

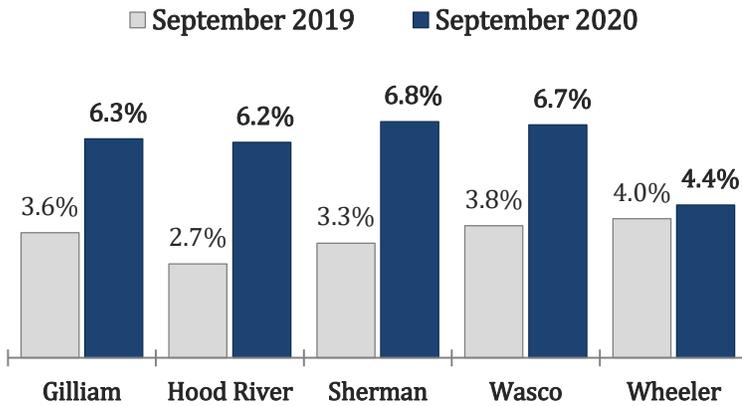


Columbia Gorge Economic Indicators

(September 2020 data)

October 2020 Edition

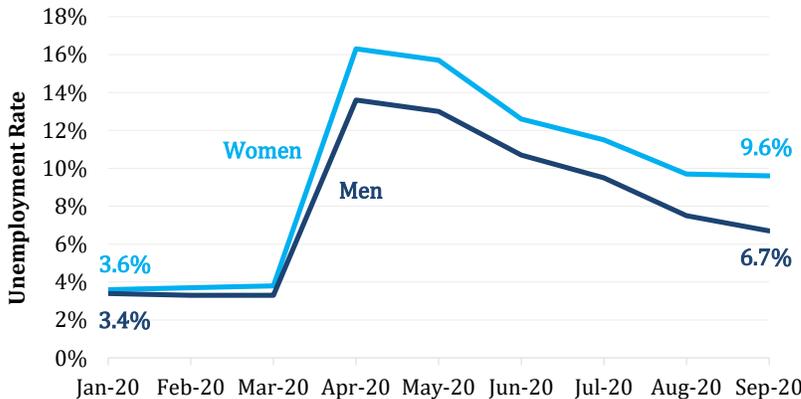
Local Area Unemployment Rates (Seasonally adjusted)



Graph of the Month

Working Women Disproportionately Impacted by COVID

Source: Oregon Employment Department, LAUS



As Oregon continues to weather the economic impacts of COVID, not everyone is feeling the rippling effects to the same degree. In fact, women are being disproportionately affected by what COVID continues to leave in its wake. The industries that accounted for over 60 percent of the initial job losses in the state (leisure and hospitality, educational services, and health care) employ a significantly higher share of women than men (53%, 66%, and 75%, respectively). These job losses lead to the initial departure in women's historically close unemployment rate to men.

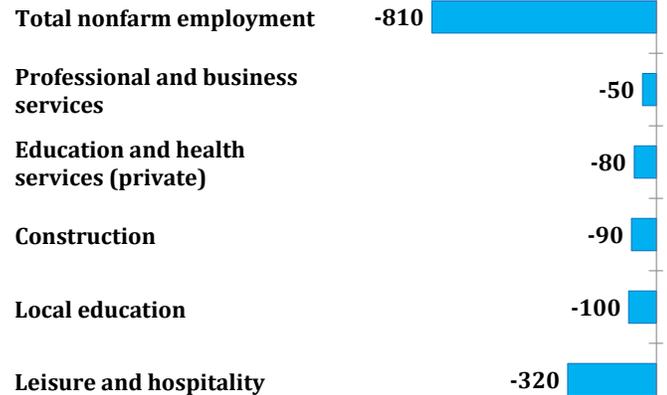
Pair that with the conditions of today where many children aren't attending school in-person, and child care slots are highly limited, we're seeing women leave the workplace at a greater rate. It's likely they're making the difficult decision to stay home and care for children in the household who either can't attend their regular child care provider, or are attending school virtually from home. As classes started back up in September, we're seeing the unemployment gap between the two sexes widen even further.

Industry Gains and Losses (Over-the-year net employment change)

Hood River County



Wasco County



Largest Over-the-Year Changes

Gilliam

Total nonfarm employment (+90)
Trade, transportation, and utilities (-15)

Sherman

Total nonfarm employment (-85)
Retail trade (+25)
Leisure and hospitality (-40)

Wheeler

Total nonfarm employment (-20)
Leisure and hospitality (-15)