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Oregon's Unemployment Rate Rises to 4.1 Percent in December

Oregon's unemployment rate rose to 4.1 percent in December from 3.9 percent in November. Oregon's unemployment rate has been close to 4 percent for the past two years. The U.S. unemployment rate also edged up two-tenths of a percentage point, to 3.9 percent in December from 3.7 percent in November.

In December, Oregon's nonfarm payroll employment grew by 300 jobs, following a revised gain of 300 jobs in November. These two months of nearly flat employment trends followed four months of fairly rapid job gains that averaged 3,700 per month during July through October. In December, **leisure and hospitality** added 1,600 jobs, **health care and social assistance** added 1,000, and **government** added 900. The industries declining the most in December were **professional and business services**, which dropped by 1,900 jobs, and **retail trade**, which cut 1,500 jobs.

The federal government shutdown did not impact Oregon's December federal government jobs tally.

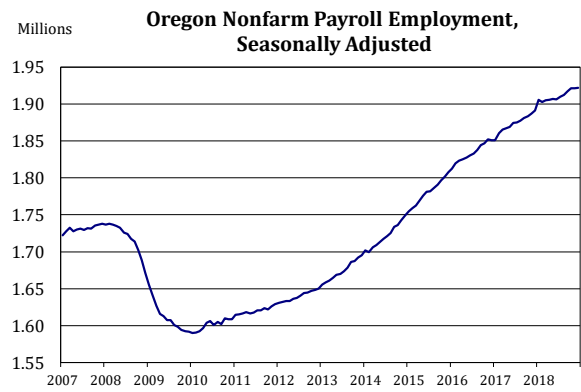
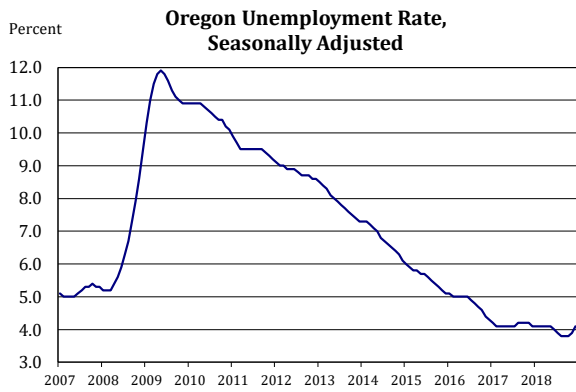
Leisure and hospitality reflected solid demand for employees over the past four months. During a time of year when demand for restaurant services is typically declining, the industry kept total employment levels above the normal seasonal trends. Recent gains followed weaker hiring during the upswing from January through August. Looking at the longer term, leisure and hospitality added 2,500 jobs (a gain of 1.2%) over the past 12 months.

Retail trade experienced a weak holiday hiring period; employment dropped 3,000 jobs between October and December. This followed minimal growth going back to early 2017. In the past 12 months, retail trade cut 1,400 jobs (-0.7%) and was the only major industry with a drop of more than 1,000 jobs in that time. The **sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores** component of retail has downsized over the past few years due to changes in how customers acquire their goods and services. It employed 10,000 in December, which was a decline of 900 jobs since December 2017.

Oregon's nonfarm payroll employment increased by 30,800 jobs, or 1.6 percent, since December 2017. In that time, **construction** remained the fastest growing industry, with a gain of 4,900 jobs or 4.8 percent. Only two other major industries grew by 3 percent or more: **other services** (+2,000 jobs, or 3.1%) and **transportation, warehousing and utilities** (+1,900 jobs, or 3.0%).

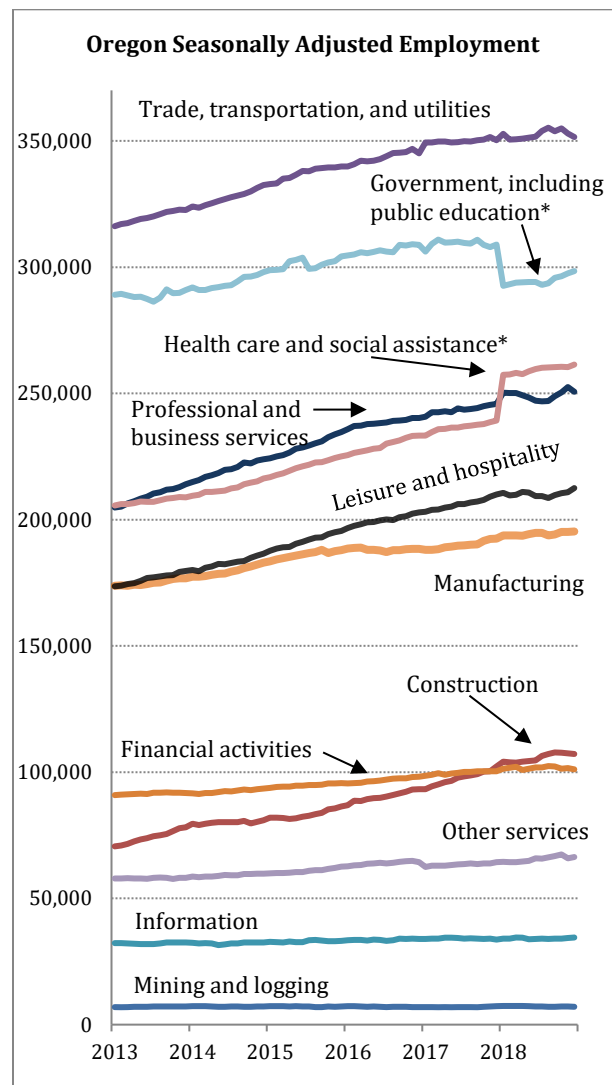
Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the December county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Wednesday, January 23rd, and the next statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for January on Tuesday, March 5th.



Seasonal Expectations and Over-the-Month Employment Changes November to December 2018

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



Notes:

All numbers in the above narrative are seasonally adjusted except for the retail trade component industry “sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores.”

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 April, May, and June 2018 tax records data. The department continues to make the original nonfarm payroll employment series available; these data are produced by the BLS.

*Effective with the January 2018 data, employment of Oregon’s approximately 17,000 home care workers are counted in private health care and social assistance instead of state government. The change was due to legislative action clarifying that for purposes of workforce and labor market information, home care workers are not employees of state government. The reclassification affects private sector and government monthly change figures for January 2018 and will affect over-the-year change figures through December 2018. It does not affect total payroll employment levels.

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 people who are deaf or hard of hearing, call 711 Telecommunications Relay Services.

Oregon Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	December 2018	November 2018	December 2017	Change From November 2018	Change From December 2017
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	2,106,593	2,122,967	2,111,916	-16,374	-5,323
Unemployed	86,547	84,990	81,190	1,557	5,357
Unemployment rate	4.1	4.0	3.8	0.1	0.3
Unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted	4.1	3.9	4.1	0.2	0.0
Employed	2,020,046	2,037,977	2,030,726	-17,931	-10,680
Other Labor Force Indicators					
Labor force participation rate, seasonally adjusted	62.1	62.1	63.2	0.0	-1.1
Labor underutilization rate – U-6, seasonally adjusted	8.5	8.4	8.5	0.1	0.0
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm payroll employment	1,929,100	1,932,200	1,900,100	-3,100	29,000
Total private	1,625,800	1,628,400	1,586,100	-2,600	39,700
Mining and logging	7,000	7,300	7,200	-300	-200
Logging	5,200	5,300	5,300	-100	-100
Construction	104,800	107,400	100,500	-2,600	4,300
Construction of buildings	30,000	30,300	27,700	-300	2,300
Residential building construction	18,200	18,700	16,900	-500	1,300
Nonresidential building construction	11,800	11,600	10,800	200	1,000
Heavy and civil engineering construction	9,700	10,200	9,600	-500	100
Specialty trade contractors	65,100	66,900	63,200	-1,800	1,900
Building foundation and exterior contractors	12,500	13,100	12,600	-600	-100
Building equipment contractors	30,400	30,600	28,100	-200	2,300
Building finishing contractors	13,500	14,300	14,000	-800	-500
Other specialty trade contractors	8,700	8,900	8,500	-200	200
Manufacturing	194,100	194,000	191,200	100	2,900
Durable goods	136,100	135,000	133,400	1,100	2,700
Wood product manufacturing	23,100	23,100	23,300	0	-200
Sawmills and wood preservation	6,400	6,400	6,500	0	-100
Plywood and engineered wood product mfg.	8,900	9,000	8,900	-100	0
Other wood product manufacturing	7,800	7,700	7,900	100	-100
Primary metal manufacturing	8,600	8,500	8,400	100	200
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	16,500	16,400	16,100	100	400
Machinery manufacturing	14,500	14,400	13,800	100	700
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	38,600	38,200	37,500	400	1,100
Semiconductor and electronic component mfg.	29,900	29,900	29,300	0	600
Electronic instrument manufacturing	5,700	5,600	5,300	100	400
Transportation equipment manufacturing	12,200	12,200	12,000	0	200
Nondurable goods	58,000	59,000	57,800	-1,000	200
Food manufacturing	27,600	27,700	29,100	-100	-1,500
Fruit and vegetable preserving and specialty	10,900	11,100	10,800	-200	100
Paper manufacturing	4,000	4,000	4,000	0	0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	360,800	360,700	360,600	100	200
Wholesale trade	76,600	76,900	75,700	-300	900
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	36,500	36,800	35,800	-300	700
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	32,600	32,600	30,500	0	2,100
Electronic markets and agents and brokers	7,500	7,500	9,400	0	-1,900
Retail trade	215,700	217,000	217,800	-1,300	-2,100
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	26,400	26,800	26,700	-400	-300
Building material and garden supply stores	16,100	16,200	15,900	-100	200
Food and beverage stores	43,700	44,100	43,500	-400	200
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	18,200	17,800	18,600	400	-400
Sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores	10,000	10,000	10,900	0	-900
General merchandise stores	44,600	44,900	44,000	-300	600
Miscellaneous store retailers	17,000	17,000	15,900	0	1,100
Nonstore retailers	8,700	8,500	8,500	200	200

	December 2018	November 2018	December 2017	Change From November 2018	Change From December 2017
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	68,500	66,800	67,100	1,700	1,400
Utilities	4,900	4,900	4,700	0	200
Transportation and warehousing	63,600	61,900	62,400	1,700	1,200
Truck transportation	19,500	19,300	18,600	200	900
Couriers and messengers	13,200	11,100	11,900	2,100	1,300
Warehousing and storage	9,300	9,500	9,300	-200	0
Information	34,600	34,500	33,700	100	900
Publishing industries, except internet	14,700	14,700	14,700	0	0
Newspaper, book, and directory publishers	3,200	3,200	3,400	0	-200
Software publishers	11,500	11,500	11,300	0	200
Telecommunications	5,200	5,100	5,600	100	-400
Financial activities	101,300	101,500	100,700	-200	600
Finance and insurance	54,800	55,600	57,800	-800	-3,000
Credit intermediation and related activities	26,200	26,300	27,200	-100	-1,000
Insurance carriers and related activities	23,300	23,600	24,600	-300	-1,300
Real estate and rental and leasing	46,500	45,900	42,900	600	3,600
Real estate	40,700	40,200	37,600	500	3,100
Professional and business services	250,400	252,700	245,700	-2,300	4,700
Professional and technical services	95,800	96,600	96,000	-800	-200
Legal services	12,000	11,900	12,000	100	0
Architectural and engineering services	17,500	17,400	16,200	100	1,300
Computer systems design and related services	16,400	16,500	16,200	-100	200
Management of companies and enterprises	49,800	49,500	47,600	300	2,200
Administrative and waste services	104,800	106,600	102,100	-1,800	2,700
Administrative and support services	97,900	100,000	96,600	-2,100	1,300
Employment services	41,600	43,500	42,400	-1,900	-800
Business support services	13,400	13,000	13,600	400	-200
Services to buildings and dwellings	22,500	24,100	22,800	-1,600	-300
Education and health services	300,300	299,400	278,500	900	21,800
Educational services	37,100	38,300	38,100	-1,200	-1,000
Health care and social assistance	263,200	261,100	240,400	2,100	22,800
Ambulatory health care services	95,000	94,300	91,500	700	3,500
Hospitals	60,300	60,100	59,000	200	1,300
Nursing and residential care facilities	52,000	52,300	51,100	-300	900
Social assistance	55,900	54,400	38,800	1,500	17,100
Leisure and hospitality	205,800	204,900	204,100	900	1,700
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	25,700	25,300	25,900	400	-200
Amusement, gambling, and recreation	18,700	18,100	19,000	600	-300
Accommodation and food services	180,100	179,600	178,200	500	1,900
Accommodation	22,500	22,400	23,600	100	-1,100
Food services and drinking places	157,600	157,200	154,600	400	3,000
Full-service restaurants	70,300	71,500	70,500	-1,200	-200
Limited-service eating places	69,700	69,100	68,400	600	1,300
Other services	66,700	66,000	63,900	700	2,800
Repair and maintenance	19,000	18,800	18,400	200	600
Personal and laundry services	16,000	16,200	15,200	-200	800
Membership associations and organizations	31,700	31,000	30,300	700	1,400
Religious organizations	17,400	17,300	16,700	100	700
Government	303,300	303,800	314,000	-500	-10,700
Federal government	28,100	27,500	27,800	600	300
State government	39,500	39,700	55,200	-200	-15,700
State education	800	900	700	-100	100
Local government	235,700	236,600	231,000	-900	4,700
Indian tribal	8,100	7,900	8,100	200	0
Local education	140,100	140,800	138,600	-700	1,500
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.