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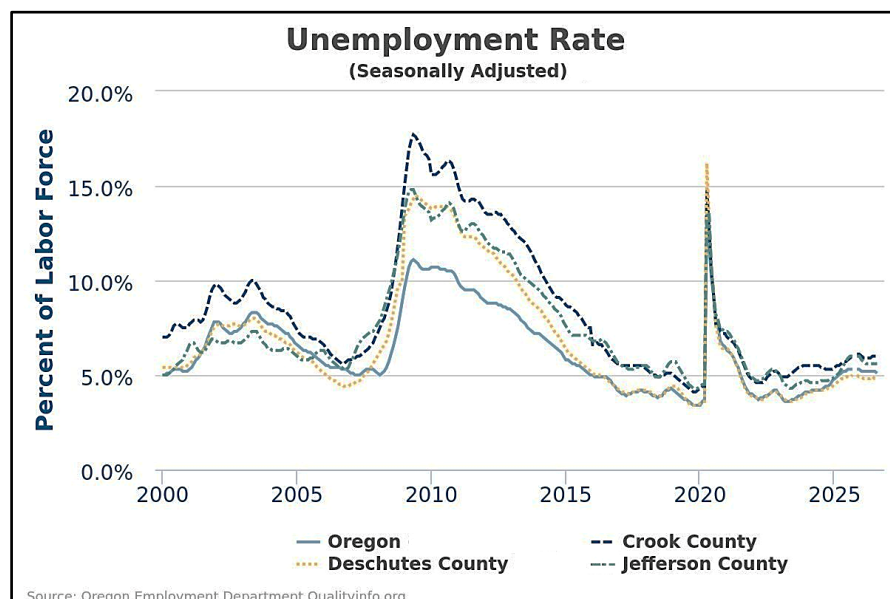
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Employment in Central Oregon: August 2026

Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates continued to hold steady across Central Oregon with little to no movement over the month.

Bend MSA (Crook, Deschutes, and Jefferson Counties): The Bend MSA's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.0% in August, unchanged from July's rate. Last year in August the unemployment rate was 5.1%.

The Bend MSA's employment gains were stronger than normal this August; total nonfarm employment was up 30 during the month (+0.03%), when an employment decrease of 70 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment was up 100 (+0.1%) between July and August.



Over the month, public-sector employment (+310 jobs) saw the largest gains with local government increasing by 290 jobs and both state and federal government up by 10 jobs each. Private-sector employment was down 280 jobs in August. Private losses were largest in professional and business services (-190 jobs) and leisure and hospitality (-160 jobs), with smaller losses seen in financial activities (-40 jobs); trade, transportation, and utilities (-30 jobs); and information (-20 jobs). Private employment gains occurred in private education and health services (+60 jobs); other services (+50 jobs); mining, logging, and construction (+40 jobs); and manufacturing (+10 jobs).

Seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment has gained 590 jobs (+0.5%) over the year. While a loss of 2,400 jobs was expected, total nonfarm employment decreased by 1,810 (-1.6%) jobs from August 2025 to August 2026. Over the year, private-sector employment was down 2,710 (-2.7%) with the

largest job losses occurring in professional and business services (-1,650 jobs); leisure and hospitality (-1,220 jobs); and trade, transportation, and utilities (-330 jobs). Smaller losses occurred in financial activities (-190 jobs), manufacturing (-60 jobs), and information (-50 jobs). Private gains were strongest within private education and health services (+710 jobs) with smaller gains seen in other services (+80 jobs). The public sector gained 900 jobs over the year, driven primarily by local government (+880 jobs), with smaller gains at the state level (+40 jobs) and a slight decline at the federal level (-20 jobs).

Crook County: The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was unchanged in August, holding at 6.0%. Crook County's unemployment rate has increased 0.1 percentage point from the previous year when it was 5.9%.

Crook County's employment losses in August were larger than normal; total nonfarm employment was down 60 (-0.8%) during the month, when a decrease of 30 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment was down 30 (-0.4%) between July and August.

While the public sector gained 30 jobs over the month, the private sector lost 90 jobs. Gains within the public sector occurred at the local level with a gain of 30 jobs. Private sector gains were minimal and occurred in construction. Private-sector losses were more widespread and were largest in information (-30 jobs), leisure and hospitality (-20 jobs), and other services (-20 jobs). Smaller losses were also seen in trade, transportation, and utilities (-10 jobs); financial activities (-10 jobs); and professional and business services (-10 jobs). All other industries saw little to no movement.

Over the past year Crook County's seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment has lost 270 jobs (-3.7%); while no change was expected, Crook County employment decreased by 270 jobs (-3.6%). Private-sector losses were concentrated in construction (-130 jobs), manufacturing (-60 jobs), and information (-60 jobs). Smaller losses also occurred in other services (-20 jobs); trade, transportation, and utilities (-10 jobs); and mining and logging (-10 jobs). Within the trade, transportation, and utilities industry, retail trade gained 10 jobs while transportation, warehousing, and utilities lost 20 jobs. Over the year, private-sector job gains were not as widespread and were concentrated within private education and health services (+20 jobs), financial activities (+10 jobs), and leisure and hospitality (+10 jobs). The public sector lost 20 jobs from August 2025 to August 2026, with both state and local government down 10 jobs each.

Deschutes County: The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.8% in August, unchanged from July's rate. A year ago, in August 2025, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.9%.

Deschutes County's gains were stronger than normal this August; total nonfarm employment was up 20 during the month (+0.02%), when an employment decrease of 60 jobs would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment was up 80 (+0.1%) between July and August.

Over the month, public-sector employment (+230 jobs) saw the largest gains with local government increasing by 210 jobs and both state and federal government up by 10 jobs each. Private-sector employment was down 210 jobs. Private losses were largest in professional and business services (-

190 jobs) and leisure and hospitality (-140 jobs) with smaller losses seen in financial activities (-40 jobs) and trade, transportation, and utilities (-20 jobs). Private-sector gains occurred in private education and health services (+60 jobs); other services (+60 jobs); mining, logging, and construction (+40 jobs); manufacturing (+10 jobs); and information (+10 jobs).

Seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment has gained 390 jobs (+0.4%) over the year. While a loss of 2,100 jobs was expected, total nonfarm employment decreased by 1,710 (-1.7%) jobs from August 2025 to August 2026. Over the year, private-sector employment was down 2,610 (-2.9%). The largest job losses occurred in professional and business services (-1,700 jobs); leisure and hospitality (-1,270 jobs); and trade, transportation, and utilities (-430 jobs). Smaller losses occurred in financial activities (-220 jobs) and manufacturing (-90 jobs). Private gains were strongest within private education and health services (+740 jobs), with smaller gains seen in mining, logging, and construction (+190 jobs); other services (+150 jobs); and information (+20 jobs). The public sector gained 900 jobs over the year, driven primarily by local government (+920 jobs), with smaller gains at the state level (+40 jobs) and losses at the federal level (-60 jobs).

Jefferson County: The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.6% in August 2026, unchanged from July's rate and 0.4 percentage point below the August 2025 rate of 6.0%.

Jefferson County's employment gains in August were larger than normal; total nonfarm employment increased by 50 (+0.7%) during the month, when no change would be expected. As a result, seasonally adjusted employment was also up 50 (+0.7%) between July and August.

Job gains were concentrated within the public sector (+50 jobs) with all gains occurring at the local level. Employment gains within the private sector, specifically within professional and business services (+10 jobs), were offset by losses in construction (-10 jobs). All other industries saw little to no movement.

Over the past year Jefferson County's seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment added 90 jobs (+1.3%); while a gain of 10 jobs was expected total nonfarm employment increased by 100 jobs over the year. Gains were concentrated within manufacturing (+90 jobs) with smaller gains seen in retail trade (+20 jobs); leisure and hospitality (+10 jobs); private education and health services (+10 jobs); financial activities (+10 jobs); and the public sector (+10 jobs). Losses were largest in professional and business services (-20 jobs). Smaller losses also occurred in information (-10 jobs), other services (-10 jobs), and mining and logging (-10 jobs).

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the next statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for September on Wednesday, Oct. 14 and county and metropolitan area unemployment rates and employment survey data on Tuesday, Oct. 20.



Workforce & Economic Research Division

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September 22, 2026

Bend MSA Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	August 2026	July 2026	August 2025	July 2026	August 2025
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	137,416	136,820	136,891	596	525
Unemployed	6,462	6,717	6,785	-255	-323
Unemployment rate	4.7%	4.9%	5.0%	-0.2	-0.3
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>5.0%</i>	<i>5.0%</i>	<i>5.1%</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>-0.1</i>
Employed	130,954	130,103	130,106	851	848
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	110,940	110,910	112,750	30	-1,810
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>112,130</i>	<i>112,030</i>	<i>111,540</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>590</i>
Total private	97,110	97,390	99,820	-280	-2,710
Mining, logging, and construction	9,570	9,530	9,570	40	0
Manufacturing	8,450	8,440	8,510	10	-60
Durable goods	6,010	6,010	5,840	0	170
Trade, transportation, and utilities	18,550	18,580	18,880	-30	-330
Wholesale trade	2,850	2,850	2,980	0	-130
Retail trade	13,090	13,130	13,170	-40	-80
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	2,610	2,600	2,730	10	-120
Information	1,980	2,000	2,030	-20	-50
Financial activities	5,550	5,590	5,740	-40	-190
Professional and business services	11,250	11,440	12,900	-190	-1,650
Private education and health services	20,370	20,310	19,660	60	710
Leisure and hospitality	17,120	17,280	18,340	-160	-1,220
Accommodation and food services	14,150	14,250	14,990	-100	-840
Other services	4,270	4,220	4,190	50	80
Government	13,830	13,520	12,930	310	900
Federal government	1,470	1,460	1,490	10	-20
State government	1,740	1,730	1,700	10	40
Local government	10,620	10,330	9,740	290	880
Local education	5,130	4,840	4,330	290	800

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--				
	August 2026	July 2026	August 2025	July 2026	August 2025
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	13,317	13,196	13,205	121	112
Unemployed	741	776	723	-35	18
Unemployment rate	5.6%	5.9%	5.5%	-0.3	0.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>6.0%</i>	<i>6.0%</i>	<i>5.9%</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>0.1</i>
Employed	12,576	12,420	12,482	156	94
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	7,200	7,260	7,470	-60	-270
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>7,080</i>	<i>7,110</i>	<i>7,350</i>	<i>-30</i>	<i>-270</i>
Total private	5,900	5,990	6,150	-90	-250
Mining, logging, and construction	890	880	1,030	10	-140
Mining and logging	30	30	40	0	-10
Construction	860	850	990	10	-130
Manufacturing	620	620	680	0	-60
Wood product manufacturing	220	210	310	10	-90
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,190	1,200	1,200	-10	-10
Wholesale trade	360	360	360	0	0
Retail trade	620	620	610	0	10
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	210	220	230	-10	-20
Information	170	200	230	-30	-60
Financial activities	260	270	250	-10	10
Professional and business services	650	660	650	-10	0
Private education and health services	840	840	820	0	20
Leisure and hospitality	970	990	960	-20	10
Other services	310	330	330	-20	-20
Government	1,300	1,270	1,320	30	-20
Federal government	350	350	350	0	0
State government	140	140	150	0	-10
Local government	810	780	820	30	-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.



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Deschutes County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	August 2026	July 2026	August 2025	July 2026	August 2025
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	112,719	112,325	112,337	394	382
Unemployed	5,090	5,312	5,393	-222	-303
Unemployment rate	4.5%	4.7%	4.8%	-0.2	-0.3
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>4.8%</i>	<i>4.8%</i>	<i>4.9%</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>-0.1</i>
Employed	107,629	107,013	106,944	616	685
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	96,890	96,870	98,600	20	-1,710
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>97,930</i>	<i>97,850</i>	<i>97,540</i>	<i>80</i>	<i>390</i>
Total private	86,560	86,770	89,170	-210	-2,610
Mining, logging, and construction	8,510	8,470	8,320	40	190
Manufacturing	6,630	6,620	6,720	10	-90
Durable goods	4,460	4,460	4,320	0	140
Trade, transportation, and utilities	16,300	16,320	16,730	-20	-430
Wholesale trade	2,310	2,310	2,460	0	-150
Retail trade	11,670	11,700	11,880	-30	-210
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	2,320	2,310	2,390	10	-70
Information	1,780	1,770	1,760	10	20
Financial activities	5,140	5,180	5,360	-40	-220
Professional and business services	10,280	10,470	11,980	-190	-1,700
Private education and health services	18,770	18,710	18,030	60	740
Leisure and hospitality	15,360	15,500	16,630	-140	-1,270
Accommodation and food services	12,510	12,590	13,400	-80	-890
Other services	3,790	3,730	3,640	60	150
Government	10,330	10,100	9,430	230	900
Federal government	980	970	1,040	10	-60
State government	1,200	1,190	1,160	10	40
Local government	8,150	7,940	7,230	210	920
Local education	4,310	4,050	3,500	260	810

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--				
	August 2026	July 2026	August 2025	July 2026	August 2025
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	11,380	11,299	11,349	81	31
Unemployed	631	629	669	2	-38
Unemployment rate	5.5%	5.6%	5.9%	-0.1	-0.4
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>5.6%</i>	<i>5.6%</i>	<i>6.0%</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>-0.4</i>
Employed	10,749	10,670	10,680	79	69
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	6,780	6,730	6,680	50	100
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>6,800</i>	<i>6,750</i>	<i>6,710</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>90</i>
Total private	4,590	4,590	4,500	0	90
Mining, logging, and construction	210	220	220	-10	-10
Mining and logging	10	10	20	0	-10
Construction	200	210	200	-10	0
Manufacturing	1,200	1,200	1,110	0	90
Wood product manufacturing	910	920	820	-10	90
Trade, transportation, and utilities	970	970	950	0	20
Wholesale trade	160	160	160	0	0
Retail trade	700	700	680	0	20
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	110	110	110	0	0
Information	30	30	40	0	-10
Financial activities	140	140	130	0	10
Professional and business services	250	240	270	10	-20
Private education and health services	820	820	810	0	10
Leisure and hospitality	760	760	750	0	10
Other services	210	210	220	0	-10
Government	2,190	2,140	2,180	50	10
Federal government	90	90	100	0	-10
State government	410	410	390	0	20
Local government	1,690	1,640	1,690	50	0
Indian tribal	910	860	880	50	30

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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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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