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Employment in Columbia County: September 2025

Seasonally adjusted employment increased by 50 in September

Today, the Oregon Employment Department released monthly employment and unemployment data for September 2025 in Columbia County, after a significant delay due to the federal government shutdown.

Columbia County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.9% in September, up from 5.7% in August. It was 4.7% the year before. The statewide unemployment rate was 5.2% in September, and the national rate was 4.4%.

Seasonally adjusted nonfarm payroll employment increased by 50 in September to 12,320 jobs. Seasonally adjusted figures compare expected changes with actual changes. A gain of 180 jobs was expected for the month, and the county's payroll employment increased by 230. Private sector employment increased by 20, and government employment increased by 210. Trade, transportation, and utilities added 40 jobs. Local education added 220 jobs.

September's total nonfarm employment was up from the previous year by 240 jobs, an increase of 2.0%. Some broad sectors gained jobs over the past year. The largest gain occurred in private education and health services, which added 190 jobs. Retail trade was down 50 jobs over the year. Local education was up 60 jobs over the year.

Next News Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the October and November county and metropolitan area unemployment rates 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.

Columbia 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	27,133	27,266	26,736	-133	397
Unemployed	1,671	1,737	1,170	-66	501
Unemployment rate	6.2%	6.4%	4.4%	-0.2	1.8
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.9%	5.7%	4.7%	0.2	1.2
Employed	25,462	25,529	25,566	-67	-104
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	12,400	12,170	12,160	230	240
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	12,320	12,270	12,080	50	240
Total private	10,280	10,260	10,070	20	210
Mining, logging, and construction	930	940	950	-10	-20
Mining and logging	200	190	210	10	-10
Construction	730	750	740	-20	-10
Manufacturing	1,490	1,470	1,500	20	-10
Durable goods	1,110	1,100	1,130	10	-20
Wood product manufacturing	240	240	230	0	10
Nondurable goods	380	370	370	10	10
Paper manufacturing	0	0	0	0	0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,340	2,300	2,360	40	-20
Retail trade	1,560	1,560	1,610	0	-50
Information	50	50	70	0	-20
Financial activities	500	510	520	-10	-20
Professional and business services	1,200	1,200	1,140	0	60
Private education and health services	1,820	1,830	1,630	-10	190
Leisure and hospitality	1,480	1,500	1,430	-20	50
Other services	470	460	470	10	0
Government	2,120	1,910	2,090	210	30
Federal government	80	70	80	10	0
State government	210	220	230	-10	-20
Local government	1,830	1,620	1,780	210	50
Local education	1,150	930	1,090	220	60
Local government excluding educational services	680	690	690	-10	-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.

Oregon Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates by Area (1)

	<u>September 2025</u>	<u>August 2025</u>	<u>September 2024</u>
United States	4.4	4.3	4.1
State of Oregon	5.2	5.0	4.2
<u>Metropolitan Statistical Areas:</u>			
Albany (Linn County)	5.6	5.4	4.7
Bend (Crook, Deschutes and Jefferson counties)	4.9	4.8	4.3
Corvallis (Benton County)	4.3	4.1	3.7
Eugene-Springfield (Lane County)	5.0	4.9	4.3
Grants Pass (Josephine County)	7.3	7.1	6.0
Medford (Jackson County)	5.7	5.6	5.0
Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro (2)	4.9	4.7	4.1
Salem (Marion and Polk counties)	5.0	4.9	4.2
<u>Counties (1):</u>			
Baker	5.7	5.5	4.6
Benton	4.3	4.1	3.7
Clackamas	4.8	4.7	4.0
Clatsop	5.2	5.0	4.4
Columbia	5.9	5.7	4.7
Coos	5.8	5.6	5.0
Crook	5.6	5.4	5.2
Curry	6.8	6.5	5.8
Deschutes	4.7	4.6	4.1
Douglas	6.2	6.0	5.5
Gilliam	5.2	4.8	4.7
Grant	7.6	7.3	6.5
Harney	4.9	4.7	4.5
Hood River	4.1	4.0	3.4
Jackson	5.7	5.6	5.0
Jefferson	5.6	5.4	4.6
Josephine	7.3	7.1	6.0
Klamath	7.2	7.0	5.9
Lake	6.3	6.2	5.0
Lane	5.0	4.9	4.3
Lincoln	6.0	5.8	5.2
Linn	5.6	5.4	4.7
Malheur	4.8	4.6	4.0
Marion	5.0	4.9	4.2
Morrow	4.9	4.9	3.9
Multnomah	5.1	4.9	4.2
Polk	4.8	4.7	4.1
Sherman	5.0	4.8	3.9
Tillamook	5.3	5.2	4.3
Umatilla	5.5	5.4	4.7
Union	5.7	5.6	4.8
Wallowa	5.9	5.6	4.6
Wasco	5.2	5.0	4.3
Washington	4.9	4.7	3.8
Wheeler	4.1	3.9	3.9
Yamhill	4.8	4.6	4.0

(1) Seasonally adjusted rates for the United States and Oregon are official Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) series. Source of Metro data is BLS and LAUS. Source of county data is OED.

(2) Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro MSA includes Clackamas, Columbia, Multnomah, Washington, and Yamhill counties in Oregon and Clark and Skamania counties in Washington.

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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For help finding jobs and training resources, visit one of the state's WorkSource Oregon Centers or go to: www.WorkSourceOregon.org.

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