

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 24, 2025

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Amy Vander Vliet, Economist

Amy.S.VanderVliet@employ.oregon.gov

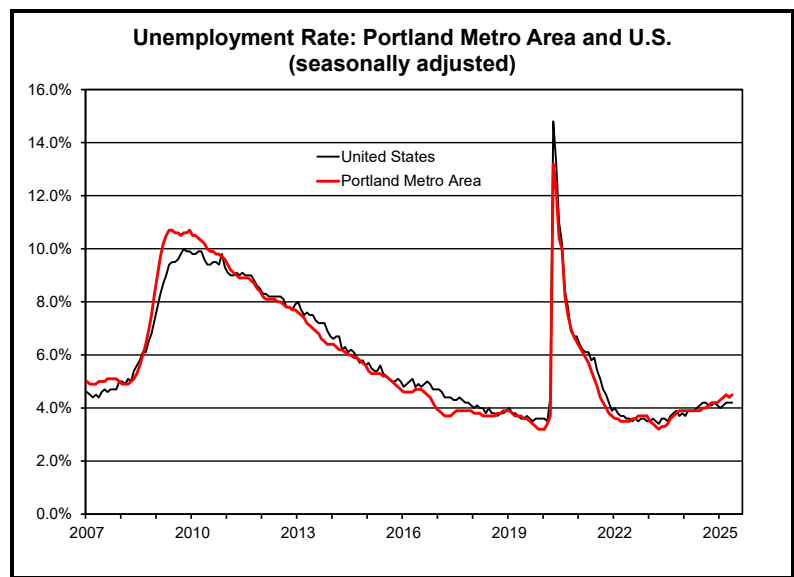
(971) 804-2099

Employment and Unemployment in the Portland Metropolitan Area May 2025

The Portland metropolitan area's unemployment rate was 4.5% in May, essentially unchanged from April (4.4%) and higher than the year-ago rate of 3.9%. Approximately 60,600 area residents were unemployed; 11,100 more than a year ago. The statewide rate was 4.8% and national rate was 4.2% in May.

The metro area's seasonally adjusted nonfarm payroll employment declined by 1,500 jobs after holding steady in April.

Construction continued its downward trend, shedding several hundred jobs in a month that typically sees over 1,000 jobs gained as the weather improves and seasonal hiring ramps up. Retail trade also experienced weak seasonal hiring. Manufacturing rounded out the list of underperforming broad industries, shedding 1,000 jobs evenly split between durable and nondurable goods.



Leisure and hospitality (+3,500 jobs) outperformed seasonal expectations across all published components, notably in food services (e.g. restaurants) and bars which added twice the typical number of jobs for May. Private education shed fewer jobs than expected in May, although this is likely a function of summer break timing. If so, look for larger-than-typical declines in June.

Year-over-year overall employment growth is flat over the year (not seasonally adjusted). Gains in health care and social assistance (6,800; 3.9%), public education (2,300; 3.8%), and transportation and warehousing (1,000; 2.1%) have just barely offset steep losses in manufacturing (-6,200; -5.0%), construction (-1,600; -2.6%), and financial activities (-1,600; -2.2%).

Next Press Release

The Oregon Employment Department will release the Portland metropolitan area's unemployment rate and employment survey data for June on Tuesday, July 23.

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.

You can subscribe to receive notification of new articles and publications from QualityInfo.org. To subscribe, go to www.qualityinfo.org/subscribe, enter your email address and click Sign In. In the Publication section, click on the + sign next to a report type category and then click on the geography(s) you are interested in. Take some time to browse the other publications on the page and see if there are some you'd like to receive an email notification for. You can receive notifications on a daily, weekly, or monthly schedule – whichever is most convenient for you. You can change your preferences – or unsubscribe – at any time.

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.

The Oregon Employment Department (OED) is an equal opportunity agency. Everyone has a right to use OED programs and services. OED provides free help. Some examples are: Sign language and spoken language interpreters, written materials in other languages, braille, large print, audio and other formats. If you need help, please call 971-673-6400. TTY users call 711. You can also ask for help at OED_Communications@employ.oregon.gov.

El Departamento de Empleo de Oregon (OED) es una agencia de igualdad de oportunidades. El OED proporciona ayuda gratuita para que usted pueda utilizar nuestros servicios. Algunos ejemplos son intérpretes de lengua de señas e idiomas hablados, materiales escritos en otros idiomas, letra grande, audio y otros formatos. Para obtener ayuda, por favor llame al 503-947-1444. Usuarios de TTY pueden llamar al 711. También puede enviar un correo electrónico a OED_Communications@employ.oregon.gov.

###