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CONTACT INFORMATION:

Amy Vander Vliet, Economist

Amy.S.VanderVliet@employ.oregon.gov

(971) 804-2099

Employment and Unemployment in the Portland Metropolitan Area April 2025

Employers cut 800 jobs (seasonally adjusted) in April following a gain of 4,900 in March.

Leisure and hospitality added nearly 1,000 more jobs than typical for April, led by strength in restaurants and bars. Atypical losses in transportation and warehousing offset these gains. Despite the decline, this sector remains one of the few broad industries recording employment gains over the last year.

Weakness continued in the construction sector, which added half the usual number of jobs for this time of year. Since reaching an April peak of 81,800 jobs last year, construction has shed 1,500 jobs, or -1.8%.

Year-over-year overall employment growth turned slightly negative in April (-1,800 jobs, -0.1%). Losses in manufacturing, construction, and financial activities outweighed gains in private health care and social assistance and government.

The Portland metropolitan area's unemployment rate was 4.0% in April (not seasonally adjusted); up from 3.5% a year earlier. Approximately 54,700 area residents were unemployed; 6,000 more than a year ago. The statewide unadjusted unemployment rate was 4.1% and the national rate was 3.9%.

Note: Labor force statistics (e.g. the unemployment rate) for the country's metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) are produced by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). The BLS has temporarily suspended the production of seasonally adjusted data for MSAs as they work on implementing new geographic delineations of metro areas based on up-to-date population estimates from the 2020 Census. Production will resume when this work is completed, likely in time for the May data which will be released in June. In the meantime, the Oregon Employment Department will rely on the not seasonally adjusted data produced by the BLS. Read more on this pause in seasonally adjusted metro area data [here](https://www.qualityinfo.org/web/guest/-/a-pause-on-seasonally-adjusted-labor-force-statistics-for-metro-areas).
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Next Press Release

The Oregon Employment Department will release the Portland metropolitan area's unemployment rate and employment survey data for May on Tuesday, June 24.

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 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 help finding jobs and training resources, go to: www.WorkSourceOregon.org.

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

	April 2025	March 2025	April 2024	--Change From--	
				March 2025	April 2024
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	1,374,960	1,381,685	1,381,040	-6,725	-6,080
Unemployed	54,717	66,603	48,728	-11,886	5,989
Unemployment rate	4.0%	4.8%	3.5%	-0.8	0.5
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)					
Employed	1,320,243	1,315,082	1,332,312	5,161	-12,069
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	1,247,000	1,243,800	1,248,800	3,200	-1,800
Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)	1,250,100	1,250,900	1,246,600	-800	3,500
Total private	1,083,600	1,080,900	1,088,400	2,700	-4,800
Mining, logging, and construction	81,400	80,800	82,900	600	-1,500
Mining and logging	1,100	1,100	1,100	0	0
Construction	80,300	79,700	81,800	600	-1,500
Construction of buildings	21,100	20,800	21,500	300	-400
Residential building construction	13,000	12,800	13,400	200	-400
Nonresidential building construction	8,100	8,000	8,100	100	0
Heavy and civil engineering construction	7,400	7,300	7,000	100	400
Specialty trade contractors	51,800	51,600	53,300	200	-1,500
Manufacturing	117,800	118,200	123,100	-400	-5,300
Durable goods	87,700	87,900	92,000	-200	-4,300
Wood product manufacturing	3,900	3,900	4,000	0	-100
Primary metal manufacturing	4,400	4,400	4,600	0	-200
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	11,800	11,700	11,900	100	-100
Machinery manufacturing	9,200	9,100	9,300	100	-100
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	36,900	36,800	39,900	100	-3,000
Semiconductor and electronic component mfg.	31,400	31,300	34,100	100	-2,700
Electronic instrument manufacturing	4,200	4,200	4,200	0	0
Transportation equipment manufacturing	6,600	6,600	6,800	0	-200
Nondurable goods	30,100	30,300	31,100	-200	-1,000
Food manufacturing	13,800	13,700	13,800	100	0
Paper manufacturing	2,200	2,200	2,500	0	-300
Trade, transportation, and utilities	219,200	220,400	220,900	-1,200	-1,700
Wholesale trade	55,900	56,300	57,800	-400	-1,900
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	30,200	30,400	31,000	-200	-800
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	20,200	20,400	20,900	-200	-700
Wholesale trade agents and brokers	5,500	5,500	5,900	0	-400
Retail trade	112,300	112,000	112,900	300	-600
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	14,200	14,300	14,300	-100	-100
Food and beverage retailers	25,200	25,300	25,200	-100	0
General merchandise retailers	22,000	22,100	22,200	-100	-200
Clothing, accessories, shoe, and jewelry retailers	9,900	9,900	10,100	0	-200
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	51,000	52,100	50,200	-1,100	800
Utilities	2,800	2,800	2,700	0	100
Transportation and warehousing	48,200	49,300	47,500	-1,100	700
Air transportation	4,300	4,300	4,300	0	0
Truck transportation	10,600	10,700	10,700	-100	-100
Couriers and messengers	10,000	10,400	9,900	-400	100
Warehousing and storage	11,900	12,000	11,200	-100	700
Information	26,900	27,000	27,000	-100	-100
Publishing industries	12,000	11,900	12,300	100	-300
Software publishers	10,600	10,500	10,900	100	-300
Telecommunications	2,200	2,500	2,700	-300	-500

Nonfarm Payroll Employment (continued)

	April 2025	March 2025	April 2024	--Change From--	
				March 2025	April 2024
Financial activities	69,500	69,400	71,100	100	-1,600
Finance and insurance	39,100	39,100	39,700	0	-600
Credit intermediation and related activities	13,700	13,700	14,300	0	-600
Insurance carriers and related activities	18,100	18,100	18,500	0	-400
Real estate and rental and leasing	30,400	30,300	31,400	100	-1,000
Professional and business services	196,000	194,500	196,500	1,500	-500
Professional and technical services	86,500	85,900	86,200	600	300
Architectural and engineering services	15,900	15,800	15,700	100	200
Computer systems design and related services	15,400	15,300	15,600	100	-200
Management of companies and enterprises	40,100	40,000	41,400	100	-1,300
Administrative and waste services	69,400	68,600	68,900	800	500
Administrative and support services	65,100	64,300	64,800	800	300
Employment services	27,100	27,000	26,800	100	300
Business support services	3,500	3,500	4,000	0	-500
Services to buildings and dwellings	17,600	17,400	17,500	200	100
Private education and health services	209,500	209,900	203,400	-400	6,100
Private educational services	28,500	28,700	29,500	-200	-1,000
Private colleges and universities	11,000	11,100	11,100	-100	-100
Health care and social assistance	181,000	181,200	173,900	-200	7,100
Ambulatory health care services	63,900	64,000	63,100	-100	800
Hospitals	34,800	34,400	32,400	400	2,400
Nursing and residential care facilities	33,100	33,100	31,800	0	1,300
Social assistance	49,200	49,700	46,600	-500	2,600
Leisure and hospitality	119,500	116,300	119,500	3,200	0
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	18,700	18,000	18,300	700	400
Amusement, gambling, and recreation	13,200	12,800	12,800	400	400
Accommodation and food services	100,800	98,300	101,200	2,500	-400
Accommodation	10,100	9,800	10,000	300	100
Food services and drinking places	90,700	88,500	91,200	2,200	-500
Full-service restaurants	36,800	36,200	37,400	600	-600
Limited-service eating places	42,400	41,400	42,400	1,000	0
Other services	43,800	44,400	44,000	-600	-200
Membership associations and organizations	18,300	18,700	18,300	-400	0
Government	163,400	162,900	160,400	500	3,000
Federal government	19,000	19,000	19,000	0	0
State government	14,200	14,100	13,700	100	500
State education	1,800	1,800	2,000	0	-200
Local government	130,200	129,800	127,700	400	2,500
Local education	71,600	71,300	69,100	300	2,500

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.