

# OREGON EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION TEACHER WAGES, 2021

Produced by the Oregon Child Care Research Partnership, 2023

As of 2021, wages for teachers in Oregon’s early learning and child care centers range from a median low of \$30,160 to a median high of \$41,704 annually.

Between 2012 and 2021, center teachers experienced an increase in average wages over time. This is likely related to the annual increase in Oregon’s minimum wage every year.<sup>1</sup>

Average Low and High Hourly Wage received by Center Teachers, by Facility

Teacher/Head Teacher Wages	2012		2021	
	Low	High	Low	High
Median Hourly Wage	<b>9.50</b>	13.61	<b>14.50</b>	20.05
Mean Hourly Wage	<b>10.33</b>	14.96	<b>14.93</b>	21.95
Range (Lowest Low - Highest High)	<b>8.00</b>	45.00	<b>10.00</b>	58.00
Number of Centers Reporting	<b>805</b>	814	<b>1,069</b>	1,068
Percent of Centers Reporting	<b>83%</b>	84%	<b>82%</b>	<b>82%</b>
State of Oregon Minimum Wage	\$8.80		\$11.50-14.00	

This document provides a snapshot of center teacher/head teacher median wages for facilities in the calendar year of 2021. At the time of the annual recertification visit, center directors were asked on the child care center licensing application to report their lowest and highest teacher and head teacher wage. Wages are reported at the facility-level rather than the individual teacher level and are available at the state and county level.

<sup>1</sup> In 2016, Oregon legislature established a series of annual minimum wage rate increases beginning July 1 of each year, as well as set separate rates for employers located in the Portland metropolitan area and within certain “nonurban” counties. Across the calendar year of 2022, the rates were \$14.00-14.75 for the Portland metro area, \$12.00-12.50 for nonurban counties (Baker, Coos, Crook, Curry, Douglas, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Jefferson, Klamath, Lake, Malheur, Morrow, Sherman, Union, Wallowa, Wheeler), and \$12.75-13.50 for all other areas of the state. Oregon’s minimum wage was \$8.80 in 2012.

# 2021 Wage Information by County

County	Number of Centers Reporting Wage	Wage Range	Median Low Wage	Median High Wage	Mean Low Wage	Mean High Wage
Baker	4	---	---	---	---	---
Benton	24	11.25 - 26.99	14.00	18.38	14.30	19.85
Clackamas	92	10.40 - 40.00	15.00	20.00	14.84	21.34
Clatsop	9	12.14 - 28.42	13.25	18.00	14.18	18.62
Columbia	10	10.40 - 40.00	13.13	20.08	13.54	23.30
Coos	12	11.50 - 26.52	12.00	25.84	12.41	21.76
Crook	6	11.54 - 28.00	17.36	23.61	16.19	22.50
Curry	6	11.50 - 26.52	11.50	25.75	11.75	22.09
Deschutes	64	12.00 - 30.00	14.00	21.00	14.77	21.20
Douglas	20	11.50 - 36.00	15.43	18.88	15.62	21.74
Gilliam	1	---	---	---	---	---
Grant	2	---	---	---	---	---
Harney	0	---	---	---	---	---
Hood River	17	12.00 - 36.43	14.38	22.92	14.40	23.88
Jackson	51	10.98 - 58.00	14.50	20.00	14.73	23.41
Jefferson	7	10.00 - 35.00	14.00	25.00	14.48	23.78
Josephine	32	11.25 - 38.55	14.50	19.00	14.37	24.17
Klamath	15	11.50 - 33.04	14.42	25.00	14.67	22.71
Lake	0	---	---	---	---	---
Lane	73	12.00 - 46.00	14.00	18.28	14.12	20.47
Lincoln	6	12.25 - 27.13	14.32	24.07	14.34	22.39
Linn	14	12.00 - 31.26	13.93	18.02	14.14	20.23
Malheur	9	11.00 - 25.00	12.14	25.00	12.74	20.61
Marion	68	12.00 - 40.00	13.85	25.00	15.12	22.98
Morrow	5	12.50 - 31.00	16.00	25.36	15.26	26.14
Multnomah	257	10.00 - 50.00	15.00	21.00	15.54	22.08
Polk	13	12.50 - 28.16	13.68	19.50	14.24	20.54
Sherman	0	---	---	---	---	---
Tillamook	4	---	---	---	---	---
Umatilla	22	11.50 - 35.00	16.41	25.05	14.96	22.89
Union	6	13.00 - 27.07	16.63	27.07	16.09	24.72
Wallowa	3	---	---	---	---	---
Wasco	7	13.14 - 28.75	14.67	22.92	14.64	22.32
Washington	184	11.00 - 44.02	15.00	20.00	15.29	21.96
Wheeler	0	---	---	---	---	---
Yamhill	28	12.00 - 30.24	14.00	20.00	14.30	20.63

--- not reported due to the small number of facilities in the region