

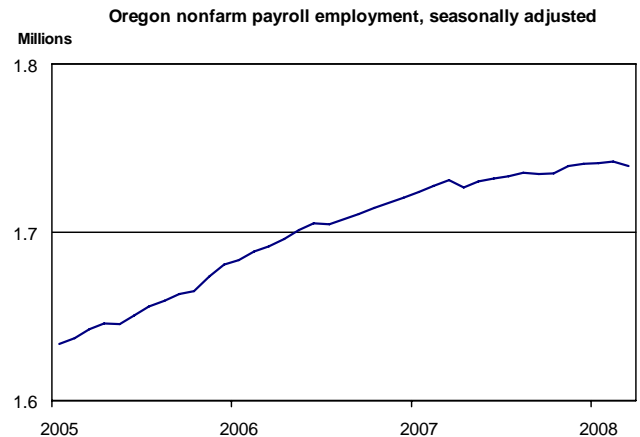
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 14, 2008

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Oregon's Employment Situation: March 2008

Oregon's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.7 percent in March and the revised figure for February was 5.4 percent. The U.S. seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose to 5.1 percent in March from 4.8 percent in February.

In March, Oregon's seasonally adjusted nonfarm payroll employment declined 2,700, following a revised gain of 900 jobs in February.



Industry Payroll Employment (Establishment Survey Data)

In March, total seasonally adjusted payroll employment dropped by 2,700, the first decline in six months. February's figure was revised upward to show a gain of 900 jobs as opposed to the originally reported loss of 1,400 jobs.

In March, several major industries recorded substantial seasonally adjusted job declines: trade, transportation, and utilities (-1,600 jobs), manufacturing (-1,300), construction (-700) and leisure and hospitality (-700). These losses were partially balanced by seasonally adjusted job gains in educational and health services (+1,300 jobs) and government (+1,100).

Trade, transportation, and utilities added only 500 jobs when a gain of 2,100 would be the normal March seasonal movement. Retail trade added 100 jobs as did wholesale trade. Despite the weak gain in March, over the past few months, retail trade has shown modest growth, with employment up 2,900 or 1.5 percent since March 2007. On the other hand, wholesale trade has been impacted by declines in manufacturing and is down 300 jobs during the past 12 months.

Manufacturing continued to trend downward in March as durable goods manufacturing shed 1,200 jobs. Durable goods has declined at a rapid rate since reaching a multi-year peak of 156,900 jobs in August 2006. Employment in March stood at 145,700, meaning that 11,200 jobs have been lost in less than two years. Since March 2007, losses have been substantial in wood product manufacturing (-2,000 jobs), computer and electronic product manufacturing (-1,500), and transportation equipment manufacturing (-1,500). Conversely, nondurable goods manufacturing has expanded over the last two years and has gained 900 jobs since March 2007.

Construction posted no employment change during a month in which 700 jobs typically would be added. The March construction employment total of 93,700 was down 6,800 jobs from the year-ago figure. The residential side saw substantial cutbacks in March as residential building construction shed 500 jobs and building foundation and exterior contractors also cut 500 jobs.

Seasonally adjusted construction employment peaked at 105,200 in August 2007 and is now down to 97,900 jobs, equating a loss of nearly seven percent in seven months' time.

Leisure and hospitality marked time for the last few months after surging in the fourth quarter. The longer-term trend shows continued growth in this industry that is dominated by restaurant employment, with an over-the-year gain of 5,200 jobs or close to three percent.

Educational and health services continued to be the fastest growing major industry. It added 1,700 jobs in March, four times its normal seasonal pattern. Since March 2007, it is up 8,400 jobs or 4.0 percent. All industries within health care saw substantial job gains over the past 12 months and all were up in March. Employment trends over the past two years accelerated gradually as the baby boom generation started pushing into its golden years and health care increased as a percentage of its members' budgets.

Government added 2,400 jobs in March, which was nearly double its expected seasonal gain. It was up 8,100 jobs since March 2007, a gain of 2.8 percent. Local governments have expanded both their educational employment component as well as their other segments, following essentially no net job gains between 2002 and 2006. In March, local government employed 195,600, a gain of 5,500 or 2.9 percent from March 2007.

Unemployment (Household Survey Data)

Oregon's seasonally adjusted March unemployment rate of 5.7 percent was significantly above the lowest level over the past several years, which was reached in February, March and April 2007, when the rate was 5.0 percent.

In March 123,131 Oregonians were unemployed, the highest since March 2005 when 127,747 were unemployed. In March 2007, 106,497 Oregonians were unemployed.

The Oregon Employment Department will release statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for April 2008 at 11 a.m. on Monday, May 12, 2008.

— end —

For the complete version of the news release, including tables and graphs, visit: www.QualityInfo.org/pressrelease.

For help finding jobs and training resources, visit one of the state's WorkSource Oregon Centers or go to: www.WorkSourceOregon.org.

Equal Opportunity program — auxiliary aids and services available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

Oregon Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	March 2008	February 2008	March 2007	Change From February 2008	Change From March 2007
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	1,944,966	1,927,331	1,914,002	17,635	30,964
Unemployed	123,131	121,867	106,497	1,264	16,634
Unemployment rate	6.3	6.3	5.6	0.0	0.7
Unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted	5.7	5.4	5.0	0.3	0.7
Employed	1,821,835	1,805,464	1,807,505	16,371	14,330
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm payroll employment	1,728,100	1,721,400	1,717,700	6,700	10,400
Total private	1,425,800	1,421,500	1,423,500	4,300	2,300
Natural resources and mining	7,700	8,200	8,900	-500	-1,200
Logging	5,700	6,000	6,800	-300	-1,100
Construction	93,700	93,700	100,500	0	-6,800
Construction of buildings	24,200	24,700	25,200	-500	-1,000
Residential building construction	14,000	14,500	15,400	-500	-1,400
Nonresidential building construction	10,200	10,200	9,800	0	400
Heavy and civil engineering construction	9,900	9,500	11,200	400	-1,300
Specialty trade contractors	59,600	59,500	64,100	100	-4,500
Building foundation and exterior contractors	12,100	12,600	14,100	-500	-2,000
Building equipment contractors	24,200	24,200	25,100	0	-900
Building finishing contractors	13,900	13,500	15,500	400	-1,600
Other specialty trade contractors	9,400	9,200	9,400	200	0
Manufacturing	197,900	198,900	203,500	-1,000	-5,600
Durable goods	145,700	146,900	152,200	-1,200	-6,500
Wood product manufacturing	28,400	28,400	30,400	0	-2,000
Sawmills and wood preservation	7,400	7,400	8,600	0	-1,200
Plywood and engineered wood product mfg.	9,500	9,500	9,900	0	-400
Other wood product manufacturing	11,500	11,500	11,900	0	-400
Primary metal manufacturing	9,500	9,400	9,000	100	500
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	17,100	17,000	17,000	100	100
Machinery manufacturing	12,400	12,400	12,100	0	300
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	39,400	39,400	40,900	0	-1,500
Computer and peripheral equipment mfg.	3,500	3,500	3,500	0	0
Semiconductor and electronic component mfg.	28,700	28,700	29,700	0	-1,000
Electronic instrument manufacturing	6,200	6,200	6,000	0	200
Transportation equipment manufacturing	16,800	16,700	18,300	100	-1,500
Nondurable goods	52,200	52,000	51,300	200	900
Food manufacturing	21,600	21,400	21,200	200	400
Fruit and vegetable preserving and specialty	9,100	9,000	8,600	100	500
Paper manufacturing	6,000	6,000	6,300	0	-300
Trade, transportation, and utilities	336,800	336,300	333,800	500	3,000
Wholesale trade	80,200	80,100	80,500	100	-300
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	36,800	36,600	37,300	200	-500
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	30,900	30,900	30,900	0	0
Electronic markets and agents and brokers	12,500	12,600	12,300	-100	200
Retail trade	198,200	198,100	195,300	100	2,900
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	25,900	26,400	27,400	-500	-1,500
Building material and garden supply stores	15,700	14,900	15,700	800	0
Food and beverage stores	37,400	37,400	37,700	0	-300
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	17,300	17,300	17,100	0	200
Sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores	10,200	10,200	10,100	0	100
General merchandise stores	38,700	38,700	36,500	0	2,200
Miscellaneous store retailers	11,200	11,500	11,000	-300	200
Nonstore retailers	6,300	6,300	6,800	0	-500

	March 2008	February 2008	March 2007	Change From February 2008	Change From March 2007
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	58,400	58,100	58,000	300	400
Utilities	4,600	4,600	4,600	0	0
Transportation and warehousing	53,800	53,500	53,400	300	400
Air transportation	4,600	4,600	4,400	0	200
Truck transportation	19,100	18,900	19,400	200	-300
Couriers and messengers	6,500	6,400	6,700	100	-200
Warehousing and storage	7,400	7,400	7,300	0	100
Information	36,000	36,100	35,800	-100	200
Publishing industries, except internet	16,000	16,000	15,800	0	200
Newspaper, book, and directory publishers	6,600	6,700	6,800	-100	-200
Software publishers	9,400	9,300	9,000	100	400
Telecommunications	8,600	8,500	8,800	100	-200
Financial activities	104,400	104,300	107,100	100	-2,700
Finance and insurance	62,800	62,900	63,900	-100	-1,100
Credit intermediation and related activities	30,600	30,900	31,700	-300	-1,100
Insurance carriers and related activities	28,100	28,000	27,000	100	1,100
Real estate and rental and leasing	41,600	41,400	43,200	200	-1,600
Real estate	34,200	33,900	35,500	300	-1,300
Professional and business services	197,400	195,700	195,300	1,700	2,100
Professional and technical services	72,200	72,300	71,500	-100	700
Legal services	12,700	12,600	12,400	100	300
Architectural and engineering services	15,600	15,600	14,700	0	900
Computer systems design and related services	9,300	9,200	9,100	100	200
Management of companies and enterprises	30,500	30,300	29,500	200	1,000
Administrative and waste services	94,700	93,100	94,300	1,600	400
Administrative and support services	90,300	88,700	88,900	1,600	1,400
Employment services	38,800	38,200	39,200	600	-400
Business support services	14,900	15,000	15,300	-100	-400
Services to buildings and dwellings	22,000	20,900	20,800	1,100	1,200
Educational and health services	220,800	219,100	212,400	1,700	8,400
Educational services	32,200	31,600	31,400	600	800
Health care and social assistance	188,600	187,500	181,000	1,100	7,600
Ambulatory health care services	66,800	65,900	64,200	900	2,600
Hospitals	52,400	52,200	50,500	200	1,900
Nursing and residential care facilities	39,200	38,900	38,100	300	1,100
Social assistance	30,200	30,500	28,200	-300	2,000
Leisure and hospitality	171,400	169,900	166,200	1,500	5,200
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	24,500	24,800	22,500	-300	2,000
Amusement, gambling, and recreation	17,800	17,500	17,000	300	800
Accommodation and food services	146,900	145,100	143,700	1,800	3,200
Accommodation	18,700	18,300	20,100	400	-1,400
Food services and drinking places	128,200	126,800	123,600	1,400	4,600
Full-service restaurants	59,700	59,200	59,800	500	-100
Limited-service eating places	53,800	52,900	52,700	900	1,100
Other services	59,700	59,300	60,000	400	-300
Repair and maintenance	17,500	17,500	17,700	0	-200
Personal and laundry services	13,100	13,000	12,900	100	200
Membership associations and organizations	29,100	28,800	29,400	300	-300
Religious organizations	17,100	17,000	17,400	100	-300
Government	302,300	299,900	294,200	2,400	8,100
Federal government	28,800	28,900	28,100	-100	700
State government	77,900	76,900	76,000	1,000	1,900
State education	30,000	29,600	29,400	400	600
Local government	195,600	194,100	190,100	1,500	5,500
Indian tribal	8,500	8,300	7,800	200	700
Local education	106,200	105,600	103,500	600	2,700
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.

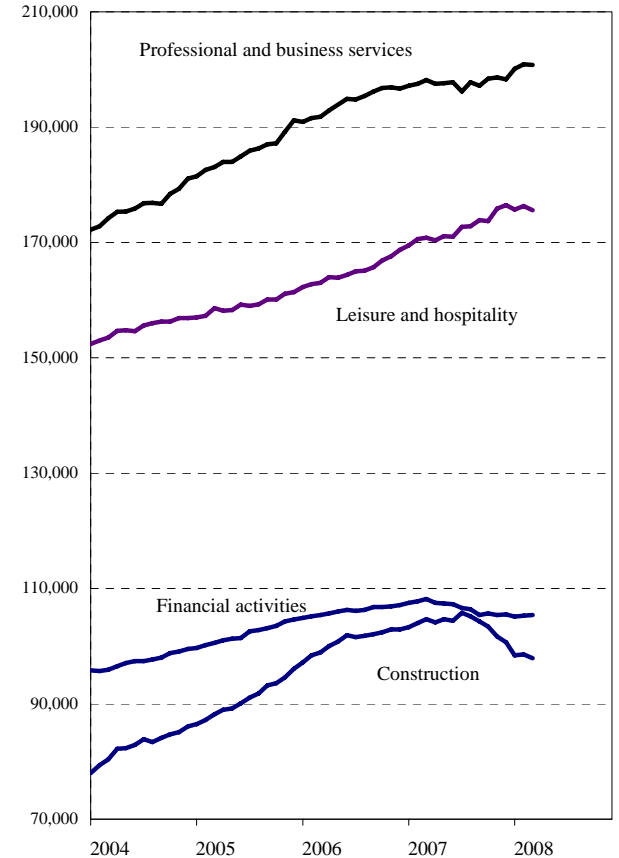
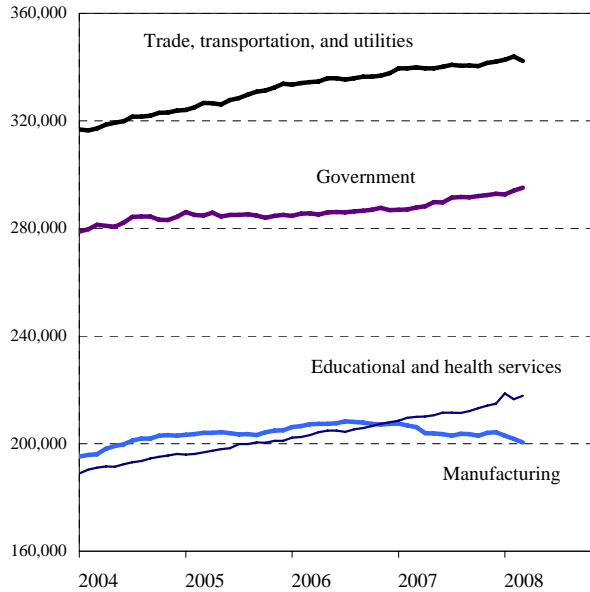
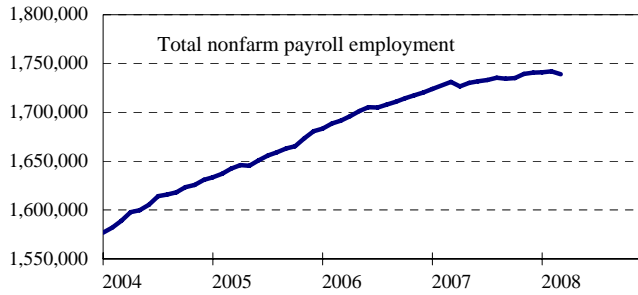
Nonfarm Payroll Employment: Data are by place of work and cover full- and part-time employees who worked or received pay for the pay period that includes the 12th of the month. The data exclude the self-employed, volunteers, unpaid family workers, and domestics. "Natural resources" includes only Logging (NAICS 1133).

Oregon Seasonally Adjusted Employment

(Most recent 13 months)

Industry	Mar 2007	Apr 2007	May 2007	Jun 2007	Jul 2007	Aug 2007	Sep 2007	Oct 2007	Nov 2007	Dec 2007	Jan 2008	Feb 2008	Mar 2008
Total nonfarm--monthly change	3,500	-4,500	3,600	1,400	1,600	2,100	-900	600	4,200	1,300	400	900	-2,700
Total nonfarm	1,731,200	1,726,700	1,730,300	1,731,700	1,733,300	1,735,400	1,734,500	1,735,100	1,739,300	1,740,600	1,741,000	1,741,900	1,739,200
Natural resources and mining	9,400	9,500	9,400	9,400	9,000	9,000	9,100	9,200	9,300	9,500	9,300	8,600	8,200
Construction	104,700	104,100	104,700	104,400	105,800	105,200	104,300	103,400	101,700	100,700	98,400	98,600	97,900
Manufacturing	206,200	203,900	203,800	203,500	202,900	203,700	203,500	203,000	204,000	204,300	202,900	201,800	200,500
Trade, transportation, and utilities	339,900	339,500	339,500	340,100	340,800	340,500	340,600	340,400	341,500	342,000	342,700	343,900	342,300
Information	35,800	35,900	36,300	36,700	36,300	36,700	36,600	36,200	36,600	36,400	36,100	36,100	36,000
Financial activities	108,200	107,500	107,400	107,300	106,600	106,400	105,400	105,700	105,400	105,500	105,100	105,300	105,400
Professional and business services	198,200	197,500	197,600	197,800	196,200	197,800	197,200	198,400	198,600	198,300	200,100	200,900	200,800
Educational and health services	210,000	210,100	210,600	211,500	211,500	211,400	212,100	213,200	214,100	214,900	218,600	216,500	217,800
Leisure and hospitality	170,800	170,400	171,100	171,000	172,700	172,800	173,900	173,700	175,900	176,500	175,700	176,300	175,600
Other services	60,200	60,000	60,100	60,300	60,000	60,200	60,200	59,800	59,800	59,600	59,500	59,800	59,500
Government	287,800	288,300	289,800	289,700	291,500	291,700	291,600	292,100	292,400	292,900	292,600	294,100	295,200

Notes: The most recent month is a preliminary figure.





**Seasonal Expectations and
 Over-the-Month Employment Changes**

February 2008 to March 2008

INDUSTRY	OVER THE MONTH		
	Normal Seasonal Movements	Unadjusted OTM Change	Seasonally Adjusted OTM Change
Total nonfarm payroll employment	9,400	6,700	-2,700
Natural resources and mining	-100	-500	-400
Construction	700	0	-700
Manufacturing	300	-1,000	-1,300
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,100	500	-1,600
Information	0	-100	-100
Financial activities	0	100	100
Professional and business services	1,800	1,700	-100
Educational and health services	400	1,700	1,300
Leisure and hospitality	2,200	1,500	-700
Other services	700	400	-300
Government	1,300	2,400	1,100

	Annual Average	Jan.*	Feb.*	March**	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities		58,000	58,100	58,400									
Utilities		4,600	4,600	4,600									
Transportation and warehousing		53,400	53,500	53,800									
Air transportation		4,600	4,600	4,600									
Truck transportation		18,800	18,900	19,100									
Couriers and messengers		6,600	6,400	6,500									
Warehousing and storage		7,400	7,400	7,400									
Information		36,100	36,100	36,000									
Publishing industries, except internet		16,000	16,000	16,000									
Newspaper, book, and directory publishers		6,700	6,700	6,600									
Software publishers		9,300	9,300	9,400									
Telecommunications		8,600	8,500	8,600									
Financial activities		103,600	104,300	104,400									
Finance and insurance		62,500	62,900	62,800									
Credit intermediation and related activities		30,700	30,900	30,600									
Insurance carriers and related activities		27,800	28,000	28,100									
Real estate and rental and leasing		41,100	41,400	41,600									
Real estate		33,700	33,900	34,200									
Professional and business services		192,700	195,700	197,400									
Professional and technical services		70,700	72,300	72,200									
Legal services		12,600	12,600	12,700									
Architectural and engineering services		15,800	15,600	15,600									
Computer systems design and related services		9,100	9,200	9,300									
Management of companies and enterprises		30,400	30,300	30,500									
Administrative and waste services		91,600	93,100	94,700									
Administrative and support services		86,200	88,700	90,300									
Employment services		37,400	38,200	38,800									
Business support services		14,800	15,000	14,900									
Services to buildings and dwellings		20,600	20,900	22,000									
Educational and health services		215,400	219,100	220,800									
Educational services		28,900	31,600	32,200									
Health care and social assistance		186,500	187,500	188,600									
Ambulatory health care services		65,500	65,900	66,800									
Hospitals		52,000	52,200	52,400									
Nursing and residential care facilities		39,200	38,900	39,200									
Social assistance		29,800	30,500	30,200									
Leisure and hospitality		168,200	169,900	171,400									
Arts, entertainment, and recreation		23,700	24,800	24,500									
Amusement, gambling, and recreation		17,200	17,500	17,800									
Accommodation and food services		144,500	145,100	146,900									
Accommodation		18,500	18,300	18,700									
Food services and drinking places		126,000	126,800	128,200									
Full-service restaurants		58,800	59,200	59,700									
Limited-service eating places		52,700	52,900	53,800									
Other services		58,400	59,300	59,700									
Repair and maintenance		17,000	17,500	17,500									
Personal and laundry services		13,000	13,000	13,100									
Membership associations and organizations		28,400	28,800	29,100									
Religious organizations		16,900	17,000	17,100									
Government		294,000	299,900	302,300									
Federal government		28,900	28,900	28,800									
State government		74,100	76,900	77,900									
State education		27,500	29,600	30,000									
Local government		191,000	194,100	195,600									
Indian tribal		8,400	8,300	8,500									
Local education		103,000	105,600	106,200									
Labor-management disputes		0	0	0									

Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Annual average is the sum of monthly estimates divided by 12.

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