

Addendum

Data Correction

The following addendum is provided for the 2023 Regional Data Book from the Early Learning Hub of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties to ensure accuracy and completeness. This addendum addresses corrections and updates to the data presented in the original publication. Users are encouraged to incorporate this information to understand the dataset better.

This addendum replaces the information in Chapter 2, section “The Population in Rural and Urban Areas” on pages 15 & 16. This update addresses corrections stemming from a change in the definition of urban population in the 2020 Census.

Before the 2020 Census, the Census used to define urban as:

- Urbanized Areas (UAs) of 50,000 or more people
- Urban Clusters (UCs) of 2,500 - 49,999 people

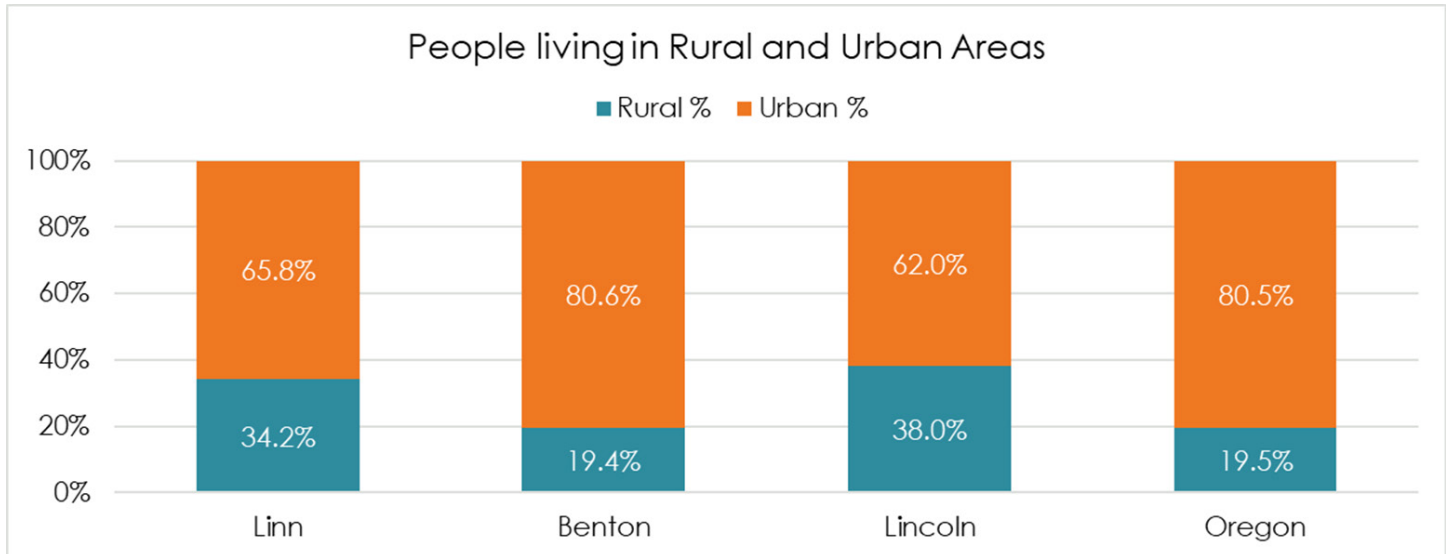
The Census Bureau introduced the urban cluster concept for Census 2000, replacing urban places located outside urbanized areas. Urban clusters are defined based on the same criteria as urbanized areas but represent areas containing at least 2,500 and less than 50,000 people. There used to be 9 Urbanized Areas and Urban Clusters in the EL Hub region in the ACS data sets (Albany Urbanized Area, Corvallis Urbanized Area, Harrisburg Urban Cluster, Lebanon Urban Cluster, Lincoln City Urban Cluster, Newport Urban Cluster, Sweet Home Urban Cluster, Toledo Urban Cluster, Waldport Urban Cluster).

Since the 2020 Census, there have been three key changes to the Census Bureau's urban area concept and criteria:

- The minimum population threshold was increased to qualify as urban from 2,500 to 5,000, and an alternative was added: instead of qualifying based on population size, areas can now qualify based on a minimum housing unit threshold.
- Housing unit density is used instead of population density.
- Different types of urban areas are no longer distinguished.

With the new criteria, an area must encompass at least 5,000 people or at least 2,000 housing units to qualify as urban. The minimum number of people is an increase from the former threshold of 2,500 people, which had been used since 1910. The "2,000 housing units" was chosen as the alternative threshold because it's consistent with the 5,000 people threshold. Specifically, if you multiply 2,000 by 2.5 (the nationwide average of people per housing unit), it also equals 5,000.

The Population in Rural & Urban Areas



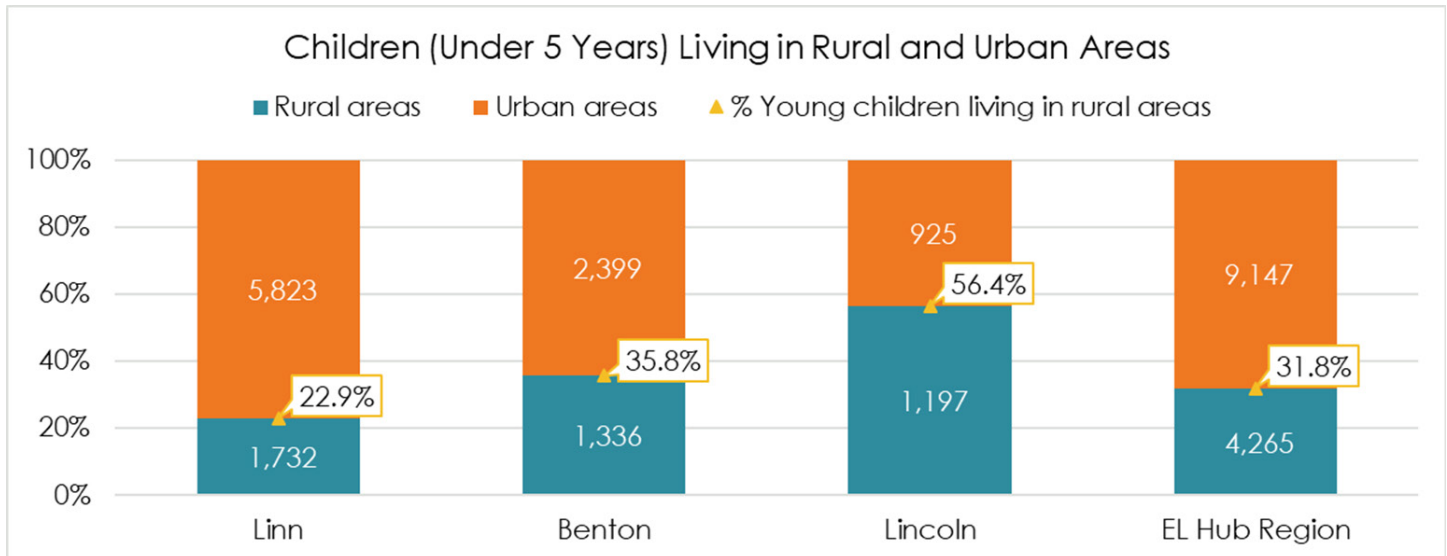
Data Source: 2020 Decennial Census: Demographic and Housing Characteristics, Table P2

Notes: Since the 2020 Census, there have been three key changes to the Census Bureau's urban area concept and criteria:

- The minimum population threshold was increased to qualify as urban from 2,500 to 5,000, and an alternative was added: instead of qualifying based on population size, areas can now qualify based on a minimum housing unit threshold.
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How Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties Are Faring

- **Lincoln County** (38.0%) has the most significant percentage of people living in rural areas, followed by **Linn County** (34.2%) and **Benton County** (19.4%) in our region.



Data Source: ACSST5Y2021.S0101; U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts.

How Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties Are Faring

- **Linn County** (1,732) has the largest population of young children under five years old living in rural areas, followed by **Benton County** (1,336) and **Lincoln County** (1,197) in our region.
- **Lincoln County** (56.4%) has the most significant percentage of children under five years old living in rural areas, followed by **Benton County** (35.8%) and **Linn County** (22.9%) in our region.
- 31.8% of children under five years old live in rural areas in our region.

