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## **Employment in Salem MSA (Marion and Polk Counties): September 2023**

### **Salem MSA's Unemployment Rate Remains at 3.5%**

The Salem MSA's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 3.5% in September, unchanged from its revised rate of 3.5% in August. Oregon's statewide unemployment rate in September was 3.5%, up from its revised August rate of 3.4%.

Employment gains in the Salem MSA in September were normal; total nonfarm employment increased by 1,600 jobs, when an employment increase of 1,600 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment was unchanged between August and September. With September's gains, employment is up 3.1% or 5,400 jobs above the pre-pandemic employment level in February 2020.

Overall the private sector shed 600 jobs in September. The largest private-sector job losses in September were reported in construction (-300 jobs, -2.1%); food manufacturing (-200 jobs, -4.9%); and leisure and hospitality (-200 jobs, -1.2%).

Private-sector job gains in September were reported in private education and health services (+200 jobs, +0.6%); transportation, warehousing, and utilities (+100 jobs, +1.5%); and administrative and support services (+100 jobs, +1.1%).

The public sector added 2,200 jobs in September. Local government was up 2,200 jobs in September. State government and federal government employment were both unchanged in September.

### **Next Press Releases**

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the October county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, Nov. 21 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data will be released on Wednesday, Nov. 15.



Workforce &amp; Economic Research Division

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## Salem MSA Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	September 2023	August 2023	September 2022	August 2023	September 2022
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	212,300	213,441	216,889	-1,141	-4,589
Unemployed	7,316	8,148	9,191	-832	-1,875
Unemployment rate	3.4%	3.8%	4.2%	-0.4	-0.8
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.5%	3.5%	4.7%	0.0	-1.2
Employed	204,984	205,293	207,698	-309	-2,714
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	180,600	179,000	177,900	1,600	2,700
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	180,000	180,000	177,300	0	2,700
Total private	137,500	138,100	135,000	-600	2,500
Mining, logging, and construction	14,600	14,900	14,300	-300	300
Mining and logging	700	700	600	0	100
Construction	13,900	14,200	13,700	-300	200
Manufacturing	12,200	12,400	12,500	-200	-300
Durable goods	6,000	6,000	6,100	0	-100
Nondurable goods	6,200	6,400	6,400	-200	-200
Food manufacturing	3,900	4,100	3,900	-200	0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	29,200	29,200	30,300	0	-1,100
Wholesale trade	4,200	4,200	4,100	0	100
Retail trade	18,400	18,500	19,100	-100	-700
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	6,600	6,500	7,100	100	-500
Information	1,700	1,700	1,700	0	0
Financial activities	6,700	6,700	6,800	0	-100
Professional and business services	17,700	17,800	16,100	-100	1,600
Administrative and support services	9,300	9,200	8,300	100	1,000
Private education and health services	33,600	33,400	31,600	200	2,000
Health care and social assistance	29,200	29,400	28,000	-200	1,200
Leisure and hospitality	16,300	16,500	16,200	-200	100
Accommodation and food services	14,700	14,800	14,500	-100	200
Other services	5,500	5,500	5,500	0	0
Government	43,100	40,900	42,900	2,200	200
Federal government	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	0
State government	21,500	21,500	21,800	0	-300
State education	1,100	1,100	1,000	0	100
Local government	20,100	17,900	19,600	2,200	500
Indian tribal	1,600	1,600	1,600	0	0
Local education	11,200	8,900	11,100	2,300	100

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/](http://www.qualityinfo.org/press-release/). To obtain the data in other formats such as in Excel, visit [QualityInfo.org](http://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](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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