



Help Wanted in Oregon

***Results from the Winter 2018
Job Vacancy Survey***



Oregon businesses reported 49,500 vacancies in winter 2018.

Oregon Job Vacancies, Winter 2018

Vacancies	49,456
Average Hourly Wage	\$16.44
Full-time Positions	73%
Permanent Positions	93%
Requiring Education Beyond High School	29%
Requiring Previous Experience	55%
Difficult to Fill	59%

Employers reported 59 percent of their vacancies as difficult to fill.

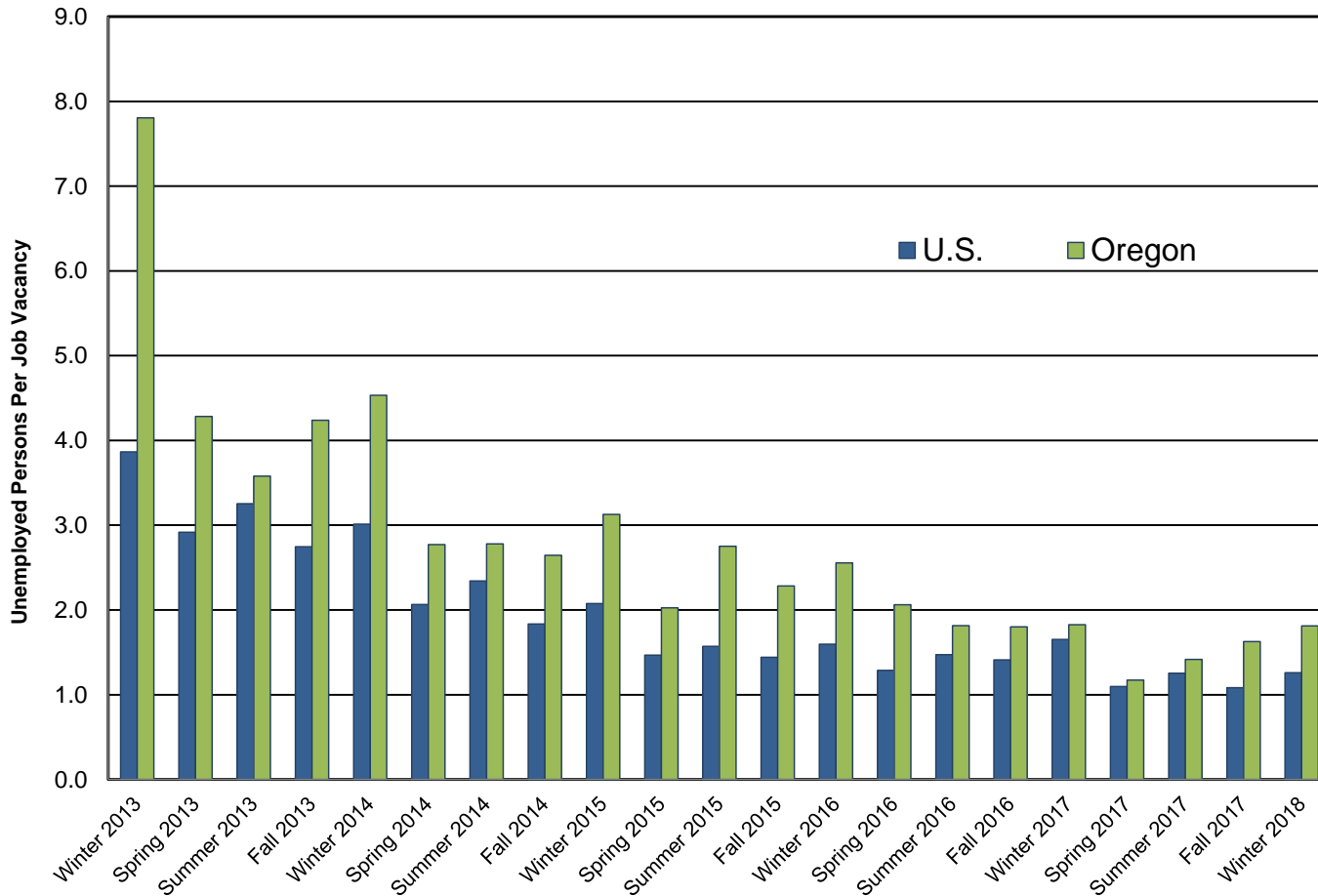
The average starting wage for vacancies in Oregon was \$16.44.

A typical job vacancy tends to be for a full-time, permanent position.



Widespread hiring and low unemployment has kept the unemployed-to-vacancy ratio near a record low.

U.S. and Oregon Have Few Unemployed Workers per Vacancy



- Oregon had two unemployed people per job vacancy in the fall. The U.S. had just one unemployed person per job opening.
- The labor market has tightened over the past few years. The ratio was 3-to-1 in winter 2015.



Businesses reported stronger hiring in leisure and hospitality and manufacturing.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Industry, Winter 2018

<u>Industry</u>	<u>Vacancies</u>
All Industries	49,456
Health care and social assistance	9,516
Leisure and hospitality	7,736
Manufacturing	6,017
Retail trade	4,736
Management, administrative, and waste service	4,692
Construction	4,458
Natural resources and mining	2,619
Wholesale trade	1,964
Other services	1,945
Professional, scientific, and technical services	1,815
Financial activities	1,690
Information	973
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	932
Private educational services	363

Health care and social assistance regularly tops the list of industries with vacancies.

Construction hiring demand dropped relative to recent quarters.



Many occupation groups had large numbers of vacancies – employers are hiring for many different jobs.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Occupation Group, Winter 2018

<u>Occupation Group</u>	<u>Vacancies</u>
All Occupations	49,456
Food Preparation and Serving Related	6,064
Sales and Related	4,940
Construction and Extraction	4,565
Office and Administrative Support	3,923
Personal Care and Service	3,736
Production	3,511
Transportation and Material Moving	3,268
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	2,848
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	2,822
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	2,344
Management	1,879
Health Care Support	1,720
Health Care Practitioners and Technical	1,710
Protective Service	1,361
Business and Financial Operations	1,145
Computer and Mathematical	1,011
Education, Training, and Library	733
Community and Social Service	703
Architecture and Engineering	685
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	327
Life, Physical, and Social Science	123
Legal	38

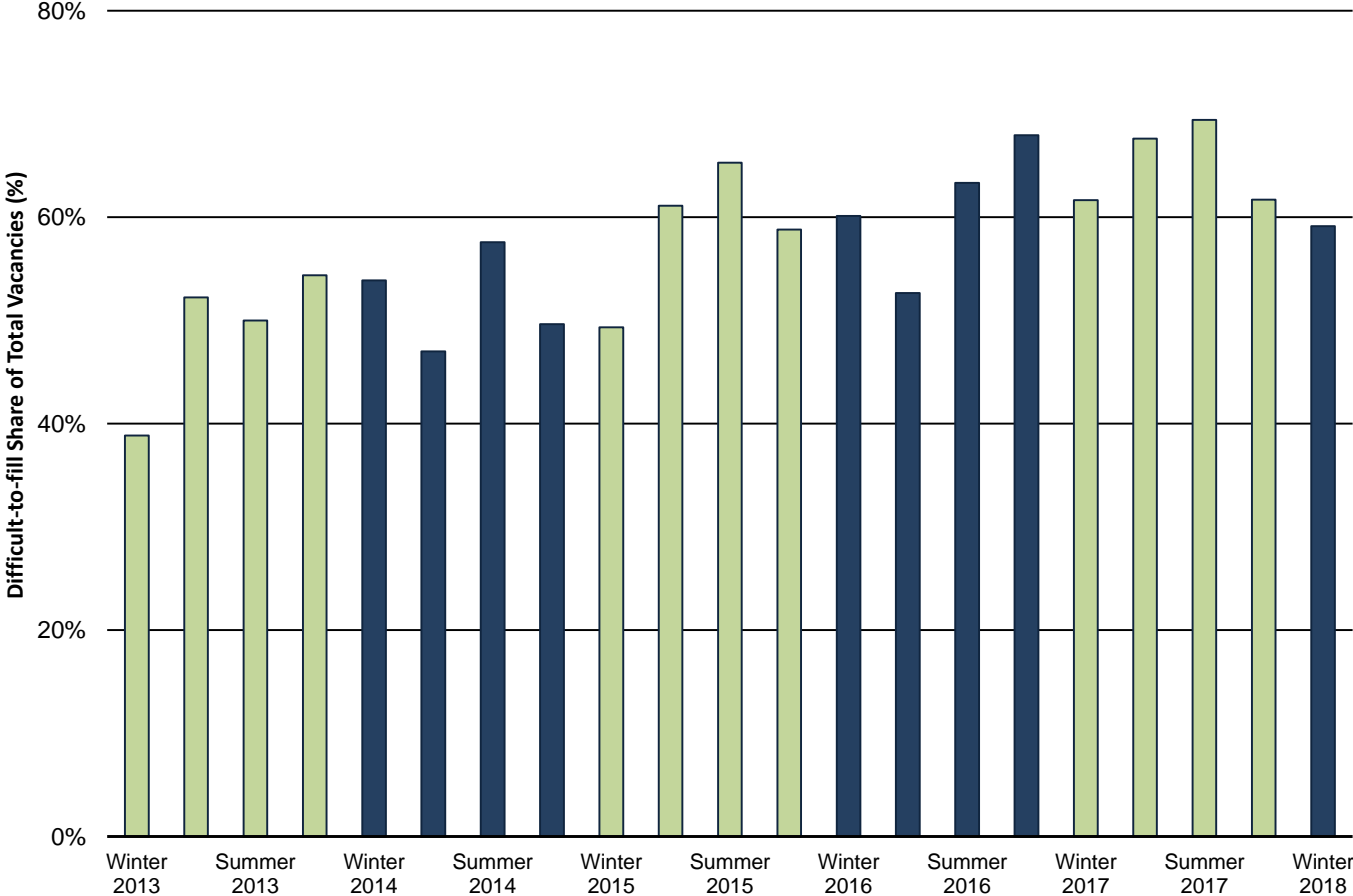
The occupations with the largest number of vacancies included:

- Personal care aides
- Farmworkers and laborers
- Food preparation and serving workers
- Retail salespersons
- Truck drivers
- Cashiers



Businesses reported difficulty filling six out of 10 job vacancies.

Six out of 10 Vacancies Were Difficult to Fill in Winter 2018



Employers in construction, professional and technical services, administrative services, and private education faced even greater difficulty.

Businesses cited difficulty filling eight out of 10 vacancies in these sectors.



Job vacancies remained stable across all wage categories over the year.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Hourly Wage Range

Wage (per hour)	Winter 2017	Winter 2018
All Wage Ranges	50,633	49,456
Less than \$15	24,204	26,039
\$15 through \$24.99	13,090	12,334
\$25 and up	5,419	5,421

unknown excluded

The average starting wage for all job vacancies also remained relatively level over the year. Job openings paid an average of \$16.22 per hour in winter 2017, and \$16.44 in winter 2018.



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



Northwest Oregon and the Mid-Willamette Valley had relatively high numbers of job vacancies in winter.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Geography,
Winter 2018

<u>Geography</u>	<u>Vacancies</u>
Oregon Statewide	49,456
Portland Metro	14,433
Mid-Valley	8,798
Clackamas	5,947
Rogue Valley	5,026
Lane	4,324
Northwest Oregon	3,673
East Cascades	3,083
Eastern Oregon	2,090
Southwestern Oregon	2,047

multi-area or unknown excluded

The Portland metro area and Clackamas county routinely account for two out of five job vacancies statewide.

Businesses in the East Cascades – a 10-county area including the Columbia Gorge, Central Oregon, and South Central Oregon – reported fewer vacancies compared with recent quarters.





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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