

# 2019 POVERTY IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY

## Key Finding: 1 in 3 Lack Basic Needs

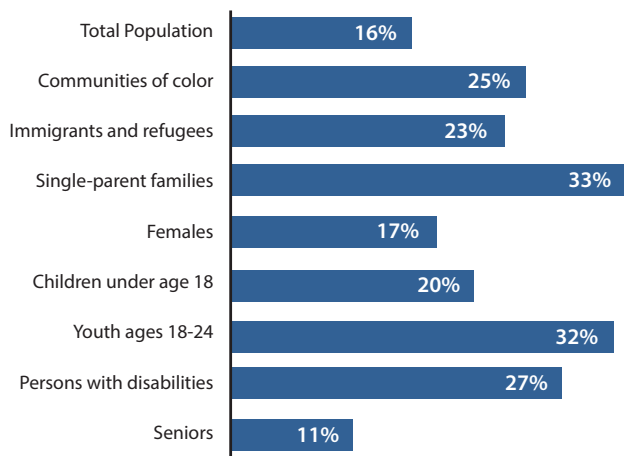


More than 1 in 3 Multnomah County households do not have enough income to be able to meet their basic needs.

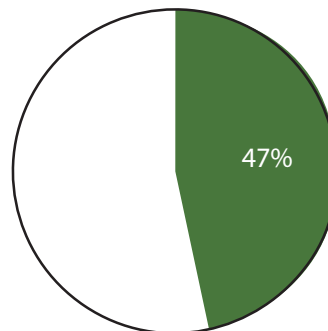
Approximately 34% of Multnomah County households fall below the Self Sufficiency Standard, meaning their incomes are too low to meet their basic needs. Within this group, 31% of the county's population qualifies for key anti-poverty safety net programs, with incomes below 185% FPL; 16% of the county's population meets the official definition of poverty, with incomes below 100% FPL; and 8% of the county's population is living in deep poverty, with incomes below 50% FPL.

## Key Finding: People of Color Impacted the Most

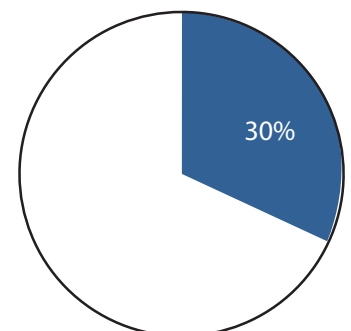
**Poverty Rate** **Population**  
% below 100% FPL



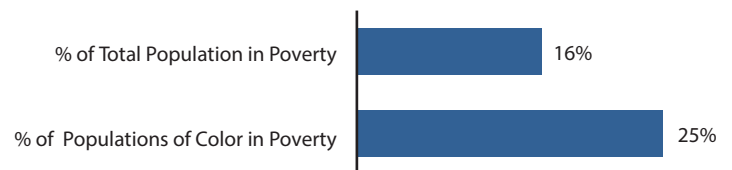
**% of Population in Poverty that is Populations of Color**



**% of Total Population that is Populations of Color**



People of color represent 30% of the overall population of Multnomah County, but they represent 47% of the county's population in poverty.



Find the full report at  
[multco.us/2019PovertyReport](http://multco.us/2019PovertyReport)

Report prepared by Kristina Smock Consulting  
October 2019



**Multnomah County**

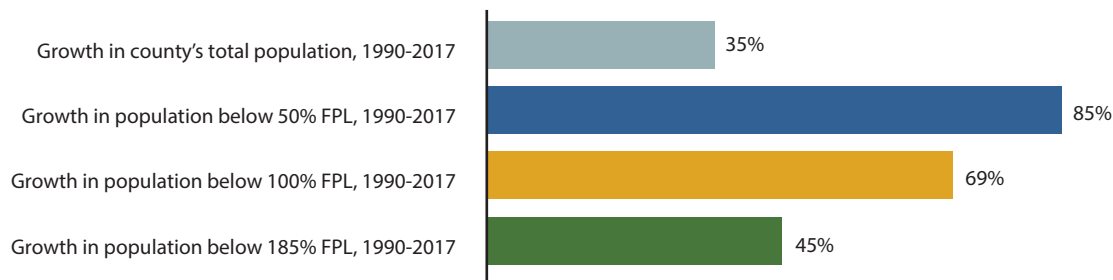
Department of County Human Services  
Youth and Family Services Division



MULTNOMAH COUNTY  
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# Key Finding: Growth in Poverty Exceeds Overall Growth

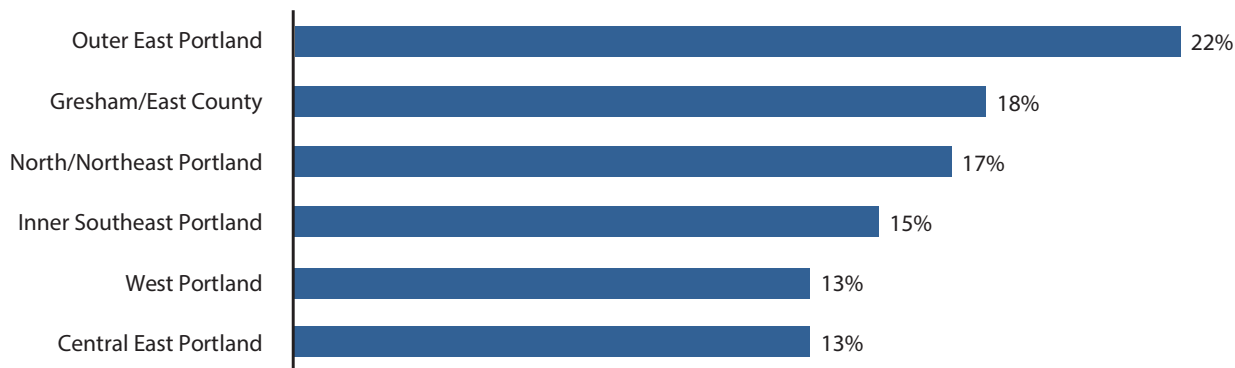
Rate of Growth of Total Population & Population in Poverty: 1990 to 2017



Multnomah County has experienced strong economic growth in recent years, but the growth has primarily benefited the county's highest income households.

## Key Finding: East County Faces Highest Poverty Levels

Geographic Distribution of Poverty



## Recommendations

1. Prioritize the elimination of inequities and disparities.
2. Strengthen the community's collective capacity to prevent and address poverty.
3. Tailor strategies and services to meet the distinct characteristics and needs of different types of poverty and economic situations.
4. Ease the experience of poverty and make it possible for all residents to meet their basic human needs with dignity.
5. Equip people to move out of poverty by providing pathways to economic independence.
6. Eliminate the stigmas associated with poverty.
7. Promote self-determination.
8. Invest in the well-being and development of children and youth.
9. Address geographic disparities so that all the county's residents have equitable access to resources and opportunities.
10. Pursue structural solutions and policy changes that seek to end the conditions that cause poverty.
11. Work with regional and national partners on collective solutions.
12. Prioritize partnerships and strategic coordination.
13. Pursue opportunities for cross-system collaboration and alignment.

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