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Employment in the Columbia Gorge: September 2021

Local Education Lifts September Employment

In September, Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.2 percentage point to 4.5%. Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate ranked ninth lowest out of 36 Oregon counties, trailing Clackamas, Morrow, and Yamhill (4.4%). Over the year, Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 1.4 percentage points.

Hood River County's nonfarm employment rose by 140 jobs in September, climbing to 11,730. Private industry cut 10 jobs, falling to 10,330, and government rose by 150 to reach 1,400. Wholesale trade led private industry in September, rising by 90 jobs to total 500. Manufacturing (+10) and information (+10) also added jobs in September. Mining, logging, and construction pulled back in September, shedding 40 jobs and dropping its total to 550. Food services and drinking places also cut 40 jobs, falling to 1,340. Retail trade idled 20 jobs, education and health services shed 10, and accommodation cut 10. The start of the public school year in September lifted local government education by 170 jobs to reach 640.

Hood River County's private industry employment rose by 7.7% over the year, adding 840 jobs. Accommodation and food services regained 330 jobs over the year to lead private industry, an increase of 21.7%. Arts, entertainment, and recreation added 150 jobs over the year; manufacturing welcomed back 130 jobs; and education and health services increased its total by 90. Government rose by 80 jobs over the year, with local government rising by 90 jobs and federal cutting 10.

Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.2 percentage point in September to 5.2% while ranking 20th in Oregon, tied with Lane and Linn. Over the year, Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 1.6 percentage points.

Wasco County's nonfarm employment rose by 30 jobs in September, to total 10,240. Private industry cut 60 jobs, falling to 8,290, and government increased its total by 90 to reach 1,950. Private industry job gains were limited to information (+10), and education and health services (+10). Leisure and hospitality cut 40 jobs in September, falling to 1,230. Construction (-10), manufacturing (-10), retail trade (-10), and professional and business services (-10) also cut jobs in September. Local government education led the public sector, rising by 80 jobs with the start of a new school year to reach 710.

Wasco County's private industry employment rose by 180 jobs or 2.2% over the year ending in September. Other services produced private industry's largest gain, rising by 110 jobs or 33.3% to reach 440. Information increased its payrolls by 60 jobs over the year, climbing to 310 (+24%). Professional and business services (+40 jobs); retail trade (+30); transportation, warehousing, and utilities (+30); and wholesale trade (+20) also rose over the year. Job losses hit manufacturing (-60), financial activities (-40), and education and health services (-30). In the public sector, local education rose by 40 jobs over the year, state government increased its total by 10, and other local government gained 10.

Gilliam County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.1 percentage point in September to 4.9%, ranking 12th out of 36 Oregon counties, tied with Baker. Over the year, Gilliam County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 1.4 percentage points. Gilliam County's nonfarm employment fell to 795 jobs in September, a loss of five. Over the year, Gilliam County's private industry total fell by 155 jobs, a loss of 21.8%, to total 555. Government rose by 10 jobs over the year, climbing to 240.

Sherman County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.1 percentage point in September to 4.0%, good enough to rank third in Oregon, tied with Washington. Over the year, Sherman County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 2.1 percentage points. Sherman County's nonfarm employment held steady in September at 940. Private industry cut 15 jobs, falling to 605, while government rose by 15 to reach 335. Over the year ending in September, private industry held steady and government idled five.

Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.1 percentage point in September to 2.9%, retaining Oregon's lowest county unemployment rate. Over the year Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 1.3 percentage points. Nonfarm employment totaled 305 jobs in September, with private industry cutting five and government rising by 15. Over the year ending in September, private industry rose by 20 jobs to reach 175 and government cut five, falling to 130.

Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the October 2021 county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Nov. 23rd, 2021 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for October on Nov. 16th, 2021.

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

	September 2021	August 2021	September 2020	--Change From--	
				August 2021	September 2020
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	897	920	1,013	-23	-116
Unemployed	38	39	60	-1	-22
Unemployment rate	4.2%	4.2%	5.9%	0.0	-1.7
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.9%	5.0%	6.3%	-0.1	-1.4
Employed	859	881	953	-22	-94
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	795	800	940	-5	-145
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	805	780	950	25	-145
Total private	555	550	710	5	-155
Trade, transportation, and utilities	135	135	135	0	0
Professional and business services	230	230	240	0	-10
Education and health services	65	65	75	0	-10
Leisure and hospitality	40	40	40	0	0
Government	240	250	230	-10	10
Federal government	15	15	15	0	0
State government	10	5	10	5	0
Local government	215	230	205	-15	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.

Hood River County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	September 2021	August 2021	September 2020	--Change From--	
				August 2021	September 2020
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	15,897	16,190	15,221	-293	676
Unemployed	456	575	756	-119	-300
Unemployment rate	2.9%	3.6%	5.0%	-0.7	-2.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.5%	4.7%	5.9%	-0.2	-1.4
Employed	15,441	15,615	14,465	-174	976
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	11,730	11,590	10,890	140	840
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>11,740</i>	<i>11,590</i>	<i>10,900</i>	<i>150</i>	<i>840</i>
Total private	10,330	10,340	9,570	-10	760
Mining, logging, and construction	550	590	530	-40	20
Manufacturing	1,860	1,850	1,730	10	130
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,120	2,050	2,100	70	20
Wholesale trade	500	410	520	90	-20
Retail trade	1,430	1,450	1,410	-20	20
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	190	190	170	0	20
Information	100	90	100	10	0
Financial activities	320	320	330	0	-10
Professional and business services	1,030	1,030	990	0	40
Education and health services	1,850	1,860	1,760	-10	90
Leisure and hospitality	2,140	2,190	1,660	-50	480
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	290	290	140	0	150
Accommodation and food services	1,850	1,900	1,520	-50	330
Accommodation	510	520	410	-10	100
Food services and drinking places	1,340	1,380	1,110	-40	230
Other services	360	360	370	0	-10
Government	1,400	1,250	1,320	150	80
Federal government	150	160	160	-10	-10
State government	100	100	100	0	0
Local government	1,150	990	1,060	160	90
Local education	640	470	570	170	70
Local government excluding educational services	510	520	490	-10	20

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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

	September 2021	August 2021	September 2020	--Change From--	
				August 2021	September 2020
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	998	1,001	1,001	-3	-3
Unemployed	33	36	56	-3	-23
Unemployment rate	3.3%	3.6%	5.6%	-0.3	-2.3
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	4.0%	4.1%	6.1%	-0.1	-2.1
Employed	965	965	945	0	20
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	940	940	945	0	-5
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	915	930	920	-15	-5
Total private	605	620	605	-15	0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	305	305	300	0	5
Retail trade	130	130	135	0	-5
Leisure and hospitality	100	105	80	-5	20
Government	335	320	340	15	-5
Federal government	125	125	130	0	-5
State government	40	40	45	0	-5
Local government	170	155	165	15	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

	September 2021	August 2021	September 2020	--Change From--	
				August 2021	September 2020
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	13,119	13,896	12,814	-777	305
Unemployed	553	624	826	-71	-273
Unemployment rate	4.2%	4.5%	6.4%	-0.3	-2.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	5.2%	5.4%	6.8%	-0.2	-1.6
Employed	12,566	13,272	11,988	-706	578
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	10,240	10,210	10,020	30	220
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>10,090</i>	<i>10,110</i>	<i>9,870</i>	<i>-20</i>	<i>220</i>
Total private	8,290	8,350	8,110	-60	180
Mining, logging, and construction	430	440	420	-10	10
Mining and logging	60	60	60	0	0
Construction	370	380	360	-10	10
Manufacturing	510	520	570	-10	-60
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,170	2,180	2,090	-10	80
Wholesale trade	180	180	160	0	20
Retail trade	1,690	1,700	1,660	-10	30
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	300	300	270	0	30
Information	310	300	250	10	60
Financial activities	320	320	360	0	-40
Professional and business services	510	520	470	-10	40
Education and health services	2,370	2,360	2,400	10	-30
Ambulatory health care services	470	480	450	-10	20
Nursing and residential care facilities	530	520	570	10	-40
Leisure and hospitality	1,230	1,270	1,220	-40	10
Accommodation and food services	1,160	1,180	1,130	-20	30
Other services	440	440	330	0	110
Government	1,950	1,860	1,910	90	40
Federal government	280	280	300	0	-20
State government	270	270	260	0	10
Local government	1,400	1,310	1,350	90	50
Indian tribal	10	10	10	0	0
Local education	710	630	670	80	40
Local government excluding education and tribal	680	670	670	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.

Wheeler County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	September 2021	August 2021	September 2020	--Change From--	
				August 2021	September 2020
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	737	722	705	15	32
Unemployed	20	19	25	1	-5
Unemployment rate	2.7%	2.6%	3.5%	0.1	-0.8
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	2.9%	3.0%	4.2%	-0.1	-1.3
Employed	717	703	680	14	37
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	305	295	290	10	15
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	300	300	285	0	15
Total private	175	180	155	-5	20
Trade, transportation, and utilities	35	35	35	0	0
Leisure and hospitality	20	25	15	-5	5
Government	130	115	135	15	-5
Federal government	5	5	10	0	-5
State government	0	0	0	0	0
Local government	125	110	125	15	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.