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## **Employment in Salem MSA (Marion and Polk Counties): February 2024**

### **Salem MSA's Unemployment Rate Increases to 4.1%**

The Salem MSA's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.1% in February, up from its revised rate of 3.9% in January. Oregon's statewide unemployment rate in February was 4.2%, edging up from its revised January rate of 4.1%.

Employment gains in the Salem MSA in February were more than normal; total nonfarm employment increased by 2,300 jobs, when an employment increase of 1,300 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment was up 1,000 between January and February. With February's gains, employment is up 4.7% or 8,200 jobs above the pre-pandemic employment level in February 2020.

Overall, the private sector added 1,800 jobs in February. The largest private-sector job gains in February were reported in professional and business services (+800 jobs, +4.6%); private education and health services (+700 jobs, +2.1%); and construction (+300 jobs, +2.3%).

The public sector added 500 jobs in February. Local government was up 400 jobs in February. State government employment was up 100 and federal government employment was unchanged in February.

### **Next Press Releases**

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



Workforce &amp; Economic Research Division

QualityInfo.org

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## Salem MSA 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	216,713	213,128	210,941	3,585	5,772
Unemployed	10,630	10,391	8,767	239	1,863
Unemployment rate	4.9%	4.9%	4.2%	0.0	0.7
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>4.1%</i>	<i>3.9%</i>	<i>4.7%</i>	<i>0.2</i>	<i>-0.6</i>
Employed	206,083	202,737	202,174	3,346	3,909
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	181,600	179,300	178,800	2,300	2,800
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>182,800</i>	<i>181,800</i>	<i>180,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>2,800</i>
Total private	136,300	134,500	134,800	1,800	1,500
Mining, logging, and construction	13,700	13,400	13,400	300	300
Mining and logging	600	600	600	0	0
Construction	13,100	12,800	12,800	300	300
Manufacturing	11,700	11,700	11,800	0	-100
Durable goods	6,000	6,000	6,000	0	0
Nondurable goods	5,700	5,700	5,800	0	-100
Food manufacturing	3,600	3,500	3,500	100	100
Trade, transportation, and utilities	29,000	29,100	29,700	-100	-700
Wholesale trade	4,000	4,000	4,100	0	-100
Retail trade	18,200	18,300	18,900	-100	-700
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	6,800	6,800	6,700	0	100
Information	1,700	1,700	1,700	0	0
Financial activities	6,400	6,400	6,700	0	-300
Professional and business services	18,100	17,300	17,300	800	800
Administrative and support services	8,400	8,100	9,000	300	-600
Private education and health services	34,600	33,900	33,300	700	1,300
Health care and social assistance	30,600	30,200	29,100	400	1,500
Leisure and hospitality	15,700	15,600	15,400	100	300
Accommodation and food services	13,800	13,700	13,900	100	-100
Other services	5,400	5,400	5,500	0	-100
Government	45,300	44,800	44,000	500	1,300
Federal government	1,500	1,500	1,400	0	100
State government	22,600	22,500	21,800	100	800
State education	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0
Local government	21,200	20,800	20,800	400	400
Indian tribal	1,600	1,600	1,500	0	100
Local education	12,400	12,000	12,300	400	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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