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Employment in Morrow & Umatilla Counties: September 2026

Morrow County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady at 4.6% in September. At 4.6%, Morrow is tied with Washington County for the sixth lowest rate among Oregon's 36 counties. Morrow County's rate is down from 5.2% in September 2025. The Oregon rate was 5.0% in September, and the U.S. rate was 4.2%.

Morrow County's seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment decreased by 90 in September, bringing the total to 5,730. The private sector collectively lost 80 jobs over the month in the not seasonally adjusted industries. The largest loss was in manufacturing (-50). Public-sector employment increased by 100, with a seasonal gain of 110 jobs in local government.

Over the year since September 2025, Morrow County's total employment was flat. In the private sector, the largest loss was in professional and business services (-50), and the largest gain was in construction (+100). In the public sector, there was a loss of 30 jobs in local government.

Umatilla County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.2% in September and 5.3% in August. The county's unemployment rate is down from 5.7% in September 2025. The Oregon rate was 5.0% in September, and the U.S. rate was 4.2%.

Umatilla County's seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment decreased by 150 in September, bringing the total to 29,970. In the not seasonally adjusted industries, the private sector added 60 jobs. The largest loss over the month was in retail trade (-30). The largest gains were in professional and business services (+70); transportation, warehousing, and utilities (+60); and leisure and hospitality (+50). In the public sector, there were losses in local government (-190), and Indian tribal (-80), offset by a gain of 630 jobs in local education.

Over the year ending September 2026, Umatilla County's employment decreased by 140. In the private sector, there were significant losses in leisure and hospitality (-150); retail trade (-120); and transportation, warehousing, and utilities (-100). Over the year, the largest gains were in information (+180), private education and health services (+170), and wholesale trade (+100). Public-sector employment decreased by 60 over the year. The largest loss was in local education (-180), and the largest gain was in Indian tribal (+130).

Next News Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the October statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data on Wednesday, Nov. 18, and October county and metropolitan area unemployment and jobs data on Tuesday, Nov. 24.



Workforce & Economic Research Division

QualityInfo.org

October 20, 2026

Morrow County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	September 2026	August 2026	September 2025	--Change From--	
				August 2026	September 2025
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	6,321	6,266	6,373	55	-52
Unemployed	237	296	298	-59	-61
Unemployment rate	3.7%	4.7%	4.7%	-1.0	-1.0
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)	4.6%	4.6%	5.2%	0.0	-0.6
Employed	6,084	5,970	6,075	114	9
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	5,770	5,750	5,770	20	0
Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)	5,730	5,820	5,730	-90	0
Total private	4,700	4,780	4,670	-80	30
Mining and logging	30	40	30	-10	0
Construction	500	500	400	0	100
Manufacturing	1,540	1,590	1,570	-50	-30
Trade, transportation, and utilities	790	810	820	-20	-30
Wholesale trade	90	100	90	-10	0
Retail trade	280	300	290	-20	-10
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	420	410	440	10	-20
Financial activities	70	70	70	0	0
Professional and business services	190	190	240	0	-50
Private education and health services	340	340	320	0	20
Leisure and hospitality	220	220	220	0	0
Government	1,070	970	1,100	100	-30
Federal government	50	60	50	-10	0
State government	50	50	50	0	0
Local government	970	860	1,000	110	-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.

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

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October 20, 2026

Umatilla County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	September 2026	August 2026	September 2025	August 2026	September 2025
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	37,926	37,872	38,591	54	-665
Unemployed	1,508	1,931	1,961	-423	-453
Unemployment rate	4.0%	5.1%	5.1%	-1.1	-1.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>5.7%</i>	<i>-0.1</i>	<i>-0.5</i>
Employed	36,418	35,941	36,630	477	-212
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	30,280	29,860	30,420	420	-140
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>29,970</i>	<i>30,120</i>	<i>30,110</i>	<i>-150</i>	<i>-140</i>
Total private	22,550	22,490	22,630	60	-80
Mining, logging, and construction	1,570	1,590	1,650	-20	-80
Manufacturing	2,450	2,470	2,530	-20	-80
Durable goods	940	960	1,020	-20	-80
Nondurable goods	1,510	1,510	1,510	0	0
Food manufacturing	1,210	1,210	1,200	0	10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	6,630	6,620	6,750	10	-120
Wholesale trade	1,050	1,070	950	-20	100
Retail trade	3,120	3,150	3,240	-30	-120
Food and beverage retailers	660	660	700	0	-40
General merchandise retailers	860	860	900	0	-40
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	2,460	2,400	2,560	60	-100
Information	1,210	1,210	1,030	0	180
Financial activities	860	870	880	-10	-20
Professional and business services	1,520	1,450	1,450	70	70
Private education and health services	4,780	4,800	4,610	-20	170
Nursing and residential care facilities	1,090	1,100	1,040	-10	50
Leisure and hospitality	2,830	2,780	2,980	50	-150
Accommodation and food services	2,690	2,640	2,840	50	-150
Other services	700	700	750	0	-50
Government	7,730	7,370	7,790	360	-60
Federal government	480	480	500	0	-20
State government	1,720	1,720	1,710	0	10
Local government	5,530	5,170	5,580	360	-50
Indian tribal	1,960	2,040	1,830	-80	130
Local education	2,410	1,780	2,590	630	-180
Local government excluding education and tribal	1,160	1,350	1,160	-190	0

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.

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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.

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.

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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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