





College

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Workers in those careers are badly needed, Dalton said.

"The skilled workforce is at an alltime low, as far as inventory goes," he said. "There's been a lack of training for so many decades.

More than 80% of construction contractors surveyed nationwide in 2019 said they had difficulty filling ositions, according to the Virginia-based Associated General Contractors of America trade association.

Furthermore, a 2019 study commissioned by the American Trucking Associations determined that the trucking industry will need to hire about 1.1 million new drivers over the next decade to meet demand.

Ron Cholin, owner of Prinevillebased trucking company Stinger Transport, hopes that Baker Technical Institute's training will help fill staffing needs for his and other companies.

"Anytime we can get more driv ers coming into the industry, they're more than welcome," he said.

Don't expect Baker Technical Institute to construct a massive college campus in Prineville any time soon, however. Although the college has a small campus in Baker City, the Prineville branch's staff will mostly teach in portable classrooms, on land donated by local businesses or the city, Dalton said.

The purpose of this nontraditional setup is to easily bring students to sites, Dalton said. The college also occasionally travels to other parts of the Pacific Northwest for courses, he said.

Anchorage

Atlantic City

Bridgeport, C1

Burlington, VT

Caribou, ME

Cincinnat

Cleveland

Colorado Springs

Columbia, MO Columbia, SC

Austin

25/4/0.00

84/56/0.02

63/29/0.00

53/33/0.00

62/30/0.00

76/53/0.00

69/41/0.00

74/51/0.00

75/54/0.00

26/16/c

53/49/pc

83/50/pc

46/26/c 68/59/t 58/26/c 55/29/s

58/42/s

56/42/s

55/34/s

68/54/0

67/56/0

65/53/pc

67/54/c

73/58/c

33/29/c

79/56/1

61/52/1

50/46/1

53/40/pd

39/24/st

57/42/pc 74/57/c

Lexington

Little Rock

Los Angeles

Minneapolis

New York City

Norfolk, VA Oklahoma City

Philadelphia

Portland, ME

Phoenix

Newark, NJ

68/41/0.00

48/42/0.50 70/42/0.00

69/53/0.00

71/46/0.00

59/48/0 02

71/47/0.00

68/48/Tr 59/35/0.00 71/47/0.00

62/42/0.00

60/48/0.00

55/51/1.09 50/39/0.47 74/56/0.03 80/52/0.05 68/44/0.00

65/35/0.00

72/55/0.00

66/35/0.00

59/25/0.00

55/30/0.00

68/54/c

73/48/t

73/56/pc

59/48/

70/60/t 81/63/s 55/49/t 56/40/t

67/59/t

63/46/s

57/51/0

65/47/pc

64/49/pc

65/50/pc 54/37/s

63/40/s

70/55/pc

50/36/pc

77/52/s

76/58/pc 55/34/sh

58/40/c 44/30/r

73/59/sh

62/53/c 61/42/r 49/37/pc 85/64/s 81/53/s 58/42/pc

71/51/s

69/54/sh

51/43/0

54/47/sh

71/43/s

68/47/pc

69/53/pc 66/51/s 69/47/s 43/21/sn 76/60/c 50/41/r

49/29/c

63/44/s

81/66/s

63/43/s

63/43/s 64/45/pc 62/54/sh 55/40/sh 58/35/c 77/47/s

39/25/s

81/57/s 83/72/pc

87/63/pc 64/50/pc 48/32/c 55/47/c 62/45/c 86/75/s

60/38/pc

60/42/pc

62/49/p

58/50/c

"We don't need to put several million (dollars) into a facility," Dalton said. "We try and operate very nimbly."

Baker Technical Institute has talked with Central Oregon Community College about using classroom spaces in Prineville now and then, Dalton said. And if the technical college's Prineville branch expands quickly into other fields that are more class-

or health care, a permanent space

might be necessary in the future, he

Prineville Mayor Jason Beebe said Baker Technical Institute's expansion into his city was a win for both local companies and residents looking for a solid job.

The local employers are only as strong as the workforce that can serve them in the community," he said. "I know there's a pretty big need right now for truck driving in Crook

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House: Chamber shuts down; Senate still has hearings scheduled

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The Legislature has not been vaccinated as a group. Individuals who are over 65 or fall into other priority eligibility groups can be inoculated. But lawmakers currently are not eligible as a group until April 19, when essential workers are eligible.

Kotek issued a statement late Monday afternoon that after consulting with Marion County health officials, the House members would quarantine through at least March 29.

How the reported case affects the Senate was not immediately known. The Senate is scheduled for floor sessions on Wednesday and Thursday.

Oregon is one of only four states that has not reported a COVID-19 case involving a state lawmaker or executive officer, according to the political tracking website Ballotpedia.org.

Nationwide, 221 legislators and executive officeholders have been infected in 46 states. Vermont, Maryland and Delaware are the only other states besides Oregon to report no cases to date.

Kotek's abrupt adjournment of the session on Monday at first seemed to be out of frustration over House Republicans requiring each bill be read in full prior to debate and a vote.

At the beginning of the press call, Kotek emphasized her frustration with Drazan and leaders of the Republican caucus. The GOP caucus has not waived the usual courtesy of having bills read by title only. By requiring the full bill to be read, the pace of action has slowed to a crawl.

Kotek said using the bill-reading requirement was not unprecedented, but it was rarely used so early in a ses-

Republicans are "not interested in being part of the process," Kotek said.

The delay could make getting through budget and other key bills



Gary A. Warner/Oregon Capital Bureau file photo The Oregon House chamber in Salem. There are 60 members of the state House.

Kotek's abrupt adjournment of the session on Monday at first seemed to be out of frustration over House Republicans requiring each bill be read in full prior to debate and a vote.

difficult to do with 98 days left in the session.

Drazan has said the slowdown is an attempt to get Kotek to jettison legislation other than bills dealing with the budget, COVID-19 and wildfire relief.

"Here in Oregon, the House is running a crushing number of committees and pushing controversial legislation," Drazan said in a statement earlier Monday.

Drazan said bills were being drafted "on the fly" with little to no public input and with revisions that caught Re-

publicans by surprise several times. She accused Kotek of an unwillingness to "compromise or work to build

bipartisan support." Kotek said Drazan's idea of bipartisanship was to have Democrats withdraw large amounts of their agenda or face endless delaying tactics or even a walkout.

"I am frustrated this is becoming normalized behavior," Kotek said.

Voters have given Democrats a supermajority of more than three-fifths of the seats in the House and Senate.

Republicans could not win legislative and executive office races in recent elections, Kotek said. Now they are using blocking tactics to stop an agenda that Oregon voters endorsed at the ballot box.

"At the end of the day, votes will matter," Kotek said.

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AstraZeneca says data shows vaccine effective for all adults

BY MARIA CHENG AND LAURAN NEERGAARD

AP Medical Writers WASHINGTON — Astra-Zeneca reported Monday that its COVID-19 vaccine provided strong protection among adults of all ages in a long-anticipated U.S. study, a finding that could help re-build public confidence in the shot around the world and move it a

step closer to clearance in the U.S. În the study of 30,000 people, the vaccine was 79% effective at preventing symptomatic cases of COVID-19 — including in older adults. There were no severe illnesses or hospitalizations among vaccinated volunteers, compared with five such cases in participants who received dummy shots — a small number, but consistent with findings from Britain and other countries that the vaccine protects against the worst of the disease.

AstraZeneca also said the study's independent safety monitors found no serious side effects, including no increased risk of rare blood clots like those identified in Europe, a scare that led numerous countries to briefly suspend vaccinations last week.

"I do hope it puts to bed any doubts about the vaccine efficacy," Mene Pangalos, AstraZeneca's biopharmaceuticals research chief, told The Associated Press. "Overall where the vaccine is being used, it's been shown to be highly effective. So I hope that the U.S. study now



Matthias Schrader/AP

Medical staff prepares a syringe from a vial of the AstraZeneca coronavirus vaccine in Germany on Monday. The vaccine is approved in 70 countries, but not yet in the United States.

will continue to give the vaccine some momentum and get it used even further around the world."

The company aims to file an application with the Food and Drug Administration in the coming weeks, and the government's outside advisers will publicly debate the evidence before the agency makes a decision. Pangalos said the vaccine could win emergency authorization toward the second half of April. If so, the company would deliver 30 million doses immediately and an additional 20 million within the first month.

What that will mean for America's vaccination plans is unclear. The Biden administration already projects there will be enough doses for all adults by the end of May thanks to increasing supplies from the makers of the three vaccines already in use in the U.S. — Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson.