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Employment in the Columbia Gorge: June 2022

Historically Low Unemployment Rates with Limited Job Growth

In June, Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady at 2.9%. Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate ranked as Oregon's second lowest, tied with Benton, Sherman, and Washington. Over the year, Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 1.7 percentage points. The June rate of 2.9% matches Hood River County's record low seasonally adjusted unemployment rate set in January and February 2020 and again in May 2022.

Hood River County's nonfarm employment rose by 240 jobs in June to reach 11,660. Private industry increased its total by 230 jobs, climbing to 10,240, and government rose by 10 to reach 1,420. Food services and drinking places led private industry in June, rising by 100 jobs to 1,370. Manufacturing increased its total by 40 jobs, rising to 1,810, and accommodation chipped in 30 to reach 500. Other industries gaining jobs in June included mining, logging, and construction (+20); and arts, entertainment, and recreation (+20). Federal government led the public sector, rising by 10 jobs to reach 140.

Hood River County's private industry employment rose by 1.7% over the year, adding 170 jobs. Food services and drinking places rose by 70 jobs over the year to lead private industry, an increase of 5.4%. Education and health services rose by 50 jobs over the year, an increase of 2.7%. Wholesale trade (+40); information (+30); professional and business services (+30); and other services (+20) also added jobs over the year. Manufacturing cut 30 jobs over the year, and retail trade also shed 30, falling to 1,410. Local government led the public sector, rising by 40 jobs over the year, offsetting a loss of 10 in federal government.

Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.1 percentage point in June to 3.7% while ranking 15th among Oregon counties. Over the year, Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 1.5 percentage points. Wasco County matched its record low seasonally adjusted unemployment rate reached over October 2019 through January 2020.

Wasco County's nonfarm employment rose by 110 jobs in June to reach 10,340. Private industry increased its total by 90 jobs, rising to 8,330 jobs, and government chipped in 20 to reach 2,010. Leisure and hospitality led Wasco County's private industry, rising by 60 jobs in June to reach 1,350. Other industries gaining jobs in June included wholesale trade (+10); transportation, warehousing, and

utilities (+10); information (+10); and other services (+10). Education and health services cut 30 jobs in June, falling to 2,210, and information shed 10, dropping to 340. Other local government led the public sector, rising by 20 jobs in June to reach 680.

Wasco County's private industry employment rose by 160 jobs or 2.0% over the year ending in June. Leisure and hospitality led private industry job growth, rising by 160 jobs or 13.4%. Construction increased its payrolls by 90 jobs over the year, climbing to 460 (+24.3%), and professional and business services rose by 60 to reach 560 (12%). Information (+50 jobs) also rose over the year. Education and health services cut its payrolls by 150 jobs, an over-the-year loss of 6.4%. Other services cut 50 jobs over the year, falling to 380, and retail trade shed 30 (-1.8%), dropping to 1,620. In the public sector, local education rose by 50 jobs over the year and other local government cut 10.

Gilliam County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady in June at 3.2%, ranking sixth out of 36 Oregon counties, tied with Clackamas and Yamhill. Over the year, Gilliam County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 1.9 percentage points. Gilliam County's nonfarm employment rose by 30 jobs in June to total 975. Over the year, Gilliam County's private industry total rose by 125 jobs to 710, an increase of 21.4%. Government rose by 10 jobs to reach 265.

Sherman County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.2 percentage point in June to 2.9%, good enough to rank second in Oregon, tied with Benton, Hood River, and Washington. Over the year, Sherman County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 1.6 percentage points. Sherman County's nonfarm employment rose by 35 jobs in June to reach 955. Private industry increased its total by 10 jobs, climbing to 635, and government rose by 25 to reach 320. Over the year ending in June, private industry rose by 40 jobs and government idled 30.

Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.1 percentage point in June to 2.8%, ranking as Oregon's lowest county unemployment rate. Over the year, Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.2 percentage point. Nonfarm employment totaled 295 in June, with private industry cutting five jobs and government holding steady. Over the year ending in June, private industry cut 20 jobs, falling to 160, and government rose by five to reach 130.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the July 2022 county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Aug. 23rd, 2022 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for July on Aug. 17th, 2022.

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 www.QualityInfo.org, select *Economic Data*, and choose *LAUS* or *CES*. 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

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.

Gilliam County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	June 2022	May 2022	June 2021	May 2022	June 2021
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	1,024	1,015	929	9	95
Unemployed	34	27	51	7	-17
Unemployment rate	3.3%	2.7%	5.5%	0.6	-2.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.2%	3.2%	5.1%	0.0	-1.9
Employed	990	988	878	2	112
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	975	945	840	30	135
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	930	920	800	10	130
Total private	710	705	585	5	125
Trade, transportation, and utilities	140	140	135	0	5
Professional and business services	240	235	245	5	-5
Education and health services	65	65	70	0	-5
Leisure and hospitality	55	55	45	0	10
Government	265	240	255	25	10
Federal government	10	10	15	0	-5
State government	10	10	10	0	0
Local government	245	220	230	25	15

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.

Hood River County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	June 2022	May 2022	June 2021	May 2022	June 2021
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	14,691	13,954	14,733	737	-42
Unemployed	476	358	834	118	-358
Unemployment rate	3.2%	2.6%	5.7%	0.6	-2.5
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	2.9%	2.9%	4.6%	0.0	-1.7
Employed	14,215	13,596	13,899	619	316
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	11,660	11,420	11,460	240	200
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	11,720	11,640	11,510	80	210
Total private	10,240	10,010	10,070	230	170
Mining, logging, and construction	520	500	530	20	-10
Manufacturing	1,810	1,770	1,840	40	-30
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,020	2,010	2,010	10	10
Wholesale trade	420	430	380	-10	40
Retail trade	1,410	1,400	1,440	10	-30
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	190	180	190	10	0
Information	130	130	100	0	30
Financial activities	320	320	330	0	-10
Professional and business services	1,040	1,040	1,010	0	30
Education and health services	1,870	1,870	1,820	0	50
Leisure and hospitality	2,160	2,010	2,080	150	80
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	290	270	280	20	10
Accommodation and food services	1,870	1,740	1,800	130	70
Accommodation	500	470	500	30	0
Food services and drinking places	1,370	1,270	1,300	100	70
Other services	370	360	350	10	20
Government	1,420	1,410	1,390	10	30
Federal government	140	130	150	10	-10
State government	100	100	100	0	0
Local government	1,180	1,180	1,140	0	40
Local education	660	670	650	-10	10
Local government excluding educational services	520	510	490	10	30

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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.

Sherman County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	June 2022	May 2022	June 2021	May 2022	June 2021
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	975	966	989	9	-14
Unemployed	25	25	46	0	-21
Unemployment rate	2.6%	2.6%	4.7%	0.0	-2.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	2.9%	3.1%	4.5%	-0.2	-1.6
Employed	950	941	943	9	7
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	955	920	945	35	10
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	910	920	900	-10	10
Total private	635	625	595	10	40
Trade, transportation, and utilities	335	325	280	10	55
Retail trade	135	130	110	5	25
Leisure and hospitality	110	105	110	5	0
Government	320	295	350	25	-30
Federal government	120	120	125	0	-5
State government	35	35	45	0	-10
Local government	165	140	180	25	-15

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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.

Wasco County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	June 2022	May 2022	June 2021	May 2022	June 2021
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	16,471	13,077	16,337	3,394	134
Unemployed	484	434	791	50	-307
Unemployment rate	2.9%	3.3%	4.8%	-0.4	-1.9
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.7%	3.8%	5.2%	-0.1	-1.5
Employed	15,987	12,643	15,546	3,344	441
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	10,340	10,230	10,140	110	200
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	10,090	10,200	9,900	-110	190
Total private	8,330	8,240	8,170	90	160
Mining, logging, and construction	520	520	430	0	90
Mining and logging	60	60	60	0	0
Construction	460	460	370	0	90
Manufacturing	550	550	550	0	0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,110	2,100	2,110	10	0
Wholesale trade	200	190	180	10	20
Retail trade	1,620	1,630	1,650	-10	-30
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	290	280	280	10	10
Information	350	340	300	10	50
Financial activities	300	300	300	0	0
Professional and business services	560	560	500	0	60
Education and health services	2,210	2,210	2,360	0	-150
Ambulatory health care services	460	460	470	0	-10
Nursing and residential care facilities	510	520	500	-10	10
Leisure and hospitality	1,350	1,290	1,190	60	160
Accommodation and food services	1,270	1,240	1,130	30	140
Other services	380	370	430	10	-50
Government	2,010	1,990	1,970	20	40
Federal government	280	280	280	0	0
State government	270	260	270	10	0
Local government	1,460	1,450	1,420	10	40
Indian tribal	10	10	10	0	0
Local education	770	780	720	-10	50
Local government excluding education and tribal	680	660	690	20	-10

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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.

Wheeler County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	June 2022	May 2022	June 2021	May 2022	June 2021
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	711	727	737	-16	-26
Unemployed	19	16	23	3	-4
Unemployment rate	2.7%	2.2%	3.1%	0.5	-0.4
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	2.8%	2.9%	3.0%	-0.1	-0.2
Employed	692	711	714	-19	-22
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	295	300	310	-5	-15
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	290	295	305	-5	-15
Total private	160	165	180	-5	-20
Trade, transportation, and utilities	40	35	35	5	5
Leisure and hospitality	25	25	25	0	0
Government	135	135	130	0	5
Federal government	5	5	5	0	0
State government	0	0	0	0	0
Local government	130	130	125	0	5

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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