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Employment in Salem MSA (Marion and Polk Counties): December 2024

Salem MSA's Unemployment Rate Remains at 4.1%

The Salem MSA's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.1% in December, unchanged from its revised rate of 4.1% in November. Oregon's statewide unemployment rate in December was 4.1%, up from its revised November rate of 4.0%.

Employment gains in the Salem MSA in December were more than normal; total nonfarm employment increased by 300 jobs, when an employment decrease of 100 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment was up 400 between November and December. With December's gains, employment is up 7.9% or 13,800 jobs above the pre-pandemic employment level in February 2020.

Overall, private sector employment was up 100 in December. The largest private-sector job gains in December were reported in private education and health services (+700 jobs, +1.8%); and retail trade (+100 jobs, +0.5%).

The public sector added 200 jobs in December. Local government was up 100 jobs in December. State government employment was up 100 and federal government employment was unchanged in December.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the January county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, Mar. 11 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data on Monday, Mar. 10.



Workforce & Economic Research Division

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January 28, 2025

Salem MSA Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	December 2024	November 2024	December 2023	November 2024	December 2023
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	218,029	218,756	213,406	-727	4,623
Unemployed	9,190	8,179	8,598	1,011	592
Unemployment rate	4.2%	3.7%	4.0%	0.5	0.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.1%	4.1%	3.9%	0.0	0.2
Employed	208,839	210,577	204,808	-1,738	4,031
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	189,900	189,600	185,400	300	4,500
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	188,400	188,000	185,200	400	3,200
Total private	143,500	143,400	140,100	100	3,400
Mining, logging, and construction	13,900	14,100	13,800	-200	100
Mining and logging	700	700	600	0	100
Construction	13,200	13,400	13,200	-200	0
Manufacturing	11,900	12,100	11,500	-200	400
Durable goods	6,100	6,200	6,000	-100	100
Nondurable goods	5,800	5,900	5,500	-100	300
Food manufacturing	3,800	3,800	3,500	0	300
Trade, transportation, and utilities	30,800	30,600	30,800	200	0
Wholesale trade	4,300	4,300	4,100	0	200
Retail trade	19,100	19,000	19,300	100	-200
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	7,400	7,300	7,400	100	0
Information	1,700	1,700	1,800	0	-100
Financial activities	6,200	6,200	6,400	0	-200
Professional and business services	19,000	19,100	19,200	-100	-200
Administrative and support services	9,700	9,800	10,600	-100	-900
Private education and health services	38,800	38,100	34,900	700	3,900
Health care and social assistance	34,500	33,700	30,800	800	3,700
Leisure and hospitality	15,400	15,600	15,900	-200	-500
Accommodation and food services	13,900	14,200	14,400	-300	-500
Other services	5,800	5,900	5,800	-100	0
Government	46,400	46,200	45,300	200	1,100
Federal government	1,600	1,600	1,500	0	100
State government	23,800	23,700	22,800	100	1,000
State education	1,200	1,200	1,300	0	-100
Local government	21,000	20,900	21,000	100	0
Indian tribal	1,700	1,700	1,600	0	100
Local education	12,200	12,000	12,500	200	-300

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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