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## **Employment in Morrow & Umatilla Counties: December 2024**

### **Unemployment Rates Remain Low in December**

Umatilla County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased by 0.1 percentage point to 4.2% in December. Ranked among Oregon's 36 counties, Umatilla County tied with Harney County for 18th. Over the year, Umatilla County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady. It tied for the county's second lowest December rate since comparable statistics began in 1990, behind only December 2019.

Umatilla County's nonfarm employment total fell by 300 jobs to 30,080 in December. Private industry decreased by 150 jobs in December, falling to 22,200, and government dropped 150 jobs to 7,880. Mining, logging, and construction decreased its total in December, dropping to 1,500, a loss of 70. Manufacturing lost 40 jobs, falling to 2,620. Private job gains were confined to retail trade and private education and health services, up 10 jobs each. In the public sector, local education decreased by 100 jobs, other local government dropped 40, and federal government shed 20, while Indian tribal added 10 jobs and state government held steady.

Umatilla County's total private industry employment decreased by 170 jobs over the year ending in December (-0.8%). Professional and business services led private-industry decline, falling by 280 jobs resulting mostly from a non-economic code change (a correction or reclassification in our administrative records). Mining, logging, and construction dropped 90 jobs, and manufacturing cut 80. Private education and health services increased by 230 jobs (+5.4%) over the year. Wholesale trade added 70, and other services rose by 30 jobs. Government employment decreased by 50 jobs over the year, led by a loss of 120 in local education. Indian tribal fell by 30 jobs, other local government increased by 40, federal government added 30, and state government rose by 30 jobs.

Morrow County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased by 0.1 percentage point in December to 3.8%, ranking in a tie with Malheur and Washington counties for fifth among Oregon counties. Over the year, Morrow County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by 0.3 percentage point. It ranked as the county's second lowest December rate behind only December 2023.

Morrow County's nonfarm employment fell to 5,610 in December, a loss of 20 jobs. Private industry decreased by 30 jobs, dropping to 4,710 jobs, and government increased by 10, rising to 900. Construction decreased by 20 jobs to lead losses. Manufacturing was the only private industry to add

jobs, up 10. In the public sector, local government added 10 jobs while federal government and state government held steady.

Morrow County's private-industry employment rose by 20 jobs over the year ending in December (+0.4%). Private industry's over-the-year growth was led by private education and health services, and construction, up 50 and 30 jobs, respectively. Losses were led by manufacturing, down 80 jobs. Government employment fell by 200 jobs over the year, with local government shedding 190 jobs, state government cutting 10, and federal government holding steady.

### **Next Press Releases**

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the January county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, March 11, and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for January on Monday, March 10.



Workforce &amp; Economic Research Division

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January 28, 2025

## Morrow County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	December 2024	November 2024	December 2023	November 2024	December 2023
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	5,910	6,046	5,873	-136	37
Unemployed	246	199	212	47	34
Unemployment rate	4.2%	3.3%	3.6%	0.9	0.6
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.8%	3.7%	3.5%	0.1	0.3
Employed	5,664	5,847	5,661	-183	3
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	5,610	5,630	5,790	-20	-180
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5,640	5,630	5,820	10	-180
Total private	4,710	4,740	4,690	-30	20
Mining and logging	20	20	30	0	-10
Construction	330	350	300	-20	30
Manufacturing	1,570	1,560	1,650	10	-80
Trade, transportation, and utilities	870	870	860	0	10
Wholesale trade	100	100	110	0	-10
Retail trade	310	310	290	0	20
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	460	460	460	0	0
Financial activities	70	70	70	0	0
Professional and business services	370	380	360	-10	10
Private education and health services	330	330	280	0	50
Leisure and hospitality	210	220	240	-10	-30
Government	900	890	1,100	10	-200
Federal government	50	50	50	0	0
State government	40	40	50	0	-10
Local government	810	800	1,000	10	-190

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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### Umatilla County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	December 2024	November 2024	December 2023	November 2024	December 2023
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	37,885	38,435	37,958	-550	-73
Unemployed	1,681	1,392	1,630	289	51
Unemployment rate	4.4%	3.6%	4.3%	0.8	0.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.2%	4.1%	4.2%	0.1	0.0
Employed	36,204	37,043	36,328	-839	-124
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	30,080	30,380	30,300	-300	-220
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	30,090	30,160	30,300	-70	-210
Total private	22,200	22,350	22,370	-150	-170
Mining, logging, and construction	1,500	1,570	1,590	-70	-90
Manufacturing	2,620	2,660	2,700	-40	-80
Durable goods	1,160	1,170	1,180	-10	-20
Nondurable goods	1,460	1,490	1,520	-30	-60
Food manufacturing	1,120	1,130	1,160	-10	-40
Trade, transportation, and utilities	7,000	7,010	6,970	-10	30
Wholesale trade	1,000	1,010	930	-10	70
Retail trade	3,430	3,420	3,470	10	-40
Food and beverage retailers	730	730	730	0	0
General merchandise retailers	970	950	1,010	20	-40
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	2,570	2,580	2,570	-10	0
Information	760	770	740	-10	20
Financial activities	820	830	870	-10	-50
Professional and business services	1,330	1,350	1,610	-20	-280
Private education and health services	4,480	4,470	4,250	10	230
Nursing and residential care facilities	1,020	1,010	970	10	50
Leisure and hospitality	2,910	2,910	2,890	0	20
Accommodation and food services	2,780	2,780	2,740	0	40
Other services	780	780	750	0	30
Government	7,880	8,030	7,930	-150	-50
Federal government	500	520	470	-20	30
State government	1,660	1,660	1,630	0	30
Local government	5,720	5,850	5,830	-130	-110
Indian tribal	1,830	1,820	1,860	10	-30
Local education	2,730	2,830	2,850	-100	-120
Local government excluding education and tribal	1,160	1,200	1,120	-40	40

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Civilian labor force includes employed and unemployed individuals 16 years and older by place of residence.

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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/](http://www.qualityinfo.org/press-release/). To obtain the data in other formats such as in Excel, visit [QualityInfo.org](http://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](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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