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Employment in Salem MSA (Marion and Polk Counties): March 2019

Salem MSA's Unemployment Rate Drops to 4.3 Percent

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

Salem's March employment gains were larger than normal. Salem added an estimated 1,600 jobs in March when an increase of roughly 700 would be expected, meaning seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment increased 900. Salem's employment was 16,900, or 11.0 percent, above its pre-recession employment peak, which occurred in April 2008.

Employment in the Salem MSA grew 3,200 over the past year, a 1.9 percent increase. Salem slightly outpaced the state and the nation. Oregon and the U.S. both had job growth rates of 1.7 percent over the past year.

Salem's private sector added 2,600 jobs over the past year, growing 2.1 percent. The public sector added 600 jobs, growing 1.4 percent.

The fastest-growing major private-sector industries over the past year included: information (+100 jobs, or 8.3%) and construction (+500 jobs, or 4.7%).

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the April county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, May 21 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data on Tuesday, May 14.



Workforce & Economic Research Division

QualityInfo.org

April 23, 2019

Salem MSA Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	March 2019	February 2019	March 2018	February 2019	March 2018
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	202,023	201,467	198,954	556	3,069
Unemployed	9,631	9,776	9,278	-145	353
Unemployment rate	4.8%	4.9%	4.7%	-0.1	0.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.3%	4.5%	4.1%	-0.2	0.2
Employed	192,392	191,691	189,676	701	2,716
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	170,100	168,500	166,900	1,600	3,200
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	170,800	169,900	167,600	900	3,200
Total private	127,500	126,000	124,900	1,500	2,600
Mining, logging, and construction	11,700	11,700	11,200	0	500
Mining and logging	600	600	600	0	0
Construction	11,100	11,100	10,600	0	500
Manufacturing	12,400	12,300	12,600	100	-200
Durable goods	6,300	6,200	6,400	100	-100
Nondurable goods	6,100	6,100	6,200	0	-100
Food manufacturing	4,200	4,200	4,100	0	100
Trade, transportation, and utilities	28,600	28,300	28,000	300	600
Wholesale trade	4,200	4,200	4,200	0	0
Retail trade	19,100	18,900	18,700	200	400
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	5,300	5,200	5,100	100	200
Information	1,300	1,300	1,200	0	100
Financial activities	7,300	7,300	7,200	0	100
Professional and business services	15,600	15,000	15,000	600	600
Administrative and support services	7,900	7,600	7,900	300	0
Education and health services	29,500	29,400	28,900	100	600
Health care and social assistance	25,800	25,500	25,400	300	400
Leisure and hospitality	15,600	15,300	15,300	300	300
Accommodation and food services	13,700	13,600	13,500	100	200
Other services	5,500	5,400	5,500	100	0
Government	42,600	42,500	42,000	100	600
Federal government	1,400	1,400	1,400	0	0
State government	20,200	20,100	19,500	100	700
State education	800	800	700	0	100
Local government	21,000	21,000	21,100	0	-100
Indian tribal	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	0
Local education	12,800	12,800	13,000	0	-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/. 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.

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