

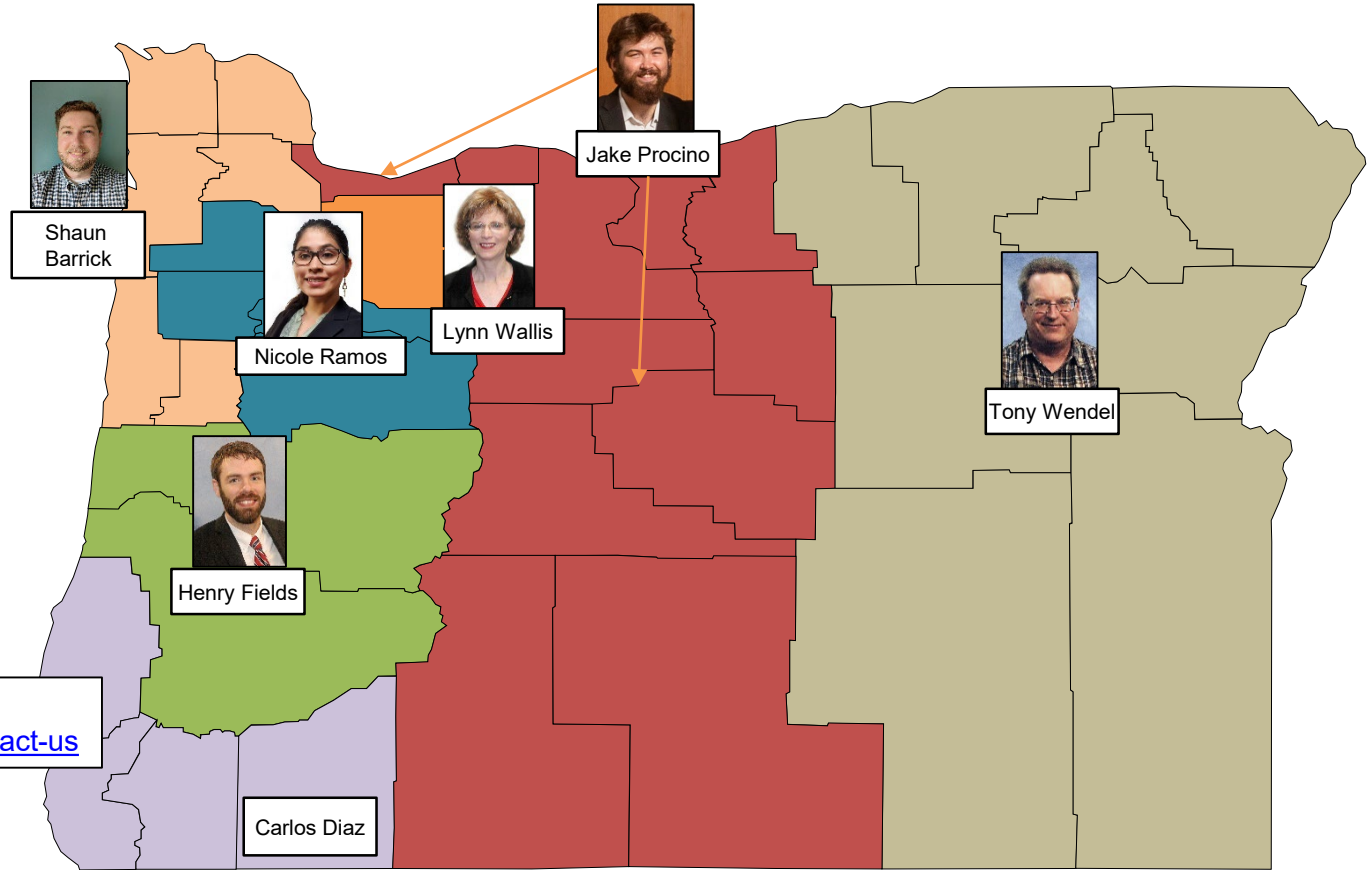


# Lane County Economic Update

Henry Fields, Lane and Douglas Workforce Analyst  
Risk Management Association – Eugene  
Springfield  
Mar. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023



# Data question? Ask your regional Workforce Analyst



Contact us:

<https://www.qualityinfo.org/contact-us>



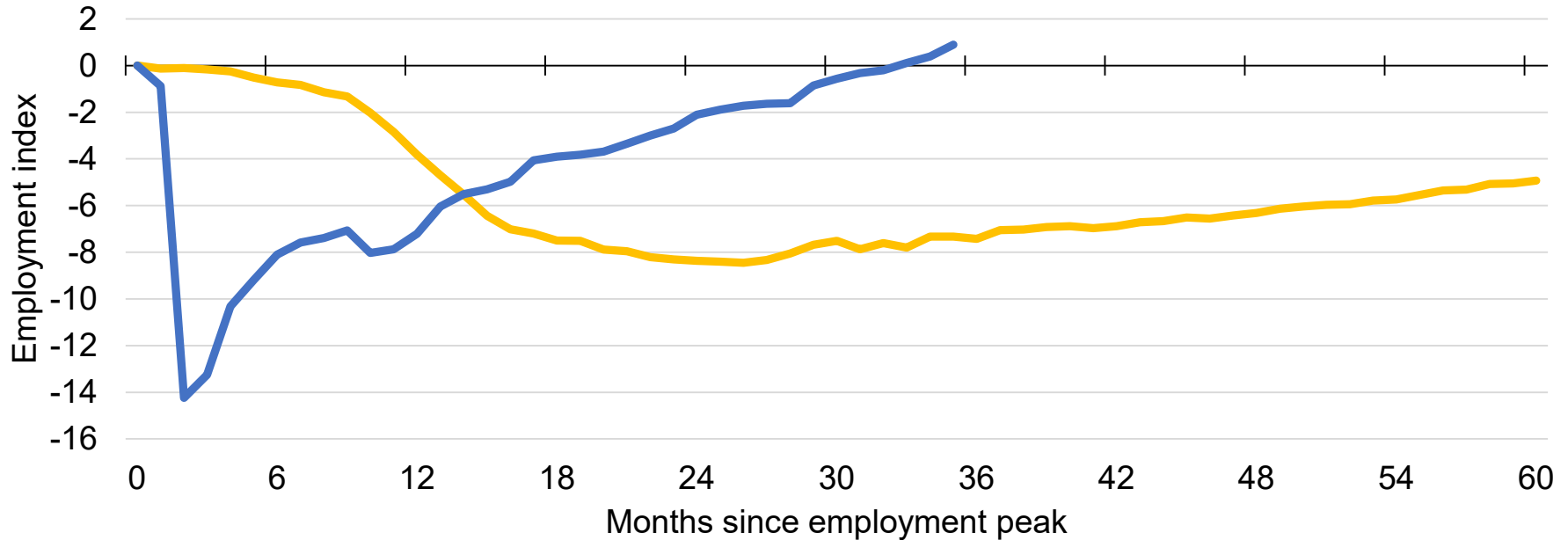
# The State of Recovery and Looking Forward



# Overall recovery is fast by historical standards

## Oregon Job Change

— Great Recession — COVID



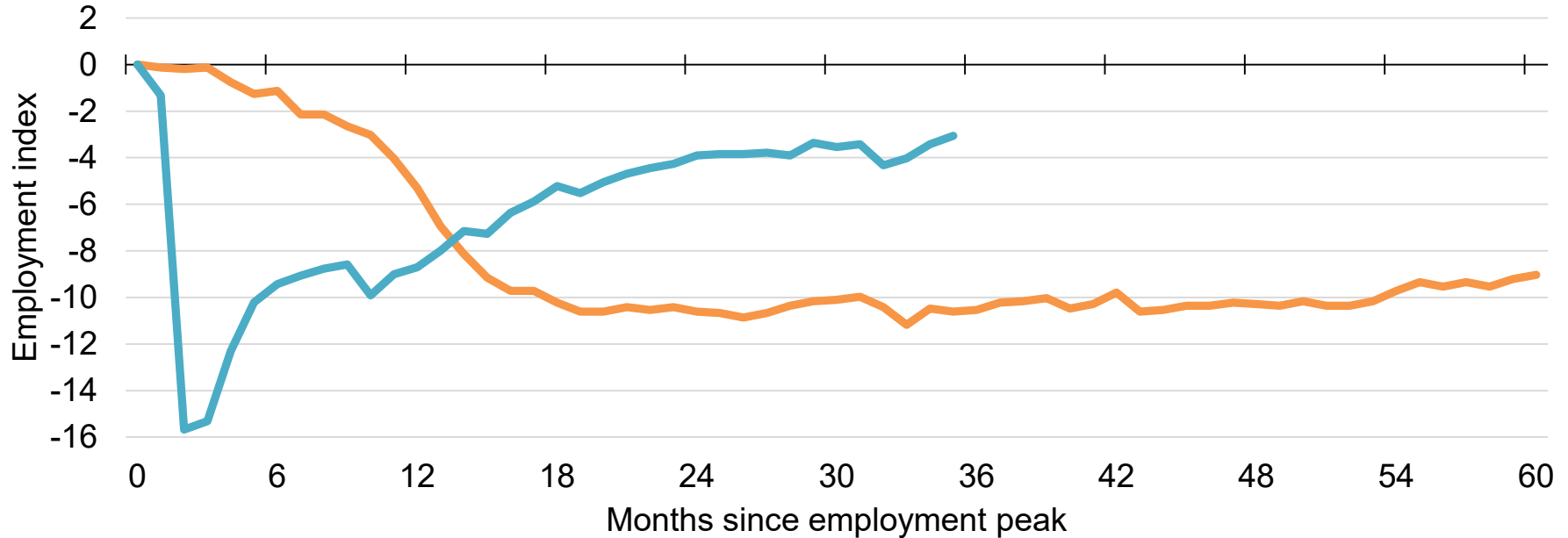
Source: Oregon Employment Department, Current Employment Statistics



# Lane suffered more job losses over the last two recessions

## Lane Job Change

— Great Recession — COVID

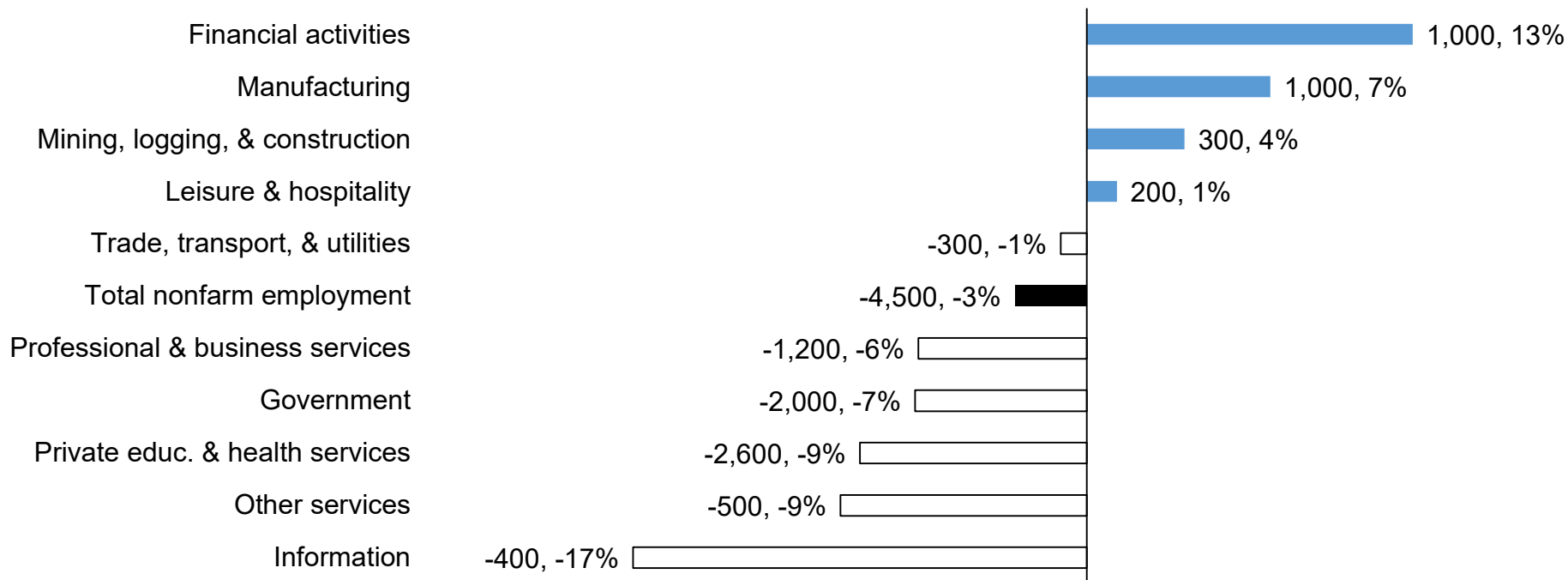


Source: Oregon Employment Department, Current Employment Statistics



# The 2020 recovery is uneven by industry

Percent Job Change, Jan 2020 - Jan 2023 (not seasonally adjusted)

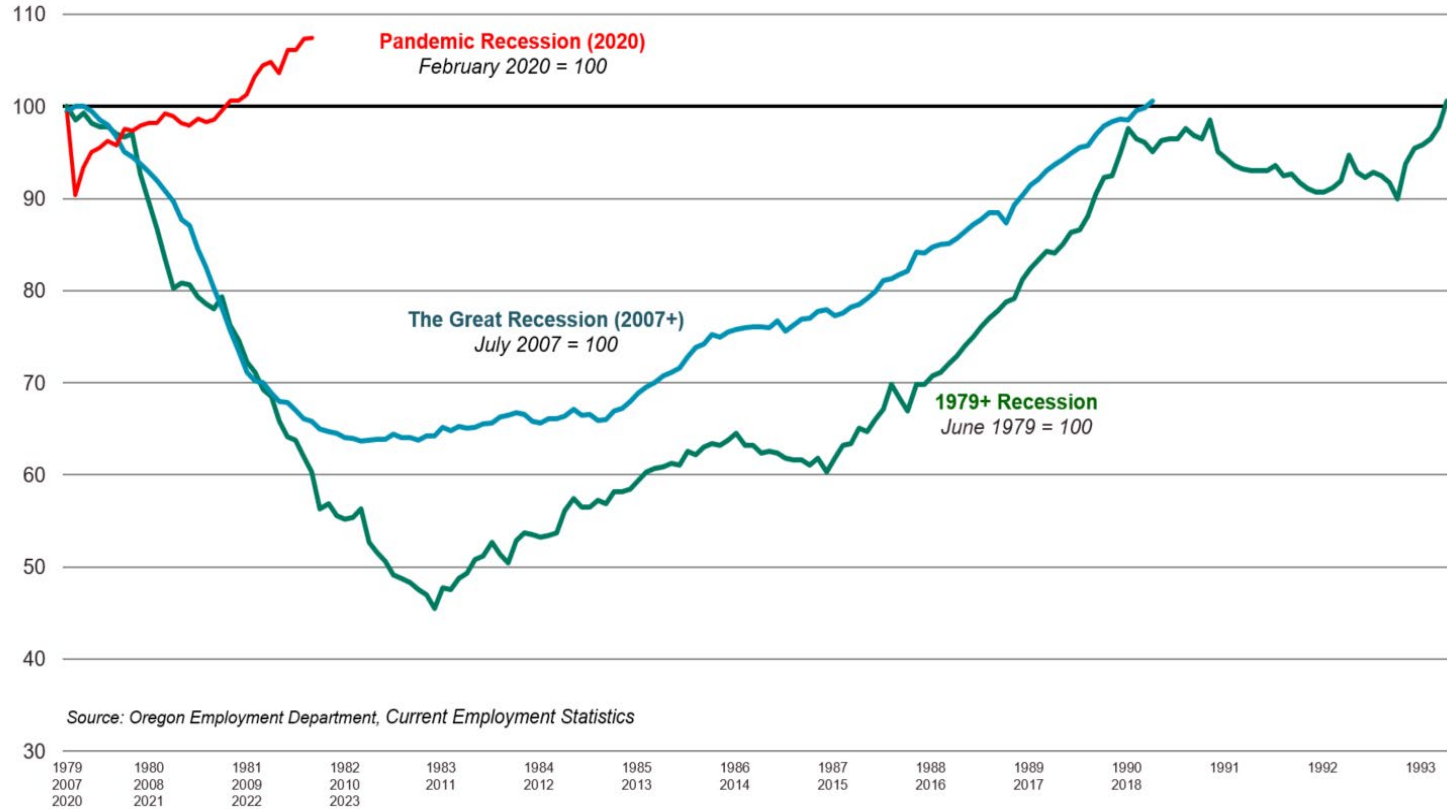


Source: Oregon Employment Department, Current Employment Statistics



# Oregon Construction Employment Indices

Select time periods, seasonally adjusted

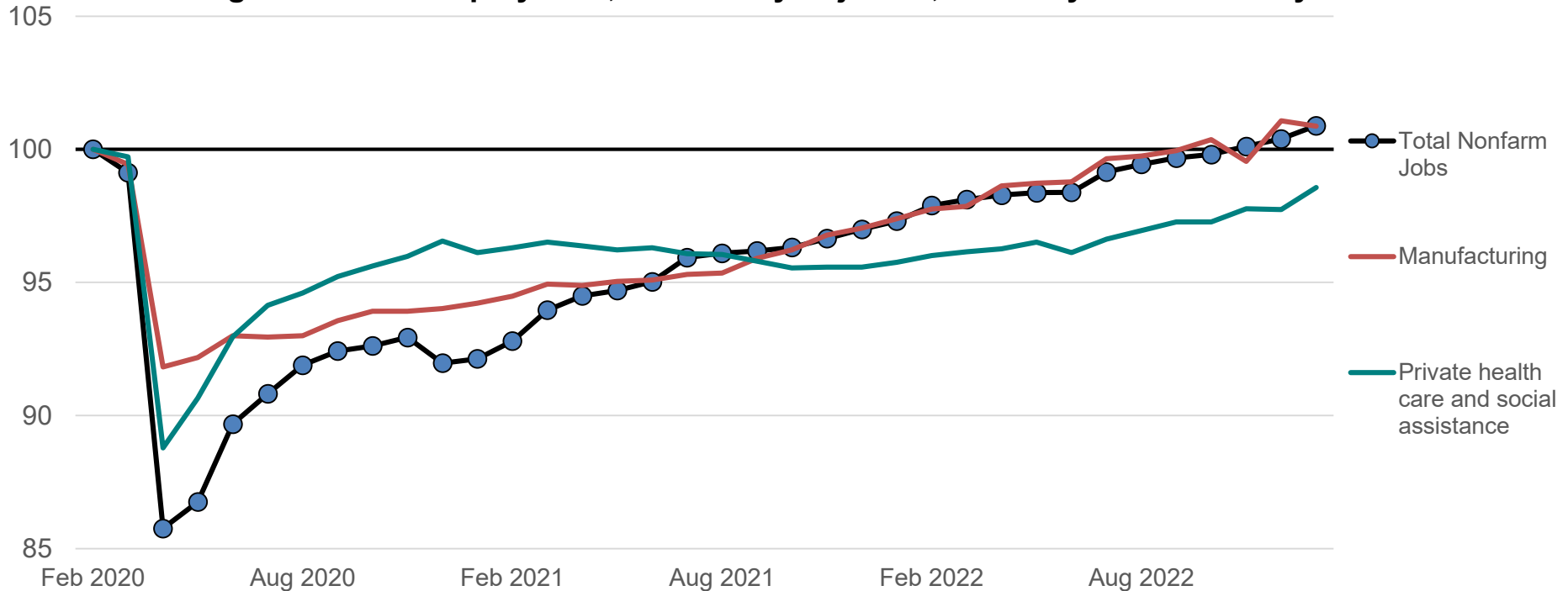


**Construction  
employment  
was not  
severely  
impacted in  
2020**



# Unlike in previous recessions, health care has struggled

Oregon Indexed Employment, Seasonally Adjusted, February 2020 - January 2023



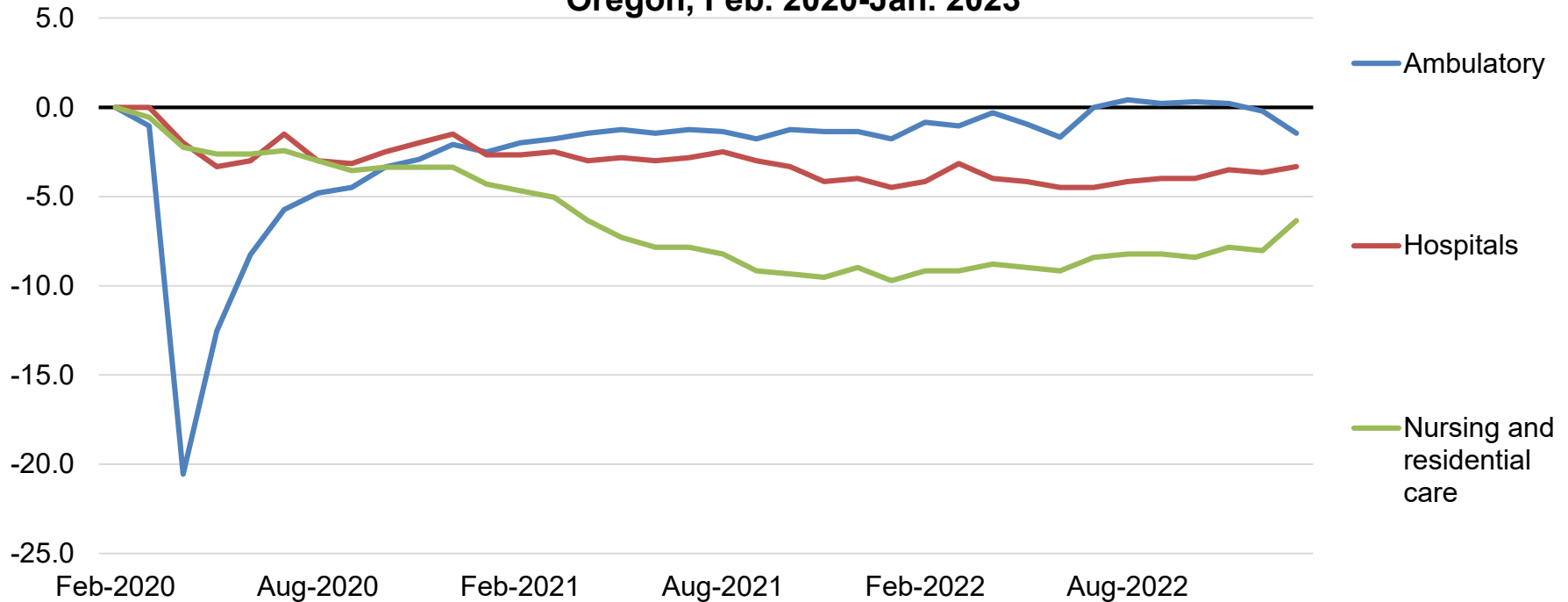
Source: Oregon Employment Department, Current Employment Statistics





# Health care employment post-2020 diverged by subsector

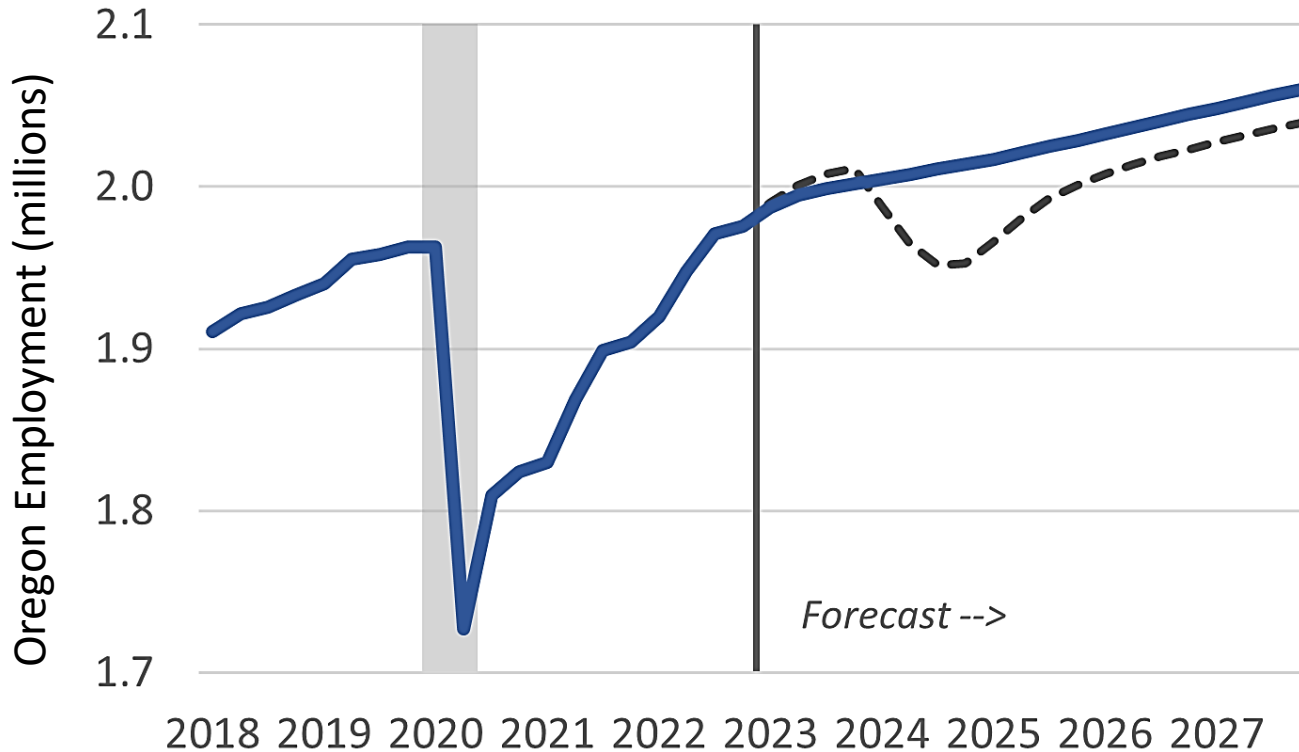
Employment change in health care subsectors  
Oregon, Feb. 2020-Jan. 2023



Source: Oregon Employment Department, Current Employment Statistics



## Baseline Soft Landing and Boom/Bust Alternative Scenario



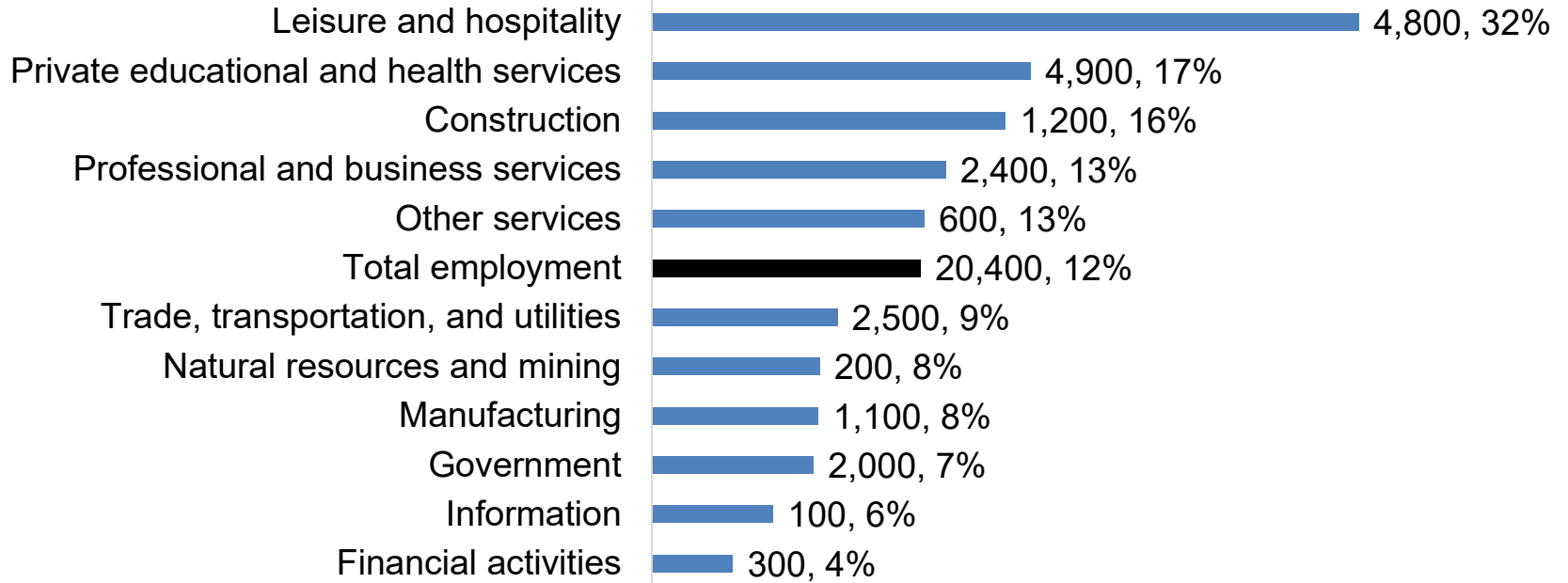
Source: Oregon Office of Economic Analysis

Oregon Office  
of Economic  
Analysis  
**baseline**  
forecast is a  
soft landing  
(near term).

[Full article and  
slides are  
available here.](#)

# All major industries are projected to add jobs

## Lane County Projected Job Change 2021-2031



Source: Oregon Employment Department, 2021-2031 Employment Projections



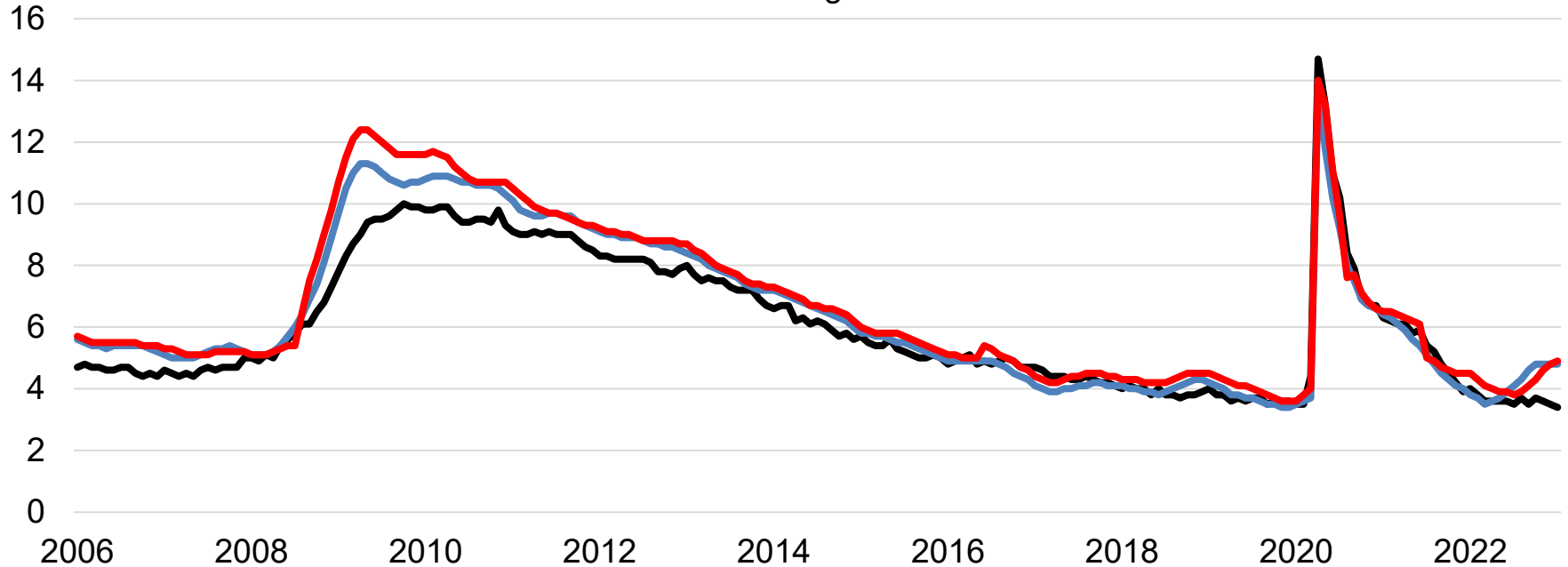
# Job Vacancies and Difficulty Finding Workers



# Unemployment is near historic lows

## Unemployment Rate

— U.S. — Oregon — Lane

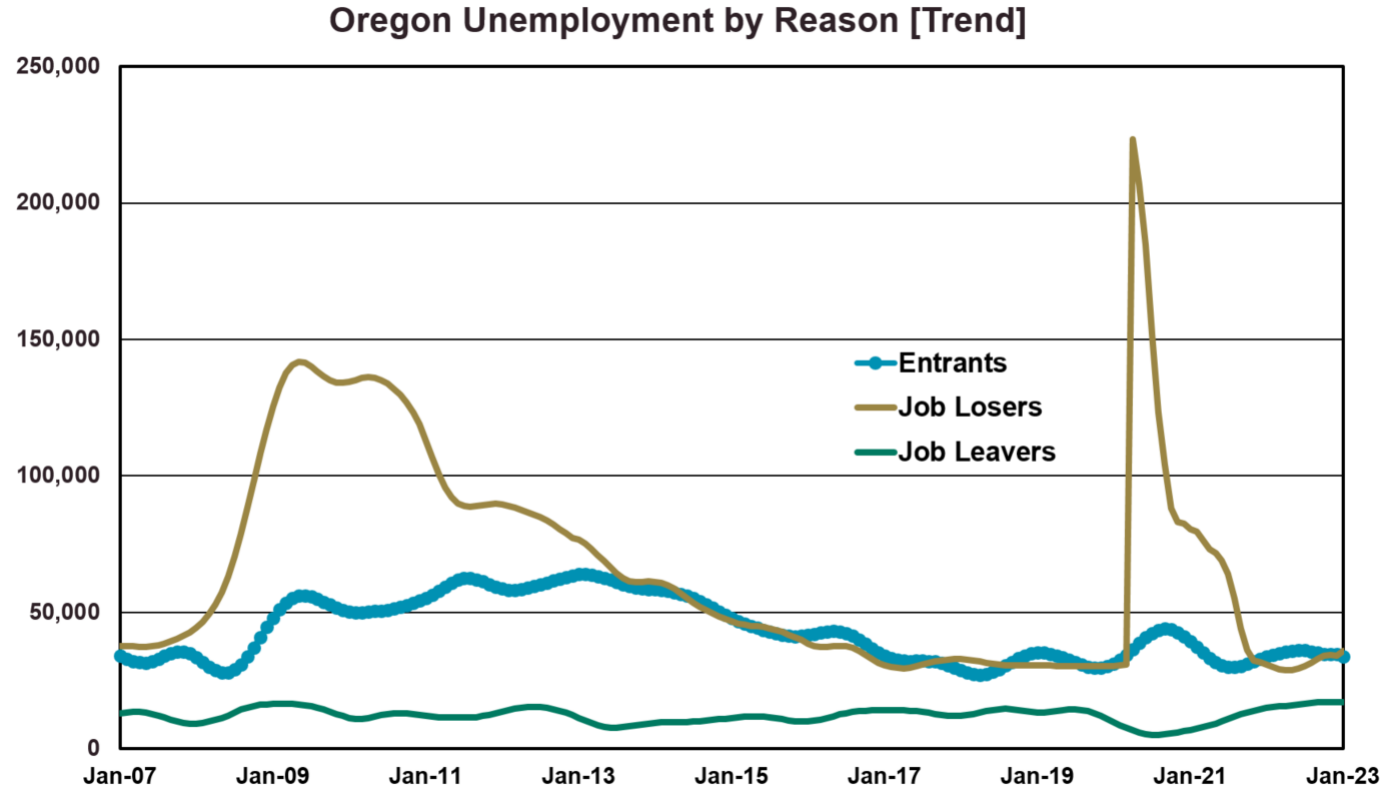


Source: Oregon Employment Department, Local Area Unemployment Statistics



## Reasons for unemployment

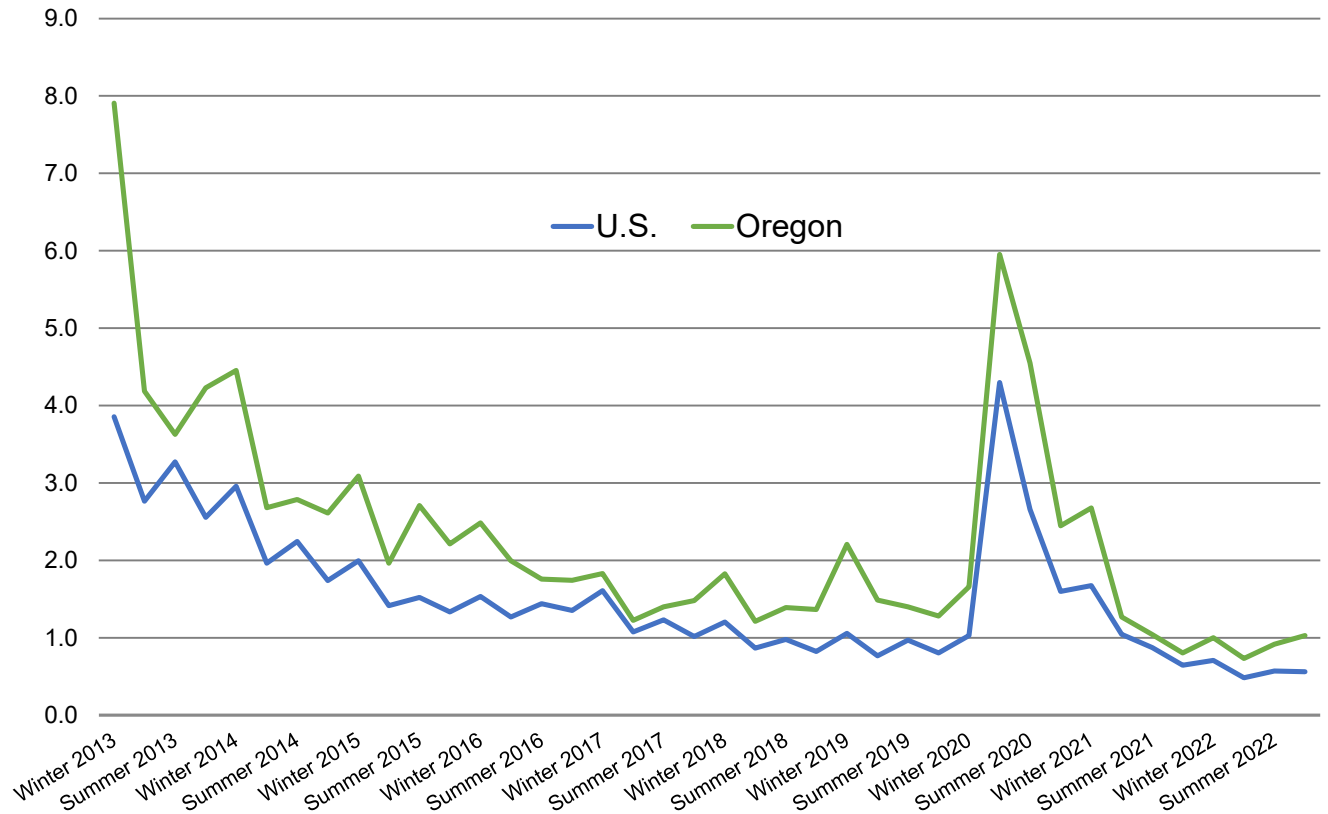
- Many fewer job losers (43%)
- More job leavers (20%)
- Entrants around the same (37%)



Source: Oregon Employment Department, Current Population Survey

# Number of unemployed people per private job opening

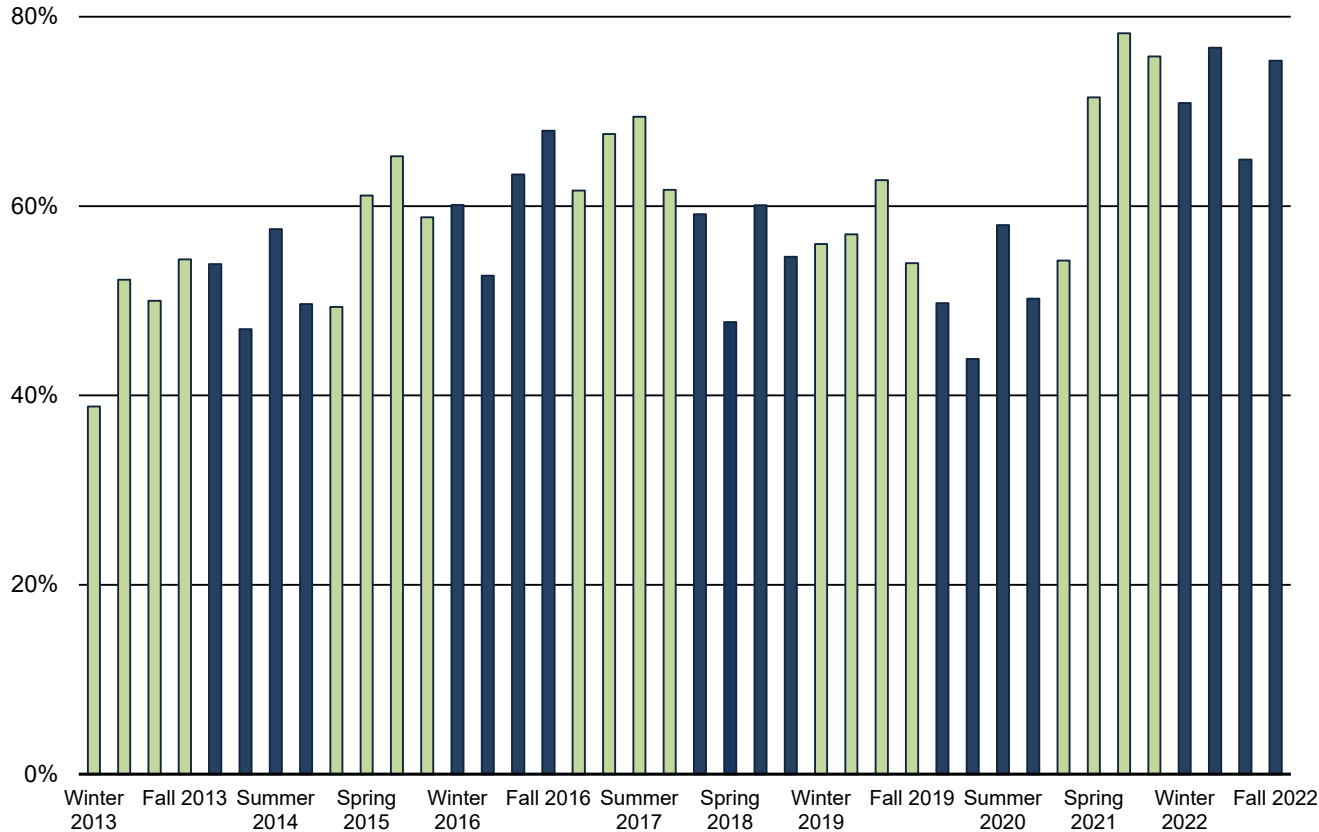
**Recent data shows a record low jobseeker to vacancy ratio**



Source: Oregon Employment Department, Bureau of Labor Statistics



# In Oregon, 75% of fall job vacancies were difficult to fill.



The occupations with the highest number of difficult-to-fill vacancies:

- Personal care aides (2,900)
- Nursing assistants (2,700)
- Truck drivers (2,300)

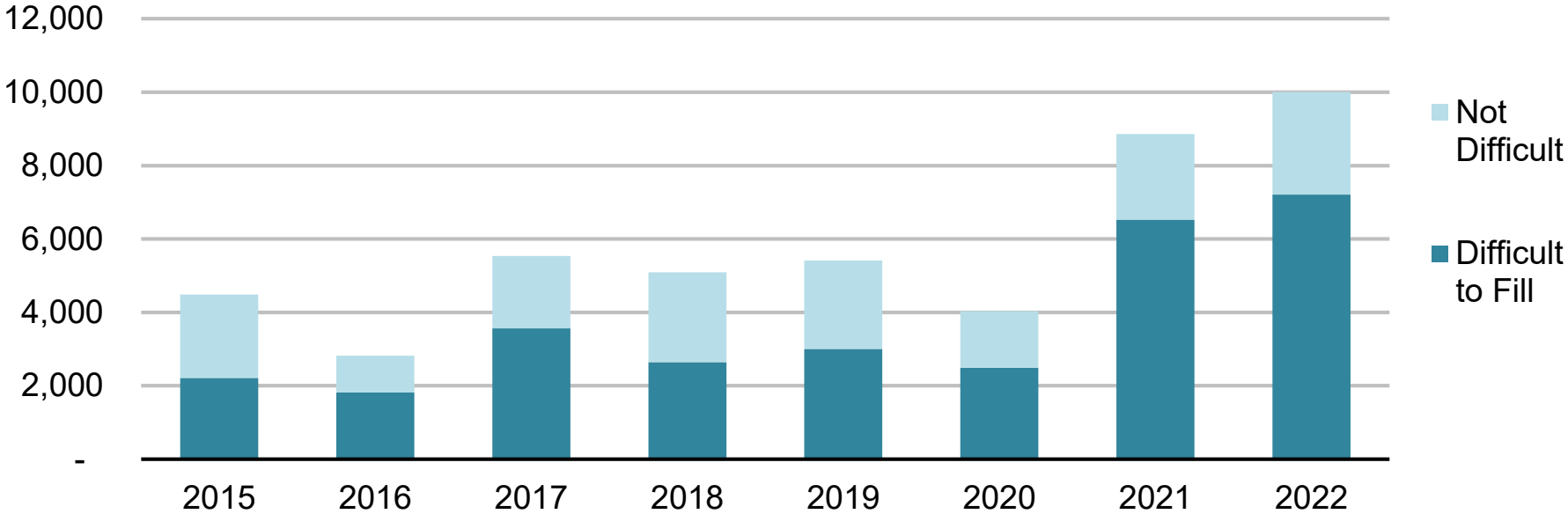
Source: Oregon  
Employment Department  
Job Vacancy Survey





# The number of Lane vacancies was higher in 2022 than at any time in the survey's history since 2015

## Lane Job Vacancies



Source: Oregon Employment Department, Job Vacancy Survey



# Employers had more difficulty filling some occupations

## Top Lane County Occupations With the Highest Number of Difficult-to-Fill Job Vacancies, 2022

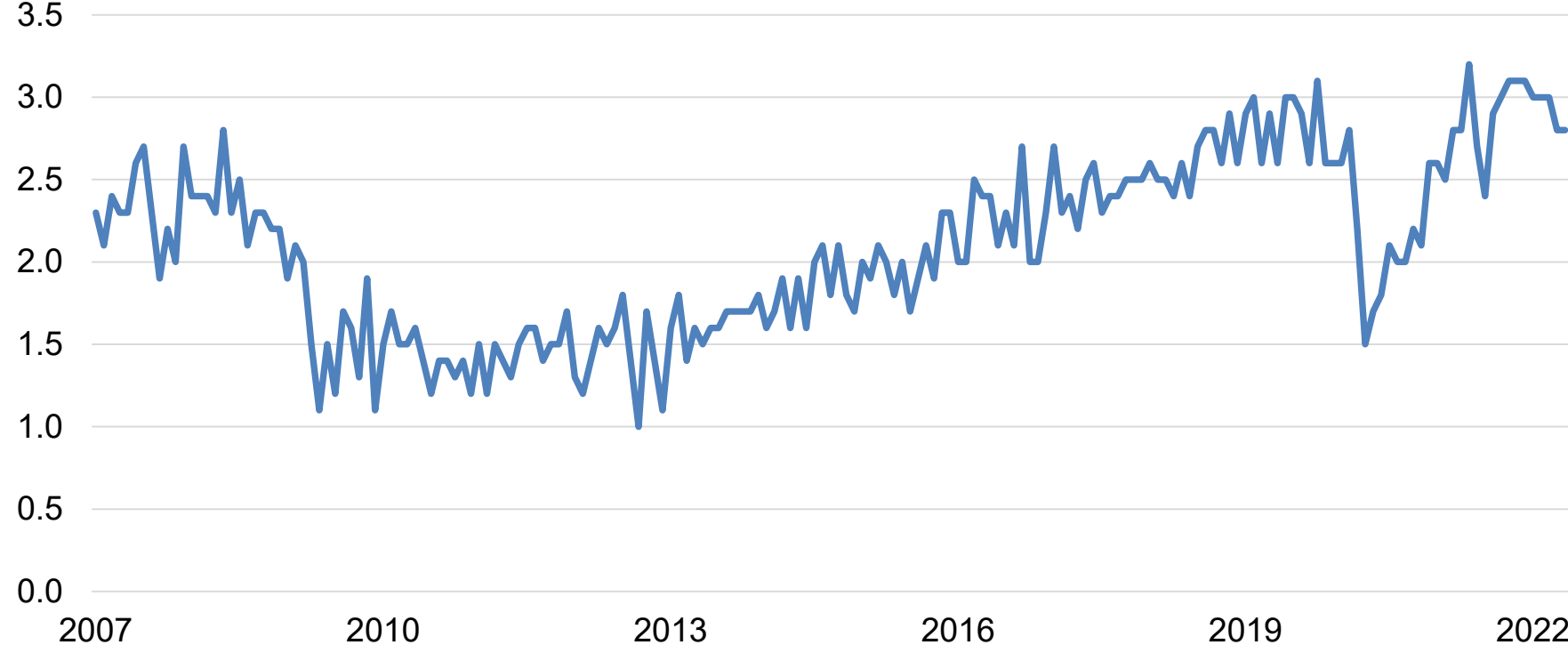
<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Vacancies</b>
<b>Difficult-to-Fill Vacancies in All Occupations</b>	<b>7,208</b>
Personal Care Aides	352
Nursing Assistants	323
Construction Laborers	301
Cooks, Restaurant	243
Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	238
Food Preparation Workers	214
Stockers and Order Fillers	202
Fast Food and Counter Workers	165
Cashiers	159
Registered Nurses	140
Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	138
Dishwashers	133

*Source: Oregon Employment Department*



# People are quitting at higher rates, leaving openings behind

## Monthly Quits Rate, Oregon

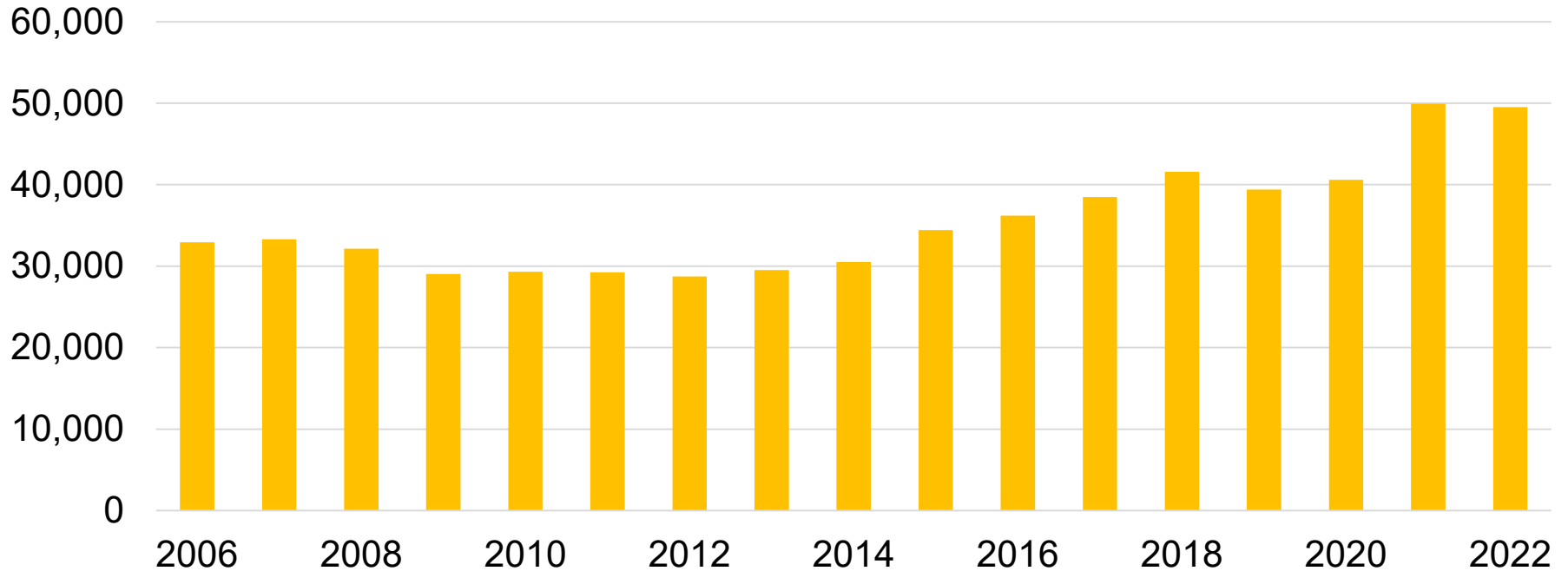


Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Job Opening and Labor Turnover Survey



# People are starting businesses at elevated rates

## Oregon New Business Applications



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Business Formation Statistics

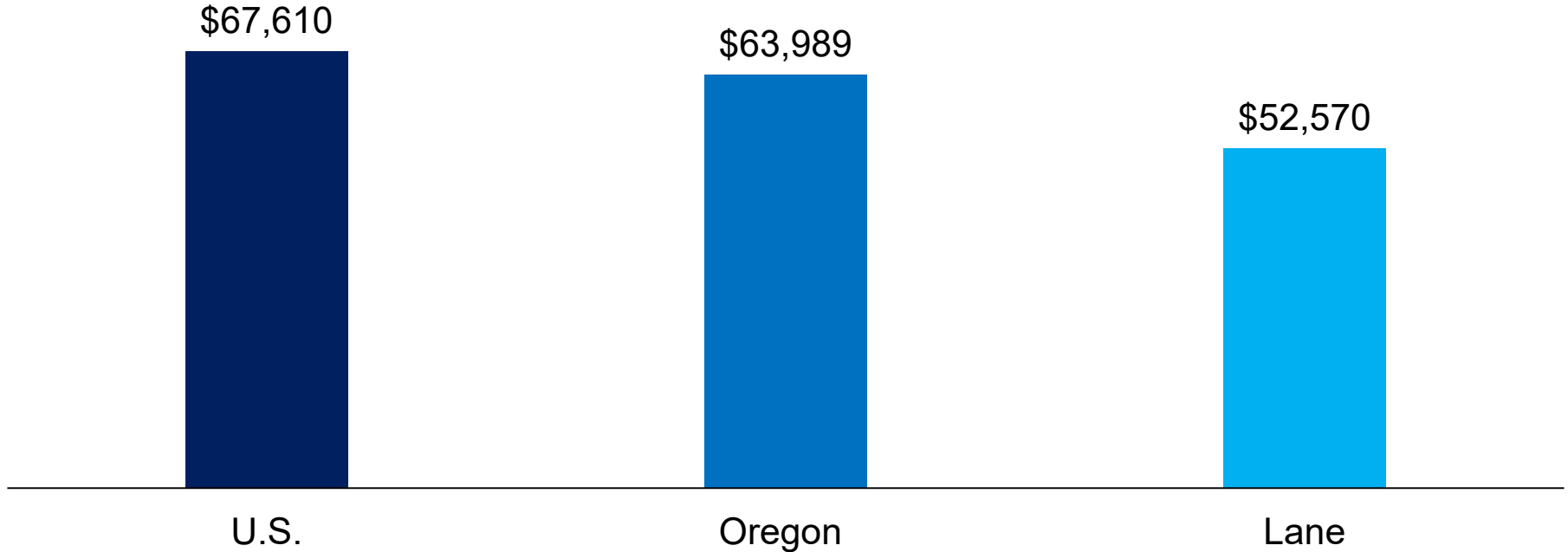


# Wages and Education



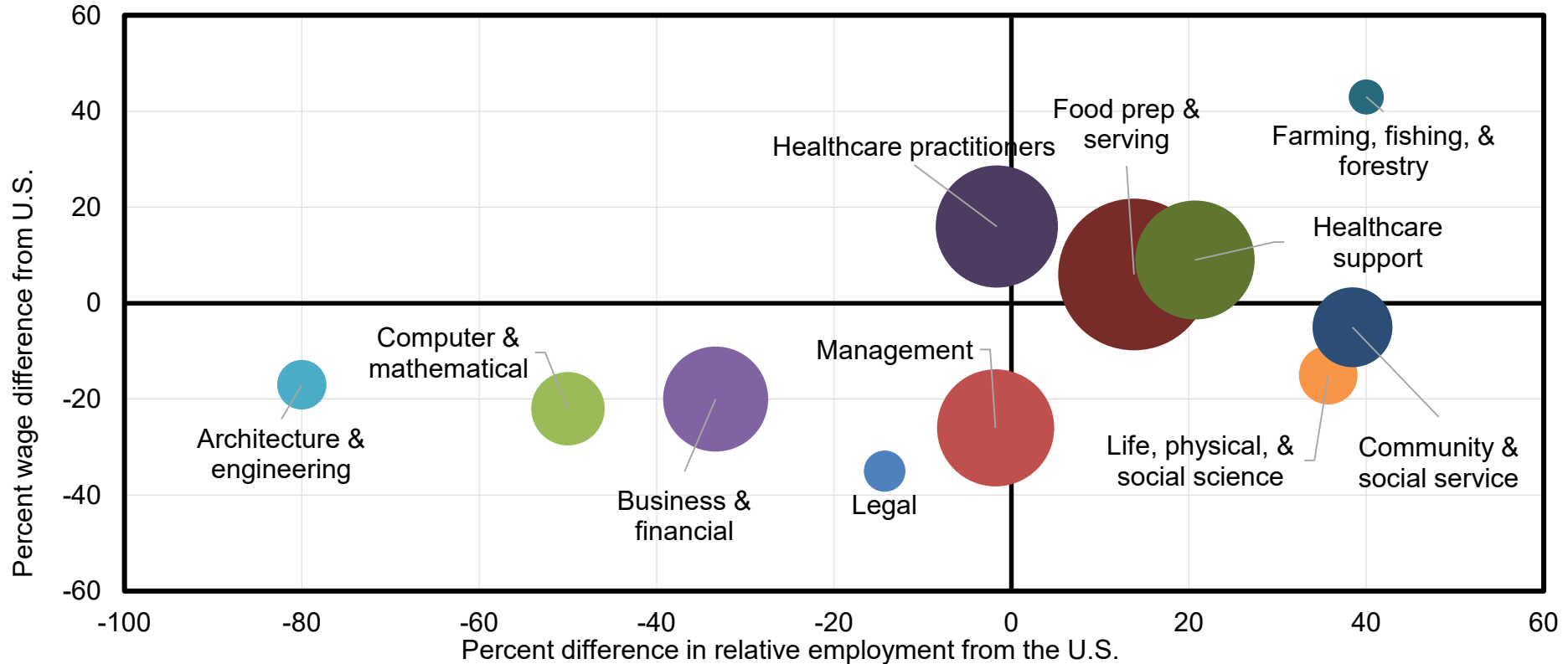
# Wages are lower in Oregon, and in Lane in particular

Annual Average Wage, 2021



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and Oregon Employment Department, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

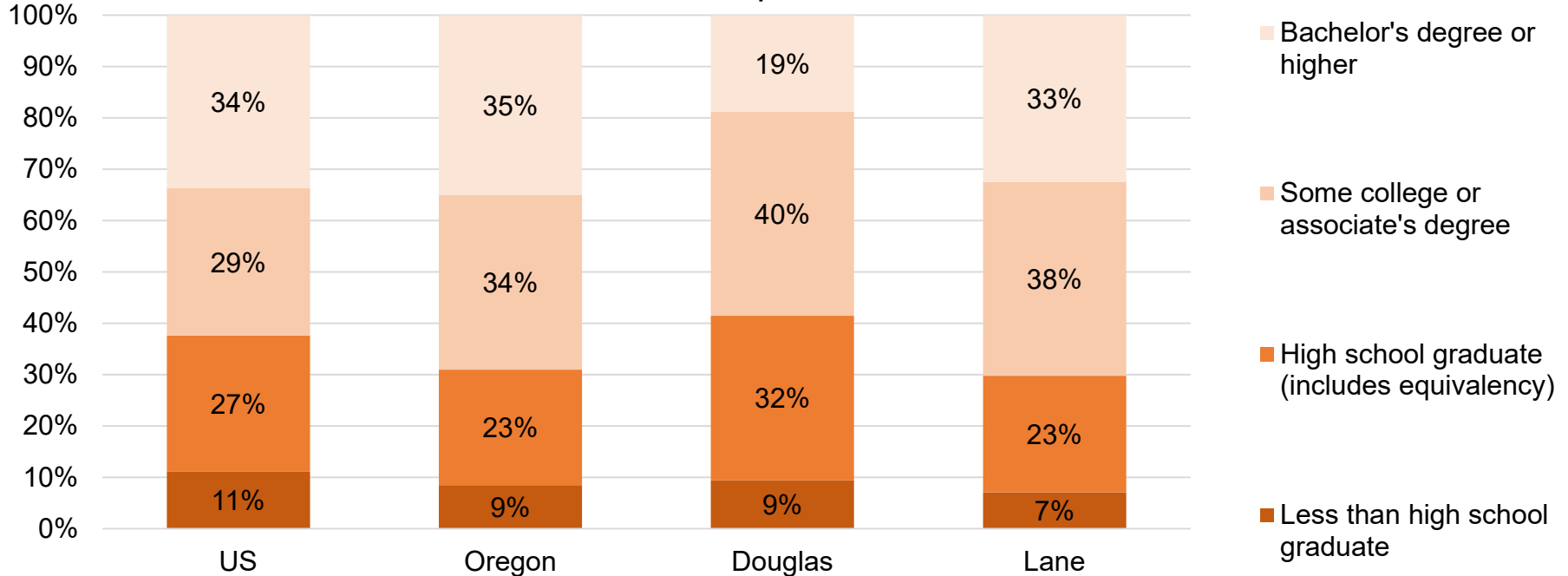
# Much of the wage gap comes from differences in job type



Source: Oregon Employment Department, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics

# Lane has more HS grads, and less B.A. and higher

Educational Attainment  
2021, Population 25+



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates

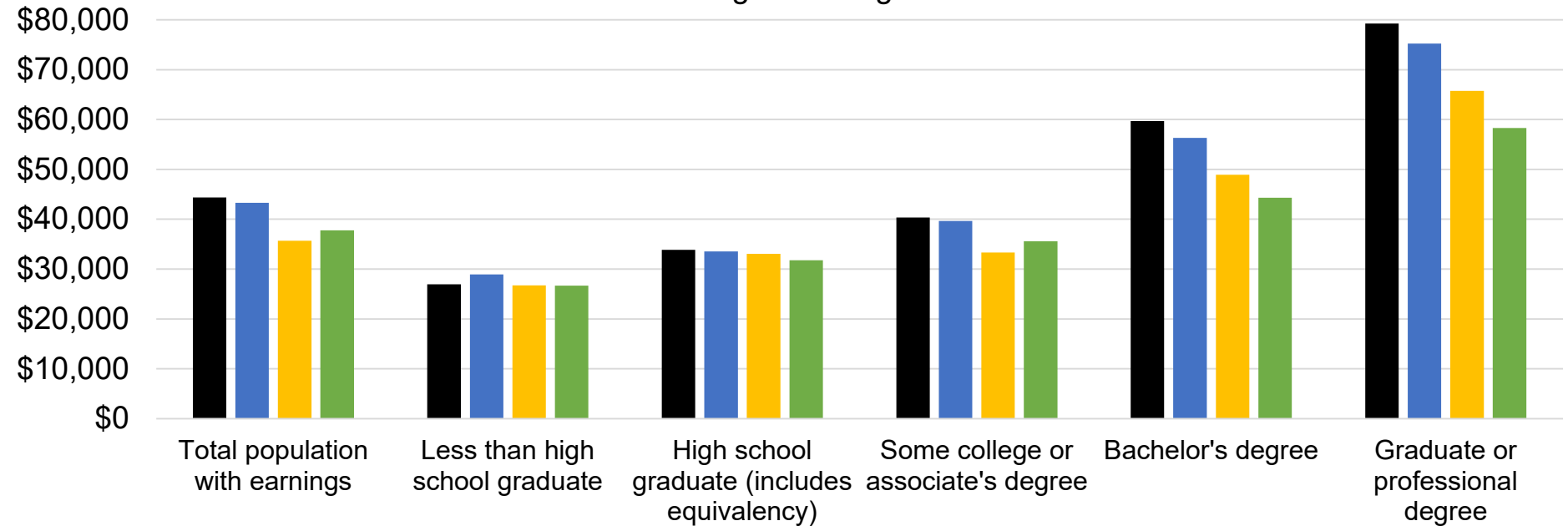




# Earnings for higher education levels are lower in Lane

Median Earnings  
Population 25+, 2021 inflation-adjusted dollars

■ US ■ Oregon ■ Douglas ■ Lane



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates



# Demographics and population



# Our workforce is less diverse than the nation...

## 2021 Workforce (private industry)

## Lane County

## United States

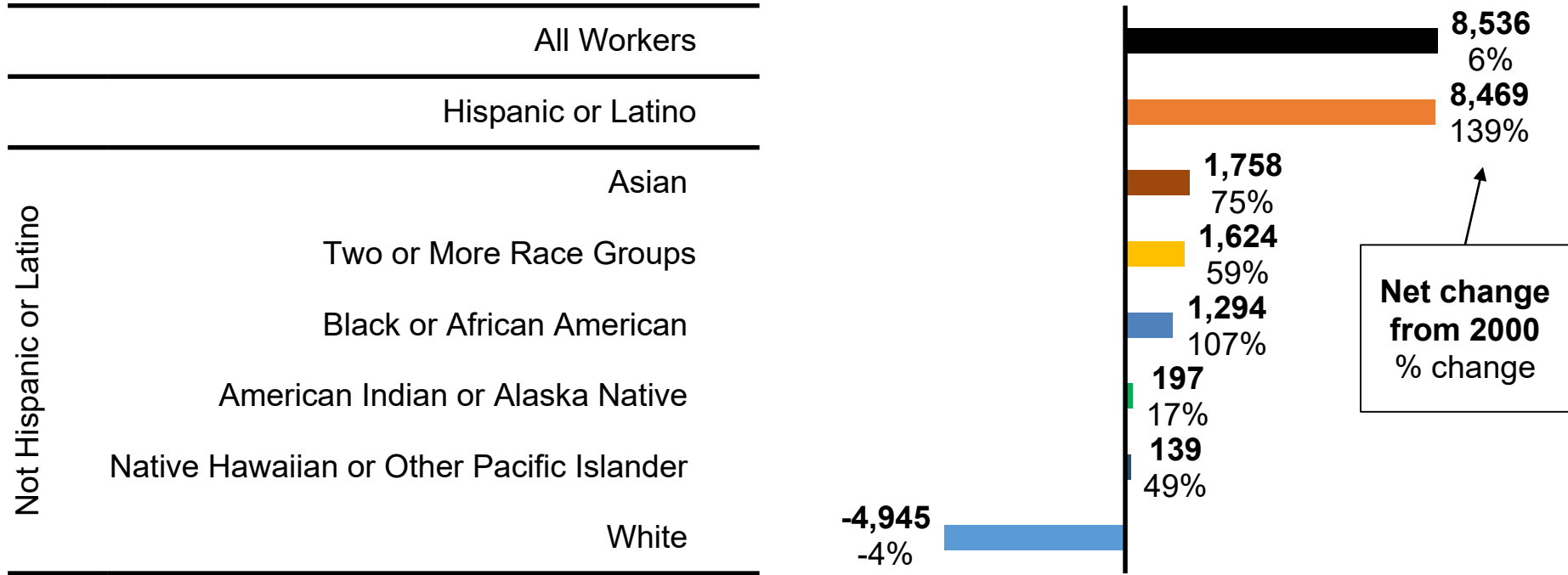
White	81%	62%
Black or African American	2%	12%
American Indian or Alaska Native	1%	1%
Asian	3%	7%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	0.2%
Two or More Race Groups	3%	2%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	10%	17%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Quarterly Workforce Indicators



# ..but workforce change is happening quickly

Change in Workforce by Race and Ethnicity  
Lane County 2000-2021



Net change from 2000 % change

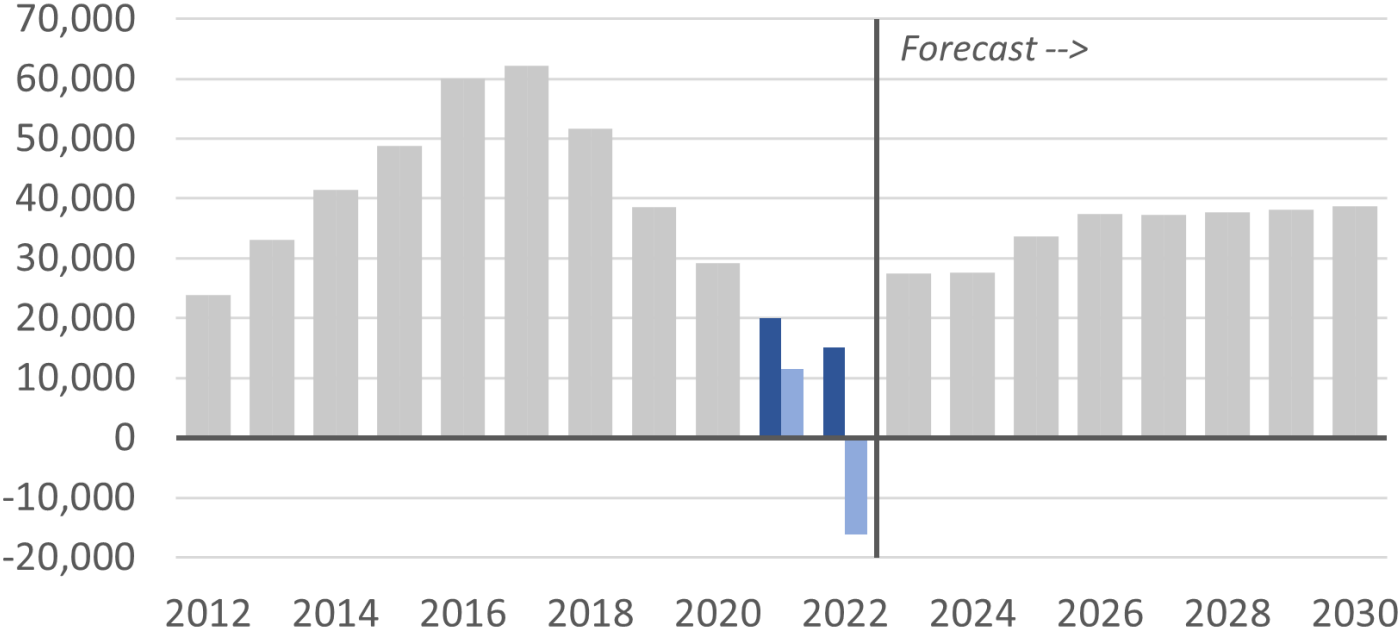
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Quarterly Workforce Indicators



# Population (may be) growing slowly, or declining

Annual change in total state population

OEA History and Forecast, [Portland State Estimates](#), [Census Bureau Estimates](#)

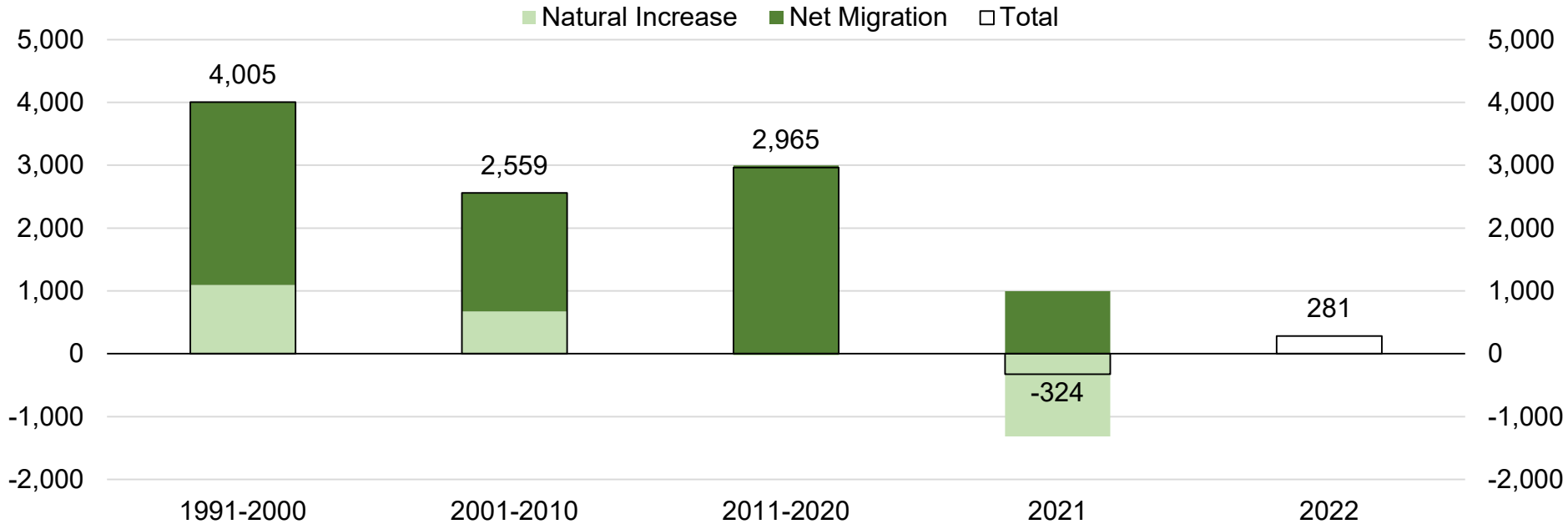


Source: Census, Portland State Population Research Center, Oregon Office of Economic Analysis



# Is our strategic advantage as an attractor waning?

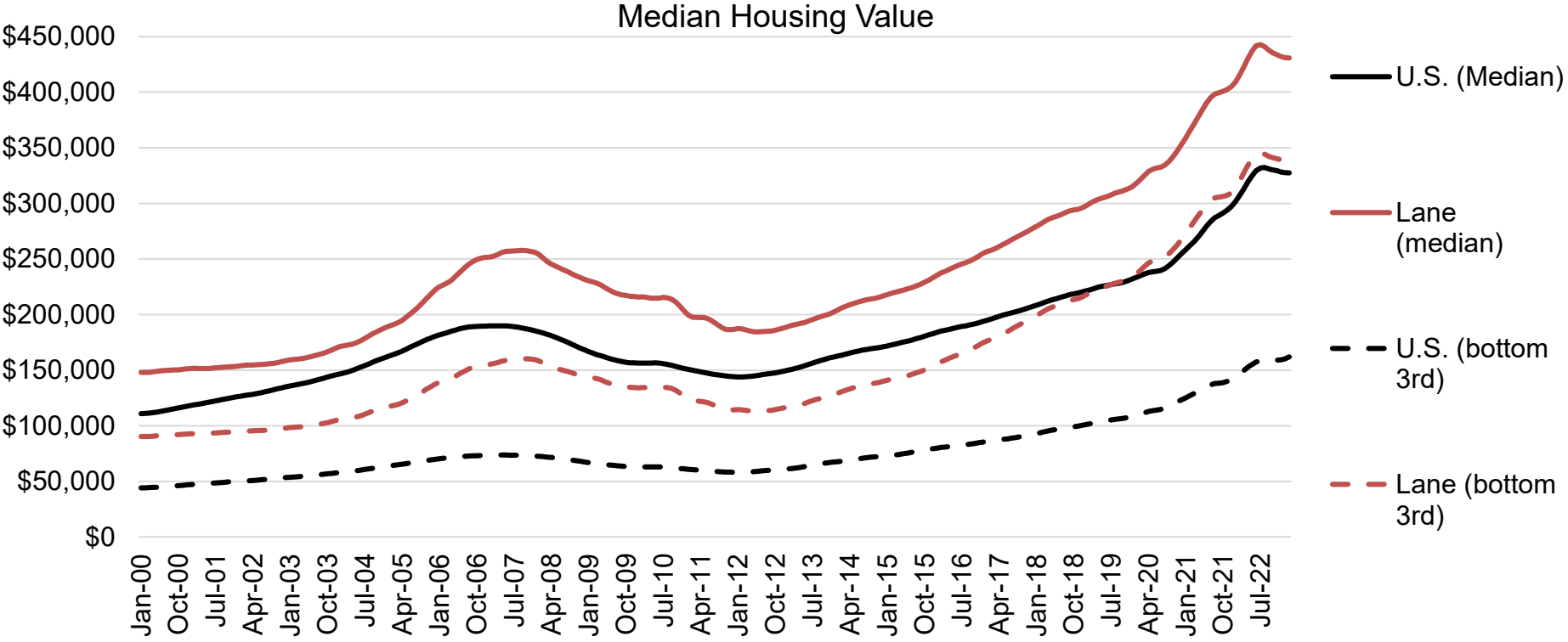
Annual Population Change  
Lane County, 1990-2010 Average over decade



Source: Portland State University Population Research Center, U.S. Census Bureau



# Housing costs have risen, particularly on the affordable end



Source: Zillow Research

# Using data

I made a resource list of free data resources.

[Check it out!](#)

[Qualityinfo.org](#) is the Oregon Employment Department's data and career information website.

Some key [Census data](#) on Lane County







## **Henry Fields**

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