

# HELP WANTED IN OREGON RESULTS FROM THE FALL 2024 JOB VACANCY SURVEY

**JANUARY 30, 2024**

# OREGON BUSINESSES REPORTED 49,900 VACANCIES IN FALL 2024, THE LOWEST SINCE SUMMER 2020 AND LOWEST FALL SINCE 2015.

## Oregon Job Vacancies, Fall 2024

<b>Vacancies</b>	<b>49,903</b>
Average Hourly Wage	\$26.50
Full-time Positions	80%
Permanent Positions	97%
Requiring Education Beyond High School	39%
Requiring Previous Experience	61%
Difficult to Fill	63%

Source: Oregon Employment Department

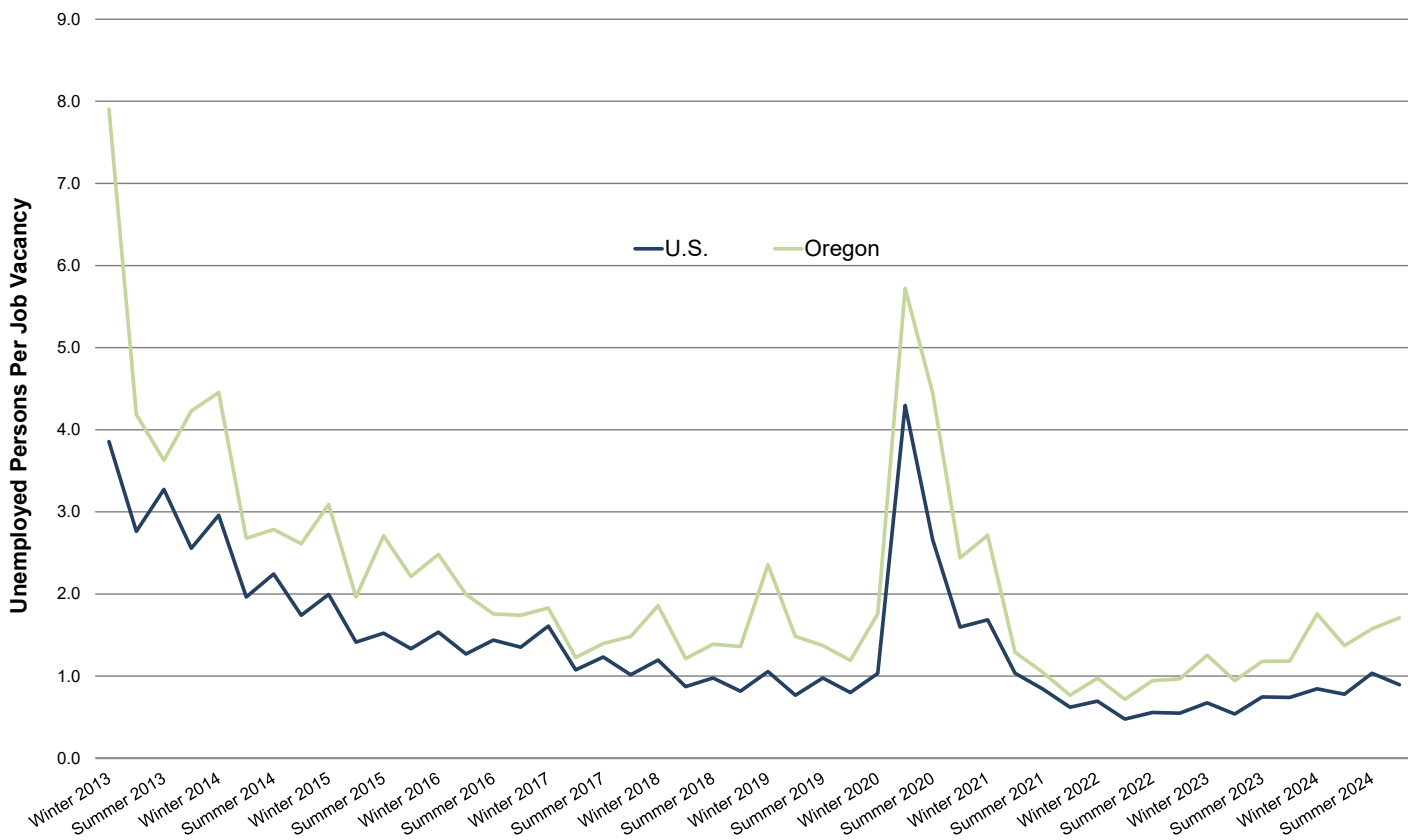
Oregon businesses reported 49,900 vacancies in fall 2024. Vacancies decreased 18% from the summer and decreased 23% from fall 2023. Employers reported difficulty filling 63% of fall 2024 vacancies.

The average starting wage among this group of vacancies was \$26.50 per hour, an inflation-adjusted increase of 1% from fall 2023, and a 3% increase from summer 2024.

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

# AS BOTH UNEMPLOYMENT AND VACANCIES DECREASED IN THE FALL, THE UNEMPLOYED TO JOB VACANCY RATIO IN OREGON INCREASED SLIGHTLY.

**U.S. and Oregon Unemployed to Job Vacancy Ratios**  
**Rising Slowly After Record Lows**  
 (Job Openings with Private Employers, 2013-2024)



The U.S. ratio was 0.89 in October 2024, its 15<sup>th</sup> straight quarter at or below 1. It reached 4.3 in April 2020 after several years around 1-to-1.

Oregon had 1.7 unemployed per job vacancy in fall 2024, still much lower than the peak of 5.7 in May 2020.

Source: Oregon Employment Department

# BUSINESSES REPORTED HIRING IN VARIOUS INDUSTRIES.

## Oregon Job Vacancies by Industry, Fall 2024

<u>Industry</u>	<u>Vacancies</u>
<b>All Industries</b>	<b>49,903</b>
Health care and social assistance	13,521
Professional, scientific, and technical services	6,713
Leisure and hospitality	4,739
Manufacturing	4,435
Management, administrative, and waste services	3,543
Other services	3,380
Retail trade	3,122
Financial activities	2,643
Wholesale trade	2,306
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	2,198
Construction	2,144
Natural resources and mining	908
Information	166
Private educational services	85

Source: Oregon Employment Department

Health care and social assistance represented 27% of all vacancies, with 13,500. Professional, scientific, and technical services had 6,700 vacancies and leisure and hospitality had 4,700.

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

# THE STARTING WAGE FOR JOB VACANCIES AVERAGED \$26.50 PER HOUR IN THE FALL.

## Oregon Job Vacancies by Hourly Wage Range

Wage (per hour)	Fall 2023	Fall 2024
<b>All Wage Ranges</b>	<b>65,188</b>	<b>49,903</b>
Less than \$20	20,028	16,273
\$20 through \$29.99	20,373	16,733
\$30 and up	13,575	11,488

*Unknown excluded*

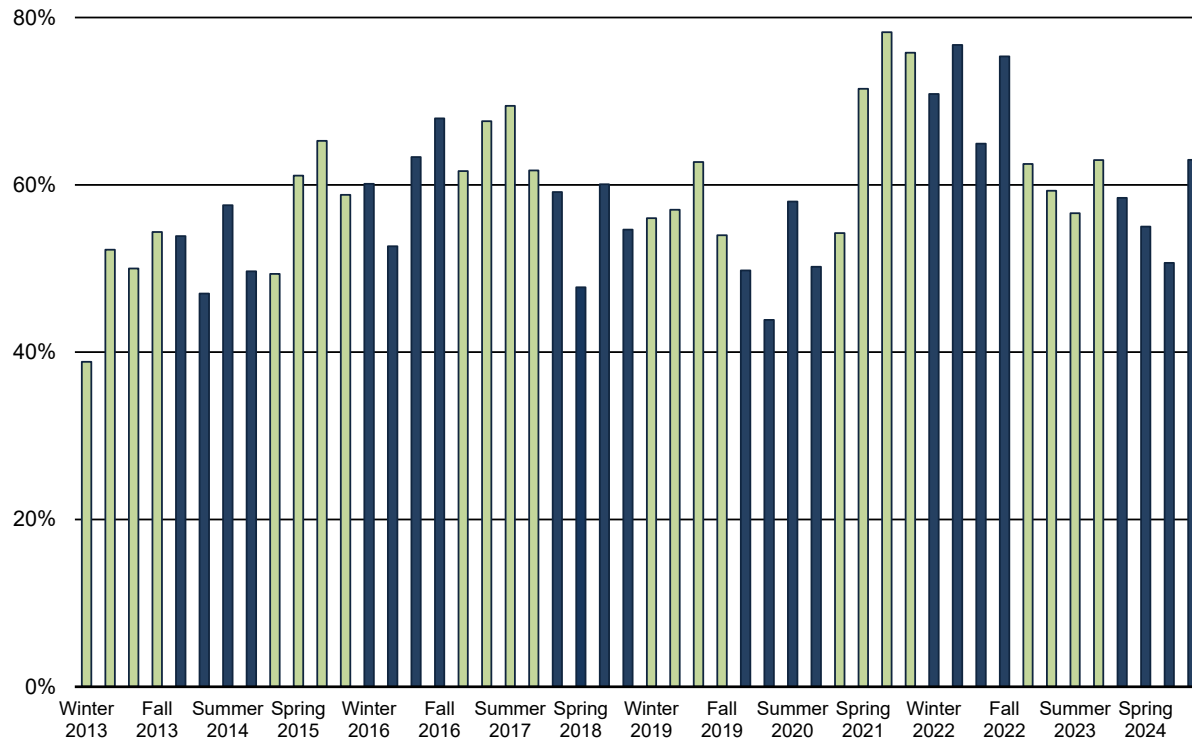
*Source: Oregon Employment Department*

The average starting wage among this group of vacancies was around \$26.50 per hour, an inflation-adjusted increase of 1% from fall 2023 and a 3% increase from summer 2024.

The number of vacancies offering a starting wage below \$20 per hour decreased 19% over the year. The number of vacancies offering between \$20 and \$30 per hour decreased 18%, and vacancies paying above \$30 per hour decreased 15%.

# 63% OF FALL JOB VACANCIES WERE REPORTED AS DIFFICULT TO FILL.

**Businesses Report Difficulty Filling  
63% of Vacancies in Fall 2024**



Source: Oregon Employment Department, Quarterly Job Vacancy

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

- Personal care aides
- Stockers and order fillers
- Preschool teachers
- Maintenance and repair workers
- Registered nurses
- Restaurant cooks

# 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

# VACANCIES DECLINED OVER THE YEAR IN MOST REGIONS, EXCEPT IN CLACKAMAS COUNTY.

## Oregon Job Vacancies by Geography, Fall 2024

<u>Geography</u>	<u>Vacancies</u>
<b>Oregon Statewide</b>	<b>49,903</b>
Portland Metro	13,833
Clackamas	8,408
Mid-Valley	6,549
East Cascades	5,142
Lane	4,991
Rogue Valley	3,794
Northwest Oregon	2,624
Southwestern Oregon	2,419
Eastern Oregon	2,143

*Multi-area or unknown regions excluded*

*Source: Oregon Employment Department*

Summer vacancies were distributed across the state, with the Portland tri-county area accounting for about 45%.

Vacancies decreased over the year in every region of the state, except in Clackamas County. Vacancies increased 30% over the year in Clackamas County.



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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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