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CONTACT INFORMATION:

[Gail Krumenauer](#), State Employment Economist  
(971) 301-3771

[Video](#) and [Audio](#) available at 10 a.m.

[David Cooke](#), Economist (971) 375-5288

## Oregon's Nonfarm Payroll Employment Rises by 3,900 in December

In December, Oregon's seasonally adjusted nonfarm payroll employment rose by 3,900 jobs, following a revised loss of 5,900 jobs in November. December's gains were largest in **health care and social assistance** (+2,300 jobs), **construction** (+1,500), and **retail trade** (+700). Losses were largest in **financial activities** (-700 jobs) and **wholesale trade** (-600).

Health care and social assistance continued to add many jobs in December. Each of its four components grew rapidly in the most recent month and throughout last year. **Social assistance** added 1,200 jobs in December, adding 5,600 during 2023. **Ambulatory health care services** added 900 for the month and 5,600 for the year. Similarly, **hospitals** (+500 jobs in December) and **nursing and residential care facilities** (+600) continued to grow.

At 123,100 jobs in December, construction was at a record high. **Residential building construction** was particularly strong, adding 500 jobs in December, and 2,300 jobs in the past year.

Retail trade performed close to its normal seasonal pattern during the holiday shopping season of November and December. But retail's employment level was a little lower in December 2023 compared with the prior two years. It employed 207,900 in December 2023, which was about 2,300 jobs fewer than in both December 2022 and December 2021.

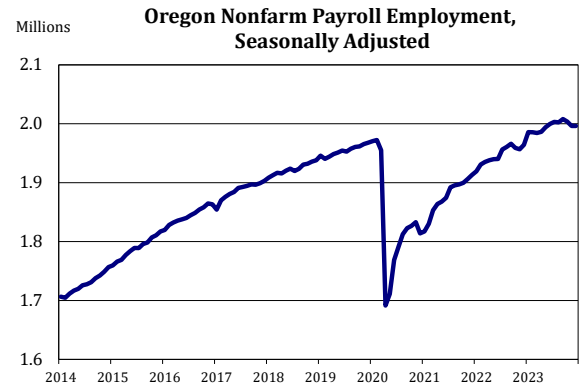
Although **leisure and hospitality** gained 4,800 jobs, or 2.4%, in the past 12 months, the industry showed recent weakness by cutting 2,600 jobs between August and December.

Employment in financial activities peaked in July at 107,100 jobs but has trended downward since then, losing 3,100 jobs over the past five months. The industry now employs about the same number as it did four years ago.

Oregon's unemployment rate was 3.7% in December and 3.6% in November. December was the eighth consecutive month in which Oregon's unemployment rate was between 3.4% and 3.7%. The U.S. unemployment rate was 3.7% in both November and December.

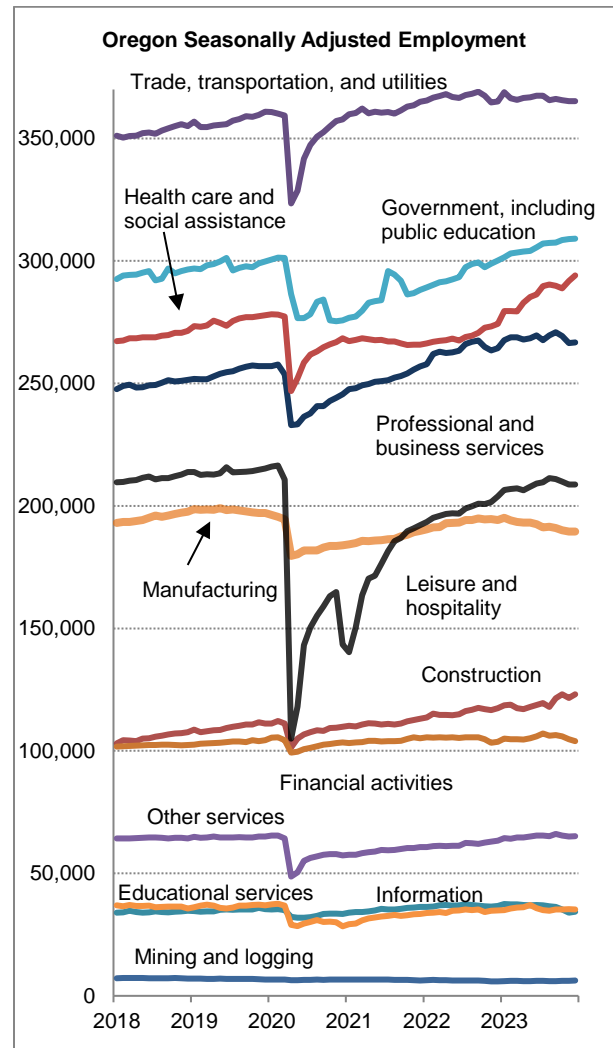
### Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the December county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, Jan. 23, and the next statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for January on Tuesday, March 5.



**Seasonal Expectations and Over-the-Month Employment Changes November to December 2023**

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



**Notes:**

All numbers in the above narrative are seasonally adjusted except for residential building construction and the component industries within health care and social assistance.

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 April, May, and June 2023 tax records data. 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

	December 2023	November 2023	December 2022	Change From November 2023	Change From December 2022
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	2,159,283	2,161,117	2,176,351	-1,834	-17,068
Unemployed	83,367	74,807	99,086	8,560	-15,719
Unemployment rate	3.9	3.5	4.6	0.4	-0.7
Unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted	3.7	3.6	4.8	0.1	-1.1
Employed	2,075,916	2,086,310	2,077,265	-10,394	-1,349
<b>Other Labor Force Indicators</b>					
Labor force participation rate, seasonally adjusted	61.9	61.8	62.9	0.1	-1.0
Labor underutilization rate – U-6, seasonally adjusted	8.0	8.0	7.8	0.0	0.2
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm payroll employment	2,000,800	1,998,800	1,972,300	2,000	28,500
Total private	1,688,000	1,684,600	1,669,200	3,400	18,800
Mining and logging	6,200	6,100	5,900	100	300
Logging	4,500	4,500	4,300	0	200
Construction	118,200	119,700	115,900	-1,500	2,300
Construction of buildings	35,500	35,000	32,600	500	2,900
Residential building construction	23,200	22,700	20,900	500	2,300
Nonresidential building construction	12,300	12,300	11,700	0	600
Heavy and civil engineering construction	10,700	11,200	10,800	-500	-100
Specialty trade contractors	72,000	73,500	72,500	-1,500	-500
Building foundation and exterior contractors	13,500	14,000	13,400	-500	100
Building equipment contractors	33,600	33,800	34,300	-200	-700
Building finishing contractors	15,200	15,600	15,200	-400	0
Other specialty trade contractors	9,700	10,100	9,600	-400	100
Manufacturing	188,500	189,200	193,500	-700	-5,000
Durable goods	133,200	132,100	136,500	1,100	-3,300
Wood product manufacturing	23,100	22,800	23,200	300	-100
Sawmills and wood preservation	6,600	6,500	6,500	100	100
Plywood and engineered wood product mfg.	8,500	8,400	8,500	100	0
Other wood product manufacturing	8,000	7,900	8,200	100	-200
Primary metal manufacturing	7,500	7,400	7,400	100	100
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	15,700	15,500	16,200	200	-500
Machinery manufacturing	14,200	14,100	14,700	100	-500
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	40,100	40,000	42,300	100	-2,200
Semiconductor and electronic component mfg.	33,300	33,100	35,100	200	-1,800
Electronic instrument manufacturing	4,800	4,700	4,800	100	0
Transportation equipment manufacturing	11,300	11,200	11,000	100	300
Nondurable goods	55,300	57,100	57,000	-1,800	-1,700
Food manufacturing	28,400	28,900	28,500	-500	-100
Fruit and vegetable preserving and specialty	9,200	9,500	9,800	-300	-600
Paper manufacturing	4,200	4,300	4,100	-100	100
Trade, transportation, and utilities	375,700	371,900	374,200	3,800	1,500
Wholesale trade	79,300	80,300	77,700	-1,000	1,600
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	39,800	40,500	39,400	-700	400
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	32,000	32,200	31,100	-200	900
Wholesale trade agents and brokers	7,500	7,600	7,200	-100	300
Retail trade	214,100	211,500	214,200	2,600	-100
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	27,000	26,900	26,600	100	400
Building material and garden equipment and supplies dealers	17,800	17,500	17,600	300	200
Food and beverage retailers	48,200	47,600	48,100	600	100
General merchandise retailers	43,700	43,000	42,200	700	1,500
Clothing, clothing accessories, shoe, and jewelry retailers	17,800	17,300	17,100	500	700
Sporting goods, hobby, musical instrument, book, and miscellaneous	30,500	30,700	30,800	-200	-300

	December 2023	November 2023	December 2022	Change From November 2023	Change From December 2022
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	82,300	80,100	82,300	2,200	0
Utilities	5,200	5,200	5,000	0	200
Transportation and warehousing	77,100	74,900	77,300	2,200	-200
Truck transportation	19,300	19,200	19,300	100	0
Couriers and messengers	16,600	15,400	17,700	1,200	-1,100
Warehousing and storage	18,200	18,000	18,800	200	-600
Information	34,000	33,900	36,600	100	-2,600
Publishing industries	15,800	15,800	16,600	0	-800
Newspaper, periodical, book, and directory publishers	2,300	2,300	2,400	0	-100
Software publishers	13,500	13,500	14,200	0	-700
Telecommunications	4,100	4,100	4,200	0	-100
Financial activities	103,900	104,100	103,800	-200	100
Finance and insurance	54,100	54,700	54,100	-600	0
Credit intermediation and related activities	22,600	22,900	23,600	-300	-1,000
Insurance carriers and related activities	25,100	25,300	24,000	-200	1,100
Real estate and rental and leasing	49,800	49,400	49,700	400	100
Real estate	45,400	44,900	44,100	500	1,300
Professional and business services	264,300	264,900	265,700	-600	-1,400
Professional and technical services	112,600	111,100	110,500	1,500	2,100
Legal services	12,200	12,200	11,800	0	400
Architectural and engineering services	19,200	19,000	18,800	200	400
Computer systems design and related services	17,500	17,800	17,600	-300	-100
Management of companies and enterprises	51,600	52,000	51,000	-400	600
Administrative and waste services	100,100	101,800	104,200	-1,700	-4,100
Administrative and support services	93,300	95,100	97,900	-1,800	-4,600
Employment services	41,400	41,100	44,700	300	-3,300
Business support services	7,500	7,500	8,700	0	-1,200
Services to buildings and dwellings	25,800	26,900	26,000	-1,100	-200
Private education and health services	328,400	327,100	311,400	1,300	17,000
Private educational services	35,100	37,000	36,200	-1,900	-1,100
Health care and social assistance	293,300	290,100	275,200	3,200	18,100
Ambulatory health care services	102,200	101,300	96,600	900	5,600
Hospitals	60,900	60,400	58,200	500	2,700
Nursing and residential care facilities	54,800	54,200	50,600	600	4,200
Social assistance	75,400	74,200	69,800	1,200	5,600
Leisure and hospitality	203,400	202,700	199,400	700	4,000
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	26,700	26,700	25,800	0	900
Amusement, gambling, and recreation	19,000	18,800	18,400	200	600
Accommodation and food services	176,700	176,000	173,600	700	3,100
Accommodation	23,800	24,700	23,000	-900	800
Food services and drinking places	152,900	151,300	150,600	1,600	2,300
Full-service restaurants	64,500	63,900	63,000	600	1,500
Limited-service eating places	71,900	71,100	71,200	800	700
Other services	65,400	65,000	62,800	400	2,600
Repair and maintenance	20,400	20,100	19,500	300	900
Personal and laundry services	15,400	15,200	14,700	200	700
Membership associations and organizations	29,600	29,700	28,600	-100	1,000
Religious organizations	14,100	14,100	14,300	0	-200
Government	312,800	314,200	303,100	-1,400	9,700
Federal government	28,200	28,400	27,200	-200	1,000
State government	45,500	46,000	43,900	-500	1,600
State education	1,500	1,400	1,300	100	200
Local government	239,100	239,800	232,000	-700	7,100
Indian tribal	8,500	8,500	7,800	0	700
Local education	136,500	137,300	135,200	-800	1,300
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.