

HELP WANTED IN OREGON RESULTS FROM THE WINTER 2024 JOB VACANCY SURVEY

APRIL 25, 2024

OREGON BUSINESSES REPORTED 60,300 VACANCIES IN WINTER 2024.

Oregon Job Vacancies, Winter 2024

Vacancies	60,282
Average Hourly Wage	\$23.32
Full-time Positions	78%
Permanent Positions	93%
Requiring Education Beyond High School	38%
Requiring Previous Experience	63%
Difficult to Fill	58%

Source: Oregon Employment Department

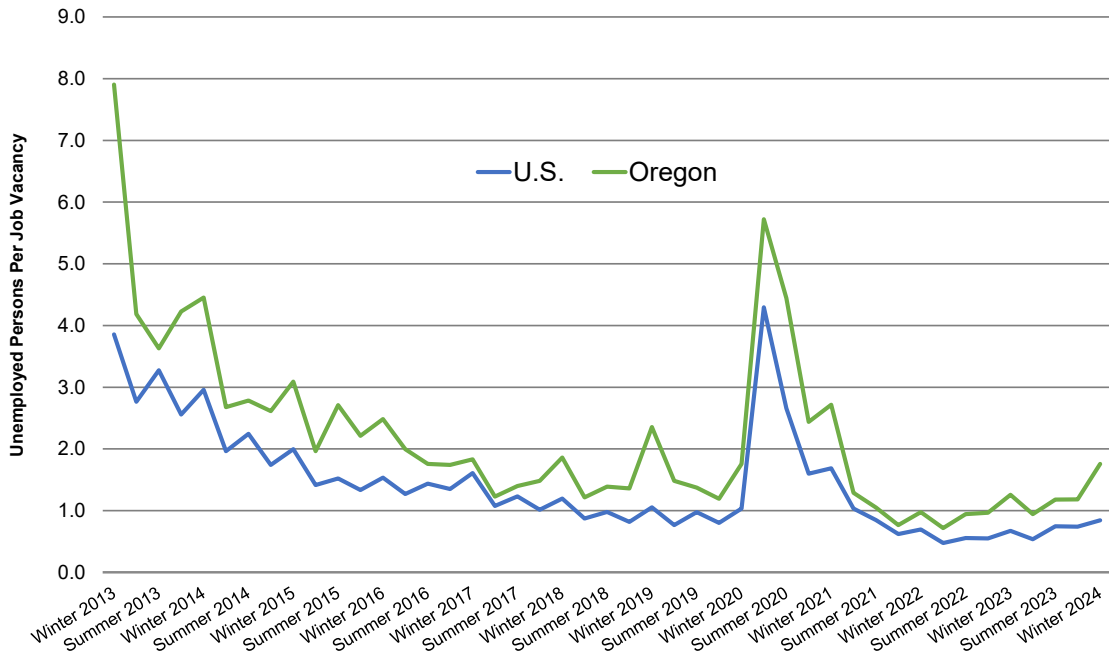
Oregon businesses reported 60,300 vacancies in winter 2024. Vacancies decreased 4% from the fall and decreased 20% from winter 2023. Employers reported difficulty filling 58% of winter 2024 vacancies.

The average starting wage among this group of vacancies was around \$23.32 per hour, an inflation-adjusted decrease of 7% from winter 2023, and a 9% decrease from fall 2023.

Characteristics of Oregon job vacancies were consistent with prior quarters. A typical job vacancy tends to be for a full-time, permanent position.

AS UNEMPLOYMENT INCREASED AND VACANCIES DROPPED IN THE WINTER, THE UNEMPLOYED TO JOB VACANCY RATIO IN OREGON INCREASED.

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

The U.S. ratio was 0.8 in January 2024, its 11th straight quarter below 1. It reached 4.3 in April 2020 after several years around 1-to-1.

Oregon had 1.8 unemployed per job vacancy in winter 2024, still much lower than the peak of 5.7 in May 2020.

BUSINESSES REPORTED HIRING IN VARIOUS INDUSTRIES.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Industry, Winter 2024

Industry	Vacancies
All Industries	60,282
Health care and social assistance	18,820
Leisure and hospitality	8,511
Management, administrative, and waste services	4,984
Manufacturing	4,908
Retail trade	4,578
Other services	4,577
Professional, scientific, and technical services	3,626
Construction	3,060
Financial activities	1,595
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	1,343
Wholesale trade	1,332
Private educational services	824
Information	627
Natural resources and mining	626

Source: Oregon Employment Department

Health care and social assistance had the most vacancies of any industry, with 18,800. Leisure and hospitality had 8,500 vacancies in winter. Management, administrative, and waste services and manufacturing each had about 5,000 vacancies.

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

THE STARTING WAGE FOR JOB VACANCIES AVERAGED \$23.32 PER HOUR IN THE WINTER.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Hourly Wage Range

Wage (per hour)	Winter 2023	Winter 2024
All Wage Ranges	74,902	60,282
Less than \$20	30,089	23,620
\$20 through \$29.99	17,839	18,255
\$30 and up	15,414	10,379

unknown excluded

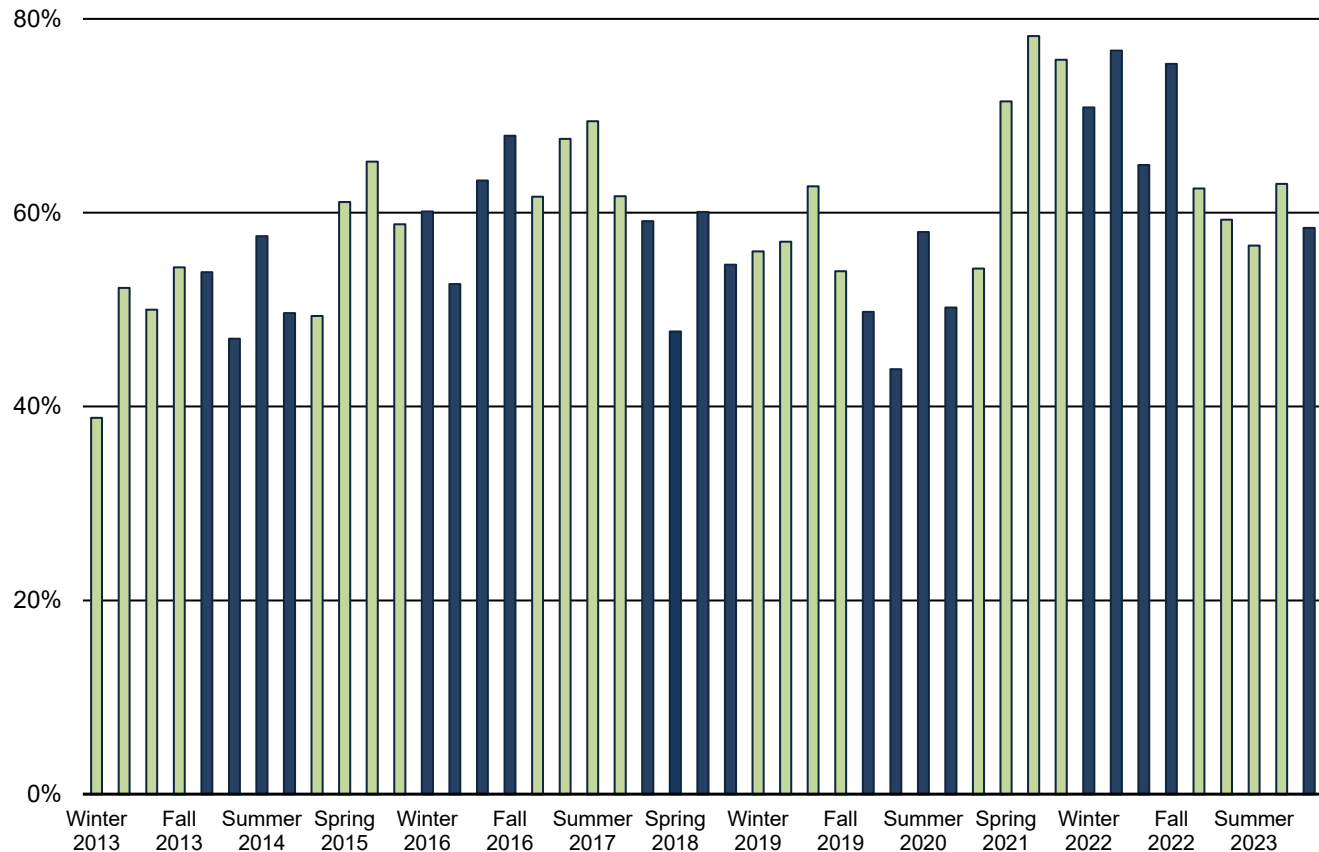
Source: Oregon Employment Department

The average starting wage among this group of vacancies was around \$23.32 per hour, an inflation-adjusted decrease of 7% from winter 2023 and a 9% decrease from fall 2023.

The number of vacancies offering a starting wage below \$20 per hour decreased 21% over the year. The number of vacancies offering between \$20 and \$30 per hour increased 2%, and vacancies paying above \$30 per hour decreased 33%.

58% OF FALL JOB VACANCIES WERE REPORTED AS DIFFICULT TO FILL.

**Businesses Report Difficulty Filling
58% of Vacancies in Winter 2024**



Source: Oregon Employment Department, Quarterly Job Vacancy

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

- Personal care aides
- Automotive service technicians and mechanics
- Fast food and counter workers
- Truck drivers

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, EXCEPT IN THE PORTLAND METRO AREA AND NORTHWEST OREGON.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Geography, Winter 2024

<u>Geography</u>	<u>Vacancies</u>
Oregon Statewide	60,282
Portland Metro	19,333
Mid-Valley	7,465
East Cascades	6,779
Rogue Valley	5,368
Clackamas	5,122
Lane	4,998
Northwest Oregon	4,962
Eastern Oregon	2,802
Southwestern Oregon	2,299

Winter vacancies were distributed across the state, with the Portland tri-county area accounting for about 41%.

Vacancies decreased over the year in every region of the state, except the Portland Metro area and Northwest Oregon. These regions' vacancies increased by 3% each.

*Multi-area or unknown regions excluded
Source: Oregon Employment Department*

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FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT JOB VACANCIES IN OREGON, VISIT THE JOB VACANCY SURVEY BOX ON THE [PUBLICATIONS](#) PAGE AT QUALITYINFO.ORG

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