

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

**OCTOBER 24, 2024**

# OREGON BUSINESSES REPORTED 61,000 VACANCIES IN SUMMER 2024.

## Oregon Job Vacancies, Summer 2024

<b>Vacancies</b>	<b>61,013</b>
Average Hourly Wage	\$25.55
Full-time Positions	79%
Permanent Positions	94%
Requiring Education Beyond High School	40%
Requiring Previous Experience	53%
Difficult to Fill	51%

Source: Oregon Employment Department

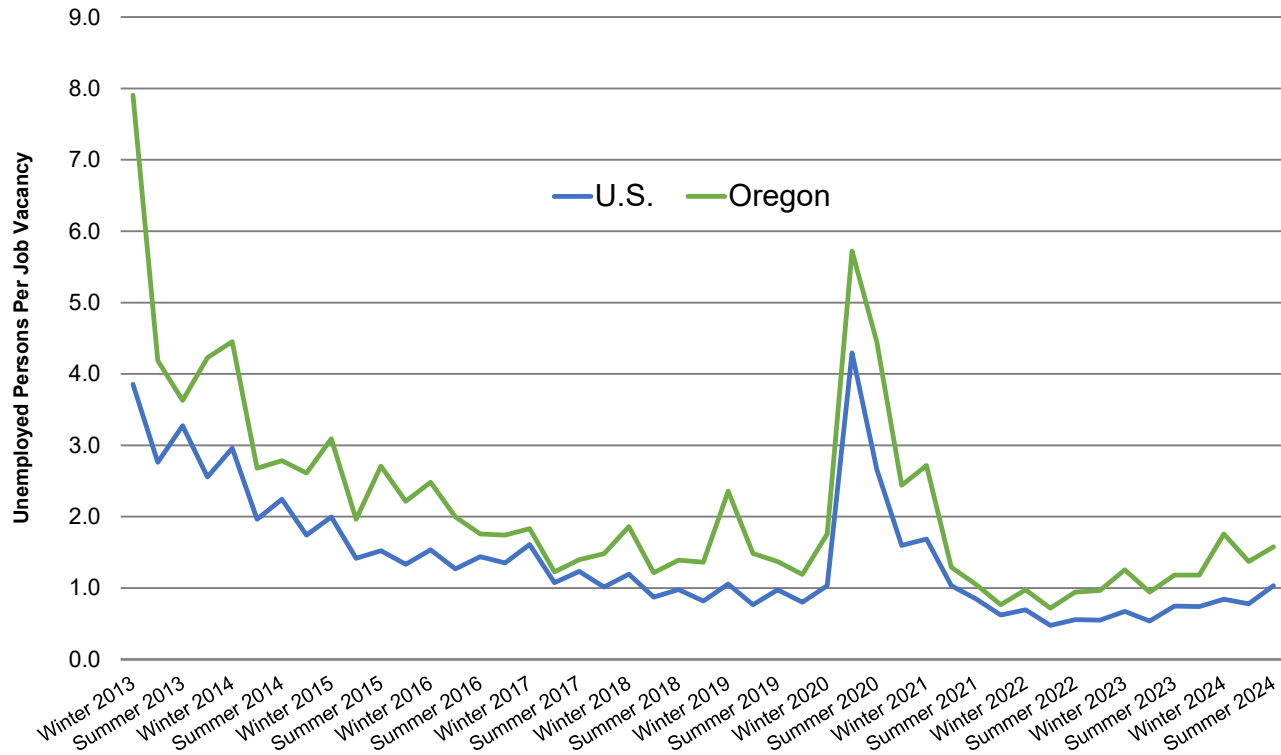
Oregon businesses reported 61,000 vacancies in summer 2024. Vacancies increased 6% from the spring and decreased 13% from summer 2023. Employers reported difficulty filling 51% of summer 2024 vacancies.

The average starting wage among this group of vacancies was around \$25.55 per hour, an inflation-adjusted increase of 4% from summer 2023, and a 2% decrease from spring 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 INCREASED IN THE SUMMER, 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



Source: Oregon Employment Department

The U.S. ratio was 1.0 in July 2024, its 12th straight quarter at or below 1. It reached 4.3 in April 2020 after several years around 1-to-1.

Oregon had 1.6 unemployed per job vacancy in summer 2024, still much lower than the peak of 5.7 in May 2020.

# BUSINESSES REPORTED HIRING IN VARIOUS INDUSTRIES.

## Oregon Job Vacancies by Industry, Summer 2024

<u>Industry</u>	<u>Vacancies</u>
<b>All Industries</b>	<b>61,013</b>
Health care and social assistance	25,397
Retail trade	7,038
Manufacturing	4,929
Wholesale trade	4,375
Leisure and hospitality	3,513
Construction	3,166
Management, administrative, and waste services	2,863
Professional, scientific, and technical services	2,756
Other services	2,435
Financial activities	2,280
Private educational services	1,155
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	550
Natural resources and mining	403
Information	153

Source: Oregon Employment Department

Health care and social assistance represented 42% of all vacancies, with 25,400. Retail trade had 7,000 vacancies in summer. Manufacturing had 4,900 vacancies.

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

# THE STARTING WAGE FOR JOB VACANCIES AVERAGED \$25.55 PER HOUR IN THE SUMMER.

## Oregon Job Vacancies by Hourly Wage Range

<b>Wage (per hour)</b>	<b>Summer 2023</b>	<b>Summer 2024</b>
<b>All Wage Ranges</b>	<b>70,485</b>	<b>61,013</b>
Less than \$20	29,765	19,233
\$20 through \$29.99	20,962	16,385
\$30 and up	12,754	11,249

*Unknown excluded*

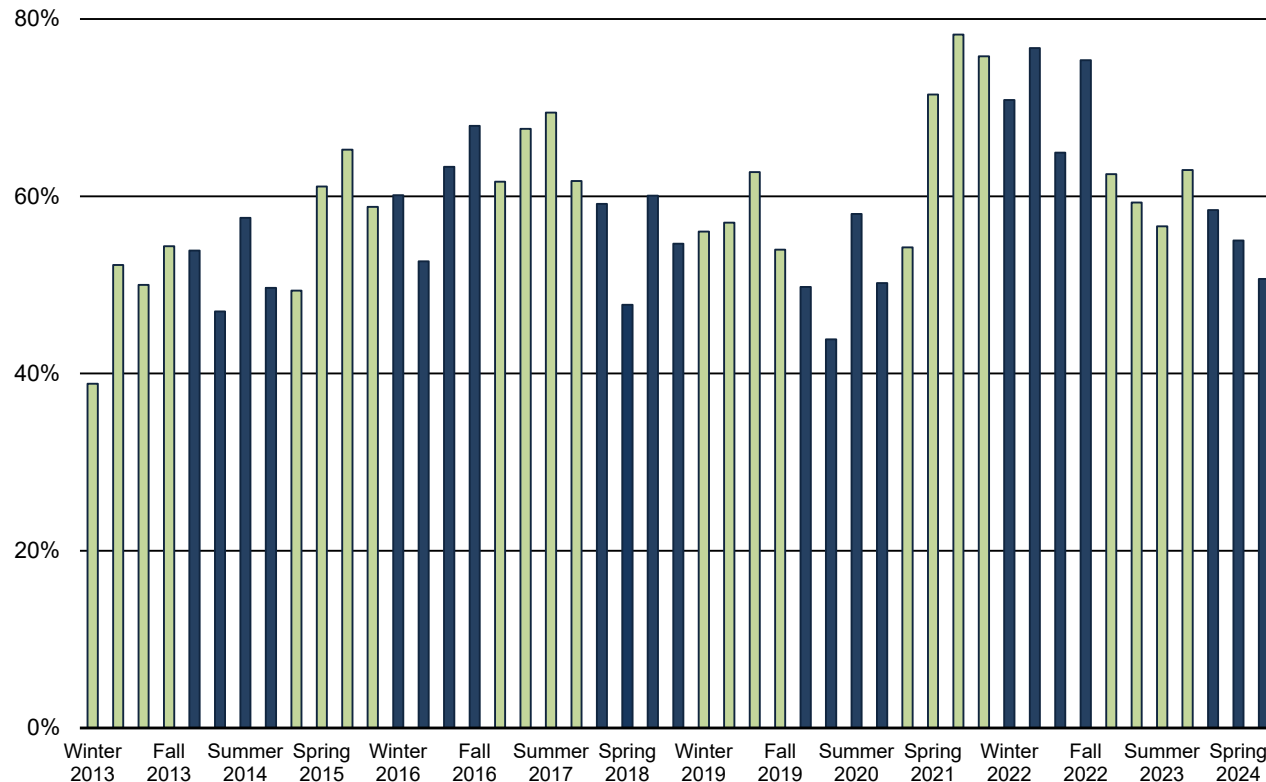
*Source: Oregon Employment Department*

The average starting wage among this group of vacancies was around \$25.55 per hour, an inflation-adjusted increase of 4% from summer 2023 and a 2% decrease from spring 2024.

The number of vacancies offering a starting wage below \$20 per hour decreased 35% over the year. The number of vacancies offering between \$20 and \$30 per hour decreased 22%, and vacancies paying above \$30 per hour decreased 12%.

# 51% OF SUMMER JOB VACANCIES WERE REPORTED AS DIFFICULT TO FILL.

**Businesses Report Difficulty Filling  
51% of Vacancies in Summer 2024**



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

- Preschool teachers
- Maids and housekeeping cleaners
- Medical assistants
- Registered nurses

Source: Oregon Employment Department, Quarterly Job Vacancy

# 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 THE LANE AND EASTERN OREGON AREAS.

## Oregon Job Vacancies by Geography, Summer 2024

<b>Geography</b>	<b>Vacancies</b>
<b>Oregon Statewide</b>	<b>61,013</b>
Portland Metro	21,582
Mid-Valley	9,946
Lane	7,022
Clackamas	6,412
East Cascades	4,514
Eastern Oregon	2,944
Rogue Valley	2,477
Northwest Oregon	2,420
Southwestern Oregon	2,326

*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 46%.

Vacancies decreased over the year in every region of the state, except in the Lane and Eastern Oregon areas. These regions' vacancies increased by 3% and 5%, respectively.



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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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