A Portrait of Oregon’s Retail Trade Industry

Quarterly Workforce Indicators provide new insights into the relationship between employers and employees in the retail trade industry.
Retail Trade is a key employer.

- Nearly 300,000 worked in the state’s retail trade sector during the second quarter of 2003.

Oregon: Employment by Broad Industry (Private Sector) Second Quarter, 2002

Source: Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics Program, Quarterly Workforce Indicators, Dec. 2003
Retail trade employs slightly more women than men...

- Just more than half of all workers in the retail trade sector were female. Only 15 percent of all workers in construction were female and nearly two-thirds in finance, insurance, and real estate.
... but not all retail trade industries employ more women.

- Less than one-quarter of all workers in auto dealers and service stations were female compared with over 60% in general merchandise stores.

Oregon: Retail Trade Industry Employment by Sex
Second Quarter, 2002

Source: Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics Program, Quarterly Workforce Indicators, Dec. 2003
Retail trade employs both younger and older workers...

- Nearly 9,000 workers in the state’s retail trade sector were 65 years of age or older.
... but has a relatively large fraction of younger workers.

[Bar chart: Oregon: Employment Distribution by Age Class, Retail Trade Industry, Second Quarter, 2002.]

Source: Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics Program, Quarterly Workforce Indicators, Dec. 2003
Retail trade is the primary employer of teens.

- More than half of all workers ages 14-18 are in the retail trade sector.

Oregon: Industry Employment Distribution
Second Quarter, 2002

Source: Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics Program, Quarterly Workforce Indicators, Dec. 2003
The age distribution also varies within the retail trade sector.

- Over one-quarter of all workers in the eating and drinking places and the apparel and accessory stores industries were 21 years of age or younger.
Not surprisingly, new hires are also relatively young in the retail sector.

- Over half of all new hires in the retail trade sector were less than 25 years of age.
Eating and drinking places account for most of the retail sector’s new hires.

- More than half of all retail new hires, ages 14 to 21, were in eating and drinking places.

Source: Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics Program, Quarterly Workforce Indicators, Dec. 2003
Wages vary by age in the eating and drinking places industry.

- Retail workers ages 45 to 54 make nearly three times the average wages of retail workers ages 14 to 18, but less than half as much as all workers in the same age category.
Turnover is high in the retail trade sector...

Oregon: Turnover by Broad Industry
Second Quarter, 2002

- All Industries
- Agriculture
- Construction
- Manufacturing
- Transportation and Utilities
- Wholesale Trade
- Retail Trade
- Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate
- Services

Full-Quarter Turnover Rate

Source: Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics Program, Quarterly Workforce Indicators, Dec. 2003
...but varies by industry within retail trade.

- Within retail trade, turnover is highest in general merchandise stores and lowest in food stores.
Turnover also varies by age in retail trade and for all industries.

- Turnover is highest in ages 14 to 18; lowest in ages 55 to 64 for both retail trade and all industries.
The end.

Any Questions?

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