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Employment in South Central Oregon: February 2024

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased in Klamath County but remained unchanged in Lake County over the month of February.

Klamath County: The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 5.1% in February from 5.0% in January. The unemployment rate in February 2023 was 6.7%.

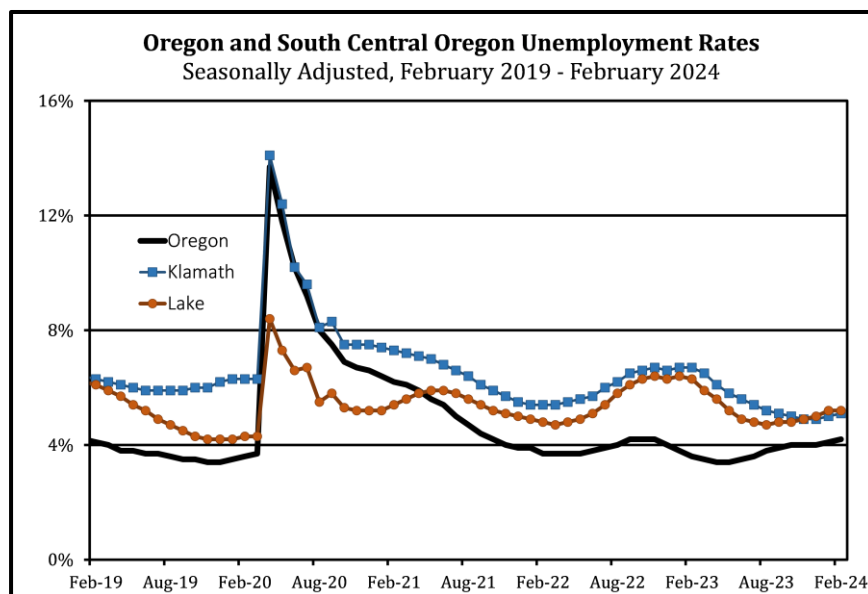
Klamath County gained 150 jobs (+0.6%) in February, with the majority of gains taking place in the public sector (+90 jobs). Seasonally adjusted employment levels in Klamath County are 3.6% (+830 jobs) above levels in February 2020 before the onset of the pandemic.

Klamath County added 620 jobs in the past year (+2.7%). Notable private-sector job gains over the past year were seen in private education and health services (+130 jobs);

other services (+130 jobs); and leisure and hospitality (+90 jobs). In the public sector, government employment was up by 270 jobs over the year, with the largest gains taking place in local government (+250 jobs). Total nonfarm employment growth was moderated by losses in trade, transportation, and utilities (-60 jobs) and manufacturing (-50 jobs).

Lake County: The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate saw little to no movement in Lake County and remained unchanged at 5.2%—last February it was 6.3%. The unemployment rate was 4.2% in January 2020, before the impacts of COVID-19 were first felt.

Lake County employment increased by 50 jobs in February, with the only notable monthly gains in the public sector (+20 jobs). As of February 2024, seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment levels remain 110 jobs (-4.6%) below the pre-pandemic February 2020 employment levels.



Lake County's total nonfarm employment is down by 30 jobs year-over-year. Gains were marginal with a gain of 10 jobs in each of the following industries: mining, logging, and construction; trade, transportation, and utilities; information; and private education and health services. These gains were overshadowed by losses in leisure and hospitality (-30 jobs), local government (-20 jobs), and manufacturing (-20 jobs). All other major industries saw little to no change over the year.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the March county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, April 23, and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for March on Wednesday, April 17.



Workforce & Economic Research Division

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March 26, 2024

Klamath County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

| | | | | --Change From-- | |
|---|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| | February 2024 | January 2024 | February 2023 | January 2024 | February 2023 |
| Labor Force Status | | | | | |
| Civilian labor force | 30,586 | 30,329 | 29,564 | 257 | 1,022 |
| Unemployed | 2,189 | 2,254 | 2,013 | -65 | 176 |
| Unemployment rate | 7.2% | 7.4% | 6.8% | -0.2 | 0.4 |
| <i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i> | 5.1% | 5.0% | 6.7% | 0.1 | -1.6 |
| Employed | 28,397 | 28,075 | 27,551 | 322 | 846 |
| Nonfarm Payroll Employment | | | | | |
| Total nonfarm employment | 23,590 | 23,440 | 22,970 | 150 | 620 |
| <i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i> | 24,040 | 24,060 | 23,410 | -20 | 630 |
| Total private | 18,170 | 18,110 | 17,820 | 60 | 350 |
| Mining, logging, and construction | 1,120 | 1,110 | 1,090 | 10 | 30 |
| Mining and logging | 90 | 90 | 90 | 0 | 0 |
| Construction | 1,030 | 1,020 | 1,000 | 10 | 30 |
| Manufacturing | 1,730 | 1,730 | 1,780 | 0 | -50 |
| Durable goods | 1,570 | 1,570 | 1,600 | 0 | -30 |
| Wood product manufacturing | 1,250 | 1,240 | 1,280 | 10 | -30 |
| Nondurable goods | 160 | 160 | 180 | 0 | -20 |
| Trade, transportation, and utilities | 4,570 | 4,550 | 4,630 | 20 | -60 |
| Wholesale trade | 760 | 760 | 770 | 0 | -10 |
| Retail trade | 3,150 | 3,130 | 3,210 | 20 | -60 |
| Food and beverage retailers | 650 | 650 | 640 | 0 | 10 |
| General merchandise retailers | 840 | 840 | 900 | 0 | -60 |
| Transportation, warehousing, and utilities | 660 | 660 | 650 | 0 | 10 |
| Information | 110 | 110 | 120 | 0 | -10 |
| Financial activities | 900 | 890 | 890 | 10 | 10 |
| Professional and business services | 1,620 | 1,590 | 1,540 | 30 | 80 |
| Private education and health services | 4,620 | 4,660 | 4,490 | -40 | 130 |
| Leisure and hospitality | 2,490 | 2,480 | 2,400 | 10 | 90 |
| Other services | 1,010 | 990 | 880 | 20 | 130 |
| Government | 5,420 | 5,330 | 5,150 | 90 | 270 |
| Federal government | 640 | 630 | 640 | 10 | 0 |
| State government | 570 | 560 | 550 | 10 | 20 |
| Local government | 4,210 | 4,140 | 3,960 | 70 | 250 |
| Local education | 2,600 | 2,520 | 2,440 | 80 | 160 |

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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Lake County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

| | | | | --Change From-- | |
|---|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| | February 2024 | January 2024 | February 2023 | January 2024 | February 2023 |
| Labor Force Status | | | | | |
| Civilian labor force | 3,543 | 3,525 | 3,525 | 18 | 18 |
| Unemployed | 238 | 265 | 215 | -27 | 23 |
| Unemployment rate | 6.7% | 7.5% | 6.1% | -0.8 | 0.6 |
| <i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i> | <i>5.2%</i> | <i>5.2%</i> | <i>6.3%</i> | <i>0.0</i> | <i>-1.1</i> |
| Employed | 3,305 | 3,260 | 3,310 | 45 | -5 |
| Nonfarm Payroll Employment | | | | | |
| Total nonfarm employment | 2,220 | 2,170 | 2,250 | 50 | -30 |
| <i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i> | <i>2,280</i> | <i>2,240</i> | <i>2,310</i> | <i>40</i> | <i>-30</i> |
| Total private | 1,130 | 1,100 | 1,140 | 30 | -10 |
| Mining, logging, and construction | 100 | 100 | 90 | 0 | 10 |
| Mining and logging | 20 | 20 | 20 | 0 | 0 |
| Construction | 80 | 80 | 70 | 0 | 10 |
| Manufacturing | 190 | 190 | 210 | 0 | -20 |
| Trade, transportation, and utilities | 350 | 340 | 340 | 10 | 10 |
| Retail trade | 230 | 230 | 250 | 0 | -20 |
| Information | 30 | 20 | 20 | 10 | 10 |
| Financial activities | 50 | 50 | 50 | 0 | 0 |
| Professional and business services | 80 | 80 | 80 | 0 | 0 |
| Private education and health services | 120 | 120 | 110 | 0 | 10 |
| Leisure and hospitality | 150 | 140 | 180 | 10 | -30 |
| Other services | 60 | 60 | 60 | 0 | 0 |
| Government | 1,090 | 1,070 | 1,110 | 20 | -20 |
| Federal government | 180 | 170 | 180 | 10 | 0 |
| State government | 180 | 180 | 180 | 0 | 0 |
| Local government | 730 | 720 | 750 | 10 | -20 |

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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

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