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Employment in Salem MSA (Marion and Polk Counties): May 2025

Salem MSA's Unemployment Rate Increased to 4.5%

The Salem MSA's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.5% in May, up from its April rate of 4.4%. Oregon's statewide unemployment rate in May was 4.8%, up from its April rate of 4.7%.

Employment gains in the Salem MSA in May were slightly less than normal; total nonfarm employment increased by 900 jobs, when an employment increase of 1,500 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment was down 600 between April and May. With May's losses, employment is up 7.6% or 13,300 jobs above the pre-pandemic employment level in February 2020.

Overall, the private sector added 700 jobs in May. The largest private-sector job gains in May were reported in leisure and hospitality (+600 jobs, +3.8%). Other services lost 100 jobs (-1.7%).

The public sector added 200 jobs in May. Local government was up 200 jobs in May. State and federal government employment were unchanged.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the June county and metropolitan area unemployment rates and employment survey data on Tuesday, July 22, and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for June on Wednesday, July 16.



Workforce & Economic Research Division

QualityInfo.org

June 24, 2025

Salem MSA Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	May 2025	April 2025	May 2024	April 2025	May 2024
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	226,513	225,019	219,921	1,494	6,592
Unemployed	10,099	8,923	7,800	1,176	2,299
Unemployment rate	4.5%	4.0%	3.5%	0.5	1.0
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>4.5%</i>	<i>4.4%</i>	<i>3.9%</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>0.6</i>
Employed	216,414	216,096	212,121	318	4,293
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	190,100	189,200	186,200	900	3,900
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>187,800</i>	<i>188,400</i>	<i>184,200</i>	<i>-600</i>	<i>3,600</i>
Total private	143,500	142,800	140,400	700	3,100
Mining, logging, and construction	13,600	13,600	14,100	0	-500
Mining and logging	600	600	600	0	0
Construction	13,000	13,000	13,500	0	-500
Manufacturing	11,400	11,400	11,700	0	-300
Durable goods	5,900	5,900	6,100	0	-200
Non durable goods	5,500	5,500	5,600	0	-100
Food manufacturing	3,600	3,600	3,600	0	0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	29,600	29,500	30,000	100	-400
Wholesale trade	4,200	4,200	4,200	0	0
Retail trade	18,200	18,100	18,700	100	-500
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	7,200	7,200	7,100	0	100
Information	2,100	2,100	1,700	0	400
Financial activities	6,000	5,900	6,200	100	-200
Professional and business services	19,800	19,800	18,500	0	1,300
Administrative and support services	10,200	10,200	9,900	0	300
Private education and health services	38,700	38,700	35,900	0	2,800
Health care and social assistance	34,400	34,300	32,000	100	2,400
Leisure and hospitality	16,600	16,000	16,500	600	100
Accommodation and food services	14,900	14,400	14,600	500	300
Other services	5,700	5,800	5,800	-100	-100
Government	46,600	46,400	45,800	200	800
Federal government	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	0
State government	23,700	23,700	23,100	0	600
State education	1,100	1,200	1,000	-100	100
Local government	21,400	21,200	21,200	200	200
Indian tribal	1,700	1,700	1,700	0	0
Local education	12,500	12,300	12,500	200	0

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 QualityInfo.org, select Tools, and choose LAUS or CES from the dropdown menu. To request the press release as a Word document, contact the person shown at the top of this press release.

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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.

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