

CGE Strike Remarks for the House Higher Education Committee

January 28th, 2025



Background

- The Coalition of Graduate Employees (CGE) represents ~1,800 graduate teaching and research assistants at Oregon State University.
- Two Major Sticking Points Led to the Strike:
 - Contract Length
 - Salary

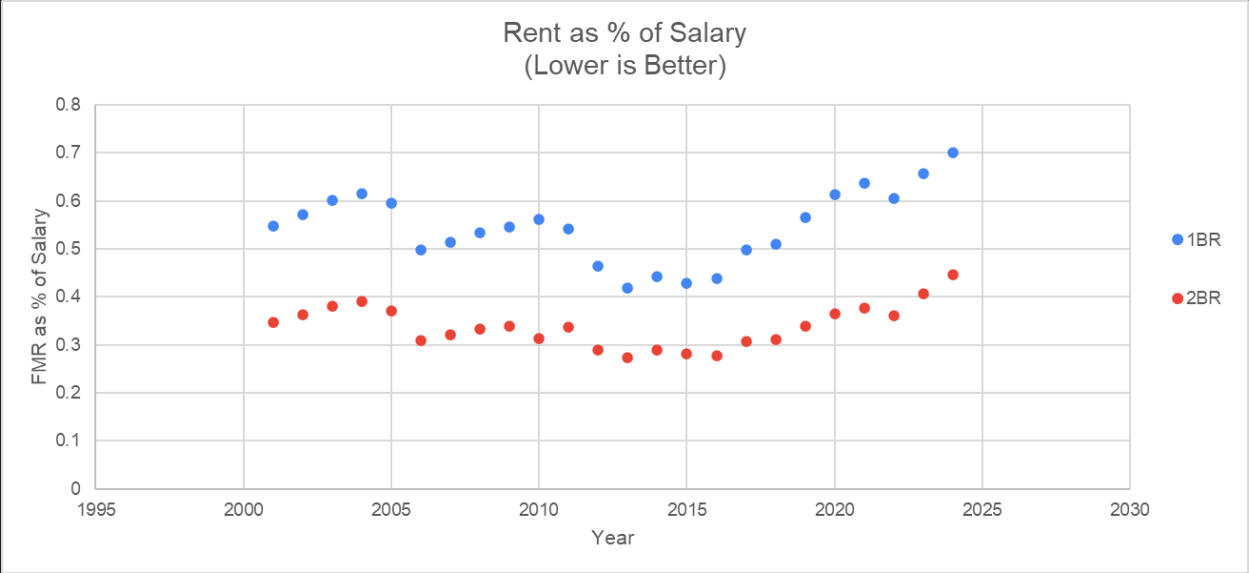


Timeline

- August 31st 2023: Started Ground Rules Negotiations
- November 2023: Began Substantive Negotiations
- August 2024: Began Mediation
- September 2024: Declared Impasse
- Strike Started Nov. 12th 2024
- TA Reached Dec. 6th 2024

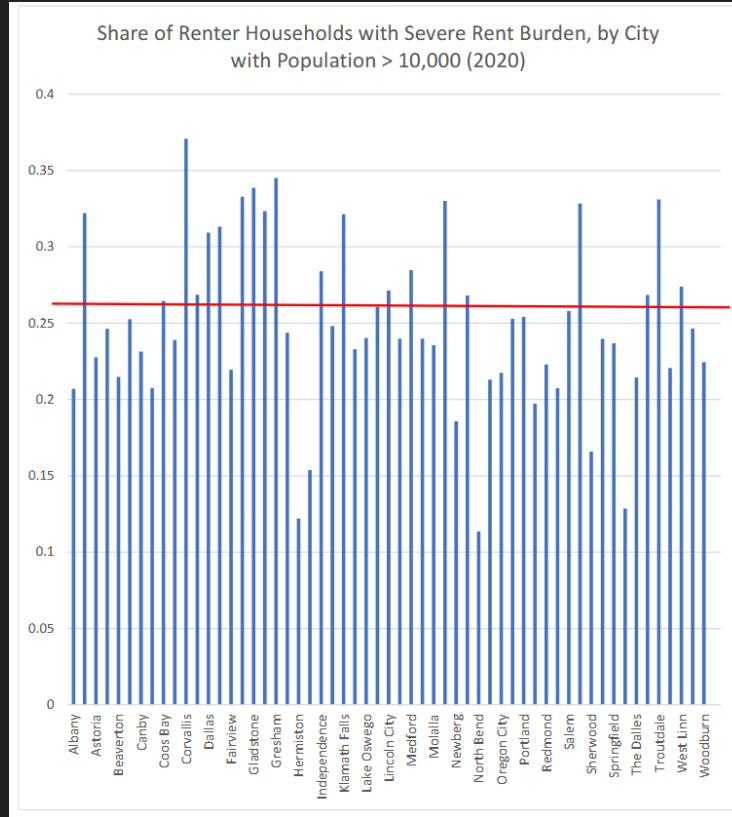


Fair Market Rent vs Min. GE Salary in Corvallis



From: <https://www.corvallisoregon.gov/cd/page/fair-market-rent-trends>

Corvallis is the Most Rent Burdened City in OR



Pressures

PRESS RELEASE
U.S. Department of Education Ends Biden's Book Ban Hoax
JANUARY 24, 2025

The Washington Post
Democracy Dies in Darkness
Business Economic Policy Economy Personal Finance Work Technology Business of Climate
White House pauses all federal grants, sparking confusion
Trillions of dollars could be on hold, according to an Office of Management and Budget memo.

- Federal Anti-education position
- Business Priorities
- Education as Job Training

OR Higher Ed

- OR Measures: 5, 47, & 50

Oregon Has Choice to Make

Do we as a state value higher education?