In September 2020, Jackson County’s unemployment rate was 8.7 percent, up 4.7 percentage points from last year. Josephine County’s unemployment rate was 8.2 percent, up 3.6 percentage points over last year. Leisure and hospitality, which includes accommodation and food services, had dropped the most jobs by sector in both counties.

The Graph of the Month shows the Job Losses by County since the pandemic began in March. The dark blue shows the jobs lost since the pandemic and the light blue shows how far away the county (and Oregon) are from its February employment levels. The graph shows that the depth of short-term and now more long-lasting job losses are impacting rural counties.

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