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Employment in Eastern Oregon: January 2019

Partial Fed Shutdown Gives Extra Push in Grant and Harney

Grant and Harney counties saw a large jump in unemployment in January 2019. Ongoing seasonal downscaling continued as the primary factor in over-the-month change; however, the partial federal government shutdown gave a solid shove to unemployment in both counties, pushing over-the-year marks up as well. Federal employment accounted for 11.6 percent of nonfarm employment in Grant County and 10.1 percent of nonfarm employment in Harney County in 2018, based on annual averages. Federal employment was a significantly smaller share of nonfarm employment in all other Eastern Oregon counties, which saw no noticeable difference between over-the-month unemployment change in January 2018 and change in January 2019. Furloughed federal employees were classified as unemployed on temporary layoff under household survey definitions used to calculate labor force statistics such as the unemployment rate and the number of unemployed. These employees were classified as employed, however, under establishment survey definitions used to calculate total nonfarm and industry level employment. Therefore, the shutdown had no discernible direct impact on industry level employment in all six Eastern Oregon counties.

Estimates for January show the raw unemployment rate increased in five Eastern Oregon counties over the year. Grant County was on the high end with an increase of 3.6 percentage points while Malheur County was on the low end with an increase of 0.6 percentage point. Baker County's raw rate slipped 0.1 percentage point lower over the year. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased as well in five counties over the year. Grant County (+1.7 percentage points) was on the high end of the increase while Harney and Malheur counties (+0.6 percentage point) shared the low end. Baker County's seasonally adjusted rate was unchanged over the year.

Total nonfarm employment split three ways over the year. Nonfarm employment gained ground in two counties, went unchanged in two counties, and decreased in two counties. The civilian labor force grew by 4.6 percent in Wallowa County to reach 3,248 in January 2019. Labor force growth was slightly less than 2.5 percent in Grant and Harney counties, less than 0.3 percent in Baker County, and flat in Union County. Malheur County saw the labor force dip by 0.3 percent over the year.

Baker County's nonfarm payroll employment increased by 70 since January 2018. The private sector gained 110 jobs while the public sector dropped 40. Manufacturing shared the top spot for growth with education and health services; both industries picked up 40 jobs over the year to lead gains. Over the month, total employment fell by 150 with seasonal losses across the board. Construction dropped the

most, down 40. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by 0.3 percentage point in January to 5.6 percent. The raw rate increased by 1.8 percentage points to 7.5 percent.

Grant County's nonfarm payroll employment slipped by 40 over the year. The private sector shed 30 jobs while the public sector shed 10. Financial activities saw the largest loss, down 20. Over the month, nonfarm employment dropped by 80 with half the loss from local government. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased by 1.1 percentage points in January to reach 8.5 percent. The raw rate jumped 6.1 percentage points to 15.1 percent.

Harney County's nonfarm payroll employment went unchanged over the year. The private sector added 20 jobs while the public sector dropped 20. Leisure and hospitality led growth, up 20 jobs. Local government led losses, down 30 jobs. Moving into the new month, nonfarm payroll employment dropped by 80 with more seasonal shedding in a few industries. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose 1.0 percentage point over the month to 7.2 percent. The raw rate jumped 4.3 percentage points to 11.6 percent.

Malheur County's nonfarm payroll employment dipped by 40 over the year. The private sector fell by 180 jobs while the public sector gained 140. On the private side, education and health services (-60) led losses. Manufacturing and professional and business services were not far behind, both down 50. On the public side, local government added 110 jobs to lead growth. Nonfarm employment fell 220 over the month with large cuts in local government and retail trade. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased by 0.2 percentage point over the month to 5.1 percent. The raw rate rose 1.5 percentage points to reach 6.8 percent.

Union County's total nonfarm payroll employment was unchanged over the year. The private sector dropped 50 jobs as the public sector added 50 to cancel the loss. Leisure and hospitality led private-sector gains, increasing by 50. Local government led public-sector gains, up 50. Manufacturing encountered a large setback, losing 120 jobs since January 2018. Over the month, nonfarm employment fell by 250 as seasonal losses occurred across the board. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose 0.4 percentage point to 6.0 percent in January. The raw rate increased 1.8 percentage points to 7.8 percent.

Wallowa County's nonfarm payroll employment increased by 120 from January 2018 to January 2019. The private sector picked up 80 jobs while the public sector picked up 40. Growth occurred in several industries. Over the month, total nonfarm employment fell by 90 with light losses in several industries. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by 0.3 percentage point for the month to 6.5 percent. The raw rate jumped 2.2 percentage points to 9.5 percent.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the February county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, March 26 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for February on Tuesday, March 19.

Baker County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	Jan. 2019	Dec. 2018	Jan. 2018	Dec. 2018	Jan. 2018
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	6,906	6,931	6,888	-25	18
Unemployed	521	396	524	125	-3
Unemployment rate	7.5%	5.7%	7.6%	1.8	-0.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.6%	5.3%	5.6%	0.3	0.0
Employed	6,385	6,535	6,364	-150	21
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	5,250	5,400	5,180	-150	70
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5,470	5,420	5,400	50	70
Total private	4,170	4,270	4,060	-100	110
Mining, logging, and construction	260	300	260	-40	0
Mining and logging	30	30	30	0	0
Construction	230	270	230	-40	0
Manufacturing	580	570	540	10	40
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,080	1,110	1,070	-30	10
Wholesale trade	70	70	80	0	-10
Retail trade	780	800	770	-20	10
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	230	240	220	-10	10
Information	40	50	50	-10	-10
Financial activities	170	180	170	-10	0
Professional and business services	270	270	280	0	-10
Education and health services	990	980	950	10	40
Leisure and hospitality	560	590	540	-30	20
Other services	220	220	200	0	20
Government	1,080	1,130	1,120	-50	-40
Federal government	170	180	170	-10	0
State government	190	210	200	-20	-10
Local government	720	740	750	-20	-30

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

	--Change From--				
	Jan. 2019	Dec. 2018	Jan. 2018	Dec. 2018	Jan. 2018
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	3,102	3,050	3,033	52	69
Unemployed	467	275	349	192	118
Unemployment rate	15.1%	9.0%	11.5%	6.1	3.6
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	8.5%	7.4%	6.8%	1.1	1.7
Employed	2,635	2,775	2,684	-140	-49
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	2,140	2,220	2,180	-80	-40
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	2,300	2,290	2,340	10	-40
Total private	1,200	1,240	1,230	-40	-30
Mining, logging, and construction	160	180	160	-20	0
Mining and logging	110	120	110	-10	0
Construction	50	60	50	-10	0
Manufacturing	120	120	130	0	-10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	300	310	290	-10	10
Wholesale trade	20	20	20	0	0
Retail trade	230	230	230	0	0
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	50	60	40	-10	10
Information	40	40	50	0	-10
Financial activities	50	50	70	0	-20
Professional and business services	100	100	100	0	0
Education and health services	190	190	200	0	-10
Leisure and hospitality	180	190	170	-10	10
Other services	60	60	60	0	0
Government	940	980	950	-40	-10
Federal government	190	190	200	0	-10
State government	120	120	110	0	10
Local government	630	670	640	-40	-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.

Harney County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	Jan. 2019	Dec. 2018	Jan. 2018	Dec. 2018	Jan. 2018
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	3,439	3,376	3,357	63	82
Unemployed	398	246	308	152	90
Unemployment rate	11.6%	7.3%	9.2%	4.3	2.4
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	7.2%	6.2%	6.6%	1.0	0.6
Employed	3,041	3,130	3,049	-89	-8
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	2,140	2,220	2,140	-80	0
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	2,270	2,270	2,280	0	-10
Total private	1,190	1,230	1,170	-40	20
Goods-producing	100	110	100	-10	0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	420	430	410	-10	10
Wholesale trade	50	50	50	0	0
Retail trade	320	330	310	-10	10
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	50	50	50	0	0
Information	10	10	10	0	0
Financial activities	70	70	60	0	10
Professional and business services	70	70	70	0	0
Education and health services	220	220	240	0	-20
Leisure and hospitality	240	260	220	-20	20
Other services	60	60	60	0	0
Government	950	990	970	-40	-20
Federal government	170	200	170	-30	0
State government	110	120	100	-10	10
Local government	670	670	700	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.

Malheur County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	Jan. 2019	Dec. 2018	Jan. 2018	Dec. 2018	Jan. 2018
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	12,231	12,324	12,268	-93	-37
Unemployed	833	649	762	184	71
Unemployment rate	6.8%	5.3%	6.2%	1.5	0.6
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.1%	4.9%	4.5%	0.2	0.6
Employed	11,398	11,675	11,506	-277	-108
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	11,680	11,900	11,720	-220	-40
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	11,820	11,860	11,860	-40	-40
Total private	8,320	8,420	8,500	-100	-180
Mining, logging, and construction	410	420	420	-10	-10
Manufacturing	1,020	1,020	1,070	0	-50
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,840	2,890	2,850	-50	-10
Wholesale trade	510	510	540	0	-30
Retail trade	1,890	1,940	1,900	-50	-10
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	440	440	410	0	30
Information	190	190	190	0	0
Financial activities	310	320	310	-10	0
Professional and business services	380	370	430	10	-50
Education and health services	1,680	1,680	1,740	0	-60
Leisure and hospitality	1,150	1,180	1,180	-30	-30
Other services	340	350	310	-10	30
Government	3,360	3,480	3,220	-120	140
Federal government	180	200	170	-20	10
State government	1,140	1,150	1,120	-10	20
Local government	2,040	2,130	1,930	-90	110

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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

	--Change From--				
	Jan. 2019	Dec. 2018	Jan. 2018	Dec. 2018	Jan. 2018
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	11,846	11,870	11,844	-24	2
Unemployed	924	713	846	211	78
Unemployment rate	7.8%	6.0%	7.1%	1.8	0.7
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>6.0%</i>	<i>5.6%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>0.4</i>	<i>0.7</i>
Employed	10,922	11,157	10,998	-235	-76
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	10,080	10,330	10,080	-250	0
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>10,300</i>	<i>10,270</i>	<i>10,300</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>0</i>
Total private	7,670	7,850	7,720	-180	-50
Mining, logging, and construction	470	510	460	-40	10
Mining and logging	40	40	50	0	-10
Construction	430	470	410	-40	20
Manufacturing	1,200	1,200	1,320	0	-120
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,120	2,180	2,100	-60	20
Wholesale trade	220	220	220	0	0
Retail trade	1,420	1,460	1,390	-40	30
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	480	500	490	-20	-10
Information	100	110	110	-10	-10
Financial activities	300	320	300	-20	0
Professional and business services	420	440	420	-20	0
Education and health services	1,740	1,770	1,720	-30	20
Leisure and hospitality	1,060	1,050	1,010	10	50
Other services	260	270	280	-10	-20
Government	2,410	2,480	2,360	-70	50
Federal government	170	180	180	-10	-10
State government	350	360	340	-10	10
Local government	1,890	1,940	1,840	-50	50

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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.

Wallowa County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	Jan. 2019	Dec. 2018	Jan. 2018	Dec. 2018	Jan. 2018
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	3,248	3,232	3,105	16	143
Unemployed	310	236	264	74	46
Unemployment rate	9.5%	7.3%	8.5%	2.2	1.0
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	6.5%	6.2%	5.5%	0.3	1.0
Employed	2,938	2,996	2,841	-58	97
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	2,370	2,460	2,250	-90	120
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	2,610	2,590	2,480	20	130
Total private	1,740	1,820	1,660	-80	80
Mining, logging, and construction	220	240	230	-20	-10
Mining and logging	80	90	80	-10	0
Construction	140	150	150	-10	-10
Manufacturing	140	150	140	-10	0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	450	460	420	-10	30
Wholesale and retail trade	360	370	340	-10	20
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	90	90	80	0	10
Information	20	20	20	0	0
Financial activities	140	150	120	-10	20
Professional and business services	110	120	100	-10	10
Education and health services	380	370	360	10	20
Leisure and hospitality	190	220	170	-30	20
Other services	90	90	100	0	-10
Government	630	640	590	-10	40
Federal government	70	70	60	0	10
State government	80	90	60	-10	20
Local government	480	480	470	0	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.

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.

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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.