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CONTACT INFORMATION:
Guy Tauer, Regional Economist
Guy.R.Tauer@employ.oregon.gov
(541) 816-8396

Employment in Jackson County: December 2025

Payroll Employment Slips Slightly Over the Year

Total payroll employment in Jackson County fell by 320 jobs in December. Seasonally typical declines were estimated in construction (-200), and leisure and hospitality (-90). Jobs were also lost in manufacturing (-40); and transportation, warehousing, and utilities (-30). December saw job gains in retail trade (+90), and private education and health services (+60). Government employment fell by 80 jobs over the month with losses in local government education (-50) and federal government (-20) making up the bulk of the loss.

Over the past year payroll employment in the Medford MSA (Jackson County) fell by 270 jobs, for a loss of -0.3%. Private education and health services posted the largest gain, adding 620 jobs. Job growth was also estimated in wholesale trade (+80), and leisure and hospitality (+60). Industries with job losses since December 2024 included transportation, warehousing, and utilities (-140); financial activities (-130); professional and business services (-120); and retail trade (-100). Government employment fell by 360 jobs over the year with losses in local government education (-280), federal government (-60), and state government (-30).

Jackson County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was estimated at 5.9% in December, unchanged from November and up slightly from 5.0% in December 2024.

Next Press Releases

We are awaiting notification from the Bureau of Labor Statistics regarding publication dates for the rest of the year and will update our [schedule of future releases](#) as dates become available.

Notes:

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. These preliminary estimates of jobs and other labor force data are produced in cooperation with the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics, are based largely on a survey of businesses and a survey of households, and are subject to later revision.

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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.

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.

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Workforce & Economic Research Division

QualityInfo.org

January 27, 2026

Medford-Ashland MSA (Jackson County) Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

| | --Change From-- | | | | |
|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | December 2025 | November 2025 | December 2024 | November 2025 | December 2024 |
| Labor Force Status | | | | | |
| Civilian labor force | 105,355 | 107,296 | 104,583 | -1,941 | 772 |
| Unemployed | 5,846 | 5,592 | 4,938 | 254 | 908 |
| Unemployment rate | 5.5% | 5.2% | 4.7% | 0.3 | 0.8 |
| <i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i> | <i>5.9%</i> | <i>5.9%</i> | <i>5.0%</i> | <i>0.0</i> | <i>0.9</i> |
| Employed | 99,509 | 101,704 | 99,645 | -2,195 | -136 |
| Nonfarm Payroll Employment | | | | | |
| Total nonfarm employment | 90,810 | 91,130 | 91,080 | -320 | -270 |
| Total private | 78,880 | 79,120 | 78,790 | -240 | 90 |
| Mining, logging, and construction | 5,640 | 5,840 | 5,770 | -200 | -130 |
| Mining and logging | 450 | 450 | 450 | 0 | 0 |
| Construction | 5,190 | 5,390 | 5,320 | -200 | -130 |
| Manufacturing | 6,620 | 6,660 | 6,640 | -40 | -20 |
| Trade, transportation, and utilities | 19,900 | 19,820 | 20,060 | 80 | -160 |
| Wholesale trade | 2,600 | 2,580 | 2,520 | 20 | 80 |
| Retail trade | 13,700 | 13,610 | 13,800 | 90 | -100 |
| Transportation, warehousing, and utilities | 3,600 | 3,630 | 3,740 | -30 | -140 |
| Information | 860 | 860 | 890 | 0 | -30 |
| Financial activities | 3,560 | 3,570 | 3,690 | -10 | -130 |
| Professional and business services | 8,180 | 8,200 | 8,300 | -20 | -120 |
| Private education and health services | 20,830 | 20,770 | 20,210 | 60 | 620 |
| Health care and social assistance | 19,320 | 19,290 | 19,160 | 30 | 160 |
| Leisure and hospitality | 10,590 | 10,680 | 10,530 | -90 | 60 |
| Accommodation and food services | 9,050 | 9,110 | 8,940 | -60 | 110 |
| Other services | 2,700 | 2,720 | 2,700 | -20 | 0 |
| Government | 11,930 | 12,010 | 12,290 | -80 | -360 |
| Federal government | 1,850 | 1,870 | 1,910 | -20 | -60 |
| State government | 1,310 | 1,310 | 1,340 | 0 | -30 |
| State education | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Local government | 8,770 | 8,830 | 9,040 | -60 | -270 |
| Local education | 5,520 | 5,570 | 5,800 | -50 | -280 |

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.

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