

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 23, 2025

CONTACT INFORMATION:

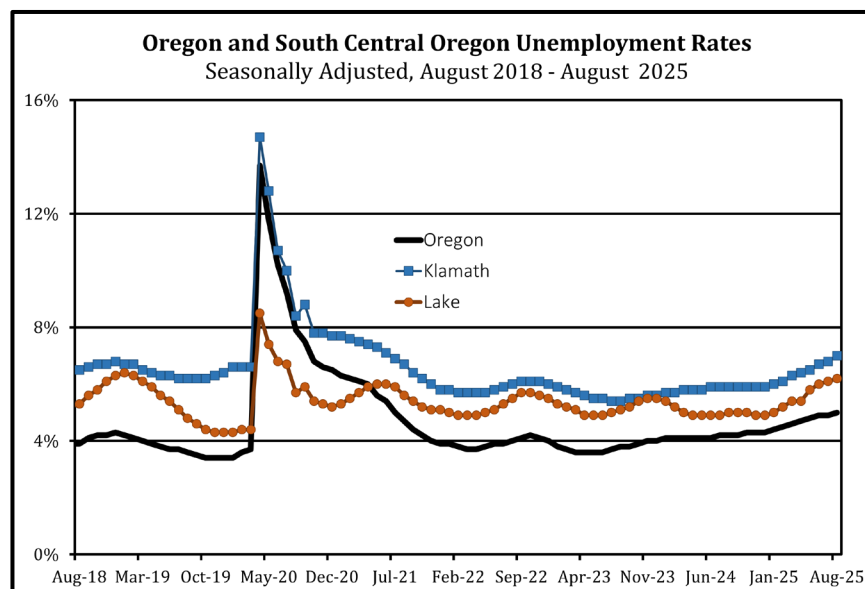
Nicole Ramos, Regional Economist
Nicole.S.Ramos@employ.oregon.gov
(541) 706-0779

Employment in South Central Oregon: August 2025

The upward movement in South Central seasonally adjusted unemployment rates continued this August, with rates rising in both counties.

Klamath County: The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate continued to increase over the month of August and is now 7.0%, up from a rate of 6.8% in July. In August 2024, the unemployment rate was 1.1 percentage points lower, at 5.9%.

Klamath County gained 60 jobs in August, a +0.3% increase with the largest increase occurring in government (+100 jobs), specifically local government (+110 jobs). Private-sector gains were largest in construction (+30 jobs), with smaller losses taking place in trade, transportation, and utilities (+20 jobs); leisure and hospitality (+20 jobs); professional and business services (+20 jobs); and other services (+10 jobs). Private-sector losses were larger, resulting in a net decrease of 40 jobs over the month. The largest private-sector losses occurred in private education and health services (-110 jobs), followed by smaller losses in manufacturing (-20 jobs) and financial activities (-10 jobs).



Klamath County shed 270 jobs in the past year (-1.1%) with private-sector losses concentrated in trade, transportation, and utilities (-140 jobs) and professional and business services (-140 jobs). Other notable losses occurred within manufacturing (-90 jobs); other services (-80 jobs); private education and health services (-60 jobs); and construction (-60 jobs). Of the jobs lost in manufacturing, 70 of them were shed in durable goods manufacturing and 20 in nondurable goods manufacturing. Private-sector job gains were not as widespread and occurred within leisure and hospitality (+210 jobs). As a result,

total private employment is down 360 jobs over the year. In contrast, public-sector employment saw an increase of 90 jobs, with both local (+50 jobs) and state government employment (+40 jobs) increasing while federal government jobs remained unchanged.

Lake County: The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased over the month of August, going from 6.1% in July to 6.2% in August – last year around this time it was 1.2 percentage points lower, at 5.0%. The unemployment rate was 4.3% in February 2020, before the impacts of COVID-19 were first felt.

Total nonfarm employment increased 2.8% from July to August with 60 jobs added over the month. Most gains occurred within government employment (+50 jobs), followed by smaller gains in construction (+10 jobs) and private education and health services (+10 jobs). Losses were minimal and occurred in other services which saw jobs decrease by 10 jobs over the month. All other major industries saw little to no change, and seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment levels remain 210 jobs (-8.8%) below the pre-pandemic employment levels, as of August.

Lake County's total nonfarm employment declined by 80 jobs (-3.5%) since August 2024. Over-the-year losses were primarily concentrated within the public sector (50 jobs) and were also more widespread. Smaller yet noticeable declines also occurred within professional and business services (-20 jobs). Additionally, financial activities; private education; manufacturing; and leisure and hospitality lost 10 jobs each. The only industries to gain jobs over the year ending in August were the mining, logging, and construction industry (+20 jobs) and trade, transportation, and utilities (+10 jobs). All other major industries saw little to no change over the year.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the September county and metropolitan area unemployment rates and employment survey data on Tuesday, Oct. 21, and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for September on Wednesday, Oct. 15.



Workforce & Economic Research Division

QualityInfo.org

September 23, 2025

Klamath County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	August 2025	July 2025	August 2024	July 2025	August 2024
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	29,664	29,457	29,365	207	299
Unemployed	2,174	2,154	1,735	20	439
Unemployment rate	7.3%	7.3%	5.9%	0.0	1.4
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>7.0%</i>	<i>6.8%</i>	<i>5.9%</i>	<i>0.2</i>	<i>1.1</i>
Employed	27,490	27,303	27,630	187	-140
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	23,610	23,550	23,880	60	-270
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>23,450</i>	<i>23,550</i>	<i>23,720</i>	<i>-100</i>	<i>-270</i>
Total private	18,470	18,510	18,830	-40	-360
Mining, logging, and construction	1,390	1,360	1,440	30	-50
Mining and logging	100	100	90	0	10
Construction	1,290	1,260	1,350	30	-60
Manufacturing	1,510	1,530	1,600	-20	-90
Durable goods	1,430	1,430	1,500	0	-70
Wood product manufacturing	1,140	1,140	1,180	0	-40
Nondurable goods	80	100	100	-20	-20
Trade, transportation, and utilities	4,520	4,500	4,660	20	-140
Wholesale trade	740	730	730	10	10
Retail trade	3,040	3,030	3,120	10	-80
Food and beverage retailers	610	610	630	0	-20
General merchandise retailers	850	830	890	20	-40
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	740	740	810	0	-70
Information	120	120	120	0	0
Financial activities	860	870	870	-10	-10
Professional and business services	1,500	1,480	1,640	20	-140
Private education and health services	4,590	4,700	4,650	-110	-60
Leisure and hospitality	3,070	3,050	2,860	20	210
Other services	910	900	990	10	-80
Government	5,140	5,040	5,050	100	90
Federal government	840	850	840	-10	0
State government	670	670	630	0	40
Local government	3,630	3,520	3,580	110	50
Local education	1,990	1,890	1,930	100	60

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.



Workforce & Economic Research Division

QualityInfo.org

September 23, 2025

Lake County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	August 2025	July 2025	August 2024	July 2025	August 2024
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	3,630	3,597	3,704	33	-74
Unemployed	199	203	167	-4	32
Unemployment rate	5.5%	5.6%	4.5%	-0.1	1.0
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	6.2%	6.1%	5.0%	0.1	1.2
Employed	3,431	3,394	3,537	37	-106
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	2,220	2,160	2,300	60	-80
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	2,180	2,100	2,260	80	-80
Total private	1,170	1,160	1,200	10	-30
Mining, logging, and construction	140	130	120	10	20
Mining and logging	40	40	30	0	10
Construction	100	90	90	10	10
Manufacturing	200	200	210	0	-10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	350	350	340	0	10
Retail trade	240	240	240	0	0
Information	20	20	20	0	0
Financial activities	40	40	50	0	-10
Professional and business services	60	60	80	0	-20
Private education and health services	110	100	120	10	-10
Leisure and hospitality	150	150	160	0	-10
Other services	100	110	100	-10	0
Government	1,050	1,000	1,100	50	-50
Federal government	230	230	240	0	-10
State government	200	190	200	10	0
Local government	620	580	660	40	-40

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.

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, 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/. 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

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.

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.

###