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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): October 2020**

### **Salem MSA's Unemployment Rate Declines to 6.8 Percent**

The Salem MSA's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 6.8 percent in October, down from its revised rate of 7.8 percent in September. Oregon's statewide unemployment rate in October was 6.9 percent, down from its revised September rate of 7.9 percent.

Employment gains in the Salem MSA in October were larger than normal; total nonfarm employment increased 2,500 jobs, when an employment gain of 1,000 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment increased 1,500 jobs, or 0.9 percent, between September and October. Employment is more than 7 percent or 12,800 jobs below the level in February, after sharp job losses in the spring.

Most industries in the private sector showed employment gains in October. Professional and business services added 700 jobs in October. The construction sector added 300. Health care and social assistance employment grew 200. Retail trade also added 200 jobs. Manufacturing employment grew 100.

The only private-sector job loss was in food manufacturing, which shed 300 jobs in October.

Government added 700 jobs, or 1.8 percent in October. Local government education employment added 800 in October.

### **Next Press Releases**

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



Workforce &amp; Economic Research Division

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## Salem MSA Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

|   | --Change From-- |                   |                 |                   |                 |
|---|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
|   | October<br>2020 | September<br>2020 | October<br>2019 | September<br>2020 | October<br>2019 |
| <b>Labor Force Status</b>                             |                 |                   |                 |                   |                 |
| Civilian labor force                                  | 202,021         | 192,512           | 202,380         | 9,509             | -359            |
| Unemployed  | 12,088          | 13,103            | 6,471           | -1,015            | 5,617           |
| Unemployment rate                                     | 6.0%            | 6.8%              | 3.2%            | -0.8              | 2.8             |
| <i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>        | 6.8%            | 7.8%              | 3.7%            | -1.0              | 3.1             |
| Employed  | 189,933         | 179,409           | 195,909         | 10,524            | -5,976          |
| <b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>                     |                 |                   |                 |                   |                 |
| Total nonfarm employment                              | 163,900         | 161,400           | 174,500         | 2,500             | -10,600         |
| <i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i> | <i>160,900</i>  | <i>159,400</i>    | <i>172,800</i>  | <i>1,500</i>      | <i>-11,900</i>  |
| Total private   | 123,300         | 121,500           | 131,800         | 1,800             | -8,500          |
| Mining, logging, and construction                     | 13,600          | 13,300            | 13,500          | 300               | 100             |
| Mining and logging                                    | 600             | 600               | 600             | 0                 | 0               |
| Construction  | 13,000          | 12,700            | 12,900          | 300               | 100             |
| Manufacturing   | 12,000          | 11,900            | 13,300          | 100               | -1,300          |
| Durable goods   | 5,900           | 5,800             | 6,300           | 100               | -400            |
| Nondurable goods                                      | 6,100           | 6,100             | 7,000           | 0                 | -900            |
| Food manufacturing                                    | 3,500           | 3,800             | 4,600           | -300              | -1,100          |
| Trade, transportation, and utilities                  | 29,100          | 28,900            | 29,200          | 200               | -100            |
| Wholesale trade                                       | 4,000           | 4,000             | 4,200           | 0                 | -200            |
| Retail trade  | 18,300          | 18,100            | 18,900          | 200               | -600            |
| Transportation, warehousing, and utilities            | 6,800           | 6,800             | 6,100           | 0                 | 700             |
| Information   | 1,100           | 1,100             | 1,400           | 0                 | -300            |
| Financial activities                                  | 6,800           | 6,800             | 7,100           | 0                 | -300            |
| Professional and business services                    | 14,500          | 13,800            | 15,900          | 700               | -1,400          |
| Administrative and support services                   | 7,500           | 7,200             | 8,800           | 300               | -1,300          |
| Education and health services                         | 27,900          | 27,600            | 30,200          | 300               | -2,300          |
| Health care and social assistance                     | 25,100          | 24,900            | 26,700          | 200               | -1,600          |
| Leisure and hospitality                               | 13,200          | 13,000            | 15,700          | 200               | -2,500          |
| Accommodation and food services                       | 12,100          | 11,800            | 13,800          | 300               | -1,700          |
| Other services  | 5,100           | 5,100             | 5,500           | 0                 | -400            |
| Government  | 40,600          | 39,900            | 42,700          | 700               | -2,100          |
| Federal government                                    | 1,400           | 1,600             | 1,500           | -200              | -100            |
| State government                                      | 20,600          | 20,400            | 20,400          | 200               | 200             |
| State education                                       | 800             | 800               | 900             | 0                 | -100            |
| Local government                                      | 18,600          | 17,900            | 20,800          | 700               | -2,200          |
| Indian tribal   | 1,500           | 1,500             | 1,500           | 0                 | 0               |
| Local education                                       | 10,500          | 9,700             | 12,500          | 800               | -2,000          |

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.