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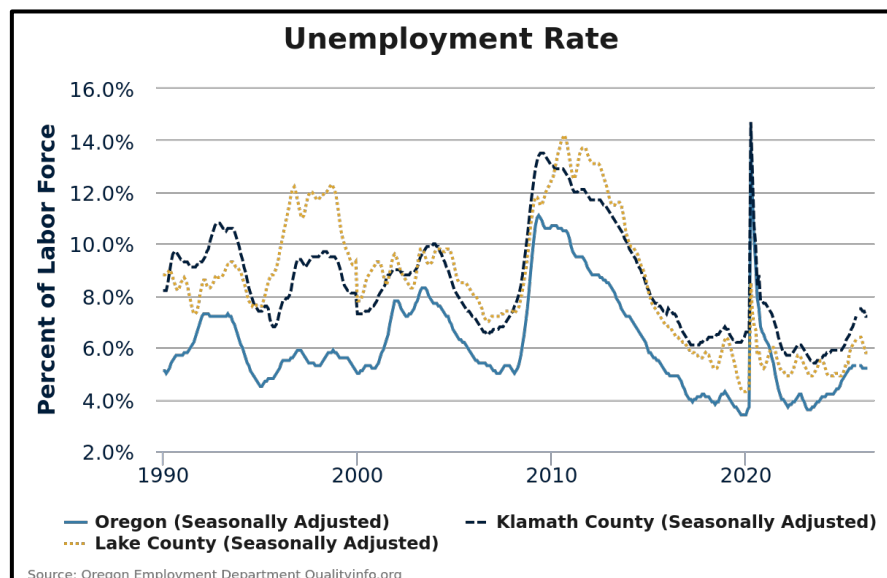
## Employment in South Central Oregon: April 2026

Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates in South Central Oregon held steady from March to April with little to no movement in both counties.

**Klamath County:** The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 7.2% in April, unchanged from March's rate. Compared with the previous year, the unemployment rate is up 0.8 percentage point.

Klamath County's employment gains in April were smaller than normal; total nonfarm employment was up 270 (+1.2%) during the month, when an employment increase of 310 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment was down 40 jobs (-0.2%) between March and April.

Losses were minimal and occurred in manufacturing (-10 jobs) and mining and logging (-10 jobs). Employment gains were more widespread and were concentrated in construction (+100 jobs), leisure and hospitality (+70 jobs), and professional and business services (+60 jobs). Smaller gains were also seen in the public sector (+20 jobs); trade, transportation, and utilities (+20 jobs); private education and health services (+10 jobs); and financial activities (+10 jobs). All other industries saw little to no change over the month.



Over the past year Klamath County's seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment has shed 530 jobs (-2.2%). Private-sector losses were concentrated in professional and business services (-200 jobs); manufacturing (-130); leisure and hospitality (-90 jobs); and trade, transportation, and utilities (-90 jobs) with losses in this industry split evenly between wholesale and retail but marginally offset by

transportation, warehousing, and utilities (+10 jobs). Of the jobs lost in manufacturing, 110 of them were shed in durable goods manufacturing. Other losses occurred within construction (-50 jobs); other services (-20 jobs); information (-10 jobs); and financial activities (-10 jobs). Private-sector job gains were sparse and occurred within private education and health services (+60 jobs). Government also gained 10 jobs over the year with local government gains (+80 jobs) largely offset by federal government losses (-70 jobs).

**Lake County:** The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.8% in April 2026, unchanged from March. Over the year the unemployment rate is up 0.4 percentage point. The unemployment rate was 4.3% in February 2020, before the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic recession were first felt.

Lake County's employment gains in April were less than normal; total nonfarm employment was up 30 during the month, when an employment increase of 50 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment was down 20 between March and April with very little movement among industries.

Gains were minimal and concentrated within manufacturing (+10 jobs), leisure and hospitality (+10 jobs), and other services (+10 jobs). And while the broader sector of trade, transportation, and utilities saw no change its subsector retail trade gained 10 jobs over the month. All other major industries saw little to no change over the month

Over the past year Lake County's seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment has dropped 100 jobs (-4.6%). Over-the-year losses were primarily concentrated within the public sector (-60 jobs) with federal government losing 50 of those jobs. Private-sector declines occurred within trade, transportation, and utilities (-30 jobs); leisure and hospitality (-20 jobs); professional and business services (-10 jobs); and financial activities (-10 jobs). Gains were smaller and occurred within other services (+20 jobs) and manufacturing (+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 next statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for May on Wednesday, June 17 and county and metropolitan area unemployment rates and employment survey data on Tuesday, June 23.



Workforce &amp; Economic Research Division

QualityInfo.org

May 27, 2026

### Klamath County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	April 2026	March 2026	April 2025	March 2026	April 2025
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	29,020	29,006	29,363	14	-343
Unemployed	1,914	2,264	1,910	-350	4
Unemployment rate	6.6%	7.8%	6.5%	-1.2	0.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	7.2%	7.2%	6.4%	0.0	0.8
Employed	27,106	26,742	27,453	364	-347
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	23,280	23,010	23,810	270	-530
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	23,340	23,380	23,870	-40	-530
Total private	17,810	17,560	18,350	250	-540
Mining, logging, and construction	1,260	1,170	1,310	90	-50
Mining and logging	90	100	90	-10	0
Construction	1,170	1,070	1,220	100	-50
Manufacturing	1,460	1,470	1,590	-10	-130
Durable goods	1,370	1,380	1,480	-10	-110
Wood product manufacturing	1,090	1,090	1,160	0	-70
Nondurable goods	90	90	110	0	-20
Trade, transportation, and utilities	4,500	4,480	4,590	20	-90
Wholesale trade	690	680	740	10	-50
Retail trade	3,020	3,020	3,070	0	-50
Food and beverage retailers	610	610	610	0	0
General merchandise retailers	870	870	870	0	0
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	790	780	780	10	10
Information	100	100	110	0	-10
Financial activities	820	810	830	10	-10
Professional and business services	1,380	1,320	1,580	60	-200
Private education and health services	4,890	4,880	4,830	10	60
Leisure and hospitality	2,510	2,440	2,600	70	-90
Other services	890	890	910	0	-20
Government	5,470	5,450	5,460	20	10
Federal government	630	600	700	30	-70
State government	640	640	640	0	0
Local government	4,200	4,210	4,120	-10	80
Local education	2,570	2,600	2,530	-30	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.



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May 27, 2026

### Lake County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	April 2026	March 2026	April 2025	March 2026	April 2025
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	3,410	3,363	3,493	47	-83
Unemployed	197	216	179	-19	18
Unemployment rate	5.8%	6.4%	5.1%	-0.6	0.7
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.8%	5.8%	5.4%	0.0	0.4
Employed	3,213	3,147	3,314	66	-101
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	2,070	2,040	2,170	30	-100
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	2,070	2,090	2,170	-20	-100
Total private	1,090	1,060	1,130	30	-40
Mining, logging, and construction	110	110	110	0	0
Mining and logging	30	30	30	0	0
Construction	80	80	80	0	0
Manufacturing	210	200	200	10	10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	320	320	350	0	-30
Retail trade	240	230	240	10	0
Information	20	20	20	0	0
Financial activities	30	30	40	0	-10
Professional and business services	60	60	70	0	-10
Private education and health services	120	120	120	0	0
Leisure and hospitality	130	120	150	10	-20
Other services	90	80	70	10	20
Government	980	980	1,040	0	-60
Federal government	130	130	180	0	-50
State government	200	200	200	0	0
Local government	650	650	660	0	-10

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.

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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](http://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](mailto:OED.Communications@employ.oregon.gov).

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