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Employment in Salem MSA (Marion and Polk Counties): June 2026

Salem MSA's Unemployment Rate Remains at 4.9%

The Salem MSA's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.9% in June, unchanged from May's revised unemployment rate of 4.9%. The Salem MSA's unemployment rate has been essentially unchanged, decreasing from 5.0% to 4.9% over the past year. Oregon's statewide seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in June was 5.2%.

Employment gains in the Salem MSA in June were more than normal; total nonfarm employment increased by 1,200 jobs, when an employment decrease of 100 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment increased 1,300 between May and June. Employment is up 10.5% or 18,300 jobs above the pre-pandemic employment level in February 2020.

Over the past year the Salem MSA's seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment is up 4,500 jobs or +2.4%.

Overall, the private sector added 1,400 jobs in June. The largest private-sector job gains in June were reported in professional and business services (+700 jobs, +3.8%); health care and social assistance (+300 jobs, +0.9%); and leisure and hospitality (+200 jobs, +1.2%).

The public sector overall shed 200 jobs in June. Federal government was down 100 jobs in June. Local government employment decreased 200. State government employment increased 100 in June.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the July county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, Aug. 25 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data on Wednesday, Aug. 19.



Workforce & Economic Research Division

QualityInfo.org

July 21, 2026

Salem MSA Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	June 2026	May 2026	June 2025	May 2026	June 2025
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	231,701	228,392	228,300	3,309	3,401
Unemployed	11,955	10,563	11,631	1,392	324
Unemployment rate	5.2%	4.6%	5.1%	0.6	0.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>4.9%</i>	<i>4.9%</i>	<i>5.0%</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>-0.1</i>
Employed	219,746	217,829	216,669	1,917	3,077
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	193,800	192,600	190,600	1,200	3,200
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>192,800</i>	<i>191,500</i>	<i>188,300</i>	<i>1,300</i>	<i>4,500</i>
Total private	146,500	145,100	143,600	1,400	2,900
Mining, logging, and construction	13,400	13,200	13,700	200	-300
Mining and logging	600	600	600	0	0
Construction	12,800	12,600	13,100	200	-300
Manufacturing	11,300	11,300	12,000	0	-700
Durable goods	5,900	5,900	6,000	0	-100
Nondurable goods	5,400	5,400	6,000	0	-600
Food manufacturing	3,600	3,600	4,100	0	-500
Trade, transportation, and utilities	32,700	32,500	30,300	200	2,400
Wholesale trade	4,000	4,000	4,100	0	-100
Retail trade	18,200	18,100	18,400	100	-200
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	10,500	10,400	7,800	100	2,700
Information	1,800	1,800	1,700	0	100
Financial activities	6,700	6,700	6,700	0	0
Professional and business services	19,100	18,400	19,000	700	100
Private education and health services	38,900	38,800	37,700	100	1,200
Health care and social assistance	35,400	35,100	34,600	300	800
Leisure and hospitality	16,600	16,400	16,800	200	-200
Other services	6,000	6,000	5,700	0	300
Government	47,300	47,500	47,000	-200	300
Federal government	1,400	1,500	1,500	-100	-100
State government	23,900	23,800	24,000	100	-100
State education	1,100	1,100	1,100	0	0
Local government	22,000	22,200	21,500	-200	500
Indian tribal	1,800	1,800	1,800	0	0
Local education	13,000	13,300	12,400	-300	600

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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