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CONTACT INFORMATION:
Chris Rich, Regional Economist
Christopher.M.Rich@oregon.gov
(541) 519-0315

Employment in Eastern Oregon: July 2021

Raw Rates at Pre-Pandemic Lows, Seasonal Rates Close

Comparing July 2021 with July 2020 shows decreasing unemployment rates in all Eastern Oregon counties. The largest over-the-year decrease came in Union County where the raw rate dropped 4.4 percentage points to reach 4.7%. The smallest decrease came in Harney County where the raw rate dropped 2.0 percentage points to 4.1%. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased in all Eastern Oregon counties as well. Union County saw the largest decrease, falling 3.6 percentage points to 5.8%. Malheur County saw the smallest decrease over the year, dropping 1.6 percentage points to 4.6%.

Baker County's nonfarm payroll employment rose by 150 since July 2020. Employment increased by 200 jobs in the private sector and decreased by 50 jobs in the public sector. The overall gain brings employment to 80 jobs above where it was in March 2020, prior to the start of the pandemic, but leaves the county 120 jobs shy of where it was in July 2019. Leisure and hospitality accounted for the gap. The industry added 70 jobs over the year, but struggled to reach seasonal expectations in July, remaining 120 jobs below the 2019 mark. Overall employment decreased by 80 over the month as local government saw seasonal reductions in education, dropping by 140. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate slid 0.3 percentage point in July to 5.4%. The raw rate dropped 0.5 percentage point to 4.4%.

Grant County's nonfarm payroll employment increased by 70 over the year. Gains came in the private sector as the public sector held flat. The overall increase brings the county 110 jobs above its pre-pandemic March 2020 level. Over the month, total employment decreased by 30. Local government shed 110 jobs, largely through seasonal reductions in education. Small gains came in a few private-sector industries. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased 0.3 percentage point in July to 6.9%. The raw unemployment rate dropped 0.6 percentage point to 4.5%.

Harney County's nonfarm payroll employment rose by 110 jobs over the year. The increase was strongest in the private sector, up 70. The overall increase represents a full recovery of pandemic-induced losses. Local government, along with the goods producing industry showed the strongest gains for the year, each up 30. Total employment rose by 40 jobs over the month as local government tacked on 30. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate inched down over the month to 5.1%. The raw unemployment rate dipped 0.2 percentage point to 4.1%.

Malheur County's nonfarm payroll employment increased by 250 over the year. Private-sector employment added 80 jobs while public-sector employment added 170. The overall increase makes Malheur's July job count the highest on record back to 2002. Retail trade added 50 jobs, marking industry growth over the year amid a 10.4% employment gain since July 2019. Local government added 140 jobs for a full recovery. Leisure and hospitality recovered most of the jobs lost at the start of the pandemic, but the industry remains hampered by hiring difficulties and sits below the seasonal expectation. Over the month, total employment fell by 340 jobs with a large seasonal reduction in local government education. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased 0.3 percentage point over the month to 4.3%. The raw unemployment rate inched up 0.1 percentage point for the month to 4.3%.

Union County's total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 500 over the year. The private sector added 370 while the public sector added 130. The overall gain leaves the county 240 jobs below both the pre-pandemic March 2020 level and the July 2019 level; Union lost 1,400 jobs at the start of the pandemic. Leisure and hospitality regained nearly 80% of jobs lost, but remained roughly 100 shy of recovery. Manufacturing regained nearly all jobs lost. Total employment dropped by 120 over the month, mainly from seasonal cuts in local government education. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate slid 0.3 percentage point in July to 5.8%. The raw unemployment rate slid 0.3 percentage point to 4.7%.

Wallowa County's nonfarm payroll employment rose by 190 from July 2020 to July 2021. The overall gain represents a full recovery plus growth. The county's total employment in July was 70 jobs above the July 2019 level, making it the highest July level since at least 2001. Total nonfarm employment rose by 60 over the month, with seasonal gains in leisure and hospitality beating out seasonal losses in local government education. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate inched down 0.1 percentage point for the month to 5.4%. The raw unemployment rate dropped 0.8 percentage point to 3.8% in July.

For info on Unemployment Insurance benefits: [Govstatus.egov.com/ORUnemployment_COVID19](https://govstatus.egov.com/ORUnemployment_COVID19)

For more data and analysis related to COVID-19: Qualityinfo.org/covid-19

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the August county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, Sep. 21 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for August on Tuesday, Sep. 14.

Baker County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	July 2021	June 2021	July 2020	--Change From--	
				June 2021	July 2020
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	7,502	7,567	7,105	-65	397
Unemployed	330	371	618	-41	-288
Unemployment rate	4.4%	4.9%	8.7%	-0.5	-4.3
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.4%	5.7%	8.7%	-0.3	-3.3
Employed	7,172	7,196	6,487	-24	685
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	5,490	5,570	5,340	-80	150
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5,430	5,420	5,290	10	140
Total private	4,430	4,390	4,230	40	200
Mining, logging, and construction	310	310	310	0	0
Mining and logging	10	10	30	0	-20
Construction	300	300	280	0	20
Manufacturing	570	570	550	0	20
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,210	1,200	1,170	10	40
Wholesale trade	80	80	80	0	0
Retail trade	880	870	850	10	30
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	250	250	240	0	10
Information	60	60	40	0	20
Financial activities	140	140	140	0	0
Professional and business services	360	350	340	10	20
Education and health services	990	1,000	980	-10	10
Leisure and hospitality	600	570	530	30	70
Other services	190	190	170	0	20
Government	1,060	1,180	1,110	-120	-50
Federal government	250	230	240	20	10
State government	220	220	220	0	0
Local government	590	730	650	-140	-60

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

	July 2021	June 2021	July 2020	--Change From--	
				June 2021	July 2020
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	3,396	3,401	3,180	-5	216
Unemployed	153	175	255	-22	-102
Unemployment rate	4.5%	5.1%	8.0%	-0.6	-3.5
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	6.9%	7.2%	9.8%	-0.3	-2.9
Employed	3,243	3,226	2,925	17	318
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	2,470	2,500	2,400	-30	70
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>2,340</i>	<i>2,320</i>	<i>2,280</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>60</i>
Total private	1,420	1,360	1,350	60	70
Mining, logging, and construction	210	200	210	10	0
Mining and logging	150	140	140	10	10
Construction	60	60	70	0	-10
Manufacturing	100	100	100	0	0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	360	350	330	10	30
Wholesale trade	40	40	30	0	10
Retail trade	270	260	250	10	20
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	50	50	50	0	0
Information	40	40	40	0	0
Financial activities	60	60	60	0	0
Professional and business services	120	120	110	0	10
Education and health services	200	200	200	0	0
Leisure and hospitality	240	220	240	20	0
Other services	90	70	60	20	30
Government	1,050	1,140	1,050	-90	0
Federal government	340	330	340	10	0
State government	150	140	160	10	-10
Local government	560	670	550	-110	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--				
	July 2021	June 2021	July 2020	June 2021	July 2020
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	3,884	3,800	3,566	84	318
Unemployed	158	164	218	-6	-60
Unemployment rate	4.1%	4.3%	6.1%	-0.2	-2.0
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.1%	5.2%	7.0%	-0.1	-1.9
Employed	3,726	3,636	3,348	90	378
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	2,470	2,430	2,360	40	110
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	2,370	2,340	2,260	30	110
Total private	1,400	1,400	1,330	0	70
Goods-producing	140	130	110	10	30
Trade, transportation, and utilities	460	460	440	0	20
Wholesale trade	60	60	60	0	0
Retail trade	350	350	330	0	20
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	50	50	50	0	0
Information	10	10	10	0	0
Financial activities	50	50	50	0	0
Professional and business services	130	130	120	0	10
Education and health services	210	230	210	-20	0
Leisure and hospitality	330	320	320	10	10
Other services	70	70	70	0	0
Government	1,070	1,030	1,030	40	40
Federal government	280	270	290	10	-10
State government	130	130	110	0	20
Local government	660	630	630	30	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--				
	July 2021	June 2021	July 2020	June 2021	July 2020
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	13,155	13,263	12,244	-108	911
Unemployed	567	563	835	4	-268
Unemployment rate	4.3%	4.2%	6.8%	0.1	-2.5
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.3%	4.6%	5.9%	-0.3	-1.6
Employed	12,588	12,700	11,409	-112	1,179
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	11,740	12,080	11,490	-340	250
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>12,170</i>	<i>12,040</i>	<i>11,850</i>	<i>130</i>	<i>320</i>
Total private	8,620	8,730	8,540	-110	80
Mining, logging, and construction	400	400	420	0	-20
Manufacturing	1,090	1,100	1,120	-10	-30
Trade, transportation, and utilities	3,030	3,080	2,950	-50	80
Wholesale trade	430	450	420	-20	10
Retail trade	2,220	2,250	2,170	-30	50
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	380	380	360	0	20
Information	150	150	170	0	-20
Financial activities	280	280	290	0	-10
Professional and business services	480	490	420	-10	60
Education and health services	1,750	1,800	1,690	-50	60
Leisure and hospitality	1,110	1,100	1,110	10	0
Other services	330	330	370	0	-40
Government	3,120	3,350	2,950	-230	170
Federal government	230	230	240	0	-10
State government	1,240	1,240	1,200	0	40
Local government	1,650	1,880	1,510	-230	140

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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.

Union 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	12,487	12,435	11,629	52	858
Unemployed	587	627	1,061	-40	-474
Unemployment rate	4.7%	5.0%	9.1%	-0.3	-4.4
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.8%	6.1%	9.4%	-0.3	-3.6
Employed	11,900	11,808	10,568	92	1,332
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	10,310	10,430	9,810	-120	500
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	10,420	10,220	9,900	200	520
Total private	7,980	7,930	7,610	50	370
Mining, logging, and construction	670	650	590	20	80
Mining and logging	50	50	30	0	20
Construction	620	600	560	20	60
Manufacturing	1,270	1,250	1,150	20	120
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,090	2,110	2,050	-20	40
Wholesale trade	250	250	250	0	0
Retail trade	1,460	1,450	1,430	10	30
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	380	410	370	-30	10
Information	90	90	100	0	-10
Financial activities	310	310	320	0	-10
Professional and business services	580	570	550	10	30
Education and health services	1,720	1,720	1,710	0	10
Leisure and hospitality	960	950	860	10	100
Other services	290	280	280	10	10
Government	2,330	2,500	2,200	-170	130
Federal government	310	310	290	0	20
State government	390	380	370	10	20
Local government	1,630	1,810	1,540	-180	90

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.

Wallowa 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	3,918	3,821	3,524	97	394
Unemployed	150	177	234	-27	-84
Unemployment rate	3.8%	4.6%	6.6%	-0.8	-2.8
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.4%	5.5%	8.3%	-0.1	-2.9
Employed	3,768	3,644	3,290	124	478
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	2,910	2,850	2,720	60	190
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	2,660	2,660	2,490	0	170
Total private	2,210	2,090	2,080	120	130
Mining, logging, and construction	280	260	270	20	10
Mining and logging	90	80	70	10	20
Construction	190	180	200	10	-10
Manufacturing	160	150	160	10	0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	530	520	470	10	60
Wholesale and retail trade	430	420	390	10	40
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	100	100	80	0	20
Information	20	20	20	0	0
Financial activities	140	140	150	0	-10
Professional and business services	140	140	140	0	0
Education and health services	420	410	400	10	20
Leisure and hospitality	410	340	350	70	60
Other services	110	110	120	0	-10
Government	700	760	640	-60	60
Federal government	110	110	110	0	0
State government	120	120	110	0	10
Local government	470	530	420	-60	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.

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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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.

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.