



News

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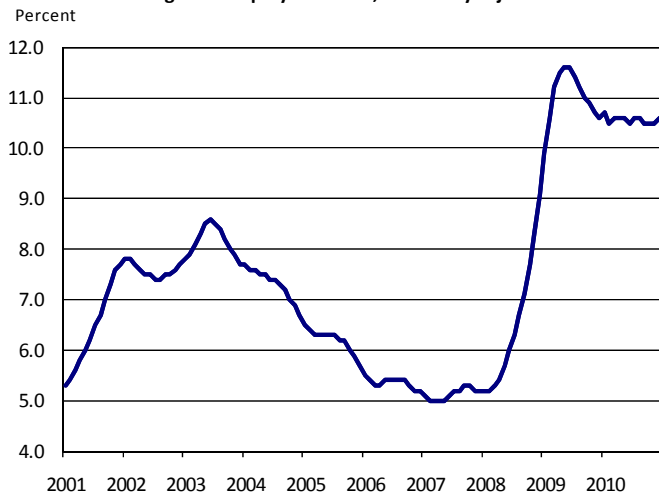
Oregon's December Unemployment Rate at 10.6 Percent: Essentially Unchanged

Oregon's seasonally adjusted **unemployment rate** was 10.6 percent in December, essentially unchanged from the revised November figure of 10.5 percent. The rate has been between 10.5 and 10.7 percent for the most recent 14 months. Oregon's unemployment rate was also 10.6 percent in December 2009. The U.S. seasonally adjusted unemployment rate declined from 9.8 percent in November to 9.4 percent in December.

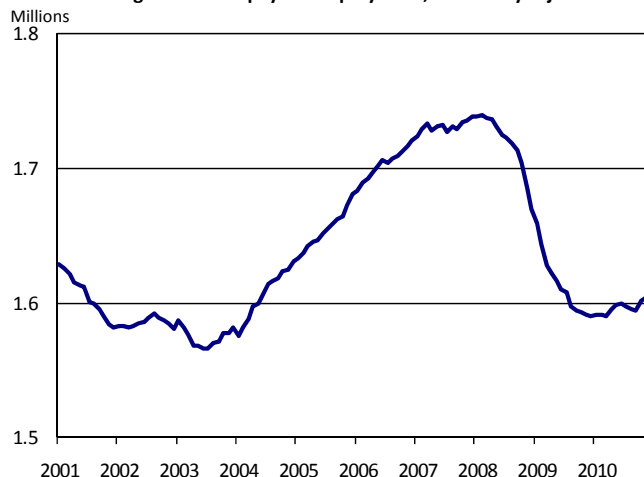
December marked the fourth consecutive month of private-sector job gains in Oregon.

Government shed 2,200 jobs on a seasonally adjusted basis in December. Most of this decline was attributed to an unusual reduction in local government education related to the timing of the holiday break; this was a one-month drop, so these jobs will return in January.

Oregon unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted



Oregon nonfarm payroll employment, seasonally adjusted



Industry Payroll Employment (Establishment Survey Data)

In December, Oregon's seasonally adjusted nonfarm payroll employment dropped by 1,800, following a revised gain of 2,800 in November.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, a slight gain of 400 jobs in the private sector for December was more than offset by a drop of 2,200 jobs in government.

Professional and business services added 1,400 jobs in December at a time of year when a loss of 500 is the normal seasonal movement. Professional and technical services added 700 jobs, while administrative and waste services added 500.

Between December 2009 and December 2010, professional and business services added the most jobs of any major industry sector. It grew by 7,200 jobs or 4.1 percent.

Leisure and hospitality cut only 200 jobs in December, which was fewer than the 1,200 expected due to seasonal factors. Arts, entertainment, and recreation bounced up by 700 and is now 200 above its year-ago figure. The industry employed 21,500 in December, which was still below its peak December figure during 2007 when 22,600 were employed.

Accommodation and food services had a relatively strong summer of 2010 compared to the prior year, but during the latter half of 2010 retraced some of those job gains. By December, it employed 139,400, which was only up 2,300 from its December 2009 level. This industry's job loss of 900 in December was about in line with its normal seasonal job loss for the last month of the year.

Seasonal Expectations and Over-the-Month Employment Changes

November 2010 to December 2010

INDUSTRY	Normal Seasonal Movement	Unadjusted Change	Seasonally Adjusted Change
Total nonfarm payroll employment	-5,600	-7,400	-1,800
Total private	-2,700	-2,300	400
Mining and logging	-400	-200	200
Construction	-2,500	-2,400	100
Manufacturing	-200	-2,100	-1,900
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,600	1,700	100
Information	0	200	200
Financial activities	400	100	-300
Professional and business services	-500	1,400	1,900
Educational and health services	100	-100	-200
Leisure and hospitality	-1,200	-200	1,000
Other services	0	-700	-700
Government	-2,900	-5,100	-2,200

Manufacturing posted large cuts in December, dropping 2,100 jobs during a month that typically sees little overall job change due to seasonality.

Manufacturing recorded a seasonally adjusted job count of 159,700. This was its first time below 160,000 in at least 20 years. The industry had

been stabilizing at close to 162,000 jobs from August 2009 through November 2010, but the December 2010 drop sent the industry 2,500 below the average level for that period.

In December, wood product manufacturing cut 300 jobs, dropping to a total of 18,900. This was the first time the industry employed fewer than 19,000 since comparable records are available starting in 1990. Each of its three component industries reached record lows in December and each have been cut by more than half since the early 1990s.

Nondurable goods shed 1,700 jobs in December, putting it close to the lowest level in recent memory.

Government cut 5,100 jobs in December, when a loss of only 2,900 is the normal seasonal movement. Federal government cut 500 jobs, reaching 28,300. This was slightly below the December federal employment totals over the past few years.

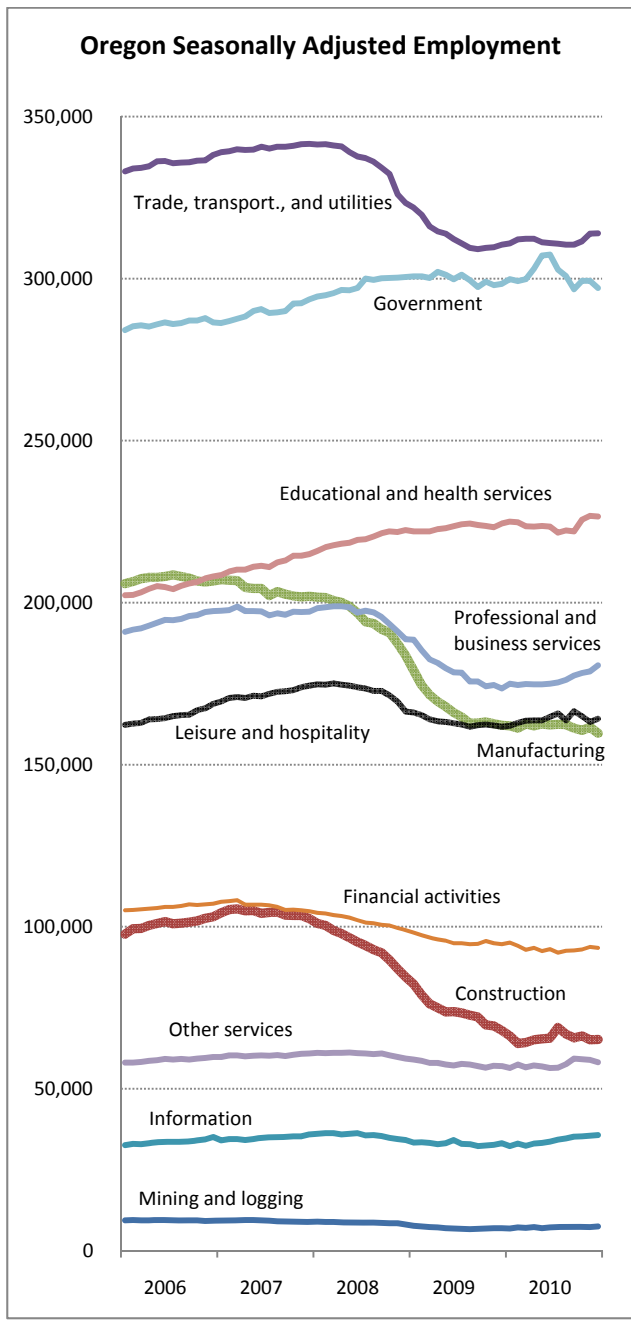
State government cut 400 jobs in December; however, it is up 1,000 jobs since December 2009 largely due to the 1,300-job gain in state government education during that period.

Local government cut 4,200 jobs. About one-third of this drop was attributed to an unusual one-month recording of fewer jobs due to the timing of the holiday break. This put local government 2,100 jobs below its December 2009 figure.

Hours and Earnings
(Establishment Survey Data)

The average workweek for Oregon's manufacturing production workers was 39.0 hours in December, which matched the revised figure of 39.0 in November.

Average earnings of all employees in Oregon spiked upward to \$21.79 per hour in December from \$21.55 in November. This measure of earnings rose to its highest level in at least four years. It is up from \$21.52 in December 2009.



The increase in hourly earnings boosted average weekly earnings of all private-sector payroll employees to \$729.97 in December. This was up from \$717.62 in November and \$710.16 in December 2009.

Unemployment (Household Survey Data)

The national unemployment rate dropped from 9.8 percent in November to 9.4 percent in December. Despite this drop, Oregon’s unemployment rate was essentially unchanged, at 10.6 percent in December and 10.5 percent in November.

One contributing factor at the national level was the contraction in the labor force. The seasonally adjusted civilian labor force dropped from 153,950,000 in November to 153,690,000 in December, a drop of 260,000 or 0.2 percent. In contrast, Oregon’s seasonally adjusted labor force continued to expand, rising from 1,986,346 in November to 1,993,466 in December, a gain of 7,120 or 0.4 percent.

In December, 206,161 Oregonians were unemployed.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the December county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Monday, January 24th and the statewide rate and employment survey data for January on Tuesday, March 1st.

For the complete version of the news release, including tables and graphs, visit: www.QualityInfo.org/pressrelease.

If you need this release in the Spanish language, please contact Loretta Gallegos at 503-947-1794.

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

Oregon Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	December 2010	November 2010	December 2009	Change From November 2010	Change From December 2009
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	1,984,188	1,998,247	1,927,330	-14,059	56,858
Unemployed	206,161	208,191	205,513	-2,030	648
Unemployment rate	10.4	10.4	10.7	0.0	-0.3
Unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted	10.6	10.5	10.6	0.1	0.0
Employed	1,778,027	1,790,056	1,721,817	-12,029	56,210
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm payroll employment	1,613,700	1,621,100	1,601,700	-7,400	12,000
Total private	1,312,100	1,314,400	1,298,700	-2,300	13,400
Mining and logging	7,300	7,500	6,800	-200	500
Logging	5,800	5,900	5,100	-100	700
Construction	64,100	66,500	66,900	-2,400	-2,800
Construction of buildings	13,800	13,800	16,300	0	-2,500
Residential building construction	7,600	7,700	9,700	-100	-2,100
Nonresidential building construction	6,200	6,100	6,600	100	-400
Heavy and civil engineering construction	8,400	9,300	8,500	-900	-100
Specialty trade contractors	41,900	43,400	42,100	-1,500	-200
Building foundation and exterior contractors	7,500	7,900	6,900	-400	600
Building equipment contractors	20,700	21,000	19,900	-300	800
Building finishing contractors	8,800	9,300	9,600	-500	-800
Other specialty trade contractors	4,900	5,200	5,700	-300	-800
Manufacturing	160,600	162,700	162,900	-2,100	-2,300
Durable goods	112,700	113,100	113,400	-400	-700
Wood product manufacturing	18,900	19,200	20,000	-300	-1,100
Sawmills and wood preservation	5,600	5,600	6,000	0	-400
Plywood and engineered wood product mfg.	6,500	6,700	6,700	-200	-200
Other wood product manufacturing	6,800	6,900	7,300	-100	-500
Primary metal manufacturing	8,100	8,100	7,600	0	500
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	13,000	12,900	13,100	100	-100
Machinery manufacturing	8,500	8,600	9,400	-100	-900
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	34,800	34,800	35,700	0	-900
Semiconductor and electronic component mfg.	26,700	26,600	27,600	100	-900
Electronic instrument manufacturing	4,500	4,500	4,600	0	-100
Transportation equipment manufacturing	8,600	8,600	9,200	0	-600
Nondurable goods	47,900	49,600	49,500	-1,700	-1,600
Food manufacturing	23,800	24,100	25,000	-300	-1,200
Fruit and vegetable preserving and specialty	8,400	9,300	9,200	-900	-800
Paper manufacturing	4,800	4,800	5,200	0	-400
Textile mill product manufacturing	14,600	14,000	15,600	0	-1,000
Other nondurable goods manufacturing	4,900	5,200	4,700	0	0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	322,900	321,200	319,400	1,700	3,500
Wholesale trade	75,100	75,700	74,800	-600	300
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	31,000	31,100	31,300	-100	-300
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	30,600	31,000	30,100	-400	500
Electronic markets and agents and brokers	13,500	13,600	13,400	-100	100
Retail trade	192,900	192,200	190,000	700	2,900
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	22,900	23,300	21,600	-400	1,300
Building material and garden supply stores	12,500	12,700	12,700	-200	-200
Food and beverage stores	39,700	39,200	38,700	500	1,000
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	16,500	16,100	16,500	400	0
Sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores	10,000	9,900	10,200	100	-200
General merchandise stores	40,000	39,600	40,000	400	0
Miscellaneous store retailers	10,000	9,900	10,400	100	-400
Nonstore retailers	8,900	8,700	8,700	200	200

	December 2010	November 2010	December 2009	Change From November 2010	Change From December 2009
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	54,900	53,300	54,600	1,600	300
Utilities	3,700	3,700	4,600	0	-900
Transportation and warehousing	51,200	49,600	50,000	1,600	1,200
Truck transportation	16,100	16,200	15,800	-100	300
Couriers and messengers	6,600	6,300	7,100	300	-500
Warehousing and storage	6,900	7,000	6,900	-100	0
Information	35,700	35,500	33,200	200	2,500
Publishing industries, except internet	13,400	13,400	13,900	0	-500
Newspaper, book, and directory publishers	4,800	4,800	5,200	0	-400
Software publishers	8,600	8,600	8,700	0	-100
Telecommunications	6,900	6,800	7,200	100	-300
Financial activities	93,500	93,400	94,600	100	-1,100
Finance and insurance	58,400	58,400	58,000	0	400
Credit intermediation and related activities	27,400	27,400	27,500	0	-100
Insurance carriers and related activities	25,500	25,700	25,500	-200	0
Real estate and rental and leasing	35,100	35,000	36,600	100	-1,500
Real estate	28,300	28,700	29,400	-400	-1,100
Professional and business services	180,000	178,600	172,800	1,400	7,200
Professional and technical services	71,300	70,600	67,600	700	3,700
Legal services	12,300	12,300	12,200	0	100
Architectural and engineering services	11,500	11,600	12,400	-100	-900
Computer systems design and related services	9,500	9,500	9,300	0	200
Management of companies and enterprises	29,300	29,100	29,400	200	-100
Administrative and waste services	79,400	78,900	75,800	500	3,600
Administrative and support services	71,600	71,200	68,400	400	3,200
Employment services	28,300	28,800	26,100	-500	2,200
Business support services	13,800	12,900	14,200	900	-400
Services to buildings and dwellings	19,100	19,000	17,700	100	1,400
Educational and health services	229,300	229,400	227,100	-100	2,200
Educational services	33,000	33,500	30,900	-500	2,100
Health care and social assistance	196,300	195,900	196,200	400	100
Ambulatory health care services	67,200	67,300	68,300	-100	-1,100
Hospitals	54,400	54,300	53,700	100	700
Nursing and residential care facilities	43,700	43,600	42,800	100	900
Social assistance	31,000	30,700	31,400	300	-400
Leisure and hospitality	160,900	161,100	158,400	-200	2,500
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	21,500	20,800	21,300	700	200
Amusement, gambling, and recreation	15,800	15,200	15,800	600	0
Accommodation and food services	139,400	140,300	137,100	-900	2,300
Accommodation	19,700	20,000	18,900	-300	800
Food services and drinking places	119,700	120,300	118,200	-600	1,500
Full-service restaurants	59,200	59,000	57,900	200	1,300
Limited-service eating places	49,400	50,200	49,100	-800	300
Other services	57,800	58,500	56,600	-700	1,200
Repair and maintenance	15,500	15,900	14,600	-400	900
Personal and laundry services	12,800	12,800	12,600	0	200
Membership associations and organizations	29,500	29,800	29,400	-300	100
Religious organizations	16,500	16,700	16,700	-200	-200
Government	301,600	306,700	303,000	-5,100	-1,400
Federal government	28,300	28,800	28,600	-500	-300
State government	80,900	81,300	79,900	-400	1,000
State education	32,000	32,200	30,700	-200	1,300
Local government	192,400	196,600	194,500	-4,200	-2,100
Indian tribal	8,300	8,300	8,200	0	100
Local education	104,100	107,700	107,000	-3,600	-2,900
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.

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.

Cautionary Note to Users: Starting in December 2009, revised estimation procedures mandated by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics may result in unusually large or volatile month-to-month employment changes. These survey-based estimates are revised annually, based on more complete information from quarterly employer tax records.