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

### **Benton County's Unemployment Rate Declines to 4.4%**

Benton County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.4% in March, down from its revised unemployment rate of 4.6% in February. Benton County's unemployment rate has increased from 4.0% to 4.4% over the past year. Oregon's statewide seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in March was 5.2%.

Benton County's employment gains in March were slightly less than normal; total nonfarm employment was up 170 during the month, when an employment increase of 180 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment was down 10 between February and March. Seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment is now up 2.3% from the level in February 2020, or 1,010 jobs above its pre-pandemic level.

Over the past year Benton County's seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment has shed 470 jobs or -1.0%.

The private sector overall added 40 jobs over the month. Leisure and hospitality added 40 jobs in March. Professional and business services and information each gained 10 jobs in March.

Public sector employment increased by 130 in March. Local government employment increased by 130. State and federal government employment were both unchanged in March.

### **Next Press Releases**

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the April county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Wednesday, May 27 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data on Wednesday, May 20.



Workforce &amp; Economic Research Division

QualityInfo.org

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

	--Change From--				
	March 2026	February 2026	March 2025	February 2026	March 2025
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	50,467	50,574	50,699	-107	-232
Unemployed	2,035	2,322	2,068	-287	-33
Unemployment rate	4.0%	4.6%	4.1%	-0.6	-0.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.4%	4.6%	4.0%	-0.2	0.4
Employed	48,432	48,252	48,631	180	-199
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	45,180	45,010	45,720	170	-540
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	44,530	44,540	45,000	-10	-470
Total private	28,280	28,240	28,600	40	-320
Mining, logging, and construction	1,470	1,470	1,440	0	30
Manufacturing	2,520	2,520	2,580	0	-60
Trade, transportation, and utilities	4,530	4,530	4,670	0	-140
Information	560	550	570	10	-10
Financial activities	1,470	1,480	1,510	-10	-40
Professional and business services	4,370	4,360	4,470	10	-100
Private education and health services	7,680	7,680	7,610	0	70
Health care and social assistance	7,330	7,330	7,250	0	80
Leisure and hospitality	4,180	4,140	4,290	40	-110
Other services	1,500	1,510	1,460	-10	40
Government	16,900	16,770	17,120	130	-220
Federal government	390	390	490	0	-100
State government	330	330	320	0	10
State education	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Local government	16,180	16,050	16,310	130	-130
Local education	14,690	14,590	14,840	100	-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, 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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