State of Oregon
Employment Department

NEWS

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Oregon's Unemployment Rate Was 8.0 Percent in April, As Payroll Employment Rose for the Seventh Consecutive Month

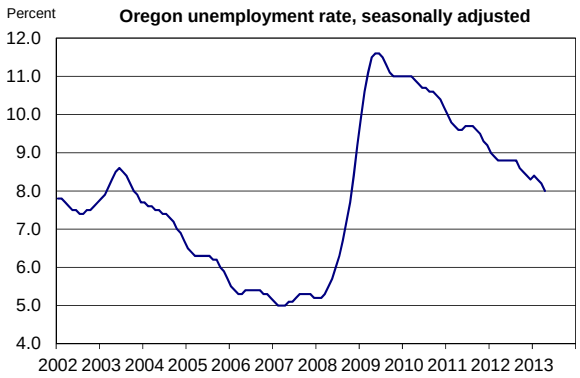
Oregon's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 8.0 percent in April and 8.2 percent in March.

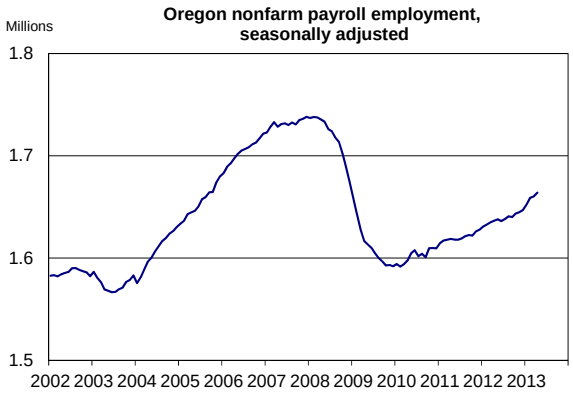
Industry Payroll Employment (Establishment Survey Data)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, preliminary estimates from the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) indicate nonfarm payroll employment in Oregon rose by 3,700 jobs in April. Large gains in leisure and hospitality (+2,600 jobs), manufacturing (+1,200), and other services (+1,100) were partially offset by a drop in construction (-1,200). Revised estimates for March show a gain of 1,300 jobs, when a gain of 1,900 was initially reported.

April Labor Market Highlights

- Oregon's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 8.0 percent in April. It has trended downward for nearly four years.
- Oregon's seasonally adjusted nonfarm payroll employment has risen for seven consecutive months.
- Seasonally adjusted nonfarm payroll employment estimates for December and subsequent months were revised upward by 3,100 jobs as a result of a new quarterly revision process.





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The federal Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that **construction** employment rose by only 1,700 in April when a gain of 2,900 is the normal seasonal movement. This weak showing followed strong gains in February and March. Over the longer term, construction added 1,400 jobs since April 2012, but at 68,100 jobs in April 2013, it was still well below its record April high of 101,500 reached in April 2007.

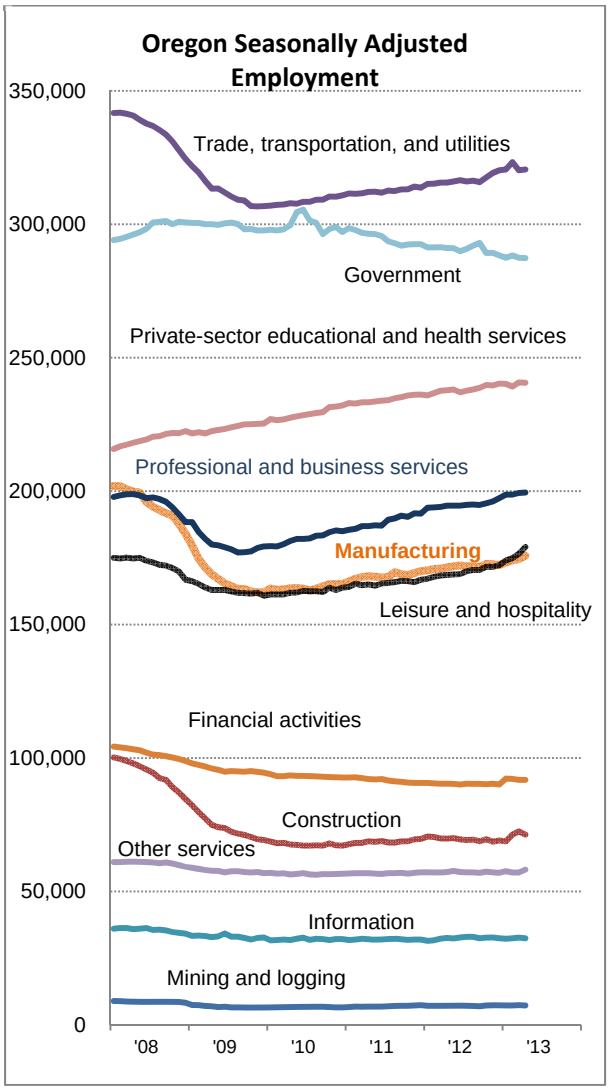
Manufacturing was expected to add 500 jobs in April due to normal seasonal factors, but added 1,700 instead. This better-than-expected reading put manufacturing back on track with its moderate recovery seen during the prior three years. Seasonally adjusted employment in manufacturing stood at 175,800 in April, which was well above its low point of 162,100 in late 2009.

Seasonal Expectations and
Over-the-Month Employment Changes
March to April 2013

INDUSTRY	Normal Seasonal Movement	Unadjusted Change	Seasonally Adjusted Change
Total nonfarm payroll employment	7,800	11,500	3,700
Total private	8,200	12,000	3,800
Mining and logging	100	0	-100
Construction	2,900	1,700	-1,200
Manufacturing	500	1,700	1,200
Trade, transportation, and utilities	500	800	300
Information	0	-200	-200
Financial activities	600	600	0
Professional and business services	1,800	2,000	200
Educational and health services	400	300	-100
Leisure and hospitality	2,000	4,600	2,600
Other services	-600	500	1,100
Government	-400	-500	-100

Economists with the BLS estimate that **leisure and hospitality** added 4,600 jobs in April, at a time of year when a gain of 2,000 was expected due to seasonal factors. The industry has added employees at an accelerating rate so far this year.

Since April 2012, leisure and hospitality has been one of the fastest growing major industries. Over the past 12 months it added 9,300 jobs, or 5.6 percent. Food services and drinking places, a major component sector, has added 6,600 in that time.



The BLS estimates that in April, **other services** added 500 jobs when a loss of 600 is the normal seasonal pattern for the month. This better-than-expected showing puts the industry slightly above its slow-growth trend seen over the past two years. This industry, which includes establishments engaged in repair, maintenance, personal services, and religious organizations, has recovered less than half of the jobs it lost during the 2008-2009 recession.

While several major industries – including manufacturing, construction, and financial activities – remain well below their pre-recession employment peaks, several industries were at record levels in April. **Professional and business services** employed 199,500 on a seasonally adjusted basis in April. This was slightly above its pre-recession peak of 198,900 reached in April 2008.

Earlier this year, leisure and hospitality blew past its prior peak; the industry employed 179,100 in April. And private-sector **educational and health services** never experienced an employment downturn during the past 20 years. Its employment growth rate slowed over the past year, but at 240,600 jobs it is still in record territory.

Quarterly Revisions
(Establishment Survey Data)

Effective today, the Oregon payroll employment numbers were revised for all months from October 2012 through March 2013. The figures now incorporate a near-universe count of employment covered by the unemployment insurance program for October through December. The months of January through March were then adjusted to reflect the newly revised December figures.

These improvements to this Oregon data resulted in an upward revision of 3,100 jobs to December's seasonally adjusted total nonfarm payroll employment. The private-sector was revised upward by 6,500, while government was revised downward by 3,400. Private-sector revisions were largest in the following industries: leisure and hospitality (revised upward by 2,100 jobs); construction (+1,200); and trade, transportation and utilities (+1,200).

Unemployment
(Household Survey Data)

The national unemployment rate was 7.5 percent in April and 7.6 percent in March, while Oregon's rate was 8.0 percent in April and 8.2 percent in March.

In April, 150,576 Oregonians were unemployed. This was 19,955 fewer individuals than in April 2012 when 170,531 Oregonians were unemployed.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the April county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Monday, May 20th and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for May on Tuesday, June 18th.

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The Oregon Employment Department is publishing a new data series with the release of April nonfarm payroll employment estimates. This official Oregon series is revised quarterly by using employment counts from employer tax records. All department publications, such as news releases, monthly *Oregon Labor Trends* and local labor trends, will use the new data series unless noted otherwise.

The department will continue to make the original nonfarm payroll employment data series available. These data are produced by the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and are revised annually.

Analysts at the Oregon Employment Department will use employer tax records as soon as they become available each quarter to adjust the official Oregon series. This revision resets the monthly estimates to the correct level and should reduce the drift that can occur with estimates that are revised annually.

Both the official Oregon series and the official BLS series are available on the department's website, QualityInfo.org.

For many years, monthly employment estimates for Oregon and its metropolitan areas were developed by Oregon Employment Department economists.

In March 2011, responsibility for the monthly employment estimates for Oregon and its metropolitan areas shifted to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). The estimates developed by BLS are more heavily dependent on the sample of businesses and less reliant on knowledge of local economic events. They are also likely to demonstrate increased month-to-month variability.

Comments or questions should be directed to Graham Slater, Administrator of the Oregon Employment Department's Workforce and Economic Research Division, at (503) 947-1212.

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

If you need this release in the Spanish language, please contact Loretta Gallegos at 503-947-1794.

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

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Oregon Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	April 2013	March 2013	April 2012	Change From March 2013	Change From April 2012
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	1,921,070	1,920,126	1,959,261	944	-38,191
Unemployed	150,576	166,092	170,531	-15,516	-19,955
Unemployment rate	7.8	8.7	8.7	-0.9	-0.9
Unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted	8.0	8.2	8.8	-0.2	-0.8
Employed	1,770,494	1,754,034	1,788,730	16,460	-18,236
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm payroll employment	1,659,800	1,648,300	1,631,800	11,500	28,000
Total private	1,365,400	1,353,400	1,333,800	12,000	31,600
Mining and logging	7,000	7,000	6,800	0	200
Logging	5,400	5,400	5,200	0	200
Construction	68,100	66,400	66,700	1,700	1,400
Construction of buildings	16,600	16,200	15,800	400	800
Residential building construction	9,500	9,100	8,700	400	800
Nonresidential building construction	7,100	7,100	7,100	0	0
Heavy and civil engineering construction	8,100	7,900	7,500	200	600
Specialty trade contractors	43,400	42,300	43,400	1,100	0
Building foundation and exterior contractors	8,200	8,000	7,500	200	700
Building equipment contractors	20,600	20,100	21,700	500	-1,100
Building finishing contractors	9,000	8,900	9,100	100	-100
Other specialty trade contractors	5,600	5,300	5,100	300	500
Manufacturing	173,200	171,500	168,700	1,700	4,500
Durable goods	124,100	122,400	120,300	1,700	3,800
Wood product manufacturing	20,300	20,400	19,300	-100	1,000
Sawmills and wood preservation	6,300	6,300	6,000	0	300
Plywood and engineered wood product mfg.	7,500	7,500	7,000	0	500
Other wood product manufacturing	6,500	6,600	6,300	-100	200
Primary metal manufacturing	8,400	8,400	8,100	0	300
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	15,600	15,500	15,300	100	300
Machinery manufacturing	11,300	11,200	10,900	100	400
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	36,800	36,600	36,800	200	0
Semiconductor and electronic component mfg.	27,700	27,500	27,800	200	-100
Electronic instrument manufacturing	5,300	5,300	5,100	0	200
Transportation equipment manufacturing	11,300	11,200	11,100	100	200
Nondurable goods	49,100	49,100	48,400	0	700
Food manufacturing	24,200	23,900	23,200	300	1,000
Fruit and vegetable preserving and specialty	8,300	8,300	8,300	0	0
Paper manufacturing	4,700	4,700	4,800	0	-100
Trade, transportation, and utilities	315,700	314,900	310,700	800	5,000
Wholesale trade	75,200	75,400	74,800	-200	400
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	30,900	31,200	31,200	-300	-300
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	30,900	30,800	30,400	100	500
Electronic markets and agents and brokers	13,400	13,400	13,200	0	200
Retail trade	185,900	184,600	182,600	1,300	3,300
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	22,400	22,000	21,700	400	700
Building material and garden supply stores	13,800	13,300	13,500	500	300
Food and beverage stores	38,200	38,000	38,100	200	100
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	15,300	15,400	15,200	-100	100
Sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores	9,700	9,700	9,700	0	0
General merchandise stores	39,500	39,400	38,700	100	800
Miscellaneous store retailers	9,600	9,500	9,600	100	0
Nonstore retailers	5,900	5,900	5,600	0	300

	April 2013	March 2013	April 2012	Change From March 2013	Change From April 2012
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	54,600	54,900	53,300	-300	1,300
Utilities	4,500	4,500	4,600	0	-100
Transportation and warehousing	50,100	50,400	48,700	-300	1,400
Truck transportation	17,400	17,300	17,000	100	400
Couriers and messengers	6,000	6,400	6,100	-400	-100
Warehousing and storage	6,700	6,700	6,800	0	-100
Information	32,500	32,700	32,600	-200	-100
Publishing industries, except internet	13,800	13,900	13,600	-100	200
Newspaper, book, and directory publishers	4,500	4,500	4,600	0	-100
Software publishers	9,300	9,400	9,000	-100	300
Telecommunications	6,900	6,900	6,600	0	300
Financial activities	91,900	91,300	90,000	600	1,900
Finance and insurance	56,800	56,700	55,600	100	1,200
Credit intermediation and related activities	27,700	27,600	27,200	100	500
Insurance carriers and related activities	23,300	23,500	23,300	-200	0
Real estate and rental and leasing	35,100	34,600	34,400	500	700
Real estate	29,900	29,600	29,300	300	600
Professional and business services	199,300	197,300	193,600	2,000	5,700
Professional and technical services	79,500	78,700	77,700	800	1,800
Legal services	11,800	11,600	11,800	200	0
Architectural and engineering services	12,800	12,800	12,800	0	0
Computer systems design and related services	12,300	12,100	11,800	200	500
Management of companies and enterprises	31,000	31,000	30,500	0	500
Administrative and waste services	88,800	87,600	85,400	1,200	3,400
Administrative and support services	83,400	82,100	80,200	1,300	3,200
Employment services	33,700	33,100	32,300	600	1,400
Business support services	14,700	14,600	14,200	100	500
Services to buildings and dwellings	19,300	18,500	18,800	800	500
Educational and health services	243,600	243,300	240,900	300	2,700
Educational services	36,300	36,700	36,900	-400	-600
Health care and social assistance	207,300	206,600	204,000	700	3,300
Ambulatory health care services	75,200	74,900	73,500	300	1,700
Hospitals	53,100	53,200	53,800	-100	-700
Nursing and residential care facilities	44,600	44,600	43,800	0	800
Social assistance	34,400	33,900	32,900	500	1,500
Leisure and hospitality	175,900	171,300	166,600	4,600	9,300
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	22,800	22,600	21,700	200	1,100
Amusement, gambling, and recreation	17,100	16,900	16,000	200	1,100
Accommodation and food services	153,100	148,700	144,900	4,400	8,200
Accommodation	22,200	20,600	20,600	1,600	1,600
Food services and drinking places	130,900	128,100	124,300	2,800	6,600
Full-service restaurants	62,700	61,100	59,500	1,600	3,200
Limited-service eating places	55,300	54,100	52,700	1,200	2,600
Other services	58,200	57,700	57,200	500	1,000
Repair and maintenance	16,000	16,000	15,500	0	500
Personal and laundry services	13,200	13,100	13,100	100	100
Membership associations and organizations	29,000	28,600	28,600	400	400
Religious organizations	17,000	17,000	16,500	0	500
Government	294,400	294,900	298,000	-500	-3,600
Federal government	27,200	26,800	27,800	400	-600
State government	81,500	82,000	81,200	-500	300
State education	33,500	34,100	33,200	-600	300
Local government	185,700	186,100	189,000	-400	-3,300
Indian tribal	8,500	8,400	8,800	100	-300
Local education	99,200	99,800	101,300	-600	-2,100
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.

Cautionary Note to Users: Starting in December 2009, revised estimation procedures mandated by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics may result in unusually large or volatile month-to-month employment changes. These survey-based estimates are revised annually, based on more complete information from quarterly employer tax records.