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CONTACT INFORMATION:

Patrick O'Connor, Regional Economist

[Patrick.s.oconnor@employ.oregon.gov](mailto:Patrick.s.oconnor@employ.oregon.gov)

(503) 400-4374

## **Employment in Corvallis MSA (Benton County): January 2026**

### **Benton County's Unemployment Rate Increases to 4.6%**

Benton County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.6% in January, up from its revised unemployment rate of 4.5% in December. Benton County's unemployment rate has increased from 3.9% to 4.6% over the past year. Oregon's statewide seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in January was 5.2%.

Benton County's employment losses in January were slightly less than normal; total nonfarm employment was down 700 during the month, when an employment decrease of 670 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment was up 30 between December and January. Seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment is now up 2.8% from the level in February 2020, or 1,230 jobs above its pre-pandemic level.

Over the past year Benton County's seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment has shed 500 jobs or -1.1%.

The private sector overall lost 270 jobs over the month. Trade, transportation, and utilities shed 100 jobs in January. Professional and business services employment also declined 100 jobs.

Public sector employment declined by 430 in January. Local government employment decreased by 400. Federal government shed 30 jobs. State government employment was unchanged in January.

### **Next Press Releases**

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the February county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, April 21 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data on Wednesday, April 15.



Workforce &amp; Economic Research Division

QualityInfo.org

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## Corvallis MSA (Benton County) Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	January 2026	December 2025	January 2025	December 2025	January 2025
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	49,940	50,565	50,297	-625	-357
Unemployed	2,385	2,215	2,170	170	215
Unemployment rate	4.8%	4.4%	4.3%	0.4	0.5
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.6%	4.5%	3.9%	0.1	0.7
Employed	47,555	48,350	48,127	-795	-572
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	44,610	45,310	45,140	-700	-530
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	44,750	44,720	45,250	30	-500
Total private	28,250	28,520	28,570	-270	-320
Mining, logging, and construction	1,460	1,480	1,450	-20	10
Manufacturing	2,520	2,530	2,600	-10	-80
Trade, transportation, and utilities	4,530	4,630	4,650	-100	-120
Information	560	570	600	-10	-40
Financial activities	1,480	1,490	1,510	-10	-30
Professional and business services	4,360	4,460	4,490	-100	-130
Private education and health services	7,660	7,660	7,630	0	30
Health care and social assistance	7,320	7,310	7,270	10	50
Leisure and hospitality	4,160	4,200	4,160	-40	0
Other services	1,520	1,500	1,480	20	40
Government	16,360	16,790	16,570	-430	-210
Federal government	390	420	500	-30	-110
State government	330	330	330	0	0
State education	NA	NA	10	NA	NA
Local government	15,640	16,040	15,740	-400	-100
Local education	14,170	14,570	14,320	-400	-150

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 [QualityInfo.org](http://QualityInfo.org), select Tools, and choose LAUS or CES from the dropdown menu. 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 help finding jobs and training resources, go to: [www.WorkSourceOregon.org](http://www.WorkSourceOregon.org).

The Oregon Employment Department (OED) is an equal opportunity agency. Everyone has a right to use OED programs and services. OED provides free help. Some examples are: Sign language and spoken language interpreters, written materials in other languages, braille, large print, audio and other formats. If you need help, please call 971-673-6400. TTY users call 711. You can also ask for help at [OED\\_Communications@employ.oregon.gov](mailto:OED_Communications@employ.oregon.gov).

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