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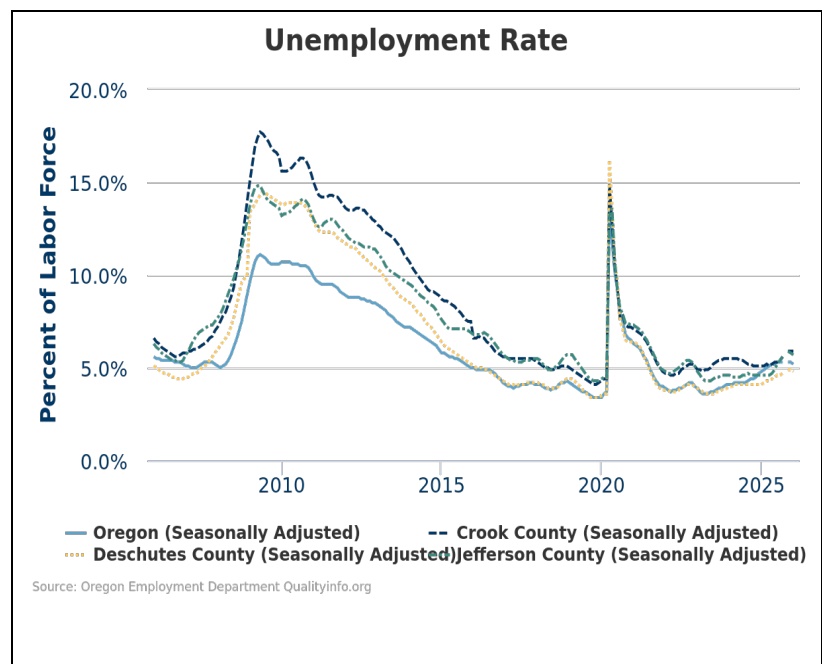
Employment in Central Oregon: February 2026

Central Oregon seasonally adjusted unemployment rates saw very little movement from January to February, holding steady in the counties of Deschutes and Crook and decreasing slightly in Jefferson.

Bend MSA (Crook, Deschutes, and Jefferson Counties): The Bend MSA's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained unchanged over the month at 5.0%. Last year in February the unemployment rate was 4.4%, or 0.6 percentage point lower.

The Bend MSA's employment gains in February were less than normal; total nonfarm employment was up 70 during the month, when an employment increase of 360 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment was down 290 between January and February. Seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment is now up 7.8% from the level in February 2020, or 7,930 jobs above its pre-pandemic level.

Seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment decreased by 0.4% (-430 jobs) from February 2025 to February 2026.



The private sector overall added 30 jobs over the month. Professional and business services added 290 jobs in February. Mining, logging, and construction employment gained 100 jobs in February.

Public sector employment increased by 40 in February. Local government employment increased by 50. Federal government shed 10 jobs. State government employment was unchanged in February.

Crook County: The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.9% in February 2026, up 0.8 percentage point from the previous year and unchanged from January to February.

Crook County's employment losses in February were more than normal; total nonfarm employment was down 40 during the month, when an employment increase of 20 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment was down 60 between January and February. Seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment is now up 9.3% from the level in February 2020, or 620 jobs above its pre-pandemic level.

Over the past year Crook County's seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment has shed 90 jobs or -1.2%. Over the past year private sector employment is up 10 jobs. The public sector has shed 100 jobs over the past year.

Private sector employment overall was unchanged over the month. Construction added 20 jobs in February. Information; leisure and hospitality; and transportation, warehousing, and utilities each shed 10 jobs in February.

Public sector employment decreased by 40 in February. Local government employment decreased by 10. Federal government shed 30 jobs. State government employment was unchanged in February.

Deschutes County: The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.8% in February 2026, matching its revised January unemployment rate of 4.8%. In February 2025, it was 4.2%.

Deschutes County's employment gains in February were less than normal; total nonfarm employment was up 110 during the month, when an employment increase of 310 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment was down 200 between January and February. Seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment is now up 7.9% from the level in February 2020, or 7,000 jobs above its pre-pandemic level.

Over the past year Deschutes County's seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment has shed 310 jobs or -0.3%. Over the past year private sector employment is up 1,340 jobs. The public sector has shed 940 jobs over the past year.

Private sector employment grew 60 over the month. Professional and business services added 270 jobs in February. Leisure and hospitality shed 170 jobs in February.

Public sector employment increased by 50 in February. Local government employment increased by 20. Federal government added 30 jobs. State government employment was unchanged in February.

Jefferson County: The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.6% in February 2026, down from 5.7% in January and up 1.0 percentage point from February 2025.

Jefferson County's employment gains in February were less than normal; total nonfarm employment was unchanged during the month, when an employment increase of 70 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment was down 70 between January and February. Seasonally

adjusted total nonfarm employment is now up 1.8% from the level in February 2020, or 120 jobs above its pre-pandemic level.

Over the past year Jefferson County's seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment has added 70 jobs or +1.0%. Over the past year private sector employment is down 20 jobs. The public sector has added 90 jobs over the past year.

Private sector employment declined 30 over the month. Trade, transportation, and utilities shed 20 jobs in February. Manufacturing and leisure and hospitality employment each declined 10 jobs in February.

Public sector employment increased by 30 in February. Local government employment increased by 40. Federal government shed 10 jobs. State government employment was unchanged in February.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the March county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, May 5 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data on Friday, May 1.



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April 21, 2026

Bend MSA Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	February 2026	January 2026	February 2025	January 2026	February 2025
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	133,970	133,523	132,788	447	1,182
Unemployed	7,720	7,977	7,396	-257	324
Unemployment rate	5.8%	6.0%	5.6%	-0.2	0.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>5.0%</i>	<i>5.0%</i>	<i>4.4%</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>0.6</i>
Employed	126,250	125,546	125,392	704	858
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	108,770	108,700	108,390	70	380
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>110,180</i>	<i>110,470</i>	<i>110,610</i>	<i>-290</i>	<i>-430</i>
Total private	94,950	94,920	93,620	30	1,330
Mining, logging, and construction	9,140	9,040	8,560	100	580
Manufacturing	8,200	8,250	8,600	-50	-400
Durable goods	5,670	5,700	6,060	-30	-390
Trade, transportation, and utilities	18,380	18,460	18,430	-80	-50
Wholesale trade	2,940	2,940	2,940	0	0
Retail trade	12,880	12,860	12,740	20	140
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	2,560	2,660	2,750	-100	-190
Information	1,910	1,950	2,110	-40	-200
Financial activities	5,550	5,560	5,500	-10	50
Professional and business services	11,830	11,540	12,190	290	-360
Private education and health services	19,910	19,910	19,300	0	610
Leisure and hospitality	15,920	16,110	14,990	-190	930
Accommodation and food services	12,920	13,110	12,120	-190	800
Other services	4,110	4,100	3,940	10	170
Government	13,820	13,780	14,770	40	-950
Federal government	1,180	1,190	1,280	-10	-100
State government	1,670	1,670	1,680	0	-10
Local government	10,970	10,920	11,810	50	-840
Local education	5,640	5,540	6,410	100	-770

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: Official Oregon Series. 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 Bend MSA includes Crook, Deschutes, and Jefferson counties.



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Crook County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	February 2026	January 2026	February 2025	January 2026	February 2025
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	13,068	13,053	12,935	15	133
Unemployed	890	953	866	-63	24
Unemployment rate	6.8%	7.3%	6.7%	-0.5	0.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.9%	5.9%	5.1%	0.0	0.8
Employed	12,178	12,100	12,069	78	109
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	7,100	7,140	7,190	-40	-90
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	7,290	7,350	7,380	-60	-90
Total private	5,910	5,910	5,900	0	10
Mining, logging, and construction	1,010	990	830	20	180
Mining and logging	50	50	30	0	20
Construction	960	940	800	20	160
Manufacturing	620	620	750	0	-130
Wood product manufacturing	230	230	340	0	-110
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,190	1,200	1,190	-10	0
Wholesale trade	350	350	350	0	0
Retail trade	620	620	630	0	-10
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	220	230	210	-10	10
Information	230	240	260	-10	-30
Financial activities	240	240	230	0	10
Professional and business services	580	570	650	10	-70
Private education and health services	900	900	900	0	0
Leisure and hospitality	820	830	820	-10	0
Other services	320	320	270	0	50
Government	1,190	1,230	1,290	-40	-100
Federal government	210	240	240	-30	-30
State government	140	140	140	0	0
Local government	840	850	910	-10	-70

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.



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Deschutes County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	February 2026	January 2026	February 2025	January 2026	February 2025
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	109,903	109,510	108,987	393	916
Unemployed	6,115	6,285	5,877	-170	238
Unemployment rate	5.6%	5.7%	5.4%	-0.1	0.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.8%	4.8%	4.2%	0.0	0.6
Employed	103,788	103,225	103,110	563	678
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	94,930	94,820	94,530	110	400
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	96,160	96,360	96,470	-200	-310
Total private	84,770	84,710	83,430	60	1,340
Mining, logging, and construction	7,940	7,860	7,550	80	390
Manufacturing	6,430	6,470	6,630	-40	-200
Durable goods	4,170	4,190	4,360	-20	-190
Trade, transportation, and utilities	16,270	16,320	16,360	-50	-90
Wholesale trade	2,440	2,430	2,430	10	10
Retail trade	11,600	11,570	11,490	30	110
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	2,230	2,320	2,440	-90	-210
Information	1,640	1,670	1,810	-30	-170
Financial activities	5,190	5,200	5,130	-10	60
Professional and business services	11,030	10,760	11,280	270	-250
Private education and health services	18,190	18,190	17,610	0	580
Leisure and hospitality	14,500	14,670	13,550	-170	950
Accommodation and food services	11,570	11,740	10,750	-170	820
Other services	3,580	3,570	3,510	10	70
Government	10,160	10,110	11,100	50	-940
Federal government	880	850	940	30	-60
State government	1,140	1,140	1,160	0	-20
Local government	8,140	8,120	9,000	20	-860
Local education	4,400	4,340	5,140	60	-740

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.



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Jefferson County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	February 2026	January 2026	February 2025	January 2026	February 2025
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	10,999	10,960	10,866	39	133
Unemployed	715	739	653	-24	62
Unemployment rate	6.5%	6.7%	6.0%	-0.2	0.5
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.6%	5.7%	4.6%	-0.1	1.0
Employed	10,284	10,221	10,213	63	71
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	6,740	6,740	6,670	0	70
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	6,830	6,900	6,760	-70	70
Total private	4,270	4,300	4,290	-30	-20
Mining, logging, and construction	190	190	180	0	10
Mining and logging	10	10	10	0	0
Construction	180	180	170	0	10
Manufacturing	1,150	1,160	1,220	-10	-70
Wood product manufacturing	870	880	940	-10	-70
Trade, transportation, and utilities	920	940	880	-20	40
Wholesale trade	150	160	160	-10	-10
Retail trade	660	670	620	-10	40
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	110	110	100	0	10
Information	40	40	40	0	0
Financial activities	120	120	140	0	-20
Professional and business services	220	210	260	10	-40
Private education and health services	820	820	790	0	30
Leisure and hospitality	600	610	620	-10	-20
Other services	210	210	160	0	50
Government	2,470	2,440	2,380	30	90
Federal government	90	100	100	-10	-10
State government	390	390	380	0	10
Local government	1,990	1,950	1,900	40	90
Indian tribal	900	890	810	10	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.

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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