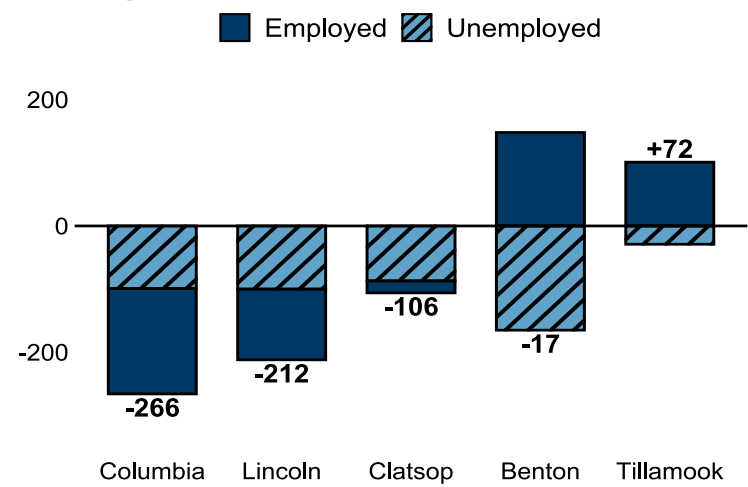


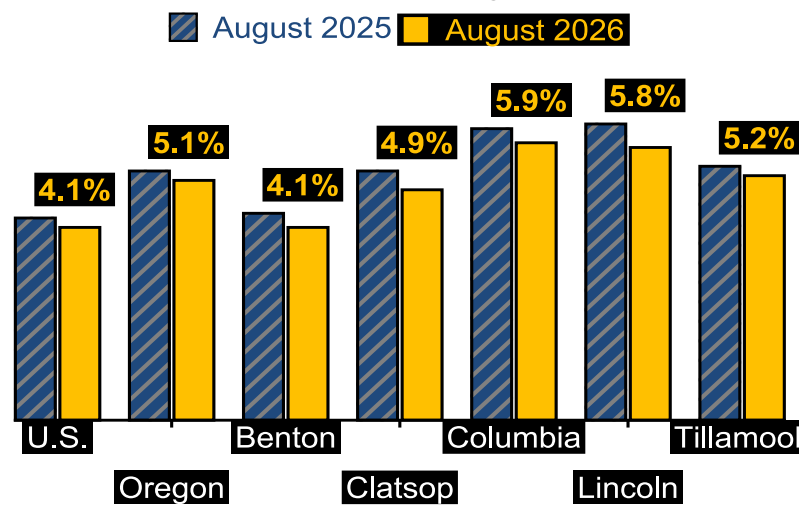
For Benton, Clatsop, Columbia, Lincoln, & Tillamook Counties

Change in Size of Labor Force Over-the-Year



Source: OED, Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

Local Area Unemployment Rates



Source: OED, LAUS

Graph of the Month

The size of the civilian labor force declined in four of Northwest Oregon's five counties from August 2025 to August 2026. Employed residents and unemployed residents actively seeking work both fell in Clatsop, Columbia, and Lincoln counties. Benton's labor force declined as the number of employed residents increased because unemployed labor force fell by more. Tillamook was the exception, with employment growth lifting its labor force by 72 people despite fewer unemployed residents in the labor force.

Key Takeaways

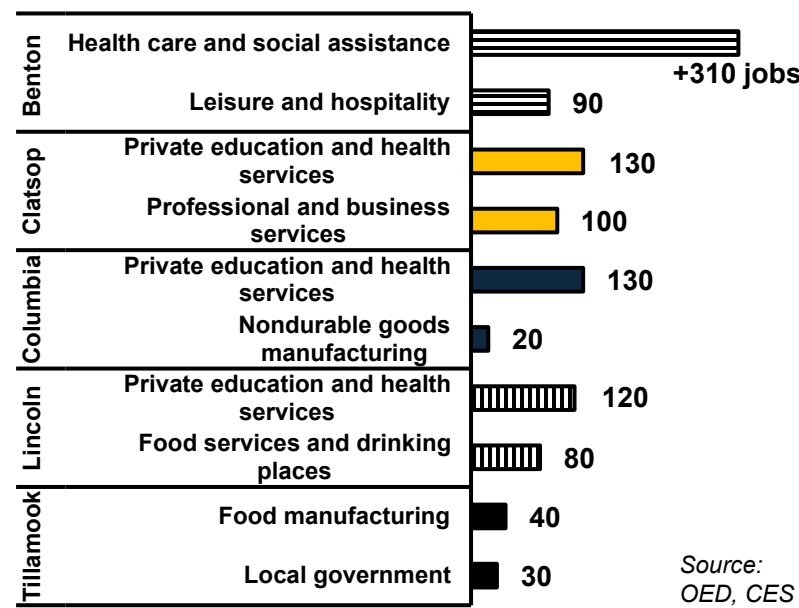
All five counties had lower unemployment rates than in August 2025. The largest declines were in Lincoln County where the rate fell from 6.3% to 5.8%, and in Clatsop County from 5.3% to 4.9%. Fewer job seekers can make hiring harder, even as jobs decline.

Payroll employment was lower than a year ago in all five counties. The largest losses were in Benton (-430 jobs) and Lincoln (-370 jobs). Health care and education-related services added jobs in several counties, while losses were spread across trade, government, professional and business services, manufacturing, and leisure and hospitality.

For more economic or labor market data, or to be added to this monthly email list, contact:

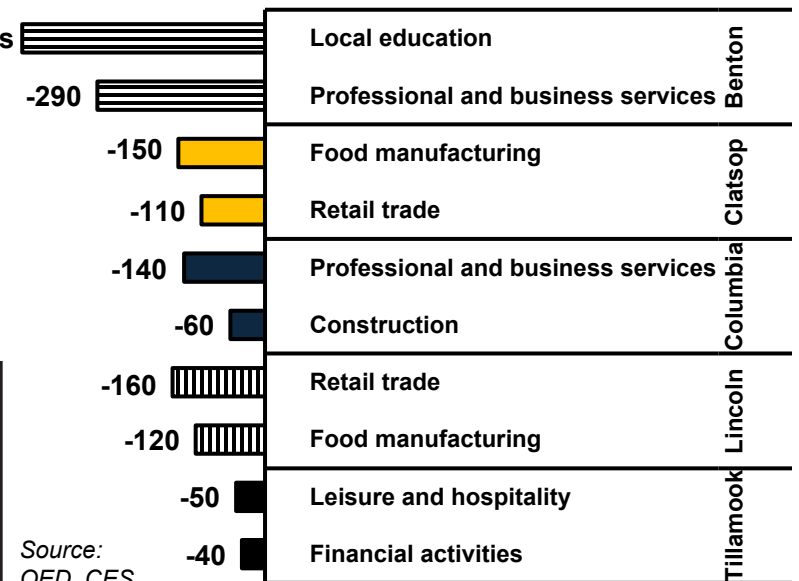
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Industries Adding the Most Jobs in Past Year by County



Source: OED, CES

Industries Losing the Most Jobs in Past Year by County



Source: OED, CES