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## **Employment in Josephine County: March 2025**

### **Leisure and Hospitality Adds Most Jobs Over the Year**

Total payroll employment in Josephine County edged up by 60 jobs in March. Leisure and hospitality gained 40 jobs. Small changes in other industries accounted for the other 20 jobs. Local government education gained 30 jobs while local government excluding education slipped by 20 jobs, leaving government employment up by 10 jobs in March.

Over the past year, payroll employment in the Grants Pass MSA (Josephine County) declined slightly, down by 100 jobs, a loss of -0.4%. Industries adding jobs since March 2024 included leisure and hospitality (+190); other services (+70); and transportation, warehousing, and utilities (+60). Industries losing jobs over the year were manufacturing (-110); retail trade (-100); financial activities (-90); professional and business services (-60); wholesale trade (-40); and construction (-20).

Government employment rose by 20 jobs over the year. An increase in state government (+50) was offset by a loss of 30 federal government jobs.

Josephine County's not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was estimated at 7.2% in March, little changed from 7.3% in February and up from the March 2024 rate of 6.0%.

### **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 20<sup>th</sup>, and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for April on Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>.

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.

Labor force statistics for Oregon metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) are produced by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Through June 2025, seasonally adjusted data are not available for Oregon MSAs or other MSAs around the country. New MSA definitions resulting from the 2020 Census are being incorporated into the history of the data series back to 1990, as well as other updates to the processing of labor force estimates for substate areas. Read more on this pause in seasonally adjusted metro area data [here](#)

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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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Workforce &amp; Economic Research Division

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### Grants Pass MSA (Josephine County) Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	March 2025	February 2025	March 2024	February 2025	March 2024
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	35,171	35,025	35,130	146	41
Unemployed	2,526	2,542	2,093	-16	433
Unemployment rate	7.2%	7.3%	6.0%	-0.1	1.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>					
Employed	32,645	32,483	33,037	162	-392
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	26,800	26,740	26,900	60	-100
Total private	23,190	23,140	23,310	50	-120
Mining, logging, and construction	1,220	1,210	1,220	10	0
Mining and logging	100	100	80	0	20
Construction	1,120	1,110	1,140	10	-20
Manufacturing	2,760	2,760	2,870	0	-110
Wood product manufacturing	530	530	540	0	-10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	5,150	5,160	5,230	-10	-80
Wholesale trade	580	580	620	0	-40
Retail trade	4,010	4,020	4,110	-10	-100
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	560	560	500	0	60
Information	240	240	240	0	0
Financial activities	1,540	1,550	1,630	-10	-90
Professional and business services	1,810	1,800	1,850	10	-40
Private education and health services	6,130	6,130	6,190	0	-60
Leisure and hospitality	3,320	3,280	3,130	40	190
Other services	1,020	1,010	950	10	70
Government	3,610	3,600	3,590	10	20
Federal government	270	270	300	0	-30
State government	510	510	460	0	50
Local government	2,830	2,820	2,830	10	0
Local education	1,990	1,960	1,930	30	60
Local government excluding educational services	840	860	900	-20	-60

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.

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