

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 26, 2019

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): February 2019**

### **Salem MSA's Unemployment Rate Sits at 4.6 Percent**

The Salem metropolitan statistical area's (MSA) unemployment rate was 4.5 percent in February, essentially unchanged from its revised January rate of 4.6 percent. Oregon's statewide unemployment rate was 4.4 percent in February, essentially unchanged from its revised rate in January of 4.3 percent.

Salem's February employment gains were larger than normal. Salem added an estimated 2,100 jobs in February when an increase of roughly 1,700 would be expected, meaning seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment increased 400. Salem's employment was 16,500, or 10.7 percent, above its pre-recession employment peak, which occurred in April 2008.

Employment in the Salem MSA grew 2,500 over the past year, a 1.5 percent increase. Salem's growth matched the state, but was outpaced by the nation, as U.S. employment grew 1.7 percent over the past 12 months.

Salem's private sector added 2,100 jobs over the past year, growing 1.7 percent. The public sector added 500 jobs, growing 1.2 percent.

The fastest-growing major private-sector industries over the past year included: information (+100 jobs, or 8.3%) and construction (+700 jobs, or 6.7%).

### **Next Press Releases**

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the March county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, April 23 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data on Tuesday, April 16.



Workforce &amp; Economic Research Division

QualityInfo.org

March 26, 2019

### Salem MSA Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	February 2019	January 2019	February 2018	January 2019	February 2018
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	201,817	199,198	199,121	2,619	2,696
Unemployed	9,747	10,178	9,501	-431	246
Unemployment rate	4.8%	5.1%	4.8%	-0.3	0.0
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.5%	4.6%	4.0%	-0.1	0.5
Employed	192,070	189,020	189,620	3,050	2,450
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	168,900	166,800	166,300	2,100	2,600
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	170,100	169,700	167,600	400	2,500
Total private	126,400	124,700	124,300	1,700	2,100
Mining, logging, and construction	11,800	11,600	11,100	200	700
Mining and logging	600	600	600	0	0
Construction	11,200	11,000	10,500	200	700
Manufacturing	12,300	12,200	12,500	100	-200
Durable goods	6,200	6,200	6,300	0	-100
Nondurable goods	6,100	6,000	6,200	100	-100
Food manufacturing	4,200	4,200	4,000	0	200
Trade, transportation, and utilities	28,300	28,500	28,000	-200	300
Wholesale trade	4,200	4,100	4,200	100	0
Retail trade	18,900	19,100	18,700	-200	200
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	5,200	5,300	5,100	-100	100
Information	1,300	1,300	1,200	0	100
Financial activities	7,300	7,200	7,300	100	0
Professional and business services	15,000	14,800	14,800	200	200
Administrative and support services	7,600	7,600	7,600	0	0
Education and health services	29,600	28,500	28,800	1,100	800
Health care and social assistance	25,500	25,400	25,200	100	300
Leisure and hospitality	15,300	15,200	15,200	100	100
Accommodation and food services	13,600	13,400	13,500	200	100
Other services	5,500	5,400	5,400	100	100
Government	42,500	42,100	42,000	400	500
Federal government	1,400	1,400	1,400	0	0
State government	20,100	20,000	19,400	100	700
State education	800	800	700	0	100
Local government	21,000	20,700	21,200	300	-200
Indian tribal	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	0
Local education	12,800	12,500	13,000	300	-200

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.