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Portland Metropolitan Area: September 2020 Growth Slows to 1,500 Jobs

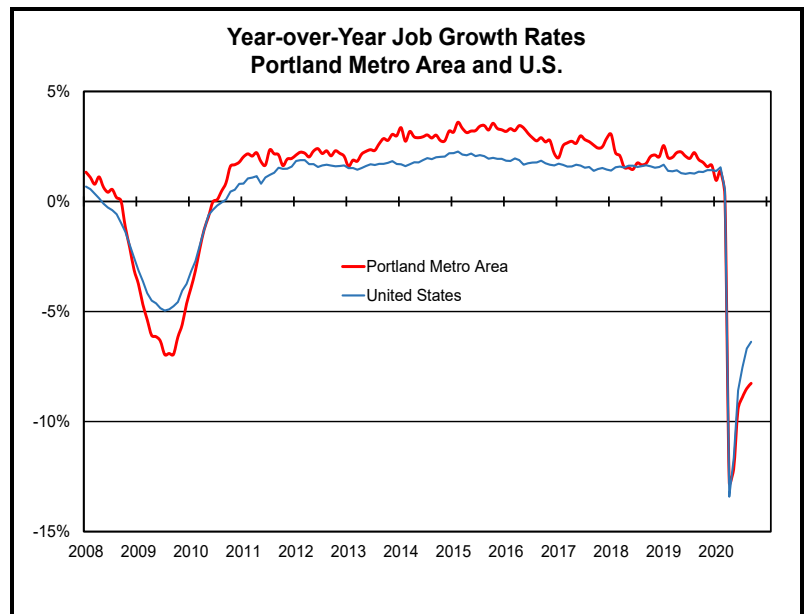
The Portland metropolitan area's unemployment rate declined to 8.0 percent in September from 8.9 percent in August. Approximately 100,000 area residents remain unemployed; double the number a year ago.

The region's nonfarm employment rose by 1,500 jobs, following a gain of 7,700 jobs in August (seasonally adjusted). Over the past five months employers added back 61,300 jobs, 36 percent of March and April losses (-169,700).

Trade, transportation, and financial activities all saw solid gains over the month. Private and public education also added jobs, although fewer than typical as the pandemic likely caused a reduction in back-to-school hiring.

Construction shed 3,700 jobs (not seasonally adjusted) in September, wiping out August's gains. Professional and business services also declined (-1,200 jobs), pulled down by the relatively high paying professional and technical services component (e.g. engineering, legal, computer design services).

Over the year, employment is down 8.3 percent in the metro area compared to 6.7 percent statewide and 6.4 percent nationally. As of August, Portland's decline ranked 18th steepest among the nation's 50 largest metro areas. Austin, Indianapolis, and Phoenix recorded the mildest declines, while Las Vegas, New York, and New Orleans had the steepest.



Next Press Release

The Oregon Employment Department will release the Portland metropolitan area's unemployment rate and employment survey data for October on Tuesday, November 24.

The Oregon Employment Department and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) work cooperatively to develop and publish monthly payroll employment and labor force data for Oregon's metropolitan areas and counties. 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 payroll employment estimates are revised quarterly using information from unemployment insurance tax records. All department publications use data from this *official Oregon series* unless noted.

The department also makes the BLS-produced nonfarm payroll employment series for metropolitan areas available. These are revised annually by BLS.

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To obtain the data in other formats such as in Excel, visit www.QualityInfo.org, select *Economic Data*, and choose *LAUS* or *CES*.

To file an Unemployment Insurance claim, visit our online claims system or call our contact centers, where Employment Department staff are ready to help by phone, at 1-877-FILE-4-UI (1-877-345-3484). For coronavirus questions related to employer and job seeker programs and services, visit www.oregon.gov/employ/Pages/COVID-19.aspx. For help finding jobs and training resources, 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.



Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, OR-WA MSA Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	September 2020	August 2020	September 2019	August 2020	September 2019
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	1,293,685	1,320,005	1,325,943	-26,320	-32,258
Unemployed	99,453	119,714	40,577	-20,261	58,876
Unemployment rate	7.7%	9.1%	3.1%	-1.4	4.6
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	8.0%	8.9%	3.4%	-0.9	4.6
Employed	1,194,232	1,200,291	1,285,366	-6,059	-91,134
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	1,127,000	1,124,000	1,224,200	3,000	-97,200
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	1,123,100	1,121,600	1,224,300	1,500	-101,200
Total private	983,900	983,700	1,076,600	200	-92,700
Mining, logging, and construction	74,400	78,100	79,300	-3,700	-4,900
Mining and logging	1,200	1,200	1,300	0	-100
Construction	73,200	76,900	78,000	-3,700	-4,800
Construction of buildings	19,300	20,000	20,600	-700	-1,300
Residential building construction	10,800	10,900	11,800	-100	-1,000
Nonresidential building construction	8,500	9,100	8,800	-600	-300
Heavy and civil engineering construction	6,700	6,900	6,700	-200	0
Specialty trade contractors	47,200	50,000	50,700	-2,800	-3,500
Manufacturing	118,600	118,700	129,600	-100	-11,000
Durable goods	88,500	88,600	94,900	-100	-6,400
Wood product manufacturing	3,800	3,800	3,900	0	-100
Primary metal manufacturing	4,700	4,700	6,300	0	-1,600
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	12,300	12,300	13,300	0	-1,000
Machinery manufacturing	9,800	9,800	10,000	0	-200
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	37,000	36,600	37,500	400	-500
Semiconductor and electronic component mfg.	31,000	30,800	30,800	200	200
Electronic instrument manufacturing	4,300	4,300	5,000	0	-700
Transportation equipment manufacturing	6,300	6,300	7,400	0	-1,100
Nondurable goods	30,100	30,100	34,700	0	-4,600
Food manufacturing	12,300	12,600	13,700	-300	-1,400
Paper manufacturing	2,400	2,400	2,400	0	0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	212,000	210,700	221,500	1,300	-9,500
Wholesale trade	55,400	54,800	57,300	600	-1,900
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	29,700	29,200	29,700	500	0
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	19,900	19,800	21,400	100	-1,500
Electronic markets and agents and brokers	5,800	5,800	6,200	0	-400
Retail trade	110,400	110,300	117,500	100	-7,100
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	13,700	13,500	14,400	200	-700
Food and beverage stores	24,500	24,700	23,900	-200	600
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	6,900	7,400	10,200	-500	-3,300
General merchandise stores	24,400	24,200	23,000	200	1,400
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	46,200	45,600	46,700	600	-500
Utilities	2,500	2,600	2,600	-100	-100
Transportation and warehousing	43,700	43,000	44,100	700	-400
Air transportation	3,100	3,100	4,200	0	-1,100
Truck transportation	10,300	10,300	11,300	0	-1,000
Couriers and messengers	9,500	9,200	7,400	300	2,100
Warehousing and storage	11,000	10,900	9,200	100	1,800
Information	22,900	22,700	26,200	200	-3,300
Publishing industries, except internet	10,800	10,800	11,100	0	-300
Software publishers	9,200	9,100	9,500	100	-300
Telecommunications	3,500	3,500	3,900	0	-400

Nonfarm Payroll Employment (continued)

	September 2020	August 2020	September 2019	--Change From--	
				August 2020	September 2019
Financial activities	71,600	71,000	73,700	600	-2,100
Finance and insurance	42,300	42,200	43,000	100	-700
Credit intermediation and related activities	17,800	17,800	18,100	0	-300
Insurance carriers and related activities	18,700	18,900	18,600	-200	100
Real estate and rental and leasing	29,300	28,800	30,700	500	-1,400
Professional and business services	181,000	182,200	190,600	-1,200	-9,600
Professional and technical services	74,300	75,700	78,500	-1,400	-4,200
Architectural and engineering services	14,600	14,900	15,300	-300	-700
Computer systems design and related services	14,800	15,100	15,600	-300	-800
Management of companies and enterprises	40,700	40,900	43,500	-200	-2,800
Administrative and waste services	66,000	65,600	68,600	400	-2,600
Administrative and support services	62,100	61,900	65,100	200	-3,000
Employment services	27,800	27,000	28,300	800	-500
Business support services	6,300	6,300	7,000	0	-700
Services to buildings and dwellings	15,300	15,700	16,100	-400	-800
Education and health services	174,300	169,300	183,800	5,000	-9,500
Educational services	25,400	23,300	29,100	2,100	-3,700
Colleges and universities	12,600	9,600	13,200	3,000	-600
Health care and social assistance	148,900	146,000	154,700	2,900	-5,800
Ambulatory health care services	56,200	56,000	58,200	200	-2,000
Hospitals	30,300	30,400	31,600	-100	-1,300
Nursing and residential care facilities	28,100	27,900	28,300	200	-200
Social assistance	34,300	31,700	36,600	2,600	-2,300
Leisure and hospitality	91,400	92,500	129,100	-1,100	-37,700
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	12,900	13,700	19,100	-800	-6,200
Amusement, gambling, and recreation	9,700	10,400	14,000	-700	-4,300
Accommodation and food services	78,500	78,800	110,000	-300	-31,500
Accommodation	6,500	6,400	11,700	100	-5,200
Food services and drinking places	72,000	72,400	98,300	-400	-26,300
Full-service restaurants	28,500	28,000	43,500	500	-15,000
Limited-service eating places	34,100	34,800	43,100	-700	-9,000
Other services	37,700	38,500	42,800	-800	-5,100
Membership associations and organizations	14,200	14,800	17,900	-600	-3,700
Government	143,100	140,300	147,600	2,800	-4,500
Federal government	19,500	20,400	18,500	-900	1,000
State government	13,200	12,400	12,700	800	500
State education	2,600	2,200	2,600	400	0
Local government	110,400	107,500	116,400	2,900	-6,000
Local education	56,800	53,700	61,800	3,100	-5,000

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.

Civilian labor force includes employed and unemployed individuals 16 years and older by place of residence.

Employed includes payroll employment, self-employed, unpaid family workers, domestics, agriculture, and labor disputants.

Unemployment rate is calculated by dividing unemployed by civilian labor force.

Nonfarm Payroll Employment: Official Oregon Series. 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.

The Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro metropolitan area includes Clackamas, Columbia, Multnomah, Washington, and Yamhill counties in Oregon, and Clark and Skamania counties in Washington State.