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Employment in Salem MSA (Marion and Polk Counties): December 2023

Salem MSA's Unemployment Rate Increases to 3.8%

The Salem MSA's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 3.8% in December, up from its revised rate of 3.6% in November. Oregon's statewide unemployment rate in December was 3.7%, edging up from its revised November rate of 3.6%.

Employment losses in the Salem MSA in December were less than normal; total nonfarm employment decreased by 600 jobs, when an employment decrease of 1,300 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment was up 700 between November and December. With December's gains, employment is up 5.5% or 9,600 jobs above the pre-pandemic employment level in February 2020.

Overall, the private sector shed 500 jobs in December. The largest private-sector job gains in December were reported in leisure and hospitality (+300 jobs, +1.9%) and health care and social assistance (+200 jobs, +0.7%).

Private-sector job losses in December were reported in professional and business services (-600 jobs, -3.3%); food manufacturing (-200 jobs, -5.7%); and construction (-200 jobs, -1.5%).

The public sector shed 100 jobs in December. Local government was up 200 jobs in December. State government employment was down 300 and federal government employment was unchanged in December.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the January county and metropolitan area unemployment rates and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data on Tuesday, March 5.



Workforce & Economic Research Division

QualityInfo.org

January 23, 2024

Salem MSA Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	December 2023	November 2023	December 2022	November 2023	December 2022
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	212,066	213,153	213,415	-1,087	-1,349
Unemployed	8,313	7,311	9,659	1,002	-1,346
Unemployment rate	3.9%	3.4%	4.5%	0.5	-0.6
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.8%	3.6%	4.7%	0.2	-0.9
Employed	203,753	205,842	203,756	-2,089	-3
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	184,000	184,600	179,800	-600	4,200
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	184,200	183,500	179,200	700	5,000
Total private	139,000	139,500	135,400	-500	3,600
Mining, logging, and construction	14,100	14,300	13,600	-200	500
Mining and logging	600	600	600	0	0
Construction	13,500	13,700	13,000	-200	500
Manufacturing	11,600	11,800	12,000	-200	-400
Durable goods	6,100	6,100	6,100	0	0
Nondurable goods	5,500	5,700	5,900	-200	-400
Food manufacturing	3,300	3,500	3,600	-200	-300
Trade, transportation, and utilities	30,400	30,400	30,800	0	-400
Wholesale trade	4,200	4,200	4,200	0	0
Retail trade	18,700	18,800	19,500	-100	-800
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	7,500	7,400	7,100	100	400
Information	1,700	1,700	1,700	0	0
Financial activities	6,700	6,700	6,800	0	-100
Professional and business services	17,600	18,200	16,900	-600	700
Administrative and support services	9,200	9,200	9,000	0	200
Private education and health services	34,900	34,700	32,600	200	2,300
Health care and social assistance	30,200	30,000	28,700	200	1,500
Leisure and hospitality	16,300	16,000	15,400	300	900
Accommodation and food services	14,500	14,200	14,000	300	500
Other services	5,700	5,700	5,600	0	100
Government	45,000	45,100	44,400	-100	600
Federal government	1,500	1,500	1,400	0	100
State government	22,300	22,600	22,000	-300	300
State education	1,200	1,200	1,100	0	100
Local government	21,200	21,000	21,000	200	200
Indian tribal	1,600	1,600	1,600	0	0
Local education	12,400	12,200	12,400	200	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.

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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