

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 17, 2018

CONTACT INFORMATION:

[Nick Beleiciks](#), State Employment Economist
(503) 947-1267 [Video](#) and [Audio](#) available at 10:00 AM

[David Cooke](#), Economist (503) 947-1272

Oregon Adds 14,700 Jobs in December

In December, Oregon's nonfarm payroll employment grew by 14,700 jobs, following a revised loss of 300 jobs in November. Monthly gains were concentrated in two industries that bounced back from weaker hiring patterns in the summer, as **leisure and hospitality** added 4,400 jobs in December and **professional and business services** added 3,000. Three other industries added at least 1,000 jobs in December: **manufacturing** (+2,400 jobs), **construction** (+1,600), and **health care and social assistance** (+1,000). No major industry cut jobs substantially in December.

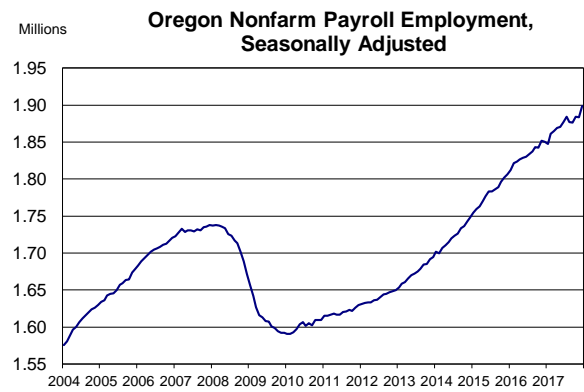
Since December 2016, total nonfarm payroll employment grew by 48,400 jobs, or 2.6 percent. This is near the rate of growth experienced throughout 2016 and well into mid-2017. While the jobs reports in late 2017, which covered the August through November data, were indicating a slowdown in Oregon's economic expansion, the strong jobs reading in December reflects a return to robust growth.

Over the most recent 12 months, gains were most rapid in **construction**, which added 8,800 jobs, or 9.4 percent. Next in line was **leisure and hospitality** (+8,900 jobs, or 4.4%), followed closely by **private educational services** (+1,400 jobs, or 4.0%). Several major industries expanded by close to 3 percent: **health care and social assistance** (+7,200 jobs, or 3.1%), **financial activities** (+2,900 jobs, or 3.0%), and **professional and business services** (+6,600 jobs, or 2.8%). Meanwhile, only two industries changed employment over the year by less than 1 percent: **government** (+2,300 jobs, or 0.7%) and **wholesale trade** (-200 jobs, or -0.3%).

Oregon's unemployment rate was essentially unchanged at 4.1 percent in December from 4.2 percent in November. Oregon's unemployment rate was the same as the U.S. unemployment rate, which was also 4.1 percent in December. The state's annual average unemployment rate for 2017 was 4.0 percent, which was Oregon's lowest annual average unemployment rate since comparable records began in 1976. Oregon's second-lowest annual average unemployment rate was 4.9 percent, which was reached in 2016 and 1995.

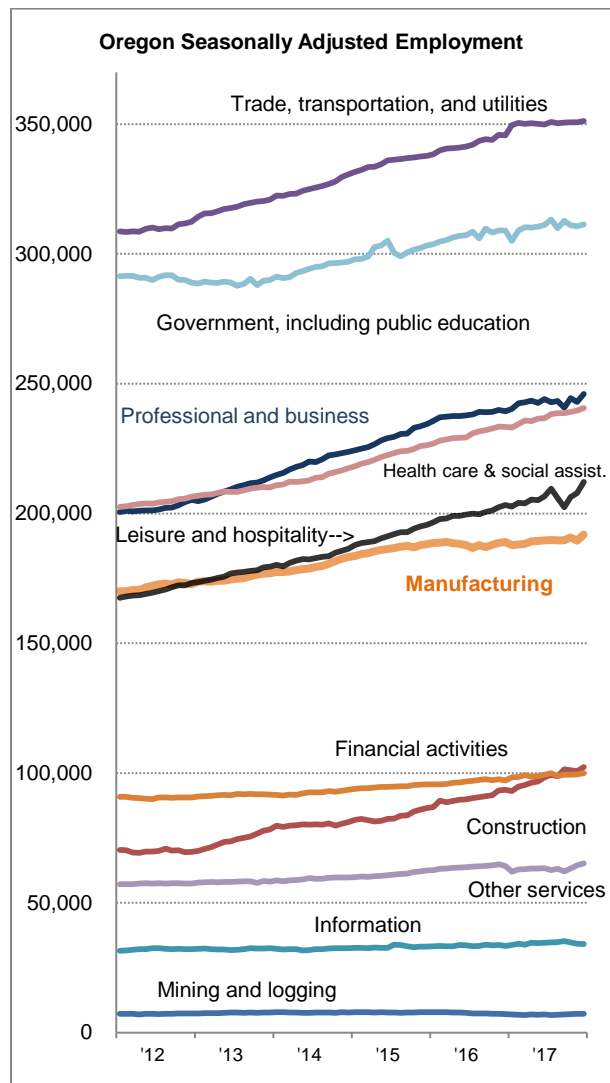
Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the December county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, January 23rd, and the next statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for January on Tuesday, March 6th.



Seasonal Expectations and Over-the-Month Employment Changes November to December 2017

INDUSTRY	Normal Seasonal Movement	Unadjusted Change	Seasonally Adjusted Change
Total nonfarm payroll employment	-6,900	7,800	14,700
Total private	-5,300	8,700	14,000
Mining and logging	-200	-200	0
Construction	-2,700	-1,100	1,600
Manufacturing	-700	1,700	2,400
Wholesale trade	0	-200	-200
Retail trade	1,400	1,300	-100
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	800	1,600	800
Information	-200	-300	-100
Financial activities	100	600	500
Professional and business services	-800	2,200	3,000
Private educational services	-1,100	-1,100	0
Health care and social assistance	600	1,600	1,000
Leisure and hospitality	-2,500	1,900	4,400
Other services	0	700	700
Government	-1,600	-900	700



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 Oregon Employment Department publishes payroll employment estimates that are revised quarterly 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 April, May and June 2017 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, 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 the Deaf and Hard of Hearing population, call 711 Telecommunications Relay Services.

Oregon Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	December 2017	November 2017	December 2016	Change From November 2017	Change From December 2016
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	2,134,356	2,147,040	2,052,822	-12,684	81,534
Unemployed	80,639	82,712	85,717	-2,073	-5,078
Unemployment rate	3.8	3.9	4.2	-0.1	-0.4
Unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted	4.1	4.2	4.5	-0.1	-0.4
Employed	2,053,717	2,064,328	1,967,105	-10,611	86,612
Other Labor Force Indicators					
Labor force participation rate, seasonally adjusted	63.7	63.6	62.4	0.1	1.3
Labor underutilization rate – U-6, seasonally adjusted	8.6	8.5	9.8	0.1	-1.2
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm payroll employment	1,905,400	1,897,600	1,858,700	7,800	46,700
Total private	1,587,700	1,579,000	1,544,800	8,700	42,900
Mining and logging	7,100	7,300	7,100	-200	0
Logging	5,200	5,400	5,400	-200	-200
Construction	99,800	100,900	91,600	-1,100	8,200
Construction of buildings	27,800	28,300	24,900	-500	2,900
Residential building construction	16,700	16,900	14,600	-200	2,100
Nonresidential building construction	11,100	11,400	10,300	-300	800
Heavy and civil engineering construction	9,700	9,700	8,900	0	800
Specialty trade contractors	62,300	62,900	57,800	-600	4,500
Building foundation and exterior contractors	12,100	12,300	11,000	-200	1,100
Building equipment contractors	29,000	28,800	25,900	200	3,100
Building finishing contractors	13,100	13,200	13,100	-100	0
Other specialty trade contractors	8,100	8,600	7,800	-500	300
Manufacturing	191,500	189,800	186,900	1,700	4,600
Durable goods	134,300	131,900	130,800	2,400	3,500
Wood product manufacturing	23,200	23,000	22,700	200	500
Sawmills and wood preservation	6,400	6,400	6,300	0	100
Plywood and engineered wood product mfg.	8,900	8,800	8,600	100	300
Other wood product manufacturing	7,900	7,800	7,800	100	100
Primary metal manufacturing	8,200	8,100	8,100	100	100
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	16,100	16,100	16,000	0	100
Machinery manufacturing	13,500	13,300	12,500	200	1,000
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	38,500	37,400	37,100	1,100	1,400
Semiconductor and electronic component mfg.	30,500	29,400	28,900	1,100	1,600
Electronic instrument manufacturing	5,200	5,200	5,100	0	100
Transportation equipment manufacturing	11,700	11,600	12,000	100	-300
Nondurable goods	57,200	57,900	56,100	-700	1,100
Food manufacturing	29,800	30,000	28,600	-200	1,200
Fruit and vegetable preserving and specialty	10,900	11,200	10,600	-300	300
Paper manufacturing	3,900	3,900	4,200	0	-300
Trade, transportation, and utilities	361,100	358,400	355,500	2,700	5,600
Wholesale trade	76,200	76,400	76,300	-200	-100
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	33,900	34,100	33,200	-200	700
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	28,600	28,500	28,700	100	-100
Electronic markets and agents and brokers	13,700	13,800	14,400	-100	-700
Retail trade	217,800	216,500	213,900	1,300	3,900
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	26,100	26,400	25,900	-300	200
Building material and garden supply stores	15,800	15,900	15,700	-100	100
Food and beverage stores	44,000	43,500	42,900	500	1,100
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	18,600	18,000	18,600	600	0
Sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores	10,600	10,400	10,800	200	-200
General merchandise stores	44,800	44,900	44,900	-100	-100
Miscellaneous store retailers	15,900	15,800	12,700	100	3,200
Nonstore retailers	9,500	9,300	8,300	200	1,200

	December 2017	November 2017	December 2016	Change From November 2017	Change From December 2016
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	67,100	65,500	65,300	1,600	1,800
Utilities	4,800	4,800	4,600	0	200
Transportation and warehousing	62,300	60,700	60,700	1,600	1,600
Truck transportation	19,600	19,300	18,500	300	1,100
Couriers and messengers	11,700	9,900	11,400	1,800	300
Warehousing and storage	8,700	8,700	8,600	0	100
Information	33,900	34,200	33,500	-300	400
Publishing industries, except internet	14,900	15,000	14,400	-100	500
Newspaper, book, and directory publishers	3,600	3,700	3,800	-100	-200
Software publishers	11,300	11,300	10,600	0	700
Telecommunications	5,700	5,700	5,800	0	-100
Financial activities	99,700	99,100	97,800	600	1,900
Finance and insurance	58,300	57,600	57,300	700	1,000
Credit intermediation and related activities	27,900	27,800	27,200	100	700
Insurance carriers and related activities	24,300	24,300	24,400	0	-100
Real estate and rental and leasing	41,400	41,500	40,500	-100	900
Real estate	36,100	36,200	35,500	-100	600
Professional and business services	244,800	242,600	239,300	2,200	5,500
Professional and technical services	95,900	95,900	93,200	0	2,700
Legal services	11,900	12,000	11,900	-100	0
Architectural and engineering services	15,600	15,600	15,100	0	500
Computer systems design and related services	16,800	16,700	16,100	100	700
Management of companies and enterprises	46,800	46,500	46,200	300	600
Administrative and waste services	102,100	100,200	99,900	1,900	2,200
Administrative and support services	95,900	94,200	94,500	1,700	1,400
Employment services	41,600	40,300	40,800	1,300	800
Business support services	14,600	14,300	14,300	300	300
Services to buildings and dwellings	21,300	21,900	21,900	-600	-600
Education and health services	279,700	279,200	271,800	500	7,900
Educational services	37,600	38,700	37,000	-1,100	600
Health care and social assistance	242,100	240,500	234,800	1,600	7,300
Ambulatory health care services	91,100	90,400	88,600	700	2,500
Hospitals	59,200	59,100	58,600	100	600
Nursing and residential care facilities	52,800	52,500	50,000	300	2,800
Social assistance	39,000	38,500	37,600	500	1,400
Leisure and hospitality	204,400	202,500	197,500	1,900	6,900
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	24,900	24,800	25,400	100	-500
Amusement, gambling, and recreation	18,100	17,900	18,800	200	-700
Accommodation and food services	179,500	177,700	172,100	1,800	7,400
Accommodation	23,000	23,400	22,600	-400	400
Food services and drinking places	156,500	154,300	149,500	2,200	7,000
Full-service restaurants	71,400	70,900	68,700	500	2,700
Limited-service eating places	70,100	69,100	65,800	1,000	4,300
Other services	65,700	65,000	63,800	700	1,900
Repair and maintenance	19,200	18,700	17,400	500	1,800
Personal and laundry services	15,200	15,200	14,800	0	400
Membership associations and organizations	31,300	31,100	31,600	200	-300
Religious organizations	16,300	16,600	16,600	-300	-300
Government	317,700	318,600	313,900	-900	3,800
Federal government	27,500	27,400	28,000	100	-500
State government	56,200	56,300	55,900	-100	300
State education	700	700	700	0	0
Local government	234,000	234,900	230,000	-900	4,000
Indian tribal	8,200	8,100	8,100	100	100
Local education	140,200	141,400	138,800	-1,200	1,400
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.