



Siskiyou County

Siskiyou County, with a population of 43,660 as of 2022 (RCRC), located at the inner region of Northern California just south of the Oregon border, features spectacular natural beauty and scenic cities and towns. Such towns and cities include Yreka, Mt. Shasta, Weed, Dunsmuir, McCloud and Tulelake, as well as Butte Valley, Scott Valley, Shasta Valley, the Klamath River Corridor, and the river communities of Saied Valley and Happy Camp. More than 60% of the land within this county is managed by agencies of Federal and State governments, the Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife Services, and the California Department of Fish and Game. These areas are maintained in various National Forests, Parks, Wilderness Areas, National Grasslands, National Wildlife Refuges and State Wildlife Areas.

Siskiyou County, consisting of 6,347 square miles, is one of the most ecologically diverse regions in the world with the blending of several western mountain ranges providing numerous types of habitat along various elevation levels. Some portions of the county are heavily influenced by volcanic forces. From the volcanic landscape of the Lava Beds National Monument to the deep-forested gorges of the Salmon and Scott Rivers, Siskiyou County is a land uniquely comprised of mountains, forests, volcanic plateaus, valleys, and sparkling lakes and streams. Being the fifth largest county in the state by area, Siskiyou County is rich in Gold Rush history with a number of communities being founded during this time in California History.

The city of Yreka, with a population of 7,826 as of the year 2022, was established as the seat of Siskiyou County in March, 1852. Named after the local mountain range, the true origin of the word Siskiyou is unknown. Some say it is the Chinook Indian word for "bob-tailed horse", while others feel it is named after the French term "Six Cailloux", meaning "six-stones" which represent six large stones located in the river where early trappers crossed.

Six major rivers and several streams within Siskiyou County offer an abundance of outdoor activities including rafting, canoeing, kayaking, camping, and fishing. At the southern most region of Siskiyou County, stand the awe inspiring towers of Castle Crags State Park.

Just north of Castle Crags State Park is the majestic Mt. Shasta, California's highest volcano towering at over 14,000 feet. Mount Shasta hosts over 17 various hiking routes. An estimated 15,000 climbers attempt to reach Mt.

Shasta's majestic summit annually, while thousands flock to its local ski park every winter.

DEMOGRAPHICS

- As of the year 2022, total population was 43,660, of which 27.8% (census.gov) were aged 60+ and 8.64% were aged 75+ (RCRC)
- The population density is roughly 7 people per square mile.

TARGETED POPULATION (Indicated as a percentage of the total population)

- Seniors Aged 75+ 10% (RCRC)
- Poverty 16.8% (RCRC)

AGRICULTURE – Top Crops

- Hay, Alfalfa
- Nursery Plants, Strawberry
- Potatoes, Irish
- Cattle, Heifers, Steers, Calves, Cows
- Pasture, Irrigated
- Milk
- Onions
- Wheat

LABOR FORCE

- Total population unemployment rate in 2016 was 8.5% (RCRC), compared to 5.4% (RCRC) statewide
- Total labor force in the year 2016 was 17,920 (RCRC) members.

INCOME

- In 2022 the county's median household income was \$53,898 (census.gov)
- The per capita income in 2022 was \$33,650 (census.gov)
- Poverty rate in 2022 was 16.8% in the county (census.gov).

HOUSING

- With total housing units in the year 2022 at 23,008 (census.gov), there was an average of 2.23 individuals per housing unit (census.gov).

CLIMATE

- Average Maximum Temperature – upper 90's
- Average Low Temperature – low 40's
- Average annual precipitation – ranges from 10" to 60"
- Average annual snowfall – ranges from 18" to 100"

References:

<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/siskiyoucountycalifornia/PST045222>

https://www.rcrcnet.org/sites/default/files/useruploads/Documents/Advocacy/Economic_Development/County_Profiles/2018%20Siskiyou%20Economic%20&%20Demographic%20Profile.pdf