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Employment in Corvallis MSA (Benton County): March 2020

COVID-19 Impact

March data from Benton County's establishment and household surveys do not reflect the early effects of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on the labor market. This is because the data used for today's report was collected prior to public health measures related to social distancing began on March 17th. We expect the April data, published on May 27th, to show the early effects on employment and the unemployment rate in Benton County. Please see the [Weekly New Unemployment Insurance Claims](#) report for the latest information on initial claims for unemployment insurance. Data and analysis related to COVID-19 can be found here: <https://www.qualityinfo.org/covid-19>

Benton County's Unemployment Rate at 2.6 Percent

Benton County's unemployment rate was 2.6 percent in March, essentially unchanged from its revised rate of 2.7 percent in February. Oregon's statewide unemployment rate in March was 3.3 percent, unchanged from its revised February rate of 3.3 percent.

Benton County's employment gains in March were less than normal; total nonfarm employment increased 110 jobs, when an employment gain of 220 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment decreased 110 jobs between February and March.

Benton County's employment added 860 over the past year, a 1.9 percent increase. Benton County's employment growth has outpaced the nation and Oregon. Oregon grew 0.9 percent and U.S. employment grew 1.0 percent.

Benton County's private sector added 410 jobs over the past year, growing 1.4 percent. The public sector added 450 jobs, growing 2.8 percent over the past year.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the April county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Wednesday, May 27 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data on Tuesday, May 19.



Workforce & Economic Research Division

QualityInfo.org

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Corvallis MSA (Benton County) Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	March 2020	February 2020	March 2019	February 2020	March 2019
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	49,423	49,214	48,747	209	676
Unemployed	1,435	1,362	1,653	73	-218
Unemployment rate	2.9%	2.8%	3.4%	0.1	-0.5
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	2.6%	2.7%	3.3%	-0.1	-0.7
Employed	47,988	47,852	47,094	136	894
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	45,440	45,330	44,580	110	860
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	44,740	44,850	43,940	-110	800
Total private	28,910	28,970	28,500	-60	410
Mining, logging, and construction	1,480	1,490	1,460	-10	20
Manufacturing	2,990	2,990	3,040	0	-50
Durable goods	2,660	2,670	2,690	-10	-30
Trade, transportation, and utilities	4,570	4,560	4,540	10	30
Information	600	600	590	0	10
Financial activities	1,710	1,750	1,530	-40	180
Professional and business services	4,640	4,400	4,300	240	340
Education and health services	7,010	7,220	7,290	-210	-280
Health care and social assistance	6,700	6,700	6,750	0	-50
Leisure and hospitality	4,320	4,350	4,360	-30	-40
Other services	1,590	1,610	1,390	-20	200
Government	16,530	16,360	16,080	170	450
Federal government	470	460	450	10	20
State government	210	200	210	10	0
State education	0	0	0	0	0
Local government	15,850	15,700	15,420	150	430
Local education	14,470	14,350	13,960	120	510

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 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.

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, select *Economic Data*, and choose *LAUS* or *CES*. To request the press release as a Word document, contact the person shown at the top of this press release.

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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 https://govstatus.egov.com/ORUnemployment_COVID19. 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.