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Employment in the Columbia Gorge: July 2021

Local Government Education Takes its Summer Break

In July, Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.2 percentage point to 4.9%. Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate ranked seventh lowest out of 36 Oregon counties, trailing Morrow (4.7%) and just ahead of Yamhill (5.0%). Over the year, Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 2.9 percentage points.

Hood River County's nonfarm employment fell by 40 jobs in July, dropping to 11,430. Private industry increased its total by 120 jobs, climbing to 10,180, and government fell to 1,250, a loss of 160. Accommodation and food services led private industry in July, rising by 90 jobs to reach 1,880. Retail trade increased its total by 40 jobs, rising to 1,460. Arts, entertainment, and recreation (+20); mining, logging, and construction (+10); manufacturing (+10); professional and business services (+10); and other services (+10) also added jobs in July. Private industry job losses were limited to a drop of 70 in wholesale trade, cutting its total to 330. In the public sector, local government education went on its summer break, cutting 180 jobs to total 470. Other local government rose by 20 jobs to reach 520.

Hood River County's private industry employment rose by 7.4% over the year, adding 700 jobs. Accommodation and food services regained 370 jobs over the year to lead private industry, an increase of 24.5%. Manufacturing welcomed back 140 jobs, education and health services increased its total by 120, and retail trade added 60 jobs. Government rose by 50 jobs over the year, led by an increase of 40 in local government.

Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.2 percentage point in July to 5.6% while ranking 19th in Oregon, tied with Deschutes. Over the year, Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 2.7 percentage points.

Wasco County's nonfarm employment fell by 140 jobs in July, dropping to 10,160. Private industry increased its total by 50 jobs to reach 8,370, while government cut 190, falling to 1,790. At the industry level, leisure and hospitality led Wasco County, rising by 70 jobs in July to reach 1,260. Private industry also added jobs in construction (+10); transportation, warehousing, and utilities (+10); information (+10); and other services (+10). Summer recess cut employment in local government education by 170 jobs in July, dropping its total to 560.

Wasco County's private industry employment rose by 360 jobs or 4.5% over the year ending in July. Other services produced private industry's largest gain, rising by 110 jobs or 33.3% to reach 440. Information increased its payrolls by 60 jobs, climbing to 310 (+24%), and retail trade rose by 50 to reach 1,720. Construction (+40); transportation, warehousing, and utilities (+40); professional and business services (+30); education and health services (+30); and wholesale trade (+20) also rose over the year. Job losses hit manufacturing (-40) and financial activities (-10). In the public sector, local education rose by 60 jobs over the year to reach 560 and other local government increased its total by 30.

Gilliam County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.2 percentage point in July to 5.1%, ranking ninth out of 36 Oregon counties, trailing Yamhill (5.0%). Over the year, Gilliam County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 2.4 percentage points. Gilliam County's nonfarm employment fell to 800 jobs in July, a loss of 20. Over the year, Gilliam County's private industry total fell by 165 jobs, a loss of 22.6%, to total 565. Government cut five jobs over the year, falling to 235.

Sherman County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.2 percentage point in July to 4.4%, good enough to rank fourth in Oregon, trailing Malheur (4.3%) but just ahead of Washington (4.5%). Over the year, Sherman County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 2.3 percentage points. Sherman County's nonfarm employment fell by 10 jobs in July to 945. Private industry rose by 15 jobs to reach 625, while government cut 25, falling to 320. Over the year ending in July, private industry lost 10 jobs and government idled five.

Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dropped to 3.2% in July, holding its claim to Oregon's lowest county unemployment rate. Over the year Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 1.2 percentage points. Nonfarm employment totaled 290 jobs in July, with private industry holding steady and government cutting 20. Over the year ending in July, private industry rose by 20 jobs to reach 180 and government held steady with 110.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the August 2021 county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Sep. 21st, 2021 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for August on Sep. 14th, 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--				
	July 2021	June 2021	July 2020	June 2021	July 2020
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	920	929	1,019	-9	-99
Unemployed	42	46	76	-4	-34
Unemployment rate	4.6%	5.0%	7.5%	-0.4	-2.9
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.1%	5.3%	7.5%	-0.2	-2.4
Employed	878	883	943	-5	-65
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	800	820	970	-20	-170
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	780	780	950	0	-170
Total private	565	575	730	-10	-165
Trade, transportation, and utilities	140	135	140	5	0
Professional and business services	235	245	235	-10	0
Education and health services	65	70	65	-5	0
Leisure and hospitality	40	35	40	5	0
Government	235	245	240	-10	-5
Federal government	10	15	10	-5	0
State government	5	5	5	0	0
Local government	220	225	225	-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.

Hood River County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	July 2021	June 2021	July 2020	June 2021	July 2020
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	16,363	14,867	15,178	1,496	1,185
Unemployed	696	750	1,147	-54	-451
Unemployment rate	4.3%	5.0%	7.6%	-0.7	-3.3
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.9%	5.1%	7.8%	-0.2	-2.9
Employed	15,667	14,117	14,031	1,550	1,636
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	11,430	11,470	10,680	-40	750
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	11,550	11,490	10,790	60	760
Total private	10,180	10,060	9,480	120	700
Mining, logging, and construction	570	560	530	10	40
Manufacturing	1,830	1,820	1,690	10	140
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,980	2,010	1,990	-30	-10
Wholesale trade	330	400	420	-70	-90
Retail trade	1,460	1,420	1,400	40	60
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	190	190	170	0	20
Information	90	90	100	0	-10
Financial activities	320	320	330	0	-10
Professional and business services	1,030	1,020	1,000	10	30
Education and health services	1,830	1,830	1,710	0	120
Leisure and hospitality	2,170	2,060	1,750	110	420
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	290	270	240	20	50
Accommodation and food services	1,880	1,790	1,510	90	370
Accommodation	510	490	400	20	110
Food services and drinking places	1,370	1,300	1,110	70	260
Other services	360	350	380	10	-20
Government	1,250	1,410	1,200	-160	50
Federal government	160	160	150	0	10
State government	100	100	100	0	0
Local government	990	1,150	950	-160	40
Local education	470	650	450	-180	20
Local government excluding educational services	520	500	500	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.

Sherman County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	July 2021	June 2021	July 2020	June 2021	July 2020
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	1,029	1,009	993	20	36
Unemployed	41	42	66	-1	-25
Unemployment rate	4.0%	4.2%	6.6%	-0.2	-2.6
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.4%	4.6%	6.7%	-0.2	-2.3
Employed	988	967	927	21	61
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	945	955	960	-10	-15
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	910	900	920	10	-10
Total private	625	610	635	15	-10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	305	305	320	0	-15
Retail trade	130	130	145	0	-15
Leisure and hospitality	105	100	85	5	20
Government	320	345	325	-25	-5
Federal government	125	125	125	0	0
State government	45	45	45	0	0
Local government	150	175	155	-25	-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--				
	July 2021	June 2021	July 2020	June 2021	July 2020
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	18,351	17,192	17,154	1,159	1,197
Unemployed	664	712	1,152	-48	-488
Unemployment rate	3.6%	4.1%	6.7%	-0.5	-3.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.6%	5.8%	8.3%	-0.2	-2.7
Employed	17,687	16,480	16,002	1,207	1,685
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	10,160	10,300	9,720	-140	440
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	9,970	9,860	9,540	110	430
Total private	8,370	8,320	8,010	50	360
Mining, logging, and construction	450	440	410	10	40
Mining and logging	60	60	60	0	0
Construction	390	380	350	10	40
Manufacturing	530	530	570	0	-40
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,200	2,190	2,090	10	110
Wholesale trade	180	180	160	0	20
Retail trade	1,720	1,720	1,670	0	50
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	300	290	260	10	40
Information	310	300	250	10	60
Financial activities	320	320	330	0	-10
Professional and business services	510	510	480	0	30
Education and health services	2,350	2,410	2,320	-60	30
Ambulatory health care services	470	470	440	0	30
Nursing and residential care facilities	530	530	580	0	-50
Leisure and hospitality	1,260	1,190	1,230	70	30
Accommodation and food services	1,160	1,130	1,130	30	30
Other services	440	430	330	10	110
Government	1,790	1,980	1,710	-190	80
Federal government	270	280	290	-10	-20
State government	270	270	260	0	10
Local government	1,250	1,430	1,160	-180	90
Indian tribal	10	10	10	0	0
Local education	560	730	500	-170	60
Local government excluding education and tribal	680	690	650	-10	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.

Wheeler County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	July 2021	June 2021	July 2020	June 2021	July 2020
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	719	744	640	-25	79
Unemployed	19	20	30	-1	-11
Unemployment rate	2.6%	2.7%	4.7%	-0.1	-2.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.2%	3.5%	4.4%	-0.3	-1.2
Employed	700	724	610	-24	90
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	290	310	270	-20	20
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	290	300	270	-10	20
Total private	180	180	160	0	20
Trade, transportation, and utilities	35	35	40	0	-5
Leisure and hospitality	25	25	20	0	5
Government	110	130	110	-20	0
Federal government	5	5	5	0	0
State government	0	0	0	0	0
Local government	105	125	105	-20	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.