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## Oregon's Unemployment Rate Drops to 4.0% in April

Oregon's unemployment rate dropped to 4.0% in April, down from 4.4% in March. For the past 21 months since August 2021, Oregon's unemployment rate has remained relatively steady and near historic lows. The unemployment rate averaged 4.2% in that time, while ranging between 3.5% and 4.8%. The U.S. unemployment rate was 3.4% in April and 3.5% in March.

In April, Oregon's seasonally adjusted nonfarm payroll employment rose by 1,600 jobs, following a revised gain of 1,300 jobs in March. In April, gains were largest in **other services** (+1,700 jobs) and **health care and social assistance** (+900). Declines were largest in **construction** (-1,000 jobs) and **manufacturing** (-600). Since April 2022, Oregon has added 38,400 nonfarm payroll jobs (+2.0%).

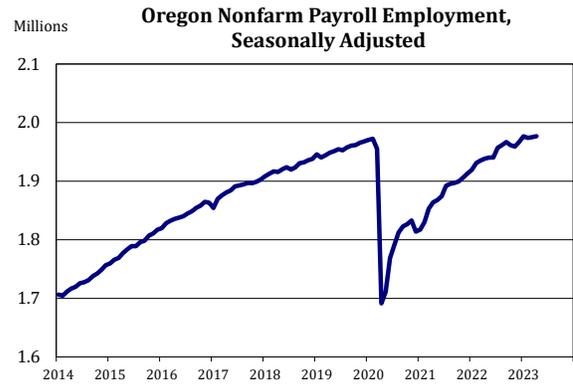
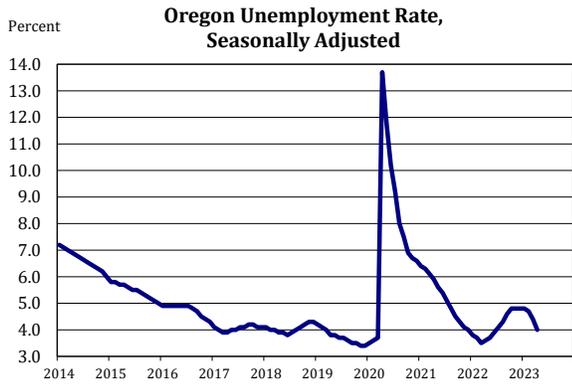
Other services is an industry made up of a variety of service establishments, such as repair, maintenance, laundry, religious organizations, and social advocacy organizations. Employment in this broad industry rose to 66,000 in April, reaching a record high, and for the first time surpassing its pre-pandemic peak of 65,500 in February 2020. Other services employment has recovered at a fairly steady pace over the past two and a half years.

Health care and social assistance continued its recent rapid expansion. It added 11,500 jobs (+4.3%) during the past 12 months, which was the most jobs added of the major industries in that time. **Social assistance**, at 73,400 jobs in April, expanded rapidly in recent months, adding 7,300 jobs since April 2022. **Nursing and residential care facilities** also grew rapidly, adding 2,800 jobs in that time.

Both **durable goods manufacturing** and **nondurable goods manufacturing** have cut slightly more than 1,000 jobs each in the first four months of the year. Durable goods industries declining in that time include **computer and electronic products**, **wood products**, **fabricated metal products**, and **transportation equipment**. Within nondurable goods, **food manufacturing** has cut jobs this year, and is down 1,000 jobs since April 2022.

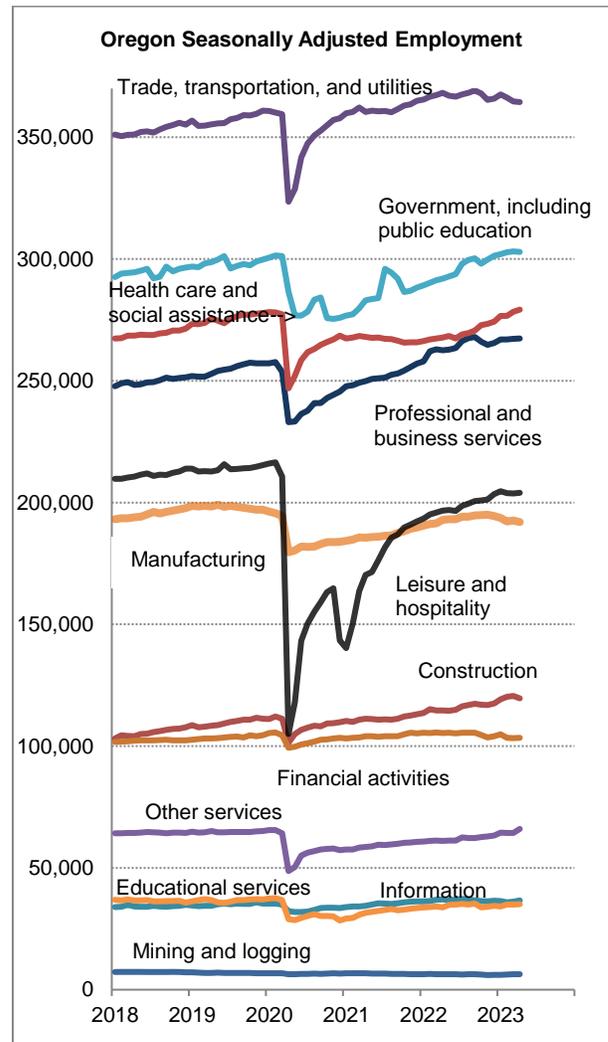
### Next Press Releases

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



**Seasonal Expectations and Over-the-Month Employment Changes March to April 2023**

| INDUSTRY                                   | Normal Seasonal Movement | Unadjusted Change | Seasonally Adjusted Change |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Total nonfarm payroll employment           | 5,500                    | 7,100             | 1,600                      |
| Total private                              | 4,700                    | 6,500             | 1,800                      |
| Mining and logging                         | 100                      | 100               | 0                          |
| Construction                               | 1,200                    | 200               | -1,000                     |
| Manufacturing                              | 800                      | 200               | -600                       |
| Wholesale trade                            | -500                     | -700              | -200                       |
| Retail trade                               | 500                      | 300               | -200                       |
| Transportation, warehousing, and utilities | -200                     | -100              | 100                        |
| Information                                | 500                      | 1,000             | 500                        |
| Financial activities                       | 500                      | 600               | 100                        |
| Professional and business services         | 0                        | 100               | 100                        |
| Private educational services               | -300                     | -200              | 100                        |
| Health care and social assistance          | 0                        | 900               | 900                        |
| Leisure and hospitality                    | 1,500                    | 1,800             | 300                        |
| Other services                             | 600                      | 2,300             | 1,700                      |
| Government                                 | 800                      | 600               | -200                       |



**Notes:**

All numbers in the above narrative are seasonally adjusted except for the components of health care and social assistance and manufacturing.

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 October, November and December 2022 tax records data. In addition, data for July through September 2022 were revised by a total of up to 1,300 jobs per month. 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 can be found at [QualityInfo.org/press-release](https://qualityinfo.org/press-release). To obtain the data in other formats such as in Excel, visit [QualityInfo.org](https://qualityinfo.org), select *Tools*, then choose *LAUS* or *CES* under the *Economy* header. To request the press release as a Word document, contact the person shown at the top of this press release.

To file a claim for unemployment benefits or get more information about unemployment programs, visit [unemployment.oregon.gov](https://unemployment.oregon.gov).

The Oregon Employment Department (OED) is an equal opportunity agency. OED provides free help so you can use our services. Some examples are sign language and spoken-language interpreters, written materials in other languages, large print, audio, and other formats. To get help, please call 503-947-1444. TTY users call 711. You can also send an email to [communications@employ.oregon.gov](mailto:communications@employ.oregon.gov).

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### Oregon Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

|   | April<br>2023 | March<br>2023 | April<br>2022 | Change From<br>March 2023 | Change From<br>April 2022 |
|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Labor Force Status</b>                                   |               |               |               |                           |                           |
| Civilian labor force  | 2,126,879     | 2,149,952     | 2,162,222     | -23,073                   | -35,343                   |
| Unemployed  | 60,760        | 78,249        | 77,169        | -17,489                   | -16,409                   |
| Unemployment rate   | 2.9           | 3.6           | 3.6           | -0.7                      | -0.7                      |
| Unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted                      | 4.0           | 4.4           | 3.6           | -0.4                      | 0.4                       |
| Employed  | 2,066,119     | 2,071,703     | 2,085,053     | -5,584                    | -18,934                   |
| <b>Other Labor Force Indicators</b>                         |               |               |               |                           |                           |
| Labor force participation rate, seasonally adjusted         | 62.4          | 62.7          | 62.7          | -0.3                      | -0.3                      |
| Labor underutilization rate – U-6, seasonally adjusted      | 7.4           | 7.6           | 7.0           | -0.2                      | 0.4                       |
| <b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>                           |               |               |               |                           |                           |
| Total nonfarm payroll employment                            | 1,974,800     | 1,967,700     | 1,940,600     | 7,100                     | 34,200                    |
| Total private   | 1,664,900     | 1,658,400     | 1,643,200     | 6,500                     | 21,700                    |
| Mining and logging  | 6,200         | 6,100         | 6,300         | 100                       | -100                      |
| Logging   | 4,500         | 4,400         | 4,600         | 100                       | -100                      |
| Construction  | 118,800       | 118,600       | 113,800       | 200                       | 5,000                     |
| Construction of buildings                                   | 33,700        | 33,900        | 33,300        | -200                      | 400                       |
| Residential building construction                           | 22,100        | 22,200        | 21,400        | -100                      | 700                       |
| Nonresidential building construction                        | 11,600        | 11,700        | 11,900        | -100                      | -300                      |
| Heavy and civil engineering construction                    | 10,900        | 10,900        | 10,100        | 0                         | 800                       |
| Specialty trade contractors                                 | 74,200        | 73,800        | 70,400        | 400                       | 3,800                     |
| Building foundation and exterior contractors                | 13,700        | 13,800        | 13,100        | -100                      | 600                       |
| Building equipment contractors                              | 35,000        | 34,800        | 32,700        | 200                       | 2,300                     |
| Building finishing contractors                              | 15,700        | 15,500        | 14,900        | 200                       | 800                       |
| Other specialty trade contractors                           | 9,800         | 9,700         | 9,700         | 100                       | 100                       |
| Manufacturing   | 190,800       | 190,600       | 192,400       | 200                       | -1,600                    |
| Durable goods   | 135,200       | 135,700       | 135,100       | -500                      | 100                       |
| Wood product manufacturing                                  | 22,700        | 22,800        | 23,400        | -100                      | -700                      |
| Sawmills and wood preservation                              | 6,300         | 6,400         | 6,500         | -100                      | -200                      |
| Plywood and engineered wood product mfg.                    | 8,300         | 8,300         | 8,500         | 0                         | -200                      |
| Other wood product manufacturing                            | 8,100         | 8,100         | 8,400         | 0                         | -300                      |
| Primary metal manufacturing                                 | 7,400         | 7,400         | 7,200         | 0                         | 200                       |
| Fabricated metal product manufacturing                      | 15,900        | 16,000        | 16,200        | -100                      | -300                      |
| Machinery manufacturing                                     | 14,900        | 15,000        | 14,500        | -100                      | 400                       |
| Computer and electronic product manufacturing               | 41,600        | 41,900        | 40,900        | -300                      | 700                       |
| Semiconductor and electronic component mfg.                 | 34,500        | 34,700        | 33,500        | -200                      | 1,000                     |
| Electronic instrument manufacturing                         | 4,700         | 4,700         | 4,800         | 0                         | -100                      |
| Transportation equipment manufacturing                      | 10,600        | 10,700        | 10,900        | -100                      | -300                      |
| Nondurable goods  | 55,600        | 54,900        | 57,300        | 700                       | -1,700                    |
| Food manufacturing  | 27,300        | 27,100        | 28,300        | 200                       | -1,000                    |
| Fruit and vegetable preserving and specialty                | 9,400         | 9,400         | 9,700         | 0                         | -300                      |
| Paper manufacturing   | 3,900         | 3,900         | 4,200         | 0                         | -300                      |
| Trade, transportation, and utilities                        | 358,400       | 358,900       | 365,000       | -500                      | -6,600                    |
| Wholesale trade   | 75,900        | 76,600        | 76,800        | -700                      | -900                      |
| Merchant wholesalers, durable goods                         | 38,500        | 38,700        | 38,600        | -200                      | -100                      |
| Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods                      | 30,200        | 30,600        | 30,700        | -400                      | -500                      |
| Wholesale trade agents and brokers                          | 7,200         | 7,300         | 7,500         | -100                      | -300                      |
| Retail trade  | 204,900       | 204,600       | 210,000       | 300                       | -5,100                    |
| Motor vehicle and parts dealers                             | 26,000        | 26,000        | 27,000        | 0                         | -1,000                    |
| Building material and garden equipment and supplies de      | 17,500        | 17,300        | 18,900        | 200                       | -1,400                    |
| Food and beverage retailers                                 | 47,900        | 48,000        | 46,800        | -100                      | 1,100                     |
| General merchandise retailers                               | 39,000        | 38,600        | 40,600        | 400                       | -1,600                    |
| Clothing, clothing accessories, shoe, and jewelry retailers | 15,200        | 15,200        | 15,500        | 0                         | -300                      |
| Sporting goods, hobby, musical instrument, book, and m      | 28,500        | 28,600        | 29,500        | -100                      | -1,000                    |

|   | April<br>2023 | March<br>2023 | April<br>2022 | Change From<br>March 2023 | Change From<br>April 2022 |
|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Transportation, warehousing, and utilities            | 77,600        | 77,700        | 78,200        | -100                      | -600                      |
| Utilities   | 5,000         | 5,000         | 4,900         | 0                         | 100                       |
| Transportation and warehousing                        | 72,600        | 72,700        | 73,300        | -100                      | -700                      |
| Truck transportation                                  | 18,600        | 18,700        | 18,900        | -100                      | -300                      |
| Couriers and messengers                               | 13,700        | 14,000        | 14,600        | -300                      | -900                      |
| Warehousing and storage                               | 17,600        | 18,000        | 19,500        | -400                      | -1,900                    |
| Information   | 36,500        | 35,500        | 36,800        | 1,000                     | -300                      |
| Publishing industries                                 | 16,900        | 16,500        | 16,700        | 400                       | 200                       |
| Newspaper, periodical, book, and directory publishers | 2,400         | 2,300         | 2,400         | 100                       | 0                         |
| Software publishers                                   | 14,500        | 14,200        | 14,300        | 300                       | 200                       |
| Telecommunications                                    | 4,200         | 4,100         | 4,400         | 100                       | -200                      |
| Financial activities                                  | 102,700       | 102,100       | 105,100       | 600                       | -2,400                    |
| Finance and insurance                                 | 54,200        | 54,000        | 55,900        | 200                       | -1,700                    |
| Credit intermediation and related activities          | 23,700        | 23,600        | 25,000        | 100                       | -1,300                    |
| Insurance carriers and related activities             | 23,900        | 23,800        | 24,400        | 100                       | -500                      |
| Real estate and rental and leasing                    | 48,500        | 48,100        | 49,200        | 400                       | -700                      |
| Real estate   | 44,000        | 44,100        | 44,000        | -100                      | 0                         |
| Professional and business services                    | 266,800       | 266,700       | 263,100       | 100                       | 3,700                     |
| Professional and technical services                   | 111,200       | 111,700       | 109,500       | -500                      | 1,700                     |
| Legal services  | 11,600        | 11,600        | 11,800        | 0                         | -200                      |
| Architectural and engineering services                | 18,700        | 18,700        | 18,300        | 0                         | 400                       |
| Computer systems design and related services          | 16,700        | 17,100        | 17,800        | -400                      | -1,100                    |
| Management of companies and enterprises               | 51,000        | 50,700        | 49,000        | 300                       | 2,000                     |
| Administrative and waste services                     | 104,600       | 104,300       | 104,600       | 300                       | 0                         |
| Administrative and support services                   | 98,100        | 97,900        | 98,400        | 200                       | -300                      |
| Employment services                                   | 42,100        | 44,100        | 44,500        | -2,000                    | -2,400                    |
| Business support services                             | 8,300         | 8,400         | 9,300         | -100                      | -1,000                    |
| Services to buildings and dwellings                   | 27,600        | 26,500        | 26,400        | 1,100                     | 1,200                     |
| Private education and health services                 | 317,500       | 316,800       | 304,500       | 700                       | 13,000                    |
| Private educational services                          | 36,700        | 36,900        | 36,400        | -200                      | 300                       |
| Health care and social assistance                     | 280,800       | 279,900       | 268,100       | 900                       | 12,700                    |
| Ambulatory health care services                       | 96,600        | 96,000        | 95,500        | 600                       | 1,100                     |
| Hospitals   | 59,200        | 59,500        | 57,700        | -300                      | 1,500                     |
| Nursing and residential care facilities               | 51,600        | 51,600        | 48,800        | 0                         | 2,800                     |
| Social assistance                                     | 73,400        | 72,800        | 66,100        | 600                       | 7,300                     |
| Leisure and hospitality                               | 201,300       | 199,500       | 194,900       | 1,800                     | 6,400                     |
| Arts, entertainment, and recreation                   | 25,900        | 26,300        | 24,800        | -400                      | 1,100                     |
| Amusement, gambling, and recreation                   | 18,300        | 18,500        | 17,500        | -200                      | 800                       |
| Accommodation and food services                       | 175,400       | 173,200       | 170,100       | 2,200                     | 5,300                     |
| Accommodation   | 24,000        | 23,000        | 21,700        | 1,000                     | 2,300                     |
| Food services and drinking places                     | 151,400       | 150,200       | 148,400       | 1,200                     | 3,000                     |
| Full-service restaurants                              | 65,300        | 63,700        | 62,900        | 1,600                     | 2,400                     |
| Limited-service eating places                         | 70,600        | 69,600        | 70,400        | 1,000                     | 200                       |
| Other services  | 65,900        | 63,600        | 61,300        | 2,300                     | 4,600                     |
| Repair and maintenance                                | 19,500        | 18,900        | 19,200        | 600                       | 300                       |
| Personal and laundry services                         | 15,600        | 15,100        | 14,400        | 500                       | 1,200                     |
| Membership associations and organizations             | 30,800        | 29,600        | 27,700        | 1,200                     | 3,100                     |
| Religious organizations                               | 15,400        | 14,900        | 14,500        | 500                       | 900                       |
| Government  | 309,900       | 309,300       | 297,400       | 600                       | 12,500                    |
| Federal government                                    | 27,800        | 27,400        | 27,700        | 400                       | 100                       |
| State government                                      | 44,400        | 44,200        | 42,500        | 200                       | 1,900                     |
| State education                                       | 1,300         | 1,300         | 1,100         | 0                         | 200                       |
| Local government                                      | 237,700       | 237,700       | 227,200       | 0                         | 10,500                    |
| Indian tribal   | 7,900         | 7,900         | 7,500         | 0                         | 400                       |
| Local education                                       | 139,800       | 140,100       | 133,300       | -300                      | 6,500                     |
| 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.