

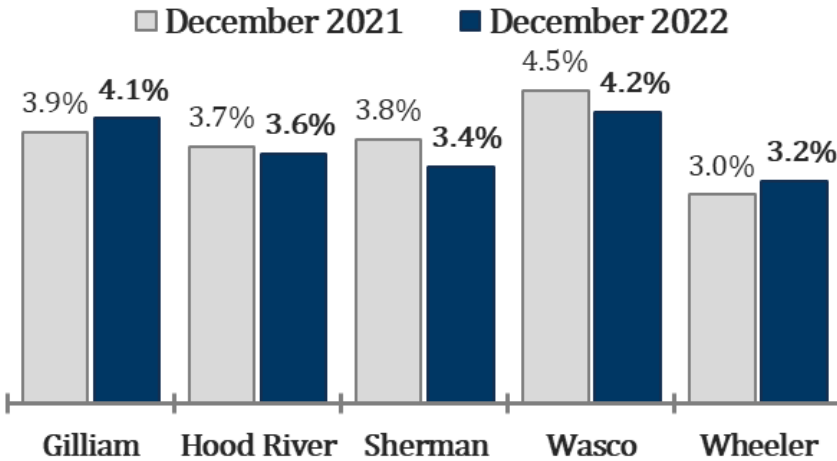


Columbia Gorge Economic Indicators

(December 2022 data)

January 2023 Edition

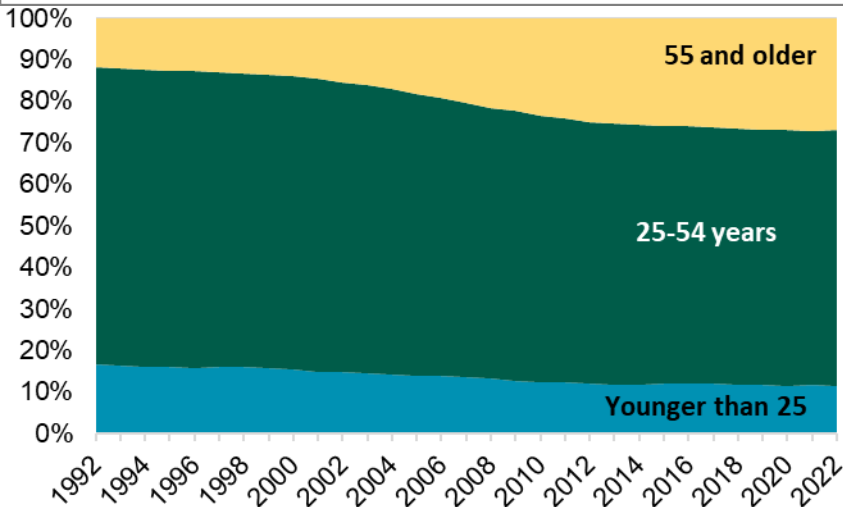
Local Area Unemployment Rates (Seasonally adjusted)



Graph of the Month

Age of Employees Over Time in the Columbia Gorge

Source: Census, Quarterly Workforce Indicators

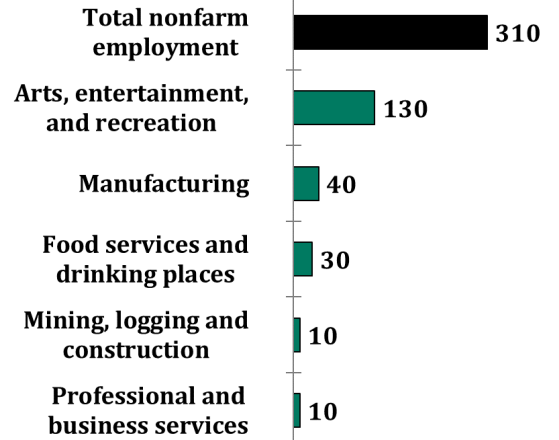


Roughly 27% of employees in the Columbia Gorge were 55 years or older in 2022, according to the Census' Quarterly Workforce Indicators (QWI). This is 11 percentage points higher than in 2002 when only 16% of employees were 55 years or older. Employment share for people ages 54 or younger decreased significantly during the same time period. Employment share of people 25-54 years old declined from 70% to 62%; the share declined from 15% to 11% for those younger than 25.

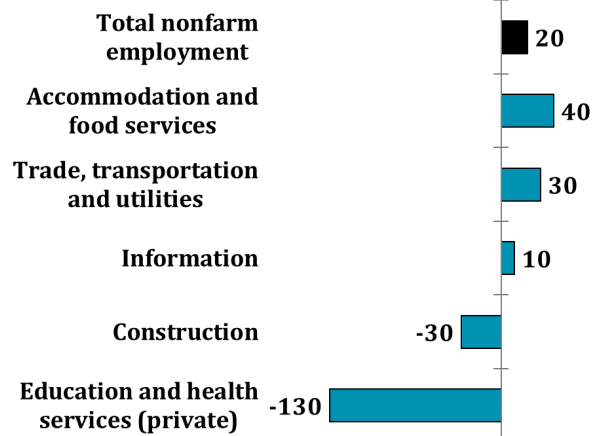
This demographic shift in the workforce has been fueled by a few main reasons. The Great Recession (2007) decreased employment of people younger than 25 more than other age groups; boomers, the second largest generation, are aging; and the Oregon birthrate has slowed considerably since the late 1990s.

Select Industry Gains and Losses (Over-the-year net employment change)

Hood River County



Wasco County



Notable Over-the-Year Changes

Gilliam

Total nonfarm employment (-130)

Education and health services (+5)

Leisure and hospitality (-5)

Sherman

Total nonfarm employment (+35)

Trade, transportation and utilities (+35)

Leisure and hospitality (-5)

Wheeler

Total nonfarm employment (+5)

Leisure and hospitality (+10)

Government (-5)

Want to join the distribution list?

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