# ROGUE VALLEY ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE UPDATE

ROGUE VALLEY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD MEETING 5-2-25



## HAVE YOU BEEN ASKED TO PARTICIPATE IN A BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS (BLS) SURVEY? *PLEASE DO!*

BLS survey information is gathered to create data for businesses, jobseekers, workers and policy-makers about the economy including:

Employment*	Unemployment*	Occupational Wages*
Job vacancies*	Productivity	Occupational Employment*
Consumer spending patterns	Workplace injuries	Compensation
Long-term employment projections*	Employer-provided benefits	Price movements

<sup>\*</sup> Collected and produced by Oregon Employment Department

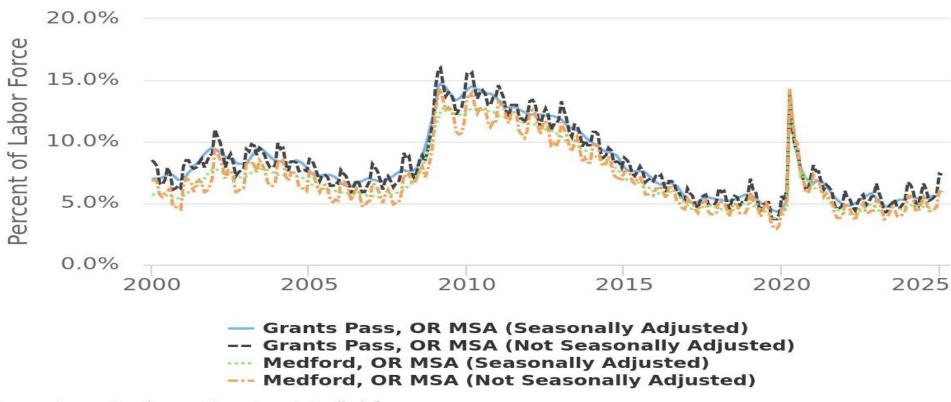
Your response is vital to ensuring accurate, complete, and unbiased data that is representative of the people and businesses in Oregon and the United States.

Your confidential responses are protected by federal and state law and strict security policies that prohibit us from releasing any information that could reveal the identity of you or your business without your consent.



#### Unemployment rates are rising slightly over the year in the Rogue Valley-

#### **Unemployment Rate**

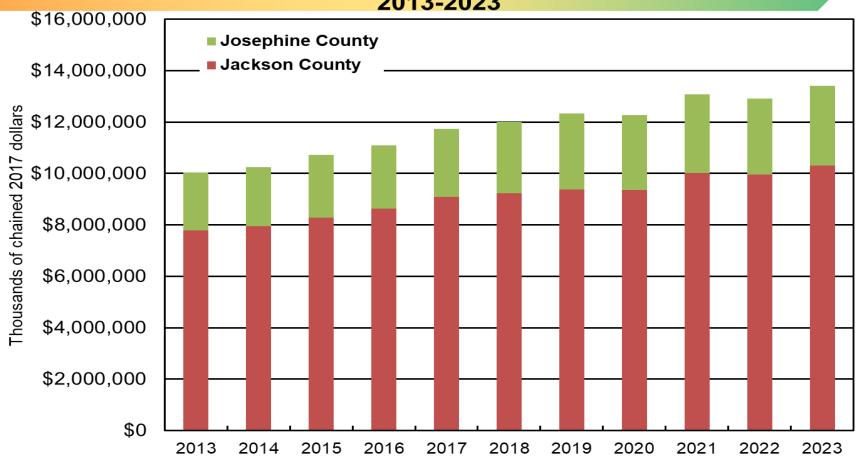


Jackson = 5.9% Josephine = 7.3% February 2025

Source: Oregon Employment Department Qualityinfo.org

## IN 2023, ROGUE VALLEY'S GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT WAS \$ 13.6 BILLION, WHICH WAS AN INCREASE OF 3.9% FROM 2022

#### Rogue Valley Real Gross Domestic Product 2013-2023



In real, or inflationadjusted dollars, Jackson County total GDP rose from about \$6.6 billion in 2001 to \$10.3 billion in in 2023.

Josephine County real GDP climbed from about \$1.9 billion to \$3.9 billion over that time.



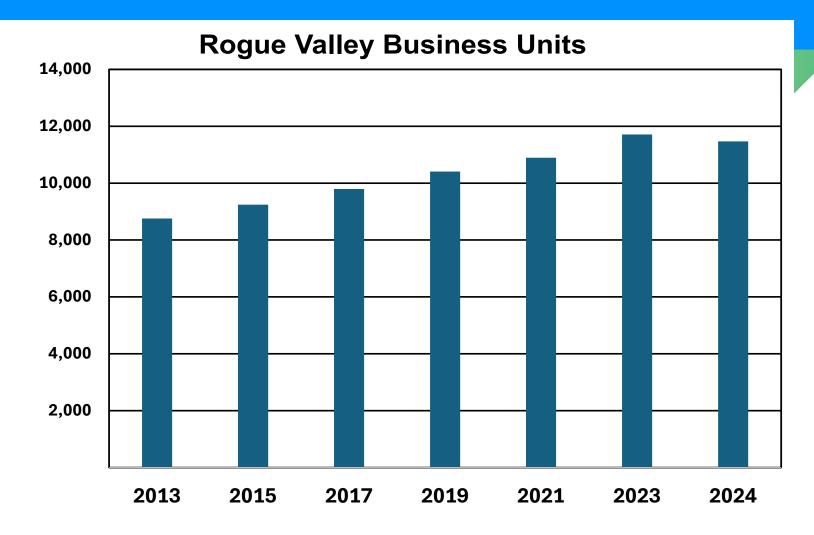
#### CENSUS BUREAU INDEX OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY



The U.S. Census Bureau Index of **Economic Activity** (IDEA) is an aggregation of 15 of the Census Bureau's primary economic data series that provides a single time series constructed as a weighted average.

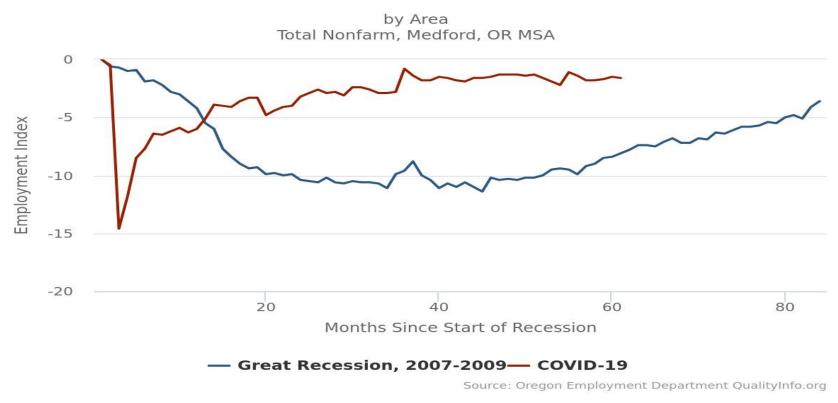


#### ROGUE VALLEY BUSINESSES WITH PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT



## Most jobs back that were lost during the pandemic in the Rogue Valley- still a bit below February 2020 – seasonally adjusted

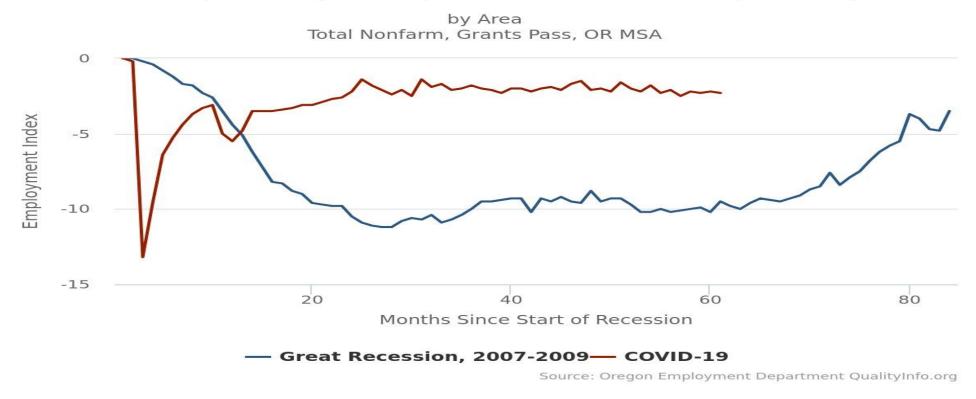
COVID-19 Job Changes Compared to Great Recession Job Changes



Jackson County down -1.6 %, Josephine down -2.3 % (seasonally adjusted)

## Most jobs back that were lost during the pandemic in the Rogue Valley- still a bit below February 2020 – seasonally adjusted

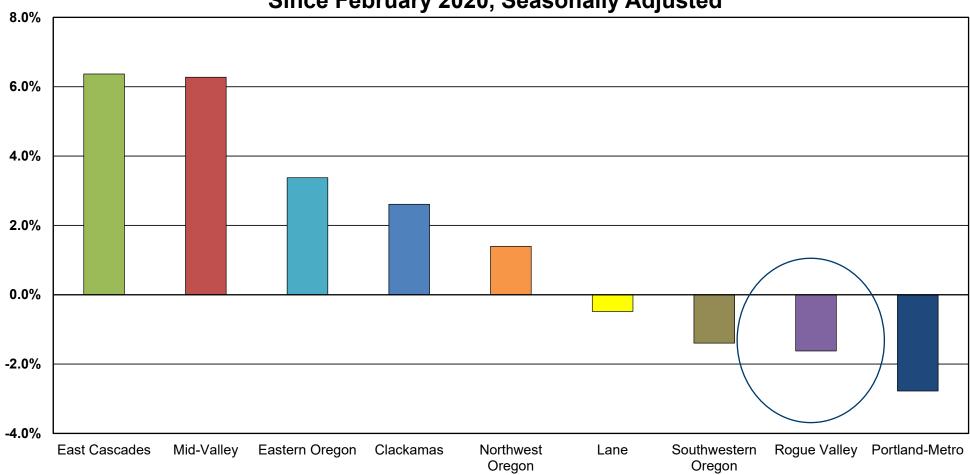
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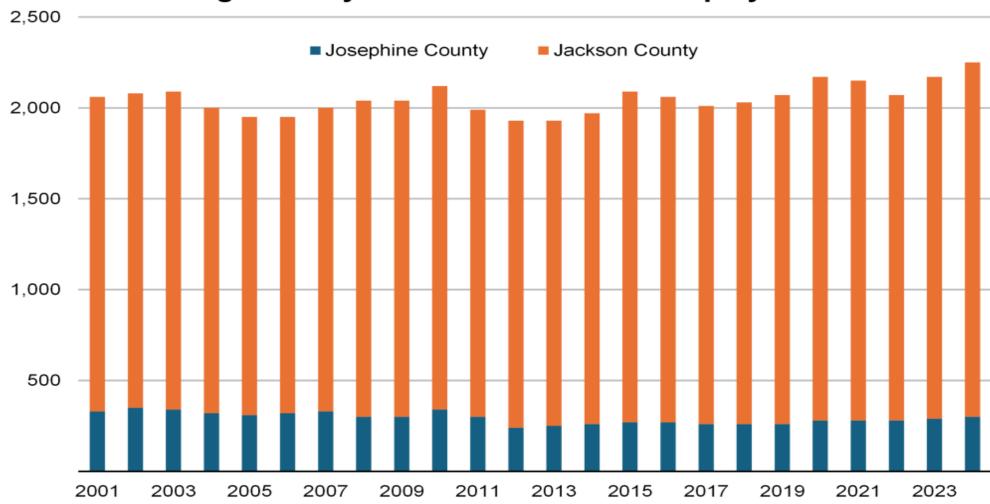
#### FIVE OF NINE WORKFORCE AREAS HAVE MORE JOBS THAN BEFORE THE RECESSION.

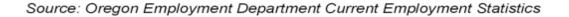
#### Job Change Rates by Local Workforce Area as of January 2025 Since February 2020, Seasonally Adjusted



Source: Oregon Employment Department, Current Employment Statistics

#### Rogue Valley Federal Government Employment

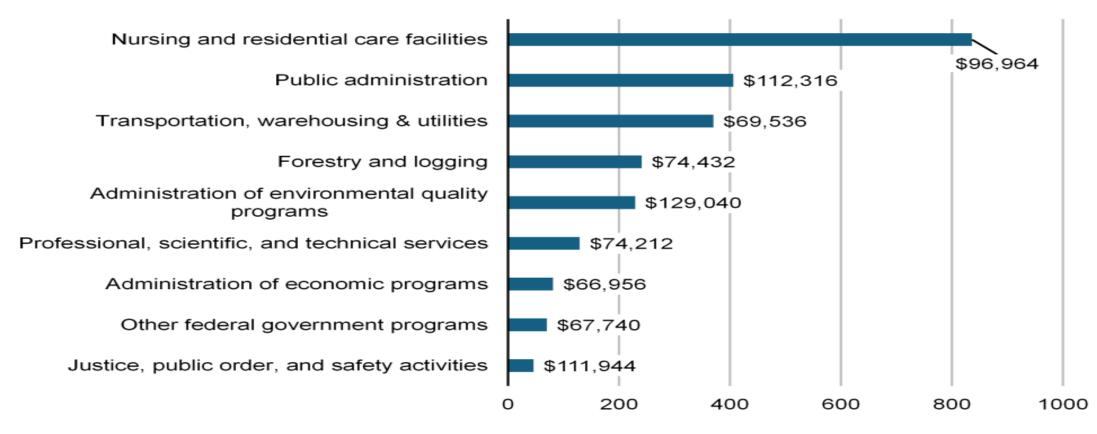






## FEDERAL JOBS REPRESENTED ABOUT 2.2% OF TOTAL PAYROL, AND 3.6% OF TOTAL WAGES ON JACKSON COUNTY IN THIRD QUARTER 2024.

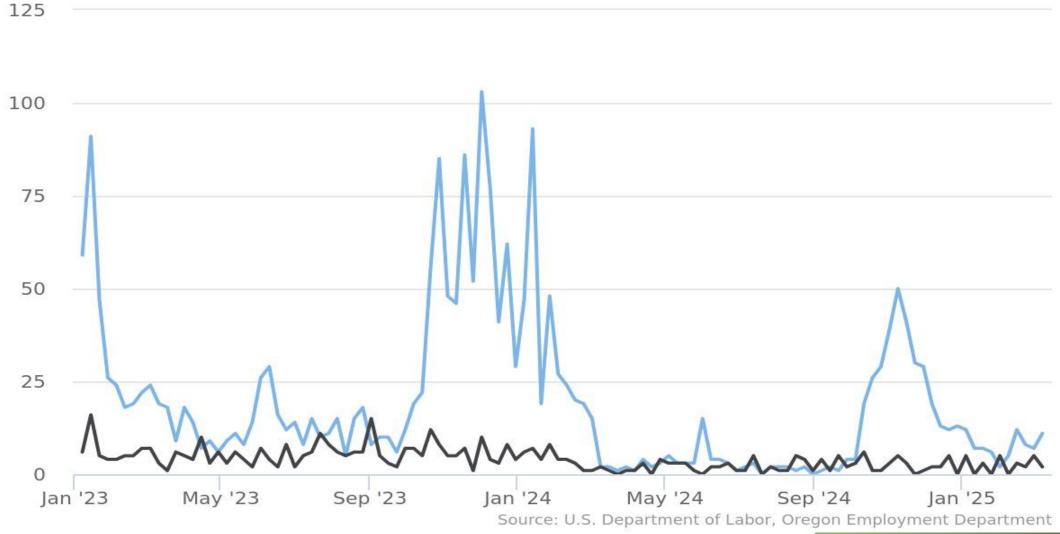
#### Jackson County Federal Goverment Payroll Employment and Annualized Average Wage Third Quarter 2024



Source: Oregon Employment Department Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

#### Oregon Initial Claims for Federal Government Workers, Weekly

Gray = recession as defined by National Bureau of Economic Research

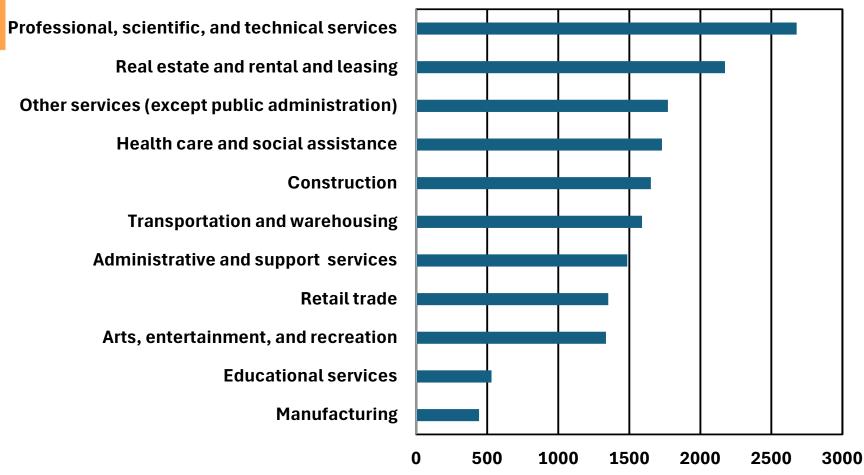


## SELF-EMPLOYED ARE ESTIMATED TO BE 1 IN 8 WORKERS IN ROGUE VALLEY IN 2023

Employee of private company workers	61.6%
Self-employed in own incorporated business workers	4.3%
Private not-for-profit wage and	
salary workers	12.8%
Local government workers	7.1%
State government workers	3.2%
Federal government workers	2.1%
Self-employed in own not	
incorporated business workers	8.7%
Unpaid family workers	0.2%

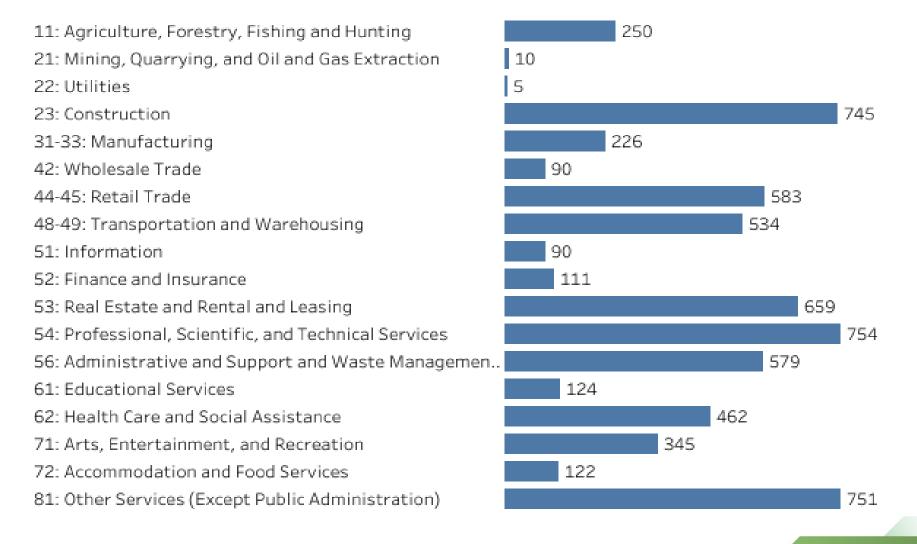
### 18,360 NON-EMPLOYER BUSINESSES-JACKSON COUNTY 2022

#### **Jackson County Non-Employer Businesses**



Jackson County had 17,295 nonemployers in 2017

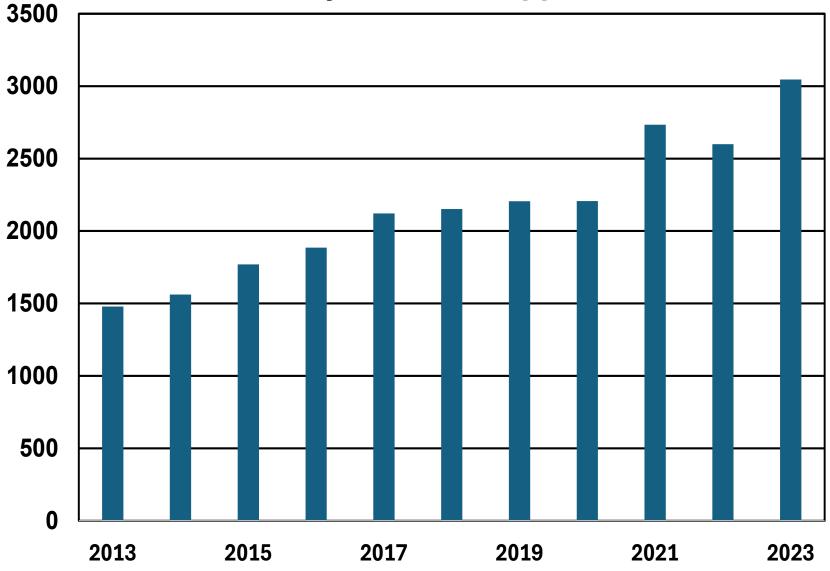
#### NON-EMPLOYER BUSINESSES IN THE ROGUE VALLEY 2022 – JOSEPHINE COUNTY 6,440



Josephine County had 6,048 nonemployer businesses in 2017

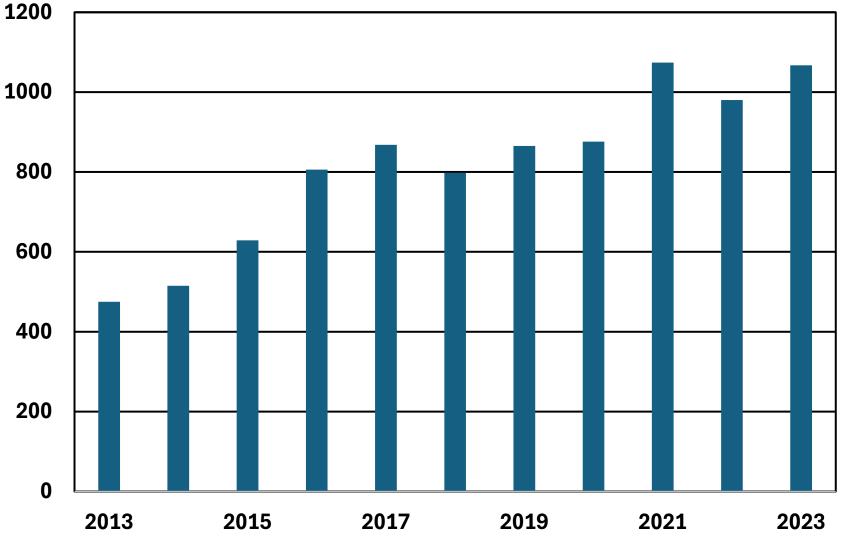


#### **Jackson County Business Applications**



Jackson
County
Business
Applications
up 17.2%
from 20222023

#### **Josephine County Business Applications**

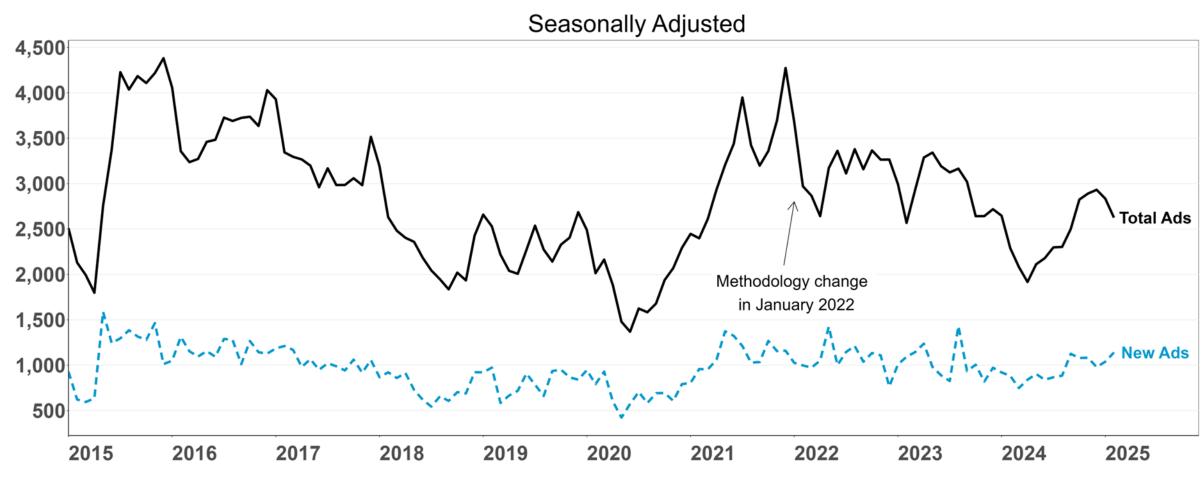


Josephine
County
Business
Applications
rose 8.9%
2022 to 2023

Source: Oregon Employment Department and U.S. Census Bureau Business Formation Statistics



### The number of online ads in the Medford metro area was 2,600 in February. The number of new ads increased by 100 over the month.



Source: The Conference Board Help Wanted OnLine® (HWOL)

## JOB VACANCIES HAVE DECREASED SINCE 2023 IN ALL AREAS OF THE STATE.

#### Oregon Job Vacancies by Geography, 2019-2024

							Change
Geography	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	from 2023
Oregon Statewide	57,241	44,408	96,887	103,977	72,815	57,767	-21%
Portland Metro	21,218	13,429	28,014	30,991	21,685	16,941	-22%
Mid-Valley	7,091	6,995	12,681	15,083	9,190	8,382	-9%
East Cascades	5,673	4,402	10,771	10,697	9,024	5,941	-34%
Clackamas	5,795	3,921	10,088	11,934	7,481	6,695	-11%
Lane	5,414	4,029	8,857	10,003	7,704	6,396	-17%
Rogue Valley	4,134	3,749	8,752	8,934	5,214	3,763	-28%
Northwest Oregon	3,357	2,255	7,311	6,624	4,684	3,346	-29%
Southwestern Oregon	1,745	2,195	4,801	4,298	3,301	2,476	-25%
Eastern Oregon	2,147	2,527	4,199	4,399	3,035	2,583	-15%
Multi-area or unknown	667	906	1,413	1,014	1,497	1,244	-17%

Source: Oregon Employment Department

#### Rogue Valley Job Vacancies by Industry, 2024

		Average
Industry	Vacancies	Wage
All Industries	3,763	\$23.82
Health care and social assistance	1,568	\$27.95
Manufacturing	366	\$26.44
Leisure and hospitality	340	\$15.79
Management, administrative, and waste services	308	\$21.67
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	275	\$21.59
Retail trade	204	\$18.49
Financial activities	184	\$20.04
Professional, scientific, and technical services	134	\$32.42
Other services	127	\$14.56
Construction	75	\$26.67
Information	75	\$20.51
Natural resources and mining	45	\$32.00
Wholesale trade	34	n/a
Private educational services	28	n/a
Source: Oregon Employment Department		4

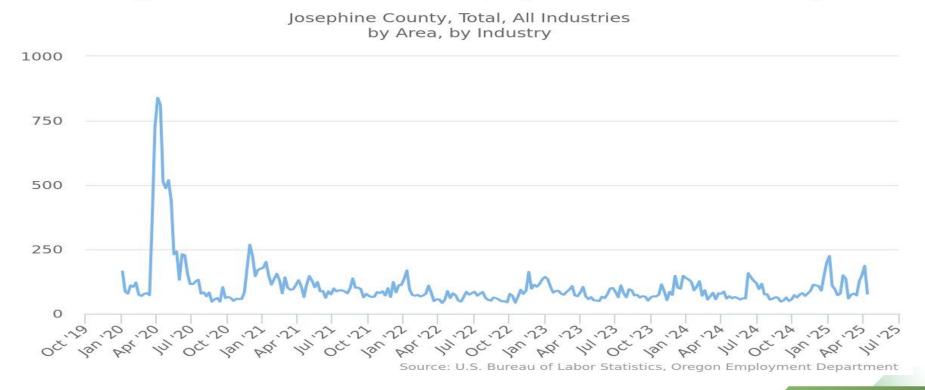
## Top Rogue Valley Occupations With the Highest Number of Job Vacancies, 2024

Occupation	Vacancies	
All Occupations	3,763	
Personal Care Aides	247	
Fast Food and Counter Workers	149	
Dental Assistants	134	
Physical Therapist Assistants	125	
Occupational Therapy Assistants	120	
Occupational Therapists	115	
Physical Therapists	114	
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	113	
Insurance Sales Agents	99	
Light Truck Drivers	85	

Source: Oregon Employment Department

New initial claims for unemployment insurance have returned to pre-pandemic levels in the Rogue Valley and remain low but rising a bit in Josephine County.

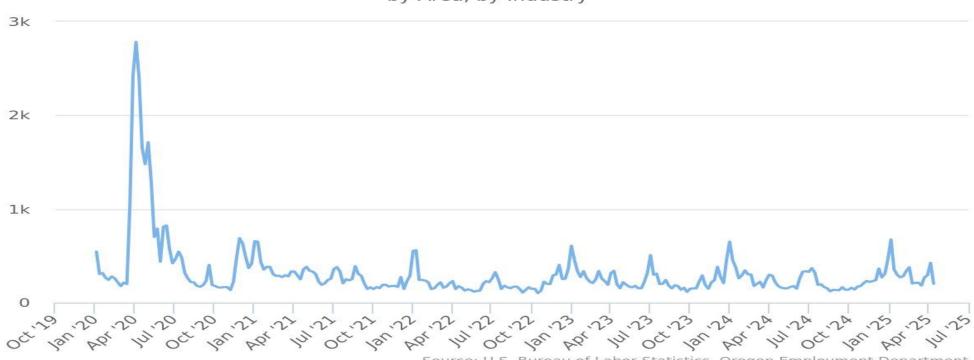
Oregon's Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance, Weekly



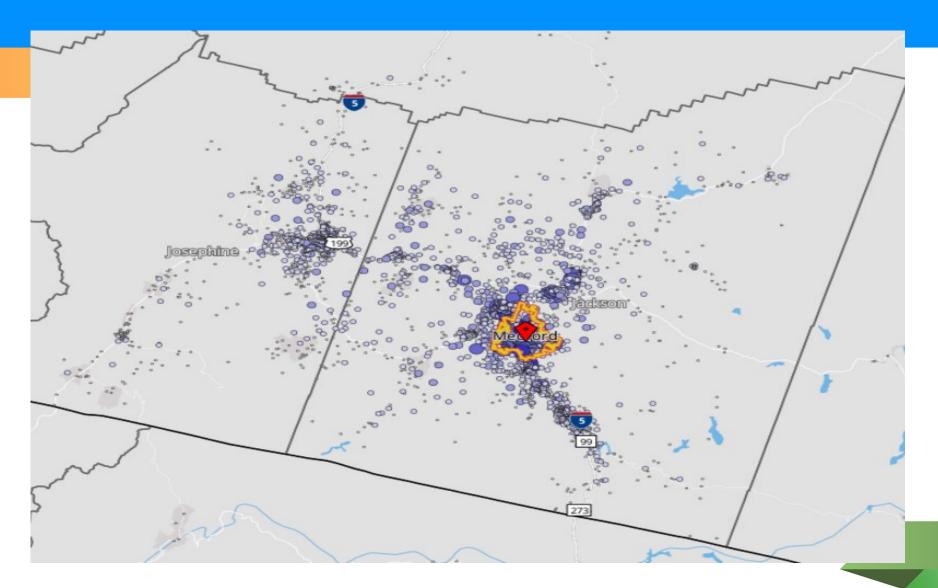
#### New initial claims for unemployment insurance have returned to pre-pandemic levels in the Rogue Valley and remain low in **Jackson County**

Oregon's Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance, Weekly

Jackson County, Total, All Industries by Area, by Industry



### WHERE WORKERS EMPLOYED IN MEDFORD LIVE



#### EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES (U.S. SUMMARY)

- Employment nudged slightly higher on balance, with four Districts reporting a slight increase, seven reporting no change, and one reporting a slight decline.
- Multiple Districts cited job growth in health care and finance, while employment declines were reported in manufacturing and information technology.
- Labor availability improved for many sectors and Districts, though there were occasional reports of a tight labor market in targeted sectors or occupations.
- Contacts in multiple Districts said rising uncertainty over immigration and other matters was influencing current and future labor demand.
- Wages grew at a modest-to-moderate pace, which was slightly slower than the previous report, with several Districts noting that wage pressures were easing.



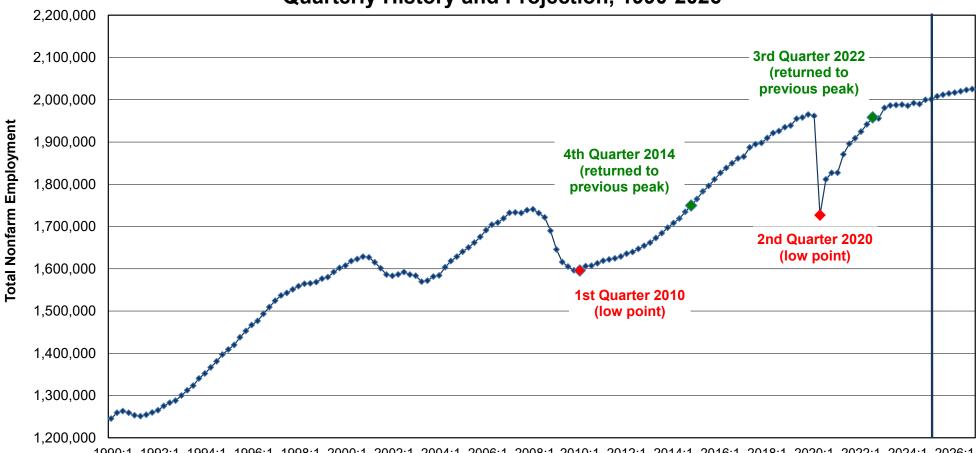
#### EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES (WESTERN U.S.)

- Employment levels were generally stable over the reporting period.
- While most employers kept head counts steady, some firms in the information technology, entertainment, and aerospace industries reported layoffs.
- At the same time, hiring grew in subsectors that experienced solid demand and investment, such as business consulting and artificial intelligence solutions.
- Labor productivity improved overall, reportedly due to better job matching and enhanced use of technology.
- Employers across sectors continued to report lower staff turnover and improved availability and quality of job applicants.
- Positions were generally easier to fill except for certain service-related jobs such as housekeeping and building maintenance. Some contacts cited concerns about filling these positions going forward.
- Wages grew slightly in recent weeks, in line with the prior reporting period and with historical averages.



#### THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS FORECASTS OREGON WILL GAIN 15,800 JOBS OVER THE NEXT YEAR.

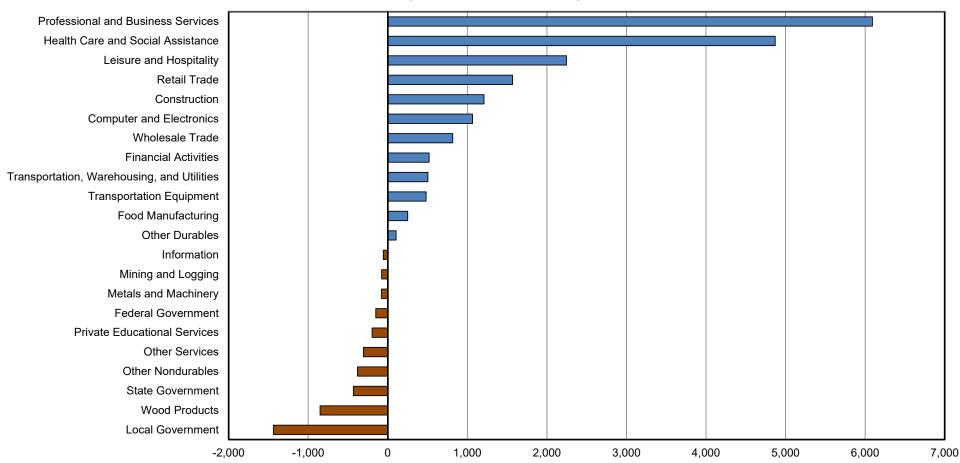
#### Oregon Nonfarm Payroll Employment Quarterly History and Projection, 1990-2026



1990:1 1992:1 1994:1 1996:1 1998:1 2000:1 2002:1 2004:1 2006:1 2008:1 2010:1 2012:1 2014:1 2016:1 2018:1 2020:1 2022:1 2024:1 2026:1 Source: Office of Economic Analysis, Department of Administrative Services, March 2025

#### OEA EXPECTS OREGON TO GAIN ABOUT 15,800 JOBS IN THE NEXT 12 MONTHS.

#### Expected Job Changes by Industry Sector Over The Year (1Q2025 - 1Q2026)



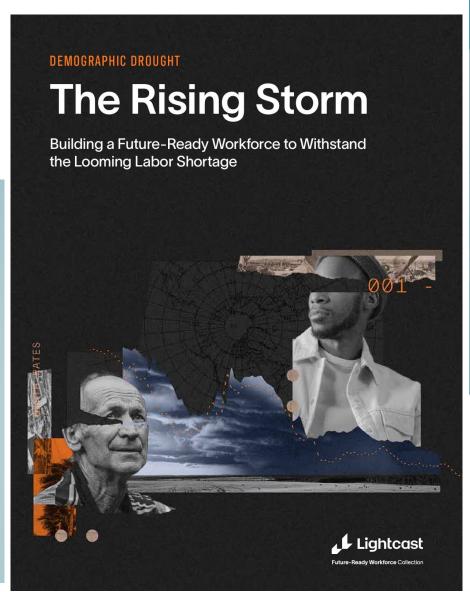
Source: Oregon Employment Department analysis using Oregon Office of Economic Analysis Forecast, March 2025

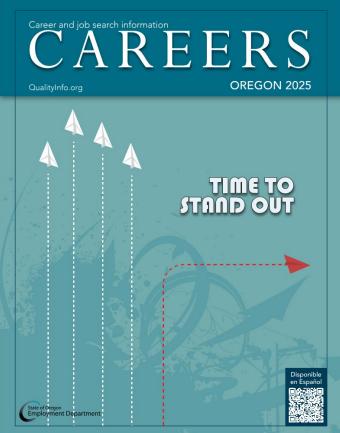
#### **MORE RESOURCES:**

Oregon's Labor Force:
What Slower Population Growth
and Increasing Retirements Mean
for the Workforce



July 2024





## Thank You!

Please scan the QR code for a short survey.



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