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CONTACT INFORMATION:

[Anna Johnson](#), Senior Economic Analyst

(503) 991-2110 [Video](#) and [Audio](#) available at 10:00 AM

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

## COVID-19 Employment Crisis Continues in May

“Although Oregon experienced job gains due to the limited resumption of economic activity in May, over the past three months of the COVID-19 pandemic job losses have totaled 243,500. Historically, this loss is unprecedented and currently thousands of Oregonians are still suffering the economic realities of being unemployed,” said Anna Johnson, Senior Economic Analyst with the Oregon Employment Department.

Oregon’s unemployment rate declined to 14.2 percent in May from 14.9 percent, as revised, in April. Meanwhile, the U.S. unemployment rate dropped to 13.3 percent in May from 14.7 percent in April. Oregon’s April unemployment rate was the state’s highest since comparable records began in 1976.

Oregon total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 22,500 jobs in May, following a loss of 252,800 jobs in April. Thus, in May, employers added back nearly one in 10 jobs that were cut in April. Over-the-month job gains in May were largest in **leisure and hospitality** (+15,900 jobs); **health care and social assistance** (+8,400); **construction** (+5,600); and **retail trade** (+3,200). These gains were countered by substantial monthly losses in **manufacturing** (-4,900 jobs) and **government** (-9,900).

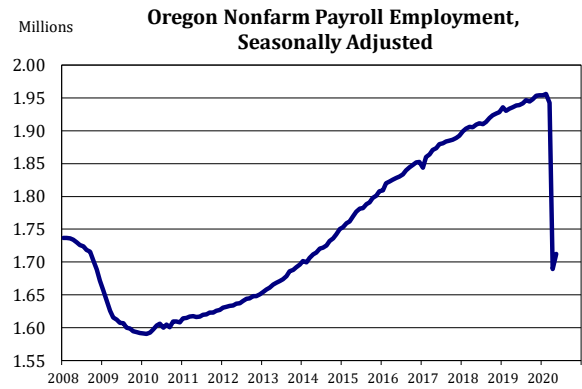
During May, statewide and county-specific guidelines for reopening businesses fostered increases in customer demand within leisure and hospitality. **Full-service restaurants** added back 8,500 jobs in May following steep job cuts in the prior two months. This industry employed 29,900 in May, which was still down more than half from its year-ago total of 72,700 jobs. **Limited-service eating places**, which includes fast-food establishments, saw its employment rebound by 5,400 in May to reach a total of 49,600. That was still nearly a third below its year-ago headcount of 71,700. **Accommodation**, which includes hotels and motels, added 1,600 jobs in May, but is still below half of its employment level of 26,500 reached in May 2019.

Additionally, some restrictions were lifted on elective and routine medical procedures. **Ambulatory health care services** responded with a gain of 8,300 jobs. Totaling 86,900 jobs in May, the industry was still 7,300 jobs below its May 2019 total.

On the down side, **durable goods manufacturing** cut 6,300 jobs in May. Much of these cuts were concentrated in **primary metal manufacturing** (-1,300 jobs) and in **computer and electronic product manufacturing** (-2,500 jobs). The portion of government with a big job change in May was **local government education**, which dealt with pandemic-induced school closures from kindergarten through universities, resulting in job cuts totaling 8,300.

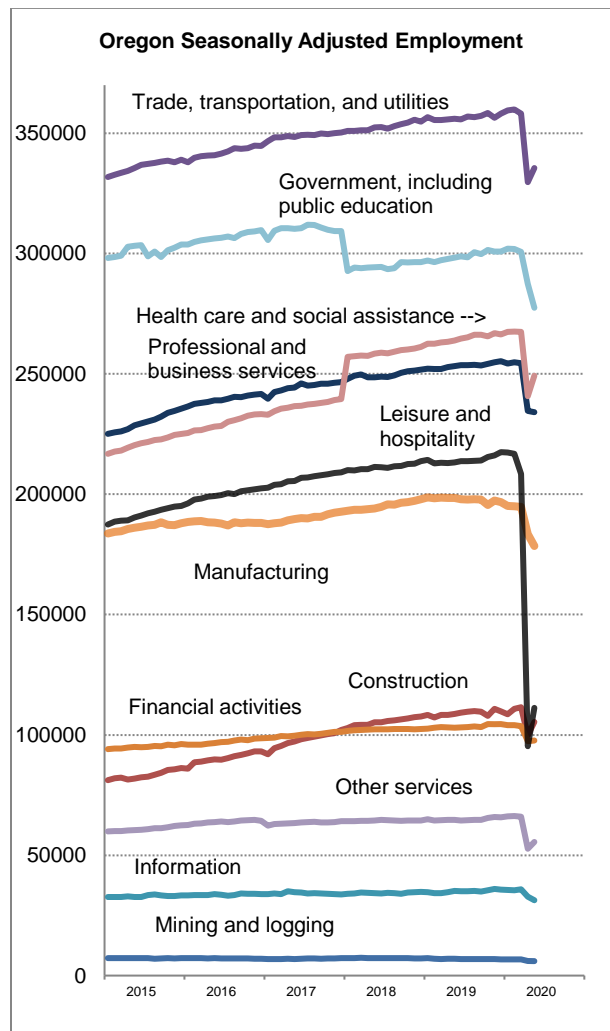
### Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the May county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, June 23rd, and the next statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for June on Tuesday, July 14th.



**Seasonal Expectations and Over-the-Month Employment Changes April to May 2020**

INDUSTRY	Normal Seasonal Movement	Unadjusted Change	Seasonally Adjusted Change
Total nonfarm payroll employment	7,200	29,700	22,500
Total private	5,400	37,800	32,400
Mining and logging	200	100	-100
Construction	2,400	8,000	5,600
Manufacturing	800	-4,100	-4,900
Wholesale trade	300	3,000	2,700
Retail trade	1,400	4,600	3,200
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	300	300	0
Information	300	-1,200	-1,500
Financial activities	200	500	300
Professional and business services	400	-200	-600
Private educational services	-2,300	-1,700	600
Health care and social assistance	-600	7,800	8,400
Leisure and hospitality	2,100	18,000	15,900
Other services	-100	2,700	2,800
Government	1,800	-8,100	-9,900



**Notes:**

All numbers in the above narrative are seasonally adjusted, with the exception of the detailed industries' jobs figures.

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 reference period for the household and establishment surveys:

The household survey reference period is generally the calendar week (Sunday–Saturday) that contains the 12th of the month, in this case May 10th through May 16th. In the household survey, individuals are classified as employed, unemployed, or not in the labor force based on their answers to a series of questions about their activities during the survey reference week.

In the establishment survey, workers who are paid by their employer for all or any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month are counted as employed, even if they were not actually at their jobs. Workers who are temporarily or permanently absent from their jobs and who are not being paid are not counted as employed, even if they continue to receive benefits. The length of the reference period varies across businesses in the establishment survey. Nationally, one-third of businesses have a weekly pay period, slightly over 40 percent bi-weekly, about 20 percent semi-monthly, and a small amount monthly.

The PDF version of the news release, including tables and graphs, can be found at [www.QualityInfo.org/press-release](http://www.QualityInfo.org/press-release). To obtain the data in other formats such as in Excel, visit [www.QualityInfo.org](http://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](http://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**

	May 2020	April 2020	May 2019	Change From April 2020	Change From May 2019
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	2,110,532	2,101,238	2,092,575	9,294	17,957
Unemployed	291,933	311,651	71,990	-19,718	219,943
Unemployment rate	13.8	14.8	3.4	-1.0	10.4
Unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted	14.2	14.9	3.9	-0.7	10.3
Employed	1,818,599	1,789,587	2,020,585	29,012	-201,986
<b>Other Labor Force Indicators</b>					
Labor force participation rate, seasonally adjusted	61.6	61.4	61.8	0.2	-0.2
Labor underutilization rate – U-6, seasonally adjusted	22.5	23.4	8.3	-0.9	14.2
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm payroll employment	1,719,700	1,690,000	1,948,400	29,700	-228,700
Total private	1,434,000	1,396,200	1,640,600	37,800	-206,600
Mining and logging	6,000	5,900	7,000	100	-1,000
Logging	4,000	3,900	5,100	100	-1,100
Construction	105,600	97,600	109,000	8,000	-3,400
Construction of buildings	28,600	27,900	30,600	700	-2,000
Residential building construction	16,600	16,400	18,900	200	-2,300
Nonresidential building construction	12,000	11,500	11,700	500	300
Heavy and civil engineering construction	10,900	10,100	10,500	800	400
Specialty trade contractors	66,100	59,600	67,900	6,500	-1,800
Building foundation and exterior contractors	14,400	11,300	12,700	3,100	1,700
Building equipment contractors	28,900	26,600	30,600	2,300	-1,700
Building finishing contractors	13,700	13,200	15,500	500	-1,800
Other specialty trade contractors	9,100	8,500	9,100	600	0
Manufacturing	177,900	182,000	198,400	-4,100	-20,500
Durable goods	125,600	131,600	137,700	-6,000	-12,100
Wood product manufacturing	21,700	22,200	23,500	-500	-1,800
Sawmills and wood preservation	5,900	6,000	6,400	-100	-500
Plywood and engineered wood product mfg.	8,100	8,200	9,100	-100	-1,000
Other wood product manufacturing	7,700	8,000	8,000	-300	-300
Primary metal manufacturing	7,800	9,100	9,200	-1,300	-1,400
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	15,900	15,800	16,900	100	-1,000
Machinery manufacturing	13,400	13,400	14,300	0	-900
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	35,800	38,300	38,500	-2,500	-2,700
Semiconductor and electronic component mfg.	28,600	30,200	30,400	-1,600	-1,800
Electronic instrument manufacturing	5,100	5,500	5,600	-400	-500
Transportation equipment manufacturing	9,800	9,700	12,900	100	-3,100
Nondurable goods	52,300	50,400	60,700	1,900	-8,400
Food manufacturing	24,900	24,100	29,700	800	-4,800
Fruit and vegetable preserving and specialty	9,900	9,500	11,000	400	-1,100
Paper manufacturing	4,000	4,000	4,000	0	0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	333,600	325,700	353,000	7,900	-19,400
Wholesale trade	76,800	73,800	76,700	3,000	100
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	34,700	35,500	37,700	-800	-3,000
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	34,800	30,700	31,300	4,100	3,500
Electronic markets and agents and brokers	7,300	7,600	7,700	-300	-400
Retail trade	190,000	185,400	208,100	4,600	-18,100
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	23,500	23,400	26,800	100	-3,300
Building material and garden supply stores	17,200	16,800	17,500	400	-300
Food and beverage stores	45,700	44,300	43,200	1,400	2,500
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	6,800	6,800	15,500	0	-8,700
Sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores	6,600	6,100	9,300	500	-2,700
General merchandise stores	39,800	39,100	39,900	700	-100
Miscellaneous store retailers	12,100	11,600	16,600	500	-4,500
Nonstore retailers	6,600	6,300	7,000	300	-400

	May 2020	April 2020	May 2019	Change From April 2020	Change From May 2019
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	66,800	66,500	68,200	300	-1,400
Utilities	4,900	4,900	4,900	0	0
Transportation and warehousing	61,900	61,600	63,300	300	-1,400
Truck transportation	16,900	17,600	19,000	-700	-2,100
Couriers and messengers	9,900	9,600	9,500	300	400
Warehousing and storage	13,700	13,500	11,900	200	1,800
Information	31,400	32,600	35,400	-1,200	-4,000
Publishing industries, except internet	14,900	15,400	15,200	-500	-300
Newspaper, book, and directory publishers	2,800	2,800	3,100	0	-300
Software publishers	12,100	12,600	12,100	-500	0
Telecommunications	4,900	5,000	5,100	-100	-200
Financial activities	97,600	97,100	103,100	500	-5,500
Finance and insurance	55,900	56,900	56,800	-1,000	-900
Credit intermediation and related activities	25,500	26,000	26,400	-500	-900
Insurance carriers and related activities	24,800	25,300	24,300	-500	500
Real estate and rental and leasing	41,700	40,200	46,300	1,500	-4,600
Real estate	37,600	36,300	40,600	1,300	-3,000
Professional and business services	234,100	234,300	253,300	-200	-19,200
Professional and technical services	94,500	96,700	99,100	-2,200	-4,600
Legal services	11,600	11,600	11,800	0	-200
Architectural and engineering services	16,800	16,800	17,300	0	-500
Computer systems design and related services	16,600	16,700	17,000	-100	-400
Management of companies and enterprises	47,400	48,200	50,100	-800	-2,700
Administrative and waste services	92,200	89,400	104,100	2,800	-11,900
Administrative and support services	85,800	83,200	98,300	2,600	-12,500
Employment services	32,000	32,200	41,500	-200	-9,500
Business support services	12,000	11,400	13,200	600	-1,200
Services to buildings and dwellings	23,700	22,500	24,900	1,200	-1,200
Education and health services	279,000	272,900	300,900	6,100	-21,900
Educational services	29,600	31,300	36,300	-1,700	-6,700
Health care and social assistance	249,400	241,600	264,600	7,800	-15,200
Ambulatory health care services	86,900	78,600	94,200	8,300	-7,300
Hospitals	59,400	60,000	59,500	-600	-100
Nursing and residential care facilities	53,200	53,400	52,200	-200	1,000
Social assistance	49,900	49,600	58,700	300	-8,800
Leisure and hospitality	112,600	94,600	215,300	18,000	-102,700
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	12,800	12,900	27,700	-100	-14,900
Amusement, gambling, and recreation	7,800	8,100	19,800	-300	-12,000
Accommodation and food services	99,800	81,700	187,600	18,100	-87,800
Accommodation	11,100	9,500	26,500	1,600	-15,400
Food services and drinking places	88,700	72,200	161,100	16,500	-72,400
Full-service restaurants	29,900	21,400	72,700	8,500	-42,800
Limited-service eating places	49,600	44,200	71,700	5,400	-22,100
Other services	56,200	53,500	65,200	2,700	-9,000
Repair and maintenance	17,400	15,900	19,000	1,500	-1,600
Personal and laundry services	8,600	8,100	16,000	500	-7,400
Membership associations and organizations	30,200	29,500	30,200	700	0
Religious organizations	15,600	15,700	16,700	-100	-1,100
Government	285,700	293,800	307,800	-8,100	-22,100
Federal government	28,100	28,000	28,700	100	-600
State government	41,000	41,400	40,700	-400	300
State education	800	900	900	-100	-100
Local government	216,600	224,400	238,400	-7,800	-21,800
Indian tribal	6,900	6,900	8,100	0	-1,200
Local education	125,900	134,200	142,200	-8,300	-16,300
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.