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Employment in Eastern Oregon: November 2024 Eastern Oregon Unemployment Rates Remain Comparatively Low

The November seasonally adjusted unemployment rates decreased over the year in Baker County, held steady in Malheur County, and increased in the other four Eastern Oregon counties. Baker, Harney, Malheur, and Wallowa counties' November 2024 rates are their second lowest November rates since comparable statistics began in 1990. In Grant and Union counties, they are the fourth lowest November rates. The seasonally adjusted rate moved 0.3 percentage point lower in Baker County to reach 4.1%. The largest increase came in Grant County where the seasonally adjusted rate rose 1.1 percentage points to reach 6.0%.

Between November 2023 and November 2024, unadjusted unemployment rates decreased in Baker, Harney, and Wallowa counties, held steady in Malheur County, and increased in Grant and Union counties. Wallowa County's November 2024 unadjusted rate of 3.8% was its lowest unadjusted November unemployment rate since comparable statistics began in 1990. In Baker County, the November 2024 rate (3.7%) tied with November 2019 for lowest, while Harney County's 3.7% was its second lowest November rate. Baker County's raw rate fell by 0.4 percentage point to reach 3.7% for the largest decrease. The largest increase came in Grant County, where the raw rate increased by 1.0 percentage point to reach 5.2%.

Baker County's nonfarm payroll employment has increased by 70 jobs since November 2023. Employment increased by 30 jobs in the private sector and added 40 jobs in the public sector. Retail trade, and private education and health services led gains, up 70 and 60 jobs, respectively. Professional and business services led losses, down 50. Total nonfarm employment decreased by 30 jobs over the month led by losses in construction and leisure and hospitality, down 20 jobs each. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased by 0.1 percentage point over the month to 4.1%. The raw unemployment rate rose by 0.2 percentage point to 3.7%.

Grant County's nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 120 jobs over the year. The private sector dropped 30 jobs while the public sector decreased by 90. Manufacturing dropped 40 jobs to lead losses, followed by losses of 30 jobs each in leisure and hospitality, federal government, state government, and local government. Small gains were spread across several industries. Over the month, total nonfarm employment decreased by 40 jobs led by a loss of 50 jobs in federal government. The seasonally

adjusted unemployment rate rose by 0.1 percentage point over the month to 6.0%. The raw unemployment rate increased by 0.7 percentage point to 5.2%.

Harney County's nonfarm payroll employment increased by 10 jobs over the year. The private sector decreased by 40 jobs, and the public sector added 50 jobs. Gains were led by local government, up 40 jobs. Losses were led by retail trade, down 30. Total nonfarm employment decreased by 60 jobs over the month, led by a loss of 20 jobs in federal government. No industries added jobs over the month. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady over the month at 4.3%. The raw unemployment rate rose by 0.3 percentage point to 3.7%.

Malheur County's nonfarm payroll employment increased by 180 jobs over the year. The private sector rose by 250, and the public sector dropped 70 jobs. Manufacturing added 120 jobs to lead gains, followed by private education and health services, up 70. Local government dropped 60 jobs to lead losses. Total nonfarm employment increased by 20 jobs over the month, led by a gain of 30 jobs in retail trade. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady over the month at 3.7%. The raw unemployment rate held steady at 3.2%.

Union County's nonfarm payroll employment increased by 90 jobs over the year. The private sector added 10 jobs, and the public sector increased by 80 jobs. Private education and health services led gains, up 110 jobs, followed by local government, up 80. Construction dropped 70 jobs to lead losses, followed by manufacturing, down 60. Total nonfarm employment decreased by 10 jobs over the month, with federal government leading losses, down 50. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased by 0.1 percentage point over the month to 4.6%. The raw unemployment rate held steady at 4.1%.

Wallowa County's nonfarm payroll employment increased by 10 jobs from November 2023 to November 2024. The private sector dropped 10 jobs, and the public sector increased by 20. Manufacturing, professional and business services, and leisure and hospitality led losses, down 20 jobs each. Wholesale and retail trade led gains, up 40 jobs. Total nonfarm employment decreased by 120 jobs over the month with leisure and hospitality leading losses, down 60. No industries added jobs over the month. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady over the month at 4.4%. The raw unemployment rate increased by 0.4 percentage point to 3.8%.

Next Press Releases

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



Baker County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

| | | | | Change From | |
|--|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| | November 2024 | October 2024 | November 2023 | October 2024 | November 2023 |
| Labor Force Status | | | _0_0 | | |
| Civilian labor force | 7,158 | 7,211 | 7,096 | -53 | 62 |
| Unemployed | 266 | 249 | 292 | 17 | -26 |
| Unemployment rate | 3.7% | 3.5% | 4.1% | 0.2 | -0.4 |
| Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted) | 4.1% | 4.2% | 4.4% | -0.1 | -0.3 |
| Employed | 6,892 | 6,962 | 6,804 | -70 | 88 |
| Nonfarm Payroll Employment | | | | | |
| Total nonfarm employment | 5,580 | 5,610 | 5,510 | -30 | 70 |
| Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted) | 5,570 | 5,540 | 5,500 | 30 | 70 |
| Total private | 4,300 | 4,330 | 4,270 | -30 | 30 |
| Mining, logging, and construction | 240 | 260 | 270 | -20 | -30 |
| Mining and logging | 10 | 10 | 20 | 0 | -10 |
| Construction | 230 | 250 | 250 | -20 | -20 |
| Manufacturing | 580 | 570 | 560 | 10 | 20 |
| Trade, transportation, and utilities | 1,220 | 1,210 | 1,150 | 10 | 70 |
| Wholesale trade | 70 | 70 | 80 | 0 | -10 |
| Retail trade | 900 | 890 | 830 | 10 | 70 |
| Transportation, warehousing, and utilities | 250 | 250 | 240 | 0 | 10 |
| Information | 50 | 50 | 50 | 0 | 0 |
| Financial activities | 150 | 160 | 160 | -10 | -10 |
| Professional and business services | 330 | 330 | 380 | 0 | -50 |
| Private education and health services | 1,040 | 1,040 | 980 | 0 | 60 |
| Leisure and hospitality | 490 | 510 | 520 | -20 | -30 |
| Other services | 200 | 200 | 200 | 0 | 0 |
| Government | 1,280 | 1,280 | 1,240 | 0 | 40 |
| Federal government | 210 | 220 | 200 | -10 | 10 |
| State government | 230 | 220 | 220 | 10 | 10 |
| Local government | 840 | 840 | 820 | 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.



Grant County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

| | | | | Chang | e From |
|--|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| | November 2024 | October 2024 | November 2023 | October 2024 | November 2023 |
| Labor Force Status | | | _0_0 | | |
| Civilian labor force | 3,065 | 3,118 | 3,222 | -53 | -157 |
| Unemployed | 159 | 139 | 134 | 20 | 25 |
| Unemployment rate | 5.2% | 4.5% | 4.2% | 0.7 | 1.0 |
| Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted) | 6.0% | 5.9% | 4.9% | 0.1 | 1.1 |
| Employed | 2,906 | 2,979 | 3,088 | -73 | -182 |
| Nonfarm Payroll Employment | | | | | |
| Total nonfarm employment | 2,370 | 2,410 | 2,490 | -40 | -120 |
| Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted) | 2,360 | 2,340 | 2,480 | 20 | -120 |
| Total private | 1,390 | 1,370 | 1,420 | 20 | -30 |
| Mining, logging, and construction | 220 | 220 | 230 | 0 | -10 |
| Mining and logging | 120 | 120 | 130 | 0 | -10 |
| Construction | 100 | 100 | 100 | 0 | 0 |
| Manufacturing | 110 | 100 | 150 | 10 | -40 |
| Trade, transportation, and utilities | 340 | 320 | 320 | 20 | 20 |
| Wholesale trade | 40 | 40 | 30 | 0 | 10 |
| Retail trade | 250 | 240 | 240 | 10 | 10 |
| Transportation, warehousing, and utilities | 50 | 40 | 50 | 10 | 0 |
| Information | 50 | 50 | 50 | 0 | 0 |
| Financial activities | 70 | 70 | 60 | 0 | 10 |
| Professional and business services | 140 | 140 | 130 | 0 | 10 |
| Private education and health services | 210 | 200 | 210 | 10 | 0 |
| Leisure and hospitality | 180 | 200 | 210 | -20 | -30 |
| Other services | 70 | 70 | 60 | 0 | 10 |
| Government | 980 | 1,040 | 1,070 | -60 | -90 |
| Federal government | 200 | 250 | 230 | -50 | -30 |
| State government | 120 | 130 | 150 | -10 | -30 |
| Local government | 660 | 660 | 690 | 0 | -30 |

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.



Harney 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 | 3,607 | 3,631 | 3,576 | -24 | 31 |
| Unemployed | 133 | 122 | 139 | 11 | -6 |
| Unemployment rate | 3.7% | 3.4% | 3.9% | 0.3 | -0.2 |
| Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted) | 4.3% | 4.3% | 4.2% | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| Employed | 3,474 | 3,509 | 3,437 | -35 | 37 |
| Nonfarm Payroll Employment | | | | | |
| Total nonfarm employment | 2,420 | 2,480 | 2,410 | -60 | 10 |
| Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted) | 2,430 | 2,450 | 2,420 | -20 | 10 |
| Total private | 1,310 | 1,350 | 1,350 | -40 | -40 |
| Trade, transportation, and utilities | 430 | 430 | 450 | 0 | -20 |
| Wholesale trade | 40 | 40 | 40 | 0 | 0 |
| Retail trade | 340 | 340 | 370 | 0 | -30 |
| Transportation, warehousing, and utilities | 50 | 50 | 40 | 0 | 10 |
| Information | 10 | 10 | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| Financial activities | 60 | 60 | 60 | 0 | 0 |
| Professional and business services | 90 | 100 | 100 | -10 | -10 |
| Private education and health services | 240 | 240 | 240 | 0 | 0 |
| Leisure and hospitality | 280 | 290 | 300 | -10 | -20 |
| Other services | 90 | 100 | 80 | -10 | 10 |
| Government | 1,110 | 1,130 | 1,060 | -20 | 50 |
| Federal government | 210 | 230 | 210 | -20 | 0 |
| State government | 140 | 140 | 130 | 0 | 10 |
| Local government | 760 | 760 | 720 | 0 | 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.



Malheur County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

| | | | | Chang | e From |
|--|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| | November 2024 | October 2024 | November 2023 | October 2024 | November 2023 |
| Labor Force Status | | | | | |
| Civilian labor force | 13,307 | 13,538 | 13,103 | -231 | 204 |
| Unemployed | 420 | 428 | 422 | -8 | -2 |
| Unemployment rate | 3.2% | 3.2% | 3.2% | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted) | 3.7% | 3.7% | 3.7% | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Employed | 12,887 | 13,110 | 12,681 | -223 | 206 |
| Nonfarm Payroll Employment | | | | | |
| Total nonfarm employment | 12,650 | 12,630 | 12,470 | 20 | 180 |
| Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted) | 12,510 | 12,470 | 12,320 | 40 | 190 |
| Total private | 9,050 | 9,040 | 8,800 | 10 | 250 |
| Mining, logging, and construction | 410 | 420 | 410 | -10 | 0 |
| Manufacturing | 1,120 | 1,100 | 1,000 | 20 | 120 |
| Trade, transportation, and utilities | 3,260 | 3,240 | 3,230 | 20 | 30 |
| Wholesale trade | 520 | 520 | 510 | 0 | 10 |
| Retail trade | 2,290 | 2,260 | 2,280 | 30 | 10 |
| Transportation, warehousing, and utilities | 450 | 460 | 440 | -10 | 10 |
| Information | 80 | 80 | 70 | 0 | 10 |
| Financial activities | 270 | 270 | 280 | 0 | -10 |
| Professional and business services | 440 | 460 | 440 | -20 | 0 |
| Private education and health services | 1,920 | 1,920 | 1,850 | 0 | 70 |
| Leisure and hospitality | 1,280 | 1,280 | 1,260 | 0 | 20 |
| Other services | 270 | 270 | 260 | 0 | 10 |
| Government | 3,600 | 3,590 | 3,670 | 10 | -70 |
| Federal government | 190 | 190 | 180 | 0 | 10 |
| State government | 1,380 | 1,390 | 1,400 | -10 | -20 |
| Local government | 2,030 | 2,010 | 2,090 | 20 | -60 |

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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.



Union County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

| | | | | Chang | ange From | |
|--|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|--|
| | November 2024 | October 2024 | November 2023 | October 2024 | November 2023 | |
| Labor Force Status | | | | | | |
| Civilian labor force | 12,146 | 12,228 | 11,997 | -82 | 149 | |
| Unemployed | 501 | 500 | 430 | 1 | 71 | |
| Unemployment rate | 4.1% | 4.1% | 3.6% | 0.0 | 0.5 | |
| Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted) | 4.6% | 4.7% | 4.1% | -0.1 | 0.5 | |
| Employed | 11,645 | 11,728 | 11,567 | -83 | 78 | |
| Nonfarm Payroll Employment | | | | | | |
| Total nonfarm employment | 10,710 | 10,720 | 10,620 | -10 | 90 | |
| Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted) | 10,670 | 10,620 | 10,570 | 50 | 100 | |
| Total private | 8,150 | 8,150 | 8,140 | 0 | 10 | |
| Mining, logging, and construction | 630 | 640 | 690 | -10 | -60 | |
| Mining and logging | 50 | 40 | 40 | 10 | 10 | |
| Construction | 580 | 600 | 650 | -20 | -70 | |
| Manufacturing | 1,190 | 1,180 | 1,250 | 10 | -60 | |
| Trade, transportation, and utilities | 2,080 | 2,070 | 2,150 | 10 | -70 | |
| Wholesale trade | 230 | 230 | 240 | 0 | -10 | |
| Retail trade | 1,460 | 1,460 | 1,490 | 0 | -30 | |
| Transportation, warehousing, and utilities | 390 | 380 | 420 | 10 | -30 | |
| Information | 90 | 90 | 90 | 0 | 0 | |
| Financial activities | 380 | 380 | 360 | 0 | 20 | |
| Professional and business services | 590 | 610 | 600 | -20 | -10 | |
| Private education and health services | 1,840 | 1,820 | 1,730 | 20 | 110 | |
| Leisure and hospitality | 1,040 | 1,050 | 980 | -10 | 60 | |
| Other services | 310 | 310 | 290 | 0 | 20 | |
| Government | 2,560 | 2,570 | 2,480 | -10 | 80 | |
| Federal government | 220 | 270 | 220 | -50 | 0 | |
| State government | 420 | 420 | 420 | 0 | 0 | |
| Local government | 1,920 | 1,880 | 1,840 | 40 | 80 | |

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.



Wallowa County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

| | | | | Chang | e From |
|--|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| | November 2024 | October 2024 | November 2023 | October 2024 | November 2023 |
| Labor Force Status | | | | | |
| Civilian labor force | 3,514 | 3,640 | 3,481 | -126 | 33 |
| Unemployed | 135 | 122 | 143 | 13 | -8 |
| Unemployment rate | 3.8% | 3.4% | 4.1% | 0.4 | -0.3 |
| Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted) | 4.4% | 4.4% | 4.3% | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| Employed | 3,379 | 3,518 | 3,338 | -139 | 41 |
| Nonfarm Payroll Employment | | | | | |
| Total nonfarm employment | 2,750 | 2,870 | 2,740 | -120 | 10 |
| Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted) | 2,840 | 2,820 | 2,830 | 20 | 10 |
| Total private | 1,970 | 2,060 | 1,980 | -90 | -10 |
| Mining, logging, and construction | 280 | 280 | 270 | 0 | 10 |
| Mining and logging | 70 | 70 | 60 | 0 | 10 |
| Construction | 210 | 210 | 210 | 0 | 0 |
| Manufacturing | 150 | 150 | 170 | 0 | -20 |
| Trade, transportation, and utilities | 510 | 520 | 460 | -10 | 50 |
| Wholesale and retail trade | 440 | 440 | 400 | 0 | 40 |
| Transportation, warehousing, and utilities | 70 | 80 | 60 | -10 | 10 |
| Information | 30 | 30 | 30 | 0 | 0 |
| Financial activities | 100 | 110 | 110 | -10 | -10 |
| Professional and business services | 130 | 140 | 150 | -10 | -20 |
| Private education and health services | 380 | 380 | 390 | 0 | -10 |
| Leisure and hospitality | 260 | 320 | 280 | -60 | -20 |
| Other services | 130 | 130 | 120 | 0 | 10 |
| Government | 780 | 810 | 760 | -30 | 20 |
| Federal government | 100 | 120 | 90 | -20 | 10 |
| State government | 90 | 100 | 100 | -10 | -10 |
| Local government | 590 | 590 | 570 | 0 | 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.

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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