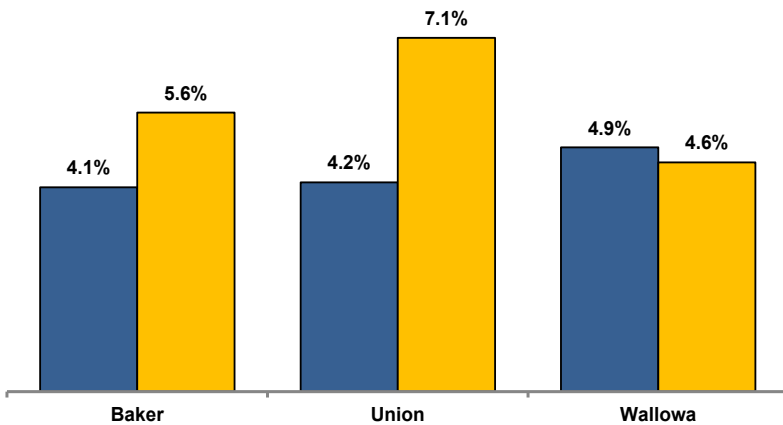


Unemployment Rates (Seasonally Adjusted)

■ February 2020 ■ February 2021



Unemployment Rate News

Wallowa County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for February 2021 was 4.6%, while Baker County came in at 5.6% and Union County at 7.1%. Wallowa and Baker counties' rates were below Oregon's statewide rate of 6.1% and the national rate of 6.2%.

Wallowa County's rate ranked fifth lowest among Oregon's 36 counties for the month while Baker County's ranked in a three-way tie for 12th and Union County's sat tied at 32nd.

Wallowa County was the only Oregon county to have a lower seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in February 2021 than the previous February.

Wallowa County (-0.3 percentage point) ranked first among Oregon's counties for smallest over-the-year change. Baker County (+1.5) ranked 10th while Union County (+2.9) sat in 28th.

Nonfarm Employment Change

February 2020 to February 2021

Baker County dropped an estimated 200 jobs over the year. The private sector lost 130 jobs. Losses were led by leisure and hospitality and professional and business services. Gains were confined to retail trade and transportation, warehousing, and utilities. The public sector dropped 70 jobs with a loss in local government overwhelming a gain in federal government.

Union County employment decreased an estimated 670 jobs over the year. The private sector decreased by 550 jobs led by losses in leisure and hospitality and manufacturing. The only industries to add jobs were professional and business services and retail trade. The public sector dropped 120 jobs with a large loss in local government overwhelming a small gain in federal government.

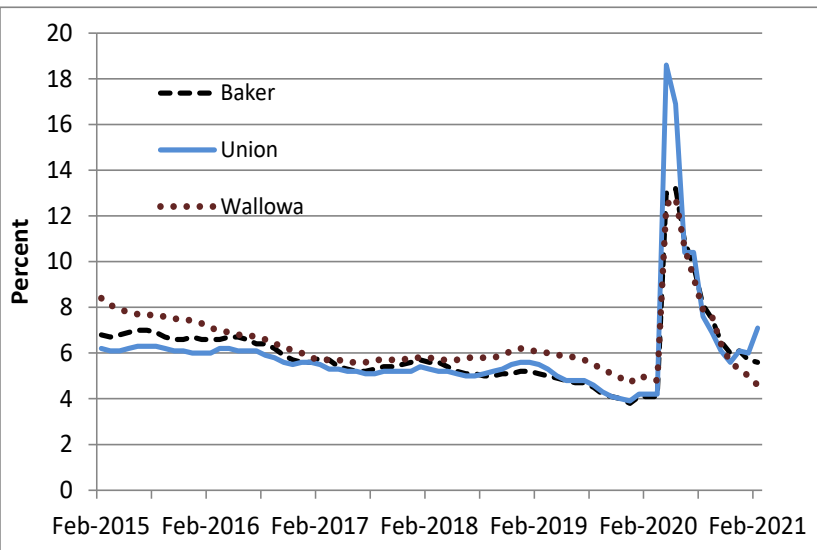
Wallowa County gained an estimated 50 jobs over the year. The private sector added 80 jobs with gains spread across several industries. The only private industry to lose jobs was information. The public sector dropped 30 jobs with losses in local, state, and federal government.

Notable Industry Gains and Losses

Over-the-Year Employment Change from February 2020

<u>Baker</u>	<u>Union</u>	<u>Wallowa</u>
Retail Trade (+30)	Professional/Business Services (+40)	Private Education/Health Services (+30)
Transportation/Warehousing/Utilities (+10)	Retail Trade (+10)	Transportation/Warehousing/Utilities (+20)
Federal Government (+10)	Federal Government (+10)	Construction (+20)
Local Government (-80)	Leisure/Hospitality (-250)	Information (-10)
Leisure/Hospitality (-60)	Manufacturing (-220)	Local Government (-10)
Professional/Business Services (-50)	Local Government (-130)	State Government (-10)
Financial Activities (-20)	Private Education/Health Services (-60)	Federal Government (-10)
Other Services (-20)	Construction (-30)	

Unemployment rate down after sharp rise due to COVID-19



Want to learn more about the Oregon economy?

Read our blog at: oregonemployment.blogspot.com/

Follow us on Twitter at: [Twitter.com/OED_Research](https://twitter.com/OED_Research)

Visit our web site at: QualityInfo.org

Visit our subscription service at: qualityinfo.org/p-sofrm

For more economic or labor market data about Baker, Union or Wallowa counties, contact:

Tony Wendel, Workforce Analyst

Desk: 541-276-9050 ext. 232 Cell: 541-667-7027

E-mail: Tony.A.Wendel@oregon.gov

Chris Rich, Regional Economist

Desk: 541-963-7111 ext. 226 Cell: 541-519-0315

E-mail: Christopher.M.Rich@oregon.gov

Want to be added to the monthly distribution list?

E-mail me at: Tony.A.Wendel@oregon.gov