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Employment in Eastern Oregon: June 2026

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rates in five of the six Eastern Oregon counties were down or the same over the year ending June 2026. Malheur County's rate continues to rank among the lowest of Oregon's 36 counties, with June's rate ranking third lowest in the state in a three-way tie with Morrow and Wheeler. Since May, four counties' rates increased slightly, while two were unchanged. Collectively, the Eastern Oregon counties' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.1% in June 2026, down from 5.5% in June 2025. The Oregon rate held steady at 5.2%, and the national rate was 4.2%.

Baker County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased slightly to 5.4% in June. This rate is up from 5.3% in June 2025. Over the month, seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment increased by 30. Collectively, the private sector added 10 jobs over the month, and government added 60. Total nonfarm employment increased by 30 over the 12-month period ending June 2026. The largest losses were in trade, transportation, and utilities (-40), professional and business services (-30), and leisure and hospitality (-30). Over the year, the largest gains occurred in private education and health services (+120). Public-sector employment increased by 50 over the year, with 60 jobs added in local government.

Grant County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 6.6% in June and 6.5% in May. This rate is down from 7.6% in June 2025. Since May, seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment decreased by 10. Overall, the private sector added 10 jobs over the month, and government added 60. Over the year ending June 2026, seasonally adjusted nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 10. In the private sector, total employment increased by 50. The largest gains were in construction (+40). Total public-sector employment decreased by 40 over the 12-month period, with the bulk of those losses in local government (-30).

Harney County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.9% in June and 4.7% in May. This rate is the same as the June 2025 rate. Since May, seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment decreased by 70. In the not seasonally adjusted industries, the private sector collectively added 10 jobs, and the public sector lost 110 jobs. Over the year ending June 2026, nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 200 jobs. The private sector collectively dropped 60 jobs, despite a gain of 30 jobs in private education and health services. Public-sector employment decreased by 140, with the largest losses occurring in federal government (-60) and local government (-60).

Malheur County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased slightly to 4.6% in June, up from 4.4% in May. This rate is down from 4.8% in June 2025. Over the month, seasonally adjusted nonfarm

employment increased by 40. In the not seasonally adjusted industries, there was a loss of 30 jobs in private education and health services. The largest gains were in retail trade (+20). Total public-sector employment decreased by 40. Over the year, total nonfarm employment increased by 30. In the private sector, the largest losses occurred in professional and business services (-40). There were significant gains in private education and health services (+130). There were also gains in wholesale trade (+50) and manufacturing (+20). Total public-sector employment decreased by 90, with the largest losses occurring in federal government (-90).

Union County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady at 5.0% in June. This rate is down from 5.8% in June 2025. Since May, seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment decreased by 60. In the not seasonally adjusted industries, there was a loss of 60 in private education and health services. The largest gains were in construction (+20). Total public-sector employment decreased by 70, with an 80-job loss in local government. Over the year ending June 2026, seasonally adjusted employment increased by 130. In the private sector, there were losses in retail trade (-30). There were significant gains in financial activities (+100), construction (+60), and manufacturing (+50). Over the year, total government employment decreased by 80.

Wallowa County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady at 5.9% in June. This rate is up slightly from 5.8% in June 2025. Over the month, seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment decreased by 10. In the not seasonally adjusted industries, there were gains in leisure and hospitality (+100). In the public sector, there was a loss of 20 jobs in local government. Over the year ending June 2026, total nonfarm employment decreased by 100 jobs. The largest losses were in trade, transportation, and utilities (-50). Public-sector employment decreased by 10.

Next News Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the July statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data on Wednesday, Aug. 19, and July county and metropolitan area unemployment and jobs data on Tuesday, Aug. 25.



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July 21, 2026

Baker County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	June 2026	May 2026	June 2025	May 2026	June 2025
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	6,927	6,864	6,798	63	129
Unemployed	366	331	355	35	11
Unemployment rate	5.3%	4.8%	5.2%	0.5	0.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>5.4%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>5.7%</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>-0.3</i>
Employed	6,561	6,533	6,443	28	118
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	5,630	5,560	5,600	70	30
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>5,540</i>	<i>5,510</i>	<i>5,510</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>30</i>
Total private	4,290	4,280	4,310	10	-20
Mining, logging, and construction	270	260	290	10	-20
Mining and logging	10	10	20	0	-10
Construction	260	250	270	10	-10
Manufacturing	570	560	570	10	0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,090	1,090	1,130	0	-40
Wholesale trade	70	70	70	0	0
Retail trade	790	790	820	0	-30
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	230	230	240	0	-10
Information	60	60	60	0	0
Financial activities	160	160	170	0	-10
Professional and business services	290	290	320	0	-30
Private education and health services	1,170	1,180	1,050	-10	120
Leisure and hospitality	510	490	540	20	-30
Other services	170	190	180	-20	-10
Government	1,340	1,280	1,290	60	50
Federal government	200	190	210	10	-10
State government	250	250	250	0	0
Local government	890	840	830	50	60

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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Grant County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	June 2026	May 2026	June 2025	May 2026	June 2025
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	3,073	3,019	3,085	54	-12
Unemployed	178	171	196	7	-18
Unemployment rate	5.8%	5.7%	6.4%	0.1	-0.6
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)	6.6%	6.5%	7.6%	0.1	-1.0
Employed	2,895	2,848	2,889	47	6
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	2,410	2,340	2,410	70	0
Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)	2,330	2,340	2,330	-10	0
Total private	1,320	1,310	1,310	10	10
Mining, logging, and construction	250	250	230	0	20
Mining and logging	90	90	110	0	-20
Construction	160	160	120	0	40
Manufacturing	10	10	20	0	-10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	340	330	330	10	10
Wholesale trade	40	40	40	0	0
Retail trade	240	230	230	10	10
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	60	60	60	0	0
Information	50	50	40	0	10
Financial activities	80	80	80	0	0
Professional and business services	120	120	130	0	-10
Private education and health services	210	220	210	-10	0
Leisure and hospitality	200	190	210	10	-10
Other services	60	60	60	0	0
Government	1,090	1,030	1,100	60	-10
Federal government	250	230	270	20	-20
State government	180	170	170	10	10
Local government	660	630	660	30	0

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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Harney County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	June 2026	May 2026	June 2025	May 2026	June 2025
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	3,468	3,558	3,636	-90	-168
Unemployed	167	155	154	12	13
Unemployment rate	4.8%	4.4%	4.2%	0.4	0.6
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)	4.9%	4.7%	4.9%	0.2	0.0
Employed	3,301	3,403	3,482	-102	-181
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	2,300	2,400	2,500	-100	-200
Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)	2,270	2,340	2,470	-70	-200
Total private	1,340	1,330	1,400	10	-60
Trade, transportation, and utilities	400	400	420	0	-20
Wholesale trade	50	50	50	0	0
Retail trade	310	310	320	0	-10
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	40	40	50	0	-10
Information	10	10	10	0	0
Financial activities	60	60	70	0	-10
Professional and business services	90	90	90	0	0
Private education and health services	300	300	270	0	30
Leisure and hospitality	330	320	330	10	0
Other services	50	50	70	0	-20
Government	960	1,070	1,100	-110	-140
Federal government	160	160	220	0	-60
State government	140	140	160	0	-20
Local government	660	770	720	-110	-60

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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Malheur County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	June 2026	May 2026	June 2025	May 2026	June 2025
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	13,344	13,172	13,376	172	-32
Unemployed	718	560	687	158	31
Unemployment rate	5.4%	4.3%	5.1%	1.1	0.3
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>4.6%</i>	<i>4.4%</i>	<i>4.8%</i>	<i>0.2</i>	<i>-0.2</i>
Employed	12,626	12,612	12,689	14	-63
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	12,460	12,490	12,450	-30	10
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>12,490</i>	<i>12,450</i>	<i>12,460</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>30</i>
Total private	8,880	8,870	8,780	10	100
Mining, logging, and construction	390	390	400	0	-10
Manufacturing	1,090	1,090	1,070	0	20
Trade, transportation, and utilities	3,090	3,070	3,050	20	40
Wholesale trade	510	510	460	0	50
Retail trade	2,210	2,190	2,220	20	-10
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	370	370	370	0	0
Information	70	70	70	0	0
Financial activities	270	260	270	10	0
Professional and business services	390	390	430	0	-40
Private education and health services	2,010	2,040	1,880	-30	130
Leisure and hospitality	1,290	1,280	1,330	10	-40
Other services	280	280	280	0	0
Government	3,580	3,620	3,670	-40	-90
Federal government	130	130	220	0	-90
State government	1,400	1,400	1,430	0	-30
Local government	2,050	2,090	2,020	-40	30

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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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Union County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	June 2026	May 2026	June 2025	May 2026	June 2025
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	12,262	12,348	12,075	-86	187
Unemployed	611	551	677	60	-66
Unemployment rate	5.0%	4.5%	5.6%	0.5	-0.6
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5%	5%	6%	0.0	-1.0
Employed	11,651	11,797	11,398	-146	253
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	10,790	10,890	10,670	-100	120
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	10,710	10,770	10,580	-60	130
Total private	8,270	8,300	8,070	-30	200
Mining, logging, and construction	650	630	600	20	50
Mining and logging	20	20	30	0	-10
Construction	630	610	570	20	60
Manufacturing	1,220	1,210	1,170	10	50
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,000	2,030	2,000	-30	0
Wholesale trade	230	230	220	0	10
Retail trade	1,400	1,410	1,430	-10	-30
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	370	390	350	-20	20
Information	70	70	70	0	0
Financial activities	590	580	490	10	100
Professional and business services	590	590	600	0	-10
Private education and health services	1,800	1,860	1,770	-60	30
Leisure and hospitality	1,020	1,010	1,030	10	-10
Other services	330	320	340	10	-10
Government	2,520	2,590	2,600	-70	-80
Federal government	260	260	260	0	0
State government	430	420	440	10	-10
Local government	1,830	1,910	1,900	-80	-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.

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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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Wallowa County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	June 2026	May 2026	June 2025	May 2026	June 2025
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	3,827	3,697	3,894	130	-67
Unemployed	195	203	189	-8	6
Unemployment rate	5.1%	5.5%	4.9%	-0.4	0.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>5.9%</i>	<i>5.9%</i>	<i>5.8%</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>0.1</i>
Employed	3,632	3,494	3,705	138	-73
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	2,940	2,790	3,050	150	-110
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>2,740</i>	<i>2,750</i>	<i>2,840</i>	<i>-10</i>	<i>-100</i>
Total private	2,120	1,950	2,220	170	-100
Mining, logging, and construction	230	220	260	10	-30
Mining and logging	40	40	50	0	-10
Construction	190	180	210	10	-20
Manufacturing	150	130	160	20	-10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	470	450	520	20	-50
Wholesale and retail trade	360	350	380	10	-20
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	110	100	140	10	-30
Information	30	30	30	0	0
Financial activities	160	160	170	0	-10
Professional and business services	140	140	150	0	-10
Private education and health services	390	380	380	10	10
Leisure and hospitality	420	320	410	100	10
Other services	130	120	140	10	-10
Government	820	840	830	-20	-10
Federal government	100	100	110	0	-10
State government	120	120	120	0	0
Local government	600	620	600	-20	0

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.

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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.

The pdf version of the news release, including tables and graphs, can be found at www.qualityinfo.org/press-release/. To obtain the data in other formats such as in Excel, visit QualityInfo.org, select Tools, and choose LAUS or CES from the dropdown menu. To request the press release as a Word document, contact the person shown at the top of this press release.

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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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