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## **Employment in Eastern Oregon: June 2024**

### **Eastern Oregon Unemployment Rates Remain Comparatively Low**

The June seasonally adjusted unemployment rates decreased over the year in Grant and Wallowa counties while increasing in the other four Eastern Oregon counties. In Grant and Wallowa counties, they have the lowest June rates since comparable statistics began in 1990. In Baker, Harney, and Malheur counties, the June 2024 rates are the second lowest June rates. In Union County, only 2023 and 2022 had lower June rates. The seasonally adjusted rate moved 0.1 percentage point lower in both Grant and Wallowa counties to reach 5.0% and 4.3%, respectively. The largest increase came in Union County where the seasonally adjusted rate rose 0.9 percentage point to reach 4.6%.

Between June 2023 and June 2024, unadjusted unemployment rates increased in four of six Eastern Oregon counties. Wallowa County was the only county to see a decrease in the raw unemployment rate, while Baker County's was unchanged. Wallowa County's slipped 0.1 percentage point to 3.3%. This represented the lowest June unadjusted rate for the county since 1990. In Baker County, the June 2024 rate tied June 2023 for the lowest unadjusted June unemployment rate. In Grant, Harney, and Union counties, the only lower June rates were in 2023. Malheur County's June 2024 rate was its third lowest June rate, behind 2023 and 1990. The smallest over-the-year increase came in Grant County, where the raw rate increased by 0.1 percentage point to reach 4.4%. The largest increase came in Union County, where the raw rate increased by 0.5 percentage point to reach 4.2%.

Baker County's nonfarm payroll employment has decreased by 60 since June 2023. Employment decreased by 70 jobs in the private sector and added 10 jobs in the public sector. Leisure and hospitality led losses, down 30. Transportation, warehousing, and utilities and state government led gains, each up 20 jobs. Overall employment increased by 30 jobs over the month led by a gain of 20 jobs in leisure and hospitality. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dropped 0.1 percentage point over the month to 4.4%. The raw unemployment rate increased by 0.2 percentage point to 3.9%.

Grant County's nonfarm payroll employment increased by 40 jobs over the year. The private sector dropped 50 jobs while the public sector increased by 90. Local government and state government led gains, up 50 and 40 jobs, respectively. Retail trade dropped 20 jobs to lead losses. Over the month, total employment rose by 80 jobs led by a gain of 40 jobs in state government. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by 0.1 percentage point over the month to 5.0%. The raw unemployment rate fell 0.4 percentage point to 4.4%.

Harney County's nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 50 jobs over the year. The private sector decreased by 70 jobs, and the public sector added 20. Losses were led by retail trade and goods-producing, down 30 and 20 jobs, respectively. Gains were confined to local government and private education and health services, up 20 and 10 jobs, respectively. Total employment saw a net change of zero jobs over the month, led by gains of 20 jobs each in leisure and hospitality and federal government. Losses were led by a drop of 40 jobs in local government. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate slipped 0.1 percentage point over the month to 4.3%. The raw unemployment rate held steady at 3.7%.

Malheur County's nonfarm payroll employment increased by 330 jobs over the year. The private sector rose by 150, and the public sector added 180 jobs. Local government added 140 to lead gains, followed by private education and health services, up 60. Other services dropped 20 jobs to lead losses. Total employment decreased by 10 over the month, with local government leading the losses, down 30 jobs. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady over the month at 3.9%. The raw unemployment rate increased by 0.6 percentage point to 4.0%.

Union County's total nonfarm payroll employment saw a net change of zero jobs over the year. The private sector dropped 60 jobs, and the public sector increased by 60. Manufacturing led losses, down 100 jobs. Local government led gains, up 40, followed by financial activities and private education and health services, each up 40 jobs. Total employment increased by 200 jobs over the month, with manufacturing leading gains, up 170. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady over the month at 4.6%. The raw unemployment rate decreased by 0.5 percentage point to 4.2%.

Wallowa County's nonfarm payroll employment saw a net change of zero jobs from June 2023 to June 2024. The private sector dropped 20 jobs, and the public sector increased by 20. Offsetting gains and losses were spread across industries. Total nonfarm employment increased by 140 over the month, led by gains in leisure and hospitality, up 90 jobs. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady over the month at 4.3%. The raw unemployment rate dropped 0.6 percentage point to 3.3%.

### **Next Press Releases**

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the July county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, August 20, and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for July on Wednesday, August 14.



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## Baker County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	June 2024	May 2024	June 2023	May 2024	June 2023
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	7,125	7,140	7,128	-15	-3
Unemployed	279	264	281	15	-2
Unemployment rate	3.9%	3.7%	3.9%	0.2	0.0
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.4%	4.5%	4.2%	-0.1	0.2
Employed	6,846	6,876	6,847	-30	-1
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	5,570	5,540	5,630	30	-60
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5,440	5,460	5,500	-20	-60
Total private	4,350	4,300	4,420	50	-70
Mining, logging, and construction	310	290	330	20	-20
Mining and logging	20	10	30	10	-10
Construction	290	280	300	10	-10
Manufacturing	570	570	560	0	10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,150	1,140	1,140	10	10
Wholesale trade	80	80	70	0	10
Retail trade	820	820	840	0	-20
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	250	240	230	10	20
Information	50	50	60	0	-10
Financial activities	150	150	160	0	-10
Professional and business services	390	380	390	10	0
Private education and health services	970	970	990	0	-20
Leisure and hospitality	560	540	590	20	-30
Other services	200	210	200	-10	0
Government	1,220	1,240	1,210	-20	10
Federal government	220	210	220	10	0
State government	230	230	210	0	20
Local government	770	800	780	-30	-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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## Grant County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	June 2024	May 2024	June 2023	May 2024	June 2023
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	3,290	3,207	3,210	83	80
Unemployed	146	153	139	-7	7
Unemployment rate	4.4%	4.8%	4.3%	-0.4	0.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.0%	4.9%	5.1%	0.1	-0.1
Employed	3,144	3,054	3,071	90	73
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	2,570	2,490	2,530	80	40
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	2,450	2,500	2,410	-50	40
Total private	1,390	1,350	1,440	40	-50
Mining, logging, and construction	220	190	200	30	20
Mining and logging	120	100	110	20	10
Construction	100	90	90	10	10
Manufacturing	150	150	160	0	-10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	300	300	330	0	-30
Wholesale trade	30	30	40	0	-10
Retail trade	230	230	250	0	-20
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	40	40	40	0	0
Information	40	40	50	0	-10
Financial activities	60	60	60	0	0
Professional and business services	130	130	140	0	-10
Private education and health services	200	210	200	-10	0
Leisure and hospitality	240	220	240	20	0
Other services	50	50	60	0	-10
Government	1,180	1,140	1,090	40	90
Federal government	270	260	270	10	0
State government	180	140	140	40	40
Local government	730	740	680	-10	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.



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## Harney County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	June 2024	May 2024	June 2023	May 2024	June 2023
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	3,629	3,647	3,647	-18	-18
Unemployed	134	136	129	-2	5
Unemployment rate	3.7%	3.7%	3.5%	0.0	0.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.3%	4.4%	4.0%	-0.1	0.3
Employed	3,495	3,511	3,518	-16	-23
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	2,450	2,450	2,500	0	-50
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	2,430	2,390	2,480	40	-50
Total private	1,350	1,330	1,420	20	-70
Goods-producing	100	100	120	0	-20
Trade, transportation, and utilities	440	430	480	10	-40
Wholesale trade	40	40	50	0	-10
Retail trade	360	350	390	10	-30
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	40	40	40	0	0
Information	10	10	20	0	-10
Financial activities	60	60	60	0	0
Professional and business services	100	110	100	-10	0
Private education and health services	250	250	240	0	10
Leisure and hospitality	320	300	320	20	0
Other services	70	70	80	0	-10
Government	1,100	1,120	1,080	-20	20
Federal government	250	230	250	20	0
State government	140	140	140	0	0
Local government	710	750	690	-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.



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## Malheur County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	June 2024	May 2024	June 2023	May 2024	June 2023
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	13,413	13,298	12,930	115	483
Unemployed	533	448	492	85	41
Unemployment rate	4.0%	3.4%	3.8%	0.6	0.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.9%	3.9%	3.5%	0.0	0.4
Employed	12,880	12,850	12,438	30	442
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	12,750	12,760	12,420	-10	330
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	12,670	12,610	12,350	60	320
Total private	8,930	8,930	8,780	0	150
Mining, logging, and construction	460	440	460	20	0
Manufacturing	1,070	1,070	1,040	0	30
Trade, transportation, and utilities	3,190	3,220	3,130	-30	60
Wholesale trade	500	510	450	-10	50
Retail trade	2,280	2,290	2,270	-10	10
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	410	420	410	-10	0
Information	70	70	80	0	-10
Financial activities	290	290	280	0	10
Professional and business services	430	430	440	0	-10
Private education and health services	1,870	1,890	1,810	-20	60
Leisure and hospitality	1,290	1,260	1,260	30	30
Other services	260	260	280	0	-20
Government	3,820	3,830	3,640	-10	180
Federal government	210	200	220	10	-10
State government	1,430	1,420	1,380	10	50
Local government	2,180	2,210	2,040	-30	140

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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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## Union County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	June 2024	May 2024	June 2023	May 2024	June 2023
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	12,312	12,236	12,159	76	153
Unemployed	513	580	449	-67	64
Unemployment rate	4.2%	4.7%	3.7%	-0.5	0.5
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.6%	4.6%	3.7%	0.0	0.9
Employed	11,799	11,656	11,710	143	89
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	10,810	10,610	10,810	200	0
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	10,640	10,470	10,640	170	0
Total private	8,220	8,010	8,280	210	-60
Mining, logging, and construction	730	690	700	40	30
Mining and logging	40	30	40	10	0
Construction	690	660	660	30	30
Manufacturing	1,220	1,050	1,320	170	-100
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,120	2,130	2,130	-10	-10
Wholesale trade	250	250	240	0	10
Retail trade	1,470	1,480	1,470	-10	0
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	400	400	420	0	-20
Information	100	100	100	0	0
Financial activities	390	380	350	10	40
Professional and business services	620	610	620	10	0
Private education and health services	1,730	1,760	1,690	-30	40
Leisure and hospitality	1,000	1,000	1,060	0	-60
Other services	310	290	310	20	0
Government	2,590	2,600	2,530	-10	60
Federal government	280	270	280	10	0
State government	430	420	420	10	10
Local government	1,880	1,910	1,830	-30	50

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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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### Wallowa County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	June 2024	May 2024	June 2023	May 2024	June 2023
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	3,782	3,687	3,729	95	53
Unemployed	126	144	125	-18	1
Unemployment rate	3.3%	3.9%	3.4%	-0.6	-0.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.3%	4.3%	4.4%	0.0	-0.1
Employed	3,656	3,543	3,604	113	52
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	2,990	2,850	2,990	140	0
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	2,780	2,810	2,780	-30	0
Total private	2,180	2,020	2,200	160	-20
Mining, logging, and construction	270	250	290	20	-20
Mining and logging	60	50	60	10	0
Construction	210	200	230	10	-20
Manufacturing	170	160	180	10	-10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	490	480	500	10	-10
Wholesale and retail trade	430	420	410	10	20
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	60	60	90	0	-30
Information	30	30	30	0	0
Financial activities	130	110	150	20	-20
Professional and business services	160	160	150	0	10
Private education and health services	380	380	360	0	20
Leisure and hospitality	420	330	400	90	20
Other services	130	120	140	10	-10
Government	810	830	790	-20	20
Federal government	130	100	110	30	20
State government	120	110	100	10	20
Local government	560	620	580	-60	-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.



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/](http://www.qualityinfo.org/press-release/). To obtain the data in other formats such as in Excel, visit [QualityInfo.org](http://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](http://www.WorkSourceOregon.org).

The Oregon Employment Department (OED) is an equal opportunity agency. Everyone has a right to use OED programs and services. OED provides free help. Some examples are: Sign language and spoken language 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](mailto:OED_Communications@employ.oregon.gov).

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