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Oregon's Unemployment Rate Edges Down to 3.7% in April

Oregon's unemployment rate edged down to 3.7% in April, from 3.8% in March, reaching its lowest level in more than two years. The rate is now close to Oregon's record low of 3.4% which occurred in each of the four months of November 2019 through February 2020. The U.S. unemployment rate was 3.6% in both March and April 2022.

Throughout the past two years, Oregon and the nation have experienced similar trends as their economies and labor markets have recovered from the pandemic recession. Both saw their unemployment rates spike to unusual highs of more than 13% by April 2020, followed by a drop to below 7% six months later. For the past 21 months, Oregon's unemployment rate has been within a half percentage point of the U.S. unemployment rate.

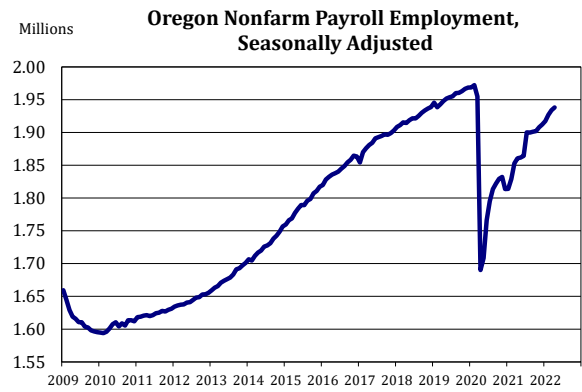
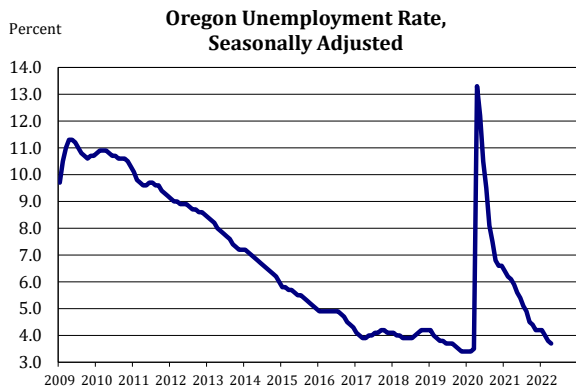
Payroll employment trends have also been similar for Oregon and the U.S., with both losing roughly 14% of payroll jobs between February and April 2020, then recovering roughly a third of those jobs three months later, followed by a more gradual recovery leading up to April 2022. However, Oregon has slightly lagged the U.S. jobs recovery overall, with the U.S. adding back 95% of jobs lost during the pandemic-induced recession, while Oregon has only recovered 88% of the jobs.

In April, Oregon's seasonally adjusted nonfarm payroll employment rose by 4,200 jobs, following a revised gain of 7,000 jobs in March. Over-the-month gains were largest in **health care and social assistance** (+1,800 jobs), **manufacturing** (+1,300), and **professional and business services** (+1,300). The only major industry to cut at least 1,000 jobs was **other services** (-1,000 jobs).

Professional and business services has grown rapidly and consistently over the past two years. In April, employment reached 261,700, another record high for the industry. Recent revisions to the jobs tallies boosted the past six months' employment upward by about 3,000 above original estimates.

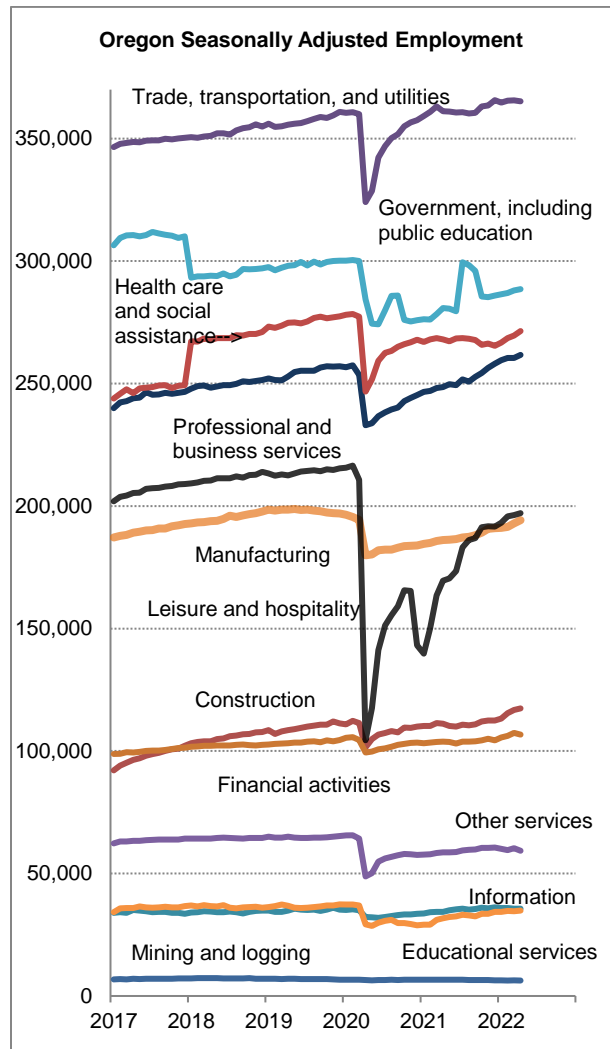
Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the April county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, May 24, and the next statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for May on Wednesday, June 15.



Seasonal Expectations and Over-the-Month Employment Changes March to April 2022

INDUSTRY	Normal Seasonal Movement	Unadjusted Change	Seasonally Adjusted Change
Total nonfarm payroll employment	9,800	14,000	4,200
Total private	8,800	12,500	3,700
Mining and logging	0	-100	-100
Construction	1,400	2,000	600
Manufacturing	900	2,200	1,300
Wholesale trade	-300	300	600
Retail trade	1,400	700	-700
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	-800	-1,100	-300
Information	200	100	-100
Financial activities	400	-300	-700
Professional and business services	1,600	2,900	1,300
Private educational services	-100	100	200
Health care and social assistance	-100	1,700	1,800
Leisure and hospitality	3,500	4,300	800
Other services	700	-300	-1,000
Government	1,000	1,500	500



Notes:

All numbers in the above narrative are seasonally adjusted.

The Oregon Employment Department and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) work cooperatively to develop and publish monthly Oregon payroll employment and labor force data. 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 publishes payroll employment estimates that are revised quarterly by using employment counts from employer unemployment insurance tax records. All department publications use this *Official Oregon Series* data unless noted otherwise. This month's release incorporates the October, November and December 2021 tax records data. In addition, data for July through September 2021 were revised by a total of up to 2,600 jobs per month. The department continues to make the original nonfarm payroll employment series available; these data are produced by the BLS.

The PDF version of the news release can be found at QualityInfo.org/press-release. To obtain the data in other formats such as in Excel, visit QualityInfo.org, then within the top banner, select *Economic Data*, then choose *LAUS* or *CES*. To request the press release as a Word document, contact the person shown at the top of this press release.

To file a claim for unemployment benefits or get more information about unemployment programs, visit Oregon.gov/employ.

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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.

Oregon Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	April 2022	March 2022	April 2021	Change From March 2022	Change From April 2021
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	2,201,334	2,202,685	2,144,560	-1,351	56,774
Unemployed	78,796	86,725	124,077	-7,929	-45,281
Unemployment rate	3.6	3.9	5.8	-0.3	-2.2
Unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted	3.7	3.8	5.9	-0.1	-2.2
Employed	2,122,538	2,115,960	2,020,483	6,578	102,055
Other Labor Force Indicators					
Labor force participation rate, seasonally adjusted	63.3	63.0	62.4	0.3	0.9
Labor underutilization rate – U-6, seasonally adjusted	7.2	7.3	10.8	-0.1	-3.6
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm payroll employment	1,939,000	1,925,000	1,863,100	14,000	75,900
Total private	1,644,200	1,631,700	1,574,900	12,500	69,300
Mining and logging	6,300	6,400	6,600	-100	-300
Logging	4,500	4,500	4,800	0	-300
Construction	116,700	114,700	109,900	2,000	6,800
Construction of buildings	34,300	33,200	31,500	1,100	2,800
Residential building construction	22,400	21,500	20,000	900	2,400
Nonresidential building construction	11,900	11,700	11,500	200	400
Heavy and civil engineering construction	10,500	10,100	9,800	400	700
Specialty trade contractors	71,900	71,400	68,600	500	3,300
Building foundation and exterior contractors	13,600	13,200	13,100	400	500
Building equipment contractors	33,100	32,700	31,100	400	2,000
Building finishing contractors	15,300	16,100	14,900	-800	400
Other specialty trade contractors	9,900	9,400	9,500	500	400
Manufacturing	193,400	191,200	185,100	2,200	8,300
Durable goods	135,000	133,100	128,100	1,900	6,900
Wood product manufacturing	23,400	23,100	22,700	300	700
Sawmills and wood preservation	6,500	6,400	6,300	100	200
Plywood and engineered wood product mfg.	8,700	8,600	8,500	100	200
Other wood product manufacturing	8,200	8,100	7,900	100	300
Primary metal manufacturing	7,300	7,200	6,600	100	700
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	16,500	16,300	15,600	200	900
Machinery manufacturing	14,700	14,500	13,600	200	1,100
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	40,900	40,600	37,400	300	3,500
Semiconductor and electronic component mfg.	34,100	33,300	30,100	800	4,000
Electronic instrument manufacturing	5,000	5,000	4,900	0	100
Transportation equipment manufacturing	10,800	10,700	10,900	100	-100
Nondurable goods	58,400	58,100	57,000	300	1,400
Food manufacturing	28,000	27,600	27,900	400	100
Fruit and vegetable preserving and specialty	9,600	9,600	9,800	0	-200
Paper manufacturing	4,000	4,000	4,100	0	-100
Trade, transportation, and utilities	359,800	359,900	356,700	-100	3,100
Wholesale trade	76,100	75,800	74,400	300	1,700
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	38,000	37,900	37,100	100	900
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	30,600	30,400	30,000	200	600
Electronic markets and agents and brokers	7,500	7,500	7,300	0	200
Retail trade	205,800	205,100	207,200	700	-1,400
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	25,100	25,400	25,700	-300	-600
Building material and garden supply stores	17,600	17,700	19,300	-100	-1,700
Food and beverage stores	45,500	45,400	45,500	100	0
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	13,800	13,900	12,700	-100	1,100
Sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores	9,300	9,300	9,000	0	300
General merchandise stores	38,600	38,700	40,700	-100	-2,100
Miscellaneous store retailers	17,700	17,700	16,400	0	1,300
Nonstore retailers	7,600	7,600	7,800	0	-200

	April 2022	March 2022	April 2021	Change From March 2022	Change From April 2021
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	77,900	79,000	75,100	-1,100	2,800
Utilities	4,900	4,800	4,700	100	200
Transportation and warehousing	73,000	74,200	70,400	-1,200	2,600
Truck transportation	18,600	19,000	18,800	-400	-200
Couriers and messengers	15,000	15,500	13,900	-500	1,100
Warehousing and storage	19,900	20,000	18,300	-100	1,600
Information	35,500	35,400	34,100	100	1,400
Publishing industries, except internet	16,000	15,900	15,700	100	300
Newspaper, book, and directory publishers	2,300	2,300	2,400	0	-100
Software publishers	13,700	13,600	13,300	100	400
Telecommunications	4,400	4,400	4,600	0	-200
Financial activities	105,900	106,200	103,400	-300	2,500
Finance and insurance	56,200	56,900	56,700	-700	-500
Credit intermediation and related activities	25,800	26,200	26,100	-400	-300
Insurance carriers and related activities	23,900	24,400	24,400	-500	-500
Real estate and rental and leasing	49,700	49,300	46,700	400	3,000
Real estate	43,900	44,000	41,900	-100	2,000
Professional and business services	261,100	258,200	249,400	2,900	11,700
Professional and technical services	109,000	108,300	103,400	700	5,600
Legal services	12,100	11,900	11,700	200	400
Architectural and engineering services	19,200	18,600	17,500	600	1,700
Computer systems design and related services	17,800	17,500	16,800	300	1,000
Management of companies and enterprises	49,000	48,800	47,900	200	1,100
Administrative and waste services	103,100	101,100	98,100	2,000	5,000
Administrative and support services	97,300	95,200	92,100	2,100	5,200
Employment services	43,700	43,500	38,200	200	5,500
Business support services	9,600	9,500	10,700	100	-1,100
Services to buildings and dwellings	28,400	26,500	25,500	1,900	2,900
Education and health services	309,900	308,100	302,600	1,800	7,300
Educational services	36,900	36,800	34,200	100	2,700
Health care and social assistance	273,000	271,300	268,400	1,700	4,600
Ambulatory health care services	98,100	97,000	94,400	1,100	3,700
Hospitals	57,600	57,800	58,400	-200	-800
Nursing and residential care facilities	48,600	48,900	50,100	-300	-1,500
Social assistance	68,700	67,600	65,500	1,100	3,200
Leisure and hospitality	196,200	191,900	168,400	4,300	27,800
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	24,400	24,100	19,800	300	4,600
Amusement, gambling, and recreation	17,900	17,800	15,000	100	2,900
Accommodation and food services	171,800	167,800	148,600	4,000	23,200
Accommodation	21,600	20,600	18,600	1,000	3,000
Food services and drinking places	150,200	147,200	130,000	3,000	20,200
Full-service restaurants	64,200	63,500	53,200	700	11,000
Limited-service eating places	70,100	69,100	65,700	1,000	4,400
Other services	59,400	59,700	58,700	-300	700
Repair and maintenance	18,500	18,900	18,600	-400	-100
Personal and laundry services	14,100	14,100	13,600	0	500
Membership associations and organizations	26,800	26,700	26,500	100	300
Religious organizations	14,400	14,000	14,100	400	300
Government	294,800	293,300	288,200	1,500	6,600
Federal government	27,800	27,100	28,400	700	-600
State government	42,400	42,300	42,300	100	100
State education	1,100	1,100	900	0	200
Local government	224,600	223,900	217,500	700	7,100
Indian tribal	7,600	7,600	7,600	0	0
Local education	130,700	130,700	125,500	0	5,200
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.

U-6 is the total unemployed plus all persons marginally attached to the labor force plus total employed part-time for economic reasons, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus all persons marginally attached to the 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. These survey-based estimates are revised quarterly, based on more complete information from employer tax records.