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Employment in Eastern Oregon: January 2023

Unemployment Rate Up Over The Year

Comparing January 2023 with January 2022 shows increasing unemployment rates in all Eastern Oregon counties. The largest over-the-year increase came in Harney County where the raw rate jumped 1.5 percentage points to reach 7.3%. The smallest increase came in Union County where the raw rate increased by 0.6 percentage point to reach 5.9%. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose as well in all Eastern Oregon counties. Malheur saw the largest increase, rising 0.9 percentage point to 4.7%. Union and Wallowa shared the spotlight for smallest increase over the year, rising by 0.5 percentage point to 5.0% and 5.6%, respectively.

Baker County's nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 20 since January 2022. Employment decreased by 10 jobs in the private sector as well as 10 jobs in the public sector. Decreases were mainly small with the exception of manufacturing, which dropped by 80. Several industries saw gains over the year. Professional and business services added the most, up 40 jobs. Overall employment decreased by 130 jobs over the month as seasonal cuts were seen in most industries. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate ticked up by 0.1 percentage point in January to 5.0%. The raw unemployment rate increased by 0.7 percentage point to 6.6%.

Grant County's nonfarm payroll employment increased by 80 over the year. The private sector added 30 jobs while the public sector increased by 50. Local government (+30) saw the largest increase, with state government a close second (+20). Over the month, total employment decreased by 50 jobs as seasonal cuts continued. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dipped by 0.1 percentage point in January to 6.6%. The raw unemployment rate jumped 1.7 percentage points to 9.2%.

Harney County's nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 60 over the year. The private sector dropped by 80 as the public sector rose by 20. Two industries accounted for the bulk of the decrease; professional and business services dropped by 50 while leisure and hospitality dropped by 30. Total employment decreased by 60 over the month, with seasonal losses in a few industries. Federal government saw the largest decrease, down 30. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate ticked up by 0.1 percentage point over the month to 5.5%. The raw unemployment rate increased by 0.9 percentage point to 7.3%.

Malheur County's nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 70 over the year. The private sector decreased by 80 as the public sector ticked up by 10. Wholesale trade saw the largest decrease over the

year, down 60. State government increased by 30 to lead gains. Total employment fell by 250 over the month as retail trade scaled back by 100 and local government saw a seasonal dip, down 70. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate ticked up by 0.1 percentage point over the month to 4.7%. The raw unemployment rate increased by 0.7 percentage point to 5.9%.

Union County's total nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 20 over the year. The private sector decreased by 50 jobs as the public sector added 30. Most industries saw gains with construction in the lead, up 40. Manufacturing scaled back by 70, as did leisure and hospitality. Total employment fell by 170 over the month, with seasonal cuts in several industries. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was unchanged in January at 5.0%. The raw unemployment rate rose by 0.5 percentage point to 5.9%.

Wallowa County's nonfarm payroll employment increased by 30 from January 2022 to January 2023. The private sector was unchanged overall while the public sector added 30 jobs. Gains were largest in local government, up 30. Total nonfarm employment decreased by 110 over the month, as seasonal cuts continued in several industries. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate ticked up by 0.1 percentage point over the month to 5.6%. The raw unemployment rate increased by 1.0 percentage point for the month to 8.2%.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the February county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, March 28, and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for February on Tuesday, March 21.



Baker County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

				Change F	rom
	Jan. 2023	Dec. 2022	Jan. 2022	Dec. 2022	Jan. 2022
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	7,221	7,337	7,428	-116	-207
Unemployed	473	435	403	38	70
Unemployment rate	6.6%	5.9%	5.4%	0.7	1.2
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)	5.0%	4.9%	4.3%	0.1	0.7
Employed	6,748	6,902	7,025	-154	-277
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	5,430	5,560	5,450	-130	-20
Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)	5,610	5,580	5,640	30	-30
Total private	4,300	4,410	4,310	-110	-10
Mining, logging, and construction	260	300	250	-40	10
Mining and logging	10	10	20	0	-10
Construction	250	290	230	-40	20
Manufacturing	550	550	630	0	-80
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,170	1,200	1,150	-30	20
Wholesale trade	70	70	80	0	-10
Retail trade	830	850	820	-20	10
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	270	280	250	-10	20
Information	70	60	50	10	20
Financial activities	160	170	160	-10	0
Professional and business services	370	380	330	-10	40
Education and health services	1,000	1,020	990	-20	10
Leisure and hospitality	530	530	560	0	-30
Other services	190	200	190	-10	0
Government	1,130	1,150	1,140	-20	-10
Federal government	170	180	170	-10	0
State government	220	220	220	0	0
Local government	740	750	750	-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.



Grant County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

				Change From	
	Jan.	Dec.	Jan.	Dec.	Jan.
Labar Farra Otatua	2023	2022	2022	2022	2022
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	3,137	3,162	3,136	-25	1
Unemployed	290	237	261	53	29
Unemployment rate	9.2%	7.5%	8.3%	1.7	0.9
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)	6.6%	6.7%	5.9%	-0.1	0.7
Employed	2,847	2,925	2,875	-78	-28
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	2,310	2,360	2,230	-50	80
Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)	2,460	2,460	2,380	0	80
Total private	1,320	1,340	1,290	-20	30
Mining, logging, and construction	210	210	190	0	20
Mining and logging	140	130	130	10	10
Construction	70	80	60	-10	10
Manufacturing	100	100	100	0	0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	340	360	340	-20	0
Wholesale trade	40	40	40	0	0
Retail trade	250	260	250	-10	0
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	50	60	50	-10	0
Information	50	50	50	0	0
Financial activities	70	70	70	0	0
Professional and business services	130	120	130	10	0
Education and health services	190	190	180	0	10
Leisure and hospitality	160	170	160	-10	0
Other services	70	70	70	0	0
Government	990	1,020	940	-30	50
Federal government	200	220	200	-20	0
State government	130	140	110	-10	20
Local government	660	660	630	0	30

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Harney County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

				Change From	
	Jan. 2023	Dec. 2022	Jan. 2022	Dec. 2022	Jan. 2022
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	3,653	3,696	3,776	-43	-123
Unemployed	268	237	218	31	50
Unemployment rate	7.3%	6.4%	5.8%	0.9	1.5
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)	5.5%	5.4%	4.7%	0.1	0.8
Employed	3,385	3,459	3,558	-74	-173
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	2,360	2,420	2,420	-60	-60
Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)	2,480	2,500	2,550	-20	-70
Total private	1,340	1,360	1,420	-20	-80
Goods-producing	100	100	110	0	-10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	490	490	480	0	10
Wholesale trade	70	70	70	0	0
Retail trade	370	370	360	0	10
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	50	50	50	0	0
Information	10	10	10	0	0
Financial activities	60	50	60	10	0
Professional and business services	120	130	170	-10	-50
Education and health services	240	240	240	0	0
Leisure and hospitality	260	280	290	-20	-30
Other services	60	60	60	0	0
Government	1,020	1,060	1,000	-40	20
Federal government	190	220	190	-30	0
State government	120	120	120	0	0
Local government	710	720	690	-10	20

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Malheur County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

				Change F	rom
	Jan. 2023	Dec. 2022	Jan. 2022	Dec. 2022	Jan. 2022
Labor Force Status	2023	2022	2022	2022	2022
	40.000	40.450	40.470	000	040
Civilian labor force	12,230	12,458	12,476	-228	-246
	726	643	595	83 0.7	131
Unemployment rate	5.9% 4.7%	5.2% 4.6%	4.8% 3.8%	0.7	1.1 0.9
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)					
Employed	11,504	11,815	11,881	-311	-377
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	11,680	11,930	11,750	-250	-70
Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)	11,920	11,920	11,990	0	-70
Total private	8,360	8,530	8,440	-170	-80
Mining, logging, and construction	330	350	350	-20	-20
Manufacturing	990	990	1,000	0	-10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	3,040	3,160	3,120	-120	-80
Wholesale trade	460	480	520	-20	-60
Retail trade	2,230	2,330	2,240	-100	-10
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	350	350	360	0	-10
Information	70	70	70	0	0
Financial activities	290	290	270	0	20
Professional and business services	450	460	440	-10	10
Education and health services	1,740	1,720	1,740	20	0
Leisure and hospitality	1,170	1,200	1,180	-30	-10
Other services	280	290	270	-10	10
Government	3,320	3,400	3,310	-80	10
Federal government	160	170	170	-10	-10
State government	1,270	1,270	1,240	0	30
Local government	1,890	1,960	1,900	-70	-10

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Union County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

				Change F	rom
	Jan. 2023	Dec. 2022	Jan. 2022	Dec. 2022	Jan. 2022
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	11,917	12,013	12,219	-96	-302
Unemployed	708	643	652	65	56
Unemployment rate	5.9%	5.4%	5.3%	0.5	0.6
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)	5.0%	5.0%	4.5%	0.0	0.5
Employed	11,209	11,370	11,567	-161	-358
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	10,270	10,440	10,290	-170	-20
Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)	10,480	10,460	10,500	20	-20
Total private	7,860	8,030	7,910	-170	-50
Mining, logging, and construction	600	640	560	-40	40
Mining and logging	40	40	40	0	0
Construction	560	600	520	-40	40
Manufacturing	1,230	1,280	1,300	-50	-70
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,150	2,170	2,140	-20	10
Wholesale trade	240	240	240	0	0
Retail trade	1,500	1,510	1,520	-10	-20
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	410	420	380	-10	30
Information	90	90	90	0	0
Financial activities	350	360	330	-10	20
Professional and business services	520	540	520	-20	0
Education and health services	1,640	1,670	1,640	-30	0
Leisure and hospitality	960	950	1,030	10	-70
Other services	320	330	300	-10	20
Government	2,410	2,410	2,380	0	30
Federal government	180	190	180	-10	0
State government	370	370	350	0	20
Local government	1,860	1,850	1,850	10	10

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Wallowa County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

				Change F	rom
	Jan.	Dec.	Jan.	Dec.	Jan.
	2023	2022	2022	2022	2022
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	3,452	3,479	3,465	-27	-13
Unemployed	282	251	237	31	45
Unemployment rate	8.2%	7.2%	6.8%	1.0	1.4
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)	5.6%	5.5%	5.1%	0.1	0.5
Employed	3,170	3,228	3,228	-58	-58
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	2,470	2,580	2,440	-110	30
Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)	2,700	2,740	2,670	-40	30
Total private	1,770	1,860	1,770	-90	0
Mining, logging, and construction	240	260	220	-20	20
Mining and logging	50	50	50	0	0
Construction	190	210	170	-20	20
Manufacturing	140	150	160	-10	-20
Trade, transportation, and utilities	450	470	450	-20	0
Wholesale and retail trade	380	390	370	-10	10
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	70	80	80	-10	-10
Information	20	20	20	0	0
Financial activities	100	100	100	0	0
Professional and business services	90	100	100	-10	-10
Education and health services	400	410	380	-10	20
Leisure and hospitality	200	220	220	-20	-20
Other services	130	130	120	0	10
Government	700	720	670	-20	30
Federal government	60	70	70	-10	-10
State government	90	90	80	0	10
Local government	550	560	520	-10	30

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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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