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## **Employment in Josephine County: February 2024** **Retail Trade, and Leisure and Hospitality Have Largest Job Declines Over the Year**

Total payroll employment in Josephine County rose by 30 jobs in February, with little change over the month in most industries. Construction added 20 jobs over the month but had essentially no change over the year. Retail trade was the only other published industry to show slight change, down by 20 jobs in February. Government employment was essentially flat over the month as well.

Over the past year, payroll employment in the Grants Pass MSA (Josephine County) slipped by 100 jobs, a decrease of -0.4%. Industries adding jobs since February 2023 included private education and health services (+310), and transportation, warehousing, and utilities (+10). Industries with estimated losses were retail trade (-160), leisure and hospitality (-110), professional and business services (-70), other services (-60), manufacturing (-50), wholesale trade (-50).

Government employment rose by 90 jobs over the year. Local government (+40), federal government (+40), and state government (+10) all added jobs since February 2023. Josephine County payroll employment is now 670 jobs below the February 2020 total prior to the pandemic.

Josephine County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was estimated at 4.1% in February, edging up from 3.9% in January and down from the February 2023 rate of 5.2%.

### **Next Press Releases**

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the March county and metropolitan area unemployment rates and employment survey data on Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for March on Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>.

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.

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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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Workforce &amp; Economic Research Division

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### Grants Pass MSA (Josephine County) Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	February 2024	January 2024	February 2023	January 2024	February 2023
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	36,210	36,123	35,822	87	388
Unemployed	2,315	2,416	2,095	-101	220
Unemployment rate	6.4%	6.7%	5.8%	-0.3	0.6
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.3%	5.1%	6.4%	0.2	-1.1
Employed	33,895	33,707	33,727	188	168
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	26,680	26,650	26,780	30	-100
Total private	23,220	23,180	23,410	40	-190
Mining, logging, and construction	1,250	1,220	1,250	30	0
Mining and logging	90	80	80	10	10
Construction	1,160	1,140	1,170	20	-10
Manufacturing	2,890	2,910	2,940	-20	-50
Wood product manufacturing	560	560	570	0	-10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	5,220	5,210	5,430	10	-210
Wholesale trade	610	610	670	0	-60
Retail trade	4,080	4,060	4,240	20	-160
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	530	540	520	-10	10
Information	240	240	240	0	0
Financial activities	1,590	1,590	1,590	0	0
Professional and business services	1,820	1,810	1,890	10	-70
Private education and health services	6,010	6,010	5,700	0	310
Leisure and hospitality	3,260	3,250	3,370	10	-110
Other services	940	940	1,000	0	-60
Government	3,460	3,470	3,370	-10	90
Federal government	270	260	230	10	40
State government	430	440	420	-10	10
Local government	2,760	2,770	2,720	-10	40
Local education	1,870	1,870	1,830	0	40
Local government excluding educational services	890	900	890	-10	0

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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