

HELP WANTED IN OREGON RESULTS FROM THE SPRING 2026 JOB VACANCY SURVEY

JULY 23, 2026

OREGON BUSINESSES REPORTED 45,400 VACANCIES IN SPRING 2026.

Oregon Job Vacancies, Spring 2026

Vacancies	45,378
Average Hourly Wage	\$26.77
Full-time Positions	76%
Permanent Positions	89%
Requiring Education Beyond High School	34%
Requiring Previous Experience	61%
Difficult to Fill	61%

Source: Oregon Employment Department

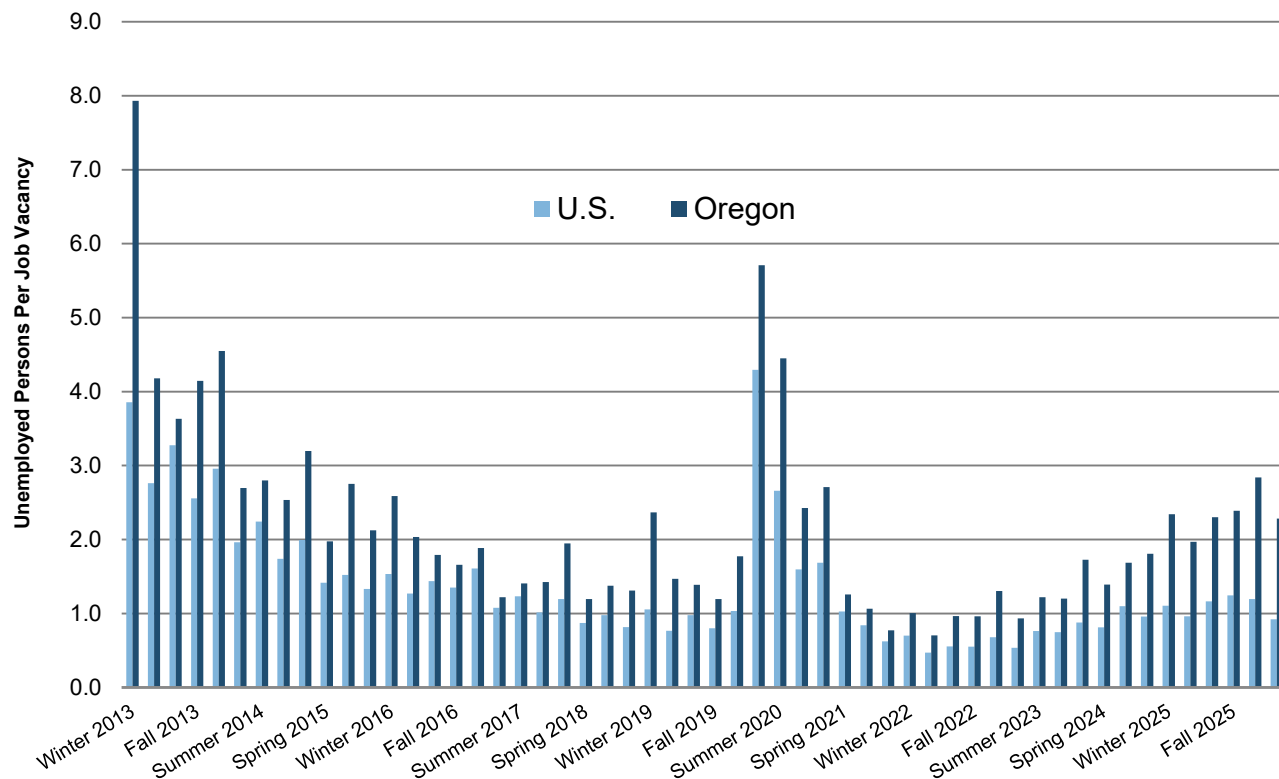
Oregon businesses reported 45,400 vacancies in spring 2026. Vacancies remained flat from the winter and decreased 11% from spring 2025. Employers reported difficulty filling 61% of spring 2026 vacancies.

Characteristics of Oregon job vacancies were consistent with prior quarters. A typical job vacancy tends to be for a full-time, permanent position.

AS UNEMPLOYMENT DECREASED IN THE SPRING, THE UNEMPLOYED TO JOB VACANCY RATIO IN OREGON DECREASED TO 2.3.

Oregon Unemployed to Job Vacancy Ratio Rising Faster than U.S. Ratio Since 2023

(Job Openings with Private Employers, 2013-2026)



Source: Oregon Employment Department

The U.S. ratio was 0.9 in April 2026. It reached 4.3 in April 2020 after several years around 1-to-1.

Oregon had 2.3 unemployed per job vacancy in spring 2026, part of a steady rise since the post-pandemic recession expansion period in 2021 and 2022.

BUSINESSES REPORTED HIRING IN VARIOUS INDUSTRIES.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Industry, Spring 2026

Industry	Vacancies
All Industries	45,378
Health care and social assistance	10,355
Leisure and hospitality	5,957
Construction	4,774
Retail trade	4,108
Professional, scientific, and technical services	3,649
Manufacturing	3,541
Other services	3,079
Financial activities	2,768
Management, administrative, and waste services	2,610
Wholesale trade	1,863
Private educational services	1,402
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	751
Natural resources and mining	338
Information	183

Source: Oregon Employment Department

23% of all vacancies (10,400) were in the health care and social assistance industry. Leisure and hospitality and construction followed, with about 6,000 and 4,800 job vacancies, respectively.

Note: The Oregon Job Vacancy Survey includes only private-sector businesses with two or more employees.

THE STARTING WAGE FOR JOB VACANCIES AVERAGED \$26.77 PER HOUR IN THE SPRING.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Hourly Wage Range

Wage (per hour)	Spring 2025	Spring 2026
All Wage Ranges	51,048	45,378
Less than \$20	16,991	14,199
\$20 through \$29.99	16,151	17,770
\$30 and up	10,642	9,187

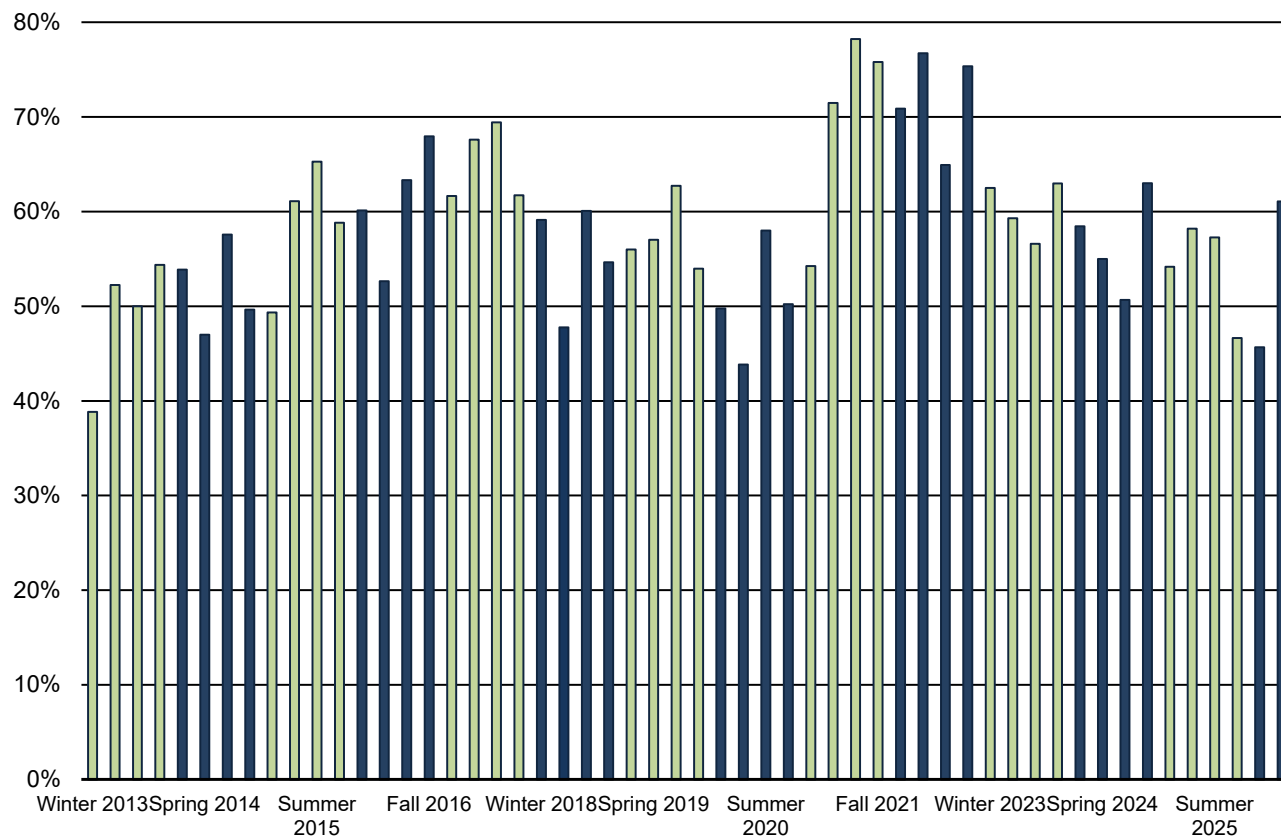
Unknown excluded

Source: Oregon Employment Department

The average starting wage among this group of vacancies was \$26.77 per hour, an inflation-adjusted decrease of 9% from spring 2025, and 3% increase from the first quarter of 2026.

61% OF SPRING JOB VACANCIES WERE REPORTED AS DIFFICULT TO FILL.

**Businesses Report Difficulty Filling
61% of Vacancies in Spring 2026**



Source: Oregon Employment Department, Quarterly Job Vacancy Survey

The occupations with the highest number of difficult-to-fill vacancies:

- Personal care aides
- Preschool teachers
- Retail salespersons
- Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers

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

THE PORTLAND TRI-COUNTY AREA REPRESENTED 36% OF SPRING 2026 VACANCIES.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Geography, Spring 2026

Geography	Vacancies
Oregon Statewide	45,378
Portland Metro	10,388
Clackamas	6,066
Mid-Valley	5,655
East Cascades	5,457
Lane	4,390
Rogue Valley	4,348
Northwest Oregon	3,679
Eastern Oregon	2,132
Southwestern Oregon	1,993

Multi-area or unknown regions excluded

Source: Oregon Employment Department

Spring vacancies were distributed across the state, with the Portland tri-county area (Portland Metro and Clackamas County) accounting for 36%.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT JOB VACANCIES IN OREGON, VISIT THE JOB VACANCY
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