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## **Employment in the Columbia Gorge: July 2019**

### **Public Schools Take a Break as Leisure and Hospitality Rises**

Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was little changed in July, at 3.4 percent, ranking third in Oregon (out of 36 counties), behind Washington County's 3.3 percent and Benton County's 3.1 percent. Over the year, Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by 0.1 percentage point.

Hood River County's nonfarm employment fell by 70 jobs in July to total 11,950. Private industry rose by 160 jobs to reach 10,680 and government cut 230 jobs, falling to 1,270. Food services and drinking places led private industry in July, rising by 110 jobs to total 1,520. Retail trade increased its total by 70, climbing to 1,560. Manufacturing (+30) and accommodation (+20) also rose in July. Wholesale trade followed a different trend, cutting 90 jobs in July, falling to 310. Local government education pulled back for summer break, idling 240 jobs in July and dropping its total to 460.

Hood River County's private industry employment rose by a scant 10 jobs over the year ending in July. Education and health services led private industry with an over-the-year gain of 80 jobs or 4.8 percent. Manufacturing increased its total by 80 jobs or 4.3 percent, rising to 1,920. But professional and business services cut 120 jobs, a one-year drop of nearly 10 percent. Government increased its total by 30 jobs, with local government up 20 and federal adding 10.

Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was essentially unchanged in July, falling by 0.1 percentage point to 4.4 percent while ranking 15<sup>th</sup> among Oregon counties. Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate ranked ninth in July 2018, at 4.0 percent.

Wasco County lost 150 nonfarm jobs in July, falling to 10,350. Private industry rose by 80 jobs to reach 8,580, while government cut 230, falling to 1,770. Leisure and hospitality led private industry, rising by 40 jobs to total 1,530. Manufacturing (+20), construction (+10), financial activities (+10), professional and business services (+10), and other services (+10) also rose in July. In government, local education cut 210 jobs with the start of summer break, falling to 510.

Over the year ending in July, Wasco County's private industry employment rose by just 10 jobs. Leisure and hospitality led private industry, rising by 30 jobs and wholesale trade chipped in 20. Construction cut 30 jobs over the year, falling to 340. In the public sector, Indian tribal government cut 110 jobs, reflecting the closure of the Warm Springs Tribe's Kah-Nee-Ta resort.

Gilliam County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.2 percentage point in July to 4.1 percent, ranking ninth out of 36 Oregon counties, tied with Tillamook. Last July, Gilliam County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate ranked eighth, at 3.9 percent. Gilliam County cut 10 nonfarm jobs in July, falling to 855. Over the year, Gilliam County's private industry total rose by 35 jobs or 6.5 percent to reach 575. Professional and business services (+15); education and health services (+10); and leisure and hospitality (+10) all produced over-the-year job gains. Government rose to 280 jobs, an over-the-year increase of 20.

Sherman County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady in July at 3.7 percent, ranking seventh just ahead of Clatsop County. In July 2018, Sherman County's 4.3 percent seasonally adjusted unemployment rate ranked 14<sup>th</sup>. Sherman County's nonfarm employment fell by 35 jobs in July, dropping to 870. Private industry held steady at 555, while government fell to 315, a loss of 35. Over the year ending in July, private industry cut 10 jobs and government lost 25.

Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by a scant 0.1 percentage point in July to 4.8 percent, ranking as Oregon's 22<sup>nd</sup> lowest, just ahead of Baker County. Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate ranked as Oregon's third lowest in July 2018, at just 3.4 percent. Nonfarm employment totaled 300 jobs in July, with private industry holding steady and government cutting 10. Over the year ending in July, private industry cut 15 jobs and government rose by 10 to reach 130.

### Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the August 2019 county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for August on September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

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/](http://www.qualityinfo.org/press-release/). To obtain the data in other formats such as in Excel, visit [www.QualityInfo.org](http://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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For help finding jobs and training resources, visit one of the state's WorkSource Oregon Centers or go to: [www.WorkSourceOregon.org](http://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--				
	July 2019	June 2019	July 2018	June 2019	July 2018
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	905	897	869	8	36
Unemployed	35	35	35	0	0
Unemployment rate	3.9%	3.9%	4.0%	0.0	-0.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.1%	4.3%	3.9%	-0.2	0.2
Employed	870	862	834	8	36
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	855	865	800	-10	55
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	845	835	790	10	55
Total private	575	570	540	5	35
Trade, transportation, and utilities	140	135	145	5	-5
Professional and business services	240	240	225	0	15
Education and health services	55	60	45	-5	10
Leisure and hospitality	45	45	35	0	10
Government	280	295	260	-15	20
Federal government	15	10	15	5	0
State government	10	10	10	0	0
Local government	255	275	235	-20	20

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--				
	July 2019	June 2019	July 2018	June 2019	July 2018
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	16,329	14,475	16,435	1,854	-106
Unemployed	536	475	563	61	-27
Unemployment rate	3.3%	3.3%	3.4%	0.0	-0.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.4%	3.5%	3.3%	-0.1	0.1
Employed	15,793	14,000	15,872	1,793	-79
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	11,950	12,020	11,910	-70	40
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	12,080	12,060	12,040	20	40
Total private	10,680	10,520	10,670	160	10
Mining, logging, and construction	560	530	570	30	-10
Manufacturing	1,920	1,910	1,840	10	80
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,120	2,140	2,130	-20	-10
Wholesale trade	310	400	300	-90	10
Retail trade	1,560	1,490	1,580	70	-20
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	250	250	250	0	0
Information	160	150	150	10	10
Financial activities	380	370	390	10	-10
Professional and business services	1,100	1,100	1,220	0	-120
Education and health services	1,730	1,740	1,650	-10	80
Leisure and hospitality	2,280	2,150	2,310	130	-30
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	290	290	300	0	-10
Accommodation and food services	1,990	1,860	2,010	130	-20
Accommodation	470	450	490	20	-20
Food services and drinking places	1,520	1,410	1,520	110	0
Other services	430	430	410	0	20
Government	1,270	1,500	1,240	-230	30
Federal government	150	150	140	0	10
State government	120	120	120	0	0
Local government	1,000	1,230	980	-230	20
Local education	460	700	450	-240	10
Local government excluding educational services	540	530	530	10	10

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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.

### Sherman County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	July 2019	June 2019	July 2018	June 2019	July 2018
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	919	923	950	-4	-31
Unemployed	36	32	39	4	-3
Unemployment rate	3.9%	3.5%	4.1%	0.4	-0.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.7%	3.7%	4.3%	0.0	-0.6
Employed	883	891	911	-8	-28
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	870	905	905	-35	-35
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	855	845	890	10	-35
Total private	555	555	565	0	-10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	225	220	250	5	-25
Retail trade	85	80	95	5	-10
Leisure and hospitality	120	125	145	-5	-25
Government	315	350	340	-35	-25
Federal government	120	125	130	-5	-10
State government	40	40	60	0	-20
Local government	155	185	150	-30	5

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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.

## Wasco County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	July 2019	June 2019	July 2018	June 2019	July 2018
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	16,333	16,686	16,500	-353	-167
Unemployed	565	566	549	-1	16
Unemployment rate	3.5%	3.4%	3.3%	0.1	0.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.4%	4.5%	4.0%	-0.1	0.4
Employed	15,768	16,120	15,951	-352	-183
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	10,350	10,500	10,450	-150	-100
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	10,110	10,040	10,210	70	-100
Total private	8,580	8,500	8,570	80	10
Mining, logging, and construction	410	400	440	10	-30
Mining and logging	70	70	70	0	0
Construction	340	330	370	10	-30
Manufacturing	670	650	670	20	0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,070	2,080	2,050	-10	20
Wholesale trade	170	160	150	10	20
Retail trade	1,670	1,690	1,670	-20	0
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	230	230	230	0	0
Information	180	180	170	0	10
Financial activities	340	330	340	10	0
Professional and business services	600	590	610	10	-10
Education and health services	2,350	2,360	2,360	-10	-10
Ambulatory health care services	440	440	440	0	0
Nursing and residential care facilities	570	570	560	0	10
Leisure and hospitality	1,530	1,490	1,500	40	30
Accommodation and food services	1,290	1,310	1,300	-20	-10
Other services	430	420	430	10	0
Government	1,770	2,000	1,880	-230	-110
Federal government	300	300	300	0	0
State government	270	270	270	0	0
Local government	1,200	1,430	1,310	-230	-110
Indian tribal	10	10	120	0	-110
Local education	510	720	510	-210	0
Local government excluding education and tribal	680	700	680	-20	0

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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.

## Wheeler County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	July 2019	June 2019	July 2018	June 2019	July 2018
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	729	732	745	-3	-16
Unemployed	34	36	23	-2	11
Unemployment rate	4.7%	4.9%	3.1%	-0.2	1.6
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.8%	4.9%	3.4%	-0.1	1.4
Employed	695	696	722	-1	-27
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	300	310	305	-10	-5
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	305	300	310	5	-5
Total private	170	170	185	0	-15
Trade, transportation, and utilities	40	40	40	0	0
Leisure and hospitality	35	35	45	0	-10
Government	130	140	120	-10	10
Federal government	10	10	5	0	5
State government	0	0	0	0	0
Local government	120	130	115	-10	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.