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Oregon's Nonfarm Payroll Employment Rises by 1,400 in March

In March, Oregon's seasonally adjusted nonfarm payroll employment rose by 1,400 jobs, following a revised gain of 2,800 jobs in February. March's gains were largest in **professional and business services** (+2,400 jobs); **government** (+1,000); and **wholesale trade** (+600). Monthly declines were largest in **construction** (-2,300 jobs); **retail trade** (-600); and **manufacturing** (-600).

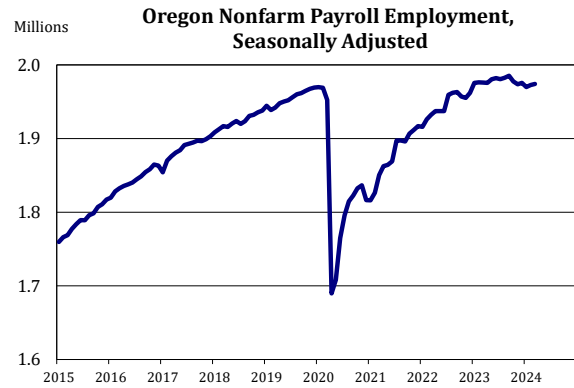
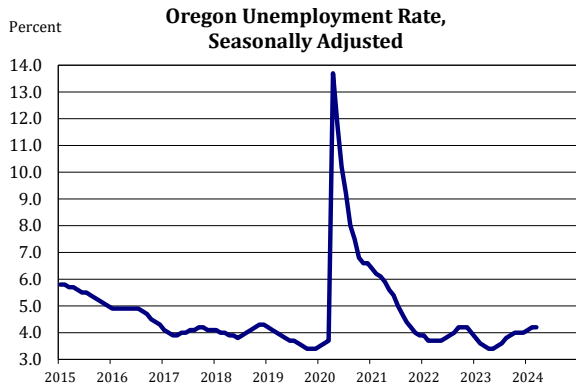
Hiring trends diverged during the first three months of the year. Several major industries expanded by at least 1,500 jobs, while others contracted. **Health care and social assistance** continued its rapid growth of the past two years with gains totaling 3,300 jobs during January, February, and March. **Administrative and waste services** added 2,700 jobs during those three months, which was an abrupt shift following this industry's loss of 4,600 jobs during 2023. **Government** added 1,500 jobs so far this year as it continued its recovery and expansion of the past three years.

The industry that dropped the most during the first three months of the year was **construction**, which dropped by 3,300 jobs, following a relatively flat year in 2023 when it gained only 900 jobs. Meanwhile, **accommodation and food services** dropped 1,900 jobs so far this year, which nearly erased its gain of 2,000 jobs last year.

Oregon's unemployment rate was 4.2% in both February and March. Its rise from a record low of 3.4% in May 2023 is a sign of a loosening labor market. Another indicator of a loosening labor market was the rise in the number of Oregonians employed part time for economic reasons, which rose to 73,000 in March from a low of 48,200 in September 2022.

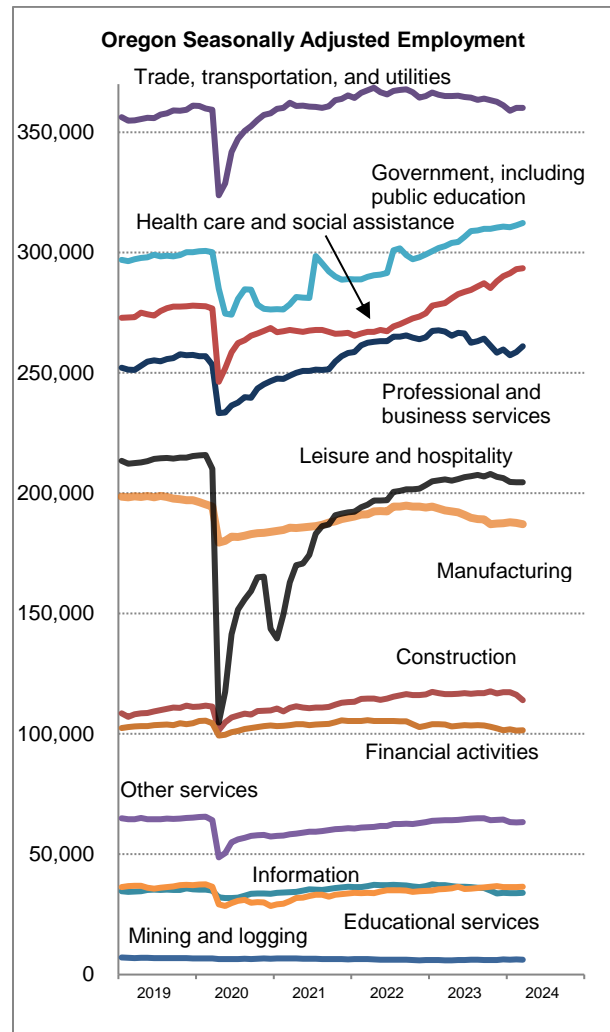
Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the March county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, April 23, and the next statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for April on Wednesday, May 15.



Seasonal Expectations and Over-the-Month Employment Changes February to March 2024

INDUSTRY	Normal Seasonal Movement	Unadjusted Change	Seasonally Adjusted Change
Total nonfarm payroll employment	7,000	8,400	1,400
Total private	5,200	5,600	400
Mining and logging	200	100	-100
Construction	600	-1,700	-2,300
Manufacturing	0	-600	-600
Wholesale trade	-300	300	600
Retail trade	-300	-900	-600
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	-500	-500	0
Information	-100	0	100
Financial activities	-600	-500	100
Professional and business services	1,200	3,600	2,400
Private educational services	300	500	200
Health care and social assistance	600	1,000	400
Leisure and hospitality	3,600	3,700	100
Other services	500	600	100
Government	1,800	2,800	1,000



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.

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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.

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Oregon Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	March 2024	February 2024	March 2023	Change From February 2024	Change From March 2023
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	2,194,753	2,189,294	2,157,826	5,459	36,927
Unemployed	97,177	104,642	80,299	-7,465	16,878
Unemployment rate	4.4	4.8	3.7	-0.4	0.7
Unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted	4.2	4.2	3.5	0.0	0.7
Employed	2,097,576	2,084,652	2,077,527	12,924	20,049
Other Labor Force Indicators					
Labor force participation rate, seasonally adjusted	62.8	62.6	62.3	0.2	0.5
Labor underutilization rate – U-6, seasonally adjusted	8.5	8.5	7.4	0.0	1.1
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm payroll employment	1,964,600	1,956,200	1,973,600	8,400	-9,000
Total private	1,646,200	1,640,600	1,664,100	5,600	-17,900
Mining and logging	6,100	6,000	5,800	100	300
Logging	4,300	4,200	4,200	100	100
Construction	110,800	112,500	114,400	-1,700	-3,600
Construction of buildings	32,800	32,500	32,200	300	600
Residential building construction	21,300	20,600	20,400	700	900
Nonresidential building construction	11,500	11,900	11,800	-400	-300
Heavy and civil engineering construction	9,900	10,100	10,500	-200	-600
Specialty trade contractors	68,100	69,900	71,700	-1,800	-3,600
Building foundation and exterior contractors	12,600	13,000	13,200	-400	-600
Building equipment contractors	32,500	33,400	34,000	-900	-1,500
Building finishing contractors	14,000	14,300	15,000	-300	-1,000
Other specialty trade contractors	9,000	9,200	9,500	-200	-500
Manufacturing	184,500	185,100	191,500	-600	-7,000
Durable goods	131,000	131,400	134,600	-400	-3,600
Wood product manufacturing	22,600	22,700	22,800	-100	-200
Sawmills and wood preservation	6,400	6,500	6,400	-100	0
Plywood and engineered wood product mfg.	8,400	8,400	8,300	0	100
Other wood product manufacturing	7,800	7,800	8,100	0	-300
Primary metal manufacturing	7,500	7,500	7,300	0	200
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	15,400	15,400	16,000	0	-600
Machinery manufacturing	14,000	14,000	14,600	0	-600
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	40,400	40,400	41,600	0	-1,200
Semiconductor and electronic component mfg.	33,600	33,600	34,400	0	-800
Electronic instrument manufacturing	4,800	4,800	4,800	0	0
Transportation equipment manufacturing	11,200	11,200	11,000	0	200
Nondurable goods	53,500	53,700	56,900	-200	-3,400
Food manufacturing	27,400	27,600	28,400	-200	-1,000
Fruit and vegetable preserving and specialty	8,900	8,800	9,700	100	-800
Paper manufacturing	3,900	3,900	4,300	0	-400
Trade, transportation, and utilities	356,000	357,100	362,400	-1,100	-6,400
Wholesale trade	76,900	76,600	77,700	300	-800
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	40,000	39,700	39,400	300	600
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	29,800	29,800	31,000	0	-1,200
Wholesale trade agents and brokers	7,100	7,100	7,300	0	-200
Retail trade	202,200	203,100	207,300	-900	-5,100
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	26,300	26,400	26,200	-100	100
Building material and garden equipment and supplies c	16,800	16,600	18,100	200	-1,300
Food and beverage retailers	47,100	47,400	47,300	-300	-200
General merchandise retailers	39,900	39,700	40,300	200	-400
Clothing, clothing accessories, shoe, and jewelry retail	15,300	15,400	15,600	-100	-300
Sporting goods, hobby, musical instrument, book, and	29,100	28,800	28,900	300	200

	March 2024	February 2024	March 2023	Change From February 2024	Change From March 2023
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	76,900	77,400	77,400	-500	-500
Utilities	5,200	5,200	5,000	0	200
Transportation and warehousing	71,700	72,200	72,400	-500	-700
Truck transportation	18,700	18,600	19,000	100	-300
Couriers and messengers	14,200	14,200	14,500	0	-300
Warehousing and storage	17,700	17,900	17,200	-200	500
Information	33,400	33,400	37,000	0	-3,600
Publishing industries	15,200	15,300	16,700	-100	-1,500
Newspaper, periodical, book, and directory publishe	2,200	2,200	2,400	0	-200
Software publishers	13,000	13,100	14,300	-100	-1,300
Telecommunications	4,000	4,000	4,300	0	-300
Financial activities	100,200	100,700	103,000	-500	-2,800
Finance and insurance	53,800	53,200	54,100	600	-300
Credit intermediation and related activities	21,900	21,800	23,100	100	-1,200
Insurance carriers and related activities	23,800	23,700	24,400	100	-600
Real estate and rental and leasing	46,400	47,500	48,900	-1,100	-2,500
Real estate	41,400	41,900	43,200	-500	-1,800
Professional and business services	259,700	256,100	266,700	3,600	-7,000
Professional and technical services	108,800	108,700	111,900	100	-3,100
Legal services	11,700	11,700	11,800	0	-100
Architectural and engineering services	18,900	18,800	18,800	100	100
Computer systems design and related services	16,800	16,900	17,600	-100	-800
Management of companies and enterprises	49,700	49,900	51,200	-200	-1,500
Administrative and waste services	101,200	97,500	103,600	3,700	-2,400
Administrative and support services	94,300	90,700	97,100	3,600	-2,800
Employment services	40,600	39,300	43,900	1,300	-3,300
Business support services	7,300	7,100	8,300	200	-1,000
Services to buildings and dwellings	25,800	24,600	26,100	1,200	-300
Private education and health services	333,100	331,600	318,500	1,500	14,600
Private educational services	38,500	38,000	38,200	500	300
Health care and social assistance	294,600	293,600	280,300	1,000	14,300
Ambulatory health care services	100,400	100,600	98,000	-200	2,400
Hospitals	60,500	60,500	58,900	0	1,600
Nursing and residential care facilities	55,800	55,700	51,600	100	4,200
Social assistance	77,900	76,800	71,800	1,100	6,100
Leisure and hospitality	199,300	195,600	201,000	3,700	-1,700
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	26,800	25,800	26,700	1,000	100
Amusement, gambling, and recreation	18,700	18,200	19,200	500	-500
Accommodation and food services	172,500	169,800	174,300	2,700	-1,800
Accommodation	22,800	22,100	22,900	700	-100
Food services and drinking places	149,700	147,700	151,400	2,000	-1,700
Full-service restaurants	61,000	61,100	62,900	-100	-1,900
Limited-service eating places	71,600	69,800	72,200	1,800	-600
Other services	63,100	62,500	63,800	600	-700
Repair and maintenance	18,700	18,800	19,700	-100	-1,000
Personal and laundry services	15,000	14,600	15,000	400	0
Membership associations and organizations	29,400	29,100	29,100	300	300
Religious organizations	14,400	14,100	14,400	300	0
Government	318,400	315,600	309,500	2,800	8,900
Federal government	28,900	28,400	27,300	500	1,600
State government	46,400	46,000	45,100	400	1,300
State education	1,300	1,300	1,300	0	0
Local government	243,100	241,200	237,100	1,900	6,000
Indian tribal	8,400	8,400	8,000	0	400
Local education	142,200	140,800	138,300	1,400	3,900
Labor-management disputes	0	0	0	0	0

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.