

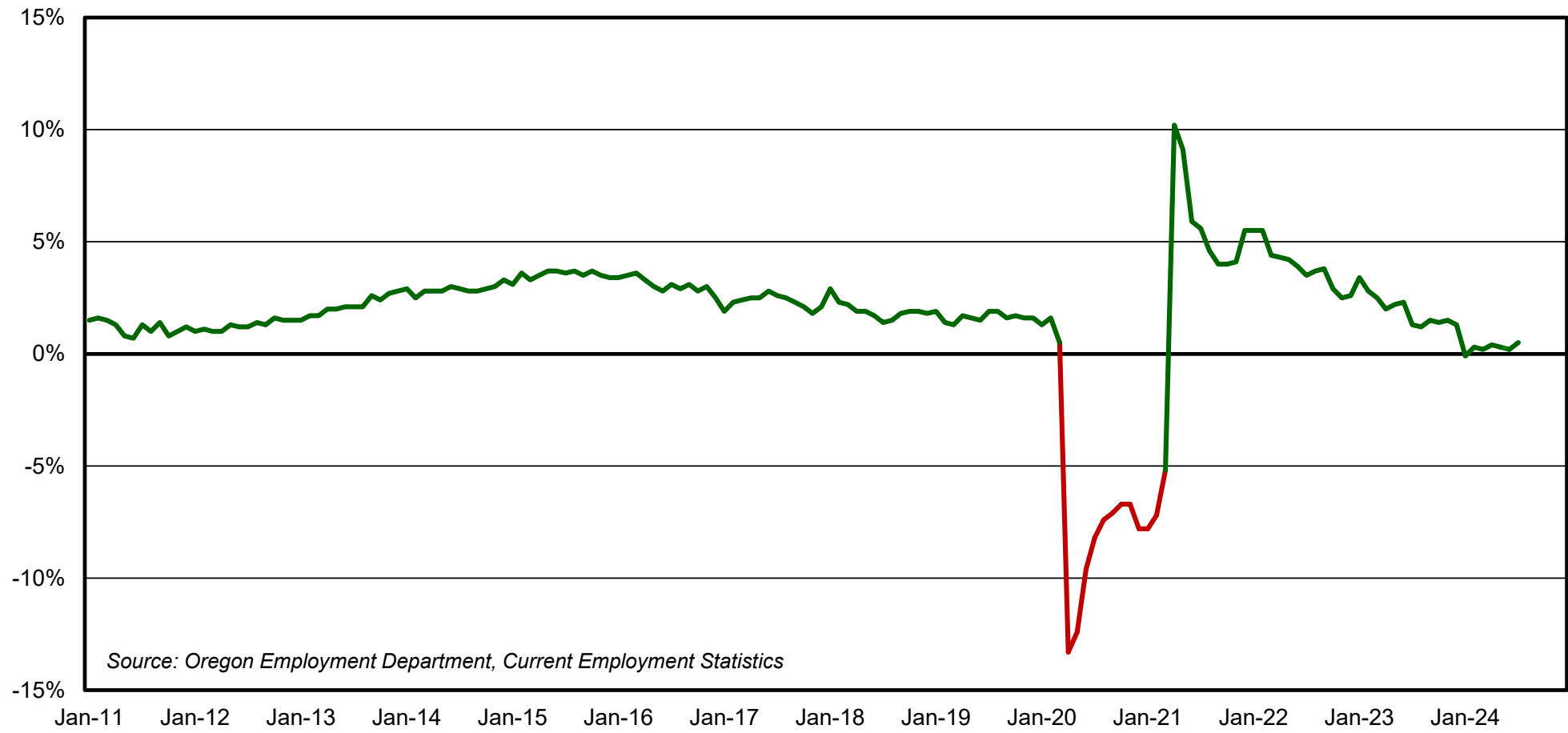
# Douglas County Small Business Economic Update

Henry Fields, Lane and Douglas County Workforce  
Analyst

September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024

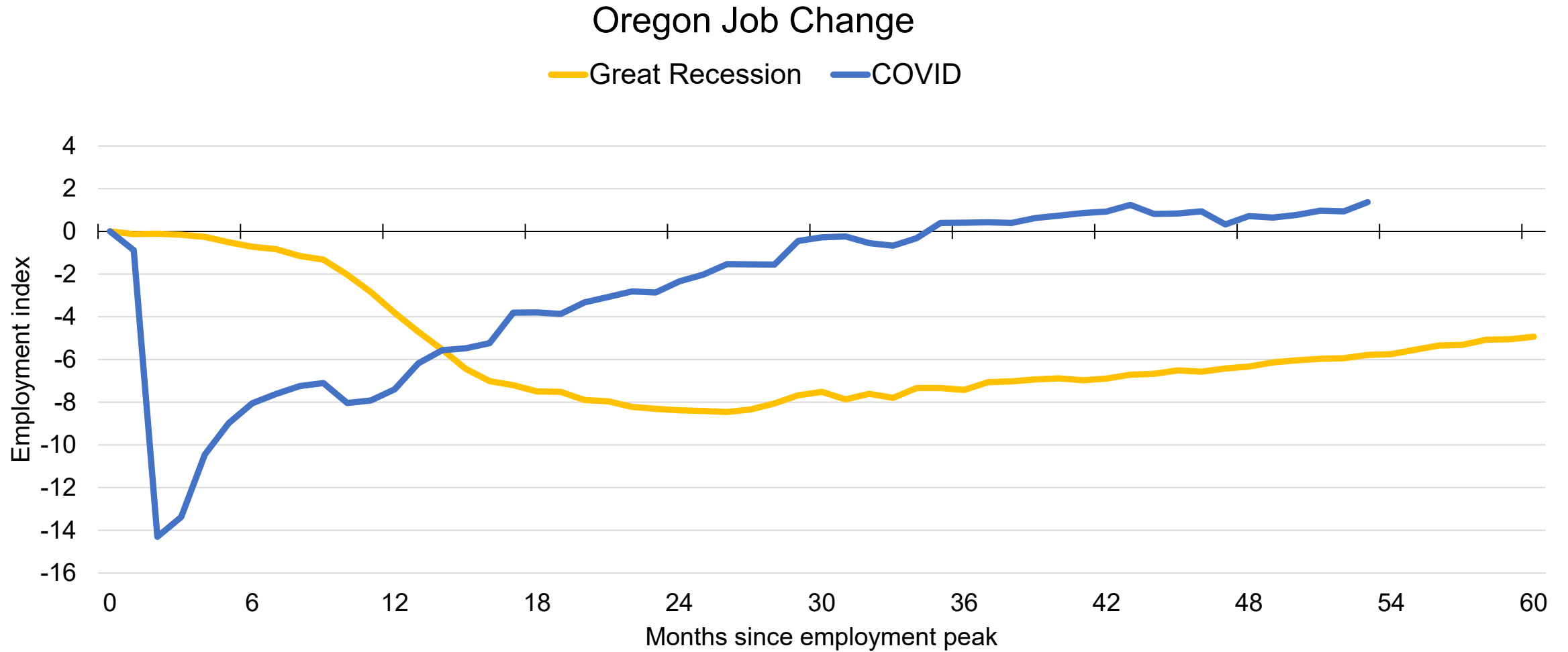
# Job growth has been positive but slow over last few years

## Oregon's Year-Over-Year Percentage Change in Jobs Seasonally Adjusted



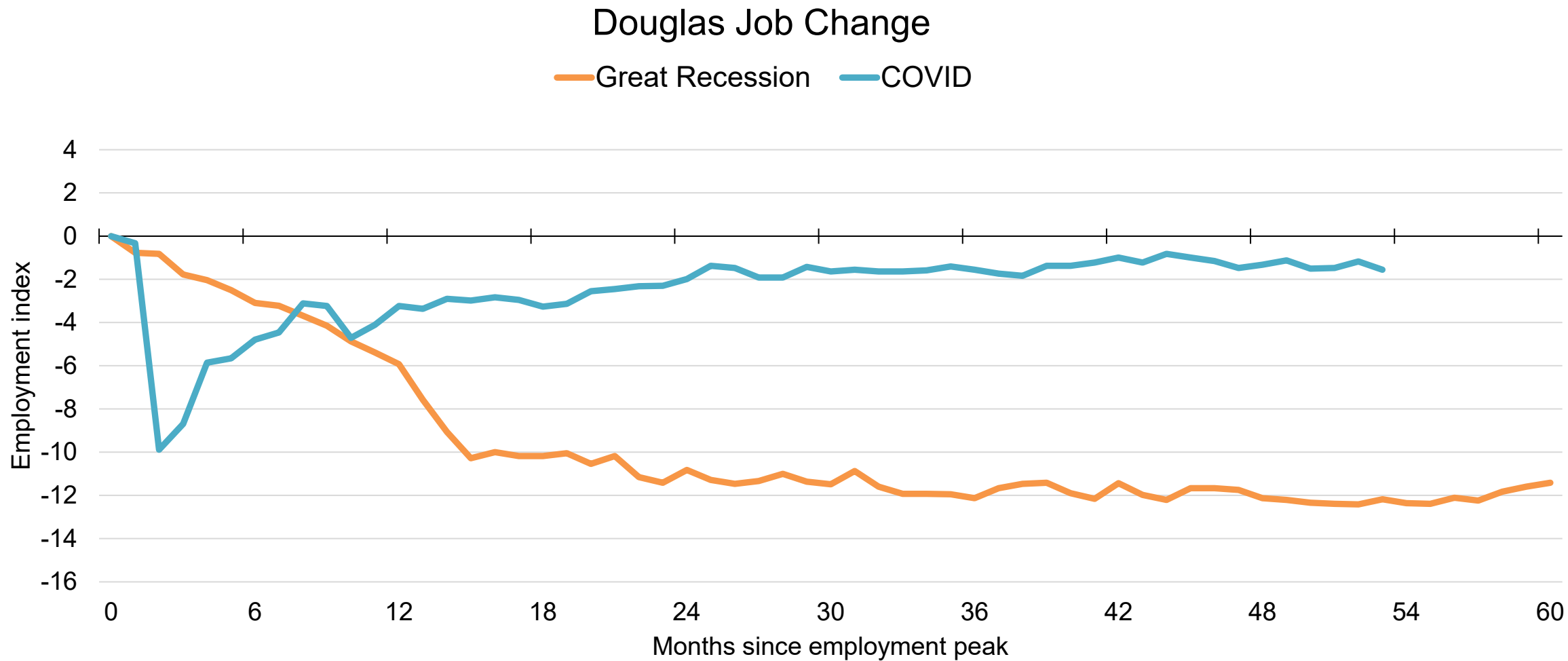
Source: Oregon Employment Department, Current Employment Statistics

# Overall, 2020 recovery was fast by historical standards



Source: Oregon Employment Department, Current Employment Statistics

# Douglas had a harder Great Recession and easier 2020 (at first)

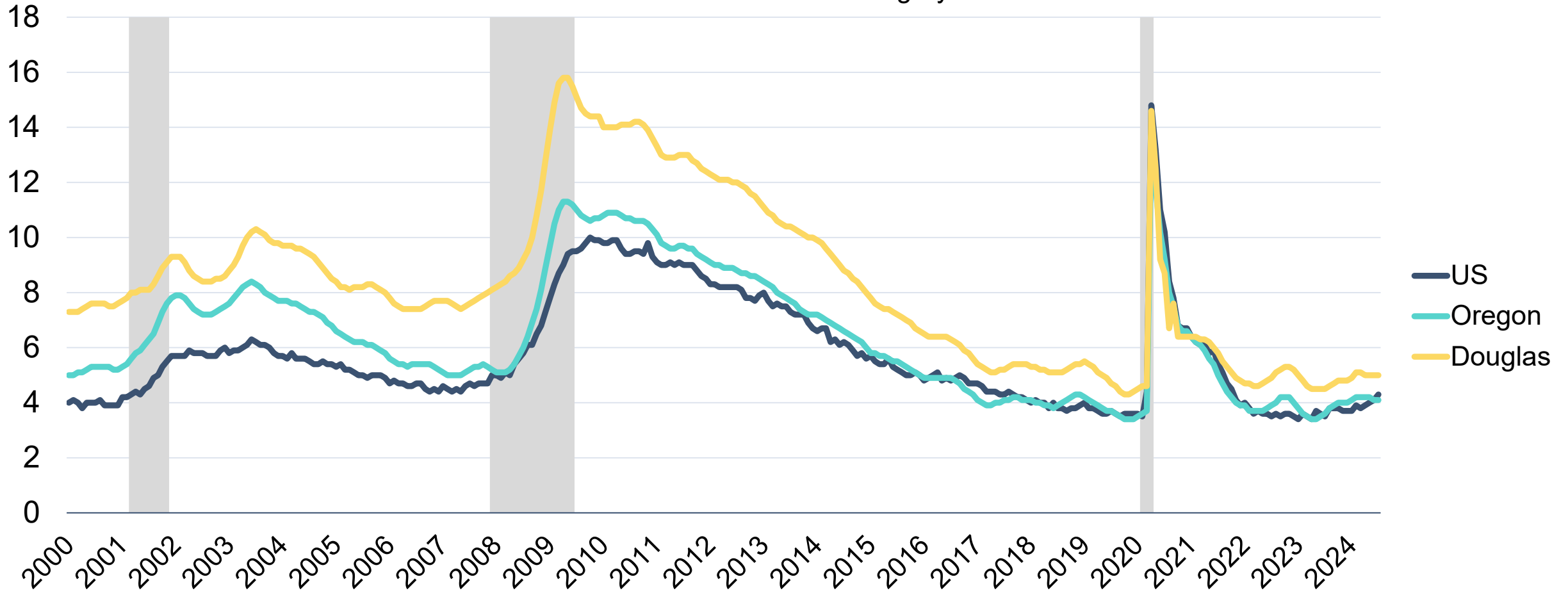


Source: Oregon Employment Department, Current Employment Statistics

# Unemployment is near historic lows

## Unemployment Rate, Seasonally Adjusted

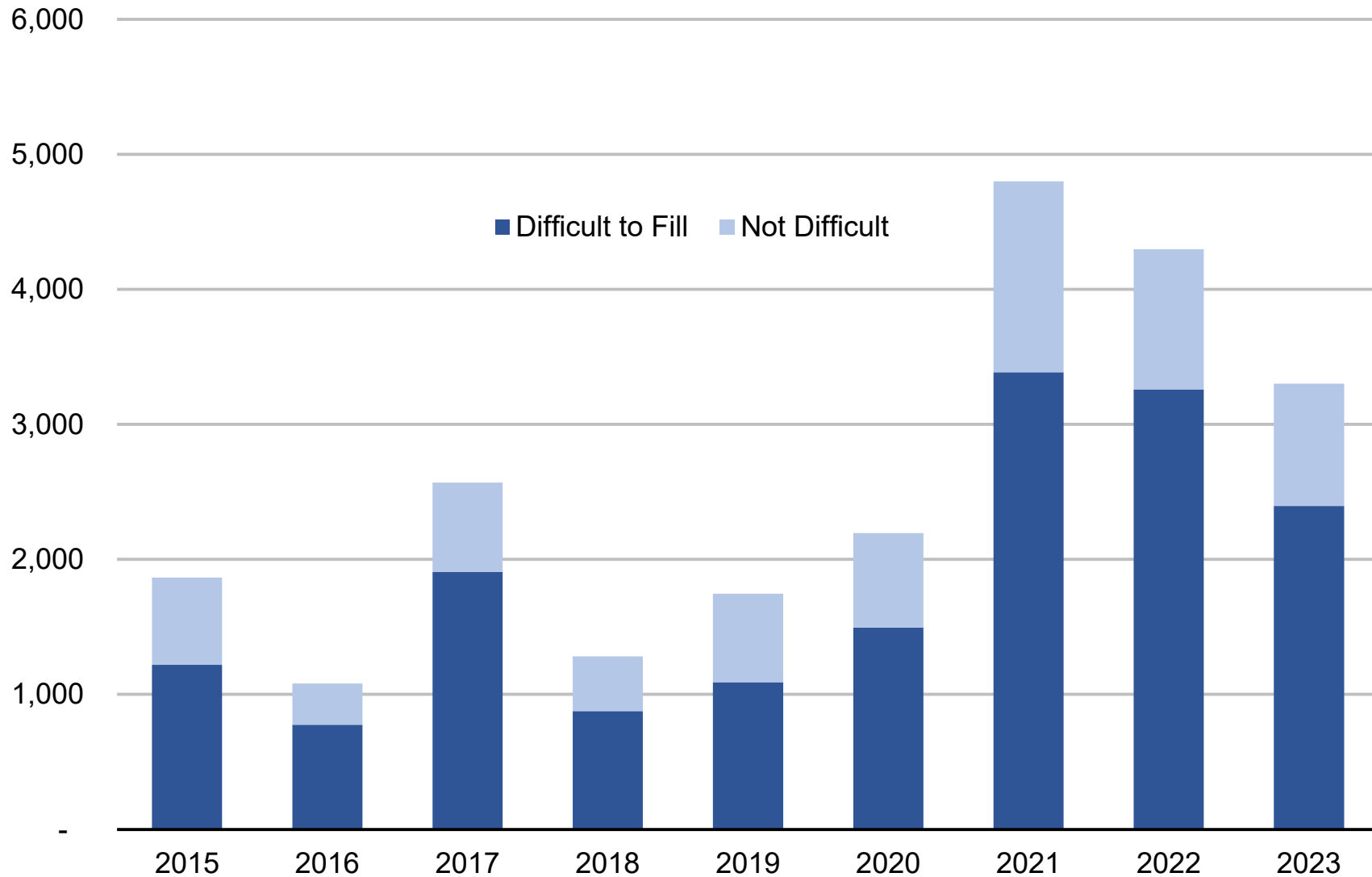
Recessions shaded in grey



Source: Oregon Employment Department, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

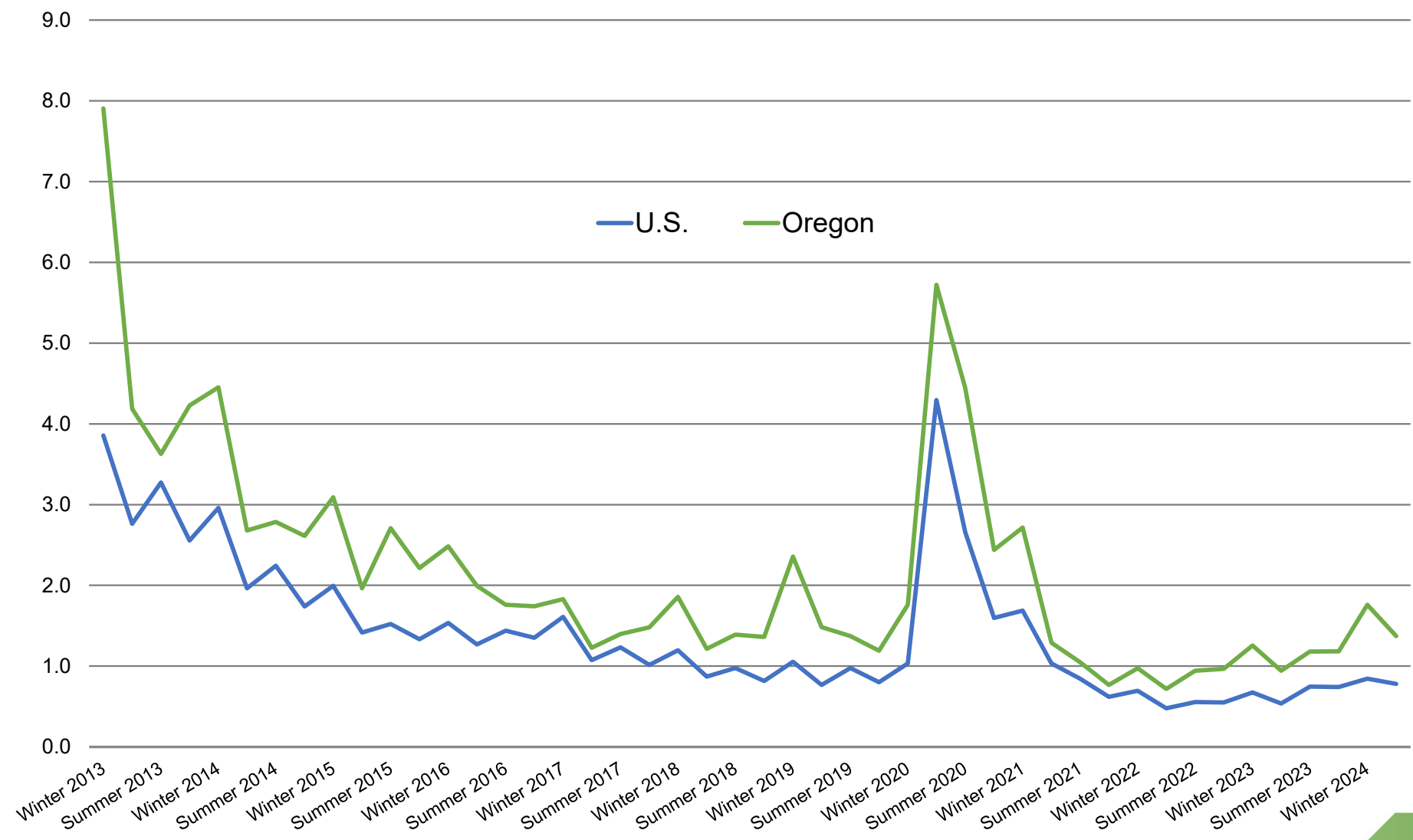
Job vacancies are higher than pre-2020, but not as high as 2021-22

### Southwestern Oregon Job Vacancies



Source: Oregon Employment Department Job Vacancy Survey

# In the U.S., there are more job openings than unemployed people



## Ratio of Unemployed People to Job Openings at Private Companies

Source: Oregon Employment Department, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

# Some jobs were harder to fill in SW Oregon

## Top Southwestern Oregon Occupations With the Highest Number of Job Vacancies, 2023

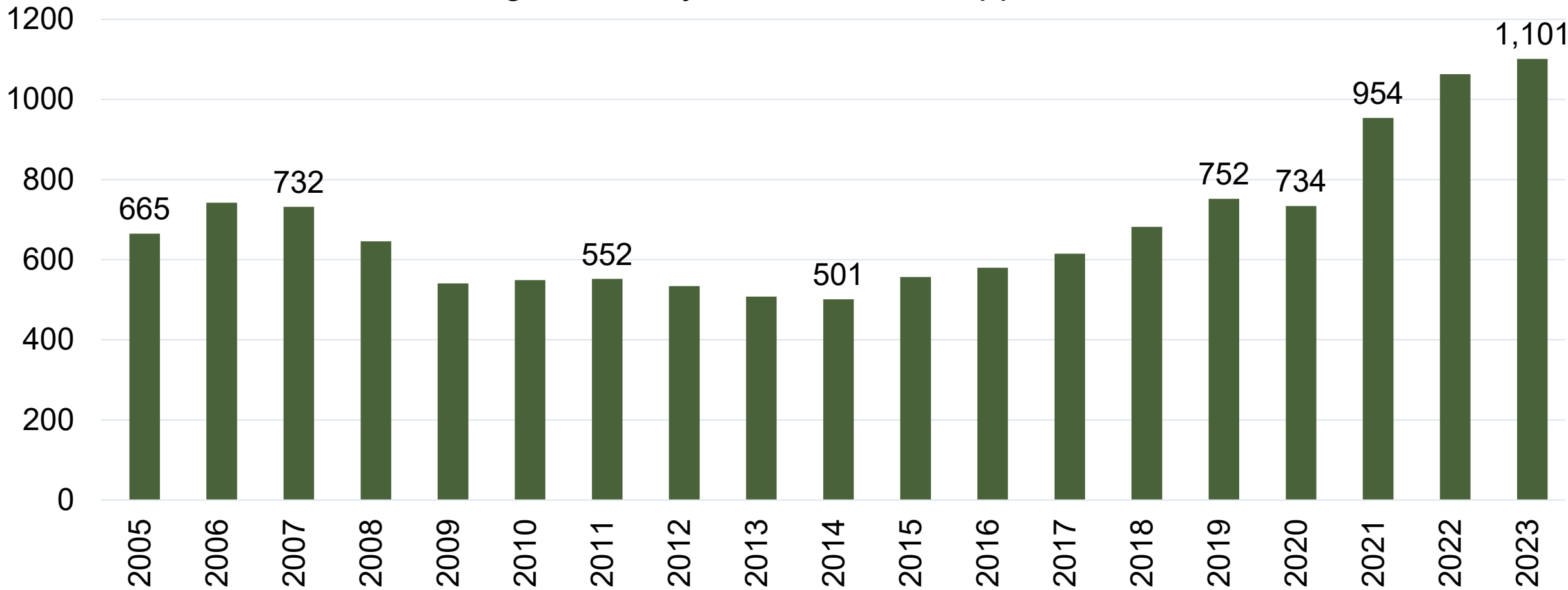
<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Vacancies</b>
<b>Difficult-to-Fill Vacancies in All Occupations</b>	<b>2,395</b>
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	169
Construction Laborers	81
Personal Care Aides	77
Registered Nurses	72
Production Workers, All Other	71
Nursing Assistants	70
Therapists, All Other	64
Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technicians	62
Fast Food and Counter Workers	60
Cooks, Restaurant	59
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	54
Carpenters	53
Radiologic Technologists and Technicians	52
Firefighters	50

*Source: Oregon Employment  
Department Job Vacancy Survey*



# People are starting businesses at elevated rates

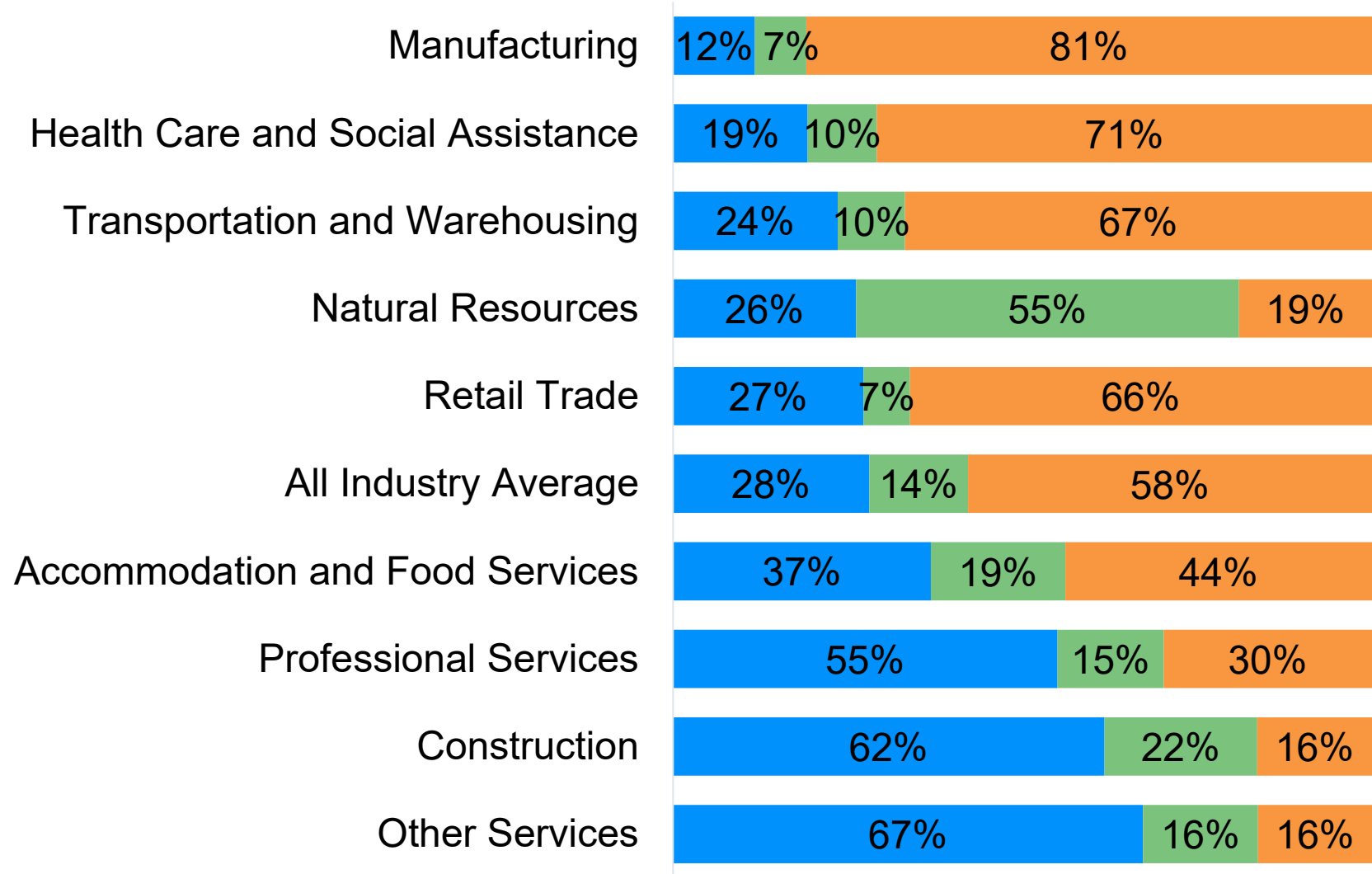
## Douglas County New Business Applications



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Business Formation Statistics

# 42% of Douglas workers are at a business employing less than 50

■ 0-19 ■ 20-49 ■ 50+

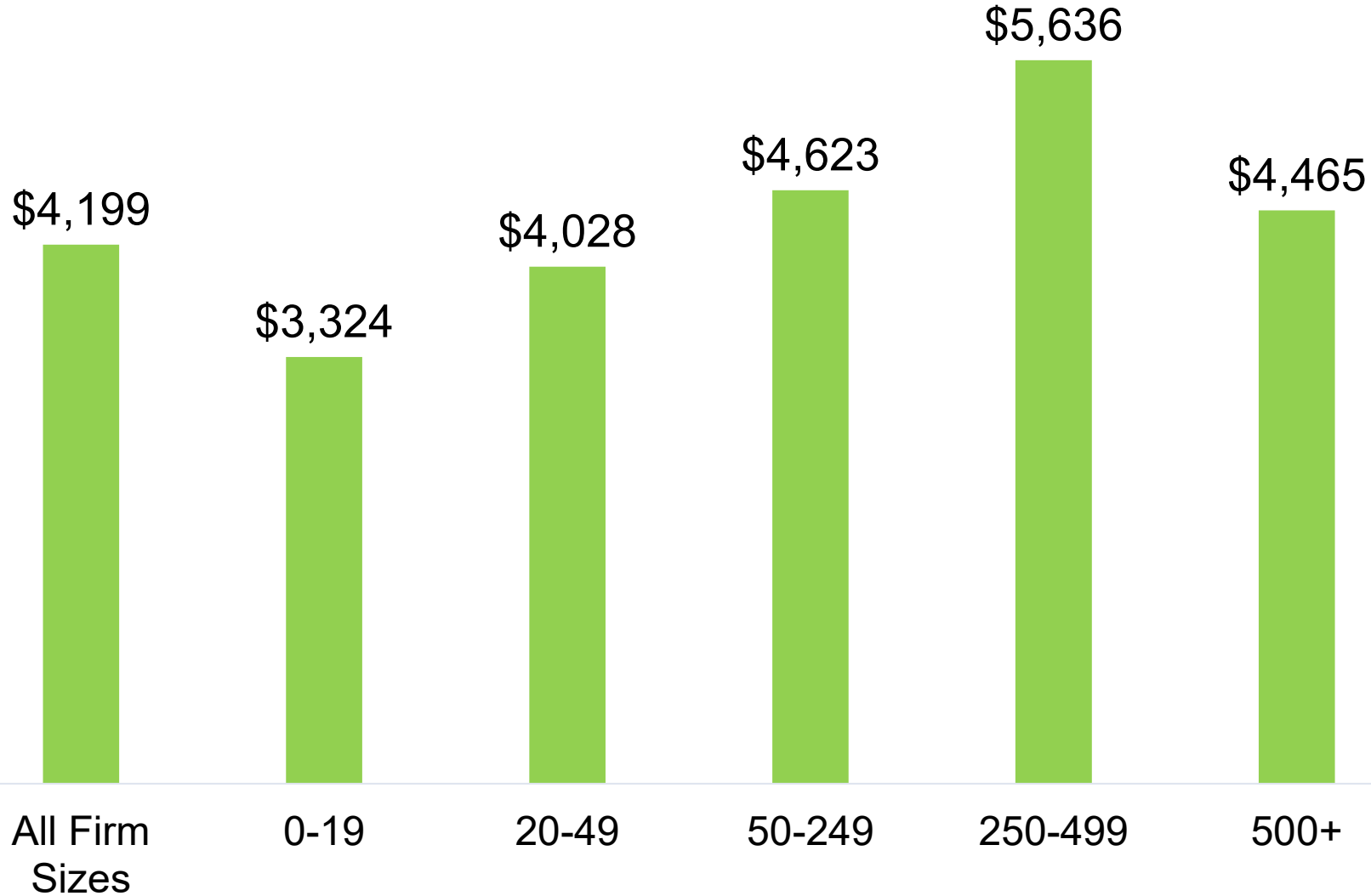


## Number of Employees by Firm Size Douglas County Q3 2023

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Quarterly Workforce Indicators



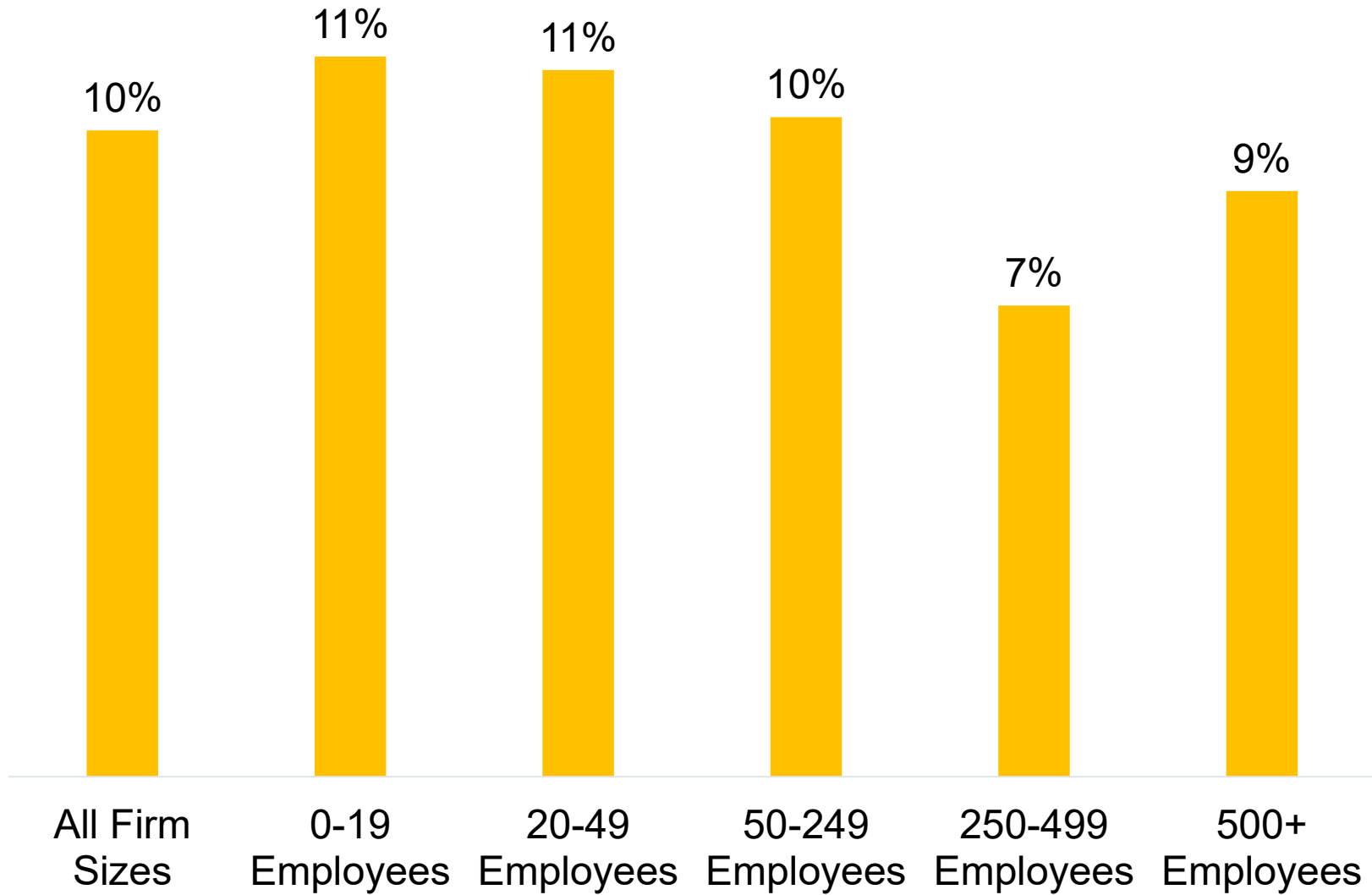
# Average wages are lower at small businesses



**Average Monthly Earnings by Firm Size Douglas County Q3 2023**

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Quarterly Workforce Indicators

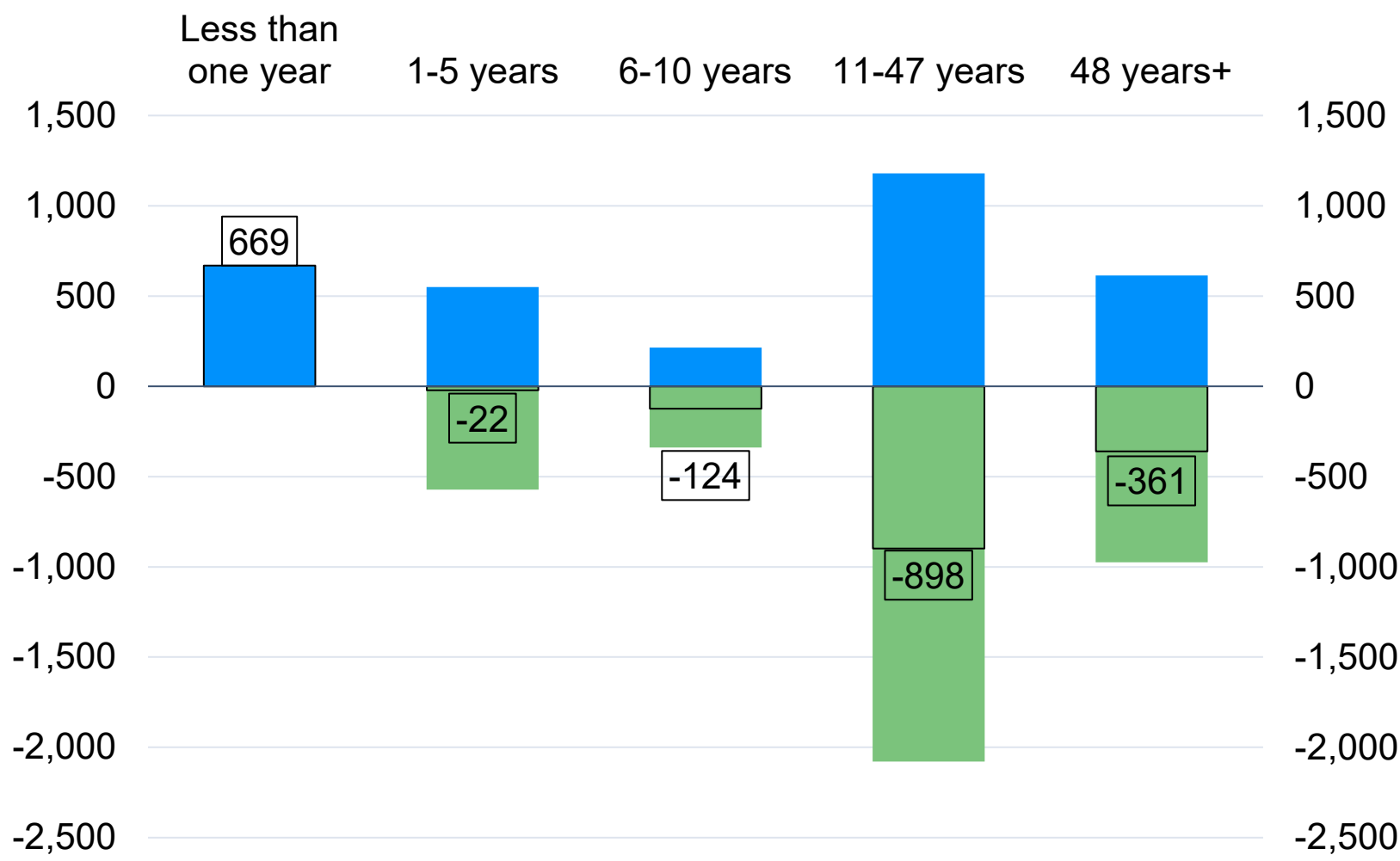
# Small business average turnover is higher



**Average Quarterly Turnover by Firm Size  
Douglas County Q2 2023**

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau,  
Quarterly Workforce Indicators*

# Small and new businesses are the lifeblood of the economy



### Net Job Creation by Firm Size Douglas County 2021

■ Job Destruction  
■ Job Creation  
□ Net

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Quarterly Workforce Indicators

# How can my business stay on top of all the economic changes?

Qualityinfo.org is our site for economic and labor market information, including:

- Wage data for nearly 800 occupations
- Industry profiles
- Contact information for your local workforce analyst

The screenshot displays the Oregon Employment Department website. At the top left is the logo with the text "State of Oregon Employment Department Quality Information, Informed Choices". A search bar is located at the top center. Below the logo is a navigation menu with links for "Tools", "Regional Info", "Data", "Publications", and "Press Release".

The main content area is divided into three sections:

- OUR LATEST RESEARCH:** Features a large image of a farm landscape with cows grazing. Below the image is the article title "Sweat and Sunshine, A Farmer's Recipe – 2022 Census of Agriculture for Oregon" by Jeff McAllister, dated Sep 13. A short excerpt follows: "The sun peeks over the horizon. Wheat stalks rustle gently with the wind as the rooster crows, a familiar call signaling the beginning of the day's w...". Below this are three smaller article teasers:
  - Sep 10: A Snapshot of Oregon Firms by Size Class, 2024
  - Sep 9: Business Formation and Business Employment Dynamics in Oregon
  - Sep 6: Oregon's Green Jobs
- OREGON ECONOMIC INDICATORS:** A table showing three key metrics for July 2024:

Indicator	Value	Change
Unemployment Rate - July 2024	4.1%	0.0%
Total Unemployed - July 2024	89,248	-177
Nonfarm Employment - July 2024	1,999,200	8,500
Job Vacancies - 2nd Quarter 2024	57,686	-4.0%
- JOB & CAREER SEARCH:** Two search boxes are provided. The first is for "Enter job title" with a "Find Jobs" button. The second is for "Enter career title" with a "Get Report" button.

## Henry Fields

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