

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 22, 2020

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

## **Employment in Jackson County: November 2020** **Most Industries Remain Below Pre-pandemic Levels**

Total payroll employment in Jackson County rose by 430 jobs in November. Manufacturing had the largest decline over the month, down by 180 jobs. Seasonally expected job losses were estimated in accommodation and food services, and construction as employment fell by 150 and 140 jobs, respectively. Offsetting those declines, a number of industries added to their payroll over the month. Those adding jobs in November included retail trade (+330); health care and social assistances (+150); and professional and business services (+150).

Over the past year payroll employment in the Medford MSA (Jackson County) fell by 3,980, a drop of 4.3%. Most industries continue to show over-the-year losses in Jackson County with the exceptions being health care and social assistance (+330); and transportation, warehousing, and utilities (+60). Since November 2019, leisure and hospitality accounts for nearly half of total job losses, down by 1,760 jobs. Other industries with substantial declines include retail trade (-650); other services (-320); professional and business services (-290); manufacturing (-280); information (-110); and financial activities (-80). Government employment fell by 670 jobs over the year with losses in local government education (-660) slightly offset by a gain in federal government employment (+90).

“On Nov. 18th, Oregon implemented a ‘freeze’ to combat the rise of COVID-19 in the state. This employment press release covers the employment situation just prior to the ongoing freeze, which has affected employers and tens of thousands of workers in recent weeks,” said Gail Krumenauer, State Employment Economist with the Oregon Employment Department.

### **Next Press Releases**

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the December county and metropolitan area unemployment rates and employment survey data on Tuesday, Jan. 26, and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for December on Wednesday, Jan. 20.

**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.

You can subscribe to receive notification of new articles and publications from [www.QualityInfo.org](http://www.QualityInfo.org). To subscribe, go to [www.qualityinfo.org/p-sofrm](http://www.qualityinfo.org/p-sofrm), enter your email address and click Sign In. In the Publication section, click on the + sign next to a report type category and then click on the geography(s) you are interested in. Take some time to browse the other publications on the page and see if there are some you'd like to receive an email notification for. You can receive notifications on a daily, weekly, or monthly schedule – whichever is most convenient for you. You can change your preferences – or unsubscribe – at any time.

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>

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

QualityInfo.org

December 22, 2020

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

	--Change From--				
	November 2020	October 2020	November 2019	October 2020	November 2019
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	105,228	106,789	103,552	-1,561	1,676
Unemployed	5,650	6,670	3,208	-1,020	2,442
Unemployment rate	5.4%	6.2%	3.1%	-0.8	2.3
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	6.6%	7.5%	3.6%	-0.9	3.0
Employed	99,578	100,119	100,344	-541	-766
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	87,740	87,310	91,720	430	-3,980
Total private	76,530	76,080	79,840	450	-3,310
Mining, logging, and construction	5,080	5,250	5,310	-170	-230
Mining and logging	450	480	480	-30	-30
Construction	4,630	4,770	4,830	-140	-200
Manufacturing	7,700	7,880	7,980	-180	-280
Trade, transportation, and utilities	20,810	20,420	21,420	390	-610
Wholesale trade	2,530	2,510	2,550	20	-20
Retail trade	14,780	14,450	15,430	330	-650
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	3,500	3,460	3,440	40	60
Information	1,060	1,060	1,170	0	-110
Financial activities	4,060	4,050	4,140	10	-80
Professional and business services	7,730	7,580	8,020	150	-290
Education and health services	18,180	18,050	17,810	130	370
Health care and social assistance	17,210	17,060	16,880	150	330
Leisure and hospitality	9,430	9,310	11,190	120	-1,760
Accommodation and food services	8,250	8,400	9,710	-150	-1,460
Other services	2,480	2,480	2,800	0	-320
Government	11,210	11,230	11,880	-20	-670
Federal government	1,890	1,970	1,800	-80	90
State government	1,020	1,020	1,060	0	-40
State education	0	0	0	0	0
Local government	8,300	8,240	9,020	60	-720
Local education	5,510	5,450	6,170	60	-660

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.

