 1990. The gender composition was 51.6% female and 48.4% male. The median age was 39.2, higher than the national median of 35. Of the population 18 years of age and older, 80.1% had a high school education or higher, 15.4% had a bachelor's degree or higher, and 5.6% had a graduate or professional degree; the national averages were 79.7%, 22.3%, and 7.8% respectively.

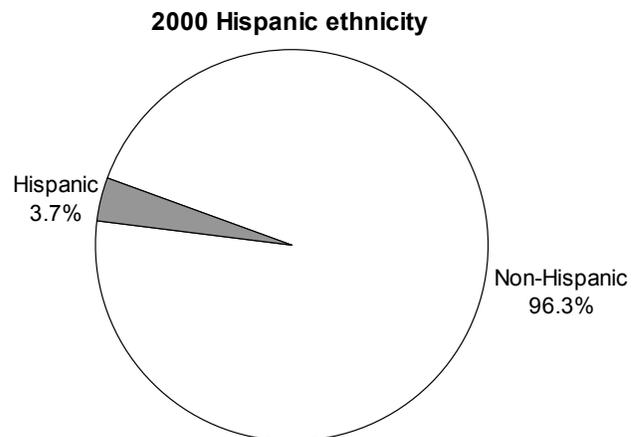
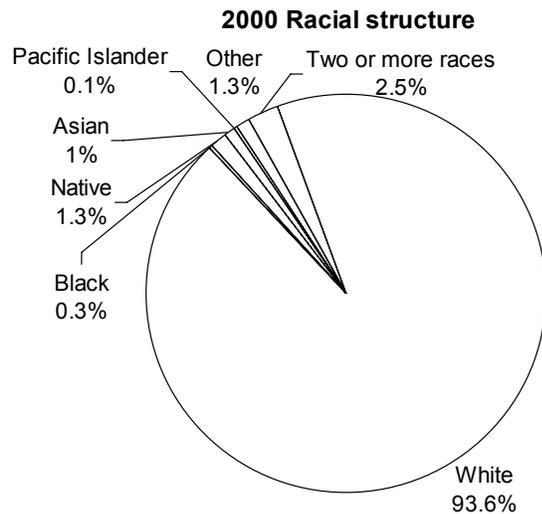
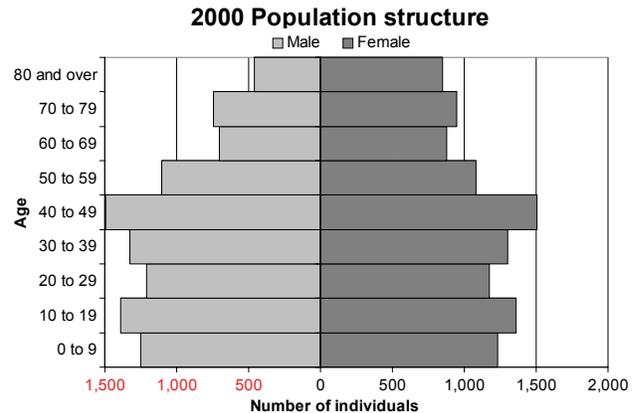
The majority of Roseburg's racial structure was white (93.6%), followed by people who identified with two or more races (2.5%), American Indian and Alaska Native (1.3%), people who identified with some other race (1.3%), Asian (1.0%), black (0.3%), and Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander (0.1%). Ethnicity data indicate 3.7% identified as Hispanic. A small percentage (1.9%) was foreign-born, of which 16.8% were born in Canada and 12.8% in Mexico.

In 2000 a total of 76.0% of the population lived in family households.

### History

The Umpqua Indians inhabited the Roseburg area long before European contact. The early history of contact between Indians and Europeans and the story of colonization and settlement illustrate the complicated relations between Indians and non-Indians in the area. Trappers and explorers working for the Hudson's Bay Company operated in Umpqua territory beginning in the early 1800s. In 1852 gold was discovered at Jackson Creek in Cow Creek Umpqua territory, starting an influx of miners. Euro-American settlers moved into the area shortly thereafter. Battles and skirmishes between white settlers and Indians ensued.

In 1853 seeking a peaceful solution to the conflict with non-Indian settlers, the Cow Creek Umpqua became the first Oregon tribe to negotiate a treaty with the U.S. government.<sup>1</sup> At the time, Roseburg was a small



community on the North Umpqua River called Deer Creek. The community was under the jurisdiction of Umpqua County, which had been created in 1851. In early 1852, a new county was created out of that portion of Umpqua County located east of the Coast Range. The new county was named Douglas County to honor Stephen A. Douglas, a U.S. Senator from Illinois and an advocate for Oregon statehood. Deer Creek was renamed Roseburg in 1885, and Umpqua County was absorbed into Douglas County after the gold rush played out and the local population decreased.<sup>2</sup> Today Roseburg is a community of more than 20,000 known for its wineries and recreation opportunities.

## Infrastructure

### Current Economy

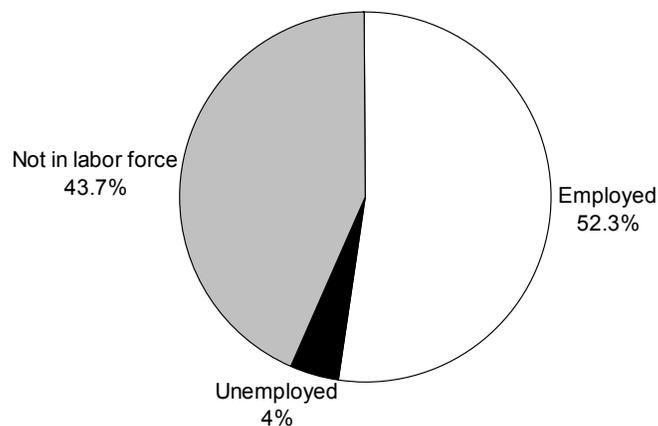
According to the 2000 U.S. Census, 52.3% of the potential labor force 16 years of age and older were employed, 4% were unemployed, and the unemployment rate was 7.2% (calculated by dividing the unemployed population by the labor force). In addition, 43.7% were not in the labor force. The top employment sectors were educational, health, and social services (25.9%), local, state, or federal government (19.5%), manufacturing (12.7%), and retail trade (12.5%). Natural resource jobs including agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting employed 2.2%, but this percentage may be artificially low because many fishermen are self-employed and are underrepresented in these data.

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, the per capita income in 1999 was \$17,082, and the median household income was \$31,250. In 1999 15.1% lived below the poverty level. Roseburg had 8,838 housing units in 2000, of which 93.2% were occupied and 6.8% were vacant. Of the occupied units, 56.5% were by owner and 43.5% were by renter.

### Governance

Roseburg, the county seat of Douglas County, is an incorporated city with a council-manager form of government. The council includes the mayor and eight members. The Cow Creek Band of the Umpqua Indian Tribe, a sovereign tribe recognized by the U.S. government, has a tribal reservation located in Roseburg. The tribal council provides government services to its members. Oregon has no general sales tax but levies a 1% tax on overnight lodging that funds the Oregon Tourism Commission. See the Government subsection (page 43) in the Overview section for a more detailed discussion of taxes affecting fishermen and processors in Oregon.

**2000 Employment structure**



The National Marine Fisheries Service, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services all have local offices in Roseburg. The nearest U.S. Coast Guard Unit is 85 miles away in Coos Bay. The Pacific Fishery Management and North Pacific Fishery Management councils hold meetings in Portland.

### Facilities

Roseburg is on Interstate Highway 5. Amtrak and Greyhound provide rail and bus service respectively. Roseburg Airport, with a 4,602-foot runway, is accessible to general aviation and serves primarily small planes. The nearest major airport is in Eugene, 72 miles to the north. Oregon highways 42 and 138 pass through Roseburg, providing access westward to the Pacific coast and eastward to the Cascade Range respectively.

Local schools include eight elementary schools, two middle schools, and one high school.<sup>3</sup> Roseburg is also home to Umpqua Community College. The Roseburg Police Department and Douglas County Sheriff's Office administer public safety. Pacific Power and Douglas Electric, a nonprofit electric distribution utility that serves western and northern Douglas County, provides electricity. The City of Roseburg provides water and sewer services. The Umpqua Basin Water Association supplies water in rural areas. There are several medical facilities including Mercy Medical Center and a U.S. Veterans Administration clinic. The Roseburg Healthcare System is in Roseburg and larger hospitals are in Eugene and Medford. Local lodging accommodations include 20 hotels and motels and several bed-and-breakfasts.

## **Involvement in West Coast Fisheries**

### **Commercial Fishing**

According to available data, there were no seafood processors in Roseburg in 2000 and no vessels delivered landings. Roseburg residents owned 13 commercial vessels in 2000, of which 6 participated in the federally managed groundfish fishery. The number of vessels owned by Roseburg residents in 2000 that participated in each fishery by state (WA/OR/CA) was: coastal pelagic 0/1/0, groundfish 0/0/NA, highly migratory species NA/0/NA, salmon 0/8/0, shellfish NA/0/NA, shrimp NA/0/0, and other species 0/41/0.<sup>4</sup>

In 2000 a resident held one federal groundfish permit. The number of Roseburg residents holding permits in each fishery by state (WA/OR/CA) was: coastal pelagic 0/1/0, highly migratory species NA/0/0, salmon 3/7/0, shellfish 0/0/NA, and other species 0/2/0.<sup>5</sup>

At least 15 commercial fishing permits were registered to Roseburg residents in 2000, including 14 registered state permits. The number of permits held by Roseburg residents in each fishery by state (WA/OR/CA) was: coastal pelagic 0/1/0, highly migratory species NA/0/0, salmon 3/7/0, shellfish 0/0/NA, and other species 0/3/0.<sup>6</sup>

### **Sportfishing**

At least one sportfishing charter business operates out of Roseburg, targeting mainly river salmon and steelhead. In addition, there were at least 16 registered outfitters or guides based out of Roseburg in 2000. Residents owned at least two licensed charter vessels, but both operated out of Umpqua/Charleston. Twelve sportfishing licensing agents were located in Roseburg. Because Roseburg lacks access to the coast, it has no sportfish landings.

### **Subsistence**

Subsistence harvest by both tribal and nontribal fishermen for marine species may exist in the Roseburg area. Specific information on subsistence fishing in Roseburg is not discussed in detail in this community profile due to the lack of available data.

## **Involvement in North Pacific Fisheries**

### **Commercial Fishing**

In 2000 Roseburg residents owned two vessels that participated in North Pacific fisheries. The vessels made landings in the shellfish fishery, but specific information (landings in metric tons/value of landings) is confidential. Five residents held state permits for Alaska,

including one Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) shellfish permit and four CFEC salmon permits. In 2000 13 residents held crew member licenses for North Pacific fisheries.

### **Sportfishing**

Roseburg residents purchased 196 Alaska sportfishing licenses in 2000.

### **Notes**

1. Cow Creek Band of the Umpqua Tribe of Indians. 2006. Summary. Online at <http://www.cowcreek.com/story/x01history/index.html> [accessed 26 January 2007].
2. Douglas County. No date. Douglas County history. Online at <http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/county/cpdouglashome.html> [accessed 26 January 2007].
3. National Center for Education Statistics. No date. No title. Online at <http://nces.ed.gov/globallocator/> [accessed 26 January 2007].
4. NA refers to data that were not available, for example, due to few or no recorded permit numbers, or the partially permitted nature of a fishery in 2000.
5. See note 4.
6. See note 4.