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CONTACT INFORMATION:

Amy Vander Vliet, Economist

Amy.S.VanderVliet@employ.oregon.gov

(971) 804-2099

Portland Metropolitan Area: February 2025

Employers cut 1,800 jobs in February following a gain of 2,600 jobs in January (seasonally adjusted).

Construction (-400) and leisure and hospitality (-900) shed jobs during a month that typically sees gains after a January lull. Private education added about one-third the typical gain, mostly offsetting January's stronger-than-average growth. Leisure and hospitality cut 900 jobs across all published sectors when a gain of roughly 1,000 jobs is the norm for this time of year. On the other end of the spectrum, professional and business services added several hundred jobs more than typical for February.

Year-over-year employment growth turned negative in February (-2,400 jobs; -0.2%). This is the third month over the past year registering a deficit. Only part of the decline is due to a large strike at a major health care provider (which has since ended). All but four broad industries are down over the year led by manufacturing (-4,600 jobs; -3.7%) and construction (-2,800 jobs; -3.5%). Continued growth in private healthcare (+6,100 jobs; 3.6% despite the strike) and government (+4,200; 2.6% - mostly in local education) largely offset these losses.

The Portland metropolitan area's unemployment rate was 5.0% in February (not seasonally adjusted). The comparable year-ago rate was 4.4%. Approximately 68,800 area residents were unemployed; 8,600 more than a year ago. The statewide unadjusted unemployment rate was 5.2%.

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 March on Tuesday, April 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

	February 2025	January 2025	February 2024	--Change From--	
				January 2025	February 2024
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	1,377,936	1,380,803	1,383,542	-2,867	-5,606
Unemployed	68,828	69,042	60,251	-214	8,577
Unemployment rate	5.0%	5.0%	4.4%	0.0	0.6
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>					
Employed	1,309,108	1,311,761	1,323,291	-2,653	-14,183
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	1,235,800	1,233,500	1,238,200	2,300	-2,400
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>1,246,200</i>	<i>1,248,000</i>	<i>1,245,800</i>	<i>-1,800</i>	<i>400</i>
Total private	1,072,900	1,072,100	1,079,500	800	-6,600
Mining, logging, and construction	78,500	79,000	81,400	-500	-2,900
Mining and logging	1,000	1,100	1,100	-100	-100
Construction	77,500	77,900	80,300	-400	-2,800
Construction of buildings	20,100	20,000	21,300	100	-1,200
Residential building construction	12,100	12,100	13,200	0	-1,100
Nonresidential building construction	8,000	7,900	8,100	100	-100
Heavy and civil engineering construction	6,900	6,900	6,800	0	100
Specialty trade contractors	50,500	51,000	52,200	-500	-1,700
Manufacturing	118,100	117,900	122,700	200	-4,600
Durable goods	88,000	87,800	91,900	200	-3,900
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	11,700	11,600	11,900	100	-200
Machinery manufacturing	9,100	9,000	9,300	100	-200
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	36,500	36,500	39,800	0	-3,300
Semiconductor and electronic component mfg.	31,200	31,200	34,100	0	-2,900
Electronic instrument manufacturing	3,900	3,900	4,200	0	-300
Transportation equipment manufacturing	6,500	6,500	6,900	0	-400
Nondurable goods	30,100	30,100	30,800	0	-700
Food manufacturing	13,600	13,600	13,600	0	0
Paper manufacturing	2,300	2,300	2,500	0	-200
Trade, transportation, and utilities	219,800	221,500	221,000	-1,700	-1,200
Wholesale trade	57,400	57,500	57,700	-100	-300
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	31,300	31,200	30,900	100	400
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	20,500	20,700	20,900	-200	-400
Wholesale trade agents and brokers	5,600	5,600	5,900	0	-300
Retail trade	112,900	113,600	112,300	-700	600
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	14,300	14,300	14,200	0	100
Food and beverage retailers	25,400	25,400	25,100	0	300
General merchandise retailers	22,100	22,400	22,100	-300	0
Clothing, accessories, shoe, and jewelry retailers	10,100	10,500	10,100	-400	0
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	49,500	50,400	51,000	-900	-1,500
Utilities	2,800	2,800	2,600	0	200
Transportation and warehousing	46,700	47,600	48,400	-900	-1,700
Air transportation	4,300	4,200	4,100	100	200
Truck transportation	10,400	10,400	10,500	0	-100
Couriers and messengers	9,900	10,300	10,400	-400	-500
Warehousing and storage	12,200	12,400	11,800	-200	400
Information	27,400	27,100	26,800	300	600
Publishing industries	12,100	12,100	12,300	0	-200
Software publishers	10,800	10,800	11,000	0	-200
Telecommunications	2,500	2,500	2,800	0	-300

Nonfarm Payroll Employment (continued)

	--Change From--				
	February 2025	January 2025	February 2024	January 2025	February 2024
Financial activities	71,400	72,000	71,400	-600	0
Finance and insurance	40,400	40,700	40,200	-300	200
Credit intermediation and related activities	14,000	14,100	14,700	-100	-700
Insurance carriers and related activities	18,500	18,700	18,700	-200	-200
Real estate and rental and leasing	31,000	31,300	31,200	-300	-200
Professional and business services	193,600	191,400	196,200	2,200	-2,600
Professional and technical services	85,900	84,600	86,200	1,300	-300
Architectural and engineering services	16,200	15,900	15,700	300	500
Computer systems design and related services	15,100	14,600	15,700	500	-600
Management of companies and enterprises	40,400	40,400	41,500	0	-1,100
Administrative and waste services	67,300	66,400	68,500	900	-1,200
Administrative and support services	63,200	62,300	64,400	900	-1,200
Employment services	26,400	25,900	27,300	500	-900
Business support services	3,500	3,500	4,300	0	-800
Services to buildings and dwellings	17,400	17,000	16,800	400	600
Private education and health services	206,100	204,400	200,700	1,700	5,400
Private educational services	28,400	27,400	29,100	1,000	-700
Private colleges and universities	10,600	9,700	10,900	900	-300
Health care and social assistance	177,700	177,000	171,600	700	6,100
Ambulatory health care services	63,700	63,200	62,500	500	1,200
Hospitals	32,500	32,700	32,200	-200	300
Nursing and residential care facilities	33,200	33,100	31,400	100	1,800
Social assistance	48,300	48,000	45,500	300	2,800
Leisure and hospitality	113,500	114,400	116,100	-900	-2,600
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	16,500	16,700	17,200	-200	-700
Amusement, gambling, and recreation	11,800	11,900	12,100	-100	-300
Accommodation and food services	97,000	97,700	98,900	-700	-1,900
Accommodation	9,700	9,700	9,700	0	0
Food services and drinking places	87,300	88,000	89,200	-700	-1,900
Full-service restaurants	35,600	35,900	36,500	-300	-900
Limited-service eating places	41,200	41,400	41,600	-200	-400
Other services	44,500	44,400	43,200	100	1,300
Membership associations and organizations	18,600	18,300	17,900	300	700
Government	162,900	161,400	158,700	1,500	4,200
Federal government	18,800	18,900	18,900	-100	-100
State government	14,200	14,200	13,700	0	500
State education	2,000	2,000	2,000	0	0
Local government	129,900	128,300	126,100	1,600	3,800
Local education	71,500	70,200	68,200	1,300	3,300

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.