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CONTACT INFORMATION:
Guy Tauer, Regional Economist
Guy.R.Tauer@oregon.gov
(541) 816-8396

Employment in Jackson County: March 2019

Retail Trade and Leisure and Hospitality Boost Total Employment

Total payroll employment rose by 680 jobs in March. Two industries accounted for most of the private sector's gains including leisure and hospitality (+260) and retail trade (+230). A few other industries had estimated job gains in March including construction (+90); health care and social assistance (+50); and other services (+30). Both leisure and hospitality and construction will continue to gain jobs as the businesses ramp up for the busier summer months ahead. With unemployment rates still at historically low levels, finding skilled or enough workers to fill available positions may constrain rates of job growth in the Rogue Valley in the coming months.

Over the past year, the Medford MSA (Jackson County) gained 1,660 payroll jobs, a growth rate of 1.9 percent, just slightly faster than Oregon's overall 1.6 percent increase. Industries adding notable jobs over the year were health care and social assistances (+470); retail trade (+390); leisure and hospitality (+330); and manufacturing (+180). Smaller gains were posted in construction (+110) and professional and business services (+90). Information (-100); wholesale trade (-30); and mining and logging (-20) were the only private-sector industries with notable over-the-year job losses in Jackson County, according to preliminary employment estimates.

Since March 2018, government employment rose by 110 jobs. Local government gained 50 jobs. Federal government employment rose by 30 jobs while state government gained 30 jobs in the past 12 months as well.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the April county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, May 21 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for April on Tuesday, May 14.

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.

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/. 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.

For help finding jobs and training resources, visit one of the state's WorkSource Oregon Centers or 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.



Workforce & Economic Research Division

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Medford-Ashland MSA (Jackson County) Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	March 2019	February 2019	March 2018	February 2019	March 2018
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	105,411	105,426	104,183	-15	1,228
Unemployed	5,697	5,757	5,593	-60	104
Unemployment rate	5.4%	5.5%	5.4%	-0.1	0.0
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.9%	5.0%	4.8%	-0.1	0.1
Employed	99,714	99,669	98,590	45	1,124
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	89,410	88,730	87,750	680	1,660
Total private	77,670	77,000	76,120	670	1,550
Mining, logging, and construction	5,250	5,150	5,160	100	90
Mining and logging	460	450	480	10	-20
Construction	4,790	4,700	4,680	90	110
Manufacturing	7,990	7,990	7,810	0	180
Trade, transportation, and utilities	19,740	19,490	19,200	250	540
Wholesale trade	2,540	2,530	2,570	10	-30
Retail trade	13,760	13,530	13,370	230	390
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	3,440	3,430	3,260	10	180
Information	1,100	1,100	1,200	0	-100
Financial activities	4,010	4,020	4,000	-10	10
Professional and business services	7,600	7,590	7,510	10	90
Education and health services	17,470	17,440	17,050	30	420
Health care and social assistance	16,650	16,600	16,180	50	470
Leisure and hospitality	11,760	11,500	11,430	260	330
Accommodation and food services	10,120	9,940	9,760	180	360
Other services	2,750	2,720	2,760	30	-10
Government	11,740	11,730	11,630	10	110
Federal government	1,720	1,720	1,690	0	30
State government	980	980	950	0	30
State education	0	0	0	0	0
Local government	9,040	9,030	8,990	10	50
Local education	6,190	6,160	6,260	30	-70

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.

