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Employment in Josephine County: July 2026

Josephine County Shows Slight Job Gain Over the Year

Total payroll employment in Josephine County fell by 640 jobs in July, mostly due to a seasonally expected decline of 700 jobs in local government education. Small gains were estimated in leisure and hospitality (+30); manufacturing (+20); and construction (+20). Employment in trade, transportation, and utilities dipped by 20 jobs over the month.

Over the past year payroll employment in the Grants Pass MSA (Josephine County) rose by 100 jobs, or a gain of 0.4%. Private education and health services had the largest gain, up by 370 jobs. Job growth was also estimated in professional and business services (+80) and other services (+20). The most notable job declines were in leisure and hospitality (-120); manufacturing (-90); financial activities (-70); construction (-30); and retail trade (-30).

Government employment fell by 30 jobs over the year. Losses occurred in local government education (-70), state government (-30), and federal government (-10). Non-education local government added 80 jobs since July 2025.

Josephine County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was estimated at 7.0% in July, little changed over the month and down slightly from the July 2025 rate of 7.4%.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the August county and metropolitan area unemployment rates and employment survey data on Tuesday, Sep. 22nd, and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for August on Wednesday, Sep. 16th.

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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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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Workforce & Economic Research Division

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Grants Pass MSA (Josephine County) Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	July 2026	June 2026	July 2025	June 2026	July 2025
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	35,753	35,934	35,823	-181	-70
Unemployed	2,758	2,654	2,806	104	-48
Unemployment rate	7.7%	7.4%	7.8%	0.3	-0.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>7.0%</i>	<i>6.8%</i>	<i>7.4%</i>	<i>0.2</i>	<i>-0.4</i>
Employed	32,995	33,280	33,017	-285	-22
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	26,820	27,460	26,720	-640	100
Total private	23,990	23,960	23,860	30	130
Mining, logging, and construction	1,300	1,280	1,320	20	-20
Mining and logging	90	90	80	0	10
Construction	1,210	1,190	1,240	20	-30
Manufacturing	2,700	2,680	2,790	20	-90
Wood product manufacturing	510	500	520	10	-10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	5,010	5,030	5,060	-20	-50
Wholesale trade	530	540	550	-10	-20
Retail trade	4,000	4,000	4,030	0	-30
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	480	490	480	-10	0
Information	250	250	240	0	10
Financial activities	1,450	1,450	1,520	0	-70
Professional and business services	1,810	1,810	1,730	0	80
Private education and health services	6,940	6,950	6,570	-10	370
Leisure and hospitality	3,500	3,470	3,620	30	-120
Other services	1,030	1,040	1,010	-10	20
Government	2,830	3,500	2,860	-670	-30
Federal government	300	290	310	10	-10
State government	510	510	540	0	-30
Local government	2,020	2,700	2,010	-680	10
Local education	1,120	1,820	1,190	-700	-70
Local government excluding educational services	900	880	820	20	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: 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.

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