

Help Wanted In Oregon

Results from the Spring 2023 Job Vacancy Survey

July 27, 2023

Oregon businesses reported 69,200 vacancies in spring 2023.

Oregon Job Vacancies, Spring 2023

Vacancies	69,171
Average Hourly Wage	\$27.41
Full-time Positions	87%
Permanent Positions	95%
Requiring Education Beyond High School	44%
Requiring Previous Experience	62%
Difficult to Fill	59%

Source: Oregon Employment Department

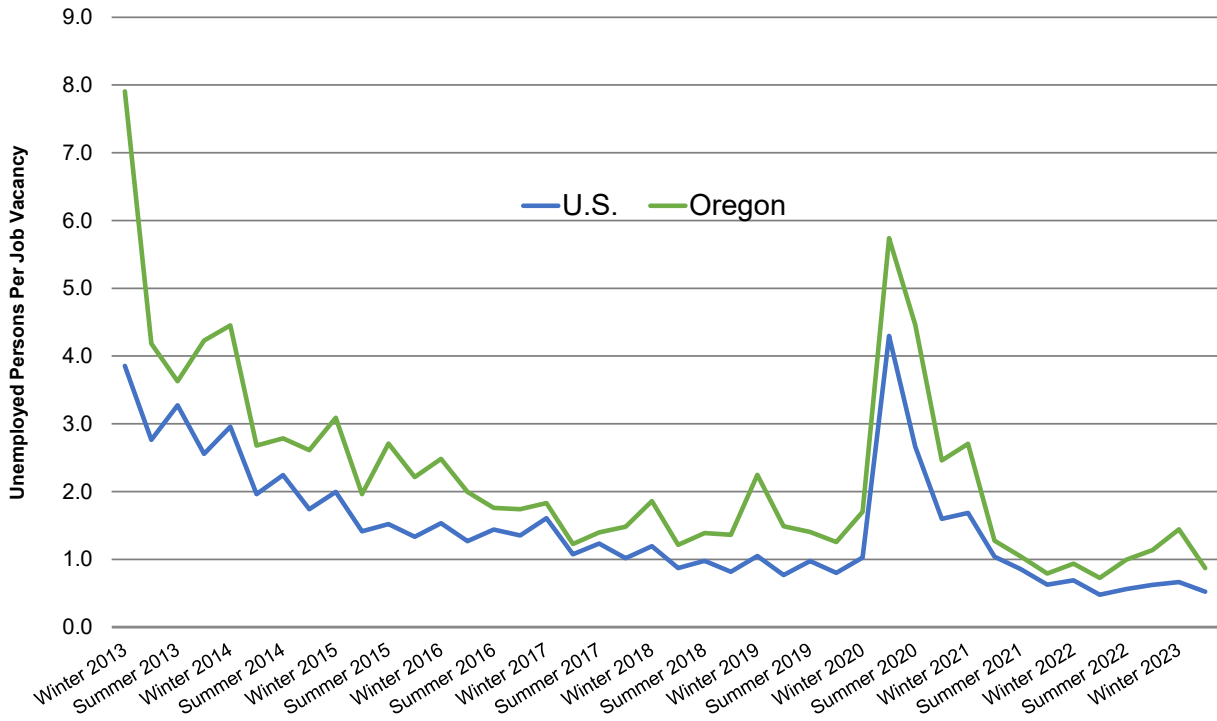
Vacancies decreased 8% from the winter and decreased 35% from spring 2022. Employers reported difficulty filling 59% of spring 2023 vacancies.

The average starting wage among this group of vacancies was around \$27.41 per hour, an inflation-adjusted increase of 22% from spring 2022, and 11% above winter 2023.

A typical job vacancy tends to be for a full-time, permanent position. 44% of openings required education beyond high school.

As vacancies and unemployment dropped in the spring, the unemployed to job vacancy ratio decreased.

U.S. and Oregon Unemployed to Job Vacancy Ratios Still Low after Spring 2020 Peak
(Job Openings with Private Employers, 2013-2023)



Source: Oregon Employment Department

Oregon's unemployed-to-vacancy ratio has been below pre-pandemic levels for the past two years.

The U.S. ratio was 0.5 in April 2023, its eighth straight quarter below 1. It reached 4.3 in April 2020 after several years around 1-to-1.

Oregon had 0.9 unemployed per job vacancy in spring 2023, up from 0.7 in spring 2022 but still much lower than the peak of 5.7 in May 2020.

Businesses reported hiring in various industries.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Industry, Spring 2023

Industry	Vacancies
All Industries	69,171
Health care and social assistance	17,764
Management, administrative, and waste services	8,063
Leisure and hospitality	7,879
Professional, scientific, and technical services	7,318
Manufacturing	7,111
Construction	5,710
Retail trade	4,662
Other services	2,544
Wholesale trade	2,414
Natural resources and mining	1,961
Financial activities	1,443
Private educational services	1,092
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	991
Information	219

Source: Oregon Employment Department

Health care and social assistance had the most vacancies of any industry, with 17,800. Management, administrative, and waste services vacancies accounted for 8,100. Leisure and hospitality had 7,900 vacancies.

Note: The Oregon Job Vacancy Survey includes only private-sector businesses with two or more employees.

The starting wage for job vacancies averaged \$27.41 per hour in the spring.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Hourly Wage Range

Wage (per hour)	Spring 2022	Spring 2023
All Wage Ranges	106,471	69,171
Less than \$20	58,900	23,379
\$20 through \$29.99	23,958	18,690
\$30 and up	12,927	18,057

unknown excluded

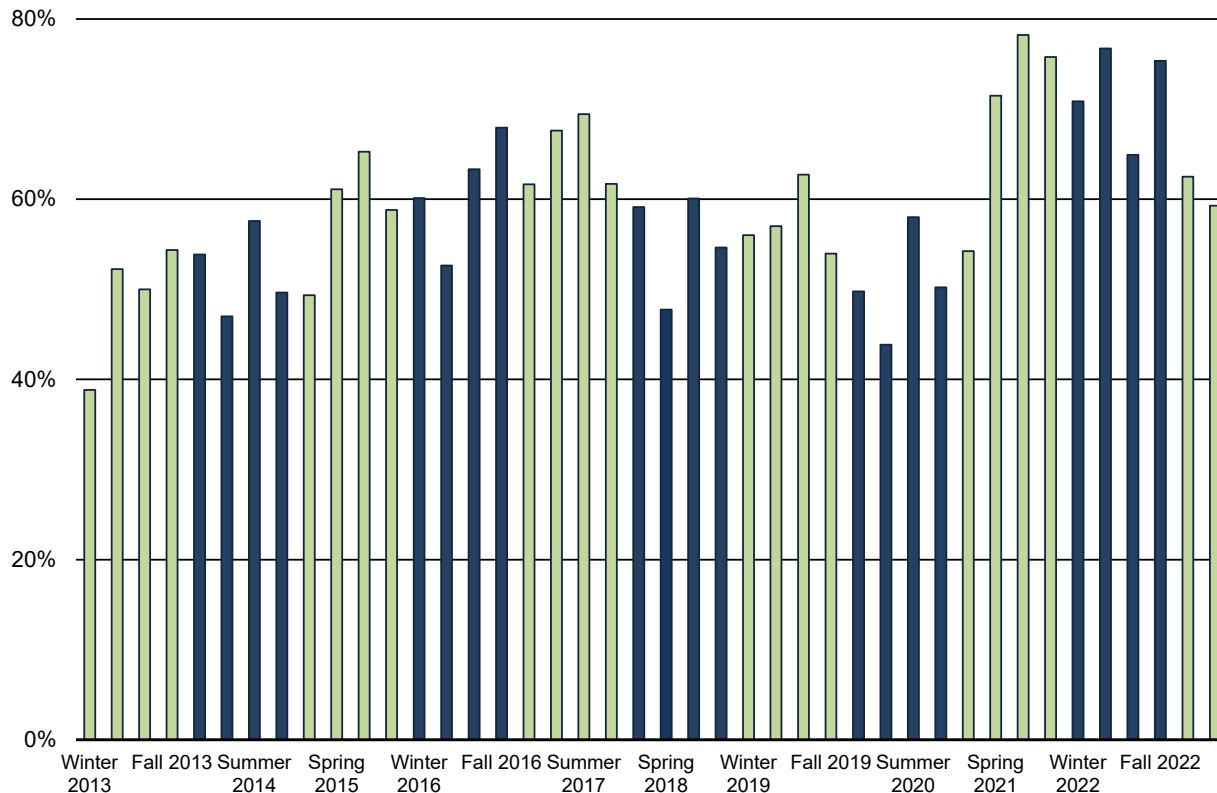
Source: Oregon Employment Department

The average starting wage among this group of vacancies was around \$27.41 per hour, an inflation-adjusted increase of 22% from spring 2022 and 11% above winter 2023.

The number of vacancies offering a starting wage below \$20 per hour decreased 60% over the year. The number of vacancies offering between \$20 and \$30 per hour decreased 22%, and vacancies paying above \$30 per hour increased 40%.

59% of spring job vacancies were reported as difficult to fill.

Businesses Report Difficulty Filling 59% of Vacancies in Spring 2023



Source: Oregon Employment Department, Quarterly Job Vacancy

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

- Production workers, all other (1,700)
- Medical assistants (1,200)
- Customer service reps (1,200)
- Restaurant cooks (1,100)

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

Vacancies declined over the year in every region.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Geography, Spring 2023

<u>Geography</u>	<u>Vacancies</u>
Oregon Statewide	69,171
Portland Metro	24,338
East Cascades	7,871
Mid-Valley	7,032
Lane	6,489
Rogue Valley	6,290
Clackamas	4,827
Northwest Oregon	3,968
Southwestern Oregon	3,249
Eastern Oregon	2,813

Unknown/multiple regions excluded

Source: Oregon Employment Department

Spring vacancies were distributed across the state, with the Portland tri-county area accounting for about 42%.

Vacancies decreased over the year in every region of the state, with the largest declines in Clackamas and the Mid-Valley.

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