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## **Employment in Josephine County: April 2017**

### **Seasonal Employment Gains Boost Job Totals**

Total payroll employment rose by 330 jobs in April, bolstered by seasonally typical hiring in construction, retail trade and leisure and hospitality. The county's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate continues to hover at its nearly 30-year low point. In April, those three industries accounted for essentially all of the month's employment increase. As the weather finally started to dry out slightly from the onslaught of nearly record-breaking precipitation this spring, construction employment increased by 60 jobs over the month. Construction employment, at nearly 1,000 jobs, is at its highest level since 2009. Construction also had the fastest job growth rate among published industries, up by 14 percent since April 2016. Retail trade employment rose by 80 jobs over the month. The largest employment gain was estimated in leisure and hospitality, adding 140 jobs in April. Federal government employment also added jobs over the month, up by 20 jobs from the March figure.

Over the year, Josephine County payroll employment gained 1,010 jobs, an increase of 4.1 percent and faster than Oregon's overall job growth rate. Industries adding notable new jobs included private education and health services (+330), leisure and hospitality (+220), professional and business services (+210), construction (+120), and retail trade (+90). Manufacturing employment rose by 70 over the year, despite a loss of 20 wood product manufacturing jobs. Small over-the-year declines were estimated in financial activities (-40) and information (-20). Government employment was essentially unchanged over the year, with a gain of 20 in state government offset by losses in local government education (-30) and federal government (-10).

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.

#### **Next Press Releases**

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the May county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, June 20 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for May on Tuesday, June 13.

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.

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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.

Workforce and Economic Research  
2016 Benchmark**OREGON CURRENT LABOR FORCE AND INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT  
JOSEPHINE COUNTY**

<b>Labor Force Status</b>	Apr.	Mar.	Apr.	-Change from-	
	2017	2017	2016	Mar. 2017	Apr. 2016
Civilian Labor Force	35,336	35,011	34,132	325	1,204
Unemployed	1,655	1,877	2,310	-222	-655
Unemployment rate	4.7%	5.4%	6.8%	-0.7	-2.1
Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rate	4.7%	4.5%	6.9%	0.2	-2.2
Employed	33,681	33,134	31,822	547	1,859

  

<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>	Apr.	Mar.	Apr.	-Change from-	
	2017	2017	2016	Mar. 2017	Apr. 2016
Total Nonfarm Payroll Employment	26,290	25,960	25,280	330	1,010
Total private	22,540	22,220	21,520	320	1,020
Mining and logging	110	110	110	0	0
Construction	980	920	860	60	120
Manufacturing	2,910	2,900	2,840	10	70
Wood product manufacturing	530	530	550	0	-20
Trade, transportation, and utilities	5,360	5,280	5,250	80	110
Wholesale trade	820	820	830	0	-10
Retail trade	4,110	4,030	4,020	80	90
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	430	430	400	0	30
Information	240	240	260	0	-20
Financial activities	1,310	1,310	1,350	0	-40
Professional and business services	2,280	2,270	2,070	10	210
Education and health services	5,120	5,110	4,790	10	330
Leisure and hospitality	3,200	3,060	2,980	140	220
Other services	1,030	1,020	1,010	10	20
Government	3,750	3,740	3,760	10	-10
Federal government	240	220	250	20	-10
State government	860	870	840	-10	20
Local government	2,650	2,650	2,670	0	-20
Local education	1,940	1,940	1,970	0	-30
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.

