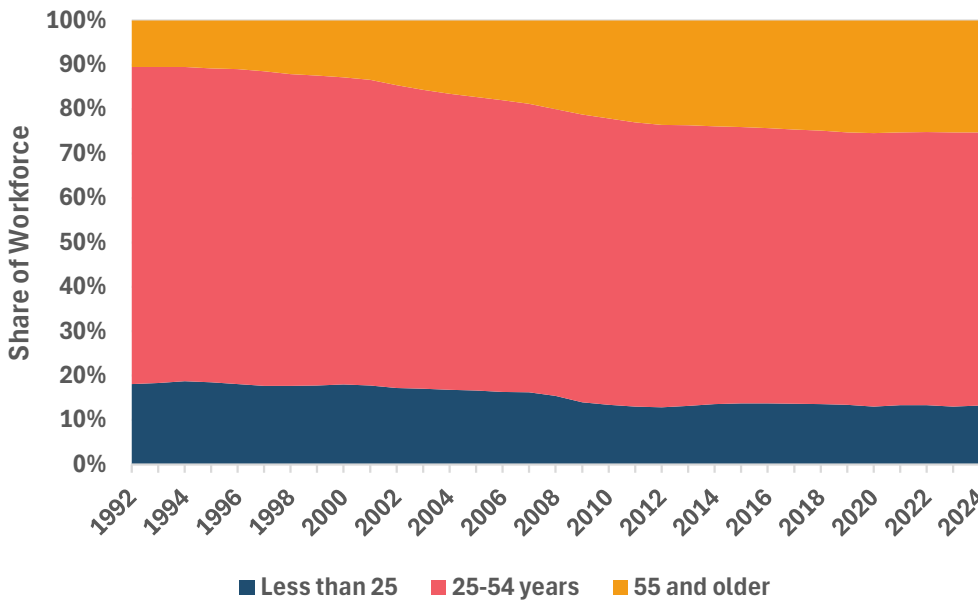


Special Topic: Workforce Age Distribution



Source: Oregon Employment Department & U.S. Census Bureau Quarterly Workforce Indicators

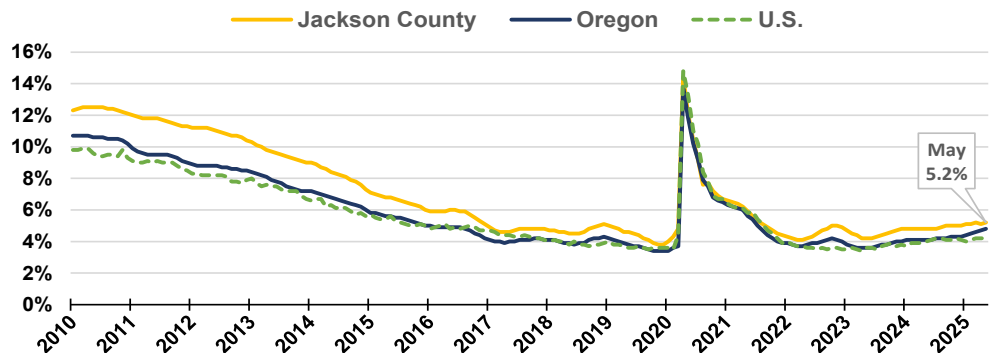
Jackson County's workforce has been trending older over time. The number of workers age 55 and older nearly quadrupled from 4,956 to 19,635 over this 32 year period. Their representation in the workforce has more than doubled, increasing from 11% to 25%. Workers in this age cohort have continued to participate in the labor force longer than previous generations. The less than 25 age cohort has remained relatively stable.

This has real implications for the future of the workforce as those in the older age cohort retire. With younger workers comprising a smaller proportion of the workforce this could lead to increased turnover, upskilling needs, and strains on the healthcare system.

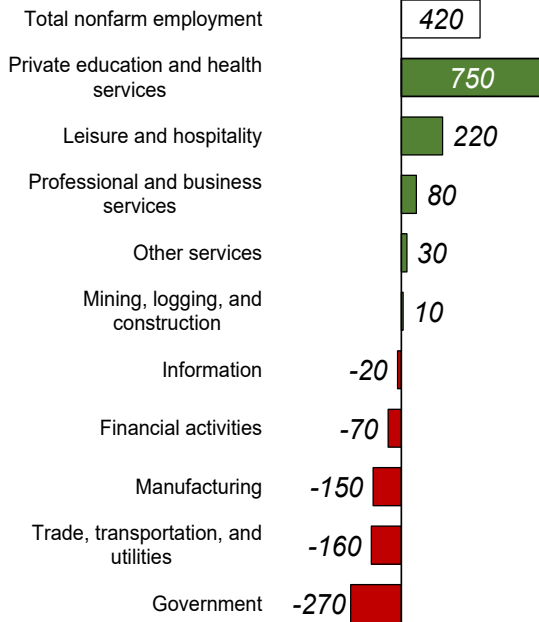
Unemployment Rate at 5.2%

- The unemployment rate in May 2024 was 4.8%
- The unemployment rate has ranged from 4.8% to 5.2% over the year

[More info on unemployment](#)



Source: Oregon Employment Department, LAUS



Source: Oregon Employment Department, CES

Industry Employment Change: May 2024 to May 2025

Jackson County employment gained 420 jobs over the year

- Payroll employment up 0.5% over the year
- [Detailed May Employment Press Release](#)

Jeff McAllister — Workforce Analyst for Southern Oregon

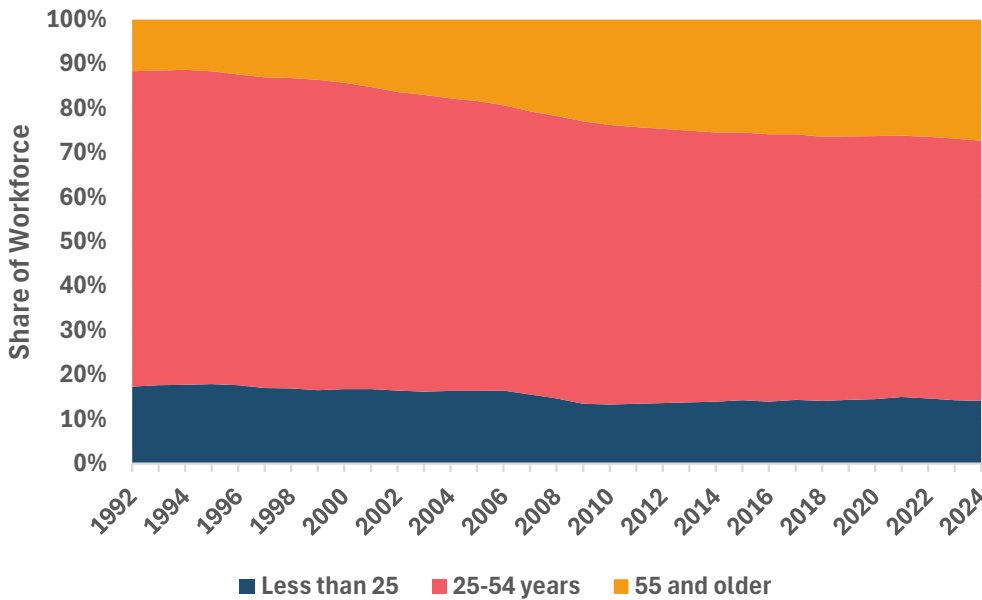
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Special Topic: Workforce Age Distribution



Source: Oregon Employment Department & U.S. Census Bureau Quarterly Workforce Indicators

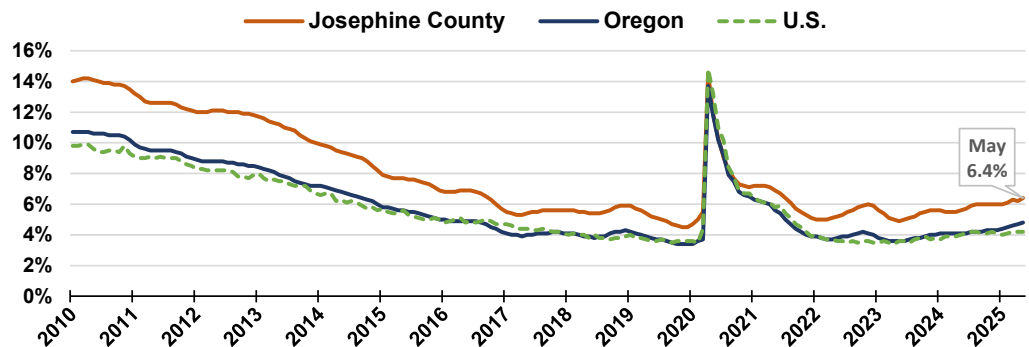
Josephine County's workforce has been trending older over time. The number of workers age 55 and older quadrupled from 1,647 to 7,341 over this 32 year period. Their representation in the workforce has more than doubled, increasing from 12% to 27%. Workers in this age cohort have continued to participate in the labor force longer than previous generations. The less than 25 age cohort has remained relatively stable.

This has real implications for the future of the workforce as those in the older age cohort retire. With younger workers comprising a smaller proportion of the workforce this could lead to increased turnover, upskilling needs, and strains on the healthcare system.

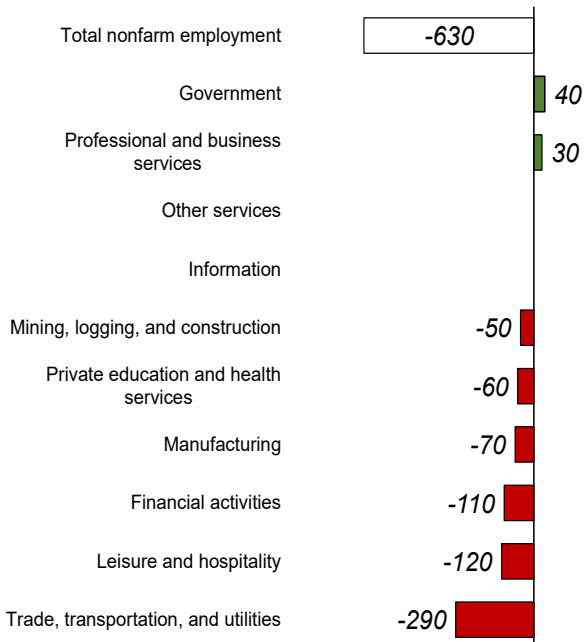
Unemployment Rate at 6.4%

- The unemployment rate in May 2024 was 5.7%
- The unemployment rate has ranged from 5.7% to 6.4% over the year

[More info on unemployment](#)



Source: Oregon Employment Department, LAUS



Source: Oregon Employment Department, CES

Industry Employment Change: May 2024 to May 2025

Josephine County employment lost **630 jobs** over the year

- Payroll employment down **2.3%** over the year
- [Detailed May Employment Press Release](#)

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