

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 24, 2023

CONTACT INFORMATION:
Chris Rich, Regional Economist
Christopher.M.Rich@employ.oregon.gov
(541) 519-0315

Employment in Eastern Oregon: December 2022

Seasonal Losses and Unemployment Increases Continue

Comparing December 2022 with December 2021 shows increasing unemployment rates in all Eastern Oregon counties. The largest over-the-year increase came in Grant County where the raw rate jumped 2.0 percentage points to reach 7.6%. The smallest increase came in Union County where the raw rate increased by 1.2 percentage points to reach 5.3%. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose as well in all Eastern Oregon counties, although at a much slower pace. Grant and Malheur saw the largest increase, rising 0.7 percentage point to 6.7% and 4.6%, respectively. Baker, Union, and Wallowa shared the spotlight for smallest increase over the year, rising by 0.4 percentage point to 4.9%, 5.0%, and 5.5%, respectively. This comes as the number of total employed, which captures the self-employed and unpaid family workers as well as payroll employment, decreased in Eastern Oregon counties.

Baker County's nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 80 since December 2021. Employment decreased by 40 jobs in the private sector as well as 40 jobs in the public sector. Decreases were mainly small with the exception of local government, which dropped by 50. Overall employment decreased by 110 jobs over the month with seasonal cuts in several industries. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose 0.3 percentage point in December to 4.9%. The raw unemployment rate jumped by 0.9 percentage point to 5.7%.

Grant County's nonfarm payroll employment increased by 30 over the year. The private sector dipped by 20 jobs while the public sector increased by 50. Local government (+40) and federal government (+10) were the only industries to see an increase. Over the month, total employment decreased by 80 jobs as seasonal cuts came in six industries. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose 0.3 percentage point in December to 6.7%. The raw unemployment rate jumped by 1.4 percentage points to 7.6%.

Harney County's nonfarm payroll employment ticked up by 10 over the year. The private sector rose by 30 as the public sector dipped by 20. Small gains were seen in a few industries. Local government dropped by 30 for the only loss. Total employment decreased by 90 over the month, with seasonal losses in several industries. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose 0.3 percentage point over the month to 5.4%. The raw unemployment rate jumped by 0.9 percentage point to 6.3%.

Malheur County's nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 60 over the year. The private sector decreased by 30 as the public sector decreased by 30 as well. Retail trade saw the largest decrease over

the year, down 60. Total employment fell by 140 over the month, with seasonal losses in several industries. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose 0.3 percentage point over the month to 4.6%. The raw unemployment rate jumped by 0.8 percentage point to 5.0%.

Union County's total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 80 over the year. The private sector added 40 jobs as the public sector added 40 jobs as well. State government showed the largest gain, up 30. Total employment fell by 140 over the month, mainly from seasonal cuts in federal government, local government, and construction. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose 0.2 percentage point in December to 5.0%. The raw unemployment rate rose by 0.4 percentage point to 5.3%.

Wallowa County's nonfarm payroll employment increased by 70 from December 2021 to December 2022. The private sector added 20 jobs and the public sector added 50. Gains were largest in education and health services (+60) and in local government (+40). Total nonfarm employment decreased by 50 over the month, as seasonal cuts continued in several industries. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose 0.3 percentage point over the month to 5.5%. The raw unemployment rate jumped by 0.9 percentage point for the month to 6.8%.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the January county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, March 7, and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for January on Tuesday, March 7 as well.

Baker County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	Dec. 2022	Nov. 2022	Dec. 2021	Nov. 2022	Dec. 2021
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	7,411	7,470	7,474	-59	-63
Unemployed	422	362	307	60	115
Unemployment rate	5.7%	4.8%	4.1%	0.9	1.6
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.9%	4.6%	4.5%	0.3	0.4
Employed	6,989	7,108	7,167	-119	-178
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	5,560	5,670	5,640	-110	-80
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5,570	5,660	5,650	-90	-80
Total private	4,420	4,490	4,460	-70	-40
Mining, logging, and construction	280	290	280	-10	0
Mining and logging	20	20	10	0	10
Construction	260	270	270	-10	-10
Manufacturing	620	640	630	-20	-10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,210	1,220	1,210	-10	0
Wholesale trade	70	70	80	0	-10
Retail trade	880	890	880	-10	0
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	260	260	250	0	10
Information	50	50	50	0	0
Financial activities	160	160	160	0	0
Professional and business services	320	330	330	-10	-10
Education and health services	1,000	990	1,000	10	0
Leisure and hospitality	570	600	590	-30	-20
Other services	210	210	210	0	0
Government	1,140	1,180	1,180	-40	-40
Federal government	180	200	180	-20	0
State government	220	220	210	0	10
Local government	740	760	790	-20	-50

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.

Grant County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	Dec. 2022	Nov. 2022	Dec. 2021	Nov. 2022	Dec. 2021
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	3,063	3,105	3,142	-42	-79
Unemployed	233	192	175	41	58
Unemployment rate	7.6%	6.2%	5.6%	1.4	2.0
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	6.7%	6.4%	6.0%	0.3	0.7
Employed	2,830	2,913	2,967	-83	-137
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	2,290	2,370	2,260	-80	30
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	2,380	2,400	2,350	-20	30
Total private	1,290	1,330	1,310	-40	-20
Mining, logging, and construction	190	190	190	0	0
Mining and logging	130	130	130	0	0
Construction	60	60	60	0	0
Manufacturing	100	100	100	0	0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	340	350	350	-10	-10
Wholesale trade	40	40	40	0	0
Retail trade	250	260	250	-10	0
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	50	50	60	0	-10
Information	50	50	50	0	0
Financial activities	70	70	70	0	0
Professional and business services	130	130	130	0	0
Education and health services	180	180	180	0	0
Leisure and hospitality	180	200	180	-20	0
Other services	50	60	60	-10	-10
Government	1,000	1,040	950	-40	50
Federal government	220	250	210	-30	10
State government	130	130	130	0	0
Local government	650	660	610	-10	40

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.

Harney County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	Dec. 2022	Nov. 2022	Dec. 2021	Nov. 2022	Dec. 2021
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	3,643	3,723	3,653	-80	-10
Unemployed	229	202	162	27	67
Unemployment rate	6.3%	5.4%	4.4%	0.9	1.9
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.4%	5.1%	4.8%	0.3	0.6
Employed	3,414	3,521	3,491	-107	-77
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	2,390	2,480	2,380	-90	10
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	2,450	2,490	2,440	-40	10
Total private	1,410	1,460	1,380	-50	30
Goods-producing	110	120	110	-10	0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	500	510	490	-10	10
Wholesale trade	70	70	70	0	0
Retail trade	380	390	370	-10	10
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	50	50	50	0	0
Information	10	10	10	0	0
Financial activities	50	60	50	-10	0
Professional and business services	130	130	120	0	10
Education and health services	240	240	230	0	10
Leisure and hospitality	300	320	300	-20	0
Other services	70	70	70	0	0
Government	980	1,020	1,000	-40	-20
Federal government	210	230	200	-20	10
State government	120	120	120	0	0
Local government	650	670	680	-20	-30

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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.

Malheur County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	Dec. 2022	Nov. 2022	Dec. 2021	Nov. 2022	Dec. 2021
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	12,212	12,386	12,454	-174	-242
Unemployed	612	520	396	92	216
Unemployment rate	5.0%	4.2%	3.2%	0.8	1.8
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.6%	4.3%	3.9%	0.3	0.7
Employed	11,600	11,866	12,058	-266	-458
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	11,840	11,980	11,900	-140	-60
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	11,790	11,790	11,840	0	-50
Total private	8,550	8,650	8,580	-100	-30
Mining, logging, and construction	380	390	370	-10	10
Manufacturing	1,010	1,040	1,020	-30	-10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	3,100	3,140	3,160	-40	-60
Wholesale trade	500	490	500	10	0
Retail trade	2,210	2,230	2,270	-20	-60
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	390	420	390	-30	0
Information	70	70	70	0	0
Financial activities	280	270	280	10	0
Professional and business services	410	410	410	0	0
Education and health services	1,760	1,770	1,740	-10	20
Leisure and hospitality	1,250	1,270	1,240	-20	10
Other services	290	290	290	0	0
Government	3,290	3,330	3,320	-40	-30
Federal government	170	170	180	0	-10
State government	1,240	1,260	1,220	-20	20
Local government	1,880	1,900	1,920	-20	-40

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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.

Union County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	Dec. 2022	Nov. 2022	Dec. 2021	Nov. 2022	Dec. 2021
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	11,954	12,102	12,144	-148	-190
Unemployed	630	592	497	38	133
Unemployment rate	5.3%	4.9%	4.1%	0.4	1.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>5.0%</i>	<i>4.8%</i>	<i>4.6%</i>	<i>0.2</i>	<i>0.4</i>
Employed	11,324	11,510	11,647	-186	-323
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	10,470	10,610	10,390	-140	80
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>10,450</i>	<i>10,460</i>	<i>10,370</i>	<i>-10</i>	<i>80</i>
Total private	8,030	8,060	7,990	-30	40
Mining, logging, and construction	590	620	600	-30	-10
Mining and logging	40	40	40	0	0
Construction	550	580	560	-30	-10
Manufacturing	1,290	1,290	1,300	0	-10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,190	2,170	2,160	20	30
Wholesale trade	240	240	230	0	10
Retail trade	1,510	1,500	1,500	10	10
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	440	430	430	10	10
Information	90	90	80	0	10
Financial activities	340	340	340	0	0
Professional and business services	520	540	530	-20	-10
Education and health services	1,660	1,650	1,640	10	20
Leisure and hospitality	1,050	1,050	1,040	0	10
Other services	300	310	300	-10	0
Government	2,440	2,550	2,400	-110	40
Federal government	190	260	200	-70	-10
State government	390	390	360	0	30
Local government	1,860	1,900	1,840	-40	20

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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.

Wallowa County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	Dec. 2022	Nov. 2022	Dec. 2021	Nov. 2022	Dec. 2021
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	3,482	3,525	3,478	-43	4
Unemployed	237	209	172	28	65
Unemployment rate	6.8%	5.9%	4.9%	0.9	1.9
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.5%	5.2%	5.1%	0.3	0.4
Employed	3,245	3,316	3,306	-71	-61
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	2,590	2,640	2,520	-50	70
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	2,730	2,710	2,650	20	80
Total private	1,850	1,890	1,830	-40	20
Mining, logging, and construction	240	250	240	-10	0
Mining and logging	60	60	60	0	0
Construction	180	190	180	-10	0
Manufacturing	150	150	170	0	-20
Trade, transportation, and utilities	460	460	450	0	10
Wholesale and retail trade	370	380	370	-10	0
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	90	80	80	10	10
Information	20	20	20	0	0
Financial activities	110	110	110	0	0
Professional and business services	110	120	120	-10	-10
Education and health services	430	420	370	10	60
Leisure and hospitality	220	240	230	-20	-10
Other services	110	120	120	-10	-10
Government	740	750	690	-10	50
Federal government	70	90	60	-20	10
State government	90	90	90	0	0
Local government	580	570	540	10	40

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.

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.

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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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