



OREGON OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

SAR Statistics for Office of Outdoor Recreation

Annual Data:

1998-2007	9085	SAR Missions (all)
2008-2017	10,579	SAR Missions (all)

- Annual average went from 909 to 1056 missions
- An increase of **29.8%** from the previous 10 years

Geographical Data:

The 2017 SAR table below illustrates a trend for the last 10 years of SAR missions in the 36 counties of Oregon. The top 10 counties have a high recreational use due to their proximity to either man made or natural geographic features; i.e. ski resorts, hiking, camping, wilderness areas, ocean coastline, mountainous terrain, hunting, fishing, lakes and water ways (Columbia Gorge). Diversity of SAR missions touch almost every county, dependent on seasonal activity.

- Oregon has a land region of 98,381 square miles and 362 miles of coastline.
 - ❖ 98.6% of the individuals who either need to be found or rescued are **Not** from that County or are from out of State.
- **SEARCHES** involve people overdue or known to be in distress in an unknown location.
- **RESCUES** result from people who need assistance in a known location.

2017 SAR Missions by County

County	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Baker	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	3	0	0	0	6
Benton	2	1	2	3	2	1	2	1	3	1	3	2	23
Clackamas	5	5	5	4	11	10	4	19	5	10	3	5	86
Clatsop	3	0	3	4	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	1	24
Columbia	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	2	0	0	1	0	7
Coos	1	0	1	0	1	3	3	1	1	1	2	1	15
Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indian, Tribe	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Coquille Indian Tribe	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Crook	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	5
Curry	5	4	0	1	3	1	4	4	4	2	2	2	32
Deschutes	11	9	10	6	12	17	16	9	15	4	3	5	117
Douglas	5	6	8	4	10	12	10	11	6	11	13	5	101
FEDERAL (National Parks)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gilliam	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	5

Tribes of													
STATE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tillamook	4	6	7	1	1	2	5	4	2	2	5	1	40
Umatilla	0	1	1	2	2	1	0	0	2	2	1	2	14
Umatilla Tribes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Union	1	0	3	0	2	3	0	2	3	1	4	12	31
Wallowa	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
Warm Springs Indian Reservation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wasco	3	2	0	1	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	10
Washington	3	5	1	2	3	1	1	3	0	1	1	3	24
Wheeler	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	3
Yamhill	2	1	0	1	0	1	0	2	2	0	1	0	10
Total	90	79	82	85	101	137	148	130	99	83	76	77	1187

Oregon SAR Funding:

ORS 404.100 is the State Statute that mandates a State SAR Coordinator be appointed by the Director of Oregon Emergency Management, 404.110 mandates that the County Sheriff be in charge of all SAR missions in their counties. **State of Oregon presently does not fund any SAR personnel or activity.** 404.270 (Reimbursement of Public body for search and rescue by benefited persons) states a county can charge up to \$500.00 for SAR activities directed at one or several individuals. However the statute is too vague and has no collection mechanism to be of value.

County Sheriff Office SAR Expense:

Over a 10 year period an estimated cost analyst of paid SAR personnel and volunteers by length of a search or rescue X personnel involved is provided below:

- Average length of a Search: 8:56.30 hours
- Average length of a Rescue: 3:29.16 hours

Paid personnel (Law Enforcement) annual average:

- 15, 587 hours
- Average hourly wage = \$26.00
 - ✓ Estimated yearly cost to County Sheriff's = **\$405,262.00**

Volunteers (which make up 99%) of all county SAR teams' annual average:

- 97,327 hours
- Average annual cost per National FEMA Volunteer Hour = \$24.69
 - ✓ Volunteer value = **\$2,403.003.60**

Summary:

All SAR volunteers are trained and given proper clothing and equipment to perform the SAR mission in a safe and proficient manner. That cost is not included in this analyst, though each county Sheriff would have that available for review. The trend for SAR here in Oregon is predicted to rise at least 5 to 10% yearly, even with outdoor education at an all-time high. Rural county Sheriff offices are already at a breaking point when person(s) are missing or needing rescue. With their limited budget and resources there is already a need for funding of their mandated SAR duty.

