



# Help Wanted in the Mid-Valley

**Results from the 2020  
Job Vacancy Survey**



# The Mid-Valley had roughly 7,000 job vacancies at any given time in 2020.

We surveyed 1,600 private employers with two or more employees.

If they were hiring, employers gave details about each vacancy, including:

- Job title
- Full- or part-time status
- Permanent or temporary status
- Starting wage or salary
- Education and experience requirements

Businesses also identified if their vacancies were difficult to fill, and if so, they wrote in the primary reason they faced hiring challenges.

# Across Oregon, businesses reported roughly 44,400 vacancies at any given time in 2020.

## Oregon Job Vacancies

	2019	2020
<b>Vacancies</b>	<b>57,241</b>	<b>44,408</b>
Average Hourly Wage	\$18.81	\$18.05
Full-time Positions	77%	79%
Permanent Positions	93%	92%
Requiring Education Beyond High School	34%	33%
Requiring Previous Experience	57%	53%
Difficult to Fill	57%	51%

Source: Oregon Employment Department

Vacancies dropped 22% from the level in 2019. Employers continued to hire throughout the COVID pandemic.

2020 was not a typical year for Oregon businesses, yet many of the characteristics Oregon employers are looking for didn't change much during the pandemic recession.

A typical job vacancy tends to be for a full-time, permanent position. About one-third require education beyond high school and half require previous experience.



## Starting in spring 2020, employers were asked “Is this location closed or operations curtailed due to COVID-19 restrictions?”

- Nearly one out of five responses (18%) indicated a closure or curtailment due to COVID-19 in spring 2020. The share dropped to 7% in summer and 6% of respondents to the fall 2020 survey.
- The leisure and hospitality and other services industries most often responded that operations were affected.
- Employers in the Portland-metro area and Northwest Oregon reported the highest shares of affected businesses.

# Private health care and social assistance reported the most vacancies of any industry.

## Mid-Valley Job Vacancies by Industry, 2020

<b>Industry</b>	<b>Vacancies</b>	<b>Average Wage</b>
<b>All Industries</b>	<b>6,995</b>	<b>\$17.53</b>
Health care and social assistance	2,380	\$18.87
Management, administrative, and waste services	841	\$15.35
Natural resources and mining	584	\$17.59
Leisure and hospitality	570	\$12.13
Manufacturing	568	\$19.72
Construction	555	\$22.33
Retail trade	501	\$13.74
Other services	280	\$14.54
Financial activities	193	\$27.09
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	166	\$14.83
Professional, scientific, and technical services	162	\$19.77
Private educational services	108	\$14.55
Wholesale trade	87	\$18.49



# Health care support occupations represented the group with the most vacancies.

Mid-Valley Job Vacancies by Occupation Group, 2020

Occupation Group	Vacancies	Average Wage
<b>All Occupations</b>	<b>6,995</b>	<b>\$17.53</b>
Health Care Support	1,120	\$14.83
Transportation and Material Moving	888	\$15.28
Office and Administrative Support	670	\$15.31
Food Preparation and Serving Related	575	\$12.34
Production	454	\$15.42
Construction and Extraction	428	\$24.68
Health Care Practitioners and Technical	391	\$37.33
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	361	\$19.41
Sales and Related	321	\$13.75
Personal Care and Service	316	\$13.55
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	310	\$13.19
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	269	\$14.54
Management	259	\$27.31
Community and Social Service	162	\$15.96
Business and Financial Operations	144	\$23.58
Education, Training, and Library	144	\$14.77
Protective Service	63	\$12.17
Architecture and Engineering	42	n/a
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	33	n/a
Computer and Mathematical	27	n/a
Legal	18	n/a



# Area businesses were hiring for a variety of jobs across the economy in 2020. They reported vacancies for 137 different occupations.

## Top Mid-Valley Occupations With the Highest Number of Job Vacancies, 2020

<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Vacancies</u>
<b>All Occupations</b>	<b>6,995</b>
Personal Care Aides	458
Nursing Assistants	301
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	269
Customer Service Representatives	240
Production Workers, All Other	184
Stockers and Order Fillers	163
Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	151
Electricians	148
Cooks, Institution and Cafeteria	144
Dental Assistants	133
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	132
Home Health Aides	102
Fast Food and Counter Workers	100
Medical Secretaries and Administrative Assistants	100
Social and Human Service Assistants	99
Light Truck Drivers	99



# Some occupational vacancies are more difficult to fill than others.

## Top Mid-Valley Occupations With the Highest Number of Difficult-to-Fill Job Vacancies, 2020

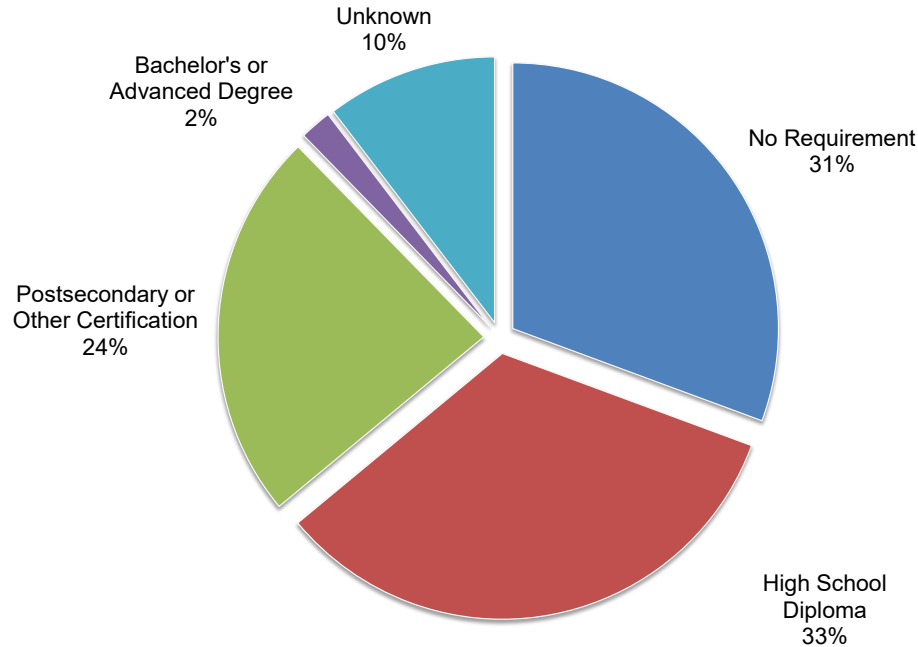
Occupation	Vacancies
<b>Difficult-to-Fill Vacancies in All Occupations</b>	<b>3,631</b>
Personal Care Aides	290
Nursing Assistants	238
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	220
Electricians	148
Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	133
Dental Assistants	100
Light Truck Drivers	99
Cooks, Institution and Cafeteria	90
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	78
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	72
Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, and Aquacultural Animals	67
Control and Valve Installers and Repairers, Except Mechanical Door	67
Amusement and Recreation Attendants	67
Dental Hygienists	67
Construction Laborers	66
Logging Workers, All Other	66





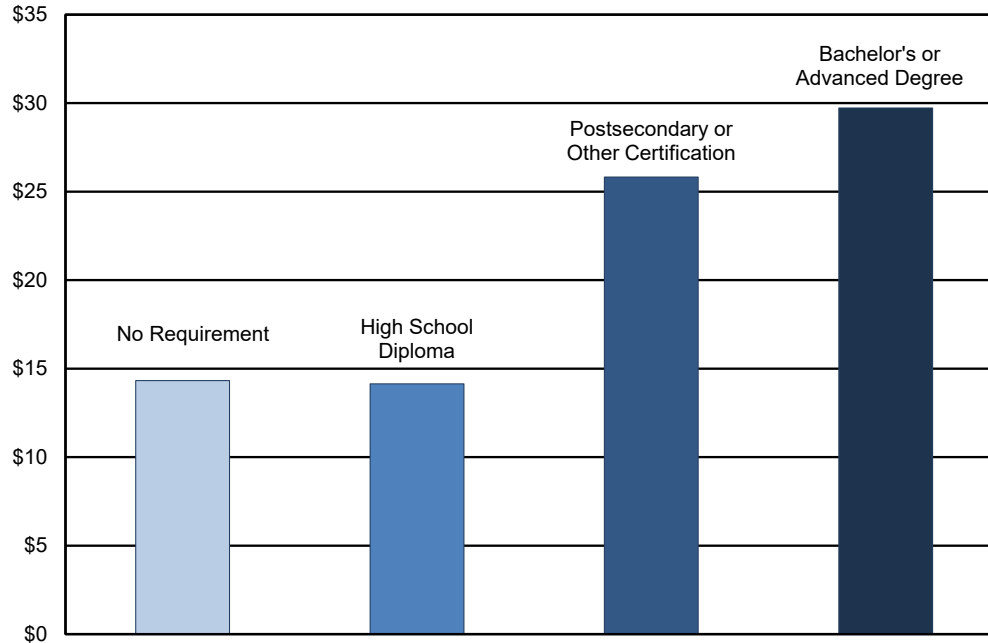
# More than half (64%) of Mid-Valley job vacancies required no education beyond high school.

Mid-Valley Job Vacancies by Education Requirement,  
2020



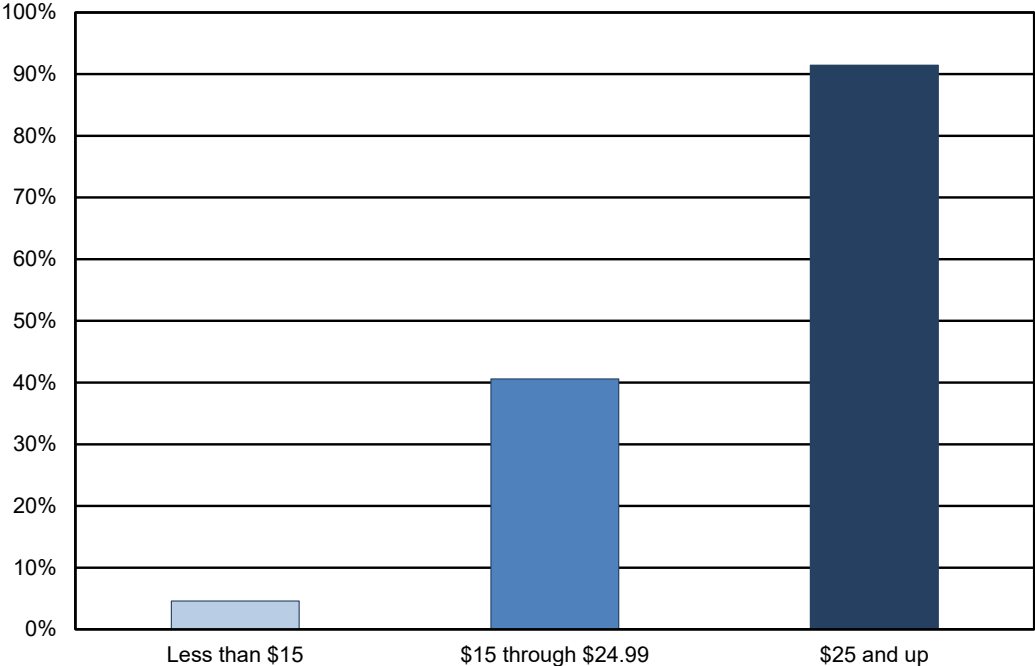
# Average hourly wages generally increase along with education requirements for job vacancies...

Average Hourly Wage for Mid-Valley Job Vacancies by Education Requirement, 2020



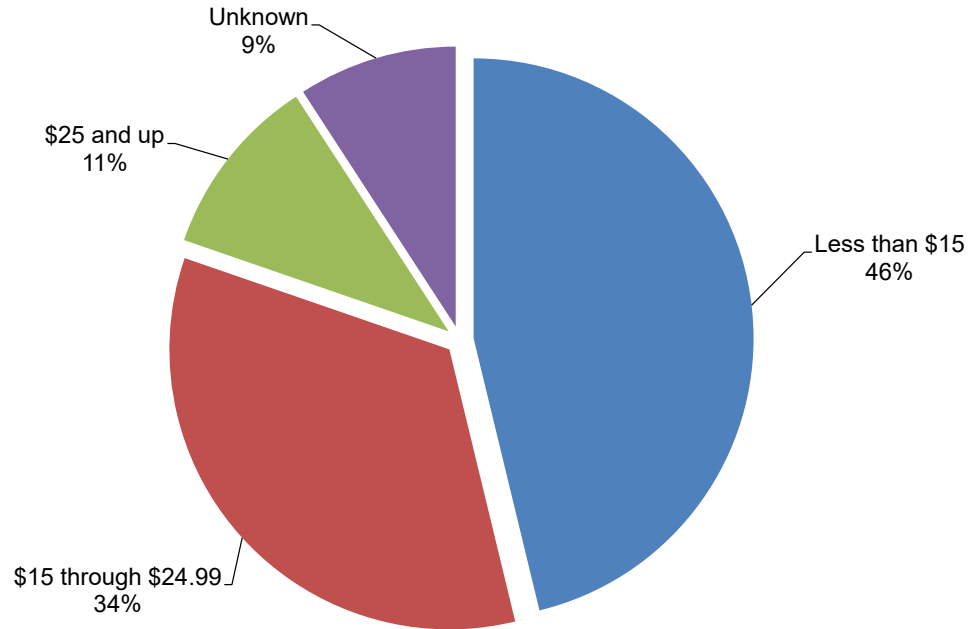
# ...and high-paying vacancies are more likely to require education beyond high school.

Share of Mid-Valley Job Vacancies Requiring Education Beyond High School by Hourly Wage Range, 2020



# Almost half (46%) of all vacancies in the Mid-Valley pay less than \$15 per hour.

Mid-Valley Job Vacancies by Hourly Wage, 2020



# Vacancies requiring higher education are generally more likely to be high-paying, full-time, and require prior experience.

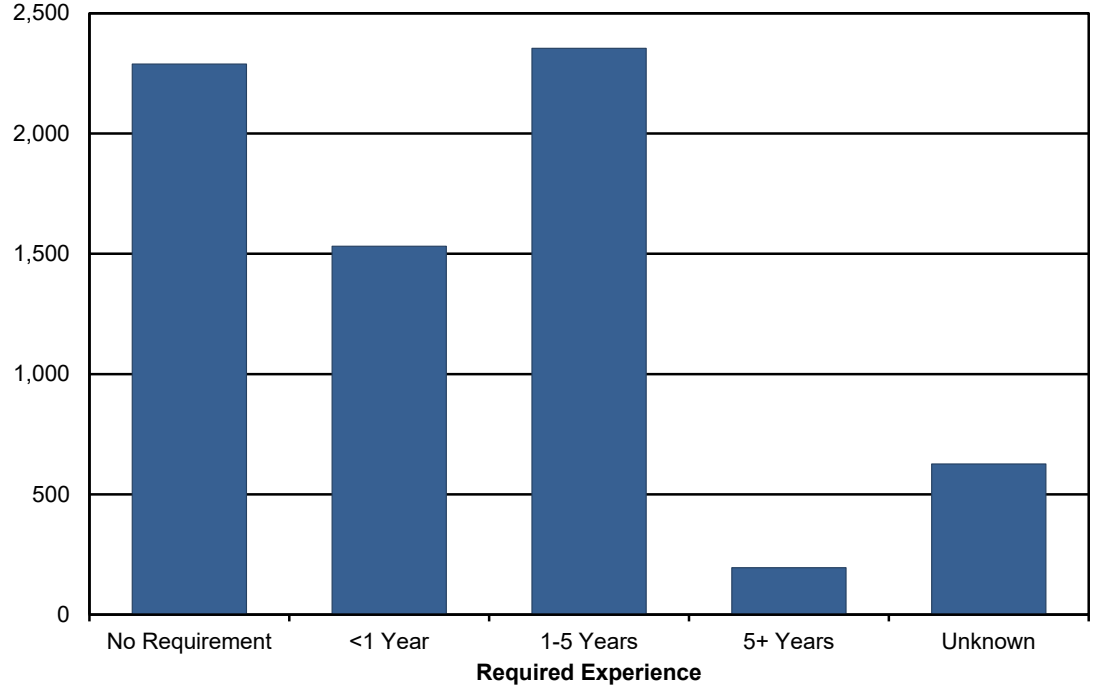
Mid-Valley Job Vacancies by Required Education Level, 2020

Required Education Level	Vacancies	Average Hourly Wage	Full-time Positions	Permanent Positions	Require Previous Experience	Difficult to Fill
<b>All Education Levels</b>	<b>6,995</b>	<b>\$17.53</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>52%</b>
No Requirement	2,143	\$14.32	70%	83%	57%	56%
High School Diploma	2,333	\$14.14	62%	96%	60%	47%
Postsecondary or Other Certification	1,658	\$25.83	80%	93%	73%	71%
Bachelor's or Advanced Degree	135	\$29.72	100%	100%	100%	67%
Unknown	726	\$17.75	85%	98%	16%	9%



# More than half (58%) of all Mid-Valley vacancies require previous work experience.

Mid-Valley Job Vacancies by Required Previous Experience, 2020



# High-paying vacancies are more likely to require a combination of education and previous experience.

Mid-Valley Job Vacancies by Hourly Wage Range, 2020

Wage (per hour)	Vacancies	Average Hourly Wage	Full-time Positions	Permanent Positions	Require Education Beyond High School	Require Previous Experience	Difficult to Fill
<b>All Wage Ranges</b>	<b>6,995</b>	<b>\$17.53</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>52%</b>
Less than \$15	3,233	\$12.61	54%	87%	5%	51%	49%
\$15 through \$24.99	2,383	\$17.96	86%	97%	41%	68%	54%
\$25 and up	737	\$37.76	87%	91%	91%	79%	83%
Unknown	642		90%	100%	53%	35%	25%



# The Oregon Job Vacancy Survey captures information for nine sub-state areas.

<b>Survey Region</b>	<b>Counties</b>
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



# Two out of five vacancies in Oregon were in the Portland Tri-County (Portland Metro and Clackamas) area.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Geography, 2020

Geography	Vacancies	Average Hourly Wage	Full-time Positions	Permanent Positions	Require Education Beyond High School	Require Previous Experience	Difficult to Fill
<b>Oregon Statewide</b>	<b>44,408</b>	<b>\$18.05</b>	<b>79%</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>51%</b>
Portland Metro	13,429	\$19.14	86%	96%	38%	50%	33%
Mid-Valley	6,995	\$17.53	72%	92%	29%	58%	52%
East Cascades	4,402	\$17.52	79%	89%	32%	51%	60%
Lane	4,029	\$17.54	75%	88%	35%	52%	61%
Clackamas	3,921	\$19.23	80%	93%	28%	55%	49%
Rogue Valley	3,749	\$16.77	72%	95%	29%	56%	65%
Eastern Oregon	2,527	\$17.13	83%	90%	38%	47%	70%
Northwest Oregon	2,255	\$17.64	67%	85%	30%	49%	67%
Southwestern Oregon	2,195	\$17.25	73%	92%	34%	56%	68%
Multi-area or unknown	906	\$21.29	94%	86%	50%	72%	48%





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