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## Employment in South Central Oregon: September 2023

Hiring in September was largely consistent with normal seasonal patterns for both Klamath and Lake counties. Unemployment levels dropped in Klamath County with little to no change in Lake County.

**Klamath County:** The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.1% in September, down from 5.2% in August. The unemployment rate in September 2022 was 6.5%.

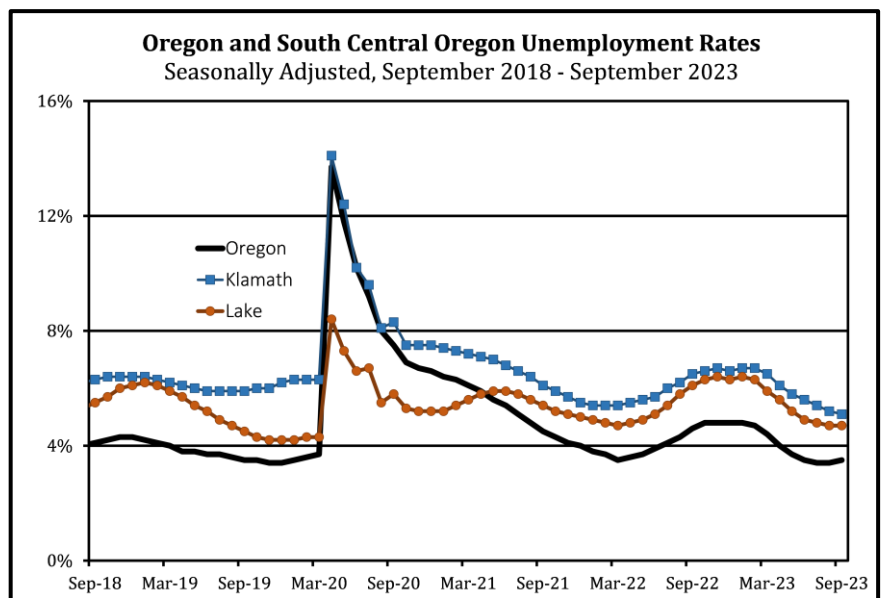
Klamath County gained 560 jobs in September; larger gains than typically expected this time of year. Seasonally adjusted employment levels in Klamath County are 2.6% (+610 jobs) above levels in February 2020 before the onset of the pandemic.

Klamath County added 420 jobs in the past year (+1.8%). Notable

private-sector job gains over the past year were seen in private education and health services (+280 jobs); other services (+110 jobs); and financial activities (+10 jobs). In the public sector, local government employment was up by 440 jobs with the majority taking place in local education (+320 jobs). Federal and state job counts were up by 80 and 70, respectively. Total nonfarm employment growth was moderated by losses in professional and business services (-220 jobs); retail trade (-180 jobs); manufacturing (-110 jobs); construction (-40 jobs); and information (-10 jobs).

**Lake County:** The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady in Lake County at 4.7% in September. The rate was 4.2% in January 2020, before the impacts of COVID-19 were first felt.

Lake County employment decreased by 20 jobs in September, typical losses for this time of year with the only notable monthly gains in private education and health services (+10 jobs). As of September 2023, seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment levels remain 180 jobs (-7.5%) below the pre-pandemic February 2020 employment levels.



Lake County's total nonfarm employment is down by 60 jobs over the year with the only notable gains in private education and health services (+20 jobs); construction (+10 jobs); other services (+10 jobs) and state government (+10). These gains were overshadowed by losses in local government (-60 jobs); manufacturing (-20 jobs); retail trade (-20 jobs); professional and business services (-10 jobs); and mining and logging (-10 jobs).

### **Next Press Releases**

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the October county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, Nov. 21, and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for October on Wednesday, Nov. 15.



Workforce &amp; Economic Research Division

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October 24, 2023

## Klamath County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

|   | --Change From--   |                |                   |                |                   |
|---|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|
|   | September<br>2023 | August<br>2023 | September<br>2022 | August<br>2023 | September<br>2022 |
| <b>Labor Force Status</b>                             |                   |                |                   |                |                   |
| Civilian labor force                                  | 29,874            | 29,575         | 30,742            | 299            | -868              |
| Unemployed  | 1,229             | 1,413          | 1,662             | -184           | -433              |
| Unemployment rate                                     | 4.1%              | 4.8%           | 5.4%              | -0.7           | -1.3              |
| <i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>        | 5.1%              | 5.2%           | 6.5%              | -0.1           | -1.4              |
| Employed  | 28,645            | 28,162         | 29,080            | 483            | -435              |
| <b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>                     |                   |                |                   |                |                   |
| Total nonfarm employment                              | 24,050            | 23,490         | 23,630            | 560            | 420               |
| <i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i> | 23,820            | 23,430         | 23,400            | 390            | 420               |
| Total private   | 18,490            | 18,510         | 18,660            | -20            | -170              |
| Mining, logging, and construction                     | 1,270             | 1,290          | 1,310             | -20            | -40               |
| Mining and logging                                    | 100               | 100            | 100               | 0              | 0                 |
| Construction  | 1,170             | 1,190          | 1,210             | -20            | -40               |
| Manufacturing   | 1,770             | 1,770          | 1,880             | 0              | -110              |
| Durable goods   | 1,590             | 1,590          | 1,700             | 0              | -110              |
| Wood product manufacturing                            | 1,270             | 1,280          | 1,370             | -10            | -100              |
| Nondurable goods                                      | 180               | 180            | 180               | 0              | 0                 |
| Trade, transportation, and utilities                  | 4,490             | 4,500          | 4,680             | -10            | -190              |
| Wholesale trade                                       | 760               | 770            | 780               | -10            | -20               |
| Retail trade  | 3,030             | 3,040          | 3,210             | -10            | -180              |
| Food and beverage retailers                           | 630               | 640            | 610               | -10            | 20                |
| General merchandise retailers                         | 840               | 840            | 890               | 0              | -50               |
| Transportation, warehousing, and utilities            | 700               | 690            | 690               | 10             | 10                |
| Information   | 110               | 110            | 120               | 0              | -10               |
| Financial activities                                  | 930               | 940            | 920               | -10            | 10                |
| Professional and business services                    | 1,500             | 1,550          | 1,720             | -50            | -220              |
| Private education and health services                 | 4,690             | 4,550          | 4,410             | 140            | 280               |
| Leisure and hospitality                               | 2,750             | 2,830          | 2,750             | -80            | 0                 |
| Other services  | 980               | 970            | 870               | 10             | 110               |
| Government  | 5,560             | 4,980          | 4,970             | 580            | 590               |
| Federal government                                    | 840               | 850            | 760               | -10            | 80                |
| State government                                      | 600               | 610            | 530               | -10            | 70                |
| Local government                                      | 4,120             | 3,520          | 3,680             | 600            | 440               |
| Local education                                       | 2,500             | 1,890          | 2,180             | 610            | 320               |

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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## Lake County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

|   | --Change From--   |                |                   |                |                   |
|---|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|
|   | September<br>2023 | August<br>2023 | September<br>2022 | August<br>2023 | September<br>2022 |
| <b>Labor Force Status</b>                             |                   |                |                   |                |                   |
| Civilian labor force                                  | 3,536             | 3,630          | 3,679             | -94            | -143              |
| Unemployed  | 146               | 156            | 174               | -10            | -28               |
| Unemployment rate                                     | 4.1%              | 4.3%           | 4.7%              | -0.2           | -0.6              |
| <i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>        | 4.7%              | 4.7%           | 6.1%              | 0.0            | -1.4              |
| Employed  | 3,390             | 3,474          | 3,505             | -84            | -115              |
| <b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>                     |                   |                |                   |                |                   |
| Total nonfarm employment                              | 2,240             | 2,260          | 2,300             | -20            | -60               |
| <i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i> | 2,210             | 2,210          | 2,270             | 0              | -60               |
| Total private   | 1,160             | 1,170          | 1,170             | -10            | -10               |
| Mining, logging, and construction                     | 100               | 110            | 100               | -10            | 0                 |
| Mining and logging                                    | 10                | 20             | 20                | -10            | -10               |
| Construction  | 90                | 90             | 80                | 0              | 10                |
| Manufacturing   | 190               | 190            | 210               | 0              | -20               |
| Trade, transportation, and utilities                  | 330               | 330            | 340               | 0              | -10               |
| Retail trade  | 220               | 230            | 240               | -10            | -20               |
| Information   | 20                | 20             | 20                | 0              | 0                 |
| Financial activities                                  | 40                | 40             | 40                | 0              | 0                 |
| Professional and business services                    | 80                | 80             | 90                | 0              | -10               |
| Private education and health services                 | 120               | 110            | 100               | 10             | 20                |
| Leisure and hospitality                               | 190               | 190            | 190               | 0              | 0                 |
| Other services  | 90                | 100            | 80                | -10            | 10                |
| Government  | 1,080             | 1,090          | 1,130             | -10            | -50               |
| Federal government                                    | 230               | 250            | 230               | -20            | 0                 |
| State government                                      | 190               | 190            | 180               | 0              | 10                |
| Local government                                      | 660               | 650            | 720               | 10             | -60               |

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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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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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