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Employment in the Columbia Gorge: April 2023

Unemployment Rates Moderate in April

In April, Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.4 percentage point to 3.3%. Hood River County's unemployment rate ranked as Oregon's fourth lowest, trailing Gilliam County. Over the year, the county's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by 0.3 percentage point.

Hood River County's nonfarm employment fell by 140 jobs to 12,030 in April. Private industry cut its total by 160, dropping to 10,630 jobs and government rose by 20 to reach 1,400. Accommodation and food services led private industry in April, rising to 1,620, an increase of 60 jobs. Manufacturing rose by 20 jobs to reach 1,830. Arts, entertainment, and recreation pulled back in April, cutting 230 jobs with the return of spring weather. Local government led the public sector, rising by 20 jobs to reach 1,200.

Hood River County's private industry employment rose by 1.8% over the year, adding 190 jobs. Arts, entertainment, and recreation led private industry, rising by 80 jobs (10.7%) to reach 830. Other industries adding jobs included retail trade (+60); other services (+50); education and health services (+30); accommodation (+30); mining, logging, and construction (+20); and manufacturing (+20). Government rose by 20 jobs over the year, with local government up 30 jobs, state government holding steady and federal government shedding 10.

Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.4 percentage point in April to 4.3%, ranking 16th, tied with Malheur. Over the year, Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by 0.5 percentage point.

Wasco County's nonfarm employment rose by 110 jobs in April, climbing to 10,140. Private industry increased its total by 80 to reach 8,090, and government chipped in 30, climbing to 2,050. Leisure and hospitality led private industry, rising by 50 jobs to reach 1,270. Construction (+20) and professional and business services (+20) also added jobs in April. In the public sector, local government rose by 20 jobs to reach 1,520 and state government chipped in 10, climbing to 260.

Wasco County's private-industry employment fell by 40 jobs or 0.5% over the year ending in April. Other services led private industry, rising by 50 jobs or 14.3% to reach 400. Leisure and hospitality

(+30); wholesale trade (+20); and transportation, warehousing, and utilities (+20) also rose over the year. Professional and business services cut 70 jobs falling to 540 (-11.5%). Other job losses included manufacturing (-30); construction (-20); information (-20); and financial activities (-20). Local education led the public sector, rising by 90 jobs to reach 820.

Gilliam County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.3 percentage point in April to 3.2%, ranking third out of 36 Oregon counties. Over the year, Gilliam County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.9 percentage point. Gilliam County's nonfarm employment fell to 1,120 in April, a loss of 10 jobs. Over the year, Gilliam County's private industry employment rose by 290 jobs to 885, an increase of nearly 49%, while government rose by five to reach 235.

Sherman County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.1 percentage point in April to 3.6%, ranking sixth in Oregon. Over the year, Sherman County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by 0.4 percentage point. Sherman County's nonfarm employment fell by five jobs in April, dropping to 970. Over the year ending in April, private industry rose by 50 jobs to 670 (+8.1%) and government chipped in five to reach 300.

Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.2 percentage point in April to 3.0%, ranking as Oregon's lowest county unemployment rate. Over the year, Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.3 percentage point. Nonfarm employment totaled 325 jobs in April, with private industry rising by five and government adding five. Over the year ending in April, private industry rose to 180 (+5) and government increased its total to 140 (+5).

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the May 2023 county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on June 21st, 2023 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data on June 14th, 2023.

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 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

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.

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Gilliam County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	April 2023	March 2023	April 2022	March 2023	April 2022
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	1,094	1,137	908	-43	186
Unemployed	24	35	40	-11	-16
Unemployment rate	2.2%	3.1%	4.4%	-0.9	-2.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.2%	3.5%	4.1%	-0.3	-0.9
Employed	1,070	1,102	868	-32	202
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	1,120	1,130	825	-10	295
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	1,140	1,160	840	-20	300
Total private	885	895	595	-10	290
Trade, transportation, and utilities	130	135	130	-5	0
Professional and business services	235	235	245	0	-10
Private education and health services	95	90	85	5	10
Leisure and hospitality	45	45	55	0	-10
Government	235	235	230	0	5
Federal government	15	10	10	5	5
State government	10	10	5	0	5
Local government	210	215	215	-5	-5

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--				
	April 2023	March 2023	April 2022	March 2023	April 2022
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	13,356	13,794	13,880	-438	-524
Unemployed	305	405	467	-100	-162
Unemployment rate	2.3%	2.9%	3.4%	-0.6	-1.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.3%	3.7%	3.0%	-0.4	0.3
Employed	13,051	13,389	13,413	-338	-362
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	12,030	12,170	11,820	-140	210
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	12,050	12,130	11,840	-80	210
Total private	10,630	10,790	10,440	-160	190
Mining, logging, and construction	550	540	530	10	20
Manufacturing	1,830	1,810	1,810	20	20
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,040	2,060	2,030	-20	10
Wholesale trade	460	490	490	-30	-30
Retail trade	1,430	1,420	1,370	10	60
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	150	150	170	0	-20
Information	120	120	140	0	-20
Financial activities	300	300	320	0	-20
Professional and business services	1,030	1,020	1,050	10	-20
Private education and health services	1,920	1,940	1,890	-20	30
Leisure and hospitality	2,450	2,620	2,330	-170	120
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	830	1,060	750	-230	80
Accommodation and food services	1,620	1,560	1,580	60	40
Accommodation	470	440	440	30	30
Food services and drinking places	1,150	1,120	1,140	30	10
Other services	390	380	340	10	50
Government	1,400	1,380	1,380	20	20
Federal government	100	90	110	10	-10
State government	100	110	100	-10	0
Local government	1,200	1,180	1,170	20	30
Local education	690	680	670	10	20
Local government excluding educational services	510	500	500	10	10

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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--				
	April 2023	March 2023	April 2022	March 2023	April 2022
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	965	969	943	-4	22
Unemployed	32	35	30	-3	2
Unemployment rate	3.3%	3.6%	3.2%	-0.3	0.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.6%	3.7%	3.2%	-0.1	0.4
Employed	933	934	913	-1	20
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	970	975	915	-5	55
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	975	975	920	0	55
Total private	670	660	620	10	50
Trade, transportation, and utilities	350	345	315	5	35
Retail trade	125	125	130	0	-5
Leisure and hospitality	115	105	105	10	10
Government	300	315	295	-15	5
Federal government	120	120	120	0	0
State government	35	35	35	0	0
Local government	145	160	140	-15	5

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--				
	April 2023	March 2023	April 2022	March 2023	April 2022
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	12,384	12,590	12,713	-206	-329
Unemployed	409	557	500	-148	-91
Unemployment rate	3.3%	4.4%	3.9%	-1.1	-0.6
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.3%	4.7%	3.8%	-0.4	0.5
Employed	11,975	12,033	12,213	-58	-238
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	10,140	10,030	10,060	110	80
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	10,210	10,170	10,130	40	80
Total private	8,090	8,010	8,130	80	-40
Mining, logging, and construction	500	480	510	20	-10
Mining and logging	60	60	50	0	10
Construction	440	420	460	20	-20
Manufacturing	480	480	510	0	-30
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,110	2,110	2,080	0	30
Wholesale trade	190	190	170	0	20
Retail trade	1,620	1,610	1,630	10	-10
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	300	310	280	-10	20
Information	260	270	280	-10	-20
Financial activities	300	300	320	0	-20
Professional and business services	540	520	610	20	-70
Private education and health services	2,230	2,240	2,230	-10	0
Ambulatory health care services	470	470	460	0	10
Nursing and residential care facilities	510	510	510	0	0
Leisure and hospitality	1,270	1,220	1,240	50	30
Accommodation and food services	1,210	1,160	1,190	50	20
Other services	400	390	350	10	50
Government	2,050	2,020	1,930	30	120
Federal government	270	270	260	0	10
State government	260	250	250	10	10
Local government	1,520	1,500	1,420	20	100
Indian tribal	10	10	10	0	0
Local education	820	810	730	10	90
Local government excluding education and tribal	690	680	680	10	10

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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--				
	April 2023	March 2023	April 2022	March 2023	April 2022
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	732	729	738	3	-6
Unemployed	16	22	21	-6	-5
Unemployment rate	2.2%	3.0%	2.8%	-0.8	-0.6
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.0%	3.2%	3.3%	-0.2	-0.3
Employed	716	707	717	9	-1
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	325	315	315	10	10
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	320	320	310	0	10
Total private	180	175	175	5	5
Trade, transportation, and utilities	35	35	40	0	-5
Leisure and hospitality	35	35	30	0	5
Government	145	140	140	5	5
Federal government	5	5	5	0	0
State government	0	0	0	0	0
Local government	140	135	135	5	5

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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