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## **Employment in Josephine County: July 2020 Pandemic Recovery Continues at Slower Pace**

Total payroll employment in Josephine County declined by 370 jobs in July, mostly due to a seasonal decline of 690 jobs in local government education. Total private-sector employment increased by 290 jobs over the month. Leisure and hospitality again led the job increases, adding 160 jobs in July. Small gains were estimated in financial activities (+50); construction (+40); wholesale trade (+30); private education and health services (+30); and other services (+20). Other changes were small, including an increase of 10 in federal, state, and non-education local government jobs. The seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was estimated at 10.6 percent in July, down from a revised 11.5 percent in June. In July 2019 the rate stood at 4.9 percent in Josephine County.

Over the past year payroll employment in the Grants Pass MSA (Josephine County) fell by 2,450, a drop of 9.0 percent. Since July 2019 estimates show the largest declines were in industries where initial unemployment insurance claims surged in the spring. Industries losing the most jobs included leisure and hospitality (-890); education and health services (-640); retail trade (-340); professional and business services (-250); and other services (-90). The only published industries showing gains over the year were wholesale trade (+40) and transportation, warehousing, and utilities (+20). Government employment fell by 160 jobs over the year, with local government education accounting for 270 of the jobs lost since July 2019. Local government excluding education employment added 90 jobs over the year.

### **Next Press Releases**

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the August county and metropolitan area unemployment rates and employment survey data on Tuesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for August on Tuesday, September 15<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

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

	--Change From--				
	July 2020	June 2020	July 2019	June 2020	July 2019
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	34,321	36,255	35,865	-1,934	-1,544
Unemployed	3,674	4,152	1,830	-478	1,844
Unemployment rate	10.7%	11.5%	5.1%	-0.8	5.6
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>10.6%</i>	<i>11.5%</i>	<i>4.9%</i>	<i>-0.9</i>	<i>5.7</i>
Employed	30,647	32,103	34,035	-1,456	-3,388
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	24,850	25,220	27,300	-370	-2,450
Total private	22,070	21,780	24,360	290	-2,290
Mining, logging, and construction	1,220	1,190	1,230	30	-10
Mining and logging	80	90	80	-10	0
Construction	1,140	1,100	1,150	40	-10
Manufacturing	3,040	3,040	3,110	0	-70
Wood product manufacturing	540	540	530	0	10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	5,170	5,180	5,450	-10	-280
Wholesale trade	820	780	780	40	40
Retail trade	3,870	3,880	4,210	-10	-340
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	480	520	460	-40	20
Information	250	250	270	0	-20
Financial activities	1,550	1,500	1,590	50	-40
Professional and business services	1,990	1,980	2,240	10	-250
Education and health services	4,920	4,890	5,560	30	-640
Leisure and hospitality	3,020	2,860	3,910	160	-890
Other services	910	890	1,000	20	-90
Government	2,780	3,440	2,940	-660	-160
Federal government	300	290	290	10	10
State government	460	450	450	10	10
Local government	2,020	2,700	2,200	-680	-180
Local education	1,130	1,820	1,400	-690	-270
Local government excluding educational services	890	880	800	10	90

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.

