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## **Employment in Salem MSA (Marion and Polk Counties): August 2020**

### **Salem MSA's Unemployment Rate Declines to 7.3 Percent**

The Salem MSA's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 7.3 percent in August, down from its revised rate of 9.7 percent in July. Oregon's statewide unemployment rate in August was 7.7 percent, down from its revised July rate of 10.4 percent.

Employment gains in the Salem MSA in August were larger than normal; total nonfarm employment increased 1,400 jobs, when an employment gain of 800 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment increased 600 jobs, or 0.9 percent, between July and August. Employment remains nearly 10 percent or 17,200 jobs below the level in February, after sharp job losses in March and April.

Nearly all industries in the private sector showed employment growth in August. Leisure and hospitality added 100 jobs for a 0.9 percent increase over the month. Trade, transportation, and utilities employment increased 700 in August, a monthly gain of 2.5 percent. Construction added 100 jobs, a 0.8 percent increase. Other services had a monthly employment gain of 100, or 2.1 percent in August. Other services includes many businesses like salons, gyms and more that offer personal services that were temporarily closed due to COVID-19.

Government added 800 jobs, or 2.2 percent in August. Local government education accounted for 600 of those jobs.

### **Next Press Releases**

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the September county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, October 20 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data on Tuesday, October 13.



Workforce &amp; Economic Research Division

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### Salem MSA Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	August 2020	July 2020	August 2019	July 2020	August 2019
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	196,818	197,408	204,630	-590	-7,812
Unemployed	13,790	18,597	8,539	-4,807	5,251
Unemployment rate	7.0%	9.4%	4.2%	-2.4	2.8
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	7.3%	9.7%	3.9%	-2.4	3.4
Employed	183,028	178,811	196,091	4,217	-13,063
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	155,300	153,900	170,000	1,400	-14,700
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>156,400</i>	<i>155,800</i>	<i>171,100</i>	<i>600</i>	<i>-14,700</i>
Total private	117,500	116,900	131,100	600	-13,600
Mining, logging, and construction	13,400	13,300	13,300	100	100
Mining and logging	500	500	600	0	-100
Construction	12,900	12,800	12,700	100	200
Manufacturing	12,800	12,700	14,400	100	-1,600
Durable goods	6,100	6,100	6,500	0	-400
Nondurable goods	6,700	6,600	7,900	100	-1,200
Food manufacturing	3,800	3,900	5,500	-100	-1,700
Trade, transportation, and utilities	29,000	28,300	28,700	700	300
Wholesale trade	4,100	4,100	4,200	0	-100
Retail trade	18,500	17,900	19,000	600	-500
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	6,400	6,300	5,500	100	900
Information	1,200	1,200	1,400	0	-200
Financial activities	6,800	6,800	7,100	0	-300
Professional and business services	12,700	13,000	15,200	-300	-2,500
Administrative and support services	8,000	8,000	8,100	0	-100
Education and health services	25,700	25,900	29,200	-200	-3,500
Health care and social assistance	24,700	24,700	26,700	0	-2,000
Leisure and hospitality	11,000	10,900	16,400	100	-5,400
Accommodation and food services	10,100	10,100	13,900	0	-3,800
Other services	4,900	4,800	5,400	100	-500
Government	37,800	37,000	38,900	800	-1,100
Federal government	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	0
State government	20,400	20,200	20,300	200	100
State education	800	800	800	0	0
Local government	15,900	15,300	17,100	600	-1,200
Indian tribal	1,500	1,500	1,600	0	-100
Local education	7,800	7,200	8,800	600	-1,000

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.

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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](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.