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Employment in the Columbia Gorge: November 2021

Unemployment Rates Fall, Again

In November, Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.3 percentage point to 3.9%. Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate ranked eighth lowest out of 36 Oregon counties, ahead of Morrow and Polk (4.0%). Over the year, Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 1.3 percentage points.

Hood River County's nonfarm employment rose by 490 jobs in November, climbing to 12,070. Private industry increased its total by 490 jobs to reach 10,720, and government held steady at 1,350. Arts, entertainment, and recreation led private industry in November, rising by 350 jobs to total 640. Retail trade increased its job count by 270 jobs, rising to 1,760. Education and health services hired 20, climbing to 1,890. Food services and drinking places cut 80 jobs, falling to 1,090 and accommodation shed 30, dropping to 420. Manufacturing (-20); mining, logging, and construction (-10); transportation, warehousing, and utilities (-10); and financial activities (-10) also cut jobs in November. Local government rose by 20 jobs to 1,130 and state government chipped in 10 to reach 110.

Hood River County's private industry employment rose by 3.3% over the year, adding 340 jobs. Accommodation and food services regained 140 jobs over the year to lead private industry, an increase of 10.2%. Education and health services welcomed back 100 jobs; manufacturing increased its total by 90; transportation, warehousing, and utilities rose by 20; and information chipped in 20. Local government education rose to 640, an increase of 40 jobs, to lift the public sector.

Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.3 percentage point in November to 4.7% while ranking 20th among Oregon counties, trailing Deschutes (4.6%), Jackson, and Lane. Over the year, Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 1.3 percentage points.

Wasco County's nonfarm employment rose by 20 jobs in November, climbing to 10,060. Private industry increased its total by 10 jobs, rising to 8,110, and government also rose by 10 to reach 1,950. Private industry job gains in November were limited to retail trade (+20); transportation, warehousing, and utilities (+20); information (+10); and education and health services (+10). Leisure and hospitality cut 30 jobs in November, falling to 1,190. Manufacturing (-10) and other services (-10) also cut jobs in November. Local government education led the public sector, rising by 20 jobs to reach 750.

Wasco County's private industry employment rose by 120 jobs or 1.5% over the year ending in November. Leisure and hospitality led private industry jobs growth, rising by 70 jobs or 6.3%. Information also increased its payrolls by 70 jobs over the year, climbing to 320 (+28%). Transportation, warehousing, and utilities (+40); other services (+40 jobs); and professional and business services (+20); also rose over the year. Job losses hit education and health services (-40); manufacturing (-30); retail trade (-30); and financial activities (-30 jobs). In the public sector, local education rose by 50 jobs over the year, other local government chipped in 10, and state government cut 20.

Gilliam County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.3 percentage point in November to 4.2%, ranking 11th out of 36 Oregon counties. Over the year, Gilliam County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 1.4 percentage points. Gilliam County's nonfarm employment held steady in November with 820 jobs. Over the year, Gilliam County's private industry total fell by 65 jobs to total 585, a loss of 10%. Government rose by 10 jobs over the year, climbing to 235.

Sherman County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.1 percentage point in November to 3.8%, good enough to rank fourth in Oregon, tied with Clackamas, and Malheur. Over the year, Sherman County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 1.0 percentage point. Sherman County's nonfarm employment fell by 20 jobs in November, dropping to 865. Private industry cut 20 jobs, falling to 560, while government held steady at 305. Over the year ending in November, private industry cut 15 jobs.

Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady in November at 2.8%, boasting Oregon's lowest county unemployment rate. Over the year Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 1.7 percentage points. Nonfarm employment totaled 295 jobs in November, with private industry cutting five jobs and government holding steady. Over the year ending in November, private industry rose by five jobs to reach 160 and government held steady at 135.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the December 2021 county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Jan. 25, 2022 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for December on Jan. 19, 2022.

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 www.QualityInfo.org, select *Economic Data*, and choose *LAUS* or *CES*. 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 coronavirus questions related to employer and job seeker programs and services, visit Govstatus.egov.com/ORUnemployment_COVID19. For help finding jobs and training resources, go to: www.WorkSourceOregon.org

Equal Opportunity program — auxiliary aids and services available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Contact: (503) 947-1794. For the deaf and hard of hearing population, call 711 Telecommunications Relay Services.

Gilliam County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	November 2021	October 2021	November 2020	October 2021	November 2020
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	910	917	997	-7	-87
Unemployed	27	30	53	-3	-26
Unemployment rate	3.0%	3.3%	5.3%	-0.3	-2.3
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.2%	4.5%	5.6%	-0.3	-1.4
Employed	883	887	944	-4	-61
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	820	820	875	0	-55
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	850	845	910	5	-60
Total private	585	585	650	0	-65
Trade, transportation, and utilities	135	140	135	-5	0
Professional and business services	240	245	250	-5	-10
Education and health services	70	70	70	0	0
Leisure and hospitality	40	45	35	-5	5
Government	235	235	225	0	10
Federal government	15	15	10	0	5
State government	10	10	10	0	0
Local government	210	210	205	0	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.

Hood River County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

			--Change From--		
	November 2021	October 2021	November 2020	October 2021	November 2020
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	14,152	14,754	14,033	-602	119
Unemployed	380	385	696	-5	-316
Unemployment rate	2.7%	2.6%	5.0%	0.1	-2.3
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.9%	4.2%	5.2%	-0.3	-1.3
Employed	13,772	14,369	13,337	-597	435
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	12,070	11,580	11,700	490	370
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	11,820	11,810	11,460	10	360
Total private	10,720	10,230	10,380	490	340
Mining, logging, and construction	520	530	550	-10	-30
Manufacturing	1,850	1,870	1,760	-20	90
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,540	2,270	2,520	270	20
Wholesale trade	590	580	590	10	0
Retail trade	1,760	1,490	1,760	270	0
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	190	200	170	-10	20
Information	110	110	90	0	20
Financial activities	320	330	330	-10	-10
Professional and business services	1,000	1,000	990	0	10
Education and health services	1,890	1,870	1,790	20	100
Leisure and hospitality	2,150	1,910	2,010	240	140
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	640	290	640	350	0
Accommodation and food services	1,510	1,620	1,370	-110	140
Accommodation	420	450	350	-30	70
Food services and drinking places	1,090	1,170	1,020	-80	70
Other services	340	340	340	0	0
Government	1,350	1,350	1,320	0	30
Federal government	110	140	130	-30	-20
State government	110	100	110	10	0
Local government	1,130	1,110	1,080	20	50
Local education	640	630	600	10	40
Local government excluding educational services	490	480	480	10	10

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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.

Sherman County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	November 2021	October 2021	November 2020	October 2021	November 2020
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	937	955	971	-18	-34
Unemployed	30	30	43	0	-13
Unemployment rate	3.2%	3.1%	4.4%	0.1	-1.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.8%	3.9%	4.8%	-0.1	-1.0
Employed	907	925	928	-18	-21
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	865	885	880	-20	-15
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	895	900	910	-5	-15
Total private	560	580	575	-20	-15
Trade, transportation, and utilities	280	280	290	0	-10
Retail trade	110	110	130	0	-20
Leisure and hospitality	85	95	85	-10	0
Government	305	305	305	0	0
Federal government	120	120	130	0	-10
State government	45	40	40	5	5
Local government	140	145	135	-5	5

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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.

Wasco County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

			--Change From--		
	November 2021	October 2021	November 2020	October 2021	November 2020
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	12,897	12,859	12,893	38	4
Unemployed	464	468	728	-4	-264
Unemployment rate	3.6%	3.6%	5.6%	0.0	-2.0
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.7%	5.0%	6.0%	-0.3	-1.3
Employed	12,433	12,391	12,165	42	268
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	10,060	10,040	9,900	20	160
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>10,100</i>	<i>10,060</i>	<i>9,940</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>160</i>
Total private	8,110	8,100	7,990	10	120
Mining, logging, and construction	410	410	410	0	0
Mining and logging	60	60	60	0	0
Construction	350	350	350	0	0
Manufacturing	530	540	560	-10	-30
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,150	2,110	2,130	40	20
Wholesale trade	180	180	170	0	10
Retail trade	1,650	1,630	1,680	20	-30
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	320	300	280	20	40
Information	320	310	250	10	70
Financial activities	300	300	330	0	-30
Professional and business services	510	510	490	0	20
Education and health services	2,330	2,320	2,370	10	-40
Ambulatory health care services	460	460	460	0	0
Nursing and residential care facilities	490	490	540	0	-50
Leisure and hospitality	1,190	1,220	1,120	-30	70
Accommodation and food services	1,080	1,110	1,070	-30	10
Other services	370	380	330	-10	40
Government	1,950	1,940	1,910	10	40
Federal government	270	280	270	-10	0
State government	250	250	270	0	-20
Local government	1,430	1,410	1,370	20	60
Indian tribal	10	10	10	0	0
Local education	750	730	700	20	50
Local government excluding education and tribal	670	670	660	0	10

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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.

Wheeler County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	November 2021	October 2021	November 2020	--Change From--	
				October 2021	November 2020
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	713	723	715	-10	-2
Unemployed	19	17	29	2	-10
Unemployment rate	2.7%	2.4%	4.1%	0.3	-1.4
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	2.8%	2.8%	4.5%	0.0	-1.7
Employed	694	706	686	-12	8
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	295	300	290	-5	5
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	295	300	290	-5	5
Total private	160	165	155	-5	5
Trade, transportation, and utilities	35	35	35	0	0
Leisure and hospitality	15	20	10	-5	5
Government	135	135	135	0	0
Federal government	5	5	5	0	0
State government	0	0	0	0	0
Local government	130	130	130	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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