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CONTACT INFORMATION:
Patrick O'Connor, Regional Economist
Patrick.s.oconnor@employ.oregon.gov
(503) 400-4374

Employment in Salem MSA (Marion and Polk Counties): November 2025

Salem MSA's Unemployment Rate is 4.6%

The Salem MSA's unadjusted unemployment rate was 4.6% in November, unemployment rates for October are unavailable at this time. The Salem MSA's unemployment rate has increased from 3.9% to 4.6% over the past year. Oregon's statewide unadjusted unemployment rate in November was 4.9%.

Employment gains in the Salem MSA in November were larger than normal; total nonfarm employment increased by 300 jobs, when an employment decrease of 200 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment was up 500 between October and November. With November's gains, employment is up 9.2% or 16,100 jobs above the pre-pandemic employment level in February 2020.

Overall, the private sector shed 300 jobs in November. The largest private-sector job losses in November were reported in construction (-500 jobs, -1.7%). Nondurable goods manufacturing shed 200 jobs in November.

The public sector added 600 jobs in November. Local government was up 500 jobs in November. State government employment was up 100 jobs. Federal government employment was unchanged.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the December county and metropolitan area unemployment rates and employment survey data on Tuesday, Jan. 27, and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for December on Thursday, Jan. 22.



Salem MSA Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	November 2025	October 2025	November 2024	--Change From--	
				October 2025	November 2024
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	230,881	NA	224,729	NA	6,152
Unemployed	10,679	NA	8,762	NA	1,917
Unemployment rate	4.6%	NA	3.9%	NA	0.7
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>					
Employed	220,202	NA	215,967	NA	4,235
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	193,000	192,700	186,200	300	6,800
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>190,600</i>	<i>190,100</i>	<i>185,000</i>	<i>500</i>	<i>5,600</i>
Total private	146,300	146,600	140,500	-300	5,800
Mining, logging, and construction	13,600	14,100	13,600	-500	0
Mining and logging	600	600	600	0	0
Construction	13,000	13,500	13,000	-500	0
Manufacturing	11,900	12,100	11,600	-200	300
Durable goods	6,000	6,000	6,000	0	0
Nondurable goods	5,900	6,100	5,600	-200	300
Food manufacturing	4,000	4,100	3,700	-100	300
Trade, transportation, and utilities	31,100	30,700	30,400	400	700
Wholesale trade	4,000	4,000	4,100	0	-100
Retail trade	18,900	18,600	18,900	300	0
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	8,200	8,100	7,400	100	800
Information	1,700	1,700	1,800	0	-100
Financial activities	6,200	6,200	6,200	0	0
Professional and business services	20,100	20,100	18,600	0	1,500
Administrative and support services	10,100	10,100	10,000	0	100
Private education and health services	39,700	39,800	36,900	-100	2,800
Health care and social assistance	35,800	35,900	32,900	-100	2,900
Leisure and hospitality	16,200	16,200	15,700	0	500
Accommodation and food services	14,400	14,400	14,200	0	200
Other services	5,800	5,700	5,700	100	100
Government	46,700	46,100	45,700	600	1,000
Federal government	1,400	1,400	1,600	0	-200
State government	23,700	23,600	23,300	100	400
State education	1,100	1,100	1,100	0	0
Local government	21,600	21,100	20,800	500	800
Indian tribal	1,800	1,800	1,700	0	100
Local education	12,800	12,300	11,900	500	900

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 Salem MSA includes Marion and Polk counties.

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/. 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.

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