

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 12, 2017

CONTACT INFORMATION:

[Nick Beleiciks](#), State Employment Economist
(503) 947-1267 [Video](#) and [Audio](#) available at 10:00 AM

[David Cooke](#), Economist (503) 947-1272

Oregon's Employment Declines in August

In August, Oregon's nonfarm payroll employment dropped by 9,500 jobs, following a revised gain of 7,400 in July. This was the first decline in seven months, dating back to January when employment dropped by 1,300.

The August jobs report indicates that Oregon's over-the-year job growth, while strong, has slowed. Between August 2016 and August 2017, payroll employment expanded by 44,600 jobs, or 2.4 percent. This is a reduction from the 3.1 percent job-growth rate seen through July.

"August's job losses were an unusually sharp departure from months of very large job gains," said Nick Beleiciks, Oregon's state employment economist. "But looking past recent gains and losses, Oregon's over-the-year job growth continues to be very good."

The decline in August was concentrated in four of the 14 broad industry groups: **leisure and hospitality** (-3,600 jobs), **government** (-3,200), **financial activities** (-1,300), and **wholesale trade** (-1,300). None of the major industries added more than 400 jobs.

The drop in leisure and hospitality came on the heels of unusually strong hiring in June and July. The industry's employment of 206,800 in August is back on the trend line established during the prior 18 months. These restaurants, hotels, and other entertainment establishments now employ 7,100 more workers than in August 2016, an increase of 3.6 percent in the past 12 months.

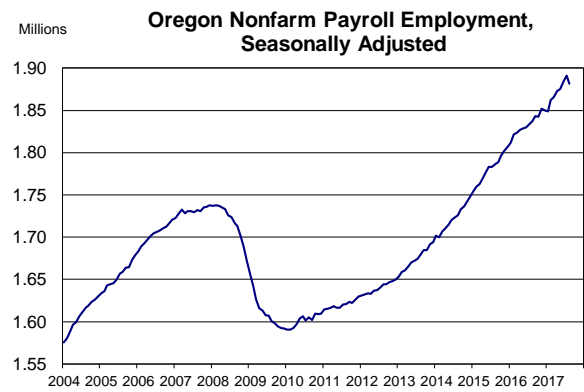
Similarly, the August government job loss offset the robust hiring in the spring and early summer: While 3,200 jobs were cut in August, 3,500 jobs were added during the prior three months.

Oregon's unemployment rate rose to 4.1 percent in August from 3.8 percent in July. The rate remained near its all-time low of 3.6 percent reached in May. Oregon's rate was significantly below its year-ago rate of 5.0 percent in August 2016. The U.S. unemployment rate was 4.4 percent in August 2017.

These preliminary estimates of jobs and other labor force data are produced in cooperation with the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics, are based largely on a survey of businesses and a survey of households, and are subject to later revision.

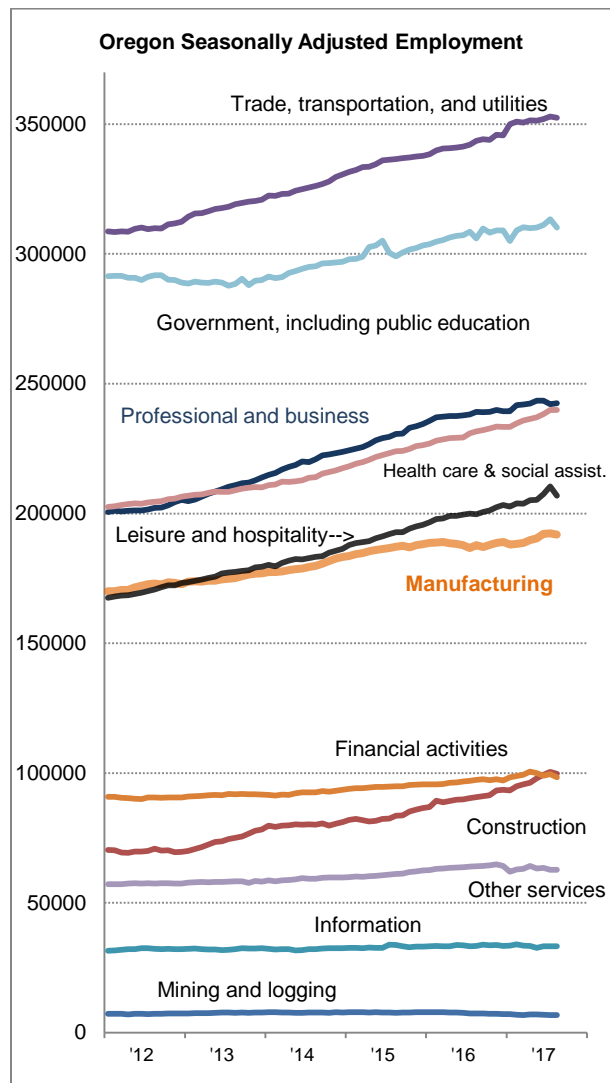
Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the August county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, September 19th, and the next statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for September on Tuesday, October 17th.



Seasonal Expectations and Over-the-Month Employment Changes July to August 2017

INDUSTRY	Normal Seasonal Movement	Unadjusted Change	Seasonally Adjusted Change
Total nonfarm payroll employment	8,100	-1,400	-9,500
Total private	6,700	400	-6,300
Mining and logging	0	100	100
Construction	2,400	1,700	-700
Manufacturing	1,300	900	-400
Wholesale trade	200	-1,100	-1,300
Retail trade	300	700	400
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	700	1,100	400
Information	-100	-100	0
Financial activities	400	-900	-1,300
Professional and business services	-100	300	400
Private educational services	800	500	-300
Health care and social assistance	600	600	0
Leisure and hospitality	-300	-3,900	-3,600
Other services	500	500	0
Government	1,400	-1,800	-3,200



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 January, February and March 2017 tax records data. 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, including tables and graphs, can be found at www.QualityInfo.org/press-release. To obtain the data in other formats such as in Excel, visit www.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.

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. Contact: (503) 947-1794. For the Deaf and Hard of Hearing population, call 711 Telecommunications Relay Services.

Oregon Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	August 2017	July 2017	August 2016	Change From July 2017	Change From August 2016
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	2,142,125	2,153,531	2,085,823	-11,406	56,302
Unemployed	96,841	94,330	107,054	2,511	-10,213
Unemployment rate	4.5	4.4	5.1	0.1	-0.6
Unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted	4.1	3.8	5.0	0.3	-0.9
Employed	2,045,284	2,059,201	1,978,769	-13,917	66,515
Other Labor Force Indicators					
Labor force participation rate, seasonally adjusted	63.6	63.6	62.7	0.0	0.9
Labor underutilization rate – U-6, seasonally adjusted	8.0	7.7	10.3	0.3	-2.3
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm payroll employment	1,882,000	1,883,400	1,833,500	-1,400	48,500
Total private	1,593,900	1,593,500	1,550,100	400	43,800
Mining and logging	7,300	7,200	7,700	100	-400
Logging	5,400	5,400	5,900	0	-500
Construction	105,400	103,700	95,300	1,700	10,100
Construction of buildings	28,000	27,500	25,100	500	2,900
Residential building construction	16,300	16,300	15,000	0	1,300
Nonresidential building construction	11,700	11,200	10,100	500	1,600
Heavy and civil engineering construction	11,200	10,800	9,800	400	1,400
Specialty trade contractors	66,200	65,400	60,400	800	5,800
Building foundation and exterior contractors	12,700	12,400	11,700	300	1,000
Building equipment contractors	30,000	29,200	26,000	800	4,000
Building finishing contractors	14,300	14,800	14,300	-500	0
Other specialty trade contractors	9,200	9,000	8,400	200	800
Manufacturing	196,300	195,400	191,700	900	4,600
Durable goods	134,400	134,500	131,900	-100	2,500
Wood product manufacturing	23,300	23,200	23,000	100	300
Sawmills and wood preservation	6,600	6,500	6,500	100	100
Plywood and engineered wood product mfg.	8,700	8,700	8,700	0	0
Other wood product manufacturing	8,000	8,000	7,800	0	200
Primary metal manufacturing	8,300	8,500	8,100	-200	200
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	16,700	16,700	16,200	0	500
Machinery manufacturing	13,100	13,100	12,500	0	600
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	37,000	37,200	38,000	-200	-1,000
Semiconductor and electronic component mfg.	29,100	29,100	29,900	0	-800
Electronic instrument manufacturing	5,100	5,100	5,100	0	0
Transportation equipment manufacturing	11,900	11,800	12,000	100	-100
Nondurable goods	61,900	60,900	59,800	1,000	2,100
Food manufacturing	32,300	31,200	31,300	1,100	1,000
Fruit and vegetable preserving and specialty	13,500	12,000	13,000	1,500	500
Paper manufacturing	4,200	4,200	4,200	0	0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	354,800	354,100	345,600	700	9,200
Wholesale trade	76,500	77,600	76,500	-1,100	0
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	33,700	34,200	33,600	-500	100
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	29,100	28,900	28,600	200	500
Electronic markets and agents and brokers	13,700	14,500	14,300	-800	-600
Retail trade	213,600	212,900	208,800	700	4,800
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	27,000	27,000	26,300	0	700
Building material and garden supply stores	17,100	17,400	16,600	-300	500
Food and beverage stores	44,200	44,500	43,700	-300	500
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	17,700	17,500	17,100	200	600
Sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores	9,900	9,800	10,100	100	-200
General merchandise stores	41,600	41,200	42,100	400	-500
Miscellaneous store retailers	15,200	15,000	12,100	200	3,100
Nonstore retailers	7,500	6,700	7,600	800	-100

	August 2017	July 2017	August 2016	Change From July 2017	Change From August 2016
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	64,700	63,600	60,300	1,100	4,400
Utilities	4,900	4,800	4,600	100	300
Transportation and warehousing	59,800	58,800	55,700	1,000	4,100
Truck transportation	18,700	18,800	19,100	-100	-400
Couriers and messengers	8,400	8,100	8,300	300	100
Warehousing and storage	8,500	8,500	7,600	0	900
Information	34,000	34,100	33,500	-100	500
Publishing industries, except internet	14,200	14,200	14,500	0	-300
Newspaper, book, and directory publishers	3,600	3,600	3,800	0	-200
Software publishers	10,600	10,600	10,700	0	-100
Telecommunications	5,700	5,800	5,800	-100	-100
Financial activities	98,100	99,000	98,800	-900	-700
Finance and insurance	57,600	57,800	56,900	-200	700
Credit intermediation and related activities	27,700	27,600	26,500	100	1,200
Insurance carriers and related activities	24,300	24,700	24,600	-400	-300
Real estate and rental and leasing	40,500	41,200	41,900	-700	-1,400
Real estate	35,700	36,200	36,200	-500	-500
Professional and business services	246,300	246,000	242,900	300	3,400
Professional and technical services	96,200	95,200	92,800	1,000	3,400
Legal services	11,800	11,700	11,900	100	-100
Architectural and engineering services	16,400	16,400	15,100	0	1,300
Computer systems design and related services	16,500	16,500	16,000	0	500
Management of companies and enterprises	47,800	47,800	45,800	0	2,000
Administrative and waste services	102,300	103,000	104,300	-700	-2,000
Administrative and support services	96,900	97,400	98,900	-500	-2,000
Employment services	41,900	41,900	42,000	0	-100
Business support services	14,100	14,200	14,600	-100	-500
Services to buildings and dwellings	23,300	23,400	23,900	-100	-600
Education and health services	270,000	268,900	260,700	1,100	9,300
Educational services	33,000	32,500	30,000	500	3,000
Health care and social assistance	237,000	236,400	230,700	600	6,300
Ambulatory health care services	90,300	90,100	87,200	200	3,100
Hospitals	58,700	58,600	57,800	100	900
Nursing and residential care facilities	51,200	51,300	49,500	-100	1,700
Social assistance	36,800	36,400	36,200	400	600
Leisure and hospitality	218,800	222,700	209,300	-3,900	9,500
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	29,900	30,500	28,200	-600	1,700
Amusement, gambling, and recreation	22,200	22,600	20,700	-400	1,500
Accommodation and food services	188,900	192,200	181,100	-3,300	7,800
Accommodation	26,700	26,900	26,800	-200	-100
Food services and drinking places	162,200	165,300	154,300	-3,100	7,900
Full-service restaurants	75,700	76,800	72,100	-1,100	3,600
Limited-service eating places	68,200	70,000	67,500	-1,800	700
Other services	62,900	62,400	64,600	500	-1,700
Repair and maintenance	18,500	18,200	18,000	300	500
Personal and laundry services	14,800	15,000	14,700	-200	100
Membership associations and organizations	29,600	29,200	31,900	400	-2,300
Religious organizations	15,000	15,300	15,800	-300	-800
Government	288,100	289,900	283,400	-1,800	4,700
Federal government	29,500	29,700	29,500	-200	0
State government	57,300	57,300	56,700	0	600
State education	700	700	700	0	0
Local government	201,300	202,900	197,200	-1,600	4,100
Indian tribal	8,300	8,400	8,500	-100	-200
Local education	106,500	108,200	104,500	-1,700	2,000
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.