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Labor Market Information

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Second Quarter 2019: Jobs Increase but Median Wage Falls Slightly and a Look Back at the Construction Industry

Oregon employers must report total wages and hours worked for each employee covered by unemployment insurance. These quarterly records cover more than two million individuals employed in the state but don't include roughly 280,000 self-employed workers. Past quarterly wage reports are available in the Oregonians @ Work box at www.qualityinfo.org/pubs.

Oregon's employers reported a total of 2,194,959 jobs during the second quarter of 2019. This continued an upward trend in employment that began in 2010, and was an increase of nearly 95,000 jobs over the previous quarter. The median (middle) wage of all non-federal jobs was \$20.16 per hour during the second quarter, which was \$0.54 per hour lower than the previous quarter. Why the drop in median wage? It was largely due to the large increase in lower-wage jobs in leisure and hospitality as those businesses increased hiring for the summer season. That part is good news for Oregon's economy. Of more concern is a second factor; Oregon lost nearly 9,000 high-wage jobs (those paying \$60.00 or more per hour) from the first to the second quarter of 2019. Manufacturing (-4,450 jobs); financial activities (-3,906 jobs); professional and business services (-2,816 jobs); and transportation, warehousing, and utilities (-2,374 jobs) all shed a significant number of jobs. Some high-wage jobs were added in other industries, but not enough to offset the losses.

The construction industry also shed about 700 of its highest-paying jobs, but it did add 8,070 jobs overall in the second quarter of 2019 with nearly 6,000 of them paying more than \$20 per hour. Construction is an important industry in Oregon and is especially important for seasonal employment during the second and third quarters. Construction has also been an important part of Oregon's recovery after the Great Recession. Prior to the Great Recession, during the second quarter of 2007, Oregon had 122,897 jobs in the construction industry. Employment fell by about 30 percent during the Great Recession, but by the second quarter of 2019 it had recovered and grown to 127,211 jobs. But not with the same workers.

A comparison of quarterly wage reports shows that 52 percent of construction workers who worked in the second quarter of 2007 had no wage records at all in Oregon during the second quarter of 2019. They had retired, moved out of state, or were not working for other reasons. Another 18 percent worked in different industries in Oregon by the second quarter of 2019. Only 30 percent of the original construction workers from the second quarter of 2007 were still working in construction in Oregon during the second quarter of 2019.

There are three main subsectors in construction: construction of buildings, heavy and civil engineering construction, and specialty trade contractors (such framing contractors, plumbing businesses, and drywall contractors). The share of workers that remained in construction varied by subsector. Twenty-eight percent of the workers in the construction of buildings remained from 2007 to 2019, only 25 percent of the workers in heavy and civil engineering construction remained, and 32 percent of the workers for specialty trades contractors remained.

The tables show where the construction workers in 2007 from each of the subsectors ended up in the second quarter of 2019 – except those 52 percent who had no records at all. All major industries were destinations for former construction workers, but there were some definite employment patterns. Those who remained in the overall construction industry are in bold type.

Workers from Construction of Buildings, Second Quarter 2007

Industry	Jobs in Second Quarter 2019
Construction of Buildings	6,200
Specialty Trade Contractors	1,583
Professional and Business Services	1,254
Manufacturing	916
Retail Trade	604
Health Care & Social Assistance	555
Private Educational Services	506
Financial Activities	501
Leisure and Hospitality	500
State Government	478
Heavy & Civil Engineering Construction	412
Other Services	360
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	343
Wholesale Trade	332
Natural Resources and Mining	300
Information	97
Non-classifiable	16
Total Working in 2Q2019	14,957

Source: Oregon Employment Department

Workers from Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction, Second Quarter 2007

Industry	Jobs in Second Quarter 2019
Heavy & Civil Engineering Construction	2,514
Specialty Trade Contractors	856
Professional and Business Services	631
Manufacturing	489
Local Government	462
Construction of Buildings	417
Natural Resources and Mining	398
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	367
Wholesale Trade	218
Retail Trade	216
Financial Activities	193
Health Care & Social Assistance	187
Leisure and Hospitality	165
Other Services	143
State Government	127
Information	52
Private Educational Services	37
Non-classifiable	6
Total	7,478

Source: Oregon Employment Department

Most of the construction workers who stayed in construction remained in their original subsector, no surprise there. The second most popular choice for workers from building construction and heavy and civil engineering subsectors was another construction subsector, again that's not a surprise. But this was not the case for workers who left the specialty trades subsector. More of them went into the professional and business services and manufacturing industries than a different construction subsector, essentially getting out of the construction industry altogether. Manufacturing and professional and business services were popular destinations for all construction workers who left their industry.

One possible surprise is the popularity of government jobs for former construction workers. State government was the number ten destination for workers from the construction of buildings subsector, local government was the number five destination for workers formerly in heavy and civil engineering construction and also from specialty trades. Altogether about 3,400 construction workers from 2007 worked for state and local government by 2019.

To provide better data, this analysis also filters out job records that probably contain errors. Jobs that report zero hours or more than 999 hours (about 77 hours per week) worked in a quarter and jobs that paid less than the federal minimum wage (\$7.25 per hour) are excluded. Jobs that paid more than \$500 per hour and reported less than 10 hours work during the quarter are also excluded.

**Workers from Specialty Trades Contractors,
Second Quarter 2007**

Industry	Jobs in Second Quarter 2019
Specialty Trade Contractors	20,382
Professional and Business Services	2,631
Manufacturing	2,520
Construction of Buildings	2,354
Local Government	1,934
Retail Trade	1,582
Leisure and Hospitality	1,203
Health Care & Social Assistance	1,123
Wholesale Trade	1,045
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	980
Natural Resources and Mining	806
Heavy & Civil Engineering Construction	805
Financial Activities	786
Other Services	772
State Government	400
Private Educational Services	305
Information	268
Non-classifiable	34
Total	39,930

Source: Oregon Employment Department

Table 1: Oregon - Number of Jobs by Hourly Wage Level and Broad Industry - 2nd Quarter 2019*

	Under \$10.00	\$10.00 - \$14.99	\$15.00 - \$19.99	\$20.00 - \$29.99	\$30.00 - \$39.99	\$40.00 - \$49.99	\$50.00 - \$59.99	\$60.00 or more	Total	Median Wage
Total - All Industries	13,905	609,109	456,427	471,501	231,308	144,577	91,869	176,263	2,194,959	\$20.16
Natural Resources and Mining	575	41,023	19,397	13,520	3,075	1,041	464	1,034	80,129	\$14.79
Construction	438	11,445	24,996	37,374	23,433	15,941	7,206	6,378	127,211	\$26.32
Manufacturing	768	32,280	49,372	56,497	25,539	14,460	8,668	25,336	212,920	\$23.24
Wholesale Trade	261	11,778	17,815	22,566	10,658	5,723	3,720	9,656	82,177	\$24.27
Retail Trade	1,864	125,425	55,175	38,153	11,311	4,587	2,677	6,398	245,590	\$14.75
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	405	9,387	19,776	18,192	7,925	4,910	3,091	5,591	69,277	\$22.04
Information	122	4,616	4,008	7,282	6,178	4,412	3,151	7,754	37,523	\$34.25
Financial Activities	530	10,835	19,815	26,189	13,028	8,122	4,911	10,615	94,045	\$25.05
Professional and Business Services	2,386	71,934	56,123	54,368	31,309	20,390	14,152	32,581	283,243	\$21.53
Private Educational Services	453	8,543	7,379	9,348	4,985	2,470	1,598	2,309	37,085	\$21.79
Health Care & Social Assistance	2,085	68,214	72,405	61,321	27,053	20,023	15,518	33,166	299,785	\$20.70
Leisure and Hospitality	2,049	152,599	57,850	38,088	10,494	3,016	1,392	2,993	268,481	\$14.00
Other Services	948	33,319	19,501	17,353	7,359	3,347	1,836	3,224	86,887	\$16.81
State Government	34	516	3,578	12,581	11,836	7,464	3,532	2,599	42,140	\$33.27
Local Government	964	26,805	28,900	58,285	36,906	28,523	19,839	26,357	226,579	\$29.64
Non-classifiable	23	390	337	384	219	148	114	272	1,887	\$24.04

* Count of records. Individuals holding multiple jobs will be counted more than once.

Records meeting the following conditions have been excluded from this analysis:

- 0 (zero) hours reported
- 999 hours reported
- wages < \$7.25/hr calculated
- wages > \$500/hr calculated and < 10 hours reported
- federal government employment

Source: Unemployment Insurance Wage Records

Table 2: Oregon - Fraction of Jobs by Broad Industry by Hourly Wage Level - 2nd Quarter 2019*

	Under \$10.00	\$10.00 - \$14.99	\$15.00 - \$19.99	\$20.00 - \$29.99	\$30.00 - \$39.99	\$40.00 - \$49.99	\$50.00 - \$59.99	\$60.00 or more	Total
Total - All Industries	0.6%	27.8%	20.8%	21.5%	10.5%	6.6%	4.2%	8.0%	100.0%
Natural Resources and Mining	0.7%	51.2%	24.2%	16.9%	3.8%	1.3%	0.6%	1.3%	100.0%
Construction	0.3%	9.0%	19.6%	29.4%	18.4%	12.5%	5.7%	5.0%	100.0%
Manufacturing	0.4%	15.2%	23.2%	26.5%	12.0%	6.8%	4.1%	11.9%	100.0%
Wholesale Trade	0.3%	14.3%	21.7%	27.5%	13.0%	7.0%	4.5%	11.8%	100.0%
Retail Trade	0.8%	51.1%	22.5%	15.5%	4.6%	1.9%	1.1%	2.6%	100.0%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	0.6%	13.5%	28.5%	26.3%	11.4%	7.1%	4.5%	8.1%	100.0%
Information	0.3%	12.3%	10.7%	19.4%	16.5%	11.8%	8.4%	20.7%	100.0%
Financial Activities	0.6%	11.5%	21.1%	27.8%	13.9%	8.6%	5.2%	11.3%	100.0%
Professional and Business Services	0.8%	25.4%	19.8%	19.2%	11.1%	7.2%	5.0%	11.5%	100.0%
Private Educational Services	1.2%	23.0%	19.9%	25.2%	13.4%	6.7%	4.3%	6.2%	100.0%
Health Care & Social Assistance	0.7%	22.8%	24.2%	20.5%	9.0%	6.7%	5.2%	11.1%	100.0%
Leisure and Hospitality	0.8%	56.8%	21.5%	14.2%	3.9%	1.1%	0.5%	1.1%	100.0%
Other Services	1.1%	38.3%	22.4%	20.0%	8.5%	3.9%	2.1%	3.7%	100.0%
State Government	0.1%	1.2%	8.5%	29.9%	28.1%	17.7%	8.4%	6.2%	100.0%
Local Government	0.4%	11.8%	12.8%	25.7%	16.3%	12.6%	8.8%	11.6%	100.0%
Non-classifiable	1.2%	20.7%	17.9%	20.3%	11.6%	7.8%	6.0%	14.4%	100.0%

* Count of records. Individuals holding multiple jobs will be counted more than once.

Records meeting the following conditions have been excluded from this analysis:

- 0 (zero) hours reported
- 999 hours reported
- wages < \$7.25/hr calculated
- wages > \$500/hr calculated and < 10 hours reported
- federal government employment

Source: *Unemployment Insurance Wage Records*

Table 3: Oregon - Fraction of Jobs by Hourly Wage Level by Broad Industry - 2nd Quarter 2019*

	Under \$10.00	\$10.00 - \$14.99	\$15.00 - \$19.99	\$20.00 - \$29.99	\$30.00 - \$39.99	\$40.00 - \$49.99	\$50.00 - \$59.99	\$60.00 or more	Total
Total - All Industries	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Natural Resources and Mining	4.1%	6.7%	4.2%	2.9%	1.3%	0.7%	0.5%	0.6%	3.7%
Construction	3.1%	1.9%	5.5%	7.9%	10.1%	11.0%	7.8%	3.6%	5.8%
Manufacturing	5.5%	5.3%	10.8%	12.0%	11.0%	10.0%	9.4%	14.4%	9.7%
Wholesale Trade	1.9%	1.9%	3.9%	4.8%	4.6%	4.0%	4.0%	5.5%	3.7%
Retail Trade	13.4%	20.6%	12.1%	8.1%	4.9%	3.2%	2.9%	3.6%	11.2%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	2.9%	1.5%	4.3%	3.9%	3.4%	3.4%	3.4%	3.2%	3.2%
Information	0.9%	0.8%	0.9%	1.5%	2.7%	3.1%	3.4%	4.4%	1.7%
Financial Activities	3.8%	1.8%	4.3%	5.6%	5.6%	5.6%	5.3%	6.0%	4.3%
Professional and Business Services	17.2%	11.8%	12.3%	11.5%	13.5%	14.1%	15.4%	18.5%	12.9%
Private Educational Services	3.3%	1.4%	1.6%	2.0%	2.2%	1.7%	1.7%	1.3%	1.7%
Health Care & Social Assistance	15.0%	11.2%	15.9%	13.0%	11.7%	13.8%	16.9%	18.8%	13.7%
Leisure and Hospitality	14.7%	25.1%	12.7%	8.1%	4.5%	2.1%	1.5%	1.7%	12.2%
Other Services	6.8%	5.5%	4.3%	3.7%	3.2%	2.3%	2.0%	1.8%	4.0%
State Government	0.2%	0.1%	0.8%	2.7%	5.1%	5.2%	3.8%	1.5%	1.9%
Local Government	6.9%	4.4%	6.3%	12.4%	16.0%	19.7%	21.6%	15.0%	10.3%
Non-classifiable	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%

* Count of records. Individuals holding multiple jobs will be counted more than once.

Records meeting the following conditions have been excluded from this analysis:

- 0 (zero) hours reported
- 999 hours reported
- wages < \$7.25/hr calculated
- wages > \$500/hr calculated and < 10 hours reported
- federal government employment

Source: *Unemployment Insurance Wage Records*

Table 4: Oregon - Number of Jobs by Hourly Wage Level and Firm Employment Size Class - 2nd Quarter 2019*

	Under \$10.00	\$10.00 - \$14.99	\$15.00 - \$19.99	\$20.00 - \$29.99	\$30.00 - \$39.99	\$40.00 - \$49.99	\$50.00 - \$59.99	\$60.00 or more	Total	Median Wage
Total - All Size Classes	13,905	609,109	456,427	471,501	231,308	144,577	91,869	176,263	2,194,959	\$20.16
Under 5 employees	1,718	33,937	25,672	25,576	10,830	6,310	3,947	9,924	117,914	\$19.27
5 - 9 employees	1,084	41,679	31,092	29,050	11,776	6,067	2,910	6,358	130,016	\$18.08
10 - 19 employees	1,143	60,972	42,505	40,678	16,449	8,478	4,312	8,648	183,185	\$18.05
20 - 49 employees	1,564	94,397	63,597	61,120	26,443	13,584	7,104	13,911	281,720	\$18.15
50 - 99 employees	1,402	64,241	47,995	47,833	23,098	12,852	6,590	12,309	216,320	\$19.23
100 - 249 employees	2,126	83,948	62,308	62,582	32,181	17,697	9,787	18,851	289,480	\$19.60
250 - 499 employees	1,106	62,461	44,999	44,166	22,567	14,247	8,145	14,547	212,238	\$19.63
500 or more employees	3,762	167,474	138,259	160,496	87,964	65,342	49,074	91,715	764,086	\$23.66

* Count of records. Individuals holding multiple jobs will be counted more than once.

Records meeting the following conditions have been excluded from this analysis:

- 0 (zero) hours reported
- 999 hours reported
- wages < \$7.25/hr calculated
- wages > \$500/hr calculated and < 10 hours reported
- federal government employment

Source: *Unemployment Insurance Wage Records*

Table 5: Oregon - Fraction of Jobs by Firm Employment Size Class by Hourly Wage Level - 2nd Quarter 2019*

	Under \$10.00	\$10.00 - \$14.99	\$15.00 - \$19.99	\$20.00 - \$29.99	\$30.00 - \$39.99	\$40.00 - \$49.99	\$50.00 - \$59.99	\$60.00 or more	Total
Total - All Size Classes	0.6%	27.8%	20.8%	21.5%	10.5%	6.6%	4.2%	8.0%	100.0%
Under 5 employees	1.5%	28.8%	21.8%	21.7%	9.2%	5.4%	3.3%	8.4%	100.0%
5 - 9 employees	0.8%	32.1%	23.9%	22.3%	9.1%	4.7%	2.2%	4.9%	100.0%
10 - 19 employees	0.6%	33.3%	23.2%	22.2%	9.0%	4.6%	2.4%	4.7%	100.0%
20 - 49 employees	0.6%	33.5%	22.6%	21.7%	9.4%	4.8%	2.5%	4.9%	100.0%
50 - 99 employees	0.6%	29.7%	22.2%	22.1%	10.7%	5.9%	3.0%	5.7%	100.0%
100 - 249 employees	0.7%	29.0%	21.5%	21.6%	11.1%	6.1%	3.4%	6.5%	100.0%
250 - 499 employees	0.5%	29.4%	21.2%	20.8%	10.6%	6.7%	3.8%	6.9%	100.0%
500 or more employees	0.5%	21.9%	18.1%	21.0%	11.5%	8.6%	6.4%	12.0%	100.0%

* Count of records. Individuals holding multiple jobs will be counted more than once.

Records meeting the following conditions have been excluded from this analysis:

- 0 (zero) hours reported
- 999 hours reported
- wages < \$7.25/hr calculated
- wages > \$500/hr calculated and < 10 hours reported
- federal government employment

Source: Unemployment Insurance Wage Records

Table 6: Oregon - Fraction of Jobs in Hourly Wage Level by Firm Employment Size Class - 2nd Quarter 2019*

	Under \$10.00	\$10.00 - \$14.99	\$15.00 - \$19.99	\$20.00 - \$29.99	\$30.00 - \$39.99	\$40.00 - \$49.99	\$50.00 - \$59.99	\$60.00 or more	Total
Total - All Size Classes	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Under 5 employees	12.4%	5.6%	5.6%	5.4%	4.7%	4.4%	4.3%	5.6%	5.4%
5 - 9 employees	7.8%	6.8%	6.8%	6.2%	5.1%	4.2%	3.2%	3.6%	5.9%
10 - 19 employees	8.2%	10.0%	9.3%	8.6%	7.1%	5.9%	4.7%	4.9%	8.3%
20 - 49 employees	11.2%	15.5%	13.9%	13.0%	11.4%	9.4%	7.7%	7.9%	12.8%
50 - 99 employees	10.1%	10.5%	10.5%	10.1%	10.0%	8.9%	7.2%	7.0%	9.9%
100 - 249 employees	15.3%	13.8%	13.7%	13.3%	13.9%	12.2%	10.7%	10.7%	13.2%
250 - 499 employees	8.0%	10.3%	9.9%	9.4%	9.8%	9.9%	8.9%	8.3%	9.7%
500 or more employees	27.1%	27.5%	30.3%	34.0%	38.0%	45.2%	53.4%	52.0%	34.8%

* Count of records. Individuals holding multiple jobs will be counted more than once.

Records meeting the following conditions have been excluded from this analysis:

- 0 (zero) hours reported
- 999 hours reported
- wages < \$7.25/hr calculated
- wages > \$500/hr calculated and < 10 hours reported
- federal government employment

Source: Unemployment Insurance Wage Records

Table 7: Oregon - Unemployment Insurance Wage Record Summary Statistics - 2nd Quarter 2019

	Count	12-Month Percent Change	Percent of Total SSNs	Total Wages	12-Month Percent Change	Percent of Total Wages	Mean Wages Per Quarter	12-Month Percent Change
Total SSNs	1,985,956	2.0%	100.0%	\$ 25,680,300,041	5.6%	100.0%	\$ 12,931	3.6%
One Job	1,755,596	1.8%	88.4%	\$ 23,328,632,900	5.5%	90.8%	\$ 13,288	3.6%
Two Jobs	197,984	2.7%	10.0%	\$ 2,048,937,627	6.7%	8.0%	\$ 10,349	3.9%
Three Jobs	25,941	6.4%	1.3%	\$ 238,484,186	12.8%	0.9%	\$ 9,193	6.0%
Four or More Jobs	6,435	4.3%	0.3%	\$ 64,245,327	8.5%	0.3%	\$ 9,984	4.1%
Total Records	2,259,189	2.2%						
Records per SSN	1.14							
Two or More Jobs	230,360	3.1%	11.6%					
Workers in Oregon's workforce in 2nd Quarter 2019 who:								
- did not work in Oregon in 1st quarter 2019	170,530	2.8%						
- had not worked in Oregon since 1990	53,361	-2.2%						
- returned to Oregon's workforce*	117,169	5.3%						
Percent in workforce one year ago	83.7%							
Percent in same primary industry	84.4%							
Percent in new primary industry (3-digit NAICS)	15.6%							

*Did not work in Oregon in 1st Quarter 2019, but have worked in Oregon at some point since 1990.

Source: Unemployment Insurance Wage Records

Table 8: Oregon - Quarterly Wages by Quintile and Hours Worked - 2nd Quarter 2019

2019 2nd Quarter Wages

All Workers

	Quintile					
	All ¹	1	2	3	4	5
Quintiles		\$3,918	\$7,680	\$11,544	\$18,567	NA
Mean	\$12,931	\$1,812	\$5,893	\$9,495	\$14,593	\$32,862
Median	\$9,433	\$1,743	\$5,956	\$9,433	\$14,367	\$25,824

¹1,985,956 SSNs

Employed 200+ Hours

	Quintile					
	All ²	1	2	3	4	5
Quintiles		\$6,380	\$9,329	\$13,219	\$20,372	NA
Mean	\$15,018	\$4,573	\$7,851	\$11,126	\$16,348	\$35,195
Median	\$11,054	\$4,680	\$7,843	\$11,054	\$16,132	\$27,632

²1,633,974 SSNs

Employed 350+ Hours

	Quintile					
	All ³	1	2	3	4	5
Quintiles		\$7,763	\$10,591	\$14,616	\$21,910	NA
Mean	\$16,585	\$6,173	\$9,135	\$12,448	\$17,834	\$37,337
Median	\$12,368	\$6,338	\$9,107	\$12,368	\$17,636	\$29,325

³1,369,148 SSNs

Percent Change from Prior Year

All Workers

	Quintile					
	All ¹	1	2	3	4	5
Quintiles		5.7%	4.8%	3.9%	4.2%	NA
Mean	3.6%	5.6%	5.4%	4.2%	4.0%	2.8%
Median	4.3%	5.6%	5.7%	4.3%	4.0%	4.4%

Employed 200+ Hours

	Quintile					
	All ²	1	2	3	4	5
Quintiles		5.6%	4.1%	4.0%	4.3%	NA
Mean	3.9%	5.7%	4.8%	4.0%	4.1%	3.3%
Median	4.0%	5.6%	4.7%	4.0%	4.2%	4.3%

Employed 350+ Hours

	Quintile					
	All ³	1	2	3	4	5
Quintiles		5.0%	4.0%	4.1%	4.3%	NA
Mean	3.9%	5.6%	4.4%	4.0%	4.2%	3.2%
Median	3.8%	5.6%	4.2%	3.8%	4.3%	4.3%

Source: Unemployment Insurance Wage Records