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## Employment in Josephine County: March 2020

March data from Oregon's establishment and household surveys do not reflect the early effects of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on the labor market. This is because the data used for today's report was collected prior to public health measures related to social distancing began on March 17<sup>th</sup>. We expect the county April data, published on May 27<sup>th</sup>, to show the early effects on employment and the unemployment rate in Oregon.

More information on Unemployment Insurance benefits can be found here:

[https://govstatus.egov.com/ORUnemployment\\_COVID19](https://govstatus.egov.com/ORUnemployment_COVID19)

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

Total Josephine County payroll employment rose by an estimated 40 jobs in March. Financial activities and local government education each gained 30 jobs over the month. Manufacturing employment increased by 20. Wholesale and retail trade each lost 20 jobs in March.

Over the year, Josephine County payroll employment increased by an estimated 530 jobs. The largest job increases occurred in financial activities and education and health services, both up by 150 jobs. Manufacturing rose by 140 jobs and retail trade employment was up by 100 jobs since March 2019. Leisure and hospitality employment slipped by 60 jobs over the year. Government employment rose by 70 jobs over the year, with gains in local (+40) and state (+20) accounting for the increase.

### Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the April county and metropolitan area unemployment rates and employment survey data on Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for April on Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>.

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/](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).

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

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### Grants Pass MSA (Josephine County) Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	March 2020	February 2020	March 2019	February 2020	March 2019
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	35,792	35,664	35,615	128	177
Unemployed	1,829	1,813	2,171	16	-342
Unemployment rate	5.1%	5.1%	6.1%	0.0	-1.0
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.3%	4.4%	5.7%	-0.1	-1.4
Employed	33,963	33,851	33,444	112	519
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	27,550	27,510	27,020	40	530
Total private	23,950	23,940	23,490	10	460
Mining, logging, and construction	1,140	1,130	1,180	10	-40
Mining and logging	80	80	90	0	-10
Construction	1,060	1,050	1,090	10	-30
Manufacturing	3,190	3,170	3,050	20	140
Wood product manufacturing	540	540	520	0	20
Trade, transportation, and utilities	5,280	5,330	5,180	-50	100
Wholesale trade	750	770	750	-20	0
Retail trade	4,070	4,090	3,970	-20	100
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	460	470	460	-10	0
Information	270	270	260	0	10
Financial activities	1,670	1,640	1,520	30	150
Professional and business services	2,350	2,360	2,290	-10	60
Education and health services	5,770	5,770	5,620	0	150
Leisure and hospitality	3,350	3,340	3,410	10	-60
Other services	930	930	980	0	-50
Government	3,600	3,570	3,530	30	70
Federal government	230	230	220	0	10
State government	420	420	400	0	20
Local government	2,950	2,920	2,910	30	40
Local education	2,090	2,060	2,080	30	10
Local government excluding educational services	860	860	830	0	30

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.

