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(503) 947-1272 [Video](#) and [Audio](#) available at 10:00 AM

The Employment Department Releases Oregon's February Unemployment Rate

Oregon's unemployment rate was 3.3 percent in both January and February, the lowest on comparable records dating back to 1976. The U.S. unemployment rate was 3.5 percent in February.

"It's too early to have data showing the employment impact, but the response to COVID-19 is causing a reduction in economic activity both nationally and in Oregon. It will be weeks before we can accurately quantify the extent of the damage to Oregon's labor market," said Nick Beleiciks, Systems and Economic Analysis manager at the Oregon Employment Department.

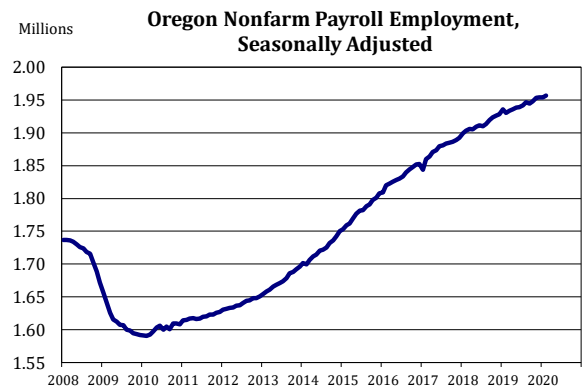
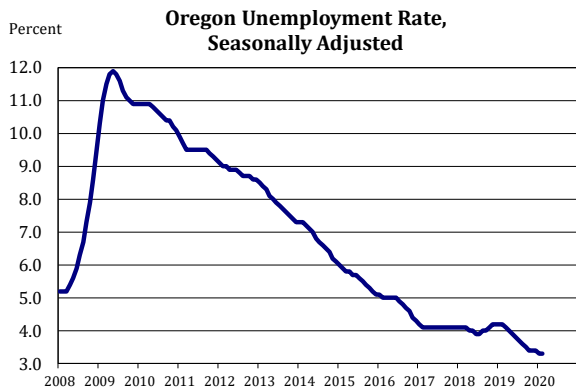
Oregon's labor force data for February shows little impact from the spread of the coronavirus since the February unemployment rate is based on people's activity during the week that included February 12th. The monthly unemployment rate is always based on a person's employment status for the week that includes the 12th of each month. By mid-February, there had been relatively limited economic impact from the disease in the U.S. In February, there were 69,000 unemployed Oregonians, which was the lowest number in more than 40 years.

Total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 3,100 jobs in February, following a loss of 300 jobs in January. Two major industries added more than 1,000 jobs in February: **construction** (+1,700 jobs) and **professional and business services** (+1,300). Only one industry cut jobs substantially: **manufacturing** (-500).

Oregon's nonfarm payroll employment increased by 26,600 jobs, or 1.4 percent, over the year since February 2019. In the past 12 months, **transportation, warehousing, and utilities** grew at the fastest rate of the major industries, expanding by 3,100 jobs, or 4.5 percent. **Information** also expanded rapidly, adding 1,100 jobs, or 3.2 percent, since February 2019. **Construction** (+3,000 jobs, or 2.8%) and **other services** (+1,900 jobs, or 2.9%) also were leading industries of growth over the past 12 months. Meanwhile, only one industry shed a substantial number of jobs since February 2019; **manufacturing** dropped 3,700 jobs, declining 1.9 percent.

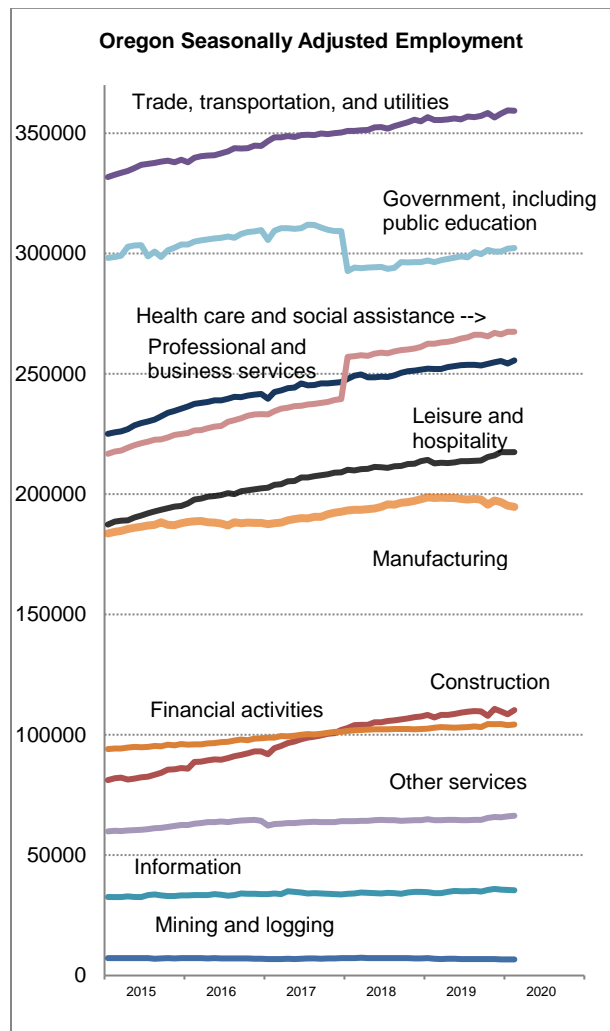
Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the February county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, March 31st, and the next statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for March on Tuesday, April 14th.



Seasonal Expectations and Over-the-Month Employment Changes January to February 2020

| INDUSTRY | Normal Seasonal Movement | Unadjusted Change | Seasonally Adjusted Change |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Total nonfarm payroll employment | 4,500 | 7,600 | 3,100 |
| Total private | 700 | 3,600 | 2,900 |
| Mining and logging | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Construction | 300 | 2,000 | 1,700 |
| Manufacturing | 1,400 | 900 | -500 |
| Wholesale trade | -400 | -500 | -100 |
| Retail trade | -2,800 | -2,800 | 0 |
| Transportation, warehousing, and utilities | -1,700 | -1,800 | -100 |
| Information | -100 | -300 | -200 |
| Financial activities | -300 | 0 | 300 |
| Professional and business services | 1,900 | 3,200 | 1,300 |
| Private educational services | 2,000 | 2,100 | 100 |
| Health care and social assistance | 200 | 200 | 0 |
| Leisure and hospitality | -300 | -200 | 100 |
| Other services | 500 | 800 | 300 |
| Government | 3,800 | 4,000 | 200 |



Notes:

All numbers in the above narrative are seasonally adjusted.

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 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 www.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.

For help finding jobs and training resources, visit one of the state's WorkSource Oregon centers or go to: www.WorkSourceOregon.org.

Equal Opportunity program — auxiliary aids and services available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Contact: (503) 947-1794. For people who are deaf or hard of hearing, call 711 Telecommunications Relay Services.

Oregon Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

| | February 2020 | January 2020 | February 2019 | Change From January 2020 | Change From February 2019 |
|--|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Labor Force Status | | | | | |
| Civilian labor force | 2,100,292 | 2,088,894 | 2,098,128 | 11,398 | 2,164 |
| Unemployed | 78,919 | 79,351 | 95,571 | -432 | -16,652 |
| Unemployment rate | 3.8 | 3.8 | 4.6 | 0.0 | -0.8 |
| Unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted | 3.3 | 3.3 | 4.2 | 0.0 | -0.9 |
| Employed | 2,021,373 | 2,009,543 | 2,002,557 | 11,830 | 18,816 |
| Other Labor Force Indicators | | | | | |
| Labor force participation rate, seasonally adjusted | 61.3 | 61.4 | 62.1 | -0.1 | -0.8 |
| Labor underutilization rate – U-6, seasonally adjusted | 7.3 | 7.4 | 8.5 | -0.1 | -1.2 |
| Nonfarm Payroll Employment | | | | | |
| Total nonfarm payroll employment | 1,938,200 | 1,930,600 | 1,913,300 | 7,600 | 24,900 |
| Total private | 1,630,600 | 1,627,000 | 1,611,500 | 3,600 | 19,100 |
| Mining and logging | 6,400 | 6,400 | 6,800 | 0 | -400 |
| Logging | 4,700 | 4,700 | 5,000 | 0 | -300 |
| Construction | 106,000 | 104,000 | 103,000 | 2,000 | 3,000 |
| Construction of buildings | 30,900 | 30,600 | 29,300 | 300 | 1,600 |
| Residential building construction | 18,800 | 18,600 | 17,800 | 200 | 1,000 |
| Nonresidential building construction | 12,100 | 12,000 | 11,500 | 100 | 600 |
| Heavy and civil engineering construction | 10,000 | 9,400 | 9,300 | 600 | 700 |
| Specialty trade contractors | 65,100 | 64,000 | 64,400 | 1,100 | 700 |
| Building foundation and exterior contractors | 12,200 | 12,100 | 12,000 | 100 | 200 |
| Building equipment contractors | 30,700 | 30,000 | 30,200 | 700 | 500 |
| Building finishing contractors | 13,700 | 13,500 | 14,200 | 200 | -500 |
| Other specialty trade contractors | 8,500 | 8,400 | 8,000 | 100 | 500 |
| Manufacturing | 192,600 | 191,700 | 196,300 | 900 | -3,700 |
| Durable goods | 135,300 | 134,300 | 137,400 | 1,000 | -2,100 |
| Wood product manufacturing | 22,500 | 22,700 | 23,600 | -200 | -1,100 |
| Sawmills and wood preservation | 5,900 | 6,000 | 6,400 | -100 | -500 |
| Plywood and engineered wood product mfg. | 8,600 | 8,700 | 9,100 | -100 | -500 |
| Other wood product manufacturing | 8,000 | 8,000 | 8,100 | 0 | -100 |
| Primary metal manufacturing | 9,300 | 9,500 | 9,000 | -200 | 300 |
| Fabricated metal product manufacturing | 16,400 | 16,500 | 16,900 | -100 | -500 |
| Machinery manufacturing | 13,900 | 14,100 | 14,400 | -200 | -500 |
| Computer and electronic product manufacturing | 37,900 | 37,800 | 38,500 | 100 | -600 |
| Semiconductor and electronic component mfg. | 30,000 | 29,700 | 30,300 | 300 | -300 |
| Electronic instrument manufacturing | 5,500 | 5,500 | 5,500 | 0 | 0 |
| Transportation equipment manufacturing | 12,400 | 12,500 | 12,600 | -100 | -200 |
| Nondurable goods | 57,300 | 57,400 | 58,900 | -100 | -1,600 |
| Food manufacturing | 27,300 | 27,300 | 28,900 | 0 | -1,600 |
| Fruit and vegetable preserving and specialty | 9,500 | 9,600 | 10,600 | -100 | -1,100 |
| Paper manufacturing | 4,100 | 4,100 | 4,000 | 0 | 100 |
| Trade, transportation, and utilities | 352,600 | 357,700 | 349,600 | -5,100 | 3,000 |
| Wholesale trade | 76,200 | 76,700 | 76,100 | -500 | 100 |
| Merchant wholesalers, durable goods | 37,600 | 38,200 | 37,500 | -600 | 100 |
| Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods | 31,100 | 31,100 | 31,000 | 0 | 100 |
| Electronic markets and agents and brokers | 7,500 | 7,400 | 7,600 | 100 | -100 |
| Retail trade | 205,700 | 208,500 | 205,600 | -2,800 | 100 |
| Motor vehicle and parts dealers | 26,400 | 26,500 | 26,500 | -100 | -100 |
| Building material and garden supply stores | 15,700 | 15,400 | 15,900 | 300 | -200 |
| Food and beverage stores | 43,500 | 43,800 | 42,500 | -300 | 1,000 |
| Clothing and clothing accessories stores | 15,400 | 16,300 | 15,800 | -900 | -400 |
| Sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores | 9,000 | 9,400 | 9,200 | -400 | -200 |
| General merchandise stores | 40,000 | 40,900 | 39,900 | -900 | 100 |
| Miscellaneous store retailers | 16,800 | 16,600 | 16,400 | 200 | 400 |
| Nonstore retailers | 6,800 | 7,000 | 7,000 | -200 | -200 |

| | February 2020 | January 2020 | February 2019 | Change From January 2020 | Change From February 2019 |
|--|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Transportation, warehousing, and utilities | 70,700 | 72,500 | 67,900 | -1,800 | 2,800 |
| Utilities | 4,800 | 4,900 | 4,800 | -100 | 0 |
| Transportation and warehousing | 65,900 | 67,600 | 63,100 | -1,700 | 2,800 |
| Truck transportation | 18,300 | 18,400 | 18,600 | -100 | -300 |
| Couriers and messengers | 10,200 | 12,000 | 9,900 | -1,800 | 300 |
| Warehousing and storage | 14,100 | 14,100 | 12,100 | 0 | 2,000 |
| Information | 35,200 | 35,500 | 34,300 | -300 | 900 |
| Publishing industries, except internet | 15,300 | 15,300 | 15,000 | 0 | 300 |
| Newspaper, book, and directory publishers | 2,800 | 2,800 | 3,100 | 0 | -300 |
| Software publishers | 12,500 | 12,500 | 11,900 | 0 | 600 |
| Telecommunications | 5,100 | 5,100 | 5,100 | 0 | 0 |
| Financial activities | 103,600 | 103,600 | 101,800 | 0 | 1,800 |
| Finance and insurance | 57,200 | 57,600 | 56,900 | -400 | 300 |
| Credit intermediation and related activities | 26,200 | 26,500 | 26,700 | -300 | -500 |
| Insurance carriers and related activities | 24,900 | 25,100 | 24,100 | -200 | 800 |
| Real estate and rental and leasing | 46,400 | 46,000 | 44,900 | 400 | 1,500 |
| Real estate | 40,600 | 40,100 | 39,500 | 500 | 1,100 |
| Professional and business services | 252,400 | 249,200 | 249,000 | 3,200 | 3,400 |
| Professional and technical services | 103,600 | 102,400 | 100,000 | 1,200 | 3,600 |
| Legal services | 12,000 | 11,800 | 11,700 | 200 | 300 |
| Architectural and engineering services | 17,300 | 17,400 | 16,900 | -100 | 400 |
| Computer systems design and related services | 16,800 | 16,700 | 16,900 | 100 | -100 |
| Management of companies and enterprises | 50,300 | 50,300 | 49,900 | 0 | 400 |
| Administrative and waste services | 98,500 | 96,500 | 99,100 | 2,000 | -600 |
| Administrative and support services | 92,200 | 90,600 | 93,400 | 1,600 | -1,200 |
| Employment services | 37,800 | 37,100 | 39,200 | 700 | -1,400 |
| Business support services | 12,700 | 12,700 | 13,200 | 0 | -500 |
| Services to buildings and dwellings | 23,200 | 22,500 | 22,600 | 700 | 600 |
| Education and health services | 306,900 | 304,600 | 302,300 | 2,300 | 4,600 |
| Educational services | 38,700 | 36,600 | 39,500 | 2,100 | -800 |
| Health care and social assistance | 268,200 | 268,000 | 262,800 | 200 | 5,400 |
| Ambulatory health care services | 93,900 | 94,500 | 93,600 | -600 | 300 |
| Hospitals | 60,700 | 60,600 | 59,500 | 100 | 1,200 |
| Nursing and residential care facilities | 53,000 | 53,500 | 52,200 | -500 | 800 |
| Social assistance | 60,600 | 59,400 | 57,500 | 1,200 | 3,100 |
| Leisure and hospitality | 208,100 | 208,300 | 204,500 | -200 | 3,600 |
| Arts, entertainment, and recreation | 27,400 | 26,800 | 26,500 | 600 | 900 |
| Amusement, gambling, and recreation | 20,200 | 20,100 | 19,600 | 100 | 600 |
| Accommodation and food services | 180,700 | 181,500 | 178,000 | -800 | 2,700 |
| Accommodation | 24,700 | 24,900 | 23,900 | -200 | 800 |
| Food services and drinking places | 156,000 | 156,600 | 154,100 | -600 | 1,900 |
| Full-service restaurants | 69,900 | 70,000 | 69,400 | -100 | 500 |
| Limited-service eating places | 69,300 | 69,400 | 68,800 | -100 | 500 |
| Other services | 66,800 | 66,000 | 63,900 | 800 | 2,900 |
| Repair and maintenance | 19,000 | 18,500 | 18,800 | 500 | 200 |
| Personal and laundry services | 16,700 | 16,100 | 15,400 | 600 | 1,300 |
| Membership associations and organizations | 31,100 | 31,400 | 29,700 | -300 | 1,400 |
| Religious organizations | 17,000 | 17,200 | 16,500 | -200 | 500 |
| Government | 307,600 | 303,600 | 301,800 | 4,000 | 5,800 |
| Federal government | 27,500 | 27,500 | 27,400 | 0 | 100 |
| State government | 40,900 | 40,800 | 39,900 | 100 | 1,000 |
| State education | 900 | 900 | 800 | 0 | 100 |
| Local government | 239,200 | 235,300 | 234,500 | 3,900 | 4,700 |
| Indian tribal | 8,100 | 8,100 | 7,900 | 0 | 200 |
| Local education | 144,000 | 140,400 | 140,200 | 3,600 | 3,800 |
| 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.