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Oregon's Unemployment Rate Holds Steady at 3.5% in July

Oregon's unemployment rate was 3.5% in July, unchanged from 3.5%, as revised, in June. The U.S. unemployment rate was also 3.5% in July. Oregon's unemployment rate has tracked very closely with the national unemployment rate for the past two years, with both rates declining rapidly during May 2020 through early 2022 as the economies recovered. Over the past five months, unemployment rates for the U.S. and Oregon have averaged 3.6%, near record lows dating back almost 50 years.

The labor market is tight, and many people have gotten back to work. Over the past two years, Oregon's labor force participation rate rose rapidly. The share of the population 16 and older that is either employed or unemployed reached 63.5% in July, its highest rate in a decade.

In Oregon, nonfarm payroll employment grew by 4,200 in July, following gains averaging 6,300 jobs in the prior eight months. Monthly gains in July were largest in **leisure and hospitality** (+1,500 jobs), **other services** (+1,400), **manufacturing** (+1,300), and **private educational services** (+1,300). **Retail trade** (-700 jobs) was the only major industry that shed a substantial number of jobs.

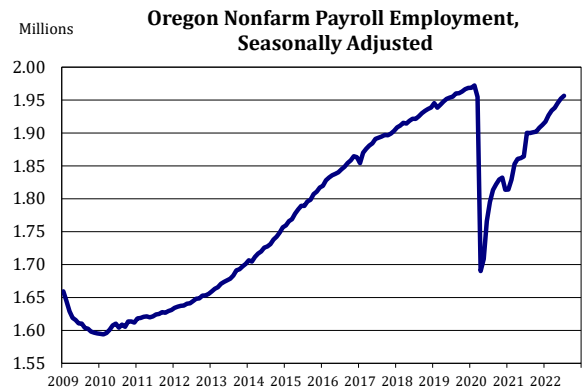
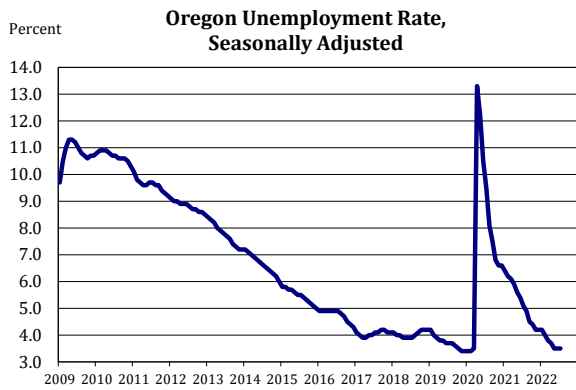
As of July, Oregon has regained 94% of jobs lost at the onset of the pandemic. The U.S. has regained 100%. Oregon's private sector is close to a full jobs recovery, having regained 99% of pandemic recession losses. However, Oregon's government sector has only regained 49% of the jobs it lost during March through June 2020.

Professional and technical services was one of the fastest growing industries over the past two years. It added 1,900 jobs in July and has grown by 10,400 jobs since February 2020. Over the past 12 months, **architectural and engineering services** added 1,700 jobs, or 9.4%, which was the highest growth rate of the component industries within professional and technical services.

Retail trade has inched downward since late last year. In July, it dropped to 209,000 jobs, which is back to where it was in late 2016. Over the past 12 months, the weakest retail trade sectors were building material and garden supply stores (-1,700 jobs) and general merchandise stores (-2,400 jobs).

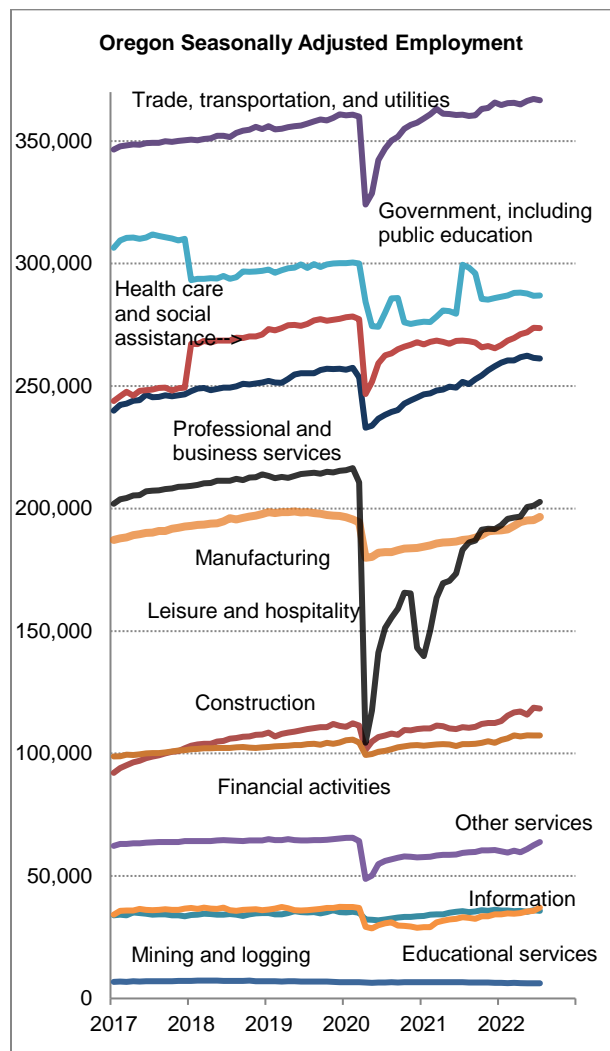
Next Press Releases

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



Seasonal Expectations and Over-the-Month Employment Changes June to July 2022

INDUSTRY	Normal Seasonal Movement	Unadjusted Change	Seasonally Adjusted Change
Total nonfarm payroll employment	-18,100	-13,900	4,200
Total private	12,100	16,100	4,000
Mining and logging	100	100	0
Construction	1,400	1,100	-300
Manufacturing	2,600	3,900	1,300
Wholesale trade	600	800	200
Retail trade	600	-100	-700
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	0	0	0
Information	400	100	-300
Financial activities	1,200	1,200	0
Professional and business services	1,300	1,100	-200
Private educational services	-1,300	0	1,300
Health care and social assistance	-1,200	-1,400	-200
Leisure and hospitality	6,800	8,300	1,500
Other services	-400	1,000	1,400
Government	-30,200	-30,000	200



Notes:

All numbers in the above narrative are seasonally adjusted, except for the component industries within retail trade and professional and technical services.

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 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 2021 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), then within the top banner, select *Economic Data*, then choose *LAUS* or *CES*. 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 [Oregon.gov/employ](https://oregon.gov/employ).

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.

Oregon Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	July 2022	June 2022	July 2021	Change From June 2022	Change From July 2021
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	2,211,382	2,199,147	2,160,021	12,235	51,361
Unemployed	87,337	80,036	111,470	7,301	-24,133
Unemployment rate	3.9	3.6	5.2	0.3	-1.3
Unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted	3.5	3.5	5.1	0.0	-1.6
Employed	2,124,045	2,119,111	2,048,551	4,934	75,494
Other Labor Force Indicators					
Labor force participation rate, seasonally adjusted	63.5	63.5	62.2	0.0	1.3
Labor underutilization rate – U-6, seasonally adjusted	6.9	6.9	9.5	0.0	-2.6
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm payroll employment	1,955,400	1,969,300	1,891,700	-13,900	63,700
Total private	1,689,000	1,672,900	1,615,500	16,100	73,500
Mining and logging	6,600	6,500	6,800	100	-200
Logging	4,700	4,600	4,900	100	-200
Construction	123,800	122,700	114,500	1,100	9,300
Construction of buildings	35,000	34,700	33,200	300	1,800
Residential building construction	22,500	22,300	21,200	200	1,300
Nonresidential building construction	12,500	12,400	12,000	100	500
Heavy and civil engineering construction	11,300	11,300	10,700	0	600
Specialty trade contractors	77,500	76,700	70,600	800	6,900
Building foundation and exterior contractors	14,200	14,200	13,200	0	1,000
Building equipment contractors	35,200	34,800	31,700	400	3,500
Building finishing contractors	17,600	17,200	15,600	400	2,000
Other specialty trade contractors	10,500	10,500	10,100	0	400
Manufacturing	202,200	198,300	189,900	3,900	12,300
Durable goods	138,900	136,400	129,800	2,500	9,100
Wood product manufacturing	23,600	23,600	23,000	0	600
Sawmills and wood preservation	6,600	6,600	6,400	0	200
Plywood and engineered wood product mfg.	8,800	8,800	8,500	0	300
Other wood product manufacturing	8,200	8,200	8,100	0	100
Primary metal manufacturing	7,400	7,300	6,700	100	700
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	16,700	16,700	16,000	0	700
Machinery manufacturing	15,000	14,900	14,000	100	1,000
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	41,000	41,600	37,800	-600	3,200
Semiconductor and electronic component mfg.	33,900	34,700	30,500	-800	3,400
Electronic instrument manufacturing	5,100	5,100	4,900	0	200
Transportation equipment manufacturing	10,900	10,900	10,600	0	300
Nondurable goods	63,300	61,900	60,100	1,400	3,200
Food manufacturing	30,000	29,700	29,800	300	200
Fruit and vegetable preserving and specialty	10,900	10,300	10,700	600	200
Paper manufacturing	4,100	4,100	4,100	0	0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	364,800	364,100	360,800	700	4,000
Wholesale trade	79,300	78,500	74,700	800	4,600
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	38,800	38,600	37,700	200	1,100
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	32,800	32,200	29,700	600	3,100
Electronic markets and agents and brokers	7,700	7,700	7,300	0	400
Retail trade	206,900	207,000	210,700	-100	-3,800
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	25,300	25,200	26,100	100	-800
Building material and garden supply stores	17,800	18,200	19,500	-400	-1,700
Food and beverage stores	47,200	46,700	46,100	500	1,100
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	14,200	14,300	13,600	-100	600
Sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores	9,500	9,500	9,500	0	0
General merchandise stores	38,100	37,600	40,500	500	-2,400
Miscellaneous store retailers	18,000	17,900	17,300	100	700
Nonstore retailers	7,700	7,700	7,700	0	0

	July 2022	June 2022	July 2021	Change From June 2022	Change From July 2021
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	78,600	78,600	75,400	0	3,200
Utilities	4,900	4,900	4,800	0	100
Transportation and warehousing	73,700	73,700	70,600	0	3,100
Truck transportation	18,600	18,800	19,200	-200	-600
Couriers and messengers	14,800	15,100	13,500	-300	1,300
Warehousing and storage	20,000	19,900	19,000	100	1,000
Information	36,000	35,900	35,700	100	300
Publishing industries, except internet	16,200	16,100	16,100	100	100
Newspaper, book, and directory publishers	2,300	2,300	2,400	0	-100
Software publishers	13,900	13,800	13,700	100	200
Telecommunications	4,400	4,300	4,400	100	0
Financial activities	108,200	107,000	105,200	1,200	3,000
Finance and insurance	56,200	56,600	56,500	-400	-300
Credit intermediation and related activities	25,300	25,700	25,800	-400	-500
Insurance carriers and related activities	23,800	24,000	24,200	-200	-400
Real estate and rental and leasing	52,000	50,400	48,700	1,600	3,300
Real estate	45,400	44,200	43,300	1,200	2,100
Professional and business services	262,800	261,700	253,300	1,100	9,500
Professional and technical services	112,000	109,000	104,900	3,000	7,100
Legal services	12,400	12,100	12,000	300	400
Architectural and engineering services	19,800	19,300	18,100	500	1,700
Computer systems design and related services	18,100	17,700	17,300	400	800
Management of companies and enterprises	49,300	49,400	48,300	-100	1,000
Administrative and waste services	101,500	103,300	100,100	-1,800	1,400
Administrative and support services	95,500	97,300	93,900	-1,800	1,600
Employment services	42,700	44,200	39,200	-1,500	3,500
Business support services	9,100	9,200	10,300	-100	-1,200
Services to buildings and dwellings	29,400	28,800	26,500	600	2,900
Education and health services	307,100	308,500	296,000	-1,400	11,100
Educational services	33,700	33,700	27,300	0	6,400
Health care and social assistance	273,400	274,800	268,700	-1,400	4,700
Ambulatory health care services	99,100	98,900	94,700	200	4,400
Hospitals	57,300	57,600	58,500	-300	-1,200
Nursing and residential care facilities	49,700	49,600	49,400	100	300
Social assistance	67,300	68,700	66,100	-1,400	1,200
Leisure and hospitality	214,500	206,200	193,000	8,300	21,500
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	28,300	27,100	24,100	1,200	4,200
Amusement, gambling, and recreation	20,600	19,500	18,000	1,100	2,600
Accommodation and food services	186,200	179,100	168,900	7,100	17,300
Accommodation	26,200	23,200	23,500	3,000	2,700
Food services and drinking places	160,000	155,900	145,400	4,100	14,600
Full-service restaurants	70,900	69,000	62,100	1,900	8,800
Limited-service eating places	73,800	71,300	70,000	2,500	3,800
Other services	63,000	62,000	60,300	1,000	2,700
Repair and maintenance	19,200	18,500	19,000	700	200
Personal and laundry services	14,800	14,600	14,100	200	700
Membership associations and organizations	29,000	28,900	27,200	100	1,800
Religious organizations	14,500	14,600	13,800	-100	700
Government	266,400	296,400	276,200	-30,000	-9,800
Federal government	28,900	28,600	29,500	300	-600
State government	43,500	43,300	43,000	200	500
State education	1,200	1,100	1,000	100	200
Local government	194,000	224,500	203,700	-30,500	-9,700
Indian tribal	7,700	7,700	7,700	0	0
Local education	98,500	128,600	109,600	-30,100	-11,100
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.