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Employment in the Columbia Gorge: November 2024

Unemployment Rates Remain Little Changed Over the Month

In November, Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was little changed at 3.2%. 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 0.3 percentage point.

Hood River County's nonfarm employment increased by 210 (+1.8%) in November and was estimated at 12,020 jobs. While private employment increased over the month (+240 jobs), public employment lost 30 jobs.

Hood River County's private industry employment decreased by 430 jobs over the year ending in November, a loss of 3.9%. Jobs were lost in leisure and hospitality (-330 jobs); manufacturing (-50); mining, logging, and construction (-40); and trade, transportation, and utilities (-20). Minimal gains were seen in private education and health services (+70).

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

Wasco County's nonfarm employment decreased by 20 to reach 10,360 in November. Private industry lost 50 jobs, declining to 7,980, while government rose by 30 to reach 2,380 jobs. In the private sector trade, transportation, and utilities gained 30 jobs, while leisure and hospitality lost 60 jobs, with little to no change in all other industries.

Wasco County's private-industry employment fell by 130 jobs over the year ending in November. Losses were concentrated in trade, transportation, and utilities (-50 jobs); and private education and health services (-30). Gains were minimal and concentrated in mining and logging (+10) and other services (+10).

Gilliam County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was unchanged in November and over the year, remaining at 4.8%. Gilliam County's nonfarm employment did not change in November with 900 jobs. Over the year, the private sector gained 60 jobs (+10.7%), while government employment decreased by five jobs and now totals 280 jobs.

Sherman County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate edged down in November to 3.5% and declined by 0.6 percentage point over the year. Sherman County's nonfarm employment fell by 10 in November and stood at 940. Leisure and hospitality lost 15 jobs, with little to no change in other industries and the public sector. Over the year ending in November, private industry gained 10 jobs and now stands at 620, up by 1.6%.

Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained unchanged in November at 3.0%, making it the lowest seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in Oregon. Over the year, Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was up by 0.3 percentage point. Nonfarm employment remained at 390 jobs in November. Over the year ending in November, private-industry employment rose by 10 and was estimated at 190. Similarly, government employment rose by 10 to reach 200.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the December county and metropolitan area unemployment rates and employment survey data on Tuesday, Jan. 28, and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for December on Thursday, Jan. 23.

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

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December 24, 2024

Hood River County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	November 2024	October 2024	November 2023	October 2024	November 2023
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	13,405	14,307	13,632	-902	-227
Unemployed	423	425	403	-2	20
Unemployment rate	3.2%	3.0%	3.0%	0.2	0.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>					
Employed	12,982	13,882	13,229	-900	-247
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	12,020	11,810	12,450	210	-430
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>11,740</i>	<i>11,790</i>	<i>12,160</i>	<i>-50</i>	<i>-420</i>
Total private	10,500	10,260	10,930	240	-430
Mining, logging, and construction	540	560	580	-20	-40
Manufacturing	1,730	1,750	1,780	-20	-50
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,270	2,120	2,290	150	-20
Wholesale trade	490	500	450	-10	40
Retail trade	1,630	1,460	1,690	170	-60
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	150	160	150	-10	0
Information	110	110	110	0	0
Financial activities	340	340	320	0	20
Professional and business services	950	950	1,030	0	-80
Private education and health services	2,000	2,000	1,930	0	70
Leisure and hospitality	2,220	2,080	2,550	140	-330
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	650	360	930	290	-280
Accommodation and food services	1,570	1,720	1,620	-150	-50
Accommodation	420	460	450	-40	-30
Food services and drinking places	1,150	1,260	1,170	-110	-20
Other services	340	350	340	-10	0
Government	1,520	1,550	1,520	-30	0
Federal government	130	160	120	-30	10
State government	140	140	130	0	10
Local government	1,250	1,250	1,270	0	-20
Local education	740	740	740	0	0
Local government excluding educational services	510	510	530	0	-20

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--				
	November 2024	October 2024	November 2023	October 2024	November 2023
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	12,761	12,959	12,560	-198	201
Unemployed	511	514	481	-3	30
Unemployment rate	4.0%	4.0%	3.8%	0.0	0.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>					
Employed	12,250	12,445	12,079	-195	171
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	10,360	10,380	10,320	-20	40
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>10,420</i>	<i>10,350</i>	<i>10,370</i>	<i>70</i>	<i>50</i>
Total private	7,980	8,030	8,110	-50	-130
Mining, logging, and construction	510	510	500	0	10
Mining and logging	60	60	50	0	10
Construction	450	450	450	0	0
Manufacturing	440	450	460	-10	-20
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,050	2,020	2,100	30	-50
Wholesale trade	200	200	190	0	10
Retail trade	1,550	1,540	1,600	10	-50
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	300	280	310	20	-10
Information	270	270	270	0	0
Financial activities	280	290	300	-10	-20
Professional and business services	560	560	580	0	-20
Private education and health services	2,210	2,210	2,240	0	-30
Ambulatory health care services	450	460	500	-10	-50
Nursing and residential care facilities	500	500	480	0	20
Leisure and hospitality	1,290	1,350	1,300	-60	-10
Accommodation and food services	1,200	1,250	1,210	-50	-10
Other services	370	370	360	0	10
Government	2,380	2,350	2,210	30	170
Federal government	290	290	280	0	10
State government	290	290	300	0	-10
Local government	1,800	1,770	1,630	30	170
Indian tribal	10	10	10	0	0
Local education	1,030	1,000	870	30	160
Local government excluding education and tribal	760	760	750	0	10

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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--		
	November 2024	October 2024	November 2023	October 2024	November 2023
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	959	965	912	-6	47
Unemployed	39	44	45	-5	-6
Unemployment rate	4.1%	4.6%	4.9%	-0.5	-0.8
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>					
Employed	920	921	867	-1	53
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	900	900	845	0	55
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>860</i>	<i>860</i>	<i>810</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>50</i>
Total private	620	615	560	5	60
Trade, transportation, and utilities	115	120	135	-5	-20
Professional and business services	210	210	220	0	-10
Private education and health services	70	70	80	0	-10
Leisure and hospitality	30	30	30	0	0
Government	280	285	285	-5	-5
Federal government	10	15	10	-5	0
State government	25	25	25	0	0
Local government	245	245	250	0	-5

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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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Sherman County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	November 2024	October 2024	November 2023	--Change From--	
				October 2024	November 2023
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	972	977	971	-5	1
Unemployed	35	33	40	2	-5
Unemployment rate	3.6%	3.4%	4.1%	0.2	-0.5
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>					
Employed	937	944	931	-7	6
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	940	950	910	-10	30
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	960	950	930	10	30
Total private	620	630	610	-10	10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	370	370	350	0	20
Retail trade	120	120	120	0	0
Leisure and hospitality	80	95	85	-15	-5
Government	320	320	300	0	20
Federal government	145	145	130	0	15
State government	20	20	25	0	-5
Local government	155	155	145	0	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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Wheeler County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	November 2024	October 2024	November 2023	--Change From--	
				October 2024	November 2023
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	846	844	800	2	46
Unemployed	23	22	17	1	6
Unemployment rate	2.7%	2.6%	2.1%	0.1	0.6
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>					
Employed	823	822	783	1	40
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	390	390	370	0	20
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>385</i>	<i>385</i>	<i>365</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>20</i>
Total private	190	190	180	0	10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	40	40	30	0	10
Leisure and hospitality	35	40	40	-5	-5
Government	200	200	190	0	10
Federal government	5	5	5	0	0
State government	40	40	45	0	-5
Local government	155	155	140	0	15

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.

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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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