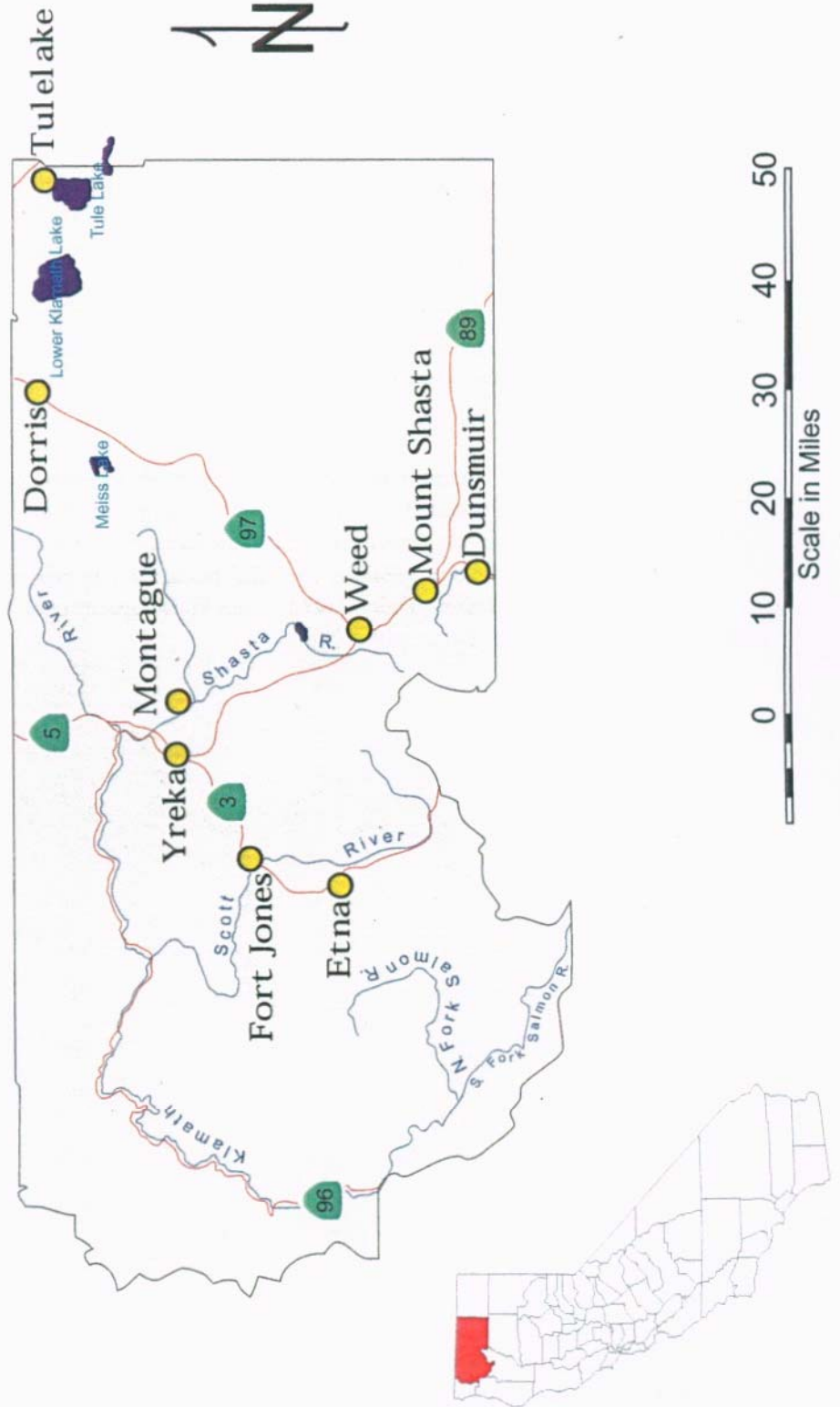


# Siskiyou County



## **Siskiyou County**

Siskiyou County, 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 Seiad 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 6,287 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, with a population of 45,615 in the year 2006, 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 7,325 as of the year 2000, was established 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 words Six Cailloux, meaning "six-stone" 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 2006, total population is 45,615, of which 12,175 are aged 60+ and 4,544 are aged 75+
- The population increased 3% between 2001 and 2008
- The population increased 0.1 % and has been increasing at an average of .4% annually
- Roughly 7 ¼ people per square mile

## TARGETED POPULATION

- 75+ 37%
- Low Income 16%
- Minorities 8%

## AGRICULTURE – Top Crops

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

## LABOR FORCE

- Total population employment rate in 2007 was 40%
- Total labor force in the year 2007 was 19,600
- Average annual increase of .5% between 1997 and 2007
- In 2007, 43% of the population were members of the labor force, compared to 47% statewide
- The unemployment rate for the year 2007 is 7%

## INCOME

- Total personal income was \$1,211,097 in 2005, a 3.5% increase from the previous year

- In 2005, the county's median household income was \$35,039, compared to \$53, 627 statewide
- The per capita income in the year 2005 was \$26,874
- Poverty rate in 2005 was 17.5% in the county, compared to 13% statewide

## HOUSING

- With the number of total housing units in the year 2007 at 23,749, per capita housing is 52%, an increase of 2\$ from the previous year
- Between 1997 and 2007, the total number of housing units increased an average of 0.9%
- Fair market rent prices in the county has been increasing at a slower rate than the Northern California average, and yet increased 15% between 2007 and 2008

## LOW INCOME

- 16% of the 60+ year old population is at 125% or below poverty level. This is comprised of:
 

88.3%	Non-Minority
1.8%	African American
2.3%	American Indian/Alaskan Native
1.2%	Asian
.6%	Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
0	Other
2.0%	Multi-race
3.8%	Hispanic/Latino
- The number of TANF (Temporary Aid to Needy Families) and CalWORKS (California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids) recipients and the number of households receiving food stamps have been decreasing steadily, since a peak in FY 1994
- In 2006, approximately 21% of the population was eligible for Medi-Cal programs; whereas only 14% made use of the programs. The comparison statewide indicates 9% was eligible; and 7% made use of the programs.
- Medi-Cal expenditures were \$33,289,982 in 2006
- The highest number of Medi-Cal eligible recipients are Non-minority making up 73% of the population served by the program

## 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"