

GOAL IV: CARING COMMUNITIES

A. GENERAL COUNTY STRENGTHS AND ASSETS IN GOAL IV

- Strong commitment to planning that is reflected in the number and variety of planning efforts
- Belief in community building that is focused on partnerships and collaborations
- High level of involvement and engagement by individuals and organizations
- Strong community based decision making that is supportive of local efforts
- Strong support from policymakers for planning efforts

B. LOCAL FACTORS AFFECTING THE DATA OR PLANNING ANALYSIS

- Multitude of local planning bodies with different mandates or charges, different planning frameworks, different timelines, etc. makes it difficult to coordinate
- Because of geographic constraints, not all areas, people, groups are included in planning or community-wide efforts
- Lane County has a diverse and plentiful number of private providers that are child, youth and family focused

Core Area 10: Community Engagement and Collaboration ☹️

A. INDICATORS

Indicator	Data Source	Oregon Benchmark	Chart	County Impact
State Agency Data				
• Registered Voters Voting in General Elections	OSS-ED	#34	Fig. 56	☹️
• Registered Voters Voting in Primary Elections	OSS-ED	–	Fig. 57	☹️
Local Data				
• Eligible Residents Registered to Vote in General and Primary Elections	LCPC (OSS-ED)	–	Fig. 58	😊
• Community Participation	LCCCF (OSRL)	–	Fig. 59	☹️

- 😊 = good, positive trend
- ☹️ = neutral, unclear trend – too variable, not enough data points, or too subjective
- ☹️ = bad, negative trend

The percent of registered voters who voted in the general elections has been variable, but generally decreasing since 1990 – from a high of about 85% in 1992 to a low of about 60% in 1998.

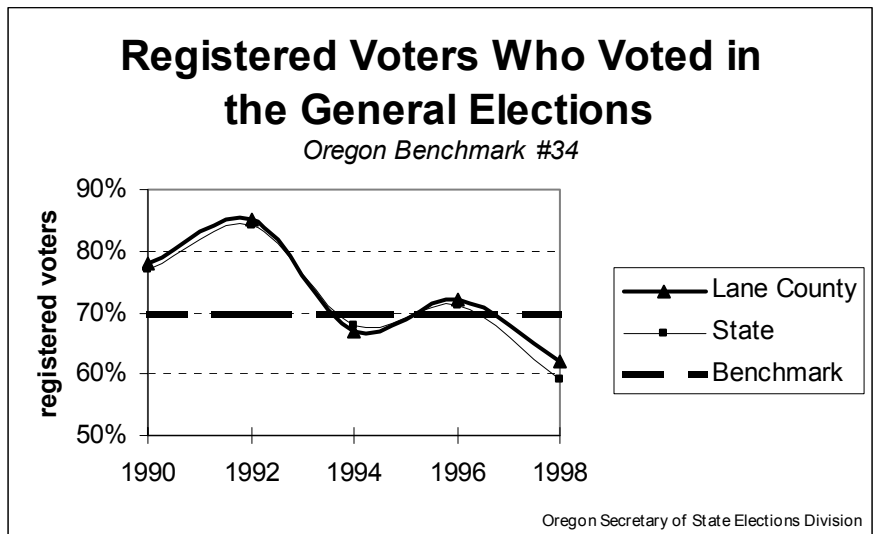
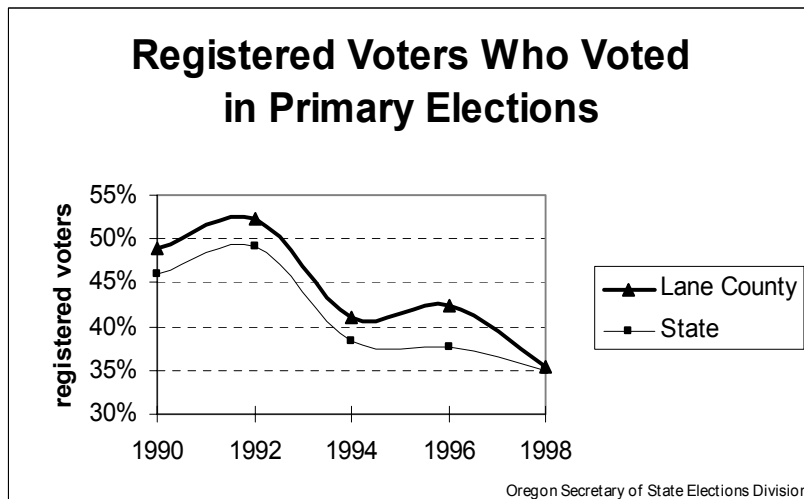


Figure 56



Similarly, the percentage of registered voters who voted in the primary elections decreased overall between 1990 and 1998 – from a high of about 52% in 1992, to a low of 35% in 1998.

Figure 57

The percentage of eligible Lane County residents who are registered to vote was estimated by using population estimates as the base. This trend has been the opposite of trends for voter participation indicating that while more people are registering, less are voting. This may be due in part to the massive petition drives that have taken place over the last 10 years.

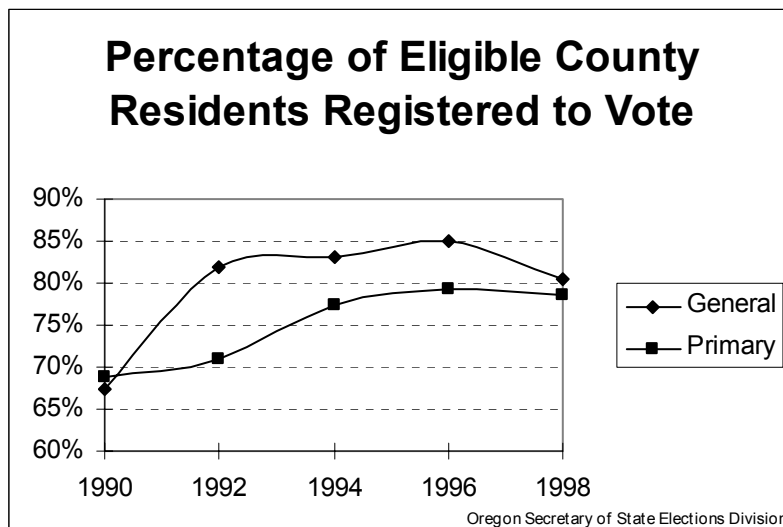


Figure 58

Questions about levels of community involvement were replicated in the *Community Survey* from a parallel OSRL survey from 1996. Four questions were asked of respondents: (a) if they had 'taken part in any form of organized sports activities in the past year,' (b) if they 'belonged to any other clubs or organizations in their community,' (c) if they 'regularly take part in any church, synagogue, or religious organization,' and (d) if they had 'ever worked with others in their community to try to solve community problems.' Between 1996 and 2000, levels of participation fell in all categories except 'participation in a religious organization.'

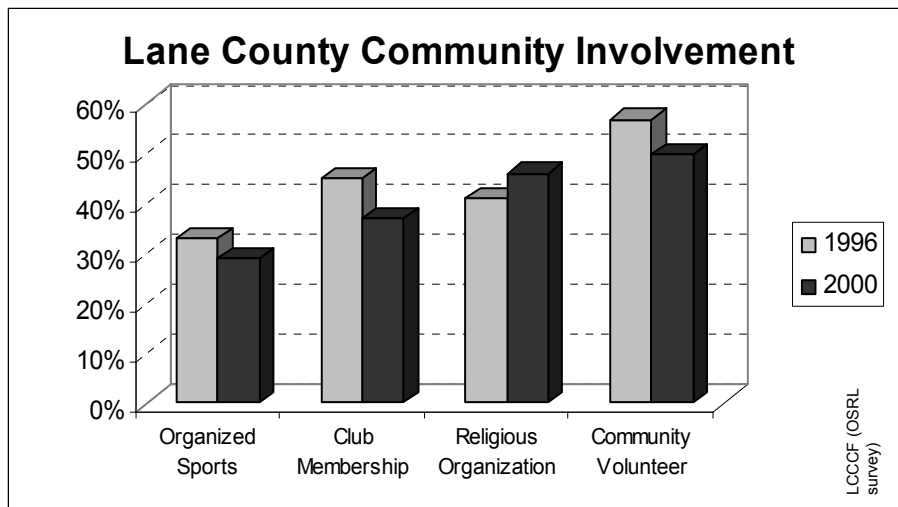


Figure 59

The *Community Survey 2000* also asked respondents for their perceptions of community safety for children and youth. Respondents were asked to think about youth and teenagers walking around your community at night and during the day, and overall, how safe they think they are. At night, only 16% thought youth and teenagers would be 'very safe,' 45% 'somewhat safe,' 24% 'not very safe,' and 10% not very safe at all.' During the day, 52% thought they would be 'very safe,' 41% 'somewhat safe,' and only 3% 'not very safe,' and 1% 'not safe at all.'

The *Success by Six Parenting Norms Survey* asked respondents to evaluate their neighborhood as a place to live and raise children. 29% felt their neighborhood was 'excellent,' 43% 'good,' 18% 'fair,' and 8% 'poor.'

B. COMMUNITY STRENGTHS AND ASSETS IN CORE AREA 10

- Community-based prevention coalitions
- Reformation plan for each youth taken before youth court
- Peer Courts in Florence, Bethel, Cottage Grove, Oakridge, and Churchill High School
- Voter support for the new youth campus
- Neighborhood associations
- Summit Summer Program
- Resource guides and directories
- Family resource centers
- Community safety net program
- Grass roots organizing

- Active citizenry
- Kids sports programs
- Parks and recreation facilities and programs

C. Gaps and Barriers in Service Supports in Core Area 10

Children 9-12

- Community support for services to children more than 8 years old
- Children's exposure to media violence

Families

- Community climate that supports reductions in services
- Parenting and education support as the norm
- Mistrust in government and other people
- Stigmatism
- Building family input into collaborations, planning
- Limits to time available for community involvement

Specific Cultural/Ethnic Groups

- Community support for culturally appropriate services
- Limited non-English speaking services

Gender-Specific Needs

- Community support for gender specific services

Rural

- Location of services

D. Summary of Findings for Core Area 10

- The trends indicate decreasing participation in the community.
- More data and indicators are needed for this core area. There are some good questions in the Oregon Population Survey that would be useful for this purpose, but the survey sample size is not large enough for the county level data to be valid.

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