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

### **Salem MSA's Unemployment Rate Increases to 6.3%**

The Salem MSA's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 6.3% in December, up from its revised rate of 5.9% in November. Oregon's statewide unemployment rate in December was 6.4%, up from its revised November rate of 6.0%.

Employment losses in the Salem MSA in December were larger than normal; total nonfarm employment decreased by 2,600 jobs, when an employment decline of 1,400 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment decreased 1,200 jobs, or -0.7%, between November and December. Employment is 8% or 13,900 jobs below the level in February, after sharp job losses in the spring.

Industries in the private sector that showed employment gains in December include: retail trade (+100 jobs, 0.5%); financial activities (+100, 1.5%); and transportation, warehousing, and utilities (+200, 2.9%).

Private-sector job losses occurred in: food manufacturing: (-200 jobs, -6.1%); professional and business services (-200, -1.4%); construction (-200, -1.6%); and leisure and hospitality (-1,300, -9.9%).

Government shed 600 jobs in December. Local government and state government each dropped by 300 jobs in December.

### **Next Press Releases**

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the January county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, March 9 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data on Tuesday, March 2.



Workforce &amp; Economic Research Division

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## Salem MSA Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	December 2020	November 2020	December 2019	November 2020	December 2019
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	197,960	199,098	199,689	-1,138	-1,729
Unemployed	11,467	10,365	6,187	1,102	5,280
Unemployment rate	5.8%	5.2%	3.1%	0.6	2.7
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	6.3%	5.9%	3.4%	0.4	2.9
Employed	186,493	188,733	193,502	-2,240	-7,009
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	160,800	163,400	174,700	-2,600	-13,900
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	159,800	161,000	174,200	-1,200	-14,400
Total private	121,000	123,000	132,200	-2,000	-11,200
Mining, logging, and construction	12,900	13,100	13,100	-200	-200
Mining and logging	600	600	600	0	0
Construction	12,300	12,500	12,500	-200	-200
Manufacturing	11,500	11,700	12,500	-200	-1,000
Durable goods	6,000	6,000	6,200	0	-200
Nondurable goods	5,500	5,700	6,300	-200	-800
Food manufacturing	3,100	3,300	4,000	-200	-900
Trade, transportation, and utilities	29,700	29,500	30,600	200	-900
Wholesale trade	3,900	4,000	4,200	-100	-300
Retail trade	18,700	18,600	19,600	100	-900
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	7,100	6,900	6,800	200	300
Information	1,100	1,100	1,400	0	-300
Financial activities	6,900	6,800	7,200	100	-300
Professional and business services	14,300	14,500	16,200	-200	-1,900
Administrative and support services	7,500	7,500	9,100	0	-1,600
Education and health services	27,700	28,100	30,000	-400	-2,300
Health care and social assistance	25,300	25,400	26,800	-100	-1,500
Leisure and hospitality	11,800	13,100	15,700	-1,300	-3,900
Accommodation and food services	10,900	12,100	13,900	-1,200	-3,000
Other services	5,100	5,100	5,500	0	-400
Government	39,800	40,400	42,500	-600	-2,700
Federal government	1,300	1,300	1,500	0	-200
State government	20,100	20,400	20,300	-300	-200
State education	800	800	900	0	-100
Local government	18,400	18,700	20,700	-300	-2,300
Indian tribal	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	0
Local education	10,400	10,500	12,500	-100	-2,100

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.