

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 27, 2018

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Patrick O'Connor, Regional Economist

[Patrick.S.Oconnor@oregon.gov](mailto:Patrick.S.Oconnor@oregon.gov)

(503) 400-4374

## **Employment in Salem MSA (Marion and Polk Counties): November 2018**

### **Salem MSA's Unemployment Rate Down to 4.4 Percent**

The Salem metropolitan statistical area's (MSA) unemployment rate was 4.4 percent in November, edging down from its revised October rate of 4.6 percent. Oregon's unemployment rate was 3.9 percent in November, essentially unchanged from its revised rate in October of 3.8 percent.

Salem's November employment gains were larger than normal. Salem's employment was unchanged in November when a decrease of roughly 400 would be expected, meaning seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment increased 400. Salem's employment was 17,100, or 11.1 percent, above its pre-recession employment peak, which occurred in February 2008.

Employment in the Salem MSA grew 5,800 over the past year, a 3.5 percent increase. Salem's growth outpaced the state and the nation. Oregon's employment grew 1.9 percent over the past year. Nationally, employment was up 1.7 percent over the past 12 months. Salem's private sector added 7,300 jobs over the past year, growing 5.9 percent. The public sector shed 1,500 jobs, declining 3.4 percent.

Much of the drop in public sector jobs is caused by the reclassification of approximately 1,700 home care workers from state government to private-sector health care and social assistance. The reclassification will affect private-sector and government over-the-year change figures through December 2018. It does not affect total payroll employment levels.

The fastest-growing major private-sector industries over the past year included: construction (+1,000 jobs, or 9.4%) and information (+100 jobs, or 8.3%).

### **Next Press Releases**

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the December county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, January 22 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data on Tuesday, January 15.



Workforce &amp; Economic Research Division

QualityInfo.org

December 27, 2018

## Salem MSA Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	November 2018	October 2018	November 2017	October 2018	November 2017
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	203,043	203,559	204,232	-516	-1,189
Unemployed	8,455	8,635	8,258	-180	197
Unemployment rate	4.2%	4.2%	4.0%	0.0	0.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.4%	4.6%	4.3%	-0.2	0.1
Employed	194,588	194,924	195,974	-336	-1,386
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	173,400	173,400	167,600	0	5,800
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>171,000</i>	<i>170,600</i>	<i>166,000</i>	<i>400</i>	<i>5,000</i>
Total private	131,200	131,500	123,900	-300	7,300
Mining, logging, and construction	12,200	12,400	11,200	-200	1,000
Mining and logging	600	600	600	0	0
Construction	11,600	11,800	10,600	-200	1,000
Manufacturing	13,500	13,900	13,100	-400	400
Durable goods	6,700	6,600	6,400	100	300
Nondurable goods	6,800	7,300	6,700	-500	100
Food manufacturing	4,700	5,300	4,500	-600	200
Trade, transportation, and utilities	30,000	29,000	29,100	1,000	900
Wholesale trade	4,300	4,300	4,100	0	200
Retail trade	20,500	19,500	19,800	1,000	700
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	5,200	5,200	5,200	0	0
Information	1,300	1,300	1,200	0	100
Financial activities	7,300	7,300	7,100	0	200
Professional and business services	15,700	15,700	14,500	0	1,200
Administrative and support services	8,100	8,200	7,500	-100	600
Education and health services	30,300	30,600	26,900	-300	3,400
Health care and social assistance	26,100	26,500	23,400	-400	2,700
Leisure and hospitality	15,200	15,500	15,300	-300	-100
Accommodation and food services	13,600	13,800	13,700	-200	-100
Other services	5,700	5,800	5,500	-100	200
Government	42,200	41,900	43,700	300	-1,500
Federal government	1,500	1,500	1,400	0	100
State government	19,900	19,800	21,200	100	-1,300
State education	800	800	700	0	100
Local government	20,800	20,600	21,100	200	-300
Indian tribal	1,400	1,400	1,500	0	-100
Local education	12,500	12,400	13,000	100	-500

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.

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.

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.

You can subscribe to receive notification of new articles and publications from [www.QualityInfo.org](http://www.QualityInfo.org). To subscribe, go to [www.qualityinfo.org/p-sofrm](http://www.qualityinfo.org/p-sofrm), enter your email address and click Sign In. In the Publication section, click on the + sign next to a report type category and then click on the geography(s) you are interested in. Take some time to browse the other publications on the page and see if there are some you would like to receive an email notification for. You can receive notifications on a daily, weekly, or monthly schedule – whichever is most convenient for you. You can change your selected preferences – or unsubscribe – at any time.

For help finding jobs and training resources, visit one of the state's WorkSource Oregon Centers or 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.