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Employment in the Columbia Gorge: July 2024

Job Trends Mixed Over the Year- Little Employment Change

In July, Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was little changed at 3.1%. Hood River County's unemployment rate ranked as Oregon's lowest, tied with Wheeler County but just ahead of Benton's 3.2%. Over the year, the county's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate edged up by 0.2 percentage point.

Hood River County's nonfarm employment fell by 40 in July and was estimated at 11,980 jobs.

Hood River County's private industry employment increased by 30 jobs over the year ending in July, a gain of 0.3%. Jobs were added in leisure and hospitality (+160); wholesale trade (+50); and private education and health services (+40). Losses were seen in professional and business services (-120); manufacturing (-70); and retail trade (-20).

Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate stood at 4.1% in July, tied with Deschutes County. Over the year, Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by 0.2 percentage point.

Wasco County's nonfarm employment decreased by 250 to reach 10,380 in July. Private industry added 90 jobs, rising to 8,390, while government fell by 340 jobs to reach 1,990 jobs. Declines were due to seasonally typical losses in local government education. Leisure and hospitality gained 90 jobs, and other industries showed little change over the month.

Wasco County's private-industry employment fell by 50 jobs over the year ending in July. Losses were posted in transportation, warehousing, and utilities (-30); financial activities (-30); and retail trade (-30). On the other hand, jobs were added in construction (+30); other services (+30); and wholesale trade (+20).

Gilliam County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was unchanged in July at 4.7%, rising by 0.5 percentage points over the year. Gilliam County's nonfarm employment slipped by 5 in July with 860 jobs. Over the year, the private sector lost 50 jobs (-8.3%), while government employment fell by 5 jobs to reach 310.

Sherman County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate edged down in July to 3.9% and was little changed over the year. Sherman County's nonfarm employment also fell by 5 in July and stood at 1,005. Local government lost 20 jobs and trade, transportation, and utilities employment climbed by 10. Over the year ending in July, private industry added 10 jobs, rising to 685, and government employment increased by 10 jobs and stood at 320.

Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was also little changed in July at 3.1%, ranking as Oregon's lowest along with Hood River County. Over the year, Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by 0.2 percentage point. Nonfarm employment decreased by five and reached 385 jobs in July. Over the year ending in July, private industry employment was flat and was estimated at 215, and government fell by five to reach 170.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the August county and metropolitan area unemployment rates and employment survey data on Tuesday, September 24th, and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for August on Wednesday, September 18th.

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

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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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Workforce & Economic Research Division

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August 20, 2024

Hood River County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	July 2024	June 2024	July 2023	June 2024	July 2023
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	14,960	14,329	14,712	631	248
Unemployed	495	441	462	54	33
Unemployment rate	3.3%	3.1%	3.1%	0.2	0.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.1%	3.2%	2.9%	-0.1	0.2
Employed	14,465	13,888	14,250	577	215
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	11,980	12,020	11,950	-40	30
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	12,120	12,130	12,100	-10	20
Total private	10,580	10,410	10,550	170	30
Mining, logging, and construction	590	580	580	10	10
Manufacturing	1,800	1,790	1,870	10	-70
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,930	1,940	1,890	-10	40
Wholesale trade	340	380	290	-40	50
Retail trade	1,440	1,420	1,460	20	-20
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	150	140	140	10	10
Information	100	90	120	10	-20
Financial activities	340	340	350	0	-10
Professional and business services	950	960	1,070	-10	-120
Private education and health services	2,040	2,030	2,000	10	40
Leisure and hospitality	2,480	2,340	2,320	140	160
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	420	400	340	20	80
Accommodation and food services	2,060	1,940	1,980	120	80
Accommodation	570	530	520	40	50
Food services and drinking places	1,490	1,410	1,460	80	30
Other services	350	340	350	10	0
Government	1,400	1,610	1,400	-210	0
Federal government	170	150	150	20	20
State government	140	140	140	0	0
Local government	1,090	1,320	1,110	-230	-20
Local education	550	790	570	-240	-20
Local government excluding educational services	540	530	540	10	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.



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Wasco County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	July 2024	June 2024	July 2023	June 2024	July 2023
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	17,887	14,117	17,874	3,770	13
Unemployed	562	493	524	69	38
Unemployment rate	3.1%	3.5%	2.9%	-0.4	0.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.1%	4.0%	3.9%	0.1	0.2
Employed	17,325	13,624	17,350	3,701	-25
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	10,380	10,630	10,340	-250	40
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	10,170	10,380	10,140	-210	30
Total private	8,390	8,300	8,440	90	-50
Mining, logging, and construction	540	540	510	0	30
Mining and logging	60	60	60	0	0
Construction	480	480	450	0	30
Manufacturing	510	500	510	10	0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,050	2,050	2,090	0	-40
Wholesale trade	200	200	180	0	20
Retail trade	1,580	1,580	1,610	0	-30
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	270	270	300	0	-30
Information	260	260	260	0	0
Financial activities	280	280	310	0	-30
Professional and business services	580	580	580	0	0
Private education and health services	2,230	2,240	2,250	-10	-20
Ambulatory health care services	510	510	500	0	10
Nursing and residential care facilities	470	480	480	-10	-10
Leisure and hospitality	1,530	1,440	1,550	90	-20
Accommodation and food services	1,330	1,290	1,370	40	-40
Other services	410	410	380	0	30
Government	1,990	2,330	1,900	-340	90
Federal government	300	290	290	10	10
State government	300	300	300	0	0
Local government	1,390	1,740	1,310	-350	80
Indian tribal	10	10	10	0	0
Local education	600	940	580	-340	20
Local government excluding education and tribal	780	790	720	-10	60

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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.



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Gilliam County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	July 2024	June 2024	July 2023	June 2024	July 2023
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	931	918	963	13	-32
Unemployed	49	40	44	9	5
Unemployment rate	5.3%	4.4%	4.6%	0.9	0.7
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.7%	4.7%	4.2%	0.0	0.5
Employed	882	878	919	4	-37
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	860	865	915	-5	-55
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	875	875	930	0	-55
Total private	550	550	600	0	-50
Trade, transportation, and utilities	120	115	150	5	-30
Professional and business services	220	225	225	-5	-5
Private education and health services	75	75	80	0	-5
Leisure and hospitality	35	35	40	0	-5
Government	310	315	315	-5	-5
Federal government	15	15	15	0	0
State government	25	25	25	0	0
Local government	270	275	275	-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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Sherman County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	July 2024	June 2024	July 2023	June 2024	July 2023
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	1,022	1,015	1,004	7	18
Unemployed	34	37	40	-3	-6
Unemployment rate	3.3%	3.6%	4.0%	-0.3	-0.7
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.9%	4.0%	4.0%	-0.1	-0.1
Employed	988	978	964	10	24
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	1,005	1,010	985	-5	20
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	980	970	960	10	20
Total private	685	670	675	15	10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	400	390	355	10	45
Retail trade	145	145	130	0	15
Leisure and hospitality	110	110	110	0	0
Government	320	340	310	-20	10
Federal government	130	130	130	0	0
State government	25	25	25	0	0
Local government	165	185	155	-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.



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Wheeler County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	July 2024	June 2024	July 2023	June 2024	July 2023
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	842	834	820	8	22
Unemployed	28	23	24	5	4
Unemployment rate	3.3%	2.8%	2.9%	0.5	0.4
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.1%	3.0%	2.9%	0.1	0.2
Employed	814	811	796	3	18
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	385	390	390	-5	-5
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	380	375	390	5	-10
Total private	215	210	215	5	0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	35	35	30	0	5
Leisure and hospitality	55	50	60	5	-5
Government	170	180	175	-10	-5
Federal government	5	5	5	0	0
State government	35	35	50	0	-15
Local government	130	140	120	-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.

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