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Employment in Josephine County: April 2021 Josephine County Continues Slow Job Recovery

Total payroll employment in Josephine County rose by 270 jobs in April. The largest estimated gains occurred in both retail trade, and leisure and hospitality, up by 70 jobs each. Job gains were also tallied in construction (+60) and other services (+30). Financial activities, and mining and logging both added 20 jobs in April. Government employment was up by 20 jobs over the month, with a gain of 20 in federal government accounting for most of the increase.

Over the past year payroll employment in the Grants Pass MSA (Josephine County) increased by 2,780 jobs, a gain of 11.5%. While that jump is notable, the county is still an estimated 530 jobs below the pre-pandemic peak employment in March 2020. Industries with the largest job gains since April 2020 – essentially the worst point during the pandemic – included leisure and hospitality (+960); private education and health services (+720); retail trade (+360); other services (+280); construction (+180); professional and business services (+110); and financial activities (+100). Government employment is down 170 jobs since April 2020, with local education losing 160 jobs over the past year. Local government education has not shown the employment recovery seen in many private-sector industries, in part due to less in-person learning in most educational institutions.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the May county and metropolitan area unemployment rates and employment survey data on Tuesday, June 22nd, and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for May on Tuesday, June 15th.

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--				
	April 2021	March 2021	April 2020	March 2021	April 2020
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	37,597	37,531	34,489	66	3,108
Unemployed	2,654	2,879	4,718	-225	-2,064
Unemployment rate	7.1%	7.7%	13.7%	-0.6	-6.6
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	6.8%	6.7%	13.9%	0.1	-7.1
Employed	34,943	34,652	29,771	291	5,172
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	26,870	26,600	24,090	270	2,780
Total private	23,530	23,280	20,580	250	2,950
Mining, logging, and construction	1,340	1,280	1,150	60	190
Mining and logging	90	90	80	0	10
Construction	1,250	1,190	1,070	60	180
Manufacturing	2,920	2,920	2,830	0	90
Wood product manufacturing	500	500	520	0	-20
Trade, transportation, and utilities	5,570	5,480	5,100	90	470
Wholesale trade	750	760	720	-10	30
Retail trade	4,320	4,250	3,930	70	390
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	500	470	450	30	50
Information	270	270	240	0	30
Financial activities	1,620	1,620	1,520	0	100
Professional and business services	2,090	2,080	1,980	10	110
Education and health services	5,890	5,900	5,170	-10	720
Leisure and hospitality	2,910	2,840	1,950	70	960
Other services	920	890	640	30	280
Government	3,340	3,320	3,510	20	-170
Federal government	260	240	250	20	10
State government	430	430	430	0	0
Local government	2,650	2,650	2,830	0	-180
Local education	1,800	1,790	1,960	10	-160
Local government excluding educational services	850	860	870	-10	-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.

