

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Jan. 13, 2026

CONTACT INFORMATION:

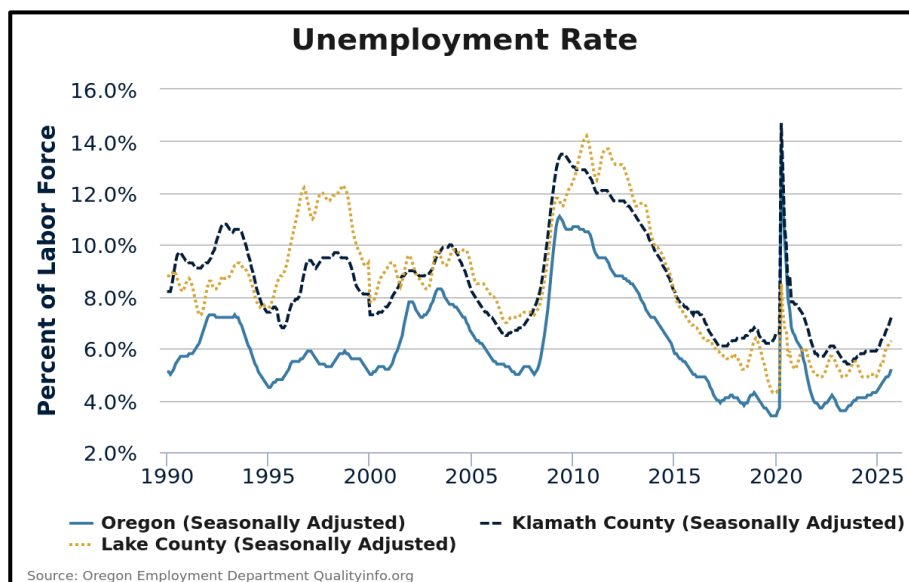
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Employment in South Central Oregon: November 2025

Total nonfarm employment decreased in both Klamath and Lake County, while seasonally adjusted employment rates rose year-over-year.

Klamath County: The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 7.5% in November 2025, up 1.6 percentage points from the previous year. Outside of the pandemic recession, the last time the unemployment rate was this high was a decade ago, in January 2016.

Klamath County lost 130 jobs in November, a -0.5% decrease with the largest decreases occurring in leisure and hospitality (-80 jobs); mining, logging, and construction (-40 jobs); and professional and business services (-30 jobs). Smaller losses also occurred in manufacturing (-10 jobs) and the public sector (-10 jobs). Losses in the public sector occurred in federal government (-40 jobs) and gains in local government (+30 jobs). Private-sector gains occurred in trade, transportation, and utilities (+20 jobs), private education and health services (+10 jobs), and financial activities (+10 jobs). All other industries saw little to no change over the month.



Klamath County shed 60 jobs in the past year (-0.3%) with private-sector losses concentrated in trade, transportation, and utilities (-120 jobs); manufacturing (-90 jobs); and professional and business services (-60 jobs). Other notable losses also occurred within the public sector (-30 jobs); financial activities (-10 jobs); and information (-10 jobs). Of the jobs lost in manufacturing, 60 of them were shed in durable goods manufacturing and 30 in nondurable goods manufacturing. Private-sector job gains

were sparse and occurred within private education and health services (+100 jobs), leisure and hospitality (+90 jobs), and mining, logging, and construction (+70 jobs).

Lake County: The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 6.4% in November 2025, up 1.5 percentage points from the previous year. Outside of the pandemic recession the last time the unemployment rate was this high was in 2019 and remains historically low for the area. The unemployment rate was 4.3% in February 2020, before the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic recession were first felt.

Total nonfarm employment decreased by 50 jobs from October to November (-2.3%). Losses were concentrated within the public sector (-30 jobs), specifically federal government (-30 jobs); leisure and hospitality (-10 jobs); other services (-10 jobs); and manufacturing (-10 jobs). Gains were minimal and occurred within financial activities (+10 jobs). All other major industries saw little to no change, and seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment levels remain 250 jobs (-10.5%) below the pre-pandemic employment levels, as of November.

Lake County's total nonfarm employment declined by 130 jobs (-5.8%) since November 2024. Over-the-year losses were primarily concentrated within the public sector (-40 jobs). Private-sector declines occurred within other services (-30 jobs); manufacturing (-30 jobs); professional and business services (-20 jobs); and mining, logging, and construction (-10 jobs). No major industry gained jobs over the year, and all other major industries saw little to no change over the year.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the next statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for December on Thursday, Jan. 22 and county and metropolitan area unemployment rates and employment survey data on Tuesday, Jan.27.



Workforce & Economic Research Division

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January 13, 2026

Klamath County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

| | --Change From-- | | | | |
|---|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| | November 2025 | October 2025 | November 2024 | October 2025 | November 2024 |
| Labor Force Status | | | | | |
| Civilian labor force | 29,418 | NA | 28,690 | NA | 728 |
| Unemployed | 2,014 | NA | 1,583 | NA | 431 |
| Unemployment rate | 6.8% | NA | 5.5% | NA | 1.3 |
| <i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i> | 7.5% | NA | 5.9% | NA | 1.6 |
| Employed | 27,404 | NA | 27,107 | NA | 297 |
| Nonfarm Payroll Employment | | | | | |
| Total nonfarm employment | 23,680 | 23,810 | 23,740 | -130 | -60 |
| <i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i> | 23,620 | 23,560 | 23,670 | 60 | -50 |
| Total private | 18,180 | 18,300 | 18,210 | -120 | -30 |
| Mining, logging, and construction | 1,360 | 1,400 | 1,290 | -40 | 70 |
| Mining and logging | 90 | 90 | 90 | 0 | 0 |
| Construction | 1,270 | 1,310 | 1,200 | -40 | 70 |
| Manufacturing | 1,520 | 1,530 | 1,610 | -10 | -90 |
| Durable goods | 1,440 | 1,450 | 1,500 | -10 | -60 |
| Wood product manufacturing | 1,130 | 1,140 | 1,190 | -10 | -60 |
| Nondurable goods | 80 | 80 | 110 | 0 | -30 |
| Trade, transportation, and utilities | 4,520 | 4,500 | 4,640 | 20 | -120 |
| Wholesale trade | 700 | 690 | 740 | 10 | -40 |
| Retail trade | 3,080 | 3,060 | 3,130 | 20 | -50 |
| Food and beverage retailers | 610 | 610 | 620 | 0 | -10 |
| General merchandise retailers | 900 | 870 | 880 | 30 | 20 |
| Transportation, warehousing, and utilities | 740 | 750 | 770 | -10 | -30 |
| Information | 100 | 100 | 110 | 0 | -10 |
| Financial activities | 850 | 840 | 860 | 10 | -10 |
| Professional and business services | 1,510 | 1,540 | 1,570 | -30 | -60 |
| Private education and health services | 4,780 | 4,770 | 4,680 | 10 | 100 |
| Leisure and hospitality | 2,630 | 2,710 | 2,540 | -80 | 90 |
| Other services | 910 | 910 | 910 | 0 | 0 |
| Government | 5,500 | 5,510 | 5,530 | -10 | -30 |
| Federal government | 700 | 740 | 710 | -40 | -10 |
| State government | 610 | 610 | 630 | 0 | -20 |
| Local government | 4,190 | 4,160 | 4,190 | 30 | 0 |
| Local education | 2,580 | 2,540 | 2,600 | 40 | -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: 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.



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Lake County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

| | --Change From-- | | | | |
|---|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| | November 2025 | October 2025 | November 2024 | October 2025 | November 2024 |
| Labor Force Status | | | | | |
| Civilian labor force | 3,406 | NA | 3,485 | NA | -79 |
| Unemployed | 197 | NA | 154 | NA | 43 |
| Unemployment rate | 5.8% | NA | 4.4% | NA | 1.4 |
| <i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i> | 6.4% | NA | 4.9% | NA | 1.5 |
| Employed | 3,209 | NA | 3,331 | NA | -122 |
| Nonfarm Payroll Employment | | | | | |
| Total nonfarm employment | 2,110 | 2,160 | 2,240 | -50 | -130 |
| <i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i> | 2,140 | 2,150 | 2,270 | -10 | -130 |
| Total private | 1,090 | 1,110 | 1,180 | -20 | -90 |
| Mining, logging, and construction | 130 | 130 | 140 | 0 | -10 |
| Mining and logging | 30 | 30 | 40 | 0 | -10 |
| Construction | 100 | 100 | 100 | 0 | 0 |
| Manufacturing | 180 | 190 | 210 | -10 | -30 |
| Trade, transportation, and utilities | 340 | 340 | 340 | 0 | 0 |
| Retail trade | 250 | 250 | 240 | 0 | 10 |
| Information | 20 | 20 | 20 | 0 | 0 |
| Financial activities | 50 | 40 | 50 | 10 | 0 |
| Professional and business services | 60 | 60 | 80 | 0 | -20 |
| Private education and health services | 110 | 110 | 110 | 0 | 0 |
| Leisure and hospitality | 150 | 160 | 150 | -10 | 0 |
| Other services | 50 | 60 | 80 | -10 | -30 |
| Government | 1,020 | 1,050 | 1,060 | -30 | -40 |
| Federal government | 170 | 200 | 180 | -30 | -10 |
| State government | 200 | 200 | 200 | 0 | 0 |
| Local government | 650 | 650 | 680 | 0 | -30 |

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.

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Employed includes payroll employment, self-employed, unpaid family workers, domestics, agriculture, and labor disputants.

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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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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

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.

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