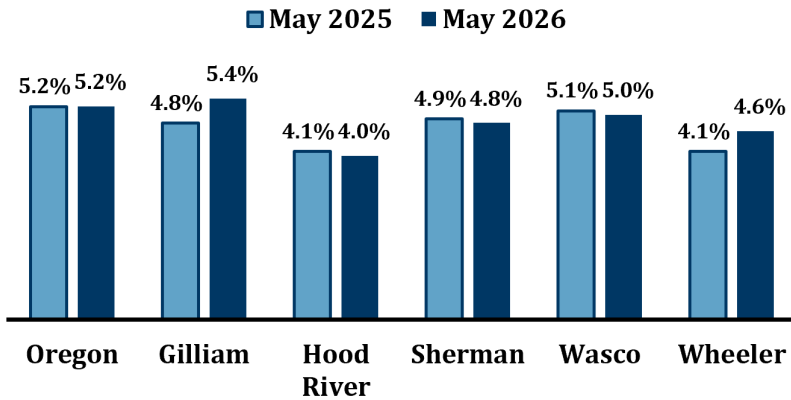




Columbia Gorge Economic Indicators

June 2026

Local Area Unemployment Rates (Seasonally adjusted)



Topic of the Month

Minimum Wage Jobs in the Columbia Gorge

Estimates of Minimum Wage Jobs in Oregon by County, Third Quarter 2025

Rank in Oregon	Area	Minimum Wage	Jobs Paying Minimum Wage or Less	% of Total	
Oregon				92,289	4.2%
1	Wheeler	\$14.05	33	8.2%	
7	Gilliam	\$14.05	58	5.6%	
20	Sherman	\$14.05	40	4.2%	
25	Hood River	\$15.05	748	3.9%	
26	Wasco	\$15.05	690	3.9%	

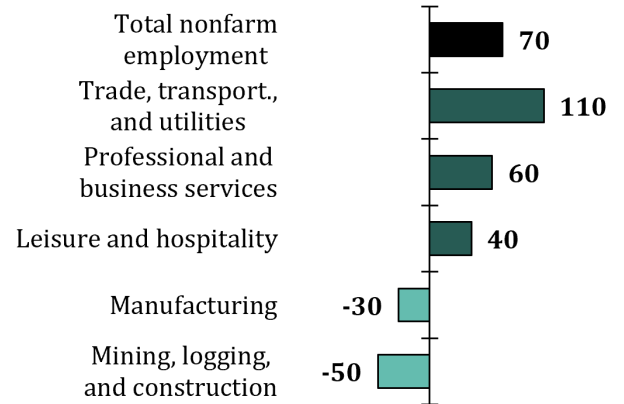
Source: Oregon Employment Department, Unemployment Insurance Wage Records

On July 1, 2026, the three minimum wages in Oregon are set to increase. In Hood River and Wasco County, the new minimum wage will be \$15.55. In Sherman, Gilliam, and Wheeler County, the new minimum wage will be \$14.55. In the third quarter of 2025, there were an estimated 92,289 jobs in Oregon that paid the minimum wage or less. In Wheeler County, it is estimated that there were 33 jobs paying at or below the minimum wage. This was the highest share of total jobs (8.2%) across all counties in the state. Gilliam County also ranked high, with 58 estimated jobs paying at or below the minimum wage, or 5.6% of all jobs in the county.

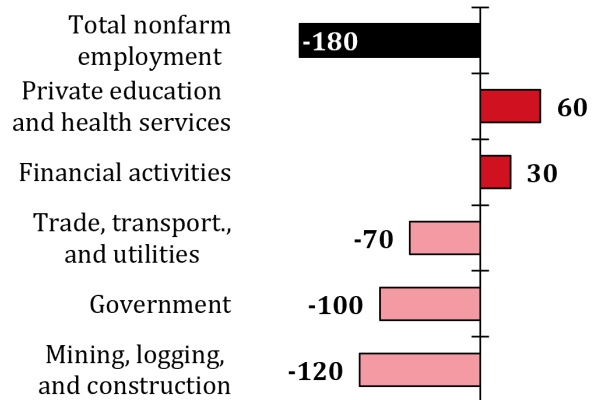
You can find more information on Oregon's previous minimum wages and explore estimates of minimum wage jobs by industry in a recent [article](#) written by Anna Johnson, a senior analyst for Oregon Employment Department.

Select Industry Gains and Losses (Year-over-year net employment change, May 2026)

Hood River County



Wasco County



Notable Over-the-Year Changes

Gilliam

Total nonfarm employment (-120)
Professional and business services (-5)
Private education and health services (-5)

Sherman

Total nonfarm employment (+10)
Trade, transportation, and utilities (+15)
Leisure and hospitality (+10)

Wheeler

Total nonfarm employment (0)
Government (+15)
Leisure and hospitality (-10)

Want to join the distribution list? Contact:
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