

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 30, 2021

CONTACT INFORMATION:
Patrick O'Connor, Regional Economist
Patrick.s.Oconnor@oregon.gov
(503) 400-4374

Employment in Corvallis MSA (Benton County): February 2021

Benton County's Unemployment Rate Stays at 4.9%

Benton County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.9% in February, unchanged from its revised rate of 4.9% in January. Oregon's statewide unemployment rate in February was 6.1%, essentially unchanged from its revised January rate of 6.2%.

Benton County's employment gains in February were smaller than normal; total nonfarm employment increased by 390 jobs, when an employment increase of 460 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment decreased 70 jobs, or 0.2%, between January and February. Seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment remains 10.0% below the level in February 2020, down 4,360 jobs after sharp job losses in the spring of 2020.

The private sector saw slight gains over the month. Leisure and hospitality added 40 jobs in February, while private education and health services added 30. Many of the sectors saw employment levels unchanged in February.

Employment losses were only seen in trade, transportation, and utilities, which shed 20 jobs, and financial activities employment, which declined by 10 in February.

The public sector added 340 jobs in February. Local government education, which includes both local school districts and OSU, added 320 jobs in February. State and federal government employment were both up 10 jobs in February.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the March county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, April 20 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data on Tuesday, April 13.



Workforce & Economic Research Division

QualityInfo.org

March 30, 2021

Corvallis MSA (Benton County) Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	February 2021	January 2021	February 2020	January 2021	February 2020
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	47,260	46,841	48,084	419	-824
Unemployed	2,399	2,427	1,315	-28	1,084
Unemployment rate	5.1%	5.2%	2.7%	-0.1	2.4
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.9%	4.9%	2.6%	0.0	2.3
Employed	44,861	44,414	46,769	447	-1,908
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	39,440	39,050	43,980	390	-4,540
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	39,060	39,130	43,420	-70	-4,360
Total private	26,200	26,150	28,710	50	-2,510
Mining, logging, and construction	1,400	1,400	1,450	0	-50
Manufacturing	2,820	2,820	2,990	0	-170
Durable goods	2,440	2,430	2,600	10	-160
Trade, transportation, and utilities	4,410	4,430	4,540	-20	-130
Information	540	540	610	0	-70
Financial activities	1,560	1,570	1,570	-10	-10
Professional and business services	4,060	4,050	4,360	10	-300
Education and health services	6,960	6,930	7,390	30	-430
Health care and social assistance	6,460	6,450	6,820	10	-360
Leisure and hospitality	3,170	3,130	4,390	40	-1,220
Other services	1,280	1,280	1,410	0	-130
Government	13,240	12,900	15,270	340	-2,030
Federal government	470	460	460	10	10
State government	240	230	240	10	0
State education	0	0	0	0	0
Local government	12,530	12,210	14,570	320	-2,040
Local education	11,050	10,730	13,120	320	-2,070

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 www.QualityInfo.org, select *Economic Data*, and choose *LAUS* or *CES*. To request the press release as a Word document, contact the person shown at the top of this press release.

You can subscribe to receive notification of new articles and publications from www.QualityInfo.org. To subscribe, go to www.qualityinfo.org/p-sofrm, enter your email address and click Sign In. In the Publication section, click on the + sign next to a report type category and then click on the geography(s) you are interested in. Take some time to browse the other publications on the page and see if there are some you would like to receive an email notification for. You can receive notifications on a daily, weekly, or monthly schedule – whichever is most convenient for you. You can change your selected preferences – or unsubscribe – at any time.

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 coronavirus questions related to employer and job seeker programs and services, visit https://govstatus.egov.com/ORUnemployment_COVID19. For help finding jobs and training resources, go to: www.WorkSourceOregon.org.

Equal Opportunity program — auxiliary aids and services available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Contact: (503) 947-1794. For the deaf and hard of hearing population, call 711 Telecommunications Relay Services.