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Employment in the Columbia Gorge: June 2021

Unemployment Rates Improve Slightly

In June, Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell slightly to 5.1%. Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate ranked seventh lowest out of 36 Oregon counties, trailing Morrow (5.0%) and just ahead of Harney (5.2%). Over the year, Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 3.7 percentage points.

Hood River County's nonfarm employment rose by 100 jobs in June to total 11,500. Private industry increased its total by 50 jobs, climbing to 10,100, and government reached 1,400, rising by 50. Accommodation and food services led private industry in June, rising by 110 jobs to reach 1,600. Manufacturing chipped in 30 jobs, rising to 1,820. Mining, logging, and construction (+20); retail trade (+10); and transportation, warehousing, and utilities (+10) also added jobs in June. Offsetting job losses in arts, entertainment, and recreation (-70); education and health services (-40); and wholesale trade (-20) limited private industry growth in June. In the public sector, local government education rose by 20 jobs to 640, while federal, state and other local each chipped in 10.

Hood River County's private industry employment rose by an impressive 10.4% over the year, adding 950 jobs. Accommodation and food services regained 360 jobs over the year to lead private industry, an increase of 29%. Manufacturing welcomed back 190 jobs, education and health services increased its total by 150, and retail trade added 110 jobs. Government rose by 100 jobs over the year, led by an increase of 80 in local government.

Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was little changed in June, falling to 5.8% while ranking 16th in Oregon, tied with Baker and Umatilla. Over the year, Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 3.8 percentage points.

Wasco County's nonfarm employment rose by 190 nonfarm jobs in June, climbing to 10,220. Private industry increased its total by 150 jobs to reach 8,230, while government chipped in 40, climbing to 1,990. At the industry level, leisure and hospitality led Wasco County, rising by 100 jobs in June to reach 1,220. Private industry also added jobs in wholesale trade (+10); retail trade (+10); transportation, warehousing, and utilities (+10); financial activities (+10); and other services (+10). Local government led the public sector, rising by 30 jobs to reach 1,420.

Wasco County's private industry employment rose by 350 jobs or 4.4% over the year ending in June. Leisure and hospitality produced private industry's largest gain, rising by 170 jobs or 16.2%. Retail trade increased its payrolls by 60 jobs, climbing to 1,720 (+3.6%), and other services also rose by 60. Transportation, warehousing, and utilities (+40); construction (+30); and information (+30) also rose over the year. Job losses hit manufacturing (-40) and education and health services (-20). In the public sector, local education rose by 60 jobs over the year to reach 730 and state government increased its total by 30.

Gilliam County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.1 percentage point in June to 5.3%, ranking ninth out of 36 Oregon counties, trailing Harney (5.2%). Over the year, Gilliam County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 2.3 percentage points. Gilliam County's nonfarm employment rose to 825 jobs in June, an increase of 30. Over the year, Gilliam County's private industry total fell by 180 jobs, a loss of 24.3%, to total 560. Government rose by 15 jobs over the year to total 245 jobs.

Sherman County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady in June at 4.6%, good enough to rank third in Oregon tied with Malheur. Over the year, Sherman County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 2.6 percentage points. Sherman County's nonfarm employment rose by 30 jobs in June to 945. Private industry rose by 10 jobs to reach 605, while government increased its total by 20, climbing to 340. Over the year ending in June, private industry lost 35 jobs and government held steady.

Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dropped to 3.5% in June, claiming Oregon's lowest county unemployment rate. Over the year Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 1.3 percentage points. Nonfarm employment totaled 285 jobs in June, with private industry rising by five and government cutting 10. Over the year ending in June, private industry rose by five jobs to reach 165 and government held steady with 120.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the July 2021 county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Aug. 24th, 2021 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for July on Aug. 17th, 2021.

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--				
	June 2021	May 2021	June 2020	May 2021	June 2020
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	934	914	1,089	20	-155
Unemployed	46	42	82	4	-36
Unemployment rate	4.9%	4.6%	7.5%	0.3	-2.6
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.3%	5.4%	7.6%	-0.1	-2.3
Employed	888	872	1,007	16	-119
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	825	795	990	30	-165
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	785	775	940	10	-155
Total private	560	560	740	0	-180
Trade, transportation, and utilities	140	140	135	0	5
Professional and business services	225	230	230	-5	-5
Education and health services	75	75	70	0	5
Leisure and hospitality	35	35	45	0	-10
Government	265	235	250	30	15
Federal government	15	10	15	5	0
State government	5	5	5	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 2021	May 2021	June 2020	May 2021	June 2020
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	14,932	14,424	14,364	508	568
Unemployed	769	697	1,258	72	-489
Unemployment rate	5.2%	4.8%	8.8%	0.4	-3.6
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.1%	5.2%	8.8%	-0.1	-3.7
Employed	14,163	13,727	13,106	436	1,057
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	11,500	11,400	10,450	100	1,050
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	11,520	11,440	10,470	80	1,050
Total private	10,100	10,050	9,150	50	950
Mining, logging, and construction	580	560	520	20	60
Manufacturing	1,820	1,790	1,630	30	190
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,130	2,130	1,960	0	170
Wholesale trade	480	500	450	-20	30
Retail trade	1,450	1,440	1,340	10	110
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	200	190	170	10	30
Information	120	120	110	0	10
Financial activities	340	340	330	0	10
Professional and business services	1,030	1,030	1,080	0	-50
Education and health services	1,810	1,850	1,660	-40	150
Leisure and hospitality	1,850	1,810	1,480	40	370
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	250	320	240	-70	10
Accommodation and food services	1,600	1,490	1,240	110	360
Accommodation	380	360	330	20	50
Food services and drinking places	1,220	1,130	910	90	310
Other services	420	420	380	0	40
Government	1,400	1,350	1,300	50	100
Federal government	160	150	160	10	0
State government	110	100	90	10	20
Local government	1,130	1,100	1,050	30	80
Local education	640	620	580	20	60
Local government excluding educational services	490	480	470	10	20

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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 2021	May 2021	June 2020	May 2021	June 2020
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	1,010	987	1,039	23	-29
Unemployed	43	41	72	2	-29
Unemployment rate	4.3%	4.2%	6.9%	0.1	-2.6
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.6%	4.6%	7.2%	0.0	-2.6
Employed	967	946	967	21	0
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	945	915	980	30	-35
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	890	900	925	-10	-35
Total private	605	595	640	10	-35
Trade, transportation, and utilities	310	305	320	5	-10
Retail trade	135	130	150	5	-15
Leisure and hospitality	95	90	80	5	15
Government	340	320	340	20	0
Federal government	125	125	120	0	5
State government	45	45	45	0	0
Local government	170	150	175	20	-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--				
	June 2021	May 2021	June 2020	May 2021	June 2020
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	17,132	13,131	16,996	4,001	136
Unemployed	727	704	1,325	23	-598
Unemployment rate	4.2%	5.4%	7.8%	-1.2	-3.6
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.8%	5.9%	9.6%	-0.1	-3.8
Employed	16,405	12,427	15,671	3,978	734
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	10,220	10,030	9,770	190	450
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	9,790	9,910	9,360	-120	430
Total private	8,230	8,080	7,880	150	350
Mining, logging, and construction	440	440	410	0	30
Mining and logging	60	60	60	0	0
Construction	380	380	350	0	30
Manufacturing	530	530	570	0	-40
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,190	2,160	2,080	30	110
Wholesale trade	170	160	160	10	10
Retail trade	1,720	1,710	1,660	10	60
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	300	290	260	10	40
Information	270	270	240	0	30
Financial activities	340	330	330	10	10
Professional and business services	490	490	490	0	0
Education and health services	2,370	2,370	2,390	0	-20
Ambulatory health care services	470	470	430	0	40
Nursing and residential care facilities	530	540	560	-10	-30
Leisure and hospitality	1,220	1,120	1,050	100	170
Accommodation and food services	1,110	1,070	1,000	40	110
Other services	380	370	320	10	60
Government	1,990	1,950	1,890	40	100
Federal government	280	280	290	0	-10
State government	290	280	260	10	30
Local government	1,420	1,390	1,340	30	80
Indian tribal	10	10	10	0	0
Local education	730	720	670	10	60
Local government excluding education and tribal	680	660	660	20	20

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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 2021	May 2021	June 2020	May 2021	June 2020
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	700	727	702	-27	-2
Unemployed	21	23	37	-2	-16
Unemployment rate	3.0%	3.2%	5.3%	-0.2	-2.3
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.5%	3.9%	4.8%	-0.4	-1.3
Employed	679	704	665	-25	14
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	285	290	280	-5	5
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	275	280	270	-5	5
Total private	165	160	160	5	5
Trade, transportation, and utilities	40	35	40	5	0
Leisure and hospitality	25	20	20	5	5
Government	120	130	120	-10	0
Federal government	5	5	5	0	0
State government	0	0	0	0	0
Local government	115	125	115	-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.