



Lane County Public Safety Coordinating Council Community Safety Benchmark Project

PUBLIC SAFETY COORDINATING COUNCIL

“Dedicated to enhancing community safety through inter-agency collaboration and proactive problem solving.”

❖ ***What is the Public Safety Coordinating Council (PSCC) Community Safety Benchmark Project?***

The PSCC Community Safety Benchmark Project aims to select and measure significant community safety performance indicators with respect to community safety goals. These measures will be valuable in examining the impact of strategies and programs that are implemented within the criminal justice system.

❖ ***Why take the time to do such an involved project on benchmarks?***

Reasons for taking on such an ambitious project are twofold:

- 1.) Create a forum for the PSCC to report to the public about safety in the community.
- 2.) Generate a valuable policy tool from which policy makers and community planners can monitor performance trends and develop strategies to improve benchmarks.

❖ ***How often will the PSCC report on the benchmarks?***

The PSCC will report on the Community Safety Benchmarks annually in an effort to focus Lane County’s policy makers and community members on outcomes and accomplishments that support the overall charge and goals of the PSCC.

❖ ***The overall charge of the PSCC is as follows:***

The Public Safety Coordinating Council (PSCC), a regional advisory council for the Board of County Commissioners, is charged with ensuring every effort is taken to effectively use resources to prevent crime, reduce crime, hold offenders accountable, and increase the safety within our communities.

The PSCC is in the process of setting benchmarks, and finalizing identified indicators and strategies used to positively impact the benchmarks.

❖ **The following goals and indicators will be used to measure the benchmarks for PSCC:**

Goal #1: REDUCE CRIME IN LANE COUNTY

Indicators: Victimization Rates
Reported Crimes

Goal #2: HOLD PEOPLE ACCOUNTABLE FOR CRIMINAL OFFENSES

Indicators: Adult Arrests
Juvenile Arrests
Arrest Ratios

Goal #3: REDUCE OFFENDER RISK OF COMMITTING A NEW CRIME

Indicators: Adult recidivism
Juvenile Recidivism
Alcohol and Drug Abuse

Goal #4: INCREASE THE CORRELATION BETWEEN THE PERCEPTION OF SAFETY WITH THE CRIME RATE

Indicators: Perception of Neighborhood Safety
Community Satisfaction

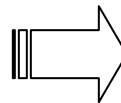
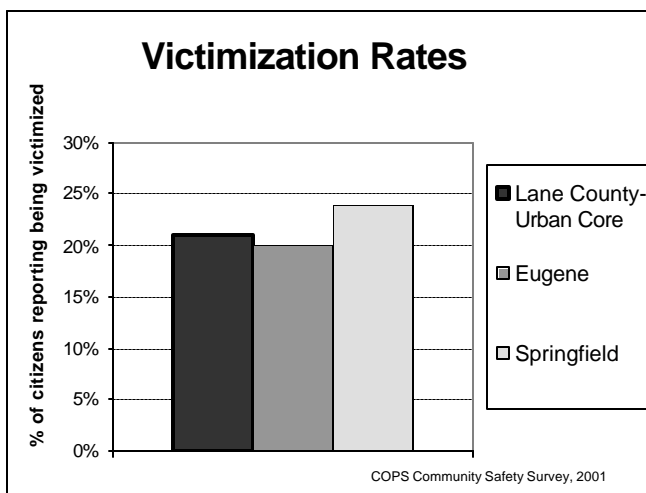
GOAL #1: REDUCE CRIME IN LANE COUNTY

INDICATORS:

(1) Victimization rates

- Victimization rates for person crimes
- Victimization rates for property crimes

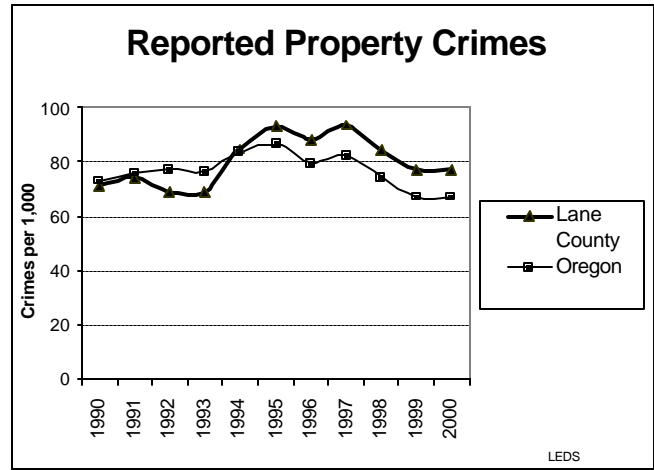
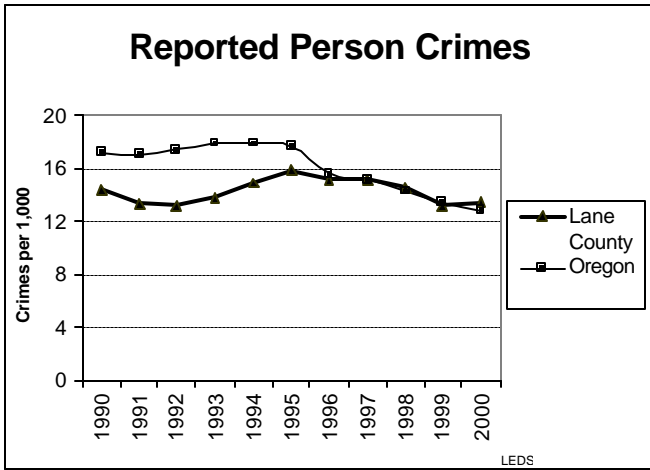
(Victimization data categorized by person or property is currently unavailable.)



*In April of 2001, 420 randomly telephoned citizens in the Eugene/Springfield area were asked, “**During the last 12 months, have you been a victim of any major or minor crime (in the Eugene/Springfield area)?**”*

(2) Reported crimes

- Reported person crimes
- Reported property crimes
- Comparison of disparity between reported crime rates and victimization rates (currently unavailable)

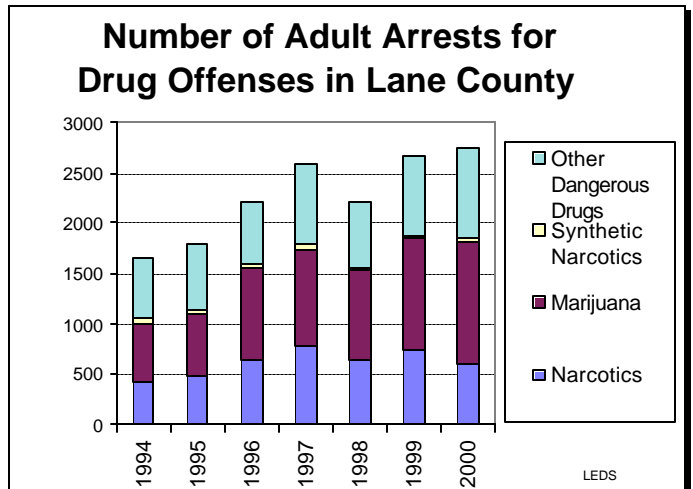
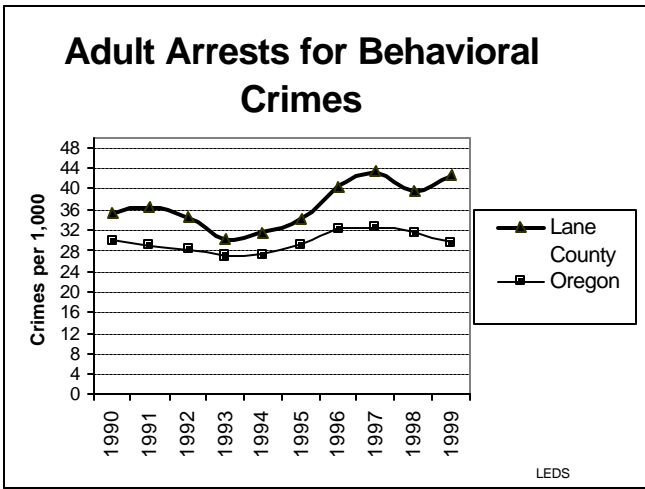
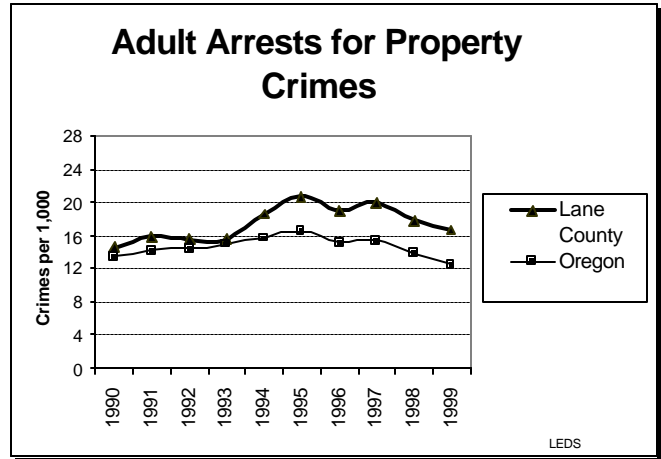
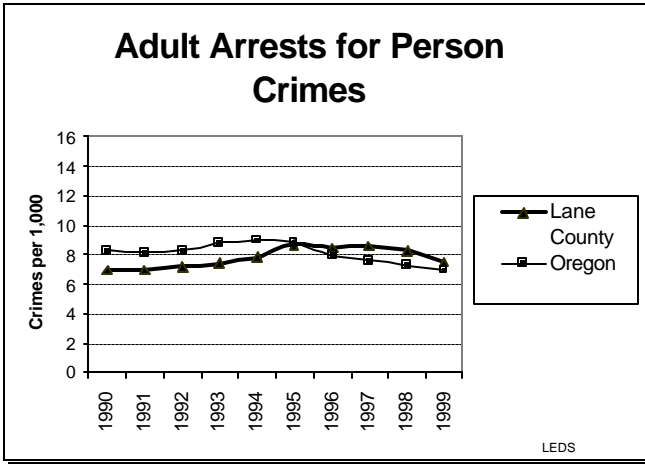


GOAL #2: HOLD PEOPLE ACCOUNTABLE FOR CRIMINAL OFFENSES

INDICATORS:

(1) Adult arrests

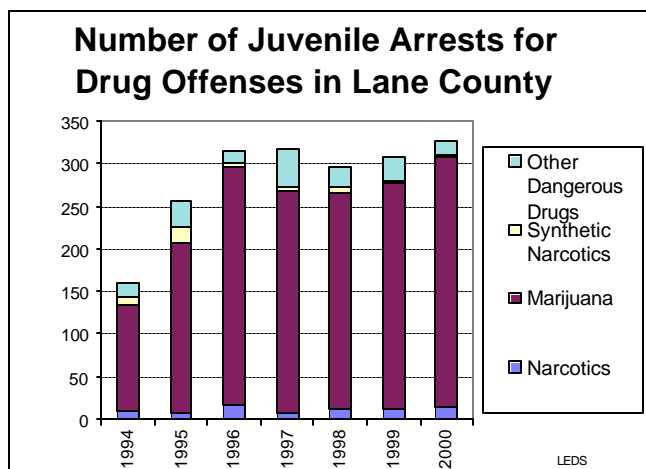
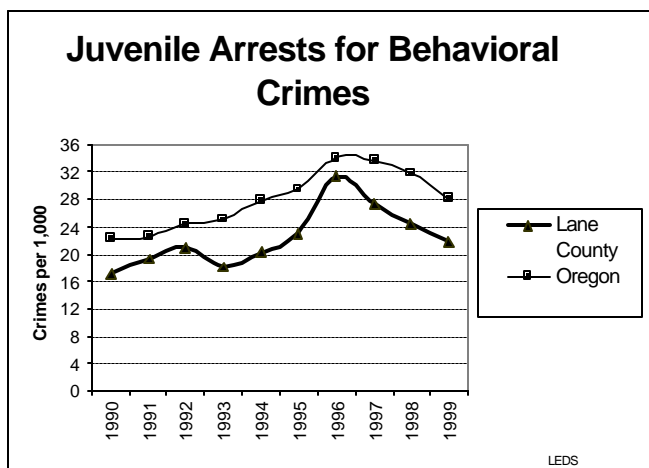
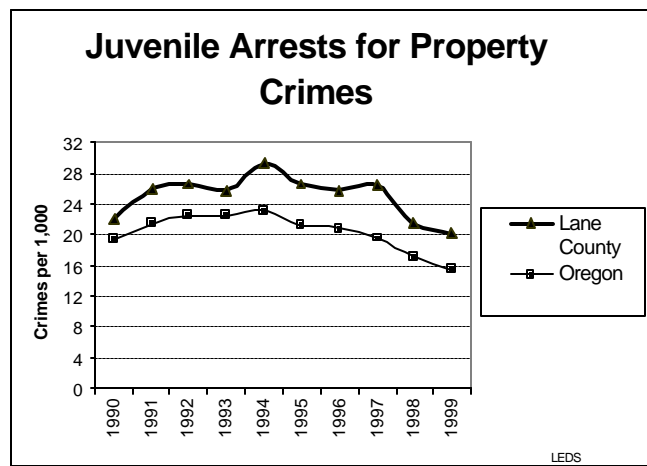
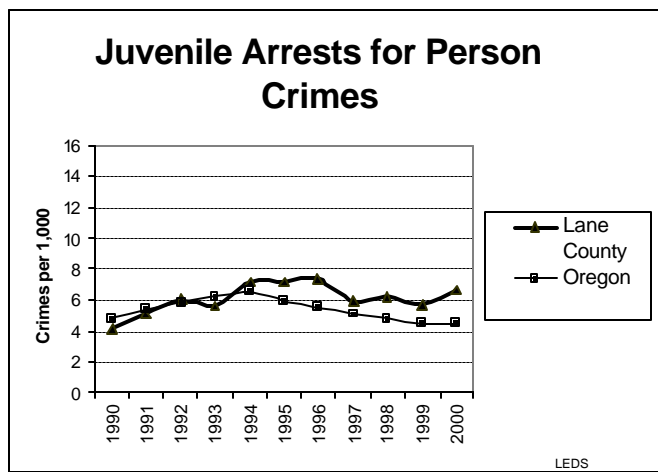
- Adult arrests for person crimes
- Adult arrests for property crimes
- Adult arrests for behavioral crimes



These data represent a breakdown of data from "Adult Arrests for Behavioral Crimes".

(2) Juvenile arrests

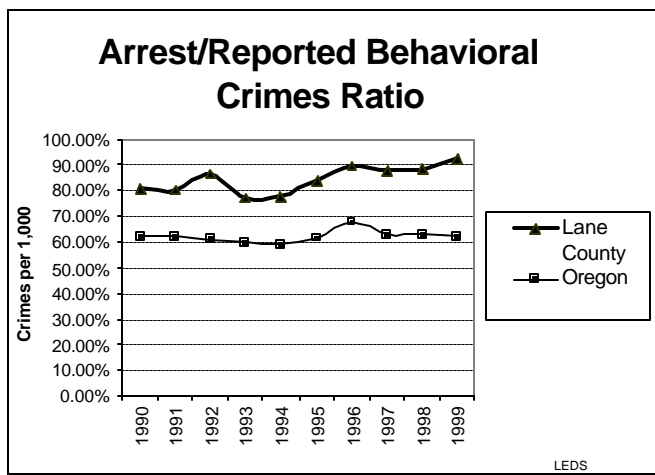
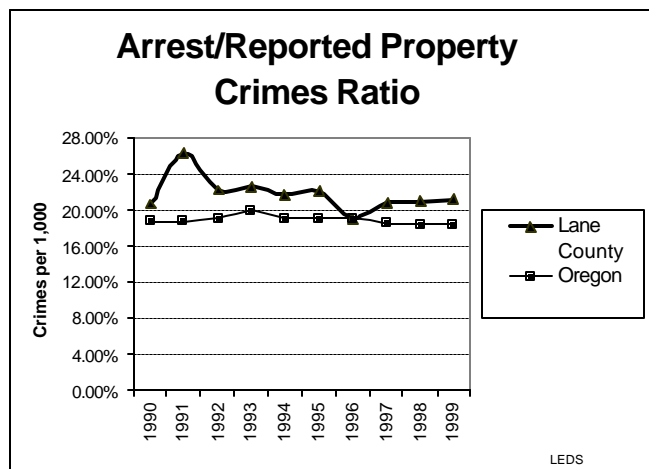
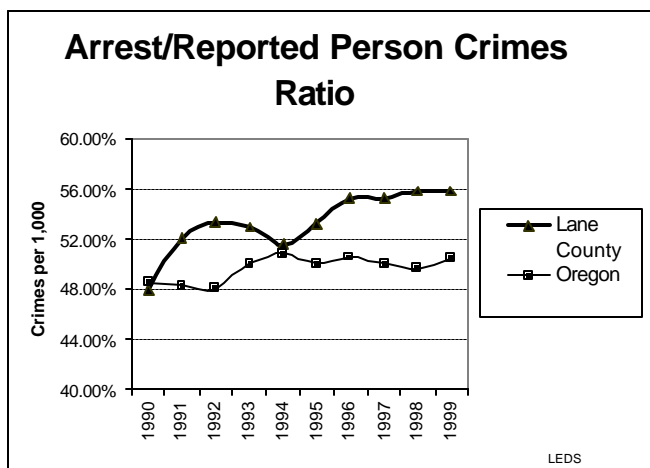
- Juvenile arrests for person crimes
- Juvenile arrests for property crimes
- Juvenile arrests for behavioral crimes



These data represent a breakdown of data from "Juvenile Arrests for Behavioral Crimes".

(3) Arrest ratios

- Arrest/victimization rate ratio (currently unavailable)
- Arrest/reported crimes ratio (represented in three graphs below by crime type)

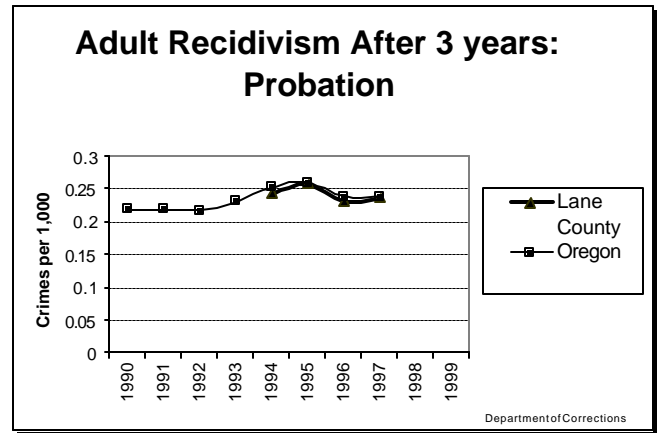
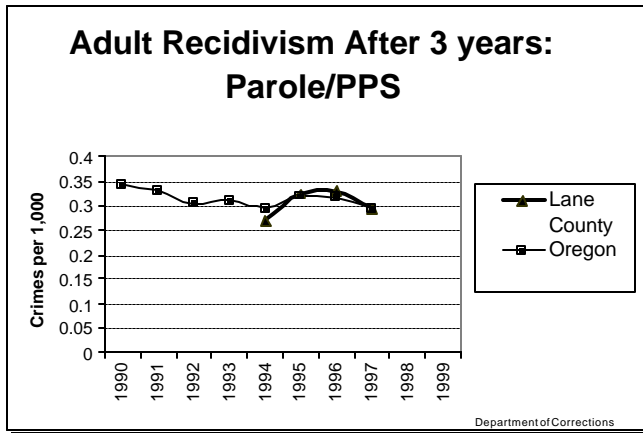


GOAL #3: REDUCE OFFENDER RISK OF COMMITTING A NEW CRIME

INDICATORS:

(1) Adult recidivism

- Adult recidivism rate over three-year period after placement on P&P supervision (see both graphs below)
- Frequency of new crimes three-plus years after placement on P&P supervision (not currently available)
- Severity of new crimes three-plus years after placement on P&P supervision (not currently available)



(2) Juvenile recidivism

- Juvenile recidivism rate over three-year period after placement on supervision (query is in process)
- Frequency of new crimes three-plus years after placement on supervision (query is in process)
- Severity of new crimes three-plus years after placement on supervision (query is in process)

(3) Alcohol and Drug Abuse

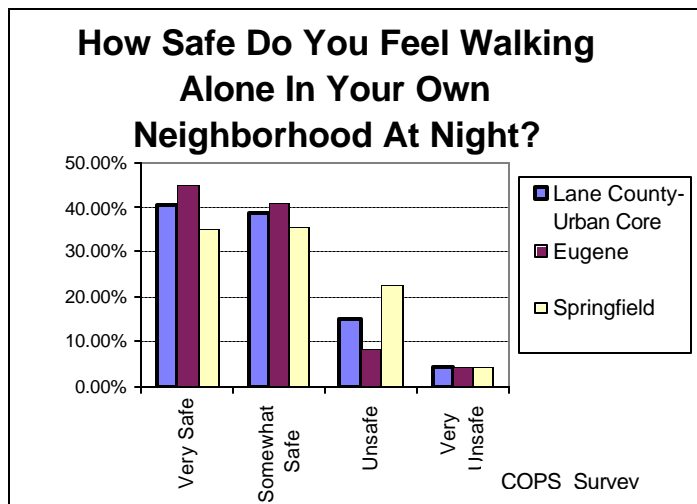
- Percent of offenders testing positive for alcohol and/or drug use at the time of book-in. (data only recorded but not entered into data system)

GOAL #4: INCREASE THE CORRELATION BETWEEN THE PERCEPTION OF SAFETY WITH THE CRIME RATE

INDICATORS:

(1) Perception of Neighborhood Safety

- Percentage of citizens who report feeling safe walking around their neighborhood at night (graph below represents data from COPS survey)



COPS Survey¹ (above): 79.1% of citizens in the Eugene/Springfield Area (Lane County Urban Core) report feeling “Very Safe” or Somewhat Safe”
 City of Eugene Survey²: 67% of citizens in the Eugene Area report feeling “Very Safe” or Somewhat Safe”
 Springfield Police Department³: 39% of citizens in the Springfield Area report feeling “Very Safe” or Somewhat Safe”

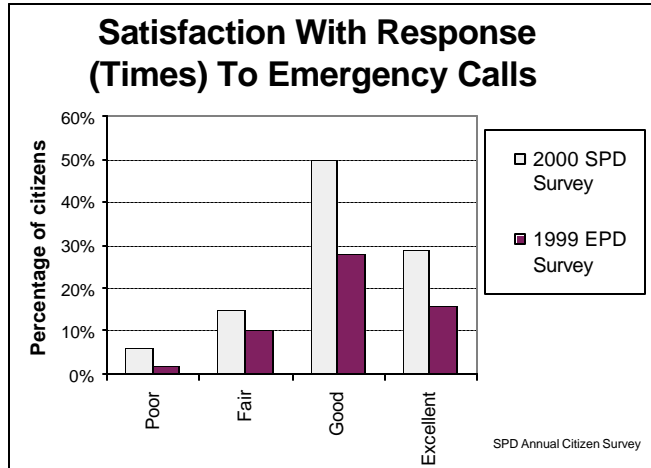
¹ Random sample by telephone in April of 2001 of 420 adults in the Eugene/Springfield area.

² Random sample by telephone in November of 2000 of 401 registered voters in the Eugene area; sample was stratified to reflect the population of each ward in Eugene.

³ A total of 315 mail-out surveys were completed by registered voters in May of 2000.

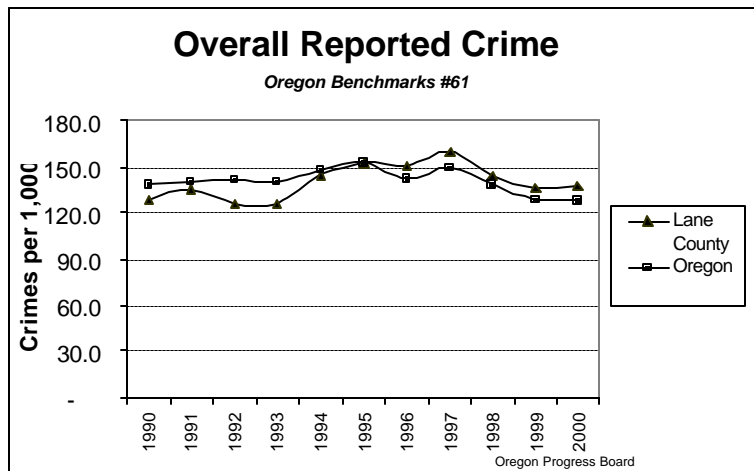
(2) Community satisfaction

- Percentage of citizens who report being satisfied with responses to emergency calls⁴
- Percentage of citizens who report being satisfied with responses to non-emergency calls (not graphed)



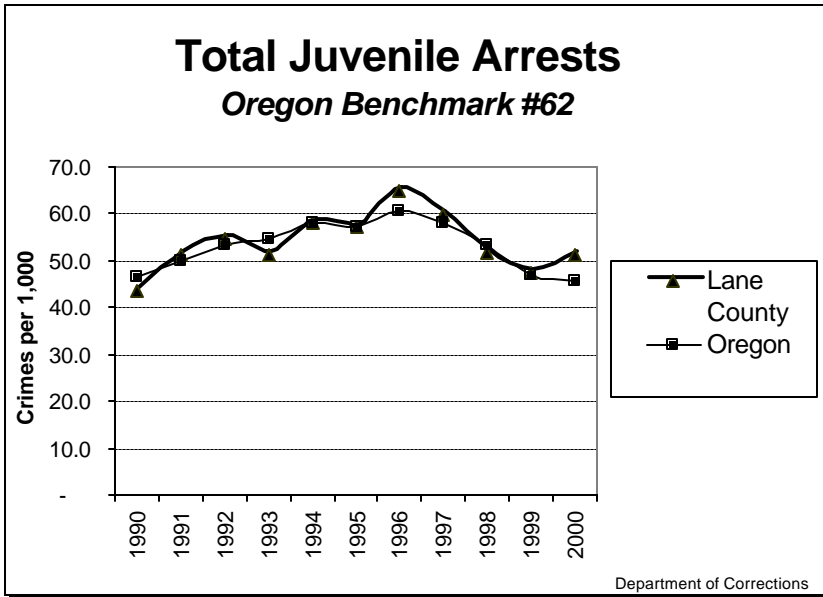
Other relevant benchmarks, collected and tracked by the Oregon Progress Board, are outlined below:

Crime is falling in Lane County and in Oregon. Reported crime in Lane County basically follows the same trend as that of Oregon. Holding fairly

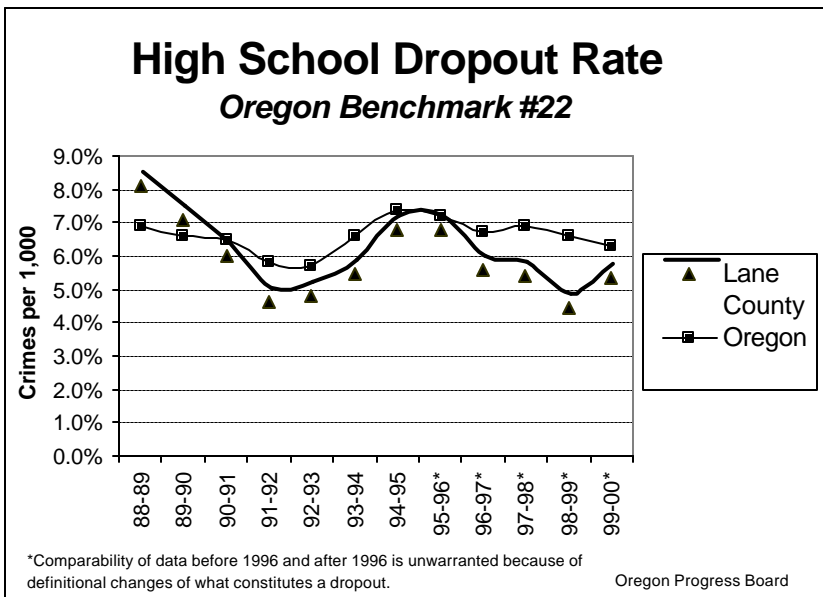


steady in the mid-90's at around 150 per 1,000, reported crimes in Lane County have consistently declined since 1997. The rate in 2000 is 137.2, only slightly higher than the low of 136.7 in 1999.

⁴ EPD Survey (1999 Policing Services Household Survey) represents data from 1,781 mailed-out surveys distributed in Eugene.

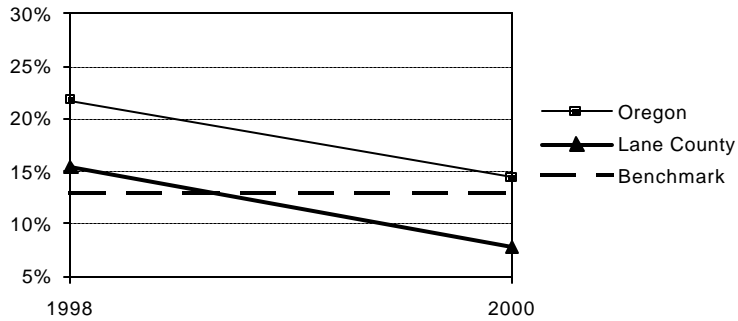


For both Lane County and Oregon, juvenile crime has noticeably decreased since 1996. Though Lane County's rate in 2000 is still slightly higher than that of 1990, there has been a decline of 22% since its peak in 1996.



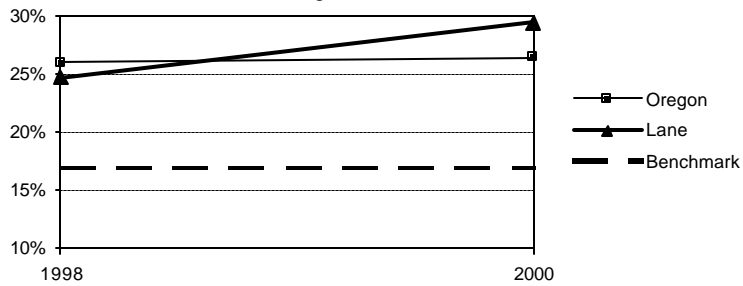
Percentage of 8th Grade Students Who Used Tobacco in the Previous Month

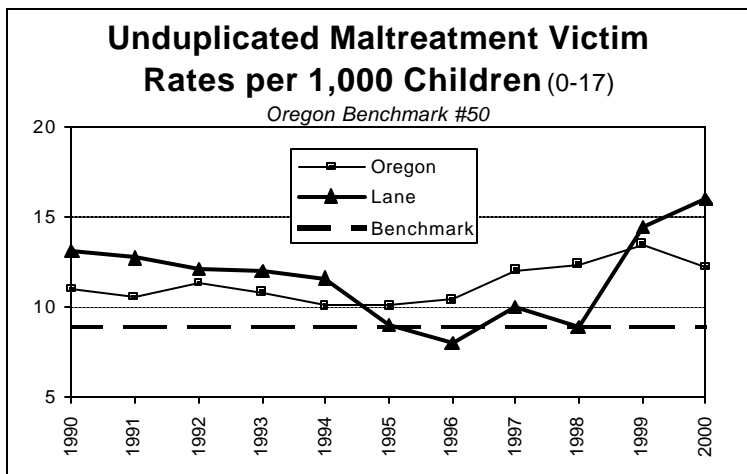
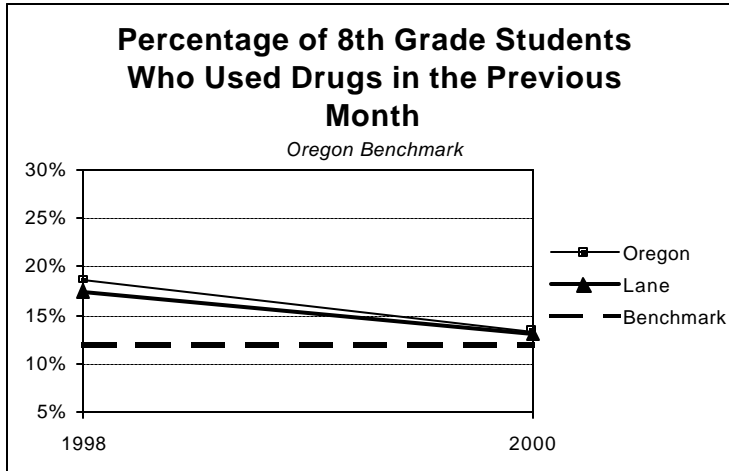
Oregon Benchmark



Percentage of 8th Grade Students Who Used Alcohol in the Previous Month

Oregon Benchmark





In addition, to assist in generating targets for benchmarks, data was collected on Lane County's community safety rankings compared to other counties in Oregon. See Table 1.

PSCC Committees are working on identifying strategies that positively impact benchmarks. Meanwhile, the Research and Evaluation Committee is developing a plan to communicate the benchmark information to the public. The examination of these benchmarks is a starting point, and the project is a work in progress.

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