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Employment in Morrow & Umatilla Counties: March 2026

Morrow County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.5% in March and 4.6% in February. At 4.5%, Morrow County is tied with Malheur County for third lowest rate among Oregon's 36 counties. Morrow County's rate is down from 4.7% in March 2025. The Oregon rate held steady at 5.2% in March and the U.S. rate was 4.3%.

Morrow County's seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment decreased by 20 in March, bringing the total to 5,670. In the not seasonally adjusted industries, there were 10 jobs added in the private sector, and 10 jobs added in local government.

Over the year since March 2025, Morrow County's total employment decreased by 70, with a loss of 120 jobs in the private sector. There were job losses in manufacturing (-80), and trade, transportation, and utilities (-70). The largest gains occurred in construction (+40), and professional and business services (+30). Public-sector employment rose by 50 over the year, due to an increase of 60 jobs in local government.

Umatilla County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.2% in March and 5.3% in February. The county's unemployment rate is up from 4.9% in March 2025. The Oregon rate held steady at 5.2% in March and the U.S. rate was 4.3%.

Umatilla County's seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment dropped 300 jobs in March to reach 30,360. In the not seasonally adjusted industries, the largest gains were in manufacturing (+50). The largest losses occurred in trade, transportation, and utilities (-120). Public-sector employment was flat over the month.

Over the year ending in February, Umatilla County's employment increased by 270. In the private sector, there were significant losses in trade, transportation, and utilities (-200), and in accommodation and food services (-100). The largest private-sector gains occurred in information (+230), and private education and health services (+170). Total public-sector employment increased by 130 with 80 jobs added each in Indian tribal and local education.



Workforce & Economic Research Division

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May 5, 2026

Morrow County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	March 2026	February 2026	March 2025	February 2026	March 2025
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	6,083	5,956	6,139	127	-56
Unemployed	265	315	330	-50	-65
Unemployment rate	4.4%	5.3%	5.4%	-0.9	-1.0
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.5%	4.6%	4.7%	-0.1	-0.2
Employed	5,818	5,641	5,809	177	9
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	5,640	5,620	5,710	20	-70
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5,670	5,690	5,740	-20	-70
Total private	4,500	4,490	4,620	10	-120
Mining and logging	30	30	30	0	0
Construction	370	370	330	0	40
Manufacturing	1,430	1,430	1,510	0	-80
Trade, transportation, and utilities	790	780	860	10	-70
Wholesale trade	90	80	90	10	0
Retail trade	290	290	310	0	-20
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	410	410	460	0	-50
Financial activities	70	70	70	0	0
Professional and business services	230	230	200	0	30
Private education and health services	340	340	340	0	0
Leisure and hospitality	210	210	230	0	-20
Government	1,140	1,130	1,090	10	50
Federal government	50	50	50	0	0
State government	40	40	50	0	-10
Local government	1,050	1,040	990	10	60

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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Umatilla County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	March 2026	February 2026	March 2025	February 2026	March 2025
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	37,419	37,140	36,748	279	671
Unemployed	1,998	2,251	2,035	-253	-37
Unemployment rate	5.3%	6.1%	5.5%	-0.8	-0.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.2%	5.3%	4.9%	-0.1	0.3
Employed	35,421	34,889	34,713	532	708
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	30,220	30,190	29,950	30	270
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	30,360	30,660	30,090	-300	270
Total private	22,110	22,080	21,920	30	190
Mining, logging, and construction	1,590	1,550	1,570	40	20
Manufacturing	2,550	2,500	2,580	50	-30
Durable goods	1,070	1,050	1,070	20	0
Nondurable goods	1,480	1,450	1,510	30	-30
Food manufacturing	1,180	1,160	1,190	20	-10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	6,530	6,650	6,730	-120	-200
Wholesale trade	970	960	980	10	-10
Retail trade	3,280	3,260	3,280	20	0
Food and beverage retailers	700	700	700	0	0
General merchandise retailers	980	970	930	10	50
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	2,280	2,430	2,470	-150	-190
Information	1,060	1,070	830	-10	230
Financial activities	890	880	850	10	40
Professional and business services	1,300	1,280	1,250	20	50
Private education and health services	4,700	4,670	4,530	30	170
Nursing and residential care facilities	1,030	1,040	1,050	-10	-20
Leisure and hospitality	2,720	2,710	2,810	10	-90
Accommodation and food services	2,570	2,560	2,670	10	-100
Other services	770	770	770	0	0
Government	8,110	8,110	8,030	0	80
Federal government	440	440	490	0	-50
State government	1,700	1,700	1,700	0	0
Local government	5,970	5,970	5,840	0	130
Indian tribal	1,880	1,890	1,800	-10	80
Local education	2,990	2,990	2,910	0	80
Local government excluding education and tribal	1,100	1,090	1,130	10	-30

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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/. To obtain the data in other formats such as in Excel, visit 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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