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## **Employment in the Columbia Gorge: October 2018**

### **Visitors Vanish in October, Taking Hospitality Jobs with Them**

Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by 0.2 percentage point in October to 3.3 percent, ranking first in Oregon (out of 36 counties), tied with Benton County. Over the year, Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by a scant 0.1 percentage point.

Hood River County's nonfarm employment total fell to 11,790 in October, a loss of 170 jobs. Food services and drinking places pulled back, cutting 120 jobs, falling to 1,290. Accommodation responded to fewer October bookings by idling 50, falling to 420 jobs. Arts, entertainment, and recreation rose to 290 jobs, an increase of 10, with the winter recreation season just around the corner. Retail trade led private industry in October with a 60 job gain, rising to 1,570. Government cut 30 jobs in October, falling to 1,370.

Private industry employment rose by 420 jobs over the year ending in October, an increase of 4.2 percent. Education and health services led private industry with an over-the-year gain of 170 jobs, followed closely by retail trade's 160 job gain. Professional and business services rose by 60 over the year to 1,180 and manufacturing grew by 30 to reach 1,780. State government cut 60 jobs with the reclassification of home care workers to private industry, dropping its total to 100.

Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by 0.3 percentage point in October to 4.0 percent, ranking eighth among Oregon counties, tied with Deschutes County. Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate ranked ninth in October 2017, at 4.1 percent.

Wasco County's nonfarm employment total fell to 10,220 jobs in October, a loss of 90. Private industry cut 160 jobs in October, falling to 8,230. Leisure and hospitality continued its seasonal downturn in October, cutting 130 jobs to total 1,260. Manufacturing (-10); transportation, warehousing, and utilities (-10); and other services (-10) also cut jobs in October. Government rose to 1,990 jobs, an increase of 70, with local education leading the way, rising by 90 to reach 750.

Over the year, Wasco County's nonfarm employment fell by 160 jobs, with government cutting 200 and private industry rising by 40. Education and health services rose by 120 jobs over the year to total 2,360, thanks in part to the inclusion of home care workers; state government lost 110, falling to 250. Financial activities (+50); transportation, warehousing, and utilities (+30); and professional and business services (+30) also rose over the year. Job losses in retail trade (-60) and leisure and

hospitality (-50) chipped away at private industry's growth. Indian tribal government cut 110 jobs, reflecting the closure of the Warm Springs Tribe's Kah-Nee-Ta resort.

Gilliam County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by 0.5 percentage point in October to 4.5 percent, ranking 16<sup>th</sup> out of 36 Oregon counties, tied with Lane County. Last October, Gilliam County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate ranked 10<sup>th</sup>, at a slightly lower 4.2 percent. Gilliam County's nonfarm employment total fell to 770, a loss of 25, with 535 jobs in private industry and 235 in government. Over the year, professional and business services rose by 40 jobs to reach 225. State government cut 15 jobs and federal government lost five.

Sherman County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was essentially unchanged in October, falling by 0.1 percentage point to 4.1 percent, ranking 11<sup>th</sup>. In October 2017, Sherman County's 4.8 percent seasonally adjusted unemployment rate ranked 21<sup>st</sup>. Sherman County's nonfarm employment fell by 20 jobs in October, cutting its total to 835. Private industry lost five jobs in October and government cut 15. Over the year, private industry rose by five jobs, climbing to 515. Trade, transportation, and utilities cut 30 jobs, falling to 220, while leisure and hospitality rose by 15 to 135. Government lost 10 jobs over the year, falling to 320, with federal government and state government each cutting five.

Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by 0.3 percentage point in October to 3.7 percent, ranking as Oregon's fifth lowest, tied with Clackamas County. Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate also ranked fifth in October 2017, while holding steady at 3.7 percent. Nonfarm employment fell by 10 jobs in October to total 300. Over the year ending in October, private industry cut five jobs, falling to 165, while government lost 10, dropping to 135.

*Note: Effective with the January 2018 data, employment of Oregon's approximately 17,000 home care workers are counted in private health care and social assistance instead of state government. The change was due to legislative action clarifying that for purposes of workforce and labor market information, home care workers are not employees of state government. The reclassification affects private sector and government monthly change figures for January 2018 and will affect over-the-year change figures through December 2018. It does not affect total payroll employment levels.*

### Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the November 2018 county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for November on December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

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/](http://www.qualityinfo.org/press-release/). To obtain the data in other formats such as in Excel, visit [www.QualityInfo.org](http://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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For help finding jobs and training resources, visit one of the state's WorkSource Oregon Centers or go to: [www.WorkSourceOregon.org](http://www.WorkSourceOregon.org).

Equal Opportunity program — auxiliary aids and services available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Contact: (503) 947-1794. For the deaf and hard of hearing population, call 711 Telecommunications Relay Services.

## Gilliam County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	October 2018	September 2018	October 2017	September 2018	October 2017
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	837	853	850	-16	-13
Unemployed	38	35	32	3	6
Unemployment rate	4.5%	4.1%	3.8%	0.4	0.7
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.5%	4.0%	4.2%	0.5	0.3
Employed	799	818	818	-19	-19
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	770	795	760	-25	10
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	780	795	770	-15	10
Total private	535	550	505	-15	30
Trade, transportation, and utilities	145	150	145	-5	0
Professional and business services	225	225	185	0	40
Education and health services	50	55	50	-5	0
Leisure and hospitality	35	40	35	-5	0
Government	235	245	255	-10	-20
Federal government	10	10	15	0	-5
State government	5	5	20	0	-15
Local government	220	230	220	-10	0

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--				
	October 2018	September 2018	October 2017	September 2018	October 2017
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	13,796	15,788	13,792	-1,992	4
Unemployed	479	409	412	70	67
Unemployment rate	3.5%	2.6%	3.0%	0.9	0.5
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.3%	3.1%	3.4%	0.2	-0.1
Employed	13,317	15,379	13,380	-2,062	-63
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	11,790	11,960	11,420	-170	370
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	11,940	11,940	11,560	0	380
Total private	10,420	10,560	10,000	-140	420
Mining, logging, and construction	530	520	520	10	10
Manufacturing	1,780	1,790	1,750	-10	30
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,280	2,270	2,170	10	110
Wholesale trade	470	500	540	-30	-70
Retail trade	1,570	1,510	1,410	60	160
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	240	260	220	-20	20
Information	140	140	150	0	-10
Financial activities	370	380	340	-10	30
Professional and business services	1,180	1,180	1,120	0	60
Education and health services	1,730	1,720	1,560	10	170
Leisure and hospitality	2,000	2,160	1,990	-160	10
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	290	280	300	10	-10
Accommodation and food services	1,710	1,880	1,690	-170	20
Accommodation	420	470	410	-50	10
Food services and drinking places	1,290	1,410	1,280	-120	10
Other services	410	400	400	10	10
Government	1,370	1,400	1,420	-30	-50
Federal government	130	140	130	-10	0
State government	100	100	160	0	-60
Local government	1,140	1,160	1,130	-20	10
Local education	640	650	630	-10	10
Local government excluding educational services	500	510	500	-10	0

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.

## Sherman County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	October 2018	September 2018	October 2017	September 2018	October 2017
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	872	889	881	-17	-9
Unemployed	33	32	42	1	-9
Unemployment rate	3.8%	3.6%	4.8%	0.2	-1.0
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.1%	4.2%	4.8%	-0.1	-0.7
Employed	839	857	839	-18	0
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	835	855	825	-20	10
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	840	835	835	5	5
Total private	515	520	495	-5	20
Trade, transportation, and utilities	220	220	250	0	-30
Retail trade	80	85	80	-5	0
Leisure and hospitality	135	140	120	-5	15
Government	320	335	330	-15	-10
Federal government	125	125	130	0	-5
State government	50	50	50	0	0
Local government	145	160	150	-15	-5

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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--				
	October 2018	September 2018	October 2017	September 2018	October 2017
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	12,696	12,730	13,106	-34	-410
Unemployed	579	503	555	76	24
Unemployment rate	4.6%	4.0%	4.2%	0.6	0.4
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>4.0%</i>	<i>3.7%</i>	<i>4.1%</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>-0.1</i>
Employed	12,117	12,227	12,551	-110	-434
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	10,220	10,310	10,380	-90	-160
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>10,180</i>	<i>10,100</i>	<i>10,340</i>	<i>80</i>	<i>-160</i>
Total private	8,230	8,390	8,190	-160	40
Mining, logging, and construction	430	430	450	0	-20
Mining and logging	60	60	60	0	0
Construction	370	370	390	0	-20
Manufacturing	650	660	670	-10	-20
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,000	2,010	2,040	-10	-40
Wholesale trade	140	140	150	0	-10
Retail trade	1,640	1,640	1,700	0	-60
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	220	230	190	-10	30
Information	180	180	190	0	-10
Financial activities	360	360	310	0	50
Professional and business services	610	610	580	0	30
Education and health services	2,360	2,360	2,240	0	120
Ambulatory health care services	440	450	420	-10	20
Nursing and residential care facilities	560	570	570	-10	-10
Leisure and hospitality	1,260	1,390	1,310	-130	-50
Accommodation and food services	1,130	1,220	1,210	-90	-80
Other services	380	390	400	-10	-20
Government	1,990	1,920	2,190	70	-200
Federal government	300	300	290	0	10
State government	250	260	360	-10	-110
Local government	1,440	1,360	1,540	80	-100
Indian tribal	10	20	120	-10	-110
Local education	750	660	730	90	20
Local government excluding education and tribal	680	680	690	0	-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--				
	October 2018	September 2018	October 2017	September 2018	October 2017
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	738	745	767	-7	-29
Unemployed	29	25	27	4	2
Unemployment rate	3.9%	3.4%	3.5%	0.5	0.4
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.7%	3.4%	3.7%	0.3	0.0
Employed	709	720	740	-11	-31
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	300	310	315	-10	-15
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	295	300	310	-5	-15
Total private	165	175	170	-10	-5
Trade, transportation, and utilities	35	35	45	0	-10
Leisure and hospitality	30	35	30	-5	0
Government	135	135	145	0	-10
Federal government	5	5	5	0	0
State government	0	0	10	0	-10
Local government	130	130	130	0	0

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.