

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 23, 2026

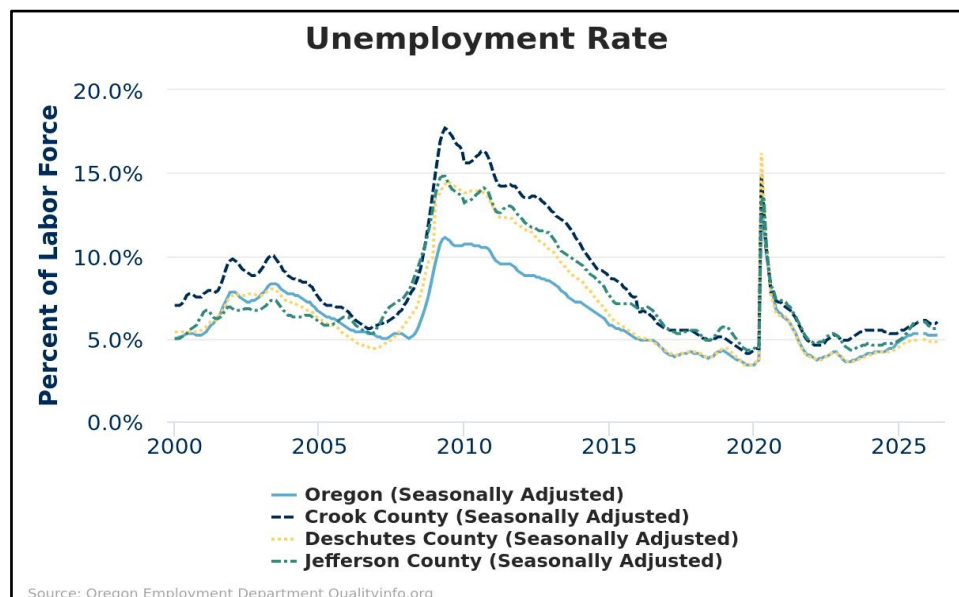
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Employment in Central Oregon: May 2026

Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates in Central Oregon continued to hold steady in both Deschutes and Jefferson counties but continued to increase slightly in Crook County.

Bend MSA (Crook, Deschutes, and Jefferson Counties): The Bend MSA's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.9% in May, unchanged from the April rate of 4.9%. Last year in May the unemployment rate was also 4.9%.

The Bend MSA's employment gains in May were less than normal; total nonfarm employment was up 900 during the month (+0.8%), when an employment increase of 940 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment was down 40 (-0.04%) between April and May.



The largest gains occurred in leisure and hospitality (+500 jobs); other services (+130 jobs); and federal government (+80 jobs). Smaller but noticeable gains were also seen in professional and business services (+70 jobs); financial activities (+60 jobs); trade, transportation, and utilities (+50 jobs); manufacturing (+50 jobs); and mining, logging, and construction (+20 jobs). Losses were minimal and occurred in private education and health services (-80 jobs) and information (-10 jobs).

Seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment has shed 1,410 jobs (-1.3%) over the year. While a loss of 450 jobs was expected, total nonfarm employment decreased by 960 (-0.9%) jobs from May 2025 to May 2026. Over the year, job losses were widespread with the largest private-sector losses seen in leisure and hospitality (-480 jobs) and trade, transportation, and utilities (-460 jobs), specifically within

retail trade (-310 jobs) and wholesale trade (-110 jobs). Other noticeable losses occurred in professional and business services (-120 jobs), information (-80 jobs), and manufacturing (-70 jobs). Gains were not as widespread and concentrated within a handful of industries with 300 jobs gained in private education and health services; 280 jobs gained in other services; 80 jobs in mining, logging, and construction; and 10 in financial activities.

Crook County: The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 6.0% in May 2026, slightly above the April rate of 5.9%. Crook County's unemployment rate has increased 0.3 percentage point from the previous year when it was 5.7%.

Crook County's employment gains in May were smaller than normal; total nonfarm employment was up 70 (+1.0%) during the month, when an increase of 90 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment was down 20 (-0.3%) between April and May.

Gains were concentrated within government employment (+40 jobs) and leisure and hospitality (+30 jobs). Within the public sector, federal government gained 30 jobs over the month, and local government gained 10 jobs. Smaller gains were also seen in professional and business services (+10 jobs) and construction (+10 jobs). Losses occurred within wholesale trade (-10 jobs) and information (-10 jobs). All other major industries saw little to no change over the month.

Over the past year Crook County's seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment has lost 360 jobs (-4.9%); while a decline of 10 jobs was expected, Crook County's total nonfarm decreased by 370 jobs. Private-sector losses were concentrated within the manufacturing industry (-130 jobs) with wood product manufacturing losing 120 jobs over the year. Losses also occurred in construction (-90 jobs); professional and business services (-40 jobs); information (-30 jobs); leisure and hospitality (-20 jobs); and mining and logging (-10 jobs). The public sector lost 120 jobs from May 2025 to May 2026, with federal government down 60 jobs over the year and local government down 70 jobs. State government gained 10 jobs. Over the year private-sector job gains were not as widespread and were concentrated within private education and health services (+50 jobs), financial activities (+10 jobs), and other services (+10 jobs).

Deschutes County: The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.8% in May 2026, unchanged from April's rate. A year ago, in May 2025, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was also 4.8%.

Deschutes County's employment gains in May were less than normal; total nonfarm employment was up 670 (+0.7%) during the month, when an employment increase of 820 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment was down 150 (-0.2%) between April and May.

Losses were minimal and concentrated in private education and health services (-80 jobs) with minor losses in information (-10 jobs). Gains were more widespread with leisure and hospitality (+430 jobs) and other services (+120 jobs) gaining the most jobs over the month. Smaller job gains also occurred in financial activities (+50 jobs); professional and business services (+40 jobs); trade, transportation, and utilities (+30 jobs); and manufacturing (+30 jobs). Within the trade, transportation, and utilities

industry, retail trade (+30 jobs) and transportation, warehousing, and utilities (+10 jobs) gained jobs over the month, while wholesale trade (-10 jobs) lost jobs.

From May 2025 to May 2026, private job gains were concentrated in mining, logging, and construction (+280 jobs); other services (+180 jobs); and private education and health services (+130 jobs). Smaller gains were also seen in manufacturing (+40 jobs). Over the year, private-sector losses were more widespread and concentrated in leisure and hospitality (-500 jobs); trade, transportation, and utilities (-280 jobs); and professional and business services (-100 jobs). Smaller job losses also occurred in information (-40 jobs) and financial activities (-10 jobs).

Jefferson County: The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.6% in May 2026, unchanged from April's rate and 0.1 percentage point above the May 2025 rate.

Jefferson County's employment gains in May were higher than normal; total nonfarm employment gained 140 (+2.0%) during the month, when an employment increase of 60 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment was up 80 (+1.2%) between April and May.

The only losses occurred within private education and health services with a decline of 10 jobs over the month. Gains were strongest in leisure and hospitality (+40 jobs); the public sector (+30 jobs), specifically at the local level (+30 jobs); professional and business services (+20 jobs); and manufacturing (+20 jobs). Smaller gains were also observed in construction (+10 jobs); trade, transportation, and utilities (+10 jobs); financial activities (+10 jobs); and other services (+10 jobs).

Over the past year Jefferson County's seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment has added 240 jobs (+3.6%). While a decline of 10 was expected, Jefferson County's total nonfarm employment increased by 230 jobs over the past year (+3.4%). Gains were concentrated within the public sector (+120 jobs) with local government gaining 100 jobs over the year. Private-sector gains were also recorded in other services (+70 jobs); private education and health services (+50 jobs); construction (+30 jobs); leisure and hospitality (+30 jobs); manufacturing (+20 jobs); and professional and business services (+10 jobs). Private-sector losses were not as widespread and occurred in trade, transportation, and utilities (-100 jobs) with retail trade being affected the most (-80 jobs).

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the next statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for June on Wednesday, July 15 and county and metropolitan area unemployment rates and employment survey data on Tuesday, July 21.



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June 23, 2026

Bend MSA Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	May 2026	April 2026	May 2025	April 2026	May 2025
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	135,404	134,262	134,623	1,142	781
Unemployed	6,192	6,089	6,118	103	74
Unemployment rate	4.6%	4.5%	4.5%	0.1	0.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>4.9%</i>	<i>4.9%</i>	<i>4.9%</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>0.0</i>
Employed	129,212	128,173	128,505	1,039	707
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	110,520	109,620	111,930	900	-1,410
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>109,690</i>	<i>109,730</i>	<i>110,650</i>	<i>-40</i>	<i>-960</i>
Total private	96,190	95,400	96,730	790	-540
Mining, logging, and construction	9,300	9,280	9,220	20	80
Manufacturing	8,420	8,370	8,490	50	-70
Durable goods	5,870	5,860	5,880	10	-10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	18,190	18,140	18,650	50	-460
Wholesale trade	2,850	2,860	2,960	-10	-110
Retail trade	12,710	12,660	13,020	50	-310
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	2,630	2,620	2,670	10	-40
Information	1,950	1,960	2,030	-10	-80
Financial activities	5,540	5,480	5,530	60	10
Professional and business services	12,700	12,630	12,820	70	-120
Private education and health services	20,030	20,110	19,730	-80	300
Leisure and hospitality	15,680	15,180	16,160	500	-480
Accommodation and food services	13,370	12,790	13,430	580	-60
Other services	4,380	4,250	4,100	130	280
Government	14,330	14,220	15,200	110	-870
Federal government	1,390	1,310	1,480	80	-90
State government	1,720	1,720	1,660	0	60
Local government	11,220	11,190	12,060	30	-840
Local education	5,650	5,680	6,610	-30	-960

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: Official Oregon Series. 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 Bend MSA includes Crook, Deschutes, and Jefferson counties.



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June 23, 2026

Crook County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	May 2026	April 2026	May 2025	April 2026	May 2025
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	13,126	13,061	12,985	65	141
Unemployed	723	735	663	-12	60
Unemployment rate	5.5%	5.6%	5.1%	-0.1	0.4
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	6.0%	5.9%	5.7%	0.1	0.3
Employed	12,403	12,326	12,322	77	81
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	7,130	7,060	7,500	70	-370
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	7,090	7,110	7,450	-20	-360
Total private	5,830	5,800	6,080	30	-250
Mining, logging, and construction	860	850	960	10	-100
Mining and logging	30	30	40	0	-10
Construction	830	820	920	10	-90
Manufacturing	610	610	740	0	-130
Wood product manufacturing	210	210	330	0	-120
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,200	1,210	1,200	-10	0
Wholesale trade	350	360	360	-10	-10
Retail trade	610	610	620	0	-10
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	240	240	220	0	20
Information	210	220	240	-10	-30
Financial activities	250	250	240	0	10
Professional and business services	600	590	640	10	-40
Private education and health services	930	930	880	0	50
Leisure and hospitality	880	850	900	30	-20
Other services	290	290	280	0	10
Government	1,300	1,260	1,420	40	-120
Federal government	270	240	330	30	-60
State government	140	140	130	0	10
Local government	890	880	960	10	-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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Deschutes County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	May 2026	April 2026	May 2025	April 2026	May 2025
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	111,144	110,145	110,573	999	571
Unemployed	4,928	4,812	4,917	116	11
Unemployment rate	4.4%	4.4%	4.4%	0.0	0.0
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.8%	4.8%	4.8%	0.0	0.0
Employed	106,216	105,333	105,656	883	560
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	96,430	95,760	97,620	670	-1,190
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	95,710	95,860	96,510	-150	-800
Total private	85,950	85,340	86,250	610	-300
Mining, logging, and construction	8,340	8,340	8,060	0	280
Manufacturing	6,620	6,590	6,580	30	40
Durable goods	4,340	4,350	4,240	-10	100
Trade, transportation, and utilities	16,210	16,180	16,490	30	-280
Wholesale trade	2,350	2,360	2,430	-10	-80
Retail trade	11,580	11,550	11,720	30	-140
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	2,280	2,270	2,340	10	-60
Information	1,710	1,720	1,750	-10	-40
Financial activities	5,140	5,090	5,150	50	-10
Professional and business services	11,830	11,790	11,930	40	-100
Private education and health services	18,190	18,270	18,060	-80	130
Leisure and hospitality	14,090	13,660	14,590	430	-500
Accommodation and food services	11,890	11,350	11,970	540	-80
Other services	3,820	3,700	3,640	120	180
Government	10,480	10,420	11,370	60	-890
Federal government	1,050	990	1,050	60	0
State government	1,150	1,150	1,150	0	0
Local government	8,280	8,280	9,170	0	-890
Local education	4,420	4,450	5,330	-30	-910

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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Jefferson County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	May 2026	April 2026	May 2025	April 2026	May 2025
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	11,134	11,056	11,065	78	69
Unemployed	541	542	538	-1	3
Unemployment rate	4.9%	4.9%	4.9%	0.0	0.0
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.6%	5.6%	5.5%	0.0	0.1
Employed	10,593	10,514	10,527	79	66
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	7,040	6,900	6,810	140	230
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	6,950	6,870	6,710	80	240
Total private	4,510	4,400	4,400	110	110
Mining, logging, and construction	230	220	200	10	30
Mining and logging	10	10	10	0	0
Construction	220	210	190	10	30
Manufacturing	1,190	1,170	1,170	20	20
Wood product manufacturing	900	890	880	10	20
Trade, transportation, and utilities	860	850	960	10	-100
Wholesale trade	160	160	170	0	-10
Retail trade	600	590	680	10	-80
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	100	100	110	0	-10
Information	40	40	40	0	0
Financial activities	140	130	140	10	0
Professional and business services	260	240	250	20	10
Private education and health services	840	850	790	-10	50
Leisure and hospitality	700	660	670	40	30
Other services	250	240	180	10	70
Government	2,530	2,500	2,410	30	120
Federal government	90	90	100	0	-10
State government	410	410	380	0	30
Local government	2,030	2,000	1,930	30	100
Indian tribal	930	920	850	10	80

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.

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