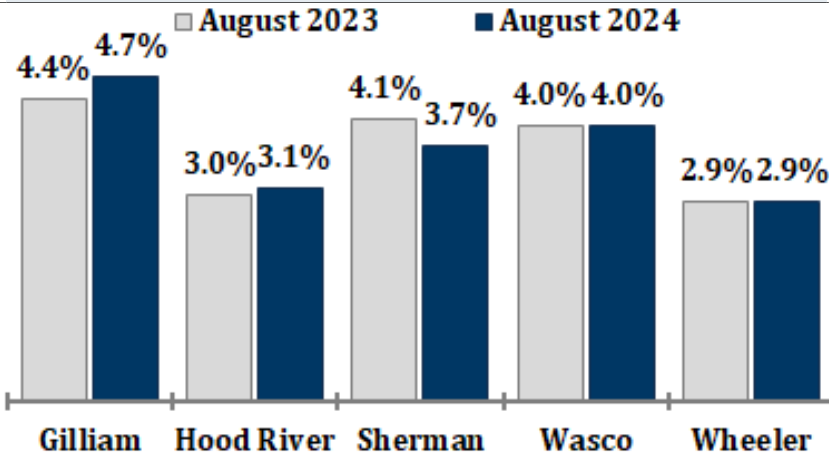




Columbia Gorge Economic Indicators

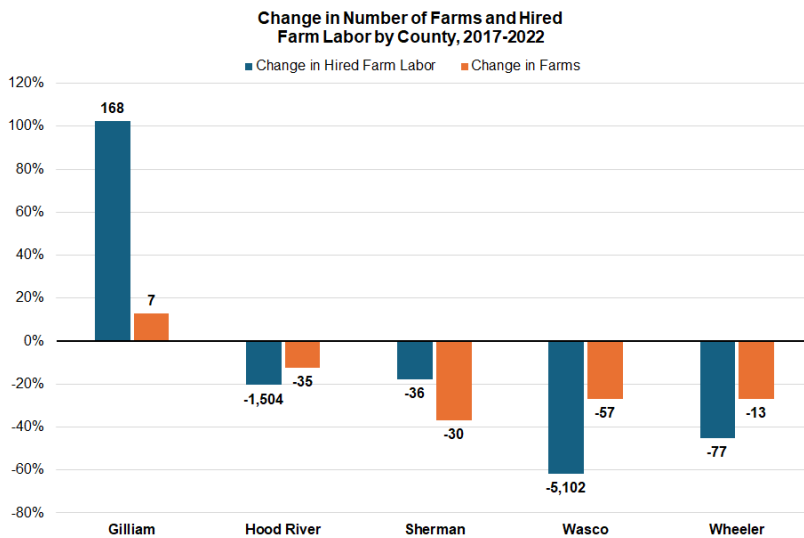
August 2024 Data

Local Area Unemployment Rates (Seasonally adjusted)



Graph of the Month (Columbia Gorge) Change in Farms and Farm Labor by County

Source: Oregon Employment Department, United States Department of Agriculture Census of Agriculture, 2022



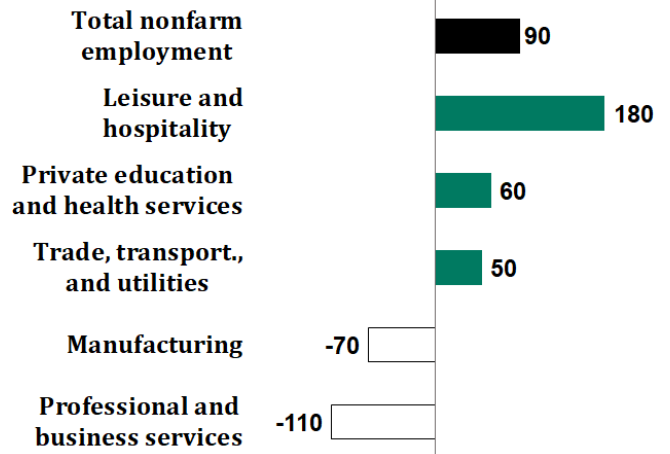
Source: Oregon Employment Department, USDA 2022 Census of Agriculture

The Census of Agriculture, performed every five years by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), is a complete count of U.S. farms and ranches and the people who operate them. It includes every farm where \$1,000 or more of products were raised or sold during the census year.

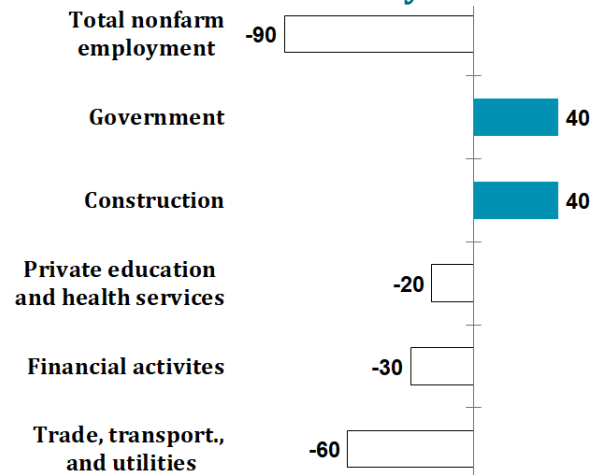
Between 2017 and 2022, the total number of farm laborers decreased by 6,551 (40.6%) in the Columbia Gorge, while the number of farms decreased by 128 (19%). During this time, all counties saw a decrease in the amount of acreage dedicated to farmland, ranging from 1,828 (6.4%) acres lost to 410,411 (29.5%) acres lost. Hood River County lost the least in aggregate, while Wasco County lost the most. Despite Gilliam County adding 168 farm laborers, the county lost 21,003 (3.4%) acres that were previously dedicated to farmland.

Select Industry Gains and Losses (Over-the-year net employment change)

Hood River County



Wasco County



Notable Over-the-Year Changes

Gilliam

Total nonfarm employment (-20)
Government (+25)
Trade, transportation, and utilities (-30)

Sherman

Total nonfarm employment (+30)
Trade, transportation, and utilities (+55)
Local government (+10)

Wheeler

Total nonfarm employment (-5)
Government (-5)
Leisure and hospitality (-10)

Want to join the distribution list? Contact:
Andrew Grimoldby, Andrew.J.Grimoldby@employ.oregon.gov