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Employment in Josephine County: May 2020 Phase 2 Reopening Allows Some Employment to Resume

Total payroll employment in Josephine County rose by 560 jobs in May. Leisure and hospitality had the largest gain with 440 jobs added. The start of Phase 2 re-opening allowing restaurants to again serve meals inside their doors allowed some recall of laid-off workers. Other sectors with estimated gains during the infancy of re-opening included construction (+120); financial activities (+80); other services (+70); and retail trade (+40). Professional and business services continued to lose jobs in May, down by 40 jobs. Government employment continued to fall with a loss of 150 jobs in local government education accounting for most of the decline.

Over the past year payroll employment in the Grants Pass MSA (Josephine County) fell by 2,810, a drop of 10.1 percent. Since May 2019 estimates show the largest declines were in industries where initial unemployment insurance claims surged in the past few months. Industries losing the most jobs included leisure and hospitality (-1,660); education and health services (-360); retail trade (-290); other services (-200); and professional and business services (-140). The only published industries showing a gain over the year were financial activities (+70); manufacturing (+60); and wholesale trade (+30). Government employment fell by 230 jobs over the year, with local government education accounting for 190 of those jobs that were lost since May 2019.

An individual could file for unemployment benefits due to hours being cut but still be counted as employed. An individual can also be counted as unemployed without filing for or receiving unemployment insurance benefits. There is not an exact correlation between UI claims data and labor force and industry employment data.

Next Press Releases

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

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.

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.

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--				
	May 2020	April 2020	May 2019	April 2020	May 2019
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	36,148	35,928	35,781	220	367
Unemployed	4,855	5,487	1,618	-632	3,237
Unemployment rate	13.4%	15.3%	4.5%	-1.9	8.9
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	13.9%	15.1%	5.2%	-1.2	8.7
Employed	31,293	30,441	34,163	852	-2,870
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	25,060	24,500	27,870	560	-2,810
Total private	21,710	20,990	24,290	720	-2,580
Mining, logging, and construction	1,180	1,050	1,210	130	-30
Mining and logging	90	80	100	10	-10
Construction	1,090	970	1,110	120	-20
Manufacturing	3,140	3,150	3,080	-10	60
Wood product manufacturing	510	520	520	-10	-10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	5,130	5,070	5,430	60	-300
Wholesale trade	820	820	790	0	30
Retail trade	3,840	3,800	4,130	40	-290
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	470	450	510	20	-40
Information	250	250	270	0	-20
Financial activities	1,650	1,570	1,580	80	70
Professional and business services	2,140	2,180	2,280	-40	-140
Education and health services	5,360	5,370	5,720	-10	-360
Leisure and hospitality	2,050	1,610	3,710	440	-1,660
Other services	810	740	1,010	70	-200
Government	3,350	3,510	3,580	-160	-230
Federal government	260	250	270	10	-10
State government	370	390	420	-20	-50
Local government	2,720	2,870	2,890	-150	-170
Local education	1,860	2,010	2,050	-150	-190
Local government excluding educational services	860	860	840	0	20

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.

