

## What is PSEO?

The benefits of postsecondary education include employment and other economic benefits, health benefits, and civic benefits, all of which support individuals, their communities, and the State. Now, Oregon has partnered with the United States Census Bureau on a new national tool to provide public access to the employment outcomes of postsecondary education and training. The Census Bureau’s Center for Economic Studies has linked states’ data on college and university graduates with state and federal employment data to create the Post-Secondary Employment Outcomes (PSEO) tool. Oregon is one of 21 states currently partnering with the Census to provide these data. The tool shows job placement and earnings outcomes across the country for graduates of each of Oregon’s community colleges and public universities. The results show the high employment and rising lifetime earnings of Oregon’s graduates. By sharing national outcomes, PSEO data help institutions, families, and policy makers understand employment outcomes for postsecondary graduates and help them understand workforce and migration patterns. The tool shows how much Oregon graduates earn, in what industries they work, and where they live.

## EARNINGS

The PSEO tool shows national earnings of each institution’s graduates by level of certificate or degree, years since graduation, major field of study, and cohort. Earnings are shown for the 25<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, and 75<sup>th</sup> percentile.



*On average, Portland State University bachelor’s degree graduates earned:*

*\$34,458 one year after graduation*

*\$49,445 five years after graduation*

*\$62,697 ten years after graduation*

## INDUSTRY

The tool shows the count and percentage of graduates who find work in a variety of industries. Industry outcomes are available by institution, level of certificate or degree, years since graduation, major field of study, cohort, and region.



*One year after graduation,:*

*84% of associate degree graduates from*

*the Health Programs at Blue Mountain Community College*

*were working in the Healthcare field.*

## MIGRATION

PSEO data show where graduates from each institution live one, five, and ten years after graduation. Data show graduates who remain in Oregon, on the west coast, and move to other regions of the country. Geographic outcomes are available by institution, level of certificate or degree, years since graduation, major field of study, cohort, and industry.



*67% of bachelor’s degree graduates from Oregon State University and 78% of Associate degree graduates from Umpqua Community College were employed in Oregon five years after graduation.*

# Methodological Details

## PSEO Data...

### PEOPLE

- **No personally identifiable information is available.** The Census Bureau aggregates outcomes by major, combines multiple graduation years, and employed statistical techniques to prevent identification of individuals.
- **Some data are unavailable because of group size.** These data are suppressed to protect confidentiality.
- **Data are not available by graduates' state of origin.** Thus, which students were originally Oregon residents and which were nonresidents cannot be determined at this time.
- **Ten-year outcomes are not available** for community college graduates this year but will likely be available in updates for 2023.

### MAJORS

- Instructional programs (major field) use **Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) definitions** at the two-digit and four-digit level.
- Graduates earning **more than one degree in the same year are included in both outcomes.** Graduates who double-majored are shown in the outcomes for both majors.

### EMPLOYMENT

- Data are from **states' unemployment insurance wage data and federal employment data from the Office of Personnel Management (OPM).** Four states have not participated, and their data are excluded: Alaska, Arkansas, Kansas, Mississippi. OPM data exclude Postal Service and Department of Defense employees.
- Include individuals who are **employed full-time for at least three of four quarters** in a year and earn at least minimum wage
- **Exclude self-employment,** stay-at-home parents and caregivers, workers in sensitive government jobs, and elected officials.
- All earnings data are at the national level and are shown in 2019 dollars.

Excel files with the underlying aggregate data are available on the [PSEO website](#)

**Special thanks to the U.S. Census Bureau for their partnership and work creating the PSEO tool, to the Oregon Employment Department for providing wage data, and to the Oregon public universities and community colleges for sharing student records.**

Let us know how we can improve this report. [info@hecc.oregon.gov](mailto:info@hecc.oregon.gov)

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