



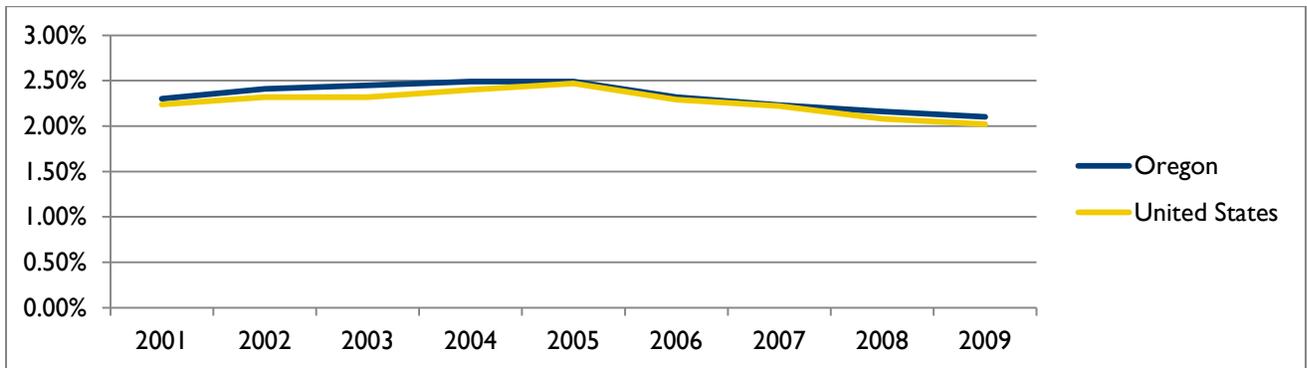
## Giving in Oregon 2011 – Interim Report

### Oregonians Give More Generously than the Nation

Individual giving by Oregonians is consistently on par, or higher, than national averages. In 2009, Oregonians contributed an average of 2.1% of their income, while nationally individuals contributed an average of 2.0% of their income.

Individual giving has declined during the recession both nationally and in Oregon, but the decline in Oregon has been more moderate than the national decline. The drop in average contributions nationally between 2007 and 2008 was double the corresponding drop in Oregon, and the declines between 2008 and 2009 also were larger nationally than in Oregon. Oregonian’s giving in the face of the recession is particularly noteworthy: while in 2009 the national unemployment rate was 9.3%, the corresponding rate in Oregon was 11.1%.

**Figure 1: Giving Trends for Oregon and the Nation**



### Oregonians of All Income Levels Are Giving

Oregonians at all income levels give more than national averages. This is particularly true for the wealthiest Oregonians (those making more than \$200,000 per year), who in 2009 gave an average of 3.4% of their incomes, compared to an average for wealthy Americans of 2.95% nationally.

**Table 1: 2009 Contributions as a Percent of Income**

|               | Less than \$100K | \$100-200K | More than \$200K |
|---------------|------------------|------------|------------------|
| Oregon        | 1.62%            | 2.34%      | 3.40%            |
| United States | 1.48%            | 2.23%      | 2.95%            |

## Oregon Giving Ranks in Top One-Half of States Despite Having the Fifth Highest Unemployment Rate

Despite Oregon's higher than national average unemployment rate and lower than national average incomes, Oregon consistently ranks above average in terms of individual giving, and in 2009 ranked 19th, ahead of California (ranked 31st) and Washington (ranked 36th). Oregon outranks these neighbor states despite the fact that incomes in both states are substantially higher than Oregonians' incomes.

**Table 2: 2009 State Charitable Giving Rankings**

| <u>State</u> | <u>Contributions as % of AGI</u> | <u>Rank</u> |
|--------------|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Utah         | 4.59%                            | 1           |
| Georgia      | 2.87%                            | 2           |
| Oregon       | 2.10%                            | 19          |
| California   | 1.91%                            | 31          |
| Washington   | 1.81%                            | 36          |

Oregon could rank second in the nation with a modest increase in individual giving from 2% to 3%. "Oregon is a state with a history of great generosity. People here are willing to invest, even in the hardest of times, in community causes that they care about. They understand that these investments in the common good help build a stronger state," said OCF President Greg Chaillé.

Information in this briefing comes from the Internal Revenue Service, Statistics of Income Data, which tracks individual taxpayer incomes and contributions. Due to changes in IRS reporting for nonprofits starting in 2008, data on charitable contributions received by Oregon nonprofits, by sector and by county, were not available for this update. The Giving in Oregon Council will release a full report in 2012 that includes these data.

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