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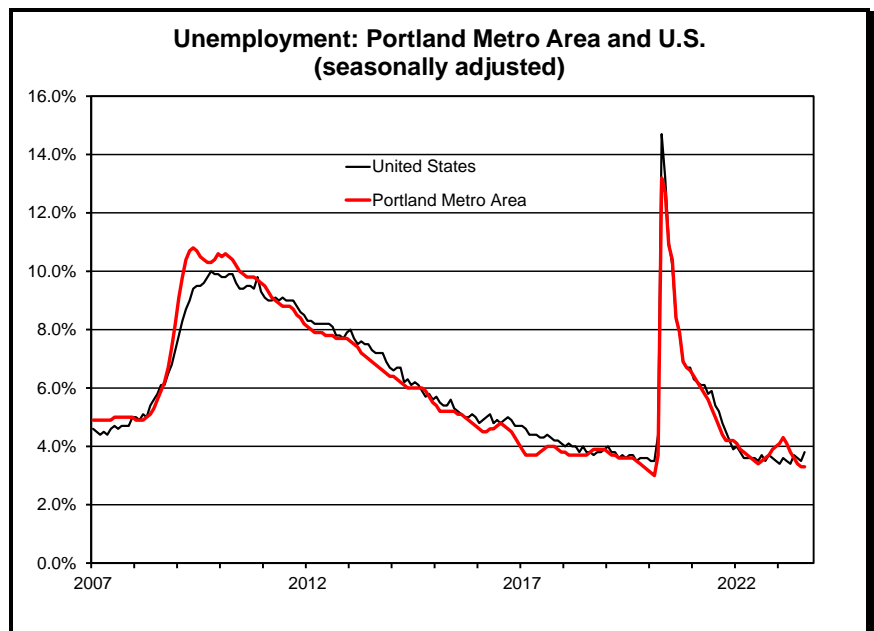
## Portland Metropolitan Area: August 2023

The Portland metropolitan area's unemployment rate was 3.3% in August, unchanged from July and lower than a year ago (4.1%). Approximately 50,900 area residents were unemployed; 10,100 less than a year ago. The statewide unemployment rate also remained unchanged (3.4%), tying the record low reached in late 2019. The U.S. rate rose from 3.5% in July to 3.8%.

Employers added 2,000 jobs in August following a loss of 1,400 jobs in July (seasonally adjusted).

Employment growth over the month was driven by large gains in leisure and hospitality. This sector added thousands of jobs in a month that typically sees little change. All published components, most notably food services and bars, outperformed seasonal norms. Additionally, public education added jobs, which is unusual for this time of year.

Declines in professional and business services and in financial activities partially offset these gains.



Over the past 12 months, nonfarm employment rose by 23,400 jobs, or 1.9%. Leisure and hospitality continues to outpace all other industries as it recovers from pandemic losses. In contrast, manufacturing is down 1.6% (-2,100 jobs), spread across all published components except transportation manufacturing and primary metals. Trade and transportation is also in the red (-1.2%; -2,500) with losses in every component except air transportation and grocery stores.

Annualized job growth has slowed from 4.6% in 2022 to an average of 2.3% thus far in 2023 as the economy has transitioned from economic recovery from the pandemic recession to expansion.

**Next Press Release**

The Oregon Employment Department will release the Portland metropolitan area's unemployment rate and employment survey data for September on Tuesday, Oct. 24.

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/](http://www.qualityinfo.org/press-release/). To obtain the data in other formats such as in Excel, visit [QualityInfo.org](http://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](http://www.WorkSourceOregon.org).

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](mailto:OED_Communications@employ.oregon.gov).

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

	August 2023	July 2023	August 2022	--Change From--	
				July 2023	August 2022
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	1,369,375	1,365,110	1,379,779	4,265	-10,404
Unemployed	50,889	48,555	61,022	2,334	-10,133
Unemployment rate	3.7%	3.6%	4.4%	0.1	-0.7
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.3%	3.3%	4.1%	0.0	-0.8
Employed	1,318,486	1,316,555	1,318,757	1,931	-271
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	1,260,700	1,257,800	1,233,400	2,900	27,300
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	1,251,500	1,249,500	1,233,700	2,000	17,800
Total private	1,109,400	1,107,300	1,087,200	2,100	22,200
Mining, logging, and construction	91,200	91,000	84,500	200	6,700
Mining and logging	1,000	1,000	1,100	0	-100
Construction	90,200	90,000	83,400	200	6,800
Construction of buildings	23,600	23,600	22,400	0	1,200
Residential building construction	14,600	14,600	13,800	0	800
Nonresidential building construction	9,000	9,000	8,600	0	400
Heavy and civil engineering construction	7,400	7,300	6,900	100	500
Specialty trade contractors	59,200	59,100	54,100	100	5,100
Manufacturing	126,400	126,700	128,600	-300	-2,200
Durable goods	93,800	93,800	95,800	0	-2,000
Wood product manufacturing	4,100	4,100	4,300	0	-200
Primary metal manufacturing	4,700	4,700	4,900	0	-200
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	12,400	12,400	12,600	0	-200
Machinery manufacturing	10,200	10,200	10,400	0	-200
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	40,500	41,200	41,400	-700	-900
Semiconductor and electronic component mfg.	35,200	35,700	35,400	-500	-200
Electronic instrument manufacturing	4,100	4,200	4,300	-100	-200
Transportation equipment manufacturing	6,600	6,600	6,200	0	400
Nondurable goods	32,600	32,900	32,800	-300	-200
Food manufacturing	14,500	14,700	14,400	-200	100
Paper manufacturing	2,500	2,600	2,500	-100	0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	223,400	224,200	225,700	-800	-2,300
Wholesale trade	56,900	56,600	57,300	300	-400
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	30,600	30,400	31,100	200	-500
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	20,400	20,300	20,300	100	100
Wholesale trade agents and brokers	5,900	5,900	5,900	0	0
Retail trade	116,200	117,100	116,800	-900	-600
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	14,400	14,300	14,400	100	0
Food and beverage retailers	25,100	25,100	25,100	0	0
General merchandise retailers	23,100	23,100	22,800	0	300
Clothing, accessories, shoe, and jewelry retailers	10,700	10,700	10,800	0	-100
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	50,300	50,500	51,600	-200	-1,300
Utilities	2,600	2,600	2,600	0	0
Transportation and warehousing	47,700	47,900	49,000	-200	-1,300
Air transportation	4,100	4,100	3,800	0	300
Truck transportation	11,300	11,300	11,600	0	-300
Couriers and messengers	10,100	10,100	10,200	0	-100
Warehousing and storage	11,300	11,400	12,500	-100	-1,200
Information	28,100	28,300	27,700	-200	400
Publishing industries	12,700	12,800	12,700	-100	0
Software publishers	11,200	11,200	11,200	0	0
Telecommunications	3,000	3,000	3,000	0	0

## Nonfarm Payroll Employment (continued)

	--Change From--				
	August 2023	July 2023	August 2022	July 2023	August 2022
Financial activities	76,500	77,500	76,300	-1,000	200
Finance and insurance	42,300	43,100	43,200	-800	-900
Credit intermediation and related activities	16,500	16,700	16,800	-200	-300
Insurance carriers and related activities	18,500	18,600	18,400	-100	100
Real estate and rental and leasing	34,200	34,400	33,100	-200	1,100
Professional and business services	199,400	200,400	201,800	-1,000	-2,400
Professional and technical services	86,100	86,900	86,200	-800	-100
Architectural and engineering services	16,300	16,300	16,000	0	300
Computer systems design and related services	15,700	15,700	15,900	0	-200
Management of companies and enterprises	43,300	42,700	42,000	600	1,300
Administrative and waste services	70,000	70,800	73,600	-800	-3,600
Administrative and support services	65,600	66,600	69,900	-1,000	-4,300
Employment services	29,800	30,000	33,400	-200	-3,600
Business support services	4,600	4,700	5,200	-100	-600
Services to buildings and dwellings	16,400	16,500	17,200	-100	-800
Private education and health services	189,300	188,600	180,600	700	8,700
Private educational services	24,400	24,300	23,200	100	1,200
Private colleges and universities	8,100	7,900	7,300	200	800
Health care and social assistance	164,900	164,300	157,400	600	7,500
Ambulatory health care services	59,600	59,300	58,600	300	1,000
Hospitals	32,000	31,500	30,700	500	1,300
Nursing and residential care facilities	29,300	29,400	27,300	-100	2,000
Social assistance	44,000	44,100	40,800	-100	3,200
Leisure and hospitality	132,900	128,700	120,100	4,200	12,800
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	20,000	19,500	17,900	500	2,100
Amusement, gambling, and recreation	14,100	13,900	12,900	200	1,200
Accommodation and food services	112,900	109,200	102,200	3,700	10,700
Accommodation	10,600	10,500	9,300	100	1,300
Food services and drinking places	102,300	98,700	92,900	3,600	9,400
Full-service restaurants	41,700	41,300	39,100	400	2,600
Limited-service eating places	46,100	45,000	43,100	1,100	3,000
Other services	42,200	41,900	41,900	300	300
Membership associations and organizations	18,100	18,200	17,600	-100	500
Government	151,300	150,500	146,200	800	5,100
Federal government	18,500	18,300	17,800	200	700
State government	13,000	12,800	12,000	200	1,000
State education	1,400	1,300	1,500	100	-100
Local government	119,800	119,400	116,400	400	3,400
Local education	60,500	60,100	60,500	400	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.

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.