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## **Employment in Douglas County: December 2018** **Winter Weather Affecting Outdoor Activities**

Douglas County's seasonally adjusted December unemployment rate increased to 5.4 percent from a revised 5.2 percent in November. This month's rate is slightly above the December 2017 rate (5.3%). Oregon's seasonally adjusted December unemployment rate was 4.1 percent; the national rate was 3.9 percent.

The county's total payroll employment decreased over the month by 80 jobs, primarily reflecting winter shifts in construction (-50). Other industries reporting over-the-month losses included durable goods manufacturing (-30); leisure and hospitality (-20); financial activities (-20); and retail trade (-20). Industries reporting over-the-month employment gains included professional and business services (+40); private education and health services (+30); and transportation, warehousing, and utilities (+20). Seasonal shifts in local government education continue to be reported (-60).

Douglas County added 500 jobs over the year ending in December for a 1.3 percent annual growth rate. Trade, transportation, and utilities (+150) added the most jobs, followed by construction (+110). Other industries with job growth included leisure and hospitality (+100). Over-the-year losses were reported in financial activities (-70); wood product manufacturing (-30); and information (-30). Government employment decreased over the year, reflecting a legislatively mandated reclassification of home care workers from state government to private education and health services, which reported a corresponding uptick. The federal government shutdown did not impact Douglas County's December federal government jobs tally.

### **Next Press Releases**

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the January county and metropolitan area unemployment rates and employment survey data on Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for January on Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>.

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.

Effective with the January 2018 data, employment of Oregon's approximately 17,000 home care workers are counted in private health care and social assistance instead of state government. The change was due to legislative action clarifying that for purposes of workforce and labor market information, home care workers are not employees of state government. The reclassification affects private sector and government monthly change figures for January 2018 and will affect over-the-year change figures through December 2018. It does not affect total payroll employment levels.

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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), select *Economic Data*, and choose *LAUS* or *CES*.

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 the deaf and hard of hearing population, call 711 Telecommunications Relay Services.



Workforce &amp; Economic Research Division

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## Douglas County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	December 2018	November 2018	December 2017	November 2018	December 2017
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	46,200	46,427	46,458	-227	-258
Unemployed	2,536	2,419	2,378	117	158
Unemployment rate	5.5%	5.2%	5.1%	0.3	0.4
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.4%	5.2%	5.3%	0.2	0.1
Employed	43,664	44,008	44,080	-344	-416
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	38,330	38,410	37,830	-80	500
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	38,290	38,230	37,790	60	500
Total private	30,680	30,720	29,810	-40	870
Mining, logging, and construction	2,770	2,830	2,670	-60	100
Mining and logging	1,020	1,030	1,030	-10	-10
Construction	1,750	1,800	1,640	-50	110
Manufacturing	4,860	4,880	4,860	-20	0
Durable goods	4,460	4,490	4,440	-30	20
Wood product manufacturing	3,180	3,200	3,210	-20	-30
Nondurable goods	400	390	420	10	-20
Trade, transportation, and utilities	7,080	7,080	6,930	0	150
Wholesale trade	630	630	650	0	-20
Retail trade	4,760	4,780	4,680	-20	80
Food and beverage stores	1,010	1,020	1,030	-10	-20
General merchandise stores	1,190	1,200	1,150	-10	40
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	1,690	1,670	1,600	20	90
Information	250	250	280	0	-30
Financial activities	1,240	1,260	1,310	-20	-70
Professional and business services	3,930	3,890	3,930	40	0
Education and health services	5,810	5,780	5,230	30	580
Leisure and hospitality	3,420	3,440	3,320	-20	100
Food services and drinking places	2,700	2,700	2,670	0	30
Other services	1,320	1,310	1,280	10	40
Government	7,650	7,690	8,020	-40	-370
Federal government	1,420	1,430	1,400	-10	20
State government	680	680	1,180	0	-500
Local government	5,550	5,580	5,440	-30	110
Indian tribal	1,070	1,070	1,080	0	-10
Local education	2,970	3,030	2,850	-60	120
Local government excluding education and tribal	1,510	1,480	1,510	30	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.

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: 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.