

**HELP WANTED IN NORTHWEST OREGON**

**RESULTS FROM THE 2024  
JOB VACANCY SURVEY**

**FEBRUARY 2025**

# NORTHWEST OREGON HAD ROUGHLY 3,300 JOB VACANCIES AT ANY GIVEN TIME IN 2024.

We surveyed 1,600 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

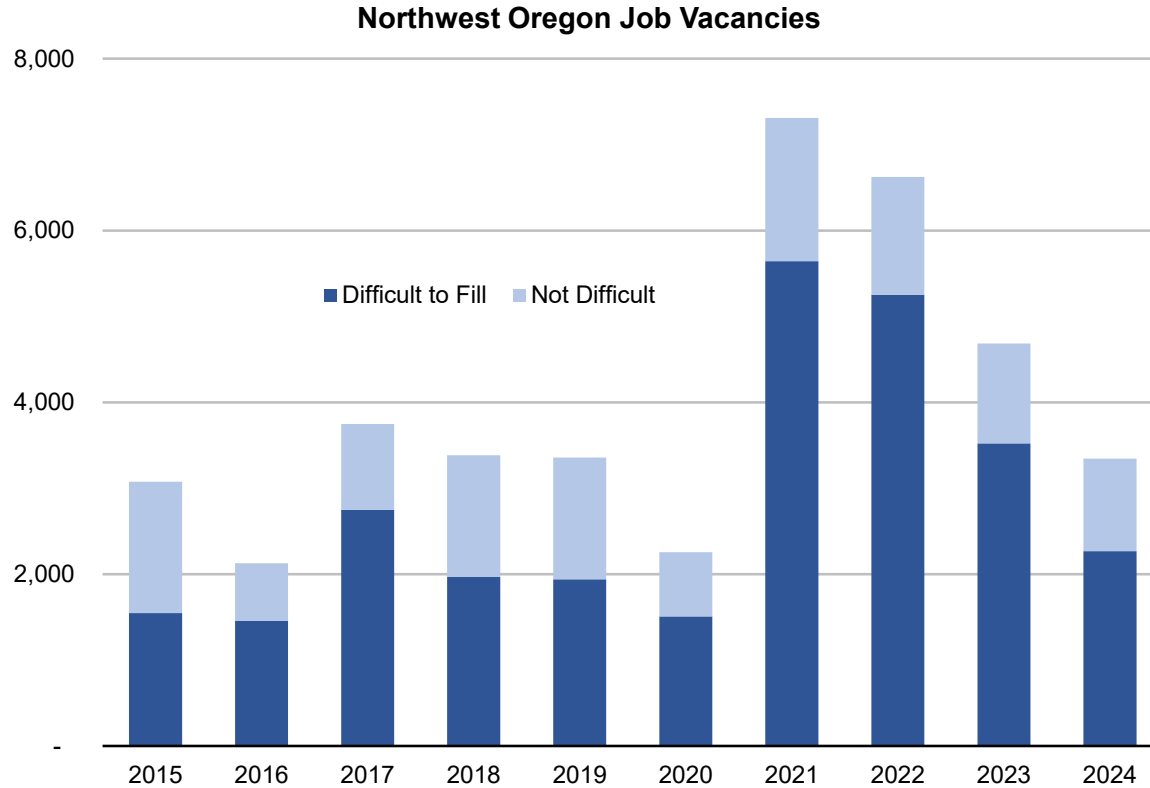
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
<b>Vacancies</b>	<b>57,241</b>	<b>44,408</b>	<b>96,887</b>	<b>103,977</b>	<b>72,815</b>	<b>57,767</b>
Average Hourly Wage	\$18.81	\$18.05	\$19.69	\$21.66	\$25.13	\$25.37
Full-time Positions	77%	79%	78%	81%	82%	79%
Permanent Positions	93%	92%	93%	94%	94%	94%
Requiring Education 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 NORTHWEST OREGON VACANCIES RETURNED TO PRE-PANDEMIC LEVELS IN 2024.



Source: Oregon Employment Department

**35% OF VACANCIES IN 2024 HAD BEEN OPEN FOR 60 DAYS OR LONGER.  
ALMOST ALL OF THESE VACANCIES WERE REPORTED AS DIFFICULT TO FILL.**

**Northwest Oregon Job Vacancies by Length of Time Job  
has been Open, 2024**

<b>Length of Time Job has been Open</b>	<b>Vacancies</b>	<b>Average Wage</b>	<b>Difficult to Fill</b>
<b>All Vacancies</b>	<b>3,346</b>	<b>\$23.75</b>	<b>68%</b>
< 30 Days	1,071	\$21.01	37%
30-59 Days	548	\$23.17	59%
60+ Days	1,172	\$26.97	91%
Always Open	527	\$23.17	92%
Unknown	28	\$17.50	0%

*Source: Oregon Employment Department*

**Northwest Oregon Job Vacancies by Industry, 2024**

<b>Industry</b>	<b>Vacancies</b>	<b>Average Wage</b>
<b>All Industries</b>	<b>3,346</b>	<b>\$23.75</b>
Health care and social assistance	1,135	\$26.61
Leisure and hospitality	754	\$17.73
Financial activities	352	\$27.41
Retail trade	265	\$18.52
Construction	196	\$27.43
Manufacturing	170	\$19.90
Professional, scientific, and technical services	147	\$22.35
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	134	\$36.47
Information	87	\$27.04
Other services	36	\$22.96
Management, administrative, and waste services	34	\$21.18
Natural resources and mining	28	n/a
Private educational services	8	n/a

*Source: Oregon Employment Department*

# HEALTH CARE SUPPORT OCCUPATIONS HAD THE MOST JOB VACANCIES.

## Northwest Oregon Job Vacancies by Occupation Group, 2024

<b>Occupation Group</b>	<b>Vacancies</b>	<b>Average Wage</b>
<b>All Occupations</b>	<b>3,346</b>	<b>\$23.75</b>
Health Care Support	559	\$22.29
Food Preparation and Serving Related	389	\$16.57
Health Care Practitioners and Technical	366	\$36.99
Transportation and Material Moving	327	\$22.50
Office and Administrative Support	291	\$18.90
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	245	\$24.71
Sales and Related	175	\$20.43
Business and Financial Operations	168	\$28.69
Production	167	\$19.08
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	160	\$18.47

Source: Oregon Employment Department

AREA BUSINESSES WERE HIRING FOR A VARIETY OF JOBS ACROSS THE ECONOMY IN 2024. THEY REPORTED VACANCIES FOR 131 DIFFERENT OCCUPATIONS.

**Top Occupations in Northwest Oregon  
With the Highest Number of Job Vacancies, 2024**

<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Vacancies</b>
<b>All Occupations</b>	<b>3,346</b>
Personal Care Aides	275
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	182
Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	156
Registered Nurses	111
Fast Food and Counter Workers	110
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	108
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	85
Nursing Assistants	76
Dental Assistants	75
Customer Service Representatives	66

*Source: Oregon Employment Department*



# EMPLOYERS HAD MORE DIFFICULTY FILLING VACANCIES IN SOME OCCUPATIONS.

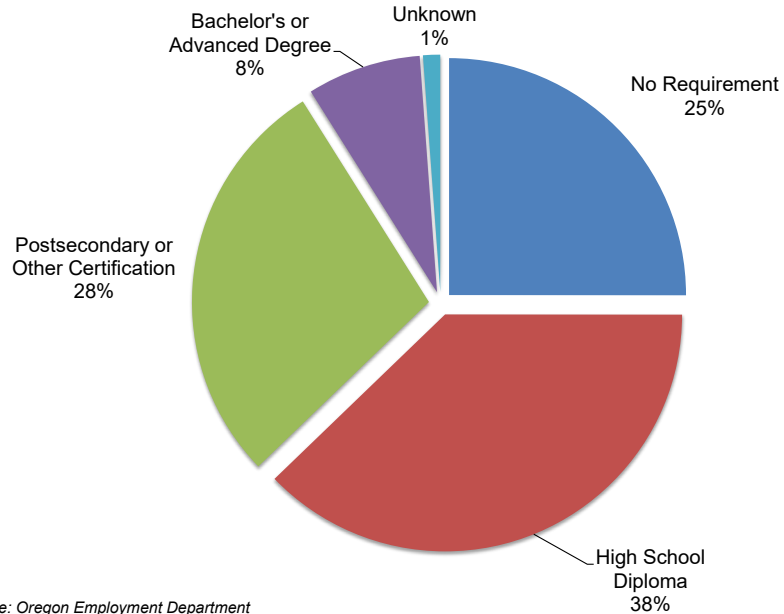
## Top Northwest Oregon Occupations With the Highest Number of Difficult-to-Fill Job Vacancies, 2024

<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Vacancies</b>
<b>Difficult-to-Fill Vacancies in All Occupations</b>	<b>2,268</b>
Personal Care Aides	237
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	167
Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	131
Registered Nurses	107
Fast Food and Counter Workers	87
Dental Assistants	75
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	64
Nursing Assistants	60
Medical Assistants	53
Physical Therapists	53

*Source: Oregon Employment Department*

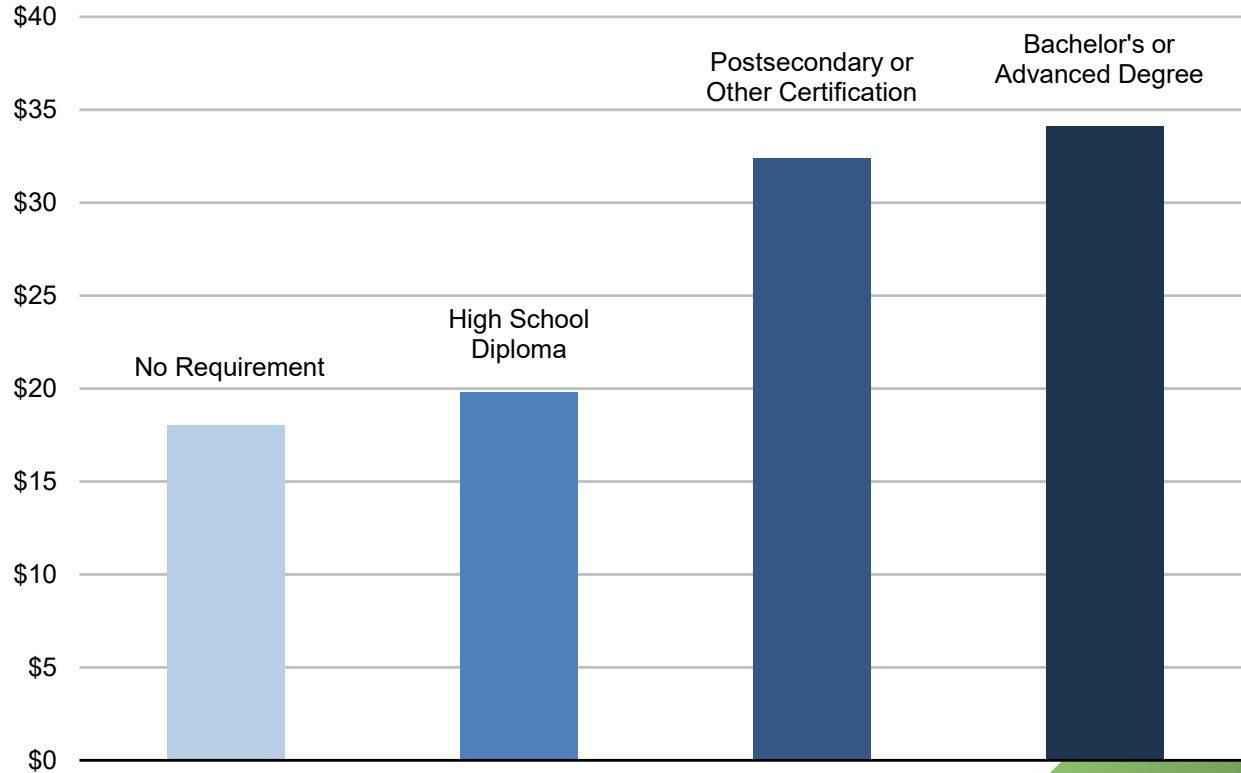
# 63% NORTHWEST OREGON JOB VACANCIES REQUIRED NO EDUCATION BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL.

Northwest Oregon Job Vacancies by Educational Requirement, 2024



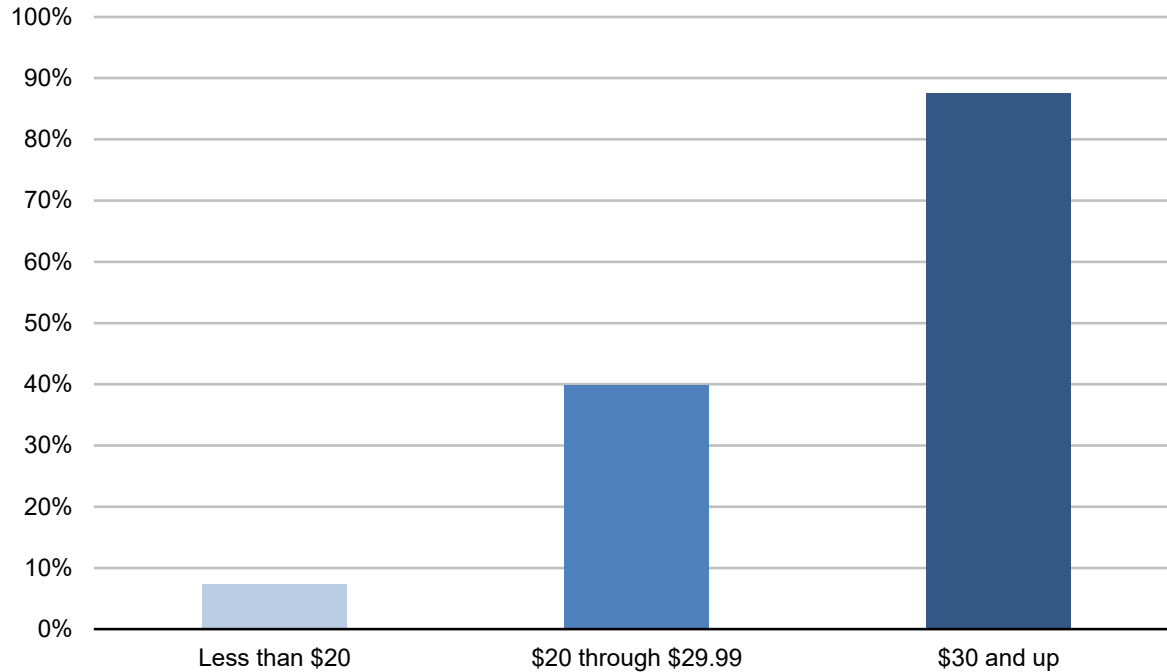
Source: Oregon Employment Department

## Average Hourly Wage for Northwest Oregon Job Vacancies by Education Requirement, 2024



Source: Oregon Employment Department

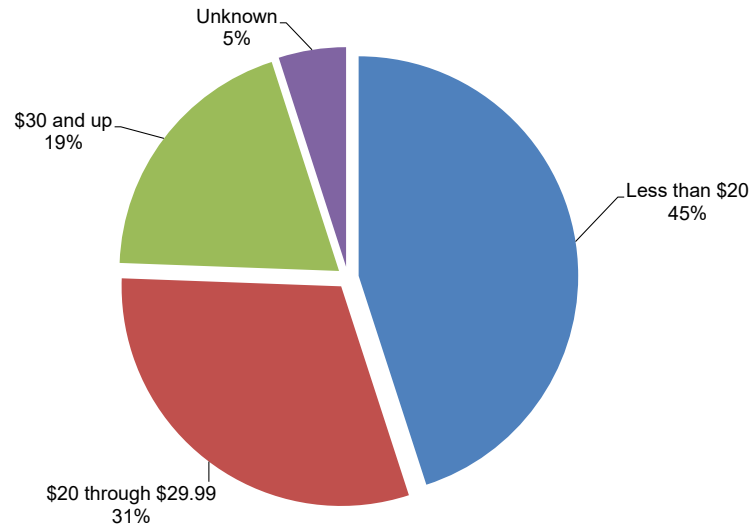
### Share of Northwest Oregon Job Vacancies Requiring Education Beyond High School by Hourly Wage Range, 2024



Source: Oregon Employment Department

**45% OF VACANCIES IN NORTHWEST OREGON PAY LESS THAN \$20 PER HOUR.  
31% OF VACANCIES STARTED AT \$20 TO \$29.99.**

**Northwest Oregon Job Vacancies by Hourly Wage, 2024**



Source: Oregon Employment Department

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

Northwest Oregon Job Vacancies by Required Education Level, 2024

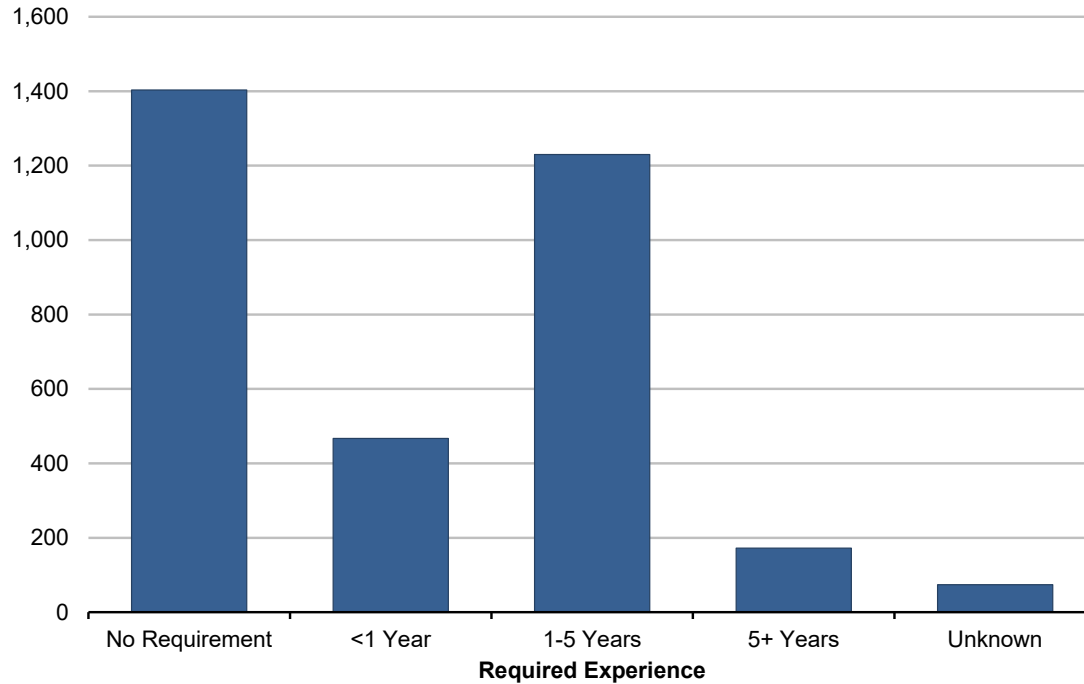
Required Education Level	Vacancies	Average Hourly Wage	Full-time Positions	Permanent Positions	Require Previous Experience	Difficult to Fill
<b>All Education Levels</b>	<b>3,346</b>	<b>\$23.75</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>68%</b>
No Requirement	837	\$18.02	82%	79%	27%	59%
High School Diploma	1,264	\$19.79	80%	95%	67%	56%
Postsecondary or Other Certification	946	\$32.41	84%	93%	59%	89%
Bachelor's or Advanced Degree	260	\$34.15	98%	98%	85%	78%
Unknown	39	\$21.73	79%	90%	59%	59%

Source: Oregon Employment Department

Employers had the most difficulty filling jobs requiring postsecondary certificates, associate's degrees and other certifications.

OVER HALF (56%) OF ALL NORTHWEST OREGON VACANCIES REQUIRED PREVIOUS WORK EXPERIENCE.

### Northwest Oregon Job Vacancies Requiring Previous Experience, 2024



Source: Oregon Employment Department

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

Northwest Oregon 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
<b>All Wage Ranges</b>	<b>3,346</b>	<b>\$23.75</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>68%</b>
Less than \$20	1,506	\$16.84	81%	89%	7%	38%	53%
\$20 through \$29.99	1,023	\$22.88	86%	91%	40%	66%	81%
\$30 and up	651	\$41.12	85%	97%	88%	76%	84%
Unknown	166	-	72%	73%	82%	78%	61%

Source: Oregon Employment Department

Employers had the most difficulty filling their high-wage vacancies, with 84% 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

# 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
<b>Oregon Statewide</b>	<b>57,767</b>	<b>\$25.37</b>	<b>79%</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>55%</b>
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
<b>Oregon Statewide</b>	<b>57,241</b>	<b>44,408</b>	<b>96,887</b>	<b>103,977</b>	<b>72,815</b>	<b>57,767</b>	<b>-21%</b>
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!**

## **SHAUN BARRICK, REGIONAL ECONOMIST**

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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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