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## **Employment in Jackson County: December 2023** **Mixed Industry Trends Leave Employment Little Changed**

Total payroll employment in Jackson County was essentially unchanged in December. Health care and social assistance had the largest gain, adding 190 payroll jobs. Other industries with positive job trends were leisure and hospitality (+70), and transportation, warehousing, and utilities. Industries shedding jobs over the month were professional and business services (-80), manufacturing (-50), and construction (-20). Government employment fell by 90 jobs with losses in local (-40), federal (-30), and state government (-20).

Over the past year, payroll employment in the Medford MSA (Jackson County) added 1,390 jobs, an increase of 1.6%. Since December 2022, industries adding jobs included private education and health services (+1,110), leisure and hospitality (+460), construction (+190), other services (+90), and wholesale trade (+50). Industries with estimated job losses since December 2022 were retail trade (-560), financial activities (-260), and information (-120). Jackson County payroll employment is 460 jobs below the total reached in December 2019, prior to the pandemic.

Government employment was up by 420 jobs over the year. Local government (+210), state government (+140), and federal government (+70) all gained jobs over the past 12 months. Jackson County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was estimated at 4.3 % in December, edging up from 3.9% in November and down from 5.2% in December 2022.

### **Next Press Releases**

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the January statewide, county, and metropolitan area unemployment rates and employment survey data on Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Notes:**

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. These preliminary estimates of jobs and other labor force data are produced in cooperation with the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics, are based largely on a survey of businesses and a survey of households, and are subject to later revision.

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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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## Medford-Ashland MSA (Jackson County) Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	December 2023	November 2023	December 2022	November 2023	December 2022
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	105,247	105,867	106,225	-620	-978
Unemployed	4,495	4,084	5,491	411	-996
Unemployment rate	4.3%	3.9%	5.2%	0.4	-0.9
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>					
Employed	100,752	101,783	100,734	-1,031	18
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	91,610	91,590	90,150	20	1,460
Total private	79,720	79,610	78,680	110	1,040
Mining, logging, and construction	5,900	5,920	5,690	-20	210
Mining and logging	450	450	430	0	20
Construction	5,450	5,470	5,260	-20	190
Manufacturing	7,170	7,220	7,230	-50	-60
Trade, transportation, and utilities	20,310	20,260	20,800	50	-490
Wholesale trade	2,630	2,640	2,580	-10	50
Retail trade	14,080	14,060	14,640	20	-560
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	3,600	3,560	3,580	40	20
Information	920	910	1,040	10	-120
Financial activities	4,070	4,080	4,330	-10	-260
Professional and business services	8,300	8,380	8,200	-80	100
Private education and health services	19,360	19,220	18,250	140	1,110
Health care and social assistance	18,210	18,020	17,190	190	1,020
Leisure and hospitality	10,970	10,900	10,510	70	460
Accommodation and food services	9,250	9,180	9,010	70	240
Other services	2,720	2,720	2,630	0	90
Government	11,890	11,980	11,470	-90	420
Federal government	1,860	1,890	1,790	-30	70
State government	1,240	1,260	1,100	-20	140
State education	0	0	0	0	0
Local government	8,790	8,830	8,580	-40	210
Local education	5,730	5,740	5,650	-10	80

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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