

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 23, 2023

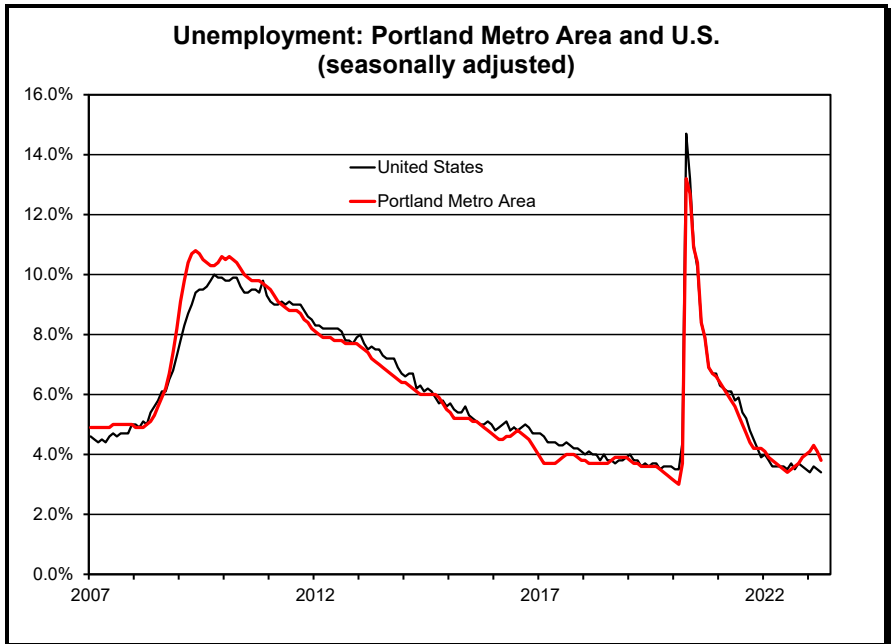
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## Portland Metropolitan Area: April 2023

The Portland metropolitan area's unemployment rate fell to 3.8% in April from 4.1% in March. It is slightly higher than a year ago (3.6%). Approximately 38,600 area residents were unemployed; 8,300 less than a year ago. The statewide unemployment rate declined to 4.0% and the national rate was 3.4% in April.

Employers added 6,100 jobs in April following a gain of 1,400 jobs in March (seasonally adjusted).

Within manufacturing, gains in nondurable goods more than offset losses in semiconductors and electronic products. Health care and social assistance exceeded the typical April gain by a few hundred jobs as did restaurants and drinking places. On the other end of the spectrum, employment services (temp help) underperformed seasonal norms, cutting 1,800 jobs.



Over the past 12 months, nonfarm payrolls rose by 22,900 jobs, or 1.9%. Leisure and hospitality continues to outpace all other industries (4.8%) as it recovers from pandemic losses. In contrast, financial activities lost jobs over the year (-1,700 jobs, -2.2%), continuing a trend that pre-dates the pandemic recession. Overall, annualized growth has slowed with every month in 2023, from 3.2% in January to 1.9% in April.

### Next Press Release

The Oregon Employment Department will release the Portland metropolitan area's unemployment rate and employment survey data for May on Wednesday, June 21.

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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The pdf version of the news release, including tables and graphs, can be found at [www.qualityinfo.org/press-release/](http://www.qualityinfo.org/press-release/). To obtain the data in other formats such as in Excel, visit [QualityInfo.org](http://QualityInfo.org), select Tools, and choose LAUS or CES from the dropdown menu. To request the press release as a Word document, contact the person shown at the top of this press release.

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](http://www.WorkSourceOregon.org).

The Oregon Employment Department (OED) is an equal opportunity agency. Everyone has a right to use OED programs and services. OED provides free help. Some examples are: Sign language and spoken language interpreters, written materials in other languages, braille, large print, audio and other formats. If you need help, please call 971-673-6400. TTY users call 711. You can also ask for help at [OED\\_Communications@employ.oregon.gov](mailto:OED_Communications@employ.oregon.gov).

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

	--Change From--				
	April 2023	March 2023	April 2022	March 2023	April 2022
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	1,350,989	1,367,848	1,357,055	-16,859	-6,066
Unemployed	38,567	48,298	46,844	-9,731	-8,277
Unemployment rate	2.9%	3.5%	3.5%	-0.6	-0.6
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.8%	4.1%	3.6%	-0.3	0.2
Employed	1,312,422	1,319,550	1,310,211	-7,128	2,211
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	1,243,900	1,238,300	1,221,000	5,600	22,900
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	1,253,500	1,247,400	1,219,700	6,100	33,800
Total private	1,088,300	1,083,000	1,070,100	5,300	18,200
Mining, logging, and construction	83,400	82,900	80,500	500	2,900
Mining and logging	1,000	1,000	1,100	0	-100
Construction	82,400	81,900	79,400	500	3,000
Construction of buildings	21,300	21,500	21,900	-200	-600
Residential building construction	13,400	13,400	13,500	0	-100
Nonresidential building construction	7,900	8,100	8,400	-200	-500
Heavy and civil engineering construction	6,500	6,500	6,400	0	100
Specialty trade contractors	54,600	53,900	51,100	700	3,500
Manufacturing	127,200	127,000	126,600	200	600
Durable goods	94,800	95,300	94,600	-500	200
Wood product manufacturing	4,100	4,100	4,300	0	-200
Primary metal manufacturing	4,900	4,900	4,900	0	0
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	12,400	12,500	12,700	-100	-300
Machinery manufacturing	10,500	10,500	10,500	0	0
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	40,800	41,200	40,300	-400	500
Semiconductor and electronic component mfg.	34,900	35,500	34,200	-600	700
Electronic instrument manufacturing	4,100	4,100	4,300	0	-200
Transportation equipment manufacturing	6,300	6,300	6,000	0	300
Nondurable goods	32,400	31,700	32,000	700	400
Food manufacturing	13,800	13,700	14,000	100	-200
Paper manufacturing	2,500	2,500	2,500	0	0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	223,800	224,000	224,500	-200	-700
Wholesale trade	55,700	56,700	56,600	-1,000	-900
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	30,200	30,700	30,500	-500	-300
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	19,800	20,200	20,100	-400	-300
Wholesale trade agents and brokers	5,700	5,800	6,000	-100	-300
Retail trade	115,600	115,100	115,800	500	-200
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	14,100	14,100	14,400	0	-300
Food and beverage retailers	25,400	25,500	24,600	-100	800
General merchandise retailers	22,600	22,600	22,900	0	-300
Clothing, accessories, shoe, and jewelry retailers	10,300	10,400	10,400	-100	-100
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	52,500	52,200	52,100	300	400
Utilities	2,600	2,600	2,600	0	0
Transportation and warehousing	49,900	49,600	49,500	300	400
Air transportation	3,900	3,900	3,900	0	0
Truck transportation	11,100	11,100	11,400	0	-300
Couriers and messengers	9,900	10,200	10,400	-300	-500
Warehousing and storage	11,600	11,800	12,900	-200	-1,300
Information	27,400	26,700	27,300	700	100
Publishing industries	12,800	12,500	12,800	300	0
Software publishers	11,100	10,900	11,200	200	-100
Telecommunications	2,800	2,900	3,000	-100	-200

## Nonfarm Payroll Employment (continued)

	--Change From--				
	April 2023	March 2023	April 2022	March 2023	April 2022
Financial activities	74,400	73,800	76,100	600	-1,700
Finance and insurance	42,200	42,000	44,000	200	-1,800
Credit intermediation and related activities	16,300	16,200	17,500	100	-1,200
Insurance carriers and related activities	17,900	17,800	18,500	100	-600
Real estate and rental and leasing	32,200	31,800	32,100	400	100
Professional and business services	202,000	202,500	198,300	-500	3,700
Professional and technical services	86,800	86,700	85,300	100	1,500
Architectural and engineering services	15,400	15,500	15,400	-100	0
Computer systems design and related services	15,000	15,200	15,900	-200	-900
Management of companies and enterprises	41,800	41,500	40,400	300	1,400
Administrative and waste services	73,400	74,300	72,600	-900	800
Administrative and support services	69,300	70,300	69,000	-1,000	300
Employment services	31,000	32,800	33,000	-1,800	-2,000
Business support services	5,000	5,000	5,300	0	-300
Services to buildings and dwellings	17,400	17,000	16,600	400	800
Private education and health services	190,600	190,100	184,500	500	6,100
Private educational services	28,300	28,300	27,700	0	600
Private colleges and universities	11,500	11,500	11,000	0	500
Health care and social assistance	162,300	161,800	156,800	500	5,500
Ambulatory health care services	59,200	59,300	58,500	-100	700
Hospitals	31,500	31,400	30,700	100	800
Nursing and residential care facilities	28,200	28,300	27,100	-100	1,100
Social assistance	43,400	42,800	40,500	600	2,900
Leisure and hospitality	116,300	114,300	111,500	2,000	4,800
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	16,000	16,100	15,600	-100	400
Amusement, gambling, and recreation	11,300	11,200	10,900	100	400
Accommodation and food services	100,300	98,200	95,900	2,100	4,400
Accommodation	9,400	9,200	8,000	200	1,400
Food services and drinking places	90,900	89,000	87,900	1,900	3,000
Full-service restaurants	38,400	38,000	36,900	400	1,500
Limited-service eating places	41,800	41,600	41,200	200	600
Other services	43,200	41,700	40,800	1,500	2,400
Membership associations and organizations	18,200	17,400	16,700	800	1,500
Government	155,600	155,300	150,900	300	4,700
Federal government	17,800	17,700	17,900	100	-100
State government	12,600	12,600	12,300	0	300
State education	1,800	1,800	1,900	0	-100
Local government	125,200	125,000	120,700	200	4,500
Local education	69,200	69,100	66,600	100	2,600

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.