



Help Wanted in Oregon

Results from the Fall 2022

Job Vacancy Survey



Oregon businesses reported 86,000 vacancies in fall 2022.

Oregon Job Vacancies, Fall 2022

Vacancies	86,007
Average Hourly Wage	\$24.12
Full-time Positions	81%
Permanent Positions	95%
Requiring Education Beyond High School	33%
Requiring Previous Experience	58%
Difficult to Fill	75%

Source: Oregon Employment Department

Vacancies decreased 9% from the summer and decreased 16% from fall 2021. Employers reported difficulty filling 75% of fall 2022 vacancies.

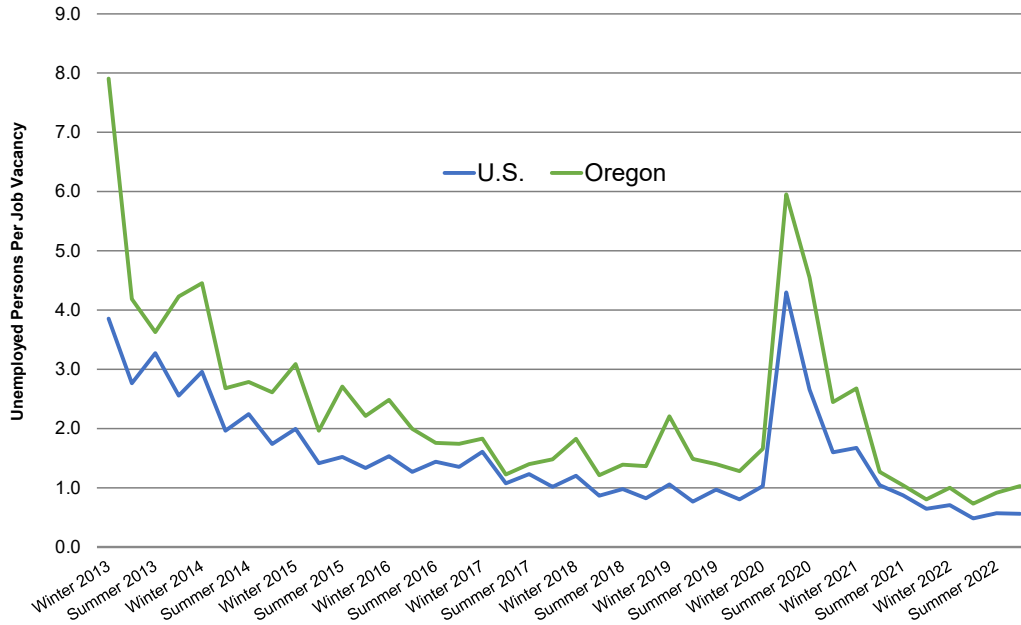
The average starting wage among this group of vacancies was around \$24.12 per hour, an inflation-adjusted increase of 5.5% from fall 2021 and 7.7% increase from summer 2022.

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



As vacancies dropped slightly in the fall, the unemployed to job vacancy ratio increased, but remained low.

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



The unemployed-to-vacancy ratio has been below pre-pandemic levels for the past year and a half.

The U.S. ratio was 0.6 in October 2022. It peaked very suddenly amid COVID closures, reaching 4.3 in April 2020 after several years around 1-to-1.

Oregon had 1.0 unemployed per job vacancy in fall 2022 after reaching 5.8 in May 2020.

Businesses reported hiring in various industries.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Industry, Fall 2022

Industry	Vacancies
All Industries	86,007
Health care and social assistance	21,004
Leisure and hospitality	11,798
Management, administrative, and waste services	8,276
Manufacturing	8,078
Retail trade	6,792
Professional, scientific, and technical services	6,761
Construction	6,264
Financial activities	4,128
Other services	3,976
Information	2,677
Wholesale trade	1,914
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	1,851
Private educational services	1,372
Natural resources and mining	1,116

Source: Oregon Employment Department

Health care and social assistance had the most vacancies of any industry, with 21,000. Leisure and hospitality had 11,800 vacancies.

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 \$24.12 per hour in the fall.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Hourly Wage Range

Wage (per hour)	Fall 2021	Fall 2022
All Wage Ranges	102,892	86,007
Less than \$15	16,484	8,755
\$15 through \$24.99	49,798	47,497
\$25 and up	18,667	21,350
<i>unknown excluded</i>		

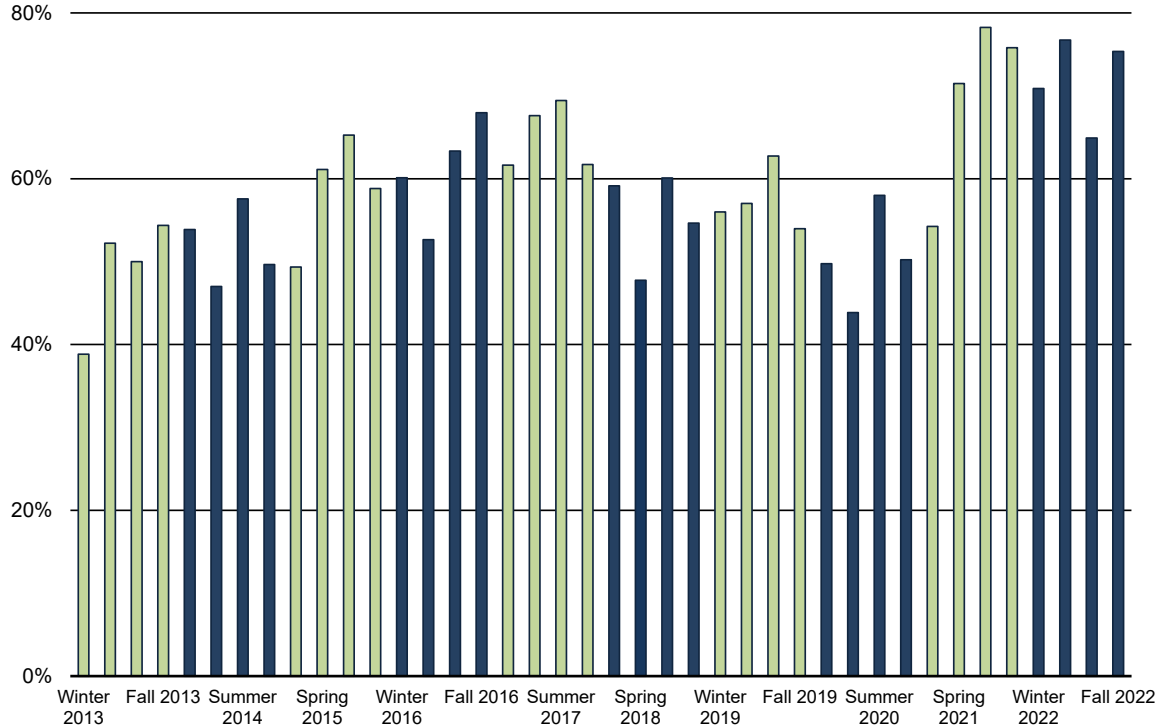
Source: Oregon Employment Department

The average starting wage reported in fall was \$24.12, an inflation-adjusted increase from summer 2022 (+8%) and fall 2021 (+5%).

The number of vacancies offering a starting wage below \$15 per hour decreased 47% over the year. The number of vacancies offering between \$15 and \$25 per hour decreased 5%, and vacancies paying above \$25 per hour increased 14%.

75% of fall job vacancies were reported as difficult to fill.

Businesses Report Difficulty Filling 75% of Vacancies in Fall 2022



Source: Oregon Employment Department, Quarterly Job Vacancy

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

- Personal care aides (2,900)
- Nursing assistants (2,700)
- Truck drivers (2,300)



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

Fall vacancies were distributed across the state.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Geography, Fall 2022

<u>Geography</u>	<u>Vacancies</u>
Oregon Statewide	86,007
Portland Metro	23,687
Clackamas	14,395
Mid-Valley	13,855
East Cascades	7,267
Rogue Valley	7,049
Southwestern Oregon	5,730
Northwest Oregon	5,426
Lane	4,962
Eastern Oregon	3,342

Unknown/multiple regions excluded

Source: Oregon Employment Department

Vacancies decreased 9% from the summer and decreased 16% from fall 2021.

The Portland tri-county area represented 44% of fall vacancies. Vacancies in all regions decreased over the year, except in Clackamas and Southwestern Oregon.



Anna Johnson

Senior Economic Analyst

Anna.L.Johnson@employ.oregon.gov

(503) 991-2110

For more information about job vacancies in Oregon, visit the Job Vacancy Survey box on the [Publications page](#) at QualityInfo.org

