

**College of Urban and Public Affairs**  
Institute of Portland Metropolitan Studies  
Population Research Center  
Post Office Box 751 503-725-5170 tel  
Portland, Oregon 97207-0751  
780 Urban Center  
506 SW Mill Street

April 16, 2019

Co-Chair Senator Betsy Johnson  
Co-Chair Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward  
Co-Chair Representative Dan Rayfield  
Joint Committee on Ways and Means  
Oregon Legislature—State Capitol  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs and Committee Members:

This letter is in support of fully funding the Population Research Center (PRC) at Portland State University (PSU), a university statewide program, in House Bill (HB) 5024.

Founded in 1965, the Population Research Center (PRC) at Portland State University (PSU) has emerged as a leader in addressing demographic trends affecting state and local communities across Oregon. Leveraging resources across PSU, and from collaborative partnerships with other university partners and communities across Oregon, the center produces research that is applied, analytical, and relevant to leaders, policymakers, and residents of Oregon.


We make demographic information easily accessible to Oregonians and provide timely and accurate analyses of Oregon's demographic trends through the following programs:

- **Oregon Population Estimates Program (OPEP).** Operating under a state mandate (see ORS 190.510-610), PRC prepares annual certified population estimates for all cities and counties in Oregon, used by state and local governments, various organizations, and agencies for revenue sharing, funds allocation, and planning purposes.
- **Oregon State Data Center (SDC).** Partners with the U.S. Census Bureau as the Oregon State Data Center (SDC) for census data dissemination and training through a network of state agencies, universities, libraries, and regional and local governments.
- **Oregon Population Forecast Program (OPFP).** Operating under a state mandate (see ORS 190.033), PRC produces coordinated population forecasts for all counties and cities outside of the Portland Metro UGB under a continuing four-year cycle for land use planning purposes.

- **Demographic Consulting Services.** Provides consulting services to public agencies, private firms, and not-for-profit groups requesting customized demographic data and analyses to assist in making informed planning and policy decisions.
- **Graduate Certificate in Applied Social Demography.** Faculty instruct courses in population studies and applied demography as part of a graduate certificate program—the only such program in Oregon.

On behalf of our PRC research faculty and staff, I strongly encourage you to support full funding of the Population Research Center (PRC) at PSU. Supporting the state's leading census research and training center will ensure that PRC can continue to make demographic information available to Oregonians, conduct demographic research that supports data-driven decision-making, and support PRC's work in ensuring a fair and accurate census enumeration in Oregon for Census 2020.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason Jurjevich". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Jason R. Jurjevich, Ph.D.

Interim Director, Population Research Center (PRC)

College of Urban and Public Affairs  
Mark O. Hatfield School of Government  
Center for Public Service

Post Office Box 751  
Portland, Oregon 97207-0751  
Urban Center 570T  
506 SW Mill St.

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503-725-5111 fax  
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April 8, 2019

Co-Chair Senator Betsy Johnson  
Co-Chair Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward  
Co-Chair Representative Dan Rayfield  
Joint Committee on Ways and Means  
Oregon Legislature—State Capitol  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs and Committee Members:

This letter is in support of fully funding the Population Research Center (PRC) at Portland State University (PSU), a university statewide program, in House Bill (HB) 5024.

In my role as Director of the Center for Public Service – a unit of the Mark O. Hatfield School of Government at Portland State University – I’ve had the chance to work closely with PRC on several projects. In 2014 we partnered with PRC on a project to assist the Portland Public School District to devise a citizen-based process for Comprehensive Boundary Review. During the 2015-16 period, I served as co – Principal Investigator – along with PRC’s Dr. Jason Jurgeovich -- on a Knight Foundation (Miami) funded effort to map voter turnout information for 50 U.S. mayoral elections, including those in Portland and other “top 30” cities in the country.

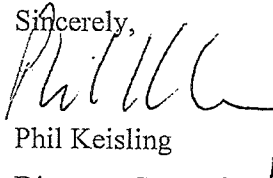
Both of these projects relied on data that was carefully organized and curated by PRC. But beyond the data itself I found the expertise of PRC leaders and staff alike invaluable –not to mention responsive, creative, and thoroughly professional in their work.

Since 1965, PRC has conducted demographic research specific to communities across Oregon. The center has also demonstrated a commitment to building collaborative relationships with counties, cities, school districts, and special districts through applied and analytical research. (The Center works with a lot of these same entities in its work, and I can personally attest to the value that is provided to them, in their work, by the PRC’s database and its staff.

Recently, PRC expanded its statewide reach by supporting learning opportunities for students through the Graduate Certificate in Applied Social Demography. The only such program in Oregon, the graduate certificate trains students to tackle the complex issues and relationships between demographic change and its impact on Oregon's communities.

We strongly encourage you to support full funding of the Population Research Center (PRC) at PSU. Supporting the state's leading census research and training center will ensure that PRC can continue to make demographic information available to Oregonians, conduct demographic research that supports data-driven decision-making, and support PRC's work in ensuring a fair and accurate census enumeration in Oregon for Census 2020.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Phil Keisling". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Phil Keisling

Director, Center for Public Service

Mark O. Hatfield School of Government

Portland State University

04/08/2019

Co-Chair Senator Betsy Johnson  
Co-Chair Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward  
Co-Chair Representative Dan Rayfield  
Joint Committee on Ways and Means  
Oregon Legislature—State Capitol  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs and Committee Members:

This letter is in support of fully funding the Population Research Center (PRC) at Portland State University (PSU), a university statewide program, in House Bill (HB) 5024.

PRC population estimates and projections are a reliable source of data for many of our regulatory reporting duties in land use planning. We would not be able to create accurate buildable lands inventories and assess housing needs within the context of urban growth boundary amendments without direct support from PRC staff. In between decennial census data years, the American Community Survey from census is a poor substitute for population estimates. Future year population projections used in planning are finicky and must be created by skilled demographers with access to, and relationships with, the entities under study. This critical human element is something PRC staff excels at. They take a complex tapestry of information and analytics and make it accessible to people who rely upon that data to guide policy decisions. In my work, I assess many types of data from both public sources and private industry. I have not found population estimates that are more reliable than what PRC provides.

PRC population data is also a critical component in the new activity-based travel model that ODOT is building. Without population estimates for the base (current) year and projections to the horizon (2045) model year, we cannot accurately predict growth and plan transportation needs accordingly.

Sincerely,

Nikki Hart-Brinkley

Geographic Information Systems Specialist/Planner  
Rogue Valley Council of Governments  
155 N. 1<sup>st</sup> St.  
Central Point, OR 97502  
541-423-1378  
[nhart-brinkley@rvcog.org](mailto:nhart-brinkley@rvcog.org)



## CITY OF BEND

April 16, 2019

710 NW WALL STREET  
PO BOX 431  
BEND, OR 97709  
(541) 388-5505 tel  
Relay Users Dial 7-1-1  
(541) 385-6676 fax  
bendoregon.gov

MAYOR  
Casey Roats

MAYOR PRO TEM  
Sally Russell

CITY COUNCILORS  
Justin Livingston  
Bill Moseley  
Bruce Abernethy  
Nathan Boddie  
Barb Campbell

CITY MANAGER  
Eric King

Co-Chair Senator Betsy Johnson  
Co-Chair Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward  
Co-Chair Representative Dan Rayfield  
Joint Committee on Ways and Means  
Oregon Legislature—State Capitol  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs and Committee Members:

This letter provides testimony in support of fully funding the Population Research Center (PRC) at Portland State University (PSU), a university statewide program, through House Bill (HB) 5024.

In my role as a Senior Planner with the City of Bend Growth Management Department, I have either worked closely with PRC staff or relied on PRC data to complete key long range planning projects for the City. I've engaged with the PRC through:

- The Oregon Population Estimates Program (OPEP);
- The Oregon Population Forecast Program (OPFP), and;
- Demographic Consulting Services (e.g. school district forecasts)

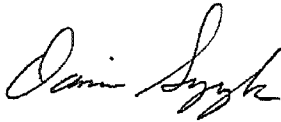
For the City of Bend, we rely on the PRC's annual estimates of population for housing, infrastructure (e.g. water, sewer collection), and transportation planning. We consulted their 2015 population forecast for the Bend urban growth boundary (UGB) during our planning for UGB expansion in 2015 and 2016, and have used the 2018 population forecast for the Bend UGB to inform the ongoing update of the City's transportation system plan. In addition, I've participated on two workgroups for the Bend-LaPine School District to assist the District in updating their Sites and Facilities study for new schools and improvements to existing schools. For these projects, the District relies on the PRC's long range school enrollment forecasting to examine the District's growth and use it to schedule new school projects.

Since 1965, PRC has conducted demographic research specific to communities across Oregon. The center has also demonstrated a commitment to building collaborative relationships with counties, cities, school districts, and special districts through applied and analytical research. Recently, PRC expanded its statewide reach by supporting learning opportunities for students through the Graduate Certificate in Applied Social Demography. The only such program in Oregon, the graduate certificate trains students to tackle the complex issues and relationships between demographic change and its impact on Oregon's communities. I myself am a graduate of PSU with a Masters in Urban Planning, and worked as a research assistant for the PRC between 1988 and 1990.

I strongly encourage you to support full funding of the Population Research Center (PRC) at PSU. Supporting the state's leading census research and training center will ensure that PRC can continue to make demographic information available to Oregonians, conduct demographic research that supports data-driven decision-making, and support PRC's work in ensuring a fair and accurate census enumeration in Oregon for Census 2020.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Damian Syrnyk".

Damian Syrnyk, AICP  
Senior Planner  
City of Bend Growth Management Department



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Transportation  
Transportation Development Division  
555 13<sup>th</sup> Street NE, Suite 2  
Salem, OR 97301  
Phone: (503) 986-3420  
Fax: (503) 986-4173

April 12, 2019

Co-Chair Senator Betsy Johnson  
Co-Chair Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward  
Co-Chair Representative Dan Rayfield  
Joint Committee on Ways and Means  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs Johnson, Steiner Hayward, and Rayfield,

The Population Research Center (PRC) at Portland State University (PSU) provides research, demographic, and statistical information critical to the state.

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) relies on annual and special population estimates prepared by PRC to:

- Complete transportation modeling exercises which provide information used by ODOT and Oregon's metropolitan planning jurisdictions to satisfy federally required performance planning requirements;
- Allocate gas tax funding to local jurisdictions using population numbers as a formula factor;
- Allocate other funds to entities across the state through population and other formula-based distributions.

We encourage the state's continued support of the Population Research Center (PRC) at PSU. Supporting the state's leading demographic research and training center will ensure PRC is able to provide fair and accurate demographic information and conduct demographic research that supports data-driven decision-making.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Jerri L. Bohard  
Administrator, Transportation Development Division  
Oregon Department of Transportation



April 4, 2019

Co-Chair Senator Betsy Johnson  
Co-Chair Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward  
Co-Chair Representative Dan Rayfield  
Joint Committee on Ways and Means  
Oregon Legislature— State Capitol  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs and Committee Members:

This letter is in support of fully funding the Population Research Center (PRC) at Portland State University (PSU), a university statewide program, in House Bill (HB) 5024.

In my role as Managing Editor of the Oregon Blue Book, I have relied on PRC data for over 20 years to update the city populations, county populations and incorporated city rankings by population for the Oregon Blue Book, Local Governments section.

We also use their birth, death and marriage data along with their population research data to update the Oregon Blue Book Almanac section. To my knowledge, there is no other source for these data.

Since 1965, PRC has conducted demographic research specific to communities across Oregon. The center has also demonstrated a commitment to building collaborative relationships with counties, cities, school districts, and special districts through applied and analytical research. Recently, PRC expanded its statewide reach by supporting learning opportunities for students through the Graduate Certificate in Applied Social Demography. The only such program in Oregon, the graduate certificate trains students to tackle the complex issues and relationships between demographic change and its impact on Oregon's communities.

We strongly encourage you to support full funding of the Population Research Center (PRC) at PSU. Supporting the state's leading census research and training center will ensure that PRC can continue to make demographic information available to Oregonians, conduct demographic research that supports data-driven decision-making, and support PRC's work in ensuring a fair and accurate census enumeration in Oregon for Census 2020.

Sincerely,

Julie Yamaka, Managing Editor  
Oregon Blue Book  
Oregon Secretary of State, Archives Division  
800 Summer Street NE  
Salem, OR 97310



# WASHINGTON COUNTY

OREGON

April 14, 2019

Co-Chair Senator Betsy Johnson  
Co-Chair Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward  
Co-Chair Representative Dan Rayfield  
Joint Committee on Ways and Means  
Oregon Legislature—State Capitol  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs Johnson, Steiner Hayward, Rayfield and Committee Members:

Subject: Support HB 5024, With Continued Funding For PSU's Population Research Center

Washington County is pleased to support the important work of the Population Research Center at Portland State University, and recommends full state funding for this important statewide service program in HB 5024, currently before your Committee.

In my role as Government Relations Manager for Washington County, I frequently draw upon the talents and resources at the Population Research Center, to inform elected public officials and government agencies about the changing population and demographic trends in Oregon's fastest-growing County. PRC data and forecasts are essential tools for local governments planning for future housing needs, transportations demands, public schools, health care services, municipal water supplies, and the orderly development of our growing communities.

In 2017, for example, the Population Research Center helped Washington County redraw our District boundaries to more evenly balance the shifting population among our four Commission districts. Washington County has added >75,000 constituents since the 2010 U.S. Census, with most of these new neighbors settling in eastern portions of our County, including Senate Districts 16 and 17. Redefining our District boundaries would have been much more difficult if we had needed to rely on outdated and less-precise federal census data. But with help from the PRC, this work was successfully completed with virtually no criticism or complaint from our constituents, and was readily accepted by the Board of Commissioners elected to serve them.

Washington County certainly supports full funding of the Population Research Center (PRC) at PSU, as an important investment that benefits all corners of our state. By continuing to support our state's leading census research and training center, Oregon legislators will enable the PRC to provide useful demographic information for all Oregonians, continue demographic research that informs data-based policy-making at all levels of government, and will enable the PRC to continue their work to ensure a fair and accurate census of all Oregonians in 2020.

Sincerely,

*Jonathan Schlueter*

Jonathan Schlueter  
Government Relations Manager  
Washington County

**County Administrative Office**

155 North First Avenue, Suite 300, MS 21, Hillsboro, OR 97124-3072  
phone: (503) 846-8685 • fax: (503) 846-4545

April 3, 2019

Co-Chair Senator Betsy Johnson  
Co-Chair Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward  
Co-Chair Representative Dan Rayfield  
Joint Committee on Ways and Means  
Oregon Legislature—State Capitol  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs and Committee Members:

This letter is in recognition of the service provided by the Population Research Center (PRC) at Portland State University (PSU), a university statewide program.

In my role as Lead Research Analyst for the Oregon Youth Authority, I have relied on PRC data through:

- Oregon Population Estimates Program
- State Data Center
- Oregon Population Forecast Program

We value these services provided by the Population Research Center (PRC) at PSU and look forward to working with them in the future.

Sincerely,



Lance Schnacker,

Oregon Youth Authority

# GEODC

Greater Eastern Oregon Development Corporation

proudly serving Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Malheur, Morrow, Umatilla, Wheeler counties

April 10, 2019

Co-Chair Senator Betsy Johnson  
Co-Chair Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward  
Co-Chair Representative Dan Rayfield  
Joint Committee on Ways and Means  
Oregon Legislature—State Capitol  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs and Committee Members:

I am sending this letter as I am in full support of House Bill 5024 and to fully fund the Population Research Center (PRC) at Portland State University (PSU), a university statewide program.

I am the Executive Director of the Greater Eastern Oregon Development Corporation (GEODC) and I am the “Mary McArthur” for eastern Oregon. GEODC relies on the PRC to provide us with pertinent data such as the Oregon Population Estimates Program (OPEP), Oregon Population Forecast Program (OPFP) and to a lesser degree, but just as important the State Data Center (SDC) (e.g. census outreach) and Demographic Consulting Services (e.g. demographics and housing)

As a federally recognized Economic Development District we are required to have a 5-Year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategic Plan. This plan is dependent on the resources provided by PRC especially since we are a four (4) person office covering seven (7) eastern Oregon Counties.

Currently, GEODC is under contract with Harney County to develop a Harney County Housing Road Map. The Housing Road Map work is being funded by DLCD and is viewed as Pilot Project for frontier rural Oregon and the need for moderate to upper income housing. I am utilizing the work PRC recently completed on the population forecast for Harney County. Recently, I was under an April 5, 2019 deadline to produce draft Housing Road Map report but I needed help with analysis of PRC data. I contacted PRC staff on April 3, 2019 and they responded to me immediately. I was able to meet my deadline with quality data. PRC is a valuable economic development service I cannot afford to lose.

Please fully fund HB 5024 so I can do my part in helping eastern Oregon economic development.

Sincerely,

Susan M Christensen  
Executive Director, Greater Eastern Oregon Development Corporation



Metro

600 NE Grand Ave.  
Portland, OR 97232-2736  
oregonmetro.gov

April 9, 2019

Co-Chair Senator Betsy Johnson  
Co-Chair Senator Elizabeth Steiner-Hayward  
Co-Chair Representative Dan Rayfield  
Joint Committee on Ways and Means  
Oregon Legislature—State Capitol  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs and Committee Members:

Metro is writing to urge you to please fully fund the Population Research Center (PRC) at Portland State University (PSU), a university statewide program, in House Bill (HB) 5024.

Metro's Research Center and other departments make direct use of the PRC in several ways:

- PRC's function as Oregon's Census State Data Center (SDC) provides valuable expertise and information to Metro's staff;
- Metro Research Center staff consult with PRC on the demographic analysis and forecasting techniques that Metro uses to conduct its own economic forecasting and growth planning functions;
- Metro Research center staff exchange knowledge and expertise with PRC staff in ways that help our peoples' professional development.

Beyond direct utility to Metro, PRC has for decades conducted demographic research specific to communities across Oregon. Indeed, by law the PRC performs the population forecasts for all Oregon locations outside the Metro area. The PRC has a successful history of collaborating with counties, cities, school districts, and special districts on applied and analytical research. PRC's educational impact through its Graduate Certificate in Applied Social Demography (the only such program in Oregon) provides both an invaluable educational opportunity and increased public service to Oregon communities statewide.

We strongly encourage you to support full funding of the Population Research Center (PRC) at PSU. Supporting the state's leading census research and training center will ensure that PRC can continue to make demographic information available to Oregonians and conduct demographic research that supports data-driven decision-making. The state has recently hired a Census 2020 coordinator because it recognizes the value of an accurate 2020 Census; funding PRC's work will also serve that goal.

Sincerely,

President Lynn Peterson, Metro Council



April 8, 2019

Co-Chair Senator Betsy Johnson  
Co-Chair Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward  
Co-Chair Representative Dan Rayfield  
Joint Committee on Ways and Means  
Oregon Legislature—State Capitol  
900 Court St. NE, Salem, OR 97301

**Re:** HB 5024 (Support for the Population Research Center)

Dear Co-Chairs and Committee Members:

I am writing to express the strong support of the Coalition of Communities of Color for fully funding the Population Research Center (PRC) at Portland State University (PSU), a university statewide program, in HB 5024.

My name is Jenny Lee, and I am the Advocacy Director at the Coalition of Communities of Color, an alliance of 19 culturally-specific community based organizations with representation from the following communities of color: African, African American, Asian, Latino, Middle Eastern, Native American, Pacific Islander, and Slavic. Our mission is to address the socioeconomic disparities, institutional racism and inequity of services experienced by our families, children and communities; and to organize our communities for collective action resulting in social change to obtain self-determination, wellness, justice, and prosperity.

Support for the PRC is more important than ever as the 2020 Census approaches. A complete and accurate count of every Oregonian, including Oregonians of color, is essential for effective policymaking.

In my role as the Advocacy Director at CCC, as well as our participation in a statewide coalition working to reach hard-to-count communities around the state, we have found the PRC to be an invaluable partner in our work. We have relied on them for up-to-date, insightful, and comprehensive information on the Census, as well as the historical context that is critical for understanding how to reach hard-to-count communities. And as part of the Oregon Complete Count Committee, we already have seen how important PRC is in providing accessible, reliable, and comprehensive information on the Census. In our outreach conversations with the general public, PRC has provided us with important information that we use to educate communities on the importance of the Census.

We expect to continue to work with PRC and rely on them as a resources for our other advocacy





and research efforts to advance the priorities and understand the experiences of communities of color throughout Oregon. The PRC's commitment to serving all of Oregon's communities and building meaningful partnerships makes them an essential resource for policy decisions and effective implementation of programs.

We strongly encourage you to fully fund the Population Research Center at PSU. Supporting the state's leading census research and training center will ensure that PRC can continue to make demographic information available to Oregonians, conduct demographic research that supports data-driven decision-making, and support PRC's work in ensuring a fair and accurate census count in Oregon for Census 2020.

Thank you,

Jenny Lee, Advocacy Director  
Coalition of Communities of Color

