16.8% of adults in Oregon have low literacy
Oregon ranks 18 out of 50 in the U.S.

1 in 9 counties in Oregon have populations where 25% or more of the residents have below basic literacy

How does low literacy affect equity and quality of life?
In counties where at least a quarter of the population have below basic literacy, we see that many health, economic, and educational outcomes fall short.

- **Unemployment**
  - 6.7% low literacy counties
  - 7.4% other counties
  - 6.0% state

- **Median Income**
  - Blue: $53,664
  - Gray: $48,337
  - Green: $59,393

- **Adults Without a High School Degree**
  - 19.8%
  - 10.7%
  - 9.6%

- **No Access to Healthcare**
  - 11.9%
  - 9.1%
  - 7.3%

- **Residents Below the Poverty Line**
  - 16.3%
  - 15.7%
  - 13.1%

Demographics

- **Households Where Limited English is Spoken**
The percentage of households where no adult speaks English "very well."

The percent of 4th graders with below basic reading by race

- White: 31%
- Latinx/Hispanic: 52%
- Black/African American: 35%
- State Average: 36%
Below basic literacy is defined as scoring level 1 or below on the PIAAC International Adult Literacy Survey. 4th grade reading scores come from the NAEP reading assessment. 4th grade ELA test performance data comes from edopportunity.org. Self-Reported health comes from the Community Health Status Indicators. All other data comes from the American Community Survey. PIAAC data is not available by city.
Visit map.barbarabush.org for county-level PIAAC data.