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## Employment in South Central Oregon: December 2023

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate saw little to no change in Klamath County and a slight increase in Lake County. An important note, these estimates are already in the process of annual benchmark revisions. A more detailed year-in-review will be available after the release of these revisions in March.

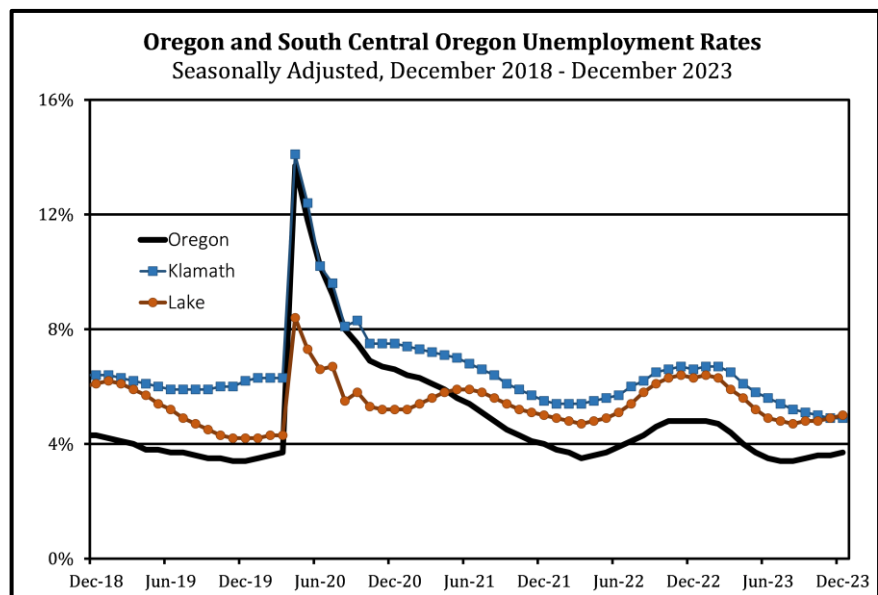
**Klamath County:** The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.9% in December, unchanged from 4.9% in November. The unemployment rate in December 2022 was 6.6%.

Klamath County lost 280 jobs (-1.2%) in December, with the majority of losses taking place in the public sector (-150 jobs). Seasonally adjusted employment levels in Klamath County are 2.8% (+640 jobs) above levels in February 2020 before the onset of the pandemic.

Klamath County added 570 jobs in the past year (+2.5%). Notable private-sector job gains over the past year were seen in private education and health services (+290 jobs);

other services (+70 jobs); and construction (+70 jobs). In the public sector, government employment was up by 260 jobs over the year, with the largest gains taking place in local government (+240 jobs). Total nonfarm employment growth was moderated by losses in trade, transportation, and utilities (-100 jobs) and manufacturing (-80 jobs).

**Lake County:** The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased slightly in Lake County and is now 5.0% in December, up from a revised rate of 4.9% in November. The unemployment rate was 4.2% in January 2020, before the impacts of COVID-19 were first felt.



Lake County employment decreased by 30 jobs in December, smaller than normal losses for this time of year with the only notable monthly gains in private education and health services (+10 jobs). As of December 2023, seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment levels remain 120 jobs (-5.0%) below the pre-pandemic February 2020 employment levels.

Lake County's total nonfarm employment is down by 50 jobs over the year with the only notable gains in mining, logging, and construction (+20 jobs). These gains were overshadowed by losses in local government (-50 jobs); leisure and hospitality (-40 jobs); and manufacturing (-20 jobs). All other major industries saw little to no change over the year.

### **Next Press Releases**

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the January county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, March 5, and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for January on Tuesday, March 5.



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January 23, 2024

## Klamath County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	December 2023	November 2023	December 2022	November 2023	December 2022
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	29,738	29,964	30,210	-226	-472
Unemployed	1,676	1,385	2,203	291	-527
Unemployment rate	5.6%	4.6%	7.3%	1.0	-1.7
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.9%	4.9%	6.6%	0.0	-1.7
Employed	28,062	28,579	28,007	-517	55
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	23,730	24,010	23,160	-280	570
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	23,850	23,850	23,290	0	560
Total private	18,440	18,570	18,130	-130	310
Mining, logging, and construction	1,190	1,260	1,120	-70	70
Mining and logging	90	90	90	0	0
Construction	1,100	1,170	1,030	-70	70
Manufacturing	1,740	1,740	1,820	0	-80
Durable goods	1,570	1,570	1,640	0	-70
Wood product manufacturing	1,260	1,250	1,340	10	-80
Nondurable goods	170	170	180	0	-10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	4,710	4,650	4,810	60	-100
Wholesale trade	790	790	810	0	-20
Retail trade	3,220	3,180	3,270	40	-50
Food and beverage retailers	630	630	640	0	-10
General merchandise retailers	880	870	920	10	-40
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	700	680	730	20	-30
Information	120	120	120	0	0
Financial activities	930	930	920	0	10
Professional and business services	1,650	1,670	1,620	-20	30
Private education and health services	4,710	4,730	4,420	-20	290
Leisure and hospitality	2,440	2,520	2,420	-80	20
Other services	950	950	880	0	70
Government	5,290	5,440	5,030	-150	260
Federal government	670	700	650	-30	20
State government	520	530	520	-10	0
Local government	4,100	4,210	3,860	-110	240
Local education	2,470	2,570	2,350	-100	120

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--				
	December 2023	November 2023	December 2022	November 2023	December 2022
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	3,475	3,493	3,630	-18	-155
Unemployed	195	166	239	29	-44
Unemployment rate	5.6%	4.8%	6.6%	0.8	-1.0
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.0%	4.9%	6.3%	0.1	-1.3
Employed	3,280	3,327	3,391	-47	-111
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	2,200	2,230	2,250	-30	-50
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	2,270	2,240	2,320	30	-50
Total private	1,140	1,150	1,140	-10	0
Mining, logging, and construction	110	110	90	0	20
Mining and logging	20	20	20	0	0
Construction	90	90	70	0	20
Manufacturing	200	200	220	0	-20
Trade, transportation, and utilities	340	340	330	0	10
Retail trade	230	230	240	0	-10
Information	20	20	20	0	0
Financial activities	50	50	40	0	10
Professional and business services	90	90	80	0	10
Private education and health services	120	110	110	10	10
Leisure and hospitality	140	160	180	-20	-40
Other services	70	70	70	0	0
Government	1,060	1,080	1,110	-20	-50
Federal government	170	190	180	-20	-10
State government	180	180	170	0	10
Local government	710	710	760	0	-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.

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Employed includes payroll employment, self-employed, unpaid family workers, domestics, agriculture, and labor disputants.

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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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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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