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## **Employment in Morrow & Umatilla Counties: February 2026**

Morrow County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.6% in February and 4.8% in January. At 4.6%, Morrow County is tied with Benton and Malheur counties for the lowest rate among Oregon's 36 counties. Morrow County's rate is up slightly from 4.5% in February 2025. The Oregon rate held steady at 5.2% in February and the U.S. rate was 4.4%.

Morrow County's seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment increased by 20 in February, bringing the total to 5,700. In the not seasonally adjusted industries, there was a loss of 20 jobs in professional and business services. The public sector added 20 jobs, all in local government.

Over the year since February 2025, Morrow County's total employment increased by 310, with 250 of those jobs added in private industry. There were job losses in trade, transportation, and utilities (-50), and leisure and hospitality (-10). There were job gains in manufacturing (+240), construction (+30), and professional and business services (+20). Government employment rose by 60 over the year, due to an increase of 70 jobs in local government.

Umatilla County's seasonally adjusted unemployment was 5.3% in February and 5.5% in January. Umatilla County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate is up from 4.9% in February 2025. The Oregon rate held steady at 5.2% in February and the U.S. rate was 4.4%.

Umatilla County's seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment added 160 jobs in February to reach 30,620. In the not seasonally adjusted industries, there were gains in trade, transportation, and utilities (+70), with the bulk of those added in retail trade (+50). There were also gains in private education and health services (+40), and mining, logging, and construction (+40). Government employment increased by 120, with most of those jobs added in local education (+100).

Over the year ending in February, Umatilla County's employment increased by 750. In the private sector, there were significant losses in trade, transportation, and utilities (-110), with the bulk of those losses occurring in retail trade (-70). Leisure and hospitality dropped 110 jobs over the year. The largest private-sector gains occurred in manufacturing (+310), information (+250), and private education and health services (+150). Total government employment increased by 120 despite a loss of 50 federal government jobs, offset by a gain of 160 jobs in local government.



Workforce &amp; Economic Research Division

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April 21, 2026

## Morrow County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	February 2026	January 2026	February 2025	January 2026	February 2025
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	5,958	5,839	5,954	119	4
Unemployed	316	323	510	-7	-194
Unemployment rate	5.3%	5.5%	8.6%	-0.2	-3.3
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.6%	4.8%	4.5%	-0.2	0.1
Employed	5,642	5,516	5,444	126	198
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	5,630	5,620	5,320	10	310
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5,700	5,680	5,390	20	310
Total private	4,500	4,510	4,250	-10	250
Mining and logging	30	30	30	0	0
Construction	370	370	340	0	30
Manufacturing	1,430	1,440	1,190	-10	240
Trade, transportation, and utilities	790	780	840	10	-50
Wholesale trade	80	80	90	0	-10
Retail trade	290	290	300	0	-10
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	420	410	450	10	-30
Financial activities	70	70	70	0	0
Professional and business services	230	250	210	-20	20
Private education and health services	340	340	330	0	10
Leisure and hospitality	210	210	220	0	-10
Government	1,130	1,110	1,070	20	60
Federal government	50	50	50	0	0
State government	40	40	50	0	-10
Local government	1,040	1,020	970	20	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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April 21, 2026

## Umatilla County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	February 2026	January 2026	February 2025	January 2026	February 2025
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	37,104	36,682	36,354	422	750
Unemployed	2,253	2,330	2,691	-77	-438
Unemployment rate	6.1%	6.4%	7.4%	-0.3	-1.3
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.3%	5.5%	4.9%	-0.2	0.4
Employed	34,851	34,352	33,663	499	1,188
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	30,150	29,830	29,420	320	730
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>30,620</i>	<i>30,460</i>	<i>29,870</i>	<i>160</i>	<i>750</i>
Total private	22,040	21,840	21,430	200	610
Mining, logging, and construction	1,550	1,510	1,510	40	40
Manufacturing	2,500	2,490	2,190	10	310
Durable goods	1,050	1,030	1,070	20	-20
Nondurable goods	1,450	1,460	1,120	-10	330
Food manufacturing	1,160	1,160	820	0	340
Trade, transportation, and utilities	6,610	6,540	6,720	70	-110
Wholesale trade	960	950	990	10	-30
Retail trade	3,220	3,170	3,290	50	-70
Food and beverage retailers	700	700	700	0	0
General merchandise retailers	960	910	950	50	10
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	2,430	2,420	2,440	10	-10
Information	1,070	1,080	820	-10	250
Financial activities	880	870	850	10	30
Professional and business services	1,280	1,280	1,230	0	50
Private education and health services	4,670	4,630	4,520	40	150
Nursing and residential care facilities	1,040	1,040	1,070	0	-30
Leisure and hospitality	2,710	2,690	2,820	20	-110
Accommodation and food services	2,560	2,540	2,660	20	-100
Other services	770	750	770	20	0
Government	8,110	7,990	7,990	120	120
Federal government	440	440	490	0	-50
State government	1,700	1,700	1,690	0	10
Local government	5,970	5,850	5,810	120	160
Indian tribal	1,890	1,880	1,810	10	80
Local education	2,990	2,890	2,870	100	120
Local government excluding education and tribal	1,090	1,080	1,130	10	-40

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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.

The pdf version of the news release, including tables and graphs, can be found at [www.qualityinfo.org/press-release/](http://www.qualityinfo.org/press-release/). To obtain the data in other formats such as in Excel, visit [QualityInfo.org](http://QualityInfo.org), select Tools, and choose LAUS or CES from the dropdown menu. To request the press release as a Word document, contact the person shown at the top of this press release.

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To file an Unemployment Insurance claim, visit our online claims system or call our contact centers, where Employment Department staff are ready to help by phone, at 1-877-FILE-4-UI (1-877-345-3484). For help finding jobs and training resources, go to: [www.WorkSourceOregon.org](http://www.WorkSourceOregon.org).

The Oregon Employment Department (OED) is an equal opportunity agency. Everyone has a right to use OED programs and services. OED provides free help. Some examples are: Sign language and spoken language interpreters, written materials in other languages, braille, large print, audio and other formats. If you need help, please call 971-673-6400. TTY users call 711. You can also ask for help at [OED\\_Communications@employ.oregon.gov](mailto:OED_Communications@employ.oregon.gov).

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