

A Snapshot of Silverton: Past and Present

The City of Silverton is located in the State of Oregon. The City is situated along the 45th parallel about 12 miles northeast of Salem, OR in the Willamette Valley. The current population is 10,558 (2021). The City is named after Silver Creek, which flows through the town from Silver Falls into the Pudding River.



Comparing Silverton and Marion County 2020

	Silverton	Marion County
Population July 1, 2021	10,558	347,119
Population change 2010-2021	0.6%	0.3%
Median value owner occupied housing (2017-2021)	\$344,000	\$293,800
High school graduate or higher (25+ years old, 2016-2020)	94.4%	85.7%
Bachelor's degree or higher (25+ years old, 2016-2020)	27.8%	24.5%
Median Household Income (in 2021 dollars) 2017-2021	\$69,612	\$64,880
Median Gross Rent 2017-2021	\$1,202	\$1,129
Persons per Household, 2017-2021	2.65	2.76
Language other than English spoken at home (5+ years old, 2016-2020)	9.3%	25.1%
<i>Source: US Census QuickFacts (https://www.census.gov/)</i>		

Top Taxpayers in Silverton 2022 Total Measure 5 Taxable Value: 1,413,916,628

Top 15 Taxpayers	Assessed Value	Total Tax Amount
Portland General Electric Co	\$18,532,000	\$308,050.01
Garden Resort LLC	8,990,080	150,659.40
Northwest Natural Gas Co	8,763,000	145,663.87
Kumis LLC	7,196,810	119,700.13
Diana Food Inc	6,831,360	113,554.95
Silverplace Apartment Homes LLC	6,598,290	110,320.10
Forest River Manufacturing LLC	5,015,870	83,376.81
Jim Pattison Developments (US) Inc	4,879,890	81,509.09
Pacific Crest Apartments LLC	4,519,130	75,557.59
Railway Storage LLC	3,909,110	65,324.61
Northwest Fiber LLC DBA Ziplly	3,391,900	56,382.20
Silverado Partners LLC	3,257,850	54,197.52
M Hashem Limited Partnership, The	3,222,100	53,871.90
KAK Investments LLC	3,216,140	53,734.87
Willamette Valley Pie Company LLC	3,069,040	51,220.61
Silver Ridge Apartment Homes LLC	3,032,690	50,705.06
Skidmore Limited Partnership	2,999,530	50,150.63
Wave Division Holdings LLC	3,012,000	50,067.28
<i>Source: Marion County Assessor's Office</i>		

Early History

The first settlers arrived on the banks of Silver Creek in the 1800s following timber and water power. In 1846, James Smith and John Barger established a sawmill on the creek and a small settlement, Milford, began to grow. In 1854, Milford was abandoned and the businesses that had started there moved downstream to the current site of the City of Silverton.



Silverton was incorporated in February 16, 1885. By 1894, the population was nearly 900. The young town was a trading and banking center of prominence and ranked among the most progressive towns of western Oregon.

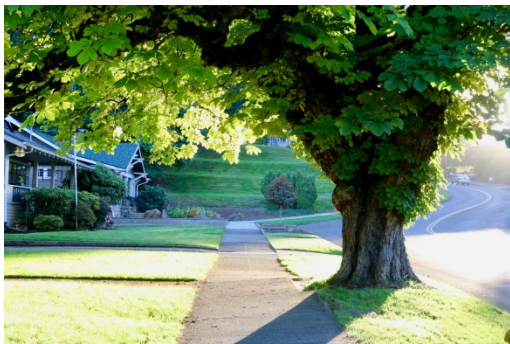
Growth in Silverton

By 1921, Silverton industries were producing exports for other areas and even some foreign countries. The Fischer Flour Mill on South Water Street was among the exporters. Power for the mill was obtained by damming Silver Creek at a point near the present swimming pool, diverting water into a millrace that ran along the creek to the mill and then dumped back into the creek.



A short distance downstream from the Fischer Mill, the creek was dammed again to furnish power for a sash and door plant. Timber drove local industry and the Silver Falls Timber Company was once the largest sawmill of its kind in the world. Metal piping was also part of the economy. To this day, metal covers on Silverton streets and sidewalks bear the legend "Eastman Brothers Metal Works." One of the Eastman brothers, L.C., was mayor in the 1920s.

Silverton, Oregon's Garden City, is a growing community! Today Silverton features a historic downtown, a hospital, a wide range of businesses, and access to nature including the Oregon Garden, Silverton Reservoir and Silver Falls State Park just up the road.



The Oregon Garden in Oregon's Garden City

The opening of the Oregon Garden signifies the success of a partnership between the Garden, a public enterprise attracting tourists to botanical displays, and the City of Silverton. The Oregon Garden's expansive wetlands area benefits from the City's excess reclaimed water, while the community benefits from visitors the Garden draws to the area.



Silverton's City Flag

On June 3, 2019 Silverton City Council selected Silverton's first City flag following a city-wide design contest. According to the flag designers:

- The blue line symbolizes Silver Creek running through the middle of town and is in the shape of an "S" for Silverton.
- The blue is the same color as Oregon's State flag to represent unity with the state.
- The green background represents Silverton being "The Garden City."
- The oak leaves connect to the city's heritage, because Silverton was built on a white oak grove and there was once a large white oak tree in the center of town known as the Old Oak.

