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Employment in the Columbia Gorge: September 2024

Unemployment Rates Little Changed Over the Month and Year Ending in September

In September, Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was little changed at 3.1%. Hood River County's unemployment rate ranked as Oregon's second lowest, just above Wheeler's 3.0%. Over the year, the county's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate edged up by 0.1 percentage point.

Hood River County's nonfarm employment rose by 140 in September and was estimated at 12,010 jobs. Although private employment decreased over the month (-170 jobs), public employment in local education (+330 jobs) led to gains.

Hood River County's private industry employment increased by 120 jobs over the year ending in September, a gain of 1.2%. Jobs were added in leisure and hospitality (+180); trade, transportation, and utilities (+110 jobs); and private education and health services (+60). The majority of losses were seen in professional and business services (-120) and manufacturing (-80).

Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was unchanged from the previous month and was 4.0% in September. Over the year, Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate also remained unchanged at 4.0%

Wasco County's nonfarm employment decreased by 40 to reach 10,250 in September. Private industry lost 90 jobs, declining to 8,260, while government rose by 50 to reach 1,990 jobs. Leisure and hospitality lost 90 jobs, and other industries showed little change over the month.

Wasco County's private-industry employment fell by 30 jobs over the year ending in September. Losses were concentrated in the public sector (-130 jobs); transportation, warehousing, and utilities (-30); financial activities (-30); professional and business services (-20); and private education and health services (-20 jobs). On the other hand, job gains were concentrated in construction (+40) and wholesale trade (+20).

Gilliam County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was unchanged in September at 4.7%, remaining flat over the year. Gilliam County's nonfarm employment fell by 15 in September with 855 jobs. Over the year, the private sector lost 15 jobs (-2.6%), while government employment rose by 10 jobs and now totals 300 jobs.

Sherman County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate edged down in September to 3.5% and declined by 0.6 percentage point over the year. Sherman County's nonfarm employment fell by five in September and stood at 990. Local government gained 15 jobs and trade, transportation, and utilities lost 15 jobs over the month. Over the year ending in September, private industry added 20 jobs, and now stands at 665, with the trade, transportation, and utilities industry adding the most during this time (45 jobs).

Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate also edged upward in September and is now 3.0%, still making it the lowest seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in Oregon. Over the year, Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was up by 0.1 percentage point. Nonfarm employment increased by 10 and reached 390 jobs in September. Over the year ending in September, private-industry employment rose by 15 and was estimated at 205, and government fell by 10 to reach 185.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the October county and metropolitan area unemployment rates and employment survey data on Tuesday, Nov. 19, and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for October on Thursday, Nov. 14.

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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Workforce & Economic Research Division
 QualityInfo.org
 October 22, 2024

Hood River County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	September 2024	August 2024	September 2023	August 2024	September 2023
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	15,134	15,320	14,856	-186	278
Unemployed	429	457	380	-28	49
Unemployment rate	2.8%	3.0%	2.6%	-0.2	0.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.1%	3.1%	3.0%	0.0	0.1
Employed	14,705	14,863	14,476	-158	229
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	12,010	11,870	11,860	140	150
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	12,100	11,970	11,940	130	160
Total private	10,470	10,640	10,350	-170	120
Mining, logging, and construction	570	590	580	-20	-10
Manufacturing	1,780	1,810	1,860	-30	-80
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,010	2,000	1,900	10	110
Wholesale trade	460	410	370	50	90
Retail trade	1,400	1,440	1,400	-40	0
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	150	150	130	0	20
Information	90	90	110	0	-20
Financial activities	340	340	330	0	10
Professional and business services	940	950	1,060	-10	-120
Private education and health services	2,050	2,040	1,990	10	60
Leisure and hospitality	2,350	2,480	2,170	-130	180
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	410	440	320	-30	90
Accommodation and food services	1,940	2,040	1,850	-100	90
Accommodation	550	560	490	-10	60
Food services and drinking places	1,390	1,480	1,360	-90	30
Other services	340	340	350	0	-10
Government	1,540	1,230	1,510	310	30
Federal government	160	170	150	-10	10
State government	140	140	130	0	10
Local government	1,240	920	1,230	320	10
Local education	720	390	710	330	10
Local government excluding educational services	520	530	520	-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--				
	September 2024	August 2024	September 2023	August 2024	September 2023
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	13,229	14,082	12,758	-853	471
Unemployed	498	520	468	-22	30
Unemployment rate	3.8%	3.7%	3.7%	0.1	0.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>4.0%</i>	<i>4.0%</i>	<i>4.0%</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>0.0</i>
Employed	12,731	13,562	12,290	-831	441
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	10,250	10,290	10,420	-40	-170
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>10,060</i>	<i>10,160</i>	<i>10,230</i>	<i>-100</i>	<i>-170</i>
Total private	8,260	8,350	8,290	-90	-30
Mining, logging, and construction	530	540	480	-10	50
Mining and logging	60	60	50	0	10
Construction	470	480	430	-10	40
Manufacturing	500	500	500	0	0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,050	2,040	2,070	10	-20
Wholesale trade	200	200	180	0	20
Retail trade	1,570	1,570	1,580	0	-10
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	280	270	310	10	-30
Information	260	260	270	0	-10
Financial activities	280	280	310	0	-30
Professional and business services	560	570	580	-10	-20
Private education and health services	2,240	2,230	2,260	10	-20
Ambulatory health care services	500	510	500	-10	0
Nursing and residential care facilities	480	480	490	0	-10
Leisure and hospitality	1,450	1,540	1,440	-90	10
Accommodation and food services	1,290	1,360	1,300	-70	-10
Other services	390	390	380	0	10
Government	1,990	1,940	2,130	50	-140
Federal government	290	290	290	0	0
State government	290	300	300	-10	-10
Local government	1,410	1,350	1,540	60	-130
Indian tribal	10	10	10	0	0
Local education	650	580	770	70	-120
Local government excluding education and tribal	750	760	760	-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.



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Gilliam County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

			--Change From--		
	September 2024	August 2024	September 2023	August 2024	September 2023
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	927	958	922	-31	5
Unemployed	39	49	35	-10	4
Unemployment rate	4.2%	5.1%	3.8%	-0.9	0.4
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.7%	4.7%	4.7%	0.0	0.0
Employed	888	909	887	-21	1
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	855	870	860	-15	-5
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	835	860	840	-25	-5
Total private	555	550	570	5	-15
Trade, transportation, and utilities	115	120	140	-5	-25
Professional and business services	220	220	220	0	0
Private education and health services	70	75	80	-5	-10
Leisure and hospitality	35	35	35	0	0
Government	300	320	290	-20	10
Federal government	15	15	10	0	5
State government	25	25	25	0	0
Local government	260	280	255	-20	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--		
	September 2024	August 2024	September 2023	August 2024	September 2023
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	999	1,017	975	-18	24
Unemployed	30	30	33	0	-3
Unemployment rate	3.0%	2.9%	3.4%	0.1	-0.4
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.5%	3.6%	4.1%	-0.1	-0.6
Employed	969	987	942	-18	27
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	990	995	975	-5	15
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	975	965	960	10	15
Total private	665	680	645	-15	20
Trade, transportation, and utilities	385	400	340	-15	45
Retail trade	135	145	120	-10	15
Leisure and hospitality	105	105	95	0	10
Government	325	315	330	10	-5
Federal government	125	130	130	-5	-5
State government	25	25	25	0	0
Local government	175	160	175	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.



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Wheeler County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	September 2024	August 2024	September 2023	--Change From--	
				August 2024	September 2023
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	843	832	811	11	32
Unemployed	24	24	23	0	1
Unemployment rate	2.8%	2.9%	2.8%	-0.1	0.0
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.0%	2.9%	2.9%	0.1	0.1
Employed	819	808	788	11	31
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	390	380	385	10	5
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	380	385	375	-5	5
Total private	205	210	190	-5	15
Trade, transportation, and utilities	35	35	35	0	0
Leisure and hospitality	40	50	45	-10	-5
Government	185	170	195	15	-10
Federal government	5	5	5	0	0
State government	35	35	50	0	-15
Local government	145	130	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.

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