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Employment in Eastern Oregon: October 2018

Unemployment Rates Rise, but Nonfarm Employment Rises Too

Preliminary estimates for October show an increase in the raw unemployment rate in four of Eastern Oregon's six counties over the year. Grant County (+0.5 percentage point) saw the largest increase while Union (+0.1 percentage point) saw the smallest. Harney County's raw rate fell 0.5 percentage point while Baker County's rate inched down 0.1 percentage point. Over the year, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose in three counties and dropped in three. Grant and Wallowa saw this measure of unemployment increase by 0.2 percentage point while Malheur saw the rate nudge up 0.1 percentage point. Union, Baker, and Harney saw the seasonally adjusted rate decrease by 0.1 percentage point, 0.4 percentage point, and 0.7 percentage point, respectively. Total nonfarm employment gained ground in five counties over the year. Grant County's total nonfarm was unchanged.

Baker County's nonfarm payroll employment increased by 100 since October 2017. The private sector gained 140 jobs while the public sector dropped 40. Private education and health services picked up 100 jobs over the year to lead gains. Professional and business services (-50) led losses in the private sector while state government (-30) led losses in the public sector. Over the month, total employment picked up by 30. Leisure and hospitality continued to scale back, countering small gains in a few private industries. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate climbed 0.2 percentage point in October to 5.1 percent. The raw rate rose 0.5 percentage point to 4.7 percent.

Grant County's nonfarm payroll employment was unchanged over the year. The private sector added 10 jobs, and the public sector countered with a loss of 10. Financial activities (-20) led losses while mining and logging (+20) led gains. Over the month, nonfarm employment fell by 40 jobs as seasonal help dropped off in leisure and hospitality as well as federal and state government. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose 0.3 percentage point in October to reach 6.6 percent. The raw rate rose 0.4 percentage point to 5.1 percent.

Harney County's nonfarm payroll employment increased by 40 over the year. The private sector added 100 jobs while the public sector dropped 60. Education and health services picked up 30 jobs to lead growth. State government dropped 50 jobs to lead losses. Moving into the new month, nonfarm payroll employment dipped by 30 with light seasonal shedding. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate nudged up 0.1 percentage point over the month to 5.7 percent. The raw rate rose 0.5 percentage point to 5.0 percent.

Nonfarm payroll employment in Malheur County grew by 90 over the year. The private sector gained 70 jobs while the public sector gained 20. On the private side, education and health services (+140) led an upward push, with mining, logging, and construction (+50) showing sizeable growth as well. Wholesale trade (-100) saw the largest decrease. On the public side, local government added 150 jobs while state government dropped 90. Nonfarm employment grew by 160 over the month, with gains in several industries. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was up 0.2 percentage point over the month at 4.4 percent. The raw rate rose 0.5 percentage point to reach 4.1 percent.

Union County's nonfarm payroll employment increased by 120 jobs over the year. Growth in the private sector accounted for the overall gain. Education and health services (+100) led gains in private employment. State government saw a shift in the opposite direction with a loss of 120. Over the month, nonfarm employment rose by 240 with strong seasonal gains in local government education. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose 0.3 percentage point to 5.1 percent in October. The raw rate rose 0.3 percentage point as well to 4.8 percent.

Wallowa County's nonfarm payroll employment rose by 30 from October 2017 to October 2018. The private sector picked up 50 jobs while the public sector shed 20. A gain of 70 in education and health services led growth. State government led losses, down 60. Over the month, total nonfarm employment fell by 100; largely from seasonal losses led by leisure and hospitality. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate nudged up 0.1 percentage point for the month to 5.7 percent. The raw rate jumped 1.0 percentage point to 4.6 percent.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the November county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Thursday, December 27 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for November on Tuesday, December 18.

Baker County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

				--Change From--	
	Oct. 2018	Sept. 2018	Oct. 2017	Sept. 2018	Oct. 2017
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	7,181	7,042	7,258	139	-77
Unemployed	339	299	350	40	-11
Unemployment rate	4.7%	4.2%	4.8%	0.5	-0.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.1%	4.9%	5.5%	0.2	-0.4
Employed	6,842	6,743	6,908	99	-66
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	5,590	5,560	5,490	30	100
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5,500	5,440	5,400	60	100
Total private	4,400	4,380	4,260	20	140
Mining, logging, and construction	330	320	320	10	10
Mining and logging	30	30	50	0	-20
Construction	300	290	270	10	30
Manufacturing	560	560	530	0	30
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,160	1,130	1,110	30	50
Wholesale trade	70	70	80	0	-10
Retail trade	850	820	810	30	40
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	240	240	220	0	20
Information	50	50	50	0	0
Financial activities	180	180	180	0	0
Professional and business services	280	270	330	10	-50
Education and health services	980	970	880	10	100
Leisure and hospitality	640	680	620	-40	20
Other services	220	220	240	0	-20
Government	1,190	1,180	1,230	10	-40
Federal government	220	230	220	-10	0
State government	220	220	250	0	-30
Local government	750	730	760	20	-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.

Grant County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	Oct. 2018	Sept. 2018	Oct. 2017	--Change From--	
				Sept. 2018	Oct. 2017
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	3,137	3,207	3,186	-70	-49
Unemployed	160	152	146	8	14
Unemployment rate	5.1%	4.7%	4.6%	0.4	0.5
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	6.6%	6.3%	6.4%	0.3	0.2
Employed	2,977	3,055	3,040	-78	-63
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	2,440	2,480	2,440	-40	0
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	2,360	2,350	2,360	10	0
Total private	1,340	1,370	1,330	-30	10
Mining, logging, and construction	200	200	180	0	20
Mining and logging	130	130	110	0	20
Construction	70	70	70	0	0
Manufacturing	130	120	130	10	0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	310	310	310	0	0
Wholesale trade	20	20	30	0	-10
Retail trade	240	240	230	0	10
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	50	50	50	0	0
Information	50	50	50	0	0
Financial activities	60	60	80	0	-20
Professional and business services	100	110	110	-10	-10
Education and health services	190	190	190	0	0
Leisure and hospitality	220	250	210	-30	10
Other services	80	80	70	0	10
Government	1,100	1,110	1,110	-10	-10
Federal government	310	330	320	-20	-10
State government	150	170	160	-20	-10
Local government	640	610	630	30	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.

Harney County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	Oct. 2018	Sept. 2018	Oct. 2017	--Change From--	
				Sept. 2018	Oct. 2017
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	3,435	3,467	3,495	-32	-60
Unemployed	171	157	193	14	-22
Unemployment rate	5.0%	4.5%	5.5%	0.5	-0.5
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.7%	5.6%	6.4%	0.1	-0.7
Employed	3,264	3,310	3,302	-46	-38
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	2,340	2,370	2,300	-30	40
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	2,300	2,280	2,260	20	40
Total private	1,290	1,300	1,190	-10	100
Goods-producing	140	140	130	0	10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	430	430	420	0	10
Wholesale trade	50	50	60	0	-10
Retail trade	330	330	310	0	20
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	50	50	50	0	0
Information	10	10	10	0	0
Financial activities	70	70	70	0	0
Professional and business services	70	80	50	-10	20
Education and health services	220	210	190	10	30
Leisure and hospitality	280	290	260	-10	20
Other services	70	70	60	0	10
Government	1,050	1,070	1,110	-20	-60
Federal government	260	280	250	-20	10
State government	100	100	150	0	-50
Local government	690	690	710	0	-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.

Malheur County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	Oct. 2018	Sept. 2018	Oct. 2017	--Change From--	
				Sept. 2018	Oct. 2017
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	12,775	12,767	12,871	8	-96
Unemployed	525	462	489	63	36
Unemployment rate	4.1%	3.6%	3.8%	0.5	0.3
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.4%	4.2%	4.3%	0.2	0.1
Employed	12,250	12,305	12,382	-55	-132
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	12,300	12,140	12,210	160	90
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	11,970	12,060	11,880	-90	90
Total private	8,810	8,700	8,740	110	70
Mining, logging, and construction	470	480	420	-10	50
Manufacturing	1,020	1,030	1,060	-10	-40
Trade, transportation, and utilities	3,070	2,970	3,140	100	-70
Wholesale trade	690	660	790	30	-100
Retail trade	1,910	1,890	1,900	20	10
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	470	420	450	50	20
Information	190	190	200	0	-10
Financial activities	320	320	300	0	20
Professional and business services	450	420	470	30	-20
Education and health services	1,760	1,740	1,620	20	140
Leisure and hospitality	1,210	1,230	1,190	-20	20
Other services	320	320	340	0	-20
Government	3,490	3,440	3,470	50	20
Federal government	190	220	230	-30	-40
State government	1,180	1,190	1,270	-10	-90
Local government	2,120	2,030	1,970	90	150

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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.

Union County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	Oct. 2018	Sept. 2018	Oct. 2017	--Change From--	
				Sept. 2018	Oct. 2017
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	12,052	11,885	12,158	167	-106
Unemployed	580	534	572	46	8
Unemployment rate	4.8%	4.5%	4.7%	0.3	0.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.1%	4.8%	5.2%	0.3	-0.1
Employed	11,472	11,351	11,586	121	-114
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	10,530	10,290	10,410	240	120
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	10,370	10,350	10,250	20	120
Total private	8,010	8,030	7,790	-20	220
Mining, logging, and construction	520	530	540	-10	-20
Mining and logging	50	50	50	0	0
Construction	470	480	490	-10	-20
Manufacturing	1,300	1,310	1,310	-10	-10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,210	2,210	2,160	0	50
Wholesale trade	220	220	220	0	0
Retail trade	1,470	1,460	1,430	10	40
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	520	530	510	-10	10
Information	110	120	110	-10	0
Financial activities	320	310	310	10	10
Professional and business services	480	490	450	-10	30
Education and health services	1,720	1,700	1,620	20	100
Leisure and hospitality	1,070	1,080	1,000	-10	70
Other services	280	280	290	0	-10
Government	2,520	2,260	2,620	260	-100
Federal government	270	290	240	-20	30
State government	350	360	470	-10	-120
Local government	1,900	1,610	1,910	290	-10

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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.

Wallowa County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	Oct. 2018	Sept. 2018	Oct. 2017	--Change From--	
				Sept. 2018	Oct. 2017
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	3,330	3,429	3,440	-99	-110
Unemployed	153	125	144	28	9
Unemployment rate	4.6%	3.6%	4.2%	1.0	0.4
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.7%	5.6%	5.5%	0.1	0.2
Employed	3,177	3,304	3,296	-127	-119
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	2,600	2,700	2,570	-100	30
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	2,530	2,500	2,500	30	30
Total private	1,900	2,010	1,850	-110	50
Mining, logging, and construction	240	240	260	0	-20
Mining and logging	70	70	90	0	-20
Construction	170	170	170	0	0
Manufacturing	150	170	150	-20	0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	480	500	470	-20	10
Wholesale and retail trade	380	390	370	-10	10
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	100	110	100	-10	0
Information	20	20	20	0	0
Financial activities	150	150	130	0	20
Professional and business services	120	120	140	0	-20
Education and health services	360	370	290	-10	70
Leisure and hospitality	280	340	290	-60	-10
Other services	100	100	100	0	0
Government	700	690	720	10	-20
Federal government	100	110	80	-10	20
State government	90	100	150	-10	-60
Local government	510	480	490	30	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.

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.

Note on Home Care Workers:

Effective January 2018, Oregon home care workers who receive payments through the Department of Human Services are now counted in private education and health services instead of state government. This change affects the classification of approximately 17,000 home care workers in Oregon. 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 December 2018. It does not affect total payroll employment levels.

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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.