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## Oregon's Unemployment Rate 4.4% in February

Oregon's unemployment rate was 4.4 percent in February and 4.3 percent in January. Oregon's unemployment rate has ranged between 4.0 percent and 4.4 percent since November 2016, with the low of 4.0 percent occurring in May, June, and July 2018. The U.S. unemployment rate declined to 3.8 percent in February from 4.0 percent in January.

Oregon's total nonfarm payroll employment changed little in February (-500 jobs), following a revised, large gain of 12,800 jobs in January. Employment in **financial activities**, **government**, and **construction** continued to trend up, while **transportation, warehousing and utilities** decreased.

Since February 2018, Oregon's nonfarm payroll employment increased by 29,500 jobs, or 1.5 percent. This growth rate was in line with the most recent nine months in which annual gains averaged 29,100 jobs. Over the past 12 months, the U.S. expanded at a slightly faster rate of 1.7 percent.

In February, employment in **financial activities** gained 900 jobs. Over the year, financial activities has added 1,200 jobs, or 1.2 percent. **Government** expanded by 700 jobs in February and since February 2018, it rose by 4,700 jobs, or 1.6 percent. **Construction** added 600 jobs in February. Construction led all industries with over-the-year growth of 4,600 jobs, or 4.4 percent.

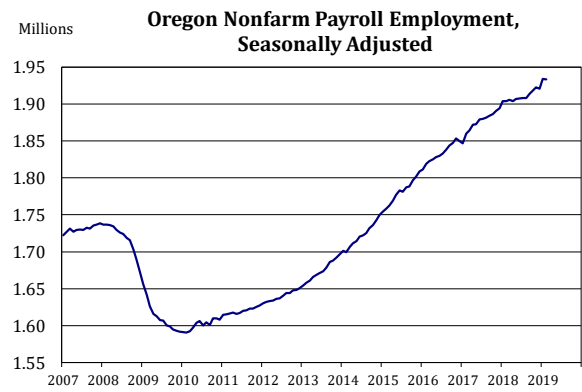
**Transportation, warehousing, and utilities** was the only major industry experiencing a large employment decline in February. It cut 1,800 jobs for the month, following a gain of 700 in January. Despite the drop in February, the industry grew rapidly in the second half of 2018, and has been the second fastest growing industry in the past 12 months, adding 2,400 jobs, or 3.8 percent in that time.

One component of the transportation industry, **couriers and messengers**, has expanded rapidly since 2013. Employment jumped 56 percent over that period, and stood at 9,800 jobs in February 2019. UPS and FedEx are included in this industry, which has become more highly seasonal with employment ramping up by 4,100 jobs during October through December 2018, then declining 3,800 jobs by February.

**Warehousing and storage** – an industry dominated by warehouses of major national retailers – grew rapidly over the past three years. It employed 9,900 in February, a gain of 2,500 since February 2016.

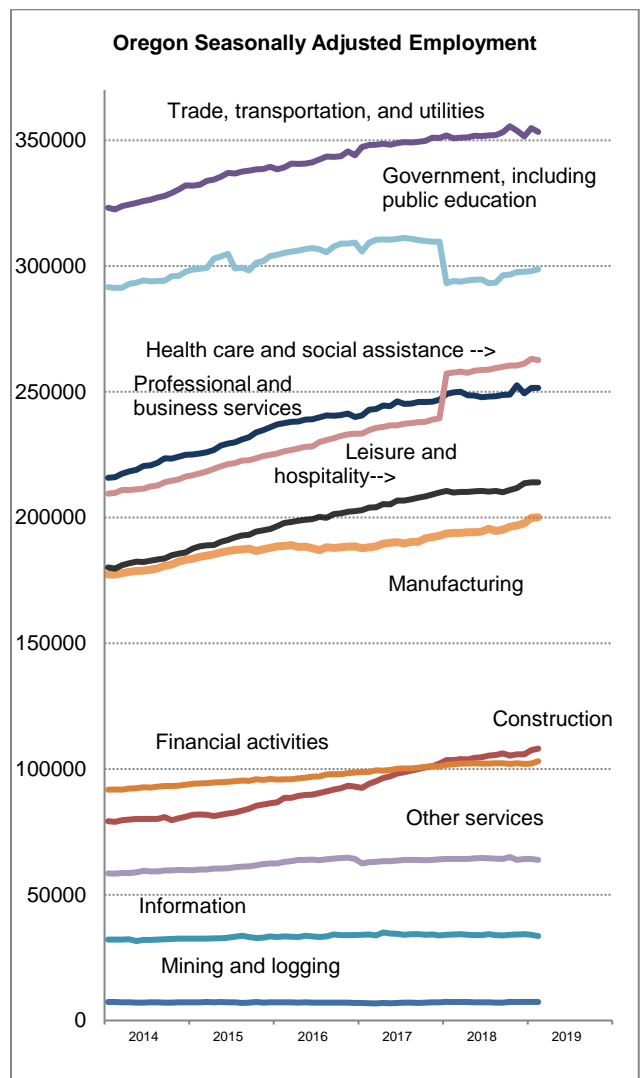
### Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the February county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, March 26th, and the next statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for March on Tuesday, April 16th.



**Seasonal Expectations and Over-the-Month Employment Changes January to February 2019**

INDUSTRY	Normal Seasonal Movement	Unadjusted Change	Seasonally Adjusted Change
Total nonfarm payroll employment	11,500	11,000	-500
Total private	6,900	5,700	-1,200
Mining and logging	100	0	-100
Construction	700	1,300	600
Manufacturing	1,700	1,900	200
Wholesale trade	600	600	0
Retail trade	-3,100	-2,800	300
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	-800	-2,600	-1,800
Information	200	-300	-500
Financial activities	200	1,100	900
Professional and business services	2,000	2,000	0
Private educational services	1,900	1,900	0
Health care and social assistance	1,900	1,400	-500
Leisure and hospitality	1,500	1,500	0
Other services	0	-300	-300
Government	4,600	5,300	700



**Notes:**

All numbers in the above narrative are seasonally adjusted, except the transportation and warehousing component industries.

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. This press release incorporates, for the first time, the annual revisions to the data for 2018 and prior years.

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 [www.QualityInfo.org](http://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](http://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 2019	January 2019	February 2018	Change From January 2019	Change From February 2018
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	2,115,510	2,103,009	2,094,704	12,501	20,806
Unemployed	98,467	104,173	97,154	-5,706	1,313
Unemployment rate	4.7	5.0	4.6	-0.3	0.1
Unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted	4.4	4.3	4.2	0.1	0.2
Employed	2,017,043	1,998,836	1,997,550	18,207	19,493
<b>Other Labor Force Indicators</b>					
Labor force participation rate, seasonally adjusted	62.3	62.2	62.6	0.1	-0.3
Labor underutilization rate – U-6, seasonally adjusted	8.8	8.8	8.3	0.0	0.5
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm payroll employment	1,914,000	1,903,000	1,886,200	11,000	27,800
Total private	1,610,100	1,604,400	1,586,600	5,700	23,500
Mining and logging	7,100	7,100	7,100	0	0
Logging	5,100	5,200	5,200	-100	-100
Construction	103,800	102,500	99,700	1,300	4,100
Construction of buildings	30,800	31,100	27,900	-300	2,900
Residential building construction	19,400	19,700	17,100	-300	2,300
Nonresidential building construction	11,400	11,400	10,800	0	600
Heavy and civil engineering construction	9,300	9,200	9,200	100	100
Specialty trade contractors	63,700	62,200	62,600	1,500	1,100
Building foundation and exterior contractors	12,100	11,900	12,300	200	-200
Building equipment contractors	29,900	29,200	28,000	700	1,900
Building finishing contractors	13,600	13,200	14,100	400	-500
Other specialty trade contractors	8,100	7,900	8,200	200	-100
Manufacturing	197,700	195,800	191,300	1,900	6,400
Durable goods	139,000	137,900	133,700	1,100	5,300
Wood product manufacturing	23,300	23,400	23,400	-100	-100
Sawmills and wood preservation	6,300	6,300	6,500	0	-200
Plywood and engineered wood product mfg.	9,000	9,200	8,900	-200	100
Other wood product manufacturing	8,000	7,900	8,000	100	0
Primary metal manufacturing	8,900	8,900	8,400	0	500
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	16,300	16,200	16,300	100	0
Machinery manufacturing	14,600	14,600	13,900	0	700
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	39,200	39,000	37,400	200	1,800
Semiconductor and electronic component mfg.	30,800	30,600	29,400	200	1,400
Electronic instrument manufacturing	5,500	5,500	5,300	0	200
Transportation equipment manufacturing	12,600	12,500	12,000	100	600
Nondurable goods	58,700	57,900	57,600	800	1,100
Food manufacturing	28,900	28,300	28,900	600	0
Fruit and vegetable preserving and specialty	10,600	10,400	10,600	200	0
Paper manufacturing	3,800	3,900	4,000	-100	-200
Trade, transportation, and utilities	346,600	351,400	345,100	-4,800	1,500
Wholesale trade	75,300	74,700	74,800	600	500
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	36,300	35,900	36,600	400	-300
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	31,300	31,200	30,600	100	700
Electronic markets and agents and brokers	7,700	7,600	7,600	100	100
Retail trade	206,000	208,800	207,000	-2,800	-1,000
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	26,700	27,000	26,800	-300	-100
Building material and garden supply stores	16,000	15,700	16,200	300	-200
Food and beverage stores	42,700	42,500	42,500	200	200
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	16,100	16,700	16,200	-600	-100
Sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores	9,200	9,600	9,600	-400	-400
General merchandise stores	39,900	41,700	40,400	-1,800	-500
Miscellaneous store retailers	16,300	16,100	15,600	200	700
Nonstore retailers	7,100	7,100	6,900	0	200

	February 2019	January 2019	February 2018	Change From January 2019	Change From February 2018
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	65,300	67,900	63,300	-2,600	2,000
Utilities	4,900	4,900	4,700	0	200
Transportation and warehousing	60,400	63,000	58,600	-2,600	1,800
Truck transportation	18,500	18,800	18,500	-300	0
Couriers and messengers	9,800	11,900	9,000	-2,100	800
Warehousing and storage	9,900	10,000	8,900	-100	1,000
Information	33,600	33,900	34,100	-300	-500
Publishing industries, except internet	14,500	14,600	14,700	-100	-200
Newspaper, book, and directory publishers	3,100	3,200	3,400	-100	-300
Software publishers	11,400	11,400	11,300	0	100
Telecommunications	5,200	5,200	5,500	0	-300
Financial activities	102,800	101,700	100,700	1,100	2,100
Finance and insurance	56,900	56,500	57,700	400	-800
Credit intermediation and related activities	27,200	26,900	27,400	300	-200
Insurance carriers and related activities	24,000	24,200	24,300	-200	-300
Real estate and rental and leasing	45,900	45,200	43,000	700	2,900
Real estate	39,900	39,200	37,800	700	2,100
Professional and business services	247,600	245,600	246,100	2,000	1,500
Professional and technical services	97,100	96,900	97,900	200	-800
Legal services	11,500	11,600	11,900	-100	-400
Architectural and engineering services	16,900	17,000	16,200	-100	700
Computer systems design and related services	16,300	16,500	16,200	-200	100
Management of companies and enterprises	49,200	49,300	47,800	-100	1,400
Administrative and waste services	101,300	99,400	100,400	1,900	900
Administrative and support services	95,200	93,900	94,900	1,300	300
Employment services	40,200	39,700	41,200	500	-1,000
Business support services	12,700	12,800	13,400	-100	-700
Services to buildings and dwellings	23,100	22,400	22,300	700	800
Education and health services	302,600	299,300	297,100	3,300	5,500
Educational services	38,800	36,900	39,400	1,900	-600
Health care and social assistance	263,800	262,400	257,700	1,400	6,100
Ambulatory health care services	95,800	95,200	91,500	600	4,300
Hospitals	60,000	59,900	59,200	100	800
Nursing and residential care facilities	50,800	51,100	51,300	-300	-500
Social assistance	57,200	56,200	55,700	1,000	1,500
Leisure and hospitality	204,700	203,200	201,800	1,500	2,900
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	25,500	25,500	26,400	0	-900
Amusement, gambling, and recreation	18,600	18,900	19,500	-300	-900
Accommodation and food services	179,200	177,700	175,400	1,500	3,800
Accommodation	23,200	23,100	23,000	100	200
Food services and drinking places	156,000	154,600	152,400	1,400	3,600
Full-service restaurants	70,000	69,400	69,300	600	700
Limited-service eating places	69,100	68,700	67,700	400	1,400
Other services	63,600	63,900	63,600	-300	0
Repair and maintenance	17,300	17,700	18,500	-400	-1,200
Personal and laundry services	15,400	15,600	15,000	-200	400
Membership associations and organizations	30,900	30,600	30,100	300	800
Religious organizations	17,000	16,800	16,700	200	300
Government	303,900	298,600	299,600	5,300	4,300
Federal government	27,000	27,000	27,100	0	-100
State government	39,800	39,600	38,700	200	1,100
State education	800	800	800	0	0
Local government	237,100	232,000	233,800	5,100	3,300
Indian tribal	8,300	8,300	8,000	0	300
Local education	141,400	137,800	141,000	3,600	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.