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Employment in the Columbia Gorge: May 2020

Over-the-Year Job Losses Detail COVID-19 Impacts

May seasonally adjusted unemployment rates are not available due to processing delays caused by large changes in unemployment in recent months. Not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates are being used for this news release. They reflect May's high unemployment rates related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates for May will be available on Qualityinfo.org or by request at a later date. We apologize for any inconvenience this causes.

In May, Hood River County's unadjusted unemployment rate fell to 13.5 percent, a drop of 0.7 percentage point. Over the year, Hood River County's unadjusted unemployment rate rose by 10.5 percentage points.

Hood River County's nonfarm employment fell by 690 jobs in May to total 9,040. Private industry dropped to 7,700 jobs, a loss of 700, while government rose by 10 to 1,340.

Hood River County's private industry employment fell by 2,760 jobs over the year ending in May, a loss of 26.4 percent. COVID-19 impacts in accommodation and food services idled 980 jobs, dropping the industry's total to 750 (-56.6%). Education and health services suffered an over-the-year loss of 380 jobs (-21.6%), falling to 1,380. Manufacturing cut 350 jobs (-18.6%), retail trade idled 260 (-17.6%), other services sliced 130 (-29.5%), and professional and business services shed 150 (-13.2%). Arts, entertainment, and recreation cut payrolls by 120 jobs, an over-the-year loss of 35.3 percent.

Wasco County's unadjusted unemployment rate rose by 0.2 percentage points in May to 14.9 percent. Over the year, Wasco County's unadjusted unemployment rate rose by 11.1 percentage points.

Wasco County cut 560 nonfarm jobs in May, falling to 8,210. Private industry cut 530, dropping to 6,360 and government trimmed its payrolls by 30, falling to 1,850.

Over the year ending in May, Wasco County's private industry employment fell by 1,960 jobs (-23.6%). Accommodation and food services idled 550 jobs as a result of COVID-19 closures, cutting its total to 700, a loss of 44 percent. Education and health services trimmed its payrolls by 460 jobs, falling to 1,880 (-19.7%). Manufacturing cut 190 jobs over the year, falling to 440 (-30.2%) and retail trade trimmed its payrolls by 210 (-12.7%), dropping to 1,450. COVID-19 related job losses were also felt in professional and business services (-140), construction (-130), and other services (-120).

Gilliam County's unadjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.2 percentage points in May to 11.1 percent. Over the year, Gilliam County's unadjusted unemployment rate rose by 7.9 percentage points. Gilliam County's nonfarm employment fell to 745 jobs in May, a loss of 15. Over the year, Gilliam County's private industry total fell by 215 jobs, a loss of 29.7 percent, to total 510. Government cut 35 jobs over the year, falling to 235.

Sherman County's unadjusted unemployment rate fell by 1.1 percentage points in May to 11.0 percent. Over the year, Sherman County's unadjusted unemployment rate rose by 7.9 percentage points. Sherman County's nonfarm employment fell by 30 jobs in May to 810. Private industry cut 30 jobs, falling to 500, while government held steady at 310. Over the year ending in May, private industry cut 70 jobs (-12.3%) and government idled 35.

Wheeler County's unadjusted unemployment rate rose by 0.3 percentage point in May to 6.1 percent. Over the year, Wheeler County's unadjusted unemployment rate rose by 1.9 percentage points. Nonfarm employment totaled 250 jobs in May, with private industry cutting 15 and government idling five. Over the year ending in May, private industry lost 50 jobs, falling to 125 (-28.6%) and government cut 10, dropping its total to 125.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the June 2020 county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on July 21st, 2020 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for May on July 14th, 2020.

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 coronavirus questions related to employer and job seeker programs and services, visit Govstatus.egov.com/ORUnemployment_COVID19. For help finding jobs and training resources, 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--				
	May 2020	April 2020	May 2019	April 2020	May 2019
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	881	896	995	-15	-114
Unemployed	98	101	32	-3	66
Unemployment rate	11.1%	11.3%	3.2%	-0.2	7.9
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>					
Employed	783	795	963	-12	-180
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	745	760	995	-15	-250
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	725	755	970	-30	-245
Total private	510	525	725	-15	-215
Trade, transportation, and utilities	120	120	140	0	-20
Professional and business services	235	240	230	-5	5
Education and health services	60	65	60	-5	0
Leisure and hospitality	20	20	45	0	-25
Government	235	235	270	0	-35
Federal government	10	10	10	0	0
State government	10	10	10	0	0
Local government	215	215	250	0	-35

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--				
	May 2020	April 2020	May 2019	April 2020	May 2019
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	12,680	13,571	13,665	-891	-985
Unemployed	1,714	1,930	412	-216	1,302
Unemployment rate	13.5%	14.2%	3.0%	-0.7	10.5
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>					
Employed	10,966	11,641	13,253	-675	-2,287
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	9,040	9,730	11,890	-690	-2,850
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	9,070	9,740	11,940	-670	-2,870
Total private	7,700	8,400	10,460	-700	-2,760
Mining, logging, and construction	390	410	520	-20	-130
Manufacturing	1,530	1,640	1,880	-110	-350
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,700	1,770	2,160	-70	-460
Wholesale trade	350	370	460	-20	-110
Retail trade	1,220	1,260	1,480	-40	-260
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	130	140	220	-10	-90
Information	120	130	140	-10	-20
Financial activities	310	320	350	-10	-40
Professional and business services	990	1,010	1,140	-20	-150
Education and health services	1,380	1,510	1,760	-130	-380
Leisure and hospitality	970	1,290	2,070	-320	-1,100
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	220	470	340	-250	-120
Accommodation and food services	750	820	1,730	-70	-980
Accommodation	200	200	450	0	-250
Food services and drinking places	550	620	1,280	-70	-730
Other services	310	320	440	-10	-130
Government	1,340	1,330	1,430	10	-90
Federal government	130	110	130	20	0
State government	110	110	110	0	0
Local government	1,100	1,110	1,190	-10	-90
Local education	650	650	680	0	-30
Local government excluding educational services	450	460	510	-10	-60

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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--				
	May 2020	April 2020	May 2019	April 2020	May 2019
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	918	959	908	-41	10
Unemployed	101	116	28	-15	73
Unemployment rate	11.0%	12.1%	3.1%	-1.1	7.9
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>					
Employed	817	843	880	-26	-63
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	810	840	915	-30	-105
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	795	835	900	-40	-105
Total private	500	530	570	-30	-70
Trade, transportation, and utilities	230	235	220	-5	10
Retail trade	75	80	90	-5	-15
Leisure and hospitality	50	55	110	-5	-60
Government	310	310	345	0	-35
Federal government	120	120	120	0	0
State government	45	45	50	0	-5
Local government	145	145	175	0	-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.

Wasco County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

			--Change From--		
	May 2020	April 2020	May 2019	April 2020	May 2019
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	12,000	12,429	12,620	-429	-620
Unemployed	1,788	1,825	482	-37	1,306
Unemployment rate	14.9%	14.7%	3.8%	0.2	11.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>					
Employed	10,212	10,604	12,138	-392	-1,926
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	8,210	8,770	10,300	-560	-2,090
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>8,110</i>	<i>8,820</i>	<i>10,170</i>	<i>-710</i>	<i>-2,060</i>
Total private	6,360	6,890	8,320	-530	-1,960
Mining, logging, and construction	280	330	430	-50	-150
Mining and logging	50	60	70	-10	-20
Construction	230	270	360	-40	-130
Manufacturing	440	480	630	-40	-190
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,820	1,890	2,050	-70	-230
Wholesale trade	140	150	160	-10	-20
Retail trade	1,450	1,510	1,660	-60	-210
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	230	230	230	0	0
Information	200	210	170	-10	30
Financial activities	310	330	350	-20	-40
Professional and business services	440	460	580	-20	-140
Education and health services	1,880	2,080	2,340	-200	-460
Ambulatory health care services	230	300	440	-70	-210
Nursing and residential care facilities	590	590	580	0	10
Leisure and hospitality	710	810	1,370	-100	-660
Accommodation and food services	700	800	1,250	-100	-550
Other services	280	300	400	-20	-120
Government	1,850	1,880	1,980	-30	-130
Federal government	280	280	290	0	-10
State government	250	250	260	0	-10
Local government	1,320	1,350	1,430	-30	-110
Indian tribal	10	10	10	0	0
Local education	660	690	730	-30	-70
Local government excluding education and tribal	650	650	690	0	-40

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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--				
	May 2020	April 2020	May 2019	April 2020	May 2019
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	653	684	734	-31	-81
Unemployed	40	40	31	0	9
Unemployment rate	6.1%	5.8%	4.2%	0.3	1.9
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>					
Employed	613	644	703	-31	-90
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	250	270	310	-20	-60
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	240	265	300	-25	-60
Total private	125	140	175	-15	-50
Trade, transportation, and utilities	30	30	40	0	-10
Leisure and hospitality	10	15	30	-5	-20
Government	125	130	135	-5	-10
Federal government	5	5	10	0	-5
State government	0	0	0	0	0
Local government	120	125	125	-5	-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.