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Employment in Salem MSA (Marion and Polk Counties): May 2020

Salem MSA's Unemployment Rate Declines to 12.7 Percent

The Salem MSA's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 12.7 percent in May, down from its revised rate of 13.1 percent in April. Oregon's statewide unemployment rate in May was 14.2 percent, down from its revised April rate of 14.9 percent.

Employment gains in the Salem MSA in May were larger than normal; total nonfarm employment increased 1,600 jobs, when an employment gain of 900 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment increased 700 jobs or 0.5 percent between April and May. Employment remains 13 percent below the level in February, after sharp job losses in March and April.

Nearly all industries in the private sector showed employment growth in May. Leisure and hospitality showed the sharpest increase, adding 1,100 jobs for a 14.3 percent increase over the month. Construction employment increased 700 in May, a monthly gain of 6.6 percent. Retail trade added 600 jobs, a 3.5 percent increase. Other services had a monthly employment gain of 400, or 9.5 percent in May. Other services includes many businesses that offer personal services that were temporarily closed due to COVID-19.

State government shed 1,000 jobs in May and local government education dropped 600 jobs.

Next Press Releases

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



Workforce & Economic Research Division

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Salem MSA Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	May 2020	April 2020	May 2019	April 2020	May 2019
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	199,845	198,684	200,385	1,161	-540
Unemployed	24,535	26,191	7,384	-1,656	17,151
Unemployment rate	12.3%	13.2%	3.7%	-0.9	8.6
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	12.7%	13.1%	4.1%	-0.4	8.6
Employed	175,310	172,493	193,001	2,817	-17,691
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	151,700	150,100	172,100	1,600	-20,400
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	150,700	150,000	170,800	700	-20,100
Total private	112,100	108,900	129,300	3,200	-17,200
Mining, logging, and construction	11,800	11,100	12,700	700	-900
Mining and logging	500	500	600	0	-100
Construction	11,300	10,600	12,100	700	-800
Manufacturing	11,500	11,100	13,100	400	-1,600
Durable goods	5,900	5,800	6,500	100	-600
Nondurable goods	5,600	5,300	6,600	300	-1,000
Food manufacturing	3,500	3,300	4,200	200	-700
Trade, transportation, and utilities	28,000	27,200	28,400	800	-400
Wholesale trade	4,200	4,100	4,100	100	100
Retail trade	17,600	17,000	18,900	600	-1,300
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	6,200	6,100	5,400	100	800
Information	1,200	1,300	1,400	-100	-200
Financial activities	6,700	6,600	7,100	100	-400
Professional and business services	12,900	13,200	15,400	-300	-2,500
Administrative and support services	7,100	7,000	8,500	100	-1,400
Education and health services	26,600	26,500	29,800	100	-3,200
Health care and social assistance	24,700	24,400	26,600	300	-1,900
Leisure and hospitality	8,800	7,700	16,000	1,100	-7,200
Accommodation and food services	7,600	6,700	14,000	900	-6,400
Other services	4,600	4,200	5,400	400	-800
Government	39,600	41,200	42,800	-1,600	-3,200
Federal government	1,500	1,600	1,400	-100	100
State government	19,300	20,300	20,400	-1,000	-1,100
State education	800	900	900	-100	-100
Local government	18,800	19,300	21,000	-500	-2,200
Indian tribal	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	0
Local education	10,800	11,400	12,600	-600	-1,800

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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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.