

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 20, 2021

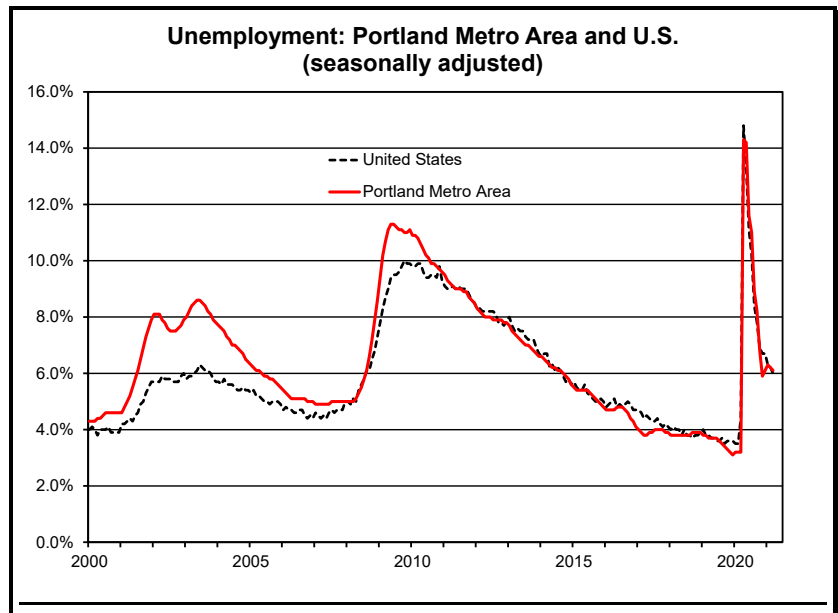
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## Portland Metropolitan Area: March 2021

The Portland metropolitan area's unemployment rate was 6.1% in March, essentially unchanged from February (6.2%). The statewide and national rates were 6.0%. Approximately 83,400 area residents remain unemployed; 30,000 more than a year ago.

Employers added 7,500 jobs in March following a gain of 10,300 in February (seasonally adjusted). Since the start of the recovery in May, the region has regained 85,700 jobs, or 48% of March and April losses (-179,600). In comparison, Oregon has added back 54% of lost jobs and the U.S. has recovered 62%.

Employment in leisure and hospitality surged in March (+8,600 jobs) following strong gains in February (+5,500) as restaurants resumed (limited) indoor seating. This industry lost half of its jobs in the first month of the pandemic. It has regained 24,500 jobs since April 2020, or just 40% of losses.



Construction, manufacturing, and transportation and warehousing all posted larger-than-typical gains in March. Most other major industries performed close to seasonal trends.

Over the year, employment in the metro area is down 80,900 jobs, or -6.6%. Most published industries remain in the red with the exception of transportation and warehousing (+5,600 jobs; +12.3%), professional and technical services (1,300; 1.6%), general merchandise stores (900; 4.0%), grocery stores (600; 2.5%), and state government (700; 5.8%) – all of which have experienced an increase in demand due to the pandemic.

### Next Press Release

The Oregon Employment Department will release the Portland metropolitan area's unemployment rate and employment survey data for April on Tuesday, May 25.

The Oregon Employment Department and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) work cooperatively to develop and publish monthly payroll employment and labor force data for Oregon's metropolitan areas and counties. The estimates of monthly job gains and losses are based on a survey of businesses. The estimates of unemployment are based on a survey of households and other sources.

The Oregon Employment Department payroll employment estimates are revised quarterly using information from unemployment insurance tax records. All department publications use data from this *official Oregon series* unless noted.

The department also makes the BLS-produced nonfarm payroll employment series for metropolitan areas available. These are revised annually by BLS.

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To obtain the data in other formats such as in Excel, visit [www.QualityInfo.org](http://www.QualityInfo.org), select *Economic Data*, and choose *LAUS* or *CES*.

To file an Unemployment Insurance claim, visit our online claims system or call our contact centers, where Employment Department staff are ready to help by phone, at 1-877-FILE-4-UI (1-877-345-3484). For coronavirus questions related to employer and job seeker programs and services, visit <https://unemployment.oregon.gov>. For help finding jobs and training resources, go to: [www.WorkSourceOregon.org](http://www.WorkSourceOregon.org).

Equal Opportunity program — auxiliary aids and services available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Contact: (503) 947-1794. For the deaf and hard of hearing population, call 711 Telecommunications Relay Services.



### Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, OR-WA MSA Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	March 2021	February 2021	March 2020	February 2021	March 2020
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	1,333,751	1,325,843	1,330,750	7,908	3,001
Unemployed	83,371	84,674	53,372	-1,303	29,999
Unemployment rate	6.3%	6.4%	4.0%	-0.1	2.3
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	6.1%	6.2%	3.2%	-0.1	2.9
Employed	1,250,380	1,241,169	1,277,378	9,211	-26,998
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	1,143,500	1,129,200	1,224,500	14,300	-81,000
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>1,148,300</i>	<i>1,140,800</i>	<i>1,229,200</i>	<i>7,500</i>	<i>-80,900</i>
Total private	1,001,600	986,300	1,068,500	15,300	-66,900
Mining, logging, and construction	72,400	70,400	76,200	2,000	-3,800
Mining and logging	1,100	1,200	1,200	-100	-100
Construction	71,300	69,200	75,000	2,100	-3,700
Construction of buildings	19,900	18,900	20,600	1,000	-700
Residential building construction	11,500	10,900	11,600	600	-100
Nonresidential building construction	8,400	8,000	9,000	400	-600
Heavy and civil engineering construction	5,800	5,500	5,900	300	-100
Specialty trade contractors	45,600	44,800	48,500	800	-2,900
Manufacturing	121,500	120,200	126,500	1,300	-5,000
Durable goods	89,400	88,400	93,800	1,000	-4,400
Wood product manufacturing	3,700	3,700	3,900	0	-200
Primary metal manufacturing	4,700	4,000	6,000	700	-1,300
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	12,500	12,300	12,800	200	-300
Machinery manufacturing	9,700	9,500	9,900	200	-200
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	37,500	37,100	37,600	400	-100
Semiconductor and electronic component mfg.	31,000	30,500	31,100	500	-100
Electronic instrument manufacturing	4,700	4,700	4,800	0	-100
Transportation equipment manufacturing	5,500	6,300	6,900	-800	-1,400
Nondurable goods	32,100	31,800	32,700	300	-600
Food manufacturing	13,100	13,000	13,100	100	0
Paper manufacturing	2,900	2,800	2,500	100	400
Trade, transportation, and utilities	221,500	220,200	220,700	1,300	800
Wholesale trade	55,000	54,800	57,000	200	-2,000
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	29,600	29,700	30,300	-100	-700
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	19,100	18,900	20,700	200	-1,600
Electronic markets and agents and brokers	6,300	6,200	6,000	100	300
Retail trade	113,000	113,300	115,800	-300	-2,800
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	13,100	13,000	14,400	100	-1,300
Food and beverage stores	24,200	24,300	23,600	-100	600
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	7,700	7,700	9,900	0	-2,200
General merchandise stores	23,400	23,600	22,500	-200	900
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	53,500	52,100	47,900	1,400	5,600
Utilities	2,500	2,400	2,500	100	0
Transportation and warehousing	51,000	49,700	45,400	1,300	5,600
Air transportation	3,800	3,800	4,100	0	-300
Truck transportation	10,600	10,400	10,800	200	-200
Couriers and messengers	11,400	11,300	8,300	100	3,100
Warehousing and storage	14,900	14,700	10,600	200	4,300
Information	25,000	25,300	26,100	-300	-1,100
Publishing industries, except internet	11,400	11,600	11,200	-200	200
Software publishers	9,900	10,100	9,700	-200	200
Telecommunications	3,800	3,800	3,900	0	-100

## Nonfarm Payroll Employment (continued)

	--Change From--				
	March 2021	February 2021	March 2020	February 2021	March 2020
Financial activities	70,700	70,600	74,200	100	-3,500
Finance and insurance	41,900	41,500	43,400	400	-1,500
Credit intermediation and related activities	18,100	18,100	18,100	0	0
Insurance carriers and related activities	18,400	17,900	18,800	500	-400
Real estate and rental and leasing	28,800	29,100	30,800	-300	-2,000
Professional and business services	186,900	185,800	189,300	1,100	-2,400
Professional and technical services	80,700	80,700	79,400	0	1,300
Architectural and engineering services	15,600	15,700	15,100	-100	500
Computer systems design and related services	15,600	15,600	15,600	0	0
Management of companies and enterprises	40,200	40,000	43,100	200	-2,900
Administrative and waste services	66,000	65,100	66,800	900	-800
Administrative and support services	62,600	61,600	63,300	1,000	-700
Employment services	27,300	26,700	27,900	600	-600
Business support services	6,000	6,000	6,700	0	-700
Services to buildings and dwellings	15,500	15,000	15,600	500	-100
Education and health services	180,000	179,300	191,900	700	-11,900
Educational services	24,200	23,800	30,400	400	-6,200
Colleges and universities	9,200	9,000	13,500	200	-4,300
Health care and social assistance	155,800	155,500	161,500	300	-5,700
Ambulatory health care services	55,700	55,800	58,400	-100	-2,700
Hospitals	31,300	31,100	31,600	200	-300
Nursing and residential care facilities	28,900	29,000	29,100	-100	-200
Social assistance	39,900	39,600	42,400	300	-2,500
Leisure and hospitality	85,400	76,800	121,000	8,600	-35,600
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	9,400	8,500	17,900	900	-8,500
Amusement, gambling, and recreation	6,500	5,900	12,500	600	-6,000
Accommodation and food services	76,000	68,300	103,100	7,700	-27,100
Accommodation	5,800	5,400	10,800	400	-5,000
Food services and drinking places	70,200	62,900	92,300	7,300	-22,100
Full-service restaurants	26,500	20,200	40,000	6,300	-13,500
Limited-service eating places	38,600	37,400	41,300	1,200	-2,700
Other services	38,200	37,700	42,600	500	-4,400
Membership associations and organizations	17,100	16,800	17,900	300	-800
Government	141,900	142,900	156,000	-1,000	-14,100
Federal government	18,500	18,500	18,400	0	100
State government	12,800	12,600	12,100	200	700
State education	1,900	1,900	2,200	0	-300
Local government	110,600	111,800	125,500	-1,200	-14,900
Local education	60,400	59,800	70,400	600	-10,000

The most recent month is preliminary, the prior month is revised. Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Civilian labor force includes employed and unemployed individuals 16 years and older by place of residence.

Employed includes payroll employment, self-employed, unpaid family workers, domestics, agriculture, and labor disputants.

Unemployment rate is calculated by dividing unemployed by civilian labor force.

Nonfarm Payroll Employment: Official Oregon Series. Data are by place of work and cover full- and part-time employees who worked or received pay for the pay period that includes the 12th of the month. The data exclude the self-employed, volunteers, unpaid family workers, and domestics.

The Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro metropolitan area includes Clackamas, Columbia, Multnomah, Washington, and Yamhill counties in Oregon, and Clark and Skamania counties in Washington State.