



Oregon

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MEMORANDUM

To: Joint Ways and Means Public Safety Subcommittee

From: Carl Riccadonna, Chief Economist

Date: November 20, 2025

Subject: DAS OEA Follow-up Information for November 17, 2025

During the Public Safety subcommittee yesterday, a question was raised regarding the **correlation between economic swings and crimes rates**.

Crime rates are a result of numerous factors and actual outcomes in the event of recession are uncertain. For example, there are some studies of the Great Recession (2008-10) that showed little link between economic decline and crime rates, while others revealed a clear correlation between declining economic indicators and increasing crime rates. Generally speaking, it's hard to say that crime rates in Oregon are a direct result of economic status.