



Help Wanted in Oregon

Results from the Spring 2019

Job Vacancy Survey



Oregon businesses reported 51,600 vacancies in spring 2019.

Oregon Job Vacancies, Spring 2019

Vacancies	51,639
Average Hourly Wage	\$18.13
Full-time Positions	73%
Permanent Positions	91%
Requiring Education Beyond High School	34%
Requiring Previous Experience	62%
Difficult to Fill	57%

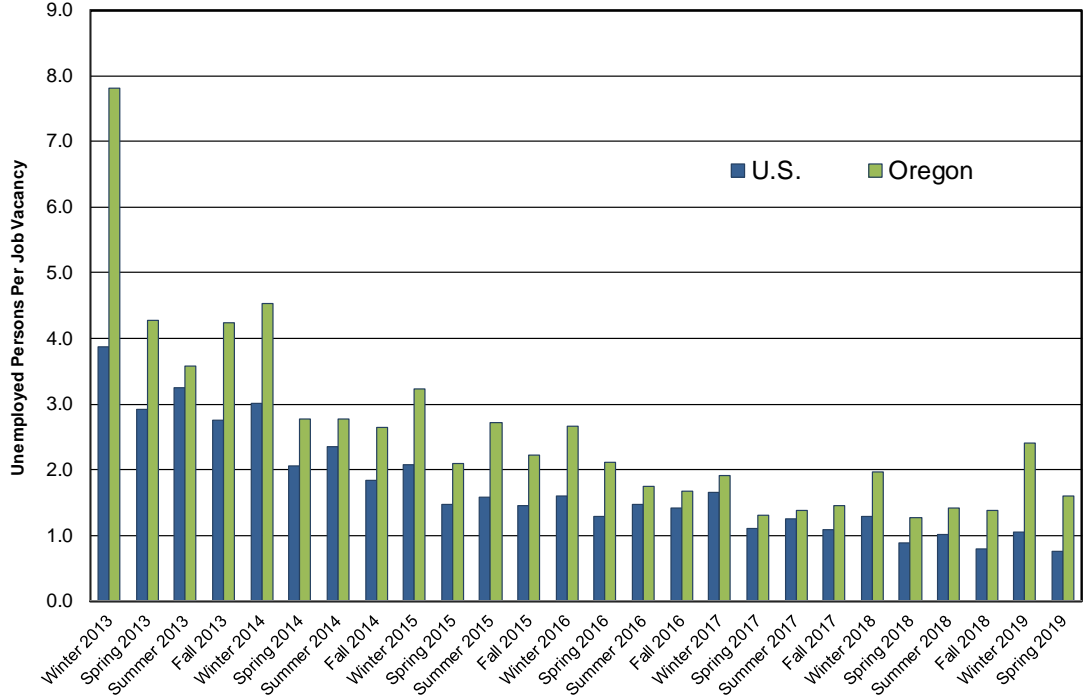
The spring vacancy total rose by 19 percent compared with winter 2019, and at the same time dropped by 21 percent compared with spring 2018.

A typical job vacancy tends to be for a full-time, permanent position.



Low unemployment has kept the unemployed-to-vacancy ratio relatively low.

U.S. and Oregon Have Few Unemployed Workers per Vacancy
(Job Openings with Private Employers, 2013-2019)



The labor market remains tight in Oregon and across the U.S. Oregon had two unemployed persons per job vacancy in spring, while U.S. ratio remained at 1-to-1.



Businesses reported strong hiring in several industries.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Industry, Spring 2019

Industry	Vacancies
All Industries	51,639
Health care and social assistance	10,596
Leisure and hospitality	8,316
Administrative, management, and waste services	5,631
Retail trade	4,528
Construction	4,209
Manufacturing	3,635
Professional and technical services	3,498
Other services	3,244
Financial activities	1,914
Natural resources and mining	1,876
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	1,401
Private educational services	1,230
Wholesale trade	1,011
Information	550

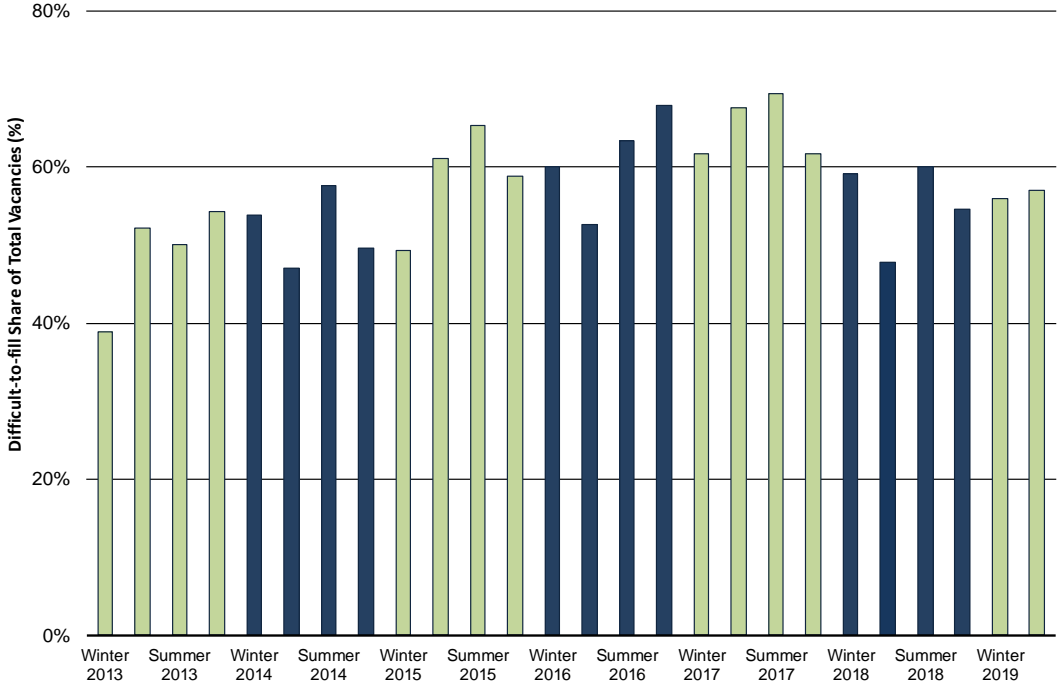
Private health care and social assistance accounted for one out of every five job vacancies in Oregon during spring 2019.

Hiring remained broad-based across the economy, with at least 1,000 vacancies in all but one private sector.



Difficulty filling job vacancies has been stable for three quarters.

Six out of 10 Job Vacancies Were Difficult to Fill in Spring 2019



Still, employers usually report the majority of job vacancies as difficult to fill.

In a long economic expansion with low unemployment rates, the most common reason they cite for difficulty is a lack of applicants.



The starting wage for job vacancies averaged \$18.13 per hour in spring.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Hourly Wage Range, Spring 2019

Wage (per hour)	Vacancies	Average Hourly Wage
All Wage Ranges	51,639	\$18.13
Less than \$15	18,635	\$12.23
\$15 through \$19.99	13,767	\$16.64
\$20 through \$24.99	4,747	\$21.96
\$25 through \$29.99	2,996	\$26.76
\$30 and up	4,377	\$37.89
Unknown	7,117	-

Inflation-adjusted average starting wages jumped by about \$1.50 per hour between spring 2016 and 2017, and have moved little year to year in spring 2018 and 2019.



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

The Mid-Valley region reported a relatively high number of job vacancies.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Geography, Spring 2019

<u>Geography</u>	<u>Vacancies</u>
Oregon Statewide	51,639
Portland Metro	12,626
Mid-Valley	7,673
East Cascades	7,426
Lane	5,782
Clackamas	4,844
Rogue Valley	3,977
Northwest Oregon	3,243
Southwestern Oregon	2,357
Eastern Oregon	2,161

multi-area or unknown excluded

The Portland tri-county area accounted for 34 percent of all job vacancies statewide, a slightly smaller share than typical.



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

