

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 28, 2020

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Employment in Josephine County: December 2019 Construction and Manufacturing Job Losses Reduced Employment

Total Josephine County payroll employment fell by 90 jobs in December. An array of slight job declines across several industries conspired to reduce total payroll jobs. The “goods-producing” industries including manufacturing (-40); construction (-30); and mining and logging (-10) all lost a few jobs in December. There were also slight job declines in retail trade (-20); wholesale trade (-10); and other services (-10). Somewhat offsetting those losses, a few sectors gained jobs over the month including transportation, warehousing, and utilities (+30); financial activities (+20); and professional and business services (+20). Government employment fell by 40 jobs with losses in local government education (-30) and in federal government (-20).

Over the year, Josephine County payroll employment gained 610 jobs, an increase of 2.2 percent and faster than Oregon’s statewide increase of 1.1 percent. Industries adding jobs included private education and health services (+320); professional and business services (+120); financial activities (+90); and manufacturing (+70). Only a couple industries had estimated job losses since December 2018. Those included construction (-50), and leisure and hospitality (-50). Government employment rose by 80 jobs over the year. Local government excluding educational services added 50 jobs since December 2018. State government gained 40 jobs in the past year.

Looking ahead to 2020, many forecasts are calling for continued, but slower job growth as this economic expansion grows long in the tooth entering its 11th year. Our current stretch of historically low unemployment rates and slower labor force growth in recent months are headwinds to job growth in the coming year.

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 10th, and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for January on Tuesday, March 3rd.

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--				
	December 2019	November 2019	December 2018	November 2019	December 2018
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	35,761	36,155	35,945	-394	-184
Unemployed	1,392	1,473	2,098	-81	-706
Unemployment rate	3.9%	4.1%	5.8%	-0.2	-1.9
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.9%	5.2%	5.7%	-0.3	-0.8
Employed	34,369	34,682	33,847	-313	522
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	28,040	28,130	27,430	-90	610
Total private	24,500	24,550	23,970	-50	530
Mining, logging, and construction	1,130	1,170	1,190	-40	-60
Mining and logging	80	90	90	-10	-10
Construction	1,050	1,080	1,100	-30	-50
Manufacturing	3,150	3,190	3,080	-40	70
Wood product manufacturing	530	520	540	10	-10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	5,380	5,380	5,380	0	0
Wholesale trade	750	760	760	-10	-10
Retail trade	4,120	4,140	4,120	-20	0
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	510	480	500	30	10
Information	260	260	250	0	10
Financial activities	1,620	1,600	1,530	20	90
Professional and business services	2,260	2,240	2,140	20	120
Education and health services	6,360	6,360	6,040	0	320
Leisure and hospitality	3,320	3,320	3,370	0	-50
Other services	1,020	1,030	990	-10	30
Government	3,540	3,580	3,460	-40	80
Federal government	230	250	230	-20	0
State government	430	420	390	10	40
Local government	2,880	2,910	2,840	-30	40
Local education	2,020	2,050	2,030	-30	-10
Local government excluding educational services	860	860	810	0	50

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.

