



Help Wanted in Portland

**Results from the 2022
Job Vacancy Survey**



Portland Metro had roughly 31,000 job vacancies at any given time in 2022.

We surveyed 1,900 private employers with two or more employees.

If they were hiring, employers gave details about each vacancy, including:

- Job title
- Full- or part-time status
- Permanent or temporary status
- Starting wage or salary
- Education and experience requirements

Businesses also identified if their vacancies were difficult to fill, and if so, they wrote in the primary reason they faced hiring challenges.



Across Oregon, businesses reported roughly 104,000 vacancies at any given time in 2022.

Oregon Job Vacancies

	2019	2020	2021	2022
Vacancies	57,241	44,408	96,887	103,977
Average Hourly Wage	\$18.81	\$18.05	\$19.69	\$21.66
Full-time Positions	77%	79%	78%	81%
Permanent Positions	93%	92%	93%	94%
Requiring Education Beyond High School	34%	33%	30%	29%
Requiring Previous Experience	57%	53%	53%	52%
Difficult to Fill	57%	51%	72%	72%

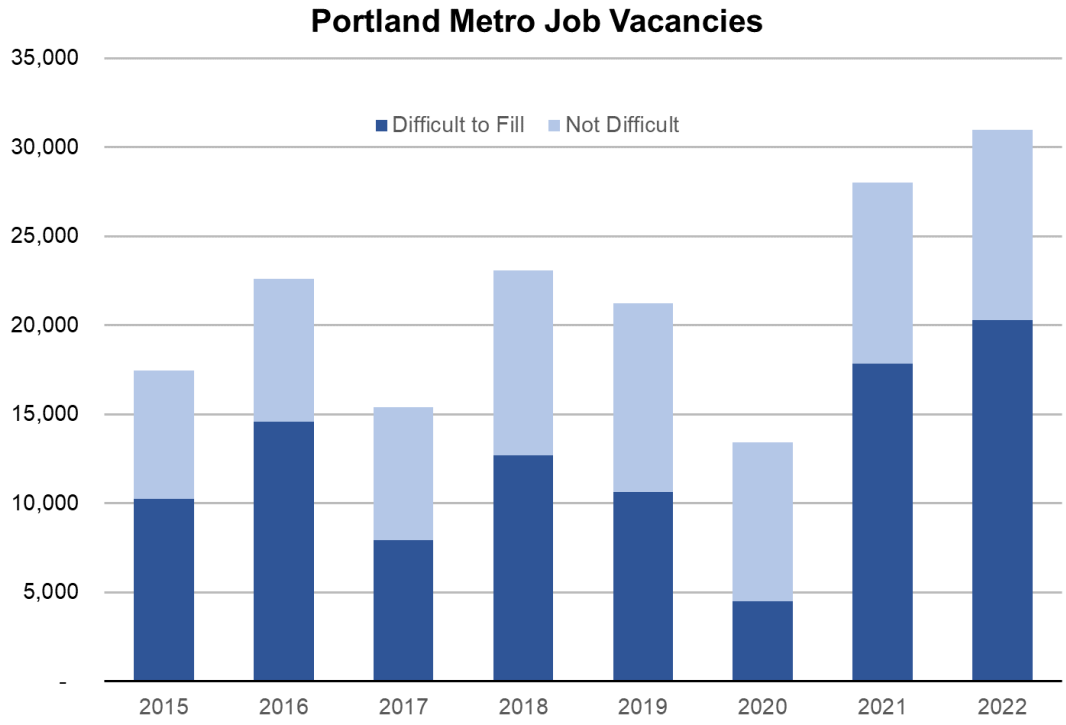
The number of Oregon job vacancies reached record levels in 2022, as the economy recovered from the pandemic recession in 2020. In another record, employers reported about seven out of 10 openings were difficult to fill in 2022.

Other characteristics Oregon employers are looking for didn't change much during the pandemic recession and recovery. A typical job vacancy tends to be for a full-time, permanent position. About one-third require education beyond high school and half require previous experience.

Source: Oregon Employment Department



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



Over one-third (35%) of vacancies in 2022 had been open for 60 days or longer – up from 33% in 2021. Almost all of these vacancies were reported as difficult to fill.

Portland Metro Job Vacancies by Length of Time Job has been Open, 2022

Length of Time Job has been Open	Vacancies	Average Wage	Difficult to Fill
All Vacancies	30,991	\$24.72	65%
< 30 Days	7,007	\$26.13	57%
30-59 Days	5,750	\$26.98	72%
60+ Days	9,727	\$24.54	81%
Always Open	4,997	\$21.13	82%
Unknown	3,510	\$20.47	5%

Source: Oregon Employment Department



Health care and social assistance reported the most vacancies of any industry in 2022.

Portland Metro Job Vacancies by Industry, 2022

<u>Industry</u>	<u>Vacancies</u>	<u>Average Wage</u>
All Industries	30,991	\$24.72
Health care and social assistance	4,737	\$25.09
Leisure and hospitality	3,729	\$16.66
Professional, scientific, and technical services	3,079	\$33.44
Other services	2,665	\$21.01
Manufacturing	2,649	\$24.51
Wholesale trade	2,440	\$23.67
Private educational services	2,328	\$24.84
Management, administrative, and waste services	2,092	\$23.03
Retail trade	1,842	\$19.90
Financial activities	1,786	\$24.61
Construction	1,713	\$28.87
Information	996	\$43.47
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	720	\$20.27
Natural resources and mining	120	\$16.00

Source: Oregon Employment Department



Office and administrative support, and food prep and serving occupations represented the groups with the most vacancies.

Portland Metro Job Vacancies by Occupation Group, 2022

<u>Occupation Group</u>	<u>Vacancies</u>	<u>Average Wage</u>
All Occupations	30,991	\$24.72
Office and Administrative Support	3,908	\$18.96
Food Preparation and Serving Related	3,803	\$16.67
Production	2,654	\$21.30
Transportation and Material Moving	2,543	\$19.47
Sales and Related	2,256	\$24.60
Health Care Support	2,107	\$21.00
Business and Financial Operations	2,019	\$30.61
Management	1,836	\$37.11
Health Care Practitioners and Technical	1,549	\$36.33
Construction and Extraction	1,417	\$29.00
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	1,259	\$22.14
Personal Care and Service	1,040	\$16.63
Education, Training, and Library	993	\$24.64
Architecture and Engineering	750	\$37.15

Source: Oregon Employment Department



Area businesses were hiring for a variety of jobs across the economy in 2022. They reported vacancies for 200 different occupations.

Top Occupations in Portland Metro With the Highest Number of Job Vacancies, 2022

Occupation	Vacancies
All Occupations	30,991
Nursing Assistants	1,120
Cooks, Restaurant	823
Customer Service Representatives	795
Registered Nurses	730
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	688
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	646
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	617
Retail Salespersons	614
Managers, All Other	575
Stockers and Order Fillers	565
Receptionists and Information Clerks	529
Production Workers, All Other	506
Carpenters	504
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	493
Waiters and Waitresses	461

Source: Oregon Employment Department



Employers had more difficulty filling vacancies in some occupations.

Top Portland Metro Occupations With the Highest Number of Difficult-to-Fill Job Vacancies, 2022

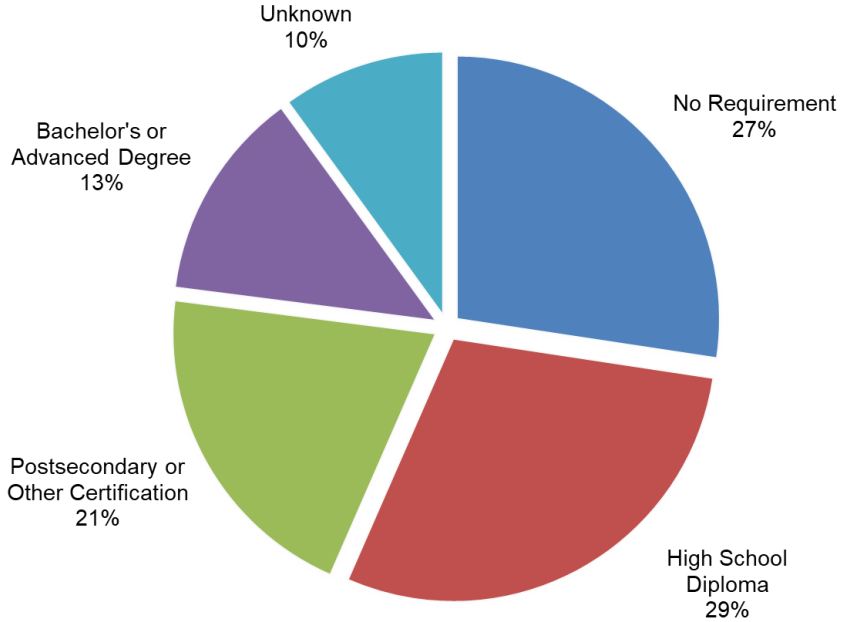
<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Vacancies</u>
Difficult-to-Fill Vacancies in All Occupations	20,296
Nursing Assistants	1,064
Cooks, Restaurant	743
Registered Nurses	635
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	550
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	535
Receptionists and Information Clerks	485
Stockers and Order Fillers	470
Waiters and Waitresses	461
Software Developers	421
Dishwashers	400
Carpenters	377
Food Preparation Workers	335
Customer Service Representatives	300
Managers, All Other	295
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	295
Production Workers, All Other	291

Source: Oregon Employment Department



More than half (56%) of the Portland Metro job vacancies required no education beyond high school.

Portland Metro Job Vacancies by Education Requirement, 2022

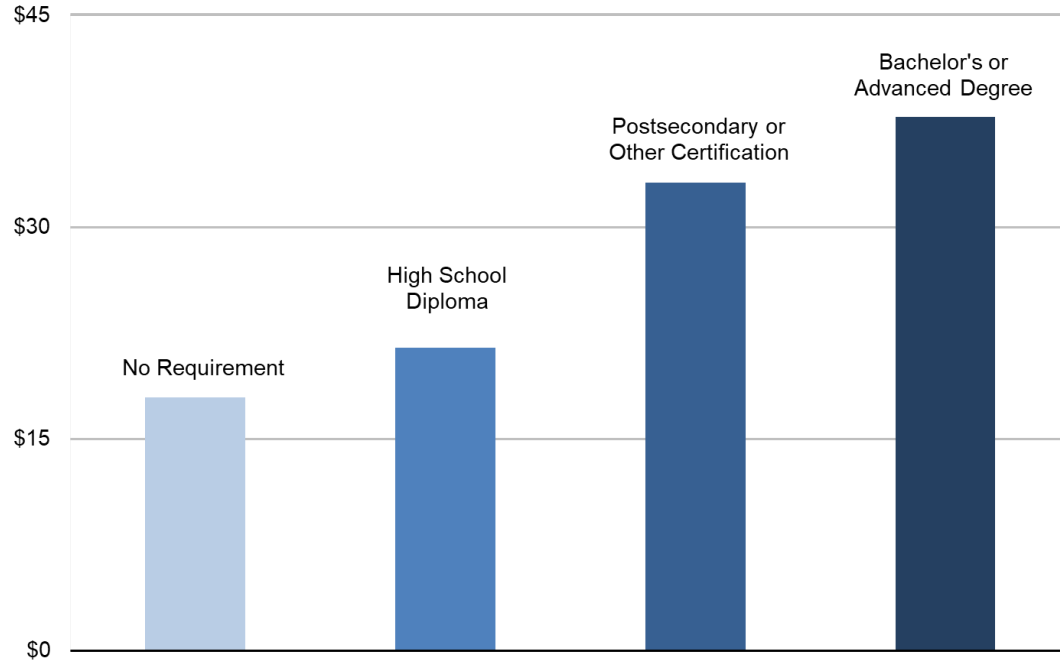


Source: Oregon Employment Department



Average hourly wages increase along with education requirements for job vacancies...

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

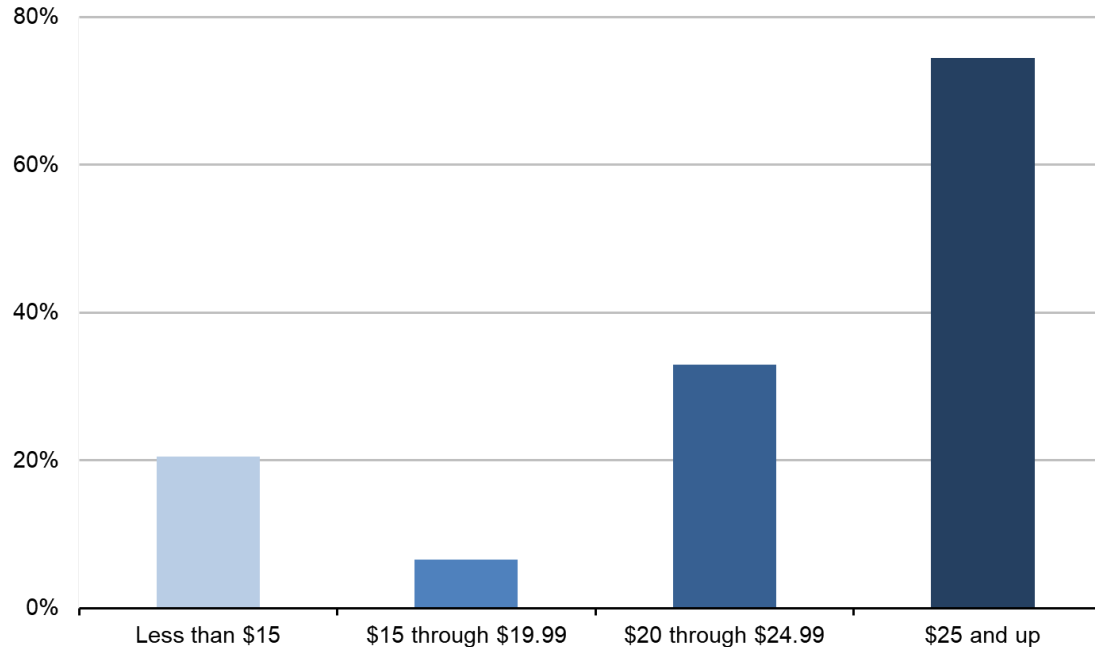


Source: Oregon Employment Department



...and high-paying vacancies are more likely to require education beyond high school.

Share of Portland Metro Job Vacancies Requiring Education Beyond High School by Hourly Wage Range, 2022

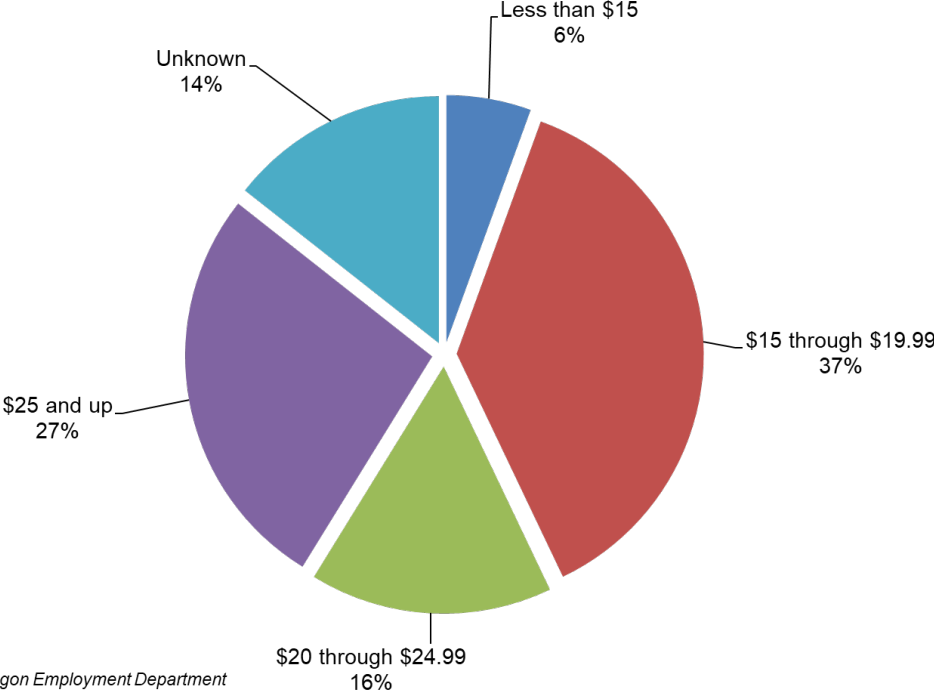


Source: Oregon Employment Department



Half of the 2022 job vacancies in Portland Metro paid starting wages of \$15 to \$24.99 per hour.

Portland Metro Job Vacancies by Hourly Wage, 2022



Source: Oregon Employment Department



Vacancies requiring higher education are more likely to be high-paying, permanent, and require prior experience.

Portland Metro Job Vacancies by Required Education Level, 2022

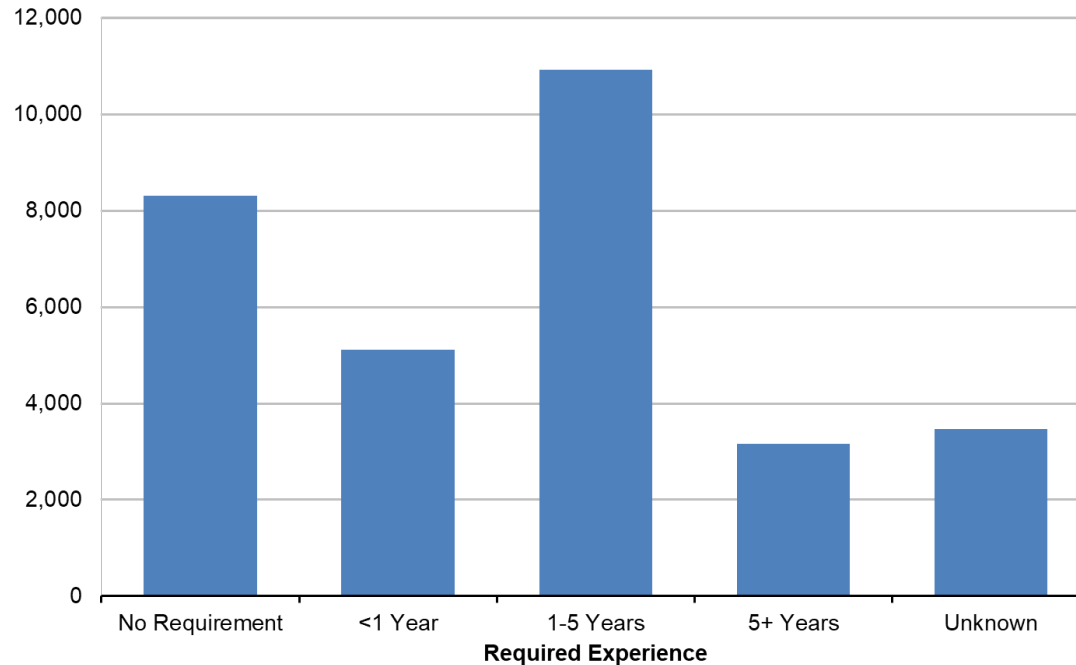
Required Education Level	Vacancies	Average Hourly Wage	Full-time Positions	Permanent Positions	Require Previous Experience	Difficult to Fill
All Education Levels	30,991	\$24.72	87%	94%	62%	65%
No Requirement	8,488	\$17.95	82%	92%	50%	76%
High School Diploma	9,042	\$21.46	87%	92%	70%	68%
Postsecondary or Other Certification	6,340	\$33.15	86%	97%	75%	83%
Bachelor's or Advanced Degree	4,020	\$37.79	92%	94%	89%	55%
Unknown	3,101	\$20.12	96%	99%	10%	7%

Source: Oregon Employment Department



Nearly two-thirds of Portland Metro vacancies require previous work experience.

Portland Metro Job Vacancies by Required Previous Experience, 2022



Source: Oregon Employment Department



High-paying vacancies are more likely to be full-time and require a combination of education and previous experience.

Portland Metro Job Vacancies by Hourly Wage Range, 2022

Wage (per hour)	Vacancies	Average Hourly Wage	Full-time Positions	Permanent Positions	Require Education Beyond High School	Require Previous Experience	Difficult to Fill
All Wage Ranges	30,991	\$24.72	87%	94%	37%	62%	65%
Less than \$15	1,715	\$14.13	64%	93%	20%	48%	75%
\$15 through \$19.99	11,586	\$17.24	82%	90%	7%	50%	68%
\$20 through \$24.99	4,921	\$21.57	91%	96%	33%	79%	81%
\$25 and up	8,312	\$39.21	95%	97%	74%	91%	78%
Unknown	4,457	-	89%	96%	70%	25%	14%

Source: Oregon Employment Department

Employers had the most difficulty filling their higher-wage vacancies, with roughly 80% of jobs starting above \$20 per hour reported as difficult.



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

Two out of five (41%) vacancies in Oregon were in the Portland Tri-County (Portland Metro and Clackamas) area.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Geography, 2022

Geography	Vacancies	Average Hourly Wage	Full-time Positions	Permanent Positions	Require Education Beyond High School	Require Previous Experience	Difficult to Fill
Oregon Statewide	103,977	\$21.66	81%	94%	29%	52%	72%
Portland Metro	30,991	\$24.72	87%	94%	37%	62%	65%
Mid-Valley	15,083	\$20.51	76%	96%	26%	51%	70%
Clackamas	11,934	\$21.62	81%	98%	28%	47%	75%
East Cascades	10,697	\$20.74	81%	93%	24%	48%	74%
Lane	10,003	\$19.36	72%	93%	32%	46%	72%
Rogue Valley	8,934	\$20.14	78%	95%	24%	48%	76%
Northwest Oregon	6,624	\$20.18	74%	90%	21%	47%	79%
Eastern Oregon	4,399	\$19.03	82%	95%	29%	51%	76%
Southwestern Oregon	4,298	\$19.87	80%	95%	25%	43%	76%
Multi-area or unknown	1,014	\$24.09	86%	85%	31%	49%	76%

Source: Oregon Employment Department



Job vacancies have increased since 2021 in many areas of the state, with the largest increases in Mid-Valley, Clackamas, Lane, and Portland Metro.

Oregon Job Vacancies by Geography, 2019-2022

Geography	2019	2020	2021	2022	Change from 2021
Oregon Statewide	57,241	44,408	96,887	103,977	7%
Portland Metro	21,218	13,429	28,014	30,991	11%
Mid-Valley	7,091	6,995	12,681	15,083	19%
East Cascades	5,673	4,402	10,771	10,697	-1%
Clackamas	5,795	3,921	10,088	11,934	18%
Lane	5,414	4,029	8,857	10,003	13%
Rogue Valley	4,134	3,749	8,752	8,934	2%
Northwest Oregon	3,357	2,255	7,311	6,624	-9%
Southwestern Oregon	1,745	2,195	4,801	4,298	-10%
Eastern Oregon	2,147	2,527	4,199	4,399	5%
Multi-area or unknown	667	906	1,413	1,014	-28%

Source: Oregon Employment Department





Amy Vander Vliet, Regional Economist
Oregon Employment Department
Amy.S.VanderVliet@employ.oregon.gov
(971) 804-2099

Find the latest workforce and economic research at QualityInfo.org,
or join the conversation on Twitter [@OED_Research](https://twitter.com/OED_Research).

