

# LANE COUNTY ECONOMIC INDICATORS

## December 2018

**Graph of the Month:** Our area typically has lower wages than the state, but that's not true for every job. I looked at the largest occupations for which Lane County is the highest paying region in Oregon. Jobs that pay better locally include roles in manufacturing, logging, health, and education, as well as singers and musicians!

### When the Grass Is Greener Here

Occupation	Lane Median Wage	Next Highest Region			State	
		Region	Median Wage	Gap	Median Wage	Gap
Wholesale & Mfg Sales Reps, Technical Prod.	\$49.74	East Cascades	\$42.49	\$7.25	\$38.70	\$11.04
Postsecondary School Administrators	\$48.97	Portland Metro	\$45.33	\$3.64	\$46.58	\$2.39
Electrical Assemblers	\$19.14	Clackamas	\$16.40	\$2.74	\$16.21	\$2.93
Musicians & Singers	\$26.85	Portland Metro	\$24.60	\$2.25	\$22.60	\$4.25
Logging Workers, All Other	\$22.80	Northwest	\$20.82	\$1.98	\$19.86	\$2.94
Massage Therapists	\$35.40	Rogue Valley	\$33.51	\$1.89	\$29.31	\$6.09
Farmworkers & Crops Laborers	\$13.48	East Cascades	\$12.58	\$0.90	\$12.18	\$1.30
Life, Physical, & Social Science Techs, All Other	\$25.65	Portland Metro	\$24.97	\$0.68	\$23.71	\$1.94
Supervisors of Personal Service Workers	\$18.55	Northwest	\$17.90	\$0.65	\$16.95	\$1.60
Adult Basic/Secondary Ed. & Literacy Teachers	\$28.18	Mid Valley	\$27.73	\$0.45	\$23.65	\$4.53
Printing Press Operators	\$17.63	Portland Metro	\$17.18	\$0.45	\$16.57	\$1.06
Sheet Metal Workers	\$24.87	Mid Valley	\$24.43	\$0.44	\$22.86	\$2.01
Drywall & Ceiling Tile Installers	\$28.40	Portland Metro	\$28.10	\$0.30	\$24.40	\$4.00
Supervisors of Retail Workers	\$19.72	Portland Metro	\$19.59	\$0.13	\$18.58	\$1.14
Nurse Practitioners	\$58.12	Clackamas	\$58.00	\$0.12	\$55.15	\$2.97

Source: Oregon Employment Department 2018 Wage Data

### Notable Over-the-Year Employment Changes

November 2017 to November 2018

**Manufacturing:** +500 (+3.6%)

**Information:** -200 (-7.4%)

**Construction:** +300 (+4.2%)

**Retail Trade:** -400 (-1.9%)

**All Industries:** +0 (+0.0%)

Source: Oregon Employment Department Current Employment Estimates

### News and Articles

Quality Info: [A Deeper Dive into Businesses Without Employees](#) by Henry Fields

Harvard Business Review: [9 Out of 10 People Are Willing to Earn Less Money to Do More-Meaningful Work](#)

Bloomberg Businessweek: [New Blue-Collar Jobs Will Survive the Rise of AI](#)

Oregon Office of Economic Analysis: [Oregon's 2018 in Review](#)

### Latest Lane County Economic Data

Unemployment rate: [4.5%](#)  
 (Seasonally Adjusted)

Change from previous year: [+0.1 %pts](#)

Number of job listings in the last 30 days: [4,384](#)

Share of Workers Age 55 and Older, 2017: [24%](#)

Number of Nonemployer Establishments, 2016: [23,925](#)

Change since 2012: [1,460 \(+6%\)](#)

Business highlights: [new openings, closings & hiring events](#)

- **Expansion:** Swire Coca-Cola will reopen a Eugene distribution center, employing 80.
- **New Firm:** Grocery Outlet opened in Junction City.
- **Closure:** Soup Nation in Eugene closed.

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