

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 21, 2023

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Patrick O'Connor, Regional Economist

[Patrick.s.Oconnor@oregon.gov](mailto:Patrick.s.Oconnor@oregon.gov)

(503) 400-4374

## **Employment in Salem MSA (Marion and Polk Counties): October 2023**

### **Salem MSA's Unemployment Rate Increases to 3.6%**

The Salem MSA's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 3.6% in October, edging up from its revised rate of 3.5% in September. Oregon's statewide unemployment rate in October was 3.6%, up from its revised September rate of 3.5%.

Employment gains in the Salem MSA in October were more than normal; total nonfarm employment increased by 1,400 jobs, when an employment increase of 1,000 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment was up 400 between September and October. With October's gains, employment is up 4.5% or 7,800 jobs above the pre-pandemic employment level in February 2020.

Overall, the private sector added 500 jobs in October. The largest private-sector job gains in October were reported in private education and health services (+500 jobs, +1.5%) and trade, transportation, and utilities (+300 jobs, +1.0%).

Private-sector job losses in October were reported in leisure and hospitality (-400 jobs, -2.4%); food manufacturing (-100 jobs, -2.7%); and administrative and support services (-100 jobs, -1.1%).

The public sector added 900 jobs in October. Local government was up 800 jobs in October. State government added 100 jobs and federal government employment was unchanged in October.

### **Next Press Releases**

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the November county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Wednesday, Dec. 27 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data will be released on Wednesday, Dec. 20.



Workforce &amp; Economic Research Division

QualityInfo.org

November 21, 2023

## Salem MSA Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	October 2023	September 2023	October 2022	September 2023	October 2022
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	212,330	212,124	216,536	206	-4,206
Unemployed	7,172	7,363	9,931	-191	-2,759
Unemployment rate	3.4%	3.5%	4.6%	-0.1	-1.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.6%	3.5%	4.8%	0.1	-1.2
Employed	205,158	204,761	206,605	397	-1,447
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	183,600	182,200	179,300	1,400	4,300
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>182,400</i>	<i>182,000</i>	<i>177,600</i>	<i>400</i>	<i>4,800</i>
Total private	138,800	138,300	135,400	500	3,400
Mining, logging, and construction	14,500	14,500	14,100	0	400
Mining and logging	600	600	600	0	0
Construction	13,900	13,900	13,500	0	400
Manufacturing	12,000	12,100	12,400	-100	-400
Durable goods	6,100	6,100	6,100	0	0
Nondurable goods	5,900	6,000	6,300	-100	-400
Food manufacturing	3,600	3,700	3,700	-100	-100
Trade, transportation, and utilities	30,100	29,800	30,100	300	0
Wholesale trade	4,200	4,200	4,200	0	0
Retail trade	18,600	18,400	19,000	200	-400
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	7,300	7,200	6,900	100	400
Information	1,700	1,700	1,700	0	0
Financial activities	6,700	6,700	6,900	0	-200
Professional and business services	17,300	17,100	16,600	200	700
Administrative and support services	9,200	9,300	8,800	-100	400
Private education and health services	34,800	34,300	32,400	500	2,400
Health care and social assistance	30,000	30,000	28,400	0	1,600
Leisure and hospitality	16,000	16,400	15,600	-400	400
Accommodation and food services	14,200	14,600	14,000	-400	200
Other services	5,700	5,700	5,600	0	100
Government	44,800	43,900	43,900	900	900
Federal government	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	0
State government	22,600	22,500	21,900	100	700
State education	1,100	1,100	1,100	0	0
Local government	20,700	19,900	20,500	800	200
Indian tribal	1,600	1,600	1,600	0	0
Local education	12,000	11,200	12,000	800	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/](http://www.qualityinfo.org/press-release/). To obtain the data in other formats such as in Excel, visit [QualityInfo.org](http://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](http://QualityInfo.org). To subscribe, go to [www.qualityinfo.org/subscribe](http://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](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).

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](mailto:OED_Communications@employ.oregon.gov).

###