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Employment in Josephine County: March 2019 Modest Hiring in Many Industries Boosts Total Payroll Employment

Total Josephine County payroll employment increased by 220 jobs over the month. Small gains across many industries combined for a modest 0.8 percent employment increase in March. Retail trade (+50); leisure and hospitality (+30); and financial activities posted the greatest, but still modest, employment gains over the month. Construction; manufacturing; private educational and health services; and other services all gained an estimated 20 jobs in March. Government employment had a net increase of 50 jobs over the month, with state (+20) and local (+30) government both contributing to the month's gain. 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 year, Josephine County payroll employment gained 770 jobs, an increase of 2.9 percent and much faster than Oregon's statewide increase of 1.6 percent. Industries adding notable new jobs included private education and health services (+400); manufacturing (+320); construction (+70); transportation, warehousing, and utilities (+30); and professional and business services (+20).

A few industries had estimated job losses since March 2018. Those included financial activities (-120); leisure and hospitality (-40); and mining and logging (-20). Wholesale trade employment continued its long-term decline, dropping 50 jobs over the year.

Government employment rose by 160 jobs over the year. Local government education gained 130 jobs and local government excluding educational services added 40 jobs since March 2018. State government employment slipped by 10 jobs since March 2018.

Next Press Releases

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

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.

The department also makes the BLS-produced nonfarm payroll employment series for metropolitan areas available. These are revised annually by BLS.

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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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Grants Pass MSA (Josephine 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	36,168	36,196	35,539	-28	629
Unemployed	2,209	2,334	2,230	-125	-21
Unemployment rate	6.1%	6.4%	6.3%	-0.3	-0.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>5.4%</i>	<i>5.6%</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>-0.2</i>	<i>0.2</i>
Employed	33,959	33,862	33,309	97	650
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	27,300	27,080	26,530	220	770
Total private	23,760	23,590	23,150	170	610
Mining, logging, and construction	1,130	1,110	1,080	20	50
Mining and logging	100	100	120	0	-20
Construction	1,030	1,010	960	20	70
Manufacturing	3,230	3,210	2,910	20	320
Wood product manufacturing	530	540	490	-10	40
Trade, transportation, and utilities	5,270	5,230	5,290	40	-20
Wholesale trade	690	700	740	-10	-50
Retail trade	4,130	4,080	4,130	50	0
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	450	450	420	0	30
Information	250	250	250	0	0
Financial activities	1,370	1,340	1,490	30	-120
Professional and business services	2,240	2,250	2,220	-10	20
Education and health services	6,160	6,140	5,760	20	400
Leisure and hospitality	3,140	3,110	3,180	30	-40
Other services	970	950	970	20	0
Government	3,540	3,490	3,380	50	160
Federal government	230	230	230	0	0
State government	380	360	390	20	-10
Local government	2,930	2,900	2,760	30	170
Local education	2,110	2,070	1,980	40	130
Local government excluding educational services	820	830	780	-10	40

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.

