

OREGON FOOD AND BEVERAGE MANUFACTURING

Leadership Summit Discussion Draft, December 5, 2016

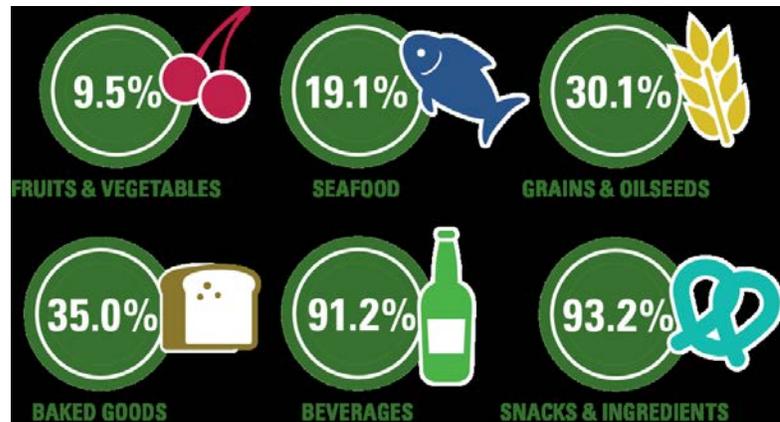
Food and beverage manufacturing (processing) companies include bakery, dairy, fruits and vegetables, meat and poultry, seafood, snacks, specialty and beverages – brewery, distilled spirits and wine. Concentrations of food and beverage processing firms are found in Greater Portland, Willamette Valley, Columbia Gorge, Oregon Coast, and Southern Oregon.

Our Impact on Oregon

Oregon Food & Beverage includes 1,239 companies, which employ 31,920 in the state and have economic output of \$16.4 billion. With multiplier effects, this cluster supports more than 80,000 jobs statewide. (Source: *Oregon Food & Beverage Roadmap* November 2016).

Food and beverage manufacturing jobs have been “recession proof” growing 7.8 percent between 2007 and 2012, while total employment in Oregon dropped 5.3 percent and other manufacturing declined 15.8 percent. See graphic at right depicting sector growth for those five years.

Oregon food manufacturers are formally organized by Northwest Food Processors Association (NWFPA), a non-profit industry trade group and certified training center. Members operate more than 120 manufacturing plants in the state and account for a high percentage of food production.



Our Legislative Agenda for 2017

Our goal is to ensure that the cluster is competitive with other states and countries. NWFPA is the voice for Oregon’s food and beverage industry in Salem and will advocate on critical issues including energy, food safety and labeling, labor, tax policy, transportation, workforce development and any other legislation that impacts competitive position. In 2017, the legislative focus will be on transportation infrastructure funding, rising energy costs, labor mandates, research and development, and the burgeoning craft food and beverage industry in Oregon.

Oregon Food and Beverage Industry Roadmap

In 2016, NWFPA, Oregon Business Council, Oregon Business Association, Oregon Department of Agriculture, and Business Oregon developed a 10-year road map for Oregon’s food and beverage industry. This document represents a number of items narrowly focused to the industry that can be achieved through legislative and non-legislative action. Key initiatives identified in the roadmap include:

- Strategic investments in public R&D facilities and capabilities including Oregon State University’s “Soil to Shelf” initiative and the Food Innovation Center (FIC)
- An integrated plan to coordinate workforce training and academic preparation to prepare Oregonians for food industry careers
- Critical investments in the State’s transportation infrastructure
- An explicit value-added food and beverage manufacturing market development strategy, coordinated with existing state marketing efforts

- Better alignment between state and federal policies and regulations concerning food and beverage manufacturing

Annual Industry Events

The NW Food & Beverage Manufacturing World is scheduled for January 9 - 11, 2017 at the Oregon Convention Center. With 4,000 attendees, 450 industrial exhibits, and 48 educational sessions, this is the largest regional gathering in this industry in North America. Also on January 11 the Oregon Convention Center will be the site of the 9th annual NW Industrial Energy Efficiency Summit and the 2nd annual Food and Beverage Job & Career Fair.

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