

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 20, 2021

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## **Employment in Salem MSA (Marion and Polk Counties): March 2021**

### **Salem MSA's Unemployment Rate Remains at 5.8%**

The Salem MSA's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.8% in March, essentially unchanged from its revised rate of 5.9% in February. Oregon's statewide unemployment rate in March was 6.0%, essentially unchanged from its revised February rate of 6.1%.

Employment gains in the Salem MSA in March were larger than normal; total nonfarm employment increased by 2,300 jobs, when an employment gain of 800 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment increased 1,500 jobs, or 0.9%, between February and March. Employment is still 3.7% or 6,400 jobs below the level in February 2020, after sharp job losses in the spring of 2020.

Industries in the private sector that showed the largest employment gains in March include: leisure and hospitality (+1,900 jobs, 15.0%); construction (+400, 3.3%); and other services (+100, 2.0%).

Private-sector job losses occurred in: retail trade (-300, -1.6%); manufacturing (-200 jobs, -1.7%); and professional and business services (-200, -1.4%).

Government added 500 jobs in March. Local government employment increased 200 while state government employment added 300 jobs in March.

### **Next Press Releases**

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the April county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, May 25 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data on Tuesday, May 18.



Workforce &amp; Economic Research Division

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## Salem MSA Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	March 2021	February 2021	March 2020	February 2021	March 2020
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	209,523	207,516	201,104	2,007	8,419
Unemployed	12,833	13,200	8,931	-367	3,902
Unemployment rate	6.1%	6.4%	4.4%	-0.3	1.7
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.8%	5.9%	3.5%	-0.1	2.3
Employed	196,690	194,316	192,173	2,374	4,517
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	167,200	164,900	172,700	2,300	-5,500
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>168,000</i>	<i>166,500</i>	<i>173,900</i>	<i>1,500</i>	<i>-5,900</i>
Total private	125,900	124,100	129,900	1,800	-4,000
Mining, logging, and construction	13,200	12,800	12,900	400	300
Mining and logging	600	600	600	0	0
Construction	12,600	12,200	12,300	400	300
Manufacturing	11,300	11,500	11,900	-200	-600
Durable goods	5,800	5,900	6,100	-100	-300
Nondurable goods	5,500	5,600	5,800	-100	-300
Food manufacturing	3,500	3,600	3,600	-100	-100
Trade, transportation, and utilities	28,900	29,100	28,900	-200	0
Wholesale trade	4,000	4,000	4,200	0	-200
Retail trade	18,000	18,300	18,500	-300	-500
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	6,900	6,800	6,200	100	700
Information	1,500	1,500	1,400	0	100
Financial activities	6,800	6,900	7,000	-100	-200
Professional and business services	14,400	14,600	15,500	-200	-1,100
Administrative and support services	7,600	7,600	8,400	0	-800
Education and health services	30,200	30,100	31,800	100	-1,600
Health care and social assistance	26,800	26,700	28,000	100	-1,200
Leisure and hospitality	14,600	12,700	15,200	1,900	-600
Accommodation and food services	13,500	11,800	13,500	1,700	0
Other services	5,000	4,900	5,300	100	-300
Government	41,300	40,800	42,800	500	-1,500
Federal government	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	0
State government	20,900	20,600	20,500	300	400
State education	900	900	900	0	0
Local government	18,900	18,700	20,800	200	-1,900
Indian tribal	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	0
Local education	10,900	10,700	12,600	200	-1,700

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.