



Northwest Oregon Economic Update

Northwest Oregon Works
October 29, 2021

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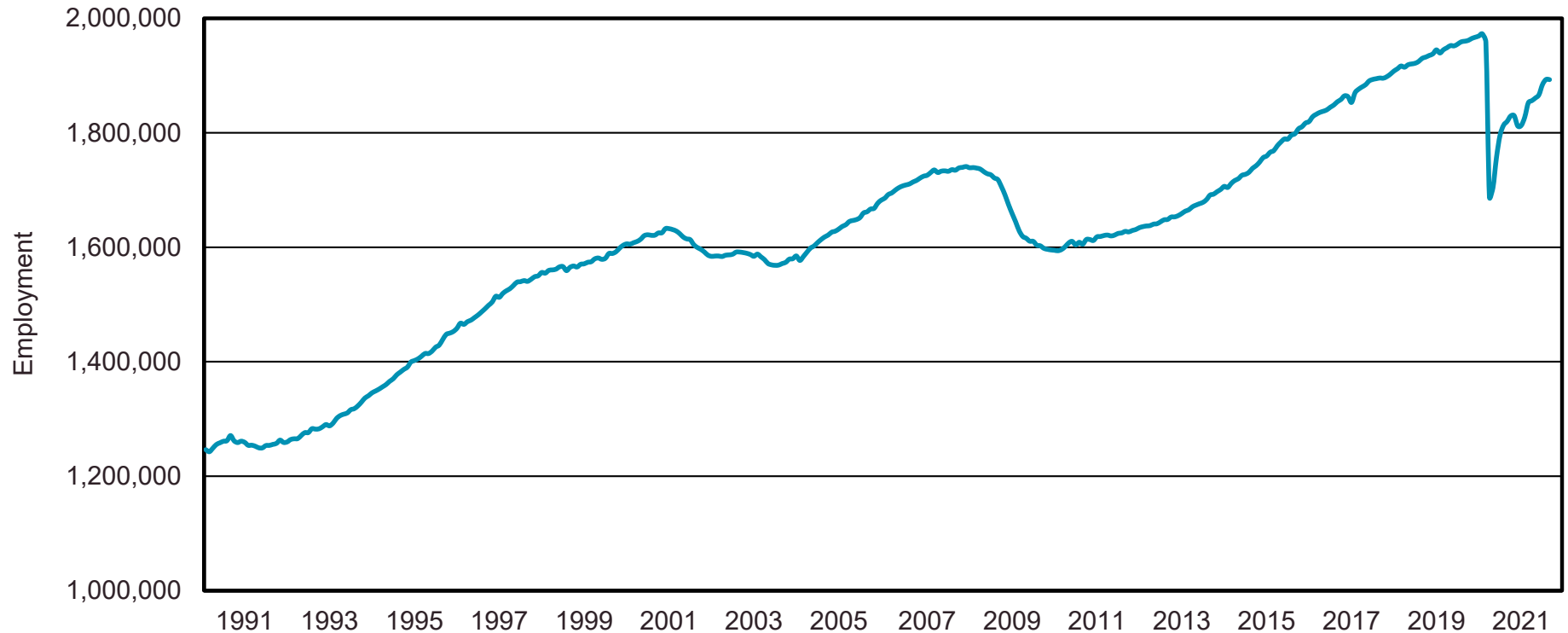


State and Region



Statewide, we've had job gains in 15 of the past 17 months (since May 2020)

Seasonally Adjusted Employment in Oregon
Total Nonfarm Payroll: 1990 - 2021

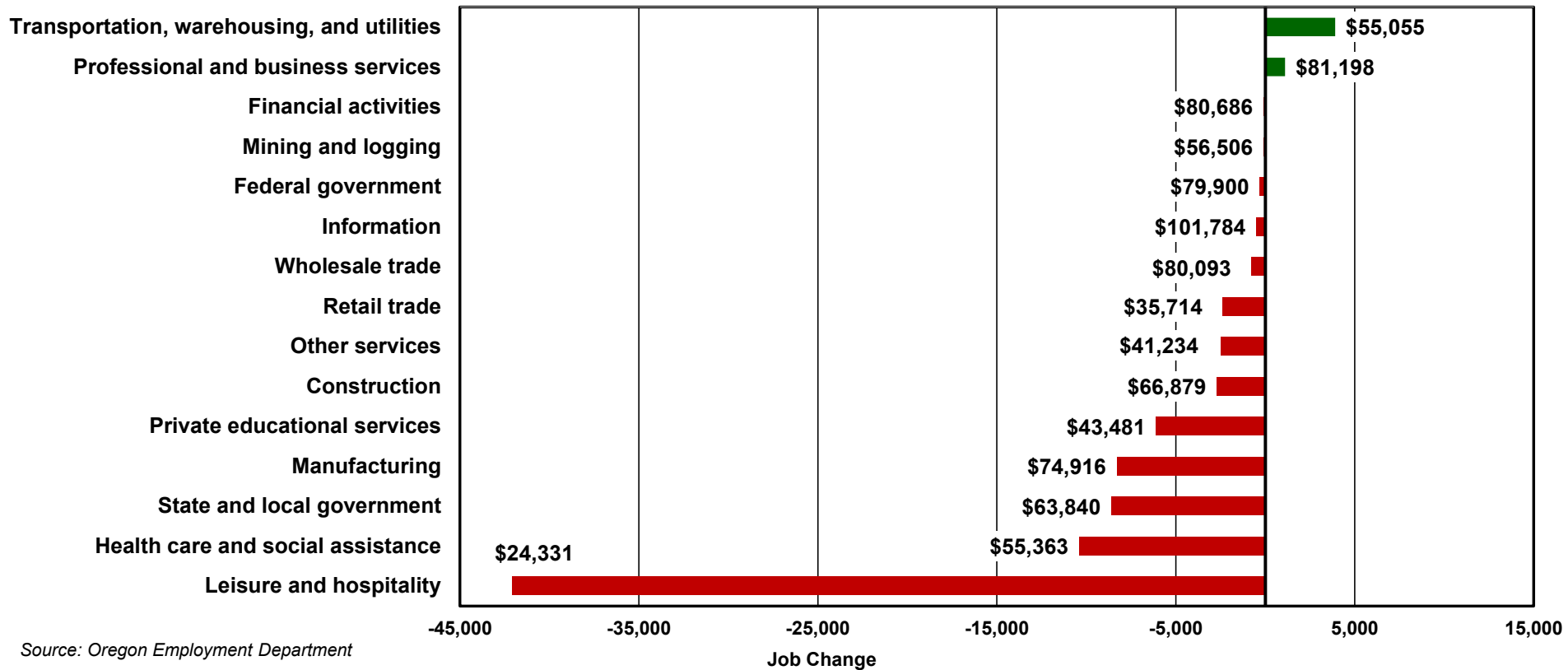


Source: Oregon Employment Department, Current Employment Statistics



Transportation, warehousing and utilities, Professional and business services have surpassed pre-COVID levels; All other industries still recovering for Oregon statewide

Oregon Job Change and Average Pay by Industry
February 2020 - September 2021 Job Change, 2020 Average Pay

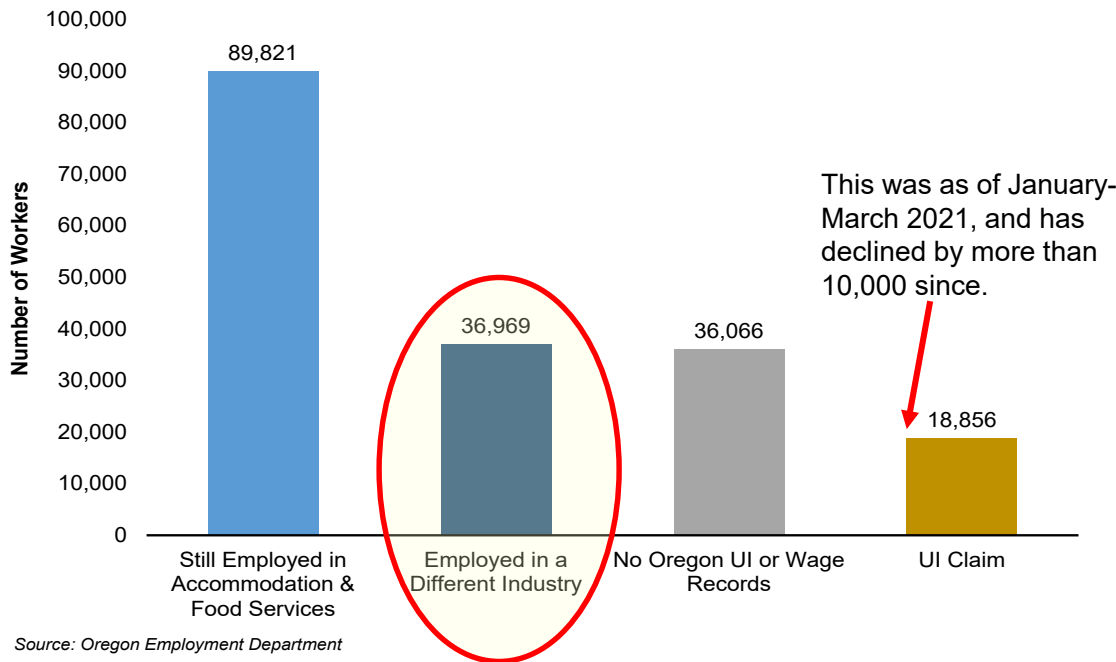


Source: Oregon Employment Department



Leisure and Hospitality Employers' Challenges

Oregon's COVID-Impacted Accommodation & Food Services Workers One Year Later



Stricter COVID-19 prevention for longer time to reduce community spread

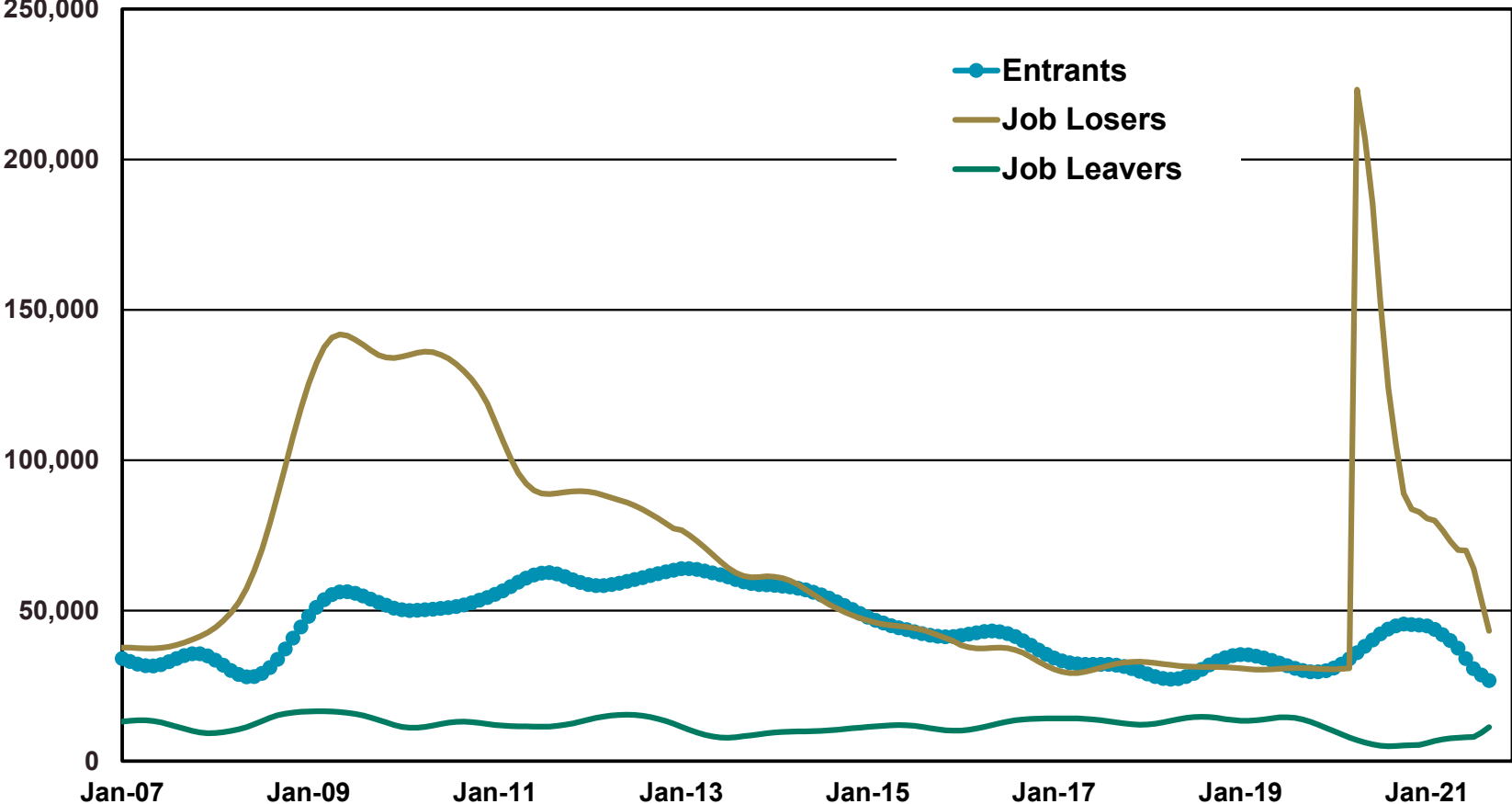
Wages still lower than other industries they lose workers to already.

Leisure and hospitality raised wages by \$2 per hour (14%) over the year

Still less than retail or transportation and warehousing – and lost 37,000 workers to those industries in 2020

Count of job leavers has risen recently among unemployed

Oregon Unemployment by Reason [Trend]

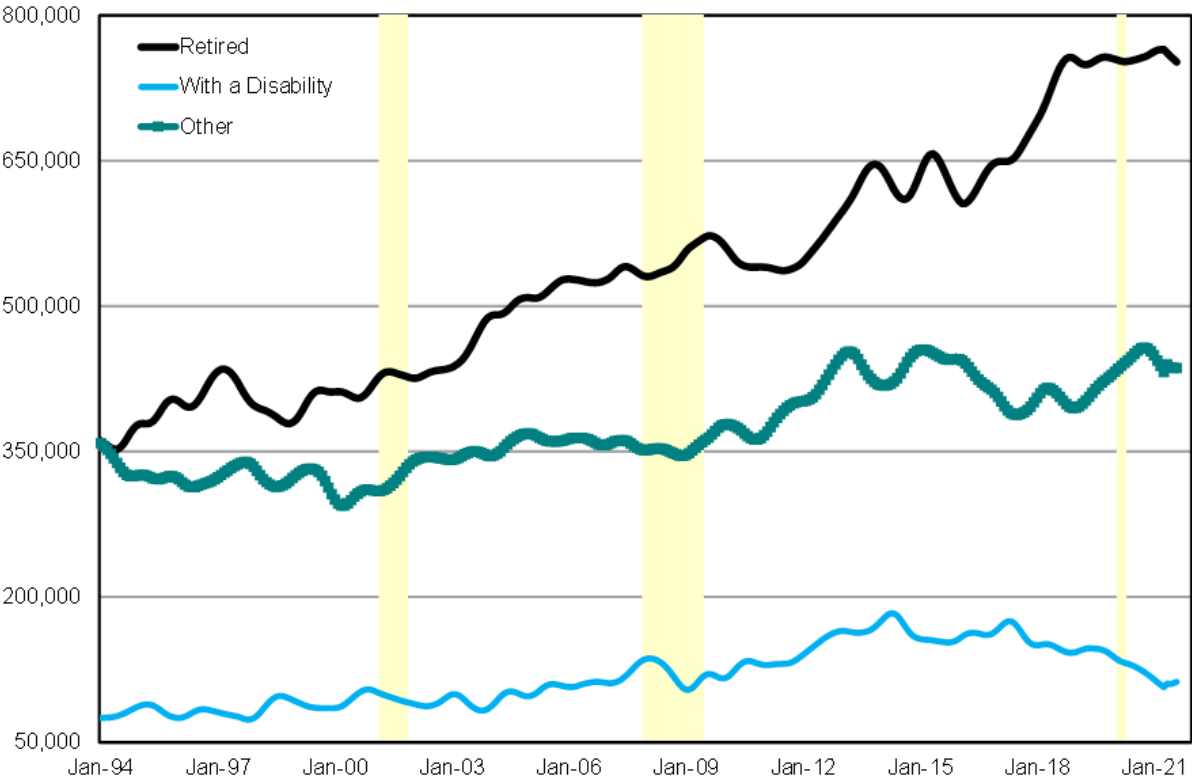


Source: Oregon Employment Department, Current Population Survey



Struggling Beyond September: Retirements

Reasons People Ages 16+ Are Not in Oregon's Labor Force
Shaded Bars = NBER Recessions



Source: Oregon Employment Department, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

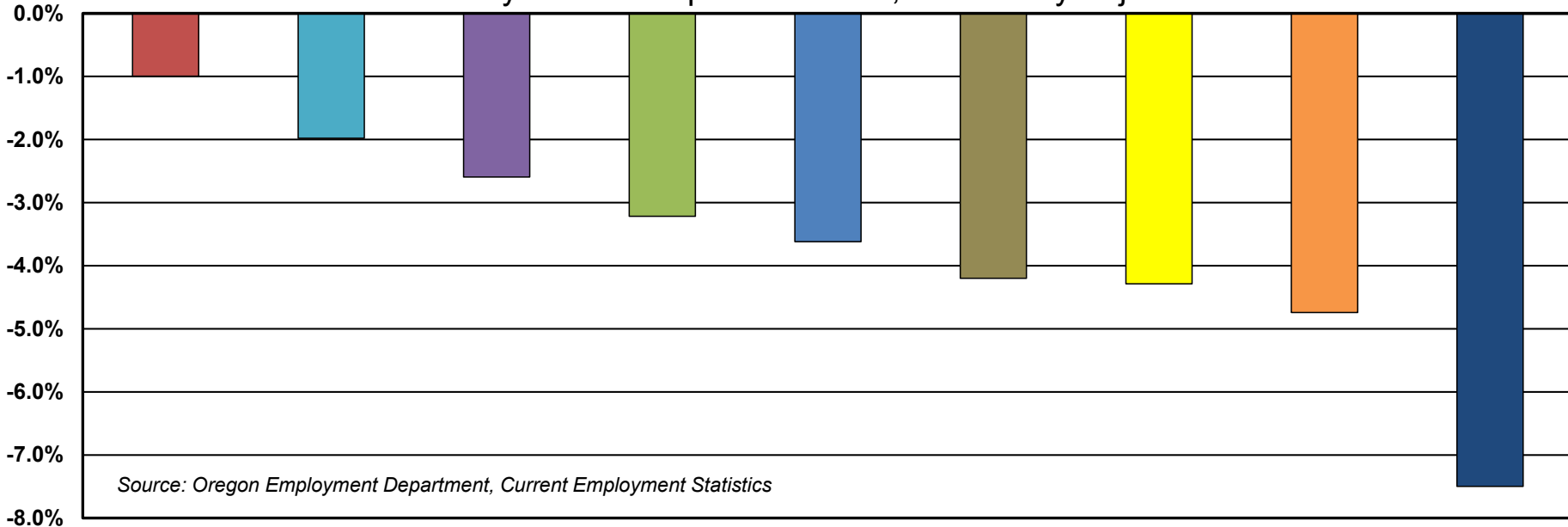
The number of people who were not in Oregon's labor force due to retirement grew by 21% between 2016 and 2019.

After a pandemic pause, this number is expected to rise again.



COVID hit the Northwest area hard and it's taking longer to recover job losses

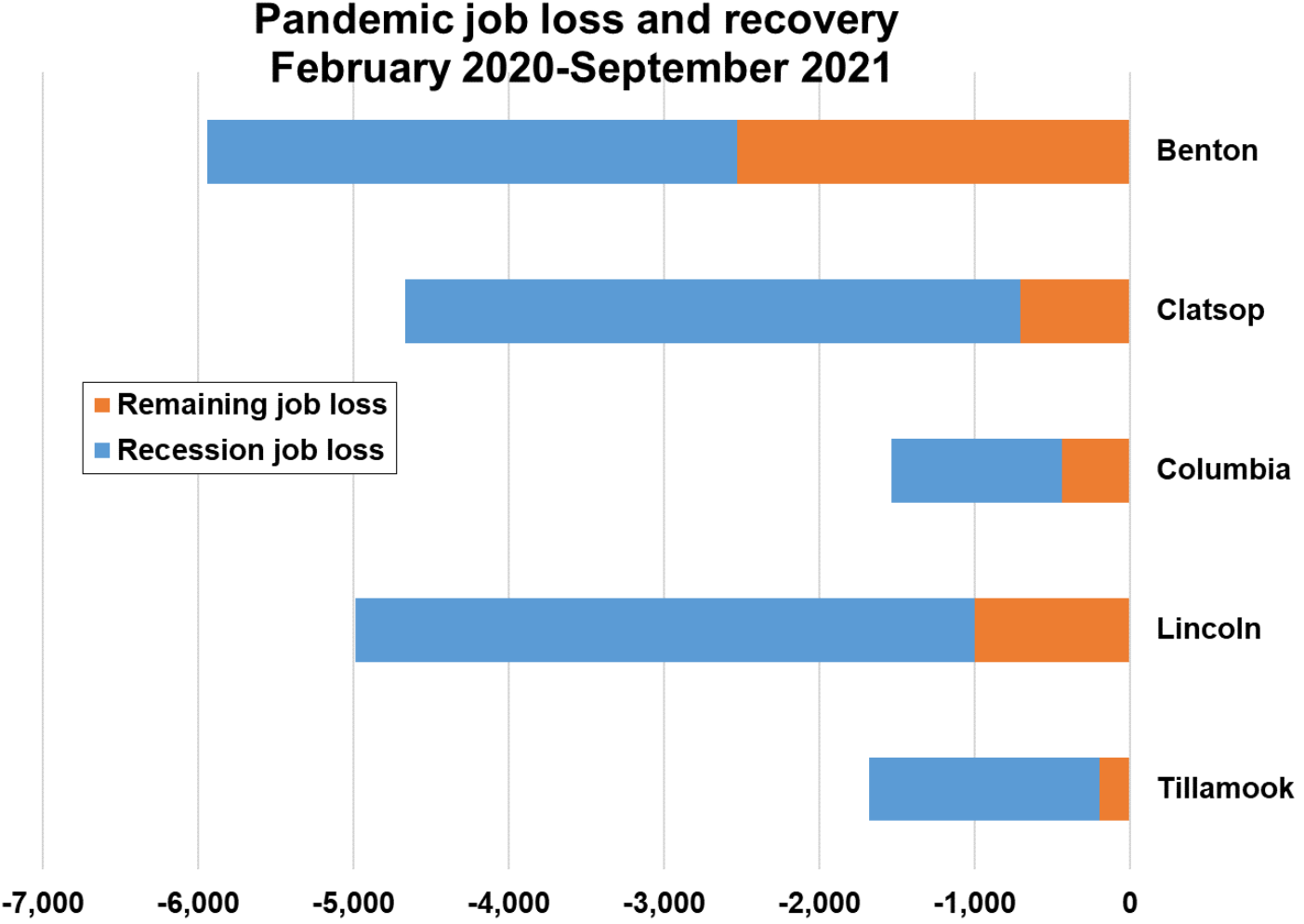
Job Change Rates Since February 2020 by Local Workforce Area
February 2020 to September 2021, Seasonally Adjusted



Source: Oregon Employment Department, Current Employment Statistics



Northwest Oregon has recovered about 75% of payroll jobs lost. Remaining loss is 4,900 jobs.

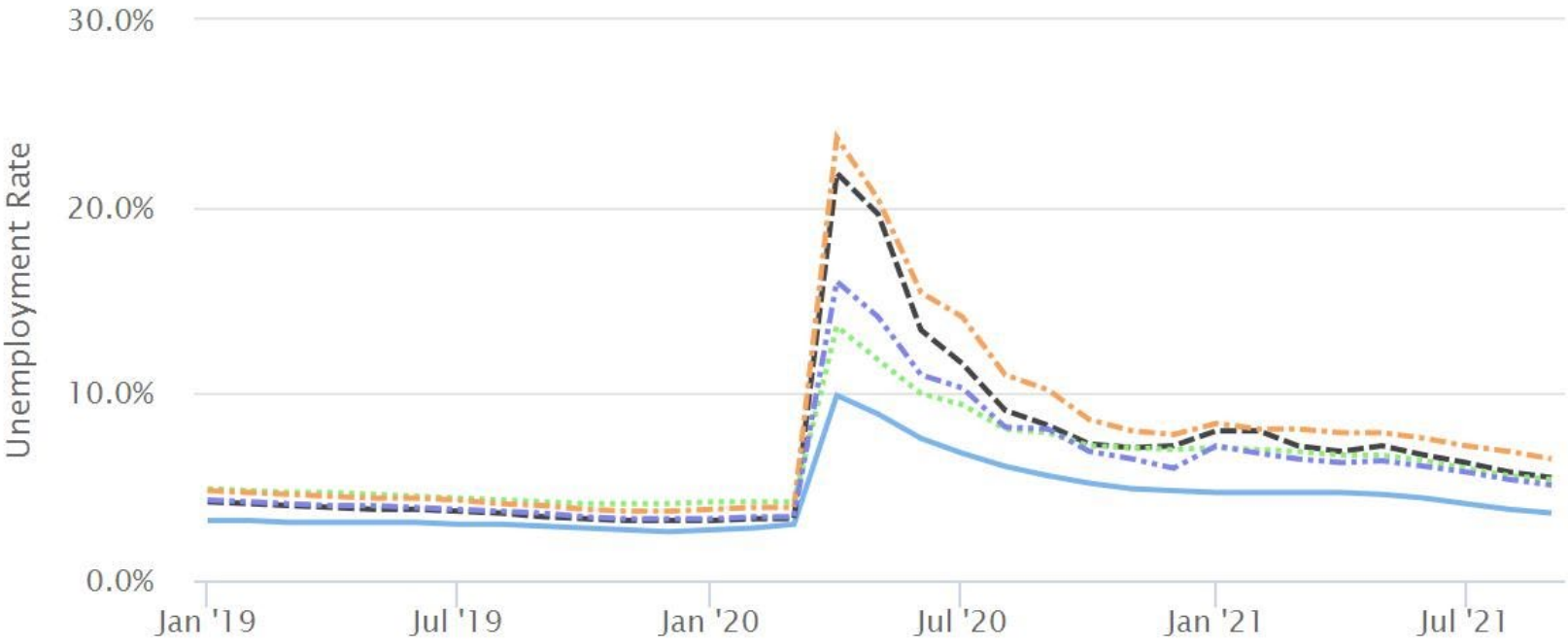


Source: Oregon Employment Department

Lincoln has the second-highest unemployment rate (6.6%) in the state. Benton had the second lowest (3.6%).

Local Area Unemployment Statistics

(Unemployment Rate)



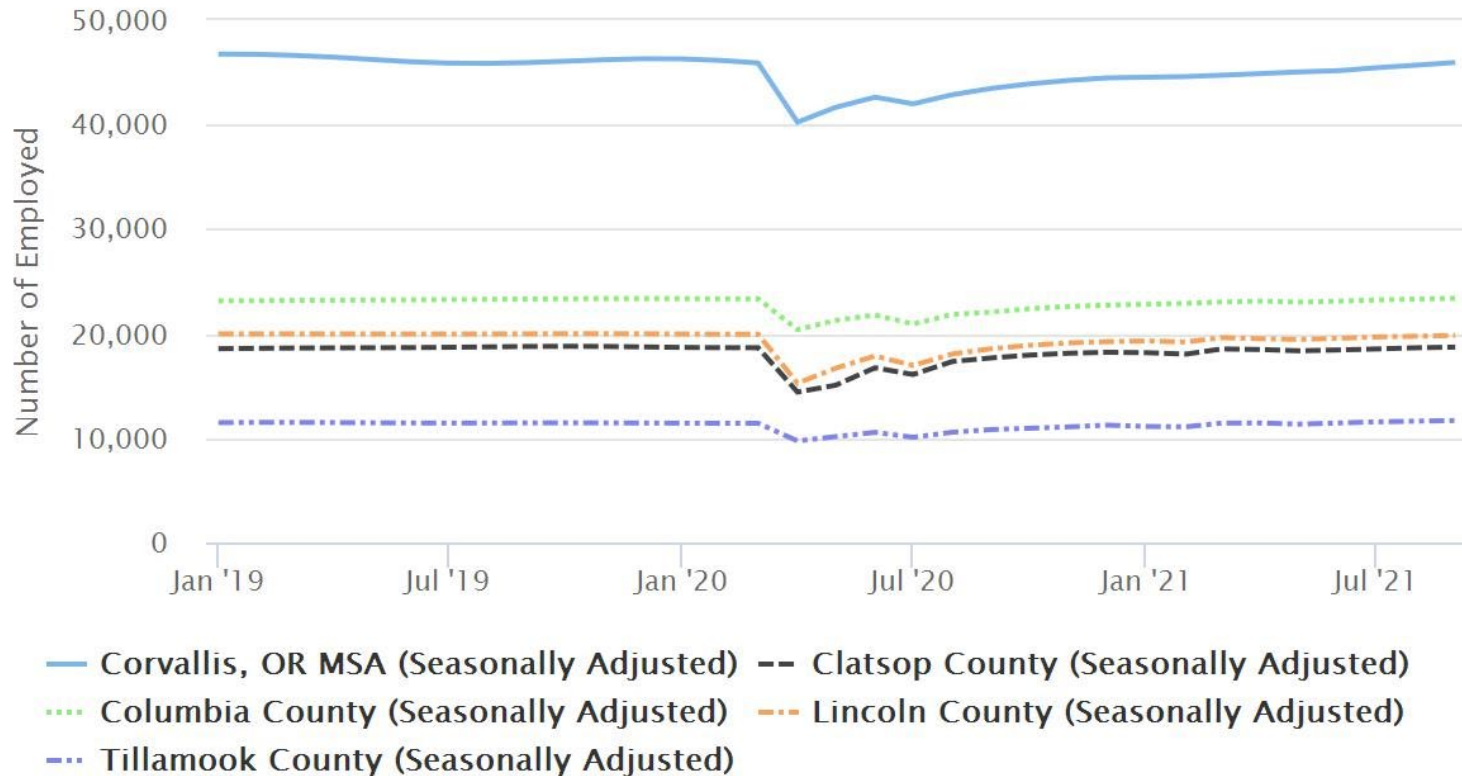
- Corvallis, OR MSA (Seasonally Adjusted)
- - Clatsop County (Seasonally Adjusted)
- ... Columbia County (Seasonally Adjusted)
- - - Tillamook County (Seasonally Adjusted)
- - - Lincoln County (Seasonally Adjusted)

Source: Oregon Employment Department Qualityinfo.org

Four counties within 75 of 2019 employment. Tillamook employment is up 225.

Local Area Unemployment Statistics

(Number of Employed)



Highlights of the Summer 2021 Oregon Job Vacancy Survey



Oregon businesses reported 107,000 vacancies in summer 2021.

Oregon Job Vacancies, Summer 2021

Vacancies	106,951
Average Hourly Wage	\$19.99
Full-time Positions	77%
Permanent Positions	93%
Requiring Education Beyond High School	27%
Requiring Previous Experience	52%
Difficult to Fill	78%

Vacancies increased 9% from the spring and increased 131% from summer 2020. Employers reported difficulty filling 78% of summer 2021 vacancies.

The average starting wage among this group of vacancies was around \$19.99 per hour, up 4% from the \$19.18 average last summer. This is a slight inflation-adjusted decrease, however.

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

Source: Oregon Employment Department



Businesses reported hiring in various industries.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Industry, Summer 2021

<u>Industry</u>	<u>Vacancies</u>
All Industries	106,951
Health care and social assistance	20,916
Leisure and hospitality	16,740
Retail trade	12,006
Manufacturing	11,966
Construction	8,526
Professional, scientific, and technical services	7,218
Other services	5,882
Management, administrative, and waste services	5,455
Financial activities	5,169
Wholesale trade	4,784
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	3,194
Natural resources and mining	3,152
Private educational services	1,425
Information	198

Source: Oregon Employment Department

Health care and social assistance continued to be the top hiring industry in the spring, with 20,900 vacancies. This sector had the most vacancies in 21 of the past 23 quarters. Leisure and hospitality, retail trade, and manufacturing also had more than 10,000 vacancies in spring.

Note: While we've all seen evidence of local school districts hiring as in-person classes resume, those openings and other government hiring aren't captured in this survey of private-sector businesses.



The starting wage for job vacancies averaged \$19.99 per hour in the summer.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Hourly Wage Range, Summer 2021

Wage (per hour)	Vacancies	Average Hourly Wage
All Wage Ranges	106,951	\$19.99
Less than \$15	25,145	\$13.33
\$15 through \$19.99	35,535	\$16.61
\$20 through \$24.99	15,356	\$21.57
\$25 through \$29.99	6,026	\$26.15
\$30 and up	10,322	\$41.93
Unknown	14,567	

Source: Oregon Employment Department

The average starting wage among this group of vacancies was around \$19.99 per hour, a slight inflation-adjusted decrease over the year.

Total vacancies were up 131% from the level last summer during pandemic restrictions. The number of vacancies offering a starting wage below \$15 per hour increased the slowest, at 92%. The number of vacancies offering between \$15 and \$25 per hour more than doubled (+147%), as did vacancies paying above \$25 per hour (+155%).



Summer vacancies were distributed across the state. Every region has seen record levels of job vacancies in spring or summer 2021.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Geography, Summer 2021

<u>Geography</u>	<u>Vacancies</u>
Oregon Statewide	106,951
Portland Metro	28,799
Mid-Valley	13,902
East Cascades	12,070
Clackamas	11,825
Lane	11,203
Rogue Valley	9,519
Northwest Oregon	6,353
Southwestern Oregon	5,658
Eastern Oregon	5,361

Vacancies increased 9% from the spring and increased 131% from summer 2020.

The Portland tri-county area represented 38% of summer vacancies. Vacancies increased the most over the year in Southwestern Oregon and Lane County.

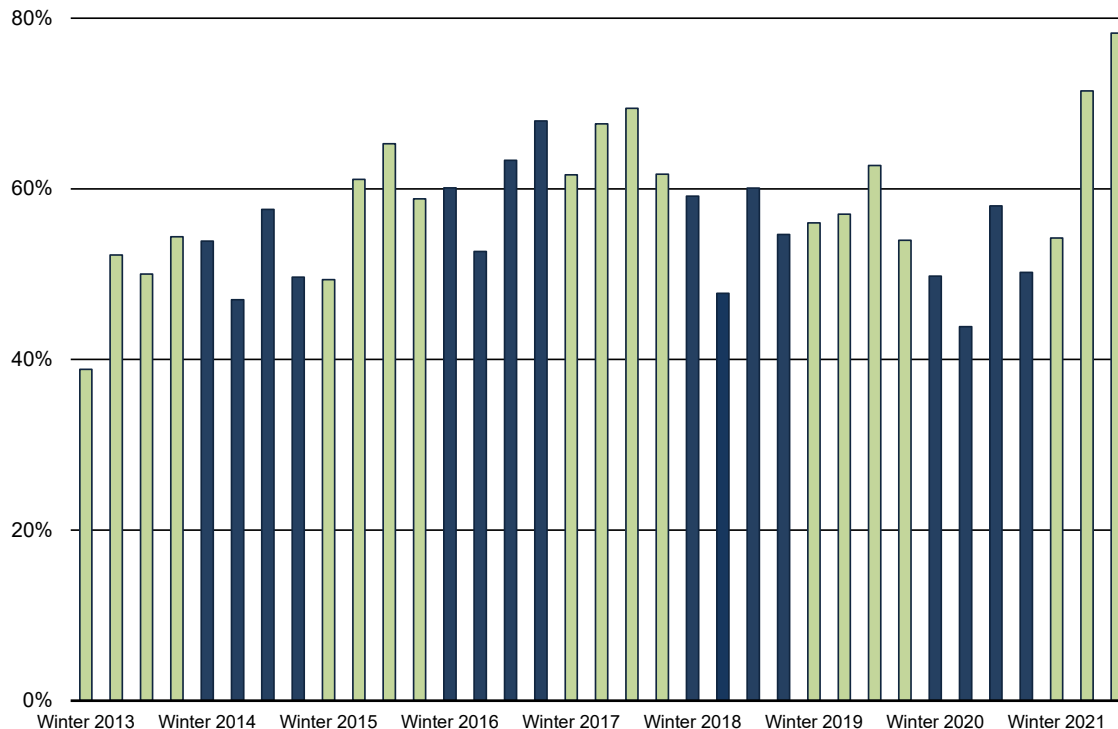
Unknown/multiple regions excluded

Source: Oregon Employment Department



78% of summer job vacancies were reported as difficult to fill.

Businesses Report Difficulty Filling 78% of Vacancies in Summer 2021



Occupations with the highest number of difficult-to-fill vacancies:

- Cooks, restaurant (3,900)
- Personal care aides (3,500)
- Retail salespersons (2,800)
- Truck drivers (2,600)

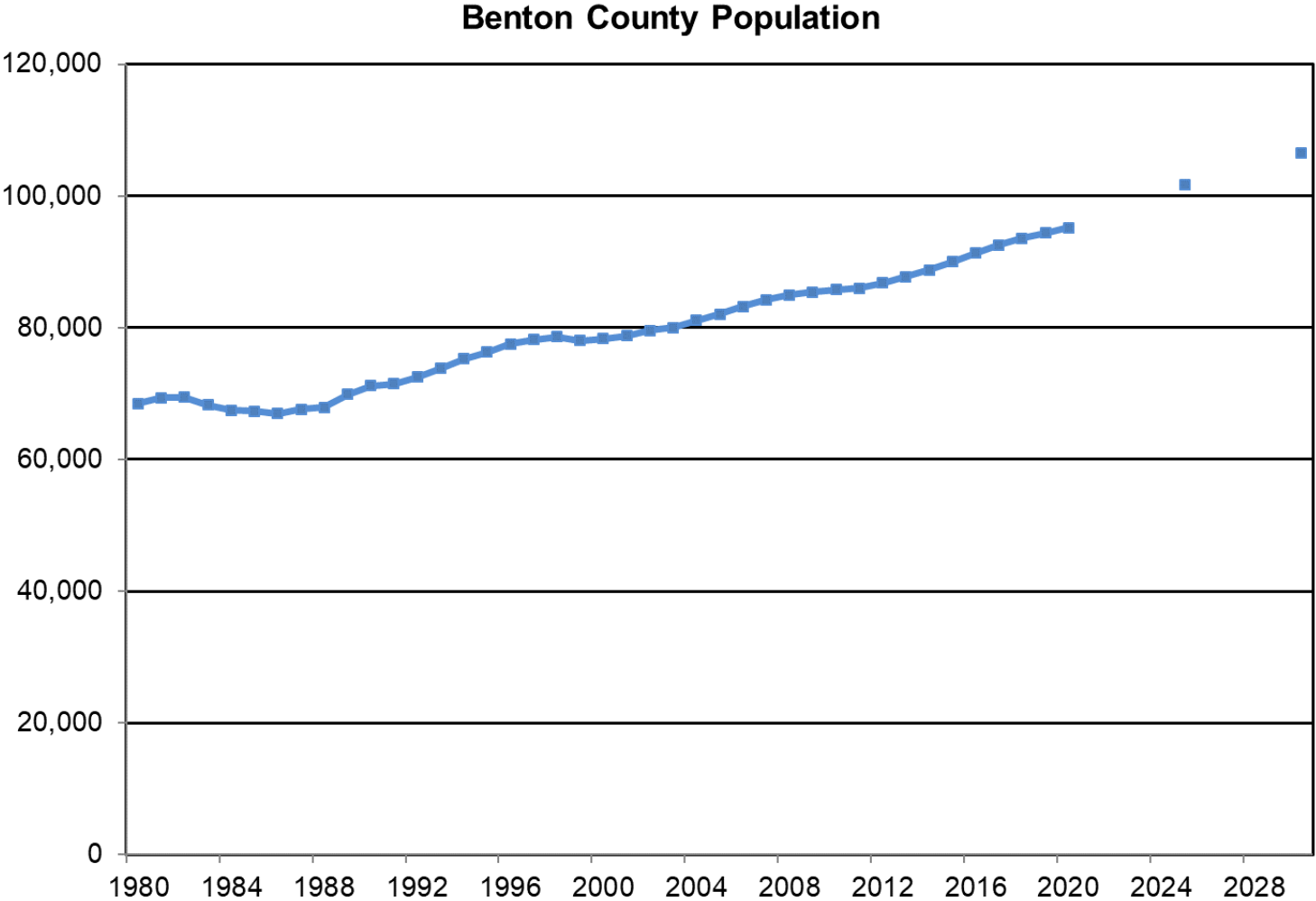


Focus on Benton



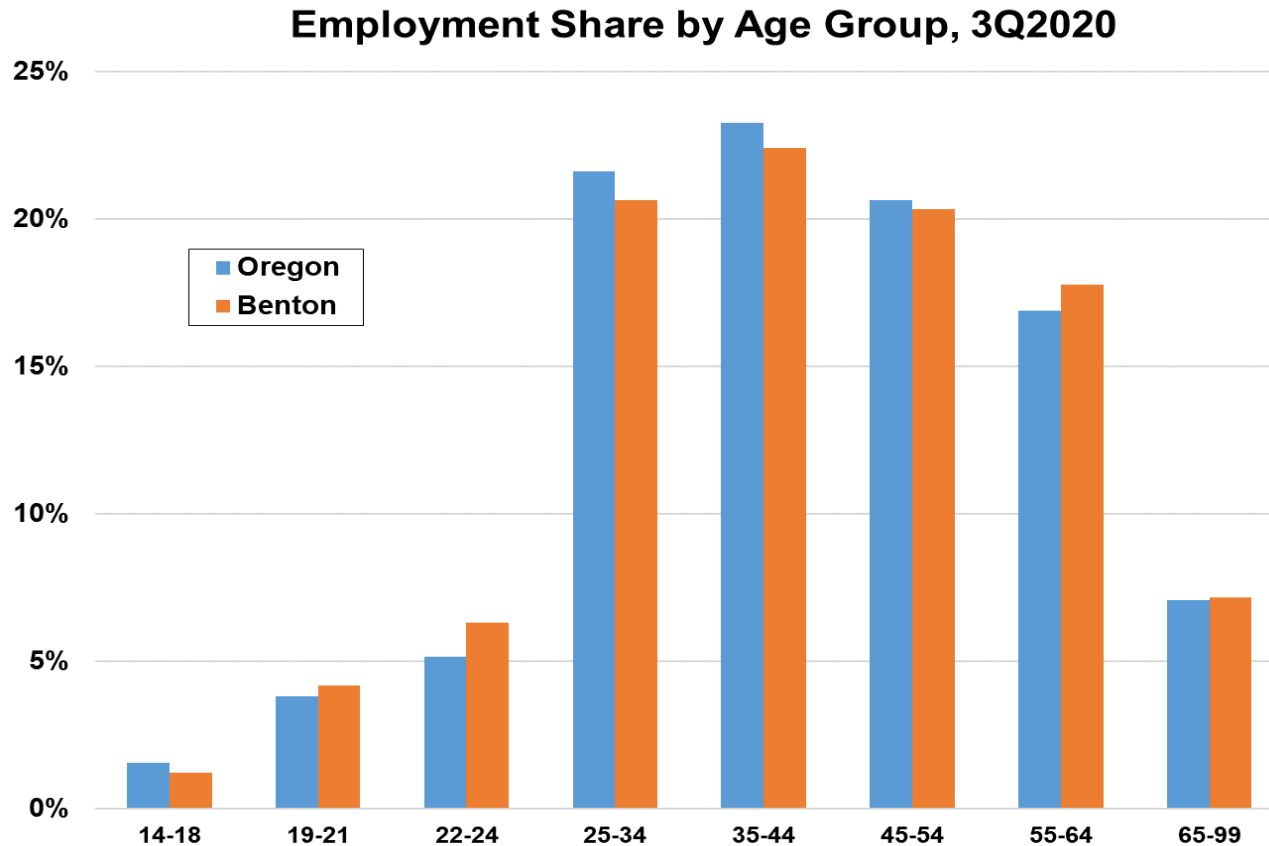
Population has increased by 1.1% per year since 2010; it grew by 824 in 2020.

Total population 95,184 in 2020 Census.



Source: Portland State University

Despite a large young adult population, the age of its workforce is quite similar to the statewide workforce.



Source: Census Bureau LEHD

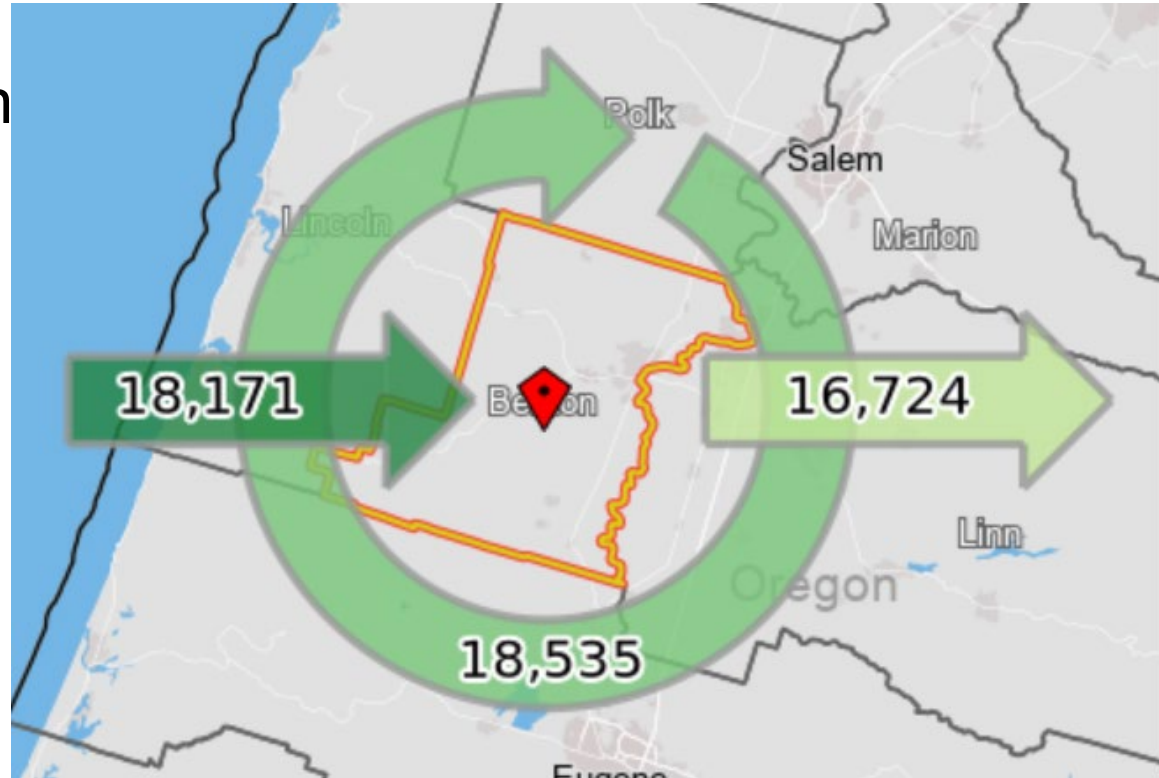


County's net inflow of commuters was about 1,447 in 2018.

49.5% of jobs in Benton held by in-commuters.

50.5% of jobs held by residents.

47% of residents commute out to jobs.



Source: U.S Census Bureau, Local Employment Dynamics program, 2018.

In 2004 61% of working residents held primary jobs in Benton.

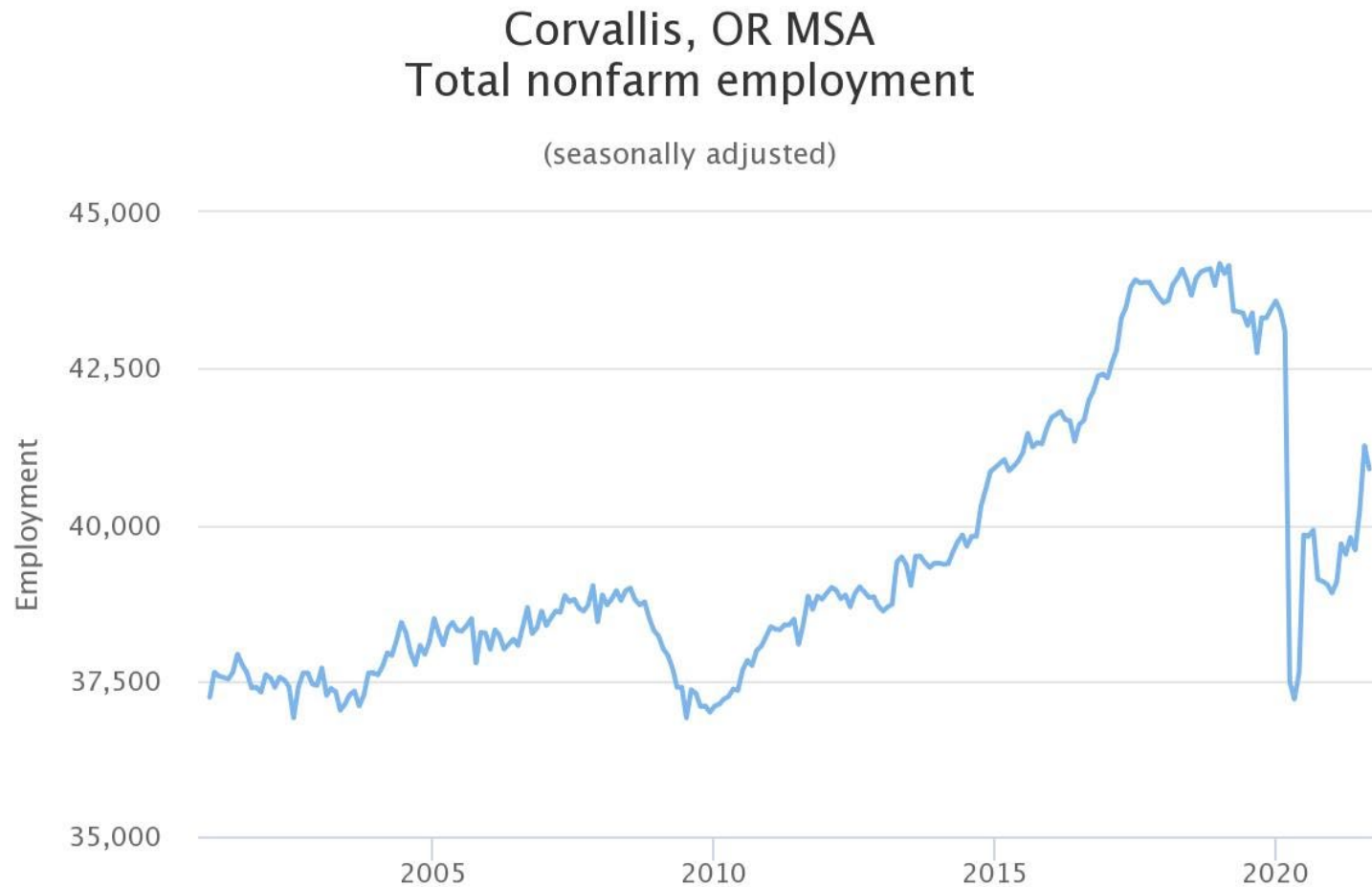
**Jobs Counts by Counties Where
Workers are Employed - Primary Jobs
2018**

	Count	Share
Benton County	18,535	52.6%
Linn County	4,875	13.8%
Marion County	2,414	6.8%
Lane County	2,411	6.8%
Multnomah County	1,589	4.5%
Washington County	1,230	3.5%
Clackamas County	823	2.3%
Polk County	559	1.6%
Lincoln County	468	1.3%
Deschutes County	332	0.9%
All Other Locations	2,023	5.7%

Source: Census Bureau LEHD



Benton County lost 5,940 jobs from February to April 2020 and has gained back 3,410 (57%) of them-seasonally adjusted.

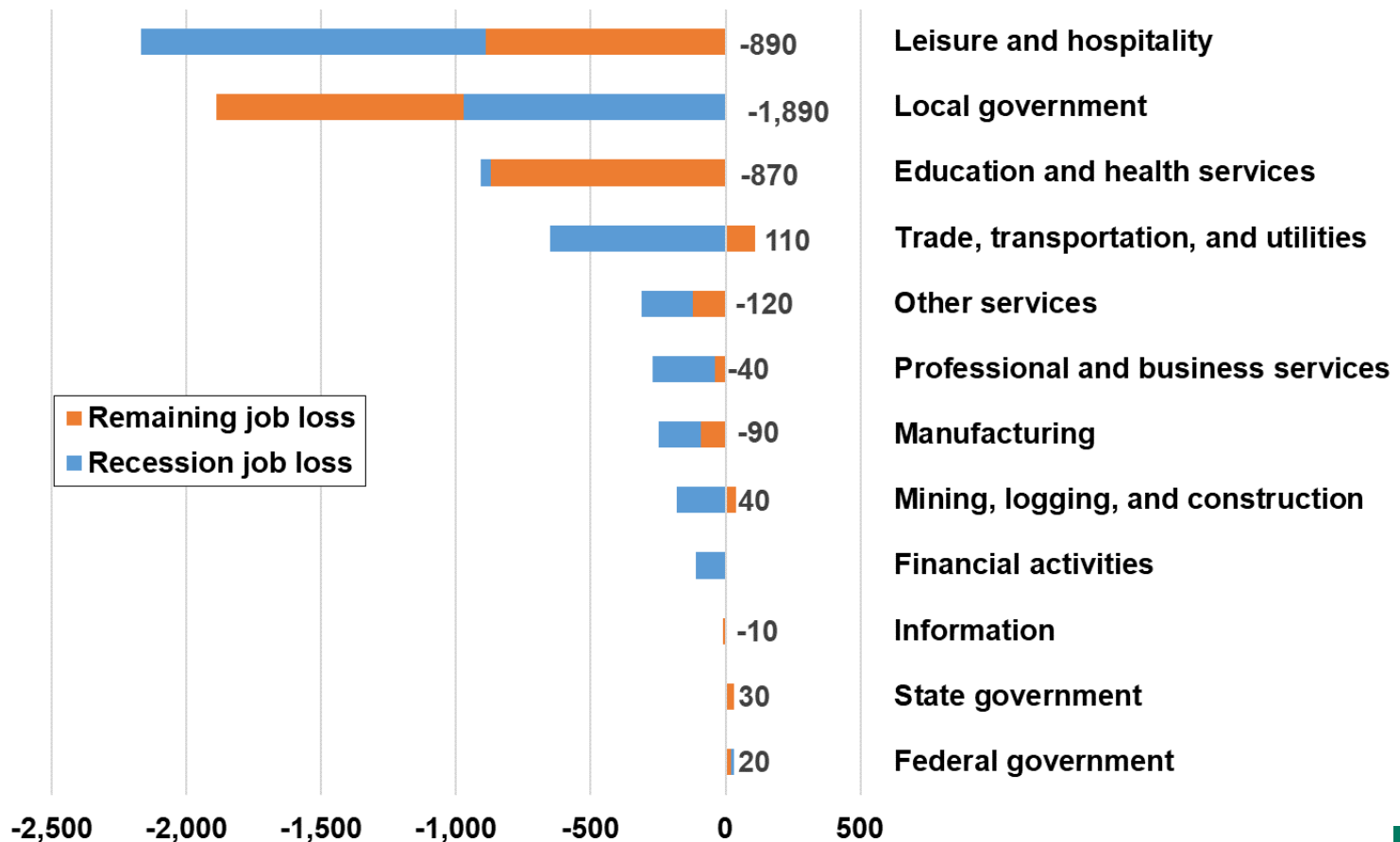


Source: Oregon Employment Department QualityInfo.org



Benton County lost 5,810 jobs from February to April 2020 and gained back 2,000 (34%) of them-not seasonally adjusted.

Pandemic job loss and recovery in Benton County February 2020-September 2021



Source: Oregon Employment Department



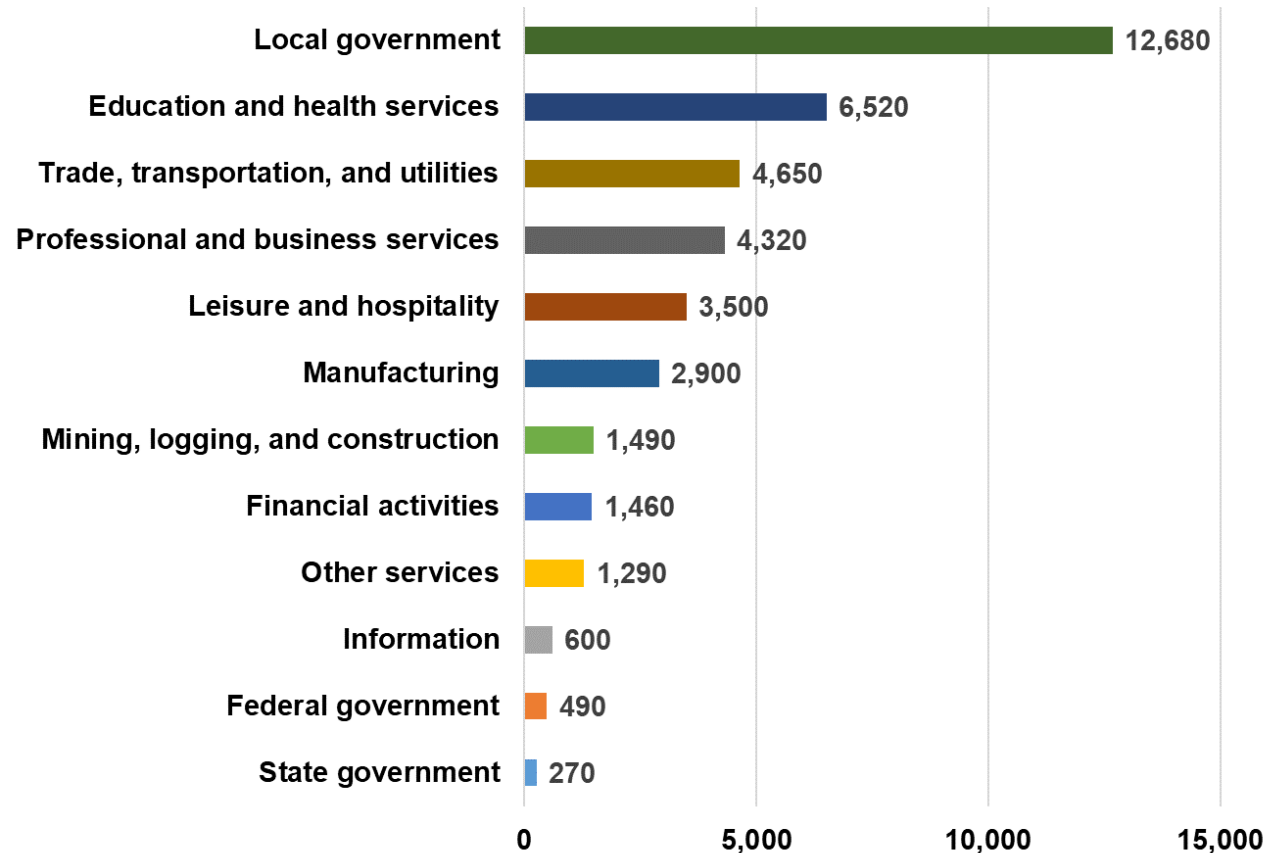
There were 3,015 employers providing 36,555 jobs in county in 2Q2021. Total payroll was over \$2 billion in 2020.

Covered employment was down 2,573 in 2020, but total payroll was up \$30 million.

Benton County's average wage was \$58,050 in 2020, fifth-highest in the state.

Local government, education and health services are still the dominant industries.

Benton County Nonfarm Employment, September 2021



Source: Oregon Employment Department

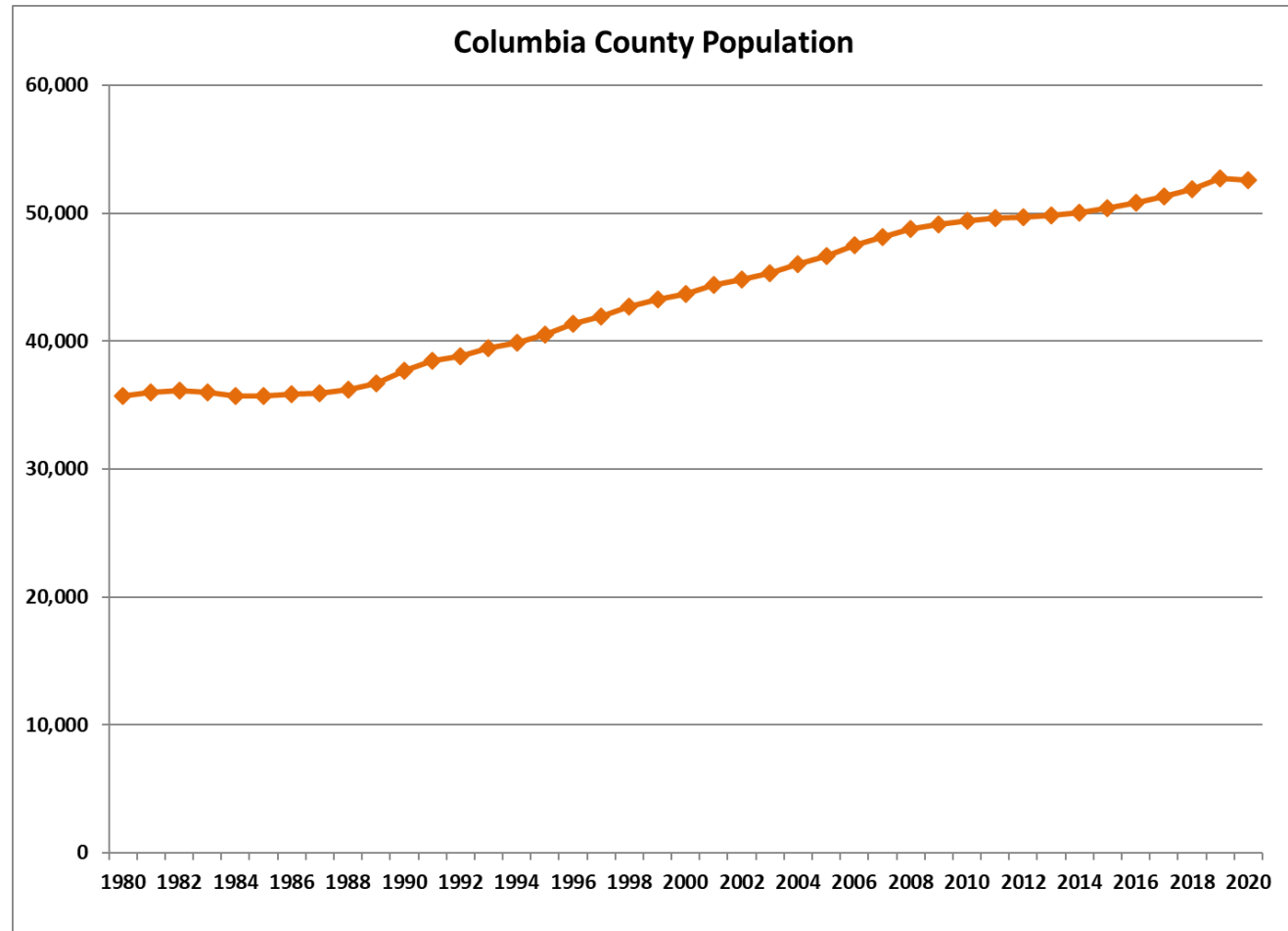


Focus on Columbia

2020 Census put Columbia's population 691 below estimate.

Columbia is the least racially diverse county in Northwest Oregon (86% white). Benton is the most diverse (78% white).

U.S. is 62% white alone.

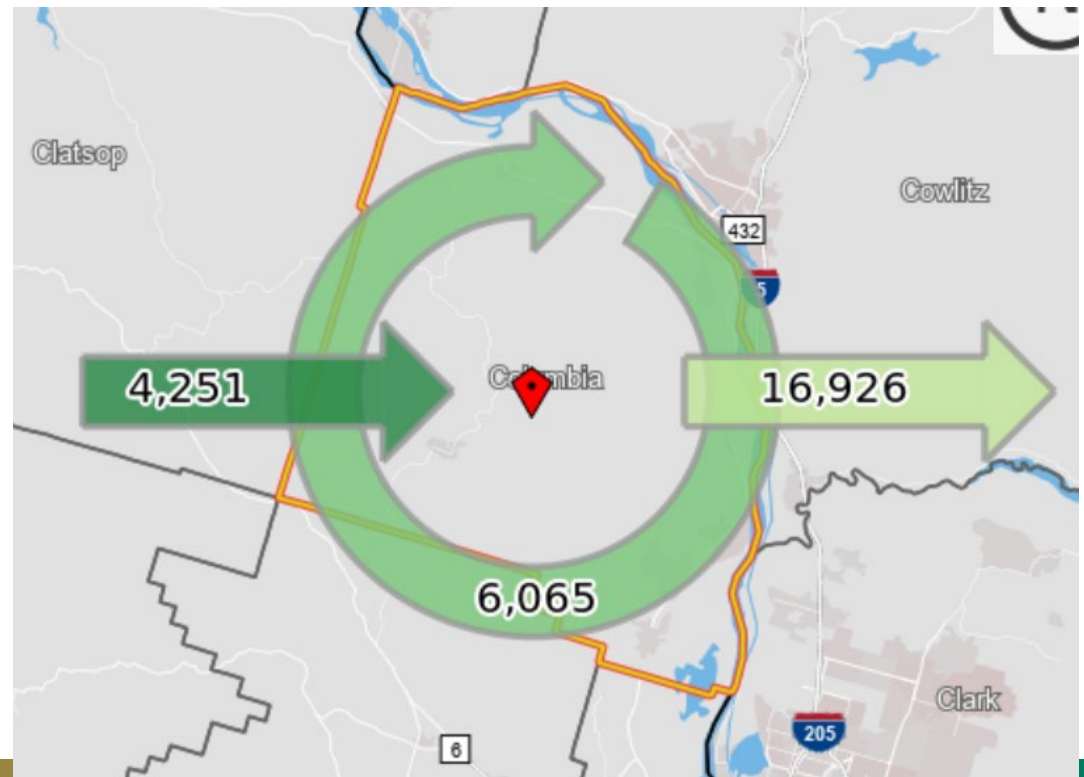


Columbia had a net outflow of about 16,926 workers in 2018.

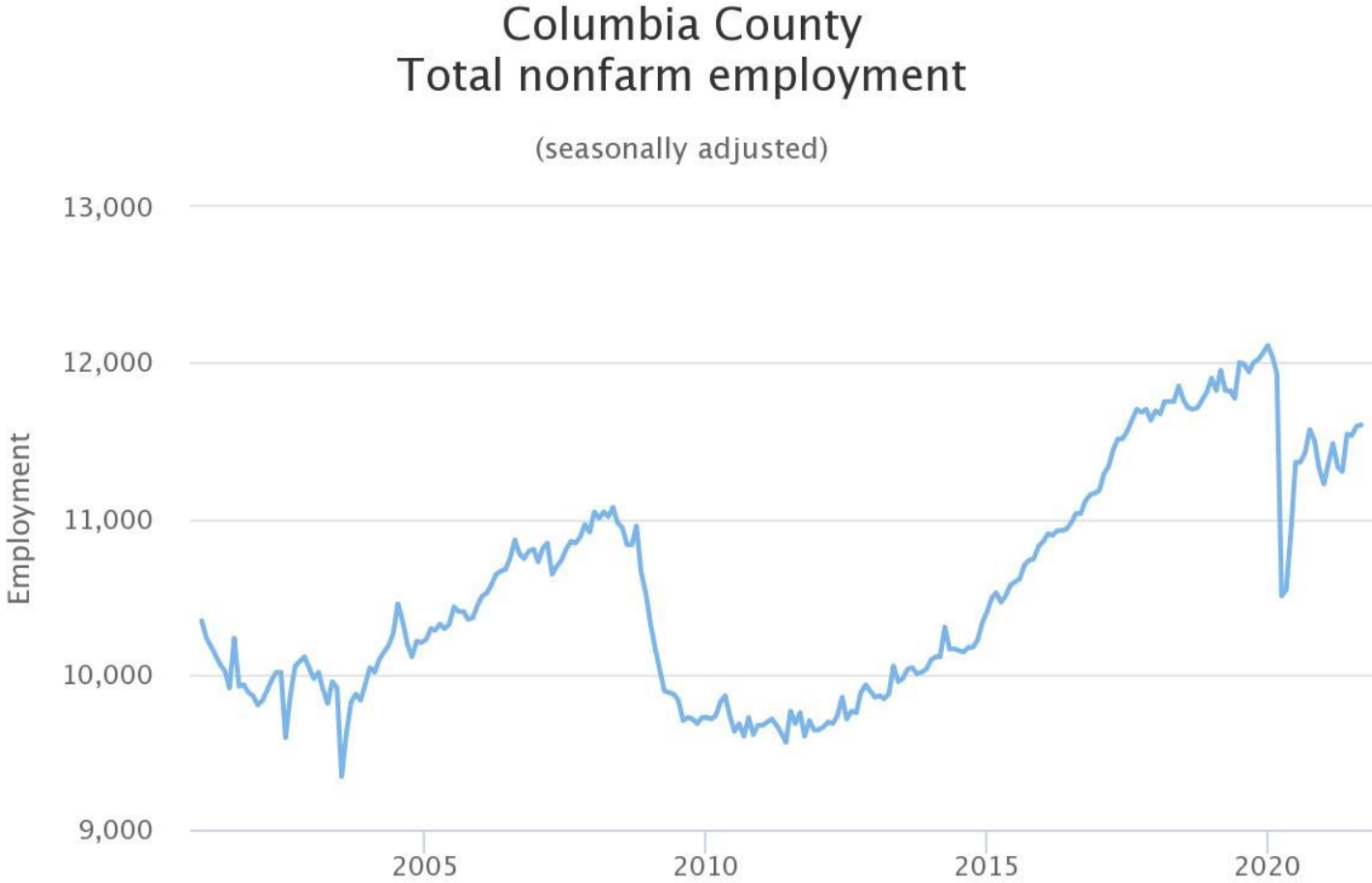
74% of working residents commute out of the county.

29% of total to Multnomah,
26% stay in Columbia,
18% to Washington

41% of the workforce commutes into the county.



The county shed 1,540 payroll jobs in the recession and regained 1,100 (71%)-seasonally adjusted.

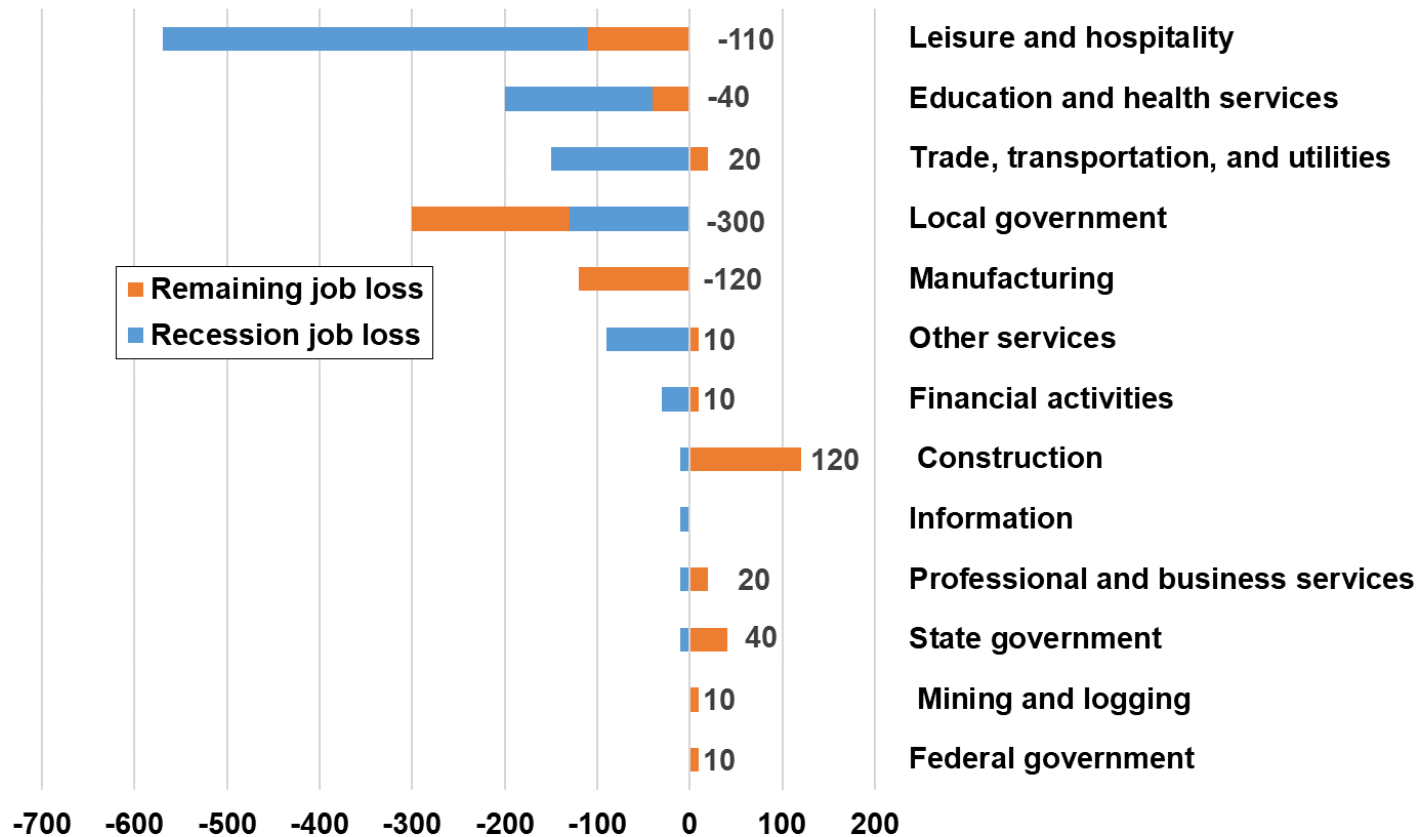


Source: Oregon Employment Department QualityInfo.org



The county shed 1,290 jobs in the recession and gained back 960 (74%)-not seasonally adjusted.

**Pandemic job loss and recovery in Columbia County
February 2020-September 2021**



Source: Oregon Employment Department



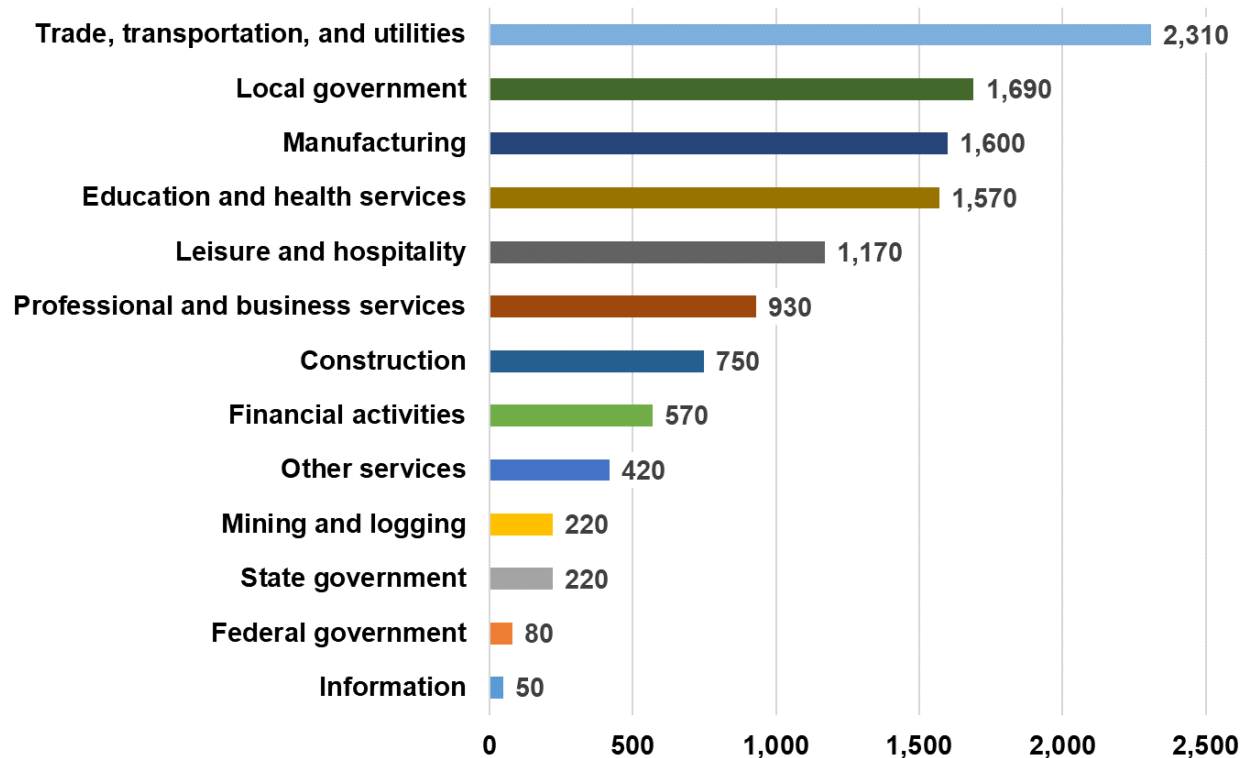
Columbia had 1,424 employers providing 11,595 jobs in 2Q2021. Total payroll was \$504 million in 2020.

Employment fell in 2020 but payroll was up \$24 million.

Average wage was \$44,937 in 2020.

Retail trade was up 90 jobs over two years ago.

Columbia County Nonfarm Payroll Employment, September 2021



Source: Oregon Employment Department



For more economic information, call:

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