State of Oregon
Employment Department

NEWS

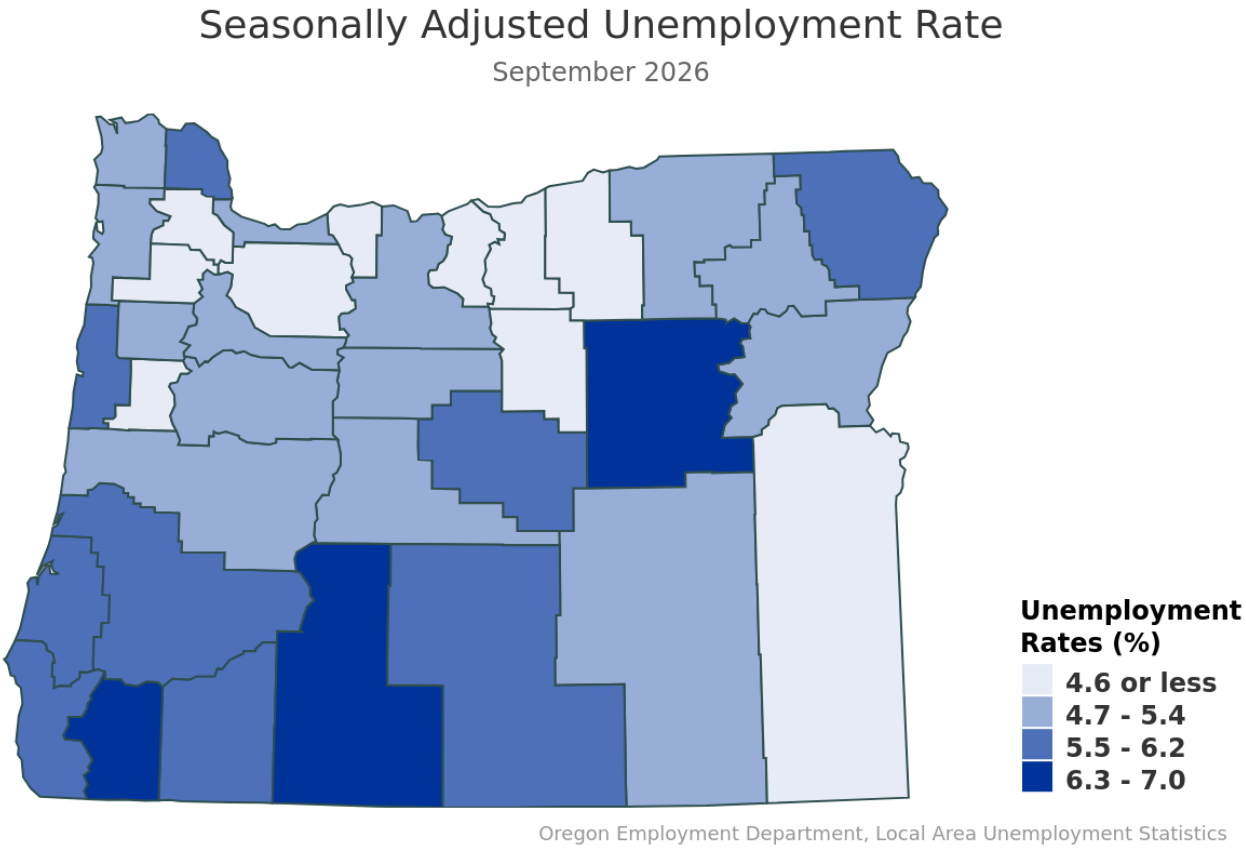
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Oct. 20, 2026

See your local area at QualityInfo.org

September 2026 Employment and Unemployment in Oregon's Counties

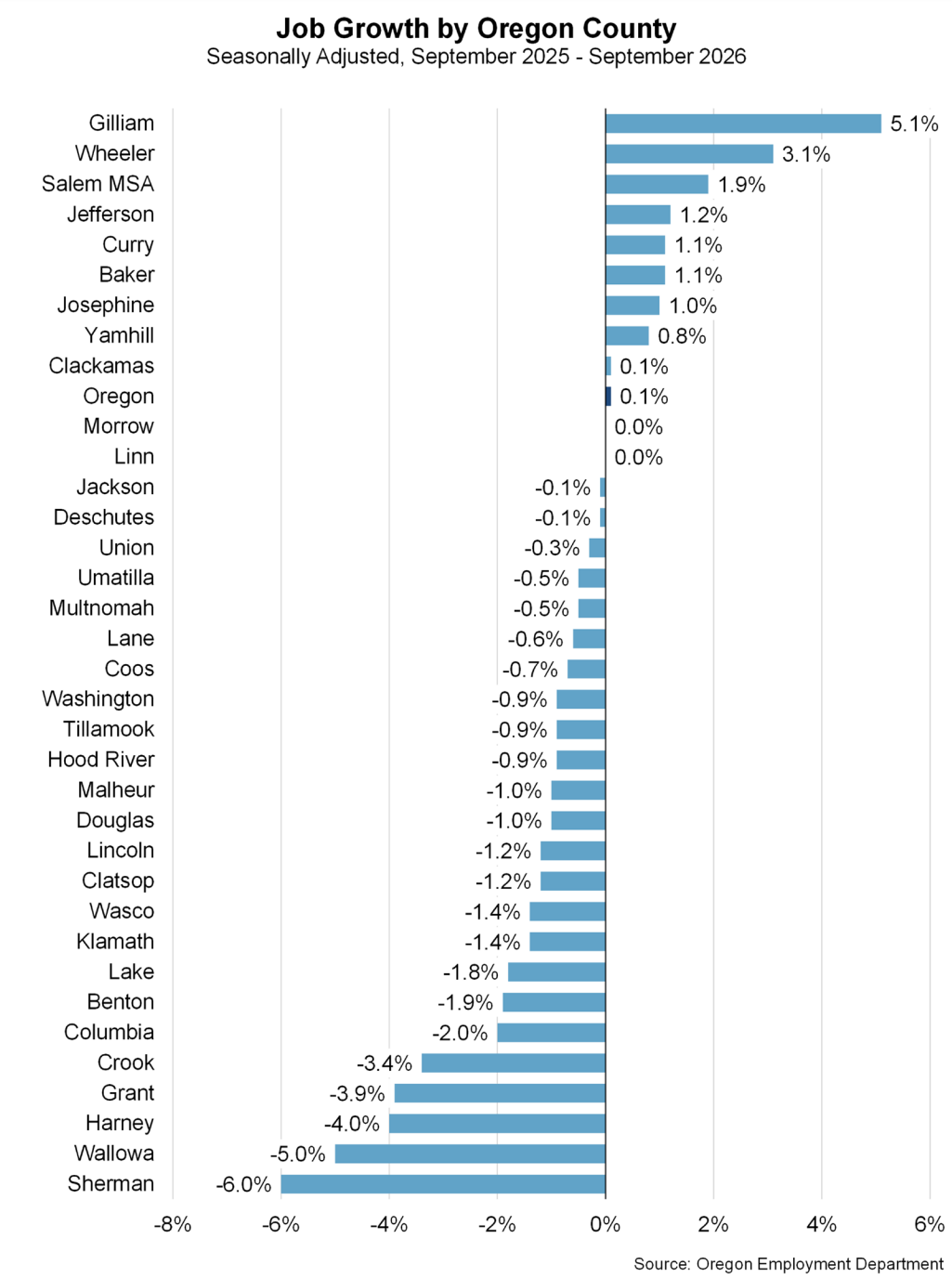
In September, the unemployment rate decreased or remained unchanged in all of Oregon's 36 counties. Twenty counties had unemployment rates at or below the statewide rate of 5.0%, and three counties, Hood River, Wheeler, and Benton, had rates at or below the U.S. rate of 4.2%.

Klamath County had Oregon's highest seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in September at 7.0%. Other counties with relatively high unemployment rates were Josephine (6.9%) and Grant (6.7%). Hood River County registered the lowest unemployment rate in September at 3.8%. Benton and Wheeler counties also had relatively low rates at 4.1% each.



Between September 2025 and September 2026, total nonfarm employment rose in 10 of Oregon's counties, was unchanged in two, and decreased in 24. Gilliam County had Oregon's highest year-over-year job growth at 5.1%. Sherman County had the largest job loss over the year, falling by 6.0%. Statewide, jobs rose by 0.1%.

Click on the graph below to access current employment data.

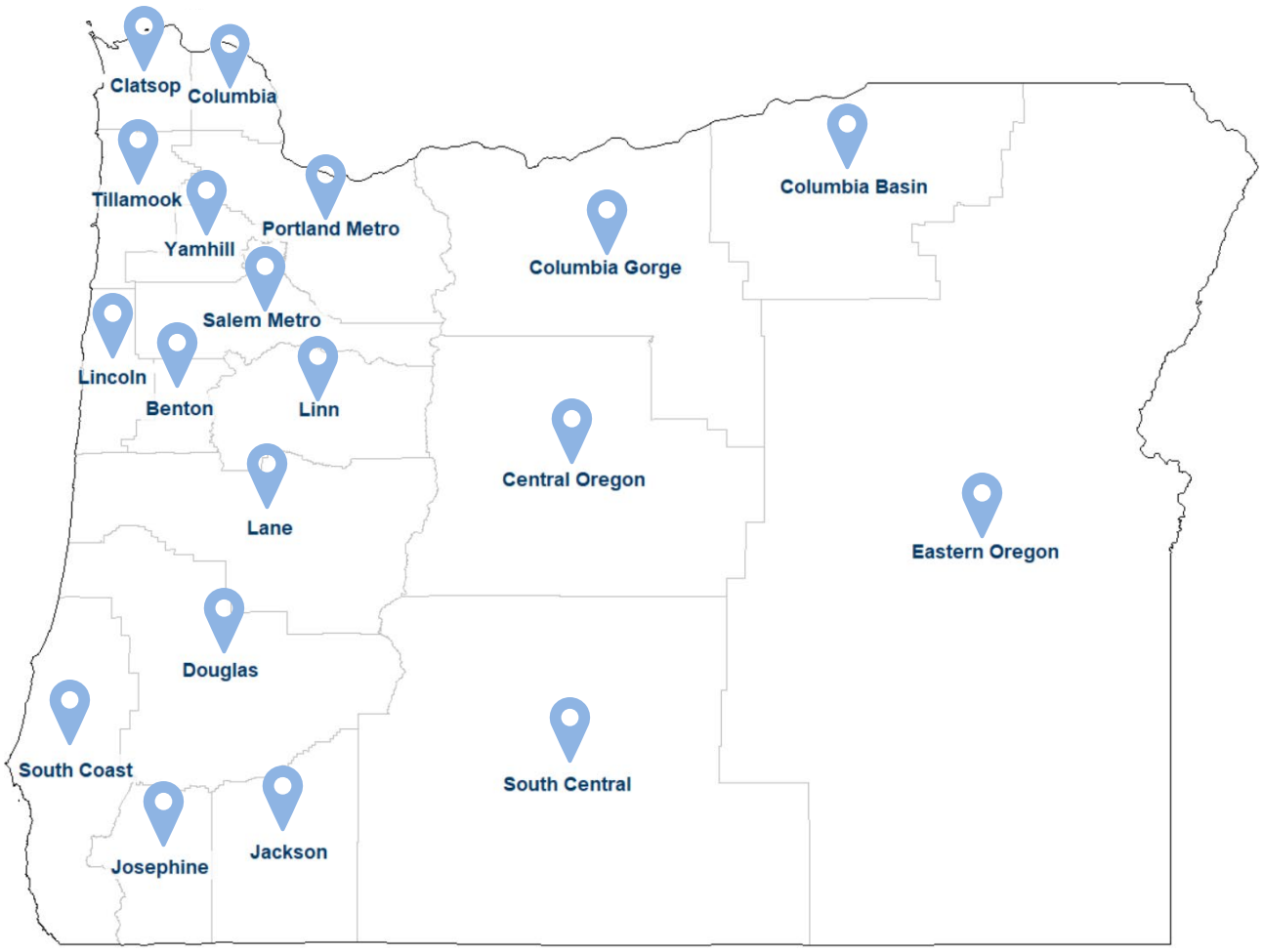


Next News Releases

The Oregon Employment Department will release statewide unemployment rate and industry employment data for October 2026 on Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2026. The October 2026 county and metropolitan area unemployment rates will be released on Tuesday, Nov. 24, 2026.

This Month's Local Area Press Releases

Click on the map below to open your local area's press release.



To file a claim for unemployment benefits or get more information about unemployment programs, visit unemployment.oregon.gov.

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