



Labor Market and Education Trends in the Portland Area

Jake Procino, Workforce Analyst/Economist for
Multnomah County

FIRST, A MAP

Portland-Vancouver Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), OR-WA

- Portland MSA
 - All seven counties in Oregon and Washington
- Portland Metro
 - Multnomah and Washington counties
- Portland Tri-County
 - Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas counties
- Portland 5
 - Multnomah, Washington, Clackamas, Columbia and Yamhill counties



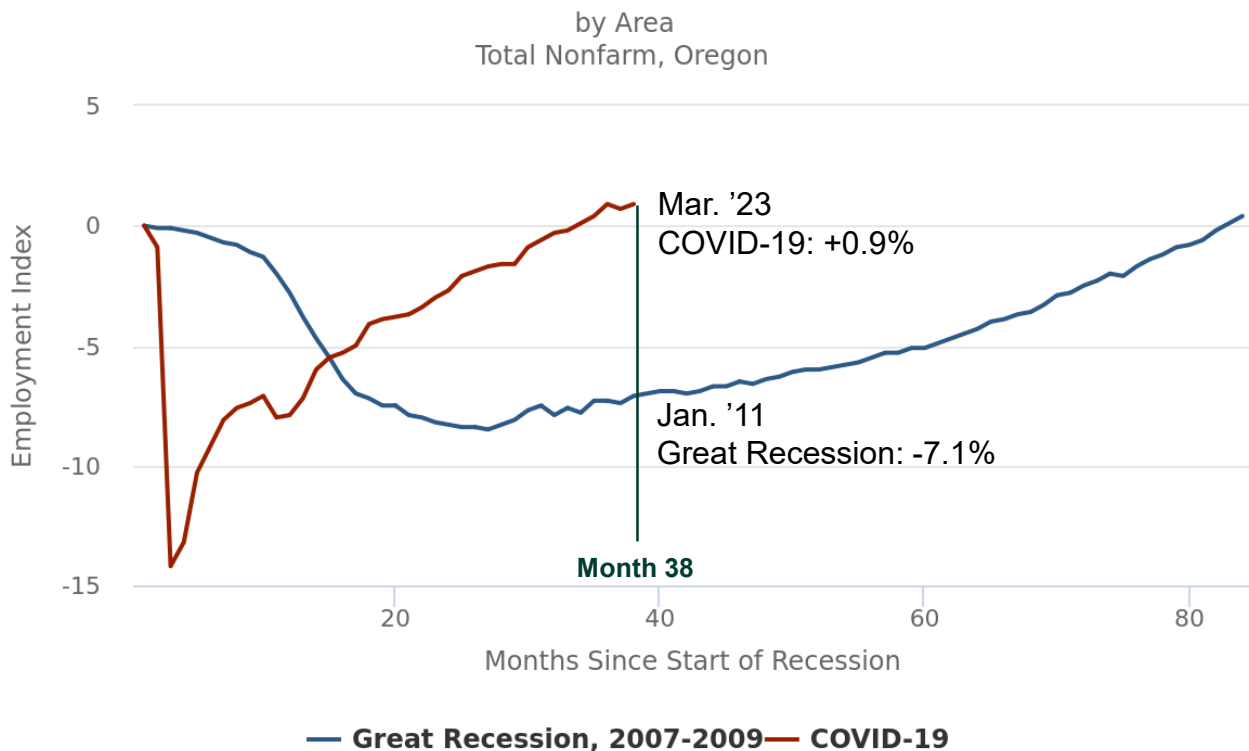
Jan. 2020–Mar. 2023

RECOVERY FROM THE PANDEMIC RECESSION



In 2022, Oregon regained all of the jobs lost in 2020, in aggregate

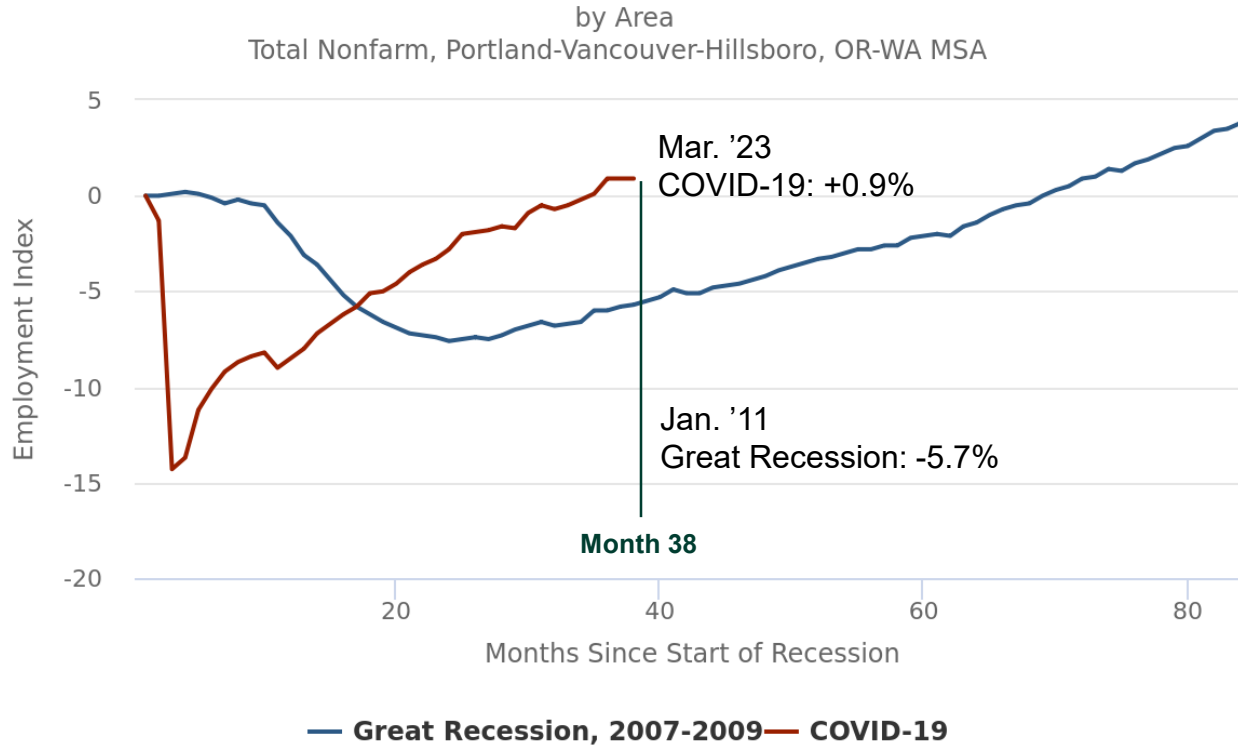
COVID-19 Job Changes Compared to Great Recession Job Changes



Source: Oregon Employment Department QualityInfo.org

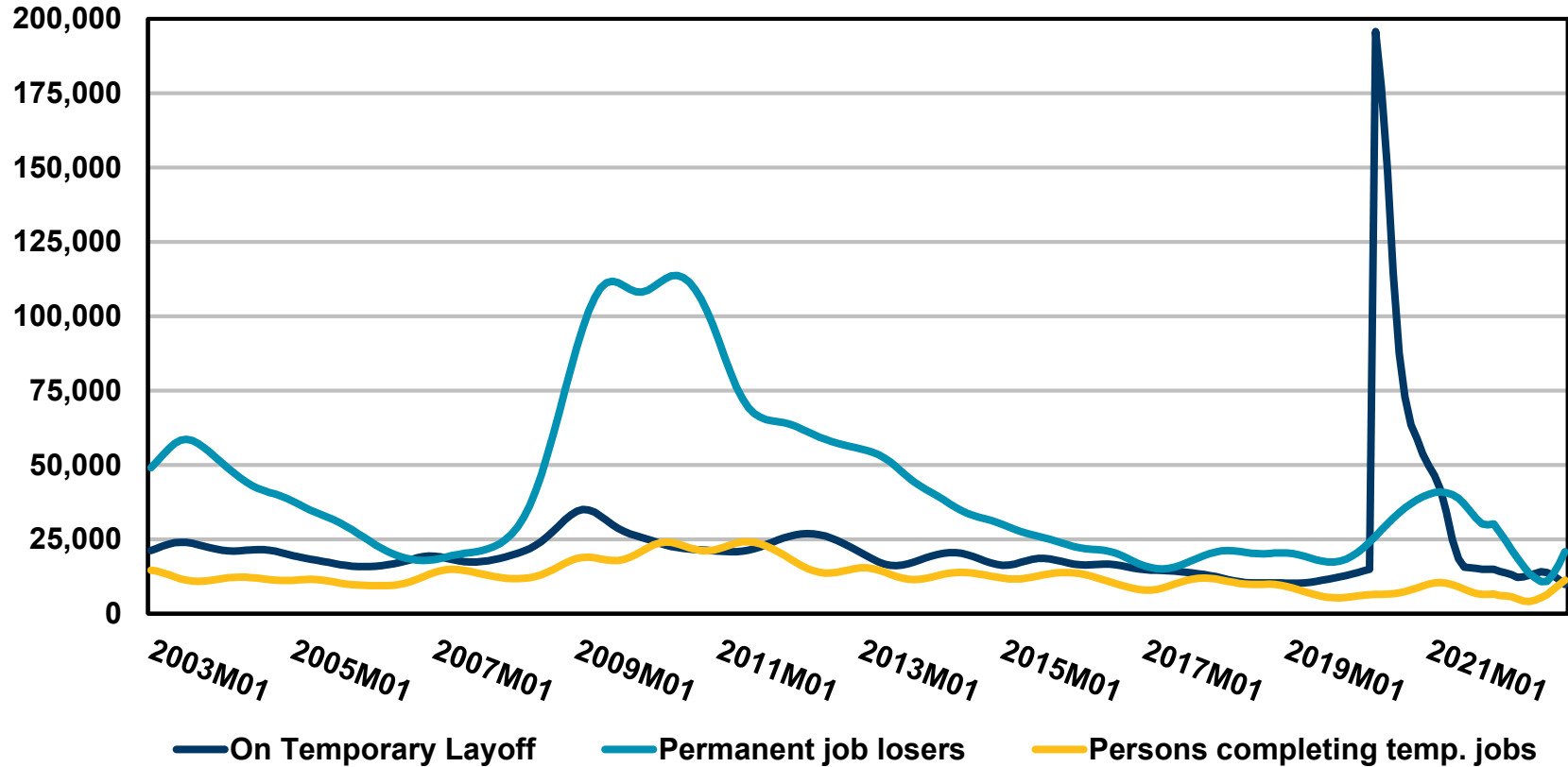
So did Portland MSA

COVID-19 Job Changes Compared to Great Recession Job Changes



Source: Oregon Employment Department QualityInfo.org

2020 Pandemic Recession Was Characterized by Temporary Layoffs

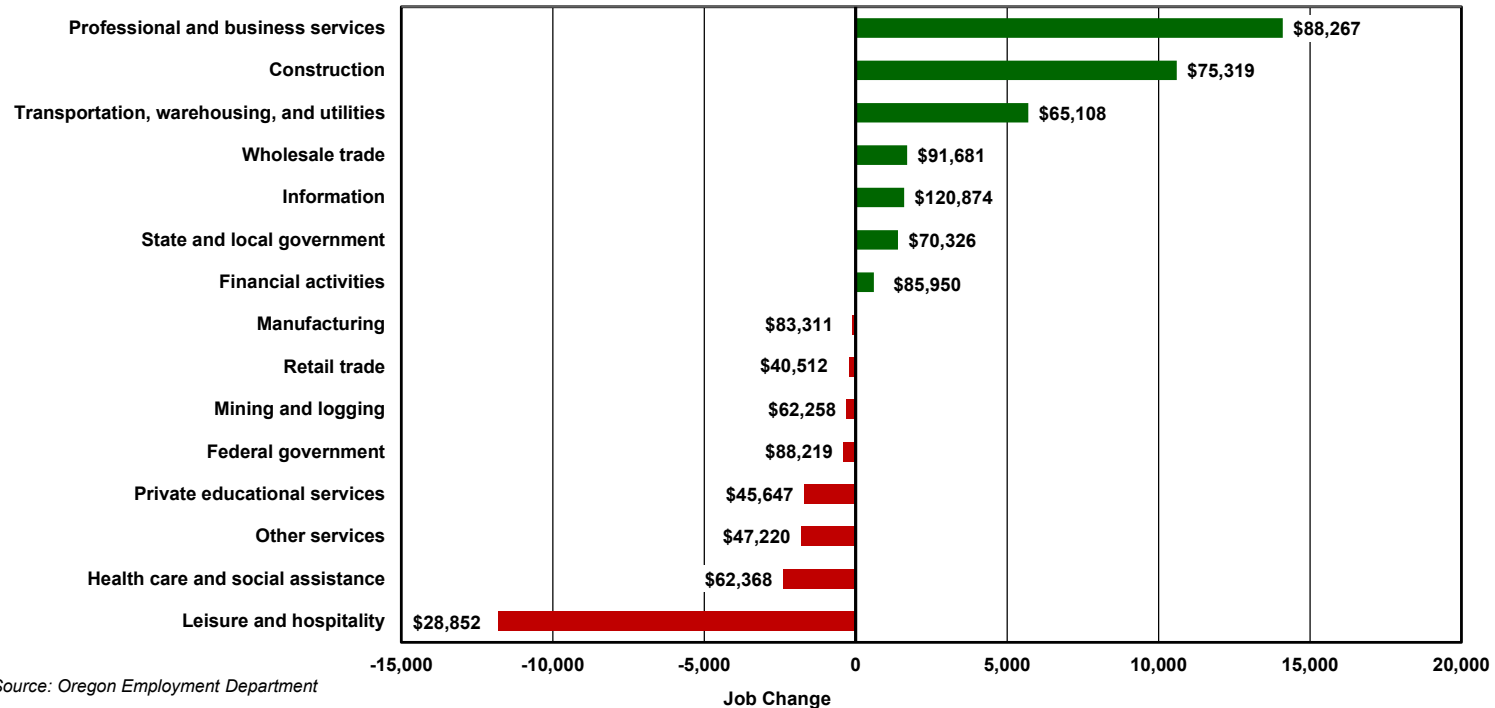


Source: Oregon Employment Department, Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), Current Population Survey (CPS)



Seven broad sectors of Oregon's economy have employment above pre-recession levels

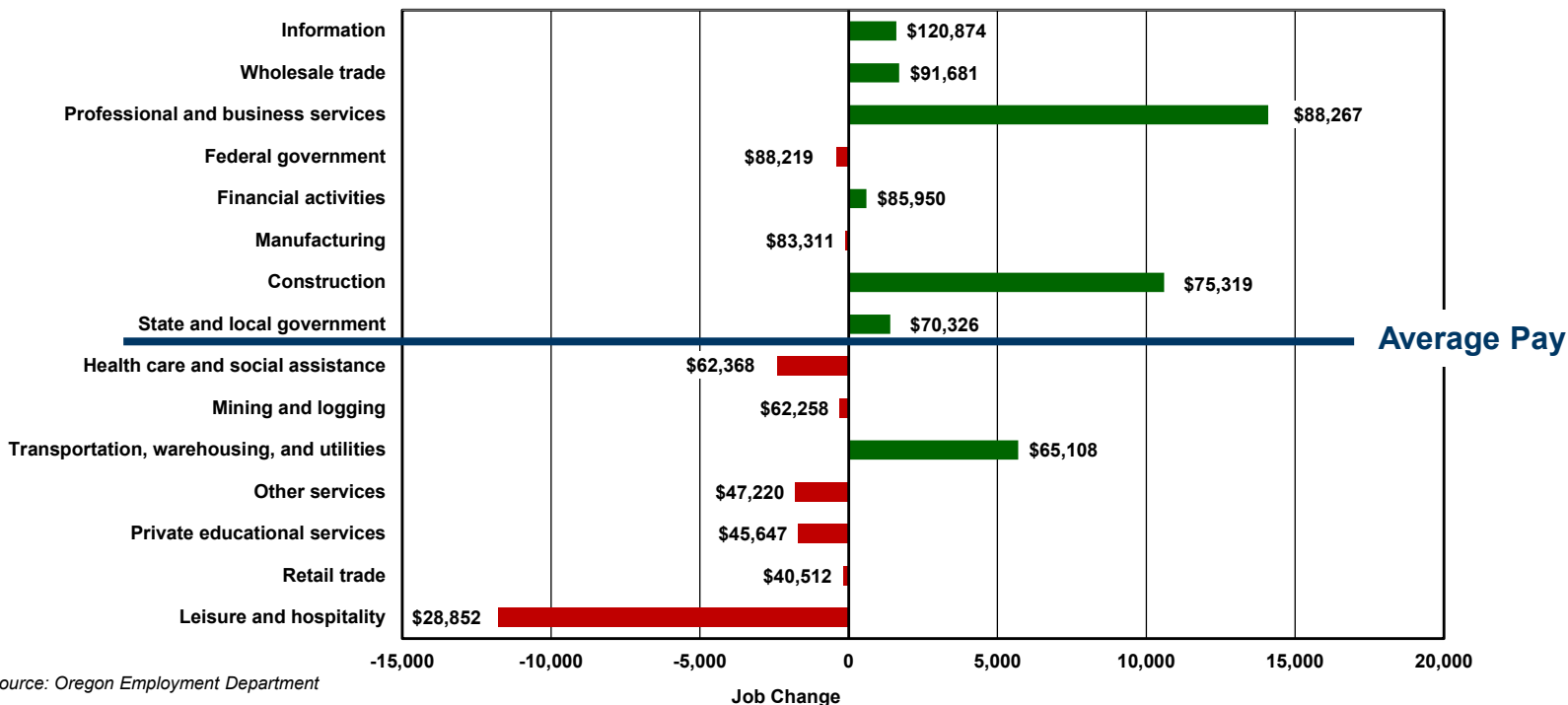
Oregon Job Change and Average Pay by Industry
February 2020 - March 2023 Job Change, 2022 Average Pay



Source: Oregon Employment Department

Most industries that have yet to regain all jobs lost during the pandemic recession paid wages below the statewide average of \$64,000 per year.

Oregon Job Change and Average Pay by Industry
February 2020 - March 2023 Job Change, 2022 Average Pay



Source: Oregon Employment Department

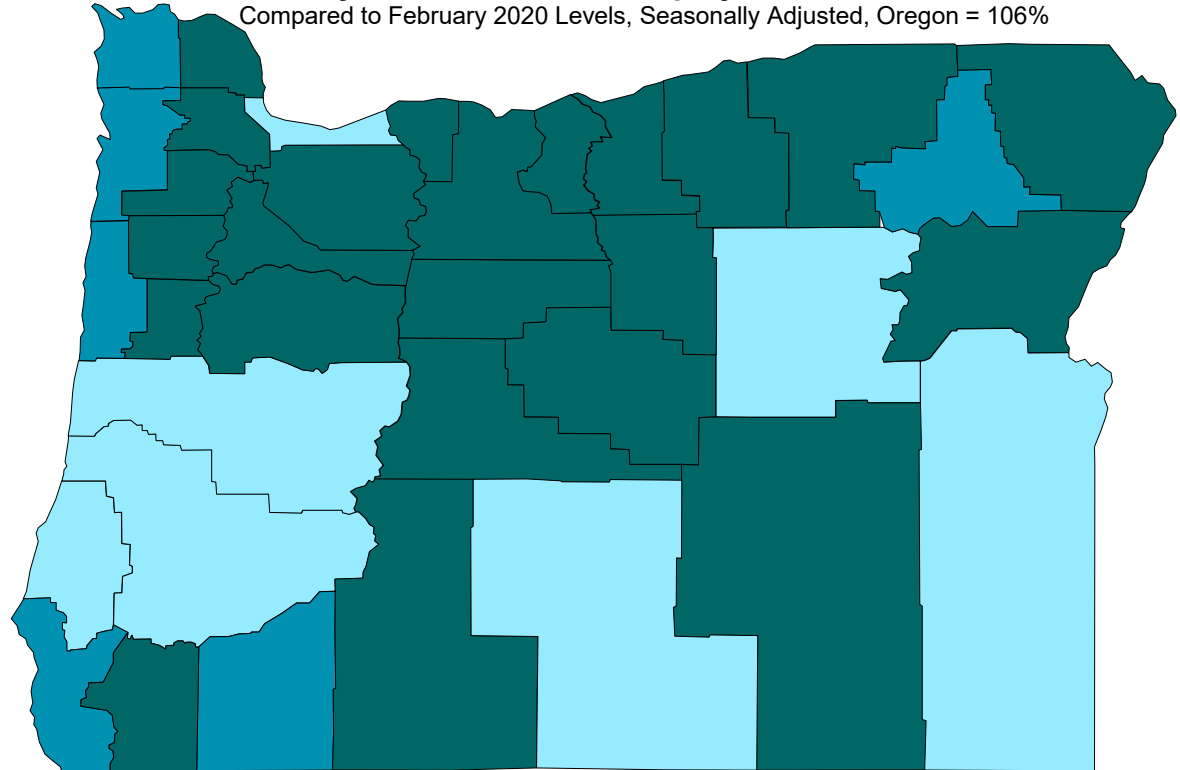
Multnomah County Lags Behind Other Portland MSA counties

Jobs recovery and expansion is widespread across the state:

- In 23 of Oregon's 36 counties, there are more jobs now than before the recession.
- Slower recovery along the coast, and in parts of Southern and Eastern Oregon

Recovery of Total Nonfarm Employment as of March 2023

Compared to February 2020 Levels, Seasonally Adjusted, Oregon = 106%



Source: Oregon Employment Department

More jobs than before recession (100% +)

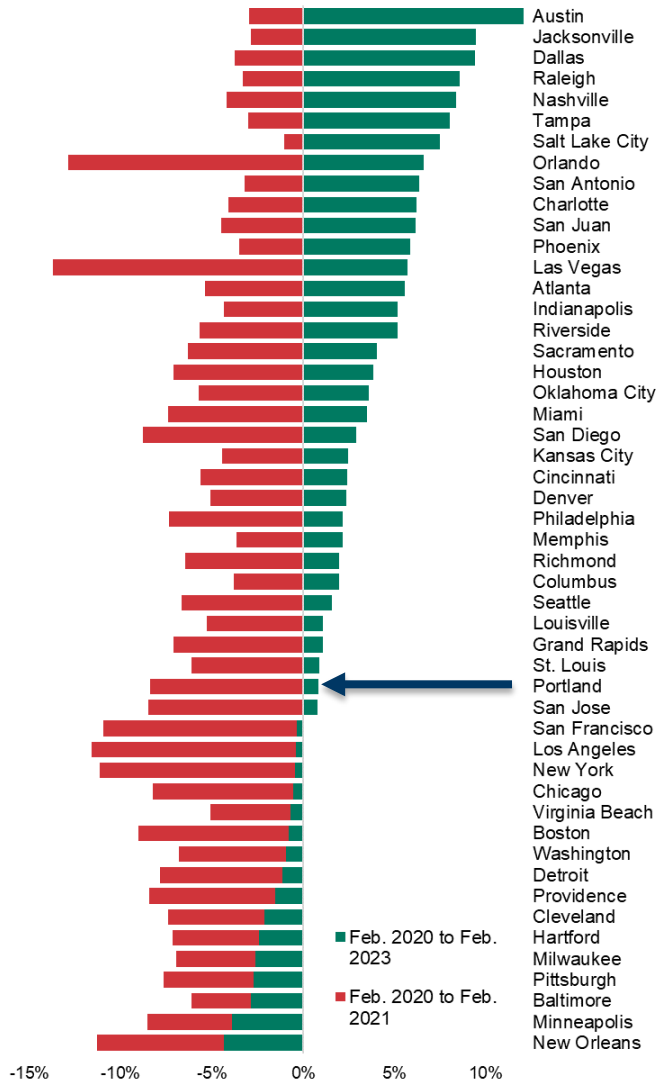
Near full jobs recovery (90% to 100%)

Slower recovery (89% or less)

Job Loss and Recovery in February

By July 2022, Oregon had regained all of jobs lost in spring 2020, in aggregate.

Compared to the top 50 metro areas by employment, Portland MSA's recovery is middling.



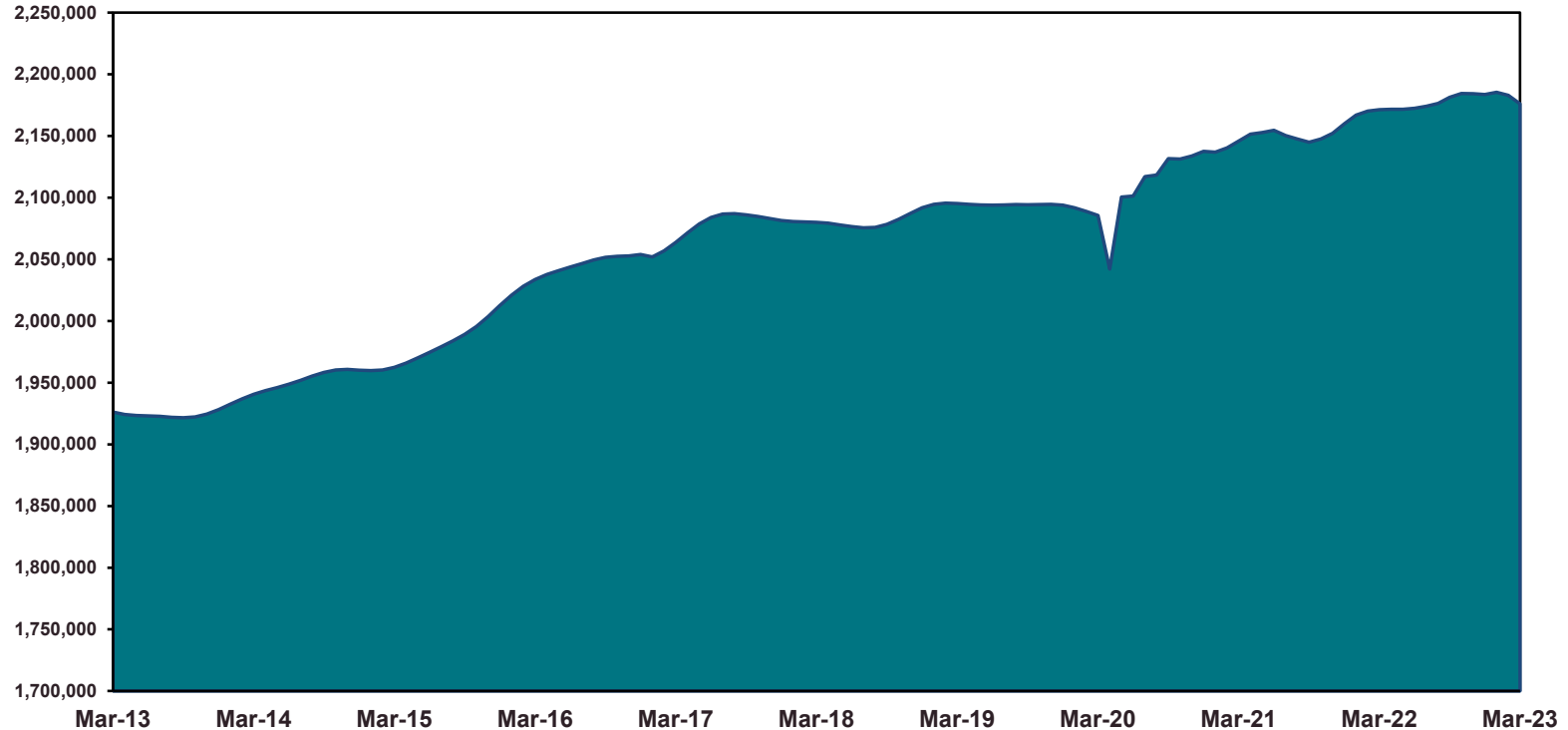
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics

Cyclical labor shortage is gone, structural shortage remains

LABOR MARKET

Oregon's Labor Force is Larger than Pre-Pandemic

Oregon Civilian Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted
2013 to Present

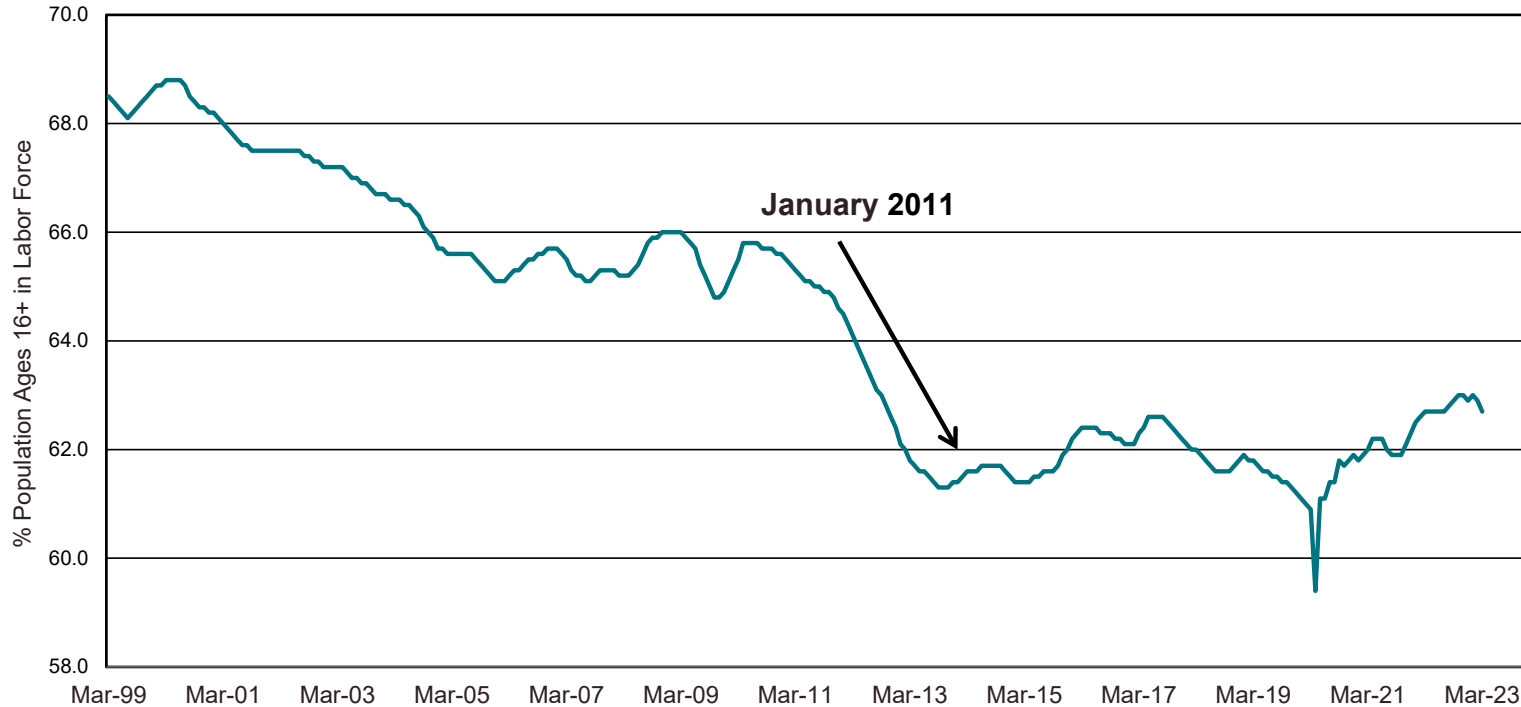


Source: Oregon Employment Department, Local Area Unemployment Statistics



Oregon's labor force participation rate was 62.7% in March

Oregon Labor Force Participation Rate

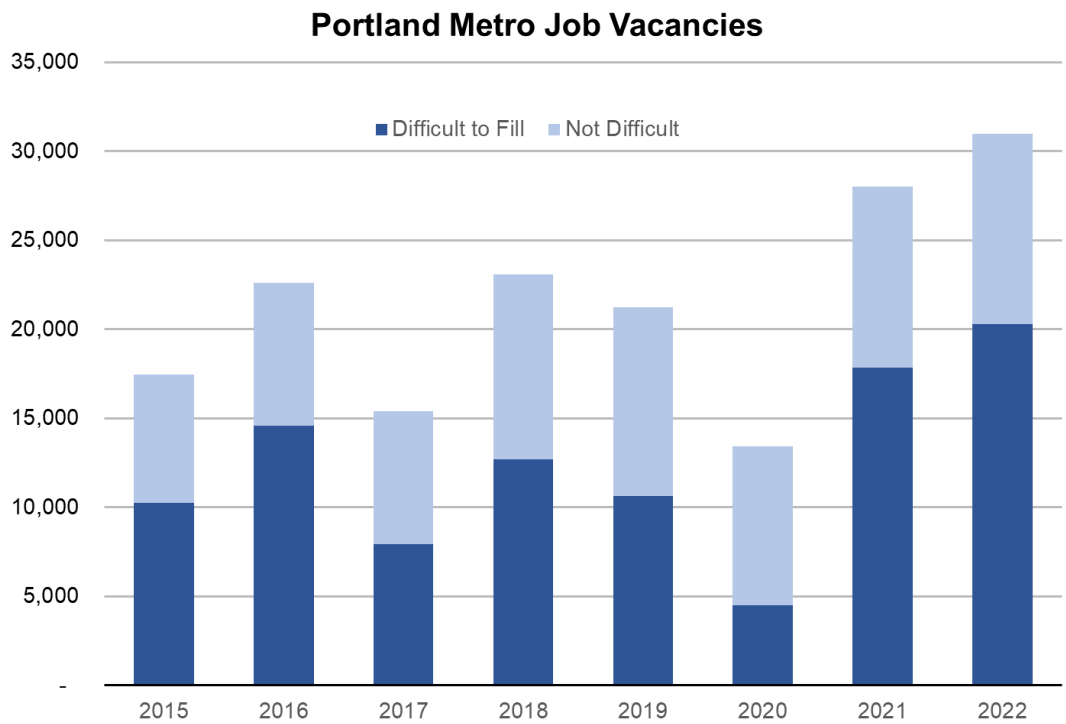


Source: Oregon Employment Department, Local Area Unemployment Statistics



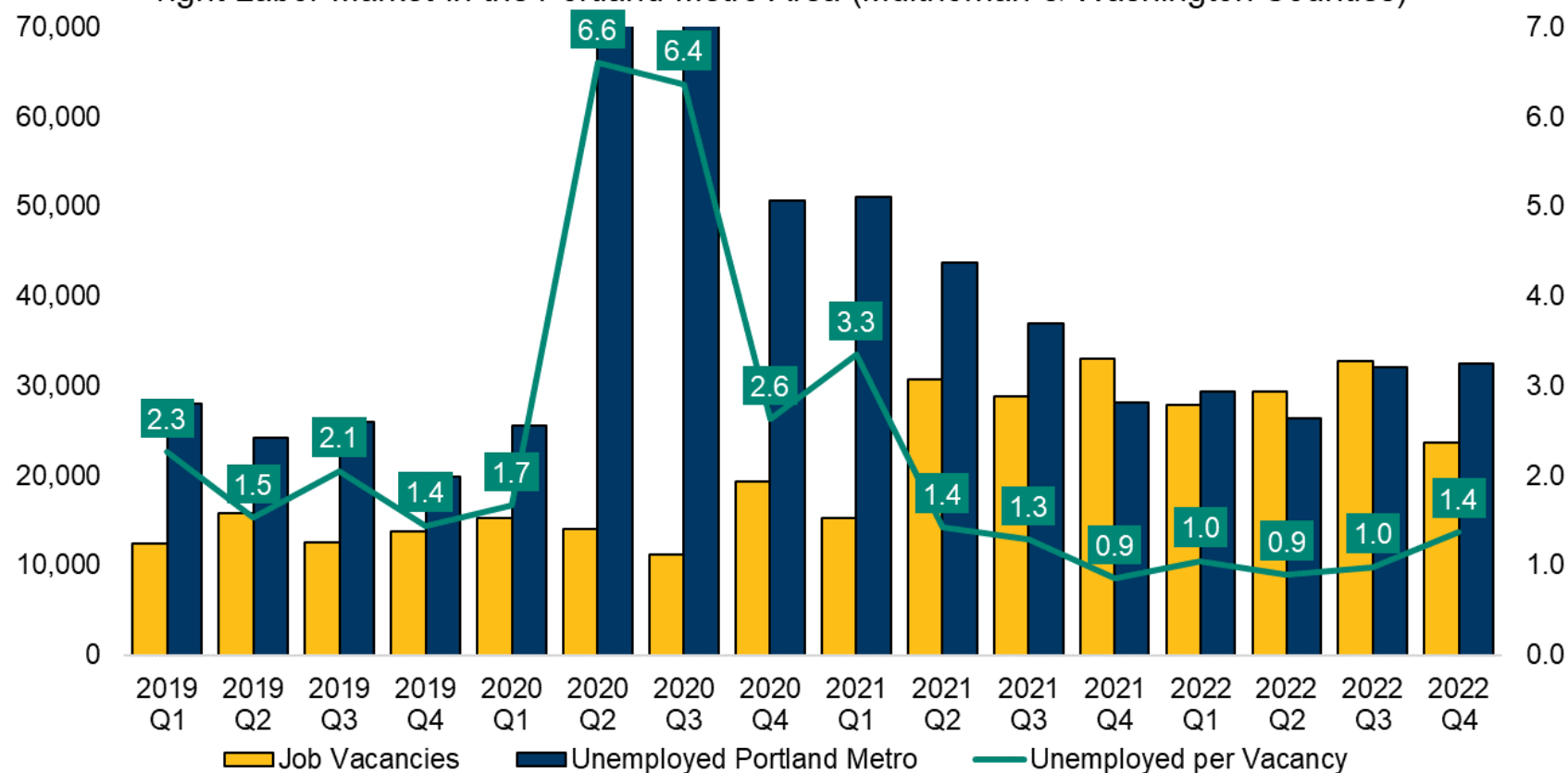
**SO IF THE WORKERS ARE COMING BACK,
WHY IS THE LABOR MARKET TIGHT?**

Reason 1: The number of Portland Metro vacancies was higher in 2022 than at any time in the survey's history since 2015.



Source: Oregon Employment Department

Tight Labor Market in the Portland Metro Area (Multnomah & Washington Counties)



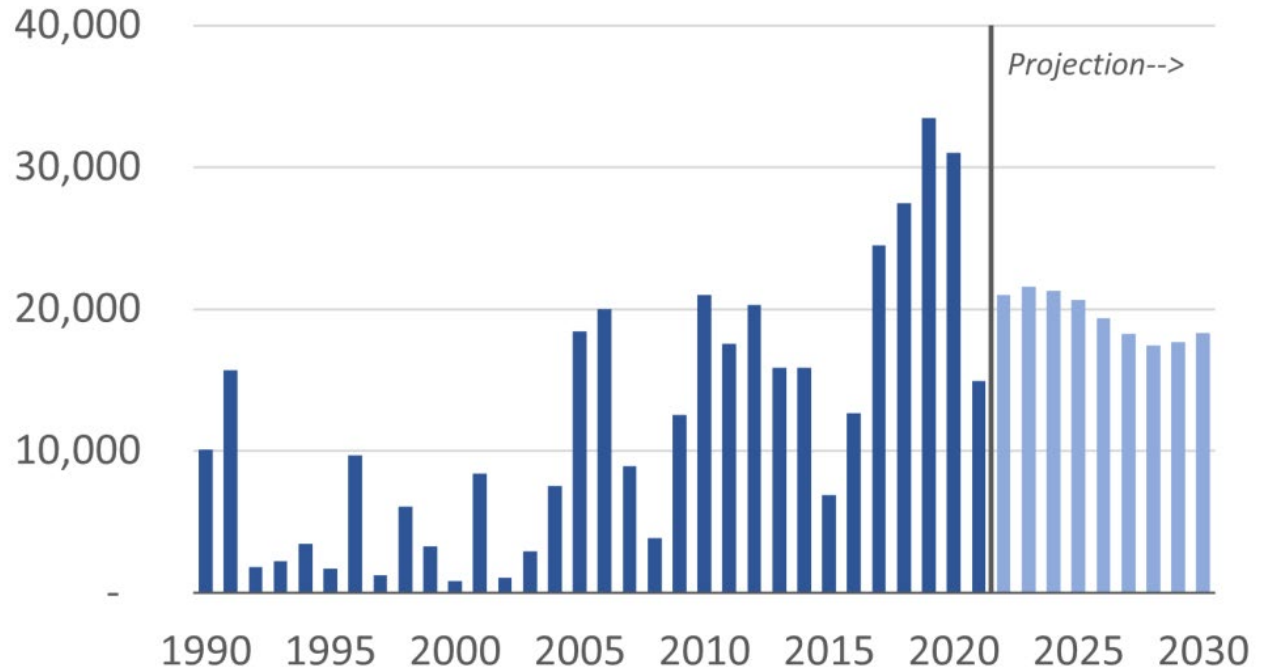
Source: Oregon Employment Department, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, Job Vacancy Survey

Reason 2: People are aging out of the workforce

- Baby boomers are retiring
- Young entrants into the labor market is holding steady
- Declining birthrate
- Slower migration

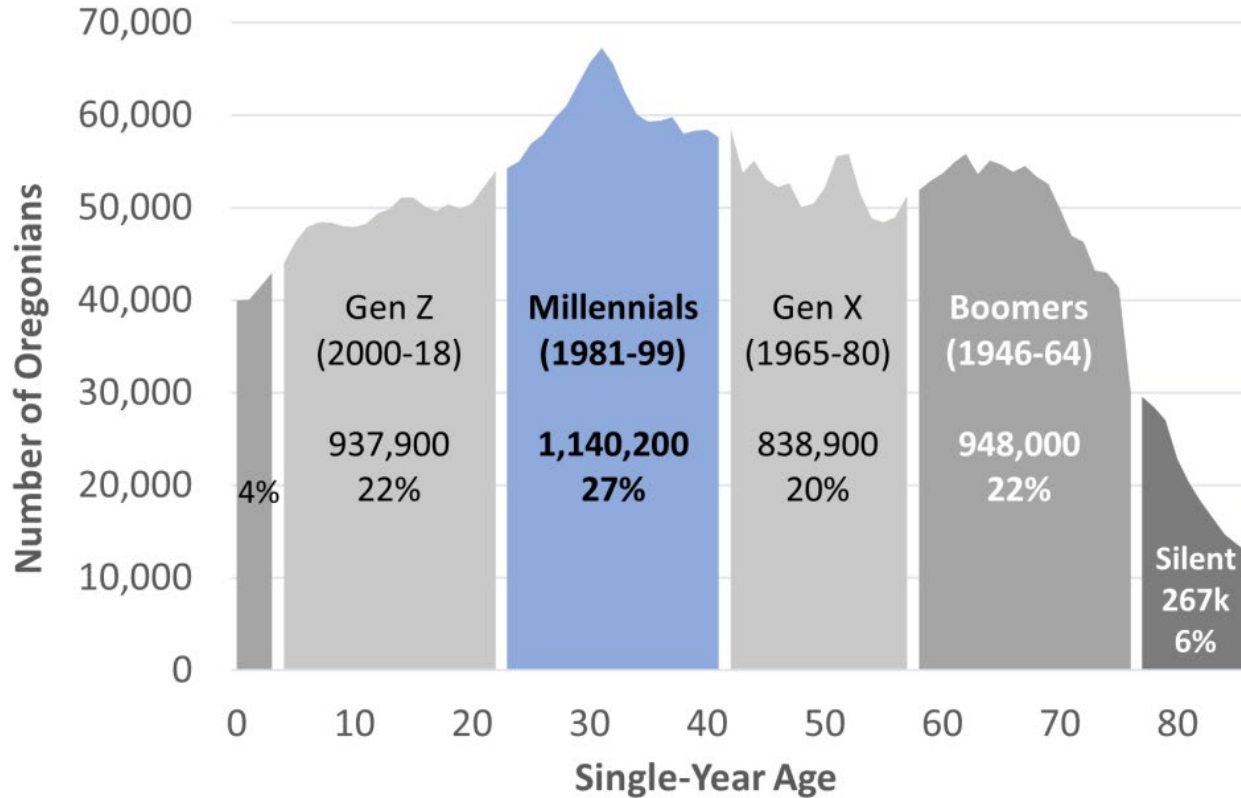
Oregon's Silver Tsunami

Annual Retirements (60+ Years Old Not in the Labor Force)



Latest Data: 2021 | Source: IPUMS-CPS, Oregon Office of Economic Analysis

Oregon Population by Age, 2022

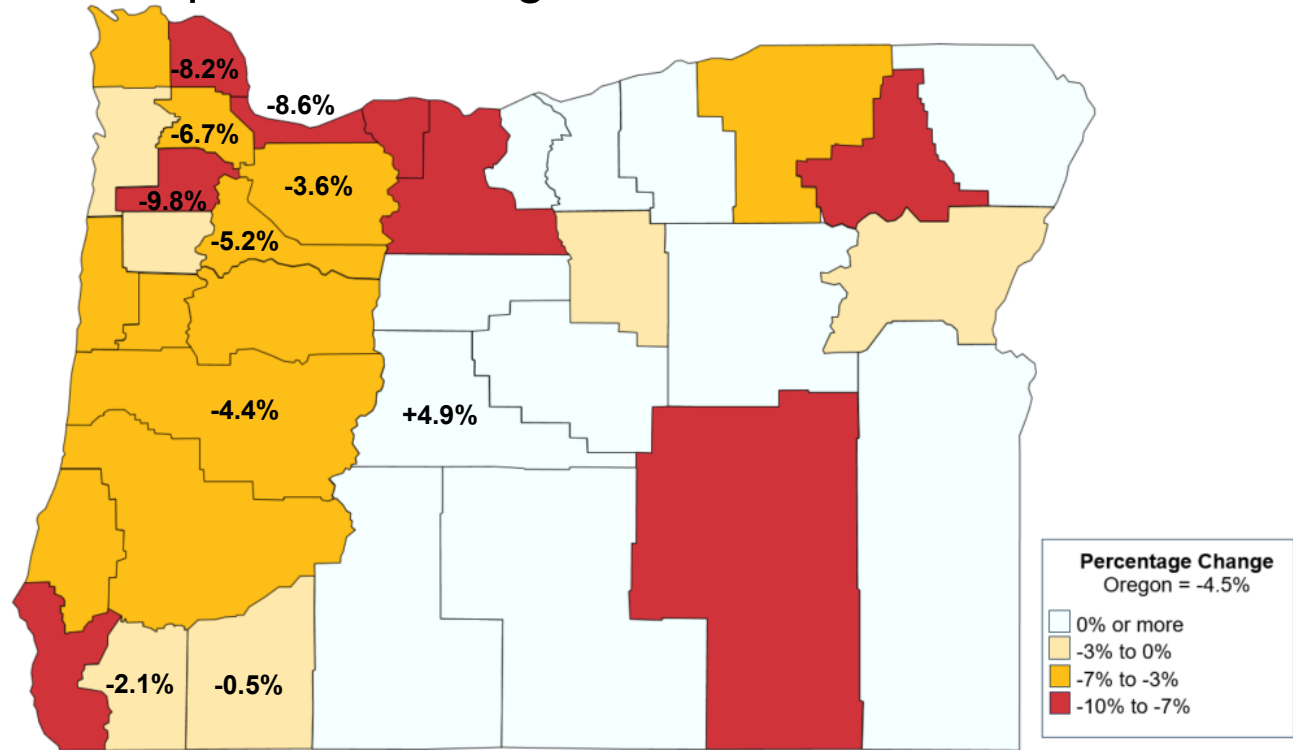


Source: Oregon Office of Economic Analysis

Growth Rate is Slowing

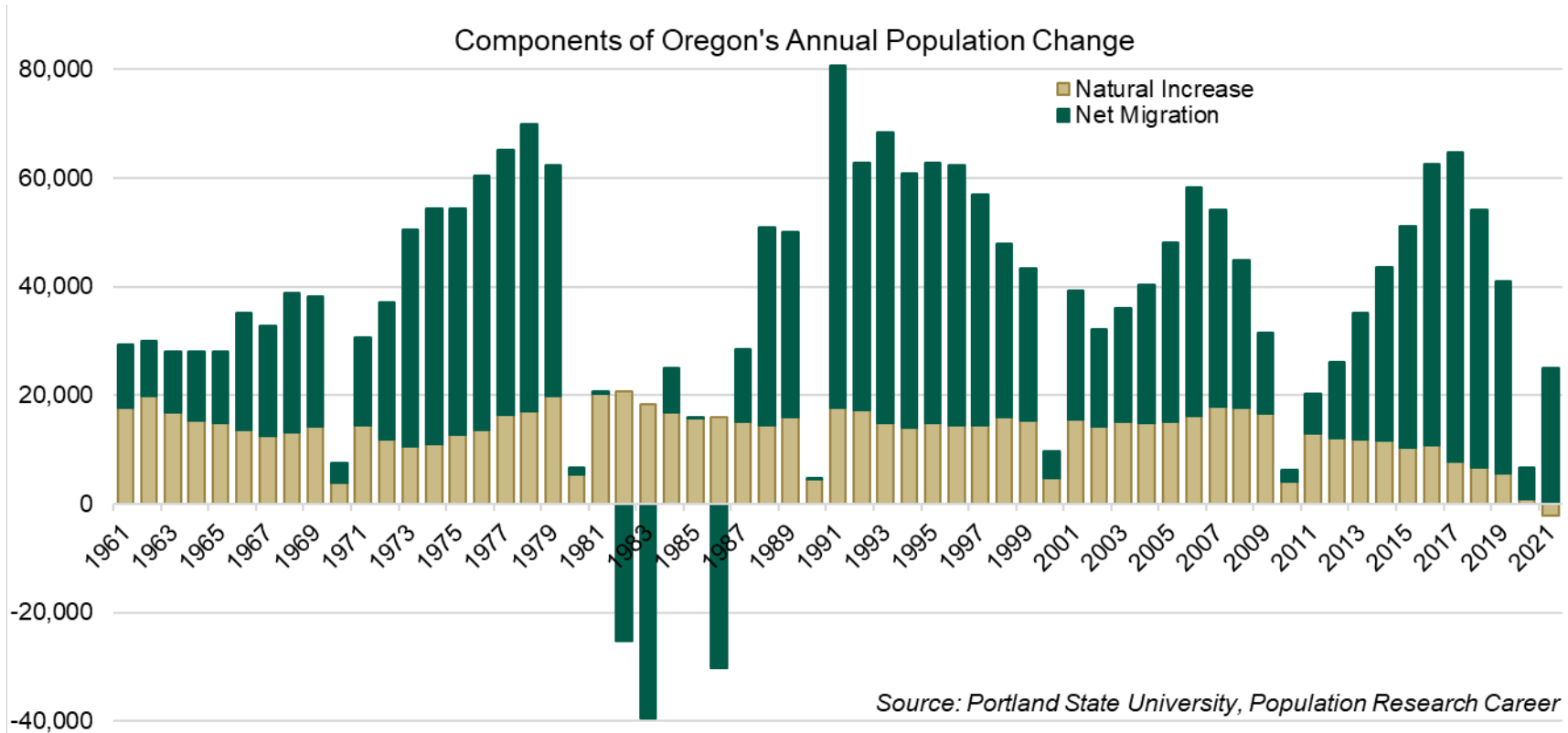
- There's not a lot of kids out there
- Population is decreasing
- Out-migration is the biggest reason for the slide in Multnomah County
- Migration is the main reason for population growth in Central Oregon

Youth Population Percentage Change Population Change 2012 to 2022 – 0 to 17



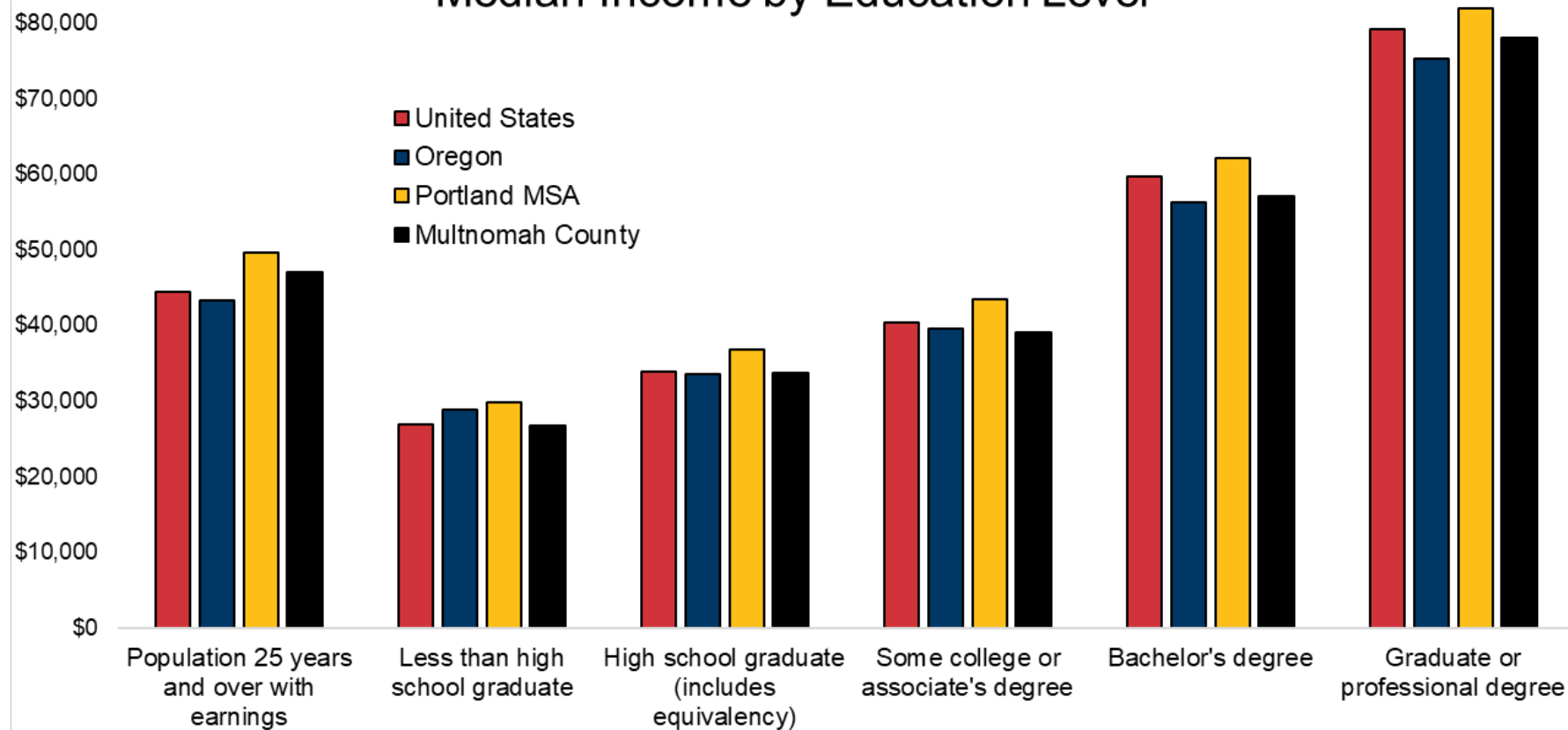
Source: Portland State University, Population Research Center

Net migration into Oregon is a source of labor force supply that typically makes up for declining natural increase in Population



ECONOMIC VALUE OF A DEGREE

Median Income by Education Level

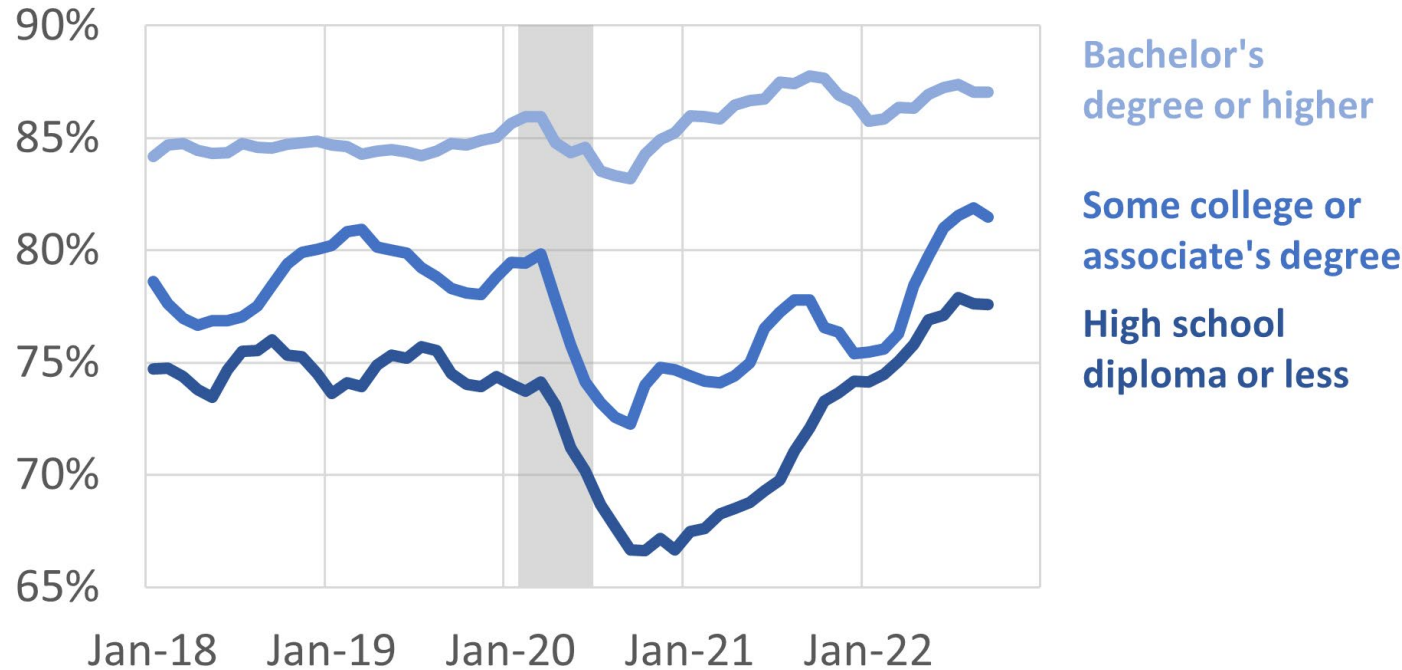


Source: Census, 2021 5-Year American Community Survey



People with More Education Tend to Be More Economically Resilient

Share of Prime-Age Oregonians (25-54) with a job

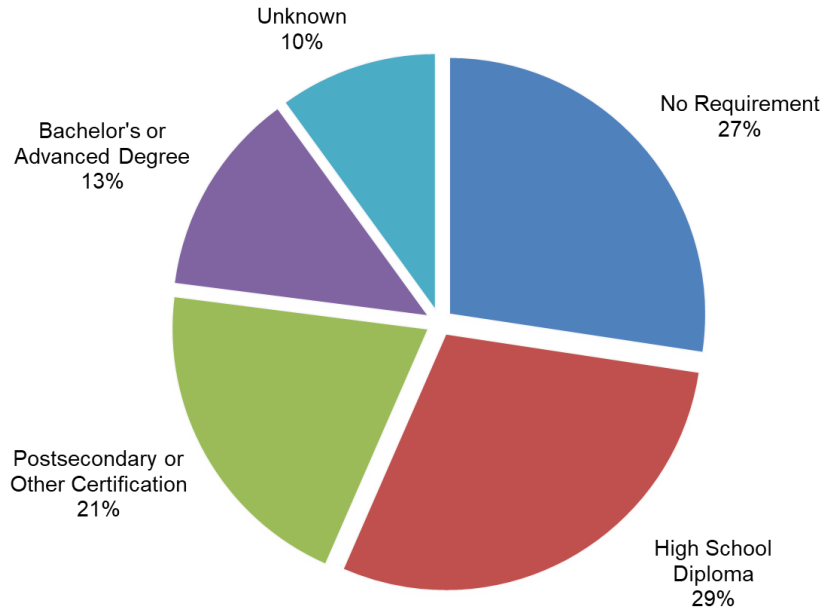


Data: Seasonally adjusted 6 mth avg | Latest: Sept 2022 | Source: IPUMS-CPS, Oregon Office of Economic Analysis

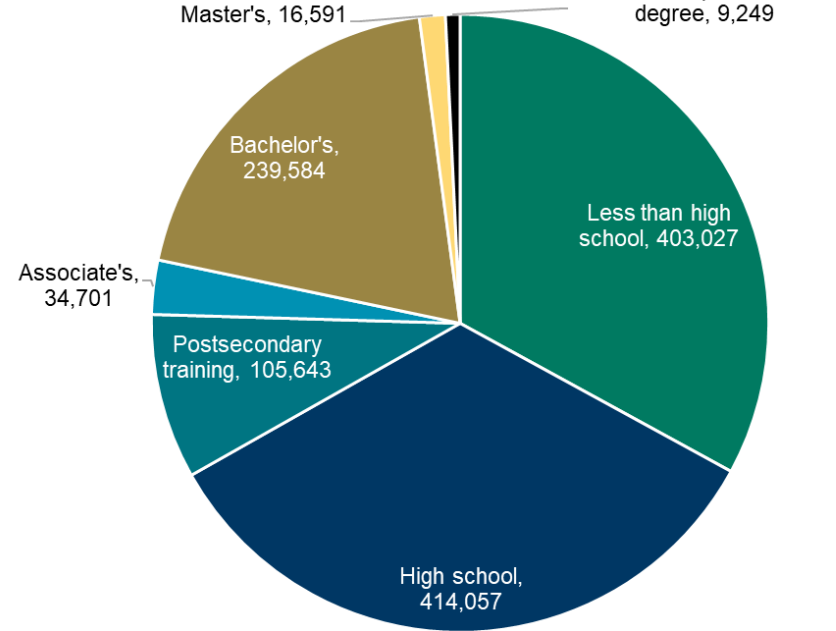


Most job vacancies now and in the coming decade only require a high school diploma or less...

Portland Metro Job Vacancies by Education Requirement, 2022



Job Openings 2021-2031 in Portland Tri-County by Typical Entry-Level Education

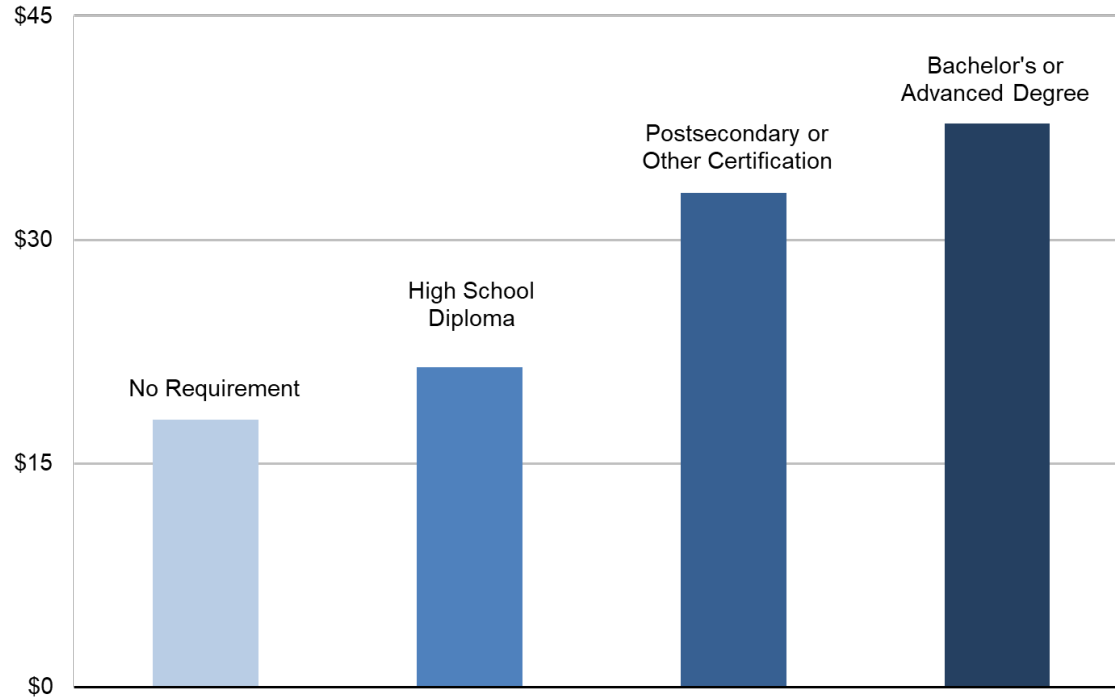


Source: Oregon Employment Department



...but average hourly wages increase along with education requirements for job vacancies

Average Hourly Wage for Portland Metro Job Vacancies
by Education Requirement, 2022

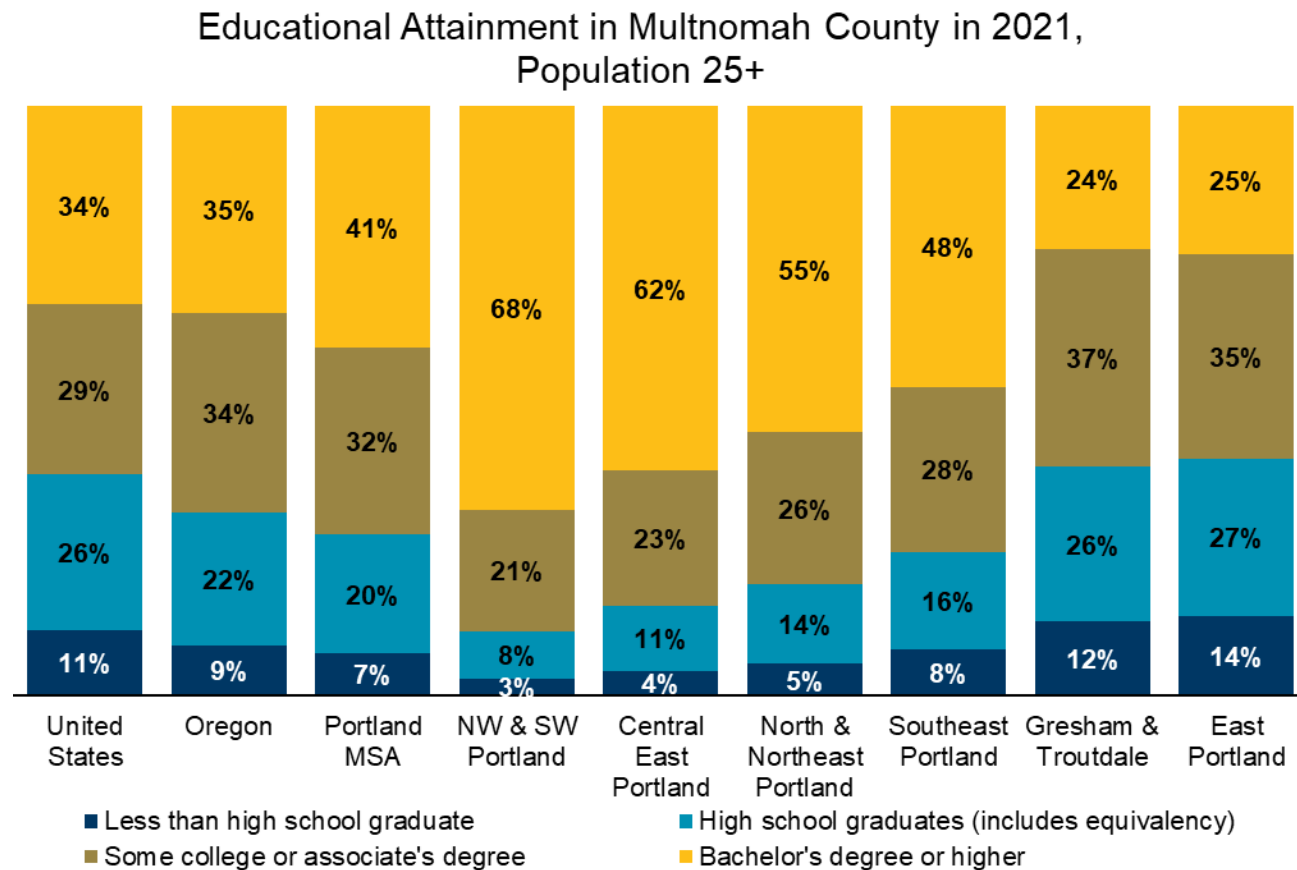


Source: Oregon Employment Department

CAREER EXPLORATION

Educational Attainment Varies Across the County

- Portland MSA tends to have more education
- NW & SW Portland has a lot of education
- East Portland and East Multnomah County tends to have less educational attainment



Source: Census, 2021 5-Year American Community Survey

Most Openings for Occupations with Associate's Degrees as Typical Entry-Level Education	Total Openings 2021-2031
Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	4,410
Construction Managers	3,816
Paralegals and Legal Assistants	3,553
Graphic Designers	2,407
Electrical and Electronic Engineering Technologists and Technicians	2,349
Biological Technicians	1,581
Transportation, Storage, and Distribution Managers	1,209
Dental Hygienists	1,180
Life, Physical, and Social Science Technicians, All Other	1,026
Education and Childcare Administrators, Preschool and Daycare	877

Occupational Employment Pattern by Area of Study

(percentage is Occupational employment share for the college program)

Area of Study	Stereotypical Occupation	Non-stereotypical Occupations
Psychology	counselors (7.4%); psychologists (4.7%); therapists, (1.6%)	social workers (6.0%); elementary and middle school teachers (5.0%); managers, (4.3%); registered nurses (2.6%); postsecondary teachers (2.5%)

Majors and their Stereotypical and Non-stereotypical Occupations

Short Major Name	Stereotypical Occupations (up to 5 most common)	Non-stereotypical Occupations (up to 5 most common)
Agriculture	farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural managers (8.0%); veterinarians (3.9%); agricultural workers, nec (2.1%); agricultural and food scientists (1.8%); first-line supervisors of landscaping, lawn service, and groundskeeping workers (1.4%)	managers, nec (including postmasters) (6.0%); sales representatives, wholesale and manufacturing (3.5%); first-line supervisors of sales workers (3.2%); elementary and middle school teachers (2.9%); postsecondary teachers (2.1%)
Biology	physicians and surgeons (17.0%); physical scientists, nec (3.5%); dentists (2.8%); medical scientists, and life scientists, all other (2.4%); biological scientists (1.8%)	managers, nec (including postmasters) (4.6%); postsecondary teachers (3.9%); registered nurses (3.9%); elementary and middle school teachers (2.9%); pharmacists (2.5%)
Business	accountants and auditors (9.3%)	managers, nec (including postmasters) (6.9%); first-line supervisors of sales workers (4.4%); financial managers (4.3%); managers in marketing, advertising, and public relations (2.8%); chief executives and legislators/public administration (2.5%)
Communications	editors, news analysts, reporters, and correspondents (2.3%); actors, producers, and directors (1.8%); public relations specialists (1.5%); announcers (0.3%)	managers, nec (including postmasters) (6.2%); managers in marketing, advertising, and public relations (5.9%); elementary and middle school teachers (3.7%); first-line supervisors of sales workers (3.1%); human resources, training, and labor relations specialists (2.3%)
Comp. Sci.	software developers, applications and systems software (21.8%); computer programmers (5.0%); computer hardware engineers (0.5%)	computer scientists and systems analysts/network systems analysts/web developers (12.7%); managers, nec (including postmasters) (5.8%); computer and information systems managers (5.1%); computer support specialists (3.7%); first-line supervisors of sales workers (2.0%)
Crim. Just.	police officers and detectives (14.6%); first-line supervisors of police and detectives (2.1%); private detectives and investigators (0.9%); first-line supervisors of correctional officers (0.6%); supervisors, protective service workers, all other (0.6%)	social workers (7.2%); managers, nec (including postmasters) (4.1%); lawyers, and judges, magistrates, and other judicial workers (2.9%); elementary and middle school teachers (2.4%); first-line supervisors of sales workers (2.2%)
Economics	economists and market researchers (1.3%)	managers, nec (including postmasters) (7.7%); lawyers, and judges, magistrates, and other judicial workers (5.8%); financial managers (5.1%); accountants and auditors (4.0%); chief executives and legislators/public administration (3.5%)
Education	elementary and middle school teachers (40.2%); secondary school teachers (7.9%); special education teachers (3.2%)	education administrators (5.7%); preschool and kindergarten teachers (3.2%); postsecondary teachers (1.9%); counselors (1.8%); other teachers and instructors (1.6%)
Engineering	engineers, nec (6.9%); civil engineers (5.3%); mechanical engineers (3.7%); electrical and electronics engineers (2.9%); architectural and engineering managers (2.3%)	software developers, applications and systems software (9.9%); managers, nec (including postmasters) (8.8%); computer scientists and systems analysts/network systems analysts/web developers (3.6%); computer and information systems managers (2.1%); postsecondary teachers (1.9%)

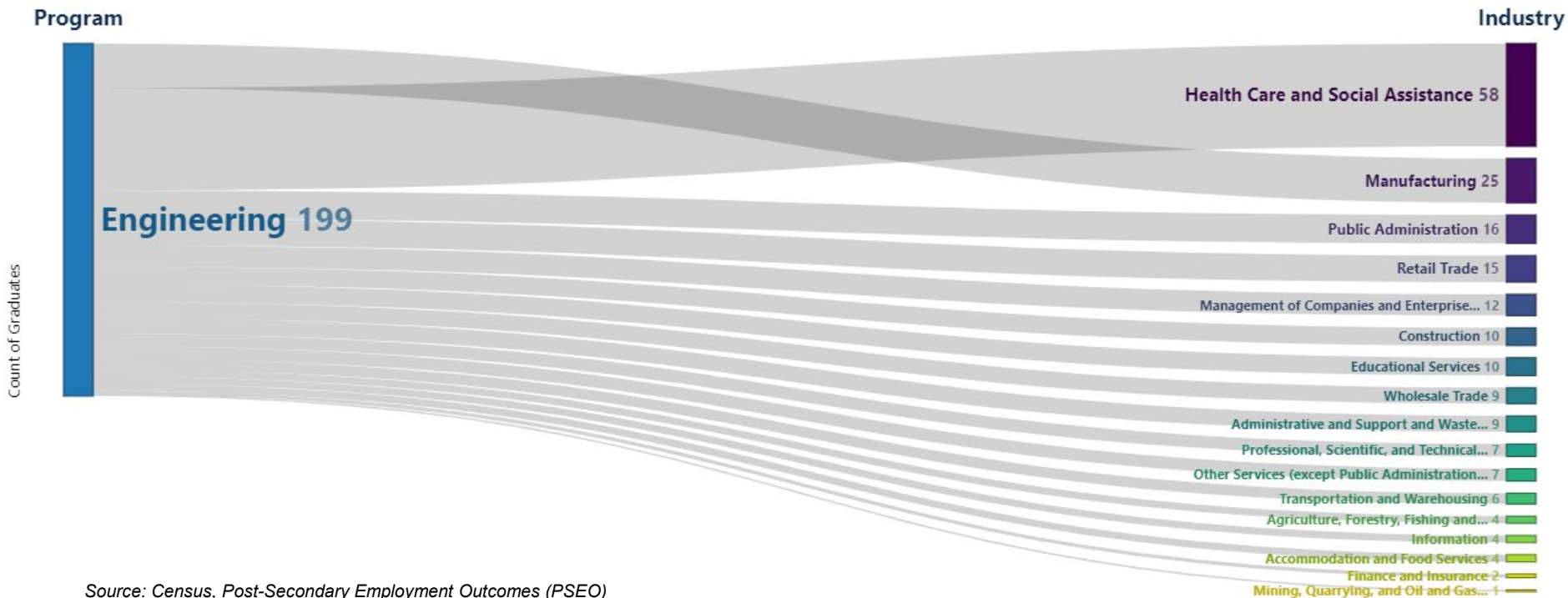
Source: American Community Survey, John J. Conlon & Dev Patel; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bj3jmpCnpFM>



Short Major Name	Stereotypical Occupations (up to 5 most common)	Unstereotypical Occupations (up to 5 most common)
English	editors, news analysts, reporters, and correspondents (2.2%); writers and authors (2.1%); technical writers (0.5%)	elementary and middle school teachers (8.5%); postsecondary teachers (5.5%); lawyers, and judges, magistrates, and other judicial workers (5.3%); managers, nec (including postmasters) (4.6%); secondary school teachers (3.7%)
Fine Arts	designers (11.0%); artists and related workers (2.9%); musicians, singers, and related workers (1.8%); archivists, curators, and museum technicians (0.5%); dancers and choreographers (0.1%)	elementary and middle school teachers (4.9%); managers, nec (including postmasters) (4.9%); postsecondary teachers (3.5%); first-line supervisors of sales workers (2.8%); other teachers and instructors (2.4%)
History	archivists, curators, and museum technicians (0.6%)	lawyers, and judges, magistrates, and other judicial workers (9.4%); elementary and middle school teachers (7.5%); managers, nec (including postmasters) (5.5%); secondary school teachers (3.8%); postsecondary teachers (3.5%)
Liberal Arts	None	elementary and middle school teachers (11.4%); managers, nec (including postmasters) (4.2%); first-line supervisors of sales workers (2.9%); education administrators (2.0%); secretaries and administrative assistants (1.9%)
Math	mathematical science occupations, nec (3.1%); actuaries (1.9%)	postsecondary teachers (7.7%); software developers, applications and systems software (7.3%); elementary and middle school teachers (7.1%); secondary school teachers (5.9%); managers, nec (including postmasters) (5.2%)
Health Services	registered nurses (41.3%); pharmacists (3.8%); physical therapists (3.0%); speech language pathologists (2.6%); occupational therapists (1.6%)	medical and health services managers (3.5%); physicians and surgeons (2.7%); managers, nec (including postmasters) (1.8%); elementary and middle school teachers (1.5%); postsecondary teachers (1.4%)
Recreation	physical therapists (6.0%); recreation and fitness workers (3.6%); athletes, coaches, umpires, and related workers (2.0%); chiropractors (0.7%); recreational therapists (0.1%)	elementary and middle school teachers (6.3%); managers, nec (including postmasters) (4.7%); registered nurses (3.3%); secondary school teachers (2.9%); first-line supervisors of sales workers (2.5%)
Physics	physical scientists, nec (4.4%); chemists and materials scientists (2.9%); environmental scientists and geoscientists (2.1%); atmospheric and space scientists (0.4%); astronomers and physicists (0.4%)	physicians and surgeons (5.8%); managers, nec (including postmasters) (5.8%); postsecondary teachers (5.4%); software developers, applications and systems software (3.2%); elementary and middle school teachers (3.1%)
Psychology	counselors (7.4%); psychologists (4.7%); therapists, nec (1.6%)	social workers (6.0%); elementary and middle school teachers (5.0%); managers, nec (including postmasters) (4.3%); registered nurses (2.6%); postsecondary teachers (2.5%)
Public Policy	social workers (27.5%); therapists, nec (2.2%)	counselors (5.8%); managers, nec (including postmasters) (3.6%); elementary and middle school teachers (3.3%); social and community service managers (3.0%); secretaries and administrative assistants (1.8%)
Social Science	social scientists, nec (0.4%)	lawyers, and judges, magistrates, and other judicial workers (9.7%); managers, nec (including postmasters) (6.3%); elementary and middle school teachers (4.2%); social workers (3.6%); postsecondary teachers (2.5%)

Source: American Community Survey, John J. Conlon & Dev Patel; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bj3jmpCnpFM>

PCC Engineering Flows to Industry



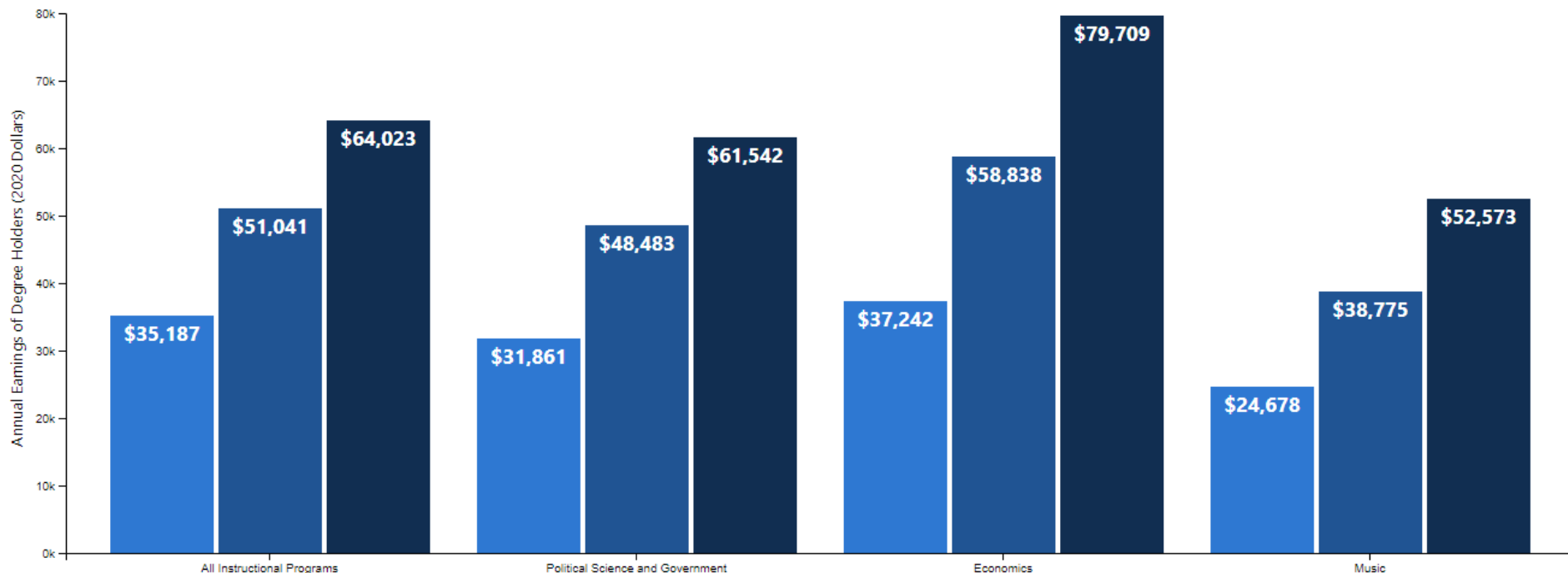
Source: Census, Post-Secondary Employment Outcomes (PSEO)

PSEO and QualityInfo

EXPLORE FOR YOURSELF!

Post-Secondary Outcomes Explorer (PSEO)

<https://lehd.ces.census.gov/applications/pseo/>



QualityInfo.org

Career Explorer

Career Explorer



All Occupations
Portland Tri-County (Clackamas, Multnomah, Washington)
41 Occupations Found

Additional Filters:
Education: Associate's Degree

+ View Chart

..... ▾

Occupation	2021 Emp.	2021- 2031 Emp. Growth	Typical Education	2022 Median Annual Salary	Current Job Listings	Projected Annual Openings	STEM	High Wage	High Skill	High Demand
Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	3,272	30.9%	Associate's degree	\$38,268	72	441	--	--	x	x
Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	366	23.8%	Associate's degree	\$41,909	77	40	--	--	x	x
Agricultural and Food Science Technicians	--	--	Associate's degree	\$41,932 see note	2	--	x	--	x	x
Morticians, Undertakers, and Funeral Directors	79	22.8%	Associate's degree	\$48,065	2	11	x	--	x	--
Electro-Mechanical Technicians	43	9.3%	Associate's degree	\$48,933	6	3	x	--	x	--
Biological Technicians	1,330	12.6%	Associate's degree	\$49,997	139	158	x	--	x	x
Chemical Technicians	209	16.7%	Associate's degree	\$50,778	6	24	x	x	x	--
Embalmers	--	--	Associate's degree	\$50,989	0	--	x	x	x	--
Life, Physical, and Social Science Technicians, All Other	680	26.5%	Associate's degree	\$51,058	1	102	x	x	x	x
Geological and Petroleum Technicians	--	--	Associate's degree	\$52,550 see note	0	--	x	x	x	--

Occupation Profile

Occupation Profiles

Economists (193011)
Oregon (All Counties)

Median Hourly Wage

\$86.22

2021 Employment

211

Job Openings per Year

17

10-Year Growth

14.2%

Description

Conduct research, prepare reports, or formulate plans to address economic problems related to the production and distribution of goods and services or monetary and fiscal policy. May collect and process economic and statistical data using sampling techniques and econometric methods. Excludes "Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists" (13-1161).

+ Expand All

+ Job Openings Listed with the Oregon Employment Department

+ Job Openings from Other Websites

+ State of Oregon Licenses & Certifications

+ Wage Range 2022

+ Employment Outlook

+ Area Employment Projections

+ Industries of Employment

- Educational Requirements for Economists

The typical entry level education for this occupation is a Bachelor's degree. Those with a Master's degree have a competitive advantage in the labor market.

+ Knowledge, Skills, Abilities, and Work Activities

+ Schools and Training Providers

+ Related Occupations





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Multnomah County**

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