

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 24, 2025

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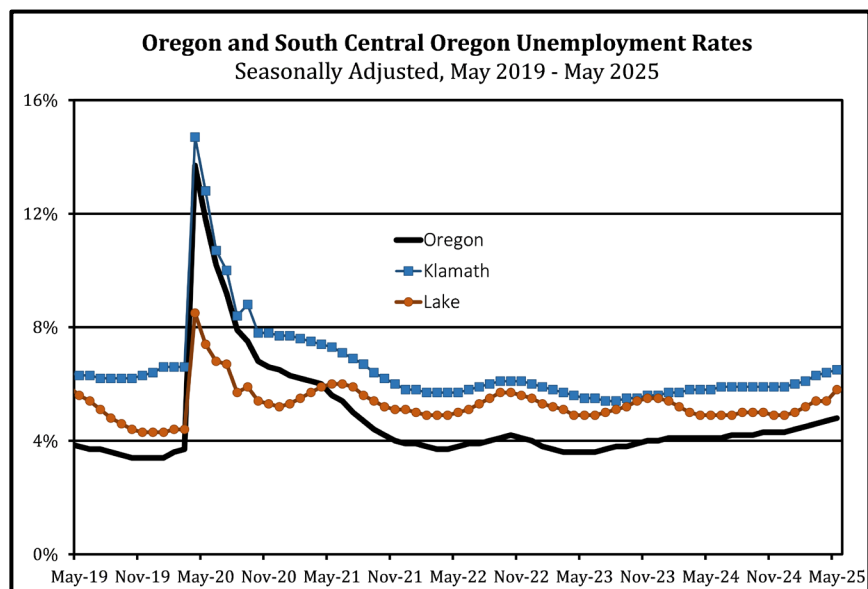
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Employment in South Central Oregon: May 2025

Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates increased in both South Central counties this May, with a larger percentage point increase in Lake County. Both counties also saw total nonfarm unemployment increase over the month with smaller gains in Lake County.

Klamath County: The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate continued to increase slightly in May and is now 6.5%, up from a rate of 6.4% in April. In May 2024, the unemployment rate was 0.7 percentage point lower, at 5.8%.

Klamath County added 440 jobs in May, a +1.9% increase, with the largest gains occurring within leisure and hospitality (+150 jobs) and government (+110 jobs). Additional private-sector gains were seen in trade, transportation, and utilities (+60 jobs); mining, logging, and construction (+60 jobs); professional and business services (+50 jobs); and private education and health services (+10 jobs). All other industries saw little to no change. As a result, total nonfarm employment for the month stood at 24,060.



Klamath County gained 100 jobs in the past year (+0.4%) with private-sector gains concentrated in leisure and hospitality (+150 jobs); financial activities (+40 jobs); other services (+40 jobs); and manufacturing (+20 jobs). While total public-sector employment grew throughout the year, adding 20 jobs, federal employment declined by 20 and local government employment by 10. Notable private-sector job losses over the past year were also seen in construction (-100 jobs); private education and health services (-30 jobs); trade, transportation, and utilities (-20 jobs); and information (-20 jobs). All other industries saw little to no change over the year.

Lake County: The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased over the month of May, going from 5.4% in April to 5.8% in May – last year around this time it was 0.9 percentage point lower, at 4.9%. The unemployment rate was 4.2% in February 2020, before the impacts of COVID-19 were first felt.

Total nonfarm employment was little changed from April to May with an increase of 30 jobs over the month (+1.5%). Small private-sector gains were seen across leisure and hospitality; other services; and professional and business services, with each sector adding 10 jobs over the month. Losses were recorded in manufacturing and private education and health services (10 jobs each). All other industries saw little to no gains over the month. Seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment levels are 330 jobs (-13.8%) below the pre-pandemic April 2020 employment levels, as of May.

Lake County's total nonfarm employment has declined by 170 jobs (-7.5%) since May 2024. Over the year, supersector losses were primarily concentrated within the public sector (-90 jobs) but were also more widespread. Smaller yet noticeable declines occurred in leisure and hospitality; private education and health services; and manufacturing, with each losing 20 jobs over the year. Similarly, professional and business services; trade, transportation, and utilities; and construction lost 10 jobs. The only industry to gain jobs over the year ending in May was other services (+10 jobs). While public-sector employment is down 8.2% over the year ending in May 2025, losses were concentrated within local government employment (-90 jobs).

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the June county and metropolitan area unemployment rates and employment survey data on Tuesday, July 22, and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for June on Wednesday, July 16.



Workforce & Economic Research Division

QualityInfo.org

June 24, 2025

Klamath County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	May 2025	April 2025	May 2024	April 2025	May 2024
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	29,010	28,725	28,721	285	289
Unemployed	1,713	1,706	1,365	7	348
Unemployment rate	5.9%	5.9%	4.8%	0.0	1.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>6.5%</i>	<i>6.4%</i>	<i>5.8%</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>0.7</i>
Employed	27,297	27,019	27,356	278	-59
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	24,060	23,620	23,960	440	100
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>23,780</i>	<i>23,690</i>	<i>23,680</i>	<i>90</i>	<i>100</i>
Total private	18,500	18,170	18,420	330	80
Mining, logging, and construction	1,260	1,200	1,360	60	-100
Mining and logging	90	90	90	0	0
Construction	1,170	1,110	1,270	60	-100
Manufacturing	1,620	1,620	1,600	0	20
Durable goods	1,510	1,510	1,510	0	0
Wood product manufacturing	1,190	1,190	1,200	0	-10
Nondurable goods	110	110	90	0	20
Trade, transportation, and utilities	4,580	4,520	4,600	60	-20
Wholesale trade	730	720	770	10	-40
Retail trade	3,110	3,070	3,070	40	40
Food and beverage retailers	620	620	610	0	10
General merchandise retailers	870	870	840	0	30
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	740	730	760	10	-20
Information	110	110	130	0	-20
Financial activities	890	890	850	0	40
Professional and business services	1,610	1,560	1,610	50	0
Private education and health services	4,720	4,710	4,750	10	-30
Leisure and hospitality	2,800	2,650	2,650	150	150
Other services	910	910	870	0	40
Government	5,560	5,450	5,540	110	20
Federal government	750	700	770	50	-20
State government	650	640	600	10	50
Local government	4,160	4,110	4,170	50	-10
Local education	2,590	2,530	2,520	60	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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June 24, 2025

Lake County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	May 2025	April 2025	May 2024	April 2025	May 2024
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	3,406	3,329	3,515	77	-109
Unemployed	216	164	144	52	72
Unemployment rate	6.3%	4.9%	4.1%	1.4	2.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>5.8%</i>	<i>5.4%</i>	<i>4.9%</i>	<i>0.4</i>	<i>0.9</i>
Employed	3,190	3,165	3,371	25	-181
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	2,090	2,060	2,260	30	-170
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>2,060</i>	<i>2,060</i>	<i>2,230</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>-170</i>
Total private	1,080	1,070	1,160	10	-80
Mining, logging, and construction	80	80	90	0	-10
Mining and logging	20	20	20	0	0
Construction	60	60	70	0	-10
Manufacturing	190	200	210	-10	-20
Trade, transportation, and utilities	330	330	340	0	-10
Retail trade	240	240	240	0	0
Information	20	20	20	0	0
Financial activities	40	40	40	0	0
Professional and business services	80	70	90	10	-10
Private education and health services	100	110	120	-10	-20
Leisure and hospitality	140	130	160	10	-20
Other services	100	90	90	10	10
Government	1,010	990	1,100	20	-90
Federal government	190	180	200	10	-10
State government	200	200	190	0	10
Local government	620	610	710	10	-90

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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.

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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

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.

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