



Help Wanted in Oregon

***Results from the Spring 2017
Job Vacancy Survey***



Oregon businesses reported a record 62,600 vacancies in spring.

Oregon Job Vacancies, Spring 2017

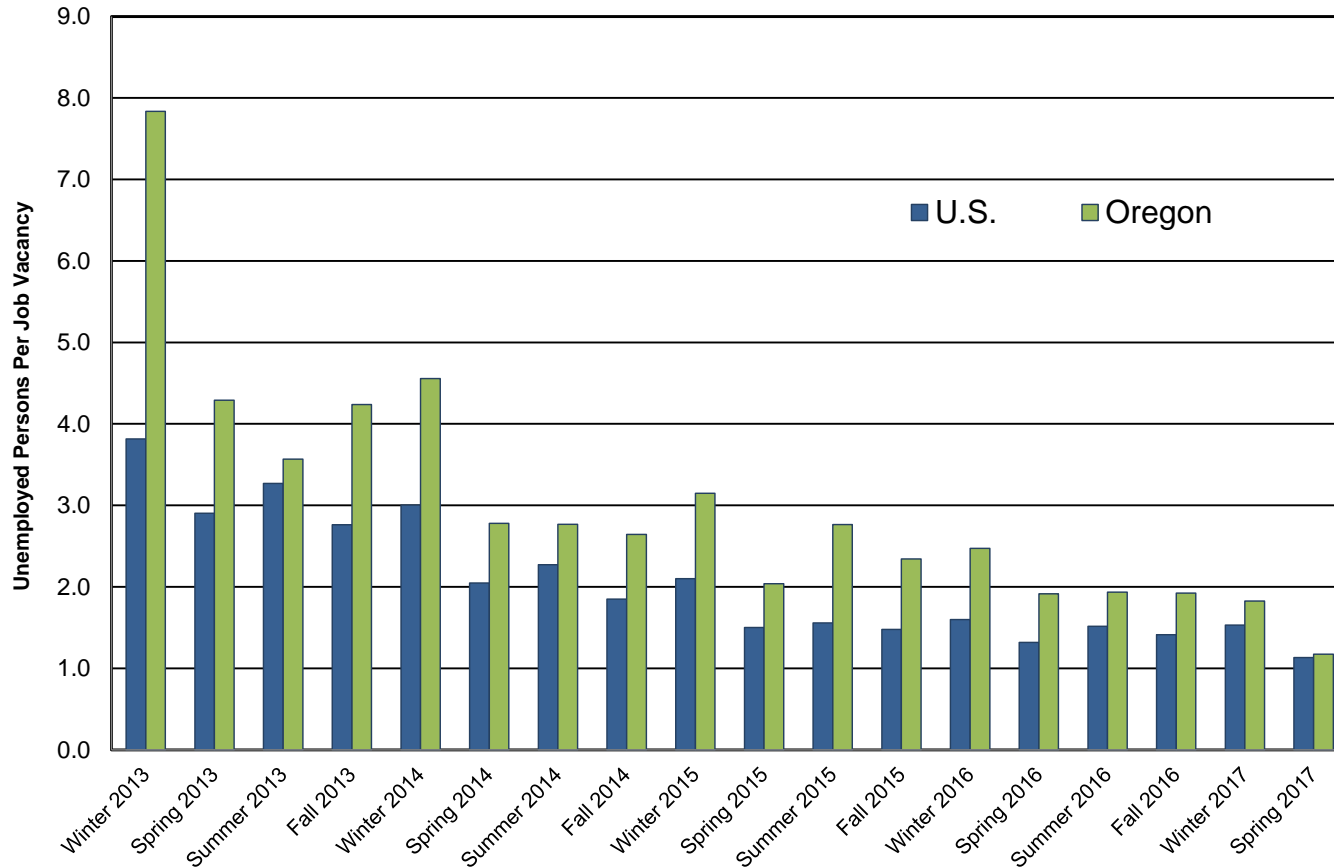
Vacancies	62,625
Average Hourly Wage	\$17.03
Full-time Positions	77%
Permanent Positions	89%
Requiring Education Beyond High School	25%
Requiring Previous Experience	59%
Difficult to Fill	68%

- The share of vacancies identified as difficult to fill matched its record high (68%).
- A typical job vacancy tends to be for a full-time, permanent position



Large numbers of job vacancies and low unemployment has led to the lowest unemployed-to-vacancy ratio on record.

Oregon's Unemployed-to-Vacancy Ratio Reaches New Low Spring 2017



- Both the U.S. and Oregon had one unemployed person per job vacancy in spring.
- By comparison, Oregon's ratio was 4-to-1 in spring 2013.



Businesses across the economy continued to show strong hiring demand in spring.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Industry, Spring 2017

<u>Industry</u>	<u>Vacancies</u>
All Industries	62,625
Health care and social assistance	11,315
Leisure and hospitality	9,636
Construction	7,798
Administrative and waste services	7,418
Retail trade	5,674
Wholesale trade	3,927
Manufacturing	3,852
Other services	3,791
Natural resources and mining	3,130
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	2,439
Financial activities	1,428
Professional and technical services	1,123
Information	692
Private education services	402

- Health care and social assistance regularly tops the list of industries with vacancies.
- Job vacancies surged in construction, which has shown impressive job growth in recent years.



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

Oregon Job Vacancies by Occupation Group, Spring 2017

<u>Occupation Group</u>	<u>Vacancies</u>
All Occupations	62,625
Food Preparation and Serving Related	7,858
Construction and Extraction	6,673
Office and Administrative Support	6,224
Production	6,145
Transportation and Material Moving	5,223
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	4,456
Sales and Related	4,123
Health Care Practitioners and Technical	4,066
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	3,569
Management	2,329
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	2,087
Personal Care and Service	1,965
Health Care Support	1,662
Business and Financial Operations	1,567
Community and Social Service	1,430
Education, Training, and Library	958
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	935
Protective Service	599
Architecture and Engineering	369
Life, Physical, and Social Science	212
Computer and Mathematical	133
Legal	42

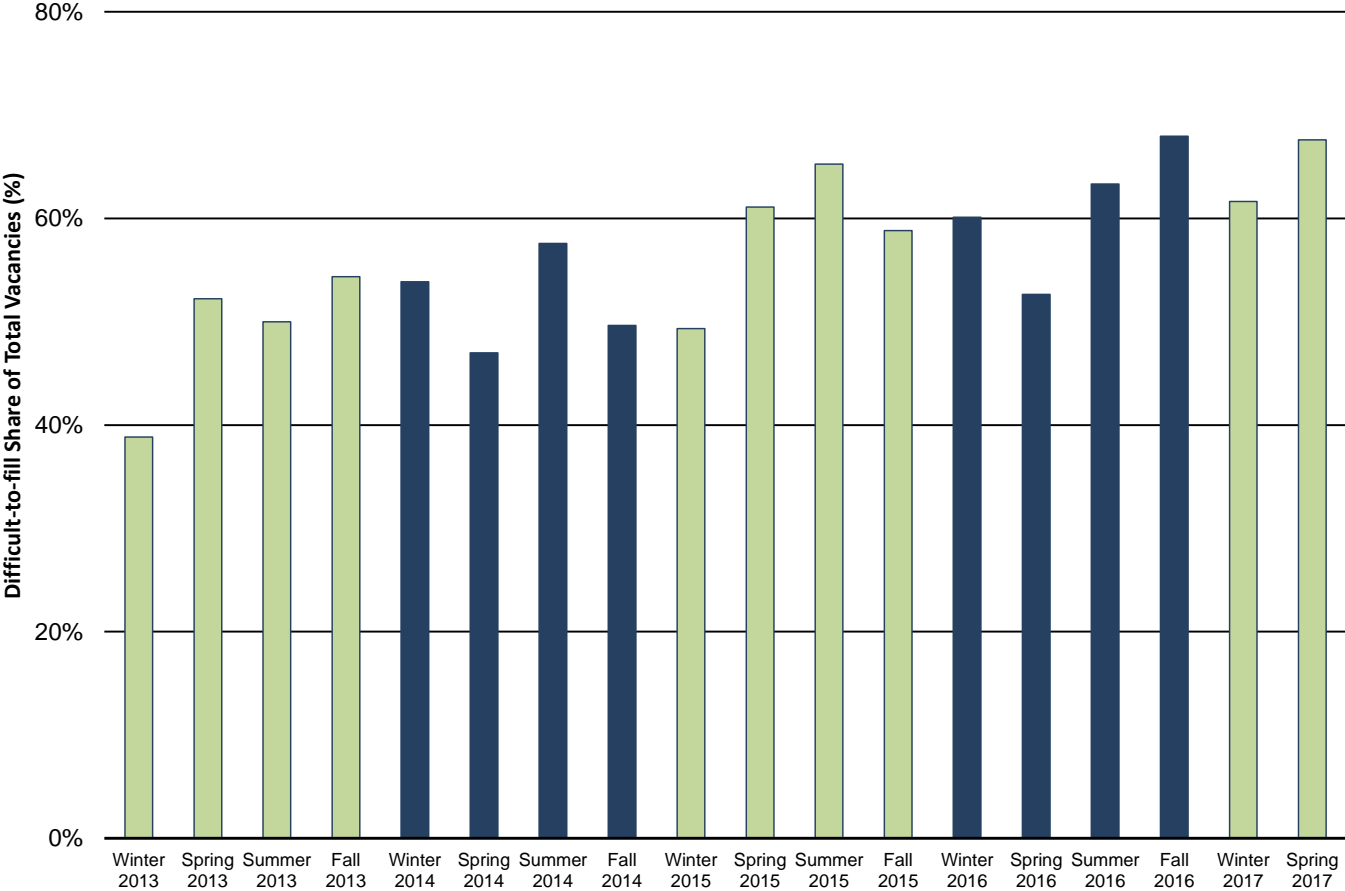
The occupations with the largest number of vacancies included:

- Retail salespersons
- Automotive service technicians and mechanics
- Truck drivers
- Food preparation and serving workers
- Carpenters
- Production workers



Businesses reported difficulty filling seven out of 10 job vacancies.

Seven of 10 Vacancies Were Difficult to Fill in Spring



- Employers in transportation, warehousing, and utilities, construction, and natural resources faced greater difficulty filling job openings.
- By region, the greatest difficulty filling spring vacancies occurred in the Rogue Valley.



The largest growth in job vacancies has occurred for those paying between \$15 and \$25 per hour.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Hourly Wage Range

Wage (per hour)	Spring 2016	Spring 2017
All Wage Ranges	47,602	62,625
Less than \$15	27,768	30,660
\$15 through \$24.99	11,947	18,968
\$25 and up	4,256	6,417

unknown excluded

Job vacancies paying below \$10 per hour have been declining as minimum wage increases occur, but most of the increase in job vacancies is occurring higher up the pay scale.



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



Job vacancies were concentrated in Portland-area counties and the Willamette Valley.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Geography,
Spring 2017

<u>Geography</u>	<u>Vacancies</u>
Oregon Statewide	62,625
Portland Metro	14,779
Clackamas	11,221
Mid-Valley	8,917
Central Oregon/East Cascades	6,668
Rogue Valley	5,901
Northwest Oregon	5,606
Lane	5,479
Eastern Oregon	2,059
Southwestern Oregon	1,995

Central Oregon continues to report a relatively high number of vacancies, which reflects the region's strong growth.



For more information about job vacancies in Oregon, visit the Job Vacancy Survey box on the Publications page at QualityInfo.org

Gail Krumenauer

Senior Economic Analyst

Gail.K.Krumenauer@oregon.gov

(503) 947-1268

