

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 28, 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): February 2023**

### **Salem MSA's Unemployment Rate Remains at 4.6%**

The Salem MSA's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.6% in February, unchanged from its revised rate of 4.6% in January. Oregon's statewide unemployment rate in February was 4.7%, down slightly from its revised January rate of 4.8%.

Employment gains in the Salem MSA in February were larger than normal; total nonfarm employment increased by 1,000 jobs, when an employment increase of 800 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment increased 200 between January and February. With February's gains, employment is up 3.1% or 5,400 jobs above the pre-pandemic employment level in February 2020.

Overall the private sector added 700 jobs in February. The largest private-sector job gains in February were reported in professional and business services (+500 jobs, +3.0%); leisure and hospitality (+400 jobs, +2.6%); and private education and health services (+200 jobs, +0.6%).

The largest private-sector job losses in February were reported in trade, transportation, and utilities (-400 jobs, -1.3%).

The public sector added 300 jobs in February. Local government employment was up 300 jobs in February while state and federal government employment were unchanged.

### **Next Press Releases**

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the March county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, April 25 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data will be released on Wednesday, April 19.



Workforce &amp; Economic Research Division

QualityInfo.org

March 28, 2023

## Salem MSA Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	February 2023	January 2023	February 2022	January 2023	February 2022
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	211,995	210,481	210,667	1,514	1,328
Unemployed	9,985	10,404	8,389	-419	1,596
Unemployment rate	4.7%	4.9%	4.0%	-0.2	0.7
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.6%	4.6%	4.0%	0.0	0.6
Employed	202,010	200,077	202,278	1,933	-268
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	178,500	177,500	174,100	1,000	4,400
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>180,000</i>	<i>179,800</i>	<i>175,400</i>	<i>200</i>	<i>4,600</i>
Total private	134,300	133,600	132,000	700	2,300
Mining, logging, and construction	13,500	13,400	13,300	100	200
Mining and logging	600	600	600	0	0
Construction	12,900	12,800	12,700	100	200
Manufacturing	11,700	11,900	11,900	-200	-200
Durable goods	6,100	6,200	6,100	-100	0
Nondurable goods	5,600	5,700	5,800	-100	-200
Food manufacturing	3,400	3,400	3,400	0	0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	30,100	30,500	30,500	-400	-400
Wholesale trade	4,200	4,100	4,200	100	0
Retail trade	18,900	19,200	19,200	-300	-300
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	7,000	7,200	7,100	-200	-100
Information	1,700	1,700	1,500	0	200
Financial activities	6,800	6,800	7,000	0	-200
Professional and business services	17,300	16,800	16,600	500	700
Administrative and support services	8,900	8,700	8,800	200	100
Private education and health services	31,800	31,600	31,000	200	800
Health care and social assistance	27,700	28,000	27,100	-300	600
Leisure and hospitality	15,900	15,500	14,800	400	1,100
Accommodation and food services	13,900	13,600	13,400	300	500
Other services	5,500	5,400	5,400	100	100
Government	44,200	43,900	42,100	300	2,100
Federal government	1,500	1,500	1,400	0	100
State government	21,800	21,800	20,800	0	1,000
State education	1,100	1,100	900	0	200
Local government	20,900	20,600	19,900	300	1,000
Indian tribal	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	0
Local education	12,500	12,100	12,100	400	400

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).

###