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Employment in the Columbia Gorge: April 2019

Accommodation and Food Services Leads April Job Growth

Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.1 percentage point in April to 3.6 percent, ranking third in Oregon (out of 36 counties), behind Washington County's 3.5 percent and Benton County's 3.3 percent. Over the year, Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by 0.3 percentage point.

Hood River County's nonfarm employment rose by 50 jobs in April to total 12,090. Private industry rose by 30 jobs to 10,700, and government increased its total to 1,390. Food services and drinking places led private industry with a gain of 80 jobs, rising to 1,250. Retail trade also performed well, climbing by 70 jobs to 1,400. Mining, logging, and construction chipped in 30 jobs to reach 490; manufacturing rose by 20; and transportation, warehousing, and utilities gained 20. Arts, entertainment, and recreation continued its spring thaw, cutting 200 jobs, falling to 830.

Hood River County's private industry employment rose by 190 jobs over the year ending in April, an increase of 1.8 percent. Education and health services led private industry with an over-the-year gain of 60 jobs, rising to 1,760. Accommodation and food services increased its total by 40 jobs or 2.5 percent. Manufacturing (+30), wholesale trade (+30), and other services (+30) also grew over the year. Government lost 10 jobs, with federal and local each cutting 10 and state government rising by 10.

Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady in April at 4.7 percent, ranking 17th among Oregon counties, just ahead of Malheur County. Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate ranked 12th in April 2018, at 4.1 percent.

Wasco County gained 130 nonfarm jobs in April, climbing to 10,230. Private industry led the way, rising by 130 jobs to reach 8,320, while government held steady with 1,910. Accommodation and food services led private industry, rising by 80 jobs to total 1,270. Construction rose by 30 jobs to 370 and manufacturing gained 20, rising to 660.

Over the year, Wasco County's private industry employment rose by 120 jobs. Accommodation and food services performed exceptionally, rising by 80 jobs or 6.7 percent over the year. Education and health services rose by 50 jobs to reach 2,380. Transportation, warehousing, and utilities chipped in 20 jobs, rising to 220. In the public sector, 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 fell by 0.2 percentage point in April to 4.5 percent, ranking 11th out of 36 Oregon counties, tied with Marion County. Last April, Gilliam County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate ranked fourth, at just 3.4 percent. Gilliam County's nonfarm employment held steady in April with 805 jobs. Over the year, Gilliam County's private industry total rose by 40 jobs to 555. Professional and business services (+15), leisure and hospitality (+15), and education and health services (+10) all produced over-the-year job gains. Government fell to 250 jobs, an over-the-year loss of 15.

Sherman County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady in April at 3.9 percent, ranking seventh among Oregon counties, just ahead of Clatsop County. In April 2018, Sherman County's 4.0 percent seasonally adjusted unemployment rate ranked ninth. Sherman County's nonfarm employment rose by 20 jobs in April to reach 885. Private industry rose by 30 jobs to 545, while government fell to 340, a loss of 10. Leisure and hospitality led private industry, rising by 20 jobs in April to 125. Over the year, private industry rose by 10 jobs. Local government led the public sector, rising by 20 jobs over the year to 170.

Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady in April at 4.6 percent, ranking as Oregon's 13th lowest, tied with Lane, Morrow, and Polk counties. Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate ranked as Oregon's second lowest in April 2018, at just 3.1 percent. Nonfarm employment totaled 285 jobs in April, with private industry rising by five and government chipping in five. Over the year ending in April, private industry cut 35 jobs, falling to 150, and government held steady with 135.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the May 2019 county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on June 25th, 2019 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for May on June 18th, 2019.

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

	--Change From--				
	April 2019	March 2019	April 2018	March 2019	April 2018
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	845	868	824	-23	21
Unemployed	29	42	27	-13	2
Unemployment rate	3.4%	4.8%	3.3%	-1.4	0.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.5%	4.7%	3.4%	-0.2	1.1
Employed	816	826	797	-10	19
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	805	805	780	0	25
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	810	815	785	-5	25
Total private	555	555	515	0	40
Trade, transportation, and utilities	130	130	135	0	-5
Professional and business services	230	230	215	0	15
Education and health services	60	55	50	5	10
Leisure and hospitality	45	45	30	0	15
Government	250	250	265	0	-15
Federal government	15	15	10	0	5
State government	10	10	10	0	0
Local government	225	225	245	0	-20

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--		
	April 2019	March 2019	April 2018	March 2019	April 2018
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	13,852	14,171	13,947	-319	-95
Unemployed	463	606	452	-143	11
Unemployment rate	3.3%	4.3%	3.2%	-1.0	0.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.6%	3.7%	3.3%	-0.1	0.3
Employed	13,389	13,565	13,495	-176	-106
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	12,090	12,040	11,910	50	180
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	12,130	12,140	11,950	-10	180
Total private	10,700	10,670	10,510	30	190
Mining, logging, and construction	490	460	500	30	-10
Manufacturing	1,770	1,750	1,740	20	30
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,090	1,990	2,060	100	30
Wholesale trade	470	460	440	10	30
Retail trade	1,400	1,330	1,390	70	10
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	220	200	230	20	-10
Information	140	140	140	0	0
Financial activities	360	350	360	10	0
Professional and business services	1,170	1,170	1,170	0	0
Education and health services	1,760	1,770	1,700	-10	60
Leisure and hospitality	2,490	2,620	2,440	-130	50
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	830	1,030	820	-200	10
Accommodation and food services	1,660	1,590	1,620	70	40
Accommodation	410	420	390	-10	20
Food services and drinking places	1,250	1,170	1,230	80	20
Other services	430	420	400	10	30
Government	1,390	1,370	1,400	20	-10
Federal government	100	100	110	0	-10
State government	120	120	110	0	10
Local government	1,170	1,150	1,180	20	-10
Local education	670	660	670	10	0
Local government excluding educational services	500	490	510	10	-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.

Sherman County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	April 2019	March 2019	April 2018	March 2019	April 2018
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	914	900	899	14	15
Unemployed	34	41	36	-7	-2
Unemployment rate	3.7%	4.6%	4.0%	-0.9	-0.3
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.9%	3.9%	4.0%	0.0	-0.1
Employed	880	859	863	21	17
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	885	865	855	20	30
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	875	860	845	15	30
Total private	545	515	535	30	10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	230	230	235	0	-5
Retail trade	90	85	85	5	5
Leisure and hospitality	125	105	135	20	-10
Government	340	350	320	-10	20
Federal government	130	130	130	0	0
State government	40	40	40	0	0
Local government	170	180	150	-10	20

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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--		
	April 2019	March 2019	April 2018	March 2019	April 2018
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	12,655	12,608	12,715	47	-60
Unemployed	573	716	534	-143	39
Unemployment rate	4.5%	5.7%	4.2%	-1.2	0.3
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.7%	4.7%	4.1%	0.0	0.6
Employed	12,082	11,892	12,181	190	-99
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	10,230	10,100	10,220	130	10
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	10,270	10,320	10,270	-50	0
Total private	8,320	8,190	8,200	130	120
Mining, logging, and construction	430	400	420	30	10
Mining and logging	60	60	50	0	10
Construction	370	340	370	30	0
Manufacturing	660	640	650	20	10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,000	2,000	1,990	0	10
Wholesale trade	130	130	140	0	-10
Retail trade	1,650	1,640	1,650	10	0
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	220	230	200	-10	20
Information	180	180	170	0	10
Financial activities	310	320	320	-10	-10
Professional and business services	600	600	640	0	-40
Education and health services	2,380	2,380	2,330	0	50
Ambulatory health care services	440	440	420	0	20
Nursing and residential care facilities	560	570	560	-10	0
Leisure and hospitality	1,360	1,280	1,280	80	80
Accommodation and food services	1,270	1,190	1,190	80	80
Other services	400	390	400	10	0
Government	1,910	1,910	2,020	0	-110
Federal government	280	280	280	0	0
State government	260	260	260	0	0
Local government	1,370	1,370	1,480	0	-110
Indian tribal	10	10	120	0	-110
Local education	710	710	710	0	0
Local government excluding education and tribal	650	650	650	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.

Wheeler County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	April 2019	March 2019	April 2018	March 2019	April 2018
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	693	685	755	8	-62
Unemployed	29	40	23	-11	6
Unemployment rate	4.2%	5.8%	3.0%	-1.6	1.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.6%	4.6%	3.1%	0.0	1.5
Employed	664	645	732	19	-68
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	285	275	320	10	-35
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	280	275	315	5	-35
Total private	150	145	185	5	-35
Trade, transportation, and utilities	40	40	35	0	5
Leisure and hospitality	25	20	40	5	-15
Government	135	130	135	5	0
Federal government	5	5	5	0	0
State government	0	0	0	0	0
Local government	130	125	130	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.

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.