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Employment in Columbia County: July 2026

Seasonally adjusted employment increased by 40 in July

Columbia County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 6.0% in July, unchanged from June, and slightly below the rate of 6.1% in July 2025. The statewide unemployment rate was 5.2% in July, and the national rate was 4.1%.

Seasonally adjusted nonfarm payroll employment increased in July by 40 to 12,030 jobs (+0.3%). Seasonally adjusted figures compare expected changes with actual changes. A loss of 350 jobs was expected for the month, and the county's payroll employment decreased by 310. Private-sector employment decreased by 30, and government employment decreased by 280. Leisure and hospitality added 30 jobs (+2.0%). Local education lost 300 jobs (-28.6%).

July's total nonfarm employment was down from the previous year by 270 jobs, a decrease of 2.2%. Some broad sectors gained jobs over the past year. The largest gain occurred in private education and health services, which added 140 jobs (+7.6%). Professional and business services was down 170 jobs over the year (-14.3%). Local government, including education, was down 50 jobs over the year (+3.3%).

Next News Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the August statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data on Wednesday, Sep. 16, and August county and metropolitan area unemployment and jobs data on Tuesday, Sep. 22.

Columbia County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	July 2026	June 2026	July 2025	June 2026	July 2025
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	26,470	26,378	26,717	92	-247
Unemployed	1,611	1,581	1,662	30	-51
Unemployment rate	6.1%	6.0%	6.2%	0.1	-0.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>6.0%</i>	<i>6.0%</i>	<i>6.1%</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>-0.1</i>
Employed	24,859	24,797	25,055	62	-196
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	11,790	12,100	12,060	-310	-270
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>12,030</i>	<i>11,990</i>	<i>12,310</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>-280</i>
Total private	10,030	10,060	10,250	-30	-220
Mining, logging, and construction	840	840	940	0	-100
Mining and logging	170	170	190	0	-20
Construction	670	670	750	0	-80
Manufacturing	1,470	1,470	1,470	0	0
Durable goods	1,090	1,090	1,090	0	0
Wood product manufacturing	230	220	230	10	0
Nondurable goods	380	380	380	0	0
Paper manufacturing	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,200	2,230	2,260	-30	-60
Retail trade	1,570	1,560	1,590	10	-20
Information	60	60	60	0	0
Financial activities	500	500	500	0	0
Professional and business services	1,020	1,040	1,190	-20	-170
Private education and health services	1,980	1,990	1,840	-10	140
Leisure and hospitality	1,520	1,490	1,500	30	20
Other services	440	440	490	0	-50
Government	1,760	2,040	1,810	-280	-50
Federal government	80	80	80	0	0
State government	230	230	230	0	0
Local government	1,450	1,730	1,500	-280	-50
Local education	750	1,050	780	-300	-30
Local government excluding educational services	700	680	720	20	-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.

Oregon Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates by Area (1)

	July 2026	June 2026	July 2025
United States	4.1	4.2	4.3
State of Oregon	5.2	5.2	5.3
<u>Metropolitan Statistical Areas:</u>			
Albany (Linn County)	5.3	5.4	5.7
Bend (Crook, Deschutes and Jefferson counties)	5.0	5.0	5.1
Corvallis (Benton County)	4.2	4.3	4.3
Eugene-Springfield (Lane County)	5.1	5.1	5.2
Grants Pass (Josephine County)	7.0	6.8	7.4
Medford (Jackson County)	5.7	5.7	5.8
Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro (2)	4.9	5.0	4.9
Salem (Marion and Polk counties)	4.9	4.9	5.1
<u>Counties (1):</u>			
Baker	5.4	5.4	5.8
Benton	4.2	4.3	4.3
Clackamas	4.9	4.9	5.0
Clatsop	5.0	4.9	5.3
Columbia	6.0	6.0	6.1
Coos	5.7	5.7	6.0
Crook	6.0	6.0	5.8
Curry	6.2	6.3	6.8
Deschutes	4.8	4.9	4.9
Douglas	6.1	6.2	6.3
Gilliam	5.1	5.3	5.4
Grant	6.7	6.6	7.8
Harney	4.9	4.8	5.0
Hood River	3.9	4.0	4.2
Jackson	5.7	5.7	5.8
Jefferson	5.6	5.6	5.9
Josephine	7.0	6.8	7.4
Klamath	7.2	7.2	7.3
Lake	6.0	5.9	6.3
Lane	5.1	5.1	5.2
Lincoln	5.8	5.9	6.2
Linn	5.3	5.4	5.7
Malheur	4.5	4.5	4.8
Marion	5.0	5.0	5.2
Morrow	4.6	4.5	5.1
Multnomah	5.1	5.1	5.3
Polk	4.8	4.9	5.0
Sherman	4.8	4.9	5.3
Tillamook	5.2	5.2	5.4
Umatilla	5.3	5.3	5.7
Union	5.0	5.0	5.8
Wallowa	6.1	6.0	5.9
Wasco	5.1	5.1	5.3
Washington	4.9	5.0	5.0
Wheeler	4.3	4.6	4.2
Yamhill	4.8	4.8	4.9

(1) Seasonally adjusted rates for the United States and Oregon are official Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) series. Source of Metro data is BLS and LAUS. Source of county data is OED.

(2) Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro MSA includes Clackamas, Columbia, Multnomah, Washington, and Yamhill counties in Oregon and Clark and Skamania counties in Washington.

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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For help finding jobs and training resources, visit one of the state's WorkSource Oregon Centers or go to: www.WorkSourceOregon.org.

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