# ROGUE VALLEY ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE UPDATE

ROGUE VALLEY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD MEETING 1-26-24



# 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

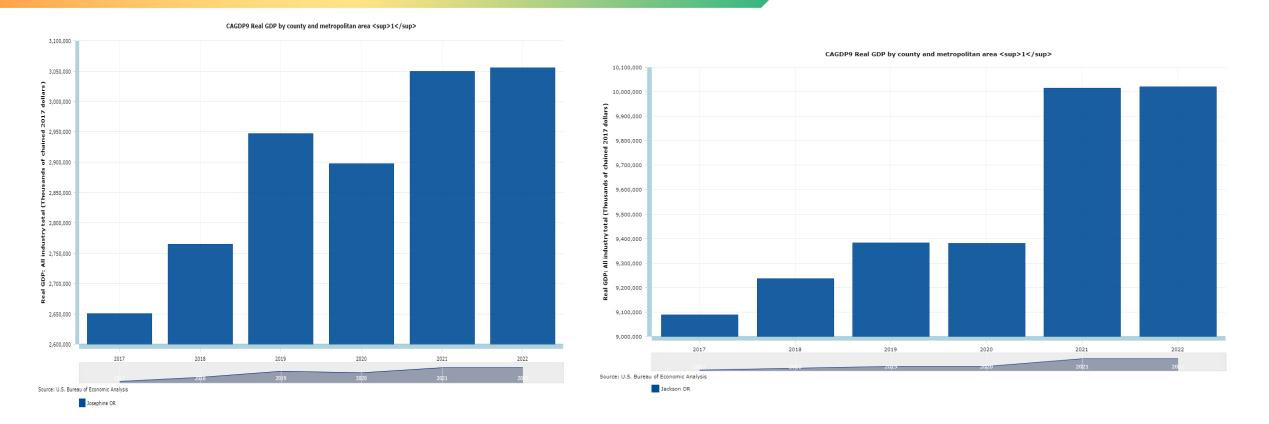
<sup>\*</sup> Collected and produced by Oregon Employment Department

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.



#### Real, or inflation-adjusted economic output showed little change 2021-2022

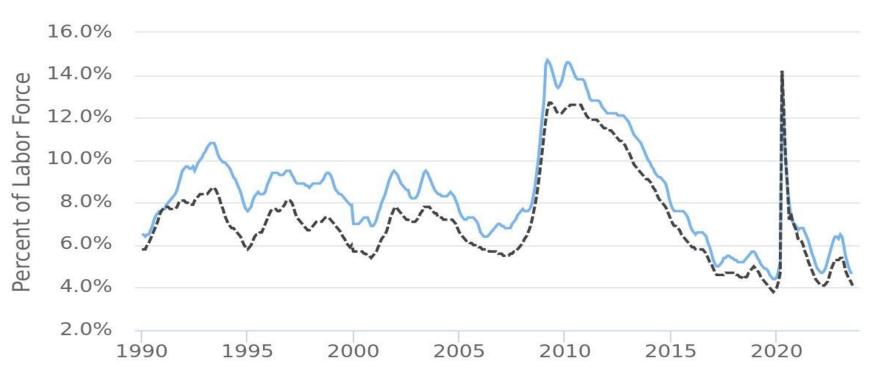


Source: Oregon Employment Department and Bureau of Economic Analysis



#### Unemployment rates are back to historically low levels in the Rogue Valley-

#### **Unemployment Rate**

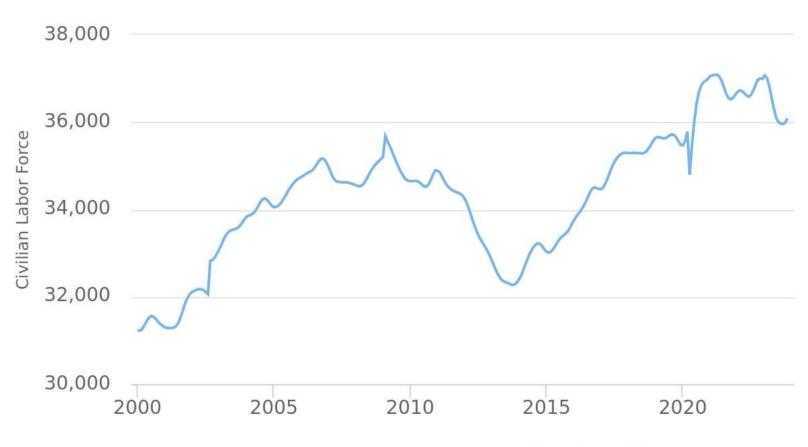


Jackson = 4.1% Josephine = 4.8% November 2023

Grants Pass, OR MSA (Seasonally Adjusted)
 Medford, OR MSA (Seasonally Adjusted)

Source: Oregon Employment Department Qualityinfo.org

#### **Civilian Labor Force**



— Grants Pass, OR MSA (Seasonally Adjusted)

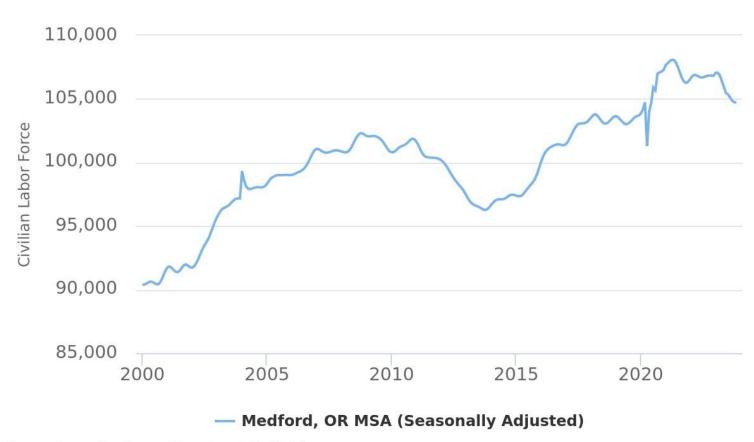
Source: Oregon Employment Department Qualityinfo.org

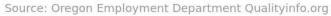
Josephine County Civilian Labor Force at 36,088 in November 2023-down about 900 since recent peak in January 2023



Jackson County Labor Force reached record in April 2021 (108,089) and down slightly to 104,715 in November 2023

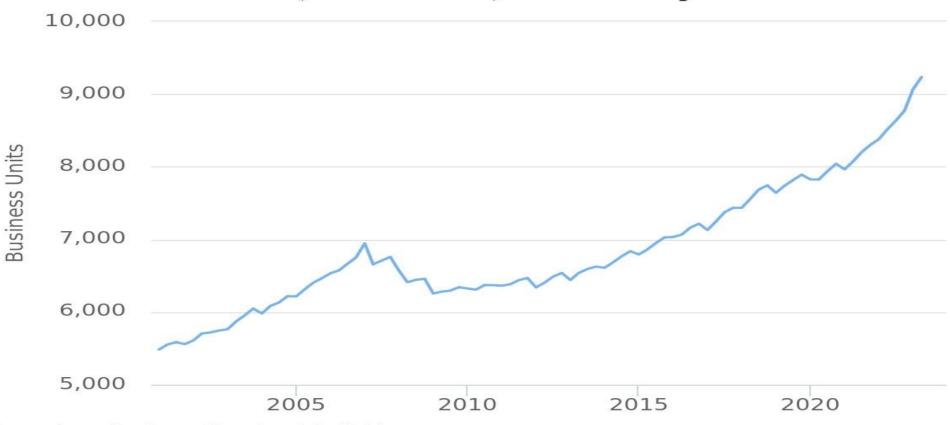
#### **Civilian Labor Force**





Total business units in Jackson County reached 9, 235 in the 2Q 2023- up from 6,441 a decade earlier.

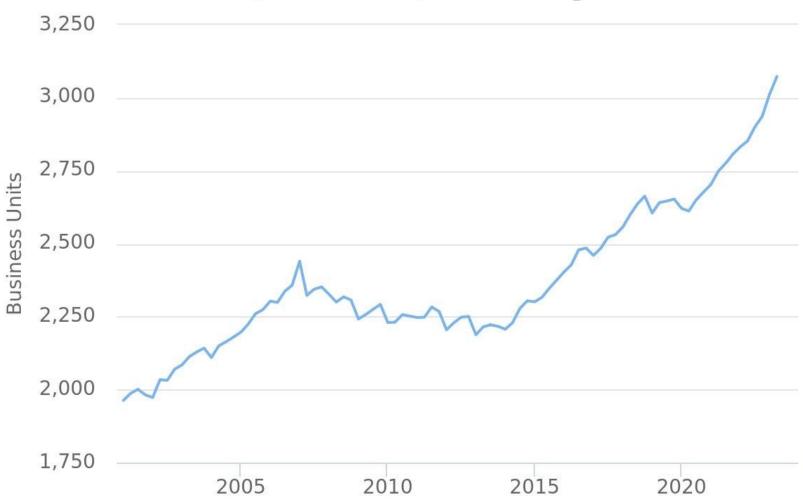
**Total, All Industries, All Ownerships** 



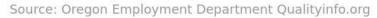




#### **Total, All Industries, All Ownerships**

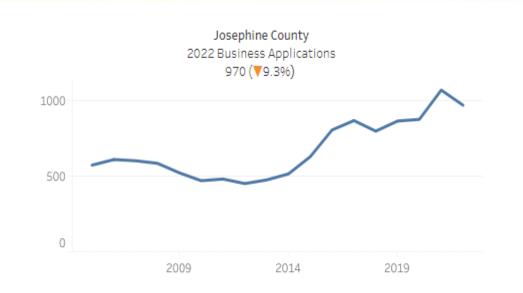


Total business units in Josephine County reached 3,073 in the 2Q 2023- a record number

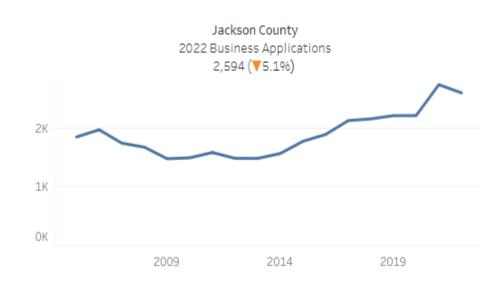




#### In 2022, Business Applications Declined 0.9% in Oregon



products is January 1 of the reference year (e.g., January 1, 2022).



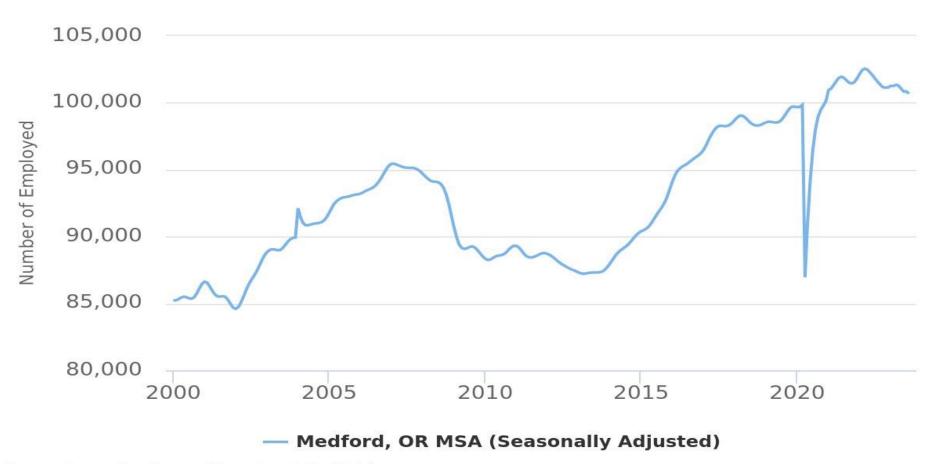
Note: The Census Bureau's reference date for geographic entity boundaries in all geographic and statistical data products is January 1 of the reference year (e.g., January 1, 2022).

Source: Oregon Employment Department and Census Bureau Business Formation Statistics



100,450 residents of Jackson County employed, about 650 more than before pandemic

#### **Number of Employed**



#### **Number of Employed**



As of November 2023, there were 34,347 employed residents of Josephine County, about 400 above pre-pandemic today and down about 650 from the peak in February 2022

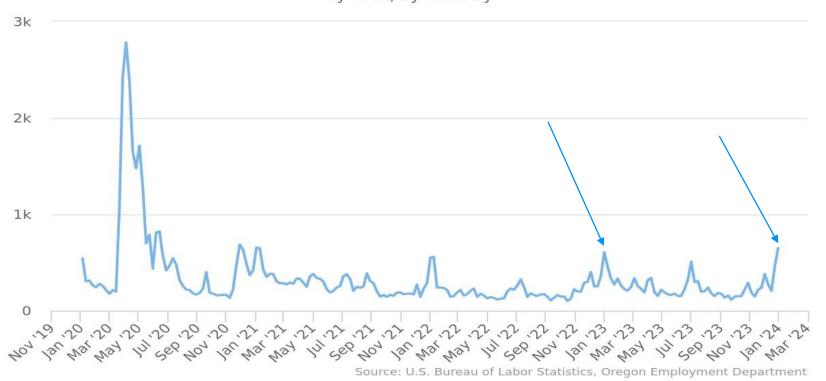
Source: Oregon Employment Department Qualityinfo.org



New initial claims for unemployment insurance have returned to pre-pandemic levels in the Rogue Valley and remain low, 651initial claims filed in Jackson County during the week ending Dec. 30- about 40 more than the same week on year ago

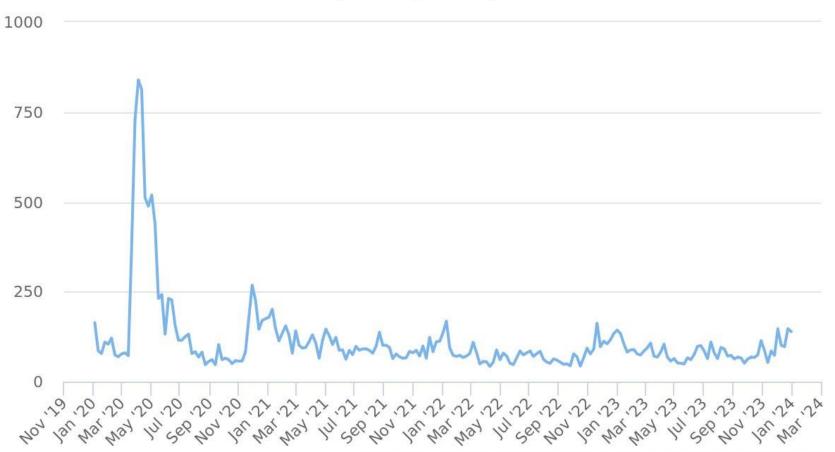
Oregon's Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance, Weekly

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



#### Oregon's Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance, Weekly

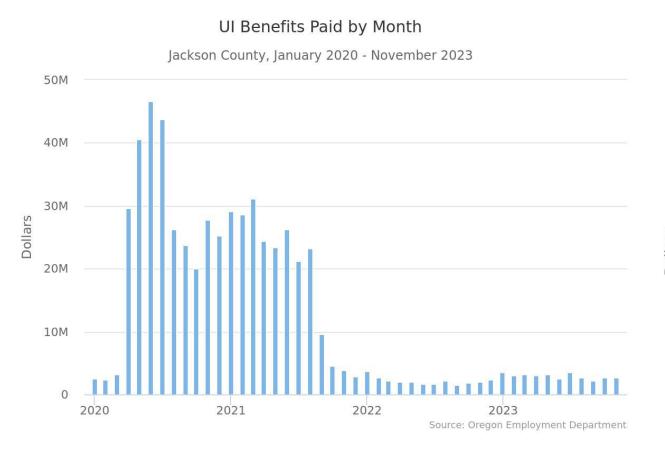
Josephine County, Total, All Industries by Area, by Industry



Josephine
Initial
unemployment
insurance
claims about
the same
(140) from
same week
from year
before- last
week of
December



Monthly Unemployment Insurance payments are back down below pre-pandemic levels but up slightly over the year-Jackson County \$2.64 million / \$959,700 in Josephine

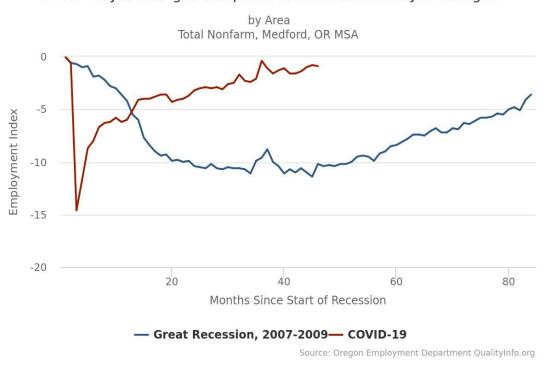


#### UI Benefits Paid by Month Josephine County, January 2020 - November 2023 17.5M 15M 12.5M 10M Dollars 7.5M 5M 2.5M 2021 2022 2020

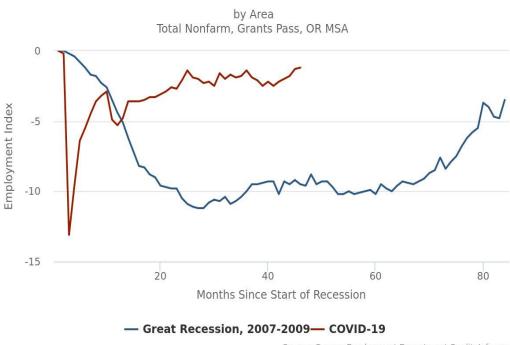
Source: Oregon Employment Department

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





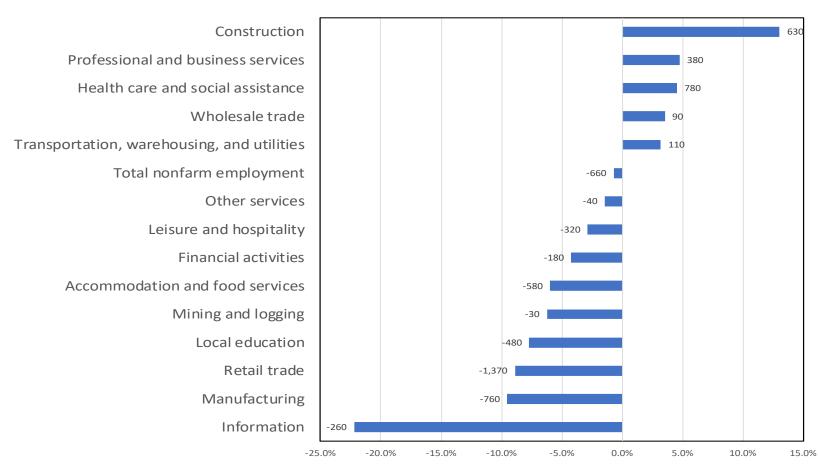
#### COVID-19 Job Changes Compared to Great Recession Job Changes



Source: Oregon Employment Department QualityInfo.org

Jackson County down -0.9%, Josephine down -1.2% (seasonally adjusted)

### Jackson County Payroll Employment Change by Industry November 2019 to November 2023





#### Josephine County Payroll Employment by Industry Change November 2019-November 2023

Transportation, warehousing, and utilities

Other services

Private education and health services

Construction

Financial activities

Mining and logging

Retail trade

Total nonfarm employment

Manufacturing

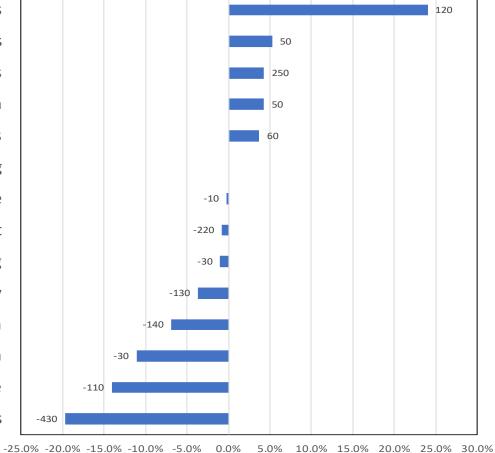
Leisure and hospitality

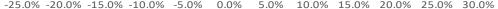
Local education

Information

Wholesale trade

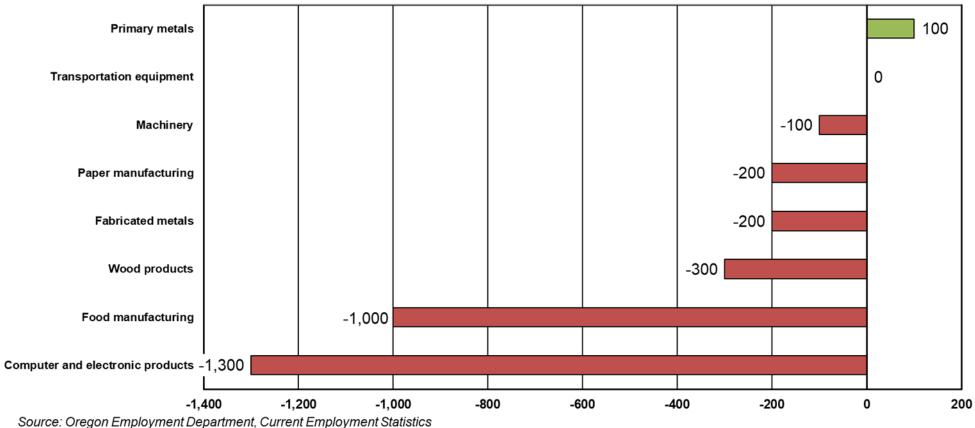
Professional and business services





#### Oregon Manufacturing Employment Compared with Last Year

November 2022 to November 2023

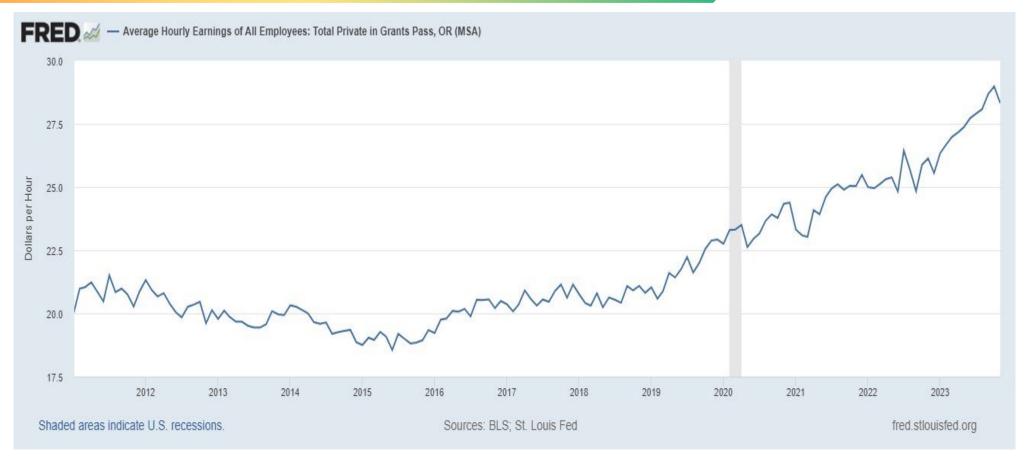


### Medford MSA Wages rising steadily, Average Hourly Earnings up 9.3% November 2022-to 2023 to reach \$32.07



Source: Oregon Employment Department and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Average Hourly Earnings of All Employees: Total Private in Medford, OR (MSA) [SMU41327800500000003], retrieved from FRED, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis; https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/SMU41327800500000003, January 8, 2024.



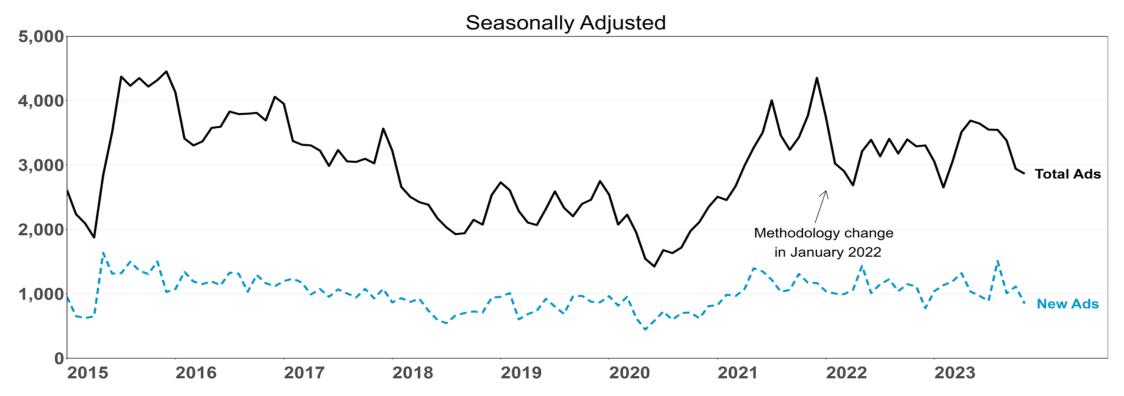


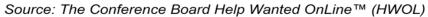
Josephine
County
average
hourly
earnings rose
8.3% over the
year to reach
\$28.31

Source: Oregon Employment Department and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Average Hourly Earnings of All Employees: Total Private in Grants Pass, OR (MSA) [SMU41244200500000003], retrieved from FRED, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis; https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/SMU41244200500000003, January 8, 2024.



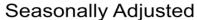
### The number of online ads in the Medford metro area was 2,900 in November. The number of new ads decreased by 270 over the month.

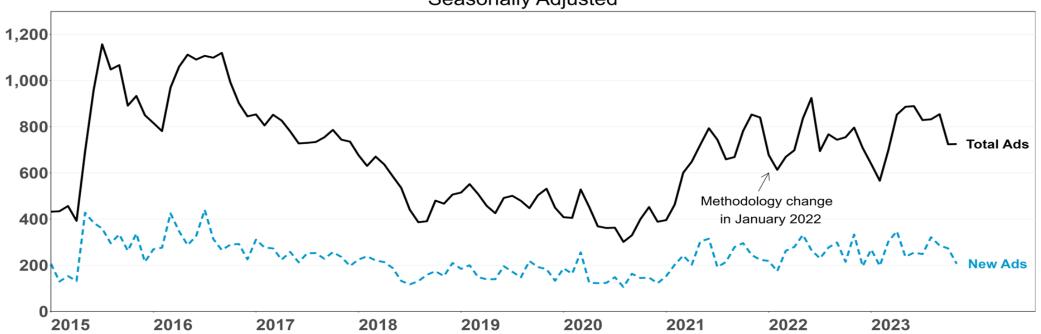






### The number of online ads in the Grants Pass metro area was 700 in November. The number of new ads decreased by 70 over the month.





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



#### Industries with Most Hires in Rogue Valley 2023

Food Services and Drinking Places	2613
Administrative and Support Services	1370
Ambulatory Health Care Services	1295
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	1233
Social Assistance	1106
Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	876
Specialty Trade Contractors	737
Food and Beverage Retailers	692
General Merchandise Retailers	541
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	521
Hospitals	417
Sporting Goods, Hobby, Musical Instrument, Book, and Miscellaneous Retailers	410
Crop Production	365
Accommodation	308
Construction of Buildings	307
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	294
Gasoline Stations and Fuel Dealers	292
Management of Companies and Enterprises	288
Wood Product Manufacturing	241
Truck Transportation	234
Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation Industries	228
Building Material and Garden Equipment and Supplies Dealers	206
Repair and Maintenance	190
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations	174
Performing Arts, Spectator Sports, and Related Industries	165
Educational Services	164
Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	158
Personal and Laundry Services	154
Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	151
Real Estate	142
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	134
Clothing, Clothing Accessories, Shoe, and Jewelry Retailers	133
Furniture, Home Furnishings, Electronics, and Appliance Retailers	122
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	107

ood Manufacturing	94
nemical Manufacturing	93
bricated Metal Product Manufacturing	93
puriers and Messengers	89
ansportation Equipment Manufacturing	86
ealth and Personal Care Retailers	85
iscellaneous Manufacturing	69
upport Activities for Transportation	68
achinery Manufacturing	63
ublishing Industries	62
ansit and Ground Passenger Transportation	56
eavy and Civil Engineering Construction	54
everage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing	52
omputer and Electronic Product Manufacturing	51
ental and Leasing Services	47
prestry and Logging	42
otion Picture and Sound Recording Industries	39
r Transportation	38
astics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	32
onmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing	30
rniture and Related Product Manufacturing	28
aste Management and Remediation Services	28

Denotes RWP targeted sector



### NOTES FROM THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANK'S THE BEIGE BOOK NOVEMBER 29, 2023

- Demand for labor continued to ease, as most Districts reported flat to modest increases in overall employment.
- The majority of Districts reported that more applicants were available, and several noted that retention improved as well.
- Reductions in headcounts through layoffs or attrition were reported, and some employers felt comfortable letting go low performers.
- However, several Districts continued to describe labor markets as tight with skilled workers in short supply.
- Wage growth remained modest to moderate in most Districts, as many described easing in wage pressures and several reported declines in starting wages.
- Some wage pressures did persist, however, and there were some reports of continued difficulty attracting and retaining high performers and workers with specialized skills.

Federal Reserve Bank, Beige Book, November 29, 2023



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

- Labor market tightness continued to ease over the reporting period.
- Many employers reported improved availability and retention of workers in recent weeks as well as an uptick in job applications.
- Some employers, citing an uncertainty over the economic outlook, held staffing levels steady and only filled positions that opened up due to turnover.
- Employers in industries, such as legal services and aerospace, expanded their workforce in recent weeks, while some in manufacturing and financial services reported reductions in staffing.
- Nevertheless, employee turnover was reportedly elevated in hospitality and manufacturing.

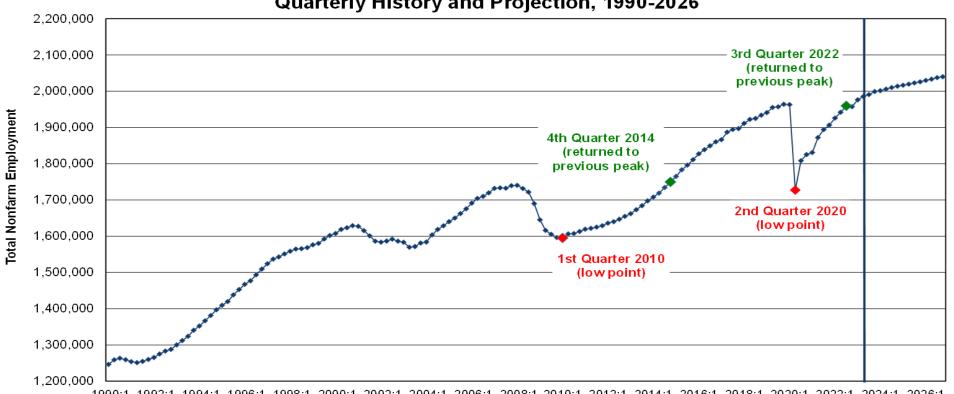
#### **ECONOMIC ACTIVITY (OREGON AND REGION)**

- Twelfth District economic activity softened slightly during the October to mid-November reporting period.
- Labor market tightness eased moderately, and employment levels remained generally steady.
   Wages and prices rose at a slower pace relative to the previous reporting period.
- Demand for manufactured products remained largely unchanged, while conditions in agriculture and resource-related sectors were mixed.
- Residential real estate activity softened, while activity in commercial real estate was varied.
- Conditions in the financial sector weakened further, and lending standards remained tight.
- Communities across the Twelfth District saw continued high demand for support services that
  was harder to meet due to declining charitable donations.
- Contacts expressed concern over a weaker economic outlook and increased overall uncertainty.



# The Office of Economic Analysis forecasts Oregon will gain 14,700 jobs over the next year.

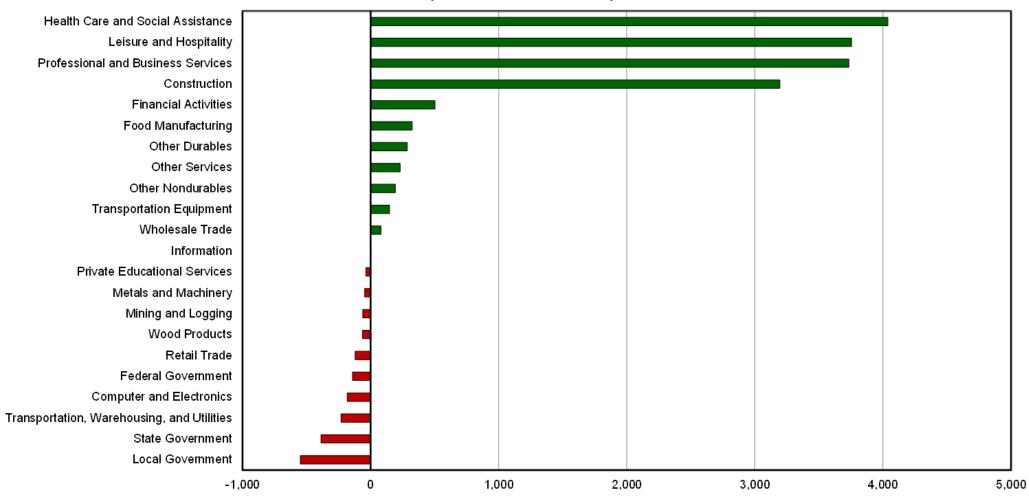




1990:1 1992:1 1994:1 1996:1 1998:1 2000:1 2002:1 2004:1 2006:1 2008:1 2010:1 2012:1 2014:1 2016:1 2018:1 2020:1 2022:1 2024:1 2026:1

Source: Office of Economic Analysis, Department of Administrative Services, December 2023

### Expected Job Changes by Industry Sector Over The Year (4Q2023 - 4Q2024)



#### 2022-2032 Long Term Employment Projections by Industry and Occupation

#### Rogue Valley High-Wage, High-Demand, High-skill Occupations with the most job openings 2022-2032

Occupation Title	<b>Total Openings</b>	2023 Median Annual Wage Typical Entry-Level Education	Competitive Education
General and Operations Managers	2,630	\$76,378 Bachelor's degree	Bachelor's degree
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	2,161	\$51,376 Postsecondary training (non-degree)	Postsecondary training (non-degree)
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	1,889	\$46,342 Postsecondary training (non-degree)	Associate's degree
Registered Nurses	1,806	\$105,144 Bachelor's degree	Bachelor's degree
Medical Assistants	1,697	\$44,824 Postsecondary training (non-degree)	Postsecondary training (non-degree)
Real Estate Sales Agents	1,131	\$50,170 Postsecondary training (non-degree)	Postsecondary training (non-degree)
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	792	\$78,511 Bachelor's degree	Master's degree
Dental Assistants	628	\$52,270 Postsecondary training (non-degree)	Postsecondary training (non-degree)
Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	613	\$49,733 Postsecondary training (non-degree)	Associate's degree
Business Operations Specialists, All Other	581	\$61,402 Bachelor's degree	Bachelor's degree
Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselor	581	\$50,960 Bachelor's degree	Bachelor's degree
Accountants and Auditors	524	\$68,682 Bachelor's degree	Bachelor's degree
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	519	\$59,051 Bachelor's degree	Master's degree
Real Estate Brokers	478	\$48,422 Postsecondary training (non-degree)	Postsecondary training (non-degree)
Substitute Teachers, Short-Term	458	\$51,834 Bachelor's degree	Master's degree
Managers, All Other	430	\$97,885 Bachelor's degree	Bachelor's degree
Project Management Specialists	426	\$75,338 Bachelor's degree	Bachelor's degree
Human Resources Specialists	411	\$61,734 Bachelor's degree	Bachelor's degree
Software Developers	410	\$110,885 Bachelor's degree	Bachelor's degree
Medical and Health Services Managers	380	\$120,432 Bachelor's degree	Master's degree
Construction Managers	368	\$103,397 Associate's degree	Bachelor's degree
Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical E	330	\$78,218 Bachelor's degree	Master's degree
Pharmacy Technicians	318	\$48,776 Postsecondary training (non-degree)	Postsecondary training (non-degree)
Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers	317	\$61,589 Postsecondary training (non-degree)	Postsecondary training (non-degree)
Insurance Sales Agents	306	\$48,318 Postsecondary training (non-degree)	Bachelor's degree  29  Employme Departme

# GUY TAUER, REGIONAL ECONOMIST GUY.R.TAUER@EMPLOY.OREGON.GOV

SIGN UP FOR THE LATEST WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH WWW.QUALITYINFO.ORG/SUBSCRIBE

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER @OED\_RESEARCH

