



# Help Wanted in Oregon

*Results from the Summer 2017  
Job Vacancy Survey*



# Oregon businesses reported a record 66,600 vacancies in summer.

## Oregon Job Vacancies, Summer 2017

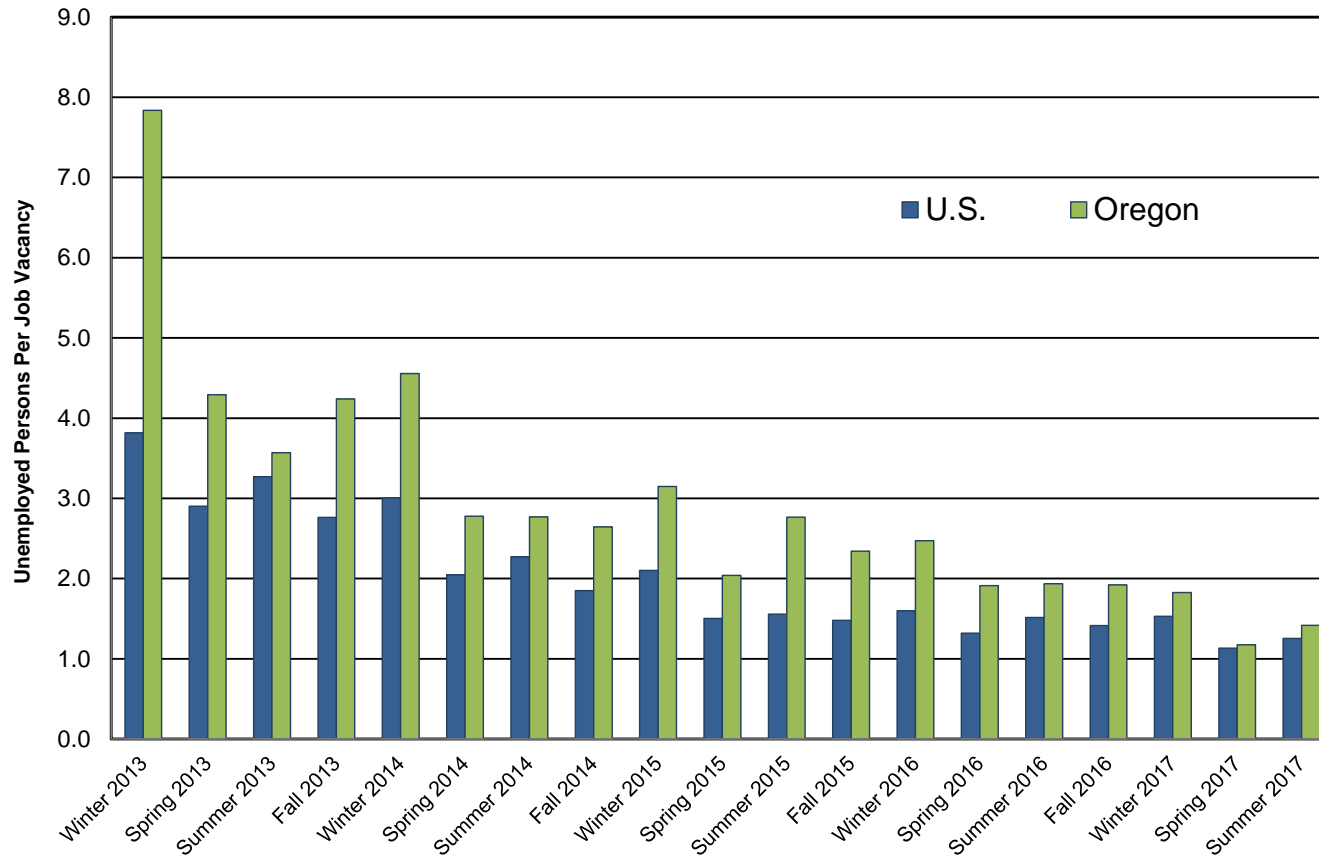
<b>Vacancies</b>	<b>66,641</b>
Average Hourly Wage	\$18.15
Full-time Positions	70%
Permanent Positions	83%
Requiring Education Beyond High School	31%
Requiring Previous Experience	60%
Difficult to Fill	69%

- The share of vacancies identified as difficult to fill also reached a record high (69%).
- A typical job vacancy tends to be for a full-time, permanent position



# Widespread hiring and low unemployment has kept the unemployed-to-vacancy near a record low.

Fewer Unemployed to Fill Businesses' Vacancies  
Summer 2017



- Both the U.S. and Oregon had one unemployed person per job vacancy in summer.
- The labor market has tightened over the past few years. The ratio was 3-to-1 in summer 2015.



# Construction vacancies have surged, and reached an all-time high in summer.

## Oregon Job Vacancies by Industry, Summer 2017

<b>Industry</b>	<b>Vacancies</b>
<b>All Industries</b>	<b>66,641</b>
Health care and social assistance	12,417
Construction	8,663
Leisure and hospitality	8,268
Administrative and waste services	7,756
Natural resources and mining	6,512
Retail trade	4,988
Manufacturing	4,382
Professional and technical services	2,909
Other services	2,777
Wholesale trade	2,324
Private educational services	2,174
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	2,066
Financial activities	1,068
Information	337

- Health care and social assistance regularly tops the list of industries with vacancies.
- Businesses also reported strong seasonal hiring for farmworkers and staff in private education services.



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

## Oregon Job Vacancies by Occupation Group, Summer 2017

<u>Occupation Group</u>	<u>Vacancies</u>
<b>All Occupations</b>	<b>66,641</b>
Construction and Extraction	8,835
Food Preparation and Serving Related	7,270
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	6,144
Office and Administrative Support	5,541
Personal Care and Service	4,432
Production	4,363
Sales and Related	4,353
Management	3,874
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	3,242
Transportation and Material Moving	3,239
Health Care Support	2,914
Health Care Practitioners and Technical	2,704
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	2,462
Architecture and Engineering	1,752
Education, Training, and Library	1,381
Business and Financial Operations	1,287
Community and Social Service	1,264
Protective Service	714
Computer and Mathematical	508
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	299
Legal	61
Life, Physical, and Social Science	2

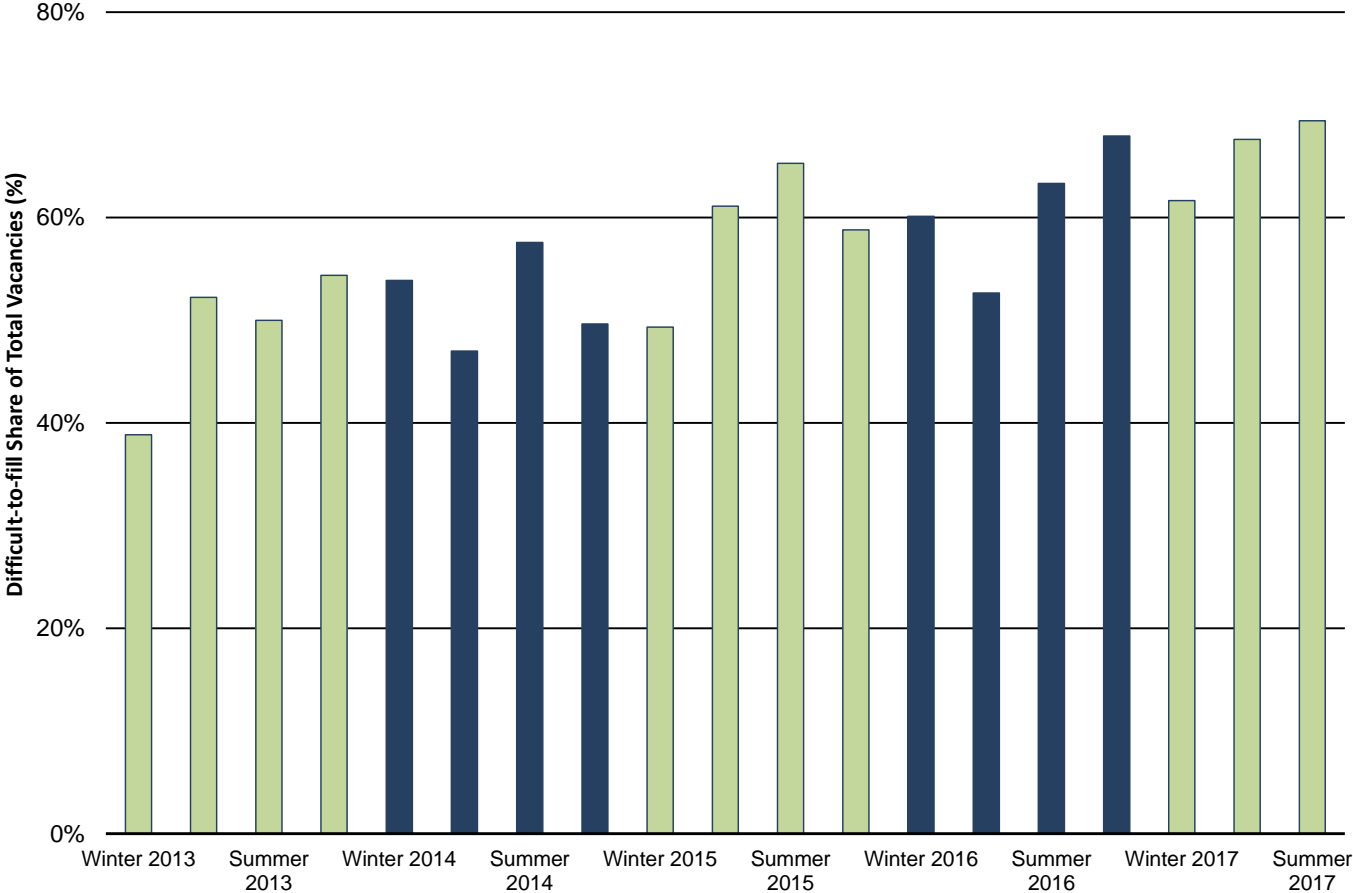
The occupations with the largest number of vacancies included:

- Farmworkers
- Personal care aides
- Construction laborers
- Retail salespersons
- Restaurant cooks
- Truck drivers



# Businesses reported difficulty filling seven out of 10 job vacancies.

### Seven of 10 Vacancies Were Difficult to Fill in Summer



Employers in transportation, warehousing, and utilities, natural resources, and construction faced even greater difficulty filling job openings.

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



# Job vacancies paying \$25 per hour or more grew at the fastest rate (34%) over the year.

## Oregon Job Vacancies by Hourly Wage Range

<b>Wage (per hour)</b>	<b>Summer 2016</b>	<b>Summer 2017</b>
<b>All Wage Ranges</b>	<b>61,033</b>	<b>66,641</b>
Less than \$15	29,180	31,615
\$15 through \$24.99	13,291	16,317
\$25 and up	8,166	10,913

*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 grew by 8 percent, while vacancies offering between \$15 and \$25 per hour increased by 23 percent.



# 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





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

Oregon Job Vacancies by Geography,  
Summer 2017

<u>Geography</u>	<u>Vacancies</u>
<b>Oregon Statewide</b>	<b>66,641</b>
Portland Metro	13,835
Mid-Valley	10,730
Clackamas	9,009
Central Oregon/East Cascades	7,069
Rogue Valley	6,261
Lane	5,993
Northwest Oregon	5,618
Eastern Oregon	3,428
Southwestern Oregon	2,245

*multi-area or unknown excluded*

Central Oregon continues to report a relatively high number of vacancies, which reflects the region's strong growth. The region also had a seasonal increase in vacancies for firefighters.

Demand for seasonal farmworkers boosted vacancy totals in the Mid-Valley.





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

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