

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Dec. 16, 2025

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Brian Rooney, Regional Economist
Brian.T.Rooney@employ.oregon.gov
(541) 359-9546

Employment in Morrow & Umatilla Counties: September 2025

Umatilla County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased by 0.1 percentage point to 5.5% in September. Ranked among Oregon's 36 counties, Umatilla County was 20th. Over the year, Umatilla County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by 0.8 percentage point.

Umatilla County's nonfarm employment total rose by 550 jobs to 30,470 in September. Private industry increased by 50 jobs in September, rising to 22,560, and government added 500 jobs to total 7,910. Transportation, warehousing, and utilities increased its total by 110 in September, climbing to 2,670. Leisure and hospitality added 40 jobs, rising to 2,990. Wholesale trade dropped 30 jobs to reach 980. Private education and health services also dropped 30 jobs to reach 4,550. In the public sector, local education increased by 710 jobs from the beginning of a new school year, noneducation local government dropped 140 jobs, Indian tribal dropped 60 jobs, federal government dropped 10 jobs, and state government held steady.

Umatilla County's total private industry employment increased by 90 jobs over the year ending in September (+0.3%). Professional and business services led losses, dropping by 160 (-10.8%) followed by leisure and hospitality with a loss of 70 (-2.3%). Wholesale trade fell by 40 jobs (-3.9%) and retail trade dropped by 30 jobs (-0.9%). Information led private-industry gains, rising by 80 jobs (+10.1%). Private education and health services also added 80 jobs (+1.8%) over the year. Manufacturing and transportation, warehousing, and utilities each added 60 jobs. Government employment increased by 100 jobs over the year, led by an increase of 50 jobs in local education while state government and Indian tribal each added 30. Other local government fell by 10 jobs.

Morrow County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady in September at 4.9%, ranking in a tie with Harney and Washington counties for 9th among Oregon counties. Over the year, Morrow County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by 1.0 percentage point.

Morrow County's nonfarm employment increased to 5,920 in September, a gain of 80 jobs. Private industry decreased by 20 jobs to total 4,800, and government added 100 jobs to total 1,120. Transportation, warehousing, and utilities, and professional and business services led gains with 20 each. Manufacturing had the largest loss, down 60. In the public sector, local government increased by 110 jobs from the beginning of a new school year, while federal government dropped 10.

Morrow County's private-industry employment dropped by 80 jobs over the year ending in September (-1.6%). Private industry's over-the-year growth was led by a gain in construction, up 90 jobs, followed by a gain of 40 jobs in transportation, warehousing, and utilities. Professional and business services led losses, down 170 jobs. Government employment rose by 110 jobs over the year, with local government adding 120 jobs, federal government dropping 10, and state government holding steady.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the October and November county and metropolitan area unemployment rate and employment survey data on Tuesday, Jan. 13, and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for October and November on Wednesday, Jan. 7.



Morrow County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	September 2025	August 2025	September 2024	--Change From--	
				August 2025	September 2024
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	6,551	6,484	6,409	67	142
Unemployed	302	309	217	-7	85
Unemployment rate	4.6%	4.8%	3.4%	-0.2	1.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.9%	4.9%	3.9%	0.0	1.0
Employed	6,249	6,175	6,192	74	57
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	5,920	5,840	5,890	80	30
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5,860	5,840	5,830	20	30
Total private	4,800	4,820	4,880	-20	-80
Mining and logging	30	30	30	0	0
Construction	430	420	340	10	90
Manufacturing	1,480	1,540	1,610	-60	-130
Trade, transportation, and utilities	910	890	890	20	20
Wholesale trade	90	90	110	0	-20
Retail trade	310	310	310	0	0
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	510	490	470	20	40
Financial activities	70	70	70	0	0
Professional and business services	240	220	410	20	-170
Private education and health services	310	320	330	-10	-20
Leisure and hospitality	230	230	240	0	-10
Government	1,120	1,020	1,010	100	110
Federal government	50	60	60	-10	-10
State government	50	50	50	0	0
Local government	1,020	910	900	110	120

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.



Umatilla County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	September 2025	August 2025	September 2024	--Change From--	
				August 2025	September 2024
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	38,606	37,954	37,801	652	805
Unemployed	1,960	2,057	1,520	-97	440
Unemployment rate	5.1%	5.4%	4.0%	-0.3	1.1
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)	5.5%	5.4%	4.7%	0.1	0.8
Employed	36,646	35,897	36,281	749	365
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	30,470	29,920	30,380	550	90
Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)	30,210	30,190	30,120	20	90
Total private	22,560	22,510	22,570	50	-10
Mining, logging, and construction	1,680	1,710	1,660	-30	20
Manufacturing	2,590	2,590	2,530	0	60
Durable goods	1,010	1,020	1,010	-10	0
Nondurable goods	1,580	1,570	1,520	10	60
Food manufacturing	1,250	1,240	1,170	10	80
Trade, transportation, and utilities	6,950	6,880	6,960	70	-10
Wholesale trade	980	1,010	1,020	-30	-40
Retail trade	3,300	3,310	3,330	-10	-30
Food and beverage retailers	700	700	690	0	10
General merchandise retailers	920	920	940	0	-20
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	2,670	2,560	2,610	110	60
Information	870	870	790	0	80
Financial activities	840	840	850	0	-10
Professional and business services	1,320	1,320	1,480	0	-160
Private education and health services	4,550	4,580	4,470	-30	80
Nursing and residential care facilities	1,040	1,040	1,050	0	-10
Leisure and hospitality	2,990	2,950	3,060	40	-70
Accommodation and food services	2,850	2,790	2,900	60	-50
Other services	770	770	770	0	0
Government	7,910	7,410	7,810	500	100
Federal government	550	560	550	-10	0
State government	1,700	1,700	1,670	0	30
Local government	5,660	5,150	5,590	510	70
Indian tribal	1,840	1,900	1,810	-60	30
Local education	2,620	1,910	2,570	710	50
Local government excluding education and tribal	1,200	1,340	1,210	-140	-10

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.

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.

You can subscribe to receive notification of new articles and publications from QualityInfo.org. To subscribe, go to www.qualityinfo.org/subscribe, enter your email address and click Sign In. In the Publication section, click on the + sign next to a report type category and then click on the geography(s) you are interested in. Take some time to browse the other publications on the page and see if there are some you'd like to receive an email notification for. You can receive notifications on a daily, weekly, or monthly schedule – whichever is most convenient for you. You can change your preferences – or unsubscribe – at any time.

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.

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.

El Departamento de Empleo de Oregon (OED) es una agencia de igualdad de oportunidades. El OED proporciona ayuda gratuita para que usted pueda utilizar nuestros servicios. Algunos ejemplos son intérpretes de lengua de señas e idiomas hablados, materiales escritos en otros idiomas, letra grande, audio y otros formatos. Para obtener ayuda, por favor llame al 503-947-1444. Usuarios de TTY pueden llamar al 711. También puede enviar un correo electrónico a OED_Communications@employ.oregon.gov.

###