

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 1, 2025

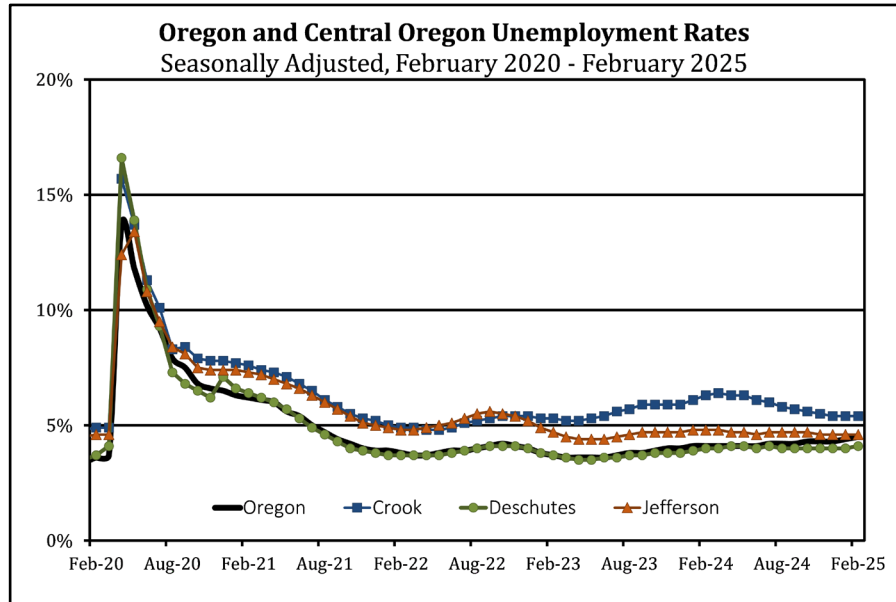
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Employment in Central Oregon: February 2025

Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates saw little change in Central Oregon this February. Total nonfarm employment increased across all three counties over the month, while Crook County was the only one to experience a decline in nonfarm employment over the year.

Bend MSA (Crook, Deschutes, and Jefferson Counties): Labor force statistics for Oregon metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) are produced by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Through June 2025, seasonally adjusted data are not available for Oregon MSAs or other MSAs around the country. New MSA definitions resulting from the 2020 Census are being incorporated into the history of the data series back to 1990, as well as other updates to the processing of labor force estimates for substate areas. Read more on this pause in seasonally adjusted metro area data [here](#).

The Bend MSA gained 1,090 jobs (+1.0%) from January to February and total nonfarm employment is now 111,110. Job gains were concentrated within the public sector (+800 jobs), with most gains occurring in local government (+820 jobs); professional and business services (+300 jobs); and mining, logging, and construction (+130 jobs). Losses were minimal and seen in leisure and hospitality (-70 jobs); financial activities (-50 jobs); trade, transportation, and utilities (-50 jobs); and other services (-10 jobs).



Total nonfarm employment increased by 2.9% (+3,130 jobs) from February 2024 to February 2025. Over-the-year job gains were concentrated in private education and health services (+1,050 jobs); and leisure and hospitality (+970 jobs). Other notable gains took place in the public sector (+370 jobs);

professional and business services (+340 jobs); manufacturing (+230 jobs); and trade, transportation, and utilities (+210 jobs). Over-the-year losses occurred within financial activities (-70 jobs) and information (-40 jobs).

Crook County: The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held firm over the month of February at 5.4%, unchanged from January's rate—in February of last year, it was 6.3%. The unemployment rate remains 0.9 percentage point above the record low set before the pandemic, in late 2019, when it hit 4.5%.

Crook County gained 60 jobs (+0.8%) in February — all from private-sector job gains. These gains were primarily concentrated in professional and business services (+20 jobs) and construction (+20 jobs). Smaller increases were also recorded in trade, transportation, and utilities (+10 jobs) and financial activities (+10 jobs). All other major industries remained steady over the month.

The county lost 140 jobs over the past year (-1.9%). Losses were concentrated within public-sector employment, with a decline of 120 jobs over the year, and an additional 20 jobs lost in the private sector. Notable private-sector job losses occurred in manufacturing (-40 jobs), specifically in wood product manufacturing (-40 jobs), as well as in mining, logging, and construction (-20 jobs). Over-the-year job gains were minimal and occurred within other services (+50 jobs) and private education and health services (+10 jobs), while all other major industries saw little to no change year-over-year.

Deschutes County: The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased marginally from 4.0% in January to 4.1% in February. In February of 2024 the unemployment rate was slightly lower at 4.0%. The unemployment rate is 0.8 percentage point above its record low of 3.3% before the onset of the pandemic.

Deschutes County gained 940 jobs (+1.0%) from January to February and total nonfarm employment is now 97,260. Job gains were recorded mainly within the public sector (+720 jobs), with all job gains occurring at the local level (+730 jobs). Private-sector gains were not as strong and concentrated primarily within professional and business services (+270 jobs) and mining, logging, and construction (+110 jobs). Private-sector losses were even weaker with the strongest losses recorded in leisure and hospitality (-70 jobs); trade, transportation, and utilities (-60 jobs); and financial activities (-60 jobs).

Total nonfarm employment increased by 3.3% (+3,140 jobs) from February 2024 to February 2025. Over-the-year job gains were strongest in private education and health services (+1,030 jobs); leisure and hospitality (+990 jobs); government (+380 jobs); and professional and business services (+340 jobs). Other notable gains took place in trade, transportation, and utilities (+230 jobs); manufacturing (+190 jobs); and mining, logging, and construction (+90 jobs). Over-the-year losses occurred within financial activities (-50 jobs), information (-30 jobs), and other services (-30 jobs).

Jefferson County: The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was unchanged in February, holding steady at 4.6%. Last year the unemployment rate was slightly higher at 4.8% in February. Shortly before the first impacts from COVID-19 were felt the rate was 4.3%.

Total nonfarm employment gained 90 jobs in February (+1.4%), with the majority of gains taking place within the public sector (+80 jobs), all of which stemmed from local government employment. Marginal private-sector gains were also recorded in professional and business services (+10 jobs), while all other supersectors held steady with no change in employment over the month.

Jefferson County's total nonfarm employment rose by 130 jobs over the past year (+2.0%). Job gains were primarily concentrated within government (+110 jobs) and manufacturing (+80 jobs), with smaller increases seen in professional and business services and private education and health services (+10 jobs each). Job losses were more widespread but less significant in magnitude, with trade, transportation, and utilities; financial activities; and other services each losing 20 jobs over the month. Additional minor losses occurred in information and leisure and hospitality (-10 jobs each).

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the March county and metropolitan area unemployment rates and employment survey data on Tuesday, April 22, and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for March on Wednesday, April 16.



Workforce & Economic Research Division

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April 1, 2025

Bend MSA Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	February 2025	January 2025	February 2024	January 2025	February 2024
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	134,583	133,610	131,884	973	2,699
Unemployed	7,287	7,353	6,729	-66	558
Unemployment rate	5.4%	5.5%	5.1%	-0.1	0.3
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>					
Employed	127,296	126,257	125,155	1,039	2,141
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	111,110	110,020	107,980	1,090	3,130
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>112,270</i>	<i>111,790</i>	<i>109,890</i>	<i>480</i>	<i>2,380</i>
Total private	96,120	95,830	93,360	290	2,760
Mining, logging, and construction	8,810	8,680	8,740	130	70
Manufacturing	8,390	8,380	8,160	10	230
Durable goods	5,800	5,780	5,600	20	200
Trade, transportation, and utilities	19,070	19,120	18,860	-50	210
Wholesale trade	2,940	2,950	2,940	-10	0
Retail trade	13,160	13,180	13,070	-20	90
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	2,970	2,990	2,850	-20	120
Information	2,370	2,370	2,410	0	-40
Financial activities	5,520	5,570	5,590	-50	-70
Professional and business services	12,530	12,230	12,190	300	340
Private education and health services	19,630	19,600	18,580	30	1,050
Leisure and hospitality	15,840	15,910	14,870	-70	970
Accommodation and food services	12,930	12,990	12,050	-60	880
Other services	3,960	3,970	3,960	-10	0
Government	14,990	14,190	14,620	800	370
Federal government	1,270	1,290	1,330	-20	-60
State government	1,650	1,650	1,610	0	40
Local government	12,070	11,250	11,680	820	390
Local education	6,210	5,730	6,330	480	-120

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: Official Oregon Series. 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 Bend metropolitan area includes Crook, Deschutes, and Jefferson counties.



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April 1, 2025

Crook County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	February 2025	January 2025	February 2024	January 2025	February 2024
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	13,108	13,013	12,846	95	262
Unemployed	855	874	845	-19	10
Unemployment rate	6.5%	6.7%	6.6%	-0.2	-0.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.4%	5.4%	6.3%	0.0	-0.9
Employed	12,253	12,139	12,001	114	252
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	7,140	7,080	7,280	60	-140
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	7,320	7,300	7,470	20	-150
Total private	5,980	5,920	6,000	60	-20
Mining, logging, and construction	820	800	840	20	-20
Mining and logging	50	50	60	0	-10
Construction	770	750	780	20	-10
Manufacturing	700	700	740	0	-40
Wood product manufacturing	350	360	390	-10	-40
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,220	1,210	1,220	10	0
Wholesale trade	350	340	340	10	10
Retail trade	650	640	650	10	0
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	220	230	230	-10	-10
Information	510	510	510	0	0
Financial activities	220	210	220	10	0
Professional and business services	540	520	550	20	-10
Private education and health services	880	880	870	0	10
Leisure and hospitality	780	780	790	0	-10
Other services	310	310	260	0	50
Government	1,160	1,160	1,280	0	-120
Federal government	240	250	260	-10	-20
State government	130	130	120	0	10
Local government	790	780	900	10	-110

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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Deschutes County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	February 2025	January 2025	February 2024	January 2025	February 2024
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	110,328	109,546	108,110	782	2,218
Unemployed	5,780	5,823	5,260	-43	520
Unemployment rate	5.2%	5.3%	4.9%	-0.1	0.3
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.1%	4.0%	4.0%	0.1	0.1
Employed	104,548	103,723	102,850	825	1,698
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	97,260	96,320	94,120	940	3,140
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	98,280	97,870	95,780	410	2,500
Total private	85,880	85,660	83,120	220	2,760
Mining, logging, and construction	7,840	7,730	7,750	110	90
Manufacturing	6,420	6,410	6,230	10	190
Durable goods	4,100	4,080	3,940	20	160
Trade, transportation, and utilities	16,940	17,000	16,710	-60	230
Wholesale trade	2,430	2,450	2,440	-20	-10
Retail trade	11,870	11,900	11,760	-30	110
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	2,640	2,650	2,510	-10	130
Information	1,820	1,820	1,850	0	-30
Financial activities	5,180	5,240	5,230	-60	-50
Professional and business services	11,770	11,500	11,430	270	340
Private education and health services	18,000	17,970	16,970	30	1,030
Leisure and hospitality	14,440	14,510	13,450	-70	990
Accommodation and food services	11,600	11,660	10,700	-60	900
Other services	3,470	3,480	3,500	-10	-30
Government	11,380	10,660	11,000	720	380
Federal government	930	940	970	-10	-40
State government	1,150	1,150	1,130	0	20
Local government	9,300	8,570	8,900	730	400
Local education	5,080	4,620	5,100	460	-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.



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Jefferson County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	February 2025	January 2025	February 2024	January 2025	February 2024
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	11,147	11,051	10,928	96	219
Unemployed	652	656	624	-4	28
Unemployment rate	5.8%	5.9%	5.7%	-0.1	0.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.6%	4.6%	4.8%	0.0	-0.2
Employed	10,495	10,395	10,304	100	191
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	6,710	6,620	6,580	90	130
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	6,780	6,750	6,660	30	120
Total private	4,260	4,250	4,240	10	20
Mining, logging, and construction	150	150	150	0	0
Mining and logging	10	10	10	0	0
Construction	140	140	140	0	0
Manufacturing	1,270	1,270	1,190	0	80
Wood product manufacturing	980	980	890	0	90
Trade, transportation, and utilities	910	910	930	0	-20
Wholesale trade	160	160	160	0	0
Retail trade	640	640	660	0	-20
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	110	110	110	0	0
Information	40	40	50	0	-10
Financial activities	120	120	140	0	-20
Professional and business services	220	210	210	10	10
Private education and health services	750	750	740	0	10
Leisure and hospitality	620	620	630	0	-10
Other services	180	180	200	0	-20
Government	2,450	2,370	2,340	80	110
Federal government	100	100	100	0	0
State government	370	370	360	0	10
Local government	1,980	1,900	1,880	80	100
Indian tribal	900	850	830	50	70

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.
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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

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