

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 17, 2019

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(503) 947-1272 [Video](#) and [Audio](#) available at 10:00 AM

Oregon's Unemployment Rate Drops to 3.9 Percent in November

Oregon's unemployment rate dropped to 3.9 percent in November, the lowest on comparable records dating back to 1976. The October unemployment rate was 4.0 percent, as revised from the originally reported figure of 4.1 percent. Oregon's November rate was slightly above the U.S. rate of 3.5 percent. Oregon's unemployment rate has been hovering at historical lows of near 4 percent for the past 37 months.

Meanwhile, total nonfarm payroll employment shot up by 6,300 jobs in November, following an upwardly revised gain of 6,500 jobs in October. October was revised upward by 2,100 jobs.

So far in 2019, monthly employment gains have averaged 2,600 jobs, which is slightly slower than in 2018 when monthly growth averaged 3,000 jobs.

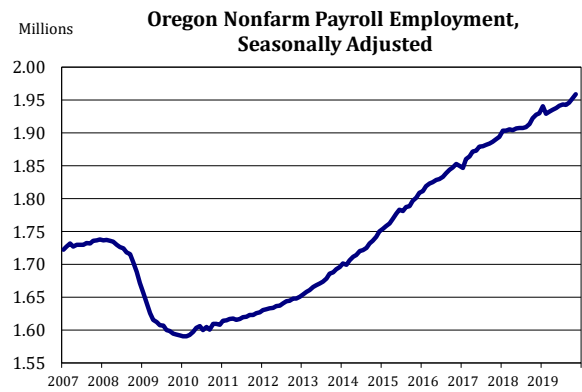
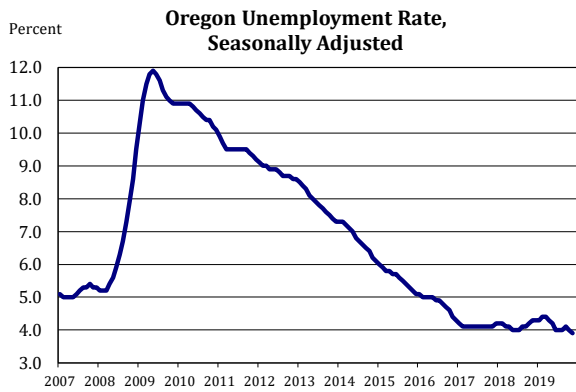
The tight labor market, and perhaps the unusually mild and dry weather in November, seem to have influenced seasonal trends in the major industries. Industries that normally shed a lot of workers during the autumn months didn't cut back as much as normal. In November, the following industries cut back less than normal, and therefore posted seasonally adjusted job gains: **construction** (+2,200 jobs), **manufacturing** (+1,900 jobs), and **professional and business services** (+1,400 jobs).

On the flip side, the tight labor market may have inhibited certain industries from hiring as many workers as normal in November. **Government** and **retail trade** both normally add a substantial number of jobs in November, but each industry hired a few hundred jobs fewer than normal for the month.

Oregon's over-the-year job growth rate of 1.6 percent closely matched the U.S. growth rate of 1.5 percent. Most of Oregon's major industries have expanded by about 2 percent since November 2018. **Private education and health services** grew faster, adding 9,900 jobs, or 3.3 percent. The only major industry that contracted substantially over the past 12 months was **retail trade**, which cut 1,800 jobs, or -0.9 percent.

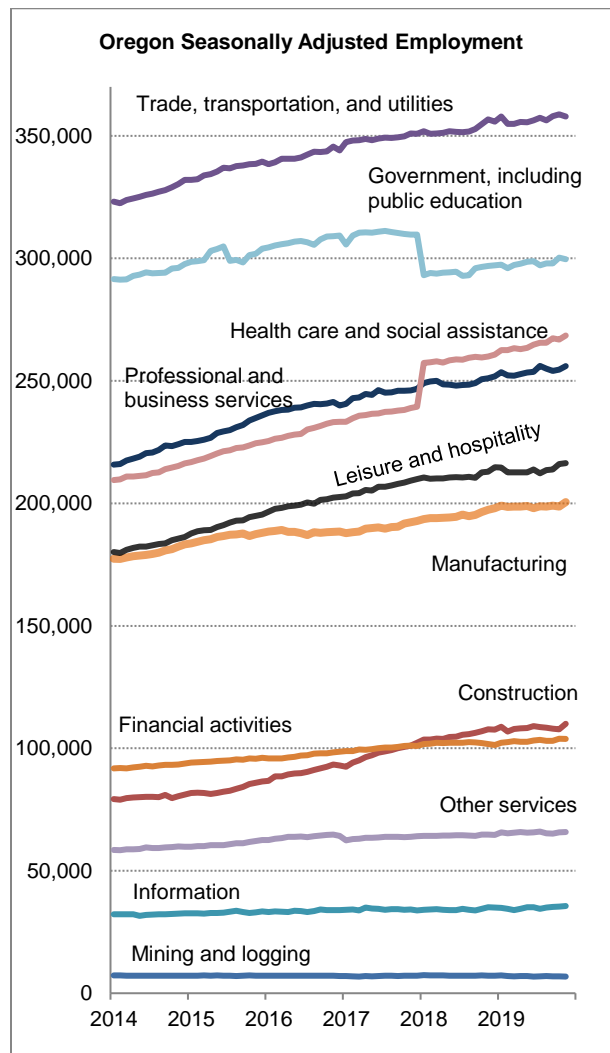
Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the November county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, December 24th, and the next statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for December on Wednesday, January 22nd.



Seasonal Expectations and Over-the-Month Employment Changes October to November 2019

INDUSTRY	Normal Seasonal Movement	Unadjusted Change	Seasonally Adjusted Change
Total nonfarm payroll employment	-3,300	3,000	6,300
Total private	-5,200	1,700	6,900
Mining and logging	0	-100	-100
Construction	-3,000	-800	2,200
Manufacturing	-2,300	-400	1,900
Wholesale trade	500	-200	-700
Retail trade	4,300	3,900	-400
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	1,000	1,200	200
Information	300	500	200
Financial activities	-100	-200	-100
Professional and business services	-2,800	-1,400	1,400
Private educational services	600	700	100
Health care and social assistance	300	2,000	1,700
Leisure and hospitality	-4,000	-3,600	400
Other services	0	100	100
Government	1,900	1,300	-600



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 April, May, and June 2019 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 people who are deaf or hard of hearing, call 711 Telecommunications Relay Services.

Oregon Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	November 2019	October 2019	November 2018	Change From October 2019	Change From November 2018
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	2,109,609	2,119,417	2,117,387	-9,808	-7,778
Unemployed	65,040	74,476	85,731	-9,436	-20,691
Unemployment rate	3.1	3.5	4.0	-0.4	-0.9
Unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted	3.9	4.0	4.3	-0.1	-0.4
Employed	2,044,569	2,044,941	2,031,656	-372	12,913
Other Labor Force Indicators					
Labor force participation rate, seasonally adjusted	59.1	59.2	59.6	-0.1	-0.5
Labor underutilization rate – U-6, seasonally adjusted	8.2	8.4	8.6	-0.2	-0.4
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm payroll employment	1,964,800	1,961,800	1,942,500	3,000	22,300
Total private	1,658,800	1,657,100	1,638,500	1,700	20,300
Mining and logging	7,000	7,100	7,200	-100	-200
Logging	5,100	5,100	5,300	0	-200
Construction	109,300	110,100	107,800	-800	1,500
Construction of buildings	31,000	31,100	30,600	-100	400
Residential building construction	19,000	18,800	18,900	200	100
Nonresidential building construction	12,000	12,300	11,700	-300	300
Heavy and civil engineering construction	10,500	11,100	10,400	-600	100
Specialty trade contractors	67,800	67,900	66,800	-100	1,000
Building foundation and exterior contractors	13,100	13,000	12,800	100	300
Building equipment contractors	30,800	30,900	30,100	-100	700
Building finishing contractors	14,900	14,700	15,000	200	-100
Other specialty trade contractors	9,000	9,300	8,900	-300	100
Manufacturing	198,900	199,300	196,500	-400	2,400
Durable goods	137,300	136,500	137,000	800	300
Wood product manufacturing	23,300	23,000	23,500	300	-200
Sawmills and wood preservation	6,100	6,100	6,400	0	-300
Plywood and engineered wood product mfg.	9,200	8,900	9,100	300	100
Other wood product manufacturing	8,000	8,000	8,000	0	0
Primary metal manufacturing	9,200	9,300	8,800	-100	400
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	17,200	16,800	16,800	400	400
Machinery manufacturing	14,300	14,200	14,400	100	-100
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	37,900	38,100	38,500	-200	-600
Semiconductor and electronic component mfg.	29,800	29,900	30,300	-100	-500
Electronic instrument manufacturing	5,500	5,600	5,500	-100	0
Transportation equipment manufacturing	13,000	13,000	12,300	0	700
Nondurable goods	61,600	62,800	59,500	-1,200	2,100
Food manufacturing	29,800	30,700	29,200	-900	600
Fruit and vegetable preserving and specialty	10,700	11,400	10,700	-700	0
Paper manufacturing	4,100	4,000	4,000	100	100
Trade, transportation, and utilities	364,600	359,700	364,500	4,900	100
Wholesale trade	78,200	78,400	76,300	-200	1,900
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	38,500	39,000	37,400	-500	1,100
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	31,900	31,600	31,200	300	700
Electronic markets and agents and brokers	7,800	7,800	7,700	0	100
Retail trade	214,200	210,300	217,200	3,900	-3,000
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	26,900	27,000	26,800	-100	100
Building material and garden supply stores	16,200	16,500	16,000	-300	200
Food and beverage stores	44,400	44,000	43,400	400	1,000
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	17,500	16,200	17,900	1,300	-400
Sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores	10,200	9,700	10,100	500	100
General merchandise stores	44,000	41,200	43,800	2,800	200
Miscellaneous store retailers	17,300	17,500	16,600	-200	700
Nonstore retailers	8,400	8,300	9,000	100	-600

	November 2019	October 2019	November 2018	Change From October 2019	Change From November 2018
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	72,200	71,000	71,000	1,200	1,200
Utilities	4,700	4,700	4,800	0	-100
Transportation and warehousing	67,500	66,300	66,200	1,200	1,300
Truck transportation	19,100	19,300	19,000	-200	100
Couriers and messengers	12,000	10,500	10,800	1,500	1,200
Warehousing and storage	13,200	13,100	13,300	100	-100
Information	35,600	35,100	35,100	500	500
Publishing industries, except internet	15,000	15,100	15,000	-100	0
Newspaper, book, and directory publishers	2,900	2,900	3,300	0	-400
Software publishers	12,100	12,200	11,700	-100	400
Telecommunications	5,200	5,100	5,200	100	0
Financial activities	103,400	103,600	102,100	-200	1,300
Finance and insurance	56,600	56,400	57,100	200	-500
Credit intermediation and related activities	26,300	26,100	26,600	200	-300
Insurance carriers and related activities	24,900	24,600	24,300	300	600
Real estate and rental and leasing	46,800	47,200	45,000	-400	1,800
Real estate	41,100	41,300	39,600	-200	1,500
Professional and business services	255,200	256,600	251,500	-1,400	3,700
Professional and technical services	100,600	100,600	98,300	0	2,300
Legal services	11,900	11,800	11,800	100	100
Architectural and engineering services	17,500	17,900	16,900	-400	600
Computer systems design and related services	17,200	17,000	16,700	200	500
Management of companies and enterprises	50,100	50,200	49,200	-100	900
Administrative and waste services	104,500	105,800	104,000	-1,300	500
Administrative and support services	99,300	100,600	98,200	-1,300	1,100
Employment services	43,300	44,600	42,400	-1,300	900
Business support services	12,900	12,800	13,100	100	-200
Services to buildings and dwellings	25,500	25,900	24,000	-400	1,500
Education and health services	308,700	306,000	300,600	2,700	8,100
Educational services	39,200	38,500	39,300	700	-100
Health care and social assistance	269,500	267,500	261,300	2,000	8,200
Ambulatory health care services	96,400	95,900	93,300	500	3,100
Hospitals	60,800	60,400	59,300	400	1,500
Nursing and residential care facilities	53,000	52,500	51,800	500	1,200
Social assistance	59,300	58,700	56,900	600	2,400
Leisure and hospitality	209,300	212,900	208,500	-3,600	800
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	26,500	26,800	25,900	-300	600
Amusement, gambling, and recreation	19,000	18,800	18,900	200	100
Accommodation and food services	182,800	186,100	182,600	-3,300	200
Accommodation	24,500	26,000	24,900	-1,500	-400
Food services and drinking places	158,300	160,100	157,700	-1,800	600
Full-service restaurants	69,900	71,800	71,400	-1,900	-1,500
Limited-service eating places	72,000	71,400	70,000	600	2,000
Other services	66,800	66,700	64,700	100	2,100
Repair and maintenance	18,100	18,500	18,900	-400	-800
Personal and laundry services	16,400	16,300	15,400	100	1,000
Membership associations and organizations	32,300	31,900	30,400	400	1,900
Religious organizations	17,600	17,000	16,600	600	1,000
Government	306,000	304,700	304,000	1,300	2,000
Federal government	27,800	28,700	27,900	-900	-100
State government	40,800	40,900	40,100	-100	700
State education	800	800	800	0	0
Local government	237,400	235,100	236,000	2,300	1,400
Indian tribal	8,400	8,300	8,200	100	200
Local education	141,300	138,400	140,900	2,900	400
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.