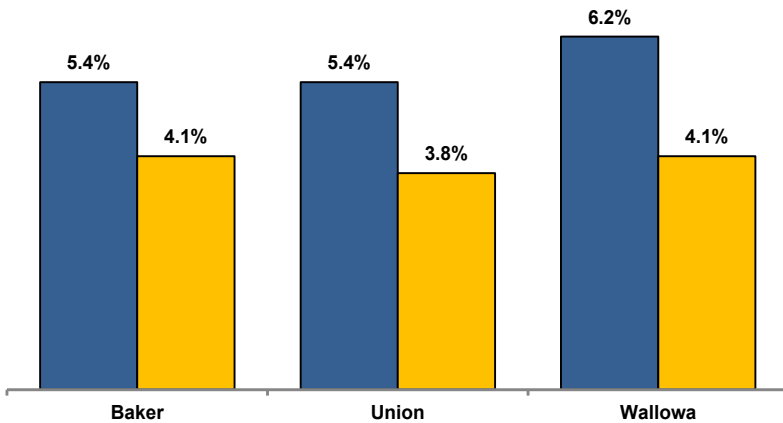


**Unemployment Rates (Seasonally Adjusted)**

■ December 2022 ■ December 2023



**Unemployment Rate News**

Union County’s seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for December 2023 was 3.8%, while Baker and Wallowa counties both came in at 4.1%. All three counties’ rates were above Oregon’s statewide rate and the national rate, both at 3.7%.

Union County’s rate tied for 16th lowest among Oregon’s 36 counties for the month while Baker and Wallowa counties” ranked in a four-way tie for 22nd.

All three counties’ rates were below their December 2022 rates.

All three counties’ December 2023 rates were their lowest December rates since comparable statistics began in 1990. Over the same period, Wallowa County’s rate was its lowest rate for any month and Baker and Union counties’ tied for their second lowest.

**Nonfarm Employment Change**

December 2022 to December 2023

Baker County added an estimated 40 jobs over the year. The private sector decreased by 30 jobs. Leisure and hospitality and transportation, warehousing, and utilities led losses while gains were confined to wholesale trade, retail trade, and other services. The public sector added 70 jobs with a gain in local government overcoming a loss in state government while federal government was unchanged.

Union County employment increased by an estimated 110 jobs over the year. The private sector added 60 jobs led by gains in manufacturing, and education and health services. Transportation, warehousing, and utilities led losses. The public sector added 50 jobs with gains in local government and state government while federal government was unchanged.

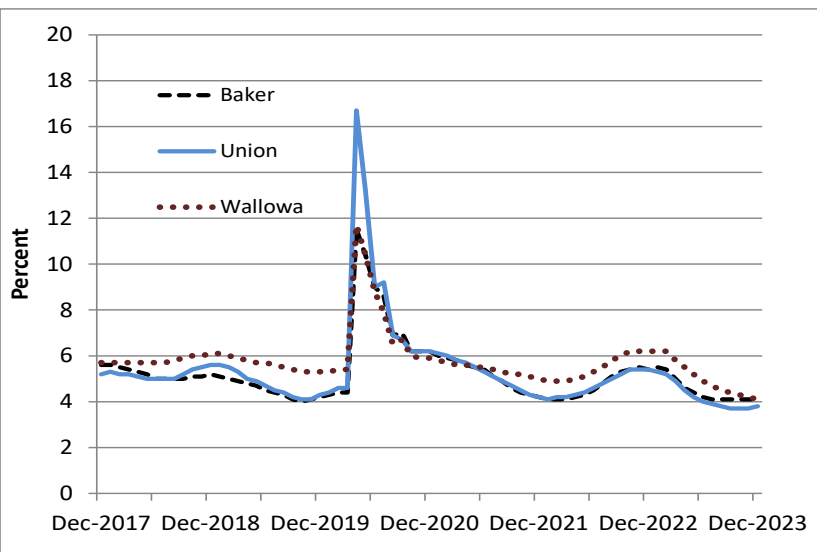
Wallowa County added an estimated 50 jobs over the year. The private sector increased by 20 jobs led by gains in transportation, warehousing, and utilities; financial activities; and other services. Construction and manufacturing led losses. The public sector added 30 jobs with a gain in local government overcoming a loss in state government.

**Notable Industry Gains and Losses**

Over-the-Year Employment Change from December 2022

<u>Baker</u>	<u>Union</u>	<u>Wallowa</u>
Local Government (+90)	Manufacturing (+50)	Local Government (+40)
Wholesale Trade (+10)	Private Education/Health Services (+40)	Transportation/Warehousing/Utilities (+20)
Retail Trade (+10)	Other Services (+30)	Financial Activities (+20)
Other Services (+10)	Local Government (+30)	Other Services (+20)
	Construction (+20)	Wholesale/Retail Trade (+10)
	Leisure/Hospitality (+20)	
Leisure/Hospitality (-30)	Transportation/Warehousing/Utilities (-40)	Construction (-20)
Transportation/Warehousing/Utilities (-20)	Retail Trade (-30)	Manufacturing (-20)
State Government (-20)	Financial Activities (-30)	Private Education/Health Services (-10)

**Unemployment rates at or near record lows since 1990**



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