

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 22, 2022

CONTACT INFORMATION:
Dallas Fridley, Regional Economist
Dallas.W.Fridley@oregon.gov
(541) 645-0005

Employment in the Columbia Gorge: October 2022

Unemployment Rates Continue to Drift Upward

In October, Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose to 3.2%. Hood River County's unemployment rate ranked as Oregon's fourth lowest, just ahead of Benton. Over the year, the county's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.5 percentage point.

Hood River County's nonfarm employment held steady at 11,900 in October. Private industry rose by 10 jobs to 10,530 and government cut 10, falling to 1,370. Retail trade led private industry, adding 90 jobs to reach 1,510. Wholesale trade rose by 40 jobs to reach 580 and educational and health services chipped in 20. Leisure and hospitality cut 110 job, falling to 2,090.

Hood River County's private industry employment rose by 2.4% over the year, adding 250 jobs. Leisure and hospitality led private industry, rising by 110 jobs over the year. Other industries adding jobs included other services (+60), wholesale trade (+40), education and health services (+40), and information (+20).

Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose to 3.7% in October, low enough to rank eighth, just ahead of Multnomah. Over the year, Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.8 percentage point.

Wasco County's nonfarm employment fell by 40 jobs in October, dropping to 10,230. Private industry cut 60 jobs in October, falling to 8,230 and government rose by 20 to reach 2,000. Leisure and hospitality cut 100 jobs in October, dropping its total to 1,270. Education and health services led private industry, rising by 30 jobs to 2,240. Local government education rose to 780 jobs in October, an increase of 50, while federal government cut 20, falling to 270. Wasco County remains about 140 jobs or 1.4% shy of its pre-pandemic high.

Wasco County's private industry employment rose by 60 jobs or 0.7% over the year ending in October. Accommodation and food services led private industry job growth, rising by 80 jobs or 7.1%. Professional and business services rose by 30 jobs to reach 600 (+5.3%) and construction increased its payrolls by 30, climbing to 420 (+7.7%). Education and health services cut its payrolls by 80 jobs, an over-the-year loss of 3.4%. In the public sector, local education rose by 20 jobs over the year (+2.6%).

Gilliam County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by 0.1 percentage point in October to 3.8%, ranking ninth out of 36 Oregon counties, tied with Multnomah. Over the year, Gilliam County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.1 percentage point. Gilliam County's nonfarm employment rose by five jobs in October to 790. Over the year, Gilliam County's private industry total fell by 120 jobs to 555, a loss of 17.8%. Government held steady over the year with 235 jobs.

Sherman County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by 0.1 percentage point in October to 3.1%, ranking second in Oregon, tied with Washington County. Over the year, Sherman County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.7 percentage point. Sherman County's nonfarm employment fell by 15 jobs in October, dropping to 925. Over the year ending in October, private industry rose by 50 jobs to 635 (+8.5%) and government lost five jobs, falling to 290 (-1.7%).

Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady at 2.9% in October, ranking as Oregon's lowest county unemployment rate. Over the year, Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was essentially unchanged, falling by 0.1 percentage point. Nonfarm employment totaled 315 in October, with private holding steady and government adding five. Over the year ending in October, private industry rose by 10 jobs to 175 and government held its own at 140.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the November 2022 county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Dec. 20th, 2022 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for November on Dec. 14th, 2022.

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 www.QualityInfo.org, select *Economic Data*, and choose *LAUS* or *CES*. To request the press release as a Word document, contact the person shown at the top of this press release.

You can subscribe to receive notification of new articles and publications from www.QualityInfo.org. To subscribe, go to www.qualityinfo.org/p-sofrm, enter your email address and click Sign In. In the Publication section, click on the + sign next to a report type category and then click on the geography(s) you are interested in. Take some time to browse the other publications on the page and see if there are some you'd like to receive an email notification for. You can receive notifications on a daily, weekly, or monthly schedule – whichever is most convenient for you. You can change your preferences – or unsubscribe – at any time.

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

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.

El Departamento de Empleo de Oregon (OED) es una agencia de igualdad de oportunidades. El OED proporciona ayuda gratuita para que usted pueda utilizar nuestros servicios. Algunos ejemplos son intérpretes de lengua de señas e idiomas hablados, materiales escritos en otros idiomas, letra grande, audio y otros formatos. Para obtener ayuda, por favor llame al 503-947-1444. Usuarios de TTY pueden llamar al 711. También puede enviar un correo electrónico a OED_Communications@employ.oregon.gov.

Gilliam County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	October 2022	September 2022	October 2021	September 2022	October 2021
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	870	866	969	4	-99
Unemployed	31	32	34	-1	-3
Unemployment rate	3.6%	3.7%	3.5%	-0.1	0.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.8%	3.7%	3.9%	0.1	-0.1
Employed	839	834	935	5	-96
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	790	785	910	5	-120
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	785	780	910	5	-125
Total private	555	560	675	-5	-120
Trade, transportation, and utilities	115	120	135	-5	-20
Professional and business services	240	240	235	0	5
Education and health services	65	65	65	0	0
Leisure and hospitality	55	55	50	0	5
Government	235	225	235	10	0
Federal government	15	10	15	5	0
State government	10	10	10	0	0
Local government	210	205	210	5	0

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.

Hood River County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	October 2022	September 2022	October 2021	September 2022	October 2021
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	14,272	15,507	13,993	-1,235	279
Unemployed	455	467	420	-12	35
Unemployment rate	3.2%	3.0%	3.0%	0.2	0.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.2%	3.1%	3.7%	0.1	-0.5
Employed	13,817	15,040	13,573	-1,223	244
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	11,900	11,900	11,640	0	260
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	12,040	11,950	11,790	90	250
Total private	10,530	10,520	10,280	10	250
Mining, logging, and construction	530	530	540	0	-10
Manufacturing	1,880	1,890	1,880	-10	0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,280	2,160	2,230	120	50
Wholesale trade	580	540	540	40	40
Retail trade	1,510	1,420	1,500	90	10
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	190	200	190	-10	0
Information	130	140	110	-10	20
Financial activities	320	320	320	0	0
Professional and business services	1,020	1,020	1,040	0	-20
Education and health services	1,880	1,860	1,840	20	40
Leisure and hospitality	2,090	2,200	1,980	-110	110
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	350	330	310	20	40
Accommodation and food services	1,740	1,870	1,670	-130	70
Accommodation	450	500	450	-50	0
Food services and drinking places	1,290	1,370	1,220	-80	70
Other services	400	400	340	0	60
Government	1,370	1,380	1,360	-10	10
Federal government	130	140	140	-10	-10
State government	110	110	110	0	0
Local government	1,130	1,130	1,110	0	20
Local education	650	630	640	20	10
Local government excluding educational services	480	500	470	-20	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.

Sherman County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	October 2022	September 2022	October 2021	September 2022	October 2021
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	948	963	928	-15	20
Unemployed	27	29	33	-2	-6
Unemployment rate	2.8%	3.0%	3.6%	-0.2	-0.8
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.1%	3.0%	3.8%	0.1	-0.7
Employed	921	934	895	-13	26
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	925	940	880	-15	45
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	940	920	895	20	45
Total private	635	635	585	0	50
Trade, transportation, and utilities	340	340	290	0	50
Retail trade	135	135	120	0	15
Leisure and hospitality	105	100	105	5	0
Government	290	305	295	-15	-5
Federal government	115	115	115	0	0
State government	35	35	40	0	-5
Local government	140	155	140	-15	0

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.

Wasco County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	October 2022	September 2022	October 2021	September 2022	October 2021
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	12,986	12,954	13,034	32	-48
Unemployed	553	519	522	34	31
Unemployment rate	4.3%	4.0%	4.0%	0.3	0.3
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.7%	3.6%	4.5%	0.1	-0.8
Employed	12,433	12,435	12,512	-2	-79
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	10,230	10,270	10,150	-40	80
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	10,160	10,090	10,090	70	70
Total private	8,230	8,290	8,170	-60	60
Mining, logging, and construction	480	490	450	-10	30
Mining and logging	60	60	60	0	0
Construction	420	430	390	-10	30
Manufacturing	530	530	540	0	-10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,110	2,100	2,090	10	20
Wholesale trade	170	170	170	0	0
Retail trade	1,640	1,640	1,640	0	0
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	300	290	280	10	20
Information	300	290	320	10	-20
Financial activities	310	310	320	0	-10
Professional and business services	600	590	570	10	30
Education and health services	2,240	2,210	2,320	30	-80
Ambulatory health care services	510	510	480	0	30
Nursing and residential care facilities	510	500	500	10	10
Leisure and hospitality	1,270	1,370	1,200	-100	70
Accommodation and food services	1,200	1,250	1,120	-50	80
Other services	390	400	360	-10	30
Government	2,000	1,980	1,980	20	20
Federal government	270	290	280	-20	-10
State government	260	260	260	0	0
Local government	1,470	1,430	1,440	40	30
Indian tribal	10	10	10	0	0
Local education	780	730	760	50	20
Local government excluding education and tribal	680	690	670	-10	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.

Wheeler County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	October 2022	September 2022	October 2021	September 2022	October 2021
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	731	733	735	-2	-4
Unemployed	19	20	19	-1	0
Unemployment rate	2.6%	2.7%	2.6%	-0.1	0.0
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	2.9%	2.9%	3.0%	0.0	-0.1
Employed	712	713	716	-1	-4
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	315	310	305	5	10
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	310	305	300	5	10
Total private	175	175	165	0	10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	35	35	35	0	0
Leisure and hospitality	30	35	20	-5	10
Government	140	135	140	5	0
Federal government	5	5	5	0	0
State government	0	0	0	0	0
Local government	135	130	135	5	0

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.

###