

HELP WANTED IN THE PORTLAND-METRO AREA

RESULTS FROM THE 2024 JOB VACANCY SURVEY

FEBRUARY 2025

PORTLAND METRO HAD ROUGHLY 16,900 JOB VACANCIES AT ANY GIVEN TIME IN 2024.

We surveyed 1,900 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
- Education 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 57,800 VACANCIES AT ANY GIVEN TIME IN 2024.

Oregon Private Job Vacancies

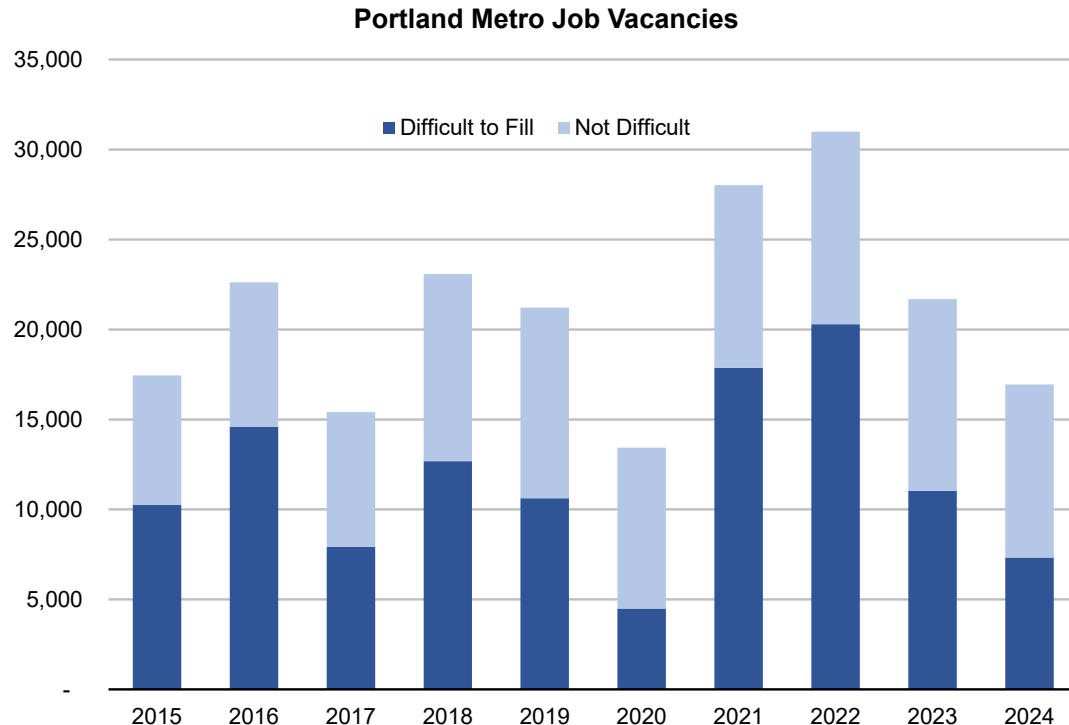
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Vacancies	57,241	44,408	96,887	103,977	72,815	57,767
Average Hourly Wage	\$18.81	\$18.05	\$19.69	\$21.66	\$25.13	\$25.37
Full-time Positions	77%	79%	78%	81%	82%	79%
Permanent Positions	93%	92%	93%	94%	94%	94%
Requiring Education Beyond High School	34%	33%	30%	29%	39%	39%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

Source: Oregon Employment Department

The number of Oregon job vacancies declined from 2023 to 2024, matching the level seen in 2019 prior to the pandemic recession.

A typical job vacancy tends to be for a full-time, permanent position. 39% require education beyond high school and 55% require previous experience.

THE NUMBER OF PORTLAND METRO VACANCIES IN 2024 WERE SIMILAR TO PRE-PANDEMIC LEVELS.



Source: Oregon Employment Department

27% OF VACANCIES IN 2024 HAD BEEN OPEN FOR 60 DAYS OR LONGER. 67% OF THESE VACANCIES WERE REPORTED AS DIFFICULT TO FILL.

Portland Metro Job Vacancies by Length of Time Job has been Open, 2024

Length of Time Job has been Open	Vacancies	Average Wage	Difficult to Fill
All Vacancies	16,941	\$27.63	43%
< 30 Days	6,199	\$24.44	38%
30-59 Days	1,990	\$27.98	35%
60+ Days	3,827	\$33.64	67%
Always Open	2,192	\$27.06	77%
Unknown	2,733	\$45.51	0%

Source: Oregon Employment Department

HEALTH CARE AND SOCIAL ASSISTANCE REPORTED 32% OF ALL VACANCIES IN THE PORTLAND-METRO AREA IN 2024.

Portland Metro Job Vacancies by Industry, 2024

Industry	Vacancies	Average Wage
All Industries	16,941	\$27.63
Health care and social assistance	5,386	\$26.68
Management, administrative, and waste services	1,794	\$35.59
Manufacturing	1,498	\$25.36
Other services	1,478	\$27.11
Professional, scientific, and technical services	1,393	\$35.58
Private educational services	1,364	\$34.45
Leisure and hospitality	1,181	\$20.76
Retail trade	1,002	\$18.80
Wholesale trade	937	\$21.45
Construction	722	\$32.71
Financial activities	130	\$24.23

Source: Oregon Employment Department

EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND LIBRARY OCCUPATIONS AND OFFICE AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT REPRESENTED THE OCCUPATION GROUPS WITH THE MOST VACANCIES.

Portland Metro Job Vacancies by Occupation Group, 2024

<u>Occupation Group</u>	<u>Vacancies</u>	<u>Average Wage</u>
All Occupations	16,941	\$27.63
Education, Training, and Library	1,422	\$20.46
Office and Administrative Support	1,391	\$20.51
Health Care Support	1,376	\$25.38
Management	1,315	\$48.07
Transportation and Material Moving	1,236	\$19.68
Sales and Related	1,222	\$26.28
Food Preparation and Serving Related	1,216	\$17.95
Health Care Practitioners and Technical	1,199	\$41.12
Business and Financial Operations	1,043	\$30.20
Community and Social Service	1,016	\$25.15

Source: Oregon Employment Department

AREA BUSINESSES WERE HIRING FOR A VARIETY OF JOBS ACROSS THE ECONOMY IN 2024. THEY REPORTED VACANCIES FOR 167 DIFFERENT OCCUPATIONS.

Top Occupations in Portland Metro With the Highest Number of Job Vacancies, 2024

Occupation	Vacancies
All Occupations	16,941
Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	545
Stockers and Order Fillers	527
Business Operations Specialists, All Other	427
Receptionists and Information Clerks	374
Customer Service Representatives	355
Teaching Assistants, Preschool, Elementary, Middle, and Secondary School, Except Special Education	354
Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	353
Dental Assistants	343
Personal Care Aides	340
Human Resources Specialists	323

Source: Oregon Employment Department

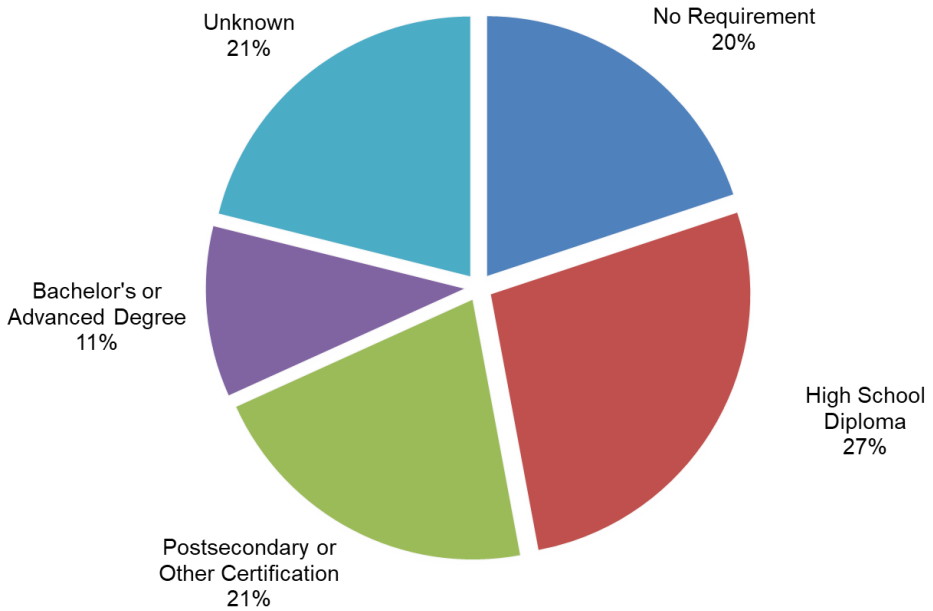
EMPLOYERS HAD MORE DIFFICULTY FILLING VACANCIES IN SOME OCCUPATIONS.

Top Portland Metro Occupations With the Highest Number of Difficult-to-Fill Job Vacancies, 2024

<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Vacancies</u>
Difficult-to-Fill Vacancies in All Occupations	7,325
Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	414
Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	353
Massage Therapists	283
Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	212
Teaching Assistants, Preschool, Elementary, Middle, and Secondary School, E	181
Business Operations Specialists, All Other	171
Accountants and Auditors	171
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	165
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	162
Medical Assistants	135

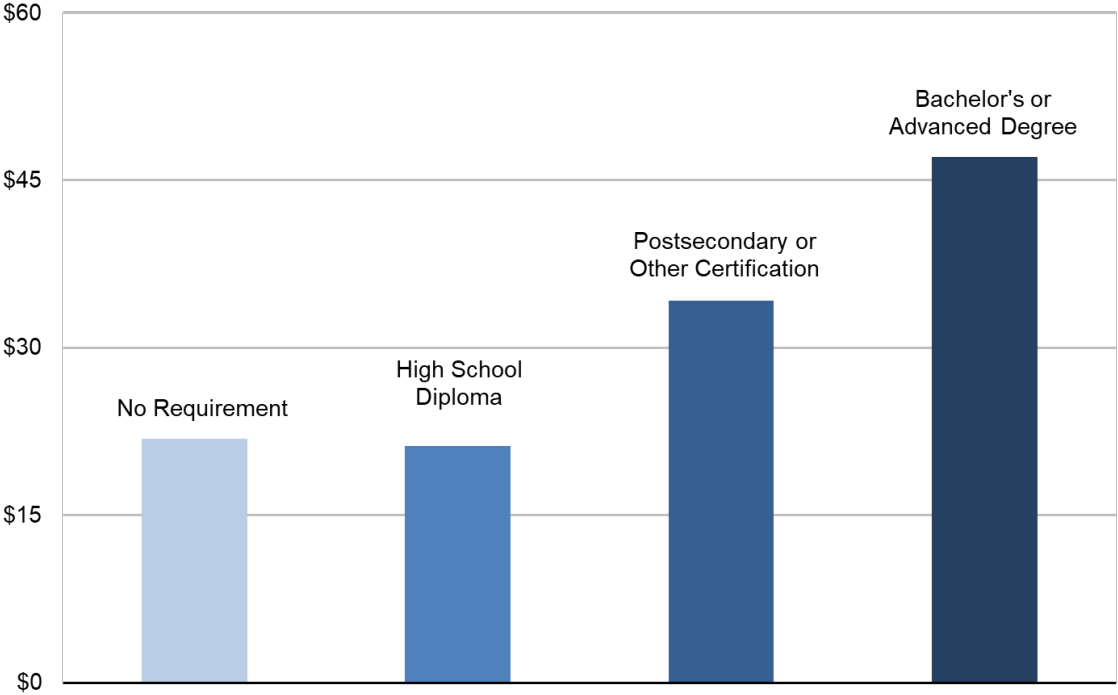
Source: Oregon Employment Department

Portland Metro Job Vacancies by Education Requirement, 2024



Source: Oregon Employment Department

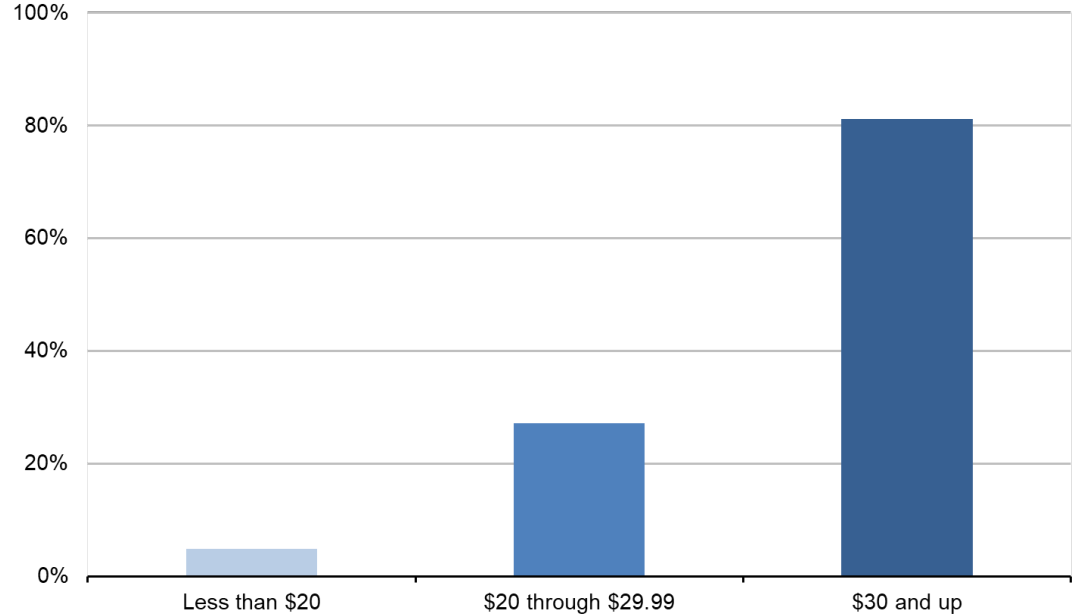
Average Hourly Wage for Portland Metro Job Vacancies by Education Requirement, 2024



Source: Oregon Employment Department

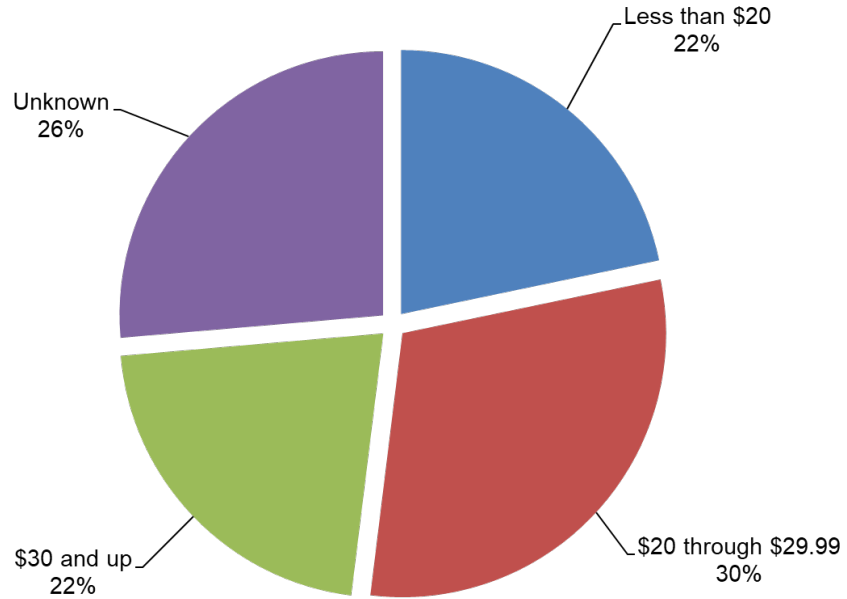
...AND HIGH-PAYING VACANCIES ARE MORE LIKELY TO REQUIRE EDUCATION BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL.

Share of Portland Metro Job Vacancies Requiring Education Beyond High School by Hourly Wage Range, 2024



Source: Oregon Employment Department

Portland Metro Job Vacancies by Hourly Wage, 2024



Source: Oregon Employment Department

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

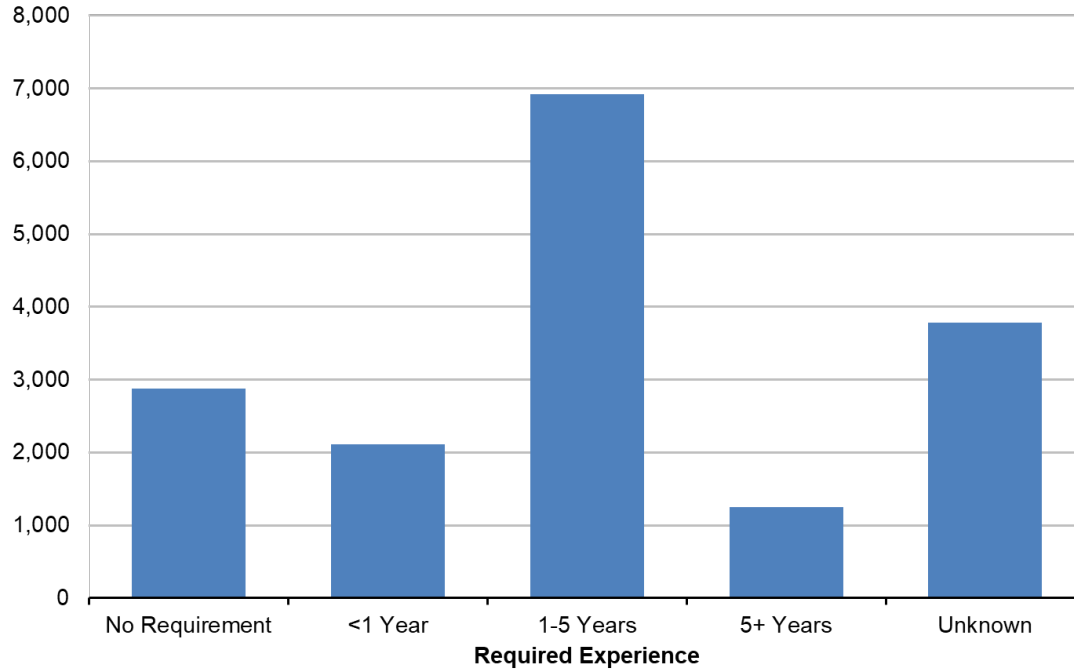
Portland Metro Job Vacancies by Required Education Level, 2024

Required Education Level	Vacancies	Average Hourly Wage	Full-time Positions	Permanent Positions	Require Previous Experience	Difficult to Fill
All Education Levels	16,941	\$27.63	84%	97%	61%	43%
No Requirement	3,373	\$21.82	77%	93%	60%	49%
High School Diploma	4,599	\$21.20	81%	97%	78%	39%
Postsecondary or Other Certification	3,588	\$34.20	83%	99%	73%	71%
Bachelor's or Advanced Degree	1,804	\$47.10	88%	100%	96%	64%
Unknown	3,577	\$21.64	95%	100%	8%	6%

Source: Oregon Employment Department

NEARLY TWO-THIRDS OF PORTLAND METRO VACANCIES REQUIRE PREVIOUS WORK EXPERIENCE.

Portland Metro Job Vacancies by Required Previous Experience, 2024



Source: Oregon Employment Department

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

Portland Metro Job Vacancies by Hourly Wage Range, 2024

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	16,941	\$27.63	84%	97%	40%	61%	43%
Less than \$20	3,682	\$17.58	66%	94%	5%	56%	42%
\$20 through \$29.99	5,118	\$22.62	86%	99%	27%	82%	52%
\$30 and up	3,676	\$44.68	89%	100%	81%	92%	75%
Unknown	4,465	-	94%	97%	77%	15%	8%

Source: Oregon Employment Department

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

41% OF VACANCIES IN OREGON WERE IN THE PORTLAND TRI-COUNTY (PORTLAND METRO AND CLACKAMAS) AREA.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Geography, 2024

Geography	Vacancies	Average Hourly Wage	Full-time Positions	Permanent Positions	Require Education Beyond High School	Require Previous Experience	Difficult to Fill
Oregon Statewide	57,767	\$25.37	79%	94%	39%	55%	55%
Portland Metro	16,941	\$27.63	84%	97%	40%	61%	43%
Mid-Valley	8,382	\$24.30	75%	90%	45%	49%	49%
Clackamas	6,695	\$28.00	79%	94%	44%	54%	51%
Lane	6,396	\$23.94	70%	93%	32%	50%	59%
East Cascades	5,941	\$22.68	78%	92%	24%	53%	74%
Rogue Valley	3,763	\$23.82	75%	94%	46%	46%	60%
Northwest Oregon	3,346	\$23.75	83%	91%	36%	56%	68%
Eastern Oregon	2,583	\$24.81	78%	89%	37%	51%	69%
Southwestern Oregon	2,476	\$21.86	75%	96%	31%	49%	64%
Multi-area or unknown	1,244	\$32.73	94%	97%	67%	95%	52%

Source: Oregon Employment Department

JOB VACANCIES HAVE DECREASED SINCE 2023 IN ALL AREAS OF THE STATE.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Geography, 2019-2024

Geography	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Change from 2023
Oregon Statewide	57,241	44,408	96,887	103,977	72,815	57,767	-21%
Portland Metro	21,218	13,429	28,014	30,991	21,685	16,941	-22%
Mid-Valley	7,091	6,995	12,681	15,083	9,190	8,382	-9%
East Cascades	5,673	4,402	10,771	10,697	9,024	5,941	-34%
Clackamas	5,795	3,921	10,088	11,934	7,481	6,695	-11%
Lane	5,414	4,029	8,857	10,003	7,704	6,396	-17%
Rogue Valley	4,134	3,749	8,752	8,934	5,214	3,763	-28%
Northwest Oregon	3,357	2,255	7,311	6,624	4,684	3,346	-29%
Southwestern Oregon	1,745	2,195	4,801	4,298	3,301	2,476	-25%
Eastern Oregon	2,147	2,527	4,199	4,399	3,035	2,583	-15%
Multi-area or unknown	667	906	1,413	1,014	1,497	1,244	-17%

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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