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Employment in the Columbia Gorge: April 2024

Job Trends Mixed Over the Year

In April, Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was unchanged at 3.2%. Hood River County's unemployment rate ranked as Oregon's second lowest, trailing Wheeler but just ahead of Benton's 3.4%. Over the year, the county's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate edged up by 0.4 percentage point.

Hood River County's nonfarm employment fell by 100 in April to 11,680 jobs. Private industry edged lower to 10,170 jobs, and government had a total of 1,510. Leisure and hospitality lost 150 jobs. Job gains were estimated in retail trade (+30); professional and business services (+20); manufacturing (+20); and mining, logging, and construction (+20).

Hood River County's private-industry employment fell by 370 jobs over the year ending in April, a loss of 1.0%. Losses were seen in retail trade (-170), professional and business services (-60), and manufacturing (-40).

Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was also unchanged in April at 4.1%, ranking 13th tied with Deschutes, Marion, and Polk counties. Over the year, Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by 0.6 percentage point.

Wasco County's nonfarm employment increased by 60 to reach 10,270 in April. Private industry added 50 jobs, rising to 8,070, while government was little changed at 2,220 jobs. Leisure and hospitality (+40), and manufacturing added 20 jobs over the month. Government added 10 jobs.

Wasco County's private-industry employment was little changed over the year ending in April. Losses were posted in manufacturing (-40); private education and health services (-40); financial activities (-30); and retail trade (-20). On the other hand, jobs were added in construction (+50); professional and business services (+30); leisure and hospitality (+20); and wholesale trade (+20).

Gilliam County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate slipped by 0.3 percentage point in April to 5.1%, tied for fourth highest out of 36 Oregon counties. Gilliam County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by 1.4 percentage points over the year ending in April. Gilliam County's

nonfarm employment was unchanged in April with 805 jobs. Over the year, the private sector lost 65 jobs (-7.5%), while government employment was flat at 285 jobs.

Sherman County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was little changed in April at 4.2%. Over the year, Sherman County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by 0.6 percentage point. Sherman County's nonfarm employment was also unchanged in April and stood at 940. Over the year ending in April, private industry added 25 jobs, rising to 640, and government employment was unchanged at 300.

Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was flat in April at 3.1%, ranking as Oregon's lowest. Over the year, Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by 0.4 percentage point. Nonfarm employment was little changed at 360 jobs in April, a gain of five. Over the year ending in April, private industry employment gained five jobs and was estimated at 175, and government rose by five to reach 185.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the May county and metropolitan area unemployment rates and employment survey data on Tuesday, June 25th, and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for May on Thursday, June 20th.

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.

The pdf version of the news release, including tables and graphs, can be found at www.qualityinfo.org/press-release/. To obtain the data in other formats such as in Excel, visit QualityInfo.org, select Tools, and choose LAUS or CES from the dropdown menu. To request the press release as a Word document, contact the person shown at the top of this press release.

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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

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Workforce & Economic Research Division
 QualityInfo.org
 May 21, 2024

Hood River County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	April 2024	March 2024	April 2023	March 2024	April 2023
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	13,710	14,006	13,704	-296	6
Unemployed	400	461	331	-61	69
Unemployment rate	2.9%	3.3%	2.4%	-0.4	0.5
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>3.2%</i>	<i>3.2%</i>	<i>2.8%</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>0.4</i>
Employed	13,310	13,545	13,373	-235	-63
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	11,680	11,780	12,020	-100	-340
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>11,740</i>	<i>11,790</i>	<i>12,080</i>	<i>-50</i>	<i>-340</i>
Total private	10,170	10,270	10,540	-100	-370
Mining, logging, and construction	560	540	570	20	-10
Manufacturing	1,770	1,750	1,810	20	-40
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,710	1,700	1,930	10	-220
Wholesale trade	380	390	420	-10	-40
Retail trade	1,210	1,180	1,380	30	-170
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	120	130	130	-10	-10
Information	100	110	130	-10	-30
Financial activities	330	320	310	10	20
Professional and business services	1,000	980	1,060	20	-60
Private education and health services	1,960	1,970	1,960	-10	0
Leisure and hospitality	2,410	2,560	2,430	-150	-20
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	800	1,020	800	-220	0
Accommodation and food services	1,610	1,540	1,630	70	-20
Accommodation	460	440	460	20	0
Food services and drinking places	1,150	1,100	1,170	50	-20
Other services	330	340	340	-10	-10
Government	1,510	1,510	1,480	0	30
Federal government	120	120	100	0	20
State government	130	130	130	0	0
Local government	1,260	1,260	1,250	0	10
Local education	760	760	740	0	20
Local government excluding educational services	500	500	510	0	-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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Wasco County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	April 2024	March 2024	April 2023	March 2024	April 2023
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	12,856	12,850	12,647	6	209
Unemployed	495	594	441	-99	54
Unemployment rate	3.9%	4.6%	3.5%	-0.7	0.4
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.1%	4.1%	3.9%	0.0	0.2
Employed	12,361	12,256	12,206	105	155
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	10,270	10,210	10,260	60	10
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	10,320	10,360	10,320	-40	0
Total private	8,070	8,020	8,100	50	-30
Mining, logging, and construction	490	480	450	10	40
Mining and logging	50	50	60	0	-10
Construction	440	430	390	10	50
Manufacturing	470	450	510	20	-40
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,070	2,080	2,090	-10	-20
Wholesale trade	200	200	180	0	20
Retail trade	1,590	1,590	1,610	0	-20
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	280	290	300	-10	-20
Information	290	290	270	0	20
Financial activities	280	290	310	-10	-30
Professional and business services	590	580	560	10	30
Private education and health services	2,230	2,240	2,270	-10	-40
Ambulatory health care services	490	490	490	0	0
Nursing and residential care facilities	460	460	510	0	-50
Leisure and hospitality	1,300	1,260	1,280	40	20
Accommodation and food services	1,200	1,170	1,190	30	10
Other services	350	350	360	0	-10
Government	2,200	2,190	2,160	10	40
Federal government	280	280	270	0	10
State government	280	280	280	0	0
Local government	1,640	1,630	1,610	10	30
Indian tribal	10	10	10	0	0
Local education	870	880	880	-10	-10
Local government excluding education and tribal	760	740	720	20	40

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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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Gilliam County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	April 2024	March 2024	April 2023	March 2024	April 2023
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	885	907	917	-22	-32
Unemployed	34	53	27	-19	7
Unemployment rate	3.8%	5.8%	2.9%	-2.0	0.9
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.1%	5.4%	3.7%	-0.3	1.4
Employed	851	854	890	-3	-39
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	805	805	870	0	-65
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	830	825	895	5	-65
Total private	520	520	585	0	-65
Trade, transportation, and utilities	120	120	135	0	-15
Professional and business services	210	210	230	0	-20
Private education and health services	85	85	85	0	0
Leisure and hospitality	25	25	30	0	-5
Government	285	285	285	0	0
Federal government	10	15	15	-5	-5
State government	25	25	25	0	0
Local government	250	245	245	5	5

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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Wheeler County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	April 2024	March 2024	April 2023	March 2024	April 2023
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	807	799	790	8	17
Unemployed	21	28	17	-7	4
Unemployment rate	2.6%	3.5%	2.2%	-0.9	0.4
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.1%	3.1%	2.7%	0.0	0.4
Employed	786	771	773	15	13
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	360	355	360	5	0
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	355	360	355	-5	0
Total private	175	170	180	5	-5
Trade, transportation, and utilities	40	40	35	0	5
Leisure and hospitality	35	30	35	5	0
Government	185	185	180	0	5
Federal government	5	5	5	0	0
State government	35	35	30	0	5
Local government	145	145	145	0	0

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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Sherman County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

			--Change From--		
	April 2024	March 2024	April 2023	March 2024	April 2023
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	975	987	943	-12	32
Unemployed	37	46	33	-9	4
Unemployment rate	3.8%	4.7%	3.5%	-0.9	0.3
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.2%	4.3%	3.6%	-0.1	0.6
Employed	938	941	910	-3	28
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	940	940	915	0	25
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	950	950	925	0	25
Total private	640	630	615	10	25
Trade, transportation, and utilities	360	355	335	5	25
Retail trade	120	120	120	0	0
Leisure and hospitality	100	90	100	10	0
Government	300	310	300	-10	0
Federal government	135	125	130	10	5
State government	20	20	25	0	-5
Local government	145	165	145	-20	0

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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