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Employment in Corvallis MSA (Benton County): May 2026

Benton County's Unemployment Rate Remains at 4.2%

Benton County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.2% in May, matching its revised unemployment rate of 4.2% in April. Benton County's unemployment rate has increased from 3.9% to 4.2% over the past year. Oregon's statewide seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in May was 5.2%.

Benton County's employment gains in May were less than normal; total nonfarm employment was up 50 during the month, when an employment increase of 110 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment was down 60 between April and May. Seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment is now up 2.7% from the level in February 2020, or 1,190 jobs above its pre-pandemic level.

Over the past year Benton County's seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment has shed 260 jobs or -0.6%.

The private sector overall added 190 jobs over the month. Leisure and hospitality added 100 jobs in May. Other services gained 50 jobs in May.

Public sector employment decreased by 140 in May. Local government employment decreased by 150. State and federal government employment were both unchanged in May.

Next Press Releases

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



Workforce & Economic Research Division

QualityInfo.org

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

	--Change From--				
	May 2026	April 2026	May 2025	April 2026	May 2025
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	50,706	50,350	50,726	356	-20
Unemployed	2,057	1,732	2,042	325	15
Unemployment rate	4.1%	3.4%	4.0%	0.7	0.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.2%	4.2%	4.1%	0.0	0.1
Employed	48,649	48,618	48,684	31	-35
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	45,570	45,520	46,140	50	-570
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	44,710	44,770	44,970	-60	-260
Total private	28,740	28,550	28,880	190	-140
Mining, logging, and construction	1,460	1,460	1,440	0	20
Manufacturing	2,490	2,490	2,550	0	-60
Trade, transportation, and utilities	4,560	4,570	4,760	-10	-200
Information	570	570	570	0	0
Financial activities	1,500	1,480	1,520	20	-20
Professional and business services	4,220	4,190	4,490	30	-270
Private education and health services	7,920	7,920	7,640	0	280
Health care and social assistance	7,540	7,550	7,260	-10	280
Leisure and hospitality	4,410	4,310	4,380	100	30
Other services	1,610	1,560	1,530	50	80
Government	16,830	16,970	17,260	-140	-430
Federal government	390	380	480	10	-90
State government	330	330	320	0	10
State education	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Local government	16,110	16,260	16,460	-150	-350
Local education	14,570	14,760	14,920	-190	-350

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/. 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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