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Portland Metropolitan Area: August 2024

The Portland metropolitan area's unemployment rate was 4.0% in August, unchanged from July and slightly higher than the year-ago rate of 3.7%. Approximately 56,200 area residents were unemployed; 2,700 more than a year ago. The statewide rate was also 4.0% and the national rate edged down to 4.2%.

Employers added 2,300 jobs in August following a gain of 600 in July (seasonally adjusted).

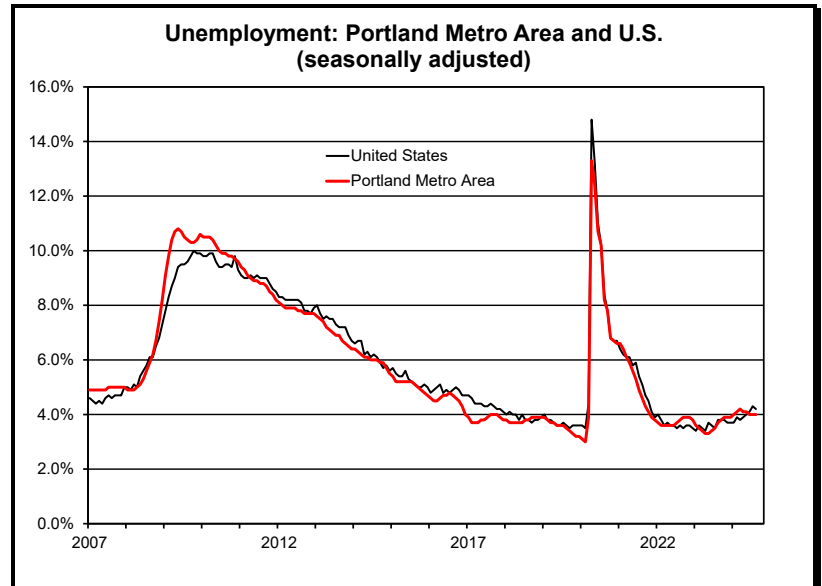
Overall, August's job gains were in line with historical trends for this time of year. However, at the broad industry level, not all sectors followed seasonal norms. Professional and business services added about half the typical number of jobs for August following strong gains in July. Construction gains also fell short of seasonal norms. Retail trade, manufacturing, and leisure and hospitality shed jobs during a month that typically sees gains or little change.

Weakness in these sectors was more than offset by strength in private education and health services, transportation and warehousing, and public education.

Over the past 12 months, nonfarm payroll employment rose by 16,000 jobs, or 1.3%; the fastest annual growth rate since June 2023. Since the beginning of the year, when annual growth bottomed out at -1.1%, almost every broad industry has improved.

Next Press Release

The Oregon Employment Department will release the Portland metropolitan area's unemployment rate and employment survey data for September on Tuesday, Oct. 22.



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

	August 2024	July 2024	August 2023	--Change From--	
				July 2024	August 2023
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	1,373,188	1,368,891	1,363,463	4,297	9,725
Unemployed	56,238	59,282	53,517	-3,044	2,721
Unemployment rate	4.1%	4.3%	3.9%	-0.2	0.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.0%	4.0%	3.7%	0.0	0.3
Employed	1,316,950	1,309,609	1,309,946	7,341	7,004
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	1,257,400	1,254,500	1,241,400	2,900	16,000
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	1,245,800	1,243,500	1,244,800	2,300	1,000
Total private	1,103,600	1,099,900	1,092,400	3,700	11,200
Mining, logging, and construction	86,700	86,100	84,900	600	1,800
Mining and logging	1,100	1,100	1,100	0	0
Construction	85,600	85,000	83,800	600	1,800
Construction of buildings	22,700	22,400	22,300	300	400
Residential building construction	14,100	13,900	13,700	200	400
Nonresidential building construction	8,600	8,500	8,600	100	0
Heavy and civil engineering construction	7,700	7,600	7,600	100	100
Specialty trade contractors	55,200	55,000	53,900	200	1,300
Manufacturing	126,500	127,100	125,300	-600	1,200
Durable goods	93,500	93,600	93,300	-100	200
Wood product manufacturing	4,100	4,100	4,100	0	0
Primary metal manufacturing	4,700	4,700	4,600	0	100
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	12,200	12,100	12,000	100	200
Machinery manufacturing	9,400	9,400	9,700	0	-300
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	40,600	40,800	40,600	-200	0
Semiconductor and electronic component mfg.	35,200	35,300	34,700	-100	500
Electronic instrument manufacturing	4,300	4,300	4,300	0	0
Transportation equipment manufacturing	7,000	7,000	6,700	0	300
Nondurable goods	33,000	33,500	32,000	-500	1,000
Food manufacturing	14,500	14,700	14,100	-200	400
Paper manufacturing	2,700	2,700	2,500	0	200
Trade, transportation, and utilities	223,600	222,800	224,100	800	-500
Wholesale trade	58,900	58,700	58,200	200	700
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	31,600	31,400	31,200	200	400
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	21,400	21,400	21,100	0	300
Wholesale trade agents and brokers	5,900	5,900	5,900	0	0
Retail trade	113,700	114,100	115,500	-400	-1,800
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	14,500	14,400	14,600	100	-100
Food and beverage retailers	25,600	25,600	25,400	0	200
General merchandise retailers	22,600	22,700	22,500	-100	100
Clothing, accessories, shoe, and jewelry retailers	10,500	10,500	10,800	0	-300
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	51,000	50,000	50,400	1,000	600
Utilities	2,600	2,600	2,700	0	-100
Transportation and warehousing	48,400	47,400	47,700	1,000	700
Air transportation	4,300	4,200	4,100	100	200
Truck transportation	10,600	10,600	10,900	0	-300
Couriers and messengers	10,400	9,900	10,200	500	200
Warehousing and storage	11,400	11,300	11,400	100	0
Information	27,200	27,500	27,200	-300	0
Publishing industries	12,100	12,300	12,400	-200	-300
Software publishers	10,900	11,000	11,000	-100	-100
Telecommunications	2,600	2,700	2,900	-100	-300

Nonfarm Payroll Employment (continued)

	--Change From--				
	August 2024	July 2024	August 2023	July 2024	August 2023
Financial activities	75,000	74,900	74,100	100	900
Finance and insurance	41,500	41,100	41,000	400	500
Credit intermediation and related activities	15,100	15,000	15,300	100	-200
Insurance carriers and related activities	18,900	18,700	18,800	200	100
Real estate and rental and leasing	33,500	33,800	33,100	-300	400
Professional and business services	197,000	196,400	199,000	600	-2,000
Professional and technical services	84,200	84,300	85,800	-100	-1,600
Architectural and engineering services	15,800	15,700	16,200	100	-400
Computer systems design and related services	15,200	15,200	15,600	0	-400
Management of companies and enterprises	41,800	41,600	42,400	200	-600
Administrative and waste services	71,000	70,500	70,800	500	200
Administrative and support services	67,000	66,500	66,800	500	200
Employment services	30,100	29,700	29,100	400	1,000
Business support services	4,100	4,100	4,700	0	-600
Services to buildings and dwellings	17,600	17,500	17,800	100	-200
Private education and health services	199,700	195,800	190,000	3,900	9,700
Private educational services	24,700	22,300	23,700	2,400	1,000
Private colleges and universities	8,000	7,400	7,200	600	800
Health care and social assistance	175,000	173,500	166,300	1,500	8,700
Ambulatory health care services	63,300	62,700	60,900	600	2,400
Hospitals	33,000	32,700	31,500	300	1,500
Nursing and residential care facilities	32,600	32,300	30,400	300	2,200
Social assistance	46,100	45,800	43,500	300	2,600
Leisure and hospitality	124,100	124,800	124,400	-700	-300
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	18,600	19,000	19,200	-400	-600
Amusement, gambling, and recreation	13,500	13,900	13,900	-400	-400
Accommodation and food services	105,500	105,800	105,200	-300	300
Accommodation	11,000	11,000	10,600	0	400
Food services and drinking places	94,500	94,800	94,600	-300	-100
Full-service restaurants	39,400	40,300	38,800	-900	600
Limited-service eating places	44,800	43,900	44,400	900	400
Other services	43,800	44,500	43,400	-700	400
Membership associations and organizations	17,900	18,000	18,100	-100	-200
Government	153,800	154,600	149,000	-800	4,800
Federal government	19,100	19,300	18,500	-200	600
State government	13,900	13,800	13,300	100	600
State education	1,900	1,600	1,700	300	200
Local government	120,800	121,500	117,200	-700	3,600
Local education	60,200	60,900	59,000	-700	1,200

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.