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Portland Metropolitan Area: April 2024

The Portland metropolitan area's unemployment rate was 4.1% in April, essentially unchanged from March and higher than the year-ago rate of 3.3%. Approximately 49,600 area residents were unemployed; 9,600 more than a year ago. The statewide unemployment rate was 4.2% and the national rate was little changed at 3.9%.

Employers added 3,100 jobs in April (seasonally adjusted) following a gain of 800 jobs in March.

Several major industries added more jobs than typical for this time of year. Construction gained more than double the expected number of jobs, making up for a lackluster start to the year. Manufacturing added 700 jobs when a gain of 200 to 300 is the norm for April. Every published component either gained jobs or was flat over the month. Finally, trade, transportation, and utilities added roughly 1,000 jobs more than typical due largely to strength in the retail and transportation components.

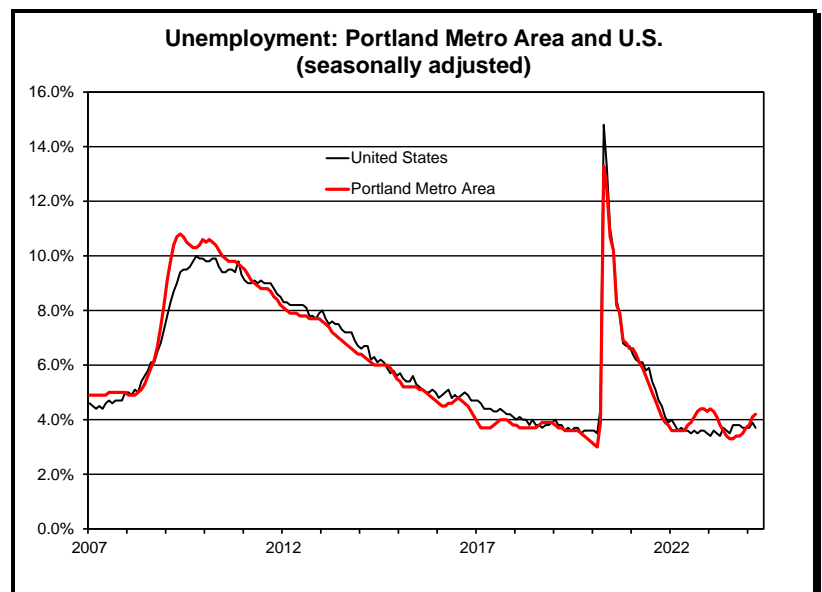
Partially offsetting these gains were losses in professional and business services. Declines were broad-based as each published component shed jobs.

Leisure and hospitality added jobs in April, which is typical as the outdoor recreation season (e.g. golf) kicks into higher gear and restaurants ramp up after the winter lull. While this sector did indeed add jobs (+500), the gains fell well short of normal gains (+2,400).

All other broad industries added jobs in line with seasonal expectations.

Next Press Release

The Oregon Employment Department will release the Portland metropolitan area's unemployment rate and employment survey data for May on Tuesday, June 25.



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 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 MSA Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

			--Change From--		
	April 2024	March 2024	April 2023	March 2024	April 2023
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	1,361,068	1,363,405	1,350,171	-2,337	10,897
Unemployed	49,635	59,255	40,058	-9,620	9,577
Unemployment rate	3.6%	4.3%	3.0%	-0.7	0.6
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.1%	4.2%	3.3%	-0.1	0.8
Employed	1,311,433	1,304,150	1,310,113	7,283	1,320
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	1,236,800	1,230,300	1,245,900	6,500	-9,100
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	1,244,800	1,241,700	1,243,300	3,100	1,500
Total private	1,077,500	1,071,500	1,089,100	6,000	-11,600
Mining, logging, and construction	81,800	78,900	82,000	2,900	-200
Mining and logging	1,100	1,100	1,000	0	100
Construction	80,700	77,800	81,000	2,900	-300
Construction of buildings	21,700	20,700	21,700	1,000	0
Residential building construction	13,600	13,000	13,400	600	200
Nonresidential building construction	8,100	7,700	8,300	400	-200
Heavy and civil engineering construction	6,900	6,600	6,500	300	400
Specialty trade contractors	52,100	50,500	52,800	1,600	-700
Manufacturing	122,400	121,700	126,800	700	-4,400
Durable goods	91,500	91,100	94,500	400	-3,000
Wood product manufacturing	4,000	3,900	4,100	100	-100
Primary metal manufacturing	4,600	4,600	4,600	0	0
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	11,900	11,800	12,300	100	-400
Machinery manufacturing	9,400	9,300	10,100	100	-700
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	40,200	40,000	41,100	200	-900
Semiconductor and electronic component mfg.	34,300	34,100	35,100	200	-800
Electronic instrument manufacturing	4,200	4,200	4,300	0	-100
Transportation equipment manufacturing	6,800	6,800	6,600	0	200
Nondurable goods	30,900	30,600	32,300	300	-1,400
Food manufacturing	13,800	13,700	14,200	100	-400
Paper manufacturing	2,600	2,500	2,700	100	-100
Trade, transportation, and utilities	220,700	219,100	224,000	1,600	-3,300
Wholesale trade	57,700	57,200	58,200	500	-500
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	30,900	30,700	31,300	200	-400
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	20,800	20,600	20,900	200	-100
Wholesale trade agents and brokers	6,000	5,900	6,000	100	0
Retail trade	112,000	111,300	114,700	700	-2,700
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	14,100	13,900	14,300	200	-200
Food and beverage retailers	25,500	25,400	25,100	100	400
General merchandise retailers	22,600	22,300	22,900	300	-300
Clothing, accessories, shoe, and jewelry retailers	10,100	10,100	10,500	0	-400
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	51,000	50,600	51,100	400	-100
Utilities	2,700	2,700	2,600	0	100
Transportation and warehousing	48,300	47,900	48,500	400	-200
Air transportation	4,000	4,000	4,000	0	0
Truck transportation	10,700	10,600	11,300	100	-600
Couriers and messengers	10,400	10,400	10,200	0	200
Warehousing and storage	12,100	12,200	11,300	-100	800
Information	26,300	26,100	27,700	200	-1,400
Publishing industries	12,100	12,000	12,600	100	-500
Software publishers	10,600	10,400	11,100	200	-500
Telecommunications	2,600	2,600	3,000	0	-400

Nonfarm Payroll Employment (continued)

	--Change From--				
	April 2024	March 2024	April 2023	March 2024	April 2023
Financial activities	71,700	70,800	73,600	900	-1,900
Finance and insurance	40,100	40,400	41,100	-300	-1,000
Credit intermediation and related activities	14,500	14,600	16,000	-100	-1,500
Insurance carriers and related activities	18,400	18,400	18,300	0	100
Real estate and rental and leasing	31,600	30,400	32,500	1,200	-900
Professional and business services	197,000	198,200	200,900	-1,200	-3,900
Professional and technical services	84,700	84,900	87,300	-200	-2,600
Architectural and engineering services	15,800	15,800	16,100	0	-300
Computer systems design and related services	15,000	15,000	15,900	0	-900
Management of companies and enterprises	41,300	41,400	42,300	-100	-1,000
Administrative and waste services	71,000	71,900	71,300	-900	-300
Administrative and support services	67,100	68,000	67,400	-900	-300
Employment services	30,400	30,600	30,800	-200	-400
Business support services	4,600	4,700	5,100	-100	-500
Services to buildings and dwellings	17,400	17,400	17,400	0	0
Private education and health services	201,100	200,600	193,000	500	8,100
Private educational services	30,200	30,400	29,200	-200	1,000
Private colleges and universities	11,200	11,400	11,100	-200	100
Health care and social assistance	170,900	170,200	163,800	700	7,100
Ambulatory health care services	61,800	61,400	60,000	400	1,800
Hospitals	32,900	32,700	31,700	200	1,200
Nursing and residential care facilities	31,200	31,100	29,200	100	2,000
Social assistance	45,000	45,000	42,900	0	2,100
Leisure and hospitality	114,900	114,400	118,400	500	-3,500
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	16,800	16,800	16,900	0	-100
Amusement, gambling, and recreation	12,100	12,100	11,900	0	200
Accommodation and food services	98,100	97,600	101,500	500	-3,400
Accommodation	10,000	9,900	9,800	100	200
Food services and drinking places	88,100	87,700	91,700	400	-3,600
Full-service restaurants	35,700	35,700	37,800	0	-2,100
Limited-service eating places	41,400	41,200	42,900	200	-1,500
Other services	41,600	41,700	42,700	-100	-1,100
Membership associations and organizations	17,600	17,900	17,700	-300	-100
Government	159,300	158,800	156,800	500	2,500
Federal government	19,000	18,900	18,000	100	1,000
State government	13,300	13,500	13,500	-200	-200
State education	2,000	2,000	2,000	0	0
Local government	127,000	126,400	125,300	600	1,700
Local education	68,800	68,700	68,100	100	700

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.