

# Economic Forecast 2025

Roseburg Area Chamber of Commerce

Brian Rooney November 17, 2025

# TODAY'S AGENDA

Today's agenda:

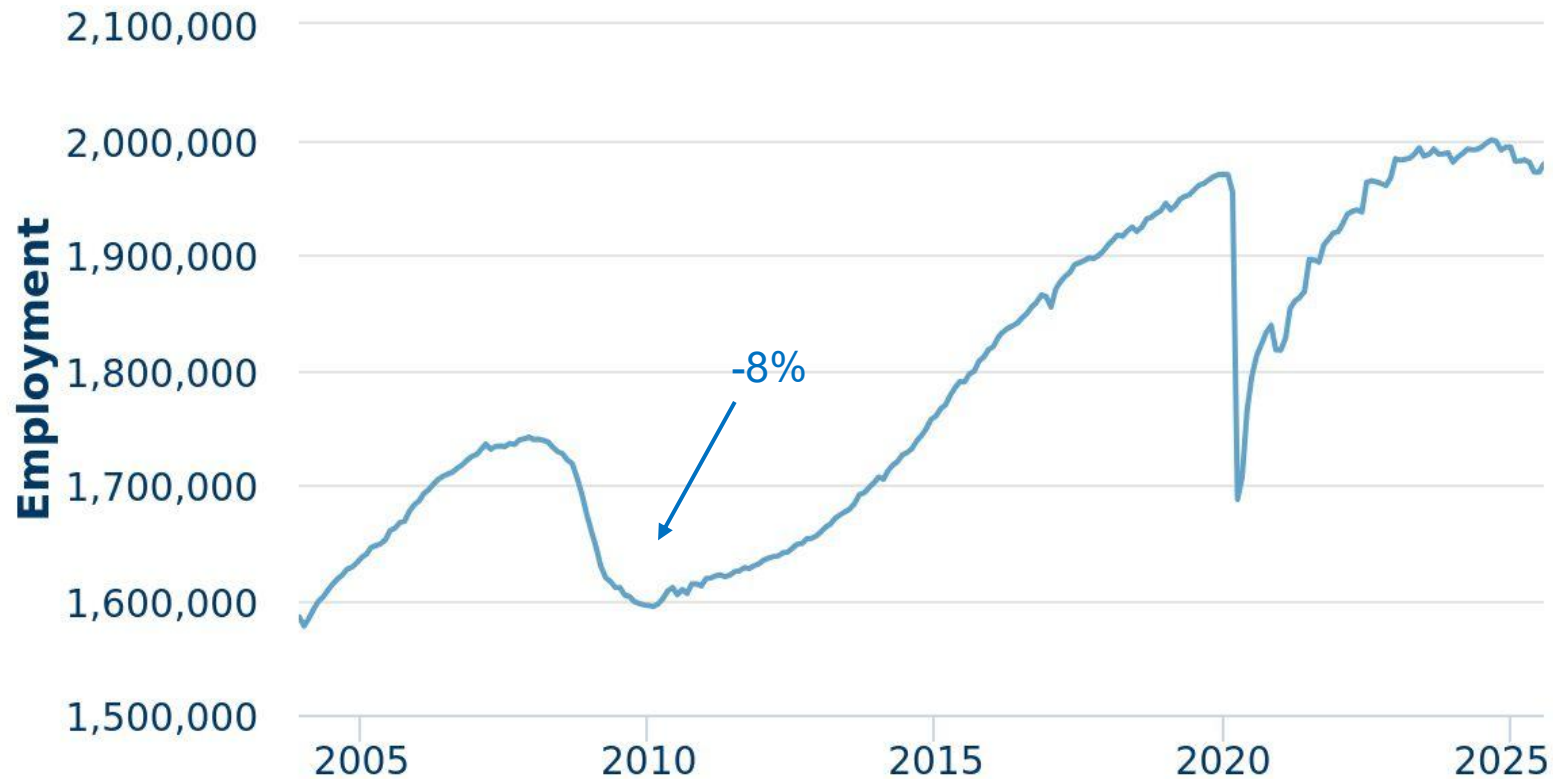
- Employment and unemployment trends.
- Employment Projections

# EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT

# A TALE OF TWO RECESSIONS

## Oregon Total nonfarm employment

(seasonally adjusted)  
Official Oregon Series



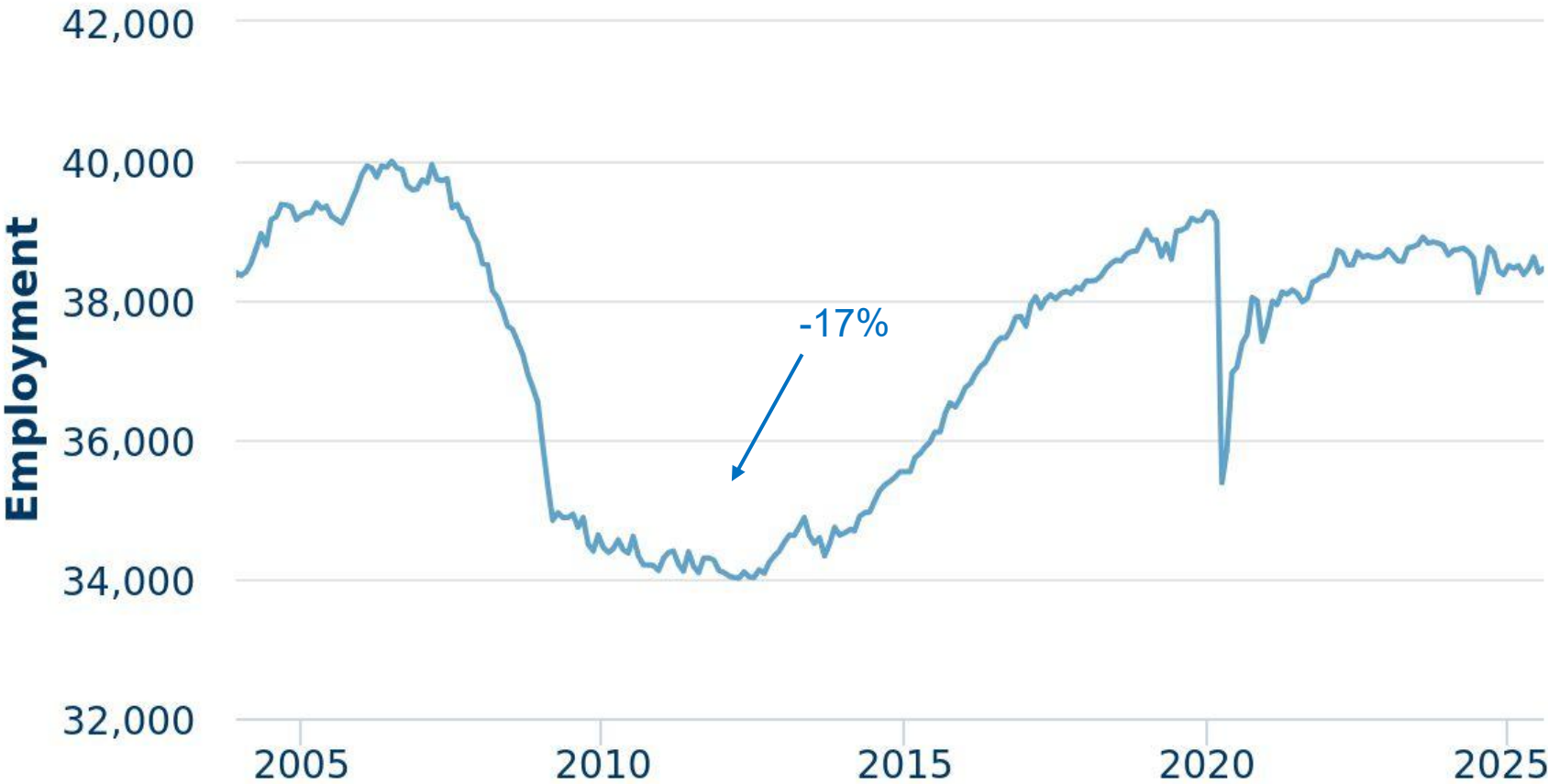
Source: Oregon Employment Department QualityInfo.org

Statewide, Oregon lost 14% between February and April 2020. It had gained back 111% of what was lost by September 2024 (topped prepandemic levels by January 2023).

Down about 1% in August 2025 since the peak.

# Douglas County Total nonfarm employment

(seasonally adjusted)  
Official Oregon Series



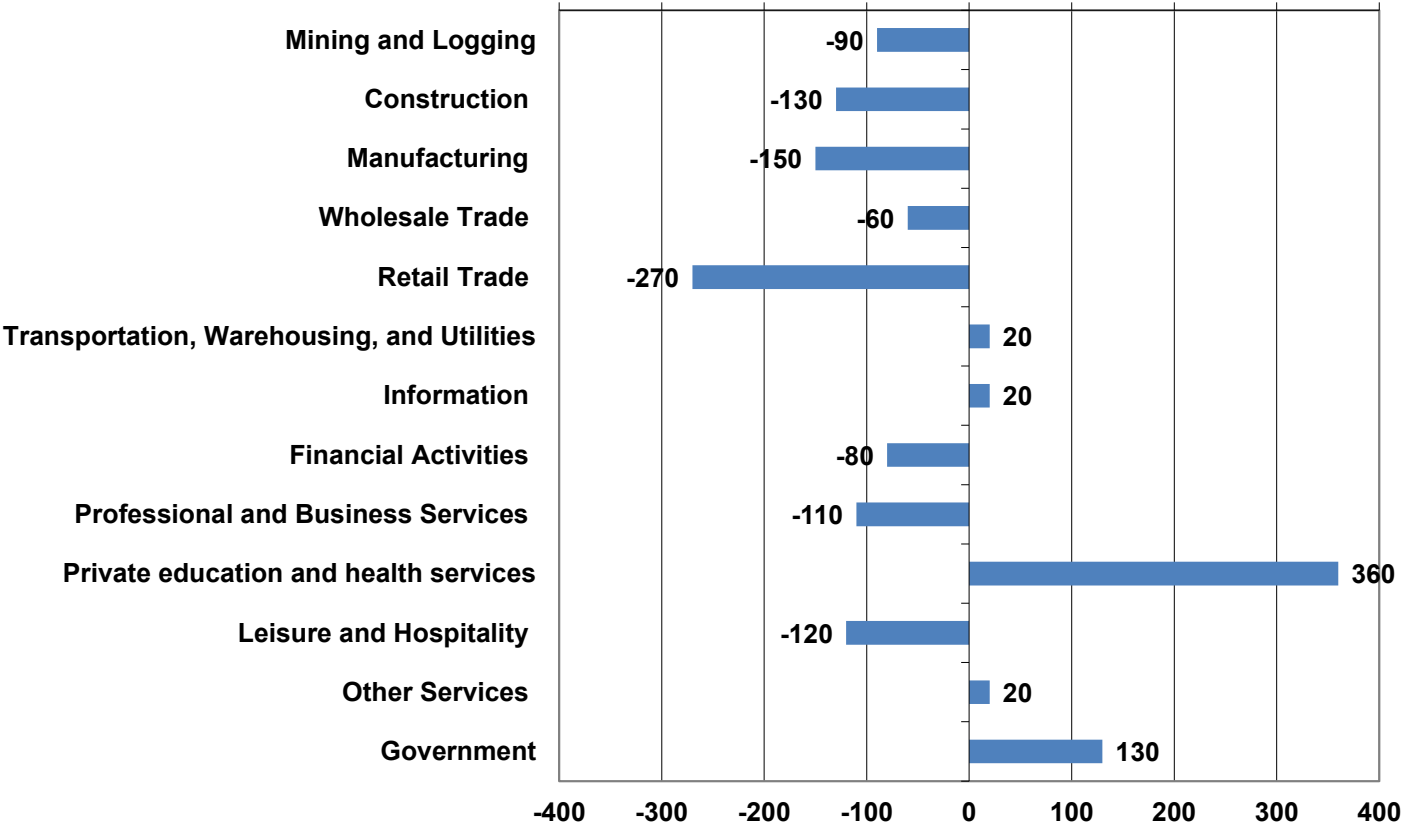
Douglas County lost 3,880 (10%) jobs between February and April of 2020. It had gained back 3,530 (91%) of what was lost by August 2023.

Down 450 jobs (1.2%) in August 2025 since the peak.

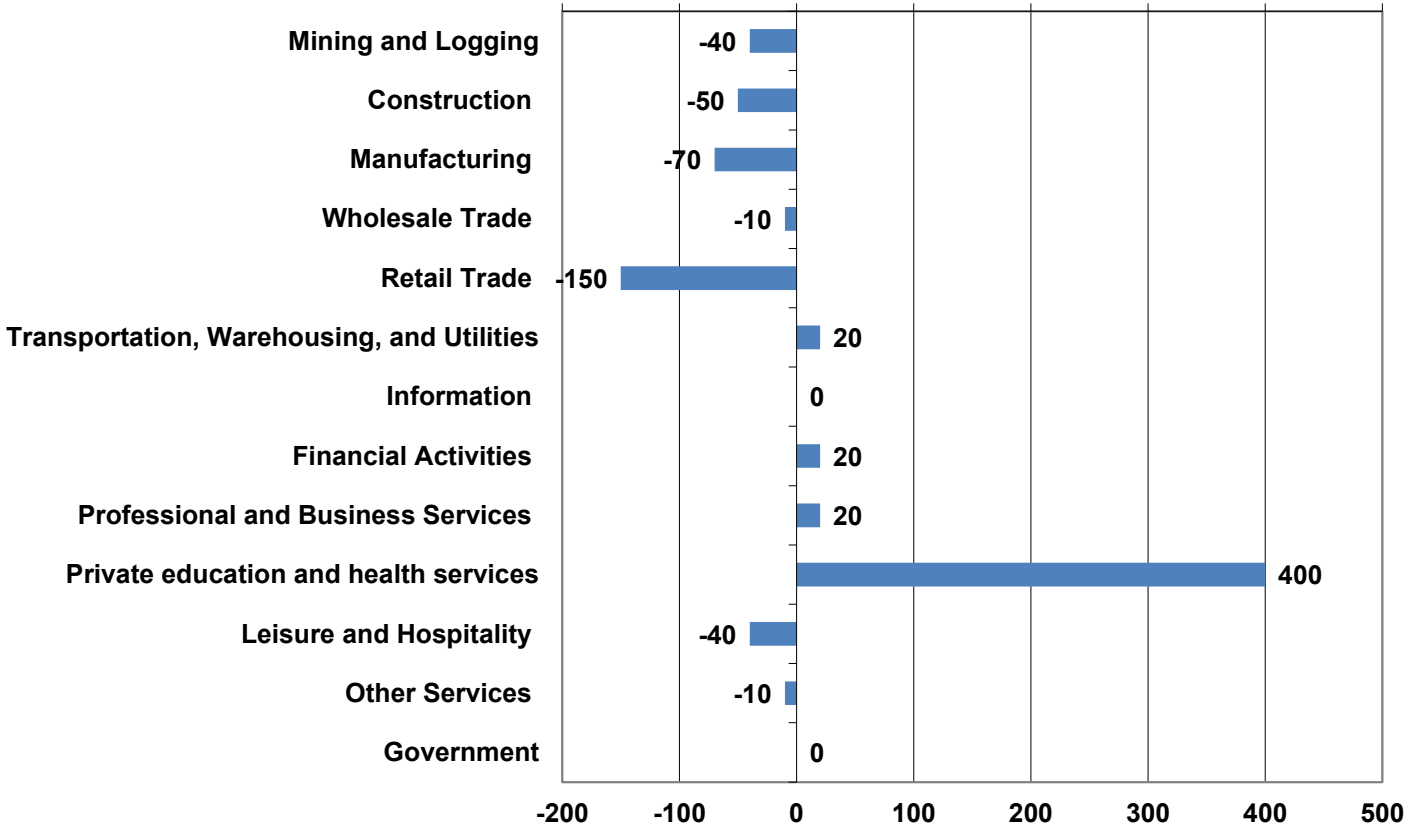
Source: Oregon Employment Department QualityInfo.org

MOST INDUSTRIES HAVE LITTLE OR NO GROWTH OVER THE PAST 2 YEARS.

Douglas County Industry Employment Change  
August 2023 to August 2025



Douglas County Industry Employment Change  
August 2024 to August 2025



Total nonfarm  
employment increased 90  
jobs over the year (0.2%)

Top Federal Government Agencies by Employment  
Douglas County, Fourth Quarter 2024

Agency	Jobs
Total Federal Government Jobs	1,478
Department of Veterans Affairs	889
Department of Agriculture	298
U.S. Postal Service	155
Department of The Interior	126
Social Security Administration	8
Department of Commerce	3

Source: Oregon Employment Department, Quarterly Census of  
Employment and Wages

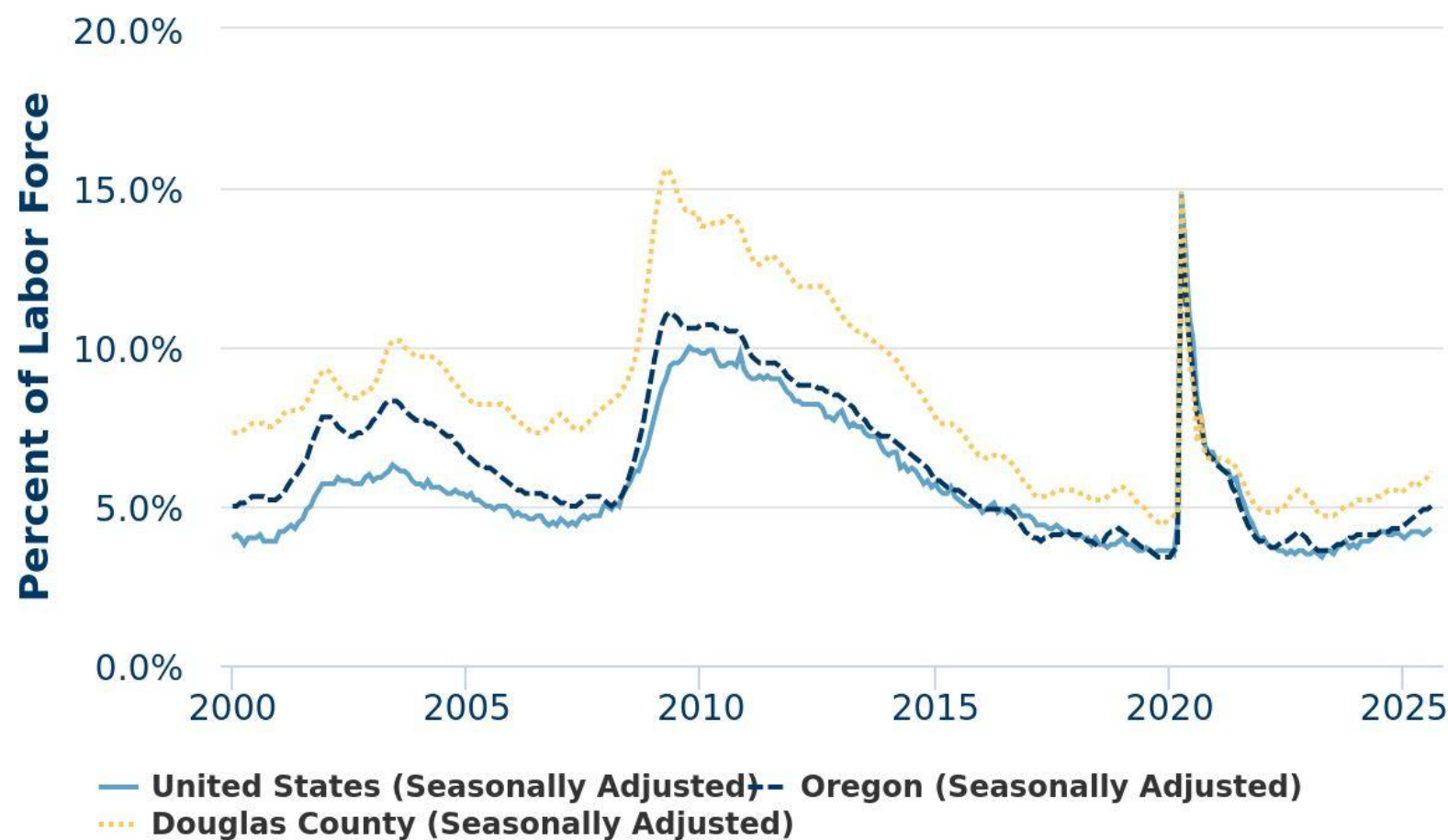
Accounted for 3.8% of all jobs in Douglas County. Compares to 1.8% of all jobs in the state. Sherman County had the highest share at 15%.

Annual average pay in Douglas County of \$89,549 in 2024. About 66% higher than the average for all jobs in Douglas County (\$54,000)



UNEMPLOYMENT RATES ARE DRIFTING UP FROM NEAR RECORD LOWS.

Unemployment Rate



Douglas County's August 2025 rate was 6.1%, up from 5.4% in August 2024 and down from a high of 14.9% in April 2020.

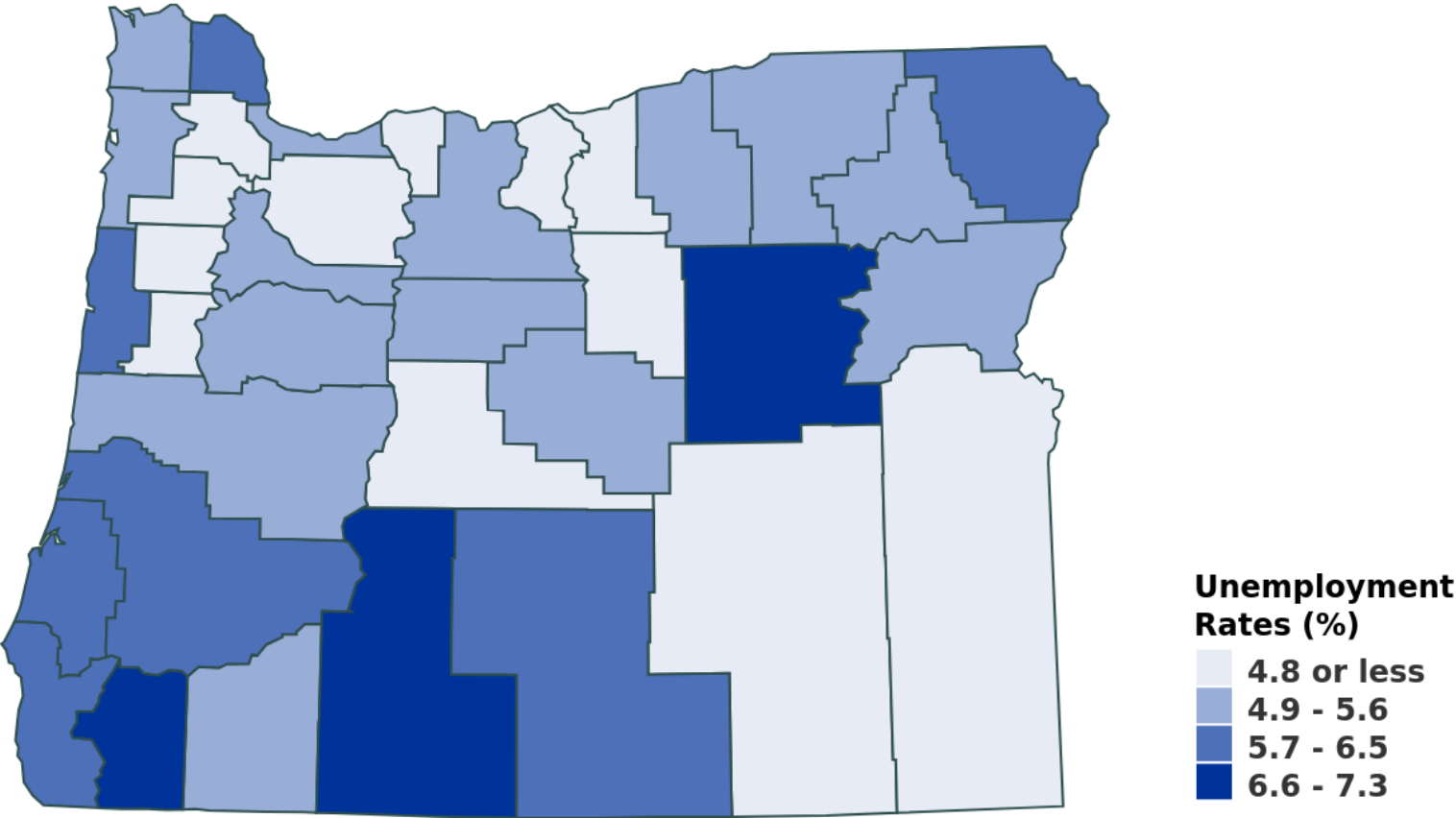
Douglas County's record low rate was 4.4% in November 2019,

Oregon's statewide rate was 5.0% in August, up from 4.2% last August.

U.S. unemployment rate was 4.3% in August, up from 4.2% from last August.

# OREGON UNEMPLOYMENT RATES BY COUNTY

Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rate  
August 2025



Oregon Employment Department, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

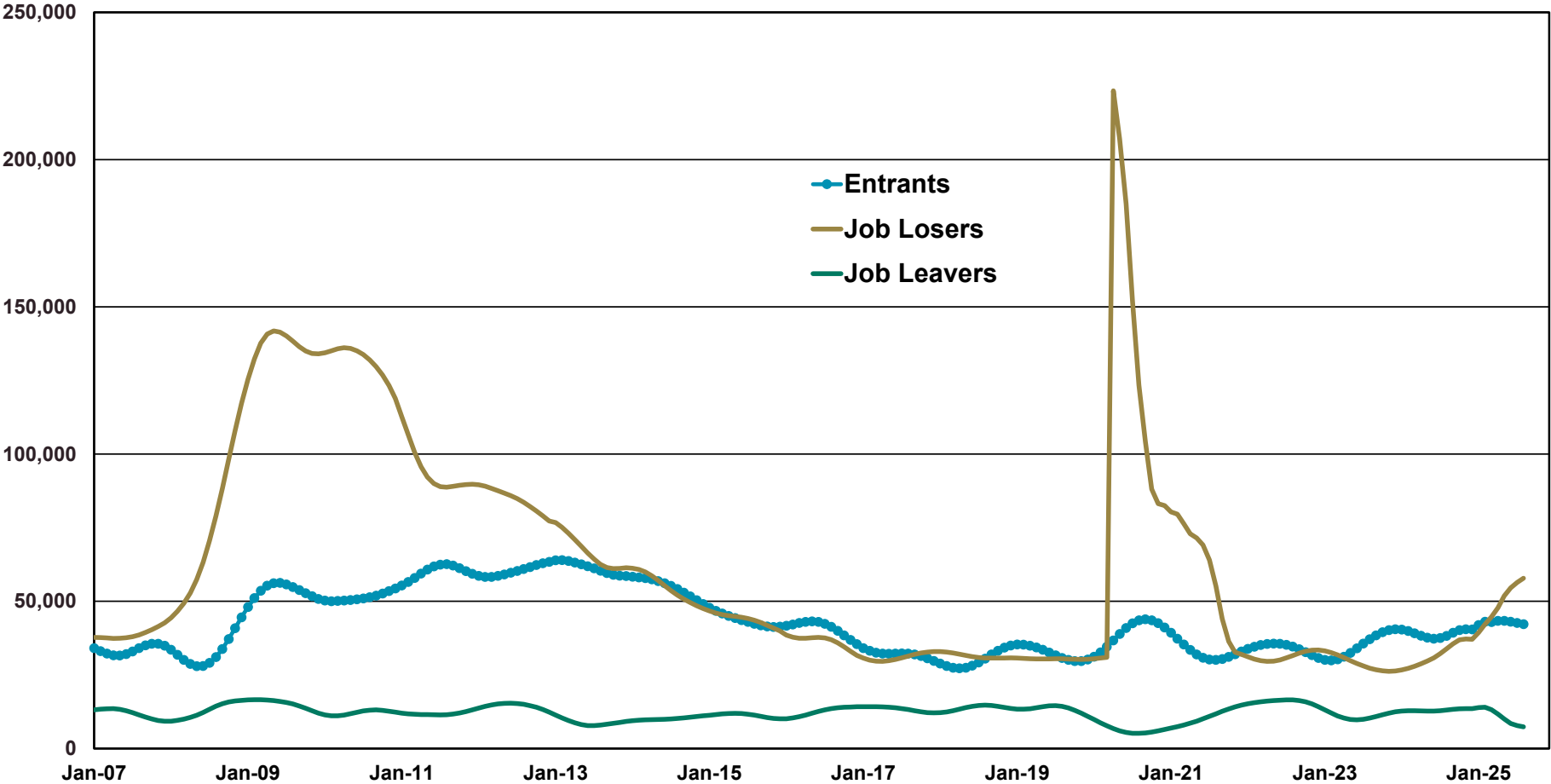
In August, unemployment rates rose in all but five Oregon counties.

Grant County had Oregon’s highest seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in August at 7.3%.

Wheeler County registered the lowest unemployment rate in August at 3.9%.

# WHY ARE OREGONIANS UNEMPLOYED?

Oregon Unemployment by Reason [Trend]



**New or returning to the workforce**  
42,300 (39%)

**Lost job**  
57,800 (54%)

**Left job voluntarily**  
7,400 (7%)

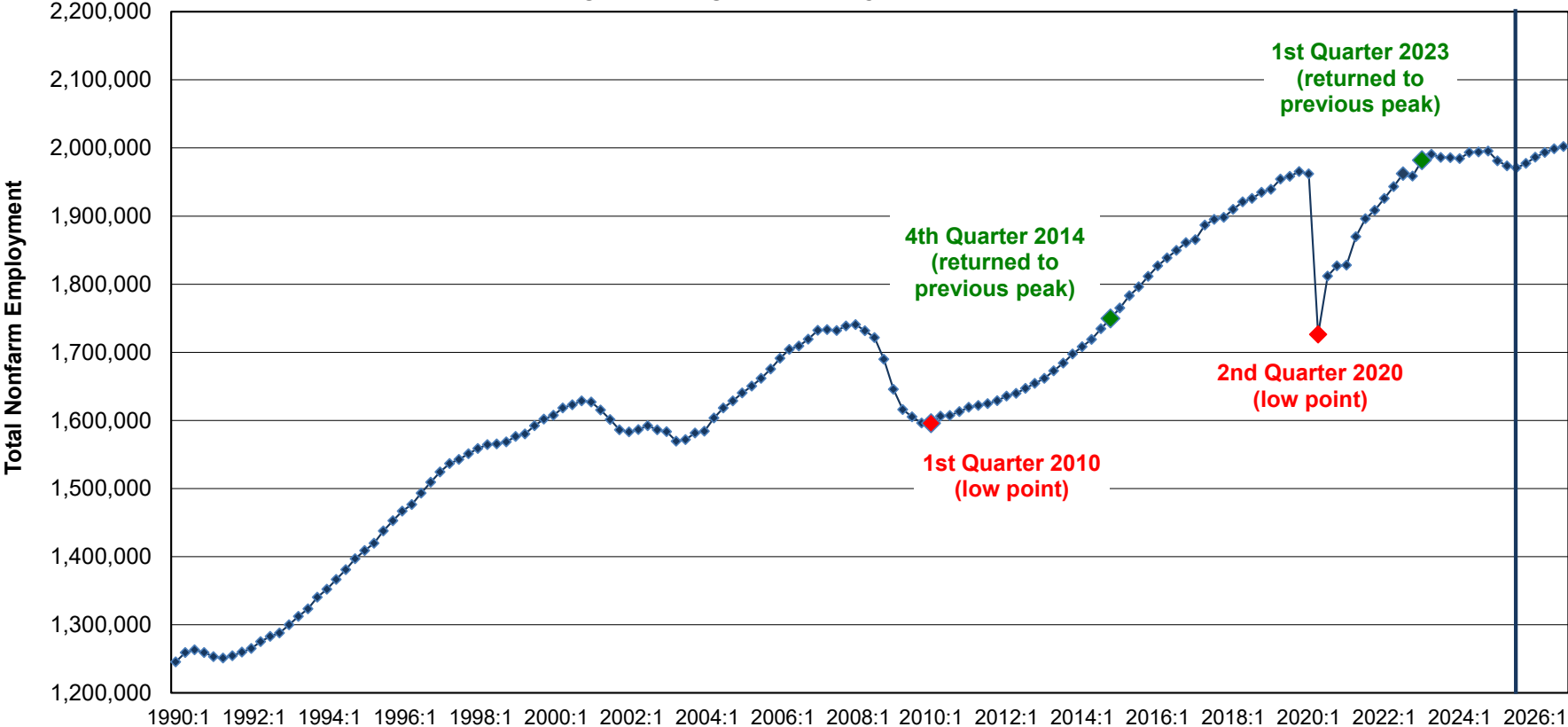
Source: Oregon Employment Department, Current Population Survey

# EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES (U.S. SUMMARY)

- Employment levels were largely stable in recent weeks, and demand for labor was generally muted across Districts and sectors.
- In most Districts, more employers reported lowering head counts through layoffs and attrition, with contacts citing weaker demand, elevated economic uncertainty, and, in some cases, increased investment in artificial intelligence technologies.
- Wages grew across all reporting Districts, generally at a modest to moderate pace, and labor cost pressures intensified in recent weeks due to outsized increases in employer-sponsored health insurance expenses.

# PROJECTIONS

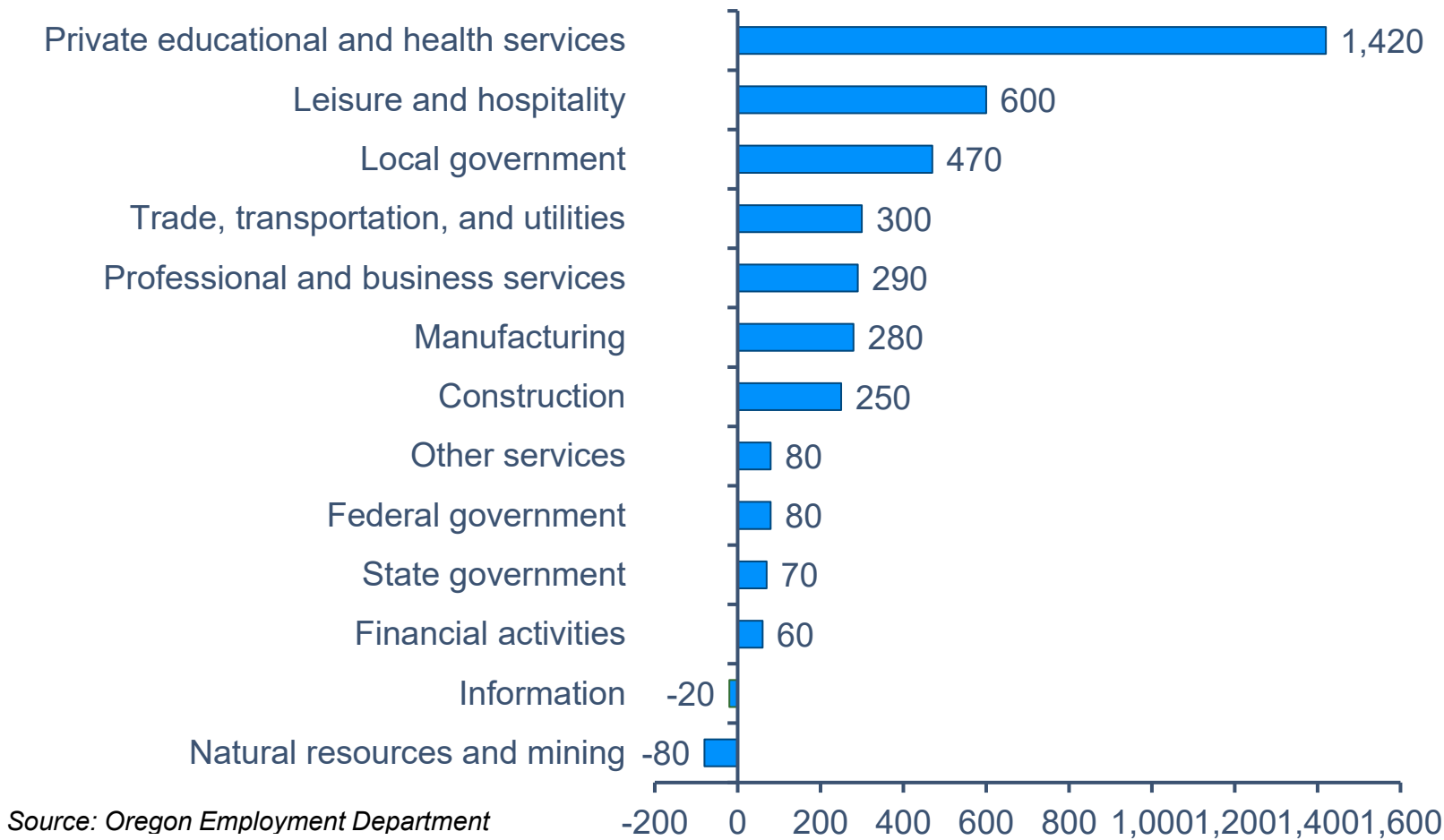
Oregon Nonfarm Payroll Employment  
Quarterly History and Projection, 1990-2026



Source: Office of Economic Analysis, Department of Administrative Services, September 2025

# Southwest Oregon Jobs are Projected to Increase 5% by 2033

## Southwest Oregon Long-Term Employment Growth Numeric Change, 2023-2033



Total employment adds 3,850 jobs.

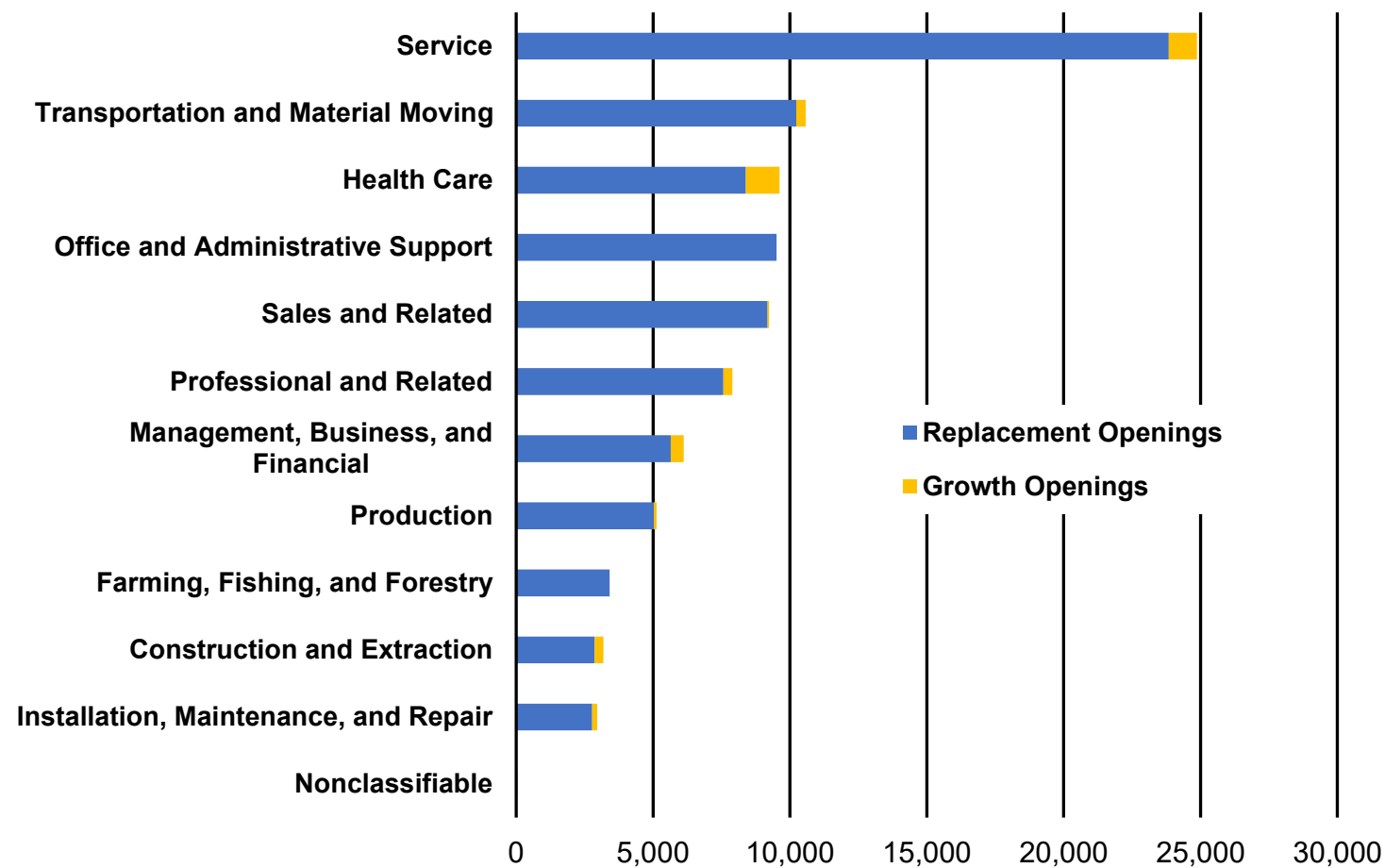
Forecast influenced by primarily by structural growth.

Oregon statewide is expected to increase 8% by 2033.

Source: Oregon Employment Department

# Replacement openings create opportunity.

Southwest Region Occupational Projections, 2023 - 2033



## Occupations adding the most jobs:

- Home Health and Personal Care Aides
- Personal Care and Service Workers, All Other
- Registered Nurses
- Medical Assistants
- Fast Food and Counter Workers
- Stockers and Order Fillers
- General and Operations Managers
- Retail Salespersons
- Construction Laborers
- Nursing Assistants
- Medical and Health Services Managers
- Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners
- Medical Secretaries and Administrative Assistants
- Nurse Practitioners
- Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers
- Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers
- Industrial Machinery Mechanics
- Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand
- First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers
- Carpenters

Source: Oregon Employment Department



**BRIAN ROONEY, REGIONAL LABOR ECONOMIST**

**541-359-9546**

**[BRIAN.T.ROONEY@EMPLOY.OREGON.GOV](mailto:BRIAN.T.ROONEY@EMPLOY.OREGON.GOV)**

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