Unemployment Rate News

Morrow County’s seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for October 2020 was 5.1 percent, while Umatilla County came in at 6.0 percent. Both were below Oregon’s statewide rate of 6.9 percent which was the same as the national rate.

Morrow County’s rate ranked second lowest among Oregon’s 36 counties for the month while Umatilla County’s ranked in a tie for 10th.

Both counties had higher seasonally adjusted unemployment rates in October 2020 than the previous October due to the effects of COVID-19.

Morrow County (+1.5 percentage points) ranked in a four-way tie for second among Oregon’s counties for smallest over-the-year change. Umatilla County (+2.0) ranked in a tie for seventh.

Nonfarm Employment Change
October 2019 to October 2020

Morrow County dropped an estimated 80 jobs over the year. The private sector increased by 10 jobs. Professional and business services, education and health services, and leisure and hospitality added jobs. Manufacturing; transportation, warehousing, and utilities; and construction led private industry losses. The public sector lost 90 jobs with a loss in local government overwhelming a gain in state government while federal government was unchanged.

Umatilla County employment decreased by an estimated 1,170 jobs over the year. The private sector dropped 860 jobs led by losses in leisure and hospitality; manufacturing; other services; education and health services; mining, logging, and construction; professional and business services; and wholesale trade. Gains were led by retail trade. The public sector dropped 310 jobs with losses in local education, federal government, Indian tribal, and other local government overwhelming a small gain in state government.

Unemployment rate dropping after sharp rise due to COVID-19

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