

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 28, 2023

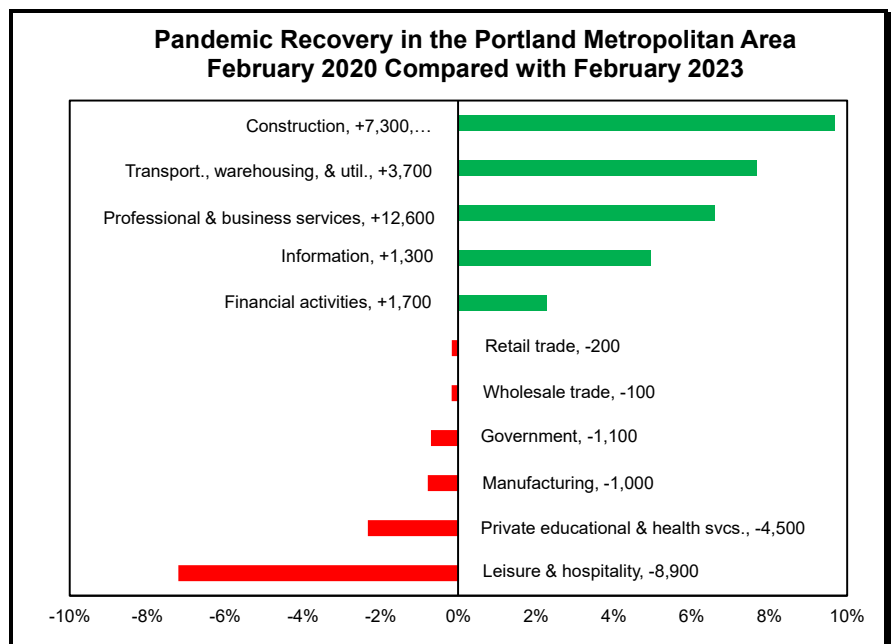
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Portland Metropolitan Area: February 2023

The Portland metropolitan area's unemployment rate was 4.2% in February, little changed from January (4.1%) and slightly higher than year ago (3.9%). Approximately 61,200 area residents were unemployed; 8,800 more than a year ago. The statewide unemployment rate was essentially unchanged at 4.7% and the national rate rose to 3.6% in February.

Employers added 800 jobs in February following (upwardly revised) gains of 9,400 jobs in January (seasonally adjusted).

Manufacturing and financial activities lost jobs over the month, distributed across most published components. Private educational services and leisure and hospitality each added fewer jobs than typical for this time of year. Strength in professional and business services and construction powered much of February's net gains.



Employment peaked in February 2020 before declining sharply in the first few months of the pandemic. Three years later, the economy has made a full jobs recovery overall. However, broken down by industry, not all sectors are back to pre-pandemic levels. Leisure and hospitality, which suffered the largest losses, has added back tens of thousands of jobs but is still below its pre-pandemic peak (-8,900 jobs, -7.2%). Private educational and health services is down 2.3% (-4,500) with deficits across all published components except ambulatory health care (e.g. doctors' offices). Manufacturing is off by 0.8% (-1,000), pulled down by primary metals (-1,400) and nondurable goods (-1,800). On the positive side, construction (+7,300; +9.7%), transportation and warehousing (+3,700; +7.7%), and professional and business services (+12,600; +6.6%) are all well above pre-pandemic peaks.

Next Press Release

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

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Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, OR-WA MSA Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

			--Change From--		
	February 2023	January 2023	February 2022	January 2023	February 2022
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	1,375,671	1,372,554	1,365,965	3,117	9,706
Unemployed	61,227	61,803	52,392	-576	8,835
Unemployment rate	4.5%	4.5%	3.8%	0.0	0.7
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.2%	4.1%	3.9%	0.1	0.3
Employed	1,314,444	1,310,751	1,313,573	3,693	871
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	1,242,600	1,239,900	1,207,500	2,700	35,100
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	1,254,300	1,253,500	1,217,300	800	37,000
Total private	1,088,200	1,087,000	1,057,500	1,200	30,700
Mining, logging, and construction	83,700	82,000	79,300	1,700	4,400
Mining and logging	1,100	1,100	1,100	0	0
Construction	82,600	80,900	78,200	1,700	4,400
Construction of buildings	21,800	21,400	21,500	400	300
Residential building construction	13,300	13,000	13,200	300	100
Nonresidential building construction	8,500	8,400	8,300	100	200
Heavy and civil engineering construction	6,500	6,300	6,300	200	200
Specialty trade contractors	54,300	53,200	50,400	1,100	3,900
Manufacturing	125,900	126,700	124,400	-800	1,500
Durable goods	94,700	94,900	92,900	-200	1,800
Wood product manufacturing	4,200	4,300	4,200	-100	0
Primary metal manufacturing	4,700	4,700	4,800	0	-100
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	12,600	12,700	12,600	-100	0
Machinery manufacturing	10,600	10,600	10,400	0	200
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	40,600	40,800	39,300	-200	1,300
Semiconductor and electronic component mfg.	34,400	34,600	33,300	-200	1,100
Electronic instrument manufacturing	4,200	4,200	4,200	0	0
Transportation equipment manufacturing	6,300	6,300	5,800	0	500
Nondurable goods	31,200	31,800	31,500	-600	-300
Food manufacturing	13,800	14,000	13,700	-200	100
Paper manufacturing	2,500	2,500	2,500	0	0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	225,200	227,600	224,800	-2,400	400
Wholesale trade	57,200	57,000	56,300	200	900
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	31,200	31,100	30,400	100	800
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	20,000	19,900	19,900	100	100
Wholesale trade agents and brokers	6,000	6,000	6,000	0	0
Retail trade	116,100	117,900	115,600	-1,800	500
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	14,000	14,100	14,100	-100	-100
Food and beverage retailers	25,200	25,500	24,700	-300	500
General merchandise retailers	22,800	23,200	23,200	-400	-400
Clothing, accessories, shoe, and jewelry retailers	10,400	10,900	10,400	-500	0
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	51,900	52,700	52,900	-800	-1,000
Utilities	2,600	2,600	2,600	0	0
Transportation and warehousing	49,300	50,100	50,300	-800	-1,000
Air transportation	3,800	3,800	3,800	0	0
Truck transportation	11,200	11,300	11,200	-100	0
Couriers and messengers	10,700	11,600	11,100	-900	-400
Warehousing and storage	13,000	13,000	13,400	0	-400
Information	27,500	27,900	27,000	-400	500
Publishing industries	12,700	12,700	12,600	0	100
Software publishers	11,100	11,200	11,100	-100	0
Telecommunications	3,000	3,000	3,100	0	-100

Nonfarm Payroll Employment (continued)

	--Change From--				
	February 2023	January 2023	February 2022	January 2023	February 2022
Financial activities	76,500	77,400	74,600	-900	1,900
Finance and insurance	42,700	43,300	42,700	-600	0
Credit intermediation and related activities	16,700	16,900	17,800	-200	-1,100
Insurance carriers and related activities	18,100	18,300	18,100	-200	0
Real estate and rental and leasing	33,800	34,100	31,900	-300	1,900
Professional and business services	203,800	201,500	197,000	2,300	6,800
Professional and technical services	86,000	85,200	84,300	800	1,700
Architectural and engineering services	15,500	15,600	15,300	-100	200
Computer systems design and related services	15,700	15,900	15,900	-200	-200
Management of companies and enterprises	41,600	41,700	39,900	-100	1,700
Administrative and waste services	76,200	74,600	72,800	1,600	3,400
Administrative and support services	72,400	70,700	69,200	1,700	3,200
Employment services	33,000	32,400	34,200	600	-1,200
Business support services	5,300	5,200	5,400	100	-100
Services to buildings and dwellings	17,300	16,800	16,000	500	1,300
Private education and health services	188,500	186,800	183,200	1,700	5,300
Private educational services	28,300	26,900	27,400	1,400	900
Private colleges and universities	10,800	9,600	11,000	1,200	-200
Health care and social assistance	160,200	159,900	155,800	300	4,400
Ambulatory health care services	59,600	59,300	58,200	300	1,400
Hospitals	31,400	31,700	30,300	-300	1,100
Nursing and residential care facilities	27,300	27,300	27,100	0	200
Social assistance	41,900	41,600	40,200	300	1,700
Leisure and hospitality	114,600	114,400	107,100	200	7,500
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	17,300	17,200	14,300	100	3,000
Amusement, gambling, and recreation	11,800	11,800	10,100	0	1,700
Accommodation and food services	97,300	97,200	92,800	100	4,500
Accommodation	8,800	8,800	7,600	0	1,200
Food services and drinking places	88,500	88,400	85,200	100	3,300
Full-service restaurants	38,300	37,700	35,600	600	2,700
Limited-service eating places	41,200	41,700	40,300	-500	900
Other services	42,500	42,700	40,100	-200	2,400
Membership associations and organizations	17,500	17,400	16,400	100	1,100
Government	154,400	152,900	150,000	1,500	4,400
Federal government	17,800	17,700	18,000	100	-200
State government	12,200	12,300	12,400	-100	-200
State education	2,300	2,300	1,900	0	400
Local government	124,400	122,900	119,600	1,500	4,800
Local education	68,500	67,200	66,100	1,300	2,400

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.