

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 27, 2018

CONTACT INFORMATION:  
Guy Tauer, Regional Economist  
Guy.R.Tauer@oregon.gov  
(541) 816-8396

## Employment in Jackson County: February 2018

### Local Education and Leisure and Hospitality Boost Job Count

Total payroll employment rose by 850 jobs in February. The most significant gains were estimated in local government education (+290), and in leisure and hospitality (+240). Most published industries had job gains or flat employment growth over the month. The only published industry with estimated job losses was transportation, warehousing, and utilities, down by 50 jobs in February. The “goods-producing” industries including construction (+80), manufacturing (+40), and mining and logging (+20) all gained jobs over the month. Health care and social assistance employment climbed by 100 jobs. Smaller increases were also estimated in professional and business services (+70) and other services (+30).

Over the past year, the Medford MSA (Jackson County) gained 2,910 payroll jobs, a growth rate of 3.4 percent. Industries adding notable jobs over the year were private education and health services (+1,270), with a large portion due to the change in home health workers classification discussed in the prior employment press releases; retail trade (+700); professional and business services (+580); construction (+370); financial activities (+320); manufacturing (+270); and leisure and hospitality (+240). Smaller employment increases were estimated in other services (+80); information (+80); wholesale trade (+70).

Since February 2017, government employment fell by 1,260 jobs. Local government lost 410 jobs, with the local government education component accounting for 280 of those losses. State government employment dropped by 800 over the year, mostly due to the shift in where home care worker jobs are counted.

#### Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the March county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, April 24 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for March on Tuesday, April 17.

Notes:

All numbers in the above narrative are seasonally adjusted.

The Oregon Employment Department and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) work cooperatively to develop and publish monthly Oregon payroll employment and labor force data. 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. This press release incorporates, for the first time, the annual revisions to the data for 2016 and prior years.

Effective with the January 2018 data, employment of Oregon's approximately 17,000 home care workers are counted in private health care and social assistance instead of state government. The change was due to legislative action clarifying that for purposes of workforce and labor market information, home care workers are not employees of state government. The reclassification affects private sector and government monthly change figures for January 2018 and will affect over-the-year change figures through December 2018. It does not affect total payroll employment levels.

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.

You can subscribe to receive notification of new articles and publications from [www.QualityInfo.org](http://www.QualityInfo.org). To subscribe, go to [www.qualityinfo.org/p-sofrm](http://www.qualityinfo.org/p-sofrm), 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.

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 [www.QualityInfo.org](http://www.QualityInfo.org), select *Economic Data*, and choose *LAUS* or *CES*. To request the press release as a Word document, contact the person shown at the top of this press release.

For help finding jobs and training resources, visit one of the state's WorkSource Oregon Centers or go to: [www.WorkSourceOregon.org](http://www.WorkSourceOregon.org).

Equal Opportunity program — auxiliary aids and services available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Contact: (503) 947-1794. For the deaf and hard of hearing population, call 711 Telecommunications Relay Services.

2017 Benchmark

**Oregon Current Labor Force and Industry Employment  
MEDFORD-ASHLAND MSA (JACKSON COUNTY)**

Labor Force Status	Feb	Jan	Feb	-Change from-	
	2018	2018	2017	Jan 2018	Feb 2017
Civilian Labor Force	105,704	104,147	101,515	1,557	4,189
Unemployed	5,432	5,197	5,256	235	176
Unemployment Rate	5.1%	5.0%	5.2%	0.1	0.0
Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rate	4.4%	4.3%	4.0%	0.1	0.4
Employed	100,272	98,950	96,259	1,322	4,013
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>				-Change from-	
	Feb	Jan	Feb	Jan	Feb
	2018	2018	2017	2018	2017
Total Nonfarm Payroll Employment	87,310	86,460	84,400	850	2,910
Total private	75,930	75,390	71,760	540	4,170
Mining and logging	400	380	380	20	20
Construction	4,380	4,300	4,010	80	370
Manufacturing	7,870	7,830	7,600	40	270
Trade, transportation, and utilities	19,520	19,560	18,740	-40	780
Wholesale trade	2,480	2,460	2,410	20	70
Retail trade	13,730	13,740	13,030	-10	700
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	3,310	3,360	3,300	-50	10
Information	1,250	1,250	1,170	0	80
Financial activities	4,230	4,230	3,910	0	320
Professional and business services	7,460	7,390	6,880	70	580
Education and health services	16,880	16,780	15,450	100	1,430
Health care and social assistance	15,900	15,820	14,630	80	1,270
Leisure and hospitality	11,180	10,940	10,940	240	240
Accommodation and food services	9,650	9,540	9,370	110	280
Other services	2,760	2,730	2,680	30	80
Government	11,380	11,070	12,640	310	-1,260
Federal government	1,680	1,690	1,730	-10	-50
State government	890	880	1,690	10	-800
Local government	8,810	8,500	9,220	310	-410
Local education	6,040	5,750	6,320	290	-280
Labor/Management Disputants	0	0	0	0	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.

Labor Force Status: Civilian labor force includes employed and unemployed individuals 16 years and older by place of residence. Employed includes nonfarm 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: 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.

