



Help Wanted in Oregon

*Results from the Fall 2017
Job Vacancy Survey*



Oregon businesses reported 54,300 vacancies in fall 2017.

Oregon Job Vacancies, Fall 2017

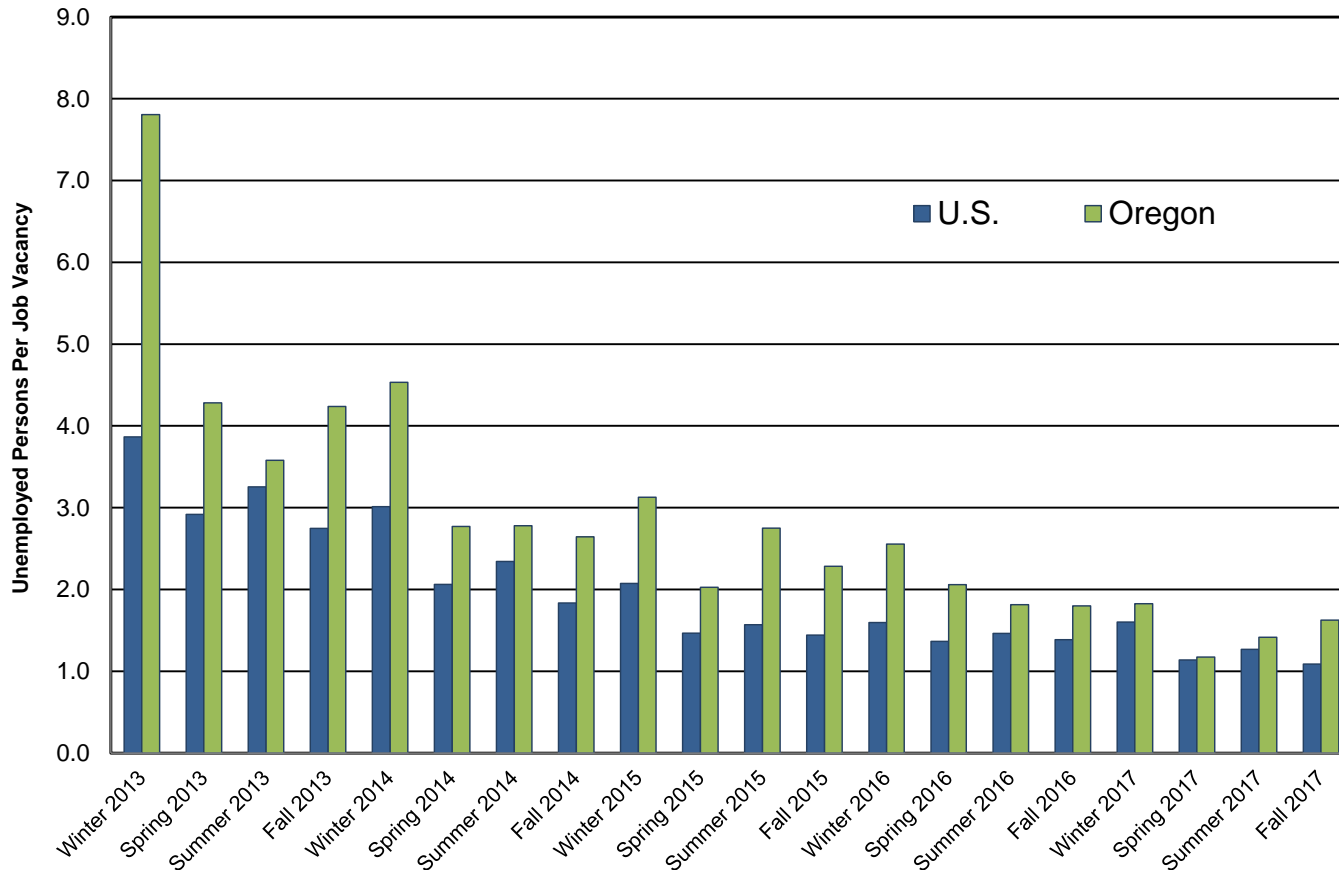
Vacancies	54,329
Average Hourly Wage	\$18.18
Full-time Positions	81%
Permanent Positions	92%
Requiring Education Beyond High School	32%
Requiring Previous Experience	54%
Difficult to Fill	62%

- Employers reported 62 percent of their vacancies as difficult to fill.
- The average starting wage for vacancies in Oregon was \$18.18 in fall 2017.
- 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.

Fewer Unemployed to Fill Businesses' Vacancies
Fall 2017



- 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 fall 2014.



Retail trade vacancies surged and reached an all-time high in the fall holiday shopping season.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Industry, Fall 2017

<u>Industry</u>	<u>Vacancies</u>
All Industries	54,329
Health care and social assistance	11,548
Retail trade	7,901
Construction	6,987
Leisure and hospitality	5,649
Management, administrative, and waste service	5,025
Professional, scientific, and technical services	3,144
Natural resources and mining	3,083
Manufacturing	2,930
Wholesale trade	2,502
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	1,826
Other services	1,787
Financial activities	836
Information	587
Private educational services	524

- Health care and social assistance regularly tops the list of industries with vacancies.
- Businesses also reported strong hiring in construction and natural resources.



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

Oregon Job Vacancies by Occupation Group, Fall 2017

Occupation Group	Vacancies
All Occupations	54,329
Construction and Extraction	6,099
Sales and Related	5,889
Office and Administrative Support	5,429
Transportation and Material Moving	4,849
Personal Care and Service	4,143
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	4,024
Food Preparation and Serving Related	3,535
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	2,672
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	2,533
Production	2,295
Health Care Practitioners and Technical	2,268
Architecture and Engineering	2,128
Health Care Support	2,123
Management	2,032
Community and Social Service	1,713
Education, Training, and Library	947
Business and Financial Operations	867
Computer and Mathematical	304
Life, Physical, and Social Science	281
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	153
Legal	45

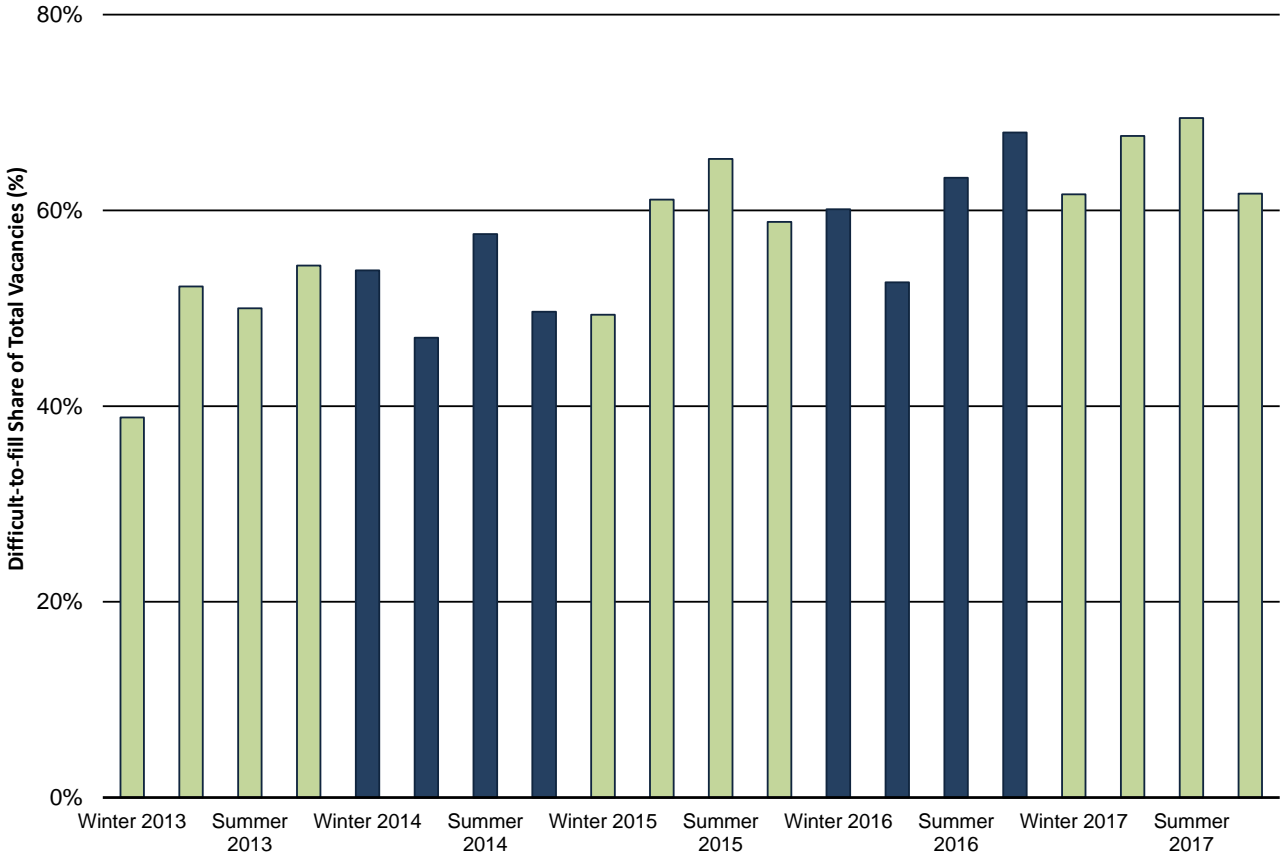
The occupations with the largest number of vacancies included:

- Personal care aides
- Retail salespersons
- Nursing assistants
- Construction laborers
- Truck drivers
- Cashiers



Businesses reported difficulty filling six out of 10 job vacancies.

Six out of 10 Vacancies Were Difficult to Fill in Fall 2017



Employers in management, administrative and waste services; construction; and leisure and hospitality faced even greater difficulty filling job openings.

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



Job vacancies paying \$25 per hour or more grew 20 percent over the year.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Hourly Wage Range

Wage (per hour)	Fall 2016	Fall 2017
All Wage Ranges	52,314	54,329
Less than \$15	25,207	22,533
\$15 through \$24.99	13,299	13,142
\$25 and up	6,772	8,118

unknown excluded

Growth in high-wage vacancies occurred due to increased demand for workers in skilled construction trades, and more management job openings.

Job openings paying less than \$15 per hour dropped by 11 percent, while vacancies offering between \$15 and \$25 per hour dropped by 1 percent.



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



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

Oregon Job Vacancies by Geography,
Fall 2017

<u>Geography</u>	<u>Vacancies</u>
Oregon Statewide	54,329
Portland Metro	14,454
Mid-Valley	9,062
Lane	6,514
Clackamas	6,342
Central Oregon/East Cascades	5,116
Rogue Valley	3,940
Southwestern Oregon	3,008
Northwest Oregon	2,822
Eastern Oregon	1,665

multi-area or unknown excluded

Lane County and Southwestern Oregon had their highest ever level of vacancies in the fall.

Demand for health care, management, and construction occupations was behind increases in vacancies in these regions.





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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