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Employment in Josephine County: March 2021 Josephine Job Loss Relatively Less than Statewide

Total payroll employment in Josephine County rose by 270 jobs in March. The largest gain was estimated in leisure and hospitality, which rose by 120 jobs. Other industries adding jobs in March included wholesale trade (+60); construction (+40); and manufacturing (+30). Government employment increased by 30 jobs with gains in local government education (+20) and state government (+10). 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. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate continues to slowly recede from pandemic peaks and was estimated at 6.7% in March, unchanged over the month and up from 4.2% in March 2020.

Over the past year payroll employment in the Grants Pass MSA (Josephine County) fell by 680, a drop of 2.5%. Since March 2020 estimates show industries losing the most jobs included leisure and hospitality (-310); manufacturing (-130); professional and business services (-100); other services (-60); and wholesale trade (-40). Leisure and hospitality accounts for nearly one-half of the county's jobs losses since March 2020. A few industries are now showing over-the-year job gains in Josephine County. Those with increases were retail trade (+120); construction (+40); and private education and health services (+40). Government employment declined by 170 jobs over the year, with a loss of 220 in local government education slightly offset by increases in state government (+20); local government excluding educational services (+20); and federal government (+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.

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.

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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.

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.



Workforce & Economic Research Division

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Grants Pass MSA (Josephine 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	37,514	37,163	35,647	351	1,867
Unemployed	2,809	2,762	2,015	47	794
Unemployment rate	7.5%	7.4%	5.7%	0.1	1.8
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	6.7%	6.7%	4.2%	0.0	2.5
Employed	34,705	34,401	33,632	304	1,073
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	26,720	26,450	27,400	270	-680
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	27,010	26,820	27,660	190	-650
Total private	23,350	23,110	23,860	240	-510
Mining, logging, and construction	1,260	1,220	1,220	40	40
Mining and logging	80	80	80	0	0
Construction	1,180	1,140	1,140	40	40
Manufacturing	2,940	2,910	3,070	30	-130
Wood product manufacturing	500	500	560	0	-60
Trade, transportation, and utilities	5,410	5,350	5,380	60	30
Wholesale trade	730	670	770	60	-40
Retail trade	4,230	4,230	4,110	0	120
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	450	450	500	0	-50
Information	260	260	270	0	-10
Financial activities	1,610	1,610	1,620	0	-10
Professional and business services	2,110	2,110	2,210	0	-100
Education and health services	5,800	5,810	5,760	-10	40
Leisure and hospitality	3,080	2,960	3,390	120	-310
Other services	880	880	940	0	-60
Government	3,370	3,340	3,540	30	-170
Federal government	240	240	230	0	10
State government	440	430	420	10	20
Local government	2,690	2,670	2,890	20	-200
Local education	1,810	1,790	2,030	20	-220
Local government excluding educational services	880	880	860	0	20

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.

