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Employment in the Columbia Gorge: November 2018

Winter Recreation Season Gets Underway in November

Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by a scant 0.1 percentage point in November to 3.4 percent, ranking second in Oregon (out of 36 counties), tied with Washington County. Over the year, Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was essentially unchanged.

Hood River County's nonfarm employment total rose to 12,230 in November, an increase of 390 jobs. Private industry rose by 390 jobs to total 10,860, and government held steady at 1,370. Arts, entertainment, and recreation led private industry with an increase of 460 jobs, rising to 750. Retail trade also performed admirably in November, rising by 90 jobs to total 1,690. Accommodation and food services pulled back again in November, falling to 1,180 jobs, a loss of 130. Manufacturing (-30) and wholesale trade (-20) also cut jobs. In the public sector, local government rose by 20 jobs to 1,160, offsetting a loss of 20 in federal government.

Private industry employment rose by 170 jobs over the year ending in November, an increase of 1.6 percent. Education and health services led private industry with an over-the-year gain of 160 jobs. Retail trade (+60), financial activities (+40), and professional and business services (+40) all rose over the year. Leisure and hospitality fell 120 jobs shy of its year-ago total, at 2,340, but the winter recreation season has only just begun and the seasonal peak won't arrive until January or February. State government cut 70 jobs with the reclassification of home care workers to private industry, dropping its total to 100. Local government rose by 20 jobs over the year and federal government chipped in 10.

Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by 0.2 percentage point in November to 4.2 percent, ranking 10th among Oregon counties, tied with Clatsop County. Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate ranked ninth in November 2017, at a slightly lower 4.0 percent.

Wasco County's nonfarm employment total fell to 10,150 jobs in November, a loss of 60. Private industry cut 70 jobs in November, falling to 8,150. Leisure and hospitality fell to 1,210, a loss of 50 jobs, and manufacturing cut 30, dropping to 620. Retail trade rose to 1,660, an increase of 20 jobs. Transportation, warehousing, and utilities chipped in 20 to reach 240. Government rose by a scant 10 jobs to total 2,000, with local government up 20 and federal government down 10 in November.

Over the year, Wasco County's nonfarm employment fell by 210 jobs, with government cutting 200 and private industry losing 10. Education and health services rose by 110 jobs over the year to total 2,360,

thanks in part to the inclusion of home care workers; state government lost 100, falling to 250. Financial activities (+40); and transportation, warehousing, and utilities (+20) also rose over the year. Job losses in retail trade (-70), leisure and hospitality (-30), and other services (-30) 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 0.1 percentage point in November to 4.6 percent, ranking 16th out of 36 Oregon counties, tied with Malheur County. Last November, Gilliam County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate ranked 10th, at 4.2 percent. Gilliam County's nonfarm employment total rose to 785, an increase of five, with 545 jobs in private industry and 240 in government. Over the year, professional and business services rose by 40 jobs to reach 235. State government cut five jobs and federal government lost five, while local government held steady with 220.

Sherman County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.1 percentage point in November to 4.0 percent, ranking eighth among Oregon counties. In November 2017, Sherman County's 4.3 percent seasonally adjusted unemployment rate ranked 14th. Sherman County's nonfarm employment fell by 15 jobs in November, cutting its total to 810. Private industry lost 15 jobs in November with leisure and hospitality cutting 10 and trade, transportation, and utilities idling five. Over the year, private industry rose by five jobs, climbing to 515. Trade, transportation, and utilities cut 30 jobs, falling to 215, while leisure and hospitality rose by 20 to 125. Government lost 15 jobs over the year, falling to 315, with federal government cutting 10 and state government losing five.

Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by 0.2 percentage point in November to 3.9 percent, ranking as Oregon's seventh lowest, just behind Clackamas and Yamhill counties. Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate ranked fourth in November 2017, at 3.6 percent. Nonfarm employment totaled 300 jobs in November, with private industry cutting five jobs and government adding five. Over the year ending in November, private industry cut five jobs, falling to 160, while government lost 10, dropping to 140.

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 January 2018. It does not affect total payroll employment levels.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the December 2018 county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on January 22nd, 2018 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for December on January 15th, 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/. 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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For help finding jobs and training resources, visit one of the state's WorkSource Oregon Centers or go to: 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

	November 2018	October 2018	November 2017	--Change From--	
				October 2018	November 2017
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	846	843	857	3	-11
Unemployed	37	38	34	-1	3
Unemployment rate	4.4%	4.5%	4.0%	-0.1	0.4
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.6%	4.5%	4.2%	0.1	0.4
Employed	809	805	823	4	-14
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	785	780	765	5	20
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	795	790	775	5	20
Total private	545	540	515	5	30
Trade, transportation, and utilities	145	145	145	0	0
Professional and business services	235	230	195	5	40
Education and health services	50	50	50	0	0
Leisure and hospitality	35	35	40	0	-5
Government	240	240	250	0	-10
Federal government	10	10	15	0	-5
State government	10	10	15	0	-5
Local government	220	220	220	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.

Hood River County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	November 2018	October 2018	November 2017	--Change From--	
				October 2018	November 2017
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	13,725	13,845	14,012	-120	-287
Unemployed	473	481	449	-8	24
Unemployment rate	3.4%	3.5%	3.2%	-0.1	0.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.4%	3.3%	3.3%	0.1	0.1
Employed	13,252	13,364	13,563	-112	-311
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	12,230	11,840	12,100	390	130
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>11,900</i>	<i>11,990</i>	<i>11,780</i>	<i>-90</i>	<i>120</i>
Total private	10,860	10,470	10,690	390	170
Mining, logging, and construction	520	530	530	-10	-10
Manufacturing	1,750	1,780	1,730	-30	20
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,410	2,320	2,380	90	30
Wholesale trade	450	470	510	-20	-60
Retail trade	1,690	1,600	1,630	90	60
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	270	250	240	20	30
Information	140	140	150	0	-10
Financial activities	360	370	320	-10	40
Professional and business services	1,180	1,180	1,140	0	40
Education and health services	1,750	1,730	1,590	20	160
Leisure and hospitality	2,340	2,010	2,460	330	-120
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	750	290	890	460	-140
Accommodation and food services	1,590	1,720	1,570	-130	20
Accommodation	410	430	400	-20	10
Food services and drinking places	1,180	1,290	1,170	-110	10
Other services	410	410	390	0	20
Government	1,370	1,370	1,410	0	-40
Federal government	110	130	100	-20	10
State government	100	100	170	0	-70
Local government	1,160	1,140	1,140	20	20
Local education	650	640	640	10	10
Local government excluding educational services	510	500	500	10	10

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--				
	November 2018	October 2018	November 2017	October 2018	November 2017
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	856	870	857	-14	-1
Unemployed	33	33	35	0	-2
Unemployment rate	3.9%	3.8%	4.1%	0.1	-0.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.0%	4.1%	4.3%	-0.1	-0.3
Employed	823	837	822	-14	1
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	810	825	805	-15	5
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	830	830	825	0	5
Total private	495	510	475	-15	20
Trade, transportation, and utilities	215	220	245	-5	-30
Retail trade	80	80	80	0	0
Leisure and hospitality	125	135	105	-10	20
Government	315	315	330	0	-15
Federal government	125	125	135	0	-10
State government	45	45	45	0	0
Local government	145	145	150	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.

Wasco County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	November 2018	October 2018	November 2017	--Change From--	
				October 2018	November 2017
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	12,753	12,710	13,288	43	-535
Unemployed	578	584	564	-6	14
Unemployment rate	4.5%	4.6%	4.2%	-0.1	0.3
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.2%	4.0%	4.0%	0.2	0.2
Employed	12,175	12,126	12,724	49	-549
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	10,150	10,210	10,360	-60	-210
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>10,240</i>	<i>10,170</i>	<i>10,450</i>	<i>70</i>	<i>-210</i>
Total private	8,150	8,220	8,160	-70	-10
Mining, logging, and construction	420	430	440	-10	-20
Mining and logging	60	60	60	0	0
Construction	360	370	380	-10	-20
Manufacturing	620	650	640	-30	-20
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,040	2,000	2,100	40	-60
Wholesale trade	140	140	150	0	-10
Retail trade	1,660	1,640	1,730	20	-70
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	240	220	220	20	20
Information	190	180	190	10	0
Financial activities	350	360	310	-10	40
Professional and business services	600	610	600	-10	0
Education and health services	2,360	2,350	2,250	10	110
Ambulatory health care services	450	440	430	10	20
Nursing and residential care facilities	570	560	570	10	0
Leisure and hospitality	1,210	1,260	1,240	-50	-30
Accommodation and food services	1,110	1,130	1,160	-20	-50
Other services	360	380	390	-20	-30
Government	2,000	1,990	2,200	10	-200
Federal government	290	300	290	-10	0
State government	250	250	350	0	-100
Local government	1,460	1,440	1,560	20	-100
Indian tribal	10	10	120	0	-110
Local education	760	750	750	10	10
Local government excluding education and tribal	690	680	690	10	0

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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--				
	November 2018	October 2018	November 2017	October 2018	November 2017
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	731	738	761	-7	-30
Unemployed	28	29	26	-1	2
Unemployment rate	3.8%	3.9%	3.4%	-0.1	0.4
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.9%	3.7%	3.6%	0.2	0.3
Employed	703	709	735	-6	-32
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	300	300	315	0	-15
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	295	295	310	0	-15
Total private	160	165	165	-5	-5
Trade, transportation, and utilities	35	35	40	0	-5
Leisure and hospitality	25	30	25	-5	0
Government	140	135	150	5	-10
Federal government	5	5	5	0	0
State government	0	0	10	0	-10
Local government	135	130	135	5	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.

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