



Help Wanted in Oregon

Results from the Spring 2022

Job Vacancy Survey



Oregon businesses reported 106,500 vacancies in spring 2022.

Oregon Job Vacancies, Spring 2022

Vacancies	106,471
Average Hourly Wage	\$21.36
Full-time Positions	78%
Permanent Positions	92%
Requiring Education Beyond High School	31%
Requiring Previous Experience	55%
Difficult to Fill	77%

Vacancies increased 6% from the winter and increased 9% from spring 2021. Employers reported difficulty filling 77% of spring 2022 vacancies.

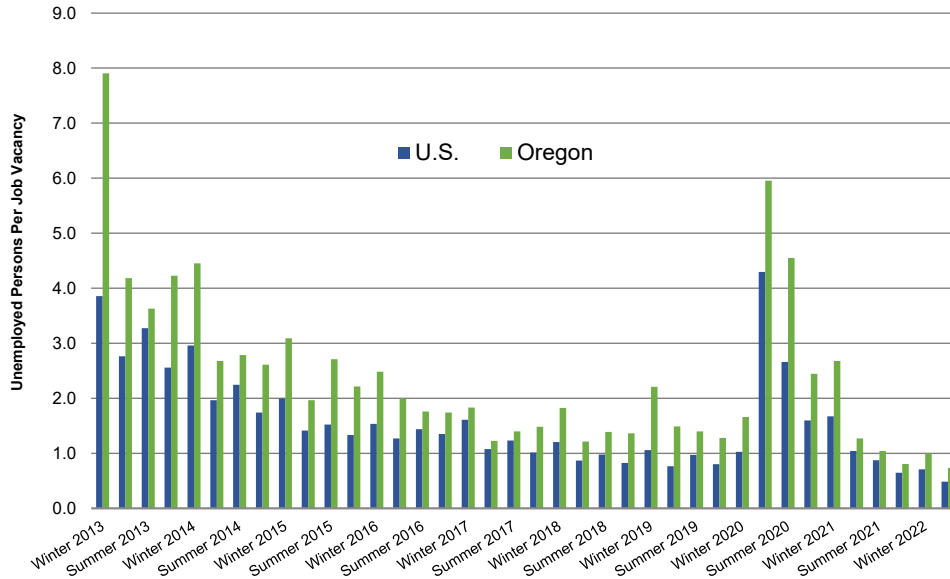
The average starting wage among this group of vacancies was \$21.36 per hour, an inflation-adjusted increase of 7.0% from spring 2021 and 4.4% increase from winter 2022.

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 dropped and vacancies rose, the unemployed to job vacancy ratio declined to record lows.

U.S. and Oregon Unemployed to Job Vacancy Ratios Reach Record Lows after Spring 2020 Peak
(Job Openings with Private Employers, 2013-2022)



The unemployed-to-vacancy ratio dropped dramatically over the past year and a half.

The U.S. ratio was 0.5 in April 2022. It peaked very suddenly amid COVID closures, reaching 4.3 in April 2020 after several years around 1-to-1.

Oregon had 0.7 unemployed per job vacancy in April 2022 after reaching 5.8 in May 2020.

Businesses reported hiring in various industries.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Industry, Spring 2022

<u>Industry</u>	<u>Vacancies</u>
All Industries	106,471
Leisure and hospitality	24,049
Health care and social assistance	20,357
Other services	11,016
Construction	9,623
Retail trade	9,406
Management, administrative, and waste services	7,667
Manufacturing	6,431
Professional, scientific, and technical services	5,802
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	3,042
Wholesale trade	2,633
Private educational services	2,181
Financial activities	2,120
Information	1,208
Natural resources and mining	936

Source: Oregon Employment Department

Leisure and hospitality had the most job vacancies so far in 2022. The spring level was 21% above spring 2021. Health care and social assistance had the second highest level of vacancies in the spring, with the total 8% lower than at this time last year.

Note: While we've all seen evidence of local school districts hiring as in-person learning fully resumed, those openings and other government hiring aren't captured in this survey of private-sector businesses.



The starting wage for job vacancies averaged \$21.36 per hour in the spring.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Hourly Wage Range, Spring 2022

Wage (per hour)	Vacancies	Average Hourly Wage
All Wage Ranges	106,471	\$21.36
Less than \$15	17,335	\$13.56
\$15 through \$19.99	41,565	\$16.89
\$20 through \$24.99	15,782	\$21.86
\$25 through \$29.99	8,176	\$26.45
\$30 and up	12,927	\$42.37
Unknown	10,686	

Source: Oregon Employment Department

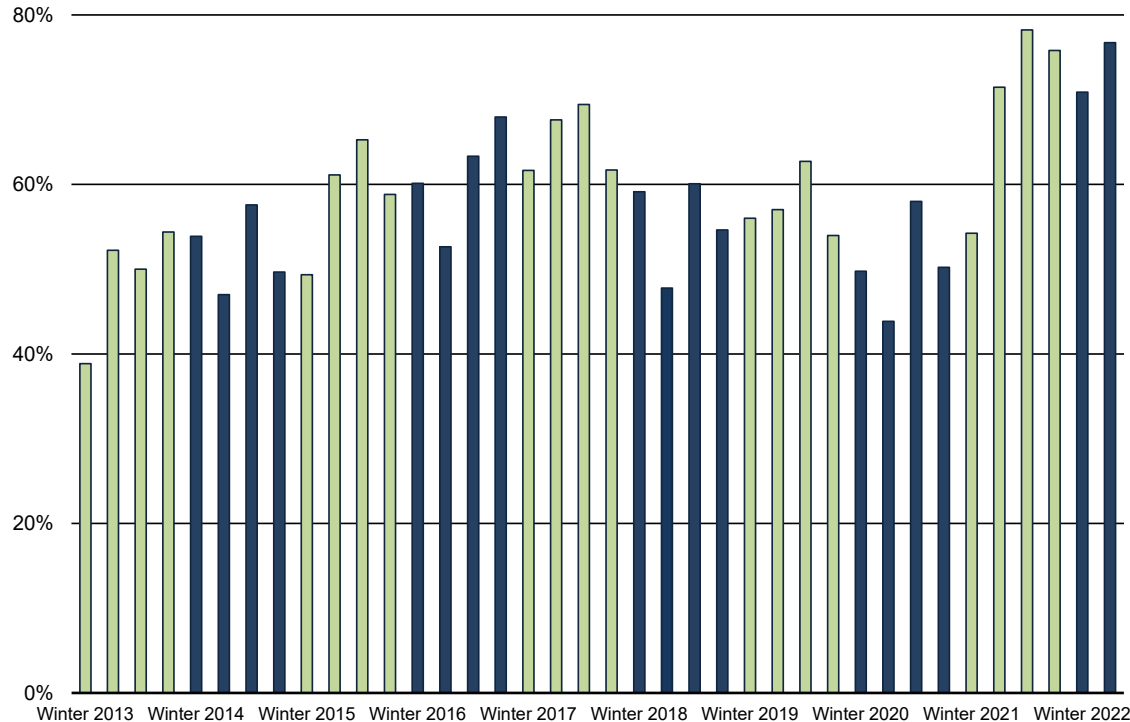
The average starting wage among this group of vacancies was around \$21.36 per hour, an inflation-adjusted increase of 7.0% from spring 2021 and 4.4% increase from winter 2022.

Total vacancies were up 9% from the level last spring. The number of vacancies offering a starting wage below \$15 per hour dropped 40% over the year. The number of vacancies offering between \$15 and \$25 per hour increased 35% and vacancies paying above \$25 per hour increased 56%.



77% of spring job vacancies were reported as difficult to fill.

Businesses Report Difficulty Filling 77% of Vacancies in Spring 2022



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

- Cooks, restaurants (4,400)
- Personal care aides (3,100)
- Maids and housekeeping cleaners (2,700)
- Retail salespersons (2,700)
- Dishwashers (2,600)

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



Spring vacancies were distributed across the state.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Geography, Spring 2022

<u>Geography</u>	<u>Vacancies</u>
Oregon Statewide	106,471
Portland Metro	29,372
Mid-Valley	14,490
East Cascades	12,730
Lane	12,260
Clackamas	10,881
Rogue Valley	10,136
Northwest Oregon	7,110
Eastern Oregon	4,185
Southwestern Oregon	3,921

Unknown/multiple regions excluded

Source: Oregon Employment Department

Vacancies increased 6% from the winter and increased 9% from spring 2021.

The Portland tri-county area represented 38% of spring vacancies. Vacancies increased the most over the year in the Mid-Valley and Lane 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

