

# Monument

## People and Place

### Location

Monument is located in Grant County along Kimberly-Long Creek Highway and the North Fork of the John Day River, approximately 231 miles east of Portland. The community encompasses 0.54 square mile of land. The geographic coordinates of Monument are lat 44°49'10"N, long 119°25'12"W.

### Demographic Profile

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, the population of Monument was 151, a 6.8% decrease from 1990. The gender structure was 45.7% female and 54.3% male. The median age was 34.9, comparable to the national median of 35.3. Of the population 18 years of age and older, 86.7% had a high school education or higher, 6.7% had a bachelor's degree or higher, and 2.5% had a graduate or professional degree; the national averages were 79.7%, 22.3%, and 7.8% respectively. A high school education was the highest attainment for 39.2% of residents.

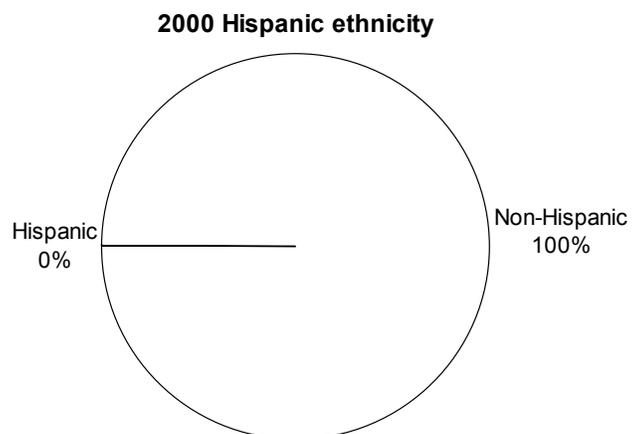
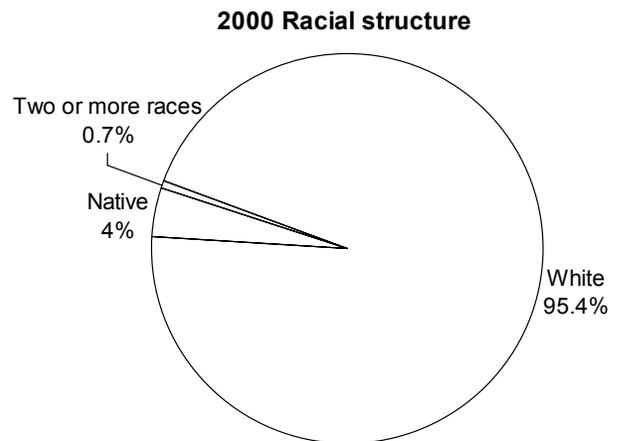
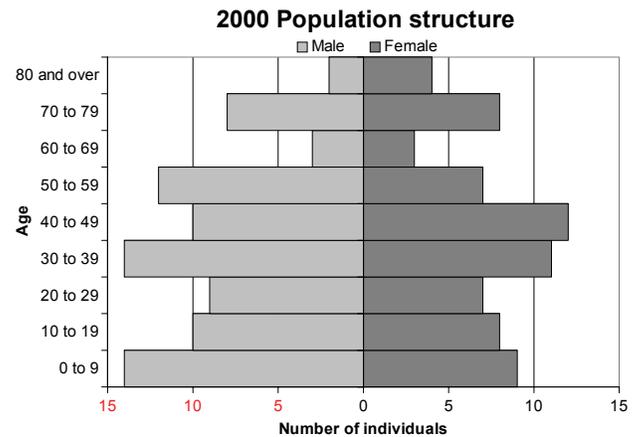
The majority of Monument's racial composition was white, (95.4%), followed by American Indian and Alaska Native (4.0%), and people who identified with two or more races (0.7%).

In 2000 77.5% of the population lived in family households.

### History

The Grant County area where Monument is located is well-known for the John Day Fossil Beds. Bones, plants, and other organic materials dating from the Cenozoic Period (65 million years ago) are preserved in volcanic ash. More than 14,000 acres of the area's fossil beds were designated a federal national monument in 1974.

Umatilla Indians resided in the area long before contact with Euro-Americans. When gold was discovered in 1862 near present-day Canyon City, thousands of explorers and settlers, including many Chinese, came to the area. Also in 1862 F.C. Trowbridge filed the first homestead claim in Grant County. The gold mining boom played out quickly and by the 1870s farming, ranching, and logging had become the economic mainstays. Grant County, named for General Ulysses S. Grant, was created in 1864 by annexing portions of Wasco and Umatilla counties.<sup>1</sup> Today Monument's economy relies on timber, farming, and ranching, and is



connected to the economies of John Day and Canyon City, the county's two largest cities.

## Infrastructure

### Current Economy

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, 38% of Monument's potential labor force 16 years of age and older were employed, 14.9% were unemployed, and the unemployment rate was 28.1% (calculated by dividing the unemployed population by the labor force). The jobless rate was more than four times the national average (5.7%). In addition, 47.1% were not in the labor force. The top employment sectors were local, state, or federal government (37%) and education, health, and social services (32.6%). Natural resource jobs including agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting employed 13%, but this percentage may be artificially low because many fishermen and agriculture workers are self-employed and are underrepresented in the data.

The three largest employers in Monument in 2002 were Columbia Power Cooperative (12), Monument School District (22), and Boyer Store (gas/fuel, 4).<sup>2</sup>

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, the per capita income in 1999 was \$15,814 and the median household income was \$24,000. In 1999 17.1% of the population lived below the poverty level, higher than the national average of 12.4%. In 2000 there were 81 housing units in Monument, of which 84% were occupied and 16% were vacant. Of the occupied units, half (50%) were by owner and half were by renter. Slightly under half (46.2%) of the vacancies were classified as "rented or sold, not occupied."

### Governance

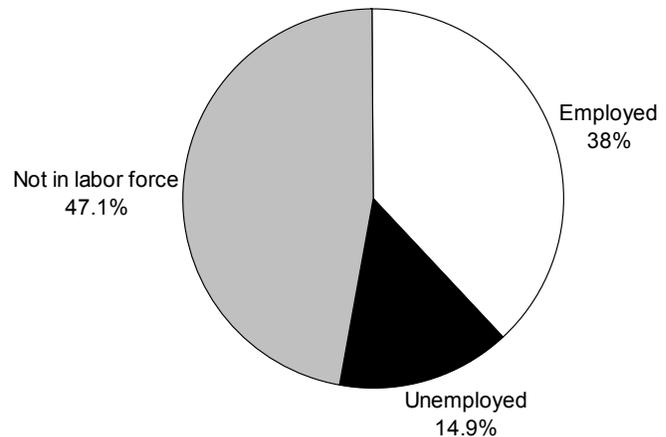
Monument incorporated in 1947.<sup>3</sup> Oregon has no general sales tax but levies a 1% tax on overnight lodging. See the Governance subsection (page 43) in the Overview section for a more detailed discussion of taxes affecting fishermen and processors in Oregon.

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife has offices in Portland, as does the U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services. Meetings of the Pacific Fishery Management and North Pacific Fishery Management councils are also held in Portland.

### Facilities

Monument is accessible primarily by road. The community is on the Kimberly-Long Creek Highway that runs west from U.S. Highway 395. There is no bus service in the community. The nearest service (Greyhound) is 112 miles away in Prineville. The

2000 Employment structure



Eastern Oregon Regional Airport in Pendleton (72 miles) offers commercial flights, and Monument Municipal Airport, 1 mile from town, serves as a public-use airport. Portland International Airport is 231 miles to the northwest.

The Monument School District offers instruction from kindergarten through twelfth grade. In 2000 the District had 9 certified staff members and 84 students.<sup>4</sup> Eastern Oregon University, 99 miles away in La Grande, has a full-time enrollment of approximately 2,200. The Grant County Library in John Day provides monthly bookmobile service. The Monument Water Department supplies water (well and groundwater) and the Columbia Basin Electric Cooperative provides electricity. There is no local natural gas company. The Monument Fire Department provides emergency services to the community, and the Grant County Sheriff's Department and Oregon State Police administer public safety. Pioneer Memorial Hospital is 37 miles away in Heppner and the Blue Mountain Hospital District is 44 miles away in John Day.

## Involvement in West Coast Fisheries

### Commercial Fishing

According to available data, there were no seafood processors in Monument in 2000. Monument residents owned nine commercial vessels that participated in West Coast fisheries in 2000. There were no landings in the community. The number of vessels owned by Monument residents participating in each fishery by state (WA/OR/CA) was: coastal pelagic 0/3/0, groundfish 0/0/NA, highly migratory species NA/0/NA, salmon 0/2/0, shellfish NA/0/NA, and shrimp NA/4/7.<sup>5</sup>

The number of residents holding permits in each fishery by state (WA/OR/CA) was: highly migratory species NA/0/0, salmon 0/1/0, and shellfish 0/0/NA.<sup>6</sup> A

Monument resident held at least one state registered commercial fishing permit in 2000. The number of permits held by Monument residents in each fishery by state (WA/OR/CA) was: highly migratory species NA/0/0, salmon 0/1/0, and shellfish 0/0/NA.<sup>7</sup>

### Sportfishing

At least one registered guide business operated out of Monument in 2000.

### Subsistence

Subsistence harvest by both tribal and nontribal fishermen for marine species may exist in the Monument area. Specific information on subsistence fishing in Monument is not discussed in detail in this community profile due to the lack of available data.

## Involvement in North Pacific Fisheries

### Commercial Fishing

In 2000 a Monument resident owned one vessel that participated in North Pacific fisheries. One resident also held permits for North Pacific fisheries.

Residents held two commercial fishing permits for North Pacific fisheries in 2000. Both were Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) permits; one for Gulf of Alaska groundfish, the other for salmon.

### Sportfishing

In 2000 there were no data available specifically on the involvement in Alaskan recreational fisheries by Monument residents.

## Notes

1. Grant County Chamber of Commerce. 2005. No title. The history of Grant County, Oregon, 1862-1983. See also Grant County Oliver Museum, 1983. Online at <http://www.grantcounty.cc/land/> [accessed 22 January 2007].

2. Oregon Economic and Community Development Department. 2006. Monument community profile. Online at <http://info.econ.state.or.us:591/FMPro?-db=Community.fp4&-Format=forms.htm&-lay=webpage&-op=eq&sort%20name=Monument&-script=hit%20count&-Find> [accessed 22 January 2007].

3. See note 2.

4. See note 2.

5. NA refers to data that were not available, for example, due to few or no recorded permit numbers, or the partially permitted nature of a fishery in 2000.

6. See note 5.

7. See note 5.