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## **Employment in Jackson County: December 2018**

### **Construction Job Losses Offset by Manufacturing and Health Care Gains**

Total payroll employment fell by 150 jobs in December. With weather less conducive for building activity, construction employment declined by 110 jobs over the month. There were also slight job reductions in professional and business services (-40); mining and logging (-30); and retail trade (-30). On the other hand, there were modest increases in a few Jackson County industries. Manufacturing gained 90 jobs and health care and social assistance employment rose by 70.

Government employment had a net decline of 30 jobs in December. A loss of 50 jobs in local government was offset by a 20-job gain in federal government employment. Recall that the partial government shutdown occurred in late December, so any impact from those affected government agencies wouldn't show up until the January figures are released.

Over the past year, the Medford MSA (Jackson County) gained 930 payroll jobs, a growth rate of 1.0 percent. Industries adding notable jobs over the year were private education and health services (+1,330), with a large portion due to the change in home health workers; leisure and hospitality (+510); construction (+200); wholesale trade (+140); manufacturing (+130); and financial activities (+130). Smaller gains were estimated in professional and business services (+60) and other services (+50). Retail trade (-730) and information (-60) were the only private-sector industries with notable over-the-year job losses in Jackson County, according to preliminary employment estimates.

Since December 2017, government employment fell by 810 jobs. Local government education lost 300 jobs. State government employment dropped by 670 over the year, mostly due to the shift in where home care worker jobs are counted. Federal government employment rose by 60 jobs in the past 12 months.

#### **Next Press Releases**

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

**Notes:**

All numbers in the above narrative are seasonally adjusted.

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 2016 and prior years.

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.

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. These preliminary estimates of jobs and other labor force data are produced in cooperation with the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics, are based largely on a survey of businesses and a survey of households, and are subject to later revision.

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



Workforce &amp; Economic Research Division

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### Medford-Ashland MSA (Jackson 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	104,997	105,887	105,089	-890	-92
Unemployed	4,928	4,762	4,403	166	525
Unemployment rate	4.7%	4.5%	4.2%	0.2	0.5
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.1%	4.9%	4.7%	0.2	0.4
Employed	100,069	101,125	100,686	-1,056	-617
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	89,670	89,820	88,740	-150	930
Total private	78,340	78,460	76,600	-120	1,740
Mining, logging, and construction	5,270	5,410	5,070	-140	200
Mining and logging	460	490	460	-30	0
Construction	4,810	4,920	4,610	-110	200
Manufacturing	7,790	7,700	7,660	90	130
Trade, transportation, and utilities	20,650	20,670	21,260	-20	-610
Wholesale trade	2,620	2,620	2,480	0	140
Retail trade	14,640	14,670	15,370	-30	-730
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	3,390	3,380	3,410	10	-20
Information	1,160	1,170	1,220	-10	-60
Financial activities	4,320	4,330	4,190	-10	130
Professional and business services	7,410	7,450	7,350	-40	60
Education and health services	17,560	17,530	16,230	30	1,330
Health care and social assistance	16,540	16,470	15,350	70	1,190
Leisure and hospitality	11,370	11,380	10,860	-10	510
Accommodation and food services	10,020	10,060	9,520	-40	500
Other services	2,810	2,820	2,760	-10	50
Government	11,330	11,360	12,140	-30	-810
Federal government	1,780	1,760	1,720	20	60
State government	960	960	1,630	0	-670
State education	0	0	0	0	0
Local government	8,590	8,640	8,790	-50	-200
Local education	5,780	5,850	6,080	-70	-300

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.

