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# **Employment in Central Oregon: December 2023**

Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates held steady across Central Oregon in December. An important note, these estimates are already in the process of annual benchmark revisions. A more detailed year-in-review will be available after the release of these revisions in March.

<u>Crook County:</u> The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate saw little to no movement over the month of December and remains at 5.7%—in December of last year, it was 6.2%. The unemployment rate

remains 1.2 percentage points above the record low set before the pandemic when it was 4.5%.

Crook County lost 110 jobs in December, with most losses occurring in the public sector (-30 jobs) and leisure and hospitality (-30 jobs).

Employment levels in Crook County are now 7.3% above prepandemic levels in February 2020 (+490 jobs).

The county lost 400 jobs in the last year (-5.4%). Job losses

**Oregon and Central Oregon Unemployment Rates** Seasonally Adjusted, December 2018 - December 2023 20% 15% 10% → Jefferson Deschutes Oregon Crook Jun-19 Dec-19 Jun-20 Dec-20 Jun-21 Dec-21 Jun-22 Dec-22

were concentrated in construction (-150 jobs), information (-100 jobs), and government (-90 jobs). These losses were slightly offset by job gains concentrated in private education and health services (+50 jobs), financial activities (+20 jobs), and other services (+20 jobs).

<u>Deschutes County (Bend-Redmond MSA):</u> The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate is 3.6% as of December, unchanged from 3.6% in November. The unemployment rate in December remains 0.2 percentage point above its record low of 3.4% before the onset of the pandemic.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that Deschutes County gained 500 jobs (0.5%) in December, and total nonfarm employment is now 96,950. These are preliminary estimates that are subject to annual benchmark revisions using payroll tax records that will be released with the January estimates.

Total nonfarm employment expanded by 5.9% (+5,420 jobs) from December 2022. Both leisure and hospitality and private education and health services led private industry growth with an over-the-year gain of 1,350 jobs each. Other notable gains were in the public sector (+750 jobs); trade, transportation, and utilities (+630 jobs), with most of the growth experienced in retail trade (+530 jobs); professional and business services (+580 jobs); and mining, logging, and construction (+450 jobs). Over-the-year losses occurred in financial activities (-80 jobs); and information (-70 jobs).

**Jefferson County:** The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained steady over the month of December at 4.4%. This is the third month this year that the unemployment rate matched the historically low unemployment rate we saw from October 2019 to December 2019, shortly before the first impacts from COVID-19.

Total nonfarm employment decreased by 80 jobs in December (-1.2%). Employment gains were concentrated in manufacturing (+20 jobs). Job losses were concentrated in leisure and hospitality (-30 jobs); government (-20 jobs); retail trade (-20 jobs); and mining, logging, and construction (-20 jobs). All other industries registered little to no change over the month. Total nonfarm seasonally adjusted employment is now 1.0% (+70 jobs) above the pre-pandemic employment level.

Jefferson County's total nonfarm employment increased by 300 over the past year (4.7%). Job gains were concentrated in the public sector (+180 jobs); private education and health services (+60 jobs); and trade, transportation, and utilities (+50 jobs). Losses were concentrated in manufacturing (-30 jobs) and construction (-30 jobs).

### **Next Press Releases**

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the January county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, March 5, and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for January on Tuesday, March 5.



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## **Crook County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment**

--Change From--

Labor Force Status	December 2023	November 2023	December 2022	November 2023	December 2022
Labor 1 orce Status					
Civilian labor force	10,751	10,795	11,153	-44	-402
Unemployed	662	594	762	68	-100
Unemployment rate	6.2%	5.5%	6.8%	0.7	-0.6
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)	5.7%	5.7%	6.2%	0.0	-0.5
Employed	10,089	10,201	10,391	-112	-302
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	7,010	7,120	7,410	-110	-400
Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)	7,160	7,140	7,560	20	-400
Total private	5,840	5,920	6,150	-80	-310
Mining, logging, and construction	730	740	900	-10	-170
Mining and logging	40	40	60	0	-20
Construction	690	700	840	-10	-150
Manufacturing	760	760	780	0	-20
Wood product manufacturing	370	370	420	0	-50
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,160	1,170	1,190	-10	-30
Wholesale trade	320	320	320	0	0
Retail trade	640	650	630	-10	10
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	200	200	240	0	-40
Information	510	520	610	-10	-100
Financial activities	240	240	220	0	20
Professional and business services	540	560	580	-20	-40
Private education and health services	880	870	830	10	50
Leisure and hospitality	730	760	770	-30	-40
Other services	290	300	270	-10	20
Government	1,170	1,200	1,260	-30	-90
Federal government	250	270	240	-20	10
State government	100	110	140	-10	-40
Local government	820	820	880	0	-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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## Bend-Redmond MSA (Deschutes County) Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

--Change From--

	December 2023	November 2023	December 2022	November 2023	December 2022
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	102,885	102,322	103,082	563	-197
Unemployed	4,067	3,589	5,094	478	-1,027
Unemployment rate	4.0%	3.5%	4.9%	0.5	-0.9
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)	3.6%	3.6%	4.7%	0.0	-1.1
Employed	98,818	98,733	97,988	85	830
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	96,950	96,450	91,530	500	5,420
Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)	97,330	96,700	91,840	630	<i>5,4</i> 90
Total private	85,930	85,270	81,260	660	4,670
Mining, logging, and construction	8,420	8,580	7,970	-160	450
Manufacturing	6,400	6,410	6,140	-10	260
Durable goods	3,900	3,880	3,830	20	70
Trade, transportation, and utilities	17,590	17,290	16,960	300	630
Wholesale trade	2,400	2,410	2,340	-10	60
Retail trade	12,570	12,340	12,040	230	530
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	2,620	2,540	2,580	80	40
Information	1,770	1,770	1,840	0	-70
Financial activities	5,140	5,140	5,220	0	-80
Professional and business services	11,610	11,590	11,030	20	580
Private education and health services	16,810	16,670	15,460	140	1,350
Leisure and hospitality	14,790	14,430	13,440	360	1,350
Accommodation and food services	11,460	11,460	10,790	0	670
Other services	3,400	3,390	3,200	10	200
Government	11,020	11,180	10,270	-160	750
Federal government	930	970	840	-40	90
State government	1,060	1,090	900	-30	160
Local government	9,030	9,120	8,530	-90	500
Local education	5,330	5,420	5,000	-90	330

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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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## **Jefferson County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment**

-- Change From--

	December 2023	November 2023	December 2022	November 2023	December 2022
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	10,175	10,207	10,228	-32	-53
Unemployed	489	415	656	74	-167
Unemployment rate	4.8%	4.1%	6.4%	0.7	-1.6
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)	4.4%	4.4%	6.3%	0.0	-1.9
Employed	9,686	9,792	9,572	-106	114
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	6,700	6,780	6,400	-80	300
Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)	6,780	6,810	<i>6,4</i> 80	-30	300
Total private	4,390	4,450	4,270	-60	120
Mining, logging, and construction	140	160	170	-20	-30
Mining and logging	10	20	10	-10	0
Construction	130	140	160	-10	-30
Manufacturing	1,260	1,240	1,290	20	-30
Wood product manufacturing	930	920	980	10	-50
Trade, transportation, and utilities	960	980	910	-20	50
Wholesale trade	180	180	170	0	10
Retail trade	670	690	650	-20	20
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	110	110	90	0	20
Information	50	50	40	0	10
Financial activities	170	160	150	10	20
Professional and business services	220	230	190	-10	30
Private education and health services	740	740	680	0	60
Leisure and hospitality	650	680	640	-30	10
Other services	200	210	200	-10	0
Government	2,310	2,330	2,130	-20	180
Federal government	100	100	110	0	-10
State government	330	340	310	-10	20
Local government	1,880	1,890	1,710	-10	170
Indian tribal	850	870	680	-20	170

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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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: <a href="https://www.WorkSourceOregon.org">www.WorkSourceOregon.org</a>

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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