

HELP WANTED IN THE EAST CASCADES

RESULTS FROM THE 2025 JOB VACANCY SURVEY

FEBRUARY 2026

THE EAST CASCADES HAD ROUGHLY 8,100 JOB VACANCIES AT ANY GIVEN TIME IN 2025.

We surveyed 1,700 private employers with two or more employees.

If they were hiring, employers gave details about each vacancy, including:

- Job title
- Full- or part-time status
- Permanent or temporary status
- Starting wage or salary
- Educational and experience requirements

Businesses also identified if their vacancies were difficult to fill, and if so, they wrote in the primary reason they faced hiring challenges.

ACROSS OREGON, BUSINESSES REPORTED ROUGHLY 58,500 VACANCIES AT ANY GIVEN TIME IN 2025.

Oregon Private Job Vacancies

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Vacancies	57,241	44,408	96,887	103,977	72,815	57,767	58,465
Average Hourly Wage	\$18.81	\$18.05	\$19.69	\$21.66	\$25.13	\$25.37	\$26.72
Full-time Positions	77%	79%	78%	81%	82%	79%	80%
Permanent Positions	93%	92%	93%	94%	94%	94%	93%
Requiring Education Beyond High School	34%	33%	30%	29%	39%	39%	33%
Requiring Previous Experience	57%	53%	53%	52%	58%	55%	63%
Difficult to Fill	57%	51%	72%	72%	61%	55%	54%

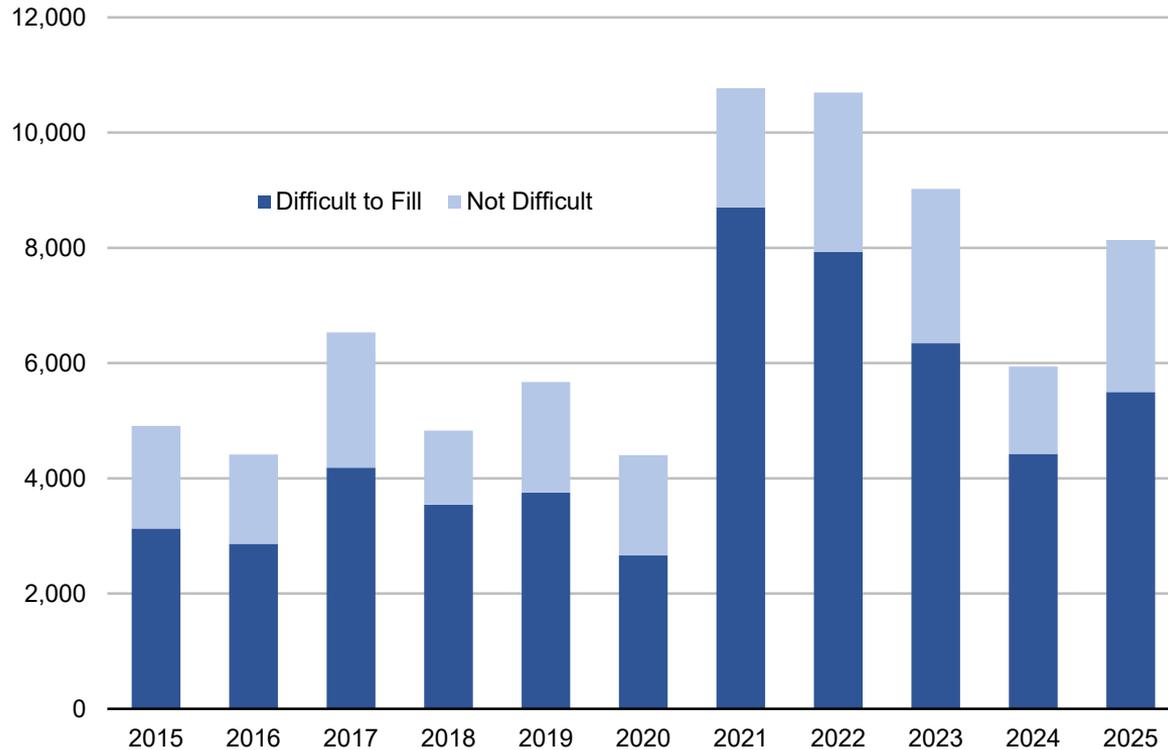
The number of Oregon job vacancies remained essentially unchanged from 2024 to 2025, matching the level seen in 2019 prior to the pandemic recession.

A typical job vacancy tends to be for a full-time, permanent position. 33% require education beyond high school and 63% require previous experience.

Source: Oregon Employment Department

THE NUMBER OF EAST CASCADES VACANCIES IN 2025 ROSE OVER THE YEAR.

East Cascades Job Vacancies



Source: Oregon Employment Department

31% OF THE VACANCIES IN 2025 HAD BEEN OPEN FOR 60 DAYS OR LONGER – UP SLIGHTLY FROM 26% IN 2024. ALMOST ALL (86%) OF THESE VACANCIES WERE REPORTED AS DIFFICULT TO FILL.

East Cascades Job Vacancies by Length of Time Job has been Open, 2025

Length of Time Job has been Open	Vacancies	Average Wage	Difficult to Fill
All Vacancies	8,137	\$23.68	68%
< 30 Days	2,383	\$19.78	49%
30-59 Days	1,486	\$22.86	51%
60+ Days	2,477	\$28.98	86%
Always Open	1,667	\$22.18	85%
Unknown	124	\$25.80	26%

Source: Oregon Employment Department

LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY REPORTED THE MOST VACANCIES OF ANY INDUSTRY.

East Cascades Job Vacancies by Industry, 2025

Industry	Vacancies	Average Wage
All Industries	8,137	\$23.68
Leisure and hospitality	1,792	\$16.86
Health care and social assistance	1,325	\$28.59
Professional, scientific, and technical services	1,181	\$30.00
Construction	807	\$26.67
Retail trade	795	\$21.01
Financial activities	736	\$22.22
Other services	676	\$24.41
Manufacturing	387	\$23.23
Management, administrative, and waste services	196	\$22.99
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	90	\$23.35
Wholesale trade	77	\$22.37

Source: Oregon Employment Department

FOOD PREP AND SERVING OCCUPATIONS REPRESENTED THE GROUP WITH THE MOST VACANCIES.

East Cascades Job Vacancies by Occupation Group, 2025

Occupation Group	Vacancies	Average Wage
All Occupations	8,137	\$23.68
Food Preparation and Serving Related	1,378	\$16.97
Health Care Practitioners and Technical	909	\$40.53
Health Care Support	862	\$22.32
Construction and Extraction	633	\$27.13
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	587	\$18.69
Office and Administrative Support	576	\$17.75
Transportation and Material Moving	561	\$19.26
Sales and Related	530	\$19.96
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	428	\$26.16
Personal Care and Service	400	\$20.11
Business and Financial Operations	333	\$32.15
Community and Social Service	307	\$27.26
Production	306	\$21.67
Management	216	\$28.42
Education, Training, and Library	41	\$22.11
Architecture and Engineering	35	\$54.33

Source: Oregon Employment Department

AREA BUSINESSES WERE HIRING FOR A VARIETY OF JOBS ACROSS THE ECONOMY IN 2025. THEY REPORTED VACANCIES FOR 135 DIFFERENT OCCUPATIONS.

Top East Cascades Occupations With the Highest Number of Job Vacancies, 2025

Occupation	Vacancies
All Occupations	8,137
Fast Food and Counter Workers	432
Painters, Construction and Maintenance	411
Nursing Assistants	397
Cooks, Restaurant	394
Registered Nurses	329
Retail Salespersons	320
Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	219
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	218
Surgical Technologists	205
Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	194

Source: Oregon Employment Department

EMPLOYERS HAD MORE DIFFICULTY FILLING VACANCIES IN SOME OCCUPATIONS.

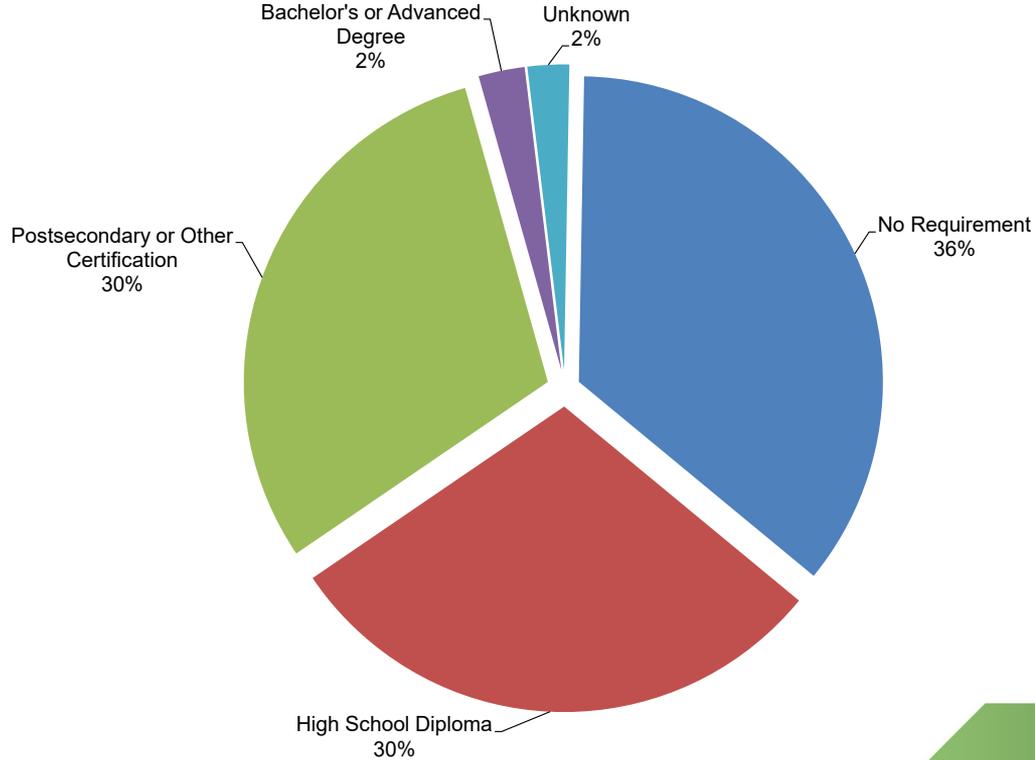
Top East Cascades Occupations With the Highest Number of Difficult-to-Fill Job Vacancies, 2025

Occupation	Vacancies
Difficult-to-Fill Vacancies in All Occupations	5,498
Cooks, Restaurant	394
Painters, Construction and Maintenance	356
Registered Nurses	308
Retail Salespersons	244
Fast Food and Counter Workers	212
Surgical Technologists	205
Hairdressers, Hairstylists, and Cosmetologists	191
Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	166
Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	159
Bartenders	135

Source: Oregon Employment Department

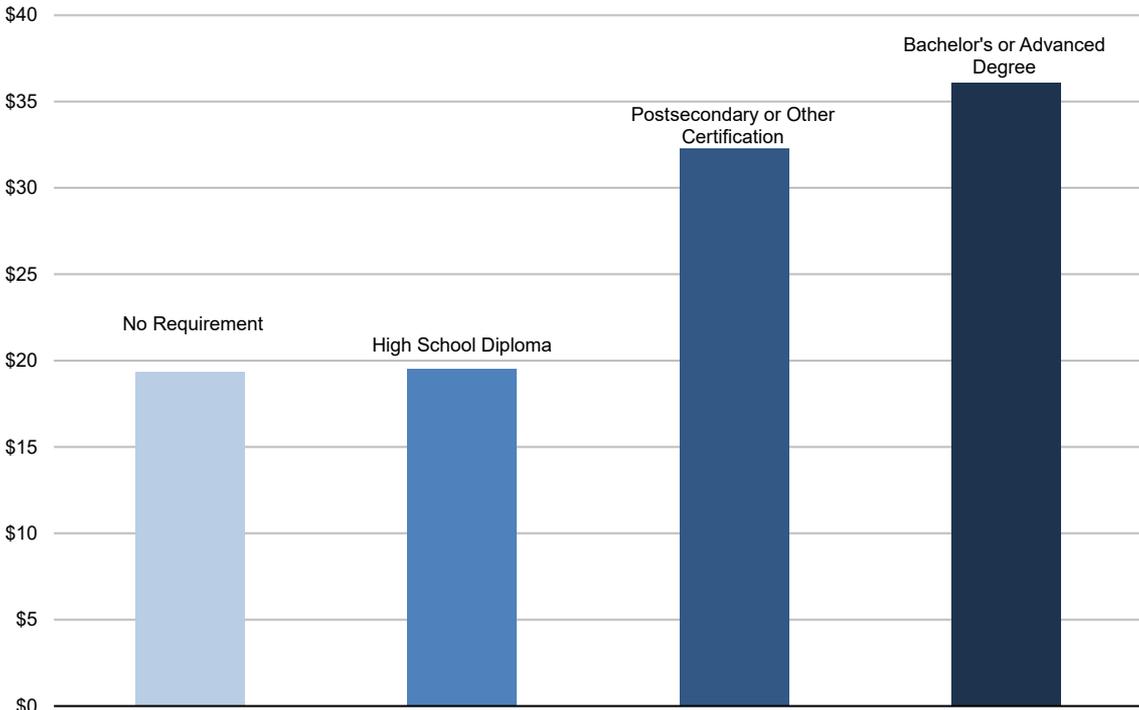
65% OF EAST CASCADES JOB VACANCIES REQUIRED NO EDUCATION BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL.

East Cascades Job Vacancies by Education Requirement, 2025



Source: Oregon Employment Department

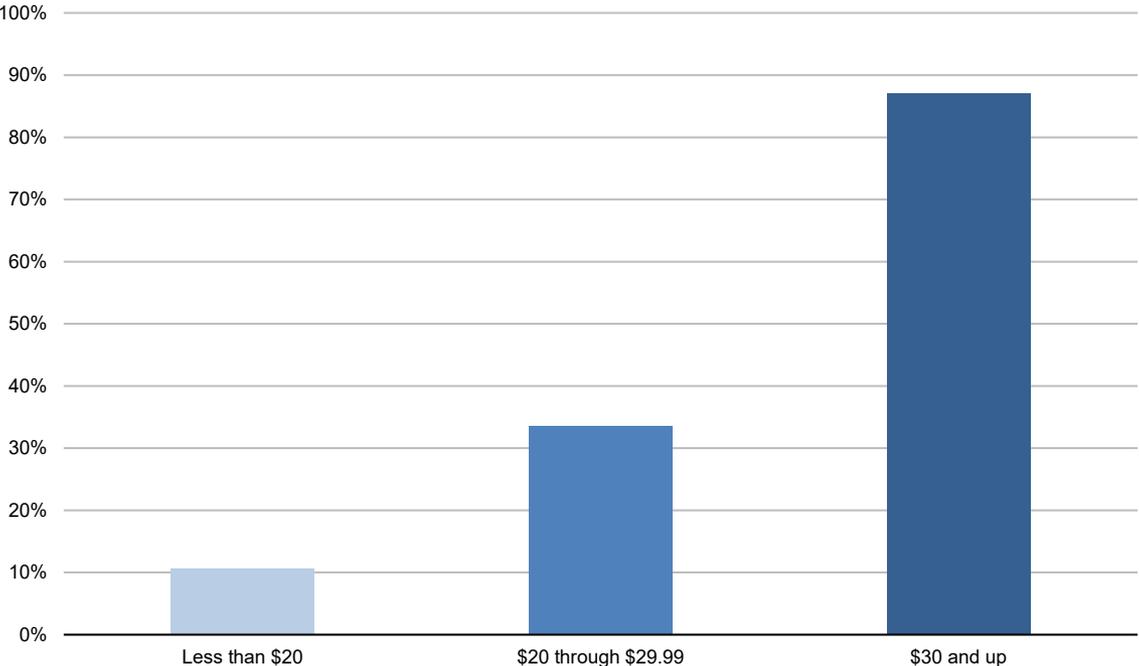
Average Hourly Wage for East Cascades Job Vacancies by Educational Requirement, 2025



Source: Oregon Employment Department

...AND HIGH-PAYING VACANCIES ARE MORE LIKELY TO REQUIRE EDUCATION BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL.

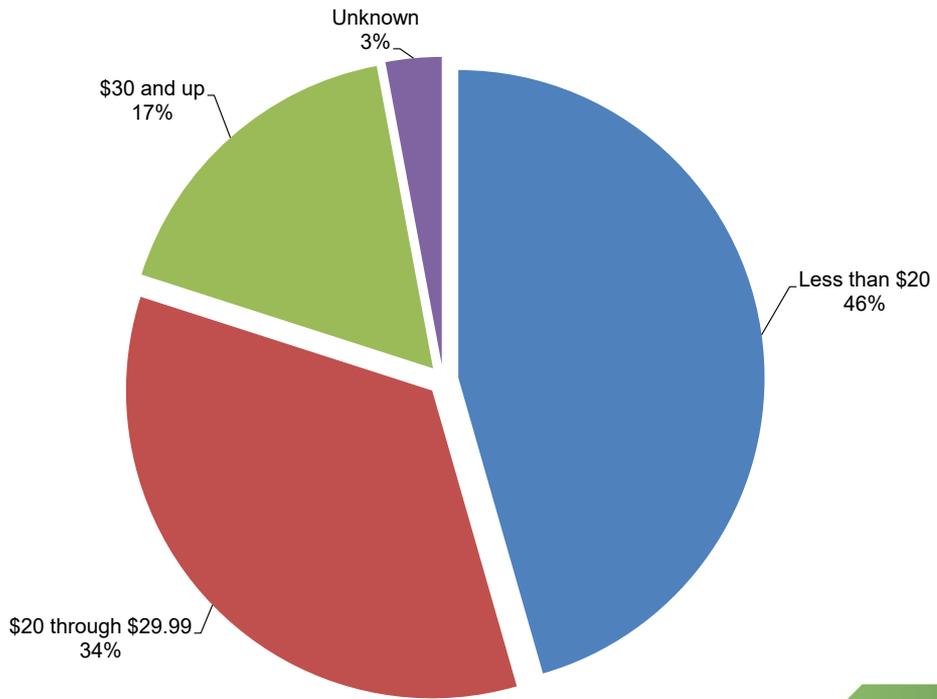
Share of East Cascades Job Vacancies Requiring Education Beyond High School by Hourly Wage Range, 2025



Source: Oregon Employment Department

46% OF JOB VACANCIES IN THE EAST CASCADES PAY STARTING WAGES OF LESS THAN \$20 PER HOUR.

East Cascades Job Vacancies by Hourly Wage, 2025



Source: Oregon Employment Department

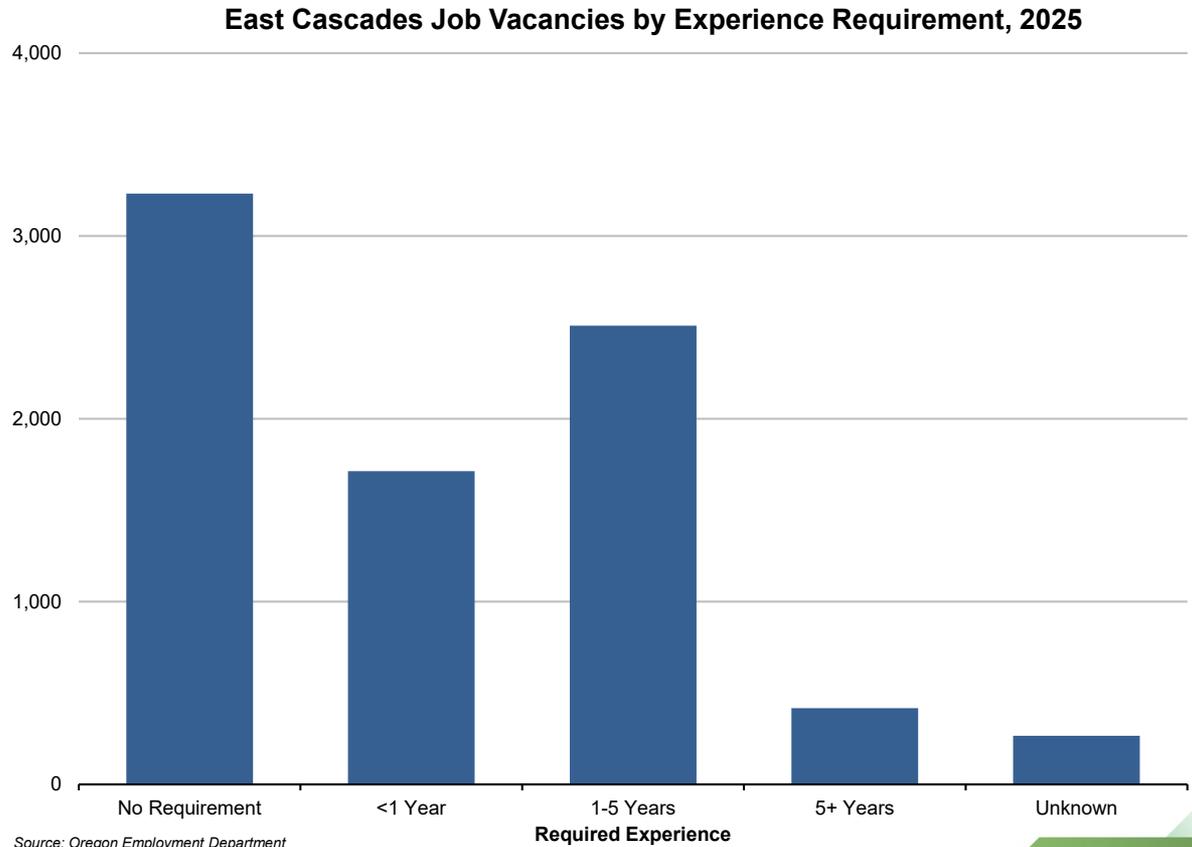
VACANCIES REQUIRING HIGHER EDUCATION ARE MORE LIKELY TO BE HIGH-PAYING, FULL-TIME, AND REQUIRE PRIOR EXPERIENCE.

East Cascades Job Vacancies by Required Education Level, 2025

Required Education Level	Vacancies	Average Hourly Wage	Full-time Positions	Permanent Positions	Require Previous Experience	Difficult to Fill
All Education Levels	8,137	\$23.68	72%	88%	57%	68%
No Requirement	2,903	\$19.33	56%	81%	50%	79%
High School Diploma	2,405	\$19.53	65%	86%	66%	48%
Postsecondary or Other Certification	2,449	\$32.29	95%	96%	57%	75%
Bachelor's or Advanced Degree	200	\$36.06	100%	100%	90%	70%
Unknown	180	\$24.79	82%	100%	23%	55%

Source: Oregon Employment Department

ABOUT HALF (57%) OF ALL EAST CASCADES VACANCIES REQUIRE PREVIOUS WORK EXPERIENCE.



Source: Oregon Employment Department

HIGH-PAYING VACANCIES ARE MORE LIKELY TO REQUIRE A COMBINATION OF EDUCATION AND PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE.

East Cascades Job Vacancies by Hourly Wage Range, 2025

Wage (per hour)	Vacancies	Average Hourly Wage	Full-time Positions	Permanent Positions	Require Education Beyond High School	Require Previous Experience	Difficult to Fill
All Wage Ranges	8,137	\$23.68	72%	88%	33%	57%	68%
Less than \$20	3,706	\$16.62	49%	91%	11%	49%	51%
\$20 through \$29.99	2,798	\$22.89	88%	78%	34%	64%	81%
\$30 and up	1,393	\$44.05	95%	100%	87%	69%	91%
Unknown	240	-	100%	97%	82%	23%	26%

Source: Oregon Employment Department

Employers had difficulty filling their higher-wage vacancies, with 81% of jobs starting at \$20 through \$29.99 per hour and 91% of jobs starting at \$30 per hour or more reported as difficult.

THE OREGON JOB VACANCY SURVEY CAPTURES INFORMATION FOR NINE SUB-STATE AREAS.

Survey Region

Counties

Central Oregon/East Cascades

Crook, Deschutes, Gilliam, Hood River, Jefferson, Klamath, Lake, Sherman, Wasco, Wheeler

Clackamas

Clackamas

Eastern Oregon

Baker, Grant, Harney, Malheur, Morrow, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa

Lane

Lane

Mid-Valley

Linn, Marion, Polk, Yamhill

Northwest Oregon

Benton, Clatsop, Columbia, Lincoln, Tillamook

Portland-Metro

Multnomah, Washington

Rogue Valley

Jackson, Josephine

Southwestern Oregon

Coos, Curry, Douglas

45% VACANCIES IN OREGON WERE IN THE PORTLAND TRI-COUNTY (PORTLAND METRO AND CLACKAMAS) AREA.

Oregon Private Job Vacancies by Geography, 2025

Geography	Vacancies	Average Hourly Wage	Full-time Positions	Permanent Positions	Require Education Beyond High School	Require Previous Experience	Difficult to Fill
Oregon Statewide	58,465	\$26.72	80%	93%	33%	63%	54%
Portland Metro	19,321	\$28.46	86%	97%	36%	71%	49%
East Cascades	8,137	\$23.68	72%	88%	33%	57%	68%
Mid-Valley	6,818	\$27.06	81%	92%	27%	62%	54%
Clackamas	5,610	\$28.13	81%	93%	32%	65%	46%
Lane	4,395	\$25.23	75%	95%	33%	61%	55%
Rogue Valley	3,787	\$24.97	82%	86%	34%	67%	69%
Southwestern Oregon	3,406	\$23.92	72%	95%	28%	48%	55%
Northwest Oregon	3,176	\$27.88	74%	90%	36%	52%	64%
Eastern Oregon	2,483	\$21.05	74%	88%	17%	39%	55%
Multi-area or unknown	1,332	\$43.07	100%	100%	43%	81%	14%

Source: Oregon Employment Department

JOB VACANCIES HAVE DECREASED SINCE 2024 IN SOME AREAS OF THE STATE AND INCREASED IN OTHERS.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Geography, 2019-2025

Geography	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Change from 2024
Oregon Statewide	57,241	44,408	96,887	103,977	72,815	57,767	58,465	1%
Portland Metro	21,218	13,429	28,014	30,991	21,685	16,941	19,321	14%
Mid-Valley	7,091	6,995	12,681	15,083	9,190	8,382	6,818	-19%
East Cascades	5,673	4,402	10,771	10,697	9,024	5,941	8,137	37%
Clackamas	5,795	3,921	10,088	11,934	7,481	6,695	5,610	-16%
Lane	5,414	4,029	8,857	10,003	7,704	6,396	4,395	-31%
Rogue Valley	4,134	3,749	8,752	8,934	5,214	3,763	3,787	1%
Northwest Oregon	3,357	2,255	7,311	6,624	4,684	3,346	3,176	-5%
Southwestern Oregon	1,745	2,195	4,801	4,298	3,301	2,476	3,406	38%
Eastern Oregon	2,147	2,527	4,199	4,399	3,035	2,583	2,483	-4%
Multi-area or unknown	667	906	1,413	1,014	1,497	1,244	1,332	7%

Source: Oregon Employment Department



SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK!

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FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT JOB VACANCIES IN OREGON, VISIT THE JOB VACANCY SURVEY BOX ON THE [PUBLICATIONS](#) PAGE AT QUALITYINFO.ORG

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