

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 1, 2026

CONTACT INFORMATION:

[Gail Krumenauer](#), State Employment Economist
(971) 301-3771

[Video](#) and [Audio](#) available at 10 a.m. PT

[David Cooke](#), Economist (971) 375-5288

Oregon's Unemployment Rate Was 5.2% in January

Oregon's unemployment rate was 5.2% in January and 5.3%, as revised, in December. The U.S. unemployment rate was 4.3% in January and 4.4% in December.

In January, Oregon's seasonally adjusted nonfarm payroll employment rose by 2,000 jobs, following a gain of 100 jobs, as revised, in December. January's gains were largest in **leisure and hospitality** (+1,800 jobs); **health care and social assistance** (+1,500); and **construction** (+1,000). Losses were largest in **manufacturing** (-1,500 jobs) and **professional and business services** (-1,300).

Leisure and hospitality performed better than the normal seasonal pattern in January and employed 209,800, which was 1,800 jobs, or 0.9%, above its January 2025 total. Despite these recent gains, it employed only slightly more workers than during most of the past few years.

Health care and social assistance rose by 4,100 jobs during the three months ending in January. During the 12 months ending in January, it added 9,800 jobs, or 3.2%, which was by far the fastest growth rate of Oregon's major industries during that time.

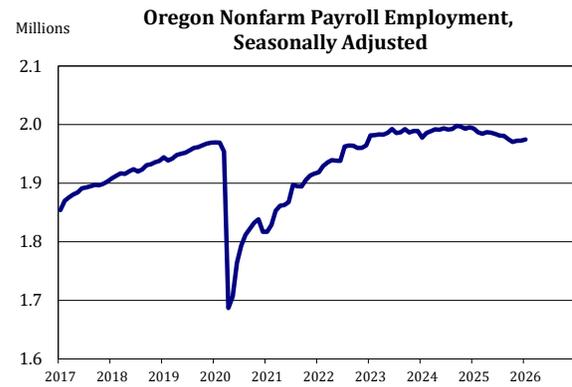
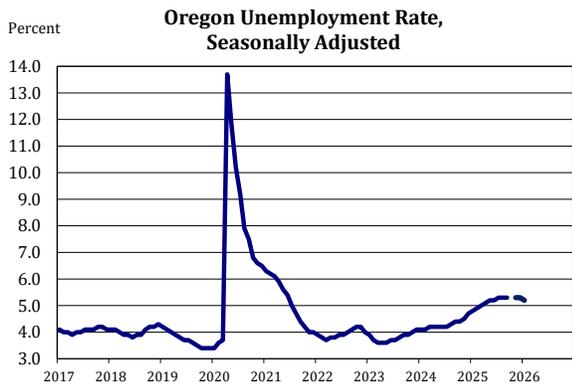
Construction's 1,000-job gain in January was a partial rebound from its 2,400-job loss the prior month. Over the past two years, construction generally declined from a high of about 118,000 jobs throughout much of 2023, to its January 2026 level of 111,600 jobs.

Manufacturing cut 1,500 jobs in January, following a gain of 1,300 in December. Since August, manufacturing has fluctuated around 178,000 jobs. Prior to this period of relative stability, manufacturing shrank rapidly from a recent high of 195,000 jobs in November 2022.

The 1,300-job decline in professional and business services in January left the industry 7,600 jobs, or 2.9%, below its year-ago total, and 17,000 jobs below its peak of 268,100 jobs in 2023.

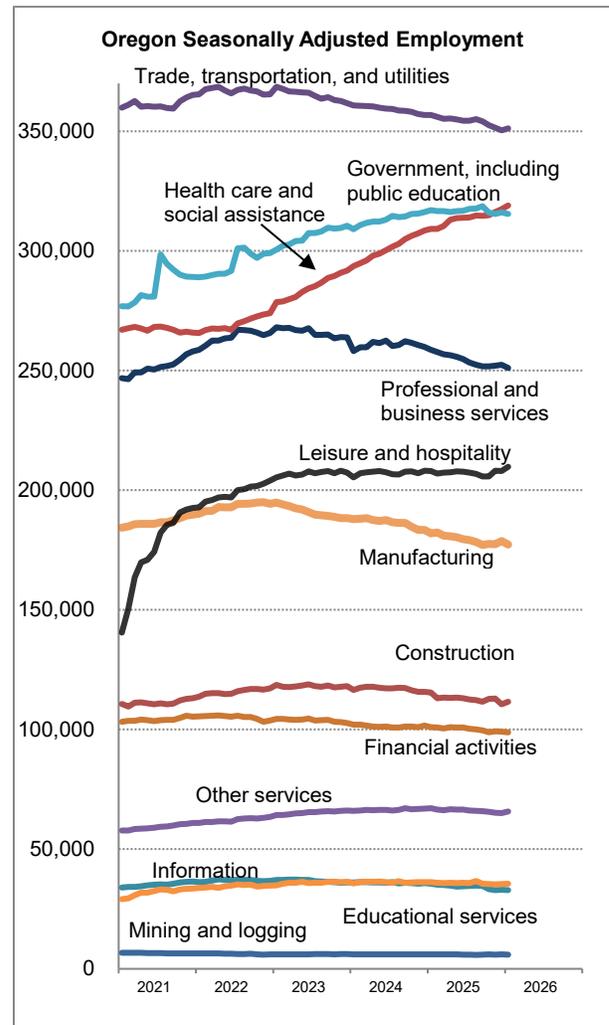
Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the January county and metropolitan area unemployment and jobs data on Tuesday, April 7, and the next statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for February on Wednesday, April 15.



Seasonal Expectations and Over-the-Month Employment Changes December 2025 to January 2026

INDUSTRY	Normal Seasonal Movement	Unadjusted Change	Seasonally Adjusted Change
Total nonfarm payroll employment	-29,600	-27,600	2,000
Total private	-26,700	-24,100	2,600
Mining and logging	-100	-300	-200
Construction	-2,900	-1,900	1,000
Manufacturing	-1,900	-3,400	-1,500
Wholesale trade	-600	-700	-100
Retail trade	-5,600	-5,600	0
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	-3,300	-2,400	900
Information	-300	-400	-100
Financial activities	-500	-800	-300
Professional and business services	-5,300	-6,600	-1,300
Private educational services	-600	-400	200
Health care and social assistance	-1,400	100	1,500
Leisure and hospitality	-4,200	-2,400	1,800
Other services	0	700	700
Government	-2,900	-3,500	-600



Notes:

All numbers in the above narrative are seasonally adjusted.

The Oregon Employment Department and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) work cooperatively to develop and publish monthly Oregon payroll employment and labor force data. 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. This press release incorporates, for the first time, the annual revisions to the data for 2025 and prior years.

The PDF version of the news release can be found at QualityInfo.org/press-release. To obtain the data in other formats such as in Excel, visit QualityInfo.org, select *Tools*, then choose *LAUS* or *CES* under the *Economy* header. To request the press release as a Word document, contact the person shown at the top of this press release.

To file a claim for unemployment benefits or get more information about unemployment programs, visit unemployment.oregon.gov.

The Oregon Employment Department (OED) is an equal opportunity agency. OED provides free help so you can use our services. Some examples are sign language and spoken-language interpreters, written materials in other languages, large print, audio, and other formats. To get help, please call 503-947-1444. TTY users call 711. You can also send an email to communications@employ.oregon.gov.

El Departamento de Empleo de Oregon (OED) es una agencia de igualdad de oportunidades. El OED proporciona ayuda gratuita para que usted pueda utilizar nuestros servicios. Algunos ejemplos son intérpretes de lengua de señas e idiomas hablados, materiales escritos en otros idiomas, letra grande, audio y otros formatos. Para obtener ayuda, por favor llame al 503-947-1444. Usuarios de TTY pueden llamar al 711. También puede enviar un correo electrónico a communications@employ.oregon.gov.



Oregon Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	January 2026	December 2025	January 2025	Change From December 2025	Change From January 2025
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	2,186,942	2,204,520	2,201,585	-17,578	-14,643
Unemployed	128,875	111,721	120,155	17,154	8,720
Unemployment rate	5.9	5.1	5.5	0.8	0.4
Unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted	5.2	5.3	4.8	-0.1	0.4
Employed	2,058,067	2,092,799	2,081,430	-34,732	-23,363
Other Labor Force Indicators					
Labor force participation rate, seasonally adjusted	62.9	63.0	62.8	-0.1	0.1
Labor underutilization rate – U-6, seasonally adjusted	9.0	9.1	8.7	-0.1	0.3
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm payroll employment	1,950,900	1,978,500	1,971,400	-27,600	-20,500
Total private	1,634,500	1,658,600	1,652,300	-24,100	-17,800
Mining and logging	5,700	6,000	5,800	-300	-100
Logging	3,900	4,100	3,900	-200	0
Construction	106,700	108,600	110,600	-1,900	-3,900
Construction of buildings	29,300	29,500	30,400	-200	-1,100
Residential building construction	18,600	18,800	19,300	-200	-700
Nonresidential building construction	10,700	10,700	11,100	0	-400
Heavy and civil engineering construction	11,100	11,300	11,200	-200	-100
Specialty trade contractors	66,300	67,800	69,000	-1,500	-2,700
Building foundation and exterior contractors	11,800	12,000	12,300	-200	-500
Building equipment contractors	33,100	33,200	33,700	-100	-600
Building finishing contractors	12,200	13,200	13,600	-1,000	-1,400
Other specialty trade contractors	9,200	9,400	9,400	-200	-200
Manufacturing	174,700	178,100	179,700	-3,400	-5,000
Durable goods	121,900	123,200	126,500	-1,300	-4,600
Wood product manufacturing	21,500	21,800	22,300	-300	-800
Sawmills and wood preservation	5,800	5,900	5,900	-100	-100
Plywood and engineered wood product mfg.	8,400	8,500	8,600	-100	-200
Other wood product manufacturing	7,300	7,400	7,800	-100	-500
Primary metal manufacturing	7,300	7,400	7,500	-100	-200
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	14,900	15,000	15,300	-100	-400
Machinery manufacturing	13,600	13,700	13,900	-100	-300
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	32,100	32,500	36,200	-400	-4,100
Semiconductor and electronic component mfg.	25,900	26,400	29,600	-500	-3,700
Electronic instrument manufacturing	4,400	4,400	4,500	0	-100
Transportation equipment manufacturing	10,600	10,700	10,500	-100	100
Nondurable goods	52,800	54,900	53,200	-2,100	-400
Food manufacturing	27,600	28,600	27,100	-1,000	500
Trade, transportation, and utilities	350,700	359,400	354,900	-8,700	-4,200
Wholesale trade	73,900	74,600	76,000	-700	-2,100
Retail trade	197,000	202,600	200,400	-5,600	-3,400
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	24,800	25,000	26,000	-200	-1,200
Food and beverage retailers	45,700	46,100	46,500	-400	-800
General merchandise retailers	39,900	41,500	39,900	-1,600	0

	January 2026	December 2025	January 2025	Change From December 2025	Change From January 2025
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	79,800	82,200	78,500	-2,400	1,300
Utilities	5,200	5,300	5,200	-100	0
Transportation and warehousing	74,600	76,900	73,300	-2,300	1,300
Truck transportation	17,000	17,400	17,700	-400	-700
Couriers and messengers	17,900	19,100	17,400	-1,200	500
Warehousing and storage	18,400	19,200	15,700	-800	2,700
Information	32,600	33,000	35,100	-400	-2,500
Software publishers	12,500	12,700	13,300	-200	-800
Financial activities	98,200	99,000	99,700	-800	-1,500
Finance and insurance	51,500	51,600	52,900	-100	-1,400
Credit intermediation and related activities	20,800	20,800	21,200	0	-400
Insurance carriers and related activities	24,100	24,100	25,000	0	-900
Real estate and rental and leasing	46,700	47,400	46,800	-700	-100
Real estate	41,200	41,600	41,200	-400	0
Professional and business services	246,000	252,600	257,000	-6,600	-11,000
Professional and technical services	107,200	108,100	110,300	-900	-3,100
Architectural and engineering services	18,700	19,200	19,000	-500	-300
Computer systems design and related services	16,400	16,600	17,600	-200	-1,200
Management of companies and enterprises	47,500	48,100	48,600	-600	-1,100
Administrative and waste services	91,300	96,400	98,100	-5,100	-6,800
Employment services	32,700	35,900	38,500	-3,200	-5,800
Private education and health services	353,900	354,200	344,700	-300	9,200
Private educational services	35,700	36,100	36,000	-400	-300
Health care and social assistance	318,200	318,100	308,700	100	9,500
Ambulatory health care services	106,400	106,300	105,400	100	1,000
Hospitals	64,700	65,500	63,300	-800	1,400
Nursing and residential care facilities	61,500	61,400	58,400	100	3,100
Social assistance	85,600	84,900	81,600	700	4,000
Leisure and hospitality	200,700	203,100	198,900	-2,400	1,800
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	26,400	26,100	28,300	300	-1,900
Accommodation and food services	174,300	177,000	170,600	-2,700	3,700
Accommodation	23,200	23,900	22,600	-700	600
Food services and drinking places	151,100	153,100	148,000	-2,000	3,100
Restaurants and other eating places	135,100	136,100	131,500	-1,000	3,600
Other services	65,300	64,600	65,900	700	-600
Repair and maintenance	20,300	20,300	20,400	0	-100
Personal and laundry services	16,000	15,600	15,500	400	500
Membership associations and organizations	29,000	28,700	30,000	300	-1,000
Government	316,400	319,900	319,100	-3,500	-2,700
Federal government	26,100	27,000	28,400	-900	-2,300
State government	49,200	49,300	48,600	-100	600
State education	1,300	1,300	1,300	0	0
Local government	241,100	243,600	242,100	-2,500	-1,000
Indian tribal	9,100	9,000	8,700	100	400
Local education	135,700	137,600	138,700	-1,900	-3,000
Labor-management disputes	0	0	3,500	0	-3,500

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.

Labor Force Status: Civilian labor force includes employed and unemployed individuals 16 years and older by place of residence. Employed includes nonfarm payroll employment, self-employed, unpaid family workers, domestics, agriculture and labor disputants. Unemployment rate is calculated by dividing unemployed by civilian labor force.

U-6 is the total unemployed plus all persons marginally attached to the labor force plus total employed part-time for economic reasons, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus all persons marginally attached to the labor force.

Nonfarm Payroll Employment: 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. These survey-based estimates are revised quarterly, based on more complete information from employer tax records.