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## **Employment in Jackson County: August 2020 Job Recovery Continues into Summer**

Total payroll employment in Jackson County rose by 1,280 jobs in August. Retail trade had the largest increase, up by 550 jobs. A few other industries had notable increases including leisure and hospitality (+290); construction (+150); manufacturing (+70); and professional and business services (+60). Effects from the fires ravaging our area may begin to show up in the September figures, as the fires impacted the local area during the monthly survey reference period.

Over the past year payroll employment in the Medford MSA (Jackson County) fell by 2,020, a drop of 2.3 percent. Nearly all published private-sector industries continue to show over-the-year losses in Jackson County with the exceptions being construction (+260) and retail trade (+20). Since August 2019, accommodation and food services accounts for about one-half of total job losses, down by 1,180 jobs. Other industries with substantial declines include manufacturing (-600); private education and health services (-580); other services (-260); and information (-200). Government employment rose by 300 jobs over the year with gains in local (+220); federal (+50); and state government (+30).

### **Next Press Releases**

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the September county and metropolitan area unemployment rates and employment survey data on Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for September on Tuesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Notes:**

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.

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](https://govstatus.egov.com/ORUnemployment_COVID19). For help finding jobs and training resources, go to: [www.WorkSourceOregon.org](http://www.WorkSourceOregon.org).

Data and analysis related to COVID-19 can be found here: <https://www.qualityinfo.org/covid-19>

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Workforce &amp; Economic Research Division

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

	--Change From--				
	August 2020	July 2020	August 2019	July 2020	August 2019
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	103,385	102,504	104,367	881	-982
Unemployed	8,146	11,223	4,668	-3,077	3,478
Unemployment rate	7.9%	10.9%	4.5%	-3.0	3.4
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	7.7%	10.4%	4.2%	-2.7	3.5
Employed	95,239	91,281	99,699	3,958	-4,460
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	86,770	85,490	88,790	1,280	-2,020
Total private	76,300	75,120	78,620	1,180	-2,320
Mining, logging, and construction	5,760	5,610	5,500	150	260
Mining and logging	480	480	480	0	0
Construction	5,280	5,130	5,020	150	260
Manufacturing	7,530	7,460	8,130	70	-600
Trade, transportation, and utilities	19,920	19,300	19,990	620	-70
Wholesale trade	2,530	2,500	2,600	30	-70
Retail trade	14,080	13,530	14,060	550	20
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	3,310	3,270	3,330	40	-20
Information	1,010	1,010	1,210	0	-200
Financial activities	4,070	4,060	4,100	10	-30
Professional and business services	7,900	7,840	7,910	60	-10
Education and health services	16,800	16,800	17,380	0	-580
Health care and social assistance	16,520	16,550	16,590	-30	-70
Leisure and hospitality	10,810	10,520	11,640	290	-830
Accommodation and food services	8,800	8,570	9,980	230	-1,180
Other services	2,500	2,520	2,760	-20	-260
Government	10,470	10,370	10,170	100	300
Federal government	1,940	1,920	1,890	20	50
State government	1,060	1,050	1,030	10	30
State education	0	0	0	0	0
Local government	7,470	7,400	7,250	70	220
Local education	4,640	4,550	4,260	90	380

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.

