State of Oregon Employment Department

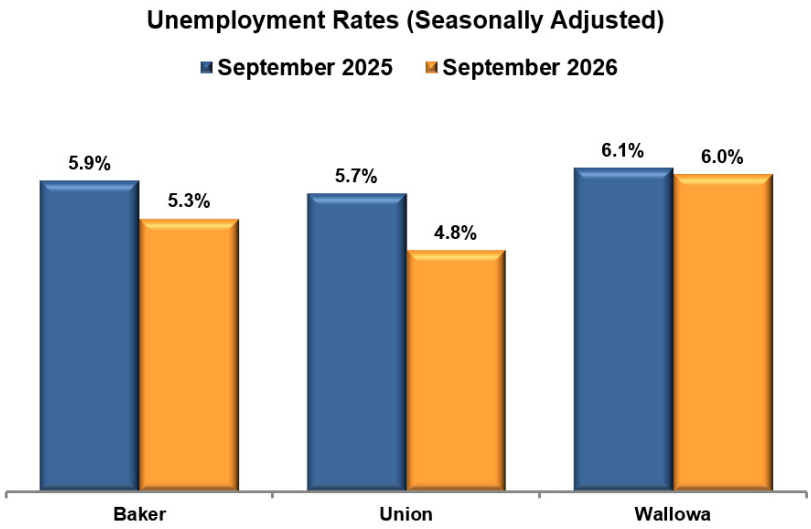
Labor Market Information

Quality Information, Informed Choices
QualityInfo.org

Northeast Oregon Economic Indicators

Baker, Union, and Wallowa

October 2026 (September Data)



Source: Oregon Employment Department, LAUS

Unemployment Rate

The September 2026 seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased slightly by 0.1 percentage point in both Baker and Union counties, and stayed the same in Wallowa County over the previous month.

Union County remains below Oregon's statewide rate of 5%, while Baker and Wallowa counties stayed above that rate. All three counties' rates remain above the national rate of 4.2%.

Nonfarm Employment Change

September 2025 to September 2026

Baker County employment increased by an estimated 60 jobs over the year. The private sector increased by 70 jobs and the public sector decreased by 10. Private education and health services led job gains while job losses were evenly spread out or showed no change across multiple industries.

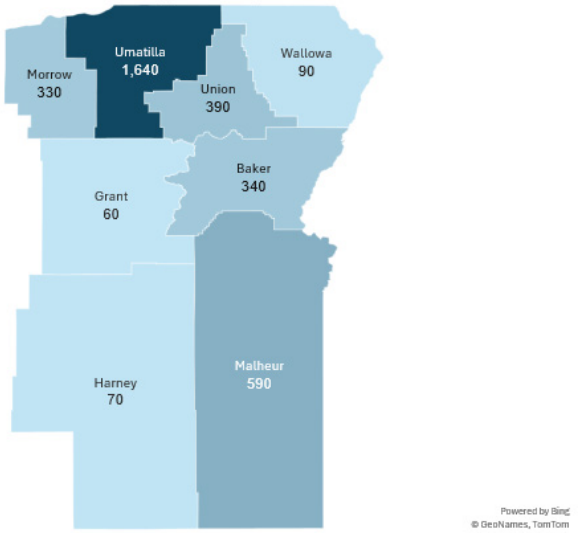
Union County employment decreased by an estimated 30 jobs over the year. The private sector gained 130 jobs while the public sector lost 160 jobs. Local government experienced the most notable job losses. Gains were primarily led by financial activities.

Wallowa County employment decreased by an estimated 150 jobs over the year. The private sector decreased by 120 while the public sector decreased by 30 jobs. Leisure and hospitality provided the only job gains. Wholesale and retail trade led employment losses while many industries showed no change over the previous year.

	Baker		Union		Wallowa	
	Total Nonfarm Employment	60	Total Nonfarm Employment	(30)	Total Nonfarm Employment	(150)
↑	Private Education / Health Services	60	Financial Activities	70	Leisure / Hospitality	10
↑	Other Services	30	Private Education / Health Services	30	-	-
↑	Manufacturing	10	Transportation / Warehousing / Utilities	30	-	-
↓	Construction	(20)	Local Government	(130)	Wholesale / Retail Trade	(50)
↓	Federal Government	(10)	Retail Trade	(40)	Local Government	(30)
↓	Retail Trade	(10)	State Government	(20)	Transportation / Warehousing / Utilities	(30)

Source: Oregon Employment Department, CES

September Eastern Oregon Help Wanted Online Ads



Source: Oregon Employment Department, The Conference Board-Lightcast Help Wanted Online

News and Articles

2026 Oregon Wage Information by Jason Payton

The Diversity of Oregon's Industries by Molly Hendrickson

Career Spotlight: Software Developers by James Scanlan

Unemployed-to-Job Vacancy Ratio by Clare McGrady

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Statewide: QualityInfo.org

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