

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 20, 2021

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Employment in Jackson County: March 2021 **Gains in Leisure and Hospitality Boost Payroll Employment**

Total payroll employment in Jackson County rose by 1,760 jobs in March. The gain was mostly due to an estimated increase of 1,260 jobs in leisure and hospitality. With vaccines in more arms, and easing of mandated restrictions such as allowing partial in-person dining to resume, this is giving consumers more impetus to resume some pre-pandemic activities and some businesses confidence to continue adding jobs. Other industries with notable employment gains in March were construction (+300); education and health services (+80); and manufacturing (+70). A couple industries posted slight job declines over the month. Those losing jobs were retail trade (-110) and professional and business services (-40).

Over the past year payroll employment in the Medford MSA (Jackson County) fell by 2,690, a drop of 3.0%. Most industries continue to show over-the-year losses in Jackson County with the exceptions being retail trade, which added 690 jobs, and transportation, warehousing, and utilities which rose by 110 jobs since March 2020. Leisure and hospitality accounts for over half of total job losses, down by 1,280 jobs from one year earlier. Other industries with declines include manufacturing (-280); other services (-280); professional and business services (-280); private education and health services (-220); financial activities (-130); wholesale trade (-120); information (-110); and construction (-60). Government employment fell by 600 jobs over the year with losses in local government education (-720) slightly offset by gains in federal government (+40) and state government employment (+20).

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the April county and metropolitan area unemployment rates and employment survey data on Tuesday, May 25th, and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for April on Tuesday, May 18th.

Notes:

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. These preliminary estimates of jobs and other labor force data are produced in cooperation with the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics, are based largely on a survey of businesses and a survey of households, and are subject to later revision.

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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.

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.

Data and analysis related to COVID-19 can be found here: <https://www.qualityinfo.org/covid-19>

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Workforce & Economic Research Division

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Medford-Ashland MSA (Jackson County) Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	March 2021	February 2021	March 2020	February 2021	March 2020
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	109,071	107,613	104,001	1,458	5,070
Unemployed	7,344	7,343	5,221	1	2,123
Unemployment rate	6.7%	6.8%	5.0%	-0.1	1.7
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	6.1%	6.2%	3.8%	-0.1	2.3
Employed	101,727	100,270	98,780	1,457	2,947
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	87,300	85,540	89,990	1,760	-2,690
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>88,100</i>	<i>86,640</i>	<i>91,050</i>	<i>1,460</i>	<i>-2,950</i>
Total private	76,050	74,410	78,140	1,640	-2,090
Mining, logging, and construction	5,200	4,880	5,240	320	-40
Mining and logging	450	430	430	20	20
Construction	4,750	4,450	4,810	300	-60
Manufacturing	7,610	7,540	7,890	70	-280
Trade, transportation, and utilities	19,920	19,970	19,390	-50	530
Wholesale trade	2,440	2,450	2,560	-10	-120
Retail trade	13,980	14,090	13,440	-110	540
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	3,500	3,430	3,390	70	110
Information	1,050	1,050	1,160	0	-110
Financial activities	4,120	4,130	4,250	-10	-130
Professional and business services	7,460	7,500	7,740	-40	-280
Education and health services	18,240	18,160	18,460	80	-220
Health care and social assistance	17,360	17,310	17,510	50	-150
Leisure and hospitality	9,960	8,700	11,240	1,260	-1,280
Accommodation and food services	8,160	7,450	9,530	710	-1,370
Other services	2,490	2,480	2,770	10	-280
Government	11,250	11,130	11,850	120	-600
Federal government	1,810	1,820	1,770	-10	40
State government	1,020	1,010	1,000	10	20
State education	0	0	0	0	0
Local government	8,420	8,300	9,080	120	-660
Local education	5,540	5,440	6,260	100	-720

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.

