

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 25, 2026

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Patrick O'Connor, Regional Economist

Patrick.s.oconnor@employ.oregon.gov

(503) 400-4374

Employment in Corvallis MSA (Benton County): July 2026

Benton County's Unemployment Rate Essentially Unchanged at 4.2%

Benton County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.2% in July, essentially unchanged from its revised unemployment rate of 4.3% in June. Benton County's unemployment rate has been essentially unchanged, fluctuating from 4.2% to 4.3% over the past year. Oregon's statewide seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in July was 5.2%.

Benton County's employment decline in July was slightly less than normal; total nonfarm employment was down 3,320 during the month, when an employment decrease of 3,400 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment was up 80 between June and July. Seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment is now up 0.7% from the level in February 2020, or 320 jobs above its pre-pandemic level.

Over the past year Benton County's seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment has shed 730 jobs or -1.6%.

The private sector overall declined 20 jobs over the month. Gains and losses were mixed at the industry level. Leisure and hospitality shed 80 jobs in July. Mining, logging, and construction gained 50 jobs in July.

Public sector employment declined 3,300 in July. Local government education employment decreased by 3,350 as summer breaks began at school districts and Oregon State University. Federal government and state government employment were both unchanged in July.

Next Press Releases

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



Workforce & Economic Research Division

QualityInfo.org

August 25, 2026

Corvallis MSA (Benton County) Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	July 2026	June 2026	July 2025	June 2026	July 2025
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	48,218	51,055	48,366	-2,837	-148
Unemployed	2,165	2,432	2,382	-267	-217
Unemployment rate	4.5%	4.8%	4.9%	-0.3	-0.4
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.2%	4.3%	4.3%	-0.1	-0.1
Employed	46,053	48,623	45,984	-2,570	69
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	41,640	44,960	41,880	-3,320	-240
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	43,840	43,760	44,570	80	-730
Total private	28,610	28,630	28,330	-20	280
Mining, logging, and construction	1,570	1,520	1,530	50	40
Manufacturing	2,450	2,430	2,570	20	-120
Trade, transportation, and utilities	4,540	4,570	4,560	-30	-20
Information	590	590	580	0	10
Financial activities	1,510	1,500	1,540	10	-30
Professional and business services	4,120	4,090	4,280	30	-160
Private education and health services	7,920	7,910	7,550	10	370
Health care and social assistance	7,540	7,540	7,220	0	320
Leisure and hospitality	4,350	4,430	4,170	-80	180
Other services	1,560	1,590	1,550	-30	10
Government	13,030	16,330	13,550	-3,300	-520
Federal government	400	400	470	0	-70
State government	330	330	340	0	-10
State education	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Local government	12,300	15,600	12,740	-3,300	-440
Local education	10,710	14,060	11,180	-3,350	-470

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.

You can subscribe to receive notification of new articles and publications from QualityInfo.org. To subscribe, go to www.qualityinfo.org/subscribe, enter your email address and click Sign In. In the Publication section, click on the + sign next to a report type category and then click on the geography(s) you are interested in. Take some time to browse the other publications on the page and see if there are some you'd like to receive an email notification for. You can receive notifications on a daily, weekly, or monthly schedule – whichever is most convenient for you. You can change your preferences – or unsubscribe – at any time.

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.

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.

El Departamento de Empleo de Oregon (OED) es una agencia de igualdad de oportunidades. El OED proporciona ayuda gratuita para que usted pueda utilizar nuestros servicios. Algunos ejemplos son intérpretes de lengua de señas e idiomas hablados, materiales escritos en otros idiomas, letra grande, audio y otros formatos. Para obtener ayuda, por favor llame al 503-947-1444. Usuarios de TTY pueden llamar al 711. También puede enviar un correo electrónico a OED_Communications@employ.oregon.gov.

###