

THE INNOVATIVE METROPOLIS:

FOSTERING ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS THROUGH
SUSTAINABLE URBAN DESIGN

PORTLAND

HISTORY AND CONTEXT

State/Province: Oregon

Country: USA

Köppen Classification: Mediterranean

Political Adjacencies: Washington

Land Area: 133.43 square miles

Spatial Adjacencies: Willamette and Columbia rivers

Municipality Population: 583,766 (estimated 2010)

Metropolitan Population: 2,260,000

Population Density: 4,375.20/square mile

Racial Distribution: 76.1% White, 7.1% Asian, 6.3% Black or African American, 1% Native American, 0.5% Pacific Islander, 4% two or more racial groups, 5% other races

Language: English

City Inception/Incorporation Date: 1851

Year at which Population Reached 1 Million People: 1970

POLICIES AND ORGANIZATION

Current Strategic Plan: Portland Plan (2012)

Link: <http://www.portlandonline.com/portlandplan/>

Major Development Distinction: In 1979, adopted an Urban Growth Boundary and statewide land conservation policy under Oregon Governor Tom McCall.

Agents of Urban Development: The Portland Development Commission, a semi-public agency, plays a role in downtown development and acts as the city's urban renewal agency.

Sustainability Plans: Comprehensive Plan

Link: <http://www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/47556>

ECONOMICS

Largest Industry of Employment: There are over 1,000 technology companies in the Portland area, and the computer chip manufacturer Intel employs 150,000 people in several sites in the metropolitan area.

Shipping:

Port of Portland Strategic Plan:

Link: http://www.portofportland.com/PDFPOP/StrategicPlan_0111.pdf

Port:

Port of Portland - Marine Shipping

Total Tonnage: 12,351,569

Link: http://www.portofportland.com/SelfPost/A_2013115212331ExecDirReport.pdf

Air:**Portland International Airport**

Enplaned Air Freight: 103,708 tons

Deplaned Air Freight: 102,238 tons

Enplaned: 6,844,061 passengers

Deplaned: 6,831,863 passengers

Link: http://www.portofportland.com/SelfPost/A_201312385754Dec2012webstats.pdf**Exchanges:** n/a**Fortune 500 Companies:** 2**Contemporary Economic Engines:** Wheat**Major Recent Development:** Cleantech**ENVIRONMENT****Environmental Agency:** Environmental ServicesLink: <http://www.portlandoregon.gov/bes/29323>**Water****Management:** Portland Water Bureau**Water Management and Conservation Plan:**Link: <http://www.portlandoregon.gov/water/article/179527>**Source:** Bull Run Watershed, ground water, well water**Daily Usage:** ~105 Million gallons/day**Per Capita Usage:** 130 gallons/day**Reserves:** 2 municipal reservoirs**Flood/Drought History:** Portland has developed in the floodplain of the Willamette River basin, reducing its natural protection from flooding.**Portland Watershed Management Plan:**Link: <http://www.portlandoregon.gov/bes/article/107808>**Waste Management****Public/Private - Department Name:** Waste Management (private); weekly collection of garbage, recycling, and compostLink: <http://wmnorthwest.com/portland/index.html>**Waste Per Capita:** 2,697 pounds annually (2009)Link: <http://www.deq.state.or.us/lq/pubs/docs/sw/2009MRWGRatesReport.pdf>**Sewer System****Controlling Agency:** Environmental Services, Columbia Boulevard Wastewater Treatment Plant**Dry Capacity:** 120 MGD**Wet Capacity:** 300 MGD**Average Daily Flow:** 76 MGDLink: <http://www.portlandoregon.gov/bes/article/265796>**Energy****Portland Plan: Energy**Link: <http://www.portlandonline.com/portlandplan/index.cfm?a=270874&c=51427>**Annual Overall Energy Consumption:** 105,131,631 MBTU (2007)**Power Source:** Coal, hydro, natural gas

TRANSPORTATION

Major Airports: Portland International Airport

Major Highways and Interstates: 3 major interstate highways

Light Rail: MAX (Metropolitan Area Express) opened in 2004

\$3 billion cost of construction

4 lines, 87 stations

Bike Plan: Goal of 952 miles of bikeways

Portland Bicycle Plan for 2030

Link: <http://www.portlandoregon.gov/transportation/article/289122>

Cars Per 1000 People: 692

Link: <http://www.city-data.com/forum/city-vs-city/653396-metro-areas-ranked-vehicles-per-1-a.html>

Public Transportation Options: In 2008, 12.6% of all commutes in Portland were on public transit.

QUALITY OF LIFE

Median Income: \$47,810

Link: <http://www.portlandoregon.gov/phb/article/425966>

Minimum Hourly Wage: \$7.95

Link: <http://blog.oregonlive.com/oldtown/2008/11/Living%20Wage%20Calculator%20Portland.pdf>

Unemployment Percentage: 7.1%

Average Commute Distance: 20.3 miles