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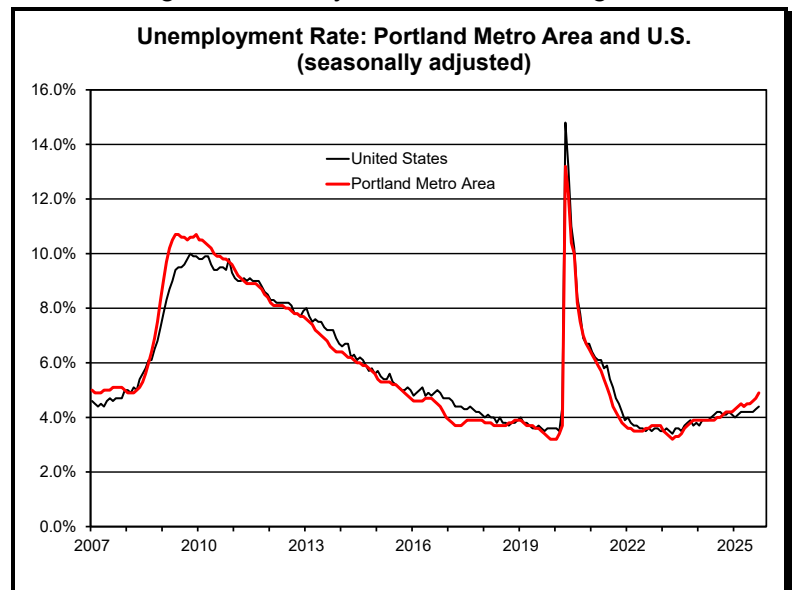
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Employment and Unemployment in the Portland Metropolitan Area September 2025

The Oregon Employment Department released September 2025 employment and unemployment data today for the Portland Metropolitan Area after a significant delay due to the federal government shutdown.

The Portland metropolitan area's unemployment rate was 4.9% in September compared with 4.7% in August and 4.1% in September 2024. The unemployment rate has gradually risen from a post-pandemic low of 3.2% set in April 2023. Approximately 69,600 area residents were unemployed; 17,000 more than a year earlier. Oregon's unemployment rate was 5.2% and the national rate was 4.4% in September.



The metro area's seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment declined by 1,100 jobs in September. August's gains were revised down from 4,300 to 1,700 jobs.

Construction continued its long-term decline in September (-1,000 jobs), shedding roughly twice as many jobs as typical for this time of year. Financial activities also cut twice as many jobs, declining by 1,300 jobs across all published sectors. Private education's gains were smaller than usual, likely due to fewer seasonal layoffs during summer break.

Over the past 12 months, the metro area has lost 12,200 jobs (not seasonally adjusted). Most major industries are in the red, led by manufacturing (-6,900; -5.6%), professional and business services (-4,800; -2.5%), and construction (-3,500; -4.2%). On the other end of the spectrum, private health care and social assistance (+5,800; +3.3%), transportation and warehousing (+2,100; +4.4%), and leisure and hospitality (+600; +0.5%) have added jobs over the year.

Next Press Release

The Oregon Employment Department will release the Portland metropolitan area's unemployment rate and employment survey data for October and November on Tuesday, Jan. 13.

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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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 QualityInfo.org, select Tools, and choose LAUS or CES from the dropdown menu. To request the press release as a Word document, contact the person shown at the top of this press release.

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 help finding jobs and training resources, go to: www.WorkSourceOregon.org.

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

	--Change From--				
	September 2025	August 2025	September 2024	August 2025	September 2024
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	1,398,006	1,402,573	1,383,825	-4,567	14,181
Unemployed	69,642	73,631	52,620	-3,989	17,022
Unemployment rate	5.0%	5.2%	3.8%	-0.2	1.2
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)	4.9%	4.7%	4.1%	0.2	0.8
Employed	1,328,364	1,328,942	1,331,205	-578	-2,841
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	1,238,200	1,241,000	1,250,400	-2,800	-12,200
Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)	1,234,200	1,235,300	1,252,100	-1,100	-17,900
Total private	1,077,500	1,083,400	1,093,700	-5,900	-16,200
Mining, logging, and construction	81,000	82,000	84,600	-1,000	-3,600
Mining and logging	1,000	1,000	1,100	0	-100
Construction	80,000	81,000	83,500	-1,000	-3,500
Construction of buildings	21,200	21,300	21,500	-100	-300
Residential building construction	13,000	13,100	13,300	-100	-300
Nonresidential building construction	8,200	8,200	8,200	0	0
Heavy and civil engineering construction	7,700	7,800	7,500	-100	200
Specialty trade contractors	51,100	51,900	54,500	-800	-3,400
Manufacturing	116,500	116,100	123,400	400	-6,900
Durable goods	85,300	85,800	91,400	-500	-6,100
Wood product manufacturing	3,900	3,900	4,000	0	-100
Primary metal manufacturing	4,400	4,400	4,400	0	0
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	11,900	11,900	11,900	0	0
Machinery manufacturing	9,200	9,300	9,200	-100	0
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	35,100	35,400	39,400	-300	-4,300
Semiconductor and electronic component mfg.	29,600	29,900	33,800	-300	-4,200
Electronic instrument manufacturing	4,200	4,300	4,200	-100	0
Transportation equipment manufacturing	6,800	6,800	6,900	0	-100
Nondurable goods	31,200	30,300	32,000	900	-800
Food manufacturing	14,400	13,800	14,300	600	100
Paper manufacturing	2,300	2,300	2,400	0	-100
Trade, transportation, and utilities	219,000	219,500	221,400	-500	-2,400
Wholesale trade	54,800	55,200	57,000	-400	-2,200
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	29,900	30,000	30,700	-100	-800
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	19,900	20,100	20,800	-200	-900
Wholesale trade agents and brokers	5,000	5,100	5,500	-100	-500
Retail trade	111,100	111,600	113,500	-500	-2,400
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	14,300	14,300	14,500	0	-200
Food and beverage retailers	24,900	24,900	25,600	0	-700
General merchandise retailers	22,300	22,200	22,300	100	0
Clothing, accessories, shoe, and jewelry retailers	10,000	10,100	10,100	-100	-100
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	53,100	52,700	50,900	400	2,200
Utilities	2,800	2,800	2,700	0	100
Transportation and warehousing	50,300	49,900	48,200	400	2,100
Air transportation	4,600	4,600	4,300	0	300
Truck transportation	10,600	10,600	10,700	0	-100
Couriers and messengers	9,900	9,800	10,000	100	-100
Warehousing and storage	11,800	11,800	11,400	0	400
Information	24,500	25,200	26,600	-700	-2,100
Publishing industries	11,300	11,600	12,000	-300	-700
Software publishers	10,000	10,200	10,600	-200	-600
Telecommunications	2,600	2,700	2,700	-100	-100

Nonfarm Payroll Employment (continued)

	September 2025	August 2025	September 2024	--Change From--	
				August 2025	September 2024
Financial activities	70,100	71,400	71,700	-1,300	-1,600
Finance and insurance	38,900	39,800	40,100	-900	-1,200
Credit intermediation and related activities	13,600	14,000	14,000	-400	-400
Insurance carriers and related activities	18,400	18,900	19,000	-500	-600
Real estate and rental and leasing	31,200	31,600	31,600	-400	-400
Professional and business services	190,100	191,400	194,900	-1,300	-4,800
Professional and technical services	83,400	84,600	85,200	-1,200	-1,800
Architectural and engineering services	16,000	16,000	16,000	0	0
Computer systems design and related services	15,200	15,300	15,600	-100	-400
Management of companies and enterprises	39,400	39,700	39,900	-300	-500
Administrative and waste services	67,300	67,100	69,800	200	-2,500
Administrative and support services	62,900	62,700	65,600	200	-2,700
Employment services	24,500	24,000	27,200	500	-2,700
Business support services	3,600	3,600	3,800	0	-200
Services to buildings and dwellings	17,500	17,700	17,900	-200	-400
Private education and health services	209,400	207,700	204,000	1,700	5,400
Private educational services	27,300	25,500	27,700	1,800	-400
Private colleges and universities	9,100	7,500	10,200	1,600	-1,100
Health care and social assistance	182,100	182,200	176,300	-100	5,800
Ambulatory health care services	64,600	64,600	63,000	0	1,600
Hospitals	34,500	34,500	33,600	0	900
Nursing and residential care facilities	34,300	34,300	32,800	0	1,500
Social assistance	48,700	48,800	46,900	-100	1,800
Leisure and hospitality	123,100	125,100	122,500	-2,000	600
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	20,000	20,400	19,200	-400	800
Amusement, gambling, and recreation	14,400	14,900	13,500	-500	900
Accommodation and food services	103,100	104,700	103,300	-1,600	-200
Accommodation	10,100	10,400	10,300	-300	-200
Food services and drinking places	93,000	94,300	93,000	-1,300	0
Full-service restaurants	37,300	37,900	37,700	-600	-400
Limited-service eating places	43,800	44,500	43,500	-700	300
Other services	43,800	45,000	44,600	-1,200	-800
Membership associations and organizations	18,000	19,100	18,600	-1,100	-600
Government	160,700	157,600	156,700	3,100	4,000
Federal government	18,700	18,700	19,200	0	-500
State government	14,300	14,100	14,000	200	300
State education	2,000	1,800	1,800	200	200
Local government	127,700	124,800	123,500	2,900	4,200
Local education	64,300	61,000	63,700	3,300	600

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.