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Employment in Columbia County: April 2020

Employment falls by 1,590 more than expected in April

Seasonally adjusted nonfarm payroll employment fell by 1,590 in April to 10,130 jobs. The monthly job loss was the largest ever recorded in the county, and losses were primarily due to COVID-19 restrictions. Seasonally adjusted figures compare expected changes with actual changes. A gain of 100 jobs is normal for the month, but the county's employment fell by 1,490, resulting in the higher loss after seasonal adjustment. The private sector lost 1,350 jobs, and government shed 140. Leisure and hospitality cut 780 jobs. The other services industry; which includes hair salons, repair shops, and churches; lost 120 jobs. Education and health services shed 110 jobs, retail trade lost 90, and construction was down 80 jobs. Professional and business services, a broad industry that includes temporary help agencies, cut 90 jobs for the month. Local government education shed 120 jobs. Other industries had smaller changes.

April's total nonfarm employment numbers show a loss of 1,430 jobs compared with one year before, a decrease of 12.3 percent. Almost every major industry lost jobs over the year, and annual job losses by industry were largely in line with the industries that lost the most jobs for the month.

Columbia County's unemployment rate shot to a record 15.3 percent in April, up from 4.5 percent in March. It was also 4.5 percent the year before. The county's unemployment rate reached a peak of 14.6 percent during the Great Recession. The statewide unemployment rate was 14.8 percent in April, and the national rate was 14.4 percent.

April seasonally-adjusted unemployment rates are not available for Columbia County due to processing delays caused by large increases in unemployment. Not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates are being used for this news release. They reflect April's increase in unemployment related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates for April will be available on Qualityinfo.org or by request at a later date. We apologize for any inconvenience this causes.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the May county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, June 23, and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for May on Tuesday, June 16.

Columbia County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	April 2020	March 2020	April 2019	March 2020	April 2019
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	24,541	24,552	24,379	-11	162
Unemployed	3,747	1,111	1,105	2,636	2,642
Unemployment rate	15.3%	4.5%	4.5%	10.8	10.8
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>					
Employed	20,794	23,441	23,274	-2,647	-2,480
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	10,240	11,730	11,670	-1,490	-1,430
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>10,130</i>	<i>11,720</i>	<i>11,550</i>	<i>-1,590</i>	<i>-1,420</i>
Total private	8,110	9,460	9,500	-1,350	-1,390
Mining, logging, and construction	750	850	880	-100	-130
Mining and logging	200	220	230	-20	-30
Construction	550	630	650	-80	-100
Manufacturing	1,650	1,630	1,620	20	30
Durable goods	1,090	1,090	1,090	0	0
Wood product manufacturing	260	270	250	-10	10
Nondurable goods	560	540	530	20	30
Paper manufacturing	180	180	160	0	20
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,110	2,260	2,250	-150	-140
Retail trade	1,410	1,500	1,480	-90	-70
Information	40	50	50	-10	-10
Financial activities	550	560	540	-10	10
Professional and business services	740	830	870	-90	-130
Education and health services	1,360	1,470	1,460	-110	-100
Leisure and hospitality	620	1,400	1,420	-780	-800
Other services	290	410	410	-120	-120
Government	2,130	2,270	2,170	-140	-40
Federal government	70	70	70	0	0
State government	190	190	160	0	30
Local government	1,870	2,010	1,940	-140	-70
Local education	1,190	1,310	1,250	-120	-60
Local government excluding educational services	680	700	690	-20	-10

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: 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.

Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Area	Apr-2020	Mar-2020	Apr-2019
United States	14.4	4.5	3.3
Oregon	14.8	3.9	3.8
Albany, OR MSA	15.6	4.5	4.4
Bend-Redmond, OR MSA	18.2	4.0	3.9
Corvallis, OR MSA	10.2	2.9	2.8
Eugene, OR MSA	16.1	4.1	4.2
Grants Pass, OR MSA	15.5	5.2	5.1
Medford, OR MSA	16.1	4.7	4.7
Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, OR-WA MSA	14.0	3.6	3.6
Salem, OR MSA	13.3	4.1	4.1
Baker County	13.5	5.3	5.0
Benton County	10.2	2.9	2.8
Clackamas County	13.8	3.5	3.4
Clatsop County	24.4	4.1	3.8
Columbia County	15.3	4.5	4.5
Coos County	18.8	4.9	5.1
Crook County	18.6	5.7	5.3
Curry County	18.0	5.7	5.6
Deschutes County	18.2	4.0	3.9
Douglas County	16.7	5.0	5.2
Gilliam County	11.3	5.0	2.8
Grant County	15.3	9.0	9.6
Harney County	10.1	5.8	5.9
Hood River County	14.0	3.1	3.2
Jackson County	16.1	4.7	4.7
Jefferson County	14.3	5.4	5.3
Josephine County	15.5	5.2	5.1
Klamath County	15.9	7.2	6.2
Lake County	9.7	5.1	6.4
Lane County	16.1	4.1	4.2
Lincoln County	26.2	4.7	4.4
Linn County	15.6	4.5	4.4
Malheur County	8.3	3.9	4.2
Marion County	13.4	4.0	4.1
Morrow County	8.1	4.4	3.7
Multnomah County	15.7	3.5	3.3
Polk County	12.9	4.1	4.1
Sherman County	12.6	5.2	3.5
Tillamook County	18.4	4.1	3.7
Umatilla County	14.3	4.7	4.4
Union County	19.3	5.5	4.9
Wallowa County	14.1	7.3	8.0
Wasco County	14.8	4.8	4.4
Washington County	12.0	3.1	3.1
Wheeler County	5.8	3.5	4.2
Yamhill County	13.2	3.6	3.5

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 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.

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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.