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## Employment in South Central Oregon: December 2024

Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates continued to see little to no change in South Central Oregon, holding steady in Klamath County and decreasing marginally in Lake County. Total nonfarm employment also increased over the year in both counties.

**Klamath County:** The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained unchanged in December at 5.5%. In December 2023 the unemployment was slightly lower at 5.2%.

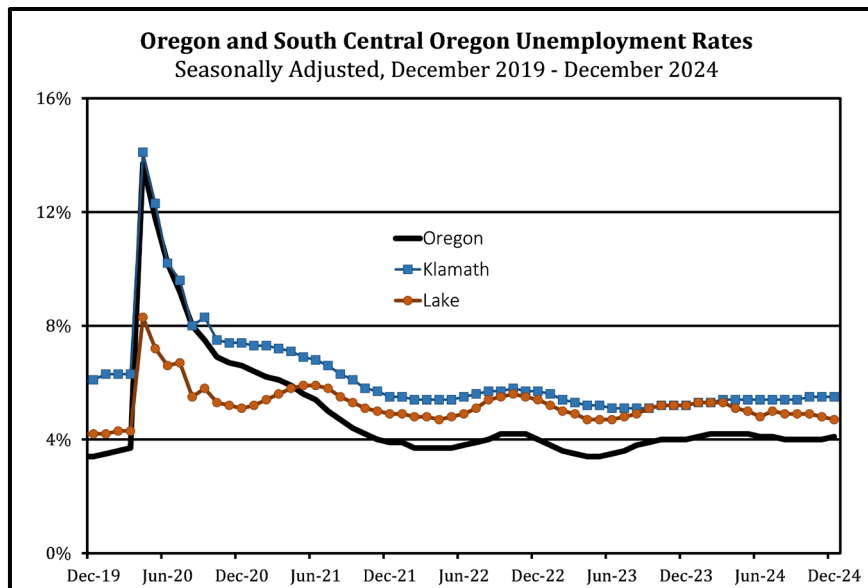
Klamath County lost 180 jobs (-0.8%) in December, with the majority of losses taking place within the public sector (-110 jobs), leisure and hospitality (-80 jobs), and construction (-80 jobs). Gains occurred primarily within trade, transportation, and utilities (+90 jobs). Seasonally adjusted employment levels in Klamath County are now 2.5% (+580 jobs) above levels in February 2020 before the onset of the pandemic.

Klamath County gained 150 jobs in the past year (+0.6%)

with gains concentrated in private education and health services (+170 jobs); construction (+60 jobs); and trade, transportation, and utilities (+60 jobs). Notable private-sector job losses over the past year were seen in manufacturing (-50 jobs); professional and business services (-50 jobs); leisure and hospitality (-30 jobs); and other services (-30 jobs).

**Lake County:** The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased marginally from 4.8% in November to 4.7% in December – last December it was 5.2%. The unemployment rate was 4.2% in January 2020, before the impacts of COVID-19 were first felt.

Lake County total nonfarm employment remained unchanged from November to December. Although small job gains were seen in construction (+10 jobs) these gains were offset by job losses in leisure and



hospitality (-10 jobs), and all other industries saw little to no gains in December. Seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment levels remain 80 jobs (-3.3%) below the pre-pandemic February 2020 employment levels, as of December.

Lake County's total nonfarm employment rose by 80 jobs since December 2023. Gains were concentrated within the public sector (+50 jobs), with local government gaining 30 jobs over the year and federal government gaining 20 jobs. Losses were minimal and concentrated in trade, transportation, and utilities (-20 jobs). All other major industries saw little to no growth over the year with five industries gaining 10 jobs each and the rest staying unchanged.

### **Next Press Releases**

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the January county and metropolitan area unemployment rates and employment survey data on Tuesday, March 11, and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for January on Monday, March 10.



Workforce & Economic Research Division

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### Klamath County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

|                                                       | --Change From--  |                  |                  |                  |                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
|                                                       | December<br>2024 | November<br>2024 | December<br>2023 | November<br>2024 | December<br>2023 |
| <b>Labor Force Status</b>                             |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |
| Civilian labor force                                  | 29,849           | 30,027           | 29,958           | -178             | -109             |
| Unemployed                                            | 1,778            | 1,479            | 1,776            | 299              | 2                |
| Unemployment rate                                     | 6.0%             | 4.9%             | 5.9%             | 1.1              | 0.1              |
| <i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>        | 5.5%             | 5.5%             | 5.2%             | 0.0              | 0.3              |
| Employed                                              | 28,071           | 28,548           | 28,182           | -477             | -111             |
| <b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>                     |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |
| Total nonfarm employment                              | 23,620           | 23,800           | 23,470           | -180             | 150              |
| <i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i> | 23,790           | 23,650           | 23,640           | 140              | 150              |
| Total private                                         | 18,300           | 18,370           | 18,170           | -70              | 130              |
| Mining, logging, and construction                     | 1,280            | 1,360            | 1,220            | -80              | 60               |
| Mining and logging                                    | 90               | 90               | 90               | 0                | 0                |
| Construction                                          | 1,190            | 1,270            | 1,130            | -80              | 60               |
| Manufacturing                                         | 1,580            | 1,580            | 1,630            | 0                | -50              |
| Durable goods                                         | 1,490            | 1,490            | 1,510            | 0                | -20              |
| Wood product manufacturing                            | 1,190            | 1,190            | 1,210            | 0                | -20              |
| Nondurable goods                                      | 90               | 90               | 120              | 0                | -30              |
| Trade, transportation, and utilities                  | 4,710            | 4,620            | 4,650            | 90               | 60               |
| Wholesale trade                                       | 740              | 740              | 770              | 0                | -30              |
| Retail trade                                          | 3,150            | 3,080            | 3,130            | 70               | 20               |
| Food and beverage retailers                           | 620              | 630              | 640              | -10              | -20              |
| General merchandise retailers                         | 880              | 860              | 850              | 20               | 30               |
| Transportation, warehousing, and utilities            | 820              | 800              | 750              | 20               | 70               |
| Information                                           | 110              | 110              | 120              | 0                | -10              |
| Financial activities                                  | 870              | 870              | 860              | 0                | 10               |
| Professional and business services                    | 1,550            | 1,570            | 1,600            | -20              | -50              |
| Private education and health services                 | 4,840            | 4,830            | 4,670            | 10               | 170              |
| Leisure and hospitality                               | 2,470            | 2,550            | 2,500            | -80              | -30              |
| Other services                                        | 890              | 880              | 920              | 10               | -30              |
| Government                                            | 5,320            | 5,430            | 5,300            | -110             | 20               |
| Federal government                                    | 650              | 670              | 690              | -20              | -40              |
| State government                                      | 570              | 570              | 600              | 0                | -30              |
| Local government                                      | 4,100            | 4,190            | 4,010            | -90              | 90               |
| Local education                                       | 2,520            | 2,600            | 2,410            | -80              | 110              |

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<br>2024 | November<br>2024 | December<br>2023 | November<br>2024 | December<br>2023 |
| <b>Labor Force Status</b>                             |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |
| Civilian labor force                                  | 3,498            | 3,503            | 3,469            | -5               | 29               |
| Unemployed                                            | 175              | 143              | 200              | 32               | -25              |
| Unemployment rate                                     | 5.0%             | 4.1%             | 5.8%             | 0.9              | -0.8             |
| <i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>        | 4.7%             | 4.8%             | 5.2%             | -0.1             | -0.5             |
| Employed                                              | 3,323            | 3,360            | 3,269            | -37              | 54               |
| <b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>                     |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |
| Total nonfarm employment                              | 2,250            | 2,250            | 2,170            | 0                | 80               |
| <i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i> | 2,310            | 2,270            | 2,230            | 40               | 80               |
| Total private                                         | 1,170            | 1,170            | 1,140            | 0                | 30               |
| Mining, logging, and construction                     | 120              | 110              | 110              | 10               | 10               |
| Mining and logging                                    | 30               | 30               | 30               | 0                | 0                |
| Construction                                          | 90               | 80               | 80               | 10               | 10               |
| Manufacturing                                         | 210              | 210              | 200              | 0                | 10               |
| Trade, transportation, and utilities                  | 330              | 330              | 350              | 0                | -20              |
| Retail trade                                          | 230              | 230              | 240              | 0                | -10              |
| Information                                           | 20               | 20               | 20               | 0                | 0                |
| Financial activities                                  | 50               | 50               | 50               | 0                | 0                |
| Professional and business services                    | 90               | 90               | 80               | 0                | 10               |
| Private education and health services                 | 130              | 130              | 120              | 0                | 10               |
| Leisure and hospitality                               | 150              | 160              | 140              | -10              | 10               |
| Other services                                        | 70               | 70               | 70               | 0                | 0                |
| Government                                            | 1,080            | 1,080            | 1,030            | 0                | 50               |
| Federal government                                    | 190              | 180              | 170              | 10               | 20               |
| State government                                      | 180              | 180              | 180              | 0                | 0                |
| Local government                                      | 710              | 720              | 680              | -10              | 30               |

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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.

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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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