State of Oregon
Employment Department

NEWS

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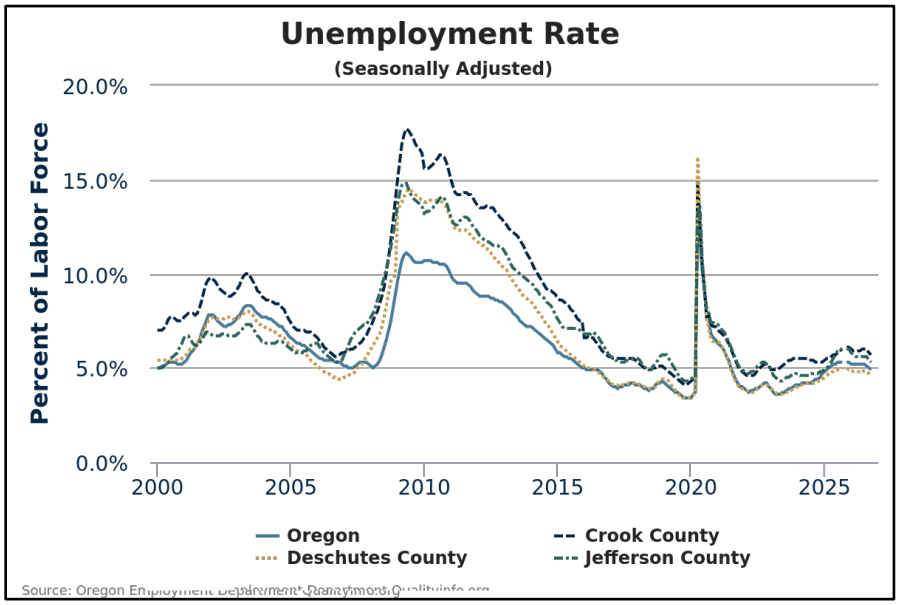
Employment in Central Oregon: October 2026

Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates were little changed across Central Oregon with marginal declines in October.

Bend MSA (Crook, Deschutes, and Jefferson Counties): The Bend MSA's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.8% in October, unchanged from September's rate.

The Bend MSA's employment gains were larger than normal this October; total nonfarm employment was up by 10 jobs during the month, when an employment decrease of 30 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment was up by 40 jobs between September and October, led by public-sector growth.



Public-sector employment increased by 500 jobs, driven by a seasonal increase in local government (+550). In contrast, federal government was down 40 jobs while state government was down 10. Private-sector employment fell by 490 jobs (-0.5%) over the month, with the largest declines concentrated in leisure and hospitality (-490 jobs) and mining, logging, and construction (-140 jobs). Smaller losses appeared in financial activities (-40 jobs) and other services (-10 jobs). Private-sector gains were strongest in trade, transportation, and utilities (+130 jobs) with all gains taking place in retail trade (+140 jobs). Smaller private gains were seen in private education and health services (+50 jobs) and professional and business services (+10 jobs).

Seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment in the Bend MSA declined by 290 jobs over the year. While an increase of 1,730 jobs was anticipated, total nonfarm employment instead increased by 1,440 jobs (+1.3%) on an unadjusted basis over the year, falling short of expectations and resulting in our

seasonally adjusted number. The private sector experienced a net gain of 780 jobs (+0.8%), with the largest gains seen in leisure and hospitality (+950 jobs), private education and health services (+330 jobs), and manufacturing (+250 jobs). Smaller gains occurred in trade, transportation, and utilities (+60 jobs) and other services (+10 jobs). Private-sector losses were concentrated in professional and business services (-530 jobs); mining, logging, and construction (-240 jobs); financial activities (-40 jobs); and information (-10 jobs). Public-sector employment increased by 660 jobs, primarily driven by local government (+480 jobs), with smaller gains in both federal (+140 jobs) and state (+40 jobs) government.

Crook County: Crook County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate went from a revised rate of 5.8% in September to 5.7% in October.

Employment losses came in slightly larger than typical for October. Total nonfarm employment fell by 10 jobs (-0.1%), compared with an expected increase of around 20 jobs. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment decreased by 30 jobs (-0.4%) from September to October.

Public-sector employment was unchanged over the month. Private-sector employment declined by 10 jobs, with losses occurring in leisure and hospitality (-30), construction (-10), and professional and business services (-10 jobs). Private gains were not as large and occurred in private education and health services (+20 jobs), financial activities (+10 jobs), and manufacturing (+10 jobs).

Crook County's seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment decreased by 210 jobs (-2.9%) over the past year; total nonfarm employment shed 220 jobs when a decline of 10 jobs was expected. Private-sector losses were concentrated in construction (-160 jobs) and trade, transportation, and utilities (-110 jobs). Additional smaller losses occurred in information (-40 jobs); other services (-40 jobs); private education and health services (-30 jobs); and mining and logging (-10 jobs). Private-sector gains were not as large and seen in leisure and hospitality (+50); manufacturing (+30 jobs); financial activities (+20 jobs); and professional and business services (+10 jobs). Public employment increased by 60 jobs year over year, with local government down 20 jobs and federal government up 80 jobs.

Deschutes County: Deschutes County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate declined 0.1 percentage point in October and is now 4.6%.

Employment gains were stronger than normal in October. Total nonfarm employment rose by 80 jobs (+0.1%), opposite the usual September decrease of about 30 jobs. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment increased by 110 jobs between September and October.

The public sector was responsible for most of the month's gains (+520 jobs), driven by a 580-job seasonal increase in local government education. Both state (-10 jobs) and federal government (-40 jobs) lost jobs over the month. On the private side, employment declined by 440 jobs, with leisure and hospitality posting the largest losses (-420 jobs), followed by mining, logging, and construction (-160 jobs) with a smaller pullback in financial activities (-40 jobs) and other services (-10 jobs). Private gains were strongest in trade, transportation, and utilities (+130 jobs) with all gains taking place in

retail trade (+140 jobs). Additional gains were seen in private education and health services (+30 jobs) and professional and business services (+30 jobs).

Deschutes County gained 200 seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs (+0.2%) over the year. Total nonfarm employment grew by 1,710 jobs (+1.8%) on an unadjusted basis, compared with an anticipated gain of 1,510 jobs, beating expectations. Private-sector employment gained 1,100 jobs (+1.3%), with the largest gains registered in leisure and hospitality (+950 jobs); private education and health services (+340 jobs); trade, transportation, and utilities (+270 jobs); and manufacturing (+180 jobs). Smaller gains occurred in information (+20 jobs) and other services (+20 jobs). Private-sector losses were concentrated in professional and business services (-550 jobs); financial activities (-80 jobs); and mining, logging, and construction (-50 jobs). Public-sector employment increased by 610 jobs, primarily driven by local government (+520 jobs), with smaller gains in both federal (+70 jobs) and state (+20 jobs) government.

Jefferson County: Jefferson County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate declined from a revised rate of 5.4% in September to 5.3% in October.

Employment declines were stronger than normal in October. Total nonfarm employment decreased by 90 jobs (-1.3%), when a decline of 50 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment decreased by 40 jobs (-0.6%) in October.

Total private employment was down 70 jobs with the largest losses seen in leisure and hospitality (-40 jobs). Additional but smaller losses were also seen in retail trade (-10 jobs); professional and business services (-10 jobs); private education and health services (-10 jobs); and other services (-10 jobs). Private gains were minimal and occurred in construction (+10 jobs). Government employment was down 20 jobs with the only movement happening at the local level (-20 jobs).

Over the year, Jefferson County shed 60 seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs (-0.9%). Losses were registered in leisure and hospitality (-50 jobs); trade, transportation, and utilities (-40 jobs); government (-30 jobs); and professional and business services (-20 jobs). Gains were smaller and seen in manufacturing (+40 jobs); other services (+20 jobs); financial activities (+10 jobs); and construction (+10 jobs).

Next Press Releases

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

State of Oregon Employment Department

Workforce & Economic Research Division
QualityInfo.org
November 24, 2026

Bend MSA Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

				--Change From--	
	October 2026	September 2026	October 2025	September 2026	October 2025
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	136,110	136,095	NA	15	NA
Unemployed	5,660	5,450	NA	210	NA
Unemployment rate	4.2%	4.0%	NA	0.2	NA
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)	*4.8%*	*4.8%*	*NA*	*0.0*	*NA*
Employed	130,450	130,645	NA	-195	NA
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	113,090	113,080	111,650	10	1,440
Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)	*111,250*	*111,210*	*111,540*	*40*	*-290*
Total private	97,550	98,040	96,770	-490	780
Mining, logging, and construction	9,300	9,440	9,540	-140	-240
Manufacturing	8,600	8,600	8,350	0	250
Durable goods	6,050	6,050	5,790	0	260
Trade, transportation, and utilities	18,750	18,620	18,690	130	60
Wholesale trade	2,860	2,870	2,940	-10	-80
Retail trade	13,130	12,990	13,040	140	90
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	2,760	2,760	2,710	0	50
Information	2,010	2,010	2,020	0	-10
Financial activities	5,690	5,730	5,730	-40	-40
Professional and business services	12,040	12,030	12,570	10	-530
Private education and health services	20,290	20,240	19,960	50	330
Leisure and hospitality	16,610	17,100	15,660	-490	950
Accommodation and food services	13,930	14,280	13,260	-350	670
Other services	4,260	4,270	4,250	-10	10
Government	15,540	15,040	14,880	500	660
Federal government	1,430	1,470	1,290	-40	140
State government	1,710	1,720	1,670	-10	40
Local government	12,400	11,850	11,920	550	480
Local education	6,850	6,220	6,370	630	480

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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Crook County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

				--Change From--	
	October 2026	September 2026	October 2025	September 2026	October 2025
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	13,177	13,200	NA	-23	NA
Unemployed	627	621	NA	6	NA
Unemployment rate	4.8%	4.7%	NA	0.1	NA
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)	*5.7%*	*5.8%*	*NA*	*-0.1*	*NA*
Employed	12,550	12,579	NA	-29	NA
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	7,190	7,200	7,410	-10	-220
Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)	*7,080*	*7,110*	*7,290*	*-30*	*-210*
Total private	5,780	5,790	6,060	-10	-280
Mining, logging, and construction	810	820	980	-10	-170
Mining and logging	40	40	50	0	-10
Construction	770	780	930	-10	-160
Manufacturing	640	630	610	10	30
Wood product manufacturing	220	220	210	0	10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,120	1,120	1,230	0	-110
Wholesale trade	360	360	370	0	-10
Retail trade	570	570	620	0	-50
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	190	190	240	0	-50
Information	190	190	230	0	-40
Financial activities	280	270	260	10	20
Professional and business services	640	650	630	-10	10
Private education and health services	880	860	910	20	-30
Leisure and hospitality	950	980	900	-30	50
Other services	270	270	310	0	-40
Government	1,410	1,410	1,350	0	60
Federal government	340	340	260	0	80
State government	140	140	140	0	0
Local government	930	930	950	0	-20

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--	
	October 2026	September 2026	October 2025	September 2026	October 2025
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	111,739	111,701	NA	38	NA
Unemployed	4,549	4,348	NA	201	NA
Unemployment rate	4.1%	3.9%	NA	0.2	NA
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)	*4.6%*	*4.7%*	*NA*	*-0.1*	*NA*
Employed	107,190	107,353	NA	-163	NA
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	99,150	99,070	97,440	80	1,710
Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)	*97,540*	*97,430*	*97,340*	*110*	*200*
Total private	87,400	87,840	86,300	-440	1,100
Mining, logging, and construction	8,300	8,460	8,350	-160	-50
Manufacturing	6,800	6,800	6,620	0	180
Durable goods	4,520	4,520	4,330	0	190
Trade, transportation, and utilities	16,760	16,630	16,490	130	270
Wholesale trade	2,370	2,380	2,410	-10	-40
Retail trade	11,920	11,780	11,720	140	200
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	2,470	2,470	2,360	0	110
Information	1,770	1,770	1,750	0	20
Financial activities	5,260	5,300	5,340	-40	-80
Professional and business services	11,140	11,110	11,690	30	-550
Private education and health services	18,590	18,560	18,250	30	340
Leisure and hospitality	15,020	15,440	14,070	-420	950
Accommodation and food services	12,430	12,730	11,760	-300	670
Other services	3,760	3,770	3,740	-10	20
Government	11,750	11,230	11,140	520	610
Federal government	1,000	1,040	930	-40	70
State government	1,160	1,170	1,140	-10	20
Local government	9,590	9,020	9,070	570	520
Local education	5,670	5,090	5,160	580	510

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--	
	October 2026	September 2026	October 2025	September 2026	October 2025
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	11,194	11,194	NA	0	NA
Unemployed	484	481	NA	3	NA
Unemployment rate	4.3%	4.3%	NA	0.0	NA
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)	*5.3%*	*5.4%*	*NA*	*-0.1*	*NA*
Employed	10,710	10,713	NA	-3	NA
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	6,740	6,830	6,800	-90	-60
Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)	*6,730*	*6,770*	*6,790*	*-40*	*-60*
Total private	4,380	4,450	4,410	-70	-30
Mining, logging, and construction	220	210	210	10	10
Mining and logging	10	10	10	0	0
Construction	210	200	200	10	10
Manufacturing	1,160	1,160	1,120	0	40
Wood product manufacturing	880	880	840	0	40
Trade, transportation, and utilities	930	940	970	-10	-40
Wholesale trade	140	140	160	0	-20
Retail trade	680	690	700	-10	-20
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	110	110	110	0	0
Information	40	40	40	0	0
Financial activities	140	140	130	0	10
Professional and business services	230	240	250	-10	-20
Private education and health services	800	810	800	-10	0
Leisure and hospitality	640	680	690	-40	-50
Other services	220	230	200	-10	20
Government	2,360	2,380	2,390	-20	-30
Federal government	90	90	100	0	-10
State government	410	410	390	0	20
Local government	1,860	1,880	1,900	-20	-40
Indian tribal	850	900	860	-50	-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.

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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