

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Dec. 16, 2025

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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

## **Employment in Josephine County: September 2025**

### **Job Losses Estimated in Most Industries Over the Year**

Total payroll employment in Josephine County rose by 330 jobs in September. Local government education posted the largest increase with a seasonally typical gain of 420 jobs. The only other industry with estimated job growth was private education and health services (+130). Employment losses were posted in leisure and hospitality (-160); construction (-20); and local government excluding educational services (-20). Other published industries showed little job change in September.

Over the past year, payroll employment in the Grants Pass MSA (Josephine County) was down by 190 jobs, a loss of 0.7%. Employment fell over the year in most private-sector industries, excluding private education and health services, which gained 440 jobs. Job declines occurred in financial activities (-140); leisure and hospitality (-140); professional and business services (-50); wholesale trade (-40); and retail trade (-30).

Government employment fell by 180 jobs over the year. Losses occurred in local government education (-150); local government excluding educational services (-20); and federal government (-10).

Josephine County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was estimated at 7.3% in September, from 7.1% in August and up from the September 2024 rate of 6.0%.

### **Next Press Releases**

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the October and November county and metropolitan area unemployment rates and employment survey data on Tuesday, Jan. 13<sup>th</sup>, and the statewide data for October and November on Wednesday, Jan. 7<sup>th</sup>. The October employment survey jobs data will be released along with November's data, but there won't be October labor force or unemployment data published.

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.

You can subscribe to receive notification of new articles and publications from 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.

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, 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.

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).



### Grants Pass MSA (Josephine County) Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	September 2025	August 2025	September 2024	--Change From--	
				August 2025	September 2024
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	35,123	35,422	35,106	-299	17
Unemployed	2,418	2,758	1,834	-340	584
Unemployment rate	6.9%	7.8%	5.2%	-0.9	1.7
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	7.3%	7.1%	6.0%	0.2	1.3
Employed	32,705	32,664	33,272	41	-567
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	27,110	26,780	27,300	330	-190
Total private	23,780	23,860	23,790	-80	-10
Mining, logging, and construction	1,300	1,320	1,300	-20	0
Mining and logging	90	90	100	0	-10
Construction	1,210	1,230	1,200	-20	10
Manufacturing	2,760	2,760	2,760	0	0
Wood product manufacturing	550	550	540	0	10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	5,100	5,100	5,200	0	-100
Wholesale trade	540	540	580	0	-40
Retail trade	4,030	4,030	4,060	0	-30
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	530	530	560	0	-30
Information	230	240	240	-10	-10
Financial activities	1,430	1,440	1,570	-10	-140
Professional and business services	1,720	1,730	1,770	-10	-50
Private education and health services	6,830	6,700	6,390	130	440
Leisure and hospitality	3,410	3,570	3,550	-160	-140
Other services	1,000	1,000	1,010	0	-10
Government	3,330	2,920	3,510	410	-180
Federal government	320	320	330	0	-10
State government	520	510	520	10	0
Local government	2,490	2,090	2,660	400	-170
Local education	1,630	1,210	1,780	420	-150
Local government excluding educational services	860	880	880	-20	-20

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.

###