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CONTACT INFORMATION:
Amy Vander Vliet, Economist
Amy.S.VanderVliet@oregon.gov

Employment in the Portland Metro Area: February 2020

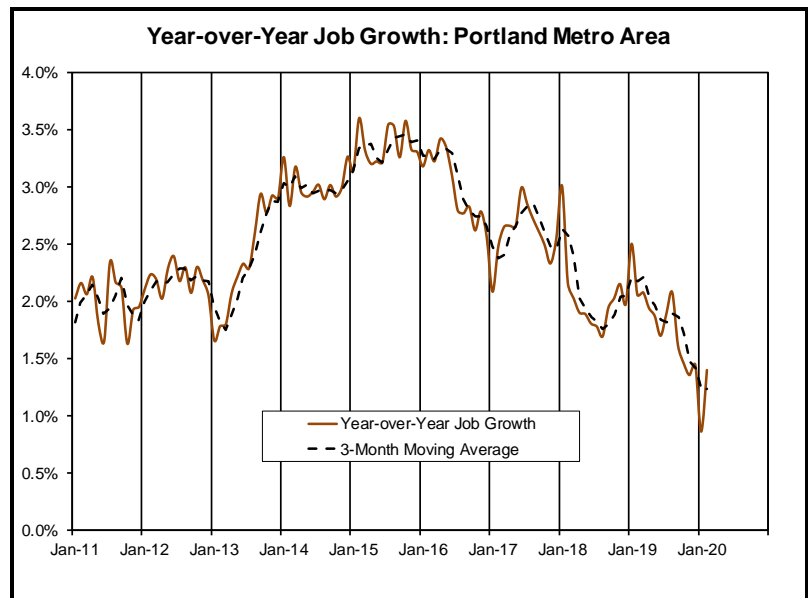
The Oregon Employment Department is releasing employment and unemployment data for the month of February today. These numbers will not reflect the impacts of COVID-19, which started to disrupt the economy in March. The timing of many of the March closures and layoffs is such that they won't be captured until the April survey data, released in May.

The most current labor force data we are able to publish are initial claims for unemployment insurance. For this and other information on COVID-19, visit the Employment Department's QualityInfo.org [COVID-19 page](#).

The Portland metro area's unemployment rate was 3.3 percent in February. Oregon's unemployment rate was also 3.3 percent and the national rate was 3.5 percent.

Employers added 1,900 jobs in February (seasonally adjusted) following a gain of 900 jobs, as revised, in January.

Job growth in the metro area continued to trend down in February. Over the past year, nonfarm employment increased by 16,200 jobs, or 1.3 percent (not seasonally adjusted); the slowest pace since the region was emerging from the Great Recession.



Industries growing faster than the overall economy include construction (5.1%), information (3.1%), and private health care and social assistance (2.2%). Manufacturing and retail trade, the slowest-growing sectors, are flat over the year.

Next Press Release

The Oregon Employment Department will release the Portland metropolitan area's unemployment rate and employment survey data for March on Tuesday, April 21.

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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To obtain the data in other formats such as in Excel, visit www.QualityInfo.org, select *Economic Data*, and choose *LAUS* or *CES*.

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 coronavirus questions related to employer and job seeker programs and services, visit www.oregon.gov/employ/Pages/COVID-19.aspx. For help finding jobs and training resources, 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.



Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro MSA Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	February 2020	January 2020	February 2019	January 2020	February 2019
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	1,337,039	1,330,293	1,324,686	6,746	12,353
Unemployed	46,270	45,816	53,765	454	-7,495
Unemployment rate	3.5%	3.4%	4.1%	0.1	-0.6
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.3%	3.5%	4.0%	-0.2	-0.7
Employed	1,290,769	1,284,477	1,270,921	6,292	19,848
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	1,222,600	1,217,500	1,206,400	5,100	16,200
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	1,231,900	1,230,000	1,214,900	1,900	17,000
Total private	1,067,100	1,063,300	1,052,000	3,800	15,100
Mining, logging, and construction	77,000	74,500	73,400	2,500	3,600
Mining and logging	1,200	1,200	1,300	0	-100
Construction	75,800	73,300	72,100	2,500	3,700
Construction of buildings	20,000	19,800	19,100	200	900
Residential building construction	11,600	11,500	11,200	100	400
Nonresidential building construction	8,400	8,300	7,900	100	500
Heavy and civil engineering construction	6,200	5,800	5,500	400	700
Specialty trade contractors	49,600	47,700	47,500	1,900	2,100
Manufacturing	128,600	126,700	128,700	1,900	-100
Durable goods	94,500	92,900	95,400	1,600	-900
Wood product manufacturing	3,900	3,900	4,100	0	-200
Primary metal manufacturing	6,200	6,300	6,000	-100	200
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	13,300	13,200	13,500	100	-200
Machinery manufacturing	10,000	10,100	10,300	-100	-300
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	38,500	36,700	37,500	1,800	1,000
Semiconductor and electronic component mfg.	31,700	30,000	30,700	1,700	1,000
Electronic instrument manufacturing	5,000	5,000	5,000	0	0
Transportation equipment manufacturing	7,300	7,300	7,300	0	0
Nondurable goods	34,100	33,800	33,300	300	800
Food manufacturing	13,000	13,100	13,200	-100	-200
Paper manufacturing	2,500	2,500	2,400	0	100
Trade, transportation, and utilities	220,700	224,400	217,600	-3,700	3,100
Wholesale trade	57,600	58,000	56,800	-400	800
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	30,000	30,200	29,400	-200	600
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	21,200	21,500	21,000	-300	200
Electronic markets and agents and brokers	6,400	6,300	6,400	100	0
Retail trade	116,500	118,500	116,400	-2,000	100
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	14,400	14,400	14,400	0	0
Food and beverage stores	23,500	23,700	23,600	-200	-100
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	10,000	10,700	10,300	-700	-300
General merchandise stores	22,800	23,400	22,800	-600	0
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	46,600	47,900	44,400	-1,300	2,200
Utilities	2,500	2,500	2,500	0	0
Transportation and warehousing	44,100	45,400	41,900	-1,300	2,200
Air transportation	4,200	4,200	4,100	0	100
Truck transportation	10,900	11,000	10,800	-100	100
Couriers and messengers	7,000	8,300	7,200	-1,300	-200
Warehousing and storage	8,900	9,000	7,800	-100	1,100
Information	27,000	27,600	26,200	-600	800
Publishing industries, except internet	11,200	11,200	10,700	0	500
Software publishers	9,600	9,600	9,000	0	600
Telecommunications	4,100	4,100	4,100	0	0

Nonfarm Payroll Employment (continued)

	--Change From--				
	February 2020	January 2020	February 2019	January 2020	February 2019
Financial activities	72,900	73,000	72,400	-100	500
Finance and insurance	43,000	43,200	43,000	-200	0
Credit intermediation and related activities	17,900	17,900	18,500	0	-600
Insurance carriers and related activities	18,900	19,000	18,300	-100	600
Real estate and rental and leasing	29,900	29,800	29,400	100	500
Professional and business services	186,900	186,000	185,600	900	1,300
Professional and technical services	79,000	79,000	78,700	0	300
Architectural and engineering services	16,000	15,700	14,500	300	1,500
Computer systems design and related services	15,400	15,400	15,600	0	-200
Management of companies and enterprises	43,000	43,200	42,300	-200	700
Administrative and waste services	64,900	63,800	64,600	1,100	300
Administrative and support services	61,100	60,300	61,200	800	-100
Employment services	26,000	26,600	26,500	-600	-500
Business support services	7,000	7,000	7,000	0	0
Services to buildings and dwellings	14,800	14,600	14,900	200	-100
Education and health services	187,500	185,900	184,300	1,600	3,200
Educational services	30,700	29,300	30,900	1,400	-200
Colleges and universities	14,300	12,000	14,400	2,300	-100
Health care and social assistance	156,800	156,600	153,400	200	3,400
Ambulatory health care services	58,100	57,600	57,400	500	700
Hospitals	31,900	31,800	31,500	100	400
Nursing and residential care facilities	28,800	29,200	28,200	-400	600
Social assistance	38,000	38,000	36,300	0	1,700
Leisure and hospitality	123,200	122,800	121,600	400	1,600
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	16,900	16,700	16,800	200	100
Amusement, gambling, and recreation	12,200	12,300	12,200	-100	0
Accommodation and food services	106,300	106,100	104,800	200	1,500
Accommodation	11,100	11,000	10,700	100	400
Food services and drinking places	95,200	95,100	94,100	100	1,100
Full-service restaurants	42,000	42,600	42,000	-600	0
Limited-service eating places	42,200	41,700	41,100	500	1,100
Other services	43,300	42,400	42,200	900	1,100
Membership associations and organizations	17,900	17,700	17,700	200	200
Government	155,500	154,200	154,400	1,300	1,100
Federal government	18,400	18,400	18,300	0	100
State government	12,200	12,200	12,400	0	-200
State education	3,200	2,700	2,700	500	500
Local government	124,900	123,600	123,700	1,300	1,200
Local education	70,600	69,500	69,700	1,100	900

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.