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Employment in Jackson County: December 2020 **Some Industries Recovering More Slowly Than Others**

Total payroll employment in Jackson County declined by 890 jobs in December. The impact of closures of in-person dining, shuttering of indoor fitness and recreation facilities, and other closures and curtailments contributed to an estimated loss of 1,060 leisure and hospitality jobs over the month. Recall that some impacts that occurred in late November as the Rogue Valley was moved to “extreme” COVID risk category from Phase 2 reopening occurred after the reference period for November’s data. Other industries losing jobs in December were manufacturing (-100); construction (-40); and other services (-30). Offsetting those losses, job gains were estimated in retail trade (+300); health care and social assistance (+190); and transportation, warehousing, and utilities (+100).

Over the past year payroll employment in the Medford MSA (Jackson County) fell by 4,950, a drop of 5.4%. Most industries continue to show over-the-year losses in Jackson County with the exceptions being health care and social assistance (+260); and transportation, warehousing, and utilities (+60). Since December 2019, leisure and hospitality accounts for over half of total job losses, down by 2,830 jobs. Other industries with substantial declines include manufacturing (-470); other services (-320); professional and business services (-270); wholesale trade (-130); information (-120); and retail trade (-90). Government employment fell by 680 jobs over the year with losses in local government education (-680) slightly offset by a gain in federal government employment (+100).

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 9th, and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for January on Tuesday, March 2nd.

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/. 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.

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. For help finding jobs and training resources, go to: 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 & Economic Research Division

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

	--Change From--				
	December 2020	November 2020	December 2019	November 2020	December 2019
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	105,596	105,695	102,395	-99	3,201
Unemployed	6,275	5,739	3,228	536	3,047
Unemployment rate	5.9%	5.4%	3.2%	0.5	2.7
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	6.4%	6.4%	3.5%	0.0	2.9
Employed	99,321	99,956	99,167	-635	154
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	86,760	87,650	91,710	-890	-4,950
Total private	75,630	76,480	79,900	-850	-4,270
Mining, logging, and construction	5,030	5,080	5,240	-50	-210
Mining and logging	440	450	470	-10	-30
Construction	4,590	4,630	4,770	-40	-180
Manufacturing	7,560	7,660	8,030	-100	-470
Trade, transportation, and utilities	21,150	20,820	21,310	330	-160
Wholesale trade	2,450	2,520	2,580	-70	-130
Retail trade	15,110	14,810	15,200	300	-90
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	3,590	3,490	3,530	100	60
Information	1,060	1,060	1,180	0	-120
Financial activities	4,100	4,060	4,130	40	-30
Professional and business services	7,710	7,710	7,980	0	-270
Education and health services	18,150	18,130	18,010	20	140
Health care and social assistance	17,330	17,140	17,070	190	260
Leisure and hospitality	8,410	9,470	11,240	-1,060	-2,830
Accommodation and food services	6,960	8,310	9,800	-1,350	-2,840
Other services	2,460	2,490	2,780	-30	-320
Government	11,130	11,170	11,810	-40	-680
Federal government	1,890	1,890	1,790	0	100
State government	990	1,010	1,010	-20	-20
State education	0	0	0	0	0
Local government	8,250	8,270	9,010	-20	-760
Local education	5,470	5,470	6,150	0	-680

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.

